

# Graph theoretic uncertainty principles

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## Acknowledgements

MURI-ARO 911NF-09-1-0383, DTRA 1-13-1-0015,  
ARO W911NF 15-1-0112

AGASKAR and LU, GRÜNBAUM, LAMMERS and MAESER

# Uncertainty principles – 1

The Heisenberg uncertainty principle inequality is

$$\forall f \in L^2(\mathbb{R}), \quad \|f\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R})}^2 \leq 4\pi \|t f(t)\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R})} \left\| \gamma \hat{f}(\gamma) \right\|_{L^2(\hat{\mathbb{R}})}.$$

Additively, we have

$$\forall f \in L^2(\mathbb{R}), \quad \|f\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R})}^2 \leq 2\pi \left( \|t f(t)\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R})}^2 + \left\| \gamma \hat{f}(\gamma) \right\|_{L^2(\hat{\mathbb{R}})}^2 \right).$$

Equivalently, for  $f \in \mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R})$ ,

$$\|f\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R})}^2 \leq \left\| \hat{f}' \right\|_{L^2(\hat{\mathbb{R}})}^2 + \|f'\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R})}^2.$$

We shall extend this inequality to graphs.

# Uncertainty principles – 2

- In signal processing, uncertainty principles dictate the trade off between high spectral and high temporal accuracy, establishing limits on the extent to which the “instantaneous frequency” of a signal can be measured (Gabor, 1946)
- Weighted, Euclidean, LCAG, non- $L^2$  uncertainty principles, proved by Fourier weighted norm inequalities, e.g., Plancherel, generalizations of Hardy’s inequality, e.g., integration by parts, and Hölder (alas).
- DFT: Chebatorov, Grünbaum, Donoho and Stark, Tao.
- Generalize the latter to graphs.

- Problem: propose, prove, and understand uncertainty principle inequalities for graphs, see A. Agaskar and Y. M. Lu on *A spectral graph uncertainty principle*
- Generally: There is no obvious solution because of the loss on general graphs of the cyclic structure associated with the DFT.
- Locally: Radar/Lidar data analysis at NWC uses non-linear spectral kernel methods, with *essential* graph theoretic components for dimension reduction and remote sensing.

## Definition

A *graph* is  $G = \{V, \mathbf{E} \subseteq V \times V, w\}$  consisting of a set  $V$  called vertices, a set  $\mathbf{E}$  called edges, and a weight function

$$w : V \times V \longrightarrow [0, \infty).$$

Write  $V = \{v_j\}_{j=0}^{N-1}$  and keep the ordering fixed, but arbitrary.

- For any  $(v_i, v_j) \in V \times V$  we have

$$w(v_i, v_j) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } (v_i, v_j) \in \mathbf{E}^c \\ c > 0 & \text{if } (v_i, v_j) \in \mathbf{E}. \end{cases}$$

- G is undirected, i.e.,  $w(v_i, v_j) = w(v_j, v_i)$ .
- $w(v_i, v_i) = 0$ , i.e., G has no loops.
- G is connected, i.e., given any  $v_i$  and  $v_j$ , there exists at most one edge between them, and there exists a sequence of vertices  $\{v_k\}$ ,  $k = 0, \dots, d \leq |V| = N$ , such that

$$(v_i, v_0), (v_0, v_1), \dots, (v_d, v_j) \in \mathbf{E}.$$

- G is *unit weighted* if  $w$  takes only the values 0 and 1.

- $N \times N$  symmetric *adjacency matrix*,  $A$ , for  $G$  :

$$A = (A_{ij}) = (w(v_i, v_j)).$$

- The *degree matrix*,  $D$ , is the  $N \times N$  diagonal matrix,

$$D = \text{diag} \left( \sum_{j=0}^{N-1} A_{0j}, \sum_{j=0}^{N-1} A_{1j}, \dots, \sum_{j=0}^{N-1} A_{(N-1)j} \right).$$

- The *graph Laplacian*,

$$L = D - A,$$

is the  $N \times N$  symmetric, positive semi-definite matrix, with real ordered eigenvalues  $0 = \lambda_0 \leq \dots \leq \lambda_{N-1}$  and orthonormal eigenbasis,  $\{\chi_j\}_{j=0}^{N-1}$ , for  $\mathbb{R}^N$ .

# Graph Fourier transform

- Formally, the Fourier transform  $\hat{f}$  at  $\gamma$  of  $f$  defined on  $\mathbb{R}$  is the inner product of  $f$  with the complex exponentials, that are the eigenfunctions of the Laplacian operator  $\frac{d^2}{dt^2}$  on  $\mathbb{R}$ .
- Thus, define the *graph Fourier transform*,  $\hat{f}$ , of  $f \in \ell^2(G)$  in the graph Laplacian eigenbasis:

$$\hat{f}[j] = \langle \chi_j, f \rangle, \quad j = 0, \dots, N-1.$$

If

$$\chi = [\chi_0, \chi_1, \dots, \chi_{N-1}],$$

then  $\hat{f} = \chi^* f$ , and, since  $\chi$  is unitary, we have the *inversion formula*:

$$f = \chi \chi^* f = \chi \hat{f}.$$



# Difference operator for graphs

The *difference operator*,

$$D_r : \ell^2(G) \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^{|\mathbf{E}|},$$

with coordinate values representing the change in  $f$  over each edge, is defined by

$$(D_r f)[k] = (f[j] - f[i]) (w(e_k))^{1/2},$$

where  $e_k = (v_j, v_i)$  and  $j < i$ .

- $D_r$  can be defined by the *incidence matrix* of  $G$ .
- If  $G$  is a unit weighted circulant graph, then  $D_r$  is the intuitive difference operator of Lammers and Maeser.

# Difference uncertainty principle for graphs

## Theorem

Let  $G$  be a connected and undirected graph. Then,

$$\forall f \in \ell^2(G), \quad 0 < \tilde{\lambda}_0 \|f\|^2 \leq \|D_r f\|^2 + \left\| D_r \hat{f} \right\|^2 \leq \tilde{\lambda}_{N-1} \|f\|^2,$$

where

$$\Delta = \text{diag}\{\lambda_0, \dots, \lambda_{N-1}\}$$

and where  $0 < \tilde{\lambda}_0 \leq \tilde{\lambda}_1 \leq \dots \leq \tilde{\lambda}_{N-1}$  are the eigenvalues of  $L + \Delta$ .  
The bounds are sharp.

# Frame difference uncertainty principle for graphs

$\{e_j\}_{j=0}^{N-1} \subseteq \mathbb{C}^d$  is a *frame* for  $\mathbb{C}^d$  if

$$\exists 0 < A \leq B \text{ such that } \forall f \in \mathbb{C}^d, \quad 0 < A \|f\|^2 \leq \sum_{j=0}^{N-1} |\langle f, e_j \rangle|^2 \leq B \|f\|^2.$$

- If  $A = B = 1$  then the frame is a *Parseval frame*.
- Define the  $d \times N$  matrix  $E = [e_0, e_1, \dots, e_{N-1}]$ , where  $\{e_j\}_{j=0}^{N-1}$  is a Parseval frame for  $\mathbb{C}^d$ . Then  $EE^* = I_{d \times d}$ .

## Theorem

Let  $G$  be a connected and undirected graph. Then, for every  $d \times N$  Parseval frame  $E$ ,

$$\sum_{j=0}^{d-1} \tilde{\lambda}_j \leq \|D_r \chi^* E^*\|_{fr}^2 + \|D_r E^*\|_{fr}^2 \leq \sum_{j=N-d}^{N-1} \tilde{\lambda}_j.$$

The bounds are sharp.

The difference operator *feasibility region*  $FR$  is

$$FR = \{(x, y) : \exists f \in \ell^2(G), \|f\| = 1, \text{ such that } \|D_r f\|^2 = x \text{ and } \|D_r \hat{f}\|^2 = y\}.$$

## Theorem

- $FR$  is a closed subset subset of  $[0, \lambda_{N-1}] \times [0, \lambda_{N-1}]$ , where  $\lambda_{N-1}$  is the maximum eigenvalue of the Laplacian  $L$ .
- $(\frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=0}^{N-1} \lambda_j, 0)$  and  $(0, L_{0,0})$  are the only points of  $FR$  on the axes.
- $FR$  is in the half plane defined by  $x + y \geq \tilde{\lambda}_0 > 0$  with equality if and only if  $\hat{f}$  is in the eigenspace associated with  $\tilde{\lambda}_0$ .
- If  $N \geq 3$ , then  $FR$  is a convex region.

# Complete graph

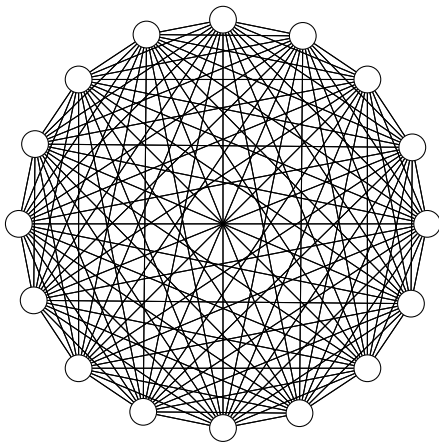
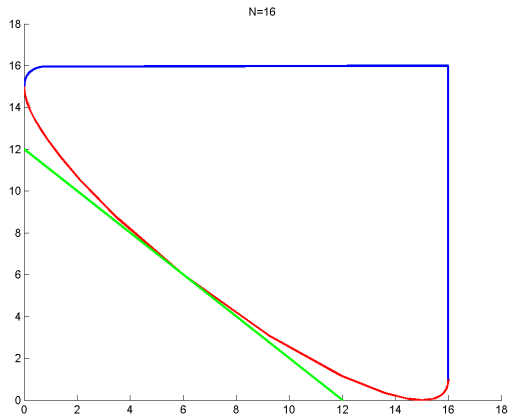


Figure : A unit weighted complete graph with 16 vertices.

# Feasibility region



# Difference uncertainty curve

The *difference uncertainty curve*  $\omega$  is the lower boundary of *FR* defined as

$$\forall x \in [0, \lambda_{N-1}], \quad \omega(x) = \inf_{g \in \ell^2(G)} \langle g, Lg \rangle$$

$$\text{subject to } \langle g, \Delta g \rangle = x.$$

Given  $x \in [0, \lambda_{N-1}]$ ,  $g_x \in \ell^2(G)$  attains the *difference uncertainty curve* at  $x$  if, for all  $g$  for which  $\langle g, \Delta g \rangle = x$ , we have

$$\langle g_x, Lg_x \rangle \leq \langle g, Lg \rangle.$$

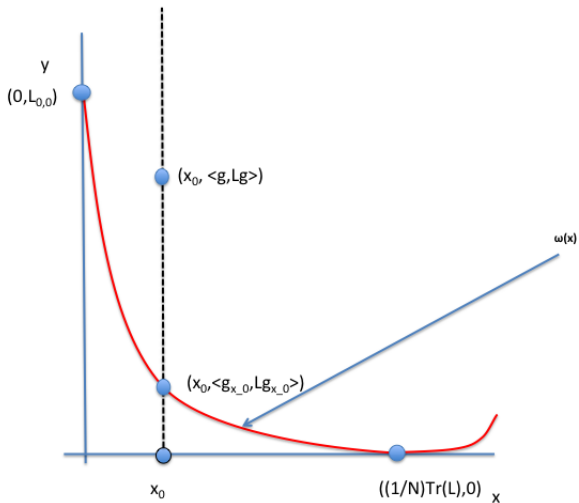


Figure : The difference uncertainty curve (red) for a connected graph  $G$



# Uncertainty curve theorem

## Theorem

A unit normed function  $f \in \ell^2(G)$ , with  $\|D_r f\|^2 = x \in (0, \lambda_{N-1})$ , achieves the uncertainty curve at  $x$  if and only if  $\hat{f}$  is a nonzero eigenfunction for  $K(\alpha) = L - \alpha\Delta$  associated with the minimal eigenvalue of  $K(\alpha)$ , where  $\alpha \in (-\infty, \infty)$ .

# Uncertainty principle problem and comparison

- Lammers and Maeser, Grünbaum, Agaskar and Lu.
- The Agaskar and Lu problem.
- Critical comparison between the graph theoretical feasibility region and the comparable Bell Labs uncertainty principle region.

*That's all folks!*