

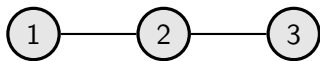
Parameters related to the minimum rank problem

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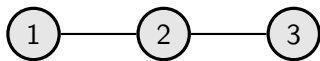
Dec 2, 2014
Preliminary Exam

Minimum rank problem



$$\begin{bmatrix} ? & * & 0 \\ * & ? & * \\ 0 & * & ? \end{bmatrix}$$

Minimum rank problem

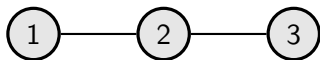


$$\begin{bmatrix} ? & * & 0 \\ * & ? & * \\ 0 & * & ? \end{bmatrix}$$

Real, Symmetric

What is the smallest possible rank?

Minimum rank problem



$$\begin{bmatrix} ? & * & 0 \\ * & ? & * \\ 0 & * & ? \end{bmatrix}$$

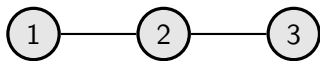


$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

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What is the smallest possible rank?

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$$\begin{bmatrix} ? & * & 0 \\ * & ? & * \\ 0 & * & ? \end{bmatrix}$$

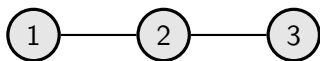


$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Real, Symmetric
What is the smallest possible rank?

$$\xrightarrow{\text{rank}} 3$$

Minimum rank problem



$$\begin{bmatrix} ? & * & 0 \\ * & ? & * \\ 0 & * & ? \end{bmatrix}$$

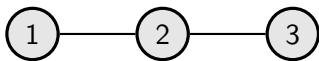


$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Real, Symmetric
What is the smallest possible rank?

spectrum → $1, 1 \pm \sqrt{2}$

Minimum rank problem



$$\begin{bmatrix} ? & * & 0 \\ * & ? & * \\ 0 & * & ? \end{bmatrix}$$

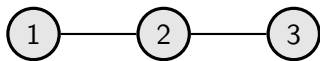


$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Real, Symmetric

What is the smallest possible rank?

Minimum rank problem



$$\begin{bmatrix} ? & * & 0 \\ * & ? & * \\ 0 & * & ? \end{bmatrix}$$



$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Real, Symmetric
What is the smallest possible rank?

rank \longrightarrow 2

Minimum rank problem

- ▶ Let G be a simple graph.
- ▶ Denote $\mathcal{S}^F(G)$ as the family of **symmetric** matrices over the field F whose i, j -entry, $i \neq j$, is nonzero if $i \sim j$ and zero otherwise. (Diagonal entries are free.)
- ▶ The **minimum rank** of G is defined as

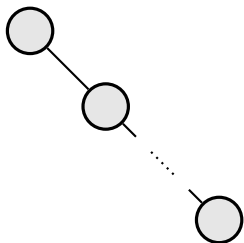
$$\text{mr}^F(G) = \min\{\text{rank}(A) : A \in \mathcal{S}^F(G)\}.$$

The **maximum nullity** is

$$M^F(G) = \max\{\text{null}(A) : A \in \mathcal{S}^F(G)\}.$$

- ▶ $M^F(G) + \text{mr}^F(G) = |V(G)|$ for any G and F .

Example: Paths P_n



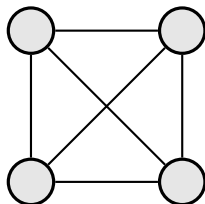
$$\begin{bmatrix} -1 & 1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ \mathbf{1} & -2 & 1 & & \vdots \\ 0 & \mathbf{1} & \ddots & \ddots & 0 \\ \vdots & & \ddots & -2 & 1 \\ 0 & \cdots & 0 & \mathbf{1} & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$M(G) \neq 0$ for all G .

$M(G) = 1$ iff G is a path.

[Fiedler (1969), Bento and Leal Duarte (2005)]

Example: Complete Graphs K_n



$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$M(G) = n \text{ iff } G = \overline{K_n}.$$
$$M(G) = n - 1 \text{ iff } G = K_n \dot{\cup} \overline{K_m}, n \geq 2.$$

Inverse eigenvalue problem



$$\begin{bmatrix} ? & * & 0 \\ * & ? & * \\ 0 & * & ? \end{bmatrix}$$

Real, Symmetric

What is the possible spectrum?

- ▶ We know $\text{mr}(G) = 2$ and $M(G) = 1$ and $\text{Spec} = \{1, 1 \pm \sqrt{2}\}$ is possible.
- ▶ Can $\text{Spec} = \{1, 5, 5\}$?
- ▶ No, for otherwise $\text{null}(A - 5I) = 2 > M(G)$.
- ▶ Largest possible multiplicity = $M(G)$.

Inverse eigenvalue problem



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Inverse eigenvalue problem



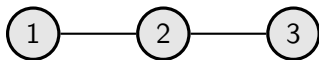
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Inverse eigenvalue problem

Theorem (K. H. Monfared, B. L. Shader 2013)

For a graph G and *distinct* real numbers $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n$, there is a matrix $A \in \mathcal{S}^{\mathbb{R}}(G)$ such that the spectrum of A is $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n$.

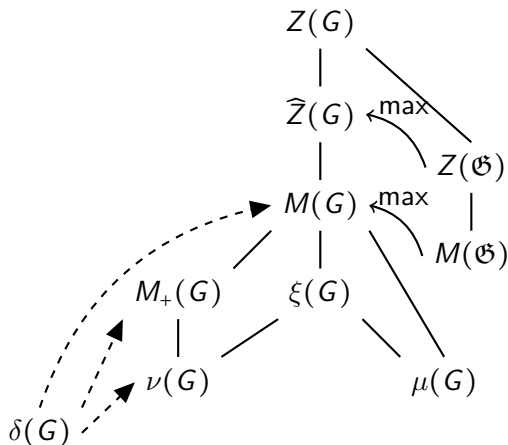
Inverse eigenvalue problem

Theorem (K. H. Monfared, B. L. Shader 2013)

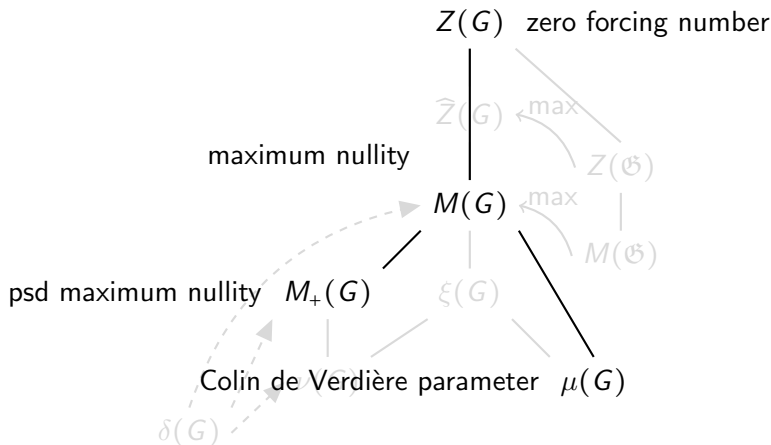
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For the case multiplicity $\neq 1$, it is still unknown, but the minimum rank problem provides a restriction.

The landscape of minimum rank problems

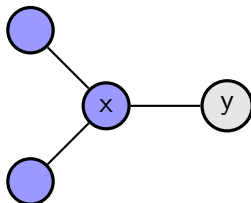


The landscape of minimum rank problems



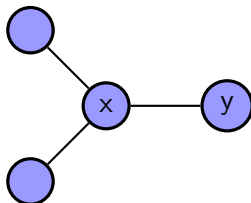
Zero forcing number

- ▶ A **zero forcing game** on a simple graph G starts by setting a set $B \subseteq V(G)$ of vertices **blue** and the others **white**, and then repeatedly applies the **color-change rule (CCR)**:
 - ▶ if $y \in V(G)$ is the only **white** neighbor of $x \in V(G)$ and x is **blue**, then y turns **blue**.



Zero forcing number

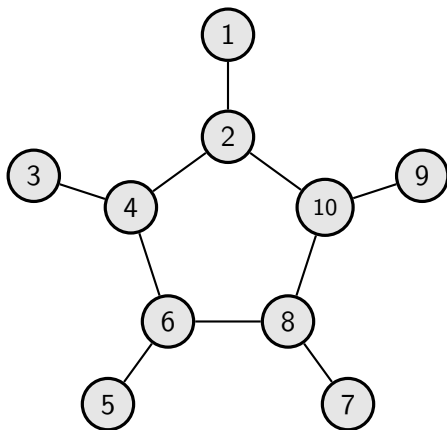
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Zero forcing number

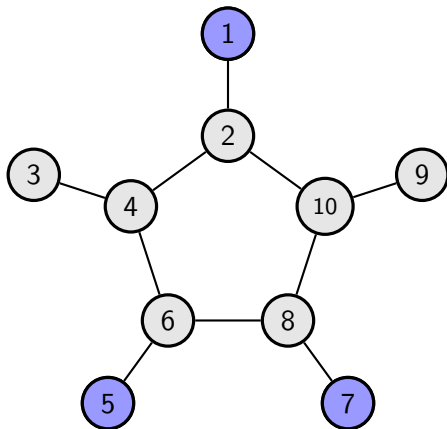
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 - ▶ if $y \in V(G)$ is the only **white** neighbor of $x \in V(G)$ and x is **blue**, then y turns **blue**.
- ▶ The **final coloring** is the set of blue vertices when no more CCR applies.
- ▶ The initial set B is called a **zero forcing set** if its final coloring is $V(G)$.
- ▶ The **zero forcing number** of G , denoted as $Z(G)$, is the minimum cardinality of a zero forcing set on G .

Example: 5-sun H_5



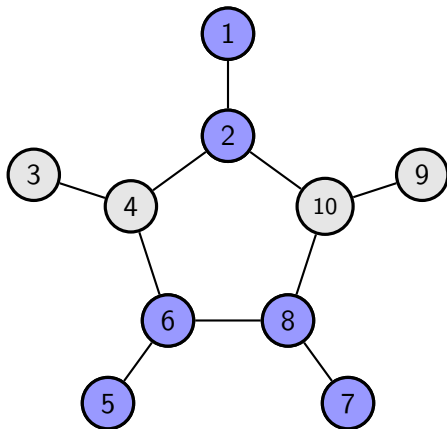
$$Z(H_5) = 3.$$

Example: 5-sun H_5



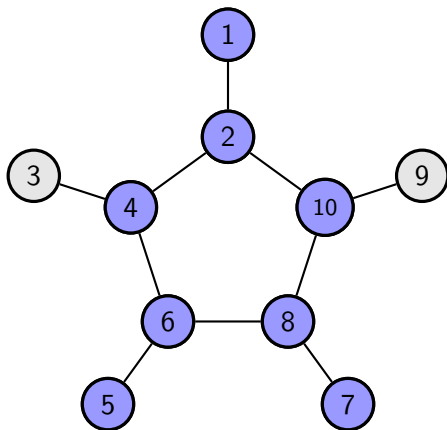
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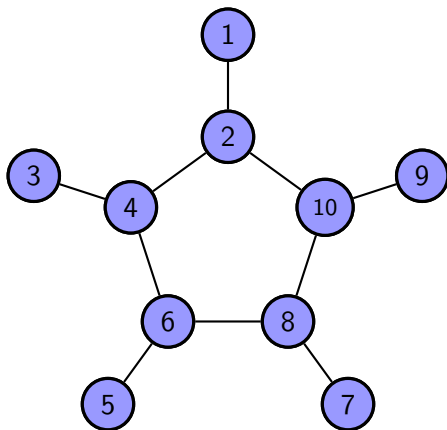
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Example: 5-sun H_5



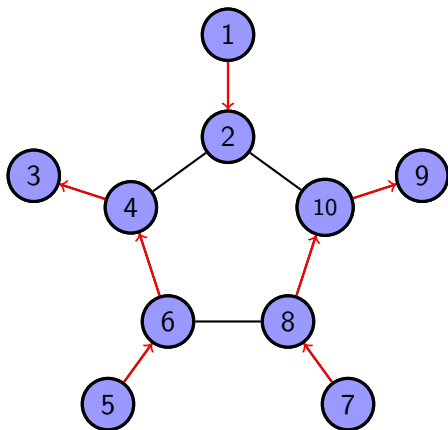
$$Z(H_5) = 3.$$

Example: 5-sun H_5



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Example: 5-sun H_5



$$Z(H_5) = 3.$$

Triangle number

- ▶ Let Q be a pattern (a matrix with entries $\in \{0, *, ?\}$).
- ▶ An upper triangular subpattern is a square submatrix of Q such that the lower part is all 0 , diagonals are $*$.
- ▶ The **triangle number** of Q , denoted as $\text{tri}(Q)$, is the largest size of an upper triangular subpattern that can be found in Q through row/column permutations.

$$\begin{bmatrix} * & 0 & 0 \\ ? & * & ? \\ 0 & 0 & * \end{bmatrix} \longrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} ? & * & ? \\ * & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & * \end{bmatrix} \longrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} * & ? & ? \\ 0 & * & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & * \end{bmatrix}$$

- ▶ If Q is the pattern of a graph G , then $\text{mr}(G) \geq \text{tri}(Q)$ and $M(G) \leq n - \text{tri}(Q)$.

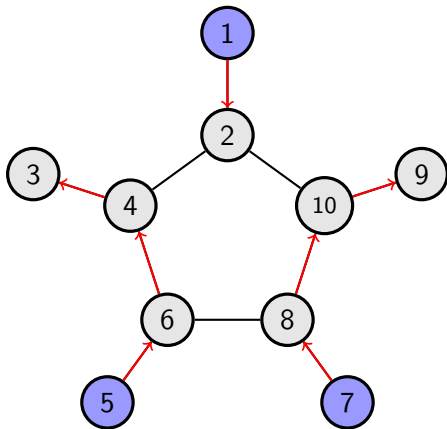
Triangle number of H_5 ?

The pattern Q below is the pattern for H_5 . What is $\text{tri}(Q)$?

$$\begin{bmatrix} ? & * & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ * & ? & 0 & * & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & * \\ 0 & 0 & ? & * & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & * & * & ? & 0 & * & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & ? & * & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & * & * & ? & 0 & * & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & ? & * & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & * & * & ? & 0 & * \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & ? & * \\ 0 & * & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & * & * & ? \end{bmatrix}$$

Triangle number of H_5 ?

1 \rightarrow 2
5 \rightarrow 6
7 \rightarrow 8
6 \rightarrow 4
8 \rightarrow 10
4 \rightarrow 3
10 \rightarrow 9



Triangle number of H_5 ?

$\text{tri}(Q) = 7$ and $Z(H_5) = 3$.

	1	5	7	6	8	4	10	2	3	9
2	*	0	0	0	0	*	*	?	0	0
6	0	*	0	?	*	*	0	0	0	0
8	0	0	*	*	?	0	*	0	0	0
4	0	0	0	*	0	?	0	*	*	0
10	0	0	0	0	*	0	?	*	0	*
3	0	0	0	0	0	*	0	0	?	0
9	0	0	0	0	0	0	*	0	0	?
1	?	0	0	0	0	0	0	*	0	0
5	0	?	0	*	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	0	0	?	0	*	0	0	0	0	0

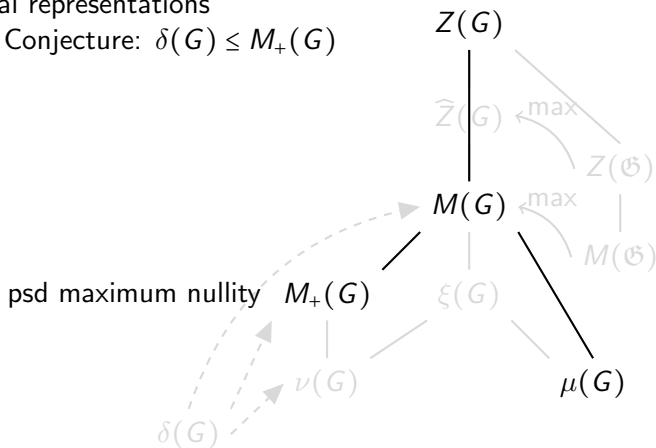
Zero forcing vs Triangle

- ▶ Number of **forces** $x_i \rightarrow y_i =$ **size** of triangle.
- ▶ $Z(G) = n - \text{tri}(Q)$, where Q is the pattern of G .
- ▶ $M^F(G) \leq Z(G)$, for any simple graph G , any field F [AIM Group 2007].
- ▶ It doesn't matter if $\mathcal{S}^F(G)$ is defined to be symmetric or not.
- ▶ $M(G) = Z(G)$ when $|V(G)| \leq 7$ or G is a tree, a cycle, a complete bipartite graph, ...
- ▶ $Z(H_5) = 3$ but $M(H_5) = 2$.

The landscape of minimum rank problems

orthogonal representations

Maehara Conjecture: $\delta(G) \leq M_+(G)$



PSD maximum nullity

- ▶ Denote $\mathcal{S}^{\mathbb{F}}(G)$ as the family of **symmetric** matrices over \mathbb{F} whose i, j -entry, $i \neq j$, is nonzero if $i \sim j$ and zero otherwise. (Diagonal entries are free.)
- ▶ $\mathbb{F} = \mathbb{R}$, or \mathbb{C} .
- ▶ $\text{mr}_+^{\mathbb{F}}(G) = \min\{\text{rank}(A) : A \in \mathcal{S}^{\mathbb{F}}(G), A \text{ is psd}\}$.
- ▶ $M_+^{\mathbb{F}}(G) = \max\{\text{null}(A) : A \in \mathcal{S}^{\mathbb{F}}(G), A \text{ is psd}\}$.

PSD Decomposition

- ▶ Let A be an $n \times n$ (symmetric) psd matrix with $\text{rank}(A) = r$.
- ▶ Then

$$S^* S = \begin{bmatrix} - & v_1^* & - \\ - & v_2^* & - \\ & \vdots & \\ - & v_n^* & - \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} | & | & \dots & | \\ v_1 & v_2 & & v_n \\ | & | & & | \end{bmatrix} = [\langle v_i, v_j \rangle],$$

where $v_j \in \mathbb{F}^r$.

Orthogonal representation (faithful)



$$S^* S = \begin{bmatrix} - & v_1^* & - \\ - & v_2^* & - \\ & \vdots & \\ - & v_n^* & - \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} | & | & \dots & | \\ v_1 & v_2 & \dots & v_n \\ | & | & & | \end{bmatrix} = [\langle v_i, v_j \rangle],$$

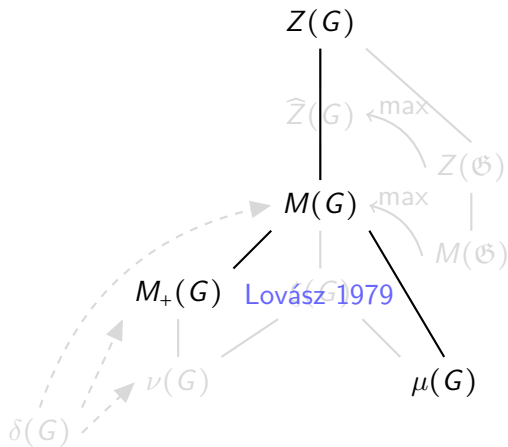
where $v_i \in \mathbb{F}^r$.

- ▶ A (faithful) **orthogonal representation** is a function:

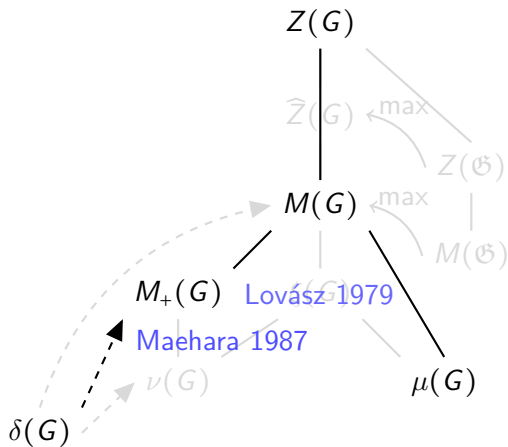
$$\begin{array}{l} V(G) \longrightarrow \mathbb{F}^d \\ i \longmapsto v_i \end{array} \text{ such that } \langle v_i, v_j \rangle \begin{cases} \neq 0 & \text{if } i \sim j \\ = 0 & \text{if } i \not\sim j. \end{cases}$$

- ▶ For a given graph G , $\min r = \min d$, so $M_+(G) = n - \min d$.

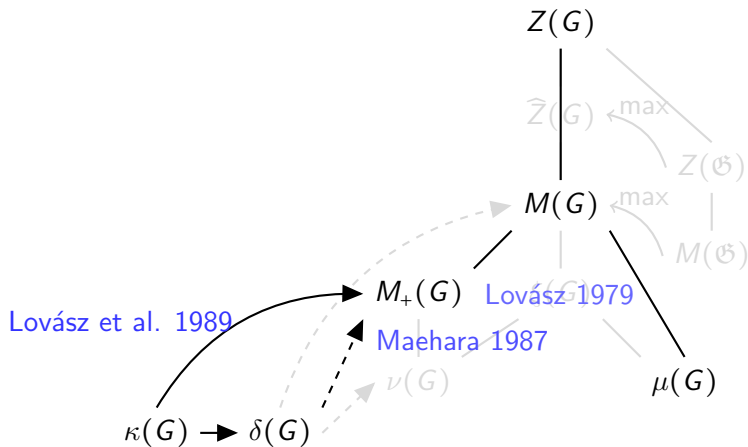
delta conjecture



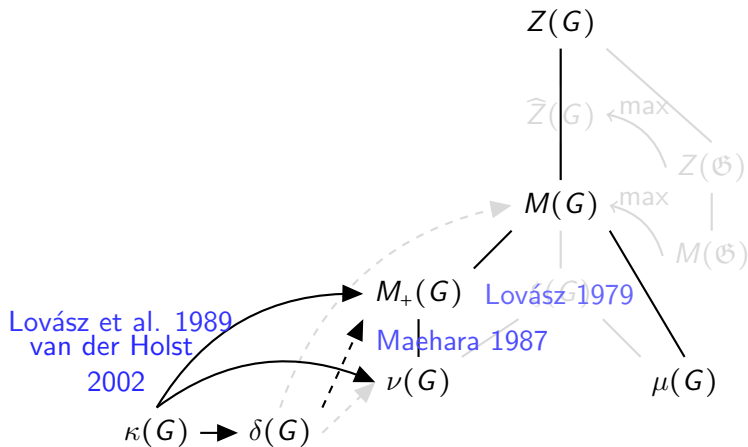
delta conjecture



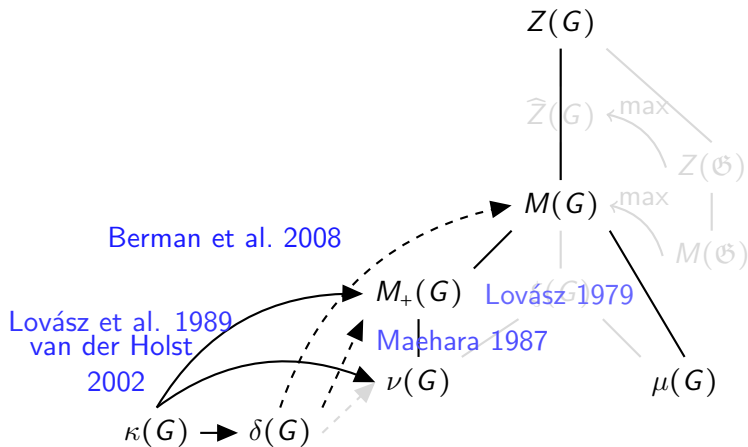
delta conjecture



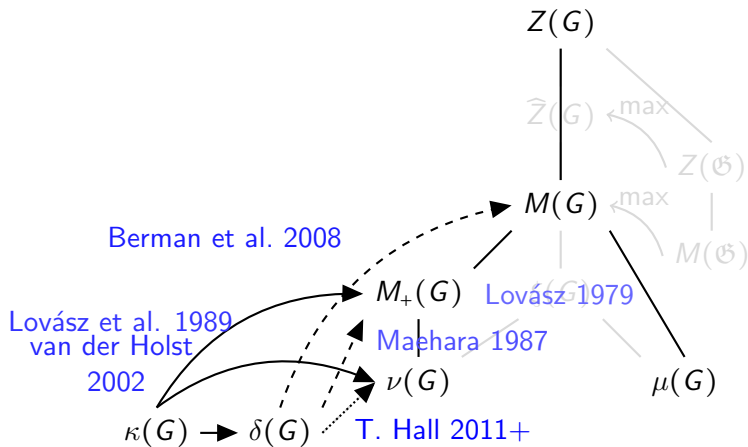
delta conjecture



delta conjecture



delta conjecture



What is ν ?

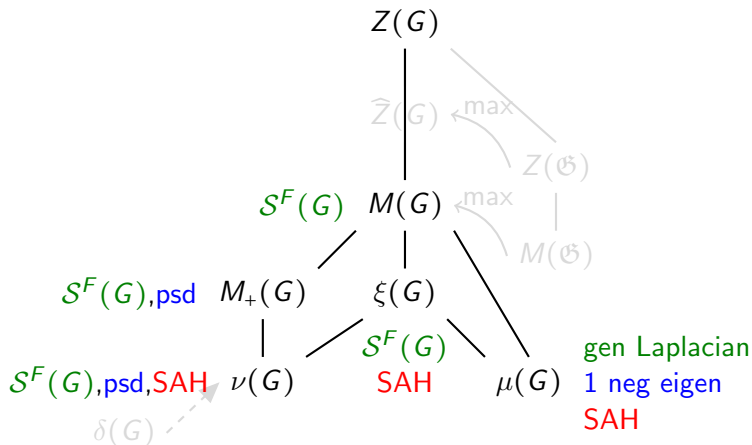
- ▶ We say a matrix A satisfies **strong Arnol'd Hypothesis (SAH)** if there is **no** nonzero symmetric matrix X satisfying

$$\begin{cases} I \circ X = O \\ A \circ X = O \\ AX = O \end{cases},$$

where \circ is the Hadamard (entrywise) product.

- ▶ $\nu(G) = \max\{\text{null}(A) : A \in \mathcal{S}^{\mathbb{R}}(G), A \text{ is psd, SAH}\}$
- ▶ Colin de Verdière (1998) proved that if H is a minor of G , then $\nu(H) \leq \nu(G)$.

Colin de Verdière type parameters



Colin de Verdière parameter μ

- ▶ $\mu(G)$ is defined as the maximum nullity among matrices M with the following properties:

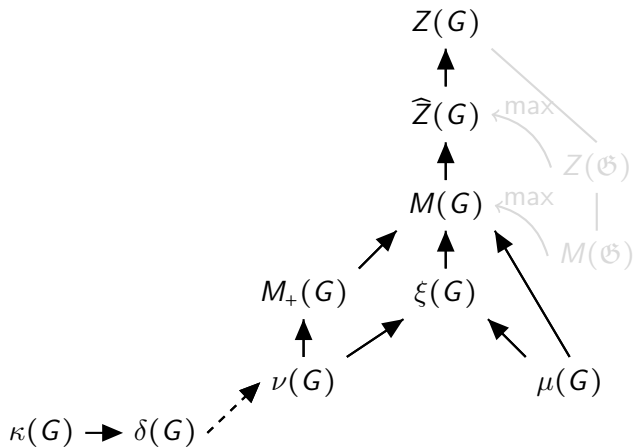
- ▶ **Generalized Laplacian:** $M_{ij} \begin{cases} < 0 & \text{if } i \sim j, i \neq j \\ = 0 & \text{if } i \not\sim j, i \neq j \\ \text{free} & \text{if } i = j \end{cases} .$

- ▶ M has exactly **one negative eigenvalue**.
- ▶ M satisfies **SAH**.
- ▶ $\mu(G)$ bridges **algebraic** and **topological** properties of a graph [Colin de Verdière, Robertson et al., Lovász et al.]:
 - ▶ $\mu(G) \leq 1$ iff G is a disjoint union of paths;
 - ▶ $\mu(G) \leq 2$ iff G is outerplanar;
 - ▶ $\mu(G) \leq 3$ iff G is planar;
 - ▶ $\mu(G) \leq 4$ iff G is linklessly embeddable.
- ▶ Colin de Verdière conjectured $\chi(G) \leq \mu(G) + 1$.

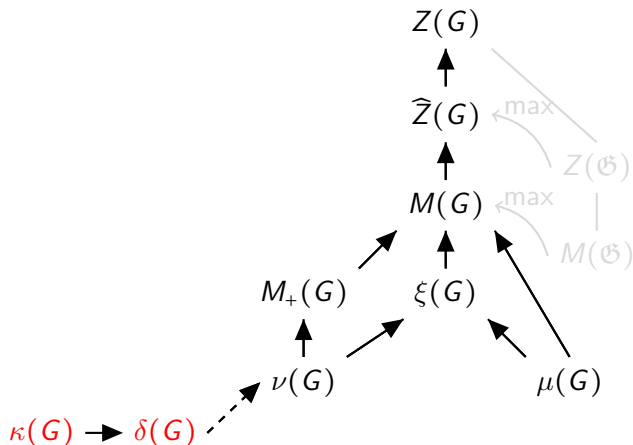
Graph Complement Conjecture (GCC)

- ▶ Let G be a simple graph and $\beta(G)$ a parameter of G . Then GCC- β states that $\beta(G) + \beta(\overline{G}) \geq n - 2$.
 - ▶ Kotlov (1997) conjectured GCC- μ .
 - ▶ Brualdi et al. (2007) conjectured GCC- M .
 - ▶ Barioli et al. (2012) conjectured GCC- M_+ and GCC- ν .
 - ▶ ISU EGR group (2011) proved GCC- Z , GCC- Z_+ , and GCC-tw.

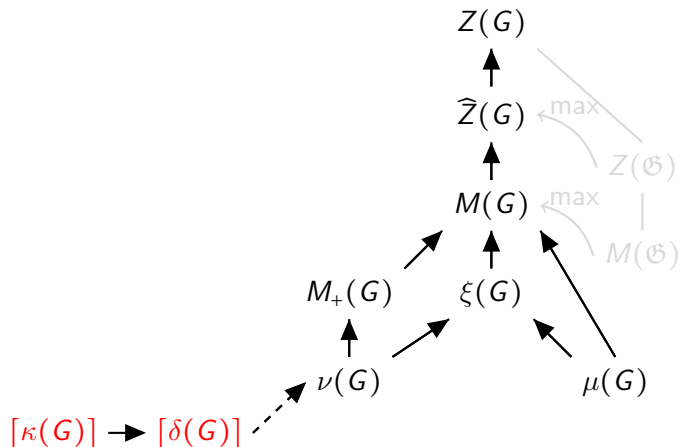
Graph Complement Conjecture



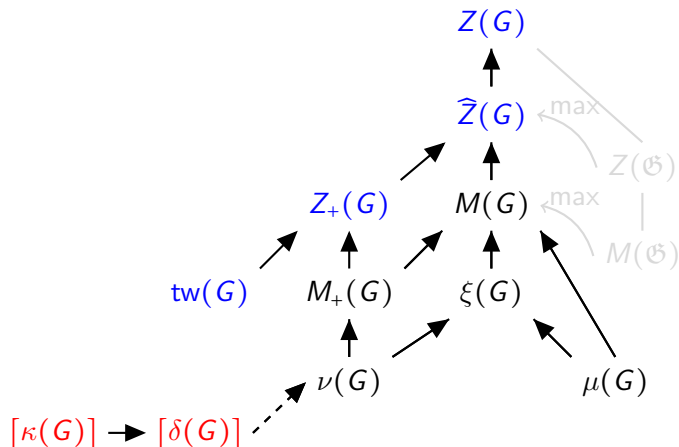
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Graph Complement Conjecture



Graph Complement Conjecture

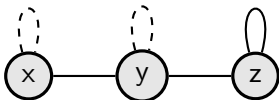


Loop graphs

- ▶ A **loop graph** \mathfrak{G} is a graph where loops are allowed. (Each vertex has at most one loop.)
- ▶ A **loop configuration** \mathfrak{G} of a simple graph G is a loop graph obtained from G by designating each vertex as having no loop or one loop. (There are 2^n possibilities.)
- ▶ $M^F(\mathfrak{G}) = \max \left\{ \text{null}(A) : A \in \mathcal{S}^F(G), A_{i,i} \begin{cases} \neq 0 & \text{if } i \text{ has a loop;} \\ = 0 & \text{if } i \text{ has no loop.} \end{cases} \right\}$.
- ▶ $M^F(G) = \max_{\mathfrak{G}} M^F(\mathfrak{G})$, where \mathfrak{G} runs over all loop configurations of G .

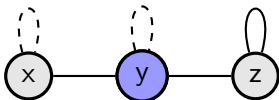
$Z(\mathcal{G})$ for loop graphs / $\widehat{Z}(G)$ for simple graphs

- ▶ The **color-change rule** for loop graphs is:
 - ▶ if $y \in V(\mathcal{G})$ is the only white neighbor of $x \in V(\mathcal{G})$ and x is **blue**, then y turns **blue**. ($x = y$ is possible.)



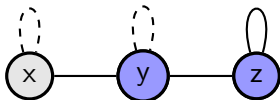
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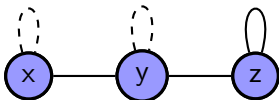
$Z(\mathcal{G})$ for loop graphs / $\widehat{Z}(G)$ for simple graphs

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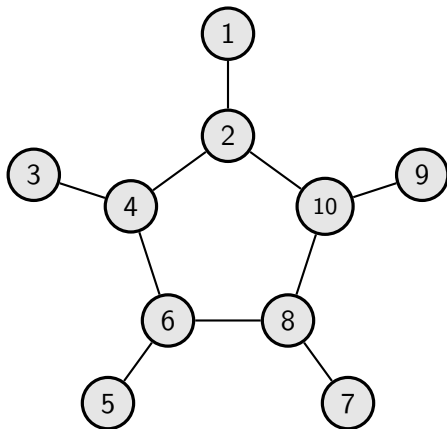
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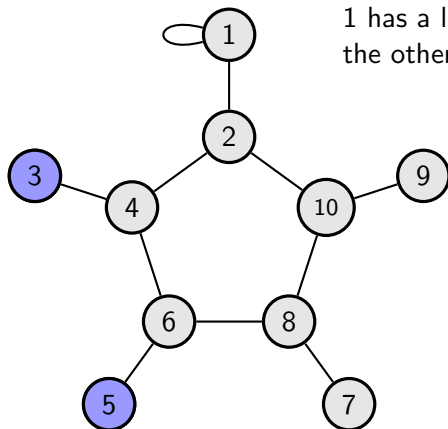
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- ▶ $M^F(\mathcal{G}) \leq Z(\mathcal{G})$ for all loop graphs \mathcal{G} and fields F [Hogben (2010)].
- ▶ If \mathcal{G} is a loop configuration of G , then $Z(\mathcal{G}) \leq Z(G)$.
- ▶ The **enhanced zero forcing number** is defined as $\widehat{Z}(G) = \max_{\mathcal{G}} Z(\mathcal{G})$, where \mathcal{G} runs over all loop configurations of G .

H_5 revisited



$$\widehat{Z}(H_5) = 2 \text{ and } Z(H_5) = 3.$$

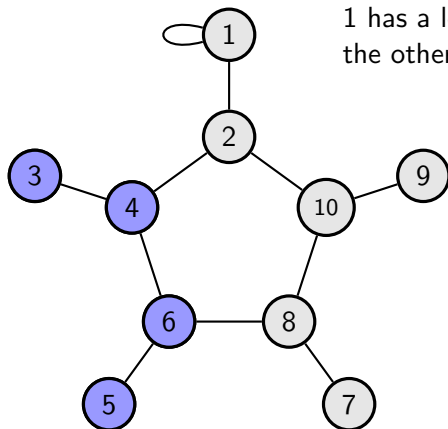
H_5 revisited



1 has a loop and
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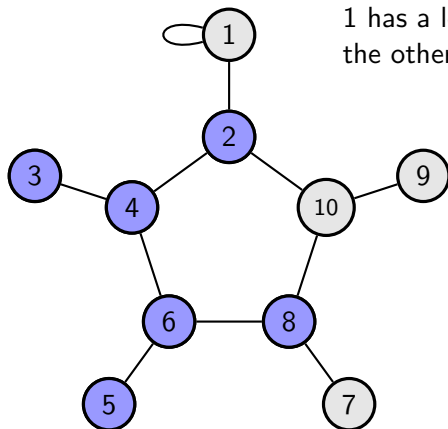
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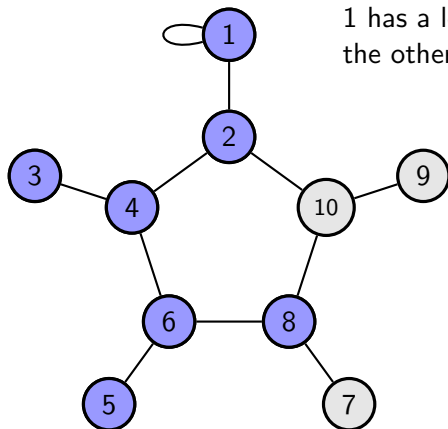
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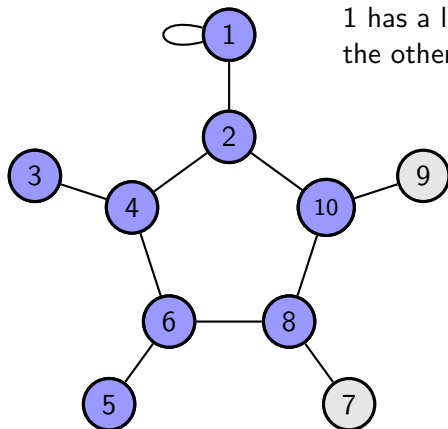
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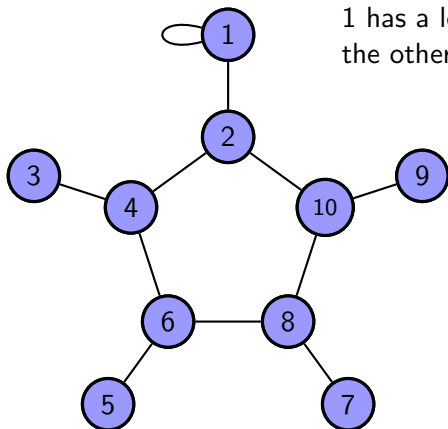
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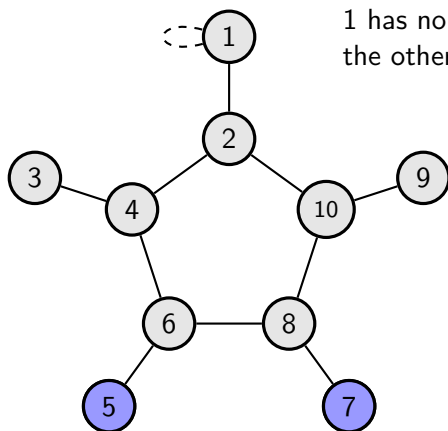
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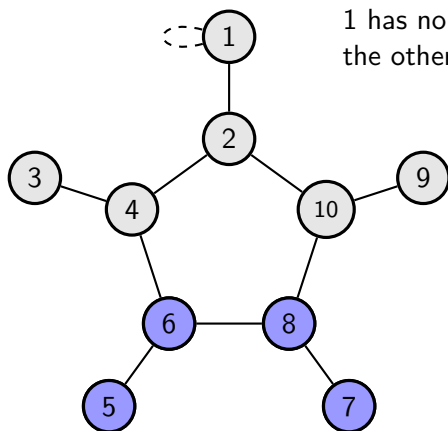
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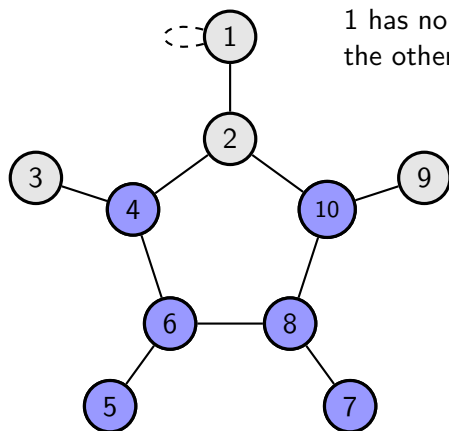
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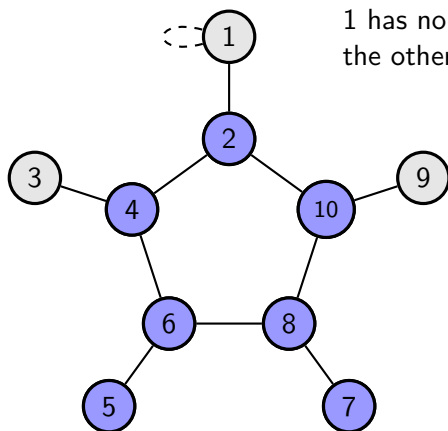
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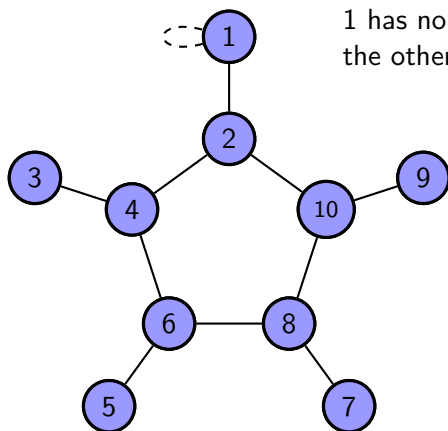
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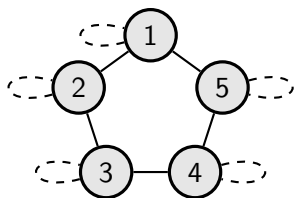
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Sage Data

- ▶ $M(G) = \widehat{Z}(G) = Z(G)$ if $|V(G)| \leq 7$.
- ▶ For $n = 8$, there are 7 graphs with $\widehat{Z}(G) < Z(G)$.
- ▶ For $n = 9$, there are 412 graphs with $\widehat{Z}(G) < Z(G)$.
- ▶ For $n = 10$, there are 18700+ graphs with $\widehat{Z}(G) < Z(G)$.
- ▶ But $M(K_{3,3,3}) = 6$ and $Z(G) = \widehat{Z}(G) = 7$.

Odd cycles

- ▶ $\widehat{Z}(G)$ shows a bound for $M(\mathfrak{G})$ leads to a bound for $M(G)$; an improvement of bounds for loop graphs leads to an improvement for simple graphs.
- ▶ Let \mathfrak{C}_{2k+1}^0 be a **loopless odd cycle**, as a loop graph. Then $M(\mathfrak{C}_{2k+1}^0) = 0$ but $Z(\mathfrak{C}_{2k+1}^0) = 1$.



$$\det \begin{bmatrix} 0 & e_1 & & & e_{2k+1} \\ e_1 & 0 & e_2 & & \\ & e_2 & \ddots & \ddots & \\ & & \ddots & \ddots & e_{2k} \\ e_{2k+1} & & & e_{2k} & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= 2 \prod_{j=1}^{2k+1} e_j$$

Try to generalize triangle number

$$\text{rank} \begin{bmatrix} a_{1,1} & ? & ? & ? & ? \\ 0 & a_{2,2} & ? & ? & ? \\ 0 & 0 & a_{3,3} & ? & ? \\ ? & ? & ? & ? & ? \\ ? & ? & ? & ? & ? \end{bmatrix} \geq 3$$

Try to generalize triangle number

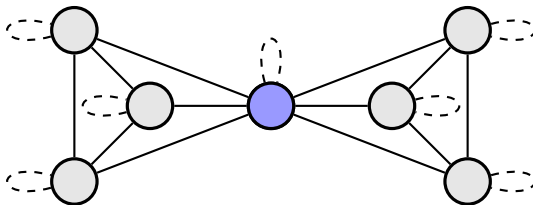
$$\text{rank} \begin{bmatrix} A_{1,1} & ? & ? & ? & ? \\ O & A_{2,2} & ? & ? & ? \\ O & O & A_{3,3} & ? & ? \\ ? & ? & ? & ? & ? \\ ? & ? & ? & ? & ? \end{bmatrix} \geq \sum_{i=1}^3 \text{rank}(A_{i,i})$$

Try to generalize triangle number

$$\text{rank} \begin{bmatrix} A(\mathbf{e}_5^0) & ? & ? & ? & ? \\ O & A(\mathbf{e}_7^0) & ? & ? & ? \\ O & O & A(\mathbf{e}_3^0) & ? & ? \\ ? & ? & ? & ? & ? \\ ? & ? & ? & ? & ? \end{bmatrix} \geq 5 + 7 + 3 = 15$$

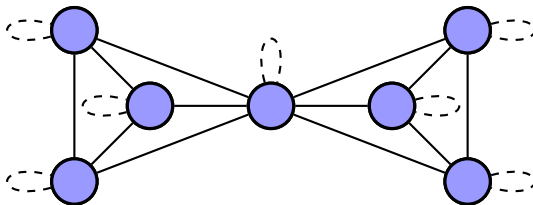
Odd cycle zero forcing number

- ▶ The **color-change rule CCR- Z_{oc}** for loop graphs is:
 - ▶ if $y \in V(\mathcal{G})$ is the only white neighbor of $x \in V(\mathcal{G})$ and x is **blue**, then y turns **blue** ($x = y$ is possible);
 - ▶ if W is the set of white vertices, and $\mathcal{G}[W]$ has a connected component \mathcal{C} such that $\mathcal{C} \cong \mathcal{C}_{2k+1}^0$, then all vertices in $V(\mathcal{C})$ turn blue.



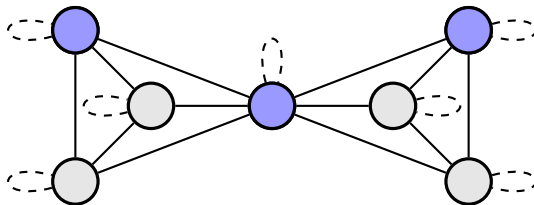
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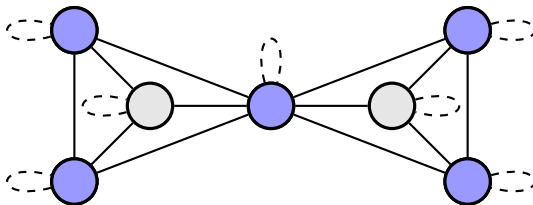
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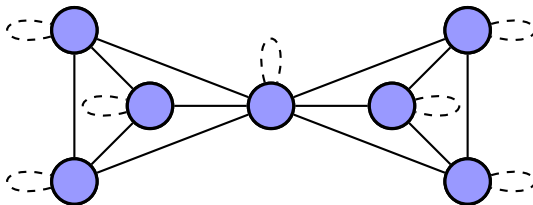
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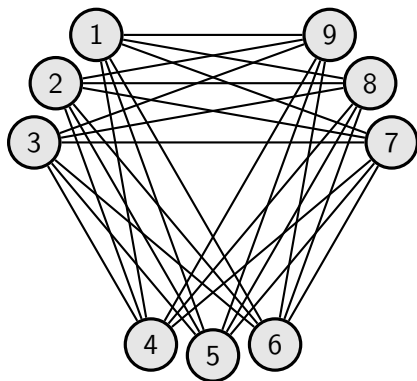
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- ▶ $Z_{oc}(\mathfrak{G})$ is the smallest cardinality of a zero forcing set on \mathfrak{G} using **CCR- Z_{oc} for loop graphs**.
- ▶ $M^F(\mathfrak{G}) \leq Z_{oc}(\mathfrak{G})$ whenever $\text{char } F \neq 2$ and matrices are symmetric.
- ▶ The **enhanced odd cycle zero forcing number** is defined as $\widehat{Z}_{oc}(G) = \max_{\mathfrak{G}} Z_{oc}(\mathfrak{G})$, where \mathfrak{G} runs over all loop configurations of G .

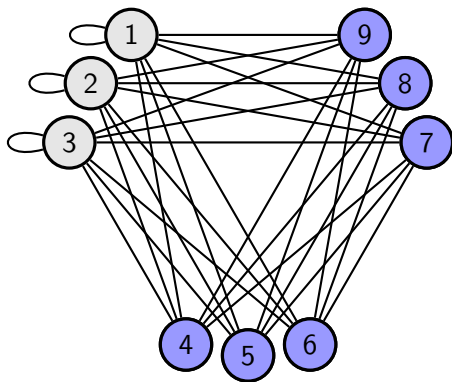
Example: $K_{3,3,3}$



$$\widehat{Z}_{oc}(K_{3,3,3}) = 6 \text{ and } \widehat{Z}(K_{3,3,3}) = Z(K_{3,3,3}) = 7.$$

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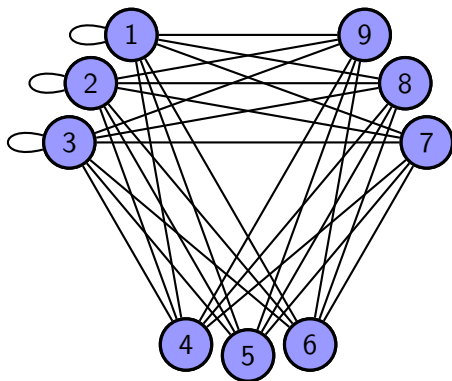
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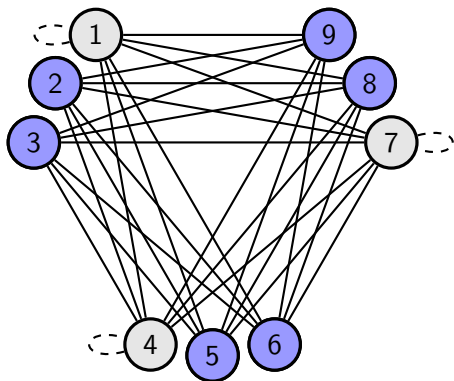
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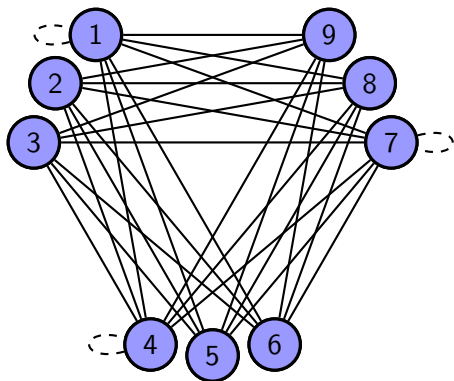
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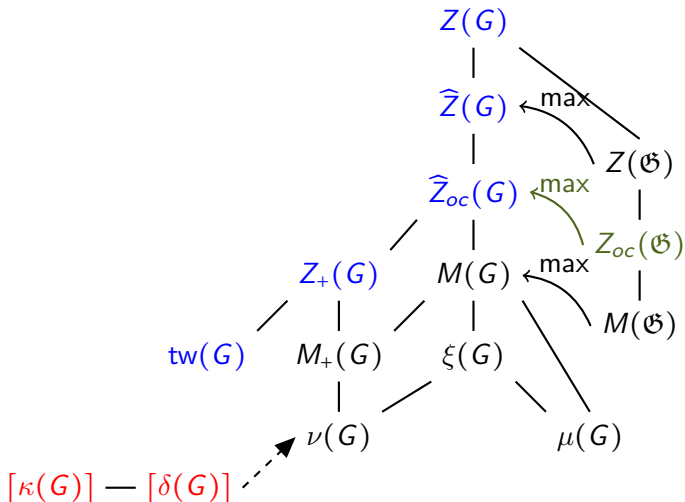
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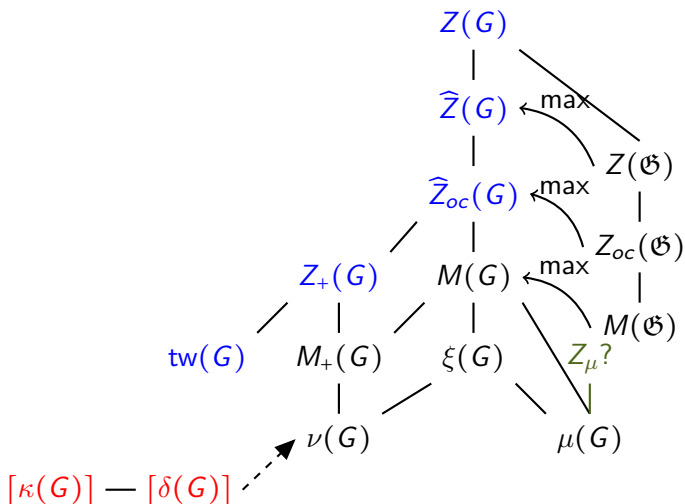


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GCC- $\widehat{Z}_{oc}(G)$



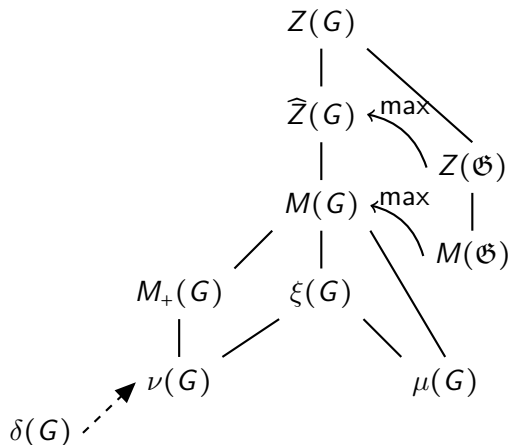
GCC- $\widehat{Z}_{oc}(G)$



Bound μ above

- ▶ Recall that $\mu(G)$ is the maximum nullity among matrices M with the following properties:
 - ▶ **Generalized Laplacian:** $M_{ij} \begin{cases} < 0 & \text{if } i \sim j, i \neq j \\ = 0 & \text{if } i \not\sim j, i \neq j \\ \text{free} & \text{if } i = j \end{cases}$.
 - ▶ M has exactly **one negative eigenvalue**.
 - ▶ M satisfies **SAH**.
- ▶ Goldberg and Berman (2014) found Z_{\pm} to bound $M(Q_{\pm})$.
- ▶ Butler et al. (2014) found Z_q to bound $M_q(G)$.
- ▶ So $\mu(G) \leq \min\{Z_{\pm}(G), Z_1(G)\}$, but can we do better?
- ▶ If such Z_{μ} exists, is GCC- Z_{μ} true or not?

Transferring from ν to μ



GCC- ν

- ▶ A k -tree is formed by starting from K_{k+1} and repeatedly adding one vertex joined to an existing k -clique.
- ▶ Sinkovic and van der Holst (2011) showed that if G is a k -tree, then $\nu(\overline{G}) \geq n - 2 - k$.
- ▶ So if G is a subgraph of a k -tree T_k and $\nu(G) \geq k$, then GCC- ν holds.

$$\nu(G) + \nu(\overline{G}) \geq k + n - 2 - k = n - 2,$$

since $\overline{T_k}$ is a subgraph of \overline{G} .

- ▶ Can we replace ν by μ ?

- ▶ Barioli et al. (2012) showed that if either
 - ▶ G and H each have an edge, or
 - ▶ G has an edge and $H = \overline{K_r}$ with $\nu(G) \leq |V(G)| - r$,then $\nu(G \vee H) = \min\{|V(G)| + \nu(H), \nu(G) + |V(H)|\}$;

Otherwise,

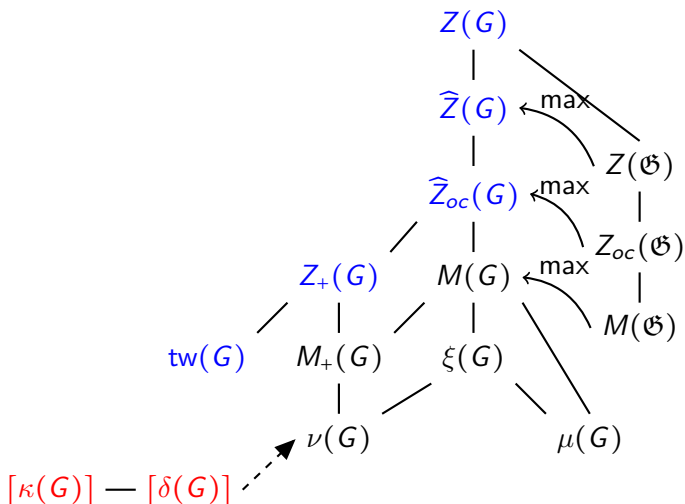
$$\nu(G \vee H) = \min\{|V(G)| + \nu(H), \nu(G) + |V(H)|\} - 1.$$

- ▶ Can we replace ν by μ ?

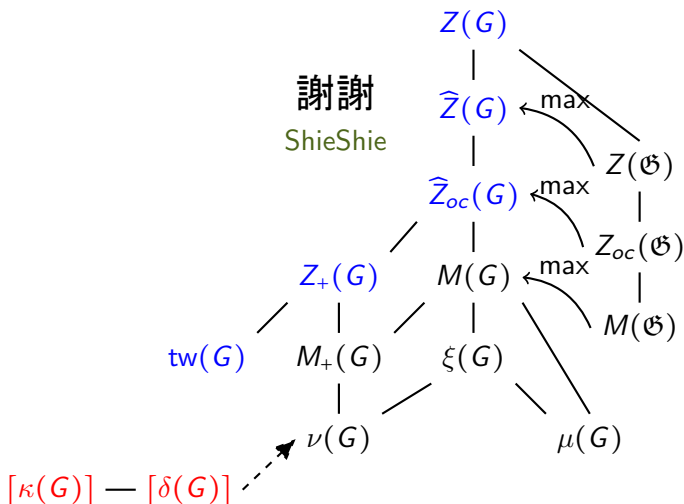
Partial answers

- ▶ $\mu(G) \leq \mu(G - v) + 1$.
- ▶ $\mu(G \vee H) \leq \min\{|V(G)| + \mu(H), \mu(G) + |V(H)|\}$.
- ▶ $\min\{|V(G)| + \mu(H), \mu(G) + |V(H)|\} - 1 \stackrel{?}{\leq} \mu(G \vee H)$.
- ▶ Up to $n \leq 7$, $\mu(G)$ can be determined.
 - ▶ $\mu(G) \leq 1$ iff G is a disjoint union of paths;
 - ▶ $\mu(G) \leq 2$ iff G is outerplanar;
 - ▶ $\mu(G) \leq 3$ iff G is planar;
 - ▶ $\mu(G) \leq 4$ iff G is linklessly embeddable.
 - ▶ $\mu(G) \leq n - 1$, with the equality holds when G is $\overline{K_2}$ or K_n .
- ▶ The inequality holds for graphs with $n \leq 8$.



Keep going



Keep going



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