

L 29/01

Quantum Walks

Continuous walks

initial state: pure, spanned by $|z\rangle$, density $|z\rangle\langle z|$

state at time t : $U(t)|z\rangle\langle z|U(-t)$

Since $\text{tr}(U(t)|z\rangle\langle z|U(-t)) = 1$, we see that $U(t)|z\rangle$ is a unit vector.

If we measure with respect to the standard basis, the outcome is a with probability

$$\begin{aligned} & \langle U(t)z z^* U(-t), e_a e_a^T \rangle \\ &= \text{tr} (U(t)z z^* U(-t) e_a e_a^T) \\ &= e_a^T U(t)z \cdot z^* U(-t)e_a \\ &= |e_a^T U(t)z|^2 \end{aligned}$$

norm

$$\sum Q_r = I, Q_r \neq 0$$
$$Q_r = e_r e_r^T$$

If our initial states are vertex states, and we start at e_b , the probability we observe a is

$$|e_a^\top U(t) e_b|^2 = |U(t)_{a,b}|^2 = U(t) \circ \bar{U}(t)$$

and $\bar{U}(t) = U(-t)$.

$$U(t) = \exp(itA)$$

The **mixing matrix** of a walk is

$$M(t) = U(t) \cdot \overline{UA} = UA) \circ U(t)$$

It is row & column stochastic. Its ab -entry is the probability that a walk starting at b is "on" a at time t .

e.g. $X = K_2$ $H = A(X) = A$

initial state $e_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$, $e_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$

$$U(t) = \exp(itA) = \sum_m \frac{(it)^m}{m!} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}^m$$

$$= \cos(t) \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} + i \sin(t) \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} c & is \\ is & c \end{pmatrix}$$

Here $M(t) = \begin{pmatrix} c^2 & s^2 \\ s^2 & c^2 \end{pmatrix}$.

$$\begin{pmatrix} c & is & 0 & \dots \\ 0 & c & is & \dots \\ 0 & is & c & \dots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots \end{pmatrix} \quad |a| = 1$$

$$\begin{array}{l} D \longrightarrow D \otimes D \\ \alpha D \longmapsto \alpha^2 (D \otimes D) \end{array} \quad \text{not linear}$$

Interesting cases:

(a) $M(t)e_b = e_a$, $a \neq b$ perfect state transfer

(b) $M(t)e_b = e_b$, vertex b is periodic

(c) $M(t)e_b = \frac{1}{n} \mathbf{1}$, local uniform mixing

For the continuous walk on K_2 , we have

(a) local uniform mixing from each vertex at time $\frac{\pi}{4}$.

$$M(t) = \frac{1}{2}J, \quad U(t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}J$$

(b) perfect state transfer at time $\frac{\pi}{2}$

$$M(t) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad U(t) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & i \\ i & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

(c) periodicity at time π

$$M(t) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad U(t) = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

In terms of density matrices, if the initial state is $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$,

then at time t it is

$$\begin{pmatrix} c & is \\ is & c \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c & -is \\ -is & c \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} c & is \\ is & c \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c & -is \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \\ = \begin{pmatrix} c^2 & -isc \\ isc & s^2 \end{pmatrix}$$

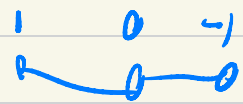
$$t \quad \frac{\pi}{4} \quad \frac{\pi}{2} \quad \pi \\ \rho \quad \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

P_3 : $\phi(P_3, t) = t^3 - 2t$

eigenvalues $-\sqrt{2}$ 0 $\sqrt{2}$

$\|v_1, v_2, v_3\| = 1$
 $E_1 = \sum_{i=1}^3 v_i v_i^T$

eigenvectors $\begin{cases} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ \sqrt{2} & 0 & -\sqrt{2} \\ 1 & -1 & 1 \end{cases}$



idempotents $\frac{1}{4} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \sqrt{2} & 1 \\ \sqrt{2} & 2 & \sqrt{2} \\ 1 & \sqrt{2} & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ $\frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ $\frac{1}{4} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -\sqrt{2} & 1 \\ -\sqrt{2} & 2 & -\sqrt{2} \\ 1 & -\sqrt{2} & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

E_1 E_2 E_3



$$U(t) = e^{i b N^2} E_1 + E_2 + e^{-i b N^2} E_3$$

$$U\left(\frac{\pi}{N^2}\right) = -E_1 + E_2 - E_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{— gives an automorphism of } \mathbb{F}_3$$

We have perfect state transfer from $v_x 1$ to $v_x 3$

at time $\frac{\pi}{N^2}$. Further $U\left(\frac{\pi}{N^2}\right) = E_1 + E_2 + E_3 = I$

Theorem If X admits perfect state transfer from a to b at time τ , it admits perfect state transfer from b to a at time τ .

Proof 1: If $U(\tau)e_a e_a^T U(-\tau) = e_b e_b^T$ then, taking complex conjugates, we get

$$e_b e_b^T = \overline{U(\tau) e_a e_a^T U(-\tau)} = U(-\tau) e_a e_a^T U(\tau)$$

and so $U(\tau) e_b e_b^T U(-\tau) = e_a e_a^T$.

Proof 2: $M(t)$ is symmetric.

□

Products

Theorem $U_{X \boxtimes Y}(t) = U_X(t) \otimes U_Y(t)$ \square

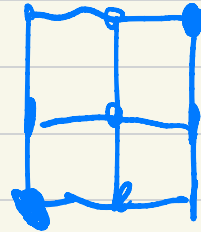
\Rightarrow If X has pst from u to v at time τ and Y has pst from w to x at time τ , then $X \boxtimes Y$ has pst from (u, w) to (v, x) at time τ .

Corollary The d -cube has perfect state transfer from

$\underline{0}$ to $\underline{1}$ at time $\pi/2$.

The Cartesian power $P_3^{\square d}$ has diameter $2d$.

Corollary $P_3^{\square d}$ has perfect state transfer between pairs of vertices at distance $2d$. \square



A walk has **uniform mixing** at time τ if there is local uniform mixing at time τ from each vertex; equivalently if $U(\tau)$ is flat.

flat = { all entries have the same absolute value

Theorem If X & Y have uniform mixing at time τ ,
so does $X \square Y$. □

Complete graphs

A , $X(K_n) = J - I$ has eigenvalues $(n-1)^{(1)}$ & $(-1)^{(n-1)}$,
multiplicities

$E_0 = \frac{1}{n} J$ and $E_1 = (I - \frac{1}{n} J)$. Hence we have

the spectral decomposition

$$A = (n-1) \frac{1}{n} J + (-1) \left(I - \frac{1}{n} J \right)$$

and

$$U(t) = e^{(n-1)it} \frac{1}{n} J + e^{-it} \left(I - \frac{1}{n} J \right).$$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned}U(t) &= e^{-it} \left[\frac{e^{nit}}{n} J + I - \frac{1}{n} J \right] \\ &= e^{-it} \left[I + \frac{e^{nit} - 1}{n} J \right]\end{aligned}$$

and so $M_{K_n}(t)$ converges to I as $n \rightarrow \infty$.

Bipartite graphs

If X is bipartite, there is a partition of its vertices into two classes, each of which is a clique. So we can write $A(X)$ in partitioned form

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & B \\ B^T & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} A(P_3)$$

Lemma If X is bipartite, A and $-A$ are similar.

Proof

$$\begin{pmatrix} -I & 0 \\ 0 & I \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & B \\ B^T & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} -I & 0 \\ 0 & I \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -I & 0 \\ 0 & I \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & B \\ -B^T & 0 \end{pmatrix} \\ = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -B \\ -B^T & 0 \end{pmatrix}. \quad \square$$

Corollary If X is bipartite & θ is an eigenvalue of X , then $-\theta$ is an eigenvalue with the same multiplicity. \square

If $\begin{pmatrix} 0 & B \\ B^T & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \theta \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}$ then

$$\theta \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} By \\ B^T x \end{pmatrix}$$

and

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & B \\ B^T & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ -y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -By \\ B^T x \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -\theta x \\ \theta y \end{pmatrix} = -\theta \begin{pmatrix} x \\ -y \end{pmatrix}.$$

This provides another proof of the lemma, and relates the eigenvectors of $-\theta$ to those of θ .

Further, if

$$E = \begin{pmatrix} E_{00} & E_{01} \\ E_{01}^T & E_{11} \end{pmatrix}$$

is a spectral idempotent of the bipartite graph X corresponding to the eigenvalue θ , then

$$\begin{pmatrix} -I & 0 \\ 0 & I \end{pmatrix} E \begin{pmatrix} -I & 0 \\ 0 & I \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -I & 0 \\ 0 & I \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} -E_{00} & E_{01} \\ -E_{01}^T & E_{11} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} E_{00} & -E_{01} \\ -E_{01}^T & E_{11} \end{pmatrix}$$

is the idempotent corresponding to $-\theta$.

X bipartite, $A = A(X)$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \mathbb{I} & 0 \\ 0 & \mathbb{I} \end{pmatrix} \exp(itA) \begin{pmatrix} \mathbb{I} & 0 \\ 0 & \mathbb{I} \end{pmatrix} = \exp(-itA)$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} U_{00} & U_{01} \\ U_{10} & U_{11} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} U_{00} & U_{01} \\ -U_{10} & U_{11} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} U_{00} & U_{01} \\ U_{10} & U_{11} \end{pmatrix}^{-1} = \overline{\begin{pmatrix} U_{00} & U_{01} \\ U_{10} & U_{11} \end{pmatrix}}$$

So U_{00} is real & $\overline{U_{01}} = -U_{10}$ i.e. $U_{10} = iS$, S real

$$\exp(itA) = \begin{pmatrix} C_1 & iS \\ iS^T & C_2 \end{pmatrix}, \quad C_1, C_2 \text{ \& } S \text{ real; } C_1, C_2 \text{ symmetric}$$