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## Research Article

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# Some improved bounds on two energy-like invariants of some derived graphs

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**Abstract:** Given a simple graph  $G$ , its Laplacian-energy-like invariant  $LEL(G)$  and incidence energy  $IE(G)$  are the sum of square root of its all Laplacian eigenvalues and signless Laplacian eigenvalues, respectively. This paper obtains some improved bounds on  $LEL$  and  $IE$  of the  $\mathcal{R}$ -graph and  $\mathcal{Q}$ -graph for a regular graph. Theoretical analysis indicates that these results improve some known results. In addition, some new lower bounds on  $LEL$  and  $IE$  of the line graph of a semiregular graph are also given.

**Keywords:** Spectrum; incidence energy;  $\mathcal{R}$ -graph;  $\mathcal{Q}$ -graph; Laplacian-energy-like invariant

**MSC:** 05C05; 05C12; 05C50

## Introduction

We only consider finite simple graphs in this paper. Given a graph  $G = (V, E)$  with vertex set  $V = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$  and edge set  $E$ , then  $d_i = d_G(v_i)$  denotes the degree of  $v_i$ . If  $d_i = r$  for any  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ , then  $G$  is called  $r$ -regular. If  $G$  is a bipartite graph and  $V = V_1 \cup V_2$  is its bipartition, then  $G$  is said to  $(r_1, r_2)$ -semiregular whenever each vertex in  $V_1$  has degree  $r_1$  and each vertex in  $V_2$  has degree  $r_2$ . The adjacency matrix of  $G$ , denoted by  $A(G)$ , is a square matrix whose  $(i, j)$ -entry is one if  $v_i$  and  $v_j$  are adjacent in  $G$  and zero otherwise. Let  $D(G)$  be the degree diagonal matrix of  $G$  with diagonal entries  $d_1, d_2, \dots, d_n$ . Then  $L(G) = D(G) - A(G)$  is called Laplacian matrix of  $G$  and  $Q(G) = D(G) + A(G)$  is called its signless Laplacian matrix.

Let  $F$  be an  $n \times n$  matrix associated to  $G$ . Then its characteristic polynomial  $\psi(F; x) = \det(xI_n - F)$  is called the  $F$ -polynomial of  $G$ , where  $I_n$  is the identity matrix of order  $n$ . The zeros of  $\psi(F; x)$  is said to the  $F$ -eigenvalues of  $G$ . The set of all  $F$ -eigenvalues is called the  $F$ -spectrum of  $G$ . Specifically, if  $F$  is one of the Laplacian matrix  $L(G)$  and signless Laplacian matrix  $Q(G)$  of  $G$ , then the corresponding spectrum are called respective  $L$ -spectrum and  $Q$ -spectrum. Throughout we denote the respective  $L$ -spectrum and  $Q$ -spectrum by  $Sp(L(G)) = \{\mu_1, \mu_2, \dots, \mu_n\}$  and  $Sp(Q(G)) = \{q_1, q_2, \dots, q_n\}$ , where  $\mu_1 \geq \mu_2 \geq \dots \geq \mu_n = 0$  and  $q_1 \geq q_2 \geq \dots \geq q_n \geq 0$  are the eigenvalues of  $L(G)$  and  $Q(G)$ , respectively. For more details about  $L$ -spectrum and  $Q$ -spectrum of  $G$ , readers may refer to [1-6].

For the  $L$ -spectrum of  $G$ , Liu and Liu [7] put forward the concept of the Laplacian-energy-like invariant, that is,

$$LEL(G) = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \sqrt{\mu_i}. \quad (1)$$

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The motivation of this concept derived from the Laplacian energy [8], along with graph energy [9]. Recently, Stevanović et al. [10] pointed out that  $LEL$  has become a newly molecular descriptor. For more details about the mathematical properties of  $LEL$ , readers may refer to [11-17] and the references therein.

In 2007, Nikiforov also extended the definition of graph energy to any matrix  $M$  [18]. The energy of  $M$  is defined to the sum of all singular values of  $M$ , denoted by  $E(M)$ . Motivated further by above concepts  $E(M)$  and  $LEL$ , Jooyandeh et al. [19] gave the definition of incidence energy  $IE(G) = E(B(G))$  of a graph  $G$ , where  $B(G)$  is the incidence matrix of  $G$ . It is easy to see that

$$IE(G) = E(B(G)) = \sum_{i=1}^n \sqrt{q_i}. \quad (2)$$

For more details about  $IE$ , see [19-22] and the references therein.

Regular graphs and semi-regular graphs are two important graph classes in graph theory and combinatorics, which play an important role in the study of spectral theory of graphs. In recent years,  $LEL$  and  $IE$  of some operations on regular graphs and semi-regular graphs have attracted people's attention. For example, some sharp bounds about  $LEL$  are obtained by Wang and Luo [15] for the line graph, subdivision graph and total graph of regular graphs. Pirzada et al. [23] also presented some new bounds about  $LEL$  for the line graph of semiregular graphs, the para-line graph,  $\mathcal{R}$ -graph,  $\mathcal{Q}$ -graph of regular graphs. In addition, Gutman et al. [21] presented some sharp bounds for  $IE$  of the line graph and iterated line graph of regular graphs. Wang et al. [24] gave some new bounds for  $IE$  of the subdivision graph and total graph of regular graphs. Wang and Yang [25] also presented some upper bounds on  $IE$  for the line graph of semiregular graphs, the para-line graph of a regular graph. Recently, Chen et al. [26] obtained some new bounds for  $LEL$  and  $IE$  of the line graph, subdivision graph and total graph of regular graphs. They pointed out that these results improved some known bounds in [15, 21].

Motivated by above researches, this paper gives some new bounds for  $LEL$  of the  $\mathcal{R}$ -graph,  $\mathcal{Q}$ -graph of regular graphs. Theoretical analysis indicates that these results improve some known results obtained by Pirzada et al. in [23]. We also obtain some new bounds for  $IE$  of the  $\mathcal{R}$ -graph,  $\mathcal{Q}$ -graph of regular graphs. These results are a useful supplement for the existing results on some bounds of  $LEL$  and  $IE$  of related graph operations of regular graphs in [26]. In addition, some new lower bounds are also presented on  $LEL$  and  $IE$  for the line graph of semiregular graphs.

## 2. Preliminaries

Some definitions of line graphs,  $\mathcal{R}$ -graph and  $\mathcal{Q}$ -graph are recalled in this section and some lemmas are listed, which shall be used in the following sections.

Recall that the line graph  $\mathcal{L}(G)$  [2] of  $G$  is the graph whose vertex set is the edge set of  $G$ , and two vertices in  $\mathcal{L}(G)$  are adjacent if and only if the corresponding edges in  $G$  have exactly a common vertex. Given an  $(r_1, r_2)$ -semiregular graph  $G$  of order  $n$  with  $m$  edges, then the  $L$ -spectrum [23] and  $Q$ -spectrum [25] of  $\mathcal{L}(G)$  are, respectively,

$$Sp(L(\mathcal{L}(G))) = \left\{ (r_1 + r_2)^{(m-n)}, r_1 + r_2 - \mu_1, \dots, r_1 + r_2 - \mu_n \right\} \quad (3)$$

and

$$Sp(Q(\mathcal{L}(G))) = \left\{ (r_1 + r_2 - 4)^{(m-n)}, r_1 + r_2 - 4 + q_1, \dots, r_1 + r_2 - 4 + q_n \right\}, \quad (4)$$

where  $a^{(b)}$  indicates that  $a$  is repeated  $b$  times,  $\{\mu_1, \mu_2, \dots, \mu_n\}$  and  $\{q_1, q_2, \dots, q_n\}$  are the  $L$ -spectrum and  $Q$ -spectrum of  $G$ , respectively.

The  $\mathcal{R}$ -graph [2] of  $G$ , denoted by  $\mathcal{R}(G)$ , is the graph derived from  $G$  by adding a vertex  $w_i$  corresponding to every edge  $e_i = uv$  of  $G$  and by connecting every vertex  $w_i$  to the end vertices  $u$  and  $v$  of  $e_i$ . If  $G$  is an  $r$ -regular graph of order  $n$  with  $m$  edges, then  $L$ -polynomial [27, 28] and  $Q$ -polynomial [29] of  $\mathcal{R}(G)$  are, respectively,

$$\psi(L(\mathcal{R}(G)), x) = x(x-2)^{m-n}(x-r-2) \prod_{i=1}^{n-1} [(x-2)(x-r-\mu_i) - 2r + \mu_i] \quad (5)$$

and

$$\psi(Q(\mathcal{R}(G)), x) = (x-2)^{m-n}(x^2 - (2+3r)x + 4r) \prod_{i=2}^n [(x-2)(x-r-q_i) - q_i]. \quad (6)$$

From (5) and (6), we obtain the following lemma easily.

**Lemma 2.1** [27, 29] *If  $G$  is an  $r$ -regular graph of order  $n$  with  $m$  edges, then*

(i) *If the  $L$ -spectrum of  $G$  is  $Sp(L(G)) = \{\mu_1, \dots, \mu_n\}$ , then the  $L$ -spectrum of  $\mathcal{R}(G)$*

$$Sp(L(\mathcal{R}(G))) = \left\{ 2^{(m-n)}, \frac{(r+2+\mu_i) \pm \sqrt{(r+2+\mu_i)^2 - 12\mu_i}}{2} \quad (i = 1, 2, \dots, n) \right\}.$$

(ii) *If the  $Q$ -spectrum of  $G$  is  $Sp(Q(G)) = \{q_1, \dots, q_n\}$ , then the  $Q$ -spectrum of  $\mathcal{R}(G)$*

$$Sp(Q(\mathcal{R}(G))) = \left\{ 2^{(m-n)}, \frac{(r+2+q_i) \pm \sqrt{(r+2+q_i)^2 - 4(2r+q_i)}}{2} \quad (i = 1, 2, \dots, n) \right\}.$$

The  $\mathcal{Q}$ -graph [2] of  $G$ , denoted by  $\mathcal{Q}(G)$ , is the graph derived from  $G$  by plugging a vertex  $w_i$  to every edge  $e_i = uv$  of  $G$  and by adding a new edge between two new vertices whenever these new vertices lie on adjacent edges of  $G$ . If  $G$  is an  $r$ -regular graph of order  $n$  with  $m$  edges, then  $L$ -polynomial [27, 28] and  $Q$ -polynomial [29] of  $\mathcal{Q}(G)$  are, respectively,

$$\psi(L(\mathcal{Q}(G)), x) = x(x-2r-2)^{m-n}(x-r-2) \prod_{i=1}^{n-1} [(x-r)(x-2-\mu_i) - 2r + \mu_i] \quad (7)$$

and

$$\psi(Q(\mathcal{Q}(G)), x) = (x-2r+2)^{m-n}[(x-r)(x-4r+2) - 2r] \prod_{i=2}^n [(x-r)(x-2r+2-q_i) - q_i]. \quad (8)$$

Similarly, from (7) and (8), one obtains the following lemma easily.

**Lemma 2.2** [27, 29] *If  $G$  is an  $r$ -regular graph of order  $n$  with  $m$  edges, then*

(i) *If the  $L$ -spectrum of  $G$  is  $Sp(L(G)) = \{\mu_1, \dots, \mu_n\}$ , then the  $L$ -spectrum of  $\mathcal{Q}(G)$*

$$Sp(L(\mathcal{Q}(G))) = \left\{ (2r+2)^{(m-n)}, \frac{(r+2+\mu_i) \pm \sqrt{(r+2+\mu_i)^2 - 4\mu_i(r+1)}}{2} \quad (i = 1, 2, \dots, n) \right\}.$$

(ii) *If the  $Q$ -spectrum of  $G$  is  $Sp(Q(G)) = \{q_1, \dots, q_n\}$ , then the  $Q$ -spectrum of  $\mathcal{Q}(G)$*

$$Sp(Q(\mathcal{Q}(G))) = \left\{ (2r-2)^{(m-n)}, \frac{(3r-2+q_i) \pm \sqrt{(3r-2+q_i)^2 - 4r(2r-2+q_i) + 4q_i}}{2} \right\},$$

where  $i = 1, \dots, n$ .

**Lemma 2.3** [26] *If  $G$  is an  $r$ -regular graph of order  $n$ , then*

$$\frac{nr}{\sqrt{r+1}} \leq LEL(G) \leq \sqrt{r+1} + \sqrt{(n-2)(nr-r-1)},$$

where both equalities hold if and only if  $G$  is the complete graph  $K_n$ .

**Lemma 2.4** [30] *If  $G$  is any graph of order  $n$ , with at least one edge, then  $\mu_1 = \mu_2 = \dots = \mu_{n-1}$  if and only if  $G$  is the complete graph  $K_n$ .*

The following lemma for  $Q$ -spectrum is analogous to above Lemma 2.4 for  $L$ -spectrum. By Theorem 3.6 in [1], one obtains the following lemma easily.

**Lemma 2.5** *If  $G$  is a graph of order  $n$ , with at least one edge, then  $q_2 = q_3 = \dots = q_n$  if and only if  $G$  is*

the complete graph  $K_n$ .

The following lemma comes from [31], which is called the Ozeki's inequality.

**Lemma 2.6** [31] Let  $\xi = (a_1, \dots, a_n)$  and  $\eta = (b_1, \dots, b_n)$  be two positive  $n$ -tuples with  $0 < p \leq a_i \leq P$  and  $0 < q \leq b_i \leq Q$ , where  $i = 1, \dots, n$ . Then

$$\sum_{i=1}^n a_i^2 \sum_{i=1}^n b_i^2 - \left( \sum_{i=1}^n a_i b_i \right)^2 \leq \frac{1}{4} n^2 (PQ - pq)^2. \quad (9)$$

It is a remarkable fact that a refinement of Ozeki's inequality was obtained by Izumino et al. [32] below.

**Lemma 2.7** [32] Let  $\xi = (a_1, \dots, a_n)$  and  $\eta = (b_1, \dots, b_n)$  be two  $n$ -tuples with  $0 \leq p \leq a_i \leq P$ ,  $0 \leq q \leq b_i \leq Q$  and  $PQ \neq 0$ , where  $i = 1, \dots, n$ . Take  $\alpha = p/P$  and  $\beta = q/Q$ . If  $(1 + \alpha)(1 + \beta) \geq 2$ , then (9) still holds.

Remark that if  $G$  is 1-regular, then  $G$  is isomorphic to  $\frac{n}{2}K_2$ . For avoiding the triviality, we always suppose that  $r \geq 2$  for an  $r$ -regular graph. For an  $(r_1, r_2)$ -semiregular graph  $G$ ,  $G$  is isomorphic to  $\frac{n}{3}P_3$  whenever  $r_1 + r_2 = 3$ . Next we also suppose that  $r_1 + r_2 \geq 4$  for an  $(r_1, r_2)$ -semiregular graph throughout this paper. In addition, it is well known [2, 3] that the largest Laplacian eigenvalue  $\mu_1 \leq 2r$  and largest signless Laplacian eigenvalue  $q_1 = 2r$  for an  $r$ -regular graph. From Lemma 3.3 in [23], we also see that  $\mu_1 = r_1 + r_2$  for an  $(r_1, r_2)$ -semiregular graph.

### 3. The Laplacian-energy-like invariant

In this section, we shall give some improved bounds for  $LEL$  of  $\mathcal{R}$ -graph and  $\mathcal{Q}$ -graph of regular graphs, as well as for the line graph of semiregular graphs. Now we first consider  $LEL$  of  $\mathcal{R}$ -graph of regular graphs.

**Theorem 3.1** If  $G$  is an  $r$ -regular graph of order  $n$  with  $m$  edges, then

$$(i) \quad LEL(\mathcal{R}(G)) \leq \frac{n(r-2)}{2} \sqrt{2} + \sqrt{r+2} + (n-1) \sqrt{r+2 + \frac{nr}{n-1} + \frac{2\sqrt{3}}{n-1} LEL(G)}, \quad (10)$$

where the equality holds in (10) if and only if  $G$  is the complete graph  $K_n$ .

$$(ii) \quad LEL(\mathcal{R}(G)) \geq \frac{n(r-2)}{2} \sqrt{2} + \sqrt{r+2} + (n-1) \sqrt{\frac{3}{4}(r+2) + \frac{nr}{n-1} + \frac{2\sqrt{3}}{n-1} LEL(G)}. \quad (11)$$

**Proof.** Suppose that  $Sp(L(G)) = \{\mu_1, \mu_2, \dots, \mu_n\}$  is the  $L$ -spectrum of  $G$ . Then from (1) and the (i) in Lemma 2.1, one gets

$$\begin{aligned} LEL(\mathcal{R}(G)) &= \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \left( \sqrt{\frac{(r+2+\mu_i) + \sqrt{(r+2+\mu_i)^2 - 12\mu_i}}{2}} \right) + \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \left( \sqrt{\frac{(r+2+\mu_i) - \sqrt{(r+2+\mu_i)^2 - 12\mu_i}}{2}} \right) + (m-n)\sqrt{2} + \sqrt{r+2} \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \sqrt{\left( \sqrt{\frac{(r+2+\mu_i) + \sqrt{(r+2+\mu_i)^2 - 12\mu_i}}{2}} + \sqrt{\frac{(r+2+\mu_i) - \sqrt{(r+2+\mu_i)^2 - 12\mu_i}}{2}} \right)^2} + (m-n)\sqrt{2} + \sqrt{r+2} \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \sqrt{r+2 + \mu_i + 2\sqrt{3\mu_i}} + (m-n)\sqrt{2} + \sqrt{r+2}. \end{aligned} \quad (12)$$

Notice that  $\sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \mu_i = 2m = nr$ . Applying the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality, one obtains

$$\begin{aligned} LEL(\mathcal{R}(G)) &\leq \sqrt{(n-1) \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} (r+2 + \mu_i + 2\sqrt{3\mu_i})} + (m-n)\sqrt{2} + \sqrt{r+2} \\ &= (n-1) \sqrt{r+2 + \frac{nr}{n-1} + \frac{2\sqrt{3}}{n-1} LEL(G)} + \frac{n(r-2)}{2} \sqrt{2} + \sqrt{r+2}, \end{aligned}$$

where above equality holds if and only if  $\mu_1 = \mu_2 = \dots = \mu_{n-1}$ . It follows from Lemma 2.4 that  $G$  is the complete graph  $K_n$ . Hence the proof of the (i) is completed.

Now we prove the (ii). Assume that  $a_i = \sqrt{r+2 + \mu_i + 2\sqrt{3\mu_i}}$  and  $b_i = 1$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, n-1$ . Take  $P = \sqrt{3r+2 + 2\sqrt{6r}}$ ,  $p = \sqrt{r+2}$  and  $Q = q = 1$ . Since  $0 \leq \mu_i \leq 2r$ , then  $0 < p \leq a_i \leq P$ ,  $0 < q \leq b_i \leq Q$  and

$$(PQ - pq)^2 = (\sqrt{3r+2 + 2\sqrt{6r}} - \sqrt{r+2})^2 = (\sqrt{3r} + \sqrt{2} - \sqrt{r+2})^2 \leq r+2.$$

By Lemma 2.6, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \sqrt{r+2 + \mu_i + 2\sqrt{3\mu_i}} &\geq \sqrt{(n-1) \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} (r+2 + \mu_i + 2\sqrt{3\mu_i}) - \frac{1}{4}(n-1)^2(PQ - pq)^2} \\ &\geq (n-1) \sqrt{\frac{3}{4}(r+2) + \frac{nr}{n-1} + \frac{2\sqrt{3}}{n-1} LEL(G)}. \end{aligned}$$

From (12), one obtains the required result (ii).  $\square$

**Corollary 3.2** *If  $G$  is an  $r$ -regular graph of order  $n$  with  $m$  edges, then*

(i)

$$LEL(\mathcal{R}(G)) \leq \frac{n(r-2)}{2} \sqrt{2} + \sqrt{r+2} + (n-1) \sqrt{r+2 + \frac{nr}{n-1} + \frac{2\sqrt{3}(\sqrt{r+1} + \sqrt{(n-2)(nr-r-1)})}{n-1}},$$

where above equality holds if and only if  $G$  is the complete graph  $K_n$ .

(ii)

$$LEL(\mathcal{R}(G)) > \frac{n(r-2)}{2} \sqrt{2} + \sqrt{r+2} + (n-1) \sqrt{\frac{3}{4}(r+2) + \frac{nr}{n-1} + \frac{2\sqrt{3}}{n-1} \frac{nr}{\sqrt{r+1}}}.$$

**Proof.** Theorem 3.1 (i) and Lemma 2.3 together imply (i) in the corollary. Again, from Lemma 2.3 and (11), one gets

$$LEL(\mathcal{R}(G)) \geq \frac{n(r-2)}{2} \sqrt{2} + \sqrt{r+2} + (n-1) \sqrt{\frac{3}{4}(r+2) + \frac{nr}{n-1} + \frac{2\sqrt{3}}{n-1} \frac{nr}{\sqrt{r+1}}}. \quad (13)$$

Suppose that the equality in (13) holds. From Lemma 2.3, we have  $G$  is the complete graph  $K_n$ . But for the complete graph  $K_n$ , the inequality (10) implies that the equality is false in (11). This completes the proof.  $\square$

**Remark 1** Given an  $r$ -regular graph  $G$  of order  $n$ , Pirzada et al. [23] proved that

$$\frac{n(r-2)}{2} \sqrt{2} + n\sqrt{r+2} < LEL(\mathcal{R}(G)) \leq \frac{n(r-2)}{2} \sqrt{2} + \sqrt{r+2} + (n-1)(\sqrt{3r} + \sqrt{2}), \quad (14)$$

where the equality on the right of (14) holds if and only if  $G$  is the complete graph  $K_2$ . Notice that these bounds in Corollary 3.2 improve those in (14). In fact, by direct computation, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt{r+2 + \frac{nr}{n-1} + \frac{2\sqrt{3}(\sqrt{r+1} + \sqrt{(n-2)(nr-r-1)})}{n-1}} &\leq \sqrt{r+2 + \frac{nr}{n-1} + \frac{2\sqrt{3}\sqrt{(n-1)nr}}{n-1}} \\ &= \sqrt{r+2 + \frac{nr}{n-1} + 2\sqrt{3}\sqrt{\frac{nr}{n-1}}} \\ &\leq \sqrt{r+2 + 2r + 2\sqrt{3}\sqrt{2r}} \\ &= \sqrt{3r} + \sqrt{2}, \end{aligned}$$

which implies that the upper bound in Corollary 3.2 is an improvement on that in (14). For the lower bound, it is easy to see that

$$\sqrt{\frac{3}{4}(r+2) + \frac{nr}{n-1} + \frac{2\sqrt{3}}{n-1} \frac{nr}{\sqrt{r+1}}} > \sqrt{\frac{3}{4}(r+2) + r} > \sqrt{r+2}.$$

Hence the lower bound in Corollary 3.2 is also an improvement on that in (14).

Next we consider the Laplacian-energy-like invariant of  $\mathcal{Q}$ -graph of a regular graph.

**Theorem 3.3** If  $G$  is an  $r$ -regular graph of order  $n$  with  $m$  edges, then

$$(i) \quad LEL(Q(G)) \leq \frac{n(r-2)}{2} \sqrt{2r+2} + \sqrt{r+2} + (n-1) \sqrt{r+2 + \frac{nr}{n-1} + \frac{2\sqrt{r+1}}{n-1} LEL(G)}, \quad (15)$$

where the equality holds in (15) if and only if  $G$  is the complete graph  $K_n$ .

$$(ii) \quad LEL(Q(G)) > \frac{n(r-2)}{2} \sqrt{2r+2} + \sqrt{r+2} + (n-1) \sqrt{r+2 + \frac{nr}{n-1} + \frac{2\sqrt{r+1}}{n-1} LEL(G) - \frac{3}{4}r}. \quad (16)$$

**Proof.** Assume that  $Sp(L(G)) = \{\mu_1, \dots, \mu_n\}$  is  $L$ -spectrum of  $G$ . By the (i) in Lemma 2.2 and (1), one has

$$\begin{aligned} LEL(Q(G)) &= \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \left( \sqrt{\frac{(r+2+\mu_i) + \sqrt{(r+2+\mu_i)^2 - 4(r+1)\mu_i}}{2}} \right) + \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \left( \sqrt{\frac{(r+2+\mu_i) - \sqrt{(r+2+\mu_i)^2 - 4(r+1)\mu_i}}{2}} \right) + (m-n) \sqrt{2r+2} + \sqrt{r+2} \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \sqrt{\left( \sqrt{\frac{(r+2+\mu_i) + \sqrt{(r+2+\mu_i)^2 - 4(r+1)\mu_i}}{2}} + \sqrt{\frac{(r+2+\mu_i) - \sqrt{(r+2+\mu_i)^2 - 4(r+1)\mu_i}}{2}} \right)^2} + (m-n) \sqrt{2r+2} + \sqrt{r+2} \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \sqrt{r+2 + \mu_i + 2\sqrt{(r+1)\mu_i}} + (m-n) \sqrt{2r+2} + \sqrt{r+2}. \end{aligned} \quad (17)$$

Notice that  $\sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \mu_i = 2m = nr$ . Applying the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality, one obtains

$$\begin{aligned} LEL(Q(G)) &\leq \sqrt{(n-1) \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} (r+2 + \mu_i + 2\sqrt{(r+1)\mu_i})} + (m-n) \sqrt{2r+2} + \sqrt{r+2} \\ &= (n-1) \sqrt{r+2 + \frac{nr}{n-1} + \frac{2\sqrt{r+1}}{n-1} LEL(G) + \frac{n(r-2)}{2} \sqrt{2r+2} + \sqrt{r+2}} \end{aligned}$$

with the equality holding if and only if  $\mu_1 = \mu_2 = \dots = \mu_{n-1}$ . By Lemma 2.4,  $G$  is the complete graph  $K_n$ . The proof of the (i) is completed.

Next we prove the (ii). Assume that  $a_i = \sqrt{r+2 + \mu_i + 2\sqrt{(r+1)\mu_i}}$  and  $b_i = 1$ , where  $i = 1, \dots, n-1$ . Take  $P = \sqrt{3r+2 + 2\sqrt{2r(r+1)}}$ ,  $p = \sqrt{r+2}$  and  $Q = q = 1$ . Since  $0 \leq \mu_i \leq 2r$  and  $P = \sqrt{3r+2 + 2\sqrt{2r(r+1)}} \leq \sqrt{7r+2}$ . Then  $0 < p \leq a_i \leq P$ ,  $0 < q \leq b_i \leq Q$  and

$$(PQ - pq)^2 = (\sqrt{3r+2 + 2\sqrt{2r(r+1)}} - \sqrt{r+2})^2 \leq (\sqrt{7r+2} - \sqrt{r+2})^2 < 3r.$$

From (17) and Lemma 2.6, one has

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \sqrt{r+2 + \mu_i + 2\sqrt{(r+1)\mu_i}} &\geq \sqrt{(n-1) \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} (r+2 + \mu_i + 2\sqrt{(r+1)\mu_i}) - \frac{1}{4}(n-1)^2(PQ - pq)^2} \\ &> (n-1) \sqrt{r+2 + \frac{nr}{n-1} + \frac{2\sqrt{r+1}}{n-1} LEL(G) - \frac{3}{4}r}. \end{aligned}$$

From (17), one obtains the required result (ii).  $\square$

By Theorem 3.3, we obtain Corollary 3.4 immediately.

**Corollary 3.4** If  $G$  is an  $r$ -regular graph of order  $n$  with  $m$  edges, then

$$(i) \quad LEL(Q(G)) \leq (n-1) \sqrt{r+2 + \frac{nr}{n-1} + \frac{2\sqrt{r+1}(\sqrt{r+1} + \sqrt{(n-2)(nr-r-1)})}{n-1}} + \frac{n(r-2)}{2} \sqrt{2r+2} + \sqrt{r+2},$$

where the equality holds if and only if  $G$  is the complete graph  $K_n$ .

$$(ii) \quad LEL(Q(G)) > \frac{n(r-2)}{2} \sqrt{2r+2} + \sqrt{r+2} + (n-1) \sqrt{\left(\frac{3n}{n-1} + \frac{1}{4}\right)r + 2}.$$

**Remark 2** Given an  $r$ -regular graph  $G$ , Pirzada et al. [23] proved that

$$\frac{n(r-2)}{2} \sqrt{2r+2} + n\sqrt{r+2} < LEL(Q(G)) \leq (n-1) \sqrt{r} + \sqrt{r+2} + \frac{(nr-2)\sqrt{2r+2}}{2}, \quad (18)$$

where the equality on the right of (18) holds if and only if  $G$  is the complete graph  $K_2$ . Since  $(\frac{3n}{n-1} + \frac{1}{4})r > r$ , then the lower bound in Corollary 3.4 is an improvement on that in (18). For the upper bound, one has

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt{r+2 + \frac{nr}{n-1} + \frac{2\sqrt{r+1}(\sqrt{r+1} + \sqrt{(n-2)(nr-r-1)})}{n-1}} &\leq \sqrt{r+2 + \frac{nr}{n-1} + \frac{2\sqrt{r+1}\sqrt{(n-1)nr}}{n-1}} \\ &= \sqrt{r+2 + \frac{nr}{n-1} + 2\sqrt{r+1}\sqrt{\frac{nr}{n-1}}} \\ &< \sqrt{r+2 + 2r + 2\sqrt{r+1}\sqrt{2r}} \\ &= \sqrt{2r+2} + \sqrt{r}. \end{aligned}$$

Hence, the upper bound in Corollary 3.4 is also an improvement on that in (18).

We finally consider the  $LEL$  of line graph of an  $(r_1, r_2)$ -semiregular graph. Pirzada et al. [23] presented the following an upper bound on  $LEL$  of line graph  $\mathcal{L}(G)$  for an  $(r_1, r_2)$ -semiregular graph  $G$ , that is,

$$LEL(\mathcal{L}(G)) \leq \left(\frac{nr_1r_2}{r_1+r_2} - n + 1\right)\sqrt{r_1+r_2} + (n-2)\sqrt{\frac{n-1}{n-2}(r_1+r_2) - \frac{2nr_1r_2}{(n-2)(r_1+r_2)}}.$$

Next we shall give a lower bound on  $LEL$  of its line graph  $\mathcal{L}(G)$ .

**Theorem 3.5** *If  $G$  is an  $(r_1, r_2)$ -semiregular graph of order  $n$  with  $m$  edges, then*

$$LEL(\mathcal{L}(G)) \geq \left(\frac{nr_1r_2}{r_1+r_2} - n + 1\right)\sqrt{r_1+r_2} + (n-2)\sqrt{\frac{3n-2}{4n-8}(r_1+r_2) - \frac{2nr_1r_2}{(n-2)(r_1+r_2)}}.$$

**Proof.** Suppose that  $Sp(L(G)) = \{\mu_1, \dots, \mu_n\}$  is the  $L$ -spectrum of  $G$ . Since  $\mu_1 = r_1 + r_2$  and  $\mu_n = 0$ , then from (1) and (3), one gets

$$LEL(\mathcal{L}(G)) = (m - n + 1)\sqrt{r_1+r_2} + \sum_{i=2}^{n-1} \sqrt{r_1+r_2 - \mu_i}.$$

Now, assume that  $a_i = \sqrt{r_1+r_2 - \mu_i}$  and  $b_i = 1$ ,  $i = 2, \dots, n-1$ . Take  $P = \sqrt{r_1+r_2}$ ,  $p = 0$  and  $Q = q = 1$ . Obviously,  $0 \leq p \leq a_i \leq P$ ,  $0 \leq q \leq b_i \leq Q$ ,  $PQ \neq 0$  and  $(1 + p/P)(1 + q/Q) \geq 2$ . From Lemma 2.7, we have

$$\begin{aligned} LEL(\mathcal{L}(G)) &\geq (m - n + 1)\sqrt{r_1+r_2} + \sqrt{(n-2) \sum_{i=2}^{n-1} (r_1+r_2 - \mu_i) - \frac{1}{4}(n-2)^2(r_1+r_2)} \\ &= (m - n + 1)\sqrt{r_1+r_2} + (n-2)\sqrt{r_1+r_2 - \frac{2m-(r_1+r_2)}{n-2} - \frac{1}{4}(r_1+r_2)} \\ &= (m - n + 1)\sqrt{r_1+r_2} + (n-2)\sqrt{\frac{3n-2}{4n-8}(r_1+r_2) - \frac{2m}{n-2}}, \end{aligned}$$

which yields the required result as  $m = nr_1r_2/(r_1+r_2)$ .  $\square$

## 4. The incidence energy

In this section, we shall give some new bounds for  $IE$  of  $\mathcal{R}$ -graph and  $\mathcal{Q}$ -graph of regular graphs, as well as for the line graph of semiregular graphs. Now we first consider  $IE$  of  $\mathcal{R}$ -graph of regular graphs.

**Theorem 4.1** *If  $G$  is an  $r$ -regular graph of order  $n$  with  $m$  edges, then*

(i)

$$IE(\mathcal{R}(G)) \leq \frac{n(r-2)}{2}\sqrt{2} + \sqrt{3r+2+4\sqrt{r}} + (n-1)\sqrt{\frac{2n-3}{n-1}r + 2\sqrt{\frac{3n-4}{n-1}r + 2}}, \quad (19)$$

where the equality holds if and only if  $G$  is the complete graph  $K_n$ .

(ii)

$$IE(\mathcal{R}(G)) > \frac{n(r-2)}{2}\sqrt{2} + \sqrt{3r+2+4\sqrt{r}} + (n-1)\sqrt{\left(\frac{2n-3}{n-1} - \frac{2-\sqrt{3}}{2}\right)r + 2\sqrt{\left(\frac{3n-4}{n-1} - \frac{3-2\sqrt{2}}{2}\right)r + 2}}. \quad (20)$$

**Proof.** Assume that  $Sp(Q(G)) = \{q_1, \dots, q_n\}$  is the  $Q$ -spectrum of  $G$ . Notice that  $q_1 = 2r$  as  $G$  is  $r$ -regular. Then from (2) and the (ii) in Lemma 2.1, we obtain, by a simple calculation,

$$IE(\mathcal{R}(G)) = \sum_{i=2}^n \sqrt{r + q_i + 2 + 2\sqrt{2r + q_i}} + (m - n)\sqrt{2} + \sqrt{3r + 2 + 4\sqrt{r}}. \quad (21)$$

Clearly,  $\sum_{i=2}^n q_i = 2m - 2r = (n - 2)r$ . Applying the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality, one obtains

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i=2}^n \sqrt{r + 2 + q_i + 2\sqrt{2r + q_i}} &\leq \sqrt{(n - 1) \sum_{i=2}^n (r + 2 + q_i + 2\sqrt{2r + q_i})} \\ &= (n - 1) \sqrt{\frac{2n-3}{n-1}r + 2 + \frac{2}{n-1} \sum_{i=2}^n \sqrt{2r + q_i}} \\ &\leq (n - 1) \sqrt{\frac{2n-3}{n-1}r + 2 + \frac{2}{n-1} \sqrt{(n - 1) \sum_{i=2}^n (2r + q_i)}} \\ &= (n - 1) \sqrt{\frac{2n-3}{n-1}r + 2 + 2\sqrt{\frac{3n-4}{n-1}r}}. \end{aligned}$$

From (21), we obtain the desired upper bound (19). Moreover, above equality occurs if and only if  $q_1 = 2r$  and  $q_2 = q_3 = \dots = q_n$ . Thus by Lemma 2.5,  $G$  is the complete graph  $K_n$ . The proof of the (i) is completed.

Next we prove the (ii). Assume that  $a_i = \sqrt{r + 2 + q_i + 2\sqrt{2r + q_i}}$  and  $b_i = 1$ ,  $i = 2, \dots, n$ . Take  $P = \sqrt{3r + 2 + 4\sqrt{r}}$ ,  $p = \sqrt{r + 2 + 2\sqrt{2r}}$  and  $q = Q = 1$ . Since  $0 \leq q_i \leq 2r$ , then  $0 < p \leq a_i \leq P$ ,  $0 < q \leq b_i \leq Q$ . By a simple computation, one has

$$(PQ - pq)^2 = \left( \sqrt{3r + 2 + 4\sqrt{r}} - \sqrt{r + 2 + 2\sqrt{2r}} \right)^2 < (4 - 2\sqrt{3})r.$$

Then by Lemma 2.6, one has

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i=2}^n \sqrt{r + 2 + q_i + 2\sqrt{2r + q_i}} &\geq \sqrt{(n - 1) \sum_{i=2}^n (r + 2 + q_i + 2\sqrt{2r + q_i}) - \frac{1}{4}(n - 1)^2(PQ - pq)^2} \\ &> (n - 1) \sqrt{\frac{(2n-3)r}{n-1} + 2 + \frac{2}{n-1} \sum_{i=2}^n \sqrt{2r + q_i} - \frac{1}{4}(4 - 2\sqrt{3})r}. \end{aligned}$$

Similarly, assume that  $a_i = \sqrt{2r + q_i}$  and  $b_i = 1$ ,  $i = 2, \dots, n$ . Take  $P = 2\sqrt{r}$ ,  $p = \sqrt{2r}$  and  $Q = q = 1$ . Since  $0 \leq q_i \leq 2r$ , then  $0 < p \leq a_i \leq P$ ,  $0 < q \leq b_i \leq Q$ . Again by Lemma 2.6, one has

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i=2}^n \sqrt{2r + q_i} &\geq \sqrt{(n - 1) \sum_{i=2}^n (2r + q_i) - \frac{1}{4}(n - 1)^2(2\sqrt{r} - \sqrt{2r})^2} \\ &= (n - 1) \sqrt{\left( \frac{3n-4}{n-1} - \frac{3-2\sqrt{2}}{2} \right)r}. \end{aligned}$$

Hence,

$$\sum_{i=2}^n \sqrt{r + 2 + q_i + 2\sqrt{2r + q_i}} > (n - 1) \sqrt{\left( \frac{2n-3}{n-1} - \frac{2-\sqrt{3}}{2} \right)r + 2\sqrt{\left( \frac{3n-4}{n-1} - \frac{3-2\sqrt{2}}{2} \right)r + 2}},$$

which, along with (21), implies the required result (ii).  $\square$

Next we shall consider  $IE$  of  $\mathcal{Q}$ -graph for regular graphs.

**Theorem 4.2** *If  $G$  is an  $r$ -regular graph of order  $n$  with  $m$  edges, then*

(i)

$$IE(\mathcal{Q}(G)) \leq \frac{n(r-2)}{2} \sqrt{2r + 2} + \sqrt{5r - 2 + 4\sqrt{r(r-1)}} + (n - 1) \sqrt{\frac{4n-5}{n-1}r + 2\sqrt{\frac{3n-4}{n-1}r(r-1)}} - 2, \quad (22)$$



where the equality holds in (22) if and only if  $G$  is the complete graph  $K_n$ .

(ii)

$$IE(Q(G)) > \frac{n(r-2)}{2}\sqrt{2r+2} + \sqrt{5r-2+4\sqrt{r(r-1)}} + (n-1)\sqrt{\left(\frac{4n-5}{n-1} - \frac{1}{4}\right)r + 2\sqrt{\left(\frac{3n-4}{n-1} - \frac{3-2\sqrt{2}}{2}\right)r(r-1)}} - 2. \quad (23)$$

**Proof.** Assume that  $Sp(Q(G)) = \{q_1, \dots, q_n\}$  is the  $Q$ -spectrum of  $G$ . Notice that  $q_1 = 2r$  as  $G$  is  $r$ -regular. Then from (2) and the (ii) in Lemma 2.2, it is easy to see that, by a simple calculation,

$$IE(Q(G)) = \sum_{i=2}^n \sqrt{3r + q_i - 2 + 2\sqrt{r(2r + q_i - 2) - q_i}} + (m-n)\sqrt{2r-2} + \sqrt{5r-2+4\sqrt{r(r-1)}}. \quad (24)$$

Clearly,  $\sum_{i=2}^n q_i = 2m - 2r = (n-2)r$ . Applying the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality, one obtains

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i=2}^n \sqrt{3r + q_i - 2 + 2\sqrt{r(2r + q_i - 2) - q_i}} &\leq \sqrt{(n-1) \sum_{i=2}^n (3r + q_i - 2 + 2\sqrt{r(2r + q_i - 2) - q_i})} \\ &= (n-1) \sqrt{\frac{4n-5}{n-1}r - 2 + \frac{2}{n-1} \sum_{i=2}^n \sqrt{r(2r + q_i - 2) - q_i}} \\ &\leq (n-1) \sqrt{\frac{4n-5}{n-1}r - 2 + \frac{2}{n-1} \sqrt{(n-1) \sum_{i=2}^n [r(2r + q_i - 2) - q_i]}} \\ &= (n-1) \sqrt{\frac{4n-5}{n-1}r - 2 + 2\sqrt{\frac{3n-4}{n-1}r(r-1)}}, \end{aligned}$$

which, along with (24), implies the desired upper bound. Moreover, above equality occurs if and only if  $q_1 = 2r$  and  $q_2 = q_3 = \dots = q_n$ . Thus from Lemma 2.5,  $G$  is the complete graph  $K_n$ . The proof of the (i) is completed.

Now we prove the (ii). Assume that  $a_i = \sqrt{3r - 2 + q_i + 2\sqrt{r(2r - 2 + q_i) - q_i}}$  and  $b_i = 1$ , where  $i = 2, \dots, n$ . Take  $P = \sqrt{5r - 2 + 4\sqrt{r(r-1)}}$ ,  $p = \sqrt{3r - 2 + 2\sqrt{2r(r-1)}}$  and  $Q = q = 1$ . Since  $0 \leq q_i \leq 2r$ , then  $0 < p \leq a_i \leq P$ ,  $0 < q \leq b_i \leq Q$ . By a simple computation, one has

$$(PQ - pq)^2 = (\sqrt{5r - 2 + 4\sqrt{r(r+1)}} - \sqrt{3r - 2 + 2\sqrt{2r(r-1)}})^2 < r.$$

Then by Lemma 2.6, one has

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i=2}^n \sqrt{3r - 2 + q_i + 2\sqrt{r(2r - 2 + q_i) - q_i}} &\geq \sqrt{(n-1) \sum_{i=2}^n (3r - 2 + q_i + 2\sqrt{r(2r - 2 + q_i) - q_i}) - \frac{1}{4}(n-1)^2(PQ - pq)^2} \\ &> \sqrt{(n-1) \sum_{i=2}^n (3r - 2 + q_i + 2\sqrt{r(2r - 2 + q_i) - q_i}) - \frac{1}{4}(n-1)^2r} \\ &= (n-1) \sqrt{\left(\frac{4n-5}{n-1} - \frac{1}{4}\right)r - 2 + \frac{2}{n-1} \sum_{i=2}^n \sqrt{r(2r - 2 + q_i) - q_i}}. \end{aligned}$$

Similarly, suppose that  $a_i = \sqrt{r(2r - 2 + q_i) - q_i}$  and  $b_i = 1$ ,  $i = 2, 3, \dots, n$ . Take  $P = 2\sqrt{r(r-1)}$ ,  $p = \sqrt{2r(r-1)}$  and  $Q = q = 1$ . Since  $0 \leq q_i \leq 2r$ , then  $0 < p \leq a_i \leq P$ ,  $0 < q \leq b_i \leq Q$ . Again, from Lemma 2.6, one obtains

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i=2}^n \sqrt{r(2r - 2 + q_i) - q_i} &\geq \sqrt{(n-1) \sum_{i=2}^n [r(2r - 2 + q_i) - q_i] - \frac{1}{4}(n-1)^2(PQ - pq)^2} \\ &= (n-1) \sqrt{2r(r-1) + \frac{n-2}{n-1}r(r-1) - \frac{1}{4}(2 - \sqrt{2})^2r(r-1)} \\ &= (n-1) \sqrt{\left(\frac{3n-4}{n-1} - \frac{3-2\sqrt{2}}{2}\right)r(r-1)}. \end{aligned}$$

Hence,

$$\sum_{i=2}^n \sqrt{3r - 2 + q_i + 2\sqrt{r(2r - 2 + q_i) - q_i}} > (n-1) \sqrt{\left(\frac{4n-5}{n-1} - \frac{1}{4}\right)r + 2\sqrt{\left(\frac{3n-4}{n-1} - \frac{3-2\sqrt{2}}{2}\right)r(r-1)}} - 2.$$

It follows from (24) that the (ii) holds.  $\square$

We finally consider the incidence energy of line graph for an  $(r_1, r_2)$ -semiregular graph. In [25], an upper bound on  $IE$  of line graph  $\mathcal{L}(G)$  for an  $(r_1, r_2)$ -semiregular graph  $G$  was obtained as follows:

$$IE(\mathcal{L}(G)) \leq \left(\frac{nr_1r_2}{r_1+r_2} - n + 1\right)\sqrt{r_1+r_2-4} + \sqrt{2(r_1+r_2)-4} + (n-2)\sqrt{\frac{n-3}{n-2}(r_1+r_2) + \frac{2nr_1r_2}{(n-2)(r_1+r_2)} - 4}.$$

Below one gives a lower bound for  $IE$  of its line graph  $\mathcal{L}(G)$ .

**Theorem 4.3** *If  $G$  is an  $(r_1, r_2)$ -semiregular graph with  $n$  vertices and  $m$  edges, then*

$$IE(\mathcal{L}(G)) \geq \left(\frac{nr_1r_2}{r_1+r_2} - n + 1\right)\sqrt{r_1+r_2-4} + \sqrt{2(r_1+r_2)-4} + (n-2)\sqrt{\frac{3n-10}{4n-8}(r_1+r_2) + \frac{2nr_1r_2}{(n-2)(r_1+r_2)} - 4}.$$

**Proof.** Suppose that  $Sp(Q(G)) = \{q_1, \dots, q_n\}$  is the  $Q$ -spectrum of  $G$ . Notice that  $q_1 = r_1 + r_2$  and  $q_n = 0$  as  $G$  is bipartite. Then from (2) and (4), one gets

$$IE(L(G)) = (m - n + 1)\sqrt{r_1 + r_2 - 4} + \sqrt{2(r_1 + r_2) - 4} + \sum_{i=2}^{n-1} \sqrt{r_1 + r_2 - 4 + q_i}. \quad (25)$$

Now, assume that  $a_i = \sqrt{r_1 + r_2 - 4 + q_i}$  and  $b_i = 1$ ,  $i = 2, \dots, n-1$ . Take  $P = \sqrt{2(r_1 + r_2) - 4}$ ,  $p = \sqrt{r_1 + r_2 - 4}$  and  $Q = q = 1$ . Obviously,  $0 \leq p \leq a_i \leq P$ ,  $0 \leq q \leq b_i \leq Q$ ,  $PQ \neq 0$  and  $(1 + p/P)(1 + q/Q) \geq 2$ . By a simple computation, one has

$$(PQ - pq)^2 = (\sqrt{2(r_1 + r_2) - 4} - \sqrt{r_1 + r_2 - 4})^2 \leq r_1 + r_2.$$

From Lemma 2.7, one has

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i=2}^{n-1} \sqrt{r_1 + r_2 - 4 + q_i} &\geq \sqrt{(n-2) \sum_{i=2}^{n-1} (r_1 + r_2 - 4 + q_i) - \frac{1}{4}(n-2)^2(r_1 + r_2)} \\ &= (n-2) \sqrt{r_1 + r_2 - 4 + \frac{2m - (r_1 + r_2)}{n-2} - \frac{1}{4}(r_1 + r_2)} \\ &= (n-2) \sqrt{\frac{3n-10}{4n-8}(r_1 + r_2) + \frac{2m}{n-2} - 4}, \end{aligned}$$

which, along with (25), implies the required result as  $m = nr_1r_2/(r_1 + r_2)$ .  $\square$

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