

# Limit for sequences of large dense weighted graphs and Probability-graphons

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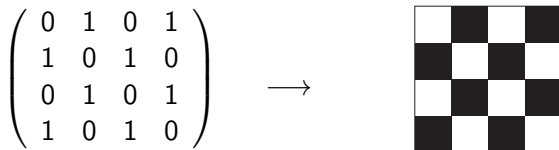
# Introduction

- Large graphs and weighted graphs are ubiquitous
- Theory of real-valued graphons (short for graph functions) developed to study limits of large graphs
- In this talk: adaptation of this theory to large weighted graphs
- To this end, new objects: probability-graphons

# Large dense graphs and their representation

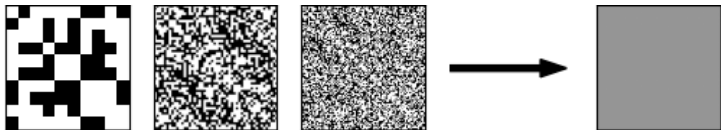
A *large dense graph* is a finite (non-directed) graph  $G$  with a number of vertices  $n$  large, and a number of edges  $\Omega(n^2)$ .

The adjacency matrix is transformed through scaling into a "pixel picture" map on  $[0, 1]^2$ .

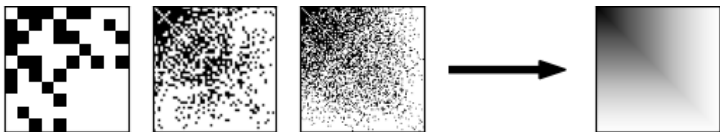


# Some examples of convergence

Erdos-Renyi graphs:

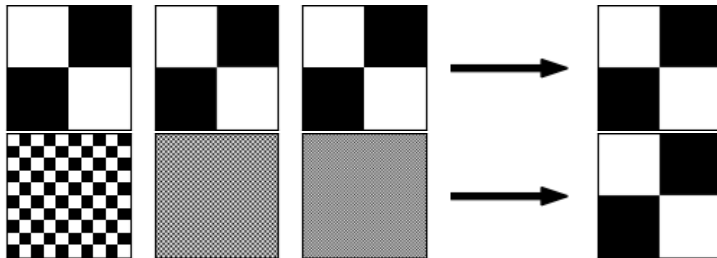


Growing uniform attachment graphs:



# The limit may depend on the labeling

Bipartite graphs with different labeling of the vertices:



# Real-valued graphons and the cut distance

- A *real-valued graphon* is a symmetric measurable function  $w : [0, 1]^2 \rightarrow [0, 1]$ .

For two "vertices"  $x, y \in [0, 1]$ ,  $w(x, y)$  corresponds to the average edge density between  $x$  and  $y$ .

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- The *cut distance* is defined as:

$$\delta_{\square, \mathbb{R}}(w, u) = \inf_{\varphi, \psi} \sup_{S, T \subset [0, 1]} \left| \int_{S \times T} w(\varphi(x), \varphi(y)) - u(\psi(x), \psi(y)) \, dx dy \right|,$$

where  $\varphi, \psi : [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, 1]$  are measure-preserving maps.

# Main results for real-valued graphons

## Theorem 1

*Every real-valued graphon is a  $\delta_{\square, \mathbb{R}}$ -limit of a sequence of finite graphs.*

## Theorem 2

*The space of real-valued graphons equipped with the distance  $\delta_{\square, \mathbb{R}}$  is compact.*



## Sampling from real-valued graphons

Let  $X_1, \dots, X_k$  be iid random variables uniformly distributed over  $[0, 1]$ .

Define the random graph  $\mathbb{G}(k, w)$  with  $k$  vertices and each edge  $ij$  is independently present with probability  $w(X_i, X_j)$ .

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## Theorem 3

*Let  $(w_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  and  $w$  be real-valued graphons. The following properties are equivalent:*

- 1 For every  $k \geq 2$ , the sequence of random graphs  $(\mathbb{G}(k, w_n))_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  converges in distribution to  $\mathbb{G}(k, w)$ .
- 2  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \delta_{\square, \mathbb{R}}(w_n, w) = 0$ .

# Weighted graphs

A *weighted graph* is a complete directed graph  $(V, E)$  with a decoration map  $M$  that associates to each edge  $e$  in  $E$  a decoration  $z$  in a Polish space  $\mathbf{Z}$ .

Missing edges may be represented as an edge with decoration  $\partial$ , where  $\partial \in \mathbf{Z}$  is a cemetery point.

Important cases:  $\mathbf{Z} = \mathbb{R}$  or  $\mathbb{R}^d$  or  $\mathbb{N}$  (here  $\partial = 0$ ).

## Definition of probability-graphons

A *probability-graphon* is a map  $W$  from  $[0, 1]^2$  to  $\mathcal{M}_1(\mathbf{Z})$  such that:

- 1  $W$  is a *probability measure* in  $dz$ : for every  $(x, y) \in [0, 1]^2$ ,  $W(x, y; \cdot)$  belongs to the set of probability measures  $\mathcal{M}_1(\mathbf{Z})$ .
- 2  $W$  is *measurable* in  $(x, y)$ : for every measurable set  $A \subset \mathbf{Z}$ , the function  $(x, y) \mapsto W(x, y; A)$  defined on  $[0, 1]^2$  is measurable.

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Denote by  $\widetilde{\mathcal{W}}_1$  the space of probability-graphons where we identify  $W, U$  if there exist measure-preserving maps  $\varphi, \psi : [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, 1]$  such that  $W(\varphi(x), \varphi(y); \cdot) = U(\psi(x), \psi(y); \cdot)$  almost everywhere.

Remark:  $\mathbf{Z} = \{0, 1\}$ ,  $W(x, y; \cdot) = w(x, y)\delta_1 + (1 - w(x, y))\delta_0$

## The cut distance for probability-graphons

Let  $d_m$  be a distance that generates the weak topology on the space of sub-probability measures  $\mathcal{M}_{\leq 1}(\mathbf{Z})$ .

For  $S, T \subset [0, 1]$ , define the sub-probability measure  $W(S, T; \cdot) = \int_{S \times T} W(x, y; \cdot) \, dx dy$ .

- The *cut distance* for probability-graphons is defined as:

$$\delta_{\square, m}(W, U) = \inf_{\varphi, \psi} \sup_{S, T \subset [0, 1]} d_m(W(\varphi(S), \varphi(T); \cdot), U(\psi(S), \psi(T); \cdot)),$$

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**Theorem 4** ( $\widetilde{\mathcal{W}}_1$  is a Polish space)

If  $d_m$  is complete, then  $(\widetilde{\mathcal{W}}_1, \delta_{\square, m})$  is a Polish space.

## Main results for probability-graphons

A subset of probability-graphons  $\mathcal{K}$  is said to be tight if the subset of probability measures  $\{M_W : W \in \mathcal{K}\} \subset \mathcal{M}_1(\mathbf{Z})$  is tight, where:

$$M_W(dz) = W([0, 1]^2; dz) = \int_{[0,1]^2} W(x, y; dz) dx dy.$$

### Theorem 5 (Compactness theorem for $\widetilde{\mathcal{W}}_1$ )

*If a sequence of probability-graphons is tight, then it has a subsequence converging for  $\delta_{\square, m}$ .*

*If  $\mathbf{Z}$  is compact, then the space  $(\widetilde{\mathcal{W}}_1, \delta_{\square, m})$  is compact.*



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### Theorem 6 (Equivalence of topologies induced by $\delta_{\square, m}$ on $\widetilde{\mathcal{W}}_1$ )

*The topology on  $\widetilde{\mathcal{W}}_1$  induced by the distance  $\delta_{\square, m}$  does not depend on the choice of the distance  $d_m$  on  $\mathcal{M}_{\leq 1}(\mathbf{Z})$ , as long as  $d_m$  satisfies some mild hypothesis (H).*

## Sampling from probability-graphons

Let  $X_1, \dots, X_k$  be iid random variables uniformly distributed over  $[0, 1]$ .

Define the random weighted graph  $\mathbb{G}(k, W)$  with  $k$  vertices and each edge  $ij$  is independently decorated with a random decoration distributed according to  $W(X_i, X_j; \cdot)$ .

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### Theorem 7 (Characterization of the topology induced by $\delta_{\square, m}$ )

*Let  $(W_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  and  $W$  be probability-graphons from  $\widetilde{\mathcal{W}}_1$ . The following properties are equivalent:*

- 1 *For every  $k \geq 2$ , the sequence of random graphs  $(\mathbb{G}(k, W_n))_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  converges in distribution to  $\mathbb{G}(k, W)$ .*
- 2  *$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \delta_{\square, m}(W_n, W) = 0$  for some (and hence for every) choice of the distance  $d_m$  on  $\mathcal{M}_{\leq 1}(\mathbf{Z})$  that satisfies hypothesis (H).*

Thank you for your attention!