

# Cyclotomic Matrices and Graphs

Graeme Taylor

HIMR

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# Mahler Measure

Let  $P(z) = z^d + \dots + a_d = \prod_{i=1}^d (z - \alpha_i) \in \mathbb{Z}[z]$  be monic, non-constant.

## Definition

The *Mahler Measure*  $M(P)$  is given by

$$M(P) := \exp \left( \int_0^1 \log |P(e^{2\pi it})| dt \right)$$

# Mahler Measure

Equivalently,

$$M(P) = \prod_{i=1}^d \max(1, |\alpha_i|)$$

- Clearly,  $M(P) \geq 1$  for all  $P$ .
- $M(P) = 1 \Leftrightarrow$  all nonzero roots of  $P$  are roots of unity.

# Lehmer's Conjecture

In 1933, DH Lehmer exhibited the polynomial

$$z^{10} + z^9 - z^7 - z^6 - z^5 - z^4 - z^3 + z + 1$$

which has Mahler measure

$$\lambda_0 = 1.176280818\dots$$

# Lehmer's Conjecture

No-one has found a polynomial with smaller Mahler measure since!

- Lehmer's Problem: For a polynomial with  $M(P) > 1$ , can  $M(P)$  be arbitrarily close to 1?
- If not, then there exists some  $\lambda > 1$  such that  $M(P) > 1 \Rightarrow M(P) \geq \lambda$ .

Lehmer's Conjecture, strong version

$$M(P) > 1 \Rightarrow M(P) \geq \lambda_0$$

# Associated Polynomials

- If  $A$  is an  $n \times n$  integer symmetric matrix, then its *associated polynomial* is  $R_A(z) := z^n \chi_A(z + 1/z)$
- If  $A$  has all eigenvalues in  $[-2, 2]$ , then  $M(R_A) = 1$   
(We describe  $A$  as a *cyclotomic matrix*.)

# From cyclotomic to noncyclotomic

## Theorem (Cauchy Interlacing Theorem)

Let  $A$  be a Hermitian  $n \times n$  matrix with eigenvalues  $\lambda_1 \leq \lambda_2 \leq \dots \leq \lambda_n$ .  
Let  $B$  be obtained from  $A$  by deleting row  $i$  and column  $i$  from  $A$ .

Then the eigenvalues  $\mu_1 \leq \dots \leq \mu_{n-1}$  of  $B$  interlace with those of  $A$ :  
that is,

$$\lambda_1 \leq \mu_1 \leq \lambda_2 \leq \mu_2 \leq \dots \leq \lambda_{n-1} \leq \mu_{n-1} \leq \lambda_n$$

## From cyclotomic to noncyclotomic

We can run this process in reverse. Let  $B$  be a cyclotomic matrix, so its eigenvalues satisfy

$$-2 \leq \mu_1 \leq \cdots \leq \mu_{n-1} \leq 2$$

Then if we 'grow' a matrix  $A$  from  $B$  by adding an extra row and column, we have by interlacing

$$\lambda_1 \leq \mu_1 \leq \lambda_2 \leq \mu_2 \leq \cdots \leq \lambda_{n-1} \leq \mu_{n-1} \leq \lambda_n$$

So

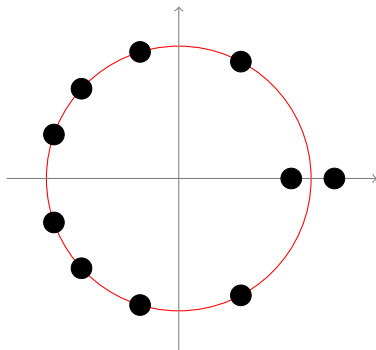
$$\lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_{n-1} \in [\mu_1, \mu_{n-1}] \subseteq [-2, 2]$$

At worst,

$$\lambda_1, \lambda_n \notin [-2, 2]$$

# Lehmer's Polynomial

$\lambda_0$  is a Salem number (all other conjugates satisfy  $|\alpha_i| \leq 1$ , with at least one having absolute value 1):



# Entries

## Proposition

*The only cyclotomic  $1 \times 1$  matrices are*

$$(0), (1), (-1), (2), (-2)$$

## Corollary

*By interlacing, the entries of an integer cyclotomic matrix must be elements of  $\{0, 1, -1, 2, -2\}$ .*

## Indecomposability

If  $M$  decomposes as a block-diagonal matrix, then its eigenvalues are those of the blocks. Thus a cyclotomic matrix decomposes into one or more indecomp. cyclotomic matrices.

### Lemma

*Apart from the matrices*

$$(2), (-2), \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 2 \\ 2 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -2 \\ -2 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

*any indecomp. cyclotomic matrix has all entries from  $\{0, 1, -1\}$ .*

# Maximality

- If  $A$  is cyclotomic, so is any  $B$  obtained by deleting some set of rows and corresponding columns of  $A$ :  $B$  is described as being *contained in  $A$* .
- If  $A$  is an indecomp. cyclotomic matrix that is not contained in any strictly larger indecomp. cyclotomic matrix, then  $A$  is described as being *maximal*.

## Theorem (McKee, Smyth)

*Any non-maximal indecomp. cyclotomic matrix is contained in a maximal one.*

# Equivalence

Let  $O_n(\mathbb{Z})$  be the orthogonal group of  $n \times n$  signed permutation matrices, generated by permutation matrices and matrices of the form

$$\text{diag}(1, 1, \dots, 1, -1, 1, \dots, 1)$$

- If  $A$  is cyclotomic and  $X \in O_n(\mathbb{Z})$ , then  $A' = XAX^{-1}$  is cyclotomic since it has the same eigenvalues. We describe  $A$  and  $A'$  as *strongly equivalent*.
- A matrix  $A'$  is then described as *equivalent* to  $A$  if it is strongly equivalent to either  $A$  or  $-A$ .

# Charged Signed Graphs

## Symmetric $\{0, 1, -1\}$ -matrix

- $n \times n$  Matrix  $A$
- $A_{ij} = 1$
- $A_{ij} = -1$
- $A_{ii} = 0$
- $A_{ii} = 1$
- $A_{ii} = -1$

## Charged Signed Graph

- $n$ -vertex Graph  $G$
- Edge  $i \bullet \text{---} \bullet j$
- Negative edge  $i \bullet \cdots \cdots \bullet j$
- Neutral Vertex  $\bullet$
- Positive Vertex  $\oplus$
- Negative Vertex  $\ominus$

# Charged Signed Graphs

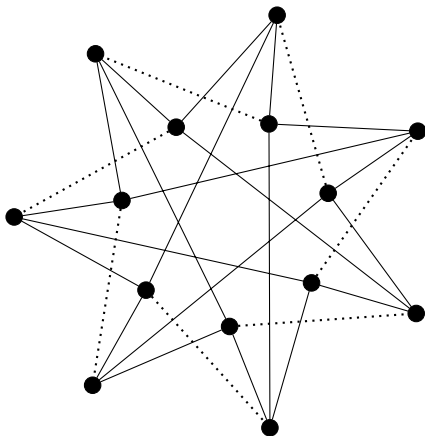
## Symmetric $\{0, 1, -1\}$ -matrix

- $A$  indecomposable.
- $A'$  contained in  $A$ .
- $A_1$  permutation of  $A_2$ .
- Conjugation by  $k$ th diagonal matrix.

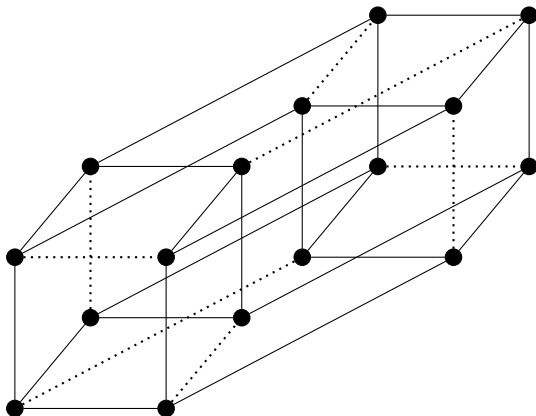
## Charged Signed Graph

- $G$  connected.
- $G'$  induced subgraph of  $G$ .
- $G_1$  vertex relabelling of  $G_2$ .
- Switching of signs of all edges at vertex  $k$ .

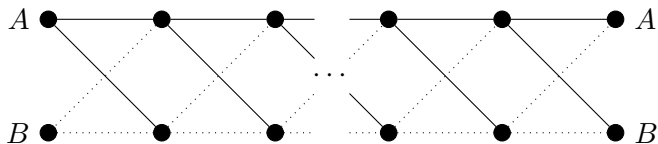
# The maximal connected cyclotomic signed graph $S_{14}$ .

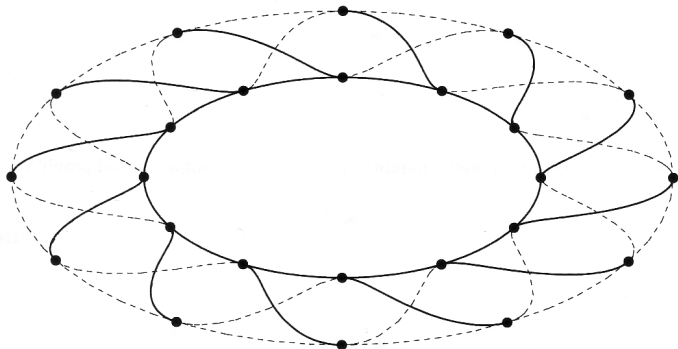


# The maximal connected cyclotomic signed graph $S_{16}$ .

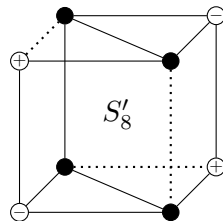
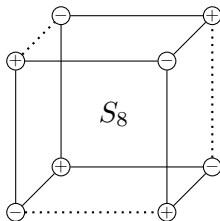
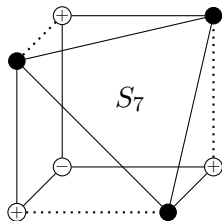


# The maximal connected cyclotomic signed graphs $T_{2k}$ .



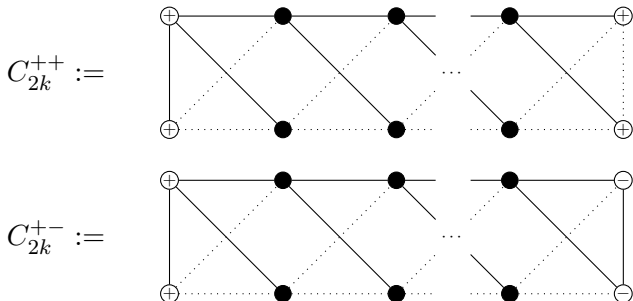
Example:  $T_{24}$ 

# The maximal connected cyclotomic charged signed graphs $S_7, S_8, S'_8$ .



# The maximal connected cyclotomic charged signed graphs

$C_{2k}^{++}$  and  $C_{2k}^{+-}$ .



# Minimal Noncyclotomics

## Definition

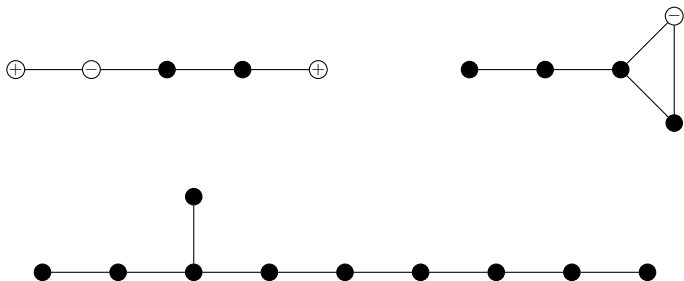
A noncyclotomic charged signed graph is *minimal* if every proper induced subgraph is cyclotomic.

- Every noncyclotomic CSG has a minimal noncyclotomic CSG as a subgraph.
- If  $G'$  is an induced subgraph of  $G$ , then  $M(G) \geq M(G')$  (interlacing).

# Minimal Noncyclotomics

## Theorem (McKee, Smyth)

*If  $G$  is a minimal noncyclotomic CSG, then  $G$  has at most ten vertices and Mahler measure at least  $\lambda_0$ .*



# Lehmer's Problem for ISMs

Theorem (McKee, Smyth)

*If  $A$  is a noncyclotomic integer symmetric matrix then*

$$M(R_A(z)) \geq \lambda_0$$

## Does this solve Lehmer's Problem?

- Given  $f \in \mathbb{Z}[z]$ , does there exist an ISM  $A$  such that  $R_A(z) = f$ ?
- Clearly,  $R_A(z)$  is reciprocal. Fortunately:

### Theorem (Smyth)

Let  $\alpha$  be a nonreciprocal algebraic integer with minimal polynomial  $P_\alpha$ .  
Then

$$M(\alpha) := M(P_\alpha) \geq M(z^3 - z - 1) = \theta_0 = 1.3247 \dots$$

- So we can safely restrict our attention to reciprocal  $f$ .

# Missing Polynomials

- In fact, it'd suffice to find  $A$  such that  $M(f) = M(A) \geq \lambda_0$ .
- Sadly, even this is impossible:
  - $P = z^{14} - z^{12} + z^7 - z^2 + 1$  has  $M(P) = 1.20261\dots$
  - But  $1.20261\dots \notin \{M(G) \mid G \text{ a CSG with } M(G) \leq 1.3\}$
  - So,  $\nexists$  an ISM  $A$  such that  $M(A) = M(P)$ .

# Imaginary Quadratic Extensions

Let  $R = \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{d})}$  for  $d < 0$  squarefree. Then For  $A$  a Hermitian  $R$ -matrix:

- $R_A(z) \in \mathbb{Z}[z]$ .
- Interlacing Theorem still applies.
- $A$  cyclotomic  $\Rightarrow A_{i,j}A_{j,i} = \text{Norm}(A_{i,j}) \leq 4$ .

# $\mathcal{L}$ -matrices

Let  $\mathcal{L}_n = \{x \in R \mid \text{Norm}(x) = n\}$  and define

$$\mathcal{L} := \mathcal{L}_4 \cup \mathcal{L}_3 \cup \mathcal{L}_2 \cup \mathcal{L}_1 \cup \{0\}.$$

- $A$  a cyclotomic  $R$ -matrix  $\Rightarrow A$  is an  $\mathcal{L}$ -matrix.
- If  $d < -15$ , squarefree then  $\mathcal{L} = \{0, \pm 1, \pm 2\}$ , so

$A$  a cyclotomic  $R$ -matrix  $\Rightarrow A$  an ISM.

- Can restrict our attention to  $d \in \{-1, -2, -3, -7, -11, -15\}$ .

# $\mathcal{L}$ -matrices

## Proposition

*If  $A$  is a maximal cyclotomic matrix with an entry of norm 4 or 3, then  $A$  is at most a  $4 \times 4$  matrix.*

## Corollary

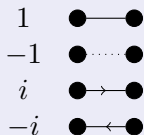
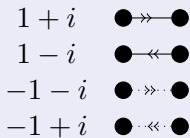
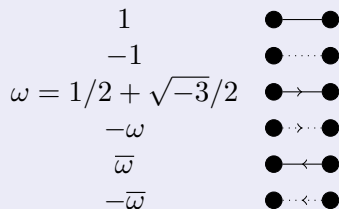
*For  $d = -15$  or  $-11$ , all but finitely many cyclotomic  $\mathcal{L}$ -matrices are ISMs (and the exceptions are easily determined).*

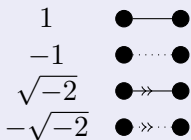
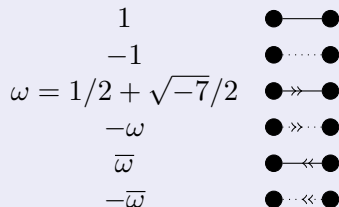
## $\mathcal{L}'$ -matrices and graphs

So, we can restrict our attention to  $d \in \{-1, -2, -3, -7\}$ , and  $\mathcal{L}'$ -matrices for  $\mathcal{L}' = \mathcal{L}_2 \cup \mathcal{L}_1 \cup \{0\}$ .

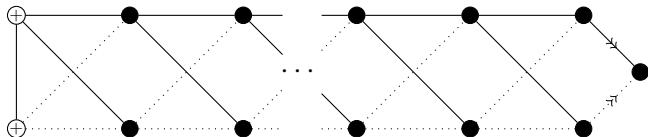
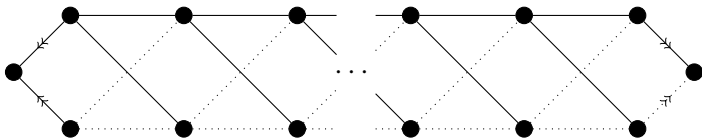
- Strong equivalence generalises to conjugation by elements of  $U_n(\mathbb{R})$ .
- Equivalence generalises to strong equivalence to any of  $A, -A, \overline{A}, -\overline{A}$ .

We can represent each class of matrices by an  $\mathcal{L}'$ -graph with edges of *weight* 1 or 2.

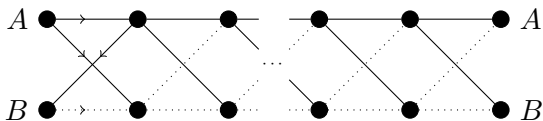
$\mathcal{L}'$ -graphs $\mathcal{L}_1, d = -1$  $\mathcal{L}_2, d = -1$  $\mathcal{L}_1, d = -3$ 

$\mathcal{L}'$ -graphs $\mathcal{L}', d = -2$  $\mathcal{L}', d = -7$ 

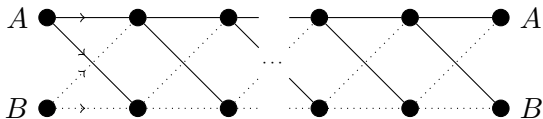
# $\mathcal{L}'$ -graphs with weight 2 edges



# $\mathcal{L}'$ -graphs with all edges weight 1



$$T'_{2k}, k \geq 3 \quad (d = -1)$$



$$T'_{2k}, k \geq 3 \quad (d = -3)$$

# Extremal Cyclotomics

From the classification of ISMs, we have

## Corollary

*If  $M$  is a maximal cyclotomic ISM, then  $M^2 = 4Id$ .*

We describe an  $R$ -matrix  $M$  satisfying  $M^2 = 4Id$  as *extremal*.

## Proposition

*Extremal  $\Rightarrow$  maximal cyclotomic*

# Extremal Cyclotomics

By observation,

Extremal  $\Leftrightarrow$  maximal cyclotomic

for  $R$  any of

- $\mathbb{Z}$
- $\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-15})}$
- $\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-11})}$

# Extremal Cyclotomics

## Theorem

*For  $d = -2, -7$ , if  $G$  is a cyclotomic  $\mathcal{L}'$ -graph with a vertex of weighted degree less than four, then there exists a cyclotomic  $\mathcal{L}'$ -graph  $H$  inducing  $G$  as a proper subgraph.*

Classifying the maximal cyclotomic graphs (and hence cyclotomic matrices) for these rings therefore reduces to classifying the extremal graphs.

# Classification of $\mathcal{L}'$ -graphs

- Classified extremal  $\mathcal{L}'$ -graphs for  $d \in \{-1, -2, -3, -7\}$ . With finitely many (known) exceptions, any such graph is a CSG or in one of the infinite families given earlier.
- This completed the classification of cyclotomics for  $d = -2, -7$  and gave a conjectural classification for  $d = -1, -3$ .
- Greaves (2011) classified the maximal cyclotomics for  $d = -1, -3$ , confirming the conjecture.

$$d \neq -1, -3$$

### Theorem (2010)

*For  $d < 0$ , squarefree,  $d \neq -1, -3$ : If  $G$  is a minimal noncyclotomic  $R$ -graph with  $M(G) < 1.3$ , then  $G$  is equivalent to a charged signed graph.*

$$d = -1, -3$$

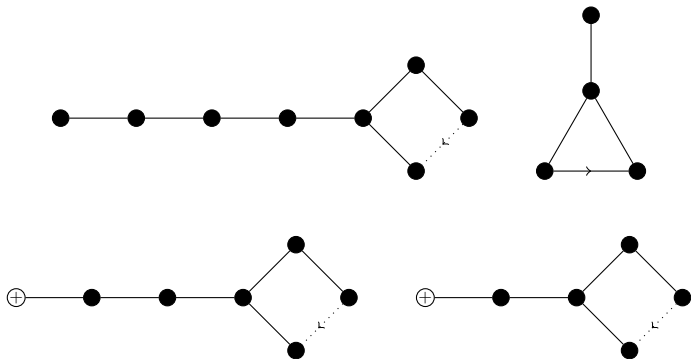
### Theorem (2011, with Greaves)

*If  $G$  is a minimal noncyclotomic  $\mathbb{Z}[i]$ -graph with  $M(G) < 1.3$ , then  $G$  is equivalent to a charged signed graph.*

### Theorem (2011, with Greaves)

*If  $G$  is a minimal noncyclotomic  $\mathbb{Z}[\omega]$ -graph with  $M(A) < 1.3$ , then  $G$  is equivalent to a charged signed graph or one of four  $\mathbb{Z}[\omega]$ -graphs, which have Mahler measure at least 1.267....*

# $\mathbb{Z}[\omega]$ -graphs with $M(G) < 1.3$



# Lehmer's Problem

## Corollary (Good)

Let  $A$  be an  $R$ -matrix, for  $R = \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{Q}\sqrt{d}}$ ,  $d < 0$  squarefree. Then

$$M(A) = 1 \text{ or } M(A) \geq \lambda_0$$

## Corollary (Bad)

Recall  $P = z^{14} - z^{12} + z^7 - z^2 + 1$  with  $M(P) = 1.20261\dots$

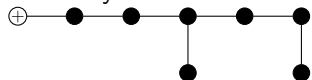
$$1.20261\dots \notin \{M(G) \mid G \text{ a } \mathbb{Z}[\omega]\text{-graph with } M(G) \leq 1.3\}.$$

So there are still "missing" Mahler measures!

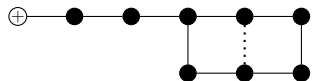
# Consolation Prize

Let  $P(z) = z^{14} - z^{13} - z^8 + z^7 - z^6 - z + 1$ , with  $M(P) = 1.267\dots$

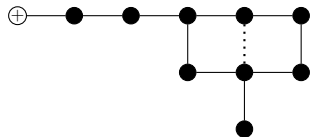
The only CSGs with Mahler Measure  $1.267\dots$  are nonminimal:



$$R_A = (z^2 + 1)P;$$



$$R_A = (z^4 - z^2 + 1)P;$$



$$R_A = (z - 1)^2(z + 1)^2(z^2 + 1)P$$

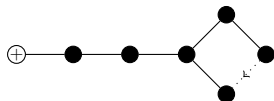
# Consolation Prize

So

$$P \notin \{R_A(z) \mid A \text{ a } \mathbb{Z}\text{-matrix}\}$$

However,

$$P \in \{R_A(z) \mid A \text{ a } \mathbb{Z}[\omega]\text{-matrix}\} :$$



$$R_A = P;$$

(But  $M(P) \in \{M(R_A(z)) \mid A \text{ a } \mathbb{Z}\text{-matrix}\}$ )

# Summary

- Classified all cyclotomic  $R$ -matrices (infinitely many new examples);
- Classified all minimal noncyclotomic  $R$ -matrices (new small Mahler measure graphs and associated polynomials);
- Lehmer's conjecture holds for associated polynomials of  $R$ -matrices;
- But, since that's not all of  $\mathbb{Z}[z]$ , remains open in general!

## Further Reading

<http://maths.straylight.co.uk>