

# When Ramsey met Brown, Erdős and Sós

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Joint work with Asaf Shapira

# Background and motivation

## Question(Brown-Erdős-Sós '73)

For fixed  $r \geq 3$ ,  $v$  and  $e$ , what is  $f_r(n, v, e)$  – the largest size of an  $n$ -vertex  $r$ -uniform hypergraph without a ' $(v, e)$ -configuration', i.e. a set of  $e$  edges spanning at most  $v$  vertices?

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## Theorem (BES)

For  $r, e \geq 3$  and  $v \geq r + 1$ ,

$$\Omega\left(n^{\frac{er-v}{e-1}}\right) = f_r(n, v, e) = O\left(n^{\lceil \frac{er-v}{e-1} \rceil}\right).$$

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Upper bound: double-counting. Lower bound: alteration method.

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Holds easily in Steiner systems

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- BES in groups (Solymosi, Solymosi–Wong, Nenadov–Sudakov–T., Long, Wong)
- Improving on the Sárközy–Selkow bound (Conlon, Gishboliner–Levanzov–Shapira)

## Conjecture (BES, quadratic)

For any  $\varepsilon > 0$  and integers  $r, e \geq 3$  there exists  $n_0 = n_0(r, e, \varepsilon)$  such that every linear  $r$ -graph with  $n \geq n_0$  vertices and at least  $\varepsilon n^2$  edges contains an  $((r - 2)e + 3, e)$ -configuration.

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Ramsey's theorem gives this immediately for  $e = 3$  and any  $c, r$

# Our results

## Theorem (Shapira–T. '19+)

For every  $c \geq 2$  there exists  $r_0 = r_0(c)$  such that for every  $r \geq r_0$ ,  $e \geq 3$  and  $n \geq n_0(c, r, e)$  in every edge-colouring of a complete linear  $r$ -graph on  $n$  vertices with  $c$  colours there is a monochromatic  $((r - 2)e + 3, e)$ -configuration.

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For any  $r \geq 4$ ,  $e \geq 3$  and  $n \geq n_0(r, e)$  in every edge-colouring of a complete linear  $r$ -graph on  $n$  vertices with 2 colours there is a monochromatic  $((r - 2)e + 3, e)$ -configuration.

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'Explore'  $\mathcal{G}$  along  $B(\mathcal{G})$  to exhibit a  $(2e + 3, e)$ -configuration in it.

# Tools: Auxiliary graph

## Definition (Bowtie graph)

For a linear 4-graph  $\mathcal{G}$ , define  $B(\mathcal{G}) := (V, E)$ , where

- ▶  $V = \{\{S, T\} : S, T \in E(\mathcal{G}), |S \cap T| = 1\}$ ,
- ▶  $E = \{\{b_1, b_2\} : b_1 = S_1 T, b_2 = S_2 T, |S_1 \cup S_2 \cup T| = 9\}$ .

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## Lemma

If  $B$  has a connected component of order at least  $2^{100e^3}$ , then  $\mathcal{G}$  contains a  $(2e + 3, e)$ -configuration.

## Proposition(Goodman inspired)

For large  $n$ , in every 2-edge-colouring of  $K_n$  there is a colour class  $G$  satisfying

$$T(G) \geq \left(\frac{1}{6} - o(1)\right) \sum_{u \in K_n} \binom{d_G(u)}{2} = \Theta(n^3)$$

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## Corollary

For large  $n$ , in every 2-colouring of a complete linear 4-graph of order  $n$  there is a colour class  $\mathcal{G}$  satisfying  $d_{avg}(B(\mathcal{G})) > 9 - o(1)$ .

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For  $c \geq 3$ , use Ramsey multiplicity instead.

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There exist a vertex, a hyperedge  $u_0 \in T_0 \in \mathcal{G}$ , and  $\Theta(n)$  further hyperedges  $T_1^0, T_2^0, \dots \in E(\mathcal{G})$  such that, for each  $i$  we have that  $u_0 \in T_i^0$  and all bowties  $\{T_0, T_i^0\}$  belong to distinct dense components.

# Inductive configurations

## Definition

Call a  $(2i + 3, i)$ -configuration  $\mathcal{F}$  *inductive* if either  $i = 2$ , or  $i > 2$  and there exists a hyperedge  $T \in \mathcal{F}$  such that:

- ▶  $T$  is contained in a  $(9, 3)$ -configuration,
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## Main idea

Dense components in  $B$  give rise to inductive configurations.

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Dense components in  $B$  give rise to inductive configurations.  
'Explore' a dense component in a bootstrap percolation manner, until one of the following happens.

# Inductive configurations

## Definition

Call a  $(2i + 3, i)$ -configuration  $\mathcal{F}$  *inductive* if either  $i = 2$ , or  $i > 2$  and there exists a hyperedge  $T \in \mathcal{F}$  such that:

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- We create a  $(2i + 2, i)$ -configuration  $\rightarrow$  continue in a new component.
- We reach  $i = e$ , i.e. a  $(2e + 3, e)$ -configuration.

# Main lemma

Recall: we have  $u_0 \in T_0 \in \mathcal{G}$ , and a set  $\mathcal{C}$  of  $\Theta(n)$  dense  $B$ -components, such that each  $C \in \mathcal{C}$  contains a bowtie  $\{T_0, T\}$ , for some  $T \ni u_0$ .

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## Lemma

For each  $2 \leq i \leq e$  there exists a  $(2i + 3, i)$ -configuration  $\mathcal{F}_i \subset \mathcal{G}$  of one of the following two types:

- (a)  $\mathcal{F}_i$  is an  $(2i + 2, i)$ -configuration with  $T_0 \in E(\mathcal{F}_i)$ .
- (b) There exist a subhypergraph  $\mathcal{E}_i \subseteq \mathcal{F}_i$  and a component  $C_i \in \mathcal{C}$  such that:
  - 1  $\mathcal{E}_i$  is an inductive  $(2j + 3, j)$ -configuration for some  $j \geq 2$  with  $T_0 \in E(\mathcal{E}_i)$ ,
  - 2  $V(\mathcal{E}_i) \cap V(\mathcal{F}_i \setminus \mathcal{E}_i) \subseteq T_0$ ,
  - 3 The set  $A_i = \{b \in V(C_i) : b = \{T, S\}; T, S \in \mathcal{E}_i\}$  satisfies  $d_{avg}(B[A_i]) < 9$ .

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In particular,  $A_i \subsetneq C_i$ , and we can continue the process

# Component exploration

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Suppose that  $i \geq 2$ ,  $\mathcal{F}$  is an inductive  $(2i + 3, i)$ -configuration, and  $B = B(\mathcal{F})$ . Then for any  $A \subset V(B)$  we have  $d_{avg}(B[A]) < 9$ . In particular,  $B$  has no dense components.

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$i \rightarrow i + 1$ : the added vertices of  $B[A]$  are indexed by two 3-uniform matchings:  $R$  and  $G$ , resulting in  $|R| + |G|$  new vertices and at most

$$3|V(R) \cap V(G)| \leq \frac{9}{2}(|R| + |G|)$$

new edges.

## Conjecture (BES-R)

For any integers  $c \geq 2$  and  $r, e \geq 3$  there exists  $n_0 = n_0(c, r, e)$  such that for all  $n \geq n_0$  every  $c$ -colouring of a complete linear  $r$ -graph of order  $n$  contains a monochromatic  $((r - 2)e + 3, e)$ -configuration.

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