



Research Paper

# On the two-sided group digraph with a normal adjacency matrix

Farzaneh Nowroozi Larki \*, Shahram Rayat Pisheh

Department of Mathematics, Shahid Rajaei Teacher Training University, Lavizan, Tehran, I. R. Iran

Academic Editor: Hamidreza Maimani

**Abstract.** In this article, we explore the adjacency matrix of a two-sided group graph and its properties. We introduce the two-sided color group digraph as a generalization of the Cayley color graph and the two-sided group digraph. We also obtain the adjacency matrix of the latter digraph and provide a criterion for determining the normality of the adjacency matrix of a two-sided group graph. Moreover, we prove that if all the two-sided group digraphs of valency two for a certain group  $G$  are normal, then  $G$  is a Hamiltonian group. We also show that if a strongly connected two-sided group digraph of valency two is normal, then the corresponding group is isomorphic to the product of two groups: a cyclic group with either  $T_{m,n}$  or  $H_{p,q,r}$ , or an abelian group.

**Keywords.** Cayley digraph, adjacency matrix, normal matrix.

**Mathematics Subject Classification (2010):** 05C20.

## 1 Introduction

A Cayley digraph is a directed graph that has a finite group,  $G$ , as its vertex set. An arc  $(x, y)$  connects vertex  $x$  to vertex  $y$  if and only if  $x^{-1}y \in S$ , where  $S$  is a subset of  $G$  and the identity element,  $e$ , is not an element of  $S$ . The digraph is represented as  $\overrightarrow{\text{Cay}}(G, S)$ . If the subset  $S$  is symmetric, meaning  $S = S^{-1} = \{s^{-1} : s \in S\}$ , then the digraph becomes a simple

\*Corresponding author (Email address: [fnowroozi@sru.ac.ir](mailto:fnowroozi@sru.ac.ir))

Received 01 April 2024; Revised 15 April 2024; Accepted 17 May 2024

First Publish Date: 01 June 2024

undirected graph called a Cayley graph. This graph is represented as  $Cay(G, S)$ . If the subset  $S$  is empty, the related Cayley graph has no edges. The graph is connected if and only if  $G$  is generated by  $S$  [2]. There have been many generalizations of Cayley digraphs, including the recent introduction of a two-sided group digraph by Iradmusa and Praeger, denoted by  $\overrightarrow{2S}(G; L, R)$  [6]. This digraph is defined on a group  $G$  as the vertex set, with  $L$  and  $R$  as two non-empty subsets of  $G$ . An arc is formed between vertices  $x$  and  $y$  if and only if  $y = l^{-1}xr$  for some  $l \in L$  and  $r \in R$ . It is important to note that for distinct ordered pairs  $(l_i, r_i)$  that occur in the relation  $y = l_1^{-1}xr_1 = l_2^{-1}xr_2$ , at most one arc from  $x$  to  $y$  is considered. If the digraph has no loops and the adjacency relation is symmetric, then it is a simple graph called a two-sided group graph, denoted by  $2S(G; L, R)$ . If a group is abelian, its associated two-sided group digraph will be a Cayley digraph. For the purposes of this paper, we will assume that all groups are non-abelian.

In a two-sided group digraph  $\overrightarrow{2S}(G; L, R)$ , the arcs that start from a vertex  $x$  are referred to as the pairs  $(x, y)$ , where  $y$  is known as the out-neighbor of  $x$ . The out-valency of a vertex  $x$  is the number of distinct out-neighbors of  $x$ . Conversely, the in-valency of a vertex  $x$  is the number of distinct in-neighbors of  $x$ , represented by the pairs  $(y, x)$ , where  $y$  is called the in-neighbor of  $x$ . If all vertices in the digraph have the same out-valency and in-valency  $c$ , it is considered as regular of valency  $c$ . The following definition provides sufficient and necessary conditions by which a two-sided group digraph is simple with no loops and regular valency  $|L||R|$ .

We must remark that if  $g \in G$  and  $L \subseteq G$ , then  $L^g = g^{-1}Lg$ .

**Definition 1.** [6] Let  $G$  be a group with identity element  $e$ ,  $L$  and  $R$  be two non-empty subsets of  $G$ . A pair  $(L, R)$  has the  $2S$ -graph-property if for all  $g \in G$  the following conditions hold:

- (i)  $L^{-1}gR = LgR^{-1}$ ,
- (ii)  $L^g \cap R = \emptyset$ ,
- (iii)  $(LL^{-1})^g \cap (RR^{-1}) = \{e\}$ .

Note that, unlike Cayley graphs, the condition  $G = \langle L \cup R \rangle$  is insufficient  $\overrightarrow{2S}(G; L, R)$  graphs to be connected.

A word in a subset  $L$  of a group  $G$  is a string  $w = l_1l_2\dots l_k$ , where each  $l_i \in L$ . The integer  $k$ , known as the length of  $w$  and denoted  $|w|$ , and in  $G$ , we always identify  $w$  with its evaluation, which is the element obtained by multiplying the  $l_i$  in the given order.

**Lemma 1.1.** [6] Let  $L, R$  be two non-empty subsets of a group  $G$ . If  $\overrightarrow{2S}(G; L, R)$  is connected, then  $G = \langle L \rangle \langle R \rangle$  and there exist words  $w$  in  $L \cup L^{-1}$  and  $w'$  in  $R \cup R^{-1}$ , with lengths having opposite parity, such that  $ww'$  evaluates to the identity element  $e$  in  $G$ .

In this discussion, we have focused on color graphs that involve labeling the arcs of digraphs with complex numbers. A color graph is defined as a pair consisting of a vertex set and a mapping that associates a color to each arc. Non-edges are represented by the color 0. The adjacency matrix of a color graph is obtained by evaluating the color mapping on each

pair of vertices. Cayley color graphs, a specific type of color graph, are defined using a group and a function that maps group elements to complex numbers.

If the matrix  $N$  satisfies the relation  $N^T N = N N^T$  [10], then it is considered normal. The relationship between the eigenvalues of these matrices and their entries is significant, as stated in Theorem 2.5.3 [5]. Basically, an  $n \times n$  matrix  $A = [a_{ij}]$  is considered normal if and only if  $\sum_{i,j} |a_{ij}|^2 = \sum_i |\lambda_i|^2$ , where  $\lambda_i$ 's are the eigenvalues of the matrix and  $1 \leq i \leq n$ . This relation shows a connection between the normality of the adjacency matrix of a digraph and its spectrum. Several authors have recently studied the computation of eigenvalues of digraphs [3,7,11]; moreover, this issue justifies how this topic is essential.

We emphasize that a digraph is normal only if its adjacency matrix is normal. It is clear that whenever  $N = N^T$ ,  $N$  is a normal matrix; therefore, if all arcs of a digraph are double and both  $(x,y)$  and  $(y,x)$  are arcs, for all vertices  $x,y$ , the adjacency matrix of the digraph is symmetric, and so the digraph is normal. A proper normal digraph (PND) is a normal digraph where all arcs are not double and without loops [10].

In this paper, we establish certain conditions that ensure the adjacency matrix of  $\Gamma = \vec{2S}(G;L,R)$  is normal. A Hamiltonian group is a non-abelian group where all subgroups are normal. We prove that if all two-sided group digraphs of valency two for a certain group  $G$  are normal, then  $G$  is a Hamiltonian group. This outcome is similar to the previously researched Cayley digraphs of valency two [8]. Furthermore, we indicate that if a strongly connected two-sided group digraph of valency two is normal, then  $G = K.\langle z \rangle$  in which  $K$  is an abelian subgroup of  $G$  and  $\langle z \rangle$  is a cyclic group either  $G \cong T_{m,n}.\langle z \rangle$  or  $G \cong H_{p,q}.\langle z \rangle$  in which  $T_{m,n}, H_{p,q}$  are as follows:

$$T_{m,n} = \langle x,y | x^{2m} = y^n = e, x^{-1}yx = y^{-1} \rangle, \text{ where } m \geq 1 \text{ and } n \geq 3; \text{ and}$$

$$H_{p,q} = \langle x,y | x^{4p} = e, y^{2q} = x^{2p}, x^{-1}yx = y^{-1} \rangle, \text{ where } p \geq 1 \text{ and } q \geq 1.$$

## 2 Two-sided Color Group Digraphs and their adjacency matrices

Now, we generalize a Cayley color graph, a digraph defined in [1], and we name it a two-sided color group digraph. Let  $G$  be a finite group,  $\alpha : G \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  and  $\beta : G \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  be two functions, and for  $g,h \in G$ , we define the function  $c_\Gamma : G \times G \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  as follows:

$$c_\Gamma(g,h) = \frac{1}{t_{g,h}} \sum_{x \in G} \alpha(g^{-1}xh)\beta(x), \tag{1}$$

where  $T_{g,h} = \{x \in G : \alpha(g^{-1}xh) = \beta(x) \neq 0\}$  and

$$t_{g,h} = \begin{cases} |T_{g,h}| & \text{if } T_{g,h} \neq \emptyset \\ 1 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \tag{2}$$

We introduce a two-sided color group digraph  $\Gamma = \Gamma(G;\alpha,\beta)$  with the vertex set  $V(\Gamma) = G$  and  $c_\Gamma(g,h)$ , where  $c_\Gamma : G \times G \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  defined by relation (1).

In the following theorem, we show that  $\Gamma = \Gamma(G; \alpha, \beta)$  is a two-sided group digraph for two specific functions  $\alpha$ , and  $\beta$ .

**Proposition 2.1.** *Let  $G$  be a group. If a two-sided color group digraph  $\Gamma = \Gamma(G; \alpha, \beta)$ , in which two functions  $\alpha, \beta$  are from  $G$  to  $\mathbb{C}$ , have the values in  $\{0, 1\}$ , then  $\Gamma$  is a two-sided group digraph.*

*Proof.* It suffices to have  $\alpha, \beta : G \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  such that  $\alpha(g), \beta(g) \in \{0, 1\}$  for all  $g \in G$ ,  $R = \{r \in G : \alpha(r) = 1\}$ , and  $L = \{l \in G : \beta(l) = 1\}$ , then  $\Gamma$  is a two-sided group digraph denoted by  $\Gamma = \overrightarrow{2S}(G; L, R)$ .

Let  $g, h \in G$ , for all  $x \in G$ , if  $\alpha(g^{-1}xh) = 0$  or  $\beta(x) = 0$ , then  $g^{-1}xh \notin R$  or  $x \notin L$ , therefore  $(g, h)$  is not an arc, and according to relation (1), we have  $c_\Gamma(g, h) = 0$ . Now, if there is at least one  $x \in G$  such that  $\alpha(g^{-1}xh) = 1$  and  $\beta(x) = 1$ , then  $g^{-1}xh = r$  and  $x = l$  for some  $r \in R, l \in L$ , so  $g^{-1}lh = r$ , hence  $(g, h)$  forms an arc and, in this case,  $c_\Gamma(g, h) = 1$ .  $\square$

According to the proposition 1, the adjacency matrix of  $\Gamma = (G; \alpha, \beta)$  is as follows:

$$A = \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{g, h \in G} \sum_{x \in G} \frac{1}{t_{g,h}} \alpha(g^{-1}xh) \beta(x) L_g \cdot R_h,$$

where  $L_g = [l_{xy}(g)]_{x,y \in G}, R_g = [r_{xy}(g)]_{x,y \in G}, l_{xy}(g) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } g^{-1}x = y \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$ , and  $r_{xy}(g) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } xg = y \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$ .

Now, we have the matrix  $\Lambda_{g,h} = [\lambda_{xy}(g, h)]_{x,y \in G}$ , where

$$\lambda_{xy}(g, h) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } y = g^{-1}xh \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Further, it is clear that  $L_g R_h = \Lambda_{g,h}$ , so the adjacency matrix of a two-sided color group digraph is represented by the following relation.

$$A = \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{g, h \in G} \sum_{x \in G} \frac{1}{t_{g,h}} \alpha(g^{-1}xh) \beta(x) \Lambda_{g,h}.$$

**Example** Let  $G = D_6 = \langle a, b | a^3 = b^2 = 1, b^{-1}ab = a^{-1} \rangle$  be the dihedral group of order 6 and  $L = \{a, a^2\}, R = \{ab, a^2b\}$ . Here, corresponding permutation matrices are  $L_1 = R_1 = I_6$ , the identity matrix of order 6, and  $L_a = \begin{pmatrix} A & O \\ O & A \end{pmatrix}, L_{a^2} = \begin{pmatrix} B & O \\ O & B \end{pmatrix}, L_b = \begin{pmatrix} O & C \\ C & O \end{pmatrix}, L_{ab} = \begin{pmatrix} O & D \\ D & O \end{pmatrix}, L_{a^2b} = \begin{pmatrix} O & E \\ E & O \end{pmatrix}, R_a = \begin{pmatrix} B & O \\ O & B \end{pmatrix}, R_{a^2} = \begin{pmatrix} A & O \\ O & A \end{pmatrix}, R_b = \begin{pmatrix} O & I \\ I & O \end{pmatrix}, R_{ab} = \begin{pmatrix} O & B \\ B & O \end{pmatrix}, R_{a^2b} = \begin{pmatrix} O & E \\ E & O \end{pmatrix}$  where  $O, A, B, C, D, E$  are matrices of order 3 as follows:

$A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, B = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, C = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, D = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, E = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ , and  $O$  represents zero matrix.

With simple computations and mentioning  $\alpha(g), \beta(g) \in \{0, 1\}$ , we have

$$\sum_{g, h \in G} \sum_{x \in G} \frac{1}{t_{g,h}} \alpha(g^{-1}xh) \beta(x) L_g \cdot R_h = 6 \begin{pmatrix} O & J_3 \\ J_3 & O \end{pmatrix} = 6T$$

, where  $J_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$  and  $T$  is the adjacency matrix of  $\Gamma = 2S(D_6; L, R)$ .

### 3 Two-sided Group Digraph with Normal Adjacency Matrix

According to definition, all arcs of a two-sided digraph  $\overrightarrow{2S}(G; L, R)$  are double if and only if  $L^{-1}gR = LgR^{-1}$ , for each  $g \in G$ , making the related digraph an undirected graph and a normal digraph (graph). Further, the relation  $L^g \cap R = \emptyset$ , for all  $g \in G$ , indicates that  $\overrightarrow{2S}(G; L, R)$  is a digraph without a loop.

**Corollary 3.1.** *Let  $G$  be a group with two non-empty subsets  $L$  and  $R$ . Assume that the two-sided group digraph  $\Gamma = \overrightarrow{2S}(G; L, R)$  is normal. Then it is a PND if and only if  $L^{-1}gR \neq LgR^{-1}$ , for some  $g \in G$ , and  $L^g \cap R = \emptyset$ , for all  $g \in G$ .*

It is evident that the following result is true by citing Proposition 4 from reference [10].

**Corollary 3.2.** *There is no non-abelian group  $G$  with two non-empty subsets  $L$ , and  $R$ , such that the two-sided group digraph  $\Gamma = \overrightarrow{2S}(G; L, R)$  be a proper normal connected tree or a proper normal connected unicyclic digraph with at least one vertex of valency one.*

For the adjacency matrix of a digraph to be considered normal, it must satisfy the condition that the number of common in-neighbors between any two vertices is equal to the number of common out-neighbors. This is a well-known fact that can be found in Proposition 1 of [10]. To apply this concept to a two-sided group digraph  $\Gamma = \overrightarrow{2S}(G; L, R)$ , where  $L$  and  $R$  be two non-empty subsets of a group  $G$ , we can use the fact that  $L^{-1}gR, LgR^{-1}$  represent the sets of out-neighbors and in-neighbors of  $g$  ( $g \in G$ ), respectively. Therefore, the adjacency matrix of  $\Gamma$  will be normal if and only if the intersection of  $L^{-1}gR$  and  $L^{-1}hR$  equals to the intersection of  $LgR^{-1}$  and  $LhR^{-1}$ , for all  $g, h \in G$ .

**Proposition 3.3.** *Let  $G = D_{2n} = \langle a, b \mid a^n = b^2 = e, b^{-1}ab = a^{-1} \rangle$ ,  $L$  and  $R$  be two non-empty subsets of  $G$ . If one of the following three cases holds, then  $\Gamma = \overrightarrow{2S}(G; L, R)$  is normal :*

- (i)  $L, R \subseteq \{a^i b \mid 0 \leq i \leq n - 1\}$ ;
- (ii)  $L, R \subseteq \langle a \rangle$ ;
- (iii) *One of the sets  $L$  or  $R$  is a subset of  $\langle a \rangle$ , and another is a subset of  $\{a^i b \mid 0 \leq i \leq n - 1\}$ .*

*Proof.* (i) In this case, since  $L$  and  $R$  are inverse-closed subsets ( $L = L^{-1}$  and  $R = R^{-1}$ ), then  $\Gamma$  is a simple undirected graph; so, the adjacency matrix of  $\Gamma$  is symmetric, which is normal. (ii) Let  $L, R \subseteq \langle a \rangle$ , then  $L = \{a^{i_1}, \dots, a^{i_s}\}$  and  $R = \{a^{j_1}, \dots, a^{j_m}\}$ . We must show that  $|L^{-1}a^k b^w R \cap L^{-1}a^{k'} b^{w'} R| = |La^k b^w R^{-1} \cap La^{k'} b^{w'} R^{-1}|$ , for all  $k, k', w, w'$ , where  $0 \leq k, k' \leq n - 1, 0 \leq w, w' \leq 1$ . It is convenient to call these two recent subsets  $A$  and  $B$ , respectively. We define the function  $\phi : A \rightarrow B$  as follows. If  $x \in A$ , then  $x = a^{-i_p+k} b^w a^{j_q} = a^{-i_r+k'} b^{w'} a^{j_t}$ , for some  $i_p, i_r \in \{i_1, \dots, i_s\}$  and  $j_q, j_t \in \{j_1, \dots, j_m\}$ . Therefore,  $a^{i_r+k} b^w a^{-j_t} = a^{i_p+k'} b^{w'} a^{-j_q}$ . It implies that  $y = a^{i_r+k} b^w a^{-j_t} = a^{i_p+k'} b^{w'} a^{-j_q}$  belongs to set  $B$ . Hence, it is sufficient to define  $\phi(x) = y$ . One can prove that  $\phi$  is bijective; therefore, the adjacency matrix of  $\Gamma$  is normal. (iii) It is similar to the case (ii).  $\square$

By Proposition 2, the Dihedral group does not have a PND in case (i), and if cases (ii) or (iii) occur, it likely has some. For example, if we consider the Dihedral group of order 12 with  $L = \{a, a^2\}, R = \{a^3\}$ , then  $\Gamma = \overrightarrow{2S}(G; L, R)$  is a PND.

Now, we determine the necessary condition under which the adjacency matrix of the two-sided group digraph is normal.

**Lemma 3.4.** Let  $G$  be a finite group and  $L, R \subseteq G$  and  $|L| \geq 2$ . If the adjacency matrix of  $\Gamma = \overrightarrow{2S}(G; L, R)$  is normal, then  $(LL^{-1})^y RR^{-1} = (L^{-1}L)^y R^{-1}R$ , for all  $y \in G$ .

*Proof.* Suppose that  $y \in G$  and  $e \neq g \in (LL^{-1})^y RR^{-1}$ , then  $g = (l_1 l_2^{-1})^y r_2 r_1^{-1}$ , for some  $l_1, l_2 \in L, r_1, r_2 \in R$ . Assume that  $x = yg$ , then  $g = y^{-1}x$  and  $x = (l_1 l_2^{-1})^y r_2 r_1^{-1}$ . Hence,  $l_1^{-1} x r_1 = l_2^{-1} y r_2 = z$  is a common out-neighbor of  $x, y$ , i.e., the set of common out-neighbors of  $x$  and  $y$  is non-empty. Since the adjacency matrix of  $\Gamma = \overrightarrow{2S}(G; L, R)$  is normal, thus the number of common in-neighbors of  $x, y$  equals the number of common out-neighbors of  $x, y$ . So, the set common in-neighbors of  $x$  and  $y$  is not empty. Therefore,  $l_3 x r_3^{-1} = l_4 y r_4^{-1}$ , for some  $l_3, l_4 \in L$  and  $r_3, r_4 \in R$ . Thus  $x = l_3^{-1} l_4 y r_4^{-1} r_3$ , so  $g = y^{-1}x = (l_3^{-1} l_4)^y r_4^{-1} r_3 \in (L^{-1}L)^y R^{-1}R$ , and it implies  $(LL^{-1})^y RR^{-1} \subseteq (L^{-1}L)^y R^{-1}R$ . Similarly, the reverse is correct, so  $(LL^{-1})^y RR^{-1} = (L^{-1}L)^y R^{-1}R$ , for all  $y \in G$ .  $\square$

Here, a sufficient condition of normality of  $\Gamma = \overrightarrow{2S}(G; L, R)$  is presented.

**Lemma 3.5.** Let  $G$  be a finite group and  $L, R \subseteq G$ . If one of the following conditions holds, then the adjacency matrix of  $\Gamma = \overrightarrow{2S}(G; L, R)$  is normal.

- (i)  $l_1 l_2 = l_2 l_1, r_1 r_2 = r_2 r_1$ , for all  $l_1, l_2 \in L$  and  $r_1, r_2 \in R$ ,
- (ii)  $l_1^2 = l_2^2, r_1^2 = r_2^2$ , for all  $l_1, l_2 \in L$ , and  $r_1, r_2 \in R$ .

*Proof.* (i) Let  $x, y \in G$  and if  $z_1, z_2$  are distinct common out-neighbors of  $x, y$ , then  $z_1 = l_1^{-1} x r_1 = m_1^{-1} y n_1$  and  $z_2 = l_2^{-1} x r_2 = m_2^{-1} y n_2$  for some  $l_1, l_2, m_1, m_2 \in L$  and  $r_1, r_2, n_1, n_2 \in R$ . Since  $l_1 l_2^{-1} = l_2^{-1} l_1, r_1 r_2^{-1} = r_2^{-1} r_1$  for all  $l_1, l_2 \in L$  and  $r_1, r_2 \in R$ , we obtain distinct common in-neighbors  $z'_1 = l_1 y r_1^{-1} = m_1 x n_1^{-1}, z'_2 = l_2 y r_2^{-1} = m_2 x n_2^{-1}$ . Thus, in this case, we have a one-to-one mapping from  $L^{-1} x R \cap L^{-1} y R$  to  $L x R^{-1} \cap L y R^{-1}$ . Therefore, the number of common in-neighbors  $x, y$  equals the number of common out-neighbors of  $x, y$ . (ii) The proof is similar to (i).  $\square$

If  $L$  and  $R$  are two single-member subsets of  $G$ , then the sets of common out-neighbors and common in-neighbors of two distinct elements  $x, y$  of  $G$  are empty; then the adjacency matrix of  $\Gamma = \overrightarrow{2S}(G; L, R)$  is normal. In addition, it can be the unique PND, up to isomorphism, the directed cycle  $C_n$  [10].

**Corollary 3.6.** Let  $G$  be a finite group with two subsets  $L = \{x, y\}$  and  $R$ , in which  $R$  is an arbitrary singleton. Then the adjacency matrix of  $\Gamma = \overrightarrow{2S}(G; L, R)$  is normal, if and only if  $x^2 = y^2$  or  $xy = yx$ .

*Proof.* If we use Lemmas 2 and 3, the proof easily follows.  $\square$

Since  $\overrightarrow{2S}(G; L, R) \cong \overrightarrow{2S}(G; R, L)$ , then Corollary 3 explains that if a two-sided group digraph of valency two is normal, then both elements of  $L$  ( or  $R$  if  $|R| = 2$ ) are commuted or have the same square.

The following theorem shows that if  $\Gamma = \overrightarrow{2S}(G; L, R)$  of valency two is normal, then  $G$  is a Hamiltonian group. This consequence is similar to Cayley digraphs of valency two with a normal adjacency matrix (see [8]). The next proposition presents a relationship between normality in matrices and group theory.

**Proposition 3.7.** For a finite group  $G$ ; if the adjacency matrix of any two-sided group digraph  $\Gamma = \overrightarrow{2S}(G; L, R)$  of valency two is normal, then any subgroup of  $G$  is normal.



*Proof.* Let  $H$  be an arbitrary subgroup of  $G$ ,  $a \in H$ , and  $b \in G$ . Let  $L_1, L_2$  be  $\{a, b\}, \{ba, a\}$  respectively, and  $R$  be an arbitrary singleton of  $G$ . Since both  $\Gamma = \overrightarrow{2S}(G; L_1, R)$  and  $\Gamma = \overrightarrow{2S}(G; L_2, R)$  are normal if  $ab \neq ba$ , Corollary 3 concludes that  $a^2 = b^2$  and  $(ba)^2 = a^2$  and this implies  $b^{-1}ab = a^{-1}$ ; therefore  $H$  is a normal subgroup.  $\square$

As a result, if both  $\Gamma = \overrightarrow{2S}(G; L_1, R)$  and  $\Gamma = \overrightarrow{2S}(G; L_2, R)$  are normal where  $L_1, L_2$  be  $\{a, b\}, \{ba, a\}$  respectively, with an arbitrary singleton  $R$ , then  $b^{-1}ab = a$  or  $b^{-1}ab = a^{-1}$ .

In the following, we explain a theorem that is similar to one pertaining to Cayley graphs of valency two as referenced in [8]. The methods employed in proving this theorem closely resemble those used in Theorem 1 of [8]. We should mention that  $Q_8$  is the quaternion group of order 8, that is,  $Q_8 = \langle x, y \mid x^4 = e, y^2 = x^2, y^{-1}xy = x^{-1} \rangle$ . Further, Corollary 3 implies that two non-commuting elements of  $L$ , when  $|L| = 2$ , are the same square; therefore  $\Gamma = \overrightarrow{2S}(G; L, R)$  is normal, and obviously, any two elements of  $Q_8 \times \mathbb{Z}_2^n$  has this condition while  $\mathbb{Z}_2^n = \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \dots \times \mathbb{Z}_2$  for some  $n \in \mathbb{Z}_+$ . Theorem 1 shows that  $Q_8 \times \mathbb{Z}_2^n$ , up to isomorphism, is the only example that satisfies the assumptions.

**Theorem 3.8.** *Let  $G$  be a finite non-abelian group. If the adjacency matrix of every two-sided group digraph  $\Gamma = \overrightarrow{2S}(G; L, R)$  of valency two is normal, then  $G \cong Q_8 \times \mathbb{Z}_2^n$  for some  $n \in \mathbb{Z}_+$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $G$  be a non-abelian group with elements  $x, y \in G$  such that  $xy \neq yx$ . Using Corollary 3, we can show that  $x^2 = y^2$ . Furthermore, the adjacency matrix of the group digraph  $\Gamma = \overrightarrow{2S}(G; L, R)$  is normal when  $L = \{x, y\}$  or  $L = \{yx, x\}$ . This implies that  $y^{-1}xy = x^{-1}$ , and so  $x^{-2} = x^2$ . Thus, we have  $x^4 = e$ , and the subgroup  $\langle x, y \rangle$  is isomorphic to  $Q_8$  and that is a normal subgroup of  $G$  by using Proposition 3.

Suppose that  $\alpha \in G$  does not commute with  $x$  and  $y$ . Using the same method as in the proof of Proposition 3, we can show that  $\alpha$  commutes  $xy$ , so  $\alpha$  commutes with at least one of  $x, y, xy$ . If  $\alpha x = x\alpha$  and  $y\alpha = \alpha y$ , then we can use the adjacency matrix of the two-sided group digraph with  $L = \{x\alpha, y\}$  to show that  $\alpha^2 = e$  and thus  $\alpha$  lies in the center of  $G$ . If  $y\alpha \neq \alpha y$ , then we have  $\alpha^2 = y^2 = x^2$  and  $(x\alpha)^2 = x^4 = e$ , implying that  $x\alpha$  lies in the center of  $G$ . Therefore,  $G$  is generated by  $Q$  and  $Z(G)$ , and since  $Z(G)$  has exponent 2, we can choose a subgroup  $X$  of index 2 of  $Z(G)$  such that  $X \cap \langle x, y \rangle = \{e\}$ . This implies that  $G = \langle x, y \rangle \times X$ , and since  $X$  is a subgroup of  $Z(G)$ , it is a group of exponent 2 and is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}_2^n$  (the other cases are similar to the considered one).  $\square$

The next proposition and paragraph present more details about groups  $T_{m,n}$ , and  $H_{p,q}$ .

**Proposition 3.9.** [8] *For the groups  $T_{m,n}$  and  $H_{p,q}$ , the following three statements hold:*

- (1)  $T_{m,n} \cong T_{m',n'}$  iff  $m = m'$  and  $n = n'$ ;
- (2)  $H_{p,q} \cong H_{p',q'}$  iff  $p = p'$  and  $q = q'$ ;
- (3)  $H_{p,q} \not\cong T_{m,n}$  for any  $p, q, m, n$ .

According to research, both  $T_{m,n}$  and  $H_{p,q}$  are metacyclic groups. A metacyclic group  $G$  is a group that has a cyclic normal subgroup  $N$ , and the quotient group  $G/N$  is also cyclic [9]. In a specific case,  $T_{1,n}$  is proven to be the dihedral group  $D_{2n}$  of order  $2n$ , while  $H_{1,q}$  is a dicyclic group of order  $8q$  which is an extension of the cyclic group of order two by a cyclic group of order  $4q$ . Further,  $T_{m,n}$  contains subgroup  $\langle x^m, y \rangle \cong D_{2n}$  if  $m$  is odd, and  $\langle x^p, y \rangle$  is a

subgroup of  $H_{p,q}$  which is isomorphic to a dicyclic group of order  $8q$  if  $p$  is odd. There is a full classification of such groups in [4].

Using the definition, a digraph  $\Gamma$  is strongly connected if, for any two vertices  $v$  and  $w$ , there is a path from  $v$  to  $w$  in  $\Gamma$ . In the final theorem, we show that if  $\Gamma = \overrightarrow{2S}(G;L,R)$  is a strongly connected two-sided group digraph of valency two with a normal adjacency matrix,  $G$  has very particular conditions.

**Theorem 3.10.** *Let  $G$  be a finite group. Suppose that  $\Gamma = \overrightarrow{2S}(G;L,R)$  is a strongly connected two-sided group digraph of valency two with  $L = \{x,y\}$ ,  $R = \{z\}$  whose adjacency matrix is normal. Then,  $G$  is isomorphic to one of the following groups:*

- (1)  $K.\langle z \rangle$ , where  $K$  is an abelian group;
- (2)  $T_{m,n}.\langle z \rangle$ , where  $m \geq 1$  and  $n \geq 3$ ;
- (3)  $H_{p,q}.\langle z \rangle$ , where  $p \geq 1$  and  $q \geq 1$ .

*Proof.* Since  $\Gamma$  is strongly connected, then it is connected, and using Lemma 1 implies  $G = \langle L \rangle \langle R \rangle = \langle x, y \rangle \langle z \rangle$  and there exist words  $w$  in  $L \cup L^{-1}$  and  $w'$  in  $R \cup R^{-1}$ , with lengths having opposite parity, such that  $ww'$  evaluates to the identity element  $e$  in  $G$ . Applying Corollary 3, we have  $x^2 = y^2$  or  $xy = yx$ . If  $xy = yx$ , then the case (1) happens, otherwise  $x^2 = y^2$  and suppose that  $t = x^{-1}y$ . It is clear that  $\langle L \rangle = \langle x, t \rangle$  and we have  $x^2 = y^2 = txt$  or, equivalently,  $x^{-1}tx = t^{-1}$ . If the order of  $t$  is two, then  $t^{-1} = t$ . It implies  $x^{-1}tx = t$ , and thus  $\langle L \rangle$  must be abelian and this is a contradiction. Therefore, the order of  $t$  is at least three. Assume that  $r$  is the order of  $x$ ; since  $x^2 \in Z(\langle L \rangle)$  and  $x \notin Z(\langle L \rangle)$ , we know that  $r = 2m$  for some  $m$ . Let  $n$  be the smallest natural number such that  $t^n = x^s$  for some  $s \in \{0, \dots, 2m - 1\}$ . We get  $t^n = x^{-1}t^n x = (x^{-1}tx) \dots (x^{-1}tx) = t^{-n}$  and therefore  $x^{2s} = t^{2n} = e$ . Hence, either  $s = 0$  or  $s = m$ . If  $s = 0$ , then  $\langle L \rangle = T_{m,n}$ . In case  $s = m$ , then  $\langle L \rangle$  has the form  $\langle x, t \mid x^{2m} = e, t^n = x^m, x^{-1}tx = t^{-1} \rangle$ . Since  $x^2 \in Z(\langle L \rangle)$ ,  $x^m \in Z(\langle L \rangle)$ , and  $x \notin Z(\langle L \rangle)$ , we have  $m = 2p$  for some  $p$ . If  $n$  is odd, then  $(tx^m)^n = t^n x^m = t^{2n} = e$ . Furthermore,  $x^{-1}(tx^m)x = t^{-1}x^m = x^m t^{-1} = (tx^m)^{-1}$ . So, we can conclude that  $\langle L \rangle$  is isomorphic to  $T_{m,n}$ . Finally, if  $n = 2q$  for some  $q$ , then  $\langle L \rangle = H_{p,q}$ . Therefore,  $G \cong T_{m,n}.\langle z \rangle$  or  $G \cong H_{p,q}.\langle z \rangle$ .  $\square$


## References

- [1] L. Babai, Spectra of Cayley Graphs, J. Combin. Theory Ser. B 27(2) (1979) 180-189, [https://doi.org/10.1016/0095-8956\(79\)90079-0](https://doi.org/10.1016/0095-8956(79)90079-0).
- [2] N. Biggs, Algebraic Graph Theory, Cambridge Univ. Press, Cambridge, 1974.
- [3] M. Ghorbani, F. Nowroozi Larki, On the spectrum of finite Cayley graphs, J. Discrete Math. Sci. Cryptogr. 21(1) (2018) 83-112. <https://doi.org/10.1080/09720529.2018.1449797>.
- [4] C. E. Hempel, Metacyclic groups, Comm. Algebra 28(8) (2007) 3865-3897. <https://doi.org/10.1080/00927870008827063>.
- [5] R.A. Horn, C.R. Johnson, Matrix Analysis, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 1986.
- [6] M. N. Iradmusa, C. E. Praeger, Two-sided Group Digraphs and Graphs, J. Graph Theory, 82(3) (2016) 279-295. <https://doi.org/10.1002/jgt.21901>.
- [7] R. Krakovski, B. Mohar, Spectrum of Cayley graphs on the symmetric group generated by transpositions, Lin. Alg. Appl. 437(3) (2012), 1033-1039. <https://doi.org/10.48550/arXiv.1201.2167>.
- [8] D. S. Lyubshin, S. V. Savchenko, Cayley Digraphs with Normal adjacency matrices, Discrete Math. 309(13) (2009), 4343-4348. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.disc.2007.03.086>.
- [9] J. S. Rose, A course on group theory, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 1978.



- [10] A. Torgasev, The spectrum of a normal digraph, Univ. Novi Sad, Coll. of papers Fac. Sci. (Ser. Math.) 17 (1) (1987) 187-200.
- [11] Liu, Xiaogang, Sanming Zhou, Eigenvalues of Cayley graphs, arXiv:1809.09829 The Electronic Journal of Combinatorics, 2(29) (2022).  
<https://doi.org/10.48550/arXiv.1809.09829>

**Citation:** F. Nowroozi Larki, S. Rayat Pisheh, On the two-sided group digraph with a normal adjacency matrix, J. Disc. Math. Appl. 9(2) (2024) 103–111.

 <https://doi.org/10.22061/jdma.2024.11041.1072>



**COPYRIGHTS**

©2024 The author(s). This is an open-access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution (CC BY 4.0), which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, as long as the original authors and source are cited. No permission is required from the authors or the publishers.