Cayley's Graph Visualiser

Arjun Verma[1]

[1]Bachelors in Information Technology & Mathematical Innovations, Cluster Innovation Centre, University of Delhi, India

In this project, we explore Cayley graphs, which serve as visual representations illustrating the actions of mathematical groups. These graphs are intricately tied to specific sets of generators. The primary goal is to conduct a thorough analysis and documentation of Cayley's Graph of Groups, unraveling its mathematical intricacies and examining its applications. By delving into the intersection of group theory and graphical representation, this report contributes to a nuanced understanding of mathematical structures and their diverse real-world implications.

Cayley graphs | Group theory | Mathematical visualization
Correspondence: ***arjxn.py@gmail.com***

Introduction

Cayley graphs stand as powerful visualizations that elucidate the intricate symmetries and actions inherent in mathematical groups. Stemming from group theory, Cayley graphs dynamically capture the interplay of elements within a group, graphically depicting their relationships and transformations. This project delves into the analysis and documentation of Cayley's Graph of Groups, a mathematical pursuit that explores the fundamental connections between algebraic structures and graphical representations. The crux of Cayley graphs lies in their dependence on a specific set of generators, enabling a nuanced exploration of group actions. As we navigate through the code, which implements various techniques to generate Cayley graphs, we unravel the underlying principles that govern these graphical depictions. Beyond the code's technicalities, this endeavor aims to shed light on the broader applications of Cayley graphs, unveiling their significance in mathematical modeling, network analysis, and abstract algebra.

In summary, Cayley graphs provide a bridge between group theory and graph theory. Studying the properties of Cayley graphs - their symmetry, expansion, integrality, etc. - yields insights into the structure of the underlying group. Conversely, properties of the group determine the nature of its Cayley graphs. Cayley graphs are a powerful tool for exploring the connection between algebraic and geometric aspects of groups.Join us on a journey to explore the visual language of groups and the diverse realms where Cayley graphs find relevance and utility.

Methodology: Exploring Types of Graph & their Properties

In the early stages of this project, a comprehensive search was conducted to identify pre-existing tools or visualizers specifically designed for Cayley graphs. The objective was to leverage existing solutions that align with the project's goals. However, despite the search, a tailored visualizer that met the specific requirements of this endeavor was not found.

Subsequently, the focus shifted to a systematic examination of the properties inherent in various types of Cayley graphs. This exploration aimed to discern unique characteristics, patterns, and structures within different classes of Cayley graphs. Special attention was given to understanding the diverse visual representations and transformations associated with these graphs. Let us look into Some of these types -

Permutation Cayley Graphs:. One prominent type of Cayley graph examined in this project is the Permutation Cayley Graph. In the realm of permutations, each node represents an element, and edges signify the application of specific permutations. The code intricately captures this by generating nodes based on the order of the permutation group and connecting them according to the specified generating set. The visual representation adeptly showcases the permutation actions, providing a clear understanding of group dynamics. The permutation group S_n is represented using cycles. For a generator g with cycle notation , the permutation Cayley graph's edge is defined as follows:

$$\text{Generated Edges: } (\mathrm{a}_1 \to a_2), (a_2 \to a_3), \ldots, (a_k \to a_1)$$

Cyclic Cayley Graphs:. Cyclic Cayley Graphs, another focal point, involve cyclic groups where each element generates the next in a cyclical fashion. The code implementation reflects this cyclic behavior, with nodes arranged in a circular manner. The generator input defines the step size, influencing the connections between nodes. This type of Cayley graph serves as a fundamental building block for understanding cyclic group structures, elucidated through both code and visual representation. For a cyclic group C_n the generator g produces the Cayley graph with edges:

$$\text{Generated Edges: } (\mathrm{i} \to (i+1) \mod n)$$

Hyperbolic Cayley Graphs:. The exploration extends to Hyperbolic Cayley Graphs, modeled in the Poincaré disk. Here, the code translates polar coordinates into Cartesian coordinates, adhering to hyperbolic geometry principles. This type introduces radial layers based on the specified parameters. The code elegantly captures the unique properties of hyperbolic Cayley graphs, offering a distinctive visual perspective and enriching the overall diversity of the project.

The hyperbolic Cayley graph uses the Poincaré disk model. Given a generator g , the coordinates *(x,y)* in the disk model are calculated as:

Coordinates: $x = x_{\text{offset}} + r \cdot \cos(\theta), \quad y = r \cdot \sin(\theta)$

Dihedral Cayley Graphs:. Dihedral Cayley Graphs, associated with dihedral groups, showcase symmetrical structures. The code creates nodes based on the order of the dihedral group, positioning them symmetrically. Edges connect each element to its successive counterpart, forming a visually striking representation. This type of Cayley graph is crucial for understanding symmetry operations, and the code adeptly translates these principles into a tangible visual form. For the dihedral group D_{2n} the generator g generates edges as:

Generated Edges: $(i \to (i+1) \mod (2n))$

Abelian Cayley Graphs:. Abelian Cayley Graphs, derived from Abelian groups, offer a unique perspective on commutative group actions. The code accommodates both single and multiple generators, enabling a flexible exploration of Abelian group structures. The resulting visualizations provide insights into the commutative nature of these groups, offering a nuanced portrayal of group interactions. The Abelian Cayley graph is determined by the group operation. For a generator g, the edges are defined as:

Generated Edges: $(i \to (i+g) \mod n)$

The gathered insights from this exploration served as a foundational step for the development of algorithms. These algorithms, implemented using the Three.js library, were designed to accurately render Cayley graphs, incorporating the observed properties and distinctions. By amalgamating theoretical understanding with practical implementation, this methodology seeks to provide a robust framework for the visualization of Cayley's Graph of Groups, transcending the limitations encountered in existing tools.

Identification of Requirements:. The imperative for 3D visualization emerged from the inherent complexity of Cayley graphs, especially as the number of nodes or group order increased. In a 2D space, these graphs became increasingly congested and challenging to interpret, hindering the clarity of group actions. The shift to 3D visualization was deemed essential for providing a more intuitive and insightful representation. By introducing the third dimension, the visualizer could effectively convey the intricate relationships and structures within Cayley graphs, enhancing the user's ability to discern patterns and comprehend the group's actions.

Selection of Three.js for Visualization:. The decision to adopt Three.js as the visualization library was grounded in its relevance to the project's objectives. Creating a web-based Cayley graph visualizer that is easily accessible and distributable to the public was a key consideration. Three.js, being a powerful and widely-used JavaScript library for 3D graphics, offered a seamless integration into web environments. Its compatibility with WebGL ensured efficient rendering of intricate 3D structures within web browsers, providing a platform-independent solution accessible to a diverse audience. The choice of Three.js aligned with the project's goal of delivering an interactive and web-based Cayley graph visualizer for widespread use.

Algorithm Development:. The algorithmic development phase focused on translating fundamental group theory concepts into a functional codebase capable of generating various types of Cayley graphs. This involved addressing algorithmic challenges and optimizing performance to ensure efficiency in graph generation. The algorithms were designed to accurately capture group actions, considering the distinctive properties of each Cayley graph type. The development process aimed at creating a flexible and scalable solution capable of accommodating different group structures and user inputs.

Testing and Validation:. During the Testing and Validation phase, the Cayley graph visualizations underwent meticulous scrutiny through an iterative process. The comparison between the visually rendered graphs and the expected results, derived from mathematical models and group theory principles, was conducted by a thorough visual inspection rather than relying solely on predefined test cases. This approach, involving a keen eye for detail, aimed to identify any deviations or irregularities in the rendered Cayley graphs. The iterative nature of this comparison allowed for continuous refinement, ensuring that the visualized graphs accurately depicted the intended group actions. Moreover, the examination extended to assessing the scalability of the visualization, particularly as the order of groups increased. This visual validation process, characterized by a human-eye assessment, played a pivotal role in affirming the correctness, reliability, and fidelity of the Cayley graph visualizations across diverse group structures and sizes.

Results

In the Results section, our custom Cayley graph visualizer successfully navigated the intricate landscapes of various group actions, showcasing compelling visual representations of key graph types. The examined Cayley graphs encompassed Permutation Graphs, Cyclic Graphs, Hyperbolic Cayley Graphs, Dihedral Cayley Graphs, and Abelian Cayley Graphs. Each graph type is meticulously presented with accompanying images, offering a comprehensive view of their unique structures and patterns. Captions elucidate essential features, such as the alternating planes in Permutation Graphs, the cyclic formations in Cyclic Graphs, the hyperbolic geometry in Hyperbolic Cayley Graphs, the radial symmetry in Dihedral Cayley Graphs, and the interconnectedness in Abelian Cayley Graphs. The 3D visualization, facilitated by our choice of Three.js, effectively addresses the congestion issues encountered in 2D representations as the order of graphs increases. The visualizer's web-based accessibility enhances its utility for public distribution. The iterative comparison of visualized results with expected out-

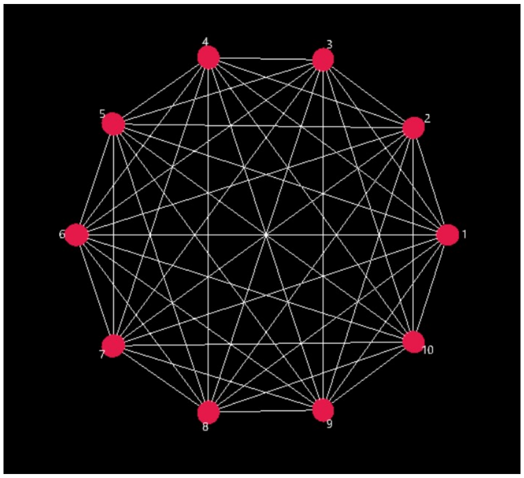

Fig. 1. Permutation cayley's graph with order 10 & *g=[1,2,3,4,5]*.

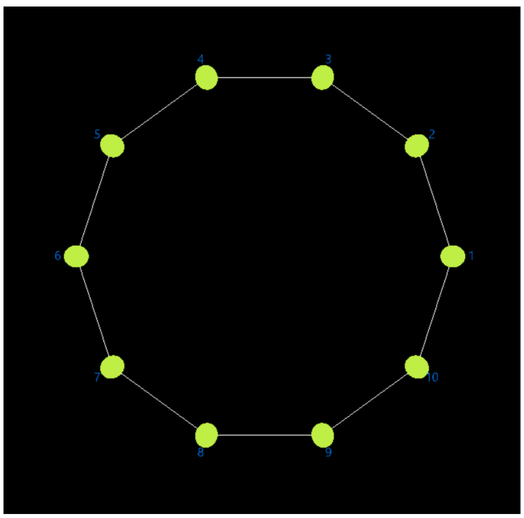

Fig. 2. Cyclic cayley's graph with order 10 & *g=[1,9]*.

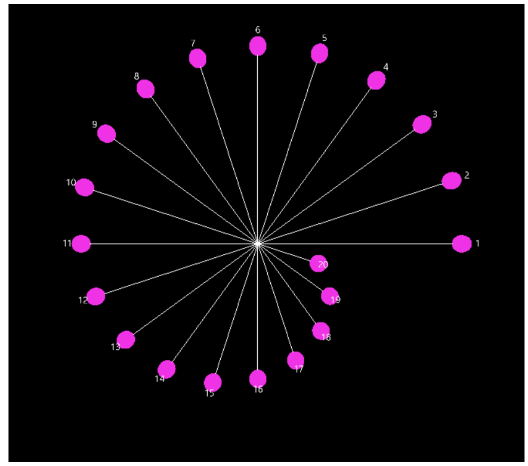

Fig. 3. Hyperbolic cayley's graph with order 20 & *g=10*.

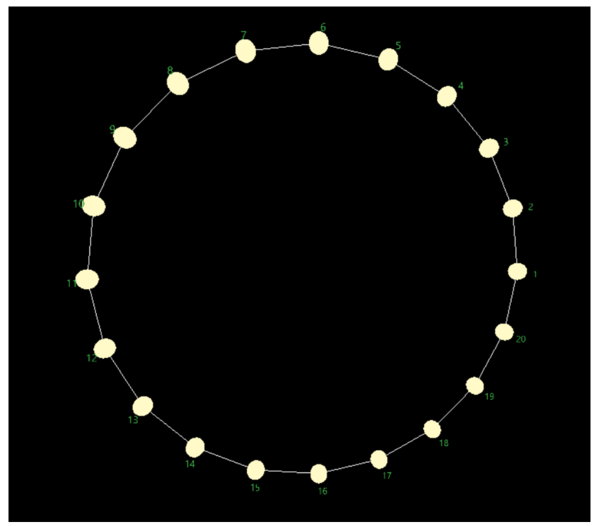

Fig. 4. Dihedral cayley's graph with order 10.

comes, performed through meticulous eye analysis, validates the precision and reliability of the generated Cayley graphs. The Results section culminates in an affirmation of the visualizer's success in capturing the richness of group actions through compelling 3D representations.

In Fig. 1 of Permutation Cayley's graph with order 10 and generators g = [1, 2, 3, 4, 5], the visualized graph eloquently portrays the group's actions. The nodes, representing group elements, are strategically positioned, and edges, determined by the generator set.

In Fig. 2, the Cyclic Cayley graph with an order of 10 and generator set g = [1, 9] unfolds dynamically. The visual representation accentuates the cyclical structure inherent in the group's actions, as influenced by the specified generators.

In Fig. 3, the Hyperbolic Cayley graph with an order of 20 and generator set g = 10 unfolds in a hyperbolic space, revealing intricate connections and transformations within the group. The visualization employs a Poincaré disk model to represent the hyperbolic geometry, allowing for a comprehensive understanding of the group's actions.

In Fig. 3, the Hyperbolic Cayley graph with an order of 20 and generator set g = 10 unfolds in a hyperbolic space, revealing intricate connections and transformations within the group. The visualization employs a Poincaré disk model to represent the hyperbolic geometry, allowing for a comprehensive understanding of the group's actions.

In Fig. 4, the Dihedral Cayley graph is presented with an order of 10, featuring an intricate arrangement of 20 nodes. This visualization highlights the unique characteristics of dihedral groups, emphasizing their symmetry and rotational aspects. The graph provides a comprehensive depiction of the relationships between group elements, showcasing the interplay of reflections and rotations within the structure. The expanded node count contributes to a more detailed and nuanced representation of the dihedral group's geometric transformations.

Fig. 5 illustrates the Abelian Cayley graph with an order of 10 and a generating set g=[3,7]. The visualization captures the essence of Abelian groups, showcasing their commutative nature. The nodes and edges in the graph reflect the group's algebraic properties, emphasizing the relationships between elements as influenced by the chosen generators.

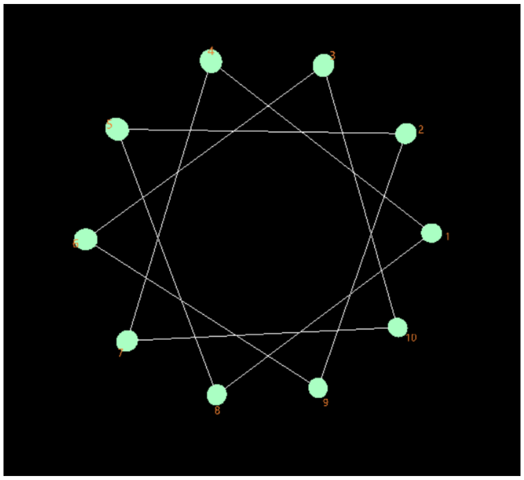

Fig. 5. Abelian cayley's graph with order 10 & *g=[3,7]*.

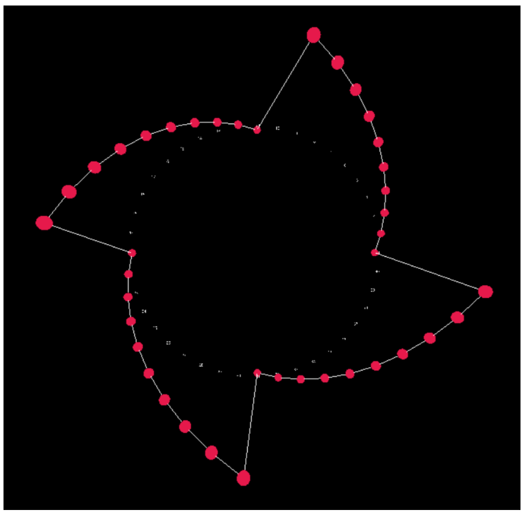

Fig. 6. Permutation cayley's graph with order 40, *g=[1,...,20]* & DoF = 10.

Some Cool Patterns:. During the visualization process, intriguing patterns emerged, offering a deeper appreciation for the rich structures inherent in Cayley graphs. One notable pattern is the emergence of symmetric arrangements, particularly in cyclic and Abelian Cayley graphs. These symmetries manifest as radial or circular formations, showcasing the cyclical nature of group actions. Additionally, in hyperbolic Cayley graphs, a unique pattern arises due to the hyperbolic geometry employed in the visualization. The nodes in these graphs exhibit a distinctive arrangement, reflecting the non-Euclidean nature of hyperbolic space.

In the context of hyperbolic, permutative, cyclic, and abelian Cayley graphs, when the order of the graph is divisible by the degree of freedom (number of XY planes), a distinctive pattern emerges in the visual representation. This divisibility condition results in the systematic division of the graph into separate polygons, each representing a subgroup or a distinct set of elements within the overall group structure. The polygons, characterized by their own unique connectivity and arrangement of nodes, offer a visual insight into the underlying algebraic relationships and symmetries present in the group. This division into polygons not only enhances the clarity of the graph but also provides a visual manifestation

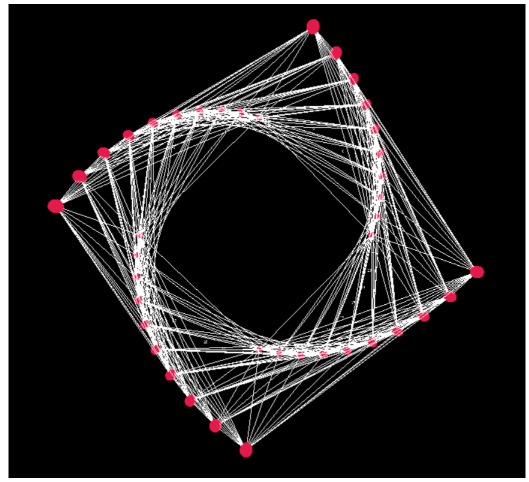

Fig. 7. Permutation cayley's graph with order 40, *g=[1,...,20]* & DoF = 10.

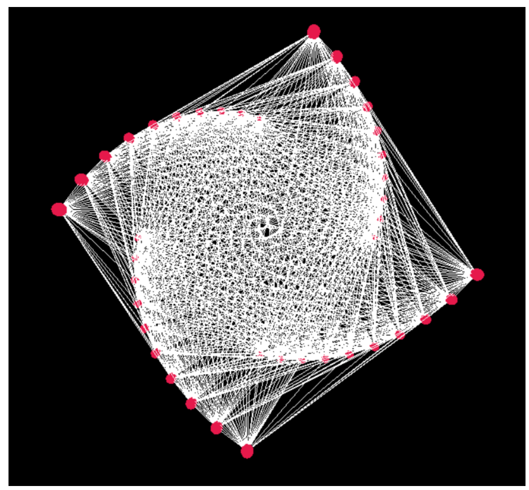

Fig. 8. Permutation cayley's graph with order 40, *g=[1,...,20]* & DoF = 10.

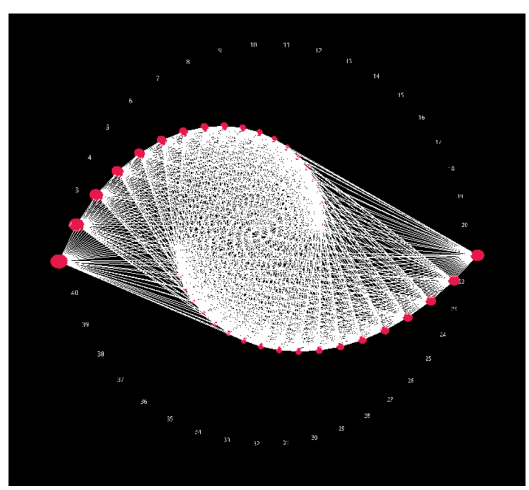

Fig. 9. Permutation cayley's graph with order 40, *g=[1,...,20]* & DoF = 20.

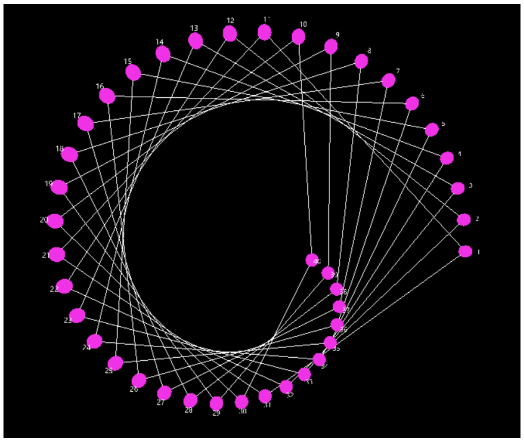

Fig. 10. Hyperbolic cayley's graph with order 40, *g=[10,30]* & DoF = 1.

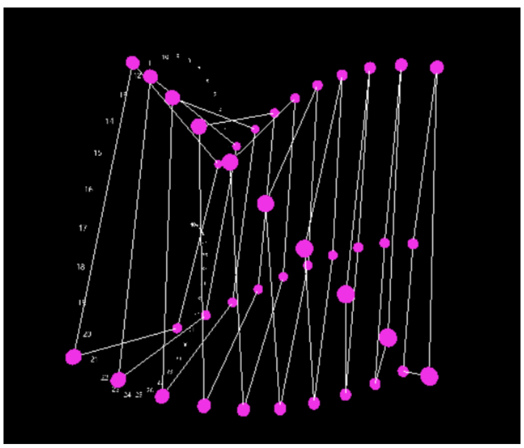

Fig. 11. Hyperbolic cayley's graph with order 40, *g=[10,30]* & DoF = 10.

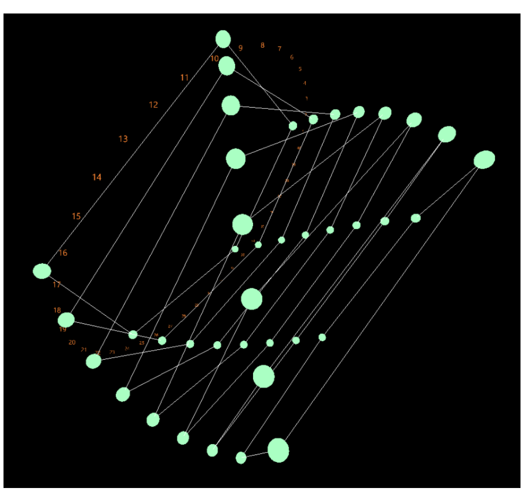

Fig. 12. Abelian cayley's graph with order 40, *g=[8,32]* & DoF = 8.

of the group's substructures, enriching the understanding of its composition and inherent properties. Exploring configurations where the order is divisible by the degree of freedom can unveil captivating patterns and reveal intricate connections within the Cayley graph.
This phenomenon is particularly evident in groups with a clear subgroup structure or in cases where the chosen generators exhibit specific relationships, leading to a structured and organized layout in the visual representation.

Application

Applications of Cayley's Graphs:. Cayley graphs find applications in diverse fields, ranging from computer science to chemistry. In computer science, Cayley graphs are employed in network design, error-correcting codes, and the analysis of algorithms. The visual representation of group actions in Cayley graphs provides insights into the symmetries and relationships within these systems.

In chemistry, Cayley graphs are utilized to study molecular symmetry and isomer enumeration. The graphs help visualize the different arrangements and transformations of molecular structures, contributing to the understanding of chemical properties.

The versatility of Cayley graphs extends to cryptography, where they play a role in designing secure cryptographic protocols. The exploration and analysis of Cayley graphs have thus become integral to advancements in various scientific and mathematical disciplines.

Visualizer Tool Application:. The developed Cayley graph visualizer serves as a versatile tool with several practical applications. One of its primary utilities lies in educational contexts, offering an interactive and intuitive platform for students and enthusiasts to explore group theory concepts visually. The tool facilitates a deeper understanding of abstract algebraic structures by providing dynamic representations of Cayley graphs for various groups.
Furthermore, the web-based nature of the visualizer enhances accessibility, making it a valuable resource for online learning platforms and collaborative group theory projects. The ability to customize graph parameters, such as order and generators, empowers users to tailor visualizations to specific examples, aiding in the comprehension of diverse group structures.

Conclusion

In conclusion, the exploration and visualization of Cayley graphs have been a fascinating journey, unveiling the intricate symmetries and structures inherent in group theory. The development of a custom Cayley graph visualizer has not only provided a powerful educational tool but also opened avenues for broader applications across disciplines.
The visualizer, accessible at Cayley's Graph Visualiser, stands as a testament to the potential of combining mathematical theory with interactive web-based visualization. Users

can dynamically interact with various types of Cayley graphs, gaining a deeper insight into abstract algebraic concepts. The tool's web-based nature ensures widespread accessibility, making it a valuable resource for students, educators, and researchers alike.

As we delved into the properties of different Cayley graphs, the visualizations provided not only enhanced our understanding of group actions but also revealed captivating patterns and configurations. The tool's adaptability and user-friendly interface contribute to its utility in educational settings, while its potential applications extend to fields such as computer science, chemistry, and cryptography.

This project underscores the significance of visual representation in comprehending abstract mathematical concepts. The combination of Three.js for rendering and algorithmic implementations has proven to be a potent approach. Moving forward, the visualizer stands ready to be a dynamic resource for further exploration, research, and the elucidation of Cayley graphs and group theory.

References

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