Lecture Note on Terwilliger Algebra

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2022-11-15

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About this lecturenote

Setting

This note is created by `bookdown` package on RStudio.

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3. Use This Template
4. Input Repository Name
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7. From Code download ZIP
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Another Host

1. library(usethis)
2. use_git()
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Chapter 1

Subconstituent Algebra of a Graph

Wednesday, January 20, 1993

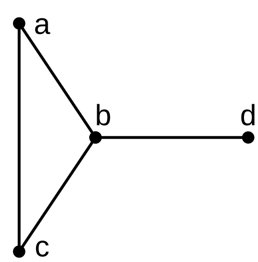
A graph (undirected, without loops or multiple edges) is a pair $\Gamma = (X, E)$, where

$$X = \text{finite set (of vertices)} \tag{1.1}$$

$$E = \text{set of (distinct) 2-element subsets of } X \text{ (= edges of) } \Gamma. \tag{1.2}$$

vertices x and $y \in X$ are adjacent if and only if $xy \in E$.

Example 1.1. Let Γ be a graph. $X = \{a, b, c, d\}$, $E = \{ab, ac, bc, bd\}$.



Set $n = |X|$, the order of Γ.

Pick a field K (= $\mathbb{R}$ or $\mathbb{C}$). Then $\mathrm{Mat}_X(K)$ denotes the K algebra of all $n \times n$ matrices with entries in K. (rows and columns are indexed by X)

Adjacency matrix $A \in \mathrm{Mat}_X(K)$ is defined by

$$A_{xy} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } xy \in E \\ 0 & \text{else .} \end{cases} \tag{1.3}$$

Example 1.2. Let a, b, c, d be labels of rows and columns. Then

$$A = \begin{array}{c} \\ a \\ b \\ c \\ d \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \begin{array}{cccc} a & b & c & d \end{array} \\ \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \end{array}$$

The subalgebra M of $\mathrm{Mat}_X(K)$ generated by A is called the *Bose-Mesner algebra* of Γ.

Set $V = K^n$, the set of n-dimensional column vectors, the coorinates are indexed by X.

Let $\langle \ , \ \rangle$ denote the Hermitean inner product:

$$\langle u, v \rangle = u^\top \cdot v \quad (u, v \in V)$$

V with $\langle \ , \ \rangle$ is the *standard module* of Γ.

M acts on V: For every $x \in X$, write

$$\hat{x} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

where 1 is at the x position.

Then

$$A\hat{x} = \sum_{y \in X, xy \in E} \hat{y}.$$

Since A is a real symmetrix matrix,

$$V = V_0 + V_1 + \cdots + V_r \qquad \text{some } r \in \mathbb{Z}^{\geq 0},$$

the orthogonal direct sum of maximal A-eigenspaces.

Let $E_i \in \mathrm{Mat}_X(K)$ denote the orthogonal projection,

$$E_i : V \longrightarrow V_i.$$

Then $E_0, \dots, E_r$ are the primitive idempotents of M.

$$M = \mathrm{Span}_K(E_0, \dots, E_r),$$

$$E_i E_j = \delta_{ij} E_i \quad \text{for all } \ i, j, \quad E_0 + \cdots + E_r = I.$$

Let θ_i denote the eigenvalue of A for V_i in $\mathbb{R}$. Without loss of generality we may assume that

$$\theta_0 > \theta_1 > \cdots > \theta_r.$$

Let

$$m_i = \text{the multiplicity of } \ \theta_i = \text{dim}V_i = \text{rank}E_i.$$

Set

$$\text{Spec}(\Gamma) = \begin{pmatrix} \theta_0, & \theta_1, & \cdots, & \theta_r \\ m_0, & m_1, & \cdots, & m_r \end{pmatrix}.$$

Problem. What can we say about Γ when Spec(Γ) is given?

The following Lemma1.1, is an example of Problem.

For every $x \in X$,

$$k(x) \equiv \text{ valency of } x \equiv \text{ degree of } x \equiv |\{y \mid y \in X,\ xy \in E\}|.$$

Definition 1.1. The graph Γ is regular of valency k if $k = k(x)$ for every $x \in X$.

Lemma 1.1. *With the above notation,*
1. $\theta_0 \leq \max\{k(x) \mid x \in X\} = k^{\max}$.
2. If Γ *is regular of valency* k*, then* $\theta_0 = k$.

Proof. 1. Without loss of generality we may assume that $\theta_0 > 0$, else done. Let $v := \sum_{x\in X} \alpha_x \hat{x}$ denote the eivenvector for θ_0.

Pick $x \in X$ with $|\alpha_x|$ maximal. Then $|\alpha_x| \neq 0$.

Since $Av = \theta_0 v$,

$$\theta_0 \alpha_x = \sum_{y\in X, xy\in E} \alpha_y.$$

So,

$$\theta_0|\alpha_x| = |\theta_0\alpha_x| \leq \sum_{y\in X, xy\in E} |\alpha_y| \leq k(x)|\alpha_x| \leq k^{\max}|\alpha_x|.$$

2. All 1's vector $v = \sum_{x\in X} \hat{x}$ satisfies $Av = kv$.

□

Subconstituent Algebra

Let $x, y \in X$ and $\ell \in \mathbb{Z}^{\geq 0}$.

Definition 1.2. A path of length ℓ connecting x, y is a sequence

$$x = x_0, x_1, \ldots, x_\ell = y, \quad x_i \in X,\ 0 \leq i \leq \ell$$

such that $x_i x_{i+1} \in E$ for $0 \leq i \leq \ell - 1$.

Definition 1.3. The distance $\partial(x, y)$ is the length of a shortest path connecting x and y.

$$\partial(x, y) \in \mathbb{Z}^{\geq 0} \cup \{\infty\}.$$

Definition 1.4. The graph Γ is connected if and only if $\partial(x, y) < \infty$ for all $x, y \in X$.

From now on, assume that Γ is connected with $|X| \geq 2$.

Set

$$d_\Gamma = d = \max\{\partial(x, y) \mid x, y \in X\} \equiv \text{the diameter of } \Gamma.$$

Fix a 'base' vertex $x \in X$.

Definition 1.5.

$$d(x) = \text{the diameter with respect to } x = \max\{\partial(x, y) \mid y \in X\} \leq d.$$

Observe that

$$V = V_0^* + V_1^* + \cdots + V_{d(x)}^* \quad \text{(orthogonal direct sum)},$$

where

$$V_i^* = \mathrm{Span}_K(\hat{y} \mid \partial(x, y) = i) \equiv V_i * (x)$$

and $V_i^* = V_i^*(x)$ is called the i-the subconstituent with respect to x.

Let $E_i^* = E_i^*(x)$ denote the orthogonal projection

$$E_i^* : V \longrightarrow V_i^*(x).$$

View $E_i^*(x) \in \mathrm{Mat}_X(K)$. So, $E_i^*(x)$ is diagonal with yy entry

$$(E_i^*(x))_{yy} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \partial(x, y) = i \\ 0 & \text{else,} \end{cases} \qquad \text{for } y \in X.$$

Set

$$M^* = M^*(x) \equiv \mathrm{Span}_K(E_0^*(x), \ldots, E_{d(x)}^*(x)).$$

Then $M^*(x)$ is a commutative subalgebra of $\mathrm{Mat}_X(K)$ and is calle the *dual Bose-Mesner algbara with respect to* x.

Definition 1.6 (Subconstituent Algebra)**.** Let $\Gamma = (X, E)$, x, M, $M^*(x)$ be as above. Let $T = T(x)$ denote the subalgebra of $\mathrm{Mat}_X(K)$ generated by M and $M^*(x)$. T is the *subconstituent algebra* of Γ with respect to x.

Definition 1.7. A T-module is any subspace $W \subset V$ such that $aw \in W$ for all $a \in T$ and $w \in W$.

T-module W is *irreducible* if and only if $W \neq 0$ and W does not properly contain a nonzero T-module.

For any $a \in \mathrm{Mat}_X(K)$, let a^* denbote the conjugate transpose of a.

Observe that

$$\langle au, v\rangle = \langle u, a^* v\rangle \quad \text{for all} \;\; a \in \mathrm{Mat}_X(K), \;\text{and for all} \;\; u, v \in V.$$

Lemma 1.2. *Let $\Gamma = (X, E)$, $x \in X$ and $T \equiv T(x)$ be as above.*

1. *If $a \in T$, then $a^* \in T$.*
2. *For any T-module $W \subset V$,*

$$W^\perp := \{v \in V \mid \langle w, v\rangle = 0, \;\textit{for all}\; w \in W\}$$

   is a T-module.
3. *V decomposes as an orthogonal direct sum of irreducible T-modules.*

Proof. 1. It is becase T is generated by symmetric real matrices

$$A, E_0^*(x), E_1^*(x), \ldots, E_{d(x)(x)}^*.$$

2. Pick $v \in W^\perp$ and $a \in T$, it suffices to show that $av \in W^\perp$. For all $w \in W$,

$$\langle w, av\rangle = \langle a^* w, v\rangle = 0$$

   as $a^* \in T$.

3. This is proved by the induction on the dimension of T-modules. If W is an irreducible T-module of V, then

$$V = W + W^\perp \quad \text{(orthogonal direct sum)}.$$

□

Problem. What does the structure of the $T(x)$-module tell us about Γ?

Study those Γ whose modules take 'simple' form. The Γ's involved are highly regular.

Remark. 1. The subconstituent algebra T is semisimple as the left regular representation of T is completely reducible. See Curtis-Reiner 25.2.
2. The inner product $\langle a, b\rangle_T = \mathrm{tr}(a^\top \bar{b})$ is nondegenerate on T.
3. In general,

$$\begin{aligned} T\text{: Semisimple and Artinian} &\Leftrightarrow T\text{: Artinian with } J(T) = 0 \\ &\Leftarrow T\text{: Artinian with nonzero nilpotent element} \\ &\Leftarrow T \subset \mathrm{Mat}_X(K) \text{ such that for all } a \in T \text{ is normal.} \end{aligned}$$

Chapter 2

Perron-Frobenius Theorem

Friday, January 22, 1993

In this lecture we use the Perron Frobenius theory of nonnegative matrices to obtain informaiton on eigenvalues of a graph.

Let $K = \mathbb{R}$. For $n \in \mathbb{Z}^{>0}$, pick a symmetrix matrix $C \in \mathrm{Mat}_n(\mathbb{R})$.

Definition 2.1. The matrix C is *reducible* if and only if there is a bipartition $\{1, 2, \ldots, n\} = X^+ \cup X^-$ (disjoint union of nonempty sets) such that $C_{ij} = 0$ for all $i \in X^+$, and for all $j \in X^-$, and for all $i \in X^-$, and for all $j \in X^+$,i.e.,

$$C \sim \begin{pmatrix} * & O \\ O & * \end{pmatrix}.$$

Definition 2.2. The matrix C is *bipartite* if and only if there is a bipartition $\{1, 2, \ldots, n\} = X^+ \cup X^-$ (disjoint union of nonempty sets) such that $C_{ij} = 0$ for all $i, j \in X^+$, and for all $i, j \in X^-$, i.e.,

$$C \sim \begin{pmatrix} O & * \\ * & O \end{pmatrix}.$$

Note.

1. If C is bipatite, for every eigenvalue θ of C, $-\theta$ is an eigenvalue of C such that $\mathrm{mult}(\theta) = \mathrm{mult}(-\theta)$.

Indeed, let $C = \begin{pmatrix} O & A \\ B & O \end{pmatrix}$,

$$\begin{pmatrix} O & A \\ B & O \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \theta \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} \Leftrightarrow \begin{pmatrix} O & A \\ B & O \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ -y \end{pmatrix} = -\theta \begin{pmatrix} x \\ -y \end{pmatrix},$$

where $Ay = \theta x$ and $Bx = \theta y$.

2. If C is bipartite, C^2 is reducible.
3. The matrix C is irreducible and C^2 is reducible, if $C_{ij} \geq 0$ for all i, j and C is reducible. (Exercise)

Remark. Note 1. Even if C is not symmetric

$$\begin{pmatrix} O & A \\ B & O \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \theta \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} \Leftrightarrow \begin{pmatrix} O & A \\ B & O \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ -y \end{pmatrix} = -\theta \begin{pmatrix} x \\ -y \end{pmatrix}$$

holds. So the geometrix multiplicities coincide. How about the algebraic multiplicities?

Note 3. Set $x \sim y$ if and only if $C_{xy} > 0$. So the graph may have loops. Then

$$(C^2)_{xy} > 0 \Leftrightarrow \text{ if there exists } z \in X \text{ such that } x \sim z \sim y.$$

Note that C is irreducible if and only if $\Gamma(C)$ is connected. Let

$$X^+ = \{y \mid \text{there is a path of even length from } x \text{ to } y\} \tag{2.1}$$
$$X^- = \{y \mid \text{there is no path of even length from } x \text{ to } y\} \neq \emptyset. \tag{2.2}$$

If there is an edge $y \sim z$ in X^+ and $w \in X^-$. Then there would be a path from x to y of even length. So $\mathrm{e}(X^+, X^+) = \mathrm{e}(X^-, X^-) = 0.$.

Theorem 2.1 (Perron-Frobenius)**.** *Given a matrix C in $\mathrm{Mat}_n(\mathbb{R})$ such that*

a. C is symmetric.

b. C is irreducible.

c. $C_{ij} \geq 0$ for all i, j. Let θ_0 be the maximal eigenvalue of C with eigenspace $V_0 \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$, and let θ_r be the maximal eigenvalue of C with eigenspace $V_r \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$. Then the following hold.

1. Suppose $0 \neq v = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_1 \\ \alpha_2 \\ \vdots \\ \alpha_n \end{pmatrix} \in V_0$. Then $\alpha_0 > 0$ for all i, or $\alpha_i < 0$ for all i.

2. $\mathrm{dim} V_0 = 1$.

3. $\theta_r \geq -\theta_0$.

4. $\theta_r = \theta_0$ if and only if C is bipartite.

First, we prove the following lemma.

Lemma 2.1. *Let $\langle , \rangle$ be the dot product in $V = \mathbb{R}^n$. Pick a symmetric matrix $B \in \mathrm{Mat}_n(\mathbb{R})$. Suppose all eigenvalues of B are nonnegative. (i.e., B is positive semidefinite.) Then there exist vectors $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n \in V$ such that $B_{ij} = \langle v_i, v_j \rangle$ for $(1 \leq i, j \leq n)$.*

:::{.proof} By elementary linear algebra, there exists an orthonormal basis $w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n$ of V consisting of eigenvectors of B. Set the i-th column of P is w_i and $D = \mathrm{diag}(\theta_1, \dots, \theta_n)$. Then $P^\top P = I$ and $BP = PD$.

Hence,

$$B = PDP^{-1} = PDP^\top = QQ^\top,$$

where

$$Q = P \cdot \mathrm{diag}(\sqrt{\theta_1}, \sqrt{\theta_2}, \dots, \sqrt{\theta_n}) \in \mathrm{Mat}_n(\mathbb{R}).$$

Now, let v_i be the i-th column of $Q^\top$. Then

$$B_{ij} = v_i^\top \cdot v_j^- = \langle v_i, v_j \rangle.$$

Now we start the proof of Theorem 2.1.

Proof of Theorem 2.1

1. Let $\langle , \rangle$ denote the dot product on $V = \mathbb{R}^n$. Set

$$\begin{aligned} B &= \theta I - C && (2.3)\\ &= \text{symmetric matrix with eigenvalues } \theta_0 - \theta_i \geq 0 && (2.4)\\ &= (\langle v_i, v_j \rangle)_{1 \leq i,j \leq n} && (2.5) \end{aligned}$$

   with the same $v_1, \dots, v_n \in V$ by Lemma 2.1.

Observe: $\sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i v_i = 0$.

Pf.

$$\begin{aligned} \| \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i v_i \|^2 &= \langle \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i v_i, \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i v_i \rangle && (2.6)\\ &= \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_1 & \dots & \alpha_n \end{pmatrix} B \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_1 \\ \vdots \\ \alpha_n \end{pmatrix} && (2.7)\\ &= v^\top B v && (2.8)\\ &= 0, && (2.9) \end{aligned}$$

since $Bv = (\theta_0 I - C)v = 0$.

Now set

$$s = \text{the number of indices} i, \text{ where } \alpha_i > 0.$$

Replacing v by $-v$ if necessary, without loss of generality we may assume that $s \geq 1$. We want to show $s = n$.

Assume $s < n$. Without loss of generality, we may assume that $\alpha_i > 0$ for $1 \leq s \leq s$ and $\alpha_i = 0$ for $s + 1 \leq i \leq n$. Set

$$\rho = \alpha_1 v_1 + \dots + \alpha_s v_s = -\alpha_{s+1} v_{s+1} - \dots - \alpha_n v_n.$$

Then, for $i = 1, \dots, s$,

$$\langle v_i, \rho \rangle = \sum_{j=s+1}^{n} -\alpha_j \langle v_i, v_j \rangle \quad (\langle v_i, v_j \rangle = B_{ij}, B = \theta_0 I - C) \tag{2.10}$$

$$= \sum_{j=s+1}^{n} (-\alpha_{ij})(-C_{ij}) \tag{2.11}$$

$$\leq 0. \tag{2.12}$$

Hence

$$0 \leq \langle \rho, \rho \rangle = \sum_{i=1}^{s} \alpha_i \langle v_i, \rho \rangle \leq 0,$$

as $\alpha > 0$ and $\langle v_i, \rho \rangle \leq 0$. Thus, we have $\langle, \rho, \rho \rangle = 0$ and $\rho = 0$. For $j = s+1, \dots, n$,

$$0 = \langle \rho, v_j \rangle = \sum_{i=1}^{s} \alpha_i \langle v_i, v_j \rangle \leq 0,$$

as $\langle v_i, v_j \rangle = -C_{ij}$.

Therefore,

$$0 = \langle v_i, v_j \rangle = -C_{ij} \text{ for } 1 \leq i, \leq s, \ s+1 \leq j \leq n.$$

Since C is symmetric,

$$C = \begin{pmatrix} * & O \\ O & * \end{pmatrix}$$

Thus C is reducible, which is not the case. Hence $s = n$.

Proof of Theorem 2.1 2.

Suppose $\dim V_0 \geq 2$. Then,

$$\dim \left(V_0 \cap \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}^{\perp} \right) \geq 1.$$

So, there is a vector

$$0 \neq v = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_1 \\ \vdots \\ \alpha_n \end{pmatrix} \in V_0$$

with $\alpha_1 = 0$. This contradicts 1.

Now pick

$$0 \neq w = \begin{pmatrix} \beta_1 \\ \vdots \\ \beta_n \end{pmatrix} \in V_r.$$

Proof of Theorem 2.1 3.

Suppose $\theta_r < -\theta_0$. Since the eigenvalues of C^2 are the squares of those of C, θ_r^2 is the maximal eigenvalue of C^2.

Also we have $C^2 w = \theta_r^2 w$.

Observe that C^2 is irreducible. (As otherwise, C is bipartite by Note 3, and we must have $\theta_r = -\theta_0$.) Therefore, $\beta_i > 0$ for all i or $\beta_i < 0$ for all i. We have

$$\langle v, w\rangle = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \alpha_i \beta_j \neq 0.$$

This is a contradiction, as $V_0 \perp V_r$.

Proof of Theorem 2.1 4.

$\Rightarrow$: Let $\theta_r = -\theta_0$. Then $\theta = \theta_1^2 = \theta_0^2$ is the maximal eigenvalue of C^2, and v and w are linearly independent eigenvalues for θ for C^2. Hence, for C^2, $\mathrm{mult}(\theta) \geq 2$.

Thus by 2, C^2 must be reducible. Therefore, C is bipartite by Note 3.

$\Leftarrow$: This is Note 1. $\square$

Let $\Gamma = (X, E)$ be any graph.

Definition 2.3. Γ is said to be *bipartite* if the adjacency matrix A is bipartite. That is, X can be written as a disjoint union of X^+ and X^- such that X^+, X^- contain no edges of Γ.

Corollary 2.1. *For any (connected) graph* Γ *with*

$$\mathrm{Spec}(\Gamma) = \begin{pmatrix} \theta_0 & \theta_1 & \cdots & \theta_r \\ m_1 & m_1 & \cdots & m_r \end{pmatrix} \quad \textit{with } \theta_0 > \theta_1 > \cdots > \theta_r.$$

Let V_i *be the eigenspace of* θ_i*. Then the following holds.*

1. *Supppose* $0 \neq v = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_1 \\ \vdots \\ \alpha_n \end{pmatrix} \in V_0 \in \mathbb{R}^n$*. Then* $\alpha_i > 0$ *for all* i *or* $\alpha_i < 0$ *for all* i*.*
2. $m_0 = 1$*.*
3. $\theta_r \geq -\theta_0$ *if and only if* Γ *is bipartite. In this case,*

$$-\theta_i = \theta_{r-i} \textit{ and } m_i = m_{r-i} \quad (0 \leq i \leq r)$$

Proof. This is a direct consequences of Theorem 2.1 and Note 3. $\square$

Chapter 3

Cayley Graphs

Monday, January 25, 1993

Given graphs $\Gamma = (X, E)$ and $\Gamma' = (X', E')$.

Definition 3.1. A map $\sigma : X \to X'$ is an *isomorphism* of graphs whenever;

i. σ is one-to-one and onto,
ii. $xy \in E$ if and only if $\sigma x \sigma y \in E'$ for all $x, y \in X$.

We do not distinguish between isomorphic graphs.

Definition 3.2. Suppose $\Gamma = \Gamma'$. Above isomorphism σ is called an *automorphism* of Γ. Then set $\mathrm{Aut}(\Gamma)$ of all automorphisms of Γ becomes a finite group under composition.

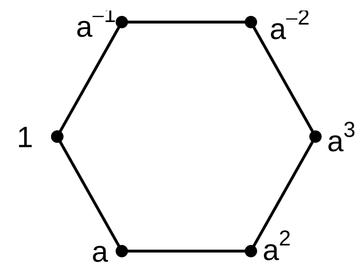
Definition 3.3. If $\mathrm{Aut}(\Gamma)$ acts transitive on X, Γ is called *vertex transitive.*

Example 3.1. A Cayley graphs:

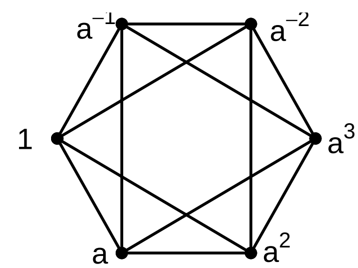
Definition 3.4 (Cayley Graphs)**.** Let G be any finite group, and Δ any generating set for G such that $1_G \notin \Delta$ and $g \in \Delta \to g^{-1} \in \Delta$. Then Cayley graph $\Gamma = \Gamma(G, \Delta)$ is defined on the vetex set $X = G$ with the edge set E define by the following.

$$E = \{(h_1, h_2) \mid h_1, h_2 \in G, h_1^{-1} h_2 \in \Delta\} = \{(h, hg) \mid h \in G, g \in \Delta\}$$

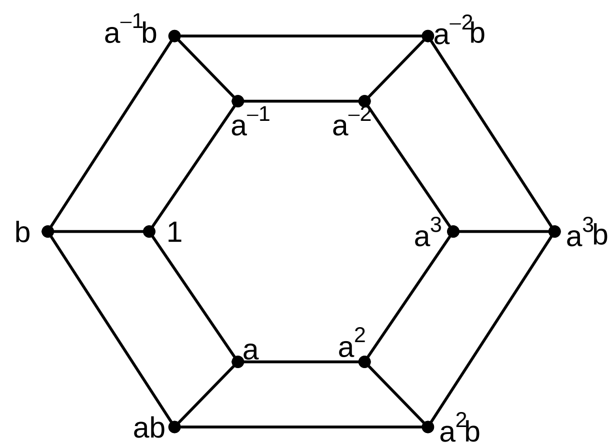
Example 3.2. $G = \langle a \mid a^6 = 1 \rangle$, $\Delta = \{a, a^{-1}\}$.



Example 3.3. $G = \langle a \mid a^6 = 1\rangle$, $\Delta = \{a, a^{-1}, a^2, a^{-2}\}$.



Example 3.4. $G = \langle a, b \mid a^6 = 1, b^2, ab = ba\rangle$, $\Delta = \{a, a^{-1}, b\}$.



Remark. $\mathrm{Aut}(\Gamma) \simeq D_6 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$ contains two regular subgroups isomorphic to D_6 and $\mathbb{Z}_5 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$ and Γ is obtained as Cayley graphs in two ways.

Cayley graphs are vertex transitive, indeed.

Theorem 3.1. *The following hold.*

(i). For any Cayley graph $\Gamma = \Gamma(G, \Delta)$*, the map*

$$G \to \mathrm{Aut}(\Gamma)\ (g \mapsto \hat{g})$$

is an injective homomorphism of groups, where

$$\hat{g}(x) = gx \quad \text{for all } g \in G \text{ and for all } x \in X(= G).$$

Also, the image $\hat{G}$ is regular on X. i.e., the image $\hat{G}$ acts transitively on X with trivial vertex stabilizers.

(ii). For any graph $\Gamma = (X, E)$, suppose there exists a subgroup $G \subsetneq \mathrm{Aut}(\Gamma)$ that is regular on X. Pick $x \in X$, and let

$$\Delta = \{g \in G \mid \langle x, g(x) \in E\}.$$

Then $1 \notin \Delta$, $g \in \Delta \to g^{-1} \in \Delta$, and Δ generates G. Moreover, $\Gamma \simeq \Gamma(G, \Delta)$.

Proof. (i). Let $g \in G$. We want to show that $\hat{g} \in \mathrm{Aut}(\Gamma)$. Let $h_1, h_2 \in X = G$. Then,

$$\begin{aligned}
(h_1, h_2) \in E &\to h_1^{-1} h_2 \in \Delta && (3.1)\\
&\to (gh_1)^{-1}(gh_2) \in \Delta && (3.2)\\
&\to (gh_1, gh_2) \in E && (3.3)\\
&\to (\hat{g}(h_1), \hat{g}(h_2)) \in E. && (3.4)
\end{aligned}$$

Hence, $\hat{g} \in \mathrm{Aut}(\Gamma)$.

Observe: $g \mapsto \hat{g}$ is a homomorphism of groups:

$$\hat{1}_G = 1,\ \widehat{g_1 g_2} = \widehat{g_1 g_2}.$$

Observe: $g \mapsto \hat{g}$ is one-to-one:

$$\widehat{g_1} = \widehat{g_2} \to g_1 = \widehat{g_1}(1_G) = \widehat{g_2}(1_G) = g_2.$$

Observe: $\hat{G}$ is regular on X: Clear by construction.

(ii). $1_G \notin \Delta$: Since Γ has not loops, $(x, 1_G x) \notin E$.

$g \in \Delta \to g^{-1} \in \Delta$:

$$g \in \Delta \to (x, g(x)) \in E \to E \ni (g^{-1}(x), g^{-1}(g(x))) = (g^{-1}(x), x).$$

Δ generates G: Suppose $\langle \Delta \subsetneq G$. Let $\hat{X} = \{g(x) \mid g \in \langle \Delta \rangle\} \subsetneq X$. ($\hat{X} \subsetneq X$ as G acts regularly on X.)

Since Γ is connected, there exists $y \in \hat{X}$ and $z \in X \quad \hat{X}$ with $yz \in E$.

Let $y = g(x)$, $g \in \langle \Delta \rangle$, $z \in h(x)$, $h \in G \quad \langle \Delta \rangle$. Then

$$(y, z) = (g(x), h(x)) \in E \to (x, g^{-1}h(x)) \in E \to g^{-1}h \in \langle \Delta \rangle \to h \in \langle \Delta \rangle.$$

This is a contradition. Therefore, Δ generates G.

Let $\Gamma' = (X', E')$ denote $\Gamma(G, \Delta)$. We shall show that

$$\theta : X' \to X \ (g \mapsto g(x))$$

is an isomorphism of graphs.

θ is one-to-one: For $h_1, h_2 \in X' = G$,

$\theta(h_1) = \theta(h_2) \to h_1(x) = h_2(x) \to h_2^{-1}h_1(x) = x \to h_2^{-1}h_1 \in \mathrm{Stab}_G(x) = \{1_G\} \to h_1 = h_2$.

$(\mathrm{Stab}_G = \{g \in G \mid g(x) = x\}.)$

θ is onto: Since G is transitive,

$$X = \{g(x) \mid g \in G\} = \theta(X') = \theta(G).$$

θ respects adjacency: For $h_1, h_2 \in X' = G$,

$(h_1, h_2) \in E' \leftrightarrow h_1^{-1}h_2 \in \Delta \leftrightarrow (x, h_1^{-1}h_2(x)) \in E \leftrightarrow (h_1(x), h_2(x)) \in E \leftrightarrow (\theta(h_1), \theta(h_2)) \in E$.

Therefore θ is an isomorphism between graphs $\Gamma(G, \Delta)$ and $\Gamma(X, E)$. $\square$

How to compute the eigenvalues of the Cayley graph of and abelian group.

Let G be any finite abelian group. Let $\mathbb{C}^*$ be the multiplicative group on $\mathbb{C}$ $\{0\}$.

Definition 3.5. A (linear) G-character is any group homomorphism $\theta : G \to \mathbb{C}^*$.

Example 3.5. $G = \langle a \mid a^3 = 1 \rangle$ has three characters, $\theta_0, \theta_1, \theta_2$.

$$\begin{array}{c|ccc} \theta_i(a^j) & 1 & a & a^2 \\ \hline \theta_0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ \theta_1 & 1 & \omega & \omega^2 \\ \theta_2 & 1 & \omega^2 & \omega \end{array}, \quad \text{with} \ \ \omega = \frac{-1 + \sqrt{-3}}{2}.$$

Here ω is a primitive cube root pf q in $\mathbb{C}^*$, i.e., $1 + \omega + \omega^2 = 0$.

For arbitraty group G, let $X(G)$ be the set of all characters of G.

Observe: For $\theta_1, \theta_2 \in X(G)$, one can define product $ _1 _2:

$$\theta_1\theta_2(g) = \theta_1(g)\theta_2(g) \quad \text{for all} \ \ g \in G.$$

Then $\theta_1\theta_2 \in X(G)$.

Observe: $X(G)$ with this product is an (abelian) group.

Lemma 3.1. *The groups G and $X(G)$ are isomorphic for all finite abelian groups G.*

Proof. G is a direct sum of cyclic groups;

$$G = G_1 \oplus G_2 \oplus \cdots \oplus G_m, \quad \text{where } G_i = \langle a_i \mid a_i^{d_i} = 1 \rangle \quad (1 \leq i \leq m).$$

Pick any alement ω_i of order d_i in $\mathbb{C}^*$, i.e., a primitive d_i-the root of 1. Define

$$\theta_i : G \to \mathbb{C}^* \quad (a_1^{\varepsilon_1} \cdots a_m^{\varepsilon_m} \mapsto \omega_i^{\varepsilon_i} \quad \text{where } 0 \leq \varepsilon_i < d_i, 1 \leq i \leq m).$$

Then $\theta_i \in X(G)$. (Exercise)

Claim: There exists an isomorphism of groups $G \to X(G)$ that sends a_i to θ_i.

Observe: $\theta_i^{d_i} = 1$. For every $g = a_1^{\varepsilon_1} \cdots a_m^{\varepsilon_m} \in G$,

$$\theta_i^{d_i}(g) = (\theta_i(g))^{d_i} = (\omega_i^{\varepsilon_i})^{d_i} = (\omega_i^{d_i})^{\varepsilon_i} = 1.$$

Observe: If $\theta_1^{\varepsilon_1}\theta_2^{\varepsilon_2} \cdots \theta_m^{\varepsilon_m} = 1$ for some $0 \leq \varepsilon_i < d_i, 1 \leq i \leq m$. Then $\varepsilon_1 = \varepsilon_2 = \cdots = \varepsilon_m = 0$.

Pf. $1 = \theta_1^{\varepsilon_1}\theta_2^{\varepsilon_2} \cdots \theta_m^{\varepsilon_m}(a_i) = \omega_i^{\varepsilon_i}$, Since ω_i is a primitive d_i-th root of 1, $\varepsilon_i = 0$ for $1 \leq i \leq m$.

Observe: $\theta_1, \ldots, \theta_m$ generate $X(G)$. Pick $\theta \in X(G)$. Since $a_i^{d_i} = 1$, $1 = \theta(a_i^{d_i}) = \theta(a_i)^{d_i}$.

Hence $\theta(a_i) = \omega^{\varepsilon_i}$ for some ε_i with $0 \leq \varepsilon_i < d_i$.

Now $\theta = \theta_1^{\varepsilon_1} \cdots \theta_m^{\varepsilon_m}$, since these are both equal to $\omega_i^{\varepsilon_i}$ at a_i for $1 \leq i \leq m$.

Therefore,

$$G \to X(G) \quad (a_i \mapsto \theta_i)$$

is an isomorphism of groups. $\square$

Note. The correspondence above is clearly a group homomorphism.

Chapter 4

Examples

Theorem 4.1. *Given a Cayley graph $\Gamma = \Gamma(G, \Delta)$. View the standard module $V \equiv \mathbb{C}G$ (the group algebra), so*

$$\left\langle \sum_{g \in G} \alpha_g g, \sum_{g \in G} \beta_g g \right\rangle = \sum_{g \in G} \alpha_g \overline{\beta_g}, \quad \text{with } \alpha_g, \beta_g \in \mathbb{C}.$$

For any $\theta \in X(G)$, write

$$\hat{\theta} = \sum_{g \in G} \theta(g^{-1}) g.$$

Then the following hold.

(i). $\langle \hat{\theta_1}, \hat{\theta_2} \rangle = |G|$ if $\theta_1 = \theta_2$ and 0 othewise for $\theta_1, \theta_2 \in X(G)$. In particular, $\{\hat{\theta} \mid \theta \in X(G)\}$ forms a basis for V.

(ii). $A\hat{\theta} = \Delta_\theta \hat{\theta}$ for $\theta \in X(G)$, where A is the adjacency matrix and

$$\Delta_\theta = \sum_{g \in \Delta} \theta(g).$$

In particular, the eigenvalues of Γ are precisely

$$\Delta_\theta \mid \theta \in X(G)\}.$$

Proof. Claim: For □

Chapter 5

Final Words

We have finished a nice book.