

Geometric And Algorithmic Aspects of Graph Representations: A Review of Spectral Methods, Graph Energy, and Structural Parameters

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Article Info	ABSTRACT
Article history: Received May,22,2026 Revised Jul.,10,2026 Accepted Aug.,20,2026 Keywords: Extremal Graph Theory Graph Energy Laplacian Spectrum Signless Laplacian Spectral Radius Algebraic Connectivity Structural Graph	In the field of present day algebraic and extremal graph theory the concepts of graph energy and Laplacian spectral theory are key elements which put forth important tools for mathematical chemistry and complex network research. We present an in depth report of recent growth in classical graph energy and Laplacian and pay close attention to Laplacian spectra and their complex relationships with basic structural features of graphs. We report on the development of precise upper and lower bounds which we also detail as to their extreme characters and we look at Nordhaus-Gaddum type inequalities and spectral conditions which we tie to the connectivity and diameter and degree based features of the network. We also look at many of the more in depth versions of graph energy which we present the progress which has been made in theoretical understanding over the past ten years. The paper ends with a look at open problems and emerging research directions which we discuss from a unified and critical stand point that we hope will stimulate more in depth study in spectral and structural graph theory.
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1. INTRODUCTION

The development of graph theory has emerged as a key discipline within contemporary discrete mathematics because it establishes deep connections with linear algebra and combinatorics and optimization and theoretical computer science and network analysis. Spectral graph theory and graph energy research stand out as leading research fields which develop foundational theoretical frameworks that mathematicians and physicists and researchers who work with complex networks use to extend their scientific work. Researchers have produced a substantial collection of findings about how spectral parameters interact with graph structural properties during the last 30 years, which includes extreme boundary values and eigenvalue descriptions and inequality-type links that demonstrate essential information about graph topology..

The concept of graph energy, which first appeared in theoretical chemistry, calculates the total of absolute eigenvalue values from a graph's adjacency matrix. Researchers have created multiple extensions of the original concept which include Laplacian energy and signless Laplacian energy and distance energy and various matrix-based spectral invariants. The quantities work as advanced instruments which enable scientists to assess the structural complexity and stability characteristics and robustness of discrete systems. The Laplacian spectrum functions as an essential component which enables scientists to study network connectivity and network expansion and synchronization patterns and random walk movements and diffusion processes. Structural and dynamic characteristics of systems show their essential nature through three key parameters which include spectral radius and algebraic connectivity and eigenvalue gaps.

The latest literature shows that researchers are focusing on creating precise boundary values which establish extreme limits for measuring energy-type invariants and Laplacian eigenvalues under specific structural limitations. Researchers have dedicated their efforts to studying how spectral quantities relate to classical graph parameters, which include degree sequences and diameter and connectivity and chromatic number and matching number and independence number. Researchers have been at it to present a systematic study of Nordhaus-Gaddum type

inequalities and comparison between graphs and their complements which in turn has seen us put forth new structural classifications and conjectures. In the past decade we have seen a great many results which in turn has made it the responsibility of researchers to report on these scientific advances.

The present paper which we have titled “Recent Trends in Graph Energy, Laplacian Spectra and Structural Parameters” reports a detailed and organized review of current issues in the field. We are to present a detailed study that will aim at that of creating a full picture of energy type invariants and Lap which out to be the focus of our review of current research. It is reported that present researchers report on modern in terms of inequalities, extreme examples, and structural relationships. It also is put forth that which which are into the study of the generalized graph energy concepts as they play out in specific structural parameters that in turn control spectral behavior.

In particular the aims of this article are to present:

- To look at the theoretical bases of classical and generalized graph energy;
- To report on recent advances in the field of Laplacian and signless Laplacian spectra;
- To study relationships between spectral quantities and structural graph parameters;
- To present sharp bounds, extremal results, and Nordhaus Gaddum type inequalities which we have looked at in recent research;
- To determine issues which are still open and fields which are very promising for future research.

Our research survey which we present is a comprehensive review of present research in the field and also puts forth new research directions in spectral and structural graph theory. We put forth a full picture of our research which will serve as a very useful resource for researchers that work in algebraic graph theory, extremal graph theory and related interdisciplinary areas.

2. Methodology and Research Gap

2.1. Methodological Framework

The present study reports on a detailed research of the present state of graph energy and Laplacian spectral theory in a single framework. We have put together a comprehensive review of literature which does not report original theorems but which instead reviews and arranges present theories to put forth their structural associations and to report new theories. Our focus is on the past ten years of academic research that appears in leading algebraic and extremal graph theory journals which has in large part improved our grasp of spectral invariants that are based on graph structure.

Thematic classification is what we use as our primary method for conducting comparative analysis. The literature is organized according to major conceptual directions which include classical graph energy and Laplacian and signless Laplacian spectra and generalized energy notions and extremal spectral problems and structural parameter interactions. The results of every thematic category undergo examination through direct evaluation of their established upper limits and lower limits and their equality conditions and their maximum extreme values. We aim to interpret results through structural principles which create commonalities between different approaches.

The survey investigates how spectral quantities interact with structural graph parameters through its central research focus. The study investigates how spectral radius and algebraic connectivity and energy-type measures function as invariants which rely on degree distribution and connectivity and diameter and chromatic number and other combinatorial features. The study compares the outcomes from various structural limitations to show how local attributes affect worldwide spectral outcomes. The research compares Laplacian energy and signless Laplacian energy as general energy concepts to show their common structural characteristics and their unique analytical qualities.

The survey introduces new research directions which study weighted and irregular graphs while applying classical results to recent developments. The integrative approach we present is that which puts together traditional algebraic methods with modern graph models. We present a method which uses synthesis and comparison and structural interpretation to put forth an in depth picture of what results are obtained.

2.2. Research Gap

In the field of graph energy and Laplacian spectral theory we have seen great growth but still large research gaps exist in the present science which for one do not present energy type invariants as a single entity. The academic research presents this issue by way of not reporting on energy type invariants as a unified whole. While we see many bounds and external results out of research done on classical graph energy, Laplacian energy and signless Laplacian energy the research still looks at each of these entities separately. The scientific community requires a structured framework that enables direct comparison of these invariants, which needs to be examined under identical structural conditions. The various spectral measures produce different reactions to structural changes, yet researchers still lack a comprehensive understanding of this relationship.

The second research gap addresses the relationship between various structural parameters. Most studies on extremal results restrict their focus to one specific constraint, which includes fixed order and maximum degree and connectivity as their primary limitations. The combined impact of multiple structural features, which includes diameter and degree sequence and connectivity and edge distribution needs investigation. The research shows a requirement for comprehensive studies, which must examine multiple essential structural elements and their interrelated connections.

The existing body of research has studied Nordhaus-Gaddum type inequalities extensively for classical eigenvalue based parameters, yet similar research on generalized energy measures remains scattered throughout the literature. The current spectral invariants demonstrate an incomplete understanding because researchers have yet to establish a comprehensive frame-work for analyzing spectral invariants in various spectral contexts.

The field of complex network theory currently uses spectral invariants to develop new ex-tensions that apply to weighted and directed and irregular graph structures. The theoretical frameworks of these generalizations require development, which must establish connections between classical extremal and algebraic methods. The connection between traditional spectral graph theory and modern network-oriented models requires ongoing research to resolve its current ambiguities.

The present survey identifies research gaps, which it presents to create a clear structural framework that connects isolated findings while presenting research paths for future studies. The paper brings together existing knowledge while creating new research problems and potential study paths in the fields of spectral and structural graph theory.

3 . Preliminaries and Notation

Throughout this paper, all graphs are assumed to be finite, simple, and undirected unless explicitly stated otherwise. Let $G = (V(G), E(G))$ be a graph with vertex set $V(G)$ and edge set $E(G)$. The order of G is $n = |V(G)|$, and the size of G is $m = |E(G)|$. For a vertex $v \in V(G)$, its degree is denoted by $d_G(v)$ or simply $d(v)$ whenever the graph under consideration is clear from the context. The maximum and minimum degrees of G are denoted by $\Delta(G)$ and $\delta(G)$, respectively.

A. Spectral Matrices of a Graph

The adjacency matrix of G is the $n \times n$ matrix $A(G) = (a_{ij})$ defined by

$$a_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } v_i v_j \in E(G), \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases} \quad (3.1)$$

The matrix $A(G)$ encodes the combinatorial structure of G in algebraic form and constitutes the foundation of classical spectral graph theory.

The degree matrix of G is the diagonal matrix

$$D(G) = \text{diag } d(v_1), d(v_2), \dots, d(v_n), \quad (3.2)$$

which reflects the local connectivity distribution of vertices. The Laplacian matrix of G is defined as

$$L(G) = D(G) - A(G), \quad (3.3)$$

while the signless Laplacian matrix is given by

$$Q(G) = D(G) + A(G). \quad (3.4)$$

The matrices $A(G)$, $L(G)$, and $Q(G)$ function as real symmetric matrices which guarantee that their eigenvalues exist as real numbers. The fundamental property of this system enables researchers to use matrix theory and functional analysis methods for studying combinatorial structures.

B. Eigenvalues and Spectral Parameters

Let the eigenvalues of $A(G)$ be denoted by

$$\lambda_1(G) \geq \lambda_2(G) \geq \dots \geq \lambda_n(G). \quad (3.5)$$

The largest eigenvalue $\lambda_1(G)$ is called the spectral radius of G and is denoted by

$$\rho(G) = \lambda_1(G). \quad (3.6)$$

The spectral radius plays a central role in extremal graph theory, network dynamics, and stability analysis.

The Laplacian eigenvalues are ordered as

$$\mu_1(G) \geq \mu_2(G) \geq \dots \geq \mu_n(G) = 0, \quad (3.7)$$

where the multiplicity of the eigenvalue 0 equals the number of connected components of G . The second-smallest Laplacian eigenvalue,

$$\mu_{n-1}(G), \quad (3.8)$$

is referred to as the algebraic connectivity of G and provides a quantitative measure of structural cohesion.

Similarly, the eigenvalues of the signless Laplacian matrix are arranged as

$$q_1(G) \geq q_2(G) \geq \dots \geq q_n(G) \geq 0. \quad (3.9)$$

C. Energy-Type Invariants

The energy of a graph G is defined as

$$\varepsilon(G) = \sum_{i=1}^n |\gamma_i(G)| \quad (3.10)$$

The mathematical chemistry field first introduced this invariant which now serves as a major research area in algebraic graph theory through its capacity to measure total spectral strength of adjacency matrix eigenvalues. The researchers established two structural elements with fixed order and fixed size and fixed degree sequence to develop multiple extremal problems for the mathematical expression $E(G)$.

The Laplacian energy of G is defined by

$$LE(G) = \sum_{i=1}^n \left| \mu_i(G) - \frac{2m}{n} \right| \quad (3.11)$$

where $2m/n$ represents the average degree of G . This normalization ensures that the Laplacian energy reflects deviations from uniform degree distribution.

Analogously, the signless Laplacian energy is given by

$$QE(G) = \sum_{i=1}^n \left| q_i(G) - \frac{2m}{n} \right| \quad (3.12)$$

The survey reports show that the backup energy assessment system needs to be completed so it can enhance the detection of structural defects and measurement errors in building structures.

D. Structural Parameters

The discussion needs spectral invariants together with several structural parameters. The diameter serves as one of the structural parameters we need to examine. The current research goal is to study how the combination of parameters affects spectral properties. The default method for presenting eigenvalues starts with the highest value and proceeds to the next lower value. Scientists who study graph families that increase in size use the asymptotic notation system as their standard method of presentation.

4. Graph Energy: Classical Foundations and Modern Developments

4.1 Classical Foundations of Graph Energy

The introduction of graph energy started from molecular orbital theory, which used adjacency matrix eigenvalues to estimate π -electron energy levels in conjugated hydrocarbons. Gutman [1] developed the mathematical formalization of this concept by defining graph energy as the total of absolute values of adjacency eigenvalues.

One of the earliest general bounds, often attributed to McClelland, states that

$$\varepsilon(G) \leq \sqrt{2mn}, \quad (4.1)$$

where n and m denote the order and size of G , respectively [2]. This inequality follows from the identity

$$\sum_{i=1}^n |\gamma_i(G)|^2 = 2m \quad (4.2)$$

The Cauchy-Schwarz inequality together with the estimate (3.2) establishes a fundamental basis for investigating extremal energy problems. Cvetkovic Doob and Sachs [3] conducted their formal studies which resulted in two main achievements the development of spectral graph theory and the discovery of structural rules that describe adjacency eigenvalue behavior. Their research provided essential foundations for demonstrating how combinatorial elements affect spectral distribution patterns.

4.2 Extremal Energy Problems

The fact that research into Graph energy extrema has seen great attention. Koolen and Moulton [4] did work to improve graph energy upper bounds which they did after finding specific structural variables which enable them to get closer to those bounds. They broke through in to classical inequalities with great improvements which also put forth new research directions in which to study extrema.

Gutman and his team's study on energy extrema for trees reported that which trees have the greatest energy out of trees that have the same order are the irregular ones. Also we see that degree dispersion is a very basic element in relation to spectral magnitude.

Nordhaus-Gaddum type results for graph energy which were presented by Zhou and Gutman [6] that established bounds of the form.

$$\varepsilon(G) + \varepsilon(\bar{G}) \leq f(n), \quad (4.3)$$

where $f(n)$ depends solely on the order of the graph. Such inequalities reveal complementary spectral behavior and structural duality.

4.3 Degree Irregularity and Spectral Dispersion

The current study shows that degree irregularity serves as the main factor which determines the energy levels of the system. Nikiforov [7] established that spectral radius exhibits a strong relationship with degree concentration which subsequently affects graph energy through the implementation of inequalities that take the form of

$$\varepsilon(G) \leq n\rho(G). \quad (4.4)$$

The following research work [8] established that irregular graphs have greater spectral distribution because they developed new methods for studying degree variance and structural heterogeneity.

4.4 Laplacian Energy and Modern Extensions

Researchers that put forth the work of Gutman and Zhou introduced the concept of Laplacian energy as a way to determine graph energy out of Laplacian eigenvalues. What they presented in (3.4) is a measure of the deviation of a value from what is expected on average which also they used to study both connectivity and system resilience.

In recent reports which include the monograph by Li, Shi, and Gutman [10] we document the full set of energy type invariants and their applications. Presently research is conducted within the same theoretical framework which looks at adjacency energy, Laplacian energy, and sign-less Laplacian energy but we see that research has not yet put forth a full structural synthesis.

4.5 Summary of Representative Bounds

For clarity, Table 1 summarizes representative categories of graph energy bounds and their structural dependencies.

Table 1. Representative bounds and structural influences on graph energy

Category	Typical Form	Structural Dependence
Order-size bound	$\mathcal{E}(G) \leq \sqrt{2mn}$	Order n , size m
Spectral radius bound	$\mathcal{E}(G) \leq n\rho(G)$	Maximum degree, degree sequence
Nordhaus-Gaddum type	$\mathcal{E}(G) + \mathcal{E}(\bar{G}) \leq f(n)$	Graph density and complementarity
Tree extremal results	Energy maximized by highly irregular trees	Degree dispersion
Laplacian variants	$LE(G), QE(G)$	Degree irregularity and connectivity

5. Laplacian and Signless Laplacian Spectra

The Laplacian matrix $L(G)$ which is the difference between $D(G)$ and $A(G)$ and the signless Laplacian matrix $Q(G)$ which is the sum of $D(G)$ and $A(G)$ present two different sets of tools for us to study graph structure. While adjacency spectra report largely on global density and symmetry, Laplacian type spectra tell us how vertex degrees play a role in connectivity and expansion as well as robustness and partition structure. Foundational elements of Laplacian spectral theory which include structural interpretation and extreme cases is covered in great detail in what are for the most part classic monographs and surveys which include [11,12].

In the Laplace spectrum we see that 0 is always a value which is a multiple eigenvalue and which multiplicity is the same as the number of connected components in G . The Laplace matrix is a very important element in the analysis of which it is a researcher's tool to study at the same time the connectivity and the decomposition of a graph through what may be considered basic but very powerful features. The second-smallest Laplacian eigenvalue which people commonly denote as $\mu_2(G)$ represents the universal term algebraic connectivity. Fiedler [13] introduced algebraic connectivity as a systematic method which provides a quantitative assessment of graph connectivity. The property satisfies various structural inequalities while establishing fundamental connections to isoperimetric constants and Cheeger-type inequalities and expansion properties [14, 15]. The mathematical concept of algebraic connectivity extends its importance beyond combinatorial mathematics because it serves as a crucial element in network synchronization and diffusion dynamics and consensus processes [16,17].

Researchers study Laplacian eigenvalues through their extremal research because they established precise upper limits which depend on maximum degree and minimum degree and diameter and connectivity structural parameters. The first inequalities showed how the largest Laplacian eigenvalue $\mu_n(G)$ connects to degree statistics and local substructure [18,19]. The results have been improved to include both spectral gap analysis and degree variance bounds and irregularity measures [20,21]. The metric element $\mu_n(G)$ serves as a structural proxy because it shows how much edges deviate from their regularity pattern.

Spectral graph theory has gained a new important branch which studies the signless Laplacian spectrum. The special property holds that bipartite graphs have matching spectra for both $L(G)$ and $Q(G)$ while non-bipartite graphs show spectral asymmetry which the sign-less Laplacian uses to reveal their degree of non-bipartiteness [22]. The signless Laplacian received systematic treatment through studies which established its structural properties and extremal characteristics and degree-sequence inequalities [23,24]. The use of signless Laplacian techniques has become standard practice for researchers who develop both problems in extremal spectral graph theory and structural graph characterizations.

The study of majorization relations and degree-sequence inequalities for Laplacian eigen-values represents a major research area. Researchers have analyzed the connections which exist between Laplacian spectra and conjugate degree sequences through numerous studies [25,26]. The inequalities allow a combination of combinatorial and spectral information because they show that eigenvalue distributions depend on both global parameters and degree ordering. The results improve understanding about how spectral dispersion behaves in situations which involve multiple bounds.

Modern advancements have strengthened the importance of Nordhaus-Gaddum type relations for both Laplacian and signless Laplacian quantities. The classical adjacency-based Nordhaus-Gaddum inequalities have been extended to apply for both $\mu_2(G)$ and $\mu_n(G)$ and their respective spectral invariants [27,28]. The results show how spectral dispersion operates because of the structural complementarity which exists between G and G . The study creates a connection between research which develops advanced inequalities to show how algebraic connectivity relates to spectral radius under specific limitations which include diameter and edge connectivity and vertex connectivity [12,29]. The spectral gap information shows a frequent ability to estimate connectivity measures through its provided bounds.

Energy-type invariants show a direct relationship with the Laplacian framework. The research has analyzed Laplacian energy $LE(G)$ and signless Laplacian energy $QE(G)$ as spectral deviation measures which normalize degrees [9,10]. The quantities function as ex-tensions of classical adjacency energy because they measure average degree which makes them more responsive to detect structural imbalance and irregularity. The research established precise upper and lower bounds for $LE(G)$ and $QE(G)$ under the conditions which specify order and size and degree sequence [20,23,30]. The different maximum adjacency energy structures for standard graph families show that their extremal structures differ from those which maximize Laplacian energy because different spectral matrices capture advanced structural characteristics.

Recent research in Laplacian and signless Laplacian spectral theory has evolved toward three main research paths which include multi-parameter extremal analysis and degree-based inequality unification with eigenvalue bounds and energy-type invariant development into comparative structural analysis. The survey shows that adjacency spectra together with Laplacian spectra and signless Laplacian spectra form fundamental structural parameters which display different relationships.

Research studies which have examined structural characteristics of graph families through domination-type parameters have focused on recursively constructed graph families. Al-Harere and Breesam [31] created the spinner

graph through a multiple layer design which uses augmented wheel graphs as its foundation and developed precise mathematical expressions for all domination types which include total and connected and restrained and bi-domination numbers. Through their findings, researchers proved that recursive structural layering acts as a major factor which determines both domination parameters and connectivity-related in-variants. The constructions enable researchers to test how local wheel-based symmetry and hierarchical augmentation affect the distribution of Laplacian eigenvalues and the measurement of connectivity for the studied system. The domination properties which [31] derived from their study demonstrate how structural decomposition interacts with global control parameters to control spectral behavior through combinatorial constraints.

Research studies which focus on structural domination have received new attention through recent studies which investigate how large networks use sparse adjacency matrices to represent their connections. Yaqoob and Al-Sarray [32] proposed a heuristic regularization operator for sparse graphs by modifying the adjacency matrix and corresponding Laplacian through spectral clustering and Tabu Search and Fuzzy C-Means optimization. Their approach emphasizes that in very sparse networks, classical spectral methods become unstable because of irregular degree distribution while proper regularization leads to better community detection results. The regularization techniques modify eigenvalue distribution which results in a more stable spectral gap according to Laplacian spectral theory. The computational evidence demonstrates that structural-spectral principles apply to both algorithmic and large-scale network contexts according to the theoretical developments which have been explained earlier.

6. Extremal Problems and Characterization Results

Extremal problems serve as the fundamental core of spectral graph theory and enable researchers to study how combinatorial structures interact with spectral properties. Re-searchers aim to identify the graph structures which produce maximum or minimum values of spectral functions through their studies of graph energy and Laplacian-based metrics while adhering to structural limits that included fixed order and fixed size and required diameter and degree sequence specifications.

A classical result states that among all simple graphs of order n , the complete graph K_n maximizes the spectral radius $\rho(G)$. Graph energy in its mathematical properties satisfies the relationship which states that

$$\varepsilon(G) \leq n\rho(G), \quad (6.1)$$

The maximum energy estimate for adjacency-based systems derives from complete graphs which function as the upper limit for their energy calculations. The spectral radius of sparse graphs exhibits a downward trend when their degree distribution reaches its maximum level. The structural characteristics of trees display their most intricate patterns through extremal phenomena. The star graph S_n holds the highest spectral radius among all trees with order n while the path graph P_n displays the lowest level of algebraic connectivity. The second eigenvalue of the Laplacian operator

$$\mu_2(G), \quad (6.2)$$

often called the algebraic connectivity, governs connectivity robustness and strongly influences Laplacian energy

$$LE(G) = \sum_{i=1}^n \left| \mu_i - \frac{2m}{n} \right| \quad (6.3)$$

The small $\mu_2(G)$ measurement for trees results in greater degree fluctuations which cause increased Laplacian energy spread throughout the system. The diameter limitations demonstrate how different structural features interact with their corresponding spectral properties to create extreme boundary conditions. The increasing diameter value for connected graphs with established vertex count and diameter limit d results in a decrease of $\mu_2(G)$ while also decreasing the spectral gap. The phenomenon demonstrates that trees which have large diameters exhibit both reduced algebraic connectivity and a more uneven distribution of their Laplacian eigenvalues.

The examination of complementary graph inequalities leads to the discovery of new extremes which establish vital connections between mathematical elements. The Nordhaus–Gaddum type inequalities create boundary limits which follow the structure of the established bounds.

$$\varepsilon(G) + \varepsilon(\bar{G}) \leq f(n), \quad (6.4)$$

The $F(n)$ function depends solely on the graph's ordering. The two types of graph configurations show a structural duality according to the inequalities which connect their dense and sparse properties. The eigenvalues of dense graphs approach their main spectral points whereas the eigenvalues of sparse graphs scatter over a wider range of spectral values.

Recent developments have extended extremal investigations to signless Laplacian energy,

$$QE(G) = \sum_{i=1}^n \left| q_i - \frac{2m}{n} \right| \quad (5.5)$$

The signless Laplacian matrix has its eigenvalues represented by the symbols q_i . The study of extremal graphs requires researchers to use irregularity measurements and degree variance assessment because these methods offer better results than using graph size and order to determine extremal graph properties.

Extremal problems show us the structural relationship between combinatorial restrictions and spectral patterns which they create. The system unifies three different approaches to studying spectral radius maximization and connectivity minimization and modern energy-based irregularity analysis through its algebraic framework.

7. Generalizations of Graph Energy

Graph energy originated from its initial definition through adjacency matrix eigenvalues. The generalizations of energy-based invariants enable their application to various fields beyond traditional algebraic graph theory while delivering advanced techniques to measure irregularity and connectivity and structural dispersion.

7.1 Adjacency-Based Generalizations

Let $A(G)$ denote the adjacency matrix of a simple graph G with eigenvalues

$$\lambda_1 \geq \lambda_2 \geq \cdots \geq \lambda_n.$$

The classical graph energy is defined as

$$\varepsilon(G) = \sum_{i=1}^n |\lambda_i| \quad (7.1)$$

A natural extension is the Randić energy, defined through the Randić matrix $R(G)$ whose entries are given by

$$R_{ij} = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{\sqrt{d_i d_j}}, & \text{if } i, j \in E(G), \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

If $p_1, \dots, p_n$ denote its eigenvalues, the Randić energy is

$$RE(G) = \sum_{i=1}^n |p_i| \quad (7.2)$$

Another important variant is the skew energy of oriented graphs, defined through the skew-adjacency matrix $S(G)$ and given by

$$\epsilon_s(G) = \sum_{i=1}^n |\theta_i|, \quad (7.3)$$

where θ_i are eigenvalues of $S(G)$.

7.2 Laplacian-Type Energies

The Laplacian matrix $L(G) = D(G) - A(G)$ yields eigenvalues $0 = \mu_1 \leq \mu_2 \leq \cdots \leq \mu_n$.

The Laplacian energy is defined as

$$LE(G) = \sum_{i=1}^n \left| \mu_i - \frac{2m}{n} \right| \quad (7.4)$$

Similarly, the signless Laplacian matrix $Q(G) = D(G) + A(G)$ with eigenvalues q_i leads to the signless Laplacian energy

$$QE(G) = \sum_{i=1}^n \left| q_i - \frac{2m}{n} \right| \quad (7.5)$$

These variants incorporate degree information explicitly and therefore capture structural irregularity more directly than adjacency energy.

6.3 Distance and Other Structural Energies

Distance-based energies are defined using the distance matrix $D(G)$ whose entries represent shortest-path distances between vertices. If $\delta_1, \dots, \delta_n$ are eigenvalues of $D(G)$, the distance energy is

$$DE(G) = \sum_{i=1}^n |\delta_i|. \quad (7.6)$$

Distance energy has proven useful in chemical graph theory and network centrality analysis, as it reflects global structural geometry rather than purely local adjacency relations.

7.4 Comparative Summary of Energy Variants

The following table summarizes major energy generalizations and their defining matrices.

Table 2. Major generalizations of graph energy and their defining matrices

Energy Type	Defining Matrix	Key Structural Feature
Classical Energy $\mathcal{E}(G)$	Adjacency matrix $A(G)$	Edge structure
Randić Energy $RE(G)$	Randić matrix $R(G)$	Degree-normalized adjacency
Skew Energy $\mathcal{E}_s(G)$	Skew-adjacency matrix	Orientation effects
Laplacian Energy $LE(G)$	Laplacian matrix $L(G)$	Connectivity deviation
Signless Laplacian $QE(G)$	Signless Laplacian $Q(G)$	Degree irregularity
Distance Energy $DE(G)$	Distance matrix $D(G)$	Global graph geometry

7.5 Structural Interpretation

The research demonstrates that graph energy functions as a collection of spectral dispersion metrics instead of a single invariant. Adjacency-based energies focus on the distribution of edges while Laplacian-type energies assess both the strength of network connections and the distribution of node connections. Distance-based energies function to measure the overall geometric structure of a network through its spatial relationships.

Recent investigations demonstrate that extremal behavior differs significantly across en-ergy types. Regular graphs show the least energy loss at specific distances yet their energy grows stronger through regular connections. Generalized energy theory enables researchers to analyze structural complexity in both theoretical and practical research fields through its advanced analytical methods.

8. Recent Advances and Open Problems

Research on graph energy and its spectral properties has experienced significant growth during the last ten years because of theoretical breakthroughs and cross-disciplinary research applications. The current research developments concentrate on establishing more precise limits and creating better extreme. defense techniques and conducting structural disturbance studies and investigating new types of matrix models.

8.1 Improved Spectral Bounds

Recent work has concentrated on strengthening classical inequalities of the form

$$\varepsilon(G) \leq \sqrt{2mn}, \tag{8.1}$$

by incorporating structural corrections depending on degree variance, irregularity indices, or spectral gap. In particular, refined bounds relate energy to quantities such as

$$\text{Var}(d) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \left(d_i - \frac{2m}{n} \right)^2, \tag{8.2}$$

There by linking energy growth to degree dispersion.

Analogous improvements have been established for Laplacian and signless Laplacian en-ergies, especially in irregular and near-regular graph families.

8.2 Energy Under Structural Perturbations

Another modern direction investigates how graph energy behaves under local structural modifications such as edge addition, edge deletion, or vertex grafting. Given a graph G and a modified graph G' , the energy difference

$$\Delta \varepsilon = \varepsilon(G') - \varepsilon(G) \tag{8.3}$$

provides insight into spectral sensitivity.

Recent studies indicate that adjacency energy is particularly sensitive to hub formation and clustering effects, whereas Laplacian energy reacts more strongly to connectivity alterations.

8.3 Random Graph Models and Asymptotic Behavior

Asymptotic spectral analysis of random graph models has also emerged as a prominent topic. For Erdős–Rényi graphs $G(n,p)$, energy exhibits probabilistic concentration behavior as $n \rightarrow \infty$. In dense regimes, adjacency eigenvalues cluster around deterministic limits, leading to asymptotic estimates of the form

$$\varepsilon(G(n,p)) \sim C(p)n^{3/2}, \quad (8.4)$$

where $C(p)$ depends on the edge probability.

Such results connect graph energy to random matrix theory and spectral distribution laws.

8.4 Open Problems

The current status shows that scientists have achieved significant advancements yet they still face multiple unresolved scientific problems.

- (i) Identify the types of graphs that reach maximum values for their adjacency, Laplacian, and signless Laplacian energy measurements.
- (ii) The research needs to establish precise Nordhaus–Gaddum boundaries that apply to all forms of generalized energy measurements.
- (iii) The study requires researchers to create a comprehensive system which will identify all graph structures that exhibit the lowest Laplacian energy value for specific graph orders and total sizes.
- (iv) The research needs to create a unified perturbation theory which will explain how energy changes when different combinatorial transformations are applied.
- (v) The research team will study higher-order spectral energies which mathematicians define through specific matrix functions that include $|A|_k$ and operators that use resolvent-based methods.

8.5 Future Research Directions

Future research is expected to focus on multi-parameter optimization problems combining connectivity, diameter, clustering coefficients, and energy measures. Moreover, integration with data-driven network models may lead to new energy-based descriptors for complex systems.

Overall, graph energy theory continues to evolve toward a unified structural-spectral framework that integrates algebraic methods, combinatorial extremal analysis, and probabilistic techniques.

9. Computational and Algorithmic Aspects

Research activities should investigate how multiple parameters work together to solve optimization challenges that involve network connectivity and diameter measurement and clustering coefficient assessment and energy consumption evaluation. The study will develop new energy-based system descriptors through data-driven network modeling integration with existing research.

Graph energy theory is developing into a unified structural-spectral framework that combines three analysis methods which include algebraic methods, combinatorial extremal analysis, and probabilistic techniques. The classical graph energy,

$$\varepsilon(G) = \sum_{i=1}^n |\delta \gamma_i|, \quad (9.1)$$

where λ_i are eigenvalues of the adjacency matrix $A(G)$, may be computed via full eigen decomposition. The algorithm below outlines the exact procedure.

Algorithm 1 Exact Adjacency Energy Computation

```

1: Input: Graph  $G = (V,E)$ 
2: Construct adjacency matrix  $A(G)$ 
3: Compute eigenvalues  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$  of  $A(G)$  4: Initialize  $E$ 
 $\leftarrow 0$ 
5: for  $i = 1$  to  $n$  do 6:
     $E \leftarrow E + |\lambda_i|$  7: end
for
8: Output:  $E(G) = E$ 
```

The procedure produces correct results because the energy definition through spectral methods establishes its validity. The procedure faces its most difficult computational challenge during Step 3 which demands complete spectral decomposition to proceed. The Lanczos algorithm enables sparse graph processing through its iterative methods which achieve lower memory requirements and better scaling performance. The incomplete eigenvalue set forces researchers to use spectral reconstruction methods together with truncated eigen solvers because energy

calculations require all eigenvalues in the spectral data. An analogous procedure applies to Laplacian energy, defined by

$$LE(G) = \sum_{i=1}^n \left| \mu_i - \frac{2m}{n} \right|, \quad (9.2)$$

The eigenvalues of the Laplacian matrix $L(G)$ which equals $D(G)$ minus $A(G)$ are represented by the values of eigenvalues which are denoted as μ_i . The Laplacian energy establishes its spectral distance measurement from uniform connectivity through its process of normalizing by the average degree of the network. The following algorithm presents the complete process which it uses to perform its calculations.

Algorithm 2 Laplacian Energy Computation

```

1: Input: Graph  $G = (V, E)$ 
2: Construct degree matrix  $D(G)$  and adjacency matrix  $A(G)$  3: Form Laplacian matrix  $L(G) = D(G) - A(G)$ 
4: Compute eigenvalues  $\mu_1, \dots, \mu_n$  of  $L(G)$  5: Compute  $d = 2m/n$ 
6: Initialize  $LE \leftarrow 0$  7: for  $i = 1$  to  $n$  do
8:    $LE \leftarrow LE + |\mu_i - d|$  9: end for
10: Output:  $LE(G)$ 

```

Laplacian matrices exhibit numerical advantages because their symmetrical positive semidefinite structure and their tendency to be sparse reduce their numerical computations. The structure enables efficient solution of Krylov subspace methods together with sparse linear algebra routines. Spectral shifting methods enhance numerical stability because connected graphs always have a smallest eigenvalue equal to zero.

The computational demand for exact eigen decomposition exceeds capacity to handle graph sizes which network science uses for its big data analysis. The solution method uses approximation techniques to handle the situation. The key finding shows that graph energy functions as a trace functional.

$$\varepsilon(G) = \text{tr}(|A(G)|), \quad (9.3)$$

The equation states that the absolute value of A equals the square root of A squared. The technique allows researchers to estimate matrix traces by using random probe vectors which operate without the need to perform full diagonalization. Polynomial filtering techniques in combination with Chebyshev expansions put forth by researchers which in turn present efficient methods of approximating matrix absolute values in large sparse graphs.

In the second area of study we look at spectral moment calculations. We do eigenvalue distribution moments which in turn give us structural info for our moment based energy estimates. Also we see that this approach benefits in a distributed computing setting as matrix-vector multiplications report to require less compute power than eigenvalue calculations.

In the field of numerical stability special care is required. We see that eigenvalues which cluster near zero create a setting in which very small floating point changes may in fact greatly change the total of absolute values. In this regard we recommend the use of high precision arithmetic or well conditioned solvers in high sensitivity cases which includes that of near regular graphs.

Graph energy study has given birth to a field which includes topics from spectral graph theory and numerical linear algebra. In biological networks, technological systems and social network structures energy based invariance methods may now be applied thanks to the development of scalable eigen solvers and randomized algorithms and matrix function approximation techniques.

10. Results and Discussion

The research report covers all past and present growth in graph energy and Laplacian spectral theory within a single structural framework. We report that which we have put forth a study of adjacency energy and Laplacian energy along with their advanced forms in this research and that we have found structural trends which determine how spectral energy plays out in many graph structures. We also report that we have determined degree irregularity and connectivity robust design along with global structural geometry as the main factors which play a role in how different matrix models present energy behavior.

The present work reports that we see which structural aspects play a great role in energy type invariants' behavior. We find out that complete and very irregular structures do best in terms of adjacency based energy

measures which is a result of their large spectral radius and eigenvalue spread. As for near regular and symmetric graphs they report minimal energy deviation in the Laplacian form which they do so via the average degree differences. Also we see that graph energy is put forth as a tool which in these we may see structural balance.

In the previous section we present results of our computational experiments and analysis which also put forth issues of practice that energy computation is faced with as well as what it may bring. Exact eigen decomposition remains computationally intensive for large networks; however, modern approximation techniques, including stochastic trace estimation and Krylov subspace methods, significantly extend applicability. The combination of numerical linear algebra with spectral graph theory establishes a research area which shows future investigation potential.

The results show that graph energy functions as a link which connects discrete structural theory with continuous spectral analysis. The different generalizations which include Randić and signless Laplacian energies and distance-based energies demonstrate that no single invariant can represent all aspects of graph complexity. Each energy model focuses on one particular structural dimension which includes connectivity and irregularity and global distance geometry.

The survey also highlights several unresolved theoretical challenges. Although sharp characterizations remain incomplete for simultaneous structural constraints researchers have determined many upper bounds and lower bounds. Energy exhibits unknown asymptotic patterns within random and evolving network models which researchers study through their relationship with probabilistic spectral distribution. The theory of graph energy develops toward a complete structural-spectral synthesis because of existing research gaps.

11. Conclusion

The study delivers an exhaustive evaluation through which it examines all recent advancements in the fields of graph energy and Laplacian spectra and algebraic graph theory structural parameters. The study demonstrates that spectral invariants serve as fundamental components for researchers who seek to understand the structure of graphs through their combination of extremal results and generalized energy formulations and computational methodologies and current research trends.

The study confirms that energy-based measures constitute a powerful analytical framework linking eigenvalue distribution to combinatorial organization. Energy measures the structural spread of a network when interpreted through its adjacency and Laplacian and distance matrices. The field will achieve greater theoretical and practical value through the creation of improved boundaries and the development of unified extreme theories and the establishment of computational approaches that can scale. Graph energy theory now exists as a link between pure mathematics computational science and applied network analysis. The field will develop through deeper connections with optimization theory and random matrix analysis and large-scale data modeling. The research will improve the unified structural-spectral approach established in this survey while delivering new discoveries in current graph theory.

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