

The degree-diameter problem for vertex-transitive graphs and finite geometries

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- Is it true that for each $c > 0$ there are d, k with $n(d, k) \leq M(d, k) - c$?
- Is it true that $n(d, k) > (1 - \varepsilon)M(d, k)$ for all $d > d_\varepsilon$, $k > k_\varepsilon$?

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Consequence: Bad news for attempts to construct Γ by coverings!

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 $n(d, k) \geq \left(\frac{d}{1.6}\right)^k$ for ∞ d 's and all sufflarge k [Canale-Gomez '05].

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So, the above Cayley graphs arise from generalised triangles with polarity!

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$$\Omega = \{[0, 1, 0, 0]\} \cup \{[1, f(x, y), x, y]; x, y \in F\}$$

invariant is the Suzuki group $Sz(q) = {}^2B_2(q)$, and G is the subgroup of $Sz(q)$ that stabilises the point $[0, 1, 0, 0]$.

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If a graph Γ is isomorphic to a Cayley graph $C(G, X)$, then, for any prime p , the number of oriented closed walks of length p in Γ , based at a fixed vertex, is congruent mod p to the number of generators of order p in X .

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Digraphs $\Gamma_{\delta,k}$: vertices are k -strings of distinct symbols from a set L , $|L| = \delta + 1$; $3 \leq k \leq \delta$. Any vertex $v = x_1x_2 \dots x_k$ sends a dart into each $v_y = x_2 \dots x_k y$ where $y \in L \setminus \{x_1, \dots, x_k\}$ and also, for $1 \leq i \leq k - 1$, into each v_i obtained from v by moving x_i to the right end of the string.

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Suppressing directions in $\Gamma_{\delta,k}$ and replacing digons by simple edges yields the (vertex-transitive) undirected graphs $F(d, k)$ of degree $d = 2\delta - 1$ and diameter k ; these are the *undirected Faber-Moore-Chen graphs* of order $o(d, k) = ((d + 3)/2)! / ((d + 3)/2 - k)!$, where $3 \leq k \leq (d + 1)/2$.

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F-M-Ch are Cayley graphs only in rare cases. [Stanečková-Ždímalová '10]

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Symmetrically yours, JŠ