

Groups and graph limits BSM research course warmup

Miklos Abert

Let G be a connected, d -regular graph. For a vertex $v \in V(G)$ and natural n let $p_{v,2n}$ denote the probability that the random walk of length $2n$ starting at v returns to v .

Exercise 1 Show that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[2n]{p_{v,2n}}$$

exists and is independent of v .

Let $l^2(G)$ denote the Hilbert space of square summable functions

$$l^2(G) = \left\{ f : V(G) \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \mid \sum_{x \in V(G)} f(x)^2 < \infty \right\}.$$

Let the Markov operator $M : l^2(G) \rightarrow l^2(G)$ be defined by

$$(Mf)(x) = \frac{1}{d} \sum_{(x,y) \in E(G)} f(y).$$

Exercise 2 Let T_d denote the d -regular tree ($d \geq 2$). Show that there exists no $0 \neq f \in l^2(T_d)$ and $\lambda \neq 0$ such that $Mf = \lambda f$.

Let S denote the unit circle on the plane with Lebesgue measure λ and let r be an irrational rotation.

Exercise 3 There exists no measurable subset $A \subseteq S$ such that $x \in A$ if and only if $r(x) \notin A$.

Exercise 4 For every $\varepsilon > 0$ there exists a measurable $A \subseteq S$ such that the above is ε -true, that is,

$$\lambda(r(A) \cap A) + \lambda(r(A^c) \cap A^c) < \varepsilon.$$

Here A^c is the complement of A .

That is, the unit circle with an irrational rotation is not measurably bipartite but is almost measurably bipartite.

Exercise 5 Let us define the random tree T_n on n points as follows. Let T_0 be a vertex with no edges. Take T_{n-1} and add a new vertex, attached to a uniform random vertex in T_{n-1} . What can you say about

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\# \text{ of leaves of } T_n}{n} ?$$