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The distinguishing number of a graph

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The distinguishing number D(G) of a graph is the least integer d such that there is a d-labeling of the vertices of G that is not preserved by any nontrivial automorphism of G. This concept has been introduced by Albertson and Collins in 1996 and has received considerable attention afterward. The developments have been especially intensive in the last couple of years. In particular, the concept has been extended from graph theory to group theory. In the talk several recent results will be presented, for instance, the distinguishing number of graph products will be treated in some detail.

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