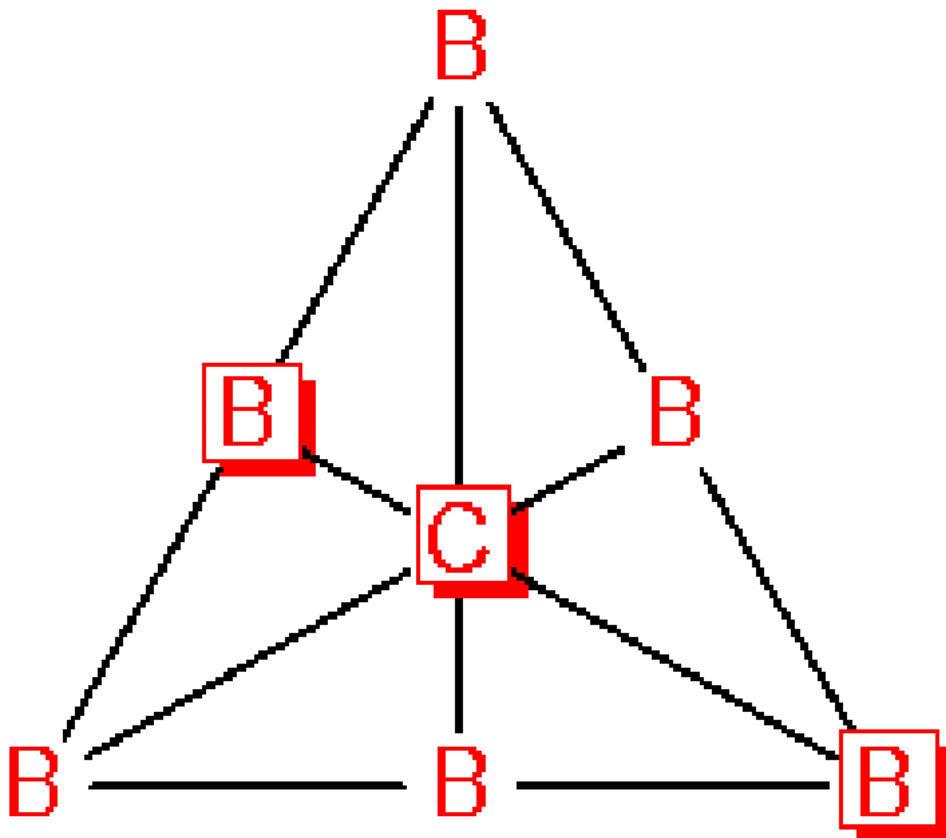


British Combinatorial Bulletin 2005



BRITISH COMBINATORIAL BULLETIN 2005

Editorial

This is the 2005 edition of the British Combinatorial Bulletin.

The organisation is the same as it's been for the past few years. Following requests, a complaint, and some advice regarding the legal position, we have removed all email addresses except those that have been explicitly supplied for contact for a specific purpose. Thanks to those who helped clarify what we couldn't do.

This is the last Bulletin I will be editing. It feels like it's time to hand the project over to someone with more ideas for taking the Bulletin forward. The next Editor will, I hope, be appointed at the Business Meeting at the British Combinatorial Conference. If you think you might be interested in taking on the task, I suggest you contact Peter Cameron ahead of the BCC. If you have any questions about what's involved, I'll be happy to answer them. And I'm certainly willing to help as much as necessary with the handover.

So, for the last time, let me thank all those who have been institutional representatives over the last few years. It's the willingness of so many people to provide information that persuades me the Bulletin remains a valuable resource. And, for the last time, I'd like to thank Jackie Everid for all her work in preparing the Bulletin for release. Without Jackie, well, it doesn't bear contemplating.

Graham Brightwell
Editor

The BCB webpage is: <http://www.cdam.lse.ac.uk/BCB/>

Email should be addressed to: bcb@maths.lse.ac.uk

British Combinatorial Committee

The Committee is: Peter Cameron (Chairman), Peter Rowlinson (Secretary), Keith Edwards (Treasurer), Robert Bailey (Postgraduate representative) Graham Brightwell (Bulletin Ed), James Hirschfeld, Mark Jerrum, Nigel Martin, Stephanie Perkins, Bridget Webb (Archivist).

News

The British Combinatorial Committee has a limited sum of money available to support approved meeting on combinatorial topics in the UK. Any institution requesting support will be expected to meet part of the total cost from its own funds or elsewhere. Proposals for consideration by the Committee, including outline plans and an outline budget, should be sent to the Secretary,

Professor Peter Rowlinson
p.rowlinson@stirling.ac.uk.

Bridget Webb now holds the archive at the Open University. If you have any items for inclusion or would like to see any items please contact Bridget Webb B.S.Webb@open.ac.uk

Sir Edward Wright

Sir Edward Wright died on February 2nd 2005, aged 98. He was best known for his work in analytic number theory, and he was also a pioneer in the use of analytic methods for graph theory, specifically questions of asymptotic enumeration. He was an invited speaker at the 2nd British Combinatorial Conference in 1975. He was a co-author of the classic text "An Introduction to the Theory of Numbers" with G.H.Hardy, his research supervisor. In 1935, at the age of 29, he was appointed to a Professorship at the University of Aberdeen, and in 1962 he became principal and vice-chancellor of the University.

Meetings in Combinatorics

ONE-DAY COMBINATORICS COLLOQUIUM

The annual Reading One-Day Combinatorics Colloquium will be held on Wednesday 25th May 2005. The programme will start at 10.30 am and finish at 5.30 pm. The list of speakers and titles is:

Hajo Broersma (Durham)

Tutte sets in graphs: structural and algorithmic aspects.

Terry Griggs (Open)

Configurations and colourings in triple systems.

Stephen Huggett (Plymouth)

Tutte polynomials of links, graphs, and matroids.

Mark Jerrum (Edinburgh)

Balanced matroids revisited.

Matthew Johnson (Durham)

The source location problem.

Anna de Mier (Oxford)

On the lattice of cyclic flats of a matroid.

James Oxley (Louisiana)

The structure of the 3-separations of 3-connected graphs and matroids.

Dominic Welsh (Oxford)

Graph polynomials: some questions.

Jurek Wojciechowski (West Virginia University)

Induced cycles in powers of complete graphs.

16th Postgraduate Combinatorial Conference

The 16th annual Postgraduate Combinatorial Conference will be held at the University of Oxford, 21st to 23rd March, 2005. This conference is for research students in all branches of discrete mathematics, allowing them to meet and discuss their research in an informal environment. We will also have talks by the following invited speakers:

Keith Edwards, University of Dundee

Ben Green, University of Bristol

Joel Spencer, New York University

Subjects likely to be covered at the conference include graph theory, design theory, coding theory, cryptography, partial orders, extremal set theory, theoretical computer science and model theory.

View the website for further details: <http://www.maths.ox.ac.uk/~pcc2005>

20th British Combinatorial Conference

Sunday 10 July - Friday 15 July 2005
University of Durham

Organisers: Nigel Martin (Durham), Mike Grannell and others (Open University)

Invited speakers:

Ben Green (Cambridge)

Title: **Finite field models in additive combinatorics**

Oliver King (Newcastle)

Title: **The subgroup structure of finite classical groups in terms of geometric configurations**

Patric Östergård (Helsinki)

Title: **Constructing combinatorial objects via cliques**

Tim Penttila (Western Australia)

Title: **Flocks of circle planes**

Alex Scott (UCL)

Title: **Judicious partitions and related problems**

Oriol Serra (Catalunya)

Title: **An isoperimetric method for the small sunset problem**

Paul Seymour (Princeton)

Title: **The structure of claw-free graphs**

Alan Sokal (New York)

Title: **The multivariate Tutte polynomial (alias Potts model) for graphs and matroids**

Angelika Steger (Zurich)

Title: **The sparse regularity lemma and its applications**

Further details, including titles and draft abstracts of the talks of the invited speakers, can be found at <http://mcs.open.ac.uk/bcc2005/>

BRITISH COMBINATORIAL COMMITTEE
(Scottish Charity Number SC019723)

Income and expenditure account for the period
1 October 2003 to 30 September 2004

Income	£	
Interest		445.59
Royalties from Cambridge University Press		1020.07
		<u>1465.66</u>
 Expenditure		
Support for One-day conferences		1449.63
Postgraduate Combinatorial Conference 2004		500.00
Refund of overpayment of surplus from 19th British Combinatorial Conference, 2003		482.20
Refund of unused part of grant from LMS		55.00
Committee expenses		248.98
British Combinatorial Bulletin (2004)		270.79
Discrete Maths (Postage)		18.58
Open University Combinatorics Prize		100.00
Float for 20th British Combinatorial Conference, Durham, 2005		1000.00
		<u>4125.18</u>
 Accumulated Income		
Balance at 30 September 2003		18264.48
Excess of expenditure over income		2659.52
 Balance at 30 September 2004		<u>15604.96</u>
 Represented by		
Bank of Scotland Treasurer's Account		1177.12
Scottish Widows Bank Treasury Tracker Account		14427.84
		<u>15604.96</u>