

# The Turán Problem

## Theory and Applications

Jacques Verstraete

Department of Mathematics  
University of California, San Diego, CA, USA  
E-mail: jacques@ucsd.edu

### **Abstract**

For a graphs  $F$  and  $G$ , we say that  $G$  is  $F$ -free if  $G$  contains no isomorphic copy of  $F$  as a subgraph. The *Turán number* for  $F$ , denoted  $\text{ex}(n, F)$ , is the maximum number of edges in an  $n$ -vertex  $F$ -free graph. The study of this quantity is a cornerstone of extremal combinatorics, and has connections to many other areas of mathematics and theoretical computer science. In this talk, I shall present some of these remarkable connections, including applications to number theory, combinatorial geometry, group theory, information and coding theory, and randomized algorithms.