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**Title:**

**Classifying pentavalent symmetric graphs of order  $24p$**

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## CLASSIFYING PENTAVALENT SYMMETRIC GRAPHS OF ORDER $24p$

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**ABSTRACT.** A graph is said to be symmetric if its automorphism group is transitive on its arcs. A complete classification is given of pentavalent symmetric graphs of order  $24p$  for each prime  $p$ . It is shown that a connected pentavalent symmetric graph of order  $24p$  exists if and only if  $p = 2, 3, 5, 11$  or  $17$ , and up to isomorphism, there are only eleven such graphs.

**Keywords:** Symmetric graph, normal quotient, automorphism group.

**MSC(2010):** Primary: 05C25; Secondary: 05E18.

### 1. Introduction

Throughout this paper, all graphs are assumed to be finite, simple, connected and undirected.

Let  $\Gamma$  be a graph. We denote by  $V\Gamma$ ,  $E\Gamma$ ,  $A\Gamma$  and  $\text{Aut}\Gamma$  its vertex set, edge set, arc set and full automorphism group respectively. We say  $\Gamma$  is *vertex-transitive* graph if  $\text{Aut}\Gamma$  is transitive on  $V\Gamma$  and  $\Gamma$  is *arc-transitive* graph or *symmetric* graph if  $\text{Aut}\Gamma$  is transitive on  $A\Gamma$ . Let  $s$  be a positive integer. An *s-arc* in a graph  $\Gamma$  is an  $(s+1)$ -tuple  $(v_0, v_1, \dots, v_s)$  of  $s+1$  vertices such that  $(v_{i-1}, v_i) \in A\Gamma$  for  $1 \leq i \leq s$  and  $v_{i-1} \neq v_{i+1}$  for  $1 \leq i \leq s-1$ . Let  $X$  be a subgroup of  $\text{Aut}\Gamma$ . We say  $\Gamma$  is *(X, s)-arc-transitive* if  $X$  is transitive on the  $s$ -arcs of  $\Gamma$  and  $\Gamma$  is *(X, s)-transitive* if it is *(X, s)-arc-transitive* but not *(X, s+1)-arc-transitive*. In the case where  $X = \text{Aut}\Gamma$ , we say an *(X, s)-arc-transitive* or *(X, s)-transitive* graph is an *s-arc-transitive* or *s-transitive* graph.

The study of symmetric graphs has a long history, beginning with a seminal work by Tutte [33, 34] on the cubic case. Since then the study of symmetric graphs with restricted order has been a current topic in the literature. For example, all symmetric graphs of order  $p$ ,  $2p$  or  $3p$  were determined in [2, 3, 35], where  $p$  is a prime. For distinct primes  $p$  and  $q$ , Praeger et al. determined

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symmetric graphs of order  $pq$  in [30,31]. Li gave a characterization of symmetric graphs of prime-power order or odd order in [18,19].

Recently, classifying symmetric graphs with certain valency and with restricted order has received considerable attention. For example, Conder and Dobcsányi [4] determined all cubic symmetric graphs of orders up to 768. The classification of cubic symmetric graphs of order  $kp$  or  $kp^2$  with  $4 \leq k \leq 10$  was given in [8–10]. Cubic symmetric graphs of order  $2p^2$ ,  $14p$  or  $16p$  were classified in [7,26,27]. For the tetravalent symmetric graphs, Zhou and Feng classified tetravalent 1-regular graphs of order  $2pq$  in [38]. Tetravalent  $s$ -transitive graphs of order  $4p$ ,  $2p^2$  or  $4p^2$  were classified in [11,37,39]. More recently, numerous papers of pentavalent symmetric graphs have been published. The stabilizers of pentavalent symmetric graphs were determined in [13,40]. The classification of pentavalent symmetric graphs of order  $8p$ ,  $12p$ ,  $18p$ ,  $30p$ ,  $2pq$  or  $4pq$  were presented in [14–16,24,29,36], where  $p$  and  $q$  are distinct primes. Li and Feng gave a classification of pentavalent one-regular graphs of square-free order in [22].

The main motivation for this paper arises from one result of Conder et al. [5] which proved that for any given positive integer  $k$ , there exist only finitely many connected  $d$ -valent 2-arc-transitive graphs whose order is  $kp$  or  $kp^2$ , where  $p$  is a prime and  $d \geq 4$ . In this paper, we classify pentavalent symmetric graphs of order  $24p$  with  $p$  a prime. By using the Magma codes in Appendices, determining graphs in this paper is more simple than some related papers. Since the cases  $p = 3$  and  $p = 5$  have been treated in the classification of pentavalent symmetric graphs of order  $36p$  or  $40p$  in [21,23], we only consider the case when  $p = 2$  or  $p > 5$ . The main result of this paper is the following theorem.

**Theorem 1.1.** *Let  $\Gamma$  be a pentavalent symmetric graph of order  $24p$ , where  $p$  is a prime. Then  $p = 2, 3, 5, 11$  or  $17$ . Furthermore,  $\text{Aut}\Gamma$ ,  $(\text{Aut}\Gamma)_v$  and  $\Gamma$  are described in Table 1, where  $v \in V\Gamma$ .*

The properties in Table 1 are determined with the help of the Magma system [1].

## 2. Preliminary Results

We give some necessary preliminary results in this section.

Let  $\Gamma$  be a graph and let  $X$  be a vertex-transitive subgroup of  $\text{Aut}\Gamma$ . Let  $N$  be an intransitive normal subgroup of  $X$  on  $V\Gamma$ . Denote  $V_N$  the set of  $N$ -orbits in  $V\Gamma$ . The *normal quotient graph*  $\Gamma_N$  is the graph with vertex set  $V_N$  and two  $N$ -orbits  $B, C \in V_N$  are adjacent in  $\Gamma_N$  if and only if some vertex of  $B$  is adjacent in  $\Gamma$  to some vertex of  $C$ . The following Lemma ([20, Lemma 2.5]) provides a basic reduction method for studying our pentavalent symmetric graphs.

TABLE 1. Pentavalent symmetric graphs of order  $24p$ 

$\Gamma$	$\text{Aut}\Gamma$	$(\text{Aut}\Gamma)_v$	Girth	Diameter	Bipartite?	Cayley?
$\mathcal{C}_{48}$	$\text{SL}(2, 5):\text{D}_8$	$\text{F}_{20}$	6	4	Yes	Yes
$\mathcal{C}_{72}^1$	$\text{PGL}(2, 9)$	$\text{D}_{10}$	4	4	No	Yes
$\mathcal{C}_{72}^2$	$\text{Aut}(\text{A}_6) \times \mathbb{Z}_2$	$\text{F}_{20} \times \mathbb{Z}_2$	6	5	Yes	No
$\mathcal{C}_{120}^1$	$\text{A}_5 \times \text{D}_{10} \times \mathbb{Z}_2$	$\text{D}_{10}$	6	6	Yes	Yes
$\mathcal{C}_{120}^2$	$\text{S}_5 \times \text{D}_{10}$	$\text{D}_{10}$	4	6	Yes	Yes
$\mathcal{C}_{264}^1$	$\text{PGL}(2, 11) \times \mathbb{Z}_2$	$\text{D}_{10}$	4	7	Yes	No
$\mathcal{C}_{264}^2$	$\text{PGL}(2, 11) \times \mathbb{Z}_2$	$\text{D}_{10}$	6	6	Yes	No
$\mathcal{C}_{264}^3$	$\text{PSL}(2, 11):\text{D}_8$	$\text{D}_{20}$	6	6	Yes	No
$\mathcal{C}_{264}^4$	$\text{PGL}(2, 11) \times \mathbb{Z}_2$	$\text{D}_{10}$	4	7	Yes	No
$\mathcal{C}_{408}^1$	$\text{PSO}^-(4, 4)$	$\text{D}_{20}$	6	6	No	No
$\mathcal{C}_{408}^2$	$\text{PSL}(2, 16)$	$\text{D}_{10}$	8	5	No	No

**Lemma 2.1.** *Let  $\Gamma$  be an  $X$ -arc-transitive graph of prime valency  $p > 2$ , where  $X \leq \text{Aut}\Gamma$ , and let  $N \trianglelefteq X$  have at least three orbits on  $V\Gamma$ . Then the following statements hold.*

- (i)  $N$  is semiregular on  $V\Gamma$ ,  $X/N \leq \text{Aut}\Gamma_N$ , and  $\Gamma_N$  is an  $X/N$ -arc-transitive graph of valency  $p$ ;
- (ii)  $\Gamma$  is  $(X, s)$ -transitive if and only if  $\Gamma_N$  is  $(X/N, s)$ -transitive, where  $1 \leq s \leq 5$  or  $s = 7$ .

By [13, 40], we have the following lemma.

**Lemma 2.2.** *Let  $\Gamma$  be a pentavalent  $(G, s)$ -transitive graph for some  $G \leq \text{Aut}\Gamma$  and  $s \geq 1$ . Let  $v \in V\Gamma$ . Then the order of  $G_v$  equals one of the following values: 5, 10, 20, 40, 60, 80, 120, 720, 960, 1440, 1920, 2880, 5760 or 23040. In particular, the order of  $G_v$  is a divisor of  $2^9 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5$ .*

From [12, pp. 12-14], one may obtain the following proposition by checking the 3-prime factor nonabelian simple groups.

**Proposition 2.3.** *Let  $G$  be a  $\{2, 3, 5\}$ -nonabelian simple group. Then  $G = \text{A}_5$ ,  $\text{A}_6$  or  $\text{PSU}(4, 2)$ .*

By checking the orders of nonabelian simple groups, see [12, pp. 134-136] for example, we have the following proposition.

**Proposition 2.4.** *Let  $p > 5$  be a prime and let  $G$  be a  $\{2, 3, 5, p\}$ -nonabelian simple group such that  $|G|$  divides  $2^{12} \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5 \cdot p$  and  $60p$  divides  $|G|$ . Then  $G = \text{A}_7$ ,  $\text{A}_8$ ,  $\text{M}_{11}$ ,  $\text{M}_{12}$ ,  $\text{PSL}(2, 11)$ ,  $\text{PSL}(2, 19)$ ,  $\text{PSL}(2, 16)$ ,  $\text{PSL}(2, 31)$  or  $\text{PSL}(3, 4)$ .*

By [16, 25], some information about pentavalent symmetric graphs of order  $6p$  is given in the following lemma.

**Lemma 2.5.** *Let  $\Gamma$  be a pentavalent symmetric graph. Let  $p$  be a prime. If  $|V\Gamma| = 6p$ , then  $\Gamma$  is isomorphic to one of the graphs in Table 2.*

TABLE 2. Pentavalent symmetric graphs of order  $6p$

$\Gamma$	$\text{Aut}\Gamma$	Remark
Icosahedral Graph	$A_5 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$	$p = 2$
$K_{6,6} - 6K_2$	$A_6 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$	$p = 2$
$\mathcal{C}_{42}$	$\text{Aut}(\text{PSL}(3, 4))$	$p = 7$
$\mathcal{C}_{66}$	$\text{PGL}(2, 11)$	$p = 11$
$\mathcal{C}_{114}$	$\text{PGL}(2, 19)$	$p = 19$

By [15] and with the help of Magma system [1], we give some information of pentavalent symmetric graphs of order  $8p$  in the following lemma.

**Lemma 2.6.** *Let  $\Gamma$  be a pentavalent symmetric graph. Let  $p$  be a prime. If  $|V\Gamma| = 8p$ , then  $\Gamma$  is isomorphic to one of the graphs in Table 3.*

TABLE 3. Pentavalent symmetric graphs of order  $8p$

$\Gamma$	$\text{Aut}\Gamma$	Remark
$\text{CL}_{16}$	$\mathbb{Z}_2^4 : S_5$	$p = 2$
$\mathbf{I}^{(2)}$	$(A_5 \times \mathbb{Z}_2^2) : \mathbb{Z}_2$	$p = 3$
$\mathcal{C}_{248}$	$\text{PSL}(2, 31)$	$p = 31$

By [14], we give some information of pentavalent symmetric graphs of order  $12p$  in the following lemma. In fact, in [14, Theorem 4.1],  $\mathcal{C}_{66}^{(2)}$  is isomorphic to  $\mathcal{C}_{132}^5$ ,  $\text{Aut}(\mathcal{C}_{132}^5) \cong \text{Aut}(\mathcal{C}_{66}^{(2)}) \cong \text{PGL}(2, 11) \times \mathbb{Z}_2$ ,  $\text{Aut}(\mathbf{I}_{12}^{(2)}) \cong (A_5 \times \mathbb{Z}_2^2) : \mathbb{Z}_2$  and  $\text{Aut}(\mathcal{C}_{60}) \cong A_5 \times D_{10}$  by Magma [1].

**Lemma 2.7.** *Let  $\Gamma$  be a pentavalent symmetric graph. Let  $p$  be a prime. If  $|V\Gamma| = 12p$ , then  $\Gamma$  is isomorphic to one of the graphs in Table 4.*

In the following, we need to introduce the concept of Schur multiplier. Let  $G$  be a perfect group, that is,  $G' = G$ . A *central extension* of  $G$  is a group  $H$  satisfying  $H/N \cong G$  for  $N \leq Z(H)$ . If  $H$  is perfect, we call  $H$  a covering group of  $G$ . It was shown by Schur [32] that all covering groups of  $G$  are finite, and

TABLE 4. Pentavalent symmetric graphs of order  $12p$ 

$\Gamma$	$\text{Aut}\Gamma$	Remark
$\mathbf{I}_{12}^{(2)}$	$(A_5 \times \mathbb{Z}_2^2) : \mathbb{Z}_2$	$p = 2$
$\mathcal{C}_{36}$	$\text{Aut}(A_6)$	$p = 3$
$\mathcal{C}_{60}$	$A_5 \times D_{10}$	$p = 5$
$\mathcal{C}_{132}^1$	$\text{PSL}(2, 11) \times \mathbb{Z}_2$	$p = 11$
$\mathcal{C}_{132}^i$	$\text{PGL}(2, 11)$	$p = 11, 2 \leq i \leq 4$
$\mathcal{C}_{132}^5$	$\text{PGL}(2, 11) \times \mathbb{Z}_2$	$p = 11$

there is a unique maximal covering group  $M$ . This group  $M$  is called the full covering group of  $G$ , and define the *Schur multiplier* of  $G$ , written  $\text{Mult}(G)$ , to be the center of  $M$ . The following lemma follows from a theorem of Schur (see [17]) and its proof can be seen in [28, Lemma 2.11].

**Lemma 2.8.** *Let  $M = N.T^d$  be a central extension, where  $d \geq 1$  and  $T$  is a nonabelian simple group. Then  $M = NM'$  and  $M' = Z.T^d$ , where  $Z$  is a factor group of  $\text{Mult}(T)^d$  and  $Z \leq N$ .*

### 3. The proof of Theorem 1.1

In this section, we will prove Theorem 1.1 by giving some lemmas. Now let  $\Gamma$  be a pentavalent symmetric graph of order  $24p$ , where  $p$  is a prime. If  $p = 3$ , then  $|V\Gamma| = 72$ , and  $\Gamma$  is isomorphic to  $\mathcal{C}_{72}^1$  or  $\mathcal{C}_{72}^2$  by [21]. If  $p = 5$ , then  $|V\Gamma| = 120$ , and  $\Gamma$  is isomorphic to  $\mathcal{C}_{120}^1$  or  $\mathcal{C}_{120}^2$  by [23]. Suppose  $p = 2$  or  $p > 5$  in the following. Let  $A = \text{Aut}\Gamma$  and let  $X$  be a subgroup of  $A$ . We say  $X$  is a *minimal arc-transitive subgroup* of  $A$  if  $X$  is arc-transitive on  $\Gamma$  and if a subgroup  $M$  of  $X$  is arc-transitive on  $\Gamma$ , then  $M$  equals  $X$ .

The next two simple lemmas are helpful to our argument.

**Lemma 3.1.** *Let  $X \leq A$  be a subgroup of  $A$  which is arc-transitive on  $\Gamma$ . Let  $N$  be an insoluble normal subgroup of  $X$ . Then  $N$  has at most two orbits on  $V\Gamma$ . Furthermore, if  $N$  is not isomorphic to  $\text{PSL}(2, 7)$ , then the following statements hold.*

- (1) For each  $v \in V\Gamma$ ,  $5 \mid |N_v^{\Gamma(v)}|$ .
- (2)  $60p$  divides the order of  $N$ .

*Proof.* Suppose that  $N$  has at least three orbits on  $V\Gamma$ . Lemma 2.1 implies that  $N_v = 1$  for each  $v \in V\Gamma$ . Hence  $|N| \mid 24p$ . If  $p \neq 7$ , then a group of order  $24p$  is soluble, which follows that  $N$  is soluble, a contradiction. If  $p = 7$ , then  $|N| \mid 24 \cdot 7 = 168$ . It implies that  $|N| = 168$  as  $N$  is insoluble, a contradiction with  $N$  has at least three orbits on  $V\Gamma$ . Hence  $N$  has at most two orbits on  $V\Gamma$ .

(1) For each  $v \in V\Gamma$ , if  $N_v = 1$ , then, arguing as the above paragraph, a contradiction occurs. Thus,  $N_v \neq 1$ . Since  $X$  is transitive on  $V\Gamma$ , we have  $|N_v^{\Gamma(v)}| \neq 1$ . It follows that  $5 \mid |N_v^{\Gamma(v)}|$ , since  $N_v^{\Gamma(v)} \leq X_v^{\Gamma(v)}$  and  $X_v^{\Gamma(v)}$  acts primitively on  $\Gamma(v)$ .

(2) Since  $N$  has at most two orbits on  $V\Gamma$ , that is,  $2^2 \cdot 3 \cdot p$  divides  $|N : N_v|$  and by (1),  $5 \mid |N_v|$ , which implies that  $60p \mid |N|$ , as required.  $\square$

**Lemma 3.2.** *Let  $N$  be a minimal normal subgroup of  $A$ . Assume  $A$  has no soluble minimal normal subgroup. Then  $N$  is isomorphic to a nonabelian simple group. Furthermore, if  $N$  is not isomorphic to  $\text{PSL}(2, 7)$ , then  $A \leq \text{Aut}(N)$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $N$  be an insoluble minimal normal subgroup of  $A$ . Then  $N = T^d$  with  $T$  a nonabelian simple group. We first prove that  $d = 1$ . By Lemma 3.1,  $N$  has at most two orbits on  $V\Gamma$ , and so  $12p$  divides  $|N|$ . It implies that  $p \mid |T|$ . Suppose that  $d \geq 2$ . Then  $N = T_1 \times T_2 \times \dots \times T_d$  and  $p^d \mid |N|$ . By Lemma 2.2,  $|A_v| \mid 2^9 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5$ , we have  $|N| \mid |A| \mid 2^{12} \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5 \cdot p$ . Then the only possible case is  $(d, p) = (2, 5)$ , a contradiction with our assumption  $p \neq 5$ . Hence  $d = 1$  and  $N$  is a nonabelian simple group. Let  $C = C_A(N)$ . If  $C \neq 1$ , then  $C$  is insoluble, because  $A$  has no soluble minimal normal subgroup. By Lemma 3.1(2), we have  $60p \mid |N|$ . Since  $|N| \mid |A| \mid 2^{12} \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5 \cdot p$  and  $C \cap N = \mathbf{Z}(N) = 1$ , we have  $|C| \mid 2^{10} \cdot 3^2$ . By the Burnside theorem,  $C$  is soluble, a contradiction. Hence  $C = 1$ . By ‘ $N/C$ ’ theorem,  $A \leq \text{Aut}(N)$ .  $\square$

**Proof of Theorem 1.1.** In the following, we prove Theorem 1.1 via a series of Lemmas.

**Lemma 3.3.** *If  $p = 2$ , then  $\Gamma$  is isomorphic to  $\mathcal{C}_{48}$  in Table 1.*

*Proof.* Let  $N$  be a minimal normal subgroup of  $A$ . Suppose first that  $N$  is soluble. Then  $N$  is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}_r^d$  for some prime  $r$ . On the other hand, for each  $v \in V\Gamma$ ,  $|v^N|$  is a prime power and a divisor of 48,  $N$  has at least three orbits on  $V\Gamma$ . By Lemma 2.1,  $N$  is semiregular on  $V\Gamma$ . It follows that  $|N| \mid |V\Gamma| = 2^3 \cdot 3$  and so  $N \cong \mathbb{Z}_2, \mathbb{Z}_2^2, \mathbb{Z}_2^3$  or  $\mathbb{Z}_3$ . If  $N \cong \mathbb{Z}_2^3$ , then Lemma 2.1 implies that  $\Gamma_N$  is a pentavalent symmetric graph of odd order, a contradiction.

If  $N \cong \mathbb{Z}_2$ , then  $\Gamma_N$  is a pentavalent symmetric graph of order 24. By Lemma 2.7,  $\Gamma_N$  is isomorphic to  $I^{(2)}$  with  $\text{Aut}\Gamma_N \cong (\text{A}_5 \times \mathbb{Z}_2^2) : \mathbb{Z}_2$ . By Magma [1], a minimal arc-transitive subgroup of  $\text{Aut}\Gamma_N$  is isomorphic to  $S_5$  or  $\text{A}_5 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$ . By Lemma 2.1,  $A/N$  contains a subgroup isomorphic to  $S_5$  or  $\text{A}_5 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$ , which implies that  $A$  contains an arc-transitive subgroup isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}_2.S_5$  or  $\mathbb{Z}_2.(\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \text{A}_5)$ . By Magma [1] (see our Magma codes in Appendix),  $\Gamma$  is isomorphic to  $\mathcal{C}_{48}$  in Table 1.

If  $N \cong \mathbb{Z}_2^2$ , then  $\Gamma_N$  is a pentavalent symmetric graph of order 12. By Lemma 2.5,  $\Gamma_N$  is isomorphic to  $I$  with  $\text{Aut}\Gamma_N \cong \text{A}_5 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$  or  $\text{K}_{6,6} - 6\text{K}_2$  with  $\text{Aut}\Gamma_N \cong \text{S}_6 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$ . For the former case, since  $A/N$  is arc-transitive on  $\Gamma_N$ , we have  $60 \mid |A/N|$ . Thus, by Magma [1],  $A/N$  contains an arc-transitive subgroup

$H/N \cong A_5$ . Since the Schur multiplier of  $A_5$  is  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ , we have  $H \cong \mathbb{Z}_2^2 \times A_5$  or  $\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \text{SL}(2, 5)$  and  $H$  is arc-transitive on  $\Gamma$ . By Magma [1], no pentavalent symmetric graphs of order 48 appears for this case. For the latter case, by Magma [1], a minimal arc-transitive subgroup of  $\text{Aut}\Gamma_N$  is isomorphic to  $S_5$  or  $A_5 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$ . Lemma 2.1 implies that  $A$  contains an arc-transitive subgroup isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}_2^2.S_5$  or  $\mathbb{Z}_2^2.(A_5 \times \mathbb{Z}_2)$ . By Magma [1], we have  $\Gamma$  is isomorphic to  $\mathcal{C}_{48}$ .

If  $N \cong \mathbb{Z}_3$ , then  $\Gamma_N$  is a pentavalent symmetric graph of order 16. By Lemma 2.6,  $\Gamma_N \cong \text{CL}_{16}$  and  $\text{Aut}\Gamma \cong \mathbb{Z}_2^4.S_5$ . By Magma [1], the minimal arc-transitive subgroup of  $\text{Aut}\Gamma_N$  is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}_2^4.\mathbb{Z}_5$ . Therefore, Lemma 2.1 implies that  $A/N$  contains  $H/N \cong \mathbb{Z}_2^4.\mathbb{Z}_5$ , that is,  $A$  contains an arc-transitive subgroup  $H \cong \mathbb{Z}_3.(\mathbb{Z}_2^4.\mathbb{Z}_5)$ . By Magma [1] (see our Magma codes in Appendices),  $H \cong \mathbb{Z}_3 \times (\mathbb{Z}_2^4.\mathbb{Z}_5)$  and no pentavalent symmetric graph of order 48 appears for this case.

Now we suppose that  $A$  has no soluble minimal normal subgroup. Then, by Lemma 3.2,  $N \trianglelefteq A$ , where  $N$  is a  $\{2, 3, 5\}$ -nonabelian simple group. By Proposition 2.3,  $N$  is isomorphic to  $A_5$ ,  $A_6$  or  $\text{PSU}(4, 2)$ . If  $N \cong A_5$ , then Lemma 3.1 implies that  $N$  has at most two orbits on  $V\Gamma$ , that is,  $2^3 \cdot 3 \mid |N|$ , a contradiction with  $|N| = 2^2 \cdot 3 \cdot 5$ . If  $N \cong A_6$ , then  $|N_v| = \frac{|N|}{24} = 15$ , a contradiction with  $A_6$  has no subgroup of order 15. If  $N \cong \text{PSU}(4, 2)$ , then  $|N_v| = \frac{|N|}{24} = 540$  or  $|N_v| = \frac{|N|}{48} = 1080$ , a contradiction with  $\text{PSU}(4, 2)$  has no subgroup of order 540 or 1080.  $\square$

Now we consider the case when  $p > 5$ . First we suppose that  $A$  contains a soluble minimal normal subgroup  $N$ . Then we have the following lemma.

**Lemma 3.4.** *If  $A$  has a soluble minimal normal subgroup  $N$ , then  $\Gamma$  is isomorphic to  $\mathcal{C}_{264}^i$  in Table 1, where  $1 \leq i \leq 4$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $N$  be a soluble minimal normal subgroup. Then  $N \cong \mathbb{Z}_2, \mathbb{Z}_2^2, \mathbb{Z}_2^3, \mathbb{Z}_3$  or  $\mathbb{Z}_p$ . If  $N \cong \mathbb{Z}_2^3$ , then  $\Gamma_N$  is a pentavalent symmetric graph of odd order, which is impossible.

If  $N \cong \mathbb{Z}_2$ , then  $\Gamma_N$  is a pentavalent symmetric graph of order  $12p$ . By Lemma 2.7, we have  $\Gamma_N \cong \mathcal{C}_{132}^i$ , where  $1 \leq i \leq 5$ . Furthermore,  $A/N \leq \text{Aut}(\mathcal{C}_{132}^i)$  and  $p = 11$ . By Magma [1], a minimal arc-transitive subgroup of  $\text{Aut}(\mathcal{C}_{132}^i)$  is isomorphic to  $\text{PSL}(2, 11)$  or  $\text{PGL}(2, 11)$ . Since  $A/N$  is arc-transitive on  $\Gamma_N$ , we have  $A/N$  has an arc-transitive subgroup  $H/N$  isomorphic to  $\text{PSL}(2, 11)$  or  $\text{PGL}(2, 11)$ . Since  $\mathbb{Z}_2.\text{PSL}(2, 11) \cong \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \text{PSL}(2, 11)$  or  $\text{SL}(2, 11)$  and  $\mathbb{Z}_2.\text{PGL}(2, 11) \cong \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \text{PGL}(2, 11)$  or  $\text{SL}(2, 11):\mathbb{Z}_2$ , we have  $A$  has an arc-transitive subgroup  $H$  isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \text{PSL}(2, 11)$ ,  $\text{SL}(2, 11)$ ,  $\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \text{PGL}(2, 11)$  or  $\text{SL}(2, 11):\mathbb{Z}_2$ . By Magma [1],  $\Gamma$  is isomorphic to  $\mathcal{C}_{264}^i$  in Table 1, where  $1 \leq i \leq 4$ .

If  $N \cong \mathbb{Z}_2^2$ , then  $\Gamma_N$  is a pentavalent symmetric graph of order  $6p$ . By Lemma 2.5,  $\Gamma_N$  is isomorphic to  $\mathcal{C}_{42}$ ,  $\mathcal{C}_{66}$  or  $\mathcal{C}_{114}$ . Assume  $\Gamma_N \cong \mathcal{C}_{42}$ . Then



$A/N \leq \text{Aut}\Gamma_N \cong \text{Aut}(\text{PSL}(3,4))$  and  $p = 7$ . By Lemma 2.1,  $A/N$  is arc-transitive on  $\Gamma_N$ . By Magma [1], a minimal arc-transitive subgroup of  $\text{Aut}\Gamma_N$  is isomorphic to  $\text{PSL}(3,4):\mathbb{Z}_2$ . Hence  $A/N$  contains an arc-transitive subgroup  $H/N$  isomorphic to  $\text{PSL}(3,4):\mathbb{Z}_2$ . Then  $H \cong \mathbb{Z}_2^2.(\text{PSL}(3,4):\mathbb{Z}_2)$  is arc transitive on  $\Gamma$ . By Magma [1], no pentavalent symmetric graph of order  $24 \cdot 7$  appears for this case.

Assume  $\Gamma_N$  is isomorphic to  $\mathcal{C}_{66}$ . Then  $A/N \leq \text{Aut}\Gamma_N \cong \text{PGL}(2,11)$  and  $p = 11$ . By Lemma 2.1,  $A/N$  is arc-transitive on  $\Gamma_N$ . By Magma [1],  $A/N$  contains an arc-transitive subgroup  $H/N$  isomorphic to  $\text{PSL}(2,11)$ . Since the Schur multiplier of  $\text{PSL}(2,11)$  is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}_2$  (see Atlas [6] for example), we have  $H \cong \mathbb{Z}_2^2 \times \text{PSL}(2,11)$  or  $\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \text{SL}(2,11)$ . Furthermore,  $H$  is arc-transitive on  $\Gamma$ . By Magma [1],  $\Gamma$  is isomorphic to  $\mathcal{C}_{264}^1, \mathcal{C}_{264}^2$  or  $\mathcal{C}_{264}^3$  in Table 1.

Assume  $\Gamma_N \cong \mathcal{C}_{114}$ . Then  $A/N \leq \text{Aut}\Gamma_N \cong \text{PGL}(2,19)$  and  $p = 19$ . By Lemma 2.1,  $A/N$  is arc-transitive on  $\Gamma_N$ . By Magma [1], the minimal arc-transitive subgroup of  $\text{Aut}\Gamma_N$  is isomorphic to  $\text{PGL}(2,19)$ . Hence  $A/N$  is isomorphic to  $\text{PGL}(2,19)$ . Then  $A = \mathbb{Z}_2^2.\text{PGL}(2,19) \cong \mathbb{Z}_2^2 \times \text{PGL}(2,19)$  or  $\mathbb{Z}_2 \times (\text{SL}(2,19):\mathbb{Z}_2)$ . By Magma [1], no pentavalent symmetric graph of order  $24 \cdot 19$  appears for this case.

If  $N \cong \mathbb{Z}_3$ , then  $\Gamma_N$  is a pentavalent symmetric graph of order  $8p$ . Since  $p > 5$ , Lemma 2.6 implies that  $\Gamma_N \cong \mathcal{C}_{248}$  and  $p = 31$ . By Lemma 2.1,  $A/N \lesssim \text{Aut}\Gamma_N \cong \text{PSL}(2,31)$  and  $A/N$  is arc-transitive on  $\Gamma_N$ . Hence  $5 \cdot 248 \mid |A/N|$ . By checking the maximal subgroup of  $\text{PSL}(2,31)$ , we have  $A/N \cong \text{PSL}(2,31)$ . On the other hand, by Atlas [6], the Schur multiplier of  $\text{PSL}(2,31)$  is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ , Lemma 2.8 implies that  $A = \mathbb{Z}_3 \times \text{PSL}(2,31)$ . By Magma [1], no pentavalent symmetric graph of order  $24 \cdot 31$  appears for this case.

If  $N \cong \mathbb{Z}_p$ , then  $\Gamma_N$  is a pentavalent symmetric graph of order  $24$ . By Lemma 2.7,  $\Gamma_N$  is isomorphic to  $I^{(2)}$ . By Lemma 2.1,  $A/N \leq \text{Aut}\Gamma_N \cong (\text{A}_5 \times \mathbb{Z}_2^2):\mathbb{Z}_2$ . Since  $A/N$  is arc-transitive on  $\Gamma_N$ , we have  $120 \mid |A/N|$ . It implies that  $A/N$  contains a normal subgroup  $H/N$  isomorphic to  $\text{A}_5$ . Since  $p > 5$  and the Schur multiplier of  $\text{A}_5$  isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ , Lemma 2.8 implies that  $H \cong \mathbb{Z}_p \times \text{A}_5$  and  $H' = \text{A}_5$ . Since  $H'$  is a characteristic subgroup of  $H$  and  $H \trianglelefteq A$ , we have  $H' \trianglelefteq A$ . By Lemma 3.1,  $H'$  has at most two orbits on  $V\Gamma$ , which implies that  $|V\Gamma| \leq 120$ , a contradiction with  $p > 5$ .  $\square$

Now we may treat the case when  $A$  has no soluble minimal normal subgroup and the next lemma completes the proof of Theorem 1.1.

**Lemma 3.5.** *If  $A$  has no soluble minimal normal subgroup, then  $\Gamma$  is isomorphic to  $\mathcal{C}_{408}^1$  or  $\mathcal{C}_{408}^2$  in Table 1.*

*Proof.* Let  $N$  be an insoluble minimal normal subgroup of  $A$ . By Lemma 3.2,  $d = 1$  and  $N \trianglelefteq A$ . Assume that  $N$  is isomorphic to  $\text{PSL}(2,7)$ . Let  $C = C_A(N)$ . If  $C \neq 1$ , then  $C \cap N = \mathbf{Z}(N) = 1$ , and so  $CN = C \times N$ . Since  $A$  has no soluble minimal normal subgroup, we have  $C$  is insoluble. Since  $|A| \mid 2^{12} \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7$  and

$C \cap N = 1$ , we have  $|C| \mid 2^9 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5$ . Hence  $C$  contains a normal subgroup of  $A$  which is isomorphic to  $A_5$  or  $A_6$ . It implies that  $A$  has a normal subgroup isomorphic to  $A_5 \times \text{PSL}(2, 7)$  or  $A_6 \times \text{PSL}(2, 7)$ . Let  $H_1 = A_5 \times \text{PSL}(2, 7)$  and  $H_2 = A_6 \times \text{PSL}(2, 7)$ . If  $A$  has a normal subgroup isomorphic to  $H_1$ , then, with similar discussion as above, we have  $C_A(H_1) = 1$ . By ‘ $N/C$ ’ theorem,  $A \leq \text{Aut}(H_1) \cong S_5 \times \text{PGL}(2, 7)$ . By Magma [1], no pentavalent symmetric graph of order  $24 \cdot 7$  appears for this case. A similar argument shows that no pentavalent symmetric graph of order  $24 \cdot 7$  appears when  $A$  has a normal subgroup isomorphic to  $H_2$ . Hence  $N$  is not isomorphic to  $\text{PSL}(2, 7)$ . By Lemma 3.1,  $60p \mid |N|$ . Since  $|A| \mid 2^{12} \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5 \cdot p$ , we have  $|N|$  is a divisor of  $2^{12} \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5 \cdot p$ . By Proposition 2.4,  $N$  is isomorphic to  $A_7, A_8, M_{11}, M_{12}, \text{PSL}(2, 11), \text{PSL}(2, 19), \text{PSL}(2, 16), \text{PSL}(2, 31)$  or  $\text{PSL}(3, 4)$ .

Assume  $N \cong A_7$ . Then  $p = 7$ , and by Lemma 3.2,  $A_7 \leq A \leq S_7$ . It implies that  $|A_v| = \frac{|A_7|}{24 \cdot 7} = 15$  or  $|A_v| = \frac{|S_7|}{24 \cdot 7} = 30$ , this is impossible by Lemma 2.2. Similarly,  $N$  is not isomorphic to  $M_{11}$  or  $\text{PSL}(2, 19)$ .

Assume  $N \cong \text{PSL}(2, 31)$ . Then  $p = 31$ , and Lemma 3.2 implies that  $\text{PSL}(2, 31) \leq A \leq \text{PGL}(2, 31)$ . It follows that  $|A_v| = \frac{|\text{PSL}(2, 31)|}{24 \cdot 31} = 20$  or  $|A_v| = \frac{|\text{PGL}(2, 31)|}{24 \cdot 31} = 40$ . However, by Atlas [6],  $\text{PSL}(2, 31)$  has no subgroup of order 20 and  $\text{PGL}(2, 31)$  has no subgroup of order 40, a contradiction.

Assume  $N \cong M_{12}$ . Then  $p = 11$  and  $|VF| = 264$ . By Lemma 3.2,  $A \leq \text{Aut}(M_{12}) = M_{12} \cdot \mathbb{Z}_2$ . If  $A = M_{12}$ , then  $|A_v| = \frac{|M_{12}|}{24 \cdot 11} = 360$ . This is impossible by Lemma 2.2. Hence  $A = M_{12} \cdot \mathbb{Z}_2$ . By Magma [1] (see the Magma codes in Appendices), no pentavalent symmetric graph of order  $24 \cdot 11$  satisfies our condition. With similar discussion, we have  $N$  is not isomorphic to  $A_8, \text{PSL}(2, 11)$  or  $\text{PSL}(3, 4)$ .

Finally, assume  $N \cong \text{PSL}(2, 16)$ . Then  $p = 17$ , and by Lemma 3.2,  $\text{PSL}(2, 16) \leq A \leq \text{P}\Omega(2, 16)$ . By Magma [1],  $\Gamma$  is isomorphic to  $C_{408}^1$  or  $C_{408}^2$  in Table 1.  $\square$

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### Appendix

#### Magma codes

/\*

Input : a positive integer  $n$  and two finite groups  $G, N$

```

Output: all groups X of order n, satisfying that X has a
normal subgroup isomorphic to N and the quotient group
X/N isomorphic to G
*/
f:=function(n,G,N);
P:=SmallGroupProcess(n);
X=[];
repeat GG:=Current(P);
NN:=NormalSubgroups(GG);
for i in [1..#NN] do
  if IsIsomorphic(NN[i]'subgroup,N) eq true then
    F:=quo<GG|NN[i]'subgroup>;
    if IsIsomorphic(F,G) eq true then
      _,a:=CurrentLabel(P);
      Append(~X,SmallGroup(n,a));
    end if;
  end if;
end for;
Advance(~P);
until IsEmpty(P);
return X;
end function;

/*
Input : a finite group G and a positive integer n
Output: all graphs of order |G|/n, which admit G as an
arc-transitive automorphism group
*/
Graph:=function(G,n);
graph=[];
i:=0;
H:=Subgroups(G:OrderEqual:=n);
for j in [1..#H] do
  HH:=H[j]'subgroup;
  CA:=CosetAction(G,HH);
  O:=Orbits(CA(HH));
  for k in [1..#O] do
    OO:=SetToSequence(O[k]);
    GR:=OrbitalGraph(CA(G),1,{OO[1]});
    if (IsConnected(GR) eq true) and (Valence(GR) eq 5) and
      (not exists{t:t in graph|IsIsomorphic(GR,t) eq true}) then

```

```

    Append(~graph,GR);
    i:=i+1;
  end if;
end for;
end for;
return i,graph;
end function;

```

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