

Recent progress on graphs with fixed smallest eigenvalue

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(Based on joint work with Akihiro Munemasa (Tohoku University), Masood Ur Rehman (USTC), Jae Young Yang (AHU) and QianQian Yang (USTC))

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Outline

- 1 Introduction
 - Definitions
- 2 Smallest eigenvalue -2
 - Smallest eigenvalue -2
 - A result of Hoffman
- 3 Smallest eigenvalue -3
 - Main result
- 4 Alon-Boppana versus Hoffman
 - Alon-Boppana
 - Some facts about $v(k, \lambda)$
 - Hoffman
- 5 Strongly regular graphs
 - Geometric SRG
 - -3

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Defintion

Graph: $G = (V, E)$ with vertex set V and edge set $E \subseteq \binom{V}{2}$.

- All graphs in this talk are undirected and simple.
- The adjacency matrix A of a graph Γ is the matrix whose rows and columns are indexed by its vertices such that $A_{xy} = 1$ if xy is an edge and 0 otherwise.

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- The eigenvalues of Γ are the eigenvalues of its adjacency matrix.
- In this talk, I will mainly be interested in the smallest eigenvalue of Γ , denoted by λ_{\min} .

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- In the third part, I will also be interested in the second largest eigenvalue.

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Smallest eigenvalue -2

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Note that if I can take N with entries only 0's and 1's, then G is a line graph. So a generalized line graph is a generalization of a line graph.

The following beautiful result was shown by Cameron, Goethals, Seidel, and Shult (1976):

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Let G be a connected graph with smallest eigenvalue at least -2 . Then either G has at most 36 vertices or G is a generalized line graph.

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We give now a sketch of proof for this result.

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- Then Λ is an even lattice, generated by norm two vectors, so it is a root lattice and it is irreducible as G is connected.

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- The irreducible root lattices were classified by Witt, and are of type A_n , D_n or E_6, E_7, E_8 .

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- The irreducible root lattices were classified by Witt, and are of type A_n , D_n or E_6, E_7, E_8 .
- The first two lattices give us generalized line graphs, and for the last three lattices one can show that the number of vertices is at most 36.

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Smallest eigenvalue $-1 - \sqrt{2}$

Hoffman (1977) showed the following result:

Theorem

Let $2 \leq \lambda < 1 + \sqrt{2}$. Then there is constant $K = K(\lambda)$ such that if Γ is a connected graph with minimal valency at least K and smallest eigenvalue $\lambda_{\min} \geq -\lambda$, then Γ is a generalised line graph. In particular, $\lambda_{\min} \geq -2$.

- This result means that there exists a real number $\tau(k) < -2$ such that any connected graph with minimal valency at least k has smallest eigenvalue either at least -2 or at most $\tau(k)$, and $\tau(k) \rightarrow -1 - \sqrt{2}$ ($k \rightarrow \infty$).

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- Woo and Neumaier (1995) generalized this result by Hoffman by going slightly below $-1 - \sqrt{2}$.

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- Note that B has only integral entries.

Rephrasing the results of Cameron et al. and Hoffman

As the generalised line graphs are exactly the graphs with smallest eigenvalue at least -2 which are 1-integrable and any graph represented by E_8 is 2-integrable, we can rephrase the results of Cameron et al. and Hoffman as follows:

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Theorem

Let G be a connected graph with smallest eigenvalue at least -2 . Then G is 2-integrable. And if G has at least 37 vertices, then G is 1-integrable.

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Theorem

Let $2 \leq \lambda < 1 + \sqrt{2}$. Then there is constant $K = K(\lambda)$ such that if Γ is a connected graph with minimal valency at least K and smallest eigenvalue $\lambda_{\min} \geq -\lambda$, then $\lambda_{\min}(\Gamma) \geq -2$ and Γ is 1-integrable.

Can we generalize these two results to graphs with smallest eigenvalue at least -3 ?

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Main result

Our main result is:

Theorem

There exists a constant $K > 0$ such that any connected graph G with minimal valency at least K and λ_{\min} at least -3 is 2-integrable.

Remarks

- The meaning is that a graph with large minimal valency and λ_{\min} at least -3 is still a structured graph, like a generalized line graph, but of course more complicated than a generalized line graph.

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- Adding three vertices to the McLaughlin graph with parameters $(275, 162, 105, 81)$, K., Munemasa, Rehman and Yang showed that $K \geq 166$. We will come back to this later.
- We only know an implicit upper bound for K , but certainly our bound is far from the true value.
- We have a family of connected non 2-integrable graphs with unbounded number of vertices and smallest eigenvalue at least -3 (using the same srg as above). So this means that to generalize the result of Cameron et al. may be difficult.

- The proof is a combination of the techniques used in the result of Cameron et al. of 1976 and the result of Hoffman of 1977.

One conjecture and a question

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Conjecture and Question

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- Can we extend our result to smallest eigenvalue -4 ?
- Our method can not be extended to -4 .
- If this is true then I believe you can easily replace -4 by any negative integer.

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- For $k \geq 3$ integer and all real $\lambda \geq 2\sqrt{k-1}$, it is known that $v(k, \lambda)$ is infinite.
- Reason: For all integers $k \geq 3$, there exists an infinite family of bipartite k -regular Ramanujan graphs as found by Marcus, Spielman, and Srivastava (2015)

Alon-Boppana Theorem

What about if λ is smaller with respect to k ?

Alon-Boppana Theorem

What about if λ is smaller with respect to k ? The Alon-Boppana Theorem states:

Theorem

For any integer $k \geq 3$ and real number $\lambda < 2\sqrt{k-1}$, the number $v(k, \lambda)$ is finite.

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- Cioabă et al. (2016) showed $v(k, 1) = 2k + 2$ when $k \geq 11$. The equality case is obtained by the complement of the line graph of $K_{2,k+1}$, or, equivalently, $K_{k+1,k+1}$ minus a perfect matching. We denote this graph by $\tilde{K}_{k+1,k+1}$.

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- Also they showed $2k + 2 \leq v(k, 1) \leq 2k + 6$ for all $k \geq 2$.

J.Y. Yang and myself showed the following result when $k \gg \lambda$:

Theorem

Let λ be an integer at least 1. Then there exists a constant $C_1(\lambda)$ such that $2k + 2 \leq v(k, \lambda) \leq 2k + C_1(\lambda)$ holds for all $k > \frac{\lambda^2 + 4}{4}$.

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- The lower bound is easy as $v(k, \lambda) \geq v(k, 0) \geq 2k + 2$ if $k \geq 3$ and $\lambda \geq 0$.
- Before I discuss the proof I would like to discuss the number $T(\lambda)$.

- For a non-negative integer λ , define

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- This shows that $T(\lambda) \geq 2\lambda$.
- Conjecture: $T(\lambda) = 2\lambda$.

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Using the theory of Hoffman graphs we were able to show:

Proposition

Let λ be a real number at least 1. Then there exists a constant $M(\lambda) \geq \lambda^3$ such that, if G is a graph satisfying

- (i) every pair of vertices at distance 2 has at least $M(\lambda)$ common neighbors,
- (ii) the smallest eigenvalue of G , $\lambda_{\min}(G)$, satisfies $\lambda_{\min}(G) \geq -\lambda$,

then G has diameter 2 and any vertex x has at most $\lfloor \lambda \rfloor \lfloor \lambda^2 \rfloor$ non-neighbours in G .

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Our main result follows fairly straightforward from this proposition.

More applications

Co-edge-regular graph

A graph G is co-edge-regular with parameters (v, k, c_2) , is a k -regular graph with v vertices and with the property that every pair of non-adjacent vertices has exactly c_2 common neighbours.

By applying the proposition and the Alon-Boppana Theorem we obtain:

Theorem

Let λ be a positive real number. Then, there exists a positive integer $C_2(\lambda)$ such for any co-edge regular graph G with parameters (v, k, c_2) and smallest eigenvalue at least $-\lambda$, at least one of the following holds:

- $c_2 \leq C_2(\lambda)$;
- $v - k - 1 \leq \frac{(\lambda-1)^2}{4} + 1$.

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 - Using the complements of the bipartite Ramanujan graphs as constructed by Marcus et al., one can see that bound in the second item is sharp.

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 - $v - k - 1 \leq \frac{(\lambda-1)^2}{4} + 1$.
- Our bound for $C_2(\lambda)$ is very large.
 - Using the complements of the bipartite Ramanujan graphs as constructed by Marcus et al., one can see that bound in the second item is sharp.
 - We can also obtain a similar result for amply regular graphs.

Strongly Regular Graphs

A graph Γ on n vertices is called **strongly regular** (srg) with parameters (n, k, λ, μ) if Γ is k -regular and two distinct vertices have λ resp. μ common neighbours depending whether they are adjacent or not.

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Geometric SRG

- Recall that if Γ is SRG with smallest ev λ_{\min} then a maximal clique has order at most $1 + \frac{k}{-\lambda_{\min}}$ and a clique with this order is called a *Delsarte* clique.

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- A SRG is called *geometric* if the edge set can be partitioned into Delsarte cliques.
- Examples of geometric SRG: $t \times t$ -grid, $T(n)$, and so on.
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- A SRG is called *geometric* if the edge set can be partitioned into Delsarte cliques.
- Examples of geometric SRG: $t \times t$ -grid, $T(n)$, and so on.
- It is easy to see that a geometric SRG is 1-integrable.
- Also the regular complete multipartite graphs are 1-integrable.

SRG with smallest ev -2

- The square grid graphs, the triangular graphs and the Cocktail Party graphs are all 1-integrable.

SRG with smallest ev -2

- The square grid graphs, the triangular graphs and the Cocktail Party graphs are all 1-integrable.
- All other srg with smallest ev -2 are 2-integrable, but not 1-integrable.

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- First the complement of the Sims-Gewirtz graph, the unique srg SG with parameters $(56, 45, 36, 36)$.
- One way to construct SG is to take the quasi-symmetric $2-(21, 6, 4)$ -design. Two distinct blocks of this design intersect in either 2 or 0 points.
- Now SG has as vertices the blocks and two are adjacent if they intersect in two points. As $\lambda_{\min}(SG) = -3$, it is easily seen that SG is 2-integrable using the point-block incidence matrix.

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- One way to construct SG is to take the quasi-symmetric $2-(21, 6, 4)$ -design. Two distinct blocks of this design intersect in either 2 or 0 points.
- Now SG has as vertices the blocks and two are adjacent if they intersect in two points. As $\lambda_{\min}(SG) = -3$, it is easily seen that SG is 2-integrable using the point-block incidence matrix.
- It is not so difficult to show that SG is not 1-integrable.

- The complement of the generalized quadrangle $GQ(3, 9)$ is the unique strongly regular graph \overline{GQ} with parameters $(112, 81, 60, 54)$.
- It can be shown that it is not 2-integrable. We used the eigenspace of -3 to show this.

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- It can be shown that it is not 2-integrable. We used the eigenspace of -3 to show this.
- \overline{GQ} is the second subconstituent of the complement, McL , of the McLaughlin graph, the srg with parameters $(275, 162, 105, 81)$.
- This is the graph we used in the first part.

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- We do not know whether HS is 4-integrable.

Thank you for your attention.