

Lecture Note on Terwilliger Algebra

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Contents

About this lecturenote	5
Setting	5
Another Host	6
1 Subconstituent Algebra of a Graph	7
2 Perron-Frobenius Theorem	13
3 Cayley Graphs	19
4 Examples	25
5 T-Modules of $H(D, 2)$, I	31
6 T-Modules of $H(D, 2)$, II	37
7 The Johnson Graph $J(D, N)$	43
8 Thin Graphs	49
9 Thin T-Module, I	55
10 Thin T-Module, II	61
11 Examples of T-Module	67
12 Distance-Regular	71
13 Modules of a DRG	79
14 Parameters of Thin Modules, I	85
15 Parameters of Thin Modules, II	89
16 Thin Modoles of a DRG	95

17 Association Schemes	103
18 Polynomial Schemes	107
19 Commutative Association Schemes	109
20 Title of the Chapter	111

About this lecturenote

Setting

sudo 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. create a project by version control git
2. git init
3. git remote add origin git@github.com:/.git
4. git branch -r
5. git fetch
6. git pull origin main

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

$\Leftrightarrow T$: Artinian with nonzero nilpotent element

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

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

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.,

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Wednesday, January 27, 1993

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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,

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

$$E_i^* A E_j^* \hat{y} = E_i^* A \hat{y} \tag{4.12}$$

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

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

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

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 $\widehat{yy'}$ and $* \neq 0$

(ii) We have

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

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

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

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

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

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

T -Modules of $H(D, 2)$, I

Friday, January 29, 1993

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

Fix a base $x \in X$ and write $E_i^* \equiv E_i^*(x)$, and $T \equiv T(x)$.

Let W be an irreducible T -module with endpoint $r := \min\{i \mid E_i^*W \neq 0\}$ and diameter $d := |\{i \mid E_i^*W \neq 0\}| - 1$.

We have

$$E_i^*W \neq 0 \quad r \leq i \leq r + d \quad (5.1)$$

$$= 0 \quad 0 \leq i < r \text{ or } r + d < i \leq d(x). \quad (5.2)$$

Claim: $E_i^*AE_j^*W \neq 0$ if $|i - j| = 1$ for $r \leq i, j \leq r + d$. (See Lemma 4.1.)

Suppose $E_{j+1}^*AE_j^*W = 0$ for some j with $r \leq j < r + d$. Observe that

$$\tilde{W} = E_r^*W + \cdots + E_j^*W$$

is T -invariant with

$$0 \subsetneq \tilde{W} \subsetneq W.$$

Because $A\tilde{W} \subseteq \tilde{W}$ since $AE_j^*W \subseteq E_{j-1}^*W + E_j^*W$,

$$E_k^*\tilde{W} \subseteq \tilde{W} \quad \text{for all } k,$$

we have $T\tilde{W} \subseteq \tilde{W}$.

Suppose $E_{i-1}^*AE_i^*W = 0$ for some i with $r \leq i < r + d$.

Similarly,

$$\tilde{W} = E_i^*W + \cdots + E_{r+d}^*W$$

is a T -module with $0 \subsetneq \tilde{W} \subsetneq W$.

Definition 5.1. Let Γ , E_i^* , and T be as above. Irreducible T -modules W and W' are isomorphic whenever there is an isomorphism $\sigma : W \rightarrow W'$ of vector spaces such that $a\sigma = \sigma a$ for all $a \in T$.

Recall that the standard module V is an orthogonal direct sum of irreducible T -modules $W_1 \oplus W_2 \oplus \dots$. Given W in this list, the multiplicity of W in V is

$$|\{j \mid W_j \simeq W\}|.$$

Remark. It is known that the multiplicity does not depend on the decomposition.

Now assume that Γ is the D -cube, $H(D, 2)$ with $D \geq 1$. View

$$X = \{a_1 \cdots a_D \mid a_i \in \{1, -1\}, 1 \leq i \leq D\}, \quad (5.3)$$

$$E = \{xy \mid x, y \in X, x, y \text{ differ in exactly 1 coordinate.}\}. \quad (5.4)$$

Find T -modules.

Claim: $H(D, 2)$ is bipartite with a partition $X = X^+ \cup X^-$, where

$$X^+ = \{a_1 \cdots a_D \in X \mid \prod a_i > 0\} \quad (5.5)$$

$$X^- = \{a_1 \cdots a_D \in X \mid \prod a_i < 0\} \quad (5.6)$$

Observe: for all $y, z \in X$,

$$\partial(y, z) = i \Leftrightarrow y, z \text{ differ in exactly } i \text{ coordinates with } 0 \leq i \leq D.$$

Here, the diameter of $H(D, 2) = D = d$ for all $x \in X$.

Theorem 5.1. Let $\Gamma = H(D, 2)$ be as above. Fix $x \in X$, and write $E_i^* = E_i^*(x)$, and $T = T(x)$.

Let W be an irreducible T -module with endpoint r , and diameter d with $0 \leq r \leq r + d \leq D$.

(i) W has a basis w_0, w_1, \dots, w_d with $w_i \in E_{i+r}^* W$ for $0 \leq i \leq d$. With respect to which the matrix representing A is

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & d & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & d-1 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots & \cdots & \ddots & \ddots & \cdots & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \ddots & 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & d-1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & d & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

(ii) $d = D - 2r$. In particular, $0 \leq r \leq D/2$.

(iii) Let W' denote an irreducible T -module with endpoint r' . Then W and W' are isomorphic as T -modules if and only if $r = r'$.

(iv) The multiplicity of the irreducible T -module with endpoint r is

$$\binom{D}{r} - \binom{D}{r-1} \quad \text{if } 1 \leq r \leq D/2,$$

and 1 if $r = 0$.

Proof. Recall that Γ is vertex transitive. It is a Cayley graph.

Hence without loss of generality, we may assume that $x = \overbrace{11 \cdots 1}^D$.

Notation: Set $\Omega = \{1, 2, \dots, D\}$. For every subset $S \subseteq \Omega$, let

$$\hat{S} = a_1 \cdots a_d \in X \quad a_i = \begin{cases} -1 & \text{if } i \in S \\ 1 & \text{if } i \notin S. \end{cases}$$

In particular, $\hat{\emptyset} = x$ and

$$|S| = i \Leftrightarrow \partial(x, \hat{S}) = i \Leftrightarrow \hat{S} \in E_i^* V.$$

For all $S, T \subseteq \Omega$, we say S covers T if and only if $S \supseteq T$ and $|S| = |T| + 1$.

Observe that \hat{S}, \hat{T} are adjacent in Γ if and only if either T covers S or S covers T .

Define the ‘raising matrix’

$$R = \sum_{i=0}^D E_{i+1}^* A E_i^*.$$

Observe that

$$R E_i^* V \subseteq E_{i+1}^* V \quad \text{for } 0 \leq i \leq D, \quad \text{and } E_{D+1}^* V = 0.$$

Indeed for any $S \subseteq \Omega$ with $|S| = i$,

$$R \hat{S} = R E_i^* \hat{S} \tag{5.7}$$

$$= E_{i+1}^* A \hat{S} \tag{5.8}$$

$$= \sum_{T_1 \subseteq \Omega, S \text{ covers } T_1} E_{i+1}^* \hat{T}_1 + \sum_{T \subseteq \Omega, T \text{ covers } S} E_{i+1}^* \hat{T} \tag{5.9}$$

$$= \sum_{T \subseteq \Omega, T \text{ covers } S} E_{i+1}^* \hat{T}. \tag{5.10}$$

Define the ‘lowering matrix’

$$L = \sum_{i=0}^D E_{i-1}^* A E_i^*.$$

Observe that

$$L E_i^* V \subseteq E_{i-1}^* V \text{ for } 0 \leq i \leq D, \text{ and } E_{-1}^* V = 0.$$

Indeed for any $S \subseteq \Omega$,

$$L \hat{S} = \sum_{T \subseteq \Omega, S \text{ covers } T} \hat{T}.$$

Observe that $A = L + R$.

For convenience, set

$$A^* = \sum_{i=0}^D (D - 2i) E_i^*.$$

Claim: The following hold.

- (a) $LR - RL = A^*$.
- (b) $A^*L - LA^* = 2L$.
- (c) $A^*R - RA^* = -2R$.

In particular $\text{Span}(R, L, A^*)$ is a ‘representation of Lie algebra $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$.

Remark (Lie Algebra $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$).

$$\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C}) = \{X \mid \text{Mat}(\mathbb{C}) \mid \text{tr}(X) = 0\}.$$

For $X, Y \in \mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$, define a binary operation $[X, Y] = XY - YX$.

$$A^* \sim \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad L \sim \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad R \sim \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then these satisfy the relations (a) - (c) above.

Proof of Claim. Apply both sides to \hat{S} ($S \subseteq \Omega$). Say $|S| = i$.

Proof of (a):

$$(LR - RL)\hat{S} = L \left(\sum_{\substack{T \subseteq \Omega, T \text{ covers } S \\ (D-i \text{ of them})}} \hat{T} \right) - R \left(\sum_{\substack{U \subseteq \Omega, S \text{ covers } U \\ (i \text{ of them})}} \hat{T} \right) \quad (5.11)$$

$$= (D - i)\hat{S} + \sum_{V \subseteq \Omega, |V|=i, |S \cap V|=i-1} \hat{V} - \left(i\hat{S} + \sum_{V \subseteq \Omega, |V|=i, |S \cap V|=i-1} \hat{V} \right) \quad (5.12)$$

$$= (D - 2i)\hat{S} \quad (5.13)$$

$$= A^*\hat{S}. \quad (5.14)$$

Proof of (b):

$$(A^*L - LA^*)\hat{S} = (D - 2(i - 1))L\hat{S} - (D - 2i)L\hat{S} \quad (\text{since } L\hat{S} \in E_{i-1}^*V) \quad (5.15)$$

$$= 2L\hat{S}. \quad (5.16)$$

Proof of (c):

$$(A^*R - RA^*)\hat{S} = (D - 2(i + 1))R\hat{S} - (D - 2i)R\hat{S} \quad (\text{since } R\hat{S} \in E_{i+1}^*V) \quad (5.17)$$

$$= 2R\hat{S}. \quad (5.18)$$

Let W be an irreducible T -module with endpoint r and diameter d ($0 \leq r \leq r + d \leq D$).

Proof of (i) and (ii):

Pick $0 \neq w \in E_r^*W$.

Claim: $LRw = (D - 2r)w$.

Pf.

$$LRw = (A^* + RL)w \quad (\text{by Claim (a)}) \quad (5.19)$$

$$= A^*w \quad (Lw \in E_{r-1}^*W = 0) \quad (5.20)$$

$$(D - 2r)w. \quad (5.21)$$

Define

$$w_i = \frac{1}{i!}R^i w \in E_{r+i}^*W \quad (0 \leq i \leq d).$$

Then,

$$Rw_i = (i + 1)w_{i+1} \quad (0 \leq i \leq d) \quad (5.22)$$

$$Rw_d = 0 \quad (\text{by definition of } d) \quad (5.23)$$

Claim: $Lw_0 = 0$ and

$$Lw_i = (D - 2r - i + 1)w_{i-1} \quad (1 \leq i \leq d).$$

Pf. We prove by induction on i . The case $i = 0$ is trivial, and the case $i = 1$

follows from above claim. Let $i \geq 2$,

$$Lw_i = \frac{1}{i}LRw_{i-1} = \frac{1}{i}(A^* + RL)w_{i-1} \quad (\text{by Claim (a)}) \quad (5.24)$$

$$(\text{by induction hypothesis}) \quad (5.25)$$

$$= \frac{1}{i}((D - 2(r + i - 1))w_{i-1} + (D - 2r - (i - 1) + 1)Rw_{i-2}) \quad (Rw_{i-2} = (i - 1)w_{i-1}) \quad (5.26)$$

$$= \frac{1}{i}i(D - 2r - i + 1)w_{i-1} \quad (5.27)$$

$$= (D - 2r - i + 1)w_{i-1}. \quad (5.28)$$

Claim: w_0, \dots, w_d is a basis for W .

Pf. Let $W' = \text{Span}\{w_0, \dots, w_d\}$. Then W' is R and L invariant. So it is $A = R + L$ invariant.

Also it is E_i^* -invariant for every i .

Hence W' is a T -module.

Since W is irreducible, $W' = W$.

As w_i 's are orthogonal, they are linearly independent. Note that $w_i \neq 0$ by the definition of d and Lemma 4.1 (iv).

Claim: $d = D - 2r$.

Pf. By (a),

$$0 = (LR - RL - A^*)w_d \quad (5.29)$$

$$= 0 - (D - 2r - d + 1)Rw_{d-1} - (D - 2(r + d))w_d \quad (5.30)$$

$$= -d(D - 2r - d + 1)w_d - (D - 2(r + d))w_d \quad (5.31)$$

$$= (-dD + 2rd + d^2 - d - D + 2r + 2d)w_d \quad (5.32)$$

$$= (d^2 + (2r - D + 1)d + 2r - D)w_d \quad (5.33)$$

$$= (d + 2r - D)(d + 1)w_d. \quad (5.34)$$

Hence $d = D - 2r$.

Therefore, with respect to a basis w_0, w_1, \dots, w_d , $A = L + R$, $w_{-1} = w_{d+1} = 0$,

$$Lw_i = (d - i + 1)w_{i-1}, \quad Rw_i = (i + 1)w_{i+1}.$$

$$L = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & d & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & d-1 & \dots & 0 & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \dots & \dots & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad R = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 & \dots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & d & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

This completes the proof of (i) and (ii). \square

Chapter 6

T -Modules of $H(D, 2)$, II

Monday, February 1, 1993

Proof of Theorem 5.1 Continued.

(iii) Let $r = r'$,

w_0, \dots, w_d : a basis for W with $w_i \in E_i^*W$, and

w'_0, \dots, w'_d : a basis for W' with $w'_i \in E_i^*W'$.

Then $d = D - 2r = D - 2r' = d'$, and

$$\sigma : W \rightarrow W' \quad (w_i \mapsto w'_i)$$

is an isomorphism of T -modules by (i).

If $r \neq r'$, then

$$d = D - 2r \neq D - 2r' = d',$$

hence, $\dim W \neq \dim W'$.

(iv) Let W_i be the irreducible T -module with endpoint i . Then

$$\dim E_r^*V = \binom{D}{r} = \sum_{i=0}^r \text{mult}(W_i).$$

Hence, we have that

$$\text{mult}(W_r) = \binom{D}{r} - \binom{D}{r-1}$$

by induction on r .

□

Theorem 6.1. *Let $\Gamma = H(D, 2)$ with $D \geq 1$. Fix a vertex $x \in X$ and write*

$$E_i^* \equiv E_i^*(x), \quad T = T(x), \text{ and } A^* \equiv \sum_{i=0}^D (D - 2i) E_i^*.$$

Let W be an irreducible T -module with endpoint r with $0 \leq r \leq D/2$. Then,

(i) W has a basis

$$w_0^*, w_1^*, \dots, w_d^* \quad (d = D - 2r), \quad \text{such that } w_i^* \in E_{i+r} W \quad (0 \leq i \leq d)$$

with respect to which the matrix corresponding to A^ is*

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & d & 0 & & & & \\ 1 & 0 & d-1 & & & & \\ 0 & 2 & 0 & & & & \\ & & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & & \\ & & & 0 & 2 & 0 & \\ & & & d-1 & 0 & 1 & \\ & & & 0 & d & 0 & \end{pmatrix}.$$

In particular, / (ii) $E_i A^ E_j = 0$ if $|i - j| \neq 1$ for $0 \leq i, j \leq D$.*

Proof. We use the notation,

$$[\alpha, \beta] = \alpha\beta - \beta\alpha \quad (= -[\beta, \alpha]).$$

Recall that

- (a) $[L, R] = A^*$,
- (b) $[A^*, L] = wL$,
- (c) $[A^*, R] = -2R$,

and $A = L + R$.

Write (a) – (c) in terms of A and A^* , we have,

$$[A, A^*] = [L, A^*] + [R, A^*] = 2(R - L).$$

$$\begin{cases} R + L &= A \\ R - L &= [A, A^*]/2. \end{cases}$$

Hence,

$$R = \frac{1}{4}(2A + [A, A^*]) \quad \text{and} \tag{6.1}$$

$$L = \frac{1}{4}(2A - [A, A^*]). \tag{6.2}$$

Now (a), (b) become

$$A^2A^* - 2AA^*A + A^*A^2 - 4A^* = 0 \quad (6.3)$$

$$A^{*2}A - 2A^*AA^* + AA^{*2} - 4A = 0 \quad (6.4)$$

Pf. By (b),

$$2A - AA^* + A^*A = 4L \quad (6.5)$$

$$= 2[A^*, L] \quad (6.6)$$

$$= A^* \frac{2A - [A, A^*]}{2} - \frac{2A - [A, A^*]}{2} A^* \quad (6.7)$$

So we have ((6.4))

$$A^{*2}A - 2A^*AA^* + AA^{*2} - 4A = 0.$$

By (a),

$$-16A^* = [2A + [A, A^*], 2A - [A, A^*]] \quad (6.8)$$

$$(2A + [A, A^*])(2A - [A, A^*]) - (2A - [A, A^*])(2A + [A, A^*]) \quad (6.9)$$

$$= [4A^2 - 2A[A, A^*] + [A, A^*](2A) - [A, A^*]^2 \quad (6.10)$$

$$- 4A^2 - 2A[A, A^*] + [A, A^*](2A) + [A, A^*]^2 \quad (6.11)$$

$$= -4A^2A^* + 4AA^*A + 4AA^*A - 4A^*A^2. \quad (6.12)$$

So,

$$A^2A^* - 2AA^*A + A^*A^2 - 4A^* = 0.$$

Claim: $E_i^*A^*E_j = 0$ if $|i - j| \neq 1$ for $0 \leq i, j \leq D$.

Pf. We have,

$$0 = E_i(A^2A^* - 2AA^*A + A^*A^2 - 4A^*)E_j \quad (6.13)$$

$$= E_iA^*E_j(\theta_i^2 - 2\theta_i\theta_j + \theta_j^2 - 4) \quad (6.14)$$

$$(AE_j = \theta_jE_j, E_iA = (AE_j)^\top = (\theta_iE_i)^\top = \theta_iE_i) \quad (6.15)$$

$$= E_iA^*E_j(\theta_i - \theta_j - 2)(\theta_i - \theta_j + 2) \quad (6.16)$$

$$= E_iA^*E_j(D - 2i - (D - 2j) - 2)(D - 2i - (D - 2j) + 2) \quad (6.17)$$

$$(\theta_k = D - 2k) \quad (6.18)$$

$$= E_iA^*E_j \cdot 4(i - j + 1)(i - j - 1) \quad (6.19)$$

and $i - j + 1 \neq 0$, $i - j - 1 \neq 0$. Hence, $E_i^*A^*E_j = 0$.

Now define “dual raising matrix”,

$$R^* = \sum_{i=0}^D E_{i+1}A^*E_i.$$

So,

$$R^* E_i V \subseteq E_{i+1} V, \quad (0 \leq i \leq D, E_{D+1} V = 0).$$

Define “dual lowering matrix”

$$L^* = \sum_{i=0}^D E_{i-1} A^* E_i.$$

Then

$$L^* E_i V \subseteq E_{i-1} V \quad (0 \leq i \leq D, E_{-1} V = 0).$$

Observe that

$$A^* = \left(\sum_{i=0}^D E_i \right) A^* \left(\sum_{j=0}^D E_j \right) = L^* + R^*$$

by Claim 1.

Claim 2. We have | (a) $[L^*, R^*] = A$, | (b) $[A, L^*] = 2L^*$, | (c) $[A, R^*] = -2R^*$.

Pf. (b)

$$AL^* - L^* A = \sum_{i=0}^D (AE_{i-1} A^* E_i - E_{i-1} A^* E_i A) \quad (6.20)$$

$$= \sum_{i=0}^D E_{i-1} A^* E_i (\theta_{i-1} - \theta_i) \quad (6.21)$$

$$(\theta_k = D - 2k, \quad \theta_{i-1} - \theta_i = 2I - 2(i-1) = 2) \quad (6.22)$$

$$= 2L^*. \quad (6.23)$$

(c) Similar.

Remark.

$$AR^* - R^* A = \sum_{i=0}^D (AE_{i+1} A^* E_i - E_{i+1} A^* E_i A) \quad (6.24)$$

$$= \sum_{i=0}^D E_{i+1} A^* E_i (\theta_{i+1} - \theta_i) \quad (6.25)$$

$$= 2R^*. \quad (6.26)$$

(a) We have, by (b), (c)

$$[A, A^*] = [A, L^*] + [A, R^*] = 2(L^* - R^*). \quad (6.27)$$

Since $A^* = L^* + R^*$,

$$R^* = \frac{2A^* + [A^*, A]}{4}, \quad L^* = \frac{2A^* - [A^*, A]}{4}.$$

Now (a) is seen to be equivalent to ((6.4)) upon evaluation. This proves Claim 2.

Remark.

$$[L^*, R^*] = \frac{1}{16}((2A^* - [A^*, A])(2A^* + [A^*, A]) - (2A^* + [A^*, A])(2A^* - [A, A^*])) \quad (6.28)$$

$$= \frac{1}{16}(4A^{*2} + 2A^*[A^*, A] - [A^*, A]2A^* - [A^*, A]^2 - 4A^{*2} + 2A^*[A^*, A] - [A^*, A]2A^* + [A^*, A]^2) \quad (6.29)$$

$$= \frac{1}{4}(A^{*2}A - 2A^*AA^* + AA^{*2}) \quad (6.30)$$

$$= A, \quad (6.31)$$

by ((6.4)).

Now apply same argument as for ((6.3)), ((6.4)) of Theorem 5.1 and observe A^* has $D + 1$ distinct eigenvalues. So,

$$A^* = \sum_{i=0}^D (D - 2i)E_i^*$$

generates

$$M^* = \text{Span}(E_0^*, \dots, E_D^*).$$

Hence, E_0, \dots, E_D, A^* generates T .

Take an irreducible T -module W with endpoint r with $0 \leq r \leq D/2$. Set $t = \min\{i \mid E_i W\}$.

Pick $0 \neq w_0^* \in E_t W$. Set

$$w_i^* = \frac{1}{i!} R^{*i} w_0^* \in E_{t+i} W \quad \text{for all } i.$$

Then,

$$R^* w_i^* = (i + 1) w_{i+1}^* \quad \text{for all } i.$$

By (a), we get by induction, $L^* w_i^* = (D - 2t - i + 1) w_{i-1}^*$,

$$L^* w_i^* = \frac{1}{i} L^* R^* w_{i-1}^* \quad (6.32)$$

$$= \frac{1}{i} (A + R^* L^*) w_{i-1}^* \quad (6.33)$$

$$= \frac{1}{i} ((D - 2(t + i - 1)) w_{i-1}^* + (i - 1)(D - 2t - i + 2) w_{i-1}^*) \quad (6.34)$$

$$= (D - 2t - i + 1) w_{i-1}^*. \quad (6.35)$$

So $\text{Span}(w_0^*, w_1^*, \dots)$ is L^*, R^*, A^* -invariant. Hence, $W = (\text{Span})(w_0^*, w_1^*, \dots, w_d^*)$, $w_0^*, w_1^*, \dots, w_d^* \neq 0$, $w_i^* = 0$ for every $i > d$ by dimension.

Thus $d = D - 2t$.

Pf.

$$(D - 2(t + d))w_d^* = Aw_d^* \quad (6.36)$$

$$= (L^*R^* - R^*L^*)w_d^* \quad (6.37)$$

$$= -(D - 2t - d + 1)R^*w_{d-1}^* \quad (6.38)$$

$$= -(D - 2t - d + 1)dw_d^*. \quad (6.39)$$

Hence,

$$0 = d^2 + (2t - D - 1 + 2)d - (D - 2t) = (d - D + 2t)(d + 1)$$

So $d = D - 2t$. □

Definition 6.1. For any graph $\Gamma = (X, E)$, pick a vertex $x \in X$ and set $E_i^* \equiv E_i^*(x)$ and $T \equiv T(x)$.

- (i) an irreducible T -module W is thin if $\dim E_i^*W \leq 1$ for every i ,
- (ii) Γ is thin with respect to x , if every irreducible $T(x)$ -module is thin,
- (iii) an irreducible T -module W is dual thin if $\dim E_iW \leq 1$ for every i ,
- (iv) Γ is dual thin with respect to x , if every irreducible $T(x)$ -module is dual thin.

Observe: $H(D, 2)$ is thin, dual thin with respect to each $x \in X$.

With above notation, write $D \equiv D(x)$.

- (i) an ordering E_0, E_1, \dots, E_R of primitive idempotents of Γ is restricted if E_0 corresponds to the maximal eigenvalue.

Fix a restricted ordering,

- (ii) Γ is Q -polynomial with respect to x , above ordering if there exists $A^* \equiv A^*(x)$ such that

$$(a) E_0^*V, \dots, E_D^*V \text{ are the maximal eigenspaces for } A^*.$$

$$(b) E_iA^*E_j = 0 \text{ if } |i - j| > 1 \text{ for } 0 \leq i, j \leq R.$$

Observe $H(D, 2)$ is Q -polynomial with respect to the natural ordering of the idempotents and every vertex.

Program. Study graphs that are thin and Q -polynomial with respect to each vertex.

(In fact, thin with respect to x implies dual thin with respect to x .)

Get a situation like $H(D, 2)$, where T is generated by A, A^* . Except $\mathfrak{sl}_s(\mathbb{C})$ is replaced by a quantum Lie algebra.

Chapter 7

The Johnson Graph $J(D, N)$

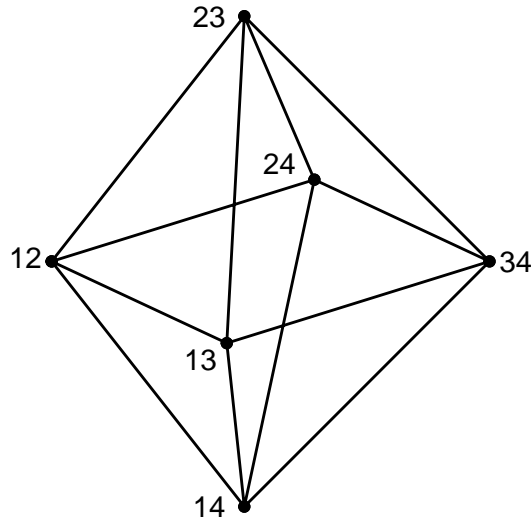
Wednesday, February 3, 1993

Definition 7.1. The Johnson graph, $\Gamma = J(D, N)$ ($1 \leq D \leq N - 1$) satisfies

$$X = \{S \mid S \subset \Omega, |S| = D\} \quad \text{where } \Omega = \{1, 2, \dots, N\} \quad (7.1)$$

$$E = \{ST \mid S, T \in X, |S \cap T| = D - 1\}. \quad (7.2)$$

Example 7.1. $J(2, 4)$



Note 1. The symmetric group S_N acts on Ω . $S_N \subseteq \text{Aut}(\Gamma)$ acts vertex transitively on Γ .

Note 2. $\Gamma = J(D, N)$ is isomorphic to $\Gamma' = J(N - D, N)$.

$$\Gamma = (X, E) \qquad \Gamma' = (X', E') \qquad (7.3)$$

$$X \ni S \quad \longrightarrow \quad \bar{S} = \Omega \quad S \in X' \qquad (7.4)$$

This correspondence induces an isomorphism of graphs.

Pf.

$$ST \in E \Leftrightarrow |S \cap T| = D - 1 \qquad (7.5)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow |\Omega - (S \cup T)| = N - D - 1 \qquad (7.6)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow |\bar{S} \cap \bar{T}| = N - D - 1 \qquad (7.7)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \bar{S}\bar{T} \in E' \qquad (7.8)$$

Hence, without loss of generality, assume

$$D \leq N/2 \quad \text{for } J(D, N).$$

We still need the eigenvalues of $J(D, N)$ for certain problem later in the course. We can get these eigenvalues from our study of $H(D, 2)$.

Lemma 7.1. *The eigenvalues for $J(D, N)$ with $1 \leq D \leq N/2$ are given by*

$$\theta_i = (N - D - i)(D - i) - i \quad (0 \leq i \leq D) \qquad (7.9)$$

$$m_i = \binom{D}{i} - \binom{N}{i-1}. \qquad (7.10)$$

Proof. Let

$$\Gamma_J \equiv J(D, N) = (X_J, E_J) \qquad (7.11)$$

$$\Gamma_H \equiv H(N, 2) = (X_H, E_H). \qquad (7.12)$$

Set $x \equiv 11 \cdots 1 \in X_H$.

Define $\tilde{\Gamma} \equiv (\tilde{X}, \tilde{E})$, where

$$\tilde{X} = \{y \in X_H \mid \partial_H(x, y) = D\} \quad \partial_H : \text{distance in } \Gamma_H \qquad (7.13)$$

$$\tilde{E} = \{yz \in X_H \mid \partial_H(y, z) = 2\}. \qquad (7.14)$$

Observe

$$X_J \rightarrow \tilde{X} \qquad (7.15)$$

$$S \mapsto \hat{S}, \qquad (7.16)$$

where

$$\hat{S} = a_1 \cdots a_N, \quad a_i = \begin{cases} -1 & \text{if } i \in S \\ 1 & \text{if } i \notin S \end{cases}$$

induces an isomorphism of graphs $\Gamma_J \rightarrow \tilde{\Gamma}$.

Pf.

$$ST \in E_J \Leftrightarrow |S \cap T| = D - 1 \quad (7.17)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \partial_H(\hat{S}, \hat{T}) = 2 \quad (7.18)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (\hat{S}, \hat{T}) \in \tilde{E}. \quad (7.19)$$

Identify, Γ_J with $\tilde{\Gamma}$. Then the standard module V_J of Γ_J becomes $\tilde{V} = E_D^* V_H$, where V_H is the standard module of Γ_H , and $E_D^* \equiv E_D^*(x)$.

Let R be the raising matrix with respect to x in Γ_H , and

let L be the lowering matrix with respect to x in Γ_H .

Recall

$$(RL - DE_D^*)|_{\tilde{V}}$$

is the adjacency map in $\tilde{\Gamma}$.

To find eigenvalues of \tilde{A} , pick any irreducible $T(x)$ -module W with the endpoint $r \leq D$. Then by Theorem 5.1

$$\text{diam}(W) = N - 2r + 1.$$

Let $w_0, w_1, \dots, w_{N-2r}$ denote a basis for W as in Theorem 5.1. Then,

$$w_{D-r} \in E_D^* W \subseteq \tilde{V}.$$

Observe:

$$\tilde{A}w_{D-r} = RLw_{D-r} - DE_D^*w_{D-r} \quad (7.20)$$

$$= R(N - 2r - D + r + 1)w_{D-r-1} - Dw_{D-r} \quad (7.21)$$

$$= ((N - D - r + 1)(D - r) - D)w_{D-r}. \quad (7.22)$$

Note that this is valid for $D = r$ as well.

Hence,

$$\tilde{A}w_{D-r} = ((N - D - r)(D - r) - r)w_{D-r}.$$

Let

$$V_H = \sum W \quad (\text{direct sum of irreducible } T(x) \text{ - modules.})$$

Then,

$$V_J = E_D^* V_H \quad (7.23)$$

$$= \sum_{W: r(W) \leq D} E_D^* W \quad (7.24)$$

$$= \text{a direct sum of 1 dimensional eigenspaces for } \tilde{A}. \quad (7.25)$$

The eigenspace for eigenvalue

$$(N - D - r)(D - r) - r \quad (\text{monotonously decreasing with respect to } r)$$

appears with multiplicity

$$\binom{N}{r} - \binom{N}{r-1}$$

in this sum by Theorem 5.1 (iv). \square

Theorem 7.1. *Let $\Gamma = (X, E)$ be any graph. For a fixed vertex $x \in X$, let*

$$E_i^* \equiv E_i^*(x), \quad T \equiv T(x), \quad D \equiv D(x), \quad \text{and } K = \mathbb{C}.$$

Then we have the following implications of conditions:

$$TH \Leftrightarrow C \Leftarrow S \Leftarrow G.$$

where

(TH) Γ is thinn with respect to x .

*(C) $E_i^*TE_i^*$ is commutative for every i , $(0 \leq i \leq D)$.*

*(S) $E_i^*TE_i^*$ is symmetric for every i , $(0 \leq i \leq D)$.*

(G) For every $y, z \in X$ with $\partial(x, y) = \partial(x, z)$, there exists $g \in \text{Aut}(\Gamma)$ such that

$$gx = x, \quad gy = z, \quad gz = y.$$

Proof.

$(TH) \Rightarrow (C)$

Fix i with $0 \leq i \leq D$. Let

$V = \sum W$. The standard module written as a direct sum of irreducible T -modules.

The,

$E_i^*V = \sum E_i^*W$. The direct sum of 1-dimensional $E_i^*TE_i^*$ -modules.

Since $\dim E_i^*W = 1$, for $a, b \in E_i^*TE_i^*$, $ab - ba|_{E_i^*W} = 0$. Hence $ab - ba = 0$.

$(C) \Rightarrow (TH)$

Suppose $\dim E_i^*W \geq 2$ for some irreducible T -module W with some i with $1 \leq i \leq D$.

Claim: E_i^*W is an irreducible $E_i^*TE_i^*$ -module.

Pf. Suppose

$$0 \subsetneq U \subsetneq E_i^*W,$$

where U is a $E_i^*TE_i^*$ -module. Then by the irreducibility,

$$TU = W.$$

So

$$U \supseteq E_i^*TE_i^*U = E_i^*TU = E_i^*W.$$

This is a contradiction.

Claim 2: Each irreducible $S = E_i^*TE_i^*$ -module U has dimension 1. In particular, Γ is thin with respect to x .

Pf. Pick

$$0 \neq a \in E_i^*TE_i^*.$$

Since \mathbb{C} is algebraically closed, a has an eigenvector $w \in U$ with eigenvalue θ . Then,

$$(a - \theta I)U = (a - \theta I)Sw \tag{7.26}$$

$$= S(a - \theta I)w \tag{7.27}$$

$$= 0. \tag{7.28}$$

Hence,

$$a|_U = \theta I|_U \quad \text{for all } a \in S.$$

Thus each 1 dimensional subspace of U is an S -module. We have

$$\dim U = 1.$$

By Claim 1 and Claim 2, we have (TH).

□

Chapter 8

Thin Graphs

Friday, February 5, 1993

Proof of Theorem 7.1 continued.

(S) \Rightarrow (C)

Fix i and pick $a, b \in E_i^* T E_i^*$.

Since a , b and ab are symmetric,

$$ab = (ab)^\top = b^\top a^\top = ba.$$

Hence $E_i^* T E_i^*$ is commutative.

(G) \Rightarrow (S)

Fix i and pick $a \in E_i^* T E_i^*$. Pick vertices $y, z \in X$.

We want to show that

$$a_{yz} = a_{zy}.$$

We may assume that

$$\partial(x, y) = \partial(x, z) = i,$$

otherwise

$$a_{yz} = a_{zy} = 0.$$

By our assumption, there exists $g \in G$ such that

$$g(y) = z, \quad g(z) = y, \quad g(x) = x.$$

Let \hat{g} denote the permutation matrix representing g , i.e.,

$$\hat{g}\hat{y} = \widehat{g(y)} \quad \text{for all } y \in X, \quad \hat{g} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \leftarrow y.$$

If $g \in \text{Aut}(\Gamma)$, then

$$\hat{g}A = A\hat{g} \quad \text{Exercise.}$$

Also we have

$$\hat{g}E_j^* = E_j^*\hat{g} \quad (0 \leq j \leq D),$$

since

$$\partial(x, y) = \partial(g(x), g(y)) = \partial(x, g(y)).$$

Hence \hat{g} commutes with each element of T . We have

$$a_{yz} = (\hat{g}^{-1}a\hat{g})_{yz}, \quad (\hat{g})_{yz} = \begin{cases} 1 & g(z) = y \\ 0 & \text{else.} \end{cases} \quad (8.1)$$

$$= \sum_{y', z'} (\hat{g}^{-1})_{yy'} a_{y'z'} \hat{g}_{z'z} \quad (8.2)$$

$$(\text{zero except for } g^{-1}(y') = y, g(z) = z'.) \quad (8.3)$$

$$= a_{g(y)g(z)} \quad (8.4)$$

$$a_{zy}. \quad (8.5)$$

This proves Theorem 7.1. □

Open Problem: Find all the graphs that satisfy the condition (G) for every vertex x .

$H(N, 2)$ is one example, because

$$\text{Aut}\Gamma_{1\dots 1} \simeq S_\Omega, \quad x = (1 \dots 1), \Gamma_i(x) = \{\hat{S} \mid |S| = i\}.$$

Property (G) is clearly related to the distance-transitive property.

Definition 8.1. Let $\Gamma = (X, E)$ be any graph. Γ with $G \subseteq \text{Aut}(\Gamma)$ is said to be distance-transitive (or two-point homogeneous), whenever

$$\text{for all } x, x', y, y' \in X \text{ with } \partial(x, y) = \partial(x', y'),$$

there exists $g \in G$ such that

$$g(x) = y, \quad g(x') = y'.$$

(This means G is as close to being doubly transitive as possible.)

Lemma 8.1. Suppose a graph $\Gamma = (X, E)$ satisfies the property $(G) = (G(x))$ for every $x \in X$. Then,

- (i) either
- (ia) Γ is vertex transitive; or
- (iia) Γ is bipartite ($X = X^+ \cup X^-$) with X^+, X^- each an orbit of $\text{Aut}(\Gamma)$.
- (ii) if (ia) holds, then Γ is distance-transitive.

Proof. (i) Claim. Suppose $y, z \in X$ are connected by a path of even length. Then y, z are in the same orbit of $\text{Aut}(\Gamma)$.

Pf. It suffices to assume that the path has length 2, $y \sim w \sim z$.

Now $\partial(y, w) = \partial(w, z) = 1$. So there exists $g \in \text{Aut}(\Gamma)$ such that $gw = w$, $gy = z$, $gz = y$. This proves Claim.

Fix $x \in X$. Now suppose that Γ is not vertex transitive, and we shall show (ib).

Observe that $X = X^+ \cup X^-$, where

$$X^+ = \{y \in X \mid \text{there exists a path of even length connecting } x \text{ and } y\} \quad (8.6)$$

$$X^- = \{y \in X \mid \text{there exists a path of odd length connecting } x \text{ and } y\} \quad (8.7)$$

As X^+ is contained in an orbit O^+ of $\text{Aut}(\Gamma)$, and X^- is contained in an orbit O^- of $\text{Aut}(\Gamma)$.

Now $O^+ \cap O^- = \emptyset$ (else $O^+ = O^- = X$ and vertex transitive). So, $X = O^+$, and $X^- = O^-$.

Also $X^+ \cup X^- = X$ is a bipartition by construction.

(ii) Fix x, y, x', y' with $\partial(x, y) = \partial(x', y')$.

By vertex transitivity, there exists an element

$$g_1 \in G \text{ such that } g_1x = x'.$$

Observe that

$$\partial(x', y') = \partial(x, y) = \partial(g_1x, g_1y) = \partial(x', g_1y).$$

Hence, there exists an element

$$g_2 \in G \text{ such that } g_1x' = x', g_2y' = g_1y', g_2g_1y = y'$$

by $(G(x'))$ property.

Set $g = g_2g_1$. Then

$$gx = x', gy = y'$$

by construction. □

The following graphs $\Gamma = (X, E)$ are vertex transitive, and satisfy the property $(G(x))$ for all $x \in X$.

$$J(D, N), \quad H(D, r), \quad J_q(D, N),$$

where

$$H(D, r):$$

$$X = \{a_1 \cdots a_D \mid a_i \in F, 1 \leq i \leq D\} \quad (8.8)$$

$$F : \text{ any set of cardinality } r \quad (8.9)$$

$$E = \{xy \mid y, x \in X, x \text{ and } y \text{ differ in exactly one coordinate}\}. \quad (8.10)$$

$J_q(D, N)$:

X = the set of all D -dimensional subspaces of N -dimensional vector space over $GF(q)$.
(8.11)

$$F : \text{ any set of cardinality } r \quad (8.12)$$

$$E = \{xy \mid y, x \in X, \dim(x \cap y) = D - 1\}. \quad (8.13)$$

The following graph is distance-transitive but does not satisfy $(G(x))$ for any $x \in G$.

$H_q(D, N)$:

$$X = \text{the set of all } D \times N \text{ matrices with entries in } GF(q). \quad (8.14)$$

$$E = \{xy \mid y, x \in X, \text{rank}(x - y) = 1\}. \quad (8.15)$$

Remark.

$$H(D, r): G = S_r \text{wr} S_D, G_x = S_{r-1} \text{wr} S_D,$$

For $x, y \in X$ with $\partial(x, y) = \partial(x, z) = i$,

$$Y = \{j \in \Omega \mid x_j \neq y_j\} \leftrightarrow Z = \{j \in \Omega \mid x_j \neq z_j\} \quad (8.16)$$

$$(y_{j_1}, \dots, y_{j_i}) \leftrightarrow (z_{\ell_1}, \dots, z_{\ell_i}) \quad (8.17)$$

$$J(D, N): G = S_N, G_x = S_D \times S_{N-D}.$$

$$X \cap Y \leftrightarrow X \cap Z \quad (8.18)$$

$$(\Omega - X) \cap Y \leftrightarrow (\Omega - X) \cap Z. \quad (8.19)$$

The following graph is distance-transitive but does not satisfy $(G(x))$ for any $x \in G$.

$J_q(D, N)$:

$$X \cap Y \leftrightarrow X \cap Z.$$

The theory of single thin irreducible T -module.

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

$$M = \text{Bose-Mesner algebra over } K/\mathbb{C} \text{ generated by the adjacency matrix } A. \quad (8.20)$$

$$= \text{Span}(E_0, \dots, E_R). \quad (8.21)$$

M acts on the standard module $V = \mathbb{C}^{|X|}$.

Fix $x \in X$, let $D \equiv D(x)$ be the x -diameter, and $k = k(x)$ be the valency of x .

Chapter 9

Thin T -Module, I

Monday, February 8, 1993

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

M : Bose-Mesner algebra over K/\mathbb{C} generated by the adjacency matrix A .

$$M = \text{Span}(E_0, \dots, E_R).$$

M acts on the standard module $V = \mathbb{C}^{|X|}$.

Fix $x \in X$, let $D \equiv D(x)$ be the x -diameter, and $k = k(x)$ be the valency of x .

Definition 9.1. Pick $x \in X$ and write $E_i^* \equiv E_i^*(x)$ and $T \equiv T(x)$.

Let W be an irreducible thin T -module with endpoint r , diameter d .

Let $a_i = a_i(W) \in \mathbb{C}$ satisfying

$$E_{r+i}^* A E_{r+i}^* |_{E_{r+i}^* W} = a_i 1 |_{E_{r+i}^* W} \quad (0 \leq i \leq d).$$

Let $x_i = x_i(W) \in \mathbb{C}$ satisfying

$$E_{r+i-1}^* A E_{r+i}^* A E_{r+i-1}^* |_{E_{r+i}^* W} = x_i 1 |_{E_{r+i}^* W} \quad (0 \leq i \leq d).$$

Lemma 9.1. *With above notation, the following hold.*

(i) $a_i \in \mathbb{R} \quad (0 \leq i \leq d)$.

(ii) $x_i \in \mathbb{R}^{>0} \quad (0 \leq i \leq d)$.

(iii) Pick $0 \neq w_0 \in E_r^* W$. Set $w_i = E_{r+i}^* A^i w_0$ for all i . Then

(iiia) w_0, w_1, \dots, w_d is a basis for W , $w_{-1} = w_{d+1} = 0$.

(iiib) $A w_i = w_{i+1} + a_i w_i + x_i w_{i-1} \quad (0 \leq i \leq d)$.

(iv) Define $p_0, p_1, \dots, p_{d+1} \in \mathbb{R}[\lambda]$ by

$$p_0 = 1, \quad \lambda p_i = p_{i+1} + a_i p_i + x_i p_{i-1} \quad (0 \leq i \leq d), \quad p_{-1} = 0.$$

(iva) $p_i(A)w_0 = w_i$, $(0 \leq i \leq d+1)$.

(ivb) p_{d+1} is the minimal polynomial of $A|_W$.

Proof. (i) a_i is an eigenvalue of a real symmetric matrix $E_{r+i}^* A E_{r+i}^*$.

(ii) x_i is an eigenvalue of a real symmetric matrix $B^\top B$, where

$$B = E_{r+i}^* A E_{r+i-1}^*.$$

Hence, $x_i \in \mathbb{R}$.

Since $B^\top B$ is positive semidefinite,

$$x_i \geq 0.$$

Pf. If $B^\top B v = \sigma v$ for some $\sigma \in \mathbb{R}$, $v \in \mathbb{R}^m \setminus \{0\}$, then

$$0 \leq \|Bv\|^2 = v^\top B^\top B v = \sigma v^\top v = \sigma \|v\|^2, \quad \|v\|^2 > 0.$$

Hence, $\sigma \geq 0$.

Moreover, $x_i \neq 0$ by Lemma 4.1 (iv).

(iiia) Observe

$$w_i = E_{r+i}^* A E_{r+i-1}^* w_{i-1} \quad (1 \leq i \leq d).$$

So $w_i \neq 0$ $(1 \leq i \leq d)$ by Lemma 4.1 (iv).

Hence,

$$W = \text{Span}(w_0, \dots, w_d)$$

by Lemma 4.1. (iii).

(iiib) We have that

$$Aw_i = E_{r+i+1}^* Aw_i + E_{r+i}^* Aw_i + E_{r+i-1}^* Aw_i \quad (9.1)$$

$$= w_{i+1} + E_{r+i}^* A E_{r+i}^* w_i + E_{r+i-1}^* A E_{r+i}^* A E_{r+i-1}^* w_{i-1} \quad (9.2)$$

$$= w_{i+1} + a_i w_i + x_i w_{i-1} \quad (9.3)$$

(iva) Clear for $i = 0$. Assume it is valid for $0, \dots, i$.

$$p_{i+1}(A)w_0 = (A - a_i I)w_i - x_i w_{i-1} = w_{i+1}.$$

(ivb) By definition,

$$p_{d+1}(A)w_0 = 0.$$

Moreover, $p_{d+1}(A)W = 0$. For every $w \in W$, write

$$w = \sum_{i=0}^d \alpha_i w_i \quad (9.4)$$

$$= \sum_{i=0}^d \alpha_i p_i(A)w_0 \quad \text{for some } \alpha_i \in \mathbb{C} \quad (9.5)$$

$$= p(A)w_0 \quad \text{for some } p \in \mathbb{C}[\lambda] \quad (9.6)$$

Hence,

$$p_{d+1}(A)w = p_{d+1}(A)p(A)w_0 \quad (9.7)$$

$$= p(A)p_{d+1}(A)w_0 \quad (9.8)$$

$$= 0. \quad (9.9)$$

Note that p_{d+1} is the minimal polynomial.

Pf. Suppose $q(A)W = 0$ for some $0 \neq q \in \mathbb{C}[\lambda]$ with $\deg q < \deg p_{d+1} = d + 1$. Then,

$$q = \sum_{i=0}^d \beta_i p_i \quad \text{for some } \beta_i \in \mathbb{C}.$$

We have,

$$0 = q(A)w_0 = \sum_{i=0}^d \beta_i w_i.$$

Hence $\beta_0 = \dots = \beta_d = 0$ by (iiia). Thus $q = 0$ and a contradiction. \square

Corollary 9.1. *Let Γ , W , r , d be as above. Then*

(i) *W is dual thin, that is,*

$$\dim E_i W \leq 1 \quad (1 \leq i \leq d).$$

(ii) $d = |\{i \mid E_i W \neq 0\}| - 1$.

Proof. (i) Set as in Lemma 9.1,

$$w_i = p_i(A)w_0 \in E_{r+i}^* W.$$

Then w_0, w_1, \dots, w_d is a basis for W . We have

$$W = Mw_0.$$

So,

$$E_i W = E_i M w_0 = \text{Span}(E_i w_0).$$

Thus,

$$\dim E_i W = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } E_i w_0 \neq 0 \\ 0 & \text{if } E_i w_0 = 0. \end{cases}$$

In particular,

$$\dim E_i^* W \leq 1.$$

(ii) Immediate as

$$\dim W = d + 1.$$

This proves the lemma. \square

Lemma 9.2. *Given an irreducible $T(x)$ -module W with endpoint $r = r(W)$, diameter $d = d(W)$. Write*

$$x_i = x_i(W) \ (0 \leq i \leq d), \quad w_i = p_i(A)w_0 \in E_{r+i}^* W \ (0 \leq i \leq d), \quad 0 \neq w_0 \in E_r^* W.$$

Then,

$$\frac{\|w_i\|^2}{\|w_0\|^2} = x_1 x_2 \cdots x_i \quad (1 \leq i \leq d).$$

Proof. It suffices to show that

$$\|w_i\|^2 = x_i \|w_i\|^2 \quad (1 \leq i \leq d).$$

Recall by Lemma 9.1 (iiib) that

$$Aw_j = w_{j+1} + a_j w_j + x_j w_{j-1} \quad (0 \leq j \leq d), \quad w_{-1} = w_{d+1} = 0.$$

Now observe,

$$\langle w_{i-1}, Aw_i \rangle = \langle w_{i-1}, w_{i+1} + a_i w_i + x_i w_{i-1} \rangle \quad (9.10)$$

$$= \overline{x_i} \|w_{i-1}\|^2 \quad (9.11)$$

$$= x_i \|w_{i-1}\|^2. \quad (9.12)$$

by Lemma 9.1 (ii). Also,

$$\langle w_{i-1}, Aw_i \rangle = \langle Aw_{i-1}, w_i \rangle \quad (\text{since } \bar{A}^\top = A) \quad (9.13)$$

$$= \langle x_i + a_{i-1} w_{i-1} + x_{i-1} x_{i-2}, w_i \rangle \quad (9.14)$$

$$= \|w_i\|^2. \quad (9.15)$$

This proves the lemma. \square

Definition 9.2. Let W be an irreducible thin $T(x)$ module with endpoint r , $E_i^* \equiv E_i^*(x)$.

The measure $m = m_W$ is the function

$$m : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

such that

$$m(\theta) = \begin{cases} \frac{\|E_i w\|^2}{\|w\|^2} & \text{where } 0 \neq w \in E_r^* W \\ & \text{if } \theta = \theta_i \text{ is an eigenvalue for } \Gamma \\ 0 & \text{if } \theta \text{ is not an eigenvalue for } \Gamma. \end{cases}$$

Chapter 10

Thin T -Module, II

Wednesday, February 10, 1993

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

Fix a vertex $x \in X$. Let $E_i^* \equiv E_i^*(x)$, $T \equiv T(x)$, the subconstituent algebra over \mathbb{C} , and $V = \mathbb{C}^{|X|}$ the standard module.

Lemma 10.1. *With above notation, let W denote a thin irreducible $T(x)$ -module with endpoint r and diameter d . Let*

$$a_i = a_i(W) \quad (0 \leq i \leq d) \quad (10.1)$$

$$x_i = x_i(W) \quad (1 \leq i \leq d) \quad (10.2)$$

$$p_i = p_i(W) \quad (0 \leq i \leq d+1) \quad (10.3)$$

be from Lemma 9.1, and measure $m = m_W$. Then,

(i) p_0, \dots, p_{d+1} are orthogonal with respect to m , i.e.,

$$\sum_{\theta \in \mathbb{R}} p_i(\theta) p_j(\theta) m(\theta) = \delta_{ij} x_1 x_2 \cdots x_i \quad (0 \leq i, j \leq d+1) \text{ with } x_{d+1} = 0.$$

$$(ia) \sum_{\theta \in \mathbb{R}} p_i(\theta)^2 m(\theta) = x_1 \cdots x_i \quad (0 \leq i \leq d).$$

$$(iia) \sum_{\theta \in \mathbb{R}} m(\theta) = 1.$$

$$(iiia) \sum_{\theta \in \mathbb{R}} p_i(\theta)^2 \theta m(\theta) = x_1 \cdots x_i a_i \quad (0 \leq i \leq d).$$

Proof. Pick $0 \neq w_0 \in E_r^* W$. Set

$$w_i = p_i(A) w_0 \in E_{r+i}^* W.$$

Since E_i^*W and E_j^*W are orthogonal if $i \neq j$,

$$\delta_{ij}\|w_i\|^2 = \langle w_i, w_j \rangle \quad (10.4)$$

$$= \langle p_i(A)w_0, p_j(A)w_0 \rangle \quad (10.5)$$

$$= \left\langle p_i(A) \left(\sum_{\ell=0}^R E_\ell \right) w_0, p_j(A) \left(\sum_{\ell=0}^R E_\ell \right) w_0 \right\rangle \quad (10.6)$$

$$= \left\langle \sum_{\ell=0}^R p_i(\theta_\ell) E_\ell w_0, \sum_{\ell=0}^R p_j(\theta_\ell) E_\ell w_0 \right\rangle \quad (\text{as } AE_j = \theta_j E_j) \quad (10.7)$$

$$= \sum_{\ell=0}^R p_i(\theta_\ell) \overline{p_j(\theta_\ell)} \|E_\ell w_0\|^2 \quad (10.8)$$

$$(\text{as } p_j \in \mathbb{R}[\lambda], \quad \theta_\ell \in \mathbb{R}, \quad m(\theta_i)\|w_0\|^2 = \|E_i w_0\|^2) \quad (10.9)$$

$$= \sum_{\theta \in \mathbb{R}} p_i(\theta) p_j(\theta) m(\theta) \|w_0\|^2. \quad (10.10)$$

Now we are done by Lemma 9.2 as

$$\|w_i\|^2 = \|w_0\|^2 x_1 x_2 \dots x_i.$$

For (ia), set $i = j$, and for (ib), set $i = j = 0$.

(ii) We have

$$\langle w_i, Aw_i \rangle = \langle w_i, w_{i+1} + a_i w_i + x_i w_{i-1} \rangle \quad (10.11)$$

$$= \overline{a_i} \|w_i\|^2 \quad (10.12)$$

$$= a_i x_1 \dots x_i \|w_0\|^2, \quad (10.13)$$

as $a_i \in \mathbb{R}$ by Lemma 9.1.

Also,

$$\langle w_i, Aw_i \rangle = \langle p_i(A)w_0, Ap_i(A)w_0 \rangle \quad (10.14)$$

$$= \left\langle p_i(A) \left(\sum_{\ell=0}^R E_\ell \right) w_0, Ap_i(A) \left(\sum_{\ell=0}^R E_\ell \right) w_0 \right\rangle \quad (\text{as in (i)}) \quad (10.15)$$

$$= \sum_{\ell=0}^D p_i(\theta_\ell)^2 \theta_\ell \|E_\ell w_0\|^2 \quad (10.16)$$

$$= \sum_{\theta \in \mathbb{R}} p_i(\theta)^2 \theta m(\theta) \|w_0\|^2. \quad (10.17)$$

Thus, we have (ii). \square

Lemma 10.2. *With above notation, let W be a thin irreducible $T(x)$ -module with measure m . Then m determines diameter $d(W)$,*

$$a_i = a_i(W) \quad (0 \leq i \leq d) \quad (10.18)$$

$$x_i = x_i(W) \quad (1 \leq i \leq d) \quad (10.19)$$

$$p_i = p_i(W) \quad (0 \leq i \leq d+1). \quad (10.20)$$

Proof. Note that $d+1$ is the number of $\theta \in \mathbb{R}$ such that $m(\theta) \neq 0$. Hence m determines d .

Apply (ia), (ii) of Lemma 10.1.

$$\sum_{\theta \in \mathbb{R}} m(\theta) = 1 \quad p_0 = 1. \quad (10.21)$$

$$\sum_{\theta \in \mathbb{R}} \theta m(\theta) = a_0 \quad p_1 = \lambda - a_0 \quad (10.22)$$

$$\sum_{\theta \in \mathbb{R}} p_1(\theta)^2 m(\theta) = x_1 \quad (10.23)$$

$$\sum_{\theta \in \mathbb{R}} p_1(\theta)^2 \theta m(\theta) = x_1 a \quad \rightarrow a_1 \quad (10.24)$$

$$p_2 = (\lambda - a_1)p_1 - x_1 p_0 \quad (10.25)$$

$$\sum_{\theta \in \mathbb{R}} p_2(\theta)^2 m(\theta) = x_1 x_2 \quad \rightarrow x_2 \quad (10.26)$$

$$\sum_{\theta \in \mathbb{R}} p_2(\theta)^2 \theta m(\theta) = x_1 x_2 a_2 \quad \rightarrow a_2 \quad (10.27)$$

$$p_3 = (\lambda - a_2)p_2 - x_2 p_1 \quad (10.28)$$

$$\vdots \quad (10.29)$$

$$\sum_{\theta \in \mathbb{R}} p_d(\theta)^2 m(\theta) = x_1 x_2 \cdots x_d \quad \rightarrow x_d \quad (10.30)$$

$$\sum_{\theta \in \mathbb{R}} p_d(\theta)^2 \theta m(\theta) = x_1 x_2 \cdots x_d a_d \quad \rightarrow a_d \quad (10.31)$$

$$p_{d+1} = (\lambda - a_d)p_d - x_d p_{d-1}. \quad (10.32)$$

$$(10.33)$$

This proves the assertions. \square

Corollary 10.1. *With above notation, let W, W' denote thin irreducible $T(x)$ -modules. The following are equivalent.*

(i) W, W' are isomorphic as T -modules.

(ii) $r(W) = r(W')$ and $m_W = m_{W'}$.

(iii) $r(W) = r(W')$, $d(W) = d(W')$, $a_i(W) = a_i(W')$ and $x_i(W) = x_i(W')$ ($0 \leq i \leq d$).

Proof. (i) \Rightarrow (iii) Write $r \equiv r(W)$, $r' \equiv r(W')$, $d = d(W)$, $d' = d(W')$, $a_i = a_i(W)$, $a'_i = a_i(W')$, $x_i = x_i(W)$ and $x'_i = x_i(W')$.

Let $\sigma : W \rightarrow W'$ denote an isomorphism of T -modules. (See Definition 5.1.)

For every i ,

$$\sigma E_i^* W = E_i^* \sigma W = E_i^* W'.$$

So, $r = r'$ and $d = d'$.

To show $a_i = a'_i$, pick $w \in E_{r+i}^* W \setminus \{0\}$. Then,

$$E_{r+i}^* A E_{r+i}^* \sigma(W) = \sigma(E_{r+i}^* A E_{r+i}^* w) = \sigma(a_i w) = a_i \sigma(w),$$

and $\sigma w \neq 0$. So,

$$a_i = \text{eigenvalue of } E_{r+i}^* A E_{r+i}^* \text{ on } E_{r+i}^* W \quad (10.34)$$

$$= a'_i \quad (10.35)$$

It is similar to show $x = x'$.

Remark. Pick $w \in E_{r+i-1}^* W \setminus \{0\}$

$$E_{r+i-1}^* A E_{r+i}^* A E_{r+i-1}^* \sigma(W) = \sigma(E_{r+i-1}^* A E_{r+i}^* A E_{r+i-1}^* w) = x_i \sigma(w).$$

Hence, x_i is the eigenvalue of $E_{r+i-1}^* A E_{r+i}^* A E_{r+i-1}^*$ on $E_{r+i-1}^* W = x'_i$.

(iii) \Rightarrow (i)

Pick $0 \neq w_0 \in E_r^* W$, $0 \neq w'_0 \in E_r^* W'$. Let p_i be in Lemma 9.1, and set

$$w_i = p_i(A)w_0 \in E_{r+i}^* W \quad (0 \leq i \leq d) \quad (10.36)$$

$$w'_i = p'_i(A)w'_0 \in E_{r+i}^* W' \quad (0 \leq i \leq d) \quad (10.37)$$

Define a linear transformation,

$$\sigma : W \rightarrow W' \quad (w_i \mapsto w'_i).$$

Since $\{w_i\}$ and $\{w'_i\}$ are bases with $d = d'$, σ is an isomorphism of vector spaces.

We need to show

$$a\sigma = \sigma a \quad (\text{for all } a \in T).$$

Take $a = E_j^*$ for some j ($0 \leq j \leq d(x)$). Then for all i , we have

$$E_j^* \sigma w_i = E_j^* w'_i = \delta_{ij} w'_i,$$

$$\sigma E_j^* w_i = \delta_{ij} \sigma(w_i) = \delta_{ij} w'_i.$$

$$E_j^* \sigma w_i = \sigma E_j^* w_i?$$

Take an adjacency matrix A of a . Then,

$$A \sigma w_i = A w'_i = w'_{i+1} + a'_i w'_i + x'_i w'_{i-1} = \sigma(w_{i+1} + a_i w_i + x_i w_{i-1}) = \sigma A w_i.$$

(ii) \Rightarrow (iii) Lemma 10.2.

(iii) \Rightarrow (ii) Given d, a_i, x_i , we can compute the polynomial sequence

$$p_0, p_1, \dots, p_{d+1}$$

for W .

Show p_0, p_1, \dots, p_{d+1} determines $m = m_W$. Set

$$\Delta = \{\theta \in \mathbb{R} \mid p_{d+1}(\theta) = 0\}.$$

Observe: $|\Delta| = d + 1$. See ‘An Introcuction to Interlacing’.

$m(\theta) = 0$ if $\theta \notin \Delta$ ($\theta \in \mathbb{R}$). So it suffices to find $m(\theta)$, $\theta \in \Delta$.

By Lemma 10.1 (i),

$$\begin{cases} \sum_{\theta \in \Delta} m(\theta) p_0(\theta) &= 1 \\ \sum_{\theta \in \Delta} m(\theta) p_1(\theta) &= 0 \\ \vdots & \\ \sum_{\theta \in \Delta} m(\theta) p_d(\theta) &= 0 \end{cases}$$

$d + 1$ linear equation with $d + 1$ unknowns $m(\theta)$ ($\theta \in \Delta$).

But the coefficient matrix is essentially Vander Monde (since $\deg p_i = i$). Hence the system is nonsingular and there are unique values for $m(\theta)$ ($\theta \in \Delta$). \square

Remark.

$$\begin{pmatrix} \theta - a_0 & -1 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ -x_1 & \theta - a_1 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & \theta - a_{d-1} & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & -x_d & \theta - a_d \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} p_0(\theta) \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ p_d(\theta) \end{pmatrix} = 0,$$

where θ is an eigenvalue of a diagonalizable matrix

$$L = \begin{pmatrix} a_0 & 1 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ x_1 & a_1 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & a_{d-1} & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & x_d & \theta a_d \end{pmatrix}$$

with multiplicity $\dim(\text{Ker}(\theta I - L)) = 1$.

Chapter 11

Examples of T -Module

Friday, February 12, 1993

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

Let θ_0 be the maximal eigenvalue of Γ , and δ its corresponding eigenvector.

$$\delta = \sum_{y \in X} \delta_y \hat{y}.$$

Without loss of generality, we may assume that $\delta_y \in \mathbb{R}^*$ for all $y \in X$.

Lemma 11.1. *Fix a vertex $x \in X$. Write $T \equiv T(x)$, $E_i^* \equiv E_i^*(x)$.*

- (i) $T\delta = T\hat{x}$ is an irreducible T -module.
- (ii) *Given any irreducible T -module W , the following are equivalent:*
 - (iia) $W = T\delta$.
 - (iib) *The diameter $d(W) = d(x)$.*
 - (iic) *The endpoint $r(W) = 0$.*

Proof. (i) Observe: there exists an irreducible T -module W that contains δ .

Let $V = \sum_i W_i$ be a direct sum decomposition of the standard module. Then

$$\text{Span}(\delta) = E_0 V = \sum_i E_0 W_i.$$

So, $E_0 W_i \neq 0$ for some i . Then,

$$\delta \in E_0 W_i \subseteq W_i.$$

Observe: $T\delta$ is an irreducible T -module.

Since $\delta \in W$, where W is a T -module. As $T\delta \subseteq W$ and W is irreducible, $T\delta = W$.

Observe: $T\delta = T\hat{x}$.

Since $\hat{x} = \delta_x^{-1} E_0^* \delta \in T\delta$, $T\hat{x} \subseteq T\delta$. Since $T\delta$ is irreducible, $T\hat{x} = T\delta$.

(ii) (a) \rightarrow (b):

$$E_i^* \delta = \sum_{y \in X, \partial(x,y)=i} \delta_y \hat{y} \neq 0, \quad (0 \leq i \leq d(x)),$$

because $\delta_y > 0$ for every $y \in X$.

Hence,

$$E_i^* T\delta \neq 0, \quad (0 \leq i \leq d(x)).$$

Thus, $d(x) = d(W)$.

(b) \rightarrow (c): Immediate.

(c) \rightarrow (a): Since $r(W) = 0$, $E_0^* W \neq 0$. Hence, $\hat{x} \in W$ and $T\hat{x} \subseteq W$.

By the irreducibility, we have $T\hat{x} = W$. \square

Lemma 11.2. Assume Γ is bipartite ($X = X^+ \cup X^-$) (X^+ and X^- are nonempty). Then the following are equivalent.

(i) There exist α^+ and $\alpha^- \in \mathbb{R}$ such that

$$\delta_x = \begin{cases} \alpha^+ & \text{if } x \in X^+ \\ \alpha^- & \text{if } x \in X^-. \end{cases}$$

/(ii) There exist k^+ and $k^- \in \mathbb{Z}^{>0}$ such that

$$k(x) = \begin{cases} k^+ & \text{if } x \in X^+ \\ k^- & \text{if } x \in X^-. \end{cases}$$

In this case, $k^+ k^- = \theta_0^2$, and Γ is called bi-regular.

Proof. (i) \rightarrow (ii)



$$A\delta = A \left(\alpha^+ \sum_{x \in X^+} \hat{x} + \alpha^- \sum_{y \in X^-} \hat{y} \right) \quad (11.1)$$

$$= \alpha^+ \sum_{y \in X^-} k(y) \hat{y} + \alpha^- \sum_{x \in X^+} k(x) \hat{x} \quad (11.2)$$

$$= \theta_0 \delta. \quad (11.3)$$

So,

$$k(x)\alpha^- = \theta_0\alpha^+, \quad k(y)\alpha^+ = \theta_0\alpha^-.$$

As $\alpha^+ \neq 0$ and $\alpha^- \neq 0$,

$$k^+ := k(x) \text{ is independent of the choice of } x \in X^+, \text{ and} \quad (11.4)$$

$$k^- := k(y) \text{ is independent of the choice of } y \in X^-. \quad (11.5)$$

Moreover, $k^+k^- = \theta_0^2$.

(ii) \rightarrow (i) Set

$$\delta' = \sum_{y \in X} \alpha_y \hat{y} \quad \text{where } \alpha = \begin{cases} 1/\sqrt{k^-} & \text{if } y \in X^+ \\ 1/\sqrt{k^+} & \text{if } y \in X^- \end{cases}.$$

Then one checks

$$A\delta' = A \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{k^-}} \sum_{y \in X^+} \hat{y} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{k^+}} \sum_{y \in X^-} \hat{y} \right) \quad (11.6)$$

$$= \frac{k^-}{\sqrt{k^-}} \sum_{y \in X^-} \hat{y} + \frac{k^+}{\sqrt{k^+}} \sum_{y \in X^+} \hat{y} \quad (11.7)$$

$$= \sqrt{k^+k^-} \delta' \quad (11.8)$$

Since $\delta' > 0$, $\delta' \in \text{Span}(\delta)$, and $\theta_0 = \sqrt{k^+k^-}$. \square

Definition 11.1. For any graph $\Gamma = (X, E)$, fix a vertex $x \in X$. Set $d = d(x)$.

Γ is distance-regular with respect to x , if for all $i : (0 \leq i \leq d)$, and all $y \in X$ such that $\partial(x, y) = i$:

$$c_i(x) := |\{z \in X \mid \partial(x, z) = i-1, \partial(y, z) = 1\}| \quad (11.9)$$

$$a_i(x) := |\{z \in X \mid \partial(x, z) = i, \partial(y, z) = 1\}| \quad (11.10)$$

$$b_i(x) := |\{z \in X \mid \partial(x, z) = i+1, \partial(y, z) = 1\}| \quad (11.11)$$

depends only on i , x , and not on y .

(In this case, $c_0(x) = a_0(x) = b_d(x) = 0$, $c_1(x) = 1$, $b_0(x) = k(x)$ is the valency of x .)

We call $c_i(x)$, $a_i(x)$ and $b_i(x)$ the intersection numbers with respect to x .

Example 11.1.



$$c_0 = 1 \qquad c_1 = 1 \qquad c_2 = 1 \qquad (11.12)$$

$$a_0 = 0 \qquad a_1 = 1 \qquad a_2 = 1 \qquad (11.13)$$

$$b_0 = 2 \qquad b_1 = 1 \qquad b_2 = 0 \qquad (11.14)$$

Chapter 12

Distance-Regular

Monday, February 15, 1993

Lemma 12.1. *For any connected graph $\Gamma = (X, E)$, the following are equivalent.*

(i) *The trivial $T(x)$ -module is thin for all $x \in X$.*

(ii) $\left\{ \sum_{y \in X, d(x,y)=i} \hat{y} \mid 0 \leq i \leq d(x) \right\}$ *is a basis for the trivial $T(x)$ -module for every $x \in X$.*

(iii) Γ *is distance-regular with respect to x for all $x \in X$.*

Note. Let $\Gamma = (X, E)$ be a graph, with $X = \{x, y_1, y_2, y_3, z_1, z_2, z_3\}$, $E = \{xy_1, xy_2, xy_3, y_1z_1, y_1z_2, y_2z_3, y_3z_3\}$.



Then (i), (ii) are not equivalent for a single vertex x .

$$E_0^* T \hat{x} = \langle \hat{x} \rangle, \quad (12.1)$$

$$E_1^* T \hat{x} = \langle y_1 + y_2 + y_3 \rangle, \quad (12.2)$$

$$E_2^* T \hat{x} = \langle z_1 + z_2 + 2z_3 \rangle. \quad (12.3)$$

Proof of Lemma 12.1. (i) \rightarrow (ii) Let $\delta = \sum_{y \in X} \delta_y \hat{y}$ be an eigenvector for the maximal eigenvalue θ_0 . Then,

$$\sum_{y \in X, \partial(x,y)=1} \hat{y} = A\hat{x} \in T(x)\hat{x} = T(x)\delta \ni E_1^* \delta \quad (12.4)$$

$$= \sum_{y \in X, \partial(x,y)=1} \delta_y \hat{y} \quad (12.5)$$

If the trivial $T(x)$ -module is thin,

$$\delta_y = \delta_z \text{ for } y, z \in X, \partial(x, y) = \partial(x, z) = 1.$$

Hence, $\delta_y = \delta_z$ if y and z in X are connected by a path of even length.

So, Γ is regular or bipartite biregular by Lemma 11.2.

In particular, $\delta_y = \delta_z$ if $\partial(x, y) = \partial(x, z)$, as there is a path of length $2 \cdot \partial(x, y)$;

$$y \sim \dots \sim x \sim \dots \sim z.$$

Hence,

$$E_i^* \delta \in \text{Span} \left(\sum_{y \in X, \partial(x,y)=i} \hat{y} \right).$$

Since $E_0^* \delta, E_1^* \delta, \dots, E_d^* \delta$ forms a basis for $T(x)\delta$, we have (ii).

(ii) \rightarrow (iii) Fix $x \in X$, and let $T \equiv T(x)$, $E_i^* \equiv E_i^*(x)$, and $d \equiv d(x)$.

$$A \sum_{y \in X, \partial(x,y)=i} \hat{y} = \sum_{z \in X} |\{y \in X \mid \partial(y, z) = 1, \partial(x, y) = i\}| \hat{z} \quad (12.6)$$

$$= \sum_{z \in X, \partial(x,y)=i-1} b_{i-1}(x, z) \hat{z} \quad (12.7)$$

$$+ \sum_{z \in X, \partial(x,y)=i} a_i(x, z) \hat{z} \quad (12.8)$$

$$+ \sum_{z \in X, \partial(x,y)=i+1} c_{i+1}(x, z) \hat{z} \quad (12.9)$$

$$\in \text{Span} \left\{ \sum_{z \in X, \partial(x,z)=j} \hat{z} \mid j = 0, 1, \dots, d \right\}. \quad (12.10)$$

Hence, $b_{i-1}(x, z)$, $a_i(x, z)$ and $c_{i+1}(x, z)$ depend only on i and x , and not on z . Therefore, Γ is distance-regular with respect to x .

(iii) \rightarrow (i) Fix $x \in X$, and let $T \equiv T(x)$, $E_i^* \equiv E_i^*(x)$, and $d \equiv d(x)$. By definition of distance-regularity, for every i ($0 \leq i \leq d$),

$$A \left(\sum_{y \in X, \partial(x,y)=i} \hat{y} \right) = b_{i-1}(x) \sum_{y \in X, \partial(x,y)=i-1} \hat{y} \quad (12.11)$$

$$+ a_i(x) \sum_{y \in X, \partial(x,y)=i} \hat{y} \quad (12.12)$$

$$+ c_{i+1}(x) \sum_{y \in X, \partial(x,y)=i+1} \hat{y}. \quad (12.13)$$

Hence,

$$W = \left\{ \sum_{y \in X, \partial(x,y)=i} \hat{y} \mid 0 \leq i \leq d \right\}$$

is A -invariant and so T -invariant. Since $\hat{x} \in W$, $T\hat{x} = W$ is the trivial module and $T\hat{x}$ is thin. \square

Next, we show more is true if (i) – (iii) hold in Lemma 12.1.

In fact, $d(x)$, $a_i(x)$, $c_i(x)$, and $b_i(x)$ are

$$\begin{cases} \text{independent of } X & \text{if } \Gamma \text{ is regular; or} \\ \text{constant over } X^+ \text{ and } X^- & \text{if } \Gamma \text{ is biregular.} \end{cases}$$

Let $\Gamma = (X, E)$ be any (connected) graph. Pick vertices $x, y \in X$.

Let W be a thin, irreducible $T(x)$ -module, and measure $m : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ determined by W .

Let W' be a thin, irreducible $T(y)$ -module, and measure $m' : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ determined by W' .

Recall W, W' are orthogonal if

$$\langle w, w' \rangle = 0 \quad \text{for all } w \in W, w' \in W'.$$

We shall show if W and W' are not orthogonal, then m and m' are related:

$$m \cdot \text{poly}_1 = m' \cdot \text{poly}_2$$

for some polynomials with

$$\deg \text{poly}_1 + \deg \text{poly}_2 \leq 2 \cdot \partial(x, y).$$

Notation. V : standard module of Γ .

H : any subspace of V .

$$V = H + H^\perp \quad \text{orthogonal direct sum,}$$

and for $v = v_1 + v_2$ $\text{proj}_H : V \rightarrow H$ ($v \mapsto v_1$): linear transformation.

Observe: For every $v \in V$,

$$v - \text{proj}_H v \in H^\perp.$$

So,

$$\langle v - \text{proj}_H v, h \rangle = 0 \quad \text{for all } h \in H \text{ or,}$$

$$\langle v, h \rangle = \langle \text{proj}_H v, h \rangle \quad \text{for all } v \in V, \text{ and for all } h \in H.$$

Theorem 12.1. *Let $\Gamma = (X, E)$ be any graph. Pick vertices $x, y \in X$ and set $\Delta = \partial(x, y)$. Assume*

W : thin irreducible $T(x)$ -module with endpoint r , diameter d , and measure m .

W' : thin irreducible $T(y)$ -module with endpoint r' , diameter d' , and measure m' .

W and W' are not orthogonal.

Now pick

$$0 \neq w \in E_r^*(x)W, \quad 0 \neq w' \in E_{r'}^*(x)W'.$$

Then,

$$(i) \quad \text{proj}_{W'} w = p(A) \frac{\|w\|}{\|w'\|} w'$$

for some $0 \neq p \in \mathbb{C}[\lambda]$ with $\deg p \leq \Delta - r' + r, d'$,

$$\text{proj}_W w' = p'(A) \frac{\|w'\|}{\|w\|} w$$

for some $0 \neq p' \in \mathbb{C}[\lambda]$ with $\deg p' \leq \Delta - r + r', d$.

(ii) For all eigenvalues θ_i of Γ ,

$$\frac{\langle E_i w, E_i w' \rangle}{\|w\| \|w'\|} = m(\theta_i) \overline{p'(\theta_i)}.$$

(iii) For all eigenvalues θ_i of Γ ,

$$p(\theta_i) p'(\theta_i)$$

is in a real number in interval $[0, 1]$.

Proof. (i) Since W, W' are not orthogonal, there exist

$$v \in W, v' \in W' \text{ such that } \langle v, v' \rangle \neq 0.$$

Then there exists $a \in M$ such that

$$v' = aw'.$$

(This is because $w'_i = p'_i(A)w'_0$ and hence for every $v' \in W'$, there is a polynomial $q \in \mathbb{C}[\lambda]$, $q(A)w'_0 = v$.)

We have

$$0 \neq \langle v', v \rangle = \langle aw', v \rangle = \langle w', a^*v \rangle$$

and $a^*v \in W$.

Hence, $\text{proj}_W w' \neq 0$.

Let $p_0, \dots, p_d \in \mathbb{C}[\lambda]$ be from Lemma 9.1.

Then, $w_i = p_i(A)w$ is a basis for $E_{r+i}^*(x)W$ ($0 \leq i \leq d$).

Hence,

$$\text{proj}_W w' = \alpha_0 w_0 + \dots + \alpha_d w_d \text{ for some } \alpha_j \in \mathbb{C}.$$

Set

$$p' := \frac{\|w\|}{\|w'\|} \sum_{i=0}^d \alpha_i p_i.$$

Then $0 \neq p' \in \mathbb{C}[\lambda]$ and $\deg p' \leq d$.

Claim: $\alpha_i = 0$ ($\Delta - r + r' < i \leq d$).

In particular, $\deg p' \leq \Delta - r + r'$.

Pf. Observe:

$$w' \in E_{r'}^*(y)V, \quad w \in E_r^*(x)V,$$

for $\partial(x, y) = \Delta$.

$$E_{r'}^*(y)V \cap E_{r+i}^*(x)V = 0$$

by triangle inequality.

($\Delta = \partial(x, y) < r + i - r'$ or $\Delta + r' < r + i$ by our choice of i .)



Hence,

$$E_{r'}^*(y)V \perp E_{r+i}^*(x)V,$$

or

$$0 = \langle w', w_i \rangle \quad (12.14)$$

$$= \langle \text{proj}_W w', w_i \rangle \quad (12.15)$$

$$= \sum_{j=0}^d \alpha_j \langle w_j, w_i \rangle \quad (12.16)$$

$$= \alpha_i \|w_i\|^2. \quad (12.17)$$

Hence, $\alpha_i = 0$. Thus,

$$\text{proj}_W w' = \sum_{i=0}^{\Delta+r'-r} \alpha_i w_i \quad (12.18)$$

$$= \sum_{i=0}^{\Delta+r'-r} \alpha_i p_i(A) w_0 \quad (12.19)$$

$$= p'(A) \frac{\|w'\|}{\|w\|} w. \quad (12.20)$$

(ii) We have

$$\frac{\langle E_i w, E_i w' \rangle}{\|w\| \|w'\|} = \frac{\langle E_i w, w' \rangle}{\|w\| \|w'\|} \quad (12.21)$$

$$= \frac{\langle E_i w, \text{proj}_W w' \rangle}{\|w\| \|w'\|} \quad \text{as } \text{proj}_W w' = p'(A) \frac{\|w\|}{\|w'\|} w \quad (12.22)$$

$$= \frac{\langle E_i w, p'(A) w \rangle}{\|w\|^2} \quad (12.23)$$

$$= \frac{\langle E_i w, E_i p'(A) w \rangle}{\|w\|^2} \quad (12.24)$$

$$= \overline{p'(\theta_i)} \frac{\|E_i W\|^2}{\|w\|^2} \quad (12.25)$$

$$= \overline{p'(\theta_i)} m(\theta_i). \quad (12.26)$$

Moreover, as $m(\theta_i), m'(\theta_i) \in \mathbb{R}$,

$$\frac{\langle E_i w, E_i w' \rangle}{\|w\| \|w'\|} = \frac{\overline{\langle E_i w, E_i w' \rangle}}{\|w'\| \|w\|} = \overline{p(\theta_i) m'(\theta_i)} = p(\theta_i) m'(\theta_i).$$

(iii) Since,

$$\frac{|\langle E_i w, E_i w' \rangle|^2}{\|w\|^2 \|w'\|^2} = p(\theta_i) p'(\theta_i) m(\theta_i) m'(\theta_i),$$

$$p(\theta_i)p'(\theta_i) = \frac{|\langle E_i w, E_i w' \rangle|^2}{m(\theta_i)m'(\theta_i)\|w\|^2\|w'\|^2} \in \mathbb{R} \quad (12.27)$$

$$= \frac{|\langle E_i w, E_i w' \rangle|^2}{\frac{\|E_i w\|^2}{\|w\|^2} \frac{\|E_i w'\|^2}{\|w'\|^2} \|w\|^2 \|w'\|^2}. \quad (12.28)$$

By Cauchy-Schwartz inequality,

$$(|\langle a, b \rangle| \leq \|a\| \|b\|,)$$

$$\frac{|\langle E_i w, E_i w' \rangle|^2}{\|E_i w\|^2 \|E_i w'\|^2} \leq 1.$$

Hence, we have the assertion. \square

Chapter 13

Modules of a DRG

Wednesday, February 17, 1993

Lemma 13.1. *Let $\Gamma = (X, E)$ be any graph. Pick an edge $xy \in E$.*

Assume the trivial $T(x)$ -module $T(x)\delta$ is thin with measure m_x ,

and the trivial $T(y)$ -module $T(y)\delta$ is thin with measure m_y .

Then,

$$(ia) \quad \frac{m_x(\theta)}{k_x} = \frac{m_y(\theta)}{k_y} \text{ for all } \theta \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\}.$$

$$(ib) \quad \frac{m_x(0) - 1}{k_x} = \frac{m_y(0) - 1}{k_y} \text{ for all } \theta \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\}.$$

$$(\delta = \sum_{y \in X} \delta_y \hat{y} \quad \text{eigenvector corresponding to the maximal eigenvalue})$$

Proof. Apply Theorem 12.1,

$$W = T(x)\delta \quad r = 0, \quad d = d(x) \tag{13.1}$$

$$W' = T(y)\delta \quad r' = 0, \quad d' = d(y). \tag{13.2}$$

Take $w = \hat{x}$, $w' = \hat{y}$.

Claim. $\text{proj}_{T(y)\delta} \hat{x} = k_y^{-1} A \hat{y}$.

Pf. Since

$$\hat{y} \in T(y)\delta, \quad A\hat{y} \in T(y)\delta.$$

Show

$$(\hat{x} - k_y^{-1} A \hat{y}) \perp (T(y)\delta).$$

Recall

$$A\hat{y} = \sum_{z \in X, yz \in E} \hat{z}.$$

$$\hat{x} - k_y^{-1}Ay \in E_1^*(y)V.$$

So,

$$\hat{x} - \frac{1}{k_y}A\hat{y} \perp E_j^*(y)T(y)\delta \quad \text{if } j \neq 1 \quad (0 \leq j \leq k(y)).$$

And we have,

$$\left\langle \hat{x} - \frac{1}{k_y}A\hat{y}, A\hat{y} \right\rangle = \left\langle \hat{x}, \sum_{z \in X, yz \in E} \hat{z} \right\rangle - \frac{1}{k_y} \left\| \sum_{z \in X, yz \in E} \hat{z} \right\|^2 \quad (13.3)$$

$$= 1 - 1 \quad (13.4)$$

$$= 0 \quad (13.5)$$

This proves Claim.

Similarly,

$$\text{prof}_{T(x)\delta} \hat{y} = k_x^{-1}A\hat{x}.$$

Hence, the polynomials $p, p' \in \mathbb{C}[\lambda]$ from Theorem 12.1 equal

$$\frac{\lambda}{k_y} \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\lambda}{k_x}$$

respectively.

By Theorem 12.1,

$$\frac{m_x(\theta)\theta}{k_x} = m_x(\theta)\overline{p'(\theta)} = m_y(\theta)\overline{p(\theta)} = \frac{m_y(\theta)\theta}{k_y}.$$

If $\theta \neq 0$, we have (ia).

Also,

$$\frac{1 - m_x(0)}{k_x} = \left(\sum_{\theta \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\}} m_x(0) \right) \frac{1}{k_x} \quad \text{by (ia)} \quad (13.6)$$

$$= \left(\sum_{\theta \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\}} m_y(0) \right) \frac{1}{k_y} \quad (13.7)$$

$$= \frac{1 - m_y(0)}{k_y} \quad (13.8)$$

Hence, we have (ib). □

Theorem 13.1. *Suppose any graph $\Gamma = (X, E)$ is distance-regular with respect to every vertex $x \in X$. (So Γ is regular or biregular by Lemma 12.1.)*

Then,

Case Γ is regular: the diameter $d(x)$ and the intersection numbers $a_i(x)$, $b_i(x)$, $c_i(x)$ ($0 \leq i \leq d(x)$) are independent of $x \in X$.

(And Γ is called distance-regular.)

Case Γ is biregular: ($X = X^+ \cup X^-$)

$d(x)$ and $a_i(x)$, $b_i(x)$, $c_i(x)$ ($0 \leq i \leq d(x)$) are constant over X^+ and X^- . (And Γ is called distance-biregular.)

Proof. We apply Lemma 13.1.

Case Γ : regular.

Then $m_x = m_y$ for all $xy \in E$. Hence, the measure of the trivial $T(x)$ -module is independent of $x \in X$.

Case Γ is biregular.

Then $m_x = m_{x'}$ for all $x, x' \in X$ with $\partial(x, x') = 2$.

Hence, the measure of the trivial $T(x)$ -module is constant over $x \in X^+$, X^- .

Fix $x \in X$. Write $T \equiv T(x)$, $E_i^* \equiv E_i^*(x)$, $W = T\delta$ with measure m , diameter $d = d(x)$.

We know by Corollary 10.1 that m determines

$$d, \quad a_i(W) \ (0 \leq i \leq d), \quad x_i(W) \ (1 \leq i \leq d)$$

(as $d = D(x) = d(W)$ by Lemma 11.1.)

We shall show that m determines

$$a_i(x), \ c_i(x), \ b_i(x) \quad (0 \leq i \leq d).$$

Observe:

$$a_i(W) = a_i(x) \quad (0 \leq i \leq d) \tag{13.9}$$

$$x_i(W) = b_{i-1}c_i(x) \quad (1 \leq i \leq d) \tag{13.10}$$

Remark. $a_i = a_i(W)$ is an eigenvalue of

$$E_i^* A E_i^* \text{ on } E_i^* W = \langle \sum_{y \in \Gamma_i(x)} \hat{y} \rangle.$$

(See Lemma 12.1.)

$x_i = x_i(W)$ is an eigenvalue of

$$E_{i-1}^* A E_i^* A E_{i-1}^* \text{ on } E_{i-1}^* W,$$

and

$$A \sum_{y \in X, \partial(x,y)} \hat{y} = b_{i-1}(x) \sum_{y \in X, \partial(x,y)=i-1} \hat{y} \quad (13.11)$$

$$+ a_i(x) \sum_{y \in X, \partial(x,y)=i} \hat{y} \quad (13.12)$$

$$+ c_{i+1} \sum_{y \in X, \partial(x,y)=i+1} \hat{y} \quad (13.13)$$

So $x_i = b_{i-1}(x)c_i(x)$.

Set $k^+ = k_x$. Define

$$k^- = \frac{\theta_0^2}{k^+},$$

where θ_0 is the maximal eigenvalue. (See Lemma 11.1.)

(So, $k^+ = k^-$ is the valency, if Γ is regular.)

For every i ($0 \leq i \leq d$) and for every $z \in X$ with $\partial(x, z) = i$,

$$k_z = c_i(x) + a_i(x) + b_i(x) \quad (13.14)$$

$$= \begin{cases} k^+ & \text{if } i \text{ is even,} \\ k^- & \text{if } i \text{ is odd.} \end{cases} \quad (13.15)$$

Now m determines

$$c_0(x) = a_0(x) = 0, \quad c_1(x) = 1,$$

$$b_0(x) = b_0(x)c_1(x) = x_1(W).$$

$$k^+ = b_0(x) \quad (13.16)$$

$$k^- = \theta_0^2 / k^+ \quad (13.17)$$

$$c_i(x) = x_i(W) / b_{i-1}(x) \quad (1 \leq i \leq d) \quad (13.18)$$

$$b_i(x) = \begin{cases} k^+ - a_i(x) - c_i(x) & i: \text{ even,} \\ k^- - a_i(x) - c_i(x) & i: \text{ odd.} \end{cases} \quad (13.19)$$

This proves the assertions. \square

Proposition 13.1. *Under the assumption of Theorem 13.1, the following hold.*

Case Γ : regular.

- (i) $\dim E_i V = |X| m(\theta_i)$.
- (ii) Γ has exactly $d + 1$ distinct eigenvalues
- ($d = \text{diam} \Gamma = d(x)$, for all $x \in X$).

Case Γ : biregular.

- (i) $\dim E_V = |X^+| m^+(\theta_i) + |X^-| m^-(\theta_i)$.
- (ii) Γ has exactly $d^+ + 1$ distinct eigenvalues ($d^+ \geq d^-$).
- (iii) If d^+ is odd, the Γ is regular.
- (iv) $d^+ = d^-$, or $d^+ = d^- + 1$ is even.
- (v) $a_i(x) = 0$ for all i and for all x .

Proof. (i) Suppose Γ is regular.

Let m_x be the measure of the trivial $T(x)$ -module,

$$m_x(\theta_i) = \|E_i \hat{x}\|^2, \quad \text{as } \|\hat{x}\| = 1.$$

Now,

$$|X| m_x(\theta_i) = \sum_{x \in X} m_x(\theta_i) \tag{13.20}$$

$$= \sum_{x \in X} \|E_i \hat{x}\|^2 \tag{13.21}$$

$$= \sum_{y, z \in X} |(E_i)_{yz}|^2 \tag{13.22}$$

$$= \text{trace} E_i \overline{E_i}^\top. \tag{13.23}$$

Since A is real symmetric and

$$E_i \overline{E_i}^\top = E_i^2 = E_i$$

with E_i symmetric

$$E_i \sim \begin{pmatrix} I & O \\ O & I \end{pmatrix}.$$

$$\text{trace} E_i = \text{rank} E_i = \dim E_i V.$$

Thus, we have the assertion in this case.

Suppose Γ is biregular.

Then, same except,

$$\sum_{x \in X} m_x(\theta_i) = |X^+| m^+(\theta_i) + |X^-| m^-(\theta_i).$$

- (ii) Γ : regular. Immediately, if θ is an eigenvalue of Γ , then $m(\theta) \neq 0$.

Γ : biregular. For each $\theta = \theta_i \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\}$,

$$m^-(\theta) \neq 0 \Leftrightarrow m^+(\theta) \neq 0 \quad (13.24)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \theta \text{ is an eigenvalue of } \Gamma \quad (13.25)$$

$$\left(\frac{m^+(\theta)}{k^+} = \frac{m^-(\theta)}{k^-} \right) \quad (13.26)$$

(iv) and (v) are clear.

Remark. (iii) If d^+ is odd, $d^+ = d^-$ and Γ has even number of eigenvalues, i.e., 0 is not an eigenvalue. So A is nonsingular, and Γ is regular.

□

Chapter 14

Parameters of Thin Modules, I

Friday, February 19, 1993

Summary.

Definition 14.1. Assume $\Gamma = (X, E)$ is distance-regular with respect to every vertex $x \in X$.

Notation: Let $x \in X$. The data of the trivial $T(x)$ -module.

	Case DR	Case DBR
valency k_x	k	$\begin{cases} k^+ & \text{if } x \in X^+ \\ k^- & \text{if } x \in X^- \end{cases}$
x -diameter D_x	D	$\begin{cases} D^+ & \text{if } x \in X^+ \\ D^- & \text{if } x \in X^- \end{cases}$
measure m_x	m	$\begin{cases} m^+ & \text{if } x \in X^+ \\ m^- & \text{if } x \in X^- \end{cases}$
int. number $c_i(x)$	c_i	$\begin{cases} c_i^+ & \text{if } x \in X^+ \\ c_i^- & \text{if } x \in X^- \end{cases}$
int. number $b_i(x)$	b_i	$\begin{cases} b_i^+ & \text{if } x \in X^+ \\ b_i^- & \text{if } x \in X^- \end{cases}$
int. number $a_i(x)$	a_i	$\begin{cases} a_i^+ & \text{if } x \in X^+ \\ a_i^- & \text{if } x \in X^- \end{cases}$

Call $m, m^{\pm 1}$ the measure of Γ .

Assume $\Gamma = (X, E)$ is distance-regular.

To what extent do a_i 's, b_i 's and c_i 's determine the structure of irreducible $T(x)$ -modules? In general the following hold.

Lemma 14.1. *Assume $\Gamma = (X, E)$ is distance-regular. Pick $x \in X$. Let X be a thin irreducible $T(x)$ -module with endpoint r , diameter d and measure m_W .*

(i) *There is a unique polynomial $f_W \in \mathbb{C}[\lambda]$ with the following properties.*

(ia) $\deg f_W \leq D$ (diameter of Γ).

(ib) $m_W(\theta) = m(\theta)f_W(\theta)$ for every $\theta \in \mathbb{R}$, where m is the measure of Γ .

Moreover, $f_W \in \mathbb{R}[\lambda]$, and

(ii) $\deg f_W \leq 2r$.

(iii) *For all eigenvalues θ_i of Γ , $\lambda - \theta_i$ is a factor of f_W whenever, $E_i W = 0$.*

In particular, $2r - D + d \geq 0$.

Proof. Let $\theta_0, \dots, \theta_D$ denote distinct eigenvalues of Γ . Then $m(\theta_i) \neq 0$ ($0 \leq i \leq D$) by Proposition 13.1.

There exists a unique $f_W \in \mathbb{C}[\lambda]$ with $\deg f_W \leq D$ such that

$$f_W(\theta_i) = \frac{m_W(\theta_i)}{m(\theta_i)} \quad (0 \leq i \leq D)$$

by polynomial interpolation.

$f_W \in \mathbb{R}[\lambda]$ since

$$\theta_0, \dots, \theta_D \in \mathbb{R} \quad \text{and} \quad f_W(\theta_0), \dots, f_W(\theta_D) \in \mathbb{R}.$$

(ii) Without loss of generality, we may assume $r < D/2$, else trivial.

Pick $0 \neq w \in E_r^*(x)W$.

$$w = \sum_{y \in W, \partial(x,y)=r} \alpha_y \hat{y} \quad \text{some } \alpha_y \in \mathbb{C}.$$

Pick $y \in X$ such that $\alpha_y \neq 0$.

Set W' be the trivial $T(y)$ -module. ($\langle w, \hat{y} \rangle \neq 0$, as $W \not\perp W'$.)

$$r' = 0, \quad m' = m, \quad \Delta = r.$$

Apply Theorem 12.1, we have

$$\deg p \leq \Delta - r' + r = 2r, \quad p \neq 0 \tag{14.1}$$

$$\deg p' \leq \Delta - r + r' = 0, \quad p' \neq 0. \tag{14.2}$$

$$m_W(\theta)\overline{p'(\theta)} = m(\theta)p(\theta) \quad (\text{for all } \theta \in \mathbb{R}).$$

So,

$$\deg p/\bar{p}' \leq 2r,$$

and p/\bar{p}' satisfies the conditions of f_W .

$$\left(\frac{p(\theta)}{\bar{p}'(\theta)} = \frac{m_W(\theta)}{m(\theta)} \right)$$

(iii)

$$E_i W = 0 \rightarrow m_W(\theta_i) = 0 \rightarrow f_W(\theta_i) = 0.$$

that is, $E_i W = 0$. Hence θ_i is a root of $f_W(\lambda) = 0$. So,

$$2r \geq \deg f_W \geq |\{\theta_i \mid E_i W = 0\}| = D - d.$$

Hence,

$$2r - D + d \geq 0.$$

This proves the assertions. \square

Lemma 14.2. *Let $\Gamma = (X, E)$ be any distance-regular graph with valency k , diameter D ($d \geq 2$), measure m , and eigenvalues*

$$k = \theta_0 > \theta_1 > \dots > \theta_D.$$

Pick $x \in X$. Let W be a thin irreducible $T(x)$ -module with endpoint $r = 1$, diameter D and measure $m_W = mf_W$. Then one fo the following cases (i)–(iv) occurs.

Case	d	$f_W(\lambda)$	$a_0(W)$
(i)	$D - 2$	$\frac{(\lambda-k)(\lambda-\theta_1)}{k(\theta_1+1)}$	$-\frac{b_1}{\theta_1+1} - 1$
(ii)	$D - 2$	$\frac{(\lambda-k)(\lambda-\theta_D)}{k(\theta_D+1)}$	$-\frac{b_1}{\theta_1+1} - 1$
(iii)	$D - 1$	$\frac{k-\lambda}{k}$	-1
(iv)	$D - 1$	$\frac{(\lambda-k)(\lambda-\beta)}{k(\beta+1)}$	$-\frac{b_1}{\beta+1} - 1$

for some $\beta \in \mathbb{R}$ with $\beta \in (-\infty, \theta_D) \cup (\theta_1, \infty)$. Moreover, the isomorphism class of W is determined by $a_0(W)$.

Note. By (iii), the possible “shapes” of a thin irreducible $T(x)$ -modules are:

$$r = 0 \quad d = D \tag{14.3}$$

$$r = 1 \quad d = D - 1 \tag{14.4}$$

$$r = 1 \quad d = D - 2 \tag{14.5}$$

Chapter 15

Parameters of Thin Modules, II

Monday, February 22, 1993

Proof of Lemma 14.2 Continued.

We have $\deg f_W \leq 2$ by Lemma 14.1 (ii).

Also by Lemma 11.1, $E_0 W = 0$.

(As otherwise $\langle \delta \rangle = E_0 V \subseteq W$ and $r(W) = 0$.)

Hence, $\lambda - \theta_0 = \lambda - k$ is a factor of f_W by Lemma 14.1 (iii).

Let p_0, p_1, \dots, p_D denote the polynomials for the trivial $T(x)$ -module from Lemma 9.1.

Recall,

$$\sum_{\theta \in \mathbb{R}} m(\theta) p_i(\theta) p_j(\theta) = \delta_{ij} x_1 x_2 \cdots x_i \quad (0 \leq i, j \leq D) \quad (15.1)$$

$$= \delta_{ij} b_0 b_1 \cdots b_{i-1} c_1 c_2 \cdots c_i. \quad (15.2)$$

Note that $x_i = b_{i-1} c_i$ is in the proof of Theorem 7.1.

By construction,

$$p_0(\lambda) = 1.p_1(\lambda) \quad \quad \quad = \lambda.p_2(\lambda)\lambda^2 - a_1\lambda - k. \quad (15.3)$$

Apparently,

$$f_W = \sigma_0 p_0 + \sigma_1 p_1 + \sigma_2 p_2$$

for some $\sigma_0, \sigma_1, \sigma_2 \in \mathbb{C}$.

Claim:

$$\sigma_0 = 1, \quad (15.4)$$

$$\sigma_1 = \frac{a_0(W)}{k}, \quad (15.5)$$

$$\sigma_2 = \frac{1 + a_0(W)}{kb_1}. \quad (15.6)$$

Pf of Claim.

$$1 = \sum_{\theta \in \mathbb{R}} m_W(\theta) \quad (15.7)$$

$$= \sum_{\theta \in \mathbb{R}} m(\theta) f_W(\theta) \quad (15.8)$$

$$= \sum_{j=0}^2 \sigma_j \left(\sum_{\theta \in \mathbb{R}} m(\theta) p_j(\theta) \right) \quad (15.9)$$

$$= \sigma_0. \quad (15.10)$$

We applied Lemma 10.1 (ib), Lemma 14.1 (ib), and Lemma 10.1 (i) in this order.

Next by Lemma 10.1 (ii), and $p_1(\theta) = \theta$,

$$a_0(W) = \sum_{\theta \in \mathbb{R}} m_W(\theta) \theta \quad (15.11)$$

$$= \sum_{\theta \in \mathbb{R}} f_W(\theta) \theta \quad (15.12)$$

$$= \sum_{j=0}^2 \sigma_j \sum_{\theta \in \mathbb{R}} m(\theta) p_j(\theta) p_1(\theta) \quad (15.13)$$

$$= \sigma_1 x_1(T\delta) \quad (15.14)$$

$$= \sigma_1 b_0 c_1 \quad (15.15)$$

$$= \sigma_1 k. \quad (15.16)$$

So for,

$$f_W(\lambda) = 1 + \frac{a_0(W)}{k} \lambda + \sigma_2 (\lambda^2 - a_1 \lambda - k).$$

But,

$$0 = f_W(k) \quad (15.17)$$

$$= 1 + a_0(W) + \sigma_2 k(k - a_1 - 1) \quad (15.18)$$

$$1 + a_0(W) + \sigma_2 kb_1. \quad (15.19)$$

Thus,

$$\sigma_2 = -\frac{1 + a_0(W)}{kb_1}.$$

This proves Claim.

Case: $a_0(W) = -1$.

Here, $\sigma_2 = 0$ and

$$f_W(\lambda) = 1 + \frac{a_0(W)\lambda}{k} = 1 - \frac{\lambda}{k}.$$

Also,

$$d + 1 = |\{\theta \mid \theta \text{ is an eigenvalue of } \Gamma, f_W(\theta) \neq 0\}| = D.$$

Case: $a_0(W) \neq -1$.

Here, $\sigma_2 \neq 0$, and $\deg f_W = 2$. So,

$$f_W(\lambda) = (\lambda - k)(\lambda - \beta)\alpha$$

for some $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{C}$, $\alpha \neq 0$.

Comparing the coefficients in

$$(\lambda - k)(\lambda - \beta)\alpha = 1 + \frac{a_0(W)}{k}\lambda - \frac{a_0(W) + 1}{kb_1}(\lambda^2 - a_1\lambda - k),$$

we find

$$\alpha = -\frac{a_0(W) + 1}{kb_1}, \quad (15.20)$$

$$-(k + \beta)\alpha = \frac{a_0(W)}{k} + \frac{a_0(W) + 1}{kb_1}a_1, \quad (15.21)$$

$$k\beta\alpha = 1 + \frac{a_0(W) + 1}{b_1}. \quad (15.22)$$

Hence,

$$-\beta(a_0(W) + 1) = b_1 + (a_0(W) + 1).$$

Thus, we have

$$(1 + a_0(W))(1 + \beta) = -b_1. \quad (15.23)$$

In particular, $\beta \neq -1$, and

$$\alpha = -\frac{1 + a_0(W)}{kb_1} = \frac{1}{k(\beta + 1)}.$$

Also, by Definition 9.2,

$$0 \leq m_W(\theta) \quad (15.24)$$

$$= m(\theta)f_W(\theta) \quad (\text{for all } \theta \in \mathbb{R}). \quad (15.25)$$

But if θ is an eigenvalue of Γ ,

$$0 < m(\theta).$$

So,

$$0 \leq f_W(\theta) \quad (15.26)$$

$$= \frac{(\theta - k)(\theta - \beta)}{k(\beta + 1)}. \quad (15.27)$$

Either

$$\beta + 1 > 0 \rightarrow \theta - \beta \leq 0 \text{ or } \beta \geq \theta_1,$$

or

$$\beta + 1 < 0 \rightarrow \theta - \beta \geq 0 \text{ or } \beta \leq \theta_D.$$

If $\beta = \theta_1$,

$$a_0(W) = -\frac{b_1}{\beta + 1} - 1 = -\frac{b_1}{\theta_1 + 1} - 1 \quad (15.28)$$

$$f_W(\lambda) = \frac{(\lambda - k)(\lambda - \theta_1)}{k(\theta_1 + 1)}, \quad (15.29)$$

and we have (i).

If $\beta = \theta_D$,

$$a_0(W) = -\frac{b_1}{\theta_D + 1} - 1 \quad (15.30)$$

$$f_W(\lambda) = \frac{(\lambda - k)(\lambda - \theta_D)}{k(\theta_D + 1)}, \quad (15.31)$$

and we have (ii).

If $\beta \notin \{\theta_1, \theta_2\}$,

$$\theta \in (-\infty, \theta_D) \cup (\theta_1, \infty),$$

we have (iv).

Note using (15.23), we have (iv).

□

Note. Using (15.23),

$$a_0(W) \rightarrow \beta \rightarrow f_W \rightarrow m_W \rightarrow \text{isomorphism class of } W.$$

Note on Lemma 14.2. In fact, $\theta_1 > -1$, $\theta_D < -1$ if $D \geq 2$.

Definition 15.1. The complete graph K_n has n vertices and diameter $D = 1$, i.e., $xy \in E$ for all vertices x, t .

K_n is distance-regular with valency $k = n - 1$ and $a_1 = n - 2$, $D = 1$. Moreover, it has two distance eigenvalues θ_0, θ_1 .

Recall, $\theta_0, \dots, \theta_D$ are roots of p_{D+1} , i.e., $D + 1$ st polynomial for the trivial module/

$$p_0 = 1 \quad (15.32)$$

$$p_1 = \lambda \quad (15.33)$$

$$p_2 = \lambda^2 - a_1\lambda - k \quad (15.34)$$

$$= \lambda^2 - (n - 2)\lambda - (n - 1) \quad (15.35)$$

$$= (\lambda - (n - 1))(\lambda + 1). \quad (15.36)$$

The roots are $\theta_0 = n - 1 = k$ and $\theta_1 = -1$.

Lemma 15.1. *Let $\Gamma = (X, E)$ be distance-regular of diameter $D \geq 1$ with distinct eigenvalues*

$$k = \theta_0 > \theta_1 > \dots > \theta_D.$$

(i) $\theta_D \leq -1$ with equality if and only if $D = 1$.

(ii) $\theta_1 \geq -1$ with equality if and only if $D = 1$.

Proof. (i) Suppose $\theta_D \geq -1$.

Then $I + A$ is positive semi-definite.

By Lemma 2.1, there exists vectors $\{v_x \mid x \in X\}$ in a Euclidean space such that

$$\langle v_x, v_y \rangle = (I + A)_{xy} \quad (15.37)$$

$$= \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x = y \text{ or } xy \in E, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases} \quad (15.38)$$

For every $xy \in E$,

$$\langle v_x, v_y \rangle = \|v_x\| \|v_y\| = 1.$$

Hence, $v_x = v_y$, and v_x is independent of $x \in X$.

Shus $\langle v_x, v_y \rangle = 1$ for all $x, y \in X$.

We have $I + A = J$, (all 1's matrix), and $D = 1$.

(ii) Let m be the trivial measure. Then,

$$1 = \sum_{\theta \in \mathbb{R}} m(\theta) + \sum_{\theta \in \mathbb{R}} m(\theta)\theta \quad (15.39)$$

$$= \sum_{\theta \in \mathbb{R}} m(\theta)(\theta + 1) \quad (15.40)$$

$$= m(k)(k + 1) + \sum_{\theta \neq k} m(\theta)(\theta + 1) \quad (15.41)$$

$$\leq (k + 1)|X|^{-1}. \quad (15.42)$$

Note that $m(k) = |X|^{-1} \dim d_0 V = |X|^{-1}$.

So $k+1 \geq |X|$ or $k = |X| - 1$. Thus, $xy \in E$ for every $x, y \in X$, and $D = 1$. \square

Note. Lemma 15.1 does not require distance-regular assumption.

Chapter 16

Thin Modoles of a DRG

Wednesday, February 24, 1993

Let $\Gamma = (X, E)$ denote any graph of diameter D .

Definition 16.1. For all integer i , the i -th incidence matrix $A_i \in \text{Mat}_X(\mathbb{C})$ satisfies

$$(A_i)_{xy} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \partial(x, y) = i, \\ 0 & \text{if } \partial(x, y) \neq i, \end{cases} \quad (x, y \in X).$$

Observe,

$$A_0 = I \quad (\text{identity}) \quad (16.1)$$

$$A_1 = A \quad (\text{adjacency matrix}) \quad (16.2)$$

$$A_0 + A_1 + \cdots + A_D = J \quad (\text{all 1's matrix}). \quad (16.3)$$

In general, A_i may not belong to Bose-Mesner algebra.

Lemma 16.1. Assume $\Gamma = (X, E)$ is distance-regular with diameter $D \geq 1$ and intersection numbers c_i, a_i, b_i .

(i)

$$AA_i = c_{i+1}A_{i+1} + a_iA_i + b_{i-1}A_{i-1}, \quad (0 \leq i \leq D, A_{-1} = A_{D+1} = O).$$

(ii) $A_i = \frac{p_i(A)}{c_1 c_2 \cdots c_i}$, $(0 \leq i \leq D)$, where p_0, p_1, \dots, p_D are polynomials for the trivial module from Lemma 9.1.

(iii) A_0, A_1, \dots, A_D form a basis for Bose-Mesner algebra M .

(iv) For all distances h, i, j $(0 \leq i, j, h \leq D)$, and for all vertices $x, y \in X$ with $\partial(x, y) = h$, the constant

$$p_{i,j}^h = |\{z \in X \mid \partial(x, z) = i, \partial(y, z) = j\}|$$

depends only on h, i, j and not on x, y .

$$(v) \ E_0 = \frac{1}{|X|} J.$$

Proof.

(i) Pick $x \in X$. Apply each side to \hat{x} , we want to show that

$$AA_i\hat{x} = c_{i+1}A_{i+1}\hat{x} + a_iA_i\hat{x} + b_{i-1}A_{i-1}\hat{x}.$$

$$\text{LHS} = A \left(\sum_{y \in X, \partial(x, y) = i} \hat{y} \right) \tag{16.4}$$

$$= c_{i+1} \left(\sum_{z \in X, \partial(x, z) = i+1} \hat{z} \right) + a_i \left(\sum_{z \in X, \partial(x, z) = i} \hat{z} \right) + b_{i-1} \left(\sum_{z \in X, \partial(x, z) = i-1} \hat{z} \right) \tag{16.5}$$

$$= \text{RHS}. \tag{16.6}$$

(ii) Recall (Lemma 9.1)

$$Ap_i(A) = p_{i+1}(A) + a_i p_i(A) + b_{i-1} c_i p_{i-1}(A) \quad (0 \leq i \leq D).$$

Dividing by $c_1 c_2 \cdots c_i$, we have

$$A \frac{p_i(A)}{c_1 c_2 \cdots c_i} = c_{i+1} \frac{p_{i+1}(A)}{c_1 c_2 \cdots c_{i+1}} + a_i \frac{p_i(A)}{c_1 c_2 \cdots c_i} + b_{i-1} \frac{p_{i-1}(A)}{c_1 c_2 \cdots c_i}.$$

So, $A_i, p_i(A)/(c_1 c_2 \cdots c_i)$ satisfy the same recurrence.

Also boundary condition,

$$A_0 = p_0(A) = I.$$

Hence,

$$A_i = \frac{p_i(A)}{c_1 c_2 \cdots c_i} \quad (0 \leq i \leq D).$$

(iii) Since E_0, E_1, \dots, E_D form a basis for M , $\dim M = D + 1$.

Observe $A_0, A_1, \dots, A_D \in M$ by (ii), A_0, A_1, \dots, A_D are linearly independent, since p_0, p_1, \dots, p_D are linearly independent.

Thus, A_0, A_1, \dots, A_D form a basis for M .

(iv) A_0, A_1, \dots, A_D form a basis for an algebra M ,

$$A_i A_j = \sum_{\ell=0}^D p_{ij}^{\ell} A_{\ell} \quad \text{for some } p_{ij}^{\ell} \in \mathbb{C}. \quad (16.7)$$

Fix h ($0 \leq h \leq D$). Pick $x, y \in X$ with $\partial(x, y) = h$.

Compute x, y entry in (16.7),

$$(A_i A_j)_{xy} = \sum_{z \in X} (A_i)_{xz} (A_j)_{zy} \quad (16.8)$$

$$= \sum_{z \in X, \partial(x, z)=i, \partial(y, z)=j} 1 \cdot 1 \quad (16.9)$$

$$= |\{z \in X \mid \partial(x, z) = i, \partial(y, z) = j\}|. \quad (16.10)$$

On the other hand,

$$\left(\sum_{\ell=0}^D p_{ij}^{\ell} A_{\ell} \right)_{xy} = p_{ij}^h (A_h)_{xy} = p_{ij}^h.$$

(v) $\frac{1}{|X|}J$ is the orthogonal projection onto $\text{Span}(\delta) = E_0 V$. Hence,

$$\frac{1}{|X|} = E_0.$$

This proves the assertions. □

Theorem 16.1. *Let $\Gamma = (X, E)$ be distance-regular with diameter $D \geq 2$ and intersection numbers c_i, a_i, b_i . Pick a vertex $x \in X$. Let W be a thin irreducible $T(x)$ -module with endpoint $r = 1$ and diameter d ($d = D - 2$ or $D - 1$). Set $\gamma_0 = a_0(W) + 1$.*

(i) *The scalars*

$$\gamma_i := \frac{c_2 c_3 \cdots c_{i+1} b_2 b_3 \cdots b_{i+1} \gamma_0}{x_1(W) x_2(W) \cdots x_i(W)} \quad (0 \leq i \leq d) \quad (16.11)$$

$a_i(W), x_i(W)$ are algebraic integers in $\mathbb{Q}[\gamma_0]$. In particular, if $\gamma_0 \in \mathbb{Q}$, then $\gamma_i, a_i(W)$ and $x_i(W)$ are integers for all i .

(ii) *The numbers, $\gamma_i, a_i(W), x_i(W)$ can all be determined from γ_0 and the intersection numbers of Γ in order*

$$x_1(W), \gamma_1, a_1(W), x_2(W), \gamma_2, a_2(W), \dots$$

using (i),

$$x_i(W) = c_i b_i + \gamma_{i-1} (a_i + c_i - c_{i+1} - a_{i-1}(W)) \quad (1 \leq i \leq D - 1), \quad (16.12)$$

and

$$a_i(W) = \gamma_i - \gamma_{i-1} + a_i + c_i - c_{i+1} \quad (1 \leq i \leq D). \quad (16.13)$$

Note.

$$p_i = p_1^W + \gamma_{i-1}p_{i-1}^W - c_i(p_{i-1}^W + \gamma_{i-2}^W), \quad (\gamma_{-1} = -\gamma_{-2} = 0, \quad 0 \leq i \leq d+1).$$

Proof. Set

$$\tilde{A}_i = A_0 + A_1 + \cdots + A_i \quad (0 \leq i \leq D).$$

$$\text{Claim 1. } A\tilde{A}_i = c_{i+1}\tilde{A}_{i+1} + (a_i - c_{i+1} + c_i)\tilde{A}_i + b_i\tilde{A}_{i-1} \quad (0 \leq i \leq D-1).$$

Proof of Claim 1.

$$\text{LHS} = \sum_{j=0}^i AA_j \quad (16.14)$$

$$= \sum_{j=0}^i (c_{j+1}A_{j+1} + a_jA_j + b_{j-1}A_{j-1}) \quad (16.15)$$

$$= \sum_{j=0}^{i-1} A_j(c_j + a_j + b_j) + A_i(c_i + a_i) + A_{i+1}c_{i+1} \quad (16.16)$$

$$= k(A_0 + \cdots + A_{i-1}) + (a_i + c_i)A_i + c_{i+1}A_{i+1}. \quad (16.17)$$

$$\text{RHS} = c_{i+1}(A_0 + A_1 + \cdots + A_{i-1} + A_i + A_{i+1}) \quad (16.18)$$

$$+ (a_i - c_{i+1} + c_i)(A_0 + A_1 + \cdots + A_{i-1} + A_i) \quad (16.19)$$

$$+ b_i(A_0 + A_1 + \cdots + A_{i-1}) \quad (16.20)$$

$$= k(A_0 + \cdots + A_{i-1}) + A_i(a_i + c_i) + A_{i+1}c_{i+1}. \quad (16.21)$$

This proves Claim 1.

Now pick $0 \neq w \in E_1^*(x)W$ and let

$$w = \sum_{z \in X, \partial(x,z)=1} \alpha_z \hat{z}.$$

Pick y , where $\alpha_y \neq 0$.

For i ($0 \leq i \leq D$), define

$$B_i = \tilde{A}_i(\hat{x} - \hat{y}) \quad (16.22)$$

$$= \sum_{z \in X, \partial(x,z) \leq i} \hat{z} - \sum_{z \in X, \partial(y,z) \leq i} \hat{z} \quad (16.23)$$

$$= \sum_{z \in X, \partial(x,z)=i, \partial(y,z)=i+1} \hat{z} - \sum_{z \in X, \partial(y,z)=i+1, \partial(y,z)=i} \hat{z}. \quad (16.24)$$

Note that $B_D = O$, $B_0 = \hat{x} - \hat{y}$, and

$$\langle B_0, w_0 \rangle = -\alpha_y \neq 0.$$

From Claim 1,

$$AB_i = c_{i+1}B_{i+1} + (a_i - c_{i+1} + c_i)B_i + b_iB_{i-1} \quad (0 \leq i \leq D), \quad B_{-1} = O.$$

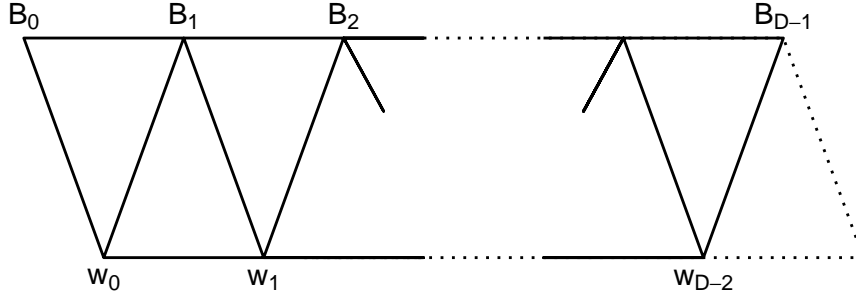
Let p_0^W, \dots, p_d^W denote polynomials for W from Lemma 9.1. So,

$$w_i = p_i^W(A)w \in E_{1+i}^*(x)W, \quad (0 \leq i \leq d).$$

Claim 2. $\langle w_i, B_j \rangle = 0$ if $j \notin \{i, i+1\}$, $(0 \leq i \leq d, 0 \leq j \leq D)$.

Proof of Claim 2.

$$w_i \in E_{1+i}^*W, \quad B_j \in E_j^*(x)W + E_{j+1}^*(x)W.$$



Vertical lines indicate possible non-orthogonality.

Compute

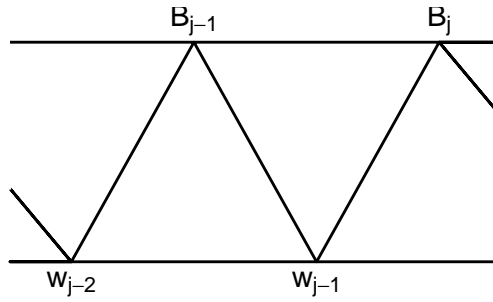
$$\langle Aw_i, B_j \rangle = \langle w_i, AB_j \rangle, \quad quad(0 \leq i \leq D, 0 \leq j \leq D-1). \quad (16.25)$$

$$\text{LHS} = \langle w_{i+1}, B_j \rangle + a_i(W)\langle w_i, B_j \rangle + x_i(W)\langle w_{i-1}, B_j \rangle \quad (16.26)$$

$$\text{RHD} = b_j\langle w_i, B_{j-1} \rangle + (a_j - c_{j+1} + c_j)\langle w_i, B_j \rangle + c_{j+1}\langle w_i, B_{j+1} \rangle. \quad (16.27)$$

Evaluate for $i = j-2, j-1, j, j+1$.

Set $i = j-2$.



Then (16.25) becomes

$$\langle w_{j-1}, B_j \rangle = b_j \langle w_{j-2}, B_{j-1} \rangle \quad (2 \leq j \leq D-1).$$

By induction,

$$\langle w_{j-1}, B_j \rangle = b_2 b_3 \cdots b_j \langle w_0, B_1 \rangle \quad (1 \leq j \leq D-1).$$

Define

$$\gamma_0 = \frac{\langle w_0, B_1 \rangle}{\langle w_0, B_0 \rangle}.$$

(We will show $\gamma_0 = 1 + a_0(W)$.)

Then,

$$\langle w_{j-1}, B_j \rangle = b_2 b_3 \cdots b_j \gamma_0 \langle w_0, B_0 \rangle. \quad (16.28)$$

Set $i = j + 1$. Then (16.25) becomes

$$x_{j+1}(W) \langle w_j, B_j \rangle = c_{j+1} \langle w_0, B_{j+1} \rangle \quad (0 \leq j \leq d).$$

Hence,

$$\langle w_j, B_j \rangle = \frac{x_1(W) \cdots x_j(W)}{c_1 c_2 \cdots c_j} \langle w_0, B_0 \rangle \quad (0 \leq j \leq d). \quad (16.29)$$

Set $i = j - 1$. Then (16.25) becomes

$$\langle w_j, B_j \rangle + a_{j-1}(W) \langle w_{j-1}, B_j \rangle = (a_j - c_{j+1} + c_j) \langle w_{j-1}, B_j \rangle + b_j \langle w_{j-1}, B_{j-1} \rangle.$$

Evaluate this using (16.28) and (16.29). ($\langle w_0, B_0 \rangle \neq 0$). Then we have

$$\frac{w_1(W) \cdots x_j(W)}{c_1 \cdots c_j} + (a_{j-1}(W) - a_j + c_{j+1} - c_j) b_2 \cdots b_j \gamma_0 = b_j \frac{x_1(W) \cdots x_{j-1}(W)}{c_1 \cdots c_{j-1}},$$

$$\left(\gamma_i := \frac{c_2 c_3 \cdots c_{i+1} b_2 b_3 \cdots b_{i+1} \gamma_0}{x_0(W) x_2(W) \cdots x_i(W)} \right).$$

$$\frac{x_j(W)}{c_j} = b_j + \frac{c_1 c_3 \cdots c_{j-1} b_2 b_3 \cdots b_j \gamma_0}{x_0(W) x_2(W) \cdots x_{j-1}(W)} (a_j + c_j - c_{j+1} - a_{j-1}).$$

So,

$$x_j(W) = c_j b_j + \gamma_{j-1} (a_j + c_j - c_{j+1} - a_{j-1}(W)).$$

This proves (16.12).

Set $i = j$. Then (16.25) becomes

$$a_j(W) \langle w_j, B_j \rangle + x_j(W) \langle w_{j-1}, B_j \rangle = (a_j - c_{j+1} + c_j) \langle w_j, B_j \rangle + c_{j+1} \langle w_j, B_{j+1} \rangle.$$

$$(a_j(W) - (a_j - c_{j+1} + c_j)) \frac{x_1(W) \cdots x_j(W)}{c_1 \cdots c_j} x_j(W) b_2 \cdots b_j \gamma_0 - c_{j+1} b_2 \cdots b_{j+1} \gamma_0 = 0.$$

Thus,

$$a_j(W) - (a_j - c_{j+1} + c_j) + \frac{c_1 \cdots c_j b_2 \cdots b_j \gamma_0}{x_1(W) \cdots x_{j-1}(W)} - \frac{c_1 \cdots c_j c_{j+1} b_2 \cdots b_{j+1} \gamma_0}{x_1(W) \cdots x_j(W)} = 0,$$

or

$$a_j(W) = a_j + c_j - c_{j+1} - \gamma_{j-1} + \gamma_j.$$

This proves (16.13).

Also by setting $i = j = 0$, we have

$$a_0(W) \langle w_0, B_0 \rangle = (a_0 - c_1 + c_0) \langle w_0, B_0 \rangle + c_1 \langle w_0, B_1 \rangle \quad (16.30)$$

$$= -\langle w_0, B_0 \rangle + \gamma_0 \langle w_0, B_0 \rangle. \quad (16.31)$$

Hence,

$$\gamma_0 = 1 + a_0(W).$$

Both $a_i(W)$ and $x_i(W)$ are algebraic integers, since they are eigenvalues of matrices with integer entries, namely,

$$E_{i+1}^*(x) A E_{i+1}^*(x) \quad \text{and} \quad E_i^*(x) A E_{i+1}^*(x) A E_i^*(x).$$

Also $\gamma_0 = 1 + a_0(W)$ is an algebraic integer, and $\gamma_i - \gamma_{i-1}$ is an algebraic integer by (16.12).

Hence, γ_i is an algebraic integer by induction.

This completes the proof of Theorem 16.1. \square

Example 16.1 (D=2).

$$D = 2 \Leftrightarrow \text{strongly regular.}$$

Free parameters are k, a_1, c_2 . Let W be an irreducible module of endpoint 1. The matrix representation of $A|_W$ is

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_0(W) & x_1(W) \\ 1 & a_1(W) \end{pmatrix}.$$

$a_0(W)$: free.

$$x_1(W) = c_1 b_1 + (a_0(W) + 1)(a_1 + c_1 - c_2 - a_0(W)) \quad (16.32)$$

$$= k - a_1 - 1 + a_1 a_0(W) + a_0(W) - c_2 a_0(W) - a_0(W)^2 + a_1 + a - c_2 - a_0(W) \quad (16.33)$$

$$= a_1 a_0(W) - c_2 a_0(W) + k - c_2 - a_0(W)^2, \quad (16.34)$$

$$\gamma_1 = 0, \quad (16.35)$$

$$a_1(W) = -(a_0(W) + 1) + a_1 + c_1 - c_2 \quad (16.36)$$

$$= -a_0(W) + a_1 - c_2. \quad (16.37)$$

Then the matrix has eigenvalues θ, θ_1 . There is one feasible condition: $a_0(W)$ is an algebraic integer.

Example 16.2 (D=3). Free parameters c_2, c_3, k, a_1, a_2 . The matrix representation becomes

$$A|_W = \begin{pmatrix} a_0(W) & x_1(W) & 0 \\ 1 & a_1(W) & x_2(W) \\ 0 & 1 & a_2(W) \end{pmatrix}.$$

Here, $a_0(W)$ is free ($= \gamma - 1$)

$$x_1(W) = k - 1 - a_1 + \gamma_0(a_1 + 1 - c_2 - a_0(W)) \quad (16.38)$$

$$= \gamma_0(a_1 - c_2 - a_0(W)) + k - a_1 + a_0(W). \quad (16.39)$$

Set

$$\gamma_1(W) = \frac{c_2 b_2 \gamma_0}{x_1(W)}.$$

$$a_1(W) = \gamma_1 - \gamma_0 + a_1 + 1 - c_2 \quad (16.40)$$

$$x_2(W) = \gamma_1(a_2 - c_3 - a_1(W)) + c_2(\gamma_0 + b_1 - a_2 + a_1(W)) \quad (16.41)$$

$$a_2(W) = -\gamma_1 + a_2 + c_2 - c_3. \quad (16.42)$$

The matrix has eigenvalues, $\theta, \theta_2, \theta_3$.

There are two feasibility conditions; γ_0, γ_1 are algebraic integers.

For arbitrary D , there are $D - 1$ feasibility conditions; $\gamma_0, \gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_{D-1}$ are algebraic integers.

Lemma 16.2. *With the notation of Theorem 16.1, suppose*

$$f_W = \frac{k - \lambda}{k} \quad (\text{so, } a_0(W) = -1).$$

Then,

$$a_i(W) = a_i + c_i - c_{i+1} \quad (0 \leq i \leq D - 1) \quad (16.43)$$

$$x_i(W) = b_i c_i \quad (1 \leq i \leq D - 1) \quad (16.44)$$

$$\gamma_i(W) = 0. \quad (16.45)$$

Proof. Since $\gamma_0 = a_0(W) = 1$, $\gamma_i = 0$. □

Chapter 17

Association Schemes

Monday, March 1, 1993

Review

Let $\Gamma = (X, E)$ be a distance-regular graph of diameter $D \geq 2$. Pick a vertex $x \in X$.

Let W be a thin irreducible $T(x)$ -module with endpoint $r = 1$, diameter $d = D - 1$ or $D - 2$, and $r_0 = a(W) + 1$.

Show

$$\gamma_i = \frac{c_2 c_3 \cdots c_{i+1} b_2 b_3 \cdots b_{i+1} \gamma_0}{x_1(W) \cdots x_i(W)},$$

$a_i(W)$ and $x_i(W)$ are all algebraic integers in $\mathbb{Q}[\gamma_0]$, where

$$x_i(W) = c_i b_i + \gamma_{i-1}(a_i + c_i - c_{i+1} - a_{i-1}(W)) \quad (1 \leq i \leq d) \quad (17.1)$$

$$a_i(W) = \gamma_i - \gamma_{i-1} + a_i + c_i - c_{i+1} \quad (1 \leq i \leq d) \quad (17.2)$$

Certainly, $x_i(W)$, γ_i , and $a_i(W)$ are in $\mathbb{Q}[\gamma_0]$ by the above lines and so on.

$$\gamma_0 \rightarrow a_0(W) \rightarrow x_1(W) \rightarrow \gamma_1 \rightarrow a_1(W) \rightarrow x_1(W) \rightarrow \cdots$$

Recall some $B \in \text{Mat}_n(\mathbb{C})$ is integral whenever

$$B \in \text{Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z}).$$

In this case, the characteristic polynomial

$$\det(\lambda I - B) = \lambda^n + \alpha_{n-1} \lambda^{n-1} + \cdots + \alpha_0, \quad \text{some } \alpha_0, \dots, \alpha_{n-1} \in \mathbb{Z}.$$

Hence, eigenvalues of B are algebraic integers. But $a_i(W)$ is an eigenvalue of an integral matrices,

$$B = E_{i+1}^*(x) A E_{i+1}^*(x).$$

Hence, $a_i(W)$ is an algebraic integer.

Also, $x_i(W)$ is an eigenvalue of an integral matrix

$$B = E_i^*(x)AE_{i+1}^*(x)AE_i^*(x).$$

So $x_i(W)$ is an algebraic integer.

$$\gamma_i - \gamma_{i-1} = a_i(W) - a_i - c_i + c_{i+1}$$

is an algebraic integer.

Since $\gamma_0 = a_0(W) + 1$ is an algebraic integer, we find γ is an algebraic integer for all i .

Definition 17.1. A (commutative) association scheme is a configuration $Y = (X, \{R_i\}_{0 \leq i \leq D})$, where X is a finite nonempty set (of vertices), R_0, R_1, \dots, R_D are nonempty subsets of $X \times X$ such that

- (i) $R_0 = \{(x, x) \mid x \in X\}$,
- (ii) $R_0 \cup \dots \cup R_D = X \times X$ (disjoint union),
- (iii) for every i , $R_i^\top = \{(y, x) \mid xy \in R\} = R_{i'}$ some $i' \in \{0, 1, \dots, D\}$,
- (iv) for every h, i, j ($0 \leq h, i, j \leq D$), and every $x, y \in X$ such that $(x, y) \in R_h$,

$$p_{ij}^h = |\{z \in X \mid (x, z) \in R_i, (z, y) \in R_j\}|$$

depends only on h, i, j and not on x, y ; and

- (v) $p_{ij}^h = p_{ji}^h$ for all h, i, j .

If $i' = i$ for all i , we say Y is symmetric. We call D the class of scheme and R_i , the i th relation of Y . We say vertices $x, y \in X$ are i -related, or ‘at distance i ’, whenever $(x, y) \in R_i$.

We always assume that a ‘scheme’ is a commutative association scheme.

Let $Y = (X, \{R_i\}_{0 \leq i \leq D})$ be an association scheme.

Definition 17.2. The i -th association matrix $A_i \in \text{Mat}_X(\mathbb{C})$

$$(A_i)_{xy} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } (x, y) \in R_i \\ 0 & \text{if } (x, y) \notin R_i, \end{cases} \quad (x, y \in X, 0 \leq i \leq D) \quad (17.3)$$

Then,

$$(i') \quad A_0 = I.$$

$$(ii') \quad A_0 + A_1 + \dots + A_D = J \text{ (= all 1's matrix).}$$

$$(iii') \quad A_i^\top = A_{i'} \quad (0 \leq i \leq D).$$

$$(iv') \quad A_i A_j = \sum_{h=0}^D p_{ij}^h A_h \quad (0 \leq i, j \leq D).$$

$$(v') \quad A_i A_j = A_j A_i.$$

$M := \text{Span}_{\mathbb{C}}(A_0, \dots, A_D)$ (Bose-Mesner algebra of Y) is a commutative \mathbb{C} -algebra of dimension $D + 1$.

Observe:

$$Y \text{ is symmetric} \leftrightarrow A_i^\top = A_i \text{ for all } i \leftrightarrow M \text{ is symmetric.}$$

Example 17.1. Let $\Gamma = (X, E)$ be distance-regular of diameter D . Set

$$R_i = \{(x, y) \mid \partial(x, y) = i\} \quad (0 \leq i \leq D). \quad (17.4)$$

Then,

$$Y = (X, \{R_i\}_{0 \leq i \leq D})$$

is a symmetric scheme.

$$i\text{-th association matrix} = i\text{-th distance matrix} \quad \text{for all } i.$$

Example 17.2. Suppose a group G acts transitively on a set X . Assume G is generously transitive, i.e.,

$$\text{for all } x, y \in X, \text{ there exists } g \in G \text{ such that } gx = y, gy = x.$$

Then G acts on $X \times X$ by rule;

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

Let R_0, \dots, R_D denote orbits of G on $X \times X$.

Observe that $R_i^\top = R_i$ for all i by generous transitivity, and

$$Y = (X, \{R_i\}_{0 \leq i \leq D})$$

is a symmetric scheme.

Exercise 17.1. In Example Example 17.2, Bose-Mesner algebra

$$M = \{B \in \text{Mat}_X(\mathbb{C}) \mid Bg = gB, \text{ for all } g \in G\} \quad (17.5)$$

$$= \text{the commuting algebra of } G \text{ on } X. \quad (17.6)$$

Here, we view each $g \in G$ as a permutation matrix in $\text{Mat}_X(\mathbb{C})$ satisfying

$$g\hat{x} = \widehat{gx}, \quad \text{for all } x \in G.$$

Example 17.3. Let G be any finite group. G acts on $X = G$ by conjugation.

$$G \times X \rightarrow X, \quad (g, x) \mapsto gxg^{-1}.$$

Let C_0, C_1, \dots, C_D denote orbits (i.e., conjugacy classes), and let $C_0 = \{1_G\}$. Claim that $Y = (X, \{R_i\}_{0 \leq i \leq D})$ is a commutative scheme (not symmetric in general).

- (i) $R_0 = \{xx \mid x \in X\}$ as $C_0 = \{1_G\}$.
- (ii) R_0, \dots, R_D is a partition of $X \times X$ since C_0, \dots, C_D is a partition of $X = G$.
- (iii) $R_i^\top = R_{i'}$, where $C_{i'} = \{g^{-1} \mid g \in C_i\}$.
- (iv) Set $H = G \oplus G$, the direct sum. Then H acts on $X = G$:

$$\text{for all } h = (g, gz), \text{ for all } x \in X, \quad h(x) = gx(gx)^{-1} = gxz^{-1}g^{-1}.$$

$$R_i = \{(x, y) \mid x^{-1}y \in C_i\}, \quad h_i \in C_i, \quad x^{-1}y = gh_i g^{-1}.$$

$$(x, y) = (x, xgh_i g^{-1}) \tag{17.7}$$

$$= (xgg^{-1}, xgh_i g^{-1}) \tag{17.8}$$

$$= (xg, g)(1, h_i). \tag{17.9}$$

So, R_0, \dots, R_D are the orbits of H on $X \times X$.

(v) $p_{ij}^h = p_{ji}^h$?

Fix i, j, h and $x, y \in X$ with $(x, y) \in R_h$. Set

$$S = \{z \in X \mid (x, z) \in R_i, (z, y) \in R_j\} \tag{17.10}$$

$$T = \{z \in X \mid (x, z) \in R_j, (z, y) \in R_i\}. \tag{17.11}$$

Show $|S| = |T|$.

For all $z \in S$, set $\hat{z} = xz^{-1}y$.

Observe, $\hat{z} \in T$.

$$x^{-1}z \in C_i x^{-1}\hat{z} = x^{-1}xz^{-1}y \in C_j \tag{17.12}$$

$$z^{-1}y \in C_j \hat{z}^{-1}y = y^{-1}zx^{-1}x^{-1}y = y^{-1}x(x^{-1}z)x^{-1}y \in C_i. \tag{17.13}$$

Observe

$$S \rightarrow T \quad (z \mapsto z^{-1}) \quad \text{is one-to-one and onto.}$$

Chapter 18

Polynomial Schemes

Wednesday, March 3, 1993

Lemma 18.1. *Let $Y = (X, \{R_i\}_{0 \leq i \leq D})$ denote the symmetric scheme with associated matrices A_0, A_1, \dots, A_D . Then the following are equivalent.*

(i) *The graph $\Gamma = (X, R_1)$ is distance-regular, and R_0, \dots, R_D are labelled so that*

$$R_i = \{xy \mid \partial(x, y) = i\}.$$

(ii) *There exists $f_i \in \mathbb{C}[\lambda]$, $\deg f_i = i$ such that $f_i(A_1) = A_i$ for all i with $0 \leq i \leq D$.*

(iii) *The parameter p_{ij}^h*

$$\begin{cases} = 0 & \text{if one of } h, i, j \text{ is larger than the sum of the other two} \\ \neq 0 & \text{if one of } h, i, j \text{ is equal to the sum of the other two.} \end{cases}$$

Proof.

(i) \Rightarrow (ii): Lemma 16.1.

(ii) \Rightarrow (iii): Define

$$k_i \equiv p_{ii}^0 = |\{z \mid z \text{ in } X, \partial(x, z) = i \text{ } ((x, z) \in R_i)\}|$$

for any $x \in X$. Then $k_i \neq 0$ ($0 \leq i \leq D$), $k_0 = 1$.

(By symmetricity, $(x, y) \in R_i$ if and only if $(y, x) \in R_i$.)

Claim.

$$k_h p_{ij}^h = k_i p_{hj}^i = k_j p_{ih}^j \quad (18.1)$$

$$= |X|^{-1} |\{xyz \in X^3 \mid \partial(x, y) = h, \partial(x, z) = i, \partial(y, z) = j\}|. \quad (18.2)$$

Pf. The number of $xyz \in X^3$, $\partial(x, y) = h, \partial(x, z) = i, \partial(y, z) = j$ is equal to

$$|X| k_h p_{ij}^h = |X| k_i p_{hj}^i = k_j p_{ih}^j.$$

In particular,

$$p_{ij}^h = 0 \leftrightarrow p_{hj}^i = 0 \leftrightarrow p_{ih}^j = 0.$$

Hence, it suffices to show

$$\begin{cases} p_{ij}^h = 0 & \text{if } h > i + j \\ p_{ij}^h \neq 0 & \text{if } h = i + j. \end{cases}$$

Fix i, j . Without loss of generality, we may assume that $i + j \leq D$ as trivial otherwise.

$$f_i(A) f_j(A) = A_i A_j = \sum_{\ell=0}^D p_{ij}^\ell A_\ell = \sum_{\ell=0}^D p_{ij}^\ell f_\ell(A).$$

$$i + j = \deg \text{LHS} \quad (18.3)$$

$$= \deg \text{RHS} \quad (18.4)$$

$$= \max\{\ell \mid p_{ij}^\ell \neq 0\}. \quad (18.5)$$

(iii) \Rightarrow (i)

Let $A = A_1$, and consider a graph Γ with adjacency matrix A .

$$A A_j = \sum_h p_{1j}^h A_h \quad (18.6)$$

$$= p_{1j}^{j+1} A_{j+1} + p_{1j}^j A_j + p_{1j}^{j-1} A_{j-1}. \quad (18.7)$$

Then, $p_{1j}^{j+1} \neq 0 \neq p_{1j}^{j-1}$.

Fix a vertex $x \in X$, and set $R_i(x) = \{y \mid (x, y) \in R_i\}$.

Then each $y \in R_i(x)$ is adjacent in Γ to exactly

$$p_{1,i+1}^i \neq 0 \quad \text{vertices in } R_i(x), \quad (18.8)$$

$$p_{1i}^i \quad \text{vertices in } R_{i+1}(x), \quad (18.9)$$

$$p_{1,i-1}^i \neq 0 \quad \text{vertices in } R_{i-1}(x). \quad (18.10)$$

Hence, by induction,

$$R_i(x) = \{y \mid \partial(x, y) = i \text{ in } \Gamma\} \quad (0 \leq i \leq D), \quad (18.11)$$

and Γ is distance regular.

□

Chapter 19

Commutative Association Schemes

Friday, March 5, 1993

Lemma 19.1. *Let $Y = (X, \{R_i\}_{0 \leq i \leq D})$ be a commutative scheme with Bose-Mesner algebra M .*

Then there exists a basis E_0, E_1, \dots, E_D for M such that

- (i) $E_0 = |X|^{-1}J$.
- (ii) $E_i E_j = E_j E_i = \delta_{ij} E_i \quad (0 \leq i, j \leq D)$.
- (iii) $E_0 + E_1 + \dots + E_D = I$.
- (iv) $E_i^\top = \overline{E_i} = E_{\hat{i}}$ for some $\hat{i} \in \{0, 1, \dots, D\}$.

Proof. M acts on Hermitean space $V = \mathbb{C}^n$ ($n = |X|$).

□

Chapter 20

Title of the Chapter

Wednesday, February 17, 1993 # Edit Date

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Index

association matrix, 104
association scheme, 104
automorphism, 19

bipartite, 13, 17

Cayley graph, 19
character, 22
complete graph, 92
connected, 10

diameter, 29
distance, 10
distance-regular, 69
distance-transitive, 50
dual thin, 42

endpoint, 29

graph, 7

isomorphic, 32

measure, 58
module, 10
multiplicity, 32

path, 9

reducible, 13
regular, 9
restricted, 42

subconstituent algebra, 10
symmetrix, 104

thin, 42

valency, 9
vertex transitive, 19