A property on reinforcing edge-disjoint spanning hypertrees in uniform hypergraphs

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joint work with Hong-Jian Lai (WVU)

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Reinfore edge-disjoint spanning trees

The following theorem was conjectured by Payan in 1986 and proved by Lai, Lai and Payan in 1996.

• Theorem

If G is a simple graph with |E(G)| = k(|V(G)| - 1) and $\varepsilon(G) > 0$, then there exist $e \in E(G)$ and $e' \in E(G^c)$ such that $\varepsilon(G - e + e') < \varepsilon(G)$.

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- The theorem iteratively defines a finite ε-decreasing sequence of simple graphs G, G₁, G₂, ···, G_m such that G_m is a union of k edge-disjoint spanning trees and any two consecutive graphs in the sequence differ by exactly one edge.

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- k = 1: partition-connected.
- *c*(*H*) denotes the number of maximal partition-connected components in *H*.

Packing spanning hypertrees

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- Theorem (Frank, Király and Kriesell, 2003) A hypergraph *H* is *k*-partition-connected if and only if *H* has *k* edge-disjoint spanning hypertrees.

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• Let $P'_k(H)$ be the collection of all *k*-partitions of E(H), and define $\varepsilon'(H) = \min_{\pi \in P'_k(H)} \varepsilon(\pi)$.

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• Lemma For any uniform hypergraph H with |E(H)| = k(|V(H)| - 1), we have $\varepsilon(H) = \varepsilon'(H)$.

• Find a sub-hypergraph *S* of *H* that contains *k* edge-disjoint spanning hypertrees, i.e., there is a partition (Y_1, Y_2, \dots, Y_k) of E(S) such that each part induces a partition-connected sub-hypergraph.

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- The corresponding partition of E(F) from π is denoted by π' . Show $\varepsilon(F) < \varepsilon(H)$.

Thanks