

Shuffles of Permutations

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Outline

- 1 Background
 - Definitions
 - Problem: How Many Distinct Shuffles?
- 2 Distinct Shuffles of Permutations
 - Motivation & Special Cases
 - Towards Enumeration Theorem
- 3 Goals
 - Partial Ordering on Symmetric Group for Shuffles
 - Minimal & Maximal Permutations for Shuffles
 - Further Generalizations

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Words, Letters, Length, & Supports

- a *word* is a string of symbols
e.g. 12342
- a *letter* is a symbol used in a word
e.g. 3
- the *length* of a word is # of letters
e.g. length of 12342 is 5
- the *support* of a word is the set of letters in word
e.g. $\text{supp}(12342) = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$

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Intuitive Definition of Shuffle

- a *shuffle* of the words **123** and **456** is obtained by interspersing the letters of these words
- the letters of each original word must stay in order
- for example, **142563**

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Formal Definition of Shuffle

Given two words $u = a_1 a_2 \dots a_m$ and $v = b_1 b_2 \dots b_n$,

- concatenate u and v :

$$c_1 c_2 \dots c_{m+n} = a_1 a_2 \dots a_m b_1 b_2 \dots b_n$$

- then permute entries to obtain a *shuffle* of u with v :

$$c_{\rho(1)} c_{\rho(2)} \dots c_{\rho(m+n)}$$

- where ρ is a permutation on $m + n$ elements satisfying order-preserving conditions
 - $\rho^{-1}(1) < \rho^{-1}(2) < \dots < \rho^{-1}(m)$
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Example: Shuffles of 123 with 456

All shuffles of the words 123 and 456:

123456	142536	412356	415623
124356	142563	412536	451236
124536	145236	412563	451263
124563	145263	415236	451623
142356	145623	415263	456123

- Notation: $sh(123, 456) = \{\text{shuffles of } 123 \text{ with } 456\}$

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Example: Counting Shuffles of 123 with 456

- None of entries in word 123 appear in word 456,
so

$$\# \text{ of distinct shuffles} = \#sh(123, 456) = \binom{6}{3} = 20$$

- In fact, if words u and v have disjoint supports,
then

$$\#sh(u, v) = \binom{\text{length of } u + \text{length of } v}{\text{length of } u}$$

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Example with Non-Disjoint Supports: Permutations

All *distinct* shuffles of permutation words **123** and **312**:

123 12	132 312	131 232	312 132	311 223
123 132	132 132	131 223	312 123	
123 123	132 123	312 312	311 232	

- Entries that could come from either word in **black**
- Shuffles with black entries have multiplicity > 1
- eg **311223** could be
311223, 311223, 311223, or 311223

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123 12	1 32 312	1 31 232	3 12 132	311 223
12 31 32	1 32 132	1 31 223	3 12 123	
1231 23	1 32 123	3 12 312	3 11 232	

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1 231 32	1 321 32	1 3122 3	312123	
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Shuffles of Identity Permutation with Itself

All *distinct* shuffles of **123** with itself:

123123

121323

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112323

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- $\#sh(123, 123) = 5$

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Why count shuffles of permutations?

Fun Fact:

$$\#\text{sh}(\text{id}_n, \text{id}_n) = \frac{1}{n+1} \binom{2n}{n} = C_n \quad (n^{\text{th}} \text{ Catalan } \#)$$

Proof: Construct bijection:

$\text{sh}(\text{id}_n, \text{id}_n) \longrightarrow \{\text{ballot sequences of length } 2n\}$

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Bijection Between Shuffles & Ballot Sequences

- ballot sequence has
 - $n + 1$'s
 - $n - 1$'s
 - all partial sums nonnegative
- Substitute $+1$ for 1st occurrence of 1 through n , substitute -1 for 2nd occurrence
- eg $121323 \mapsto ++-+--$
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Example: Shuffles of Identity with Reverse

The *distinct* shuffles of the words **123** and **321** are:

1 23 321	1 32 321	1 322 13	3 12 321	3 21 213
12 32 31	13 21 23	3 122 31	3 12 123	3 21 123
123 2 13	1 322 31	3 122 13	3 21 231	

- Shuffles with **bolded** entries occur exactly twice
- Take *total* number of shuffles (counted with multiplicities) & *subtract* number of duplicates

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Shuffles of the words **123** and **321** of multiplicity 2 are:

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 $\{w \in \text{sh}(\text{id}_n, \text{rev}_n) \mid \mu(w) = 2\} \longrightarrow \text{sh}(+^{n-1}, -^{n-1})$
- Notation: use rev_n instead of ω_0
 to avoid double subscript as n varies

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Bijection:

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- Excise double entries
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- Examples:

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 123321 & \longrightarrow & 1221 & \longrightarrow & ++-- \\
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 \end{array}$$

- Can compute $\#\mathfrak{sh}(123, 321) = \binom{6}{3} - \binom{4}{2} = 14$
- In general, $\#\mathfrak{sh}(\text{id}_m, \text{rev}_n) = \binom{m+n}{m} - \binom{m+n-2}{m-1}$

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Multiplicities of Shuffles

- *WLOG*: Enough to enumerate shuffles of each permutation with identity permutation
- *Claim*: Multiplicity of shuffle of two permutations always a *power of 2*
- *Reason*: If a shuffle has multiplicity > 1 , there must be one or more blocks of letters that could come from either permutation
- e.g. for $121233 \in \text{sh}(123, 123)$:
 - each 12 block could come from either copy of 123
 - each 3 could come from either copy of 123
- Call such a contiguous block of consecutive letters a *consecutive identity subword* (or *idword*)

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- e.g. for $121233 \in \text{sh}(123, 123)$:
 - each **12** block could come from either copy of **123**
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- Call such a contiguous block of consecutive letters a *consecutive identity subword (or idword)*

Multiplicities of Shuffles

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 - multiplicity $\mu(312123) = 2$
- Example: $311223 \in \mathfrak{sh}(123, 312)$ has idwords **1** and **2** local-shuffled
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- automorphism group for shuffle $w \in \mathfrak{sh}(u, v)$ is subgroup of \mathfrak{S}_{m+n} where $u \in \mathfrak{S}_m, v \in \mathfrak{S}_n$

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Using Inclusion-Exclusion

- Let $T_j^\sigma = \#\text{shuffles of } \sigma \text{ with id}_m, \text{ counted with multiplicity, that have } j \text{ or more local-shuffled idwords}$
- Example: How many times is $w = 11623434565277 \in \text{sh}(\text{id}_7, 1634527)$ counted in $T_2^{1634527}$?
 - w has 3 local-shuffled idwords:
11623434565277
 - choose 2 out of 3 of local-shuffled idwords; $\binom{3}{2} = 3$ choices
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Counting Shuffles of 123 with 312

- Notation: $*$ denotes concatenation, $[]$ denotes empty word
- Fix double 1's: $\text{sh}([], 3) * 11 * \text{sh}(23, 2)$, get $\binom{1}{0} \cdot C_0 \cdot \binom{3}{2} = 3$
- Fix double 2's: $\text{sh}(1, 31) * 22 * \text{sh}(3, [])$, get $\binom{3}{1} \cdot C_0 \cdot \binom{1}{1} = 3$
- Fix double 3's: $\text{sh}(12, []) * 33 * \text{sh}([], 12)$, get $\binom{2}{2} \cdot C_0 \cdot \binom{2}{0} = 1$
- Fix unique indecomposable shuffle of 12 with itself:
 $\text{sh}([], 3) * 1212 * \text{sh}(3, [])$, get $\binom{1}{0} \cdot C_1 \cdot \binom{1}{1} = 1$
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 &= 20 - 8 + 1 - 0 \\
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Overview of Enumeration Theorem

- Have theorem enumerating distinct shuffles of any two permutations
- Theorem provides complex but “computationally good” formula enumerating distinct shuffles of *any* two permutations
- Involves alternating sum of products of determinants
- Entries of determinants depend directly on inversions of (non-identity) permutation

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Examples of Maple Computations

> *CountShuffles*([1, 2, 3], [3, 2, 1])
14 (18)

> *CountShuffles*([1, 2, 3], [3, 1, 2])
13 (19)

> *CountShuffles*([1, 3, 2], [2, 5, 3, 1, 4])
43 (20)

> *CountShuffles*([1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6], [4, 5, 6, 1, 2, 3])
792 (21)

> *CountShuffles*([1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13], [7, 8, 9, 10,
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10104590 (22)

Outline

1

Background

- Definitions
- Problem: How Many Distinct Shuffles?

2

Distinct Shuffles of Permutations

- Motivation & Special Cases
- Towards Enumeration Theorem

3

Goals

- **Partial Ordering on Symmetric Group for Shuffles**
- Minimal & Maximal Permutations for Shuffles
- Further Generalizations

A “Quasi” Bruhat Ordering?

- Notation: for $\sigma \in \mathfrak{S}_n$, set $s(\sigma) = \#\text{sh}(\text{id}_n, \sigma)$
- Would like to find partial ordering on \mathfrak{S}_n such that $s(\sigma)$ is monotone increasing
- Bruhat ordering fails for $n = 4, 5, 6$, likely to fail for $n > 6$
- In most cases, $s(\sigma)$ increases as length of σ increases
- Exceptions such as
 - $s(3412) = 54$ whereas $s(4312) = 52$
 - $s(4312) = 52$ whereas $s(4321) = 50$
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- Further Generalizations

Find Minimal Permutation(s) for Shuffles

- For which permutation(s) $\sigma \in \mathfrak{S}_n$ is $s(\sigma)$ minimal for n ?
- For $1 \leq n \leq 6$, $\min_{\sigma \in \mathfrak{S}_n} s(\sigma) = C_n$ (achieved by $\sigma = \text{id}_n$)
- *Conjecture:* For all n , $\min_{\sigma \in \mathfrak{S}_n} s(\sigma) = C_n$, and minimum is achieved by $\sigma = \text{id}_n$
- Can show that id_n gives a “local” minimum: each adjacent transposition has twice as many shuffles

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Shuffles of Multiset Permutations & k -Shuffles

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eg compute $\#sh(12322, 33214)$
- Enumerate distinct k -shuffles of permutations
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Statement of Enumeration Theorem

Theorem

Let $\sigma \in S_n$ and assume $m \leq n$. Then

$$\#\mathfrak{sh}(\text{id}_m, \sigma)$$

$$= \sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor \frac{m}{2} \rfloor} \sum_{\mathbf{a}=\{0=a_0 < a_1 < \dots < a_{2k} < a_{2k+1}=m+1\}} (-1)^{h(\mathbf{a})} \prod_{r=0}^k \det Z_{a_{2r}, a_{2r+1}}^\sigma \prod_{s=1}^k \det Y_{a_{2s-1}, a_{2s}}^\sigma,$$

where

$$h(\mathbf{a}) = m - \sum_{t=1}^k (a_{2t} - a_{2t-1}),$$

(continued on next slide...)

Statement of Enumeration Theorem, Continued

Theorem (continued)

and we define the matrices

$$Z_{c,d}^{\sigma} = [z_{i,j}^{\sigma}]_{c \leq i \leq d-1, c+1 \leq j \leq d},$$

with

$$z_{i,j}^{\sigma} = \begin{cases} 0, & i > j \\ 1, & i = j \\ 0, & 0 < i < j < m+1 \text{ and } \sigma^{-1}(i) > \sigma^{-1}(j) \\ \binom{j-i-1+\sigma^{-1}(j)-\sigma^{-1}(i)-1}{j-i-1}, & 0 < i < j < m+1 \text{ and } \sigma^{-1}(i) < \sigma^{-1}(j) \\ \binom{j-1+\sigma^{-1}(j)-1}{j-1}, & i = 0, j < m+1 \\ \binom{m-i+n-\sigma^{-1}(i)}{m-i}, & j = m+1, i > 0 \\ \binom{m+n}{m}, & i = 0, j = m+1, \end{cases}$$

(continued on next slide...)

Statement of Enumeration Theorem, Continued

Theorem (continued)

and the matrices

$$Y_{e,f}^{\sigma} = [y_{i,j}^{\sigma}]_{e \leq i, j \leq f-1},$$

with

$$y_{i,j}^{\sigma} = \begin{cases} 0, & i - j > 1 \text{ or } \sigma^{-1}(i+1) \neq \sigma^{-1}(i) + 1 \\ -1, & i - j = 1 \text{ and } \sigma^{-1}(i+1) = \sigma^{-1}(i) + 1 \\ C_{j-i}, & i \leq j \text{ and } \sigma^{-1}(i+1) = \sigma^{-1}(i) + 1 \end{cases}$$

and where

$$C_{j-i} = \frac{1}{j-i+1} \binom{2(j-i)}{j-i}, \text{ the } (j-i)^{\text{th}} \text{ Catalan number.}$$

Using Inclusion-Exclusion: More Details

- Recall $T_j^\sigma = \sum_{k=j}^m \binom{k}{j} 2^{k-j} N_k^\sigma$ where $N_k^\sigma = \#\{w \in \text{sh}(\text{id}_m, \sigma) \mid \mu(w) = 2^k\}$
- So

$$\begin{aligned}
 \#\text{sh}(\text{id}_n, \sigma) &= \sum_{k=0}^m N_k^\sigma \\
 &= \sum_{k=0}^m N_k^\sigma (2-1)^k \\
 &= \sum_{k=0}^m N_k^\sigma \sum_{j=0}^k \binom{k}{j} 2^{k-j} (-1)^j \\
 &= \sum_{j=0}^m (-1)^j \sum_{k=j}^m \binom{k}{j} 2^{k-j} N_k^\sigma \\
 &= \sum_{j=0}^m (-1)^j T_j^\sigma
 \end{aligned}$$