#### Generalized birthday problem for October 12

#### Sumit Mukherjee, Department of Statistics, Columbia

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

Sumit Mukherjee, Department of Statistics, Columbia





3 Theorems II and III

4 Proof overview of Theorem I



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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.

# Second variant: Fix the date

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- But in addition, we now require both of them to be born on October 12.
- Question: What is the chance that there are two people who know each other, and have birthday October 12?
- 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).

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- What is the limiting distribution of  $T_n$ , the number of monochromatic edges of color 1?
- Note that

$$T_n = \sum_{i < j} G_n(i, j) X_i X_j,$$

where  $(X_1, \ldots, X_n)$  are i.i.d. Bern $(p_n)$ , with  $p_n = \frac{1}{c_n}$ .

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• We will assume that the sequence  $\{G_n, p_n\}_{n \ge 1}$  are chosen such that  $\mathbb{E}T_n = \frac{|E(G_n)|}{c_n^2} = O(1).$ 

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• Thus  $T_n \xrightarrow{D} {S \choose 2}$ , where  $S \sim Pois(1)$ .

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- Total number of edges in this smaller Erdős-Rényi random graph is  $Bin(\binom{S_n}{2}, q)$ , and so

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$$T_n \stackrel{D}{=} Bin\left(\binom{S_n}{2}, q\right) \stackrel{D}{\to} Bin\left(\binom{S}{2}, q\right), \text{ where } S \sim Pois(1).$$

# Example II: Disjoint union of stars

• Suppose  $G_n$  is a disjoint union of  $\sqrt{n}$  many  $K_{1,\sqrt{n}}$  graphs, and  $p_n = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}$ .
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• From the last figure,

$$T_n = \sum_{i=1}^{\sqrt{n}} X_i \sum_{j=1}^{\sqrt{n}} Y_{ij},$$

where  $(X_1, \ldots, X_{\sqrt{n}})$  and  $(Y_{ij})_{1 \le i,j \le \sqrt{n}}$  are mutually independent Bern $(p_n)$ .

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• Thus  $T_n \approx \sum_{i=1}^{D} X_i Y_i$ . Conditioning on  $(X_1, \ldots, X_{\sqrt{n}})$ , this has a  $Pois\left(\sum_{i=1}^{\sqrt{n}} X_i\right)$  distribution.

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• This gives 
$$T_n \xrightarrow{D} Pois(S)$$
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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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### Towards a general result

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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,

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

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

$$W_{G_n}(x, y) = 1 \text{ if } (\lceil xc_n \rceil, \lceil yc_n \rceil) \in E(G_n)$$
  
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• Let  $d_{G_n}(x) := \int_0^\infty W_{G_n}(x, y) dx$  be the degree function.

• 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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• Assumption (A1):

There is a function  $W : [0, \infty)^2 \mapsto [0, 1]$ , such that for every K fixed, the function  $W_{G_n}$  converges in strong cut distance to the function W on  $[0, K]^2$ .

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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

$$\int_{[0,\infty)^2} |W(x,y)| \mathrm{d}x \mathrm{d}y < \infty.$$

• Assumption (A2):

There is a function  $d:[0,\infty)\mapsto [0,\infty)$  such that for every M,K>0 we have

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• In some sense  $\Delta(x)$  counts the edges between the high and low degree vertices.

• Assumption: (A3)

$$\lim_{K \to \infty} \lim_{n \to \infty} \int_{[K,\infty)^2} W_{G_n}(x,y) \mathrm{d}x \mathrm{d}y = 2\lambda_0.$$

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Theorem (Bhattacharya-Mukherjee-M., AAP 20)

If (A1), (A2), (A3) hold, then

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• The joint Mgf of  $(Q_1, Q_2)$  appears on the next slide.

# Mgf of $(Q_1, Q_2)$

• For  $t_1, t_2 > 0$ ,  $\mathbb{E}e^{-t_1Q_1 - t_2Q_2}$  equals

$$\mathbb{E} \exp\Big\{\frac{1}{2}\int_{[0,\infty)^2} \phi_{W,t_1}(x,y) dN(x) dN(y) - (1-e^{-t_2})\int_{[0,\infty)} \Delta(x) dN(x)\Big\}.$$

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is integrable,
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•  $Q_1$  arises from the edges between the high degree vertices, i.e. the dense part of the graph.

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- We want to define the bivariate stochastic integral

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• First assume

$$f = \sum_{i,j=1}^{k} c_{ij} \mathbf{1}_{A_i \times A_j},$$

where  $\{A_1, \ldots, A_k\}$  is a measurable partition of [0, 1], and  $c_{ii} = 0$  for  $1 \le i \le k$ .

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- Then  $I_2(f)$  is well defined, and

 $\mathbb{E}|I_2(f)| \le ||f||_{L_1[0,\infty)^2}.$ 

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- Since N(1) ~ Pois(1), we have the same limit distribution as before.

• Suppose  $p_n = \frac{1}{n}$ , and  $G_n$  is a sequence of random graphs such that

$$\begin{split} \mathbb{P}(G_n(i,j) = 1) = &a_{11} \text{ if } i, j < \frac{n}{2} \\ = &a_{12} \text{ if } i < \frac{n}{2}, j \ge \frac{n}{2} \text{ or } i \ge \frac{n}{2}, j < \frac{n}{2} \\ = &a_{22} \text{ if } i, j \ge \frac{n}{2}. \end{split}$$

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• In this case the conditions of our theorem hold with  $\Delta \equiv 0, \lambda_0 = 0$ , and W on  $[0, 1]^2$  given by

$$W(x,y) = a_{11} \text{ if } x, y < \frac{1}{2},$$
  
=  $a_{12} \text{ if } x < \frac{1}{2}, y \ge \frac{1}{2} \text{ or } x \ge \frac{1}{2}, y < \frac{1}{2},$   
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- Similar results apply to unequal blocks, or more than 2 blocks.

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Since N(1) ~ Pois(1), we have the same limit distribution as before.

# Example-III (Co-Existence)

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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  $\binom{n}{2} + n^2 \sim \frac{3n^2}{2}$  edges.

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### Co-existence example



EG: n= 5  
TOTAL VERTICES = 5+ 5×5= 30  
TOTAL EDGES = 
$$(\frac{5}{4})$$
 + 5×5= 35

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

 $W(x,y) = 1\{(x,y) \in [0,1]^2\}, \quad \Delta(x) = 1\{x \in [0,1]\}, \quad \lambda_0 = 0.$ 

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• Applying our theorem gives  $T_n \xrightarrow{D} Q_1 + Q_2$ , where

$$\mathbb{E}e^{-t_1Q_1-t_2Q_2} = \mathbb{E}\exp\Big\{-t_1\binom{S}{2} - (1-e^{-t_2})S\Big\}.$$

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- This gives

$$Q_1 + Q_2 \xrightarrow{D} {S \choose 2} + Pois(S)$$
, where  $S \sim Pois(1)$ .

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- This ensures that  $G_n$  has  $\Theta(n^2)$  vertices, and  $\Theta_P(n^2)$  many edges.
- For the choice  $p_n = \frac{1}{n}$ , our theorem applies with

$$W(x, y) = c_k \text{ if } x, y \in (r_{k-1}, r_k] \text{ for some } k \ge 1,$$
  
=0 otherwise.

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- Using our theorem gives

$$T_n \xrightarrow{D} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} Bin\left(\binom{S_k}{2}, c_k\right) + Pois\left(\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} a_k S_k\right),$$

where  $S_k \sim Pois(b_k)$  are mutually independent.





3 Theorems II and III

4 Proof overview of Theorem I



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• 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.

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# Theorem (Bhattacharya-Mukherjee-M., AAP-2020) If $\mathbb{E}T_n = O(1)$ , the following are equivalent: (i) $T_n \xrightarrow{D} Pois(\lambda)$ . (ii) $\lim_{M \to \infty} \lim_{n \to \infty} \mathbb{E}(T_{n,M}) = \lambda, \quad \lim_{M \to \infty} \lim_{n \to \infty} Var(T_{n,M}) = \lambda.$

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• Here

$$T_{n,M} := \sum_{i < j} G_n(i,j) X_i X_j \mathbb{1}\{d_i \le Mc_n, d_j \le Mc_n\}$$

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Corollary (Bhattacharya-Mukherjee-M., AAP-2020)

If  $\mathbb{E}T_n \to \lambda$  and  $Var(T_n) \to \lambda$ , then  $T_n \xrightarrow{D} Pois(\lambda)$ .

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• 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).

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• Then  $T_n \stackrel{d}{\rightarrow} Pois(\lambda)$ .
# Example-I (Erdős-Rényi)

- Suppose  $G_n$  is an Erdős-Rényi graph with parameter  $q_n \to 0$  such that  $q_n \gg \frac{1}{n^2}$  (needed to ensure  $|E(G_n)| \xrightarrow{P} \infty$ ).
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$$T_n \xrightarrow{d} Pois(\lambda)$$
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• Similar results hold for sparse block models, and random regular graphs.

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- However, it is not hard to check that  $T_n \xrightarrow{D} Pois(1)$ .
- This is because with high probability, there are no monochromatic edges of color 1 in the star graph.
- The truncated second moment result captures this behavior automatically.





3 Theorems II and III

4 Proof overview of Theorem I



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  - (iii) degree greater than  $Mc_n$  (super high degree vertices).
- 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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  - (iii)  $T_{1,n}$ , which counts monochromatic edges between high and high degree vertices. This gives  $Q_1$ , which in many examples is the sum of Binomials with quadratic Poisson parameters.
- We argue using method of moments that  $T_{3,n}$  is asymptotically independent from  $T_{1,n}$  and  $T_{2,n}$ .

• Using

+

- (i) ( A1): strong cut metric convergence of  $W_{{\cal G}_n}$  on  $[0,K]^2$
- (ii) (A2): the convergence of the degree function  $d_{G_n}$  in  $L^1[0, K]$ ,
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- We also show that the limiting moments determine their joint distribution.
- To identify the distribution of  $(Q_1, Q_2)$ , we compute the Mgf along a well chosen sequence of inhomogeneous random graphs.
- This gives the joint Mgf of  $(Q_1, Q_2)$ , thereby proving Theorem I.





3 Theorems II and III

4 Proof overview of Theorem I



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- 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.

• Can one characterize the class of all possible limit distributions for the number of monochromatic triangles of color 1?

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Sumit Mukherjee, Department of Statistics, Columbia Generalized birthday problem for October 12 45/4
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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?



Sumit Mukherjee, Department of Statistics, Columbia