

$K_{2,t}$  MINORS IN  
DENSE GRAPHS

MARIA CHUDNOVSKY (COLUMBIA)

JOINT WORK WITH

BRUCE REED (MC GILL)

PAUL SEYMOUR (PRINCETON)

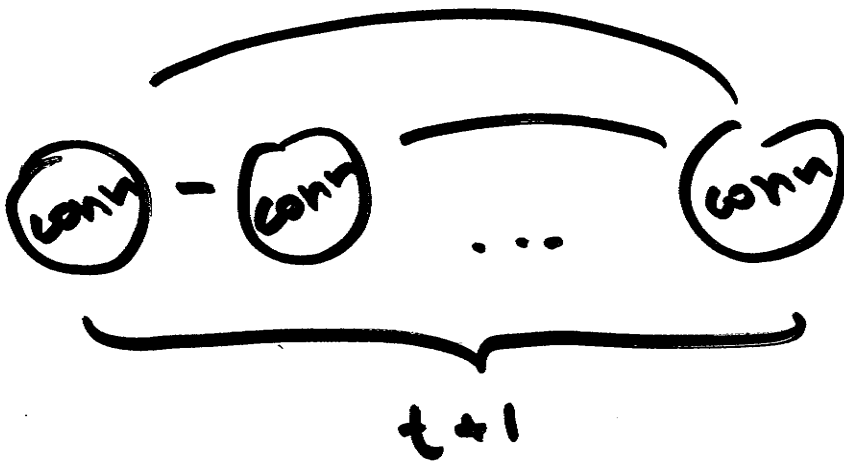
# HADWIGER'S CONT

LET  $G$  BE A LOOPLESS GRAPH,

ASSUME  $G$  IS NOT  $t$ -COLORABLE.

THEN  $G$  HAS A  $K_{t+1}$  MINOR

( $\Leftrightarrow$ ) A LOOPLESS GRAPH  $G$  HAS  
A  $K_{\chi(G)}$  MINOR



SMALL  $t$  :

$t=1 \Rightarrow$  

$t=2 \Rightarrow \Delta$ -MINOR.

$t=3 \Rightarrow G$  IS NOT SERIES-PARALLEL  
 $\Rightarrow K_4$ -MINOR.

$t=4 \Rightarrow K_5$  MINOR  
(EQUIVALENT TO 4-LT; WAGNER)

$t=5 \Rightarrow K_6$  MINOR.  
(ROBERTSON, SEYMOUR, THOMAS)

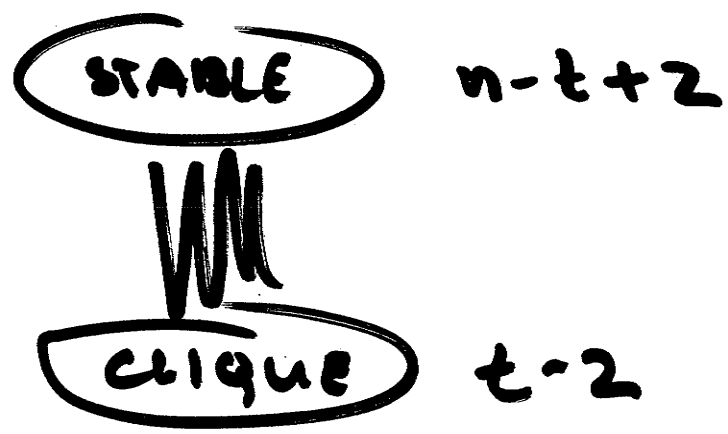
$t \geq 6$  OPEN

A RELATED QUESTION:

ASSUMING  $G$  IS SIMPLE, DOES  
LARGE  $|E(G)|/|V(G)|$  FORCE

A  $K_t$ -MINOR?

A GRAPH WITH NO  $K_t$ -MINOR:



$$|V(G)| = n$$

$$|E(G)| = n(t-2) - \frac{1}{2}(t-2)(t-1)$$

FOR SMALL  $t$  THIS IS AN EXTREMAL  
EXAMPLE

Q

FOR SMALL  $t$ :

IF  $|V(G)| = n$ , AND

$$|E(G)| > n(t-2) - \frac{1}{2}(t-2)(t-1)$$

THEN  $G$  HAS A  $K_t$ -MINOR

$t=2$        $E > 0 \Rightarrow K_2$ -MINOR

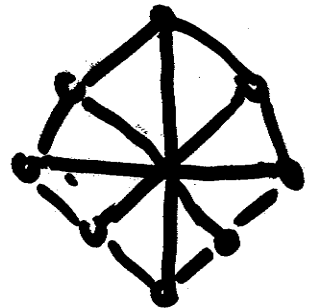
$t=3$        $E > n-1 \Rightarrow K_3$ -MINOR

$t=4$        $E > 2n-3 \Rightarrow G$  IS NOT SP  
 $\Rightarrow K_4$ -MINOR

$t=5$        $E > 3n-6 \Rightarrow K_5$ -MINOR

WAGNER, GRAPHS WITH NO  $K_5$ -MINOR  
ARE OBTAINED FROM  
PLANAR GRAPHS AND

BY 1,2,3-SUMS



⑤

MADER:  $t=6$   $E > 4n-10 \Rightarrow K_6$ -MINOR

$t=7$   $E > 5n-15 \Rightarrow K_7$ -MINOR

BUT:

$t=8$   $E > 6n-21 \not\Rightarrow K_8$ -MINOR

$K_{10}$  - { perfect matching }

$$E = 40 > 6 \cdot 10 - 21 = 39$$

BUT NO  $K_8$ -MINOR

(5)

THM (KOSTOCHKA ; THOMASON)

FOR LARGE  $t, n$

THE MAX # OF EDGES IN  
A GRAPH ON  $n$  VERTICES  
WITH NO  $K_t$  MINOR IS

$$O(t \sqrt{\log t}) n$$

(6)

WHAT ABOUT OTHER MINORS?

THM (MADER)

FOR EVERY GRAPH  $H$  THERE  
EXISTS A CONSTANT  $c_H$ , S.T.

IF  $G$  IS SIMPLE, AND

$$|E(G)| > c_H |V(G)|$$

THEN  $G$  HAS AN  $H$ -MINOR.

# BIPARTITE MINORS

$K_{1,t}$

$$|E| > \frac{1}{2}(t-1)|V|$$

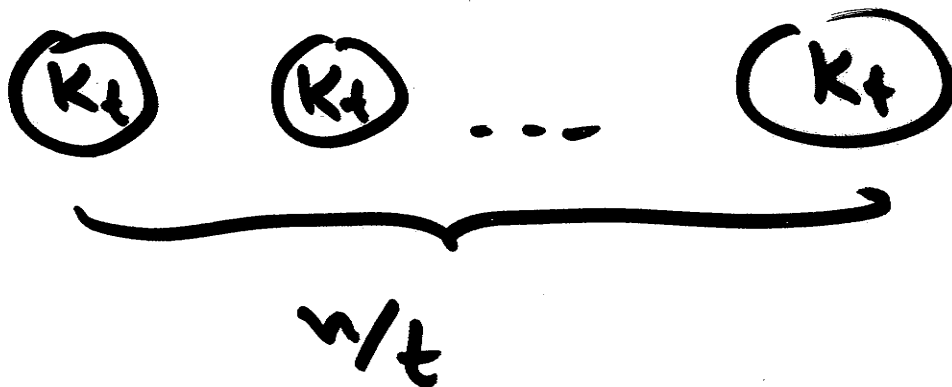


SOME VERTEX HAS DEGREE  $\geq t$



$K_{1,t}$  MINOR

EXTREMAL EXAMPLE :



②

GET A BETTER BOUND IF  
G IS CONNECTED:

THM (DING, JOHNSON, SEYMOUR)

G CONNECTED, SIMPLE

$$|E(G)| \geq |V(G)| + \frac{1}{2}(t-1)(t-2)$$

AND  $|V(G)| \neq t+2$

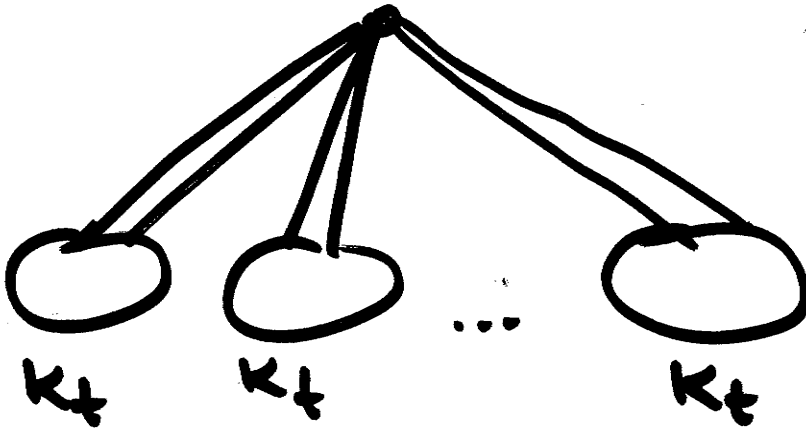


G HAS A  $K_{1,t}$ -MINOR.

9

$K_{2,t}$

A GRAPH WITH NO  $K_{2,t}$  MINOR



$$|E(G)| = \frac{1}{2}(n-1)(t+1)$$

THM 1 G SIMPLE. IF

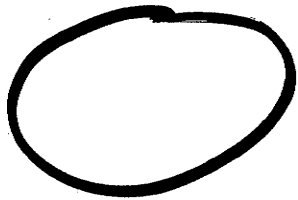
$$|E(G)| \geq \frac{1}{2}(V(G)-1)(t+1)$$

THEN G HAS A  $K_{2,t}$  MINOR

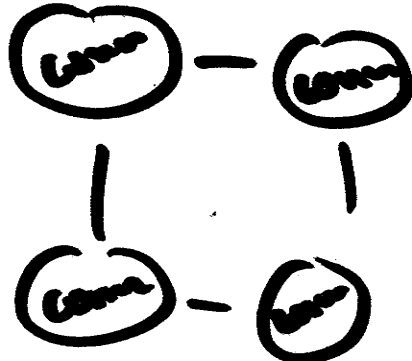
CONJECTURED, AND PROVED FOR

$t \geq 10^{29}$ , BY MYERS

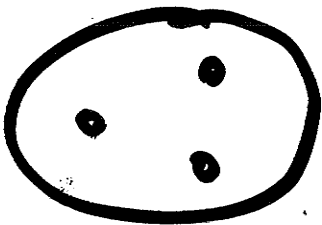
# ROOTED MINORS



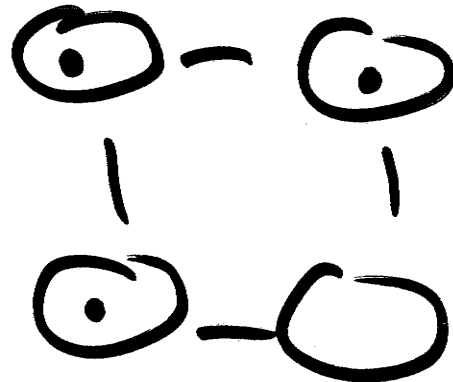
G



$C_4$  MINOR  
IN G



G WITH ROOTS



ROOTED  $C_4$  MINOR

PREScribed VERTICES OF G

"BELOW" PREScribed VERTICES  
OF THE MINOR

DEF

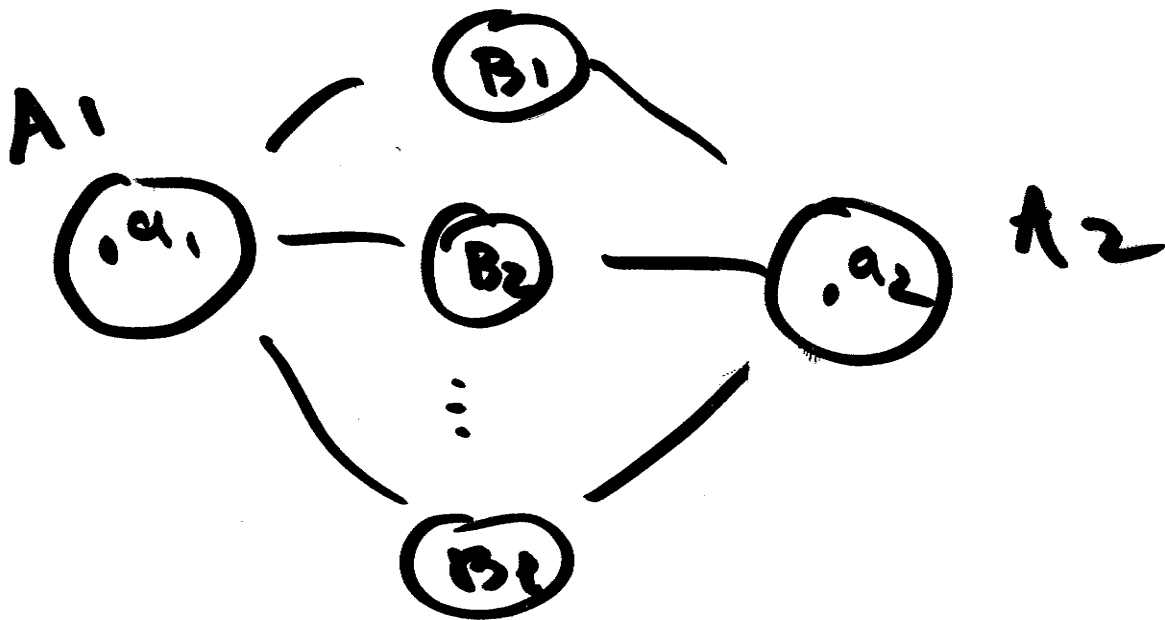
(13)

LET  $G$  BE A GRAPH WITH  
ROOTS  $a_1, a_2$ .  $G$  HAS AN

$(a_1, a_2)$ -ROOTED  $K_{2,t}$  MINOR

IF  $\exists A_1, A_2, B_1, \dots, B_t$

- DISTANT CONNECTED S.G.'S OF  $G$ ,
- S.T. •  $a_1 \in V(A_1), a_2 \in V(A_2)$
- AND •  $\forall i, j$  THERE IS AN EDGE  
FROM  $V(A_i)$  TO  $V(B_j)$



(14)

THM 2 LET  $G$  BE SIMPLE,

$a_1, a_2 \in V(G)$ . ASSUME THAT

EVERY OTHER VERTEX OF  $G$  IS

2-CONNECTED TO  $\{a_1, a_2\}$ .

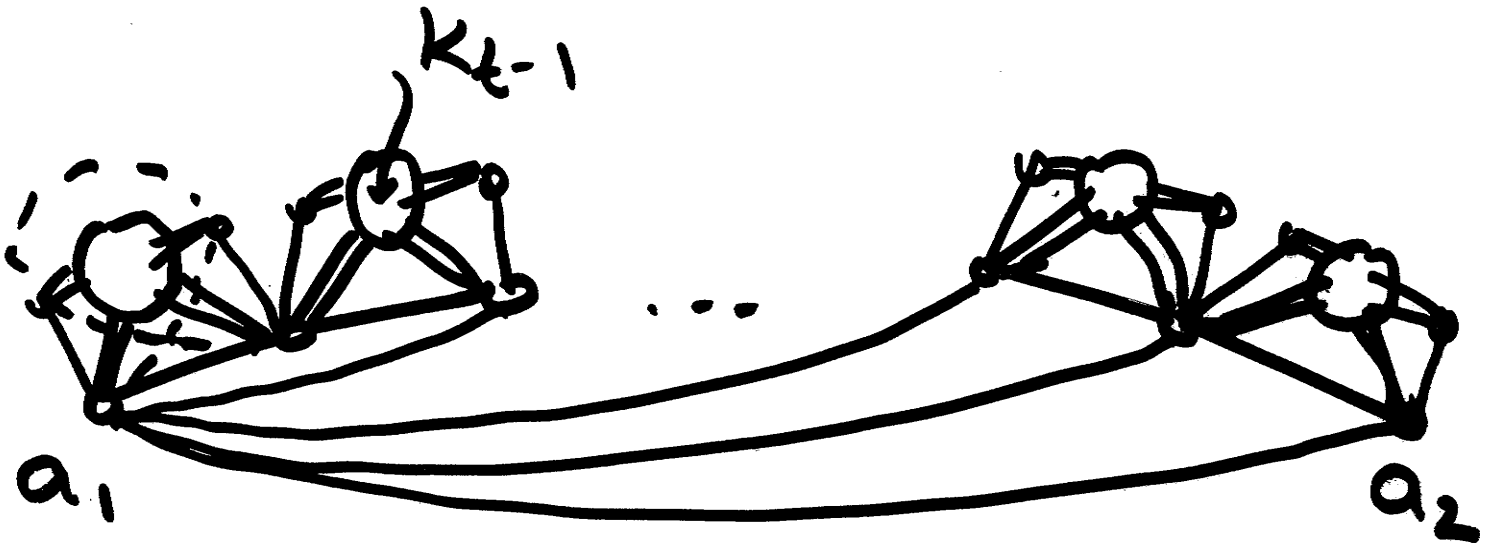
ASSUME

$$|E(G)| \geq \frac{1}{2}(|V(G)| - 1) \left( t + 3 - \frac{4}{t+2} \right)$$

THEN  $G$  HAS AN

$(a_1, a_2)$ -ROOTED  $K_{2,t}$  MINOR

## EXTREMAL EXAMPLE



$$V(G) = (t+2)(k-1) + 1$$

$$E(G) = \frac{1}{2}((V(G)-1)(t+3 - \frac{4}{t+2}) - 1)$$

NO  $(a_1, a_2)$ -ROOTED  $K_{2,t}$ -MINOR

WHAT ABOUT  $K_{s,t}$  MINORS  
FOR GENERAL  $s$  ?

(10)

THM (KOSTOCHKA & PRINCE)

EVERY GRAPH WITH AVERAGE  
DEGREE  $\geq t+3s$  HAS A

$K_{s,t}^*$  - MINOR (ASSUMING  $t \gg s$ )

AVERAGE DEGREE  $t+3s - \sqrt{ts}$   
IS NOT ENOUGH

THM (KOSTOCHKA & PRINCE)

FOR LARGE  $t$ , IF

$$|E(G)| \geq \frac{1}{2} (t+3)(n-2) + 1$$

THEN  $G$  HAS A  $K_{s,t}$  MINOR

(17)

ABOUT THE PROOFS:

THM 2 •  $a_1, a_2 \in V(G)$

• EVERY OTHER VERTEX 2-CONN TO  $\{a_1, a_2\}$

•  $|E(G)| > \frac{1}{2}(n-1)\left(t+3 - \frac{4}{t+2}\right) - 1$

$\Downarrow$

$(a_1, a_2)$ -ROOTED  $K_{2,t}$  MINOR

P.F CONSIDER A MIN COUNTER EX.

•  $a_1$  IS 2-CONN TO  $a_2$

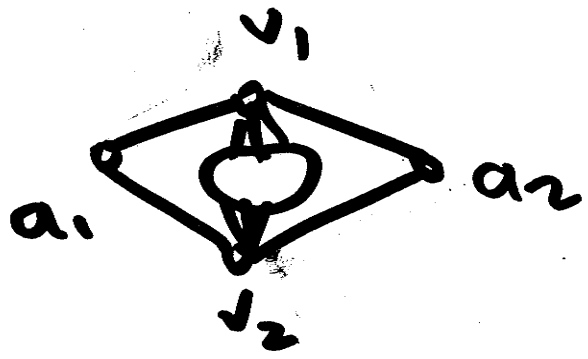
• EVERY EDGE IS IN  $\geq \frac{t+1}{2}$   $\Delta$ 'S

• EVERY COMMON NBH OF

$a_1, a_2$  HAS DEG  $> \frac{n+t+1}{2}$

(DELETE THE COMMON NBH, LOOK FOR  $K_{2,t-1}$ )

•  $a_1, a_2$  DO NOT HAVE ANY ~~TWO~~ COMMON NBRS



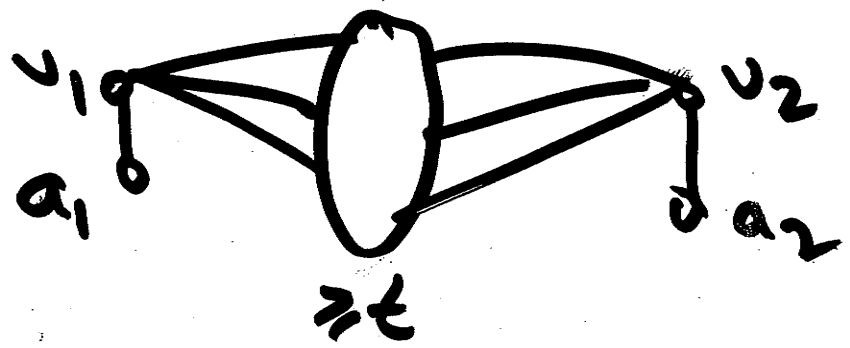
$v_1, v_2$  EACH HAVE  $DEG \geq \frac{n+t+1}{2}$



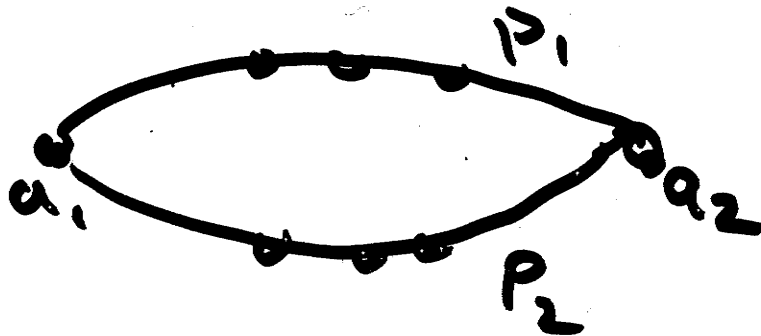
$v_1, v_2$  HAVE  $\geq t+1$  COMMON NBRS



GET ROOTED  $K_{2,t}$



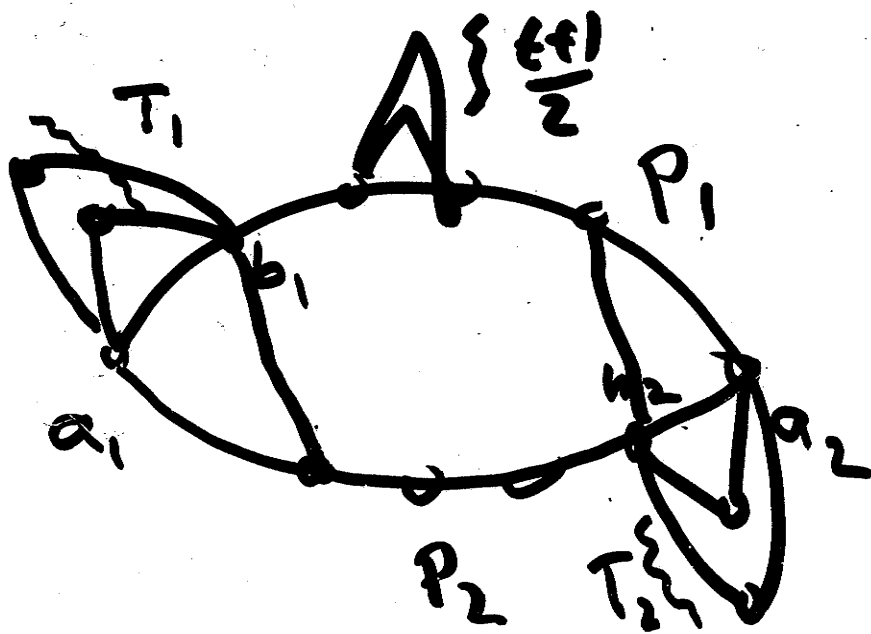
LET  $P_1, P_2$  BE TWO INTERNALLY (19)  
DISJOINT PATHS BETWEEN  $a_1, a_2$



WITH  $P_1 \cup P_2$   
MINIMAL

SIMILAR ARGUMENTS SHOW THAT  
AT LEAST ONE OF  $P_1, P_2$  HAS  
LENGTH  $\geq 4$

(OW GET TWO VERTICES OF  
 $P_1 + P_2 \setminus \{a_1, a_2\}$  WITH  
 $\geq t$  COMMON NBRS  $\Rightarrow$   
( $a_1, a_2$ )-ROOTED  $K_{2,t}$ )



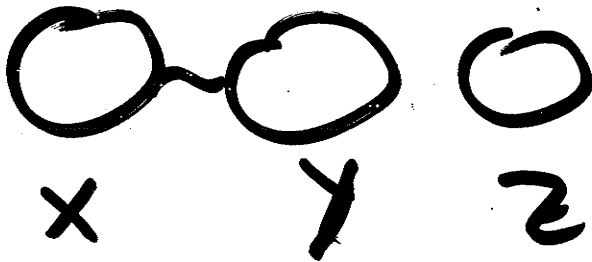
- EACH OF  $a_1 b_1, a_2 b_2$  IS IN  $\frac{t+1}{2}$  TRIANGLES
- $T_1 \cap T_2 = \emptyset$
- ALMOST GET  $K_{2,t}$

USE TRIANGLES ON AN INTERNAL EDGE OF  $P_1$

THM 1

$$|E| \geq \frac{1}{2}(n-1)(t+1) \Rightarrow K_{2,t} \text{ MINOR} \quad \textcircled{22}$$

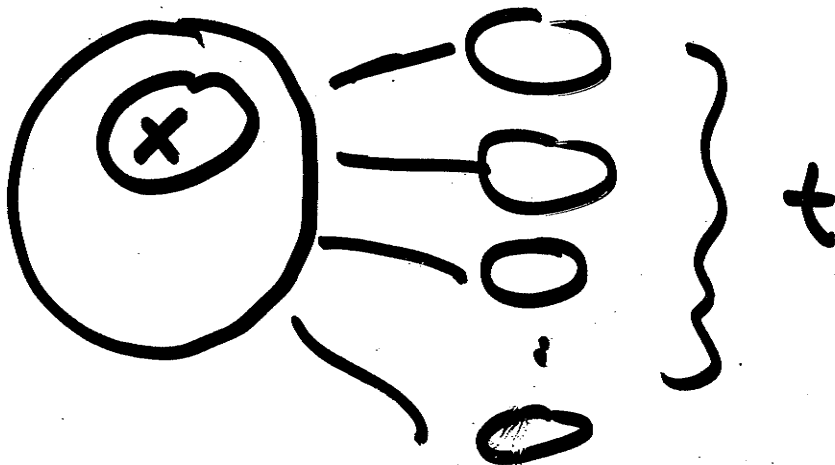
LEMMA



- X CONNECTED
- EVERY  $y \in Y$  HAS A NBR IN X
- $|Z| \geq 2(t - |Y|)$

AND ...

THEN THERE IS A  $K_{2,t}$  MINOR, S.T.

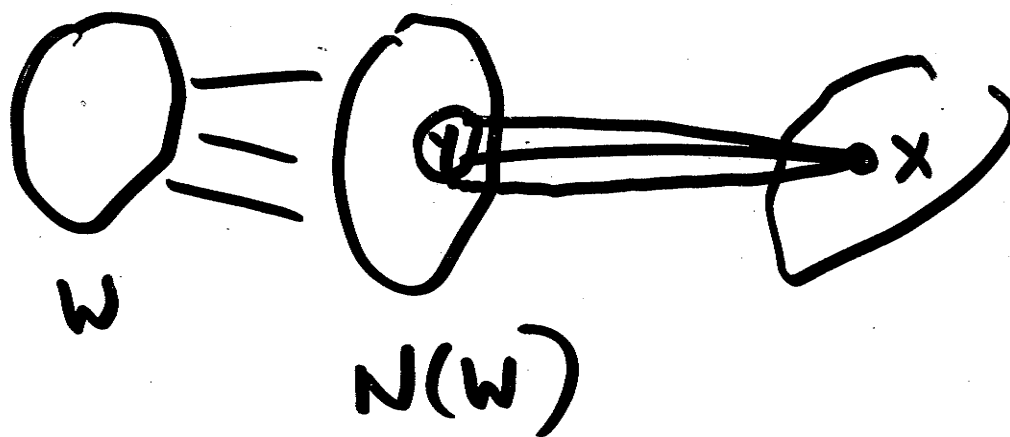


NOW CAN FIND  
CONNECTED

- A SMALL SET  $W$  (54 VERT)  
WITH LARGE NEIGHBORHOOD ( $\geq t+3$ )

AND

- A VERTEX  $x \notin W$



S.T. APPLYING THE LEMMA TO  
 $\{x\}$  AND  $N(y) \cap N(W)$  IN  
 $G \setminus (N(W) \cup \{x\})$  PRODUCES  
 A  $K_{2,t}$  MINOR