# Isospectral Graph Reductions 

Leonid Bunimovich

## Outline

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Graphs Reductions
Eigenvalue Estimation Summary and Implications

## Network Structure

Typical real networks are defined by some large graph with complicated structure $[2,8,11]$.

E.coli metabolic network

Question: To what extent can this structure be simplified/reduced while maintaining some characteristic of the network?

## The collection of graphs $\mathbb{G}$

The graph of a network may or may not be directed, weighted, have multiple edges or loops.


Each such graph can be considered a weighted, directed graph without multiple edges possibly with loops.


Let $\mathbb{G}$ be the collection of all such graphs.

## The collection of graphs $\mathbb{G}$

## Definition

A graph $G \in \mathbb{G}$ is triple $G=(V, E, \omega)$ where $V$ is its vertices, $E$ its edges, and $\omega: E \rightarrow \mathbb{W}$ where $\mathbb{W}$ is the set of edge weights.

An important characteristic of a network/graph is the spectrum of its weighted adjacency matrix $[1,3,10]$.

## Weighted Adjacency Matrix

## Definition

If $G=(V, E, \omega)$ where $V=\left\{v_{1}, \ldots, v_{n}\right\}$ and $e_{i j}$ is the edge from $v_{i}$ to $v_{j}$ the weighted adjacency matrix $M(G)=M(G, \lambda)$ of $G$ is

$$
M(G, \lambda)_{i j}=\left\{\begin{array}{l}
\omega\left(e_{i j}\right) \text { if } e_{i j} \in E \\
0, \text { otherwise }
\end{array}\right.
$$

Question: How can the number of vertices in a graph be reduced while maintaining the eigenvalues, including multiplicities, of its adjacency matrix?

## Spectrum of a Graph $G \in \mathbb{G}$

## Definition

Let $\mathbb{C}[\lambda]$ be the polynomials in the variable $\lambda$ with complex coefficients. Define $\mathbb{W}$ to be the rational functions of the form $p / q$ where $p, q \in \mathbb{C}[\lambda]$ such that $p$ and $q$ have no common factors.

## Definition

For $G \in \mathbb{G}$ let $\sigma(G)$ denote the spectrum of $G$ or the set $\{\lambda \in \mathbb{C} \mid \operatorname{det}(M(G, \lambda)-\lambda I)=0\}$ including multiplicities.


$$
\sigma(G)=\{1, \pm \sqrt{(1-2 i) / 5}\}
$$

## Structural Sets

## Definition

For $G=(V, E, \omega)$ the nonempty vertex set $S \subseteq V$ is a structural set of $G$ if each nontrivial cycle of $G$ contains a vertex of $S$. We denote by $\operatorname{st}(G)$ the set of all structural sets of $G$.


Figure: $S=\left\{v_{1}, v_{2}\right\}$ a structural set of $G$

## Structural Sets

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Figure: $T=\left\{v_{1}, v_{3}, v_{4}, v_{5}\right\}$ not a structural set of $G$

## Branches

## Definition

For $G=(V, E)$ with $S=\left\{v_{1}, \ldots, v_{m}\right\} \in \operatorname{st}(G)$ let $\mathcal{B}_{i j}(G, S)$ be the set of paths or cycles from $v_{i}$ to $v_{j}$ having no interior vertices in $S$. Furthermore, let $\mathcal{B}_{S}(G)=\bigcup_{1 \leq i, j \leq m} \mathcal{B}_{i j}(G, S)$ be the branches of $G$ with respect to $S$.


Figure: Branches of $\mathcal{B}_{S}(G)$ each colored either red, brown, green, or blue.

## Branch Products

## Definition

Let $G=(V, E, \omega)$ and $\beta \in \mathcal{B}_{S}(G)$. If $\beta=v_{1}, \ldots, v_{m}, m>2$ and $\omega_{i j}=\omega\left(e_{i j}\right)$ then

$$
\mathcal{P}_{\omega}(\beta)=\frac{\prod_{i=1}^{m-1} \omega_{i, i+1}}{\prod_{i=2}^{m-1}\left(\lambda-\omega_{i i}\right)}
$$

is the branch product of $\beta$. If $m=2$ then $\mathcal{P}_{\omega}(\beta)=\omega_{12}$.


Figure: $\mathcal{P}_{\omega}(\beta)=\frac{\omega_{12} \omega_{23}}{\lambda-\omega_{22}}$.

## Reductions of $G \in \mathbb{G}$

## Definition

For $G=(V, E, \omega)$ with structural set $S=\left\{v_{1} \ldots, v_{m}\right\}$ let $\mathcal{R}_{S}(G)=(S, \mathcal{E}, \mu)$ where $e_{i j} \in \mathcal{E}$ if $\mathcal{B}_{i j}(G, S) \neq \emptyset$ and

$$
\mu\left(e_{i j}\right)=\sum_{\beta \in \mathcal{B}_{i j}(G, S)} \mathcal{P}_{\omega}(\beta), \quad 1 \leq i, j \leq m .
$$

We call $\mathcal{R}_{S}(G)$ the isospectral reduction of $G$ over $S$.

Note: $\mathcal{R}_{S}(G) \in \mathbb{G}$ for all $S \in \operatorname{st}(G)$.

Graphs Reductions

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## Reduction Example



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## Alternate Reduction



Figure: $T=\left\{v_{3}, v_{4}, v_{5}, v_{6}\right\}$

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## Difference in Spectrum

Question: How are $\sigma(G)$ and $\sigma\left(\mathcal{R}_{S}(G)\right)$ related?

## Theorem: (Bunimovich, Webb [6])

For $G=(V, E, \omega)$ and $S \in \operatorname{st}(G)$

$$
\operatorname{det}\left(M\left(\mathcal{R}_{S}(G)\right)-\lambda I\right)=\frac{\operatorname{det}(M(G)-\lambda I)}{\prod_{v_{i} \in \bar{S}}\left(\omega_{i i}-\lambda\right)}
$$

where $\bar{S}$ is the complement of $S$ in $V$.

## The $\mathcal{N}_{S}^{ \pm}$Sets

## Definition

For $G=(V, E, \omega), S \in \operatorname{st}(G)$, and $S(\lambda)=\prod_{v_{i} \in \bar{S}}\left(\omega_{i i}-\lambda\right)$ let
(i) $\mathcal{N}_{S}^{-}=\{\lambda \in \mathbb{C}: S(\lambda)=0\}$ and
(ii) $\mathcal{N}_{S}^{+}=\{\lambda \in \mathbb{C}: S(\lambda)$ is undefined $\}$
where both sets include multiplicities.

Corollary: (Bunimovich, Webb)
Let $G \in \mathbb{G}$ with $S \in \operatorname{st}(G)$. Then

$$
\sigma\left(\mathcal{R}_{S}(G)\right)=\left(\sigma(G) \backslash \mathcal{N}_{S}^{-}\right) \cup \mathcal{N}_{S}^{+}
$$

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## Main Result (Example)



$$
\sigma(G)=\{2,-1,1,1,0,0\}
$$

$S(\lambda)=\lambda^{2}(1-\lambda)^{2}$ implying $\mathcal{N}_{S}^{-}=\{1,1,0,0\}$, and $\mathcal{N}_{S}^{+}=\emptyset$.

Hence, $\sigma\left(\mathcal{R}_{s}(G)\right)=\{2,-1\}$.

## Sequential Reductions

As $\mathcal{R}_{S}(G) \in \mathbb{G}$ it may possible to further reduce $\mathcal{R}_{S}(G) \in \mathbb{G}$.

Question: To what extent is the structure of a graph preserved under different sequential reductions?

## Commutativity of Sequential Reductions

## Definition

Let $\mathcal{R}\left(G ; S_{1}, \ldots, S_{m}\right)$ be the graph $G$ reduced first over $S_{1}$, then $S_{2}$ and so on up to the vertex set $S_{m}$. If this can be done we say $S_{1}, \ldots, S_{m}$ induces a sequence of reductions on $G$.

Theorem: Commutativity of Reductions (Bunimovich, Webb [7])
For $G \in \mathbb{G}$ suppose the sequences $S_{1}, \ldots, S_{m}$ and $T_{1}, \ldots, T_{n}$ both induce a sequence of reductions on $G$. If $S_{m}=T_{n}$ then $\mathcal{R}\left(G ; S_{1}, \ldots, S_{m}\right)=\mathcal{R}\left(G ; T_{1}, \ldots, T_{n}\right)$.

Graphs Reductions

## The Weight Set $\mathbb{W}_{\pi}$

## Definition

Let $\mathbb{W}_{\pi}=\left\{\omega \in \mathbb{W}: \omega=\frac{p}{q}, \operatorname{deg}(p) \leq \operatorname{deg}(q)\right\}$ and $\mathbb{G}_{\pi} \subset \mathbb{G}$ be the graphs with weights in $\mathbb{W}_{\pi}$.


Both $G, \mathcal{R}_{S}(G) \in \mathbb{G}_{\pi}$.

## Existence and Uniqueness of Sequential Reductions

## Theorem: Existence and Uniqueness (Bunimovich, Webb [7])

Let $G=(V, E, \omega)$ be in $\mathbb{G}_{\pi}$. Then for any nonempty set $\mathcal{V} \subseteq V$ there is a sequence of reductions that reduces $G$ to the unique graph $\mathcal{R}_{\mathcal{V}}[G]=(\mathcal{V}, \mathcal{E}, \mu)$.


$$
v_{1} \bullet \frac{\lambda}{\lambda^{2}-\lambda-1}
$$

$$
\mathcal{R}_{\left\{v_{1}\right\}}[G]
$$

## Remark

Any graph $G$ where $M(G) \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$ is a graph in the set $\mathbb{G}_{\pi}$.

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## Gershgorin Theorem

$$
\text { If } A \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n} \text { let } r_{i}(A)=\sum_{j=1, j \neq i}^{n}\left|A_{i j}\right|, \quad 1 \leq i \leq n
$$

## Theorem: (Gershgorin [9,12])

Let $A$ be an $n \times n$ matrix with complex entries. Then all eigenvalues of $A$ are located in the set

$$
\Gamma(A)=\bigcup_{i=1}^{n}\left\{z \in \mathbb{C}:\left|z-A_{i i}\right| \leq r_{i}(A)\right\} .
$$

## Gershgorin Theorem (Example)

Consider the graph $\mathcal{G}$ with adjacency matrix:

$$
M(\mathcal{G})=\left[\begin{array}{lllll}
0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\
0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\
1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0
\end{array}\right]
$$



## Polynomial Extension

Let $\mathbb{G}^{n}$ be the graphs in $\mathbb{G}$ with $n$ vertices.

## Definition

If $G \in \mathbb{G}^{n}$ and $M_{G}(\lambda) i j=p_{i j} / q_{i j}$ let $L(G)_{i}=\prod_{j=1}^{n} q_{i j}$ for $1 \leq i \leq n$. We call the graph $\bar{G}$ with adjacency matrix

$$
M(\bar{G})_{i j}=\left\{\begin{array}{lc}
L(G)_{i} M(G)_{i j} & i \neq j \\
L(G)_{i}\left(M(G)_{i j}-L(G)_{i} \lambda\right)+\lambda & i=j
\end{array}\right.
$$

the polynomial extension of $G$.

Example: $M(G)=\left[\begin{array}{cc}1 / \lambda & 1 \\ (\lambda+1) / \lambda & 1 / \lambda^{2}\end{array}\right], \quad M(\bar{G})=\left[\begin{array}{cc}-\lambda^{2}+\lambda+1 & \lambda \\ \lambda^{3}+\lambda^{2} & \lambda^{4}+2 \lambda\end{array}\right]$

## $\mathcal{B} \mathcal{W}_{\Gamma}$ Regions

For $G \in \mathbb{G}^{n}$ let $r(G)_{i}=\sum_{j=1, j \neq i}^{n}\left|M(G)_{i j}\right|$ for $1 \leq i \leq n$.

## Theorem (Bunimovich, Webb [6])

For $G \in \mathbb{G}^{n}, \sigma(G)$ is contained in the Gershgorin-type region given by

$$
\mathcal{B} \mathcal{W}_{\Gamma}(G)=\bigcup_{i=1}^{n}\left\{\lambda \in \mathbb{C}:\left|\lambda-M(\bar{G})_{i i}\right| \leq r(\bar{G})_{i}\right\}
$$

## $\mathcal{B} \mathcal{W}_{\Gamma}$ Regions

Question: How do graph reductions effect Gershgorin-type regions?

Theorem: Improved Gershgorin Regions (Bunimovich, Webb [6])
Let $G=(V, E, \omega)$ where $\mathcal{V}$ is any nonempty subset of $V$. If $G \in \mathbb{G}_{\pi}$ then $\mathcal{B} \mathcal{W}_{\Gamma}\left(\mathcal{R}_{\mathcal{V}}[G]\right) \subseteq \mathcal{B} \mathcal{W}_{\Gamma}(G)$.

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Gershgorin's Theorem
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## Example: $B W_{\Gamma}\left(\mathcal{R}_{s}(G)\right) \subseteq \mathcal{B} \mathcal{W}_{\Gamma}(G)$


$\mathcal{R}(\mathcal{G} ; S)$

$\mathcal{R}(\mathcal{G} ; S, T)$

$$
S=\left\{v_{1}, v_{2}, v_{3}\right\}, T=\left\{v_{1}, v_{2}\right\}
$$

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## Example: $B W_{\Gamma}\left(\mathcal{R}_{s}(G)\right) \subseteq \mathcal{B} \mathcal{W}_{\Gamma}(G)$



Figure: $\sigma(\mathcal{G})=\{-1,-1,2,-i, i\}$.

## Brauer's Ovals of Cassini $\mathcal{K}$

## Theorem: (Brauer [4,12])

Let $A \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$ where $n \geq 2$. Then all eigenvalues of $A$ are in

$$
\mathcal{K}(A)=\bigcup_{\substack{1 \leq i, j \leq n \\ i \neq j}}\left\{z \in \mathbb{C}:\left|z-A_{i i}\right|\left|z-A_{j j}\right| \leq r_{i}(A) r_{j}(A)\right\}
$$

Also, $\mathcal{K}(A) \subseteq \Gamma(A)$.

This theorem can likewise be extended to $G \in \mathbb{G}$ by defining the analogous region $\mathcal{B} \mathcal{W}_{\mathcal{K}}(G)$. Moreover, these regions also decrease in size as $G$ is reduced (Theorem: Bunimovich, Webb [6]).

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## Example: $B W_{\mathcal{K}}\left(\mathcal{R}_{s}(G)\right) \subseteq \mathcal{B} \mathcal{W}_{\mathcal{K}}(G)$



Figure: $\sigma(\mathcal{G})=\{-1,-1,2,-i, i\}$.

## Varga's Extension of Brualdi's Theorem [5]

## Theorem: (Varga [12])

Let $A \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$ have one strongly connected component. Then the eigenvalues of $A$ are contained in the set

$$
B(A)=\bigcup_{\gamma \in C(A)}\left\{z \in \mathbb{C}: \prod_{v_{i} \in \gamma}\left|z-A_{i i}\right| \leq \prod_{v_{i} \in \gamma} \tilde{r}_{i}(A)\right\} .
$$

Also, $B(A) \subseteq \mathcal{K}(A)$.

This theorem can also be extended to $G \in \mathbb{G}_{\pi}$ by defining the analogous region $\mathcal{B} \mathcal{W}_{B}(G)$. However, it is not always the case that $\mathcal{B} \mathcal{W}_{B}\left(\mathcal{R}_{S}(G)\right) \subseteq \mathcal{B} \mathcal{W}_{B}(G)$.

## Sufficient Condition

## Theorem: Improved Brualdi Regions (Bunimovich,Webb [6])

Let $G=(V, E, \omega)$ where $G \in \mathbb{G}_{\pi}$ and $V$ contains at least two vertices. If $v \in V$ such that both $\mathcal{A}(v, G)=\emptyset$ and $C(v, G)=\mathcal{S}(v, G)$ then $\mathcal{B} \mathcal{W}_{B}\left(\mathcal{R}_{V \backslash v}(G)\right) \subseteq \mathcal{B} \mathcal{W}_{B}(G)$.

Here the set $\mathcal{A}(v, G)$ is the set of cycles in $G$ adjacent to $v$ and the condition $C(v, G)=\mathcal{S}(v, G)$ means that every cycle through $v$ has a specific but easily described graph structure.

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## Summary and Implications: Isospectral Graph Reductions

- The class of graphs which can be isospectrally reduced is very general.
- It is possible to consider different isospectral reductions of the same graph, as well as sequences of such reductions.
- If $\mathcal{V}$ is any nonempty subset of the vertices of $G \in \mathbb{G}_{\pi}$ then there is a unique reduction of $G$ over $\mathcal{V}$. That is, it is possible to (uniquely) simplify the structure of $G$ to whatever degree is desired.
- It is possible to establish new relations between topologies of graphs e.g. if two graphs have similar reductions.


## Summary and Implications: Isospectral Graph Reductions

- The process of reducing a graph can be done knowing only the local structure of the graph.
- The techniques applied in graph reductions can be used for optimal design, in the sense of structural simplicity of dynamical networks with prescribed dynamical properties ranging from synchronizability to chaoticity.
- It is possible to reduce a graph over specific weight sets.


## Summary and Implications: Eigenvalue Estimates

- Gershgorin and Brauer-type estimates of $\sigma(G)$ improve as the graph $G$ is reduced.
- Brualdi-type estimates of $\sigma(G)$ can be improved by reducing over specific types of structural sets.
- This process can be used to improve eigenvalue estimates to any desired degree.
- Graph reductions decrease the number of subregions needed to compute the Gershgorin, Brauer, and Brualdi-type regions simplifying the computational procedure.
- Applications include, estimating the spectrum of the Laplacian matrix of a graph and estimating the spectral radius of a given matrix.


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