# Strongly Regular Graphs with No Triangles 

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#### Abstract

A simplified version of the theory of strongly regular graphs is developed for the case in which the graphs have no triangles. This leads to (i) direct proofs of the Krein conditions, and (ii) the characterization of strongly regular graphs with no triangles such that the second subconstituent is also strongly regular. The method also provides an effective means of listing feasible parameters for such graphs.


## 1. Introduction

We consider graphs that are strongly regular and have no triangles, abbreviated to 'SRNT graphs'. Such a graph $X$ is characterized by two parameters $k$ and $c$, according to the rules

- $X$ is regular with degree $k$;
- any two adjacent vertices have no common neighbours;
- any two non-adjacent vertices have $c$ common neighbours.

We shall discuss only cases where

$$
k \geq 3, \quad k>c \geq 1
$$

These conditions rule out the the pentagon $(k=2, c=1)$ and the complete bipartite graphs $K_{k, k}$, which have $c=k$. Thus, by an SRNT graph we mean a non-bipartite connected graph, with diameter 2 and degree at least 3 . Only six such graphs are known. There are other pairs $(k, c)$ for which an SRNT graph may exist, but they are quite rare. Brouwer's list [2] contains all possibilities with up to 280 vertices, and the Appendix to this paper contains all possibilities with up to 6025 vertices.
If $v$ is a vertex of an SRNT graph $X$ we denote the subgraphs induced by the sets of vertices at distances 1 and 2 from $v$ by $X_{1}(v)$ and $X_{2}(v)$ respectively. Clearly, $X_{1}(v)$ has no edges, for any $v$. It is worth remarking that the graphs $X_{2}(v)$ need not all be isomorphic, although we often use the abbreviation $X_{2}$ to denote any one of them.
We shall need some standard notation and theory [7]. The sizes of $X_{2}$ and $X$ are given by

$$
\ell=\frac{k(k-1)}{c}, \quad n=1+k+\ell=1+\frac{k}{c}(k-1+c) .
$$

The adjacency matrix $A$ of $X$ satisfies the equations $A J=k J$ and $A^{2}+c A-$ $(k-c) I=c J$, where $I$ is the identity matrix and $J$ is the all-1 matrix. It follows that the eigenvalues of $A$ are $k$ (with multiplicity 1) and the roots $\lambda_{1}, \lambda_{2}$ of the equation $\lambda^{2}+c \lambda-(k-c)=0$. Furthermore, there is an integer $s>c$ such that $c^{2}+4(k-c)=s^{2}$, where $s$ and $c$ have same parity, and the eigenvalues are the integers

$$
k=\frac{s^{2}-c^{2}}{4}+c \quad \lambda_{1}=\frac{s-c}{2}, \quad \lambda_{2}=\frac{-s-c}{2} .
$$

The multiplicities $m_{1}, m_{2}$ of $\lambda_{1}, \lambda_{2}$ are given by

$$
m_{1}=\frac{k}{2 c s}((k-1+c)(s+c)-2 c), \quad m_{2}=\frac{k}{2 c s}((k-1+c)(s-c)+2 c) .
$$

Note that the algebra exhibits s-symmetry: replacing $s$ by $-s$ fixes $k$ but switches $\lambda_{1}$ and $\lambda_{2}, m_{1}$ and $m_{2}$.
The conditions that $n$ and $m_{1}$ (and consequently $\ell$ and $m_{2}$ ) must be integers are known as 'feasibility conditions'. They severely restrict the possible parameters $(k, c)$, for example, they imply that when $c \neq 2,4,6$ there are only finitely many possible pairs $(k, c)$.
In Section 3 we shall discuss another feasibility condition, which (among other things) greatly simplifies the calculation of feasible parameters. If we take the basic parameters to be the positive integers $c$ and $\lambda_{1}=q$, then it follows that $s=c+2 q$ and $k=(q+1) c+q^{2}$. The conditions that $n$ and $m_{1}$ are integers also take a fairly simple form in terms of $c$ and $q$ (details are given in the Appendix).
As well as the arithmetical conditions summarized above, it is possible to derive some 'graph-theoretical' conditions. For example, a general result on distance-regular graphs $[\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{3}]$ implies that $k>2 c$, a result that can be proved in this case by simple arguments. However, this result is not the bestpossible. The feasibility condition given in Section 3 implies that $k \geq 3 c-1$; indeed, apart from the known examples, we must have $k \geq \frac{7}{2} c+\frac{25}{4}$.

## 2. The second subconstituent and its eigenspaces

It is clear from the definition of an SRNT graph $X$ that $X_{2}$ is a regular graph of degree $k-c$. Simple arguments provide more specific information.

Theorem $1 \quad X_{2}$ is a connected graph with diameter 2 or 3 .
Proof We show first that every path uvw in $X$ is part of a 5 -cycle. For any such path $v \in X_{1}(u)$ and $w \in X_{2}(u)$. Let $x$ be any one of the $k-c$ vertices in $X_{2}(u)$ that is adjacent to $w$, and let $y$ be any one of the $c$ vertices in $X_{1}(u)$ that is adjacent to $x$. Since $X$ has no triangles, $y \neq w$, and hence $u v w x y$ is a 5 -cycle.
Now let $d$ and $d_{2}$ denote the distance functions in $X$ and $X_{2}(u)$ respectively. If $p, q$ are vertices in $X_{2}(u)$ such that $d_{2}(p, q)>2$, then $d(p, q)=2$. All $c$ vertices adjacent to $p$ in $X_{1}(u)$ must also be adjacent to $q$, since $p$ and $q$ have $c$ common neighbours.
Any path $q v p$ in $X$ with $v \in X_{1}(u)$ is part of a 5 -cycle qupab. If $a$ were in $X_{1}(u)$, then $a$ would also be adjacent to $q$ and we should have a triangle $a b q$. Similarly if $b$ were in $X_{1}(u)$ we should have a triangle $a b p$. Hence the path pabq must be in $X_{2}(u)$, and $d_{2}(p, q)=3$.

In the case $c=1$ (known as the Moore graph case) $X_{2}$ must have diameter 3: in fact, $X_{2}$ is an antipodal ( $k-1$ )-fold covering of the complete graph $K_{k}$ [5]. The known SRNT graphs with $k=3$ (Petersen) and $k=7$ (HoffmanSingleton) exemplify this situation. For some other known SRNT graphs (Clebsch and Higman-Sims) $X_{2}$ has diameter 2, and indeed it is strongly regular and thus an SRNT graph.

The algebraic theory of the subconstituents for any strongly regular graph is well-known [7, pp227-230]. In our case, when $X_{1}$ is trivial, it is possible to give a streamlined version.
Fix a vertex $v$ in $X$ and partition the adjacency matrix according to the vertex-partition $\{v\} \cup X_{1}(v) \cup X_{2}(v)$ :

$$
A=\left(\begin{array}{ccc}
0 & J & O \\
J & O & B^{T} \\
O & B & A_{2}
\end{array}\right)
$$

(Here, and in what follows, the J's denote all-1 matrices of the appropriate sizes.)
For any $x \in \mathbb{R}^{n}$ let $\left[\begin{array}{lll}x_{0} & x_{1} & x_{2}\end{array}\right]^{T}$ denote the corresponding column vector, partitioned in the same way as $A$, so that $x_{0} \in \mathbb{R}, x_{1} \in \mathbb{R}^{k}, x_{2} \in \mathbb{R}^{\ell}$. By elementary matrix algebra it follows that if $x$ is an eigenvector of $A$ with eigenvalue $\lambda \neq k$ then

$$
J x_{1}=\lambda x_{0}, \quad x_{0} J+B^{T} x_{2}=\lambda x_{1}, \quad B x_{1}+A_{2} x_{2}=\lambda x_{2} .
$$

Theorem 2 For any SRNT graph, $m_{1} \geq k$ and $m_{2} \geq k$.
Proof Let $P$ be the eigenspace of $A$ for the eigenvector $\lambda_{1}$. If $x \in P$ then $J x=0$, and since $J x_{1}=\lambda_{1} x_{0}$, it follows that

$$
0=x_{0}+J x_{1}+J x_{2}=\left(1+\lambda_{1}\right) x_{0}+J x_{2} .
$$

Let $Q$ be the space comprising those $x$ for which $x_{0}=0$ and $x_{2}=0$. Since any $x \in Q$ also satisfies the equation $\left(1+\lambda_{1}\right) x_{0}+J x_{2}=0$, it follows that the dimension of the space $P+Q$ is at most $n-1$.
On the other hand, if $x \in P \cap Q$, then $x_{0} J+B^{T} x_{2}=\lambda_{1} x_{1}$, so $x=0$. Thus, by a standard theorem, $\operatorname{dim}(P+Q)=\operatorname{dim} P+\operatorname{dim} Q$, and

$$
n-1 \geq \operatorname{dim}(P+Q)=\operatorname{dim} P+\operatorname{dim} Q=m_{1}+k .
$$

Since $n-1=m_{1}+m_{2}$, it follows that $m_{2} \geq k$.
Similarly, or by $s$-symmetry, $m_{1} \geq k$.

Since $k-c$ is the degree of $X_{2}$, it is an eigenvalue of $A_{2}$, and since $X_{2}$ is connected, $k-c$ has multiplicity 1 . We now determine the other possible eigenvalues of $X_{2}$. Substituting the partitioned form of $A$ in the equation $A^{2}+c A-(k-c) I=c J$ we obtain three significant equations:

$$
\begin{align*}
& B^{T} B=(c-1) J+(k-1) I  \tag{1}\\
& A_{2}^{2}+c A_{2}-(k-c) I+B B^{T}=c J  \tag{2}\\
& A_{2} B=-c B+c J . \tag{3}
\end{align*}
$$

Theorem 3 Suppose $\mu \neq k-c$ is an eigenvalue of $X_{2}$. Then either $\mu=\lambda_{1}$, $\mu=\lambda_{2}$, or $\mu=-c$.
Proof If $x \neq 0$ is an eigenvector for $\mu \neq k-c$ then we have $J x=0$. By (2), $\left(A_{2}^{2}+c A_{2}-(k-c) I\right) x=-B B^{T} x$. Since $A_{2} x=\mu x$, we have

$$
\left(\mu^{2}+c \mu-(k-c)\right) x=\left(\mu-\lambda_{1}\right)\left(\mu-\lambda_{2}\right) x=-B B^{T} x .
$$

Thus if $B^{T} x=0$, then $\mu=\lambda_{1}$ or $\mu=\lambda_{2}$.
Suppose $B^{T} x \neq 0$. Transposing (3) we have

$$
B^{T} A_{2} x=-c B^{T} x, \quad \text { that is } \quad \mu\left(B^{T} x\right)=-c\left(B^{T} x\right)
$$

and so in this case $\mu=-c$.

## 3. The Krein conditions and their consequences

Two more feasibility conditions involve parameters $K_{1}$ and $K_{2}$, known as the Krein parameters. They arise in the general theory of distance-regular graphs, as described in [3]. After some elementary algebra, in the strongly regular case they can be written in terms of $k, \lambda_{1}, \lambda_{2}[7]$ :

$$
\begin{aligned}
K_{1} & =\lambda_{1} \lambda_{2}^{2}-2 \lambda_{1}^{2} \lambda_{2}-\lambda_{1}^{2}-k \lambda_{1}+k \lambda_{2}^{2}+2 k \lambda_{2} \\
& =\left(k+\lambda_{1}\right)\left(\lambda_{2}+1\right)^{2}-\left(\lambda_{1}+1\right)\left(k+\lambda_{1}+2 \lambda_{1} \lambda_{2}\right) . \\
K_{2} & =\lambda_{1}^{2} \lambda_{2}-2 \lambda_{1} \lambda_{2}^{2}-\lambda_{2}^{2}-k \lambda_{2}+k \lambda_{1}^{2}+2 k \lambda_{1} \\
& =\left(k+\lambda_{2}\right)\left(\lambda_{1}+1\right)^{2}-\left(\lambda_{2}+1\right)\left(k+\lambda_{2}+2 \lambda_{1} \lambda_{2}\right) .
\end{aligned}
$$

When $X$ is a SRNT graph, we can express $K_{1}$ and $K_{2}$ in terms of $s$ and $c$, as follows:

$$
\begin{aligned}
K_{1} & =\frac{1}{16}(s+c)(s-c+2)\left((s+c)^{2}-2(s+3 c)\right) \\
K_{2} & =\frac{1}{16}(s-c)(s+c-2)\left((s-c)^{2}+2(s-3 c)\right)
\end{aligned}
$$

Yet more elementary algebra leads to alternative, simpler, formulae.

$$
\begin{aligned}
K_{1}= & \frac{1}{4}(s+c)(s-c+2)\left(\lambda_{2}^{2}+\lambda_{2}-c\right) \\
& =\frac{1}{2} c s(s+c)\left(\frac{m_{1}}{k}-1\right) . \\
K_{2}= & \frac{1}{4}(s-c)(s+c-2)\left(\lambda_{1}^{2}+\lambda_{1}-c\right) \\
& =\frac{1}{2} \operatorname{cs}(s-c)\left(\frac{m_{2}}{k}-1\right) .
\end{aligned}
$$

These formulae provide a direct proof of the fundamental result on the Krein parameters, in the SRNT case.

Theorem 4 For any SRNT graph, $K_{1} \geq 0$ with equality if and only if $m_{1}=k$, and $K_{2} \geq 0$ with equality if and only if $m_{2}=k$.
Proof This follows immediately from Theorem 2 and the formulae given above.

Corollary 1 The matrix $A^{2}+A-c I$ is positive semidefinite.
Proof The formulae show that $\lambda_{1}$ and $\lambda_{2}$ both satisfy the condition $\lambda^{2}+$ $\lambda-c \geq 0$, and the third eigenvalue $k$ also does so. (A direct proof of this corollary may be possible.)

Corollary $2 \quad k \geq 3 c-1$.
Proof We have shown that $\lambda_{1}^{2}+\lambda_{1}-c \geq 0$. Since $\lambda_{1}$ satisfies the equation $\lambda_{1}^{2}+c \lambda_{1}-(k-c)=0$ it follows that

$$
-c \lambda_{1}+(k-c)+\lambda_{1}-c \geq 0, \quad \text { that is, } \quad \lambda_{1} \leq \frac{k-2 c}{c-1}
$$

Since $\lambda_{1}$ is a positive integer, $k-2 c \geq c-1$.
Parameters such as $(k, c)=(9,4),(21,10), \ldots$ are usually ruled out by calculating the Krein parameters [2, 7], but Corollary 2 achieves this result without any calculation. Similar methods lead to the following general results.

Corollary 3 The only SRNT graphs with $c+1 \leq k \leq 3 c+4$ are the six currently-known ones.
Proof We have to consider the cases $k=3 c+b, b=-1,0,1,2,3,4$.
If $k=3 c-1$ we have $\ell=(3 c-1)(3 c-2) / c=9 c-9+2 / c$, so the only possiblities are $c=1$ and $c=2$. These define the pentagon and the Clebsch graph.
Suppose $k=3 c+b$ with $b \geq 0$. Then

$$
s^{2}=c^{2}+4(k-c)=c^{2}+8 c+4 b=(c+4)^{2}+4(b-4) .
$$

When $b=0,1,2,3$ this implies that $s^{2}<(c+4)^{2}$, and since $s$ is a positive integer, $s \leq c+3$. Hence

$$
(c+3)^{2} \geq(c+4)^{2}-4(4-b), \quad \text { that is } \quad c \leq(9-4 b) / 2 .
$$

There are very few possibilities here, and the only one that gives a feasible set of parameters is $b=0, c=1, k=3$, which defines the Petersen graph.
If $k=3 c+4$ we have $\ell=(3 c+4)(3 c+3) / c=9 c-21+12 / c$, so $c$ is a divisor of 12 . The only feasible solutions are $c=1,2,4,6$, which define the graphs known by the names of Hoffman-Singleton, Gewirtz, $M_{22}$, and Higman-Sims, respectively

Corollary 4 An SRNT graph that is not currently-known must have $k \geq$ $\frac{7}{2} c+\frac{25}{4}$.
Proof In the light of the previous theorem, we can assume that $k=3 c+b$ with $b \geq 5$. In this case $s^{2}>(c+4)^{2}$ and hence $s \geq c+5$. Thus

$$
(c+5)^{2} \leq c^{2}+8 c+4 b, \quad \text { that is } \quad c \leq(4 b-25) / 2
$$

In other words, $k=3 c+b$ with $b \geq \frac{1}{2} c+\frac{25}{4}$, as claimed.

## 4. Linked pairs

We now consider linked pairs ( $X, X^{\prime}$ ) of SRNT graphs, that is, SRNT graphs $X$ and $X^{\prime}$ such that $X^{\prime}=X_{2}(v)$ for every vertex $v$ of $X$. For comments on this problem, see [6].

Theorem 5 The parameters of a linked pair $\left(X, X^{\prime}\right)$ are such that

$$
k^{\prime}=k-c, \quad c^{\prime}=c-q, \quad \lambda_{1}^{\prime}=\lambda_{1},
$$

where

$$
q=\frac{c^{2}(k-2)}{k^{2}-(c+1) k+c(c-1)} .
$$

Proof Clearly, the degree of $X^{\prime}=X_{2}$ is $k^{\prime}=k-c$. Since the number of vertices of $X^{\prime}$ is equal to $\ell$, we have

$$
1+k^{\prime}+\frac{k^{\prime}\left(k^{\prime}-1\right)}{c^{\prime}}=\frac{k(k-1)}{c} .
$$

Substituting $k^{\prime}=k-c$ and solving for $c^{\prime}$ gives $c^{\prime}=c-q$, where $q$ is as stated.
Since $X^{\prime}$ is strongly regular, it has two eigenvalues other than $k-c$, and just one of them $\left(\lambda_{1}^{\prime}\right)$ is positive. According to Theorem 3, the only possible eigenvalues are $\lambda_{1}, \lambda_{2}$ and $-c$, of which only $\lambda_{1}$ is positive. Hence $\lambda_{1}^{\prime}=\lambda_{1}$.

Combining these equations leads to our main result. Since $\lambda_{1}^{\prime}=\lambda_{1}$ it follows that $s^{\prime}-c^{\prime}=s-c$, and hence $s^{\prime}=s-q$. From the equations $s^{\prime 2}=c^{\prime 2}+4\left(k^{\prime}-c^{\prime}\right)$ and $s^{2}=c^{2}+4(k-c)$ we obtain

$$
\begin{gathered}
(s-q)^{2}=(c-q)^{2}+4(k-c-c+q)=s^{2}-2 q c++q^{2}-4 c+4 q, \\
\text { that is } s=c-2+\frac{2 c}{q} .
\end{gathered}
$$

Here both $s$ and $q$ can be written as functions of $k$ and $c$. This yields the equation
$c^{2}(k-2)^{2}\left(c^{2}+4 k-4 c\right)=\left(c(c-2)(k-2)+2 k^{2}-2(c+1) k+2 c(c-1)\right)^{2}$,
which is a quartic in $k$, and factors conveniently:

$$
4(k-1)(k-c)\left(k^{2}-(3 c+1) k-c\left(c^{2}-4 c-1\right)\right)=0
$$

Thus, if there is a linked pair $\left(X, X^{\prime}\right)$ and $c$ is given, $k$ must be a positive integer root of the quadratic factor. The discriminant of this factor is

$$
\Delta=(3 c+1)^{2}+4 c\left(c^{2}-4 c-1\right)=(c-1)^{2}(4 c+1)
$$

So $\Delta$ is a perfect square if and only if $4 c+1$ is the square of an integer, which must be an odd number $2 r+1$. That is, $c=r(r+1)$. The corresponding value of $k$ is

$$
\frac{1}{2}(3 c+1+\sqrt{\Delta})=r\left(r^{2}+3 r+1\right)
$$

and these are the only values for which a linked pair can exist. Furthermore, for these values

$$
q=\frac{c^{2}(k-2)}{k^{2}-(c+1) k+c(c-1)}=r .
$$

It is easy to check that $k=q\left(q^{2}+3 q+1\right)$ and $c=q(q+1)$ satisfy all the feasibility conditions for an SRNT graph $X$, as do the corresponding values for $X^{\prime}, k^{\prime}=q^{2}(q+2)$ and $c^{\prime}=q^{2}$. Precisely, we have

$$
\begin{gathered}
\ell=\left(q^{2}+2 q-1\right)\left(q^{2}+3 q+1\right), \quad n=q^{2}(q+3)^{2}, \quad s=q(q+3), \\
\lambda_{1}=q, \quad \lambda_{2}=-q(q+2), \quad m_{1}=\left(q^{2}+2 q-1\right)\left(q^{2}+3 q+1\right), \\
m_{2}=q\left(q^{2}+3 q+1\right), \quad K_{1}=q^{2}(q+1)(q+2)(q+3)\left(q^{2}+q-1\right), \quad K_{2}=0 . \\
\ell^{\prime}=(q+1)(q+2)\left(q^{2}+q-1\right), \quad n^{\prime}=\left(q^{2}+2 q-1\right)\left(q^{2}+3 q+1\right), \quad s^{\prime}=q(q+2), \\
\lambda_{1}^{\prime}=q, \quad \lambda_{2}^{\prime}=-q(q+1), \quad m_{1}^{\prime}=\left(q^{2}+3 q+1\right)\left(q^{2}+q-1\right), \\
m_{2}^{\prime}=(q+1)\left(q^{2}+2 q-1\right), \quad K_{1}^{\prime}=q^{2}(q+1)^{2}\left(q^{3}+2 q^{2}-q-1\right), \quad K_{2}^{\prime}=q^{2}\left(q^{2}+q-1\right) .
\end{gathered}
$$

Thus we have the main result.
Theorem 6 The parameters of a linked pair ( $X, X^{\prime}$ ) of SRNT graphs must be of the form

$$
k=q\left(q^{2}+3 q+1\right), \quad c=q(q+1), \quad k^{\prime}=q^{2}(q+2), \quad c^{\prime}=q^{2},
$$

where $q$ is a positive integer. Both sets of parameters are feasible for all $q \geq 1$. (When $q=1$ we obtain the Clebsch/Petersen pair, and when $q=2$ we obtain the Higman-Sims $/ M_{22}$ pair. These graphs are known to be the unique ones with the relevant parameters.)

Similar results have been obtained by Cameron [4, Theorem 5] and Smith [11, Theorem E]. Cameron used a result on partial quadrangles, and Smith considered the case when $X$ admits a group of automorphisms that acts transitively on the vertices, and the stabilizer of a vertex $v$ acts transitively as a group of automorphisms of $X^{\prime}=X_{2}(v)$. Her proof involves calculations with the constituents of the permutation characters, which appear similar to the calculations given above.
The values for $k$ and $c$ are the SRNT case of the family known as negative latin square parameters, first obtained by Mesner [8]. Graphs of this type were also studied by M. Shrikhande [9] and S. Shrikhande [10].

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## Appendix

This Appendix contains calculations from Nimashi Thilakaratne's dissertation (2009) for the MSc in Applicable Mathematics at the LSE. The calculations are based on the following result (see also Cameron [4]).
Theorem The number $n$ of vertices of an SRNT graph with $\lambda_{1}=q$ is in the range

$$
\left\lceil 2 q^{3}+3 q^{2}-q+2 q(q+1) \sqrt{q^{2}+q-2}\right\rceil \leq n \leq q^{2}(q+3)^{2} .
$$

The parameter $c$ is in the range $1 \leq c \leq q(q+1)$, and must be such that
$c$ is a divisor of $q^{4}-q^{2}$, and
$c+2 q$ is a divisor of $q^{4}+3 q^{3}+5 q^{2}+3 q+q\left(q^{4}-q^{2}\right) / c$.
Proof Given the values of $\lambda_{1}=q$ and $c$, the parameters $s, k$ and $n$ are

$$
s=c+2 q, \quad k=(q+1) c+q^{2}, \quad n=A c+B+D / c,
$$

where $A=q^{2}+3 q+2, B=2 q^{3}+3 q^{2}-q, D=q^{4}-q^{2}$.
According to the formulae given in Section 3, the condition $K_{2} \geq 0$ implies that $\lambda_{1}^{2}+\lambda_{1}-c \geq 0$. Hence $c$ lies in the range $1 \leq c \leq q(q+1)$. As a function of $c, n$ has only one extreme point, a minimum, at the point where

$$
c^{2}=D / A, \quad \text { that is } \quad c=q\left(\frac{q-1}{q+2}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} .
$$

Substituting this value of $c$ gives the minimum value $n_{\text {min }}$, and since $n$ must be an integer, we get the result as stated above.
The maximum value $n_{\max }$ must therefore occur at one of the ends of the range, and a simple calculation shows that the values at $c=1$ and $c=q(q+1)$ respectively are

$$
q^{4}+2 q^{3}+3 q^{2}+2 q+2 \quad \text { and } \quad q^{2}(q+3)^{2} .
$$

So the maximum occurs when $c=q(q+1)$.
If such a graph exists, $n$ and $m_{1}$ must be integral. Another calculation gives

$$
m_{1}=A c+E+\frac{F c+q D}{c(c+2 q)}
$$

where $E=q^{3}-4 q-2, F=q(q+1)\left(q^{2}+2 q+3\right)$, and $A, D$ are as above.
If $n$ is integral $c$ must divide $D$. In that case $c$ must also divide $F c+q D$ and hence the condition that $m_{1}$ is an integer reduces to the fact that $c+2 q$ must divide $F+q(D / c)$.

This theorem enables feasible parameters to be calculated systematically. The method is to fix $q$ and find those $c$ in the range $1 \leq c \leq q(q+1)$ such that $c$ and $c+2 q$ satisfy the divisiblity conditions. For example, when $q=4$ we require the integers $c$ such that $1 \leq c \leq 20, c$ divides 240, and $c+8$ divides $540+960 / c$. It is easy to check that the only possibilities are $c=2,4,6,12,16,20$.
The theorem also gives bounds $n_{\min }$ and $n_{\max }$, and these provide an effective method of tabulating the results. For $1 \leq q \leq 11$ the bounds are as follows:

| $q$ | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $n_{\min }$ | 4 | 50 | 154 | 342 | 638 | 1066 | 1650 | 2413 | 3381 | 4577 | 6025. |
| $n_{\max }$ | 16 | 100 | 324 | 784 | 1600 | 2916 | 4900 | 7744 | 11664 | 16900 | 23716 |.

Suppose we wish to list all the feasible parameters for SRNT graphs with at most 1000 vertices. According to the table, we need only carry out the
calculation for $1 \leq q \leq 5$, since $n_{\text {min }}(6)$ is greater than 1000. Similarly, if we list the feasible parameters for $1 \leq q \leq 10$, the list will contain all possibilities with fewer than 6025 vertices. The results of these calculations are tabulated below.

| $n$ | $k$ | $c$ | $s$ | $\ell$ | $\lambda_{1}$ | $\lambda_{2}$ | $m_{1}$ | $m_{2}$ | $K_{1}$ | $K_{2}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 10 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 6 | 1 | -2 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 1 |
| 16 | 5 | 2 | 4 | 10 | 1 | -3 | 10 | 5 | 24 | 0 |
| 50 | 7 | 1 | 5 | 42 | 2 | -3 | 28 | 21 | 45 | 20 |
| 56 | 10 | 2 | 6 | 45 | 2 | -4 | 35 | 20 | 120 | 24 |
| 77 | 16 | 4 | 8 | 60 | 2 | -6 | 55 | 21 | 468 | 20 |
| 100 | 22 | 6 | 10 | 77 | 2 | -8 | 77 | 22 | 1200 | 0 |
| 162 | 21 | 3 | 9 | 140 | 3 | -6 | 105 | 56 | 648 | 135 |
| 176 | 25 | 4 | 10 | 150 | 3 | -7 | 120 | 55 | 1064 | 144 |
| 210 | 33 | 6 | 12 | 176 | 3 | -9 | 154 | 55 | 276 | 144 |
| 266 | 45 | 9 | 15 | 220 | 3 | -12 | 209 | 56 | 5904 | 99 |
| 324 | 57 | 12 | 18 | 266 | 3 | -15 | 266 | 57 | 11880 | 0 |
| 352 | 26 | 2 | 10 | 325 | 4 | -6 | 208 | 143 | 840 | 360 |
| 352 | 36 | 4 | 12 | 315 | 4 | -8 | 231 | 120 | 2080 | 448 |
| 392 | 46 | 6 | 14 | 345 | 4 | -10 | 276 | 115 | 4200 | 504 |
| 552 | 76 | 12 | 20 | 475 | 4 | -16 | 437 | 114 | 18240 | 480 |
| 638 | 49 | 4 | 14 | 588 | 5 | -9 | 406 | 231 | 3672 | 1040 |
| 650 | 55 | 5 | 15 | 594 | 5 | -10 | 429 | 220 | 5100 | 1125 |
| 667 | 96 | 16 | 24 | 570 | 4 | -20 | 551 | 115 | 36400 | 304 |
| 704 | 37 | 2 | 12 | 666 | 5 | -7 | 407 | 296 | 1680 | 840 |
| 784 | 116 | 20 | 28 | 667 | 4 | -24 | 667 | 116 | 63840 | 0 |
| 800 | 85 | 10 | 20 | 714 | 5 | -15 | 595 | 204 | 18000 | 1400 |

Table 1: Feasible parameters for SRNT graphs with at most 1000 vertices


Table 2: Feasible parameters for SRNT graphs with $\lambda_{1}=q=5,6,7,8,9,10$

