

List avoiding orientations

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Basic definitions

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- D will be typically used for a directed graphs (or specific orientations)
- $E_D(v)^-$, $E_D(v)^+$ denotes edges incoming/outgoing to v . Respectively we define $deg_D(v)^-$, $deg_D(v)^+$.

Theorem, Frank and Gyárfás, 1976

For a graph G and two mappings $a, b : V(G) \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ satisfying $a(v) \leq b(v)$ for every vertex v , G has an orientation D satisfying $a(v) \leq \deg_D^+(v) \leq b(v)$ for every vertex v iff for each subset $U \in V(G)$:

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$$\sum_{v \in U} a(v) - e(U, \bar{U}) \leq |E(G[U])| \leq \sum_{v \in U} b(v)$$

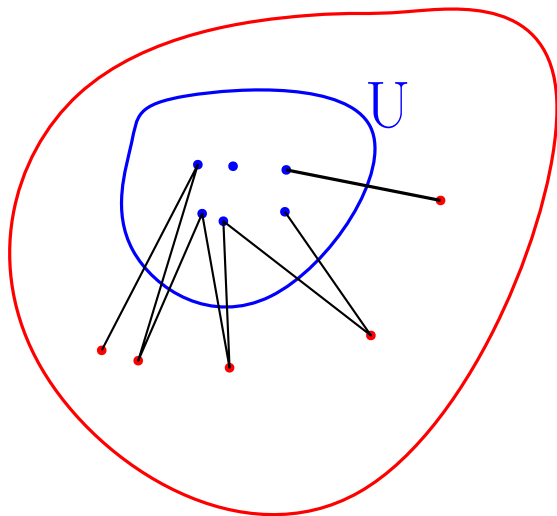
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Where $e(U, \bar{U})$ denotes the number of edges between U and \bar{U} - that is $V(G) \setminus U$

Example



Definition

Given a graph G and a function $f : V(G) \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$, we say that an orientation D of G is *f-avoiding* if $\deg^+ D(v) \neq f(v)$ for each $v \in V(G)$.

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Theorem: S. Akbari, M. Dalirrooyfard, K. Ehsani, K. Ozeki, and R. Sherhati. [2020]

There is an *f-avoiding* orientation for every 2-connected graph G that is not an odd cycle and for every function $f : V(G) \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$, and that an odd cycle has an *f-avoiding* orientation if and only if $f(v) \neq 1$ for some vertex v of the cycle.

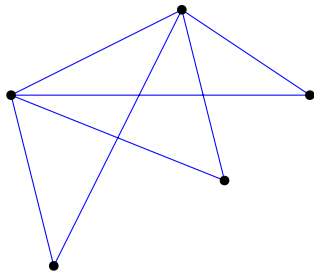
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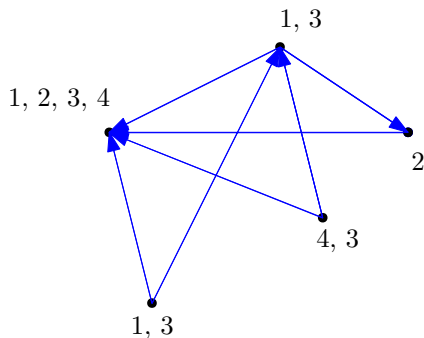
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Conjecture 1

Let G be a graph, and let $F : V(G) \rightarrow 2^{\mathbb{N}}$. If $|F(v)| \leq \frac{1}{2}(\deg_G(v) - 1)$ for each $v \in V(G)$, then G has an F -avoiding orientation.

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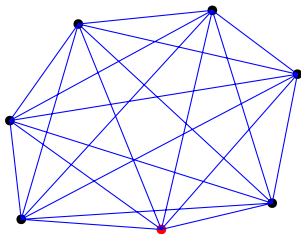
If that conjecture is true, the bound is tight. $2k$ -regular graphs on n vertices with independence number less than $\frac{n}{k+1}$ and $F(v) = \{k, k+1, \dots, 2k-1\}$ give sharpness. Eg. K_{2k+1} :

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$$2k + 1 = 7$$

$$F(v) = \{3, 4, 5\}$$

Conjecture 2

Let G be a graph, and let $F : V(G) \rightarrow 2^{\mathbb{N}}$. If G has an orientation D such that $\deg_D^+(v) \geq |F(v)| + 1$ for each $v \in V(G)$, then G has an F -avoiding orientation.

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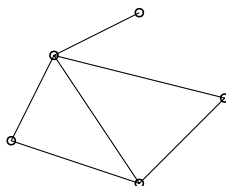
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As every graph G has an orientation such that $v \in V(G)$ satisfies $\deg_D^+(v) \geq \lfloor \frac{1}{2} \deg_G(v) \rfloor$, Conjecture 2 (if true) implies Conjecture 1 with error at most 1.

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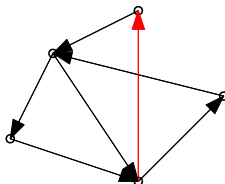
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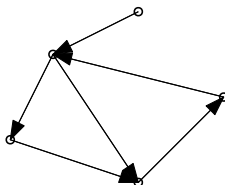
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Combinatorial Nullstellensatz

Let K be a field, and let f be a polynomial over the field $K[x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n]$. Suppose that the degree of f is $\sum_{i=1}^n t_i$, where each t_i is a nonnegative integer, and suppose that the coefficient of $\prod_{i=1}^n x_i^{t_i}$ in f is nonzero. Then, if S_1, \dots, S_n are subsets of K each satisfying $|S_i| > t_i$, then there exist elements $s_1 \in S_1, \dots, s_n \in S_n$ so that $f(s_1, \dots, s_n) \neq 0$.

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f_D^* is a classical graph polynomial. Graph coloring for instance might be translated to such polynomial naturally.

Main Construction

- We will consider $F : V(G) \rightarrow 2^{\mathbb{Z}}$ defined as *imbalance*, which is the difference $\deg_D^+(v) - \deg_D(v)$. and F is avoiding if $\deg_D^+(v) - \deg_D(v) \notin F(v)$

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The Imbalance in every vertex is a linear polynomial:

$$\deg_D^+(v) - \deg_D^-(v) = \sum_{e \in E(G)} m_{ve} y_e = \sum_{e \in E_G^R(v)} y_e - \sum_{e \in E_G^L(v)} y_e$$

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The Imbalance in every vertex is a linear polynomial:

$$\text{deg}_D^+(v) - \text{deg}_D(v) = \sum_{e \in E(G)} m_{v_e y_e} = \sum_{e \in E_G^R(v)} y_e - \sum_{e \in E_G^L(v)} y_e$$

So the polynomial is defined as:

$$f_0 = \prod_{i=1}^n \prod_{a \in F(v_i)} \left(\sum_{e \in E_G^R(v)} y_e - \sum_{e \in E_G^L(v)} y_e - a \right)$$

We can use Combinatorial Nullstellensatz if there exists monomial with coefficient $\neq 0$ s. t. each y_e appears at most once in it, as

$$\text{deg}(f_0) = \sum_{i \in [n]} t_i$$

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The problem is to find a monomial with a nonzero coefficient in f of a form: $y_A = y_{e_1} y_{e_2} \dots y_{e_{|A|}}$ for $A \in E(G)$ s. t. no y_e^2 does not divide that monomial.

Theorem

Let $F : V(G) \rightarrow 2^{\mathbb{Z}}$ be an assignment of forbidden imbalances for a graph G . Suppose that there exists an ordering of $V(G)$ and a spanning subgraph H of G such that for each vertex $v \in V(G)$, it holds that $|F(v)| \leq \deg_G^L(v) - 2\deg_H^L(v) + \deg_G^R(v)$. Then G has an F -avoiding orientation.

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Conjectures revisited

Conjecture 1: nearly $\frac{1}{2}$ approximation, S. Akbari, M. Dalirrooyfard, K. Ehsani, K. Ozeki, and R. Sherkati [2020]

Let G be a graph, and let $F : V(G) \rightarrow 2^{\mathbb{N}}$ be a map. If $|F(v)| \leq \frac{1}{4} \deg(v)$ for each vertex $v \in V(G)$, then G has an F -avoiding orientation.

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Moreover we can show a $\frac{2}{3}$ approximation of Conjecture 2.

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Conjecture 2: $\frac{2}{3}$ approximation

Let G be a graph, and let $F : V(G) \rightarrow 2^{\mathbb{N}}$. If G has an orientation D such that $|F(v)| \leq \frac{2}{3} \deg_D^+(v) - 1$ for each $v \in V(G)$, then G has an F -avoiding orientation.

Technical lemma

Given a graph $G = (V, E)$, let $M = (m_{ve} : v \in V, e \in E)$ be a real-valued matrix in which $m_{ve} \neq 0$ only if $v \in e$. Let $y \in [0, 1]^E$ be a vector, and let $x = My$. Then, there exists a 01-vector $y' \in \{0, 1\}^E$ such that $x' = My'$ satisfies $x'_v \geq x_v - b_v$ for each $v \in V(G)$, where $b_v = \max\{|m_{ve}| : e \in E\}$. Furthermore, we may choose y so that $x_v > x_v - b_v$ whenever $b_v > 0$.

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$$\begin{bmatrix} 1/2 \\ 3/7 \\ 2/5 \end{bmatrix} \longrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

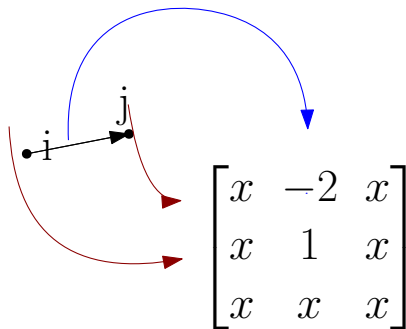
Proof sketch

- Using the main Theorem we get

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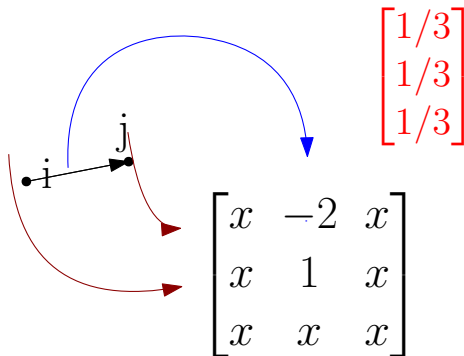
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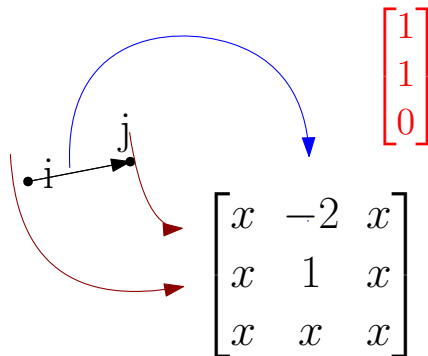
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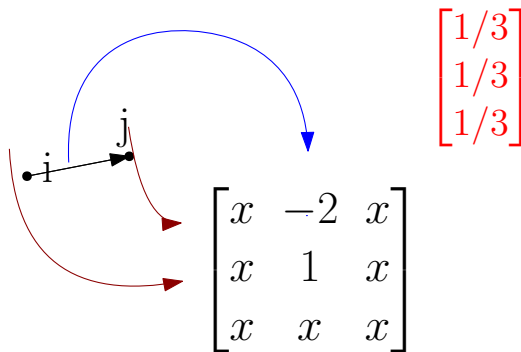
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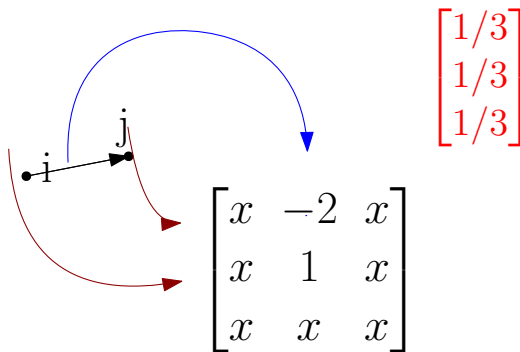


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Definition

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Alon-Tarsi [1992]

If G has orientation D s.t. $EE(D) \neq EO(D)$ then D is an Alon-Tarsi orientation. If D is an Alon-Tarsi orientation of G , and if L is a list assignment on G for which $|L(v)| > \deg_D^+(v)$ at each vertex $v \in V(G)$, then G is L -choosable.

Alon Tarsi number

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Despite the upper theorem proof is based on an original graph polynomial, it can be proved using the polynomial defined in the main theorem.

Dual Polynomials

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And dual polynomials:

$$g = \prod_{i=0}^n \sum_{j=0}^m a_{ij} y_j$$

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Theorem

If $\|\alpha\|_1 = \|\beta\|_1$, then

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If $\beta = \{0, 1\}^E(G)$, $\alpha = 1^V G$, and M is an incidence matrix (M^β indicates a subgraph) then f satisfies Combinatorial Nullstellensatz and polynomial dual to f is $f^* = \prod_{uv \in E'} (x_u - x_v)$, that is a traditional graph polynomial of $G[E']$

Theorem: Alon-Tarsi [1992]

if D is an orientation of a graph H satisfying $\deg_D^+(v) = t_v$ at each vertex $v \in V(H)$, then

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Given that, and a previous theorem, we obtain:

$$(\prod_{j=1}^m t_{vj}!) \text{coeff}(y^\beta, f) = |\text{coeff}(\prod_{v \in V(G)} x_v^{t_{vi}}, f^*)| = |EE(D) - EO(D)| \neq 0$$