

# Quasi $m$ -Cayley strongly regular graphs

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# Strongly regular graphs

A regular graph  $X$  of valency  $k$  and order  $v$  is called **strongly regular graph** (SRG) with parameters  $(v, k, \lambda, \mu)$  if any two adjacent vertices have  $\lambda$  common vertices and any two distinct non-adjacent vertices have  $\mu$  common vertices.

For a prime power  $q$  such that  $q \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$  the **Paley graph**  $P(q)$  is a graph with vertex set  $\mathbb{F}_q$  in which two vertices are adjacent if their difference is non zero square.

$P(q)$  is a strongly regular graph with parameters

$$(v, k, \lambda, \mu) = \left( q, \frac{q-1}{2}, \frac{q-5}{4}, \frac{q-1}{4} \right).$$

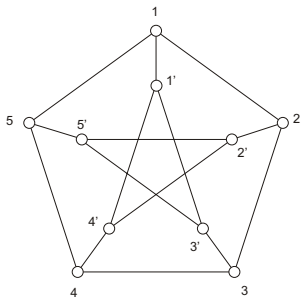
A graph  $X$  is an  $m$ -Cayley graph on a group  $H$  if its automorphism group admits a semiregular subgroup  $H$  having  $m$  orbits, all of equal length.

If  $H$  is cyclic and

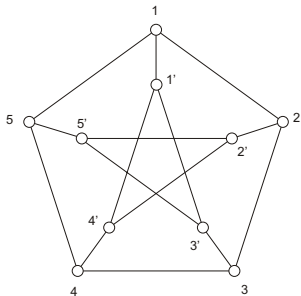
- $m = 1$  then  $X$  is said to be **circulant**;
- $m = 2$  then  $X$  is said to be **birculant**;
- $m = 3$  then  $X$  is said to be **trirculant**.

A non-identity automorphism of a graph with  $m$  cycles of equal length  $n$  in its cycle decomposition is said to be  $(m, n)$ -semiregular.

# Example

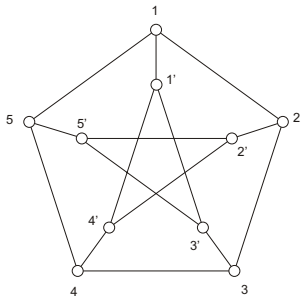


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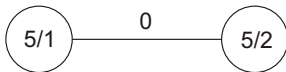


a  $(2, 5)$ -semiregular automorphism  $\rho = (1\ 2\ 3\ 4\ 5)(1'\ 2'\ 3'\ 4'\ 5')$

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A particular attention has been given to questions regarding strong regularity for various classes of graphs satisfying certain special symmetry conditions.

strongly regular Cayley graphs, strongly regular 2-Cayley graphs, strongly regular 3-Cayley graphs (Bridges, Mena, Leung, Ma, Marušič, Miklavič, Šparl, de Resmini, Jungnickel, ...)

For example, by a classical result of Bridges and Mena (1979) it is known that the Paley graphs are the only SRGs among Cayley graphs on cyclic groups.



# Quasi $m$ -Cayley graphs – quasi-semiregularity

A group  $G$  acts **quasi-semiregularly** on a set  $V$  if there exists an element  $\infty$  in  $V$  such that the stabilizer  $G_\infty$  of the element  $\infty$  in  $G$  is equal to  $G$ , and the stabilizer  $G_v$  of any element  $v \in V - \{\infty\}$  in  $G$  is trivial. The element  $\infty$  is called **the point at infinity**.

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A graph  $X$  is a **quasi  $m$ -Cayley graph on a group  $H$**  if its automorphism group admits a semiregular subgroup  $H$  having  $m$  orbits, all of equal length.

If  $H$  is cyclic and

- $m = 1$  then  $X$  is said to be **quasi circulant**;
- $m = 2$  then  $X$  is said to be **quasi bicirculant**;
- $m = 3$  then  $X$  is said to be **quasi tricirculant**;
- ...

- If  $n = mk + 1 \geq 2$  then the complete graph  $K_n$  is a quasi  $m$ -Cayley graph on a cyclic group  $\mathbb{Z}_k$ .

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- Paley graphs  $P(q)$  are quasi bicirculants.

# The symbol of a quasi $m$ -Cayley graph

The **symbol** of a quasi  $m$ -Cayley graph in the following way:

Let  $X$  be a quasi  $m$ -Cayley graph on a group  $G$  and let  $\{U_0, \dots, U_{m-1}\}$  be the set of  $m$  orbits of  $G$  on  $V(X) - \{\infty\}$ . Let  $u_i \in U_i$ ,  $i \in \mathbb{Z}_m$ , let  $S_{i,j}$ ,  $i, j \in \mathbb{Z}_m$  be defined by  $S_{i,j} = \{\rho \in G \mid u_i \rightarrow \rho(u_j)\}$ , and let  $S_\infty \subseteq \mathbb{Z}_m$  be defined by

$$S_\infty = \{i \in \mathbb{Z}_m \mid U_i \subseteq N(\infty)\}.$$

Then the family  $(S_{i,j})$  together with  $S_\infty$  is called **the symbol of  $X$  relative to  $(G; u_0, \dots, u_{m-1}, S_\infty)$** , and determines the adjacencies in the graph. We can assume by renumbering the orbits if necessary that  $S_\infty = \{0, \dots, s-1\}$  for some  $s$ .

# Quasi-partial difference family

Let  $G$  be a group of order  $n$  and  $m, s$  positive integers with  $s \leq m$ . A family  $\{S_{i,j}\}$  of subsets of  $G$ , with  $0 \leq i, j \leq m-1$  that satisfy  $0 \notin S_{i,i} \forall i$  and  $S_{j,i} = -S_{i,j} \forall i, j$  with  $i \neq j$ , is said to be an  $(m, n, s, \lambda, \mu)$  quasi-partial difference family if

$$\sum_{j=1}^m |S_{i,j}| = \begin{cases} ns - 1 & \text{if } i \leq s \\ ns & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}, \sum_{j=1}^s |S_{i,j}| = \begin{cases} \lambda & \text{if } i \leq s \\ \mu & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

and if the following identities hold in the group ring  $\mathbb{Z}[G]$ :

$$\sum_{k=0}^{m-1} S_{i,k} S_{k,j} = \delta_{i,j} \gamma \{0\} + \beta S_{i,j} + \mu' G, \quad (2)$$

where  $\delta_{i,j}$  is the Kronecker delta,  $\gamma = ns - \mu$ ,  $\beta = \lambda - \mu$  and

$$\mu' = \begin{cases} \mu - 1 & \text{if } i, j \leq s \\ \mu & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

## Proposition

The quasi  $m$ -Cayley graph defined by the symbol  $(S_{i,j})$  with  $S_\infty = \{0, \dots, s-1\}$  is an  $(mn+1, ns, \lambda, \mu)$ -SRG iff  $(S_{i,j})$  forms an  $(m, n, s, \lambda, \mu)$  quasi-partial difference family.

# Example

An example of a  $(3, 3, 1, 0, 1)$  quasi-partial difference family on the cyclic group  $C_3$ :

$$S_{0,0} = \emptyset, S_{0,1} = \{0\}, S_{0,2} = \{0\}, \\ S_{1,1} = \emptyset, S_{1,2} = \{1, 2\}, S_{2,2} = \emptyset.$$



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This quasi-partial difference family generates the Petersen graph.

## Theorem

Let  $G$  be a cyclic group. If  $\{S_{i,j}\}$  is a  $(m, n)$ -circulant  $(m, n, s, \lambda, \mu)$  quasi-partial difference family and if one of the following three conditions is satisfied:

- 1  $n$  is a prime
- 2  $n$  is coprime to  $(m!)\Delta$
- 3  $m = 2$  and  $\Delta$  does not divide  $2n$  where  $\beta = \lambda - \mu, \gamma = k - \mu$  and  $\Delta = \sqrt{\beta^2 + 4\gamma}$

then  $\{S_{i,i}\}_{0 \leq i \leq m-1}$  covers all the elements of  $G - \{0\}$  the same number of times.

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If  $dm + 1$  is a prime power, then a uniform

$$(m, d(md + 2), 1, d^2 - md + 3d - 1, d(d + 1))$$

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An  $(m, n, 1, \lambda, \mu)$  QPDF  $\{S_{i,j}\}$  on a cyclic group  $C_n$  is **uniform** if the following three conditions hold:

- $\cup_{i=0}^{m-1} S_{i,i} = G - \{0\}$ .
- all the cardinalities  $|S_{i,i}|$  with  $i \geq 1$  are equal.
- all the cardinalities  $|S_{i,j}|$  with  $i, j \geq 1$  and  $i \neq j$  are equal.

Thank you!