

# Integral mixed Cayley graphs over abelian groups

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## Abstract

A mixed graph is said to be *integral* if all the eigenvalues of its Hermitian adjacency matrix are integer. Let  $\Gamma$  be an abelian group. The *mixed Cayley graph*  $\text{Cay}(\Gamma, S)$  is a mixed graph on the vertex set  $\Gamma$  and edge set  $\{(a, b) : b - a \in S\}$ , where  $0 \notin S$ . We characterize integral mixed Cayley graph  $\text{Cay}(\Gamma, S)$  over an abelian group  $\Gamma$  in terms of its connection set  $S$ .

**Mathematics Subject Classifications:** 05C50, 05C25

## 1 Introduction

We only consider graphs without loops and multi-edges. A *graph*  $G$  is denoted by  $G = (V(G), E(G))$ , where  $V(G)$  and  $E(G)$  are the vertex set and edge set of  $G$ , respectively. Here  $E(G) \subset V(G) \times V(G) \setminus \{(u, u) | u \in V(G)\}$  such that  $(u, v) \in E(G)$  if and only if  $(v, u) \in E(G)$ . A graph  $G$  is said to be *oriented* if  $(u, v) \in E(G)$  implies that  $(v, u) \notin E(G)$ . A graph  $G$  is said to be *mixed* if  $(u, v) \in E(G)$  does not always imply that  $(v, u) \in E(G)$ , see [15] for details. In a mixed graph  $G$ , we call an edge with end vertices  $u$  and  $v$  to be *undirected* (resp. *directed*) if both  $(u, v)$  and  $(v, u)$  belong to  $E(G)$  (resp. only one of  $(u, v)$  and  $(v, u)$  belongs to  $E(G)$ ). An undirected edge  $(u, v)$  is denoted by  $u \leftrightarrow v$ , and a directed edge  $(u, v)$  is denoted by  $u \rightarrow v$ . A mixed graph can have both directed and undirected edges. Note that, if all edges of a mixed graph  $G$  are directed (resp. undirected) then  $G$  is an oriented graph (resp. a simple graph). For a mixed graph  $G$ , the underlying graph  $G_U$  of  $G$  is the simple undirected graph in which all edges of  $G$  are considered undirected. By the terms of order, size, number of components, degree of a vertex, distance between two vertices etc., we mean that they are the same as in their underlying graphs.

The *Hermitian adjacency matrix* of a mixed graph  $G$  is denoted by  $H(G) = (h_{uv})_{n \times n}$ , where  $h_{uv}$  is given by

$$h_{uv} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } (u, v) \in E \text{ and } (v, u) \in E, \\ i & \text{if } (u, v) \in E \text{ and } (v, u) \notin E, \\ -i & \text{if } (u, v) \notin E \text{ and } (v, u) \in E, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Here  $i = \sqrt{-1}$  is the imaginary number unit. This matrix was introduced by Liu and Li [15] in the study of hermitian energies of mixed graphs, and also independently by Guo and Mohar [9]. Hermitian adjacency matrix of a mixed graph incorporates both adjacency matrix of simple graph and skew adjacency matrix of an oriented graph. The Hermitian spectrum of  $G$ , denoted by  $Sp_H(G)$ , is the multi set of the eigenvalues of  $H(G)$ . It is easy to see that  $H(G)$  is a Hermitian matrix and so  $Sp_H(G) \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ .

A mixed graph is said to be *integral* if all the eigenvalues of its Hermitian adjacency matrix are integers. Integral graphs were first defined by Harary and Schwenk in 1974 [10] and proposed a classification of integral graphs. See [5] for a survey on integral graphs.

Let  $\Gamma$  be a group,  $S \subseteq \Gamma$  and  $S$  does not contain the identity element of  $\Gamma$ . The set  $S$  is said to be *symmetric* (resp. *skew-symmetric*) if  $S$  is closed under inverse (resp.  $a^{-1} \notin S$  for all  $a \in S$ ). Define  $\bar{S} = \{u \in S : u^{-1} \notin S\}$ . Clearly  $S \setminus \bar{S}$  is symmetric and  $\bar{S}$  is skew-symmetric. The *mixed Cayley graph*  $G = \text{Cay}(\Gamma, S)$  is a mixed graph, where  $V(G) = \Gamma$  and  $E(G) = \{(a, b) : a, b \in \Gamma, a^{-1}b \in S\}$ . Since we have not assumed that  $S$  is symmetric, so a mixed Cayley graph can have directed edges. If  $S$  is symmetric, then  $G$  is a (simple) *Cayley graph*. If  $S$  is skew-symmetric then  $G$  is an *oriented Cayley graph*.

In 1982, Bridge and Mena [6] introduced a characterization of integral Cayley graphs over abelian groups. Later on, the exact characterization was rediscovered by Wasin So [17] for cyclic groups in 2005. In 2009, Abdollahi and Vatandoost [1] proved that there are exactly seven connected cubic integral Cayley graphs. In the same year, Klotz and Sander [13] proved that if the Cayley graph  $\text{Cay}(\Gamma, S)$  over abelian group  $\Gamma$  is integral, then  $S$  belongs to the Boolean algebra  $\mathbb{B}(\Gamma)$  generated by the subgroups of  $\Gamma$ , and its converse proved by Alperin and Peterson [3]. In 2013, DeVos et al. [8] gave a sufficient condition for the integrality of Cayley multigraphs and proved the necessary part for abelian groups, which in turn, is an alternative, character-theoretic proof of the characterization of Bridges and Mena [6]. In 2014, Cheng et al. [14] proved that normal Cayley graphs (its generating set  $S$  is closed under conjugation) of symmetric groups are integral. Alperin [2] gave a characterization of integral Cayley graphs over finite groups. In 2017, Lu et al. [16] gave necessary and sufficient conditions for the integrality of Cayley graphs over dihedral groups  $D_n$ . In particular, they completely determined all integral Cayley graphs of the dihedral group  $D_p$  for a prime  $p$ . In 2019, Cheng et al. [7] obtained several simple sufficient conditions for the integrality of Cayley graphs over the dicyclic group  $T_{4n} = \langle a, b \mid a^{2n} = 1, a^n = b^2, b^{-1}ab = a^{-1} \rangle$ . In particular, they also completely determined all integral Cayley graphs over the dicyclic group  $T_{4p}$  for a prime  $p$ . In [12], the authors have characterized integral mixed circulant graphs in terms of their connection set. In this paper, we give a characterization of integral mixed Cayley graphs over abelian

groups in terms of its connection set. In what follows,  $\Gamma$  is always taken to be a finite abelian group.

This paper is organized as follows. In second section, we express the eigenvalues of a mixed Cayley graph as a sum of eigenvalues of a simple Cayley graph and an oriented Cayley graph. In third section, we obtain a sufficient condition on the connection set  $S$  for integrality of the mixed Cayley graph  $\text{Cay}(\Gamma, S)$  over an abelian group  $\Gamma$ . In fourth section, we prove the necessity of the sufficient condition obtained in Section 3.

## 2 Mixed Cayley graph and group characters

A *representation* of a finite group  $\Gamma$  is a homomorphism  $\rho : \Gamma \rightarrow GL(V)$ , where  $GL(V)$  is the group of automorphisms of a finite dimensional vector space  $V$  over the complex field  $\mathbb{C}$ . The dimension of  $V$  is called the *degree* of  $\rho$ . Two representations  $\rho_1$  and  $\rho_2$  of  $\Gamma$  on  $V_1$  and  $V_2$ , respectively, are *equivalent* if there is an isomorphism  $T : V_1 \rightarrow V_2$  such that  $T\rho_1(g) = \rho_2(g)T$  for all  $g \in \Gamma$ .

Let  $\rho : \Gamma \rightarrow GL(V)$  be a representation. The *character*  $\chi_\rho : \Gamma \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  of  $\rho$  is defined by setting  $\chi_\rho(g) = \text{Tr}(\rho(g))$  for  $g \in \Gamma$ , where  $\text{Tr}(\rho(g))$  is the trace of the representation matrix of  $\rho(g)$ . By degree of  $\chi_\rho$  we mean the degree of  $\rho$  which is simply  $\chi_\rho(1)$ . If  $W$  is a  $\rho(g)$ -invariant subspace of  $V$  for each  $g \in \Gamma$ , then we say  $W$  a  $\rho(\Gamma)$ -invariant subspace of  $V$ . If the only  $\rho(\Gamma)$ -invariant subspaces of  $V$  are  $\{0\}$  and  $V$ , we say  $\rho$  an *irreducible representation* of  $\Gamma$ , and the corresponding character  $\chi_\rho$  an *irreducible character* of  $\Gamma$ .

For a group  $\Gamma$ , we denote by  $\text{IRR}(\Gamma)$  and  $\text{Irr}(\Gamma)$  the complete set of non-equivalent irreducible representations of  $\Gamma$  and the complete set of non-equivalent irreducible characters of  $\Gamma$ , respectively.

Let  $\Gamma$  be a finite abelian group under addition with  $n$  elements, and  $S$  be a subset of  $\Gamma$  with  $0 \notin S$ , where  $0$  is the additive identity of  $\Gamma$ . Then  $\Gamma$  is isomorphic to the direct product of cyclic groups of prime power order, *i.e.*

$$\Gamma \cong \mathbb{Z}_{n_1} \otimes \cdots \otimes \mathbb{Z}_{n_k},$$

where  $n = n_1 \cdots n_k$ , and  $n_j$  is a power of a prime number for each  $j = 1, \dots, k$ . We consider an abelian group  $\Gamma$  as  $\mathbb{Z}_{n_1} \otimes \cdots \otimes \mathbb{Z}_{n_k}$  of order  $n = n_1 \cdots n_k$ . The *exponent* of  $\Gamma$ , denoted by  $\text{exp}(\Gamma)$ , is defined to be the least common multiple of  $n_1, n_2, \dots, n_k$ . We consider the elements  $x \in \Gamma$  as elements of the cartesian product  $\mathbb{Z}_{n_1} \otimes \cdots \otimes \mathbb{Z}_{n_k}$ , *i.e.*

$$x = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k), \text{ where } x_j \in \mathbb{Z}_{n_j} \text{ for all } 1 \leq j \leq k.$$

Addition in  $\Gamma$  is done coordinate-wise modulo  $n_j$ . For a positive integer  $k$  and  $a \in \Gamma$ , we denote by  $ka$  or  $a^k$  the  $k$ -fold sum of  $a$  to itself,  $(-k)a = k(-a)$ ,  $0a = 0$ , and inverse of  $a$  by  $-a$ .

**Lemma 1.** [18] Let  $\mathbb{Z}_n = \{0, 1, \dots, n-1\}$  be a cyclic group of order  $n$ . Then  $\text{IRR}(\mathbb{Z}_n) = \{\phi_k : 0 \leq k \leq n-1\}$ , where  $\phi_k(j) = \omega_n^{jk}$  for all  $0 \leq j, k \leq n-1$ , and  $\omega_n = \exp(\frac{2\pi i}{n})$ .

**Lemma 2.** [18] Let  $\Gamma_1$  and  $\Gamma_2$  be two abelian groups of order  $m, n$ , respectively. Let  $\text{IRR}(\Gamma_1) = \{\phi_1, \dots, \phi_m\}$ , and  $\text{IRR}(\Gamma_2) = \{\rho_1, \dots, \rho_n\}$ . Then

$$\text{IRR}(\Gamma_1 \times \Gamma_2) = \{\psi_{kl} : 1 \leq k \leq m, 1 \leq l \leq n\},$$

where  $\psi_{kl} : \Gamma_1 \times \Gamma_2 \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^*$  and  $\psi_{kl}(g_1, g_2) = \phi_k(g_1)\rho_l(g_2)$  for all  $g_1 \in \Gamma_1, g_2 \in \Gamma_2$ .

Consider  $\Gamma = \mathbb{Z}_{n_1} \times \mathbb{Z}_{n_2} \times \dots \times \mathbb{Z}_{n_k}$ . By Lemma 1 and Lemma 2,  $\text{IRR}(\Gamma) = \{\psi_\alpha : \alpha \in \Gamma\}$ , where

$$\psi_\alpha(x) = \prod_{j=1}^k \omega_{n_j}^{\alpha_j x_j} \text{ for all } \alpha = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_k), x = (x_1, \dots, x_k) \in \Gamma, \quad (1)$$

and  $\omega_{n_j} = \exp(\frac{2\pi i}{n_j})$ . Since  $\Gamma$  is an abelian group, every irreducible representation of  $\Gamma$  is 1-dimensional and thus it can be identified with its characters. Hence  $\text{IRR}(\Gamma) = \text{Irr}(\Gamma)$ . For  $x \in \Gamma$ , let  $\text{ord}(x)$  denote the order of  $x$ . The following lemma can be easily proved.

**Lemma 3.** Let  $\Gamma$  be an abelian group of order  $n$ , and  $\text{Irr}(\Gamma) = \{\psi_\alpha : \alpha \in \Gamma\}$  be the set of all  $n$  characters of  $\Gamma$ . Then the following statements are true.

- (i)  $\psi_\alpha(x) = \psi_x(\alpha)$  for all  $x, \alpha \in \Gamma$ .
- (ii)  $(\psi_\alpha(x))^{\text{ord}(x)} = (\psi_\alpha(x))^{\text{ord}(\alpha)} = 1$  for all  $x, \alpha \in \Gamma$ .
- (iii)  $\psi_\alpha(x)^l = 1$  for all  $x, \alpha \in \Gamma$ , where  $l = \exp(\Gamma)$ .

Let  $f : \Gamma \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  be a function. The *Cayley color digraph* of  $\Gamma$  with *color function*  $f$ , denoted by  $\text{Cay}(\Gamma, f)$ , is defined to be the directed graph with vertex set  $\Gamma$  and arc set  $\{(x, y) : x, y \in \Gamma\}$  such that each arc  $(x, y)$  is colored by  $f(x^{-1}y)$ . The *adjacency matrix* of  $\text{Cay}(\Gamma, f)$  is defined to be the matrix whose rows and columns are indexed by the elements of  $\Gamma$ , and the  $(x, y)$ -entry is equal to  $f(x^{-1}y)$ . The eigenvalues of  $\text{Cay}(\Gamma, f)$  are simply the eigenvalues of its adjacency matrix.

**Theorem 4.** [4] Let  $\Gamma$  be a finite abelian group. Then the spectrum of the Cayley color digraph  $\text{Cay}(\Gamma, f)$  is  $\{\gamma_\alpha : \alpha \in \Gamma\}$ , where

$$\gamma_\alpha = \sum_{y \in \Gamma} f(y)\psi_\alpha(y) \text{ for all } \alpha \in \Gamma.$$

**Lemma 5.** [4] Let  $\Gamma$  be an abelian group. Then the spectrum of the mixed Cayley graph  $\text{Cay}(\Gamma, S)$  is  $\{\gamma_\alpha : \alpha \in \Gamma\}$ , where  $\gamma_\alpha = \lambda_\alpha + \mu_\alpha$  and

$$\lambda_\alpha = \sum_{s \in S \setminus \bar{S}} \psi_\alpha(s), \quad \mu_\alpha = i \sum_{s \in \bar{S}} \left( \psi_\alpha(s) - \psi_\alpha(-s) \right), \text{ for all } \alpha \in \Gamma.$$

*Proof.* Define  $f_S : \Gamma \rightarrow \{0, 1, i, -i\}$  such that

$$f_S(s) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } s \in S \setminus \overline{S}, \\ i & \text{if } s \in \overline{S}, \\ -i & \text{if } s \in \overline{S}^{-1}, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

The adjacency matrix of Cayley color digraph  $\text{Cay}(\Gamma, f_S)$  agrees with the Hermitian adjacency matrix of mixed Cayley graph  $\text{Cay}(\Gamma, S)$ . Thus the result follows from Theorem 4.  $\square$

Next two corollaries are special cases of Lemma 5.

**Corollary 6.** [13] *Let  $\Gamma$  be an abelian group. Then the spectrum of the Cayley graph  $\text{Cay}(\Gamma, S)$  is  $\{\lambda_\alpha : \alpha \in \Gamma\}$ , where  $\lambda_\alpha = \lambda_{-\alpha}$  and*

$$\lambda_\alpha = \sum_{s \in S} \psi_\alpha(s) \text{ for all } \alpha \in \Gamma.$$

*Proof.* Note that  $\overline{S} = \emptyset$ , and so  $s \in S$  if and only if  $-s \in S$ . Using Lemma 5, we have

$$\lambda_\alpha = \sum_{s \in S} \psi_\alpha(s) = \sum_{s \in S} \psi_{-\alpha}(-s) = \sum_{s \in S} \psi_{-\alpha}(s) = \lambda_{-\alpha}. \quad \square$$

**Corollary 7.** *Let  $\Gamma$  be an abelian group. Then the spectrum of the oriented Cayley graph  $\text{Cay}(\Gamma, S)$  is  $\{\mu_\alpha : \alpha \in \Gamma\}$ , where  $\mu_\alpha = -\mu_{-\alpha}$  and*

$$\mu_\alpha = i \sum_{s \in S} \left( \psi_\alpha(s) - \psi_\alpha(-s) \right) \text{ for all } \alpha \in \Gamma.$$

*Proof.* Note that  $S \setminus \overline{S} = \emptyset$ . Using Lemma 5, we have

$$\mu_\alpha = i \sum_{s \in S} \left( \psi_\alpha(s) - \psi_\alpha(-s) \right) = i \sum_{s \in S} \left( \psi_{-\alpha}(-s) - \psi_{-\alpha}(s) \right) = -\mu_{-\alpha}. \quad \square$$

**Theorem 8.** *Let  $\Gamma$  be an abelian group. The mixed Cayley graph  $\text{Cay}(\Gamma, S)$  is integral if and only if both Cayley graph  $\text{Cay}(\Gamma, S \setminus \overline{S})$  and oriented Cayley graph  $\text{Cay}(\Gamma, \overline{S})$  are integral.*

*Proof.* Assume that the mixed Cayley graph  $\text{Cay}(\Gamma, S)$  is integral. Let  $\gamma_\alpha$  be an eigenvalue of mixed Cayley graph  $\text{Cay}(\Gamma, S)$ . By Lemma 5, Corollary 6 and Corollary 7, we have  $\gamma_\alpha = \lambda_\alpha + \mu_\alpha$  and  $\gamma_{-\alpha} = \lambda_\alpha - \mu_\alpha$  for all  $\alpha \in \Gamma$ , where  $\lambda_\alpha$  is an eigenvalue of the Cayley graph  $\text{Cay}(\Gamma, S \setminus \overline{S})$  and  $\mu_\alpha$  is an eigenvalue of the oriented Cayley graph  $\text{Cay}(\Gamma, \overline{S})$ . Thus  $\lambda_\alpha = \frac{\gamma_\alpha + \gamma_{-\alpha}}{2} \in \mathbb{Q}$  and  $\mu_\alpha = \frac{\gamma_\alpha - \gamma_{-\alpha}}{2} \in \mathbb{Q}$ . As  $\lambda_\alpha$  and  $\mu_\alpha$  are rational algebraic integers, so  $\lambda_\alpha, \mu_\alpha \in \mathbb{Q}$  implies that  $\lambda_\alpha$  and  $\mu_\alpha$  are integers. Thus the Cayley graph  $\text{Cay}(\Gamma, S \setminus \overline{S})$  and the oriented Cayley graph  $\text{Cay}(\Gamma, \overline{S})$  are integral.

Conversely, assume that both Cayley graph  $\text{Cay}(\Gamma, S \setminus \overline{S})$  and oriented Cayley graph  $\text{Cay}(\Gamma, \overline{S})$  are integral. Then Lemma 5 implies that  $\text{Cay}(\Gamma, S)$  is integral.  $\square$

Let  $n \geq 2$  be a fixed integer. Define  $G_n(d) = \{k : 1 \leq k \leq n-1, \gcd(k, n) = d\}$ . It is clear that  $G_n(d) = dG_{\frac{n}{d}}(1)$ .

Alperin and Peterson [3] considered a Boolean algebra generated by a class of subgroups of a group in order to determine the integrality of Cayley graphs over abelian groups. Suppose  $\Gamma$  is a finite group, and  $\mathcal{F}_\Gamma$  is the family of all subgroups of  $\Gamma$ . The Boolean algebra  $\mathbb{B}(\Gamma)$  generated by  $\mathcal{F}_\Gamma$  is the set whose elements are obtained by arbitrary finite intersections, unions, and complements of the elements in the family  $\mathcal{F}_\Gamma$ . The minimal non-empty elements of this algebra are called *atoms*. Thus each element of  $\mathbb{B}(\Gamma)$  is the union of some atoms. Consider the equivalence relation  $\sim$  on  $\Gamma$  such that  $x \sim y$  if and only if  $y = x^k$  for some  $k \in G_m(1)$ , where  $m = \text{ord}(x)$ .

**Lemma 9.** [3] *The equivalence classes of  $\sim$  are the atoms of  $\mathbb{B}(\Gamma)$ .*

For  $x \in \Gamma$ , let  $[x]$  denote the equivalence class of  $x$  with respect to the relation  $\sim$ . Also, let  $\langle x \rangle$  denote the cyclic group generated by  $x$ .

**Lemma 10.** [3] *The atoms of the Boolean algebra  $\mathbb{B}(\Gamma)$  are the sets  $[x] = \{y : \langle y \rangle = \langle x \rangle\}$ .*

By Lemma 10, each element of  $\mathbb{B}(\Gamma)$  is a union of some sets of the form  $[x]$ . Thus, for all  $S \in \mathbb{B}(\Gamma)$ , we have  $S = [x_1] \cup \dots \cup [x_k]$  for some  $x_1, \dots, x_k \in \Gamma$ .

The next result provides a complete characterization of integral Cayley graphs over an abelian group  $\Gamma$  in terms of the atoms of  $\mathbb{B}(\Gamma)$ .

**Theorem 11.** ([3], [6]) *Let  $\Gamma$  be an abelian group. The Cayley graph  $\text{Cay}(\Gamma, S)$  is integral if and only if  $S \in \mathbb{B}(\Gamma)$ .*

### 3 A sufficient condition for integrality of mixed Cayley graphs over abelian groups

Unless otherwise stated, we consider  $\Gamma$  to be an abelian group of order  $n$ . Due to Theorem 8, to find characterization of the integral mixed Cayley graph  $\text{Cay}(\Gamma, S)$ , it is enough to find characterization of the integral Cayley graph  $\text{Cay}(\Gamma, S \setminus \overline{S})$  and the integral oriented Cayley graph  $\text{Cay}(\Gamma, \overline{S})$ . The integral Cayley graph  $\text{Cay}(\Gamma, S \setminus \overline{S})$  is characterized by Theorem 11. So our attempt is to characterize the integral oriented Cayley graph  $\text{Cay}(\Gamma, \overline{S})$ .

Define  $\Gamma(4)$  to be the set of all  $x \in \Gamma$  which satisfies  $\text{ord}(x) \equiv 0 \pmod{4}$ . It is clear that  $\exp(\Gamma) \equiv 0 \pmod{4}$  if and only if  $\Gamma(4) \neq \emptyset$ . For all  $x \in \Gamma(4)$  and  $r \in \{0, 1, 2, 3\}$ , define

$$M_r(x) := \{x^k : 1 \leq k \leq \text{ord}(x), k \equiv r \pmod{4}\}.$$

For all  $a \in \Gamma$  and  $S \subseteq \Gamma$ , define  $a + S := \{a + s : s \in S\}$  and  $-S := \{-s : s \in S\}$ . Note that  $-s$  denotes the inverse of  $s$ , that is  $-s = s^{m-1}$ , where  $m = \text{ord}(s)$ .

**Lemma 12.** *Let  $\Gamma$  be an abelian group and  $x \in \Gamma(4)$ . Then the following statements are true.*

$$(i) \bigcup_{r=0}^3 M_r(x) = \langle x \rangle.$$

(ii) Both  $M_1(x)$  and  $M_3(x)$  are skew-symmetric subsets of  $\Gamma$ .

(iii)  $-M_1(x) = M_3(x)$  and  $-M_3(x) = M_1(x)$ .

(iv)  $a + M_1(x) = M_3(x)$  and  $a + M_3(x) = M_1(x)$  for all  $a \in M_2(x)$ .

(v)  $a + M_1(x) = M_1(x)$  and  $a + M_3(x) = M_3(x)$  for all  $a \in M_0(x)$ .

*Proof.* (i) It follows from the definitions of  $M_r(x)$  and  $\langle x \rangle$ .

(ii) If  $x^k \in M_1(x)$  then  $-x^k = x^{n-k} \notin M_1(x)$ , as  $k \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$  implies  $n-k \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$ . Thus  $M_1(x)$  is a skew-symmetric subset of  $\Gamma$ . Similarly,  $M_3(x)$  is also a skew-symmetric subset of  $\Gamma$ .

(iii) As  $k \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$  if and only if  $n-k \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$ , we get  $-x^k = x^{n-k}$ . Therefore  $-M_1(x) = M_3(x)$  and  $-M_3(x) = M_1(x)$ .

(iv) Let  $a \in M_2(x)$  and  $y \in a + M_1(x)$ . Then  $a = x^{k_1}$  and  $y = x^{k_1} + x^{k_2} = x^{k_1+k_2}$ , where  $k_1 \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$  and  $k_2 \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ . Since  $k_1 + k_2 \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$ , we have  $y \in M_3(x)$  implying that  $a + M_1(x) \subseteq M_3(x)$ . Since size of both sets  $M_1(x)$  and  $M_3(x)$  are same, hence  $a + M_1(x) = M_3(x)$ . Similarly,  $a + M_3(x) = M_1(x)$  for all  $a \in M_2(x)$ .

(v) The proof is similar to Part (iv). □

**Lemma 13.** Let  $x \in \Gamma(4)$ . Then  $i \left( \sum_{s \in M_1(x)} \psi_\alpha(s) - \sum_{s \in M_3(x)} \psi_\alpha(s) \right) \in \mathbb{Z}$  for all  $\alpha \in \Gamma$ .

*Proof.* Let  $x \in \Gamma(4)$ ,  $\alpha \in \Gamma$  and

$$\mu_\alpha = i \left( \sum_{s \in M_1(x)} \psi_\alpha(s) - \sum_{s \in M_3(x)} \psi_\alpha(s) \right).$$

Case 1: There exists  $a \in M_2(x)$  such that  $\psi_\alpha(a) \neq -1$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} \mu_\alpha &= -i \left( \sum_{s \in M_3(x)} \psi_\alpha(s) - \sum_{s \in M_1(x)} \psi_\alpha(s) \right) \\ &= -i \left( \sum_{s \in a + M_1(x)} \psi_\alpha(s) - \sum_{s \in a + M_3(x)} \psi_\alpha(s) \right) \\ &= -i \left( \sum_{s \in M_1(x)} \psi_\alpha(a + s) - \sum_{s \in M_3(x)} \psi_\alpha(a + s) \right) \\ &= -i\psi_\alpha(a) \left( \sum_{s \in M_1(x)} \psi_\alpha(s) - \sum_{s \in M_3(x)} \psi_\alpha(s) \right) \\ &= -\psi_\alpha(a)\mu_\alpha, \end{aligned}$$

We have  $(1 + \psi_\alpha(a))\mu_\alpha = 0$ . Since  $\psi_\alpha(a) \neq -1$ , so  $\mu_\alpha = 0 \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

Case 2: There exists  $a \in M_0(x)$  such that  $\psi_\alpha(a) \neq 1$ . Applying the same process as in Case 1, we get  $\mu_\alpha = 0 \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

Case 3: Assume that  $\psi_\alpha(a) = -1$  for all  $a \in M_2(x)$  and  $\psi_\alpha(a) = 1$  for all  $a \in M_0(x)$ . Then  $\psi_\alpha(a) = -\psi_\alpha(x)$  for all  $a \in M_3(x)$  and  $\psi_\alpha(a) = \psi_\alpha(x)$  for all  $a \in M_1(x)$ . Therefore

$$\mu_\alpha = i \left( \sum_{s \in M_1(x)} \psi_\alpha(s) - \sum_{s \in M_3(x)} \psi_\alpha(s) \right) = 2i\psi_\alpha(x)|M_1(x)|.$$

Since  $\psi_\alpha(x)^4 = 1$  and  $\mu_\alpha$  is real, we have  $\psi_\alpha(x) = \pm i$ . Thus  $\mu_\alpha = \pm 2|M_1(x)| \in \mathbb{Z}$ .  $\square$

For  $m \equiv 0 \pmod{4}$  and  $r \in \{1, 3\}$ , define

$$G_m^r(1) = \{k : k \equiv r \pmod{4}, \gcd(k, m) = 1\}.$$

Define an equivalence relation  $\approx$  on  $\Gamma(4)$  such that  $x \approx y$  if and only if  $y = x^k$  for some  $k \in G_m^1(1)$ , where  $m = \text{ord}(x)$ . Observe that if  $x, y \in \Gamma(4)$  and  $x \approx y$  then  $x \sim y$ , but the converse need not be true. For example, consider  $x = 5 \pmod{12}$ ,  $y = 11 \pmod{12}$  in  $\mathbb{Z}_{12}$ . Here  $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}_{12}(4)$  and  $x \sim y$  but  $x \not\approx y$ . For  $x \in \Gamma(4)$ , let  $\llbracket x \rrbracket$  denote the equivalence class of  $x$  with respect to the relation  $\approx$ .

**Lemma 14.** *Let  $\Gamma$  be an abelian group,  $x \in \Gamma(4)$  and  $m = \text{ord}(x)$ . Then the following are true.*

- (i)  $\llbracket x \rrbracket = \{x^k : k \in G_m^1(1)\}.$
- (ii)  $\llbracket -x \rrbracket = \{x^k : k \in G_m^3(1)\}.$
- (iii)  $\llbracket x \rrbracket \cap \llbracket -x \rrbracket = \emptyset.$
- (iv)  $\llbracket x \rrbracket = \llbracket x \rrbracket \cup \llbracket -x \rrbracket.$

*Proof.*

- (i) Let  $y \in \llbracket x \rrbracket$ . Then  $x \approx y$ , and so  $\text{ord}(x) = \text{ord}(y) = m$  and there exists  $k \in G_m^1(x)$  such that  $y = x^k$ . Thus  $\llbracket x \rrbracket \subseteq \{x^k : k \in G_m^1(1)\}$ . On the other hand, let  $z = x^k$  for some  $k \in G_m^1(1)$ . Then  $\text{ord}(x) = \text{ord}(z)$  and so  $x \approx z$ . Thus  $\{x^k : k \in G_m^1(1)\} \subseteq \llbracket x \rrbracket$ .

- (ii) Note that  $-x = x^{m-1}$  and  $m-1 \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$ . By Part (i),

$$\begin{aligned} \llbracket -x \rrbracket &= \{(-x)^k : k \in G_m^1(1)\} = \{x^{(m-1)k} : k \in G_m^1(1)\} \\ &= \{x^{-k} : k \in G_m^1(1)\} \\ &= \{x^k : k \in G_m^3(1)\}. \end{aligned}$$

- (iii) Since  $G_m^1(1) \cap G_m^3(1) = \emptyset$ , so by Part (i) and Part (ii),  $\llbracket x \rrbracket \cap \llbracket -x \rrbracket = \emptyset$  holds.



- (iv) Since  $[x] = \{x^k : k \in G_m(1)\}$  and  $G_m(1)$  is a disjoint union of  $G_m^1(1)$  and  $G_m^3(1)$ , by Part (i) and Part (ii),  $[x] = \llbracket x \rrbracket \cup \llbracket -x \rrbracket$  holds.  $\square$

Let  $D_g$  be the set of all odd divisors of  $g$ , and  $D_g^1$  (resp.  $D_g^3$ ) be the set of all odd divisors of  $g$  which are congruent to 1 (resp. 3) modulo 4. It is clear that  $D_g = D_g^1 \cup D_g^3$ .

**Lemma 15.** *Let  $\Gamma$  be an abelian group,  $x \in \Gamma(4)$ ,  $m = \text{ord}(x)$  and  $g = \frac{m}{4}$ . Then the following are true.*

- (i)  $M_1(x) \cup M_3(x) = \bigcup_{h \in D_g} [x^h]$ .
- (ii)  $M_1(x) = \bigcup_{h \in D_g^1} \llbracket x^h \rrbracket \cup \bigcup_{h \in D_g^3} \llbracket -x^h \rrbracket$ .
- (iii)  $M_3(x) = \bigcup_{h \in D_g^1} \llbracket -x^h \rrbracket \cup \bigcup_{h \in D_g^3} \llbracket x^h \rrbracket$ .

*Proof.* (i) Let  $x^k \in M_1(x) \cup M_3(x)$ , where  $k \equiv 1$  or  $3 \pmod{4}$ . To show  $x^k \in \bigcup_{h \in D_g} [x^h]$ ,

it is enough to show  $x^k \sim x^h$  for some  $h \in D_g$ . Let  $h = \gcd(k, g) \in D_g$ . Note that

$$\text{ord}(x^k) = \frac{m}{\gcd(m, k)} = \frac{m}{\gcd(g, k)} = \frac{m}{h} = \text{ord}(x^h).$$

Also, as  $h = \gcd(k, m)$ , we have  $\langle x^k \rangle = \langle x^h \rangle$ , and so  $x^k = x^{hj}$  for some  $j \in G_q(1)$ , where  $q = \text{ord}(x^h) = \frac{m}{h}$ . Thus  $x^k \sim x^h$  where  $h = \gcd(k, g) \in D_g$ . Conversely, let  $z \in \bigcup_{h \in D_g} [x^h]$ . Then there exists  $h \in D_g$  such that  $z = x^{hj}$  where  $j \in G_q(1)$  and  $q = \frac{m}{\gcd(m, h)}$ . Now  $h \in D_g$  and  $q \equiv 0 \pmod{4}$  imply that both  $h$  and  $j$  are odd integers. Thus  $hj \equiv 1$  or  $3 \pmod{4}$  and so  $\bigcup_{h \in D_g} [x^h] \subseteq M_1(x) \cup M_3(x)$ . Hence

$$M_1(x) \cup M_3(x) = \bigcup_{h \in D_g} [x^h].$$

- (ii) Let  $x^k \in M_1(x)$ , where  $k \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ . By Part (i), there exists  $h \in D_g$  and  $j \in G_q(1)$  such that  $x^k = x^{hj}$ , where  $q = \frac{m}{\gcd(m, h)}$ . Note that  $k = jh$ . If  $h \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$  then  $j \in G_q^1(1)$ , otherwise  $j \in G_q^3(1)$ . Thus using parts (i) and (ii) of Lemma 14, if  $h \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$  then  $x^k \approx x^h$ , otherwise  $x^k \approx -x^h$ . Hence  $M_1(x) \subseteq \bigcup_{h \in D_g^1} \llbracket x^h \rrbracket \cup \bigcup_{h \in D_g^3} \llbracket -x^h \rrbracket$ . Conversely, assume that  $z \in \bigcup_{h \in D_g^1} \llbracket x^h \rrbracket \cup \bigcup_{h \in D_g^3} \llbracket -x^h \rrbracket$ .

This gives  $z \in \llbracket x^h \rrbracket$  for an  $h \in D_g^1$  or  $z \in \llbracket -x^h \rrbracket$  for an  $h \in D_g^3$ . In the first case, by part (i) of Lemma 14, there exists  $j \in G_q^1(1)$  with  $q = \frac{m}{\gcd(m, h)}$  such that  $z = x^{hj}$ . Similarly, for the second case, by part (ii) of Lemma 14, there exists  $j \in G_q^3(1)$  with  $q = \frac{m}{\gcd(m, h)}$  such that  $z = x^{hj}$ . In both the cases,  $hj \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ . Thus  $z \in M_1(x)$ .

- (iii) The proof is similar to Part (ii).  $\square$

**Lemma 16.** *Let  $x \in \Gamma(4)$ . Then  $i\left(\sum_{s \in \llbracket x \rrbracket} \psi_\alpha(s) - \sum_{s \in \llbracket -x \rrbracket} \psi_\alpha(s)\right) \in \mathbb{Z}$  for all  $\alpha \in \Gamma$ .*

*Proof.* Note that there exists  $x \in \Gamma(4)$  with  $\text{ord}(x) = 4$ . Apply induction on  $\text{ord}(x)$ . If  $\text{ord}(x) = 4$ , then  $M_1(x) = \llbracket x \rrbracket$  and  $M_3(x) = \llbracket -x \rrbracket$ . Hence by Lemma 13,

$$i\left(\sum_{s \in \llbracket x \rrbracket} \psi_\alpha(s) - \sum_{s \in \llbracket -x \rrbracket} \psi_\alpha(s)\right) \in \mathbb{Z} \quad \text{for all } \alpha \in \Gamma.$$

Assume that the statement holds for all  $x \in \Gamma(4)$  with  $\text{ord}(x) \in \{4, 8, \dots, 4(g-1)\}$ . We prove it for  $\text{ord}(x) = 4g$ . Lemma 15 implies that

$$M_1(x) = \bigcup_{h \in D_g^1} \llbracket x^h \rrbracket \cup \bigcup_{h \in D_g^3} \llbracket -x^h \rrbracket \quad \text{and} \quad M_3(x) = \bigcup_{h \in D_g^1} \llbracket -x^h \rrbracket \cup \bigcup_{h \in D_g^3} \llbracket x^h \rrbracket.$$

If  $\text{ord}(x) = 4g = m$  and  $h > 1$  then  $\text{ord}(x^h), \text{ord}(-x^h) \in \{4, 8, \dots, 4(g-1)\}$ . By induction hypothesis

$$i\left(\sum_{s \in \llbracket x^h \rrbracket} \psi_\alpha(s) - \sum_{s \in \llbracket -x^h \rrbracket} \psi_\alpha(s)\right) \in \mathbb{Z} \quad \text{for all } \alpha \in \Gamma.$$

Now we have

$$\begin{aligned} i\left(\sum_{s \in M_1(x)} \psi_\alpha(s) - \sum_{s \in M_3(x)} \psi_\alpha(s)\right) &= i\left(\sum_{s \in \llbracket x \rrbracket} \psi_\alpha(s) - \sum_{s \in \llbracket -x \rrbracket} \psi_\alpha(s)\right) \\ &\quad + \sum_{h \in D_g^1, h > 1} i\left(\sum_{s \in \llbracket x^h \rrbracket} \psi_\alpha(s) - \sum_{s \in \llbracket -x^h \rrbracket} \psi_\alpha(s)\right) \\ &\quad + \sum_{h \in D_g^3, h > 1} i\left(\sum_{s \in \llbracket -x^h \rrbracket} \psi_\alpha(s) - \sum_{s \in \llbracket x^h \rrbracket} \psi_\alpha(s)\right). \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} i\left(\sum_{s \in \llbracket x \rrbracket} \psi_\alpha(s) - \sum_{s \in \llbracket -x \rrbracket} \psi_\alpha(s)\right) &= i\left(\sum_{s \in M_1(x)} \psi_\alpha(s) - \sum_{s \in M_3(x)} \psi_\alpha(s)\right) \\ &\quad - \sum_{h \in D_g^1, h > 1} i\left(\sum_{s \in \llbracket x^h \rrbracket} \psi_\alpha(s) - \sum_{s \in \llbracket -x^h \rrbracket} \psi_\alpha(s)\right) \\ &\quad + \sum_{h \in D_g^3, h > 1} i\left(\sum_{s \in \llbracket x^h \rrbracket} \psi_\alpha(s) - \sum_{s \in \llbracket -x^h \rrbracket} \psi_\alpha(s)\right) \end{aligned}$$

is also an integer for all  $\alpha \in \Gamma$  because of Lemma 13 and induction hypothesis.  $\square$

For  $\exp(\Gamma) \equiv 0 \pmod{4}$ , define  $\mathbb{D}(\Gamma)$  to be the set of all skew-symmetric subsets  $S$  of  $\Gamma$  such that  $S = \llbracket x_1 \rrbracket \cup \dots \cup \llbracket x_k \rrbracket$  for some  $x_1, \dots, x_k \in \Gamma(4)$ . For  $\exp(\Gamma) \not\equiv 0 \pmod{4}$ , define  $\mathbb{D}(\Gamma) = \{\emptyset\}$ .

**Theorem 17.** *Let  $\Gamma$  be an abelian group. If  $S \in \mathbb{D}(\Gamma)$  then the oriented Cayley graph  $\text{Cay}(\Gamma, S)$  is integral.*

*Proof.* Assume that  $S \in \mathbb{D}(\Gamma)$ . Then  $S = \llbracket x_1 \rrbracket \cup \cdots \cup \llbracket x_k \rrbracket$  for some  $x_1, \dots, x_k \in \Gamma(4)$ . Let  $\text{Sp}_H(\text{Cay}(\Gamma, S)) = \{\mu_\alpha : \alpha \in \Gamma\}$ . We have

$$\mu_\alpha = i \sum_{s \in S} \left( \psi_\alpha(s) - \psi_\alpha(-s) \right) = \sum_{j=1}^k \sum_{s \in \llbracket x_j \rrbracket} i \left( \psi_\alpha(s) - \psi_\alpha(-s) \right).$$

Now by Lemma 16,  $\mu_\alpha \in \mathbb{Z}$  for all  $\alpha \in \Gamma$ . Hence the oriented Cayley graph  $\text{Cay}(\Gamma, S)$  is integral.  $\square$

**Theorem 18.** *Let  $\Gamma$  be an abelian group. If  $S \setminus \overline{S} \in \mathbb{B}(\Gamma)$  and  $\overline{S} \in \mathbb{D}(\Gamma)$  then the mixed Cayley graph  $\text{Cay}(\Gamma, S)$  is integral.*

*Proof.* By Theorem 8,  $\text{Cay}(\Gamma, S)$  is integral if and only if both  $\text{Cay}(\Gamma, S \setminus \overline{S})$  and  $\text{Cay}(\Gamma, \overline{S})$  are integral. Thus the result follows from Theorem 11 and Theorem 17.  $\square$

## 4 Characterization of integral mixed Cayley graphs over abelian groups

The *cyclotomic polynomial*  $\Phi_n(x)$  is the monic polynomial whose zeros are the primitive  $n^{\text{th}}$  root of unity. That is

$$\Phi_n(x) = \prod_{a \in G_n(1)} (x - \omega_n^a),$$

where  $\omega_n = \exp(\frac{2\pi i}{n})$ . Clearly the degree of  $\Phi_n(x)$  is  $\varphi(n)$ . See [11] for more details about cyclotomic polynomials.

**Theorem 19.** [11] *The cyclotomic polynomial  $\Phi_n(x)$  is irreducible in  $\mathbb{Z}[x]$ .*

The polynomial  $\Phi_n(x)$  is irreducible over  $\mathbb{Q}(i)$  if and only if  $[\mathbb{Q}(i, \omega_n) : \mathbb{Q}(i)] = \varphi(n)$ . Also  $\mathbb{Q}(\omega_n)$  does not contain the number  $i = \sqrt{-1}$  if and only if  $n \not\equiv 0 \pmod{4}$ . Thus, if  $n \not\equiv 0 \pmod{4}$  then  $[\mathbb{Q}(i, \omega_n) : \mathbb{Q}(\omega_n)] = 2 = [\mathbb{Q}(i), \mathbb{Q}]$ , and therefore

$$[\mathbb{Q}(i, \omega_n) : \mathbb{Q}(i)] = \frac{[\mathbb{Q}(i, \omega_n) : \mathbb{Q}(\omega_n)] \cdot [\mathbb{Q}(\omega_n) : \mathbb{Q}]}{[\mathbb{Q}(i) : \mathbb{Q}]} = [\mathbb{Q}(\omega_n) : \mathbb{Q}] = \varphi(n).$$

Hence for  $n \not\equiv 0 \pmod{4}$ , the polynomial  $\Phi_n(x)$  is irreducible over  $\mathbb{Q}(i)$ .

Let  $n \equiv 0 \pmod{4}$ . Then  $\mathbb{Q}(i, \omega_n) = \mathbb{Q}(\omega_n)$ , and so

$$[\mathbb{Q}(i, \omega_n) : \mathbb{Q}(i)] = \frac{[\mathbb{Q}(i, \omega_n) : \mathbb{Q}]}{[\mathbb{Q}(i) : \mathbb{Q}]} = \frac{\varphi(n)}{2}.$$

Hence the polynomial  $\Phi_n(x)$  is reducible over  $\mathbb{Q}(i)$ .

We know that  $G_n(1)$  is a disjoint union of  $G_n^1(1)$  and  $G_n^3(1)$ . Define

$$\Phi_n^1(x) = \prod_{a \in G_n^1(1)} (x - \omega_n^a) \text{ and } \Phi_n^3(x) = \prod_{a \in G_n^3(1)} (x - \omega_n^a).$$

It is clear from the definition that  $\Phi_n(x) = \Phi_n^1(x)\Phi_n^3(x)$ .

**Theorem 20.** [12] Let  $n \equiv 0 \pmod{4}$ . The factors  $\Phi_n^1(x)$  and  $\Phi_n^3(x)$  of  $\Phi_n(x)$  are irreducible monic polynomials in  $\mathbb{Q}(i)[x]$  of degree  $\frac{\varphi(n)}{2}$ .

In this section, first we prove that there is no integral oriented Cayley graph  $\text{Cay}(\Gamma, S)$  for  $\exp(\Gamma) \not\equiv 0 \pmod{4}$  and  $S \neq \emptyset$ . After that we find a necessary condition on the set  $S$  so that the mixed Cayley graph  $\text{Cay}(\Gamma, S)$  is integral.

**Theorem 21.** Let  $\Gamma$  be an abelian group and  $\exp(\Gamma) \not\equiv 0 \pmod{4}$ . Then the oriented Cayley graph  $\text{Cay}(\Gamma, S)$  is integral if and only if  $S = \emptyset$ .

*Proof.* Let  $l = \exp(\Gamma)$  and  $\text{Sp}_H(\text{Cay}(\Gamma, S)) = \{\mu_\alpha : \alpha \in \Gamma\}$ . Assume that  $l \not\equiv 0 \pmod{4}$  and  $\text{Cay}(\Gamma, S)$  is integral. By Corollary 7,  $\mu_\alpha = -\mu_{-\alpha} \in \mathbb{Q}$  and

$$\mu_\alpha = i \sum_{s \in S} \left( \psi_\alpha(s) - \psi_\alpha(-s) \right) \text{ for all } \alpha \in \Gamma.$$

Note that,  $\psi_\alpha(s)$  and  $\psi_\alpha(-s)$  are  $l^{\text{th}}$  roots of unity for all  $\alpha \in \Gamma, s \in S$ . Fix a primitive  $l^{\text{th}}$  root  $\omega$  of unity and express  $\psi_\alpha(s)$  in the form  $\omega^j$  for some  $j \in \{0, 1, \dots, l-1\}$ . Thus

$$\mu_\alpha = i \sum_{s \in S} \left( \psi_\alpha(s) - \psi_\alpha(-s) \right) = \sum_{j=0}^{l-1} a_j \omega^j,$$

where  $a_j \in \mathbb{Q}(i)$ . Since  $\mu_\alpha \in \mathbb{Q}$ , so  $p(x) = \sum_{j=0}^{l-1} a_j x^j - \mu_\alpha \in \mathbb{Q}(i)[x]$  and  $\omega$  is a root of  $p(x)$ . Since  $l \not\equiv 0 \pmod{4}$ , so  $\Phi_l(x)$  is irreducible in  $\mathbb{Q}(i)[x]$ . Thus  $p(\omega) = 0$  and  $\Phi_l(x)$  is the monic irreducible polynomial over  $\mathbb{Q}(i)$  having  $\omega$  as a root. Therefore  $\Phi_l(x)$  divides  $p(x)$ , and so  $\omega^{-1} = \omega^{l-1}$  is also a root of  $p(x)$ . Note that, if  $\psi_\alpha(s) = \omega^j$  for some  $j \in \{0, 1, \dots, l-1\}$  then  $\psi_{-\alpha}(s) = \omega^{-j}$ . We have

$$0 = p(\omega^{-1}) = \sum_{j=0}^{l-1} a_j \omega^{-j} - \mu_\alpha = \mu_{-\alpha} - \mu_\alpha \Rightarrow \mu_\alpha = \mu_{-\alpha}.$$

Since  $\mu_{-\alpha} = -\mu_\alpha$ , we get  $\mu_\alpha = 0$ , for all  $\alpha \in \Gamma$ . Hence  $S = \emptyset$ .

Conversely, if  $S = \emptyset$  then all the eigenvalues of  $\text{Cay}(\Gamma, S)$  are zero. Thus  $\text{Cay}(\Gamma, S)$  is integral.  $\square$

Lemma 14 says that corresponding to each equivalence class of the relation  $\sim$  we get two equivalence classes of the relation  $\approx$ . Define  $E$  to be the matrix of size  $n \times n$ , whose rows and columns are indexed by elements of  $\Gamma$  such that  $E_{x,y} = i\psi_x(y)$ . Note that each row of  $E$  corresponds to a character of  $\Gamma$  and  $EE^* = nI_n$ , where  $E^*$  is the conjugate transpose of  $E$ . Let  $v_{\llbracket x \rrbracket}$  be the vector in  $\mathbb{Q}^n$  whose coordinates are indexed by the elements of  $\Gamma$ , and the  $a^{th}$  coordinate of  $v_{\llbracket x \rrbracket}$  is given by

$$v_{\llbracket x \rrbracket}(a) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } a \in \llbracket x \rrbracket, \\ -1 & \text{if } a \in \llbracket x^{-1} \rrbracket, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

By Lemma 16, we have  $Ev_{\llbracket x \rrbracket} \in \mathbb{Q}^n$ .

**Lemma 22.** *Let  $\Gamma$  be an abelian group,  $v \in \mathbb{Q}^n$  and  $Ev \in \mathbb{Q}^n$ . Let the coordinates of  $v$  be indexed by elements of  $\Gamma$ . Then*

- (i)  $v_x = -v_{-x}$  for all  $x \in \Gamma$ .
- (ii)  $v_x = v_y$  for all  $x, y \in \Gamma(4)$  satisfying  $x \approx y$ .
- (iii)  $v_x = 0$  for all  $x \in \Gamma \setminus \Gamma(4)$ .

*Proof.* Let  $E_x$  and  $E_y$  denote the column vectors of  $E$  indexed by  $x$  and  $y$ , respectively, and assume that  $u = Ev \in \mathbb{Q}^n$ . For  $z \in \mathbb{C}$ , let  $\bar{z}$  denote the complex conjugate of  $z$ .

- (i) We use the fact that  $\overline{\psi_x(y)} = \psi_{-x}(y) = \psi_x(-y)$  for all  $x, y \in \Gamma$ . Again

$$u = Ev \Rightarrow E^*u = E^*Ev = (nI_n)v \Rightarrow \frac{1}{n}E^*u = v \in \mathbb{Q}^n.$$

Thus

$$\begin{aligned} v_x &= \frac{1}{n}(E^*u)_x = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{a \in \Gamma} E_{x,a}^* u_a = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{a \in \Gamma} \overline{i\psi_a(x)} u_a = -\frac{1}{n} \sum_{a \in \Gamma} i\psi_a(-x) u_a \\ &= -\frac{1}{n} \sum_{a \in \Gamma} \overline{i\psi_a(-x)} u_a \\ &= -\frac{1}{n} \sum_{a \in \Gamma} E_{-x,a}^* u_a \\ &= -\frac{1}{n} (E^*u)_{-x} \\ &= -\overline{v_{-x}} = -v_{-x}. \end{aligned}$$

- (ii) If  $\Gamma(4) = \emptyset$  then there is nothing to prove. Now assume that  $\Gamma(4) \neq \emptyset$ , so that  $\exp(\Gamma) \equiv 0 \pmod{4}$ . Let  $x, y \in \Gamma(4)$  and  $x \approx y$ . Then there exists  $k \in G_m^1(1)$  such that  $y = x^k$ , where  $m = \text{ord}(x) = \text{ord}(y)$ . Assume that  $x \neq y$ , so that  $k \geq 2$ . Using

Lemma 3, entries of  $E_x$  and  $E_y$  are  $i$  times an  $m^{\text{th}}$  root of unity. Fix a primitive  $m^{\text{th}}$  root of unity  $\omega$ , and express each entry of  $E_x$  and  $E_y$  in the form  $i\omega^j$  for some  $j \in \{0, 1, \dots, m-1\}$ . Thus

$$nv_x = (E^*u)_x = \sum_{j=0}^{m-1} a_j \omega^j,$$

where  $a_j \in \mathbb{Q}(i)$  for all  $j$ . Thus  $\omega$  is a root of  $p(x) = \sum_{j=0}^{m-1} a_j x^j - nv_x \in \mathbb{Q}(i)[x]$ .

Therefore,  $p(x)$  is a multiple of the irreducible polynomial  $\Phi_m^1(x)$ , and so  $\omega^k$  is also a root of  $p(x)$ , because of  $k \in G_m^1(1)$ . As  $y = x^k$  implies that  $\psi_y(a) = \psi_x(a)^k$  for all  $a \in \Gamma$ , we have  $(E^*u)_y = \sum_{j=0}^{m-1} a_j \omega^{kj}$ . Hence

$$0 = p(\omega^k) = \sum_{j=0}^{m-1} a_j \omega^{kj} - nv_x = (E^*u)_y - nv_x = nv_y - nv_x \Rightarrow v_x = v_y.$$

(iii) Let  $x \in \Gamma \setminus \Gamma(4)$  and  $r = \text{ord}(x) \not\equiv 0 \pmod{4}$ . Fix a primitive  $r^{\text{th}}$  root  $\omega$  of unity, and express each entry of  $E_x$  in the form  $i\omega^j$  for some  $j \in \{0, 1, \dots, r-1\}$ . Thus

$$nv_x = (E^*u)_x = \sum_{j=0}^{r-1} a_j \omega^j,$$

where  $a_j \in \mathbb{Q}(i)$  for all  $j$ . Thus  $\omega$  is a root of  $p(x) = \sum_{j=0}^{r-1} a_j x^j - nv_x \in \mathbb{Q}(i)[x]$ .

Therefore,  $p(x)$  is a multiple of the irreducible polynomial  $\Phi_r(x)$ , and so  $\omega^{-1}$  is also a root of  $p(x)$ . Since  $\psi_{-x}(a) = \psi_x(a)^{-1}$  for all  $a \in \Gamma$ , therefore  $(E^*u)_{-x} = \sum_{j=0}^{r-1} a_j \omega^{-j}$ .

Hence

$$0 = p(\omega^{-1}) = \sum_{j=0}^{r-1} a_j \omega^{-j} - nv_x = (E^*u)_{-x} - nv_x = nv_{-x} - nv_x,$$

implies that  $v_x = v_{-x}$ . This together with Part (i) imply that  $v_x = 0$  for all  $x \in \Gamma \setminus \Gamma(4)$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 23.** *Let  $\Gamma$  be an abelian group. The oriented Cayley graph  $\text{Cay}(\Gamma, S)$  is integral if and only if  $S \in \mathbb{D}(\Gamma)$ .*

*Proof.* Assume that the oriented Cayley graph  $\text{Cay}(\Gamma, S)$  is integral. If  $\Gamma(4) = \emptyset$  then by Theorem 21, we have  $S = \emptyset$ , and so  $S \in \mathbb{D}(\Gamma)$ . Now assume that  $\exp(\Gamma) \equiv 0 \pmod{4}$  so

that  $\Gamma(4) \neq \emptyset$ . Let  $v$  be the vector in  $\mathbb{Q}^n$  whose coordinates are indexed by the elements of  $\Gamma$ , and the  $x^{th}$  coordinate of  $v$  is given by

$$v_x = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x \in S, \\ -1 & \text{if } x \in S^{-1}, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

We have

$$(Ev)_a = \sum_{x \in \Gamma} E_{a,x} v_x = \sum_{x \in S} E_{a,x} - \sum_{x \in S^{-1}} E_{a,x} = i \sum_{x \in S} (\psi_a(x) - \psi_a(-x)).$$

Thus  $(Ev)_a$  is an eigenvalue of the integral oriented Cayley graph  $\text{Cay}(\Gamma, S)$ . Therefore  $Ev \in \mathbb{Q}^n$ , and hence all the three conditions of Lemma 22 hold.

By the third condition of Lemma 22,  $v_x = 0$  for all  $x \in \Gamma \setminus \Gamma(4)$ , and so we must have  $S \cup S^{-1} \subseteq \Gamma(4)$ . Again, let  $x \in S$ ,  $y \in \Gamma(4)$  and  $x \approx y$ . The second condition of Lemma 22 gives  $v_x = v_y$ , which implies that  $y \in S$ . Thus  $x \in S$  implies  $\llbracket x \rrbracket \subseteq S$ . Hence  $S \in \mathbb{D}(\Gamma)$ . The converse part follows from Theorem 17.  $\square$

The following example illustrates Theorem 23.

**Example 24.** Consider  $\Gamma = \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_4$  and  $S = \{(0, 1), (1, 3)\}$ . The graph  $\text{Cay}(\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_4, S)$  is shown in Figure 1a. We see that  $\llbracket(0, 1)\rrbracket = \{(0, 1)\}$  and  $\llbracket(1, 3)\rrbracket = \{(1, 3)\}$ . Therefore  $S \in \mathbb{D}(\Gamma)$ . Further, using Corollary 7 and Equation 1, the eigenvalues of  $\text{Cay}(\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_4, S)$  are obtained as

$$\mu_\alpha = i[\psi_\alpha(0, 1) - \psi_\alpha(0, 3)] + i[\psi_\alpha(1, 3) - \psi_\alpha(1, 1)] \quad \text{for each } \alpha \in \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_4,$$

where

$$\psi_\alpha(x) = (-1)^{\alpha_1 x_1} i^{\alpha_2 x_2} \quad \text{for all } \alpha = (\alpha_1, \alpha_2), x = (x_1, x_2) \in \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_4.$$

It can be seen that  $\mu_{(0,0)} = \mu_{(0,1)} = \mu_{(0,2)} = \mu_{(0,3)} = \mu_{(1,0)} = \mu_{(1,2)} = 0$ ,  $\mu_{(1,1)} = -4$  and  $\mu_{(1,3)} = 4$ . Thus  $\text{Cay}(\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_4, S)$  is integral.

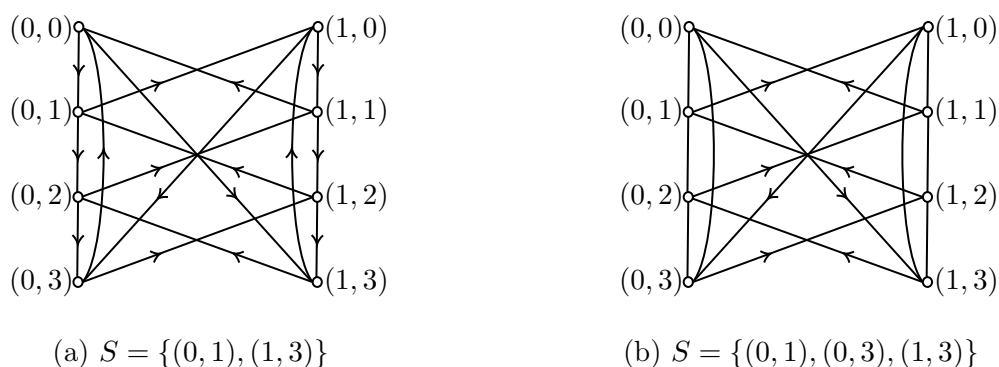


Figure 1: The graph  $\text{Cay}(\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_4, S)$

**Theorem 25.** *Let  $\Gamma$  be an abelian group. The mixed Cayley graph  $\text{Cay}(\Gamma, S)$  is integral if and only if  $S \setminus \bar{S} \in \mathbb{B}(\Gamma)$  and  $\bar{S} \in \mathbb{D}(\Gamma)$ .*

*Proof.* By Theorem 8, the mixed Cayley graph  $\text{Cay}(\Gamma, S)$  is integral if and only if both  $\text{Cay}(\Gamma, S \setminus \bar{S})$  and  $\text{Cay}(\Gamma, \bar{S})$  are integral. Note that  $S \setminus \bar{S}$  is a symmetric set and  $\bar{S}$  is a skew-symmetric set. Thus by Theorem 11,  $\text{Cay}(\Gamma, S \setminus \bar{S})$  is integral if and only if  $S \setminus \bar{S} \in \mathbb{B}(\Gamma)$ . By Theorem 23,  $\text{Cay}(\Gamma, \bar{S})$  is integral if and only if  $\bar{S} \in \mathbb{D}(\Gamma)$ . Hence the result follows.  $\square$

The following example illustrates Theorem 25.

**Example 26.** Consider  $\Gamma = \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_4$  and  $S = \{(0, 1), (0, 3), (1, 3)\}$ . The graph  $\text{Cay}(\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_4, S)$  is shown in Figure 1b. Observe that  $\bar{S} = \{(1, 3)\} = \llbracket(1, 3)\rrbracket \in \mathbb{D}(\Gamma)$  and  $S \setminus \bar{S} = \{(0, 1), (0, 3)\} = \llbracket(0, 1)\rrbracket \in \mathbb{B}(\Gamma)$ . Further, using Lemma 5 and Equation 1, the eigenvalues of  $\text{Cay}(\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_4, S)$  are obtained as

$$\mu_\alpha = [\psi_\alpha(0, 1) + \psi_\alpha(0, 3)] + i[\psi_\alpha(1, 3) - \psi_\alpha(1, 1)] \text{ for each } \alpha \in \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_4,$$

where

$$\psi_\alpha(x) = (-1)^{\alpha_1 x_1} i^{\alpha_2 x_2} \text{ for all } \alpha = (\alpha_1, \alpha_2), x = (x_1, x_2) \in \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_4.$$

One can see  $\mu_{(0,0)} = \mu_{(0,1)} = \mu_{(1,0)} = \mu_{(1,3)} = 2$  and  $\mu_{(0,2)} = \mu_{(0,3)} = \mu_{(1,1)} = \mu_{(1,2)} = -2$ . Thus  $\text{Cay}(\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_4, S)$  is integral.

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