# Perfect Packings in Quasirandom Hypergraphs I 

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#### Abstract

Let $k \geq 2$ and $F$ be a linear $k$-uniform hypergraph with $v$ vertices. We prove that if $n$ is sufficiently large and $v \mid n$, then every quasirandom $k$-uniform hypergraph on $n$ vertices with constant edge density and minimum degree $\Omega\left(n^{k-1}\right)$ admits a perfect $F$-packing. The case $k=2$ follows immediately from the blowup lemma of Komlós, Sárközy, and Szemerédi. We also prove positive results for some nonlinear $F$ but at the same time give counterexamples for rather simple $F$ that are close to being linear. Finally, we address the case when the density tends to zero, and prove (in analogy with the graph case) that sparse quasirandom 3-uniform hypergraphs admit a perfect matching as long as their second largest eigenvalue is sufficiently smaller than the largest eigenvalue.


## 1 Introduction

A $k$-uniform hypergraph $H$ ( $k$-graph for short) is a collection of $k$-element subsets (edges) of a vertex set $V(H)$. For a $k$-graph $H$ and a subset $S$ of vertices of size at most $k-1$, let $d(S)=d_{H}(S)$ be the number of subsets of size $k-|S|$ that when added to $S$ form a edge of $H$. The minimum degree of $H$, written $\delta(H)$, is the minimum of $d(\{s\})$ over all vertices $s$. The minimum $\ell$-degree of $H$, written $\delta_{\ell}(H)$, is the minimum of $d(S)$ taken over all $\ell$-sets of vertices. The minimum codegree of $H$ is the minimum $(k-1)$-degree. Let $K_{t}^{k}$ be the complete $k$-graph on $t$ vertices.

Let $G$ and $F$ be $k$-graphs. We say that $G$ has a perfect $F$-packing if there exists a collection of vertex-disjoint copies of $F$ such that all vertices of $G$ are covered. An important result of Hajnal and Szemerédi [9] states that if $r$ divides $n$ and the minimum degree of an $n$-vertex graph $G$ is at least $(1-1 / r) n$, then $G$ has a perfect $K_{r}$-packing. Later Alon and Yuster [2] conjectured that a similar result holds for any graph $F$ instead of just cliques,

[^0]with the minimum degree of $G$ depending on the chromatic number of $F$. This was proved by Komlós-Sárközy-Szemerédi [19] by using the Regularity Lemma and Blow-up Lemma. Later, Kühn and Osthus [21] found the minimum degree threshold for perfect $F$-packings up to a constant; the threshold either comes from the chromatic number of $F$ or the so-called critical chromatic number of $F$.

In the past decade there has been substantial interest in extending this result to $k$ graphs. Nevertheless, the simplest case of determining the minimum codegree threshold that guarantees a perfect matching was settled only recently by Rödl-Ruciński-Szemerédi [31]. Since then, there are a few results for codegree thresholds for packing other small 3-graphs [5, 14, 20, 27, 28, 30, 34, 35]. For $\ell$-degrees with $\ell<k / 2$ (in particular the minimum degree), much less is known. After work by many researchers [10, 11, 15, 16, 23, 22, 29], still only the degree threshold for $K_{3}^{3}$-packings, $C_{4}^{3}$-packings, and $K_{4}^{4}$-packings are known $\left(\frac{5}{9}, \frac{7}{16}\right.$ and $\frac{37}{64}$ respectively). For $m \geq 5$ and $k \geq 4$ the packing degree threshold for $K_{m}^{k}$ is open ([22] contains the current best bounds).

A key ingredient in the proofs of most of the above results are specially designed randomlike properties of $k$-graphs that imply the existence of perfect $F$-packings. There is a rather well-defined notion of quasirandomness for graphs that originated in early work of Thomason $[32,33]$ and Chung-Graham-Wilson [3] which naturally generalizes to $k$-graphs. Our main focus in this paper is on understanding when perfect $F$-packings exist in quasirandom hypergraphs. The basic property that defines quasirandomness is uniform edge-distribution, and this extends naturally to hypergraphs. Let $v(H)=|V(H)|$.

Definition. Let $k \geq 2$, let $0<\mu, p<1$, and let $H$ be a $k$-graph. We say that $H$ is ( $p, \mu$ )-dense if for all $X_{1}, \ldots, X_{k} \subseteq H$,

$$
e\left(X_{1}, \ldots, X_{k}\right) \geq p\left|X_{1}\right| \cdots\left|X_{k}\right|-\mu n^{k}
$$

where $e\left(X_{1}, \ldots, X_{k}\right)$ is the number of $\left(x_{1}, \ldots, x_{k}\right) \in X_{1} \times \cdots \times X_{k}$ such that $\left\{x_{1}, \ldots, x_{k}\right\} \in H$ (note that if the $X_{i} s$ overlap an edge might be counted more than once). Say that $H$ is an $(n, p, \mu) k$-graph if $H$ has $n$ vertices and is $(p, \mu)$-dense. Finally, if $0<\alpha<1$, then an $(n, p, \mu) k$-graph is an $(n, p, \mu, \alpha) k$-graph if its minimum degree is at least $\alpha\binom{n}{k-1}$.

The $F$-packing problem for quasirandom graphs with constant density has been solved implicitly by Komlós-Sárközy-Szemerédi [18] in the course of developing the Blow-up Lemma.

Theorem 1. (Komlós-Sárközy-Szemerédi [18]) Let $0<\alpha, p<1$ be fixed and let $F$ be any graph. There exists an $n_{0}$ and $\mu>0$ such that if $H$ is any ( $n, p, \mu, \alpha$ ) 2-graph where $n \geq n_{0}, v(F) \mid n$ then $H$ has a perfect $F$-packing.

Note that the condition on minimum degree is required, since if the condition " $\delta(H) \geq$ $\alpha n$ " in Theorem 1 is replaced by " $\delta(H) \geq f(n)$ " for any choice of $f(n)$ with $f(n)=o(n)$, then there exists the following counterexample. Take the disjoint union of the random graph $G(n, p)$ and a clique of size either $\lceil f(n)\rceil+1$ or $\lceil f(n)\rceil+2$ depending on which is odd. The minimum degree is at least $f(n)$, there is no perfect matching, and the graph is still $(p, \mu)$-dense. Because of the use of the regularity lemma, the constant $n_{0}$ in Theorem 1 is
an exponential tower in $\mu^{-1}$. We extend Theorem 1 to a variety of $k$-graphs. In the process, we also reduce the size of $n_{0}$ for all 2 -graphs. A basic problem in this area that naturally emerges is the following.

Problem 2. For which $k$-graphs $F$ does the following hold: for all $0<p, \alpha<1$, there is some $n_{0}$ and $\mu$ so that if $H$ is an $(n, p, \mu, \alpha) k$-graph with $n \geq n_{0}$ and $v(F) \mid n$, then $H$ has a perfect $F$-packing.

Unlike the graph case, most $F$ will not satisfy Problem 2. Indeed, Rödl observed that for all $\mu>0$ and there is an $n_{0}$ such that for $n \geq n_{0}$, an old construction of Erdős and Hajnal [6] produces an $n$-vertex 3 -graph which is $\left(\frac{1}{4}, \mu\right)$-dense and has no copy of $K_{4}^{3}$. In a forthcoming paper we will show that a stronger notion of quasirandomness suffices to perfectly pack all $F$.

A hypergraph is linear if every two edges share at most one vertex. For a $k$-graph $H$, Kohayakawa-Nagle-Rödl-Schacht [17] recently proved an equivalence between $\left(|H| /\binom{n}{k}, \mu\right)$ dense and the fact that for each linear $k$-graph $F$, the number of labeled copies of $F$ in $H$ is the same as in the random graph with the same density. This leads naturally to the question of whether Problem 2 has a positive answer for linear $k$-graphs, and our first result shows that this is the case.

Theorem 3. Let $k \geq 2,0<\alpha, p<1$, and let $F$ be a linear $k$-graph. There exists an $n_{0}$ and $\mu>0$ such that if $H$ is an $(n, p, \mu, \alpha) k$-graph where $n \geq n_{0}$ and $v(F) \mid n$, then $H$ has a perfect $F$-packing.

We restrict our attention only to 3 -graphs now although the concepts extend naturally to larger $k$. Define a 3 -graph to be $(2+1)$-linear if its edges can be ordered as $e_{1}, \ldots, e_{q}$ such that each $e_{i}$ has a partition $s_{i} \cup t_{i}$ with $\left|s_{i}\right|=2,\left|t_{i}\right|=1$ and for every $j<i$ we have $e_{j} \cap e_{i} \subseteq s_{i}$ or $e_{j} \cap e_{i} \subseteq t_{i}$. In words, every edge before $e_{i}$ intersects $e_{i}$ in a subset of $s_{i}$ or of $t_{i}$. Clearly every linear 3-graph is $(2+1)$-linear, but the converse is false. Keevash's [12] recent proof of the existence of designs and our recent work on quasirandom properties of hypergraphs [25, $24,26]$ use a quasirandom property distinct from $(p, \mu)$-dense that Keevash calls typical and we call $(2+1)$-quasirandom (although the properties are essentially equivalent). These properties imply that the count of all $(2+1)$-linear 3 -graphs in a typical 3 -graph is the same as in the random 3 -graph (see [25, 24]).

Thus a natural direction in which to extend Theorem 3 is to the family of $(2+1)$-linear 3 -graphs and we begin this investigation with some of the smallest such 3-graphs. A cherry is the 3-graph comprising two edges that share precisely two vertices - this is the "simplest" non-linear hypergraph. A more complicated $(2+1)$-linear 3 -graph is $C_{4}(2+1)$ which has vertex set $\{1,2,3,4, a, b\}$ and edge set $\{12 a, 12 b, 34 a, 34 b\}$. The importance of $C_{4}(2+1)$ lies in the fact that $C_{4}(2+1)$ is forcing for the class of all $(2+1)$-linear 3 -graphs. This means that if $F$ is a $(2+1)$-linear 3 -graph and $p, \epsilon>0$ are fixed, there is $n_{0}$ and $\delta>0$ so that if $n \geq n_{0}$ and $H$ is an $n$-vertex 3 -graph with $p\binom{n}{3}$ edges and $(1 \pm \delta) p^{4} n^{6}$ labeled copies of $C_{4}(2+1)$, then the number of labeled copies of $F$ in $H$ is $(1 \pm \epsilon) p^{|F|} n^{v(F)}$ (see [25, 24]).


Cherry

$C_{4}(2+1)$

Figure 1: Two 3-graphs

Theorem 4. Let $0<\alpha, p<1$. There exists an $n_{0}$ and $\mu>0$ such that if $H$ is an ( $n, p, \mu, \alpha$ ) 3-graph where $n \geq n_{0}$, then $H$ has a perfect cherry-packing if $4 \mid n$ and a perfect $C_{4}(2+1)$ packing if $6 \mid n$.

One might speculate that Theorem 4 can be extended to the collection of all $(2+1)$-linear $F$ or to the collection of all 3-partite $F$. However, our next result shows that this is not the case and that solving Problem 2 will be a difficult project. If $x$ is a vertex in a 3 -graph $H$, the link of $x$ is the graph with vertex set $V(H) \backslash\{x\}$ and edges those pairs who form an edge with $x$.

Theorem 5. Let $F$ be any 3-graph with an even number of vertices such that there exists a partition of the vertices of $F$ into pairs such that each pair has a common edge in their links. Then for any $\mu>0$, there exists an $n_{0}$ such that for all $n \geq n_{0}$, there exists a 3 -graph $H$ such that

- $|H|=\frac{1}{8}\binom{n}{3} \pm \mu n^{3}$,
- $H$ is $\left(\frac{1}{8}, \mu\right)$-dense,
- $\delta(H) \geq\left(\frac{1}{8}-\mu\right)\binom{n}{2}$,
- H has no perfect F-packing.

Two examples of 3 -graphs $F$ that satisfy the conditions of Theorem 5 are the complete 3-partite 3-graph $K_{2,2,2}$ with parts of size two and the following $(2+1)$-linear hypergraph. A cherry 4 -cycle is the $(2+1)$-linear 3 -graph with edge set $\{123,124,345$, $346,567,568,781,782\}$.


Figure 2: cherry 4-cycle

It is straightforward to see that Theorem 5 applies to the cherry 4 -cycle. Therefore one cannot hope that Theorem 3 holds for all $(2+1)$-linear or 3 -partite $F$.

Our final result considers the situation when the density is not fixed and goes to zero. Here the notion of quasirandom is measured by spectral gap. It is a folklore result that large spectral gap guarantees a perfect matching in graphs. For hypergraphs, there are several definitions of eigenvalues. We will use the definitions that originated in the work of Friedman and Wigderson $[7,8]$ for regular hypergraphs. The definition for all hypergraphs can be found in $\left[25\right.$, Section 3] where we specialize to $\pi=1+\cdots+1$. That is, let $\lambda_{1}(H)=\lambda_{1,1+\cdots+1}(H)$ and let $\lambda_{2}(H)=\lambda_{2,1+\cdots+1}(H)$, where both $\lambda_{1,1+\cdots+1}(H)$ and $\lambda_{2,1+\cdots+1}(H)$ are as defined in Section 3 of [25]. The only result about eigenvalues that we will require is Proposition 24, which is usually called the Expander Mixing Lemma [25, Theorem 4] (see also [7, 8]).

Theorem 6. For every $\alpha>0$, there exists $n_{0}$ and $\gamma>0$ depending only on $\alpha$ such that the following holds. Let $H$ be an $n$-vertex 3 -graph where $3 \mid n$ and $n \geq n_{0}$. Let $p=6|H| / n^{3}$ and assume that $\delta_{2}(H) \geq \alpha p n$ and

$$
\lambda_{2}(H) \leq \gamma p^{16} n^{3 / 2}
$$

Then $H$ contains a perfect matching.
Let $\Delta_{2}(H)$ be the maximum codegree of a 3-graph $H$, i.e. the maximum of $d(S)$ over all 2-sets $S \subseteq V(H)$. If $\Delta_{2}(H) \leq c p n$ then $\lambda_{1}(H) \leq c^{\prime} p n^{3 / 2}$ where $c^{\prime}$ is a constant depending only on $c$. This implies the following corollary.

Corollary 7. For every $\alpha>0$, there exists $n_{0}$ and $\gamma>0$ depending only on $\alpha$ such that the following holds. Let $H$ be an n-vertex 3 -graph where $3 \mid n$ and $n \geq n_{0}$. Let $p=|H| /\binom{n}{3}$ and assume that $\delta_{2}(H) \geq \alpha p n, \Delta_{2}(H) \leq \frac{1}{\alpha} p n$, and

$$
\lambda_{2}(H) \leq \gamma p^{15} \lambda_{1}(H)
$$

Then $H$ contains a perfect matching.
The third largest eigenvalue of a graph is closely related to its matching number (see e.g. [4]), but currently we do not know the "correct" definition of $\lambda_{3}$ for hypergraphs. It would be interesting to discover a definition of $\lambda_{3}$ for $k$-graphs which extends the graph definition and for which a bound on $\lambda_{3}$ forces a perfect matching.

The remainder of this paper is organized as follows. In Section 2 we will develop the tools neccisary for our proofs, including extensions of the absorbing technique and various embedding lemmas. Then in Section 3 we will use these to prove Theorem 3 (Section 3.3) and Theorem 4 (Sections 3.1 and 3.2). Section 4 contains the construction proving Theorem 5 and Section 5 has the proof of the sparse case, Theorem 6 .

## 2 Tools

In this section, we state and prove several lemmas and propositions that we will need; our main tool is the absorbing technique of Rödl-Ruciński-Szemerédi [31].

Definition. Let $F$ and $H$ be $k$-graphs and let $A, B \subseteq V(H)$. We say that $A F$-absorbs $B$ or that $A$ is an $F$-absorbing set for $B$ if both $H[A]$ and $H[A \cup B]$ have perfect $F$-packings. When $F$ is a single edge, we say that $A$ edge-absorbs $B$.


Figure 3: $A K_{3}$-absorbs $B$

Definition. Let $F$ and $H$ be $k$-graphs, $\epsilon>0$, a and $b$ be multiples of $v(F), \mathcal{A} \subseteq\binom{V(H)}{a}$, and $\mathcal{B} \subseteq\binom{V(H)}{b}$. We say that $H$ is $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}, \epsilon, F)$-rich if for all $B \in \mathcal{B}$ there are at least $\epsilon n^{a}$ sets in $\mathcal{A}$ which $F$-absorb B. If $\mathcal{A}=\binom{V(H)}{a}$, we abbreviate this to $(a, \mathcal{B}, \epsilon, F)$-rich and if both $\mathcal{A}=\binom{V(H)}{a}$ and $\mathcal{B}=\binom{V(H)}{b}$, we abbreviate this to $(a, b, \epsilon, F)$-rich.

The following proposition is one of the main results of this section; the proof appears in Section 2.3.

Proposition 8. Fix $0<p<1$, let $F$ be a $k$-graph such that $F$ is either linear or $k$-partite, and let $a$ and $b$ be multiples of $v(F)$. For any $\epsilon>0$, there exists an $n_{0}$ and $\mu>0$ such that the following holds. If $H$ is an $(a, b, \epsilon, F)$-rich, $(n, p, \mu) k$-graph where $v(F) \mid n$, then $H$ has a perfect F-packing.

The proof of Proposition 8 appears in Section 2.3. For Theorem 4, we will need a slight extension of Proposition 8.

Definition. Let $\zeta>0$, $t$ be any integer, $H$ be a 3-graph, and $B \subseteq V(H)$ with $|B|=2 t$. We say that $B$ is $\zeta$-separable if there exists a partition of $B$ into $B_{1}, \ldots, B_{t}$ such that for all $i$ $\left|B_{i}\right|=2$ and $d_{H}\left(B_{i}\right) \geq \zeta n$. Set

$$
\mathcal{B}_{\zeta, b}(H):=\left\{B \in\binom{V(H)}{b}: B \text { is } \zeta \text {-separable }\right\} .
$$

If $H$ is obvious from context, we will denote this by $\mathcal{B}_{\zeta, b}$.
The main result required for the proof of Theorem 4 is that the property $(a, b, \epsilon, F)$-rich can be replaced by $\left(a, \mathcal{B}_{\zeta, b}, \epsilon, F\right)$-rich in Proposition 8.

Proposition 9. Fix $0<p, \alpha<1$ and let $\zeta=\min \left\{\frac{p}{4}, \frac{\alpha}{4}\right\}$. Let $F$ be a 3 -graph such that $F$ is either linear or $k$-partite, let $v(F) \mid a$, and let $v(F) \mid b$ where in addition $b$ is even. For any $\epsilon>0$, there exists an $n_{0}$ and $\mu>0$ such that the following holds. If $H$ is an $\left(a, \mathcal{B}_{\zeta, b}, \epsilon, F\right)$-rich $(n, p, \mu, \alpha) 3$-graph where $v(F) \mid n$, then $H$ has a perfect $F$-packing.

The proof of Proposition 9 is in Section 2.4. Note that if $b$ is even, $H$ is a 3 -graph, and $\delta(H) \geq \alpha\binom{n}{2}$, then Proposition 9 implies Proposition 8. The proofs of Propositions 8 and 9 use the absorbing technique of Rödl-Ruciński-Szemerédi [31]. The two key ingredients are the Absorbing Lemma (Lemma 10) and the Embedding Lemmas (Lemma 11 for linear and Lemma 13 for $k$-partite). The remainder of this section contains the statements and proofs of these lemmas plus the proofs of both propositions.

### 2.1 Absorbing Sets

Rödl-Ruciński-Szemerédi [31, Fact 2.3] have a slightly different definition of edge-absorbing where $B$ has size $k+1$ and one vertex of $A$ is left out of the perfect matching, but the main idea transfers to our setting in a straightforward way as follows. If $H$ is a $k$-graph, $A \subseteq V(H)$, and $\mathcal{A} \subseteq 2^{V(H)}$, then we say that $A$ partitions into sets from $\mathcal{A}$ if there exists a partition $A=A_{1} \dot{\cup} \cdots \dot{\cup} A_{t}$ such that $A_{i} \in \mathcal{A}$ for all $i$.

Lemma 10. (Absorbing Lemma) Let $F$ be a $k$-graph, $\epsilon>0$, and $a$ and $b$ be multiples of $v(F)$. There exists an $n_{0}$ and $\omega>0$ such that for all $n$-vertex $k$-graphs $H$ with $n \geq n_{0}$, the following holds. If $H$ is $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}, \epsilon, F)$-rich for some $\mathcal{A} \subseteq\binom{V(H)}{a}$ and $\mathcal{B} \subseteq\binom{V(H)}{b}$, then there exists an $A \subseteq V(H)$ such that $A$ partitions into sets from $\mathcal{A}$ and $A F$-absorbs all sets $C$ satisfying the following conditions: $C \subseteq V(H) \backslash A,|C| \leq \omega n$, and $C$ partitions into sets from $\mathcal{B}$.

Using the idea of Rödl-Ruciński-Szemerédi [31], Treglown and Zhao [34, Lemma 5.2] proved the above lemma for $F$ a single edge, $a=2 k, b=k, \mathcal{A}=\binom{V(H)}{a}$ and $\mathcal{B}=\binom{V(H)}{b}$. For the sparse case (Theorem 6) we require a stronger version of Lemma 10 and so a proof of Lemma 10 appears in Section 5 (as a corollary of Lemma 23).

### 2.2 Embedding Lemmas and Almost Perfect Packings

This section contains embedding lemmas for linear and $k$-partite $k$-graphs and a simple corollary of these lemmas which produces a perfect $F$-packing covering almost all of the vertices.

Definition. Let $F$ and $H$ be $k$-graphs with $V(F)=\left\{w_{1}, \ldots, w_{f}\right\}$. $A$ labeled copy of $F$ in $H$ is an edge-preserving injection from $V(F)$ to $V(H)$. A degenerate labeled copy of $F$ in $H$ is an edge-preserving map from $V(F)$ to $V(H)$ that is not an injection. Let $1 \leq m \leq f$ and let $Z_{1}, \ldots, Z_{m} \subseteq V(H)$. Set $\operatorname{inj}\left[F \rightarrow H ; w_{1} \rightarrow Z_{1}, \ldots, w_{m} \rightarrow Z_{m}\right]$ to be the number of edge-preserving injections $\psi: V(F) \rightarrow V(H)$ such that $\psi\left(w_{i}\right) \in Z_{i}$ for all $1 \leq i \leq m$. In other words, $\operatorname{inj}\left[F \rightarrow H ; w_{1} \rightarrow Z_{1}, \ldots, w_{m} \rightarrow Z_{m}\right]$ is the number of labeled copies of $F$ in
$H$ where $w_{i}$ is mapped into $Z_{i}$ for all $1 \leq i \leq m$. If $Z_{i}=\left\{z_{i}\right\}$, we abbreviate $w_{i} \rightarrow\left\{z_{i}\right\}$ as $w_{i} \rightarrow z_{i}$.

Lemma 11. Let $0<p, \alpha<1$ and let $F$ be a linear $k$-graph where $0 \leq m \leq v(F)$ and $V(F)=$ $\left\{s_{1}, \ldots, s_{m}, t_{m+1}, \ldots, t_{f}\right\}$ such that there does not exist $E \in F$ with $\left|E \cap\left\{s_{1}, \ldots, s_{m}\right\}\right|>1$ and there do not exist $E_{1}, E_{2} \in F$ with $\left|E_{1} \cap\left\{s_{1}, \ldots, s_{m}\right\}\right|=1,\left|E_{2} \cap\left\{s_{1}, \ldots, s_{m}\right\}\right|=1$, and $E_{1} \cap E_{2} \cap\left\{t_{m+1}, \ldots, t_{f}\right\} \neq \emptyset$.

For every $\gamma>0$, there exists an $n_{0}$ and $\mu>0$ such that the following holds. Let $H$ be an n-vertex $k$-graph with $n \geq n_{0}$ and let $y_{1}, \ldots, y_{m} \in V(H), Z_{m+1} \subseteq V(H), \ldots, Z_{f} \subseteq V(H)$. Assume that for every $\left\{s_{i}, t_{j_{2}}, \ldots, t_{j_{k}}\right\} \in F$

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left|\left\{\left(z_{j_{2}}, \ldots, z_{j_{k}}\right) \in Z_{j_{2}} \times \cdots \times Z_{j_{k}}:\left\{y_{i}, z_{j_{2}}, \ldots, z_{j_{k}}\right\} \in H\right\}\right| \geq \alpha\left|Z_{j_{2}}\right| \cdots\left|Z_{j_{k}}\right| \tag{1}
\end{equation*}
$$

and for every $\left\{t_{i_{1}}, \ldots, t_{i_{k}}\right\} \in F$ and every $Z_{i_{1}}^{\prime} \subseteq Z_{i_{1}}, \ldots, Z_{i_{k}}^{\prime} \subseteq Z_{i_{k}}$,

$$
\begin{equation*}
e\left(Z_{i_{1}}^{\prime}, \ldots, Z_{i_{k}}^{\prime}\right) \geq p\left|Z_{i_{1}}\right| \cdots\left|Z_{i_{k}}\right|-\mu n^{k} \tag{2}
\end{equation*}
$$

Then

$$
\begin{aligned}
\operatorname{inj}\left[F \rightarrow H ; s_{1} \rightarrow y_{1}, \ldots,\right. & \left.s_{m} \rightarrow y_{m}, t_{m+1} \rightarrow Z_{m+1}, \ldots, t_{f} \rightarrow Z_{f}\right] \\
& \geq \alpha^{d_{F}\left(s_{1}\right)} \cdots \alpha^{d_{F}\left(s_{m}\right)} p^{|F|-\sum d_{F}\left(s_{i}\right)}\left|Z_{m+1}\right| \cdots\left|Z_{f}\right|-\gamma n^{f-m} .
\end{aligned}
$$

Proof. Kohayakawa, Nagle, Rödl, and Schacht [17] proved this when $Z_{i}=V(H)$ for all $i$, without the distinguished vertices $s_{1}, \ldots, s_{m}$, and under a stronger condition on $H$, but it is straightforward to extend their proof to our setup as follows. The lemma is proved by induction on number of edges of $F$ which do not contain any vertex from among $s_{1}, \ldots, s_{m}$. Let $\mu=(1-p) \gamma$.

First, if every edge of $F$ contains some $s_{i}$ then $F$ is a vertex disjoint union of stars with centers $s_{1}, \ldots, s_{m}$ plus some isolated vertices. Therefore, we can form a copy of $F$ of the type we are trying to count by picking an edge of $H$ containing $y_{i}$ (of the right type) for each edge of $F$. More precisely, using (1), the fact that all edges of $F$ which use some $s_{1}, \ldots, s_{m}$ (so all edges of $F$ ) do not share any vertices from among $t_{m+1}, \ldots, t_{f}$, and the fact that $F$ is linear, the number of labeled copies of $F$ with $s_{i} \rightarrow y_{i}$ and $t_{j} \rightarrow Z_{j}$ is at least

$$
\alpha^{|F|}\left|Z_{m+1}\right| \cdots\left|Z_{f}\right|=\alpha^{\sum d_{F}\left(s_{i}\right)} p^{0}\left|Z_{m+1}\right| \cdots\left|Z_{f}\right| .
$$

The proof of the base case is complete.
Now assume $F$ has at least one edge $E$ which does not contain any $s_{i}$, with vertices labeled so that $E=\left\{t_{m+1}, \ldots, t_{m+k}\right\}$. Let $F_{*}$ be the hypergraph formed by deleting all vertices of $E$ from $F$ and notice that $s_{i} \in V\left(F_{*}\right)$ for all $i$. Let $F_{-}$be the hypergraph formed by removing the edge $E$ from $F$ but keeping the same vertex set. Let $Q_{*}$ be an injective edge-preserving $\operatorname{map} Q_{*}: V\left(F_{*}\right) \rightarrow V(H)$ where $Q_{*}\left(s_{i}\right)=y_{i}$ for $1 \leq i \leq m$ and $Q_{*}\left(t_{j}\right) \in Z_{j}$ for $m+1 \leq j \leq f$. For $m+1 \leq j \leq m+k$, define $S_{j}\left(Q_{*}\right) \subseteq Z_{j}$ as follows. For each $z \in Z_{j}$, add $z$ to $S_{j}\left(Q_{*}\right)$ if $z \notin \operatorname{Im}\left(Q_{*}\right)$ and there exists an edge-preserving injection $V\left(F_{*}\right) \cup\left\{t_{j}\right\} \rightarrow \operatorname{Im}\left(Q_{*}\right) \cup\{z\}$
which when restricted to $V\left(F_{*}\right)$ matches the map $Q_{*}$. More informally, $S_{j}\left(Q_{*}\right)$ consists of all vertices which can be used to extend $Q_{*}$ to embed a labeled copy of $F_{*} \cup\left\{t_{j}\right\}$.

By definition, every edge counted by $e\left(S_{m+1}\left(Q_{*}\right), \ldots, S_{m+k}\left(Q_{*}\right)\right)$ creates a labeled copy of $F$. Also, every ordered tuple from $S_{m+1}\left(Q_{*}\right) \times \cdots \times S_{m+k}\left(Q_{*}\right)$ creates a labeled copy of $F_{-}$. More precisely,

$$
\begin{align*}
\operatorname{inj}\left[F \rightarrow H ; s_{1} \rightarrow y_{1}, \ldots, s_{m} \rightarrow y_{m},\right. & \left.t_{m+1} \rightarrow Z_{m+1}, \ldots, t_{f} \rightarrow Z_{f}\right] \\
& =\sum_{Q_{*}} e\left(S_{m+1}\left(Q_{*}\right), \ldots, S_{m+k}\left(Q_{*}\right)\right) \\
\operatorname{inj}\left[F_{-} \rightarrow H ; s_{1} \rightarrow y_{1}, \ldots, s_{m} \rightarrow y_{m},\right. & \left.t_{m+1} \rightarrow Z_{m+1}, \ldots, t_{f} \rightarrow Z_{f}\right] \\
& =\sum_{Q_{*}}\left|S_{m+1}\left(Q_{*}\right)\right| \cdots\left|S_{m+k}\left(Q_{*}\right)\right| . \tag{3}
\end{align*}
$$

For each $j, S_{j}\left(Q_{*}\right) \subseteq Z_{j}$ so that (2) implies that

$$
\begin{align*}
\operatorname{inj}\left[F \rightarrow H ; s_{1} \rightarrow y_{1}, \ldots, s_{m} \rightarrow y_{m},\right. & \left.t_{m+1} \rightarrow Z_{m+1}, \ldots, t_{f} \rightarrow Z_{f}\right] \\
& \geq \sum_{Q_{*}}\left(p\left|S_{m+1}\left(Q_{*}\right)\right| \cdots\left|S_{m+k}\left(Q_{*}\right)\right|-\mu n^{k}\right) \\
& \geq p \sum_{Q_{*}}\left|S_{m+1}\left(Q_{*}\right)\right| \cdots\left|S_{m+k}\left(Q_{*}\right)\right|-\mu n^{f-m} \tag{4}
\end{align*}
$$

where the last inequality is because there are at most $n^{f-m-k}$ maps $Q_{*}$, since $F_{*}$ has $f-k$ vertices and $s_{i} \in V\left(F_{*}\right)$ must map to $y_{i}$. Combining (3) and (4) and then applying induction,

$$
\begin{aligned}
\operatorname{inj}[F \rightarrow H ; & \left.s_{1} \rightarrow y_{1}, \ldots, s_{m} \rightarrow y_{m}, t_{m+1} \rightarrow Z_{m+1}, \ldots, t_{f} \rightarrow Z_{f}\right] \\
& \geq p \operatorname{inj}\left[F_{-} \rightarrow H ; s_{1} \rightarrow y_{1}, \ldots, s_{m} \rightarrow y_{m}, t_{m+1} \rightarrow Z_{m+1}, \ldots, t_{f} \rightarrow Z_{f}\right]-\mu n^{f-m} \\
& \geq p\left(\alpha^{\sum d\left(s_{i}\right)} p^{|F|-1-\sum d\left(s_{i}\right)}\left|Z_{m+1}\right| \cdots\left|Z_{f}\right|-\gamma n^{f-m}\right)-\mu n^{f-m}
\end{aligned}
$$

Since $\mu=(1-p) \gamma$, the proof is complete.
Corollary 12. Let $0<p<1$ and let $F$ be a linear $k$-graph with $V(F)=\left\{t_{1}, \ldots, t_{f}\right\}$. For every $\gamma>0$, there exists an $n_{0}$ and $\mu>0$ such that the following holds. Let $H$ be an ( $n, p, \mu$ ) $k$-graph and let $Z_{1} \ldots, Z_{f} \subseteq V(H)$. Then

$$
\operatorname{inj}\left[F \rightarrow H ; t_{1} \rightarrow Z_{1}, \ldots, t_{f} \rightarrow Z_{f}\right] \geq p^{|F|}\left|Z_{1}\right| \cdots\left|Z_{f}\right|-\gamma n^{f}
$$

Proof. Apply Lemma 11 with $m=0$. Since $H$ is $(p, \mu)$-dense, (2) holds. Also, (1) is vacuous since $m=0$.

Lemma 13. Let $0<p<1$ and let $K_{t_{1}, \ldots, t_{k}}$ be the complete $k$-partite, $k$-graph with part sizes $t_{1}, \ldots, t_{k}$ and parts labeled by $T_{1}, \ldots, T_{k}$. For every $0<\mu<\frac{p}{2}$, there exists $n_{0}$ and $0<\xi<1$ such that the following holds. Let $H$ be an $(n, p, \mu) k$-graph with $n \geq n_{0}$. Then for any $X_{1}, \ldots, X_{k} \subseteq V(H)$ with $\left|X_{j}\right| \geq(2 \mu / p)^{1 / k} n$ for all $j$, the number of labeled copies of $K_{t_{1}, \ldots . t_{k}}$ in $H$ with $T_{i} \subseteq X_{i}$ for all $i$ is at least $\xi \prod\left|X_{i}\right|^{t_{i}}$.

Proof. Let $H^{\prime}$ be the $k$-graph on $\sum\left|X_{i}\right|$ vertices with vertex set $Y_{1} \dot{\cup} \cdots \dot{\cup} Y_{t}$ where the sets $Y_{i}$ are disjoint and $Y_{i} \cong X_{i}$ for all $i$. Note that because the sets $X_{i}$ might overlap, a vertex of $H$ might appear more than once in $H^{\prime}$. Make $y_{1} \in Y_{1}, \ldots, y_{k} \in Y_{k}$ a hyperedge of $H^{\prime}$ if $y_{1}, \ldots, y_{k}$ are distinct vertices of $H$ and $\left\{y_{1}, \ldots, y_{k}\right\} \in H$. Let $t=\sum t_{i}$. Since $H$ is ( $p, \mu$ )-dense,

$$
e\left(H^{\prime}\right)=e_{H}\left(X_{1}, \ldots, X_{k}\right) \geq p \prod_{i}\left|X_{i}\right|-\mu n^{k} \geq p\left(\frac{2 \mu}{p}\right) n^{k}-\mu n^{k}=\mu n^{k} \geq \frac{\mu}{k^{k}} v\left(H^{\prime}\right)^{k}
$$

Therefore, by supersaturation (see [13, Theorems 2.1 and 2.2]), there exists an $n_{0}^{\prime}$ and $\xi^{\prime}>0$ such that if $v\left(H^{\prime}\right) \geq n_{0}^{\prime}$ then $H^{\prime}$ contains at least $\xi^{\prime} v\left(H^{\prime}\right)^{t}$ labeled copies of $K_{t_{1}, \ldots, t_{k}}$. Each of these labeled copies of $K_{t_{1}, \ldots, k_{t}}$ in $H^{\prime}$ produces a possibly degenerate labeled copy of $K_{t_{1}, \ldots, t_{k}}$ in $H$ where $T_{i} \subseteq X_{i}$ for all $i$. Pick $\xi=\frac{1}{2} \xi^{\prime}, n_{0} \geq n_{0}^{\prime}(p / 2 \mu)^{1 / k}$, and $n_{0} \geq \frac{1}{\xi}(p / 2 \mu)^{t / k}$.

Now assume that $n \geq n_{0}$. This implies that $v\left(H^{\prime}\right) \geq\left|X_{1}\right| \geq(2 \mu / p)^{1 / k} n \geq n_{0}^{\prime}$ so that there are at least $\xi^{\prime} v\left(H^{\prime}\right)^{t}$ labeled copies of $K_{t_{1}, \ldots, t_{k}}$ in $H^{\prime}$. Therefore, the number of possibly degenerate labeled copies of $K_{t_{1}, \ldots, t_{k}}$ in $H$ with $T_{i} \subseteq X_{i}$ for all $i$ is at least

$$
\begin{equation*}
\xi^{\prime} v\left(H^{\prime}\right)^{t}=\xi^{\prime} \prod_{i} v\left(H^{\prime}\right)^{t_{i}} \geq \xi^{\prime} \prod_{i}\left|X_{i}\right|^{t_{i}}=2 \xi \prod_{i}\left|X_{i}\right|^{t_{i}} . \tag{5}
\end{equation*}
$$

Since there are at most $n^{t-1}$ degenerate labeled copies, by the choice of $n_{0}$ and since $\left|X_{i}\right| \geq$ $(2 \mu / p)^{1 / k} n$ for all $i$, the number of degenerate labeled copies is at most

$$
\begin{equation*}
n^{t-1}=\frac{1}{n}\left(\frac{p}{2 \mu}\right)^{t / k} \prod_{i}\left[\left(\frac{2 \mu}{p}\right)^{1 / k} n\right]^{t_{i}} \leq \frac{1}{n}\left(\frac{p}{2 \mu}\right)^{t / k} \prod_{i}\left|X_{i}\right|^{t_{i}} \leq \xi \prod_{i}\left|X_{i}\right|^{t_{i}} \tag{6}
\end{equation*}
$$

Combining (5) with (6) shows that there are at least $\xi \prod_{i}\left|X_{i}\right|^{t_{i}}$ labeled copies of $K_{t_{1}, \ldots, t_{k}}$ with $T_{i} \subseteq X_{i}$ for all $i$, completing the proof.

With these lemmas in hand, we can prove that if $H$ is $(p, \mu)$-dense and $F$ is linear or $k$-partite, then $H$ has an $F$-packing covering almost all the vertices of $H$.

Lemma 14. (Almost Perfect Packing Lemma) Fix $0<p<1$ and a $k$-graph $F$ with $f$ vertices such that $F$ is either linear or $k$-partite. Let $v(F) \mid b$. For any $0<\omega<1$, there exists $n_{0}$ and $\mu>0$ such that the following holds. Let $H$ be an ( $n, p, \mu$ ) $k$-graph with $n \geq n_{0}$ and $f \mid n$. Then there exists $C \subseteq V(H)$ such that $|C| \leq \omega n, b| | C \mid$, and $H[\bar{C}]$ has a perfect F-packing.

Proof. First, select $n_{0}$ large enough and $\mu$ small enough so that any vertex set $C$ of size $\left\lceil\frac{\omega}{2}\right\rceil$ contains a copy of $F$. To see that this is possible, there are two cases to consider.

If $F$ is linear, let $\gamma=\frac{1}{2} p^{|F|}\left(\frac{\omega}{2}\right)^{f}$ and select $n_{0}$ and $\mu>0$ according to Corollary 12. Now if $C \subseteq V(H)$ with $|C| \geq \frac{\omega}{2} n$, then Corollary 12 implies there are at least $p^{|F|}|C|^{f}-\gamma n^{f} \geq$ $p^{|F|}\left(\frac{\omega}{2}\right)^{f} n^{f}-\gamma n^{f}=\gamma n^{f}>0$ copies of $F$ inside $C$.

If $F$ is $k$-partite, then Lemma 13 is used in a similar way as follows. Let $\mu=\frac{p}{2}\left(\frac{\omega}{2}\right)^{k}$ and select $n_{0}$ and $\xi$ according to Lemma 13. Now by the choice of $\mu$, if $|C| \geq \frac{\omega}{2}$ then $|C| \geq(2 \mu / p)^{1 / k} n$ so that by Lemma $13, C$ contains at least $\xi\left(\frac{\omega}{2}\right)^{f} n^{f}>0$ copies of $F$.

Now let $F_{1}, \ldots, F_{t}$ be a greedily constructed $F$-packing. That is, $F_{1}, \ldots, F_{t}$ are disjoint copies of $F$ and $C:=V(H) \backslash V\left(F_{1}\right) \backslash \cdots \backslash V\left(F_{t}\right)$ has no copy of $F$. By the previous two paragraphs, $|C| \leq \frac{\omega}{2} n$. Since $f \mid n$ and $H[\bar{C}]$ has a perfect $F$-packing, $f||C|$. Thus we can let $y \equiv-\frac{|C|}{f}(\bmod b)$ with $0 \leq y<b$ and take $y$ of the copies of $F$ in the $F$-packing of $H[\bar{C}]$ and add their vertices into $C$ so that $b||C|$.

### 2.3 Proof of Proposition 8

Proof of Proposition 8. First, select $\omega>0$ according to Lemma 10 and $\mu_{1}>0$ accoding to Lemma 14. Also, make $n_{0}$ large enough so that both Lemma 10 and 14 can be applied. Let $\mu=\mu_{1} \omega^{k}$. All the parameters have now been chosen.

By Lemma 10, there exists a set $A \subseteq V(H)$ such that $A F$-absorbs $C$ for all $C \subseteq V(H) \backslash A$ with $|C| \leq \omega n$ and $b||C|$. If $| A \mid \geq(1-\omega) n$, then $A F$-absorbs $V(H) \backslash A$ so that $H$ has a perfect $F$-packing. Thus $|A| \leq(1-\omega) n$. Next, let $H^{\prime}:=H[\bar{A}]$ and notice that $H^{\prime}$ is ( $p, \mu_{1}$ )-dense since $v\left(H^{\prime}\right) \geq \omega n$ and

$$
\mu n^{k} \leq \frac{\mu}{\omega^{k}} v\left(H^{\prime}\right)^{k}=\mu_{1} v\left(H^{\prime}\right)^{k}
$$

Therefore, by Lemma 14, there exists a vertex set $C \subseteq V\left(H^{\prime}\right)=V(H) \backslash A$ such that $|C| \leq \omega n$, $|C|$ is a multiple of $b$, and $H^{\prime}[\bar{C}]$ has a perfect $F$-packing. Now Lemma 10 implies that $A$ $F$-absorbs $C$. The perfect $F$-packing of $A \cup C$ and the perfect $F$-packing of $H^{\prime}[\bar{C}]$ produces a perfect $F$-packing of $H$.

### 2.4 Proof of Proposition 9

This section contains the proof of Proposition 9, but first we need an extension of Lemma 14 that produces a perfect $F$-packing covering almost all the vertices where in addition the unsaturated vertices are $\zeta$-separable. To do so, we need a well-known probability lemma.

Lemma 15. (Chernoff Bound) Let $0<p<1$, let $X_{1}, \ldots, X_{n}$ be mutually independent indicator random variables with $\mathbb{P}\left[X_{i}=1\right]=p$ for all $i$, and let $X=\sum X_{i}$. Then for all $a>0$,

$$
\mathbb{P}[|X-\mathbb{E}[X]|>a] \leq 2 e^{-a^{2} / 2 n}
$$

Lemma 16. Fix $p, \alpha \in(0,1), \zeta=\min \left\{\frac{p}{4}, \frac{\alpha}{4}\right\}$, and a 3 -graph $F$ such that either $F$ is linear or $F$ is 3-partite. Let $v(F) \mid b$ where in addition $b$ is even. For any $0<\omega<1$, there exists $n_{0}$ and $\mu>0$ such that the following holds. Let $H$ be an ( $n, p, \mu, \alpha$ ) 3-graph with $n \geq n_{0}$ and $v(F) \mid n$. Then there exists a set $C \subseteq V(H)$ such that $|C| \leq \omega n, C$ partitions into sets of $\mathcal{B}_{\zeta, b}$, and $H[\bar{C}]$ has a perfect $F$-packing.

Proof. Use Lemma 14 to select $n_{0}$ and $\mu_{1}>0$ to produce an $F$-packing $F_{1}, \ldots, F_{t}$ where $W:=V(H) \backslash V\left(F_{1}\right) \backslash \cdots \backslash V\left(F_{t}\right)$ is such that $|W| \leq \frac{\omega \alpha}{4} n$. Let $f=v(F)$ and let

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \phi=\min \left\{\frac{\omega}{8}, \frac{\alpha}{4}, \frac{p}{4}\right\}, \\
& \mu=\min \left\{\frac{p}{2}\left(\frac{\alpha \phi}{16 f}\right)^{2}, \mu_{1}\right\} .
\end{aligned}
$$

First, form a vertex set $C^{\prime}$ by starting with $W$ and for each $1 \leq i \leq t$, add $V\left(F_{i}\right)$ to $C^{\prime}$ with probability $\phi$ independently. After this, take $\frac{b}{f}-\frac{\left|C^{\prime}\right|}{f}\left(\bmod \frac{b}{f}\right)$ of the unselected copies of $F$ and add their vertices into $C^{\prime}$ to form the vertex set $C$.

By construction, $H[\bar{C}]$ has a perfect $F$-packing (the copies of $F$ which were not selected) and $b \||C|$. Since $b$ is even, $|C|$ is also even. So to complete the proof, we just need to show that with positive probability, $C$ is $\zeta$-separable and $|C| \leq \omega n$. (Note that if $C$ is $\zeta$-separable then it can be partitioned into sets from $\mathcal{B}_{\zeta, b}$.)

Let $G$ be the graph where $V(G)=V(H)$ and for every $Z \in\binom{V(G)}{2}, Z$ is an edge of $G$ if $d_{H}(Z) \geq \zeta n$, i.e. the codegree of $Z$ in $H$ is at least $\zeta n$. We will now prove that with positive probability, the following two events occur:

- $|C| \leq \frac{1}{2} \omega n$,
- $\delta(G[C]) \geq \frac{\alpha \phi}{8 f} n$.

First, the expected number of vertices added to $W$ to form $C$ is $\phi f t \leq \frac{\omega}{8} n$ plus potentially a few copies of $F$ to make $b||C|$. By the second moment method, with probability at least $\frac{1}{4}$, at most $\frac{\omega}{4} n$ vertices are added to $W$ so that $|C| \leq \frac{1}{2} \omega n$. Secondly, since $\delta(H) \geq \alpha n^{2}$ it is the case that $\delta(G) \geq \frac{\alpha}{2} n$. Indeed, if there was some vertex $x$ with $d_{G}(x)<\frac{\alpha}{2} n$, then $d_{H}(x) \leq\left|N_{G}(x)\right| \cdot n+n \cdot \zeta n<\left(\frac{\alpha}{2}+\zeta\right) n^{2}$, a contradiction to the fact that $\delta(H) \geq \alpha n^{2}$ and $\zeta \leq \frac{\alpha}{2}$. Since $|W| \leq \frac{\omega \alpha}{4} n$, we have that any vertex $x$ has at least $\frac{\alpha}{2} n-\frac{\omega \alpha}{4} n>\frac{\alpha}{4} n$ neighbors in $G$ outside $W$. Since each $F_{i}$ has size $f$, the vertex $x$ therefore has a neighbor in $G$ inside at least $\frac{\alpha}{4 f} n$ of the copies of $F$. Therefore, the expected size of $\{y \in C: x y \in E(G)\}$ is at least $\frac{\alpha \phi}{4 f} n$ and by Chernoff's Inequality (Lemma 15),

$$
\mathbb{P}\left[|\{y \in C: x y \in E(G)\}|<\frac{\alpha \phi}{8 f} n\right] \leq e^{-c n}
$$

for some constant $c$. Thus $n_{0}$ can be selected large enough so that with probability at most $\frac{1}{4}$, there is some $x \in V(G)$ such that $|\{y \in C: x y \in E(G)\}|<\frac{\alpha \phi}{8 f} n$. This implies that with probability at least $\frac{1}{2},|C| \leq \omega n$ and $\delta(G[C]) \geq \frac{\alpha \phi}{8 f} n$.

To complete the proof, we will show that $\delta(G[C]) \geq \frac{\alpha \phi}{8 f} n$ implies that $G[C]$ has a perfect matching (which is equivalent to $C$ being $\zeta$-separable). Divide $C$ into two equal sized parts $C_{1}$ and $C_{2}$ (recall that $|C|$ is even since $b$ is even and $b \| C \mid$. Assume towards a contradiction that Hall's Condition fails in $G\left[C_{1}, C_{2}\right]$, i.e. there exists a set $T \subseteq C_{1}$ such that $\left|N_{G}(T) \cap C_{2}\right|<|T|$.

In a slight abuse of notation, let $\bar{T}=C_{1} \backslash T$. Now $|T| \geq \frac{\alpha \phi}{16 f} n$ since $\delta\left(G\left[C_{1}, C_{2}\right]\right) \geq \frac{\alpha \phi}{16 f} n$. Similarly, $|\bar{T}| \geq \frac{\alpha \phi}{16 f} n$ since if $z \in C_{2} \backslash N_{G}(T)$ then $N_{G}(z) \cap C_{1} \subseteq \bar{T}$. This implies that

$$
\left|C_{2} \backslash N_{G}(T)\right|=\left|C_{2}\right|-\left|N_{G}(T)\right|=\left|C_{1}\right|-\left|N_{G}(T)\right|>\left|C_{1}\right|-|T|=|\bar{T}| \geq \frac{\alpha \phi n}{16 f}
$$

Since there are no edges of $G$ between $T$ and $C_{2} \backslash N_{G}(T)$,

$$
\begin{equation*}
e_{H}\left(T, C_{2} \backslash N_{G}(T), V(H)\right) \leq|T| \cdot\left|C_{2} \backslash N_{G}(T)\right| \cdot \zeta n=\zeta|T|\left|C_{2} \backslash N_{G}(T)\right| n \tag{7}
\end{equation*}
$$

On the other hand, since $H$ is $(p, \mu)$-dense,

$$
e_{H}\left(T, C_{2} \backslash N_{G}(T), V(H)\right) \geq p|T|\left|C_{2} \backslash N_{G}(T)\right| n-\mu n^{3} .
$$

Since $|T|$ and $\left|C_{2} \backslash N_{G}(T)\right|$ are both larger than $\frac{\alpha \phi}{16 f} n$,

$$
e_{H}\left(T, C_{2} \backslash N_{G}(T), V(H)\right) \geq\left(p-\mu\left(\frac{16 f}{\alpha \phi}\right)^{2}\right)|T|\left|C_{2} \backslash N_{G}(T)\right| n
$$

Since $\mu \leq \frac{p}{2}\left(\frac{\alpha \phi}{16 f}\right)^{2}$, we have

$$
\begin{equation*}
e_{H}\left(T, C_{2} \backslash N_{G}(T), V(H)\right) \geq \frac{p}{2}|T|\left|C_{2} \backslash N_{G}(T)\right| n \tag{8}
\end{equation*}
$$

Since $\zeta<\frac{p}{2}$, (8) contradicts (7). Therefore, $G\left[C_{1}, C_{2}\right]$ satisfies Hall's condition so that $G[C]$ has a perfect matching, i.e. $C$ is $\zeta$-separable.

Proof of Proposition 9. The proof is similar to the proof of Proposition 8 except Lemma 16 is used instead of Lemma 14.

## 3 Rich hypergraphs

This section contains the proofs of Theorems 3 and 4 . By the previous section, these proofs come down to showing that $(p, \mu)$-dense and large minimum degree imply either $(a, b, \epsilon, F)$ rich or $\left(a, \mathcal{B}_{\zeta, b}, \epsilon, F\right)$-rich, where we get to select $a, b$, and $\epsilon$ but $\zeta=\min \left\{\frac{p}{4}, \frac{\alpha}{4}\right\}$. As a warm-up before Theorem 3 (see Section 3.3), we start with the cherry.

### 3.1 Packing Cherries

Let $K_{1,1,2}$ be the cherry.
Lemma 17. Let $0<p, \alpha<1$ and let $\zeta=\min \left\{\frac{p}{4}, \frac{\alpha}{4}\right\}$. There exists an $n_{0}, \epsilon>0$, and $\mu>0$ such that if $H$ is an $(n, p, \mu, \alpha) 3$-graph with $n \geq n_{0}$, then $H$ is $\left(4, \mathcal{B}_{\zeta, 4}, \epsilon, K_{1,1,2}\right)$-rich.

Proof. Our main task is to come up with an $\epsilon>0$ such that for large $n$ and all $B \in \mathcal{B}_{\zeta, 4}$, there are at least $\epsilon n^{4}$ vertex sets of size four which $K_{1,1,2^{2}}$-absorb $B$; we will define $\epsilon$ and $\mu$ later.

Fix $B=\left\{b_{1}, b_{2}, b_{3}, b_{4}\right\} \in \mathcal{B}_{\zeta, 4}$, labeled so that $d_{H}\left(b_{1}, b_{2}\right) \geq \zeta n$ and $d_{H}\left(b_{3}, b_{4}\right) \geq \zeta n$. Let $X_{1}=N\left(b_{1}, b_{2}\right)=\left\{x: x b_{1} b_{2} \in E(H)\right\} \subseteq V(H)$ and $X_{2}=N\left(b_{3}, b_{4}\right)$ and notice that $\left|X_{1}\right|,\left|X_{2}\right| \geq \zeta n$. Arbitrarily divide $X_{1}$ in half and call the two parts $Y_{1}$ and $Y_{2}$. Let $\mu=\frac{p}{2}\left(\frac{\zeta}{2}\right)^{3}$. Since $\left|Y_{1}\right|,\left|Y_{2}\right|,\left|X_{2}\right| \geq \frac{\zeta}{2} n=(2 \mu / p)^{1 / 3} n$, by Lemma 13 there exists a $\xi>0$ and $n_{0}$ such that $H\left[Y_{1}, Y_{2}, X_{2}\right]$ contains at least $\xi\left(\frac{\zeta n}{2}\right)^{4}$ copies of $K_{1,1,2}$ with one degree two vertex in each of $Y_{1}$ and $Y_{2}$ and the degree one vertices in $X_{2}$. The proof is now complete, since each of these cherries absorbs $B$. Indeed, let $\epsilon=\xi\left(\frac{\zeta}{2}\right)^{4}$ and let $y_{1} \in Y_{1}, y_{2} \in Y_{2}$, and $x_{1}, x_{2} \in X_{2}$ be such that $y_{1} y_{2} x_{1}, y_{1} y_{2} x_{2} \in E(H)$. Then $A=\left\{y_{1}, y_{2}, x_{1}, x_{2}\right\} K_{1,1,2}$-absorbs $B$ because $b_{1} b_{2} y_{1}, b_{1} b_{2} y_{2} \in E(H)$ (recall that $Y_{1}, Y_{2} \subseteq N\left(b_{1}, b_{2}\right)$ ) and similarly $b_{3} b_{4} x_{1}, b_{3} b_{4} x_{2} \in E(H)$. Since there are at least $\epsilon n^{4}$ choices for $y_{1}, y_{2}, x_{1}, x_{2}$, the proof is complete.

### 3.2 Packing Cycles

Throughout this section, let $C_{4}$ denote the hypergraph $C_{4}(2+1)$. This section completes the proof of Theorem 4.

Lemma 18. Let $0<p, \alpha<1$ and let $\zeta=\min \left\{\frac{p}{4}, \frac{\alpha}{4}\right\}$. There exists an $n_{0}, \epsilon>0$, and $\mu>0$ such that if $H$ is a $(n, p, \mu, \alpha) 3$-graph with $n \geq n_{0}$, then $H$ is $\left(18, \mathcal{B}_{\zeta, 6}, \epsilon, C_{4}\right)$-rich.

Proof. Similar to the proof of Lemma 17, our task is to come up with an $\epsilon>0$ such that for large $n$ and all $B \in \mathcal{B}_{\zeta, 6}$, there are at least $\epsilon n^{18}$ vertex sets of size eighteen which $C_{4}$-absorb $B$; we will define $\epsilon$ and $\mu$ later.

Fix $B=\left\{b_{1}, b_{1}^{\prime}, b_{2}, b_{2}^{\prime}, b_{3}, b_{3}^{\prime}\right\} \in \mathcal{B}_{\zeta, 6}$ labeled so that $d_{H}\left(b_{i}, b_{i}^{\prime}\right) \geq \zeta n$ for all $i$. For $1 \leq i \leq 3$, let $X_{i}=N\left(b_{i}, b_{i}^{\prime}\right)$ and note that $\left|X_{i}\right| \geq \zeta n$. Now for each $1 \leq i \leq 3$, define

$$
R_{i}=\left\{\left\{r_{1}, r_{2}\right\} \in\binom{V(H)}{2}:\left|N\left(r_{1}, r_{2}\right) \cap X_{i}\right| \geq \frac{1}{10} p \zeta n\right\} .
$$

In other words, $R_{i}$ is the set of pairs with neighborhood in $X_{i}$ at least one-tenth the "expected" size. If $\left|R_{1}\right| \leq \frac{1}{10} p \zeta n^{2}$, then

$$
\begin{equation*}
e\left(X_{1}, V(H), V(H)\right) \leq\left|R_{1}\right| n+\left(\binom{n}{2}-\left|R_{1}\right|\right) \frac{1}{10} p \zeta n \leq \frac{1}{5} p \zeta n^{3} . \tag{9}
\end{equation*}
$$

On the other hand, since $H$ is $(p, \mu)$-dense,

$$
e\left(X_{1}, V(H), V(H)\right) \geq p\left|X_{1}\right| n^{2}-\mu n^{3} \geq(p \zeta-\mu) n^{3} .
$$

Let $\mu=\frac{p}{2}\left(\frac{1}{10} p \zeta\right)^{3}<\frac{4}{5} p \zeta$ so that this contradicts (9). Thus $\left|R_{1}\right| \geq \frac{1}{10} p \zeta n^{2}$ and similarly for $1 \leq i \leq 3,\left|R_{i}\right| \geq \frac{1}{10} p \zeta n^{2}$.

Now fix $r_{1} r_{1}^{\prime} \in R_{1}, r_{2} r_{2}^{\prime} \in R_{2}$, and $r_{3} r_{3}^{\prime} \in R_{3}$. There are at least $\left(\frac{1}{10} p \zeta\right)^{3} n^{6}$ such choices. For $1 \leq i \leq 3$ let $Y_{i}=N\left(r_{i}, r_{i}^{\prime}\right) \cap X_{i}$ so $\left|Y_{i}\right| \geq \frac{1}{10} p \zeta n=\left(\frac{2 \mu}{p}\right)^{1 / 3} n$. By Lemma 13, there exists a
$\xi>0$ such that there are at least $\xi\left(\frac{1}{10} p \zeta\right)^{12} n^{12}$ copies of $K_{4,4,4}$ across $Y_{1}, Y_{2}, Y_{3}$. Let $T_{1}, T_{2}, T_{3}$ be the three parts of $K_{4,4,4}$ with $T_{i} \subseteq Y_{i}$ and let $T_{i}=\left\{y_{1}^{i}, y_{2}^{i}, y_{3}^{i}, y_{4}^{i}\right\}$.

Let $\epsilon=\xi\left(\frac{1}{10} p \zeta\right)^{15}$; we claim that there are at least $\epsilon n^{18}$ vertex sets of size 18 which $C_{4}$-absorb $B$. Indeed, $A:=\left\{r_{i}, r_{i}^{\prime}, y_{j}^{i}: 1 \leq i \leq 3,1 \leq j \leq 4\right\}$ forms a $C_{4}$-absorbing 18-set for $B$ as follows. First, $A$ has a perfect $C_{4}$-packing: one $C_{4}$ uses vertices $r_{1}, r_{1}^{\prime}, y_{1}^{1}, y_{2}^{1}, y_{3}^{2}, y_{3}^{3}$, another uses vertices $r_{2}, r_{2}^{\prime}, y_{1}^{2}, y_{2}^{2}, y_{4}^{3}, y_{3}^{1}$, and the last uses $r_{3}, r_{3}^{\prime}, y_{1}^{3}, y_{2}^{3}, y_{4}^{1}, y_{4}^{2}$. Secondly, $A \cup B$ has a perfect $C_{4}$-packing: one $C_{4}$ using $b_{1}, b_{1}^{\prime}, r_{1}, r_{1}^{\prime}, y_{1}^{1}, y_{2}^{1}$, one using $b_{2}, b_{2}^{\prime}, r_{2}, r_{2}^{\prime}, y_{1}^{2}, y_{2}^{2}$, one using $b_{3}, b_{3}^{\prime}, r_{3}, r_{3}^{\prime}, y_{1}^{3}, y_{2}^{3}$, and one using $y_{3}^{1}, y_{4}^{1}, y_{3}^{2}, y_{4}^{2}, y_{3}^{3}, y_{4}^{3}$. Since there are $\left(\frac{1}{10} p \zeta\right)^{3} n^{6}$ choices for $r_{1}, r_{1}^{\prime}, r_{2}, r_{2}^{\prime}, r_{3}, r_{3}^{\prime}$ and then $\xi\left(\frac{1}{10} p \zeta\right)^{12} n^{12}$ choices for $y_{j}^{i}$, there are a total of at least $\epsilon n^{18}$ choices for $A$.

Proof of Theorem 4. Apply Lemmas 17 and 18 and then Proposition 9.

### 3.3 Packing Linear Hypergraphs

In this section, we prove Theorem 3.
Lemma 19. Let $0<p, \alpha<1$ and let $F$ be a linear $k$-graph on $f$ vertices. There exists an $n_{0}, \epsilon>0$, and $\mu>0$ such that if $H$ is a ( $n, p, \mu, \alpha$ ) $k$-graph with $n \geq n_{0}$, then $H$ is $\left(f^{2}-f, f, \epsilon, F\right)$-rich.

Proof. Let $a=f(f-1)$ and $b=f$. Similar to the proofs in the previous two sections, our task is to come up with an $\epsilon>0$ such that for large $n$ and all $B \in\binom{V(H)}{b}$, there are at least $\epsilon n^{a}$ vertex sets of size $a$ which $F$-absorb $B$; we will define $\epsilon$ and $\mu$ later. Let $V(F)=\left\{w_{0}, \ldots, w_{f-1}\right\}$ and form the following $k$-graph $F^{\prime}$. Let

$$
V\left(F^{\prime}\right)=\left\{x_{i, j}: 0 \leq i, j \leq f-1\right\} .
$$

(We think of the vertices of $F^{\prime}$ as arranged in a grid with $i$ as the row and $j$ as the column.) Form the edges of $F^{\prime}$ as follows: for each fixed $1 \leq i \leq f-1$, let $\left\{x_{i, 0}, \ldots, x_{i, f-1}\right\}$ induce a copy of $F$ where $x_{i, j}$ is mapped to $w_{i+j}(\bmod f)$. More precisely, if $\left\{w_{\ell_{1}}, \ldots, w_{\ell_{k}}\right\} \in F$, then $\left\{x_{i, \ell_{1}-i}(\bmod f), \ldots, x_{i, \ell_{k}-i}(\bmod f)\right\} \in F^{\prime}$. Similarly, for each fixed $0 \leq j \leq f-1$, let $\left\{x_{0, j}, \ldots, x_{f-1, j}\right\}$ induce a copy of $F$ where $x_{i, j}$ is mapped to $w_{i+j}(\bmod f)$. Note that we therefore have a copy of $F$ in each column and a copy of $F$ in each row besides the zeroth row.

Now fix $B=\left\{b_{0}, \ldots, b_{f-1}\right\} \subseteq V(H)$; we want to show that $B$ is $F$-absorbed by many $a$-sets. Note that any labeled copy of $F^{\prime}$ in $H$ which maps $x_{0,0} \rightarrow b_{0}, \ldots, x_{0, f-1} \rightarrow b_{f-1}$ produces an $F$-absorbing set for $B$ as follows. Let $Q: V\left(F^{\prime}\right) \rightarrow V(H)$ be an edge-preserving injection where $Q\left(b_{j}\right)=x_{0, j}$ (so $Q$ is a labeled copy of $F^{\prime}$ in $H$ where the set $B$ is the zeroth row of $\left.F^{\prime}\right)$. Let $A=\left\{Q\left(x_{i, j}\right): 1 \leq i \leq f-1,0 \leq j \leq f-1\right\}$ consist of all vertices in rows 1 through $f-1$. Then $A$ has a perfect $F$-packing consisting of the copies of $F$ on the rows, and $A \cup B$ has a perfect $F$-packing consisting of the copies of $F$ on the columns. Therefore, $A F$-absorbs $B$.

To complete the proof, we therefore just need to use Lemma 11 to show there are many copies of $F^{\prime}$ with $B$ as the zeroth row. Apply Lemma 11 to $F^{\prime}$ where $m=f, s_{1}=$
$x_{0,0}, \ldots, s_{f}=x_{0, f-1}$ and $Z_{m+1}=\cdots=Z_{f^{2}}=V(H)$. Since $\delta(H) \geq \alpha\binom{n}{k-1}$, (1) holds (with $\alpha$ replaced by $\left.\frac{\alpha}{k^{k}}\right)$ and since $H$ is $(p, \mu)$-dense (2) holds. Let $\gamma=\frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{\alpha}{k^{k}}\right)^{\sum d\left(x_{0, j}\right)} p^{|F|-\sum d\left(x_{0, j}\right)}$ and ensure that $n_{0}$ is large enough and $\mu$ is small enough apply Lemma 11 to show that

$$
\operatorname{inj}\left[F^{\prime} \rightarrow H ; x_{0,0} \rightarrow b_{0}, \ldots, x_{0, f-1} \rightarrow b_{f-1}\right] \geq \gamma n^{f^{2}-f}=\gamma n^{a}
$$

Each labeled copy of $F^{\prime}$ produces a labeled $F$-absorbing set for $B$, so there are at least $\frac{\gamma}{a!} n^{a}$ $F$-absorbing sets for $B$. The proof is complete by letting $\epsilon=\frac{\gamma}{a!}$.

Proof of Theorem 3. Apply Lemma 19 and then Proposition 8.

## 4 Avoiding perfect $F$-packings

In this section we prove Theorem 5 using the following construction.
Construction. For $n \in \mathbb{N}$, define a probability distribution $H(n)$ on 3-uniform, $n$-vertex hypergraphs as follows. Let $G=G^{(2)}\left(n, \frac{1}{2}\right)$ be the random graph on $n$ vertices. Let $X$ and $Y$ be a partition of $V(G)$ where

- if $n \equiv 0(\bmod 4)$, then $|X|=\frac{n}{2}-1$ and $|Y|=\frac{n}{2}+1$,
- if $n \equiv 1(\bmod 4)$, then $|X|=\frac{n}{2}-\frac{1}{2}$ and $|Y|=\frac{n}{2}+\frac{1}{2}$,
- if $n \equiv 2(\bmod 4)$, then $|X|=|Y|=\frac{n}{2}$,
- if $n \equiv 3(\bmod 4)$, then $|X|=\frac{n}{2}-\frac{1}{2}$ and $|Y|=\frac{n}{2}+\frac{1}{2}$.

Let the vertex set of $H(n)$ be $V(G)$ and make a set $E \in\binom{V(G)}{3}$ into a hyperedge of $H(n)$ as follows. If $|E \cap X|$ is even, then make $E$ into a hyperedge of $H(n)$ if $G[E]$ is a clique. If $|E \cap X|$ is odd, then make $E$ into a hyperedge of $H(n)$ if $E$ is an independent set in $G$.

Lemma 20. For every $\epsilon>0$, with probability going to 1 as $n$ goes to infinity,

$$
\left||E(H(n))|-\frac{1}{8}\binom{n}{3}\right| \leq \epsilon n^{3} .
$$

Proof. For each $E \in\binom{V(H(n))}{3}, E$ is a clique or independent set in $G\left(n, \frac{1}{2}\right)$ with probability $\frac{1}{8}$. Thus the expected number of edges in $H(n)$ is $\frac{1}{8}\binom{n}{3}$ so the second moment method shows that with probability going to one as $n$ goes to infinity, $\left|E(H(n))-\frac{1}{8}\binom{n}{3}\right| \leq \epsilon n^{3}$. See [1] or the proof of Lemma 15 in [26] for details about the second moment method.

Lemma 21. For every $\epsilon>0$, with probability going to 1 as $n$ goes to infinity the following holds. Let $X_{1}, X_{2}, X_{3} \subseteq V(H(n))$. Then

$$
\left|e\left(X_{1}, X_{2}, X_{3}\right)-\frac{1}{8}\right| X_{1}| | X_{2}| | X_{3}| |<\epsilon n^{3} .
$$

Proof. Let $S_{1}, \ldots, S_{n}$ be Steiner triple systems that partition $\binom{V(H(n))}{3}$. That is, view $V(H(n)) \cong \mathbb{Z}_{n-1}$ and for $1 \leq i \leq n$ let $S_{i+1}$ consist of the triples $\{a, b, c\}$ such that $a+b+c=i$ $(\bmod n)$. Each triple in $\binom{\overline{V(H(n))}}{3}$ appears in exactly one $S_{i}$ and two triples from the same $S_{i}$ share at most one vertex.

Let $1 \leq i \leq n$ and let $X_{1}, X_{2}, X_{3} \subseteq V(H(n))$. Let $e_{H}\left(X_{1}, X_{2}, X_{3} ; S_{i}\right)$ be the number of ordered tuples $\left(x_{1}, x_{2}, x_{3}\right) \in X_{1} \times X_{2} \times X_{3}$ such that $\left\{x_{1}, x_{2}, x_{3}\right\} \in E(H(n)) \cap S_{i}$. Let $e_{K_{n}}\left(X_{1}, X_{2}, X_{3} ; S_{i}\right)$ be the number of ordered tuples $\left(x_{1}, x_{2}, x_{3}\right) \in X_{1} \times X_{2} \times X_{3}$ such that $\left\{x_{1}, x_{2}, x_{3}\right\} \in S_{i}$.

The expected value of $e_{H}\left(X_{1}, X_{2}, X_{e} ; S_{i}\right)$ is clearly $\frac{1}{8} e_{K_{n}}\left(X_{1}, X_{2}, X_{3} ; S_{i}\right)$. If $E_{1}, E_{2} \in S_{i}$ then since $E_{1}$ and $E_{2}$ share at most one vertex the events $E_{1} \in E(H(n))$ and $E_{2} \in E(H(n))$ are independent. By Chernoff's Bound (Lemma 15),

$$
\mathbb{P}\left[\left|e_{H}\left(X_{1}, X_{2}, X_{3} ; S_{i}\right)-\frac{1}{8} e_{K_{n}}\left(X_{1}, X_{2}, X_{3} ; S_{i}\right)\right|>\epsilon\left|S_{i}\right|\right]<e^{-c n^{2}}
$$

for some constant $c$ since $\left|S_{i}\right|=\frac{1}{n}\binom{n}{3}$ and the number of events is $e_{K_{n}}\left(X_{1}, X_{2}, X_{3} ; S_{i}\right)<\left|S_{i}\right|$. By the union bound,

$$
\mathbb{P}\left[\exists i, \exists X_{1}, X_{2}, X_{3},\left|e_{H}\left(X_{1}, X_{2}, X_{3} ; S_{i}\right)-\frac{1}{8} e_{K_{n}}\left(X_{1}, X_{2}, X_{3} ; S_{i}\right)\right|>\epsilon\left|S_{i}\right|\right]<e^{-\frac{c}{2} n^{2}}
$$

Therefore, with high probability, for all $i$ and all $X_{1}, X_{2}, X_{3}$,

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left|e_{H}\left(X_{1}, X_{2}, X_{3} ; S_{i}\right)-\frac{1}{8} e_{K_{n}}\left(X_{1}, X_{2}, X_{3} ; S_{i}\right)\right|<\epsilon\left|S_{i}\right| \tag{10}
\end{equation*}
$$

Summing (10) over $i$ completes the proof.
Lemma 22. Let $F$ be a 3-graph with an even number of vertices such that there exists a partition of the vertices of $F$ into pairs such that every pair has a common pair in their links. Then $H(n)$ does not have a perfect $F$-packing for any $n$.

Proof. If $n \nmid v(F)$, then obviously $H(n)$ does not have a perfect $F$-packing. Therefore assume that $n \mid v(F)$ so that $n$ is even. Let $X$ and $Y$ be the partition of $V(H(n))$ in the definition of $H(n)$. Since $n$ is even, by definition both $|X|$ and $|Y|$ are odd. Let $\left\{w_{1}, z_{1}\right\},\left\{w_{2}, z_{2}\right\}, \ldots,\left\{w_{v(F) / 2}, z_{v(F) / 2}\right\}$ be the partition of $V(F)$ into pairs so that $w_{i}$ and $z_{i}$ have a common pair in their link for all $i$. By construction, if $x \in X$ and $y \in Y$ then there is no pair of vertices $u, v \in V(H(n))$ such that $x u v, y u v \in E(H(n))$ since the parities of $\{x, u, v\} \cap X$ and $\{y, u, v\} \cap X$ are different. This implies that for each $i, w_{i}$ and $z_{i}$ must either both appear in $X$ or both appear in $Y$ so that any copy of $F$ in $H(n)$ uses an even number of vertices in $X$ and an even number of vertices in $Y$. Since $|X|$ is odd, $H(n)$ does not have a perfect $F$-packing.

Proof of Theorem 5. By Lemmas 20, 21, and 22, with high probability $H(n)$ has the required properties.

## 5 Perfect Matchings in Sparse Hypergraphs

In this section, we prove Theorem 6. We follow the same outline as Section 3.
Lemma 23. Let $k \geq 2, c>0$, and $a, b$ be multiples of $k$. There exists an $n_{0}$ depending only on $k$, $a, b$, and $c$ such that the following holds for all $n \geq n_{0}$. Let $H$ be an $n$-vertex $k$-graph, let $\mathcal{A} \subseteq\binom{V(H)}{a}$, and let $\mathcal{B} \subseteq\binom{V(H)}{b}$. Suppose that $\ell \geq c n^{a-1 / 2} \log n$ is an integer such that for every $B \in \mathcal{B}$ there are at least $\ell$ sets in $\mathcal{A}$ which edge-absorb $B$. Then there exists set $A \subseteq V(H)$ such that $A$ partitions into sets from $\mathcal{A}$ and $A$ edge-absorbs any set $C$ satisfying the following conditions: $C \subseteq V(H) \backslash A,|C| \leq \frac{1}{64} \ell^{2} n^{-2 a+1}$, and $C$ partitions into sets from $\mathcal{B}$.

Proof. The proof is similar to Treglown-Zhao [34, Lemma 5.2] which in turn is similar to Rödl-Ruciński-Szemerédi [31, Fact 2.3]. Let $q=\frac{1}{8} \ell n^{-2 a+1}$ and let $\mathfrak{A} \subseteq \mathcal{A}$ be the family obtained by selecting each element of $\mathcal{A}$ with probability $q$ independently. The expected number of intersecting pairs of elements from $\mathfrak{A}$ is at most $q^{2}\binom{n}{a} a\binom{n}{a-1} \leq \frac{1}{16} q \ell$. By Markov's inequality, with probability at least $\frac{1}{2}$ there are at most $\frac{1}{8} q \ell$ intersecting pairs of elements from $\mathfrak{A}$.

Now fix $B \in \mathcal{B}$ and let $\Gamma_{B} \subseteq\{A \in \mathcal{A}: A$ edge-absorbs $B\}$ be such that $\left|\Gamma_{B}\right|=\ell$. For each $A \in \Gamma_{B}$, let $X_{A}$ be the event that $A \in \mathfrak{A}$. By Chernoff's Bound (Lemma 15),

$$
\mathbb{P}\left[\left|\left|\Gamma_{B} \cap \mathfrak{A}\right|-q \ell\right|>\frac{1}{2} q \ell\right] \leq 2 e^{-q \ell / 6} .
$$

Using that $\ell \geq c n^{a-1 / 2} \log n$, we have that $q \ell=\frac{1}{8} \ell^{2} n^{-2 a+1} \geq \frac{c^{2}}{8} \log ^{2} n$. By the union bound,

$$
\mathbb{P}\left[\exists B,\left|\Gamma_{B} \cap \mathfrak{A}\right|<\frac{1}{2} q \ell\right] \leq\binom{ n}{b} 2 e^{-q \ell / 6} \leq 2 e^{b \log n-c^{2} \log ^{2} n / 48}<\frac{1}{2}
$$

for large $n$. Thus with probability at least $\frac{1}{2}, \mathfrak{A}$ is such that for all $B \in \mathcal{B}$, there exist at least $\frac{1}{2} q \ell a$-sets in $\mathfrak{A}$ which edge-absorb $B$. Also, with probability at least $\frac{1}{2}$ there are at most $\frac{1}{8} q \ell$ intersecting pairs of elements from $\mathfrak{A}$.

Let $\mathfrak{A}^{\prime}$ be the subfamily of $\mathfrak{A}$ consisting only of those $a$-sets $A$ where $A$ is not in any intersecting pair and also there is at least one $B \subseteq V(H)$ (of any size) such that $A$ edgeabsorbs $B$. Thus by the union bound, with positive probability $\mathfrak{A}^{\prime}$ is such that for all $B \in \mathcal{B}$, there exist at least $\frac{1}{4} q \ell a$-sets in $\mathfrak{A}^{\prime}$ which edge-absorb $B$. Let $\mathfrak{A}^{\prime}$ be such a family of $a$-sets and let $A^{\prime}=\cup \mathfrak{A}^{\prime}$. First, $H\left[A^{\prime}\right]$ has a perfect matching. Indeed, each $A \in \mathfrak{A}^{\prime}$ edge-absorbs some set so $H[A]$ has a perfect matching, and the sets in $\mathfrak{A}^{\prime}$ are disjoint so that these perfect matchings combine to form a perfect matching of $H\left[A^{\prime}\right]$. Second, $A^{\prime}$ partitions into sets from $\mathcal{A}$ since the sets in $\mathfrak{A}^{\prime} \subseteq \mathcal{A}$ are disjoint. Now let $C \subseteq V(H) \backslash A^{\prime}$ with $|C| \leq \frac{1}{64} \ell^{2} n^{-2 a+1}=\frac{1}{8} q \ell$ and $C=B_{1} \dot{\cup} \cdots \dot{\cup} B_{t}$ with $B_{i} \in \mathcal{B}$. Using the bound on the size of $C$, we have that $t<\frac{1}{8} q \ell$. Since each $B_{i}$ is edge-absorbed by at least $\frac{1}{4} q \ell$ sets in $\mathfrak{A}^{\prime}$, each $B_{i}$ can be edge-absorbed by a different $a$-set in $\mathfrak{A}^{\prime}$. Therefore, $H\left[A^{\prime} \cup B^{\prime}\right]$ has a perfect matching so the proof is complete.

Proof of Lemma 10. Let $H^{\prime}$ be the $v(F)$-uniform hypergraph on the same vertex set as $H$, where $X \in\binom{V(H)}{v(F)}$ is a hyperedge of $H^{\prime}$ if $H[X]$ is a copy of $F$. Let $\ell=\left\lceil\epsilon n^{a}\right\rceil$ and notice since $H$ is $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}, \epsilon, F)$-rich, for every $B \in \mathcal{B}$ there are at least $\ell$ sets in $\mathcal{A}$ which edge-absorb $B$ in $H^{\prime}$. Also, since $a, b$ are multiples of $v(F)$ they are multiples of the uniformity of $H^{\prime}$. Lastly, for large $n$ we have that $\ell \geq n^{a-1 / 2} \log n$. Therefore, applying Lemma 23 (with $c=1$ ) to $H^{\prime}$ shows that there exists a set $A \subseteq V\left(H^{\prime}\right)=V(H)$ such that $A$ partitions into sets from $\mathcal{A}$ and for any $C \subseteq V\left(H^{\prime}\right) \backslash A=V(H) \backslash A$ with $|C| \leq \frac{\epsilon^{2}}{64} n$ and $C$ partitions into sets from $\mathcal{B}, A$ edge-absorbs $C$ in $H^{\prime}$. Because each edge of $H^{\prime}$ is a copy of $F$, this implies that $A F$-absorbs $C$ in $H$ so the proof is complete by setting $\omega=\frac{\epsilon^{2}}{64}$.

Next, similar to the proofs in Sections 3.1, 3.2, and 3.3, we show that a bound on $\lambda_{2}(H)$ implies that each 3 -set is edge-absorbed by many 6 -sets. To do so, we need the hypergraph expander mixing lemma, first proved by Friedman and Wigderson [7, 8] (using a slightly different definition of $\lambda_{2}(H)$ ) and then extended to our definition of $\lambda_{2}(H)$ in [25].

Proposition 24. (Hypergraph Expander Mixing Lemma [25, Theorem 4]). Let $H$ be an $n$-vertex $k$-graph and let $S_{1}, \ldots, S_{k} \subseteq V(H)$. Then

$$
\left|e\left(S_{1}, \ldots, S_{k}\right)-\frac{k!|E(H)|}{n^{k}} \prod_{i=1}^{k}\right| S_{i}| | \leq \lambda_{2}(H) \sqrt{\left|S_{1}\right| \cdots\left|S_{k}\right|} .
$$

Lemma 25. Let $\alpha>0$. Let $H$ be a 3 -graph and let $p=6|E(H)| / n^{3}$. Assume $\delta_{2}(H) \geq \alpha p n$ and $\lambda_{2}(H) \leq \frac{1}{2} \alpha^{2} p^{5 / 2} n^{3 / 2}$. Then for every $B \subseteq V(H)$ with $|B|=3$, there are at least $\frac{1}{16} \alpha^{4} p^{5} n^{6}$ sets $A \subseteq V(H)$ with $|A|=6$ such that $A$ edge-absorbs $B$.

Proof. Let $B=\left\{b_{1}, b_{2}, b_{3}\right\} \subseteq V(H)$. First, there are at least $\frac{1}{8} \alpha p n^{3}$ edges disjoint from $B$; let $\left\{x_{1}, x_{2}, x_{3}\right\}$ be such an edge. For $1 \leq i \leq 3$, let $Y_{i} \subseteq N\left(b_{i}, x_{i}\right)=\left\{y: y x_{i} b_{i} \in H\right\}$ with $\left|Y_{i}\right|=\alpha p n$. Such a $Y_{i}$ exists since the minimum codegree is at least $\alpha p n$. By the expander mixing lemma (Proposition 24),

$$
e\left(Y_{1}, Y_{2}, Y_{3}\right) \geq p\left|Y_{1}\right|\left|Y_{2}\right|\left|Y_{3}\right|-\lambda_{2}(H) \sqrt{\left|Y_{1}\right|\left|Y_{2}\right|\left|Y_{3}\right|} \geq \alpha^{3} p^{4} n^{3}-\lambda_{2}(H) \alpha^{3 / 2} p^{3 / 2} n^{3 / 2} .
$$

Since $\lambda_{2}(H) \leq \frac{1}{2} \alpha^{2} p^{5 / 2} n^{3 / 2}$,

$$
e\left(Y_{1}, Y_{2}, Y_{3}\right) \geq \alpha^{3} p^{4} n^{3}-\frac{1}{2} \alpha^{7 / 2} p^{4} n^{3} \geq \frac{1}{2} \alpha^{3} p^{4} n^{3}
$$

Let $\left\{y_{1}, y_{2}, y_{3}\right\}$ be an edge with $y_{1} \in Y_{1}, y_{2} \in Y_{2}$, and $y_{3} \in Y_{3}$. Then $\left\{x_{1}, x_{2}, x_{3}, y_{1}, y_{2}, y_{3}\right\}$ is a six-set that edge-absorbs $B$ and there are at least $\frac{1}{8} \alpha p n^{3} \cdot \frac{1}{2} \alpha^{3} p^{4} n^{3}=\frac{1}{16} \alpha^{4} p^{5} n^{6}$ such sets.

Proof of Theorem 6. We are given $\alpha>0$ such that $\delta_{2}(H) \geq \alpha p n$. Let $\gamma=2^{-22} \alpha^{12}$.
First, we can assume that $p \geq \gamma n^{-1 / 10} \log ^{1 / 5} n$. Indeed, by averaging there exists vertices $s_{1}, s_{2}$ such that the codegree of $s_{1}$ and $s_{2}$ is at most $2 p n$. Then taking $S_{1}=\left\{s_{1}\right\}, S_{2}=\left\{s_{2}\right\}$, and $S_{3}$ as the non-coneighbors of $s_{1}$ and $s_{2}$, Proposition 24 shows that

$$
\lambda_{2}(H) \geq p \sqrt{\left|S_{3}\right|} \geq p \sqrt{(1-2 p) n}
$$

But by assumption, $\lambda_{2}(H) \leq \gamma p^{16} n^{3 / 2}$. Therefore,

$$
p \sqrt{(1-2 p) n} \leq \gamma p^{16} n^{3 / 2}
$$

which implies that $p \geq \gamma n^{-1 / 10} \log ^{1 / 5} n$ (by a large margin).
By Lemma 25 , for every $B \subseteq V(H)$ with $|B|=3$ there are at least $\frac{1}{16} \alpha^{4} p^{5} n^{6} 6$-sets $A \subseteq V(H)$ which edge-absorb $B$. Let $\ell=\frac{1}{16} \alpha^{4} p^{5} n^{6}$. If $n$ is sufficiently large, then since $p \geq \gamma n^{-1 / 10} \log ^{1 / 5} n$, we have that $\ell=\frac{1}{16} \alpha^{4} p^{5} n^{6} \geq \frac{1}{16} \alpha^{4} \gamma^{5} n^{5.5} \log n$. Let $c=\frac{1}{16} \alpha^{4} \gamma^{5}$ so that $\ell \geq c n^{5.5} \log n$. Now by Lemma 23, if $n$ is sufficiently large there exists $A \subseteq V(H)$ such that $A$ edge-absorbs all sets of size a multiple of three and at most

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{1}{64} \ell^{2} n^{-11}=\frac{1}{2^{14}} \alpha^{8} p^{10} n \tag{11}
\end{equation*}
$$

We now show how to construct a perfect matching in $H$. First, greedily construct a matching in $H[V(H) \backslash A]$. Say the greedy procedure halts with $B \subseteq V(H) \backslash A$ as the unmatched vertices. Since $3 \mid v(H)$ and $3||A|$ (since $A$ is an edge-absorbing set), $3 \| B|$. By Proposition 24 (recall that $\left.\gamma=2^{-22} \alpha^{12}\right)$,

$$
\begin{equation*}
e(B, B, B)=p|B|^{3} \pm \lambda_{2}(H)|B|^{3 / 2} \geq p|B|^{3}-\frac{1}{2^{22}} \alpha^{12} p^{16} n^{3 / 2}|B|^{3 / 2} \tag{12}
\end{equation*}
$$

If $|B| \geq 2^{-14} \alpha^{8} p^{10} n$, then

$$
p|B|^{3} \geq p|B|^{3 / 2}\left(\frac{1}{2^{14}} \alpha^{8} p^{10} n\right)^{3 / 2}=\frac{1}{2^{21}} \alpha^{12} p^{16} n^{3 / 2}|B|^{3 / 2}
$$

Combining this with (12) shows that $e(B, B, B)>0$. This contradicts that the greedy procedure halted with $B$ as the unmatched vertices. Thus $|B| \leq 2^{-14} \alpha^{8} p^{10} n$ and then (11) shows that $A$ edge-absorbs $B$, producing a perfect matching of $H$.

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