FPRAS for computing a lower bound for weighted matching polynomial of graphs

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Abstract

We give a fully polynomial randomized approximation scheme to compute a lower bound for the matching polynomial of any weighted graph at a positive argument. For the matching polynomial of complete bipartite graphs with bounded weights these lower bounds are asymptotically optimal.

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1 Introduction

Let G = (V, E) be an undirected graph, (with no self-loops), on the set of vertices V and the set of edges E. A set of edges $M \subseteq E$ is called a *matching* if no two distinct edges $e_1, e_2 \in M$ have a common vertex. M is called a *k*-matching if #M = k. For $k \in \mathbb{N}$ let $\mathcal{M}_k(G)$ be the set of *k*-matchings in G. $(\mathcal{M}_k(G) = \emptyset \text{ for } k > \lfloor \frac{\#V}{2} \rfloor$.) If #V = 2n is even then an *n*-matching is called a *perfect matching*.

Let $\omega : E \to (0, \infty)$ be a weight function, which associate with edge $e \in E$ a positive weight $\omega(e)$. We call $G_{\omega} = (V, E, \omega)$ a weighted graph. Denote by ι the weight $\iota : E \to \{1\}$. Then G can be identified with G_{ω} .

Let $M \in \mathcal{M}_k(G)$. Then the weight of the matching is defined as $\omega(M) := \prod_{e \in M} \omega(e)$. The total weighted k-matching of G_{ω} is defined:

$$\phi(k,G_{\omega}) := \sum_{M \in \mathcal{M}_k(G)} \omega(M), k \in \mathbb{N}$$

where $\phi(k, G_{\omega}) = 0$ if $\mathcal{M}_k(G) = \emptyset$ for any $k \in \mathbb{N}$. Furthermore we let $\phi(0, G_{\omega}) := 1$. Note that $\phi(k, G_{\iota}) = \#\mathcal{M}_k(G)$, i.e. the number of k-matchings in G for any $k \in \mathbb{N}$. The weighted matching polynomial of G_{ω} is defined by:

$$\Phi(t,G_{\omega}) := \sum_{k=0}^{n} \phi(k,G_{\omega}) t^{n-k}, \quad n = \lfloor \frac{\#V}{2} \rfloor.$$

This polynomial is fundamental in the monomer-dimer model in statistical physics [3, 12], and for $\omega = 1$ in combinatorics. Note that if #V is even then $\Phi(0, G_{\omega})$ is the total weighted perfect matching of G. (Some authors consider the polynomial $t^{\lfloor \frac{\#V}{2} \rfloor} \Phi(t^{-1}, G_{\omega})$ instead of $\Phi(t, G_{\omega})$.) It is known that nonzero roots of a weighted matching polynomial of G are real and negative [12]. Observe that $\Phi(1, G_{\mu})$ the total number monomer-dimer coverings of G.

Let G be a bipartite graph, i.e., $V = V_1 \cup V_2$ and $E \subset V_1 \times V_2$. In the special case of a bipartite graph where $n = \#V_1 = \#V_2$, it is well known that $\phi(n, G)$ is given as perm B(G), the permanent of the incidence matrix B(G)of the bipartite graph G. It was shown by Valiant that the computation of the permanent of a (0, 1) matrix is $\#\mathbf{P}$ -complete [17]. Hence, it is believed that the computation of the number of perfect matching in a general bipartite graph satisfying $\#V_1 = \#V_2$ cannot be polynomial.

In a recent paper Jerrum, Sinclair and Vigoda gave a fully-polynomial randomized approximation scheme (fpras) to compute the permanent of a nonnegative matrix [13]. (See also Barvinok [1] for computing the permanents within a simply exponential factor, and Friedland, Rider and Zeitouni [9] for concentration of permanent estimators for certain large positive matrices.) [13] yields the existence a fpras to compute the total weighted perfect matching in a general bipartite graph satisfying $\#V_1 = \#V_2$. In a recent paper of Levy and the author it was shown that there exists fpras to compute the total weighted k-matchings for any bipartite graph G and any integer $k \in [1, \frac{\#V}{2}]$. In particular, the generating matching polynomial of any bipartite graph G has a fpras. This observation can be used to find a fast computable approximation to the pressure function, as discussed in [8], for certain families of infinite graphs appearing in many models of statistical mechanics, like the integer lattice \mathbb{Z}^d .

The MCMC, (Monte Carlo Markov Chain), algorithm for computing the total weighted perfect matching in a general bipartite graph satisfying $\#V_1 = \#V_2$, outlined in [13], can be applied to estimate the total weighted perfect matchings in a weighted non-bipartite graph with even number of vertices. However the proof in [13], that shows this algorithm is frpas for bipartite graphs, fails for non-bipartite graphs. Similarly, the proof of concentration results given in [9] do not seem to work for non-bipartite graphs. The technique introduced by Barvinok in [1] to estimate the number of weighted perfect matching in bipartite graphs, does extend to the estimate of total weighted perfect matchings in a general non-bipartite graph with even number of vertices, when one uses real or complex Gaussian distribution. (See the discussion in §5.)

In this paper we give a fpras for computing a lower bound $\tilde{\Phi}(t, G_{\omega})$ for the weighted generated function $\Phi(t, G_{\omega})$ for a fixed t > 0. We show that this lower bound has a multiplicative error at most $\exp(N\min(\frac{a^2}{2t}, C_1))$, see (1.7), where a^2 is the maximal weight of edges of G and

$$C_1 = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{\mathbb{R}} \log(x^2) e^{-\frac{x^2}{2}} dx = 1.270362845\dots$$
 (1.1)

These estimates are similar in nature to heuristic computations of Baxter [2], where he showed that his computation for the dimers on \mathbb{Z}^2 lattice are very precise away from only dimer configurations, i.e. perfect matchings. (The results of heuristic computations of Baxter were recently confirmed in [8].) We show that that for the matching polynomial of complete bipartite graphs with weights in $[b^2, a^2], 0 < b \leq a$, this lower bound is asymptotically optimal.

We now describe briefly our technical results. With each weighted graph G_{ω} associate a skew symmetric matrix $A = [a_{ij}]_{i,j=1}^N \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times N}, A^{\top} = -A$, where N := #V, as follows. Identify E with $\langle N \rangle := \{1, \ldots, N\}$, and each edge $e \in E$ with the corresponding unordered pair $(i, j), i \neq j \in \langle N \rangle$. Then $a_{ij} \neq 0$ if and only $(i, j) \in E$. Furthermore for $1 \leq i < j \leq N, (i, j) \in E$ $a_{ij} = \sqrt{\omega((i, j))}$. For $1 \leq i \leq j \leq \mathbb{N}$ let x_{ij} be a set of $\binom{N}{2}$ independent random variables with

$$E x_{ij} = 0, \quad E x_{ij}^2 = 1, \quad 1 \le i \le j \le N.$$
 (1.2)

Let $\mathbf{x} := (x_{11}, \ldots, x_{1N}, x_{22}, \ldots, x_{NN})$. We view \mathbf{x} as a random vector variable with values $\boldsymbol{\xi} = (\xi_{11}, \ldots, \xi_{NN}) \in \mathbb{R}^{\binom{N+1}{2}}$. Let Y_A be the following skew-symmetric random matrix

$$Y_A := [a_{ij} x_{\min(i,j)\max(i,j)}]_{i,j=1}^N \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times N}.$$
 (1.3)

A variation of the Godsil-Gutman estimator [10] states

$$E \det(\sqrt{tI_N + Y_A})) = \Phi(t, G_\omega) \text{ if } N = \#V \text{ is even}, \tag{1.4}$$

$$E \det(\sqrt{t}I_N + Y_A) = \sqrt{t}\Phi(t, G_\omega) \text{ if } N = \#V \text{ is odd.}$$

$$(1.5)$$

for any $t \ge 0$. Here I_N stands for $N \times N$ identity matrix.

We show the concentration of $\log \det(\sqrt{t}I_N + Y_A)$ around

$$\log \tilde{\Phi}(t, G_{\omega}) := \mathcal{E} \log \det(\sqrt{t}I_N + Y_A)$$
(1.6)

using [11]. These concentration results show that $\Phi(t, G_{\omega})$ has a fpras. Jensen inequalities yield that $\tilde{\Phi}(t, G_{\omega}) \leq \Phi(t, G_{\omega})$. Together with an upper estimate we have the following bounds:

$$\frac{1}{N}\log\tilde{\Phi}(t,G_{\omega}) \le \frac{1}{N}\log\Phi(t,G_{\omega}) \le \frac{1}{N}\log\tilde{\Phi}(t,G_{\omega}) + \min(\frac{a^2}{2t},C_1)$$
(1.7)

where $a = \max |a_{ij}|$. The above inequality hold also for t = 0. (For N even and t = 0 this result is due to Barvinok [1, §7].) It is our hope that by refining the techniques we are using one can show that $\Phi(t, G_{\omega})$ has fpras for any t > 0.

2 Preliminary results

Lemma 2.1 Let G = (V, E) be an undirected graph on N vertices. Let $\omega : V \to (0, \infty)$ be a given weight function. Let $A = -A^{\top} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ be the corresponding real skew symmetric matrix defined in §1. Assume that $x_{ij}, i = 1, \ldots, j, j = 1, \ldots, N$ are $\binom{N+1}{2}$ independent random variables, normalized by the conditions (1.2). Let $Y_A \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times N}$ be the skew symmetric real matrix defined by (1.3). Then (1.4-1.5) hold.

Proof. Let $\sqrt{t} = s$. Observe first that det $(sI_N + Y_A)$ is a sum of N! monomials, where each monomial is of degree at most 2 in the variables x_{ij} for i < j and of degree m invariable s. The total degree of each monomial is N. The expected value of such a monomial is zero if at least the degree of one of the variables x_{ij} is one. So it is left to consider the expected value of all monomials, where the degree if each x_{ij} is 0 or 2, which are called nontrivial monomials.

Assume first that N is even. Observe that if a monomial contains s of odd power than it must be linear at least in one x_{ij} . Hence its expected value is zero. Thus $E \det(sI_N + Y_A)$ is a polynomial in s^2 . Consider a nontrivial monomial such that the power of s is N - 2m. Note that this monomial is of the form $\tau s^{N-2m} \prod_{(i,j)\in M} \omega((i,j)) x_{ij}^2$, for some m matching $M \in \mathcal{M}_m$. Here $(-1)^m \tau$ is the sign of the corresponding permutation $\sigma : \langle N \rangle \to \langle N \rangle$. Since $\sigma(i) = j, \sigma(j) = i$ for any edge $(i, j) \in M$, and $\sigma(i) = i$ for all vertices i which are not covered by M we deduce that $\tau = 1$. Hence the expected value of this monomial is $s^{N-2m} \prod_{e \in M} \omega(e)$. This proves (1.4). The identity (1.5) is shown similarly. \Box

Recall the following well known result:

Lemma 2.2 Let $A = -A^{\top} \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times N}$ be a skew symmetric matrix. Then $B := \mathbf{i}A$, where $\mathbf{i} := \sqrt{-1}$, is a hermitian matrix. Arrange the eigenvalues of B in a decreasing order: $\lambda_1(B) \geq \ldots \geq \lambda_N(B)$. Then

$$\lambda_{N-i+1}(B) = -\lambda_i(B) \text{ for } i = 1, \dots, N.$$
(2.1)

In particular

$$\det(\sqrt{t}I_N + A) = \prod_{i=1}^N \sqrt{t + \lambda_i(B)^2}.$$
(2.2)

Proof. Clearly, *B* is hermitian. Hence all the eigenvalues of *B* are real. Arrange these eigenvalues in a decreasing order. So $-\mathbf{i}\lambda_j(B), j = 1, ..., N$ are the eigenvalues of *A*. Since *A* is real valued, the nonzero eigenvalues of *A* must be in conjugate pairs. Hence equality (2.1) holds. Observe next that if $\lambda_k(A) = -\mathbf{i}\lambda_k(B) \neq 0$ then

$$(\sqrt{t} + \lambda_k(A))(\sqrt{t} + \lambda_{N-k+1}(A)) = \sqrt{t + \lambda_k(B)^2}\sqrt{t + \lambda_{N-k+1}(B)^2}$$

As the eigenvalues of $\sqrt{t}I_N + A$ are $\sqrt{t} + \lambda_k(A), k = 1, \dots, N$ we deduce (2.2).

3 Concentration for Gaussian entries

In this section we assume that each x_{ij} is a normalized real Gaussian variable, i.e satisfying (1.2). Recall that a function $f : \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$ is called *Lipschitz* function, or *Lipschtzian*, if there exists $L \in [0, \infty)$ such that $\frac{|f(x)-f(y)|}{|x-y|} \leq L$ for all $x \neq y \in \mathbb{R}$. The smallest possible L for a Lipschitz function is denoted by $|f|_{\mathcal{L}}$. Let $A_N \subset \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$, $\mathbf{i} A_N \subset \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$ denote the set of $N \times N$ real skew symmetric matrices, and the set of $N \times N$ hermitian matrices of the form $\mathbf{i} A, A \in A_N$. With each $A \in A_N$ we associate a weighted graph $G_{\omega} = (V, E, \omega)$, where $V = \langle N \rangle, (i, j) \in V \iff a_{ij} \neq 0, \omega((i, j)) = |a_{ij}|^2$. Denote by $a := \max |a_{ij}|$. To avoid the trivialities we assume that a > 0. Note that a^2 is the maximal weight of the edges in G_{ω} . Let Y_A be the random skew symmetric matrix given by (1.3) and denote by X_A the random hermitian matrix $X_A := \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}}\mathbf{i} Y_A$.

Let $f : \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$ be a Lipschitz function. As in [11] consider the following $F : \mathbf{i} A_N \to \mathbb{R}$ given by the trace formula:

$$F(B) = \operatorname{tr}_N f(B) := \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N f(\lambda_i(B)), \quad B \in \mathbf{i} \mathcal{A}_N.$$

Denote by E $\operatorname{tr}_N(f(X_A))$ the expected value of the function $\operatorname{tr}_N(f(X_A))$. The concentration result [11, Thm 1.1(b)] states:

$$\Pr(|\operatorname{tr}_N(f(X_A)) - \mathbb{E} \operatorname{tr}_N(f(X_A))| \ge r) \le 2e^{-\frac{N^2 r^2}{8a^2 |f|_{\mathcal{L}}^2}}$$
(3.1)

(Recall that the normalized Gaussian distribution satisfies the log Sobolev inequality with c = 1.) We remark that since the entries of X_A are either zero or pure imaginary one can replace the factor 8 in the inequality (3.1) by the factor 2. See for example the results in [15, 8.5].

Lemma 3.1 Let $0 \neq A = [a_{ij}] \in A_N$, $a = \max |a_{ij}|, t \in (0, \infty)$, $x_{ij}, 1 \leq i \leq j \leq N$ be independent Gaussian satisfying (1.2). Let $Y_A \in A_N$ be the random skew symmetric matrix given by (1.3). Then

$$\Pr(|\log \det(\sqrt{t}I_N + Y_A) - E \log \det(\sqrt{t}I_N + Y_A)| \ge Nr) \le 2e^{-\frac{tNr^2}{2a^2}}.$$
 (3.2)

Proof. Let $f_t(x) := \frac{1}{2} \log(\frac{t}{N} + x^2)$. f_t is differentiable and

$$|(f_t)_{\mathcal{L}}| = \max_{x \in \mathbb{R}} |f'_t(x)| = \frac{\sqrt{N}}{2\sqrt{t}}.$$

Apply (3.1) to f_t . Observe that the right-hand side of (3.1) is equal to the right-hand side of (3.2). Use (2.2) to deduce that

$$N \operatorname{tr}_{N}(f_{t}(X_{A})) = \sum_{i=1}^{N} \log \sqrt{\frac{t}{N} + \lambda_{i}(X_{A})^{2}} = \sum_{i=1}^{N} \log \sqrt{\frac{t}{N} + \frac{|\lambda_{i}(Y_{A})|^{2}}{N}}$$
$$= -\frac{1}{2}N \log N + \log \prod_{i=1}^{N} \sqrt{t + |\lambda_{i}(Y_{A})|^{2}} = -\frac{1}{2}N \log N + \log \det(\sqrt{t}I_{N} + Y_{A}).$$

Hence the left-had sides of (3.1) and (3.2) are equivalent.

The following lemma is well known, e.g. [9, p'1566], and we bring its proof for completeness.

Lemma 3.2 Let U be a real random variable with a finite expected value E U. Then $e^{E U} \leq E e^{U}$. Assume that the following condition hold

$$\Pr(U - \operatorname{E} U \ge r) \le 2e^{-Kr^2} \text{for each } r \in (0, \infty) \text{ and some } K > 0.$$
(3.3)

Then

$$e^{E U} \le E e^{U} \le e^{E U} (1 + \frac{2e^{\frac{1}{4K}}}{\sqrt{K\pi}}).$$
 (3.4)

Proof. Since e^u is convex, the inequality $e^{E U} \leq E e^U$ follows from Jensen inequality. Let $\mu := E U$ and $F(u) := \Pr(U \leq u)$ be the cumulative distribution function of U. We claim that

$$E e^{U} \le e^{\mu} + \int_{\mu < u} e^{u} (1 - F(u)) du.$$
 (3.5)

Clearly

$$E e^{U} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{u} dF(u) = \int_{u \le \mu} e^{u} dF(u) + \int_{\mu < u} e^{u} dF(u).$$
(3.6)

Since $e^u \leq e^{\mu}$ for $u \leq \mu$ we deduce that

$$\int_{u \le \mu} e^u dF(u) \le e^\mu F(\mu).$$

We now estimate the second integral in the right-hand side of (3.6). Recall that F(u) is an nondecreasing function continuous from the right satisfying $F(+\infty) = 1$. Hence $e^u(F(u) - 1) \leq 0$ for all $u \in \mathbb{R}$. For any $R > \mu$ use integration by parts to deduce

$$\int_{\mu < u \le R} e^u dF(u) = e^u (F(u) - 1)|_{\mu}^R + \int_{\mu < u \le R} e^u (1 - F(u)) du \le e^\mu (1 - F(\mu)) + \int_{\mu < u} e^s (1 - F(u)) du.$$

 So

$$\int_{\mu < u} e^{u} dF(u) \le e^{\mu} (1 - F(\mu)) + \int_{\mu < u} e^{u} (1 - F(u)) du,$$

and (3.5) holds.

Assume now that (3.3) holds. Thus

$$1 - F(u) = \Pr(U > u) \le 2e^{-K(u-\mu)^2}$$
 for any $u > \mu$.

Hence

$$\int_{\mu < u} e^{u} (1 - F(u)) du \le 2 \int_{\mu < u} e^{u - K(u - \mu)^{2}} du \le 2e^{\mu} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-K(u - \mu - \frac{1}{2K})^{2} + \frac{1}{4K}} du = \frac{2e^{\mu}e^{\frac{1}{4K}}}{\sqrt{K\pi}}.$$

Combine the above inequality with (3.5) to deduce the right-hand side of (3.4).

Corollary 3.3 Let the assumptions of Lemma 3.1 hold. Then

$$\frac{1}{N}\log\tilde{\Phi}(t,G_{\omega}) \leq \frac{1}{N}\log\Phi(t,G_{\omega}) \leq \frac{1}{N}\log\tilde{\Phi}(t,G_{\omega}) + \frac{1}{N}\log(1+\frac{\sqrt{8N}ae^{\frac{a^2N}{2t}}}{\sqrt{\pi t}}).$$

4 FPRAS for computing $\log \tilde{\Phi}(t, G_{\omega})$

Let $B \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times N}$. For $k \in \mathbb{N}$ denote by $\bigoplus_k B \in \mathbb{R}^{kN \times kN}$ the block diagonal matrix $\operatorname{diag}(\underbrace{B, \ldots, B}_{k})$. $(\bigoplus_k B \text{ is a direct sum of } k \text{ copies of } B.)$ Note that if $B \in A_N$ then $\bigoplus_k B \in A_{kN}$. Clearly,

$$\det(sI_{kN} + \oplus_k B) = (\det(sI_N + B))^k \text{ for any } B \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times N} \text{ and } s \in \mathbb{R}.$$
(4.1)

Let $A \in A_N$, and Y_A be the random matrix defined by (1.3). By $Y_A(\boldsymbol{\xi})$ we mean the skew symmetric matrix $[a_{ij}\xi_{\min(i,j)\max(i,j)}]_{i,j=1}^N$, which is a *sampling* of Y_A . Let $x_{ij}, 1 \leq i \leq j \leq kN$ be $\binom{kN+1}{2}$ normal Gaussian independent random variables. Consider the random matrix $Y_{\oplus_k A}$. Then a sampling

$$Y_{\oplus_k A}(\boldsymbol{\xi}), \boldsymbol{\xi} \in \mathbb{R}^{\binom{kN+1}{2}} = \operatorname{diag}(Y_A(\boldsymbol{\xi}_1), \dots, Y_A(\boldsymbol{\xi}_k)), \boldsymbol{\xi}_i \in \mathbb{R}^{\binom{N+1}{2}}, i = 1, \dots, k$$

is equivalent to k sampling of Y_A .

Theorem 4.1 Let $0 \neq A = [a_{ij}] \in A_N$, $a = \max |a_{ij}|, t \in (0, \infty)$, $x_{ij}, 1 \leq i \leq j \leq N$ be independent Gaussian satisfying (1.2). Let $Y_A \in A_N$ be the

random skew symmetric matrix given by (1.3). Let $Y_A(\boldsymbol{\xi}_1), \ldots, Y_A(\boldsymbol{\xi}_k)$ be k samplings of Y_A . Then

$$\Pr(\left|\frac{1}{k}\sum_{i=1}^{k}\log\det(\sqrt{t}I_N + Y_A(\boldsymbol{\xi}_i)) - \log\tilde{\Phi}(t, G_{\omega})\right| \ge Nr) \le 2e^{-\frac{tkNr^2}{2a^2}}.$$
 (4.2)

In particular the inequality

$$\frac{1}{N}\log\tilde{\Phi}(t,G_{\omega}) \le \frac{1}{N}\log\Phi(t,G_{\omega}) \le \frac{1}{N}\log\tilde{\Phi}(t,G_{\omega}) + \frac{a^2}{2t}$$
(4.3)

holds.

Hence an approximation of $\tilde{\Phi}(t,G_{\omega})$ by $(\prod_{i=1}^{k} \det(\sqrt{t}I_{N} + Y_{A}(\boldsymbol{\xi}_{i})))^{\frac{1}{k}}$ is a fully-polynomial randomized approximation scheme.

Proof. Use (4.1) to obtain

$$\log \det(\sqrt{t}I_{kN} + Y_{\oplus_k A}(\boldsymbol{\xi})) = \sum_{i=1}^k \log \det(\sqrt{t}I_N + Y_A(\boldsymbol{\xi}_i))$$

Hence

$$E \log \det(\sqrt{t}I_{kN} + Y_{\oplus_k A}) = kE \log \det((\sqrt{t}I_N + Y_A) = k\log\tilde{\Phi}(t, G_\omega) \quad (4.4)$$

Apply (3.2) to $Y_{\oplus_k A}$ to deduce (4.2). Observe next that

$$E \det(\sqrt{t}I_{kN} + Y_{\oplus_k A}) = E \det((\sqrt{t}I_N + Y_A)^k) = \Phi(t, G_\omega)^k.$$
 (4.5)

Use Lemma 3.2 for the random variable $\log \det(\sqrt{t}I_{kN} + Y_{\oplus_k A})$ to deduce

$$\frac{1}{N}\log\tilde{\Phi}(t,G_{\omega}) \leq \frac{1}{N}\log\Phi(t,G_{\omega}) \leq \frac{1}{N}\log\tilde{\Phi}(t,G_{\omega}) + \frac{1}{kN}\log(1+\frac{\sqrt{8kN}ae^{\frac{a^{2}kN}{2t}}}{\sqrt{\pi t}}).$$

Let $k \to \infty$ to deduce (4.3).

We now show that (4.2) gives for a for computing $\tilde{\Phi}(t, G_{\omega})$ in sense of [14]. Let $\epsilon, \delta \in (0, 1)$. Choose

$$r = \frac{\epsilon}{2N}, \quad k = \lceil \frac{8a^2N\log{\frac{4}{\delta}}}{t\epsilon^2} \rceil.$$

Then

$$\Pr(1-\epsilon < \frac{(\prod_{i=1}^{k} \det(\sqrt{t}I_N + Y_A(\boldsymbol{\xi}_i)))^{\frac{1}{k}}}{\tilde{\Phi}(t, G_{\omega})} < 1+\epsilon) > 1 - \frac{\delta}{2}.$$

Observe next that

$$\Pr(|x_{ij}| > \sqrt{2\log\frac{N^2k}{\delta}}) < \frac{\delta}{N^2k}.$$

Hence with probability $1 - \frac{\delta}{2}$ at least, the absolute of each off-diagonal of $Y_A(\boldsymbol{\xi}_i)$, $i = 1, \ldots, k$ is bounded by $a\sqrt{2\log \frac{N^2k}{\delta}}$. In this case all the entries of $\sqrt{t}I_N + Y_A(\boldsymbol{\xi}_i)$ are polynomial in $a, \sqrt{t}, N, \frac{1}{\epsilon}, \log \frac{1}{\delta}$. The length of the storage of each entry is logarithmic in the above quantities.

Finally observe that we need $O(N^3)$ to compute $\det(\sqrt{t}I_N + Y_A(\boldsymbol{\xi}_i))$. Hence the total number of computations for our estimate is of order

$$t^{-1}a^2N^4\epsilon^{-2}\log\delta^{-1}.$$

The quantity $\frac{1}{N} \log \Phi(t, G_{\omega})$ can be viewed as the exponential growth of $\log \Phi(t, G_{\omega})$ in terms of the number of vertices N of G. Note that since the total number of matching of a graph G is given by $\Phi(1, G_{\iota})$, Theorem 4.1 combined with (1.7) yields that the exponential growth of the computable lower bound $\tilde{\Phi}(1, G_{\iota})$ differs by $\frac{1}{2}$ at most from the exponential growth of $\Phi(1, G_{\iota})$. Note that for complete graphs on 2n, the exponential growth of the number of perfect matching matchings is of order $\log 2n - 1$. For k-regular bipartite graphs on 2n vertices the results of [4, 7] imply the inequality that for n big enough the exponential growth of the total number of matchings is at least $\log k - 1$. Thus for graphs G on 2n vertices containing, bipartite k-regular graphs on 2n vertices, with $k \geq 5$ and n big enough, $\tilde{\Phi}(1, G_{\iota})$ has a positive exponential growth.

5 Another estimate of $\log \Phi(t, G_{\omega}) - \log \tilde{\Phi}(t, G_{\omega})$

Lemma 5.1 Let X be a real Gaussian random variable. Then

$$\log \mathcal{E} X^2 - \mathcal{E} \log X^2 \le C_1, \tag{5.1}$$

where C_1 is given by (1.1). Equality holds if and only if E X = 0.

Proof. Clearly, it is enough to prove the lemma in the case X = Y + a, where Y is a normalized by (1.2) and $a \ge 0$. In that case the left-hand side of (5.1) is equal to

$$g(a) := \log(1+a^2) - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{\mathbb{R}} \log((x+a)^2) e^{-\frac{x^2}{2}} dx.$$

We used the software Maple to show that f(a) is a decreasing function on $[0, \infty)$. So $f(0) = C_1$ and $\lim_{a\to\infty} f(a) = 0$. This proves the inequality (5.1).

Equality holds if and only if X = bY for some $b \neq 0$.

Denote by $S_n \subset \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ the space of $n \times n$ real symmetric matrices. A polynomial $P : \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}$ is of degree 2 if

$$P(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{x}^{\top} Q \mathbf{x} + 2 \mathbf{a}^{\top} \mathbf{x} + b,$$

$$\mathbf{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_n)^{\top}, \mathbf{a} = (a_1, \dots, a_n)^{\top} \in \mathbb{R}^n, Q \in S_n, b \in \mathbb{R}.$$

(We allow here the case Q = 0.) The quadratic form $P_h : \mathbb{R}^{n+1} \to \mathbb{R}$ induced by P is given

$$P_h(\mathbf{y}) = \mathbf{y}^\top Q_h \mathbf{y}, Q_h = \begin{bmatrix} Q & \mathbf{a} \\ \mathbf{a}^\top & b \end{bmatrix} \in S_{n+1}, \mathbf{y} = (y_1, \dots, y_{n+1})^\top.$$

Clearly, $P(\mathbf{x}) = P_h((\mathbf{x}^{\top}, 1)^{\top})$. *P* is called a nonnegative polynomial if $P(\mathbf{x}) \ge 0$ for all $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$. It is well known and a straightforward fact that *P* is nonnegative if and only if Q_h is a nonnegative definite matrix.

The following lemma is a generalization of [1, Thm 4.2, (1)].

Lemma 5.2 Let $P : \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}$ be a nonzero nonnegative quadratic polynomial. Let X_1, \ldots, X_n be n-Gaussian random variables, and denote $\mathbf{X} := (X_1, \ldots, X_n)^{\top}$. Then

$$E \log P(\mathbf{X}) \le \log E P(\mathbf{X}) \le E \log P(\mathbf{X}) + C_1,$$
(5.2)

where C_1 is given by (1.1).

Proof. We may assume without a loss of generality that E P = 1. In view of the concavity of log we need to show the right-hand side of (5.2). Since Q_h is nonnegative definite it follows that

$$P(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{i=1}^{m} \lambda_i (\mathbf{a}_i^\top \mathbf{x} + b_i)^2, \ \mathbf{a}_i \in \mathbb{R}^n, b_i \in \mathbb{R}, \lambda_i > 0, i = 1, \dots, m,$$
$$E \ (\mathbf{a}_i^\top \mathbf{X} + b_i)^2 = 1, \ i = 1, \dots, m, \quad \sum_{i=1}^{m} \lambda_i = 1.$$

Note that one can have at most one $\mathbf{a}_i = \mathbf{0}$, and in that case then $b_i^2 = 1$. The concavity of log yields

$$\log P(\mathbf{X}) \ge \sum_{i=1}^{m} \lambda_i \log(\mathbf{a}_i^{\top} \mathbf{X} + b_i)^2.$$

(We assume that $\log 0 = -\infty$.) Note that if $\mathbf{a}_i \neq 0$ then $\mathbf{a}_i \mathbf{X} + b_i$ is Gaussian. Lemma 5.1 yields $E \log P(\mathbf{X}) \geq -C_1$. **Theorem 5.3** Let the assumptions of Theorem 4.1 hold. Then (1.7) holds.

Proof. In view of (4.3) it is left to show

$$\log \Phi(t, G_{\omega}) \le \log \Phi(t, G_{\omega}) + (N - 1)C_1.$$
(5.3)

Let $A = [a_{ij}]_{i,j=1}^n \in A_N$. Recall that det $A = (\text{pfaf } A)^2$, where pfaf A is the pfaffian. (So pfaf A = 0 if n is odd.) Let $\mathbf{a}_i = (a_{1i}, \ldots, a_{(i-1)i})^\top \in \mathbb{R}^{i-1}, i = 2, \ldots, n$. We view pfaf A as multilinear polynomial $\text{Pf}(\mathbf{a}_2, \ldots, \mathbf{a}_n)$ of total degree $\frac{n}{2}$, which is linear in each vector variable \mathbf{a}_i . (Any polynomial of noninteger total degree is zero polynomial by definition.)

Denote by $Q_{k,n}$ the set of subsets of $\langle n \rangle$ of cardinality $k \in [1, n]$. Each $\alpha \in Q_{k,n}$ is viewed as $\alpha = \{i_1, \ldots, i_k\}, 1 \leq i_1 < \ldots < i_k \leq m$. For any matrix $B = [b_{ij}] \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ and $\alpha \in Q_{k,n}$ we define $B[\alpha|\alpha] \in \mathbb{R}^{k \times k}$ as the principal submatrix $[b_{\alpha_i \alpha_j}]_{i,j=1}^k$. Then for $A = [a_{ij}] \in A_n$ denote

$$\operatorname{Pf}_{\alpha}(\mathbf{a}_2,\ldots,\mathbf{a}_n) := \operatorname{pfaf} A[\alpha|\alpha].$$

Then $Pf_{\alpha}(\mathbf{a}_2,\ldots,\mathbf{a}_n)$ is a multilinear polynomial of total degree $\frac{k}{2}$, which is linear in each \mathbf{a}_i . Hence

$$\det(sI_N + A) = s^N + \sum_{k=1}^n s^{N-k} \sum_{\alpha \in Q_{k,n}} \operatorname{Pf}_{\alpha}(\mathbf{a}_2, \dots, \mathbf{a}_N)^2, \text{ for any } A \in A_N.$$
(5.4)

View $\mathbf{a}_i \in \mathbb{R}^{i-1}$ as a variable while all other $\mathbf{a}_2, \ldots, \mathbf{a}_N$ are fixed. Then for $s \geq 0$ the above polynomial is quadratic and nonnegative. Group the $\binom{N}{2}$ independent normalized random Gaussian variables $X_{ij}, 1 \leq i < j \leq N$ into N-1 random vectors $\mathbf{X}_i := (X_{1i}, \ldots, X_{(i-1)i})^{\top}, i = 2, \ldots, N$. Consider now Y_A . Let

$$P(\mathbf{X}_2,\ldots,\mathbf{X}_N) := \det(\sqrt{t}I_N + Y_A) \quad t \ge 0.$$

Then $P(\mathbf{X}_2, \ldots, \mathbf{X}_N)$ is a nonnegative quadratic polynomial in each $\mathbf{X}_j, j = 2, \ldots, N$. Denote by E_i the expectation with respect to the variables $X_{1i}, \ldots, X_{(i-1)i}$. (5.4) yields that

$$P_i(\mathbf{X}_2,\ldots,\mathbf{X}_i) := \mathbb{E}_{i+1}\ldots\mathbb{E}_N P(\mathbf{X}_2,\ldots,\mathbf{X}_N)$$

is a nonnegative quadratic polynomial in each \mathbf{X}_j , $j = 2, \ldots, i$. Lemma 5.2 yields

$$\log \mathcal{E}_i P_i(\mathbf{X}_2, \dots, \mathbf{X}_i) \le \mathcal{E}_i \log P_i(\mathbf{X}_2, \dots, \mathbf{X}_i) + C_1, \quad i = 2, \dots, N.$$

Hence

$$\log \Phi(t, G_{\omega}) = \log \mathbb{E}_2 P_2(\mathbf{X}_2) \leq \mathbb{E}_2 \log P_2(\mathbf{X}_2) + C_1 \leq \mathbb{E}_2 \mathbb{E}_3 \log P_3(\mathbf{X}_2, \mathbf{X}_3) + 2C_1 \leq \dots \leq \mathbb{E}_2 \mathbb{E}_3 \dots \mathbb{E}_N \log P(\mathbf{X}_2, \mathbf{X}_3, \dots, \mathbf{X}_N) + (N-1)C_1 = \log \tilde{\Phi}(t, G_{\omega}) + (N-1)C_1.$$

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6 Bipartite graphs

Assume that G = (V, E) is a bipartite graph. So $V = V_1 \cup V_2$, $E \subset E_1 \times E_2$ and N = m + n. Assume for convenience of notation that $m : \#V_1 \leq n := \#V_2$. Thus $E \subset \langle m \rangle \times \langle n \rangle$, so each $e \in E$ is identified uniquely with $(i, j) \in \langle m \rangle \times \langle n \rangle$. Let $C = [c_{ij}] \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ be the weight matrix associated with the weights $\omega : E \to (0, \infty)$. So $c_{ij} = 0$ if $(i, j) \notin E$ and $c_{ij} = \sqrt{\omega(i, j)}$ if $(i, j) \in E$. Let $x_{ij}, i = 1, \ldots, m, j = 1, \ldots, n$ be mn independent normalized real Gaussian variables. Let $U_C =: [c_{ij}x_{ij}] \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ be a random matrix. Then the skew symmetric matrix A associated with G_{ω} is given by and the corresponding random matrices Y_A, X_A are given as

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & C \\ -C^{\top} & 0 \end{bmatrix}, Y_A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & U_C \\ -U_C^{\top} & 0 \end{bmatrix}, X_A = \frac{\mathbf{i}}{\sqrt{m+n}} Y_A.$$
(6.1)

Denote by

$$\sigma_1(U_C) \ge \ldots \ge \sigma_m(U_C) \ge 0 \tag{6.2}$$

be the first m singular values of U_C . Then the eigenvalues of Y_A consists of n-m zero eigenvalues and the following 2m eigenvalues:

$$\pm \mathbf{i}\sigma_1(U_C), \dots, \pm \mathbf{i}\sigma_m(U_C). \tag{6.3}$$

Hence

$$\det(\sqrt{t}I_{m+n} + Y_A) = t^{\frac{n-m}{2}} \prod_{i=1}^m (t + \sigma_i (U_C)^2).$$
(6.4)

In [9] the authors considered the random matrix $V_C := U_C U_C^{\top} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times m}$. Note that the eigenvalues of V_C are

$$\sigma_1^2(U_C) \ge \ldots \ge \sigma_m^2(U_C). \tag{6.5}$$

Furthermore, one has the equality E det $V_C = \phi(m, G_{\omega})$. Let $K_{m,n}$ be the complete bipartite graph on $V_1 = \langle m \rangle, V_2 = \langle n \rangle$ vertices. Assume that $1 \leq m \leq n$. Let $0 < b \leq a$ be fixed. Denote by $\Omega_{m,n,[b^2,a^2]}$ the sets of all weights $\omega : \langle m \rangle \times \langle n \rangle \to [b^2, a^2]$. Recall that each $\omega \in \Omega_{m,n,[b^2,a^2]}$ induces the positive matrix $C(\omega) = [c_{ij}(\omega)] \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$, where $c_{ij}(\omega) \in [b, a]$. It was shown in [9] that $\frac{1}{n} \log \det V_{C(\omega)}$ concentrates at $\frac{1}{n} \log \phi(m, K_{m,n,\omega})$ with probability 1 as $n \to \infty$. More precisely

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} \sup_{m \le n, \omega \in \Omega_{m,n,[b^2,a^2]}} \Pr\left(\frac{1}{n} |\log \det V_{C(\omega)} - \log \phi(m, K_{m,n,\omega})| > \delta\right) = 0 \quad (6.6)$$

for any $\delta > 0$.

Theorem 6.1 Let $0 < b \leq a$ be given. For $\omega \in \Omega_{m,n,[b^2,a^2]}$ let $C(\omega)$ be a positive $m \times n$ matrix defined above and $A(\omega) \in A_{m+n}$ be given by (6.1), $(C = C(\omega))$. Assume that $x_{ij}, 1 \leq i \leq j \leq (m+n)$ are independent Gaussian satisfying (1.2). Let $Y_A \in A_N$ be the random skew symmetric matrix given by (1.3). Then for any t > 0

$$\limsup_{n \to \infty} \sup_{m \le n, \omega \in \Omega_{m,n,[b^2,a^2]}} \Pr\left(\frac{1}{m+n} |\log \det(\sqrt{t}I_N + Y_A) - \log \Phi(t, K_{m,n,\omega})| > \delta\right) = 0$$
(6.7)

Equivalently

 $\limsup_{n \to \infty} \sup_{m \le n, \omega \in \Omega_{m,n,[b^2,a^2]}} \frac{1}{m+n} (\log \Phi(t, K_{m,n,\omega}) - \log \tilde{\Phi}(t, K_{m,n,\omega})) = 0.$ (6.8)

Proof. Our proof follows the arguments in [9], and we point out the modifications that one has to make. Let N = m + n. Since $1 \le m \le n$ we have that $\frac{1}{2n} \le \frac{1}{N} < \frac{1}{n}$. (4.2) with k = 1 implies:

$$\limsup_{n \to \infty} \sup_{m \le n, \omega \in \Omega_{m,n,[b^2,a^2]}} \Pr\left(\frac{1}{m+n} |\log \det(\sqrt{t}I_N + Y_A) - \log \tilde{\Phi}(t, K_{m,n,\omega})| > \delta\right) = 0$$
(6.9)

Thus it is enough to show equality (6.8).

Denote by X_A the random hermitian matrix $X_A := \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \mathbf{i} Y_A$. For $\epsilon > 0$ define

$$\det_{\epsilon}(\sqrt{t}I_N + Y_N) := \prod_{i=1}^N \sqrt{t + \max(|\lambda_i(Y_N)|, \sqrt{N}\epsilon)^2},$$
$$\det_{\epsilon}(\frac{\sqrt{t}}{\sqrt{N}}I_N - \mathbf{i}X_N) := \prod_{i=1}^N \sqrt{\frac{t}{N} + \max(|\lambda_i(X_N)|, \epsilon)^2}.$$

Clearly,

$$\det_{\epsilon}(\sqrt{t}I_N + Y_N) = N^{\frac{N}{2}} \det_{\epsilon}(\frac{\sqrt{t}}{\sqrt{N}}I_N - \mathbf{i}X_N).$$
(6.10)

Let $f_{N,t,\epsilon}(x) := \frac{1}{2} \log(\frac{t}{N} + \max(|x|, \epsilon)^2)$. Then

$$|f_{N,t,\epsilon}|_{\mathcal{L}} \le \frac{1}{\epsilon} \text{ for } N \ge \frac{t}{\epsilon^2}$$

In what follows we assume that $N \geq \frac{t}{\epsilon^2}$. Observe next that

$$\frac{1}{N}\log \det_{\epsilon}\left(\frac{\sqrt{t}}{\sqrt{N}}I_N - \mathbf{i}X_N\right) = \operatorname{tr}_N f_{N,t,\epsilon}(X_A).$$

Combine the concentration inequality (3.1) with (6.10) to obtain

$$\Pr\left(\left|\frac{1}{N}\left(\log \det_{\epsilon}(\sqrt{t}I_N + Y_N) - \mathbb{E} \log \det_{\epsilon}(\sqrt{t}I_N + Y_N)\right)\right| \ge r\right) \le 2e^{-\frac{N^2 r^2 \epsilon^2}{8a^2}} \quad (6.11)$$

Let

$$\epsilon_N = \frac{1}{(\log N)^2}.\tag{6.12}$$

Note that for a fixed t one has $N \ge \frac{t}{\epsilon_N^2}$ for N >> 1. Hence

$$\limsup_{N \to \infty} \Pr(\frac{1}{N} |\log \det_{\epsilon_N}(\sqrt{t}I_N + Y_N) - \mathbb{E} \log \det_{\epsilon_N}(\sqrt{t}I_N + Y_N)| \ge \delta) = 0$$

for any $\delta > 0$. As in [9, Prf. of Lemma 2.1] use (6.11) and Lemma 3.2 to deduce that

$$\lim_{N \to \infty} \frac{1}{N} (\log \mathcal{E} \det_{\epsilon_N} (\sqrt{t}I_N + Y_N) - \mathcal{E} \log \det_{\epsilon_N} (\sqrt{t}I_N + Y_N)) = 0,$$

which is equivalent to

$$\lim_{N \to \infty} \frac{1}{N} (\log \mathbf{E} \det_{\epsilon_N}(\frac{\sqrt{t}}{\sqrt{N}} I_N - \mathbf{i} X_N) - \mathbf{E} \log \det_{\epsilon_N}(\frac{\sqrt{t}}{\sqrt{N}} I_N - \mathbf{i} X_N)) = 0.$$
(6.13)

It is left to show that under the assumption of the theorem

$$\lim_{N \to \infty} \frac{1}{N} (\log \mathcal{E} \det_{\epsilon_N} (\sqrt{t}I_N + Y_N) - \log \mathcal{E} \det(\sqrt{t}I_N + Y_N)) = 0.$$
(6.14)

Clearly, the above claim is equivalent to

$$\lim_{N \to \infty} \frac{1}{N} (\log \mathbf{E} \det_{\epsilon_N}(\frac{\sqrt{t}}{\sqrt{N}}I_N - \mathbf{i}X_N) - \log \mathbf{E} \det(\frac{\sqrt{t}}{\sqrt{N}}I_N - \mathbf{i}X_N)) = 0.$$
(6.15)

To prove the above equality we use the results of [9]. First observe that X_N has at least n - m eigenvalues which are equal to zero, while the other 2m eigenvalues are $\pm \lambda_1(X_N), \ldots, \pm \lambda_m(X_N)$. Furthermore $\lambda_1(X_N)^2, \ldots, \lambda_m^2(X_N)$ are the *m* eigenvalues of $\frac{1}{N}U_CU_C^{\top}$, denoted in [9] as $Z(\tilde{A}_{n,m})$. Clearly

$$\det_{\epsilon}\left(\frac{\sqrt{t}}{\sqrt{N}}I_{N}-\mathbf{i}X_{N}\right) = \left(\frac{\sqrt{t}}{\sqrt{N}}\right)^{n-m}\prod_{i=1}^{m}\left(\frac{t}{N}+\max(\lambda_{i}(X_{N})^{2},\epsilon)^{2}\right) \ge \\ \det\left(\frac{\sqrt{t}}{\sqrt{N}}I_{N}-\mathbf{i}X_{N}\right) = \left(\frac{\sqrt{t}}{\sqrt{N}}\right)^{n-m}\prod_{i=1}^{m}\left(\frac{t}{N}+\lambda_{i}(X_{N})^{2}\right). \quad (6.16)$$

Hence for $\epsilon \leq 1$

$$0 \leq \frac{1}{N} \left(\log \det_{\epsilon} \left(\frac{\sqrt{t}}{\sqrt{N}} I_N - \mathbf{i} X_N \right) - \log \det \left(\frac{\sqrt{t}}{\sqrt{N}} I_N - \mathbf{i} X_N \right) \right) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{\lambda_i(X_N)^2 \leq \epsilon^2} \log \frac{\frac{t}{N} + \epsilon^2}{\frac{t}{N} + \lambda_i(X_N)^2} \leq \frac{1}{N} \sum_{\lambda_i(X_N)^2 \leq \epsilon^2} \log \frac{\epsilon^2}{\lambda_i(X_N)^2} \leq \frac{1}{N} \sum_{\lambda_i(X_N)^2 \leq \epsilon^2} \log \frac{1}{\lambda_i(X_N)^2}.$$

[9, (3.2)] is equivalent to

$$\limsup_{n \to \infty} \sup_{m \le n, \omega \in \Omega_{m,n,[b^2,a^2]}} E \frac{1}{m+n} \sum_{\lambda_i(X_{m+n})^2 \le \epsilon_{m+n}^2} \log \frac{1}{\lambda_i(X_{m+n})^2} = 0.$$

Hence

$$\lim_{N \to \infty} \frac{1}{N} (E \log \det_{\epsilon_N} (\frac{\sqrt{t}}{\sqrt{N}} I_N - \mathbf{i} X_N) - E \log \det (\frac{\sqrt{t}}{\sqrt{N}} I_N - \mathbf{i} X_N)) = 0.$$
(6.17)

Combine (6.16) with Jensen's inequality to deduce

$$E \log \det(\frac{\sqrt{t}}{\sqrt{N}}I_N - \mathbf{i}X_N) \le \log E \det(\frac{\sqrt{t}}{\sqrt{N}}I_N - \mathbf{i}X_N) \le \log E \det_{\epsilon}(\frac{\sqrt{t}}{\sqrt{N}}I_N - \mathbf{i}X_N)$$

Hence

$$\limsup_{N \to \infty} \frac{1}{N} (\log \mathbf{E} \det_{\epsilon_N} (\frac{\sqrt{t}}{\sqrt{N}} I_N - \mathbf{i} X_N) - \mathbf{E} \log \det(\frac{\sqrt{t}}{\sqrt{N}} I_N - \mathbf{i} X_N)) \ge$$
$$\limsup_{N \to \infty} \frac{1}{N} (\log \mathbf{E} \det_{\epsilon_N} (\frac{\sqrt{t}}{\sqrt{N}} I_N - \mathbf{i} X_N) - \log \mathbf{E} \det(\frac{\sqrt{t}}{\sqrt{N}} I_N - \mathbf{i} X_N)) \ge 0.$$

Use (6.13) and (6.17) to deduce (6.15).

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