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We now consider a family of distance-regular graphs called the hypercubes.

DEF 2.6 Fix an integer  $D \geq 1$ . The graph

$Q_D$  has vertex set

$X =$  set of all sequences  $\epsilon_1, \epsilon_2, \dots, \epsilon_D$  such that

$$\epsilon_i \in \{1, -1\} \quad \text{for } 1 \leq i \leq D$$

and edge set

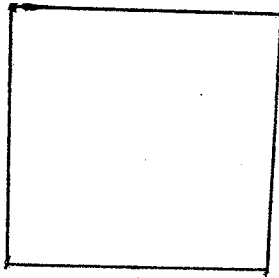
$$E = \left\{ xy \mid x, y \in X, \begin{array}{l} x, y \text{ differ in exactly} \\ \text{one coordinate} \end{array} \right\}$$

Call  $Q_D$  the D-cube or hypercube.  $Q_D$  is also called the Hamming graph  $H(D, 2)$ .

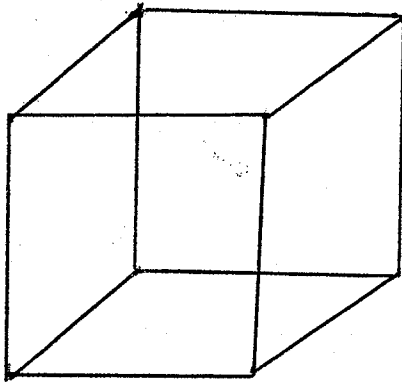
$Q_1$



$Q_2$



$Q_3$



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Basic facts about  $Q_0$ .

- The graph  $Q_0$  is connected. For vertices  $x, y$  of  $Q_0$  the distance

$$d(x, y) = \# \text{ of coordinates at which } x, y \text{ differ.}$$

Moreover the diameter of  $Q_0$  is  $D$ .

- The graph  $Q_0$  is bipartite. The bipartition is

$$X = X^+ \cup X^-$$

$$X^+ = \left\{ x \in X \mid x \text{ has even weight} \right\}$$

$$X^- = \left\{ x \in X \mid x \text{ has odd weight} \right\}$$

where the weight of  $x$  is the number of positive coords of  $x$

- The graph  $Q_0$  is distance-regular, with intersection numbers

$$c_i = i$$

$$a_i = 0$$

$$b_i = D - i$$

$$0 \leq i \leq D$$

The valencies are

$$k_i = \binom{D}{i}$$

$$0 \leq i \leq D$$

Consider the eigenvalues of  $Q_D$

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Find pattern

$Q_1$

eigenval	1	-1
mult	1	1

$Q_2$

eigenval	2	0	-2
mult	1	2	1

$Q_3$

eigenval	3	1	-1	-3
mult	1	3	3	1

Not hard to guess

ex the eigenvalues of  $Q_D$  are

$$\theta_i = D - 2i$$

$$0 \leq i \leq D$$

with  $\theta_i$  having multiplicity  $\binom{D}{i}$

for  $0 \leq i \leq D$ .

Until further notice for  $x \in X$   
 and write  $M^* = M^*(x)$ ,  $T = T(x)$ , etc.

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WLOG

$$x = \underbrace{11 \dots 1}_0$$

DEF 27 For  $Q_0$  Define  $R, L \in \text{Mat}_X(\mathbb{C})$  by

$$R = \sum_{i=0}^{D-1} E_{i+1}^* A E_i^* \quad \text{"raising matrix"}$$

$$L = \sum_{i=1}^D E_{i-1}^* A E_i^* \quad \text{"lowering matrix"}$$

We observe

$$\bar{R} = R, \quad \bar{L} = L, \quad R^\dagger = L$$

$$A = R + L$$

$$R E_i^* V \subseteq E_{i+1}^* V$$

$$0 \leq i < D$$

$$L E_i^* V \subseteq E_{i-1}^* V$$

$$0 \leq i \leq D$$

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DEF 28 For  $Q_0$  Define

$$A^x = \sum_{i=0}^D \theta_i^x E_i^x$$

where

$$\theta_i^x = D - 2i$$

$$0 \leq i \leq D.$$

— 0 —

We will show that  $A^x$  is a dual adjacency matrix wrt  $x$  and  $\{\theta_i\}_{i=0}^D$

LEM 29 For  $\varphi_0$  pick any

$y, z \in X$  such that

$$d(y, z) = 2 \quad \text{and} \quad d(x, y) = d(x, z).$$

(i)  $\exists$  unique vertex  $u \in X$  st

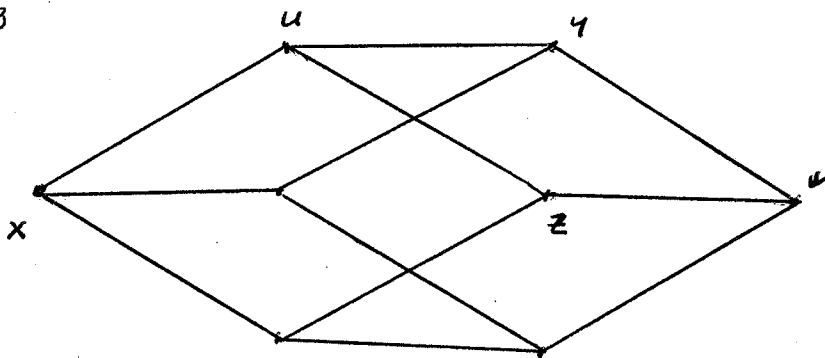
$$d(u, y) = 1, \quad d(u, z) = 1, \quad d(u, x) = d(x, y) - 1$$

(ii)  $\exists$  unique vertex  $v \in X$  st.

$$d(v, y) = 1, \quad d(v, z) = 1, \quad d(v, x) = d(x, y) + 1$$

pf Routine

illustration  
for  $D=3$



LEM 30 We have

$$(i) \quad LR - RL = A^*$$

$$(ii) \quad A^*L - LA^* = ZL$$

$$(iii) \quad A^*R - RA^* = -ZR$$

pf (i) For  $y, z \in X$  we compute the  $(y, z)$ -entry of each side.

Case	$(LR)_{yz}$	$(RL)_{yz}$	$(A^*)_{yz}$
$y = z \in P_i(x)$	$b_i$	$c_i$	$d - z_i$
$z(y, z) = z$ $z(x, y) = z(x, z)$	1	1	0
otherwise	0	0	0

Result follows.

(ii), (iii) Similar

□



LEM 31

$$(i) \quad R = \frac{AA^* - A^*A + 2A}{4}$$

$$(ii) \quad L = \frac{A^*A - AA^* + 2A}{4}$$

pf      Eliminate  $A$  using  $A = R + L$

and simplify using L30.

□

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Prop 32

We have

$$(i) \quad A^2 A^* - 2AA^*A + A^*A^2 = 4A^*$$

$$(ii) \quad A^{*2}A - 2A^*AA^* + AA^{*2} = 4A$$

pf (i)

$$[uv] = uv - vu$$

$$\text{LHS} = [A, [A, A^*]]$$

$$= [A, \underbrace{[R+L, A^*]}_{2R-2L}]$$

" "

$R+L$   $2R-2L$

$$= 2 [R+L, R-L]$$

$$= 2 [L, R] - 2 \underbrace{[R, L]}_{-A^*}$$

" "

$A^*$   $-A^*$

$$= 4A^*$$

(ii) Similar.

□

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Recall the primitive idempotent  $E_i$   
 for  $\theta_i = \alpha - 2i$  ( $0 \leq i \leq \alpha$ ).

Prop 33  $A^*$  is a dual adjacency matrix  
 wrt  $x$  and  $\{\theta_i\}_{i=0}^{\alpha}$ . Moreover

$$E_i A^* E_j = 0 \quad 0 \leq i, j \leq \alpha$$

pf We show

$$E_i A^* E_j = 0 \quad \text{if } |i-j| \neq 1 \quad (0 \leq i, j \leq \alpha)$$

Let  $i, j$  be given. By Prop 32 (1)

$$0 = E_i \left( A^2 A^* - 2A A^* A + A^* A^2 - 4A^* \right) E_j$$

$$= E_i A^* E_j \left( \underbrace{\theta_i^2 - 2\theta_i \theta_j + \theta_j^2 - 4}_{\parallel} \right)$$

$$\parallel$$

$$(\theta_i - \theta_j)^2 - 4$$

$$\parallel$$

$$(\theta_i - \theta_j - 2)(\theta_i - \theta_j + 2)$$

$$\parallel$$

$$4(i-j+1)(i-j-1)$$

So  $E_i A^* E_j = 0$  if  $|i-j| \neq 1$

□

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Earlier we defined the raising matrix

$R$  and lowering matrix  $L$ .

We now define dual versions  $R^*$  and  $L^*$

DEF 34 For  $Q_0$  define

$$R^* = \sum_{i=0}^{D-1} E_{i+1} A^* E_i$$

$$L^* = \sum_{i=1}^D E_{i-1} A^* E_i$$

We obs

$$\overline{R^*} = R^*, \quad \overline{L^*} = L^*, \quad (R^*)^t = L^*$$

$$A^* = R^* + L^*$$

$$R^* E_i V \subseteq E_{i+1} V$$

0E1SD

$$L^* E_i V \subseteq E_{i-1} V$$

0E1SD

LEM 35 We have

$$(i) \quad R^* = \frac{A^*A - AA^* + 2A^*}{4}$$

$$(ii) \quad L^* = \frac{AA^* - A^*A + 2A^*}{4}$$

pf (i) Write

$$C = \frac{A^*A - AA^* + 2A^*}{4}$$

view

$$C = ICI$$

$$I = \sum_{i=0}^n E_i$$

$$= \sum_{0 \leq i, j \leq n} E_i C E_j$$

$$= \sum_{0 \leq i, j \leq n} \underbrace{E_i A^* E_j}_{\parallel} \underbrace{\frac{\theta_j - \theta_i + 2}{4}}_{\parallel}$$

0 if  $|i-j| \neq 1$

$$\begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } |i-j| \neq 1 \\ 1 & \text{if } |i-j| = 1 \end{cases}$$

$$= R^*$$

(ii) Similar

□

LEM 36

We have

$$(i) \quad L^* R^* - R^* L^* = A$$

$$(ii) \quad A L^* - L^* A = 2L^*$$

$$(iii) \quad A R^* - R^* A = -2R^*$$

pf To verify each equation, elem  $L^*, R^*$   
using L35 and evaluate the result using

Prop 32. □

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Recall the Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{sl}_2 = \mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$

is the  $\mathbb{C}$ -vector space consisting of the  $2 \times 2$

matrices  $M \in \mathbb{C}$  that have trace 0, together

with the Lie bracket

$$[u, v] = uv - vu \quad u, v \in \mathfrak{sl}_2$$

$\mathfrak{sl}_2$  has a basis

$$e = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad f = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad h = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

and

$$[e, f] = h$$

$$[h, e] = 2e$$

$$[h, f] = -2f$$

DEF 37 The universal enveloping  
algebra  $U(\mathfrak{sl}_2)$  is the (associative)  
 $\mathbb{Q}$ -algebra with 1 defined by generators  
 $E, F, H$  and relations

$$EF - FE = H$$

$$HE - EH = 2E$$

$$HF - FH = -2F$$

Thm 38. For  $\mathfrak{g}_0 \exists$  surjective  $\mathbb{Q}$ -alg  
 homomorphism

$$U(\mathfrak{sl}_2) \rightarrow T$$

that sends

$$E \rightarrow L$$

$$F \rightarrow R$$

$$H \rightarrow A^*$$



By thm 38 the standard module  $V$

becomes an  $\mathfrak{sl}_2$ -module such that

generator	$e$	$f$	$h$
action on $V$	$L$	$R$	$A^*$

— 0 —

Define

$$a = e + f = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$a^* = h = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

On the  $\mathfrak{sl}_2$ -module  $V$

generator	$a$	$a^*$
action on $V$	$A$	$A^*$

One checks

$$[a, [a, a^*]] = 4a^*$$

$$[a^*, [a^*, a]] = 4a$$

(compare with Prop 32)