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ON HIGH CLOSED CELLULAR ALGEBRAS AND HIGH CLOSED ISOMORPHISMS

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ABSTRACT

We study m-closed cellular algebras (coherent configuration) and m-isomorphisms of cellular algebras which can be regarded as mth approximations to Schurian algebras (i.e. the centralizer algebras of permutation groups) and to strong isomorphisms (i.e. bijections of the point sets taking one algebra to the other) respectively. If $m = 1$ we come to arbitrary cellular algebras and their weak isomorphisms (i.e. matrix algebra isomorphisms preserving the Hadamard multiplication). On the other hand, the algebras which are m-closed for all $m \geq 1$ are exactly Schurian ones whereas the weak isomorphisms which are m-isomorphisms for all $m \geq 1$ are exactly ones induced by strong isomorphisms. We show that for any m there exist m-closed non-Schurian algebras on $O(m)$ points and m-isomorphisms of cellular algebras on $O(m)$ points which are not induced by strong isomorphisms. One more result establishes the equivalence of the Schurian polynomial approximation schemes defined by the m-closure and the m-dimensional Weisfeiler-Lehman methods. As a consequence, on one hand this enables us to find for any m an edge colored graph with $O(m)$ vertices satisfying the m-vertex condition and having non-Schurian adjacency algebra. On the other hand, we rediscover and explain from the algebraic point of view the Cai-Fürer-Immerman phenomenon that the m-dimensional Weisfeiler-Lehman method fails to recognize in an efficient way the isomorphism of graphs.

1 Introduction

The association scheme theory was called in [1] a "group theory without groups". Indeed, the axiomatics of association schemes reflects combinatorial properties of permutation groups. The close connection between these objects is stressed by the fact that each permutation group produces a scheme the basis relations of which are exactly the 2-orbits of the group. However, this correspondence is not reversible and there are schemes which can not be obtained in such a way (see [6]). A similar situation arises if one is interested in isomorphisms of schemes. Namely, each of them induces a combinatorial isomorphism which can be defined as an ordinary isomorphism of the adjacency algebras of the schemes preserving the basis matrices. But also in this case there are combinatorially isomorphic schemes which are not isomorphic (see [1] for the examples of non-isomorphic schemes with the same intersection numbers). The main topic of this paper consists of two following interconnected questions concerning coherent configurations (see [8]) being the most general notion of a scheme and including both association schemes and block designs. Namely, first how to measure the closeness of a scheme (resp. of a combinatorial isomorphism of two schemes) to a permutation group scheme (resp. to a genuine isomorphism of schemes) and secondly how far can be these from each other.

Having in mind the algebraic nature of the above questions we prefer to deal with the adjacency algebras of coherent configurations. These algebras were introduced by B. Yu. Weisfeiler and A. A. Lehman as cellular algebras and independently by D. G. Higman as coherent algebras (see [15] and [8]). They are by definition matrix algebras over closed under the Hadamard multiplication and the Hermitian conjugation and containing the identity matrix and the all one matrix. Let W be a cellular algebra on a finite set V, i.e. a cellular subalgebra of the full matrix algebra Mat_V on V. The automorphism group $\mathrm{Aut}(W)$ of W consists by definition of all permutations of V preserving any matrix of W. In this language a group scheme corresponds to a Schurian cellular algebra (see [6] for the explanation of the term), i.e. one coinciding with the centralizer algebra of its automorphism group. A combinatorial isomorphism of coherent configurations is transformed to a weak isomorphism of cellular algebras which is by definition a matrix algebra isomorphism preserving the Hadamard multiplication.

Our technique is based on the following notion of the extended algebra introduced in [3] (for the exact definition see Section 3). For each positive integer m we define the m-dimensional extended algebra $\widehat{W}^{(m)}$ of a cellular algebra W on V as the smallest cellular algebra on V^m containing the tensor product $W \otimes \cdots \otimes W$ (m times) and the adjacency matrix of the reflexive relation corresponding to the diagonal of V^m. (This definition differs from that of [3] but Theorem 3.2 of this paper establishes the equivalence between them.) Using the natural bijection between the diagonal of V^m and V we define a cellular algebra $\overline{W}^{(m)}$ on V called the m-closure of W. This produces the following series of inclusions:

$$W = \overline{W}^{(1)} \leq \ldots \leq \overline{W}^{(n)} = \ldots = \mathrm{Sch}(W)$$

where $\mathrm{Sch}(W)$ is the centralizer algebra of $\mathrm{Aut}(W)$ in Mat_V and n is the number of elements of V. Thus the m-closure of W can be viewed as an mth approximation to its Schurian closure $\mathrm{Sch}(W)$. We say that W is m-closed if $\overline{W}^{(m)} = W$. Each algebra is certainly 1-closed and it is m-closed

for all m iff it is Schurian. In this sense, if W is not Schurian, the largest m (rather its inverse) for which it is m-closed measures the structure closeness of the combinatorial object W to the group-combinatorial object $\mathrm{Sch}(W)$. The following theorem shows in particular that this number can be arbitrary large.

Theorem 1.1 *There exists $\varepsilon > 0$ such that for all sufficiently large positive integer n one can find a non-Schurian cellular algebra on n points which is m-closed for some $m \geq \lfloor \varepsilon n \rfloor$.*

It should be noted that despite the fact that general cellular algebras can be rather far from the centralizer algebras of permutation groups in the above measure sense, some nontrivial facts from permutation group theory can be generalized even to 2-closed cellular algebras (see [4]).

Concerning the combinatorial isomorphism problem we refine the concept of a weak isomorphism. Namely, we say that a weak isomorphism of cellular algebras is an m-isomorphism if it can be extended to a weak isomorphism of their m-extended algebras (see Section 4 for the exact definition). Obviously, each weak isomorphism is a 1-isomorphism in this sense. On the other hand, Theorem 4.5 shows that it is an m-isomorphism for all m iff it is induced by a strong isomorphism (which is by definition a bijection between the point sets preserving the algebras). Thus the largest m for which a given weak isomorphism is an m-isomorphism can be viewed as the measure of the closeness of it to a strong one. The following theorem is similar to Theorem 1.1.

Theorem 1.2 *There exists $\varepsilon > 0$ such that for all sufficiently large positive integer n one can find a cellular algebra on n points (even a Schurian one) admitting an m-isomorphism with $m \geq \lfloor \varepsilon n \rfloor$ which is not induced by a strong isomorphism.*

It follows from the proof of Theorem 1.2 that the required algebra can be chosen having simple spectrum. So there exist weak isomorphisms of cellular algebras with simple spectrum which are not induced by strong isomorphisms. This shows that Theorem 5.6 from [7] is not true.

Let us briefly outline the proofs of the theorems. To prove Theorem 1.2 we construct a family of cellular algebras with simple spectrum each of which corresponds to some cubic (3-regular) graph. Any such algebra admits a weak isomorphism φ which is not induced by a strong isomorphism (Theorem 6.5). Moreover, if the graph is a Ramanujan graph, this isomorphism becomes induced by a strong one when restricted to sufficiently large point sets. In this case we are able to prove that φ is in fact an m-isomorphism for a sufficiently large m and the corresponding algebra W is a Schurian one. Theorem 1.1 is deduced from Theorem 1.2 by considering the wreath product of the cellular algebra W by the symmetric group on 2 points with respect to the weak isomorphism φ. This wreath product is not Schurian, since φ is not induced by a strong isomorphism. On the other hand, it is m-closed for a sufficiently large m due to the facts that so is W (being a Schurian one) and φ is an m-isomorphism. The last implication is the result of the detailed analysis of the extended algebras of general direct sums and wreath products (Theorems 5.1 and 5.5).

In the context of the discussed topics we ask ourselves: are the measures defined above natural in a sense. For this purpose one can compare them to those arised from the attempts to solve the Graph Isomorphism Problem (see [16]) which is in testing whether two finite graphs are isomorphic by means of an efficient algorithm. It is well-known that this problem is polynomial-time equivalent to the problem of constructing the Schurian closure of a cellular algebra. In fact, a number of combinatorial algorithms for isomorphism testing can be interpreted just in this way. The analysis

of them lead us in [3] to the following notion of a Schurian polynomial approximation scheme reflecting the idea of measuring non-Schurity.

Let us have a rule according to which given a cellular algebra $W \le \mathrm{Mat}_V$ and a positive integer m a cellular algebra $S_m(W) \le \mathrm{Mat}_V$ can be constructed. We say that the operators $W \mapsto S_m(W)$ $(m = 1, 2, \ldots)$ define a *Schurian polynomial approximation scheme* S if the following conditions are satisfied:

(1) $W = S_1(W) \le \ldots \le S_n(W) = \ldots = \mathrm{Sch}(W)$;

(2) $S_l(S_m(W)) = S_m(W)$ for all $l = 1, \ldots, m$;

(3) $S_m(W)$ can be constructed in time $n^{O(m)}$

where n is the number of elements of V.

Each scheme of such a kind gives rise to a measure of the Schurity. Moreover, there is a natural way to compare them. Namely, let S and T be two Schurian polynomial approximation schemes. We say that S is dominated by T if there exists a positive integer $c = c(S, T)$ such that $S_m(W) \le T_{cm}(W)$ for all cellular algebras W and all m. Schemes S and T are called equivalent if each of them is dominated by the other.

We proved in [3] that the operators $W \mapsto \overline{W}^{(m)}$ mapping a cellular algebra W to its m-closure define a Schurian polynomial approximation scheme. Another example is given by the well-known m-dimensional Weisfeiler-Lehman method (m-dim W-L, see [2]). Despite the fact that in its original form this method can be applied only to graphs, a natural interpretation of it produces the algorithm which given a cellular algebra W constructs a certain cellular algebra $\mathrm{WL}_m(W)$ $(m = 1, 2, ...)$ satisfying conditions (1)-(3) above (the exact definitions can be found in Section 7). The third main result of the paper shows that the Schurity measures associated with these schemes are equivalent.

Theorem 1.3 *Let W be a cellular algebra on V. Then*

$$\mathrm{WL}_m(W) \le \overline{W}^{(m)} \le \mathrm{WL}_{3m}(W), \quad m = 1, 2, \ldots.$$

In particular, the Schurian polynomial approximation schemes corresponding to the m-closure and the m-dimensional Weisfeiler-Lehman methods are equivalent.

The proof of the theorem is based on the notion of a stable partition of V^m, the axiomatics of which gathers some combinatorial regularity conditions generalizing those satisfied by the m-orbits of a permutation group. It should be noted that similar objects were considered in [9] and [12]. The key point of the analysis consists in the fact that the stable coloring of V^m found by the m-dim W-L method is a stable partition of V^m in our sense (Theorem 7.3). Besides, it turns out that a stable partition of V^{3m} produces a coherent configuration on V^m (Lemma 7.2). Combining these observations and the inclusion $\mathrm{WL}_m(W) \le \overline{W}^{(m)}$ proved in [3] we obtain the required statement.

According to Theorem 1.3 $\mathrm{WL}_m(W) = W$ for an m-closed cellular algebra W and hence by Theorem 7.3 the edge colored graph (coherent configuration) underlying W satisfies the m-vertex condition in sense of [6]. So Theorem 1.1 implies that for any positive integer m there exists an

edge colored graph with $O(m)$ vertices satisfying the m-vertex condition and having non-Schurian adjacency algebra.

We complete the introduction by making some remarks concerning the m-dim W-L method. This method was discovered to test the isomorphism of two graphs by comparing the canonical colorings of V^m constructed from them. However it was proved in [2] that there exist infinitly many pairs of non-isomorphic vertex colored graphs with $O(m)$ vertices for which the m-dim W-L method does not recognize their non-isomorphism. Nevertheless, the technique used for the proof of this result leaves the algebraic nature of this phenomenon unclear. In contrast to [2] the results of the present paper completely clarify the situation. Namely, let Γ_1 and Γ_2 be two graphs which can not be identified by the m-dim W-L method (see [2]). Then the cellular algebras W_1 and W_2 generated by the adjacency matrices of them are weakly isomorphic and this weak isomorphism is not induced by a strong one. Moreover, it follows from Theorem 7.6 that the last isomorphism can be extended to a weak isomorphism of the $\lfloor m/3 \rfloor$-extended algebras corresponding to W_1 and W_2. So it is in fact an $\lfloor m/3 \rfloor$-isomorphism. Thus the algebraic reason for the high-dimensional W-L method to fail in recognizing the isomorphism of graphs is that there are high closed isomorphisms of cellular algebras which are not induced by strong isomorphisms (Theorem 1.2).

In fact the construction underlying Theorem 1.2 produces for any positive integer m examples of non-isomorphic edge colored graphs (even vertex colored ones) with $O(m)$ vertices which are indistinguishable by the m-dim W-L method due to Theorem 7.6. We notice that these graphs slightly differ from those found by Cai-Fürer-Immerman in [2].

The paper consists of seven sections. The second one contains the main definitions and notation concerning cellular algebras. In Section 3 we define extended algebras and closures. Also a simple equivalent definition of the extended algebras is given. Section 4 is devoted to refining the notion of a weak isomorphism. The explicit description of the extended algebras of the direct sum and the wreath product by a permutation group is the subject of Section 5. In Section 6 we prove Theorems 1.1 and 1.2. Stable partitions are defined and studied in Section 7 where we also prove Theorem 1.3.

Notation. As usual by we denote the complex field.

Throughout the paper V denotes a finite set with $n = |V|$ elements.

The algebra of all complex matrices whose rows and columns are indexed by the elements of V is denoted by Mat_V, its unit element (the identity matrix) by I_V and the all one matrix by J_V. For $U \subset V$ the algebra Mat_U is considered in a natural way as a subalgebra of Mat_V .

For $U, U' \subset V$ let $J_{U,U'}$ denote the {0,1}-matrix with 1's exactly on the places belonging to $U \times U'$. The transpose of a matrix A is denoted by A^T, its Hermitian conjugate by A^*.

Each bijection $g : V \to V'$ defines a natural algebra isomorphism from Mat_V onto $\mathrm{Mat}_{V'}$. The image of a matrix A under g will be denoted by A^g.

The group of all permutations of V is denoted by $\mathrm{Sym}(V)$.

For integers l, m the set $\{l, l+1, \ldots, m\}$ is denoted by $[l, m]$. We write $[m]$, $\mathrm{Sym}(m)$, Mat_m, V^m and V instead of $[1, m]$, $\mathrm{Sym}([m])$, $\mathrm{Mat}_{[m]}$, $V^{[m]}$ and V^1 respectively.

2 Cellular algebras

All undefined terms below concerning cellular algebras and permutation groups can be found in [16] and [17] respectively.

2.1 By a *cellular algebra* on V we mean a subalgebra W of Mat_V for which the following conditions are satisfied:

(C1) $I_V, J_V \in W$;

(C2) $\forall A \in W: \quad A^* \in W$;

(C3) $\forall A, B \in W: \quad A \circ B \in W$,

where $A \circ B$ is the Hadamard (componentwise) product of the matrices A and B. It follows from (C2) that W is a semisimple algebra over .

Each cellular algebra W on V has a uniquely determined linear basis $\mathcal{R} = \mathcal{R}(W)$ consisting of {0,1}-matrices such that

$$\sum_{R \in \mathcal{R}} R = J_V \quad \text{and} \quad R \in \mathcal{R} \Leftrightarrow R^* \in \mathcal{R}. \tag{1}$$

The linear base $\mathcal{R}$ is called the *standard basis* of W and its elements the *basis matrices*. Set $\mathrm{Cel}(W) = \{U \subset V : I_U \in \mathcal{R}\}$ and $\mathrm{Cel}^*(W) = \{\cup_{U \in S} U : S \subset \mathrm{Cel}(W)\}$. Each element of $\mathrm{Cel}(W)$ (resp. $\mathrm{Cel}^*(W)$) is called a *cell* of W (resp. a *cellular set* of W). Obviously,

$$V = \bigcup_{U \in \mathrm{Cel}(W)} U \qquad \text{(disjoint union)}.$$

The algebra W is called *homogeneous* if $|\mathrm{Cel}(W)| = 1$.

For $U, U' \in \mathrm{Cel}^*(W)$ set $\mathcal{R}_{U,U'} = \{R \in \mathcal{R} : R \circ J_{U,U'} = R\}$. Then

$$\mathcal{R} = \bigcup_{U,U' \in \mathrm{Cel}(W)} \mathcal{R}_{U,U'} \qquad \text{(disjoint union)}.$$

Moreover, for two cells U, U' the number of 1's in the uth row (resp. vth column) of the matrix $R \in \mathcal{R}_{U,U'}$ does not depend on the choice of $u \in U$ (resp. $v \in U'$). For each $U \in \mathrm{Cel}^*(W)$ we view the subalgebra $I_U W I_U$ of W as a cellular algebra on U and denote it by W_U. The basis matrices of W_U are in 1-1 correspondence to the matrices of $\mathcal{R}_{U,U}$. If $U \in \mathrm{Cel}(W)$ we call W_U the *homogeneous component* of W corresponding to U.

Each matrix $R \in \mathcal{R}$ being a {0,1}-matrix is the adjacency matrix of some binary relation on V called a *basis relation* of W. By (1) the set of all of them form a partition of $V \times V$ which can be interpreted as a coherent configuration on V (see [8]). We use all the notations introduced for basis matrices also for basis relations.

2.2 A large class of cellular algebras comes from permutation groups as follows (see [16]). Let $G \leq \mathrm{Sym}(V)$ be a permutation group and

$$\mathcal{Z}(G) = \mathcal{Z}(G, V) = \{A \in \mathrm{Mat}_V : A^g = A,\ g \in G\}$$

be its centralizer algebra. Then $\mathcal{Z}(G)$ is a cellular algebra on V such that $\mathrm{Cel}(\mathcal{Z}(G)) = \mathrm{Orb}(G)$ and $\mathcal{R}(\mathcal{Z}(G)) = \mathrm{Orb}_2(G)$ where $\mathrm{Orb}(G)$ is the set of orbits of G and $\mathrm{Orb}_2(G)$ is the set of its 2-orbits.

We say that two cellular algebras $W \le \mathrm{Mat}_V$ and $W' \le \mathrm{Mat}_{V'}$ are *strongly isomorphic* and write $W \cong W'$, if $W^g = W'$ for some bijection $g : V \to V'$ called a *strong isomorphism* from W to W'. Clearly, φ induces a bijection between the sets $\mathcal{R}(W)$ and $\mathcal{R}(W')$. We use notation $\mathrm{Iso}(W, W')$ for the set of all isomorphisms from W to W'.

The group $\mathrm{Iso}(W) = \mathrm{Iso}(W, W)$ contains a normal subgroup

$$\mathrm{Aut}(W) = \{g \in \mathrm{Sym}(V) : \ A^g = A, \ A \in W\}$$

called the *automorphism group* of W. If $W = \mathcal{Z}(\mathrm{Aut}(W))$, then W is called *Schurian*. It is easy to see that W is Schurian iff the set of its basis relations coincides with the set of 2-orbits of $\mathrm{Aut}(W)$. It follows from [17] that there exist cellular algebras which are not Schurian (see also [6]).

2.3 The set of all cellular algebras on V is ordered by inclusion. The largest and the smallest elements of this set are respectively the full matrix algebra Mat_V and the simplex on V, i.e. the algebra with the linear base $\{I_V, J_V\}$. For cellular algebras W and W' we write $W \le W'$ if W is a subalgebra of W'.

Given subsets $X_1, \dots, X_s$ of Mat_V, their cellular closure, i.e. the smallest cellular algebra containing all of them is denoted by $[X_1, \dots, X_s]$. If $X_i = \{A_i\}$ we omit the braces.

3 Extended algebras and closures

3.1 The notion of an m-closed cellular algebra was inroduced in [3] in connection with the Schurity problem. It goes back to [16] where a similar notion was defined in an algorithmic way. We start with the main definitions concerning high closed cellular algebras.

Let W be a cellular algebra on V. For each positive integer m we set

$$\widehat{W} = \widehat{W}^{(m)} = [W^m, \ \mathcal{Z}_m(V)]$$

where $W^m = W \otimes \cdots \otimes W$ (m times) and $\mathcal{Z}_m(V)$ is the centralizer algebra of the coordinatewise action of $\mathrm{Sym}(V)$ on V^m. We call the cellular algebra $\widehat{W} \le \mathrm{Mat}_{V^m}$ the *m-dimensional extended algebra* of W. The group $\mathrm{Aut}(\widehat{W})$ acts faithfully on the set

$$\Delta = \Delta^{(m)}(V) = \{(v, \dots, v) \in V^m : \ v \in V\}.$$

Moreover, the mapping $\delta : v \mapsto (v, \dots, v)$ induces a permutation group isomorphism between $\mathrm{Aut}(W)$ and the constituent of $\mathrm{Aut}(\widehat{W})$ on Δ. Set

$$\overline{W} = \overline{W}^{(m)} = ((\widehat{W}^{(m)})_\Delta)^{\delta^{-1}}.$$

We call $\overline{W}$ the *m-closure* of W and say that W is *m-closed* if $W = \overline{W}$. Each cellular algebra is certainly 1-closed. The following proposition describes the relationship between the m-closures for $m \ge 1$ and the Schurian closure $\mathrm{Sch}(W) = \mathcal{Z}(\mathrm{Aut}(W))$ of a cellular algebra W and shows that in a sense $\overline{W}$ can be regarded as an mth approximation of $\mathrm{Sch}(W)$.

Proposition 3.1 ([3], Proposition 3.3) *For each cellular algebra W on n points the following statements hold:*

(1) $\mathrm{Aut}(\overline{W}^{(m)}) = \mathrm{Aut}(W)$ *for all* $m \geq 1$;

(2) $W = \overline{W}^{(1)} \leq \ldots \leq \overline{W}^{(n)} = \ldots = \mathrm{Sch}(W)$;

(3) $\overline{(\overline{W}^{(m)})}^{(l)} = \overline{W}^{(m)}$ *for all* $l \in [m]$.■

The following statement gives in fact an equivalent definition of the m-extended algebra and hence the m-closure.

Theorem 3.2 *Let $W \leq \mathrm{Mat}_V$ be a cellular algebra. Then $\widehat{W} = [W^m, I_\Delta]$.*

Proof. We will prove the following equality:

$$\mathcal{Z}_m(V) = [\mathcal{Z}_1(V)^m, I_\Delta]. \tag{2}$$

Then since obviously $W^m \geq \mathcal{Z}_1(V)^m$, we will have

$$\widehat{W} = [W^m, \mathcal{Z}_m(V)] = [W^m, \mathcal{Z}_1(V)^m, I_\Delta] = [W^m, I_\Delta].$$

To prove (2) it suffices to check that any 2-orbit R of the coordinatewise action of $\mathrm{Sym}(V)$ on V^m is a union of the basis relations of the algebra $[\mathcal{Z}_1(V)^m, I_\Delta)]$. It is easy to see that the set of all of these 2-orbits is in 1-1 correspondence with the set of all equivalences E on $[2m]$ having at most n classes so that

$$R = R(E) = \{(\bar u, \bar v) \in V^m \times V^m : \ (\bar u \cdot \bar v)_i = (\bar u \cdot \bar v)_j \ \Leftrightarrow \ (i,j) \in E\} \tag{3}$$

where $\bar u \cdot \bar v \in V^{2m}$ is the composition of $\bar u$ and $\bar v$. Any $R(E)$ can be expressed with the help of set-theoretic operations by the sets

$$R(S) = \{(\bar u, \bar v) : \ i,j \in S \ \Rightarrow \ (\bar u \cdot \bar v)_i = (\bar u \cdot \bar v)_j\} \tag{4}$$

with nonempty $S \subset [2m]$. Set $A(S) = (\otimes_{i=1}^m A_i^{(0)}) I_\Delta (\otimes_{i=1}^m A_i^{(1)})$ where $A_i^{(l)}$ coincides with I_V or J_V depending on whether $lm+i$ belongs or does not belong to $U \cap [1+lm, m+lm]$, $l = 0, 1$. Then a straightforward check shows that $A(S)$ equals the adjacency matrix of the relation $R(S)$. So the latter matrix belongs to the right side of (2).■

Each permutation $g \in \mathrm{Sym}(m)$ acting on V^m by permuting the coordinates defines a strong isomorphism $\widehat{g}$ from $\widehat{W}$ to itself. It is easy to see that $\mathcal{Z}_m(V)^{\widehat{g}} = \mathcal{Z}_m(V)$. Below we will widely use without specifying the induced strong isomorphisms $\widehat{W}_U \to \widehat{W}_{U^g}$ where $U \in \mathrm{Cel}^*(\mathcal{Z}_m(V))$.

3.2 Below we denote by $\mathrm{Mat}_{V,V'}$ the linear space of all complex matrices the rows and columns of which are indexed by the elements of sets V and V' respectively. The tensor product $\mathrm{Mat}_{V_1,V_1'} \otimes \mathrm{Mat}_{V_2,V_2'}$ is naturally identified with $\mathrm{Mat}_{V_1 \times V_2, V_1' \times V_2'}$. We define and study an auxiliary cellular algebra $\widehat{W^*}$ on the set $V^* = \cup_{I \subset [m]} V^I$ which will be of use in Section 5.

For any nonempty subset I of $[m]$ let us choose $i_0 \in I$ and define an injection $\delta_I : V^I \to V^m$ by

$$(\overline{v}^{\delta_I})_i = \begin{cases} v_i, & \text{if } i \in I; \\ v_{i_0}, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

where $\overline{v} = (v_i)_{i \in I}$. It is easy to see that $\delta_I(V^I)$ is a cellular set of $\widehat{W}$.

Given nonempty subsets I, I' of $[m]$ the maps δ_I and $\delta_{I'}$ induce a linear injection $A \mapsto A^{\delta_{I,I'}}$ from $\mathrm{Mat}_{V^I,V^{I'}}$ to Mat_{V^m}. Set

$$\widehat{\mathcal{R}}_{I,I'}(W) = (\mathcal{R}_{\delta_I(V^I),\delta_{I'}(V^{I'})}(\widehat{W}))^{\delta^{-1}_{I,I'}},$$

$$\widehat{\mathcal{R}}_{I,\emptyset}(W) = \{J_{U,\{\varepsilon\}} : \ U \subset V^I, \ \delta_I(U) \in \mathrm{Cel}(\widehat{W})\},$$

$$\widehat{\mathcal{R}}_{\emptyset,I'}(W) = \{J_{\{\varepsilon\},U} : \ U \subset V^{I'}, \ \delta_{I'}(U) \in \mathrm{Cel}(\widehat{W})\},$$

$$\widehat{\mathcal{R}}_{\emptyset,\emptyset}(W) = \{J_{\{\varepsilon\},\{\varepsilon\}}\}$$

where $\{\varepsilon\} = V^{\emptyset}$. It is easy to see that for all (possibly empty) $I, I' \subset [m]$ the set $\widehat{\mathcal{R}}_{I,I'}(W)$ does not depend on the choice of i_0's and is contained in $\mathrm{Mat}_{V^I,V^{I'}}$ which is identified with a subspace of Mat_{V^*}. Denote by $\widehat{W}_{I,I'}$ the linear span of $\widehat{\mathcal{R}}_{I,I'}(W)$ and set

$$\widehat{W}^* = \sum_{I,I' \subset [m]} \widehat{W}_{I,I'}, \qquad \widehat{\mathcal{R}}^* = \bigcup_{I,I' \subset [m]} \widehat{\mathcal{R}}_{I,I'}(W).$$

Obviously, the sum is direct and the union is disjoint.

Lemma 3.3 *The following statements hold:*

(1) *The linear space $\widehat{W}^*$ is a cellular algebra on V^* and the set $\widehat{\mathcal{R}}^*$ is its standard basis.*

(2) *For each $I \subset [m]$ the set V^I is a cellular set of $\widehat{W}^*$. Moreover, $(\widehat{W}^*)_{V^l} \geq \widehat{W}^{(l)}$ for all $l \in [m]$ and also $(\widehat{W}^*)_{V^m} = \widehat{W}$, $(\widehat{W}^*)_V = \overline{W}$.*

(3) $\widehat{W}^* = (\widehat{W}^*)_{V^* \setminus \{\varepsilon\}} \quad \mathrm{Mat}_{\{\varepsilon\}}$ *(for the definition of see Subsection 4.1).*

(4) *Let $I, I' \subset [m]$ and $I = \cup_{k=1}^s I_k$ and $I' = \cup_{k=1}^s I'_k$ be partitions of I and I' (with some of I_k, I'_k possibly empty). Then*

$$\bigotimes_{k=1}^{s} \widehat{W}_{I_k,I'_k} \subset \widehat{W}_{I,I'}.$$

Proof. Statements (1), (2) and (3) are trivial except for the inclusion $(\widehat{W}^*)_{V^l} \geq \widehat{W}^{(l)}$. To prove it we observe that

$$(I_{\Delta^{(l)}})^{\delta_{[l],[l]}} = I_{\Delta^{(m)}}, \quad (R_1 \otimes \ldots \otimes R_l)^{\delta_{[l],[l]}} = I_U(R_1 \otimes \ldots \otimes R_l \otimes R_{i_0} \otimes \ldots \otimes R_{i_0})I_U \qquad (5)$$

where $U = \delta_{[l]}(V^l)$, $R_i \in \mathcal{R}(W)$ for all $i \in [l]$ and i_0 is the fixed element of $[l]$ defined above. Since U is obviously a cellular set of $\widehat{W}$, we conclude by Theorem 3.2 (with $m = l$).

To prove statement (4) we make use of the following straightforward equality holding for all $j \in [s]$:

$$B_j A_j B_j' = \otimes_{k=1}^{s} C_k^{(j)}, \qquad A_j \in \mathrm{Mat}_{V^{I_j}, V^{I_j'}}$$

where B_j (resp. B_j') is the $\{0,1\}$-matrix belonging to $\mathrm{Mat}_{V^I, V^{I_j}}$ (resp. $\mathrm{Mat}_{V^{I_j'}, V^{I'}}$) with 1's exactly on the places $(\overline{u}, \overline{v})$ such that $u_i = v_i$ for all $i \in I_j$ (resp. $i \in I_j'$), $C_k^{(j)}$ is the all one matrix belonging to $\mathrm{Mat}_{V^{I_k}, V^{I_k'}}$ if $k \neq j$, and $C_j^{(j)} = A_j$. Since the Hadamard multiplication in $\mathrm{Mat}_{V^I, V^{I'}} = \otimes_{k=1}^{s} \mathrm{Mat}_{V^{I_k}, V^{I_k'}}$ can be done factorwise, we come to the equality

$$(B_1 A_1 B_1') \circ \cdots \circ (B_s A_s B_s') = \otimes_{k=1}^{s} A_k. \tag{6}$$

It is easy to see that $B_j \in \widehat{W}_{I,I_j}$, $B_j' \in \widehat{W}_{I_j',I'}$ for all j. Thus, if $A_k \in \widehat{W}_{I_k,I_k'}$ for all k, then by statement (1) each Hadamard factor in the left side of (6) (and hence the whole product) belongs to $\widehat{W}_{I,I'}$.■

4 Weak isomorphisms and their extensions

4.1 Along with the notion of a strong isomorphism we consider for cellular algebras that of a weak one. Namely, cellular algebras W on V and W' on V' are called *weakly isomorphic* if there exists an algebra isomorphism $\varphi : W \to W'$ such that

(WI) $\varphi(A \circ B) = \varphi(A) \circ \varphi(B)$ for all $A, B \in W$.

Any such φ is called a *weak isomorphism* from W to W'. The set of all of them is denoted by $\mathrm{Isow}(W, W')$. If $W = W'$ we write $\mathrm{Isow}(W)$ instead of $\mathrm{Isow}(W, W)$. Clearly, $\mathrm{Isow}(W)$ forms a group which is isomorphic to a subgroup of $\mathrm{Sym}(\mathcal{R}(W))$. We note that each strong isomorphism from W to W' induces in a natural way a weak isomorphism between these algebras.

The following statement establishes the simplest properties of weak isomorphisms.

Lemma 4.1 *Let $W \leq \mathrm{Mat}_V$ and $W' \leq \mathrm{Mat}_{V'}$ be cellular algebras and $\varphi \in \mathrm{Isow}(W, W')$ be a weak isomorphism. Then*

(1) *$\varphi(\mathcal{R}) = \mathcal{R}'$ where $\mathcal{R} = \mathcal{R}(W)$ and $\mathcal{R}' = \mathcal{R}(W')$. Besides, $\varphi(R^T) = \varphi(R)^T$ for all $R \in \mathcal{R}$.*

(2) *φ induces a natural bijection $U \mapsto U^\varphi$ from $\mathrm{Cel}^*(W)$ onto $\mathrm{Cel}^*(W')$ preserving cells such that $\varphi(I_U) = I_{U^\varphi}$. Moreover, $|U| = |U^\varphi|$ and, in particular, $|V| = |V'|$.*

(3) *$\varphi(\mathcal{R}_{U_1,U_2}) = \mathcal{R}'_{U_1^\varphi, U_2^\varphi}$ for all $U_1, U_2 \in \mathrm{Cel}^*(W)$.*

Proof. The first part of statement (1) is trivial. The second follows from the observation that given $R \in \mathcal{R}$, the matrix R^T is the only matrix of $\mathcal{R}$ whose product by R is not orthogonal to I_V with respect to the Hadamard multiplication. Let $U \in \mathrm{Cel}^*(W)$. Then the equalities $I_U I_U = I_U \circ I_U = I_U$ imply that $\varphi(I_U)\varphi(I_U) = \varphi(I_U) \circ \varphi(I_U) = \varphi(I_U)$. So there exists $U' \subset V'$ such that $\varphi(I_U) = I_{U'}$. Since $I_{U'} \in W'$, we have $U' \in \mathrm{Cel}^*(W')$. Set $U^\varphi = U'$. Since $I_V = \sum_{U \in \mathrm{Cel}(W)} I_U$ and $\varphi(I_V) = I_{V'}$,

the mapping $U \mapsto U^\varphi$ gives a bijection from $\mathrm{Cel}(W)$ to $\mathrm{Cel}(W')$, which proves the first part of statement (2). Note that $\varphi(J_V) = J_{V'}$. So $\varphi(J_U) = \varphi(I_U J_V I_U) = I_{U^\varphi} J_{V'} I_{U^\varphi} = J_{U^\varphi}$ for all $U \in \mathrm{Cel}^*(W)$. Now the rest of statement (2) follows from the equality $J_U^2 = |U| J_U$. Statement (3) is the consequence of the equality $\mathcal{R}_{U_1,U_2} = \{I_{U_1} R I_{U_2} : \ R \in \mathcal{R}, \ I_{U_1} R I_{U_2} \neq 0\}$ and statements (1) and (2).■

Lemma 4.1 implies that if U is a cellular set of W, then any weak isomorphism $\varphi : W \to W'$ induces a weak isomorphism from W_U to W'_U. It will be denoted by φ_U and called the *restriction* of φ to U.

4.2 Let $\varphi : W \to W'$ be a weak isomorphism from a cellular algebra $W \leq \mathrm{Mat}_V$ to a cellular algebra $W' \leq \mathrm{Mat}_{V'}$.

Definition 4.2 *We say that a weak isomorphism $\psi : \widehat{W} \to \widehat{W'}$ is an m-extension of φ if the following conditions are satisfied:*

(i) $\psi(I_\Delta) = I_{\Delta'}$,

(ii) $\psi(A) = \varphi^m(A)$ *for all* $A \in W^m$,

where Δ and Δ' are the diagonals of V^m and $(V')^m$ respectively and φ^m is the weak isomorphism from W^m to $(W')^m$ induced by φ.

Theorem 3.2 implies that ψ takes a basis matrix of $\mathcal{Z}_m(V)$ to the corresponing basis matrix of $\mathcal{Z}_m(V')$ (i.e. with the same defining equivalence E on $[2m]$, see (3)). It follows from (ii) that any 1-extension of φ coincides with φ.

Lemma 4.3 *Let ψ be an m-extension of a weak isomorphism $\varphi : W \to W'$. Then*

(1) *ψ is uniquely determined by φ.*

(2) *ψ can be extended to a weak isomorphism $\psi^* : \widehat{W}^* \to \widehat{W'}^*$ such that $\psi^*(\widehat{W}_{I,J}) = \widehat{W'}_{I,J}$ for all $I, J \subset [m]$ (see Subsection 3.2).*

(3) *The mapping $(\psi^*)_{V^l}$ induces by restriction an l-extension of φ for all $l \in [m]$. In particular, $(\psi^*)_V : \overline{W} \to \overline{W'}$ extends φ.*

Proof. The first statement immediately follows from Theorem 3.2. Given nonempty $I, J \subset [m]$ set

$$\psi^*(A) = (\psi(A^{\delta_{I,J}}))^{(\delta'_{I,J})^{-1}}, \qquad A \in \widehat{W}_{I,J}$$

where $\delta_{I,J}$ and $\delta'_{I,J}$ are the linear injections defined in Subsection 3.2 for V and V' respectively. It follows from the definition of ψ that $(U_I)^\psi = U'_I$ for all nonempty $I \subset [m]$ where $U_I = \delta_I(V^I)$ and $U'_I = \delta'_I((V')^I)$ (see also Subsection 3.2). So the mapping ψ^* is correctly defined, obviously extends ψ and satisfies the equality of statement (2) for nonempty $I, J \subset [m]$. It is easy to see that ψ^* can be extended to a weak isomorphism from $\widehat{W}^*$ to $\widehat{W'}^*$ satisfying the last equality for all I, J (see Lemma 3.3). The last statement of the lemma follows from the second one, statement (2) of Lemma 3.3 and formula (5).■

The weak isomorphisms $\psi : \widehat{W} \to \widehat{W'}$, $\psi^* : \widehat{W}^* \to \widehat{W'}^*$ and $(\psi^*)_V : \overline{W} \to \overline{W'}$ (uniquely determined by φ according to Lemma 4.3) will be denoted below by $\widehat{\varphi}$, $\widehat{\varphi}^*$ and $\overline{\varphi}$ respectively.

4.3 Now we are ready to introduce the central notion of the paper.

Definition 4.4 *A weak isomorphism φ is called an m-isomorphism if there exists an m-extension of φ.*

The set of all m-isomorphisms from W to W' will be denoted by $\mathrm{Isow}_m(W, W')$. It follows from statement (3) of Lemma 4.3 that

$$\mathrm{Isow}_l(W, W') \supset \mathrm{Isow}_m(W, W'), \quad l \in [m]. \tag{7}$$

Obviously, $\mathrm{Isow}_1(W, W') = \mathrm{Isow}(W, W')$.

We note that given $g \in \mathrm{Iso}(W, W')$ its mth Cartesian power g^m belongs to $\mathrm{Iso}(W^m, (W')^m)$ and takes I_Δ to $I_{\Delta'}$. So g^m belongs to $\mathrm{Iso}(\widehat{W}, \widehat{W'})$ and the weak isomorphism from $\widehat{W}$ to $\widehat{W'}$ induced by it is the m-extension of the weak isomorphism induced by g. Thus any weak isomorphism induced by a strong isomorphism is an m-isomorphism for all m. The following statement shows that the converse statement is also true.

Theorem 4.5 *The set $\mathrm{Isow}_m(W, W')$ for $m \geq n$ does not depend on m and coincides with the set of the weak isomorphisms from W to W' induced by strong isomorphisms.*

Proof. Let $\varphi \in \mathrm{Isow}_m(W, W')$ where $m \geq n$. Choose $\overline{v} = (v_1, \ldots, v_m) \in V^m$ such that $V = \{v_1, \ldots, v_n\}$ and denote by U the cell of $\widehat{W}$ containing $\overline{v}$. Since U is contained in an orbit of $\mathrm{Sym}(V)$ acting on V^m, the last equality holds also for all points of U and $|\mathcal{R}(\widehat{W}_U)| = |U|$, i.e. $\widehat{W}_U$ is the centralizer algebra of a regular permutation group. Hence by Lemma 4.1 so is the algebra $\widehat{W'}_{U'}$ where $U' = U^{\widehat{\varphi}}$. It is easy to see that any weak isomorphism of such algebras is induced by a strong isomorphism. So there exists a bijection $h : U \to U'$ inducing $\widehat{\varphi}_U$:

$$\widehat{\varphi}(A) = A^h, \quad A \in \widehat{W}_U. \tag{8}$$

Since $\widehat{\varphi}$ takes a basis matrix of $\mathcal{Z}_m(V)$ to the corresponding basis matrix of $\mathcal{Z}_m(V')$ (i.e. with the same defining equivalence E on $[2m]$, see (3)), there exists a uniquely determined bijection $g : V \to V'$ such that

$$\overline{v}^h = (v_1^g, \ldots, v_m^g). \tag{9}$$

To complete the proof it suffices to check that $(\varphi(R))_{v_i^g, v_j^g} = R_{v_i, v_j}$ for all $R \in \mathcal{R}(W)$ and $i, j \in [n]$. Denote by A_i (resp. A_i') the adjacency matrix in Mat_{V^m} (resp. $\mathrm{Mat}_{(V')^m}$) of the relation (4) with $S = \{i\} \cup [m+1, 2m]$. Then

$$(\varphi(R))_{v_i^g, v_j^g} = (A_i' \varphi(R)^{\delta'} {A_j'}^T)_{\overline{v}^h, \overline{v}^h} = (\widehat{\varphi}(A_i)\widehat{\varphi}(R^\delta)\widehat{\varphi}(A_j)^T)_{\overline{v}^h, \overline{v}^h} = (A_i R^\delta A_j^T)_{\overline{v}, \overline{v}} = R_{v_i, v_j}$$

where δ and δ' are the diagonal inclusions of V into V^m and V' into $(V')^m$. (We made use of (9), (8) and the fact that $\widehat{\varphi}$ is the m-extension of φ.)■

4.4 It seems difficult to verify that a given weak isomorphism is actually an m-isomorphism. However, we can give a sufficient condition for this. To formulate it let us denote by $\mathrm{Cel}_k^*(W)$

the set of all cellular sets of W containing at most k cells. We will also make use of the obvious equality $\widehat{W_U} \leq \widehat{W}_{U^m}$ where $U \in \mathrm{Cel}^*(W)$.

Theorem 4.6 *Let $W \leq \mathrm{Mat}_V, W' \leq \mathrm{Mat}_{V'}$ be cellular algebras and $\varphi \in \mathrm{Isow}(W, W')$ be a weak isomorphism. Suppose that for positive integers k, m the following conditions are satisfied:*

(i) *for any $U \in \mathrm{Cel}^*_k(W)$ there exists a weak isomorphism $\psi_U \in \mathrm{Isow}(\widehat{W}_{U^m}, \widehat{W'}_{(U^\varphi)^m})$ extending the m-extension of φ_U.*

(ii) *for any $U_1, U_2 \in \mathrm{Cel}^*_k(W)$ the restrictions of ψ_{U_1} and ψ_{U_2} to $(U_1 \cap U_2)^m$ coincide.*

Then $\varphi \in \mathrm{Isow}_m(W)$ whenever $k \geq 3m$.

Proof. Supposing $k \geq 3m$ let us define a mapping $\psi : \mathcal{R} \to \mathcal{R}'$ where $\mathcal{R} = \mathcal{R}(\widehat{W})$ and $\mathcal{R}' = \mathcal{R}(\widehat{W'})$ as follows. Given $R \in \mathcal{R}$ set

$$\psi(R) = \psi_U(R). \tag{10}$$

where $U \in \mathrm{Cel}^*_k(W)$ with $R \in \mathcal{R}_{U^m, U^m}$. Since $2m \leq k$, at least one such U does exist. By (ii) the element $\psi(R)$ does not depend on the choice of U. Obviously, ψ is a bijection (the inverse map is given by ψ_U^{-1}). This defines a linear 1-1 mapping from $\widehat{W}$ to $\widehat{W'}$ for which we use the same notation ψ.

Let $R, S \in \mathcal{R}$ with $RS \neq 0$. Then $R, S \in \mathcal{R}_{U^m, U^m}$ for some $U \in \mathrm{Cel}^*_{3m}(W)$. Since $3m \leq k$, we obtain from (10) and (i) that

$$\psi(RS) = \psi_U(RS) = \psi_U(R)\psi_U(S) = \psi(R)\psi(S),$$

which implies that $\psi \in \mathrm{Isow}(\widehat{W})$. It also follows from (10) and (i) that the restriction of ψ to U^m extends the m-extension of φ_U for all $U \in \mathrm{Cel}^*_k(W)$. So ψ is the m-extension of φ.■

In Section 6 it will be convenient for us to make use of a weaker version of the theorem as follows.

Corollary 4.7 *The conclusion of Theorem 4.6 still holds if conditions (i) and (ii) are replaced by the following conditions:*

(i′) *for any $U \in \mathrm{Cel}^*_k(W)$ there exists a bijection $h_U \in \mathrm{Iso}(W, W')$ such that $U^{h_U} = U^\varphi$ and the weak isomorphism from W_U to W'_{U^φ} induced by it coincides with φ_U.*

(ii′) *for any $U_1, U_2 \in \mathrm{Cel}^*_k(W)$ there exists a permutation $h_{U_1,U_2} \in \mathrm{Aut}(W)$ such that*

$$(h_{U_1})^U = (h_{U_1,U_2})^U (h_{U_2})^U$$

where $U = U_1 \cap U_2$ and under $h^U : U \to U^h$ we mean the bijection induced by restriction by a bijection h.

Proof. Set ψ_U to be the restriction to U^m of the weak isomorphism from $\widehat{W}$ to $\widehat{W'}$ induced by the mth Cartesian power of h_U. Then conditions (i) and (ii) follow from (i′) and (ii′) respectively.■

5 Direct sums and wreath products

5.1 Let $W_1,\dots,W_s$ be cellular algebras on sets $V_1,\dots,V_s$ respectively. Then the set of cellular algebras W on the disjoint union V of $V_1,\dots,V_s$ such that V_i is a cellular set of W and W_i coincides with the restriction of W to V_i for all i, has the smallest element. It is called the *direct sum* of $W_1,\dots,W_s$ (see [16]) and is denoted by $\sum_{i=1}^s W_i$. The standard basis $\mathcal{R}$ of the direct sum satisfies $|\mathcal{R}_{U_i,U_j}|=1$ for all of its cells $U_i\subset V_i$, $U_j\subset V_j$ with $i\neq j$, its automorphism group coincides with the product $\prod_{k=1}^s \mathrm{Aut}(W_k)$. Below w.l.o.g. we assume that the sets V_i are pairwise disjoint.

It is clear that the direct sum is Schurian iff so is any of its summands. In this subsection we generalize this observation to m-closed algebras. To do this we need to study the m-extended algebra of the direct sum.

Theorem 5.1 *Let $W=\sum_{k=1}^s W_k$ and $\widehat{W}=\widehat{W}^{(m)}$. Then*

(1) *There are the following decompositions into the direct sum and disjoint union:*

$$\widehat{W}=\sum_{\mathcal{I}',\mathcal{I}''}\widehat{W}(\mathcal{I}',\mathcal{I}''),\qquad \mathcal{R}(\widehat{W})=\bigcup_{\mathcal{I}',\mathcal{I}''}\widehat{\mathcal{R}}(\mathcal{I}',\mathcal{I}'')$$

where $\mathcal{I}'=\{I_k\}_{k=1}^s$ and $\mathcal{I}''=\{I'_k\}_{k=1}^s$ run over all ordered partitions of the set $[m]$ into s classes (possibly empty), $\widehat{W}(\mathcal{I}',\mathcal{I}'')=\otimes_{k=1}^s(\widehat{W_k})_{I_k,I'_k}$ and $\widehat{\mathcal{R}}(\mathcal{I}',\mathcal{I}'')=\otimes_{k=1}^s\widehat{\mathcal{R}}_{I_k,I'_k}(W_k)$ (see Subsection 3.2).

(2) *For any ordered partition $\mathcal{I}'$ of $[m]$ the set $V^{\mathcal{I}'}=\prod_{k=1}^s V_k^{I_k}$ is a cellular set of the algebra $\widehat{W}$. Moreover, $\widehat{W}_{V^{\mathcal{I}'}}=\otimes_{k=1}^s(\widehat{W_k}^{\,*})_{V_k^{I_k}}$.*

(3) *$\widehat{W}_U=\sum_{k=1}^s\widehat{W_k}$ where $U=\cup_{k=1}^s V_k^m$.*

Proof. We will prove only the first statement, since the others are straightforward from it. Denote by $\widehat{L}$ and $\widehat{\mathcal{R}}$ the right sides of the first and the second equalities of statement (1) respectively. It is easy to see that $\widehat{\mathcal{R}}$ consists of {0,1}-matrices, is closed under transposing and its linear span equals $\widehat{L}$. By the definition of $\widehat{\mathcal{R}}(\mathcal{I}',\mathcal{I}'')$ the sum of all matrices from this set equals $J_{V^{\mathcal{I}'},V^{\mathcal{I}''}}\in \mathrm{Mat}_{V^m}$. Since $V^m=\cup_{\mathcal{I}'}V^{\mathcal{I}'}$ (disjoint union), this implies that the sum of all matrices from $\widehat{\mathcal{R}}$ equals J_{V^m}. Besides, it follows from Lemma 3.3 that the linear space $\widehat{L}$ is a subalgebra of Mat_{V^m}. Thus $\widehat{L}$ is a cellular algebra on V^m with standard basis $\widehat{\mathcal{R}}$.

Let us show that $\widehat{L}=\widehat{W}$. Indeed, the inclusion $\widehat{L}\le\widehat{W}$ follows from statement (4) of Lemma 3.3 with $I=I'=[m]$. To prove the inverse inclusion it suffices by Theorem 3.2 to check that $\widehat{L}$ contains I_Δ and W^m. Since $I_\Delta=\sum_{k=1}^s I_{\Delta_k}$ where $\Delta_k=\Delta^{(m)}(V_k)$, we need only to check that $I_{\Delta_k}\in\widehat{L}$ for all k. Given $k\in[s]$ let us define partitions $\mathcal{I}'$ and $\mathcal{I}''$ so that $I_j=I'_j=\emptyset$ for $j\neq k$ and $I_k=I'_k=[m]$. Then, obviously,

$$I_{\Delta_k}\in\widehat{W_k}=(\widehat{W_k})_{[m],[m]}=\widehat{W}(\mathcal{I}',\mathcal{I}'')$$

Let us prove now that $W^m\subset\widehat{L}$. Let $A=\otimes_{i=1}^m A_i$ with $A_i\in\mathcal{R}_{a(i),b(i)}$ where $\mathcal{R}_{a,b}=\mathcal{R}_{V_a,V_b}(W)$. Then by the definition of the direct sum either $A_i\in\mathcal{R}(W_k)$ for some k or $A_i=J_{V_{a(i)},V_{b(i)}}=$

$J_{V_{a(i)},\{\varepsilon\}} \otimes J_{\{\varepsilon\},V_{b(i)}}$. So after rearranging indices we have

$$A = \otimes_{k=1}^{s} A^{(k)} \quad \text{with} \quad A^{(k)} = A^{(k,0)} \otimes A^{(k,1)} \otimes A^{(k,2)}$$

where $A^{(k,0)} = \otimes_{a(i)=b(i)=k} A_i$, $A^{(k,1)} = \otimes_{a(i)=k,b(i)\neq k} J_{V_k,\{\varepsilon\}}$, $A^{(k,2)} = \otimes_{a(i)\neq k,b(i)=k} J_{\{\varepsilon\},V_k}$. According to statement (4) of Lemma 3.3 $A^{(k)}$ belongs to $(\widehat{W_k})_{I_k,I'_k}$ where

$$I_k = \{i \in [m] : \ a(i) = k\}, \quad I'_k = \{i \in [m] : \ b(i) = k\}.$$

Since $\{I_k\}$ and $\{I'_k\}$ form partitions of $[m]$, we conclude that $A \in \widehat{L}$.■

The following assertion is an immediate consequence of statement (3) of Theorem 5.1.

Corollary 5.2 *In the notation of Theorem 5.1 we have* $\overline{W} = \ {}^{s}_{k=1}\overline{W}_k$. *In particular, the cellular algebra* W *is* m*-closed iff* W_k *is* m*-closed for all* k.■

Another consequence of the theorem concerns the m-extensions of weak isomorphisms between direct sums.

Corollary 5.3 *Let* $W = \ {}^{s}_{k=1}W_k$, $W' = \ {}^{s}_{k=1}W'_k$ *and* $\varphi : W \to W'$ *be the weak isomorphism induced by weak isomorphisms* $\varphi_k : W_k \to W'_k$ *where* $k \in [s]$. *Then* φ *belongs to* $\mathrm{Isow}_m(W, W')$ *iff* φ_k *belongs to* $\mathrm{Isow}_m(W_k, W'_k)$ *for all* k.

Proof. The necessity is obvious. Conversely, let $\varphi_k \in \mathrm{Isow}_m(W_k, W'_k)$ for all k. It follows from Theorem 5.1 and Lemma 3.3 that the algebras $\widehat{W}$ and $\widehat{W'}$ coincide with the restrictions to V^m and to $(V')^m$ of the tensor products $\otimes_{k=1}^{s} \widehat{W_k}^*$ and $\otimes_{k=1}^{s} \widehat{W'_k}^*$ respectively. By statement (2) of Lemma 4.3 the isomorphism $\widehat{\varphi_k}$ is extended to the weak isomorphism $\widehat{\varphi_k}^* : \widehat{W_k}^* \to \widehat{W'_k}^*$ for all k. So by Lemma 4.3 the restriction to V^m of the weak isomorphism $\otimes_{k=1}^{s} \widehat{\varphi_k}^*$ is a correctly defined weak isomorphism from $\widehat{W}$ to $\widehat{W'}$ being in fact the m-extension of φ.■

5.2 Let W be a cellular algebra on V and $\Psi \leq \mathrm{Isow}(W)$ be a group of its weak isomorphisms. For each $R \in \mathcal{R}$ denote by Ψ_R the subgroup of Ψ leaving R fixed and set

$$R^{\Psi} = \frac{1}{|\Psi_R|} \sum_{\psi \in \Psi} \psi(R)$$

where $\mathcal{R} = \mathcal{R}(W)$. Then it is easy to see that the set $\mathcal{R}^{\Psi} = \{R^{\Psi} : \ R \in \mathcal{R}\}$ is the standard basis of a cellular algebra $W^{\Psi} = [\mathcal{R}^{\Psi}]$ on V (see [4]). If $\Psi \subset \mathrm{Isow}_m(W)$, then $\widehat{W^{\Psi}} \leq \widehat{W}^{\widehat{\Psi}}$ where $\widehat{\Psi} = \{\widehat{\psi}^{(m)} : \ \psi \in \Psi\}$.

Let $\mathcal{W} = \{W_i\}_{i=1}^{s}$ be a family of cellular algebras $W_i \leq \mathrm{Mat}_{V_i}$ and $\Phi = \{\varphi_{i,j}\}_{i,j=1}^{s}$ be a family of weak isomorphisms $\varphi_{i,j} \in \mathrm{Isow}(W_i, W_j)$ such that

$$\varphi_{i,j} \circ \varphi_{j,k} = \varphi_{i,k}, \qquad i, j, k \in [s] \tag{11}$$

where $\circ$ denotes the composition of maps. It is easy to see that $\varphi_{i,i} = \mathrm{id}_{W_i}$ and $\varphi_{j,i} = \varphi_{i,j}^{-1}$ for all i, j. Set $W = \ {}^{s}_{i=1}W_i$. Any permutation $g \in \mathrm{Sym}(s)$ induces a weak isomorphism $\varphi_g : W \to W$ by means of s weak isomorphisms $\varphi_{i,i^g} : W_i \to W_{i^g}$, $i \in [s]$. Obviously for each group $G \leq \mathrm{Sym}(s)$ the set $\Phi_G = \{\varphi_g : \ g \in G\}$ forms a subgroup of $\mathrm{Isow}(W)$.

Definition 5.4 *The cellular algebra W^{Φ_G} is called the wreath product of the family $\mathcal{W}$ by the group G with respect to Φ and is denoted by $\mathcal{W} \wr_\Phi G$* [1].

The algebra $\mathcal{W} \wr_\Phi G$ contains two subalgebras

$$\mathcal{W}^\Phi = \{\sum_{i=1}^{s} A_i : \ A_i \in W_i, \ A_j = \varphi_{i,j}(A_i), \ i,j \in [s]\}$$

and

$$\mathcal{W}^G = \{ \sum_{O \in \mathrm{Orb}_2(G)} \alpha_O \big(\sum_{i,j \in O} J_{V_i,V_j}\big) : \ \alpha_O \in \quad \}$$

closed under the Hadamard multiplication and the Hermitian conjugation. It is easy to see that

$$\mathcal{W} \wr_\Phi G = [\mathcal{W}^\Phi, \mathcal{W}^G]. \tag{12}$$

We note that if $\varphi_{i,j} \in \mathrm{Isow}_m(W_i, W_j)$ for some m and all i,j, then $\varphi_g \in \mathrm{Isow}_m(W)$ for all $g \in \mathrm{Sym}(s)$ by Corollary 5.3. Its m-extension will be denoted by $\widehat{\varphi_g}$ below.

In the following statement we use the results of the previous subsection to give a sufficient condition for the wreath product to be m-closed.

Theorem 5.5 *Let $\mathcal{W} \wr_\Phi G$ be the wreath product of $\mathcal{W} = \{W_i\}_{i=1}^s$ by $G \le \mathrm{Sym}(s)$ with respect to $\Phi = \{\varphi_{i,j}\}_{i,j=1}^s$. Suppose that $\varphi_{i,j} \in \mathrm{Isow}_m(W_i, W_j)$ for all i,j. Then*

(1) *the set $U = \cup_{i=1}^s V_i^m$ is a cellular set of $\mathcal{W} \wr_\Phi G$ and $(\mathcal{W} \wr_\Phi G)_U = \widehat{\mathcal{W}} \wr_{\widehat{\Phi}} G$ where $\widehat{\mathcal{W}} = \{\widehat{W_i}\}_{i=1}^s$ and $\widehat{\Phi} = \{\widehat{\varphi_{i,j}}\}_{i,j=1}^s$.*

(2) *$\overline{\mathcal{W} \wr_\Phi G} = \overline{\mathcal{W}} \wr_{\overline{\Phi}} G$ where $\overline{\mathcal{W}} = \{\overline{W_i}\}_{i=1}^s$ and $\overline{\Phi} = \{\overline{\varphi_{i,j}}\}_{i,j=1}^s$ with $\overline{\varphi_{i,j}}$ being the m-closure of $\varphi_{i,j}$ (see Subsection 4.2).*

(3) *the algebra $\mathcal{W} \wr_\Phi G$ is m-closed iff so is W_i for all i.*

Proof. We prove only the first statement since the others are straightforward from it. It is easy to see that the adjacency matrix of the relation $\cup_{i=1}^s V_i^m \times V_i^m \subset V^m \times V^m$ equals $AI_\Delta A$ where A is the mth tensor power of the matrix $\sum_{i=1}^s J_{V_i}$ belonging to $\mathcal{W} \wr_\Phi G$, and so belongs to $\mathcal{W} \wr_\Phi G$. Thus the first part of statement (1) follows. Further, as $\mathcal{W} \wr_\Phi G \le \ \ {}^s_{i=1} W_i$ we have

$$(\mathcal{W} \wr_\Phi G)_U \le \ \ {}^s_{i=1} \widehat{W_i}$$

by statement (3) of Theorem 5.1. The group $(\widehat{\Phi})_G$ acts trivially on the algebra $(\mathcal{W} \wr_\Phi G)^m$ and leaves the matrix I_Δ fixed. So it acts trivially also on $\mathcal{W} \wr_\Phi G$ by Theorem 3.2. Since $\widehat{\mathcal{W}} \wr_{\widehat{\Phi}} G$ is obviously the largest subalgebra of $\ {}^s_{i=1} \widehat{W_i}$ with this property, we conclude that

$$(\mathcal{W} \wr_\Phi G)_U \le \widehat{\mathcal{W}} \wr_{\widehat{\Phi}} G.$$

[1] We note that if G is transitive and W_i is homogeneous for all i, this is a special case of the corresponding construction of [16].

To prove the converse inclusion we make use of the equality (12) with $\mathcal{W}$ and Φ replaced by $\widehat{\mathcal{W}}$ and $\widehat{\Phi}$ and verify that $\widehat{\mathcal{W}}^{\widehat{\Phi}}, \widehat{\mathcal{W}}^G \subset (\mathcal{W} \wr_\Phi G)_U$. A straightforward check shows that $I_U(\mathcal{W}^\Phi)^m I_U = (\mathcal{W}^m)^{\Phi^m}$ where $\mathcal{W}^m = \{W_i^m\}$, $\Phi^m = \{\varphi_{i,j}^m\}$ (see Subsection 4.2). So $(\mathcal{W}^m)^{\Phi^m} \subset (\mathcal{W} \wr_\Phi G)_U$. Since I_Δ also belongs to $(\mathcal{W} \wr_\Phi G)_U$, this algebra contains the cellular algebra $[(\mathcal{W}^m)^{\Phi^m}, I_\Delta]$ which coincides with $\widehat{\mathcal{W}}^{\widehat{\Phi}}$ by Theorem 3.2. On the other hand, for any $O \in \mathrm{Orb}_2(G)$ we have

$$\sum_{(i,j)\in O} J_{V_i^m, V_j^m} = I_U\Big(\sum_{(i,j)\in O} J_{V_i,V_j}\Big)^m I_U.$$

This implies that $\widehat{\mathcal{W}}^G \subset (\mathcal{W} \wr_\Phi G)_U$, which completes the proof.■

Remark 5.6 *It follows from the above proof that* $\mathcal{W} \wr_\Phi G \le (\sum_{i=1}^s W_i)^{\widehat{\Phi}_G}$. *On the other hand, it is easy to see that each Schurian algebra is strongly isomorphic to the wreath product of one-point matrix algebras by its automorphism group. So the equality would imply in particular that the m-extended algebra of a Schurian algebra is also Schurian. However, this does not seem to be true.*

Corollary 5.7 *Let G be a transitive group. Then the algebra $\mathcal{W} \wr_\Phi G$ is Schurian iff so is W_i for all i and the weak isomorphism $\varphi_{i,j}$ is induced by a strong isomorphism for all i, j.*

Proof. By statement (3), Theorem 4.5 and the fact that $\overline{W} = \mathrm{Sch}(W)$ for all $W \le \mathrm{Mat}_V$ and $m \ge |V|$ (see Proposition 3.1) it suffices to prove that if $\mathcal{W} \wr_\Phi G$ is Schurian, then $\varphi_{i,j}$ is induced by a bijection $g_{i,j}$ from V_i to V_j for all i, j. Since the group G is transitive, each cell of $\mathcal{W} \wr_\Phi G$ meets the set V_i for all i. The Schurity of $\mathcal{W} \wr_\Phi G$ implies then that so does each orbit of its automorphism group. However, the relation $\cup_{i=1}^s V_i \times V_i$ is invariant with respect to this group. So for all i, j there exists an automorphism of $\mathcal{W} \wr_\Phi G$ taking V_i to V_j, which gives the required bijection $g_{i,j}$.■

6 Proofs of Theorems 1.1 and 1.2

6.1 Throughout the section let G be an elementary Abelian group of order 4 acting faithfully and regularly on each of the pairwise disjoint sets V_i, $i \in [s]$. Let us denote by $\mathcal{K}$ the class of all cellular algebras W on $V = \cup_{i=1}^s V_i$ such that

$$W \ge \sum_{i=1}^s \mathcal{Z}(G, V_i), \qquad \mathrm{Cel}(W) = \{V_i : \ i \in [s]\}.$$

W.l.o.g. we identify V_i with a copy of G so that G acts on V_i by multiplications. In this case the group $\mathrm{Aut}(W)$ is identified with a subgroup of G^s the elements of which will be denoted by $(g_1, \dots, g_s)$. Moreover, each element of G^s can be considered as a strong isomorphism of W to itself inducing the identity isomorphism of all of its homogeneous components. Below we set $\mathcal{R} = \mathcal{R}(W)$ and $\mathcal{R}_{i,j} = \mathcal{R}_{V_i,V_j}$ where $i, j \in [s]$.

The following statement is straightforward from the definitions.

Lemma 6.1 *Let $W \in \mathcal{K}$. Then*

(1) $W_{V_i} = \mathcal{Z}(G, V_i)$ *for all i.*

(2) *If $i \neq j$, then $W_{V_i \cup V_j} = \mathcal{Z}(G_{i,j}, V_i \cup V_j)$ where $G_{i,j}$ is a subgroup of $G \times G$ of index 1, 2 or 4. Moreover,* $\mathrm{Aut}(W_{V_i \cup V_j}) = G_{i,j}$ *and* $|\mathcal{R}_{i,j}| = [G \times G : G_{i,j}]$.

(3) *If $|\mathcal{R}_{i,j}| = 2$, then $G_{i,j}$ is of the form*

$$K(c_1, c_2) = \langle c_1 \rangle \times \langle c_2 \rangle \cup \overline{\langle c_1 \rangle} \times \overline{\langle c_2 \rangle}$$

where $c_1 = c_1(i,j)$, $c_2 = c_2(i,j)$ are uniquely determined elements of $G \setminus \{1\}$, $\langle c_l \rangle = \{1, c_l\}$ and $\overline{\langle c_l \rangle} = G \setminus \langle c_l \rangle$, $l = 1, 2$. Moreover, $c_1(i,j) = c_2(j,i)$ and $\mathcal{R}_{i,j}$ consists of the adjacency matrices of the relation $G_{i,j}$ and its complement in $V_i \times V_j$.■

It follows from statement (1) and Proposition 2.1 of [5] that $\mathcal{K}$ consists of algebras with simple spectrum.

6.2 In this paper we are especially interested in the subclass $\mathcal{K}^*$ of the class $\mathcal{K}$ consisting of all cellular algebras W such that

(i) $|\mathcal{R}_{i,j}| \leq 2$ for all $i \neq j$.

(ii) Given $i \in [s]$ the elements $c_1(i,j)$ with $|\mathcal{R}_{i,j}| = 2$ are pairwise distinct.

We associate to such an algebra a graph $\Gamma = \Gamma(W)$ with vertex set $V(\Gamma) = [s]$ and edge set $E(\Gamma) = \{(i,j) : \ |\mathcal{R}_{i,j}| = 2\}$. Since $|\mathcal{R}_{i,j}| = |\mathcal{R}_{j,i}|$, this graph can be considered as an undirected one. We observe that

$$|\mathcal{R}_{i,j}| = \begin{cases} 4, & \text{if } i = j; \\ 2, & \text{if } (i,j) \in E(\Gamma); \\ 1, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases} \tag{13}$$

It should be noted that each weak isomorphism of the algebras belonging $\mathcal{K}^*$ induces an isomorphism of the corresponding graphs. Moreover, it is easy to see that each isomorphism of the graphs is induced by a strong isomorphism of the algebras.

Lemma 6.2 *Let Γ be an undirected graph with $V(\Gamma) = [s]$. Then $\Gamma = \Gamma(W)$ for some $W \in \mathcal{K}^*$ iff the degree of any vertex of Γ is at most 3.*

Proof. Let $W \in \mathcal{K}^*$. It follows from (ii) and the definition of $c_1(i,j)$ that the degree of a vertex i in the graph $\Gamma(W)$ is at most $|G \setminus \{1\}| = 3$, which proves the necessity. Conversely, let the degree of any vertex of Γ be at most 3. For each $i \in [s]$ choose an injection

$$f_i : \{j : \ (i,j) \in E(\Gamma)\} \to G \setminus \{1\}$$

and denote by W the linear subspace of Mat_V spanned by $\sum_{i=1}^{s} \mathcal{Z}(G, V_i)$ and the adjacency matrices $A(i,j)$ of the relations $K(c_1, c_2) \subset V_i \times V_j$ where $c_1 = c_1(i,j) = f_i(j)$, $c_2 = c_2(i,j) = f_j(i)$ for all $(i,j) \in E(\Gamma)$. Let $(i,j), (j,k) \in E(\Gamma)$ and $i \neq k$. Then $c_2(i,j) \neq c_1(j,k)$ and so

$$A(i,j) \cdot A(j,k) = 2J_{V_i, V_k}.$$

This implies that the linear space W is closed with respect to the matrix multiplication and hence is a cellular algebra from $\mathcal{K}^*$.■

Let us study the isomorphisms of a cellular algebra $W \in \mathcal{K}^*$ to itself leaving any cell of W fixed. For an edge (i,j) of the graph $\Gamma = \Gamma(W)$ set

$$g_{(i,j)} = (h_1, \dots, h_s), \qquad h_k = \begin{cases} c_1(i,j), & \text{if } k = i; \\ c_2(i,j), & \text{if } k = j; \\ 1, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases} \tag{14}$$

Let $P = (i_0, \dots, i_t) \in [s]^{t+1}$ be a path in the graph Γ from i_0 to i_t (i.e. $(i_{l-1}, i_l) \in E(\Gamma)$ for all $l \in [t]$). We define a permutation of V by

$$g_P = \prod_{l=1}^{t} g_{(i_{l-1}, i_l)}. \tag{15}$$

Clearly, $g_P \in \mathrm{Iso}(W)$ for all P (including ones with $t = 0$ for which $g_P = 1$) and also

$$g_{P \cdot P'} = g_P g_{P'}, \quad g_{P^{-1}} = g_P^{-1} \tag{16}$$

where $P \cdot P'$ is the composition of the paths P and P' (providing that the last vertex of P coincides with the first vertex of P') and P^{-1} is the reverse of P. Denote by φ_P the weak isomorphism of the algebra W to itself induced by the strong isomorphism g_P. Obviously, φ_P is identical on each homogeneous component of W and $\varphi_P^2 = \mathrm{id}_W$.

Lemma 6.3 *Let $W \in \mathcal{K}^*$ and $\Gamma = \Gamma(W)$. Then the following statements hold:*

(1) *Let $\varphi = \varphi_{(i,j)}$ where $(i,j) \in E(\Gamma)$. Then the action of φ on the set $\mathcal{R}_{a,b}$ is nontrivial iff $(a,b) \in E(\Gamma)$ and $|\{a,b\} \cap \{i,j\}| = 1$.*

(2) *If $P = (i_0, \dots, i_t)$ is a closed path in the graph Γ (i.e. $i_0 = i_t$), then $g_P \in \mathrm{Aut}(W)$.*

(3) *If Γ is a 3-connected graph, then W is a Schurian algebra.*

Proof. If φ is not identical on $\mathcal{R}_{a,b}$, then obviously $(a,b) \in E(\Gamma)$ and $\{a,b\} \cap \{i,j\} \neq \emptyset$ (see (13) and (14)). Further, if $\{a,b\} = \{i,j\}$, then $g_{(i,j)}$ is of the form $(c_1(a,b), c_2(a,b))$ on $V_a \cup V_b$ and consequently belongs to $\mathrm{Aut}(W_{V_a \cup V_b})$ (see Lemma 6.1) acting trivially on $\mathcal{R}_{a,b}$. Conversely, let $(a,b) \in E(\Gamma)$ and for instance $a = i$, $b \neq j$. Then $g_{(i,j)}$ is of the form $(c_1(a,j), 1)$ on $V_a \cup V_b$ with $c_1(a,j) \neq c_1(a,b)$ and so can not belong to $\mathrm{Aut}(W_{V_a \cup V_b})$. This proves statement (1). Now, if P is a closed path in Γ, then by statement (1) and formula (16) the weak isomorphism φ_P acts trivially on the set $\mathcal{R}$. This means that $g_P \in \mathrm{Aut}(W)$, which proves statement (2).

To prove statement (3) we will make use of the following property of a 3-connected graph: given an edge and a vertex nonincident to each other, there exists a cycle (a closed path without repeating vertices) passing through the edge but not through the vertex. Given distinct $i, j \in [s]$ we define a set $S_{i,j}$ of cycles of the graph Γ as follows. If $(i,j) \in E(\Gamma)$, then $S_{i,j}$ consists of 3 elements: a cycle passing through i but not through j, a cycle passing through j but not through i and a cycle passing through the edge (i,j). If $(i,j) \notin E(\Gamma)$, then $S_{i,j}$ consists of 4 elements: 2 cycles passing through i but not through j covering all edges incident to i and 2 cycles passing through j but not through i covering all edges incident to j. Let $H_{i,j}$ be the restriction to $V_i \cup V_j$

of the group generated by all permutations g_P, $P \in S_{i,j}$. By statement (2) it is a subgroup of $\mathrm{Aut}(W_{V_i \cup V_j})$. On the other hand, it follows from the definition of $S_{i,j}$ and g_P that

$$|H_{i,j}| = \begin{cases} 8, & \text{if } (i,j) \in E(\Gamma); \\ 16, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

So $H_{i,j} = \mathrm{Aut}(W_{V_i \cup V_j})$ by Lemma 6.1 and (13). Since the algebra $W_{V_i \cup V_j}$ is obviously Schurian, statement (3) follows.■

Remark 6.4 *In fact, if Γ is a connected cubic graph, then the 3-connectivity of Γ is also necessary for W to be Schurian. This can be proved by using the fact that in this case the group $\mathrm{Aut}(W)$ is generated by the permutations g_P where P runs over all cycles of Γ.*

6.3 Let $W \in \mathcal{K}^*$ and $a \in [s]$. Set

$$\psi_a = \prod_{b \in \Gamma(a)} \psi_{a,b}$$

where $\Gamma = \Gamma(W)$, $\Gamma(a)$ is the neighbourhood of a in Γ and $\psi_{a,b}$ is the weak isomorphism of the algebra W defined for $R \in \mathcal{R}$ by

$$\psi_{a,b}(R) = \begin{cases} J_{V_a,V_b} - R, & \text{if } R \in \mathcal{R}_{a,b}; \\ R, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Then ψ_a is an involutory weak isomorphism of W moving R iff $R \in \mathcal{R}_{a,b} \cup \mathcal{R}_{b,a}$ with $b \in \Gamma(a)$. These weak isomorphisms are closely related to those of the previous subsection. Namely, by statement (1) of Lemma 6.3 we have $\varphi_{(i,j)} = \psi_i \psi_j$ for all $(i,j) \in E(\Gamma)$. So

$$\varphi_P = \psi_a \psi_b \tag{17}$$

where P is any path in the graph Γ from a to b.

Theorem 6.5 *Let $W \in \mathcal{K}^*$, $\Gamma = \Gamma(W)$ be a cubic graph and $a \in [s]$. Then*

(1) *The weak isomorphism ψ_a is not induced by a permutation of V.*

(2) *If Γ is a connected graph with no separator of some cardinality $k \geq 3m$, then $\psi_a \in \mathrm{Isow}_m(W)$. (A set X is called a separator of Γ if any connected component of the induced subgraph $\Gamma \setminus X$ on $[s] \setminus X$ has at most $s/2$ vertices.)*

Proof. Given $\varphi \in \mathrm{Isow}(W)$ leaving any cell of W fixed let us denote by $T(\varphi)$ (resp. $t(\varphi)$) the set of all 2-subsets $\{i,j\}$ of $[s]$ such that $\varphi(R) \neq R$ for some $R \in \mathcal{R}_{i,j} \cup \mathcal{R}_{j,i}$ (resp. its cardinality). Then, obviously, $t(\psi_a) = 3$. So to prove statement (1) it suffices to check that

$$t(\varphi_g) \equiv 0 \,(\mathrm{mod}\, 2), \quad g \in G^s \tag{18}$$

where φ_g is the weak isomorphism of W induced by g (see Subsection 6.1). It is easy to see that

$$|T(\varphi_{gh})| = |T(\varphi_g)| + |T(\varphi_h)| - 2|T(\varphi_g) \cap T(\varphi_h)|, \quad g, h \in G^s$$

whence $t(\varphi_{gh}) = t(\varphi_g) + (\varphi_h) \pmod 2$ for all g, h. Now (18) follows from the straightforward equality $t(\varphi_g) = 2$ where $g = (g_1, \dots, g_s)$ with exactly one of g_i's equal to 1.

To prove (2) it suffices to verify that for $\varphi = \psi_a$ conditions (i') and (ii') of Corollary 4.7 are satisfied. Let $U \in \mathrm{Cel}_k^*(W)$. Denote by C_U the vertex set of a largest connected component of the graph $\Gamma \setminus X_U$ where X_U is the subset of $[s]$ corresponding to the cells of W contained in U. Choose a vertex $b = b_U \in C_U$ and a path $P = P_U$ in the graph Γ from a to b. Then by (17) and the fact that $b \notin U$ we have $(\varphi_P)_U = (\psi_a)_U$. So the condition (i') is satisfied for $h_U = g_P$.

Let $U_1, U_2 \in \mathrm{Cel}_k^*(W)$. Set $b_i = b_{U_i}$, $C_i = C_{U_i}$, $X_i = X_{U_i}$, $P_i = P_{U_i}$ $(i = 1, 2)$. Then $|C_i| > s/2$, since X_i is not a separator of Γ by the hypothesis of statement (2). So $C_1 \cap C_2 \neq \emptyset$ and there exists a path $P_{1,2}$ in Γ from b_1 to b_2 all vertices of which belong to $C_1 \cup C_2$. Set $P = P_1 \cdot P_{1,2} \cdot P_2^{-1}$. Then by (16) and the fact that $P_{1,2}$ contains no vertices of $U = U_1 \cap U_2$ we have

$$(g_P)^U = (g_{P_1} g_{P_{1,2}} g_{P_2}^{-1})^U = (h_{U_1})^U (h_{U_2}^{-1})^U.$$

By statement (2) of Lemma 6.3 $g_P \in \mathrm{Aut}(W)$. Thus the condition (ii') is satisfied for $h_{U_1,U_2} = g_P$.■

Remark 6.6 *Let $\Gamma(W)$ be a connected cubic graph and $\varphi_1, \varphi_2 \in \mathrm{Isow}(W)$ be weak isomorphisms leaving any cell of W fixed such that $(\varphi_1)_{V_i} = (\varphi_2)_{V_i}$ for all $i \in [s]$. Then it can be proved by the same technique that $\varphi_1 \varphi_2^{-1}$ is induced by a strong isomorphism of W iff $t(\varphi_1) = t(\varphi_2) \pmod 2$.*

6.4. Proof of Theorem 1.2. It follows from [10] and [13] that for all sufficiently large l the graph $CD(l, 3)$ defined in [10] is a connected, edge-transitive, cubic Ramanujan graph with $s_l = 2 \cdot 3^{l - \lfloor \frac{l+2}{4} \rfloor + 1}$ vertices. One can easily veryfy that there exists $\varepsilon' > 0$ such that any cubic Ramanujan graph with s vertices has no separator of cardinality k for all $k \leq \varepsilon' s$. By Lemma 6.2 there exists a cellular algebra $W(l) \in \mathcal{K}^*$ on $4s_l$ points with $\Gamma(W(l)) = CD(l, 3)$. So by Theorem 6.5 there exists an $\lfloor \frac{s_l \varepsilon'}{3} \rfloor$-isomorphism $\varphi(l)$ of $W(l)$ which is not induced by a strong isomorphism. According to [14] the graph $CD(l, 3)$ being a connected edge-transitive cubic graph, is 3-connected. Thus $W(l)$ is a Schurian algebra by statement (3) of Lemma 6.3.

Let us define a cellular algebra W_n on n points by $W_n = W(l) \quad \mathrm{Mat}_{n-4s_l}$ where l is the largest positive integer for which $4s_l \leq n$. Let φ_n be the weak isomorphism of W_n coinciding with $\varphi(l)$ on the first summand and identical on the second one. Then by above W_n is a Schurian algebra and φ_n is not induced by a strong isomorphism for all sufficiently large n. Set $m = \lfloor \frac{s_l \varepsilon'}{3} \rfloor$. Since $\varphi(l) \in \mathrm{Isow}_m(W(l))$, Corollary 5.3 implies that $\varphi_n \in \mathrm{Isow}_m(W_n)$. Taking into account the inequality $s_l/n \geq s_l/s_{l+1} \geq 1/12$, we conclude that $m \geq \lfloor n\varepsilon \rfloor$ where $\varepsilon = \varepsilon'/36$.■

6.5. Proof of Theorem 1.1. Let W and φ be the Schurian algebra on n points and the m-isomorphism from Theorem 1.2. Set $W' = \mathcal{W} \wr_\Phi G$ where $\mathcal{W} = \{W_i\}_{i=1}^2$, $\Phi = \{\varphi_{i,j}\}_{i,j=1}^2$, $G = \mathrm{Sym}(2)$ with $W_1 = W_2 = W$ and $\varphi_{1,2} = \varphi$. Then by statement (3) of Theorem 5.5 the algebra W' is m-closed. On the other hand, W' is not Schurian by Corollary 5.7. Thus for a sufficiently large even integer the required algebra is constructed. The odd case is reduced to the even one by considering the algebra $W' \quad \mathrm{Mat}_1$.■

7 Proof of Theorem 1.3

7.1 Let M be a set and $\mathcal{P}$ be a collection of nonempty subsets of the set V^M. For $L \subset M$ let us

define the projection of $\mathcal{P}$ on V^L by

$$\pi_L(\mathcal{P}) = \{\pi_L(T) : T \in \mathcal{P}\}$$

where $\pi_L = \pi_L^M : V^M \to V^L$ is a natural projection. Assuming $\mathrm{Sym}(M)$ acting coordinatewise on V^M set

$$\mathcal{P}^g = \{T^g : T \in \mathcal{P}\}, \qquad g \in \mathrm{Sym}(M).$$

The following definition is inspired by [9] and [12] (see also [11]).

Definition 7.1 *The collection $\mathcal{P}$ is called a stable partition of V^M if*

(P1) *$\mathcal{P}$ is normal, i.e. the set $\pi_L^{-1}(\Delta^{(L)})$ is a union of the elements of $\mathcal{P}$ for all $L \subset M$ where $\Delta^{(L)} = \{(v, \dots, v) \in V^L : v \in V\}$;*

(P2) *$\mathcal{P}$ is invariant, i.e. $\mathcal{P}^g = \mathcal{P}$ for all $g \in \mathrm{Sym}(M)$;*

(P3) *$\mathcal{P}$ is regular, i.e. given $T \in \mathcal{P}$, $S \in \pi_L(\mathcal{P})$ the number $|\pi_L^{-1}(\overline{u}) \cap T|$ does not depend on $\overline{u} \in S$ for all $L \subset M$.*

The regularity of $\mathcal{P}$ exactly means that

(P3′) each $T \in \mathcal{P}$ is a regular relation on V of arity $m = |M|$, i.e. the number $|\pi_L^{-1}(\overline{u}) \cap T|$ does not depend on $\overline{u} \in \pi_L(T)$ for all $L \subset M$,

(P3″) given $L \subset M$ the elements of $\pi_L(\mathcal{P})$ are pairwise disjoint.

It follows from (P1) with $L = \emptyset$ that $V^M = \cup_{T \in \mathcal{P}} T$ whereas (P3″) with $L = M$ shows that the elements of $\mathcal{P}$ are pairwise disjoint. Thus $\mathcal{P}$ is in fact a partition of V^M, which justifies the second word of the term. The justification of the first one will be done below.

For each permutation group $G \le \mathrm{Sym}(V)$ the partition of V^M into the orbits of the coordinatewise action of G is obviously stable. On the other hand, it easily follows from (P1) that any stable partition of V^M is a refinement of the last partition with $G = \mathrm{Sym}(V)$ (see also the proof of Theorem 3.2).

Lemma 7.2 *Let $\mathcal{P}$ be a stable partition of V^M. Then*

(1) *$\pi_L(\mathcal{P})$ is a stable partition of V^L for all $L \subset M$,*

(2) *if $M = I \times K$, then $\mathcal{P}$ is a stable partition of $(V^I)^K$,*

(3) *if $M = [3]$, then $\pi_{[2]}(\mathcal{P})$ is the set of basis relations of a cellular algebra on V.*

Proof. The first two statements immediately follow from the definitions. Let us prove the third one. Set $\mathcal{R} = \pi_{[2]}(\mathcal{P})$. It follows from statement (1) that $\mathcal{R}$ is a stable partition of $V \times V$. In particular, V^2 and $\Delta^{([2])}(V)$ are unions of the elements of $\mathcal{R}$. Besides, $\mathcal{R}^T = \mathcal{R}$ since $R^T = R^g$ for all $R \in \mathcal{R}$ where g is the transposition belonging to $\mathrm{Sym}(2)$. So it suffices to check that given $Q, R, S \in \mathcal{R}$ the number

$$p(u_1, u_2; Q, R) = |\{u \in V : (u_1, u) \in Q,\ (u, u_2) \in R\}|$$

does not depend on the choice of $(u_1, u_2) \in S$. However, $p(u_1, u_2; Q, R)$ coincides with the sum of the numbers $|\pi_L^{-1}(\overline{u}) \cap T|$ where $L = [2]$, $\overline{u} = (u_1, u_2) \in S$ and T runs over the elements of $\mathcal{P}$ contained in the set

$$\pi_L^{-1}(Q) \cap \pi_L^{-1}(R)^g \cap \pi_L^{-1}(S)^h$$

with $g = (1, 2, 3)$, $h = (2, 3)$ in cyclic notation. By (P3) these numbers do not depend on $\overline{u}$.■

Below we mainly deal with stable partitions of V^M for $M = [m]$. In this case we write V^m instead of $V^{[m]}$, $\Delta^{(m)}$ instead of $\Delta^{([m])}$ and $\pi_l = \pi_l^m$ instead of $\pi_{[l]}$. We note that for an invariant partition $\mathcal{P}$ of V^m condition (P3) is equivalent to the following condition:

(P3*) given $l \in [m-1]$ and $S \in \pi_{l+1}(\mathcal{P})$, $R \in \pi_l(\mathcal{P})$ the number $|(\pi_l^{l+1})^{-1}(\overline{u}) \cap S|$ does not depend on $\overline{u} \in R$ where $\pi_l^{l+1} : V^{l+1} \to V^l$ is the projection on the first l coordinates.

7.2 A mapping f from V^m onto $[d]$ is called a *coloring* of V^m. Any set $f^{-1}(i) \subset V^m$ with $i \in [d]$ is called a *color class* of f. Let $m \geq 2$. Denote by $\mathcal{R}_f$ the partition of $V \times V$ into the classes of the form

$$\{(u', v') \in V \times V : \ f(u', \dots, u', v') = f(u, \dots, u, v)\}, \quad u, v \in V.$$

Conversely, given a partition $\mathcal{R}$ of $V \times V$ let us define a coloring $f_{\mathcal{R}}$ of V^m by

$$f_{\mathcal{R}}(\bar{v}) = f_{\mathcal{R}}(\bar{v}') \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \forall R \in \mathcal{R}\ \forall i, j \in [m] : \ ((v_i, v_j) \in R \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad (v_i', v_j') \in R).$$

In this notation the following procedure was described in [2].

Procedure m-dim stabilization

Input: a coloring f_0 of V^m.
Output: a coloring f of V^m.
Step 1. Set $k = 0$.
Step 2. For each $\bar{v} \in V^m$ find a formal sum $S(\bar{v}) = \sum_{u \in V} f_k(\bar{v}/u)$ where

$$\bar{v}/u = (\bar{v}_{1,u}, \dots, \bar{v}_{m,u}) \quad \text{with} \quad \bar{v}_{i,u} = (v_1, \dots, v_{i-1}, u, v_{i+1}, \dots, v_m)$$

and

$$f_k(\bar{v}/u) = (f_k(\bar{v}_{1,u}), \dots, f_k(\bar{v}_{m,u})).$$

Step 3. Find a coloring f_{k+1} of V^m such that

$$f_{k+1}(\bar{v}) = f_{k+1}(\bar{v}') \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad (f_k(\bar{v}) = f_k(\bar{v}'), \ S(\bar{v}) = S(\bar{v}')).$$

If the numbers of color classes of f_k and f_{k+1} are different, then $k := k + 1$ and go to Step 2. Otherwise set $f = f_k$.■

For a cellular algebra W on V set

$$\mathrm{WL}_1(W) = W \quad \text{and} \quad \mathrm{WL}_m(W) = [\mathcal{R}_f], \ m \geq 2$$

where f is the coloring of V^m derived from $f_0 = f_{\mathcal{R}(W)}$ by the m-dim stabilization procedure. Let us define $\mathcal{P}_m = \mathcal{P}_m(W)$ to be the partition of V^m into the cells of W if $m = 1$ and into the color

classes of f if $m \geq 2$. In the last case denote by $\mathcal{P}_{m,k}(W)$, $k = 0, 1, \ldots$ the partition of V^m into the classes of the coloring f_k obtained in applying the m-dim stabilization procedure to the coloring f_0. Then

$$\mathcal{P}_{m,0} \leq \mathcal{P}_{m,1} \leq \cdots \leq \mathcal{P}_m \tag{19}$$

where for partitions $\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{P}'$ of V^m we write $\mathcal{P} \leq \mathcal{P}'$ if $\mathcal{P}'$ is the refinement of $\mathcal{P}$.

Theorem 7.3 *The partition $\mathcal{P}_m(W)$ is stable for all $m \geq 1$.*

Proof. It follows from the definition of the coloring f_0 that the partition $\mathcal{P}_{m,0}$ satisfies conditions (P1) and (P2). So $\mathcal{P}_m$ satisfies (P1) by (19) and (P2) by the definition of f_{k+1} at Step 3. Thus it suffices to check that $\mathcal{P}_m$ satisfies condition (P3*).

For $l \in [m]$ let η_l be the mapping defined by

$$\eta_l : V^m \to V^m, \quad (v_1, \ldots, v_m) \mapsto (v_1, \ldots, v_l, v_1, \ldots, v_1).$$

Lemma 7.4 *$T \in \mathcal{P}_m$ implies $\eta_l(T) \in \mathcal{P}_m$.*

Proof. Using induction on $l = m, m-1, \ldots$ we assume that $T = \eta_{l+1}(T)$. Let $\overline{v} = (v_1, \ldots, v_m) \in T$. Then by the definition of the initial coloring f_0 and formula (19) we conclude that the final color of the tuple $\overline{v}_{l+1,u}$ for $u = v_1$ differs from that for $u \neq v_1$ (see Step 2). So the final color of $\eta_l(\overline{v})$ does not depend on the choice of $\overline{v}$ in the color class T due to the termination condition at Step 3. Thus $\eta_l(T) \subset T'$ for some $T' \in \mathcal{P}_m$. To prove the inverse inclusion we observe that $T' \subset \eta_l(V^m)$. On the other hand, given $\overline{v}' \in T'$ the number $|\{u \in V : \ \overline{v}'_{l+1,u} \in T\}|$ does not depend on $\overline{v}'$ and is positive since $\eta_l(T) \neq \emptyset$. Thus $T' \subset \eta_l(T)$.■

To complete the proof of the theorem set $S = \pi_{l+1}(T)$ and $R = \pi_l(T')$ where $T, T' \in \mathcal{P}_m$ (see (P3*)). By Lemma 7.4 we assume $T = \eta_{l+1}(T), T' = \eta_l(T')$. For $\overline{u} \in V^l$ set $\overline{v} = \eta_l(\overline{v}')$ where $\overline{v}'$ is any element of the set $(\pi_l^m)^{-1}(\overline{u})$. Then obviously

$$|(\pi_l^{l+1})^{-1}(\overline{u}) \cap S| = |\{u \in V : \ \overline{v}_{l+1,u} \in T\}|.$$

If $\overline{u}$ runs over R, then $\overline{v}$ runs over T'. Since the right side of the last equality does not depend on $\overline{v} \in T'$, we conclude that the left side of it does not depend on $\overline{u} \in R$.■

Remark 7.5 *The proof of Theorem 7.3 in fact shows that the partition of V^m corresponding to the final coloring f obtained by the m-dim stabilization procedure is a stable one whenever the partition corresponding to the initial coloring f_0 satisfies conditions (P1) and (P2).*

7.3 Proof of Theorem 1.3. Let us compare the partitions of Cartesian powers of V associated with the Schurian polynomial approximation schemes $\{\overline{W}^{(m)}\}$ and $\{\mathrm{WL}_m(W)\}$ where W is a cellular algebra on V.

Theorem 7.6 *For all cellular algebra W and all $m \geq 1$*

$$\mathcal{P}_m(W) \leq \mathrm{Cel}(\widehat{W}^{(m)}), \qquad \mathcal{R}(\widehat{W}^{(m)}) \leq \pi_{2m}(\mathcal{P}_{3m}(W)). \tag{20}$$

(We consider the elements of $\mathcal{R}(\widehat{W}^{(m)})$ as subsets of V^{2m}, see the end of Subsection 2.1.)

Proof. The first inequality was in fact proved in Proposition 4.1 of [3]. According to Theorem 7.3 $\mathcal{P}_{3m}(W)$ is a stable partition of V^{3m}. So by Lemma 7.2 there exists a cellular algebra $\widehat{A}_m(W)$ on V^m whose set of basis relations coincides with $\pi_{2m}(\mathcal{P}_{3m}(W))$. It follows from (P1) with $\mathcal{P} = \mathcal{P}_{3m}(W)$ that $I_{\Delta^{(m)}} \in \widehat{A}_m(W)$. Besides, $\mathcal{R}(W^m) \le \pi_{2m}(\mathcal{P}_{3m,0}(W))$ by the definition of the initial coloring f_0, whence $W^m \le \widehat{A}_m(W)$. Thus

$$\widehat{W^{(m)}} \le \widehat{A}_m(W)$$

by Theorem 3.2.■

The inclusion $\mathrm{WL}_m(W) \le \overline{W}^{(m)}$ was proved in Theorem 1.2 of [3] (in fact deduced from the first inequality of Theorem 7.6). To prove the inclusion $\overline{W}^{(m)} \le \mathrm{WL}_{3m}(W)$ we observe that by Theorem 7.3 the partition $\mathcal{P}_{3m}(W)$ is stable and hence

$$\mathcal{R}(\mathrm{WL}_{3m}(W)) = \pi_2(\mathcal{P}_{3m}(W)) = \pi_2(\pi_{2m}(\mathcal{P}_{3m}(W))) = \pi_2(\mathcal{R}(\widehat{A}_m))$$

where $\widehat{A}_m = \widehat{A}_m(W)$ is the cellular algebra on V^m defined in the proof of Theorem 7.6. On the other hand, the stability of partition $\pi_{2m}(\mathcal{P}_{3m}(W))$ (see Lemma 7.2) implies that $\pi_2(\mathcal{R}(\widehat{A}_m)) = \mathcal{R}(((\widehat{A}_m)_\Delta)^{\delta^{-1}})$ where Δ and δ are defined in Subsection 3.1. So by the second inequality of Theorem 7.6 we have

$$\mathcal{R}(\mathrm{WL}_{3m}(W)) = \mathcal{R}(((\widehat{A}_m)_\Delta)^{\delta^{-1}}) \ge \mathcal{R}(((\widehat{W}^{(m)})_\Delta)^{\delta^{-1}}) = \mathcal{R}(\overline{W}^{(m)}).$$

This completes the proof of Theorem 1.3.■

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