Computational Combinatorics Blog

http://computationalcombinatorics.wordpress.com/

An online resource for how to use and extend computational methods in combinatorics, including discussions on the following topics:

- Using software as black box.
- Isomorph-free generation.
- Canonical labelings, orbit calculations.
- Orbital branching.
- Flag Algebras. (on the way)
- Local search techniques (on the way)
- More...

Guest authors are requested!



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Distinguishing Colorings

A *k*-coloring of V(G) **distinguishes** *G* if the only color-preserving automorphism of *G* is the identity function.



The minimum *k* such that *G* has a distinguishing *k*-coloring is the **distinguishing number**, D(G).



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Distinguishing Extension Number





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$$D(C_n) = \begin{cases} 3 & \text{if } n \leq 5\\ 2 & \text{if } n \geq 6 \end{cases}.$$



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We restrict the Rascal from selecting W as a **fixing set**. (the point-wise stabilizer of W in G is trivial.)

















































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If
$$k = D(G)$$
, use $D_e(G) = D_e(G; k)$.

(We will use k = 2.)

Conjecture. For
$$n \ge 6$$
, $D_e(C_n) = \begin{cases} 6 & 5 \text{ divides } n \\ 5 & 4 \text{ divides } n \\ 4 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$



Our Results

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Theorem. The Gentleman wins if there are five blanks in **general position**.

Theorem. For all
$$n \ge 6$$
, $D_e(C_n) \le 21$.



Extension Number on Prime Cycles

Theorem. If $p \ge 13$ is prime, then $D_e(C_p) = 4$.

 $Aut(C_p)$ is the dihedral group of order 2*p*.

- 1. All rotations are primitive.
- 2. Two reflections make a rotation.



Step 1: Monochromatic Colorings

There are three blanks where the pairwise distances are distinct.

Color them with the other color.



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Color them with the other color.

(We now assume the coloring is not monochromatic.)



Step 2: Position of W

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Let W be a set of blanks.

There exists $w_0 \in W$ such that the reflection about w_0 sends $W - w_0$ to elements not in W.

Let
$$W = \{w_0, w_1, w_2, w_3\}.$$

Step 3: Restrictions on Colorings

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All extensions must allow only one reflection

There is at most one coloring c_{forb} which allows reflection about w_0 .



Step 4: Building a Rotation

Let $c_1 : \{w_1, w_2, w_3\} \rightarrow \{\text{Red}, \text{Blue}\}$ be a coloring on W which differs from c_{forb} in at least two positions.



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Let $\tau_{\rm R}^{(1)}$ be the reflection given when assigning $c_1(w_0)$ to be **Red**.

Let $\tau_{\rm B}^{(1)}$ be the reflection given when assigning $c_1(w_0)$ to be **Blue**.



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Let $\tau_{\rm B}^{(1)}$ be the reflection given when assigning $c_1(w_0)$ to be **Blue**.

 $\sigma_{(1)} = \tau_{B}^{(1)} \cdot \tau_{R}^{(1)}$ is the rotation given by performing $\tau_{R}^{(1)}$ then $\tau_{B}^{(1)}$.



Step 4: Building a Rotation

*w*₀



















Step 4: Building a Rotation





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Step 4: Building a Rotation





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There are three other blanks w_1 , w_2 , w_3 !

Some blank (say w_1) is not one of $\tau_{\mathsf{R}}^{(1)}(w_0), \tau_{\mathsf{B}}^{(1)}(w_0)$.





Change the color of w_1 from **Blue** to **Red**.

This creates a new coloring, c_2 .

Since c_2 differs from c_1 by one element, $c_2 \neq c_{\text{forb}}$.





Therefore, the red/blue extensions of c_2 to w_0 form:

- 1. Red/blue reflections $\tau_{\rm R}^{(2)}$ and $\tau_{\rm B}^{(2)}.$
- **2.** Rotation $\sigma_{(2)}$.



Extending in Prime Cycles Wrapping Up

Since $p \ge 13$, $\sigma_{(1)}$ and $\sigma_{(2)}$ cannot coexist! (Several details are omitted...)

Therefore, one of these extensions of c_1 or c_2 must have been distinguishing!



AND NOW FOR SOMETHING (not so) COMPLETELY DIFFERENT.

Let \mathbb{S}^d denote the unit sphere in \mathbb{R}^{d+1} . (\mathbb{S}^1 is the circle, \mathbb{S}^2 is the usual sphere.)



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Aut(\mathbb{R}^k) consists of **affine linear maps** with determinant ± 1 . (Rigid motions with reflections/inversions and translations.)

We can play the Rascal/Gentleman game on points in \mathbb{S}^d or \mathbb{R}^k .



Theorem. (The Real Line) $D_e(\mathbb{R}^1) = 4$.



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Conjecture. (The Circle) $D_e(\mathbb{S}^1) = 6.$

Conjecture. (The Plane) $D_e(\mathbb{R}^2) = 7.$



Theorem. (The Real Line) $D_e(\mathbb{R}^1) = 4$.

Conjecture. (The Circle) $D_e(\mathbb{S}^1) = 6.$

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Conjecture. (The Sphere) $D_e(\mathbb{S}^2) = 9.$



Theorem. (The Real Line) $D_e(\mathbb{R}^1) = 4$.

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Conjecture. (Space!)

 $D_e(\mathbb{R}^3) = 10.$









































Conjecture. $D_e(\mathbb{S}^2) = 9$.



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Sphere image from http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sphere



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Conjecture. $D_e(\mathbb{R}^{d+1}) = D_e(\mathbb{S}^d) + 1.$ $(D_e(\mathbb{R}^{d+1}) > D_e(\mathbb{S}^d)$ by adding a blank at 0.)



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Conjecture. $D_e(\mathbb{R}^{d+1}) = D_e(\mathbb{S}^d) + 1.$ $(D_e(\mathbb{R}^{d+1}) > D_e(\mathbb{S}^d)$ by adding a blank at 0.)

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Theorem. The Gentleman wins on the circle if five blanks are in **general position**.

Corollary. (The Circle)

$$D_e(\mathbb{S}^1) \leq 21.$$



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