

# ALMOST ALL $k$ -SAT FUNCTIONS ARE UNATE

József Balogh   Dingding Dong   Bernard Lidický   Nitya Mani   Yufei Zhao



EXCILL IV  
May 27, 2023

## QUESTION

Count functions

$$f : \{0, 1\}^n \rightarrow \{0, 1\} \quad 2^{2^n}$$

*k-SAT FUNCTION* can be defined as

$$f(x_1, \dots, x_n) = C_1 \vee C_2 \vee \dots \vee C_m$$

$$C_i = \underbrace{z_1 \wedge z_2 \wedge \dots \wedge z_k}_{\text{all different variables}} \quad z_i \in \{x_1, \neg x_1, x_2, \neg x_2, \dots, x_n, \neg x_n\}$$

$x_i$  variable,  $C_i$  clause,  $z_i$  literal

example  $k = 3$

$$x_1 \wedge x_2 \rightarrow (x_1 \wedge x_2 \wedge x_3) \vee (x_1 \wedge x_2 \wedge \neg x_3)$$

$$x_1 \wedge x_2 \wedge \neg x_2 \rightarrow \text{always false}$$

Every *k-SAT* function has a formula but the formula may not be unique.

number of  $f : \{0, 1\}^n \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$   $2^{2^n}$

number of  $k$ -SAT formula  $2^{2^k \binom{n}{k}}$

number of  $k$ -SAT functions?

$k$ -SAT formula is *monotone* if it uses only  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$ , (i.e. no  $\neg x_i$  is used)

All monotone  $k$ -SAT formula give different functions

$$g \notin x_1 \wedge \dots \wedge x_k \ni f \quad f \neq g \text{ at } x_1 = \dots = x_k = 1, x_{k+1} = \dots = x_m = 0$$

Number of monotone  $k$ -SAT functions  $2^{\binom{n}{k}}$

$k$ -SAT formula is *unate* if it uses at most one of  $\{x_i, \neg x_i\} = \{x_i, \bar{x}_i\}$

Number of unate  $k$ -SAT functions  $(1 + o(1))2^{n + \binom{n}{k}}$

Functions avoiding  $x_i$  counted multiple times

## CONJECTURE (BOLLOBÁS, BRIGHTWELL, LEADER 2003)

Fix  $k \geq 2$ ,  $1 - o(1)$  fraction of  $k$ -SAT functions are unate as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .  $(1 + o(1))2^{n + \binom{n}{k}}$

- # 2-SAT functions is  $2^{(1+o(1))\binom{n}{2}}$ . Bollobás, Brightwell, Leader 2003  
using Szemerédi regularity lemma
- Conjecture true for  $k = 2$  Allen 2007  
using Szemerédi regularity lemma
- Conjecture true for  $k = 2$  Ilinca, Kahn 2009  
without Szemerédi regularity lemma
- Conjecture true for  $k = 3$  Ilinca, Kahn 2012  
using hypergraph regularity lemma
- Conjecture true for  $k = 4, 5$  Dong, Mani, Zhao 2022

Conjecture true for all  $k$  :-) Balogh, Dong, Lidický, Mani, Zhao 2022+

- $C_1 \vee \dots \vee C_m$  is *minimal* if deleting any  $C_i$  changes the function.
- i.e. for every  $C_i$  exists  $X \in \{0, 1\}^n$  s.t. only  $C_i$  is satisfied  
 $(w \wedge x) \vee (w \wedge y) \vee (x \wedge \bar{z}) \vee (\bar{y} \wedge z)$  is not minimal

Idea: forbid non-minimal formula and transform to a Turán type problem.  
 $k$ -uniform hypergraph

$$V = \{x_1, \dots, x_n\} \quad E = \binom{\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}}{k}$$

Count the number of hypergraphs not containing forbidden configurations.  
(forbidden configuration is a non-minimal formula)

- Trouble 1: How to reduce  $\{x_1, \overline{x_1}, \dots, x_n, \overline{x_n}\}$  to  $n$  vertices and identify forbidden configurations?

*Dong, Mani, Zhao using blow-up, saturation, container method*

- Trouble 2: How to solve the resulting hypergraph extremal problem?

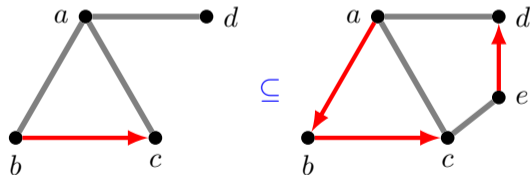
*BDLMZ: computer free flag-algebra*

# DIRECTED HYPERGRAPH TURÁN PROBLEM

*Partially directed  $k$ -graph* is a  $k$ -uniform hypergraph, where every edge is

- undirected
- rooted at one vertex (directed towards one vertex)

$\vec{H} \subseteq \vec{G}$  if  $\vec{H}$  could be obtained from  $\vec{G}$  by removing some vertices, edges, or orientations.

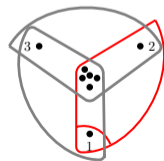
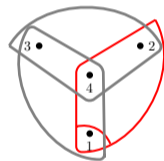
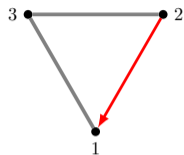


$\vec{T}_k$ 

- $\vec{T}_2 = \{\hat{1}2, 13, 23\}$

- $\vec{T}_3 = \{\hat{1}24, 134, 234\}$

- $\vec{T}_k = \{\hat{1}24 \cdots k+1, 134 \cdots k+1, 234 \cdots k+1\}$





# EXTREMAL PROBLEM

$G$  is  $k$ -uniform,  $n$ -vertex,  $\vec{T}_k$ -free.

$$\underbrace{\bullet \quad \bullet \quad \bullet \quad \bullet}_{\text{---}} := \alpha := \frac{e_{\text{undirected}}(G)}{\binom{n}{k}}$$

$$\underbrace{\bullet \quad \bullet \quad \bullet \quad \bullet}_{\text{---}} := \beta := \frac{e_{\text{directed}}(G)}{\binom{n}{k}}$$

Given  $k, \theta$ , what is

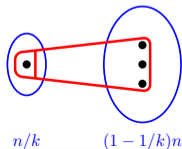
$$\max\{\alpha + \theta\beta\}?$$

Special (open) case:

Show  $\alpha + \theta\beta \leq 1$  when  $1 \leq \theta \leq (1 - \frac{1}{k})^{1-k} \approx e$

Constructions:

Complete undirected graph



CONJECTURE (BOLLOBÁS, BRIGHTWELL, LEADER 2003)

*Fix  $k \geq 2$ , almost all  $k$ -SAT functions are unate.*

THEOREM (DONG, MANI, ZHAO)

*If  $\alpha + \theta\beta \leq 1$  when  $\log_2 3 < \theta$  then almost all  $k$ -SAT functions are unate.*

This theorem is a lot of work.

THEOREM (DONG, MANI, ZHAO)

*Conjecture true for  $k \leq 5$ .*

THEOREM (BALOGH, DONG, LIDICKÝ, MANI, ZHAO)

*Conjecture true for all  $k$ .*

# CONTAINERS

- few containers
- each minimal  $k$ -SAT formula is a subformula of at least one container
- Undirected edge  $\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k\}$  in a container gives

$$x_1 \wedge x_2 \wedge \dots \wedge x_k \quad \text{or} \quad \text{nothing}$$

- Directed edge  $\{\hat{x}_1, x_2, \dots, x_k\}$  in a container gives

$$x_1 \wedge x_2 \wedge \dots \wedge x_k \quad \text{or} \quad \bar{x}_1 \wedge x_2 \wedge \dots \wedge x_k \quad \text{or} \quad \text{nothing}$$

- One container with  $\alpha \binom{n}{k}$  undirected edges and  $\beta \binom{n}{k}$  directed edges gives up to  $2^{\alpha \binom{n}{k}} 3^{\beta \binom{n}{k}} = 2^{(\alpha + \beta \log_2 3) \binom{n}{k}}$   $k$ -SAT formulas

THEOREM (FÜREDI 1992)

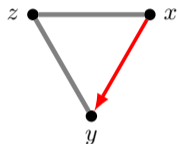
$$e(G^2) \geq e(G) - \lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor \text{ where } E(G^2) = \{(x, y) : \exists z, xz, yz \in E(G)\}$$

THEOREM (DONG, MANI, ZHAO)

For  $k = 2$ :  $\alpha + 2\beta \leq 1 + o(1)$

PROOF.

- $\vec{H}$  be  $\vec{T}_2$ -free graph
- $G$  underlying graph (forget orientation)  
 $e(G) = (\alpha + \beta) \binom{n}{2}$
- $xy \in E(G)$  and  $xy \in E(G^2)$  means  $xy$  was undirected in  $\vec{H}$ .



$$\binom{n}{2} \geq e(G^2) + \beta \binom{n}{2} \geq e(G) + \beta \binom{n}{2} - \frac{n}{2} = (\alpha + 2\beta) \binom{n}{2} - \frac{n}{2}$$

□

- Averaging via link-graphs of  $v \in \vec{H}$ :

$$\pi \left( \vec{T}_k, \frac{(k-1)\theta + 1}{k} \right) \leq \pi \left( \vec{T}_{k-1}, \theta \right)$$

- 

$$\pi \left( \vec{T}_3, \frac{5}{3} \right) \leq \pi \left( \vec{T}_2, 2 \right)$$

- $\frac{5}{3} > \log_2 3$  implying case  $k = 3$
- cases  $k = 4, 5$  slightly more complicated

THEOREM (BALOGH, DONG, LIDICKÝ, MANI, ZHAO)

*All values of  $k$ .*

# PROOF FOR $k = 4$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \alpha + \theta\beta \\
 = & \underbrace{\bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet}_{\text{---}} + \theta \underbrace{\bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet}_{\text{---}} \\
 \leq & \underbrace{\bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet}_{\text{---}} + \theta \underbrace{\bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet}_{\text{---}} + \left[ \left( a \begin{array}{c} \boxed{1} \\ \boxed{2} \\ \boxed{3} \end{array} \bullet - b \begin{array}{c} \boxed{1} \\ \boxed{2} \\ \boxed{3} \end{array} \bullet \right)^2 \right] \\
 \leq & 1
 \end{aligned}$$

for  $\theta = 1 + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \geq 1.707 > \log_2 3$      $a = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, b = \frac{k(\theta-1)-1}{\sqrt{2}}$      $k \geq 4$

# PROOF FOR $k = 2$ AND $k = 3$

$$1 \underline{\bullet \bullet} + 1.7 \underline{\bullet \bullet} + \left[ (-1 \underline{\square \bullet} - 1 \underline{\square \bullet} + 0.98 \underline{\square \bullet})^2 \right] \leq 1$$

$$1 \underline{\bullet \bullet \bullet} + 1.7 \underline{\bullet \bullet \bullet} + 0.039 \times \left[ (-6 \underline{\square \square \bullet} - 5 \underline{\square \square \bullet} + 5 \underline{\square \square \bullet})^2 \right] \leq 1$$

THEOREM (BALOGH, DONG, LIDICKÝ, MANI, ZHAO)

If  $\vec{T}_k$  is forbidden, then  $\underbrace{\bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet}_{k} + \left(1 + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\right) \underbrace{\bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet}_{k} \leq 1$  for all  $k$ .

QUESTION

If  $\vec{T}_k$  is forbidden, then  $\underbrace{\bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet}_{k} + \left(1 - \frac{1}{k}\right)^{1-k} \underbrace{\bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet}_{k} \leq 1$  for all  $k$ ?

