# Luby's Maximal Independent Set Algorithm



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- A distributed algorithm to compute a Maximal Independent Set (MIS)
- Runs in time  $O(\log d \cdot \log n)$  with high probability (w.h.p.), where d is the maximum degree of G.
- Asymptotically better than the algorithm of the previous lecture (which required  $O(d \log n)$  time, w.h.p.).



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- Find  $\mathcal{I}_k$ .
- $G_{k+1}$  is obtained by deleting the vertices in  $\mathcal{I}_k$  and their neighbors  $N(\mathcal{I}_k)$  from  $G_k$



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If v is a singleton, v always elects itself.

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### Luby's Algoritm: Finding $\mathcal{I}_k$



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The remaning nodes form the independent set  $\mathcal{I}_k$ 

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At least one neighbor of v enters  $\mathcal{I}_k$  (i.e.,  $\mathcal{I}_k \cap N(v) \neq \emptyset$ )

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**Lemma 1**: With probability at least  $1 - e^{-\frac{d(v)}{2\tilde{d}(v)}}$ , at least one neighbor of v elects itself. Where  $\tilde{d}(v) = \max_{z_i \in N(v)} d(z_i)$  is the maximum degree among the neighbors of v.



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#### **Proof:**

The probability of the complementary event (no neighbor of v elects itself) is:

$$\prod_{z_i \in N(v)} (1 - p(z_i))$$

(Recall that elections are independent)

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$$\begin{split} \prod_{z_i \in N(v)} (1 - p(z_i)) &= \prod_{z_i \in N(v)} \left( 1 - \frac{1}{2d(z_i)} \right) \le \prod_{z_i \in N(v)} \left( 1 - \frac{1}{2\widetilde{d}(v)} \right) \\ &= \left( 1 - \frac{1}{2\widetilde{d}(v)} \right)^{d(v)} = \left( 1 - \frac{1}{2\widetilde{d}(v)} \right)^{2\widetilde{d}(v) \cdot \frac{d(v)}{2\widetilde{d}(v)}} \\ &< e^{-\frac{d(v)}{2\widetilde{d}(v)}}. \end{split}$$

**Lemma 2**: If some neighbor of v elects itself, then some neighbor z of v belongs to  $\mathcal{I}_k$  with probability at least  $\frac{1}{2}$ .

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Among the neighbors of v that elected themselves, let z be the one with the highest degree d(z).



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Among the neighbors of v that elected themselves, let z be the one with the highest degree d(z).

In case of ties, break them using the chosen tie-breaking scheme



**Lemma 2**: If some neighbor of v elects itself, then some neighbor z of v belongs to  $\mathcal{I}_k$  with probability at least  $\frac{1}{2}$ .

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Only the neighbors of z that are not neighbors v can prevent z from joining  $\mathcal{I}_k$ .

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For a neighbor w of z to defeat z, it must have  $d(w) \ge d(z)$ .

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This is just some constant  $c \approx 0.39$ 

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A: At most:  $(1-c)^{\phi}$  $(1-c)^{\phi} = (1-c)^{3\log_{1-c}\frac{1}{n}} = (1-c)^{\log_{1-c}\frac{1}{n^3}} = \frac{1}{n^3}$ 

Thus, after  $3\log_{1-c}\frac{1}{n}$  phases, the probability that:

- v did not disappear; and
- the degree of v is still above  $\frac{d_k}{2}$ ;

is at most  $\frac{1}{n^3}$ .

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The probability that after  $3 \log_{1-c} \frac{1}{n}$  phases there is **at least** one node with degree larger than  $\frac{d_k}{2}$  is at most:

$$n \cdot \frac{1}{n^3} = \frac{1}{n^2}$$

In other words:

Every  $3 \log_{1-c} \frac{1}{n}$  phases the maximum degree of the graph **halves** with probability at least  $1 - \frac{1}{n^2}$ .

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*MIS forms in*  $O(\log d \cdot \log n)$  *phases with probability at least*  $1 - \frac{1}{n}$ .

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- Total time:
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 $O(\log d \cdot \log n)$ O(1) $O(\log d \cdot \log n)$  $\geq 1 - \frac{1}{n}$