### Shoham Letzter joint work with Vytautas Gruslys

University of Cambridge and ETH-ITS

SIAM DM June 2018

Shoham Letzter Path partitions of regular graphs

### Dirac's theorem

### Theorem (Dirac 1952)

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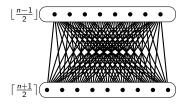
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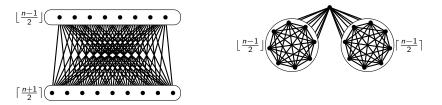
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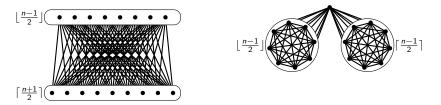
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Answer. Need to circumvent both examples!

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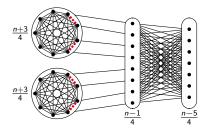
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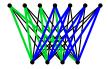
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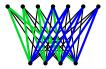


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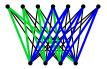
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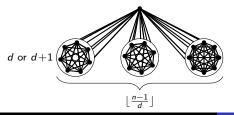
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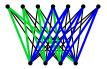


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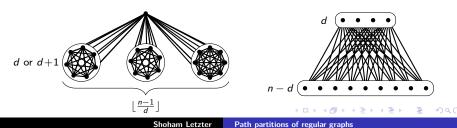


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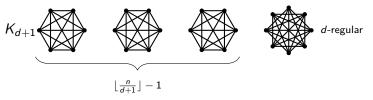
Let G be a d-regular graph on n vertices. Then V(G) can be partitioned into at most  $\lfloor \frac{n}{d+1} \rfloor$  paths.

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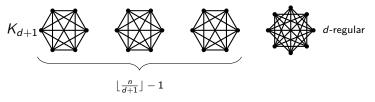


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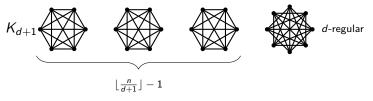
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- **•** Magnant, Martin ('09).  $d \leq 5$ .
- Han ('17). If d ≥ cn then all but o(n) vertices can be covered by \[ n/d+1 \] vertex-disjoint paths.

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### Our results

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Let G be a d-regular graph on n vertices, where  $d \ge cn$  and  $n \ge n_0(c)$ . Then V(G) can be partitioned into at most  $\lfloor \frac{n}{d+1} \rfloor$  cycles.

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#### Theorem (Gruslys, L. '18+)

Let G be a **bipartite** d-regular graph on n vertices, where  $d \ge cn$  and  $n \ge n_0(c)$ . Then V(G) can be partitioned into at most  $\lfloor \frac{n}{2d} \rfloor$  cycles.

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# Hamiltonicity of expanders

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#### Theorem (Kühn, Osthus, Treglown '10)

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- Standard applications use Regularity Lemma.

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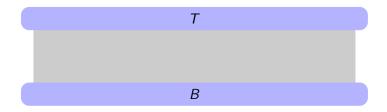
A sparse cut in a graph is a partition  $\{X, Y\}$  of the vertices, such that e(X, Y) = o(|X||Y|).

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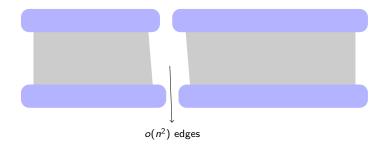
- The proof uses the 'absorbing technique'.
- Standard applications use Regularity Lemma. Here it is possible to avoid it, using an argument by Lo and Patel ('15) which uses the 'Rotation-Extension' technique.

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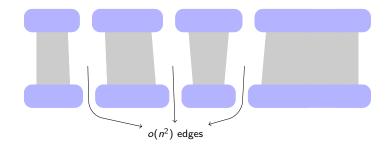
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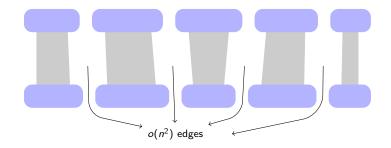


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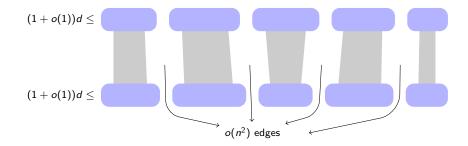
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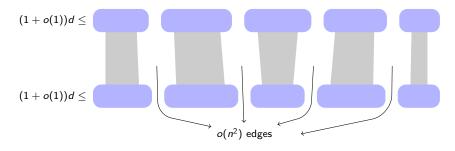
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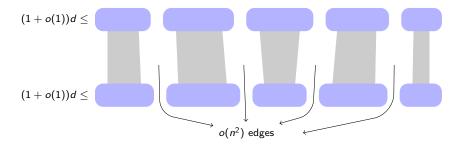
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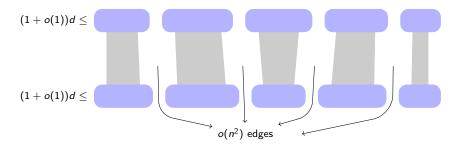
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• we have at most  $\frac{n}{2d(1+o(1))} \leq \lfloor n/2d \rfloor + 1$  clusters;



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 by a variant of the Hamiltonicity Theorem, every balanced subgraph of a cluster, obtained be removing o(n) vertices, is Hamiltonian;



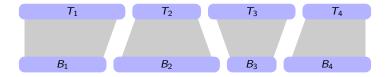
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- such a partition was also used by KLOS.

## Balancing matchings

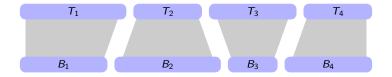
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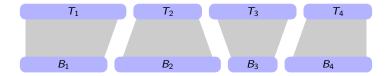
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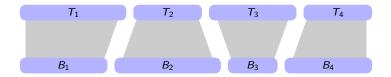
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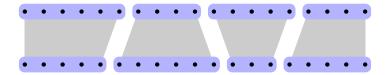
#### A **balancing matching** is a matching M s.t.



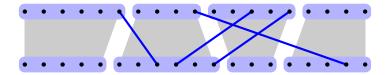
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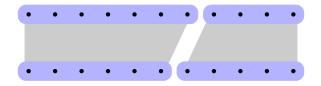
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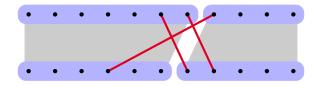
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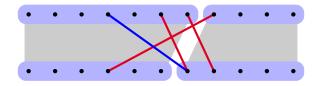
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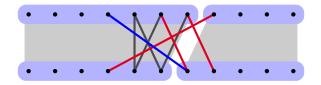
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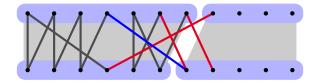
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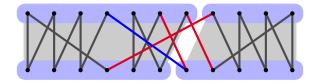




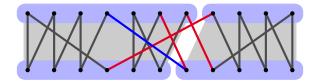


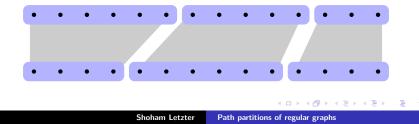


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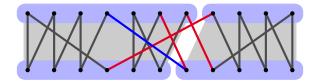


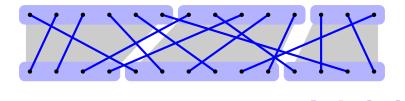
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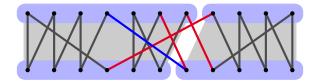


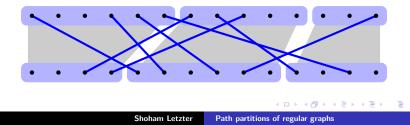
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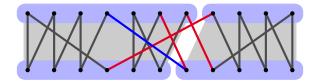


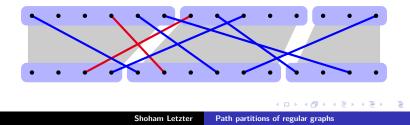
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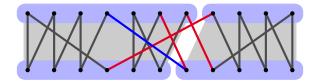


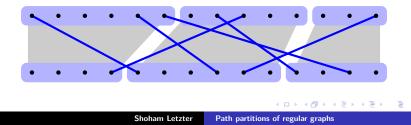
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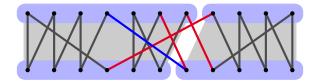


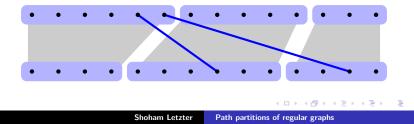
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# Matchings in $G_{\sigma}$

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Let  $\sigma$  be an ordering of V(G).  $G_{\sigma}$  is the subgraph whose edges are edges tb of G, where  $t \in T$ ,  $b \in B$  and  $\sigma(t) < \sigma(b)$ .

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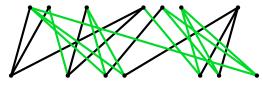
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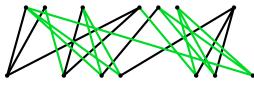


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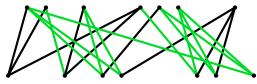


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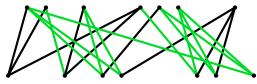
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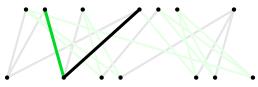


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let  $M_1$  and  $M_2$  be matchings in  $G_{\sigma}$  and  $G_{\bar{\sigma}}$ . Then  $M_1 \cup M_2$  has no cycles.

Let  $\sigma$  be an ordering of V(G).  $G_{\sigma}$  is the subgraph whose edges are edges tb of G, where  $t \in T$ ,  $b \in B$  and  $\sigma(t) < \sigma(b)$ .



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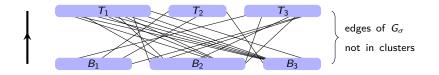
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**Suffices to show.** If  $\sigma$  is random,  $G_{\sigma}$  has a balancing matching with probability larger than 1/2.

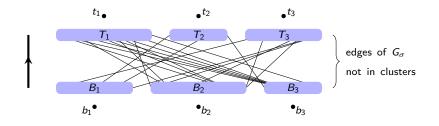
Shoham Letzter Path partitions of regular graphs

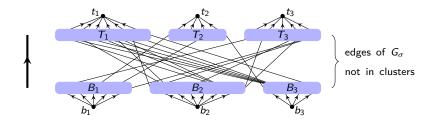
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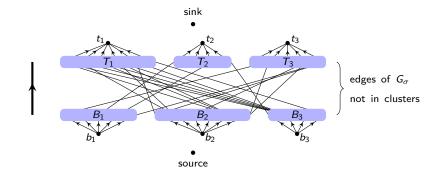


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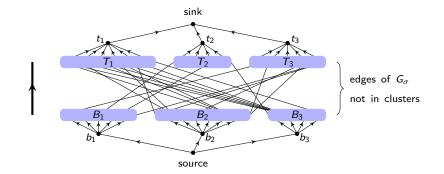




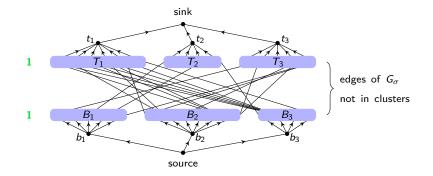
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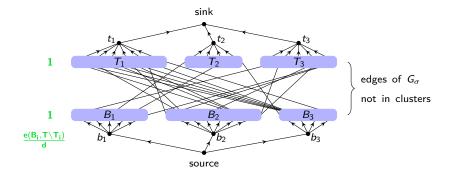
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• vertices of G receive capacity 1,

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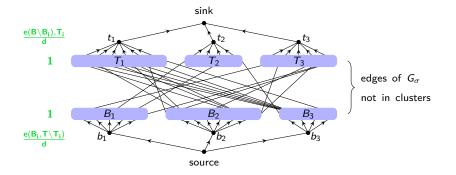
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vertices of G receive capacity 1,
 b<sub>i</sub> has capacity <sup>e(B<sub>i</sub>,T∖T<sub>i</sub>)</sup>/<sub>d</sub>,

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vertices of G receive capacity 1,
 b<sub>i</sub> has capacity e(B<sub>i</sub>, T \ T<sub>i</sub>)/d,

• 
$$t_j$$
 has capacity  $\frac{e(B \setminus B_i, T_i)}{d}$ 

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## Finding a balancing matching in $G_{\sigma_1}$

Shoham Letzter Path partitions of regular graphs

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## Finding a balancing matching in $G_{\sigma}$

### Lemma

With probability  $> \frac{1}{2}$ , there is a flow with value  $\sum_{i \neq j} \frac{e(B_i, T_j)}{d} - \frac{9}{10}$ .

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- by weight shifting, find a <sup>9</sup>/<sub>10</sub>-almost-balancing integer-valued fractional matching, i.e. a balancing matching.

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## 2-lifts

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Let G be a graph and  $\sigma$  an ordering.



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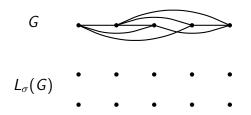
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Shoham Letzter Path partitions of regular graphs

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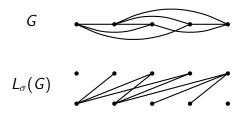
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Shoham Letzter Path partitions of regular graphs

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- partition the vertices into clusters,
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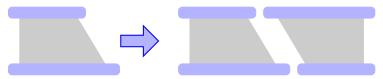
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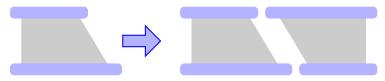
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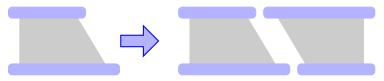


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- far-from-bipartite clusters become one balanced cluster,
- show that with positive probability, L<sub>σ</sub>(G) contains a balancing matching.

## **Open Problems**

Shoham Letzter Path partitions of regular graphs

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Let G be a d-regular graph on n vertices, where  $d \ge cn$  and  $n \ge n_0(c)$ . Then V(G) can be partitioned into at most  $\lfloor \frac{n}{d+1} \rfloor$  cycles.

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## Thank you for listening!

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