## EPPA numbers of graphs

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## G² OAT Monday seminar 2023

David Bradley-Williams, Peter J. Cameron, Jan Hubička, and MK:

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Example
A graph $\mathbf{G}$ is vertex-transitive if every partial automorphism $f$ with $|\operatorname{Dom}(f)| \leq 1$ extends to an automorphism of $\mathbf{G}$.

Definition (EPPA, extension property for partial automorphisms)
Let $\mathbf{B}$ be a structure and let $\mathbf{A}$ be its induced substructure. $\mathbf{B}$ is an EPPA-witness for $\mathbf{A}$ if every partial automorphism of $\mathbf{A}$ extends to an automorphism of $\mathbf{B}$.

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A class $\mathcal{C}$ of finite structures has EPPA if for every $\mathbf{A} \in \mathcal{C}$ there is $\mathbf{B} \in \mathcal{C}$, which is an EPPA-witness for $\mathbf{A}$.

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Theorem (Hrushovski, 1992)
The class of all finite graphs has EPPA.

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Let $\mathbf{M}$ be the union of the chain. Every partial automorphism of $\mathbf{M}$ with finite domain extends to an automorphism of $\mathbf{M}$ (i.e. $\mathbf{M}$ is homogeneous).

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Theorem [Kechris, Rosendal, 2007]: The class of all finite substructures of a homogeneous structure $\mathbf{M}$ has EPPA if and only if $\operatorname{Aut}(\mathrm{M})$ can be written as the closure of a chain of compact subgroups.

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- various classes of disjoint unions of cliques [easy],
- complements thereof,
- subgraphs of the finite homogeneous graphs [Gardiner, 1976].


## Examples

- Graphs [Hrushovski, 1992], $K_{n}$-free graphs [Herwig, 1998]
- Relational structures (with forbidden cliques) [Herwig, 1995], [Hodkinson, Otto, 2003]
- Metric spaces [Solecki, 2005; Vershik, 2008], also [Conant, 2019]
- Two-graphs [Evans, Hubička, K, Nešeť̌il, 2018]
- Metrically homogeneous graphs [AB-WHKKKP, 2017], [K, 2019]
- Generalised metric spaces [Hubička, K, Nešetřil, 2019+]
- n-partite and semigeneric tournaments [Hubička, Jahel, K, Sabok, 2019+]
- Groups [Siniora, 2017]

Question (Herwig, Lascar, 2000)
Do finite tournaments have EPPA?

## EPPA numbers of graphs

Given a graph G, let eppa $(\mathbf{G})$ be the least number of vertices of an $\operatorname{EPPA}$-witness for $\mathbf{G}$. Put $\operatorname{eppa}(n)=\max \{\operatorname{eppa}(\mathbf{G}):|\mathbf{G}|=n\}$.

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Problem (Hrushovski, 1992)
Improve the bounds.

Theorem (Herwig, Lascar, 2000)
For every $\mathbf{G}$ with $n$ vertices and maximum degree $\Delta$ we have that $\operatorname{eppa}(\mathbf{G}) \leq\binom{\Delta n}{\Delta} \in n^{\mathcal{O}(n)}$.
In particular, bounded degree graphs have polynomial EPPA numbers.

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Theorem (Evans, Hubička, K, Nešetřil, 2021)

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\operatorname{eppa}(n) \leq n 2^{n-1}
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Proof.

1. Let $\mathbf{G}=(V, E)$ be a graph. Assume that $\mathbf{G}$ is $\Delta$-regular.
2. Define $\mathbf{H}$ so that $V(\mathbf{H})=\binom{E}{\Delta}$ and $X Y \in E(\mathbf{H})$ if $X \cap Y \neq \emptyset$.
3. Embed $\psi: \mathbf{G} \rightarrow \mathbf{H}$ sending $v \mapsto\{e \in E: v \in e\}$.
4. A partial automorphism of $\mathbf{G}$ gives a partial permutation of $E$.
5. Extend it to a permutation of $E$ respecting the partial automorphism.
6. Every permutation of $E$ induces an automorphism of $\mathbf{H}$.

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For non-regular graphs, add "half-edges" to make them regular.

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For $u, v \in G$, we define a flip $F_{u, v}((w, f))=\left(w, f^{\prime}\right)$, where

$$
f^{\prime}(x)= \begin{cases}1-f(x) & \text { if }\{w, x\}=\{u, v\} \\ f(x) & \text { otherwise }\end{cases}
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## Remark

This can be straightforwardly generalised to hypergraphs and arbitrary relational structures, and one can also add unary functions.

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2. Complements of Kneser graphs $\left(\binom{\Delta n}{\Delta}, \mathcal{O}\left(n^{\Delta}\right)\right.$ for constant $\left.\Delta\right)$.
3. Valuation graphs $\left(n 2^{n-1}\right)$.

## A lower bound

Observation (Bradley-Williams, Cameron, Hubička, Konečný, 2023)

There is $\mathbf{G}$ such that every EPPA-witness for $\mathbf{G}$ has at least $\Omega\left(2^{n} / \sqrt{n}\right)$ vertices. Consequently, eppa $(n) \geq \Omega\left(2^{n} / \sqrt{n}\right)$.

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- Claim: In every EPPA-witness, for every $S \in\binom{[n]}{n / 2}$, there is a vertex connected to $S$ and not to $[n] \backslash S$.

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- Pick arbitrary $S \in\left(\begin{array}{c}{\left[\begin{array}{l}{[n]} \\ n / 2\end{array}\right) \text {. } . \text {. } \text {. }}\end{array}\right.$



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## Hypergraphs

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Observation (B-WCHK, 2023)
For every $m$, there is a 3 -uniform hypergraph $\mathbf{G}$ on $n=2^{m}+m+1$ vertices with $\operatorname{eppa}_{3}(\mathbf{G}) \geq m!\in 2^{\Omega(n \log n)}$.

Proof


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- Note that there are only $2^{\mathcal{O}(n \log n)}$ partial permutations.


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