

# Rotary embeddings of Praeger-Xu graphs

Luyi Liu

International center for mathematics, Sustech

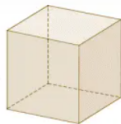
September 17, 2025

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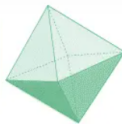
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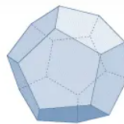
Tetrahedron



Hexahedron



Octahedron



Dodecahedron

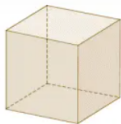


Icosahedron

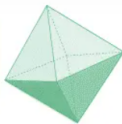
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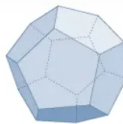
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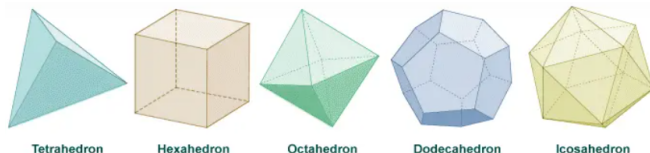


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The face set:

The open disks  $F := \mathcal{S} \setminus \Gamma$ .

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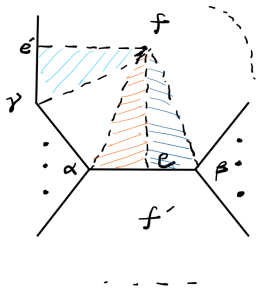
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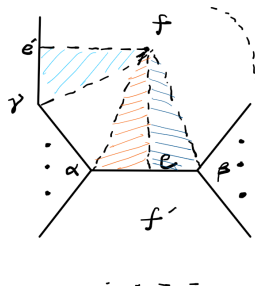
The open disks  $F := \mathcal{S} \setminus \Gamma$ .

The flag set:

$\Phi := \{(\alpha, e, f) : \alpha \in V, e \in E, f \in F \text{ are mutually incident}\}.$

**Remark:**  $|\Phi| = 4|E|.$





## Automorphisms of map

$\text{Aut}\mathcal{M} := \{\sigma \in \text{Sym}(\Phi) : \sigma \text{ preserves incidences between flags}\}.$

- ①  $\text{Aut}(\mathcal{M})_\phi = 1, \forall \phi \in \Phi \Rightarrow |\text{Aut}\mathcal{M}| \text{ divides } |\Phi| = 4|E|.$
- ②  $\text{Aut}(\mathcal{M})_\omega \text{ is cyclic or dihedral, } \omega \in V \cup E \cup F. \Rightarrow G_e \leqslant D_4.$

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$G$ -vertex (face)-rotary:

$G_\alpha$  ( $G_f$ ) induces a transitive cyclic subgroup on edges that incident with the vertex  $\alpha$  (the face  $f$ ).

$G$ -rotary map:

A map which is both  $G$ -vertex-rotary and  $G$ -face-rotary.

$G$ : a finite group.

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<sup>0</sup>[15] C. H. Li, C. E. Praeger, and S. J. Song. Locally finite vertex-rotary maps and coset graphs with finite valency and finite edge multiplicity. *Journal of Combinatorial Theory. Series B*, 2024.

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$\text{RotaMap}(G, \rho, \tau)$

A rotary pair  $(\rho, \tau) \in G \times G$  of a group  $G$  satisfies  $G = \langle \rho, \tau \rangle$  and  $|\tau| = 2$ . Define an incidence configuration  $\text{RotaMap}(G, \rho, \tau)$  by

vertex set  $[G : \langle \rho \rangle]$ , edge set  $[G : \langle \tau \rangle]$  and face set  $[G : \langle \rho\tau \rangle]$ ,

where two objects are incident if and only if their set intersection is non-empty.

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[15, Proposition 5.1]

A  $G$ -rotary map is isomorphic to  $\text{RotaMap}(G, \rho, \tau)$  for some rotary pair  $(\rho, \tau)$  for  $G$ .

[15, Proposition 4.1]

Two maps  $\text{RotaMap}(G, \rho, \tau)$  and  $\text{RotaMap}(H, \rho', \tau')$  are isomorphic if there is a group isomorphism  $f : G \rightarrow H$  such that  $f(\rho) = \rho'$  and  $f(\tau) = \tau'$ .

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### Direct products

$$\prod_{i=1}^n \mathcal{M}_i := \text{RotaMap}(H, (\rho_1, \dots, \rho_n), (\tau_1, \dots, \tau_n)).$$

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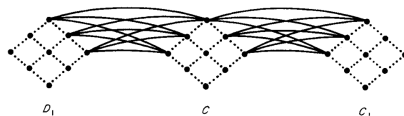
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## Praeger-Xu graph

Let  $p, r, s$  be positive integers such that  $p \geq 2$  and  $r \geq 3$ . Define a simple graph  $C(p, r, s) = (V, E)$  as follows:

- i the vertex set  $V$  is  $\mathbb{Z}_r \times \mathbb{Z}_p^s$ ;
- ii the edge set  $E$  is defined to be the set of all pairs of the form
 
$$\{(i, x_0, x_1, \dots, x_{s-1}), (i+1, x_1, \dots, x_{s-1}, x_s)\}$$
 for every  $i \in \mathbb{Z}_r$  and  $x_0, x_1, \dots, x_{s-1}, x_s \in \mathbb{Z}_p$ .

There are  $p^{s+1}r$  edges.

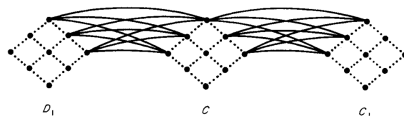


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## Augmented PX-graphs

PX-graphs, multicycles  $C_r^{(p)}$  (denoted by  $C^*(p, r, 0, 1)$ ), and cycles  $C_{pr}$  (denoted by  $C^*(p, r, 0, -1)$ ).

[19, Theorem 2.10]

The graph  $C(p, r, s)$  is symmetric if and only if  $r \geq s + 1$ , and is vertex transitive if and only if  $r \geq s$ .

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The full automorphism group of  $C(p, r, s)$  is equal to  $S_p \wr D_{2r}$  where  $(r, s) \neq (4, 1)$ ,  $r \geq \max\{s + 1, 3\}$  and  $p$  is odd.

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### [19, Theorem 1]

Let  $\Gamma$  be a connected, simple,  $G$ -arc-transitive graph of valency  $2p$ . If  $G$  contains an abelian normal  $p$ -subgroup which is not semiregular on the vertices of  $\Gamma$ , then  $\Gamma = C(p, r, s)$  for some  $r \geq \max\{3, s + 1\}$  and  $s \geq 1$ .

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# Arc-regular automorphism groups of Praeger-Xu graphs $C(p, r, s)$ , $p \nmid r$

Case 1.  $(r, s) \neq (4, 1)$

Let  $s \geq 0$ ,  $r \geq \max\{s + 1, 3\}$  and  $(r, s) \neq (4, 1)$ .



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Suppose that  $G$  is an arc-regular subgroup of  $\text{Aut}(C(p, r, s))$ . Then

$$G \cong \mathbb{Z}_p^{s+1} : D_{2r}.$$

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The order  $|G| = 2p^{s+1}r$  which is the arc number of  $C(p, r, s)$ .

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It follows from  $(S_p^r)_p = \mathbb{Z}_p^r$  that

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[2, Lemma 4.6]

Suppose that  $G$  is an arc-regular subgroup of  $\text{Aut}(K_{2p, 2p})$ . Then  $G \cong \mathbb{Z}_p^2 : D_8$ .

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We claim that  $L_p \triangleleft L$ , and so  $L \cong \mathbb{Z}_p^2 : \mathbb{Z}_2^2$  implying

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Contradiction comes to that  $G_\alpha \cong G_\beta \cong \mathbb{Z}_{2p}$  or  $D_{2p}$ . □

$$\text{Aut}(C_{pr} = C^*(p, r, 0, -1)) = D_{2pr}, \text{Aut}(C_r^{(p)} = C^*(p, r, 0, 1)) = \mathbb{Z}_p:D_{2r}.$$

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### Theorem

Let  $s \geq 0$  be an integer, let  $\delta \in \{1, -1\}$  and let  $r$  be an integer such that  $r \geq \max\{3, s+1\}$ . Let  $G$  be an arc-regular group of automorphisms of  $C^*(p, r, s, \delta)$ . Then  $G \cong \mathbb{Z}_p^{s+1} : D_{2r}$ .

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## Corollary

Let  $\mathcal{M}$  be a  $G$ -rotary map with underlying graph isomorphic to  $C^*(p, r, s, \delta)$ . Then  $G$  is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}_p^{s+1} : D_{2r}$ .

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## Lemma

Let  $G = \mathbb{Z}_p^{s+1}:D_{2r}$  with  $s \geq 0$ , and let  $\mathcal{M}$  be a  $G$ -arc-regular map. If  $|G_\alpha| = 2p$ , then the underlying graph  $\Gamma$  is isomorphic to  $C^*(p, r, s)$ .



$$\text{Aut}(C_{pr} = C^*(p, r, 0, -1)) = D_{2pr}, \text{Aut}(C_r^{(p)} = C^*(p, r, 0, 1)) = \mathbb{Z}_p : D_{2r}.$$

## Theorem

Let  $s \geq 0$  be an integer, let  $\delta \in \{1, -1\}$  and let  $r$  be an integer such that  $r \geq \max\{3, s+1\}$ . Let  $G$  be an arc-regular group of automorphisms of  $C^*(p, r, s, \delta)$ . Then  $G \cong \mathbb{Z}_p^{s+1} : D_{2r}$ .

## Corollary

Let  $\mathcal{M}$  be a  $G$ -rotary map with underlying graph isomorphic to  $C^*(p, r, s, \delta)$ . Then  $G$  is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}_p^{s+1} : D_{2r}$ .

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$$|G_{\alpha\beta}| = \begin{cases} 2 \Rightarrow r = 2; \\ p \Rightarrow \text{the underlying graph is the multi-cycle } C^*(p, r, 0, 1) \\ 2p \Rightarrow r = 2; \end{cases}$$

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- $D_{2r} = \langle c \rangle : \langle b \rangle = \mathbb{Z}_r : \mathbb{Z}_2$ .
- $v^{b^{-1}} = \psi(b)(v)$ ,  $v \in V$  and  $b \in D$ .

Note that the degree  $d$  is even, and  $C_V(x) \cong \mathbb{Z}_p^{d/2}$  for each involution  $x \in D \setminus Z(D)$  [2, Lemma 2.9].

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## Proposition

Let  $x, y \in D$  be involutions such that  $D = \langle x, y \rangle$ , and let  $v \neq v' \in C_V(x) \setminus \{1\}$ . Then  $\text{RotaMap}(G, vx, y) \cong \text{RotaMap}(G, v'x, y)$  are rotary PX maps

## Proof

Since  $\langle vx \rangle \cap V \cong \mathbb{Z}_p$ , the map  $\text{RotaMap}(G, vx, y)$  has underlying graph being a PX graph by Theorem 11.

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By definition,  $\text{RotaMap}(G, vx, y) \cong \text{RotaMap}(G, v'x, y)$ .

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## $\rho_x$

For any  $x \in D \leq G = V :_\psi D$ , let  $\rho_x$  denote an element in the set

$$\{vx \mid 1 \neq v \in C_V(x)\}.$$

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Let  $x_1, y_1, x_2, y_2 \in D$  be involutions where  $D = \langle x_1, y_1 \rangle = \langle x_2, y_2 \rangle$ . Let  $\sigma \in \text{Aut}(D)$  be given by  $\sigma(x_1) = x_2$  and  $\sigma(y_1) = y_2$ . Then

- ❶  $\text{RotaMap}(G, \rho_{x_1}, y_1) \cong \text{RotaMap}(G, \rho_{x_2}, y_2)$  if and only if  $\psi \cong \psi \circ \sigma$ .
- ❷ Define  $\mathcal{RM}_G := \{\text{RotaMap}(G, \rho_x, y) \mid \langle x, y \rangle = D\}$ . The mapping

$$\begin{aligned} \psi^{\text{Aut}(D_{2r})} &\rightarrow \mathcal{RM}_G, \\ \psi \circ \eta &\mapsto \text{RotaMap}(G, \rho_{\eta(x_1)}, \eta(y_1)) \end{aligned}$$

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$\Rightarrow$ : Let  $f \in \text{Aut}(G)$  be the isomorphism. Since  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  are involutions, there is

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So  $\sigma := f|_D \in \text{Aut}(D)$ . Straightforward checking shows that  $f|_V$  serves as the isomorphism between  $\psi \circ \sigma$  and  $\psi$ .



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Note that  $\text{Aut}(D)$  acts transitively on the set  $\mathcal{RM}_G$ . There is  $|\mathcal{RM}_G| = |\text{Aut}(D)|/|\text{Aut}(D)_\psi| = |\psi^{\text{Aut}(D)}|$ , which completes the proof.

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$r$	$\text{Irr}(D_{2r})$	$G$	$\Gamma$	the count
$r$ is odd	$\gamma_{1,1}$	$\mathbb{Z}_p \times D_{2r}$	$C^*(p, r, 0)$	1
	$\gamma_{-1,-1}$	$D_{2pr}$	$C^*(p, r, 0, -1)$	1
	$\psi \ (d \geq 2)$	$\mathbb{Z}_p^d \rtimes_{\psi} D_{2r}$	$C(p, r, d-1)$	$ \psi^{\text{Aut}(D_{2r})} $
$r$ is even	$\gamma_{1,1}$	$\mathbb{Z}_p \times D_{2r}$	$C^*(p, r, 0)$	1
	$\gamma_{1,-1}, \gamma_{-1,1}$	$\mathbb{Z}_p \rtimes_{\gamma_{1,-1}} D_{2r}$	$C^*(p, r, 0)$	1
	$\gamma_{-1,-1}$	$D_{2pr}$	$C^*(p, r, 0, -1)$	1
	$\psi \ (d \geq 2)$	$\mathbb{Z}_p^d \rtimes_{\psi} D_{2r}$	$C(p, r, d-1)$	$ \psi^{\text{Aut}(D_{2r})} $

Table 1: Irreducible  $G$ -rotary PX maps

[2, Theorem 5.7]

The number of irreducible rotary augmented PX map of length  $r$  is

- i  $|\text{Irr}(D_{2r})|$  if  $r$  is odd;
- ii  $|\text{Irr}(D_{2r})| - 1$  if  $r$  is even.

$\{G\text{-rotary augmented PX maps}\}$  is in bijection with  
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[2, Lemma 5.4]

The group  $G$  has

$$p^d(p^{d/2} - 1)r\varphi(r)$$

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The involution  $\tau$  equals  $wz$  for some  $z \in D$  and  $w$  in the  $-1$ -eigenspace of  $z$ . So there are  $p^{d/2}\varphi(r)$  choices of  $\tau$ . □

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where  $\text{Aut}(D)_{\psi} = \{\sigma \in \text{Aut}(D) \mid \psi \circ \sigma \cong \psi\}$ .



## The number of $G$ -rotary augmented PX maps

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[2, Lemma 5.2]

Define a homomorphism  $\kappa : N_A(D) \rightarrow \text{Aut}(D)$  by  $f \mapsto f|_D$ . Then  $\ker(\kappa) \cong \text{End}_D(V)^{\times}$  and

$$\text{im}(\kappa) = \text{Aut}(D)_{\psi},$$

where  $\text{Aut}(D)_{\psi} = \{\sigma \in \text{Aut}(D) \mid \psi \circ \sigma \cong \psi\}$ .

Sketch of the proof

$\ker(\kappa) = \{\sigma \in N \mid \sigma|_D = \text{id}_D\}$ . For each  $\ell \in \text{End}_D(V)^{\times}$ , define  $\sigma_{\ell} : G \rightarrow G$  by  $v b \mapsto \ell(v)b$ . Then  $\ker(\kappa) \supseteq \{\sigma_{\ell} \mid \ell \in \text{End}_D(V)^{\times}\}$ .

$G = V:_{\psi} D = \mathbb{Z}_p^d:_{\psi} D_{2r}$ ,  $d \geq 2$ ,  $\psi$  is irreducible.

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For each  $\delta \in \text{Aut}(D)_\psi$ , there exists  $\sigma \in \text{Aut}(G)$  such that  $\sigma|_D = \delta$ .

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## [2, Lemma 5.2]

For  $i \in \{1, 2\}$ , let  $G_i = \mathbb{Z}_p^{d_i} :_{\psi_i} D_i$ , where  $p \nmid |D_1||D_2|$ . Then the following are equivalent:

- i  $G_1 \cong G_2$ ;
- ii there exists an isomorphism  $\sigma : D_1 \rightarrow D_2$  such that  $\psi_2 \circ \sigma \cong \psi_1$ .

Moreover, if (ii) holds, there exists an isomorphism  $f : G_1 \rightarrow G_2$  such that  $f(D_1) = D_2$  and  $f|_{D_1} = \sigma$ .

[2, Theorem 6.2] (the existence of decompositions)

Let  $\mathcal{M}$  be a rotary augmented PX map of length  $r$ . Then  $\mathcal{M}$  is isomorphic to a direct product of irreducible rotary augmented PX maps of length  $r$ .

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[2, Lemma 6.4]

Let  $V_1 = \mathbb{Z}_p^{d_1}$  and let  $V_2 = \mathbb{Z}_p^{d_2}$ . Let  $G = (V_1 \times V_2)_{: (\psi_1, \psi_2)} D_{2r}$  where  $\psi_i : D_{2r} \rightarrow \text{GL}(V_i)$  is irreducible for every  $i \in \{1, 2\}$ . If  $G$  has a rotary pair  $(\rho, \tau)$  such that  $|\rho| = 2p$  and  $|\tau| = 2$ , then  $\psi_1 \not\cong \psi_2$ .

### Sketch of the proof

Suppose the contradiction. There are  $v \in V_1 \times V_2$ ,  $\tau_1 \in D_r$  such that  $\rho = v\tau_1$ .

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### Theorem

Let  $\mathcal{M}_1, \dots, \mathcal{M}_m, \mathcal{N}_1, \dots, \mathcal{N}_n$  be irreducible rotary augmented PX maps whose underlying graph is of length  $r$ . Let  $\mathcal{M}_i \not\cong \mathcal{M}_j$  for  $i \neq j$  and let  $\mathcal{N}_i \not\cong \mathcal{N}_j$  for  $i \neq j$ . Then  $\mathcal{M}_1 \times \dots \times \mathcal{M}_m \cong \mathcal{N}_1 \times \dots \times \mathcal{N}_n$  if and only if  $m = n$  and there is a permutation  $\sigma$  of  $\{1, \dots, n\}$  such that  $\mathcal{M}_i \cong \mathcal{N}_{\sigma(i)}$  for all  $i$ .

## 1 Map

## 2 Rotary Praeger-Xu maps (PX maps)

- Praeger-Xu graphs
- The characterization of arc-regular automorphism groups of Praeger-Xu graphs

## 3 Irreducible rotary PX maps

- Construction of a class of irreducible rotary PX maps of length  $r$
- The correspondence between irreducible rotary PX maps of length  $r$  and irreducible representations of  $D_{2r}$
- The count of  $V:_{\psi} D_{2r}$ -rotary PX maps

## 4 The decomposition of rotary PX maps

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