

# Bases for permutation groups

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**Base size  $b(G)$ :** the minimal size of a base for  $G$ .

**Remark.** The **determining number** of a graph  $\Gamma$  is  $b(\text{Aut}(\Gamma))$ .

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$G = S_n$ ,  $\Omega = \{1, \dots, n\}$ :

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$b(G) =$  smallest integer  $\ell$  such that

$$\sum_{\pi=(1^{c_1}, \dots, n^{c_n})} (-1)^{n-\sum_{i=1}^n c_i} \frac{n!}{\prod_{i=1}^n i^{c_i} c_i!} \left( \sum_{\eta=(1^{b_1}, \dots, k^{b_k})} \prod_{j=1}^k \binom{c_j}{b_j} \right)^\ell \neq 0.$$

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**Problem.** Determine the base sizes of primitive groups.

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- Almost simple (partial results)
- Diagonal type ???
- Product type (partial results)
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**Note.**  $b(G) = 2$  if  $m < \binom{|T|}{k}$ .

## Main results

### Theorem (H, 2023+)

If  $3 \leq k \leq |T| - 3$ , then  $\exists S \subseteq T$  such that  $|S| = k$  and  $Y_{\{S\}} = 1$ .

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### Theorem (H, 2023+)

Suppose  $G$  is a diagonal type primitive group. Then  $b(G)$  is computed. ✓

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**Burness & H, 2022/23:**  $G \in \mathcal{B}$  with  $r(G) = 1$  ✓

**H, 2023+:**  $G$  diagonal type primitive with  $b(G) = 2$  and  $r(G) = 1$  ✓

## Regular orbits

**Note.**  $G$  has a regular orbit on  $\Omega^k \iff b(G) \leq k$ .

Let  $r(G)$  be the number of regular orbits on  $\Omega^{b(G)}$  (so  $r(G) \geq 1$ ).

**Problem.** Classify the transitive groups  $G$  with  $r(G) = 1$ .

**Remark.** If  $b(G) = 2$ , then

$r(G) = 1 \iff$  the **Saxl graph** of  $G$  is  $G$ -arc-transitive.

$\mathcal{B} := \{\text{almost simple primitive groups with soluble stabilisers}\}$ .

**Burness, 2021:** If  $G \in \mathcal{B}$ , then  $b(G)$  is known, and  $b(G) \leq 5$ .

**Burness & H, 2022/23:**  $G \in \mathcal{B}$  with  $r(G) = 1$  ✓

**H, 2023+:**  $G$  diagonal type primitive with  $b(G) = 2$  and  $r(G) = 1$  ✓

**Freedman, H, Lee & Rekvényi, 2023+:**

$G$  is a diagonal type primitive group with  $b(G) > 2 \implies r(G) > 1$ .

**Thank you!**