On the Maximum $F_5$-free Subhypergraphs of a Random Hypergraph

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Abstract

Denote by $F_5$ the 3-uniform hypergraph on vertex set $\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$ with hyperedges $\{123, 124, 345\}$. Balogh, Butterfield, Hu, and Lenz proved that if $p > K \log n/n$ for some large constant $K$, then every maximum $F_5$-free subhypergraph of $G^3(n, p)$ is tripartite with high probability, and showed that if $p_0 = 0.1 \sqrt{\log n}/n$, then with high probability there exists a maximum $F_5$-free subhypergraph of $G^3(n, p_0)$ that is not tripartite. In this paper, we sharpen the upper bound to be best possible up to a constant factor. We prove that if $p > C \sqrt{\log n}/n$ for some large constant $C$, then every maximum $F_5$-free subhypergraph of $G^3(n, p)$ is tripartite with high probability.

1 Introduction

In this paper, a (hyper)graph is maximum with respect to a property if it has the maximum number of (hyper)edges among the (hyper)graphs satisfying the given property. Throughout the paper, all logarithms are in base $e$.

One of the first results in extremal graph theory is Mantel’s Theorem [9], which states that every triangle-free graph on $n$ vertices has at most $\lfloor n^2/4 \rfloor$ edges. Additionally, the complete bipartite graph whose part sizes differ by at most one is the unique maximum triangle-free graph. Later, Turán [13] generalized Mantel’s Theorem for all complete graphs. Denote by $K_s$ the complete graph on $s$ vertices and by $T_s(n)$ the complete $s$-partite graph on $n$ vertices where the sizes of the parts differ by at most 1. Turán’s Theorem states that $T_{s-1}(n)$ is the unique maximum $K_s$-free graph on $n$ vertices. Turán’s Theorem can also be understood as a property of $K_n$. Namely, it claims that every maximum $K_s$-free subgraph of $K_n$ is $(s-1)$-partite.

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Let $G(n, p)$ be the standard binomial model of random graphs, where each edge in $K_n$ is chosen independently with probability $p$. We say that an event occurs with high probability (w.h.p.) if its probability goes to 1 as $n$ goes to infinity. A question related to Turán’s Theorem arises when $G(n, p)$ replaces the role of $K_n$, that is, for what $p = p(n)$ we have that w.h.p. every maximum $K_s$-free subgraph of $G(n, p)$ is $(s-1)$-partite.

This question was first raised by Babai, Simonovits, and Spencer [1], who gave an affirmative answer when $p = \frac{1}{2}$ and $s = 3$. Later, DeMarco and Kahn [6] determined the correct order of $p$ for $s = 3$. They [6] showed that if $p > K \sqrt{\log n/n}$ for some large constant $K$, then w.h.p. every maximum triangle-free subgraph of $G(n, p)$ is bipartite, while if $p = 0.1 \sqrt{\log n/n}$, then this does not hold w.h.p. Finally, DeMarco and Kahn [7] answered this question up to a constant factor for every $s \geq 3$.

Figure 1: The hypergraph $F_5$.

Figure 2: The hypergraph $K_4^-$.

Similar problems were also considered for hypergraphs. Denote by $K_4^-$ the hypergraph obtained from the complete 3-uniform hypergraph on four vertices by removing one hyperedge. Let $F_5$, which is often called the generalized triangle, be the hypergraph on vertex set $\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$ with hyperedges $\{123, 124, 345\}$. Denote by $S(n)$ the complete 3-partite 3-uniform hypergraph on $n$ vertices whose parts have sizes $\lfloor n/3 \rfloor$, $\lfloor (n+1)/3 \rfloor$, and $\lfloor (n+2)/3 \rfloor$, and let $s(n) := \lfloor n/3 \rfloor \cdot \lfloor (n+1)/3 \rfloor \cdot \lfloor (n+2)/3 \rfloor$ be the number of hyperedges in $S(n)$. Bollobás [4] proved that $S(n)$ is the unique maximum $\{K_4^-, F_5\}$-free $n$-vertex hypergraph. Frankl and Füredi [8] proved that, for $n \geq 3000$, the maximum number of hyperedges in an $n$-vertex $F_5$-free 3-uniform hypergraph is $s(n)$.

The random version of this theorem was first studied by Balogh, Butterfield, Hu, and Lenz [2]. Let $G^3(n, p)$ be the random 3-uniform hypergraph on vertex set $[n] := \{1, 2, \ldots, n\}$, where each triple is included with probability $p$ independently of each other. Note that when $p$ is very small, $G^3(n, p)$ itself is tripartite and hence $F_5$-free w.h.p. Therefore, the interesting case is when $p$ is sufficiently large. In [2], it was proved that if $p > K \log n/n$ for some large constant $K$, then w.h.p. every maximum $F_5$-free subhypergraph of $G^3(n, p)$ is tripartite, and it was conjectured that it suffices to require only $p > C \sqrt{\log n/n}$ for some large constant $C$.

In this paper, we verify this conjecture. This is best possible up to the constant factor, as it
was also shown in [2] that when \( p = 0.1\sqrt{\log n/n} \), then w.h.p. there is a maximum \( F_5 \)-free subhypergraph of \( G^3(n,p) \) that is not tripartite.

**Theorem 1.** There exists a constant \( C > 0 \) such that if \( p > C\sqrt{\log n/n} \), then w.h.p. every maximum \( F_5 \)-free subhypergraph of \( G^3(n,p) \) is tripartite.

Our approach will follow the general structure of the proof of the main result of [2]. Several key lemmas are improved and adapted for this smaller \( p \). In particular, in [2], an easier version of codegree concentration was proved using Chernoff’s bound with the larger \( p \). Here, for the smaller \( p \), we need a stronger statement, not only using Chernoff’s bound (cf. Lemmas 6 and 8). As typical with the probabilistic method, one must fight to avoid applying the union bound when the concentration is not strong enough. This is the most challenging and technical part of the proof, see Remarks 7 and 19 for more details on that. We trust that the new ideas used in the proof could be useful for other problems when one has to beat the union bound.

The rest of the paper is structured as follows. In Section 2, we will introduce the notation and lemmas needed. In Section 3, we give the proof of Theorem 1.

## 2 Preliminaries

To improve readability, as it is standard in the literature, we will usually pretend that large numbers are integers to avoid using essentially irrelevant floor and ceiling symbols. We often use the standard upper bound \( \binom{n}{k} \leq \left(\frac{en}{k}\right)^k \) for binomial coefficients. We will use \( xy \) to stand for set \( \{x,y\} \) and \( xyz \) to stand for set \( \{x,y,z\} \). We write \( x = (1 \pm c)y \) for \((1-c)y \leq x \leq (1+c)y\).

We use \( G \) for \( G^3(n,p) \) hereinafter and denote by \( t(G) \) the number of hyperedges in a maximum tripartite subhypergraph of \( G \).

We will always assume that the hypergraphs are on vertex set \([n] = \{1, \ldots, n\} \), so we can identify a hypergraph \( H \) by its hyperedges, and \( |H| \) stands for the number of hyperedges of \( H \). We use \( \pi = (V_1, V_2, V_3) \) for a 3-partition of \([n]\). We say a 3-partition \( \pi \) is balanced if every part has size \((1 \pm 10^{-10})n/3\). Denote by \( K_{\pi} \) the set of triples with exactly one vertex in each part of \( \pi \). Let \( G_\pi := G \cap K_{\pi} \). For a hypergraph \( H \subseteq G \), let \( H_i := \{e \in H : |e \cap V_i| \geq 2\} \) for \( i = 1, 2, 3 \). Let \( H_\pi := H \cap K_{\pi} \) and \( \bar{H}_\pi := G_\pi \setminus H_\pi \). We will call hyperedges in \( H_\pi \) the crossing hyperedges of \( H \), and the hyperedges in \( \bar{H}_\pi \) the missing crossing hyperedges of \( H \).

For a hypergraph \( H \), a partition \( \pi = (V_1, V_2, V_3) \) of \([n]\), vertices \( v, v' \in [n] \), and subsets of vertices \( S, T \subseteq [n] \), let

- \( N_{ST}^H(v) := \{yz : y \in S, z \in T, yzv \in H\} \) be the link graph of \( v \) between \( S \) and \( T \),
- \( d_{ST}^H(v) := |N_{ST}^H(v)| \) be the degree of \( v \) between \( S \) and \( T \),
- \( N_S^H(v, v') := \{z : z \in S, vv'z \in H\} \) be the set of neighbors of \( v \) and \( v' \) in \( S \),
- \( d_S^H(v, v') := |N_S^H(v, v')| \) be the codegree of \( v \) and \( v' \) in \( S \), and
• \( L^H_{ST}(v, v') := N^H_S(v) \cap N^H_T(v') \) be the common neighborhood of \( v \) and \( v' \) between \( S \) and \( T \).

When \( S \) or \( T \) is \([n]\) or \( H = G \), we omit to write \( S \), \( T \), or \( G \) when there is no ambiguity. When \( S \) or \( T \) is \( V_i \), we often just use \( i \) in the subscript to stand for \( V_i \). For example, \( d(x) \) is just the degree of \( x \) in \( G \) and \( N^H_G(y, z) \) is the neighbors of \( y \) and \( z \) in \( V_1 \) in \( H \). Finally, define \( Q(\pi) := \{ xy \in V_1 : |L_{2,3}(x, y)| < 0.8p^2n^2/9 \} \).

The first proposition we need is the following result from \([2]\), which is a special case of a general transference result of Conlon and Gowers \([5]\), and as Samotij observed \([10]\), of Schacht \([12]\). It was also proved by the hypergraph container method \([3, 11]\).

**Proposition 2.** For every \( \delta > 0 \), there exist \( \varepsilon > 0 \) and \( C > 0 \) such that if \( p > C/n \), then the following statement is true. Let \( H \) be a maximum \( F_3 \)-free subhypergraph of \( G \) and \( \pi \) be a 3-partition of \([n]\) maximizing \( |H_\pi| \). Then, we have that w.h.p. \( \pi \) is balanced, \(|H| \geq (2/9 - \varepsilon)p(n \choose 3) \), and \(|H \setminus H_\pi| \leq \delta pn^3 \).

The following concentration results are also used in \([2]\). Lemma \( \text{3} \) is the standard Chernoff’s bound. Lemmas \( \text{4} \) and \( \text{5} \) are standard properties of random hypergraphs, which are direct applications of Lemma \( \text{3} \) and the union bound.

**Lemma 3.** Let \( Y \) be the sum of mutually independent indicator random variables, and let \( \mu = \mathbb{E}[Y] \). For every \( \varepsilon > 0 \), we have

\[
\mathbb{P}[|Y - \mu| > \varepsilon \mu] < 2e^{-c_\varepsilon \varepsilon \mu},
\]

where \( c_\varepsilon = \min \{ -\log (e^{\varepsilon}(1 + \varepsilon)^{-1(1+\varepsilon)}) , \varepsilon^2/2 \} \).

**Lemma 4.** For every \( \varepsilon > 0 \), there exists a positive constant \( C \) such that if \( p > C \log n/n^2 \), then w.h.p. for every vertex \( v \), we have \( d(v) = (1 \pm \varepsilon)p|V_2|/|V_3| \).

**Lemma 5.** For every \( \varepsilon > 0 \), there exists a positive constant \( C \) such that if \( p > C/n \), then w.h.p. for every 3-partition \( \pi = (V_1, V_2, V_3) \) with \( |V_2|, |V_3| \geq n/20 \) and every vertex \( v \in V_1 \), we have \( d_{2,3}(v) = (1 \pm \varepsilon)p|V_2|/|V_3| \).

We also need the following concentration results.

**Lemma 6.** There exists a positive constant \( C \) such that if \( p > C \sqrt{\log n}/n \), then w.h.p. for every pair of vertices \( x, y \), we have \( d(x, y) \leq pn\sqrt{\log n}/\log \log n \).

**Proof.** For every pair of vertices \( xy \), the probability that \( d(x, y) \geq \frac{pn\sqrt{\log n}}{\log \log n} \) is at most \( \binom{n}{2} \left( \frac{pn \sqrt{\log n}}{\log \log n} \right)^{\frac{pn\sqrt{\log n}}{\log \log n}} \). There are \( \binom{n}{2} \) pairs of vertices, so by using a union bound, the probability that there exists a pair of vertices \( xy \) such that \( d(x, y) \geq \frac{pn\sqrt{\log n}}{\log \log n} \) is at most

\[
\exp \left( 2 \log n + \frac{C \log n}{\log \log n} \log \frac{e \log \log n}{\sqrt{\log n}} \right) = \exp \left( 2 + \frac{C \log \log n}{\log \log n} - \frac{C}{2} \log n \right),
\]

where the last expression is \( o(1) \) for sufficiently large \( C \).

\[ \square \]
Remark 7. Lemma 6 shows one of the differences when $p$ is only at least $C\sqrt{\log n}/n$, whereas in [2] it is proved that w.h.p. we have $d(x, y) \leq 2pn$ for every pair of vertices $x, y$ when $p > K\log n/n$. Note that with a direct application of Chernoff’s inequality, one can only conclude that $d(x, y) \leq pn\sqrt{\log n}$, without the log log $n$ factor. As we will see in Section 3 this log log $n$ factor plays a vital role in the proof of Theorem 1 (see Remark 19).

Lemma 8. There exists a constant $C > 0$ such that if $p > C\sqrt{\log n}/n$, then w.h.p. for every subset $S \subseteq [n]$, we have

$$|\{xy \subseteq [n] \setminus S : d_S(x, y) \geq 3pn\}| \leq n^2e^{-\sqrt{\log n}}.$$ 

Proof. First, consider a fixed set $S$. For every pair of vertices $xy \subseteq [n] \setminus S$, the probability that $d_S(x, y) > 3pn$ is at most $q = (\binom{|S|}{3pn})p^{3pn}$. For different pairs $x_1y_1, x_2y_2 \subseteq [n] \setminus S$, random variables $d_S(x_1, y_1)$ and $d_S(x_2, y_2)$ are independent. Hence, given a family of $n^2e^{-\sqrt{\log n}}$ pairs of vertices in $[n] \setminus S$, the probability that $d_S(x, y) \geq 3pn$ for every pair in this family is at most $q^{n^2e^{-\sqrt{\log n}}}$. Then, by a union bound over all the families containing pairs of vertices not in $S$ with size $n^2e^{-cv\sqrt{\log n}}$, we get

$$\Pr\left(|\{xy \subseteq [n] \setminus S : d_S(x, y) \geq 3pn\}| > n^2e^{-\sqrt{\log n}}\right) \leq \left(\frac{n^2}{n^2e^{-\sqrt{\log n}}}\right)q^{n^2e^{-\sqrt{\log n}}}.$$ 

Finally, using a union bound over all the choices of $S$, the probability of failure is at most

$$2^n\left(\frac{n^2}{n^2e^{-\sqrt{\log n}}}\right)\left(\binom{n}{3pn}p^{3pn}\right)^{n^2e^{-\sqrt{\log n}}} \leq 2^n\left(e^{1+\sqrt{\log n}}(\frac{e}{3})^{3pn}\right)^{n^2e^{-\sqrt{\log n}}} = o(1).$$

In our proof of Theorem 1, we will repeatedly use the following lemma to show that for some given vertex $v$ and vertex set $S$, the number of pairs that are in the link graph of $v$ and have a large neighborhood in $S$ is small.

Let $s = s(n, p), r = r(n, p), i = i(n, p)$ be positive integers depending on $n$ and $p$, where $s \leq n, r \leq \binom{n}{2}$, and $i \leq n$. Let $E_{s,r,i}$ be the event that for every vertex $v \in [n]$ and vertex set $S \subseteq [n]$, where $v \notin S$ and $|S| = s$, we have $|\{yz \subseteq [n] \setminus S : vyz \in G, d_S(y, z) \geq i\}| \leq r$, see Figure 3. Define $g(p, s, r, i) := n^2\left(\binom{n}{3pn}\right)p^{3pn}r^{i}$, and let $O$ be the set of $(s, r, i)$ such that $g(p, s, r, i) = o(n^{-5})$ given $p > C\sqrt{\log n}/n$. Let $E$ be the event $\bigcap_{(s, r, i) \in O} E_{s,r,i}.$

Lemma 9. $E$ happens with high probability.

Proof. For distinct vertices $v, y, z \in [n]$ and vertex set $S \subseteq [n]$ where $v, y, z \notin S$ and $|S| = s$, we have $\Pr(vyz \in G) = p$ and $\Pr(d_S(y, z) \geq i) \leq \binom{s}{i}p^i$. Note that these two events are independent since $v \notin S$. Hence,

$$\Pr(vyz \in G, d_S(y, z) \geq i) \leq p\binom{s}{i}p^i.$$
Figure 3: A pair of vertices \( yz \) satisfies that \( vyz \in G \) and \( d_S(y, z) \geq i \). The event \( E_{s,r,i} \) is that for every vertex \( v \) and vertex set \( S \subseteq [n] \setminus \{v\} \) with size \( s \), there are at most \( r \) such pairs of vertices.

\[
\mathbb{P}(\{yz \subseteq [n] \setminus S : vyz \in G, d_S(y, z) \geq i\} > r) \leq \left( \frac{n^2}{r} \right) \left( p \left( \frac{s}{i} \right) p^i \right)^r.
\]

Then, using a union bound over all choices of \( v \in [n] \) and \( S \subset [n] \) of size \( s \), we get that

\[
\mathbb{P}(\bar{E}_{s,r,i}) \leq n \binom{n}{s} \left( p \left( \frac{s}{i} \right) p^i \right)^r = g(p, s, r, i),
\]

where \( \bar{E}_{s,r,i} \) is the complement of the event \( E_{s,r,i} \). Now we have

\[
\mathbb{P}(\bar{E}) = \mathbb{P} \left( \bigcup_{(s,r,i) \in O} \bar{E}_{s,r,i} \right) \leq \sum_{(s,r,i) \in O} \mathbb{P}(\bar{E}_{s,r,i}) \leq |O| \cdot o(n^{-5}) \leq n \binom{n}{2} n \cdot o(n^{-5}) = o(1).
\]

**Remark 10.** Lemmas \( \#8 \) and \( \#9 \) are similar, and one may hope that we can still keep the \( e^{-\sqrt{\log n}} \) factor, by proving \( (s, pn^2 e^{-\sqrt{\log n}}, 3ps) \in O \) for every \( 1 \leq s \leq n \). Unfortunately, this is not necessarily true. In the proof of Lemma \( \#8 \) we have \( n^2 e^{-\sqrt{\log n}} \) in the exponent, which can beat the number of choices of \( S \), whereas here \( pn^2 e^{-\sqrt{\log n}} \) is not necessarily larger than \( n \). However, we have \( (s, pn^2/\log n, 3pn) \in O \), see Claim \( \#25 \).

Finally, we will use the following lemma to give lower bounds on the number of copies of \( F_5 \). For fixed vertex \( v \), vertex set \( A \subseteq [n] \setminus \{v\} \), subset \( T \) of \( N_{[n]\setminus A,[n]\setminus A}(v) \), and subset \( E \) of \( \{vxw \in G : x \in A\} \) satisfying that for every \( x \in A \), there exists \( e \in E \) such that \( x \in e \), define

\[
K(v, E, A, T) := \{xyz : x \in A, yz \in T, \text{ there exists } e \in E \text{ such that } x \in e, y \notin e, z \notin e\},
\]

and \( G(v, E, A, T) := K(v, E, A, T) \cap G \). We have that \( \mathbb{E}(|G(v, E, A, T)|) = p|K(v, E, A, T)| \); note that here the randomness in this expectation is of the hyperedges in \( \{xyz : x \in A, yz \in \)}.
where every \( \xyz \) guarantees that we indeed find an \( F_A, T \) that \( K_vxw \).

For any constants \( \varepsilon, \varepsilon_1, \varepsilon_2 > 0 \), there exists a constant \( C > 0 \) such that if \( p > C\sqrt{\log n}/n \), then w.h.p. for every choice of \( v, E, A, T \) as above with \( |A| \geq \varepsilon_1 n/\sqrt{\log n} \) and \( |T| \geq \varepsilon_2 p n^2 \), we have \( |G(v, E, A, T)| = (1 \pm \varepsilon)p|A||T| \).

The proof of Lemma 11 follows the same lines as the proof of Proposition 9 in [2].

**Proof.** For a fixed vertex \( v \), we first reveal the hyperedges containing \( v \). Then, fix a choice of \( A, T \) and \( E \). Let \( [A, T] := \{xyz : x \in A, yz \in T\} \). For vertex \( x \in A \), let \( [x, T] := \{xyz : yz \in T\} \), \( d^E(x) := \{|e \in E : x \in e\}| \), and \( T_x := \{yz \in T : vxy \in E \text{ or } vxz \in E\} \). Note that \( |A, T| \supseteq K(v, E, A, T) \) and \( d^E(x) \geq 1 \) by the definition of \( E \). If \( d^E(x) \geq 3 \), choose \( vxw_1, vxw_2, vxw_3 \) arbitrarily from \( E \). For every \( yz \in T \), there exists some \( i \in \{1, 2, 3\} \) such that \( y \neq w_i \) and \( z \neq w_i \). Hence, by the definition of \( K(v, E, A, T) \), we have \( [x, T] \subseteq K(v, E, A, T) \). If \( d^E(x) \leq 2 \), then by Lemma 6 we have that w.h.p. \( |T_x| \leq 2 \cdot \frac{p \cdot \varepsilon_2 p n^2}{\log \log n} \) and \( [x, T \setminus T_x] = \{xyz : yz \in T \setminus T_x\} \subseteq K(v, E, A, T) \). Therefore,

\[
|A, T| - |K(v, E, A, T)| \leq \sum_{x : x \in A, d^E(x) \leq 2} |T_x| \leq |A| \cdot 2pn \frac{\sqrt{\log n}}{\log \log n}.
\]

We have \( |[A, T]| = |A||T| \geq |A| \varepsilon_2 p n^2 \), so \( |K(v, E, A, T)| = (1 - o(1))|A||T| \) with high probability.

Next, we reveal the hyperedges in \([A, T]\). Let \( \mu = \mathbb{E}(G(v, E, A, T)) = p|K(v, E, A, T)| = (1 - o(1))p|A||T| \). By Lemma 3, we have

\[
P(\|G(v, E, A, T)| - \mu| > \varepsilon\mu < 2e^{-c_0\varepsilon}.
\]
Now, we apply the union bound over all possible choices of \((v, E, A, T)\). We have at most \(n\) choices for \(v\) and at most \(\binom{n}{a}\) choices for sets \(A\) with size \(a\). With high probability we have that for every \(a, t > 0\), given \(|A| = a\) and \(|T| = t\), there are at most \(2^{apn\frac{\log n}{\log \log n}}\) choices for \(E\) (by Lemma 4) and at most \(\binom{pn^2}{t}\) choices for \(T\) (by Lemma 4). By the union bound, the probability that the statement in the lemma does not hold is at most

\[
\sum_{a > \frac{c_1 n}{\sqrt{\log n}}} \sum_{t \geq e2pn^2} n \binom{n}{a} 2^{apn\frac{\log n}{\log \log n}} \binom{pn^2}{t} \cdot 2e^{-c_\varepsilon atp/2} + o(1)
\]

\[
\leq \sum_{a > \frac{c_1 n}{\sqrt{\log n}}} \sum_{t \geq e2pn^2} n \exp \left( a \log \frac{en}{a} \right) 2^{apn\frac{\log n}{\log \log n}} \exp \left( t \log \frac{pn^2}{t} \right) \cdot 2e^{-c_\varepsilon atp/2} + o(1)
\]

\[
\leq 2 \sum_{a > \frac{c_1 n}{\sqrt{\log n}}} \sum_{t \geq e2pn^2} \exp \left( \log n + a \log \left( \frac{e}{\varepsilon_1} \sqrt{\log n} \right) + apn\frac{\log n \log 2}{\log \log n} + t \log \frac{1}{\varepsilon_2} - \frac{c_\varepsilon atp}{2} \right) + o(1)
\]

\[
\leq 2 \sum_{a > \frac{c_1 n}{\sqrt{\log n}}} \sum_{t \geq e2pn^2} \exp \left( -c_\varepsilon atp/4 \right) + o(1) \leq 2n^3 \exp \left( -n \sqrt{\log n} \right) + o(1) = o(1). \quad \Box
\]

### 3 Proof of the Main Theorem

We first give an outline of the proof. Recall that for a hypergraph \(H\) and a partition \(\pi = (V_1, V_2, V_3)\) of \([n]\), we defined in Section 2 that

\[
\bar{H}_\pi = G_\pi \setminus H_\pi, \\
H_i = \{e \in H : |e \cap V_i| \geq 2\} \text{ for } i \in \{1, 2, 3\}, \text{ and} \\
Q(\pi) = \{uv \subset V_1 : |L_{2,3}(u, v)| < 0.8p^2n^2/9\}.
\]

Assume that \(H\) is a maximum \(F_5\)-free subhypergraph of \(G^3(n, p)\). Let \(\pi = (V_1, V_2, V_3)\) be a partition of \([n]\) maximizing \(|H_\pi|\). Let \(e = x_1 x_2 v\) be a hyperedge in \(H\) where \(x_1, x_2 \in V_1\). For every \(yz \in L_{2,3}(x_1, x_2)\) where \(y \neq v\) and \(z \neq v\), at least one hyperedge from \(\{yzzx_1, yzzx_2\}\) cannot be in \(H\), since otherwise hyperedges \(\{yzzx_1, yzzx_2, x_1x_2v\}\) form a copy of \(F_5\). For those \(x_1x_2 \notin Q(\pi)\), there are at least \(0.8p^2n^2/9 - d(x_1, v) - d(x_2, v) = \Omega(\log n)\) such pairs \(yz\). Hence, the existence of \(e\) will cause \(H\) to lose \(\Omega(\log n)\) hyperedges. Since \(H\) is maximum, one can expect that \(H\) should not contain such hyperedges with more than one vertex in any part of \(\pi\), so \(H\) is tripartite. Proposition \ref{12} confirms this idea. We also need to handle \(Q(\pi)\). A control over \(|Q(\pi)|\) will be given by Proposition \ref{13} which states that if \(Q(\pi)\) is large, then \(t(G)\) will be much larger than \(|G_\pi|\). Theorem \ref{1} will be a simple corollary of Propositions \ref{12} and \ref{13}.

For a 3-uniform hypergraph \(H\), the shadow graph of \(H\) is the graph on the same vertex set, where \(xy\) is an edge if and only if there exists another vertex \(z\) such that \(xyz\) is a hyperedge in \(H\).
Proposition 12. Let $H$ be an $F_5$-free subhypergraph of $G$ and $\pi = (V_1, V_2, V_3)$ be a balanced partition maximizing $|H_\pi|$. Then there exist positive constants $C$ and $\delta$ such that if $p > C\sqrt{\log n}/n$ and if the following conditions hold:

1. $|H_1|, |H_2|, |H_3| \leq \delta pn^3/3$,

2. the shadow graph of $H_1$ is disjoint from $Q(\pi)$,

then with high probability $|\tilde{H}_\pi| \geq 3|H_1|$, where equality is possible only if $H$ is tripartite.

Proposition 13. There exist positive constants $C$ and $\delta$ such that if $p > C\sqrt{\log n}/n$ and the 3-partition $\pi$ is balanced, then with high probability

$$t(G) \geq |G_\pi| + |Q(\pi)|\delta n^2p^2,$$

where equality is possible only if $Q(\pi) = \emptyset$.

Based on Propositions 12 and 13, Theorem 1 easily follows, whose proof is similar to the proof of the main theorem in [2].

Proof of Theorem 1. Let $H$ be a maximum $F_5$-free subhypergraph of $G$. We have $|H| \geq t(G)$, since $F_5$ is not tripartite. Let $\pi = (V_1, V_2, V_3)$ be a 3-partition of $[n]$ maximizing $|H_\pi|$. Without loss of generality, we may assume $|H_1| \geq |H_2|, |H_3|$. Besides, by Proposition 2, we know that w.h.p. $\pi$ is balanced and $\sum_{i=1}^3 |H_i| \leq \delta pn^3/3$, where $\delta$ is a constant smaller than the $\delta$’s in Propositions 12 and 13. Now let

$$B(\pi) := \{e \in G : \text{there exists } uv \in Q(\pi) \text{ such that } uv \subset e\}$$

and $H' := H \setminus B(\pi)$, so the shadow graph of $H'_1$ is disjoint from $Q(\pi)$. Since $B(\pi)$ consists of only non-crossing hyperedges of $H$, $\pi$ is still a partition maximizing $|H'_\pi|$ and $|H'_1|, |H'_2|, |H'_3| \leq \sum_{i=1}^3 |H_i| \leq \sum_{i=1}^3 |H_i| \leq \delta pn^3/3$. Hence, $H'$ satisfies the assumptions in Proposition 12. Now, we have w.h.p.

$$|H| \leq |H_\pi| + 3|H_1| = |H'_\pi| + 3|H'_1| + 3|H \cap B(\pi)|$$

$$\leq |H'_\pi| + 3|H'_1| + 3B(\pi)|$$

$$\leq |G_\pi| + 3|B(\pi)|$$

$$\leq |G_\pi| + 3|Q(\pi)|pn\sqrt{\log n}/\log \log n$$

$$\leq |G_\pi| + |Q(\pi)|\delta n^2p^2$$

$$\leq t(G).$$

Here we use Proposition 12 for (1), Lemma 3 for (2), the assumption $p > C\sqrt{\log n}/n$ for (3), and Proposition 13 for (4). $|H|$ cannot be strictly smaller than $t(G)$, so all the inequalities must hold with equality. By Propositions 12 and 13 $H'$ is tripartite and $Q(\pi)$ is empty. Then, we conclude that $H = H'$ is tripartite.

\[\square\]
The proof of Proposition 13 is exactly the same as the one in [2], where it is assumed that \( p > K \log n / n \). It can be easily checked that all the arguments still work verbatim with \( p > C \sqrt{\log n / n} \), and hence we do not include its proof here. It remains to prove Proposition 12.

Clearly, we can assume that \( |H_1| \geq |H_2|, |H_3| \). Let \( \delta \) be small enough so that the following arguments work, and fix three small positive constants \( \varepsilon_1, \varepsilon_2, \varepsilon_3 \) such that

\[
\frac{1}{72 \varepsilon_1} \geq 30, \quad \frac{1}{20} \cdot \frac{1}{2 \varepsilon_2} \geq 10, \quad \frac{1}{10} - \varepsilon_2 \geq \frac{1}{20}, \quad \frac{100 \delta}{\varepsilon_1} \leq \varepsilon_3 \leq \varepsilon_1, \quad \frac{\varepsilon_1 \varepsilon_2}{3 \varepsilon_3} \geq 20.
\]

For example, we can set

\[
\delta = 10^{-100}, \quad \varepsilon_1 = \frac{1}{3000}, \quad \varepsilon_2 = \frac{1}{400}, \quad \varepsilon_3 = 10^{-10}.
\]

Denote by \( J \) the induced subgraph of the shadow graph of \( H_1 \) on the vertex set \( V_1 \) and use \( N^J(x), d^J(x) \) for neighborhood and degree of \( x \) in graph \( J \), respectively. Call a 4-set \( \{w_1, w_2, y, z\} \) an \( \hat{F}_5 \) if \( w_1yz, w_2yz \in G_\pi \) and there exists \( e \in H \) such that \( w_1, w_2 \in e \cap V_1 \), \( y, z \notin e \). Note that \( w_1w_2 \in J \) and \( \{w_1yz, w_2yz, e\} \) forms a copy of \( F_5 \) in \( G_\pi \), so at least one of \( w_1yz \) and \( w_2yz \) has to be in \( \bar{H}_\pi \).

Figure 5: The set \( \{w_1, w_2, y, z\} \) is an \( \hat{F}_5 \) if there exists an edge \( e \in H_1 \) as below.

We next count copies of \( \hat{F}_5 \) to lower bound the number of missing crossing hyperedges \( |\bar{H}_\pi| \), based on the size of (a subgraph of) \( J \). First, we prove the following claim, which will be used in the proofs of the next few lemmas.

**Claim 14.** If \( p > C \sqrt{\log n / n} \), then w.h.p. for every edge \( x_1x_2 \in J \setminus Q(\pi) \), there are at least \( p^2 n^2 / 12 \) choices of \((y, z)\) where \( y \in V_2, z \in V_3 \) such that \( \{x_1, x_2, y, z\} \) spans an \( \hat{F}_5 \).

**Proof.** Since \( x_1x_2 \) is in \( J \), there exists \( v_0 \) such that \( x_1x_2v_0 \in H \). Since \( x_1x_2 \) is not in \( Q(\pi) \), there exist at least \( 0.8p^2 n^2 / 9 \) choices of \((y, z)\) such that \( y \in V_2, z \in V_3, \) and \( x_1yz \) and \( x_2yz \)
are both in \( G_\pi \). By Lemma 6, we know that w.h.p. \( d(x_1, v_0) \) is at most \( pn\sqrt{\frac{\log n}{\log \log n}} \), so there can be at most \( pn\sqrt{\frac{\log n}{\log \log n}} \) vertices \( v \) such that \( x_1v_0v \in G_\pi \). Therefore, there are at least \( 0.8p^2n^2/9 - pn\sqrt{\frac{\log n}{\log \log n}} \) choices of \( (y, z) \) such that \( x_1yz, x_2yz \in G_\pi \) and \( v_0 \notin \{y, z\} \). For every such \( (y, z), \{x_1, x_2, y, z\} \) forms an \( F_5 \).

**Lemma 15.** Suppose the assumptions of Proposition 12 hold. Let \( J' \) be a subgraph of \( J \) and denote by \( \Delta(J') \) the maximum degree of \( J' \). If \( \Delta(J') \leq \varepsilon_1 n \), then w.h.p. we have

\[
|\tilde{\Pi}_\pi| \geq 3p|J'|.
\]

If further \( \Delta(J') \leq \varepsilon_1 n/\sqrt{\log n} \), then w.h.p. we have

\[
|\tilde{\Pi}_\pi| \geq 20p|J'|\sqrt{\log n/\log \log n}.
\]

**Proof.** For each \( wx \in J' \), we get \( wx \notin Q(\pi) \) by the assumption of Proposition 12 so there are at least \( p^2n^2/12 \) choices of \( (y, z) \) such that \( \{w, x, y, z\} \) spans an \( F_5 \), by Claim 13. Then there are at least \( 1/12|J'|p^2n^2 = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{x \in V_1} d''(x)p^2n^2/12 \) copies of \( F_5 \) in total.

Now consider missing crossing hyperedges \( xyz \in \tilde{\Pi}_\pi \) with \( x \in V_1 \). Call \( xyz \in \tilde{\Pi}_\pi \) bad if

\[
d''(x) \leq \frac{\varepsilon_1 n}{\sqrt{\log n}} \quad \text{and} \quad |N(y, z) \cap N''(x)| \geq \frac{pn \log n}{500 \sqrt{\log n}}, \quad \text{or}
\]

\[
\frac{\varepsilon_1 n}{\sqrt{\log n}} < d''(x) \leq \varepsilon_1 n \quad \text{and} \quad |N(y, z) \cap N''(x)| \geq 3\varepsilon_1 pn.
\]

Otherwise, call \( xyz \) good. We will show that the number of copies of \( F_5 \) that contain a good hyperedge from \( \tilde{\Pi}_\pi \) is at least \( \frac{1}{4} \sum_{x \in V_1} d''(x)p^2n^2/12 \). For \( x \in V_1 \), let \( n_x \) be the number of copies of \( F_5 \) that contain vertex \( x \) and a bad hyperedge \( e \in \tilde{\Pi}_\pi \) such that \( x \in e \), and let \( r_x \) be the number of \( (y, z) \) such that \( y \in V_2, z \in V_3, \) and \( xyz \) is bad. We will repeatedly use Lemma 9 for some choices of \( (s, r, i) \in \mathcal{O} \) to give upper bounds for \( r_x \) and then obtain upper bounds for \( n_x \). For every \( x \in V_1 \), we consider the following two cases.

**Case 1:** \( d''(x) \leq \frac{\varepsilon_1 n}{\sqrt{\log n}} \). If \( d''(x) = 0 \), then \( n_x \) is trivially 0. For every positive integer \( s \leq \frac{\varepsilon_1 n}{\sqrt{\log n}}, r = \frac{pn}{\sqrt{\log n}}s, \) and \( i = \frac{pn \log n}{500 \sqrt{\log n}} \), we have \( (s, r, i) \in \mathcal{O} \) (see Claim 23 in the Appendix for the proof). Hence, by Lemma 9, we get \( r_x \leq \frac{pn}{\sqrt{\log n}}d''(x) \). By Lemma 6 we can assume every pair of vertices has codegree at most \( pn\sqrt{\log n/\log \log n} \) in \( G \). We conclude

\[
n_x \leq pn\sqrt{\frac{\log n}{\log \log n}} \cdot \frac{pn}{\sqrt{\log n}}d''(x) \leq \frac{p^2n^2}{100}d''(x).
\]

**Case 2:** \( \frac{\varepsilon_1 n}{\sqrt{\log n}} < d''(x) \leq \varepsilon_1 n \). For every integer \( s \in (\frac{\varepsilon_1 n}{\sqrt{\log n}}, \varepsilon_1 n], r = \frac{pn}{500} s, \) and \( i = 3\varepsilon_1 pn \), we have \( (s, r, i) \in \mathcal{O} \) (see Claim 24 in the Appendix for the proof). Hence, by Lemma 9 we have \( r_x \leq \frac{pn}{500}d''(x) \). By Lemma 6 we can assume every pair of vertices has codegree at most \( pn\sqrt{\log n/\log \log n} \) in \( G \). Besides, we have \( (s, pn^2/\log n, 3pn) \in \mathcal{O} \) for every
1 ≤ s ≤ n (see Claim 25 in the Appendix for the proof), so by Lemma 9 there are at most \( pn^2 / \log n \) pairs \((y, z)\) where \( y \in V_2, z \in V_3 \) such that \( |N(y, z) \cap N'(x)| \geq 3p_n \). We conclude
\[
n_x \leq \frac{pn^2}{\log n} \cdot p_n \cdot \frac{\sqrt{\log n}}{\log \log n} + 3r p_n \leq \frac{p_n^2 n^2}{\log \log n} \cdot \frac{n}{\sqrt{\log n}} + \frac{3p_n^2 n^2}{500} d''(x) \leq \frac{p_n^2 n^2}{100} d''(x).
\]

Recall that a copy of \( \hat{F}_5 \) contains at least one hyperedge from \( H_\pi \), which is either bad or good. Thus, the number of copies of \( \hat{F}_5 \) estimated in (5), so
\[
\text{For each } p_n \text{ are at least } \sum_{x \in V_1} d''(x) \left( \frac{p_n^2 n^2}{12} - \frac{p_n^2 n^2}{100} d''(x) \right) \geq \frac{1}{4} \sum_{x \in V_1} d''(x) \left( \frac{p_n^2 n^2}{12} \right) = \frac{1}{24} |J'| p_n^2 n^2.
\] (5)

If \( \Delta(J') \leq \varepsilon_1 n \), every good missing crossing hyperedge is in at most \( 3\varepsilon_1 p_n \) copies of \( \hat{F}_5 \) estimated in (5), so
\[
|\tilde{H}_\pi| \geq \frac{1}{24} |J'| p_n^2 n^2 \geq \frac{pn |J'|}{3 \varepsilon_1 p_n} \geq \frac{72 \varepsilon_1}{3} = 30pn |J'|.
\]

If further \( \Delta(J') \leq \varepsilon_1 n / \sqrt{\log n} \), then every good missing crossing hyperedge is in at most \( \frac{p_n \log \log n}{500 \sqrt{\log n}} \) copies of \( \hat{F}_5 \) estimated in (5), so
\[
|\tilde{H}_\pi| \geq \frac{1}{24} |J'| p_n^2 n^2 \geq \frac{20pn |J'| \sqrt{\log n}}{\log \log n}.
\]

Now, we divide the rest of the proof into two cases according to the size of \( \tilde{H}_\pi \). The notations and calculations are similar in both cases.

### 3.1 \( |\tilde{H}_\pi| \leq \delta pn^3 / \log n \)

Define
\[
S := \{ x \in V_1 : d'(x) \geq \varepsilon_1 n / \sqrt{\log n} \},
\]
\[
S_1 := \{ x \in S : d'_H(x) \geq \varepsilon_2 p_n^2 \}, \quad \text{and} \quad S_2 := S \setminus S_1.
\]

For the following lemmas, we always assume that \( |\tilde{H}_\pi| \leq \delta pn^3 / \log n \) and the assumptions of Proposition 12 hold.

**Lemma 16.** With high probability \( |S| \leq \varepsilon_3 n / \sqrt{\log n} \).

**Proof.** For each \( wx \in J \), we get \( wx \notin Q(\pi) \) by the assumption of Proposition 12 so there are at least \( p_n^2 n^2 / 12 \) choices of \((y, z)\) such that \( \{w, x, y, z\} \) spans an \( \hat{F}_5 \), by Claim 14. Then there are at least \( \frac{1}{12} |J| p_n^2 n^2 \) copies of \( \hat{F}_5 \) in total. On the other hand, at least one of \( wyz \) and \( xyz \) must be in \( \tilde{H}_\pi \). For \( xyz \) where \( d_{V_1}(y, z) \leq 3p_n \), \( xyz \) can be in at most \( 3pn \) copies of \( \hat{F}_5 \). Hence the number of copies of \( \hat{F}_5 \) containing a pair \((y, z)\) in \( V_2 \times V_3 \) with \( d_{V_1}(y, z) \leq 3p_n \) is at most \( 3|\tilde{H}_\pi|pn \). By Lemma 8 there can be at most \( n^2 e^{-\sqrt{\log n}} \) pairs \((y, z)\) with \( d_{V_1}(y, z) \geq 3pn \).
and by Lemma 6, for every pair \((y, z)\), we can assume \(d_{V_1}(y, z) \leq d(y, z) \leq pn \frac{\sqrt{\log n}}{\log \log n}\). Hence the number of copies of \(\tilde{F}_5\) containing a pair \((y, z) \in V_2 \times V_3\) with \(d_{V_1}(y, z) \geq 3pn\) is at most \(n^2 e^{-\sqrt{\log n}} \left( pn \frac{\sqrt{\log n}}{\log \log n} \right)^2\). Therefore, we get

\[
n^2 e^{-\sqrt{\log n}} \left( pn \frac{\sqrt{\log n}}{\log \log n} \right)^2 + |\tilde{H}_\pi| \cdot 3pn \geq \frac{|J|p^2n^2}{12}.
\]

Note that \(n^2 e^{-\sqrt{\log n}} \left( pn \frac{\sqrt{\log n}}{\log \log n} \right)^2 \leq \frac{\delta p^2n^4}{\log n}\). By the assumption \(|\tilde{H}_\pi| \leq \frac{\delta p^3}{\log n}\), we have \(|\tilde{H}_\pi| \cdot 3pn \leq \frac{3\delta p^3n^4}{\log n}\). Hence, we get \(|J| \leq \frac{18\delta n^2}{\log n}\). Every vertex in \(S\) has degree at least \(\frac{\epsilon n}{\sqrt{\log n}}\) in \(J\), so \(|\tilde{S}| \leq 2|J| \leq \frac{186\delta n^2}{\log n}\), which confirms that \(|\tilde{S}| \leq \frac{100\delta}{\epsilon} \cdot \frac{n}{\sqrt{\log n}} \leq \frac{\epsilon n}{\sqrt{\log n}}\). \(\square\)

**Lemma 17.** With high probability \(|\tilde{H}_\pi| \geq 20pn^2|S_1|\).

**Proof.** We can assume that \(|S_1| > 0\), since otherwise this inequality is trivial. For every vertex \(x \in S_1\), define

\[T_x := \{yz : y \in V_2, z \in V_3, xyz \in H, d_{S_1 \setminus \{x\}}(y, z) \leq 3\epsilon n pn / \sqrt{\log n}\}\]

By Lemma 16, we know that w.h.p. \(|S_1| \leq |S| \leq \epsilon n / \sqrt{\log n}\). For every \(s \leq \epsilon n / \sqrt{\log n}\), we have \((s, \epsilon \frac{2pn^2}{2}, \epsilon \frac{3pn}{\sqrt{\log n}}) \in O\) (see Claim 26 in the Appendix for the proof), so by Lemma 9, there can be at most \(\epsilon \frac{2pn}{\sqrt{\log n}}\) pairs of \((y, z)\) such that \(xyz \in G\) and \(d_{S_1 \setminus \{x\}}(y, z) \geq 3\epsilon n pn / \sqrt{\log n}\). By the definition of \(S_1\), we have \(d_{\tilde{H}_\pi}(x) \geq \epsilonpn^2\) for every \(x \in S_1\). Thus, we get \(|T_x| \geq \epsilonpn^2 / 2\).

Now, we count the copies of \(\tilde{F}_5 = \{x, w, y, z\}\) where \(x \in S_1, w \in N^J(x)\), and \(\{y, z\} \in T_x\). Note that \(wyz\) must be in \(\tilde{H}_\pi\), since \(xyz \in H\) and \(wyz\) is \(\epsilon_1 n / \sqrt{\log n}\)-regular. We have that \(|N^J(x)| \geq \epsilon_1 n / \sqrt{\log n}\) by the definition of \(S\), and we just confirmed \(|T_x| \geq \epsilonpn^2 / 2\). Applying Lemma 14 by setting \(V = x, E = \{e \in H_1 : x \in e\}, A = N^J(x), T = T_x\), we get the number of such copies of \(\tilde{F}_5\) is w.h.p. at least

\[
\sum_{x \in S_1} \frac{1}{2} |N^J(x)| |T_x| \geq \sum_{x \in S_1} \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_1 n \frac{\epsilonpn^2}{\sqrt{\log n}} \geq \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_1 \epsilon \epsilon \frac{2pn^2}{2} n^2 |S_1| \geq \frac{\epsilon_1 \epsilon}{4} \frac{2pn^2}{2} n^2 |S_1|\]

Every \(wyz \in \tilde{H}_\pi\) can be in at most \(3\epsilon n pn / \sqrt{\log n}\) copies of \(\tilde{F}_5\) evaluated in (7), because \(x\) is assumed to be in \(S_1\) and \(d_{S_1}(y, z) \leq 3\epsilon n pn / \sqrt{\log n}\). Therefore,

\[|\tilde{H}_\pi| \geq \frac{\epsilon_1 \epsilon}{3} \frac{2pn^2}{2} n^2 |S_1| / \sqrt{\log n} \geq 20pn^2 |S_1|.
\]

\(\square\)

**Lemma 18.** With high probability \(|\tilde{H}_\pi| \geq \frac{1}{3} pn^2 |S_2|\).

**Proof.** For every vertex \(x \in S_2\), we have \(d_{\tilde{H}_\pi}(x) < \epsilon pn^2\) by the definition of \(S_2\), but by Lemma 5, \(d_{2.3}(x) \geq pn^2 / 10\). Thus, there are at least \(pn^2 / 20\) hyperedges in \(H_\pi\) containing \(x\), so \(|\tilde{H}_\pi| \geq |S_2| pn^2 / 20\). \(\square\)
Finally, we deduce Proposition 12 assuming $|\bar{H}_\pi| \leq \delta pn^3 / \log n$.

**Proof of Proposition 12.** We will show that with high probability $|\bar{H}_\pi| \geq 3|H_1|$, by using the lower bounds in Lemmas 15, 17, and 18. Partition $H_1$ into the following three sets.

- $H_1(1) = \{e \in H_1 : |e \cap S| \geq 2 \text{ or } |e \cap (V_1 \setminus S)| \geq 2\}$.
- $H_1(2) = \{e \in H_1 \setminus H_1(1) : |e \cap S| = 1\}$. Hence, $H_1(2)$ contains those hyperedges in $H_1$ with exactly one vertex in $S_1$, one vertex in $V_1 \setminus S$, and one vertex in $[n] \setminus V_1$.
- $H_1(3) = H_1 \setminus (H_1(1) \cup H_1(2))$. Hence, $H_1(3)$ contains those hyperedges in $H_1$ with exactly one vertex in $S_2$, one vertex in $V_1 \setminus S$, and one vertex in $[n] \setminus V_1$.

There are three cases needed to be handled.

**Case 1:** $3|H_1(1)| \geq |H_1|$.

Let $J' := J[S] \cup J[V_1 \setminus S]$, where $J[S]$ and $J[V_1 \setminus S]$ are the induced subgraph of $J$ on $S$ and $V_1 \setminus S$ separately. By Lemma 6, $|H_1(1)| \leq |J'| pn \sqrt{\log n} / \log \log n$. For every vertex $x \in S$, $d'(x)$, the degree of $x$ in $J'$, is at most $|S| - 1 \leq \epsilon_3 n / \sqrt{\log n} \leq \epsilon_1 n / \sqrt{\log n}$, by Lemma 16. For every vertex $x \in V_1 \setminus S$, we have $d'(x) \leq d'(x) \leq \epsilon_1 n / \sqrt{\log n}$, by the definition of $S$. Hence, $\Delta(J') \leq \epsilon_1 n / \sqrt{\log n}$. Then, by Lemma 15,

$$|\bar{H}_\pi| \geq \frac{20pn|J'| \sqrt{\log n}}{\log \log n} \geq 20|H_1(1)| \geq 3.3|H_1|.$$ 

**Case 2:** $3|H_1(2)| \geq |H_1|$.

For every vertex $x \in S_1$, there are at most $2pn^2$ hyperedges in $H_1 \setminus H_1(1)$ containing it, by Lemma 4. Hence, $|H_1(2)| \leq 2pn^2 |S_1|$. Then, by Lemma 17,

$$|\bar{H}_\pi| \geq 20pn^2 |S_1| \geq 10|H_1(2)| \geq 3.3|H_1|.$$ 

**Case 3:** $3|H_1(3)| \geq |H_1|$.

By the definition of $S_2$, every vertex $x \in S_2$ has $d_{2,3}^H(x) \leq \epsilon_2 pn^2$. Recall that $\pi$ maximizes $|\bar{H}_\pi|$, so $d_{1,2}^H(x), d_{1,3}^H(x) \leq \epsilon_2 pn^2$. Hence, $|H_1(3)| \leq 2\epsilon_2 pn^2 |S_2|$. Then, by Lemma 18,

$$|\bar{H}_\pi| \geq \frac{1}{20} pn^2 |S_2| \geq \frac{1}{20} \cdot \frac{|H_1(3)|}{2\epsilon_2} \geq 10|H_1(3)| \geq 3.3|H_1|.$$ 

Thus, we have $|\bar{H}_\pi| \geq 3.3|H_1| \geq 3|H_1|$, where the equality is possible only if $|H_1| = 0$. Recalling our assumption that $|H_1| \geq |H_2|, |H_3|$, we have that $|H_1| = 0$ implies $\sum_{i=1}^3 |H_i| = 0$, which means $H$ is tripartite.

**Remark 19.** The log log $n$ factor in Lemma 6 plays an important role in the case $3|H_1(1)| \geq |H_1|$. Without this factor, we would need to conclude $|\bar{H}_\pi| \geq 20pn|J'| \sqrt{\log n}$ from Lemma 15 which we can only obtain when $\Delta(J') \leq \epsilon_1 n / \log^{1/2+c} n$ for some constant $c > 0$. Then, we would need to modify the definition of $S$ to be $\{x \in V_1 : d'(x) \geq \epsilon_1 n / \log^{1/2+c} n\}$. However, the assumption of Lemma 11 is no longer valid for sets $A$ of smaller size. Therefore, we would not be able to use Lemma 11 in the proof of Lemma 17.

14
3.2 \(|\bar{H}_\pi| > \delta pn^3 / \log n\)

All the notation and theorems here are similar to those in Section 3.1 so we will just point out the necessary modifications. Define

\[
S' := \{ x \in V_1 : d^J(x) \geq \varepsilon_1 n \}, \\
S'_1 := \{ x \in S' : d^H_{2,3}(x) \geq \varepsilon_2 pn^2 \}, \quad \text{and} \quad S'_2 := S' \setminus S'_1.
\]

For the following lemmas, we always assume that \(|\bar{H}_\pi| > \delta pn^3 / \log n\) and the assumptions of Proposition 12 hold. Note that by the assumption in Proposition 12, we have \(|H_1|, |H_2|, |H_3| \leq \delta pn^3 / 3\). If \(|\bar{H}_\pi| \geq 3|H_1|\), then we are done, so we can assume that \(|\bar{H}_\pi| < 3|H_1| \leq \delta pn^3\).

**Lemma 20.** With high probability \(|S'| \leq \varepsilon_3 n\).

**Proof.** Inequality (6) still holds, and now we get \(|J| \leq 48 \delta n^2\). Every vertex in \(S'\) has degree at least \(\varepsilon_1 n\) in \(J\), so \(\varepsilon_1 n|S'| \leq 2 \cdot 48 \delta n^2\), which gives \(|S'| \leq \frac{100 \delta n}{\varepsilon_1} = \varepsilon_3 n\). \(\square\)

**Lemma 21.** With high probability \(|\bar{H}_\pi| \geq 20pn^2|S'_1|\).

**Proof.** We can assume that \(|S'_1| \geq 1\), since otherwise this inequality is trivial. For each \(x \in S'_1\), define

\[
T'_x := \{ yz : y \in V_2, z \in V_3, xyz \in H, d_{S'_1 \setminus \{x\}}(y, z) \leq 3\varepsilon_3 pn \}.
\]

By Lemma 20, \(|S'_1| \leq |S'| \leq \varepsilon_3 n\). For every \(s \leq \varepsilon_3 n\), we have \((s, \varepsilon_2 pn^2 / 2, 3 \varepsilon_3 pn) \in O\) (see Claim 27 in the Appendix for the proof). Then by Lemma 9 and the definition of \(S'_1\), we get that \(|T'_x| \geq \frac{1}{2} \varepsilon_2 pn^2\). Now we count those copies of \(\hat{F}_5 = \{ x, w, y, z \} \) where \(x \in S'_1\), \(w \in N^J(x)\), and \((y, z) \in T'_x\). By Lemma 11 the number of such copies of \(\hat{F}_5\) is at least \(\frac{1}{2} \varepsilon_1 \varepsilon_2 pn^2 n^3 |S'_1|\).

Every \(wyz \in \bar{H}_\pi\) can be in at most \(3 \varepsilon_3 pn\) such copies of \(\hat{F}_5\), because \(x\) is assumed to be in \(S'_1\) and \(d_{S'_1}(y, z) \leq 3 \varepsilon_3 pn\). Therefore,

\[
|\bar{H}_\pi| \geq \frac{\frac{1}{2} \varepsilon_1 \varepsilon_2 pn^2 n^3 |S'_1|}{3 \varepsilon_3 pn} \geq 20pn^2|S'_1|.
\]

\(\square\)

**Lemma 22.** With high probability \(|\bar{H}_\pi| \geq \frac{1}{3}pn^2|S'_2|\).

**Proof.** Exactly the same as the proof of Lemma 18. \(\square\)

We are now able to conclude the proof of Proposition 12 for the remaining case that \(\frac{\delta pn^3}{\log n} < |\bar{H}_\pi| \leq \delta pn^3\).

**Proof of Proposition 12.** Similarly to the proof in Section 3.1 we define

\[
H'_1(1) = \{ e \in H_1 : \ |e \cap S'_1| \geq 2 \ \text{or} \ |e \cap (V_1 \setminus S')| \geq 2 \}, \quad H'_1(2) = \{ e \in H_1 \setminus H'_1(1) : \ |e \cap S'_1| = 1 \} \ \text{and} \ \ H'_1(3) = H'_1 \setminus (H'_1(1) \cup H'_1(2)).
\]

15
We still split the proof into three cases. The cases $3|H'_1(2)| \geq |H_1|$ and $3|H'_1(3)| \geq |H_1|$ follow with the same proof as in Section 3.1. For the case $3|H'_1(1)| \geq |H_1|$, now let $J' = J[S'] \cup J[V_1 \setminus S']$. By Lemmas 6 and 8

$$|H'_1(1)| \leq |J'| \cdot 3pn + n^2 e^{-\sqrt{\log n}} \cdot pn \frac{\sqrt{\log n}}{\log \log n}. \tag{8}$$

Recall we have the assumptions that $3|H_1| \geq |\bar{H}_\pi|$, so $3|H'_1(1)| \geq |H_1| \geq \delta pn^3/(3 \log n)$. Hence by (8), we have that $0.99|H'_1(1)| \leq |J'| \cdot 3pn$. Then, by Lemma 20 and the definition of $S'$, we get that $\Delta(J') \leq \varepsilon_1 n$. Finally, by Lemma 15 $|\bar{H}_\pi| \geq 30pn|J'| \geq 9.9|H'_1(1)| \geq 3.3|H_1|$. Thus, similarly as in Section 3.1 we get $|\bar{H}_\pi| \geq 3.3|H_1| \geq 3.3|H_1|$, where the equality is possible only if $H$ is tripartite.

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Appendix: Final computations

Recall that $g(p, s, r, i) = n {n \choose s} \left( \frac{n^2}{p} \right) \left( \frac{p^r}{n^r} \right)$ and $O$ is the set of $(s, r, i)$ such that $g(p, s, r, i) = o(n^{-5})$ given $p > C \sqrt{\log n / n}$. In this appendix, we give the proof for the claims made in the proof of Theorem 1 that certain $(s, r, i)$ is in $O$.

Claim 23. For every positive integer $s \leq \frac{\sqrt{n \log n}}{s}$, $r = \frac{pn}{\sqrt{\log n}}$, and $i = \frac{pn \log \log n}{500\sqrt{\log n}}$, we have $(s, r, i) \in O$.

Proof. We have

$$g(p, s, r, i) = n {n \choose s} \left( \frac{n^2}{p} \right) \left( \frac{p^r}{n^r} \right) \leq n \left( \frac{en}{s} \right)^s \left( \frac{epn^2 \sqrt{\log n}}{\sqrt{s}} \right) \left( \frac{500\epsilon s \sqrt{\log n}}{n \log \log n} \right) \leq n \left( \frac{en}{s} \right)^s \left( \frac{en \sqrt{\log n}}{s} \right) \left( \frac{500\epsilon s \sqrt{\log n}}{n \log \log n} \right) \leq n \left( \frac{en}{s} \right)^s \left( \frac{en \sqrt{\log n}}{s} \right) \left( \frac{500\epsilon s \sqrt{\log n}}{n \log \log n} \right).$$

There are three cases depending on $s$.

Case 1: $1 \leq s \leq \sqrt{n}$. In this case, (9) is at most

$$n (en)^s \left( \frac{en \sqrt{\log n}}{\sqrt{n}} \right) \left( \frac{C \log \log n}{\sqrt{n}} \right) \leq n (en)^s \left( \frac{en}{n} \right) = o(n^{-5}).$$

Case 2: $\sqrt{n} < s < \frac{n}{\log n}$. In this case, we have $\frac{n}{s} \geq n > \left( \frac{500\epsilon s \sqrt{\log n}}{\log \log n} \right)^2$ and then

$$\left( \frac{500\epsilon s \sqrt{\log n}}{n \log \log n} \right) \leq \left( \frac{500\epsilon s \sqrt{\log n}}{n \log \log n} \right)^{\log \log n} \leq \left( \frac{500\epsilon s \sqrt{\log n}}{n \log \log n} \right)^{\frac{1}{2} \log \log n} \leq \left( \frac{500\epsilon s \sqrt{\log n}}{n \log \log n} \right)^{\frac{1}{100}}.$$

Therefore, (9) is at most

$$n \left( \frac{en}{s} \right)^s \left( \frac{en \sqrt{\log n}}{s} \right) \left( \frac{s}{n} \right)^{100} \leq n \left( \frac{en}{s} \right)^s \left( \frac{s}{n} \right)^{\frac{pn \sqrt{\log n}}{s}} \leq n \left( \frac{en}{s} \right)^s \left( \frac{s}{n} \right)^{\frac{pn \sqrt{\log n}}{s}} \leq n \left( \frac{s}{n} \right)^s \leq n \left( \frac{1}{\log n} \right)^{\sqrt{n}} = o(n^{-5}).$$

Case 3: $\frac{n}{\log n} \leq s \leq \frac{\sqrt{n \log n}}{s}$. In this case, (9) is at most

$$n (e \log n)^s \left( e \log^{3/2} n \left( \frac{500\epsilon s \sqrt{\log n}}{\log \log n} \right) \right) \leq n (e \log n)^s \left( \left( \frac{1}{\log \log n} \right) \right) \leq n \left( \frac{1}{\log n} \right)^s \leq n \left( \frac{1}{\log n} \right)^{\frac{pn \sqrt{\log n}}{s}} = o(n^{-5}).$$
Claim 24. For every positive integer \( s \in (\frac{\varepsilon_1 n}{\sqrt{\log n}}, \varepsilon_1 n] \), \( r = \frac{pm}{500} s \), and \( i = 3\varepsilon_1 pn \), we have \((s, r, i) \in O\).

Proof. We have that \( g(p, s, r, i) \) is

\[
n \left( \frac{n}{s} \right) \left( \frac{n^2}{pm^2} \right) \left( \frac{p^3}{3\varepsilon_1 pn} \right)^{\frac{pm}{500} s} \leq n \left( \frac{en}{s} \right)^s \left( \frac{500pn^2}{pns} \right)^{\frac{pm}{500} s} \leq n \left( e^{\sqrt{\log n}} \right)^s \left( \frac{500\sqrt{\log n}}{\varepsilon_1} \right)^s \left( \frac{3\varepsilon_1 C\sqrt{\log n}}{\varepsilon_1} \right) \leq n^2 \leq n^{2-\frac{\varepsilon_1 n}{\sqrt{\log n}}} = o(n^{-5}).
\]

\( \square \)

Claim 25. For every positive integer \( s \leq n \), we have \((s, \frac{pm^2}{\log n}, 3pn) \in O\).

Proof. We have that \( g(p, s, r, i) \) is

\[
n \left( \frac{n}{s} \right) \left( \frac{n^2}{pm^2} \right) \left( \frac{p^3}{3\varepsilon_1 pn} \right)^{\frac{pm^2}{\log n}} \leq n^2 \left( \frac{n^2}{pm^2} \right) \left( \frac{p^3}{3\varepsilon_1 pn} \right)^{\frac{pm^2}{\log n}} \leq n^2 \left( e^{\log n} \right)^s \left( \frac{e}{3} \right)^{3pn} \frac{Cn}{\sqrt{\log n}} = n^2 \left( \frac{e}{3} \right)^{3pn} Cn = o(n^{-5}).
\]

\( \square \)

Claim 26. For every positive integer \( s \leq \frac{\varepsilon_3 pn}{\sqrt{\log n}} \), we have \((s, \frac{\varepsilon_3 pn}{2}, 3\varepsilon_3 pn) \in O\).

Proof. We have that \( g(p, s, r, i) \) is

\[
n \left( \frac{n}{s} \right) \left( \frac{n^2}{2\varepsilon_2 pn^2} \right) \left( \frac{p^{3\varepsilon_3 pn}}{3\varepsilon_3 pn} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}\varepsilon_2 pn^2} \leq n \left( \frac{n}{\varepsilon_3 pn^2} \right) \left( \frac{n^2}{2\varepsilon_2 pn^2} \right) \left( \frac{p^{3\varepsilon_3 pn}}{3\varepsilon_3 pn} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}\varepsilon_2 pn^2} \leq n \left( e^{\sqrt{\log n}} \right)^{\varepsilon_3 pn} \left( \frac{2e\varepsilon_3 pn}{\varepsilon_3 pn^2} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}\varepsilon_2 pn^2} \leq n \left( e^{\sqrt{\log n}} \right)^{\varepsilon_3 pn} \left( \frac{2e}{\varepsilon_3} \right)^{\frac{3\varepsilon_3 pn}{\sqrt{\log n}}} \leq n \left( e^{\sqrt{\log n}} \right)^{\varepsilon_3 pn} 2^{-\frac{1}{2}\varepsilon_2 pn^2} \leq n \left( e^{\sqrt{\log n}} \right)^{\varepsilon_3 pn} 2^{-\frac{1}{2}\varepsilon_2 Cn\sqrt{\log n}} = o(n^{-5}).
\]

\( \square \)

Claim 27. For every positive integer \( s \leq \varepsilon_3 n \), we have \((s, \frac{\varepsilon_3 pn^2}{2}, 3\varepsilon_3 pn) \in O\).
Proof. We have that \( g(p, s, r, i) \) is

\[
n\left(\begin{array}{c} n \\ s \end{array}\right) \left(\begin{array}{c} n^2 \\ \frac{1}{2} s p n^2 \end{array}\right) \left( p \left(\begin{array}{c} s \\ 3 s p n^3 \end{array}\right) p^{3 s p n^3} \right)^{\frac{1}{2} s p n^2} \leq n\left(\begin{array}{c} n \\ \varepsilon n \end{array}\right) \left(\begin{array}{c} n^2 \\ \frac{1}{2} s p n^2 \end{array}\right) \left( p \left(\begin{array}{c} \varepsilon n \\ 3 s p n^3 \end{array}\right) p^{3 s p n^3} \right)^{\frac{1}{2} s p n^2}
\]

\[
\leq n\left(\begin{array}{c} e n \\ \varepsilon n \end{array}\right)^{\varepsilon n} \left(\begin{array}{c} 2 e p n^2 \\ \varepsilon n \frac{e n}{3 s p n^3} \end{array}\right)^{\frac{1}{2} s p n^2} = n\left(\begin{array}{c} e \\ \varepsilon \end{array}\right)^{\varepsilon n} \left(\begin{array}{c} 2 e \\ \varepsilon \end{array}\right)^{\varepsilon n} \left(\begin{array}{c} e \varepsilon n \frac{e n}{3 s p n^3} \end{array}\right)^{\frac{1}{2} s p n^2}
\]

\[
\leq n^{2 - n^{\sqrt{\log n}}} = o(n^{-5}).
\]