

(See <https://cs.stanford.edu/~knuth/programs.html> for date.)

**1. Intro.** This program, inspired by HISTOSCAPE-COUNT, calculates the number of  $m \times n$  “whirlpool permutations,” given  $m$  and  $n$ .

What’s a whirlpool permutation, you ask? Good question. An  $m \times n$  matrix has  $(m-1)(n-1)$  submatrices of size  $2 \times 2$ . An  $m \times n$  whirlpool permutation is a permutation of  $(mn)!$  elements for which the relative order of the elements in each of those submatrices is a “vortex”—that is, it travels a cyclic path from smallest to largest, either clockwise or counterclockwise.

Thus there are exactly eight  $2 \times 2$  whirlpool permutations. If the entries of the matrix are denoted  $abcd$  from top to bottom and left to right, they are 1243, 1423, 2134, 2314, 3241, 3421, 4132, 4312. One simple test is to compare  $a : b$ ,  $b : d$ ,  $d : c$ ,  $c : a$ ; the number of ‘<’ must be odd. (Hence the number of ‘>’ must also be odd.)

The enumeration is by a somewhat mind-boggling variant of dynamic programming that I’ve not seen before. It needs to represent  $n + 1$  elements of a permutation of  $t$  elements, where  $t$  is at most  $mn$ , and there are up to  $(mn)^{n+1}$  such partial permutations; so I can’t expect to solve the problem unless  $m$  and  $n$  are fairly small. Even so, when I *can* solve the problem it’s kind of thrilling, because this program makes use of a really interesting way to represent  $t^{n+1}$  counts in computer memory.

The same method could actually be used to enumerate matrices of permutations whose  $2 \times 2$  submatrices satisfy any arbitrary relations, when those relations depend only the relative order of the four elements. (Thus any of  $2^{24}$  constraints might be prescribed for each of the  $(m-1)(n-1)$  submatrices. The whirlpool case, which accepts only the eight relative orderings listed above, is just one of zillions of possibilities.)

It’s better to have  $m \geq n$ . But I’ll try some cases with  $m < n$  too, for purposes of testing.

```
#define maxn 8
#define maxmn 36
#define o mems++
#define oo mems += 2
#define ooo mems += 3
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
int m, n; /* command-line parameters */
unsigned long long *count; /* the big array of counts */
unsigned long long newcount[maxmn]; /* counts that will replace old ones */
unsigned long long mems; /* memory references to octabytes */
int x[maxn + 1]; /* indices being looped over */
int ay[maxn + 1];
int l[maxmn], u[maxmn];
int tpow[maxmn + 1]; /* factorial powers  $t^{n+1}$  */
⟨Subroutines 4⟩;
main(int argc, char *argv[])
{
    register int a, b, c, d, i, j, k, p, q, r, mn, t, tt, kk, bb, cc, pdel;
    ⟨Process the command line 2⟩;
    for (i = 1; i < m; i++)
        for (j = 0; j < n; j++) ⟨Handle constraint (i,j) 8⟩;
    ⟨Print the grand total 9⟩;
}
```

```

2.  ⟨ Process the command line 2 ⟩ ≡
    if (argc ≠ 3 ∨ sscanf(argv[1], "%d", &m) ≠ 1 ∨ sscanf(argv[2], "%d", &n) ≠ 1) {
        fprintf(stderr, "Usage: %s m n\n", argv[0]);
        exit(-1);
    }
    mn = m * n;
    if (m < 2 ∨ m > maxn ∨ n < 2 ∨ n > maxn ∨ mn > maxmn) {
        fprintf(stderr, "Sorry, m and n should be between 2 and %d, with mn ≤ %d!\n", maxn, maxmn);
        exit(-2);
    }
    for (k = n + 1; k ≤ mn; k++) {
        register unsigned long long acc = 1;
        for (j = 0; j ≤ n; j++) acc *= k - j;
        if (acc ≥ #800000000) {
            fprintf(stderr, "Sorry, mn \\falling(n+1) must be less than 2^31!\n");
            exit(-666);
        }
        tpow[k] = acc;
    }
    count = (unsigned long long *) malloc(tpow[mn] * sizeof(unsigned long long));
    if (¬count) {
        fprintf(stderr, "I couldn't allocate %d entries for the counts!\n", tpow[mn]);
        exit(-4);
    }

```

This code is used in section 1.

3. Suppose I want to represent  $n + 1$  specified elements of a permutation of  $t + 1$  elements. For example, we might have  $n = 3$  and  $t = 8$ , and the final four elements of a permutation  $y_0 \dots y_8$  might be  $y_5 y_6 y_7 y_8 = 3142$ . There are  $(t + 1)^{n+1}$  such partial permutations, and I can represent them compactly with  $n + 1$  integer variables  $x_{t-n}, \dots, x_{t-1}, x_t$ , where  $0 \leq x_j \leq j$ . The rule is that  $x_j$  is  $y_j - w_j$ , where  $w_j$  is the number of elements “inverted” by  $y_j$  (the number of elements to the right of  $y_j$  that are less than  $y_j$ ). In the example,  $w_0 w_1 w_2 w_3 = 2010$ , so  $x_5 x_6 x_7 x_8 = 1132$ . (Or going backward, if  $x_5 x_6 x_7 x_8 = 3141$  then  $y_5 y_6 y_7 y_8 = 6251$ .)

This representation has a beautiful property that we shall exploit. Every permutation  $y_0 \dots y_t$  of  $\{0, \dots, t\}$  yields  $t + 2$  permutations  $y'_0 \dots y'_{t+1}$  of  $\{0, \dots, t + 1\}$  if we choose  $y'_{t+1}$  arbitrarily, and then set  $y'_j = y_j + [y_j \geq y'_{t+1}]$ . For example, if  $t = 8$  and  $y_5 y_6 y_7 y_8 = 3142$ , the ten permutations obtained from  $y_0 \dots y_8$  will have  $y'_5 y'_6 y'_7 y'_8 y'_9 = 42530, 42531, 41532, 41523, 31524, 31425, 31426, 31427, 31428$ , or  $31429$ . And the representations  $x'_5 x'_6 x'_7 x'_8 x'_9$  of those last five elements will simply be respectively  $31420, 31421, \dots, 31429$ ! In general, we'll have  $x'_j = x_j$  for  $0 \leq j \leq t$ , and  $x'_{t+1} = y'_{t+1}$  will be arbitrary.

4. Now comes the mind-boggling part. I want to maintain a count  $c(x_{t-n}, \dots, x_t)$  for each setting of the indices  $(x_{t-n}, \dots, x_t)$ , but I want to put those counts into memory in such a way that I won't clobber any of the existing counts when I'm updating  $t$  to  $t+1$ . In particular, if  $x'_{t+1} \leq t-n$ , I'll want  $c(x'_{t+1-n}, \dots, x'_t, x'_{t+1})$  to be stored in exactly the same place as  $c(x'_{t+1}, x_{t+1-n}, \dots, x_t)$  was stored in the previous round. But if  $x'_{t+1} > t-n$ , I'll store  $c(x'_{t+1-n}, \dots, x'_t, x'_{t+1})$  in a brand-new, previously unused location of memory.

Thus we shall use a memory mapping function  $\mu_t$ , different for each  $t$ , such that  $c(x_{t-n}, x_{t-n+1}, \dots, x_t)$  is stored in location  $\mu_t(x_{t-n}, x_{t-n+1}, \dots, x_t)$  during round  $t$  of the computation.

Let's go back to the example in the previous section and apply it to whirlpool permutations for  $n = 3$ . Denote the permutation in the first three rows by  $y_0 \dots y_8$ , where  $y_6 y_7 y_8$  is the third row and  $y_5$  is the last element of the second row. (It's a permutation of  $\{0, \dots, 8\}$ , representing the relative order of a final permutation of  $\{0, \dots, 3m-1\}$  that will fill the entire matrix.) At this point we've calculated counts  $c(x_5, x_6, x_7, x_8)$  that tell us how many such partial whirlpool permutations have any given setting of  $y_5 y_6 y_7 y_8$ . In particular,  $c(1, 1, 3, 2)$  counts those for which  $y_5 y_6 y_7 y_8 = 3142$ .

To get to the next round, we essentially want to know how many partial permutations  $y'_0 \dots y'_9$  of  $\{0, \dots, 9\}$  will have a given setting of  $y'_6 y'_7 y'_8 y'_9$ ; the second row is now irrelevant to future computations. It's the same as asking how many permutations have  $y_6 y_7 y_8 = 142$ . Answer:  $c(0, 1, 3, 2) + c(1, 1, 3, 2) + c(2, 1, 3, 2) + c(3, 1, 3, 2) + c(4, 1, 3, 2) + c(5, 1, 3, 2)$ , because these count the permutations with  $y_5 y_6 y_7 y_8 = 0142, 3142, 5142, 6142, 7142, 8142$ .

Those six counts  $c(k, 1, 3, 2)$  appear in memory locations  $\mu_8(k, 1, 3, 2)$ , for  $0 \leq k \leq 5$ . On the next round we'll want  $c'(x'_6, x'_7, x'_8, x'_9) = c'(1, 3, 2, x'_9)$  to be set to their sum. These new counts will appear in memory locations  $\mu_9(1, 3, 2, k)$ . So we'd like  $\mu_9(1, 3, 2, k) = \mu_8(k, 1, 3, 2)$  when  $0 \leq k \leq 5$ .

Let  $\lambda_t(x_{t-n}, \dots, x_t) = (\dots((x_t t + x_{t-1})(t-1) + x_{t-2}) \dots)(t-n+1) + x_{t-n} = x_t t^n + x_{t-1}(t-1)^{n-1} + \dots + x_{t-n}(t-n)^0$  be the standard mixed-radix representation of  $(x_t \dots x_{t-n})$  with radices  $(t+1, t, \dots, t-n+1)$ . When each  $x_j$  ranges from 0 to  $j$ ,  $\lambda_t(x_{t-n}, \dots, x_t)$  ranges from  $\lambda_t(0, \dots, 0) = 0$  to  $\lambda_t(t-n, \dots, t) = (t+1)^{n+1} - 1$ . Therefore  $\lambda_t$  would be the natural choice for  $\mu_t$ , if we didn't want to avoid clobbering.

Instead, we use  $\lambda_t$  only when  $x_t$  is sufficiently large: We define

$$\mu_t(x_{t-n}, \dots, x_t) = \begin{cases} \lambda_t(x_{t-n}, \dots, x_t), & \text{if } x_t \geq t-n; \\ \mu_{t-1}(x_t, x_{t-n}, \dots, x_{t-1}), & \text{if } x_t \leq t-n-1. \end{cases}$$

This recursion terminates with  $\mu_n = \lambda_n$ , because  $x_n$  is always  $\geq 0$ . One can also show that  $\mu_{n+1} = \lambda_{n+1}$ .

Back to our earlier example, what is  $\mu_8(k, 1, 3, 2)$ ? Since  $2 \leq 4$ , it's  $\mu_7(2, k, 1, 3)$ . And since  $3 \leq 3$ , it's  $\mu_6(3, 2, k, 1)$ . Which is  $\mu_5(1, 3, 2, k)$ . Finally, therefore, if  $k \leq 1$ , the value is  $\lambda_4(k, 1, 3, 2) = 68 + k$ ; but if  $2 \leq k \leq 5$  it's  $\lambda_5(1, 3, 2, k) = 60k + 34$ .

In this program we will keep  $x_j$  in location  $x_{j \bmod (n+1)}$ . Consequently the arguments to  $\mu_t$  and  $\lambda_t$  will always be in locations  $(x_{(t+1) \bmod (n+1)}, x_{(t+2) \bmod (n+1)}, \dots, x_{t \bmod (n+1)})$ .

<Subroutines 4>  $\equiv$

```

int mu(int t)
{
    register int r, a, p, tt;
    for (r = t % (n+1), tt = t; o, x[r] < tt - n; tt--, r = (r ? r - 1 : n)) ;
    for (o, p = x[r], r = (r ? r - 1 : n), a = 0; a < n; a++, r = (r ? r - 1 : n)) o, p = p * (tt - a) + x[r];
    return p;
}

```

This code is used in section 1.

**5.** A backtrack essentially like Algorithm 7.2.1.2X nicely runs through all combinations of  $x_{t-n+1} \dots x_t$  and  $y_{t-n+1} \dots y_t$  simultaneously, while also providing a linked list that shows the possibilities for  $y_{t-n}$  as  $x_{t-n}$  varies from 0 to  $t-n$ .

The algorithm generates all of the “ $n$ -variations” of  $\{0, \dots, t\}$ , namely all  $n$ -tuples  $a_0 \dots a_{n-1}$  of distinct integers in that set, where  $a_j$  corresponds to  $y_{t-j}$  in the discussion above.

```

⟨ Generate the  $x$ 's and  $y$ 's 5 ⟩ ≡
x1: for ( $k = 0$ ;  $k \leq t$ ;  $k++$ )  $o, l[k] = k + 1$ ;
     $o, l[t + 1] = 0$ ; /* circularly linked list */
     $k = 0, kk = t \% (n + 1)$ ;
x2: if ( $k \equiv n$ ) ⟨ Visit  $a_0 \dots a_{n-1}$  and goto x6 6 ⟩;
     $oo, p = t + 1, q = l[p], x[kk] = 0$ ;
x3:  $o, ay[k] = q$ ;
x4:  $ooo, u[k] = p, l[p] = l[q], k++, kk = (kk ? kk - 1 : n)$ ;
    goto x2;
x5:  $o, p = q, q = l[p]$ ;
    if ( $q \leq t$ ) {
         $oo, x[kk]++$ ;
        goto x3;
    }
x6: if ( $--k \geq 0$ ) {
     $kk = (kk \equiv n ? 0 : kk + 1)$ ;
     $ooo, p = u[k], q = ay[k], l[p] = q$ ;
    goto x5;
}

```

This code is used in section 8.

6. At this point we're ready to do the "inner loop" calculation, by using all counts  $c(x_{t-n}, \dots, x_t)$  for  $0 \leq x_{t-n} \leq t-n$  to obtain updated counts that will allow us to increase  $t$ . The array  $a_{n-1} \dots a_0$  corresponds to  $y_{t-n+1} \dots y_t$  in the discussion above; we want to loop over all choices for  $y_{t-n}$ , namely all choices for  $a_n$ . Fortunately there's a linked list containing precisely those choices, beginning at  $l[t+1]$ .

```

< Visit  $a_0 \dots a_{n-1}$  and goto x6 6 >  $\equiv$ 
{
  < If possible, find  $p$  and  $pdel$  so that  $c(x_{t-n}, \dots, x_t)$  is  $count[p + pdel * x[kk]]$  7 >;
  for ( $d = 0$ ;  $d \leq t + 1$ ;  $d++$ )  $o, newcount[d] = 0$ ;
   $oo, b = ay[n - 1], c = ay[0]$ ;
  if ( $b < c$ )  $bb = b, cc = c$ ;
  else  $bb = c, cc = b$ ; /* min and max */
  {
    register unsigned long long  $tmp$ ;
    for ( $oo, a = l[t + 1], x[kk] = 0$ ;  $a \leq t$ ;  $oo, a = l[a], x[kk]++$ ) {
      if ( $pdel$ )  $tmp = count[p + x[kk] * pdel]$ ;
      else  $tmp = count[mu(t - n)]$ ; /* if  $pdel = 0$  then  $mu(t) = mu(t - n)$  */
      if ( $j \equiv 0$ )  $newcount[0] += tmp$ ; /* no constraint, beginning a new row */
      else if ( $a < bb \vee a > cc$ ) { /* whirlpool constraint when  $a$  not middle */
        for ( $d = bb + 1$ ;  $d \leq cc$ ;  $d++$ )  $oo, newcount[d] += tmp$ ;
      } else { /* whirlpool constraint when  $d$  not middle */
        for ( $d = 0$ ;  $d \leq bb$ ;  $d++$ )  $oo, newcount[d] += tmp$ ;
        for ( $d = cc + 1$ ;  $d \leq t + 1$ ;  $d++$ )  $oo, newcount[d] += tmp$ ;
      }
    }
  }
  if ( $pdel$ ) {
    for ( $d = 0$ ;  $d \leq t - n$ ;  $d++$ )  $oo, count[p + d * pdel] = newcount[j ? d : 0]$ ;
    for ( $;$   $d \leq t + 1$ ;  $d++$ )  $ooo, x[kk] = d, count[mu(t + 1)] = newcount[j ? d : 0]$ ;
  } else {
    for ( $d = 0$ ;  $d \leq t + 1$ ;  $d++$ )  $ooo, x[kk] = d, count[mu(t + 1)] = newcount[j ? d : 0]$ ;
  }
}
goto x6;
}

```

This code is used in section 5.

7. Our example of  $\mu_8(k, 1, 3, 2)$  shows that the mission of this step is sometimes impossible. But the addressing scheme is usually simple, so I decided to exploit that fact. (Being aware, of course, that premature optimization is the root of all evil in programming.)

```

< If possible, find  $p$  and  $pdel$  so that  $c(x_{t-n}, \dots, x_t)$  is  $count[p + pdel * x[kk]]$  7 >  $\equiv$ 
  for ( $tt = t, a = 0, r = t \% (n + 1)$ ;  $a < n$ ;  $a++, tt--, r = (r ? r - 1 : n)$ )
    if ( $o, x[r] \geq tt - n$ ) break;
  if ( $a \equiv n$ )  $pdel = 0$ ; /* a difficult case */
  else {
    for ( $p = pdel = 0, a = 0$ ;  $a \leq n$ ;  $a++, r = (r ? r - 1 : n)$ ) {
      if ( $r \neq kk$ )  $p = p * (tt + 1 - a) + x[r], pdel = pdel * (tt + 1 - a)$ ;
      else  $p = p * (tt + 1 - a), pdel = pdel * (tt + 1 - a) + 1$ ;
    }
  }
}

```

This code is used in section 6.

```

8.  ⟨ Handle constraint  $(i, j)$  8 ⟩ ≡
    {
         $t = n * i + j - 1$ ;
        if ( $t < n$ ) {
            for ( $p = 0$ ;  $p < tpow[n + 1]$ ;  $p++$ )  $o, count[p] = 1$ ;
            continue;
        }
        ⟨ Generate the  $x$ 's and  $y$ 's 5 ⟩;
        fprintf(stderr, "done with %d, %d. . %lld, %lld, %lld\n", i, j, count[0], mems);
    }

```

This code is used in section 1.

```

9.  #define thresh 100000000000000000000
⟨ Print the grand total 9 ⟩ ≡
    for ( $newcount[0] = newcount[1] = newcount[2] = 0, p = tpow[mn] - 1$ ;  $p \geq 0$ ;  $p--$ ) {
        if ( $count[p] > newcount[2]$ )  $newcount[2] = count[p], pdel = p$ ;
         $o, newcount[0] += count[p]$ ;
        if ( $newcount[0] \geq thresh$ )  $ooo, newcount[0] -= thresh, newcount[1]++$ ;
    }
    fprintf(stderr, "(Maximum count %lld is obtained for params", newcount[2]);
    for ( $q = mn - n - 1$ ;  $q < mn$ ;  $q++$ ) {
        fprintf(stderr, "%d", pdel % (q + 1));
         $pdel /= q + 1$ ;
    }
    fprintf(stderr, ")\n");
    if ( $newcount[1] \equiv 0$ )
        printf("Altogether %lld %dx %d whirlpool perms (%lld mems). \n", newcount[0], m, n, mems);
    else printf("Altogether %lld %018lld %dx %d whirlpool perms (%lld mems). \n", newcount[1],
        newcount[0], m, n, mems);

```

This code is used in section 1.

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