

Average degree and girth

Rose McCarty

Department of Mathematics

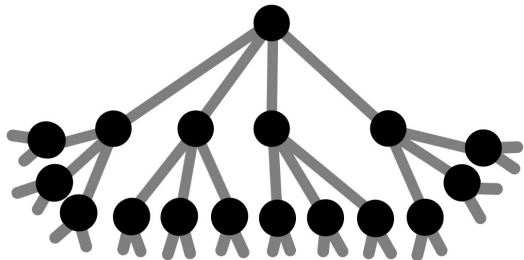


October 25th, 2022

Oxford Discrete Maths and Probability Seminar

Theorem (Erdős 1959)

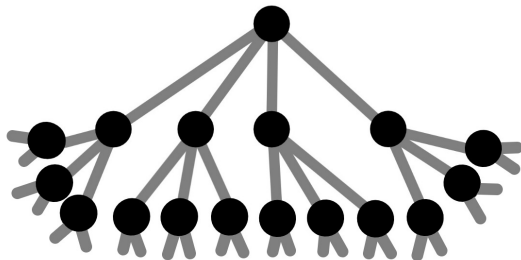
For any $d, k \in \mathbb{N}$, there exists a graph with $\text{avgdeg} \geq d$ and $\text{girth} \geq k$.



Locally such a graph is a tree.

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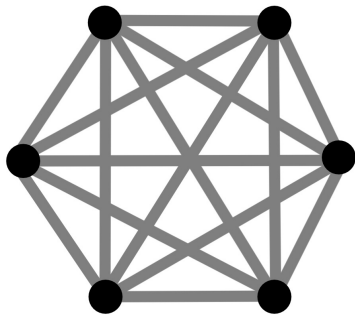
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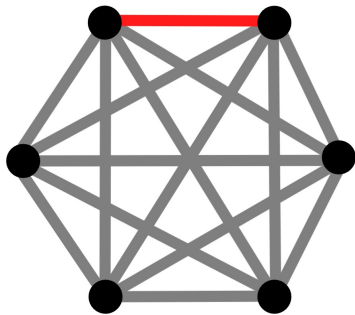
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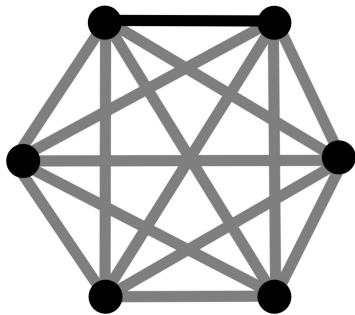
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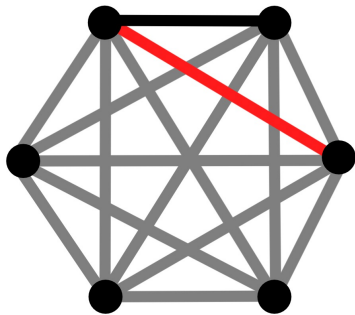
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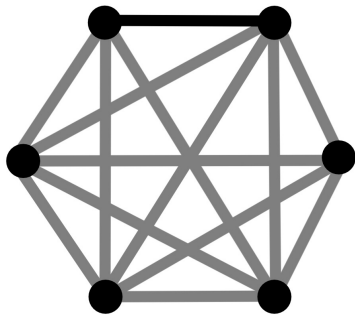
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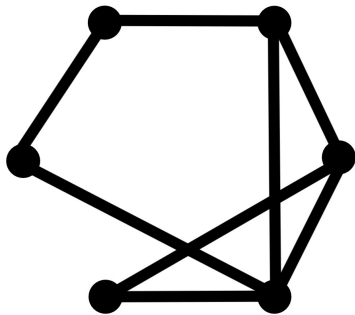
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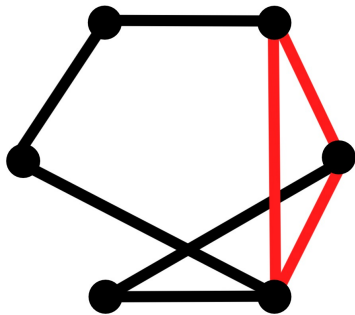
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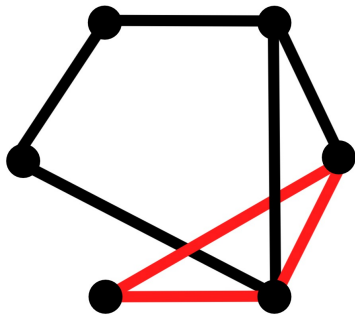
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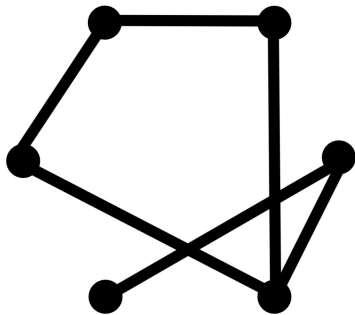
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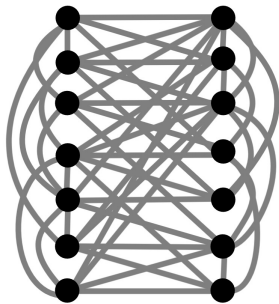
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Conjecture (Thomassen 1983)

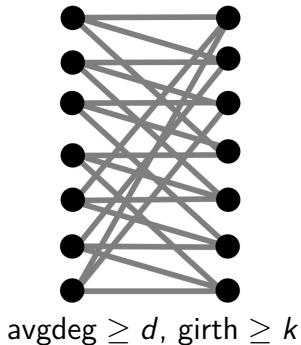
There exists a function f so that **every** graph of $\text{avgdeg} \geq f(d, k)$ has a subgraph with $\text{avgdeg} \geq d$ and $\text{girth} \geq k$.



$\text{avgdeg} \geq f(d, k)$

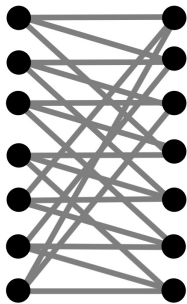
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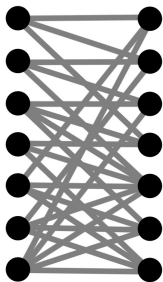
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Theorem (Kühn-Osthus 2004)

*Every **bipartite** graph of $\text{avgdeg} \geq f(d)$ has a subgraph with $\text{avgdeg} \geq d$ and **no 4-cycles**.*

Conjecture

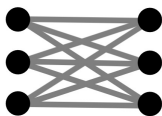
Every graph of $\text{avgdeg} \geq f(t, d, k)$ has either a $K_{t,t}$ -**subgraph** or an **induced** subgraph of $\text{avgdeg} \geq d$ and $\text{girth} \geq k$.



$$\text{avgdeg} \geq f(t, d, k)$$

Conjecture

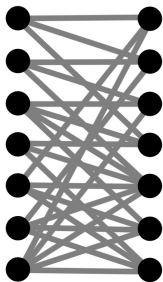
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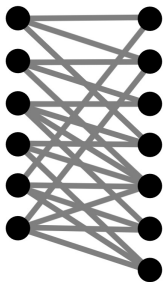
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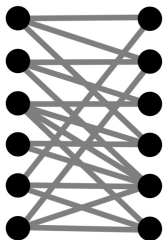
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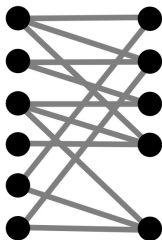
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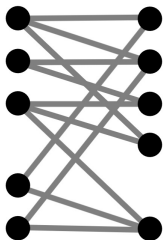
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- It is true for regular graphs; include **vertices** iid and apply Kövári–Sós–Turán to bound the number of short cycles.

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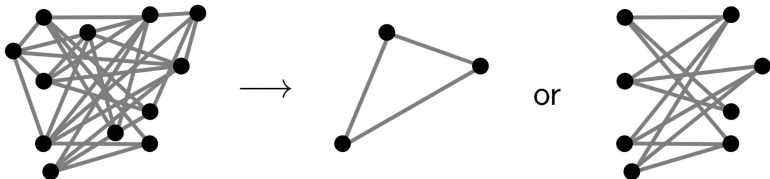
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Theorem (Kwan-Letzter-Sudakov-Tran 2020)

Every graph of $\text{avgdeg} \geq f(t, d)$ has either K_t or an induced **bipartite** subgraph with $\text{avgdeg} \geq d$.



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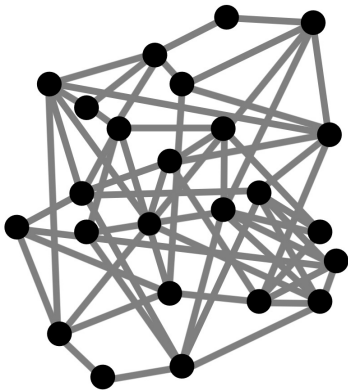
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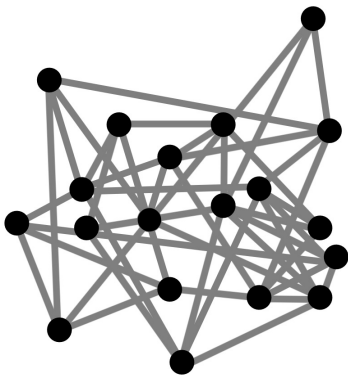
Theorem (2021)

Every **bipartite** graph of $\text{avgdeg} \geq f(t, d)$ has either $K_{t,t}$ or an induced subgraph with $\text{avgdeg} \geq d$ and **no 4-cycles**.

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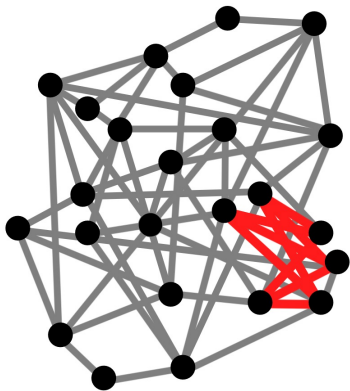
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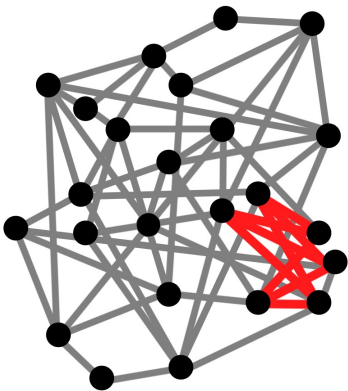
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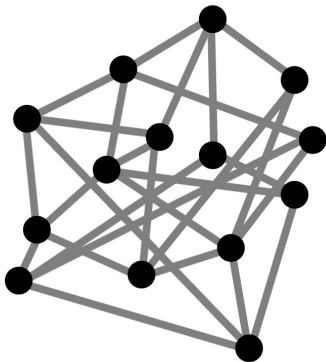
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For which classes of graphs does there exist a function f so that $\text{mad}(G) \leq f(\tau(G))$?



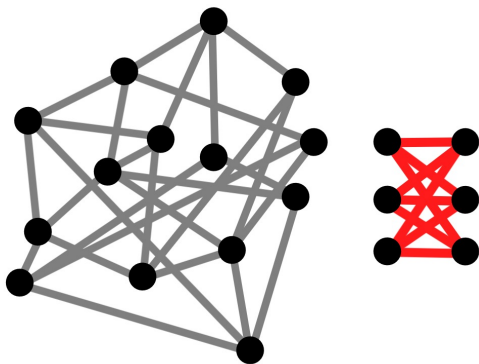
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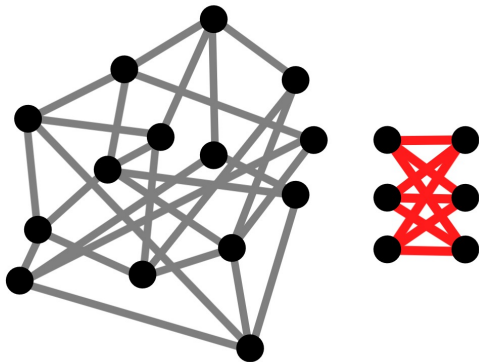
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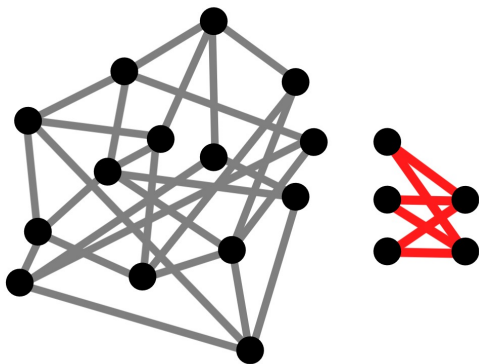
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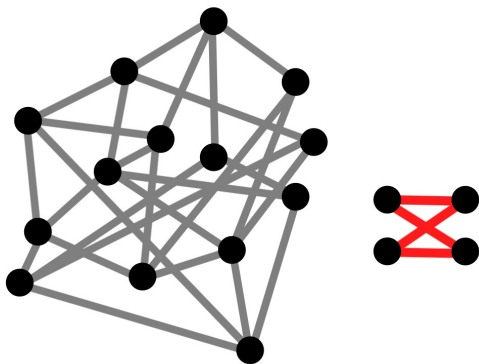
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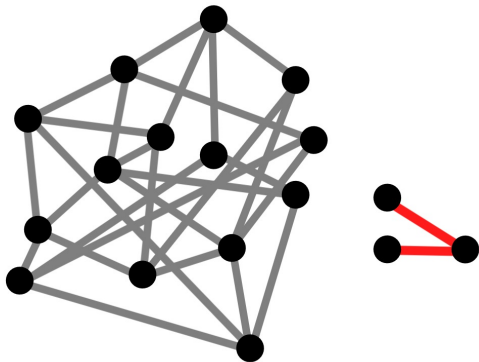
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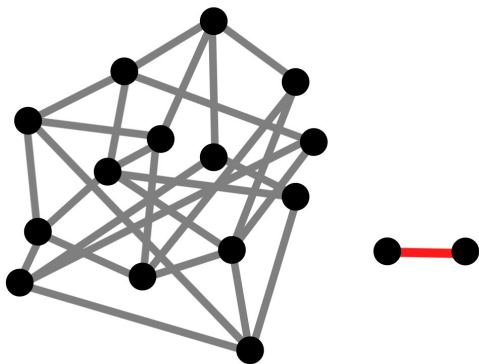
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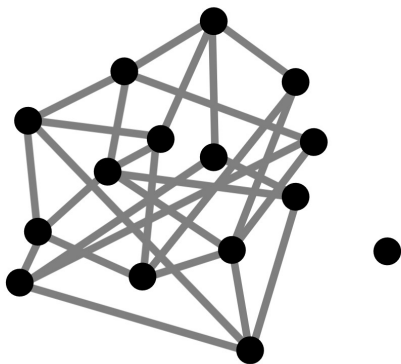
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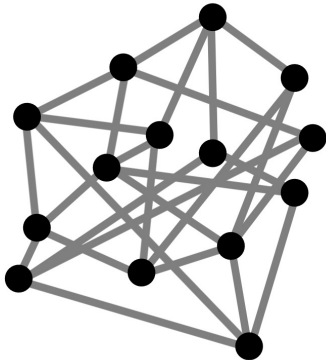
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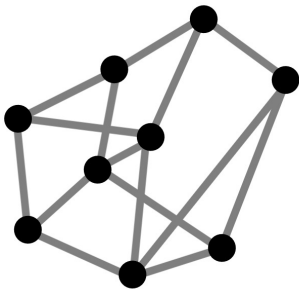
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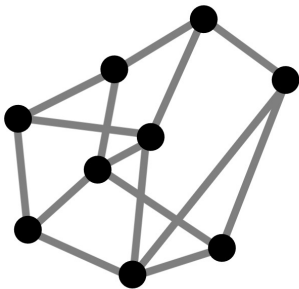
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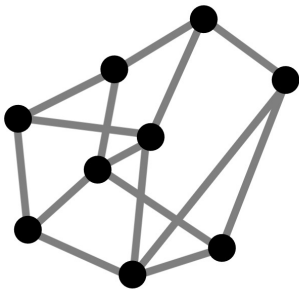
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Call such a class **degree-bounded**
and f a **bounding function**.

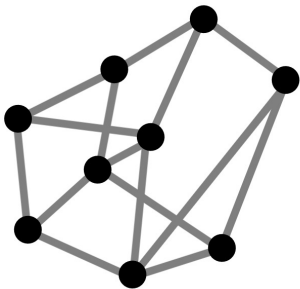
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Conjecture

A class is **degree-bounded** \Leftrightarrow it does not contain graphs of arbitrarily large average degree and girth.

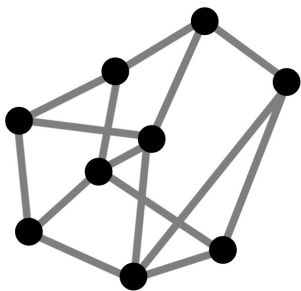
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Theorem (Uses the theorem of Kwan, Letzter, Sudakov, Tran)

A class is **degree-bounded** \Leftrightarrow there exists $c \in \mathbb{N}$ such that every bipartite, 4-cycle-free graph in the class has $\text{avgdeg} \leq c$.

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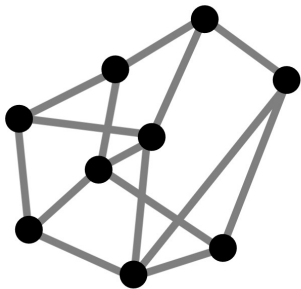
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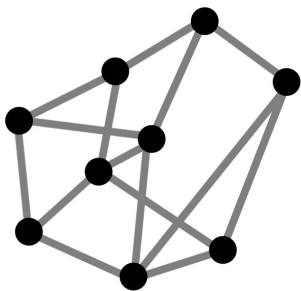
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Question

Does every degree-bounded class have a bounding function that is a **polynomial**?

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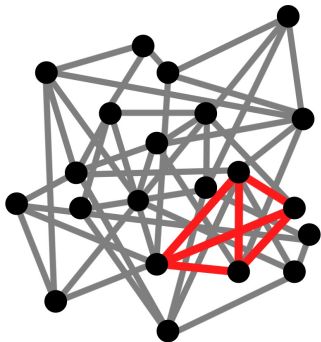


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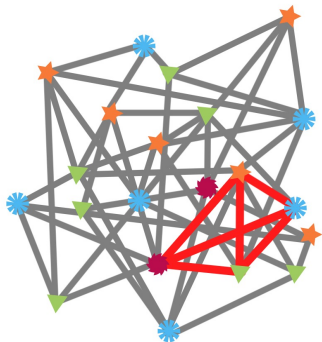
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Analogous to problems on **chromatic number**.

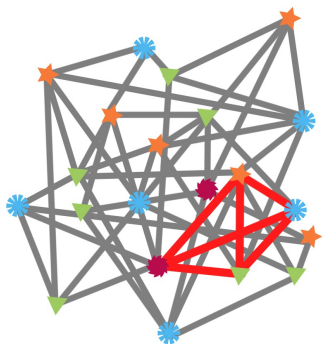
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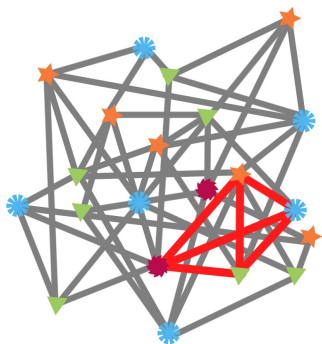


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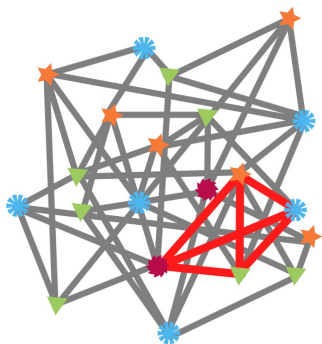
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Theorem (Carbonero-Hompe-Moore-Spirkl 2022)

There exist graphs with arbitrarily large chromatic number but no triangle-free induced subgraph of chromatic number $\geq k$.

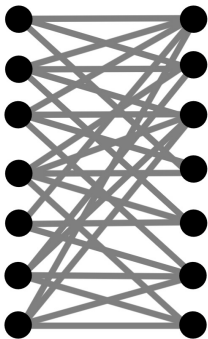
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Theorem (Briański-Davies-Walczak 2022)

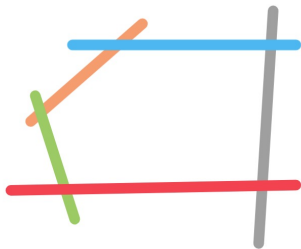
There is a χ -bounded class that has no polynomial χ -bounding function.

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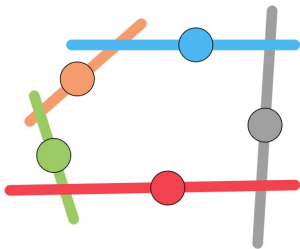
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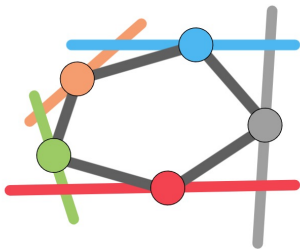
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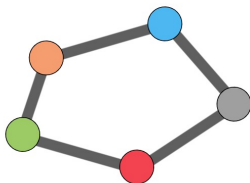
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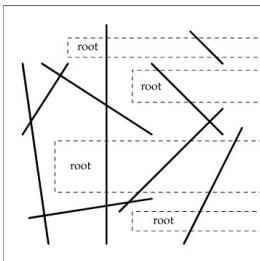


Fig. 1. Segments, probes and roots.

Pawlik, Kozik, Krawczyk
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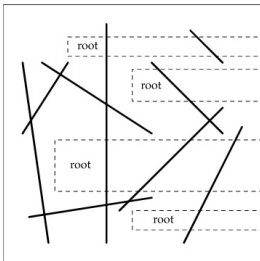


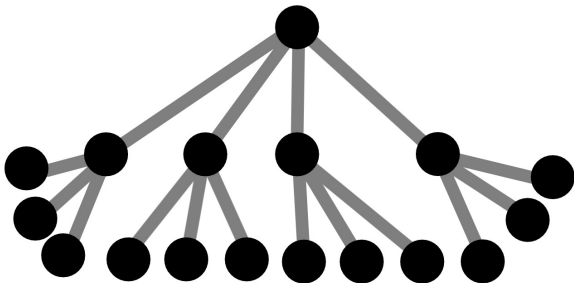
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All of their induced subgraphs with **girth** ≥ 5
have bounded average degree (Fox-Pach 2008).

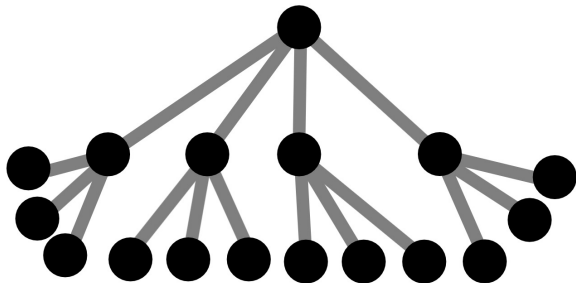
Theorem (Scott, Seymour, & Spirkl)

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It is not known if these classes are χ -bounded;
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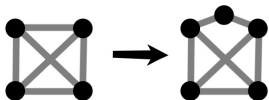
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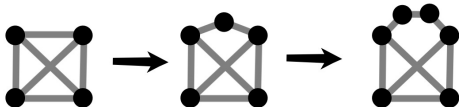
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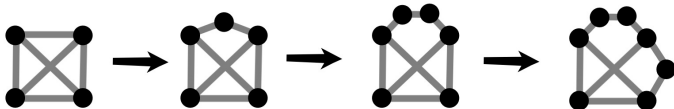
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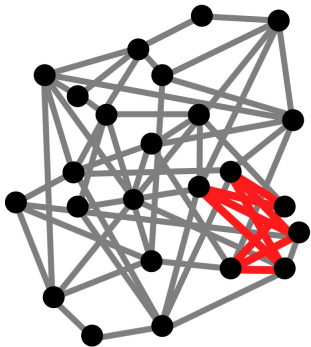
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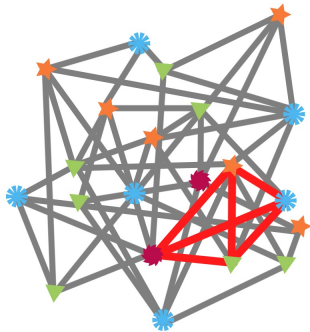


degree-bounded:



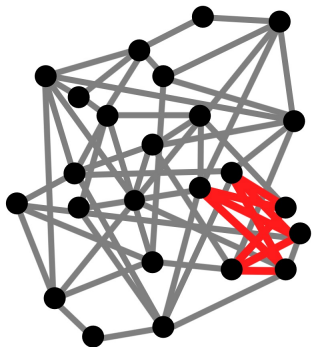
$$\tau \leq \text{avgdeg} \leq f(\tau)$$

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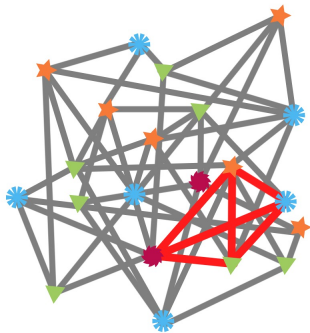
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$$\tau \leq \text{avgdeg} \leq 2^{2^{2^{\text{poly}(\tau)}}}$$

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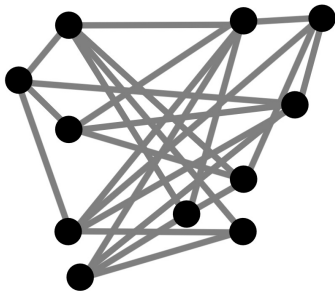
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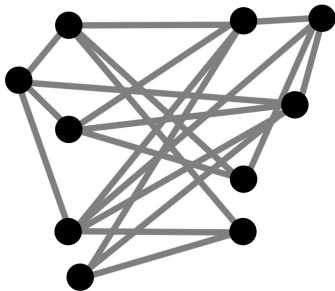
Every graph of $\text{avgdeg} \geq 2^{d^{2^{\text{poly}(t)}}}$ has either K_t or an induced bipartite subgraph with $\text{avgdeg} \geq d$.



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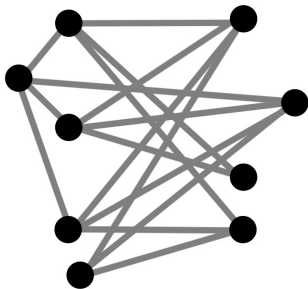
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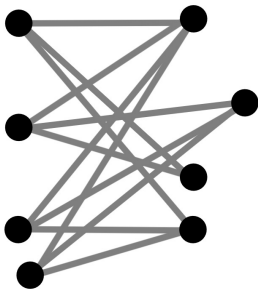
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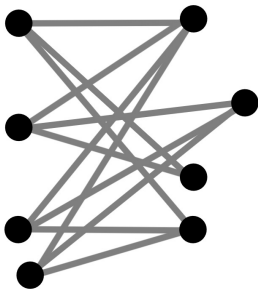
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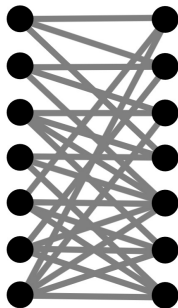


The function must be exponential in d .

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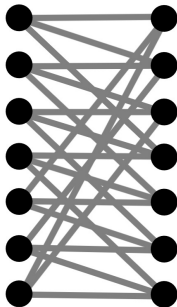
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Theorem (Montgomery, Pokrovskiy, & Sudakov, 20)

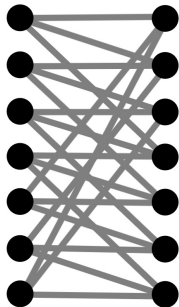
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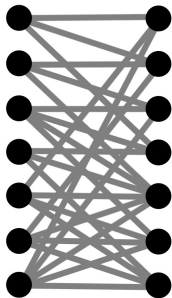


Showed a lower bound of $d^{3-o(1)}$.

Obtaining/improving the bound $\text{avgdeg} \leq 2^{2^{2^{\text{poly}(\tau)}}}$

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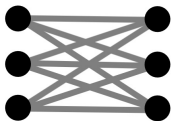
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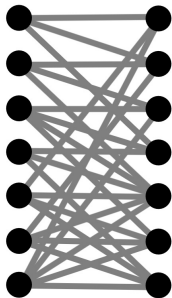
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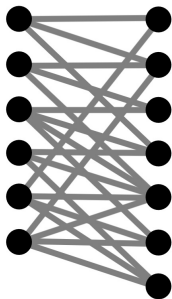
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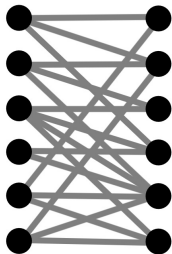
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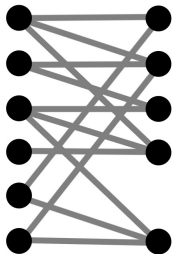
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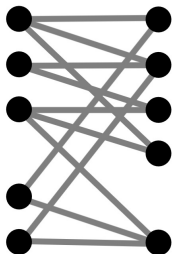
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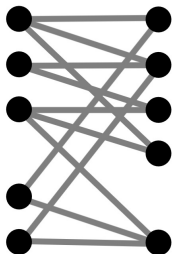
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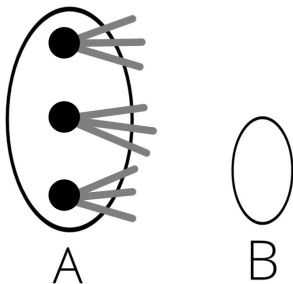


Based on a proof of Dellamonica, Koubek, Martin, & Rödl, 11.

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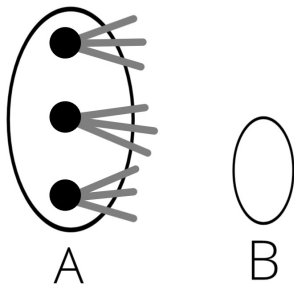
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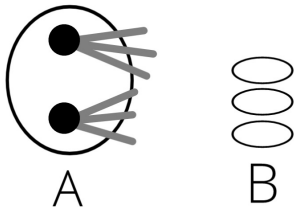


This lets us apply (Füredi, 83).

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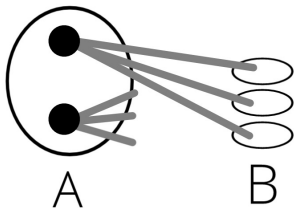


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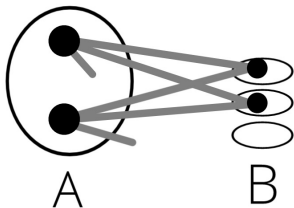


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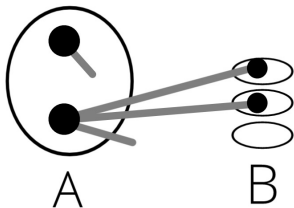


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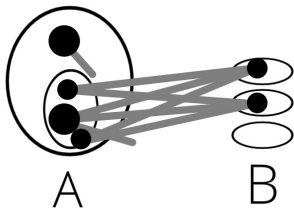


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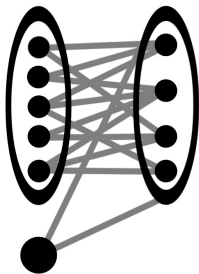


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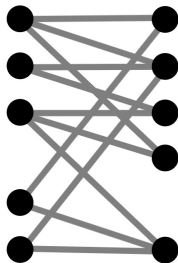


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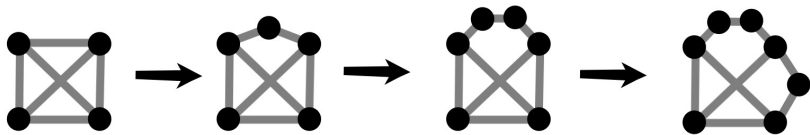
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Question

Does every degree-bounded class have a bounding function that is a **polynomial**?



Thank you!