



# CS 598: Spectral Graph Theory. Lecture 13

## Expander Codes

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# Today

- Graph approximations, part 2. Bipartite expanders as approximations of the bipartite complete graph
- Quasi-random properties of bipartite expanders, expander mixing lemma
- Building expander codes
- Encoding, minimum distance, decoding

# Expander Graph Refresher

- We defined expander graphs to be  $d$ -regular graphs whose adjacency matrix eigenvalues satisfy

$$|\alpha_i| \leq \epsilon d$$

for  $i > 1$ , and some small  $\epsilon$ .

- We saw that such graphs are very good approximations of the complete graph.

# Expanders as Approximations of the Complete Graph Refresher

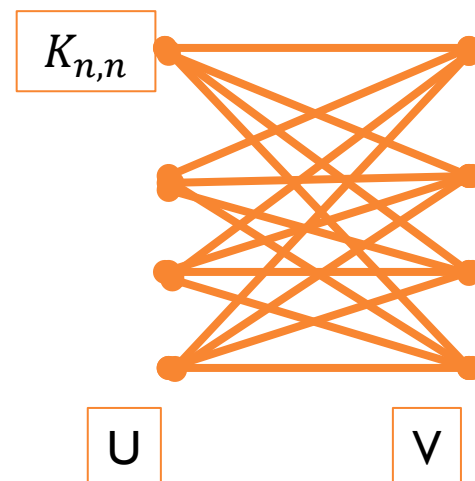
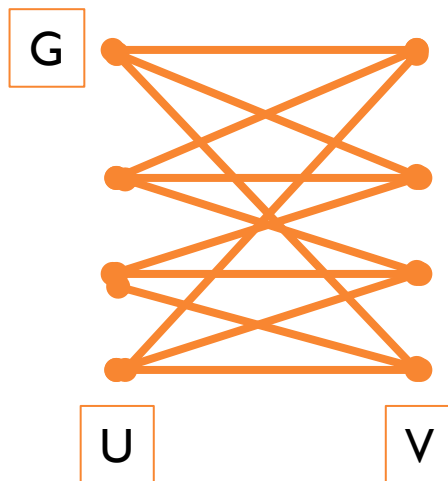
- Let  $G$  be a  $d$ -regular graph whose adjacency eigenvalues satisfy  $|\alpha_i| \leq \epsilon d$ .
- As its Laplacian eigenvalues satisfy  $\lambda_i = d - \alpha_i$ , all non-zero eigenvalues are between  $(1 - \epsilon)d$  and  $(1 + \epsilon)d$ .
- Let  $H = (d/n)K_n$ , so  $x^T L_H x = dx^T x$
- We showed that  $G$  is an  $\epsilon$ -approximation of  $H$   
$$(1 - \epsilon)x^T L_H x \leq x^T L_G x \leq (1 + \epsilon)x^T L_H x$$

# Bipartite Expander Graphs

- Define them as  $d$ -regular good approximations of (some multiple of) the complete bipartite

graph  $H = \frac{d}{n} K_{n,n}$  :

$$(1 - \epsilon)x^T L_H x \preceq x^T L_G x \preceq (1 + \epsilon)x^T L_H x \\ \Rightarrow (1 - \epsilon)H \preceq G \preceq (1 + \epsilon)H$$



# The Spectrum of Bipartite Expanders

- Eigenvalues of Laplacian of  $H = \frac{d}{n} K_{n,n}$  are  $\lambda_1 = 0, \lambda_{2n} = 2d, \lambda_i = d, 0 < i < 2n$

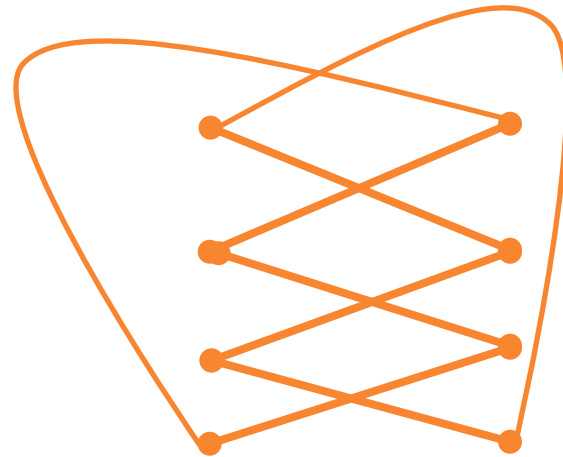
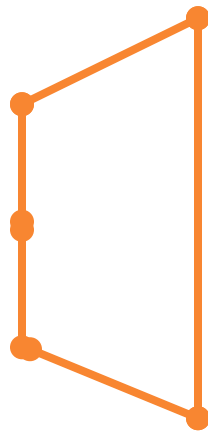
- $(1 - \epsilon)x^T L_H x \leq x^T L_G x \leq (1 + \epsilon)x^T L_H x$

Says we want  $d$ -regular graph  $G$  that has evals

$$\lambda_1 = 0, \lambda_{2n} = 2d,$$
$$\lambda_i \in ((1 - \epsilon)d, (1 + \epsilon)d), 0 < i < 2n$$

# Construction of Bipartite Expanders

- **Definition (Double Cover).** Let  $G=(V,E)$  be a graph. The double-cover of  $G$  is the graph with vertex set  $V \times \{0,1\}$  and edges  $((u,0),(v,1))$  for  $(u,v)$  in  $E$ .



Cycle on 4 vertices and its double-cover

# Construction of Bipartite Expanders

- **Proposition (Bipartite Expanders as Double Cover of Expanders).** Let  $G=(V,E)$  be a  $d$ -regular graph and  $H$  its double cover. For every eigenvalue  $\lambda_i$  of the Laplacian of  $G$ ,  $H$  has a pair of eigenvalues  $\lambda_i, 2d-\lambda_i$ .
- We construct bipartite expander from double cover of  $d$ -regular expander



# Expander Mixing Lemma, contd.

- **Theorem** Let  $G=(U \cup V, E)$  a  $d$ -regular bipartite graph that  $\epsilon$ -approximates the graph  $\frac{d}{n} K_{n,n}$ . Then, for every  $S \subseteq U, T \subseteq V$

$$| |E(S, T) - d \frac{|S||T|}{n} | \leq \epsilon d \sqrt{|S||T|}$$

# Average Degree.

- **Theorem** Let  $|S| = \sigma n$ ,  $|T| = \tau n$ . The average degree of vertices in  $G(SUT)$  is at most  $\frac{2d\sigma\tau}{\sigma+\tau} + \epsilon d$

# Building Expander Codes

- Our construction of error-correcting codes will require two ingredients:
  - $d$ -regular bipartite expander  $G$  on  $2n$  vertices
  - A linear error-correcting code  $C_0$  of length  $d$  (e.g. Hamming)
- We combine the two to construct code of length  $dn$ . Think of  $C_0$  as small code that drives the construction ( $d$  small as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ )

# Building Expander Codes

- Associate one bit with each edge of  $G$ .
- $G$  has  $dn$  edges  $\rightarrow$  code of  $2n$  bits  $y_1, \dots, y_{dn}$
- Describe the code by listing the linear constraints its codewords must satisfy: for each vertex, we require that the  $d$  bits corresponding to its attached  $d$  edges are a codeword in  $C_0$ .

# Building Expander Codes

- If  $r_0$  is the rate of  $C_0$  then the space of codewords has dimension  $dr_0$ .
- Since  $C_0$  is linear, its codewords satisfy some set of  $d(1-r_0)$  linear equations.
- As there are  $2^n$  vertices in  $G$ , the constraints imposed by each vertex impose  $2^{nd}(1-r_0)$  linear constraints on the  $dn$  bits.
- Thus, the vector space of codewords that satisfies all of those constraints has dimension at least  $dn - 2^{nd}(1-r_0) = dn(2r_0 - 1)$
- Code we constructed has rate at least  $r = 2r_0 - 1$ . Non-zero as long as  $r_0 > 1/2$

# Building Expander Codes

- Encoding? Parity Check matrix, Generator Matrix.
- Minimum Distance?
- Decoding?