

# Enumerative Combinatoric Algorithms

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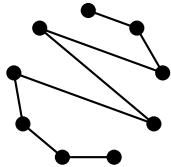
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# 1 Enumerating vs. Counting

## 1.1 Example 1: Spanning Paths

**Given:**  $n$  points in convex position

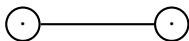
**Question:** How many straight line planar (crossing-free) spanning paths (all points are used) are there?



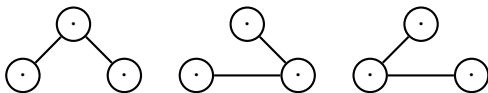
- $n = 1$



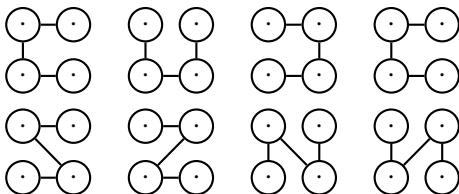
- $n = 2$



- $n = 3$ : 4 paths



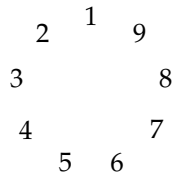
- $n = 4$ : 8 paths



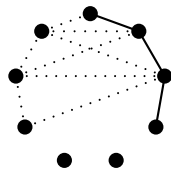
- $n = 5$ :

- more possibilities  $\rightarrow$  we go towards counting rather than enumerating
- look at possible types of paths, in CW and CCW direction for each of the five starting points. Divide by 2 for identical paths obtained with different starting points (since paths have 2 ends)

## Counting



- # of paths starting at  $\circ = \#P_\circ$
- $\#P_n = \frac{n \cdot \#p_\circ}{2} = n \cdot \frac{2^{n-1}}{2} = n \cdot 2^{n-2}$



- set of not yet used points must not be split
- continue: always two options, 1 for the last

## 1.2 Example 2: Blokus

### Definition

- consists of unit squares connected via edges (not just connected through vertices)
- $n$ -polyomino has  $n$  unit squares
- Animal: does not contain holes
- free: rotation/mirroring is not taken into account
- fixed: rotated/mirrored polyominoes are regarded as being distinct

**Question:** How many  $n$ -polyominoes are there?

- $n = 1$ :



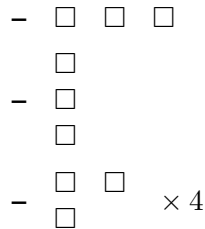
1

- $n = 2$ :



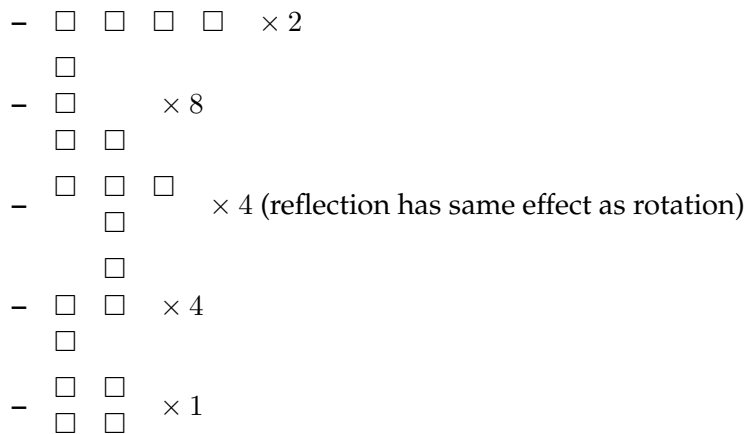
fixed: 2, free: 1

- $n = 3$ :



fixed: 6, free: 2

- $n = 4$ :



fixed: 19, free: 5

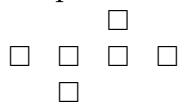
Enumerate/Construct all polyominoes

- construct the  $(n + 1)$ -ominoes from the  $n$ -ominoes. This works because we can show that from each  $(n + 1)$ -ominoes you can remove a square and get a valid  $n$ -omino (idea: construct an arbitrary spanning tree, remove leaf)
- find and remove duplicates
- how many  $(n + 1)$ -ominoes are generated?

maximum number:  $2n + 2$  or  $4n - 2|E|$

Why?

$\square$ : 4 possibilities to add a square (at each edge)



$$4n - 2|E| \rightarrow 4n - 2(n - 1) = 2(n + 2)$$

How to find duplicates? compare every pair  $\rightarrow O(k^2n)$

### 1.2.1 Fingerprints

- maps an object (here: polyomino) to a *unique* representation, independent of translation, rotation, reflection
- sort the fingerprints (insertion sort)
- binary search

One possibility for polyominoes: use vector representations on a coordinate system

Examples:

- $\begin{array}{c} 3 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{array} \begin{array}{ccc} & & \square \\ & & \square \\ \square & \square & \square \end{array}$  has vector representation  $\langle (1, 1), (2, 1), (3, 1), (3, 2), (3, 3) \rangle$   
 $\begin{array}{ccc} & & \\ & & \\ 1 & 2 & 3 \end{array}$
- $\begin{array}{c} 3 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{array} \begin{array}{ccc} \square & & \\ \square & & \\ \square & \square & \square \end{array}$  has vector representation  $\langle (1, 1), (2, 1), (3, 1), (1, 2), (1, 3) \rangle$   
 $\begin{array}{ccc} & & \\ & & \\ 1 & 2 & 3 \end{array}$

This is lexicographically smaller than the first one

- $\begin{array}{c} 3 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{array} \begin{array}{ccc} \square & & \\ \square & \square & \\ \square & \square & \square \end{array}$   $\begin{array}{c} 3 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{array} \begin{array}{ccc} & \square & \square \\ \square & \square & \\ \square & & \end{array}$   $\langle (1, 1), (1, 2), (2, 2), (2, 3), (3, 3) \rangle$   
 $\begin{array}{ccc} & & \\ & & \\ 1 & 2 & 3 \end{array}$
- $\begin{array}{c} 3 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{array} \begin{array}{ccc} \square & \square & \square \\ \square & \square & \square \\ \square & & \square \end{array}$   $\begin{array}{c} 3 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{array} \begin{array}{ccc} \square & \square & \\ \square & & \\ \square & \square & \square \end{array}$   $\langle (1, 1), (3, 1), (1, 2), (1, 3), (2, 3) \rangle$   
 $\begin{array}{ccc} & & \\ & & \\ 1 & 2 & 3 \end{array}$

Generally:

1. generate all 8 transformations (4 rotations, 2 reflections)
2. take the lexicographically smallest one  $\rightarrow O(1) \cdot O(n)$  for an  $n$ -omino

$f'(n)$  fingerprints generated in total  $\rightarrow f'(n) (O(n) + \log(f'(n) \cdot O(n)))$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(n+1)}{f(n)} = \lambda, 3.98 < \lambda < 4.65$$

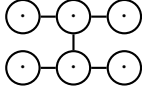
$f(n)$  is known up to  $n = 56$ .

### 1.3 Example Spanning Trees on Ladders

with  $n$  rungs

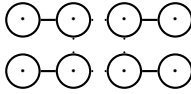
**Question:** Number of spanning trees on a ladder with  $n$  rungs

- $n = 1$



# = 1

- $n = 2$



# = 4

- $n = 3$



# = 15

**Answer:** Counting spanning trees on a ladder (with  $n$  rungs)  $\Leftrightarrow$  counting spanning trees on a  $2n$  grid

$n \rightarrow n + 1$

1. The 2 rightmost vertices for  $n$  share a connected component  $\rightarrow A(n)$
2. The 2 rightmost vertices for  $n$  are in different connected components  $\rightarrow B(n)$

Consider case 1

$$A(n+1) = 3A(n) + 1B(n)$$

Consider case 2

$$A(1) = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{3}} \left( (2 + \sqrt{3})^1 - (2 - \sqrt{3})^1 \right) = \frac{2\sqrt{3}}{2\sqrt{3}}$$

$$A(2) = \dots = \frac{8\sqrt{3}}{2\sqrt{3}} = 4$$

$$\begin{aligned} A(n) &= 4A(n-1) - A(n-2) \\ &= \frac{4}{2\sqrt{3}} \left( (2 + \sqrt{3})^{n-1} - (2 - \sqrt{3})^{n-1} \right) - \frac{1}{2\sqrt{3}} \left( (2 + \sqrt{3})^{n-2} - (2 - \sqrt{3})^{n-2} \right) \end{aligned}$$

## 2 Inclusion – Exclusion Principle

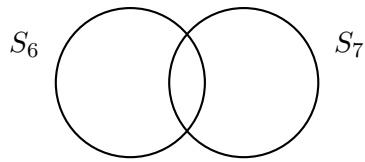
### 2.1 Example: Multipliers

$$S = \{1, \dots, 100\}$$

**Question:** How many numbers in  $S$  are multipliers of 6 or 7?

$$|S_6| = \lfloor \frac{100}{6} \rfloor = 16, |S_7| = 14$$

$$|S_{6,7}| \neq |S_6| + |S_7|:$$



$$|S_{6,7}| = |S_6| + |S_7| - |S_{6 \& 7}| = 16 + 14 - 2 = 28$$

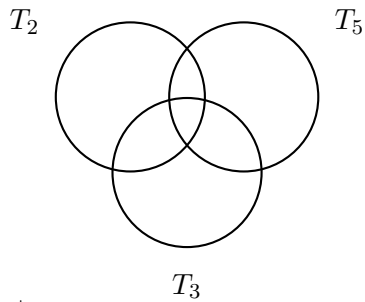
### 2.2 Example: Relatively Prime Numbers

$$S = \{1, \dots, 180\}$$

**Question:** How many numbers in  $S$  are relatively prime to 180?

**Idea:** Count all numbers *not* relatively prime to 180  $\rightarrow T$ .

$$|T| = ?$$



$$|T_2| = 90$$

$$|T_3| = 60$$

$$|T_5| = 36$$

$$|T| = |T_2| + |T_3| + |T_5| - (|T_2 \cap T_3| + |T_2 \cap T_5| + |T_3 \cap T_5|) + |T_2 \cap T_3 \cap T_5|$$

$$|T| = 90 + 60 + 36 - (30 + 18 + 12) + 6 = 132$$



$$|S| - |T| = 48$$

In general:

$$\mathcal{A} = \{A_i\}_{i=1}^n, I = \{1, \dots, n\}$$

$$|_{i \in I} A_i| = \sum_{i=1}^n \left( (-1)^{i-1} \sum_{J \subseteq I, |J|=i} \left| \bigcap_{j \in J} A_j \right| \right)$$

**Proof:**  $x \in A_1 \cup \dots \cup A_n$ ,  $x$  is contained in  $m$  sets  $A_i$ .

$$|A_1 \cup \dots \cup A_n| = \sum (\cdot) - \sum (\cdot \cap \cdot) + \sum (\cdot \cap \cdot \cap \cdot) - \sum (\cdot \cap \cdot \cap \cdot \cap \cdot) \dots$$

1. for (single) sets *not* containing  $x \rightarrow +0$
  2. if in any  $A_i \cap \dots \cap A_j$  at least one of the sets does *not* contain  $x \rightarrow \pm 0$
  3.  $\rightarrow$  only consider intersections of sets where all sets contain  $x$
- $\binom{m}{k}$  intersections of  $k$  sets, all sets containing  $x \rightarrow \pm 1$

$$\Rightarrow + \binom{m}{1} - \binom{m}{2} + \dots + (-1)^{m-1} \binom{m}{m} = 1$$

$$\binom{m}{0} + \binom{m}{1} - \binom{m}{2} + \dots + (-1)^m \binom{m}{m} = 0$$

Pascal's triangle



### 2.3 Example: Number of Words

**Given:** Language  $L$  with alphabet  $\Sigma = \{A, B, C\}$  and every word of  $L$  consists of 10 characters.

**Question:** How many words of  $L$  contain each character at least once?

$$|G| = |L| - |X| = 3^{10} - (3 \cdot 2^{10} - 3 + 0) = 55980$$

$$|S_A| = |S_B| = |S_C| = 2^{10}$$

$$|S_A \cap S_B| = |S_A \cap S_C| = |S_B \cap S_C| = 1$$

$$|S_A \cap S_B \cap S_C| = 0$$

$$|X| = |S_A| + |S_B| + |S_C| - |S_A \cap S_B| - |S_A \cap S_C| - |S_B \cap S_C| + |S_A \cap S_B \cap S_C|$$

### 3 The Pigeon Hole Principle

If  $n$  elements are distributed to  $k$  sets, then there exists at least one set containing at least  $\lceil \frac{n}{k} \rceil$  elements.

#### 3.1 Example: People in Vienna

**Claim:** In Vienna there exist at least two persons with the exact same number of hairs on their head.

- human: at most  $\approx 500,000$  hairs
- Vienna:  $\geq 1.7 \cdot 10^6$  citizens

**Idea:** Take 500,000 people. If 2 of them have the same amount of hair, then we are done. If not, add one more person, whose amount of hair must then already be present.

#### 3.2 Example: Division of odd numbers

**Given:**  $1, 3, 7, 15, 31, \dots; a_i := 2^i - 1, i \geq 1$  and  $q > 0$  arbitrary odd number.

**Claim:** At least one of the  $a_i$ 's is (integer) divisible by  $q$ .

**Proof:** Consider all  $a_i, 1 \leq i \leq q$

- If one of these  $a_i$  is divisible by  $q$ , then we are done
- otherwise:  $a_i = d_i \cdot q + r_i, 0 < r_i < q; q \geq n > m > 0$

$\Rightarrow (q-1)$  remainders  $\xrightarrow{\text{p.h.p.}} \exists r_m, r_n$  such that  $r_m = r_n$

Then  $(a_n - a_m) = (d_n - d_m)q + \underbrace{(r_n - r_m)}_0$

$$(2^n - 1) - (2^m - 1) = 2^n - 2^m = 2^m \underbrace{(2^{n-m} - 1)}_{=a_{n-m}}.$$

$2^m$  is even and thus not divisible by  $q$ .

**In general:** if  $A_1, \dots, A_k$  are finite (pairwise disjoint) sets and  $|A_1 \cup \dots \cup A_k| > kr$ , then  $\exists i$  such that  $|A_i| > r$ .

**Proof:** Assume for the sake of contradiction that all  $|A_i| \leq r$

$$k \cdot r \geq \sum_{i=1}^k |A_i| \geq |A_1 \cup \dots \cup A_k| > k \cdot r$$

### 3.3 Example: Lossless Data Compression

... cannot guarantee compression for all input data!

- file  $\rightarrow$  string of bits
- assume that each file is transformed into a *distinct* file that is not larger
- let  $F$  be the file with the least number of bits ( $M$ ) that compresses  $\rightarrow N$  bits
- $N < M : 2^N + 1$  – cannot be all distinct

## 4 Reverse Search

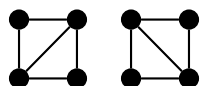
- Avis, Fukuda 1992
- enumerating data/objects/elements with almost no structure
- algorithmic
- count all objects *exactly* once, no overcounting

### 4.1 Example: Triangulations

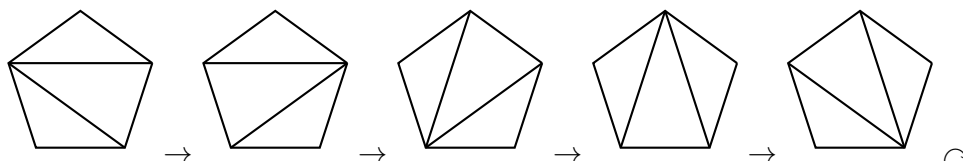
**Given:** set  $S$  of labelled points in convex position

**Question:** # of triangulations on  $S$ .

- $n = 4$



- $n = 5$



Flip on triangulations: 4 points, remove the diagonal and add the other diagonal

## 4.2 Basic Idea

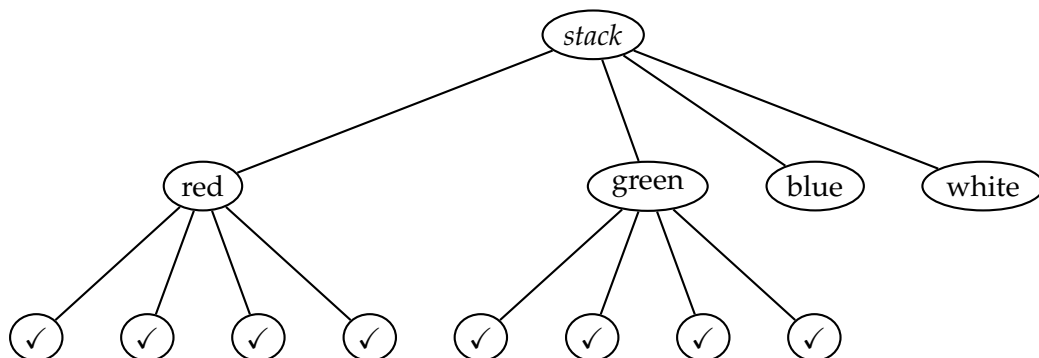
- abstract graph  $G(V, E)$
- vertices  $V$ : elements to be enumerated,  $|V|$  is very large
- edges  $e \in E : e = v_1, v_2; v_1, v_2 \in V$
- $\Rightarrow G$  is an undirected graph
- $G$  must be connected
- task: enumerate all vertices of  $G$
- idea: breadth-first or depth-first search:  $O(|V| + |E|)$  which is ok, but too much space necessary

## 4.3 Example: Poker Chips Stacking

**Given:** four colours (red, green, blue, white) of poker chips

**Task:** build stacks of height  $\leq 30$  such that at most 3 chips of equal colour appear directly after another

- $v_\emptyset$ : empty stack
- neighbours:
  - 'successors': add a chip on top of the stack
  - 'predecessors': remove the topmost chip from the stack
- depth-first search



- store current stack.  
Nodes that have already been visited can be deduced from the stack composition.

### Requirements:

- unique root
- successors and predecessors in arbitrary but fixed order  
neighbour relation  $\gamma(v, k) \in \Gamma(v)$  ( $k$ th neighbour)
- a unique predecessor function  $f(v), f : v \rightarrow v$  in  $G(V, E)$ 
  1.  $\exists v_0 \in V : f(v_0) = v_0$ : root
  2.  $\forall v \in V \setminus \{v_0\} : f(v) \in \Gamma(v)$ : exactly one root
  3.  $\forall v \in V \setminus \{v_0\} \forall x \in \mathbb{N} : f^x(v) \neq v$ : cycle-free ( $f^x = f(f \dots f(v) \dots)$ )  $x$  times  
 $\rightarrow$  reaching the root in finite time  $f^{|V|}(v) = v_0$

### 4.4 Example: Tic Tac Toe

#### Given:

**Task:** Enumerate all valid game positions (not considering symmetries)

- $V$ : game positions
- labelled board cells
- neighbours  $\gamma(v, k)$ : legally add  $k$ -th mark or remove one
- predecessor function: empty board as root, otherwise remove highest legal mark
- when iterating over the possible positions, check each node's predecessor to see if it has been visited before

### 4.5 Example: Connect Four (4 Gewinnt)

:	:	:	:	:	:
			X		
			O		

too complex for reverse search, NP-hard

## 4.6 Algorithm

## 4.7 Example: Triangulations

### 4.7.1

### 4.7.2

## 4.8 Complexity Analysis

### I. While loop (amortised analysis)

- (r1) – look at each neighbour of  $v \Leftrightarrow$  each edge incident to  $v$ :  $2 \cdot |E|$   
–  $t(\gamma)$ : the time needed for  $\gamma(v, j)$   
 $\Rightarrow \approx t(\gamma) \cdot |E|$
- (r2) –  $t(f)$ : the time needed for  $f(w)$  (predecessor)  
 $\Rightarrow \approx t(f) \cdot |E|$

### II. If Block

- (f1) once per vertex  $\Rightarrow t(f) \cdot |V|$
- (f2) as often as (f1)

Let  $\delta_{\max} \geq \delta(v) \forall v \in V$  be the max. vertex degree of  $G(V, E)$ .  
Repeat-until has at most  $\delta_{\max}$  loops.

$$\Rightarrow \approx t(\gamma) \cdot |V| \cdot \delta_{\max}$$

## 5 Pólya-Redfield Enumeration Theorem

### 5.1 Definitions

Main question: how many different objects exist?

#### Objects

- set of objects  $X$
- e.g. Strings, coloured grids, Tic Tac Toe board, ...

## Operations

- set of  $n$  operations  $R = \{R_i, 0 \leq i \leq n-1\}$
- $R$  forms a group (operation  $\circ$ )

Axioms ( $\forall R_i, R_j, R_k$ ):

- Closure:  $\exists R_k : R_i \circ R_j = R_k$
- Associativity:  $(R_i \circ R_j) \circ R_k = R_i \circ (R_j \circ R_k)$
- Inverse element  $\exists R_k : R_i \circ R_k = R_k \circ R_i = R_0$
- Identity element  $R_0$ :  $R_i \circ R_0 = R_0 \circ R_i = R_i$

Commutativity is in general not given.

- e.g. rotations, reflections

## Orbits

- set of objects  $X$  which can be transformed into one another with an operation  $R_i$ .
- length: number of items within

Main question reformulated: how many orbits exist?

## Stabilisers

- $R_i$  stabiliser for object  $x \Leftrightarrow R_i(x) = x$
- $m_x$ : number of stabilisers for  $x$
- $r_i$ : number of objects for which  $R_i$  is a stabiliser (invariance number)
- it holds that  $\sum_{i=0}^{n-1} r_i = \sum_{x \in X} m_x$

## 5.2 Counting Orbits

- Idea: specific case where  $\sum_{x \in \text{orbit}} m_x = n$ 
  - go through graph of possible objects – unify those, that are one operation apart
  - in this case  $\sum_{x \in X} m_x = \sum_{\text{all orbits}} \sum_{x \in \text{orbit}} m_x$
- then number of orbits =  $\frac{\sum_{x \in X} m_x}{n}$

- invariance numbers  $r_i$  usually easier to obtain than all  $m_x$

- therefore use number of orbits =  $\frac{\sum_{i=0}^{n-1} r_i}{n}$

### 5.3 Algorithm

1. identify all operations  $R_0$  to  $R_{n-1}$ . Check for group properties.
2. compute all invariance numbers  $r_i, 0 \leq i \leq n-1$

3. compute the number of orbits as  $\frac{\sum_{i=0}^{n-1} r_i}{n}$

### 5.4 Example: Cyclic Shift

Strings of length 4 with characters  $\{A, B, C\}$ . Cyclic shift by  $i$  positions ( $0 \leq i \leq 3$ ). How many different strings exist?

#### Invariance numbers

- $R_0 : r_0 = 3^4 = 81$
- $R_1 : r_1 = 3$ , since a shift by 1 position means that all characters need to be the same if the result must be the same.
- $R_2 : r_2 = 3^2 = 9$
- $R_3 : r_3 = 3$

$$\# \text{orbits} = \frac{81 + 3 + 9 + 3}{4} = \frac{96}{4} = 24$$

**Variation:** every character has to be used at least once

$$|X| = 3 \cdot \binom{2}{2} \cdot 2 = 3 \cdot 6 \cdot 2 = 36$$

#### Invariance numbers

- $r_0 = 3^4 = 36$
- $r_1 = r_3 = 0$
- $r_2 = 0$

$$\# \text{orbits} = \frac{36 + 0 + 0 + 0}{4} = 9$$



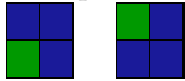
## 5.5 Example: Grid Colouring

### 5.5.1 $2 \times 2$ Grid, 2 Colours



$$|X| = 2^4 = 16$$

Example for rotation ( $90^\circ$ ) invariance:



Number of orbits when..

1. only rotation is allowed

#### Invariance numbers

- $R_0 : r_0 = 16$  ( $0^\circ$  rotation)
- $R_1 : r_1 = 2$  ( $90^\circ$  rotation)
- $R_2 : r_2 = 4$  ( $180^\circ$  rotation)
- $R_3 : r_3 = 2$  ( $270^\circ$  rotation)

$$\# \text{orbits} = \frac{16 + 2 + 4 + 2}{4} = \frac{24}{4} = 6$$

2. rotation and reflection are allowed

The grid can be reflected horizontally, vertically and diagonally

- $r_0$  to  $r_3$  as above
- $R_4 : r_0 = 4$  (vertical reflection)
- $R_5 : r_1 = 4$  (horizontal reflection)
- $R_6 : r_2 = 8$  (top left to bottom right diagonal reflection)
- $R_7 : r_3 = 8$  (top right to bottom left diagonal reflection)

$$\# \text{orbits} = \frac{16 + 2 + 4 + 2 + 4 + 4 + 8 + 8}{8} = 6$$

Note that with more operations, the number of orbits never increases.

### 5.5.2 $3 \times 3$ Grid

$3 \times 3$  grid: how many different colourings exist, if we allow rotation/rotation and reflection?

### 5.6 Example: Cube Colouring

6 sides,  $k$  colours. How many different colourings exist if you can rotate the cube?

### 5.7 Example: Tic Tac Toe

How many different positions can we get after  $k$  half-moves, considering symmetries?

## 6 Generating Sequences

Example:  $\{1, 2, 3\}, \{1, 3, 2\}, \{2, 1, 3\}, \{2, 3, 1\}, \{3, 1, 2\}, \{3, 2, 1\} \rightarrow 6 = 3!$  permutations

### 6.1 Transition

Exchange two elements

$$\{1, 2, 3, 4\} \longrightarrow \{4, 2, 3, 1\}$$

### 6.2 Cycle Notation

$$\{4, 2, 1, 3\} \longrightarrow (1, 4, 3)(2) \xrightarrow{\text{can. rep.}} (2), (1, 4, 3) \quad 1 \rightarrow 4 \rightarrow 3 \rightarrow 1$$

### 6.3 Derangements

Derangement: permutation where every object ends up in a new position.

Count using Inclusion-Exclusion Principle

$$|\text{derangements}| := !n = |\text{all perms.}| - |\#\text{perms. with } \geq 1 \text{ fixed number}| = \lfloor \frac{n!}{e} + \frac{1}{2} \rfloor$$

#### 6.3.1 Example: Strings of Numbers

1.  $\{1, 2, 3\}, (1)(2)(3)$
2.  $\{1, 3, 2\}, (1)(2, 3)$
3.  $\{2, 1, 3\}, (1, 2)(3)$
4.  $\{2, 3, 1\}, (1, 2, 3)$
5.  $\{3, 1, 2\}, (2, 3, 1)$
6.  $\{3, 2, 1\}, (2)(3, 1)$

4. and 5. are derangements.

## 6.4 Sorting

Comparison-based sorting is not possible any faster than  $O(n \log n)$ :

$$O(\log(n!)) = O(\log \underbrace{\frac{n^n}{e}}_{\text{Sterling's Approximation}}) = O(n \log n)$$

## 6.5 $n$ -Queens Problem

**Given:**  $n \times n$  chess board,  $n$  queens

**Task:** Position queens such that none threatens any other.

- Option 1: backtracking
- Option 2: permutation generator  $\pi$ 
  - $\pi[i]$  specifies the column of the queen in the  $i$ -th row.
  - from one permutation to next: exchange 2 queens, check 4 diagonals

## 6.6 Generating all Permutations

How to generate permutations for problems as the  $n$ -queens problem?

### 6.6.1 Heap's Algorithm

$c$  from 1 to  $n$ , two different steps:

- recursive computation of permutations  $n - 1$
- oracle call to exchange two elements with a given oracle function

In Heap's algorithm, the oracle function is defined as  $i = 1$  for current  $n$  odd,  $i = c$  else.

Advantage: slightly more efficient than Steinhaus-Johnson-Trotter

### 6.6.2 Steinhaus-Johnson-Trotter Algorithm

Idea: from  $n - 1$  to  $n$  by inserting the new element into all possible positions

Advantage: circular, only neighbouring elements are exchanged

### 6.6.3 Lexicographic Algorithms

None of the two algorithms produces permutations in lexicographic order.  
(Reverse) lexicographic algorithms: loop

1. invert the order of  $\pi[1], \dots, \pi[i]$
2. recursively generate permutations in reverse lexicographic order

### 6.6.4 Random permutations

as the name suggests :)

## 7 Gray Code – a ‘reflected binary code’

- subsequent sequences only differ in one bit
- circular
- can also be used for puzzle solving, e.g. Towers of Hanoi

For  $n$  bits:

- $n = 1$

0  
1

- $n = 2$

00  
01  
11  
10

- $n = 3$

000  
001  
011  
010  
110  
111  
101  
100

## 7.1 Conversion

$$b_{n-1}b_{n-2} \dots b_1b_0 \iff g_{n-1}g_{n-2} \dots g_1g_0$$

$$b_{n-1} = g_{n-1}$$

for  $i \neq n - 1$ :

- $b_i = b_{i+1} \text{ XOR } g_i$
- $g_i = b_{i+1} \text{ XOR } b_i$

Examples Conversion:

- $1010_b \rightarrow 1111_g$
- $0100_g \rightarrow 01110_b$

## 7.2 Example: Towers of Hanoi

**Given:** three poles,  $n$  disks of different sizes. Stacked by size, largest at the bottom

**Task:** reverse the order of the disks. No disk must be placed on top of a smaller one. Use a Gray code with as many bits as rings. Move the disk  $i$  when bit  $i$  changes. Start CW or CCW depending on the pole you want the rings to be on in the end and whether  $n$  is even or odd.

## 7.3 Example: Chinese Rings

## 7.4 Example: Subset Generation

# 8 Combinatorial 2 Player Games

Components

- state storage
- move generator
- identification of lose/win/draw states
- possibly backwards move generator

## 8.1 Game-Tree vs. State-Space Complexity

**Game-Tree:** consider all possible boards.

**Complexity:** number of nodes of the complete game's decision tree

**State-Space:** consider all different boards

Complexity: number of states which can be reached from the start by valid moves

**Equivalence of Game States:** they allow the same moves, result in the same successor.

Typically rotation, reflection, colour inversion possible.

Storing one of these states is sufficient.

## 8.2 Levels of Game Solution

- **ultra-weakly solved:** it is known who can win, but not how
- **weakly solved:** a winning strategy from the starting position is known
- **strongly solved:** a strategy from all positions is known
- **ultra-strongly solved:** for any position it is known what the final result will be and after how many half-moves this will happen

## 8.3 Enumerate all States