EXPANDERS & RAMANUJAN GRAPHS

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Highly Connected Graphs



Connectedness – Why is it important?

- Efficient Communication Networks 'well connected' topologies achieve low latencies with as few links (cost?) as possible
- Design of Rapidly Mixing Stochastic Processes a random walk on a well connected graph is likely to converge to its stationary distribution quickly
- Pseudorandom Generators random walk on a well connected graph can be a very good source of pseudorandom bits – 'randomness extraction'
- Error Correcting Codes a 'richly connected' graph between messages and their codes (bipartite) is likely to lead to enough candidates among the codes that are mutually separated by a minimum distance (such as Hamming distance).

What is 'Connectedness'?

Low 'Diameter' – largest of the minimum distances between pairs of nodes

 $\max_{u,v} \left(\min_{p_{u,v}} l(p_{uv}) \right)$

 High 'Expansion' – any subset of nodes of the graph has 'enough' edges going out to those not in the subset

$$\min_{S\subseteq V, |S|\leq \frac{n}{2}} \frac{|\{E(u,v) \mid u \in S, v \in \overline{S}\}|}{|S|}$$

Isoperimetric Number of the graph

Spectral Graph Theory – Unifying Theme

- Deep relationships between the structural / combinatorial properties of a graph and the algebraic properties of its adjacency matrix. For a dregular, n-vertex graph G:
 - · Adjacency graph A is symmetric, each row/column adding up to d
 - $d = \lambda_0 \ge \lambda_1 \ge ... \ge \lambda_{n-1} \ge -d$ is the eigen-spectrum of A

• G is Connected iff $\lambda_0>\lambda_1;$ multiplicity of λ_0 is the number of connected components of G

- Maximum size of a clique in G is at most λ₁+1
- G is Bipartite iff $\lambda_{n-1} = -d$; $\chi(G) \ge 1 \frac{|\lambda_0|}{|\lambda_{n-1}|}$ (Chromatic Number)

(Hoffman, 1968)

• Maximum size of a cut in G is at most $\left(\frac{|E|}{2} - (n/4)\lambda_{n-1}\right)$

(Delorme & Poljak, 1993)

Spectral Gap and Connectivity

• $\lambda = (\lambda_0 - \lambda_1)$ is the **spectral gap** (λ_0 is in fact d)

• Diameter
$$\delta \leq \frac{\log(n-1)}{\log(d/\lambda_1)} + 1$$
 (non-bipartite)
 $\delta \leq \frac{\log(n-2)/2}{\log(d/\lambda_1)} + 2$ (bipartite)
Small $\delta \Rightarrow$ small λ_1

(Chung, 1989)

Expansion Ratio h(G)

 $\frac{\lambda}{2} \le h(G) \le \sqrt{2d\lambda}$ Large h(G) \Rightarrow large $\lambda \Rightarrow small \lambda_1$ (Noga Alon & Milman, 1985)

Ramanujan Graphs

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$$\lambda_1 \geq 2\sqrt{d-1} \cdot \left(1 - O\left(\frac{1}{\log^2 n}\right)\right)$$

(Noga Alon & Boppanna, 1991)

• For every integer d and ϵ , there exists a constant $c(\epsilon, d)$ such that every (n, d)-graph G has at least c.n eigenvalues greater than $2\sqrt{d-1} - \epsilon$.

(J-.P.Serre, 1991)

• d-regular Graphs with $\lambda_1 \leq 2\sqrt{d-1}$ are Ramanujan Graphs (Lubotzky, Phillips and Sarnak, 1988)

 Ramanujan Graphs have the largest spectral gap possible and therefore are the most 'well connected' (among d-regular graphs)

Examples of Ramanujan Graphs

- K_d , $K_{d,d}$ are both Ramanujan
- Petersen Graph is Ramanujan



 Random d-regular graphs are 'almost' Ramanujan (Friedman 1991)

$$\lambda_1 \leq 2\sqrt{d-1} + 2\log d + O(1)$$

Expander Graphs

• Expander Graph Family: family of graphs G_i , $i \in N$ such that:

- G_i is a d-regular graph of size n_i ; $\{n_i\}$ is a monotonically growing series that doesn't grow too fast (say $n_{i+1} \ll n_i^2$)
- $\forall i, h(G_i) \geq \epsilon > 0$
- Example of an expander family (Super-Concentrators):
 - (n,m,d)-Superconcentrator is a bipartite graph with |L| = n, |R| = m and every L-vertex has d neighbors.
 - Known (Pinsker 1973): a random superconcentrator satisfies the following with probability at least 0.9:

for every
$$S \subseteq L$$
, $\Gamma(S) \ge \begin{cases} \frac{5d}{8}|S|, & |S| \le \frac{n}{10d} \\ |S|, & \frac{n}{10d} \le |S| \le \frac{n}{2} \end{cases}$

 $\Gamma(S)$ is the set of neighbors of S.

Properties of Expander Graphs

• Expander Families have $\delta = O(\log n)$

Expander Families are close to random: Expander
 Mixing Lemma: ∀S, T ⊆ V,

$$\left| |E(S,T)| - \frac{d|S||T|}{n} \right| \leq \lambda_1 \sqrt{|S||T|}$$

Margulis Construction (1973)

$$G(Z_m X Z_m) = (x, y) \rightarrow \begin{cases} (x \pm y, y) \\ (x \pm (y + 1), y) \\ (x, y \pm x) \\ (x, y \pm (x + 1)) \end{cases}, \text{ mod } m$$

Graphs with m^2 vertices and $\lambda_1 \leq 8$

Expander Families that are Ramanujan

- What we really need are families of expander graphs that are Ramanujan (Ramanujan Families)
- Constructions exist now but are highly non-trivial. Proofs of 'Ramanujan-ness' have used a wide range of deep mathematics – Representation Theory of Lie Groups, Number Theory, Algebraic Geometry, …

Examples of Ramanujan Families

- Lubotzky, Phillips and Sarnak (1988): $V_p = Z_p$ for some prime p, d = 3, x is connected to x+1, x-1 and x^{-1} modulo p.
- The proof crucially depended on the Ramanujan-Petersson Conjecture (now a theorem): that the Ramanujan Tau function,

 $\sum_{n\geq 1} \tau(n)q^n = q \prod_n (1-q^n)^{24}$, where $q = e^{2\pi i z}$ satisfies: $|\tau(p)| \leq 2p^{\frac{11}{2}}$, for all primes p.

Hence the name **Ramanujan Graphs**.

Ramanujan Families of Arbitrary size?

 Construction of Ramanujan families for any n other than primes and prime powers remains an important open problem.

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THANK YOU

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