# Synchronization Theory and Links to Combinatorics 

Artur Schäfer

University of St. Andrews

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## The Setting



## Outline

(1) Synchronization Theory
(2) Hulls of Graphs
(3) Endomorphisms and Combinatorics
(4) Tilings and Semigroups

## Synchronization Theory

## Definition: Synchronization

- $G$ synchronizes $t$, if the semigroup $\langle G, t\rangle$ has a map of rank 1 (size of its image).
- $G$ is synchronizing, if $G$ synchronizes all transformations $t$.
primitive $\Leftarrow$ almost-synchronizing $\Leftarrow$ synchronizing $\Leftarrow$ 2-transitive


## The Synchronization Problem

What are the transformations (not) synchronized by $G$ ?
We know many examples of synchronizing groups are known.
Which ranks are synchronized by $G$ ?

## Results

$n-1, n-2$ and 2 , and 3,4 for non-uniform maps.
Recently (ABCRS) 2015: $n-3, n-4$, and $n-(1+\sqrt{n-1} / 12)$ (for rank 3 groups)

How did we get the previous results?
-> Use Connection to Graphs

## Theorem (Cameron-2008)

$G$ does not synchronize the map $t$, if and only if $\exists$ a graph $X$ with
(1) $G \leq \operatorname{Aut}(X)$,
(3) $\omega(X)=\chi(X)=n$, and
(0) $t$ is a singular endomorphism of $X$.

## The Programme:

Analyse synchronizing groups $G$
$\Leftrightarrow$ Find endomorphisms (of minimal rank $n$ ) of graphs.

## Hulls of Graphs

The theorem uses the following graph construction:
Construction: Graph of a Semigroup $S$
$S$ a semigroup on $n$ points. Then, the graph $\operatorname{Gr}(S)$ has vertices $\{1, . ., n\}$, where two vertices $v$ and $w$ are adjacent, if there is no map $f \in S$ with $v f=w f$.

## Definition (Hull)

Let $X$ be a graph with endomorphism monoid $S=\operatorname{End}(X)$. Then, the hull of $X$ is

$$
\operatorname{Hull}(X)=\operatorname{Gr}(S)
$$

## Properties of $\operatorname{Gr}(S)$

Let $\Gamma=\operatorname{Gr}(S)$, then

- $S \leq \operatorname{End}(\Gamma)$,
- 「 satisfies $\omega=\chi$,
- if $S$ is synchronizing, then $\operatorname{Gr}(S)$ is the null-graph,
- if $S$ is a permutation group, then $\operatorname{Gr}(S)$ is the complete graph.

Now, we go for the hull $Y=\operatorname{Hull}(X)$ of a graph $X$.

- $X$ is a (spanning) subgraph of $Y$.,
- $\operatorname{Aut}(X) \leq \operatorname{Aut}(Y)$,
- $\operatorname{End}(X) \leq \operatorname{End}(Y)$,
- $\operatorname{Hull}(X)=\operatorname{Hull}(Y)$.


## What makes hulls so important?

We are going to ask 2 question:
(1) Which graph is a hull? (satisfies $X=\operatorname{Hull}(X)$ )
(2) What are the (minimal) generators of $\operatorname{Gr}(S)$ ?

## Graphs which are Hulls

Approach: Find graphs with endomorphisms and check.

## Theorem

If $X$ is a graph with non-trivial hull whose automorphism group $G$ has permutation rank 3 , then $X$ is a hull.

Further Hulls:

- Multi-partite graphs + Complement
- Hamming graphs + Complement

Non-Hulls:

- Paths, even cycles,
- $C_{n} \boxtimes C_{n}$, for $C_{n}$ an odd cycle $n \geq 5$


## Generators of $\operatorname{Gr}(S)$ : Part I

Question: Do we really need all elements of $S$ to obtain $\operatorname{Gr}(S)$ ?

## Lemma

- Kernel class representatives in $S$ ( $R$-Class Reps) generate $\operatorname{Gr}(S)$.
- The elements of minimal rank in $S$ (its minimal ideal) generate $\operatorname{Gr}(S)$.


## Corollary

(1) The idempotents of $S$ generate $\operatorname{Gr}(S)$.
(2) The generating set can be chosen to form a left-zero semigroup.

Generators of $\operatorname{Gr}(S)$ : Part II Examples

Monogenic Semigroups
$S=\langle a\rangle$ with index $m$ and period $r$, then $\left\{a^{m}\right\}$ generates $\operatorname{Gr}(S)$.
Bands (every element is an idempotent)
Generators of the minimal ideal generate $\operatorname{Gr}(S)$.
Left-(Right)Zero Semigroups
The generators of $S$ generate $\operatorname{Gr}(S)$.

## Minimal generating Sets

Lemma: Minimal sets for $L_{2}(n)$

- If $n$ is a prime power, then the minimal generating set is given by a complete set of $n-1$ MOLS.
- If not, then the minimal generating set contains at most $n(n-1)$ elements.


## Lemma

For $L_{2}(n)$ a minimal generating has size 2 .

## Endomorphisms and Combinatorics

Consider hypercuboids: $\mathbb{Z}_{n_{1}} \times \mathbb{Z}_{n_{2}} \times \cdots \times \mathbb{Z}_{n_{m}}$ In $H^{R}\left(n_{1}, \ldots, n_{m}\right)$ two vertices are adjacent, if their Hamming distance is in $\{1, \ldots, R\} . \rightarrow H^{1}(n, \ldots, n)=$ Hamming graph.

## Lemma

The endomorphisms of minimal rank of $H^{R}\left(n_{1}, \ldots, n_{m}\right)$ are Latin hypercuboids of class $R$.

## Example $\mathrm{R}=2$

The two layers form a Latin hypercuboid

$$
\left(\begin{array}{lll}
1 & 2 & 3 \\
4 & 5 & 6
\end{array}\right),\left(\begin{array}{lll}
5 & 6 & 4 \\
3 & 1 & 2
\end{array}\right)
$$

They don't exist for all parameters.!!!
Latin hypercuboids of class $R$ have not appeared in the literature and have not been counted.

## Mixed codes

Mixed codes $=$ elements of $\mathbb{Z}_{n_{1}} \times \mathbb{Z}_{n_{2}} \times \cdots \times \mathbb{Z}_{n_{m}}$. (Brouwer et. al considered $n_{i} \in\{2,3\}$ in '90s, others considered perfect mixed codes, but not much known, in general).

## Definition (Mixed MDS-code)

A mixed MDS code is a mixed code $C$ with minimum distance $\delta$ satisfying the generalized Singleton bound

$$
|C| \leq \prod_{i=1}^{m-\delta+1} n_{m-i+1}=n_{\delta} \cdots n_{m}
$$

## Proposition

The Latin hypercuboids (of class $R$ ) are (almost) equivalent with and mixed MDS-codes.

## Tilings and Semigroups

Idea: Tiling a $2 \times 4$ chess board with $2 \times 1$ tiles.

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |

(1)

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  | 6 | 7 | 8 |

(4)

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  | 5 | 7 | 8 |

(2)

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  | 6 | 7 | 8 |

(3)

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |

(5)
$\{1,3,6,8\}$ and $\{2,4,5,7\}$ are transversals of all tilings (partitions). $\rightarrow$ Let $f_{1}, \ldots, f_{10}$ be the maps constructed from the partition-transversal combinations and $S=\left\langle f_{1}, \ldots, f_{10}\right\rangle$

## Tilings and Semigroups

## Theorem

S satisfies the following
(1) $S$ is idempotent generated, (and simple in this case)
(2) For all $f_{1}, f_{2} \in S$ it holds $\operatorname{ker}\left(f_{1} f_{2}\right)=\operatorname{ker}\left(f_{1}\right)$ and $\operatorname{im}\left(f_{1} f_{2}\right)=\operatorname{im}\left(f_{2}\right)$,

- $S$ is non-synchronizing.

Consequences:

- New examples of non-synchronizing semigroups, and
- old examples seen in a new light $H^{1}(n, \ldots, n)$.


## Disjoint Decompositions

Def: $S$ is decomposable, if $S=S_{1} \uplus S_{2} \uplus \cdots \uplus S_{n}$.
Definition
$S=\langle G, T\rangle \backslash G, T \subseteq T_{n}$ admits a strong decomposition, if for all
$T^{\prime} \subseteq T$ holds

$$
\left\langle G, T^{\prime}\right\rangle \backslash G=\biguplus_{a \in T^{\prime}}\langle G, a\rangle \backslash G .
$$

Theorem
Let $S$ come from the tiling construction. If $S$ is simple, then $S$ admits a strong decomposition.

Question: Where does the group in $S$ come from?

## Problems

Problems:

- Find more families of hulls and their minimal generating sets.
- Count Latin hypercuboids.
- How good are mixed (MDS-)codes?
- Do non-synchronizing semigroups always admit some sort of decomposition?


## Thank You for Your Attention!

