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**Problem 1.** Suppose that  $G_1, \dots, G_k$  are all graphs on the same vertex-set  $V$  and set  $m_i = e(G_i)$ . Prove that there is a common bipartition of  $V$  such that  $G_i$  has at least  $\frac{m_i}{2} - \sqrt{km_i}$  many edges crossing this bipartition for each  $i \in [k]$ .

**Problem 2.** A  $k$ -AP is a set of the form  $\{x, x+d, x+2d, \dots, x+(k-1)d\}$  where  $x$  is an integer and  $d$  is a positive integer. Consider the random subset  $A$  of  $[n]$  where each element is independently included in  $A$  with probability  $p$ . For each fixed  $k \geq 3$ , find a threshold probability for the event that  $A$  contains a  $k$ -AP. That is, locate some function  $t = t(n)$  such that, as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ,

$$\mathbf{Pr}[A \text{ contains a } k\text{-AP}] \rightarrow \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } p \ll t, \\ 1 & \text{if } p \gg t. \end{cases}$$

**Problem 3** (Unbalancing lights revisited). In class, we proved that there is a constant  $c > 0$  such that for every matrix  $A \in \{\pm 1\}^{n \times n}$ , we can locate  $x, y \in \{\pm 1\}^n$  such that  $|\sum_{i,j} A_{i,j} x_i y_j| \geq cn^{3/2}$ . Prove that this bound is optimal.

Explicitly: prove that there is a constant  $C$  so that for every positive integer  $n$ , one can find a matrix  $A \in \{\pm 1\}^{n \times n}$  with the property that  $|\sum_{i,j} A_{i,j} x_i y_j| \leq Cn^{3/2}$  for every  $x, y \in \{\pm 1\}^n$ .

**Problem 4** (Existence of thresholds). Fix a non-empty finite set  $\Omega$  and let  $\Omega_p$  denote a random subset of  $\Omega$  where each element is included independently with probability  $p$ .<sup>1</sup> A property  $\mathcal{P} \subseteq 2^\Omega$  is said to be *increasing* if  $A \in \mathcal{P} \wedge A \subseteq B \implies B \in \mathcal{P}$  and is said to be *non-trivial* if  $\mathcal{P} \notin \{\emptyset, 2^\Omega\}$ .

A. Fix an increasing property  $\mathcal{P}$ . Prove that the function  $p \mapsto \mathbf{Pr}[\Omega_p \in \mathcal{P}]$  is increasing and continuous.

Hint: Some “coupling” idea is necessary here. Perhaps the easiest is to consider a uniformly random function  $\phi: \Omega \rightarrow [0, 1]$  and define  $A_p = \{x \in \Omega : \phi(x) \leq p\}$  for each  $p \in [0, 1]$ .

B. Fix an increasing property  $\mathcal{P}$ , a number  $p \in [0, 1]$ , and a positive integer  $m$ . Prove that  $\mathbf{Pr}[\Omega_p \notin \mathcal{P}] \leq \mathbf{Pr}[\Omega_{p/m} \notin \mathcal{P}]^m$ .

Hint: Consider the union of  $m$  independent copies of  $\Omega_{p/m}$ .

C. Fix a finite set  $\Omega = \Omega(n)$  and a non-trivial, increasing property  $\mathcal{P} = \mathcal{P}(n)$  (really, a sequence of sets and properties). Prove that there is a function  $t = t(n)$  such that, as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ,

$$\mathbf{Pr}[\Omega_p \in \mathcal{P}] \rightarrow \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } p \ll t, \\ 1 & \text{if } p \gg t. \end{cases}$$

That is, prove that there is a threshold probability for the event  $\mathcal{P}$ .

Hint: Pick  $t$  such that  $\mathbf{Pr}[\Omega_t \in \mathcal{P}] = 1/2$  (why can you do this?).

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<sup>1</sup> $G(n, p)$  corresponds to  $\Omega_p$  when  $\Omega = \binom{[n]}{2}$ .