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# Two remarks on graph norms

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## TWO REMARKS ON GRAPH NORMS

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ABSTRACT. For a graph H, its homomorphism density in graphs naturally extends to the space of two-variable symmetric functions W in  $L^p$ ,  $p \ge e(H)$ , denoted by t(H, W). One may then define corresponding functionals  $||W||_H := |t(H, W)|^{1/e(H)}$  and  $||W||_{r(H)} := t(H, |W|)^{1/e(H)}$  and say that H is (semi-)norming if  $||.||_H$  is a (semi-)norm and that H is weakly norming if  $||.||_{r(H)}$  is a norm.

We obtain two results that contribute to the theory of (weakly) norming graphs. Firstly, answering a question of Hatami, who estimated the modulus of convexity and smoothness of  $\|.\|_H$ , we prove that  $\|.\|_{r(H)}$  is not uniformly convex nor uniformly smooth, provided that H is weakly norming. Secondly, we prove that every graph H without isolated vertices is (weakly) norming if and only if each component is an isomorphic copy of a (weakly) norming graph. This strong factorisation result allows us to assume connectivity of H when studying graph norms. In particular, we correct an error in the original statement of the aforementioned theorem by Hatami.

## §1. INTRODUCTION

One of the cornerstones of the theory of quasirandomness, due to Chung–Graham– Wilson [1] and to Thomason [11], is that a graph is quasirandom if and only if it admits a random-like count for any even cycle. A modern interpretation of this phenomenon is that the even cycle counts are essentially equivalent to the Schatten–von Neumann norms on the space of two variable symmetric functions, which are the natural limit object of large dense graphs. Indeed, Lovász [9] asked the natural question whether other graph counts can also induce a similar norm, which motivated Hatami's pioneering work [5] in the area. Since then, graph norms have been an important concept in the theory of graph limits and received considerable attention. For instance, Conlon and the third author [3] obtained a large class of graph norms, Kráľ, Martins, Pach, and Wrochna [7] proved that edge-transitive non-norming graphs exist, and very recently, the first author with Doležal, Grebík, Rocha, and Rozhoň [4] linked graph norms to the so-called step Sidorenko property.

The current note contributes further to this emerging theory of graph norms. We recall the basic definitions given in Hatami's work [5] with slight modifications taken from [8]. Let  $\Omega$  be an arbitrary standard Borel space with an atomless probability measure  $\nu$ . Whenever we consider a subset of  $\Omega$ , we tacitly assume that it is measurable. We denote by  $\mathcal{W}$  the linear space of all bounded symmetric measurable functions  $W : \Omega^2 \to \mathbb{R}$ . Also let  $\mathcal{W}_{\geq 0} \subseteq \mathcal{W}$  be the set of non-negative functions in  $\mathcal{W}$ . Recall that functions in  $\mathcal{W}_{\geq 0}$  that are bounded above by 1 are called *graphons*, and arise as limits of graph sequences [10]. Let H be a graph on the vertex set  $\{v_1, \ldots, v_n\}$ . Given a symmetric measurable real-valued function W on  $\Omega^2$ , set

$$t(H,W) := \int_{x_1 \in \Omega} \dots \int_{x_n \in \Omega} \prod_{\{v_i, v_j\} \in E(H)} W(x_i, x_j) \ d\nu^{\otimes n} .$$
(1.1)

Let  $\mathcal{W}_H$  (resp.  $\mathcal{W}_{r(H)}$ ) be the set of those symmetric measurable functions  $W : \Omega^2 \to \mathbb{R}$ for which |t(H, W)| (resp. t(H, |W|)) is defined and is finite. Obviously,  $\mathcal{W}_H$  is a subspace of  $\mathcal{W}_{r(H)}$ , and Hölder's inequality immediately proves that  $L^p(\Omega^2)$  is contained in  $\mathcal{W}_{r(H)}$ whenever  $p \ge e(H)$ .

We then say that H is (semi-)norming if  $\|\cdot\|_H := |t(H,\cdot)|^{1/e(H)}$  is a (semi-)norm on  $\mathcal{W}_H$ . Likewise, we say that H is weakly norming if  $\|\cdot\|_{r(H)} := t(H, |\cdot|)^{1/e(H)}$  is a norm on  $\mathcal{W}_{r(H)}$ . Since  $\mathcal{W}$  is a dense subset of the Banach space<sup>1</sup> ( $\mathcal{W}_H, \|\cdot\|_H$ ), this definition does not depend on whether we work in the Banach space ( $\mathcal{W}, \|\cdot\|_H$ ) or ( $\mathcal{W}_H, \|\cdot\|_H$ ). Analogously, in the definition of weakly norming property,  $\mathcal{W}_{r(H)}$  can be replaced by  $\mathcal{W}$ .

In what follows, we shall give short proofs of two results concerning (weakly) norming graphs. Firstly, we study basic geometric properties of the space  $(\mathcal{W}_{r(H)}, \|\cdot\|_{r(H)})$ . The definitions of uniform smoothness and uniform convexity will be precisely given in the next section.

**Theorem 1.1.** Let H be a weakly norming graph. Then the normed space  $(\mathcal{W}_{r(H)}, \|\cdot\|_{r(H)})$  is not uniformly smooth nor uniformly convex.

This answers a question of Hatami, who proved that  $(\mathcal{W}, \|\cdot\|_H)$  is uniformly smooth and uniformly convex whenever H is seminorming and asked for a counterpart of his theorem for weakly norming graphs.

Theorem 1.1 not only answers a natural question arising from a functional-analytic perspective, but is also meaningful in the theory of quasirandomness. In [4], Hatami's theorem about uniform convexity and smoothness (see Theorem 2.2 for a precise statement) is the key ingredient in proving that every norming graph has the 'step forcing property'. By inspecting the proof in [4], one may see that the same conclusion for weakly norming graphs H (except forests) could also be obtained if  $\|\cdot\|_{r(H)}$  defined a uniformly convex space. However, Theorem 1.1 proves that such a modification is impossible.

Secondly, we prove a strong 'factorisation' result for disconnected weakly norming graphs.

**Theorem 1.2.** A graph H is weakly norming if and only if all its non-singleton connected components are isomorphic and weakly norming. The same statement with weakly norming replaced by either seminorming or norming also holds.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>By the topological equivalence between the cut norm and graph norms (see, for instance, Section 5.2 in [3]) and compactness of  $\mathcal{W}$  under the cut norm,  $\|\cdot\|_{r(H)}$  and  $\|\cdot\|_{H}$  also define Banach spaces.

The 'if' direction is obvious, since  $|t(H, W)|^{1/e(H)} = |t(H', W)|^{1/e(H')}$  whenever  $W \in \mathcal{W}$ and H is a vertex-disjoint union of copies of H' and an arbitrary number of isolated vertices, but the converse is non-trivial.

Theorem 1.2 corrects a number of errors that assume connectivity of graphs without stating it, which in fact appeared in multiple papers on graph norms including Hatami's work [5]. We also remark that for Sidorenko's conjecture, a major open problem in extremal combinatorics, even a weak factorisation result — such as each component of a graph satisfying the conjecture again satisfies it — is unknown, even though weakly norming graphs satisfy the conjecture. In fact, Conlon and the third author [2, Corollary 1.3] proved that the weak factorisation result, if it exists, implies the full conjecture.

#### §2. Moduli of convexity and smoothness

We begin by recalling the definitions of moduli of convexity and moduli of smoothness of a normed space.

**Definition 2.1.** Let  $(X, \|\cdot\|)$  be a normed space. The modulus of convexity of X is a function  $\mathfrak{d}_X : (0, 2] \to \mathbb{R}$  defined by

$$\mathfrak{d}_X(\varepsilon) := \inf \left\{ 1 - \left\| \frac{x+y}{2} \right\| : x, y \in X, \|x-y\| \ge \varepsilon, \|x\| = \|y\| = 1 \right\}.$$
(2.1)

The modulus of smoothness of X is a function  $\mathfrak{s}_X : (0,\infty) \to \mathbb{R}$  defined by

$$\mathfrak{s}_X(\varepsilon) := \sup\left\{\frac{1}{2}\left(\|x+y\| + \|x-y\| - 2\right) : x, y \in X, \|x\| = 1, \|y\| = \varepsilon\right\}.$$
 (2.2)

The normed space  $(X, \|\cdot\|)$  is uniformly convex if  $\mathfrak{d}_X(\varepsilon) > 0$  for each  $\varepsilon > 0$  and is uniformly smooth if  $\lim_{\varepsilon \searrow 0} \frac{\mathfrak{s}_X(\varepsilon)}{\varepsilon} = 0$ . For convenience, we write  $\mathfrak{d}_H$ ,  $\mathfrak{s}_H$ ,  $\mathfrak{d}_{r(H)}$  and  $\mathfrak{s}_{r(H)}$ instead of  $\mathfrak{d}_{W_H}$ ,  $\mathfrak{s}_{W_H}$ ,  $\mathfrak{d}_{W_{r(H)}}$  and  $\mathfrak{s}_{W_{r(H)}}$ , respectively.

Hatami [5] determined  $\mathfrak{d}_H$  and  $\mathfrak{s}_H$  for connected norming graphs H up to a multiplicative constant by relating them to the moduli of convexity and of smoothness of  $\ell^p$ -spaces, which are well-understood.

**Theorem 2.2** (Theorem 2.16 in [5]). For each  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ , there exist constants  $C_m, C'_m > 0$ such that the following holds: let H be a connected seminorming graph with m edges. Then the Banach space  $(\mathcal{W}_H, \|\cdot\|_H)$  satisfies  $C_m \cdot \mathfrak{d}_{\ell^m} \leq \mathfrak{d}_H \leq \mathfrak{d}_{\ell^m}$  and  $\mathfrak{s}_{\ell^m} \leq \mathfrak{s}_H \leq C'_m \cdot \mathfrak{s}_{\ell^m}$ .

Since for each  $p \in (1, +\infty)$ , it is well-known that the  $\ell^p$ -space is uniformly convex and uniformly smooth, one obtains the following.

**Corollary 2.3.** Let *H* be a connected seminorming graph. Then the Banach space  $(\mathcal{W}_H, \|\cdot\|_H)$  is uniformly convex and uniformly smooth.

The connectivity of H in Theorem 2.2 was in fact neglected in the original statement in [5], but it is certainly necessary. For example, by taking a disjoint union of two isomorphic norming graphs with m/2 edges (assume m is even), one obtains another norming graph with m edges that gives exactly the same norm, whose correct parameters in Theorem 2.2 are  $\mathfrak{d}_H = \Theta(\mathfrak{d}_{\ell m/2})$  and  $\mathfrak{s}_H = \Theta(\mathfrak{s}_{\ell m/2})$ . Indeed, in Theorem 4.1 below we obtain a general statement without assuming connectivity by using Theorem 1.2. But first, let us point out the subtle error in [6] causes that the proof of Theorem 2.2 does not work for disconnected graphs. This error lies in proving  $\mathfrak{d}_H \leq \mathfrak{d}_{\ell m}$  and  $\mathfrak{s}_{\ell m} \leq \mathfrak{s}_H$  by claiming that the Banach space  $(\mathcal{W}_H, \|\cdot\|_H)$  contains a subspace isomorphic to  $(\ell^m, \|\cdot\|_m)$ . Here we give a full proof of the claim, which in turn reveals where the connectivity of H is used. To this end, we introduce the following notation, which will also be useful in Section 3.

**Definition 2.4.** Let  $\Omega$  be partitioned as  $\Omega = \Omega_1 \sqcup \Omega_2 \sqcup \ldots$  with countably many parts such that  $\nu(\Omega_i) = 2^{-i}$  for every  $i \in \mathbb{N}$ . For each  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $\gamma > 0$ , and  $\mathbf{a} = (a_1, a_2, \ldots) \in \ell^m$ ,  $W_{\gamma,\mathbf{a}}$  denotes the function satisfying  $W_{\gamma,\mathbf{a}}(x,y) = 2^{i\gamma} \cdot a_i$  whenever  $(x,y) \in \Omega_i^2$  and  $W_{\gamma,\mathbf{a}} = 0$ outside  $\bigcup_i \Omega_i^2$ .

Suppose that H is a norming graph with n vertices and m edges. In particular this implies that m is even (see [8, Exercise 14.8]). The map  $\mathbf{a} \mapsto W_{\frac{n}{m},\mathbf{a}}$  is linear, and thus, proving that this map preserves the respective norms is enough to conclude that the subspace spanned by  $W_{\frac{n}{m},\mathbf{a}}$  is isomorphic to  $\ell^m$ . For each  $\mathbf{a} = (a_1, a_2, \ldots) \in \ell^m$ ,

$$\|\mathbf{a}\|_{m}^{m} = \sum_{i} a_{i}^{m} = \sum_{i} \frac{1}{2^{in}} \cdot (2^{in/m} \cdot a_{i})^{m} = t(H, W_{\frac{n}{m}, \mathbf{a}}).$$

Indeed, if  $x_1, \ldots, x_n$  do not fall into any single  $\Omega_i$ , connectedness of H implies that the product in (1.1) evaluates to 0. Otherwise, if  $(x_1, \ldots, x_n) \in \Omega_i^n$  for some  $i \in \mathbb{N}$ , then  $\nu^{\otimes n}(\Omega_i^n) = \frac{1}{2^{in}}$  and the product in (1.1) evaluates to constant  $(2^{in/m} \cdot a_i)^m$ , which proves the last equality. This is exactly where the proof of the claim relies on H being connected.

Now, turning to weakly norming graphs, Theorem 1.1 is a direct consequence of the following result.

**Theorem 2.5.** Let H be a weakly norming graph. Then for each  $\varepsilon \in (0, 1)$ ,

(a) 
$$\mathfrak{d}_{r(H)}(\varepsilon) = 0$$
, and  
(b)  $\mathfrak{s}_{r(H)}(\varepsilon) \ge \frac{1}{2}\varepsilon$ .

For the proof, we introduce a random graphon model that generalises graphon representations of the Erdős–Rényi random graph. Let  $\mathcal{D}$  be a probability distribution on [0, 1] and let  $\Omega = \Omega_1 \sqcup \ldots \sqcup \Omega_n$  be an arbitrary partition of  $\Omega$  into sets of measure  $\frac{1}{n}$ . Denote by  $\mathbb{U}(n, \mathcal{D})$ the random graphon obtained by assigning a constant value generated independently at random by the distribution  $\mathcal{D}$  on each  $(\Omega_i \times \Omega_j) \cup (\Omega_j \times \Omega_i), 1 \leq i \leq j \leq n$ . Although  $\mathbb{U}(n, \mathcal{D})$  depends on the partition  $\Omega_1 \sqcup \ldots \sqcup \Omega_n$ , we shall suppress the dependency parameter as different  $\mathbb{U}(n, \mathcal{D})$ 's are 'isomorphic' in the sense that there exists a measure-preserving bijection that maps one partition to the other. We use the term *asymptotically almost surely*, or *a.a.s.* for short, in the standard way, i.e., a property  $\mathcal{P}$  of  $\mathbb{U}(n, \mathcal{D})$  holds a.a.s. if the probability that  $\mathcal{P}$  occurs tends to 1 as  $n \to \infty$ . We write  $a = b \pm \epsilon$  if and only if  $a \in [b - \epsilon, b + \epsilon]$ .

**Proposition 2.6.** Let  $\mathcal{D}$  be a probability distribution on [0,1] and let  $d = \mathbb{E}[\mathcal{D}]$ . Then for any fixed graph H,  $U \sim \mathbb{U}(n, \mathcal{D})$  satisfies  $t(H, U) = d^{e(H)} \pm o_n(1)$  a.a.s.

We omit the proof, as it is a straightforward application of the standard concentration inequalities to subgraph densities in Erdős–Rényi random graphs (see, for example, [8, Corollary 10.4]).

Proof of Theorem 2.5. Throughout the proof, we briefly write  $\|\cdot\|_{r(H)} = \|\cdot\|$ . For  $x \in [0, 1]$ , denote by  $\mathbf{1}\{x\}$  the Dirac measure on x. Set

$$\mathcal{D}_1 := \frac{1}{2} \cdot \mathbf{1}\{0\} + \frac{1}{2} \cdot \mathbf{1}\{1\}$$

Let  $U_1$  and  $U_2$  be two independent copies of  $\mathbb{U}(n, \mathcal{D}_1)$ . Proposition 2.6 then implies a.a.s.

$$||U_i|| = t(H, U_i)^{1/e(H)} = \frac{1}{2} \pm o_n(1), \text{ for } i = 1, 2.$$
 (2.3)

For each i = 1, 2, let  $U_i^* := \frac{1}{2\|U_i\|} \cdot U_i$  be the normalisation of  $U_i$  that satisfies  $\|U_i^*\| = \frac{1}{2}$ . Then the triangle inequality together with (2.3) implies

$$|U_i^* - U_i|| \le \left| ||U_i^*|| - ||U_i|| \right| = o_n(1) .$$
(2.4)

Since the random graphon  $|U_1 - U_2|$  is also distributed like  $\mathbb{U}(n, \mathcal{D}_1)$ , we again have  $||U_1 - U_2|| = \frac{1}{2} \pm o_n(1)$  a.a.s. Thus, by the triangle inequality and (2.4),  $2U_1^*$  and  $2U_2^*$  are two symmetric functions with  $||2U_1^*|| = ||2U_2^*|| = 1$  whose linear combination is always close to the corresponding one of  $U_1$  and  $U_2$ , i.e., for any fixed  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}$ ,

$$\left| \left\| \alpha U_1 + \beta U_2 \right\| - \left\| \alpha U_1^* + \beta U_2^* \right\| \right| \le |\alpha| \left\| U_1 - U_1^* \right\| + |\beta| \left\| U_2 - U_2^* \right\| = o_n(1).$$
(2.5)

In particular,  $\alpha = 2$  and  $\beta = -2$  give  $||2U_1^* - 2U_2^*|| \ge ||2U_1 - 2U_2|| - o_n(1) = 1 \pm o_n(1)$ . That is,  $2U_1^*$  and  $2U_2^*$  are points on the unit sphere that are 'far' apart. Setting  $\alpha = \beta = 1$  in (2.5) gives  $||U_1 + U_2|| - ||U_1^* + U_2^*|| = o_n(1)$ , and therefore, for any  $0 < \varepsilon < 1$ ,

$$\mathfrak{d}_{r(H)}(\varepsilon) \leq 1 - \left\|\frac{2U_1^* + 2U_2^*}{2}\right\| = 1 - \left\|\frac{2U_1 + 2U_2}{2}\right\| \pm o_n(1).$$
 (2.6)

Now let

$$\mathcal{D}_2 := \frac{1}{4} \cdot \mathbf{1}\{0\} + \frac{1}{2} \cdot \mathbf{1}\{\frac{1}{2}\} + \frac{1}{4} \cdot \mathbf{1}\{1\}.$$

Then, since  $\frac{1}{2}(U_1+U_2)$  has distribution  $\mathbb{U}(n, \mathcal{D}_2)$  and  $\mathbb{E}[\mathcal{D}_2] = \frac{1}{2}$ , we have by Proposition 2.6 a.a.s.  $||U_1 + U_2|| = 1 \pm o_n(1)$ . Substituting this into (2.6) proves that the modulus of convexity of  $|| \cdot ||$  is 0 for each  $\varepsilon \in (0, 1)$ . For  $\varepsilon \in (0, 1)$  given in (b), let

$$\mathcal{D}_3 := \frac{1}{4} \big( \mathbf{1}\{0\} + \mathbf{1}\{\varepsilon\} + \mathbf{1}\{1 - \varepsilon\} + \mathbf{1}\{1\} \big) \text{ and } \mathcal{D}_4 := \frac{1}{4} \big( \mathbf{1}\{0\} + \mathbf{1}\{\frac{\varepsilon}{2}\} + \mathbf{1}\{\frac{1}{2}\} + \mathbf{1}\{\frac{1+\varepsilon}{2}\} \big).$$

The distributions of  $|U_1 - \varepsilon U_2|$  and  $\frac{1}{2} |U_1 + \varepsilon U_2|$  are  $\mathbb{U}(n, \mathcal{D}_3)$  and  $\mathbb{U}(n, \mathcal{D}_4)$ , respectively. As  $\mathbb{E}[\mathcal{D}_3] = \frac{1}{2}$  and  $\mathbb{E}[\mathcal{D}_4] = \frac{1+\varepsilon}{4}$ , Proposition 2.6 yields that, a.a.s.,  $||2U_1 - 2\varepsilon U_2|| = 1 \pm o_n(1)$ and  $||2U_1 + 2\varepsilon U_2|| = 1 + \varepsilon \pm o_n(1)$ . Therefore, by (2.5),  $||2U_1^* - 2\varepsilon U_2^*|| = 1 \pm o_n(1)$  and  $||2U_1^* + 2\varepsilon U_2^*|| = 1 + \varepsilon \pm o_n(1)$  a.a.s. Hence, substituting  $2U_1^*$  and  $2\varepsilon U_2^*$  into (2.2) gives

$$\mathfrak{s}_X(\varepsilon) \ge \frac{1}{2} \left( \|2U_1^* + 2\varepsilon U_2^*\| + \|2U_1^* - 2\varepsilon U_2^*\| - 2 \right) = \frac{\varepsilon}{2} \pm o_n(1).$$

which proves (b).

# §3. DISCONNECTED (SEMI-)NORMING AND WEAKLY NORMING GRAPHS

To be precise, we expand Theorem 1.2 to two parallel statements, also omitting any isolated vertices from H (this operation does not change  $t(H, \cdot)^{1/e(H)}$ ).

**Theorem 1.2** (Restated). For a graph H without isolated vertices, the following holds:

- (a) A graph H is weakly norming if and only if all connected components of H are isomorphic and weakly norming.
- (b) A graph H is (semi-)norming if and only if all connected component of H are isomorphic and (semi-)norming.

To prove this theorem, we need some basic facts about weakly norming graphs. Given a graph H and a collection  $\mathbf{w} = (W_e)_{e \in E(H)} \in \mathcal{W}^{E(H)}$ , define the **w**-decorated homomorphism density by

$$t(H, \mathbf{w}) := \int_{x_1 \in \Omega} \dots \int_{x_n \in \Omega} \prod_{e=ij \in E(H)} W_e(x_i, x_j)$$

That is, we assign a possibly different  $W_e$  to each  $e \in E(H)$  and are counting such 'multicoloured' copies of H. In particular, if  $W_e = W$  for all  $e \in E(H)$ , we obtain  $t(H, \mathbf{w}) = t(H, W)$ . Hatami [5] observed that the (weakly) norming property is equivalent to a Hölder-type inequality for the decorated homomorphism density.

**Lemma 3.1** (Theorem 2.8 in [5]). Let H be a graph. Then

(a) *H* is weakly norming if and only if, for every  $w \in \mathcal{W}_{\geq 0}^{E(H)}$ ,

$$t(H, \mathbf{w})^{e(H)} \leq \prod_{e \in E(H)} t(H, W_e).$$

(b) H is seminorming if and only if, for every  $w \in \mathcal{W}^{E(H)}$ ,

$$t(H, \mathbf{w})^{e(H)} \leq \prod_{e \in E(H)} |t(H, W_e)|.$$

As the second inequality is more general than the first, it immediately follows that every seminorming graph is weakly norming. Another easy consequence of this characterisation is that, for a weakly norming graph H, its subgraph F, and  $W \in \mathcal{W}_{\geq 0}$ , we have the inequality

$$t(F,W) \le t(H,W)^{e(F)/e(H)}$$
. (3.1)

Indeed, one can easily prove this by setting  $W_e = W$  for  $e \in E(F)$  and  $W_e \equiv 1$  otherwise. For yet another application, we use Lemma 3.1 to prove that a weakly norming graph essentially has no subgraph with larger average degree.

**Lemma 3.2.** Let *H* be a weakly norming graph without isolated vertices and let *F* be its subgraph. Then  $\frac{e(F)}{v(F)} \leq \frac{e(H)}{v(H)}$ .

Proof. We may assume F has no isolated vertices either, as adding isolated vertices only reduces the average degree. Let  $X \subseteq \Omega$  be a subset with  $\nu(X) = 1/2$  and let  $U : \Omega^2 \to [0, 1]$ be the graphon defined by W(x, y) = 1 if  $x, y \in X$  and 0 otherwise. Then, for any graph J without isolated vertices,  $t(J, U) = 2^{-\nu(J)}$ . Choosing  $W_e = U$  for  $e \in E(F)$  and  $W_e \equiv 1$ otherwise for  $\mathbf{w} \in \mathcal{W}_{\geq 0}^{E(H)}$  then gives

$$t(F,U)^{e(H)} = t(H,\mathbf{w})^{e(H)} \le t(H,U)^{e(F)}t(H,1)^{e(H)-e(F)} = t(H,U)^{e(F)}$$

Comparing  $t(F, U)^{e(H)} = 2^{-v(F)e(H)}$  and  $t(H, U)^{e(F)} = 2^{-v(H)e(F)}$  concludes the proof.  $\Box$ 

Remark 3.3. This is reminiscent of [5, Theorem 2.10(i)], which states that  $\frac{e(F)}{v(F)-1} \leq \frac{e(H)}{v(H)-1}$ whenever H is weakly norming and F is a subgraph of H with v(F) > 1. However, this theorem is only true if H is connected and hence also needs to be corrected. To see this, let H be a vertex disjoint union of two copies of  $K_{1,2}$ , which is a norming graph. Then  $\frac{e(H)}{v(H)-1} = 4/5$  but  $\frac{e(F)}{v(F)-1} = 1$  for  $F = K_{1,2}$ .

Suppose now that a weakly norming graph H without isolated vertices consists of two vertex-disjoint subgraphs  $F_1$  and  $F_2$ . If  $e(F_1)/v(F_1) > e(F_2)/v(F_2)$ , then

$$\frac{e(H)}{v(H)} = \frac{e(F_1) + e(F_2)}{v(F_1) + v(F_2)} < \frac{e(F_1)}{v(F_1)},$$

which contradicts to Lemma 3.2. By iterating this, we obtain the following fact.

**Corollary 3.4.** Every component in a weakly norming graph without isolated vertices has the same average degree.

Before proceeding to the next step, we recall some basic facts about  $\ell^p$ -spaces. For  $0 we have <math>\|\cdot\|_p \geq \|\cdot\|_q$ . Furthermore, there exists  $\mathbf{c} \in \ell^{\infty}$  such that

$$\|\mathbf{c}\|_p > \|\mathbf{c}\|_q \,. \tag{3.2}$$

**Lemma 3.5.** In a weakly norming graph H without isolated vertices, every connected component has the same number of edges.

*Proof.* Let  $F_1, \ldots, F_k$  be the connected components of H and let  $\gamma := \frac{v(F_1)}{e(F_1)}$ . By Corollary 3.4,  $\frac{2}{\gamma}$  is the average degree of all  $F_i$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \ldots, k$ . Recall the definition of  $W_{\gamma, \mathbf{a}}$  given in Definition 2.4. For each  $\mathbf{a} = (a_1, a_2, \ldots) \in \ell^{\infty}$  and each connected graph F which also has average degree  $\frac{2}{\gamma}$ , and, say, m edges, we have

$$t(F, |W_{\gamma, \mathbf{a}}|) = \sum_{i} |a_{i}|^{m} = ||\mathbf{a}||_{m}^{m}.$$
(3.3)

Suppose that not all the components have the same number of edges. Let  $p = \min_j e(F_j)$ . We may assume that  $p = e(F_1)$ . Let q > p be the number of edges in a component with more edges than  $F_1$  and let  $\mathbf{c} \in \ell^{\infty}$  be given by (3.2). Define the collection  $\mathbf{w} = (W_e)_{e \in E(H)}$ by  $W_e = |W_{\gamma,\mathbf{c}}|$  for  $e \in E(F_1)$  and  $W_e \equiv 1$  otherwise. Lemma 3.1 then gives

$$t(F_1, |W_{\gamma, \mathbf{c}}|)^{e(H)} = t(H, \mathbf{w})^{e(H)} \leq \prod_{e \in E(H)} t(H, W_e) = t(H, |W_{\gamma, \mathbf{c}}|)^p.$$
(3.4)

Expanding the term  $t(H, |W_{\gamma, c}|)$  on the right-hand side of (3.4) using (3.3) yields

$$t(H, |W_{\gamma, \mathbf{c}}|) = \prod_{j=1}^{k} t(F_j, |W_{\gamma, \mathbf{c}}|) = \prod_{j=1}^{k} \|\mathbf{c}\|_{e(F_j)}^{e(F_j)}$$

On the left-hand side of (3.4), we have by (3.3) that  $t(F_1, |W_{\gamma, \mathbf{c}}|) = \|\mathbf{c}\|_p^p$ . Substituting these back to (3.4) gives

$$\|\mathbf{c}\|_{p}^{p \cdot e(H)} \leqslant \left(\prod_{j=1}^{k} \|\mathbf{c}\|_{e(F_{j})}^{e(F_{j})}\right)^{p}$$

which contradicts to the fact that  $\|\mathbf{c}\|_p \ge \|\mathbf{c}\|_{e(F_j)}$  for each  $j \in [k]$  with at least one of the inequalities being strict.

**Lemma 3.6.** For a weakly norming graph H without isolated vertices, all the components of H are isomorphic.

*Proof.* Suppose that there are at least two non-isomorphic graphs amongst all the components  $F_1, \ldots, F_k$ . By Lemma 3.5 we may assume that all  $F_i$  have the same number of edges, say m. In particular, e(H) = mk. By Theorem 5.29 in [8], there exists a graphon U so that the numbers  $t(F_1, U), \ldots, t(F_k, U)$  are not all equal. We may assume that  $t(F_1, U)$  attains the maximum amongst  $t(F_1, U), \ldots, t(F_k, U)$ . Then we have  $t(H, U) = \prod_{i=1}^k t(F_i, U) < t(F_1, U)^k$ , which contradicts

$$t(F_1, U) \leq t(H, U)^{m/e(H)} = t(H, U)^{1/k}$$

which follows from (3.1).

Proof of Theorem 1.2. Suppose first that H is weakly norming. Let F be the graph given by Lemma 3.6 which is isomorphic to every component of H and let k be the number of components of H. Now enumerate the edges in H by  $(e,i) \in E(F) \times [k]$ , where each (e,i) denotes the edge e in the *i*-th copy of F. Then each  $\mathbf{w} \in \mathcal{W}^{E(H)}$  can be

written as  $(\mathbf{w}_1, \mathbf{w}_2, \dots, \mathbf{w}_k)$ , where  $\mathbf{w}_i = (W_{e,i})_{e \in E(F)}$  such that  $t(H, \mathbf{w}) = \prod_{i=1}^k t(F, \mathbf{w}_i)$ . Let  $\mathbf{u} = (U_e)_{e \in E(F)} \in \mathcal{W}_{\geq 0}^{E(F)}$  be arbitrary. Then Lemma 3.1 together with the choice

$$t(F, \mathbf{u})^{k^2 \cdot e(F)} = t(F, \mathbf{u})^{k \cdot e(H)} = t(H, \mathbf{w})^{e(H)}$$
  
$$\leq \prod_{(e,i) \in E(H)} t(H, W_{e,i}) = \prod_{(e,i) \in E(F) \times [k]} t(F, U_e)^k = \prod_{e \in E(F)} t(F, U_e)^{k^2}.$$
(3.5)

Taking the  $k^2$ -th root proves that F is weakly norming.

 $\mathbf{w}_1 = \mathbf{w}_2 = \ldots = \mathbf{w}_k = \mathbf{u}$ , i.e.,  $W_{e,i} = U_e$ , implies

When *H* is seminorming, we can still apply Lemma 3.6 to obtain a graph *F* isomorphic to each component, since *H* is also weakly norming. Thus, the enumeration  $E(F) \times [k]$  of E(H)and the factorisation  $t(H, \mathbf{w}) = \prod_{i=1}^{k} t(F, \mathbf{w}_i)$  for each  $\mathbf{w} = (\mathbf{w}_1, \mathbf{w}_2, \dots, \mathbf{w}_k) \in \mathcal{W}^{E(H)}$ remain the same. Now let  $\mathbf{u} = (U_f)_{f \in E(F)} \in \mathcal{W}^{E(F)}$  be arbitrary. Then again by taking  $\mathbf{w}_1 = \mathbf{w}_2 = \dots = \mathbf{w}_k = \mathbf{u}$  in Lemma 3.1, we obtain

$$t(F, \mathbf{u})^{k^2 \cdot e(F)} = t(H, \mathbf{w})^{e(H)} \leq \prod_{(e,i) \in E(H)} |t(H, W_{e,i})| = \prod_{e \in E(F)} |t(F, U_e)|^{k^2},$$

which proves that H is seminorming. If H is norming, then  $|t(F, W)| = |t(H, W)|^{1/k}$  must be nonzero for each nonzero  $W \in \mathcal{W}$ . Thus, F is also norming.

# §4. Concluding Remarks

As mentioned in Section 2, Theorem 1.2 yields a full generalisation of Theorem 2.2.

**Theorem 4.1.** For each  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ , there exist constants  $C_m, C'_m > 0$  such that the following holds: let H be a seminorming graph with m edges in each (isomorphic) non-singleton component. Then the Banach space  $(\mathcal{W}_H, \|\cdot\|_H)$  satisfies  $C_m \cdot \mathfrak{d}_{\ell^m} \leq \mathfrak{d}_H \leq \mathfrak{d}_{\ell^m}$  and  $\mathfrak{s}_{\ell^m} \leq \mathfrak{s}_H \leq C'_m \cdot \mathfrak{s}_{\ell^m}$ .

As a consequence, the connectivity condition in Corollary 2.3 can also be removed, i.e.,  $(\mathcal{W}_H, \|\cdot\|_H)$  is always uniformly convex and uniformly smooth whenever H is seminorming.

There is more literature in the area that has been imprecise when it comes to connectivity, but which can be corrected by Theorem 1.2 to hold in full generality. For instance, Exercise 14.7(b) in [8] states that every seminorming graph is either a star or Eulerian, which is true only if the seminorming graph is connected. To correct the statement, we may replace a star by a vertex disjoint union of isomorphic stars by using Theorem 1.2. Likewise, whenever studying properties of graph norms, one can invoke Theorem 1.2 and focus on connected graphs. We finally remark that the theorems used in our proofs have no errors concerning connectivity. In particular, Theorem 2.8 in [5] is still valid regardless of connectivity.

In [7], the *step Sidorenko property* is defined to prove that there exists an edge-transitive graph that is not weakly norming (for the precise definition, we refer to [7]), where the proof

relies on the fact from [8] that every weakly norming graph is step Sidorenko. Moreover, it is shown in [4] that the converse is also true for connected graphs, i.e., every connected step Sidorenko graph is weakly norming. However, Theorem 1.2 proves that the converse no longer holds for disconnected graphs, as a vertex-disjoint union of non-isomorphic step Sidorenko graphs is again step Sidorenko but not weakly norming.

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