

Construction of Small Regular Graphs of Girth 7

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In this talk, we present constructions for new infinite families of regular graphs of girth 7 of smallest order known so far. Our constructions are based on combinatorial and geometric properties of $(q+1; 8)$ -cages, for q a prime power. We remove vertices from such cages and add matchings among the vertices of minimum degree to achieve regularity in the new graphs. We obtain the following results:

Theorem *Let $q \geq 4$ be an even prime power. Then, there is a $(q+1)$ -regular graph of girth 7 and order $2q^3 + q^2 + 2q$.*

Theorem *Let $q \geq 5$ be an odd prime power. Then, there is a $(q+1)$ -regular graph of girth 7 and order $2q^3 + 2q^2 - q + 1$.*