

# Expander Graphs and Their Applications (VII)

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## Last Lecture

# The Zig-Zag Theorem

## Theorem

If  $G$  is an  $(n, m, \alpha)$ -graph and  $H$  an  $(m, d, \beta)$ -graph. Then  $G \otimes H$  is an  $(nm, d^2, \varphi(\alpha, \beta))$ -graph, where

$$\varphi(\alpha, \beta) = \frac{1}{2}(1 - \beta^2)\alpha + \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{(1 - \beta^2)^2\alpha^2 + 4\beta^2}.$$

Some consequences:

- ▶  $\varphi(\lambda, 0) = \varphi(0, \lambda) = \lambda$  and  $\varphi(\lambda, 1) = \varphi(1, \lambda) = 1$  for all  $0 \leq \lambda \leq 1$ .
- ▶  $\varphi(\alpha, \beta)$  is a strictly increasing function of both  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  (except when one of them is 1).
- ▶ If  $\alpha < 1$  and  $\beta < 1$ , the  $\varphi(\alpha, \beta) < 1$ .
- ▶  $\varphi(\alpha, \beta) \leq \alpha + \beta$  for all  $0 \leq \alpha, \beta \leq 1$ .

## Corollary

If  $G$  is an  $(n, m, \alpha)$ -graph and  $H$  an  $(m, d, \beta)$ -graph. Then

$$1 - \hat{\lambda}(G \otimes H) \geq \frac{1}{2}(1 - \beta^2)(1 - \alpha)$$

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Proof.

$$\frac{1}{2}\sqrt{(1 - \beta^2)^2\alpha^2 + 4\beta^2} \leq \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{(1 - \beta^2)^2 + 4\beta^2} = \frac{1}{2}(1 + \beta^2) = 1 - \frac{1}{2}(1 - \beta^2).$$

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Then

$$\begin{aligned}\varphi(\alpha, \beta) &= \frac{1}{2}(1 - \beta^2)\alpha + \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{(1 - \beta^2)^2\alpha^2 + 4\beta^2} \\ &\leq 1 - \frac{1}{2}(1 - \beta^2)(1 - \alpha)\end{aligned}$$

□

## Lower Bound of $d - \lambda$ in Arbitrary Graphs

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Let  $G$  be a connected,  $d$ -regular, and non-bipartite graph with  $n$  vertices. Then

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Let  $G$  be a connected and  $d$ -regular graph with  $n$  vertices. Then

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**Proof.** Recall  $\lambda_2 = \max_{\langle x, \mathbf{1} \rangle = 0} xAx / \|x\|_2^2 = \max_{\langle x, \mathbf{1} \rangle = 0, \|x\|_2 = 1} xAx$ .

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$$\begin{aligned} \lambda_2 &= \max_{\langle x, \mathbf{1} \rangle = 0, \|x\|_2 = 1} \left( \sum_{\substack{\text{an edge } e \text{ with} \\ \text{end vertices } u \neq v}} 2x_u x_v + \sum_{\substack{\text{a selfloop } e \\ \text{on a vertex } u}} x_u^2 \right) \\ &= \max_{\langle x, \mathbf{1} \rangle = 0, \|x\|_2 = 1} \left( \sum_{\substack{\text{an edge } e \text{ with} \\ \text{end vertices } u \neq v}} (x_u^2 + x_v^2 - (x_u - x_v)^2) + \sum_{\substack{\text{a selfloop } e \\ \text{on a vertex } u}} x_u^2 \right) \\ &= \max_{\langle x, \mathbf{1} \rangle = 0, \|x\|_2 = 1} \left( \sum_{u \in V} dx_u^2 - \sum_{\substack{\text{an edge } e \text{ with} \\ \text{end vertices } u \text{ and } v}} (x_u - x_v)^2 \right). \end{aligned}$$

Proof of  $d - \lambda_2 \geq 1/n^2$  (cont'd)



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i.e.,

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(Here we use the fact that the minimum can be attained.)

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Recall  $G$  is connected. Thus, there exists a **path**

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Hence,

$$\sum_{i=0}^{k-1} |x_{v_i} - x_{v_{i+1}}| \geq |x_{v_0} - x_{v_k}| \geq \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}.$$

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$$\begin{aligned}d - \lambda_2 &= \sum_{\substack{\text{an edge } e \text{ with} \\ \text{end vertices } u \text{ and } v}} (x_u - x_v)^2. \\ &\geq \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} (x_{v_i} - x_{v_{i+1}})^2 \\ &\geq \frac{1}{k} \left( \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} |x_{v_i} - x_{v_{i+1}}| \right)^2 \\ &\geq \frac{1}{k} |x_{v_0} - x_{v_k}|^2 \\ &\geq \frac{1}{kn} \geq \frac{1}{n^2}.\end{aligned}$$

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Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} d + \lambda_n &= \sum_{u \in V} dx_u^2 + \sum_{\substack{\text{an edge } e \text{ with} \\ \text{end vertices } u \neq v}} 2x_u x_v + \sum_{\substack{\text{a selfloop } e \\ \text{on a vertex } u}} x_u^2 \\ &= \sum_{\substack{\text{an edge } e \text{ with} \\ \text{end vertices } u \neq v}} (x_u + x_v)^2 + \sum_{\substack{\text{a selfloop } e \\ \text{on a vertex } u}} x_u^2. \end{aligned}$$

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- ▶  $V = [n] = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ .
- ▶  $x_1$  is **positive** and has **maximum absolute value** among all  $x_i$ .
- ▶ Recall that  $G$  is **non-bipartite**, so there exist an edge with end vertices  $i, j \in [n]$  such that  $x_i, x_j \geq 0$  or  $x_i, x_j < 0$ .

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$$\begin{aligned} d + \lambda_n &\geq \sum_{\substack{\text{an edge } e \text{ with} \\ \text{end vertices } u \neq v}} (x_u + x_v)^2 \geq \sum_{i \in [k-1]} (x_i + x_{i+1})^2 \\ &\geq \frac{1}{k-1} \left( \sum_{i \in [k-1]} |x_i + x_{i+1}| \right)^2 \\ &\geq \frac{1}{k-1} ((x_1 + x_2) + (-x_2 - x_3) + \dots + (x_{k-1} + x_k))^2 = \frac{(x_1 + x_k)^2}{k-1} \\ &\geq \frac{x_1^2}{n} \geq \frac{\sum_{i \in [n]} x_i^2}{n^2} = \frac{1}{n^2}. \end{aligned}$$



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$$\begin{aligned} d + \lambda_n &\geq \frac{1}{k-1} \left( \sum_{i \in [k-1]} |x_i + x_{i+1}| \right)^2 \\ &\geq \frac{1}{k-1} ((x_1 + x_2) + (-x_2 - x_3) + \dots + (-x_{k-1} - x_k))^2 = \frac{(x_1 - x_k)^2}{k-1} \\ &\geq \frac{x_1^2}{n} \geq \frac{\sum_{i \in [n]} x_i^2}{n^2} = \frac{1}{n^2}. \end{aligned}$$

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## Reingold's Algorithm

# Graph Reachability Problem



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*For a proof, see **Papadimitriou's Computational Complexity**.*

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$$V(G^{H,3}) := \{(v, i) \mid v \in V(H) \text{ and } 1 \leq i \leq \deg(v) \text{ (the degree of } v)\}.$$

## Every graph can be made into degree 3

From now on we always assume every graph  $H = (V(H), E(H))$  has no *vertex of degree at most 2*.

For every vertex  $v \in V(H)$ , assume  $v$  is of degree  $m$ , then we fix some numbering

$$e_v^1, e_v^2, \dots, e_v^m$$

of the edges incident to  $v$  in  $H$ .

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and for the edge set  $E(G^{H,3})$

- ▶ for every vertex  $v \in V(H)$  and  $i \in [\deg(v)]$ , there is an edge between  $(v, i)$  and  $(v, (i+1) \bmod \deg(v))$ ;
- ▶ for every  $u, v \in V(H)$  with  $u \neq v$  and  $i, j \in \mathbb{N}$ , there is an edge between  $(u, i)$  and  $(v, j)$  if  $e_u^i = e_v^j$ .

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$\iff$  *there is a path between  $(u, 1)$  and  $(v, 1)$  in  $G^{H,3}$ .*

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1. Choose some  $\ell = O(\log n)$  such that

$$\left(1 - \frac{1}{d^{16}n^2}\right)^{2^\ell} \leq \frac{1}{2}.$$

2.  $G_0 \leftarrow G$ .
3. **for**  $i = 1$  **to**  $\ell$  **do**  $G_i \leftarrow (G_{i-1} \otimes H)^8$ .
4. Check if  $s$  and  $t$  are connected in  $G_\ell$ .

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Recall for every  $G$  and  $H$  we have proved  $1 - \hat{\lambda}(G \otimes H) \geq (1 - \beta^2)(1 - \alpha)/2$ .

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**Case 2.**  $\hat{\lambda}(G_{i-1}) > 1/2$ . By *expansion*, for all  $1/2 \leq x \leq 1$  we have  $(1 - (1 - x)/3)^4 \leq x$ . Then

$$\hat{\lambda}(G_i) \leq (1 - (1 - \hat{\lambda}(G_{i-1}))/3)^8 \leq \hat{\lambda}^2(G_{i-1}).$$



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Recall

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Recall

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