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Decomposing Graphs into Cycles

A cycle decomposition is a partitioning of a graph's edges into cycles. A decomposition of the complete graph K_v into 2-factors where each 2-factor consists entirely of m-cycles is called a C_m -factorization. The Hamilton-Waterloo Problem, $\mathrm{HWP}(v;m,n;\alpha,\beta)$ asks for a decomposition of K_v or K_v-I into α C_m factors and β C_n -factors, where $3\leq m\leq n$. In this presentation, I will discuss a technique that can be applied to solve some of the difficult cases in which $\alpha=1$ or $\beta=1$.