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RESEARCH ARTICLE

THE INTRINSIC PARITY PHASE FACTORS OF REGULAR GRAPHS

Geetha N. K.

Department of Mathematics, Saveetha School of Engineering, Saveetha University, Chennai, Tamilnadu,
India-602 105

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*Corresponding Author

Geetha.N.K

Abstract

Let r and k be integers such that $1 \leq k < r$, and G an m -edge-connected, r -regular graph with v -vertices where $m \geq 1$. Again it is sharp for infinitely many v and we characterize when equality holds in the bound.

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Introduction

Let $G = (V, E)$ be a graph with vertex set $V(G)$ and edge set $E(G)$. Number of vertices of a graph G is called the order of G and is denoted by n . The number of edges of G is called the size of G and is denoted by e . For a vertex v of graph G , the number of edges of G incident to v is called the degree of v in G and is denoted by $d_G(v)$.

For two subsets $S, T \subseteq V(G)$,
 $e_G(S; T)$ represent the number of edges of G joining S to T .

Let H be a function associating a subset of Z to each vertex of G .

A spanning subgraph F of graph G is called an H -factor of G if $d_F(x) \in H(x)$ for every vertex $x \in V(G)$. F

or spanning subgraph F of G and for a vertex v of G ,

define $d(H; F, v) = \min \{ |d_F(v) - i| \mid i \in H_v \}$, and

let $d(H; F) = \sum_{x \in V(G)} d(H; F, x)$.

Thus a spanning subgraph F is an H -factor if and only if $d(H; F) = 0$.

Let $d_H(G) = \min \{ d(H; F) \mid F \text{ are spanning of } G \}$

a spanning subgraph F is called H -optional if $d(H; F) = d_H(G)$.

The H -factor problem is to determine the value $d_H(G)$.

An integer h is called a gap of $H(v)$ if $h \notin H(v)$

but $H(v)$ contains an element less than h and an element greater than h . Lov'asz [11] gave a structural description on the H -factor problem in the case where $H(v)$ has no two consecutive gaps for all $v \in V(G)$ and showed that the problem is NP-complete without this restriction. Moreover, he also conjectured that the decision problem of determining whether a graph has an H -factor is polynomial in the case where $H(v)$ has no two consecutive gaps for all $v \in V(G)$. Cornu'ejols [2] proved the conjecture.

Let therefore $g, f: V \rightarrow Z^+$ such that $g(v) \leq f(v)$ and $g(v) \equiv f(v)$ for every $v \in V$. Then a spanning sub-graph F of G is called a (g, f) parity factor, if $g(v) \leq d_F(v) \leq f(v)$ and

$d_f(v) \equiv f(v)$ for all $v \in V$. A (g, f) parity factor is a special kind of H-factor and it has been shown that the decision problem of determining whether a graph has a (g, f) parity factor is polynomial.

Let a, b be two integers such that $1 \leq a \leq b$ and $a \equiv b$. if $g(v) = a$ and $f(v) = b$ for all $v \in V(G)$, then a (g, f) parity factor is called an (a, b) parity factor. Let $n \geq 1$ be odd. If $a=1$ and $b=n$, then an (a, b) parity factor is called an $(1, n)$ odd factor. There is also a special case of the (g, f) factor problem which is called the even factor problem. The problem with $g(v) = 2$, $f(v) \geq |V(G)|$ and $f(v) \equiv g(v)$ for all $v \in V(G)$. Fleischner suggested a sufficient criteria for a graph to have an even factor in terms of edge connectivity.

Theorem 1.(Cui and Kano, [3]). Let $h : V(G) \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ be odd value function. A graph G has a $(1; h)$ -odd factor if and only if $\delta(G - S) \leq h(S)$ for all subsets $S \subset V(G)$.

Now there are many results on consecutive factors (i.e. $(g; f)$ -factor). In non-consecutive factor problems, $(g; f)$ -parity factors have many similar properties with k -factors. So it is believed that results on k -factors can be extended to (g, f) -factor. In this paper, we will extend a result on k -factors of regular graphs to the (g, f) -parity-factors.

Theorem 2 (Fleischner,[8]; Lov'asz, [1]). If G is a bridgeless graph with $d(G) \geq 3$, then G has an even factor.

For a general graph G and an integer k , a spanning subgraph F such that $d_F(x) = k$ for all $x \in V(G)$ is called a k -factor. Which is also a (k, k) parity factor.

Theorem 3 (Gallai [4]). Let r and k be integers such that $1 \leq k < r$, and G an m -edge -connected r -regular graph, where $m \geq 1$. If one of the following conditions is valid, G has a k -factor.

- (i) r is even, k is odd, $|G|$ is even, and $r/m \leq k \leq r(1-1/m)$
- (ii) r is odd, k is even and $2 \leq k \leq r(1-1/m)$
- (iii) r and k are both odd and $r/m \leq k$.

Theorem 4. (Bollob'as, Saito and Wormald). Let r and k be integers such that $1 \leq k < r$, and G be an m -edge-connected r -regular graph, where $m \geq 1$ is a positive integer. Let $m^* \in \{m, m+1\}$ such that $m \equiv 1$. If one of the following conditions is valid, G has a k -factor.

- (i) r is odd, k is even and $2 \leq k \leq r(1-1/m)$
- (ii) r and k are both odd and $r/m \leq k$

Theorem 5.(Lov'asz [7]). G has a (g, f) -parity factor if and only if for all disjoint subsets S and T of $V(G)$,

$$D(S, T) = f(S) + \sum d_G(x) - g(T) - e_G(S, T) - t \geq 0.$$

Where t denotes the number of components C , called f - odd components of $G - (S \cup T)$ such that $e_G(V(C), T) + f(V(C)) \equiv 1$. Moreover $d(S, T) \equiv f(V(G))$.

Theorem: let a, b and r be integers such that $1 \leq a \leq b < r$ and $a \equiv b$. Let G be an m -edge-connected r -regular graph with n vertices. Let $m^* \in \{m, m+1\}$ such that $m^* \equiv 1$. If one of the following conditions holds, then G has an (a, b) parity factor.

- (i) R is even, a, b , are odd, $|G|$ is even, $r/m \leq b$ and $a \leq r(1-1/m)$
- (ii) R is odd, a, b are even and $a \leq r(1-1/m^*)$
- (iii) R, a, b are odd and $r/m^* \leq b$.

Now we prove (i)

Let $\phi_1 = a/r$ and $\phi_2 = b/r$. then $0 \leq \phi_1 \leq \phi_2 < 1$. Suppose that G contains no (a, b) parity factors, there exists two disjoint subsets S and T of $V(G)$ such that $S \cup T \neq \phi$, and

$$-2 \geq d(S, T) = b|S| + \sum d_G(x) - a|T| - e_G(S, T) - t$$

Where t is the number of a -odd components C of $G - (S, T)$. Let C_1, \dots, C_t denote a -odd components of $G - (S, T)$ and $D = C_1 \cup \dots \cup C_t$.

Note that

$$\begin{aligned}
 -2 \geq d(S, T) &= b|S| + \sum d_G(x) - a|T| - e_G(S, T) - t \\
 &= b|S| + (r-a)|T| - e_G(S, T) - t \\
 &= \phi_2 r|S| + (1 - \phi_1)r|T| - e_G(S, T) - t \\
 &= \phi_2 \sum d_G(x) + (1 - \phi_1) \sum d_G(x) - e_G(S, T) - t \\
 &\geq \phi_2 (e_G(S, T) + \sum_{i=1}^t e_G(S, C_i)) + (1 - \phi_1) (e_G(S, T) + \sum_{i=1}^t e_G(T, C_i)) - e_G(S, T) - t \\
 &= \sum_{i=1}^t \phi_2 e_G(S, C_i) + (1 - \phi_1) (e_G(T, C_i) - 1) + (\phi_2 - \phi_1) e_G(S, T) \\
 &\geq \sum_{i=1}^t \phi_2 e_G(S, C_i) + (1 - \phi_1) (e_G(T, C_i) - 1).
 \end{aligned}$$

Since G is connected and $0 < \phi_1 \leq \phi_2 < 1$, so $\phi_2 e_G(S, C_i) + (1 - \phi_1) e_G(T, C_i) > 0$ for each C_i . Hence we obtain a contradiction by showing that for every $C = C_i, 1 \leq i \leq t$, we have

$$\phi_2 e_G(S, C) + (1 - \phi_1) e_G(T, C) \geq 1.$$

These inequalities implies,

$$\begin{aligned}
 -2 \geq d(S, T) &\geq \sum_{i=1}^t \phi_2 e_G(S, C_i) + (1 - \phi_1) (e_G(T, C_i) - 1) \\
 &> \sum_{i=1}^{t-2} (\phi_2 e_G(S, C_i) + (1 - \phi_1) (e_G(T, C_i) - 1)) - 2 \geq -2, \text{ Which is impossible}
 \end{aligned}$$

Since C is an a -odd component of $G - (S, T)$, we have

$$a|C| + e_G(T, C) \equiv 1$$

$$\text{moreover, } r|C| = \sum_{x \in V(C)} d_G(x) = e_G(S \cup T, C) + 2|E(C)|,$$

we have,

$$r|C| = e_G(S \cup T, C)$$

It is obvious that the two inequalities $e_G(S, C) \geq 1$ and $e_G(T, C) \geq 1$ imply

$$\phi_2 e_G(S, C) + (1 - \phi_1) (e_G(T, C)) \geq \phi_2 + 1 - \phi_1 = 1$$

hence we may assume $e_G(S, C) = 0$ or $e_G(T, C) = 0$

if $e_G(S, C) = 0$, then $e_G(T, C) \geq m$. since $a \leq r(1 - 1/m)$, then $\phi_1 \leq 1 - 1/m$ and

so $1 \leq (1 - \phi_1)m$. By substituting $e_G(T, C) \geq m$ and $e_G(S, C) = 0$, we have

$$(1 - \phi_1) e_G(T, C) \geq (1 - \phi_1)m \geq 1.$$

If $e_G(T, C) = 0$, then $e_G(S, C) \geq m$. since $r/m \leq b$, hence $\phi_2 m \geq 1$, and so we obtain

$$\phi_2 e_G(S, C) \geq \phi_2 m \geq 1.$$

The proof is completed.

Let $r \geq 2$ be an integer, $a, b \geq 1$ two odd integers and $2 \leq m \leq r - 2$ an even integer such that $b < r/m < a$. since G has an (a, b) parity factor if and only if G has an $(r-b, r-a)$ parity factor, so we can assume $b < r/m$. Let $J(r, m)$ be the complete graph K_{r+1} from which a matching of size $m/2$ is deleted. Connect each of these vertices to a vertex of degree $r-1$ of $J(r, m)$. This gives an m -edge - connected - r - regular graph denoted by G . Let S denote the set of m new vertices and $T = \emptyset$. Let t denote the number of components C , which are called a - odd components of $G - (S \cup T)$ and $e_G(V(C), T) + a|C| \equiv 1$.

Then we have, $t = r$, and

$$\delta(S, T) = b|S| + \sum_{x \in T} d_G - S(x) - a|T| - t(S, T) = bm - r < 0.$$

So G contains no (a, b) parity factors.

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