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# Identifying and locating-dominating codes in (random) geometric networks\*

Tobias Müller<sup>†</sup>

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## Abstract

We model a problem about networks built from wireless devices using identifying and locating-dominating codes in unit disk graphs. It is known that minimising the size of an identifying code is  $\mathcal{NP}$ -complete even for bipartite graphs. First, we improve this result by showing that the problem remains  $\mathcal{NP}$ -complete for bipartite planar unit disk graphs. Then, we address the question of the existence of an identifying code for random unit disk graphs. We derive the probability that there exists an identifying code as a function of the radius of the disks and we find that for all interesting ranges of  $r$  this probability is bounded away from one. The results obtained are in sharp contrast with those concerning random graphs in the Erdős-Rényi model. Another well-studied class of codes are locating-dominating codes, which are less demanding than identifying codes. A locating-dominating code always exists, but minimising its size is still  $\mathcal{NP}$ -complete in general. We extend this result to our setting by showing that this question remains  $\mathcal{NP}$ -complete for arbitrary planar unit disk graphs. Finally, we study the minimum size of such a code in random unit disk graphs, and we prove that with probability tending to one, it is of size  $(\frac{n}{r})^{2/3+o(1)}$  if  $r \leq \sqrt{2}/2 - \varepsilon$  is chosen such that  $nr^2 \rightarrow \infty$  and of size  $n^{1+o(1)}$  if  $nr^2 \ll \ln n$ .

## 1 Introduction

Our results concern two well-studied classes of codes—namely identifying and locating-dominating codes—for (random) unit disk graphs.

Given a graph  $G = (V, E)$ , we let  $\overline{N}(v)$  be the *closed neighbourhood* of the vertex  $v$ , that is the set  $\{u \in V : uv \in E\} \cup \{v\}$ . For any vertex  $v \in V$  and subset  $C \subseteq V$ , the *shadow* of  $v$  on  $C$  is  $\text{Sh}_C(v) := \overline{N}(v) \cap C$ . The set  $C$  is *covering* if  $\text{Sh}_C(v) \neq \emptyset$  for every

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vertex  $v \in V$ , and  $C$  is *separating* if  $\text{Sh}_C(u) \neq \text{Sh}_C(v)$  for every pair of distinct vertices  $(u, v) \in V^2$ . An *identifying code* of  $G$  is a set  $C \subseteq V$  that is both covering and separating.

Identifying codes are used in several applications. They were first introduced for fault diagnosis of multi-processor systems [11], but they proved to be useful in other areas, in particular location detection in harsh environments (see the work of Ray et al. [16]).

Our work is motivated by the following application. Consider wireless devices scattered around some area that are able to communicate with “users” roaming around the area. If a device decides to handle the communications with a user (this decision is made based on an appropriate protocol) it sends out a signal to nearby devices to indicate that it has become *activated* and has “grabbed” the communications with the user. Because it is quite energy consuming to send a radio signal over a long distance, it makes sense for the activated device to send out the signal only to devices that are within some predefined distance  $r$ . A device has only limited power supply (small batteries) and also limited memory. On the other hand, a centralised controller may want to determine which device has grabbed the communications with the user. To do this the controller could of course poll all the devices, but this would be inefficient because long distance radio communications are energy consuming as mentioned above. It would be more efficient if the controller were to poll only a small subset of the devices in such a way that it is able to determine the activated device on the basis of the received information. For similar reasons we want to minimise the amount of information (i.e. number of bits) sent (and stored) by each of the polled devices, since both sending and storing information consumes energy. If each device is associated with a specific region (i.e. it handles communications with all users in the region), as is for instance the case if the grabbing is done according to a nearest distance protocol, then such a system can be used for location detection (i.e. the controller is able to determine which of the regions the user is in). Systems similar to the one described here are used for instance in environmental monitoring, as described by Mainwaring et al. [13].

We model this problem using unit disk graphs. If  $V \subseteq \mathbb{R}^2$  and  $r > 0$  the *unit disk graph*  $G(V, r)$  is a graph with vertex set  $V$  and an edge  $vw \in E(G(V, r))$  whenever  $\|v - w\| < r$ . Thus, if we let  $V$  correspond to the locations of the devices and  $r$  to the range of the activation signal then the objective is to find a (minimum size) identifying code for  $G(V, r)$ .

Every graph  $H$  for which there exists a set  $V \subseteq \mathbb{R}^2$  and a positive real  $r$  such that  $H = G(V, r)$  is a *unit disk graph*, and  $(V, r)$  is a *realisation* (or an *embedding*) of  $H$ . Up to scaling, the real  $r$  can be assumed to be 1. Unit disk graphs have been extensively studied and we refer to the survey by Clark, Colbourn and Johnson [5] for further exposition on this class of graphs.

A graph has an identifying code if and only if the closed neighbourhoods of every two vertices are distinct—if there are two vertices with the same closed neighbourhood, then they cannot be separated, and otherwise the whole set of vertices is an identifying code. Thus, determining whether a given graph admits an identifying code is easy. On the other hand, minimising the size of an identifying code in an arbitrary graph is  $\mathcal{NP}$ -complete, even when restricted to bipartite graphs [4]. In Subsection 2.1 we strengthen this result by showing that minimising the size of an identifying code in an arbitrary unit disk graph is  $\mathcal{NP}$ -complete, even when restricted to bipartite planar unit disk graphs.

Section 3 is devoted to random analysis. We consider a sequence  $(G_n)_n$  of random unit disk graphs, defined as follows. Points  $X_1, X_2, \dots$  are picked uniformly at random from the unit square, and  $G_n$  is the graph whose vertex set is  $\{X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n\}$ , with an edge between two vertices if and only if the corresponding points lie at distance less than  $r$  in the plane, where  $r = r(n)$  is a sequence of positive distances that may vary with  $n$ . These graphs are often also called random geometric graphs and have enjoyed increasing popularity as models for various applications in recent years. We shall determine the (asymptotic) probability that an identifying code exists in terms of  $r$  and we shall see that this probability is bounded away from one for all interesting ranges of  $r$ . This behaviour is completely different from what happens in the Erdős-Rényi random graph [8]: if  $p$  and  $1-p$  both are at least  $\frac{4 \log \log n}{\log n}$ , then almost every graph in  $\mathcal{G}_{n,p}$  admits an identifying code, and the minimum size  $c(n, p)$  of such a code is equivalent to  $f(n, p) := \frac{2 \log n}{\log(1/(p^2+(1-p)^2))}$ , in the sense that for every  $\varepsilon > 0$ , the probability that  $(1 - \varepsilon) \cdot f(n, p) < c(n, p) < (1 + \varepsilon) \cdot f(n, p)$  tends to 1 when  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .

Our results on the existence of an identifying code in a random unit disk graph indicate that for the relevant applications identifying codes might not work so well in practice. One might therefore want to slightly relax the constraints on the code and perform a similar type of analysis. There is actually a well-studied class of codes that are less demanding, namely locating-dominating codes—see for instance [3, 6, 9]. A locating-dominating code is the same as an identifying code, except that the vertices of the code need not be separated. In fault-diagnosis for instance, this corresponds to the case where some devices can be ensured to be non-faulty. The problem is then to minimise the number of such special devices (which are more expensive). Formally, a *locating-dominating code* of a graph  $G = (V, E)$  is a subset  $C$  of  $V$  such that  $\overline{N}(v) \cap C \neq \emptyset$  and  $\overline{N}(u) \cap C \neq \overline{N}(v) \cap C$  for every two distinct vertices  $u, v$  of  $V \setminus C$ . Thus, the whole set of vertices is always a locating-dominating code. We prove in section 2.2 that it is  $\mathcal{NP}$ -complete to minimise the size of a locating-dominating code in an arbitrary planar unit disk graph, and in section 3.2 we establish that, with probability tending to one, the minimum size of a locating-dominating code is  $\left(\frac{n}{r}\right)^{2/3+o(1)}$  if  $nr^2 \rightarrow \infty$ , and  $n^{1+o(1)}$  if  $nr^2 \ll \ln n$ . Here and in the rest of the paper,  $f(n) \ll g(n)$  means that  $\frac{f(n)}{g(n)} \rightarrow 0$  when  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .

We end the paper by pointing out some directions for further work on this topic.

## 2 Complexity

In this section we prove two complexity results about identifying and locating-dominating codes in unit disk graphs.

### 2.1 Identifying codes in unit disk graphs

Minimising the size of an identifying code is  $\mathcal{NP}$ -complete for bipartite graphs [4]. We extend this result to arbitrary planar bipartite unit disk graphs.

**Theorem 1.** *The following problem is  $\mathcal{NP}$ -complete.*

INSTANCE: *A planar bipartite unit disk graph  $G$  along with a realisation of that graph and a positive integer  $k$ .*

QUESTION: *Does  $G$  admit an identifying code of size at most  $k$ ?*

The fact that a realisation of the unit disk graph is part of the input is important since determining whether an arbitrary graph is a unit disk graph is  $\mathcal{NP}$ -complete [2].

We need two lemmas to prove Theorem 1. Given a graph  $G$ , a *handle* of  $G$  is an induced path of  $G$  the vertices of which all have degree 2 in  $G$ .

**Lemma 2.** *Consider a graph  $G$  with a handle  $P := v_1v_2 \dots v_{6k}$  of order  $6k$  for a positive integer  $k$ . Let  $x$  be the neighbour of  $v_1$  in  $V(G) \setminus \{v_2\}$ . Then, every identifying code  $C$  of  $G$  contains at least  $3k$  vertices of  $P$ . Moreover, if  $C$  contains exactly  $3k$  vertices of  $P$  and if  $v_{6k} \in C$ , then  $x \in C$ .*

*Proof.* The proof is by induction on the positive integer  $k$ , the result being directly checked if  $k = 1$ . So, suppose that the result is true for an integer  $k - 1 \geq 1$ , and let us prove it for  $k$ . Let  $P$  be a handle as in the statement of the lemma, and  $C$  an identifying code of  $G$ . The vertices  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{6(k-1)}$  form a handle  $P_1$  of  $G$ , and the vertices  $v_{6(k-1)+1}, \dots, v_{6k}$  form a handle  $P_2$  of order 6. By the induction hypothesis,  $C$  contains at least  $3(k-1)$  vertices of  $P_1$ . As the result is true when  $k$  is one,  $C$  contains at least three vertices of  $P_2$ . Therefore,  $C$  contains at least  $3k$  vertices of  $P$ . Moreover, if  $C$  contains exactly  $3k$  of these vertices, then it contains exactly  $3(k-1)$  vertices of  $P_1$  and three vertices of  $P_2$ . So, if in addition  $v_{6k} \in C$ , then  $v_{6(k-1)} \in C$ , since it is the neighbour of  $v_{6(k-1)+1}$  not in  $P_2$ . Now, using the induction hypothesis on  $P_1$ , we deduce that  $x \in C$ , as desired.  $\square$

The next lemma deals with the property of a particular graph, called a *variable-gadget*.

**Definition 3.** A *variable-gadget* of order  $m$  is the graph  $K = (V, E)$  where

- $V := T \cup F \cup R$  with

$$\begin{aligned} T &:= \{t_i : 1 \leq i \leq m\}, \\ F &:= \{f_i : 1 \leq i \leq m\}, \text{ and} \\ R &:= \{y_i, z_i : 1 \leq i \leq 2m\}; \end{aligned}$$

- $E := E_1 \cup E_2 \cup E_3$  with

$$\begin{aligned} E_1 &:= \{z_{2i-1}t_i : 1 \leq i \leq m\} \cup \{z_{2i-1}f_i : 1 \leq i \leq m\}, \\ E_2 &:= \{z_{2i}t_{i+1} : 1 \leq i \leq m\} \cup \{z_{2i}f_i : 1 \leq i \leq m\}, \text{ and} \\ E_3 &:= \{z_i y_i : 1 \leq i \leq 2m\}. \end{aligned}$$

Note that for  $E_2$ , we set  $t_{m+1} := t_1$ . See Figure 1 for an example.

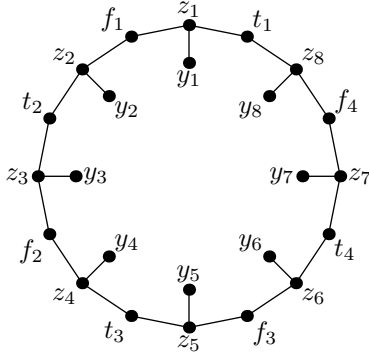


Figure 1: The variable-gadget  $K$  of order 4.

**Lemma 4.** *Consider a graph  $G$  containing a variable-gadget  $K$  of order  $m$  as an induced subgraph. Suppose moreover that only the vertices of  $T \cup F$  can have neighbours outside of  $K$ . Then, every identifying code  $C$  of  $G$  contains at least  $3m$  vertices of  $K$ . Moreover, if  $C$  contains exactly  $3m$  vertices of  $K$ , then either  $T \subset C$  and  $F \cap C = \emptyset$ , or  $F \subset C$  and  $T \cap C = \emptyset$ .*

*Proof.* Every identifying code  $C$  of  $G$  must contain, for every  $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, 2m\}$ , at least one vertex among  $y_i, z_i$  so as to cover  $y_i$ . We assert that, for every  $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, 2m\}$ , at least one neighbour of  $z_i$  different from  $y_i$  belongs to  $C$ . Otherwise,  $z_i$  and  $y_i$  are not separated, since the only vertices of  $C$  in  $\overline{N}(z_i)$  also belong to  $\overline{N}(y_i)$ . Hence, the number of vertices of  $C$  in  $K$  is at least  $3m$ .

Suppose now that  $C$  contains a vertex of  $T$  and a vertex of  $F$ . Then, by the previous remark, observe that there must exist indices  $i, j, k$  such that  $t_i \in C$ ,  $f_j \in C$  and  $z_k$  is adjacent to both  $t_i$  and  $f_j$ . So we infer that  $2 \cdot |C \cap (T \cup F)| \geq 2m + 1$ . Therefore  $C$  contains at least  $m + 1$  vertices in  $T \cup F$ , which concludes the proof.  $\square$

*Proof of Theorem 1.* Let us outline the proof before going into details. Consider an instance  $I = (\varepsilon, X)$  of 3-SAT, where  $\varepsilon = (\mathcal{C}_1, \mathcal{C}_2, \dots, \mathcal{C}_m)$  is a set of clauses over the set of variables  $X = \{X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n\}$ . We can associate with  $I$  the bipartite graph  $H$  with vertex-set  $\varepsilon \cup X$  and an edge between  $X_i$  and  $C_j$  whenever  $X_i \in C_j$  or  $\overline{X_i} \in C_j$ . PLANAR 3-SAT is the 3-SAT problem for the class of all instances for which  $H$  is planar. It is known that PLANAR 3-SAT is  $\mathcal{NP}$ -complete [12]. So, consider an instance  $I$  of PLANAR 3-SAT.

First we shall compute, in polynomial-time, a particular embedding of  $H$ , so-called *box-orthogonal embedding*. Then, we construct from it a planar bipartite unit disk graph  $G$  along with a realisation  $\mathring{H}$ , still in polynomial-time, which has an identifying code of size at most  $f(\mathring{H})$  if and only if  $I$  can be satisfied. As the function  $f$ , to be made precise later, is polynomially computable, this yields the desired result.

A *box-orthogonal embedding* of  $H$  is a planar embedding of  $H$  such that each edge is represented by alternate horizontal and vertical line segments, and each vertex is represented by a (possibly degenerate) rectangle, called a *box*. All line segments, including those at the

perimeter of a box, are assumed to lie on lines of the integer grid—see Figure 2.1. Each planar graph has such an embedding, and it can be computed in polynomial-time [7, 14].

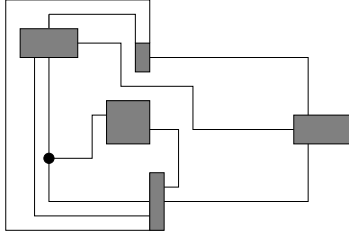


Figure 2: Example of a box-orthogonal embedding.

First, note that every vertex of degree at most 4 can indeed be represented by just a point, and not a (non-degenerated) rectangle: it suffices for this to arrange edges incident to this vertex; see Figure 4(a). Thus, we may assume that all the vertices of  $\varepsilon$  are represented by points.

We can also ensure that all vertices  $X_i \in X$  are represented by rectangles of the same dimensions, which are chosen so that a variable-gadget  $K_i$  of order  $m$  (and with vertex-set  $T_i \cup F_i \cup R_i$ ) can be embedded on its perimeter. See Figure 3 for the embedding of the gadget on the perimeter of a rectangle. We may assume that all edges are sufficiently long and that there is enough space between the edges for what follows.

The edges around a box  $B_i$  are modified as shown in Figure 4(b), so as to ensure that an edge coming from a vertex  $\mathcal{C}_j$  reaches a vertex of  $T_i$  if  $X_i \in \mathcal{C}_j$ , and a vertex of  $F_i$  if  $\bar{X}_i \in \mathcal{C}_j$ . This can be done such that for every variable gadget  $K_i$ , each vertex of  $T_i \cup F_i$  has at most one neighbour outside of  $K_i$ . Note that the vertices of  $R_i$  have no neighbour outside of  $K_i$ .

Now, we compute the length of each edge, and we subdivide each edge by picking points with rational coordinates on the edges in such a way that

- the number of subdivisions is a multiple of 6 for each edge; and
- every two non-consecutive points on an edge are at distance at least  $1 + 2\nu$  for some fixed positive rational  $\nu$ .

(This is possible since we can assume the edges to be sufficiently long.) All these points are added to the vertex set of the graph  $G$  we are building. Notice that this step also can be done in polynomial-time.

Last, we add a neighbour  $o_j$  to each vertex  $\mathcal{C}_j \in \varepsilon$ ; this does not prevent the graph from being a unit disk graph since the vertices of  $\varepsilon$  had degree 3. The obtained graph  $G$  is a planar unit disk graph, a realisation  $\hat{H}$  being obtained from the planar embedding we built by centring a disk of radius  $1/2 + \nu$  at each vertex. It is moreover bipartite, since the following 2-colouring of  $G$  is proper. Colour the vertices of  $\varepsilon$  red and the vertices  $o_j$  blue. In each variable-gadget, colour the vertices of  $T \cup F \cup \{y_1, y_2, \dots, y_{2m}\}$  blue and the remaining vertices, namely  $z_1, z_2, \dots, z_{2m}$ , red. Finally, for each path corresponding to an

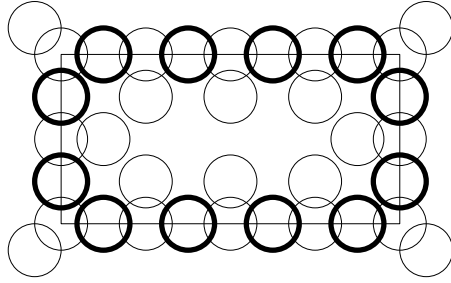


Figure 3: Embedding of a variable-gadget around a box. The bold circles represent the vertices of  $T \cup F$ .

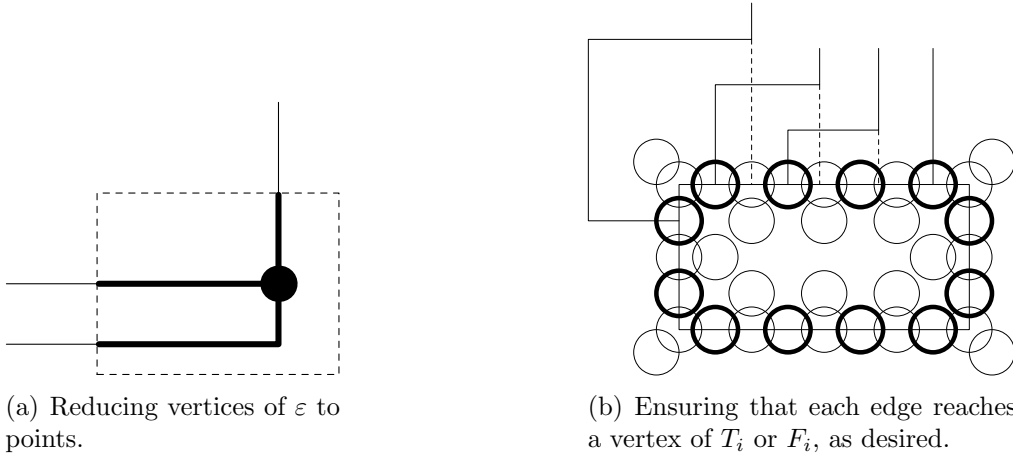


Figure 4: Modifications of the embedding of the edges of  $H$ .

edge of  $H$ , alternatively colour the vertices red and blue in such a way that the endvertex adjacent to a vertex of a variable-gadget is coloured red, and the other endvertex blue—this is possible because each such path has even order.

We prove now that  $I$  can be satisfied if and only if  $G$  has a code of size at most  $f(\mathring{H})$ , defined below. For each clause  $\mathcal{C}_j$  three paths, denoted by  $p_j^\ell$  for  $\ell \in \{1, 2, 3\}$ , join the vertex  $\mathcal{C}_j$  to the corresponding literals. Let  $\gamma_j^\ell$  be the number of internal vertices of the path  $p_j^\ell$ —note that each  $\gamma_j^\ell$  is of the form  $6s$  for some positive integer  $s = s(\ell, j)$ . Set

$$f(\mathring{H}) := 3nm + m + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{j=1}^m (\gamma_j^1 + \gamma_j^2 + \gamma_j^3) .$$

Suppose first that  $I$  can be satisfied. We pick a particular satisfying assignment  $A$  and construct an identifying code  $C$  of size at most  $f(\mathring{H})$ . For each variable  $X_i$ , the vertices of  $T_i$  are added to  $C$  if  $X_i$  is true, and the vertices of  $F_i$  are added to  $C$  otherwise. We also add the vertices  $z_j$  of  $R_i$ . So far  $C$  contains  $n \times 3m$  vertices. Consider a path  $p_j^\ell = xv_1v_2 \dots v_{6k}\mathcal{C}_j$  where  $x$  belongs to a variable-gadget  $K_i$ . If the literal to which  $x$



corresponds is true, according to the satisfying assignment  $A$ , then  $x \in C$  and we add to  $C$  the vertices  $v_{2r}$  for  $r \in \{1, 2, \dots, 3k\}$ . Otherwise, we add to  $C$  the vertices  $v_{2r-1}$  for  $r \in \{1, 2, \dots, 3k\}$ . Last, we add to  $C$  the vertices  $o_j$  for  $j \in \{1, 2, \dots, m\}$ . The obtained code  $C$  has size  $f(\mathring{H})$ . Let us check that  $C$  is an identifying code. All the vertices are covered by the definition of  $C$ , so it only remains to check that  $C$  is separating. To see this, notice that every vertex  $\mathcal{C}_j$  has at least one neighbour in  $C$  different from  $o_j$ , since the clause  $\mathcal{C}_j$  is satisfied. Hence  $\text{Sh}_C(o_j) = \{o_j\}$  for every  $j \in \{1, 2, \dots, m\}$ , while the shadow of  $\mathcal{C}_j$  on  $C$  consists of  $o_j$  and at least one other vertex. The other vertices are surely separated.

Conversely, assume that  $G$  has an identifying code  $C$  of size at most  $f(\mathring{H})$ . By Lemmas 2 and 4, the code  $C$  contains at least  $\gamma_j^\ell/2$  internal vertices of  $p_j^\ell$ , and at least  $3m$  vertices in each variable-gadget. Moreover,  $C$  must contain at least one vertex among  $\mathcal{C}_j, o_j$  so as to cover  $o_j$ . Hence, the code  $C$  contains exactly that number of vertices in each of the subgraphs mentioned. Thus, by Lemma 4, for each variable-gadget  $K_i$ , either  $F_i \subset C$  and  $T_i \cap C = \emptyset$ , or  $T_i \subset C$  and  $F_i \cap C = \emptyset$ . If  $T_i \subset C$  then we set the variable  $X_i$  to be true, otherwise false. Consider now an arbitrary clause  $\mathcal{C}_j$ : we infer that at least one neighbour of  $\mathcal{C}_j$  different from  $o_j$  also belongs to  $C$  (otherwise  $C$  would not be separating  $\mathcal{C}_j$  and  $o_j$ ). Consider the path  $p_j^\ell = xv_1v_2 \dots v_{6k}\mathcal{C}_j$  to which this vertex belongs: its internal vertices form a handle  $v_1v_2 \dots v_{6k}$  of  $G$ . The code  $C$  contains exactly  $\gamma_j^\ell/2$  vertices of this handle, and  $v_{6k} \in C$ . Therefore  $x$  belongs to  $C$  by Lemma 2. By the definition, the vertex  $x$  belongs to  $T_i \cup F_i$  for some variable-gadget  $K_i$ , and hence the corresponding literal is true. Thus the clause  $\mathcal{C}_j$  is satisfied.  $\square$

## 2.2 Locating-dominating codes in unit disk graphs

Minimising the size of a locating-dominating code is  $\mathcal{NP}$ -complete [4]. We extend this result to planar unit disk graphs.

**Theorem 5.** *The following problem is  $\mathcal{NP}$ -complete.*

INSTANCE: *A planar unit disk graph  $G$  along with a realisation of that graph and a positive integer  $k$ .*

QUESTION: *Does  $G$  admit a locating-dominating code of size at most  $k$ ?*

The proof follows the same line as the preceding one, we basically just change the gadgets.

**Lemma 6.** *Consider a graph  $G$  with a handle  $P := v_1v_2 \dots v_{5k}$  of order  $5k$  for a positive integer  $k$ . Let  $x$  be the neighbour of  $v_1$  in  $V(G) \setminus \{v_2\}$ . Then, every locating-dominating code  $C$  of  $G$  contains at least  $2k$  vertices of  $P$ . Moreover, if  $C$  contains exactly  $k$  of these vertices and if  $v_{5k} \in C$ , then  $x \in C$ .*

*Proof.* The proof is by induction on the positive integer  $k$ , so suppose first that  $k = 1$ . If  $C$  contains exactly one vertex of  $P$ , it must be  $v_3$ , for otherwise one of  $v_2, v_3, v_4$  would not be covered. But then  $v_2$  and  $v_4$  are not separated. So  $C$  contains at least two vertices of

$P$ . If  $C$  contains exactly two vertices of  $P$ , and if  $v_5 \in C$ , then neither  $v_1$  nor  $v_4$  belongs to  $C$ —otherwise  $v_3$  and  $v_2$  would not be covered, respectively. Thus  $C$  must contain exactly one of  $v_2$  and  $v_3$ . If  $x \notin C$ , then  $v_2 \in C$  since  $v_1$  is covered. Therefore,  $v_1$  and  $v_3$  are not separated, a contradiction. So  $x \in C$ , as desired.

Suppose now that the result is true for an integer  $k - 1 \geq 1$ : it extends to  $k$  in an analogous way as for Lemma 2.  $\square$

The next lemma gives a new variable-gadget, designed to deal with locating-dominating codes.

**Definition 7.** A *variable-gadget of order  $m$*  is the graph  $L = (V, E)$  where

- $V := T \cup F \cup R$  with

$$\begin{aligned} T &:= \{t_i : 1 \leq i \leq m\}, \\ F &:= \{f_i : 1 \leq i \leq m\}, \text{ and} \\ R &:= \{x_i, y_i, z_i : 1 \leq i \leq 2m\}; \end{aligned}$$

- $E := E_1 \cup E_2 \cup E_3$  with

$$\begin{aligned} E_1 &:= \{y_{2i-1}t_i, z_{2i-1}t_i, y_{2i-1}f_i, z_{2i-1}f_i : 1 \leq i \leq m\}, \\ E_2 &:= \{y_{2i}t_{i+1}, z_{2i}t_{i+1}, y_{2i}f_i, z_{2i}f_i : 1 \leq i \leq m\}, \text{ and} \\ E_3 &:= \{x_i y_i, x_i z_i, z_i y_i : 1 \leq i \leq 2m\}. \end{aligned}$$

Note that for  $E_2$ , we set  $t_{m+1} := t_1$ . See Figure 5(a) for an example.

The variable-gadget  $L$  is a planar unit disk graph: the disks can be embedded along a box, as illustrated in Figure 5(b).

**Lemma 8.** *Consider a graph  $G$  containing a variable-gadget  $L$  as an induced subgraph. Suppose moreover that only the vertices of  $T \cup F$  can have neighbours outside of  $K$ . Then, every locating-dominating code  $C$  of  $G$  contains at least  $3m$  vertices of  $K$ . Moreover, if  $C$  contains exactly  $3m$  vertices of  $K$ , then either  $T \subset C$  and  $F \cap C = \emptyset$ , or  $F \subset C$  and  $T \cap C = \emptyset$ .*

*Proof.* Every locating-dominating code  $C$  of  $G$  must contain at least one vertex among  $y_i, z_i$ , say  $y_i$ , for each  $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, 2m\}$ . So  $C$  has at least  $2m$  vertices of  $L$  so far. For each  $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, m\}$ , the code must contain at least one vertex among the set  $\{x_{2i-1}, z_{2i-1}, t_i, f_i\}$  and at least one among the set  $\{x_{2i}, z_{2i}, t_{i+1}, f_i\}$  (where again we set  $t_{m+1} := t_1$ ) in order to separate  $x_{2i-1}$  and  $z_{2i-1}$  and, respectively,  $x_{2i}$  and  $z_{2i}$ . Thus, the code  $C$  contains at least  $m$  additional vertices of  $L$ , as desired. Moreover, it contains exactly  $m$  additional vertices of  $L$  if and only if it contains either all of  $T$  (and thus none of  $F$ ) or all of  $F$ .  $\square$

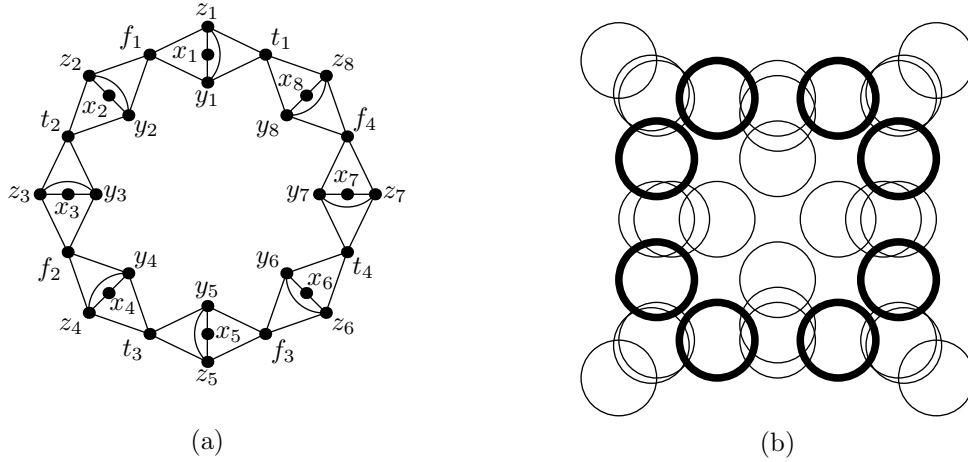


Figure 5: The variable-gadget  $L$  of order 4 along with a realisation where the bold circles represent the vertices of  $T \cup F$ .

*Proof of Theorem 5.* The proof is analogous to the one of Theorem 1. We keep the same construction, except that we replace the variable gadgets  $K_i$  by the variable gadgets  $L_i$ , and we make the number of internal vertices of each path joining a variable gadget to a clause vertex a multiple of 5 instead of 6. Recall that for each clause  $\mathcal{C}_j$  three paths, denoted by  $p_j^\ell$  for  $\ell \in \{1, 2, 3\}$ , join the vertex  $\mathcal{C}_j$  to the corresponding literals. Let  $\gamma_j^\ell$  be the number of internal vertices of the path  $p_j^\ell$ : each  $\gamma_j^\ell$  is thus of the form  $5s$  for some positive integer  $s = s(\ell, j)$ . Recall that for each  $j \in \{1, 2, \dots, m\}$ , there is a vertex  $o_j$  whose only neighbour is the clause vertex  $\mathcal{C}_j$ . We add a new vertex  $o'_j$  whose only neighbour is  $o_j$ . Set

$$f(\mathring{H}) := 3nm + m + \frac{2}{5} \sum_{j=1}^m (\gamma_j^1 + \gamma_j^2 + \gamma_j^3) .$$

Suppose first that the considered instance of PLANAR 3-SAT can be satisfied. We pick a satisfying assignment  $A$  and we construct a locating-dominating code  $C$  of size at most  $f(\mathring{H})$ . For each variable  $X_i$ , the vertices of  $T_i$  are added to  $C$  if  $X_i$  is true, and the vertices of  $F_i$  are added to  $C$  otherwise. We also add the vertices  $y_j$  of  $R_i$ . So far we have  $n \times 3m$  vertices in  $C$ . Consider a path  $p_j^\ell = xv_1v_2 \dots v_{5k}\mathcal{C}_j$ , where  $x$  belongs to the variable-gadget  $L_i$ . If the literal to which  $x$  corresponds is true, according to the satisfying assignment  $A$ , then  $x \in C$  and we add to  $C$  the vertices  $v_{5r-2}$  and  $v_{5r}$  for  $r \in \{1, 2, \dots, k\}$ . Otherwise, we add to  $C$  the vertices  $v_{5r-3}$  and  $v_{5r-1}$  for  $r \in \{1, 2, \dots, k\}$ . Last, we add to  $C$  the vertices  $o_j$  for  $j \in \{1, 2, \dots, m\}$ . The obtained code  $C$  has size  $f(\mathring{H})$ . Let us check now that  $C$  is a locating-dominating code. That  $C$  is covering directly follows from its definition. Now, notice that every vertex  $\mathcal{C}_j$  has at least one neighbour in  $C$  different from  $o_j$ , since the clause  $\mathcal{C}_j$  is satisfied. Thus  $\mathcal{C}_j$  is separated from  $o'_j$ , since  $\text{Sh}_C(o'_j) = \{o_j\}$ . The other vertices that are not in  $C$  are surely separated.

Conversely, assume that  $G$  has a locating-dominating code  $C$  of size at most  $f(\mathring{H})$ . By Lemmas 6 and 8, the code  $C$  contains at least  $2\gamma_j^\ell/5$  internal vertices of  $p_j^\ell$ , and at least

$3m$  vertices in each variable-gadget. Moreover,  $C$  must contain at least one vertex among  $\mathcal{C}_j, o_j, o'_j$  so as to cover  $o_j$ . Hence, the code  $C$  contains exactly that number of vertices in each of the subgraphs mentioned. Notice that the only vertex of  $C$  among  $\mathcal{C}_j, o_j, o'_j$  cannot then be  $\mathcal{C}_j$ , for otherwise  $o'_j$  would not be covered. Also, by Lemma 8, for each variable-gadget  $L_i$ , either  $F_i \subset C$  and  $T_i \cap C = \emptyset$ , or  $T_i \subset C$  and  $F_i \cap C = \emptyset$ . If  $T_i \subset C$  then we set  $X_i$  to be true, otherwise false. Consider now an arbitrary clause  $\mathcal{C}_j$ : we infer that at least one neighbour of  $\mathcal{C}_j$  different from  $o_j$  also belongs to  $C$ ; otherwise  $C$  would not be separating  $\mathcal{C}_j$  and  $o_j$ , or would not cover  $\mathcal{C}_j$ . Consider the path  $p_j^\ell = xv_1v_2 \dots v_{5k}\mathcal{C}_j$  to which this vertex belongs: its internal vertices form a handle  $v_1v_2 \dots v_{5k}$  of  $G$ . The code  $C$  contains exactly  $2\gamma_j^\ell/5$  vertices of this handle, and  $v_{5k} \in C$ . Therefore  $x$  belongs to  $C$  by Lemma 6. By the definition, the vertex  $x$  belongs to  $T_i \cup F_i$  for some variable-gadget  $L_i$ , and hence the corresponding literal is true. Thus the clause  $\mathcal{C}_j$  is satisfied.  $\square$

### 3 Random unit disk graphs

In this section, we consider the random unit disk graph  $G_n$  described in the introduction. Furthermore, to simplify the computations we make the *toroidal convention*, i.e. we identify opposite sides of  $[0, 1]^2$ , making it into a torus. Here distances are measured in the obvious way (formally, we may redefine  $\|x\| := \sqrt{\min(x_1, 1-x_1)^2 + \min(x_2, 1-x_2)^2}$  for  $x = (x_1, x_2) \in [0, 1]^2$ ).

#### 3.1 Identifying codes

We shall prove the following theorem.

**Theorem 9.** *The following hold for  $G_n$  under the assumptions stated.*

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}(G_n \text{ has an ID-code}) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } nr^2 \ll n^{-1}, \\ \exp[-\frac{\pi\lambda}{2}] & \text{if } nr^2 \sim \lambda n^{-1}, \text{ for some } \lambda > 0, \\ 0 & \text{if } n^{-1} \ll nr^2 \ll n, \\ \exp[-\mu(r)] & \text{if } r \text{ is fixed in } (0, \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{2}), \\ 0 & \text{if } r \geq \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{2}. \end{cases}$$

where for  $r \in (0, \frac{1}{2})$ , we set  $\mu(r) := \frac{\pi}{16r^2}$ , and for  $r \in (\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{2})$ , we set

$$\begin{aligned} \mu(r) := & \frac{1}{4r^2 \sin^2(\frac{\beta}{2})} \left[ \frac{\cos(\frac{\beta}{2})}{\cos(\frac{\beta}{2}) + \sin(\frac{\beta}{2})} - \frac{1}{2} \right] \\ & + \frac{1}{4r^2 \sin(\beta)} \left[ \frac{2(\cos(\frac{\beta}{2}) - \sin(\frac{\beta}{2})) \tan(\frac{\beta}{4})}{(1 - \cos(\frac{\beta}{2}) + \sin(\frac{\beta}{2})) \tan^2(\frac{\beta}{4}) + 1 + \cos(\frac{\beta}{2}) - \sin(\frac{\beta}{2})} \right. \\ & \left. + \frac{2}{\sqrt{\sin(\beta)}} \arctan \left( \sqrt{\frac{(1 - \cos(\frac{\beta}{2}) + \sin(\frac{\beta}{2}))}{(1 + \cos(\frac{\beta}{2}) - \sin(\frac{\beta}{2}))}} \tan\left(\frac{\beta}{4}\right) \right) \right], \end{aligned}$$

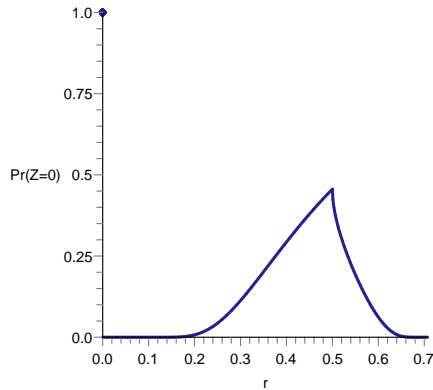


Figure 6: The (asymptotic) probability that an identifying code exists as a function of  $r$ , for  $r$  fixed.

with  $\beta = \beta(r) := \frac{\pi}{2} - 2 \arccos\left(\frac{1}{2r}\right)$ .

The expression for  $\mu(r)$  when  $r > \frac{1}{2}$  given in Theorem 9 can be rewritten in terms of  $r$  using the relations

$$\cos\left(\frac{\beta}{2}\right) = \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{2}\left(\frac{1}{2r} + \sqrt{1 - \frac{1}{4r^2}}\right), \quad \sin\left(\frac{\beta}{2}\right) = \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{2}\left(\frac{1}{2r} - \sqrt{1 - \frac{1}{4r^2}}\right),$$

together with  $\tan\left(\frac{\beta}{4}\right) = \sqrt{\frac{1 - \cos(\beta/2)}{1 + \cos(\beta/2)}}$ . Unfortunately, it does not appear possible to obtain a substantially simpler expression than the one given in Theorem 9.

It should be mentioned that (unbeknownst to them) Agarwal and Spencer also studied the probability that an ID-code exists under a different setting [1]. More precisely, Theorem 9 extends a result of theirs which corresponds to the case where  $r$  is fixed in  $(0, \frac{1}{10})$ .

### 3.1.1 The proof of Theorem 9.

We say that two distinct vertices  $X_i$  and  $X_j$  of  $G_n$  form a *bad pair* if  $\overline{N}(X_i) = \overline{N}(X_j)$ . Let  $Z$  be the number of bad pairs in  $G_n$ . Thus

$$\mathbb{P}(G_n \text{ has an ID-code}) = \mathbb{P}(Z = 0). \tag{1}$$

The very first assertion of Theorem 9 is rather trivial.

**Lemma 10.** *If  $nr^2 \ll n^{-1}$  then  $\mathbb{P}(Z = 0) = 1 + o(1)$ .*

*Proof.* Notice that if  $G_n$  contains no edges at all then the whole set of vertices is an identifying code. Let  $Y := |E(G_n)|$  be the number of edges of  $G_n$ . We see that

$$\mathbb{P}(Y > 0) \leq \mathbb{E}Y \leq \binom{n}{2} \pi r^2 = o(1).$$

So  $|E(G_n)| = 0$  with probability  $1 + o(1)$ .  $\square$

Our next aim is to prove the theorem for  $r$  in the range  $nr^2 \sim \frac{\lambda}{n}$ . For this purpose we use the following theorem by Penrose [15].

**Theorem 11** (Penrose). *Let  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  and suppose  $(nr^2)^k \sim \lambda n^{-1}$  for some  $\lambda > 0$ . Then*

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}(\Delta(G_n) = k - 1) &= 1 - \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}(\Delta(G_n) = k) \\ &= \exp \left[ -\frac{\lambda}{(k+1)!} \int_{(\mathbb{R}^2)^k} h_k(\{0, x_1, \dots, x_k\}) dx_1 \dots dx_k \right], \end{aligned}$$

where  $h_k(A)$  equals 1 if  $\Delta(G(A, 1)) \geq k$  and 0 otherwise.

Originally Theorem 11 was phrased for arbitrary dimension  $d$  and every absolutely continuous probability distribution on  $\mathbb{R}^d$ , but we have taken  $d = 2$  and the uniform distribution on  $[0, 1]^2$  here. We should also mention that we are considering random points on the unit torus, and the theorem was phrased only for probability distributions on  $\mathbb{R}^d$ . One can however show that if  $\Delta_T$  is the maximum degree of the random geometric graph on  $n$  points drawn uniformly at random from the unit square with the toroidal convention and  $\Delta_S$  is the maximum degree of the random geometric graph on the same  $n$  points but without the toroidal assumption, then  $\mathbb{P}(\Delta_T \neq \Delta_S) \leq 4r$ . This shows that the toroidal convention does not affect the conclusion of Theorem 11, since there  $r \rightarrow 0$ . To see that  $\mathbb{P}(\Delta_T \neq \Delta_S) \leq 4r$ , let  $d_T(X_i)$  and  $d_S(X_i)$  be the degrees of  $X_i$  in the random geometric graph with and without the toroidal convention, respectively. Note that  $d_T(X_i) \geq d_S(X_i)$  for all  $i$ . Moreover, if  $d_T(X_i) \neq d_S(X_i)$  then  $X_i$  must be within  $r$  of the boundary. Hence, if  $\Delta_T \neq \Delta_S$  then all points that satisfy  $d_T(X_i) = \Delta_T$  must lie within  $r$  of the boundary. Let us pick  $U$  uniformly at random from  $\{X_i : d_T(X_i) = \Delta_T\}$ . By symmetry considerations  $U$  has the uniform distribution on  $[0, 1]^2$ . We see that

$$\mathbb{P}(\Delta_T \neq \Delta_S) \leq \mathbb{P}(U \text{ is within } r \text{ of the boundary of } [0, 1]^2) \leq 4r,$$

as required. A similar argument will also show that the toroidal convention does not affect the conclusion of Theorem 9 in the cases where  $r \rightarrow 0$ .

Theorem 11 allows us to give a short proof of the following statement.

**Lemma 12.** *If  $nr^2 \sim \frac{\lambda}{n}$  then  $\mathbb{P}(Z = 0) \rightarrow e^{-\frac{\pi\lambda}{2}}$ .*

*Proof.* We first assert that whp. the order of each component is at most 2. To see this, let  $W$  be the collection of all 3-tuples  $(X_{i_1}, X_{i_2}, X_{i_3}) \in \{X_1, \dots, X_n\}^3$  with  $i_1, i_2, i_3$  distinct and  $\|X_{i_1} - X_{i_2}\|, \|X_{i_1} - X_{i_3}\| < r$ . Then

$$\mathbb{E}W = n(n-1)(n-2)(\pi r^2)^2 = \mathcal{O}(n^{-1}),$$

which proves the assertion. Thus, whp.  $G_n$  is comprised of isolated vertices and isolated edges. It follows that

$$\mathbb{P}(Z = 0) = \mathbb{P}(\Delta(G_n) = 0) + o(1).$$

Hence applying Theorem 11 with  $k = 1$  yields the result, since  $\int_{\mathbb{R}^2} h_1(\{0, x\}) dx = \pi$ .  $\square$

For convenience, we split the case when  $nr^2 \gg n^{-1}$  and  $r = o(1)$  into two subcases, which require/allow different proof techniques.

**Lemma 13.** *If  $n^{-1} \ll nr^2 \ll \ln n$  then  $\mathbb{P}(Z = 0) = o(1)$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $Y$  be the number of isolated edges. As  $2\pi r^2 \leq \text{vol}(B(x_1, r) \cup B(x_2, r)) \leq \pi r^2$  for all  $x_1, x_2$ , we obtain

$$\binom{n}{2} \pi r^2 (1 - 2\pi r^2)^{n-2} \leq \mathbb{E}Y \leq \binom{n}{2} \pi r^2 (1 - \pi r^2)^{n-2}. \quad (2)$$

Since  $\ln(1 - x) = -x + \mathcal{O}(x^2)$  and  $r = o(1)$ , we deduce that  $\binom{n}{2} \pi r^2 e^{-(2\pi+o(1))nr^2} \leq \mathbb{E}Y \leq \binom{n}{2} \pi r^2 e^{-(\pi+o(1))nr^2}$ . So in particular  $\mathbb{E}Y \geq \frac{\pi}{3} n^2 r^2 e^{-3\pi nr^2}$  (for  $n$  sufficiently large). The function  $x e^{-3\pi x}$  is increasing for  $x \leq (3\pi)^{-1}$  and decreasing for  $x \geq (3\pi)^{-1}$ . Thus, for any  $C \in \mathbb{R}$  we have  $C/n \leq nr^2 \leq \ln n/100$  for  $n$  sufficiently large. Hence, for  $n$  sufficiently large

$$\mathbb{E}Y \geq \frac{\pi}{3} n \cdot \min\left(\frac{C}{n} \cdot e^{-3\pi \frac{C}{n}}, \frac{\ln n}{100} \cdot e^{-3\pi \frac{\ln n}{100}}\right) \geq C.$$

This shows that  $\mathbb{E}Y \rightarrow \infty$ .

We now assert that  $\text{Var}(Y) = o((\mathbb{E}Y)^2)$ . The conclusion then follows by Chebyshev's inequality, since

$$\mathbb{P}(Z = 0) \leq \mathbb{P}(Y = 0) \leq \mathbb{P}(|Y - \mathbb{E}Y| \geq \mathbb{E}Y) \leq \frac{\text{Var}(Y)}{(\mathbb{E}Y)^2} = o(1).$$

Thus, it only remains to prove the assertion.

Let us set  $\mathcal{P} := \binom{[n]}{2}$  and for  $P = \{i, j\} \in \mathcal{P}$  let  $I(P)$  be the indicator variable of the event that  $\{X_i, X_j\}$  spans an isolated edge. We infer that

$$\begin{aligned} Y^2 &= \sum_{\substack{P_1, P_2 \in \mathcal{P} \\ |P_1 \cap P_2| = 2}} I(P_1)I(P_2) + \sum_{\substack{P_1, P_2 \in \mathcal{P} \\ |P_1 \cap P_2| = 1}} I(P_1)I(P_2) + \sum_{\substack{P_1, P_2 \in \mathcal{P} \\ |P_1 \cap P_2| = 0}} I(P_1)I(P_2) \\ &= \sum_{P \in \mathcal{P}} I(P) + \sum_{\substack{P_1, P_2 \in \mathcal{P} \\ |P_1 \cap P_2| = 0}} I(P_1)I(P_2). \end{aligned}$$

Here we have used that  $I \in \{0, 1\}$  and two isolated edges cannot meet in a single vertex. Let  $x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4 \in [0, 1]^2$  be such that  $\|x_1 - x_2\| < r$ ,  $\|x_3 - x_4\| < r$  and  $\|x_1 - x_3\| > 4r$ . If

$P_1 = \{X_1, X_2\}, P_2 = \{X_3, X_4\}$  then, setting  $V_r(x, y) := \text{vol}(B(x, r) \cup B(y, r))$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}(I(P_1)I(P_2)|X_1 = x_1, \dots, X_4 = x_4) &= (1 - V_r(x_1, x_2) - V_r(x_3, x_4))^{n-4} \\ &\leq (1 - V_r(x_1, x_2))^{n-4}(1 - V_r(x_3, x_4))^{n-4} \\ &= \mathbb{P}(I(P_1)|X_1 = x_1, \dots, X_4 = x_4) \\ &\quad \times \mathbb{P}(I(P_2)|X_1 = x_1, \dots, X_4 = x_4). \end{aligned}$$

It follows that  $\mathbb{E}I(P_1)I(P_2) \leq (\mathbb{E}I(P_1))^2 + 16\pi^3 r^6$  if  $P_1 \cap P_2 = \emptyset$ . Thus,

$$\mathbb{E}Y^2 = \mathbb{E}Y + \binom{n}{2} \binom{n-2}{2} \mathbb{E}I(P_1)I(P_2) \leq \mathbb{E}Y + (\mathbb{E}Y)^2 + O(n^4 r^6). \quad (3)$$

Consequently,  $\text{Var}(Y) \leq \mathbb{E}Y + O(n^4 r^6) = o((\mathbb{E}Y)^2)$  as asserted, since  $\mathbb{E}Y \rightarrow \infty$  and  $n^4 r^6 / (\mathbb{E}Y)^2 = O\left(r^2 e^{6\pi n r^2}\right) = O(n^{-1+o(1)})$  using that  $r = o\left(\sqrt{\frac{\ln n}{n}}\right)$ .  $\square$

In the sequel, we set  $(m)_k := \frac{m!}{(m-k)!} = m(m-1)\dots(m-k+1)$ .

**Lemma 14.** *Suppose that  $nr^2 \rightarrow \infty$  yet  $r < \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{2} - \varepsilon$  for some  $\varepsilon > 0$ . Then*

$$\mathbb{E}(Z)_k = (1 + o(1))\mu(r)^k$$

as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  for any fixed  $k$ .

Once we have established this lemma, Theorem 9 follows easily for the sequences  $r$  that have not yet been considered.

**Corollary 15.** *The following statements hold as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .*

(i) *If  $nr^2 \rightarrow \infty$  but  $r = o(1)$ , then  $\mathbb{P}(Z = 0) \rightarrow 0$ .*

(ii) *If  $r$  is fixed in  $(0, \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{2})$ , then  $\mathbb{P}(Z = 0) \rightarrow e^{-\mu(r)}$ .*

*Proof.* Part (i). Notice that in this case  $\mathbb{E}Z = (1+o(1))\mu(r) \rightarrow \infty$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . Furthermore, since  $\mathbb{E}(Z)_2$  and  $(\mathbb{E}Z)^2$  are both  $(1+o(1))\mu(r)^2$  by Lemma 14, we have

$$\text{Var}(Z) = \mathbb{E}(Z)_2 - (\mathbb{E}Z)^2 + \mathbb{E}Z = o(\mu(r)^2) = o((\mathbb{E}Z)^2).$$

So, again using Chebyshev's Inequality, we indeed find that

$$\mathbb{P}(Z = 0) \leq \frac{\text{Var}(Z)}{(\mathbb{E}Z)^2} = o(1).$$

Part (ii). The Inclusion-Exclusion Principle gives that for every integer  $l$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{2l+1} (-1)^k \frac{\mathbb{E}(Z)_k}{k!} \leq \mathbb{P}(Z = 0) \leq \sum_{k=0}^{2l} (-1)^k \frac{\mathbb{E}(Z)_k}{k!}. \quad (4)$$

By Lemma 14, the lower bound in (4) equals  $(1 + o(1)) \sum_{k=0}^{2l+1} \frac{(-\mu(r))^k}{k!}$  and the upper bound equals  $(1 + o(1)) \sum_{k=0}^{2l+1} \frac{(-\mu(r))^k}{k!}$ . The statement now follows by letting  $k \rightarrow \infty$ , as  $\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-\mu(r))^k}{k!} = e^{-\mu(r)}$ .  $\square$



Before we can give the proof of Lemma 14, we need to do some more ground work. Let  $D_r(x, y)$  be the area of the symmetric difference  $B(x, r) \Delta B(y, r)$ . This difference only depends on  $\|y - x\|$ , and the angle between  $y - x$  and the line  $\{(a, a) : a \in \mathbb{R}\}$ . By a slight abuse of notation, we also write  $D_r(u, \alpha)$  for  $D_r(x, y)$  if  $u = \|y - x\|$  and  $\alpha$  is the angle between  $y - x$  and the line  $\{(a, a) : a \in \mathbb{R}\}$ . For small  $r$   $D_r(u, \alpha)$  depends only on  $u$ , but for larger  $r$  the fact that things take place on  $[0, 1]^2$  with opposite edges identified makes  $\alpha$  relevant. The computations below make use of the following lemma.

**Lemma 16.** *If  $0 < r < \frac{1}{2}$  then  $D_r(u, \alpha) = 4ur + \mathcal{O}(u^2)$ .*

*If  $\frac{1}{2} \leq r < \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{2}$  then*

$$D_r(u, \alpha) = \begin{cases} 4ur \sin\left(\frac{\beta}{2}\right) (\cos(\alpha) - \sin(\alpha)) + o(u) & \text{if } -\frac{\pi}{4} \leq \alpha < -\frac{\beta}{2}, \\ 4ur \left(1 - \left(\cos\left(\frac{\beta}{2}\right) - \sin\left(\frac{\beta}{2}\right)\right) \cos(\alpha)\right) + o(u) & \text{if } -\frac{\beta}{2} \leq \alpha \leq 0. \end{cases}$$

Here  $\beta = \beta(r) := \frac{\pi}{2} - 2 \arccos\left(\frac{1}{2r}\right)$  as before. Furthermore, the error terms  $\mathcal{O}(u^2)$  and  $o(u)$ , respectively, can be bounded uniformly in  $\alpha$ .

We postpone the proof of Lemma 16 until the end of this section.

*Proof of Lemma 14.* The proof is by induction on  $k$ .

*Base case,  $k = 1$ .* Let us write

$$F_r(\alpha) := \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } r \leq \frac{1}{2}, \\ \sin\left(\frac{\beta}{2}\right) (\cos(\alpha) - \sin(\alpha)) & \text{if } r > \frac{1}{2} \text{ and } -\frac{\pi}{4} < \alpha < -\frac{\beta}{2}, \\ 1 - \left(\cos\left(\frac{\beta}{2}\right) - \sin\left(\frac{\beta}{2}\right)\right) \cos(\alpha) & \text{if } r > \frac{1}{2} \text{ and } -\frac{\beta}{2} \leq \alpha \leq 0. \end{cases}$$

Here it is understood that  $F_r(\alpha) = F_r(\alpha + \frac{\pi}{4})$ . Therefore, by Lemma 16,  $D_r(u, \alpha) = 4urF_r(\alpha) + o(u)$  (for  $-\frac{\pi}{4} < \alpha \leq 0$ ). Now, observe that  $F_r(\alpha) > c$  for some  $c = c(\varepsilon)$  uniformly in all  $r$  considered, since  $r < \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{2} - \varepsilon$ . By Lemma 16, for every  $\varepsilon > 0$  there exists a  $\delta > 0$  such that, if  $u < \delta r$ , then  $(4 - \varepsilon)urF_r(\alpha) < D_r(u, \alpha) < (4 + \varepsilon)urF_r(\alpha)$ . Now notice that  $D_r(u, \alpha) = \Omega(r^2)$  for  $u > \delta r$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P}(\overline{N}(X_1) = \overline{N}(X_2)) &= \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^{\delta r} (1 - D_r(u, \alpha))^{n-2} u \, du \, d\alpha \\ &\quad + \int_0^{2\pi} \int_{\delta r}^r (1 - D_r(u, \alpha))^{n-2} u \, du \, d\alpha \\ &\leq \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^{\delta r} (1 - D_r(u, \alpha))^{n-2} u \, du \, d\alpha \\ &\quad + \pi r^2 e^{-\Omega(nr^2)}. \end{aligned} \tag{5}$$

We shall see later on that the last term on the last line is negligibly small compared to the first term on the last line, but first we must compute the first term in the last line. Observe that

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^{\delta r} (1 - D_r(u, \alpha))^{n-2} u \, du \, d\alpha &\leq \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^{\delta r} e^{-(n-2)(4-\varepsilon)urF_r(\alpha)} u \, du \, d\alpha \\ &= \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^{\delta(4-\varepsilon)r^2(n-2)F_r(\alpha)} \frac{e^{-v} v \, dv \, d\alpha}{((4-\varepsilon)(n-2)rF_r(\alpha))^2} \\ &\leq \frac{1}{(4-\varepsilon)^2(n-2)^2 r^2} \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{1}{F_r(\alpha)^2} \, d\alpha \\ &\leq \frac{1+o(1)}{(4-\varepsilon)^2 n^2 r^2} \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{1}{F(\alpha)^2} \, d\alpha, \end{aligned} \tag{6}$$

where we have used the substitution  $v = (n-2)(4-\varepsilon)urF(\alpha)$  in the second line and in the third line we have used that  $\int_0^\infty te^{-t} dt = 1$ .

Provided  $\delta$  was chosen sufficiently small,  $u \leq \delta r$  implies that

$$(1 - (4 + \varepsilon)urF(\alpha)) \geq e^{-(4+2\varepsilon)urF(\alpha)}$$

uniformly in  $\alpha$ , as  $\ln(1 - (4 + \varepsilon)urF(\alpha)) = -(4 + \varepsilon)urF(\alpha) + \mathcal{O}(u^2r^2)$  and  $c(\varepsilon) \leq F(\alpha) \leq 1$ . Computations analogous to (6) thus give that

$$\int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^{\delta r} (1 - D_r(u, \alpha))^{n-2} u \, du \, d\alpha \geq \frac{1 + o(1)}{(4 + \varepsilon)^2 n^2 r^2} \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{1}{F(\alpha)^2} \, d\alpha. \quad (7)$$

Now, notice that

$$\frac{\pi r^2}{r^{-2} n^{-2}} e^{-\Omega(nr^2)} = \pi (nr^2)^2 e^{-\Omega(nr^2)} = o(1), \quad (8)$$

as  $nr^2$  tends to infinity. So indeed, the second term on the last line of (5) is negligibly small compared to the first. Thus, by symmetry considerations we obtain

$$\mathbb{P}(\bar{N}(X_1) = \bar{N}(X_2)) = \frac{1}{2n^2 r^2} (1 + o(1)) \int_{-\frac{\pi}{4}}^0 F(\alpha)^{-2} \, d\alpha.$$

In other words,  $\mathbb{E}Z = \binom{n}{2} \mathbb{P}(\bar{N}(X_1) = \bar{N}(X_2)) = \frac{1}{4r^2} (1 + o(1)) \int_{-\frac{\pi}{4}}^0 F(\alpha)^{-2} \, d\alpha$ .

It remains to determine  $\int_{-\frac{\pi}{4}}^0 F(\alpha)^{-2} \, d\alpha$ . For  $r \leq \frac{1}{2}$  it equals  $\frac{\pi}{4}$ , which gives the result.

Thus, assume now that  $r \in \left(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}\right)$ . Notice that

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{-\frac{\pi}{4}}^{-\frac{\beta}{2}} F(\alpha)^{-2} \, d\alpha &= \sin\left(\frac{\beta}{2}\right)^{-2} \int_{-\frac{\pi}{4}}^{-\frac{\beta}{2}} (\cos(\alpha) - \sin(\alpha))^{-2} \, d\alpha \\ &= \sin\left(\frac{\beta}{2}\right)^{-2} \left[ \frac{\cos(\alpha)}{\cos(\alpha) - \sin(\alpha)} \right]_{-\frac{\pi}{4}}^{-\frac{\beta}{2}} \\ &= \sin\left(\frac{\beta}{2}\right)^{-2} \left( \frac{\cos\left(\frac{\beta}{2}\right)}{\cos\left(\frac{\beta}{2}\right) + \sin\left(\frac{\beta}{2}\right)} - \frac{1}{2} \right). \end{aligned}$$

For convenience, we let  $c := \left(\cos\left(\frac{\beta}{2}\right) - \sin\left(\frac{\beta}{2}\right)\right)^{-1} = \left(2 - \frac{1}{2r^2}\right)^{-\frac{1}{2}}$ . We can now write

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{-\frac{\beta}{2}}^0 (F(\alpha))^{-2} \, d\alpha &= \int_{-\frac{\beta}{2}}^0 \left(1 - \left(\cos\left(\frac{\beta}{2}\right) - \sin\left(\frac{\beta}{2}\right)\right) \cos(\alpha)\right)^{-2} \, d\alpha \\ &= c^2 \int_{-\frac{\beta}{2}}^0 (c - \cos(\alpha))^{-2} \, d\alpha \\ &= c^2 \left[ \frac{2 \tan\left(\frac{\alpha}{2}\right)}{(c^2-1)\left((c+1)\tan^2\left(\frac{\alpha}{2}\right)+c-1\right)} + \frac{2c \arctan\left(\sqrt{\frac{c+1}{c-1}} \tan\left(\frac{\alpha}{2}\right)\right)}{(c^2-1)^{\frac{3}{2}}} \right]_{-\frac{\beta}{2}}^0 \\ &= \frac{c^2}{4(c^2-1)} \left( \frac{2 \tan\left(\frac{\beta}{4}\right)}{(c+1)\tan^2\left(\frac{\beta}{4}\right)+c-1} + \frac{2c \arctan\left(\sqrt{\frac{c+1}{c-1}} \tan\left(\frac{\beta}{4}\right)\right)}{\sqrt{c^2-1}} \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{\sin(\beta)} \left( \frac{2\left(\cos\left(\frac{\beta}{2}\right) - \sin\left(\frac{\beta}{2}\right)\right) \tan\left(\frac{\beta}{4}\right)}{\left(1 - \cos\left(\frac{\beta}{2}\right) + \sin\left(\frac{\beta}{2}\right)\right) \tan^2\left(\frac{\beta}{4}\right) + 1 + \cos\left(\frac{\beta}{2}\right) - \sin\left(\frac{\beta}{2}\right)} \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \frac{2}{\sqrt{\sin(\beta)}} \arctan\left(\sqrt{\frac{1 - \cos\left(\frac{\beta}{2}\right) + \sin\left(\frac{\beta}{2}\right)}{1 + \cos\left(\frac{\beta}{2}\right) - \sin\left(\frac{\beta}{2}\right)}} \tan\left(\frac{\beta}{4}\right)\right) \right). \end{aligned}$$

The statement follows for  $k = 1$ .

*Induction step:*  $k > 1$ . Let us set  $\rho = \rho(n) := \min(r, \frac{\ln^2 n}{nr})$  and let  $Y$  be the number of bad pairs  $X_i, X_j$  with  $\|X_i - X_j\| < \rho$ . Notice that  $\rho = r$  if  $r \leq \frac{\ln n}{\sqrt{n}}$  and  $r > \rho$  otherwise. We first assert that

$$\mathbb{E}(Z)_k = \mathbb{E}(Y)_k + o(1) \quad (9)$$

for all fixed  $k$ . Note that (9) is true if  $\rho = r$ , so that we can restrict ourselves to the case where  $r \geq \rho$ . Since the factorial moments can be written as linear combinations of the ordinary moments, it suffices to observe that for any (fixed)  $k$

$$\mathbb{E}Z^k - \mathbb{E}Y^k = \mathcal{O}\left(n^{2k}e^{-\Omega(\ln^2 n)}\right) = o(1).$$

Here we have used that if  $\|x - y\| \geq \rho$  then  $\text{vol}(B(x, r) \Delta B(y, r)) = \Omega(\rho r)$  by lemma 16. So (9) holds, and therefore it suffices to consider  $Y$  instead of  $Z$  in the rest of the proof.

Let us assume that the statement of the lemma holds for  $k - 1$ , with  $k \geq 2$ . Let  $\mathcal{P} = \left(\binom{X_1, \dots, X_n}{2}\right)$  be the set of all pairs of nodes. For every  $P \in \mathcal{P}$ , we let  $J(P)$  be the event that  $P$  is a bad pair and the points of the pair are at distance  $< \rho$ . Then,

$$\mathbb{E}(Y)_k = \sum_{P_1, \dots, P_k \in \mathcal{P} \text{ distinct}} \mathbb{P}(J(P_1), \dots, J(P_k)). \quad (10)$$

First notice that the contribution by terms with  $P_i \cap P_j \neq \emptyset$  for some  $i \neq j$  is small. Indeed,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{\substack{P_1, \dots, P_k \in \mathcal{P} \text{ distinct} \\ P_i \cap P_j \neq \emptyset \text{ for some } i, j \in \{1, \dots, k\}}} \mathbb{P}(J(P_1), \dots, J(P_k)) &\leq k^2 \sum_{\substack{P_1, \dots, P_k \in \mathcal{P} \text{ distinct} \\ |P_{k-1} \cap P_k| = 1}} \mathbb{P}(J(P_1), \dots, J(P_k)) \\ &\leq 2nk^2 \sum_{P_1, \dots, P_{k-1} \in \mathcal{P} \text{ distinct}} \mathbb{P}(J(P_1), \dots, J(P_{k-1})) \pi \rho^2 \\ &= \mathcal{O}(\mu(r)^{k-1} n \rho^2). \end{aligned}$$

Here we have used the induction hypothesis in the last line. Next notice that if  $r \leq \frac{\ln n}{\sqrt{n}}$  then  $n\rho^2 = nr^2 \leq \ln^2 n \ll \sqrt{n}/\ln n \leq r^{-1}$ ; and, if  $r > \frac{\ln n}{\sqrt{n}}$  then  $n\rho^2 = \ln^4 n / (nr^2) \ll r^{-1}$ , as  $nr \geq \sqrt{n} \ln n \gg \ln^4 n$ . Since  $\mu(r) = \Omega(r^{-1})$  this shows that  $n\rho^2 = o(\mu(r))$  and hence also  $\mu(r)^{k-1} n \rho^2 = o(\mu(r)^k)$ . So we see that

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}(Y)_k &= \binom{n}{2} \dots \binom{n-2(k-1)}{2} \mathbb{P}\left(\bigcap_{j=1}^k J(\{X_{2j-1}, X_{2j}\})\right) + o(\mu(r)^k) \\ &= (1 + o(1)) n^{2k} 2^{-k} \mathbb{P}\left(\bigcap_{j=1}^k J(\{X_{2j-1}, X_{2j}\})\right) + o(\mu(r)^k). \end{aligned}$$

Next, let  $\rho'$  equal  $4r$  if  $r \leq \ln^{-10} n$  and  $n^{-\frac{49}{100}}$  otherwise. For  $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, k\}$ , let us set

$$A(i) := \left\{ \bigcap_{j=1}^i J(\{X_{2j-1}, X_{2j}\}) \text{ and } \|X_{2i} - X_{2j}\| > \rho' \text{ for all } 1 \leq i < j \leq i \right\}.$$

Notice that

$$\begin{aligned}
& n^{2k}2^{-k}\mathbb{P}\left(\bigcap_{j=1}^k J(\{X_{2j-1}, X_{2j}\}) \text{ but not } A(k)\right) \\
& \leq \\
& n^{2k}2^{-k}\binom{k}{2}\mathbb{P}\left(\bigcap_{j=1}^{k-1} J(\{X_{2j-1}, X_{2j}\})\right)\pi^2(\rho')^2\rho^2 \\
& = \\
& \binom{k}{2}(1+o(1))\mu(r)^{k-1}\pi^2n^2(\rho')^2\rho^2 \\
& = \\
& o(\mu(r)^k).
\end{aligned}$$

Here we have used that if  $r \leq \frac{\ln n}{\sqrt{n}}$  then  $n^2(\rho')^2\rho^2 \leq 16n^2r^4 \leq 16\ln^4 n \ll \sqrt{n}/\ln n \leq r^{-1}$ ; if  $\frac{\ln n}{\sqrt{n}} < r < \ln^{-10} n$  then  $n^2(\rho')^2\rho^2 = 16n^2r^2\rho^2 = 16\ln^4 n \ll \ln^{10} n \leq r^{-1}$ ; and if  $r \geq \ln^{-10} n$  then  $n^2(\rho')^2\rho^2 = n^{-\frac{98}{100}}r^{-2}\ln^4 n \leq n^{-\frac{98}{100}}\ln^{24} n = o(1) \ll r^{-1}$ . Consequently,

$$\mathbb{E}(Y)_k = (1+o(1))n^{2k}2^{-k}\mathbb{P}(A(k)) + o(\mu(r)^k), \quad (11)$$

For  $x_1, \dots, x_{2k} \in [0, 1]^2$ , let us set

$$D_r(x_1, \dots, x_{2k}) := \text{vol}\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^k (B(x_{2i-1}, r)\Delta B(x_{2i}, r))\right).$$

Our next aim is to show that if  $\|x_{2i-1} - x_{2i}\| < \rho$  for every  $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, k\}$  and  $\|x_{2i} - x_{2j}\| > \rho'$  for all  $i, j \in \{1, 2, \dots, k\}$  with  $i < j$ , then

$$D_r(x_1, \dots, x_{2k}) = \sum_{i=1}^k D_r(x_{2i-1}, x_{2i}) + o(n^{-1}), \quad (12)$$

where the error term is uniform over all  $x_1, \dots, x_{2k}$  considered. First notice that this is trivial for  $r \leq \ln^{-10} n$ , as then  $\rho' = 4r$  so that  $D_r(x_1, \dots, x_{2k}) = \sum_{i=1}^k D_r(x_{2i-1}, x_{2i})$  as the sets  $B(x_{2i-1}, r)\Delta B(x_{2i}, r)$  are disjoint for  $i = 1, \dots, k$  in this case.

To see this that (12) also holds when  $r \geq \ln^{-10} n$ , consider  $C := (B(x_1, r)\Delta B(x_2, r)) \cap (B(x_3, r)\Delta B(x_4, r))$  under the assumptions that  $\|x_1 - x_2\| < \rho$ ,  $\|x_3 - x_4\| < \rho$  and  $l := \|x_2 - x_4\| \geq \rho'$ . Then  $C$  is contained in the intersection of the two annuli  $A_2 := \{y : r - \rho < \|y - x_2\| < r + \rho\}$  and  $A_4 := \{y : r - \rho < \|y - x_4\| < r + \rho\}$ , see figure 7 below. We use the bound  $\text{vol}(A_2 \cap A_4) \leq 2\frac{\alpha_2}{2\pi}\text{vol}(A_2)$  with  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2$  as shown in figure 7. First notice that

$$\text{vol}(A_2) = \pi((r + \rho)^2 - (r - \rho)^2) = \mathcal{O}(r\rho).$$

Now, the angles  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2$  satisfy

$$\begin{aligned}
\cos(\alpha_1) &= \frac{l_2}{r+\rho}, & \cos(\alpha_1 + \alpha_2) &= \frac{l_1}{r-\rho}, \\
\sin(\alpha_1) &= \frac{h}{r+\rho}, & \sin(\alpha_1 + \alpha_2) &= \frac{h}{r-\rho}.
\end{aligned}$$

where  $h, l_1, l_2$  are as in figure 7. In particular,

$$l = l_1 + l_2, \quad h^2 = (r - \rho)^2 - l_1^2 = (r + \rho)^2 - l_2^2. \quad (13)$$

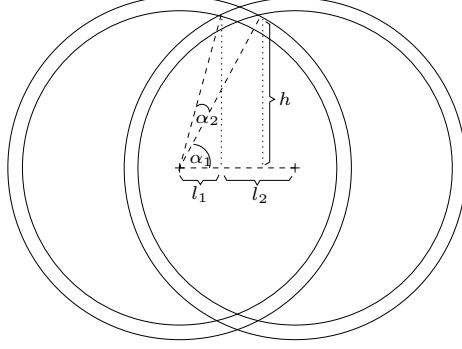


Figure 7: Bounding  $\text{vol}(A_2 \cap A_4)$ .

Notice that  $l_1$  may be negative (this can happen for small  $l$ ), but this does not pose any limitation for our computations. First, suppose that  $l_2 \geq \frac{1}{2}r$ . The Taylor expansion of  $\sin(x)$  around  $x = \alpha_1$  gives

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{2\rho h}{(r-\rho)(r+\rho)} &= \frac{h}{r-\rho} - \frac{h}{r+\rho} = \sin(\alpha_1 + \alpha_2) - \sin(\alpha_1) \\ &= \cos(\alpha_1)\alpha_2 + \mathcal{O}(\alpha_2^2) \\ &= \frac{l_2}{r+\rho}\alpha_2 + \mathcal{O}(\alpha_2^2). \end{aligned}$$

Since  $\frac{1}{2}r \leq l_2 \leq r + \rho$  and  $h \leq r$ , we see that in this case we must have  $\alpha_2 = \mathcal{O}(\rho)$ .

Now assume that  $l_2 \leq \frac{1}{2}r$ . The Taylor expansion of  $\cos(x)$  around  $x = \alpha_1$  gives that

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{r(l_1 - l_2) + \rho(l_1 + l_2)}{(r-\rho)(r+\rho)} &= \frac{l_1}{r-\rho} - \frac{l_2}{r+\rho} = \cos(\alpha_1 + \alpha_2) - \cos(\alpha_1) \\ &= -\sin(\alpha_1)\alpha_2 + \mathcal{O}(\alpha_2^2) \\ &= -\frac{h}{r+\rho}\alpha_2 + \mathcal{O}(\alpha_2^2). \end{aligned}$$

Observe that  $h = \sqrt{(r+\rho)^2 - l_2^2} \geq r\frac{1}{2}\sqrt{3}$  and that  $l(l_2 - l_1) = l_2^2 - l_1^2 = (r+\rho)^2 - (r-\rho)^2 = 4\rho r$ , by the relations (13). Hence,  $l_2 - l_1 = \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{r\rho}{l}\right) = \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{r\rho}{\rho'}\right)$ , since  $l \geq \rho'$ . Thus, this time we obtain  $\alpha_2 = \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{\rho}{\rho'}\right)$ .

Consequently,  $\text{vol}(A_2 \cap A_4) \leq \frac{\alpha_2}{\pi} \text{vol}(A_2) = \mathcal{O}\left(r\rho \cdot \frac{\rho}{\rho'}\right) = \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{\ln^{14} n}{n^{151/100}}\right) = o(n^{-1})$ . This proves (12).

Now let  $x_2, x_4, \dots, x_{2k} \in [0, 1]^2$  be such that  $\|x_{2j} - x_{2i}\| > \rho'$  for all  $i, j \in \{1, 2, \dots, k\}$

with  $i < j$ . We now see that we can write

$$\begin{aligned}
& \mathbb{P}(A(k)|X_2 = x_2, \dots, X_{2k} = x_{2k}) \\
&= \\
& \int \cdots \int_{B(x_2, \rho) \dots B(x_{2k}, \rho)} (1 - D_r(x_1, \dots, x_{2k}))^{n-2k} dx_1 dx_3 \dots dx_{2k-1} \\
&= \\
& \int \cdots \int_{B(x_2, \rho) \dots B(x_{2k}, \rho)} (1 - \sum_{i=1}^k D_r(x_{2i-1}, x_{2i}) + o(n^{-1}))^{n-2k} dx_1 \dots dx_{2k} \\
&= \\
& \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^\rho \cdots \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^\rho (1 - \sum_{i=1}^k D_r(u_i, \alpha_i) + o(n^{-1}))^{n-2k} u_1 \dots u_k du_1 d\alpha_1 \dots du_k d\alpha_k \\
&= \\
& (1 + o(1)) \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^\rho \cdots \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^\rho \prod_{i=1}^k (1 - D_r(u_i, \alpha_i))^{n-2k} u_1 \dots u_k du_1 d\alpha_1 \dots du_k d\alpha_k \\
&= \\
& (1 + o(1)) \left( \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^\rho (1 - D_r(u, \alpha))^{n-2k} u du d\alpha \right)^k \\
&= \\
& (1 + o(1)) \left( \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^\rho (1 - D_r(u, \alpha))^{n-2} u du d\alpha \right)^k \\
&= \\
& (1 + o(1)) \left( \frac{2\mu(r)}{n^2} \right)^k,
\end{aligned}$$

where the fourth line follows from the familiar change of variables. The fifth line from the fact that  $\prod_{i=1}^k (1 - D_r(u_i, \alpha)) = 1 - \sum_{i=1}^k D_r(u_i, \alpha) + o(n^{-1})$ , using that  $D_r(u_i, \alpha) = \mathcal{O}(\rho^2 r^2) = o(n^{-\frac{1}{2}})$  by Lemma 16, so that  $\left( \frac{1 - \sum_{i=1}^k D_r(u_i, \alpha) + o(n^{-1})}{\prod_{i=1}^k (1 - D_r(u_i, \alpha))} \right)^n = 1 + o(1)$ . The change in exponent in the sixth line follows from  $1 - D_r(u, \alpha) = 1 - \mathcal{O}(\rho r) = 1 - o(1)$ , and the last line follows from the induction hypothesis. Thus, setting

$$W := \{(x_2, x_4, \dots, x_{2k}) \in ([0, 1]^{2k})^k : \|x_{2i} - x_{2j}\| > \rho' \text{ for all } 1 \leq i < j \leq k\},$$

we also have

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathbb{P}(A(k)) &= \int \cdots \int_W \mathbb{P}(A(k)|X_2 = x_2, \dots, X_{2k} = x_{2k}) dx_2 dx_4 \dots dx_{2k} \\
&= (1 + o(1)) \left( \frac{2\mu(r)}{n^2} \right)^k,
\end{aligned}$$

since the  $2k$ -dimensional volume  $\text{vol}(W)$  of  $W$  is  $1 + o(1)$  and the error terms in (12) and further are uniform over all  $(x, \dots, x_{2k}) \in W$ . Combining this with (11) gives the result.  $\square$

Here we should mention that the case where  $k > 1$  in the proof of Lemma 14 follows the lines of an argument of Agarwal and Spencer [1], but we have included it for completeness.

*Proof of Lemma 16.* We need to consider the area  $D_r(u, \alpha) = \text{vol}(B(x, r)\Delta B(y, r))$  for  $x, y$  with  $\|x - y\| = u$  and the angle between  $y - x$  and the diagonal  $\{(a, a)^T : a \in \mathbb{R}\}$  is  $\alpha$ .

For ease of computation, let us work with  $[-\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}]^2$  instead of  $[0, 1]^2$  in this proof, and we may assume without loss of generality that  $x = (0, 0)^T$  is the centre of the square. Let  $v_\alpha$  be a unit vector that makes an angle  $\alpha$  with the diagonal of the unit square, and let  $w_\alpha$  be perpendicular to  $v_\alpha$ . Let us first consider  $0 < r < \frac{1}{2}$ . In this case, for  $u$  small enough,  $B(x, r) \Delta B(y, r)$  lies completely in the interior of the unit square (so there are no effects due to the toroidal assumption). Let  $S$  be the boundary of  $B(x, r)$ , and set  $H_\alpha(c) := \{p : p \cdot w_\alpha = c\}$ . So  $H_\alpha(c)$  is a line parallel to  $v_\alpha$ . We shall approximate  $D_r(u, \alpha)$  by  $\text{vol}(S + [0, u]v_\alpha) \leq 4ur$ . Note that the height of  $S$  is  $2r$ . Also, observe that for most  $c \in (-r, r)$ , the set  $(B(x, r) \Delta B(y, r)) \cap H_\alpha(c)$  and the set  $(S + [0, u]v_\alpha) \cap H_\alpha(c)$  both consist of two line segments, each of length  $u$ . It is not hard to see that the  $c$  for which this is not the case are contained in  $(-r, -r + u) \cup (r - u, r)$ , so that

$$4ur \geq D_r(u, \alpha) \geq 4ur - 2u^2.$$

This concludes the proof when  $0 < r < \frac{1}{2}$ .

We now assume that  $\frac{1}{2} \leq r < \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{2}$ . We shall proceed in a similar manner. Again, let  $S$  be the boundary of  $B(x, r)$ . But note that now, due to the toroidal assumption,  $S$  consists of four arcs of opening angle  $\beta$  (see figure 8). We again wish to approximate  $D_r(u, \alpha)$  by



Figure 8: The “boundary” of  $B(x, r)$  consists of four arcs of opening angle  $\beta$  (left), and the projections of the four arcs onto  $\mathcal{L}(w_\alpha)$  (right).

the area of  $S + [0, u]v_\alpha$ . Let  $h(\alpha)$  be the length “counting multiplicities” of the projection of  $S$  onto  $\mathcal{L}(w_\alpha)$ , i.e.  $h(\alpha) := \int_{\mathbb{R}} |H_\alpha(c) \cap S| dc$ .

We assert that

$$D_r(u, \alpha) = uh(\alpha) + o(u).$$

To see this, note that the length of  $(B(x, r) \Delta B(y, r)) \cap H_\alpha(c)$  equals  $u$  times the cardinality of  $S \cap H_\alpha(c)$ , unless one or more of the points in  $S \cap H_\alpha$  are

- a) within  $u$  of the boundary of the square, or
- b) within  $u$  of another point of  $S \cap H_\alpha$ .

We have already seen that the error due to b) can be bounded by  $2u^2$ . In order to bound the error due to a), let  $S'(u)$  be the set of all  $s \in S$  for which a) is not the case. As  $u$  tends to 0 the length  $l(S'(u))$  of  $S'(u)$  tends to the length  $l(S)$  of  $S$ . Hence we see that

$$uh(\alpha) - u(l(S) - l(S'(u))) - 2u^2 \leq D_r(u, \alpha) \leq uh(\alpha),$$

as required. Since  $l(S) - l(S'(u))$  does not depend on  $\alpha$  the error term is indeed uniform in  $\alpha$ .

It only remains to compute  $h(\alpha)$ . For  $\alpha \in (-\frac{\pi}{4}, -\frac{\beta}{2})$ , the length of the projections on  $\mathcal{L}(w_\alpha)$  of the two arcs that contain the diagonal of the square is equal to

$$r \left( \sin \left( \frac{\beta}{2} - \alpha \right) - \sin \left( -\frac{\beta}{2} - \alpha \right) \right),$$

while the height of the other two arcs is equal to

$$r \left( \sin \left( \frac{\pi}{2} - \frac{\beta}{2} - \alpha \right) - \sin \left( \frac{\pi}{2} + \frac{\beta}{2} - \alpha \right) \right).$$

Thus, for  $-\frac{\pi}{4} < \alpha < -\frac{\beta}{2}$  we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} h(\alpha) &= 2r \left( \sin \left( \frac{\beta}{2} - \alpha \right) - \sin \left( -\frac{\beta}{2} - \alpha \right) + \sin \left( \frac{\pi - \beta}{2} - \alpha \right) - \sin \left( \frac{\pi + \beta}{2} - \alpha \right) \right) \\ &= 2r \left( \sin \left( \frac{\beta}{2} - \alpha \right) - \sin \left( -\frac{\beta}{2} - \alpha \right) + \cos \left( -\frac{\beta}{2} - \alpha \right) - \cos \left( \frac{\beta}{2} - \alpha \right) \right) \\ &= 4r \sin \left( \frac{\beta}{2} \right) (\cos(\alpha) - \sin(\alpha)), \end{aligned}$$

and for  $-\frac{\beta}{2} < \alpha < \frac{\beta}{2}$ , we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} h(\alpha) &= 2r \left( \sin \left( \frac{\beta}{2} - \alpha \right) - \sin \left( -\frac{\beta}{2} - \alpha \right) + 2 - \sin \left( \frac{\pi - \beta}{2} - \alpha \right) - \sin \left( \frac{\pi + \beta}{2} - \alpha \right) \right) \\ &= 2r \left( \sin \left( \frac{\beta}{2} - \alpha \right) - \sin \left( -\frac{\beta}{2} - \alpha \right) + 2 - \cos \left( -\frac{\beta}{2} - \alpha \right) - \cos \left( \frac{\beta}{2} - \alpha \right) \right) \\ &= 4r \left( 1 - \left( \cos \left( \frac{\beta}{2} \right) - \sin \left( \frac{\beta}{2} \right) \right) \cos(\alpha) \right). \end{aligned}$$

This concludes the proof.  $\square$

We should mention here that for  $r \in (0, \frac{1}{2})$ , the result can also be obtained in a relatively straightforward manner by explicitly computing  $D_r(u, \alpha) = 2\pi r^2 - 4r^2 \arccos \left( \frac{u}{2r} \right) + 2u\sqrt{r^2 - \frac{u^2}{4}}$  and considering the Taylor expansion of this expression. We have not chosen this route because the method used fits better with the case where  $r \in \left( \frac{1}{2}, \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \right)$ .

## 3.2 Locating-dominating codes

We prove the following result.

**Theorem 17.** *Let  $M$  be the cardinality of a smallest locating-dominating code.*

- (i) *If  $nr^2 \ll \ln n$  then  $M = n^{1+o(1)}$  with high probability;*



(ii) if  $n^{-\frac{1}{2}} \ll r \leq \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{2} - \varepsilon$  for some  $\varepsilon > 0$  then  $M = \left(\frac{n}{r}\right)^{\frac{2}{3}+o(1)}$  with high probability.

Our computations below use the following lemma, which is a reformulation by Janson [10] of an inequality due to Suen [17].

**Lemma 18.** *Let  $A_1, \dots, A_m$  be events, and let  $H$  be a graph with vertex set  $\{1, \dots, m\}$  and an edge  $ij \in E(H)$  whenever  $A_i$  and  $A_j$  are dependent. Let  $Z := \sum_{i=1}^m 1_{A_i}$  be the number of events that hold and set  $\mu := \mathbb{E}Z$ ,  $\Delta := \sum_{ij \in E(H)} \mathbb{P}(A_i \cap A_j)$ ,  $\delta := \max_i \sum_{j:ij \in E(H)} \mathbb{P}(A_j)$ . Then it holds that*

$$\mathbb{P}(Z = 0) \leq \exp[-\mu + \Delta e^{2\delta}].$$

*Proof of Theorem 17. Part (i).* The statement follows by showing that whp. there are  $n^{1+o(1)}$  isolated vertices, because a locating-dominating code must contain all the isolated vertices. Let  $Y$  be the number of isolated vertices. Then

$$\mathbb{E}Y := n(1 - \pi r^2)^{n-1} = n e^{(n-1)\ln(1-\pi r^2)} = n e^{-(\pi r^2 + \mathcal{O}(r^4))(n-1)} = n e^{o(\ln n)} = n^{1+o(1)}.$$

Let us now compute  $\text{Var}(Y)$ . Note that  $\text{Var}(Y)$  is equal to

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_i \sum_j (\mathbb{P}(X_i, X_j \text{ both isolated}) - \mathbb{P}(X_i \text{ isolated})\mathbb{P}(X_j \text{ isolated})) \\ &= \mathbb{E}Y(1 - \mathbb{P}(X_1 \text{ isolated})) + n(n-1) (\mathbb{P}(X_1, X_2 \text{ both isolated}) - \mathbb{P}(X_1 \text{ isolated})^2). \end{aligned}$$

Also, notice that

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P}(X_1, X_2 \text{ both isolated}) &\leq (1 - \pi r^2)^{n-1} 4\pi r^2 + (1 - 2\pi r^2)^{n-2} \\ &\leq (1 - \pi r^2)^{n-1} 4\pi r^2 + \frac{1}{(1-\pi r^2)^2} (1 - \pi r^2)^{2(n-1)} \\ &= 4\pi r^2 \mathbb{P}(X_1 \text{ isolated}) + \left(1 - \frac{\pi^2 r^4 - 2\pi r^2}{(1-\pi r^2)^2}\right) \mathbb{P}(X_1 \text{ isolated})^2. \end{aligned}$$

Thus,  $\mathbb{P}(X_1, X_2 \text{ both isolated}) - \mathbb{P}(X_1 \text{ isolated})^2 = \mathcal{O}(r^2 \mathbb{P}(X_1 \text{ isolated}))$ . As  $r^2 = o\left(\frac{\ln n}{n}\right)$ , we thus find that

$$\text{Var}(Y) = o(\ln n \cdot \mathbb{E}Y) = o((\mathbb{E}Y)^2).$$

So Chebyshev's inequality gives that indeed  $Y = (1 + o(1))\mathbb{E}Y = n^{1+o(1)}$  whp.

*Part (ii).* Let  $\varepsilon > 0$  be arbitrary. First, we shall construct a code  $C$  of cardinality  $\mathcal{O}(n^{\frac{2}{3}+\varepsilon})$  as follows. We start with  $C_0 := \{X_1, \dots, X_c\}$  with  $c = \lceil (\frac{n}{r})^{\frac{2}{3}+\varepsilon} \rceil$ , and then we obtain  $C$  by adding to  $C_0$  all points in  $X_{c+1}, \dots, X_n$  that are in a bad pair for  $C_0$ , i.e., if  $C_0 \cap \overline{N}(X_i) = C_0 \cap \overline{N}(X_j)$  for  $c < i < j \leq n$  then we add  $X_i$  and  $X_j$ . Let  $Y$  be the number of pairs in  $X_{c+1}, \dots, X_n$  that are bad with respect to  $C$ . Notice that now a bad pair need not correspond to an edge of  $G_n$ . We see that

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}Y &= \binom{n-c}{2} \mathbb{P}(\{X_{c+1}, X_{c+2}\} \text{ bad for } C_0) \\ &= (1 + o(1)) \frac{n^2}{2} \left( \int_0^{2r} \int_0^{2\pi} (1 - D_r(u, \alpha))^c u \, d\alpha \, du + \mathcal{O}\left(e^{-c2\pi r^2}\right) \right) \\ &= (1 + o(1)) \frac{n^2}{32c^2 r^2} \left( \int_0^{2\pi} F(\alpha)^{-2} \, d\alpha \right) + \mathcal{O}\left(n^2 e^{-c2\pi r^2}\right) \\ &= \Theta\left(\left(\frac{n}{r}\right)^{\frac{2}{3}-2\varepsilon}\right). \end{aligned}$$

To obtain the third line we have reused the computations that gave (5), (6), (7) and (8). To obtain the fourth line we have used that  $e^{-c2\pi r^2} = o(c^{-2}r^{-2})$ , because  $c^{-2}r^{-2} = (1 + o(1))(\frac{n}{r})^{-2\varepsilon}/n(nr^2)^{\frac{1}{3}} \gg n^{-100}$  and  $cr^2 = (1 + o(1))(nr^2)^{\frac{2}{3}}(\frac{n}{r})^\varepsilon \gg n^\varepsilon$ , so that  $e^{-c2\pi r^2} = o(e^{-n^\varepsilon})$ .

By Markov's inequality,

$$\mathbb{P}(Y \geq n^\varepsilon \cdot \mathbb{E}Y) \leq n^{-\varepsilon}.$$

Thus,  $Y = \mathcal{O}((\frac{n}{r})^{\frac{2}{3}-\varepsilon})$  whp. This gives that there indeed is a code of size  $|C| = c + Y = \mathcal{O}((\frac{n}{r})^{\frac{2}{3}+\varepsilon})$  whp.

Now let us consider a lower bound. We set  $c := \lfloor (\frac{n}{r})^{\frac{2}{3}-\varepsilon} \rfloor$ . Observe that

$$\mathbb{P}(M \leq c) \leq \binom{n}{c} \mathbb{P}(X_1, \dots, X_c \text{ is a locating-dominating code}).$$

As before, we set  $\mathcal{P} := (\{X_{c+1}, \dots, X_n\})$  and  $P_{ij} := \{X_{c+i}, X_{c+j}\}$ . We call a pair  $P_{ij} \in \mathcal{P}$  a *close bad pair* if  $P_{ij}$  is bad and  $\|X_{c+i} - X_{c+j}\| < \rho := \frac{1}{cr}$ . Let  $Z$  be the number of close bad pairs. Then, the probability that  $\{X_1, \dots, X_c\}$  is a locating-dominating code is at most the probability that  $Z$  is zero, which in turn is at most

$$\sup_{x_1, \dots, x_c \in [0, 1]^2} \mathbb{P}(Z = 0 | X_1 = x_1, \dots, X_c = x_c).$$

We use Lemma 18 above. Let us fix  $x_1, \dots, x_c \in [0, 1]^2$  and let the random variable  $\tilde{Z}$  satisfy  $\tilde{Z} \stackrel{d}{=} (Z | X_1 = x_1, \dots, X_c = x_c)$ . Notice that if we condition on the vector  $(X_i - X_j)$ , then the probability that  $X_k \in B(X_i, r) \Delta B(X_j, r)$  is exactly  $D_r(u, \alpha)$  (with  $u = \|X_i - X_j\|$  and  $\alpha$  the angle of  $X_i - X_j$  with the diagonal of the unit square). Also notice that  $D_r(u, \alpha) \leq 4ru$  uniformly in  $r, u$  and  $\alpha$ . Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} \mu &:= \mathbb{E}\tilde{Z} \geq \binom{n-c}{2} \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^\rho (1 - cD_r(u, \alpha)) u \, du \, d\alpha, \\ &\geq (1 + o(1)) \frac{n^2}{2} \left[ \pi u^2 - \frac{8\pi}{3} cr u^3 \right]_0^\rho \\ &= (1 + o(1)) \frac{\pi n^2 \rho^2}{2} (1 - \mathcal{O}(rc\rho^3)) \\ &= \Omega\left(\left(\frac{n}{cr}\right)^2\right) = \Omega\left(\left(\frac{n}{r}\right)^{\frac{2}{3}+2\varepsilon}\right) = \Omega(cn^{3\varepsilon}). \end{aligned}$$

Now let us consider

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta &:= \sum_{\substack{P, P' \in \mathcal{P} \\ P_1 \cap P_2 \neq \emptyset}} \mathbb{P}(P, P' \text{ both close bad} | X_1 = x_1, \dots, X_c = x_c) \\ &= \binom{n-c}{2} 2(n-c-2) \mathbb{P}(P_{12}, P_{13} \text{ close bad} | X_1 = x_1, \dots, X_c = x_c) \\ &\leq \mu (\pi n \rho^2) \leq \mu (\pi n c^{-2} r^{-2}) = \mathcal{O}\left(\mu (nr^2)^{-\frac{1}{3}+\varepsilon} r^\varepsilon\right) = o(\mu). \end{aligned}$$

Let us set

$$\delta := \max_{P \in \mathcal{P}} \sum_{\substack{P' \in \mathcal{P}, \\ P \cap P' \neq \emptyset}} \mathbb{P}(P, P' \text{ both close bad} | X_1 = x_1, \dots, X_c = x_c).$$

By symmetry considerations, we obtain

$$\delta = \frac{\Delta}{\binom{n-c}{2}} = o\left(\frac{\mu}{n^2}\right) = o(1).$$

Thus, by Lemma 18, we find

$$\mathbb{P}(Z = 0 | X_1 = x_1, \dots, X_n = x_n) = \mathbb{P}(\tilde{Z} = 0) \leq \exp[-\mu + \Delta e^\delta] = \exp[-\Omega(n^{\frac{2}{3}+2\epsilon})].$$

Note also that this bound is uniform in  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  so that the right hand side is in fact also an upper bound for  $\mathbb{P}(\{X_1, \dots, X_c\} \text{ is a code})$ . We see that

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P}(M \leq c) &\leq \binom{n}{c} \mathbb{P}(X_1, \dots, X_c \text{ is a locating-dominating code}) \\ &\leq n^c \exp[-\Omega(cn^{3\epsilon})] \\ &= \exp[\mathcal{O}(c \ln n) - \Omega(cn^{3\epsilon})] = o(1). \end{aligned}$$

This concludes the proof. □

## 4 Further work

In this paper we have always assumed that the vertices of the random unit disk graph follow the uniform distribution on the unit square, which we made into a torus by identifying opposite sides. A possibly non-trivial exercise would be to extend the proofs to other probability distributions on the plane, and to derive the exact limiting probabilities of the existence of an identifying code for fixed  $r$  without the toroidal assumption

Another topic for future research, especially motivated by the applications, is to investigate approximation algorithms for finding minimum identifying codes or locating-dominating codes for unit disk graphs.

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