

# Enumeration by Stabilizer Class of Patterns with Local Restrictions

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## Abstract

We consider patterns of colourings of  $G$ -sets where certain forbidden sub-colourings are excluded. An algorithm is developed for the calculation of inventories of patterns with a prescribed stabilizer class.

## 1 Introduction

The theory of pattern enumeration is concerned with a finite group  $G$  acting as the group of symmetries of a set  $X$ , a set of colours  $C$ , and the action of  $G$  on the set  $C^X$  of colourings of  $X$ . By a *pattern* we mean the  $G$ -orbit of a colouring.

Williamson [6] used a combination of the inclusion - exclusion rule with Redfield/Pólya theory to enumerate patterns of colourings which do not contain colourings of specified subsets of  $X$  using chosen subsets of  $C$ . The aim of this note is to enumerate the subset of these patterns which are stabilized by a chosen conjugacy class of subgroups of  $G$ .

We use two examples to illustrate the main features of the method. Firstly we discuss a particular example used by Williamson which involves the enumeration of patterns of 8-bead necklaces that do not include particular sub-colourings called *a-rooted trees*. A second example is taken from the counting of isomers in chemical enumeration. We consider colourings

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of the 8 vertices of a trigonal dodecahedron in which the vertices are of two types, 4-valent and 5-valent, and such that adjacent vertices have different colours. The additional feature here is that excluded colourings may be constructed in different ways from sets of forbidden sub-colourings.

We end by writing down a general algorithm for enumerating inventories of patterns which exclude an arbitrary number of sub-colourings that are specified using an arbitrary partition of the set of colours.

## 2 Pattern enumeration

We first recall some of our notation and results from [4] and [5]. Enumeration by stabilizer class using tables of marks is also discussed in detail in Chapter 3 of [1].

Denote by  $\mathcal{L}_G$  and  $\mathcal{P}_G$  the subgroup lattice and the poset of conjugacy classes  $[H]$  of subgroups of a group  $G$ . Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be a commutative algebra over the rationals. The incidence algebra  $\mathcal{AIA}(\mathcal{L}_G)$  has a subalgebra  $\mathcal{ACA}(\mathcal{L}_G)$  of *conjugacy functions* satisfying

$$f(H, K) = f(g^{-1}Hg, g^{-1}Kg) \text{ for all } H, K \leq G \text{ and } g \in G.$$

There is an algebra homomorphism from  $\mathcal{ACA}(\mathcal{L}_G)$  to  $\mathcal{AIA}(\mathcal{P}_G)$  which maps  $f$  to  $\check{f}$  where

$$\check{f}([H], [K]) = \sum_{K' \in K} f(H, K').$$

Let  $\zeta$  be the zeta function on  $\mathcal{L}_G$  with inverse the Möbius function  $\mu$ , and let  $\gamma$  be the conjugacy diagonal function defined by  $\gamma(K) = |G|/|K| |[K]|$ . The *mark* function  $\phi \in \mathcal{AIA}(\mathcal{P}_G)$ , where  $\phi([H], [K])$  is the number of left cosets in  $(G/K)$  fixed under left multiplication by  $H$ , has a factorisation  $\phi = \check{\zeta}\gamma$ . When a total ordering of the classes  $[K]$  has been chosen, compatible with the partial order on  $\mathcal{P}_G$ , the marks form an upper triangular matrix  $M(\phi)$ , known as the *table of marks* of  $G$ , whose inverse is the *Burnside matrix*  $M(\phi^{-1})$ .

Given a diagonal conjugacy function  $\Delta$  on  $\mathcal{L}_G$  we obtain  $\check{\tau}$  from  $\alpha$  and  $\tau$  where

$$\alpha = \mu\Delta\zeta, \quad \tau = \gamma^{-1}\alpha\gamma, \quad \check{\tau} = \phi^{-1}\Delta\phi. \quad (1)$$

The values  $\alpha(H, K)$  may be calculated successively, working downwards from  $K$  using the intervals  $[H, K]$ , by the formulae

$$\alpha(K, K) = \Delta(K), \quad \sum_{H \leq J \leq K} \alpha(H, J) = 0 \text{ when } H \neq K. \quad (2)$$

In the case  $K = G$ ,

$$\check{\tau}([H], [G]) = \alpha(H, G)/\gamma(H). \quad (3)$$

We now summarise the basic ingredients of generalised Redfield/Pólya enumeration (see, for example, [1], Chapter 2, or [5], Section 5). Let  $G$  be a subgroup of the symmetric group  $S_n$

and let  $\mathcal{A} = \Lambda_\ell \otimes \mathbb{Q}$  where  $\Lambda_\ell$  is the ring of symmetric polynomials in a set of indeterminates  $\Xi_\ell = \{\xi_1, \xi_2, \dots, \xi_\ell\}$ , generated by the power sums  $p_d = \sum_{i=1}^\ell \xi_i^d$ . When we wish to consider two sorts of indeterminates, we write  $\Xi_\ell = \{\eta_1, \dots, \eta_j, \theta_1, \dots, \theta_k\}$ ,  $j + k = \ell$ , and we denote by  $q_d, r_d$  the power sums in  $\eta_i, \theta_i$  respectively, so that  $p_d = q_d + r_d$  for all  $d \geq 1$ .

Let  $V$  be a  $G$ -set and  $w : V \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$  a weight function. The weight of a subset  $U \subseteq V$  is defined to be  $w(U) = \sum_{u \in U} w(u)$ . For  $g \in G$  and  $H \leq G$  we denote the weights of the fixed point subsets  $\text{Fix}_V(g)$  and  $\text{Fix}_V(H)$  by  $w(V, g)$  and  $w(V, H)$  respectively. If  $\Omega$  is a transversal for the set of orbits  $V/G$  and  $w$  is constant on each orbit, the *inventory* of  $V$  is  $w(\Omega)$ . Each  $g \in G$  determines a partition  $\pi_g = (n^{m_n} \dots 2^{m_2} 1^{m_1})$  of  $n$ , in which the parts are the lengths of the disjoint cycles, and hence a symmetric function

$$p_g = p_n^{m_n} \dots p_2^{m_2} p_1^{m_1} = w(V, g) \in \Lambda_\ell,$$

the combined weight of all the elements fixed by  $g$ . The Cauchy-Frobenius Lemma states that

$$w(\Omega) = \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{g \in G} p_g.$$

Similarly, each subgroup  $H$  of  $G$  determines a partition  $\pi_H = (\pi_1, \pi_2, \dots, \pi_h) \vdash n$ , in which the parts are the lengths of the orbits, and hence a symmetric function

$$p_H = p_{\pi_1} p_{\pi_2} \dots p_{\pi_h} = w(V, H) \in \Lambda_\ell,$$

the weight of all the elements fixed by  $H$ .

Defining  $\Delta_p \in \mathcal{ACA}(\mathcal{L}_G)$ ,  $H \mapsto p_H$ , we obtain by (1)

$$\check{\tau}_p = \phi^{-1} \Delta_p \phi \in \mathcal{AIA}(\mathcal{P}_G).$$

(The matrix  $M(\check{\tau}_p)$  is the transition matrix between  $\beta$ -operations and  $\lambda$ -operations of degree  $n$  in a  $\beta$ -ring (see [5], Corollary 5.2).)

Let  $V_{[H]}$  be the subset of  $V$  whose elements have stabilizer class  $[H]$  and let  $\Omega_{[H]}$  be a transversal for  $V_{[H]}/G$ . The  $[H]$ -inventories  $w(\Omega_{[H]})$  of  $V$  may be obtained by multiplying the vector whose elements are the values of  $\Delta_p$  by the Burnside matrix ([1], Section 3.3). Since this vector forms the final column of the matrix  $M(\Delta\phi)$ , these inventories are the entries  $\check{\tau}_p([H], [G])$  in the last column of  $M(\check{\tau}_p)$ .

Now let  $X$  be an  $n$ -element  $G$ -set, let  $C = \{c_1, c_2, \dots, c_\ell\}$  be a set of colours and let  $w_C : C \rightarrow \mathcal{A}, c_i \mapsto \xi_i$  be a weight function on the colours. The set  $V = C^X$  of colourings of  $X$  has weight function

$$w : V \rightarrow \mathcal{A}, \chi \mapsto \prod_{x \in X} w_C(\chi(x)).$$

Pólya's fundamental theorem states that the inventory of  $V$  is the cycle index

$$\text{Cyc}(G; p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n) = \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{g \in G} p_g \in \mathcal{A}.$$

### 3 Williamson's example

Given a set  $X = \{1, 2, \dots, 8\}$  of 8 beads on a circular necklace, consider the set  $V_0 = C^X$  of colourings of the beads using a set of colours  $C = A \cup B$ ,  $A = \{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_j\}$ ,  $B = \{b_1, b_2, \dots, b_k\}$ ,  $A \cap B = \emptyset$ . The dihedral group  $D_{16}$  acts as the group of symmetries of the uncoloured necklace and has cycle index, expressed as a polynomial in  $j = |A|$ ,  $k = |B|$ :

$$\text{Cyc}(D_{16}, \{j, k\}) = j^8 + j^7k + 4j^6k^2 + 5j^5k^3 + 8j^4k^4 + 5j^3k^5 + 4j^2k^6 + jk^7 + k^8.$$

There are 30 patterns when  $j = k = 1$ ; 987 patterns when  $j = 2$  and  $k = 1$ ; and 7680 patterns when  $j = k = 2$ .

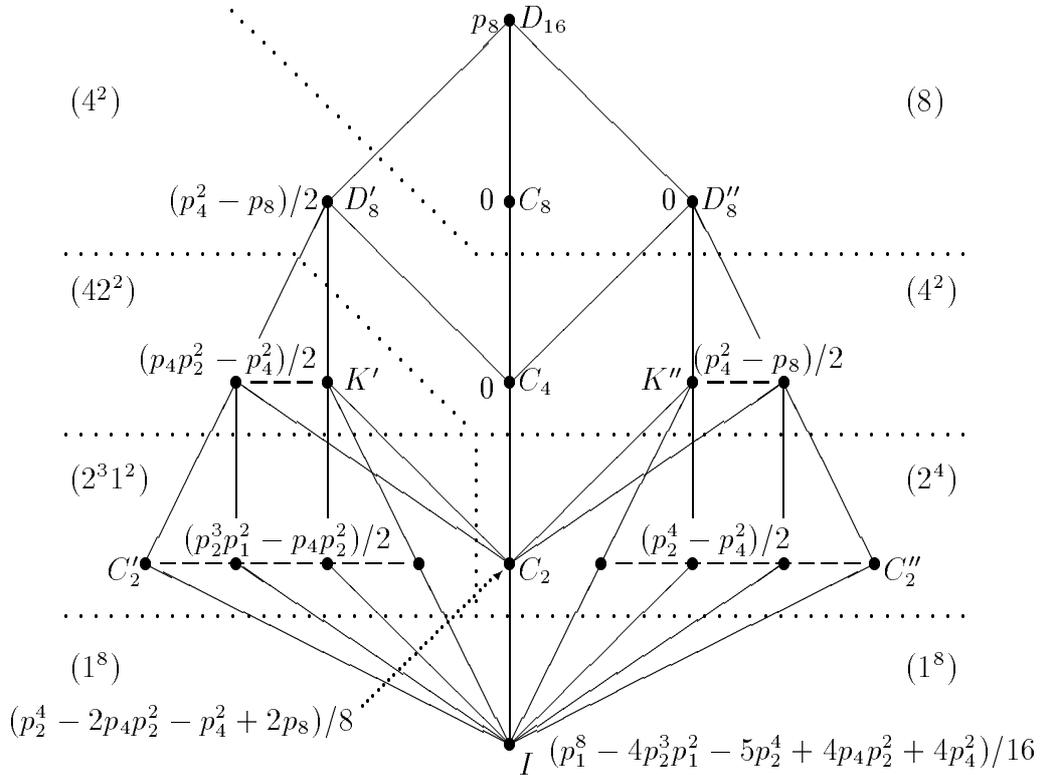


Figure 1: Subgroup Lattice of  $D_{16}$  and values  $\check{\tau}_p([H], [D_{16}])$ .

A Hasse diagram for the subgroup lattice of  $D_{16}$  is shown in Figure 1, where horizontal dashed lines join the subgroups in a conjugacy class  $[H]$ . The class  $[C_2']$ , (resp.  $[C_2'']$ ) contains those reflections whose axis does (resp. does not) pass through a pair of beads. Dotted lines partition the lattice of  $D_{16}$  into subposets in which the subgroups have constant

orbit type  $\pi_H \vdash 8$ . The poset formed by these regions is isomorphic to the subposet  $\{\pi_H | H \leq D_{16}\}$  of the poset of all partitions of 8. Values  $\check{\tau}_p([H], [D_{16}])$  are shown for each conjugacy class  $[H]$ . Note that  $\check{\tau}_p([H], [D_{16}]) = 0$  when the subgroups in  $[H]$  are *not* maximal in the subposet of type  $\pi_H$ .

Summing over all subgroup classes, we obtain the cycle index:

$$\sum_{H \leq D_{16}} \check{\tau}_p([H], [D_{16}]) = \text{Cyc}(D_{16}; p_1, \dots, p_8) = \frac{1}{16}(p_1^8 + 4p_2^3 p_1^2 + 5p_2^4 + 2p_4^2 + 4p_8).$$

When  $\Delta$  is an arbitrary diagonal function, constant on these subposets, the non-zero values of  $\check{\tau}([H], [D_{16}])$  are given in Table 1.

$H$	$\check{\tau}([H], [D_{16}])$
$D_{16}$	$\Delta(D_{16})$
$D'_8$	$(\Delta(D'_8) - \Delta(D_{16}))/2$
$K''$	$(\Delta(K'') - \Delta(D_{16}))/2$
$K'$	$(\Delta(K') - \Delta(D'_8))/2$
$C''_2$	$(\Delta(C''_2) - \Delta(K''))/2$
$C'_2$	$(\Delta(C'_2) - \Delta(K'))/2$
$C_2$	$(\Delta(C_2) - 2\Delta(K') - 2\Delta(K'') + \Delta(D'_8) + 2\Delta(D_{16}))/8$
$I$	$(\Delta(I) - \Delta(C_2) - 4\Delta(C'_2) - 4\Delta(C''_2) + 4\Delta(K') + 4\Delta(K''))/16$

Table 1: Values of  $\check{\tau}$  for arbitrary  $\Delta$ .

Williamson's problem was to determine the number of patterns which do *not* contain an  $a$ -rooted tree, namely a coloured subpattern of the form marked in Figure 2.

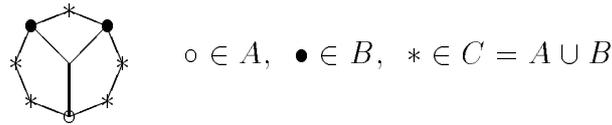


Figure 2: A necklace containing an  $a$ -rooted tree.

In the case  $\ell = 2$ ,  $\Xi = \{\eta, \theta\}$ , rewriting the  $\check{\tau}_p([H], [D_{16}])$  we obtain symmetric functions in  $\eta$  and  $\theta$  as listed in Table 2. The 30 monomials correspond to the 30 colourings of the necklace with the set  $\{a, b\}$ . Just 13 of these have no  $a$ -rooted tree ([6], Figure 4).

Let  $P = \{P_1, P_2, \dots, P_8\}$  be the set of properties such that  $\chi \in V_0$  satisfies  $P_i$  if  $\chi$  contains an  $a$ -rooted tree with bead  $i$  as root. For  $Q \subseteq P$  let

$$V_Q = \{\chi \in V_0 \mid \chi \text{ satisfies } P_i \text{ for all } P_i \in Q\}.$$

(8)	$D_{16}$	$\eta^8 + \theta^8$
(4 <sup>2</sup> )	$D'_8$	$\eta^4\theta^4$
(4 <sup>2</sup> )	$K''$	$\eta^4\theta^4$
(42 <sup>2</sup> )	$K'$	$\eta^6\theta^2 + \eta^2\theta^6$
(2 <sup>4</sup> )	$C''_2$	$2(\eta^6\theta^2 + \eta^2\theta^6) + 2\eta^4\theta^4$
(2 <sup>3</sup> 1 <sup>2</sup> )	$C'_2$	$(\eta^7\theta + \eta\theta^7) + (\eta^6\theta^2 + \eta^2\theta^6) + 3(\eta^5\theta^3 + \eta^3\theta^5) + 2\eta^4\theta^4$
(1 <sup>8</sup> )	$I$	$2(\eta^5\theta^3 + \eta^3\theta^5) + 2\eta^4\theta^4$

Table 2: Non-zero values of  $\check{\tau}_p([H], [D_{16}])$  when  $\ell = 2$  (30 terms).

We represent the elements of  $V_Q$  by colourings having a *marked*  $a$ -rooted tree at each bead  $i$  for which  $P_i \in Q$ . If  $V_f$  is the set of colourings with *no*  $a$ -rooted tree then, using the principle of inclusion-exclusion, we define  $\Delta_f \in \mathcal{ACA}(\mathcal{L}_G)$  by

$$\Delta_f(H) = w(V_f, H) = \sum_{Q \subseteq P} (-1)^{|Q|} w(V_Q, H). \tag{4}$$

If a colouring  $\chi$  contains  $e$   $a$ -rooted trees, then  $\chi$  belongs to  $2^e$  of the subsets  $V_Q$  and, if fixed by  $H$ , contributes  $(1 - 1)^e = 0$  to the sum (4). Only 47 of the 256 subsets  $V_Q$  are non-empty. For example,  $V_{\{P_1, P_4\}} = \emptyset$  since properties  $P_1$  and  $P_4$  require beads 1 and 4 to be coloured with both  $A$  and  $B$ .

The first stage of the solution is to produce a complete set of *marked template patterns*  $T_t$  containing all possible arrangements of one or more  $a$ -rooted trees, modulo the group action. Such templates may be considered as patterns using  $\{a, b, c\}$  as the set of colours: beads in the marked trees are coloured  $a$  (for the root) or  $b$ , the remaining beads are coloured  $c$ . In simple cases the templates can be found by inspection. In general, Williamson's multilinear techniques ([6], Section 2) may be used to construct them.

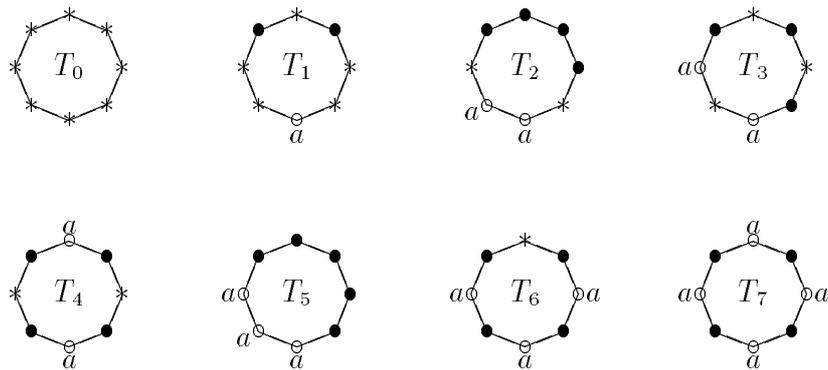


Figure 3: The 8 template patterns  $T_t$ .

The 8 templates for our example are shown in Figure 3, where  $\circ, \bullet, *$  denote vertices

coloured  $a, b, c$  respectively. Since an  $a$ -rooted tree is uniquely determined by the location of its root, we mark each tree by placing an  $a$  next to the root bead. Denoting by  $\nu_t$  the number of  $a$ -rooted trees in  $T_t$ , we have  $\nu_0 = 0, \nu_1 = 1, \nu_2 = \nu_3 = \nu_4 = 2, \nu_5 = \nu_6 = 3$  and  $\nu_7 = 4$ .

The stabilizer classes for these templates are given in Table 3.

Template	$T_0$	$T_1$	$T_2$	$T_3$	$T_4$	$T_5$	$T_6$	$T_7$
Size of orbit	1	8	8	8	4	8	8	2
Stabilizer class	$D_{16}$	$C'_2$	$C''_2$	$C'_2$	$K'$	$C'_2$	$C'_2$	$D'_8$

Table 3: Stabilizers of the templates.

For  $\psi$  a *template colouring* in  $T_t$ , partition  $X$  into subsets  $X_{\psi a}, X_{\psi b}, X_{\psi c}$  of beads coloured  $a, b, c$  respectively. A *marked colouring* of type  $T_t$  is obtained by recolouring the beads in  $X_{\psi a}, X_{\psi b}, X_{\psi c}$  with colours from  $A, B, C$  respectively. If  $V_t$  denotes the set of marked colourings of type  $T_t$  then

$$|V_t| = |T_t| j^{|X_{\psi a}|} k^{|X_{\psi b}|} \ell^{|X_{\psi c}|}.$$

Since these template colourings include exactly the 47 non-empty  $V_Q$ , equation (4) may be rewritten as

$$\Delta_f(H) = \sum_{t=0}^7 (-1)^{\nu_t} w(V_t, H). \tag{5}$$

In our example  $|V_1| = 8jk^2\ell^5$  so when  $j = k = 1$  there are 256 colourings with a single marked  $a$ -rooted tree. These colourings form 30 marked patterns and in Figure 4 we give a transversal for  $V_1/D_{16}$ , where  $\sim$  indicates different markings of the same colouring. (It is a coincidence that  $V_0/D_{16}$  contains 30 patterns and  $V_1/D_{16}$  contains 30 marked patterns.)

Redefine the weight of each colour by

$$w_C : C \rightarrow \mathcal{A}, \quad a_i \mapsto \eta_i \ (1 \leq i \leq j), \quad b_i \mapsto \theta_i \ (1 \leq i \leq k).$$

Let  $\Omega_t$  be a transversal for the patterns  $V_t/D_{16}$ . For each class  $[H]$  we require the  $[H]$ -inventory  $w(\Omega_t)$  as a polynomial in the power sums  $p_d, q_d$  and  $r_d$ . Let  $X/H = \{O_1, \dots, O_h\}$  and let the orbit  $O_i$  contain  $d_i$  beads. Let  $V_\psi$  be the set of marked colourings of type  $T_t$  obtained from  $\psi \in T_t$ . Just as  $p_H$  is a product of power sums, one for each orbit, so the total weight  $w(V_\psi, H)$  of colourings fixed by  $H$  is a product of  $h$  factors. If  $O_i$  contains a bead coloured  $a$  and a bead coloured  $b$  then  $\text{Fix}_{V_\psi}(H)$  is empty and  $w(V_\psi, H) = 0$ . If  $O_i$  contains only vertices in  $X_{\psi c}$  then  $O_i$  contributes a factor  $p_{d_i} = (q_{d_i} + r_{d_i})$ . If  $O_i$  only contains vertices from  $X_{\psi a} \cup X_{\psi c}$  (resp.  $X_{\psi b} \cup X_{\psi c}$ ) then  $O_i$  contributes  $q_{d_i}$  (resp.  $r_{d_i}$ ). We thus obtain  $\Delta_t \in \mathcal{A}IA(\mathcal{P}_G)$  where

$$\Delta_t([H]) = w(V_t, H) = \sum_{\psi \in T_t} w(V_\psi, H) \in \mathcal{A}. \tag{6}$$

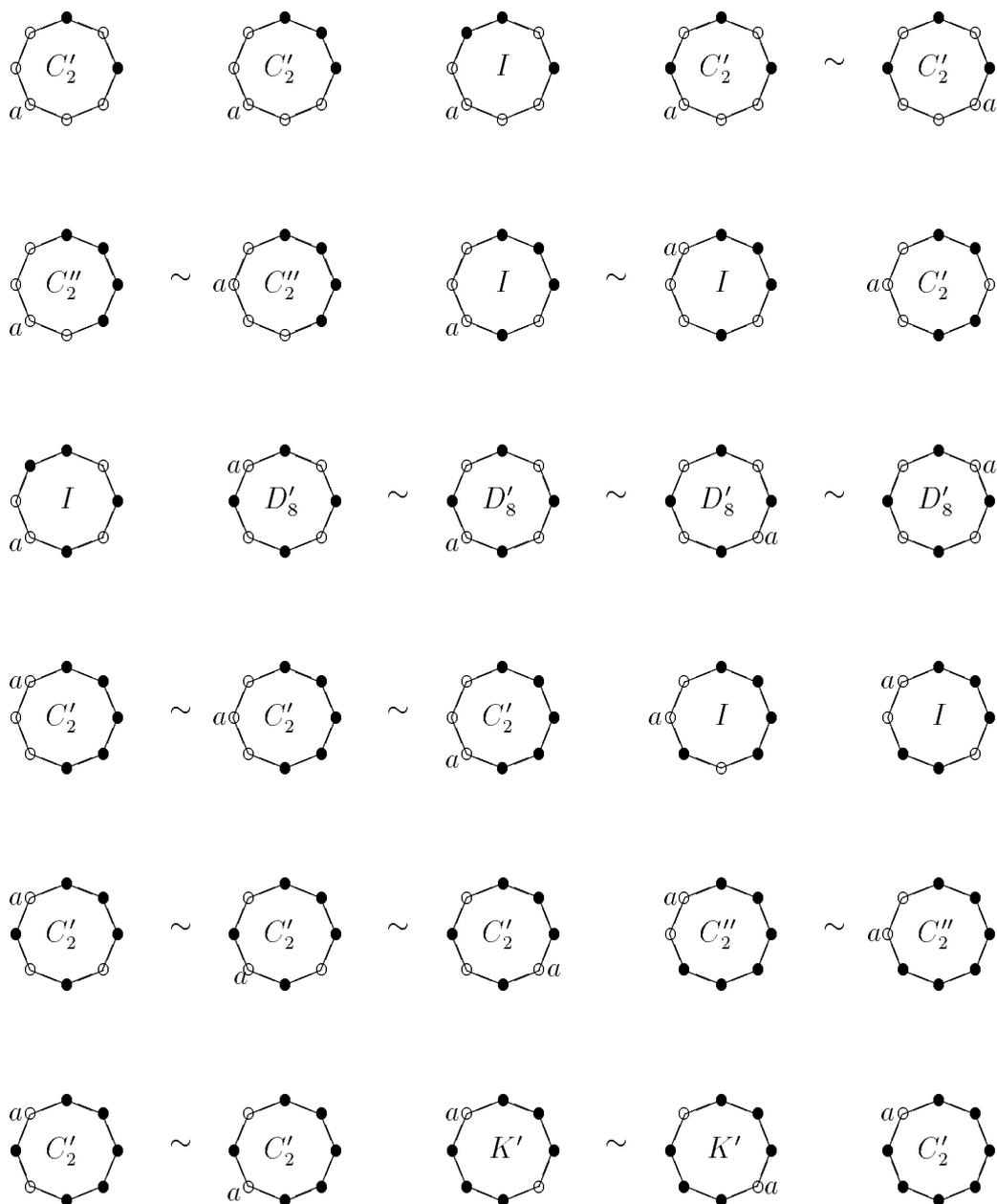


Figure 4: The 30 marked patterns of type  $T_1$  and their stabilizer classes.

Reversing the order of summation in  $\sum_{H' \in [H]} \sum_{\psi \in T_t} w(V_\psi, H')$ , we obtain an alternative formula

$$\Delta_t([H]) = \frac{|T_t|}{|[H]|} \sum_{H' \in [H]} w(V_\psi, H'), \tag{7}$$

which is more convenient when the size of  $[H]$  is small compared with that of  $T_t$ . Since  $\Delta_t$  is a conjugacy function we may define  $\check{\tau}_t = \phi^{-1} \Delta_t \phi$  and so  $\check{\tau}_t([H], [D_{16}])$  is the inventory  $w(\Omega_t)$ .

Equations (4) and (5) define a conjugacy function  $\Delta_f$  where  $\Delta_f(H)$  is the total weight of the colourings which are free of  $a$ -rooted trees. The corresponding  $\check{\tau}_f$  is given by a similar inclusion-exclusion formula:

$$\check{\tau}_f = \phi^{-1} \Delta_f \phi = \phi^{-1} \sum_{t=0}^7 (-1)^{\nu_t} \Delta_t \phi = \sum_{t=0}^7 (-1)^{\nu_t} \phi^{-1} \Delta_t \phi = \sum_{t=0}^7 (-1)^{\nu_t} \check{\tau}_t.$$

and  $w(\Omega_{f,[H]}) = \check{\tau}_f([H], [D_{16}])$  where  $\Omega_f$  is a transversal for patterns with no  $a$ -rooted tree.

$H$	$\Delta_f(H)$
$D_{16}, D_8'', C_8$	$p_8$
$D_8', C_4$	$p_4^2 - 2q_4 r_4$
$K''$	$p_4^2$
$K'$	$p_4 p_2^2 - 2p_2 q_2 r_4 + q_2^2 r_4 - q_4 r_2^2$
$C_2''$	$p_2^4 - 2p_2 q_2 r_2^2$
$C_2'$	$p_2^3 p_1^2 - 2p_2^2 p_1 q_1 r_2 - 2p_2 p_1 q_2 r_2 r_1 + p_2 q_1^2 r_2^2 - p_1^2 q_2 r_2^2 + 2p_1 q_2 q_1 r_2^2$ $+ 2q_2 q_1 r_2^2 r_1 + q_2^2 r_2 r_1^2 - q_2 q_1^2 r_2^2$
$C_2$	$p_2^4 - 4p_2 q_2 r_2^2 + 2q_2^2 r_2^2$
$I$	$p_1^8 - 8p_1^5 q_1 r_1^2 + 12p_1^2 q_1^2 r_1^4 + 8p_1^3 q_1^2 r_1^3 - 8p_1 q_1^3 r_1^4 - 8q_1^3 r_1^5 + 2q_1^4 r_1^4$

Table 4: Weights of colourings with no  $a$ -rooted tree.

The values of  $\Delta_f$  are given in Table 4 and may be substituted in Table 1 to give the  $[H]$ -inventories for  $\Omega_f$ . The first four of these contain relatively few terms:

$$\begin{aligned} \check{\tau}_f([D_{16}], [D_{16}]) &= p_8 = \Sigma \eta_1^8 + \Sigma \theta_1^8 \\ \check{\tau}_f([D_8'], [D_{16}]) &= (p_4^2 - p_8)/2 - q_4 r_4 = \Sigma \eta_1^4 \eta_2^4 + \Sigma \theta_1^4 \theta_2^4 \\ \check{\tau}_f([K''], [D_{16}]) &= (p_4^2 - p_8)/2 = \Sigma \eta_1^4 \eta_2^4 + \Sigma \eta_1^4 \theta_1^4 + \Sigma \theta_1^4 \theta_2^4 \\ \check{\tau}_f([K'], [D_{16}]) &= q_4(q_2^2 - q_4)/2 + q_4 q_2 r_2 + r_4(r_2^2 - r_4)/2 \\ &= \Sigma \eta_1^6 \eta_2^2 + \Sigma \eta_1^4 \eta_2^2 \eta_3^2 + \Sigma \eta_1^6 \theta_1^2 + \Sigma \eta_1^4 \eta_2^2 \theta_1^2 + \Sigma \theta_1^6 \theta_2^2 + \Sigma \theta_1^4 \theta_2^2 \theta_3^2 \end{aligned}$$

## 4 The trigonal dodecahedron

In [2] and [3] Lloyd has applied Redfield/Pólya methods to the enumeration of chemical isomers. In this situation the  $G$ -set  $X = \{1, \dots, 8\}$  is a molecule whose elements are termed *sites*, and these sites are 'coloured' with *ligands* which are groupings of one or more atoms.

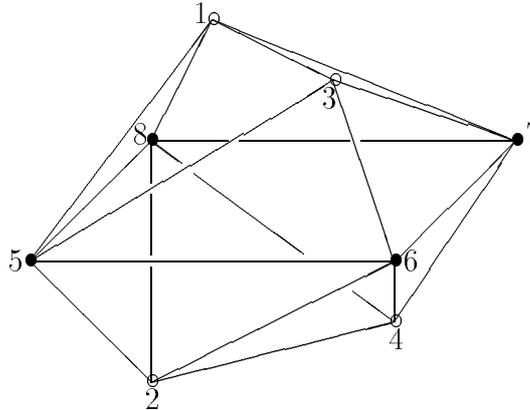


Figure 5: The trigonal dodecahedron.

There are chemical compounds which have eight ligands situated at the vertices of a trigonal dodecahedron (see Figure 5). The rotation group of the polyhedron contains three half-turns about mutually perpendicular axes, and the full rotation group is isomorphic to the dihedral group  $D_8$  with elements

$$\begin{aligned} &(), \quad (13)(24)(57)(68), \quad (12)(34)(58)(67), \quad (14)(23)(56)(78), \\ &(13)(68), \quad (24)(57), \quad (1432)(5876), \quad (1234)(5678). \end{aligned}$$

Since four of the sites are 4-valent and the remainder 5-valent, we colour  $\{1, 2, 3, 4\}$  with a set of ligands  $A$  and  $\{5, 6, 7, 8\}$  with a second set  $B$ . The appropriate cycle index is therefore

$$\text{Cyc}(D_8, \{q_i, r_i \mid 1 \leq i \leq 4\}) = \frac{1}{8}(q_1^4 r_1^4 + 2q_2 q_1^2 r_2 r_1^2 + 3q_2^2 r_2^2 + 2q_4 r_4).$$

We suppose, as before, that  $|A| = j$ ,  $|B| = k$ , and consider the enumeration of *non-adjacent colourings*  $\chi$ : colourings such that no two adjacent sites contain the same ligand. In this example the set of properties is  $P = \{P_{13}, P_{24}, P_{56}, P_{67}, P_{78}, P_{58}\}$  where  $\chi$  satisfies  $P_{ih}$  if sites  $i$  and  $h$  contain the same ligand. First we restrict to the subset  $P_A = \{P_{13}, P_{24}\}$ , and call  $\chi$  *A-adjacent* if  $\chi(1) = \chi(3)$  or  $\chi(2) = \chi(4)$ . Then we apply the restriction to the square  $\{5, 6, 7, 8\}$ , using  $P_B = \{P_{56}, P_{67}, P_{78}, P_{58}\}$ .

The only adjacent pairs of sites coloured with  $A$  are  $\{1, 3\}$  and  $\{2, 4\}$ . Fix  $a_i \in A$  and partition  $A$  as  $\{a_i\} \cup \bar{A}_i$ . There are only four types of marked template pattern, colouring  $X$  with  $\{a_i, a_h, a, b\}$ , as shown in Figure 6.

The inclusion-exclusion formula for the weight of the set  $A_f$  of colourings which are not  $A$ -adjacent is

$$\Delta_{A_f} = \Delta_0 - \sum_{i=1}^j \Delta_{1i} + \sum_{i=1}^j \Delta_{2i} + \sum_{i \neq h} \Delta_{2ih}.$$

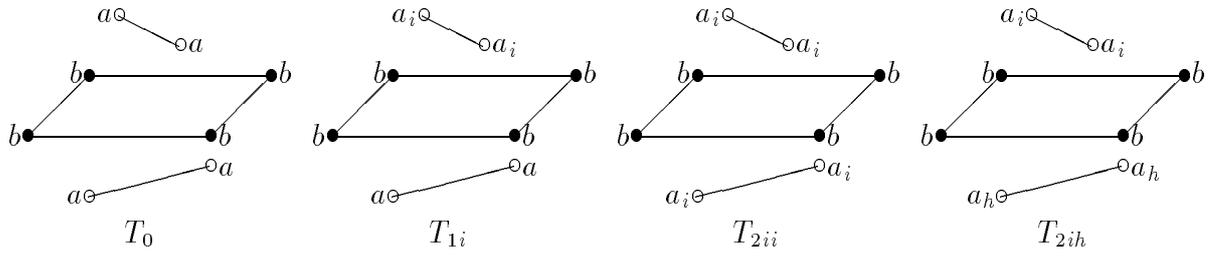


Figure 6: *A*-adjacent templates.

The individual  $w(V_i, H)$  need not be symmetric functions, but become so under summation, as in

$$\sum_{i=1}^j w(V_{2ih}, K) = \sum_{i \neq h} \eta_i^2 \eta_h^2 r_2^2 = \frac{1}{2}(q_2^2 - q_4)r_2^2.$$

The only non-zero weights and  $[H]$ -enumerators are shown in Table 5.

$[H]$	$\Delta_{A_f}(H)$	$\tilde{\tau}_{A_f}([H], [D_{16}])$
$C_2''$	$(q_2^2 - q_4)r_2^2$	$(q_2^2 - q_4)r_2^2/2$
$I$	$(q_1^2 - q_2)^2 r_1^4$	$((q_1^2 - q_2)^2 r_1^4 - 2(q_2^2 - q_4)r_2^2)/8$

Table 5: Enumerators of non-*A*-adjacent patterns.

Now consider colourings in which adjacent sites among  $\{5, 6, 7, 8\}$  contain different ligands but with no restriction on  $\{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ . The marked templates are shown in Figure 7.

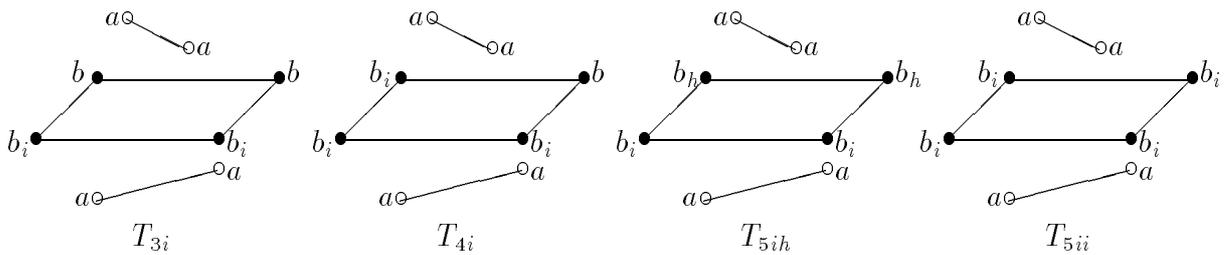


Figure 7: *B*-adjacent templates.

Because each site belongs to two adjacent pairs it is not the case, as in Williamson's example, that distinct  $Q, Q' \subseteq P$  always give rise to different marked templates. In fact subsets

$$\begin{aligned} & \{P_{56}, P_{78}\}, \{P_{67}, P_{58}\}, \\ & \{P_{56}, P_{67}, P_{78}\}, \{P_{56}, P_{67}, P_{58}\}, \{P_{56}, P_{78}, P_{58}\}, \{P_{67}, P_{78}, P_{58}\}, \\ & \{P_{56}, P_{67}, P_{78}, P_{58}\} \end{aligned}$$

all give rise to marked templates  $T_{5ii}$ . Thus, when converting the general inclusion-exclusion formula (4) to a formula involving the  $\Delta_t$ , the coefficient of  $\Delta_{5ii}$  is  $2 - 4 + 1 = -1$ . The full formula is:

$$\Delta_{B_f} = \Delta_0 - \sum_{i=1}^k \Delta_{3i} + \sum_{i=1}^k \Delta_{4i} + \sum_{i \neq h} \Delta_{5ih} - \sum_{i=1}^k \Delta_{5ii}.$$

The only non-zero weights are

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta_{B_f}(K) &= \Delta_{B_f}(C_2) = q_2^2(r_2^2 - r_4), \\ \Delta_{B_f}(C_2''') &= q_2q_1^2(r_2r_1^2 - 2r_3r_1 + r_4), \\ \Delta_{B_f}(I) &= q_1^4(r_1^4 - 4r_2r_1^2 + 4r_3r_1 + 2r_2^2 - 3r_4), \end{aligned}$$

where the subgroups in class  $[C_2''']$  are generated by the reflections in the planes 1, 3, 6, 8 and 2, 4, 5, 7 and  $K$  is their join. The non-zero  $[H]$ -enumerators for  $B$ -adjacent free patterns are

$$\begin{aligned} \check{\tau}_{B_f}([K], [D_8]) &= \Delta_{B_f}(K)/2, \\ \check{\tau}_{B_f}([C_2'''], [D_8]) &= (\Delta_{B_f}(C_2''') - \Delta_{B_f}(K))/2, \\ \check{\tau}_{B_f}([I], [D_8]) &= (\Delta_{B_f}(I) - 2\Delta_{B_f}(C_2''') + \Delta_{B_f}(K))/8. \end{aligned}$$

In order to deal with non-adjacent colourings, we should need to consider all possible adjacencies, leading to a total of 20 marked templates. We omit the details.

## 5 The general algorithm

The following algorithm applies to an enumeration problem interpreted as the counting of patterns of valid colourings having a chosen stabilizer class  $[H]$  in a group  $G$ . Colourings are invalid if they satisfy one or more of a set  $P = \{P_1, P_2, \dots, P_\lambda\}$  of forbidden properties. These properties may be expressed in terms of a partition  $/A_1/A_2/\dots/A_\kappa/$  of a set of colours  $C$ . If  $A_i = \{a_{i1}, a_{i2}, \dots, a_{ij_i}\}$  and  $\sum_{i=1}^\kappa j_i = \ell$ , take  $\Xi$  to be a set of  $\ell$  indeterminates  $\{\eta_{ih} \mid 1 \leq i \leq \kappa, 1 \leq h \leq j_i\}$  and let  $w_c : C \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$ ,  $a_{ih} \mapsto \eta_{ih}$ , be the corresponding weight function. Denote by  $q_{id}$  the power sum  $\sum_{h=1}^{j_i} \eta_{ih}^d$  and by  $V_f$  the set of valid colourings.

### Algorithm 5.1

1. Use Williamson's multilinear techniques to obtain a complete set of marked template patterns  $T_t$  coloured with a set of colours  $\{c_1, c_2, \dots, c_\kappa\}$ .
2. For each template  $T_t$  and for each  $[H] \leq [K] \leq [G]$  determine, using formulae (6) and (7), the weights  $\Delta_t([K]) = w(V_t, K)$  as polynomials in the  $q_{id}$ .

3. Determine the total weight  $\Delta_f([K])$  of colourings in  $V_f$  fixed by  $K$  by rewriting the inclusion-exclusion formula (4) for the  $\lambda$  properties as a signed sum of the  $\Delta_t([K])$ .
4. Calculate values of  $\alpha_f = \mu\Delta_f\zeta$  and  $\check{\tau}_f = \phi^{-1}\Delta_f\phi$  using equations (2) and (3), working down from  $[G]$  over the interval  $[ [H], [G] ]$  of  $\mathcal{P}_G$ .

**Theorem 5.2** *The polynomial  $\check{\tau}_f([H], [G])$  is the  $[H]$ -inventory for patterns of valid colourings. When this polynomial is expressed as a polynomial in the indeterminates  $\eta_{ih}$ , the coefficient of  $\prod \eta_{ih}^{d_{ih}}$  is the number of patterns in which colour  $a_{ih}$  is used  $d_{ih}$  times.*

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