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## Near-perfect matchings on cylinders $C_m \times P_n$ of odd order

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\documentclass[12pt]{article} \usepackage{amssymb} \sloppy \paperwidth=210mm \paperheight=297mm \textheight=250mm \textwidth=165mm \oddsidemargin=-0.4mm \evensidemargin=-5.4mm \topmargin=-5.4mm

 $\label{eq:center} $$ begin{center} Near-perfect matchings on cylinders $C_m \times P_n$ of odd order $$ end{center} $$ Abstract:\\ The problem of counting near-perfect matchings on cylinders $C_m \times P_n$ is discussed when both parameters $m$ and $n$ are odd. A distinctive feature of $$ these matchings is the sequence of security and $n$ are odd. A distinctive feature of $$ the security is the security of $$ the security of $$ the security of $$ the security of $$ the security $$ 

these matchings is the presence of exactly one node which is left unmatched. This node will be called vacancy.

This combinatorial problem is directly related to the dimer problem, one of the classical lattice models of statistical physics. If at least one of the lattice parameters is even, then maximum matchings often turn out to be perfect matchings. But if the order of the graph is odd, then maximum matchings are usually near-perfect matchings. The generating function for the number of near-perfect matchings is identical to generating function for the dimer model when activities of all dimers are the same.

The methods known to date are able to find closed-form expressions for the number of near-perfect matchings on  $C_m \times P_n$  graphs only when the vacancy is located on the boundary~\cite{Wu1}. Summation over all possible vacancy locations for arbitrary values of parameters m and n is beyond the scope of available analytical tools.

In our work, a counting problem is considered for a fixed value of the parameter m. Under this condition, generating functions  $G_m^P(z)$  for the number of perfect matchings in the graphs  $C_m \times P_{2n}$  and  $G_m^N(z)$  for the number of near-perfect matchings in the graphs  $C_m \times P_{2n+1}$  are rational. These generating functions can be reconstructed from sufficiently long initial segments of sequences, the elements of which are numbers of near-perfect matchings in graphs for fixed values of m and changing n.

The implementation of the method by Wilf~\cite{Wilf1} in computer algebra system

Maple allowed us to obtain a set of recurrence relations and generating functions for the number of near-perfect matchings for fixed odd values of the parameter 3 leqslantm leqslant13. The coefficients of the asymptotic expansions are calculated for 3 leqslantm leqslantm leqslant19.

The study of generating functions  $G_m^N(z)$  made it possible to establish a close connection between their denominators and the denominators  $G_m^P(z)$ . For all values of m studied in our research, the denominator  $G_m^N(z)$  had been always the square of the denominator  $G_m^P(z)$ .

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