

# On two-fold orbitals

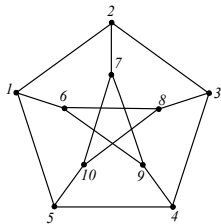
Josef Lauri  
(with Russell Mizzi & Raffaele Scapellato)

University of Malta, Politecnico di Milano

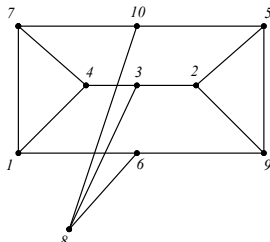
Symmetry vs Regularity  
Pilsen, 1-7 July 2018



# One application / motivation



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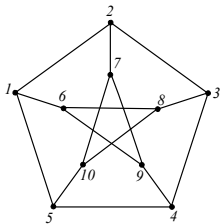


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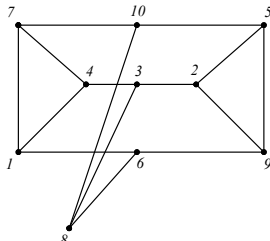
**Figure:** The Petersen graph and the Livio Porcu graph — they are not determined by their neighbourhoods

Why?

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# Two-fold isomorphisms and automorphisms

Two (mixed) graphs  $G$  and  $H$  are said to be *two-fold isomorphic* or TF-isomorphic if there exist bijections  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  from  $V(G)$  to  $V(H)$  such that  $(u, v)$  is an arc of  $G$  if and only if  $(u^\alpha, v^\beta)$  is an arc of  $H$ . If  $G = H$  then we say that  $(\alpha, \beta)$  is a two-fold automorphism of  $G$ .

Note that we need to consider every edge  $\{u, v\}$  of  $G$  as the union of the two arcs  $(u, v)$  and  $(v, u)$  since the images of these two arcs are, in general, not opposite arcs under the action of  $(\alpha, \beta)$ .

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We call those TF-automorphisms  $(\alpha, \beta)$  for which  $\alpha \neq \beta$  *non-trivial* TF-automorphisms of  $G$ .

The set of all TF-automorphisms of  $G$  is a group under componentwise multiplication, and we denote this group by  $\text{Aut}^{\text{TF}}(G)$ .

Clearly, if we consider  $(\alpha, \alpha)$  to be a TF-automorphism of  $G$ , then  $\text{Aut}(G)$  is a subgroup of  $\text{Aut}^{\text{TF}}(G)$  and this inclusion is strict if  $G$  has non-trivial TF-automorphisms.

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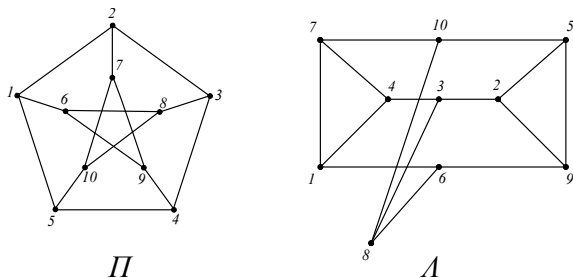


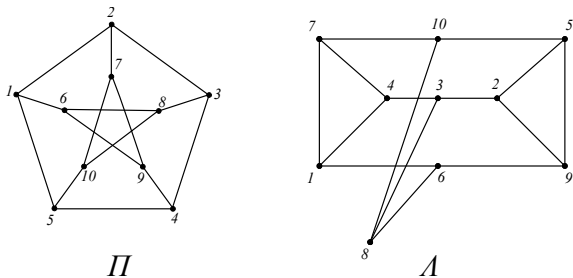
Figure: The Petersen graph and the Livio Porcu graph — they are not determined by their neighbourhoods

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Because they are TF-isomorphic!

And for this reason they also have the same canonical double cover.

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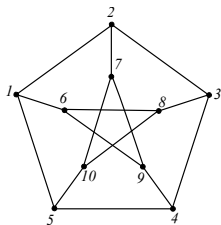
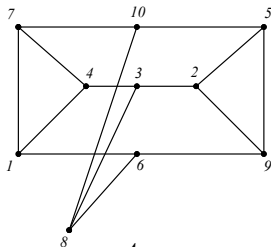
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# One result about neighbourhood reconstruction

## Theorem

*Let  $G$  be a connected bipartite graph. Then  $G$  is not reconstructible from its family of neighbourhoods iff its automorphism group has an involution which switches its colour classes but does not fix an edge.*

TF-isomorphisms give an easy proof.



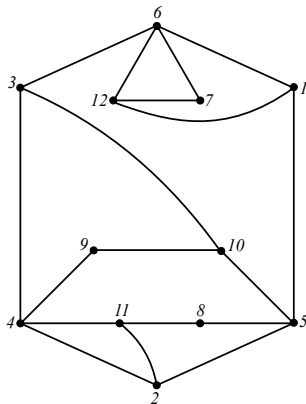
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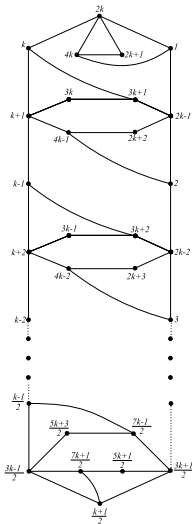
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# Can an asymmetric graph have non-trivial TF-automorphisms (hidden symmetries)?



**Figure:** This is the smallest asymmetric graph with non-trivial TF-automorphisms

# A family of asymmetric graphs with arbitrarily large $(\geq k - 1)$ number of TF-automorphisms



# Two-fold orbitals

Let  $\Gamma$  be a TF-permutation group acting on  $V \times V$ . A TF-orbital of  $\Gamma$  is an orbit of the action of  $\Gamma$  on  $V \times V$ .

The figure shows an example the two-fold orbitals of a two-fold permutation group.

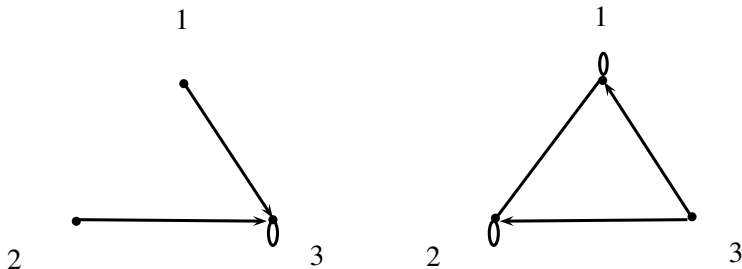


Figure: TF-orbitals of  $\Gamma = \langle ((1,2,3), (1,2)) \rangle$

# TF-rank equal to 1

We know, in general, that the number of orbitals of a permutation group  $(\Gamma, V)$  is at least 2 and this happens only when  $(\Gamma, V)$  is 2-transitive.

However, unlike the usual rank, the TF-rank can be equal to 1. This is possible because TF-permutations can take arcs to loops. The following result characterizes the actions whose TF-rank is equal to 1.

# TF-transitivity and $\Sigma$ -transitivity

Let  $\Gamma \leq S_V \times S_V$  be a two-fold permutation group acting on the set  $V \times V$ . We say that  $\Gamma$  is  $\Sigma$ -transitive on  $V$  if for any  $u, v \in V$ , there exists  $(\alpha, \beta) \in \Gamma$  such that  $u^\alpha = v^\beta$ .

We also say that  $\Gamma$  is TF-transitive on  $V$  if, for all  $u, v \in V$ , there exists  $(\alpha, \beta) \in \Gamma$  such that  $u^\alpha = v$  and  $u^\beta = v$ .

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# Characterisation of TF-rank equal to 1

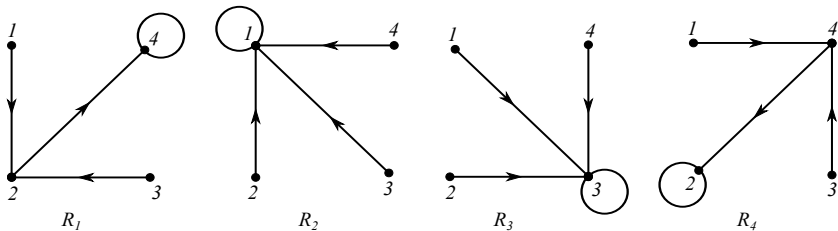
## Theorem

*Let  $\Gamma \subseteq S_V \times S_V$  be a two-fold permutation group. Then,  $(\Gamma, V \times V)$  has TF-rank equal to 1 if and only if  $\Gamma$  is both  $\Sigma$ -transitive and TF-transitive on  $V$ .*



# Structure constants of TF-orbitals

In general, colour graphs arising from TF-orbitals do not admit structure constants. For example,



**Figure:** The TF-orbitals for  $\Gamma = \langle\langle \alpha, \beta \rangle\rangle$  where  $\alpha = (1\ 2\ 3\ 4)$  and  $\beta = (2\ 4)$ .

# Structure constants of TF-orbitals (2)

On the other hand, there exist systems of TF-orbitals that admit structure constants. For example,

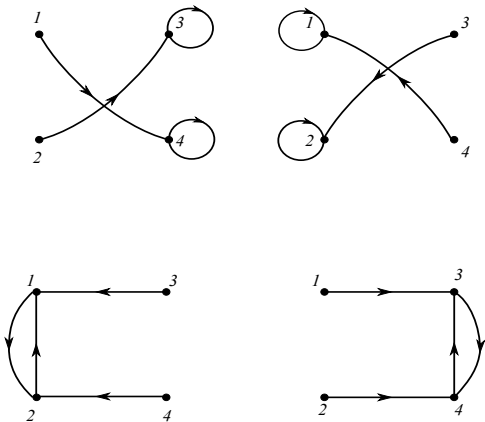


Figure: The system of TF-orbitals for  $\Gamma = \langle\langle(1\ 2\ 3\ 4), (1\ 2)(3\ 4)\rangle\rangle$ .

# Sufficient conditions for structure constants

A two-fold permutation group  $\Gamma$  is said to satisfy *Property K* if, for any  $x, y \in V$  and any  $(\alpha, \beta) \in \Gamma$ , the arcs  $(x, y)$  and  $(x^\beta, y^\beta)$  are in the same TF-orbital.

## Theorem

*Suppose  $\Gamma \leq S_V \times S_V$  satisfies Property K. Then, given any arc  $(a, b)$  in the TF-orbital  $R_k$ , the number of vertices  $x$  such that  $(a, x)$  is in  $R_i$  and  $(x, b)$  is in  $R_j$  is independent of the choice of  $(a, b)$  in  $R_k$ . Therefore the TF-orbitals admit the definition of structure constants  $p_{ij}^k$ .*

## Sufficient conditions (2)

A two-fold permutation group  $\Gamma$  is said to satisfy *Property M* if, for any  $(\alpha, \beta)$  in  $\Gamma$ ,  $(\beta, \alpha)$  is also in  $\Gamma$ .

Property M implies Property K but the converse does not hold in general.

The fact that Property M implies Property K makes it easier to obtain two-fold permutation groups fulfilling Property K.

Moreover, if it is also true that even  $(\alpha, \alpha)$  is in  $\Gamma$ , then the TF-orbitals are closed under taking of transpose.

*NOTE: It is also true that if all non-trivial TF-permutations are of the form  $(\alpha, \alpha^{-1})$  then the TF-orbitals are undirected graphs.*

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# Directed alternating walks of length 3

Although TF-orbitals do not in general admit structure constants, it is easy to prove that an extension of the structure constants to directed alternating walks of length 3 can, in general, be defined.

## Theorem

Let  $\Gamma \leq S_V \times S_V$  and let  $R_1, R_2, \dots, R_r$  be the TF-orbitals of  $\Gamma$ . Let  $i, j, k$  and  $s$  be any elements of  $\{1, 2, \dots, r\}$ . Let  $(a, b)$  be an arc in  $R_s$ . Then the number of arcs  $(y, x)$ , such that  $(y, x) \in R_j$ ,  $(a, x) \in R_i$  and  $(y, b) \in R_k$  is independent of the choice of arc  $(a, b)$  in  $R_s$ .

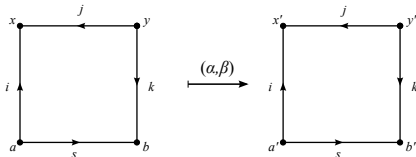


Figure: Definition of  $p_{ijk}^s$  for TF-orbitals.

This result can be expressed in terms of the adjacency matrices of the  $R_i$  as:

$$A_i A_j^T A_k = \sum_{t=1}^r p_{ijk}^t A_s.$$

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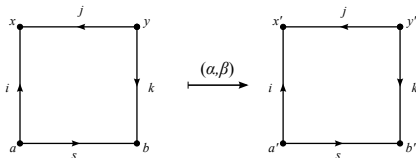


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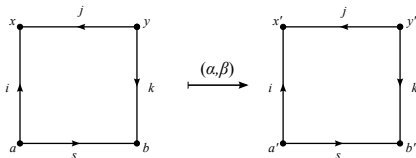


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# Simple application to rank 3 unstable SRGs

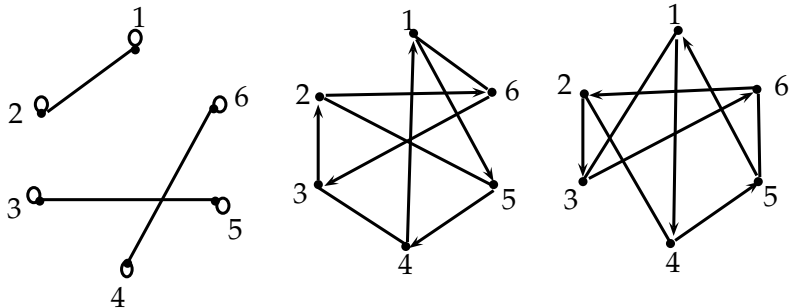
Alternative proof of a result of Surowski obtained by using

$$A_i A_j^T A_k = \sum_{t=1}^r p_{ijk}^s A_s.$$

## Theorem

*Let  $G$  be a rank 3 unstable strongly regular graph with parameters  $n, k, \lambda, \mu$ . Then  $\lambda = \mu$ .*

# An example not coming from TF-orbitals (M. Klin, Novy Smokovec lectures)



**Figure:** Adjacency matrices obtained by bringing together the permutation matrices of the regular action of  $S_3$  into three disjoint subsets and adding them. Orbitals admit structure constants.

The corresponding adjacency matrices are

$$A_0 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$A_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$A_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

# Conditions satisfied / not satisfied by these colour graphs

The space generated by their adjacency matrices is:

- 1 Closed under matrix multiplication.
- 2 Closed under SH-multiplication.
- 3 Does not contain the identity.
- 4 Might not be closed under taking of transpose.
- 5 If the colour graphs are TF-orbitals they also satisfy

$$A_i A_j^T A_k = \sum_{t=1}^r p_{ijk}^s A_s.$$

Thank you!