



## A Note on the Perron Value of Brualdi-Li Matrices

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### ABSTRACT

Let  $B_{2n}$  denote the Brualdi-Li matrix, and let  $\rho_{2n} = \rho(B_{2n})$  denote the Perron value of the Brualdi-Li matrix of order  $2n$ . We prove that  $n^3 \left( n - \frac{1}{2} - \frac{\gamma}{4n} - \rho_{2n} \right)$  is monotonically decreasing for all  $n > 1$ , where  $e = 2.71828 \dots$ ,  $\gamma = \frac{e^2 - 1}{e^2 + 1} = 0.76159 \dots$ .

### Keywords

Tournament matrix; Brualdi-Li matrix; Perron value.

### SUBJECT CLASSIFICATION

AMS Classification : 05C20, 05C50, 15A18, 15B34, 15B48.

### TYPE

Research article

### 1. INTRODUCTION

We denote by  $J$  the matrix of all ones and by  $I$  the identity matrix. Tournament matrices are square matrices  $T$  with entries in  $\{0,1\}$  and such that  $T + T^t = J - I$ . An  $n \times n$  tournament matrix  $T$  is called regular if each of the row sums of  $T$  is  $\frac{n-1}{2}$ . Since the row sums are integers, a tournament matrix can only be regular if  $n$  is odd and in this case it is known that regular tournament matrices maximize the Perron value over the class of all  $n \times n$  tournament matrices. For even  $n$  Brualdi and Li [1] conjectured that the matrix  $B_{2n} = \begin{pmatrix} U_n & U_n' \\ I + U_n' & U_n \end{pmatrix}$ , where  $U_n$  is strictly upper triangular tournament matrix (all of whose entries above the main diagonal are equal to one), i.e.

$$U_n = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 & \dots & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & \dots & 1 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

is among the tournament matrices that maximize the Perron value. This conjecture has recently been confirmed in [2]. The matrix  $B_{2n}$  is called the Brualdi-Li matrix.

Let  $\rho_{2n} = \rho(B_{2n})$  denote the Perron value of the Brualdi-Li matrix of order  $2n$ . Friedland and Katz [3] paid particular attention to the behavior of the Perron value of  $B_{2n}$  and posed the problem of determining the behavior of the sequence  $2n \left( n - \frac{1}{2} - \rho_{2n} \right)$ . Steve Kirkland [4] showed that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n^3 \left( n - \frac{1}{2} - \frac{\gamma}{4n} - \rho_{2n} \right) = \frac{\gamma^2}{16} + \frac{e^2(3\gamma + 1)}{12(e^2 + 1)^2},$$

where  $e = 2.71828 \dots$ ,  $\gamma = \frac{e^2 - 1}{e^2 + 1} = 0.76159 \dots$ . There are several interesting properties of the Perron value of the Brualdi-Li matrix, see e.g. [5]–[11]. We investigate the sequence  $n^3 \left( n - \frac{1}{2} - \frac{\gamma}{4n} - \rho_{2n} \right)$  and obtain the following results.

**Theorem 1.1** Let  $n \geq 2$  be an integer, and let  $\rho_{2n} = \rho(B_{2n})$  be the Perron value of the Brualdi-Li matrix  $B_{2n}$ . Then  $n^3 \left( n - \frac{1}{2} - \frac{\gamma}{4n} - \rho_{2n} \right)$  is monotonically decreasing for all  $n$ , where  $e = 2.71828 \dots$ ,  $\gamma = \frac{e^2 - 1}{e^2 + 1} = 0.76159 \dots$ .

By theorem 1.1 and lemma 2.5, one can easily prove the following corollaries.

**Corollary 1.2** Let  $n \geq 2$  be an integer, and let  $\rho_{2n} = \rho(B_{2n})$  be the Perron value of the Brualdi-Li matrix  $B_{2n}$ . Then

$$\rho_{2n} < n - \frac{1}{2} - \frac{\gamma}{4n} - \left( \frac{\gamma^2}{16} + \frac{e^2(3\gamma + 1)}{12(e^2 + 1)^2} \right) \frac{1}{n^3}.$$



We give some lemmas in section 2 and prove theorem 1.1 in section 3.

## 2. SOME LEMMAS

For two variables, the Implicit Function Theorem is as follow.

**Implicit Function Theorem** If a real-valued function  $F$  is defined on an open disk containing  $(x_0, y_0)$ , satisfying

- (i)  $F(x_0, y_0) = 0$ ,
- (ii)  $\left. \frac{\partial F}{\partial y} \right|_{(x_0, y_0)} \neq 0$ ,
- (iii)  $\frac{\partial F}{\partial x}$  and  $\frac{\partial F}{\partial y}$  are continuous on the open disk,

then the equation  $F(x, y) = 0$  defines  $y$  as a function of  $x$  near the point  $(x_0, y_0)$  and the derivative of this function is given by  $\frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{\frac{\partial F}{\partial x}}{\frac{\partial F}{\partial y}}$ , where  $\frac{\partial F}{\partial x}$  and  $\frac{\partial F}{\partial y}$  indicate the partial derivatives of  $F$  with respect to  $x$  and  $y$ .

**Lemma 2.1** ([4]) Let  $n \geq 2$  be an integer, and let  $\rho_{2n} = \rho(B_{2n})$  be the Perron value of the Brualdi-Li matrix  $B_{2n}$ . Then

$$(2\rho_{2n}^2 + 2(1-n)\rho_{2n} + 1 - n) \left( \left(1 + \frac{1}{\rho_{2n}}\right)^{2n} + 1 \right) - 1 = 0.$$

It is well known that  $n - 1 < \rho_{2n} < n$ .

Let  $F = F(m, \rho) = (2\rho^2 + 2(1-m)\rho + 1 - m) \left( \left(1 + \frac{1}{\rho}\right)^{2m} + 1 \right) - 1$  and  $D = \{(m, \rho) | m > 2, m - 1 < \rho < m, m \text{ and } \rho \text{ are real numbers}\}$ , Then the partial derivatives of  $F$  are

$$\frac{\partial F}{\partial m} = -(2\rho + 1) \left( \left(1 + \frac{1}{\rho}\right)^{2m} + 1 \right) + 2(2\rho^2 + 2(1-m)\rho + 1 - m) \left(1 + \frac{1}{\rho}\right)^{2m} \ln \left(1 + \frac{1}{\rho}\right) \text{ and}$$

$$\frac{\partial F}{\partial \rho} = 2(2\rho - m + 1) \left( \left(1 + \frac{1}{\rho}\right)^{2m} + 1 \right) - \frac{2m}{\rho^2} (2\rho^2 + 2(1-m)\rho + 1 - m) \left(1 + \frac{1}{\rho}\right)^{2m-1}.$$

Evidently,  $\frac{\partial F}{\partial x}$  and  $\frac{\partial F}{\partial y}$  are derivable on the open disk  $D$  and

$$\frac{\partial F}{\partial \rho} = 2(2\rho - m + 1) + 2 \left( (2\rho - m + 1) \left(1 + \frac{1}{\rho}\right) - \frac{m}{\rho^2} (2\rho^2 + 2(1-m)\rho + 1 - m) \right) \left(1 + \frac{1}{\rho}\right)^{2m-1} > 0, (m, \rho) \in D.$$

By the Implicit Function Theorem, the equation  $F(m, \rho) = 0$  defines  $\rho$  as a function in terms of  $m$  and the derivative of this function is given by

$$\frac{d\rho}{dm} = -\frac{\frac{\partial F}{\partial m}}{\frac{\partial F}{\partial \rho}}.$$

**Lemma 2.2** [6] Let  $m > 1$  be a real number, and let  $\rho$  be a function in terms of  $m$  satisfying the equation

$$F(m, \rho) = (2\rho^2 + 2(1-m)\rho + 1 - m) \left( \left(1 + \frac{1}{\rho}\right)^{2m} + 1 \right) - 1, (m, \rho) \in D.$$

Then

$$m - \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{5m} < \rho < m - \frac{1}{2} - \frac{\gamma}{4m},$$

where  $\gamma = \frac{e^2 - 1}{e^2 + 1} = 0.76159 \dots$ .

**Lemma 2.3** Let  $m \geq 3$  be a real number, and let  $\rho$  be a function in terms of  $m$  satisfying the equation  $F(m, \rho) = 0$ , and let

$$G = G(m, \rho) = 2\rho^2 + 2(1-m)\rho + 1 - m, (m, \rho) \in D.$$

Then

$$0 < G(1 - G) < \frac{9}{20} \left( 1 - \gamma + \frac{\gamma^2}{4m^2} \right).$$

**Proof** For fixed real number  $m \geq 3$ ,  $G(m, \rho)$  is continuous real function in terms of  $\rho$ .

Let  $\rho_1 = m - \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{5m}$  and  $\rho_2 = m - \frac{1}{2} - \frac{\gamma}{4m}$ , then

$$G(m, \rho_1) = \frac{1}{10} + \frac{2}{25m^2}, \quad G(m, \rho_2) = \frac{1 - \gamma}{2} + \frac{\gamma^2}{8m^2}.$$



By lemma 2.2, we have

$$G(m, \rho_1) < G(m, \rho) = 2\rho^2 + 2(1 - m)\rho + 1 - m < G(m, \rho_2).$$

Hence

$$\frac{1}{10} + \frac{2}{25m^2} < G(m, \rho) < \frac{1 - \gamma}{2} + \frac{\gamma^2}{8m^2},$$

that is

$$0 < \frac{1 - \gamma}{2} - \frac{\gamma^2}{8m^2} < 1 - G(m, \rho) < \frac{9}{10} - \frac{2}{25m^2}.$$

We have the desired result.

**Lemma 2.4** [6] Let  $m \geq 3$  be a real number, and let  $\rho$  be a function interms of  $m$  satisfying the equation  $F(m, \rho) = 0$ , then

$$\frac{d\rho}{dm} = \frac{2\rho(1 + \rho)(G - 1)G \ln\left(1 + \frac{1}{\rho}\right) + \rho(1 + \rho)(2\rho + 1)}{2m(G - 1)G + \rho(1 + \rho)(4\rho + 2 - 2m)}.$$

**Lemma 2.5** [4]

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n^3 \left( n - \frac{1}{2} - \frac{\gamma}{4n} - \rho_{2n} \right) = \frac{\gamma^2}{16} + \frac{e^2(3\gamma + 1)}{12(e^2 + 1)^2},$$

Where  $e = 2.71828 \dots$ ,  $\gamma = \frac{e^2 - 1}{e^2 + 1} = 0.76159 \dots$ .

### 3. PROOF OF THEOREM 1.1

In section 2,  $F = F(m, \rho) = (2\rho^2 + 2(1 - m)\rho + 1 - m) \left( (1 + \frac{1}{\rho})^{2m} + 1 \right) - 1$  and  $G = G(m, \rho) = 2\rho^2 + 2(1 - m)\rho + 1 - m$ ,  $(m, \rho) \in D$ .  $\rho$  is a function interms of  $m$  satisfying the equation  $F(m, \rho) = 0$ . Clearly,  $F$  and  $G$  are the functions in terms of  $m$ .

Let  $m \geq 3$  be a real number,

$$\begin{aligned} F_1 &= \rho(1 + \rho)(4\rho + 2 - 2m) - 2m(1 - G)G, \\ F_2 &= 8m^2 - \gamma - 3(1 + 2\rho)m - 2m\rho(1 + \rho) \ln\left(1 + \frac{1}{\rho}\right), \\ F_3 &= m^2(2\rho + 1) + (2\rho + 1 - m)(\gamma + 3(1 + 2\rho)m - 8m^2). \end{aligned}$$

By lemma 2.3, then

$$\begin{aligned} F_1 &= \rho(1 + \rho)(4\rho + 2 - 2m) - 2m(1 - G)G \\ &> (m - 1)m(4(m - 1) + 2 - 2m) - 2m \cdot \frac{9}{20} \left( 1 - \gamma + \frac{\gamma^2}{4m^2} \right) \\ &= 2m \left( (m - 1)^2 - \frac{9}{20} \left( 1 - \gamma + \frac{\gamma^2}{4m^2} \right) \right) > 0. \end{aligned}$$

By lemma 2.2 and Taylor's Theorem, we have

$$\begin{aligned} F_2 &= 8m^2 - \gamma - 3(1 + 2\rho)m - 2m\rho(1 + \rho) \ln\left(1 + \frac{1}{\rho}\right) \\ &> 8m^2 - \gamma - 3(1 + 2\rho)m - 2m\rho(1 + \rho) \left( \frac{1}{\rho} - \frac{1}{2\rho^2} + \frac{1}{3\rho^3} \right) \\ &= 8m^2 - \gamma - 3(1 + 2\rho)m - 2m\rho(1 + \rho) \left( \frac{1}{2} + \rho - \frac{1}{6\rho} + \frac{1}{3\rho^2} \right) \\ &= 8m^2 - \gamma - 4m - 8m\rho + \frac{m}{3\rho} - \frac{2m}{3\rho^2} \\ &> 8m^2 - \gamma - 4m - 8m \left( m - \frac{1}{2} - \frac{\gamma}{4m} \right) + \frac{m}{3m} - \frac{2m}{3(m - 1)^2} \\ &= \gamma + \frac{1}{3} - \frac{2m}{3(m - 1)^2} > 0. \end{aligned}$$

By lemma 2.2, we have

$$F_3 = m^2(2\rho + 1) + (2\rho + 1 - m)(\gamma + 3(1 + 2\rho)m - 8m^2)$$



$$\begin{aligned}
 &> m^2 \left( 2 \left( m - \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{5m} \right) + 1 \right) - \left( 2 \left( m - \frac{1}{2} - \frac{\gamma}{4m} \right) + 1 - m \right) \left( 8m^2 - \gamma + 3m \left( 1 + 2 \left( m - \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{5m} \right) \right) \right) \\
 &= (2\gamma - 1)m + \frac{3\gamma}{10} - \gamma^2 > 0.
 \end{aligned}$$

By lemma 2.4, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\frac{d\rho}{dm} - 4 + \frac{3}{2m} + \frac{3\rho}{m} + \frac{\gamma}{2m^2} \\
 &= \frac{d\rho}{dm} + \frac{\gamma + 3(1 + 2\rho)m - 8m^2}{2m^2} \\
 &= \frac{2\rho(1 + \rho)(G - 1)G \ln \left( 1 + \frac{1}{\rho} \right) + \rho(1 + \rho)(2\rho + 1)}{2m(G - 1)G + \rho(1 + \rho)(4\rho + 2 - 2m)} + \frac{\gamma + 3(1 + 2\rho)m - 8m^2}{2m^2} \\
 &= \frac{2m^2 \left( 2\rho(1 + \rho)(G - 1)G \ln \left( 1 + \frac{1}{\rho} \right) + \rho(1 + \rho)(2\rho + 1) \right)}{2m^2(2m(G - 1)G + \rho(1 + \rho)(4\rho + 2 - 2m))} \\
 &\quad + \frac{(2m(G - 1)G + \rho(1 + \rho)(4\rho + 2 - 2m))(\gamma + 3(1 + 2\rho)m - 8m^2)}{2m^2(2m(G - 1)G + \rho(1 + \rho)(4\rho + 2 - 2m))} \\
 &= \frac{m(1 - G)G \left( 8m^2 - \gamma - 3(1 + 2\rho)m - 2m\rho(1 + \rho) \ln \left( 1 + \frac{1}{\rho} \right) \right)}{m^2(\rho(1 + \rho)(4\rho + 2 - 2m) - 2m(1 - G)G)} \\
 &\quad + \frac{\rho(1 + \rho)(m^2(2\rho + 1) + (2\rho + 1 - m)(\gamma + 3(1 + 2\rho)m - 8m^2))}{m^2(\rho(1 + \rho)(4\rho + 2 - 2m) - 2m(1 - G)G)} \\
 &= \frac{m(1 - G)GF_2 + \rho(1 + \rho)F_3}{m^2F_1}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Due to  $(1 - G)G > 0, F_i > 0, i = 1, 2, 3$ , then

$$\frac{d\rho}{dm} - 4 + \frac{3}{2m} + \frac{3\rho}{m} + \frac{\gamma}{2m^2} > 0.$$

Hence, as  $m \geq 3$ ,

$$\frac{d}{dm} \left( m^3 \left( m - \frac{1}{2} - \frac{\gamma}{4m} - \rho \right) \right) = -m^3 \left( \frac{d\rho}{dm} - 4 + \frac{3}{2m} + \frac{3\rho}{m} + \frac{\gamma}{2m^2} \right) < 0.$$

To sum up, we obtain the following result.

Let  $m \geq 3$  be a real number, and let  $\rho$  be a function of  $m$  satisfying the equation  $F(m, \rho) = 0, (m, \rho) \in D$ , then

$m^3 \left( m - \frac{1}{2} - \frac{\gamma}{4m} - \rho \right)$  is a monotonically decreasing function for all  $m$ .

Note that  $\rho_{2n} = \rho(B_{2n})$  is the Perron value of the Brualdi-Li matrix  $B_{2n}$ , by lemma 2.1,  $\rho_{2n}$  satisfy the equation

$$F(n, \rho_{2n}) = (2\rho_{2n}^2 + 2(1 - n)\rho_{2n} + 1 - m) \left( \left( 1 + \frac{1}{\rho_{2n}} \right)^{2n} + 1 \right) - 1.$$

Where  $n \geq 3$  is an integer. It is easy to see that  $n^3 \left( n - \frac{1}{2} - \frac{\gamma}{4n} - \rho_{2n} \right)$  is a monotonically decreasing function for all  $n \geq 3$ .

Since  $2^3 \left( 2 - \frac{1}{2} - \frac{0.76159}{8} - \rho_{2 \times 2} \right) = 8 \left( 1.5 - \frac{0.76159}{8} - 1.3953 \right) = 0.07601$

$$> 3^3 \left( 3 - \frac{1}{2} - \frac{0.76159}{12} - \rho_{2 \times 3} \right) = 27 \left( 2.5 - \frac{0.76159}{12} - 2.4340 \right) = 0.06842.$$

Evidently, it follows that  $n^3 \left( n - \frac{1}{2} - \frac{\gamma}{4n} - \rho_{2n} \right)$  is monotonically decreasing for all integers  $n \geq 2$ . We complete the proof of Theorem 1.1.

We close the paper by giving some numerical data. For  $n = 3, 4, \dots, 20$ . We computed the quantities using MATLAB. Here are the results:

$$n \quad \rho(B_{2n}) \quad n - \frac{1}{2} - \frac{\gamma}{4n} - \left( \frac{\gamma^2}{16} + \frac{e^2(3\gamma + 1)}{12(e^2 + 1)^2} \right) \frac{1}{n^3}$$



3	2.4339681553	2.434126720545780
4	3.4513485104	3.451384870028336
5	4.4613886265	4.461400358647304
6	5.4679613465	5.467966022694605
7	6.4726085757	6.472610728557371
8	7.4760721450	7.476073245723328
9	8.4787548455	8.478755454934886
10	9.4808947951	9.480895154406742
11	10.4826419899	10.482642212688186
12	11.4840957000	11.484095844150017
13	12.4853242800	12.485324376520939
14	13.4863763527	13.486376419338121
15	14.4872874601	14.487287507269073
16	15.4880841901	15.488084224200309
17	16.4887868322	16.488786857426792
18	17.4894111405	17.489411159408988
19	18.4899695344	18.489969548874562
20	19.4904719379	19.490471949088757

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