

$\frac{3}{2}$ -Generation of Groups

Scott Harper

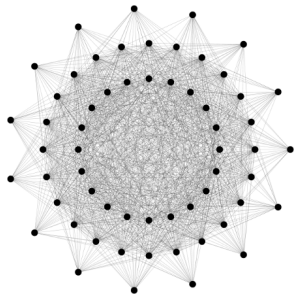
University of Bristol

featuring work with Tim Burness and with Casey Donovan

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University of St Andrews

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GENERATORS FOR SIMPLE GROUPS

ROBERT STEINBERG

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Questions

- 1 What stronger properties do the finite simple groups have?
- 2 Which other finite groups are $\frac{3}{2}$ -generated?
- 3 What about infinite groups?

The **generating graph** of a group G is the graph $\Gamma(G)$ such that

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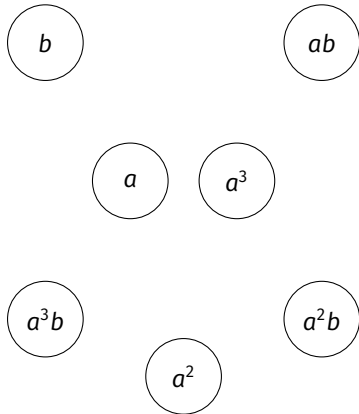
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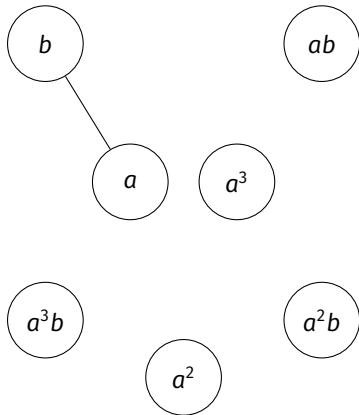
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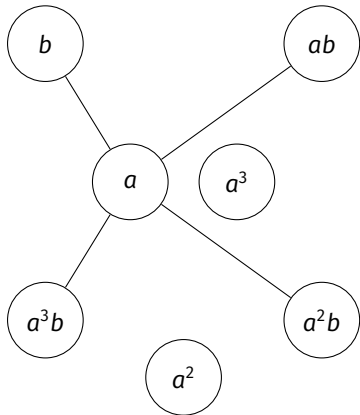
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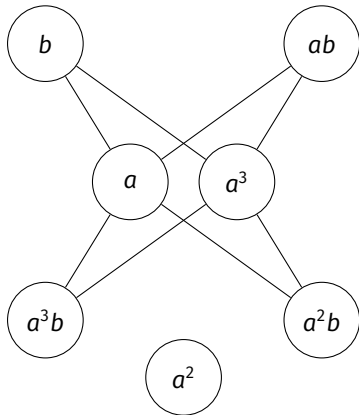
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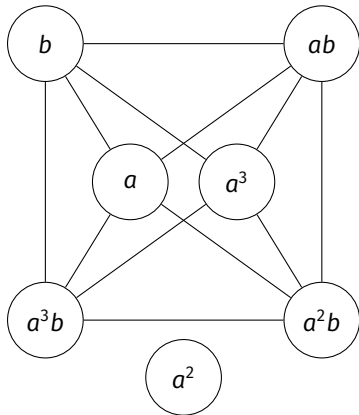
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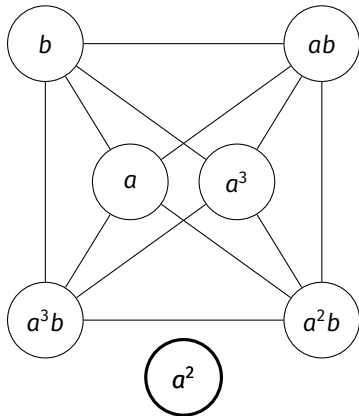
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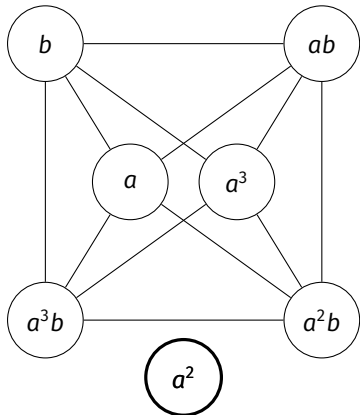
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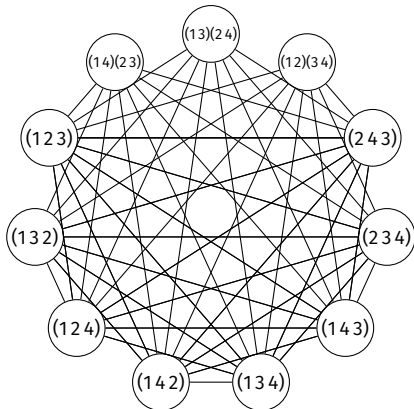
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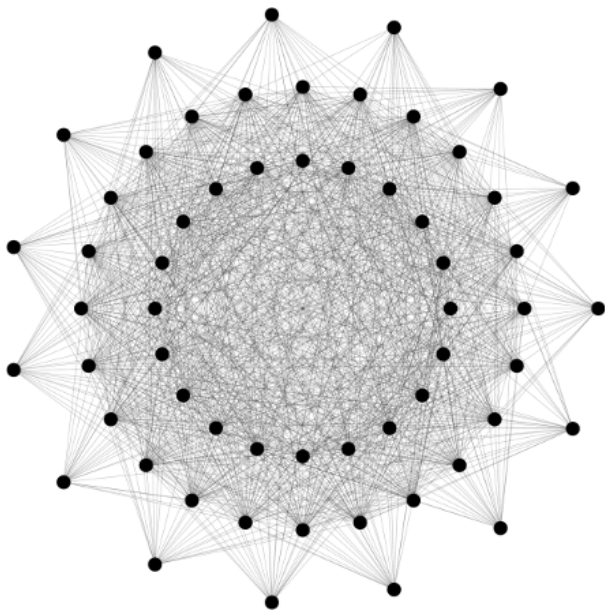
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Alternating group A_4



Alternating group A_5



Uniform Domination of Finite Simple Groups

joint with Tim Burness

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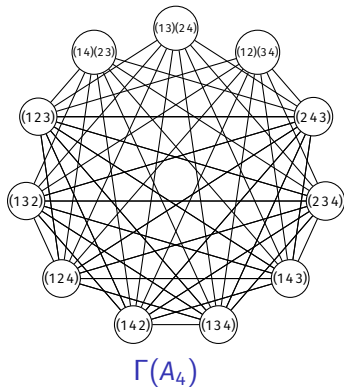
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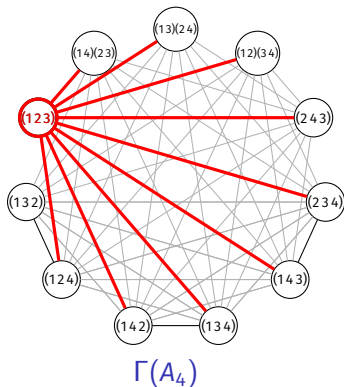


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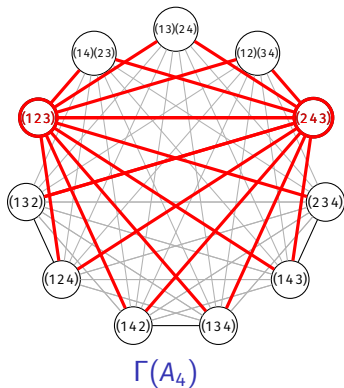


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Remark: n is even $\implies \log_2 n \leq \gamma_u(A_n) \leq 2 \log_2 n$

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$\gamma_u(\mathbf{G}) = 2$?	$\gamma_u(\mathbf{G}) > 2$	$\gamma_u(\mathbf{G})$
A_n ($n \geq 13$ prime)		A_n (o/w)	$100 \log_2 n$
$E_6, E_7, E_8, {}^2E_6$ ${}^3D_4, {}^2B_2, {}^2F_4, {}^2G_2$		F_4, G_2 ${}^2F_4(2)', {}^2G_2(3)$	5
$\mathrm{PSL}_2(q)$ ($q \geq 11$ odd)		$\mathrm{PSL}_2(q)$ (o/w)	3
$\mathrm{PSL}_n(q), \mathrm{PSU}_n(q)$ (n odd)		$\mathrm{PSL}_n(q), \mathrm{PSU}_n(q)$ ($n \geq 4$ even)	$10r + 50$
	$\mathrm{PSP}_{2r}(q)$ $\mathrm{P}\Omega_{2r}^{\pm}(q)$	$\mathrm{Sp}_{2r}(2^f), \Omega_{2r+1}(q)$	
IM, J_1, \dots	J_3, He $\mathrm{Co}_1, \mathrm{HN}$	$M_{11}, \mathrm{Fi}_{23}, \dots$	4

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3 $G \in \{A_n, S_n\}$ and $\Omega = \{A \subseteq \{1, \dots, n\} \mid |A| = k\} \implies$

$$\log_2 n \leq b(G, \Omega) \leq \left\lceil \log_{\lceil n/k \rceil} n \right\rceil \cdot (\lceil n/k \rceil - 1) \quad (\text{Halasi, 2012}).$$

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Let $G = A_n$ for $n \geq 8$ even. Then $\log_2 n \leq \gamma_u(G) \leq 2 \log_2 n$.

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Classification of Finite $\frac{3}{2}$ -Generated Groups

G is $\frac{3}{2}$ -**generated** if for all $x \in G \setminus \{1\}$ there exists $y \in G$ such that $G = \langle x, y \rangle$

Guralnick & Kantor, 2000

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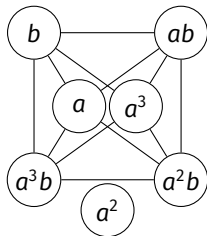
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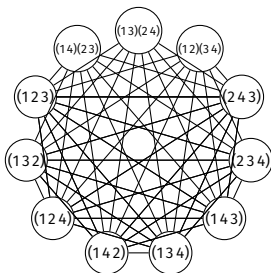
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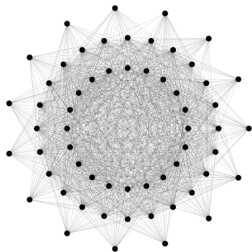
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A_4



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Theorem (H, 2017 & 2019+)

Let G be finite almost simple classical group. Then G is $\frac{3}{2}$ -generated if and only if every proper quotient of G is cyclic.

Infinite $\frac{3}{2}$ -Generated Groups

joint with Casey Donovan

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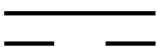
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The diagram shows the interval $[0, 1]$ represented by a horizontal line. Below this line, there are two shorter horizontal segments, one on the left and one on the right, representing the removal of the middle third of the interval. This visualizes the construction of the Cantor set.

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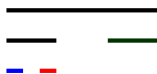
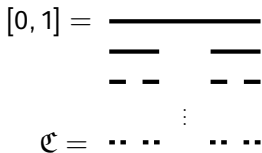
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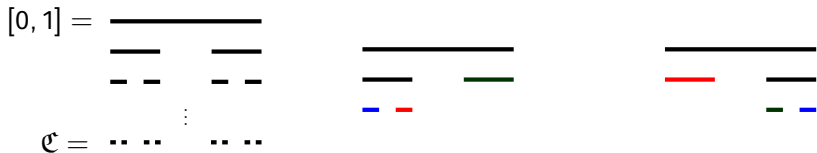
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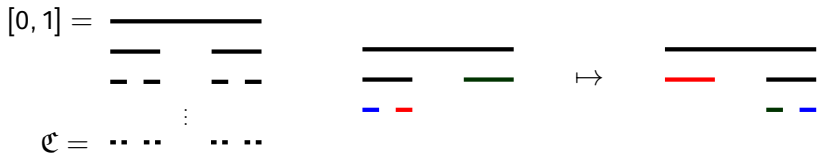
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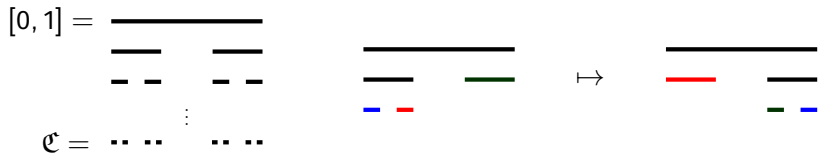
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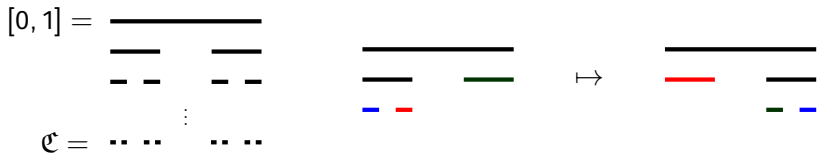
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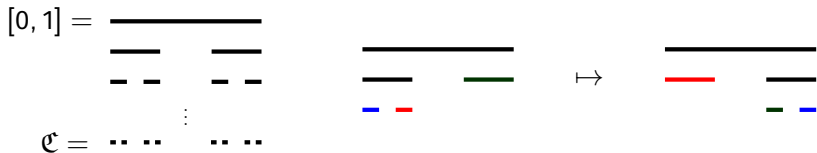


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Question

Is there a conjugacy class C of G such that for all $x \in G \setminus 1$ there exists $y \in C$ such that $G = \langle x, y \rangle$?

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