## On the mixing time of switch Markov chains



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Introduction, background

## Problem statement

- Given a non-negative integer sequence $d$ of even sum, $\mathcal{G}(d)$ be the set of simple graph with degree sequence $d$ (vertices are labeled)
- Problem: take a sample $G \in \mathcal{G}(d)$ uniformly and randomly ( $\min d \geq 1$, $\max d \leq n-1$ )
- Motivation:
- Randomized approximate counting: Jerrum, Valiant, Vazirani (1986)
- Hypothesis testing, statistics
- There is usually only one observed network, so experiments cannot be repeated
- Null model: structure of network explained by the properties of the deg. sequence
- Via sampling, statistical parameters of the null model can be measured
- Benchmarking software, algorithms, simulations (network science)


## Stub pairing - configuration model



- Given a degree sequence $d=\left(d_{1}, d_{2}, \ldots, d_{n}\right)$, take $v_{i}$ with $d_{i}$ half-edges $\forall i \in[1, n]$


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- Take a random complete matching between the half-edges $\left(\|d\|_{1} \in 2 \mathbb{N}\right)$.


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- Take a random complete matching between the half-edges $\left(\|d\|_{1} \in 2 \mathbb{N}\right)$.
- The resulting object may contain loops and multiedges.


## Stub pairing - configuration model

Theorem (Bollobás, 1980)
The number of $r$-regular simple graphs on $n$ (labeled) vertices is asymptotic to

$$
e^{-\lambda-\lambda^{2}} \cdot \frac{(2 m)!}{m!2^{m}(r!)^{n}}
$$

where $\lambda=\frac{1}{2}(r-1)$ and $m=\frac{1}{2} r n$.
(Bollobás actually enumerated most simple graphs with $\Delta \leq \sqrt{2 \log n}-1$ ).

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- $r=\Omega\left((\log n)^{1 / 2+\varepsilon}\right) \Longrightarrow$ the probability that the configuration model does not produce a loop or a multiedge tends to 0 superpolynomially as $n \rightarrow \infty$.


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- A. Békéssy, P. Békéssy, J. Komlós 1972: asymptotic enumeration of $p, q$-regular $m+n$ vertex bipartite graphs


## Stub pairing - rejection schemes

The algorithms below start with a sample from the configuration model then try to fix loops and multiedges; if they can't, the sample is rejected.

Theorem (McKay and Wormald, 1990)
Uniformly generate simple graphs satisfying $\Delta \leq \mathcal{O}\left(m^{\frac{1}{4}}\right)$ in $\mathcal{O}\left(\Delta^{4} n^{2}\right)$ expected time. Uniformly generate $r$-regular graphs for $r=o\left(n^{\frac{1}{3}}\right)$ in $\mathcal{O}\left(n r^{3}\right)$ expected time.

Theorem (Gao and Wormald, 2017)
Uniformly generate $r$-regular graphs for $r=o(\sqrt{n})$ in $\mathcal{O}\left(n r^{3}\right)$ expected time.
Theorem (Gao and Wormald, 2018)
Uniformly generate graphs whose degree sequence obeys a power-law distribution bound for some $\gamma>2.8811$.

## Exact vs. approximate sampling

- The previous results all depend on the asymptotic counting of the number of realizations of the respective degree sequences
- Instead of exactly sampling the uniform distribution on $\mathcal{G}(d)$, allow an $\varepsilon$ difference in total variation.

Definition (Polynomial-time approximate uniform sampler)
An algorithm running in $\operatorname{poly}(n) \cdot \log \varepsilon^{-1}$ (expected) time s.t. the $\ell_{1}$-distance of the sample distribution is $\varepsilon$ close to the uniform distribution is called a polynomial-time approximate uniform sampler.

Markov chain Monte Carlo methods

## Markov Chains - a reminder

## Definition (discrete time finite Markov chain)

$\mathcal{M}=(\Omega, P)$, where $\Omega$ is a finite state space, and $P=\left(p_{i j}\right)_{\omega_{i}, \omega_{j} \in \Omega}$ is the transition matrix, where $p_{i j}$ is the probability of moving from state $\omega_{i}$ to $\omega_{j}$. Every step taken by the chain is independent from its previous steps and $\sum_{j} p_{i j}=1 \forall i$.

$$
G(\mathcal{M})=\left(\Omega,\left\{\omega_{i} \omega_{j} \mid p_{i j} \neq 0\right\}\right)
$$

- $\pi_{0}$ : initial prob. distribution on $\Omega$
- $\pi_{t}=\pi_{0} P^{t}$
- $p_{i j}=p_{j i} \forall i, j \Longrightarrow \pi \equiv|\Omega|^{-1}$ is a stationary distribution: $\pi=P \pi$



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## Convergence theorem, rate of convergence

## Theorem

If $G(\mathcal{M})$ is connected and aperiodic, then $\pi_{t}\left(\omega_{j}\right) \rightarrow \pi\left(\omega_{j}\right)$ as $t \rightarrow \infty$ for any $\pi_{0}$.

- Convergence is exponentially quick, i.e., $\left|\pi_{t}\left(\omega_{j}\right)-\pi\left(\omega_{j}\right)\right| \leq \mu^{t}$ for some $\mu \in[0,1)$.
- Let $\lambda_{2}$ be the second largest eigenvalue of $P$, then $\mu \leq \lambda_{2}$ (lazy chain)
- To get an approximate sampler, it is sufficient to have

$$
\begin{gathered}
t \geq \frac{1}{1-\lambda_{2}}(\log |\Omega|-\log \varepsilon) \\
t \cdot \log \lambda_{2} \leq t\left(\lambda_{2}-1\right) \leq \log \varepsilon-\log |\Omega| \\
\left|\pi_{t}\left(\omega_{j}\right)-\pi\left(\omega_{j}\right)\right| \leq\left(\lambda_{2}\right)^{t} \leq \varepsilon /|\Omega|
\end{gathered}
$$

## The Sinclair method for estimating the eigenvalue-gap ( $\pi \equiv 1 /|\Omega|$ )

Let $f$ be a multicommodity-flow which sends a commodity of quantity 1 between each pair of states $\omega_{i}, \omega_{j} \in \Omega$ in the Markov-graph $G(\mathcal{M})$.


Theorem (Sinclair, 1988)
The mixing time $\tau_{\mathcal{M}}(\varepsilon) \leq\left(\max _{p_{i j} \neq 0} \frac{1}{p_{i j}}\right) \cdot \frac{\rho(f) \cdot \ell(f)}{|\Omega|} \cdot(\log |\Omega|-\log \varepsilon)$

## Rapid mixing

Theorem (Sinclair, 1988)
The mixing time $\tau_{\mathcal{M}}(\varepsilon) \leq\left(\max _{p_{i j} \neq 0} \frac{1}{p_{i j}}\right) \cdot \frac{\rho(f) \cdot \ell(f)}{|\Omega|} \cdot(\log |\Omega|-\log \varepsilon)$

## Definition (Rapid/fast mixing)

We say that a Markov-chain $\mathcal{M}$ is rapidly mixing if

$$
\tau_{\mathcal{M}}(\varepsilon) \leq \operatorname{poly}(\log |\Omega|,-\log \varepsilon) .
$$

In our applications we will have

$$
\log |\Omega| \leq \log \left(n^{\alpha}|\mathcal{G}(d)|\right) \leq \alpha \log n+m \log 2 m,
$$

thus rapid mixing implies that there exists a polynomial time approximate sampler.

## Jerrum-Sinclair chain

State space: $\Omega=\mathcal{G}(d) \cup \bigcup_{i, j \in V} \mathcal{G}\left(d+\mathbb{1}_{i}+\mathbb{1}_{j}\right)$.
Transitions: u.a.r. choose $a, b \in V(G)$, then


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- if $G \in \mathcal{G}(d)$ and $a b \notin E(G)$, add $a b$ to $G$.
- if $G \notin \mathcal{G}(d), a b \in E(G)$, and $\operatorname{deg}_{G}(a)>d(a)$, then delete $a b$ from $E(G)$. If $\operatorname{deg}_{G-a b}(b)<d(b)$, then u.a.r. add an edge to $b$.



## P-stability

The state space of the JS-chain: $\mathcal{G}^{\prime}(d):=\mathcal{G}(d) \cup \bigcup_{i, j \in V} \mathcal{G}\left(d+\mathbb{1}_{i}+\mathbb{1}_{j}\right)$
To get a sample from $\mathcal{G}(d)$ in reasonable time by the JS-chain, we must have

## Definition

$$
\left|\mathcal{G}^{\prime}(d)\right| \leq \operatorname{poly}(n) \cdot|\mathcal{G}(d)| \quad \forall d \in \mathcal{D}
$$

where $n=\operatorname{dim}(d)$. In this case, we call an infinite $\mathcal{D}$ a $P$-stable class of degree sequences.
Theorem (Jerrum and Sinclair 1990)
The JS-chain is rapidly mixing on degree sequences from a $P$-stable class.

Some P-stable regions (Jerrum, McKay, and Sinclair, 1989)

## Theorem

The degree sequences $d \in[1, \Delta]^{n}$ satisfying

$$
\Delta \leq 2 \sqrt{n}-2, d \in \mathbb{N}^{n}
$$

for any $n$ are $P$-stable.

## Theorem

The degree sequences $d$ satisfying
$(\Delta-\delta+1)^{2} \leq 4 \delta(n-\Delta+1), d \in \mathbb{N}^{n}$
for any $n$ are $P$-stable. (See the plot on the right.)


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## Switch Markov chains

## The switch Markov chain for simple and bipartite graphs

Proposed for bipartite graph by Kannan, Tetali, Vempala (1997)
State space: the set of realizations $\mathcal{G}(d)$ of a deg. seq. $d$
Transitions: exchange edges with non-edges along a randomly chosen alternating $C_{4}$ (least perturbation)
switch:


## The switch Markov chain for directed graphs

Proposed for bipartite graph by Kannan, Tetali, Vempala (1997)
State space: the set of realizations $\mathcal{G}(d)$ of a deg. seq. $d$
Transitions: exchange edges with non-edges along a randomly chosen alternating $C_{4}$ (least perturbation)
switch:

directed $\triangle$ :


## Previous and recent results

Rapid mixing of the Switch Markov chain shown by

|  | simple | bipartite | directed |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| regular | Cooper, Dyer, Greenhill 2007 | Erdős, Miklós, Soukup 2013 | Greenhill 2011 |

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| Rapid mixing of the Switch Markov chain shown by |  |  |  |
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| segular | Cooper, Dyer, Greenhill 2007 | Erdős, Miklós, Soukup 2013 | Greenhill 2011 |
| $\Delta \leq c \sqrt{m}$ | Greenhill 2015 | bipartite | directed |
| $[\delta, \Delta]$-type | Amanatidis and Kleer 2019 Miklós, M, Soltész 2018 |  |  |

## Early results - bipartite degree sequences

PL Erdős, TRM, I Miklós, D Soltész (2018)

Theorem
Let $d$ be a bipartite degree sequence. On the set of $d$ satisfying

$$
\Delta \leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \sqrt{m}
$$

the switch Markov chain is rapidly mixing. (Moreover, the set is $P$-stable).

## Theorem

Let $d$ be a bipartite degree sequence on $U$ and $V$ as classes. On the set of $d$ satisfying

$$
\left(\Delta_{V}-\delta_{V}-1\right)^{+} \cdot\left(\Delta_{U}-\delta_{U}-1\right)^{+} \leq \max \left(\delta_{V}\left(|V|-\Delta_{U}\right), \delta_{U}\left(|U|-\Delta_{V}\right)\right),
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## Early results - directed degree sequences

PL Erdős, TRM, I Miklós, D Soltész (2018)

## Theorem

Let $d$ be a directed degree sequence. On the set of $d$ satisfying

$$
\Delta_{\mathrm{out}}, \Delta_{\mathrm{in}} \leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \sqrt{m-4}
$$

the switch Markov chain is rapidly mixing. (Moreover, the set is P-stable).

## Theorem

Let $d$ be a directed degree sequence. On the set of $d$ satisfying

$$
\left(\Delta_{\text {out }}-\delta_{\text {out }}\right) \cdot\left(\Delta_{\text {in }}-\delta_{\text {in }}\right) \leq \max \left(\delta_{\text {out }}\left(n-\Delta_{\text {in }}-1\right), \delta_{\text {in }}\left(n-\Delta_{\text {out }}-1\right)\right)+\mathcal{O}(n)
$$

the switch Markov chain is rapidly mixing. (Moreover, the set is $P$-stable).

## An unpublished result

PL Erdős, TRM, I Miklós, D Soltész (2018)

The proof of the theorems on the previous slides contain the main ideas to proving the following result:

Theorem (unpublished)
The switch Markov chain is rapidly mixing on bipartite and directed $P$-stable degree sequences.

Goal: extend the theorem to simple graphs

# Unified method to prove rapid mixing of switch chains on <br> $P$-stable degree sequences 

## Primitive circuit trails

PL Erdős, C Greenhill, TRM, I Miklós, D Soltész, L Soukup (2019+)

## Definition

A closed walk $v_{1} v_{2}, v_{2} v_{3}, v_{3} v_{4} \ldots, v_{2 k-1} v_{2 k}, v_{2 k} v_{1}$ (indices taken from $\mathbb{Z} / 2 k \mathbb{Z}$ ) which

- does not traverse the same edge twice and
- for any $i \neq j$ it satisfies $v_{i}=v_{j} \Leftrightarrow i \equiv j+1(\bmod 2)$
is called a primitive circuit trail.


## Definition

We say that $C$ is an alternating primitive circuit trail in $X$, if

- $v_{2 i-1} v_{2 i} \notin E(X)$ and
- $v_{2 i} v_{2 i+1} \in E(X)$
for $1 \leq i \leq k$.


## Unified method

PL Erdős, C Greenhill, TRM, I Miklós, D Soltész, L Soukup (2019+)

Let $\mathfrak{M}$ denote a graph model, e.g.: simple, bipartite, directed, etc.

## Theorem

Let $X$ be an arbitrary $\mathfrak{M}$ graph which contains an alternating primitive circuit trail $C$ that traverses each of the vertices of $X$.

If for any such $X$ there exists a sequence of switches transforming $X$ into $X \triangle E(C)$ s.t.

- the length of the sequence is $\leq \operatorname{poly}_{\mathfrak{M}}(|V(X)|)$, and
- for any intermediate graph $Z$ in the sequence and any $\mathfrak{M}$ graph $Y$ s.t. $E(C) \subseteq E(X) \triangle E(Y)$, there exists a graph $Z^{\prime} \in \mathcal{G}^{\prime}(d(Y))$ such that $\ell_{1}\left(A_{X}+A_{Y}-A_{Z}, A_{Z^{\prime}}\right) \leq c_{\mathfrak{M}}$
then the switch Markov chain is rapidly mixing on $P$-stable $\mathfrak{M}$ degree sequences.


## Bipartite graphs

PL Erdős, C Greenhill, TRM, I Miklós, D Soltész, L Soukup (2019+)

- $C=\left(v_{1} v_{2}, \ldots, v_{15} v_{16}, v_{16} v_{1}\right)$
- Goal: find switch sequence $X, Z_{1}, Z_{2}, \ldots, X \triangle E(C)$
- $C$ is a bipartite primitive circuit $\Longrightarrow C$ is a cycle



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- red: original state in $X$, blue edge: flipped



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- $C=\left(v_{1} v_{2}, \ldots, v_{15} v_{16}, v_{16} v_{1}\right)$
- Goal: find switch sequence $X, Z_{1}, Z_{2}, \ldots, X \triangle E(C)$
- $C$ is a bipartite primitive circuit $\Longrightarrow C$ is a cycle
- red: original state in $X$, blue edge: flipped



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- $C$ is a bipartite primitive circuit $\Longrightarrow C$ is a cycle
- red: original state in $X$, blue edge: flipped
- $A_{X}+A_{Y}-A_{Z}$ : takes $0-1$ everywhere, except maybe at most two +2 on blue non-edge chords, and at most one -1 on a blue chord.



## Coding - adjacency matrices

- $A_{X}+A_{Y}-A_{Z}$ is $0-1$ everywhere, except the first row
- The row of $v_{1}$ contains at most two +2 and at most one -1 entries

|  | $A_{X}+A_{Y}-A_{Z}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Vertices | $v_{2}$ | $v_{4}$ | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ | $v_{2 j}$ | $\ldots$ | $v_{2 k}$ |  |
| $v_{1}$ | 0 | 1 | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ | 2 | $\cdots$ | 0 |  |
| $\vdots$ | $\vdots$ | $\vdots$ | $\ddots$ | $\vdots$ | $\ddots$ | $\vdots$ | $\ddots$ | $\vdots$ |  |
| $\vdots$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| $v_{2 k-1}$ | $\vdots$ | $\vdots$ | $\ddots$ | $\vdots$ | $\ddots$ | $\vdots$ | $\ddots$ | $\vdots$ |  |

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| $\vdots$ | $\vdots$ | $\vdots$ | $\ddots$ | $\vdots$ | $\ddots$ | $\vdots$ | $\ddots$ | $\vdots$ |  |  |  |  |  |
| $\vdots$ | $\vdots$ | $\vdots$ | $\ddots$ | $\vdots$ | $\ddots$ | $\vdots$ | $\ddots$ | $\vdots$ |  |  |  |  |  |
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| Vertices | $v_{2}$ | $v_{4}$ | $\ldots$ | $v_{2 \ell}$ | $\ldots$ | $v_{2 j}$ | $\ldots$ | $v_{2 k}$ |  |
| $v_{1}$ | 0 | 1 | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ | 2 | $\ldots$ | 0 |  |
| $\vdots$ | $\vdots$ | $\vdots$ | $\ddots$ | $\vdots$ | $\ddots$ | $\vdots$ | $\ddots$ | $\vdots$ |  |
| $v_{2 i-1}$ |  |  |  |  |  | 0 |  | $\vdots$ |  |
| $\vdots$ | $\vdots$ | $\vdots$ | $\ddots$ | $\vdots$ | $\ddots$ | $\vdots$ | $\ddots$ | $\vdots$ |  |
| $v_{2 k-1}$ |  |  |  | $\ldots$ |  | $\ldots$ |  |  |  |
| Min. row sum in $v_{1}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

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|  | 0 | $A_{X}+A_{Y}-A_{Z}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
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| $v_{1}$ | $\vdots$ | $\vdots$ | $\ddots$ | $\wedge$ | $\ddots$ | $\vdots$ | $\ddots$ | $\vdots$ |  |  |
| $\vdots$ | $\vdots$ | $\vdots$ | $\ddots$ | $\vdots$ | $\ddots$ | $\vdots$ | $\ddots$ | $\vdots$ |  |  |
| $v_{2 i-1}$ |  |  |  | 0 |  | 0 |  | $\vdots$ |  |  |
| $\vdots$ |  |  | $\ldots$ |  | $\ldots$ |  |  |  |  |  |
| $v_{2 k-1}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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|  | $A_{X}+A_{Y}-A_{Z}+$ switch |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Vertices | $v_{2}$ | $v_{4}$ | $\ldots$ | $v_{2 \ell}$ | $\ldots$ | $v_{2 j}$ | $\ldots$ | $v_{2 k}$ |  |
| $v_{1}$ | 0 | 1 | $\ldots$ | 0 | $\cdots$ | 1 | $\cdots$ | 0 |  |
| $\vdots$ | $\vdots$ | $\vdots$ | $\ddots$ | $\wedge$ | $\ddots$ | $\vdots$ | $\ddots$ | $\vdots$ |  |
| $v_{2 i-1}$ |  |  |  | -1 |  | 1 |  | $\vdots$ |  |
| $\vdots$ | $\vdots$ | $\vdots$ | $\ddots$ | $\vdots$ | $\ddots$ | $\vdots$ | $\ddots$ | $\vdots$ |  |
| $v_{2 k-1}$ |  |  |  | $\cdots$ |  | $\cdots$ |  |  |  |
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## Coding - adjacency matrices

- $A_{X}+A_{Y}-A_{Z}$ is $0-1$ everywhere, except the first row
- The row of $v_{1}$ contains at most two +2 and at most one -1 entries
- With (at most two) switches and increasing the -1 entry by one, we turned $A_{X}+A_{Y}-A_{Z}$ into the adjacency matrix of some $Z^{\prime} \in \mathcal{G}\left(d(Y)+\mathbb{1}\left(v_{2 i-1}\right)+\mathbb{1}\left(v_{2 \ell}\right)\right)$

| Vertices | $A_{X}+A_{Y}-A_{Z}+$ switch $+v_{2 i-1} v_{2 \ell}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $v_{2}$ | $v_{4}$ | ... | $v_{2 \ell}$ | ... | $v_{2 j}$ | ... | $v_{2 k}$ |
| $v_{1}$ | 0 | 1 | $\ldots$ | 0 | $\ldots$ | 1 | ... | 0 |
| $\vdots$ | : | : | $\ddots$ | $\wedge$ | $\ddots$ | $\vdots$ | $\because$ | $\vdots$ |
| $v_{2 i-1}$ |  |  |  | 0 |  | 1 |  | $\vdots$ |
| $\vdots$ | $\vdots$ | $\vdots$ | $\because$ | $\vdots$ | $\ddots$ | $\vdots$ | $\because$ | $\vdots$ |
| $v_{2 k-1}$ |  |  |  | ... |  | ... |  |  |
| Min. row sum in $v_{1}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

## Simple graphs

PL Erdős, C Greenhill, TRM, I Miklós, D Soltész, L Soukup (2019+)
$C$ primitive circuit trail $\Longrightarrow$

$$
\begin{array}{r}
\left|\left\{v_{2 i-1} \mid 1 \leq i \leq k\right\}\right|=k \\
\left|\left\{v_{2 i} \mid 1 \leq i \leq k\right\}\right|=k
\end{array}
$$

- Suppose $v_{1}=v_{8}$
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## Directed graphs

Let $D=\left(\left\{v_{1}, \ldots, v_{n}\right\}, A\right)$ be directed graph. Let

$$
\begin{aligned}
X(D) & =\left(\left\{v_{i}^{1} \mid 1 \leq i \leq n\right\},\left\{v_{i}^{2} \mid 1 \leq i \leq n\right\} ;\left\{v_{i}^{1} v_{j}^{2} \mid \overrightarrow{v_{i} v_{j}} \in A\right\}\right) \\
\mathcal{G}(\vec{d}) & \longleftrightarrow\left\{G \in \mathcal{G}_{\text {bipartite }}\left(\vec{d}_{\text {in }}, \vec{d}_{\text {out }}\right) \mid v_{i}^{1} v_{i}^{2} \notin E(G)\right\}
\end{aligned}
$$



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# Comparison to other stability based results 

## Other notions of stability

Definition (strong stability)
$\exists k \forall d \in \mathcal{D} \forall d^{\prime} \leq d$ s.t. $\left\|d^{\prime}-d\right\|_{1} \leq 2$ we have $\max _{G^{\prime} \in \mathcal{G}\left(d^{\prime}\right)} \min _{G \in \mathcal{G}(d)}\left|E(G) \triangle E\left(G^{\prime}\right)\right| \leq k$

Theorem (Amanatidis and Kleer 2019)
The switch chain is rapidly mixing on strongly-stable deg. sequences (simple, bipartite).
The proof relies on the rapid mixing of the JS-chain (it seems the proof cannot be extended beyond $P$-stable).

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The switch chain is rapidly mixing on strongly-stable deg. sequences (simple, bipartite).

## Definition ( $k$-stability)

$$
\forall d \in \mathcal{D} \forall d^{\prime} \in \mathbb{N}^{n} \text { s.t. }\left\|d^{\prime}-d\right\|_{1} \leq k \text { we have }\left|\mathcal{G}\left(d^{\prime}\right)\right| \leq \operatorname{poly}(n) \cdot|\mathcal{G}(d)|
$$

where $n=\operatorname{dim}(d)$. In this case, we call $\mathcal{D}$ a $k$-stable class of degree sequences.

## Theorem (Gao and Greenhill 2020+)

The switch Markov-chain is rapidly mixing on 8-stable deg. sequences (simple, directed).

## Mixing times

Bounds on the mixing time of the switch chain for typical known rapidly mixing classes of simple degree sequences

| Amanatidis and Kleer (strongly stable) | $\tau(\varepsilon) \leq n^{48} \cdot(m \log 2 m-\log \varepsilon)$ |
| :--- | :--- |
| Gao and Greenhill (8-stable) | $\tau(\varepsilon) \leq n^{42} \cdot(m \log 2 m-\log \varepsilon)$ |
| $P$-stable | $\tau(\varepsilon) \leq n^{30} \cdot(m \log 2 m-\log \varepsilon)$ |

- $P$-stability $\Leftrightarrow 2$-stability.
- Both strong stability and 8-stability imply $P$-stability.
- Almost all of the known rapid mixing regions are 8 -stable and strongly-stable
- The above table tries to compare apples to oranges, the bounds are not verbatim quoted.


## Heavy-tailed degree sequences

Suppose $d_{1} \geq d_{2} \geq \ldots \geq d_{n}$. Let $J(d)=\sum_{i=1}^{d_{1}} d_{i}$.
Theorem (Gao and Greenhill 2020+)
The set of degree sequences $d$ satisfying

$$
m(d)>J(d)+9 \Delta(d)+23
$$

is 8 -stable (hence $P$-stable).
Theorem (Gao and Greenhill 2020+)
The set of degree sequences $d$ satisfying

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m(d)>J(d)+3 \Delta(d)+1
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is both strongly-stable and $P$-stable.
These results contain deg. sequences that obey a power-law distribution-bound for $\gamma>2$

## Beyond $P$-stability...?

## $P$-stability is not necessary for rapid mixing

For all $n, k \in \mathbb{Z}^{+}$, let us define the bipartite degree sequence

$$
h_{n}:=\left(\begin{array}{ccccccc}
1 & 2 & 3 & \cdots & n-2 & n-1 & n \\
n & n-1 & n-2 & \cdots & 3 & 2 & 1
\end{array}\right)
$$

Let the set of degree sequences which are $k$-close to $h$ in $\ell_{1}$-norm be

$$
B_{k}(d)=\left\{d^{\prime} \in \mathbb{N}^{n} \mid\left\|d^{\prime}-d\right\|_{1} \leq k\right\}
$$

Theorem (PL Erdős, E Győri, TRM, I Miklós, D Soltész 2020+)
For any $c \in \mathbb{R}^{+}$, the switch Markov chain is rapidly mixing on the non-P-stable class

$$
\bigcup_{k=1}^{\infty} B_{c \sqrt{\log n}}\left(h_{n}\right)
$$

Thank you for attending my ZOOM presentation!

Homepage: https://trm.hu

## Full papers

https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0201995 https://arxiv.org/abs/1903.06600 https://arxiv.org/abs/1909.02308

## Second moment

## Theorem (Svante Janson 2006)

Let $\left(G_{n}\right)_{n=1}^{\infty}$ be a sequence of random multigraphs generated by the configuration model, such that $e\left(G_{n}\right)=\Theta(n)$. Then

$$
\liminf _{n \rightarrow \infty} \operatorname{Pr}\left(G_{n} \text { is simple }\right) \Leftrightarrow \sum_{v \in V\left(G_{n}\right)} d_{G_{n}}(v)^{2}=\mathcal{O}(n)
$$

## Theorem (Svante Janson 2020)

By randomly switching, TV dist goes to 0 .

## Proof outline of rapid mixing on $P$-stable degree sequences

- Use the Jerrum-Sinclair result: construct a multicommodity-flow that sends a 1-flow between any two realizations in the Markov-graph such that no realization is overloaded
- Determining a flow between any two $X, Y \in \mathcal{G}(d)$
- Decompose $E(X) \Delta E(Y)$ into red/blue alternating circuit trails: the red and blue degrees are the same in $E(X) \Delta E(Y)$, because $X$ and $Y$ share the same degree sequence.
- Decompose alternating circuit trails into primitive alternating circuit trails
- Process primitive circuits: exchange edges with non-edges via the previous algorithm


## Decomposing the symmetric difference $E(X) \Delta E(Y)$



- Let $s$ be a complete matching between the red and blue edges at each vertex
- Thus $E(X) \triangle E(Y)=W_{1} \uplus \ldots \uplus W_{k}$, where each $W_{i}$ is an alternating-circuit
- Exchange the edges with non-edges in each alternating primitive circuit trail


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## Sweeping primitive alternating circuits - demo on an extra special case



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