

# DS or not DS?

An application of Hoffman graphs for spectral characterizations of graphs

Aida Abiad

Maastricht University  
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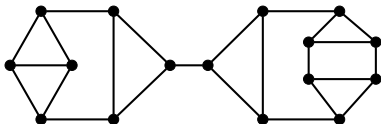
AEGT, 10 August 2017

Background

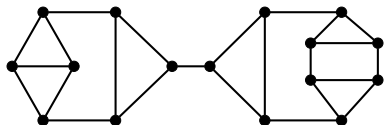
non-DS: coclique extension

DS: clique extension

# Graph, adjacency matrix and spectrum

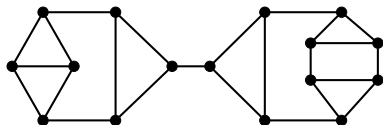


# Graph, adjacency matrix and spectrum



$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

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spectrum (eigenvalues):

$$\{-2.0391, -2^2, -1.64, -1.62, -1^2, -0.62, -0.11, 0, 0.62, 1.62, 1.67, 2.22, 2.89, 3\}$$

A (finite simple) graph  $G$  on  $n$  vertices



The spectrum  $\lambda_1 \geq \dots \geq \lambda_n$  of the adjacency matrix  $A$  of  $G$

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↑ ???

The spectrum  $\lambda_1 \geq \dots \geq \lambda_n$  of the adjacency matrix  $A$  of  $G$

# DS graphs

A graph  $G$  is said to be *determined by its spectrum (DS)* if every graph with the same spectrum as  $G$  is isomorphic to  $G$ .



## DS or not DS?

**Conjecture** [van Dam and Haemers, 2003]

Almost all graphs are determined by their spectrum (DS).

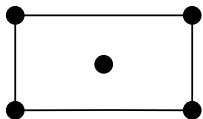
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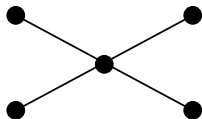
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# Cospectral graphs

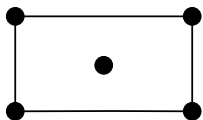


$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

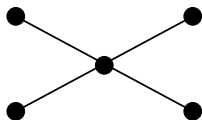


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# Cospectral graphs



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spectrum (eigenvalues):  $\{-2, 0^3, 2\}$

# Part I

non-DS: coclique extension

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## non-DS: coclique extension

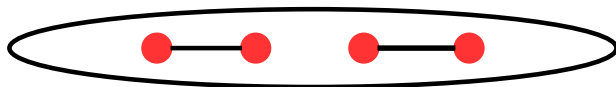
Joint work with A. Brouwer and W. Haemers

# Coauthors



# Godsil-McKay switching

regularity in the **switching set**



0, all, or **half**





# Godsil-McKay switching

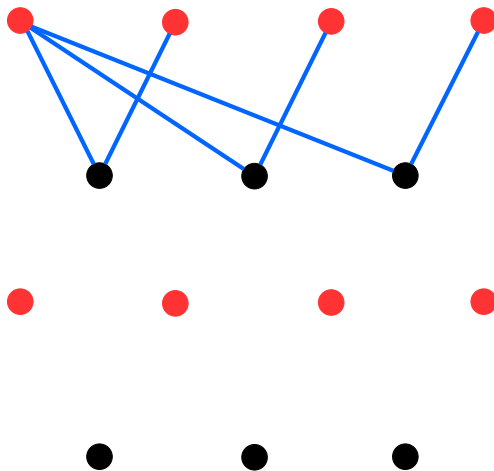
regularity in the **switching set**



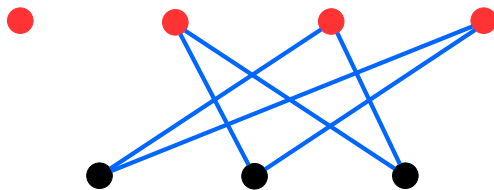
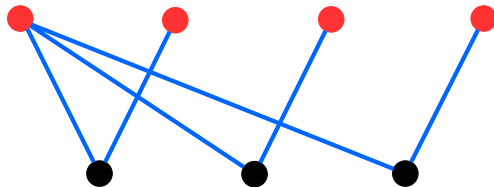
0, all, or **other half**



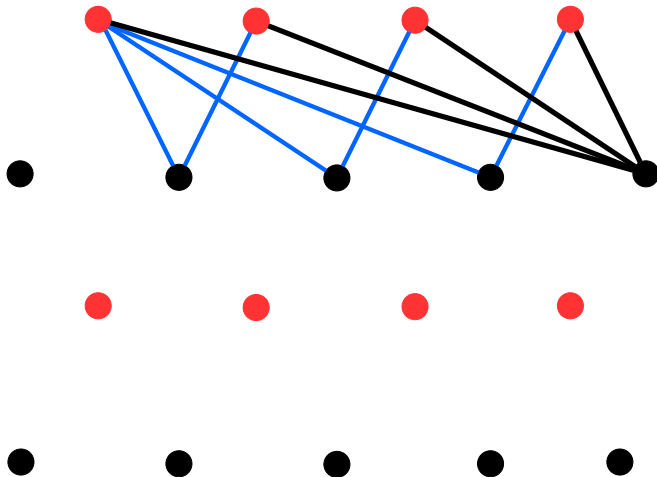
# Godsil-McKay switching



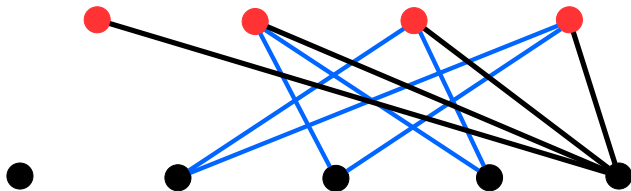
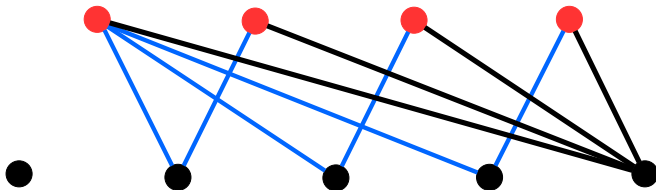
# Godsil-McKay switching



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# Godsil-McKay switching

$$A = \begin{array}{c} \xleftarrow{b} \xrightarrow{\phantom{b}} \\ \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|} \hline B & N & J & O \\ \hline N^T & & & \\ \hline J & & & \\ \hline O & & & \\ \hline \end{array} \\ \cdot \\ \sim \\ A' = \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|} \hline B & J-N & J & O \\ \hline (J-N)^T & & & \\ \hline J & & & \\ \hline O & & & \\ \hline \end{array} \end{array}$$

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$$A = \begin{array}{c|ccc} \xleftarrow{b} & B & N & J & O \\ \hline N^T & & & & \\ \hline J & & & & \\ \hline O & & & & \\ \hline & & C & & \end{array} \sim A' = \begin{array}{c|ccc} B & J-N & J & O \\ \hline (J-N)^T & & & \\ \hline J & & & \\ \hline O & & & \\ \hline & & C & & \end{array}$$

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$B$ : regular

$$N^T J = (J - N)^T J = \frac{b}{2} J$$



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$A$  and  $A'$  cospectral

# Goal

## Goal

Find conditions for isomorphism and non-isomorphism after switching.

# Sufficient condition for isomorphism after switching

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} B & M \\ M^\top & C \end{bmatrix} \quad A' = \begin{bmatrix} B & M' \\ M'^\top & C \end{bmatrix}$$

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**Lemma (Abiad, Brouwer, Haemers, 2015)**

*If there exist permutation matrices  $P$  and  $Q$  such that  $PBP^\top = B$ ,  $PMQ^\top = M'$  and  $QCQ^\top = C$ , then  $G$  and  $G'$  are isomorphic.*

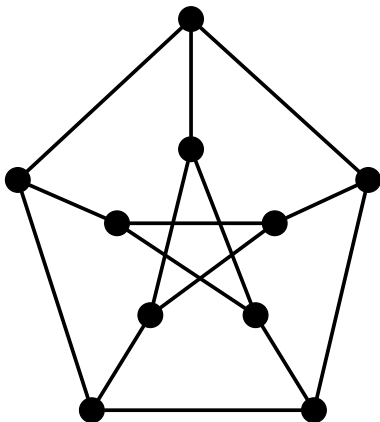
# Isomorphism fixing the switching set?

$$\left[ \begin{array}{cccc|cccc}
 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\
 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\
 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\
 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\
 \hline
 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\
 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\
 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0
 \end{array} \right] \sim \left[ \begin{array}{cccc|cccc}
 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\
 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\
 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\
 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\
 \hline
 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\
 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
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 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0
 \end{array} \right]$$

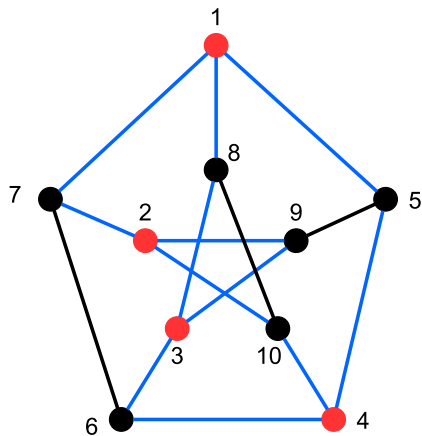
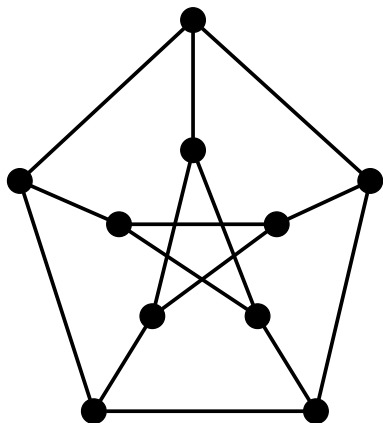
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 \hline
 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\
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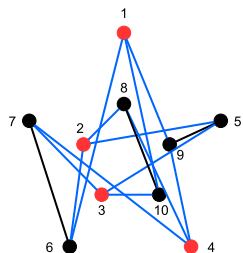
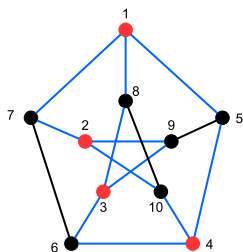


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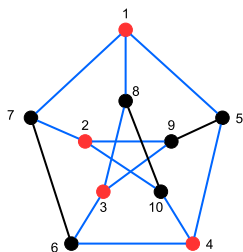




# Isomorphism fixing the switching set?



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1 : 1

2 : 4

3 : 2

4 : 3

5 : 10

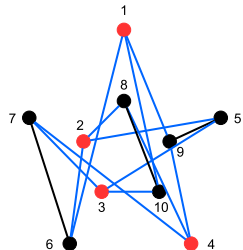
6 : 5

7 : 9

8 : 6

9 : 8

10 : 7

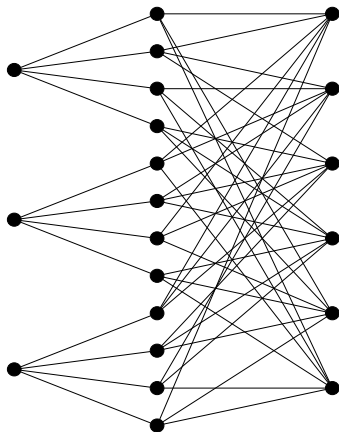


## Isomorphism fixing the switching set?

No. No isomorphism fixes the switching set!

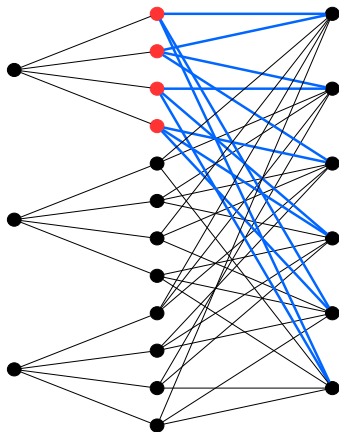
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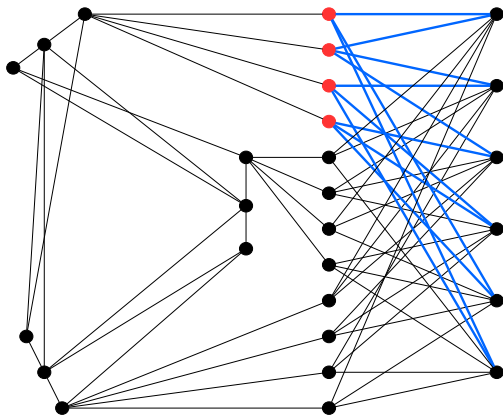
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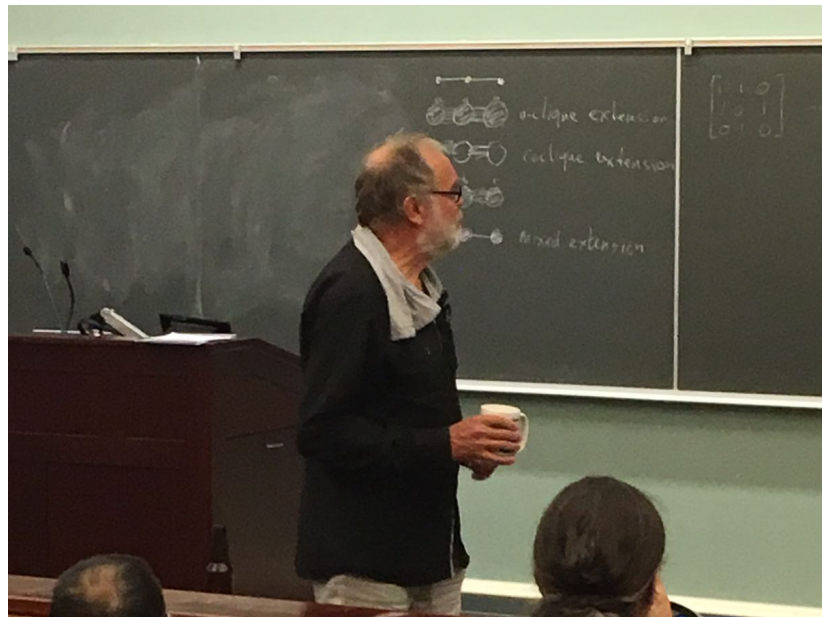


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# Graph products



# Graph product: $q$ -coclique extension

## Definition

The  **$q$ -coclique extension** of  $\Gamma$  is the graph with adjacency matrix  $A \otimes J$ , where  $A$  is the adjacency matrix of  $\Gamma$ ,  $J$  is a square all-ones matrix and  $\otimes$  stands for the Kronecker product.



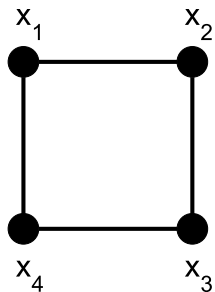
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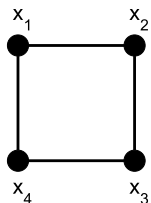
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$$\begin{bmatrix} A & \cdots & A \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ A & \cdots & A \end{bmatrix}$$

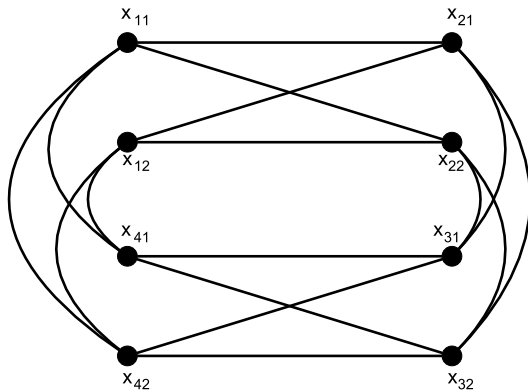
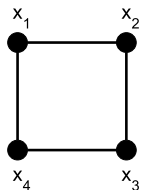
## 2-coclique extension of the grid



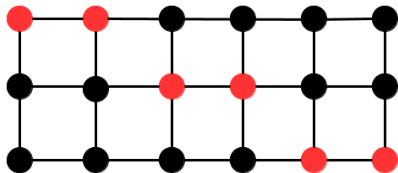
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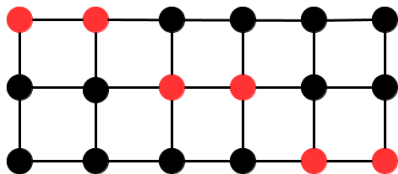
## 2-coclique extension of the grid



# Regular example: $3 \times 6$ grid

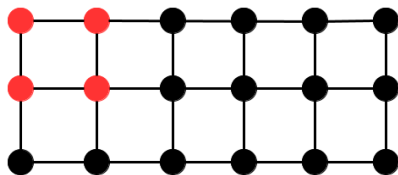
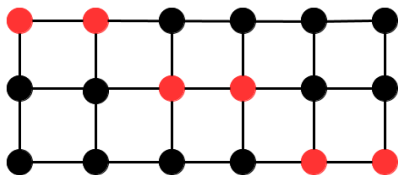


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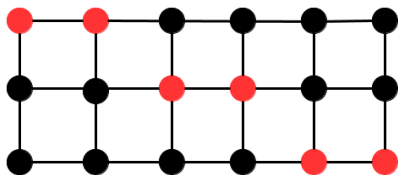
Does not generalize

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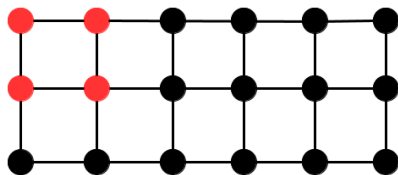


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# Regular example: $3 \times 6$ grid



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## 2-coclique extension of a grid

Corollary (Abiad, Brouwer, Haemers, 2015)

*The  $q$ -coclique extension of a grid is not DS.*

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Corollary (Abiad, Brouwer, Haemers, 2015)

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$q$ -clique extension of a grid???

# Our results

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- Straightforward sufficient condition for being isomorphic after switching
- For some graph products, sufficient conditions for being non-isomorphic after switching
- Application to some graph families to show that they are not determined by their spectrum

# Open problems

- Find new sufficient conditions for (non)-isomorphism after Godsil-McKay switching.

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- Find new sufficient conditions for (non)-isomorphism after Godsil-McKay switching.
- Study other graph products.
- Find conditions for the generalized Godsil-McKay switching.



# Reference

## Godsil-McKay Switching and Isomorphism

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### Abstract

Godsil-McKay switching is an operation on graphs that doesn't change the spectrum of the adjacency matrix. Usually (but not always) the obtained graph is non-isomorphic with the original graph. We present a straightforward sufficient condition for being isomorphic after switching, and give examples which show that this condition is not necessary. For some graph products we obtain sufficient conditions for being non-isomorphic after switching. As an example we find that the tensor product of the  $\ell \times m$  grid ( $\ell > m \geq 2$ ) and a graph with at least one vertex of degree two is not determined by its adjacency spectrum.

*Keywords:* Godsil-McKay switching; Spectral characterization; Cospectral graphs; Graph isomorphism; Graph products.

# Part II

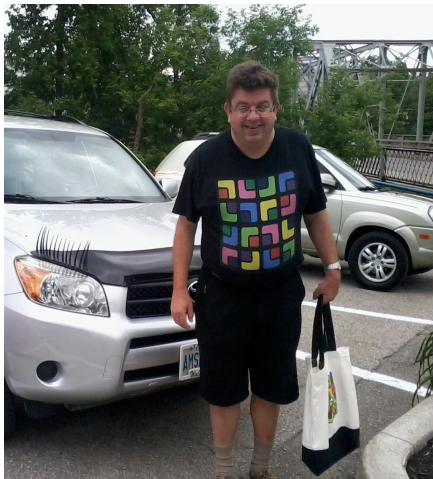
## DS: clique extension

# Part II

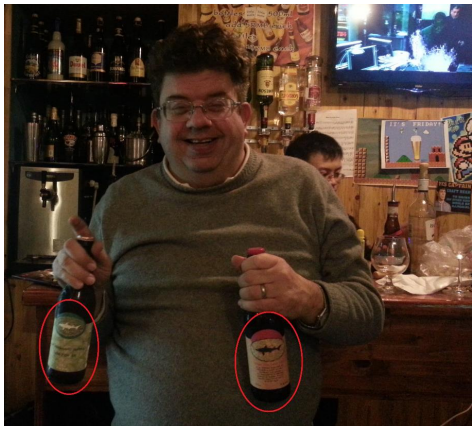
## DS: clique extension

Joint work with J. Koolen and Q. Yang

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# Motivation

**Problem** [Bannai, early 1980's]

*Classify distance-regular graphs with large diameter.*

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*Classify distance-regular graphs with large diameter.*

One of the steps towards a solution of Bannai's problem is to characterize the known DRGs by their intersection array.

# Motivation

## Theorem (Gavrilyuk and Koolen, 2017+)

*The local subgraph of a distance-regular graph with the same intersection numbers as  $J_q(2D, D)$  has the **same spectrum as the  $q$ -clique extension of a certain square grid.***



# Motivation

## Theorem (Metsch, 1995)

*The Grassman graph  $J_q(n, D)$ ,  $D > 2$  is determined by its intersection numbers with the following possible exceptions:*

- $n = 2D, n = 2D \pm 1,$
- $n = 2D \pm 2$  if  $q \in \{2, 3\},$
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If we prove that the 2-clique extension of a square grid is DS, that could be used to show that certain Grassmann graphs are unique as distance-regular graphs.

# Motivation

First application of Hoffman graphs for spectral characterizations.

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New tool for spectral characterizations

# Motivation

The  $(t + 1) \times (t + 1)$ -grid is DS if  $t \neq 3$ .

# Goal

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Show that the 2-clique extension of a square grid is DS.

# Graph product: $q$ -clique extension

## Definition

The  $q$ -**clique extension** of  $\Gamma$  is the graph  $\tilde{\Gamma}$  obtained from  $\Gamma$  by replacing each vertex  $x \in V(\Gamma)$  by a **clique**  $\tilde{X}$  with  $q$  vertices, such that  $\tilde{x} \sim \tilde{y}$  (for  $\tilde{x} \in \tilde{X}$ ,  $\tilde{y} \in \tilde{Y}$ ,  $\tilde{X} \neq \tilde{Y}$ ) in  $\tilde{\Gamma}$  if and only if  $x \sim y$  in  $\Gamma$ .

# Graph product: $q$ -clique extension

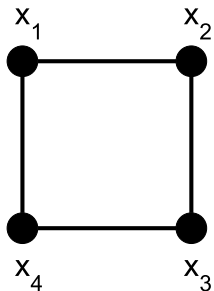
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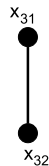
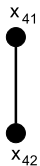
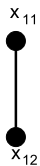
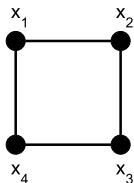
$$q = 2$$



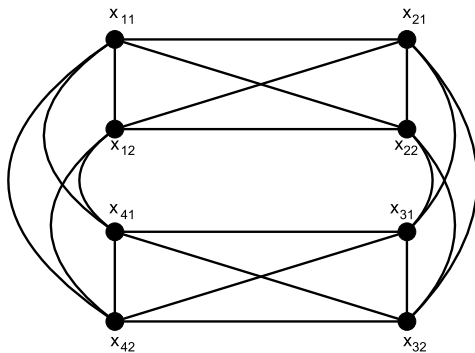
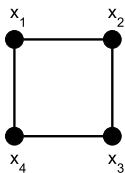
## 2-clique extension of a $(t + 1) \times (t + 1)$ grid



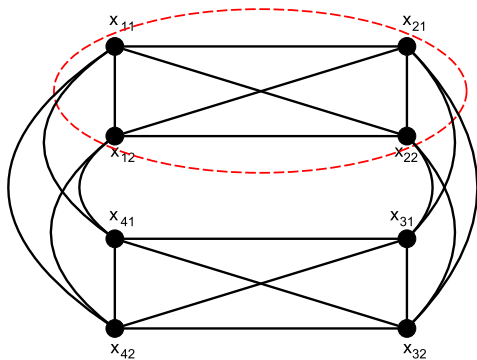
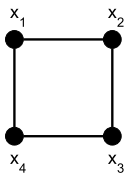
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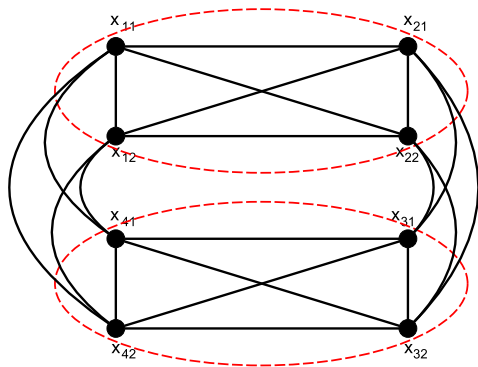
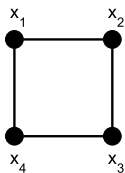
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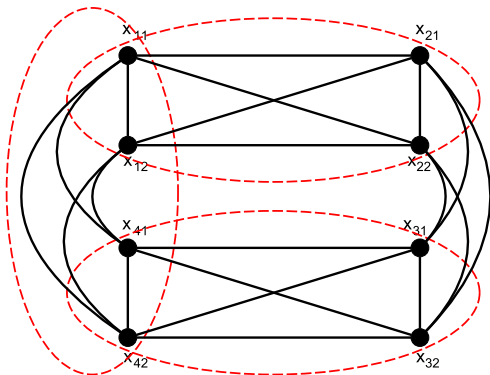
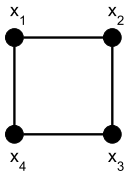
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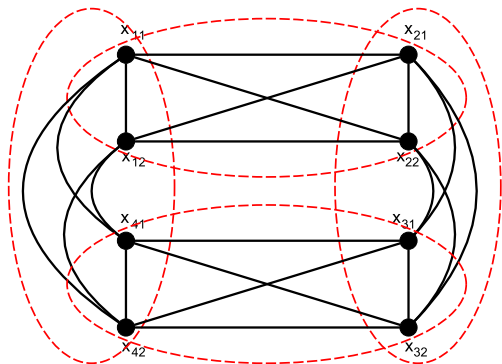
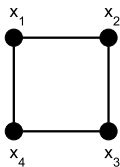
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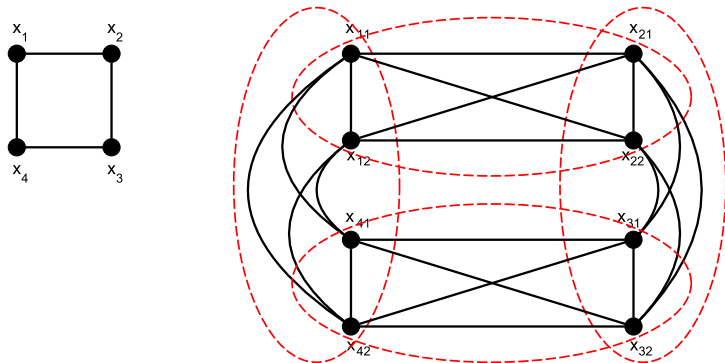
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Regular graph with valency  $k = 4t + 1$  and spectrum

$$\{(4t + 1)^1, (2t - 1)^{2t}, (-1)^{(t+1)^2}, (-3)^{t^2}\}.$$



## Key observation

Regular graph with 4 distinct eigenvalues

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Regular graph with 4 distinct eigenvalues

Walk-regular graph

# Bounded smallest eigenvalue

JOURNAL OF ALGEBRA 43, 305–327 (1976)

## Line Graphs, Root Systems, and Elliptic Geometry

P. J. CAMERON\*

*Bedford College, London, England*

J. M. GOETHALS

*M. B. L. E. Research Laboratory, Brussels, Belgium*

J. J. SEIDEL

*Technological University, Eindhoven, Netherlands*

AND

E. E. SHULT

# Bounded smallest eigenvalue

Theorem (Cameron, Goethals, Seidel, Shult, 1976)

*A graph  $G$  has smallest adjacency eigenvalue  $-2$  if and only if  $G$  is a generalized line graph, or  $G$  belongs to a finite set of exceptional cases ( $n \leq 36$ ).*

# Seidel tree



# Bounded smallest eigenvalue



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## Linear Algebra and its Applications

Volume 16, Issue 2, 1977, Pages 153-165



### On graphs whose least eigenvalue exceeds $-1 - \sqrt{2}$ ☆

A.J. Hoffman<sup>†</sup>

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### Abstract

Let  $G$  be a graph,  $A(G)$  its adjacency matrix. We prove that, if the least eigenvalue of  $A(G)$  exceeds  $-1 - \sqrt{2}$  and every vertex of  $G$  has large valence, then the least eigenvalue is at least  $-2$  and  $G$  is a generalized line graph.

# Bounded smallest eigenvalue

## Theorem (Hoffman, 1977)

*Let  $-1 - \sqrt{2} < \lambda \leq -2$  be a real number. Then there exist an integer  $f(\lambda)$  such that if  $G$  is a graph with smallest eigenvalue at least  $\lambda$  and minimum valency at least  $f(\lambda)$ , then  $G$  is a generalized line graph.*

# Bounded smallest eigenvalue



# Bounded smallest eigenvalue

- In 1977, Hoffman gave a characterization of graphs with smallest eigenvalue at least  $-2$ .

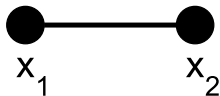
# Bounded smallest eigenvalue

- In 1977, Hoffman gave a characterization of graphs with smallest eigenvalue at least  $-2$ .
- **In 2017, Koolen, Yang and Yang have obtained a result for graphs with smallest eigenvalue at least  $-3$ .**

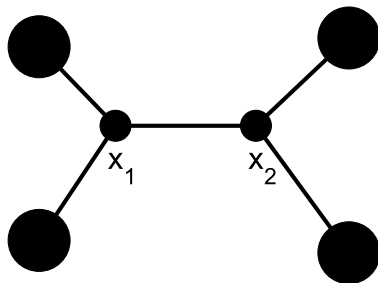
## Bounded smallest eigenvalue

In order to bound the smallest eigenvalue, you need to obtain **some structure in the graph**.

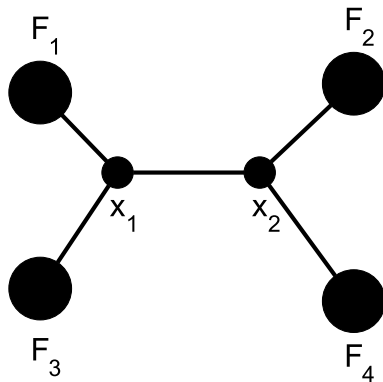
# Hoffman graphs

 $\mathfrak{h}_1$ 

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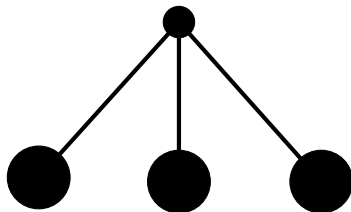
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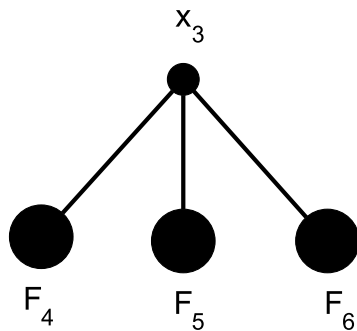
 $h_2$  $x_3$ 

# Hoffman graphs

 $\mathfrak{h}_2$  $x_3$ 



# Hoffman graphs

 $\mathfrak{h}_2$ 

# Hoffman graphs

## Definition (Woo and Neumaier, 1995)

A *Hoffman graph*  $\mathfrak{h}$  is a pair  $(H, \mu)$  of a graph  $H = (V, E)$  and a labeling map  $\mu : V \rightarrow \{F, x\}$  satisfying the following conditions:

- 1 every fat vertex  $F$  is adjacent to at least one slim vertex  $x$ ,
- 2 fat vertices  $F$  are pairwise non-adjacent.

# Hoffman graphs

Hoffman graphs give a good **way to construct graphs with unbounded number of vertices such that the smallest eigenvalue is at least a fixed number.**

# $t$ -fat Hoffman graph

## Definition

If every slim vertex has at least  $t$  fat neighbors, we call  $\mathfrak{h}$   *$t$ -fat*.

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# Slim graph of $\mathfrak{h}$

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The *slim graph* of a Hoffman graph  $\mathfrak{h}$  is the subgraph induced on the slim vertices of  $\mathfrak{h}$ .

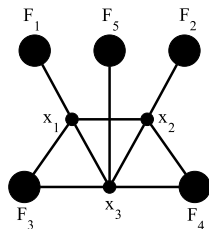
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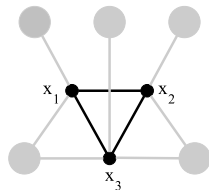
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# Quasi-cliques of $\mathfrak{h}$

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A *quasi-clique*  $Q_{\mathfrak{h}}(F)$  is a subgraph induced by the neighbors of a fat vertex  $F$  of  $\mathfrak{h}$ .

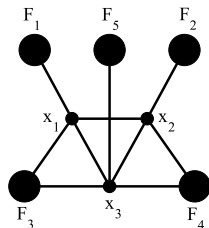
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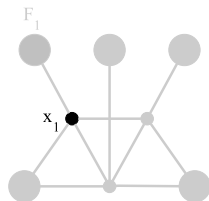
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## Example

quasi-clique  $Q_{\mathfrak{h}}(F_1)$



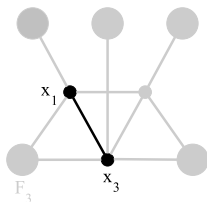
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## Example

quasi-clique  $Q_{\mathfrak{h}}(F_3)$



# Special matrix

Let  $\mathfrak{h}$  be a Hoffman graph.

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For  $\mathfrak{h}$ , let  $A$  be the adjacency matrix of  $H$ :

$$A := \begin{array}{cc} & \begin{array}{cc} \text{slim} & \text{fat} \end{array} \\ \begin{pmatrix} A_s & C \\ C^\top & O \end{pmatrix} \end{array}$$

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The *special matrix* is  $S(\mathfrak{h}) := A_s - CC^\top$ .

The eigenvalues of  $\mathfrak{h}$  are the eigenvalues of  $S(\mathfrak{h})$ .

# Special matrix

Let  $x, y \in V_s(\mathfrak{h})$ .



## Special matrix

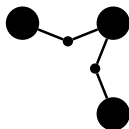
Let  $x, y \in V_S(\mathfrak{h})$ .

$$S(\mathfrak{h})_{(x,y)} = \begin{cases} -|N_{\mathfrak{h}}^f(x)| & \text{if } x = y \\ 1 - |N_{\mathfrak{h}}^f(x, y)| & \text{if } x \sim y \\ 1 - |N_{\mathfrak{h}}^f(x, y)| & \text{if } x \not\sim y \end{cases}$$

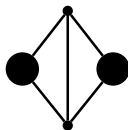
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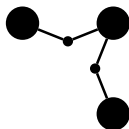


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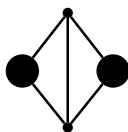
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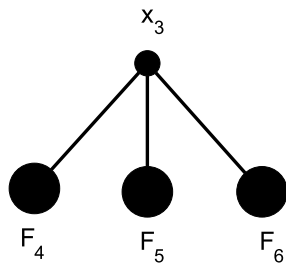
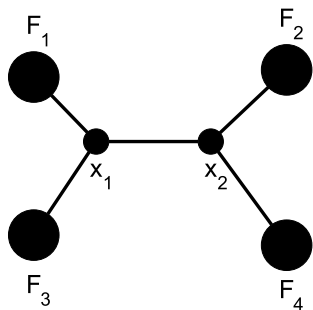


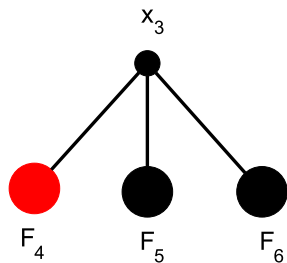
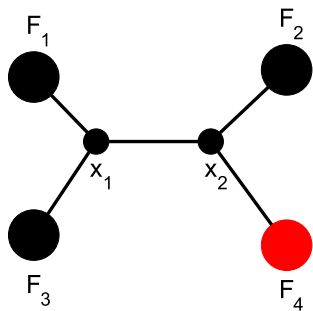
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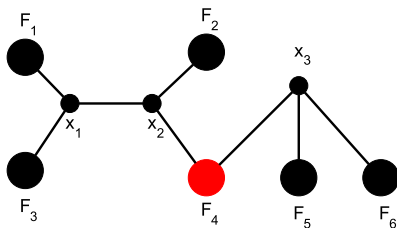
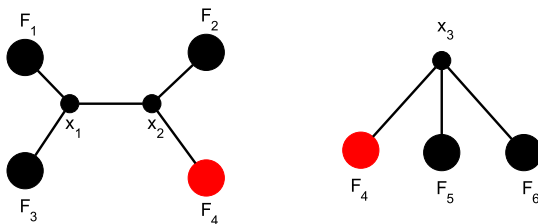


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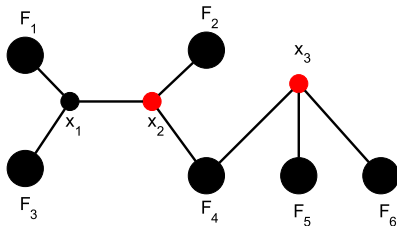
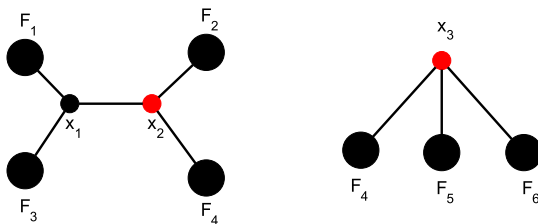
A Hoffman graph  $\mathfrak{h}$  is not determined by  $S(\mathfrak{h})$ .

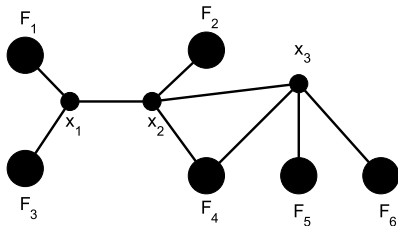
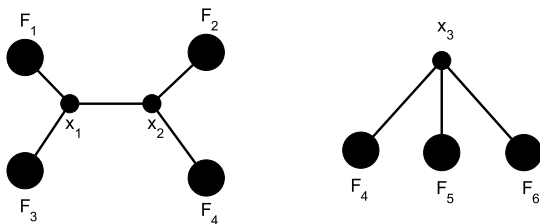
Direct sum:  $\mathfrak{h}_1 \oplus \mathfrak{h}_2$ 

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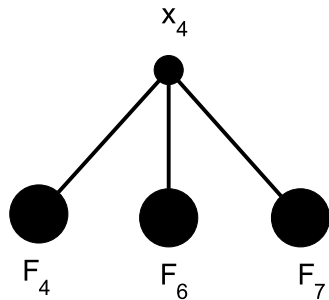
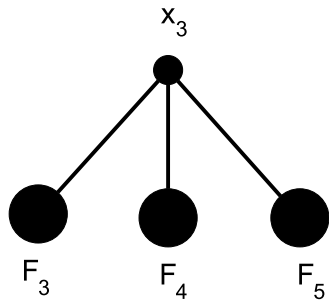
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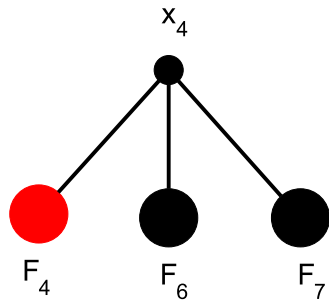
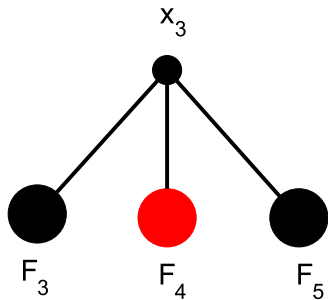
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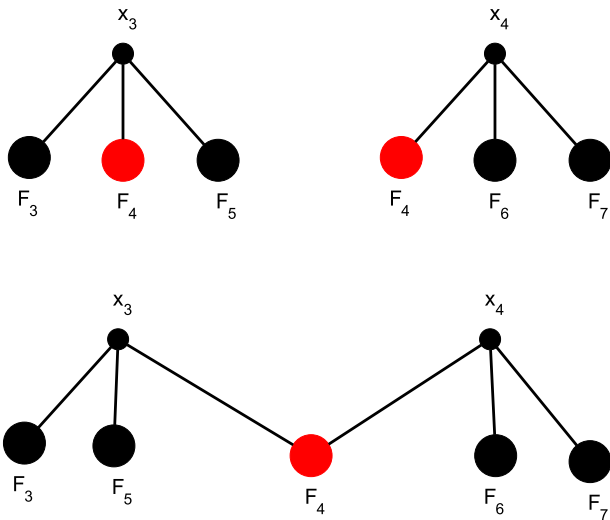


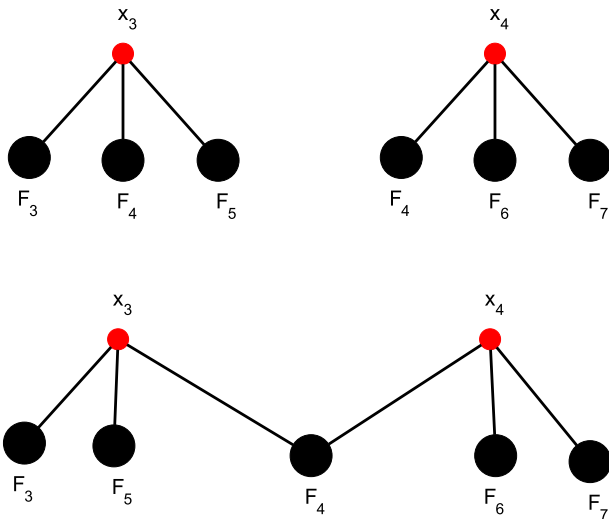
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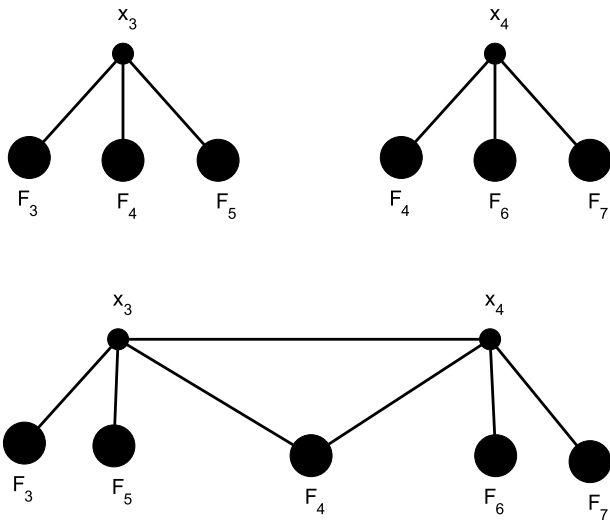


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# line Hoffman graph

## Definition

Let  $\mathcal{F}$  be a family of Hoffman graphs. A graph is called  *$\mathcal{F}$ -line graph* if it is an induced subgraph of the slim subgraph of  $\bigoplus_{i=1}^t \mathfrak{F}_i$ , where  $\mathfrak{F}_i \in \mathcal{F}$ .

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$\mathfrak{h}$  is a 2-fat Hoffman graph such that  $\mathfrak{h} = \bigoplus_{i=1}^s \mathfrak{h}_i$ , where  $\mathfrak{h}_i$  is isomorphic to one of the Hoffman graphs in the set

$\mathcal{F} = \{\text{red star}, \text{red star}, \text{red star}, \text{red triangle}, \text{red star}, \text{green diamond}, \text{blue triangle}\}$  for  $i = 1, \dots, s$ .



# Hoffmania

# Hoffmania

Longwood gardens in Pennsylvania



# The starting point

## Theorem (Koolen, Yang and Yang, 2017)

*Let  $G$  be a graph with the same spectrum as the 2-clique extension of the  $(t + 1) \times (t + 1)$ -grid. Then,  $G$  is the slim graph of a 2-fat  $\{\text{triangle}, \text{square}, \text{pentagon}\}$ -line Hoffman graph when  $t \gg 0$ .*

# Our results

## Theorem (Abiad, Koolen and Yang, 2017)

*Let  $G$  be a graph with the same spectrum as the 2-clique extension of the  $(t + 1) \times (t + 1)$ -grid. If  $G$  is the slim graph of a 2-fat  $\{\text{A}, \text{B}, \text{C}\}$ -line Hoffman graph, then  $G$  is the 2-clique extension of the  $(t + 1) \times (t + 1)$ -grid when  $t > 4$ .*

# Our results

Theorem (Abiad, Koolen and Yang, 2017)

*The 2-clique extension of the  $(t + 1) \times (t + 1)$ -grid is characterized by its spectrum if  $t \gg 0$ .*

# Proof idea

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- $G$  is a regular graph with valency  $k = 4t + 1$  and spectrum

$$\{(4t + 1)^1, (2t - 1)^{2t}, (-1)^{(t+1)^2}, (-3)^{t^2}\}$$

- $G$  is the slim graph of a 2-fat  $\{\text{X}, \text{Y}, \text{Z}\}$ -line Hoffman graph (Koolen, Yang, Yang, 2017)



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There exists a 2-fat Hoffman graph  $\mathfrak{h}$  such that:

- 1  $\mathfrak{h}$  has  $G$  as slim graph;
- 2  $\mathfrak{h} = \bigoplus_{i=1}^s \mathfrak{h}_i$ , where  $\mathfrak{h}_i$  is isomorphic to one of the Hoffman graphs in the set  $\mathcal{F} = \{\text{K}_4, \text{K}_2, \text{K}_3\}$  for  $i = 1, \dots, s$ .

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




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$$\mathcal{F} = \{\text{K}_4, \text{K}_4, \text{K}_4, \text{K}_4, \text{K}_4, \text{K}_4, \text{K}_4\}$$



# Proof idea

## Observation

- The Hoffman graph  has the same slim graph as .
- The Hoffman graph  has the same slim graph as , where  =   $\oplus$  .

$$\mathcal{F} = \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \text{Slim graph 1} \\ \text{Slim graph 2} \\ \text{Slim graph 3} \\ \text{Slim graph 4 (crossed out)} \\ \text{Slim graph 5 (crossed out)} \\ \text{Slim graph 6} \\ \text{Slim graph 7} \end{array} \right\}$$

# Proof idea

Forbidding  and 

## Proposition

Any two disjoint vertices in  $G$  have at most  $2t + 2$  common neighbors.

$$\mathcal{F} = \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \text{Graph 1} \\ \text{Graph 2} \\ \text{Graph 3} \\ \text{Graph 4} \\ \text{Graph 5} \\ \text{Graph 6} \\ \text{Graph 7} \end{array} \right\}$$

The set  $\mathcal{F}$  contains seven graph structures. The first, second, fourth, and fifth graphs are crossed out with a large red 'X', indicating they are forbidden. The third, sixth, and seventh graphs are not crossed out, indicating they are allowed.

# Proof idea

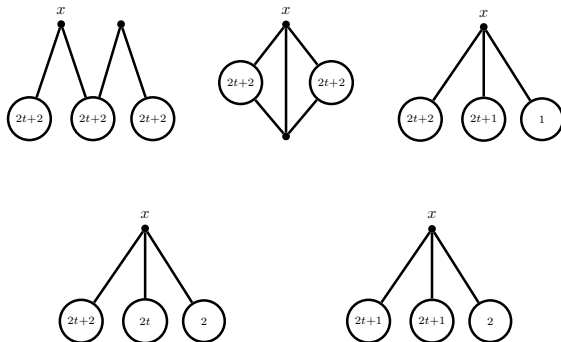
## Determining the order of quasi-cliques

### **Proposition**

Let  $q$  be the order of a quasi-clique  $Q_b(F)$ . Then  $q \leq 2t + 2$  when  $t > 1$ .

# Proof idea

## Analysing the last candidates





# Proof idea

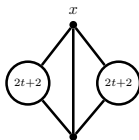
## Finishing the proof

- Counting in the local graphs

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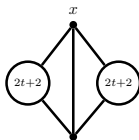
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- Counting in the local graphs



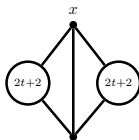
$$\mathcal{F} = \{ \text{graph 1}, \text{graph 2}, \text{graph 3}, \text{graph 4}, \text{graph 5}, \text{graph 6}, \text{graph 7} \}$$

The set  $\mathcal{F}$  contains seven small graph structures, each with a red 'X' over it, indicating they are excluded from the set.

# Proof idea

## Finishing the proof

- Counting in the local graphs



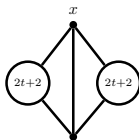
$$\mathcal{F} = \{ \text{~~graph 1~~, ~~graph 2~~, ~~graph 3~~, ~~graph 4~~, ~~graph 5~~, ~~graph 6~~, ~~graph 7~~ \}$$

- Equivalence relation on the vertex set

# Proof idea

## Finishing the proof

- Counting in the local graphs



$$\mathcal{F} = \{ \text{[Diagram 1]}, \text{[Diagram 2]}, \text{[Diagram 3]}, \text{[Diagram 4]}, \text{[Diagram 5]}, \text{[Diagram 6]}, \text{[Diagram 7]} \}$$

The set  $\mathcal{F}$  contains seven small graph diagrams, each with a red 'X' over it, indicating they are excluded or forbidden configurations.

- Equivalence relation on the vertex set



$G$  is the 2-clique extension of the  $(t+1) \times (t+1)$ -grid when  $t > 4$



# Open problems

- 2-clique extension of a non-square grid has 5 distinct eigenvalues  $\implies$  same approach cannot be used

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- 2-clique extension of a non-square grid has 5 distinct eigenvalues  $\implies$  same approach cannot be used
- Study  $q > 2$
- How large is  $t \gg 0$ ?
- Find other applications of Hoffman graphs

# Reference

## An application of Hoffman graphs for spectral characterizations of graphs

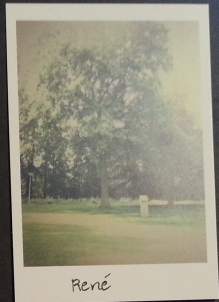
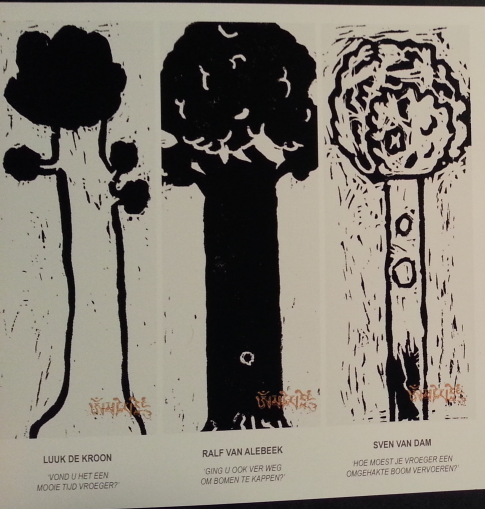
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# Haemers's tree



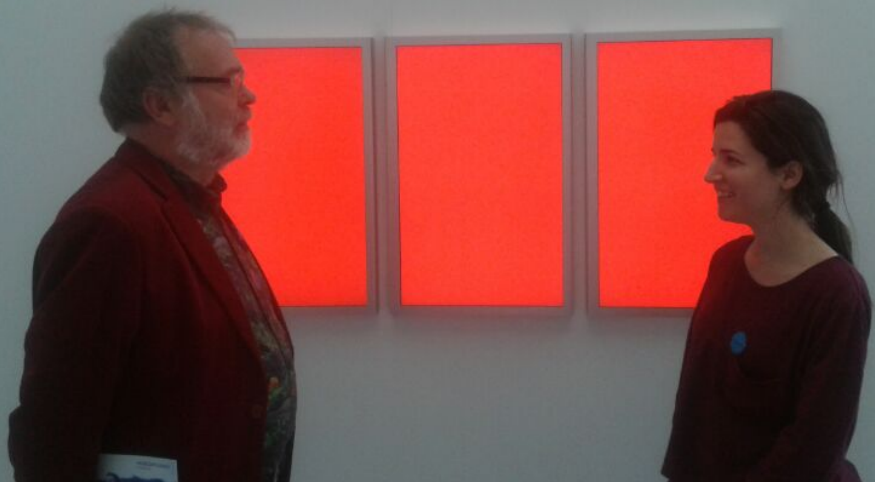
René



# Edwin



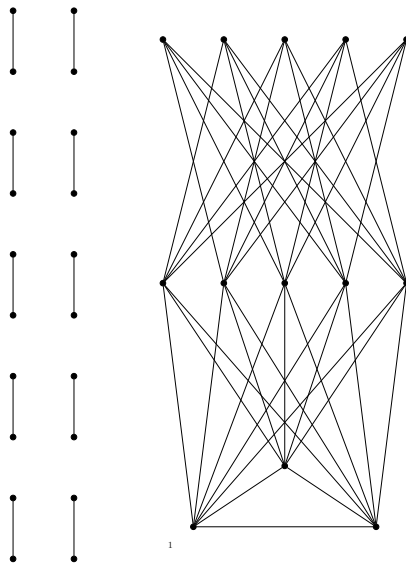
# Aida



# DS or not DS?



# DS or not DS?





# Congratulations Andrew, Felix and Willem!



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Thank you for your attention.