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# Classification of P-oligomorphic permutation groups Conjectures of Cameron and Macpherson

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Laboratoire de Recherche en Informatique Université Paris-Sud (Orsay)

SLC, April 17h of 2019

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Profile of a permutation group, a finite example

• Permutation group G

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## Profile of a permutation group, a finite example

• Permutation group  $G \rightarrow \text{induced action on } subsets$ 

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- Permutation group  $G \rightarrow$  induced action on *subsets*
- Orbit of *n*-subsets = orbit of *degree n*

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Profile of G

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 $\varphi_G(n) = \# \text{ orbits of } degree \ n$ 

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 orbits of degree  $n$ 

#### Example

n	$\varphi_G$	n	$\varphi_G$
0		5	
1		6	
2		7	
3		8	
4		> 8	



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## Series of the profile

 $P_{D_8}(z) = 1 + 1z + 3z^2 + 3z^3 + 6z^4 + 3z^5 + 3z^6 + 1z^7 + 1z^8$ 

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#### Hypothesis

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G is P-oligomorphic:  $\varphi_G$  is bounded by a polynomial in n

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#### Example

$$\mathcal{H}_{\mathfrak{S}_{\infty}}(z) = 1 + z + z^2 + \cdots = \frac{1}{1-z}$$

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Conjecture 1 - Cameron, 70's G *P*-oligomorphic  $\Rightarrow \mathcal{H}_G(z) = \frac{N(z)}{\prod_i (1-z^{d_i})}$  with  $N(z) \in \mathbb{Z}[z]$ 

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### Orbit algebra

#### Orbit algebra (Cameron, 80's) Structure of graded algebra $\mathcal{A}_G = \bigoplus_n \mathcal{A}_n$ on the orbits

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Structure of graded algebra  $\mathcal{A}_G = \bigoplus_n \mathcal{A}_n$  on the orbits

• combinatorial description of the product

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• 
$$\dim(\mathcal{A}_n) = \varphi_G(n)$$

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- dim $(\mathcal{A}_n) = \varphi_G(n)$ , so  $\mathcal{H}_G(z) = \sum_n \dim(\mathcal{A}_n) z^n$
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# Orbit algebra

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Conjecture 2 (stronger) - Macpherson, 85 G P-oligomorphic  $\Rightarrow \mathcal{A}_G$  is finitely generated

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### Block systems

#### Block system

• Equivalence relation preserved by the group

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- Blocks = the classes

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Block systems of  $C_4$ 



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The complete primitive P-oligomorphic groups



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# The complete primitive P-oligomorphic groups

Macpherson:

G P-oligomorphic with no non trivial blocks  $\Rightarrow \varphi_G(n) = 1$ 



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The complete primitive *P*-oligomorphic groups

Macpherson: *G P*-oligomorphic with no non trivial blocks  $\Rightarrow \varphi_G(n) = 1$ 

 $\mathfrak{S}_{\infty}$ 

Theorem (Classification, Cameron) Only 5 complete groups such that  $\varphi_G(n) = 1 \quad \forall n$  
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The complete primitive *P*-oligomorphic groups Macpherson: *G P*-oligomorphic with no non trivial blocks  $\Rightarrow \varphi_G(n) = 1$ 

> Theorem (Classification, Cameron) Only 5 complete groups such that  $\varphi_G(n) = 1 \quad \forall n$

- $\operatorname{Aut}({\mathbb Q})$  : automorphisms of the rational chain
- $\operatorname{Rev}(\mathbb{Q})$  : generated by  $\operatorname{Aut}(\mathbb{Q})$  and one reflection
- $\operatorname{Aut}(\mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z})$ , preserving the circular order
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- $\mathfrak{S}_{\infty}$  : the symmetric group

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The complete primitive *P*-oligomorphic groups Macpherson:

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- $\operatorname{Rev}(\mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z})$ : generated by  $\operatorname{Aut}(\mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z})$  and a reflection
- $\mathfrak{S}_{\infty}$ : the symmetric group

Well known, nice groups (called *highly homogeneous*). In particular, their orbit algebra is finitely generated.



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## An infinite example: $\mathfrak{S}_{\infty} \wr \mathfrak{S}_3$

 $\mathfrak{S}_{\infty}\wr\mathfrak{S}_{3}$ 



Wreath product

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An infinite example:  $\mathfrak{S}_{\infty} \wr \mathfrak{S}_3$ 

Wreath product

$$\mathfrak{S}_{\infty}\wr\mathfrak{S}_3\ \simeq\ \mathfrak{S}_{\infty}^3\rtimes\mathfrak{S}_3$$



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An infinite example:  $\mathfrak{S}_{\infty} \wr \mathfrak{S}_3$ 

 $\mathfrak{S}_3$  $\mathfrak{S}_{\infty}$  $\mathfrak{S}_{\infty}$  $\mathfrak{S}_\infty$ 

Wreath product

$$\mathfrak{S}_{\infty}\wr\mathfrak{S}_{3}\ \simeq\ \mathfrak{S}_{\infty}^{3}\rtimes\mathfrak{S}_{3}$$

Subset of shape  $2, 3, 2 \rightarrow x_1^2 x_2^3 x_3^2$ 

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 $\leftrightarrow$  symmetric polynomials in  $x_1, x_2, x_3$ 

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$$\mathcal{A}_{\mathfrak{S}_{\infty}\wr\mathfrak{S}_{3}} \simeq \operatorname{Sym}_{3}[X] = \mathbb{Q}[X]^{\mathfrak{S}_{3}}$$



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 $\mathcal{A}_{\mathfrak{S}_{\infty} \mathfrak{S}_3} \simeq \operatorname{Sym}_3[X] = \mathbb{Q}[X]^{\mathfrak{S}_3}$ 

One can obtain functions counting integer partitions, combinations, *P*-partitions (with optional length and/or hight restrictions) as profiles of wreath products...



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### Lower bound



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#### Lower bound



#### $\implies G \leq \mathfrak{S}_M \wr \mathfrak{S}_N$

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### Lower bound



 $\implies G \leq \mathfrak{S}_M \wr \mathfrak{S}_N$ 

Two cases if G is P-oligomorphic :

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 $\implies G \leq \mathfrak{S}_M \wr \mathfrak{S}_N$ 

Two cases if G is P-oligomorphic :

•  $M < \infty$ 

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### Lower bound



 $\implies G \leq \mathfrak{S}_M \wr \mathfrak{S}_N$ 

Two cases if G is  $P\mbox{-oligomorphic}$  :

- $M < \infty$
- $N < \infty$

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### Lower bound



 $\implies G \leq \mathfrak{S}_M \wr \mathfrak{S}_N$ 

Two cases if G is P-oligomorphic :

- $M < \infty$   $\longrightarrow \varphi_G(n) \ge O(n^{M-1})$
- $N < \infty$

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### Lower bound



 $\implies G \leq \mathfrak{S}_M \wr \mathfrak{S}_N$ 

Two cases if G is P-oligomorphic :

- $M < \infty$   $\longrightarrow \varphi_G(n) \ge O(n^{M-1})$
- $N < \infty$   $\longrightarrow \varphi_G(n) \ge O(n^{N-1})$

 $\frac{\text{Profile, conjectures}}{\text{coo}} \xrightarrow{\text{Nested block system}}_{\text{coo}} \xrightarrow{\text{One superblock}}_{\text{coo}} \xrightarrow{\text{Classification}}_{\text{cooo}}$  Lower bound  $M \oint () () () () () () () \dots$   $\implies G < \mathfrak{S}_M \wr \mathfrak{S}_N$ 

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Two cases if G is P-oligomorphic:

- $M < \infty$   $\longrightarrow \varphi_G(n) \ge O(n^{M-1})$
- $N < \infty$   $\longrightarrow \varphi_G(n) \ge O(n^{N-1})$

Better have big finite blocks and/or "small" infinite ones...

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## Lattices of block systems

Lattice of partitions  $\rightarrow$  structure of *lattice* on block systems

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## Lattices of block systems

Lattice of partitions  $\rightarrow$  structure of *lattice* on block systems



Non trivial fact

- {Systems with  $< \infty$  blocks only} = sublattice with maximum
- {Systems with  $\infty$  blocks only} = sublattice with minimum
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## Lattices of block systems

Lattice of partitions  $\rightarrow$  structure of *lattice* on block systems



Non trivial fact

- {Systems with  $< \infty$  blocks only} = sublattice with maximum
- {Systems with  $\infty$  blocks only} = sublattice with minimum

Remark. If G is P-oligomorphic, both of them are actually finite!

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#### The nested block system

#### Idea

•	•		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
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Nested block system 00000

One superblock oo Classification 0000 Bonus

#### The nested block system

#### Idea

1. Take the *maximal* system of finite blocks

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Nested block system

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Nested block system

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Action on the maximal finite blocks...

Nested block system

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Nested block system

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# The nested block system

#### Idea

- 1. Take the maximal system of finite blocks
- 2. Take the minimal system of infinite blocks of the action of G on the maximal finite blocks



Nested block system

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Nested block system

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One superblock  $\bullet_{\bigcirc}$ 

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## One superblock: examples

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#### One superblock: examples



 $G_{|B_0} = H_0$ 

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One superblock  $\bullet_{\bigcirc}$ 

Classificatio

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## One superblock: examples



 $G_{|B_0} = H_0 , \quad \operatorname{Fix}(B_0)$ 

Nested block system 000000 One superblock  $\bullet_{\bigcirc}$ 

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### One superblock: examples



 $G_{|B_0} = H_0$ ,  $\operatorname{Fix}(B_0)_{|B_1} = H_1$ 

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One superblock  $\bullet$   $\circ$ 

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 $H_0$ ,  $H_1$ 

One superblock •0

## One superblock: examples



 $H_0$ ,  $H_1$ ,  $H_2$ 

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One superblock  $\bullet_{\bigcirc}$ 

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## One superblock: examples



 $H_0 \ , \ H_1 \ , \ H_2 \ , \ H_3$ 

Nested block system

One superblock  $\bullet_{\bigcirc}$ 

Classificatio

Bonus

### One superblock: examples



 $H_0 , H_1 , H_2 , H_3 , H_4$ 

Nested block system

One superblock  $\bullet_{\bigcirc}$ 

Classificatio

Bonus

### One superblock: examples



 $H_0$ ,  $H_1$ ,  $H_2$ ,  $H_3$ ,  $H_4$ ,  $H_5$ 

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Classificatio 0000 Bonus



Nested block system

One superblock  $\bullet_{\bigcirc}$ 

Classificatio 0000 Bonus



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One superblock  $\bullet$ 

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- " $H_0 \times \mathfrak{S}_{\infty}$ "  $\rightarrow H_0$ , Id , Id , Id , Id , Id ...
- < " $H_0 \times \mathfrak{S}_{\infty}$ ",  $H \wr \mathfrak{S}_{\infty} >$

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One superblock  $\bullet$ 

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## One superblock: examples



 $H_0 \triangleright H$  w.l.o.g

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Classificatio 0000 Bonus

## One superblock: examples



Notation:  $[H_0, H_\infty]$ 

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Classification 0000 Bonus

## One superblock: classification

• The tower determines G (uses the *subdirect product*)

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- The tower determines G (uses the *subdirect product*)
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Nested block system 000000 Bonus

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Nested block system 000000 Bonus

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Nested block system 000000 Bonus

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Classification

One superblock  $\Rightarrow$   $G = [H_0, H_\infty]$ 

Nested block system 000000 Bonus

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 $\mathbb{Q}[(X_{orb})_{orb}]$  , where orb runs through the orbits of H

Nested block system 000000 Bonus

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Nested block system 000000 Bonus

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In particular, both conjectures hold.

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General case: minimal subgroup of finite index



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Bonus

# General case: minimal subgroup of finite index Normal subgroup K of G



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Bonus

#### General case: minimal subgroup of finite index Normal subgroup K of G

• that fixes the kernel



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One superblock 00 Classification  $\bullet 000$ 

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One superblock 00 Classification

Bonus

# General case: minimal subgroup of finite index $K \in \mathcal{C}$

- that fixes the kernel
- that stabilizes the superblocks



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One superblock 00 Classification  $\bullet 000$ 

Bonus

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Profile,	conjectures

# General case: minimal subgroup of finite index

#### Normal subgroup K of ${\cal G}$

- that fixes the kernel
- that stabilizes the superblocks
- of restrictions wreath products onto the superblocks



Profile,	conjectures

Bonus

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Profile,	conjectures

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- that stabilizes the superblocks
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- in which Rev(...) are reduced down to Aut(...)



Profile,	conjectures	Nest

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- that stabilizes the superblocks
- of restrictions wreath products onto the superblocks
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 $\operatorname{Rev}(\mathbb{Q})$ 

Profile,	conjectures	Nest

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- that stabilizes the superblocks
- of restrictions wreath products onto the superblocks
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 $\operatorname{Aut}(\mathbb{Q})$ 

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#### Shape of the orbit algebra $\mathcal{A}_G$

• In K, totally independent superblocks (and kernel)

Nested block system 000000 Bonus

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Nested block system 000000 Bonus

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Nested block system 000000 Bonus

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Nested block system

Bonus

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Nested block system 000000 Bonus

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Nested block system

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Nested block system

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Nested block system 000000 Bonus

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Which end the proof of the conjectures!

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Classification 0000

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# Classification of $P\mbox{-oligomorphic groups}$

 $G_0$  a finite permutation group



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One superblock 00 Classification 0000

Bonus

# Classification of *P*-oligomorphic groups $G_0$ a finite permutation group, $\mathcal{B}_0$ a block system.



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## Classification of P-oligomorphic groups

#### $G_0$ a finite permutation group, $\mathcal{B}_0$ a block system.

For each orbit of blocks



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## Classification of P-oligomorphic groups

 $G_0$  a finite permutation group,  $\mathcal{B}_0$  a block system.

For each orbit of blocks, choose

1. One group of profile 1



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Bonus

## Classification of P-oligomorphic groups

 $G_0$  a finite permutation group,  $\mathcal{B}_0$  a block system.

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  - Has to be  $\mathfrak{S}_{\infty}$  if the blocks are singletons



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Bonus

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2. One normal subgroup H of  $H_0 = G_{0|B}$  for B in the orbit



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#### Thank you for your attention !

#### Context

- G permutation group of a countably infinite set E
- Profile  $\varphi_G$ : counts the orbits of finite subsets of E
- Hypothesis:  $\varphi_G(n)$  bounded by a polynomial
- Conjecture (Cameron): rational form of the generating series
- Conjecture (Macpherson): finite generation of the orbit algebra

#### Results

- Both conjectures hold !
- Classification of P-oligomorphic permutation groups
- The orbit algebra is an algebra of invariants (up to some idempotents)



The tower determines the group (1): "straight  $\mathfrak{S}_{\infty}$ "

G contains a set of "straight" swaps of blocks



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#### Subdirect product

#### Subdirect product of $G_1$ and $G_2$

- Formalizes the synchronization between  $G_1$  and  $G_2$
- Subgroup of  $G_1 \times G_2$  (with canonical projections  $G_1$  and  $G_2$ )
- $E = E_1 \sqcup E_2$  stable  $\Rightarrow G$  subdirect product of  $G_{|E_1}$  and  $G_{|E_2}$

#### Synchronization in a subdirect product

Let  $N_1 = \operatorname{Fix}_G(E_2)$  and  $N_2 = \operatorname{Fix}_G(E_1)$ .

$$\frac{G_1}{N_1} \simeq \frac{G}{N_1 \times N_2} \simeq \frac{G_2}{N_2}$$

A subdirect product with explicit  $N_i$ 's is explicit.

Remark.  $N_1$  and  $N_2$  are *normal* in  $G_1$  and  $G_2$ , so the possibilities of synchronization of a group is linked to its normal subgroups.



#### The tower determines the group (2): $\operatorname{Stab}_G(\operatorname{blocks})$

 $\operatorname{Stab}_G(\operatorname{blocks}) = \operatorname{explicit}$  subdirect product of the  $H_i$ 



 $G \simeq \operatorname{Stab}_G(\operatorname{blocks}) \rtimes "\operatorname{straight} \mathfrak{S}_{\infty}" \to \operatorname{Ok}$ 

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Example of a product in a finite case: back to  $\mathcal{C}_5$ 



= 0

Example of a product in a finite case: back to  $C_5$ 



= 0 + 0









Example of a product in a finite case: back to  $C_5$ 



+

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In the end:

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Non trivial fact

Product well defined (and graded) on the space of orbits.

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Non trivial fact

Product well defined (and graded) on the space of orbits.

 $\longrightarrow$  The orbit algebra of a permutation group

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#### Example : $G = \mathfrak{S}_{\infty} \wr \mathfrak{S}_{\infty}$

$$\varphi_G(n) = ?$$



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#### Example : $G = \mathfrak{S}_{\infty} \wr \mathfrak{S}_{\infty}$

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An orbit of degree  $n\longleftrightarrow$  a partition of n



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#### Example : $G = \mathfrak{S}_{\infty} \wr \mathfrak{S}_{\infty}$

 $\varphi_G(n) = p(n)$ An orbit of degree  $n \longleftrightarrow$  a partition of n



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#### Examples of orbit algebras (1)

Example 1 If  $G = \mathfrak{S}_{\infty}$ ,  $\varphi_G(n) = 1$  for all n, and  $\mathbb{Q}\mathcal{A}(G) = \mathbb{K}[x]$ .

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#### Examples of orbit algebras (1)

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Example 2

 $G = \mathfrak{S}_{\infty} \wr \mathfrak{S}_3$ , recall that  $\varphi_G(n) = p_3(n)$ .

Profile,	conjectures
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#### Examples of orbit algebras (1)

Example 1 If  $G = \mathfrak{S}_{\infty}$ ,  $\varphi_G(n) = 1$  for all n, and  $\mathbb{Q}\mathcal{A}(G) = \mathbb{K}[x]$ . Example 2  $G = \mathfrak{S}_{\infty} \wr \mathfrak{S}_3$ , recall that  $\varphi_G(n) = p_3(n)$ .  $A_n$  = homogeneous symmetric polynomials of degree n in  $x_1, x_2, x_3$ 

$$\longrightarrow \mathbb{Q}\mathcal{A}(\mathfrak{S}_{\infty}\wr\mathfrak{S}_{3}) = \mathbb{K}[x_{1}, x_{2}, x_{3}]^{\mathfrak{S}_{3}}$$

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### Examples of orbit algebras (2)

More generally, for H subgroup of  $\mathfrak{S}_m$  :

•  $G = \mathfrak{S}_{\infty} \wr H$ :  $\mathbb{Q}\mathcal{A}(G) = \mathbb{K}[x_1, \dots, x_m]^H$ , the algebra of invariants of H

 $\mathbb{Q}\mathcal{A}(G)$  is finitely generated by Hilbert's theorem.



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•  $G = H \wr \mathfrak{S}_{\infty}$ :  $\mathbb{Q}\mathcal{A}(G)$  = the free algebra generated by the age of H 
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#### Example 3

 $C_3 \times \mathfrak{S}_{\infty}$  acting on blocks of size 3

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#### Example 3



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### Example 3

 $C_3\times \mathfrak{S}_\infty$  acting on blocks of size 3

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### Example 3

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### Example 3

 $C_3\times \mathfrak{S}_\infty$  acting on blocks of size 3

$$\begin{array}{c} \mathrm{O}(\begin{array}{c} x \\ & \\ \end{array}) \\ \mathrm{O}(\begin{array}{c} x \\ & \\ \\ \end{array}) \end{array}$$

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### Example 3

 $C_3\times \mathfrak{S}_\infty$  acting on blocks of size 3

 $G' = C_3 \ acting \ on \ (non \ empty) \ subsets$  $\mathbb{K}[x]^{G'} \longleftrightarrow$  Orbit algebra of  $C_3 \times \mathfrak{S}_{\infty}$ ?

 $\mathcal{O}(\ x \underset{\bigotimes}{\bullet}).\mathcal{O}(\ x \underset{\bigotimes}{\bullet})$ 

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## Example 3

 $C_3\times \mathfrak{S}_\infty$  acting on blocks of size 3

$$\mathcal{O}(\begin{array}{c} x \\ \underset{\otimes}{\bullet} \right) . \mathcal{O}(\begin{array}{c} x \\ \underset{\otimes}{\bullet} \right) = \begin{array}{c} \mathcal{O}(\begin{array}{c} x \\ \underset{\otimes}{\bullet} x \\ \underset{\otimes}{\bullet} \end{array})$$

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## Example 3

$$G' = C_3 \ acting \ on \ (non \ empty) \ subsets$$
  
 $\mathbb{K}[x]^{G'} \longleftrightarrow ext{Orbit algebra of } C_3 \times \mathfrak{S}_{\infty} \ ?$ 

$$O(x_{0}) O(x_{0}) = O(x_{0}x_{0}) + O(x_{0}x_{0})$$

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$$O(x_{\bigcirc}) O(x_{\bigcirc}) = O(x_{\bigcirc} x_{\bigcirc}) + O(x_{\bigcirc} x_{\bigcirc}) + O(x_{\bigcirc} x_{\bigcirc})$$

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 $\mathbb{K}[x]^{G'} \longleftrightarrow \text{Orbit algebra of } C_3 \times \mathfrak{S}_{\infty}$ ?

$$O(x_{0}) \cdot O(x_{0}) = O(x_{0}x_{0}) + O(x_{0}x_{0}) + O(x_{0}x_{0})$$
$$O(x_{0}) \cdot O(x_{0})$$

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 $\mathbb{K}[x]^{G'} \longleftrightarrow \text{Orbit algebra of } C_3 \times \mathfrak{S}_{\infty}$ ?

$$O(x_{0}) \cdot O(x_{0}) = O(x_{0} \cdot x_{0}) + O(x_{0} \cdot x_{0}) + O(x_{0} \cdot x_{0})$$
$$O(x_{0}) \cdot O(x_{0}) = O(x_{0} \cdot x_{0})$$

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The tower has shape  $H_0$ , H, H, H,  $\cdots$ 

Lemma to prove

G has tower  $H_0$   $H_1$   $H_2$   $H_3 \Rightarrow H_1 = H_2$ 

Proof.

An element  $s \in G$  stabilizing the blocks  $\leftrightarrow$  a quadruple

$$g \in H_1 \quad \to \quad \exists \ (1,g,h,k), \ h,k \in H_1.$$

Let  $\sigma$  be an element of G that permutes "straightforwardly" the first two blocks and fixes the other two.

Conjugation of x by  $\sigma$  in  $G \quad \rightarrow \quad y=(g,1,h,k)$  Then:  $x^{-1}y=(g,g^{-1},1,1)$ 

By arguing that the tower does not depend on the ordering of the blocks,  $g^{-1}$  and therefore g are in  $H_2$ .

In the infinite case, apply to each restriction to four consecutive blocks of the fixator of the previous ones in G.

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