# THE SECOND NEIGHBOURHOOD FOR BIPARTITE TOURNAMENTS 

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#### Abstract

Let $T(X \cup Y, A)$ be a bipartite tournament with partite sets $X, Y$ and $\operatorname{arc}$ set $A$. For any vertex $x \in X \cup Y$, the second out-neighbourhood $N^{++}(x)$ of $x$ is the set of all vertices with distance 2 from $x$. In this paper, we prove that $T$ contains at least two vertices $x$ such that $\left|N^{++}(x)\right| \geq\left|N^{+}(x)\right|$ unless $T$ is in a special class $\mathcal{B}_{1}$ of bipartite tournaments; show that $T$ contains at least a vertex $x$ such that $\left|N^{++}(x)\right| \geq\left|N^{-}(x)\right|$ and characterize the class $\mathcal{B}_{2}$ of bipartite tournaments in which there exists exactly one vertex $x$ with this property; and prove that if $|X|=|Y|$ or $|X| \geq 4|Y|$, then the bipartite tournament $T$ contains a vertex $x$ such that $\left|N^{++}(x)\right|+\left|N^{+}(x)\right| \geq 2\left|N^{-}(x)\right|$.


Keywords: second out-neighbourhood, out-neighbourhood, in-neighbourhood, bipartite tournament.
2010 Mathematics Subject Classification: 05C20, 05C12, 05 C 07 .

## 1. Terminology and Introduction

We will assume that the reader is familiar with the standard terminology on digraphs and refer to [1] for terminology not discussed here. In this paper, all digraphs have no multiple arcs and no loops.

We denote the vertex set and the arc set of a digraph $D$ by $V(D)$ and $A(D)$, respectively. For a vertex subset $X$, we denote by $D\langle X\rangle$ the subdigraph of $D$ induced by $X, D\langle V(D)-X\rangle$ by $D-X$. In addition, $D-x=D-\{x\}$ for a vertex $x$ of $D$.

Let $x, y$ be distinct vertices in $D$. If there is an arc from $x$ to $y$ then we say that $x$ dominates $y$, write $x \rightarrow y$ and call $y$ (respectively, $x$ ) an out-neighbour (respectively, an in-neighbour) of $x$ (respectively, $y$ ). For a subdigraph or simply a vertex subset $H$ of $D$ (possibly, $H=D$ ), we let $N_{H}^{+}(x)$ (respectively, $N_{H}^{-}(x)$ ) denote the set of out-neighbours (respectively, the set of in-neighbours) of $x$ in $H$ and call it out-neighbourhood (respectively, in-neighbourhood) of $x$ in $H$. Furthermore, $d_{H}^{+}(x)=\left|N_{H}^{+}(x)\right|$ (respectively, $\left.d_{H}^{-}(x)=\left|N_{H}^{-}(x)\right|\right)$ is called the out-degree (respectively, in-degree) of $x$ in $H$. Let

$$
N_{H}^{++}(x)=\bigcup_{u \in N_{H}^{+}(x)} N_{H}^{+}(u)-N_{H}^{+}(x),
$$

which is called the second out-neighbourhood of $x$ in $H$. Furthermore, $d_{H}^{++}(x)=$ $\left|N_{H}^{++}(x)\right|$. We will omit the subscript if $H=D$ is known from the context.

Let $X, Y$ be two disjoint subsets of vertices of $D$. We let $E(X, Y)$ denote the set of all arcs with head in $Y$ and tail in $X$. If $E(Y, X)=\emptyset$ and $x \rightarrow y$ for all $x \in X$ and $y \in Y$, then we say that $X$ completely dominates $Y$ and denote this by $X \rightarrow Y$.

An oriented graph is a digraph with no cycle of length two. One of the most interesting and challenging open questions concerning digraphs is Seymour's Second Neighbourhood Conjecture (SSNC) (see [5] and Problem 325, page 804 in volume 197/198 (1999) of Discrete Mathematics), which asserts that one can always find, in an oriented graph $D$, a vertex $x$ whose second out-neighbourhood is at least as large as its out-neighbourhood.

Conjecture 1 (Seymour's Second Neighbourhood Conjecture). In every oriented graph $D$, there exists a vertex $x$ such that $d^{++}(x) \geq d^{+}(x)$.

Following [4], we will call such a vertex $x$ a Seymour vertex.
Note that if we allow 2-cycles, then SSNC is no longer true as can be seen by taking the complete digraph $\overleftrightarrow{K}_{n}$. Note also that SSNC trivially holds for digraphs $D$ which contain a vertex of out-degree zero, e.g. for acyclic digraphs.

A tournament is an oriented graph where every pair of distinct vertices are adjacent. SSNC in the case of tournaments was also stated by Dean and Latka [5].

This special case of the conjecture was proved by Fisher [7] using Farkas' Lemma and averaging arguments.

Theorem 2 [7]. In any tournament, there is a Seymour vertex.
A more elementary proof of SSNC for tournaments was given by Havet and Thomassé [10] who introduced a median order approach. Their proof also yields the following stronger result.

Theorem 3 [10]. A tournament with no vertex of out-degree zero has at least two Seymour vertices.

Kaneko and Locke [11] proved SSNC for oriented graphs with minimum outdegree at most 6. Fidler and Yuster [6] further developed the median order approach and proved that SSNC holds for oriented graphs $D$ with minimum degree $|V(D)|-2$, tournaments minus a star, and tournaments minus the arc set of a subtournament. The median order approach was also used by Ghazal [8] who proved a weighted version of SSNC for tournaments missing a generalized star. Cohn, Godbole, Wright Harkness, and Zhang [4] proved that the conjecture holds for random oriented graphs. Recently, Gutin and Li [9] proved SSNC for quasitransitive oriented digraphs which is a superclass of tournaments and transitive acyclic digraphs. Another approach to SSNC is to determine the maximum value $\gamma$ such that in every oriented graph $D$, there exists a vertex $x$ such that $d^{+}(x) \leq$ $\gamma d^{++}(x)$. SSNC asserts that $\gamma=1$. Chen, Shen, and Yuster [3] proved that $\gamma \geq r$ where $r=0.657298 \ldots$ is the unique real root of $2 x^{3}+x^{2}-1=0$. They also claim a slight improvement to $r \geq 0.67815 \ldots$.

Sullivan [13] stated the following "compromise conjectures" on SSNC, where $d^{-}(v)$ is used instead of or together with $d^{+}(v)$.

Conjecture 4 [13].
(1) Every oriented graph $D$ has a vertex $x$ such that $d^{++}(x) \geq d^{-}(x)$.
(2) Every oriented graph $D$ has a vertex $x$ such that $d^{++}(x)+d^{+}(x) \geq 2 d^{-}(x)$.

For convenience, a vertex $x$ satisfying Conjecture 4(i) is called a Sullivan- $i$ vertex for $i=1,2$. Recently, we show that these conjectures hold for quasitransitive oriented graphs. See [14].

A bipartite tournament is an oriented graph defined as an orientation of a complete bipartite graph. $T(X \cup Y, A)$ will denote a bipartite tournament with partite sets $X, Y$ and arc set $A$. When no confusion arises the short form $T$ will be used. In this paper, we consider Conjecture 1 and 4 for bipartite tournaments. It is not difficult to see that each vertex of minimum out-degree is a Seymour vertex in a bipartite tournament. In Section 2, we characterize the class of bipartite tournaments in which there exists exactly one Seymour vertex. In Section 3, we show that any bipartite tournament contains a Sullivan- 1 vertex and characterize
the class of bipartite tournaments in which there exists exactly one Sullivan-1 vertex. In Section 4, we prove that if $|X|=|Y|$ or $|X| \geq 4|Y|$, then the bipartite tournament $T$ contains a Sullivan-2 vertex.

## 2. SSNC for Bipartite Tournaments

We consider SSNC for bipartite tournaments. Let $T(X \cup Y, A)$ be a bipartite tournament. For any two vertices $x, y$ of a bipartite tournament $T$, if $x \rightarrow y$, then $N^{+}(y) \subseteq N^{++}(x)$. So we can obtain the following observation immediately.
Lemma 5. Let $T$ be a bipartite tournament and $x, y$ two vertices of $T$. If $x \rightarrow y$ and $d^{+}(y) \geq d^{+}(x)$, then $x$ is a Seymour vertex of $T$.

Moreover, SSNC is true for bipartite tournaments. In fact, in a bipartite tournament, each vertex of minimum out-degree is a Seymour vertex due to Lemma 5. Similarly to the Theorem 3 on tournaments, we have the following result on bipartite tournaments.

Lemma 6. A bipartite tournament with no vertex of out-degree zero has at least two Seymour vertices.
Proof. Let $T=(X \cup Y, A)$ be a bipartite tournament with no vertex of out-degree zero. Without loss of generality, assume that $x \in X$ is a vertex of minimum outdegree in $T$. Then $x$ is a Seymour vertex of $T$, so we need to find another vertex with this property. Let $T_{r}=T-x$ and $y$ a vertex of minimum out-degree in $T_{r}$. Then $y$ is a Seymour vertex of the bipartite tournament $T_{r}$. We claim that

$$
\begin{equation*}
\text { If } y \in X \text { or } y \in Y, x \rightarrow y \text {, then } y \text { is also a Seymour vertex of } T \text {. } \tag{1}
\end{equation*}
$$

In fact, in both cases, $d^{++}(y) \geq d_{T_{r}}^{++}(y) \geq d_{T_{r}}^{+}(y)=d^{+}(y)$. So assume that $y \in Y$ and $y \rightarrow x$.

For the case when $N_{T_{r}}^{+}(y)=\emptyset$, we have $d_{T_{r}}^{+}(y)=1$. Recall that the out-degree of $x$ is not zero. Hence $d^{++}(y) \geq d^{+}(x)=d^{+}(y)$ and $y$ is another Seymour vertex of $T$. For the case when $N_{T_{r}}^{+}(y) \neq \emptyset$, let $z \in N_{T_{r}}^{+}(y)$. Clearly, $z \in X$ and $d_{T_{r}}^{+}(z) \geq d_{T_{r}}^{+}(y)$. Note that $d_{T_{r}}^{+}(z)=d_{T_{r}}^{+}(y)$ implies that $z$ is also a vertex of minimum out-degree in $T_{r}$. By (1), $z$ is another Seymour vertex of $T$. So assume that $d_{T_{r}}^{+}(z)>d_{T_{r}}^{+}(y)$. Since $N_{T_{r}}^{+}(z) \subseteq N_{T_{r}}^{++}(y)$, we have

$$
d^{++}(y)=d_{T_{r}}^{++}(y) \geq d_{T_{r}}^{+}(z) \geq d_{T_{r}}^{+}(y)+1=d^{+}(y) .
$$

$y$ is another Seymour vertex. The lemma holds.
Let $T=(X \cup Y, A)$ be a bipartite tournament. According to the out-degree of each vertex of $T$, we give a partition $V_{1}, \ldots, V_{k}$ of the vertex set $X \cup Y$ of $T$ such that
(a) $d^{+}(u)=d^{+}(v)$ for any $1 \leq i \leq k$ and any $u, v \in V_{i}$;
(b) $d^{+}\left(u_{i}\right)<d^{+}\left(u_{j}\right)$ for any $1 \leq i<j \leq k$ and any $u_{i} \in V_{i}$ and $u_{j} \in V_{j}$.

We call the unique sequence $V_{1}, \ldots, V_{k}$ satisfying the statement (a) and (b) the out-degree sequence of $T$.

Now we consider a special class $\mathcal{B}_{1}$ of bipartite tournaments. $T \in \mathcal{B}_{1}$ if and only if $T$ is a bipartite tournament with the out-degree sequence $V_{1}, \ldots, V_{k}$ satisfying that

- $\left|V_{1}\right|=1$ and $\left|V_{1}\right|+\left|V_{3}\right|+\cdots+\left|V_{2 i-1}\right|<\left|V_{2}\right|+\left|V_{4}\right|+\cdots+\left|V_{2 i}\right|<\left|V_{1}\right|+\left|V_{3}\right|+$ $\cdots+\left|V_{2 i+1}\right|$ for any $1 \leq i \leq\left\lceil\frac{k}{2}\right\rceil-1$;
- all $V_{i}$ 's for $i$ odd are contained in a common partite set and all $V_{j}$ 's for $j$ even are contained in the other common partite set;
- $V_{i} \rightarrow V_{2}, V_{4}, \ldots, V_{i-1}$ for any $i$ odd and $V_{j} \rightarrow V_{1}, V_{3}, \ldots, V_{j-1}$ for any $j$ even.

It is not difficult to check that $v \in V_{1}$ is the only Seymour vertex of $T$. See two examples of the class $\mathcal{B}_{1}$ in Figure 1.


Figure 1. Two bipartite tournaments in $\mathcal{B}_{1}$. The dashed boxes indicate the partition of the vertex set of a bipartite tournament and an arc from a box $V_{i}$ to a box $V_{j}$ between two boxes indicates $V_{i} \rightarrow V_{j}$.

Theorem 7. A bipartite tournament $T$ has at least two Seymour vertices unless $T \in \mathcal{B}_{1}$.

Proof. Let $T(X \cup Y, A)$ be a bipartite tournament. Suppose $T$ has exactly one Seymour vertex. We will show that $T \in \mathcal{B}_{1}$. Let $V_{1}, \ldots, V_{k}$ be the out-degree sequence of $T$. Without loss of generality, assume that $k$ is even since the proof is very similar when $k$ is odd. Recall that a vertex of minimum out-degree is a Seymour vertex and each vertex of $V_{1}$ has the minimum out-degree in $T$. So $\left|V_{1}\right|=1$. Lemma 6 shows that $V_{2}, V_{4}, \ldots, V_{k} \rightarrow V_{1}$.

We claim that either $V_{i} \subseteq X$ or $V_{i} \subseteq Y$ for any $1 \leq i \leq k$. Suppose not. Let $u, v \in V_{i}$ but $u \in X, v \in Y$. Clearly, $i \geq 2$. By Lemma $5, u \rightarrow v$ implies that $u$ is a Seymour vertex and $v \rightarrow u$ implies that $v$ is a Seymour vertex. In both cases, $T$ has two Seymour vertices. Hence $V_{i} \subseteq X$ or $V_{i} \subseteq Y$ for any $1 \leq i \leq k$.

We also claim that $V_{i}$ and $V_{i+1}$ are contained in different partite sets. Suppose to the contrary that $V_{i}, V_{i+1} \subseteq X$. For any $v_{i} \in V_{i}$ and $v_{i+1} \in V_{i+1}$, there exists a vertex $y \in Y$ such that $v_{i+1} \rightarrow y \rightarrow v_{i}$ since $d^{+}\left(v_{i+1}\right)>d^{+}\left(v_{i}\right)$. Since neither $v_{i+1}$ nor $y$ is a Seymour vertex, we have $d^{+}\left(v_{i+1}\right)>d^{+}(y)>d^{+}\left(v_{i}\right)$ by Lemma 5 . This contradicts the definition of $V_{1}, V_{2}, \ldots, V_{k}$. Hence $V_{i}$ and $V_{i+1}$ are contained in different partite sets.

For convenience, assume $V_{1} \subseteq X$. The claims above show that $V_{i} \subseteq X$ for any $i$ odd and $V_{j} \subseteq Y$ for any $j$ even. Also for any $V_{i}, V_{j}$ with $i<j$, either $V_{i}, V_{j}$ are nonadjacent or $V_{j} \rightarrow V_{i}$ by Lemma 5 and the fact that $T$ has exactly one Seymour vertex. This means that $V_{i} \rightarrow V_{2}, V_{4}, \ldots, V_{i-1}$ for any $i$ odd and $V_{j} \rightarrow V_{1}, V_{3}, \ldots, V_{j-1}$ for any $j$ even.

Now for any $1 \leq i \leq\left\lceil\frac{k}{2}\right\rceil-1$ and for any $u \in V_{2 i+1}$ and $v \in V_{2 i+2}$, we see that

$$
\begin{array}{ll}
N^{+}(u)=V_{2} \cup V_{4} \cup \cdots \cup V_{2 i}, & N^{++}(u)=V_{1} \cup V_{3} \cup \cdots \cup V_{2 i-1}, \\
N^{+}(v)=V_{1} \cup V_{3} \cup \cdots \cup V_{2 i+1}, & N^{++}(v)=V_{2} \cup V_{4} \cup \cdots \cup V_{2 i} .
\end{array}
$$

Since $T$ has exactly one Seymour vertex, we have $d^{++}(u)<d^{+}(u)$ and $d^{++}(v)<$ $d^{+}(v)$. This means that

$$
\left|V_{1}\right|+\left|V_{3}\right|+\cdots+\left|V_{2 i-1}\right|<\left|V_{2}\right|+\left|V_{4}\right|+\cdots+\left|V_{2 i}\right|<\left|V_{1}\right|+\left|V_{3}\right|+\cdots+\left|V_{2 i+1}\right| .
$$

Thus $T \in \mathcal{B}_{1}$ and the theorem follows.

## 3. Sullivan's Conjecture (1) for Bipartite Tournaments

We consider Conjecture 4(1) for bipartite tournaments. We begin with two observations.

Lemma 8. Let $T$ be a bipartite tournament and $x, y$ two vertices of $T$. If $x \rightarrow y$ and $d^{+}(y) \geq d^{-}(x)$, then $x$ is a Sullivan- 1 vertex.

Proof. Note that $N^{+}(y) \subseteq N^{++}(x)$. Then $d^{++}(x) \geq d^{+}(y) \geq d^{-}(x)$.
Lemma 9. Let $T=(X \cup Y, A)$ be a bipartite tournament. If $|E(Y, X)| \geq$ $|E(X, Y)|$, then there exists a vertex $y \in Y$ such that $d^{+}(y) \geq d^{-}(y)$.

Proof. Suppose $d^{+}(y)<d^{-}(y)$ for any $y \in Y$. Then

$$
E(Y, X)=\sum_{y \in Y} d^{+}(y)<\sum_{y \in Y} d^{-}(y)=|E(X, Y)|,
$$

a contradiction. Thus there exists a vertex $y \in Y$ such that $d^{+}(y) \geq d^{-}(y)$.
Now we show that Conjecture 4(1) is true in the case of bipartite tournaments.

Theorem 10. Any bipartite tournament has a Sullivan-1 vertex.
Proof. Let $T=(X \cup Y, A)$ be a bipartite tournament. Without loss of generality, assume $|E(Y, X)| \geq|E(X, Y)|$. Then by Lemma 9 , there exists a vertex $y \in Y$ such that $d^{+}(y) \geq d^{-}(y)$. Let $y_{0} \in Y$ such that $y_{0}$ has maximum out-degree among the vertices of $Y$. Clearly, $d^{+}\left(y_{0}\right) \geq d^{-}\left(y_{0}\right)$. We give a partition of the vertex set $X \cup Y$ of $T$. Set

$$
V_{1}=N^{-}\left(y_{0}\right), \quad V_{2}=N^{+}\left(y_{0}\right), \quad V_{3}=N^{++}\left(y_{0}\right), \quad V_{4}=Y-V_{3}
$$

and $t_{i}=\left|V_{i}\right|$ for $i=1,2,3,4$. We claim that $V_{1} \rightarrow V_{4} \rightarrow V_{2}$. In fact, $V_{3}=$ $N^{++}\left(y_{0}\right)=\bigcup_{x \in V_{2}} N^{+}(x)$ implies $V_{4} \rightarrow V_{2}$. Moreover, since $y_{0}$ has maximum outdegree in $Y$, we have $d^{+}(y) \leq d^{+}\left(y_{0}\right)$ for any $y \in V_{4}$. Note that $y \rightarrow V_{2}=N^{+}\left(y_{0}\right)$. We have $N^{+}\left(y_{0}\right) \subseteq N^{+}(y)$. So $N^{+}(y)=N^{+}\left(y_{0}\right)$ and hence $N^{-}(y)=N^{-}\left(y_{0}\right)$ for any $y \in V_{4}$. Thus $V_{1} \rightarrow V_{4}$. See Figure 2(a).

Now we will prove the following claim which directly implies the result.
Claim A. Either $y_{0}$ or $w \in N^{-}\left(y_{0}\right)$ is a Sullivan-1 vertex. Moreover, if $y_{0}$ is not a Sullivan-1 vertex, then $d^{++}(w)>d^{-}(w)$.

If $t_{3} \geq t_{1}$, then $d^{++}\left(y_{0}\right) \geq d^{-}\left(y_{0}\right)$ and $y_{0}$ is a Sullivan- 1 vertex. We are done. So assume $t_{3}<t_{1}$. Since $d^{+}\left(y_{0}\right) \geq d^{-}\left(y_{0}\right)$, we have $t_{1} \leq t_{2}$. For any $w \in V_{1}$, $N^{-}(w) \subseteq V_{3}$ and $V_{2} \subseteq N^{++}(w)$. Now

$$
d^{++}(w) \geq t_{2} \geq t_{1}>t_{3} \geq d^{-}(w)
$$

$w$ is a Sullivan- 1 vertex in $T$. The theorem follows.
We consider a special class $\mathcal{B}_{2}$ of bipartite tournaments. $T \in \mathcal{B}_{2}$ if and only if $T$ is a bipartite tournament with two partite sets $X$ and $Y$ such that $x \rightarrow Y \rightarrow X-x$ (possibly, $X-x=\emptyset$ ) for some $x \in X$. See Figure 2(b). It is not difficult to check that $x$ is the only Sullivan-1 vertex of $T$.

Theorem 11. Any bipartite tournament has at least two Sullivan-1 vertices unless $T \in \mathcal{B}_{2}$.


Figure 2. (a) A partition of the vertex set of a bipartite tournament $T=(X \cup Y, A)$. For any vertex $y \in V_{1}, d^{+}(y) \geq d^{+}(y)$ and $y$ has the maximum out-degree among all vertices in $Y . V_{1}=N^{-}(y), V_{2}=N^{+}(y), V_{3}=N^{++}(y), V_{4}=Y-V_{3}$. An dotted arc from a box $V_{2}$ to a box $V_{3}$ indicates $N^{+}\left(V_{2}\right)=V_{3}$. $V_{1} \rightarrow V_{4} \rightarrow V_{2}$. (b) A bipartite tournament in $\mathcal{B}_{2} . x \rightarrow Y \rightarrow X-x$.

Proof. Let $T=(X \cup Y, A)$ be a bipartite tournament. Suppose $T$ has exactly one Sullivan- 1 vertex. It is sufficient to show that $T \in \mathcal{B}_{2}$. Without loss of generality, assume $|E(Y, X)| \geq|E(X, Y)|$. Let $y_{0}, V_{i}$ and $t_{i}$ be defined as in the proof of Theorem 10. Then $d^{+}\left(y_{0}\right) \geq d^{-}\left(y_{0}\right)$ and $V_{1} \rightarrow V_{4} \rightarrow V_{2}$. We consider the following two cases.

Case 1. $t_{3} \geq t_{1}$. Clearly, each vertex of $V_{4}$ is a Sullivan-1 vertex. So $\left|V_{4}\right|=1$ and $V_{4}=\left\{y_{0}\right\}$. Let $T_{r}=T-y_{0}$.

Subcase 1.1. There is a vertex $y \in Y-y_{0}$ such that $d^{+}(y) \geq d^{-}(y)$. Let $y_{1}$ be the vertex of maximum out-degree in $Y-y_{0}$. Then $d^{+}\left(y_{1}\right) \geq d^{-}\left(y_{1}\right)$. Clearly, $y_{1} \in V_{3}$ and $d_{T_{r}}^{+}\left(y_{1}\right)=d^{+}\left(y_{1}\right) \geq d^{-}\left(y_{1}\right)=d_{T_{r}}^{-}\left(y_{1}\right)$. Applying Claim A of the proof of Theorem 10 to the bipartite tournament $T_{r}$, either $y_{1}$ is a Sullivan- 1 vertex or $w \in N_{T_{r}}^{-}\left(y_{1}\right)$ is a Sullivan- 1 vertex of $T_{r}$. And if $y_{1}$ is not a Sullivan- 1 vertex of $T_{r}$, then $d_{T_{r}}^{++}(w)>d_{T_{r}}^{-}(w)$.

For the case when $y_{1}$ is a Sullivan-1 vertex of $T_{r}$, we have $d^{++}\left(y_{1}\right) \geq d_{T_{r}}^{++}\left(y_{1}\right) \geq$ $d_{T_{r}}^{-}\left(y_{1}\right)=d^{-}\left(y_{1}\right)$. So $y_{1}$ is also Sullivan-1 vertex of $T$. For the case when $y_{1}$ is not a Sullivan-1 vertex of $T_{r}$, we have $w \in N_{T_{r}}^{-}\left(y_{1}\right)$ is a Sullivan-1 vertex and $d_{T_{r}}^{++}(w)>d_{T_{r}}^{-}(w)$. Now $d^{++}(w) \geq d_{T_{r}}^{++}(w) \geq d_{T_{r}}^{-}(w)+1 \geq d^{-}(w)$. So $w$ is also Sullivan-1 vertex of $T$.

Subcase 1.2. For any vertex $y \in Y-y_{0}, d^{+}(y)<d^{-}(y)$. In the bipartite tournament $T_{r}$, we see that

$$
\left|E\left(X, Y-y_{0}\right)\right|=\sum_{y \in Y-y_{0}} d^{-}(y)>\sum_{y \in Y-y_{0}} d^{+}(y)=\left|E\left(Y-y_{0}, X\right)\right| .
$$

By Lemma 9 , there exists a vertex $x \in X$ such that $d_{T_{r}}^{+}(x) \geq d_{T_{r}}^{-}(x)$. Let $x_{0} \in X$ be the vertex of maximum out-degree among the vertices of $X$ in $T_{r}$. Clearly, $d_{T_{r}}^{+}\left(x_{0}\right) \geq d_{T_{r}}^{-}\left(x_{0}\right)$. Similarly to the proof of Theorem 10 , set

$$
V_{1}^{\prime}=N_{T_{r}}^{-}\left(x_{0}\right), \quad V_{2}^{\prime}=N_{T_{r}}^{+}\left(x_{0}\right), \quad V_{3}^{\prime}=N_{T_{r}}^{++}\left(x_{0}\right), \quad V_{4}^{\prime}=Y-y_{0}-V_{3}^{\prime} .
$$

Let $t_{i}^{\prime}=\left|V_{i}^{\prime}\right|$ for $i=1,2,3,4$. By Claim A of the proof of Theorem 10, either $x_{0}$ is a Sullivan-1 vertex in $T_{r}$ or $z \in N_{T_{r}}^{-}\left(x_{0}\right)$ is a Sullivan-1 vertex of $T_{r}$. For the case when $z \in N_{T_{r}}^{-}\left(x_{0}\right)$ is a Sullivan- 1 vertex of $T_{r}$, we have $d^{++}(z) \geq d_{T_{r}}^{++}(z) \geq$ $d_{T_{r}}^{-}(z)=d^{-}(z)$. Then $z$ is also a Sullivan- 1 vertex of $T$. For the case when $x_{0}$ is a Sullivan-1 vertex in $T_{r}$, we have $t_{3}^{\prime} \geq t_{1}^{\prime}$. Note that $t_{3}^{\prime}>t_{1}^{\prime}$ implies that $d^{++}\left(x_{0}\right) \geq d_{T_{r}}^{++}\left(x_{0}\right) \geq d_{T_{r}}^{-}\left(x_{0}\right)+1 \geq d^{-}\left(x_{0}\right)$ Then $x_{0}$ is also a Sullivan-2 vertex of $T_{r}$. So assume $t_{3}^{\prime}=t_{1}^{\prime}$. Recall that $t_{1}^{\prime} \leq t_{2}^{\prime}$. So $t_{3}^{\prime} \leq t_{2}^{\prime}$. On the other hand, $z$ is not a Sullivan-1 vertex of $T_{r}$ implies that $t_{2}^{\prime} \leq d_{T_{r}}^{++}(z)<d_{T_{r}}^{-}(z) \leq t_{3}^{\prime}$, a contradiction.

In any case, we get a contradiction. Thus Case 1 is impossible.
Case 2. $t_{3}<t_{1}$. Clearly, any vertex $y \in V_{4}$ is not a Sullivan- 1 vertex. So any vertex $w \in V_{1}$ is a Sullivan- 1 vertex and $d^{++}(w)>d^{-}(w)$ by Claim A of the proof of Theorem 10. Since $T$ has exactly one Sullivan-1 vertex, we have $t_{1}=1$. So $t_{3}=0$ and $V_{3}$ is an empty set. Thus $w \rightarrow Y \rightarrow X-w$ (possibly, $X-w=\emptyset$ ) and $T \in \mathcal{B}_{2}$. The theorem follows.

## 4. Support for Sullivan's Conjecture (2) on Bipartite Tournaments

The results in Section 4 provide support for Conjecture 4(2) on bipartite tournaments.

Lemma 12. Let $T=(X \cup Y, A)$ be a bipartite tournament with $|X| \leq|Y|$. If there exists a vertex $y \in Y$ such that $d^{+}(y) \geq d^{-}(y)$, then $T$ has a Sullivan- 2 vertex.

Proof. Choose $y_{0} \in Y$ such that $y_{0}$ has maximum out-degree among the vertices of $Y$. By the assumption, $d^{+}\left(y_{0}\right) \geq d^{-}\left(y_{0}\right)$. Let $V_{i}$ and $t_{i}$ be defined as in the proof of Theorem 10. Then $|X| \leq|Y|$ implies that $t_{1}+t_{2} \leq t_{3}+t_{4}$. Recall that $t_{2} \geq t_{1}$. If $y_{0}$ is a Sullivan- 2 vertex of $T$, we are done. So assume that $d^{++}\left(y_{0}\right)+d^{+}\left(y_{0}\right)<2 d^{-}\left(y_{0}\right)$, i.e., $t_{2}+t_{3}<2 t_{1}$. So $t_{3}<t_{1} \leq t_{2}$. For any $w \in N^{-}\left(y_{0}\right)$, suppose that $w$ is also not a Sullivan-2 vertex of $T$. We have $d^{++}(w)+d^{+}(w)<2 d^{-}(w)$, which means $t_{2}+t_{4}<2 t_{3}$. So $t_{4}<t_{3}$. Now $t_{3}+t_{4}<2 t_{3}<t_{1}+t_{2}$, a contradiction. Thus either $y_{0}$ or $w \in N^{-}\left(y_{0}\right)$ is a Sullivan- 2 vertex. The lemma follows.

Corollary 13. Any balance bipartite tournament has a Sullivan-2 vertex.
Proof. Let $T=(X \cup Y, A)$ be a balance bipartite tournament. Then $|X|=|Y|$. By Lemma 9, there exists a vertex $u \in X \cup Y$ such that $d^{+}(u) \geq d^{-}(u)$. Now Lemma 12 yields the result.

Lemma 14. Let $T=(X \cup Y, A)$ be a bipartite tournament. If there exists a vertex $x \in X$ such that $d^{+}(x) \geq 2|X|-3$, then any $y \in N^{-}(x)$ is a Sullivan- 2 vertex.

Proof. Note that $N^{+}(x) \subseteq N^{++}(y)$. So $d^{++}(y) \geq 2|X|-3$. Thus $d^{++}(y)+$ $d^{+}(y) \geq 2|X|-3+1 \geq 2 d^{-}(y)$ and $y$ is a Sullivan- 2 vertex of $T$.

Corollary 15. Let $T=(X \cup Y, A)$ be a bipartite tournament. If $|E(X, Y)| \geq$ $2|X|^{2}$, then there is a vertex $x \in X$ such that any $y \in N^{-}(x)$ is a Sullivan-2 vertex.

Proof. Since $|E(X, Y)|=\sum_{x \in X} d^{+}(x) \geq 2|X|^{2}$, there is a vertex $x \in X$ such that $d^{+}(x) \geq 2|X|$. By Lemma 14, any $y \in N^{-}(x)$ is a Sullivan-2 vertex.

Corollary 16. A bipartite tournament $T=(X \cup Y, A)$ with $|Y| \geq 4|X|$ has a Sullivan-2 vertex.

Proof. By Lemma 9, there exists a vertex $u \in X \cup Y$ such that $d^{+}(u) \geq d^{-}(u)$. If $u \in Y$, by Lemma 12, $T$ has a Sullivan- 2 vertex and we are done. So assume $u \in X$. Now $d^{+}(u) \geq \frac{|Y|}{2} \geq 2|X|$. By Lemma 14, any $y \in N^{-}(u)$ is a Sullivan-2 vertex of $T$.

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Received 12 June 2017
Revised 13 October 2017
Accepted 13 October 2017

