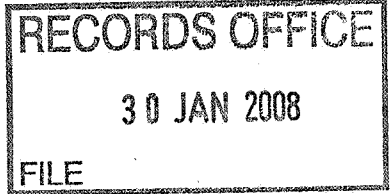


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# STANDARD RESEARCH

## Peer Review

EPSRC Reference: EP/F059582/1

Linked Reference: N/A

**Applicant Details**

Applicant	Dr V Zverovich	Organisation	University of the West of England
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**Title of Research Project**

Strongly Perfect Graphs

**Review Information**

Response Due Date	21 January 2008	Reviewer Reference:	T1GL7Z
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**Research Council Contact Details**

EPSRC Administration Contact: Ms Karen Galvin	Email: <a href="mailto:karen.galvin@epsrc.ac.uk">karen.galvin@epsrc.ac.uk</a>	Telephone: 01793 444479
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**Impact****Significance and Potential of the Research**

*Comment on the potential impact of the proposed research, in terms of its (1) ability to address a timely problem using the appropriate approach; (2) contribution to the UK's world research standing; (3) ability to advance research knowledge for the benefit of the research community.*

1. The problem to be considered is quite interesting, and the approach suggested seems to be very reasonable, and more likely to lead to success than other possible approaches.
2. A solution to the problem, or even just a list of forbidden subgraphs up to order 10, would contribute to the UK's world research standing.
3. The research knowledge of the research community is bound to be advanced a little, and, if the problem were solved completely, it would be advanced significantly.

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Overall, the significance of the research is:

My confidence level in assessing this is:

<input type="checkbox"/> Unsatisfactory	<input type="checkbox"/> Adequate	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Very Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Outstanding
--------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------	----------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------

<input type="checkbox"/> Low	<input type="checkbox"/> Medium	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> High
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**Quality**

**Degree of Novelty or Risk**

*Comment on (1) the originality of the proposed research; (2) the degree of adventure and potential to produce a high return in knowledge advances and / or exploitation and; (3) the incremental nature of the research. Where the proposal is more incremental in nature, comment on the degree to which this is essential to the advancement of knowledge for the benefit of the academic community and / or business, and / or in facilitating a multidisciplinary approach.*

1. The problem to be considered is original, and the research method, based on a lot of initial computer work, is eminently sensible and workmanlike, but nonetheless unusual (because few other researchers are competent to do all the computer exploration).
2. I think Zverovich's approach to his work is always adventurous, and, in this case, the return in knowledge advances is likely to be significant.

Overall, the degree of novelty and risk is:

My confidence level in assessing this is:

<input type="checkbox"/> Unsatisfactory	<input type="checkbox"/> Adequate	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Very Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Outstanding
--------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------	----------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------

<input type="checkbox"/> Low	<input type="checkbox"/> Medium	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> High
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## People and Development

*Comment on the extent to which the proposal contributes to the training and development of highly skilled researchers, considering all levels.*

The proposal is for a post-doc for 10 months who has considerable computing expertise, and considerable graph theory expertise. The concern I have with this project is that the post-doc will find himself spending too much time on the computing (which really has to be done first), and so may not be able to spend much time on the theoretical developments in graph theory. In other words, I would recommend the project more wholeheartedly if more than 10 months were available (say 16 or 18 months). Given sufficient time, the training and development opportunities for the post-doc would be very good.

*Overall, the degree of researcher training and development is:*

<input type="checkbox"/> Unsatisfactory	<input type="checkbox"/> Adequate	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Very Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Outstanding
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*My confidence level in assessing this is:*

<input type="checkbox"/> Low	<input type="checkbox"/> Medium	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> High
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## Collaboration

*Comment on the nature, appropriateness and likely value of any partnerships proposed (e.g. with another department or institution, with business or overseas institution, or the absence of partnership).*

If the research resulted in long-term collaboration between the post-doc and Dr Zverovich, this would be a happy development.

*Overall, the value of the collaboration is:*

<input type="checkbox"/> Unsatisfactory	<input type="checkbox"/> Adequate	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Very Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Outstanding
-----------------------------------------	-----------------------------------	------------------------------------------	------------------------------------	--------------------------------------

*My confidence level in assessing this is:*

<input type="checkbox"/> Low	<input type="checkbox"/> Medium	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> High
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## Applicant

### Ability to Deliver the Proposed Research

*Comment on the skills and experience of the applicant(s) and team (including any proposed project partners) to ensure delivery of the research described.*

Much of the research carried out by Dr Zverovich and his collaborators consists of startling and strong results laid on the foundation of extensive computing. The post-doc should have computing experience and ability, and flair in graph theory, if he is to bring about a successful conclusion to the project.

*Overall, their ability to ensure delivery of the research is:*  
It depends on who the post-doc would be.

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unsatisfactory	Adequate	Good	Very Good	Outstanding

*My confidence level in assessing this is:*

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Low	Medium	High

## Resources and Management

### Planning and Management

*Comment on the planning and project management, including timescales, methodology, management of risks and dissemination plans.*

The timescale would be reasonable if they were lengthened out uniformly to 1½ or 1¾ their present values.

*Overall, the planning and management appears:*

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unsatisfactory	Adequate	Good	Very Good	Outstanding

*My confidence level in assessing this is:*

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Low	Medium	High

## Resources Requested

Are the resources requested appropriate and justified?

Yes, except I think more time is needed.

## Knowledge Transfer

### Potential Contribution to Knowledge Transfer

Where appropriate, comment on the extent to which the proposal contributes to knowledge transfer / exploitation (e.g. in addressing challenges faced by users, in enabling the flow of knowledge between the research base and business or society, or in proposing plans for the successful transfer and exploitation of the research outputs).

The publication would be in well-known journals, which would be quite appropriate.

Overall, the potential for knowledge transfer/exploitation is:

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Unsatisfactory	Adequate	Good	Very Good	Outstanding

My confidence level in assessing this is:

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Low	Medium	High

## Overall Assessment

### Your Conclusions

Please summarise your view of the proposal.

The project is nice and likely to succeed, especially if more time than the 10 months proposed could be devoted to it. I would be very wholehearted about it if more time could be found for it somehow.

The overall quality of the proposal, as written, is:

<input type="checkbox"/> Unsatisfactory	<input type="checkbox"/> Adequate	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Very Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Outstanding
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### Recommendations

I believe this proposal:

<input type="checkbox"/> Should not proceed as proposed	<input type="checkbox"/> Could proceed as proposed	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Should proceed
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My confidence level in assessing this is:

<input type="checkbox"/> Low	<input type="checkbox"/> Medium	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> High
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## Reviewer Self Assessment

### Your Area of Expertise

*Please indicate the areas of expertise that are relevant to your assessment. Take care not to reveal your identity to the applicant.*

Combinatorics and graph theory