Graph colorings, flows and arithmetic Tutte polynomial (joint work with Luca Moci)

Michele D'Adderio

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Journées de Combinatoire de Bordeaux

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 $V := \{v_1, v_2, v_3, v_4\}$ and
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For $q \in \mathbb{N} \setminus \{0\}$, a *(nowhere zero)* q-flow on an oriented graph $\mathcal{G}_{\theta} = (V, E_{\theta})$ is a map $w : E_{\theta} \to (\mathbb{Z}/q\mathbb{Z}) \setminus \{\overline{0}\}$ such that $\forall v \in V$, $\sum_{e^+=v; e \in E_{\theta}} w(e) - \sum_{e^-=v; e \in E_{\theta}} w(e) = \overline{0}$. The flow polynomial $\chi_{\mathcal{G}}^*(q)$ of \mathcal{G} is defined as the number of q-flows of \mathcal{G}_{θ} (it doesn't depend on θ).

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, where $V := \{v_1, v_2, v_3\}$ and $E_{\theta} := \{(v_1, v_2), (v_3, v_2), (v_3, v_1)\}.$



For q = 4, $w((v_1, v_2)) = w((v_3, v_1)) = \overline{1}$ and $w((v_3, v_2)) = \overline{3}$ is a 4-flow of \mathcal{G} . While $\chi^*_{\mathcal{G}}(q) = q - 1$.

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Definition of Matroid

We use the word *list* for *multiset* (repetitions allowed).

A matroid $\mathfrak{M} = \mathfrak{M}_X = (X, rk)$ is a list of vectors X with a rank function $rk : \mathbb{P}(X) \to \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$ such that:

- If $A \subseteq X$, then $rk(A) \leq |A|$;
- **2** if $A, B \subseteq X$ and $A \subseteq B$, then $rk(A) \leq rk(B)$;
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In particular $rk(\emptyset) = 0$.

We say that a sublist A is *independent* \Leftrightarrow rk(A) = |A|.

An independent sublist of maximal rank rk(X) is called a *basis*. rk(X) is called the rank of the matroid

The independent sublists determine the matroid structure:

rk(A) = |maximal independent sublist of A|.

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- X is a finite list of vectors of a vector space (e.g. ℝⁿ); rk(A) = dim(span(A)); independent = linearly independent;
 X a finite list of edges of a graph G; rk(A) = |maximal subforest of A|;
 - independent = cycle-free (forests).

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Tutte Polynomial

The *Tutte polynomial* of the matroid $\mathfrak{M} = (X, rk)$ is defined as

$$T_X(x,y) := \sum_{A \subseteq X} (x-1)^{rk(X) - rk(A)} (y-1)^{|A| - rk(A)}.$$

Theorem (Tutte 1954)

Let $\mathcal{G} = (V, E)$ with k connected components, and let $T_{\mathcal{G}}(x, y)$ the Tutte polynomial of \mathcal{G} . We have 1 $\chi_{\mathcal{G}}(q) = (-1)^{|V|-k} q^k T_{\mathcal{G}}(1-q, 0);$ 2 $\chi_{\mathcal{G}}^*(q) = (-1)^{|E|-|V|+k} T_{\mathcal{G}}(0, 1-q).$

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Labelled graphs

Let (\mathcal{G}, ℓ) , where $\mathcal{G} := (V, E)$, $V := \{v_1, v_2, v_3, v_4\}$, $R := \{\{v_1, v_2\}, \{v_2, v_3\}, \{v_2, v_4\}\}$ the *regular edges*, $D := \{\{v_3, v_4\}\}$ the *dotted edges*, so that $E = R \cup D = \{\{v_1, v_2\}, \{v_2, v_3\}, \{v_2, v_4\}, \{v_3, v_4\}\};$ let $\ell(\{v_1, v_2\}) = 1$, $\ell(\{v_2, v_3\}) = 2$, $\ell(\{v_2, v_4\}) = 3$, $\ell(\{v_3, v_4\}) = 6$ be the *labels*.

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For $q \in \mathbb{N} \setminus \{0\}$, a *(proper) arithmetic q-coloring* of a labelled graph (\mathcal{G}, ℓ) is a map $c : V \to \mathbb{Z}/q\mathbb{Z}$ such that: (1) if $e := \{u, v\} \in R$, then $\ell(e) \cdot c(u) \neq \ell(e) \cdot c(v)$; (2) if $e := \{u, v\} \in D$, then $\ell(e) \cdot c(u) = \ell(e) \cdot c(v)$. The *arithmetic chromatic polynomial* $\chi_{\mathcal{G},\ell}(q)$ of (\mathcal{G}, ℓ) is defined as the number of arithmetic *q*-colorings of (\mathcal{G}, ℓ) .



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Graphs Matroid Labelled graphs Arithmetic Matroid Arithmetic Tutte Theorems

Definition of Arithmetic Matroid

An arithmetic matroid is a pair (\mathfrak{M}_X, m) , where \mathfrak{M}_X is a matroid on a list of vectors X, and m is a multiplicity function, i.e. $m : \mathbb{P}(X) \to \mathbb{N} \setminus \{0\}$ has the following properties:

- if $A \subseteq X$ and $v \in X$ is dependent on A, then $m(A \cup \{v\})$ divides m(A);
- if $A \subseteq X$ and $v \in X$ is independent on A, then m(A) divides $m(A \cup \{v\})$;
- if $A \subseteq B \subseteq X$ and B is a disjoint union $B = A \cup F \cup T$ such that for all $A \subseteq C \subseteq B$ we have $rk(C) = rk(A) + |C \cap F|$, then $m(A) \cdot m(B) = m(A \cup F) \cdot m(A \cup T)$.

4 if
$$A \subseteq B \subseteq X$$
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 $\mu_B(A) := \sum_{A \subseteq T \subseteq B} (-1)^{|T| - |A|} m(T) \ge 0;$
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Definition of Arithmetic Matroid

- Setting m(A) = 1 for all $A \subseteq X$ we get a *trivial* multiplicity function, which essentially does not add anything to the matroid structure.
- So any matroid is trivially an arithmetic matroid.
- In this sense the notion of an arithmetic matroid is a generalization of the one of a matroid.
- But of course there are more interesting examples.

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Let X be a finite list of elements of a finitely generated abelian group $G \cong \mathbb{Z}^r \oplus \mathbb{Z}/d_1\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/d_2\mathbb{Z} \oplus \cdots \oplus \mathbb{Z}/d_s\mathbb{Z}$. For $A \subseteq X$ we set

rk(A) := maximal rank of a free abelian subgroup of $\langle A \rangle$;

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Theorem (D.-Moci)

If we set $\mathfrak{M}_X := (X, rk)$, then (\mathfrak{M}_X, m) is an arithmetic matroid.



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Let
$$X = \{v_1 := (3,0), v_2 := (2,-2), v_3 := (-3,3)\} \subseteq G := \mathbb{Z}^2$$
.
Consider the matrix $\begin{pmatrix} 3 & 2 & -3 \\ 0 & -2 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$ whose columns are v_1, v_2, v_3 .

Remark

The multiplicity of $A \subseteq X$ is the *GCD* of the minors of maximal rank in the submatrix corresponding to *A*.

So $m(\emptyset) = 1$, $m(\{v_2\}) = 2$, $m(\{v_1, v_2, v_3\}) = 3$, $m(\{v_2, v_3\}) = 1$, $m(\{v_1, v_2\}) = 6$, $m(\{v_1\}) = m(\{v_3\}) = 3$, $m(\{v_1, v_3\}) = 9$.

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Theorem (D.-Moci)

The arithmetic Tutte polynomial has a combinatorial interpretation that generalizes Crapo's one for the classical Tutte polynomial.

From (\mathcal{G}, ℓ) to $\mathfrak{M}_{\mathcal{G}, \ell}$

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To $e = (v_i, v_i) \in E_{\theta}$ associate the vector $x_e \in \mathbb{Z}^{|V|}$ with $\ell(e)$ in the *i*-th position, $-\ell(e)$ in the *j*-th position, and 0 elsewhere.

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From (\mathcal{G}, ℓ) to $\mathfrak{M}_{\mathcal{G}, \ell}$

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Graphs Matroid Labelled graphs Arithmetic Matroid Arithmetic Tutte Theorems From (\mathcal{C}, ℓ) to $\mathfrak{M}_{\mathcal{C},\ell}$

From (\mathcal{G}, ℓ) to $\mathfrak{M}_{\mathcal{G}, \ell}$

To $e = (v_i, v_j) \in E_{\theta}$ associate the vector $x_e \in \mathbb{Z}^{|V|}$ with $\ell(e)$ in the *i*-th position, $-\ell(e)$ in the *j*-th position, and 0 elsewhere. Set $X_D := \{x_e \mid e \in D\}$, $G := \mathbb{Z}^{|V|} / \langle X_D \rangle$, $X_R := \{\overline{x}_e \mid e \in R\} \subseteq G$. Take $\mathfrak{M}_{G,\ell}$ to be the one associated to $X_R \subseteq G$. Consider $(\mathcal{G}_{\theta}, \ell)$ with $\mathcal{G}_{\theta} := (V, E_{\theta})$, $V = \{v_1, v_2, v_3\}, R_{\theta} := \{e_1 := (v_1, v_2), e_2 := (v_2, v_1)\}, D_{\theta} := \{e_3 := (v_2, v_3)\}$ so $E_{\theta} = R_{\theta} \cup D_{\theta}, \ell(e_1) = 2, \ell(e_2) = 3$ and $\ell(e_3) = 2$.

Graphs Matroid Labelled graphs Arithmetic Matroid Arithmetic Tutte Theorems From (C, l) to \mathfrak{M}_{2} .

From (\mathcal{G}, ℓ) to $\mathfrak{M}_{\mathcal{G}, \ell}$

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Michele D'Adderio

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Mai	n results				
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For q admissible we have

$$I \chi_{\mathcal{G},\ell}(q) = (-1)^{|V|-k} q^k M_{\mathcal{G},\ell}(1-q,0).$$

$$2 \chi^*_{\mathcal{G},\ell}(q) = (-1)^{|R| - |\overline{V}| + k} q^{|D| - |V| + |\overline{V}|} M_{\mathcal{G},\ell}(0, 1-q).$$

Theorem (Tutte 1954)

Let $\mathcal{G} = (V, E)$ with k connected components, and let $T_{\mathcal{G}}(x, y)$ the Tutte polynomial of \mathcal{G} . We have

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Graphs		Labelled graphs			Theorems
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Grap		Labelled graphs			Theorems
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		Theorems



We have
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Deletion Contraction II

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Graph colorings, flows and arithmetic Tutte polynomial





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Graph colorings, flows and arithmetic Tutte polynomial







Deletion of $\{v_2, v_3\}$.



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THE END

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- **3** C. De Concini, C. Procesi, *Topics in hyperplane arrangements, polytopes and box-splines*, Springer 2010.
- L. Moci, A Tutte polynomial for toric arrangements, to appear on Trans. Am. Math. Soc.

THANKS!

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