

EMBEDDING DISTRIBUTIONS AND CHEBYSHEV POLYNOMIALS

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ABSTRACT

The history of genus distributions began with J. Gross et al. in 1980s. Since then, a lot of study has given to this parameter, and the explicit formulas are obtained for various kinds of graphs. In this paper, we find a new usage of Chebyshev polynomials in the study of genus distribution, using the overlap matrix, we obtain homogeneous recurrence relation for rank distribution polynomial, which can be solved in terms of Chebyshev polynomials of the second kind. The method here can find explicit formula for embedding distribution of some other graphs. As an application, the well known genus distributions of closed-end ladders and cobblestone paths [J. Combin. Ser. B 46 (1989) 22] are derived. The explicit formula for non-orientable embedding distributions of closed-end ladders and cobblestone paths are also obtained.

**Key words:** Overlap matrix; embedding distribution; Chebyshev polynomials; closed-end ladders; cobblestone path.

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. **Background.** One enumerative branch of topological graph theory is to count genus distributions of a graph. The history of genus distribution began with J. Gross in 1980s. Since then, it has been attracted a lot of attentions. Calculating genus distributions is NP-hard. Up to now, there are three principal approaches which characterize this variable:

- (i). The topological approach was developed by Gross which consists in applying to genus distribution a topological operation interpreted in terms of Ringle-White adding edge lemma and face-trace algorithm [6, 10]. The articles based on this kind of approach can be found in the literature [8, 7, 21, 9, 15, 16, 33] etc.
- (ii). The combinatorial approach is more recent and developed by Liu [35]. Since a genus embedding corresponding to a rotation system, the main idea of Liu is transfer the rotation system to a linear order of letters. The articles based on this kind of approach can be found in the literature [11, 39, 36, 37] etc.
- (iii). The algebraic approach was developed by Jackson [13], Stahl [30] and Mohar [23]. The articles based on this approach can be found in the literature [2, 3, 9, 12, 29, 30, 31, 32]. Permutation-group algebra is a key to calculating the distribution of graphs with high symmetry. Gross, Robbins and Tucker established the equation for the bouquets  $B_n$ ,  $g_h(B_n) = (n-1)!2^{n-1}e_{n-(2h+1)}(n)$ , where the quantity  $e_k(n)$  is the cardinality of the set of permutations  $\pi \in \Sigma_{2l}$ , corresponding to an arbitrary fixed cycle  $\zeta$  of length  $2l$  for which there is a full involution  $\beta$  such that  $\pi = \zeta \circ \beta$  and such that  $\pi$  has  $k$  cycles. The value of  $e_k(n)$  is given by

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a formula of Jackson [12]. Similarly, Rieper [27] (J. H. Kwak and J. Lee [19] independently) did it for genus distribution of dipoles. Stahl [30, 32] introduced the concept of permutation-partition pair  $(P, \Pi)$  and proved the walkup reduction process that expresses the genera of the embeddings of a pair  $(P, \Pi)$  in terms of those of smaller pairs. He used it to find the genus distributions of  $H$ -linear family graphs. Given a general rotation system for a graph and  $M$  be its overlap matrix. Mohar [23] shown that the rank of  $M$  equals twice the genus, if the corresponding embedding surface is orientable, and it equals the crosscap number otherwise. In [2], Chen, Gross and Rieper firstly used the overlap matrix to calculate the total embedding distribution of necklaces of type  $(r, 0)$ , closed-end ladders and cobblestone paths. In [3], Chen, Liu and Wang did it for graphs of maximum genus 1. Furthermore, in [4], Chen, Ou and Zou obtained explicit formula for total embedding distributions of Ringel ladders.

**1.2. Total embedding-distribution polynomial.** It is assumed that the reader is somewhat familiar with the basics of topological graph theory as found in Gross and Tucker [10]. A graph  $G = (V(G), E(G))$  is permitted to have both loops and multiple edges. A *surface* is a compact closed 2-dimensional manifold without boundary. In topology, surfaces are classified into  $O_m$ , the *orientable surface* with  $m$  ( $m \geq 0$ ) handles and  $N_n$ , the *nonorientable surface* with  $n$  ( $n > 0$ ) crosscaps. A graph embedding into a surface means a *cellular embedding*.

A *spanning tree* of a graph  $G$  is a tree on its edges has the same order as  $G$ . The number cotree edges of a spanning tree of  $G$  is called the *Betti number*,  $\beta(G)$ , of  $G$ . A *rotation* at a vertex  $v$  of a graph  $G$  is a cyclic order of all edges incident with  $v$ . A *pure rotation system*  $P$  of a graph  $G$  is the collection of rotations at all vertices of  $G$ . A *general rotation system* is a pair  $(P, \lambda)$ , where  $P$  is a pure rotation system and  $\lambda$  is a mapping  $E(G) \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$ . The edge  $e$  is said to be *twisted* (respectively, *untwisted*) if  $\lambda(e) = 1$  (respectively,  $\lambda(e) = 0$ ). It is well known that every orientable embedding of a graph  $G$  can be described by a general rotation system  $(P, \lambda)$  with  $\lambda(e) = 0$  for all  $e \in E(G)$ . By allowing  $\lambda$  to take the non-zero value, we can describe nonorientable embeddings of  $G$ , see [2, 28] for more details. A *T-rotation system*  $(P, \lambda)$  of  $G$  is a general rotation system  $(P, \lambda)$  such that  $\lambda(e) = 0$ , for all  $e \in E(T)$ .

**Theorem 1.1.** (see [2, 28]) *Let  $T$  be a spanning tree of  $G$  and  $(P, \lambda)$  be a general rotation system. Then there exists a general rotation system  $(P', \lambda')$  such that*

- (1)  $(P', \lambda')$  yields the same embedding of  $G$  as  $(P, \lambda)$ , and
- (2)  $\lambda'(e) = 0$ , for all  $e \in E(T)$ .

Two embeddings are considered to be the *same* if their  $T$ -rotation systems are combinatorially equivalent. Fix a spanning tree  $T$  of a graph  $G$ . Let  $\Phi_G^T$  be the set of all  $T$ -rotation systems of  $G$ . It is known that

$$|\Phi_G^T| = 2^{\beta(G)} \prod_{v \in V(G)} (d_v - 1)!$$

Suppose that in these  $|\Phi_G^T|$  embeddings of  $G$ , there are  $a_i$ ,  $i = 0, 1, \dots$ , embeddings into orientable surface  $O_i$  and  $b_j$ ,  $j = 1, 2, \dots$ , embeddings into nonorientable surface  $N_j$ . We call the polynomial

$$I_G^T(x, y) = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} a_i x^i + \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} b_j y^j$$

the *T-distribution polynomial* of  $G$ . By the *total embedding-distribution polynomial* of  $G$ , we shall mean the polynomial

$$I_G(x, y) = I_G^T(x, y).$$

We call the first (respectively, second) part of  $I_G(x, y)$  the *genus polynomial* (respectively, *crosscap number polynomial*) of  $G$  and denoted by  $g_G(x) = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} a_i x^i$  (respectively,  $f_G(y) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} b_i y^i$ ).

Clearly,  $I_G(x, y) = g_G(x) + f_G(y)$ . This means the number of orientable embeddings of  $G$  is  $\prod_{v \in G} (d_v - 1)!$ , while the number of non-orientable embeddings of  $G$  is  $(2^{\beta(G)} - 1) \prod_{v \in G} (d_v - 1)!$ .

**1.3. Mohar's theorem.** Let  $T$  be a spanning tree of  $G$  and  $(P', \lambda')$  be a  $T$ -rotation system. Let  $e_1, e_2, \dots, e_{\beta(G)}$  be the cotree edges of  $T$ . The *overlap matrix* of  $(P', \lambda')$  is the  $\beta \times \beta$  matrix  $M = [m_{ij}]$  over  $GF(2)$  such that  $m_{ij} = 1$  if and only if either  $i \neq j$  and the restriction of the underlying pure rotation system to  $T + e_i + e_j$  is nonplanar, or  $i = j$  and  $e_i$  is twisted.

**Theorem 1.2.** (see [23]) *Let  $(P, \lambda)$  be a general rotation system for a graph, and let  $M$  be the overlap matrix. Then the rank of  $M$  equals twice the genus, if the corresponding embedding surface is orientable, and it equals the crosscap number otherwise. It is independent of the choice of a spanning tree.*

**1.4. Homogeneous recurrence relation and Chebyshev polynomials.** To begin with the discussion, we give some concepts of the  $n$ -th Chebyshev polynomials of the second kind which is related to the solution of the recurrence relation. Let the recurrence function  $U_n(x)$  be

$$U_n(x) = 2xU_{n-1}(x) - U_{n-2}(x)$$

with the initial conditions  $U_0(x) = 1, U_1(x) = 2x$ , then we derived the  $n$ -th Chebyshev polynomials of the second kind  $U_n(x)$  (see [26]). For instance,  $U_2(x) = 4x^2 - 1, U_3(x) = 8x^3 - 4x, U_4(x) = 16x^4 - 12x^2 + 1$ . Moreover, we have the identity that

$$(1) \quad U_n(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor n/2 \rfloor} \binom{n-k}{k} (-1)^k (2x)^{n-2k}.$$

Now, we will build the relation between the recurrence relation and the Chebyshev polynomials of the second kind. Let  $P_n(z) = \sum_{m=0}^n C_n(m)z^m$ , satisfies

$$P_n(z) = a_1(z)P_{n-1}(z) + a_2(z)P_{n-2}(z),$$

where  $a_i(z) = \sum_{k=0}^q a_{i,k}z^k$  for  $i = 1, 2$  and the initial condition  $P_0(z) = c_0$ . Note that  $P_1(z)$  and  $P_2(z)$  can be derived by the initial values of  $C_n(m)$ .

Let  $Q_n(z) = \frac{P_n(z)}{(\sqrt{a_2(z)})^n}$ , then it is easy to verify that

$$Q_n(z) = \frac{a_1(z)}{\sqrt{a_2(z)}}Q_{n-1}(z) - Q_{n-2}(z)$$

with the initial conditions  $Q_0(z) = P_0(z), Q_1(z) = \frac{P_1(z)}{\sqrt{a_2(z)}}$  and  $Q_2(z) = \frac{P_2(z)}{-a_2(z)}$ . Thus by induction on  $n$ , we obtain that

$$(2) \quad Q_n(z) = AU_n \left( \frac{a_1(z)}{2\sqrt{a_2(z)}} \right) + BU_{n-1} \left( \frac{a_1(z)}{2\sqrt{a_2(z)}} \right) + CU_{n-2} \left( \frac{a_1(z)}{2\sqrt{a_2(z)}} \right),$$

where  $A, B$  and  $C$  are determined by the initial conditions.

Thus we have

$$(3) \quad P_n(z) = (\sqrt{a_2(z)})^n \left[ AU_n \left( \frac{a_1(z)}{2\sqrt{a_2(z)}} \right) + BU_{n-1} \left( \frac{a_1(z)}{2\sqrt{a_2(z)}} \right) + CU_{n-2} \left( \frac{a_1(z)}{2\sqrt{a_2(z)}} \right) \right].$$

Using the fact that

$$U_n(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor n/2 \rfloor} \binom{n-k}{k} (-1)^k (2x)^{n-2k},$$



Each variable  $y_j$  corresponds to a unique vertex of the  $L_{n-1}$  and has value 1 if and only if the two corresponding cotree edges overlap. Each variable  $x_j$  corresponds to one unique cotree edge of  $L_{n-1}$  and has value 1 if and only if the edge is twisted.

**Property 2.2.** *Two cotree edges  $a_i$  and  $a_{i+1}$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n-1$ , overlap if and only if the edge  $b_i$  is unmatched.*

**Property 2.3.** *For a fixed matrix of the form  $M_n^{X,Y}$ , there are exactly  $2^{n-1}$  different  $T$ -rotation systems corresponding to that matrix.*

*Proof.* Note that there are four different assignments of colors to the edge  $b_i$ , two of them are matched and two of them are unmatched. Since the edges  $b_1, b_2, \dots, b_{n-1}$  are independent, the property follows.  $\square$

**2.2. The rank-distribution polynomial.** We define

$$\mathcal{A}_n = \{M_n^{X,Y} \mid X \in (GF(2))^n \text{ and } Y \in (GF(2))^{n-1}\},$$

which is the set of all matrices over  $GF(2)$  that are of the type  $M_n^{X,Y}$ . We define the *rank-distribution polynomial* to be the polynomial  $P_n(z) = \sum_{j=0}^n C_n(j)z^j$ , where  $C_n(j)$ ,  $j = 0, 1, \dots, n$ , is the number of different assignment of the variables  $x_j, y_k$ , where  $j \in [n]$  and  $k \in [n-1]$ , for which the matrix  $M_n^{X,Y}$  in  $\mathcal{A}_n$  has rank  $j$ . Similarly, let

$$\mathcal{O}_n = \{M_n^{0,Y} \mid Y \in (GF(2))^{n-1}\},$$

and  $O_n(z) = \sum_{j=0}^n O_n(j)z^j$  be the *rank-distribution polynomial* of  $\mathcal{O}_n$ , where  $O_n(j)$ ,  $j = 0, 1, \dots, n$ , is the number of different assignment of the variables  $y_k$ , where  $k \in \{1, 2, \dots, n-1\}$ , for which the matrix  $M_n^Y$  in  $\mathcal{A}_n$  has rank  $j$ .

**Proposition 2.4.** *The polynomial  $O_n(z)$  satisfies the recurrence relation*

$$O_n(z) = O_{n-1}(z) + 2z^2O_{n-2}(z)$$

*with the initial conditions  $O_0(z) = O_1(z) = 1$  and  $O_2(z) = z^2 + 1$ .*

*Proof.* We consider the matrix  $M_n^{0,Y}$  and let us give a recurrence relation for  $O_n(z)$ .

**Case 1.** For  $y_1 = 0$ . It is obvious to obtain  $\text{rank}(M_n^{0,Y}) = \text{rank}(M_{n-1}^{0,Y})$ , so it contributes a term  $O_{n-1}(z)$ .

**Case 2.** For  $y_1 = 1$ . If  $y_2 = 0$ , then  $\text{rank}(M_n^{0,Y}) = 2 + \text{rank}(M_{n-2}^{0,Y})$ . Otherwise  $y_2 = 1$ , we add the first row and first column to the third row and third column respectively, and the rank of  $M_n^{0,Y}$  is equal to 2 plus the rank of the lower-right matrix with order  $n-2$ , which has the form of  $M_{n-2}^{0,Y}$ , that is,  $\text{rank}(M_n^{0,Y}) = 2 + \text{rank}(M_{n-2}^{0,Y})$ . In total, it contributes  $2z^2O_{n-2}(z)$ .

Hence, the polynomials  $O_n(z)$  satisfy the recurrence relation  $O_n(z) = O_{n-1}(z) + 2z^2O_{n-2}(z)$  for all  $n \geq 3$ . By studying the rank distributions of  $M_j^{0,Y}$  for  $j = 0, 1, 2$ , we derive the initial conditions of the above recurrence, namely,  $O_0(z) = 1$ ,  $O_1(z) = 1$  and  $O_2(z) = z^2 + 1$ , as claimed.  $\square$

**Theorem 2.5.** *For all  $n \geq 1$ ,*

$$O_n(z) = (\sqrt{2}iz)^n Q_n(z) = \sum_{j \geq 0} \binom{n-j}{j} 2^j z^{2j} - \sum_{j \geq 0} \binom{n-2-j}{j} 2^j z^{2j+2}.$$

*Proof.* Proposition 2.4 gives that the polynomial  $Q_n(z) = \frac{O_n(z)}{(\sqrt{2}iz)^n}$  satisfies the recurrence relation

$$Q_n(z) = U_n\left(\frac{1}{2\sqrt{2}iz}\right) + \frac{1}{2}U_{n-2}\left(\frac{1}{2\sqrt{2}iz}\right).$$

By (1), we have

$$O_n(z) = (\sqrt{2}iz)^n Q_n(z) = \sum_{j \geq 0} \binom{n-j}{j} 2^j z^{2j} - \sum_{j \geq 0} \binom{n-2-j}{j} 2^j z^{2j+2},$$

which completes the proof.  $\square$

Recall that  $O_n(z) = \sum_{m=0}^n O_n(m)z^m$ , the next corollary gives an explicit formula for  $O_n(m)$ . Comparing the coefficient of  $z^m$  in the statement of Theorem 2.5, we obtain the following result.

**Corollary 2.6.** For all  $m \leq \lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor$ ,

$$O_n(2m+1) = 0,$$

$$O_n(2m) = 2^m \binom{n-m}{m} - 2^{m-1} \binom{n-m-1}{m-1}.$$

**Proposition 2.7.** The polynomial  $P_n(z)$  satisfies the recurrence relation

$$P_n(z) = (1+2z)P_{n-1}(z) + 4z^2P_{n-2}(z)$$

with the initial conditions  $P_0(z) = 1$ ,  $P_1(z) = 1+z$  and  $P_2(z) = 4z^2 + 3z + 1$ .

*Proof.* We consider the matrix  $M_n^{X,Y}$  and let us write a recurrence relation for  $P_n(z)$ .

**Case 1.** For  $x_1 = 0, y_1 = 0$ . It is obvious to obtain  $\text{rank}(M_n^{X,Y}) = \text{rank}(M_{n-1}^{X,Y})$ , so it contributes  $P_{n-1}(z)$ .

**Case 2.** For  $x_1 = 0, y_1 = 1$ . We interchange the first and the second row, then the rank of  $M_n^{X,Y}$  is equal to 2 plus the rank of the lower-right matrix with order  $n-2$ , which has the form of  $M_{n-2}^{X,Y}$ , that is,  $\text{rank}(M_n^{X,Y}) = 2 + \text{rank}(M_{n-2}^{X,Y})$ . Since the rank distribution is independent of the choice of  $x_2, y_2$  and it has four different choices, so it contributes  $4z^2P_{n-2}(z)$ .

**Case 3.** For  $x_1 = 1, y_1 = 0$ . It is easy to check that  $\text{rank}(M_n^{X,Y}) = \text{rank}(M_{n-1}^{X,Y}) + 1$ , so it contributes  $zP_{n-1}(z)$ .

**Case 4.** For  $x_1 = 1, y_1 = 1$ . We firstly add the first row to the second row, with the same discussion, we have that  $\text{rank}(M_n^{X,Y}) = \text{rank}(M_{n-1}^{X,Y}) + 1$ , so it contributes  $zP_{n-1}(z)$ .

Hence, the polynomials  $P_n(z)$  satisfy the recurrence relation  $P_n(z) = (1+2z)P_{n-1}(z) + 4z^2P_{n-2}(z)$  for all  $n \geq 3$ . By studying the rank distributions of  $M_j^{X,Y}$  for  $j = 0, 1, 2$ , we derive the initial conditions of the above recurrence, namely,  $P_0(z) = 1$ ,  $P_1(z) = 1+z$  and  $P_2(z) = 4z^2 + 3z + 1$ , as claimed.  $\square$

**Theorem 2.8.** For all  $n \geq 1$ ,

$$P_n(z) = (2iz)^n \left[ U_n \left( \frac{1+2z}{4iz} \right) + \frac{i}{2} U_{n-1} \left( \frac{1+2z}{4iz} \right) - \frac{1}{2} U_{n-2} \left( \frac{1+2z}{4iz} \right) \right],$$

where  $U_s(t)$  is the  $s$ -th Chebyshev polynomial of the second kind and  $i^2 = -1$ .

*Proof.* Proposition 2.7 gives that the polynomial  $Q_n(z) = \frac{P_n(z)}{(2iz)^n}$  satisfies the recurrence relation

$$Q_n(z) = \frac{1+2z}{2iz} Q_{n-1}(z) - Q_{n-2}(z)$$

with the initial conditions  $Q_1(z) = \frac{1+z}{2iz}$  and  $Q_2(z) = -\frac{1+3z+4z^2}{4z^2}$ . By Section 1.4 and induction on  $n$ , we obtain that

$$Q_n(z) = U_n \left( \frac{1+2z}{4iz} \right) + \frac{i}{2} U_{n-1} \left( \frac{1+2z}{4iz} \right) - \frac{1}{2} U_{n-2} \left( \frac{1+2z}{4iz} \right),$$

which completes the proof.  $\square$

Recall that  $P_n(z) = \sum_{m=0}^n C_n(m)z^m$ , the next corollary gives an explicit formula for  $C_n(m)$ .

**Corollary 2.9.** For all  $n \geq 1$  and  $0 \leq m \leq n$ ,

$$C_n(m) = 2^m \sum_{j=0}^{\lfloor m/2 \rfloor} \binom{n-j}{j} \binom{n-2j}{n-m} - 2^{m-1} \sum_{j=0}^{\lfloor (m-1)/2 \rfloor} \binom{n-1-j}{j} \binom{n-1-2j}{n-m} \\ + 2^{m-1} \sum_{j=0}^{\lfloor (m-2)/2 \rfloor} \binom{n-2-j}{j} \binom{n-2-2j}{n-m}.$$

*Proof.* By (1) we obtain that

$$(2iz)^n U_n \left( \frac{1+2z}{4iz} \right) = \sum_{j \geq 0} \binom{n-j}{j} (2z)^{2j} (1+2z)^{n-2j}.$$

Thus, by Theorem 2.8 we have that

$$P_n(z) = \sum_{j \geq 0} \binom{n-j}{j} (2z)^{2j} (1+2z)^{n-2j} - z \sum_{j \geq 0} \binom{n-1-j}{j} (2z)^{2j} (1+2z)^{n-1-2j} \\ + 2z^2 \sum_{j \geq 0} \binom{n-2-j}{j} (2z)^{2j} (1+2z)^{n-2-2j}.$$

Comparing the coefficient of  $z^m$  in both sides of the above equation, we obtain the desired result.  $\square$

For instance,  $C_n(n) = 2^{n-1} F_{n+1}$ , where  $F_s$  is the  $s$ -th Fibonacci number ( $F_s$  is defined by the recurrence relation  $F_s = F_{s-1} + F_{s-2}$  with the initial conditions  $F_0 = 0$  and  $F_1 = 1$ ).

### 2.3. The total embedding-distribution polynomial of $L_n$ .

**Theorem 2.10.** (see [15]) The number of embeddings of closed-end ladders  $L_{n-1}$  into orientable surface  $S$  of genus  $i$  is

$$g_i(L_{n-1}) = \begin{cases} 2^{n-2+i} \binom{n-i}{i} \frac{2n-3i}{n-i}, & \text{when } i \leq \lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

*Proof.* Let the genus polynomial of  $L_{n-1}$  be  $g_{L_{n-1}}(z) = \sum_{i \geq 0} g_i(L_{n-1}) z^i$ . By Theorem 2.8 and Corollary 2.6, we have

$$(4) \quad G_{L_{n-1}}(z) = 2^{n-1} T_n(z) \\ = 2^{n-1} \left\{ \sum_{j \geq 0} \binom{n-j}{j} 2^j z^{2j} - \sum_{j \geq 0} \binom{n-2-j}{j} 2^j z^{2j+2} \right\}$$

Note that  $g_j(L_{n-1})$  is equal to the coefficients of  $z^{2j}$ . By (4), we have

$$g_j(L_{n-1}) = 2^{n-1} \cdot \left\{ \binom{n-j}{j} 2^j - \binom{n-j-1}{j-1} 2^{j-1} \right\}$$

By the Newton's identity  $\binom{n-m}{m} = \frac{n-m}{m} \binom{n-m-1}{m-1}$ , the formula of Theorem 2.10 is the same as that of [15].  $\square$

By the above discussion, the following theorem follows.

**Theorem 2.11.** *The total embedding-distribution polynomial of an  $(n-1)$ -rung closed-end ladder  $L_{n-1}$  is given by*

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{I}_{L_{n-1}}(x, y) &= 2^{n-1} P_n(y) - \mathbb{I}_0(L_{n-1}, y^2) + \mathbb{I}_0(L_{n-1}, x) \\ &= 2^{n-1} \sum_{j \geq 0} \binom{n-j}{j} (2z)^{2j} (1+2z)^{n-2j} - z \sum_{j \geq 0} \binom{n-1-j}{j} (2z)^{2j} (1+2z)^{n-1-2j} \\ &\quad + 2z^2 \sum_{j \geq 0} \binom{n-2-j}{j} (2z)^{2j} (1+2z)^{n-2-2j} - \mathbb{I}_0(L_{n-1}, y^2) + \mathbb{I}_0(L_{n-1}, x).\end{aligned}$$

where  $\mathbb{I}_0(L_{n-1}, x)$  is the genus-distribution polynomial of the closed-end ladder  $L_{n-1}$ , which has been derived by Furst et al [15], that is,

$$\mathbb{I}_0(L_{n-1}, x) = \sum_{j=0}^{\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor} 2^{n-2+j} \binom{n-j}{j} \frac{2n-3j}{n-j} x^j,$$

and

$$\mathbb{I}_0(L_{n-1}, y^2) = \sum_{j=0}^{\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor} 2^{n-2+j} \binom{n-j}{j} \frac{2n-3j}{n-j} y^{2j}.$$

Furthermore, by Corollary 2.9, we can obtain the following result.

**Corollary 2.12.** *Let  $N_{L_{n-1}}(k)$  be the number of non-orientable embeddings on the surface with genus  $j$  for the  $(n-1)$ -rung closed-end ladder  $L_{n-1}$ , then we have*

$$\begin{aligned}N_{L_{n-1}}(1) &= (2n-1)2^{n-1}; \\ N_{L_{n-1}}(2) &= 2^{n-1}(2n^2-2n-1); \\ N_{L_{n-1}}(3) &= 2^{n-1} \left( \frac{2n(n+1)(2n+1)}{3} - 24n + 28 \right); \\ N_{L_{n-1}}(2p+1) &= 2^{n-1} C_n(2p+1), \quad \text{for } 0 \leq p \leq \lfloor \frac{n-1}{2} \rfloor; \\ N_{L_{n-1}}(2p) &= 2^{n-1} C_n(2p) - 2^{n-2+p} \binom{n-p}{p} \frac{2n-3p}{n-p}, \quad \text{for } 0 \leq p \leq \lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor,\end{aligned}$$

where  $N_{L_{n-1}}(1)$  is the number of embeddings on projective plane,  $N_{L_{n-1}}(2)$  is the number of embeddings on klein bottle, etc.

The following shows the non-orientable embeddings distribution for small values of  $n$  and  $j$ .

$$\begin{aligned}P_{L_1}(y) &= 6y^2 + 6y, \\ P_{L_2}(y) &= 48y^3 + 44y^2 + 20y, \\ P_{L_3}(y) &= 304y^4 + 416y^3 + 184y^2 + 56y, \\ P_{L_4}(y) &= 2048y^5 + 3072y^4 + 2048y^3 + 624y^2 + 144y, \\ P_{L_5}(y) &= 13184y^6 + 23552y^5 + 17600y^4 + 13760y^3 + 1888y^2 + 352y.\end{aligned}$$

### 3. TOTAL EMBEDDING DISTRIBUTIONS OF COBBLESTONE PATHS

A complete similar analysis to what have given for closed-end ladders, we fix a spanning tree  $T$  of  $J_{n-1}$  shown as the thicker lines in Figure 3, and the total imbedding distribution of  $J_{n-1}$  equals the imbedding distribution of  $T$ -rotation systems of  $J_{n-1}$ .



Note that  $J_{n-1}$  has the same overlap matrix  $M_n$  as closed-end ladders, and each vertex of  $J_{n-1}$  has degree four, thus, there exists six possible rotation at each vertex. Of these six rotations, exactly two lead to the incident cotree edges to overlap, which implies that there are two ways to set each  $y_j$  to 1 and four ways to set each  $y_j$  to 0. Assume that there are exactly  $p$ ,  $0 \leq p \leq n - 1$ , elements in  $Y$  equal to 1 then  $n - 1 - p$  elements equal to 0 for some fixed matrix of the form  $M_n$ , then there are  $2^{n-1-p}4^p = 2^{n+p-1}$  different  $T$ -rotation systems corresponding to the matrix. It is hard task to derive the total imbedding-distribution of  $J_n$  by the same consideration as we deal with the total imbedding distribution of  $L_n$  in the former section, since different overlap matrix corresponds to different  $T$ -rotation systems.

Suppose that every edge of the  $n$ -vertex path  $P_n$  is doubled, and that a self-adjacency is then added at each end. Such resulting graph is called a *cobblestone path of order  $n$* , denoted by  $J_n$ . Figure 3 presents a cobblestone path of order 5.

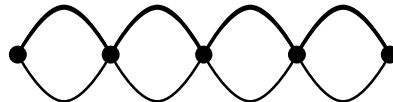


FIGURE 3. The cobblestone path  $J_5$

A complete similar analysis to what have given for closed-end ladders, we fix a spanning tree  $T$  of  $J_{n-1}$  shown as the thicker lines in Figure 3, and the genus distribution of  $J_{n-1}$  equals the genus distribution of rotation systems of  $J_{n-1}$ .

Note that  $J_{n-1}$  has the same overlap matrix  $M_n$  as closed-end ladders, and each vertex of  $J_{n-1}$  has degree four, thus, there exists six possible rotations at each vertex. Of these six rotations, exactly two lead to the incident cotree edges to overlap, which implies that there are two ways to set each  $y_j$  to 1 and four ways to set each  $y_j$  to 0. See Figure 4.

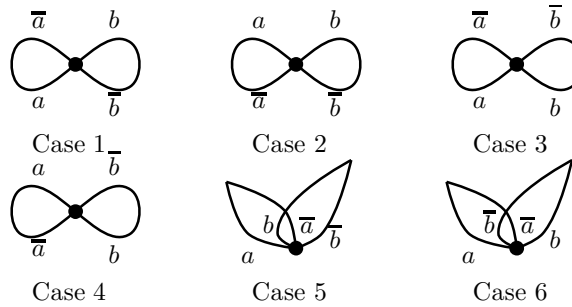


FIGURE 4. The six rotations.

Assume that there are exactly  $p$ ,  $0 \leq p \leq n - 1$ , elements in  $Y$  equal to 1 then  $n - 1 - p$  elements equal to 0 for some fixed matrix of the form  $M_n$ , then there are  $2^{n-1-p}4^p = 2^{n+p-1}$  different  $T$ -rotation systems corresponding to the matrix.

**Theorem 3.1.** (see [2]) *The genus polynomial  $J_{n-1}$  equals*

$$G_{J_{n-1}}(y) = \sum_{i_1+i_2+\dots+i_r=n}^{i_1, i_2, \dots, i_r > 0} 2^{n+r-2} \cdot y^{\sum_{h=1}^r \lfloor \frac{i_h}{2} \rfloor}.$$

Let  $G_{J_{n-1}}(y) = \sum_{i=0}^n g_{J_{n-1}}(i)y^i$ , where  $g_{J_{n-1}}(i)$  is the number of embeddings of  $J_{n-1}$  into orientable surface of genus  $i$ . We can get the explicit formula of  $g_{J_{n-1}}(i)$  as follows.

**Theorem 3.2.** (see [15]) *The number of embeddings of  $J_{n-1}$  into orientable surface of genus  $i$  equals*

$$g_i(J_{n-1}) = 3^i \cdot 4^{n-1-i} \cdot \binom{n-1-i}{i} + 2 \cdot 3^{i-1} \cdot 4^{n-1-i} \cdot \binom{n-1-i}{i-1}.$$

where  $i \geq 0, n \geq 2$ .

*Proof.* In Theorem 3.1, we let  $R_n(y) = \sum_{i_1, i_2, \dots, i_r > 0}^{i_1 + i_2 + \dots + i_r = n} 2^r y^{\sum_{h=1}^r \lfloor \frac{i_h}{2} \rfloor}$ , it is obvious that  $G_{J_{n-1}}(y) = 2^{n-2} R_n(y)$ . When  $i_r = 1$ , we have

$$R_n(y) = \sum_{i_1, i_2, \dots, i_{r-1} > 0}^{i_1 + i_2 + \dots + i_{r-1} = n-1} 2^r \cdot y^{\sum_{h=1}^{r-1} \lfloor \frac{i_h}{2} \rfloor} = 2R_{n-1}(y).$$

More generally, if  $i_r = p, 1 \leq p \leq n$ , we have

$$R_n(y) = \sum_{i_1, i_2, \dots, i_p > 0}^{i_1 + i_2 + \dots + i_p = n-p} 2^r \cdot y^{\sum_{h=1}^{r-1} \lfloor \frac{i_h}{2} \rfloor} = 2y^{\lfloor \frac{p}{2} \rfloor} \cdot R_{n-p}(y).$$

Thus, we have

$$\begin{aligned} R_n(y) &= 2 \sum_{j=1}^n y^{\lfloor \frac{j}{2} \rfloor} \cdot R_{n-j}(y) \\ &= 2R_{n-1}(y) + 2 \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} y^{\lfloor \frac{j+1}{2} \rfloor} \cdot R_{n-j-1}(y) \\ &= 2R_{n-1}(y) + 2yR_{n-2}(y) + 2 \sum_{j=1}^{n-2} y^{\lfloor \frac{j+2}{2} \rfloor} \cdot R_{n-j-2}(y) \\ &= 2R_{n-1}(y) + 3yR_{n-2}(y). \end{aligned}$$

By Theorem 3.1, we have  $R_1(y) = 2, R_2(y) = 2y + 4, R_3(y) = 10y + 8$  etc.

Let  $H(y) = \frac{R_n(y)}{(\sqrt{3y} \cdot i)^n}$ , by a simple calculation, see Section 1.4, we have

$$H_n(y) = U_n \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{3yi}} \right) + \frac{1}{3} U_{n-2} \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{3yi}} \right).$$

Thus, by (1), we have that

$$\begin{aligned} R_n(y) &= ((\sqrt{3y} \cdot i)^n)^n \cdot H_n(y) \\ &= \sum_{j \geq 0} \binom{n-j}{j} 2^{n-2j} \cdot 3^j \cdot y^j - \sum_{j \geq 0} \binom{n-2-j}{j} \cdot 2^{n-2-2j} \cdot 3^j \cdot y^{j+1}. \end{aligned}$$

Comparing the coefficient of  $y^m$  in both sides of the above equation, we have

$$g_m(J_{n-1}) = \binom{n-m}{m} \cdot 2^{n-2m} \cdot 3^m - \binom{n-m-1}{m-1} \cdot 2^{n-2m} \cdot 3^{m-1}$$

By the Pascal's Identity  $\binom{n-m}{m} = \binom{n-m-1}{m} + \binom{n-m-1}{m-1}$ , the result here is equal to that of [15].  $\square$

**Theorem 3.3.** *The total imbedding-distribution polynomial of the cobblestone path  $J_{n-1}$  is given by*

$$\mathbb{I}_{J_{n-1}}(x, y) = 2^{n-2} S_n(y) - \mathbb{I}_0(J_{n-1}, y^2) + \mathbb{I}_0(J_{n-1}, x),$$

where  $\mathbb{I}_0(J_{n-1}, x)$  is the genus-distribution polynomial of the cobblestone path  $J_{n-1}$ , which is already known by Furst et al [15], that is, for  $i \geq 0, n \geq 2$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{I}_0(J_{n-1}, x) &= \sum_{j=0}^{\lfloor \frac{n-1}{2} \rfloor} \left\{ 3^j 4^{n-1-j} \binom{n-1-j}{j} + 2 \cdot 3^{j-1} 4^{n-1-j} \binom{n-1-j}{j-1} \right\} x^j, \\ \mathbb{I}_0(J_{n-1}, y^2) &= \sum_{j=0}^{\lfloor \frac{n-1}{2} \rfloor} \left\{ 3^j 4^{n-1-j} \binom{n-1-j}{j} + 2 \cdot 3^{j-1} 4^{n-1-j} \binom{n-1-j}{j-1} \right\} y^{2j},\end{aligned}$$

and

$$S_n(y) = (i\sqrt{6}y)^{n-1} \left[ 2(1+y)U_{n-1} \left( \frac{2+3y}{2i\sqrt{6}y} \right) + \frac{4y}{i\sqrt{6}} U_{n-2} \left( \frac{2+3y}{2i\sqrt{6}y} \right) \right],$$

where  $U_s$  is the  $s$ -th Chebyshev polynomial of the second kind, and  $i^2 = -1$ .

*Proof.* In [2], obtained the rank distribution of the overlap matrix  $M_n$  as

$$P_n(y) = \sum_{j_1, j_2, \dots, j_r > 0}^{j_1 + j_2 + \dots + j_r = n} y^{n-r} \prod_{h=1}^r R_{j_h}(y).$$

Furthermore, the total imbedding-distribution polynomial of  $J_{n-1}$  is also obtained as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{I}_{J_{n-1}}(x, y) &= 2^{n-2} \sum_{j_1, j_2, \dots, j_r > 0}^{j_1 + j_2 + \dots + j_r = n} 2^r y^{n-r} \prod_{h=1}^r R_{j_h}(y) - \mathbb{I}_0(J_{n-1}, y^2) + \mathbb{I}_0(J_{n-1}, x) \\ &\triangleq 2^{n-2} S_n(y) - \mathbb{I}_0(J_{n-1}, y^2) + \mathbb{I}_0(J_{n-1}, x).\end{aligned}$$

For the function  $S_n(y)$ , we consider the value  $j_r$  for fixed  $r$ . Note that if  $j_r = 1$ , then

$$\begin{aligned}S_n(y) &= \sum_{j_1, j_2, \dots, j_{r-1} > 0}^{j_1 + j_2 + \dots + j_{r-1} + 1 = n} 2^r y^{n-r} \prod_{h=1}^{r-1} R_{j_h}(y) R_1(y) \\ &= 2R_1(y) \sum_{j_1, j_2, \dots, j_{r-1} > 0}^{j_1 + j_2 + \dots + j_{r-1} = n-1} 2^{r-1} y^{n-1-(r-1)} \prod_{h=1}^{r-1} R_{j_h}(y) \\ &= 2(1+y)S_{n-1}(y).\end{aligned}$$

Generally, if  $j_r = p$ , where  $1 \leq p \leq n$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned}S_n(y) &= \sum_{j_1, j_2, \dots, j_{r-1} > 0}^{j_1 + j_2 + \dots + j_{r-1} + p = n} 2^r y^{n-r} \prod_{h=1}^{r-1} R_{j_h}(y) R_p(y) \\ &= 2y^{p-1} R_p(y) \sum_{j_1, j_2, \dots, j_{r-1} > 0}^{j_1 + j_2 + \dots + j_{r-1} = n-p} 2^{r-1} y^{n-p-(r-1)} \prod_{h=1}^{r-1} R_{j_h}(y) \\ &= 2y^{p-1} R_p(y) S_{n-p}(y).\end{aligned}$$

Synthesize the above discussions, we obtain

$$(5) \quad S_n(y) = 2 \sum_{j=1}^n y^{j-1} R_j(y) S_{n-j}(y)$$

with the initial conditions  $S_0(y) = 1$ ,  $S_1(y) = 2 + 2y$  and  $S_2(y) = 10y^2 + 10y + 4$ , where

$$R_p(y) = \text{round}(2^p/3) + \text{round}(2^{p+1}/3)y$$

with

$$\begin{aligned} \text{round}(2^p/3) &= \begin{cases} \frac{1}{3}(2^p + 1), & \text{if } p \text{ is odd,} \\ \frac{1}{3}(2^p - 1), & \text{if } p \text{ is even.} \end{cases} \\ \text{round}(2^{p+1}/3) &= \begin{cases} \frac{2}{3}(2^p + 1) - 1, & \text{if } p \text{ is odd,} \\ \frac{2}{3}(2^p - 1) + 1, & \text{if } p \text{ is even.} \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

Now let us find explicit formula for  $S_n(y)$ . By induction on  $p$  it is not hard to see that the polynomials  $R_p(y)$  satisfy the recurrence relation  $R_p(y) = 2R_{p-1}(y) + (1-y)(-1)^{p-1}$  with the initial condition  $R_1(y) = 1 + y$ . Hence, from (5) we obtain that

$$\begin{aligned} S_n(y) &= 2 \sum_{j=1}^n y^{j-1} R_j(y) S_{n-j}(y) \\ &= 2(1+y)S_{n-1}(y) + 2 \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} y^j R_{j+1}(y) S_{n-1-j}(y) \\ &= 2(1+y)S_{n-1}(y) + 2 \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} y^j (2R_j(y) + (1-y)(-1)^j) S_{n-1-j}(y) \\ &= 2(1+y)S_{n-1}(y) + 2(1-y) \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} (-y)^j S_{n-1-j}(y) + 4y \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} y^{j-1} R_j(y) S_{n-1-j}(y) \\ &= (2+4y)S_{n-1}(y) + 2(1-y) \sum_{j=0}^{n-2} (-y)^{n-1-j} S_j(y), \end{aligned}$$

which implies that

$$S_n(y) + yS_{n-1}(y) = (2+4y)S_{n-1}(y) + y(2+4y)S_{n-2}(y) - 2y(1-y)S_{n-2}(y).$$

Hence, we have that  $S_0(y) = 1$ ,  $S_1(y) = 2 + 2y$ ,  $S_2(y) = 10y^2 + 10y + 4$ , and for all  $n \geq 3$ ,

$$S_n(y) = (2+3y)S_{n-1}(y) + 6y^2S_{n-2}(y).$$

Define  $T_n(y) = \frac{S_n(y)}{(i\sqrt{6y})^n}$  with  $i^2 = -1$ , so  $T_n(y)$  satisfies the recurrence relation

$$T_n(y) = \frac{2+3y}{i\sqrt{6y}} T_{n-1}(y) - T_{n-2}(y)$$

with the initial conditions  $T_0(y) = 1$ ,  $T_1(y) = \frac{2+3y}{i\sqrt{6y}}$  and  $T_2(y) = -\frac{2+5y+5y^2}{3y^2}$ . By Section 1.4 and induction on  $n$ , we obtain that

$$T_n(y) = \frac{1}{i\sqrt{6y}} \left[ 2(1+y)U_{n-1} \left( \frac{2+3y}{2i\sqrt{6y}} \right) + \frac{4y}{i\sqrt{6}} U_{n-2} \left( \frac{2+3y}{2i\sqrt{6y}} \right) \right],$$

which gives that

$$(6) \quad S_n(y) = (i\sqrt{6y})^{n-1} \left[ 2(1+y)U_{n-1} \left( \frac{2+3y}{2i\sqrt{6y}} \right) + \frac{4y}{i\sqrt{6}} U_{n-2} \left( \frac{2+3y}{2i\sqrt{6y}} \right) \right].$$

Plug the relation into  $\mathbb{I}_{J_{n-1}}(x, y)$ , it completes the proof.  $\square$

Let  $S_n(y) = \sum_{m=0}^n D_n(m)y^m$ , and the following corollary derives an explicit formula for  $D_n(m)$ .

**Corollary 3.4.** For all  $n \geq 1$  and  $0 \leq m \leq n$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
 D_n(m) &= \sum_{j=0}^{\lfloor m/2 \rfloor} \left\{ \binom{n-1-j}{j} \binom{n-1-2j}{n-1-m} \cdot 2^{n-m} \cdot 3^{m-2j} \cdot 6^j \right\} \\
 &+ \sum_{j=0}^{\lfloor (m-1)/2 \rfloor} \left\{ \binom{n-1-j}{j} \binom{n-1-2j}{n-m} \cdot 2^{n-m+1} \cdot 3^{m-2j-1} \cdot 6^j \right\} \\
 &+ \sum_{j=0}^{\lfloor (m-2)/2 \rfloor} \left\{ \binom{n-2-j}{j} \binom{n-2-2j}{n-m} \cdot 2^{n-m+2} \cdot 3^{m-2j-2} \cdot 6^j \right\}.
 \end{aligned}$$

*Proof.* By (1) we obtain that

$$\begin{aligned}
 &(i\sqrt{6}y)^{n-1} U_{n-1} \left( \frac{2+3y}{2i\sqrt{6}y} \right) \\
 &= \sum_{j \geq 0} \left\{ (-1)^j \binom{n-1-j}{j} \cdot (2+3y)^{n-1-2j} \cdot (i\sqrt{6}y)^{2j} \right\} \\
 &= \sum_{j \geq 0} \left\{ \binom{n-1-j}{j} \sum_{s=0}^{n-1-2j} \binom{n-1-2j}{s} \cdot 2^{n-1-2j-s} \cdot 3^s \cdot 6^j \cdot y^{s+2j} \right\}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Plug the formulae into (6), and comparing the coefficient of  $y^m$  in both sides, then it leads to the result.  $\square$

For instance, the crosscap number polynomial  $P_{J_n}(y)$  for the cobblestone  $J_n$  with  $n = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5$  is given by

$$\begin{aligned}
 P_{J_1}(y) &= 8y^2 + 10y, \\
 P_{J_2}(y) &= 84y^3 + 104y^2 + 64y, \\
 P_{J_3}(y) &= 720y^4 + 1320y^3 + 848y^2 + 352y, \\
 P_{J_4}(y) &= 6480y^5 + 13536y^4 + 12672y^3 + 5696y^2 + 1792y, \\
 P_{J_5}(y) &= 56448y^6 + 140832y^5 + 152064y^4 + 97536y^3 + 34304y^2 + 8704y.
 \end{aligned}$$

#### 4. CONCLUDED REMARKS

In this paper, we find a new usage of Chebyshev polynomials in the study of genus distribution, using the overlap matrix, we obtain homogeneous recurrence relation for rank distribution polynomial, which can be solved in terms of Chebyshev polynomials of the second kind. We think that the method here can also be used to find explicit formula of embedding distributions for some other graphs in [32, 37].

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