

# On the Second Zagreb Matrix of $k$ -half Graphs

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**Abstract**—A bipartite graph in which the neighborhood of the vertices in each partite set forms a chain with respect to set inclusion is known as a chain graph. Recently, extending the concept of nesting from a bipartite graph to a  $k$  partite graph, a  $k$ -nested graph is defined. A chain graph without any pairs of duplicate vertices is a half graph. Similarly, a ' $k$ -half graph' is a class of  $k$ -nested graph with no pairs of duplicate vertices. The second Zagreb matrix or  $Z^{(2)}$ -matrix denoted by  $Z^{(2)}(G) = (z_{ij})_{n \times n}$  of a graph  $G$ , whose vertex  $v_i$  has degree  $d_i$  is defined by  $z_{ij} = d_i d_j$  if the vertices  $v_i$  and  $v_j$  are adjacent and  $z_{ij} = 0$  otherwise. Suppose  $\zeta_1^{(2)}, \zeta_2^{(2)}, \dots, \zeta_n^{(2)}$  are the eigenvalues of  $Z^{(2)}(G)$ , then the sum of the absolute values of the eigenvalues of  $Z^{(2)}(G)$  is called the second Zagreb energy of  $G$ . We obtain the determinant, eigenvalues and inverse of a  $k$ -half graph with respect to  $Z^{(2)}(G)$ . Bounds for the second Zagreb energy and the spectral radius are discussed in this article, along with the main and non-main eigenvalues of a  $k$ -half graph with respect to  $Z^{(2)}(G)$ .

**Index Terms**—Chain graphs,  $k$ -partite graphs, half graphs, main eigenvalues, second Zagreb matrix

## I. INTRODUCTION

WE considered simple, finite, undirected and connected graphs with vertex set  $V = V(G)$  and edge set  $E = E(G)$ . A  $k$ -partite graph is a graph whose vertex set can be partitioned into  $k$  independent sets and all the edges of the graph are between the partite sets. We denote a  $k$ -partite graph with the  $k$ -partition of  $V = V_1 \cup V_2 \cup \dots \cup V_k$  by  $G(\bigcup_{i=1}^k V_i, E)$ . If  $G$  contains every edge joining the vertices of  $V_i$  and  $V_j, i \neq j$ , then it is a complete  $k$ -partite graph. A complete  $k$ -partite graph with  $|V_i| = p_i, 1 \leq i \leq k$  is denoted by  $K_{p_1, p_2, \dots, p_k}$ . The open neighborhood of a vertex  $u$  in  $G$  is denoted by  $N(u)$  and is given by  $N(u) = \{v \in V(G) | uv \in E(G)\}$  and the closed neighborhood of  $u$  in  $G$  is denoted by  $N[u]$  and is defined as  $N[u] = N(u) \cup \{u\}$ . Two vertices  $u$  and  $v$  in a graph  $G$  are duplicate vertices if  $N(u) = N(v)$ . A vertex  $v \in V_i (1 \leq i \leq k)$  in a  $k$ -partite graph  $G(\bigcup_{i=1}^k V_i, E)$  is said to be a dominating vertex if  $N(v) = \bigcup_{j=1}^k V_j, j \neq i$ . In other words,  $v$  is of full degree with respect to other partite set.

Readers are referred to [5], [19] for all the elementary notations and definitions not described but used in this paper. A collection  $S = \{S_1, S_2, \dots, S_n\}$  of sets is said to form a chain with respect to set inclusion, if for every  $S_i, S_j \in S$  either  $S_i \subseteq S_j$  or  $S_j \subseteq S_i$ .

**Definition 1.1:** A bipartite chain graph (or simply a chain graph) is a bipartite graph in which the neighborhood of the vertices in each partite set forms a chain with respect to set inclusion.

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**Definition 1.2:** A graph is a threshold graph if it can be constructed from an empty graph by repeatedly adding either an isolated vertex or a dominating vertex.

Motivated by the nesting property of the extremal graphs (chain and threshold graphs), recently a partial chain graph [13] and a partial threshold graph [14] is defined. Spectral properties of partial chain graphs and partial threshold graphs are discussed in the article [14]. Extending the concept of nesting from a bipartite graph to a  $k$  partite graph, the authors of the article [15] defined a  $k$ -nested graph as follows.

**Definition 1.3:** [15] A  $k$ -nested graph ( $KNG$ ) is a  $k$ -partite graph in which the neighborhood of the vertices in each partite set forms a chain with respect to set inclusion and each partite set has at least one dominating vertex, i.e., a vertex adjacent to all the vertices of the other partite sets.

In other words, for every two vertices  $u$  and  $v$  in the same partite set and for their neighborhoods,  $N(u)$  and  $N(v)$ , either  $N(u) \subseteq N(v)$  or  $N(v) \subseteq N(u)$ . Due to the existence of at least one dominating vertex in each partite set, a  $k$ -nested graph is always connected.

A chain graph is a 2-nested graph which is also known as a double nested graph (DNG in short). Given a chain graph  $G(V_1 \cup V_2, E)$ , each of  $V_i (i = 1, 2)$  can be partitioned into  $h$  non-empty cells  $V_{11}, V_{12}, \dots, V_{1h}$  and  $V_{21}, V_{22}, \dots, V_{2h}$  such that  $N(u) = V_{21} \cup \dots \cup V_{2, h-i+1}$ , for any  $u \in V_{1i}, 1 \leq i \leq h$ . If  $m_i = |V_{1i}|$  and  $n_i = |V_{2i}|$ , then we write  $G = DNG(m_1, m_2, \dots, m_h; n_1, n_2, \dots, n_h)$ .

In a  $KNG$ , each partite set  $V_i, 1 \leq i \leq k$  can be further partitioned into  $h_i$  non-empty sets  $V_{i1}, V_{i2}, \dots, V_{ih_i}$  such that for any two vertices say  $u, v$  in  $V_{ij}, 1 \leq j \leq h_i, N(u) = N(v)$ . Suppose  $|V_{ij}| = m_{ij}$ , then we write  $G = KNG(m_{11}, m_{12}, \dots, m_{1h_1}; m_{21}, m_{22}, \dots, m_{2h_2}; \dots; m_{k1}, m_{k2}, \dots, m_{kh_k})$ . The authors [15] noted that the graph  $G = KNG(m_{11}, m_{12}, \dots, m_{1h_1}; m_{21}, m_{22}, \dots, m_{2h_2}; \dots; m_{k1}, \dots, m_{kh_k})$  does not represent a single graph, but a family of graphs  $G_f$  with the nesting property. Note that  $KNG(1; 1; \dots; 1)$  on  $n$  vertices is  $K_n$  and  $KNG(p_1; p_2; \dots; p_k)$  is  $K_{p_1, p_2, \dots, p_k}$ .

A half graph is a chain graph without any duplicate vertices. Analogous to the half graph, the authors of the article [15] defined and redefined [4] a  $k$ -half graph as follows.

**Definition 1.4:** A  $k$ -half graph on  $kn$  vertices with  $k \geq 2$  is a  $k$ -nested graph  $G(\bigcup_{i=1}^k V_i, E)$  with  $|V_i| = n$  and the vertices in each partite set  $V_i$  are further partitioned into  $n$  non-empty cells, i.e.,  $V_i = V_{i1} \cup V_{i2} \cup \dots \cup V_{in}$  in such a way that, for any vertex  $u \in V_{ir}, N(u) = V_{j1} \cup V_{j2} \cup \dots \cup V_{jn-r+1}, 1 \leq j \neq i \leq k$  and  $\forall i$  and  $r$ .

In a half graph (2-half graph) on  $2n$  vertices, the degrees of  $n$  vertices in any partite set are  $n, n-1, \dots, 1$ . Similarly, in a  $k$ -half graph on  $kn$  vertices the degrees of  $n$  vertices in any partite set are  $(k-1)n, (k-1)(n-1), \dots, (k-1)$ .

A  $k$ -half graph on  $kn$  vertices has  $\binom{k}{2} \left( \frac{n(n+1)}{2} \right)$  edges. Figure 1 represents a 3-half graph with 12 vertices and 30 edges.

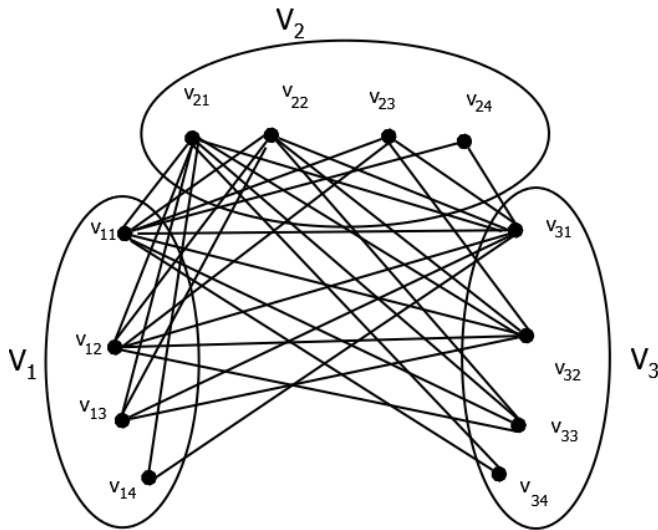


Fig. 1. 3-Half Graph

Here  $|V_i| = 4, 1 \leq i \leq 3$  and  $v_{i1}, 1 \leq i \leq 3$  is the dominating vertex of the set  $V_i$ . Observe that

$$N(v_{11}) = \{v_{21}, v_{22}, v_{23}, v_{24}, v_{31}, v_{32}, v_{33}, v_{34}\}, N(v_{12}) = \{v_{21}, v_{22}, v_{23}, v_{31}, v_{32}, v_{33}\}, N(v_{13}) = \{v_{21}, v_{22}, v_{31}, v_{32}\}$$

and  $N(v_{14}) = \{v_{21}, v_{31}\}$ . Hence,  $N(v_{14}) \subseteq N(v_{13}) \subseteq N(v_{12}) \subseteq N(v_{11})$ .

The topological indices are numerical graph invariants that characterizes the molecular topology of chemical compounds. Some of the most comprehensively studied degree-based topological indices are the Zagreb indices.

The first and second Zagreb index denoted by  $M_1(G) = M_1$  and  $M_2(G) = M_2$  of a graph  $G$  are defined as

$$M_1 = \sum_{v_i \in V(G)} d_i^2 = \sum_{v_i v_j \in E(G)} d_i + d_j,$$

$$M_2 = \sum_{v_i v_j \in E(G)} d_i d_j.$$

The degree based topological indices have been considered for graphs with self-loops [16] and for hypergraphs [17]. Since the last few years, researchers have focused on exploring the spectral properties of topological indices by appropriate modification of the adjacency matrix  $A(G)$ . With  $TI$  we denote a topological index that can be represented as  $TI = TI(G) = \sum_{v_i \sim v_j} F(d_i, d_j)$ , where  $F$  is an appropriately chosen function with the property  $F(x, y) = F(y, x)$ . A general extended adjacency matrix  $A = (a_{ij})$  of  $G$  is defined as  $a_{ij} = F(d_i, d_j)$  if the vertices  $v_i$  and  $v_j$  are adjacent, and  $a_{ij} = 0$  otherwise. The first extended adjacency matrix corresponding to a degree based topological index defined was the randić matrix [3], and the energy of the corresponding matrix was defined in a similar way and termed as the randić energy. The concept of an adjacency matrix of simple graphs has been generalized to degree based extended adjacency matrix in [7] and for graphs with self-loops in [18].

If  $F(d_i, d_j) = d_i + d_j$ , i.e.,  $TI = M_1(G)$  (the first

Zagreb index), we get the first Zagreb matrix [10] and if  $F(d_i, d_j) = d_i d_j$ , i.e.,  $TI = M_2(G)$  (the second Zagreb index), we get the second Zagreb matrix [10].

The first Zagreb matrix of a graph  $G$  is a square matrix  $Z^{(1)}(G)$  of order  $n$ , defined as

$$(Z^{(1)})_{ij} = \begin{cases} d_i + d_j, & \text{if } v_i v_j \in E(G) \\ 0, & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

and the second Zagreb matrix of a graph  $G$  is a square matrix  $Z^{(2)}(G)$  of order  $n$ , defined as

$$(Z^{(2)})_{ij} = \begin{cases} d_i \cdot d_j, & \text{if } v_i v_j \in E(G) \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

If the eigenvalues of  $Z^{(1)}(G)$  are  $\zeta_1^{(1)}, \zeta_2^{(1)}, \dots, \zeta_n^{(1)}$ , then their collection is called the first Zagreb spectrum or  $Z^{(1)}$ -spectrum of  $G$ . The first Zagreb energy of a graph  $G$  is denoted by  $ZE_1(G)$  and is defined as

$$ZE_1(G) = \sum_{i=1}^n |\zeta_i^{(1)}|.$$

Similarly, if the eigenvalues of  $Z^{(2)}(G)$  are  $\zeta_1^{(2)}, \zeta_2^{(2)}, \dots, \zeta_n^{(2)}$ , then their collection is called the second Zagreb spectrum or  $Z^{(2)}$ -spectrum of  $G$ . The second Zagreb energy of a graph  $G$  is denoted by  $ZE_2(G)$  and is defined as

$$ZE_2(G) = \sum_{i=1}^n |\zeta_i^{(2)}|.$$

The largest eigenvalue  $\zeta_1^{(2)}$  is the spectral radius of the second Zagreb matrix if its eigenvalues are possible to be expressed as  $\zeta_1^{(2)} \geq \zeta_2^{(2)} \geq \dots \geq \zeta_n^{(2)}$ .

A few bounds on Zagreb energy and the spectral radius of the first Zagreb matrix of the graph  $G$  is obtained in [6]. The spectral properties of a  $k$ -half graph with respect to the first Zagreb matrix are studied in [4].

In this article, we denote the second Zagreb matrix as  $Z(G)$  instead of  $Z^{(2)}(G)$  for convenience.

Let  $Z(G)$  and  $A(G)$  be the second Zagreb and adjacency matrix of graph  $G$  respectively and  $D$  be the diagonal matrix of order  $n$  with diagonal entries  $d_i$ , the degree of vertex  $v_i$  of graph  $G$ . Then the authors of article [11] proved that  $Z(G) = DA(G)D$ .

In this article, we obtain a few spectral properties of a  $k$ -half graph with respect to  $Z(G)$ .

## II. DETERMINANT, EIGENVALUES AND INVERSE

The determinant, eigenvalues and the inverse of a  $k$ -half graph with respect to the second Zagreb matrix are discussed in this section using the concept of Kronecker product.

**Definition 2.1:** The Kronecker product of a matrix  $A = (a_{ij})_{p \times q}$  and  $B_{r \times s}$  is defined as

$$A \otimes B = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11}B & \dots & a_{1q}B \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ a_{p1}B & \dots & a_{pq}B \end{bmatrix}.$$

Some of the basic properties of the Kronecker product which are important in obtaining the determinant, eigenvalues and inverse of a  $k$ -half graph with respect to  $Z(G)$  are listed below.

**Theorem 2.1:** [9] Let  $A$  be a square matrix of order  $m$  and let  $B$  be a square matrix of order  $n$ . Then

$$\det(A \otimes B) = \det(B \otimes A) = \det(A)^n \det(B)^m.$$

**Theorem 2.2:** [9] Let  $A$  be a square matrix of order  $m$  with spectrum  $\sigma(A) = (\mu_i), 1 \leq i \leq m$  and  $B$  be a square matrix of order  $n$  with  $\sigma(B) = (\lambda_j), 1 \leq j \leq n$ . Then  $\sigma(A \otimes B) = (\mu_i \lambda_j), 1 \leq i \leq m, 1 \leq j \leq n$ .

Furthermore, if  $x_i$  and  $y_j$  are the eigenvectors corresponding to the eigenvalue  $\mu_i$  and  $\lambda_j$  in  $A$  and  $B$  respectively then  $x_i \otimes y_j$  is an eigenvector corresponding to the eigenvalue  $\mu_i \lambda_j$  in  $A \otimes B$ .

**Theorem 2.3:** [9] If  $A$  is a square matrix of order  $m$  and  $B$  is a square matrix of order  $n$  and both are non singular then,

$$(A \otimes B)^{-1} = A^{-1} \otimes B^{-1}.$$

By using Theorem 2.1 and Lemma 2.4, one can obtain the determinant of a  $k$ -half graph with respect to the second Zagreb matrix.

**Lemma 2.4:** Let  $B$  be a matrix of order  $n$  given by

$$\begin{bmatrix} n^2(k-1)^2 & n(n-1)(k-1)^2 & \dots & n(k-1)^2 \\ n(n-1)(k-1)^2 & (n-1)^2(k-1)^2 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \dots & \ddots & 0 \\ 2n(k-1)^2 & 2(n-1)(k-1)^2 & 0 & 0 \\ n(k-1)^2 & 0 & \dots & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Then,

$$\det(B) = \begin{cases} (n!)^2(k-1)^{2n}, & \text{if } n \text{ is of the form } 4r \\ & \text{or } 4r+1, \text{ where } r \geq 0 \\ -(n!)^2(k-1)^{2n}, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

*Proof:* Proof follows by noting that

$$B = (k-1)^{2n}(n!)^2 \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & \dots & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \dots & \ddots & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

**Theorem 2.5:** Let  $G$  be  $k$ -half graph on  $kn$  vertices. Then,  $\det(Z(G))$

$$= \begin{cases} [(k-1)^{n(2k+1)}(n!)^{2k}], & \text{if } k \text{ and } n \text{ both are even} \\ & \text{or if } k \text{ is odd then} \\ & n = 4r \text{ or } 4r+1, r \geq 0 \\ -[(k-1)^{n(2k+1)}(n!)^{2k}], & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

*Proof:* The second Zagreb matrix of  $G$  can be written as block matrix as follows;

$$Z(G) = \begin{bmatrix} 0_n & B_n & \dots & B_n & B_n \\ B_n & 0_n & \dots & B_n & B_n \\ \vdots & \dots & \ddots & & 0_n \\ B_n & B_n & \dots & 0_n & B_n \\ B_n & B_n & \dots & B_n & 0_n \end{bmatrix},$$

where  $B_n =$

$$\begin{bmatrix} n^2(k-1)^2 & n(n-1)(k-1)^2 & \dots & n(k-1)^2 \\ n(n-1)(k-1)^2 & (n-1)^2(k-1)^2 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \dots & \ddots & 0 \\ 2n(k-1)^2 & 2(n-1)(k-1)^2 & 0 & 0 \\ n(k-1)^2 & 0 & \dots & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

and  $0_n$  is a zero matrix of order  $n$ .

Note that  $Z(G)$  is Kronecker product of the adjacency matrix of the complete graph of order  $k$  and the matrix  $B_n$ . The proof directly follows from Theorem 2.2. ■

**Corollary 2.6:** Let  $G$  be half graph on  $2n$  vertices. Then,

$$\det(Z(G)) = \begin{cases} (n!)^4, & \text{if } n \text{ is even} \\ -(n!)^4, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

**Theorem 2.7:** Let  $B$  be a matrix of order  $n$  given by

$$\begin{bmatrix} n^2(k-1)^2 & n(n-1)(k-1)^2 & \dots & n(k-1)^2 \\ n(n-1)(k-1)^2 & (n-1)^2(k-1)^2 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \dots & \ddots & 0 \\ 2n(k-1)^2 & 2(n-1)(k-1)^2 & 0 & 0 \\ n(k-1)^2 & 0 & \dots & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Let  $\lambda_i, 1 \leq i \leq n$  be the eigenvalues of  $B$  with the corresponding eigenvectors  $Y_i, 1 \leq i \leq n$ . Suppose  $G$  is a  $k$ -half graph on  $kn$  vertices, then the  $Z$ -spectrum of  $G$  is given by

$$\text{Spec}(Z(G)) = \begin{pmatrix} -\lambda_1 & -\lambda_2 & \dots & -\lambda_n & (k-1)\lambda_1 & \dots & (k-1)\lambda_n \\ k-1 & k-1 & \dots & k-1 & 1 & \dots & 1 \end{pmatrix},$$

with the eigenvector  $X_i = \begin{bmatrix} Y_i \\ Y_i \\ Y_i \\ \vdots \\ Y_i \end{bmatrix}$  corresponding to the  $Z$ -eigenvalue  $(k-1)\lambda_i, 1 \leq i \leq n$ , and

$$X_i = \begin{bmatrix} Y_i \\ -Y_i \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} Y_i \\ 0 \\ -Y_i \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \dots, \begin{bmatrix} Y_i \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ -Y_i \end{bmatrix}$$

corresponding to the  $Z$ -eigenvalue  $-\lambda_i$  whose multiplicity is  $k-1$ .

*Proof:* The proof follows from Theorem 2.2, by observing the eigenvalues and eigenvectors of the adjacency matrix of the complete graph of order  $k$ . ■

**Corollary 2.8:** If  $G$  is a half graph on  $2n$  vertices, then  $\pm\lambda_i, 1 \leq i \leq n$  are the  $Z$ -eigenvalues of  $G$ , where  $\lambda_i, 1 \leq i \leq n$  are the eigenvalues of  $B$  as defined in Lemma 2.4.

**Theorem 2.9:** Let  $G$  be a  $k$ -half graph on  $kn$  vertices. Then,

$$Z^{-1} = C \otimes D = \begin{bmatrix} c_{11}D & \dots & c_{1k}D \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ c_{k1}D & \dots & c_{kk}D \end{bmatrix},$$

where  $C = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{2-k}{k-1} & \frac{1}{k-1} & \cdots & \frac{1}{k-1} \\ \frac{1}{k-1} & \frac{2-k}{k-1} & \cdots & \frac{1}{k-1} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{1}{k-1} & \cdots & \cdots & \frac{2-k}{k-1} \end{bmatrix}_{k \times k}$

and

$$D = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \cdots & 0 & \frac{1}{n(k-1)^2} \\ 0 & \cdots & \frac{1}{2(n-1)(k-1)^2} & \frac{1}{(n-1)(k-1)^2} \\ 0 & \cdots & \frac{1}{2(n-2)(k-1)^2} & 0 \\ \vdots & \cdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & \frac{1}{2(n-1)(k-1)^2} & \cdots & 0 \\ \frac{1}{n(k-1)^2} & \frac{1}{(n-1)(k-1)^2} & \cdots & 0 \end{bmatrix}_{n \times n}$$

*Proof:* The  $Z$ -matrix of the  $k$ -half graph, is the Kronecker product of the adjacency matrix of the complete graph of order  $k$  and the matrix  $B$  of order  $n$ . From Theorem 2.3, the inverse of  $Z(G)$  is the Kronecker product of inverse of  $A(K_k)$  which is given by the matrix  $C$  and inverse of the matrix  $B$  which is given by the matrix  $D$ . ■

The following corollary follows from Theorem 2.3.

*Corollary 2.10:* Let  $G$  be a half graph on  $2n$  vertices. Then,

$$Z^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 0_n & D_n \\ D_n & 0_n \end{bmatrix},$$

where  $D = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & \frac{1}{n-1} \\ 0 & \cdots & 0 & \frac{1}{2(n-1)} & \frac{1}{n-1} \\ 0 & \cdots & \frac{1}{3(n-2)} & \frac{1}{2(n-2)} & 0 \\ \vdots & \cdots & \ddots & \cdots & \vdots \\ 0 & \frac{1}{2(n-1)} & \frac{1}{2(n-2)} & \cdots & 0 \\ \frac{1}{n} & \frac{1}{n-1} & 0 & \cdots & 0 \end{bmatrix}_{n \times n}$ .

### III. BOUNDS

A few bounds on the second Zagreb energy and the spectral radius of a  $k$ -half graph are discussed in this section.

Let  $a = \{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n\}$  be a set of positive real numbers. We define  $P_k$  to be the average of products of  $k$ -element subsets of  $a$ , i.e.,

$$P_1 = \frac{1}{n}(a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_n)$$

$$P_2 = \frac{1}{\frac{1}{2}n(n-1)}(a_1a_2 + a_1a_3 + \dots + a_1a_n + a_2a_3 + \dots + a_{n-1}a_n)$$

$$\vdots$$

$$P_n = a_1a_2 \dots a_n.$$

Hence the arithmetic mean is  $P_1$  whereas the geometric mean is  $P_n^{\frac{1}{n}}$ . The following result is known as the Maclaurin symmetric mean inequality:

*Lemma 3.1:* [2] For positive real numbers  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n$ ,  $P_1 \geq P_2^{\frac{1}{2}} \geq P_3^{\frac{1}{3}} \geq \dots \geq P_n^{\frac{1}{n}}$ .

Equalities hold if and only if  $a_1 = a_2 = \dots = a_n$ .

We give a lower bound for  $ZE_2(G)$  of a half graph  $G$  using the below lemma.

*Lemma 3.2:* Let  $G$  be a  $k$ -half graph on  $kn$  vertices. Then,  $Tr(Z(G)^2) = \frac{k(k-1)^5n(38n^5 + 114n^4 + 125n^3 + 60n^2 + 17n + 6)}{360}$ .

*Proof:*  $Z(G)$  can be viewed as,

$$Z(G) = (k-1)^2 \begin{bmatrix} 0_n & E_n & \cdots & E_n & E_n \\ E_n & 0_n & \cdots & E_n & E_n \\ \vdots & \cdots & \ddots & \cdots & 0_n \\ E_n & E_n & \cdots & 0_n & E_n \\ E_n & E_n & \cdots & E_n & 0_n \end{bmatrix},$$

where

$$E_n = \begin{bmatrix} n^2 & n(n-1) & \cdots & 2n & n \\ n(n-1) & (n-1)^2 & \cdots & 2(n-1) & 0 \\ \vdots & \cdots & \cdots & \ddots & 0 \\ 2n & 2(n-1) & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ n & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

and  $0_n$  is a zero matrix of order  $n$ .

$$Tr(Z(G)^2) =$$

$$k(k-1)^5 \left( n^2 \sum_{j=1}^n j^2 + (n-1)^2 \sum_{j=2}^n j^2 + \dots + n^2 \right)$$

$$= k(k-1)^5 \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \sum_{j=i+1}^n (n-i)^2 j^2$$

$$= \frac{k(k-1)^5 n(38n^5 + 114n^4 + 125n^3 + 60n^2 + 17n + 6)}{360}.$$

■

*Theorem 3.3:* Let  $G$  be a half graph on  $2n$  vertices. Then  $ZE_2(G) \geq \frac{2\sqrt{\frac{n(38n^5 + 114n^4 + 125n^3 + 60n^2 + 17n + 6)}{360}} + n(n-1)(n!)^{\frac{4}{n}}}{n(n-1)(n!)^{\frac{4}{n}}}$  with equality if and only if  $G \cong K_{1,1}$ .

*Proof:* Note that  $Z(G) = \begin{bmatrix} 0_n & E_n \\ E_n & 0_n \end{bmatrix}$  where

$$E_n = \begin{bmatrix} n^2 & n(n-1) & \cdots & 2n & n \\ n(n-1) & (n-1)^2 & \cdots & 2(n-1) & 0 \\ \vdots & \cdots & \cdots & \ddots & 0 \\ 2n & 2(n-1) & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ n & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

and  $0_n$  is the zero matrix of order  $n$ .

Let  $\zeta_1, \zeta_2, \dots, \zeta_{2n}$  be the second Zagreb eigenvalues of  $Z(G)$ . Since  $G$  is bipartite,  $ZE_2(G) = 2 \sum_{i=1}^n \zeta_i$ , where  $\zeta_i$  are the positive eigenvalues of  $Z(G)$ .

From Lemma 3.2 we have,  $\sum_{i=1}^{2n} \zeta_i^2 = Tr(Z(G)^2) =$

$$\frac{n(38n^5 + 114n^4 + 125n^3 + 60n^2 + 17n + 6)}{180}.$$

Thus,

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \zeta_i^2 = \frac{n(38n^5 + 114n^4 + 125n^3 + 60n^2 + 17n + 6)}{360}.$$

We know that

$$\prod_{i=1}^{2n} \zeta_i = det(Z(G)) = (-1)^n (n!)^4.$$

Hence,

$$\prod_{i=1}^n \zeta_i = (n!)^2.$$

By Lemma 3.1, we obtain

$$\frac{1}{\frac{n(n-1)}{2}} \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} \zeta_i \zeta_j \geq \left( \prod_{i=1}^n \zeta_i \right)^{\frac{2}{n}},$$

i.e.,  $2 \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} \zeta_i \zeta_j \geq n(n-1)(n!)^{\frac{4}{n}}$   
with equality holding if and only if  $\zeta_1 = \zeta_2 = \dots = \zeta_n$ .  
We have,

$$\left( \sum_{i=1}^n \zeta_i \right)^2 = \sum_{i=1}^n \zeta_i^2 + 2 \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} \zeta_i \zeta_j.$$

Hence,

$$ZE_2(G) = 2 \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n \zeta_i^2 + 2 \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} \zeta_i \zeta_j}$$

$$\geq 2 \sqrt{\frac{n(38n^5 + 114n^4 + 125n^3 + 60n^2 + 17n + 6)}{360} + (n^2 - n)(n!)^{\frac{4}{n}}}$$

Equality holds if  $n = 1$ , i.e.,  $G \cong K_{1,1}$ . ■

**Theorem 3.4:** Let  $G$  be a  $k$ -half graph on  $kn$  vertices. Then  $ZE_2(G) \geq 2(k-1)^3$

$$\sqrt{\frac{38n^6 + 114n^5 + 125n^4 + 60n^3 + 17n^2 + 6n}{360} + (n^2 - n)(n!)^{\frac{4}{n}}}$$

with equality if and only if  $G \cong K_{1,1}$ .

*Proof:* From Theorem 2.7,

$$ZE_2(G) = (k-1) \sum_{i=1}^n |\lambda_i| + \sum_{i=1}^n (k-1) |\lambda_i|,$$

where  $\lambda_i$  are the eigenvalues of the matrix  $B$ . Hence,

$$ZE_2(G) = 2(k-1) \sum_{i=1}^n |\lambda_i|.$$

Note that

$$\prod_{i=1}^n |\lambda_i| = (k-1)^{2n} (n!)^2.$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n |\lambda_i|^2 = n(k-1)^4 \left( \frac{38n^5 + 114n^4 + 125n^3 + 60n^2 + 17n + 6}{360} \right) \tag{III.1}$$

From the arithmetic–geometric mean inequality, we have

$$2 \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} |\lambda_i| |\lambda_j| \geq n(n-1) \left( \prod_{i=1}^n |\lambda_i| \right)^{\frac{2}{n}}$$

Hence,

$$2 \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} |\lambda_i| |\lambda_j| \geq n(n-1)(k-1)^4 (n!)^{\frac{4}{n}}. \tag{III.2}$$

Now,

$$ZE_2(G) = 2(k-1) \sum_{i=1}^n |\lambda_i|$$

$$= 2(k-1) \sqrt{\left( \sum_{i=1}^n |\lambda_i| \right)^2}$$

$$= 2(k-1) \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n |\lambda_i|^2 + 2 \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} |\lambda_i| |\lambda_j|}$$

Substituting Equation III.1, III.2 in the above expression and simplifying we get  $ZE_2(G) \geq 2(k-1)^3$

$$\sqrt{\frac{n(38n^5 + 114n^4 + 125n^3 + 60n^2 + 17n + 6)}{360} + n(n-1)(n!)^{\frac{4}{n}}}. \quad \blacksquare$$

**Theorem 3.5:** Let  $G$  be a  $k$ -half graph on  $2k$  vertices. Then,  $ZE_2(G) = 8\sqrt{2}(k-1)^3$ .

*Proof:* From Theorem 2.7, we have,

$$Spec(G) = \begin{pmatrix} -\lambda_1 & -\lambda_2 & (k-1)\lambda_1 & (k-1)\lambda_2 \\ k-1 & k-1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix},$$

where  $\lambda_1 = (k-1)^2(2 + \sqrt{2})$ ,  $\lambda_2 = (k-1)^2(2 - \sqrt{2})$  are the  $Z$ -eigenvalues of

$$B = \begin{pmatrix} 4(k-1)^2 & 2(k-1)^2 \\ 2(k-1)^2 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Hence,  $ZE_2(G) = 8\sqrt{2}(k-1)^3$ . ■

**Theorem 3.6:** Let  $G$  be a  $k$ -half graph on  $3k$  vertices. Then, the  $Z$ -eigenvalues of  $G$  are  $(k-1)^3 \lambda_i$  with multiplicity 1 and  $-(k-1)^2 \lambda_i$  with multiplicity  $k-1$ , where  $\lambda_i, 1 \leq i \leq 3$  are the roots of the equation  $x^3 - 13x^2 - 9x + 36 = 0$ .

*Proof:* From Theorem 2.7, we have,  $Spec(G) =$

$$\begin{pmatrix} -\lambda_1 & -\lambda_2 & -\lambda_3 & (k-1)\lambda_1 & (k-1)\lambda_2 & (k-1)\lambda_3 \\ k-1 & k-1 & k-1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix},$$

where  $\lambda_i$ 's are the eigenvalues of

$$B = \begin{pmatrix} 9(k-1)^2 & 6(k-1)^2 & 3(k-1)^2 \\ 6(k-1)^2 & 4(k-1)^2 & 0 \\ 3(k-1)^2 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Solving we get

$$B = (k-1)^2 \begin{pmatrix} 9 & 6 & 3 \\ 6 & 4 & 0 \\ 3 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Hence, the result follows. ■

Using Theorems 3.7, 3.8 and 3.9 from article [12], we obtain few bounds on the spectral radius of a  $k$ -half graph.

**Theorem 3.7:** [12] For a graph  $G$  with maximum and minimum degrees  $\Delta$  and  $\delta$ , respectively, and the spectral radius  $\zeta_1^{(2)}$ , we have

$$\delta^3 \leq \zeta_1^{(2)} \leq \Delta^3$$

where both equalities occur if and only if  $G$  is regular.

**Theorem 3.8:** [12] Let  $G$  be a graph with  $n$  vertices,  $m$  edges, the maximum degree  $\Delta$  and the minimum degree  $\delta$ . Then the spectral radius  $\zeta_1^{(2)}$  satisfies,

$$\frac{2m\delta^2}{n} \leq \zeta_1^{(2)} \leq \Delta^2 \sqrt{2m - n + 1},$$

where left hand equality occurs if and only if  $G$  is regular, and right hand equality appears if and only  $G \cong S_n$  or  $G \cong K_n$ .

**Theorem 3.9:** [12] For a graph  $G$  of  $n$  vertices with maximum degree  $\Delta$  and second Zagreb index  $M_2$ ,

$$\zeta_1^{(2)} \leq \sqrt{\frac{2(n-1)\Delta^2 M_2}{n}}.$$

**Theorem 3.10:** Let  $G$  be a  $k$ -half graph on  $kn$  vertices. Then,

$$(k-1)^3 \leq \zeta_1^{(2)} \leq n^3(k-1)^3.$$

**Theorem 3.11:** Let  $G$  be a  $k$ -half graph on  $kn$  vertices. Then,

$$\frac{(k-1)^3(n+1)}{3} \leq \zeta_1^{(2)} \leq n^2(k-1)^2 \sqrt{\frac{kn(k-1)(n+1)}{2} - kn + 1}.$$

Next, we give expressions for first and second Zagreb index of a  $k$ -half graph.

**Theorem 3.12:** Let  $G$  be a  $k$ -half graph on  $kn$  vertices. Then, the first Zagreb index  $M_1$  is given by,

$$M_1 = \frac{k(k-1)^2 n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6}.$$

*Proof:* Proof follows by noting that the first Zagreb index is given by

$$M_1 = \sum_{v_i \in V(G)} d_i^2 = k(k-1)^2 \{1^2 + 2^2 + \dots + n^2\}.$$

**Theorem 3.13:** Let  $G$  be a  $k$ -half graph on  $kn$  vertices. Then, the second Zagreb index  $M_2$  is given by,

$$M_2 = \frac{k(k-1)^3}{48} n(n+1)(5n^2 + 5n + 2).$$

*Proof:* We know  $M_2 = \sum_{v_i v_j \in E(G)} d_i d_j$ .

$$\begin{aligned} M_2 &= \binom{k}{2} (k-1)^2 \left( n \sum_{j=1}^n j + (n-1) \sum_{j=2}^n j + \dots + n \right) \\ &= \binom{k}{2} (k-1)^2 \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \sum_{j=i+1}^n (n-i)j \\ &= \binom{k}{2} (k-1)^2 \frac{1}{24} n(n+1)(5n^2 + 5n + 2). \end{aligned}$$

Using Theorems 3.9 and 3.13, we can get the better upper bound on the spectral radius of a  $k$ -half graph.

**Theorem 3.14:** Let  $G$  be a  $k$ -half graph on  $kn$  vertices. Then,

$$\zeta_1^{(2)} \leq \frac{(k-1)^2 n}{2} \sqrt{\frac{(kn-1)(k-1)(n+1)(5n^2 + 5n + 2)}{6}}.$$

#### IV. MAIN / NON-MAIN EIGENVALUES

An eigenvalue  $\mu \in \text{Spec}(A(G))$  is main if the corresponding eigenspace  $E(\mu; G)$  is not orthogonal to all-1 vector  $J$ ; otherwise, it is non-main. The graph with only one main eigenvalue is necessarily regular. In threshold graph all eigenvalues except 0 and  $-1$  are main. But there exist some chain graphs with all eigenvalues are main and also with all eigenvalues are non-main except 0. In [1], the authors characterize the chain graphs with 2 main eigenvalues. One can refer to [8] for few interesting results on main and non main eigenvalues.

Similarly, an eigenvalue  $\mu \in \text{Spec}(Z(G))$  is main if the corresponding eigenspace  $E(\mu; G)$  is not orthogonal to all-1 vector  $J$ ; otherwise, it is non-main. In this section we obtain main and non-main eigenvalues of a  $k$ -half graph with

respect to  $Z(G)$ . First, we show that in a  $k$ -half graph on  $kn$  vertices, there are at least  $kn - n$  non-main  $Z$ -eigenvalues.

**Theorem 4.1:** Let  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n$ , be the eigenvalues of  $B$ . The  $Z$ -eigenvalues  $-\lambda_i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$ , repeats  $k-1$  times, of a  $k$ -half graph are non-main  $Z$ -eigenvalues.

*Proof:* From Theorem 2.7, we know that the eigenvalue  $-\lambda_i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$ , with multiplicity  $k-1$  are the eigenvalues of a  $k$ -half graph with the corresponding eigenvectors

$$\begin{bmatrix} Y_i \\ -Y_i \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} Y_i \\ 0 \\ -Y_i \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \dots, \begin{bmatrix} Y_i \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ -Y_i \end{bmatrix}.$$

All these vectors are orthogonal to  $J$ . Hence each  $-\lambda_i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$  is a non-main  $Z$ -eigenvalue. ■

**Theorem 4.2:** Let  $G$  be a  $k$ -half graph and let  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n$ , be the eigenvalues of  $B$ . If any  $\lambda_i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$  is a non-main (main)  $Z$ -eigenvalue of  $B$ , then  $(k-1)\lambda_i$ , the  $Z$ -eigenvalue of  $G$  is also non-main (main)  $Z$ -eigenvalue.

*Proof:* From Theorem 2.7, We know that  $(k-1)\lambda_i$  is a  $Z$ -eigenvalue of  $G$  with multiplicity 1 and the corresponding eigenvector is given by

$$X_i = \begin{bmatrix} Y_i \\ Y_i \\ Y_i \\ \vdots \\ Y_i \end{bmatrix}.$$

If  $\lambda_i$  is non-main (main), we have  $Y_i J = 0$ , ( $Y_i J \neq 0$ ). Thus,  $X_i J = 0$ , ( $X_i J \neq 0$ ). Hence the eigenvalue  $(k-1)\lambda_i$  is also non-main (main). ■

From Theorems 4.1 and 4.2, we know that for a  $k$ -half graph on  $kn$  vertices, at least  $kn - n$  second Zagreb-eigenvalues are non-main and at most  $n$  second Zagreb-eigenvalues are main. So, when  $n = 2$  i.e., a  $k$ -half graph on  $2k$  vertices contains at most 2 main  $Z$ -eigenvalues. In the next theorem we show that when  $G$  is a  $k$ -half graph on  $2k$  vertices it has exactly 2 main  $Z$ -eigenvalues.

**Theorem 4.3:** Let  $G$  be a  $k$ -half graph with  $2k$  vertices. Then,  $(k-1)^3(2 \pm \sqrt{2})$  are the main  $Z$ -eigenvalues and  $(k-1)^2(-2 \pm \sqrt{2})$  each with multiplicity  $k-1$  are the non-main  $Z$ -eigenvalues of  $G$ .

*Proof:* From Theorem 2.7, we have

$$\text{Spec}(G) = \begin{pmatrix} -\lambda_1 & -\lambda_2 & (k-1)\lambda_1 & (k-1)\lambda_2 \\ k-1 & k-1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix},$$

where  $\lambda_1 = (k-1)^2(2 + \sqrt{2})$ ,  $\lambda_2 = (k-1)^2(2 - \sqrt{2})$  are the  $Z$ -eigenvalues of

$$B = \begin{pmatrix} 4(k-1)^2 & 2(k-1)^2 \\ 2(k-1)^2 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

From Theorem 4.1,  $-\lambda_1 = (k-1)^2(-2 - \sqrt{2})$  and  $-\lambda_2 = (k-1)^2(\sqrt{2} - 2)$  with multiplicity  $k-1$  are the non-main  $Z$ -eigenvalues of  $G$ . It follows from Theorem 4.2, that  $(k-1)\lambda_1$  and  $(k-1)\lambda_2$  are the main  $Z$ -eigenvalues of  $G$  if and only if  $\lambda_1 = (k-1)^2(2 + 2\sqrt{2})$  and  $\lambda_2 = (k-1)^2(2 - 2\sqrt{2})$  are the main  $Z$ -eigenvalues of  $B$ .

It is easy to show that the eigenvectors corresponding to the  $Z$ -eigenvalues  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2$  of  $B$  are given by

$$X_1 = \begin{pmatrix} l \\ \frac{2l}{\sqrt{2+2}} \end{pmatrix}, \quad X_2 = \begin{pmatrix} l \\ \frac{3l}{2-\sqrt{2}} \end{pmatrix}$$

where  $l \neq 0$ . As  $X_1^T J \neq 0$  and  $X_2^T J \neq 0$ , the eigenvalues  $(k-1)^2(2+\sqrt{2}), (k-1)^2(2-\sqrt{2})$  are the main  $Z^2$ -eigenvalues of the matrix  $B$ .

Hence, the main  $Z$ -eigenvalues of  $G$  are  $(k-1)^3(2 \pm \sqrt{2})$ . ■

## V. CONCLUSION

The determinant, eigenvalues and inverse of a  $k$ -half graph  $G$  with respect to the second Zagreb matrix is obtained along with a few bounds on the second Zagreb energy and the spectral radius. The main and non-main eigenvalues of a  $k$ -half graph with respect to  $Z(G)$  are also discussed. One can try to obtain spectral properties of a  $k$ -half graph with respect to its extended adjacency matrices corresponding to other degree based topological indices.

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