

Smith and critical groups of the symplectic polar graph.

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Joint work with Peter Sin.

University of Florida
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- 1 Preliminaries
- 2 Chip Firing Game
- 3 Some families of graphs with known Critical groups
- 4 Useful elementary results from linear algebra
- 5 Symplectic polar graph

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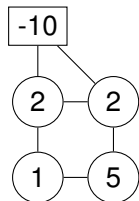
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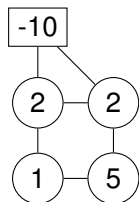
Consider the complete graph on n vertices, K_n . In this case $A = J - I$, and $L = (n - 1)I - A$. Here I is the identity matrix and J the all-one matrix of size $n \times n$. The Smith group of this graph is $\mathbb{Z}/(n - 1)\mathbb{Z}$, and the critical group being $(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^{n-2}$.

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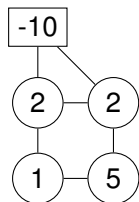


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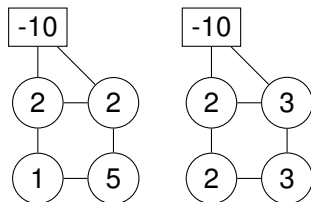
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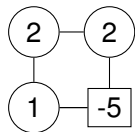
A round vertex v can be fired if $s(v) \geq d(v)$

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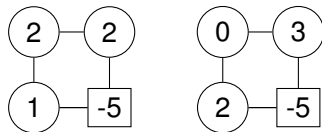


A configuration on a graph is an assignment of a non-negative integer $s(v)$ to every round vertex v and $-\sum s(v)$ to the square vertex (sink/bank). A round vertex v can be fired if $s(v) \geq d(v)$. The square vertex fires only when no other can fire.

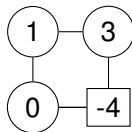
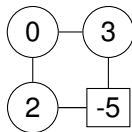
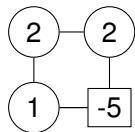
Sample game



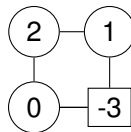
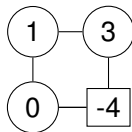
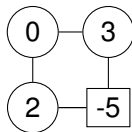
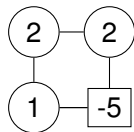
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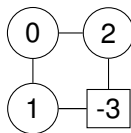
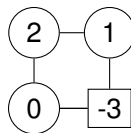
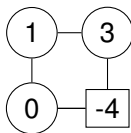
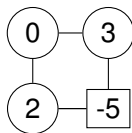
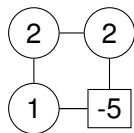
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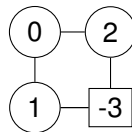
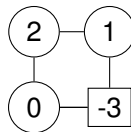
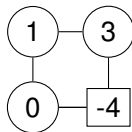
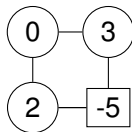
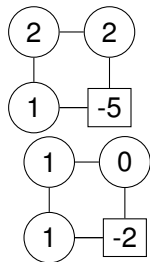
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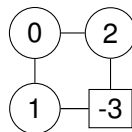
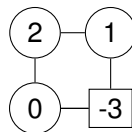
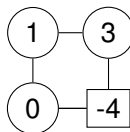
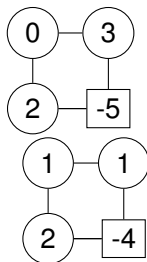
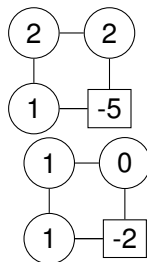
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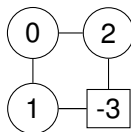
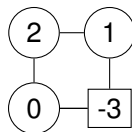
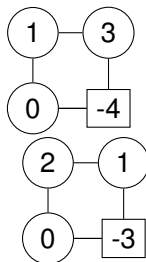
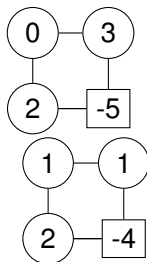
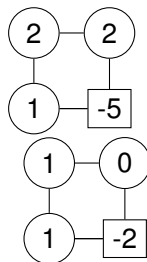
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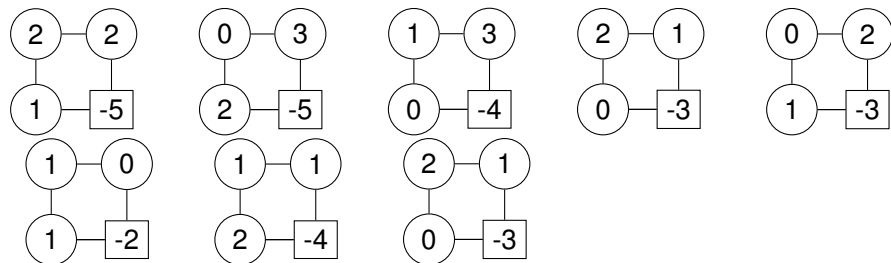
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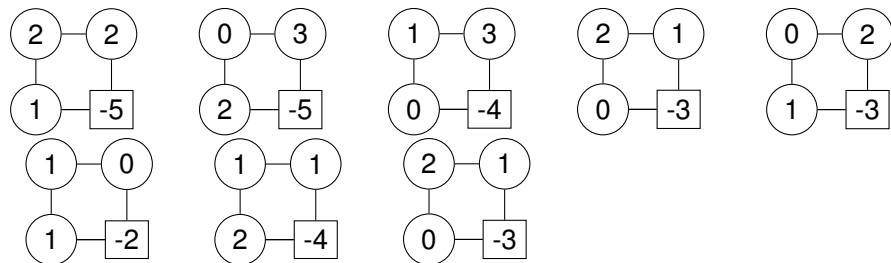


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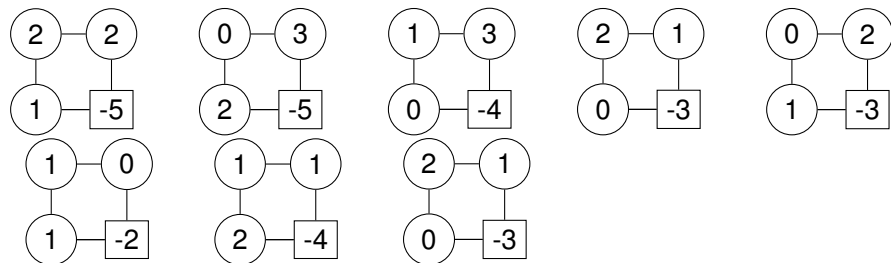
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- A configuration is said to be *stable* if there no round vertex can be fired
- A configuration is said to be *critical* if it is both *stable* and *recurrent*

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Theorem (Biggs 1997)

Any starting configuration of a graph G leads to a unique critical configuration.

The set of critical configuration has a natural group operation that is isomorphic to the critical group $K(G)$.

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- 1 $e_i = \dim(\overline{M}_i / \overline{M}_{i+1})$
- 2 $\dim(\overline{M}_a) = \dim(\overline{\ker(C)}) + \sum_{i \geq a} e_i$
- 3 $v_\ell(|H|) = \sum_i i e_i$

Let H be a finite abelian group and fix a prime $\ell \mid |H|$.

e_i = the multiplicity of $\mathbb{Z}/\ell^i\mathbb{Z}$ as an elementary divisor of H .

If $\ell = 2$, and $H = \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \times (\mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z})^2 \times (\mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z})^3 \times \mathbb{Z}/27\mathbb{Z}$, $e_1 = 1$, $e_2 = 2$, and $e_i = 0$ for all other i .

Let $G = (V, E)$ be a graph with adjacency matrix A , and laplaican L .

Let $C = A$ or L . Fix H to be abelian group $Tor(\text{coker}(C))$. We may consider C to be a \mathbb{Z}_ℓ matrix.

Define $M_i := \{x \in \mathbb{Z}_\ell V \mid Cx \in \ell^i \mathbb{Z}_\ell V\}$. Then $\overline{M}_i = M_i \otimes \mathbb{F}_\ell$ is a subspace of $\mathbb{F}_\ell V$.

$$\ker(C) \subset \dots \subset M_{i+1} \subset M_i \dots M_1 \subset M_0 = \mathbb{Z}_\ell V$$

$$\overline{\ker(C)} \subset \dots \subset \overline{M}_{i+1} \subset \overline{M}_i \dots \overline{M}_1 \subset \overline{M}_0 = \mathbb{F}_\ell V$$

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\overline{M}_i 's are $\mathbb{F}_\ell \text{Aut}(G)$ -submodules of the permutation action of $\text{Aut}(G)$ on V .

Integer eigenvalues

Now if C has an integer eigenvalue λ of multiplicity f . Let $v_\ell(\lambda) = a$. Treating C an element of $\text{End}_{\mathbb{Q}_\ell}(\mathbb{Q}_\ell V)$, define V_λ to be the eigensubspace corresponding to λ . Then $V_\lambda \cap \mathbb{Z}_\ell V \subset M_a(C)$ and is a pure sublattice of rank f . Therefore we have $\dim(\overline{M_a(C)}) \geq \dim(\overline{V_\lambda \cap \mathbb{Z}_\ell V}) = f$.

Trivial application

Consider $G = K_n$ (complete graph on n -vertices). Let $C = A = J - I$, with J being the all 1 matrix. C has eigenvalues $(n - 1, -1)$ with multiplicities $(1, n - 1)$. In this case, $|S(G)| = |\det(A)| = n - 1$. Assume $v_\ell(n - 1) = a$. $n - 1$ is an integer eigen value with multiplicity 1, so $\sum_{i \geq a} e_i = \dim(\overline{M}_a) \geq 1$.

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We have

$$\begin{aligned} v_\ell(|S|) &= a = \sum_{i \geq 0} i e_i \\ &\geq \sum_{i \geq a} i e_i \\ &\geq a \sum_{i \geq a} e_i \\ &\geq a. \end{aligned}$$

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So we have $e_a = 1$ and $e_i = 0$ for $i \neq a$. So the Smith group of the complete graph on n vertices is $\mathbb{Z}/(n - 1)\mathbb{Z}$.

- 1 Preliminaries
- 2 Chip Firing Game
- 3 Some families of graphs with known Critical groups
- 4 Useful elementary results from linear algebra
- 5 Symplectic polar graph**

Strongly regular graph

A strongly regular graph (SRG) with parameters (v, k, λ, μ) is a k -regular graph on v vertices such that

- any two adjacent vertices have λ neighbours in common; and
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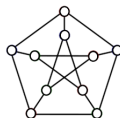
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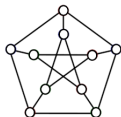


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Let A be an adjacency matrix of a strongly regular graph with parameters (v, k, λ, μ) . Then A satisfies

$$A^2 + (\mu - \lambda)A + (\mu - k)I = \mu J,$$

where I is the $v \times v$ identity matrix and J is the $v \times v$ all one matrix.

We also have $(v - k - 1)\mu = k(k - \lambda - 1)$.

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$\Gamma = (\mathbb{P}^1(V), E)$ with $(\langle x \rangle, \langle y \rangle) \in E$ iff $\langle x \rangle \neq \langle y \rangle$ and $x \perp y$.

Γ is an SRG with parameters

$$(v, k, \lambda, \mu) = \left(\begin{bmatrix} 2m \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}_q, q \begin{bmatrix} m-1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}_q (1 + q^{m-1}), \begin{bmatrix} 2m-2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}_q - 2, \begin{bmatrix} 2m-2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}_q \right).$$

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$$\text{Spec}(A) = (k, r, s) = (q \begin{bmatrix} m-1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}_q (1 + q^{m-1}), q^{m-1} - 1, -(1 + q^{m-1})) \text{ with}$$

$$\text{multiplicities } (1, f, g) = \left(1, \frac{q(q^{m-1}-1)(q^{m-1}+1)}{2(q-1)}, \frac{q(q^m+1)(q^{m-1}-1)}{2(q-1)} \right)..$$

$$\text{Spec}(L) = (0, t, u) = (0, \begin{bmatrix} m-1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}_q (1 + q^m), \begin{bmatrix} m \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}_q (1 + q^{m-1})) \text{ with multiplicities } (1, f, g).$$

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$|S| = |\det(A)| = |kr^f s^g|$ and $|K| = t^f u^g / v$ (by Kirchhoff's matrix-tree theorem.)

Description of S

Theorem

Let $\ell \mid |S|$, then

- 1 If ℓ is odd prime with $v_\ell(1 + q^{m-1}) = a > 0$, then $e_a(\ell) = g + 1$ and $e_i(\ell) = 0$ for $i \neq a$.
- 2 If ℓ is an odd prime with $v_\ell\left(\begin{bmatrix} m-1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}_q\right) = a$ and $v_\ell(q - 1) = b$, we have
 - 1 If $a > 0, b > 0$, $e_{a+b}(\ell) = f$, $e_a(\ell) = 1$ and $e_i(\ell) = 0$ for $i \neq 0, a + b, a$
 - 2 If $b = 0$, $e_a = f + 1$ and $e_i(\ell) = 0$ for $i \neq 0, a$
 - 3 If $a = 0$, $e_b = f$ and $e_i(\ell) = 0$ for $i \neq 0, b$
- 3 If $\ell \mid q$, $e_{v_\ell(q)}(\ell) = 1$, and $e_i(\ell) = 0$ for $i \neq v_\ell(q)$.
- 4 If $\ell = 2$ and q is odd,
 - 1 If m is even, $e_a(2) = f - g - 1$ and $e_{a+b}(2) = g + 1$ and $e_i(2) = 0$ for all other i 's. Where $a = v_2(q - 1)$ and $b = v_2(q^{m-1} + 1)$.
 - 2 If m is odd, $e_{a+b+1}(2) = g + 1$, $e_{a+b}(2) = f - g - 1$, $e_a(2) = 1$, and $e_i(2) = 0$ for all other i 's. Here, $v_2\left(\begin{bmatrix} m-1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}_q\right) = a$, $v_2(q - 1) = b$.

Description of K

Theorem

Let $\ell \mid |K|$, then

- 1 If ℓ is odd prime with $v_\ell\left(\begin{bmatrix} m \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}_q\right) = a$ $v_\ell(1 + q^{m-1}) = b$, then
 - 1 If $a > 0, b > 0$ $e_{a+b}(\ell) = g - 1$, $e_b(\ell) = 1$ and $e_i(\ell) = 0$ for $i \neq a$.
 - 2 If $a = 0$, $e_b = g$ and $e_i = 0$ for all other i .
 - 3 If $b = 0$, $e_a = g - 1$ and $e_i = 0$ for all other i .
- 2 If ℓ is an odd prime with $v_\ell\left(\begin{bmatrix} m-1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}_q\right) = a > 0$ and $v_\ell(q^m + 1) = b > 0$, we have
 - 1 If $a > 0, b > 0$ $e_{a+b}(\ell) = f - 1$, $e_a(\ell) = 1$ and $e_i(\ell) = 0$ for $i \neq a + b, a$.
 - 2 If $b = 0$, $e_a = f$ and $e_i = 0$ for all other i .
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 - 2 If m is odd, $v_\ell\left(\begin{bmatrix} m-1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}_q\right) = a > 0$, and $v_\ell(q^m + 1) = b > 0$, we have $e_{a+b}(2) = f - g - 1$, $e_{a+b+1}(2) = g + 1$ and $e_a(2) = 1$.

Numerical Example

Let $q = 9$ and $m = 3$. Then Γ is an SRG with parameter $(66430, 7380, 818, 820)$. The eigenvalues of A are $(7380, 80, -82)$ with multiplicities $(1, 33579, 32850)$. The eigenvalues of L are $(0, 7300, 7462)$.

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$$S = \mathbb{Z}/9\mathbb{Z} \times (\mathbb{Z}/41\mathbb{Z})^{32581} \times (\mathbb{Z}/5\mathbb{Z})^{33580} \times (\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}) \times (\mathbb{Z}/16\mathbb{Z})^{728} \times (\mathbb{Z}/32\mathbb{Z})^{32851}$$

$$K = (\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}) \times (\mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z})^{728} \times (\mathbb{Z}/8\mathbb{Z})^{32851} \times (\mathbb{Z}/41\mathbb{Z}) \times (\mathbb{Z}/91\mathbb{Z})^{32580} \times (\mathbb{Z}/25\mathbb{Z})^{33578} \times (\mathbb{Z}/5\mathbb{Z}) \times (\mathbb{Z}/73\mathbb{Z})^{33579}$$

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There are about 4×10^{81} atoms in the observable universe. This graph has more spanning trees than the number of atoms in the observable universe!

Some arithmetic

Let $\ell \mid |S| = |kr^f s^g|$ be a prime. We have

$$|s| - |r| = (1 + q^{m-1}) - (q^{m-1} - 1) = 2, k = q \frac{r}{q-1} s \text{ and } \mu = \frac{r}{q-1} s. A$$

satisfies $(A - rl)(A - sl) = \mu J$

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Same problems arise for the critical group when $\ell = 2$.

ℓ -part of S when $\ell \mid r$ and $\ell \nmid s$

Let $v_\ell(q-1) = b > 0$, $v_\ell\left(\begin{bmatrix} m-1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}_q\right) = a > 0$, then $v_\ell(r) = a + b$ and $v_\ell(k) = v_\ell(\mu) = a$. Then $e_{a+b} = f$, $e_a = 1$ and $e_i = 0$ for all other positive i 's.

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Thus $\dim(\text{Im}(\overline{A} - \overline{s}I)) = f + 1$.
Since $A(A - sI) = r(A - sI) + \mu J$,
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$$\begin{aligned}v_\ell(|S|) &= (a + b)f + a \\ &= \sum_{i>0} ie_i \\ &\geq \sum_{a+b>i \geq a} ie_i + \sum_{i \geq a+b} ie_i\end{aligned}$$

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$$\begin{aligned} v_\ell(|S|) &= (a + b)f + a \\ &= \sum_{i>0} i e_i \\ &\geq \sum_{a+b>i \geq a} i e_i + \sum_{i \geq a+b} i e_i \\ &\geq a \sum_{a+b>i \geq a} e_i + (a + b) \sum_{i \geq a+b} e_i \end{aligned}$$

ℓ -part of S when $\ell \mid r$ and $\ell \nmid s$

Let $v_\ell(q-1) = b > 0$, $v_\ell\left(\binom{m-1}{1}_q\right) = a > 0$, then $v_\ell(r) = a + b$ and $v_\ell(k) = v_\ell(\mu) = a$. Then $e_{a+b} = f$, $e_a = 1$ and $e_i = 0$ for all other positive i 's.

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 &\quad + (a + b)(\dim(\overline{M}_{a+b}(A))) \\
 &\geq a + (a + b)f
 \end{aligned}$$

2-parts of S and K

In this case, $\ell = 2$. The vector space $\mathbb{F}_2\Gamma$ is a permutation module for $Sp(V)$. The vector spaces $\overline{M_i(A)}$, and $\overline{M_i(L)}$ are $Sp(V)$ -submodules of $\mathbb{F}_2\Gamma$.

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Let $(\ , \)$ be the symmetric bilinear form on $\mathbb{F}_2\Gamma$ with vertices of Γ being an orthonormal basis. If W is any subspace of V , $[W] := \sum_{\langle v \rangle \in \mathbb{P}^1(W)} \langle v \rangle$.

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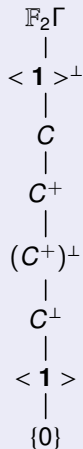
Let $\mathbf{1} = [V]$, and $C = \langle \{[W] \mid W \text{ is a maximal totally isotropic subspace}\} \rangle$
 $C^+ = \langle \{[W] - [W'] \mid W, W' \text{ are maximal totally isotropic subspace}\} \rangle$.

Let $M \subset \mathbb{F}_2\Gamma$, then M^\perp is the orthogonal complement of M with respect to $(,)$.

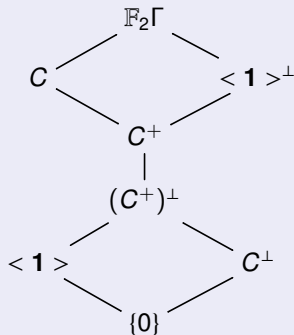
Theorem (Lattile Sin Tiep 2003)

The submodule structure for $\mathbb{F}_2\Gamma$ is given by the following Hasse diagrams:

m is even



m is odd



$$\dim(C) = f + 1, \dim(C^+) = f, \dim((C^+)^\perp) = g + 1, \&\dim(C^\perp) = g$$

2-part of S , when m is even.

Let $a = v_2(q - 1) = v_2(q^{m-1} - 1)$ and $b = v_2(q^{m-1} + 1)$. Then $e_a = f - g - 1$ and $e_{a+b} = g + 1$ and $e_i = 0$ for other i .

$$\begin{array}{c} \mathbb{F}_2\Gamma \\ | \\ \langle \mathbf{1} \rangle^\perp \\ | \\ C \\ | \\ C^+ \\ | \\ (C^+)^\perp \\ | \\ C^\perp \\ | \\ \langle \mathbf{1} \rangle \\ | \\ \{0\} \end{array}$$

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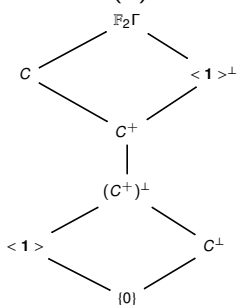
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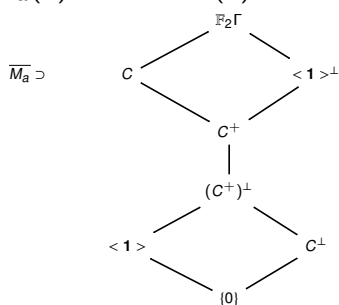
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We assume $v_2\left(\binom{m-1}{1}_q\right) = a$, $v_2(q-1) = b$, $v_2(r) = a+b$, $v_2(s) = 1$,
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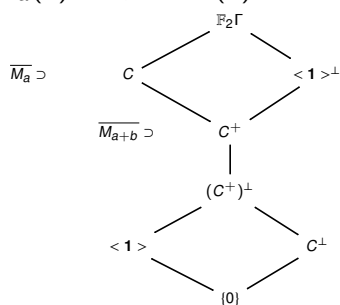
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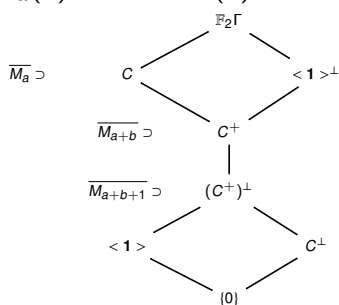
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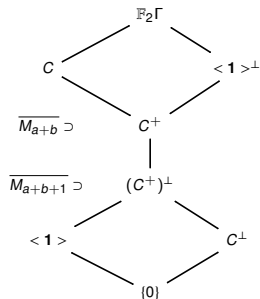
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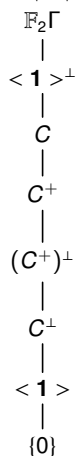
$$\begin{aligned}
 v_2(|S|) &= \sum_{i>0} i e_i \\
 &\geq \sum_{a+b>i \geq a} i e_i + (a+b)(e_{a+b}) + \sum_{i \geq a+b+1} i e_i \\
 &\geq a \sum_{a+b>i \geq a} e_i + (a+b)e_{a+b} \\
 &\quad + (a+b+1) \sum_{i \geq a+b+1} e_i \\
 &\geq a(\dim_{\mathbb{F}_2}(\overline{M}_a(A)) - \dim_{\mathbb{F}_2}(\overline{M}_{a+b}(A))) \\
 &\quad + a+b(\dim_{\mathbb{F}_2}(\overline{M}_{a+b}(A)) - \dim_{\mathbb{F}_2}(\overline{M}_{a+b+1}(A))) \\
 &\quad + (a+b+1)(\dim_{\mathbb{F}_2}(\overline{M}_{a+b+1}(A))) \\
 &\geq a + (a+b)f + g + 1 = v_2(|S|)
 \end{aligned}$$

2-part of K , when m is even.

As $\begin{bmatrix} m \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}_q$ is even, $v_2(q^m - 1) > 1$, and thus $v_2(q^m + 1) = 1$. Assume

$v_2\left(\begin{bmatrix} m \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}_q\right) = a$ and $v_2(q^{m-1} + 1) = b$. Then we have

$$e_{a+b+1} = g - 1, e_{b+1} = 1, e_1 = f - g - 1$$

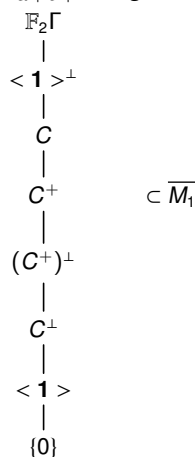


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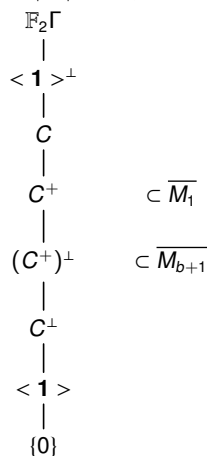


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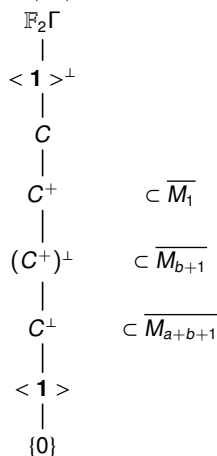


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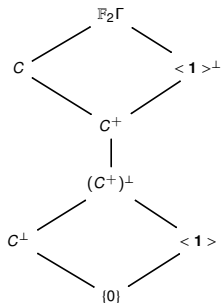
$$\begin{array}{c}
 \mathbb{F}_2\Gamma \\
 | \\
 \langle \mathbf{1} \rangle^\perp \\
 | \\
 C \\
 | \\
 C^+ \quad \subset \overline{M_1} \\
 | \\
 (C^+)^\perp \quad \subset \overline{M_{b+1}} \\
 | \\
 C^\perp \quad \subset \overline{M_{a+b+1}} \\
 | \\
 \langle \mathbf{1} \rangle \\
 | \\
 \{0\}
 \end{array}$$

So we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 v_2(|K|) &= f + (a+b)g - (a+1) = \sum_{i>0} ie_i \\
 &= \sum_{b+1>i>0} ie_i + \sum_{a+b+1>i>b+1} ie_i + \sum_{i>a+b+1} ie_i \\
 &\geq \sum_{b+1>i>0} e_i + b \sum_{a+b+1>i>b+1} e_i + \\
 &\quad (a+b+1) \sum_{i>a+b+1} e_i \\
 &= \dim_{\mathbb{F}_2}(\overline{M_1(L)}) - \\
 &\quad \dim_{\mathbb{F}_2}(\overline{M_{b+1}(L)}) + (b+1)(\dim_{\mathbb{F}_2}(\overline{M_{b+1}(L)}) \\
 &\quad - \dim_{\mathbb{F}_2}(\overline{M_{a+b+1}(L)})) + \\
 &\quad (a+b+1)(\dim_{\mathbb{F}_2}(\overline{M_{a+b+1}(L)}) - \dim_{\mathbb{F}_2}(\overline{\text{Ker}(L)})) \\
 &\geq f - (g+1) + b+1(a+b+1)(g-1) \\
 &= (f + (a+b)g - (a+1)).
 \end{aligned}$$

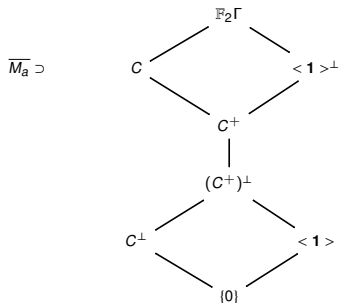
2-part of K when m is odd.

As $\begin{bmatrix} m-1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}_q$ is even, $v_2(-1 + q^{m-1}) > 1$ and thus $v_2(1 + q^{m-1}) = 1$. Assume $v_2(q^m + 1) = b$ and $v_2(\begin{bmatrix} m-1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}_q) = a$. Then $e_{a+b+1} = g + 1$, $e_{a+b} = f - g - 1$, $e_a = 1$, and $e_i = 0$ for all other i .



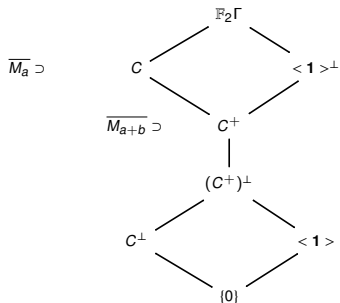
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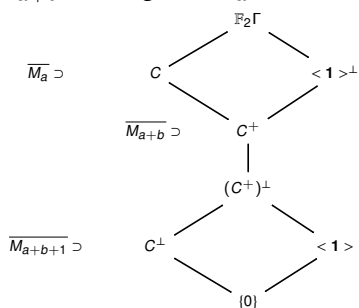
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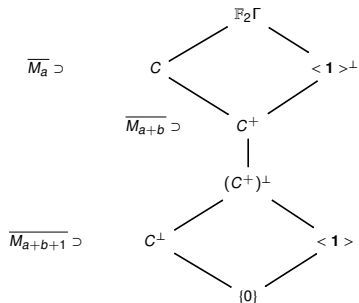
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$$\begin{aligned}
 v_2(|K|) &= \sum_{i>0} ie_i \\
 &\geq \sum_{a+b>i\geq a} ie_i + (a+b)(e_{a+b}) + \sum_{i\geq a+b+1} ie_i \\
 &\geq a \sum_{a+b>i\geq a} e_i + (a+b)e_{a+b} \\
 &\quad + (a+b+1) \sum_{i\geq a+b+1} e_i \\
 &\geq a(\dim_{\mathbb{F}_2}(\overline{M_a(L)}) - \dim_{\mathbb{F}_2}(\overline{M_{a+b}(L)})) \\
 &\quad + a + b(\dim_{\mathbb{F}_2}(\overline{M_{a+b}(L)}) - \dim_{\mathbb{F}_2}(\overline{M_{a+b+1}(L)})) \\
 &\quad + (a+b+1)(\dim_{\mathbb{F}_2}(\overline{M_{a+b+1}(L)}) \\
 &\quad - \dim_{\mathbb{F}_2}(\overline{\ker(L)})) \\
 &\geq (a+b)f + g - b = v_2(|K|)
 \end{aligned}$$

Other Results

Consider the graph on a non-degenerate quadric in $\mathbb{P}^n(q)$, in which two points are adjacent if and only if they are orthogonal.

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Using the submodule structure given in *Rank 3 permutation modules of the finite classical groups*, J. Algebra 291 (2005) 551-606 by Sin and Tiep, we were able to determine the Smith and Critical groups of the above family of graphs.



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Thank You!