

Disjoint chorded cycles of the same length

26th Cumberland Conference on CGC

May 24, 2013

Joint work with Guantao Chen, Ronald J. Gould,
Kazuhide Hirohata, and Katsuhiro Ota



Outline

1 Some History

Outline

- 1 Some History
- 2 Main Results

Outline

- 1 Some History
- 2 Main Results
- 3 Sketch of the Proof

Some History - Cycles

- ▶ Well-known fact: $\delta(G) \geq 2 \Rightarrow C$.

Some History - Cycles

- ▶ Well-known fact: $\delta(G) \geq 2 \Rightarrow C$.
- ▶ Corrádi and Hajnal (1963): G with $|G| \geq 3k$ and $\delta(G) \geq 2k$ contains k vertex-disjoint cycles.

Some History - Cycles

- ▶ Well-known fact: $\delta(G) \geq 2 \Rightarrow C$.
- ▶ Corrádi and Hajnal (1963): G with $|G| \geq 3k$ and $\delta(G) \geq 2k$ contains k vertex-disjoint cycles.
- ▶ Conjecture (Häggkvist, 1982): G of sufficiently large order and $\delta(G) \geq 4$ contains 2 vertex-disjoint cycles of the same length.

Some History - Cycles

- ▶ Well-known fact: $\delta(G) \geq 2 \Rightarrow C$.
- ▶ Corrádi and Hajnal (1963): G with $|G| \geq 3k$ and $\delta(G) \geq 2k$ contains k vertex-disjoint cycles.
- ▶ Conjecture (Häggkvist, 1982): G of sufficiently large order and $\delta(G) \geq 4$ contains 2 vertex-disjoint cycles of the same length.
- ▶ Conjecture (Thomassen, 1983): G with $|G| \geq n_k$ and $\delta(G) \geq 2k$ contains k vertex-disjoint cycles of the same length.

Some History - Cycles

- ▶ Well-known fact: $\delta(G) \geq 2 \Rightarrow C$.
- ▶ Corrádi and Hajnal (1963): G with $|G| \geq 3k$ and $\delta(G) \geq 2k$ contains k vertex-disjoint cycles.
- ▶ Conjecture (Häggkvist, 1982): G of sufficiently large order and $\delta(G) \geq 4$ contains 2 vertex-disjoint cycles of the same length.
- ▶ Conjecture (Thomassen, 1983): G with $|G| \geq n_k$ and $\delta(G) \geq 2k$ contains k vertex-disjoint cycles of the same length.
- ▶ Egawa (1996): Confirmed Thomassen's conjecture for $k \geq 3$ and $n_k = 17k + o(k)$.

Some History - Cycles

- ▶ Well-known fact: $\delta(G) \geq 2 \Rightarrow C$.
- ▶ Corrádi and Hajnal (1963): G with $|G| \geq 3k$ and $\delta(G) \geq 2k$ contains k vertex-disjoint cycles.
- ▶ Conjecture (Häggkvist, 1982): G of sufficiently large order and $\delta(G) \geq 4$ contains 2 vertex-disjoint cycles of the same length.
- ▶ Conjecture (Thomassen, 1983): G with $|G| \geq n_k$ and $\delta(G) \geq 2k$ contains k vertex-disjoint cycles of the same length.
- ▶ Egawa (1996): Confirmed Thomassen's conjecture for $k \geq 3$ and $n_k = 17k + o(k)$.
- ▶ Verstraëte (2003): Gave a proof for all k for Thomassen's conjecture but with a larger n_k .

History Cont. - Chorded Cycles

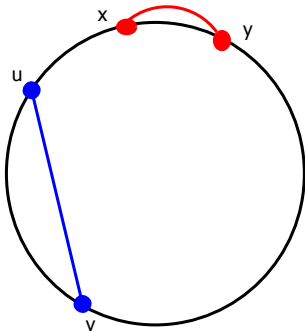


Figure: A cycle with two chords xy and uv

History Cont. - Chorded Cycles

- ▶ Question (Pósa,1961): Find conditions implying a graph contains a chorded cycle.

History Cont. - Chorded Cycles

- ▶ Question (Pósa,1961): Find conditions implying a graph contains a chorded cycle.
- ▶ Considering a longest path: $\delta(G) \geq 3 \Rightarrow C + \text{a chord}$.

History Cont. - Chorded Cycles

- ▶ Question (Pósa, 1961): Find conditions implying a graph contains a chorded cycle.
- ▶ Considering a longest path: $\delta(G) \geq 3 \Rightarrow C + \text{a chord}$.
- ▶ Finkel (2008): G with $|G| \geq 4k$ and $\delta(G) \geq 3k$ contains k vertex-disjoint chorded cycles. (A generalization to Corrádi and Hajnal's result.)

History Cont. - Chorded Cycles

- ▶ Question (Pósa, 1961): Find conditions implying a graph contains a chorded cycle.
- ▶ Considering a longest path: $\delta(G) \geq 3 \Rightarrow C + \text{a chord}$.
- ▶ Finkel (2008): G with $|G| \geq 4k$ and $\delta(G) \geq 3k$ contains k vertex-disjoint chorded cycles. (A generalization to Corrádi and Hajnal's result.)
- ▶ Recall: Verstraëte, G with $|G| \geq n_k$ and $\delta(G) \geq 2k$ contains k vertex-disjoint cycles of the same length.

History Cont. - Chorded Cycles

- ▶ Question (Pósa, 1961): Find conditions implying a graph contains a chorded cycle.
- ▶ Considering a longest path: $\delta(G) \geq 3 \Rightarrow C + \text{a chord}$.
- ▶ Finkel (2008): G with $|G| \geq 4k$ and $\delta(G) \geq 3k$ contains k vertex-disjoint chorded cycles. (A generalization to Corrádi and Hajnal's result.)
- ▶ Recall: Verstraëte, G with $|G| \geq n_k$ and $\delta(G) \geq 2k$ contains k vertex-disjoint cycles of the same length.
- ▶ Question: What about k vertex-disjoint chorded cycles of the same length?

Main Result 1

Theorem

Let k be a natural number. Then there exists a positive integer n_k such that if G is a graph of order at least n_k and minimum degree at least $3k + 8$, then G contains k vertex-disjoint chorded cycles of the same length.

Main Result 1

Theorem

Let k be a natural number. Then there exists a positive integer n_k such that if G is a graph of order at least n_k and minimum degree at least $3k + 8$, then G contains k vertex-disjoint chorded cycles of the same length.

Question

Can we change the minimum degree condition to $3k$? (Best possible, $K_{3k-1, n-3k+1}$.)

Main Result 2

Theorem

Let G be a graph of order n and minimum degree at least 5. Then G contains a chorded cycle of length at most $300 \log_2 n$.

Main Result 2

Theorem

Let G be a graph of order n and minimum degree at least 5. Then G contains a chorded cycle of length at most $300 \log_2 n$.

Remarks: (i) Average degree 8; (ii) $\delta(G) \geq 5$ is best possible.

Main Result 2

Theorem

Let G be a graph of order n and minimum degree at least 5. Then G contains a chorded cycle of length at most $300 \log_2 n$.

Remarks: (i) Average degree 8; (ii) $\delta(G) \geq 5$ is best possible.

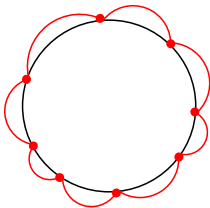


Figure: $\delta = \bar{d} = 4$, no "short" chorded cycles when $n > 300 \log_2 n$

Main Result 2

Theorem

Let G be a graph of order n and minimum degree at least 5. Then G contains a chorded cycle of length at most $300 \log_2 n$.

Remarks: (i) Average degree 8; (ii) $\delta(G) \geq 5$ is best possible.

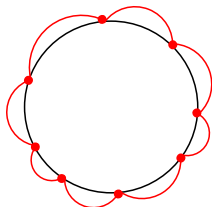


Figure: $\delta = \bar{d} = 4$, no “short” chorded cycles when $n > 300 \log_2 n$

??? For simple graph with minimum degree at least 3, can we get a similar result? What about average degrees?

Main Result 2 – A Chorded Version of A Result of Bollobás and Thomason

Theorem (Bollobás and Thomason)

Let G be a graph of order n and size at least $n + c$ ($c \geq 1$). Then $g(G) \leq 2(\lfloor n/c \rfloor + 1) \lfloor \log_2 2c \rfloor$.

Proof Ideas for Main Result 1 – A Lemma

Lemma (Verstraëte, 2003)

Let $G(A, B)$ be a bipartite graph with $|A| > a|B|^b$. Suppose that $d(v) \geq b$ for all $v \in A$. Then for some $r \geq 1$, there exists $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_r, W \subset A$ and sets $B_1, B_2, \dots, B_r \subset B$ such that for each $i = 1, 2, \dots, r$, $G(A_i, B_i) = G[A_i \cup B_i]$ is a complete bipartite graph with $|A_i| \geq a$ and $|B_i| = b$, the B_i are distinct, the A_i are disjoint, $A = A_1 \cup A_2 \cup \dots \cup A_r \cup W$ and $|W| < a|B|^b$.

Observation: If $G(A, B)$ is a bipartite graph with $|A| > 3|B|^3 + 3(k-1)$ such that $d(v) \geq 3k$ for all $v \in A$. Then, by applying the above lemma k times, we can find k vertex-disjoint copies of $K_{3,3}$, that is, k vertex-disjoint chorded 6-cycles.

Proof ideas for Main Result 1

Recall: G with $|G| \geq n_k$ and $\delta(G) \geq 3k + 8 \Rightarrow k$ vertex-disjoint chorded cycles of the same length.

- ▶ Set $n_k = \min\{n \in \mathbb{N} : n > 28k(k-1)^{3k} \left(\frac{301^2}{2}\right)^{3k} (\log_2 n)^{6k}\}$.

Proof ideas for Main Result 1

Recall: G with $|G| \geq n_k$ and $\delta(G) \geq 3k + 8 \Rightarrow k$ vertex-disjoint chorded cycles of the same length.

- ▶ Set $n_k = \min\{n \in \mathbb{N} : n > 28k(k-1)^{3k} \left(\frac{301^2}{2}\right)^{3k} (\log_2 n)^{6k}\}$.
- ▶ Let

$\mathcal{C} = \{\text{vertex-disjoint chorded cycles of length} < 301 \log_2 n\}$

such that $|\mathcal{C}|$ is maximal.

Proof ideas for Main Result 1

Recall: G with $|G| \geq n_k$ and $\delta(G) \geq 3k + 8 \Rightarrow k$ vertex-disjoint chorded cycles of the same length.

- ▶ Set $n_k = \min\{n \in \mathbb{N} : n > 28k(k-1)^{3k} \left(\frac{301^2}{2}\right)^{3k} (\log_2 n)^{6k}\}$.
- ▶ Let

$$\mathcal{C} = \{\text{vertex-disjoint chorded cycles of length} < 301 \log_2 n\}$$

such that $|\mathcal{C}|$ is maximal.

- ▶ Denote $V_2 = \bigcup_{C \in \mathcal{C}} V(C)$.

Proof ideas for Main Result 1

Recall: G with $|G| \geq n_k$ and $\delta(G) \geq 3k + 8 \Rightarrow k$ vertex-disjoint chorded cycles of the same length.

- ▶ Set $n_k = \min\{n \in \mathbb{N} : n > 28k(k-1)^{3k} \left(\frac{301^2}{2}\right)^{3k} (\log_2 n)^{6k}\}$.
- ▶ Let

$$\mathcal{C} = \{\text{vertex-disjoint chorded cycles of length} < 301 \log_2 n\}$$

such that $|\mathcal{C}|$ is maximal.

- ▶ Denote $V_2 = \bigcup_{C \in \mathcal{C}} V(C)$.
- ▶ May assume \mathcal{C} has no k vertex-disjoint chorded cycles of the same length.

Proof ideas for Main Result 1

Recall: G with $|G| \geq n_k$ and $\delta(G) \geq 3k + 8 \Rightarrow k$ vertex-disjoint chorded cycles of the same length.

- ▶ Set $n_k = \min\{n \in \mathbb{N} : n > 28k(k-1)^{3k} \left(\frac{301^2}{2}\right)^{3k} (\log_2 n)^{6k}\}$.
- ▶ Let

$$\mathcal{C} = \{\text{vertex-disjoint chorded cycles of length} < 301 \log_2 n\}$$

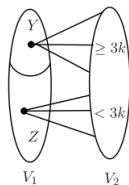
such that $|\mathcal{C}|$ is maximal.

- ▶ Denote $V_2 = \bigcup_{C \in \mathcal{C}} V(C)$.
- ▶ May assume \mathcal{C} has no k vertex-disjoint chorded cycles of the same length.
- ▶ $|V_2| \leq (k-1) \frac{301^2}{2} (\log_2 n)^2$.

Proof ideas for Main Result 1 Cont.

Let $V_1 = V - V_2$,

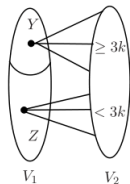
$Y = \{v \in V_1 \mid d_{V_2}(v) \geq 3k\}$ and $Z = \{v \in V_1 \mid d_{V_2}(v) < 3k\}$



Proof ideas for Main Result 1 Cont.

Let $V_1 = V - V_2$,

$Y = \{v \in V_1 \mid d_{V_2}(v) \geq 3k\}$ and $Z = \{v \in V_1 \mid d_{V_2}(v) < 3k\}$

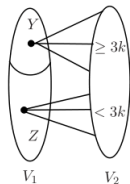


► May assume $|Y| \leq 3|V_2|^3 + 3(k-1)$.

Proof ideas for Main Result 1 Cont.

Let $V_1 = V - V_2$,

$Y = \{v \in V_1 \mid d_{V_2}(v) \geq 3k\}$ and $Z = \{v \in V_1 \mid d_{V_2}(v) < 3k\}$

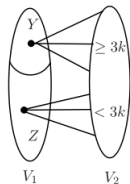


- ▶ May assume $|Y| \leq 3|V_2|^3 + 3(k-1)$.
- ▶ $|Z| = |V_1| - |Y| = n - |V_2| - |Y| > 8|Y|$.

Proof ideas for Main Result 1 Cont.

Let $V_1 = V - V_2$,

$Y = \{v \in V_1 \mid d_{V_2}(v) \geq 3k\}$ and $Z = \{v \in V_1 \mid d_{V_2}(v) < 3k\}$

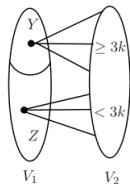


- ▶ May assume $|Y| \leq 3|V_2|^3 + 3(k-1)$.
- ▶ $|Z| = |V_1| - |Y| = n - |V_2| - |Y| > 8|Y|$.
- ▶ $G' = G[Y \cup Z]$. For $z \in Z$, $d_{G'}(z) \geq (3k+8) - (3k-1) = 9$.

Proof ideas for Main Result 1 Cont.

Let $V_1 = V - V_2$,

$Y = \{v \in V_1 \mid d_{V_2}(v) \geq 3k\}$ and $Z = \{v \in V_1 \mid d_{V_2}(v) < 3k\}$

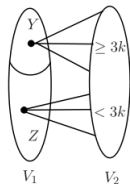


- ▶ May assume $|Y| \leq 3|V_2|^3 + 3(k-1)$.
- ▶ $|Z| = |V_1| - |Y| = n - |V_2| - |Y| > 8|Y|$.
- ▶ $G' = G[Y \cup Z]$. For $z \in Z$, $d_{G'}(z) \geq (3k+8) - (3k-1) = 9$.
- ▶ $\sum d_{G'}(x) \geq \sum_{z \in Z} d_{G'}(z) \geq 9|Z| \geq 8(|Y| + |Z|) \Rightarrow \bar{d}(G') \geq 8$.

Proof ideas for Main Result 1 Cont.

Let $V_1 = V - V_2$,

$Y = \{v \in V_1 \mid d_{V_2}(v) \geq 3k\}$ and $Z = \{v \in V_1 \mid d_{V_2}(v) < 3k\}$

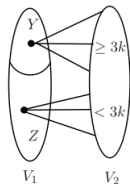


- ▶ May assume $|Y| \leq 3|V_2|^3 + 3(k-1)$.
- ▶ $|Z| = |V_1| - |Y| = n - |V_2| - |Y| > 8|Y|$.
- ▶ $G' = G[Y \cup Z]$. For $z \in Z$, $d_{G'}(z) \geq (3k+8) - (3k-1) = 9$.
- ▶ $\sum d_{G'}(x) \geq \sum_{z \in Z} d_{G'}(z) \geq 9|Z| \geq 8(|Y| + |Z|) \Rightarrow \bar{d}(G') \geq 8$.
- ▶ G' contains a subgraph H of minimum degree at least 5.

Proof ideas for Main Result 1 Cont.

Let $V_1 = V - V_2$,

$Y = \{v \in V_1 \mid d_{V_2}(v) \geq 3k\}$ and $Z = \{v \in V_1 \mid d_{V_2}(v) < 3k\}$



- ▶ **May assume** $|Y| \leq 3|V_2|^3 + 3(k-1)$.
- ▶ $|Z| = |V_1| - |Y| = n - |V_2| - |Y| > 8|Y|$.
- ▶ $G' = G[Y \cup Z]$. For $z \in Z$, $d_{G'}(z) \geq (3k+8) - (3k-1) = 9$.
- ▶ $\sum d_{G'}(x) \geq \sum_{z \in Z} d_{G'}(z) \geq 9|Z| \geq 8(|Y| + |Z|) \Rightarrow \bar{d}(G') \geq 8$.
- ▶ G' contains a subgraph H of minimum degree at least 5.
- ▶ By **Main Result 2** \Rightarrow a chorded cycle of length at most $300 \log_2 n$ in H , and which is disjoint with cycles in $\mathcal{C} \Rightarrow$

CONTRADICTION.

Thank You

