

Lecture Note on Terwilliger Algebra

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2022-11-16

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About this lecturenote

Setting

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

For `bookdown` See (Xie, 2015), (Xie, 2017), (Yihui Xie, 2018).

1. Log-in to my GitHub Account
2. Go to RStudio/bookdown-demo repository: <https://github.com/rstudio/bookdown-demo>
3. Use This Template
4. Input Repository Name
5. Select Public - default
6. Create repository from template
7. From Code download ZIP
8. Move the extracted folder into a favorite directory
9. Open RStudio Project in the folder
10. Use Terminal in the bottom left pane
 - confirm that the current directory is the home directory of the project by `pwd`
11. (failed to proceed by ssh)
12. Use Console
 1. `library(usethis)`
 2. `use_git()`
 3. `use_github()` — Error
 4. `gh_token_help()`
 5. `create_github_token()`: create a token in the github page. Copy the token
 6. `gitcreds::gitcreds_set()`: paste the token, the token is to be expired in 30 days
13. Use Terminal
 1. `git remote add origin https://github.com/icu-hsuzuki/t-algebra.git`
 2. `git push -u origin main`
 3. type in the password of the computer
14. Use GIT in R Studio

Another Host

1. `library(usethis)`
2. `use_git()`
3. `create_github_token()`
4. `gitcreds::gitcreds_set()`: Replace these credentials

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

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

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

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 $\text{Mat}_X(K)$ denotes the K algebra of all $n \times n$ matrices with entries in K . (rows and columns are indexed by X)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

V with $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ 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,

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

the orthogonal direct sum of maximal A -eigenspaces.

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

$$E_i : V \longrightarrow V_i.$$

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

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

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

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

$$\theta_0 > \theta_1 > \dots > \theta_r.$$

Let

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

Set

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

Problem. What can we say about Γ when $\text{Spec}(\Gamma)$ is given?

The following Lemma 1.1, 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,*

- (i) $\theta_0 \leq \max\{k(x) \mid x \in X\} = k^{\max}$.
- (ii) *If Γ is regular of valency k , then $\theta_0 = k$.*

Proof. (i) 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,

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

- (ii) 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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Set

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

Then $M^*(x)$ is a commutative subalgebra of $\text{Mat}_X(K)$ and is called the *dual Bose-Mesner algebra 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 $\text{Mat}_X(K)$ 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 $a \in \text{Mat}_X(K)$, let a^* denote the conjugate transpose of a .

Observe that

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

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

(i) *If $a \in T$, then $a^* \in T$.*

(ii) *For any T -module $W \subset V$,*

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

is a T -module.

(iii) *V decomposes as an orthogonal direct sum of irreducible T -modules.*

Proof. (i) It is because T is generated by symmetric real matrices

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

(ii) 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 $a^* \in T$.

(iii) 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 (Charles W. Curtis, 2006).

2. The inner product $\langle a, b \rangle_T = \text{tr}(a^\top \bar{b})$ is nondegenerate on T .

3. In general,

$$T: \text{Semisimple and Artinian} \Leftrightarrow T: \text{Artinian with } J(T) = 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow T: \text{Artinian with nonzero nilpotent element}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow T \subset \text{Mat}_X(K) \text{ such that for all } a \in T \text{ is normal.}$$

Chapter 2

Perron-Frobenius Theorem

Friday, January 22, 1993

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

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

Definition 2.1. The matrix C is *reducible* if and only if there is a bipartition $\{1, 2, \dots, n\} = X^+ \cup X^-$ (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.,

$$C \sim \begin{pmatrix} * & 0 \\ 0 & * \end{pmatrix}.$$

Definition 2.2. The matrix C is *bipartite* if and only if there is a bipartition $\{1, 2, \dots, n\} = X^+ \cup X^-$ (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.,

$$C \sim \begin{pmatrix} 0 & * \\ * & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Note.

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

Indeed, let $C = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & A \\ B & 0 \end{pmatrix}$,

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & A \\ B & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \theta \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} \Leftrightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 0 & A \\ B & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ -y \end{pmatrix} = -\theta \begin{pmatrix} x \\ -y \end{pmatrix},$$

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

$$X^+ = \{y \mid \text{there is a path of even length from } x \text{ to } y\} \quad (2.1)$$

$$X^- = \{y \mid \text{there is no path of even length from } x \text{ to } y\} \neq \emptyset. \quad (2.2)$$

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 $e(X^+, X^+) = e(X^-, X^-) = 0$.

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

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

$$(ii) \dim V_0 = 1.$$

$$(iii) \theta_r \geq -\theta_0.$$

$$(iv) \theta_r = \theta_0 \text{ if and only if } C \text{ is bipartite.}$$

First, we prove the following lemma.

Lemma 2.1. *Let $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ be the dot product in $V = \mathbb{R}^n$. Pick a symmetric matrix $B \in \text{Mat}_n(\mathbb{R})$. 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 $D = \text{diag}(\theta_1, \dots, \theta_n)$. Then $P^\top P = I$ and $BP = PD$.

Hence,

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

where

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

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(i)

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

$$B = \theta I - C \tag{2.3}$$

$$= \text{symmetric matrix with eigenvalues } \theta_0 - \theta_i \geq 0 \tag{2.4}$$

$$= (\langle v_i, v_j \rangle)_{1 \leq i, j \leq n} \tag{2.5}$$

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.

$$\left\| \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i v_i \right\|^2 = \left\langle \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i v_i, \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i v_i \right\rangle \tag{2.6}$$

$$= (\alpha_1 \quad \dots \quad \alpha_n) B \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_1 \\ \vdots \\ \alpha_n \end{pmatrix} \tag{2.7}$$

$$= v^\top B v \tag{2.8}$$

$$= 0, \tag{2.9}$$

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 $1 \leq i \leq s$ 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 $i = 1, \dots, s$,

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

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

$$\leq 0. \quad (2.12)$$

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 (ii).

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 (iii).

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

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

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

Proof of Theorem 2.1 (iv)

\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 , $\text{mult}(\theta) \geq 2$.

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*

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

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,*

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

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 $\sigma : X \rightarrow X'$ 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 $\text{Aut}(\Gamma)$ of all automorphisms of Γ becomes a finite group under composition.

Definition 3.3. If $\text{Aut}(\Gamma)$ 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 $g \in \Delta \rightarrow g^{-1} \in \Delta$. Then Cayley graph $\Gamma = \Gamma(G, \Delta)$ is defined on the vertex set $X = G$ with the edge set E defined by the following.

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

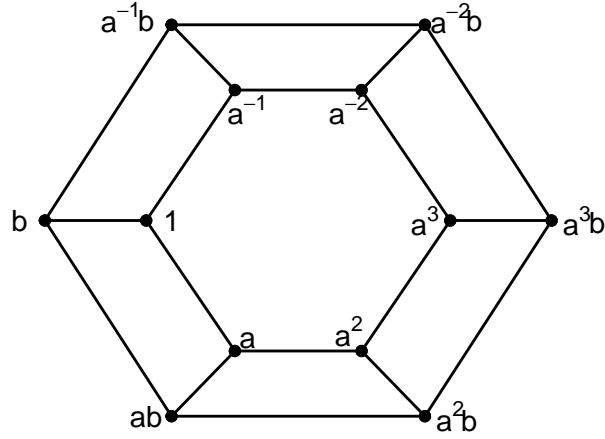
Example 3.2. $G = \langle a \mid a^6 = 1 \rangle$, $\Delta = \{a, a^{-1}\}$.



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



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



Remark. $\text{Aut}(\Gamma) \simeq D_6 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$ 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*

$$G \rightarrow \text{Aut}(\Gamma) \quad (g \mapsto \hat{g})$$

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 $G \subseteq \text{Aut}(\Gamma)$ that is regular on X . Pick $x \in X$, and let

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

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

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

$$(h_1, h_2) \in E \rightarrow h_1^{-1}h_2 \in \Delta \quad (3.1)$$

$$\rightarrow (gh_1)^{-1}(gh_2) \in \Delta \quad (3.2)$$

$$\rightarrow (gh_1, gh_2) \in E \quad (3.3)$$

$$\rightarrow (\hat{g}(h_1), \hat{g}(h_2)) \in E. \quad (3.4)$$

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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 $z \in X \setminus \hat{X}$ with $yz \in E$.

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

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

This is a contradiction. Therefore, Δ generates G .

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

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

is an isomorphism of graphs.

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

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

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

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 an abelian group.

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

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

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 of ω in \mathbb{C}^* , i.e., $1 + \omega + \omega^2 = 0$.

For arbitrary 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 $\theta_1 \theta_2$:

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

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 element ω_i of order d_i in \mathbb{C}^* , i.e., a primitive d_i -th root of 1. Define

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

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

Claim: There exists an isomorphism of groups $G \rightarrow X(G)$ 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: $\theta_1, \dots, \theta_m$ 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 $\theta(a_i) = \omega_i^{\varepsilon_i}$ 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,

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

is an isomorphism of groups. □

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 otherwise 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. (i) Claim: For every $\theta \in X(G)$, let

$$s := \sum_{g \in G} \theta(g^{-1}) = \begin{cases} |G| & \text{if } \theta = 1 \\ 0 & \text{if } \theta \neq 1. \end{cases}$$

Pf. Clear if $\theta = 1$.

Let $\theta \neq 1$. Then $\theta(h) \neq 1$ for some $h \in G$.

$$s \cdot \theta(h) = \left(\sum_{g \in G} \theta(g^{-1}) \right) \theta(h) = \sum_{g \in G} \theta(g^{-1}h) = \sum_{g' \in G} \theta(g'^{-1}) = s.$$

Since $\theta(h) \neq 1$, $s = 0$.

Claim. $\theta(g^{-1}) = \overline{\theta(g)}$ for every $\theta \in X(G)$ and every $g \in G$.

Since $\theta(g) \in \mathbb{C}$ is a root of 1,

$$|\theta(g)|^2 = \theta(g)\overline{\theta(g)} = 1.$$

On the other hand, since θ is a homomorphism,

$$\theta(g)\theta(g^{-1}) = \theta(1) = 1.$$

Hence $\theta(g^{-1}) = \overline{\theta(g)}$.

Now

$$\langle \widehat{\theta_1}, \widehat{\theta_2} \rangle = \sum_{g \in G} \theta_1(g^{-1}) \overline{\theta_2(g^{-1})} \quad (4.1)$$

$$= \sum_{g \in G} \theta_1(g^{-1}) \theta_2(g) \quad (4.2)$$

$$= \sum_{g \in G} \theta_1 \theta_2^{-1}(g^{-1}) \quad (4.3)$$

$$= \begin{cases} |G| & \text{if } \theta_1 \theta_2^{-1} = 1 \\ 0 & \text{if } \theta_1 \theta_2^{-1} \neq 1. \end{cases} \quad (4.4)$$

Since $|G| = |X(G)|$ by Lemma 3.1, and $\widehat{\theta_i}$'s are orthogonal nonzero elements in V , they form a basis of V .

(ii) Let $\Delta = \{g_1, \dots, g_r\}$. Then

$$A\hat{\theta} = A \left(\sum_{g \in G} \theta(g^{-1}g) \right) \quad (4.5)$$

$$= \sum_{g \in G} \theta(g^{-1})(gg_1 + \dots + gg_r) \quad (\Gamma(g) = \{gg_1, \dots, gg_r\}) \quad (4.6)$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^r \left(\sum_{g \in G} \theta(g^{-1})(gg_i) \right) \quad (4.7)$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^r \left(\sum_{g \in G} \theta(g_i g_i^{-1} g^{-1})(gg_i) \right) \quad (4.8)$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^r \left(\sum_{g \in G} \theta(g_i) \theta((gg_i)^{-1}) gg_i \right) \quad (4.9)$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^r \theta(g_i) \sum_{h \in G} \theta(h^{-1}) h \quad (4.10)$$

$$= \Delta_{\theta} \cdot \hat{\theta}. \quad (4.11)$$

Since $\{\hat{\theta} \mid \theta \in X(G)\}$ forms a basis, the eigenvalues of Γ are precisely,

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

This completes the proof. □

Example 4.1. Let $G = \langle a \mid a^6 = 1 \rangle$, and $\Delta = \{a, a^{-1}\}$. Pick a primitive 6-th root of 1, ω . Then

$$X(G) = \{\theta^i \mid 0 \leq i \leq 5\} \quad \text{such that} \quad \theta(a) = \omega, \quad \omega + \omega^{-1} = 1.$$

$\varphi \in X(G)$	$\varphi(a)$	$\Delta_{\varphi} = \theta(a) + \theta(a)^{-1}$
1	1	2
θ	ω	$\omega + \omega^{-1} = 1$
θ^2	ω^2	-1
θ^3	$\omega^3 = -1$	-2
θ^4	ω^4	-1
θ^5	ω^5	1

$$\text{Spec}(\Gamma) = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 & -1 & -2 \\ 1 & 2 & 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Example 4.2. D -cube, $H(D, 2)$. Let

$$X = \{(a_1, \dots, a_D) \mid a_i \in \{1, -1\}, 1 \leq i \leq D\},$$

$$E = \{xy \mid x, y \in X, x, y: \text{different in exactly one coordinate}\}.$$

Also $H(D, 2)$ is a Cayley graph $\Gamma(G, \Delta)$, where

$$G = G_1 \oplus G_2 \oplus \cdots \oplus G_D,$$

$$G_i = \langle a_i \mid a_i^2 = 1 \rangle, \quad \Delta = \{a_1, \dots, a_D\}.$$

Homework: The spectrum of $H(D, 2)$ is

$$\begin{pmatrix} \theta_0 & \theta_1 & \cdots & \theta_D \\ m_0 & m_1 & \cdots & m_D \end{pmatrix},$$

where

$$\theta_i = D - 2i \quad (0 \leq i \leq D), \quad m_i = \binom{D}{i}.$$

Remark. Let $\theta \in X(G)$. Then $\theta : X \rightarrow \{\pm 1\}$. If

$$\nu(\theta) = |\{i \mid \theta(a_i) = -1\}|,$$

then $\Delta_\theta = D - 2i$. Since there are $\binom{D}{i}$ such θ , we have the assertion.

We want to compute the subconstituent algebra for $H(D, 2)$. First, we make a few observations about arbitrary graphs.

Let $\Gamma = (X, E)$ be any graph, A , the adjacency matrix of Γ , and V , the standard module over $K = \mathbb{C}$.

Fix a base $x \in X$. Write $E_i^* = E_i^*(x)$, and

$$T \equiv T(x) = \text{the algebra generated by } A, E_0^*, E_1^*, \dots$$

Definition 4.1. Let W be any irreducible T -module ($\subseteq V$). Then the endpoint $r \equiv r(W)$ satisfied

$$r = \min\{i \mid E_i^* W \neq 0\}.$$

The diameter $d = d(W)$ satisfied

$$d = |\{i \mid E_i^* W \neq 0\}| - 1.$$

Lemma 4.1. With the above notation, let W be an irreducible T -module. Then

- (i) $E_i^* A E_j^* = 0$ if $|i - j| = 1$, $\neq 0$ if $|i - j| = 1$, $0 \leq i, j \leq d(x)$.
- (ii) $A E_j^* W \subseteq E_{j-1}^* W + E_j^* W + E_{j+1}^* W$, $0 \leq j \leq d(x)$. ($E_i^* W = 0$ if $i < j$ or $i > d(x)$.)
- (iii) $E_j^* W \neq 0$ if $r \leq j \leq r + d$, $= 0$ if $0 \leq j \leq r$ or $r + d < j \leq d(x)$.
- (iv) $E_i^* A E_j^* W \neq 0$, if $|i - j| = 1$ ($r \leq i, j \leq r + d$).

Proof. (i) Pick $y \in X$ with $\partial(x, y) = j$. We want to find $E_i^* A E_j^* \hat{y}$. Note,

$$E_j^* \hat{y} = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } \partial(x, y) \neq j \\ \hat{y} & \text{if } \partial(x, y) = j. \end{cases}$$

$$E_i^* A E_j^* \hat{y} = E_i^* A \hat{y} \quad (4.12)$$

$$= E_i^* \sum_{z \in X, yz \in E} \hat{z} \quad (4.13)$$

$$= \sum_{z \in X, yz \in E, \partial(x, z) = i} \hat{z} \quad (*) \quad (4.14)$$

$$= 0 \text{ if } |i - j| > 1 \text{ by triangle inequality.} \quad (4.15)$$

If $|i - j| = 1$, there exist $y, y' \in X$ such that $\partial(x, y) = j$, $\partial(x, y') = i$, $yy' \in E$ by connectivity of Γ . Hence $(*)$ contains \hat{y}' and $* \neq 0$.

(ii) We have

$$A E_j^* W = \left(\sum_{i=0}^{d(x)} E_i^* \right) A E_j^* W \quad (4.16)$$

$$= E_{j-1}^* A E_j^* W + E_j^* A E_j^* W + E_{j+1}^* A E_j^* W \quad (4.17)$$

$$\subseteq E_{j-1}^* W + E_j^* W + E_{j+1}^* W. \quad (4.18)$$

(iii) Suppose $E_j^* W = 0$ for some j ($r \leq j \leq r + d$). Then $r < j$ by the definition of r . Set

$$\tilde{W} = E_i^* W + E_{r+1}^* W + \cdots + E_{j-1}^* W.$$

Observe $0 \subsetneq \tilde{W} \subsetneq W$. Also $A\tilde{W} \subseteq \tilde{W}$ by (ii) and $E_i^* \tilde{W} \subseteq \tilde{W}$ for every i by construction.

Thus $T\tilde{W} \subseteq \tilde{W}$, contradicting W being irreducible.

□

Chapter 5

Final Words

We have finished a nice book.

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