

Recognizing vertex-transitive digraphs which are wreath products, double coset digraphs, and generalized wreath products

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This is joint work with Rachel Barber of Mississippi State University

Definition

Let G be a group and $S \subset G$ such that $S = S^{-1}$ and $1_G \notin S$. Define a **Cayley graph of G** , denoted $\text{Cay}(G, S)$, to be the graph with $V(\text{Cay}(G, S)) = G$ and $E(\text{Cay}(G, S)) = \{\{g, gs\} : g \in G, s \in S\}$. We call S the **connection set of $\text{Cay}(G, S)$** .

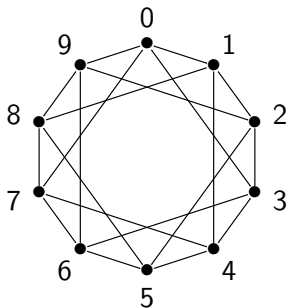


Figure: The Cayley graph $\text{Cay}(\mathbb{Z}_{10}, \{1, 3, 7, 9\})$.

While I will only talk about graphs and Cayley graphs, all of the results hold for digraphs and double coset digraphs (with obvious modifications). Also, most hold similarly for bicoset graphs and Haar graphs.

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Let Γ_1 and Γ_2 be graphs. The **wreath product of Γ_1 and Γ_2** , denoted $\Gamma_1 \wr \Gamma_2$, is the graph with vertex set $V(\Gamma_1) \times V(\Gamma_2)$ and edge set

$$\{(u, v)(u, v') : u \in V(\Gamma_1) \text{ and } vv' \in E(\Gamma_2)\}$$

$$\cup \{(u, v)(u', v') : uu' \in E(\Gamma_1) \text{ and } v, v' \in V(\Gamma_2)\}.$$

Intuitively, $\Gamma_1 \wr \Gamma_2$ is constructed as follows. First, we have $|V(\Gamma_1)|$ copies of the graph Γ_2 , with these $|V(\Gamma_1)|$ copies indexed by elements of $V(\Gamma_1)$. Next, between corresponding copies of Γ_2 we place every possible edge from one copy to another if in Γ_1 there is an edge between the indexing labels of the copies of Γ_2 , and no edges otherwise.

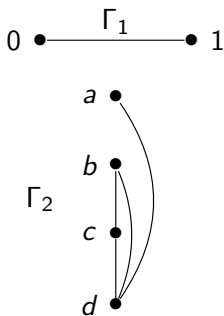
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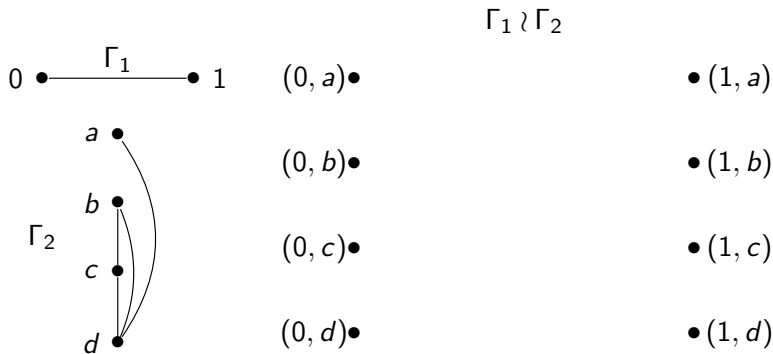
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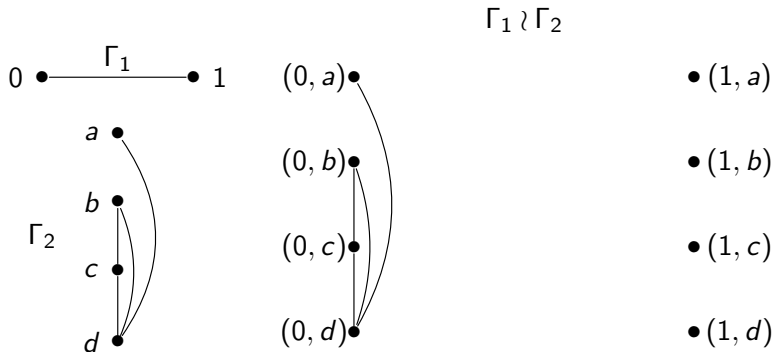
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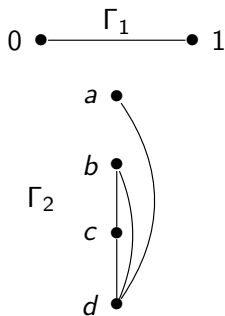
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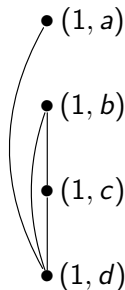
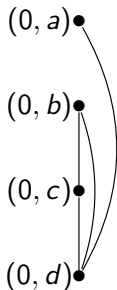


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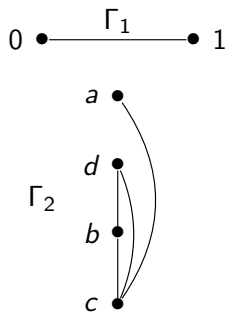


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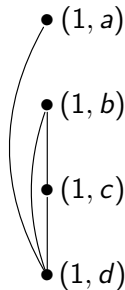
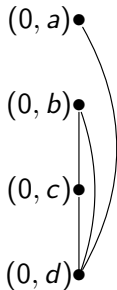


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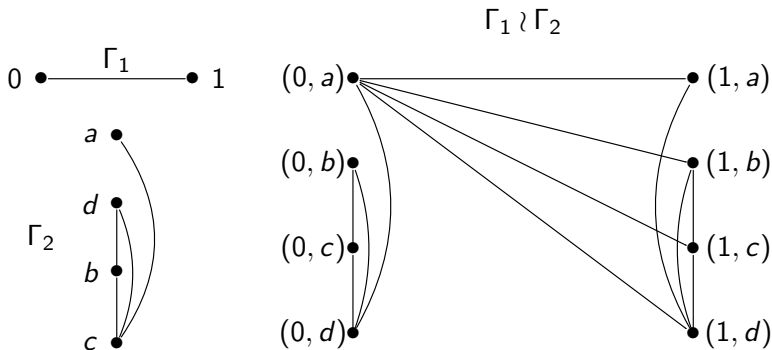


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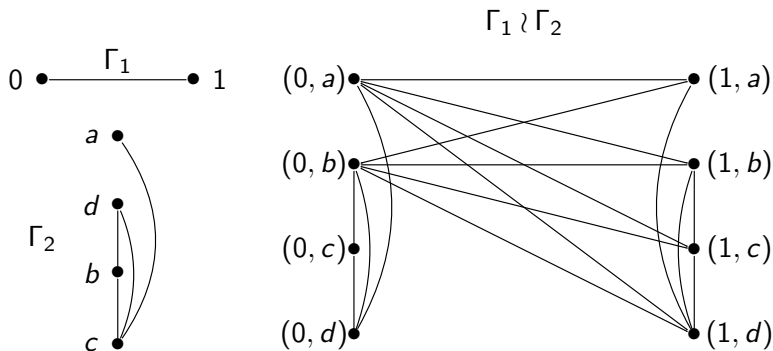
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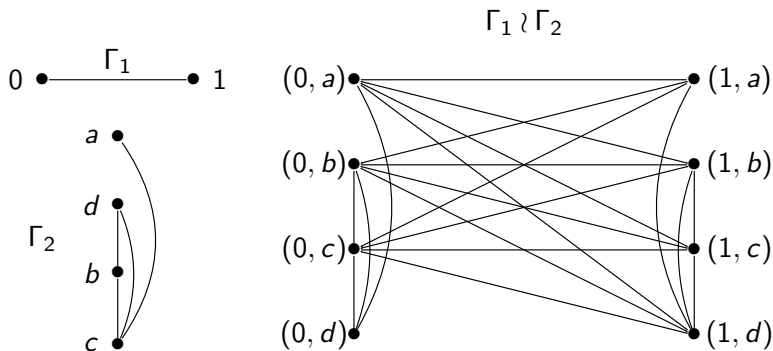
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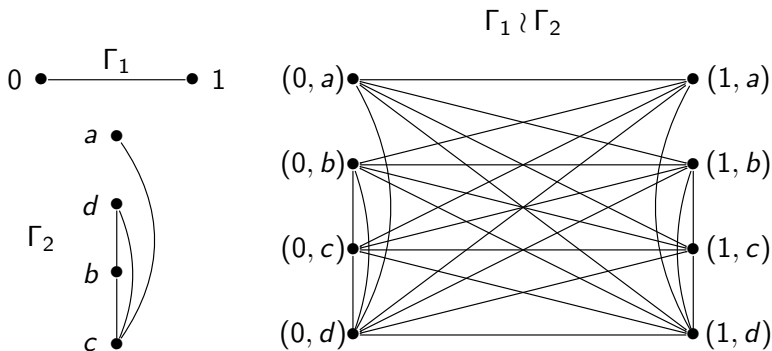
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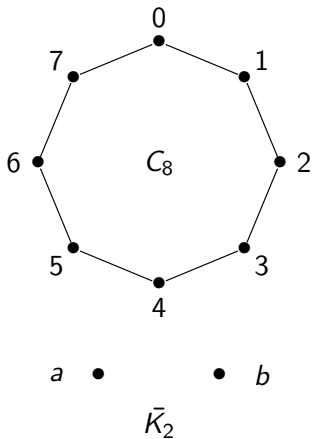
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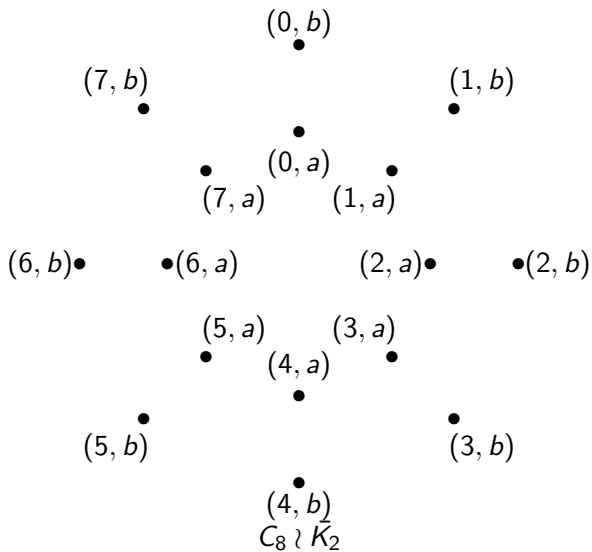
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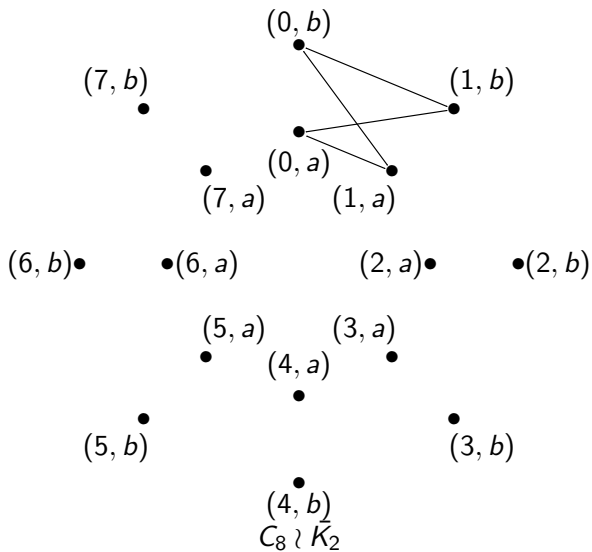
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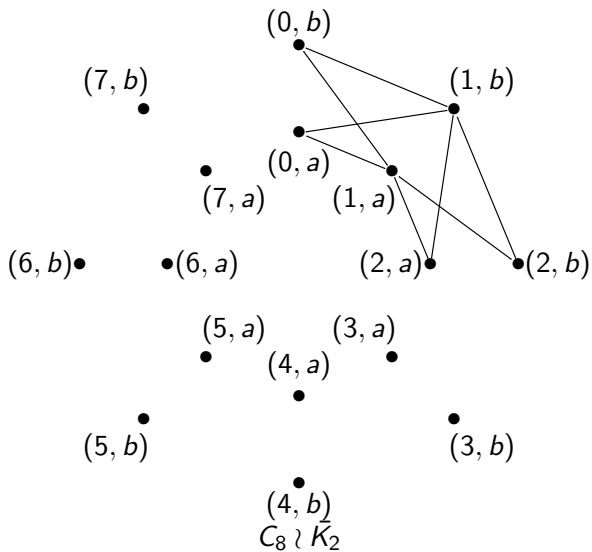
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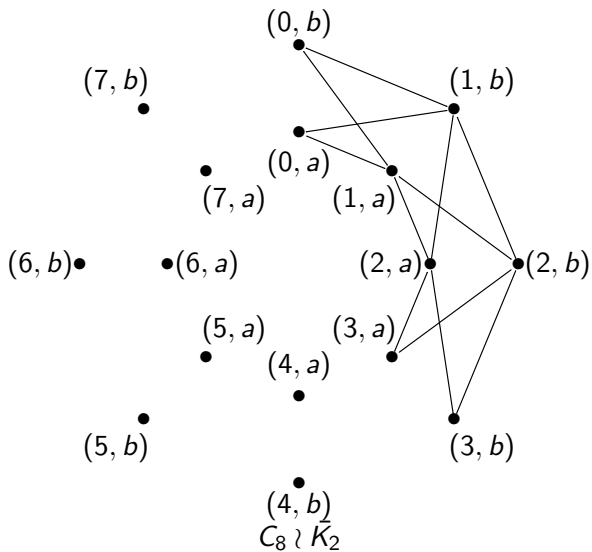


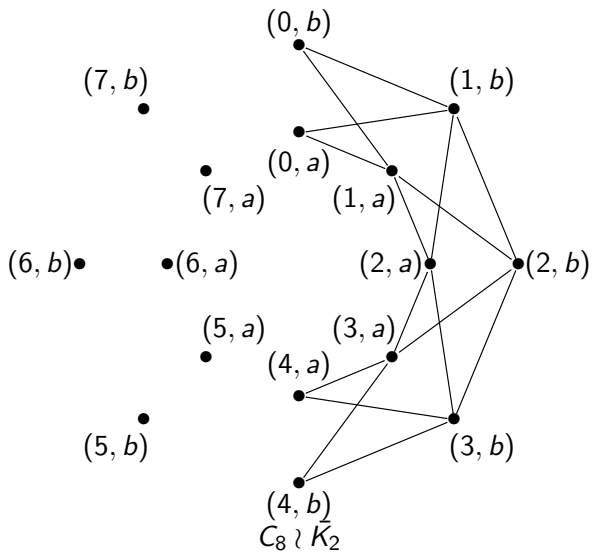


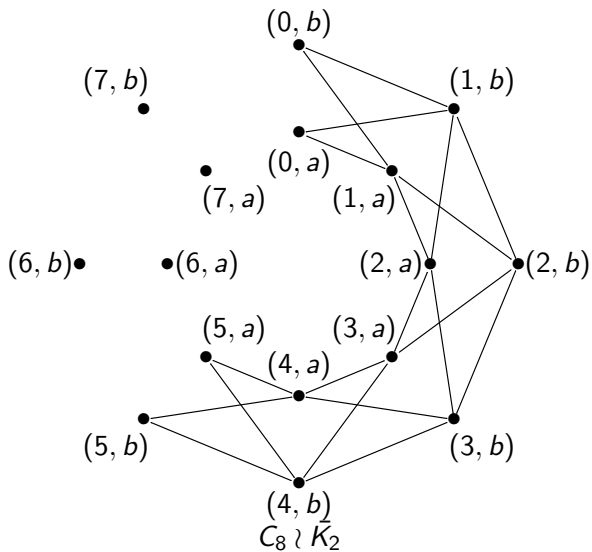


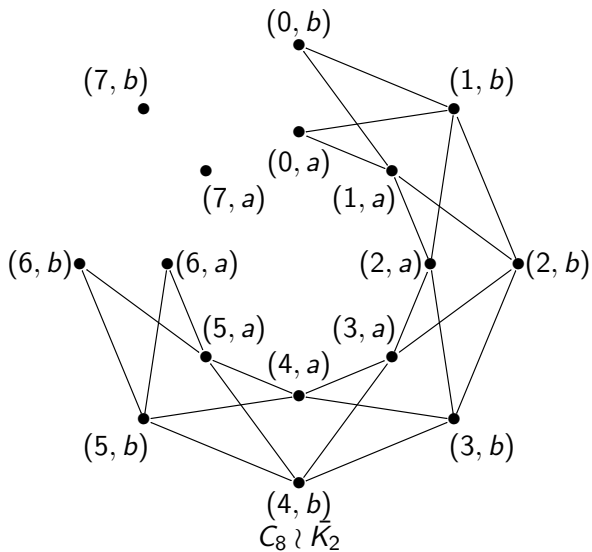


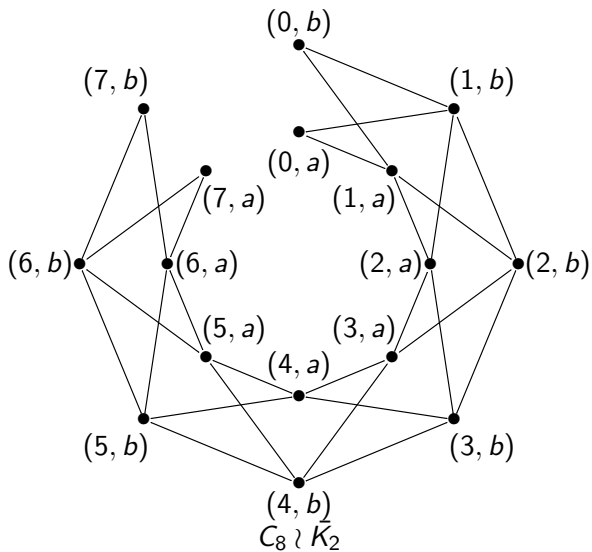
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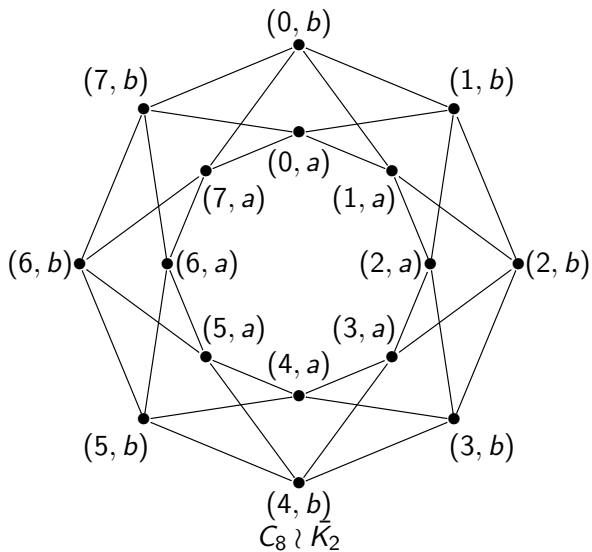












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It is easy to see that for graphs Γ and Δ , $\text{Aut}(\Gamma) \wr \text{Aut}(\Delta) \leq \text{Aut}(\Gamma \wr \Delta)$.

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What is known? It is known that a Cayley digraph $\text{Cay}(A, S)$ of an abelian group is isomorphic to a wreath product of two smaller digraphs if and only if there exists $1 < B < A$ such that $S \setminus B$ is a union of cosets of B . This was shown explicitly for prime powers by Morris, Kovács and Servatius and mentioned without proof in Bhoomik, Dobson, and Morris.

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It is easy to construct Cayley graphs of nonabelian group G whose connection sets are unions of left or right cosets of a subgroup of G that is not isomorphic to a wreath product. An obvious next guess is unions of left *and* right cosets of a subgroup of G .

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Let G be a group, $H \leq G$, and $s \in G$. The set $HsH = \{h_1sh_2 : h_1, h_2 \in H\}$ is a **double coset of H in G** . Similarly, for $S \subseteq G$, the set $HS = \{h_1sh_2 : h_1, h_2 \in H, s \in S\}$ is a union of double cosets of H in G .

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A Cayley graph of G is then just a double coset graph of G with $H = \{1\}$.

There is a convention with double coset graphs to insist that H contains no normal nontrivial subgroup of G . This convention gives that the action of G on G/H (the set of left cosets of H in G) by left multiplication ($g \cdot kH = (gk)H$) is faithful. This convention is useful if one is constructing a double coset graph. We will NOT follow this convention (it makes life harder for us and some results simply won't be true).

It may also be useful for this talk to think of double cosets a little differently than normal. Normally, G is chosen, then H is chosen, and S is chosen so that $S = HSH$. Here it will be better to think of choosing G , then choosing S , and then the possible choices for H are determined. The advantage is obvious - I get to choose any connection set I like. The disadvantage is that I don't even know the order of my double coset graph as that is determined by the choice of H .

Definition

Let Γ be graph and \mathcal{P} a partition of $V(\Gamma)$. Define the **quotient graph of Γ with respect to \mathcal{P}** , denoted Γ/\mathcal{P} , to be the graph with vertex set \mathcal{P} and edge set $\{\{P, P'\} : P, P' \in \mathcal{P}, P \neq P', \text{ and } uv \in E(\Gamma) \text{ for some } u \in P \text{ and } v \in P'\}$.

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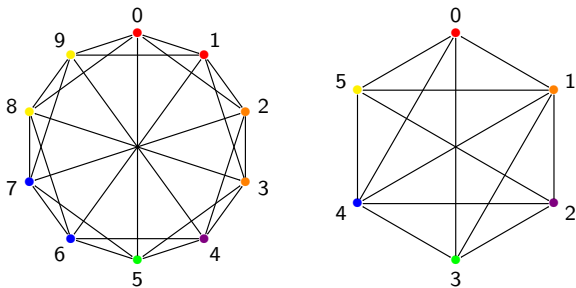
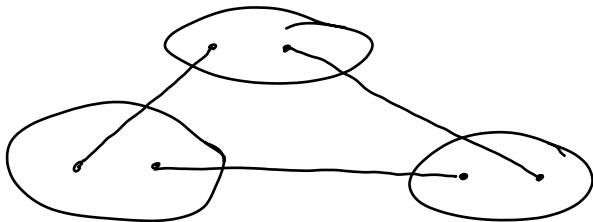


Figure: The Cayley graph $\text{Cay}(\mathbb{Z}_{10}, \{1, 2, 5, 8, 9\})$ and its quotient graph.

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Theorem

A Cayley graph $\Gamma = \text{Cay}(G, S)$ of a group G is isomorphic to a wreath product of two vertex-transitive graphs of smaller order if and only if there exists $1 < H < G$ such that $S \setminus H$ is a union of double cosets of H in G . If such a $1 < H < G$ exists and \mathcal{B} is the partition of G that consists of the left cosets of H , then

$$\text{Cay}(G, S) \cong \Gamma/\mathcal{B} \wr \Gamma[H] \cong \text{Cos}(G, H, S) \wr \text{Cay}(H, S \cap H).$$

Additionally, if Γ is not complete nor the complement of a complete graph and H is chosen to be maximal in G with the above properties, then

$$\text{Aut}(\text{Cay}(G, S)) \cong \text{Aut}(\text{Cos}(G, H, S)) \wr \text{Aut}(\text{Cay}(H, S \cap H)).$$

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In Theorem 4 of his paper he shows that a “multiple” of Γ is isomorphic to a Cayley graph of G (again $G \leq \text{Aut}(\Gamma)$ is transitive, and let the stabilizer of a point be H). This multiple is isomorphic to $\Gamma \wr \bar{K}_{|H|}$.

Sabidussi showed in 1964 (Theorem 2 of his paper) that every vertex-transitive graph Γ is isomorphic to a double coset digraph of G , where $G \leq \text{Aut}(\Gamma)$ is transitive. His definition of a “double coset graph” is different from the one presented - he showed that there was a Cayley graph $\text{Cay}(G, S)$ and subgroup $H \leq G$ such that $\text{Cay}(G, S)/(G/H) \cong \Gamma$ (with the quotient defined as above).

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