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**Noel Brady, Martin Bridson** and **Max Forester\*** (forester@math.ou.edu), Mathematics Department, University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK 73019-0315, and **Krishnan Shankar**. *First and second order isoperimetric exponents of groups.*

I will describe a simple construction of finitely presented groups having first or second order isoperimetric function of the form  $x^\alpha$  for certain prescribed numbers  $\alpha$ . In particular we find that both the first and the second order isoperimetric spectra contain all rational numbers greater than 2.

More specifically, the exponent  $\alpha$  can be any number of the following form (for either first or second order isoperimetric functions). Let  $P$  be a positive integer matrix and choose an integer  $n$  greater than the largest row sum of  $P$ . Let  $\lambda$  be the Perron–Frobenius eigenvalue of  $P$ . Then  $\alpha = 2 \log_\lambda(n)$  can be realized. (Received February 20, 2005)