## NON-CYCLIC GRAPHS OF FINITE GROUPS

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## INTRODUCTION

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A **group** is a set *G* with an operation \* such that:

- $\cdot$  The group is *closed* under \*.
- \* is associative.
- · G has an identity element under \*.
- Every element of *G* has an *inverse* under \*.

**Examples:**  $\mathbb{Z}$  under addition,  $\mathbb{R}$  under multiplication,  $C_5$  under modular addition.

If G is a group, then the **non-cyclic graph** of G is the graph  $\Gamma(G)$  defined as follows:

- · Vertices are elements of *G*.
- Connect two vertices if the corresponding elements do *not* generate a cyclic group together. (In other words, *x* and *y* are connected iff  $\langle x, y \rangle$  is non-cyclic.)
- $\cdot\,$  Remove all vertices that are not connected to anything.

## EULERIAN CIRCUITS AND PATHS

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An **Eulerian path** is a path that uses every edge of a graph exactly once.



Source: https://www.mathsisfun.com

A graph has an Eulerian path iff precisely two vertices are of odd degree, and all others are of even degree. Such a graph is called **path-Eulerian**.

An **Eulerian circuit** is an Eulerian path that starts and ends at the same vertex.



Source: https://www.math.ku.edu/~jmartin/courses/math105-F11/Lectures/chapter5-part2.pdf

A graph has an Eulerian circuit iff every vertex has even degree. Such a graph is called **Eulerian**.

What is the **degree** of an element in  $\Gamma(G)$ ?

The **cyclicizer** of an element *x*, written  $Cyc_G(x)$ , is the set of all  $y \in G$  such that  $\langle x, y \rangle$  is cyclic.

*G* is **Eulerian** if |G| and  $|Cyc_G(x)|$  are either both even or both odd for all elements *x*.

The following groups are Eulerian:

- $\cdot\,$  All groups of odd order.
- $\cdot\,$  All abelian groups.
- · All 2-groups.

The following are non-Eulerian:

- ·  $S_n$  for  $n \ge 3$ .
- · All nonabelian simple groups.

- · If *H* has odd order, then  $G \times H$  is Eulerian iff *G* is Eulerian.
- · If *H* has even order, then  $G \times H$  is Eulerian whenever at least one of *G* or *H* is Eulerian.
- $\cdot$  S<sub>3</sub> is the only path-Eulerian group.

The **centralizer** of x, written  $C_G(x)$ , is the set of all elements that commute with x.

If G has even order, then  $|Cyc_G(x)|$  and  $|C_G(x)|$  always have the same even-odd parity.

If *G* is a group, then the **non-commuting graph** of *G* is the graph defined as follows:

- $\cdot$  Vertices are elements of G.
- Connect two vertices if the corresponding elements do not commute.
- $\cdot$  Remove all vertices that are not connected to anything.

Eulerianness of non-cyclic and non-commuting graphs is equivalent.

## HAMILTONIAN CIRCUITS

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A **Hamiltonian circuit** is a path that uses every vertex of a graph exactly once and starts and ends at the same vertex.



The **independence number**  $\alpha(\Gamma)$  of a graph  $\Gamma$  is the size of the largest set of mutually non-connected vertices in  $\Gamma$ .

A **quotient group** G/N of a group G is a group obtained by aggregating distinct elements in G into equivalence classes that preserve aspects of the group structure of G.

**Example:** *C<sub>n</sub>*, the integers modulo *n*.

#### Theorem (Dirac)

If  $\delta(\Gamma) \ge n/2$ , where  $\delta(\Gamma)$  is the minimum vertex degree in  $\Gamma$  and  $n = |\Gamma|$ , then  $\Gamma$  is Hamiltonian.

#### Theorem

In a non-cyclic graph  $\Gamma(G)$ ,  $\alpha(\Gamma(G)) < m$ , where m is the size of the largest cyclic subgroup of G.

#### Theorem

Any complete multipartite non-cyclic graph  ${\pmb \Gamma}$  is Hamiltonian.

#### Proof.

Since *G* is not a cyclic group, the largest a cyclic subgroup of *G* can be is |G|/2. This implies that  $\alpha(\Gamma) < |\Gamma|/2$ . Since  $\Gamma$  is complete multipartite, every vertex in a maximal independent set is connected to every vertex outside of that set, thus  $d(x) > |\Gamma|/2$  for any  $x \in V(\Gamma)$ .

#### Conjecture

The non-cyclic graph of every non-cyclic group contains a Hamiltonian circuit.

## Theorem (Abdollahi & Hassanabadi)

If  $\Gamma(G/Cyc(G))$  is Hamiltonian, then  $\Gamma(G)$  is Hamiltonian.

## Corollary

*If every group with trivial cyclicizer is Hamiltonian, then every non-cyclic group is Hamiltonian.* 

Theorem (Abdollahi & Hassanabadi)

If Z(G) = Cyc(G), then  $\Gamma(G)$  is Hamiltonian.

# AUTOMORPHISMS

An **automorphism of a group** *G* is a bijective function  $\phi : G \to G$  that preserves the group structure of *G*, so that

$$\phi(ab) = \phi(a)\phi(b)$$

for any  $a, b \in G$ .

A characteristic subgroup H of G is a subgroup that is invariant under every automorphism of G. I.e., for  $\phi$  an automorphism of Gand any  $h \in H$ ,  $\phi(h) = h'$ , where  $h' \in H$ . An **automorphism of a graph**  $\Gamma$  is a bijective function  $\phi : V(\Gamma) \to V(\Gamma)$ such that if  $ab \in E(\Gamma)$ , then  $\phi(a)\phi(b) \in E(\Gamma)$ .

Any automorphism of a group G must induce an automorphism on the non-cyclic graph  $\Gamma(G)$ .

The quaternion group  $Q_8$  is the group that satisfies the presentation  $Q_8 = \langle -1, i, j, k \mid (-1)^2 = 1, i^2 = j^2 = k^2 = ijk = -1 \rangle$ .



#### Theorem

There is no group G such that its non-cyclic graph  $\Gamma(G)$  has no non-trivial graph automorphisms.

#### Theorem

Cyc(G) is a characteristic subgroup of G.

## ORIENTABLE AND NONORIENTABLE GENERA

The **genus of a graph** is the smallest integer *n* such that the graph can be embedded (no overlapping points or edges) in a surface of genus *n*.

The **genus of an orientable surface** refers to its number of "holes". It is denoted  $\gamma$ .

The **non-orientable genus** of a surface, written  $\tilde{\gamma}$ , refers to its number of cross-caps.

# **ORIENTABLE GENUS**



Source: http://www.personal.kent.edu/~rmuhamma/GraphTheory/MyGraphTheory/embedding.htm

# NON-ORIENTABLE SURFACES



If *v* is the number of vertices and *e* is the number of edges in a graph, then

$$\gamma \ge \frac{e}{6} - \frac{v}{2} + 1 \quad \text{and}$$
$$\tilde{\gamma} \ge \frac{e}{3} - v + 1.$$

If the RHS is an integer *n*, then a graph has a genus-*n* embedding if and only if it is a **triangular embedding**.

First, find a lower bound for the number of edges *e*.

• The probability that two randomly selected elements of a non-cyclic group generate a cyclic subgroup together is

$$1-\frac{2e}{n^2},$$

where n is the order of the group.

- $\cdot\,$  This probability is bounded above by 5/8.
- · Therefore, *e* is bounded below by  $3n^2/16$ .

If G is a non-cyclic group of order n, then

$$\gamma(\Gamma(G)) \ge \left\lceil \frac{n^2 - 16n + 48}{32} \right\rceil \text{ and}$$
$$\tilde{\gamma}(\Gamma(G)) \ge \left\lceil \frac{n^2 - 16n + 48}{16} \right\rceil.$$

If  $\gamma \leq$  3 or  $\tilde{\gamma} \leq$  6, then  $n \leq$  19.

- Is there a subgraph we know the genus of? Is the graph itself a subgraph of a well-known graph?
- Does the formula only hold true for triangular embeddings? Can such an embedding exist?
- $\cdot\,$  Can we draw an embedding in a surface of this genus?

How do we get from a polygonal configuration to an embedding?



Figure: Dic<sub>12</sub> nonorientable genus 4 embedding

#### Figure: Eliminating point $\overline{2}$ from the perimeter



Figure: Eliminating point 2 from the perimeter



Figure: Eliminating point 3 from the perimeter





Figure: Dic<sub>12</sub>, nonorientable genus 4



Figure: *D*<sub>10</sub>, orientable genus 2



Figure: Dic<sub>12</sub>, orientable genus 3

## GENERA OF NON-CYCLIC GRAPHS

Group	$\gamma$	$\tilde{\gamma}$
$C_2 \times C_2$	0	
S <sub>3</sub>	0	
$C_2 \times C_4$	1	1
$D_8$	1	1
$Q_8$	0	
$C_{2}^{3}$	1	3
$C_3 \times C_3$	1	3
D <sub>10</sub>	2	4
Dic <sub>12</sub>	3	4
D <sub>12</sub>	$\geq 4$	6
$C_2 \times C_2 \times C_3$	1	3

**FUTURE WORK** 

- · Orientable genus 4
- · Genera of families of groups
- · Further Hamiltonian classification
- · Eulerianness of semi-direct products