

THE CLASSIFICATION OF COVERINGS  
OF PROCESSOR NETWORKS

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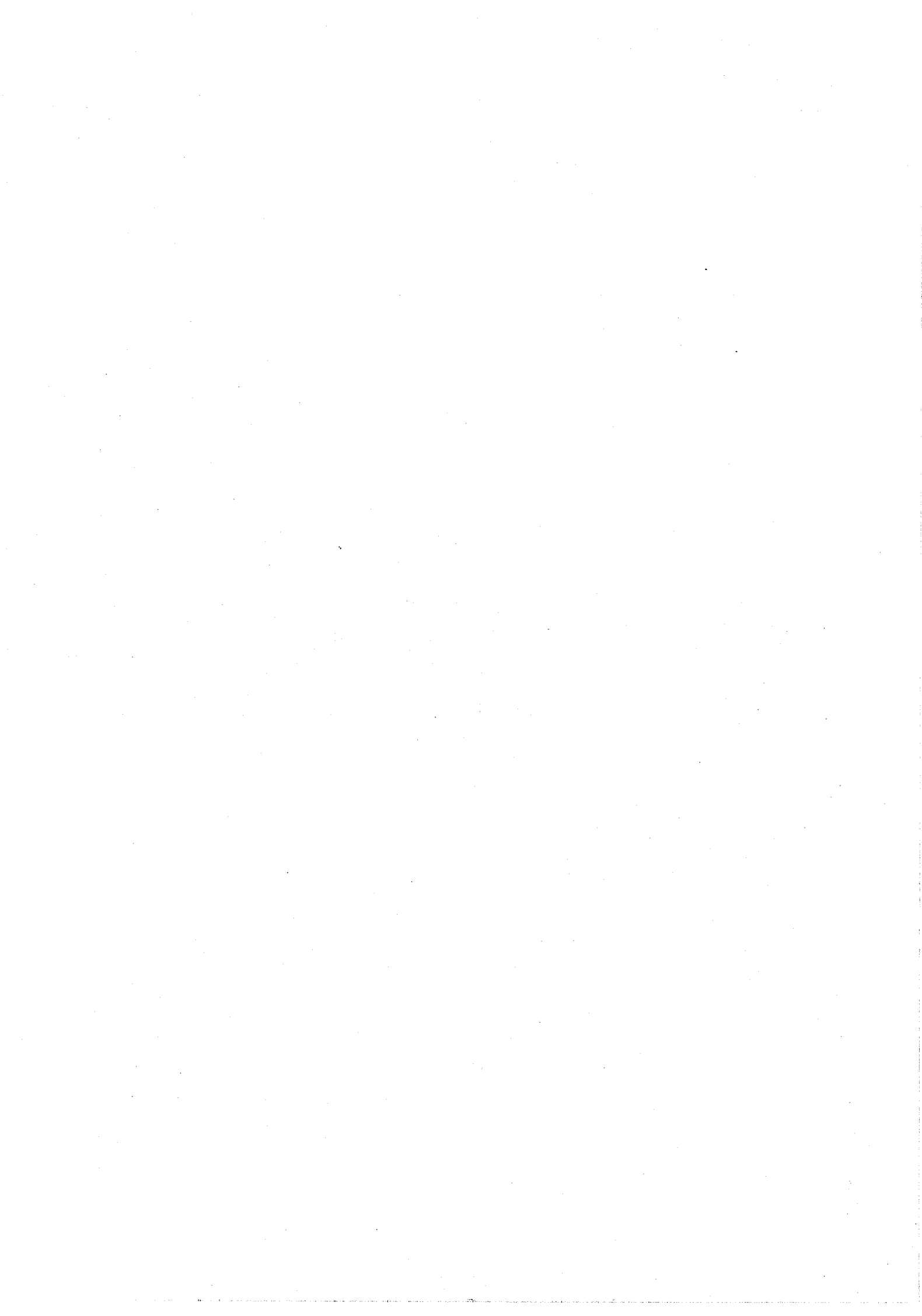
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Abstract. Uniform emulations are known in the theory of parallel computing as a class of balanced, structure preserving simulations of large (processor-) networks on smaller (processor-) networks, possibly of the same type. The notion of a covering of one graph by another graph, derived from combinatorial topology, is strongly related to the notion of uniform emulation: every covering of a connected, undirected graph is a uniform emulation. A classification of the coverings of large networks on smaller networks of the same type is given for the following network types: the ring, the grid, the cube, the cube-connected cycles, the tree network and the complete network. A version of the notion of covering for directed graphs is introduced, and the directed coverings of the 4-pin shuffle and the shuffle-exchange networks are completely classified. The problem to decide whether there is a covering of a given graph  $G=(V_G, E_G)$  on a given graph  $H=(V_H, E_H)$  is shown to be at least as hard as GRAPH ISOMORPHISM, even if  $|V_G|/|V_H|$  is fixed to a constant  $c \in \mathbb{N}^+$ .

1. Introduction. Parallel algorithms are normally designed for execution on a suitable network with  $N$  processors, with  $N$  depending on the size of the problem to be solved. In practice the size of the problem will be large and varying, whereas the size of the network

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will be small and fixed. In [6] Fishburn and Finkel introduced the concept of uniform emulation. Uniform emulations are balanced, structure preserving simulations of large (processor-) networks, on smaller (processor-) networks, possibly of the same type. Independently Berman [1] proposed a similar notion. An extensive analysis of the concept was made in [2, 3, 4, 5].

Definition. Let  $G=(V_G, E_G)$  and  $H=(V_H, E_H)$  be (undirected) graphs (processor networks). We say that  $f: V_G \rightarrow V_H$  emulates  $G$  on  $H$  iff  $(v,w) \in E_G$  implies that  $f(v)=f(w)$  or  $(f(v), f(w)) \in E_H$ .  $f$  is uniform if there is a  $c \in \mathbb{N}^+$ , such that for all  $h \in V_H$   $|f^{-1}(h)|=c$ .  $c$  is called the computation factor of  $f$ .

The concept of covering is a fundamental notion in combinatorial topology. Every covering is a mapping of a  $d$ -dimensional complex onto (another)  $d$ -dimensional complex. The notion of a one-dimensional complex corresponds with the notion of an undirected graph (with possibly parallel edges and selfloops). (Throughout this paper we will use the terminology of graphs.) In this paper we will study the coverings of graphs, for graphs representing the interconnection structure of processor networks. The following definition can be found in [8], and in many other standard books on combinatorial topology, often in generalized form.

Definition. Let  $G=(V_G, E_G)$ ,  $H=(V_H, E_H)$  be undirected graphs. We say that  $f: V_G \rightarrow V_H$  covers  $G$  on  $H$  (or " $G$  covers  $H$ ") iff

1.  $f$  is surjective
2.  $(v,w) \in E_G$  implies  $((f(v), f(w)) \in E_H$
3. For all  $v \in V_G$ , let  $w_1, \dots, w_{k_v}$  be the neighbours of  $v$  in  $G$ . Then  $f(w_1), \dots, f(w_{k_v})$  are all  $k_v$  different and each neighbour  $v'$  of  $f(v)$  is equal to a  $f(w_i)$  ( $1 \leq i \leq k_v$ ).

Theorem 1.1. [8] Every covering of a graph  $G$  on a connected graph  $H$  is uniform.

Corollary 1.2. Let  $G=(V_G, E_G)$ ,  $H=(V_H, E_H)$  be undirected graphs and let  $H$  be connected. Every covering of  $G$  on  $H$  is a uniform emulation of  $G$  on  $H$ .

In [8] the following method is given to describe all graphs that cover a given connected graph  $H$  with computation factor  $c$ :

- determine a spanning tree  $B$  of  $H$ ,
- make  $c$  copies of  $B$ ,
- for every edge in  $H$  that is not an edge in the tree  $B$  we have  $c$  copies of both its endpoints. These copies are connected on a one-to-one basis: every copy of first endpoint must be connected to a unique copy of the second endpoint. (This gives  $c!$  manners to make the connections.)

Up to isomorphism every graph  $G$  that covers  $H$  can be obtained in the described manner. For further details of the theory of coverings of graphs and more-dimensional complexes, see e.g. [8].

We introduce a directed version of the notion of covering:

Definition. Let  $G=(V_G, E_G)$ ,  $H=(V_H, E_H)$  be directed graphs. We say that  $f: V_G \rightarrow V_H$  covers  $G$  on  $H$  (or " $G$  covers  $H$ ") iff

1.  $f$  is surjective
2.  $(v, w) \in E_G$  implies  $(f(v), f(w)) \in E_H$ .
3. For all  $v \in V_G$ , let  $w_1, \dots, w_{k_v}$  be the successors of  $v$  in  $G$ . Then  $f(w_1), \dots, f(w_{k_v})$  are all different, and each successor  $v'$  of  $f(v)$  is equal to a  $f(w_i)$  ( $1 \leq i \leq k_v$ ).
4. For all  $v \in V_G$ , let  $w'_1, \dots, w'_{l_v}$  be the predecessors of  $v$  in  $G$ . Then  $f(w'_1), \dots, f(w'_{l_v})$  are all different, and each predecessor  $v'$  of  $f(v)$  is equal to a  $f(w'_i)$  ( $1 \leq i \leq l_v$ ).

Let  $\bar{G}$  be the undirected graph obtained by ignoring the direction of the edges in the directed graph  $G=(V, E)$ , i.e.  $\bar{G}=(V, \bar{E})$ , with  $\bar{E}=\{(v, w) \mid (v, w) \in E \text{ or } (w, v) \in E\}$ .

Lemma 1.3. Let  $G, H$  be directed graphs. If  $G$  covers  $H$ , then  $\bar{G}$  covers  $\bar{H}$ .

Proof. Clear from the definitions.  $\square$

Corollary 1.4. Every covering of a directed graph  $G$  on a directed graph  $H$  is a uniform emulation.

Similar to the description of the graphs that cover an undirected graph  $H$  with computation factor  $c$ , one can describe all graphs that cover a directed graph  $H=(V_H, E_H)$  with computation factor  $c$ :

- let  $B=(V_B, E_B)$  be a directed graph, such that:

(i)  $\bar{B}$  is a spanning tree of  $\bar{H}$

(ii)  $|E_B|=|V_H|-1$ , so for every pair of nodes  $v_1, v_2 \in V_H$  at most one edge between these nodes (regardless to the direction) is an edge in  $E_B$ .

- make  $c$  copies of  $B$

- for every edge  $(v_1, v_2) \in E_H$  that is not an edge in  $E_B$  we have  $c$  copies of both its endpoints  $v_1, v_2$ . These copies are connected on a one-to-one basis: every copy of the first endpoint must be connected to a unique copy of the second endpoint: the direction of the edges is from a copy of  $v_1$  to a copy of  $v_2$ .

Up to isomorphism every graph  $G$  that covers  $H$  can be obtained in the described manner. (The proof of this characterisation uses lemma 1.3. and the result for the undirected case, and is omitted.)

The notion of covering is much more restricted than the notion of uniform emulation: in many cases there are many more uniform emulations possible of some network  $G$  on some other network  $H$  than there are coverings possible, and in some cases there exist uniform emulations but no coverings of  $G$  on  $H$ . A (partial) classification of the uniform emulations of the shuffle exchange network, the 4-pin shuffle, the ring, the grid and the cube network on smaller networks of the same type has been carried out in [2,3]. The classification of coverings of networks on smaller networks of the same type is a special case of this problem. In this paper the classification of coverings is carried out for the following types of graphs; each type is used or proposed as the interconnection structure for current processor networks:

- the ring (section 2.1)
- the grid (section 2.2)
- tree networks (section 2.3)
- the cube (section 2.4)
- complete networks (section 2.5)
- the cube connected cycles (section 3)
- the 4-pin shuffle (section 4)
- the shuffle-exchange network (section 5)

In section 6 the problem to decide whether a given connected graph  $G=(V_G, E_G)$  covers a given connected graph  $H=(V_H, E_H)$  is addressed and proven to be at least as hard as GRAPH ISOMORPHISM, even if the computation factor  $c=|V_G|/|V_H|$  is fixed.

Let  $b=b_1\dots b_n$  be a string with  $n$  bits  $\in \{0,1\}$ , and let  $\alpha \in \{0,1\}$ . We will use the following notation throughout:

- $\frac{0}{1}$  : a bit that can be 0 or 1
- $\bar{\alpha}$  : the complement of bit  $\alpha$ . ( $\bar{0}=1, \bar{1}=0$ )
- $\bar{b}$  : the string one obtains by complementing every bit of  $b$   
 $(\overline{b_1\dots b_n} = \bar{b}_1\dots\bar{b}_n)$
- $b|_i$  :  $b_1\dots b_i$  (truncation after the  $i^{\text{th}}$  bit)
- $i|b$  :  $b_i\dots b_n$  (truncation before the  $i^{\text{th}}$  bit)
- $(b)_i$  :  $b_i$  (the  $i^{\text{th}}$  bit)

For functions  $f$  defined on  $n$ -bit numbers  $b$  we use

$$f_i(b): (f(b))_i \text{ (projection on the } i^{\text{th}} \text{ bit)}$$

## 2. Coverings of ring, grid, tree, cube and complete networks.

### 2.1. Ring networks.

Definition. The ring with  $n$  nodes is the graph  $R_n=(V_n, E_n)$  with  $V_n=\{0, \dots, n-1\}$  and  $E_n=\{(i, (i \pm 1) \bmod n) \mid i \in V_n\}$ .

It is easy to classify the coverings of the ring networks. The following propositions are given without proof.



Proposition 2.1.1. Let  $G$  be a graph, consisting of connected components  $G_1, \dots, G_j$  and let  $k \in \mathbb{N}^+$ ,  $k \geq 3$ .  $G$  covers  $R_k$  if and only if for all  $i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq j$   $G_i$  is graph isomorphic to a ring  $R_n$  with  $k|n$ .

Proposition 2.1.2. Let  $H$  be a graph, and  $n \in \mathbb{N}^+$ .  $R_n$  covers  $H$  if and only if  $H$  is graph isomorphic to a ring  $R_k$  with  $k|n$ .

Proposition 2.1.3. The coverings of  $R_n$  on  $R_k$  with  $k \geq 3$ ,  $k|n$  are given by the following list:

- (i)  $f_j(m) = (m+j) \bmod k$  (for  $j$ ,  $0 \leq j < k$ )
- (ii)  $\bar{f}_j(m) = (-m+j) \bmod k$  (for  $j$ ,  $0 \leq j < k$ )

Proof. It is easy to verify that every  $f_j, \bar{f}_j$  is a covering of  $R_n$  on  $R_k$ . Let  $f$  be a covering of  $R_n$  on  $R_k$ . Consider  $f(0)$  and  $f(1)$ . If  $f(1) = (f(0)+1) \bmod k$ , then  $f$  is of type  $f_j$ ; if  $f(1) = (f(0)-1) \bmod k$ , then  $f$  is of type  $\bar{f}_j$ . In both cases  $j=f(0)$ . With induction one can verify that  $f$  must be of the designated type.  $\square$

Corollary 2.1.4. For all  $k, n$ ,  $k|n$ ,  $k \geq 3$  there are precisely  $2k$  coverings of  $R_n$  on  $R_k$ .

## 2.2. Grid Networks.

Definition. The two-dimensional grid network with boundary connections is the graph  $GR_n = (V_n, E_n)$  with  $V_n = \{(i, j) \mid i, j \in \mathbb{N}, 0 \leq i, j \leq n-1\}$  and  $E_n = \{((i, j), (i', j')) \mid (i, j), (i', j') \in V_n \text{ and } (i=i' \wedge j = (j' \pm 1) \bmod n) \text{ or } (i=(i' \pm 1) \bmod n \wedge j=j')\}$ . The two-dimensional grid network without boundary connections is the graph  $GR'_n = (V_n, E'_n)$  with  $E'_n = \{((i, j), (i', j')) \mid (i, j), (i', j') \in V_n \text{ and } (i=i' \wedge j=j' \pm 1) \text{ or } (i=i' \pm 1 \wedge j=j')\}$ .

Proposition 2.2.1. If  $n \neq m$  then there exist no covering of  $GR'_n$  on  $GR'_m$ .

Proof.  $GR'_n$  and  $GR'_m$  both have exactly 4 nodes of degree 2. Because  $\text{degree}(v) = \text{degree}(f(v))$  for all  $v \in V_n$ , and a covering of  $GR'_n$  on  $GR'_m$

must be uniform, with a computation factor  $\neq 1$  because  $n \neq m$ , there exists no covering of  $GR'_n$  or  $GR'_m$ .  $\square$

One can view the two-dimensional grid network with boundary connections as the product of two ringnetworks:  $GR_n \cong R_n \times R_n$ . Every covering of  $GR_n$  on  $GR_m$  ( $m|n$ ,  $m \geq 5$ ) can also be written as the product of two coverings of  $R_n$  on  $R_m$ .

Theorem 2.2.2. Let  $m|n$ ,  $m \geq 5$ , and let  $f$  be a function  $V_n \rightarrow V_m$ .  $f$  is a covering of  $GR_n$  on  $GR_m$ , if and only if there are coverings  $f_1, f_2$  of  $R_n$  on  $R_m$ , with

$$\begin{aligned} f((i,j)) &= (f_1(i), f_2(j)) \text{ for all } (i,j) \in V_n \\ \text{or } f((i,j)) &= (f_1(j), f_2(i)) \text{ for all } (i,j) \in V_n. \end{aligned}$$

Proof. First note that every cycle with 4 nodes (a "square") in  $GR_n$  must be mapped on a cycle with 4 nodes (a "square") in  $GR_m$ . With induction one can prove that, after having fixed the image of one cycle with 4 nodes (square) in  $GR_n$ , the whole covering is fixed and necessarily of the described form.  $\square$

By the results of section 2.1. theorem 2.2.2. implies a complete characterization of the coverings of  $GR_n$  on  $GR_m$ ,  $m|n$ ,  $m \geq 5$ .

2.3. Tree networks. The following theorem from combinatorial topology characterizes precisely which graphs cover a given tree network.

Theorem 2.3.1. [8] Let  $H$  be a tree, and let  $G$  cover  $H$ . Then  $G$  consists of a number ( $\geq 1$ ) of connected components, each graph isomorphic to  $H$ . In particular, if  $G$  is connected then  $G$  and  $H$  are graph isomorphic.

2.4. Cube networks.

Definition. The cube network with  $2^n$  nodes or  $n$ -cube is the graph  $C_n = (V_n, E_n)$  with  $V_n = \{(b_1 \dots b_n) \mid \forall i, 1 \leq i \leq n, b_i = \begin{smallmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{smallmatrix}\}$  and  $E_n = \{(b,c) \mid b,c \in V_n \text{ and } b,c \text{ differ in exactly one bitposition}\}$ .

Proposition 2.4.1. Let  $C_n$  cover  $C_m$ . Then  $n=m$ .

Proof.

This follows because  $\text{degree}(f(v)) = \text{degree}(v)$ , for any covering  $f$  of  $C_n$  on  $C_m$  and  $v \in C_n$ .  $\square$

2.5. Complete networks. The same argument can be used for complete networks.

Definition. The complete network with  $n$  nodes is the graph  $K_n = (V_n, E_n)$  with  $V_n = \{0, \dots, n-1\}$  and  $E_n = \{(i, j) \mid i, j \in V_n \wedge i \neq j\}$ .

Proposition 2.5.1. Let  $K_n$  cover  $K_m$ . Then  $n=m$ .

3. Coverings of the cube-connected cycles. For denoting the 'cube-connected cycles' graph we use the notation introduced in [6]. Processors in the cube-connected cycles with  $r \cdot 2^r$  nodes are addressed by  $r$ -bit strings with a "divide" in any one position between bits. The position to the left of the first bit is identified with the position to the right of the last bit, so there are  $r$  positions for the divide.

A node  $p_1 \dots p_{i-1} \mid p_i \dots p_r$  is connected to the following 3 nodes:

$p_1 \dots \overline{p_{i-1}} \mid p_i \dots p_r$   
 $p_1 \dots p_{i-2} \mid p_{i-1} p_i \dots p_r$   
 and  $p_1 \dots p_{i-1} p_i \mid p_{i+1} \dots p_r$ .

Definition. The cube-connected cycles graph with  $2^r$  nodes is the (undirected) graph  $CCC_r = (V_r, E_r)$ , with  $V_r = \{p_1 \dots p_{i-1} \mid p_i \dots p_r \mid p_1 \dots p_r \in (\frac{0}{1})^r, 1 \leq i \leq r\}$  and  $E_r = \{(p_1 \dots p_{i-1} \mid p_i \dots p_r, p_1 \dots \overline{p_{i-1}} \mid p_i \dots p_r) \mid p_1 \dots p_{i-1} \mid p_i \dots p_r \in V_r\} \cup \{(p_1 \dots p_{i-1} \mid p_i \dots p_r, p_1 \dots p_i \mid p_{i+1} \dots p_r) \mid p_1 \dots p_{i-1} \mid p_i \dots p_r, p_1 \dots p_i \mid p_{i+1} \dots p_r \in V_r\}$ . (Let  $- (+)$  be the subtraction (addition) modulo  $r$ .)

Edges of the type  $(p_1 \dots p_{i-1} \mid p_i \dots p_r, p_1 \dots \overline{p_{i-1}} \mid p_i \dots p_r)$  are called exchange edges; edges of the type  $(p_1 \dots p_{i-1} \mid p_i \dots p_r, p_1 \dots p_i \mid p_{i+1} \dots p_r)$  are called divide shift edges. Notice that every

node is adjacent to 2 divide shift edges and one exchange edge. When a divide shift edge is passed in the direction from  $p_1 \dots p_{i-1} | p_i \dots p_r$  to  $p_1 \dots p_i | p_{i+1} \dots p_r$  we say it is passed in the positive direction, otherwise we say it is passed in the negative direction.

We will only consider coverings of  $CCC_r$  on  $CCC_s$  with  $r \geq s \geq 9$ .

Lemma 3.1. Every cycle in  $CCC_r$  with  $r \geq 9$  has at least 8 nodes. For every cycle with exactly 8 nodes in  $CCC_r$  with  $r \geq 9$  there are  $p_1 \dots p_r \in (\frac{0}{1})^r$ ,  $i \in \{1, \dots, r\}$ , such that the successive nodes visited by the cycle (assuming starting point and direction in which the cycle is traversed are well chosen) are:

$$\begin{array}{l}
 p_1 \dots p_i | p_{i+1} p_{i+2} \dots p_r \\
 p_1 \dots p_i \overline{p_{i+1}} | p_{i+2} \dots p_r \\
 p_1 \dots p_i \overline{\overline{p_{i+1}}} | p_{i+2} \dots p_r \\
 p_1 \dots \overline{p_i} | \overline{\overline{p_{i+1}}} p_{i+2} \dots p_r \\
 p_1 \dots \overline{\overline{p_i}} | \overline{\overline{\overline{p_{i+1}}}} p_{i+2} \dots p_r \\
 p_1 \dots \overline{\overline{\overline{p_i}}} | \overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{p_{i+1}}}}} p_{i+2} \dots p_r \\
 p_1 \dots \overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{p_i}}}}} | \overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{p_{i+1}}}}}}} p_{i+2} \dots p_r \\
 p_1 \dots \overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{p_i}}}}}}} | \overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{p_{i+1}}}}}}}}} p_{i+2} \dots p_r
 \end{array}$$

Proof.

This is easy, but tedious to check.  $\square$

Now let  $f$  be a covering of  $CCC_r$  or  $CCC_s$ , with  $r \geq s \geq 9$ . Every cycle with 8 nodes of  $CCC_r$  must be mapped upon a cycle with 8 nodes of  $CCC_s$ . Notice that every edge that is adjacent to a cycle with 8 nodes but not part of this cycle, necessarily is a divide shift edge.

Lemma 3.2. Let  $f$  cover  $CCC_r$  on  $CCC_s$ ,  $r \geq s \geq 9$ . Then  $f$  maps nodes connected by a divide shift edge on nodes connected by a divide shift edge and nodes connected by an exchange edge on nodes connected by an exchange edge.

Proof.

For every divide shift edge  $e$  there is a cycle of 8 nodes to which  $e$  is adjacent, but of which  $e$  is no part. Hence  $e$  must be mapped upon an edge, adjacent to a cycle of 8 nodes, that is: a divide shift edge. Because every node is adjacent to exactly 2 divide shift edges and one exchange edge, exchange edges must be mapped upon exchange edges.  $\square$

Now let  $f(0|0..0)$  be given. There are two possible values for  $f(00|0..0)$ , the node reachable from  $f(0|0..0)$  by a divide shift in positive direction, and the node reachable from  $f(0|0..0)$  by a divide shift in negative direction. The choice of  $f(0|0..0)$  and  $f(00|0..0)$  fixes the covering  $f$ .

Lemma 3.3. Let  $b$  and  $c$  be nodes in  $CCC_r$ , that are connected by a divide shift edge. There is at most one covering  $f$  of  $CCC_r$  on  $CCC_s$  ( $r \geq s \geq 9$ ) with  $f(0|0..0) = b$  and  $f(00|0..0) = c$ .

Proof.

Suppose  $f(0|0..0) = b = p_1 \dots p_{i-1} | p_i \dots p_s$  and  $f(00|0..0) = c = p_1 \dots p_{i-1} p_i | p_{i+1} \dots p_s$ . (If  $b \rightarrow c$  is a divide shift in negative direction, then the proof is analogous.) Let  $f$  be a covering of  $CCC_r$  on  $CCC_s$ . If  $f(q_1 \dots q_{j-1} | q_j \dots q_r)$  reaches  $f(q_1 \dots q_j | q_{j+1} \dots q_r)$  by a divide shift in positive direction, then every  $f(q_1 \dots q_{j-1} | q_j \dots q_r)$  reaches  $f(q_1 \dots q_j | q_{j+1} \dots q_r)$  by a divide shift in positive direction ( $1 \leq j' \leq r$ ). Similarly for negative directions.

Proposition 3.3.1. Let  $b', c'$  be nodes in  $CCC_r$ , and  $c'$  can be reached from  $b'$  by a divide shift in positive direction. Then  $f(c')$  can be reached from  $f(b')$  by a divide shift in positive direction.

Proof.

Suppose not. We now can divide  $(\frac{0}{1})^r$  in two disjunctive sets  $A$  and  $B$ , with  $A = \{q_1 \dots q_r \mid f(q_1 \dots q_{i-1} | q_i \dots q_r) \text{ reaches } f(q_1 \dots q_i | q_{i+1} \dots q_r) \text{ by a divide shift in positive direction}\}$  and  $B = \{q_1 \dots q_r \mid f(q_1 \dots q_{i-1} | q_i \dots q_r) \text{ reaches } f(q_1 \dots q_i | q_{i+1} \dots q_r) \text{ by a}$

divide shift in negative direction}. (Note that the choice of  $i$  is not important.) We know that  $A$  and  $B$  are not empty. For instance  $0^n \in A$ .

There must be strings  $a \in A$ ,  $b \in B$ , that differ in exactly one bitposition. So there are  $p_1 \dots p_r \in (\frac{0}{1})^r$ ,  $i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq r$ ,  $q_1 \dots q_s \in (\frac{0}{1})^s$ ,  $q'_1 \dots q'_s \in (\frac{0}{1})^s$ ,  $j$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq s$ ,  $j'$ ,  $1 \leq j' \leq s$ , with

$$\begin{aligned} - f(p_1 \dots p_{i-1} | p_i p_{i+1} \dots p_r) &= q_1 \dots q_{j-1} | q_j q_{j+1} \dots q_r \\ - f(p_1 \dots p_{i-1} | \overline{p_i} p_{i+1} \dots p_r) &= q_1 \dots q_{j-1} | \overline{q_j} q_{j+1} \dots q_r \\ - f(p_1 \dots p_{i-1} | p_i p_{i+1} \dots p_r) &= q'_1 \dots q'_{j'-1} | q'_{j'} q'_{j'+1} \dots q'_r \\ - f(p_1 \dots p_{i-1} | \overline{p_i} p_{i+1} \dots p_r) &= q'_1 \dots q'_{j'-1} | \overline{q'_{j'}} q'_{j'+1} \dots q'_r \end{aligned}$$

From 3.2 we have

$$\begin{aligned} - f(p_1 \dots p_{i-1} | \overline{p_i} p_{i+1} \dots p_r) &= q_1 \dots q_{j-1} | \overline{q_j} q_{j+1} \dots q_r, \text{ hence} \\ - f(p_1 \dots p_{i-1} | \overline{p_i} p_{i+1} \dots p_r) &= q_1 \dots q_{j-1} | q_j q_{j+1} | q_{j+2} \dots q_r. \end{aligned}$$

Now notice that  $p_1 \dots p_{i-1} | p_i p_{i+1} \dots p_r$ ;  $p_1 \dots p_{i-1} | \overline{p_i} p_{i+1} \dots p_r$ ;  $p_1 \dots p_{i-1} | \overline{p_i} p_{i+1} \dots p_r$ ;  $p_1 \dots p_{i-1} | p_i p_{i+1} \dots p_r$  are 4 successive nodes in a cycle with 8 nodes in  $CCC_r$ . However, their images are not 4 successive nodes in a cycle with 8 nodes in  $CCC_s$ . So there is a cycle with 8 nodes that is not mapped upon a cycle with 8 nodes. Contradiction.  $\square$

This shows that  $f$  is completely determined by the choice of  $f(0|0..0)$  and  $f(00|0..0)$ . Let  $d$  be a node of  $CCC_r$ . Look at the path from  $0|0..0$  to  $d$ , and the  $f$ -images of the nodes on this path. If the path uses an exchange edge, a divide shift in positive direction or a divide shift in negative direction, respectively, then the path formed by the  $f$ -images must use the same type of edge. Hence  $f(d)$  is fully determined by  $f(0|0..0)$  and  $f(00|0..0)$ .  $\square$

Corollary 3.4. Let  $s|r$ . There are at most  $2s \cdot 2^s$  coverings of  $CCC_r$  on  $CCC_s$ .

Proof.

There are  $s \cdot 2^s$  possible choices for  $f(0|0..0)$ . For  $f(00|0..0)$  there are 2 choices left.  $\square$

Lemma 3.5. Let  $CCC_r$  cover  $CCC_s$ . Then  $s|r$ .

Proof.

The number of nodes of  $CCC_s$  must divide the number of nodes of  $CCC_r$ . I.e.  $s \cdot 2^s | r \cdot 2^r$ , so  $s|r$ .  $\square$

Consider the following graph isomorphisms of  $CCC_s$ .

1. Let  $I \subseteq \{1, \dots, s\}$ . The function  $X_I$  does not move the divide, but flips the bits with index in  $I$ :

$$X_I(p_1 \dots p_j | p_{j+1} \dots p_s) = q_1 \dots q_j | q_{j'+1} \dots q_s \Leftrightarrow \\ j=j'; q_i=p_i \text{ for all } i \notin I; q_i \neq p_i \text{ for all } i \in I.$$

2. Let  $t \in \{0, \dots, s-1\}$ . The function  $S_t$  shifts the whole string, the divide inclus,  $t$  positions to the left:

$$S_t(p_1 \dots p_i | p_{i+1} \dots p_s) = p_{t+1} \dots p_i | p_{i+1} \dots p_s p_1 \dots p_t \\ (\text{or, of course, } p_{t+1} \dots p_s p_1 \dots p_i | p_{i+1} \dots p_t).$$

3. The function  $R$  reverses the string. Notice that the divide is still placed after the same bit, not between the same bits, as originally:

$$R(p_1 \dots p_i | p_{i+1} \dots p_s) = p_s \dots p_{i+1} p_i | p_{i-1} \dots p_1.$$

It is easy to check that for every  $I \subseteq \{1, \dots, s\}$ ,  $t \in \{0, \dots, s-1\}$ ,  $X_I$ ,  $S_t$  and  $R$  are graph isomorphisms (= coverings) of  $CCC_s$  onto itself.

Corollary 3.6. Every graph isomorphism of  $CCC_s$  is of one of the following forms:

$$X_I \circ S_t \quad (I \subseteq \{1, \dots, s\}, 0 \leq t \leq s-1) \\ \text{or } X_I \circ S_t \circ R \quad (I \subseteq \{1, \dots, s\}, 0 \leq t \leq s-1).$$

Proof.

The described forms give  $2s \cdot 2^s$  different graph isomorphisms of  $CCC_s$ . Corollary 3.4. shows there cannot be more (every isomorphism is a covering).  $\square$

Consider the following function  $F: CCC_r \rightarrow CCC_s$ :

$$F(p_1 \dots p_i | p_{i+1} \dots p_r) = q_1 \dots q_i | q_{i'+1} \dots q_r$$

$$\Leftrightarrow q_j = \left( \sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor r/s - j \rfloor} b_{ks+j} \right) \text{ mod } 2 \text{ (for all } j, 1 \leq j \leq s)$$

and  $i' = i \text{ mod } s$  (i.e. the divide is placed after the  $i \text{ mod } s^{\text{th}}$  bit).

Lemma 3.7.  $F$  is a covering of  $CCC_r$  on  $CCC_s$ .

Proof.

It is clear that  $F$  is surjective.

Consider a node  $p_1 \dots p_i | p_{i+1} \dots p_r$  in  $CCC_r$  and its 3 neighbours. From the definition of  $F$  it is clear that each of these neighbours is mapped upon another neighbour of  $F(p)$ .  $\square$

Theorem 3.8. Every covering  $f$  of  $CCC_r$  on  $CCC_s$  can be written as  $f = J \circ F$ , where  $F$  is given by the definition above, and  $J$  is a graph isomorphism of  $CCC_s$  onto itself.

Proof.

Every function of the form  $J \circ F$  is a covering of  $CCC_r$  on  $CCC_s$ . There are  $2s \cdot 2^s$  possible choices for  $J$ , so there are  $2s \cdot 2^s$  possible functions of this form. It follows from corollary 3.4. that there cannot be more coverings of  $CCC_r$  on  $CCC_s$ .  $\square$

4. Coverings of the 4-pin shuffle. Stone [9] proposed a network, called the shuffle-exchange network, which has been successfully used as the interconnection network underlying a variety of parallel processing algorithms. There are two slightly different types of graphs, both realizing Stone's concept of a shuffle-exchange network. We use the terminology of [6] and call these graphs the shuffle-exchange



(graph) and the 4-pin shuffle.

Nodes in the 4-pin shuffle are given  $n$ -bit addresses in the range  $0..2^n-1$ . A node  $b_1..b_n$  has edges to the two nodes  $b_2..b_n 0$  and  $b_2..b_n 1$  (move the leading bit to tail position and possibly flip this bit).

The following definitions are taken from [2]:

Definition. The 4-pin shuffle is the graph  $S_n=(V_n, E_n)$  with  $V_n=\{b_1..b_n \mid \forall 1 \leq i \leq n \ b_i \in \{0,1\}\}$  and  $E_n=\{(b,c) \mid b, c \in V_n \wedge \forall 2 \leq i \leq n \ b_i = c_{i+1}\}$ .

Definition. An emulation  $f: S_n \rightarrow S_{n-k}$  is a step-simulation, iff  $(b,c) \in E_n \Rightarrow (f(b), f(c)) \in E_k$

Lemma 4.1. Every covering of  $S_n$  on  $S_{n-k}$  is a uniform step-simulation.

Definition. Let  $f: S_n \rightarrow S_{n-k}$  be a step-simulation.  $\tilde{f}: S_{k+1} \rightarrow S_1$  is defined by  $\tilde{f}(b_1..b_{k+1}) = f_1(b_1..b_{k+1} 0..0)$ .

Theorem 4.2. [2] The mapping  $\pi$ , defined by  $\pi(f)=\tilde{f}$  from the step-simulations  $S_n \rightarrow S_{n-k}$  to the step-simulations  $S_{k+1} \rightarrow S_1$  is a bijection, with the following further properties:

1. If  $f$  is uniform, then  $\pi(f)=\tilde{f}$  is uniform
2.  $f(b_1..b_n)=\pi(f)(b_1..b_{k+1}) \cdot \pi(f)(b_2..b_{k+2}) \dots \pi(f)(b_{n-k}..b_n)$ .

Lemma 4.3. Let  $f$  cover  $S_n$  on  $S_{n-k}$ . Then:

- (1)  $\{\tilde{f}(0 b_1..b_k), \tilde{f}(1 b_1..b_k)\} = \{0,1\}$ , for all  $b_1..b_k \in (\frac{0}{1})^k$ .
- (2)  $\{\tilde{f}(b_1..b_k 0), \tilde{f}(b_1..b_k 1)\} = \{0,1\}$ , for all  $b_1..b_k \in (\frac{0}{1})^k$ .

Proof.

(1)  $b_1..b_k 0..0$  has predecessors  $0b_1..b_k 0..0$  and  $1b_1..b_k 0..0$ . Hence  $f(0b_1..b_k 0..0)$  and  $f(1b_1..b_k 0..0)$  must be different: they can only be different in their first coordinate, because they are both predecessors of  $f(b_1..b_k 0..0)$ , so  $\tilde{f}(0b_1..b_k) \neq \tilde{f}(1b_1..b_k)$ .

(2) is proved by similar argument.  $\square$

So, for coverings  $f$  of  $S_n$  on  $S_{n-k}$  we have that for all  $x \in (\frac{0}{1})^{k-2} \tilde{f}(0x0)$

=  $\tilde{f}(1x1) \neq \tilde{f}(0x1) = \tilde{f}(1x0)$ . However, this is also a sufficient condition for a step-simulation  $f$  to be a covering.

Lemma 4.4. Let  $f: S_n \rightarrow S_{n-k}$  be step-simulating, and let for all  $x \in \left(\frac{0}{1}\right)^{k-2}$   $\tilde{f}(0x0) = \tilde{f}(1x1) \neq \tilde{f}(1x0) = \tilde{f}(1x0)$ . Then  $f$  is a covering.

Proof.

Without much difficulty it can be checked that the conditions for the coverings of directed graphs are fulfilled.  $\square$

So we have a necessary and sufficient condition for a step-simulation  $S_n \rightarrow S_{n-k}$  to be a covering. With the help of this condition we can completely classify the coverings of  $S_n$  on  $S_{n-k}$ .

Theorem 4.5.

a. If  $k=1$  then the coverings of  $S_n$  on  $S_{n-k} = S_{n-1}$  are the following:

$$f(b_1 \dots b_n) = c_1 \dots c_{n-1} \text{ with } c_i = (b_i \equiv b_{i+1}) \quad (1 \leq i \leq n-1)$$

$$\bar{f}(b_1 \dots b_n) = \bar{c}_1 \dots \bar{c}_{n-1} \text{ with } c_i = (b_i \equiv b_{i+1}) \quad (1 \leq i \leq n-1)$$

b. If  $2 \leq k < n$ , then every covering  $f$  of  $S_n$  on  $S_{n-k}$  can be found by choosing for each string  $x \in \left(\frac{0}{1}\right)^{k-1}$  whether

$$- \tilde{f}(0x0) = \tilde{f}(1x1) = 0 \text{ and } \tilde{f}(0x1) = \tilde{f}(1x0) = 1$$

$$\text{or } - \tilde{f}(0x0) = \tilde{f}(1x1) = 1 \text{ and } \tilde{f}(0x1) = \tilde{f}(1x0) = 0$$

c. For every  $n > k \geq 1$  there are exactly  $2^{2^{k-1}}$  coverings of  $S_n$  on  $S_{n-k}$ .

(In [2] it was proven that the functions  $f: b \rightarrow b$  and  $f: b \rightarrow \bar{b}$  are the only possible graph isomorphisms of  $S_n$  (= coverings of  $S_n$  on  $S_n$ ).)

5. Coverings of the shuffle-exchange network. Nodes in the shuffle-exchange network are again given  $n$ -bit addresses in the range  $0..2^{n-1}$ . There is an edge from node  $b$  to node  $c$  if and only if  $b$  can be "shuffled" (move the leading bit to tail position) or "exchanged" (flip the tail bit) into  $c$ .

Definition. The shuffle-exchange network is the graph  $SE_n = (V_n, \bar{E}_n)$  with  $V_n = \{(b_1, \dots, b_n) \mid \forall 1 \leq i \leq n \ b_i = \frac{0}{1}\}$  and  $\bar{E}_n = \{(b, c) \mid b, c \in V_n \wedge$

$(\forall 2 \leq i \leq n \ b_i = c_{i-1} \wedge b_1 = c_n)$  or  $(\forall 1 \leq i \leq n-1 \ b_i = c_i \wedge b_n = \overline{c_n})$ .

Theorem 5.1. There do not exist coverings of  $SE_n$  on  $SE_k$  with  $k \nmid n$  and  $k \geq 3$ .

Proof.

Suppose  $k \nmid n$ ,  $k \geq 3$  and  $f$  is a covering of  $SE_n$  on  $SE_k$ . With  $R^1(b)$  we denote the string  $b_{1+1(\text{mod } n)} \dots b_n b_1 \dots b_{1(\text{mod } n)}$ , i.e.  $b$  rotated 1 position to the left.

Let  $b \in f^{-1}(0^{k-1}1)$ .

Lemma 5.1.1.  $f(R^1(b)) = R^1(f(b)) = R^1(0^{k-1}1)$ , for all  $l \geq 0$ .

Proof.

With induction. For  $l=0$  the lemma is trivially true. Suppose the lemma holds for certain  $l$ . Then it holds also for  $l+1$ :

$f(R^1(b))|_{n-1} (R^1(b))_n$  must be mutually adjacent to  $f(R^1(b))$ , so must be connected with  $f(R^1(b))$  via the exchange edge (we use that  $f(R^1(b))$  cannot be of the form  $(01)^{n/2}$  or  $(10)^{n/2}$  (induction hypotheses)). This shows that  $f(R^{1+1}(b))$  must be connected with  $f(R^1(b))$  via a shuffle-edge, hence  $f(R^{1+1}(b)) = R^1(f(R^1(b))) = R^{1+1}(f(b))$ .  $\square$

In particular we now have:  $0^{k-1}1 = f(b) = f(R^n(b)) = R^n(0^{k-1}1)$ . So  $k \mid n$ . Contradiction.  $\square$

Theorem 5.2. Let  $k \geq 3$ ,  $k \mid n$ . The coverings of  $SE_n$  on  $SE_k$  are given by the following list:

1.  $f'$ , defined by  $f'_i(b_1 \dots b_n) = \left( \sum_{j=0}^{n/k-1} b_{j \cdot k + i} \right) \text{mod } 2$  ( $1 \leq i \leq k$ ).

2.  $\overline{f'}$ , defined by  $\overline{f'}_i(b_1 \dots b_n) = \overline{\left( \sum_{j=0}^{n/k-1} b_{j \cdot k + i} \right) \text{mod } 2}$  ( $1 \leq i \leq k$ ).

Proof.

Because  $0^n$  in  $SE_n$  has a selfloop, and  $0^k, 1^k$  are the only nodes in  $SE_k$  with a selfloop one has for every covering  $f$  of  $SE_n$  on  $SE_k$ :  $f(0^n) = 0^k$  or  $f(0^n) = 1^k$ . We suppose we have a covering  $f$  of  $SE_n$  on  $SE_k$  with  $f(0^n) = 0^k$ , and will show that  $f$  is then necessarily of the form  $f'$ . If  $f(0^n) = 1^k$  then  $f$  is of the form  $\overline{f'}$ .

Lemma 5.2.1. If  $f(b) = f'(b)$  and  $f(b) \notin \{(01)^{n/2}, (10)^{n/2}\}$ ,

- then
1.  $f(b_1 \dots b_{n-1} \overline{b_n}) = f'(b_1 \dots b_{n-1} \overline{b_n})$
  2.  $f(b_2 \dots b_n b_1) = f'(b_2 \dots b_n b_1)$
  3.  $f(b_n b_1 \dots b_{n-1}) = f'(b_n b_1 \dots b_{n-1})$

Proof.

First note  $f(b_1 \dots b_{n-1} \overline{b_n})$  must be mutually adjacent to  $f(b)$ . Hence  $f(b_1 \dots b_{n-1} \overline{b_n}) = f'(b_1 \dots b_{n-1} \overline{b_n})$ . (Use the definition of  $f'$ .) Further use that  $f(b_2 \dots b_n b_1)$  must be a successor of  $f(b)$ , unequal to  $f(b_1 \dots b_n \overline{b_n})$ . This shows  $f(b_2 \dots b_n b_1) = f'(b_2 \dots b_n b_1)$ . Similarly  $f(b_n b_1 \dots b_{n-1}) = f'(b_n b_1 \dots b_{n-1})$ .  $\square$

Without proof we mention the following result:

Lemma 5.2.2. For every  $b \in \left(\frac{0}{1}\right)^n$  there is a path from  $0^n$  to  $b$ , such that for every node  $c$  on the path, except  $b$ :  $f'(c) \notin \{(01)^{n/2}, (10)^{n/2}\}$ .

(If  $n$  is odd, it will of course never be the case that  $f'(c) \in \{(01)^{n/2}, (10)^{n/2}\}$ .)

With induction to the length of the path, mentioned in 5.2.2. one now can prove that  $f(b) = f'(b)$  for every  $b \in \left(\frac{0}{1}\right)^n$ .  $\square$

6. Complexity results. In this section we consider the following problem:

[GRAPH COVERING]

Instance: Connected, undirected graphs  $G=(V_G, E_G)$ ,  $H=(V_H, E_H)$

Question: Is there a covering of G on H?

The subproblem of GRAPH COVERING, in which the computation factor  $c=|V_G|/|V_H|$  is fixed is called c-GRAPH COVERING. (The related problems UNIFORM EMULATION and c-UNIFORM EMULATION were addressed and proven NP-complete in [4,5].) The following lemma shows that 1-GRAPH COVERING and GRAPH ISOMORPHISM are virtually the same problem.

Lemma 6.1. [8] Let  $G=(V_G, E_G)$  and  $H=(V_H, E_H)$  be connected, undirected graphs and  $|V_G|=|V_H|$ . A function  $f: V_G \rightarrow V_H$  covers G on H iff f is a graph isomorphism of G on H.

It is still an open problem whether GRAPH ISOMORPHISM is solvable in polynomial time or not, and whether it is NP-complete or not [7]. Theorem 6.2. shows that c-GRAPH COVERING is at least as hard as GRAPH ISOMORPHISM, indicating that it will be very hard, if not impossible to find a polynomial time algorithm for it: any polynomial time algorithm for c-GRAPH COVERING would enable us to solve GRAPH ISOMORPHISM in polynomial time.

Theorem 6.2. If there exists an algorithm that solves c-GRAPH COVERING in time  $\leq f(|V_H|)$ , then there exists an algorithm that solves GRAPH ISOMORPHISM in time  $\leq f(|V_H|+4)+ O(\max \{|V_H|, |E_G|, |E_H|\})$ , for every  $c \geq 1$ .

Proof.

For  $c=1$  this follows from lemma 10.1. Let  $c \geq 2$  be given, and let there exists an algorithm for c-GRAPH COVERING that uses time  $\leq f(|V_H|)$ , that is: it decides whether  $G=(V_G, E_G)$  covers  $H=(V_H, E_H)$  in time at most  $f(|V_H|)$ .

Now let an instance of GRAPH ISOMORPHISM be given, i.e. we have two connected graphs  $G=(V_G, E_G)$  and  $H=(V_H, E_H)$ , with  $|V_G|=|V_H|$  and  $|E_G|=|E_H|$  and ask the question whether G and H are graph isomorphic.

We will now define graphs  $G'$ ,  $H'$  with  $|V_{G'}| = |V_H| + 4$ ,  $|V_{G'}| = c \cdot |V_H|$  and  $G'$  covers  $H'$  if and only if  $G$  and  $H$  are graph isomorphic.

To  $H$  we add 4 extra nodes  $v_1', v_2', v_3', v_4'$ , with extra edges between  $v_1'$  and every node in  $V_H$ , and  $(v_1', v_2')$ ,  $(v_2', v_3')$ ,  $(v_3', v_4')$ , and  $(v_4', v_2')$ . (See fig. 6.1.)

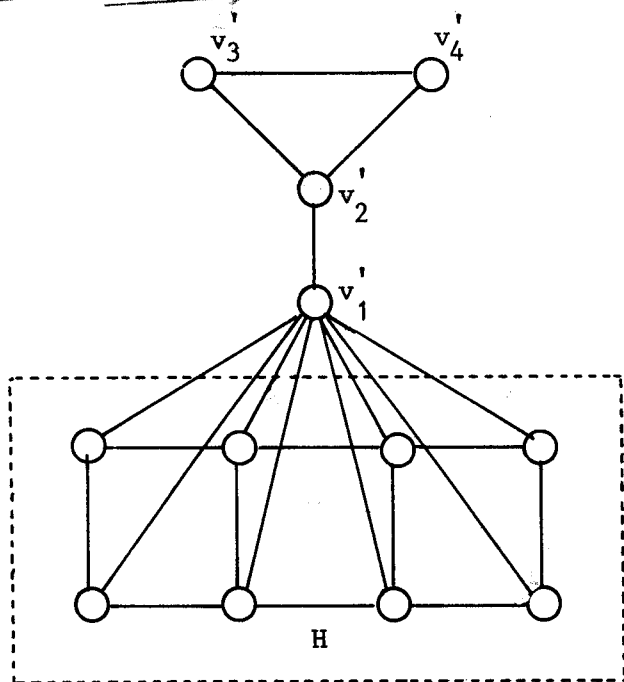


fig. 6.1.

- $G'$  is formed by taking  $c$  copies of  $G$ , adding  $4c$  extra nodes  $v_j^i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq c$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq 4$ ), and adding the following edges:
- $v_1^i$  is connected to every node in the  $i^{\text{th}}$  copy of  $G$  ( $1 \leq i \leq c$ )
  - $v_1^i$  is connected to  $v_2^i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq c$ )
  - $v_2^i$  is connected to  $v_3^i$  and to  $v_4^i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq c$ )
  - $v_3^i$  is connected to  $v_4^{(i+1) \bmod c}$  ( $1 \leq i \leq c$ )

An example of the construction is shown in fig 6.2., with  $c=4$ .

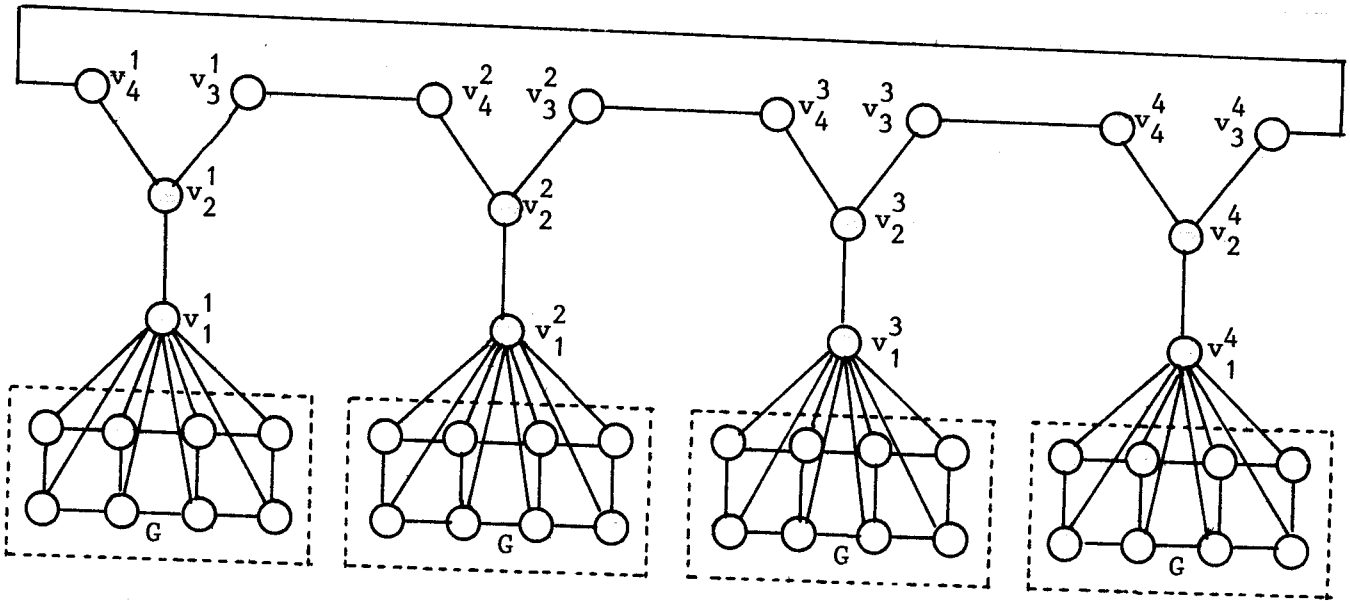


fig 6.2.  $G'$  with  $c=4$

Claim 6.2.1.  $G'$  covers  $H'$  if and only if  $G$  and  $H$  are graph isomorphic.

Proof.

Let  $f$  cover  $G'$  on  $H'$ . Note that the only node with degree  $|V_H|+1$  in  $H'$  is  $v_1^i$ . Hence  $f(v_1^i) = v_1^i$  for every  $i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq c$ . This shows that the copy of  $G$ , connected to  $v_1^i$ , must be mapped upon the copy of  $H$ , connected to  $v_1^i$  and  $f$  restricted to this copy of  $G$  gives a graph isomorphism of  $G$  on  $H$ .

It is easy to see that if  $G$  and  $H$  are graph isomorphic, then  $G'$  covers  $H'$ .  $\square$

$G'$  and  $H'$  can be constructed in time  $O(\max\{|V_H|, |E_G|, |E_H|\})$ , hence there exists an algorithm that solves GRAPH ISOMORPHISM in time  $\leq f(|V_H|+4) + O(\max\{|V_H|, |E_G|, |E_H|\})$ .  $\square$

It is an interesting open question open whether  $c$ -GRAPH COVERING is polynomially equivalent to GRAPH ISOMORPHISM for  $c \geq 2$ , and whether it is NP-complete.

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