

Non-redundant Graph Representation of Polyhedral Networks

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Infinite homogeneous networks in crystal structures with a single kind of coordination polyhedron and a single kind of connection between polyhedra can be represented by so-called quotient graphs or direction-labeled graphs [1],[2]. These finite graphs may be obtained from periodic nets by graph folding based upon translational symmetries. Taking all given symmetries into account this folding can be generalized such that so-called symmetry-labeled graphs are obtained [3]. We show how to further reduce this representation form by checking whether edges exist which may be generated by applying symmetry operations to other edges. A similar proceeding can be applied to polyhedra graphs [4]. In these graphs nodes represent geometrical or topological views of polyhedra. Edges represent connections between polyhedra with vertices involved in the connections as labels. A suitable representation of faces in topological views allows to reflect the main characteristics of a given polyhedral network when polyhedra are assumed to be rigid bodies.

In both cases, the minimal graph forms are well-suited for enumeration processes since they allow to avoid the generation of isomorphic graphs in an early stage. A further application is the improvement of indexes supporting the efficient search for isomorphic substructures in large collections of crystal structures.

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