## **COMBINATORICS SECTION**

## ERDŐS CENTENNIAL MEETING BUDAPEST, HUNGARY

July 1, 2013

## Saturation Numbers for Graphs

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June 4, 2013

## SATURATED GRAPHS

#### **Definition**

Given a fixed graph H, a graph G is H-Saturated if it contains no copy of H, but G + e contains a copy of H for any edge  $e \notin G$ .

#### **Definition**

 $ex(n, F) = max\{|E(G)| : |V(G)| = n \text{ and } G \text{ is } F\text{-saturated}\}.$ 

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$$Sat(n, F) = \{G : |V(G)| = n, |E(G)| = sat(n, F), and G \text{ is } F\text{-saturated}\}.$$



## **WEAKLY SATURATED GRAPHS**

#### **Definition**

wsat $(n, F) = \min\{|E(G)| : |V(G)| = n, G \text{ does not have} \}$ F as a subgraph, but edges in  $\overline{G}$  can be ordered such that the addition of each edge results in a new copy of  $F\}$ .

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#### **Definition**

 $WSat(n, F) = \{G : |V(G)| = n, |E(G)| = wsat(n, F), and G \text{ is } F\text{-weakly } saturated\}.$ 

#### **EXAMPLES**

## **Example**

The complete bipartite graph  $K_{n/2,n/2}$  is a  $K_3$ -saturated of order n that has  $n^2/4$  edges.

## **EXAMPLES**

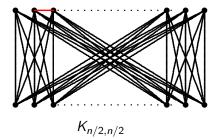
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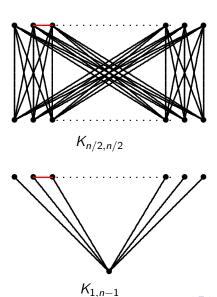
#### **Example**

The star  $K_{1,n-1}$  is a  $K_3$ -saturated of order n that has n-1 edges.

## **COMPLETE BIPARTITE – STAR GRAPHS**



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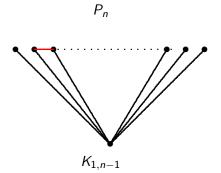
## $wsat(n, K_3)$



 $P_n$ 

## $wsat(n, K_3)$





## SATURATION NUMBERS FOR $P_3$

$$ex(n, P_3) = \lfloor n/2 \rfloor.$$

## SATURATION NUMBERS FOR P<sub>3</sub>

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$$wsat(n, P_3) = 1.$$



## **EXTREMAL NUMBERS FOR MATCHINGS**

#### **Theorem**

For  $t \geq 2$ ,

$$ex(n, tP_2) = (t-1)n - t(t-1)/2.$$

## EXTREMAL NUMBERS FOR MATCHINGS

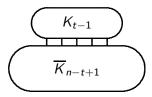
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## Example

The extremal graph is  $K_{t-1} + \overline{K}_{n-t+1}$ .



#### **Theorem**

For  $t \geq 2$ ,

$$sat(n, tP_2) = 3t - 3.$$

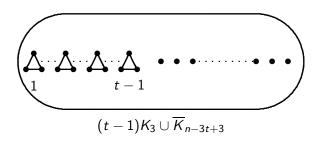
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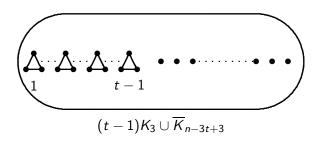
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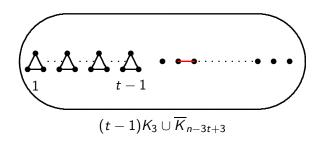
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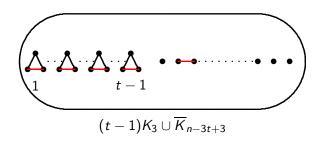
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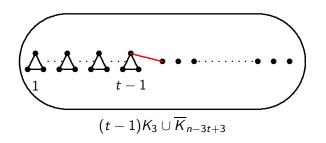
The extremal graph is  $(t-1)K_3 \cup \overline{K}_{n-3t+3}$ .

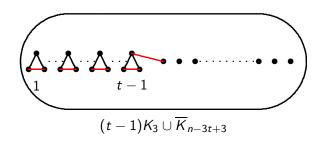












#### **Theorem**

For t > 2,

$$wsat(n, tP_2) = t - 1.$$

For 
$$t \geq 2$$
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$$\frac{1}{(t-1)K_2 \cup \overline{K}_{n-2t+2}} \cdots \cdots$$

## **COMPLETE GRAPHS**

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**(Turán(1954))** If n > t and divisible by t - 1, then

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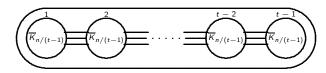
(Lovász (1977)) For  $n \ge t$ 

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## **COMPLETE GRAPH EXAMPLES**

## **Example**

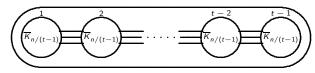
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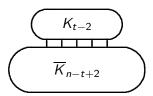
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The minimal saturated graph is  $K_{t-2} + \overline{K}_{n-t+2}$ .



## **GENERAL EXTREMAL THEORY**

#### **Theorem**

(Erdős, Simonovits (1972)) If n is sufficiently large and F is a graph with chromatic number  $\chi(F) = p$ , then

$$ex(n, F) = \frac{(p-2)n^2}{2(p-1)} + o(n^2).$$

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#### **Theorem**

(Erdős, Simonovits (1972)) For n sufficiently and F is a graph with chromatic number  $\chi(F) = p$ , then

$$K_n - (p-1)\overline{K}_{n/(p-1)} \approx E_X(n, F).$$



## SATURATION NUMBERS ARE LINEAR

#### **Theorem**

(Kászonyi, Tuza (1986)) For a given graph F of order t and independence number  $\alpha = \alpha(F)$ , let d = d(F) be the minimum degree of any vertex of F - S relative to a maximum independent set S. Then,

$$sat(n,F) \leq (t-\alpha-1)n + \lfloor (d-1)(n-t+\alpha+1)/2 \rfloor - {t-\alpha \choose 2},$$

and  $K_{t-\alpha-1} + H_d$ , contains a saturated graph, where  $H_d$  is a (d-1)-regular graph of order  $n-t+\alpha+1$ .



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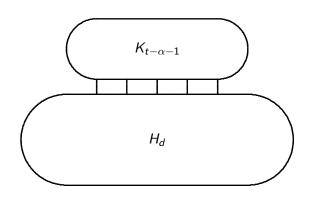
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### Corollary

(Kászonyi, Tuza (1986)) For each graph F there is a constant c = c(F) such that



## **EXAMPLE OF EXTREMAL SATURATED GRAPH**



 $H_d$  is a (d-1)-regular graph of order  $n-t+\alpha+1$ .

#### **Theorem**

Let F be a graph with p vertices, q edges, and minimal degree  $\delta$ . Then, for any  $n \geq p$ 

$$q-1+(\delta-1)(n-p)/2 \le wsat(n,F) \le (p-1)(p-2)/2+(\delta-1)(n-p+1).$$

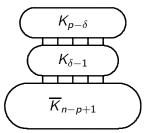
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#### **Theorem**

**(F. Gould, Jacobson)** If F is a graph with p vertices and minimal degree  $\delta$ , then,

$$\frac{\delta n}{2} - \frac{n}{\delta + 1} \le wsat(n, F) \le (\delta - 1)n + (p - 1)(p - 2\delta)/2$$

for any n sufficiently large.



#### **Theorem**

**(F. Gould, Jacobson)** Let F be a graph with p vertices, q edges, and minimal degree  $\delta$ . Then, for any  $n \ge p$ 

$$\frac{(\delta(F)-1)n}{2}+c_1\leq wsat(n,F)\leq (\delta(F)-1)n+c_2.$$

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### **Theorem**

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## Question

Is 
$$wsat(n, F) = (\delta(F) - 1)n + c_2$$
 for  $\delta(F) \ge 3$ ? **NO**



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 $sat(n,\mathcal{G})$  and  $wsat(n,\mathcal{F})$  does not satisfy any of these properties.



## BAD BEHAVIOR FOR (1) FOR SATURATION

#### **Theorem**

**J. Faudree, R. Faudree, R. Gould, M. Jacobson** Given any positive integer C, any tree T is a subtree of a tree T' = T'(T, C) such that for n sufficiently large

$$sat(T', n) \geq Cn$$
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#### **Theorem**

There are sequences of trees  $T(1) \subset T(2) \subset \cdots T(m)$  such that for any positive integer C and n sufficiently large

sat(T(i), n) < n, for i odd and sat(T(i), n) > Cn, for i even.

## BAD BEHAVIOR FOR (2) FOR SATURATION

#### **Theorem**

J. Faudree, R. Faudree, R. Gould, M. Jacobson For  $t \ge 2$  and n > t + 1,

$$sat(n, K_{1,t} + e) = n - 1,$$

and 
$$Sat(n, K_{1,t} + e) = \{K_{1,n-1}\}.$$

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#### **Theorem**

For  $t \geq 2$  and  $n \geq t + 1$ ,

$$sat(n, \{K_{1,t} + e, K_{1,t}\}) = sat(n, K_{1,t}) = (t-1)n/2 - \frac{1}{2}\lfloor t^2/4 \rfloor.$$

# BAD BEHAVIOR FOR (3) FOR SATURATION

#### **Theorem**

(Kászonyi, Tuza (1986)) For  $t \ge 2$ ,

$$sat(2k-1, P_4) = k+1$$
;  $Sat(2k-1, P_4) = K_3 \cup (k-2)K_2$ .

and

$$sat(2k, P_4) = k$$
;  $Sat(2k, P_4) = kK_2$ .

## BAD BEHAVIOR FOR (1) - WEAK SATURATION

(a)  $G_p$  graph obtained from  $K_p$  by adding a pendant edge.





## BAD BEHAVIOR FOR (1) - WEAK SATURATION

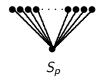
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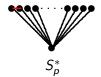


- (b)  $wsat(n, G_p) = \binom{p}{2}$  for all  $n \ge p + 1$ .
- (c)  $wsat(n, K_p) = {p-2 \choose 2} + (p-2)(n-p+2)$  for  $n \ge p$ .

## **BAD BEHAVIOR FOR (2) - WEAK SATURATION**

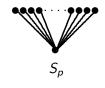
(a)  $S_p$  star with p vertices,  $S_p^*$  graph obtained from  $S_p$  by adding an edge.

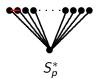




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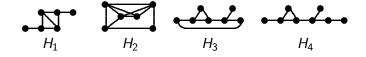




(b) 
$$wsat(n, S_p^*) = p - 1.$$

(c) 
$$wsat(n, \{S_p, S_p^*\}) = \binom{p-1}{2}$$
.

## **BAD BEHAVIOR FOR (3) - WEAK SATURATION**



# BAD BEHAVIOR FOR (3) - WEAK SATURATION



- (a)  $wsat(6, H_1) = 7.$
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- (a)  $wsat(6, H_1) = 7.$
- (b)  $wsat(7, H_1) = 6$
- (a)  $wsat(6, 2K_3) = 10 \text{ and } H_2 \in WSat(6, K_3).$
- (b)  $wsat(7, 2K_3) = 8 \text{ and } H_3 \in WSat(6, K_3).$
- (c)  $wsat(8, 2K_3) = 8 \text{ and } H_4 \in WSat(6, K_3).$



#### **Theorem**

Let F be a graph with p vertices, q edges, and minimal degree  $\delta$ . Then,

$$wsat(n, F) \le wsat(p, F) + (\delta - 1)(n - p)$$

for any  $n \ge p$ .

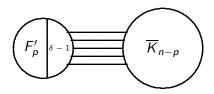
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Let  $F'_p \in WSat(p, F)$ .



#### **Theorem**

Let F be a graph with p vertices, q edges, and minimum degree  $\delta = \delta(F)$ . Let q' = wsat(p, F). Then, for n divisible by p,

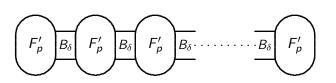
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### **Definition**

If a self weakly saturated graph G has a vertex v (called the root) and an ordering of the edges of G such that as each edge is added it is possible to choose a new copy of G in which v is always the same vertex, then the graph G is a rooted self weakly saturated graph.

**EXAMPLES** 



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(1)  $P_n$  is rooted self weakly saturated

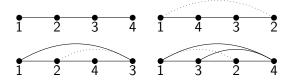


Figure:  $P_4$  is a rooted self weakly saturated graph with vertex 1 as a root.

#### **EXAMPLES**

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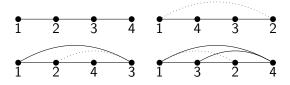


Figure:  $P_4$  is a rooted self weakly saturated graph with vertex 1 as a root.

(2)  $K_n - F_p$ , when  $F_p$  is a forest with p < n is self weakly saturated.



#### **EXAMPLES**

(1)  $P_n$  is rooted self weakly saturated

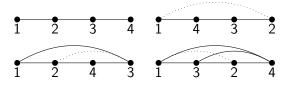


Figure:  $P_4$  is a rooted self weakly saturated graph with vertex 1 as a root.

- (2)  $K_n F_p$ , when  $F_p$  is a forest with p < n is self weakly saturated.
- (3)  $C_n \cup e$  where e is a 2-chord of  $C_n$  is self weakly saturated.



#### **Theorem**

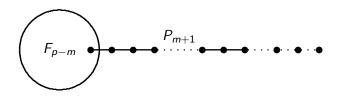
Let F be a graph of order p with q edges containing a cut-vertex v such that one of the components of F-v along with v forms a rooted self saturated tree,  $T_m$  with root v. Then, for  $n \geq 2p-m$ ,

$$wsat(n, F) = q - 1.$$

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#### **Theorem**

For any given pair of positive integers p and q with  $p-1 \leq q \leq {p \choose 2}$ , there is a connected self weakly saturated graph with p vertices and q edges.

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### Question

Given a graph G with p vertices and q edges, what conditions on the graphical parameters of G would imply that G is self weakly saturated.

#### **Definition**

A graph H is vertex symmetric, if for any pair of vertices u and v in H, there is an automorphism  $\theta$  of G such that  $\theta(u) = v$ .

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#### **Theorem**

If H is a vertex symmetric graph of order p with  $\delta(H)=\delta$ , then

$$wsat(2p, H - H) = \delta p.$$



## **QUESTIONS**

#### Question

Is there a finite set of graphical parameters that will determine the saturation number (weak saturation number) of a graph, or at least determine the order of magnitude?

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For a fixed graphs H, for which integers m with

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### Question

Is there a universal lower bound for the weak saturation number in terms of the minimum degree of a graph? In particular is  $ws(n,G) \ge (\delta n)/2 + c$  for some constant c.

# **THANKS**

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