

Harald Fripertinger
Karl-Franzens-Universität Graz

Colloquium on Mathematical Music Theory University Graz, May 6 – May 9, 2004



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We will discuss the following topics:

— what are discrete structures,



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- what are discrete structures,
- basic facts about classification of discrete structures, especially introducing group actions,



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- basic facts about classification of discrete structures, especially introducing group actions,
- examples of discrete structures in music theory,



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- what are discrete structures,
- basic facts about classification of discrete structures, especially introducing group actions,
- examples of discrete structures in music theory,
- some results on the enumeration of canons.





**Discrete structures** are objects which can be constructed as:

subsets, unions, products of finite sets,



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- mappings between finite sets,



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- bijections, linear orders on finite sets,



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- equivalence classes on finite sets,
- vector spaces over finite fields, ...



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- subsets, unions, products of finite sets,
- mappings between finite sets,
- bijections, linear orders on finite sets,
- equivalence classes on finite sets,
- vector spaces over finite fields, . . .

Examples: graphs, necklaces, designs, codes, matroids, switching functions, molecules in chemistry, spin-configurations in physics, objects of local music theory.



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step 1: Determine the number of different objects.

step 2: Determine the number of objects with certain properties.

step 3: Determine a complete list of the elements of a discrete structure.

step 4: Generate the objects of a discrete structure uniformly at random.





Home Page

Title Page

Contents





Page **4** of **35** 

Go Back

Full Screen

Close

Quit

## **Labelled Graphs**

A simple labelled graph is described by a finite set of labelled vertices V and by a set of edges connecting two vertices. An edge is usually described as a 2-set of vertices, indicating which two vertices are connected by the corresponding edge.





Title Page

Contents





Page **4** of **35** 

Go Baci

Full Screen

Ciose

Quit

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For instance  $V = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$  and  $E = \{\{1, 2\}, \{2, 3\}, \{3, 4\}\}$  describes

the graph  $2^{4}$  on 4 vertices.





Title Page

Contents





Page **4** of **35** 

Go Back

Full Screen

.....

Quit

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the graph  $\begin{bmatrix} 3 & 4 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$  on 4 vertices. Usually the labelling of the vertices is not

important, whence this graph is considered to be essentially the same as







Title Page

Contents





Page **4** of **35** 

Go Back

Full Screen

Close

Quit

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. All graphs obtained by relabelling of one graph are collected to an

unlabelled graph, an equivalence class of labelled graphs. In our example

we get \_\_\_\_.



As we have just seen, often the elements of a discrete structure are themselves classes of objects which are considered to be equivalent. In one class all those elements are collected which are assumed to be not essentially different. These classes are caused by relabelling of labelled structures or by otherwise naturally motivated equivalence relations.



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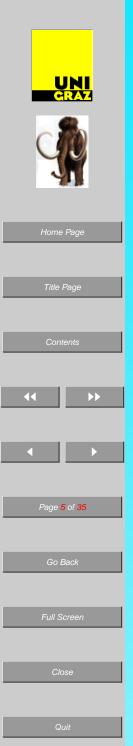
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step 1: There are 11 graphs on 4 vertices.



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Example: Classification of unlabelled simple graphs:

step 1: There are 11 graphs on 4 vertices.

step 2: There exists exactly one graph with 0, 1, 5 or 6 edges; two graphs

with 2 or 4 edges; three graphs with 3 edges.

# Page **5** of **35**

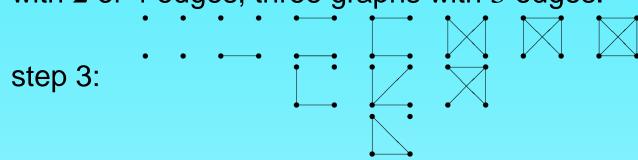
# **Unlabelled Graphs on 4 Vertices**

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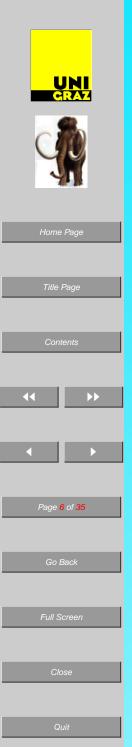




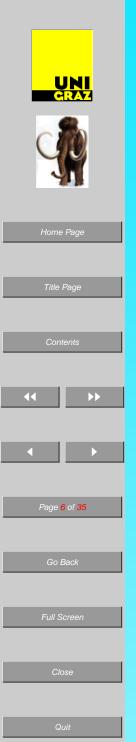
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- 1. Determine the finite set X on which the discrete structure is defined.
- 2. Describe how the discrete structure is constructed over X.
- 3. If the objects of a discrete structure are equivalence classes, introduce a suitable group action on X to describe the equivalence classes as orbits.
- 4. Proceed with the four steps for classification (enumeration, construction, random generation) as described above.



Page **7** of **35** 

# **Group Actions**

A multiplicative group G with neutral element 1 acts on a set X if there exists a mapping

$$*: G \times X \longrightarrow X \qquad *(g,x) \longmapsto g *x$$



Title Pag

Contents





Page **7** of **35** 

Go Back

Full Screen

Ciose

Quit

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# CO

Home Page

Title Page

Content





Page **7** of **35** 

Go Baci

Full Screen

Quit

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# UNI GRAY

Home Page

Title Pag

Content





Page **7** of **35** 

Go Back

. ... ...

Quit

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# UNI CRAZ

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Title Page

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Page **7** of **35** 

Go Back

ruii Screen

Quit

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Page **7** of **35** 

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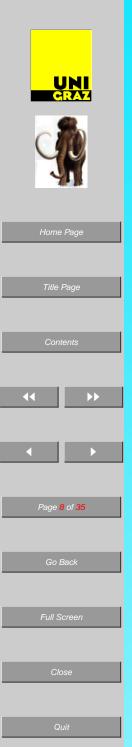
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A group action will be indicated as  $_{G}X$ .

If G and X are finite sets, then we speak of a *finite group action*.



# **Orbits under Group Actions**

A group action  $_GX$  defines the following equivalence relation on X.  $x_1 \sim x_2$  if and only if there is some  $g \in G$  such that  $x_2 = gx_1$ .

# Page **8** of **35**

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$$G(x) = \{gx \mid g \in G\}.$$

# UNI GRAV

Home Page

Title Page

Content





Page **8** of **35** 

Go Bac

Full Screer

Close

Quit

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# UNI GRAV. Home Page Title Page

Page **8** of **35** 

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**Theorem.** The equivalence classes of any equivalence relation can be represented as orbits under a suitable group action.

# UNICRAY CRAY Home Page Title Page Contents

Page **9** of **35** 

### **Stabilizers and Fixed Points**

Let  $_GX$  be a group action. For each  $x \in X$  the **stabilizer**  $G_x$  of x is the set of all group elements which do not change x, in other words

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# UNI CRAY

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**Lagrange Theorem.** If  $_GX$  is a finite group action then the size of the orbit of  $x \in X$  equals

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Title Page

Contents





Page **9** of **35** 

Go Back

Full Screer

Close

Quit

# UNI GRAY

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Finally, the **set of all fixed points** of  $g \in G$  is denoted by

$$X_g := \{x \in X \mid gx = x\}.$$

Title Page

Contents



**→** 

Page **9** of **35** 

Go Back

Full Screen

Close

Quit



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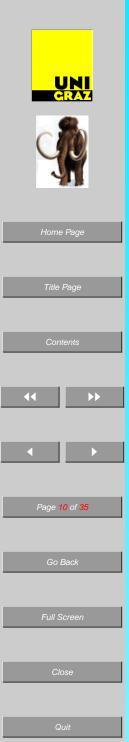
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# UNI CRAY.

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Page 10 of 35

Go Back

Full Screen

Close

Quit

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# UNI MRAAA Home Page

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Page 10 of 35

Go Back

Full Screen

Close

Quit

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# UNI GRAZ Home Page

Page 10 of 35

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Page 10 of 35

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# UNI CRAY

Home Page

Title Page

Contents





Page 10 of 35

Go Bac

Full Screer

Close

Quit

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# UNI CRAT

Home Page

Title Page

Contents





Page **10** of **35** 

Go Bac

Full Screer

Ciose

Quit

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# UNI GRAZ

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Home Page

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Title Page

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Contents



44





Page 10 of 35

Go Bac

Full Screer

Close

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# Symmetry types of mappings

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— Then G acts on  $Y^X$  by

$$G \times Y^X \to Y^X, \qquad (g, f) \mapsto f \circ \bar{g}^{-1}.$$

# UNI GRAZ



Home Page

Title Page

Contents





Page **11** of **35** 

Go Back

Full Screen

.....

Quit

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# UNI CRAY



Home Page

Title Page

Contents





Page 11 of 35

Go Back

Full Screen

Ciose

Quit

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— Then the direct product  $H \times G$  acts on  $Y^X$  by

$$(H \times G) \times Y^X \to Y^X, \qquad ((h,g),f) \mapsto \bar{h} \circ f \circ \bar{g}^{-1}.$$



# **Discrete structures in Music Theory**

Reduction of all pitches modulo one octave yields the notion of *pitch-classes*. In an *n-scale* there are exactly *n* tones in one octave, whence there are *n* pitch classes which are described as elements of  $Z_n := \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$ , the *residue class ring modulo n*.



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Musical transposing or inversion can be described as *transposing by* one pitch-class, T, or inversion at pitch-class O, I, which are permutations on  $Z_n$ . They motivate cyclic groups,  $\langle T \rangle$ , dihedral groups,  $\langle T, I \rangle$ , or affine groups as permutation groups acting on  $Z_n$ .



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# Page **12** of **35**

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*k*-chords and intervals (k = 2) are described as k-subsets of  $Z_n$ .

**Mosaics** are partitions of  $Z_n$ . These are collections  $\pi$  of subsets of  $Z_n$ , such that the empty set is not an element of  $\pi$  and such that for each  $i \in Z_n$  there is exactly one  $P \in \pi$  with  $i \in P$ .



Home Page

Title Page

Contonto



1

Page **13** of **35** 

Go Back

Full Screen

Close

Quit

# Discrete structures in Music Theory (cont.)

Next to the pitch component we also introduce the time as a second parameter.

For  $n \geq 3$  a **tone-row** in  $Z_n$  is a bijective mapping  $f: \{1, \ldots, n\} \to Z_n$  where f(i) is the pitch class of the tone which occurs in i-th position in the tone-row. Usually two tone-rows  $f_1, f_2$  are considered to be equivalent if  $f_1$  can be constructed by transposing, inversion and retrograde inversion R of  $f_2$ . Thus the similarity classes of tone-rows are the  $D_n \times \langle R \rangle$  orbits on the set of these bijections.



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Page **13** of **35** 

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In the most simple model of a motive, each note is described by its onset and by its pitch. In other words, we put a coordinate system over a line of notes. If there are exactly m possible onsets and n pitch classes, a *k-motive* is considered to be a *k*-subset of  $Z_m \times Z_n$ . In the case m = n, Mazzola showed that the group of all affine mappings on  $\mathbb{Z}_n^2$  is a musically motivated group.



# **Rhythms**

When investigating a rhythm again we are only interested in the onsets, not in the duration of the different notes. Moreover, we want to forget all information about the pitch.

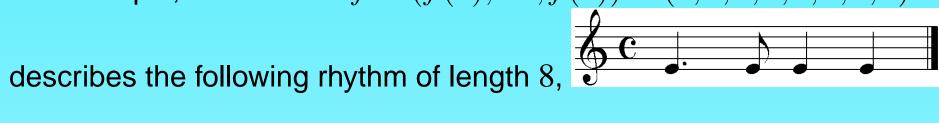
Page 14 of 35

# Rhythms

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We also assume that we found a subdivision of the rhythm, i.e. a regular pulsation, into equidistant beats such that all rhythmical events coincide with some of these beats. If the rhythm is covered by a pulsation of nbeats, then it can be described as a 0,1-vector of length n, whence as a function  $f: \{0, ..., n-1\} \to \{0, 1\}$ .

For example, the function  $f = (f(0), \dots, f(7)) = (1, 0, 0, 1, 1, 0, 1, 0)$ 



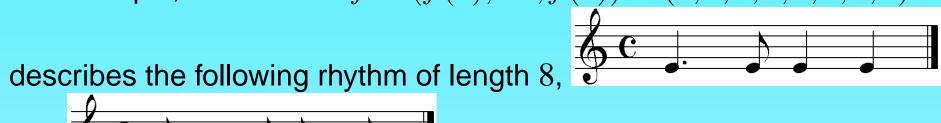
# Page 14 of 35

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Home Page

Title Page

Contents





Page **15** of **35** 

Go Back

Full Screer

Clos

Quit

# 0,1-Vectors

The cyclic group  $C_n$  generated by  $\pi_n := (0, 1, ..., n-1)$  acts on the set of all mappings from  $\underline{n} := \{0, 1, ..., n-1\}$  to  $\{0, 1\}$  according to

$$C_n \times \{0,1\}^{\underline{n}} \to \{0,1\}^{\underline{n}}, \quad (\sigma,f) \mapsto f \circ \sigma^{-1}.$$

If we write f as a vector  $f = (f(0), \ldots, f(n-1))$ , then  $f \circ \pi_n^j = (f(n+j), \ldots, f(n-1), f(0), \ldots, f(n+j-1))$ . Hence, the orbit  $C_n(f)$  consists of all cyclic shifts of f.

# UNI CRAZ

Home Page

Title Page

Contents





Page 15 of 35

Go Back

Full Screen

Quit

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Using the natural order 0 < 1, the set  $\{0,1\}^{\underline{n}}$  is totally ordered by the lexicographical order. For  $f,g \in \{0,1\}^{\underline{n}}$  we say

$$f < g : \Leftrightarrow \exists i \in \underline{n} : f(j) = g(j) \text{ for } j < i \text{ and } f(i) < g(i).$$

We choose the smallest element of an orbit as its canonical representative.







### 0,1-Vectors (cont.)

For example the orbit of f = (10011010) under  $C_8$  contains the vectors (10011010), (00110101), (01101010), (11010100), (10101001), (10100110), and (01001101).



### Home Page

Title Page

Contents





Page 16 of 35

Go Back

Full Screen

Ciose

Quit

### 0,1-Vectors (cont.)

For example the orbit of f = (10011010) under  $C_8$  contains the vectors (10011010), (00110101), (01101010), (11010100), (10101001), (10100110), and (01001101).

The stabilizer of  $f \in \{0,1\}^n$  is a subgroup of  $C_n$ , whence again a cyclic group. We call f *acyclic* if its stabilizer consists of the identity only. If f is acyclic, then the canonical representative of  $C_n(f)$  is called a *Lyndon word*.

The function of the last example is acyclic, and (00110101) is a Lyndon word.



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The vector (01100110) has a nontrivial stabilizer, since  $\pi_8^4 \neq id$  is also contained in it.

Home Page

Title Page

Contents





Page **16** of **35** 

Go Back

Full Screen

Close

Quit



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We identify a 0,1-vector f with the set  $f^{-1}(\{1\})$  of pre-images of 1. Then f is the characteristic function of  $f^{-1}(\{1\})$ . In this case we also assume that  $f^{-1}(\{1\}) \subseteq Z_n$ .

Home Page

Title Page

Contents



**→** 

Page 16 of 35

Go Back

Full Screen

Close

Quit





Home Page

Title Page

Content





Page **17** of **35** 

Go Baci

Full Screer

Close

Quit

#### **Canons**

A *canon* of length n consisting of  $t \ge 1$  voices  $V_i$  is a set  $\{V_1, \dots, V_t\}$  of 0,1-vectors  $V_i \ne 0$  of length n, such that

- 1.  $V_i \in C_n(V_1)$  for  $1 \le i \le t$ ,
- 2.  $V_1$  is acyclic,
- 3. the set of differences in  $K := \bigcup_{i=1}^{t} V_i$  generates  $Z_n$ , i.e.

$$\langle K-K\rangle := \langle k-l \mid k,l \in K\rangle = Z_n.$$





Home Page

Title Page

Contents





Page **17** of **35** 

Go Back

Full Screer

Ciose

Quit

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Two canons  $\{V_1, \ldots, V_t\}$  and  $\{W_1, \ldots, W_s\}$  are called *isomorphic* if s = t and if there exists some  $\sigma \in C_n$  and a permutation  $\tau$  in the symmetric group  $S_t$  such that  $\sigma(V_i) = W_{\tau(i)}$  for  $1 \le i \le t$ .



#### Inner and Outer Rhythm of a Canon

The canon  $\{V_1, \ldots, V_t\}$  can be described as a pair  $(V_1, f)$ , where  $V_1$  is the *inner* and f the *outer rhythm* of the canon. The inner rhythm describes the rhythm of any voice. The outer rhythm determines how the different voices are distributed over the n beats of a canon.

# Home Page Title Page Contents

Page 18 of 35

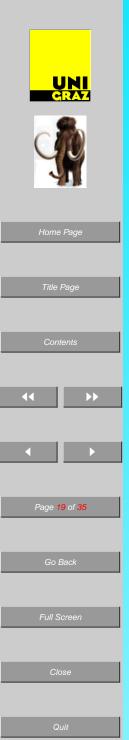
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For example consider  $V_1 = (10011010)$ ,  $V_2 = (01010011)$ , and  $V_3 = (11010100)$ . We get a score of the form

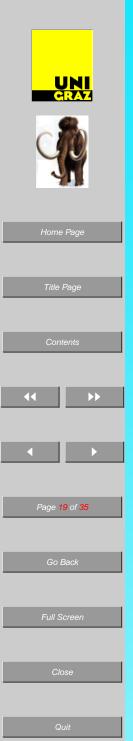
10011010 01010011 11010100

Hence the outer rhythm of this canon is f = (10010100).



#### Inner and Outer Rhythm of a Canon (cont.)

Given a canon  $(V_1, f)$  of length n, there exists an isomorphic canon (L, f') where L is a Lyndon word, the canonical representative of  $C_n(V_1)$ , and f' is the canonical representative of  $C_n(f)$ .



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Conversely, not each pair (L, f) where L is a Lyndon word and f a 0,1-vector determines a canon of length n.

**Lemma.** Let  $L \neq 0$  be a Lyndon word, and let f be a 0,1-vector both of length n. The pair (L,f) does not describe a canon if and only if there exists an integer d>1 such that  $d\mid n,d\mid k-l$  for all  $k,l\in L$ , and  $d\mid k-l$  for all  $k,l\in f$ .

Home Page

Title Page

Contonts

**44 >>** 



Page 19 of 35

Go Back

Full Screen

Close

Quit

### UNI GRAZ

#### **Enumeration of Canons**

Home Page

Title Page

Contents





Page 20 of 35

Go Bac

Full Screen

Close

Quit

**Theorem.** The number of isomorphism classes of canons of length n is

$$K_n := \sum_{d|n} \mu(d) \lambda(n/d) \alpha(n/d),$$

where  $\mu$  is the Moebius function,  $\lambda(1) = 1$ ,

$$\lambda(r) = \frac{1}{r} \sum_{s|r} \mu(s) 2^{r/s} \text{ for } r > 1,$$

$$\alpha(r) = \frac{1}{r} \sum_{s|r} \varphi(s) 2^{r/s} - 1 \text{ for } r \ge 1,$$

where φ is the Euler totient function.

# UNI GRAY

Home Page

Title Page

Contents





Page **20** of **35** 

Go Back

Full Screen

\_\_\_\_\_

Quit

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where φ is the Euler totient function.

The ideas of this proof and of the previous Lemma can be used in order to construct all rhythmical canons of length n.



#### **Rhythmic Tiling Canons**

In our last example of a canon, ((00110101), (01001010))

10011010 01010011 11010100

we saw that there are beats where no, one, two, or three voices are playing at the same time.



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A canon is called a *rhythmic tiling canon* if  $Z_n = \bigcup_{i=1}^t V_i$ . In other words, the voices are pairwise disjoint and cover entirely  $Z_n$ . The canon (L, f) is a tiling canon if and only if  $L + f = Z_n$  and |L| |f| = n, thus  $Z_n$  is the direct sum of L and f.



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For example  $\left((00000101),(00110011)\right)$  is the canon



Llama Daga

Title Page

Contents





Page **22** of **35** 

Go Back

Full Screen

Close

Quit

#### **Enumeration of Tiling Canons**

Classification of rhythmic tiling canons by computing complete lists of their representatives. We have such lists for  $n \le 40$ .

Comparison of  $T_n$  the number of nonisomorphic tiling canons and  $K_n$  the numbers of canons of length n.

n	$T_n$	$K_n$
2	1	1
3	1	5
4	2	13
5	1	41
6	3	110
7	1	341
8	6	1035
9	4	3298





Home Page

Title Page

Contents





Page **22** of **35** 

Go Back

Full Screen

Close

Quit

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2	1	1		10	6	10550
3	1	5	•	11	1	34781
4	2	13	•	12	23	117455
5	1	41	•	13	1	397529
6	3	110	•	14	13	1.370798
7	1	341	•	15	25	4.780715
8	6	1035	•	16	49	16788150
9	4	3298	•	17	1	59451809



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2	1	1	10	0	6	10550
3	1	5	1	1	1	34781
4	2	13	1:	2	23	117455
5	1	41	1:	3	1	397529
6	3	110	1	4	13	1.370798
7	1	341	1	5	25	4.780715
8	6	1035	10	6	49	16788150
9	4	3298	1	7	1	59451809

n = 40:  $T_n = 64989$ ,  $K_n = 755.578639.350274.265100$ .

Home Page

Title Page

Contents







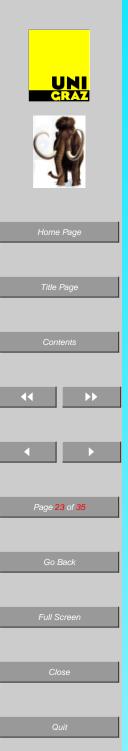
Page 22 of 35

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Full Screen

Close

Quit



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Dan T. Vuza showed that these canons occur only for certain values of n, actually only for **non-Hajós-groups**  $Z_n$ . The smallest n for which  $Z_n$  is not a Hajós-group is n = 72.











Page **23** of **35** 

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 $Z_n$  is not a Hajós group if and only if n can be expressed in the form  $p_1p_2n_1n_2n_3$  with  $p_1$ ,  $p_2$  primes,  $n_i \geq 2$  for  $1 \leq i \leq 3$ , and  $\gcd(n_1p_1, n_2p_2) = 1.$ 

How does such a canon sound?

[14, 8, 1, 5, 4, 4, 9, 9, 4, 6, 4, 9, 9, 4, 4, 5, 1, 8], [57, 12, 12, 3, 12, 12]



Home Page

Title Page

Contents





Page **24** of **35** 

Go Baci

Full Screen

 $Clos\epsilon$ 

Quit

#### **Vuza's Algorithm**

If  $Z_n$  is not a Hajós group, Vuza presents an algorithm for constructing two acyclic vectors L and f of length n, such that  $|L|=n_1n_2$ ,  $|f|=p_1p_2n_3$ , and  $L+f=Z_n$ .



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# Page **24** of **35**

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Page **24** of **35** 

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Hence, both L or f can serve as the inner rhythm and the other one as the outer rhythm of an RCMC-canon.

Moreover, it is important to mention that there is some freedom for constructing these two sets, and each of these two sets can be constructed independently from the other one.

He also proves that when (L, f) describes an RCMC-canon, then also (kL, f), (kL, kf) have this property for all  $k \in \mathbb{Z}_n^*$ . (Here  $kL = \{k\ell \mid \ell \in L\}.$ 

Research by: G. Hajós, L. Rédei, N.G. de Bruijn, A.D. Sands.



#### **Enumeration of Vuza Constructible Canons**

An RCMC-canon which can be constructed by Vuza's algorithm and the previous remarks is called *Vuza constructible canon*.



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An RCMC-canon which can be constructed by Vuza's algorithm and the previous remarks is called *Vuza constructible canon*.

Enumeration of nonisomorphic Vuza constructible canons by construction: This means that complete lists of these canons are available!





Home Page

Title Pag

Conten

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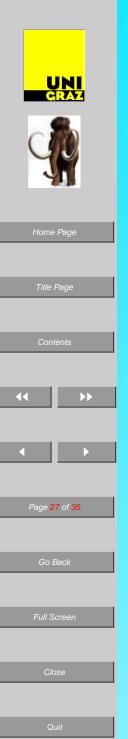
Page **26** of **35** 

Go Ba

Full Scree

Close

Quit





The answer is:



The answer is: **YES!** 

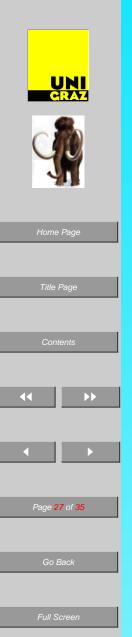


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Among the 216 RCMC-canons of length  $2 \cdot 72 = 144$  with |L| = 12 we did not find a canon which was constructed in this way from the 18 canons of length 72.





Home Page
Title Page
Contents
<b>← →</b>



Go Back

Full Screen

Close

Qui

#### From L equal to





Title Page

Content







Page **28** of **35** 

Go Back

Full Screen

Close

Quit

#### From L equal to





Title Page

Contents



**→** 

Page 28 of 35

Go Back

Full Screen

 $Clos\epsilon$ 

Quit

#### From L equal to



Title Page

Contents

**\*** 

\_\_\_\_\_

Page **28** of **35** 

Go Bac

Full Screen

Close

Quit

From L equal to





Title Page

Content





Page 29 of 35

Go Bac

Full Screen

Close

Quit

#### We can do much better

Define a composition of two 0,1-vectors  $f \in \{0,1\}^{\underline{n}}$ ,  $g \in \{0,1\}^{\underline{m}}$ . Then f(g) is the vector in  $\{0,1\}^{\underline{nm}}$  where each 1 in f is replaced by g and each 0 in f is replaced by  $0^m = 0 \dots 0$ . Each  $i \in \underline{nm}$  can uniquely be written as i = qm + r with  $q \in \underline{n}$  and  $r \in \underline{m}$ . Then

$$f(g)(i) = f(g)(qm+r) = f(q)g(r).$$





Title Page

Contents





Page **29** of **35** 

Go Bac

Full Screen

Close

Quit

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#### Properties:

1.  $\operatorname{wt}(f(g)) = \operatorname{wt}(f)\operatorname{wt}(g)$ .





Title Page

Contents





Page 29 of 35

Go Bac

Full Screer

Ciose

Quit

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- 1.  $\operatorname{wt}(f(g)) = \operatorname{wt}(f)\operatorname{wt}(g)$ .
- 2. If  $g \neq 0$ , then  $\{0,1\}^{\underline{n}} \ni f \mapsto f(g) \in \{0,1\}^{\underline{nm}}$  is injective.





Title Pag

Contents





Page **29** of **35** 

Go Bac

Full Screer

....

Quit

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- 3.  $f(g) \circ \pi_{nm}^{qm} = (f \circ \pi_n^q)(g)$ .





Title Pag

Contents





Page **29** of **35** 

Go Back

Full Screet

Quit

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- 4.  $f \le f'$  implies  $f(g) \le f'(g)$ .





Title Pag

Contents





Page **29** of **3** 

Go Rac

Full Screen

Quit

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- 5. If  $g \neq 0$  and f < f', then f(g) < f'(g).





Title Page

Contents





Page **29** of **3** 

Go Rac

Full Screen

Close

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- 5. If  $g \neq 0$  and f < f', then f(g) < f'(g).
- 6. If f and g are the canonical representatives of  $C_n(f)$  and  $C_m(g)$ , then f(g) is the canonical representative of  $C_{nm}(f(g))$ .





Title Page

Contents





Page **29** of **3** 

Go Back

Full Screen

Ciose

Quit

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- 5. If  $g \neq 0$  and f < f', then f(g) < f'(g).
- 6. If f and g are the canonical representatives of  $C_n(f)$  and  $C_m(g)$ , then f(g) is the canonical representative of  $C_{nm}(f(g))$ .
- 7. If f is a Lyndon word and g is the canonical representative of  $C_m(g)$ , then f(g) is a Lyndon word.



Page **30** of **35** 

## **New Canons from Old Canons**

#### Theorem.

1. If  $(L_1, f_1)$  is a canon of length  $n_1$  and  $(L_2, f_2)$  is a canon of length  $n_2$ , then  $(L_1(L_2), f_1(f_2))$  is a canon of length  $n_1n_2$ .



#### **New Canons from Old Canons**

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2. If  $(L_1, f_1)$  is a tiling canon and  $(L_2, f_2)$  is a tiling canon, then  $(L_1(L_2), f_1(f_2))$  is a tiling canon.

Home Page

Title Page

Contents





Page 30 of 35

Go Back

Full Screen

 $Clos\epsilon$ 

Qui



#### **New Canons from Old Canons**

\_\_\_\_\_

Content





Page **30** of **35** 

Go Back

Full Screen

Close

Quit

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- 2. If  $(L_1, f_1)$  is a tiling canon and  $(L_2, f_2)$  is a tiling canon, then  $(L_1(L_2), f_1(f_2))$  is a tiling canon.
- 3. If  $(L_1, f_1)$  is an RCMC-canon and  $(L_2, f_2)$  is a tiling canon, then  $(L_1(L_2), f_1(f_2))$  is an RCMC-canon.





Title Page

Contents







Page **31** of **35** 

Go Back

Full Screen

Close

Qui

# **Are these all RCMC-Canons?**



Page **31** of **35** 

# **Are these all RCMC-Canons?**

The answer is:



Page **31** of **35** 

# **Are these all RCMC-Canons?**

The answer is: NO!



#### **Are these all RCMC-Canons?**

The answer is: NO!

Construction: Consider an RCMC-canon (L, f) of length n. For fixed L try to find all Lyndon words f', such that  $L + f' = Z_n$ .

Page **31** of **35** 

#### Are these all RCMC-Canons?

The answer is: NO!

Construction: Consider an RCMC-canon (L, f) of length n. For fixed L try to find all Lyndon words f', such that  $L + f' = Z_n$ .

Inspired by discussions with E. Amiot, I developed a backtracking algorithm for this problem. For given inner rhythm L it finds all outer rhythms f so that (L,f) is an RCMC-canon.



# **Complete lists of RCMC-canons**

If (L, f) is a tiling canon of length n, then the weights of L and f are divisors of n.



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If (L, f) is a tiling canon of length n, then the weights of L and f are divisors of n.

**Theorem.** (Sands) If wt(L) or wt(f) is a prime power, then f has cyclic symmetries. Thus (L, f) is not an RCMC-canon.



# **Complete lists of RCMC-canons**

If (L, f) is a tiling canon of length n, then the weights of L and f are divisors of n.

**Theorem.** (Sands) If wt(L) or wt(f) is a prime power, then f has cyclic symmetries. Thus (L, f) is not an RCMC-canon.

Construction: Find all suitable decompositions of n into two integers, n=rs. If r and s are not powers of a prime assume that  $r \leq s$  and continue with the following construction. Determine all Lyndon words of length n and weight r over  $\{0,1\}$ . In order to decrease their number, determine the number of orbits of these Lyndon words under the action of the affine group. For each of these representatives L determine all acyclic outer rhythms f, such that  $L+f=Z_n$ .



# All RCMC-canons of length 72 and 108

We have to consider the two compositions 72 = 6 \* 12 and 108 = 6 \* 18.

There are 2.169882 Lyndon words of length 72 and weight 6 over  $\{0,1\}$ . There remain just 3 Lyndon words which can be extended to an RCMC-canon. For each Lyndon word there exist (the same 6) outer rhythms which can be used to determine an RCMC-canon. Thus all RCMC-canons of length 72 are Vuza constructible.

# Page **33** of **35**

# All RCMC-canons of length 72 and 108

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There are 2.169882 Lyndon words of length 72 and weight 6 over  $\{0,1\}$ . There remain just 3 Lyndon words which can be extended to an RCMC-canon. For each Lyndon word there exist (the same 6) outer rhythms which can be used to determine an RCMC-canon. Thus all RCMC-canons of length 72 are Vuza constructible.

There are 17.717859 Lyndon words of length 108 and weight 6 over  $\{0,1\}$ . They are collected into 514754 orbits. There remains only one orbit representative which can be extended to an RCMC-canon. (This orbit contains 3 different Lyndon words.) For each of these Lyndon words there exist (the same 252) outer rhythms which can be used to determine an RCMC-canon. Thus some RCMC-canons of length 108 area not Vuza constructible.



#### **Contents**

### **Musical Enumeration Theory Applied to the Classification of Canons**

**Discrete Structures** 

Classification of Discrete Structures I

**Labelled Graphs** 

Unlabelled Graphs on 4 Vertices

Classification of Discrete Structures II

**Group Actions** 

Orbits under Group Actions

Stabilizers and Fixed Points

**Enumeration under Group Actions** 

Symmetry types of mappings

Discrete structures in Music Theory

Discrete structures in Music Theory (cont.)

**Rhythms** 



0,1-Vectors 0,1-Vectors (cont.) Canons Inner and Outer Rhythm of a Canon Inner and Outer Rhythm of a Canon (cont.) **Enumeration of Canons** Rhythmic Tiling Canons **Enumeration of Tiling Canons** Regular Complementary Canons of Maximal Category Vuza's Algorithm **Enumeration of Vuza Constructible Canons** Do there exist RCMC-canons which are not Vuza constructible? We can do much better **New Canons from Old Canons** Are these all RCMC-Canons? Complete lists of RCMC-canons All RCMC-canons of length 72 and 108