# Abelian groups associated to strongly regular graphs. 

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## Outline

(1) Matrices of graphs

## (2) Strongly regular graphs

(3) Some results

$$
A=\left[\begin{array}{llllllll}
0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\
1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\
1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\
0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\
0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0
\end{array}\right]
$$



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- Also popular, the Laplacian matrix $L=D-A$, where $D$ is diagonal matrix of vertex degrees.
$L=\left[\begin{array}{cccccccc}3 & -1 & 0 & -1 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 3 & -1 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 3 & -1 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & -1 & 3 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 \\ -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 3 & -1 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 3 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 3 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 & -1 & 0 & -1 & 3\end{array}\right]$

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- $|K(\Gamma)|$ counts number of spanning trees of a connected graph
- Could also consider $\operatorname{Coker}(A+b l+c J)$


## Examples of known sandpile groups

- $n$-cycle
- complete graphs
- n-cube (2-part still unsolved)
- many families of strongly regular graphs
- good source of problems to work on with motivated undergraduates

There are many ways to think about and compute these groups.

- Smith normal form of the matrix
- chip-firing games on the graphs
- matroids, representation theory, ...


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A strongly regular graph (srg) with parameters $v, k, \lambda, \mu$ :

- has $v$ vertices
- is $k$-regular
- any two adjacent vertices have exactly $\lambda$ common neighbors
- any two distinct, non-adjacent vertices have exactly $\mu$ common neighbors.
- It follows: $A^{2}=k I+\lambda A+\mu(J-A-I)$, and $A$ has exactly two distinct eigenvalues besides the degree $k$.
- Paley, Kneser on 2-subsets and projective lines, rook, polar, latin square
- These are cool graphs, and so the existence question for particular parameter sets is quite interesting.


## Andries Brouwer's website

Prev Up Next

|  | v | k | $\lambda$ | $\mu$ | $\mathrm{r}^{\text {f }}$ | $\mathbf{s}^{\mathbf{g}}$ | comments |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| ! | 153 | 32 | 16 | 4 | $14^{17}$ | $-2^{135}$ | Triangular graph T (18) |
|  |  | 120 | 91 | 105 | $1^{135}$ | $-15^{17}$ | pg(8,14,7) |
| ? | 153 | 56 | 19 | 21 | $5^{84}$ | $-7^{68}$ | pg(8,6,3)? |
|  |  | 96 | 60 | 60 | $6^{68}$ | -6 ${ }^{84}$ |  |
| ? | 153 | 76 | 37 | 38 | $5.685^{76}$ | $-6.685^{76}$ | 2-graph ${ }^{*}$ ? |
| ? | 154 | 48 | 12 | 16 | $4^{98}$ | $-8^{55}$ | pg(6,7,2)? |
|  |  | 105 | 72 | 70 | $7^{55}$ | $-5^{98}$ |  |
| - | 154 | 51 | 8 | 21 | $2^{132}$ | $-15^{21}$ | Krein2 |
|  |  | 102 | 71 | 60 | $14^{21}$ | $-3^{132}$ | Krein1 |
| ? | 154 | 72 | 26 | 40 | $2^{132}$ | $-16^{21}$ |  |
|  |  | 81 | 48 | 36 | $15^{21}$ | $-3^{132}$ |  |
| + | 155 | 42 | 17 | 9 | $11^{30}$ | $-3^{124}$ | $\mathrm{S}(2,3,31)$; lines in $\mathrm{PG}(4,2)$ |
|  |  | 112 | 78 | 88 | $2^{124}$ | $-12^{30}$ |  |
| $+$ | 156 | 30 | 4 | 6 | $4^{90}$ | -6 ${ }^{65}$ | $\mathrm{O}(5,5) \mathrm{Sp}(4,5) ; \mathrm{GQ}(5,5)$ |
|  |  | 125 | 100 | 100 | $5^{65}$ | $-5^{90}$ |  |
| + | 157 | 78 | 38 | 39 | $5.765^{78}$ | $-6.765^{78}$ | Paley(157); 2-graph ${ }^{*}$ |
| ? | 160 | 54 | 18 | 18 | $6^{75}$ | $-6^{84}$ | $\mathrm{pg}(9,5,3)$ does not exist (no 2-graph** for line graph) |
|  |  | 105 | 68 | 70 | $5^{84}$ | $-7^{75}$ |  |
| - | 161 | 80 | 39 | 40 | $5.844^{80}$ | $-6.844^{80}$ | Conf |
| ? | 162 | 21 | 0 | 3 | $3^{105}$ | $-6^{56}$ |  |

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## 2019 REU at James Madison University

Work with D. Duncan, W. Engelbrecht, J. Madan, E. Piato, C. Shatford, A. Vichitbandha. Suppose $\Gamma$ is an $\operatorname{srg}(v, k, \lambda, \mu)$ with nonzero Laplacian eigenvalues $r^{f}, s^{g}$.

- $p \nmid r, p^{a}\left\|s, p^{\gamma}\right\| v \Longrightarrow K_{p}(\Gamma) \cong \mathbb{Z} / p^{a-\gamma} \mathbb{Z} \oplus\left(\mathbb{Z} / p^{a} \mathbb{Z}\right)^{g-1}$.
- $p\|r, p\| s, p^{\gamma} \| v \Longrightarrow K_{p}(\Gamma) \cong(\mathbb{Z} / p \mathbb{Z})^{f+g+\gamma-2 e_{0}} \oplus\left(\mathbb{Z} / p^{2} \mathbb{Z}\right)^{e_{0}-\gamma}$.
- $p\left\|r, p^{2}\right\| s, p^{\gamma} \| v \Longrightarrow$

$$
K_{p}(\Gamma) \cong(\mathbb{Z} / p \mathbb{Z})^{f-e_{0}} \oplus\left(\mathbb{Z} / p^{2} \mathbb{Z}\right)^{g+\gamma-e_{0}} \oplus\left(\mathbb{Z} / p^{3} \mathbb{Z}\right)^{e_{0}-\gamma}
$$

or

$$
K_{p}(\Gamma) \cong(\mathbb{Z} / p \mathbb{Z})^{f+1-e_{0}} \oplus\left(\mathbb{Z} / p^{2} \mathbb{Z}\right)^{g+\gamma-2-e_{0}} \oplus\left(\mathbb{Z} / p^{3} \mathbb{Z}\right)^{e_{0}-\gamma+1}
$$

## Some consequences

- If $\Gamma$ is an $\operatorname{srg}(99,14,1,2)$, then

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K(\Gamma) \cong(\mathbb{Z} / 11 \mathbb{Z})^{53} \oplus(\mathbb{Z} / 2 \mathbb{Z})^{44} \oplus(\mathbb{Z} / 9 \mathbb{Z})^{43}
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- If $\Gamma$ is an $\operatorname{srg}(3250,57,0,1)$, then

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K_{5}(\Gamma) \cong(\mathbb{Z} / 5 \mathbb{Z})^{1520-e_{0}} \oplus(\mathbb{Z} / 25 \mathbb{Z})^{1732-e_{0}} \oplus(\mathbb{Z} / 125 \mathbb{Z})^{e_{0}-3}
$$

or

$$
K_{5}(\Gamma) \cong(\mathbb{Z} / 5 \mathbb{Z})^{1521-e_{0}} \oplus(\mathbb{Z} / 25 \mathbb{Z})^{1730-e_{0}} \oplus(\mathbb{Z} / 125 \mathbb{Z})^{e_{0}-2}
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Some consequences

- If $\Gamma$ is an $\operatorname{srg}(28,9,0,4)$, then the 7 -rank of $L$ must be 22 , and so the kernel of $L$ modulo 7 must have dimension 6 . But it is not difficult to cook up more than 6 independent vectors in this kernel.

Some consequences

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- By the way, the smallest open parameter set is $(69,20,7,5)$.
- It turns out that these results for the Laplacian can be extended without much difficulty to the adjacency as well, with care, and also to matrices of the form $A+b l+c J$.
- Generally we need these matrices to be nonsingular (but not always), and in general exactly one invariant factor will be uncertain.

But, for instance, can deduce

- If $\Gamma$ is an $\operatorname{srg}(99,14,1,2)$, then

$$
S(\Gamma) \cong \mathbb{Z} / 2 \mathbb{Z} \oplus(\mathbb{Z} / 4 \mathbb{Z})^{44} \oplus(\mathbb{Z} / 3 \mathbb{Z})^{54} \oplus \mathbb{Z} / 7 \mathbb{Z}
$$

- If $\Gamma$ is an $\operatorname{srg}(3250,57,0,1)$, then

$$
S(\Gamma) \cong \mathbb{Z} / 4 \mathbb{Z} \oplus(\mathbb{Z} / 3 \mathbb{Z})^{45} \oplus(\mathbb{Z} / 5 \mathbb{Z})^{24}
$$

## Interlacing

- Interlacing of adjacency eigenvalues of a graph with those of an induced subgraph is a standard technique from spectral graph theory.
- New to me is a result of R. C. Thompson from 1978 that describes an interlacing result of invariant factors of an integer matrix with those of any submatrix.
- From this result we can deduce:


## Theorem

Let $N=A+b l+c J$ describe a graph $\Gamma$. Suppose that a cyclic decomposition of the Sylow p-subgroup of $\operatorname{Coker}(N)$ contains exactly $e_{i}$ summands $\mathbb{Z} / p^{i} \mathbb{Z}$. Remove $k$ vertices of $\Gamma$ to get an induced subgraph $H$, and delete those corresponding $k$ rows and columns of $N$ to get a matrix $N_{H}$. Then the corresponding Sylow p-subgroup of Coker $\left(N_{H}\right)$ must have at least $e_{i}-2 k$ summands $\mathbb{Z} / p^{i} \mathbb{Z}$.

## Interlacing example

- Let $\Gamma$ be an $\operatorname{srg}(640,243,66,108)$. Then

$$
S_{3}(\Gamma) \cong(\mathbb{Z} / 3 \mathbb{Z})^{594-e_{0}} \oplus(\mathbb{Z} / 9 \mathbb{Z})^{45-e_{0}} \oplus(\mathbb{Z} / 27 \mathbb{Z})^{e_{0}} \oplus \mathbb{Z} / 243 \mathbb{Z}
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- Let $\Gamma_{2}$ be a second subconstituent of $\Gamma$; that is, the subgraph induced by all vertices not adjacent to some fixed vertex.
- This is obtained by removing 244 vertices, and so the number of occurrences of $\mathbb{Z} / 3 \mathbb{Z}$ as a summand of $S_{3}\left(\Gamma_{2}\right)$ is at least

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\left(594-e_{0}\right)-2(244)=106-e_{0} \geq 61
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since $e_{0} \leq 45$.

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- Further analysis could be done to $\Gamma_{2}$, which also happens to be strongly regular.

Thank you for your attention!

