

# Graph polynomials from Lie algebras

R.Venkatesh, IISc-Bengaluru.

\* Based on a joint work with Kartik Singh.

Some background from Lie algebras:

**Lie algebra:** A Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{g}$  is a v.sp /  $\mathbb{C}$  with the Lie product  $[ ] : \mathfrak{g} \times \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \mathfrak{g}$  st

$$\textcircled{1} \quad [x y] = -[y x] \quad \forall x, y \in \mathfrak{g} \quad (\text{skew-sym})$$

$$\textcircled{2} \quad [x [y z]] = [[x y] z] + [y [x z]] \quad \begin{matrix} (\text{Jacobi identity}) \\ + x, y, z \in \mathfrak{g} \end{matrix}$$

**Ideal  $\mathfrak{g}$ :** A subspace  $I \leq \mathfrak{g}$  is said to be an ideal if  $[x y] \in I, \forall x \in I \text{ and } y \in \mathfrak{g}$ .

**Quotient algebra:** If  $I \trianglelefteq \mathfrak{g}$ , then  $\mathfrak{g}/I$  is naturally a Lie algebra with the lie product  $[x+I, y+I] = [x y] + I$   $\forall x, y \in \mathfrak{g}$ .

**Free Lie algebra:** Let  $X$  be a set and let  $\mathbb{C}\langle X \rangle$  be the free associative algebra generated by  $X$ .

$\mathbb{C}\langle x \rangle$  is a Lie algebra with the Lie bracket

$$[a, b] := ab - ba \quad \text{for all } a, b \in \mathbb{C}\langle x \rangle.$$

usually denote  $[\mathbb{C}\langle x \rangle]$  to emphasize the Lie algebra structure.

$$x \rightarrow [\mathbb{C}\langle x \rangle]$$

$\mathcal{FL}(x) =$  (the Lie-subalgebra generated by

$$\underbrace{x}_{\text{in}} \quad \text{in} \quad [\mathbb{C}\langle x \rangle]$$

Free Lie alg generated by  $x$

Remark:  $[\mathbb{C}\langle x \rangle]$  is in general a very big Lie algebra containing  $x$ . For example  $\mathcal{FL}(x)$  only contains the Lie monomials formed from  $x$ , but  $\mathbb{C}\langle x \rangle$  contains all possible monomials.

Partially Commutative Lie alg :

Let  $G$  be a finite simple connected graph with the vertex set  $I$  and the edge set  $E$ .

Alphabets :  $\{e_i \mid i \in I\}$

relations :  $I(G) = \langle [e_i; e_j] \mid \{i, j\} \notin E \rangle$

$$\mathcal{L}_G = \frac{\mathcal{J}L(I)}{I(G)}$$

the partially  
commutative Lie algebra  
associated with the  
graph  $G$

Grading on  $\mathcal{L}_G$ : Let  $\{\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n\}$  be the standard basis of  $\mathbb{Z}^n$  and let  $Q_+ := \mathbb{Z}_+ - \text{Span}\{\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n\}$ .

$$\text{gr}(e_i) = \alpha_i \quad \text{for } 1 \leq i \leq n$$

gives us a grading on  $\mathcal{L}_G$

$$\mathcal{L}_G = \bigoplus_{\alpha \in Q_+} \mathcal{G}_\alpha$$

Note: **Ex**

$$\mathcal{G}_\alpha = \text{Span}_{\mathbb{C}} \left\{ [e_{i_1}, [e_{i_2}, \dots [e_{i_{k-1}}, e_{i_k}] \dots] \middle| \sum_{r=1}^k \alpha_{i_r} = K \right\}$$

right normed  
Lie words

If  $\alpha = \sum_{i=1}^n k_i \alpha_i$  then  $k_i = \# e_i$  appears in the right normed Lie word

$$[e_{i_1}, [e_{i_2}, \dots [e_{i_{k-1}}, e_{i_k}] \dots]$$

$$\Delta_+ = \{ \alpha \in Q_+ \mid g_\alpha \neq 0 \} \leftarrow \begin{matrix} \text{the set of} \\ \text{roots of } f_G \end{matrix}$$

$$m_\alpha = \dim g_\alpha \quad \text{for } \alpha \in \Delta_+ \leftarrow \text{root multiplicity}$$

**Denominator identity:** Let  $\{x_i\}_{i=1}^n$  be  $n$ -commuting variables.

We have

$$\sum_{S \subseteq \mathcal{L}} (-1)^{|S|} \prod_{i \in S} x_i = \prod_{\alpha \in \Delta_+} (1 - x^\alpha)^{\dim g_\alpha}$$

Multi-variate independent  $x_i$ , by

where

$$\mathcal{L} = \{ S \subseteq V \mid S \text{ is an } \boxed{\text{indep}} \text{ subset of } V \}$$

(there is no edge between vertices of  $S$ )

By def,  $\emptyset$  and singletons are part of  $\mathcal{L}$ .

Example:



$P_4$ .

$$\mathcal{L} = \{ \emptyset, \{1\}, \{2\}, \{3\}, \{4\}, \{1, 3\}, \{2, 4\} \}$$

$$\text{SUM SIDE} = 1 - x_1 - x_2 - x_3 + x_1 x_3 + x_2 x_4$$

PRODUCT SIDE Can be calculated for this example. But in general, it is not that easy to compute.

A pair  $(\mathcal{U}(L_G), f)$  is said to be the universal enveloping alg  $\rightarrow L_G$  if given  $(A, f)$  where  $A$  is an asso. alg and  $f : L_G \rightarrow [A]$  is a Lie alg hom. /  
 $\exists \bar{f} : \mathcal{U}(L_G) \rightarrow A$ , asso. alg homom.

SI The following diagram commutes:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \mathcal{U}(L_G) & \xleftarrow{\text{asso. alg}} & \\
 \downarrow f & \searrow \bar{f} & \leftarrow \text{ass. alg hom} \\
 L_G & \xrightarrow{\quad f \quad} & [A]
 \end{array}$$

Lie alg hom.      Lie alg hom.       $\mathbb{L}$  asso. alg treated as a Lie alg  
 with the Lie bracket  
 $[ab] = ab - ba$

Ex:

$$\mathcal{U}(L_G) = \langle \langle I \rangle \rangle / \langle e_i e_j = e_j e_i \mid \{i, j\} \in E \rangle$$

$\text{gr}(e_i) = \alpha_i$  gives grading on  $\mathcal{U}(L_G)$

The Hilbert series of  $\mathcal{U}(L_G)$ :

Write

$$\mathcal{U}(L_G) = \bigoplus_{\alpha \in Q_+} \mathcal{U}(L_G)_\alpha.$$

where  $\mathcal{U}(L_G)_\alpha = \text{Span}_{\mathbb{C}} \left\{ e_{i_1} \dots e_{i_k} \mid \sum_{r=1}^k \alpha_{i_r} = \alpha \right\}$

The Hilbert series of  $\mathcal{U}(L_G)$  defined to be

$$H_G(x) := \sum_{\alpha \in Q_+} \dim \mathcal{U}(L_G)_\alpha x^\alpha$$

Theorem: [Bourbaki]

$$H_G(x) = \frac{1}{\prod_{\alpha \in \Delta_+} (1 - x^\alpha)^{\dim \mathcal{U}_\alpha}}$$

Pf: follows from PBW theorem.

Theorem: [Cartier-Foata, 1969] [Xavier Viennot, 89]

$$H_G(\underline{x}) = \frac{1}{\sum_{S \subseteq \mathcal{I}_2} (-1)^{|S|} \left( \prod_{i \in S} x_i \right)}$$

Remark: Proof to this theorem is obtained by defining a very explicit involution on  $\mathcal{U}(LG)$ . See Xavier Viennot lecture series on heaps theory.

Chromatic polynomials of graphs from Lie algebras:

$$\left( \sum_{S \subseteq \mathcal{I}_2} (-1)^{|S|} \left( \prod_{i \in S} x_i \right) \right)^{-q} = \sum_{\alpha \in Q_+} (-1)^{|\alpha|} \pi_\alpha^G(-q) x^\alpha$$

↑  
the Hilbert Series  
of the algebra  
 $\mathcal{U}(LG)$

$\alpha$ -Multi-coloring  
chromatic poly-  
nomial of  $G$

$\alpha$ -multi-coloring: let  $q \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $\alpha = \sum_{i=1}^n k_i \alpha_i$

A  $\alpha$ -multi-coloring  $f: I \rightarrow 2^{[q]}$  st  
is a map  $\nwarrow$  Power set of  $\{1, \dots, q\}$

for any vertex  $i \in I$ ,  $|f(i)| = k_i$

and for any adjacent vertices  $i \sim j \in I$  of  $G$   
we have  $f(i) \cap f(j)$  are disjoint.

$$\pi_\alpha^G(q) = \# \text{ } \alpha\text{-multi-coloring of } G$$

Ex:

$$\pi_\alpha^G(q) = \frac{\pi_{G(\alpha)}(q)}{\alpha!}$$

$\nwarrow$  the usual  
chromatic  
polynomial

$$\text{where } \alpha! = \prod_{i=1}^n k_i!$$

and  $G(\alpha)$  is the graph obtained from

$G$  as follows: for each  $i \in I$ , take a  
clique of size  $k_i$  and connect all the

edges of  $i^{\text{th}}$  clique and all the edges of  $j^{\text{th}}$

clique if  $\{i, j\} \in E$ .

Now using  $\sum = \prod$  (denominator identity)

We can get an expression of  $\pi_{\alpha}^G(q)$  in terms of multiplicities of  $L_G$ .

Using Möbius inversion formula, we get

$$\dim g_{\alpha} = \sum_{l|\alpha} \frac{\mu(l)}{l} \left| \pi_{\frac{\alpha}{l}}^G(q)[q] \right|$$

(the coeff of  $q$

in  $\pi_{\alpha}^G(q)$ )

Example:  $G = K_n$  - Complete graph

For  $\alpha = \sum_{i=1}^n k_i \alpha_i$ , we have

$$\pi_{\alpha}^G(q) = \binom{q}{k_1} \binom{q-k_1}{k_2} \cdots \binom{q-(k_1 + \cdots + k_{n-1})}{k_n}$$

$G = T_n$  - tree with  $n$ -vertices

$$\pi_{\alpha}^G(q) = \binom{q-k_1}{k_1} \binom{q-k_2}{k_2} \cdots \binom{q-k_{n-1}}{k_{n-1}} \binom{q}{k_n}$$

where  $I = \{1, \dots, n\}$  ordered such a way that  
 the vertex  $\hat{i}$  is a leaf of the subgraph  $G$   
 $\langle i, i+1, \dots, n \rangle$  and  $i'$  is the unique vertex in  
 $\langle i, i+1, \dots, n \rangle$  that is adjacent to  $\hat{i}$ .

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Matching Polynomial of a graph :

$$\mu(G, x) = \sum_{k \geq 0} (-1)^k m_k(G) x^k$$

where  $m_k(G) = \#$  matchings with  $k$ -edges

( $\uparrow$   
 a matching is a subset  
 $\subseteq E$  such that  
 any two edges from it  
 are not adjacent)

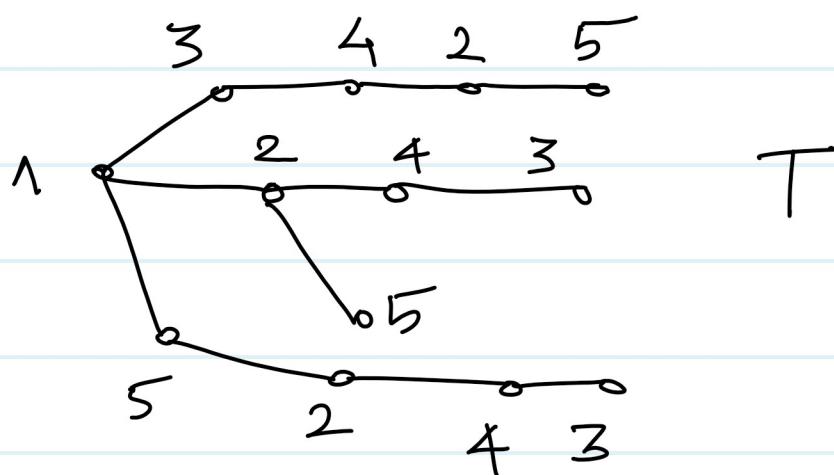
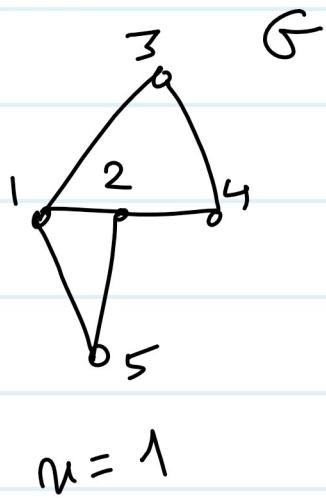
Földsi | Constructed a rooted tree  $(T, r)$

(Godsil path tree) associated to  $G$  st

$$\frac{\mu(G-u, x)}{\mu(G, x)} = \frac{\mu(T-v, x)}{\mu(T, x)}$$

where  $G-u$  is the graph obtained from  $G$  by removing the vertex  $u$  (and the edges adjacent to  $u$ )

### Godsil tree: Example



vertices of  $T$ : all paths starting from  $u$

edges of  $T$ : the edges are the strict inclusions

Remark:

$\mu(T, x)$  is given by the characteristic polynomial of the adjacent matrix

of  $T$

$$\frac{\mu(T-r, x)}{\mu(G-u, x)} = \frac{\mu(T, x)}{\mu(G, x)}$$

$\Rightarrow \mu(G, x)$  divides  $\mu(T, x)$ .

Using this Godsil proved  $\mu(G, x)$  has only real roots and he also obtained sharp bounds on the roots of  $\mu(G, x)$

$G \rightsquigarrow L_G$  - Line graph of  $G$

$$\mu(G, x) = I(L_G, x)$$



independence polynomial  
of  $L_G$

Remark:  $L_G$  is claw-free graph

Chudnovsky and Seymour prove indep poly  
of claw-free graphs have real  
rootedness property in 2007.

Real rootedness  $\Rightarrow$  log-Concavity  $\Rightarrow$  Unimodality  
of the co-eff of the co-eff.

Motivated from this F. Benes (2018)

Constructed a stable-path tree  $T'$  <sup>asso.</sup>

$\rightarrow G$  such that,

$$(*) \quad \frac{I(G-u, x)}{I(G, x)} = \frac{I(T'-r, x)}{I(T', x)}$$

Using this F. Benes constructed many interesting families of graphs whose indp poly has real-rooted property.

(\*) Can be generalized easily to multi

- variate version.

We have,

(\*\*)

$$\frac{I(G-u, \underline{\chi})}{I(G, \underline{\chi})} = \frac{I(T'-r, \underline{\chi})}{I(T, \underline{\chi})}$$

The LHS is the character of  
a highest weight rep of  $\mathfrak{f}_G$

Question: (\*\*) Can it be viewed as  
the identity that follows from the  
isomorphism of reps of  $\mathfrak{f}_G$ ?

Ans: Yes!

$M(G) = \text{Cartier-Foata monoid (or trace monoid)}$   
 $\cong G$

$$\text{Span}_{\mathbb{C}} M(G) = U(\mathbb{F}_G)$$

$$M_u(G) = \{ w \in M(G) \mid IA(w) = \{u\} \}$$

$IA(w) = \text{(the initial alphabet)} \\ \cong w.$

$V_u = \text{Span}_{\mathbb{C}} M_u(G) \leftarrow \text{(the highest weight rep)}$   
 $\cong \mathbb{F}_G$

The Construction of stable-free path  $T'$  asso. to  $G$ :

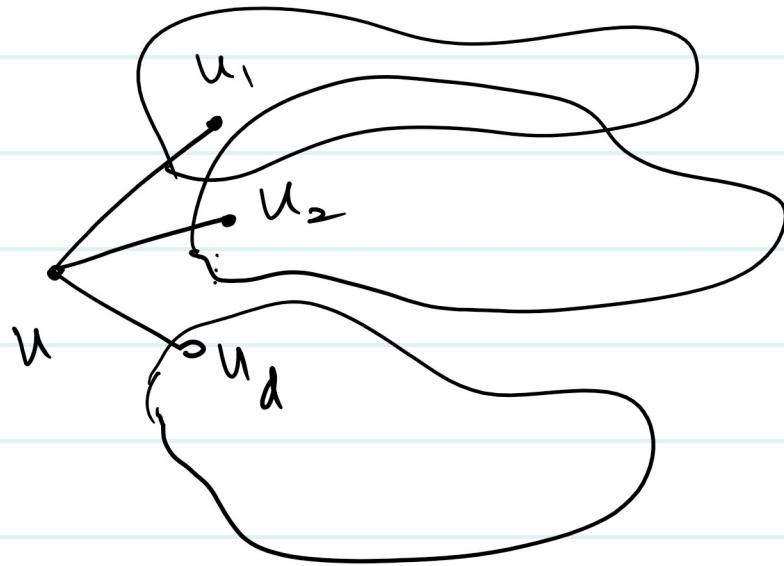
$$I = \{1, \dots, n^2\} \quad \text{fix } u \in I$$

$$u \xrightarrow{\text{wd}} N_G(u) = \{u_1, \dots, u_d\}$$

We recursively construct a rooted tree  $(T', r)$  and a surjective map  $l_G : I(T') \rightarrow I$

If  $d=0$ , then  $G$  is single vertex, take  $T^1 = G$

If  $d \geq 1$



write  $N_G(u) = \{u_1 < \dots < u_d\}$

for  $u_i \in N_G(u)$ , let  $G_i$  be the connected

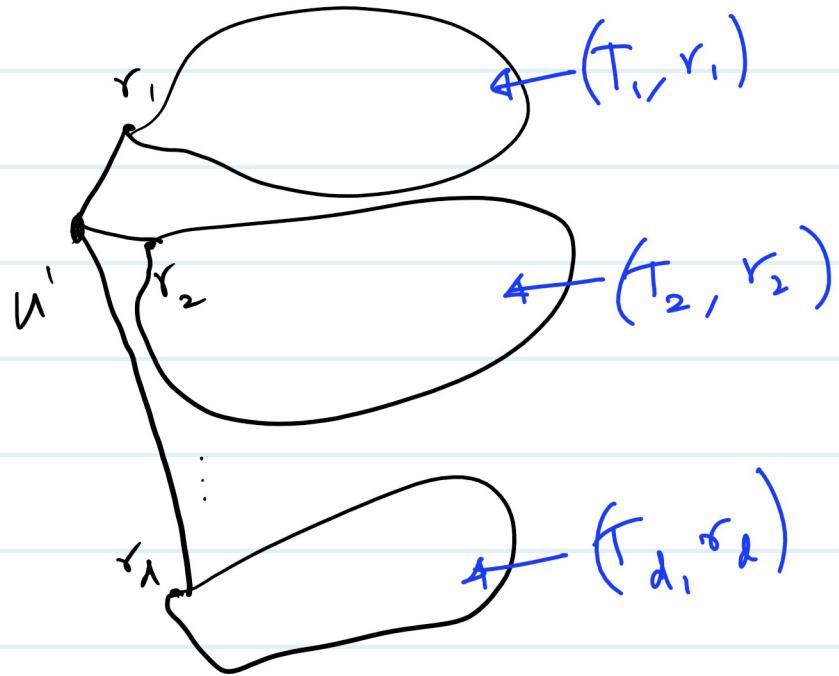
component of  $G \left[ I \setminus \{u, u_1, \dots, u_{i-1}\} \right]$

containing  $u_i$  and we take the induced ordering

on the vertices of  $G_i$ . By induction we have

$$(T_i, r_i) \text{ and } l_{G_i}: I(T_i) \rightarrow I(G_i)$$

$$\text{st } l_G(r_i) = u_i$$



Now take  $\bigsqcup_{i=1}^d (T_i, r_i)$  and  $u'$

vertex and connect  $v'$  with the vertices  $r_i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq d$ ).  $l_G$  - naturally designed.