The Graph Isomorphism Problem and coherent configurations. I, II.

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The Graph Isomorphism Problem (ISO).

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Graphs $G_1 = (\Omega_1, E_1)$ and $G_2 = (\Omega_2, E_2)$ are called isomorphic, $G_1 \cong G_2$, if there is a bijection $f : \Omega_1 \to \Omega_2$ such that

$$\forall \alpha_1, \beta_1 \in \Omega_1: \quad (\alpha_1^f, \beta_1^f) \in E_2 \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad (\alpha_1, \beta_1) \in E_1.$$

Such a bijection is called the isomorphism from G_1 to G_2 ; the set of all of them is denoted by $Iso(G_1, G_2)$.

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The Graph Isomorphism Problem is to estimate the computational complexity of the isomorphism testing:

ISO(G_1, G_2): given graphs G_1 and G_2 test whether or not $G_1 \cong G_2$.

Given graphs G_1 and G_2 with *n* vertices, and a bijection $f: \Omega_1 \to \Omega_2$ one can test in time $O(n^2)$ whether or not $f \in Iso(G_1, G_2)$.

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Theorem (L.Babai, E.Luks and W.Kantor, 1984).

The isomorphism of *n*-vertex graphs can be tested in time $\exp(O(\sqrt{n \log n}))$.

Definition.

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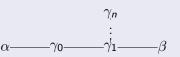
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A pair (G, c) where $G = (\Omega, E)$ is a graph and $c : \Omega \to \{1, \ldots, m\}$ is a surjection, is called a colored graph with the color function c and color classes $c^{-1}(i)$, $i = 1, \ldots, m$.

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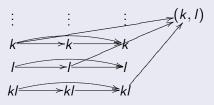
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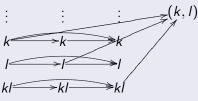
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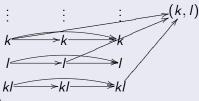


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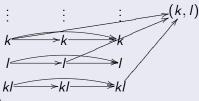
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Isomorphism problem for other categories. Algebra.

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Vertex individualization. Given G and $\alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_i \in \Omega$ set:

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■ IMAP \propto_p ISO: recursively find $\alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_i \in \Omega, \ \beta_1, \ldots, \beta_i \in \Xi$ and $f : \alpha_i \mapsto \beta_i$ so that $G \cong H$ iff $G_{\alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_i} \cong H_{\beta_1, \ldots, \beta_i}$.

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IMAP∝_pISO: recursively find α₁,..., α_i ∈ Ω, β₁,..., β_i ∈ Ξ and f : α_i → β_i so that G ≅ H iff G_{α1,...,αi} ≅ H_{β1,...,βi}.
ISO∝_pAPART: β ∈ α^{Aut(G)} iff G_β ≅ G_α.

Naive vertex classification.

Vertex partition by valences.

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- To find Ω/Aut(G) put vertices α and β in the same class iff
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 The algorithm correctly finds Ω/ Aut(G) for the class of trees (G.Tinhofer, 1985), for almost all graphs (L.Babai, P.Erdös, S.Selkow, 1980).

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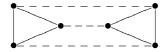
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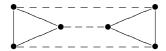
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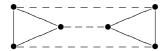


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Algorithm. Set $S = 1_{\Omega} \cup E \cup E^c$ (E^c is the complement of E).

For all $(\alpha, \beta) \in \Omega \times \Omega$ and $r, s \in S$ find the number $c(\alpha, \beta; r, s) = |\{\gamma \in \Omega : (\alpha, \gamma) \in r, (\gamma, \beta) \in s\}|.$

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The number $n_s = c_{ss^*}^t$ is called the valency of s.

Coherent configurations of degree 3.

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Let (P, B) be a symmetric design with the point set P and the block set B (in particular, any pair of distinct points is contained in λ blocks for some integer $\lambda > 0$). Set

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Examples. Permutation groups.

Let $\Gamma \leq Sym(\Omega)$ be a permutation group. It acts on $\Omega \times \Omega$:

$$(\alpha, \beta)^{\gamma} := (\alpha^{\gamma}, \beta^{\gamma}), \qquad \alpha, \beta \in \Omega, \ \gamma \in \Gamma.$$

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Definition.

A coherent configuration \mathcal{X} is called schurian if $\mathcal{X} = Inv(\Gamma)$ for some group Γ .

Definition.

Coherent configurations $\mathcal{X} = (\Omega, S)$ and $\mathcal{X}' = (\Omega', S')$ are isomorphic if there is a bijection $f : \Omega \to \Omega'$, the isomorphism from \mathcal{X} to \mathcal{X}' , such that $S^f = S'$.

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Definition. Let ${\mathcal X}$ be a coherent configuration. The group

$$\operatorname{Aut}(\mathcal{X}) = \{ f \in \operatorname{Sym}(\Omega) : s^f = s \text{ for all } s \in S \}$$

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- Schurian closure of \mathcal{X} is defined to be $Sch(\mathcal{X}) = Inv(Aut(\mathcal{X}))$.
- One can prove that \mathcal{X} is schurian iff $\mathcal{X} = Sch(\mathcal{X})$.
- For any graph G: $Aut(G) = Aut(\mathcal{X})$ where $\mathcal{X} = \langle \langle G \rangle \rangle$.
- In particular, $\Omega / \operatorname{Aut}(G) = \Phi(\operatorname{Sch}(\mathcal{X})).$

Theorem.

The ISO is polynomially equivalent to the problem of finding the schurian closure of a coherent configuration.

Problem: characterize all schurian coherent configurations belonging to a given a class.

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When a class \mathcal{K} consists of graphs G for which $\langle \langle G \rangle \rangle$ is schurian, then usually ISO_{\mathcal{K}} is solved by the W-L algorithm.

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Definition.

Coherent configurations $\mathcal{X} = (\Omega, S)$ and $\mathcal{X}' = (\Omega', S')$ are algebraically isomorphic if there is a bijection $\varphi : S \to S'$ such that

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One can see that $Aut(\mathcal{X}) = Iso(\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{X}, id_S)$.

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If $\mathcal{X} = \langle \langle G \rangle \rangle$ and $\mathcal{X}' = \langle \langle G \rangle \rangle$ are obtained by the canonical W-L algorithm, then $G \cong G'$ only if |S| = |S'| and the bijection $s_i \mapsto s'_i$ is an algebraic isomorphism.

Proposition.

The ISO is polynomially equivalent to the following problem: given an algebraic isomorphism $\varphi : \mathcal{X} \to \mathcal{X}'$ test whether $lso(\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{X}', \varphi)$ is not empty.

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Any algebraic isomorphism $\varphi : \langle \langle G \rangle \rangle \rightarrow \langle \langle G' \rangle \rangle$ where G and G' are algebraic forests, is induced by isomorphism. Thus ISO for algebraic forests is solved by the canonical modification of the W-L algorithm.

There is a natural partial order \sqsubseteq on the set of all coherent configurations on Ω : if $\mathcal{X} = (\Omega, S)$ and $\mathcal{Y} = (\Omega, T)$, then

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Thus

$$\mathsf{Iso}(G,G') = \bigcup \mathsf{Iso}(\langle \langle H \rangle \rangle, \langle \langle H' \rangle \rangle, \varphi_{H'})$$

where H' runs over all colored graphs $H_{\alpha'_1,...,\alpha'_b}$ for which there is the algebraic isomorphism $\varphi_{H'} : \langle \langle H \rangle \rangle \rightarrow \langle \langle H' \rangle \rangle$ found by the canonical W-L algorithm.

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Applications of bases.

G.Miller (1978), J.Leon (1979).

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- Inv(Γ) is primitive iff so is Γ.
- $b(\mathcal{X}) < 4\sqrt{n} \log n$ for primitive \mathcal{X} of rank ≥ 3 (L.Babai, 1981).

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- If the Babai problem has a positive answer, then probably the Luks algorithm for graphs of bounded valency can be reformulated in terms of bases.