

**LABELED VERSUS UNLABELED
DISTRIBUTED CAYLEY
NETWORKS**

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Abstract

We consider labelings (i.e. assignments of labels to the links that give the network a globally consistent orientation) on anonymous Cayley networks \mathcal{N}_G constructed from a set G of generators of a group \mathcal{G} . Such networks can be endowed with a natural labeling \mathcal{L}_G to form the oriented Cayley network, denoted by $\mathcal{N}_G[\mathcal{L}_G]$. We show that in general oriented Cayley networks are more powerful than unoriented Cayley networks, in the sense that the former can compute more Boolean functions than the latter. We also give a characterization of those abelian groups \mathcal{G} which have a canonical set of generators G such that the network \mathcal{N}_G computes more Boolean functions than the network $\mathcal{N}_G[\mathcal{L}_G]$.

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1 Introduction

One of the main themes of investigation in distributed computation concerns the design of network topologies which have optimal efficiency characteristics with respect to several selected parameters, like complexity of routing and message transmission, fault tolerance, leader election, etc. Many network topologies have been studied in the literature, ranging from rings and meshes to hypercubes and butterflies. To optimize the complexity characteristics of the resulting algorithms one introduces labelings on (a subset of) the underlying network links in order to give the network a sense of direction (or orientation). However, even within such topologies the efficiency of distributed algorithms may vary widely depending on how the network links are labeled.

Intuitively speaking, by labeling of a network we understand an assignment of different labels (or directions) to some (or all) of the network links in order to give the network a globally consistent sense of direction. There are many different options for choosing a labeling on a subset L of the network links. For example, the links of a hypercube may be left unlabeled (in this case $L = \emptyset$), have a label representing the dimension along which the adjacent links are connected (in this case L is the set of all links of the hypercube), or even be labeled according to a Hamiltonian circuit (in this case L is the set of links constituting the Hamiltonian circuit). Although the underlying topology is the same (i.e. the hypercube), surprisingly the three networks have completely different computational characteristics. For example, of the three cases previously specified only the second takes full advantage of the hypercube topology; in the first case the hypercube has no sense of direction, while in the third case it behaves like a ring.

The problem of labeling a network in order to achieve a globally consistent direction has been studied in the literature. There has been considerable interest in the problem of orienting a ring [13], [8]. A more general study is [14] which considers algorithms for labeling cliques, tori and hypercubes under the assumptions of (a) existence of a leader, (b) existence of processor identities, or (c) the processors being anonymous. In addition, the availability of a suitable orientation may significantly affect the message complexity of many important network computations [11], like leader election [9], computation of boolean functions [10], etc.

In this paper we are concerned with the impact of the introduction of labelings on Cayley networks. In particular we compare the computational power of labeled versus unlabeled networks by using the size of the corresponding class of boolean functions computable in the network as a comparison tool. The class of boolean functions computable on a network was first considered in [17, 16] for arbitrary networks. Here instead we consider only the class of Cayley networks. It turns out that in this case we can take advantage of the rich underlying group theoretic structure of the network in order to obtain a more systematic study of the corresponding classes of computable functions.

1.1 Anonymous Cayley networks

Cayley networks are connected graphs constructed from a group \mathcal{G} and a set G of generators for \mathcal{G} in the following way. The set of vertices is \mathcal{G} , and the set of edges E is defined by $E = \{(u, v) : u^{-1}v \in G\}$. We assume that $G = G^{-1}$, where G^{-1} is the set of g^{-1} such that $g \in G$. To avoid loops in the network \mathcal{N}_G we assume $e \notin G$. Further if $g = g^{-1}$ then we identify the edges g and g^{-1} . This graph is denoted by \mathcal{N}_G .

We consider the following natural labeling \mathcal{L}_G on the Cayley graph \mathcal{N}_G : the label of the edge (u, v) is $u^{-1}v$. We denote the resulting graph $\mathcal{N}_G[\mathcal{L}_G]$. By an automorphism ϕ of the labeled Cayley graph we mean that the edge-labels are preserved under ϕ , i.e. if $(u, v) \in E$ then

$$\mathcal{L}_G(u, v) = \mathcal{L}_G(\phi(u), \phi(v)). \quad (1)$$

The group of automorphisms of \mathcal{N}_G satisfying (1) is denoted by $\text{Aut}(\mathcal{N}_G[\mathcal{L}_G])$. Clearly every Cayley graph is vertex transitive, in the sense that for any nodes $u, v \in \mathcal{G}$ there is a label preserving automorphism ϕ of \mathcal{N}_G such that $\phi(u) = v$. The desired automorphism is $x \rightarrow \phi(x) = vu^{-1}x$. In fact this automorphism is uniquely determined from u and v , which makes the action of $\text{Aut}(\mathcal{N}_G[\mathcal{L}_G])$ on the vertices of \mathcal{N}_G regular [15]. The Cayley graph has $|\mathcal{G}|$ nodes and the degree of each node is $|G|$, denoted by $d(G)$.

An anonymous Cayley network is a Cayley graph whose nodes are anonymous (i.e. having no identities), identical, and deterministic processors. We also assume that the processors know the network topology as well as the size of the network and the links are FIFO.

In general we are interested in computing Boolean functions on anonymous Cayley networks. Let B_N be the set of boolean functions on N variables. Let $\mathcal{N}_G = (V, E)$ be a Cayley network of size N , with node set $V = \{0, 1, \dots, N-1\}$ and edge set $E \subseteq V \times V$. An input to \mathcal{N}_G is an N -tuple $I = \langle b_v : v \in V \rangle$ of bits $b_v \in \{0, 1\}$, where processor v receives as input value the bit b_v . Given a function $f \in B_N$ known to all the processors in the network we compute f on input $I = \langle b_v : v \in V \rangle$ as follows. During each step of the protocol the processors perform certain computations depending on their input value, their previous history and the messages they receive from their neighbors and then transmit the result of this computation to some or all of their neighbors. After a finite number of steps, predetermined by the initial conditions and the protocol, the processors terminate their computation and output a certain bit. A network computes the function f if for each input I , at the end of the computation each processor computes correctly the value $f(I)$.

1.2 Examples

Many well-known interconnection networks, like tori, hypercubes, n -Star, etc., in fact belong to the class of Cayley graphs [1]. Throughout we assume that

n is arbitrary but fixed. The following table gives a few examples of networks arising from abelian groups.

Network	Group	Generators	Size
Oriented Ring	C_N	$(1, 2, \dots, N)$	N
d -Torus	$(C_n)^d$	direct product	$N = n^d$
n -Hypercube	$F_n(\cong Z_2^n)$	$\phi_{\{1\}}, \phi_{\{2\}}, \dots, \phi_{\{n\}}$	$N = 2^n$

The generators of F_n (the automorphism group of the hypercube) we will consider are $\phi_{\{1\}}, \phi_{\{2\}}, \dots, \phi_{\{n\}}$, where $\phi_{\{i\}}(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$ is the sequence of bits obtained from (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) by complementing the i th bit, while leaving the other bits unchanged. The next table provides a few examples arising from the symmetric group S_n .

Network	Group	Generators	Size
n -Star	S_n	$(1, k) : 1 < k \leq n$	$N = n!$
n -Bubble-Sort	S_n	$(k-1, k) : 1 < k \leq n$	$N = n!$
n -Pancake-Sort	S_n	$\rho_k, \bar{\rho}_k : 1 < k \leq n$	$N = n!$

Here $\rho_k, \bar{\rho}_k$ are the reflection permutations.

$$\rho_k = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & \dots & k \\ k & k-1 & \dots & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\bar{\rho}_k = \begin{pmatrix} n-k+1 & n-k+2 & \dots & n \\ n & n-1 & \dots & n-k+1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

1.3 Automorphisms

Before proceeding any further we need to mention some results on the automorphism groups of Cayley networks. The first result connects the group \mathcal{G} with the group of automorphisms $\text{Aut}(\mathcal{N}_G[\mathcal{L}_G])$. This is easily established from the fact that $\text{Aut}(\mathcal{N}_G[\mathcal{L}_G])$ is exactly the set of automorphisms $\{\phi_g : g \in \mathcal{G}\}$, where $\phi_g(u) = gu$. Namely, we have the following theorem.

THEOREM 1 *The group of automorphisms of $\mathcal{N}_G[\mathcal{L}_G]$ is isomorphic to \mathcal{G} . ■*

It is important to note that the networks $\mathcal{N}_G[\mathcal{L}_G]$ can be characterized as those transitive networks whose automorphism group has a regular transitive subgroup (see also [3][lemma 16.3]).

THEOREM 2 *If the automorphism group $\text{Aut}(\mathcal{N})$ of the transitive network \mathcal{N} has a regular transitive subgroup \mathcal{G} then there is a labeling \mathcal{L} on \mathcal{N} such that $\mathcal{G} = \text{Aut}(\mathcal{N}[\mathcal{L}])$. Conversely, the group of automorphisms of every Cayley network has a regular transitive subgroup. ■*

We will not prove these theorems here. Instead we refer the reader to [10] for details.

1.4 Computability

An important result for all our subsequent considerations concerns a characterization of the computability of Boolean functions on Cayley networks. Let $S(f)$ denote the group of permutations in S_N that leave f invariant on all inputs [5]. In general it is true that if a Boolean function f is computable on a network \mathcal{N} then $S(f) \geq \text{Aut}(\mathcal{N})$. The converse is not necessarily true, in general. However it is true on oriented Cayley networks. We have the following theorem.

THEOREM 3 *For any Boolean function $f \in B_N$, f is computable in the network $\mathcal{N}_G[\mathcal{L}_G]$ if and only if $S(f) \geq \text{Aut}(\mathcal{N}_G[\mathcal{L}_G])$.*

PROOF (outline) The necessity of $S(f) \geq \text{Aut}(\mathcal{N}_G[\mathcal{L}_G])$ follows from the transitivity of the Cayley network. To prove the sufficiency of $S(f) \geq \text{Aut}(\mathcal{N}_G[\mathcal{L}_G])$ the processors execute an input collection algorithm across the labeled links. ■

For a complete proof as well as for non-trivial algorithms optimizing the bit complexity of computing Boolean functions the reader should consult [10].

1.5 Results of the paper

In this paper we compare the distributed computational power of labeled versus unlabeled Cayley networks by considering the classes of boolean functions computable in each of these networks. We will consider the following two possibilities on the network \mathcal{N}_G :

1. the processors know the topology but are unaware of any labeling (this corresponds to computations in the unlabeled Cayley network \mathcal{N}_G),
2. in addition to the network topology the processors also know the labeling \mathcal{L}_G (this corresponds to computations in the labeled Cayley network $\mathcal{N}_G[\mathcal{L}_G]$),

As in [17, 16] we define $\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{N}_G)$ and $\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{N}_G[\mathcal{L}_G])$ to be the classes of N -ary Boolean functions computable in the two cases above, respectively. Clearly $\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{N}_G) \subseteq \mathcal{F}(\mathcal{N}_G[\mathcal{L}_G])$ (this is easy, because if an algorithm computes a boolean function on the unlabeled the same algorithm will compute the boolean function on the labeled network). More formally, we are interested in studying the computational strength of the labeled and unlabeled Cayley network by comparing the classes $\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{N}_G)$ and $\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{N}_G[\mathcal{L}_G])$. For general groups we will give several sufficient conditions such that $\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{N}_G) \neq \mathcal{F}(\mathcal{N}_G[\mathcal{L}_G])$ holds. We will also give a necessary and sufficient condition on abelian groups with canonical sets of generators such that $\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{N}_G) \neq \mathcal{F}(\mathcal{N}_G[\mathcal{L}_G])$.

In the sequel we use the following notation. We denote by $\langle G \rangle$ the group generated by the set G of generators, e denotes the identity element of the group, and for $u \in \mathcal{G}$, $|u|$ denotes the order of u in the group \mathcal{G} , i.e. the smallest positive integer k such that $u^k = e$. In addition, $\mathcal{G}_1 \otimes \mathcal{G}_2$ denotes the direct

product of the groups $\mathcal{G}_1, \mathcal{G}_2$; its elements consist of the pairs (g_1, g_2) such that $g_1 \in \mathcal{G}_1, g_2 \in \mathcal{G}_2$ with multiplication $(g_1, g_2)(g'_1, g'_2) = (g_1g'_1, g_2g'_2)$.

2 Arbitrary Groups

We are interested on whether or not the introduction of the labeling \mathcal{L}_G alters the class of functions which are computable in the network. More specifically, we call the labeling \mathcal{L}_G strong if there is a Boolean function on $N = |\mathcal{G}|$ variables which is computable in the network $\mathcal{N}_G[\mathcal{L}_G]$ but not computable in \mathcal{N}_G .

If we ignore labels then it is clear that $\text{Aut}(\mathcal{N}_G)$ consists of all permutations ϕ of \mathcal{G} such that for all $u, v \in \mathcal{G}$, $u^{-1}v \in G \Leftrightarrow \phi(u)^{-1}\phi(v) \in G$. Two more groups of automorphisms that will be useful in our subsequent study are defined as follows.

$$\text{Aut}^*(\mathcal{N}_G) = \{\phi \in \text{Aut}(\mathcal{N}_G) : \forall u \in \mathcal{G} \forall g \in G (\phi(u)^{-1}\phi(ug) \in \langle g \rangle)\}$$

and

$$\text{Aut}^{**}(\mathcal{N}_G) = \{\phi \in \text{Aut}(\mathcal{N}_G) : \forall u, a \in \mathcal{G} (\phi(u)^{-1}\phi(ua) \in \langle a \rangle)\}.$$

Now we have the following inequalities.

$$\text{Aut}(\mathcal{N}_G[\mathcal{L}_G]) \leq \text{Aut}^{**}(\mathcal{N}_G) \leq \text{Aut}^*(\mathcal{N}_G) \leq \text{Aut}(\mathcal{N}_G). \quad (2)$$

To prove that \mathcal{L}_G is strong it is enough to define a Boolean function f such that

$$\text{Aut}(\mathcal{N}_G[\mathcal{L}_G]) \leq S(f) \text{ and } \text{Aut}(\mathcal{N}_G) \not\leq S(f). \quad (3)$$

Indeed, in view of Theorem 3, f must be computable on $\mathcal{N}_G[\mathcal{L}_G]$, but it can not be computable on \mathcal{N}_G since f is not invariant under all the automorphisms of \mathcal{N}_G .

2.1 Distinguishing by network automorphism

Now we can prove the following theorem which establishes a sufficient condition for the network $\mathcal{N}_G[\mathcal{L}_G]$ to have more computational power than the network \mathcal{N}_G .

THEOREM 4 *If $\text{Aut}^{**}(\mathcal{N}_G) \neq \text{Aut}(\mathcal{N}_G)$ then \mathcal{L}_G is strong.*

PROOF Let $\phi \in \text{Aut}(\mathcal{N}_G) \setminus \text{Aut}^{**}(\mathcal{N}_G)$. Since $\phi \notin \text{Aut}^{**}(\mathcal{N}_G)$ there exists $u, a \in \mathcal{G}$ such that $\phi(ua) \neq \phi(u)a^*$, for all $1 \leq k < |a|$. Define a Boolean function on inputs $\langle b_x : x \in \mathcal{G} \rangle$ as follows.

$$f(\langle b_x : x \in \mathcal{G} \rangle) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } \forall x \in \mathcal{G} (b_x = b_{xa}) \\ 1 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

It is easy to see that f is kept invariant by all automorphisms of $\mathcal{N}_G[\mathcal{L}_G]$, but this is not true for the above automorphism ϕ . To see this consider an input $\langle b_x : x \in \mathcal{G} \rangle$ such that $\forall x \in \mathcal{G} (b_x = b_{xa})$ and $b_{\phi(u)} \neq b_{\phi(ua)}$. It follows that

$$0 = f(\langle b_x : x \in \mathcal{G} \rangle) \neq f(\langle b_{\phi(x)} : x \in \mathcal{G} \rangle) = 1.$$

This completes the proof of the theorem. ■

In view of Theorem 4 and inequality (2) to prove that \mathcal{L}_G is strong it is enough to prove that $\text{Aut}^*(\mathcal{N}_G) \neq \text{Aut}(\mathcal{N}_G)$.

THEOREM 5 Assume G_i is a set of generators for the group \mathcal{G}_i , with $i = 1, 2$, $G = G_1 \cup G_2$, $G_1 \cap G_2 = \emptyset$ and $\mathcal{G} = \mathcal{G}_1 \otimes \mathcal{G}_2$. Then

$$\exists i (\text{Aut}^*(\mathcal{N}_{G_i}) < \text{Aut}(\mathcal{N}_{G_i})) \Rightarrow \text{Aut}^*(\mathcal{N}_G) < \text{Aut}(\mathcal{N}_G).$$

PROOF Assume on the contrary that

$$\text{Aut}^*(\mathcal{N}_{G_1}) < \text{Aut}(\mathcal{N}_{G_1}) \text{ but } \text{Aut}^*(\mathcal{N}_G) = \text{Aut}(\mathcal{N}_G).$$

Let $\phi_1 \in \text{Aut}(\mathcal{N}_{G_1})$. Define ϕ as follows: $\phi(u_1 u_2) = \phi_1(u_1) u_2$, where $u_1 \in \mathcal{G}_1$ and $u_2 \in \mathcal{G}_2$. Then for all $u \in \mathcal{G}$, with $u = u_1 u_2$, $u_1 \in \mathcal{G}_1$, $u_2 \in \mathcal{G}_2$, and all $g \in G$ we have that

$$\phi(u)^{-1} \phi(ug) = \begin{cases} g & \text{if } g \in \mathcal{G}_2 \\ \phi_1(u_1)^{-1} \phi(u_1 g) & \text{if } g \in \mathcal{G}_1. \end{cases} \quad (4)$$

It follows that $\phi \in \text{Aut}(\mathcal{N}_G)$. Since $\text{Aut}(\mathcal{N}_G) = \text{Aut}^*(\mathcal{N}_G)$ equation (4) implies that $\phi_1(u_1)^{-1} \phi_1(u_1 g) \in \langle g \rangle$, for all $u_1 \in \mathcal{G}_1$ and $g \in \mathcal{G}_1$. It follows that $\phi_1 \in \text{Aut}^*(\mathcal{N}_{G_1})$. Consequently, $\text{Aut}^*(\mathcal{N}_{G_1}) = \text{Aut}(\mathcal{N}_{G_1})$, which is a contradiction. This completes the proof of the theorem. ■

2.2 Distinguishing by group automorphism

THEOREM 6 If ϕ is an automorphism of the group \mathcal{G} such that $\phi(G) = G$ and $\phi(g) \notin \langle g \rangle$, for some $g \in G$, then $\text{Aut}^*(\mathcal{N}_G) < \text{Aut}(\mathcal{N}_G)$.

PROOF Let us define $\text{Aut}^*(\mathcal{G})$ as the automorphisms of \mathcal{N}_G satisfying the following condition

$$(u, v) \in E \Rightarrow \phi(\mathcal{L}_G(u, v)) = \mathcal{L}_G(\phi(u), \phi(v)). \quad (5)$$

To prove the theorem we need the following precise characterization of $\text{Aut}^*(\mathcal{G})$.

LEMMA 7 The automorphisms of the Cayley network \mathcal{N}_G satisfying condition (5) are exactly the automorphisms ϕ of the group \mathcal{G} satisfying $\phi(G) = G$.

PROOF of Lemma 7. Let ϕ be an automorphism of the group \mathcal{G} satisfying $\phi(G) = G$. It follows from [3][section 16] that ϕ is an automorphism of the corresponding unlabeled Cayley network and condition (5) is easily verified. For the other direction assume ϕ is an automorphism of the network \mathcal{N}_G satisfying condition (5). Let $u \in \mathcal{G}$, $g \in G$ and put $v = ug$. Clearly, $\mathcal{L}_G(u, v) = g$. Consequently, by (5) $\mathcal{L}_G(\phi(u), \phi(ug)) = \phi(\mathcal{L}_G(u, ug)) = \phi(g)$. This implies that $\phi(ug) = \phi(u)\phi(g)$. Similarly, we can prove $\phi(e) = e$. Since G generates the group \mathcal{G} , it is easy to show that ϕ is a group automorphism. This proves the lemma.

It follows from the lemma that if $\phi \in \text{Aut}^*(\mathcal{G})$ and $\phi(g) \notin \langle g \rangle$, for some $g \in G$, then $\phi \notin \text{Aut}^*(\mathcal{N}_G)$. This completes the proof of the theorem. ■

Thus using Theorem 6 we can prove that $\text{Aut}^*(\mathcal{N}_G) \neq \text{Aut}(\mathcal{N}_G)$ for the star, bubble-sort and pancake-sort networks previously considered.

EXAMPLE 8 \mathcal{L}_G is a strong labeling for the star, bubble sort and pancake-sort networks.

PROOF For each of the networks listed above we exhibit an automorphism $\phi \in \text{Aut}(\mathcal{G})$ such that $\phi(G) = G$ but $\phi(g) \notin \langle g \rangle$, for some $g \in G$.

CASE 1 n -Star: Consider the automorphism $\phi(\tau) = \sigma^{-1}\tau\sigma$, where $\sigma = (2, 3)$. It is easy to check that that $\phi((1, 2)) = (1, 3) \notin \langle (1, 2) \rangle$ and $\phi(G) = G$.

CASE 2 n -Bubble-Sort: Consider the automorphism $\phi(\tau) = \sigma^{-1}\tau\sigma$, where $\sigma = (1, 2, \dots, n)$. It is easy to check that that $\phi((k - 1 \bmod n, k)) = (k, k + 1 \bmod n) \notin \langle (k - 1 \bmod n, k) \rangle$ and $\phi(G) = G$.

CASE 3 n -Pancake:

Consider the automorphism $\phi(\tau) = \rho_n \tau \rho_n$. It is easy to check that that $\phi(\rho_k) = \bar{\rho}_k \notin \langle \rho_k \rangle$ and $\phi(G) = G$. ■

For any automorphism $\phi \in \text{Aut}(\mathcal{G})$ let

$$G_\phi = G \cup \phi(G) \cup \phi^2(G) \cup \dots$$

Then we can prove the following theorem.

THEOREM 9 For any automorphism $\phi \in \text{Aut}(\mathcal{G})$, if $\phi(g) \notin \langle g \rangle$, for some $g \in G$, then \mathcal{L}_{G_ϕ} is strong.

PROOF Let ϕ be an automorphism in $\text{Aut}(\mathcal{G})$. The set G_ϕ generates \mathcal{G} since G does. Moreover, it is trivial to check that $\phi(G_\phi) = G_\phi$. Hence the result of the theorem is immediate from Theorem 6. ■

3 Abelian Groups

Now we consider the case of abelian groups. In the most general case we have arbitrary sets of generators for such groups. A Boolean function $f \in B_N$ represents a group $\mathcal{H} \leq S_N$ if $S(f) = \mathcal{H}$, where $S(f)$ is the set of permutations on N

letters that leave f invariant on all inputs. Such groups are called representable [5].

THEOREM 10 *If the group $Aut(\mathcal{N}_G[\mathcal{L}_G])$ is representable and $Aut(\mathcal{N}_G[\mathcal{L}_G]) < Aut(\mathcal{N}_G)$ then \mathcal{L}_G is strong. ■*

The proof is immediate in view of the representability of the group $Aut(\mathcal{N}_G[\mathcal{L}_G])$ and assertion (3). By a result of [4] and [12] (see also the correction in [6] and [7]) we know that $Aut(\mathcal{N}_G)$ is never abelian unless $\mathcal{G} = Z_2^n$ and $n \neq 2, 3, 4$. Hence in these cases we must have that $Aut(\mathcal{N}_G[\mathcal{L}_G]) < Aut(\mathcal{N}_G)$. Consequently, if $Aut(\mathcal{N}_G[\mathcal{L}_G])$ is also representable then \mathcal{L}_G is strong. For a study of representable groups where Theorem 10 applies the reader should consult [5].

In the sequel we consider abelian groups generated by a canonical set of generators. We call a set G of generators for an abelian group \mathcal{G} *canonical* if it is obtained by one of the following rules:

- $\mathcal{G} = \langle g \rangle$ is a cyclic group and $G = \{g\}$.
- $\mathcal{G} = \mathcal{G}_1 \otimes \mathcal{G}_2$, $G = G_1 \cup G_2$, and G_1, G_2 are canonical sets of generators for the groups $\mathcal{G}_1, \mathcal{G}_2$, respectively.

Clearly all groups obtained via the above rules are abelian and every abelian group is obtained via the above rules. For canonical sets of generators of abelian groups we can give a complete characterization of those Cayley networks for which \mathcal{L}_G is a strong labeling. In fact we can prove the following theorem.

THEOREM 11 *Let \mathcal{G} be a nontrivial abelian group which is not any of the 4 cyclic groups C_2, C_3, C_4, C_5 . If G is a canonical set of generators for \mathcal{G} then the labeling \mathcal{L}_G is strong.*

PROOF The proof is in several lemmas. First we take care of cyclic groups.

LEMMA 12 *If G is a canonical set of generators for the cyclic group $\mathcal{G} = C_N$ then \mathcal{L}_G is strong exactly when $N \neq 2, 3, 4, 5$.*

PROOF of the lemma. The automorphism group of \mathcal{N}_G is the dihedral group D_N . Results in [5] show that for any $N = 2, 3, 4, 5$ and any Boolean function f on N variables if $S(f) \geq C_N$ then also $S(f) \geq D_N$. Hence in this case results in [2] show that if f can be computed in \mathcal{N}_G then f can also be computed in $\mathcal{N}_G[\mathcal{L}_G]$. ■

If \mathcal{G} is abelian then a precise characterization of the group $Aut^*(\mathcal{N}_G)$ is possible.

LEMMA 13 *If $G = \{g_1, \dots, g_k, g_1^{-1}, \dots, g_k^{-1}\}$ is a canonical set of generators for the abelian group \mathcal{G} then $Aut^*(\mathcal{N}_G) = \bigotimes_{1 \leq i \leq k} D_{|g_i|}$.*

PROOF of the lemma. First observe that a canonical set of generators is irreducible, where a set G of generators of a group \mathcal{G} is called irreducible if

$$g, g' \in G \text{ and } g' \neq g, g^{-1} \Rightarrow g' \notin \langle g \rangle.$$

Let $s = |\{1 \leq i \leq k : g_i^2 \neq e\}|$ and assume that

$$g_1 \neq g_1^{-1}, \dots, g_s \neq g_s^{-1}, g_{s+1} = g_{s+1}^{-1}, \dots, g_k = g_k^{-1}.$$

Let $\phi \in \text{Aut}^*(\mathcal{N}_G)$. We show that ϕ is uniquely determined from

$$\phi(e), \phi(g_1), \dots, \phi(g_k).$$

Since G is irreducible there exist $a_1, \dots, a_s \in \{-1, 1\}$ such that $\phi(g_i) = g_i^{a_i}$, for $i = 1, \dots, s$. Then we can prove that for all $u \in \mathcal{G}$ if

$$u = g_1^{r_1} \cdots g_s^{r_s} g_{s+1}^{r_{s+1}} \cdots g_k^{r_k}$$

then

$$\phi(u) = \phi(e) g_1^{a_1 r_1} \cdots g_s^{a_s r_s} g_{s+1}^{r_{s+1}} \cdots g_k^{r_k}$$

(the proof is by induction on the exponents). Now the isomorphism claimed in the statement of the theorem is

$$\phi \rightarrow (\phi(e), a_1, \dots, a_s).$$

This completes the proof of the lemma. ■

LEMMA 14 *If G is a canonical set of generators for the group \mathcal{G} such that there exist $g, g' \in G$ with $|g| = |g'|$ and $g' \notin \langle g \rangle$ then $\text{Aut}^*(\mathcal{N}_G) \neq \text{Aut}(\mathcal{N}_G)$.*

PROOF Easy since we can prove that there is an automorphism ϕ of the group \mathcal{G} permuting g, g' but leaving the other generators fixed. ■

Now we give the proof of the main theorem. Assume that $\mathcal{G} = C_{n_1} \otimes \cdots \otimes C_{n_k}$, with $n_1 \geq \cdots \geq n_k$. If $n_i = n_j$ for some $i \neq j$ then by Lemma 14 and Theorem 4 the labeling \mathcal{L}_G is strong. Hence without loss of generality we may assume that $n_1 > \cdots > n_k$. If $k = 1$ then the theorem follows from Lemma 12. Hence without loss of generality we may assume $k \geq 2$. Assume now that for some i , $n_i \notin \{2, 3, 4, 5\}$. By [5] all dihedral groups are representable and the groups C_n are representable exactly when $n \neq 3, 4, 5$. Hence there is a Boolean function f such that

$$S(f) = D_{n_1} \otimes \cdots \otimes D_{n_{i-1}} \otimes C_{n_i} \otimes D_{n_{i+1}} \otimes \cdots \otimes D_{n_k}.$$

Since $n_i \neq 2$, we have that $C_{n_i} < D_{n_i}$, and hence

$$S(f) < D_{n_1} \otimes \cdots \otimes D_{n_{i-1}} \otimes D_{n_i} \otimes D_{n_{i+1}} \otimes \cdots \otimes D_{n_k} = \text{Aut}^*(\mathcal{N}_G) \leq \text{Aut}(\mathcal{N}_G).$$

It follows that f is not computable in the network \mathcal{N}_G .

The theorem has been proved for all abelian groups except for the following eleven: $\bigoplus_{n \in S} C_n$, where $S \subseteq \{2, 3, 4, 5\}$ and $|S| \geq 2$, which we now consider. For these groups we use the automorphism groups $\text{Aut}^{**}(\mathcal{N}_G)$ and prove the following claim.

Claim. $\text{Aut}^{**}(\mathcal{N}_G) = \text{Aut}(\mathcal{N}_G[\mathcal{L}_G])$, for any of the eleven abelian groups considered.

PROOF of the claim. Let $\phi \in \text{Aut}^{**}(\mathcal{N}_G)$. Since the groups considered are abelian it is easy to see that there exists an integer $k \geq 0$ such that for all $u, a \in \mathcal{G}$,

$$\phi(ua) = \phi(u)a^k.$$

It is now easy to check that for the eleven groups considered this implies that we can choose $k = 1$. This proves the claim.

Since a theorem of Subidussi [12] implies that $\text{Aut}(\mathcal{N}_G)$ is not abelian (the same result also follows directly from the next Theorem 15 without referring to [12]) it follows that $\text{Aut}(\mathcal{N}_G) \neq \text{Aut}^{**}(\mathcal{N}_G)$. This completes the proof of the theorem. ■

At this point it is interesting to note two interesting facts without proof. If $\text{Aut}_e(\mathcal{N}_G)$ is the set of automorphisms of \mathcal{N}_G fixing the identity element e of the group \mathcal{G} then every $\phi \in \text{Aut}(\mathcal{N}_G)$ is of the form $a \cdot \psi$, for some $a \in \mathcal{G}, \psi \in \text{Aut}_e(\mathcal{N}_G)$ (the same result holds for any of the groups $\text{Aut}^*(\mathcal{N}_G), \text{Aut}^{**}(\mathcal{N}_G)$). It is also a consequence of the definition of $\text{Aut}^{**}(\mathcal{N}_G)$ and the proof of Lemma 13 that for a canonical set of generators of an abelian group \mathcal{G} , $\text{Aut}_e^{**}(\mathcal{N}_G) = \text{Aut}^*(\mathcal{G})$. We leave the details to the reader.

THEOREM 15 *If G is a canonical set of generators for the group $\bigoplus_{n \in S} C_n$, where $S \subseteq \{2, 3, 4, 5\}$ then*

$$\text{Aut}(\mathcal{N}_G) = \text{Aut}^*(\mathcal{N}_G) = \bigoplus_{n \in S} D_n.$$

Moreover,

$$\{f \in B_N : S(f) \geq \text{Aut}(\mathcal{N}_G)\} = \{f \in B_N : S(f) \geq \text{Aut}(\mathcal{N}_G[\mathcal{L}_G])\}.$$

PROOF In order to prove the theorem we need the following lemma.

LEMMA 16 *Assume that $\mathcal{G} = \mathcal{G}' \otimes C_n$ is an abelian group, \mathcal{G}' a canonical set of generators for \mathcal{G}' , $G = \mathcal{G}' \cup \{v\}$ and $|v| = 3$ or $|v| = 5$. Moreover assume that*

1. *if $|v| = 3$ then for all $g \in \mathcal{G}'$ $|g| \neq 3$,*
2. *if $|v| = 5$ then for all $g \in \mathcal{G}'$ $|g| \neq 3, 5$.*

Then $\text{Aut}(\mathcal{N}_{\mathcal{G}' \cup \{v\}}) = \text{Aut}(\mathcal{N}_{\mathcal{G}'}) \otimes D_{|v|}$.

PROOF of the lemma. Let $\phi \in \text{Aut}(\mathcal{N}_{G' \cup \{v\}})$ and suppose on the contrary that for some $a \in \mathcal{G}, u \in G'$ $\phi(av) = \phi(a)u$ (the case $\phi(av) = \phi(a)u^{-1}$ is similar). We will derive a contradiction.

First consider the case $|v| = 3$. We have that

$$\phi(a) = \phi(av^3) = \phi(av^2)u_1 = \phi(av)u_2u_1 = \phi(a)u_2u_1u,$$

for some $u_1, u_2 \in G' \cup \{v\}$. But this implies that

$$u_1u_2u = e. \quad (6)$$

If $u_1, u_2 \notin \{u, u^{-1}\}$ then equation (6) implies that $u = e$, which is a contradiction. If $u_1 \in \{u, u^{-1}\}$ while $u_2 \notin \{u, u^{-1}\}$ then either $u_1 = u$ which implies that $u^2u_2 = e$, or else $u_1 = u^{-1}$ which implies that $u_2 = e$; in both cases we get a contradiction. Finally if $u_1, u_2 \in \{u, u^{-1}\}$ then either $u_1 = u_2 = u$, in which case (6) implies $u^3 = e$ (contradicting the fact that v is the unique element of order 3) or $u_1 = u_2 = u^{-1}$, in which case (6) implies $u^{-1} = e$, or $u_1 = u, u_2 = u^{-1}$, in which case (6) implies $u = e$. This proves the lemma in the case $|v| = 3$.

Next consider the case $|v| = 5$. As before there exist $u_1, u_2, u_3, u_4 \in G' \cup \{v\}$ such that

$$u_1u_2u_3u_4u = e. \quad (7)$$

We consider five cases depending on whether or not 0, 1, 2, 3, 4 generators among the u_1, u_2, u_3, u_4 are in the set $\{u, u^{-1}\}$. As before we use the fact that there is no generator in G' of order 3 or 5 to derive a contradiction. This proves the lemma. ■

In view of Lemma 16 it is enough to consider only groups of the form $C_m \otimes C_2$, with $m > 2$, as well as of the form $C_m \otimes C_4$, with $m > 4$. We show that in these cases as well $\text{Aut}(\mathcal{N}_G) = \text{Aut}^*(\mathcal{N}_G)$. This would imply that for all 16 abelian groups $\bigotimes_{m \in S} C_m$, where $S \subseteq \{2, 3, 4, 5\}$ and for any canonical set of generators G of that group $\text{Aut}(\mathcal{N}_G) = \text{Aut}^*(\mathcal{N}_G)$.

First consider the case of the groups $C_m \otimes C_2$, with $m > 2$. Let u be a generator of C_m and v a generator of C_2 . Let $\phi \in \text{Aut}(\mathcal{N}_{\{u, v\}})$ and suppose on the contrary that $\phi(uv) = \phi(u)u$ (the case $\phi(uv) = \phi(u)u^{-1}$ is similar). We will derive a contradiction. It follows that $\phi(u^2v) = \phi(u)u_1u$, for some $u_1 \in \{u, u^{-1}, v\}$. If $u_1 = u$ then $\phi(u^k v) = \phi(u)u^k$, for all k . If $u_1 = u^{-1}$ then $\phi(u^k v) = \phi(u)u^{-k}$, for all k . If $u_1 = v$ then $\phi(u^k v) = \phi(u)u^{k-1}v$, for all k . But all these statements contradict the injectivity of ϕ .

It remains to examine the case of the abelian groups $\mathcal{G} = C_m \otimes C_4$ when $m > 4$. Let u, v be generators of C_m, C_4 , respectively. By contradiction, assume that for some $a \in \mathcal{G}$, and $\phi \in \text{Aut}(\mathcal{N}_G)$, $\phi(av) = \phi(a)u$. But arguing as before this would imply that ϕ is not 1-1. The proof of Theorem 15 is complete. ■

The 11 abelian groups $\bigoplus_{n \in S} C_n$, where $S \subseteq \{2, 3, 4, 5\}$ and $|S| \geq 2$ have a rather interesting behavior. Although Theorem 15 implies that the networks

\mathcal{N}_G and $\mathcal{N}_G[\mathcal{L}_G]$ cannot “distinguish” the Boolean functions they can compute from their automorphism groups alone, Theorem 11 shows that in fact the labeled network $\mathcal{N}_G[\mathcal{L}_G]$ can compute more Boolean functions than the unlabeled network \mathcal{N}_G . In particular, for these 11 abelian groups there exist Boolean functions which are computable on \mathcal{N}_G but such that $S(f) \geq \text{Aut}(\mathcal{N}_G)$.

4 Conclusion

We studied the labeling problem on anonymous Cayley networks and provided sufficient conditions for the labeling \mathcal{L}_G to be strong. For the case of abelian groups with canonical sets of generators we gave exact characterizations of the groups G for which the labeling \mathcal{L}_G is strong.

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