# Generalized birthday problem for October 12 

Sumit Mukherjee, Department of Statistics, Columbia

Joint work with B.B. Bhattacharya (U Penn) and S. Mukherjee (NUS)

## Outline

(1) Introduction
(2) Theorem I with examples
(3) Theorems II and III
(4) Proof overview of Theorem I
(5) Conclusion

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- The answer to this question is very well known.
- In this case the number of student pairs with a common birthday is approximate Poisson with mean $\lambda=\frac{\binom{n}{2}}{c}$.
- Consequently the chance of at least one common birthday is approximately $1-e^{-\lambda}$.


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- Here $|E(G)|$ is the number of edges in $G$, i.e. the total number of friendship pairs in the class.
- The classical birthday problem is a special case with $G=K_{n}$, where everyone knows everyone else.


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- In this case things are more interesting, and the answer depends on the graph in a more delicate way (than just the number of edges).


## Formal set up

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- Note that

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T_{n}=\sum_{i<j} G_{n}(i, j) X_{i} X_{j},
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where $\left(X_{1}, \ldots, X_{n}\right)$ are i.i.d. $\operatorname{Bern}\left(p_{n}\right)$, with $p_{n}=\frac{1}{c_{n}}$.

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- We will assume that the sequence $\left\{G_{n}, p_{n}\right\}_{n \geq 1}$ are chosen such that $\mathbb{E} T_{n}=\frac{\left|E\left(G_{n}\right)\right|}{c_{n}^{2}}=O(1)$.


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## Example II: Disjoint union of stars

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T_{n}=\sum_{i=1}^{\sqrt{n}} X_{i} \sum_{j=1}^{\sqrt{n}} Y_{i j},
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where $\left(X_{1}, \ldots, X_{\sqrt{n}}\right)$ and $\left(Y_{i j}\right)_{1 \leq i, j \leq \sqrt{n}}$ are mutually independent $\operatorname{Bern}\left(p_{n}\right)$.

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- This gives $T_{n} \xrightarrow{D} \operatorname{Pois}(S)$, where $S \sim \operatorname{Pois}(1)$.


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- As already seen, this class contains mixtures of Poissons, and Binomials of quadratic functions of Poissons.
- Also, can we characterize when is this limit exactly a Poisson?


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- The disjoint star example captures the contribution of edges between high degree vertices and low degree vertices.
- Finally, edges between low degree vertices gives rise to a Poisson limit.
- Using this philosophy, we partition the edge set into 3 types,

$$
\text { High } \leftrightarrow \text { High, } \quad \text { High } \leftrightarrow \text { Low, } \quad \text { Low } \leftrightarrow \text { Low. }
$$

## Adjacency matrix $\mapsto$ function on positive reals

- Define a function $W_{G_{n}}(.,):,[0, \infty)^{2} \mapsto[0,1]$ by setting

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W_{G_{n}}(x, y) & =1 \text { if }\left(\left\lceil x c_{n}\right\rceil,\left\lceil y c_{n}\right\rceil\right) \in E\left(G_{n}\right) \\
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- Let $d_{G_{n}}(x):=\int_{0}^{\infty} W_{G_{n}}(x, y) \mathrm{d} x$ be the degree function.


## First assumption (A1)

- Given two bounded measurable functions $f, g$ from $[0, K]^{2} \mapsto[0,1]$, define the strong cut distance between $f$ and $g$ by

$$
\sup _{A, B \subset[0,1]}\left|\int_{A \times B} f(x, y) \mathrm{d} x \mathrm{~d} y-\int_{A \times B} g(x, y) \mathrm{d} x \mathrm{~d} y\right| .
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- In some sense $W$ captures the limit of the dense part of the graph. Note that this assumption, along with Fatou's lemma automatically implies

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\int_{[0, \infty)^{2}}|W(x, y)| \mathrm{d} x \mathrm{~d} y<\infty
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\Delta(x):=d(x)-\int_{0}^{\infty} W(x, y) \mathrm{d} y .
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- In some sense $\Delta(x)$ counts the edges between the high and low degree vertices.


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- The joint Mgf of $\left(Q_{1}, Q_{2}\right)$ appears on the next slide.


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- $Q_{1}$ arises from the edges between the high degree vertices, i.e. the dense part of the graph.


## Stochastic Integral (Itô)

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- Then $I_{2}(f)$ is well defined, and

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- Suppose $G_{n}$ is an Erdős-Rényi graph with parameter $q$, and $p_{n}=\frac{1}{n}$.


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- Suppose $p_{n}=\frac{1}{n}$, and $G_{n}$ is a sequence of random graphs such that

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\mathbb{P}\left(G_{n}(i, j)=1\right) & =a_{11} \text { if } i, j<\frac{n}{2} \\
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- Similar results apply to unequal blocks, or more than 2 blocks.


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- Let $K_{n}$ be the complete graph on $n$ vertices.
- Put a star graph $K_{1, n}$ centered on every vertex of $K_{n}$.
- Then the entire graph $G_{n}$ has $n+n^{2} \sim n^{2}$ vertices, and $\binom{n}{2}+n^{2} \sim \frac{3 n^{2}}{2}$ edges.

Co-existence example


EG: $\quad n=5$
TOTAL VERTICES $=5+5 \times 5=30$
TOTAL EDGES $=\binom{5}{2}+5 \times 5=35$

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- Applying our theorem gives $T_{n} \xrightarrow{D} Q_{1}+Q_{2}$, where

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\mathbb{E} e^{-t_{1} Q_{1}-t_{2} Q_{2}}=\mathbb{E} \exp \left\{-t_{1}\binom{S}{2}-\left(1-e^{-t_{2}}\right) S\right\} .
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- Here $S=N(1) \sim \operatorname{Pois}(1)$.


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- In this case, with $p_{n}=\frac{1}{n}$ the conditions of our theorem hold with

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- This ensures that $G_{n}$ has $\Theta\left(n^{2}\right)$ vertices, and $\Theta_{P}\left(n^{2}\right)$ many edges.
- For the choice $p_{n}=\frac{1}{n}$, our theorem applies with

$$
\begin{aligned}
W(x, y) & =c_{k} \text { if } x, y \in\left(r_{k-1}, r_{k}\right] \text { for some } k \geq 1 \\
& =0 \text { otherwise }
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- Also,

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- Here $r_{k}:=\sum_{i=0}^{k} b_{i} \rightarrow \infty$, and so both $W, \Delta$ have non-compact support.
- Using our theorem gives

$$
T_{n} \xrightarrow{D} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \operatorname{Bin}\left(\binom{S_{k}}{2}, c_{k}\right)+\text { Pois }\left(\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} a_{k} S_{k}\right),
$$

where $S_{k} \sim \operatorname{Pois}\left(b_{k}\right)$ are mutually independent.

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## Theorem II

- Our first result shows that under (A1), (A2), (A3), the limit of $T_{n}$ can be expressed as $\psi(W, d, \lambda)$ for suitable $W, d, \lambda$.
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## Theorem (Bhattacharya-Mukherjee-M., AAP-2020)

Suppose $\mathbb{E} T_{n}=O(1)$. Then (under no other assumption) if $T_{n}$ converges in distribution to a limit, then the limit must be in the closure of $\psi(W, d, \lambda)$.

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- Essentially, after permuting the remaining vertices, the assumptions of the theorem does (approximately) hold along a subsequence.
- We claim that the class $\psi(W, d, \lambda)$ is closed under weak topology.


## Theorem III

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## Theorem (Bhattacharya-Mukherjee-M., AAP-2020)

If $\mathbb{E} T_{n}=O(1)$, the following are equivalent:
(i) $T_{n} \xrightarrow{D} \operatorname{Pois}(\lambda)$.
(ii)

$$
\lim _{M \rightarrow \infty} \lim _{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{E}\left(T_{n, M}\right)=\lambda, \quad \lim _{M \rightarrow \infty} \lim _{n \rightarrow \infty} \operatorname{Var}\left(T_{n, M}\right)=\lambda .
$$

- Here

$$
T_{n, M}:=\sum_{i<j} G_{n}(i, j) X_{i} X_{j} 1\left\{d_{i} \leq M c_{n}, d_{j} \leq M c_{n}\right\}
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\begin{aligned}
& \text { Corollary (Bhattacharya-Mukherjee-M., AAP-2020) } \\
& \text { If } \mathbb{E} T_{n} \rightarrow \lambda \text { and } \operatorname{Var}\left(T_{n}\right) \rightarrow \lambda, \text { then } T_{n} \xrightarrow{D} \operatorname{Pois}(\lambda) .
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## Corollary (Bhattacharya-Mukherjee-M., AAP-2020)

If $\mathbb{E} T_{n} \rightarrow \lambda$ and $\operatorname{Var}\left(T_{n}\right) \rightarrow \lambda$, then $T_{n} \xrightarrow{D} \operatorname{Pois}(\lambda)$.

- Compare this with the more well studied fourth moment phenomenon for the Gaussian distribution (see Ivan Nourdin's webpage for a list of papers on this topic).


## Example-I (Erdős-Rényi)

- Suppose $G_{n}$ is an Erdős-Rényi graph with parameter $q_{n} \rightarrow 0$ such that $q_{n} \gg \frac{1}{n^{2}}$


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- Similar results hold for sparse block models, and random regular graphs.


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- The truncated second moment result captures this behavior automatically.


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## Proof idea of Theorem I

- With $c_{n}$ the number of colors, we split the vertices into three groups,
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- By using a first moment computation using Markov's inequality, we show that the super high degree vertices do not contribute for $M$ large.


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- We argue using method of moments that $T_{3, n}$ is asymptotically independent from $T_{1, n}$ and $T_{2, n}$.


## Proof idea of Theorem-I

- Using
(i) (A1): strong cut metric convergence of $W_{G_{n}}$ on $[0, K]^{2}$ $+$
(ii) (A2): the convergence of the degree function $d_{G_{n}}$ in $L^{1}[0, K]$, we argue that the joint moments of $T_{1, n}$ and $T_{2, n}$ converge.


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- We also show that the limiting moments determine their joint distribution.
- To identify the distribution of $\left(Q_{1}, Q_{2}\right)$, we compute the Mgf along a well chosen sequence of inhomogeneous random graphs.
- This gives the joint Mgf of $\left(Q_{1}, Q_{2}\right)$, thereby proving Theorem I.


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## Summary of our results

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- Motivated by graph coloring problems, we study asymptotic distribution of quadratic forms of Bernoulli random variables.
- We characterize the class of all possible limits of Bernoulli quadratic forms.
- As an application, we characterize exactly when is the limit a Poisson random variable.
- We apply our theorem to several examples, which includes both deterministic and random graphs.


## Future Scope

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- Finally, our quadratic form is (in terms of) the adjacency matrix of a simple graph. Does a similar analysis apply for general quadratic forms?


