

Problem Set 3 - convexity, weak regularity and more

1. Show that for any convex function q and any partition \mathcal{A} of a graph with density d ,

$$q(d) \leq q(\mathcal{A}) \leq dq(1) + (1-d)q(0).$$

2. Show that if \mathcal{A} and \mathcal{B} are partitions of a graph with \mathcal{B} a refinement of \mathcal{A} and q is a convex function, then $q(\mathcal{B}) \geq q(\mathcal{A})$. [In Fox's proof of the removal lemma, we used a defect version of this inequality.]
3. Given $g : X \times Y \rightarrow [0, 1]$, viewed as an edge-weighted bipartite graph between X and Y , the cut norm of g is

$$\|g\|_{\square} = \sup_{A \subseteq X, B \subseteq Y} |\mathbb{E}_{x \in X, y \in Y} g(x, y) 1_A(x) 1_B(y)|.$$

[With this definition, the weak regularity lemma then says that for any g there exists a graph \tilde{g} with complexity bounded in terms of ϵ such that $\|g - \tilde{g}\|_{\square} \leq \epsilon$.]

Show that if $\|g\|_{\square} \leq \epsilon$, this implies that

$$|\mathbb{E}_{x \in X, y \in Y} g(x, y) a(x) b(y)| \leq \epsilon$$

for any functions $a : X \rightarrow [0, 1]$ and $b : Y \rightarrow [0, 1]$.

4. Show that if $f, \tilde{f} : X \times Y \rightarrow [0, 1]$, $g, \tilde{g} : Y \times Z \rightarrow [0, 1]$ and $h, \tilde{h} : Z \times X \rightarrow [0, 1]$ are functions such that $\|f - \tilde{f}\|_{\square} \leq \epsilon$, $\|g - \tilde{g}\|_{\square} \leq \epsilon$ and $\|h - \tilde{h}\|_{\square} \leq \epsilon$, then

$$|\mathbb{E}_{x \in X, y \in Y, z \in Z} f(x, y) g(y, z) h(z, x) - \tilde{f}(x, y) \tilde{g}(y, z) \tilde{h}(z, x)| \leq 3\epsilon.$$

[This is the triangle counting lemma corresponding to the weak regularity lemma.]

5. How should one define a hypergraph cut norm so that a corresponding counting lemma holds?
6. The half graph is the bipartite graph between sets $\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$ and $\{y_1, \dots, y_n\}$ with edge set $\{x_i y_j : i \leq j\}$. Show that any ϵ -regular partition of the half graph must contain an irregular pair.