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On arithmetical structures on complete graphs

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An arithmetical structure on the complete graph K_n with n vertices is given by a collection of n positive integers with no common factor, each of which divides their sum. We show that, for all positive integers c less than a certain bound depending on n, there is an arithmetical structure on K_n with largest value c. We also show that, if each prime factor of c is greater than $(n+1)^2/4$, there is no arithmetical structure on K_n with largest value c. We apply these results to study which prime numbers can occur as the largest value of an arithmetical structure on K_n.

1. Introduction

How can one have a collection of positive integers, with no common factor, each of which divides their sum? For example, 105, 70, 15, 14, and 6 sum to 210, which is divisible by each of these numbers. Introducing notation, we seek positive integers $r_1, r_2, \dots, r_n$ with no common factor such that

$$r_j \;\Big|\; \sum_{i=1}^{n} r_i \quad \text{for all } j. \tag{1}$$

It is well known that finding such r_i is equivalent to finding positive integer solutions of the Diophantine equation

$$\frac{1}{x_1} + \frac{1}{x_2} + \cdots + \frac{1}{x_n} = 1. \tag{2}$$

Indeed, given $r_1, r_2, \dots, r_n$ satisfying (1), dividing both sides of the equation $r_1 + r_2 + \cdots + r_n = \sum_{i=1}^{n} r_i$ by $\sum_{i=1}^{n} r_i$ gives a solution to (2), and, given a solution of (2), the numbers $\operatorname{lcm}(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)/x_i$ satisfy (1) and have no common factor.

Our interest in this question stems from an interest in arithmetical structures. An *arithmetical structure* on a finite, connected graph is an assignment of positive integers to the vertices such that:

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(a) At each vertex, the integer there is a divisor of the sum of the integers at adjacent vertices (counted with multiplicity if the graph is not simple).

(b) The integers used have no nontrivial common factor.

Arithmetical structures were introduced in [Lorenzini 1989] to study intersections of degenerating curves in algebraic geometry. The usual definition, easily seen to be equivalent to the one given here, is formulated in terms of matrices. From that perspective, an arithmetical structure may be regarded as a generalization of the *Laplacian matrix*, which encodes many important properties of a graph. Notions in this direction that have received a significant amount of attention include the sandpile group and the chip-firing game; for details, see [Corry and Perkinson 2018; Klivans 2019; Glass and Kaplan 2019].

On the *complete graph* K_n with n vertices, positive integers $r_1, r_2, \dots, r_n$ with no common factor give an arithmetical structure if and only if

$$r_j \;\Big|\; \sum_{\substack{i=1\\ i\neq j}}^{n} r_i \quad \text{for all } j;$$

it is immediate that this condition is equivalent to (1). Therefore, in this language, the opening question of this paper seeks arithmetical structures on complete graphs.

Lemma 1.6 of [Lorenzini 1989] shows that there are finitely many arithmetical structures on any finite, connected graph, but this result does not give a bound on the number of structures. Several recent papers [Braun et al. 2018; Archer et al. 2020; Glass and Wagner 2019] count arithmetical structures on various families of graphs, including path graphs, cycle graphs, bidents, and certain path graphs with doubled edges. However, counting arithmetical structures on complete graphs is a difficult problem. The number of arithmetical structures on K_n for $n \leq 8$ is given in [Sloane 1991]. For general n, bounds have been obtained in [Erdős and Graham 1980; Sándor 2003; Browning and Elsholtz 2011; Konyagin 2014], which work from the perspective of the Diophantine equation (2). Other papers such as [Burshtein 2007; 2008; Arce-Nazario et al. 2013] determine, for specific n, the number of solutions of (2) satisfying certain additional conditions on the x_i.

It is conjectured in [Corrales and Valencia 2018, Conjecture 6.10] that, for any connected, simple graph G with n vertices, the number of arithmetical structures on G is at most the number of arithmetical structures on K_n. To approach this conjecture, one would like a better understanding of the types of arithmetical structures that occur on complete graphs. In this direction, this paper studies which positive integers can occur as the largest value of an arithmetical structure on K_n. Clearly the r_i of an arithmetical structure can be permuted; in the following we make the assumption $r_1 \geq r_2 \geq \dots \geq r_n$. We construct arithmetical structures to show that r_1 can take certain values and give obstructions to show that it cannot take other values.

Our primary construction theorem (Theorem 1) shows that r_1 can take any value up to a certain bound depending on n. More specifically, r_1 can be any positive integer less than or equal to $\max_{k\in\mathbb{Z}_{>0}}(2^k n - (k + 2^k - 2)2^k - 1)$. This bound improves somewhat if we restrict attention to prime numbers; r_1 can be any prime number less than or equal to $\max_{k\in\mathbb{Z}_{>0}}(2^k n - (k+2^k-3)2^k - 3)$.

We also prove an obstruction theorem (Theorem 7) that shows r_1 cannot take any value all of whose prime factors are greater than $(n+1)^2/4$. Restricting attention to prime numbers, this bound improves to show that r_1 cannot be any prime number greater than $n^2/4+1$ (Theorem 8).

The final section focuses on the possible prime values r_1 can take. We explicitly check prime numbers in the gap between the bound of Theorem 1 and the bound of Theorem 8, showing that r_1 can take some of these values but not others. In particular, we observe that there can be prime numbers p_1 and p_2 with $p_1 < p_2$ such that there is an arithmetical structure on K_n with $r_1 = p_2$ but no arithmetical structure on K_n with $r_1 = p_1$.

2. Construction

In this section, we show how to construct arithmetical structures on complete graphs with certain values of r_1. Our main construction theorem is the following.

Theorem 1. (a) *For any positive integer $c \le \max_{k\in\mathbb{Z}_{>0}}(2^k n - (k+2^k-2)2^k - 1)$, there is an arithmetical structure on K_n with $r_1 = c$.*

(b) *For any prime number $p \le \max_{k\in\mathbb{Z}_{>0}}(2^k n - (k+2^k-3)2^k - 3)$, there is an arithmetical structure on K_n with $r_1 = p$.*

We establish Propositions 2, 4, and 5 on the way to proving Theorem 1.

Proposition 2. *For any positive integer $c \le n-1$, there is an arithmetical structure on K_n with $r_1 = c$.*

Proof. Let

$$r_i = \begin{cases} c & \text{for } i \in \{1, 2, \dots, n-c\}, \\ 1 & \text{for } i \in \{n-c+1, n-c+2, \dots, n\}. \end{cases}$$

Then

$$\sum_{i=1}^{n} r_i = c(n-c) + c = c(n-c+1).$$

Since this is divisible by both c and 1, we have thus produced an arithmetical structure on K_n. □

Before turning to Propositions 4 and 5, we establish the following lemma.

Lemma 3. (a) *Let $k \in \mathbb{Z}_{\ge 0}$ and $\ell \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$ with $k \le \ell$. Every integer c satisfying $\ell \le c \le (\ell-k+1)2^k - 1$ can be expressed as $\sum_{j=1}^{\ell} 2^{k_j}$ for some $k_j \in \{0, 1, \dots, k\}$, where $k_j = 0$ for some $j \in \{1, 2, \dots, \ell\}$.*

(b) *Let $k \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$ and $\ell \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$ with $k \leq \ell$. Every odd integer c satisfying $\ell \leq c \leq (\ell - k + 2)2^k - 3$ can be expressed as $\sum_{j=1}^{\ell} 2^{k_j}$ for some $k_j \in \{0, 1, \ldots, k\}$, where $k_j = 0$ for some $j \in \{1, 2, \ldots, \ell\}$.*

Proof. To show (a), we proceed by induction on c. In the base case, $c = \ell$, we can let $k_j = 0$ for all j and have $c = \sum_{j=1}^{\ell} 2^{k_j}$. Now suppose $c = \sum_{j=1}^{\ell} 2^{k_j}$ for $c \leq (\ell - k + 1)2^k - 2$. Then $k_j = k$ for at most $\ell - k$ values of j, meaning $k_j < k$ for at least k values of j. If among these values we had each of $0, 1, \ldots, k - 1$ only once, we would then have $\sum_{j=1}^{\ell} 2^{k_j} = (\ell - k + 1)2^k - 1 > (\ell - k + 1)2^k - 2$. Therefore there is some $b < k$ for which $k_{j_1} = b = k_{j_2}$ for some $j_1 \neq j_2$. Define

$$k'_j = \begin{cases} k_j + 1 & \text{for } j = j_1, \\ 0 & \text{for } j = j_2, \\ k_j & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Then $\sum_{j=1}^{\ell} 2^{k'_j} = \sum_{j=1}^{\ell} 2^{k_j} + 1 = c + 1$. The result follows.

For (b), first note that if $c \leq (\ell - k + 1)2^k - 1$ then the result follows from (a). Therefore, assume $c > (\ell - k + 1)2^k - 1$ and let $c' = c - ((\ell - k + 1)2^k - 1)$, noting that $c' \leq 2^k - 2$. Since c is odd, c' must be even. Therefore c' can be written in the form $\sum_{j=1}^{k-1} s_j 2^j$, where each s_j is either 0 or 1; the s_j are iteratively determined in reverse by letting $s_j = 1$ if $c' - \sum_{i=j+1}^{k-1} s_i 2^i \geq 2^j$ and letting $s_j = 0$ otherwise. Define

$$k_j = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } j = 1, \\ j - 1 + s_{j-1} & \text{for } j \in \{2, 3, \ldots, k\}, \\ k & \text{for } j \in \{k + 1, k + 2, \ldots, \ell\}. \end{cases}$$

Then

$$\sum_{j=1}^{\ell} 2^{k_j} = \sum_{j=1}^{k} 2^{j-1} + \sum_{j=2}^{k} s_{j-1} 2^{j-1} + \sum_{j=k+1}^{\ell} 2^k = 2^k - 1 + c' + (\ell - k)2^k = c. \quad \square$$

We use Lemma 3 to prove Propositions 4 and 5.

Proposition 4. *Fix $n \geq 2$. For any positive integer k satisfying $k + 2^k - 1 \leq n$ and any positive integer c satisfying $n - 2^k + 1 \leq c \leq (n - k - 2^k + 2)2^k - 1$, there is an arithmetical structure on K_n with $r_1 = c$.*

Proof. Let $r_i = c$ for all $i \in \{1, 2, \ldots, 2^k - 1\}$. Let $\ell = n - 2^k + 1$, noting that our assumptions guarantee that $k \leq \ell$ and $\ell \leq c \leq (\ell - k + 1)2^k - 1$. Lemma 3(a) then shows how to write $c = \sum_{j=1}^{\ell} 2^{k_j}$. We use the values 2^{k_j}, in decreasing order, to define r_i for $i \in \{2^k, 2^k + 1, \ldots, n\}$, noting that $r_n = 1$. Then

$$\sum_{i=1}^{n} r_i = (2^k - 1)c + c = 2^k c.$$

Since $2^k c$ is divisible by c and by $2^{k'}$ for all $k' \in \{0, 1, \ldots, k\}$, we have thus produced an arithmetical structure on K_n. □

Although we imposed the condition $k + 2^k - 1 \leq n$ here to ensure that $k \leq \ell$ in the proof, this does not restrict possible values of r_1, as we show in the proof of Theorem 1. Together with Proposition 2, Proposition 4 with $k = 1$ allows us to construct arithmetical structures on K_n with r_1 taking any value up to $2n - 3$. When $k = 2$, the bound is $4n - 17$; when $k = 3$, the bound is $8n - 73$; and when $k = 4$, the bound is $16n - 289$. If we restrict attention to prime r_1, these bounds can be improved slightly, as the following proposition shows.

Proposition 5. *Fix $n \geq 2$. For any positive integer k satisfying $k + 2^k - 1 \leq n$ and any prime number p satisfying $n - 2^k + 1 \leq p \leq (n - k - 2^k + 3)2^k - 3$, there is an arithmetical structure on K_n with $r_1 = p$.*

Proof. If $p = 2$ (and $n \geq 3$), Proposition 2 gives an arithmetical structure on K_n with $r_1 = p$. Therefore suppose p is odd. Let $r_i = p$ for all $i \in \{1, 2, \ldots, 2^k - 1\}$. Let $\ell = n - 2^k + 1$, noting that our assumptions guarantee $k \leq \ell$ and $\ell \leq p \leq (\ell - k + 2)2^k - 3$. Lemma 3(b) then shows how to write $p = \sum_{j=1}^{\ell} 2^{k_j}$. As in the proof of Proposition 4, we use the values 2^{k_j}, in decreasing order, to define r_i for $i \in \{2^k, 2^k + 1, \ldots, n\}$, noting that $r_n = 1$. Then

$$\sum_{i=1}^{n} r_i = (2^k - 1)p + p = 2^k p,$$

which is divisible by p and by $2^{k'}$ for all $k' \in \{0, 1, \ldots, k\}$. Therefore we have produced an arithmetical structure on K_n. □

For example, when $k = 1$, Proposition 5 allows us to construct arithmetical structures on K_n with r_1 taking prime values as large as $2n - 3$. When $k = 2$, the bound is $4n - 15$; when $k = 3$, the bound is $8n - 67$; and when $k = 4$, the bound is $16n - 275$.

We are now prepared to complete the proof of Theorem 1.

Proof of Theorem 1. The necessary constructions are given in Propositions 2, 4, and 5. It remains only to show that, for each n, values of k that maximize the upper bounds in Propositions 4 and 5 satisfy $k + 2^k - 1 \leq n$.

The upper bound $(n - k - 2^k + 2)2^k - 1$ in Proposition 4 is linear in n with slope 2^k. A straightforward calculation shows that the bound with slope 2^{k-1} coincides with the bound with slope 2^k when $n = k + 3 \cdot 2^{k-1} - 1$ and that the bound with slope 2^k coincides with the bound with slope 2^{k+1} when $n = k + 3 \cdot 2^k$. Therefore the bound with slope 2^k is maximal exactly when n is between $k + 3 \cdot 2^{k-1} - 1$ and $k + 3 \cdot 2^k$. When the bound is maximized, we therefore have that $n \geq k + 3 \cdot 2^{k-1} - 1 \geq k + 2^k - 1$, meaning the condition of Proposition 4 is satisfied. This proves (a).

The argument for (b) is very similar. The upper bound $(n-k-2^k+3)2^k-3$ in Proposition 5 is maximal for n between $k+3\cdot 2^{k-1}-2$ and $k+3\cdot 2^k-1$. When the bound is maximized, we then have that $n \ge k+3\cdot 2^{k-1}-2 \ge k+2^k-1$, meaning the condition of Proposition 5 is satisfied. □

We conclude this section by giving another construction that allows us to produce some arithmetical structures with values of r_1 other than those guaranteed by Theorem 1.

Proposition 6. *For any positive integer $k \le n-1$, there is an arithmetical structure on K_n with $r_1 = k(n-k)+1$.*

Proof. Let

$$r_i = \begin{cases} k(n-k)+1 & \text{for } i \in \{1,2,\dots,k-1\}, \\ k & \text{for } i \in \{k,k+1,\dots,n-1\}, \\ 1 & \text{for } i = n. \end{cases}$$

Then

$$\sum_{i=1}^{n} r_i = (k-1)(k(n-k)+1) + k(n-k)+1 = k(k(n-k)+1).$$

Since this is divisible by $k(n-k)+1$, k, and 1, we have thus produced an arithmetical structure on K_n. □

For example, when $n = 13$, Theorem 1 guarantees that we can find an arithmetical structure on K_n with $r_1 = p$ for all prime $p \le 37$. By taking $k = 5$ in Proposition 6, we can also produce an arithmetical structure with $r_1 = 41$. By taking $k = 6$, we can produce an arithmetical structure with $r_1 = 43$. The results of this section cannot be extended too much further, as we show in the following section.

3. Obstruction

We next prove obstruction results that complement our constructions in the previous section. Our first result shows that r_1 cannot be a product of primes all of which are too large.

Theorem 7. *Suppose $c \ge 2$ is an integer with prime factorization $p_1^{a_1} p_2^{a_2} \cdots p_k^{a_k}$, where $p_1 < p_2 < \cdots < p_k$ and $a_i \ge 1$ for all i. If $p_1 > (n+1)^2/4$, then there is no arithmetical structure on K_n with $r_1 = c$.*

Proof. Suppose we have an arithmetical structure on K_n with $r_1 = c$. Knowing that $r_1 \mid \sum_{i=1}^{n} r_i$, we define $b = \sum_{i=1}^{n} r_i / r_1$. Then $\sum_{i=1}^{n} r_i = bc$, meaning that $r_i \mid b p_1^{a_1} p_2^{a_2} \cdots p_k^{a_k}$ for all i. Let m be the largest value of i for which $r_i = c$. For all $i \in \{m+1, m+2, \dots, n\}$, we have $r_i < c$, which implies that $r_i \le b p_1^{a_1-1} p_2^{a_2} \cdots p_k^{a_k}$.

This means $\sum_{i=m+1}^{n} r_i \le (n-m)bp_1^{a_1-1} p_2^{a_2} \cdots p_k^{a_k}$. We also have that $\sum_{i=m+1}^{n} r_i = (b-m)p_1^{a_1} p_2^{a_2} \cdots p_k^{a_k}$. Therefore

$$(b-m)p_1^{a_1} p_2^{a_2} \cdots p_k^{a_k} \le (n-m)bp_1^{a_1-1} p_2^{a_2} \cdots p_k^{a_k},$$

and hence $(b-m)p_1 \le (n-m)b$. When $b = m$, there is only one arithmetical structure on K_n, namely that with $r_i = 1$ for all i, so the desired structure cannot arise in this case. Therefore we assume $b > m$, in which case we have

$$p_1 \le \frac{(n-m)b}{b-m}.$$

When $b = m+1$, this gives $p_1 \le (n-b+1)b$. It is a simple calculus exercise to show this bound is maximized when $b = (n+1)/2$. It follows that $p_1 \le (n+1)^2/4$.

When $b \ge m+2$, we have

$$p_1 \le \frac{(n-m)b}{b-m} = \frac{nb-mb+nm-nm}{b-m} = n + \frac{m(n-b)}{b-m} \le n + \frac{m(n-m-2)}{2}.$$

It is a simple calculus exercise to show this bound is maximized when $m = n/2-1$, so therefore

$$p_1 \le n + \frac{(n/2-1)(n/2-1)}{2} = \frac{n^2}{8} + \frac{n}{2} + \frac{1}{2} = \frac{(n+1)^2}{4} - \frac{n^2-1}{4} \le \frac{(n+1)^2}{4}.$$

The result follows. □

If we restrict attention to arithmetical structures where r_1 is a prime number, then Theorem 7 can be improved to Theorem 8. The general outline of the proof is similar, with some of the bounds improved.

Theorem 8. *If p is a prime number with $p > n^2/4+1$, then there is no arithmetical structure on K_n with $r_1 = p$.*

Proof. If $p = 2$, the hypothesis of the theorem is only satisfied for $n = 1$, and there is no arithmetical structure on K_1 with $r_1 = 2$. Suppose we have an arithmetical structure on K_n with $r_1 = p$, where $p \ge 3$. Knowing that $r_1 \mid \sum_{i=1}^{n} r_i$, we define $b = \sum_{i=1}^{n} r_i / r_1$. Then $\sum_{i=1}^{n} r_i = bp$, meaning that $r_i \mid bp$ for all i. Let m be the largest value of i for which $r_i = p$. We can only have $b = m$ if $r_i = 1$ for all i, but then r_1 is not prime. We consider two cases: when $b = m+1$ and when $b \ge m+2$.

Case I: $b = m+1$. For all $i \in \{m+1, m+2, \ldots, n\}$, we have that $r_i \mid bp$ and $r_i < p$, so therefore $r_i \mid b$. Whenever $r_i < b$, this means $r_i \le b/2$. If $r_{n-1}, r_n < b$, we would then have that $\sum_{i=m+1}^{n} r_i \le (n-m-1)b$. If instead $r_i = b$ for all $i \in \{m+1, m+2, \ldots, n-1\}$, we would have that $r_n \mid r_i$ for all $i \in \{m+1, m+2, \ldots, n\}$. Since $\sum_{i=m+1}^{n} r_i = (b-m)p = p$, this would also mean $r_n \mid p$, and hence that $r_n \mid r_i$ for all i. Therefore we would need to have $r_n = 1$, meaning that $\sum_{i=m+1}^{n} r_i \le$

$(n-m-1)b+1$. Regardless of the value of r_{n-1}, we thus have

$$p = \sum_{i=m+1}^{n} r_i \le (n-m-1)b+1 = (n-b)b+1 = nb-b^2+1.$$

It is a simple calculus exercise to show that this bound is maximized when $b = n/2$. Hence we have that $p \le n^2/4+1$.

Case II: $b \ge m+2$. We have that $r_i \le b$ for all $i \in \{m+1, m+2, \ldots, n\}$ and $\sum_{i=m+1}^{n} r_i = (b-m)p$, so therefore $(b-m)p \le (n-m)b$. As in the proof of Theorem 7, this yields

$$p \le \frac{(n-m)b}{b-m} \le n + \frac{m(n-m-2)}{2},$$

and this bound is maximized when $m = n/2-1$. Therefore

$$p \le n + \frac{(n/2-1)(n/2-1)}{2} = \frac{n^2}{8} + \frac{n}{2} + \frac{1}{2} = \frac{n^2}{4} + 1 - \frac{(n-2)^2}{8} < \frac{n^2}{4} + 1.$$

We have thus shown that in all cases we must have $p \le n^2/4+1$. □

For even n, we can choose $k = n/2$ in Proposition 6 and get an arithmetical structure on K_n with $r_1 = n^2/4+1$. For odd n, we can choose $k = (n-1)/2$ and get an arithmetical structure on K_n with $r_1 = (n^2-1)/4+1$. As some of these values of r_1 are prime, the bound in Theorem 8 therefore cannot be improved.

There are arithmetical structures for which r_1 takes composite values larger than the bound given in Theorem 8. For instance, the example in the opening paragraph of this paper gives an arithmetical structure on K_5 with $r_1 = 105$.

4. Prime r_1

This section considers the possible prime values r_1 can take in an arithmetical structure on K_n. Theorem 1(b) guarantees that r_1 can take any prime value up to $2^k n - (k+2^k-3)2^k - 3$ for any k. Theorem 8 says that r_1 cannot take any prime value larger than $n^2/4+1$. These bounds are not too far from each other. The function $n^2/4+1$ has linear approximations of the form $2^k n - 2^{2k} + 1$. When k is 1 or 2, this linear approximation coincides with the bound from Theorem 1(b). In general, it differs from this bound by $(k-3)2^k+4$.

Proposition 6 shows that r_1 can take some of the prime values in the gap between the bound of Theorem 1(b) and the bound of Theorem 8. We can check by hand whether it can take other prime values; to illustrate how to do this, we explain why there is no arithmetical structure on K_{18} with $r_1 = 79$. Suppose there were such a structure, and let $b = \sum_{i=1}^{18} r_i/r_1$, so that $\sum_{i=1}^{18} r_i = 79b$. Let m be the largest value of i for which $r_i = 79$. Then $\sum_{i=m+1}^{18} r_i = 79(b-m)$. For all $i \in \{m+1, m+2, \ldots, 18\}$, we have that $r_i \mid 79b$ and $r_i < 79$. Therefore $r_i \mid b$,

n	yes, Theorem 1(b)	no, Theorem 8	yes, Proposition 6	yes, other	no, other
3	$p \leq 3$	$p > 3.25$			
4	$p \leq 5$	$p > 5$			
5	$p \leq 7$	$p > 7.25$			
6	$p \leq 9$	$p > 10$			
7	$p \leq 13$	$p > 13.25$			
8	$p \leq 17$	$p > 17$			
9	$p \leq 21$	$p > 21.25$			
10	$p \leq 25$	$p > 26$			
11	$p \leq 29$	$p > 31.25$	31		
12	$p \leq 33$	$p > 37$	37		
13	$p \leq 37$	$p > 43.25$	41, 43		
14	$p \leq 45$	$p > 50$		47	
15	$p \leq 53$	$p > 57.25$	57		
16	$p \leq 61$	$p > 65$			
17	$p \leq 69$	$p > 73.25$	71, 73		
18	$p \leq 77$	$p > 82$			79
19	$p \leq 85$	$p > 91.25$	89		
20	$p \leq 93$	$p > 101$	97, 101		
21	$p \leq 101$	$p > 111.25$	109	103, 107	
22	$p \leq 109$	$p > 122$	113		
23	$p \leq 117$	$p > 133.25$	127, 131		
24	$p \leq 125$	$p > 145$		127, 131, 137, 139	
25	$p \leq 133$	$p > 157.25$	137, 151, 157	139, 149	
26	$p \leq 141$	$p > 170$		149, 151, 157, 163	167
27	$p \leq 149$	$p > 183.25$	163, 181	151, 157, 167, 173	179

Table 1. Possible prime r_1 in arithmetical structures on K_n for $n \leq 27$.

and hence $r_i \leq b$. This means that $\sum_{i=m+1}^{18} r_i \leq (18-m)b$, so we must have $79(b-m) \leq (18-m)b$. If $b \geq m+2$, we would have

$$61b - 79m + mb \geq 61(m+2) - 79m + m(m+2) = (m-8)^2 + 58 > 0,$$

which would imply that $79(b-m) > (18-m)b$. Therefore we cannot have $b \geq m+2$. Since $b = m$ is only possible if $r_1 = 1$, it therefore remains to consider whether we can have $b = m+1$. In this case, we would have $\sum_{i=m+1}^{18} r_i \leq (18-m)(m+1)$. This bound is less than 79 except when m satisfies $6 \leq m \leq 11$. If $m = 6$, we would need to have 12 divisors of 7 that sum to 79, but this is not possible. If $m = 7$, we would need to have 11 divisors of 8 that sum to 79, but this is not possible. If $m = 8$, we would need to have 10 divisors of 9 that sum to 79, but this is not possible. If $m = 9$, we would need to have 9 divisors of 10 that sum to 79, but this is not possible. If $m = 10$, we would need to have 8 divisors of 11 that sum to 79, but this is not possible. If $m = 11$, we would need to have 7 divisors of 12 that sum to 79, but this is not possible. Therefore there is no arithmetical structure on K_{18} with $r_1 = 79$. A similar approach can be used to either find arithmetical structures with other prime values of r_1 or to show that they do not exist. We have done this for all $n \leq 27$; the results are shown in Table 1.

We conclude by noting that, on K_{27}, there is no arithmetical structure with $r_1 = 179$, whereas there is an arithmetical structure with $r_1 = 181$. This shows that there is not a cutoff function $f(n)$ such that, for each n, there is an arithmetical structure on K_n with $r_1 = p$ for all primes $p \leq f(n)$ and no such structure for any $p > f(n)$. Therefore, while one could attempt to improve the bound of Theorem 1(b), the possible prime values of r_1 cannot be fully explained by a result of this form.

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