The Class of Series-Parallel Graphs. Part II¹

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Summary. In this paper we introduce two new operations on graphs: sum and union corresponding to parallel and series operation respectively. We determine *N*-free graph as the graph that does not embed Necklace 4. We define "fin_RelStr" as the set of all graphs with finite carriers. We also define the smallest class of graphs which contains the one-element graph and which is closed under parallel and series operations. The goal of the article is to prove the theorem that the class of finite series-parallel graphs is the class of finite *N*-free graphs. This paper formalizes the next part of [12].

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The articles [14], [13], [18], [7], [20], [8], [1], [2], [3], [15], [17], [4], [16], [19], [11], [5], [6], [9], and [10] provide the notation and terminology for this paper.

In this paper U is a universal class. Next we state two propositions:

- (1) For all sets *X*, *Y* such that $X \in U$ and $Y \in U$ and for every relation *R* between *X* and *Y* holds $R \in U$.
- (2) The internal relation of Necklace $4 = \{\langle 0, 1 \rangle, \langle 1, 0 \rangle, \langle 1, 2 \rangle, \langle 2, 1 \rangle, \langle 2, 3 \rangle, \langle 3, 2 \rangle\}.$

Let *n* be a natural number. Note that every element of \mathbf{R}_n is finite. One can prove the following proposition

(3) For every set *x* such that $x \in \mathbf{U}_0$ holds *x* is finite.

One can verify that every element of U_0 is finite. Let us mention that every number which is finite and ordinal is also natural. Let *G* be a non empty relational structure. We say that *G* is N-free if and only if:

(Def. 1) G does not embed Necklace 4.

Let us mention that there exists a non empty relational structure which is strict, finite, and N-free. Let R, S be relational structures. The functor UnionOf(R, S) yielding a strict relational structure is defined by the conditions (Def. 2).

(Def. 2)(i) The carrier of UnionOf(R, S) = (the carrier of R) \cup (the carrier of S), and

(ii) the internal relation of UnionOf(R, S) = (the internal relation of R) \cup (the internal relation of S).

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Let *R*, *S* be relational structures. The functor SumOf(R, S) yields a strict relational structure and is defined by the conditions (Def. 3).

- (Def. 3)(i) The carrier of SumOf(R, S) = (the carrier of R) \cup (the carrier of S), and
 - (ii) the internal relation of SumOf(R, S) = (the internal relation of R) \cup (the internal relation of S) \cup [: the carrier of R, the carrier of S:] \cup [: the carrier of S, the carrier of R:].

The functor FinRelStr is defined by the condition (Def. 4).

(Def. 4) Let X be a set. Then $X \in \text{FinRelStr}$ if and only if there exists a strict relational structure R such that X = R and the carrier of $R \in U_0$.

One can check that FinRelStr is non empty. The subset FinRelStrSp of FinRelStr is defined by the conditions (Def. 5).

- (Def. 5)(i) For every strict relational structure *R* such that the carrier of *R* is non empty and trivial and the carrier of $R \in U_0$ holds $R \in FinRelStrSp$,
 - (ii) for all strict relational structures H_1 , H_2 such that the carrier of H_1 misses the carrier of H_2 and $H_1 \in \text{FinRelStrSp}$ and $H_2 \in \text{FinRelStrSp}$ holds UnionOf $(H_1, H_2) \in \text{FinRelStrSp}$ and SumOf $(H_1, H_2) \in \text{FinRelStrSp}$, and
 - (iii) for every subset *M* of FinRelStr such that for every strict relational structure *R* such that the carrier of *R* is non empty and trivial and the carrier of $R \in U_0$ holds $R \in M$ and for all strict relational structures H_1 , H_2 such that the carrier of H_1 misses the carrier of H_2 and $H_1 \in M$ and $H_2 \in M$ holds UnionOf $(H_1, H_2) \in M$ and SumOf $(H_1, H_2) \in M$ holds FinRelStrSp $\subseteq M$.

Let us note that FinRelStrSp is non empty. The following four propositions are true:

- (4) For every set X such that $X \in FinRelStrSp$ holds X is a finite strict non empty relational structure.
- (5) For every relational structure *R* such that $R \in \text{FinRelStrSp}$ holds the carrier of $R \in \mathbf{U}_0$.
- (6) Let *X* be a set. Suppose $X \in FinRelStrSp$. Then
- (i) X is a strict non empty trivial relational structure, or
- (ii) there exist strict relational structures H_1 , H_2 such that the carrier of H_1 misses the carrier of H_2 and $H_1 \in \text{FinRelStrSp}$ and $H_2 \in \text{FinRelStrSp}$ and $X = \text{UnionOf}(H_1, H_2)$ or $X = \text{SumOf}(H_1, H_2)$.
- (7) For every strict non empty relational structure R such that $R \in \text{FinRelStrSp}$ holds R is N-free.

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