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Disc structure of certain chamber graphs

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Abstract

The discs of chamber graphs for group geometries, including certain minimal parabolic geometries, maximal *p*-local geometries, Petersen geometries, GABs and Buekenhout geometries, are investigated.

Keywords: chamber graphs, group geometries, minimal parabolic geometries, maximal p-local geometries, Buekenhout geometries

MSC 2000: 05E20

1 Introduction

A chamber system over the set I consists of a set C and a system $(\mathcal{P}_i)_{i \in I}$ of partitions of C indexed by I. The elements of C are called chambers and, for brevity, the system $(\mathcal{C}, (\mathcal{P}_i)_{i \in I})$ will often be referred to as the chamber system C. Two chambers which are both in the same member of \mathcal{P}_j for some $j \in I$ are said to be adjacent chambers. The chamber graph of the chamber system C is the graph with vertex set C and two (distinct) chambers are adjacent (in the chamber graph) if they are adjacent chambers in C. (Note that a chamber is not adjacent to itself in the chamber graph.) If two chambers c, c' are both in the same member of \mathcal{P}_i ($i \in I$), then we say they are *i*-adjacent, and denote this by $c \sim_i c'$ (or $c' \sim_i c$). The rank of the chamber system is the cardinality of I. An automorphism of C is a permutation σ of C which preserves each of the partitions \mathcal{P}_i , that is, whenever $c \sim_i c'$ ($c, c' \in C$, $i \in I$) then $c\sigma \sim_i c'\sigma$.

We shall now concentrate on the following situation.

Hypothesis 1.1. *C* is a chamber system over *I* and $G \leq \operatorname{Aut} C$ is such that

- (i) G is transitive on C; and
- (ii) for each $i \in I$, G is transitive on the members of the partition \mathcal{P}_i .

Suppose Hypothesis 1.1 holds, and let c_0 be a fixed chamber of C. Let B denote the stabilizer in G of c_0 , and for each $i \in I$ let P_i be the stabilizer in G of the member of \mathcal{P}_i to which c_0 belongs. Observe that $B \leq \bigcap_{i \in I} P_i$. We may now identify C with the set of (right) cosets of B in G with, for each $i \in I$, the members of \mathcal{P}_i being the sets of cosets of B which are contained in a coset of P_i . In other words, for chambers Bg and Bh, Bg and Bh are i-adjacent whenever $gh^{-1} \in P_i$. Such a chamber system will be denoted by $C(G; B, (P_i))$. Further, we note that the valency of the chamber graph of C is one less than the number of cosets of B in $\bigcup_{i \in I} P_i$ (counting multiplicities if we have $P_i = P_j$, for $i \neq j$).

Conversely, if we start with a group G, a subgroup B of G and a collection of subgroups P_i of G ($i \in I$) each containing B we may define a chamber system C by taking the (right) cosets of B as chambers and the partition \mathcal{P}_i to be given by taking right cosets of B contained in a right coset of P_i . Now letting G act by right multiplication on the chambers of C, it is easily checked that Hypothesis 1.1 holds for C with $G/\operatorname{core}_G B$ playing the role of G.

A rich source of chamber systems is provided by geometries. We recall that a geometry (over the set I) is a triple $(\Gamma, \tau, *)$ where Γ is a set, τ is an onto map from Γ to *I* and * is a symmetric relation on Γ with the property that for $x, y \in \Gamma \ x * y$ implies $\tau(x) \neq \tau(y)$. The relation * is called the incidence relation and $x \in \Gamma$ is said to have type *i* if $\tau(x) = i$. As is customary we shall just say Γ is a geometry. A flag F of Γ is a set of pairwise incident elements of Γ the type of F, denoted $\tau(F)$, is the set $\{\tau(x) \mid x \in F\}$. The rank of Γ is |I|and the rank of a flag F is $|\tau(F)| (= |F|)$. Now let \mathcal{F} denote the set of maximal flags of Γ — a flag F is maximal if its rank is |I|. For $i \in I$ and F, $F' \in \mathcal{F}$ we define F and F' to be *i*-adjacent if either F = F' or the rank of the flag $F \cap F'$ is |I| - 1 and $i \notin \tau(F \cap F')$. This yields a partition \mathcal{P}_i of \mathcal{F} ; note that a member of \mathcal{P}_i consists of all maximal flags containing some fixed flag of type $I \setminus \{i\}$. So \mathcal{F} is a chamber system — we shall call this the chamber system of Γ . (\mathcal{F} is sometimes referred to as the flag complex of Γ .) An automorphism of the geometry Γ is a permutation σ of Γ for which x * y implies $x\sigma * y\sigma$ and $\tau(x) = i$ implies $\tau(x\sigma) = i$ (where $x, y \in \Gamma$, $i \in I$). Now further suppose that G is a subgroup of Aut Γ with G acting flag transitively on Γ (that is, if F and F' are flags of Γ with $\tau(F) = \tau(F')$, then there exists $g \in G$ such that Fg = F'). Then we see that $G \leq \operatorname{Aut} \mathcal{F}$ and that Hypothesis 1.1 holds for G and \mathcal{F} . Thus, as discussed earlier, we may study the chamber system \mathcal{F} within G.

Buildings afford an extensive supply of geometries and hence of chamber systems. In fact the theory of buildings may be developed in the language of chamber systems (see [9] and [18] for more on this). In this approach the chamber graph underpins (pun intended) much of the conceptual framework (for example, galleries, connectedness and thin subgeometries). An outgrowth of Tits's pioneering work on buildings was the study of more general geometries — usually ones associated with sporadic simple groups but also those arising from "small" Lie type groups of mixed characteristic. We will, from now on, rather loosely, refer to this mixed bag of geometries as the "sporadic group geometries". This programme was initiated by Buekenhout [2, 3] in the late seventies. Since then sporadic group geometries have received considerable attention — some in the form of characterization theorems, some more concerned with delving into geometric properties of particular geometries. However, compared to the chamber graph of a building, there has been very little work on the chamber graphs of the chamber systems associated with the sporadic group geometries.

In this paper we gather, numerical data concerning chamber graphs for a variety of sporadic group geometries, including minimal parabolic geometries [16], maximal *p*-local geometries [15], Petersen geometries [8, 9], GABs [10] and various Buekenhout geometries [4]. All the geometries we consider will come equipped with a flag transitive automorphism group *G* and we will usually study the chamber graph via $C(G; B, (P_i))$. Moreover we will only be studying connected chamber graphs (this is equivalent to the condition $G = \langle P_i \mid i \in I \rangle$). We will mostly examine rank 3 and 4 geometries, though we also include one or two "notorious" rank 2 systems.

Before proceeding further, we need some notation. For c_0 a fixed chamber of a chamber system C, $D_i(c_0)$ $(i \in \mathbb{N})$ is the set of chambers at distance *i* from c_0 in the chamber graph of C. We shall call $D_i(c_0)$ the *i*th disc (of c_0).

Many ideas and results concerning geometries have taken buildings as their inspiration. So let us pause for a moment and consider the chamber graph of C where C is the chamber system associated with the building which arises from a finite group G of Lie type over GF(q). Let c_0 be a fixed chamber of C. Now $c \in D_i(c_0)$ if and only if $\delta(c_0, c) = w$ where w is an element of Weyl group W of G and the length of w in W is i. (δ is the W-distance function — see [14, Chapter 3] for further details of this approach to buildings.) For $w \in W$, U_w acts simply transitively on the set of chambers such that $\delta(c_0, c) = w$. (U_w is a certain subgroup of $B = \operatorname{Stab}_G c_0$ and $|U_w| = q^{\ell(w)}$ — again see [14, pp. 75,76]). Since

$$D_i(c_0) = \bigcup_{\substack{w \in W \\ l(w)=i}} \left\{ c \mid \delta(c_0, c) = w \right\},$$

the number of chambers in $D_i(c_0)$ is

 $q^{\ell(w)}$ × (size of the *i*th disc in the chamber system for *W*).

The diameter d of C is the Coxeter number of W and $|D_d(c_0)| = |U|$ where U is the unipotent radical of B. (This is because there is a unique $w_0 \in W$ with

 $\ell(w_0) = d$ and $U_{w_0} = U$.) So in particular, we have that *B* acts transitively on $D_d(c_0)$. In the chamber systems analyzed in this paper, this property is rarely observed. However, there are some interesting instances when this property does occur — for example in the M₂₄ maximal 2-local geometry [17].

So, looking at the building case, we see that the sizes of discs, particularly the last disc and the diameter of the chamber graph of a sporadic group geometry are potentially interesting pieces of information relating to the group and the geometry. It is these features of the chamber graph that we focus upon here. Much of the data has been obtained using MAGMA [5] and extends to chamber systems with up to about 400,000 chambers.

The aim of this exercise in data collection is to highlight those geometries deserving of further detailed study. Indeed, in [17], combinatorial descriptions of the discs for the M_{24} maximal 2-local geometry are obtained by hand — the sizes of the discs agree with those given here in section 2.22 (Geometry 1)!

Section 2 tabulates the disc sizes of various geometries together with some additional observations. The geometries we study are described either in terms of some combinatorial structure or by means of an appropriate diagram [3, 4]. For a rank n geometry we shall take $I = \{0, 1, \ldots, n-1\}$. We use G_{i,\ldots,i_r} , where $\{i_1, \ldots, i_r\} \subseteq I$, to denote the stabilizer in G of a flag of type $\{i_1, \ldots, i_r\}$, and put $B = G_{0\cdots n-1} = G_0 \cap G_1 \cap \ldots \cap G_{n-1}$. Since we utilize the group in our calculations we give $G_{i_1\cdots i_r}$ for all subsets $\{i_1, \ldots, i_r\}$ of I.

Throughout we use the Atlas [6] conventions and terminology when describing groups except that we use Dih(n), Sym(n) and Alt(n) to denote, respectively, the dihedral group of order n, the symmetric group and alternating group of degree n. Thus we shall (usually) only describe the groups $G_{i,...,i_r}$ up to "shape".

2 Disc structures

2.1 Group $G = L_2(11)$

GEOMETRY: Petersen Geometry



 $G_0 \cong \text{Alt}(5), G_1 \cong \text{Dih}(12) \cong G_2,$ $G_{01} \cong \text{Sym}(3), G_{02} \cong 2^2 \cong G_{12},$ $B \cong 2 \text{ (see [8, p. 944]).}$

DISC	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Size	4	8	15	26	42	58	76	68	32

2.2 Group $G = \hat{S}_6 \cong 3$ ·Sym(6))

GEOMETRY: 3-fold cover of the $Sp_4(2)$ -quadrangle

 $|G| = 2^4 \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5 = 2,160$ Number of Chambers: 135

DIAMETER: 8

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$$G_0 \cong 2^3 \mathsf{Sym}(3) \cong G_1$$

 $B \cong \mathsf{Dih}(8) \times 2.$

This geometry appears as a residue in the minimal parabolic geometries for $M_{24},$ $\cdot 1,$ M, He and Fi_{24}' — see [16].

DISC	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Size	4	8	16	32	48	16	8	2

2.3 Group G = Alt(7)

$$|G| = 2^3 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 = 2,520$$

 $|G| = 2^2 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 11 = 660$ Number of Chambers: 330 Diameter: 9

1. GEOMETRY:

NUMBER OF CHAMBERS: 315 DIAMETER: 8

$$\begin{split} G_0 &\cong \mathsf{Sym}(4) \cong G_1, \\ B &\cong \mathsf{Dih}(8). \end{split}$$

Biduads (ab)(cd) and triduads (ab)(cd)(ef) are unordered pairs and triples of disjoint duads of a 7-element set. This rank 2 geometry also appears as a residue in a number of sporadic geometries; see [16].

DISC	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Size	4	8	16	32	56	72	98	28

2. GEOMETRY:

 C_3 -Geometry for Alt(7)

NUMBER OF CHAMBERS: 315 DIAMETER: 5



$$G_0 \cong \mathsf{Alt}(6), G_1 \cong (3 \times \mathsf{Alt}(4))2, G_2 \cong \mathsf{L}_3(2),$$

$$G_{01} \cong G_{02} \cong G_{12} \cong \mathsf{Sym}(4),$$

$$B \cong \mathsf{Dih}(8).$$

The points are the points of a 7-element set Ω , the lines are all 3-element subsets of Ω and the planes are one Alt(7)-orbit of PG(2,2) on Ω . See [16] and [12]. This geometry receives further attention in section 3.

DISC	1	2	3	4	5
Size	6	20	56	128	104

3. GEOMETRY:

NUMBER OF CHAMBERS: 315 DIAMETER: 5

This chamber system is something of a hybrid of the chamber system in Example 2. Starting with the chamber system C of the Alt(7) C_3 -geometry, we choose a fixed $\mu \in \text{Sym}(7) \setminus \text{Alt}(7)$ and then define two chambers c, d of C to be 0'- adjacent if $c\mu$ and $d\mu$ are 0-adjacent. Together with the other 0-, 1- ,2-adjacencies of C, this delivers a rank 4 chamber system with diagram



$$B \cong \mathsf{Dih}(8),$$

$$P_i \cong \mathsf{Sym}(4) \text{ for } i \in \{0, 0', 1, 2\}$$

DISC	1	2	3	4	5
Size	8	26	88	120	72

4. GEOMETRY: Petersen Geometry





 $G_0 \cong \text{Sym}(5), G_1 \cong (3 \times 2^2)2, G_2 \cong \text{Sym}(4),$ $G_{01} \cong \text{Dih}(12), G_{02} \cong \text{Dih}(8) \cong G_{12},$ $B \cong 2^2$ (see [8, p. 945]).

DISC	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
SIZE	4	8	15	26	42	58	76	104	136	144	16

5. GEOMETRY: Chamber system of type \tilde{A}_2

NUMBER OF CHAMBERS: 2,520 DIAMETER: 9

$$B = 1,$$

 $P_i \cong 3, i \in \{0, 1, 2\}$. (See [14, p. 53].)

DISC	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Size	6	24	72	192	468	851	737	164	5

Remark 2.1. Taking $P_0 = \langle (123)(456) \rangle$, $P_1 = \langle (124)(375) \rangle$ and $P_2 = \langle (153)(276) \rangle$ (and noting that the chambers are just the elements of Alt(7) and $c_0 = 1$), $D_9(c_0)$ looks as follows:



The labels on the edges indicate the *i*-adjacency.

2.4 Group G = Sym(7)

GEOMETRY: Number 17 of [4]

 $|G| = 2^4 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 = 5,040$ Number of Chambers: 840 Diameter: 10

The type 0 objects are the elements of a 7-element set Ω and the objects of type 1, 2, 3 are, respectively, all the 2-, 3- and 4-element subsets of Ω .

$$\begin{split} G_0 &\cong \operatorname{Sym}(6), \, G_1 &\cong 2 \times \operatorname{Sym}(5), \, G_2 \cong \operatorname{Sym}(3) \times \operatorname{Sym}(4) \cong G_3, \\ G_{01} &\cong \operatorname{Sym}(5), \, G_{02} \cong 2 \times \operatorname{Sym}(4) \cong G_{12}, \\ G_{03} &\cong \operatorname{Sym}(3) \times \operatorname{Sym}(3) \cong G_{23}, \, G_{13} \cong 2^2 \times \operatorname{Sym}(3), \\ G_{012} &\cong \operatorname{Sym}(4), \, G_{013} \cong G_{023} \cong G_{123} \cong 2 \times \operatorname{Sym}(3), \\ B &\cong \operatorname{Sym}(3). \end{split}$$

D	ISC	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
S	IZE	6	17	39	68	102	136	147	135	108	81

2.5 Group $G = L_2(25)$

GEOMETRY: Petersen Geometry



 $|G| = 2^3 \cdot 3 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 13 = 7,800$ Number of Chambers: 1,950 Diameter: 18

 $G_0 \cong \text{Sym}(5), G_1 \cong \text{Dih}(24), G_2 \cong \text{Sym}(4),$ $G_{01} \cong \text{Dih}(12), G_{01} \cong G_{12} \cong \text{Dih}(8),$ $B \cong 2^2.$ (See [8, p. 944].)

DISC	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10			
Size	4	8	15	26	42	2 58	76	104	136	176			
					ſ	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
					Ì	192	216	256	256	232	100	44	8

2.6 Group $G = M_{11}$

 $|G| = 2^4 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 11 = 7,920$

1. GEOMETRY: Number 27 of [4].



NUMBER OF CHAMBERS: 2,640 DIAMETER: 11

Considering M_{11} acting 3-transitively on the 12-element set Ω , we may describe the geometry thus. The objects of type 0 and 1 are, respectively all 1- and 2- subsets of Ω ; those of type 2 are 3-element subsets of Ω of the form $Fix_{\Omega}(g)$ where g is an element of order 3 in M_{11} and those of type 3 are one "half" of a total (that is, a 6-element subset of the 6 | 6 partition). Incidence is symmetized containment.

$$\begin{array}{l} G_0 \cong \mathsf{L}_2(11), \, G_1 \cong \mathsf{Sym}(5), \, G_2 \cong 3(\mathsf{Sym}(3) \times 2), \, G_3 \cong \mathsf{Alt}(6), \\ G_{01} \cong \mathsf{Alt}(5) \cong G_{03}, \, G_{02} \cong 2 \times \mathsf{Sym}(3) \cong G_{12}, \, G_{13} \cong \mathsf{Sym}(4), \\ G_{23} \cong 3^2 : 2, \\ G_{012} \cong G_{023} \cong G_{123} \cong \mathsf{Sym}(3), \, G_{013} \cong \mathsf{Alt}(4), \\ B \cong 3. \end{array}$$

Disc	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Size	6	19	51	106	204	327	426	534	549	393	24

2. Geometry:

NUMBER OF CHAMBERS: 3,960 DIAMETER: 10



Regarding M_{11} as the stabilizer of the S(12,6,5) Steiner system on a 12element set Ω and an element α of Ω , the geometry may be described as follows. The objects of type 0,1,2 are, respectively, all 1-, 2- and 3element subsets of $\Omega \setminus \{\alpha\}$ and those of type 3 all the hexads of S(12, 6, 5)containing α . See [13, pp. 72 and 94].

$$\begin{array}{l} G_0 \cong \mathsf{M}_{10}, \, G_1 \cong \mathsf{M}_9 : 2, \, G_2 \cong 2^{\cdot} \mathsf{Sym}(4), \, G_3 \cong \mathsf{Sym}(5), \\ G_{01} \cong 3^2 : Q_8, \, G_{02} \cong \mathsf{SDih}(16) \cong G_{12}, \, G_{03} \cong \mathsf{Sym}(4), \\ G_{13} \cong 2 \times \mathsf{Sym}(3) \cong G_{23}, \, G_{012} \cong Q_8, \, G_{013} \cong \mathsf{Sym}(3), \, G_{023} \cong 2^2 \cong G_{123}, \\ B \cong 2. \end{array}$$

(SDih(n))	denotes	the semidihedral	group of order n .)
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DISC	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Size	7	26	73	155	300	494	636	756	864	648

3. GEOMETRY: Petersen Geometry

NUMBER OF CHAMBERS: 3,960 DIAMETER: 15



Again starting with M_{11} acting 3-transitively on a 12-element set Ω , we take as our objects of type 0, 1, 2 to be, respectively, all 1-, 2- and 3- subset of Ω and objects of type 3 to be 4 subsets of the form $Fix_{\Omega}(g)$ where g is an involution of M_{11} . Incidence being symmeterized inclusion.

$$\begin{array}{l} G_0 \cong \mathsf{L}_2(11), \, G_1 \cong \mathsf{Sym}(5), \, G_2 \cong 3(\mathsf{Sym}(3) \times 2), \\ G_3 \cong 2^{\cdot}\mathsf{Sym}(4), \, G_{01} \cong \mathsf{Alt}(5), \, G_{02} \cong G_{03} \cong G_{12} \cong G_{23} \cong 2 \times \mathsf{Sym}(3), \\ G_{13} \cong \mathsf{Dih}(8), \, G_{012} \cong \mathsf{Sym}(3), \, G_{013} \cong G_{023} \cong G_{123} \cong 2^2, \, B \cong 2. \\ (\mathsf{See} \ [\mathsf{8}, \, \mathsf{p}. \, \mathsf{954}].) \end{array}$$

Disc	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Size	5	13	28	55	101	171	278	406	516	578

11	12	13	14	15
612	590	446	144	16

2.7 Group $G = A_8$



 $|G|=2^6\cdot 3^2\cdot 5\cdot 7=20{,}160$ Number of Chambers: 2,520 Diameter: 8

 $\begin{array}{c|c} c \\ \hline \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{array}$

Let Ω be an 8-element set. Then the objects of type 0,1,2 are, respectively the elements, duads and 4^2 partitions of Ω . The 35 4^2 partitions of Ω may be identified with the lines of projective 3-space (see [13, Proposition 1]). Objects of type 3 are the points of the projective 3-space which may be identified with a set of seven 2^4 partitions of Ω (there are $105 = 7 \times 15 \ 2^4$ partitions of Ω). These seven 2^4 partitions may also be viewed as the non-identity elements of $O_2(G_3)$. For the definition of incidence and more details see [12, Section 3].

 $\begin{array}{l} G_0\cong {\rm Alt}(7),\,G_1\cong {\rm Sym}(6),\,G_2\cong ({\rm Alt}(4)\times {\rm Alt}(4)):2^2,\\ G_3\cong 2^3:{\rm L}_3(2),\\ G_{01}\cong {\rm Alt}(6),\,G_{02}\cong (3\times {\rm Alt}(4)):2,\,G_{03}\cong {\rm L}_3(2),\\ G_{12}\cong 2^3:{\rm Sym}(3),\,G_{23}\cong 2^3:{\rm Sym}(4),\,G_{13}\cong {\rm Sym}(4)\times 2,\\ G_{012}\cong G_{013}\cong G_{023}\cong {\rm Sym}(4),\,G_{123}\cong {\rm Dih}(8)\times 2,\\ B\cong {\rm Dih}(8). \end{array}$

Disc	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Size	7	28	92	256	488	720	744	184

2.8 Group $G = U_4(2)$

GEOMETRY: Example 6 in [11, Table 4] $|G| = 2^6 \cdot 3^4 \cdot 5 = 25,920$ Number of Chambers: 25,920 Diameter: 12



For each $i \in I$, $G_J \cong 3$ for $J = I \setminus \{i\}$ and B = 1. (See [11] for the other stabilizers.)

Disc	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9		10
Size	10	60	260	855	2190	4510	6930	6542	3325	5 1	150
									[11	12
										85	2

2.9 Group $G = M_{12}$

 $|G| = 2^6 \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5 \cdot 11 = 95,040$

1. GEOMETRY: Number 5 of [4]



NUMBER OF CHAMBERS: 1,320 DIAMETER: 6

With *G* acting (5-transitively) on the 12-element set Ω , we take all 1-, 2and 3-sets of Ω to be the objects of type 0,1,2 of the geometry respectively.

$$\begin{split} G_0 &\cong \mathsf{M}_{11}, \, G_1 \cong \mathsf{M}_{10} : 2, \, G_2 \cong 3^2 : 2\mathsf{Sym}(4), \\ G_{01} &\cong \mathsf{M}_{10}, \, G_{02} \cong 3^2 : \mathsf{SDih}(16) \cong G_{12}, \\ B &\cong 3^2 : Q_8. \end{split}$$

DISC	1	2	3	4	5	6
Size	11	29	118	189	243	729

2. GEOMETRY:

NUMBER OF CHAMBERS: 47,520 DIAMETER: 15



With Ω a 12-element set, the objects of type 0, 1, 2, 3 and 4 are, respectively 1-, 2-, 3-, 4-subsets of Ω and the hexads of the Steiner system S(12, 6, 5). See [13, pp. 72 and 94].

 $\begin{array}{l} G_0 \cong \mathsf{M}_{11}, \, G_1 \cong \mathsf{Alt}(6) \cdot 2^2 \cong G_4, \, G_2 \cong 3^2 : 2\mathsf{Sym}(4), \, G_3 \cong 2^{1+4}_+ : \mathsf{Sym}(3), \\ G_{0123} \cong Q_8, \, G_{0124} \cong \mathsf{Sym}(3), \, G_{0134} \cong G_{0234} \cong G_{1234} \cong 2^2, \, B \cong 2. \end{array}$

Disc	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Size	8	34	107	263	574	1116	1887	2934	4280	5692
						11	12	13	14	15
						6504	6840	6912	6480	3888

2.10 Group $G = U_3(5)$

 $|G| = 2^4 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5^3 \cdot 7 = 126,000$

1. GEOMETRY:



NUMBER OF CHAMBERS: 15,750 DIAMETER: 10

See [7] and [12].

 $\begin{array}{l} G_0 \cong G_1 \cong G_2 \cong G_3 \cong \mathsf{Alt}(7), \, G_{01} \cong G_{23} \cong \mathsf{Alt}(6), \\ G_{02} \cong G_{13} \cong (3 \times \mathsf{Alt}(4)) : 2, \, G_{03} \cong G_{12} \cong \mathsf{L}_3(2), \\ G_{012} \cong G_{013} \cong G_{023} \cong G_{123} \cong \mathsf{Sym}(4), \, B \cong \mathsf{Dih}(8). \end{array}$

Disc	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Size	8	40	176	704	2080	4748	5680	2060	252	1

2. GEOMETRY:



NUMBER OF CHAMBERS: 15,750 DIAMETER: 10

See [7] and [19].

 $\begin{array}{l} G_0 \cong G_1 \cong G_2 \cong G_3 \cong {\rm Alt}(7), \ G_{01} \cong G_{03} \cong {\rm L}_3(2), \\ G_{02} \cong G_{13} \cong (3 \times {\rm Alt}(4)) : 2, \ G_{12} \cong {\rm L}_3(2), \ G_{23} \cong {\rm Alt}(6), \\ G_{012} \cong G_{013} \cong G_{023} \cong G_{123} \cong {\rm Sym}(4), \ B \cong {\rm Dih}(8). \end{array}$

DISC	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Size	8	40	168	624	1840	4628	6776	1620	44	1

2.11 Group $G = J_1$

GEOMETRY:

Number 28 of [4]



 $|G| = 2^3 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 19 = 175,500$ Number of Chambers: 29,260 Diameter: 12

 $\begin{array}{l} G_0 \cong \mathsf{L}_2(11), \, G_1 \cong 2 \times \mathsf{Alt}(5), \, G_2 \cong \mathsf{Sym}(3) \times \mathsf{Dih}(10), \\ G_{01} \cong \mathsf{Alt}(5), \, G_{02} \cong G_{12} \cong 2 \times \mathsf{Sym}(3), \\ B \cong \mathsf{Sym}(3). \end{array}$

Disc	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8		9	1	10
SIZE	11	29	119	209	379	1260	2124	3960	94	102	81	196
										11	_	12
										310)2	468

2.12 Group G = Alt(9)

GEOMETRY:

Petersen Geometry

 $|G| = 2^6 \cdot 3^4 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 = 1,811,440$ Number of Chambers: 22,680 Diameter: 18



See [8].

 $\begin{array}{l} G_0\cong {\rm Sym}(7),\,G_1\cong 2.{\rm Sym}(5),\,G_2\cong {\rm Sym}(4)\times {\rm Sym}(3),\,G_3\cong 2^3{\rm Sym}(4),\\ |G_{012}|=2^33,\,|G_{013}|=|G_{023}|=|G_{123}|=2^4,\\ |B|=2^3. \end{array}$

Disc	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	1	0	-	11
Size	5	13	28	55	101	171	278	442	692	10)38	13	372
				-	12	13	14	15	16	5	17	'	18
				17	724	2160	2760	3408	403	32	334	4	1056

2.13 Group $G = M_{22}$

1. Geometry:

 $|G| = 2^7 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 = 443,\!520$

NUMBER OF CHAMBERS: 3,465 DIAMETER: 5

0____0 0 1

If Ω is a 22-element set upon which *G* acts transitively, then the objects of type 0 and 1 are, respectively, the two element subsets (duads) of Ω and the triduads of Ω (that is, 2³ partition of hexads of the Steiner system *S*(22, 3, 6) on Ω). This is the minimal parabolic geometry for M₂₂ (see [16]).

$$\begin{split} G_0 &\cong 2^4: \mathsf{Sym}(5) \text{, } G_1 &\cong 2^6 \mathsf{Sym}(3) \text{,} \\ G_{01} &\cong 2^4: \mathsf{Dih}(8) \text{.} \end{split}$$

Disc	1	2	3	4	5
Size	16	56	432	1040	1920

2. Geometry:

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Number 43 of [4]
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NUMBER OF CHAMBERS: 2,310 DIAMETER: 6



Assuming Ω is as in Geometry 1 above, the objects of type 0, 1, 2 are respectively the elements, duads and hexads of Ω .

$$\begin{split} G_0 &\cong \mathsf{L}_3(4), \, G_1 \cong 2^4 : \mathsf{Sym}(5), \, G_2 \cong 2^4 : \mathsf{Alt}(6), \\ G_{01} &\cong G_{02} \cong 2^4 : \mathsf{Alt}(5), \, G_{12} \cong 2^4 : \mathsf{Sym}(4), \\ B &\cong 2^4 : \mathsf{Alt}(4). \end{split}$$

DISC	1	2	3	4	5	6
SIZE	9	44	144	320	768	1024

2.14 Group $G = \operatorname{Aut} M_{22}$



1

 $|G| = 2^8 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 = 887,040$ Number of Chambers: 6,930 Diameter: 13

It is convenient to describe this geometry by beginning with a 24-element set Ω , assumed to be equipped with the Steiner system S(24, 8, 5). Now fix a duad D (2-element subset) of Ω . Then $\operatorname{Stab}_{M_{24}} D \cong \operatorname{Aut} M_{22}$ and objects of type 0,1,2 of the geometry are, respectively, all octads in $\Omega \setminus D$, all trios which have D contained in one of its octads and all sextets which have D contained in one of its tetrads. Incidence being given by compatibility of partitions (see [9]).

 $\begin{array}{l} G_0 \cong (2^3: \mathsf{L}_3(2)) \times \mathbf{2}, \ G_1 \cong 2^{1+4}(2^2 \times \mathsf{Sym}(3), \\ G_2 \cong 2^5: \mathsf{Sym}(5), \ G_{01} \cong G_{02} \cong (2^3: \mathsf{Sym}(4)) \times \mathbf{2}, \\ G_{12} \cong 2^5: \mathsf{Dih}(8), \ B \cong (2^3: \mathsf{Dih}(8)) \times \mathbf{2}. \end{array}$

2

Disc	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	1	0	
Size	5	14	30	56	112	200	320	512	800	12	48	
									1	1	12	13

Remark 2.2. $D_{13}(c_0)$ is a *B*-orbit.

2.15 Group $G = 3M_{22}$

GEOMETRY:



 $|G| = 2^7 \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 = 1,330,560$ Number of Chambers: 10,395 Diameter: 8

1808

1696

128

This is a 3-fold cover of the minimal parabolic geometry for M_{22} (see section 2.13).

 $G_0 \cong 2^4 : \text{Sym}(5), G_1 \cong 2^6 \text{Sym}(3), B \cong 2^4 : \text{Dih}(8).$

0

DISC	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Size	16	56	432	1056	3632	4304	872	26

2.16 Group $G = 3M_{22}2$

GEOMETRY:

 \bigcirc

P

 $|G| = 2^8 \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 = 2,661,120$ Number of Chambers: 20,790 Diameter: 24



-------0

A 3-fold cover of the Petersen geometry given in section 2.14 (see also [9]).

 $\begin{array}{l} G_0 \cong (2^3: \mathsf{L}_3(2)) \times 2, \, G_1 \cong 2^{1+4}(2^2 \times \mathsf{Sym}(3)), \\ G_2 \cong 2^5: \mathsf{Sym}(5), \, G_{01} \cong G_{02} \cong (2^3: \mathsf{Sym}(4)) \times 2, \\ G_{12} \cong 2^5: \mathsf{Dih}(8), \, B \cong (2^3: \mathsf{Dih}(8)) \times 2. \end{array}$

D	ISC	1	2	3	4	5	6	7		8	9)		10		
S	IZE	5	14	30	56	112	200	320	5	12	80	00	12	248		
	11	L	12	1	3	14	15	16)	17	7	18		19	20)
	180)8	2368	3 30	800	3968	3456	121	6	73	6	464	1	248	12	0
												21	1	22	23	24
												60)	28	10	2

Remark 2.3. Note that the sizes here of $D_i(c_0)$ for $1 \le i \le 11$ coincide with those in section 2.14.

2.17 Group $G = G_2(3)$

 $|G| = 2^6 \cdot 3^6 \cdot 7 \cdot 13 = 4,245,696$

NUMBER OF CHAMBERS: 66,339 DIAMETER: 13



See [1].

1. GEOMETRY:

$$\begin{split} G_0 &\cong 2^3: \mathsf{L}_3(2), \, G_1 &\cong 2^{1+4}_+: 3^2.2, \\ G_3 &\cong G_2(2), \, G_{01} &\cong G_{02} \cong G_{12} \cong 2^5.\mathsf{Sym}(3), \\ B &\cong 2^3 \cdot \mathsf{Dih}(8). \end{split}$$

DISC	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9)	-	10
Size	6	20	56	144	384	960	2176	4864	103	68	10	972
											-	10

11	12	13
21248	6976	64

2. GEOMETRY:

NUMBER OF CHAMBERS: 66,339 DIAMETER: 12



See [1].

$$\begin{split} G_0 &\cong G_2(2) \cong G_2, \, G_1 \cong 2^{1+4}_+ : 3^2.2, \\ G_{01} &\cong G_{02} \cong G_{12} \cong 2^5. \text{Sym}(3), \\ B &\cong 2^{3\cdot} \text{Dih}(8). \end{split}$$

DISC	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Size	6	20	64	208	600	1728	4640	10368	17920	20416
									11	12

9472 896

2.18 Group $G = U_4(3)2$

GEOMETRY:



 $|G| = 2^8 \cdot 3^6 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 = 6,531,840$ Number of Chambers: 25,515 Diameter: 10

This geometry is an example of a GAB — see [10, Section 3] for details. $G_0 \cong 2^4$.Sym(6), $G_1 \cong [2^6.].(Sym(3) \times Sym(3))$, $G_2 \cong 2^5$.Alt(6), $G_{01} \cong G_{02} \cong G_{12} \cong [2^6].Sym(3)$, $B \cong 2^4.(\text{Dih}(8) \times 2)$.

DISC	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Size	6	20	64	176	416	1024	2432	5120	9088	7168

2.19 Group $G = U_5(2)$

GEOMETRY:

 $|G| = 2^{10} \cdot 3^5 \cdot 5 \cdot 11 = 13,685,760$ Number of Chambers: 28,160 Diameter: 11



Number 20 of [4] (with n = 5). $G_0 \cong 3 \times U_4(2), G_1 \cong \text{Sym}(3) \times (3^{1+2} : \text{SL}_2(3)), G_2 \cong 3^4.\text{Sym}(5),$ $G_{01} \cong 3^4.\text{SL}_2(3), G_{02} \cong 3^4.\text{Sym}(4), G_{12} \cong 3^5 : 2^2,$

 $B = 3^5 : 2.$

DISC	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Size	7	27	99	270	594	1431	3051	5427	8019	8262	972

2.20 Group $G = M_{23}$

 $|G| = 2^7 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 23 = 10,200,960$

1. GEOMETRY:

Number of Chambers: 79,695 Diameter: 7

0-----0-----

0 1 2

Minimal parabolic "1-geometry" for M_{23} (see [16]).

-0

 $\begin{array}{ll} G_0 \cong \mathsf{M}_{22}, \ \ G_1 \cong 2^4 (3 \times \mathsf{Alt}(5)) 2, \ \ G_2 \cong 2^4 \mathsf{L}_3(2), \\ G_{01} \cong 2^4 \mathsf{Sym}(5), \ \ G_{02} \cong 2^4 \mathsf{Sym}(4) \cong G_{12}, \\ B \cong 2^4 \mathsf{Dih}(8). \end{array}$

Disc	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Size	18	92	664	3104	10728	36032	29056

Remark 2.4. M_{23} has two (non-isomorphic) minimal parabolic geometries which are locally isomorphic (meaning all their residues are isomorphic). Globally they differ with the choice of an L₃(2)-conjugacy class

within Alt(7) — so producing two possible choices for G_2 contained in $H = 2^4 \text{Alt}(7)$ (the stabilizer in M₂₃ of a heptad). In one case the L₃(2) leaves a 1-space (of $O_2(H)$) invariant and in the other a 3-space (of $O_2(H)$; the former we refer to as the "1-geometry" and the latter, dealt with next, the "3-geometry".

2. GEOMETRY:

88

NUMBER OF CHAMBERS: 79,695 **DIAMETER:** 7

Minimal parabolic "3-geometry" for M₂₃ (see [16]) — object stabilizers as for the "1- geometry".

DISC	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Size	18	92	664	3104	10728	36544	28544

Remark 2.5. The disc sizes of the 1-geometry and the 3-geometry differ only in discs 6 and 7 — the 1-geometry has 512 fewer chambers in the sixth disc and 512 more in the seventh disc (than the 3-geometry).

3. GEOMETRY:

NUMBER OF CHAMBERS: 53,130 DIAMETER: 10



Number 44 of [4].

 $G_0\cong \mathsf{M}_{22}\text{, }G_1\cong:\mathsf{L}_3(4)2\text{, }G_2\cong 2^4:(3\times \mathsf{Alt}(5)):2\text{,}$ $G_3 \cong 2^4$: Alt(7), $G_{012} \cong G_{013} \cong 2^4$ Alt(5), $G_{023} \cong G_{123} \cong 2^4$ Sym(4), $B \cong 2^4 \operatorname{Alt}(4).$

DISC	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
SIZE	10	54	201	560	1552	3392	5376	9216	16384	16384

4. GEOMETRY:

Petersen Geometry

NUMBER OF CHAMBERS: 159,390 DIAMETER: 14

P-0 0 1 2 3

$$\begin{array}{l} G_0 \cong {\rm Alt}(8), \, G_1 \cong 2^3({\rm L}_3(2) \times 2), \, G_2 \cong 2^4(3 \times {\rm Alt}(5))2, \\ G_3 \cong {\rm M}_{22}, \\ G_{012} \cong G_{013} \cong G_{023} \cong 2^3 : {\rm Sym}(4), \, G_{123} \cong 2^4 : {\rm Dih}(8), \\ B \cong 2^3 : {\rm Dih}(8). \end{array}$$

DISC	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Size	7	28	86	220	512	1128	2432	5152	10528	21024
							11	12	13	14

2.21 Group $G = 3U_4(3)2$

GEOMETRY:

 $|G| = 2^8 \cdot 3^7 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 = 19,595,520$ Number of Chambers: 76,545 Diameter: 11

38528 51840 26304 1600

This geometry is a triple cover of the geometry in section 2.18. $G_0 \cong 2^4 : \operatorname{Sym}(6), G_1 \cong [2^6](\operatorname{Sym}(3) \times \operatorname{Sym}(3)), G_2 \cong 2^5.3\operatorname{Alt}(6),$ $G_{01} \cong G_{02} \cong G_{12} \cong [2^7]\operatorname{Sym}(3), B \cong 2^4(\operatorname{Dih}(8) \times 2).$

Disc	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Size	6	20	64	192	528	1424	3848	9658	19812	27680	
										11	
										13312	

2.22 Group $G = M_{24}$

 $|G| = 2^{10} \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 23 = 244,823,040$

1. GEOMETRY: Maximal 2-local geometry (see [15])

NUMBER OF CHAMBERS: 79,695 DIAMETER: 10



 $\begin{array}{l} G_0 \cong 2^4 : {\rm Alt}(8), \, G_1 \cong 2^6 : ({\rm L}_3(2) \times {\rm Sym}(3)), \, G_2 \cong 2^6 : (3^{\circ} {\rm Sym}(6)), \\ G_{01} \cong 2^6 : ({\rm L}_3(2) \times 2), \, G_{02} \cong 2^6 : (3^{\circ} ({\rm Sym}(4) \times 2)) \cong G_{12}, \\ B \cong [2^9] : {\rm Sym}(3). \end{array}$

DISC	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
SIZE	10	44	184	544	1536	4800	10368	22272	38400	1536

Remark 2.6. *B* is transitive on $D_{10}(c_0)$ (see [17]).

2. GEOMETRY:

Minimal parabolic geometry (see [16])

Number of Chambers: 239,085 Diameter: 17

$$\begin{split} &G_0 \cong 2^4: 2^3: \mathsf{L}_3(2), \, G_1 \cong 2^{6+2}(\mathsf{Sym}(3) \times \mathsf{Sym}(3)), \\ &G_2 \cong 2^6: (3 \cdot \mathsf{Sym}(6)), \\ &G_{01} \cong G_{02} \cong G_{23} \cong [2^9]: \mathsf{Sym}(3), \\ &B \cong 2^6: (\mathsf{Dih}(8) \times 2). \end{split}$$

Disc	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8		9		10
Size	6	20	56	144	368	848	1800	3810) [8	3040)40 1692	
		ſ	11		10	12	11	-	5	16		17
			11		12	15	1 17	-	10	10		1/
		ſ	3283	2 55	200	62336	4761	6 66	656	204	8	384

3 The last disc of the \longrightarrow Alt(7)-geometry.

Let $G={\sf Alt}(7)$ act upon the set $\Omega=\{1,2,3,4,5,6,7\}$ and let Γ be the ${\sf Alt}(7)$ -geometry with diagram



whose description we now give. The points, lines and planes of Γ (that is, objects of type 1, 2 and 3) are, respectively, the elements of Ω , all the 3-element subsets of Ω and one A_7 -orbit of projective planes defined on Ω . (So there are

7 points, 35 lines and 15 planes.) For a point p, a line l and a plane P, p * l whenever $p \in l$, p * P and whenever $p \in P$ and l * P whenever l is a line in the plane P

We use the following labelled projective plane P (where $\Omega = \{\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta, \epsilon, \lambda, \mu\}$)



to also stand for the chamber $\{\{\alpha\}, \{\alpha, \beta, \gamma\}, P\}$. So the left-most label of the bottom line and the bottom line give the incident point and line of the maximal flag. Note that, as a projective plane is defined by its seven lines, that is 3-element subsets,



are two chambers which have the same point and line — they are 3-adjacent.

In the chamber system C obtained from the flag complex of Γ , two different chambers are 1-adjacent if they have the same line and plane, are 2-adjacent if they have the same point and plane and 3-adjacent if they have the same point and line.

So as to view C from a group theoretic perspective, we set

$$\begin{split} H_1 &= \mathrm{Stab}_G \left\{ 1 \right\}, & H_2 &= \mathrm{Stab}_G \left\{ 1, 2, 3 \right\}, \\ B &= \langle (23)(67), (23)(4657) \rangle & \text{and} & H_3 &= \langle B, (625)(143) \rangle. \end{split}$$

It is straightforward to check that H_3 is the stabilizer in G of the projective plane P,



and that *B* is the stabilizer in *G* of the chamber $c_0 = \{\{1\}, \{1, 2, 3\}, P\}$. If we set $P_1 = H_2 \cap H_3$, $P_2 = H_1 \cap H_3$ and $P_3 = H_1 \cap H_2$, then we obtain the chamber system $(G; B, (P_i))$ over $I = \{1, 2, 3\}$ isomorphic to *C*. We now investigate $D_5(c_0)$, the last disc of *C*; there are 104 chambers in $D_5(c_0)$ (see section 2.3, Geometry 2).

The group *B* has 13 orbits on $D_5(c_0)$ and acts simply transitively on $D_5(c_0)$; orbit representatives $c_1, ..., c_{13}$ are given below.















We next examine the induced subgraph (from the chamber graph) on $D_5(c_0)$. We name the elements of B as follows:

$x_1 = (1),$	$x_2 = (23)(67),$	$x_3 = (47)(65),$	$x_4 = (23)(4657),$
$x_5 = (46)(57),$	$x_6 = (23)(4756),$	$x_7 = (45)(67),$	$x_8 = (23)(45).$

In Table 1, the number j in brackets after each chamber indicates that the chamber is j-adjacent to c_i .

Remark 3.1. Using the action of elements of *B*, from Table 1 we may obtain the edge set for the induced graph on $D_5(c_0)$.

Theorem 3.2. The induced subgraph on $D_5(c_0)$ is a connected graph.

Proof. Let \mathcal{E} denote the connected component of c_8 (see p. 93) in the subgraph $D_5(c_0)$. Also put $E = \operatorname{Stab}_B(\mathcal{E})$. From 1, c_8 and $c_8(23)(67)$ are 3-adjacent and so $c_8(23)(67) \in \mathcal{E}$. Hence $(23)(67) \in E$. Also, by Table 1, c_{11} is 2-adjacent to c_8 and c_{11} is 2-adjacent to

c_i	Chambers in $D_5(c_0)$ adjacent to c_i
c_1	$c_3x_s(1); c_9x_8(2); c_{11}x_8(3).$
c_2	$c_3x_8(3); c_6x_3(3); c_{10}x_4(2).$
c_3	$c_1 x_8(1); c_2 x_8(2).$
c_4	$c_5x_5(3); c_8x_8(1); c_9x_3(1); c_9x_4(3); c_{10}x_7(2).$
c_5	$c_4x_5(3); c_5x_8(1); c_9x_2(3); c_{12}x_3(2).$
c_6	$c_2 x_3(2); c_6 x_8(1).$
c_7	$c_{13}x_3(1); c_{13}x_5(2).$
c_8	$c_4x_8(1); c_8x_2(2); c_9x_6(1); c_{11}x_1 = c_{11}(2); c_{13}x_1 = c_{13}(2).$
c_9	$c_1x_8(2); c_4x_3(1); c_4x_6(3); c_5x_2(3); c_8x_4(1).$
c_{10}	$c_2 x_6(1); c_4 x_7(2); c_{10} x_8(3).$
c_{11}	$c_1 x_8(3); c_8 x_1 = c_8(2); c_{13} x_1 = c_{13}(2).$
c_{12}	$c_5 x_3(2).$
C_{13}	$c_7x_3(1); c_7x_5(3); c_8x_1(2); c_{11}x_1 = c_{11}(2).$

Table 1: Adjacency of chambers in $D_5(c_0)$



Therefore $c_1x_8 \in \mathcal{E}$. Again from Table 1, c_8 is 1-adjacent to



Now c_9x_6 is 2-adjacent to



So $c_1x_5 \in \mathcal{E}$. Since (23)(4657) sends c_1x_5 to c_1x_8 , (23)(4657) $\in E$. Thus, as $B = \langle (23)(67), (23)(4657) \rangle, E = B$. Inspecting Table 1 we see that there is a path in $D_5(c_0)$ from c_8 to a chamber in each $c_i^B(i \in \{1, ..., 13\})$. Therefore $\mathcal{E} = D_5(c_0)$, and this completes the proof.

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