# Abelian groups associated to strongly regular graphs.

#### Josh Ducey James Madison University

SECANT 3 Cedar Crest College

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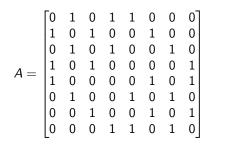
2 Strongly regular graphs

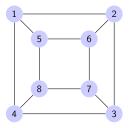


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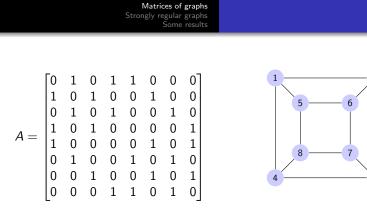






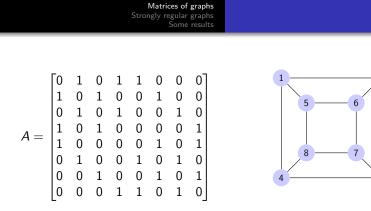
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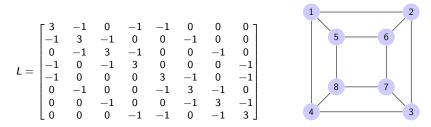
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- $|K(\Gamma)|$  counts number of spanning trees of a connected graph
- Could also consider  $\operatorname{Coker}(A + bI + cJ)$

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## 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

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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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## Outline





#### 3 Some results

Josh Ducey Abelian groups associated to SRGs

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## Definition

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

• has v vertices

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## Definition

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

- has v vertices
- is *k*-regular
- ullet any two adjacent vertices have exactly  $\lambda$  common neighbors
- any two distinct, non-adjacent vertices have exactly  $\mu$  common neighbors.

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- It follows:  $A^2 = kI + \lambda A + \mu (J A I)$ , 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

Π	v	k	λ	μ	r <sup>f</sup>	s <sup>g</sup>	comments
!	153	32	16	4	14 <sup>17</sup>	-2 <sup>135</sup>	Triangular graph T(18)
		120	91	105	1135	-15 <sup>17</sup>	pg(8,14,7)
?	153	56	19	21	5 <sup>84</sup>	-7 <sup>68</sup>	pg(8,6,3)?
		96	60		6 <sup>68</sup>	-6 <sup>84</sup>	
?	153	76	37	38	5.685 <sup>76</sup>	-6.685 <sup>76</sup>	2-graph\*?
?	154	48	12	16	4 <sup>98</sup>	-8 <sup>55</sup>	pg(6,7,2)?
		105	72	70	7 <sup>55</sup>	-5 <sup>98</sup>	
-	154	51	8	21			Krein2
		102	71	60	14 <sup>21</sup>	-3132	Krein1
?	154	72	26	40	2 <sup>132</sup>	-16 <sup>21</sup>	
		81	48	36	15 <sup>21</sup>	-3 <sup>132</sup>	
+	155	42	17	9	11 <sup>30</sup>	-3 <sup>124</sup>	S(2,3,31); lines in PG(4,2)
		112	78	88	2 <sup>124</sup>	$-12^{30}$	
+	156	30	4	6	4 <sup>90</sup>	-6 <sup>65</sup>	O(5,5) Sp(4,5); GQ(5,5)
		125	100	100		-5 <sup>90</sup>	
+	157	78	38				Paley(157); 2-graph\*
?	160	54	18		675		pg(9,5,3) does not exist (no 2-graph\* for line graph)
		105	68	70	5 <sup>84</sup>	-7 <sup>75</sup>	
-	161	80	39	40	5.844 <sup>80</sup>	$-6.844^{80}$	Conf
?	162	21	0	3	3 <sup>105</sup>	-6 <sup>56</sup>	

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2 Strongly regular graphs



Josh Ducey Abelian groups associated to SRGs

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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 srg $(v, k, \lambda, \mu)$  with nonzero Laplacian eigenvalues  $r^{f}, s^{g}$ .

• 
$$p \nmid r, p^a \parallel s, p^\gamma \parallel v \implies K_p(\Gamma) \cong \mathbb{Z}/p^{a-\gamma}\mathbb{Z} \oplus (\mathbb{Z}/p^a\mathbb{Z})^{g-1}$$
.

• 
$$p \parallel r, p \parallel s, p^{\gamma} \parallel v \implies K_p(\Gamma) \cong (\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z})^{f+g+\gamma-2e_0} \oplus (\mathbb{Z}/p^2\mathbb{Z})^{e_0-\gamma}$$

• 
$$p \parallel r, p^2 \parallel s, p^\gamma \parallel v \implies$$

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

or

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

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Some consequences

• If Γ is an srg(99, 14, 1, 2), then

 $\mathcal{K}(\Gamma) \cong (\mathbb{Z}/11\mathbb{Z})^{53} \oplus (\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})^{44} \oplus (\mathbb{Z}/9\mathbb{Z})^{43} \, .$ 

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.

• If  $\Gamma$  is an srg(3250,57,0,1), then

$$\mathcal{K}_5(\Gamma) \cong (\mathbb{Z}/5\mathbb{Z})^{1520-e_0} \oplus (\mathbb{Z}/25\mathbb{Z})^{1732-e_0} \oplus (\mathbb{Z}/125\mathbb{Z})^{e_0-3}$$

or

$$\mathcal{K}_5(\Gamma)\cong \left(\mathbb{Z}/5\mathbb{Z}\right)^{1521-e_0}\oplus \left(\mathbb{Z}/25\mathbb{Z}\right)^{1730-e_0}\oplus \left(\mathbb{Z}/125\mathbb{Z}\right)^{e_0-2}.$$

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#### Some consequences

 If Γ is an 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.

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#### Some consequences

- If Γ is an 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.
- 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 + bI + cJ.
- Generally we need these matrices to be nonsingular (but not always), and in general exactly one invariant factor will be uncertain.

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#### But, for instance, can deduce

• If Γ is an 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 srg(3250, 57, 0, 1), then

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

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## 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 + bI + cJ 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  $\operatorname{Coker}(N_H)$  must have at least  $e_i - 2k$  summands  $\mathbb{Z}/p^i\mathbb{Z}$ .

#### Interlacing example

• Let Γ be an 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 Γ<sub>2</sub> be a second subconstituent of Γ; that is, the subgraph induced by all vertices not adjacent to some fixed vertex.

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- Let Γ<sub>2</sub> be a second subconstituent of Γ; 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 Z/3Z as a summand of S<sub>3</sub>(Γ<sub>2</sub>) is *at least*

$$(594 - e_0) - 2(244) = 106 - e_0 \ge 61,$$

since  $e_0 \leq 45$ .

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$$(594 - e_0) - 2(244) = 106 - e_0 \ge 61,$$

since  $e_0 \leq 45$ .

 Further analysis could be done to Γ<sub>2</sub>, which also happens to be strongly regular.

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Thank you for your attention!

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