Hypergraphs with forbidden edge-intersections: new results and applications to Euclidean Ramsey theory^{*}

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In 1981 Frankl and Wilson proved the following, now classical, theorem.

Theorem 1. Let H = (V, E) be a k-uniform hypergraph on n vertices. Assume that for any $F_1, F_2 \in E$ we have $|F_1 \cap F_2| \neq l$ and k - l is a prime power, which we denote by q. Then two cases take place:

1. if 2l < k, then

$$|E| \leqslant \sum_{i=0}^{q-1} C_n^i;$$

2. if $2l \ge k$, then for d = k - 2q + 1 = 2l - k + 1,

$$|E| \leqslant \frac{C_n^d}{C_k^d} \left(\sum_{i=0}^{q-1} C_{n-d}^i \right).$$

A bit later — in 1987 — Frankl and Rödl proved another important result.

Theorem 2. Let $H_1 = (V, E_1)$, $H_2 = (V, E_2)$ be two hypergraphs with a common vertex set V of size n. Assume that for any $F_1 \in E_1$, $F_2 \in E_2$ we have $|F_1 \cap F_2| \neq l$. If for some $\eta \in (0, \frac{1}{4})$ we have $\eta n \leq l \leq (\frac{1}{2} - \eta) n$, then there exists a constant $\varepsilon > 0$ (depending only on η) such that $|E_1| \cdot |E_2| \leq (4 - \varepsilon + o(1))^n$.

On the one hand, in a joint work with Ponomarenko we found an unexpected and substantial improvement to the bound in the second case of Theorem 1. On the other hand, in a joint work with Harlamova, Samirov and Zvonarev we succeeded in applying the improved version of Frankl–Wilson's theorem to find very accurate bounds for the value of ε in Frankl–Rödl's theorem. Finally, we combined both improved Theorem 1 and Theorem 2 to obtain a series of strong lower bounds for the chromatic numbers of spaces with forbidden simplices. For example, denote by $\chi_{\Delta}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ the chromatic number of the Euclidean space with forbidden monochromatic equilateral triangles, which is the minimum number of colors needed to color the space so that no three monochromatic points form a triangle with all side lengths 1. Then we can show that $\chi_{\Delta}(\mathbb{R}^n) \ge (1.052 \ldots + o(1))^n$.

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