

Title: Distinguishing Groups and the Group Isomorphism problem

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Abstract. Attacks on the Group Isomorphism Problem have diversified in the last decade with approaches ranging from Erdős-Rényi type models [8], to hyper-graph isomorphism techniques [1, 7], and several representation and Lie theory methods [3, 4, 10]. We will summarize necessary foundations and highlight important recent progress while concentrating on examples.

As our main illustration, we will use a method from the study of groups of finite Morley rank [2, 9]. We construct a family of non-isomorphic groups that share all the same proper subgroups, all the same proper quotient groups, the same character tables, and the same automorphism groups [11]. This settles a question of Gowers and Babai about the minimum requirements to decide isomorphism [6]. And yet, we also prove a polylogarithmic isomorphism test for this indistinguishable family of groups [11]. As these and other examples demonstrate we have a lot yet to learn about most groups.

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