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**Miklos Ajtai, Janos Komlos** and **Miklos Simonovits\*** (miki@renyi.hu), Alfred Renyi Math. Institute, 1053 Realtanoda u. 13-15, Budapest, Hungary, and **Endre Szemerédi**. *The exact solution of the Erdős-T. Sós conjecture*. Preliminary report.

This is the second lecture on the proof of the Erdős-T. Sós conjecture: If  $T_k$  is a fixed tree of  $k$  vertices, then every graph  $G_n$  of  $n$  vertices and

$$e(G_n) > \frac{1}{2}(k-2)n$$

edges contains  $T_k$ .

Our main result is that if  $k$  is large, then the conjecture holds.

In the first part Endre Szemerédi sketches a proof of the weakened Erdős-T. Sós conjecture, according to which for every  $\eta > 0$  there exists an integer  $n_0(\eta)$  such that if  $n, k > n_0(\eta)$  and a graph  $G$  on  $n$  vertices contains no  $T_k$  then

$$e(G) \leq \frac{1}{2}(k-2)n + \eta n. \tag{1}$$

That proof, combined with some stability methods shows that in most cases either we know that  $T_k \subseteq G_n$  even under the weaker condition (1) or we can prove that the structure of  $G_n$  is very near to the conjectured extremal graphs: it is the union of small complete blocks or some complete bipartite graphs. Then, for  $k > k_0$ , applying some elementary arguments, we can embed  $T_k$  into  $G_n$ . (Received February 07, 2008)