

## Solutions for HW5

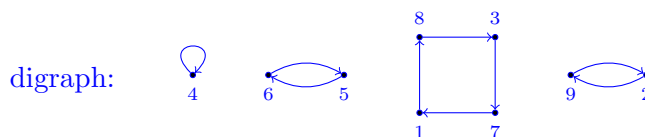
**Exercise 16.** For each of the following permutations of  $[9]$ , give whichever of the following is not already given.

- (i) The function representation.
  - (ii) The word representation.
  - (iii) The standard cycle representation.
  - (iv) The digraph representation.
  - (v) The word given by the fundamental bijection (the  $\hat{w}$  word).
  - (vi) The diagrammatic representation.
- (a)  $w : [9] \rightarrow [9]$ , the permutation given by

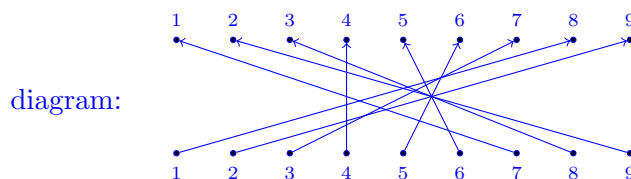
$$1 \mapsto 8, \quad 2 \mapsto 9, \quad 3 \mapsto 7, \quad 4 \mapsto 4, \quad 5 \mapsto 6, \quad 6 \mapsto 5, \quad 7 \mapsto 1, \quad 8 \mapsto 3, \quad 9 \mapsto 2.$$

*Solution:*

function: (given)  
 word: 897465132  
 st. cycle: (4)(65)(8371)(92)



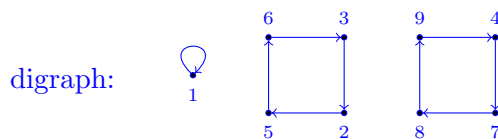
$\hat{w}$ : 465837192



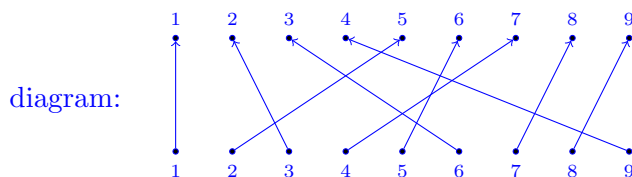
- (b)  $v = (6325)(1)(9478)$ .

*Solution:*

function:  $1 \mapsto 1, 2 \mapsto 5, 3 \mapsto 2, 4 \mapsto 7, 5 \mapsto 6, 6 \mapsto 3, 7 \mapsto 8, 8 \mapsto 9, 9 \mapsto 4$   
 word: 25763894  
 st. cycle: (1)(6325)(9478)

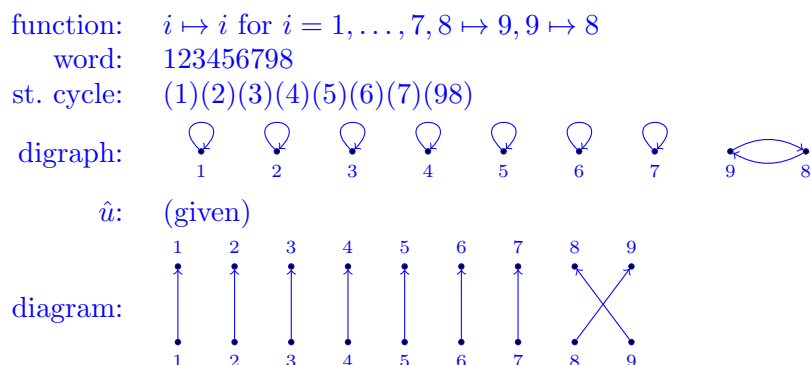


$\hat{v}$ : 163259478



(c) The permutation  $u$  determined by  $\hat{u} = 123456798$ .

*Solution:*



**Exercise 17.** For each of the permutations in 16, give the cycle type, and the number of permutations of [9] that have the same cycle type.

*Solution:* The permutation  $w$  has cycle type  $(1, 2, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0)$ ; there are  $9!/(2^2 * 2! * 4)$  permutations of 9 with this cycle type.

The permutation  $v$  has cycle type  $(1, 0, 0, 2, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0)$ ; there are  $9!/(4^2 * 2!)$  permutations of 9 with this cycle type.

The permutation  $u$  has cycle type  $(7, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0)$ ; there are  $9!/(7!)$  permutations of 9 with this cycle type.

Additionally, give the following.

(a) For  $w$  in 16(a), verify the equation  $n = \sum_i ic_i$ .

*Solution:*

$$\sum_i ic_i = 1 * 1 + 2 * 2 + 4 * 1 = 1 + 4 + 4 = 9 \checkmark$$

(b) For  $v$  in 16(b), verify that  $v$  has the same number of cycles as  $\hat{v}$  has left-to-right maxima (be sure to identify the left-to-right maxima).

*Solution:* The left-to-right maxima of  $\hat{v}$  are 1, 6, and 9, of which there are three, the same number of cycles that  $v$  has.  $\checkmark$

(c) For  $u$  in 16(c), what is  $t^{\text{type}(u)}$ ?

*Solution:* Since  $\text{type}(u) = (7, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0)$ , we have  $t^{\text{type}(u)} = t_1^7 t_2$ .

**Exercise 18.** Show that the number of permutations  $w \in \mathcal{S}_n$  fixed by the fundamental bijection  $\mathcal{S}_n \xrightarrow{\hat{\cdot}} \mathcal{S}_n$  (i.e.  $|\{w \in \mathcal{S}_n \mid \hat{w} = w\}|$ ) is the Fibonacci number  $f_{n+1}$ .

*Solution:* Let

$$a_n = |\{w \in \mathcal{S}_n \mid \hat{w} = w\}|.$$

Write  $w \in \mathcal{S}_n$  in standard cycle form,

$$w = (a_1 a_2 \cdots a_{\ell_1})(a_{\ell_1+1} \cdots a_{\ell_2}) \cdots (a_{\ell_{k-1}+1} \cdots a_n).$$

This means that  $w$  maps

$$a_{\ell_{k-1}+1} \mapsto a_{\ell_{k-1}+2}, \quad a_{\ell_{k-1}+2} \mapsto a_{\ell_{k-1}+3}, \quad \dots, \quad a_n \mapsto a_{\ell_{k-1}+1},$$

and that  $a_{\ell_{k-1}+1} > a_i$  for  $i > \ell_{k-1} + 1$ . Further,

$$\hat{w} = a_1 a_2 \cdots a_{\ell_1} a_{\ell_1+1} \cdots a_{\ell_2} \cdots a_{\ell_{k-1}+1} \cdots a_n$$

in word form, so that  $\hat{w}$  maps

$$\ell_{k-1} + 1 \mapsto a_{\ell_{k-1}+1}, \quad \ell_{k-1} + 2 \mapsto a_{\ell_{k-1}+2}, \quad \dots, \quad n \mapsto a_n.$$

So if  $w = \hat{w}$ , we have

$$a_n = \ell_{k-1} + 1, \quad a_{\ell_{k-1}+1} = \ell_{k-1} + 2, \quad \dots, \quad a_{n-1} = n.$$

But since  $a_{\ell_{k-1}+1} > a_i$  for  $i > \ell_{k-1} + 1$ , this is only a contradiction if  $\ell_{k-1} + 1 = n$  or  $n - 1$ , so that the last cycle is either  $(n)$  or  $(n, n - 1)$ . Recursively applying the same reasoning, we have that  $w = \hat{w}$  if and only if  $w = C_1 \cdots C_k$ , where  $C_k = (n)$  or  $(n, n - 1)$  and  $w' = C_1 \cdots C_{k-1}$  satisfies  $\hat{w}' = w'$ . So the good permutations of  $n$  ending in  $(n)$  are in bijection with good permutations of  $n - 1$ , and the good permutations of  $n$  ending in  $(n, n - 1)$  are in bijection with good permutations of  $n - 2$ . Thus

$$a_n = a_{n-1} + a_{n-2}.$$

Finally,  $a_1 = |\{(1)\}| = 1 = f_2$  and  $a_2 = |\{(1)(2), (21)\}| = 2 = f_3$ , so  $a_n = f_{n+1}$ .

### Exercise 19.

- (a) For  $Z_n = \frac{1}{n!} \sum_{w \in \mathcal{S}_n} t^{\text{type}(w)}$ , calculate  $Z_1, Z_2, Z_3$ , and  $Z_4$  explicitly (verifying the formulas between (1.25) and (1.26) in EC1).

*Solution:*

$\mathcal{S}_n$	$Z_n$
$\{(1)\}$	$1(t_1^1) = t$
$\{(1)(2), (12)\}$	$\frac{1}{2!} (t_1^2 + t_2)$
$\{(1)(2)(3), (21)(3), (2)(31), (1)(32), (312), (321)\}$	$\frac{1}{3!} (t_1^3 + 3t_1 t_2 + 2t_3)$
$\{(1)(2)(3)(4), (21)(3)(4), (2)(31)(4), (1)(32)(4), (2)(3)(41), (1)(3)(42), (1)(2)(43), (21)(43), (31)(42), (32)(41), (312)(4), (321)(4), (412)(3), (421)(3), (413)(2), (431)(2), (423)(1), (432)(1), (4123), (4132), (4213), (4231), (4312), (4321)\}$	$\frac{1}{4!} (t_1^4 + 6t_1^2 t_2 + 3t_2^2 + 8t_1 t_3 + 6t_4)$

- (b) For  $E_k(n) = \frac{1}{n!} \sum_{w \in \mathcal{S}_n} c_k(w)$ , verify that

$$E_k(n) = \frac{\partial}{\partial t_k} Z_n(t_1, t_2, \dots, t_n) \Big|_{t_i=1, \dots, n}.$$

*Solution:*

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{\partial}{\partial t_k} Z_n(t_1, t_2, \dots, t_n) \Big|_{t_i=1, i=1, \dots, n} &= \frac{1}{n!} \sum_{w \in \mathcal{S}_n} \frac{\partial}{\partial t_k} t_1^{c_1(w)} \dots t_k^{c_k(w)} \dots t_n^{c_n(w)} \Big|_{t_i=1, i=1, \dots, n} \\
 &= \frac{1}{n!} \sum_{w \in \mathcal{S}_n} c_k(w) t_1^{c_1(w)} \dots t_k^{c_k(w)-1} \dots t_n^{c_n(w)} \Big|_{t_i=1, i=1, \dots, n} \\
 &= \frac{1}{n!} \sum_{w \in \mathcal{S}_n} c_k(w) = E_k(n).
 \end{aligned}$$

- (c) Give a combinatorial proof of  $E_k(n) = 1/k$  by (i) explaining why there are  $\binom{n}{k}(k-1)!$   $k$ -cycles, (ii) explaining why each  $k$ -cycle appears in  $(n-k)!$  permutations, and (iii) computing  $E_k(n)$  using these two values.

*Solution:* To build a  $k$ -cycle in a permutation of  $n$ , you first pick the  $k$  elements, of which there are  $\binom{n}{k}$  choices. Then order those elements; since all cyclic rotations are the same, fix the largest element first, and then there are  $(k-1)!$  orderings of the remaining elements. So there are  $\binom{n}{k}(k-1)!$  possible  $k$ -cycles.

If a given  $k$ -cycle appears in a permutation, that fixes  $k$  values of  $w(i)$ . Therefore there are  $(n-k)!$  choices for the remaining values of  $w(i)$ .

Thus

$$\sum_{w \in \mathcal{S}_n} c_k(w) = \binom{n}{k} (k-1)! (n-k)! = \frac{n!}{k!(n-k)!} (k-1)! (n-k)! = \frac{n!}{k},$$

and so

$$E_k(n) = \frac{1}{n!} \sum_{w \in \mathcal{S}_n} c_k(w) = \frac{1}{n!} \frac{n!}{k} = \frac{1}{k}.$$