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Mantel's Theorem for random graphs

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For a graph G , denote by $t(G)$ (resp. $b(G)$) the maximum size of a triangle-free (resp. bipartite) subgraph of G . Of course $t(G) \geq b(G)$ for any G , and a classic result of Mantel from 1907 (the first case of Turán's Theorem) says that equality holds for complete graphs. A natural question, first considered by Babai, Simonovits and Spencer about 20 years ago is, when (i.e. for what $p=p(n)$) is the "Erdős-Rényi" random graph $G=G(n,p)$ likely to satisfy $t(G) = b(G)$? We show that this is true if $p > C n^{-1/2} \log^{1/2} n$ for a suitable constant C , which is best possible up to the value of C .

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