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COSPECTRAL GRAPHS AND THE GENERALIZED ADJACENCY MATRIX

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# Cospectral graphs and the generalized adjacency matrix 

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#### Abstract

Let $J$ be the all-ones matrix, and let $A$ denote the adjacency matrix of a graph. An old result of Johnson and Newman states that if two graphs are cospectral with respect to $y J-A$ for two distinct values of $y$, then they are cospectral for all $y$. Here we will focus on graphs cospectral with respect to $y J-A$ for exactly one value $\widehat{y}$ of $y$. We call such graphs $\widehat{y}$-cospectral. It follows that $\widehat{y}$ is a rational number, and we prove existence of a pair of $\widehat{y}$-cospectral graphs for every rational $\hat{y}$. In addition, we generate by computer all $\widehat{y}$-cospectral pairs on most nine vertices. Recently, Chesnokov and the second author constructed pairs of $\widehat{y}$-cospectral graphs for all rational $\widehat{y} \in(0,1)$, where one graph is regular and the other one is not. This phenomenon is only possible for the mentioned values of $\widehat{y}$, and by computer we find all such pairs of $\widehat{y}$-cospectral graphs on at most eleven vertices.


## 1 Introduction

For a graph $\Gamma$ with adjacency matrix $A$, any matrix of the form $M=x I+y J+z A$ with $x, y, z \in \mathbb{R}, z \neq 0$ is called a generalized adjacency matrix of $\Gamma$ (As usual, $J$ is the all-ones matrix and $I$ the identity matrix). Since we are interested in the relation between $\Gamma$ and the spectrum of $M$, we can restrict to generalized adjacency matrices of the form $y J-A$ without loss of generality.

Let $\Gamma$ and $\Gamma^{\prime}$ be graphs with adjacency matrices $A$ and $A^{\prime}$, respectively. Johnson and Newman [7] proved that if $y J-A$ and $y J-A^{\prime}$ are cospectral for two distinct values of $y$, then they are cospectral for all $y$, and hence they are cospectral with respect to all generalized adjacency matrices. If this is the case we will call $\Gamma$ and $\Gamma^{\prime}$

[^0]$\mathbb{R}$-cospectral. So if $y J-A$ and $y J-A^{\prime}$ are cospectral for some but not all values of $y$, they are cospectral for exactly one value $\hat{y}$ of $y$. Then we say that $\Gamma$ and $\Gamma^{\prime}$ are $\widehat{y}$-cospectral. Thus cospectral graphs (in the usual sense) are either 0 -cospectral or $\mathbb{R}$-cospectral. For both types of cospectral graphs, many examples are known (see for example [5]). In Figure 1 we give an example of both. This figure also gives examples of $\widehat{y}$-cospectral graphs for $\widehat{y}=\frac{1}{3}$ and $\widehat{y}=-1$. Note that $\Gamma$ and $\Gamma^{\prime}$ are $\widehat{y}$-cospectral if and only if their complements are $(1-\widehat{y})$-cospectral. So we also have examples for $\widehat{y}=1, \frac{2}{3}$ and 2. If $\widehat{y}=\frac{1}{2}$, one can construct a graph cospectral with a given graph $\Gamma$ by multiplying some rows and the corresponding columns of $\frac{1}{2} J-A$ by -1 . The corresponding operation in $\Gamma$ is called Seidel switching. This shows that every graph with at least two vertices has a $\frac{1}{2}$-cospectral mate.


Figure 1: Some examples of (generalized) cospectral graphs
It is well-known that, with respect to the adjacency matrix, a regular graph cannot be cospectral with a nonregular one (see [2, p. 94]). In [5] this result is extended to generalized adjacency matrices $y J-A$ with $y \notin(0,1)$. In [1] a regular-nonregular pair of $\widehat{y}$-cospectral graphs is constructed for all rational $\widehat{y} \in(0,1)$. In the next section we shall see that $\widehat{y}$ is rational for any pair of $\widehat{y}$-cospectral graphs. Thus we have:

Theorem 1. There exists a pair of $\widehat{y}$-cospectral graphs, where one graph is regular and the other one is not, if and only if $\widehat{y}$ is a rational number satisfying $0<\widehat{y}<1$.

In the final section we will generate all regular-nonregular $\widehat{y}$-cospectral pairs on at most eleven vertices. The smallest such pair has only six vertices; it is the $\frac{1}{3}$-cospectral pair of Figure 1. In Section 3 we shall construct $\widehat{y}$-cospectral graphs for every rational value of $\hat{y}$. Therefore:

Theorem 2. There exists a pair of $\widehat{y}$-cospectral graphs if and only if $\widehat{y}$ is a rational number.

In the final section we also generate all pairs of $\widehat{y}$-cospectral graphs on at most nine vertices.

## 2 The generalized characteristic polynomial

For a graph $\Gamma$ with adjacency matrix $A$, the polynomial $p(x, y)=\operatorname{det}(x I+y J-A)$ will be called the generalized characteristic polynomial of $\Gamma$. Thus $p(x, y)$ can be interpreted as the characteristic polynomial of $A-y J$, and $p(x, 0)=p(x)$ is the characteristic polynomial of $A$. The generalized characteristic polynomial is closely related to the so-called idiosyncratic polynomial, which was introduced by Tutte [9] as the characteristic polynomial of $A+y(J-I-A)$. We prefer the polynomial $p(x, y)$, because it has the important property that the degree in $y$ is only 1 . Indeed, for an arbitrary square matrix $M$ it is known that $\operatorname{det}(M+y J)=\operatorname{det} M+y \Sigma \operatorname{adj} M$, where $\Sigma \operatorname{adj} M$ denotes the sum of the entries of the adjugate (adjoint) of $M$. It is also easily derived from the fact that by Gaussian elimination in $x I+y J-A$ one can eliminate all $y$-s, except for those in the first row. In this way we will obtain more useful expressions for $p(x, y)$ as follows. Partition $A$ according to a vertex $v$, the neighbors of $v$ and the remaining vertices ( $\mathbf{1}$ denotes an all-ones vector, and $\mathbf{0}$ an all-zeros vector):

$$
A=\left[\begin{array}{lll}
0 & \mathbf{1}^{\top} & \mathbf{0}^{\top} \\
\mathbf{1} & A_{1} & B \\
\mathbf{0} & B^{\top} & A_{0}
\end{array}\right]
$$

Then

$$
\begin{gathered}
p(x, y)=\operatorname{det}\left[\begin{array}{ccc}
x+y & (y-1) \mathbf{1}^{\top} & y \mathbf{1}^{\top} \\
(y-1) \mathbf{1} & x I+y-A_{1} & y J-B \\
y \mathbf{1} & y J-B^{\top} & x I+y J-A_{0}
\end{array}\right]= \\
\operatorname{det}\left[\begin{array}{ccc}
x+y & (y-1) \mathbf{1}^{\top} & y \mathbf{1}^{\top} \\
(-1-x) \mathbf{1} x I+J-A_{1} & -B \\
-x \mathbf{1} & J-B^{\top} & x I-A_{0}
\end{array}\right]= \\
p(x)+y \operatorname{det}\left[\begin{array}{ccc}
1 & \mathbf{1}^{\top} & \mathbf{1}^{\top} \\
(-1-x) \mathbf{1} x I+J-A_{1} & -B \\
-x \mathbf{1} & J-B^{\top} & x I-A_{0}
\end{array}\right]= \\
p(x)+y \operatorname{det}\left[\begin{array}{cc}
1 & 2 \mathbf{1}^{\top} \\
-\mathbf{1} & x I-A_{1} \\
\mathbf{0} & J-B \\
\mathbf{0} & J-B^{\top} \\
x I-A_{0}
\end{array}\right]-x y \operatorname{det}\left[\begin{array}{cc}
0 & \mathbf{1}^{\top} \\
\mathbf{1} & x I-A_{1} \\
\mathbf{1} & -\mathbf{1}^{\top} \\
1 & x I-A_{0}
\end{array}\right] .
\end{gathered}
$$

This expression provides the coefficients of the three highest powers of $x$ in $p(x, y)$. A similar expression is used for the computations in Section 4.

Lemma 1. Let $\Gamma$ be a graph with $n$ vertices, e edges, and generalized characteristic polynomial $p(x, y)=\sum_{i=0}^{n}\left(a_{i}+b_{i} y\right) x^{i}$. Then $a_{n}=1, b_{n}=0, a_{n-1}=0, b_{n-1}=n$, $a_{n-2}=-e$ and $b_{n-2}=2 e$.

Proof. By using the above expression for $p(x, y)$, and straightforward calculations.
Thus the coefficient of $x^{n-2}$ in $p(x, y)$ equals $e(2 y-1)$. This implies the known fact that, for any $y \neq \frac{1}{2}$, the number of edges of a graph can be deduced from the spectrum of $y J-A$. Note that a $\frac{1}{2}$-cospectral pair with distinct numbers of edges can easily be made by Seidel switching.

Now let $\Gamma$ and $\Gamma^{\prime}$ be graphs with generalized characteristic polynomials $p(x, y)$ and $p^{\prime}(x, y)$, respectively. It is clear that $p(x, y) \equiv p^{\prime}(x, y)$ if and only if $\Gamma$ and $\Gamma^{\prime}$ are $\mathbb{R}$ cospectral, and $\Gamma$ and $\Gamma^{\prime}$ are $\widehat{y}$-cospectral if and only if $p(x, \widehat{y})=p^{\prime}(x, \widehat{y})$ for all $x \in \mathbb{R}$, whilst $p(x, y) \not \equiv p^{\prime}(x, y)$. If this is the case, then $a_{i}+\widehat{y} b_{i}=a_{i}^{\prime}+\widehat{y} b_{i}^{\prime}$ with $\left(a_{i}, b_{i}\right) \neq\left(a_{i}^{\prime}, b_{i}^{\prime}\right)$ for some $i(0 \leq i \leq n-3)$. This implies $\widehat{y}=-\left(a_{i}-a_{i}^{\prime}\right) /\left(b_{i}-b_{i}^{\prime}\right)$. Thus we proved the mentioned result of Johnson and Newman, that there is only one possible value of $\widehat{y}$. Moreover, we see that $\widehat{y}$ is a rational number, and that $|\widehat{y}|$ is bounded by $\left|a_{i}-a_{i}^{\prime}\right|$ which, in turn, is at most $4\left(1+\frac{1}{2} \sqrt{n+1}\right)^{n+1}$. (Indeed, every coefficient $a_{i}$ of the characteristic polynomial of a graph satisfies $\left|a_{i}\right| \leq\binom{ n}{i} 2^{i-n}(n-i+1)^{(n-i+1) / 2} \leq$ $\left.\sum_{i=0}^{n}\binom{n}{i} 2^{i-n}(n+1)^{(n-i+1) / 2}=2^{-n}(2+\sqrt{n+1})^{n+1}.\right)$

The generalized characteristic polynomial $p(x, y)$ of a graph $\Gamma$ is related to the set of main angles $\left\{\beta_{1}, \ldots, \beta_{\ell}\right\}$ of $\Gamma$. Suppose the adjacency matrix $A$ of $\Gamma$ has $\ell$ distinct eigenvalues $\lambda_{1}>\ldots>\lambda_{\ell}$ with multiplicities $m_{1}, \ldots, m_{\ell}$, respectively, then the main angle $\beta_{i}$ is defined as the cosine of the angle between the all-ones vector $\mathbf{1}$ and the eigenspace of $\lambda_{i}$. For $i=1, \ldots, \ell$, let $V_{i}$ be an $n \times m_{i}$ matrix whose columns are an orthonormal basis for the eigenspace of $\lambda_{i}$. Then $\beta_{i} \sqrt{n}=\left\|V_{i}^{\top} \mathbf{1}\right\|$. Moreover, we can choose $V_{i}$ such that $V_{i}^{\top} \mathbf{1}=\beta_{i} \sqrt{n} \mathbf{e}_{1}$ (where $\mathbf{e}_{1}$ is the unit vector in $\mathbb{R}^{m_{i}}$ ). Put $V=\left[\begin{array}{lll}V_{1} \ldots & V_{\ell}\end{array}\right]$, then $V^{\top} A V=\Lambda$, where $\Lambda$ is the diagonal matrix with the spectrum of $A$, and $V^{\top} \mathbf{1}=\sqrt{n}\left[\beta_{1} \mathbf{e}_{1}^{\top} \ldots \beta_{\ell} \mathbf{e}_{1}^{\top}\right]^{\top}$.

Assume that $\Gamma$ and $\Gamma^{\prime}$ are cospectral graphs with the same angles. Then there exist matrices $V$ and $V^{\prime}$ such that $V^{\top} A V=V^{\prime \top} A^{\prime} V^{\prime}=\Lambda$ and $V^{\top} \mathbf{1}=V^{\prime \top} \mathbf{1}$. Define $Q=V V^{\prime \top}$, then $Q^{\top} A Q=A^{\prime}$ and $Q \mathbf{1}=Q^{\top} \mathbf{1}=\mathbf{1}$. This implies that $Q^{\top}(y J-A) Q=$ $y J-A^{\prime}$, so $y J-A$ and $y J-A^{\prime}$ are cospectral for every $y \in \mathbb{R}$, hence $\Gamma$ and $\Gamma^{\prime}$ have the same generalized characteristic polynomial.

Cvetković and Rowlinson [3] (see also [4, p. 100]) proved the following expression for $p(x, y)$ in terms of the spectrum and the main angles of $\Gamma$ :

$$
p(x, y)=p(x)\left(1+y n \sum_{i=1}^{\ell} \beta_{i}^{2} /\left(x-\lambda_{i}\right)\right)
$$

This formula also shows that the main angles can be obtained from $p(x, y)$, as can be seen as follows. Suppose $q(x)=\Pi_{i=1}^{\ell}\left(x-\lambda_{i}\right)$ is the minimal polynomial of $A$, put $r(x)=p(x) / q(x)$ and $q(x, y)=p(x, y) / r(x)$. Then $q(x, y)$ is a polynomial satisfying $q\left(\lambda_{j}, 1\right)=n \beta_{j}^{2} \Pi_{i \neq j}\left(\lambda_{j}-\lambda_{i}\right)$, which proves the claim. As a consequence, we also proved (a result due to Johnson and Newman [7]) that $\Gamma$ and $\Gamma^{\prime}$ are $\mathbb{R}$-cospectral if and only if there exist an orthogonal matrix $Q$ such that $Q^{\top} A Q=A^{\prime}$ and $Q \mathbf{1}=\mathbf{1}$. The next theorem recapitulates the conditions we have seen for graphs being $\mathbb{R}$-cospectral.

Theorem 3. Let $\Gamma$ and $\Gamma^{\prime}$ be graphs with adjacency matrices $A$ and $A^{\prime}$. Then the following are equivalent:

- $\Gamma$ and $\Gamma^{\prime}$ have identical generalized characteristic polynomials,
- $\Gamma$ and $\Gamma^{\prime}$ are cospectral with respect to all generalized adjacency matrices,
- $\Gamma$ and $\Gamma^{\prime}$ are cospectral, and so are their complements,
- $\Gamma$ and $\Gamma^{\prime}$ are cospectral, and have the same main angles,
- $y J-A$ and $y J-A^{\prime}$ are cospectral for two distinct values of $y$,
- $y J-A$ and $y J-A^{\prime}$ are cospectral for any irrational value of $y$,
- $y J-A$ and $y J-A^{\prime}$ are cospectral for any $y$ with $|y|>4\left(1+\frac{1}{2} \sqrt{n+1}\right)^{n+1}$,
- There exist an orthogonal matrix $Q$, such that $Q^{\top} A Q=A^{\prime}$ and $Q \mathbf{1}=\mathbf{1}$.


## 3 A construction

We construct pairs of graphs $\Gamma$ and $\Gamma^{\prime}$ on $n$ vertices. For each pair the vertex set is partitioned into three parts with sizes $a, b$, and $c$ for $\Gamma$, and $a^{\prime}, b^{\prime}$, and $c^{\prime}=c$ for $\Gamma^{\prime}$. Thus $a+b=a^{\prime}+b^{\prime}=n-c$. With these partitions $\Gamma$ and $\Gamma^{\prime}$ are defined via their adjacency matrices $A$ and $A^{\prime}$ as follows ( $O$ denotes the all-zeros matrix):

$$
\left.A=\left[\begin{array}{ccc}
O & O & O \\
O & O & J \\
O & J & J-I
\end{array}\right], A^{\prime}=\left[\begin{array}{ccc}
O & J & O \\
J & O & J \\
O & J & J
\end{array}\right] . I\right] .
$$

So for the matrices $M=y J-A$ and $M^{\prime}=y J-A^{\prime}$ we get:

$$
M=\left[\begin{array}{lcc}
y J & y J & y J \\
y J & y J & (y-1) J \\
y J & (y-1) J & (y-1) J+I
\end{array}\right], M^{\prime}=\left[\begin{array}{ccc}
y J & (y-1) J & y J \\
(y-1) J & y J & (y-1) J \\
y J & (y-1) J & (y-1) J+I
\end{array}\right] .
$$

Clearly $\operatorname{rank}(M) \leq c+2$, so the characteristic polynomial $p(x, y)$ of $M$ has a factor $x^{n-c-2}$. Moreover $\operatorname{rank}(M-I) \leq a+b+1$, so $p(x, y)$ has a factor $(x-1)^{c-1}$. In a similar way we find that the characteristic polynomial $p^{\prime}(x, y)$ of $M^{\prime}$ also has a factor $x^{n-c-2}(x-1)^{c-1}$. Define

$$
r(x, y)=\frac{p(x, y)}{x^{n-c-2}(x-1)^{c-1}} \quad \text { and } \quad r^{\prime}(x, y)=\frac{p^{\prime}(x, y)}{x^{n-c-2}(x-1)^{c-1}}
$$

Then $r(x, y)$ and $r^{\prime}(x, y)$ are polynomials of degree 3 in $x$ and degree 1 in $y$. Clearly $M$ and $M^{\prime}$ are cospectral if $r(x, y)=r^{\prime}(x, y)$ for all $x \in \mathbb{R}$. Write

$$
r(x, y)=t_{0}+t_{1} x+t_{2} x^{2}+t_{3} x^{3}, \text { and } r^{\prime}(x, y)=t_{0}^{\prime}+t_{1}^{\prime} x+t_{2}^{\prime} x^{2}+t_{3}^{\prime} x^{3}
$$

where $t_{i}$ and $t_{i}^{\prime}$ are linear functions in $y$. Then $t_{3}=t_{3}^{\prime}=1$, and $t_{2}=t_{2}^{\prime}=-n y+c-1$, because $-n y=-\operatorname{trace}(M)=-\operatorname{trace}\left(M^{\prime}\right)$, which equals the coefficient of $x^{n-1}$ in $p(x, y)$ and $p^{\prime}(x, y)$. We shall require that

$$
b^{\prime}\left(a^{\prime}+c\right)=b c .
$$

This means that $\Gamma$ and $\Gamma^{\prime}$ have the same number of edges. In the previous section we saw that the number of edges determines the coefficient of $x^{n-2}$ in the generalized characteristic polynomial. Therefore the above requirement gives $t_{1}=t_{1}^{\prime}$. Finally we shall use the fact that $r(x, y)$ and $r^{\prime}(x, y)$ are the characteristic polynomials of the quotient matrices $R$ and $R^{\prime}$ of $M$ and $M^{\prime}$, respectively (the quotient matrices are the $3 \times 3$ matrices consisting of the row sums of the blocks). So if we choose $y=\widehat{y}$ such that these quotient matrices have the same determinant we have $t_{0}=t_{0}^{\prime}$, and therefore $M$ and $M^{\prime}$ have the same spectrum. We find

$$
\operatorname{det} R=\operatorname{det}\left[\begin{array}{ccc}
y a & y b & y c \\
y a & y b & y c-c \\
y a & y b-b & y c-c+1
\end{array}\right]=-y a b c,
$$

and

$$
\operatorname{det} R^{\prime}=\operatorname{det}\left[\begin{array}{ccc}
y a^{\prime} & y b^{\prime}-b^{\prime} & y c \\
y a^{\prime}-a^{\prime} & y b^{\prime} & y c-c \\
y a^{\prime} & y b^{\prime}-b^{\prime} & y c-c+1
\end{array}\right]=(1-2 y) a^{\prime} b^{\prime}(c-1) .
$$

Using $b c=b^{\prime}\left(a^{\prime}+c\right)$, this leads to $\widehat{y}=a^{\prime}(c-1) /\left(2 a^{\prime} c-2 a^{\prime}-a c-a a^{\prime}\right)$. So any choice of positive integers $a, a^{\prime}, b, b^{\prime}$, and $c$ that satisfy $a+b=a^{\prime}+b^{\prime}, b c=b^{\prime}\left(a^{\prime}+c\right)$, and $2 a^{\prime} c-2 a^{\prime}-a c-a a^{\prime} \neq 0$ leads to a pair of $\widehat{y}$-cospectral graphs with the above $\widehat{y}$ (indeed, $\widehat{y}$ is uniquely determined, hence $\Gamma$ and $\Gamma^{\prime}$ are not $\mathbb{R}$-cospectral). For example ( $\left.a, a^{\prime}, b, b^{\prime}, c\right)=(2,4,3,1,2)$ leads to the two - 1 -cospectral graph of Figure 1. Moreover, by a suitable choice of these numbers we can get every rational value of $\widehat{y}>1 / 2$. Indeed, write $\widehat{y}=p / q$ with $2 p-q \geq 2$, then

$$
a=2 p-q-1, a^{\prime}=a(p+1), b=p(a+1), b^{\prime}=p, \text { and } c=p+1
$$

satisfy the required conditions and gives $\widehat{y}=p / q$. As remarked in the introduction, $\frac{1}{2}$-cospectral graphs are easily made by use of Seidel switching, and we also saw that two graphs are $\widehat{y}$-cospectral if and only if their complements are $(1-\widehat{y})$-cospectral. Thus we have proved that a pair of $\hat{y}$-cospectral graphs exists for every rational $\hat{y}$.

Variations on the above construction are possible. The $\widehat{y}$-cospectral pairs, with $0<\widehat{y}<1$, constructed in [1] (where one graph is regular and the other one not) are of a completely different nature.

## 4 Computer enumeration

By computer we enumerated all graphs with a $\widehat{y}$-cospectral $\left(\widehat{y} \neq \frac{1}{2}\right)$ mate on at most nine vertices. For fixed numbers of vertices $(n)$ and edges ( $e$ ) we generated all graphs with these numbers using nauty [8], and for each graph we computed $p(x, y)$ for $x=0, \ldots, n$. Note that these $n+1$ linear functions in $y$ uniquely determine the polynomial $p(x, y)$. For each pair of graphs we compared the corresponding linear functions, giving a system of $n+1$ linear equations in $y$. If the system had infinitely many solutions, then we concluded that the pair was $\mathbb{R}$-cospectral; and if it had a unique solution $\widehat{y}$, then the pair was $\widehat{y}$-cospectral. The results of these computations are given in Table 1. Note that we only considered the cases where $2 e \leq\binom{ n}{2}$ since, as mentioned before, the complement of a pair of $\widehat{y}$-cospectral graphs is a pair of $(1-\widehat{y})$ cospectral graphs. In the table, the columns with $e$ give the numbers of edges and the columns with \# give the numbers of graphs with $e$ edges. The columns with header $\mathbb{R}$ contain the number of graphs that have an $\mathbb{R}$-cospectral mate. The columns with a number $\widehat{y}$ in the header contain the numbers of graphs that have a $\widehat{y}$-cospectral mate. Note that this does not mean that a graph cannot be counted in more than one column; for example, of the triple of 0 -cospectral graphs with seven vertices and five edges, one (the union of $K_{1,4}$ and an edge) also has a 1-cospectral mate, and another (the union of $K_{2,2}$, an isolated vertex, and an edge) also has a $\frac{1}{4}$-cospectral mate.

We may conclude that the 0-cospectral pair of Figure 1 is the smallest pair of $\widehat{y}$-cospectral graphs. The smallest pair of $\widehat{y}$-cospectral graphs for $\widehat{y} \neq 0$ is the pair of $\frac{1}{3}$-cospectral graphs in Figure 1. This is also the smallest example where one graph is regular, and the other one not. The smallest $\mathbb{R}$-cospectral pair of graphs, and the smallest $\widehat{y}$-cospectral pair of graphs for a negative $\widehat{y}$ are also given in Figure 1.

We remark that also in [6] all graphs with a $\mathbb{R}$-cospectral mate, as well as all graphs with a (usual) cospectral mate were enumerated (up to eleven vertices). The latter



Graphs on 6 vertices
Graphs on 5 vertices

Graphs on 9 vertices

Table 1: Numbers of graphs with a $\widehat{y}$-cospectral mate
enumeration is different from our enumeration of graphs with a 0 -cospectral mate since it also counts graphs with a $\mathbb{R}$-cospectral mate (whereas these are excluded in our enumeration).

We also enumerated all regular graphs with a nonregular $\widehat{y}$-cospectral mate $\left(\hat{y} \neq \frac{1}{2}\right)$ on at most eleven vertices; see Table 2. The columns with a number $\widehat{y}$ in the header contain the numbers of graphs that have a $\widehat{y}$-cospectral mate. The column with $n$ gives the number of vertices, the column with $k$ gives the valency and the column with \# gives the number of $k$-regular graphs with $n$ vertices. The computations were restricted to $v \geq 2 k+1$ for a similar reason as before. We remark further that for missing pairs $(v, k)$ in the considered range, such as $(11,2)$, there are no regular graphs with a $\widehat{y}$-cospectral mate ( $\widehat{y} \neq \frac{1}{2}$ ). In Figure 2 we give all regular-nonregular $\widehat{y}$-cospectral pairs on eight vertices (up to complements).

| $n$ | $k$ | $\#$ | $\frac{1}{5}$ | $\frac{1}{4}$ | $\frac{2}{7}$ | $\frac{1}{3}$ | $\frac{4}{11}$ | $\frac{3}{8}$ | $\frac{2}{5}$ | $\frac{5}{12}$ | $\frac{3}{7}$ | $\frac{5}{9}$ | $\frac{4}{7}$ | $\frac{7}{12}$ | $\frac{3}{5}$ | $\frac{2}{3}$ | $\frac{3}{4}$ |
| ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 6 | 2 | 2 | . | . | . | 1 | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | $\cdot$ |
| 8 | 2 | 3 | . | . | . | 1 | . | . | 1 | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| 8 | 3 | 6 | 1 | . | . | 3 | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | $\cdot$ |
| 9 | 2 | 4 | . | 1 | . | 1 | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| 9 | 4 | 16 | . | 1 | . | 1 | . | . | 2 | 1 | 2 | . | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| 10 | 2 | 5 | 2 | 1 | . | 1 | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| 10 | 3 | 21 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 5 | . | . | 1 | . | 1 | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| 10 | 4 | 60 | . | 4 | . | 3 | . | . | 4 | . | . | 1 | 1 | . | 1 | 1 | . |
| 11 | 4 | 266 | . | 45 | . | 22 | 1 | 2 | 5 | . | . | . | . | . | . | 1 | . |

Table 2: Numbers of regular graphs $\widehat{y}$-cospectral with nonregular graphs

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esectral graphs

Figure 2: Regular-nonregular $\widehat{y}$-cospectral pairs on eight vertices


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