

# Critical groups of strongly regular graphs

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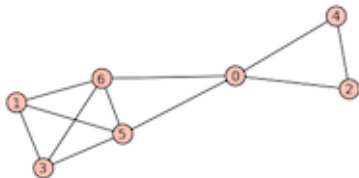


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- $L = D - A$  Laplacian matrix

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

$$L = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & & & & & \\ & 3 & & & & \\ -1 & & 2 & & & \\ & -1 & & 3 & & \\ -1 & & -1 & & 2 & \\ -1 & -1 & & -1 & & 4 \\ -1 & -1 & & -1 & & -1 \\ & & & & 4 & \\ & & & & -1 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

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- $\text{Coker}(L) = \mathbb{Z}^k \oplus \mathcal{K}(\Gamma)$
- $\mathcal{K}(\Gamma)$  is the *critical group* (or *sandpile group*)

# Known critical groups

- trees,  $\{0\}$
- $n$ -cycle,  $Z_n$
- complete graph  $K_n$ ,  $(Z_n)^{n-2}$
- wheel graph  $W_n$  ( $n$  odd),  $(Z_{\ell_n})^2$
- line graphs (partial information)
- abelian Cayley graphs (partial information)
- Hypercube graph  $Q_n$  (2-part unknown)
- Payley, Peisert graphs
- many others

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$$\begin{bmatrix} s_1 & & & & & \\ & s_2 & & & & \\ & & s_3 & & & \\ & & & \ddots & & \\ & & & & 0 & \\ & & & & & 0 \end{bmatrix},$$

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where the  $s_i$  are integers with  $s_i | s_{i+1}$  for all  $i$ .

- The  $s_i$  are called the invariant factors of  $M$ , and

$$\operatorname{Coker}(M) \cong \mathbb{Z}/s_1\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/s_2\mathbb{Z} \oplus \cdots$$





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### Lemma

*If  $p$  is a prime and  $p^a$  exactly divides  $k - k^2 + \lambda k - \mu - \mu k$ , then  $p^a$  is an upper bound for the exponent of the  $p$ -primary component of  $\mathcal{K}(\Gamma)$ .*

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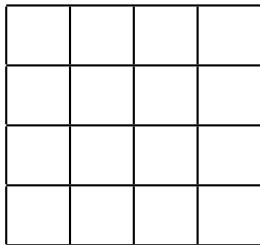
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- Consider SNF bases.



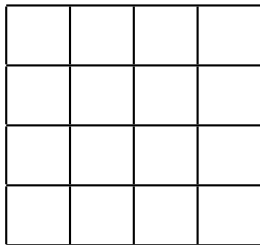
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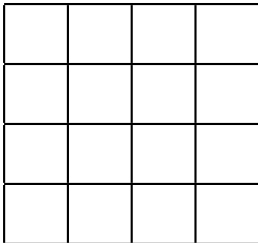
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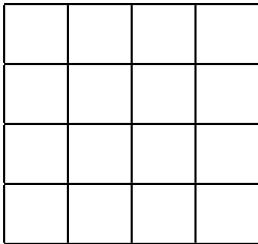
- Two squares are adjacent when they lie in the same row or column.

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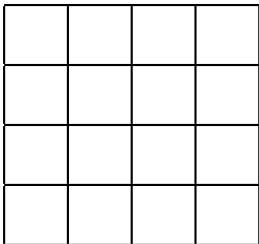
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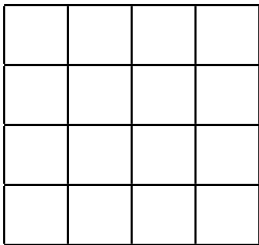
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When  $n$  is odd, the 2-part of  $\mathcal{K}(R_n)$  is elementary abelian. In general,

$$\mathcal{K}(R_n) \cong (\mathbf{Z}_{2n})^{(n-2)^2+1} \oplus (\mathbf{Z}_{2n^2})^{2(n-2)}$$

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 $L$  has spectrum  $[50]^{1729}, [65]^{1520}, [0]^1$ , so

$$\begin{aligned} |\mathcal{K}(\Gamma)| &= \frac{1}{3250} \cdot 50^{1729} \cdot 65^{1520} \\ &= 2^{1728} \cdot 5^{4975} \cdot 13^{1519}. \end{aligned}$$

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$$\begin{aligned} L^2 + (\lambda - \mu - 2k)L &= (k - k^2 + \lambda k - \mu - \mu k)I + \mu J \\ L^2 + (-115)L &= -(2 \cdot 5^3 \cdot 13)I + J \end{aligned}$$



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$$L^2 + (-115)L = -(2 \cdot 5^3 \cdot 13)I + J$$

$$\mathcal{K}(\Gamma) \cong (\mathbf{Z}/2\mathbf{Z})^{1728} \oplus (\mathbf{Z}/13\mathbf{Z})^{1519} \oplus (\mathbf{Z}/5\mathbf{Z})^{e_1} \oplus (\mathbf{Z}/5^2\mathbf{Z})^{e_2} \oplus (\mathbf{Z}/5^3\mathbf{Z})^{e_3}$$

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$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 6 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

- $L: \mathbb{Z}_p^{V(\Gamma)} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_p^{V(\Gamma)}$
- $M_i = \{x \in \mathbb{Z}_p^n \mid Lx \in p^i \mathbb{Z}_p^m\}$
- $N_i = \{p^{-i}Lx \mid x \in M_i\}$
- Let  $e_i$  denote multiplicity of  $p^i$  in SNF
- 

$$\dim_{\mathbb{F}_p} \overline{M}_i = \dim_{\mathbb{F}_p} \overline{\ker(L)} + e_i + e_{i+1} + \cdots$$

and

$$\dim_{\mathbb{F}_p} \overline{N}_i = e_0 + e_1 + \cdots + e_i.$$

Consider the inclusions of the eigenspaces of  $L$  in these modules:

- $V_{65} \cap \mathbf{Z}_5^{V(\Gamma)} \subseteq N_1$ , and so  $\overline{V_{65} \cap \mathbf{Z}_5^{V(\Gamma)}} \subseteq \overline{N_1}$

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- $V_{50} \cap \mathbf{Z}_5^{V(\Gamma)} \subseteq M_2$

We get the inequalities:

$$1520 \leq e_0 + e_1$$

$$1729 \leq 1 + e_2 + e_3.$$

**Case 1:**  $1520 = e_0 + e_1$  and  $1729 = e_2 + e_3$ .

**Case 2:**  $1521 = e_0 + e_1$  and  $1728 = e_2 + e_3$ .



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We also know  $|Syl_5(K(\Gamma))| = 5^{4975}$ , so

$$4975 = e_1 + 2e_2 + 3e_3.$$

## Theorem

Let  $\Gamma$  be an  $srg(3250, 57, 0, 1)$ . Let  $e_0$  denote the rank of the Laplacian matrix of  $\Gamma$  over a field of characteristic 5. Then either

$$\text{Syl}_5(K(\Gamma)) \cong (\mathbf{Z}/5\mathbf{Z})^{1520-e_0} \oplus (\mathbf{Z}/5^2\mathbf{Z})^{1732-e_0} \oplus (\mathbf{Z}/5^3\mathbf{Z})^{e_0-3}$$

or

$$\text{Syl}_5(K(\Gamma)) \cong (\mathbf{Z}/5\mathbf{Z})^{1521-e_0} \oplus (\mathbf{Z}/5^2\mathbf{Z})^{1730-e_0} \oplus (\mathbf{Z}/5^3\mathbf{Z})^{e_0-2}.$$

What is the 5-rank of  $L$ ?

Thank you for your attention!