

Asymptotic Spectrum Distance,
graph limits, and the Shannon capacity

Jespen Zuiddam

joint work with De Boer, Buys,
Briët, Christandl, Leigh, Shpilka

Matrix multiplication
1969

$$\mathcal{R}(\langle 2, 2, 2 \rangle) = \mathcal{R}(\text{MM}_2) = 2^\omega$$

Shannon capacity
1956

$$\Theta(G) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \alpha(G^{\otimes n})^{1/n}$$

Strassen



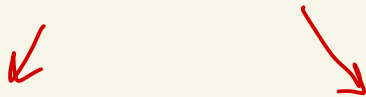
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"Asymptotic spectrum distance"
Limits

$$T_i \rightarrow T$$

$$G_i \rightarrow G$$

• Shannon 1956 : G, H graphs

$G \boxtimes H$ strong product

$\alpha(G)$ independence number

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$$\Theta(G) := \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \alpha(G^{\boxtimes n})^{1/n} \quad \text{Shannon capacity}$$

- Lovász 1979 : Lovász theta function θ , eigenvalues, SDP

$$\Theta(G) \leq \theta(G)$$

$$\Theta(C_5) = \sqrt{5}$$

for perfect graphs: $\alpha(G) = \theta(G) = \bar{\chi}(G)$

- Haemers 1979, 1981 : Haemers bound, matrix rank
- Alon 1998

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- :
- Patak-Schrijver 2019, Guruswami-Riazanov 2021,
Google DeepMind 2024

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- What notion of convergence?
- How to construct converging sequences?
- Where to look for "easy" graphs G_i ?

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- What notion of convergence? Asymptotic spectrum distance
- How to construct converging sequences? "Induced subgraph covering"
- Where to look for "easy" graphs G_i ? "Fraction graphs"

Main results:

(1) General construction of nontrivial sequences converging in asymptotic spectrum distance

new continuity properties of Lovász theta and other graph parameters

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Infinite graphs as limit points (Borsuk-like, dynamical systems th.)

(3) All best-known lower bounds on Shannon capacity of small odd cycles can be obtained from a "finite version" of graph limit approach.
new bound for fifteen-cycle.

1. Shannon capacity and asymptotic spectrum distance
2. Converging sequences
3. Infinite graphs as limit points
4. Independent sets from orbits
5. Asymptotic spectrum distance of tensors, matrix multiplication
[Brët, Christandl, Leigh, Shpilka, Z. 24]

1. Shannon capacity and asymptotic spectrum distance

$$\Theta(G) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \alpha(G^{\boxtimes n})^{1/n} \stackrel{!}{=} \sup_n \alpha(G^{\boxtimes n})^{1/n}$$

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Theorem (Strassen, Z, WZ) $\mathbb{H}(G) = \min_{F \in X} F(G)$

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Def. **Asymptotic spectrum** X = set of all functions f : graphs $\rightarrow \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$ that are \boxtimes -mult, \sqcup -add, K_1 -norm and cohom-mon.

EX. X contains Lovász theta, fract. Haemers, fract. clique cov. nr., ...

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Let $F_{G_i}, F_H \in X$ s.t. $F_{G_i}(G_i) = \Theta(G_i)$ and $F_H(H) = \Theta(H)$ (duality).

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Lemma. TFAE

- $d(G, H) \leq \frac{a}{b}$

- $(E_b \boxtimes G)^{\boxtimes n} \leq ((E_b \boxtimes H) \sqcup E_a)^{\boxtimes (n + o(n))}$

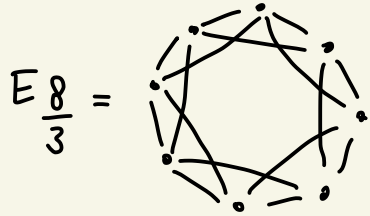
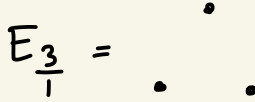
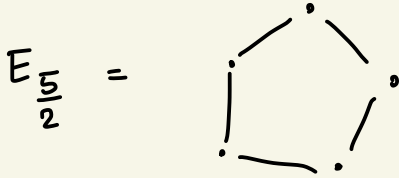
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\uparrow cohom \rightarrow

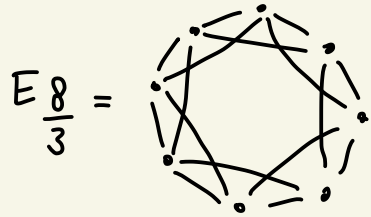
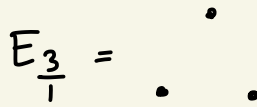
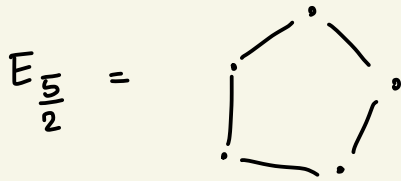
2. Converging sequences

Def. Fraction graph $E_{a/b}$ has vertex set $\mathbb{Z}/a\mathbb{Z}$ and $u \sim v$ iff $-b < u - v \pmod{a} < b$.



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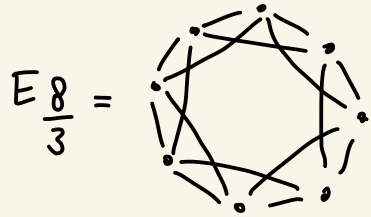
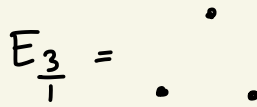
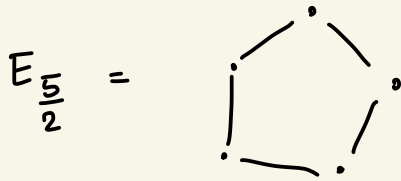
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Lemma. $E_{\frac{a}{b}} \subseteq E_{\frac{c}{d}}$ iff $\frac{a}{b} \leq \frac{c}{d}$ (in \mathbb{Q}).

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Theorem A. For any $q/b \geq 2$, if $c_n/d_n \rightarrow q/b$ from above, then $E_{c_n/d_n} \rightarrow E_{q/b}$

Theorem B. For any irrational $r \geq 2$, if $c_n/d_n \rightarrow r$, then E_{c_n/d_n} is Cauchy.

Ingredients

Lemma 1. G vertex transitive, $S \subseteq V(G)$, $F \in X$, then

$$F(G[S]) \leq F(G) \leq \frac{|G|}{|S|} \cdot F(G[S]).$$

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Proof sketch $G \leq E_N \boxtimes G[S]$ with $N = \lceil |G| \cdot |S|^{-1} \cdot \log |G| \rceil$.

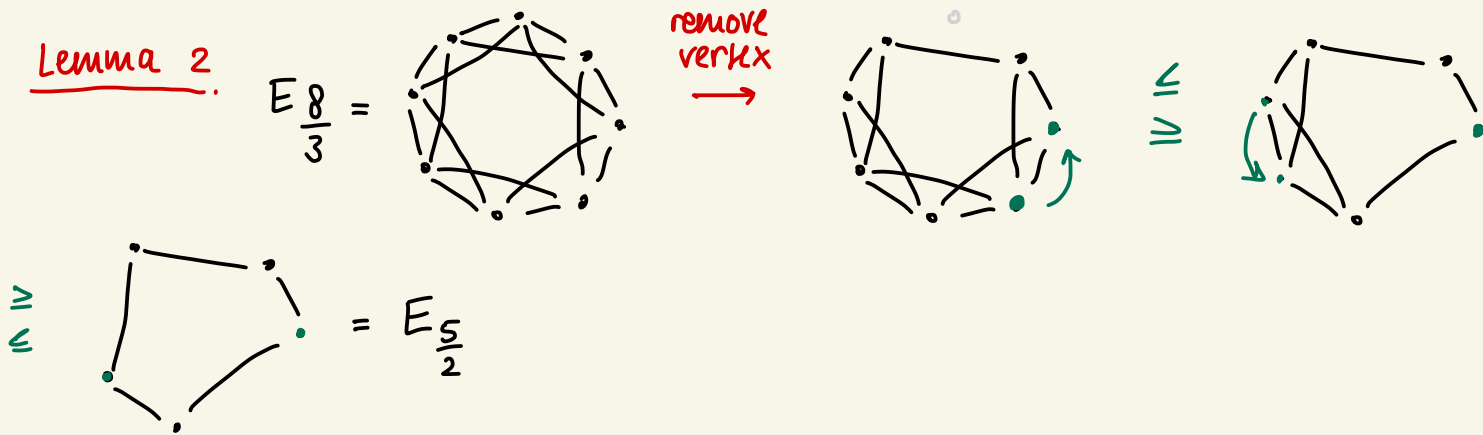
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Lemma 2.



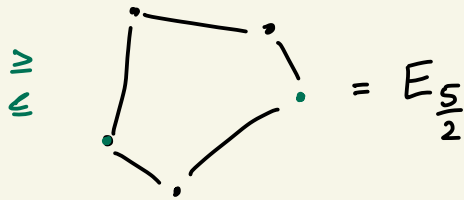
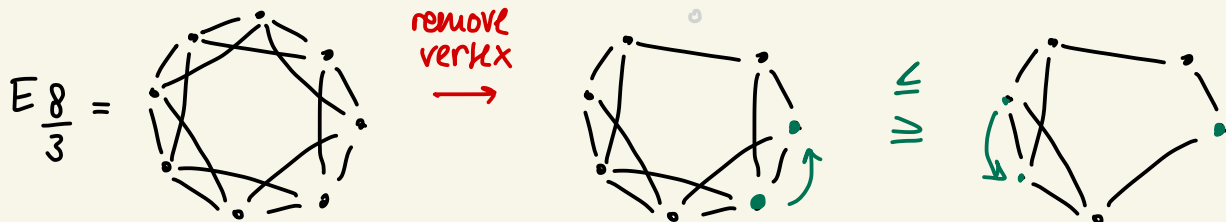
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Lemma 2.



"Euclid's algorithm". $E_{p/q}$ -vertex is equivalent to $E_{p'/q'}$ for $p' < p$, $q' < q$ with $p \cdot q' - q \cdot p' = 1$.

Consequence: $F(E_{p'/q'}) \leq F(E_{p/q}) \leq \frac{p}{p-1} F(E_{p'/q'})$.

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Let $n \rightarrow \infty$, then $c_n \rightarrow \infty$. \square

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Theorem B. For any irrational $r \geq 2$, if $c_n/d_n \rightarrow r$, then E_{c_n/d_n} is Cauchy.

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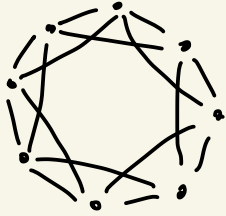
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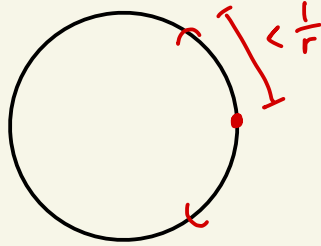
Proof sketch: continued fraction convergents $\frac{p_0}{q_0} < \frac{p_2}{q_2} \dots < r < \dots < \frac{p_3}{q_3} < \frac{p_1}{q_1}$

$$q_n p_{n-1} - p_n q_{n-1} = (-1)^n. \quad \square$$

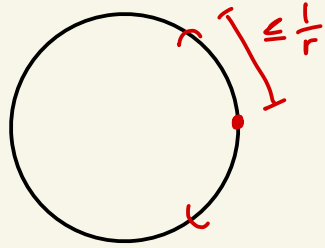
3. Infinite graphs as limit points



$E_{8/3}$



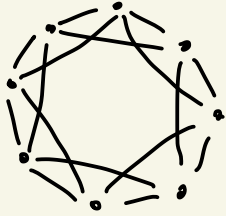
E_r°



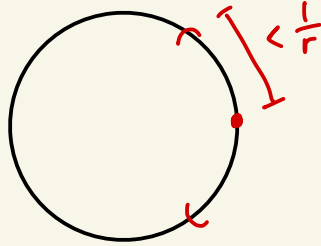
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Theorem. For any irrational $r \geq 2$, if $a_n/b_n \rightarrow r$, then $E_{a_n/b_n} \rightarrow E_r^{\circ}$

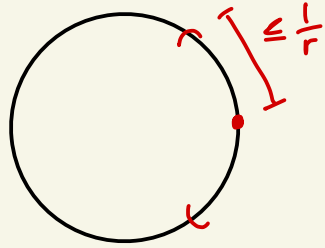
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E_r^o



E_r^c

Theorem For any irrational $r \geq 2$, if $a_n/b_n \rightarrow r$, then $E_{a_n/b_n} \rightarrow E_r^o$

Theorem TFAE: (i) E_r^c and E_r^o are asymptotically equivalent

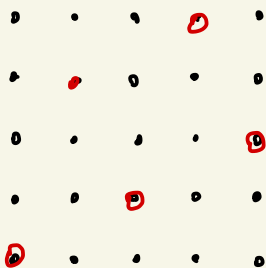
(ii) $a_n/b_n \rightarrow p/q$ from below $\Rightarrow E_{a_n/b_n} \rightarrow E_{p/q}$.

Theorem E_r^c and E_r^o are not equivalent.

4. Independent sets from orbits

$$\textcircled{4} (C_5) = \sqrt{5}^1$$

$$\alpha(C_5^{\boxtimes 2}) = 5$$

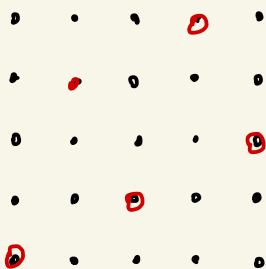


$$\{t \cdot (1,2) : t \in \mathbb{Z}_5\}$$

4. Independent sets from orbits

$$\Theta(C_5) = \sqrt{5}^{-1}$$

$$\alpha(C_5^{\boxtimes 2}) = 5$$



$$\{t \cdot (1, 2) : t \in \mathbb{Z}_5\}$$

G	H	orbit independent set in $H^{\boxtimes k}$	reduction	$\leq \Theta(G)$
$E_{5/2}$	$E_{5/2}$	$\{t \cdot (1, 2) : t \in \mathbb{Z}_5\}$	$H = G$	2.23 [Sha56]
$E_{7/2}$	$E_{382/108}$	$\{t \cdot (1, 7, 7^2, 7^3, 7^4) : t \in \mathbb{Z}_{382}\}$	$G \leq H$	3.25 [PS19]
$E_{9/2}$	$E_{9/2}$	$\{s \cdot (1, 0, 2) + t \cdot (0, 1, 4) : s, t \in \mathbb{Z}_9\}$	$H = G$	4.32 [BMR ⁺ 71]
$E_{11/2}$	$E_{148/27}$	$\{t \cdot (1, 11, 11^2) : t \in \mathbb{Z}_{148}\}$	$H \leq G$	5.28 [BMR ⁺ 71]
$E_{13/2}$	$E_{247/38}$	$\{t \cdot (1, 19, 117) : t \in \mathbb{Z}_{247}\}$	$H \leq G$	6.27 [BMR ⁺ 71] ¹⁸
$E_{15/2}$	$E_{2873/381}$	$\{t \cdot (1, 15, 1073, 1125) : t \in \mathbb{Z}_{2873}\}$	$G \leq H$	7.30 (Section 6.2)

5 Asymptotic spectrum distance of tensors, matrix multiplication

$$d(S, T) = \max_{F \in X} |F(S) - F(T)|$$

$$T_i \rightarrow \langle 2, 2, 2 \rangle \Rightarrow \tilde{R}(T_i) \rightarrow 2^{\omega}$$

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Proof: Take infinite sequence $\underset{\sim}{R}(T_i)$ with $T_i \in \mathbb{F}^{a_i \times b_i \times c_i}$. Wlog T_i concise.
Must have $\max a_i, b_i, c_i \rightarrow \infty$ so $\underset{\sim}{R}(T_i) \rightarrow \infty$. \square

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Theorem. same for $\underset{\sim}{Q}, \underset{\sim}{SR}$ Much harder proof!

Theorem Over \mathbb{C} , $\underset{\sim}{SR}$ is discrete. Relies on rep. theory, moment pol., quantum functionals

Questions:

- Is asymptotic rank discrete over \mathbb{C} ?
- other notions of convergence for tensors?