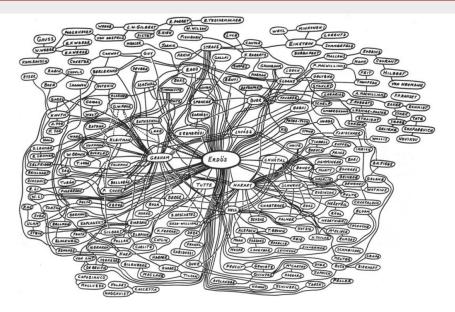
# General spectral graph theory: The inverse eigenvalue problem of a graph

#### Jephian C.-H. Lin

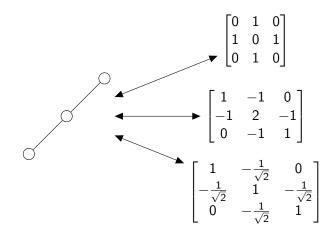
#### Department of Mathematics and Statistics, University of Victoria

#### Nov 18, 2017 Combinatorial Potlatch, Victoria, BC



Sources: Easley and Kleinberg (2010)

# Spectral graph theory



Math & Stats, University of Victoria

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# Dragoš Cvetković Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts



Sources: Cvetković's website

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## Cvetković's inertia bound

The inertia of a matrix A is  $(n_+(A), n_-(A), n_0(A))$ , which are the number of positive, negative, and zero eigenvalues of A, respectively.

#### Theorem (Cvetković 1971)

Let G be a graph and A its adjacency matrix. Then

$$\alpha(G) \leq \min\{n - n_+(A), n - n_-(A)\},\$$

where  $\alpha(G)$  is the independence number.

# Chris Godsil University of Waterloo



Sources: FreeTechBooks

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# Godsil's Lemma

Let G be a graph. The path cover number P(G) is the minimum number of disjoint induced paths that can cover G.

#### Theorem (Godsil 1984)

Let G be a tree with adjacency matrix A. Then

 $m_{\lambda}(A) \leq P(G)$ 

for any eigenvalue  $\lambda$  of A.

## General spectral graph theory

Given a grpah G on n vertices, consider the family S(G) of  $n \times n$  real symmetric matrices M with

$$\begin{cases} M_{i,j} = 0 & \text{if } i \neq j \text{ and } \{i,j\} \text{ is not an edge}, \\ M_{i,j} \neq 0 & \text{if } i \neq j \text{ and } \{i,j\} \text{ is an edge}, \\ M_{i,j} \in \mathbb{R} & \text{if } i = j. \end{cases}$$

Thus, S(G) includes the adjacency matrix, the Laplacian matrix, and so on.



## The general version of Cvetković's inertia bound

#### Theorem

Let G be a graph and  $A \in \mathcal{S}(G)$  with zero diagonal entries. Then

$$\alpha(G) \leq \min\{n - n_+(A), n - n_-(A)\},\$$

#### where $\alpha(G)$ is the independence number.

- Sinkovic (2017) proved Paley 17 is an example where the inertia bound is not tight. (So far, all known constructions are related to Paley 17.)
- He is going to talk about it at the Joint Meeting 2018 in San Diego!

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Indeed, for any tree, there is a matrix A with an eigenvalue λ such that m<sub>λ</sub>(A) = P(G).

Image: A = 1

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## Domination number

Let G be a graph. The domination number  $\gamma(G)$  is the minimum cardinality of a set X such that

$$\bigcup_{x\in X} N_G[x] = V(G).$$

The total domination number  $\gamma^t(G)$  is the minimum cardinality of a set X such that

$$\bigcup_{x\in X}N_G(x)=V(G).$$

For example,  $\gamma(P_3) = 1$  but  $\gamma^t(P_3) = 2$ .

- Greedy algorithm follows the problem solving heuristic of making the locally optimal choice at each stage with the hope of finding a global optimum.
- For solving a maze, you may keep going straight at fork. But it might lead you to a dead end.
- For a coloring problem, you may keep using the smallest free number to color the next vertex, showing χ(G) ≤ Δ(G) + 1.
- Greedy algorithm for domination number: When X are chosen and not yet dominate the whole graph, pick a vertex v such that

$$N_G[v] \setminus \bigcup_{x \in X} N_G[x] \neq \emptyset.$$

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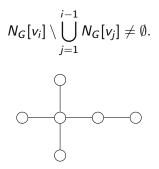
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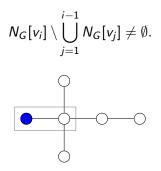
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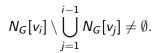
The Grundy domination number  $\gamma_{gr}(G)$  is the length of the longest sequence  $(v_1, v_2, \ldots, v_k)$  such that

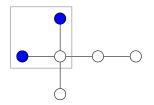


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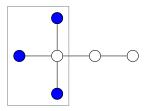
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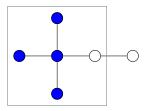
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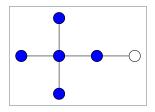
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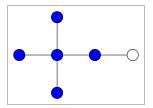
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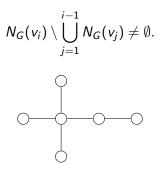
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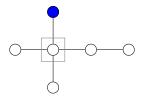
So 
$$\gamma_{\rm gr}(G) = 5$$
.

The Grundy total domination number  $\gamma_{gr}^t(G)$  is the length of the longest sequence  $(v_1, v_2, \ldots, v_k)$  such that



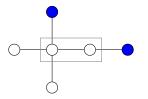
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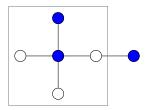
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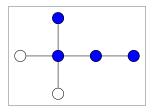
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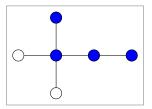
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So 
$$\gamma_{\rm gr}^t(G) = 4$$
.

## Rank bound

Theorem (L 2017)

Let G be a graph. Then

 $\gamma_{\rm gr}({\it G}) \leq {\rm rank}({\it A})$ 

for any  $A \in \mathcal{S}(G)$  with diagonal entries all nonzero; and

 $\gamma_{
m gr}^t(G) \leq 
m rank(A)$ 

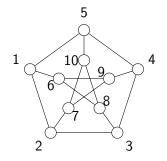
for any  $A \in \mathcal{S}(G)$  with zero diagonal.

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Let P be the Petersen graph. Consider

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} C - I & I_5 \\ I_5 & C' - I \end{bmatrix} \text{ and } B = \begin{bmatrix} C & I_5 \\ I_5 & -C' \end{bmatrix},$$

where C and C' are the adjacency matrix of  $C_5$  and  $\overline{C_5}$ , respectively. Then  $\gamma_{\rm gr}(P) \leq \operatorname{rank}(A) = 5$  and the sequence (1, 2, 3, 4, 5) is optimal.

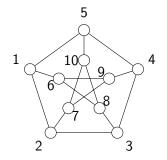


General spectral graph theory: IEPG

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where *C* and *C'* are the adjacency matrix of  $C_5$  and  $\overline{C_5}$ , respectively. Then  $\gamma_{\text{gr}}^t(G) \leq \text{rank}(B) = 6$  and the sequence (9, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5) is optimal.



### Proof of the theorem

- Goal: Show γ<sub>gr</sub>(G) ≤ rank(A) for all A ∈ S(G) with nonzero diagonal entries.
- Key: Permutation does not change the rank, and the dominating sequence gives an echelon form.

Pick an optimal sequence  $(v_1, \ldots, v_k)$  and a matrix A. Let  $N_i$  be the vertices dominated by  $v_i$  but not any vertex before  $v_i$ .



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# Z-Grundy domination number and zero forcing number

The Z-Grundy domination number  $\gamma_{gr}^{Z}(G)$  is the length of the longest sequence  $(v_1, v_2, \ldots, v_k)$  such that

$$N_G(v_i)\setminus \bigcup_{j=1}^{i-1}N_G[v_i]\neq \emptyset.$$

Theorem (Brešar et al. 2017; L 2017) For any graph,  $\gamma_{gr}^{Z}(G) \leq \operatorname{rank}(A)$  for any matrix  $A \in \mathcal{S}(G)$ .

Theorem (AIM 2008)

For any graph,  $null(A) \leq Z(G)$  for any matrix  $A \in S(G)$ .

- Here Z(G) is the zero forcing number defined through a graph searching process.
- Brešar et al. proved that  $Z(G) = |V(G)| \gamma_{gr}^{Z}(G)$ .

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### Upper bound for the multiplicity

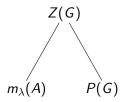
Recall that null(A − λI) = m<sub>λ</sub>(A), while A ∈ S(G) if and only if A − λI ∈ S(G).

## Theorem (AIM 2008)

For any graph G and a matrix  $A \in \mathcal{S}(G)$ ,

 $m_{\lambda}(A) \leq Z(G)$  for all eigenvalue  $\lambda$  of A.

Theorem (Johnson and Leal Duarte 1999) Let G be a tree and  $A \in S(G)$ . Then



 $m_{\lambda}(A) \leq P(G)$  for any eigenvalue  $\lambda$  of A.

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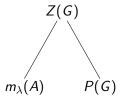
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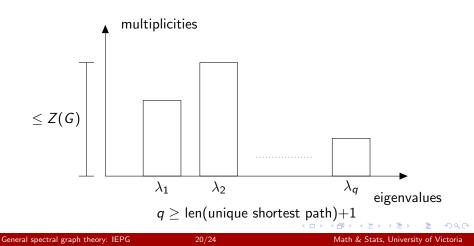


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 for any eigenvalue  $\lambda$  of  $A$ .

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Inverse eigenvalue problem of a graph

The inverse eigenvalue problem of a graph (IEPG) aims to find all spectra in S(G) for a given graph.





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Math & Stats, University of Victoria