

## Perron-Frobenius matrices of finite graphs and edge zeta functions

SEIKEN SAITO\*

Let  $X = (V, E)$  be a finite undirected loop-free graph with vertex set  $V = \{v_1, \dots, v_m\}$  and edge set  $E = \{e_1, \dots, e_n\}$ . Let  $\mathbf{D}(X^\circ)$  be a symmetric digraph uniquely constructed from  $X^\circ$  with a direction  $\circ$  as follows:

$$\mathbf{D}(X^\circ) := (V, E''), \quad E'' := \{e''_{(i,1)}, e''_{(i,2)} : 1 \leq i \leq n\},$$

with  $e''_{(i,1)} := e_i^\circ$  and  $e''_{(i,2)} := \bar{e}_i^\circ$  for  $1 \leq i \leq n$ , where  $\bar{e}^\circ$  indicates the inverse arc of  $e^\circ$ . The **Perron-Frobenius matrix**  $T = T(X^\circ) = (t_{i,j})$  of  $X^\circ$  is defined by

$$t_{i_1+n(j_1-1), i_2+n(j_2-1)} := \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } e''_{(i_1, j_1)} \text{ feeds into } e''_{(i_2, j_2)} \text{ in } \mathbf{D}(X^\circ) \text{ and } i_1 \neq i_2, \\ 0, & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

for  $1 \leq i_1, i_2 \leq n$  and  $1 \leq j_1, j_2 \leq 2$ .

The Perron-Frobenius matrix of  $X^\circ$  is important to compute the edge zeta functions  $\zeta_X$  of  $X$  due to the following formula ([1], [4]):

$$\zeta_X(u_1, \dots, u_n)^{-1} = \det(I_{2n} - UT) = \det(I_{2n} - TU), \quad (1)$$

where  $U = \text{diag}(u_1, \dots, u_n, u_1, \dots, u_n)$ . Note that  $\zeta_X$  is independent of the direction  $\circ$  of the graph  $X^\circ$ . The reciprocal  $Z_X(u)^{-1}$  of the Ihara zeta function can be obtained by specializing variables  $u_i = u$  for all  $i = 1, \dots, n$  in (1).

We give a direction  $\sigma = \sigma(X)$  to  $X$  determined by the labelling of  $X$  as follows:

$$i < j \iff o(e^\sigma) = v_i, \quad t(e^\sigma) = v_j,$$

for all  $e = \{v_i, v_j\} \in E$ , where  $o(e^\sigma)$  (resp.  $t(e^\sigma)$ ) is the origin (resp. terminus) of an arc  $e^\sigma \in E^\sigma$ .

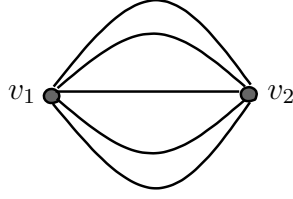
**DEFINITION 1.** For a graph  $X$ , we define a bipartite graph  $\mathbf{B} = \mathbf{B}(X) := (V', E')$  as follows. Let  $V' = \{v_1, \dots, v_{m+n}\} = V \cup E$  with  $v_{m+1} := e_1, \dots, v_{m+n} := e_n$  and

$$E' := \{f_{(i,1)}, f_{(i,2)} : 1 \leq i \leq n\},$$

where  $f_{(i,1)} := \{e_i, v_{j_1}\}$  and  $f_{(i,2)} := \{e_i, v_{j_2}\}$  satisfy  $e_i = \{v_{j_1}, v_{j_2}\} \in E$  and  $j_1 < j_2$ . Here we remark that  $j_1 \neq j_2$  because  $X$  is loop-free, hence the above labelling of the edges of  $\mathbf{B}$  is well-defined. We index every edge of  $\mathbf{B}$  by  $e'_{2i+j-2} := f_{(i,j)}$ .

---

\*Academic Support Center, Kogakuin University, 2665-1 Nakano-machi, Hachiohji, Tokyo 192-0015, Japan. E-mail: kt13204@ns.kogakuin.ac.jp



**Figure 1**  $\Gamma_5$

**THEOREM 1.** Let  $X$  be a finite graph and  $\mathbf{B} = \mathbf{B}(X)$  be the associate bipartite graph with the labelling of edges defined as in Definition 1. Let  $T$  be the Perron-Forbenius matrix of  $X^\sigma$  and  $n = |E|$ . Then the following formula holds:

$$T = PA(\mathbf{B}_L)N^\top P - I_{2n},$$

where  $\mathbf{B}_L$  is the undirected line graph of  $\mathbf{B}$ ,  $P := (p_{ij})$  is a  $2n \times 2n$  permutation matrix defined by:

$$p_{ij} := \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } i = n(j+1) - (2n-1)\lfloor(j+1)/2\rfloor, \\ 0, & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

for  $1 \leq i, j \leq 2n$ ,  ${}^\top P$  denotes the transposed matrix  $P$ , and  $N$  is the  $2n \times 2n$  block diagonal matrix of the form:

$$N := \begin{bmatrix} N_1 & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & N_1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad N_1 := \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

**COROLLARY 2.** Let  $n \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$ , and let  $\Gamma_n$  be the graph with vertex set  $V = \{v_1, v_2\}$  and edge set  $\{e_1, \dots, e_n\}$  such that two vertices of  $e_i$  are  $v_1$  and  $v_2$  for all  $1 \leq i \leq n$ . Then the reciprocal of the edge zeta function of  $\Gamma_n$  is

$$\zeta_{\Gamma_n}^{-1} = \left( 1 - \sum_{\ell=1}^n (\ell-1) \sum_{(i_1, \dots, i_\ell)} u_{i_1} \dots u_{i_\ell} \right) \left( 1 - \sum_{\ell=1}^n (-1)^{\ell-1} (\ell-1) \sum_{(i_1, \dots, i_\ell)} u_{i_1} \dots u_{i_\ell} \right),$$

where the second summation runs through all  $\ell$ -tuples  $(i_1, \dots, i_\ell) \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}^\ell$  such that  $i_1 < \dots < i_\ell$ .

## References

- [1] K. Hashimoto, Zeta functions of finite graphs and representations of  $p$ -adic groups, *Advanced Studies in Pure Math.* **15** (1989), 211–280.
- [2] Y. Ihara, On discrete subgroups of the two by two projective linear group over  $p$ -adic fields, *J. Math. Soc. Japan* **18** (1966), 219–235.
- [3] M. Kotani and T. Sunada, Zeta Functions of Finite Graphs, *J. Math. Sci. Univ. Tokyo* **7** (2000) no.1, 7–25.
- [4] H. M. Stark and A. A. Terras. Zeta functions of finite graphs and coverings. *Adv. Math.* **121** (1996) no.1, 124–165.