

A generic approach to switching reconstruction

Beáta Faller

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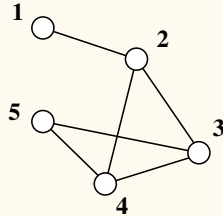
Australian National University

Kelly and Ulam's Reconstruction Problem

Given an undirected graph G with N vertices, make a multiset $\mathcal{D}(G)$ with N cards. Each card is obtained from G by deleting one vertex.

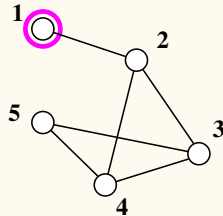
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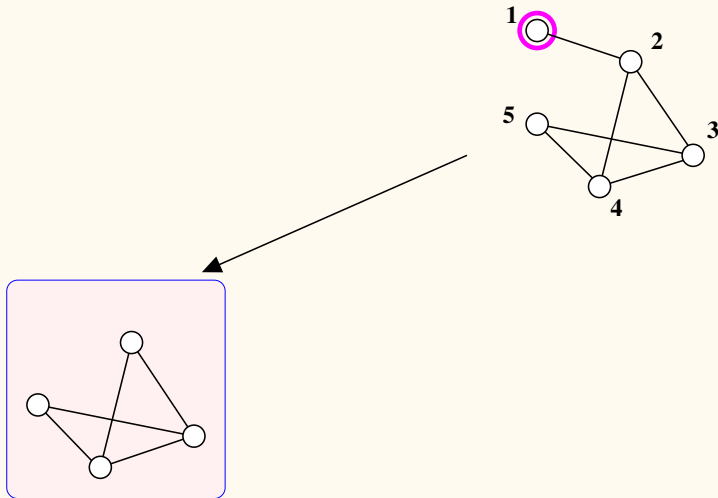
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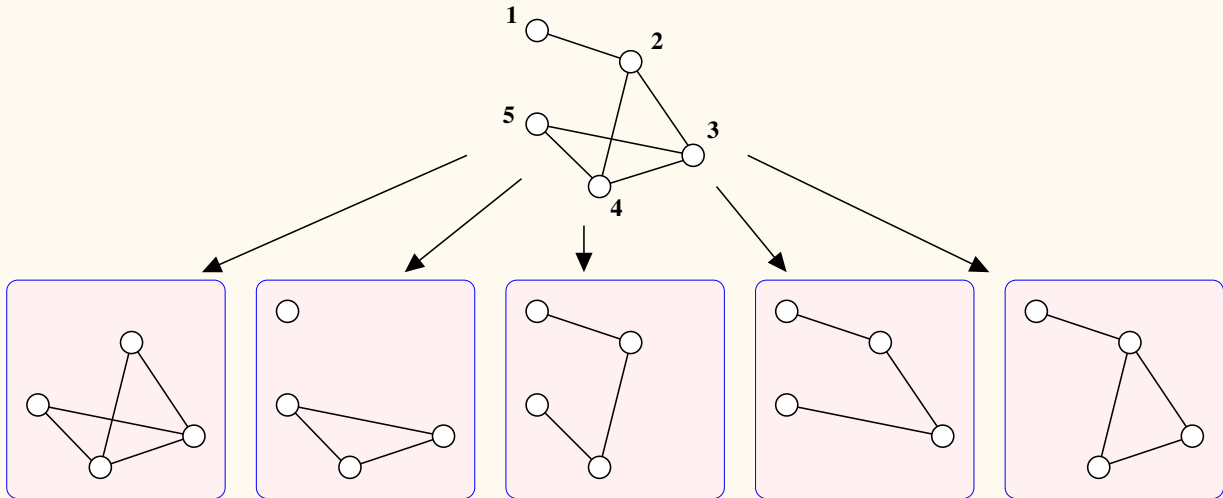
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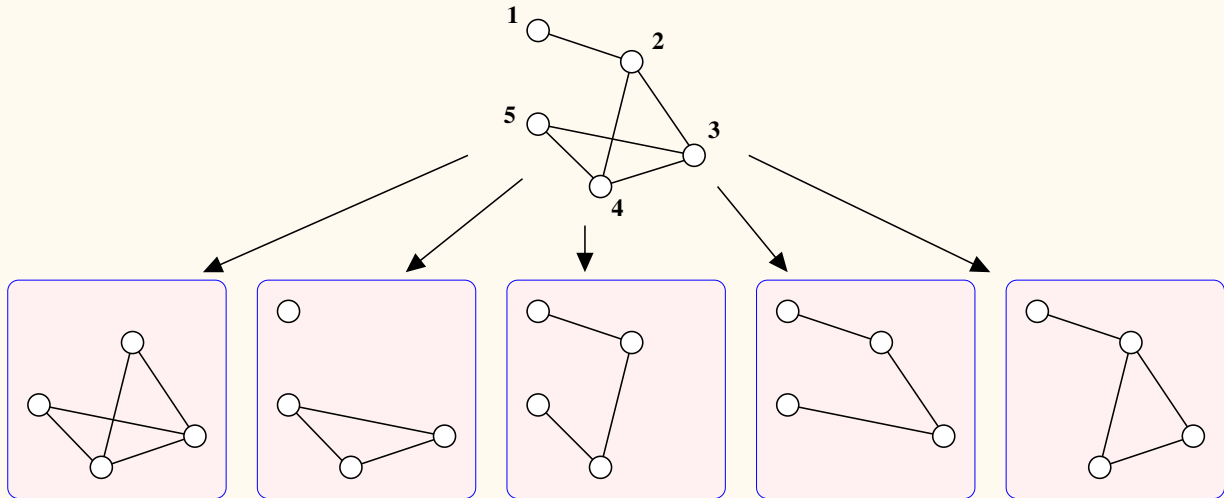
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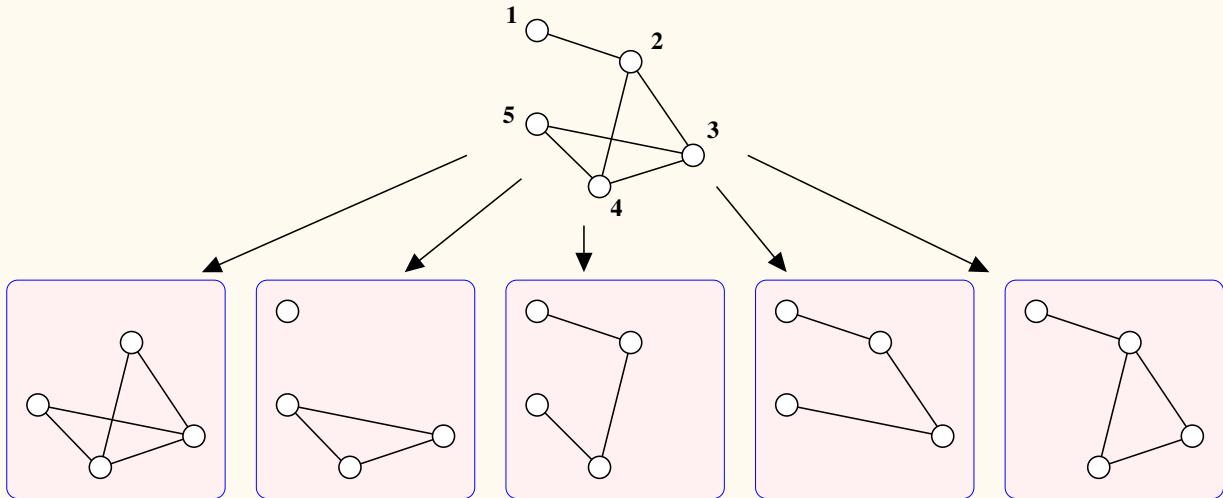
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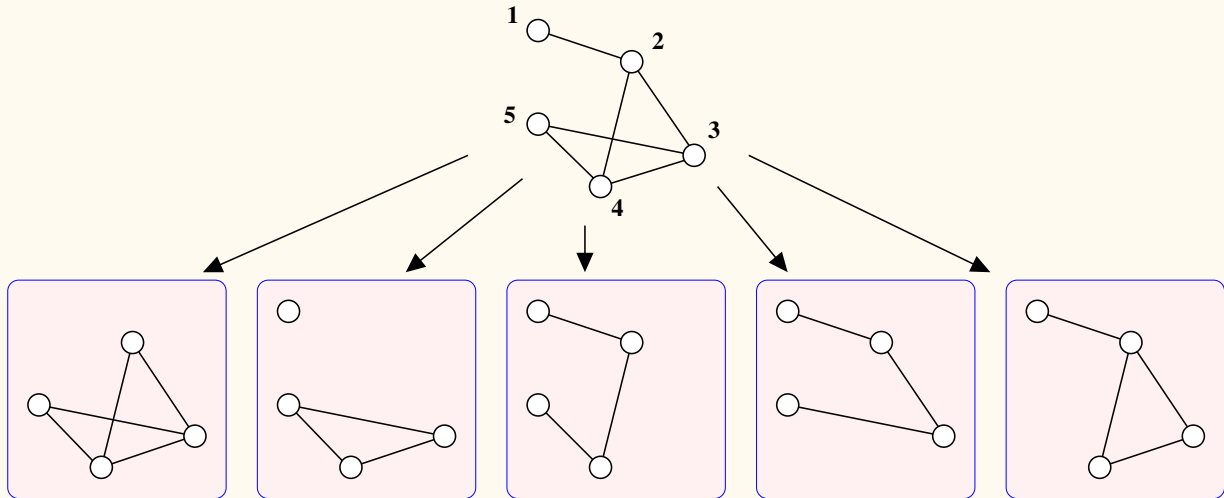
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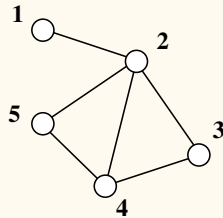
This is not a switching reconstruction problem!

Stanley's switching reconstruction problem

Given a simple undirected graph G with N vertices, make a multiset $\mathcal{D}(G)$ with N cards. Each card G_v is obtained from G by deleting all edges of G incident to v , and inserting all possible edges incident to v which are not in G (i.e. switching at v).

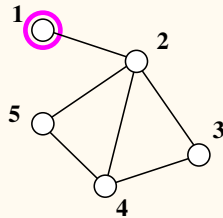
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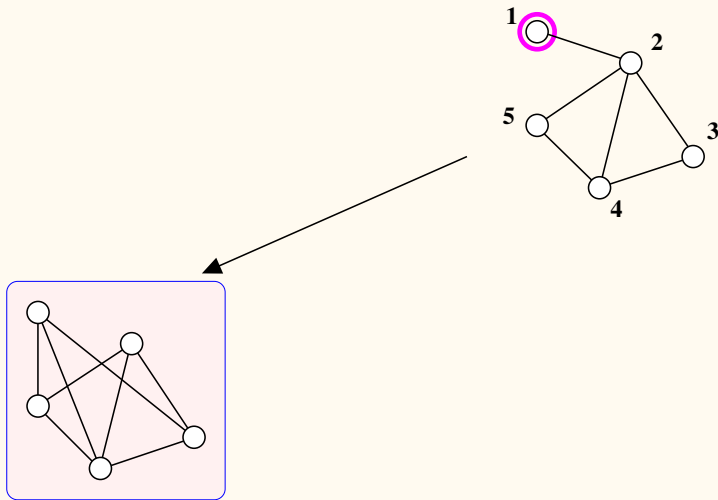
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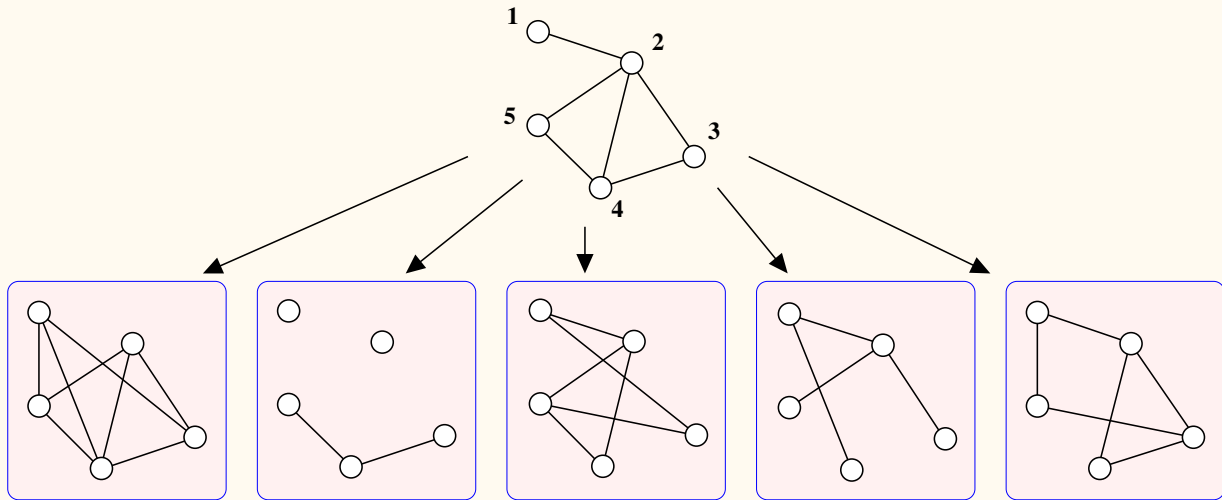
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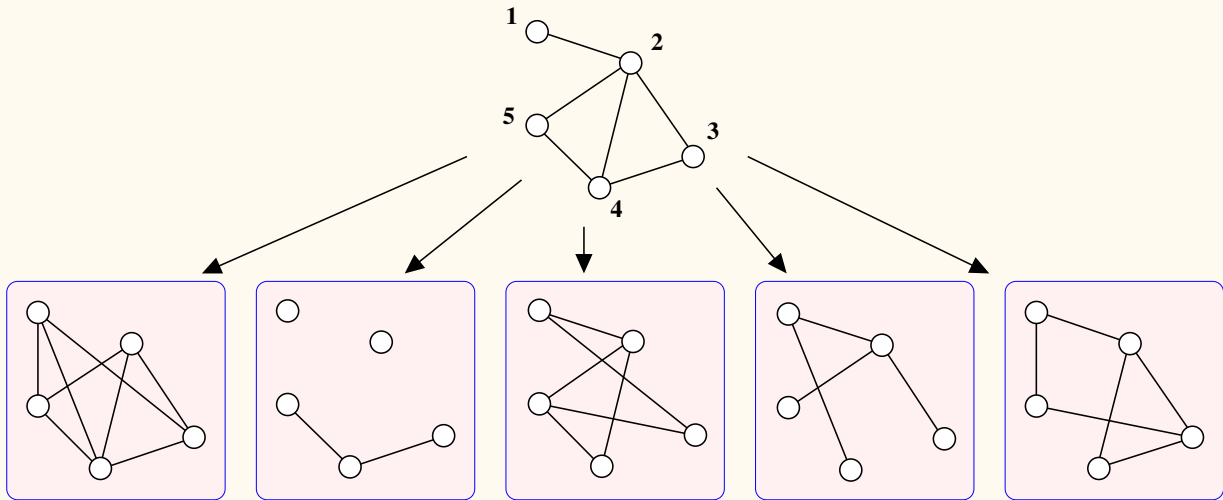
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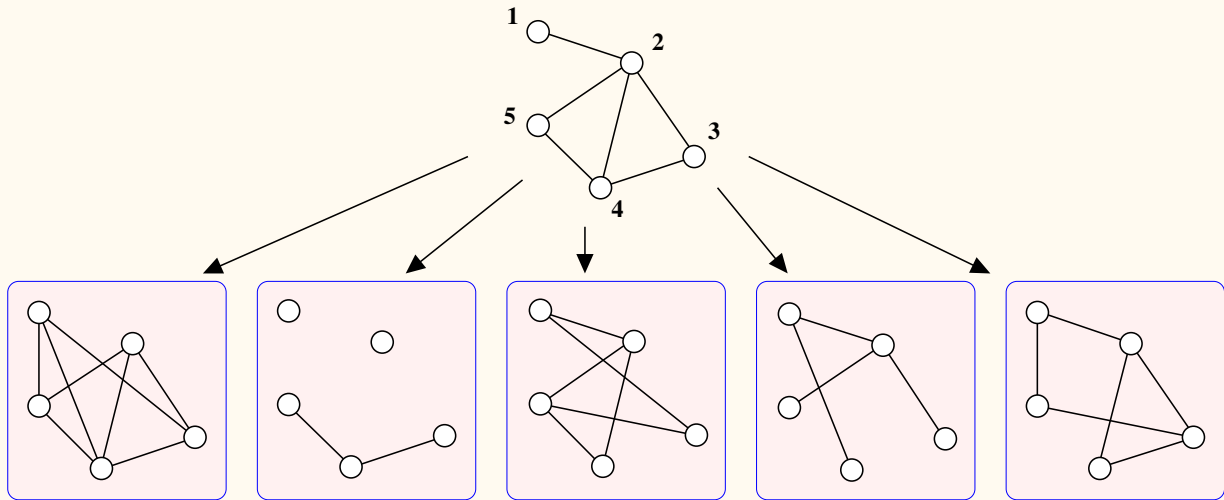
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Suppose G has order n . The following are reconstructible:

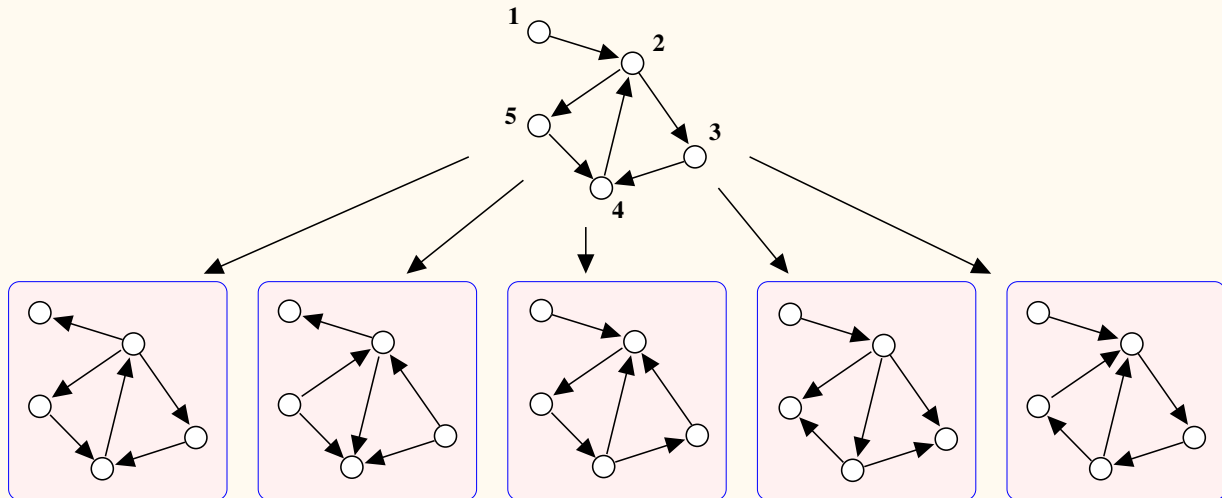
- Graphs with $n \not\equiv 0 \pmod{4}$ (Stanley, 1985)
- Disconnected graphs, provided $n \neq 4$ (Krasikov, 1988)
- Graphs satisfying $\min\left(n\binom{n-1}{\Delta}, n\binom{n-1}{\delta}\right) < 2^{\frac{n}{2}-3}$ (Krasikov, 1988)
- Regular graphs, provided $n \neq 4$ (Ellingham & Royle, 1992)
- Triangle-free graphs, provided $n \neq 4$ (Ellingham & Royle, 1992)
- Graphs with $n = 8$ or $n = 12$ (Niesink, 2010)
- ...

Digraph switching reconstruction problem

Given an oriented simple graph (no loops, parallel edges, digons) G with N vertices, make a multiset $\mathcal{D}(G)$ with N cards. Each card G_v is obtained from G by reversing every arc adjacent to v in G (i.e. switching at v).

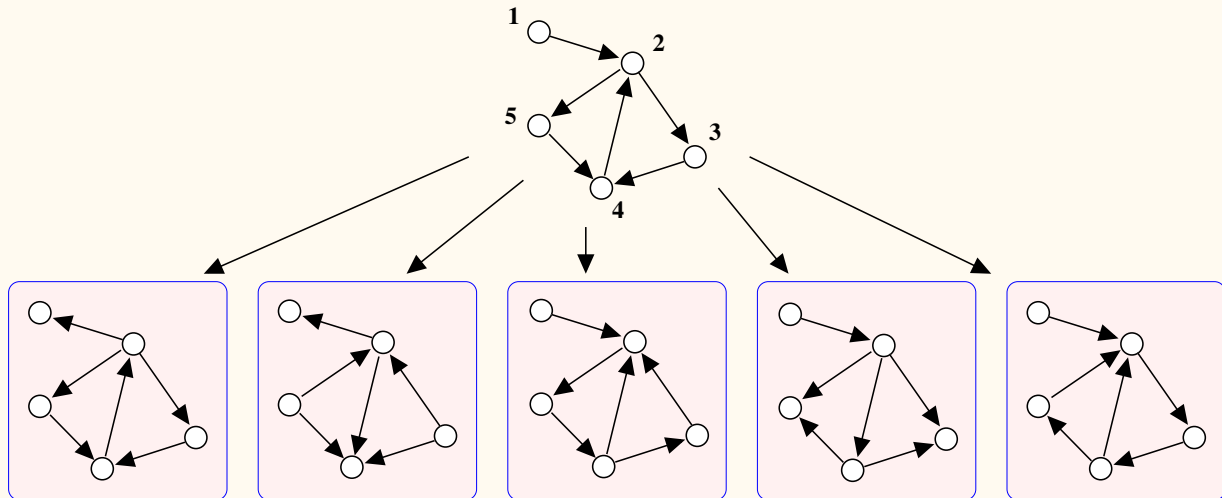
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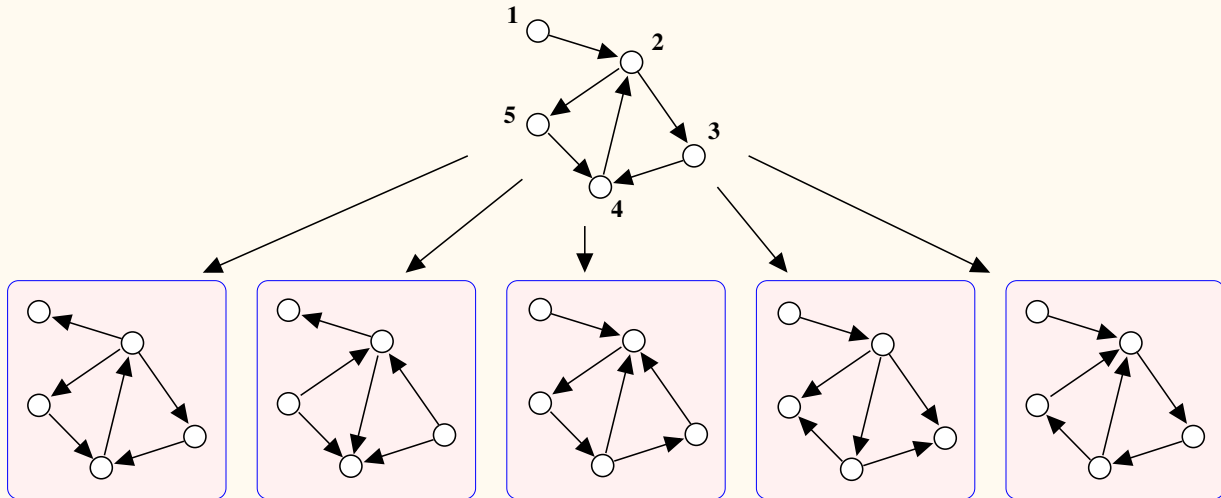
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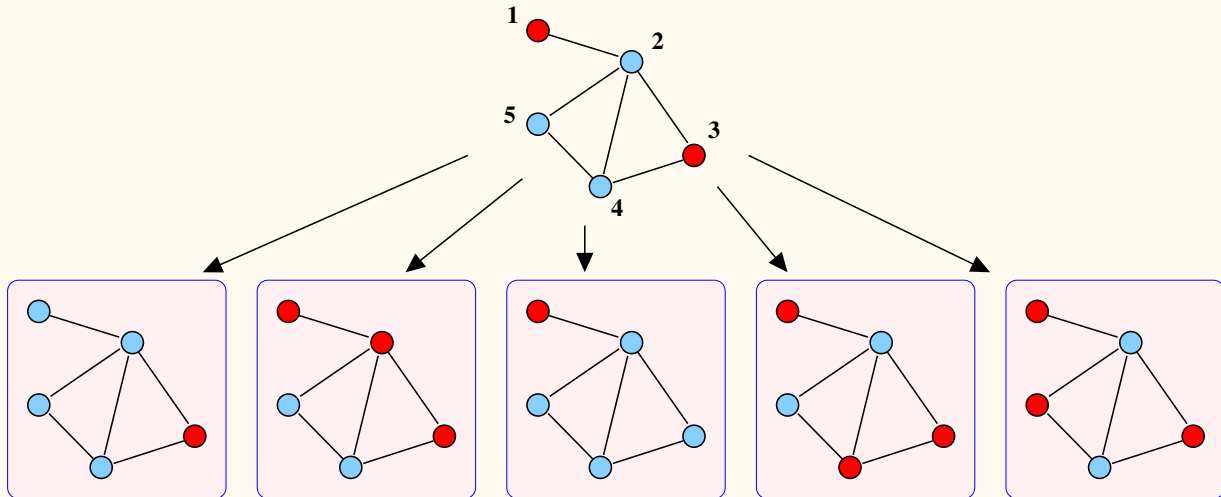
Digraph switching reconstruction problem

For this problem,

- digraphs with $n \not\equiv 0 \pmod{4}$ are reconstructible (Bondy & Mercier, 2011)
- there are 35 non-reconstructible digraphs on 4 vertices (Bondy & Mercier, 2011),
- there are 5559 non-reconstructible digraphs on 8 vertices (McKay & Schweitzer, 2014) but no larger examples are known,
- we have a complete solution when the underlying graph has degree at most 2 (McKay & Schweitzer, 2014).

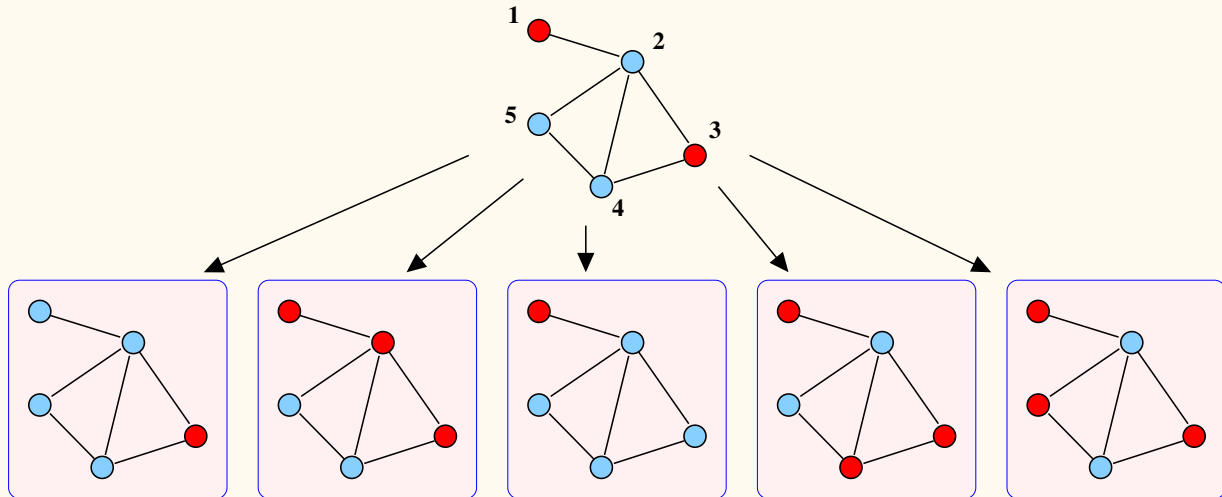
A toy switching reconstruction problem

Given an **2-vertex-coloured undirected graph** G with n vertices, make a multiset $\mathcal{D}(G)$ with n cards. Each card is obtained from G by **swapping the colour of one vertex**.



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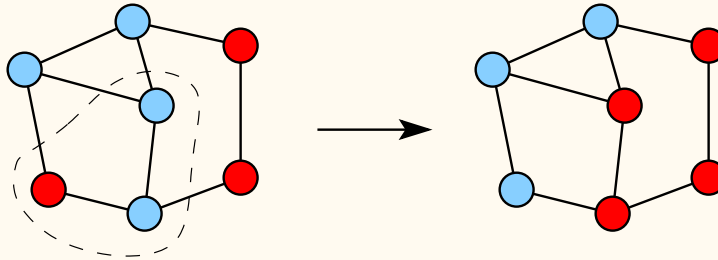


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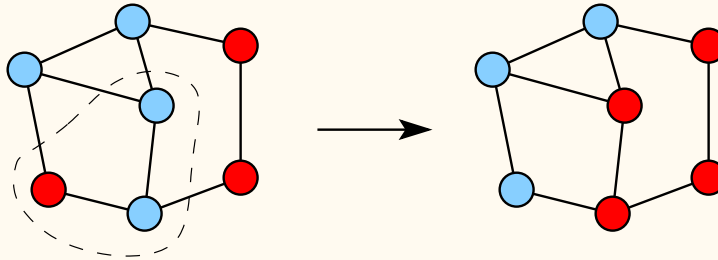
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This allows us to generalise the notion of a deck. The k -deck of G is defined as

$$\mathcal{D}_k(G) = \sum_{W \subseteq V: |W|=k} [G_W].$$

Generic formulation

To define a switching reconstruction problem, we need to know

\mathcal{G} :

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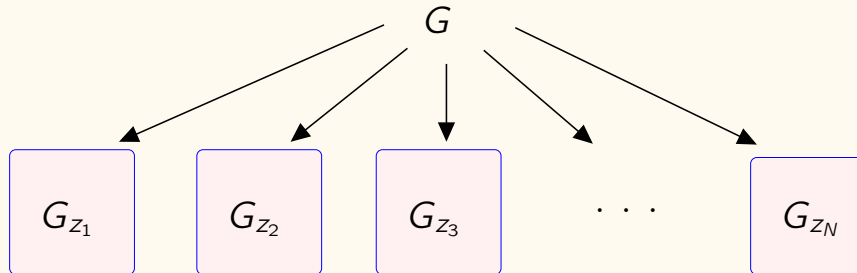
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The **deck** $\mathcal{D}(G)$ is the 'multiset' $\mathcal{D}(G) = \sum_{z \in Z} [G_z]$.

Generic formulation

We call (ϕ, \sim) a **switching operation** if it satisfies these properties:

S1. For $G \in \mathcal{G}$, $[G_\emptyset] = [G]$.

S2. For $G, G' \in \mathcal{G}$, $G \sim G' \Rightarrow \mathcal{D}(G) = \mathcal{D}(G')$.

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We say G (technically, $[G]$) is **reconstructible** if it is determined uniquely within \mathcal{G} up to equivalence by $\mathcal{D}(G)$.

A sneak peek

Given a switching operation (ϕ, \sim) , the **redundancy** of G is

$$\rho(G) = \max_{G' \sim G} |\{W \subseteq Z : |W| \text{ is a multiple of } 4 \text{ and } G_W = G'\}|,$$

Theorem. (Sufficient condition for reconstructibility) $G \in \mathcal{G}$ is reconstructible if

$$|\{W : W \subseteq Z, G_W \sim G, \text{ and } |W| \text{ is divisible by } 4\}| < 2^{N/2-1}.$$

In particular, this is true if $\rho(G) |[G]| < 2^{N/2-1}$.

Operations with decks

Recall: The k -deck of G is defined to be

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It is useful to have something equivalent for formal sums of graphs. For this we define the T operator. If $\mathcal{Y} = \sum_{H \in \mathcal{G}} c_H [H]$, then

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\mathcal{D}_k and T^k are closely related!

- $\mathcal{D}_k(G)$ is obtained by switching G on each set of k distinct vertices (contains $\binom{N}{k}$ cards)
- $T^k[G]$ is obtained by switching G on any k subsequent vertices (contains N^k cards)

Operations with decks

Some observations:

$$T^0[G] = [G]$$

$$T^1[G] = \mathcal{D}_1(G)$$

$$T\mathcal{D}_k(G) = (N - k + 1)\mathcal{D}_{k-1}(G) + (k + 1)\mathcal{D}_{k+1}(G).$$

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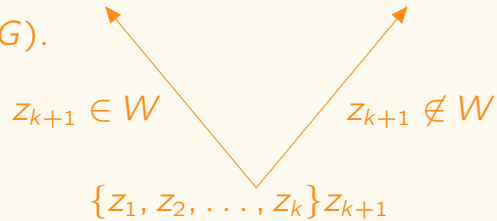
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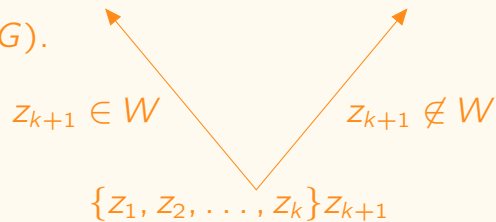
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Deck decomposition

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Let $\alpha_k(x, n) = P_k^n(\frac{n-x}{2})$. Then $\alpha_k(x, n)$ are defined by

$$\alpha_0(x, n) = 1,$$

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$$\mathcal{D}_0(G) = [G] = \alpha_0(T, N)[G]$$

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Three key lemmas

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From this, we can show

Lemma 2. $(N - k + 1)\mathcal{D}_{k-1}(G) + (k + 1)\mathcal{D}_{k+1}(G) = \alpha_k(T, N) \mathcal{D}_1(G)$. In particular, the left hand expression is reconstructible.

Lemma 3. Suppose $N = 2m$ is even. For $G \in \mathcal{G}$, $z \in Z$ and $j \geq 0$. Then

$$\mathcal{D}_{2j}(G) - (-1)^j \binom{m}{j} [G] = T^{-1}(\alpha_{2j}(T, N) - \alpha_k(0, N)) \mathcal{D}_1(G)$$

and hence the left hand expression is reconstructible.

Some generic results

Upshot of lemmas.

$(N - k + 1)\mathcal{D}_{k-1}(G) + (k + 1)\mathcal{D}_{k+1}(G)$ and $\mathcal{D}_{2j}(G) - (-1)^j \binom{m}{j} [G]$ are reconstructible.

Theorem. Suppose that $N = 2m$ and $G \in \mathcal{G}$ is not reconstructible.

- For each even j , there are at least $\binom{m}{j}$ sets $W \subseteq Z$ such that $|W| = 2j$ and $G_W \sim G$.
- In total, there are at least 2^{m-1} sets $W \subseteq Z$ such that $G_W \sim G$.

Key idea: We can identify $[G]$ as the only negative term in $\mathcal{D}_{2j}(G) - (-1)^j \binom{m}{j} [G]$.

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- For each even j , there are at least $\binom{m}{j}$ sets $W \subseteq Z$ such that $|W| = 2j$ and $G_W \sim G$. Moreover, for any $z \in Z$, at least $\binom{m-1}{j-1}$ such sets include z and at least $\binom{m-1}{j}$ don't.
- In total, there are at least 2^{m-1} sets $W \subseteq Z$ such that $G_W \sim G$, including at least 2^{m-2} sets which include z and 2^{m-2} which don't.

Some generic results

Upshot of lemmas.

$(N - k + 1)\mathcal{D}_{k-1}(G) + (k + 1)\mathcal{D}_{k+1}(G)$ and $\mathcal{D}_{2j}(G) - (-1)^j \binom{m}{j} [G]$ are reconstructible.

Theorem. Suppose that $N = 2m$ and $G \in \mathcal{G}$ is not reconstructible.

- For each even j , there are at least $\binom{m}{j}$ sets $W \subseteq Z$ such that $|W| = 2j$ and $G_W \sim G$. Moreover, for any $z \in Z$, at least $\binom{m-1}{j-1}$ such sets include z and at least $\binom{m-1}{j}$ don't.
- In total, there are at least 2^{m-1} sets $W \subseteq Z$ such that $G_W \sim G$, including at least 2^{m-2} sets which include z and 2^{m-2} which don't.

Theorem. Suppose $G \in \mathcal{G}$. Then the following hold.

- (a) If N is odd, then G is reconstructible.
- (b) If $N \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$, then $[G] \cup [G_Z]$ is reconstructible. In particular, if $G_Z \sim G$ then G is reconstructible.
- (c) If $N \equiv 0 \pmod{4}$, then G is reconstructible if $G_Z \not\sim G$.

Some generic results

Given a switching operation (ϕ, \sim) , the **redundancy** of G is

$$\rho(G) = \max_{G' \sim G} |\{W \subseteq Z : |W| \text{ is a multiple of } 4 \text{ and } G_W = G'\}|,$$

Theorem. (Sufficient condition for reconstructibility) $G \in \mathcal{G}$ is reconstructible if

$$|\{W : W \subseteq Z, G_W \sim G, \text{ and } |W| \text{ is divisible by } 4\}| < 2^{N/2-1}.$$

In particular, this is true if $\rho(G) |[G]| < 2^{N/2-1}$.

To apply this directly for specific problems, it is helpful to have:

- Some constant underlying structure H of G ($\rho(G) |\text{Aut}(H)| < 2^{N/2-1} |\text{Aut}(G)|$)
- Low redundancy
- Lower bound on $|\text{Aut}(G)|$ (we shall use 1)
- Upper bound on $|\text{Aut}(H)|$

Applications

Digraph switching

\mathcal{G} : Oriented simple graphs with n vertices.

Z : Vertex set $V(G)$.

ϕ : Obtain G_v from G by reversing the direction of each arc incident with v .

\sim : Arc-preserving graph isomorphism

$\rho(G)$: If $G_W = G$, then W is a union of H -components, so redundancy is $2^{c(H)}$.

Applications

Digraph switching

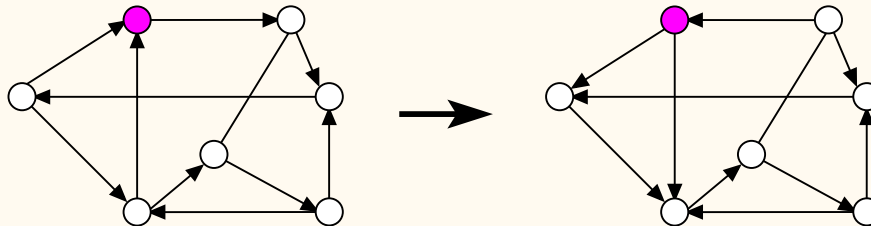
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$\rho(G)$: If $G_W = G$, then W is a union of H -components, so redundancy is $2^{c(H)}$.

- If H is a polygon then G is reconstructible for $n \geq 14$,
- If H is a 3-connected planar graph then G is reconstructible for $n \geq 16$, and
- If H is a vertex-transitive 3-connected cubic graph then G is reconstructible for $n \geq 28$.

Also, $G_W \sim G$, so G is reconstructible if $n \not\equiv 0 \pmod{4}$.

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$\rho(G)$: If $G_W = G$, then W is a union of H -components, so redundancy is $2^{c(H)}$.

- If H is a polygon then G is reconstructible for $n \geq 13$,
- If H is a 3-connected planar graph then G is reconstructible for $n \geq 13$, and
- If H is a vertex-transitive 3-connected cubic graph then G is reconstructible for $n \geq 25$.

Applications

Edge colour switching at a vertex

\mathcal{G} : Undirected simple graphs on n vertices, each edge coloured red or blue.

Z : Vertex set $V(G)$.

ϕ : Obtain G_v from G by changing the colour of each edge incident with v .

\sim : Colour-preserving graph isomorphism

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Applications

Edge colour switching at a vertex

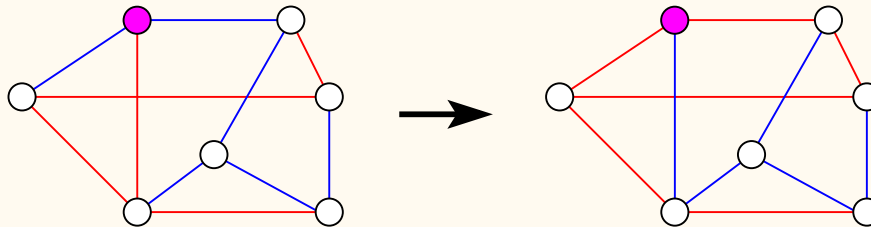
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- If H is a polygon then G is reconstructible for $n \geq 13$,
- If H is a 3-connected planar graph then G is reconstructible for $n \geq 13$, and
- If H is a vertex-transitive 3-connected cubic graph then G is reconstructible for $n \geq 25$.

Here, $G_W \sim G$, so G is reconstructible if $n \not\equiv 0 \pmod{4}$.

Applications

Toy problem (vertex colour switching at a vertex)

\mathcal{G} : Undirected simple graphs on n vertices, each vertex coloured red or blue.

Z : Vertex set $V(G)$.

ϕ : Obtain G_v from G by changing the colour of vertex v .

\sim : Colour-preserving graph isomorphism

$\rho(G)$: The only set W such that $G_W = G$ is empty set, so $\rho(G) = 1..$

Applications

Toy problem (vertex colour switching at a vertex)

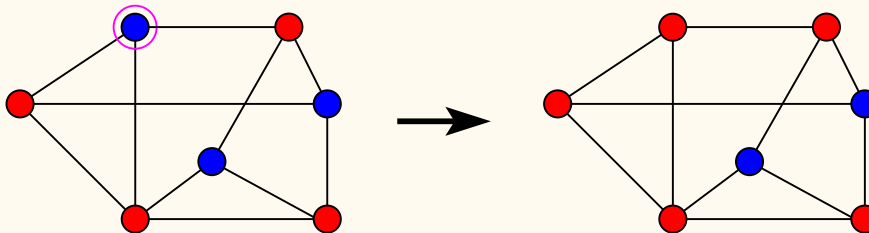
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$\rho(G)$: The only set W such that $G_W = G$ is empty set, so $\rho(G) = 1..$

- If H is a polygon then G is reconstructible for $n \geq 11$,
- If H is a 3-connected planar graph then G is reconstructible for $n \geq 13$, and
- If H is a vertex-transitive 3-connected cubic graph then G is reconstructible for $n \geq 22$.

Also, $G_W \not\sim G$, so G is reconstructible if n is odd.

Applications

Toy problem (vertex colour switching at a vertex)

\mathcal{G} : Undirected simple graphs on n vertices, each vertex coloured red or blue.

Z : Vertex set $V(G)$.

ϕ : Obtain G_v from G by changing the colour of vertex v .

\sim : Colour-preserving graph isomorphism

$\rho(G)$: The only set W such that $G_W = G$ is empty set, so $\rho(G) = 1..$

- If H is a polygon then G is reconstructible for $n \geq 11$,
- If H is a 3-connected planar graph then G is reconstructible for $n \geq 13$, and
- If H is a vertex-transitive 3-connected cubic graph then G is reconstructible for $n \geq 21$.

Applications

Embedding switching

\mathcal{G} : Combinatorial embeddings on an orientable surface of undirected simple graphs with n vertices.

Z : Vertex set $V(G)$.

ϕ : Obtain G_v from G by reversing the cyclic order at v .

\sim : Isomorphism of graphs preserving cyclic orders.

$\rho(G)$: The only set W such that $G_W = G$ is empty set, so $\rho(G) = 1..$

Applications

Embedding switching

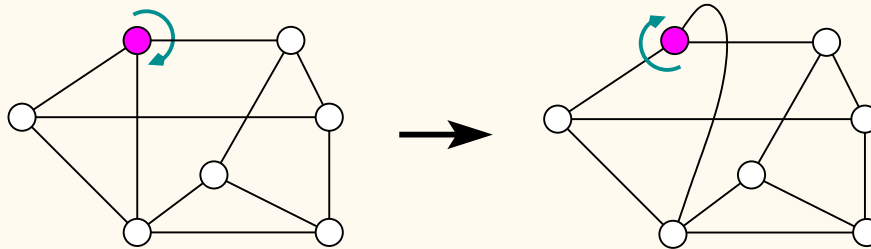
\mathcal{G} : Combinatorial embeddings on an orientable surface of undirected simple graphs with n vertices.

Z : Vertex set $V(G)$.

ϕ : Obtain G_v from G by reversing the cyclic order at v .

\sim : Isomorphism of graphs preserving cyclic orders.

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Applications

Embedding switching

\mathcal{G} : Combinatorial embeddings on an orientable surface of undirected simple graphs with n vertices.

Z : Vertex set $V(G)$.

ϕ : Obtain G_v from G by reversing the cyclic order at v .

\sim : Isomorphism of graphs preserving cyclic orders.

$\rho(G)$: The only set W such that $G_W = G$ is empty set, so $\rho(G) = 1$.

- If H is a 3-connected planar graph then G is reconstructible for $n \geq 13$, and
- If H is a vertex-transitive 3-connected cubic graph then G is reconstructible for $n \geq 21$.

Here, $G_W \not\sim G$, so G is reconstructible if n is odd.