

GENERATING ELEMENTARY  
COMBINATORIAL OBJECTS

## Combinatorial Generation

We are going to look at combinatorial generation of:

- Subsets
- $k$ -subsets
- Permutations

To do a sequential generation, we need to impose some order on the set of objects we are generating.

Let  $\mathcal{S}$  be a finite set and  $N = |\mathcal{S}|$ .

A rank function is a bijection

$$\text{RANK: } \mathcal{S} \rightarrow \{0, 1, \dots, N - 1\}.$$

It has another bijection associated with it

$$\text{UNRANK: } \{0, 1, \dots, N - 1\} \rightarrow \mathcal{S}.$$

A rank function defines an ordering on  $\mathcal{S}$ .

Many types of ordering are possible; we will discuss two types: **lexicographical** ordering and **minimal change** ordering.

Once an ordering is chosen, we can talk about the following types of algorithms:

- Successor: given an object, return its successor.
- Rank: given an object  $S \in \mathcal{S}$ , return  $\text{RANK}(S)$
- Unrank: given a rank  $i \in \{0, 1, \dots, N - 1\}$ , return  $\text{UNRANK}(i)$ , its corresponding object.

# 1. Generating Subsets (of an $n$ -set)

## 1.1. Generating Subsets: Lexicographical Ordering

Represent a set by its **characteristic vector**:

subset $X$ of $\{1,2,3\}$	characteristic vector
$\{1,2\}$	$[1,1,0]$
$\{3\}$	$[0,0,1]$

The **characteristic vector** of a subset  $T \subseteq X$  is a vector  $\mathcal{X}(T) = [x_{n-1}, x_{n-2}, \dots, x_1, x_0]$  where

$$x_i = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } n - i \in T \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Example:

lexico rank	$\mathcal{X}(T) = [x_2, x_1, x_0]$	$T$
0	$[0, 0, 0]$	$\emptyset$
1	$[0, 0, 1]$	$\{3\}$
2	$[0, 1, 0]$	$\{2\}$
3	$[0, 1, 1]$	$\{2, 3\}$
4	$[1, 0, 0]$	$\{1\}$
5	$[1, 0, 1]$	$\{1, 3\}$
6	$[1, 1, 0]$	$\{1, 2\}$
7	$[1, 1, 1]$	$\{1, 2, 3\}$

Note that the order is lexicographical on  $\mathcal{X}(T)$  and not on  $T$ .

Note that  $\mathcal{X}(T)$  corresponds to the binary representation of rank!

## Ranking

More efficient implementation:

Books' version:

**SUBSETLEXRANK** ( $n, T$ )

```

 $r \leftarrow 0;$ 
for  $i \leftarrow 1$  to  $n$  do
   $r \leftarrow 2 * r;$ 
  if  $(i \in T)$  then  $r \leftarrow r + 1;$ 
return  $r;$ 

```

```

if  $(i \in T)$  then
   $r \leftarrow r + 2^{n-i}$ 

```

This is like a conversion from the binary representation to the number.

## Unranking

**SUBSETLEXUNRANK** ( $n, r$ )

```

 $T \leftarrow \emptyset;$ 
for  $i \leftarrow n$  downto 1 do
  if  $(r \bmod 2 = 1)$  then  $T \leftarrow T \cup \{i\};$ 
   $r \leftarrow \lfloor \frac{r}{2} \rfloor;$ 
return  $T;$ 

```

This is like a conversion from number to its binary representation.

## Successor

The following algorithm is adapted for circular ranking, that is, the successor of the largest ranked object is the object of rank 0.

**SUBSETLEXSUCCESSOR** ( $n, T$ )

```

 $i \leftarrow 0;$ 
while ( $i \leq n - 1$ ) and ( $n - i \in T$ ) do
     $T \leftarrow T \setminus \{n - i\};$ 
     $i \leftarrow i + 1;$ 
if ( $i \leq n - 1$ ) then  $T \leftarrow T \cup \{n - i\};$ 
return  $T;$ 

```

This algorithm works like an increment on a binary number.

Examples:

1. **SUBSETLEXSUCCESSOR**(3, {2, 3}) = {1}.

$\{2, 3\}$	$[\bar{0}, \underline{1}, \underline{1}]$
$\{1\}$	$[1, 0, 0]$

2. **SUBSETLEXSUCCESSOR**(4, {1, 4}) = {1, 3}.

$\{1, 4\}$	$[1, 0, \bar{0}, \underline{1}]$
$\{1, 3\}$	$[1, 0, 1, 0]$

## 1.2. Generating Subsets: Minimal Change Ordering

In minimal change ordering, successive sets are as similar as possible.

The **hamming distance** between two vectors is defined as the number of bits in which the two vectors differ.

Example:  $dist(\underline{0001}010, \underline{1000}010) = 2$ .

When we apply to the subsets corresponding to the binary vectors, it is equivalent to:

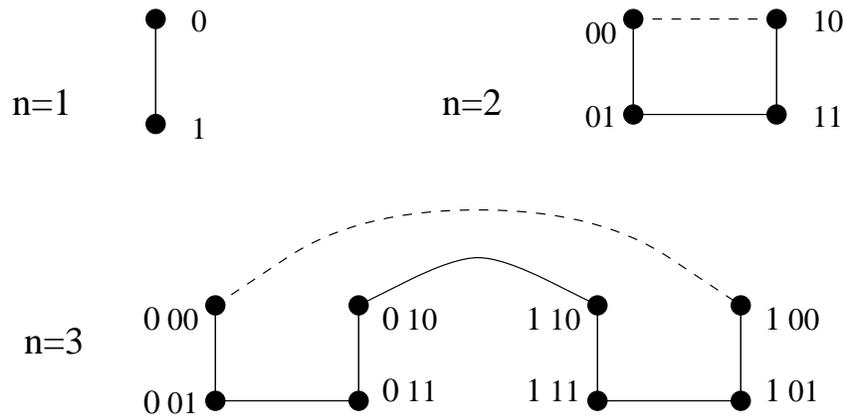
$$dist(T_1, T_2) = |T_1 \Delta T_2| = |(T_1 \setminus T_2) \cup (T_2 \setminus T_1)|.$$

A **Gray Code** is a sequence of vectors with successive vectors having hamming distance exactly 1.

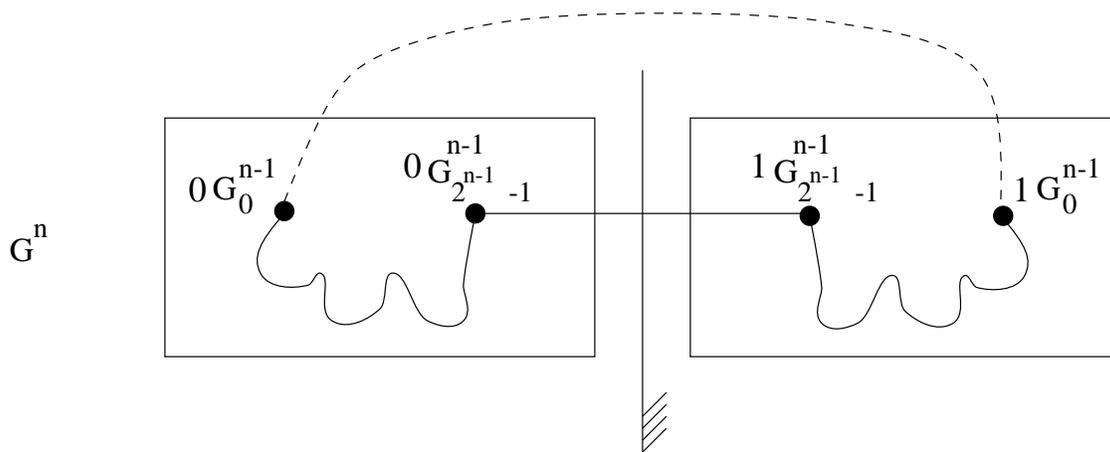
Example:  $[00, 01, 11, 10]$ .

We will now see a construction for one possible type of Gray Codes...

## Construction for Binary Reflected Gray Codes



In general, build  $G_n$  as follows:



More formally, we define  $G^n$  inductively as follows:

$$G^1 = [0, 1]$$

$$G^n = [0G_0^{n-1}, \dots, 0G_{2^{n-1}-1}^{n-1}, 1G_{2^{n-1}-1}^{n-1}, \dots, 1G_0^{n-1}]$$

**Theorem 2.1.** For any  $n \geq 1$ ,  $G^n$  is a gray code.

Exercise: prove this theorem by induction on  $n$ .

## Successor

Examples:

$$G_3 = [000, 001, 011, 010, 110, 111, 101, 100]$$

$$G_4 = [0000, 0001, 0011, 0010, 0110, 0111, 0101, 0100, \\ 1100, 1101, 1111, 1110, 1010, 1011, 1001, 1000].$$

Rules for calculating successor:

- If vector has even weight ( even number of 1's): flip last bit.
- If vector has odd weight (odd number of 1's): from right to left, flip bit after the first 1.

**GRAYCODESUCCESSOR** ( $n, T$ )

if ( $T$  is even) then

$U \leftarrow T \Delta \{n\};$

else

$j \leftarrow n;$       (*flip last bit*)

while ( $j \notin T$ ) and ( $j > 0$ ) do  $j \leftarrow j - 1;$

if ( $j = 1$ ) then  $U \leftarrow \emptyset;$       (*I changed for circular order*)

else  $U \leftarrow T \Delta \{j - 1\};$

return  $U;$

## Ranking and Unranking

	r	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
$b_3b_2b_1b_0$ bin.rep. $r$		000	001	010	011	100	101	110	111
$a_2a_1a_0$ $G_r^3$		000	001	011	010	110	111	101	100

Set  $b_3 = 0$  in the example above.

We need to relate  $(b_n b_{n-1} \dots b_0)$  and  $(a_{n-1} a_{n-2}, \dots, a_0)$ .

**Lemma 1.**

*Let  $P(n)$ : “For  $0 \leq r \leq 2^n - 1$ ,  $a_j \equiv b_j + b_{j+1} \pmod{2}$ , for all  $0 \leq j \leq n - 1$ ”. Then,  $P(n)$  holds for all  $n \geq 1$ .*

Proof: We will prove  $P(n)$  by induction on  $n$ .

**Basis:**  $P(1)$  holds, since  $a_0 = b_0$  and  $b_1 = 0$ .

Induction step: Assume  $P(n - 1)$  holds. We will prove  $P(n)$  holds.

**Case 1.**  $r \leq 2^{n-1} - 1$  (**first half of  $G_n$** ).

Note that  $b_{n-1} = 0 = a_{n-1}$  and  $b_n = 0$ , which implies

$$a_{n-1} = 0 = b_{n-1} + b_n. \tag{1}$$

By induction,

$$a_j \equiv b_j + b_{j+1} \pmod{2}, \text{ for all } 0 \leq j \leq n - 2. \tag{2}$$

Equations (1) and (2) imply  $P(n)$ .

**Case 2.**  $2^n \leq r \leq 2^n - 1$  (second half of  $G_n$ ).

Note that  $b_{n-1} = 1 = a_{n-1}$  and  $b_n = 0$ , which implies

$$a_{n-1} \equiv 1 \equiv b_{n-1} + b_n \pmod{2}. \quad (3)$$

Now,  $G_r^n = 1G_{2^n-1-r}^{n-1} = 1a_{n-2}a_{n-3} \dots a_1a_0$ . The binary representation of  $2^n - 1 - r$  is

$$0(1 - b_{n-2})(1 - b_{n-3}) \dots (1 - b_1)(1 - b_0).$$

By induction hypothesis we know that, for all  $0 \leq j \leq n - 2$ ,

$$a_j \equiv (1 - b_j) + (1 - b_{j+1}) \pmod{2} \quad (4)$$

$$\equiv b_j + b_{j+1} \pmod{2} \quad (5)$$

Equations (3) and (5) imply  $P(n)$ .

**Lemma 2.**

Let  $n \geq 1$ ,  $0 \leq r \leq 2^n - 1$ . Then,

$$b_j \equiv \sum_{i=j}^{n-1} a_i \pmod{2}, \quad \text{for all } 0 \leq j \leq n - 1.$$

Proof:

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i=j}^{n-1} a_i &\equiv \sum_{i=j}^{n-1} b_i + b_{i+1} \pmod{2} \quad [\text{By Lemma 1}] \\ &\equiv b_j + 2b_{j+1} + \dots + 2b_{n-1} + b_n \pmod{2} \\ &\equiv b_j + b_n \pmod{2} \\ &\equiv b_j \pmod{2} \quad [\text{Since } b_n = 0]. \end{aligned}$$

Let  $n \geq 1$ ,  $0 \leq r \leq 2^n - 1$ .

We have proved the following properties hold, for all  $0 \leq j \leq n - 1$ ,

$$b_j \equiv \sum_{i=j}^{n-1} a_i \pmod{2}.$$

$$a_j \equiv b_j + b_{j+1} \pmod{2},$$

The first property is used for ranking:

**GRAYCODERANK** ( $n, T$ )

```

 $r \leftarrow 0; b \leftarrow 0;$ 
for  $i \leftarrow n - 1$  downto 0 do
  if  $((n - i) \in T)$  then      (if  $a_i = 1$ )
     $b \leftarrow 1 - b;$       ( $b_i = \overline{b_{i+1}}$ )
     $r \leftarrow 2r + b;$ 
return  $r;$ 

```

The second property is used for unranking:

**GRAYCODEUNRANK** ( $n, r$ )

```

 $T \leftarrow \emptyset; b' \leftarrow r \bmod 2; r' \leftarrow \lfloor \frac{r}{2} \rfloor;$ 
for  $i \leftarrow 0$  to  $n - 1$  do
   $b \leftarrow r' \bmod 2$ 
  if  $(b \neq b')$  then  $T \leftarrow T \cup \{n - i\};$ 
   $b' \leftarrow b; r' \leftarrow \lfloor \frac{r'}{2} \rfloor;$ 
return  $T;$ 

```

## 2. Generating $k$ -subsets (of an $n$ -set)

### 2.1. Generating $k$ -subsets: Lexicographical Ordering

rank	$T$	$\vec{T}$
0	{1, 2, 3}	[1, 2, 3]
1	{1, 2, 4}	[1, 2, 4]
2	{1, 2, 5}	[1, 2, 5]
3	{1, 3, 4}	[1, 3, 4]
4	{1, 3, 5}	[1, 3, 5]
5	{1, 4, 5}	[1, 4, 5]
6	{2, 3, 4}	[2, 3, 4]
7	{2, 3, 5}	[2, 3, 5]
8	{2, 4, 5}	[2, 4, 5]
9	{3, 4, 5}	[3, 4, 5]

Example:  $k = 3, n = 5$ .

### Successor

IDEA:  $n = 10, \text{SUCCESSOR}(\{\dots, \underline{5}, 8, 9, 10\}) = \{\dots, \underline{6}, 7, 8, 9\}$

**KSUBSETLEXSUCCESSOR** ( $\vec{T}, k, n$ )

$\vec{U} \leftarrow \vec{T}; i \leftarrow k;$

while ( $i \geq 0$ ) and ( $t_i = n - k + i$ ) do  $i \leftarrow i - 1;$

if ( $i = 0$ ) then  $\vec{U} = [1, 2, \dots, k];$

else for  $j \leftarrow i$  to  $k$  do

$u_j \leftarrow (t_i + 1) + j - i;$

return  $\vec{U};$

## Ranking

How many subsets precede  $\vec{T} = [t_1, t_2, \dots, t_k]$ ?

all sets  $[X, \dots]$  with  $1 \leq X \leq t_1 - 1$

$$\left( \sum_{j=1}^{t_1-1} \binom{n-j}{k-1} \right)$$

all sets  $[t_1, X, \dots]$  with  $t_1 + 1 \leq X \leq t_2 - 1$

$$\left( \sum_{j=t_1+1}^{t_2-1} \binom{n-j}{k-2} \right)$$

⋮

all sets  $[t_1, \dots, t_{k-1}, X, \dots]$  with  $t_{k-1} + 1 \leq X \leq t_k - 1$

$$\left( \sum_{j=t_{k-1}+1}^{t_k-1} \binom{n-j}{k-(k-1)} \right)$$

Thus,

$$\text{rank}(T) = \sum_{i=1}^k \sum_{j=t_{i-1}+1}^{t_i-1} \binom{n-j}{k-i}.$$

**KSUBSETLEXRANK** ( $\vec{T}, k, n$ )

$r \leftarrow 0;$

$t_0 \leftarrow 0;$

for  $i \leftarrow 1$  to  $k$  do

for  $j \leftarrow t_{i-1} + 1$  to  $t_i - 1$  do

$r \leftarrow r + \binom{n-j}{k-i};$

return  $r$ ;

## Unranking

$$t_1 = x \iff \sum_{j=1}^{x-1} \binom{n-j}{k-1} \leq r < \sum_{j=1}^x \binom{n-j}{k-1}$$

$$t_2 = x \iff \sum_{j=t_1+1}^{x-1} \binom{n-j}{k-2} \leq r - \sum_{j=1}^{t_1-1} \binom{n-j}{k-1} < \sum_{j=t_1+1}^x \binom{n-j}{k-1}$$

etc.

**KSUBSETLEXUNRANK** ( $r, k, n$ )

$x \leftarrow 1;$

for  $i \leftarrow 1$  to  $k$  do

  while ( $r \geq \binom{n-x}{k-i}$ ) do

$r \leftarrow r - \binom{n-x}{k-i};$

$x \leftarrow x + 1;$

$t_i \leftarrow x;$

$x \leftarrow x + 1;$

return  $\vec{T}$ ;

## 2.2 Generating $k$ -subsets: Minimal Change Ordering

The minimum Hamming distance possible between  $k$ -subsets is 2.

### Revolving Door Ordering

It is based on Pascal's Identity:  $\binom{n}{k} = \binom{n-1}{k} + \binom{n-1}{k-1}$ .

We define the sequence of  $k$ -subsets  $A^{n,k}$  based on  $A^{n-1,k}$  and the reverse of  $A^{n-1,k-1}$ , as follows:

$$A^{n,k} = \left[ A_0^{n-1,k}, \dots, A_{\binom{n-1}{k}-1}^{n-1,k}, \mid A_{\binom{n-1}{k-1}-1}^{n-1,k-1} \cup \{n\}, \dots, A_0^{n-1,k-1} \cup \{n\} \right],$$

for  $1 \leq k \leq n-1$

$$A^{n,0} = [\emptyset]$$

$$A^{n,n} = [\{1, 2, \dots, n\}]$$

**Example:** Bulding  $A^{5,3}$  using  $A^{4,3}$  and  $A^{4,2}$ :

$$A^{4,3} = [\{1, 2, 3\}, \{1, 3, 4\}, \{2, 3, 4\}, \{1, 2, 4\}]$$

$$A^{4,2} = [\{1, 2\}, \{2, 3\}, \{1, 3\}, \{3, 4\}, \{2, 4\}, \{1, 4\}]$$

$$A^{5,3} = [\{1, 2, 3\}, \{1, 3, 4\}, \{2, 3, 4\}, \{1, 2, 4\}, \mid$$

$$\{1, 4, \mathbf{5}\}, \{2, 4, \mathbf{5}\}, \{3, 4, \mathbf{5}\}, \{1, 3, \mathbf{5}\}, \{2, 3, \mathbf{5}\}, \{1, 2, \mathbf{5}\}]$$

To see that the revolving door ordering is a minimal change ordering, prove:

1.  $A_{\binom{n}{k}-1}^{n,k} = \{1, 2, \dots, k-1, n\}$ .
2.  $A_0^{n,k} = \{1, 2, \dots, k\}$ .
3. For any  $n, k$ ,  $1 \leq k \leq n$ ,  $A^{n,k}$  is a minimal ordering of  $\mathcal{S}_k^n$ .

### Ranking

The ranking algorithm is based on the following fact (prove it as an exercise):

$$\text{rank}(T) = \sum_{i=1}^k (-1)^{k-i} \left( \binom{t_i}{i} - 1 \right) = \begin{cases} \sum_{i=1}^k (-1)^{k-i} \binom{t_i}{i}, & k \text{ even} \\ \left[ \sum_{i=1}^k (-1)^{k-i} \binom{t_i}{i} \right] - 1, & k \text{ odd} \end{cases}$$

Hint: Prove the first equality by induction and the second, directly.

**KSUBSETREVDOORRANK**( $\vec{T}, k$ )

$r \leftarrow -(k \bmod 2);$

$s \leftarrow 1;$

for  $i \leftarrow k$  downto 1 do

$r \leftarrow r + s \binom{t_i}{i}$

$s \leftarrow -s;$

return  $r$ ;

## Unranking

### IDEA

**Example:**  $n = 7, k = 4, r = 8$

$4 \in T, 5, 6, 7 \notin T$	$5 \in T, 6, 7 \notin T$	$6 \in T, 7 \notin T$	$7 \in T$
$\binom{4}{4} = 1$	$\binom{5}{4} = 5$	$\binom{6}{4} = 15$	$\binom{7}{4} = 21$

We can determine the largest element in the set:

$r = 8$  implies  $\{-, -, -, 6\}$ .

Now, solve it recursively for  $n' = 5, k' = 3, r' = \binom{6}{4} - r - 1 = 6$ .

**KSUBSETREVDOORUNRANK**( $r, k, n$ )

```

 $x \leftarrow n;$ 
for  $i \leftarrow k$  downto 1 do
  While  $\binom{x}{i} > r$  do  $x \leftarrow x - 1;$ 
   $t_i \leftarrow x + 1$ 
   $r \leftarrow \binom{x+1}{i} - r - 1;$ 
return  $\vec{T};$ 

```

## Successor

Let  $\vec{T} = [1, 2, 3, \dots, j-1, t_j, \dots]$ , where  $j = \min\{i : t_i \neq i\}$ .

Consider four cases for computing successor:

- Case A:  $k \equiv j \pmod{2}$ 
  - Case A1: if  $t_{j+1} = t_j + 1$  then move  $j$  to the right, and remove  $t_j + 1$ .  
Example:  $\text{SUCCESSOR}(\{\underline{1}, \underline{2}, \underline{3}, \mathbf{7}, \bar{8}, 12\}) = \{\underline{1}, \underline{2}, \underline{3}, \underline{4}, \mathbf{7}, 12\}$ .
  - Case A2: if  $t_{j+1} \neq t_j + 1$  then move  $j$  to the left, and add  $t_j + 1$ .  
Example:  
 $\text{SUCCESSOR}(\{\underline{1}, \underline{2}, \underline{3}, \mathbf{7}, 10, 12\}) = \{\underline{1}, \underline{2}, \mathbf{7}, \bar{8}, 10, 12\}$ .
- Case B:  $k \not\equiv j \pmod{2}$ 
  - Case B1: if  $j > 1$  then increment  $t_{j-1}$  and (if exists)  $t_{j-2}$ .  
Example:  $\text{SUCCESSOR}(\{\underline{1}, \underline{2}, \underline{3}, \mathbf{7}, 10\}) = \{1, \underline{3}, \underline{4}, \mathbf{7}, 10\}$ .
  - Case B2: if  $j = 1$  then decrement  $t_1$   
Example:  $\text{SUCCESSOR}\{7, 9, 10, 12\}) = \{6, 9, 10, 12\}$ .

For each case, prove  $\text{RANK}(\text{SUCCESSOR}(T)) - \text{RANK}(T) = 1$ .

Case A1:  $\text{SUCCESSOR}(\{1, 2, 3, \mathbf{7}, \bar{8}, 12\}) = \{\{1, 2, 3, 4, \mathbf{7}, 12\}$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \text{RANK}(\text{SUCCESSOR}(T)) - \text{RANK}(T) &= \\ &= (-1)^{k-j} \binom{j}{j} + (-1)^{k-j-1} \binom{t_j}{j+1} \\ &\quad - (-1)^{k-j} \binom{t_j}{j} - (-1)^{k-j-1} \binom{t_j+1}{j+1} \\ &= \binom{j}{j} + \left( \binom{t_j+1}{j+1} - \binom{t_j}{j+1} - \binom{t_j}{j} \right) = 1 + 0 = 1. \end{aligned}$$

Prove cases A2, B1, B2...

**KSUBSETREVDOORSUCCESSOR**( $\vec{T}, k, n$ )

$t_{k+1} \leftarrow n + 1;$

$j \leftarrow 1;$

While ( $j \leq k$ ) and ( $t_j = j$ ) do  $j \leftarrow j + 1;$

if ( $k \not\equiv j \pmod{2}$ ) then

    if ( $j = 1$ ) then  $t_1 \leftarrow t_1 - 1;$  (Case B2)

    else (Case B1)

$t_{j-1} \leftarrow j;$

$t_{j-2} \leftarrow j - 1;$

else

    if ( $t_{j+1} \neq t_j + 1$ ) then (Case A2)

$t_{j-1} \leftarrow t_j;$

$t_j \leftarrow t_j + 1$

    else (Case A1)

$t_{j+1} \leftarrow t_j;$

$t_j \leftarrow j;$

return  $\vec{T};$

### 3. Generating Permutations

A permutation is a bijection  $\Pi : \{1, 2, \dots, n\} \rightarrow \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ .

We represent it by a list:  $\Pi = [\Pi[1], \Pi[2], \dots, \Pi[n]]$ .

#### 3.1. Generating Permutations: Lexicographical Ordering

$n = 3$

rank	permutation
0	[1, 2, 3]
1	[1, 3, 2]
2	[2, 1, 3]
3	[2, 3, 1]
4	[3, 1, 2]
5	[3, 2, 1]

## Successor

**Example:**  $\Pi = [3, 5, \mathbf{4}, \underline{7, \bar{6}}, 2, 1]$

Let  $i$  = index right before a decreasing suffix = 3.

Let  $j$  = index of the successor of  $\pi[i] = 4$  in

$\{\Pi[i + 1], \dots, \Pi[n]\} = \{7, 6, 2, 1\}$ ,  $j = 5$ .

Swap  $\Pi[i]$  and  $\Pi[j]$ , and reverse  $\{\Pi[i + 1], \dots, \Pi[n]\}$ .

$$\text{SUCCESSOR}(\Pi) = [3, 5, \mathbf{6}, \underline{1, 2, 4}, 7]$$

Note that

$$i = \max\{l : \Pi[l] < \Pi[l + 1]\}$$

$$j = \max\{l : \Pi[l] > \Pi[i]\}.$$

For the algorithm, we add:  $\Pi[0] = 0$ .

**PERMLEXSUCCESSOR**( $n, \Pi$ )

$\Pi[0] \leftarrow 0$ ;

$i \leftarrow n - 1$ ;

while ( $\Pi[i] > \Pi[i + 1]$ ) do  $i \leftarrow i - 1$ ;

if ( $i = 0$ ) then return  $\Pi = [1, 2, \dots, n]$

$j \leftarrow n$ ;

while ( $\Pi[j] < \Pi[i]$ ) do  $j \leftarrow j - 1$ ;

$t \leftarrow \Pi[j]$ ;  $\Pi[j] \leftarrow \Pi[i]$ ;  $\Pi[i] \leftarrow t$ ; (swap  $\Pi[i]$  and  $\Pi[j]$ )

// In-place reversal of  $\Pi[i + 1], \dots, \Pi[n]$ :

for  $h \leftarrow i + 1$  to  $\lfloor \frac{n-i}{2} \rfloor$  do

$t \leftarrow \Pi[h]$ ;  $\Pi[h] \leftarrow \Pi[n + i + 1 - h]$ ;

$\Pi[n + i + 1 - h] \leftarrow t$ ;

return  $\Pi$ ;

## Ranking

How many permutations come before

$$\Pi = [3, 5, 1, 2, 4]?$$

the ones of the form  $\Pi = [1, \dots]$  (there are  $(n - 1)! = 24$  of them)

the ones of the form  $\Pi = [2, \dots]$  (there are  $(n - 1)! = 24$  of them)

plus the rank of  $[5, 1, 2, 4]$  as a permutation of  $\{1, 2, 4, 5\}$ , which is the standard rank of  $[4, 1, 2, 3]$ .

So,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{RANK}([3, 5, 1, 2, 4]) &= 2 \times 4! + \mathbf{RANK}([4, 1, 2, 3]) \\ &= 2 \times 4! + 3 \times 3! + \mathbf{RANK}([1, 2, 3]) \\ &= 2 \times 4! + 3 \times 3! + 0 \times 2! + \mathbf{RANK}([1, 2]) \\ &= 2 \times 4! + 3 \times 3! + 0 \times 2! + 0 \times 1! + \mathbf{RANK}([1]) \\ &= 2 \times 4! + 3 \times 3! + 0 \times 2! + 0 \times 1! + 0 = 66 \end{aligned}$$

### General Formula:

$$\mathbf{RANK}([1], 1) = 0,$$

$$\mathbf{RANK}(\Pi, n) = (\Pi[1] - 1) \times (n - 1)! + \mathbf{RANK}(\Pi', n - 1), \text{ where}$$

$$\Pi'[i] = \begin{cases} \Pi[i + 1] - 1, & \text{if } \Pi[i + 1] > \Pi[1] \\ \Pi[i + 1], & \text{if } \Pi[i + 1] < \Pi[1] \end{cases}$$

**PERMLEXRANK**( $n, \Pi$ )

```
 $r \leftarrow 0;$   
 $\Pi' \leftarrow \Pi;$   
for  $j \leftarrow 1$  to  $n - 1$  do (Note: correction from book:  $n \rightarrow n - 1$ )  
     $r \leftarrow r + (\Pi'[j] - 1) * (n - j)!$   
    for  $i \leftarrow j + 1$  to  $n$  do  
        if ( $\Pi'[i] > \Pi'[j]$ ) then  $\Pi'[i] = \Pi'[i] - 1;$   
return  $r;$ 
```

## Unranking

Unranking uses the factorial representation of  $r$ .

Let  $0 \leq r \leq n! - 1$ . Then,  $(d_{n-1}, d_{n-2}, \dots, d_1)$  is the factorial representation of  $r$  if

$$r = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} d_i \times i!, \text{ where } 0 \leq d_i < i.$$

(Exercise: prove that such  $r$  has a unique factorial representation.)

Examples:

1.  $\text{UNRANK}(15, 4) = [3, 2, 4, 1]$

$$15 = \mathbf{2} \times 3! + \mathbf{1} \times 2! + \mathbf{1} \times 1!, \text{ put } d_0 = \mathbf{0}.$$

<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<u><b>1</b></u>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<u><b>1</b></u>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<u><b>2</b></u>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>
3	2	2	1	3	2	2	1	3	2	3	1	3	2	4	1

2.  $\text{UNRANK}(8, 4) = [2, 3, 1, 4]$

$$8 = \mathbf{1} \times 3! + \mathbf{1} \times 2! + \mathbf{0} \times 1!,$$

<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<u><b>0</b></u>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<u><b>1</b></u>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<u><b>1</b></u>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
2	2	1	1	2	2	1	2	2	2	1	3	2	3	1	4

3.  $\text{UNRANK}(21, 4) = [4, 2, 3, 1]$

$$21 = \mathbf{3} \times 3! + \mathbf{1} \times 2! + \mathbf{1} \times 1!,$$

<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<u><b>1</b></u>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<u><b>1</b></u>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<u><b>3</b></u>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>
4	2	2	1	4	2	2	1	4	2	3	1	4	2	3	1

Justification:  $\Pi[1] = d_{n-1} + 1$  because exactly  $d_{n-1}$  blocks of size  $(n-1)!$  come before  $\Pi$ .

$\Pi[2], \Pi[3], \dots, \Pi[n]$  is computed from permutation  $\Pi'$ , in the following way:

$$r' = r - d_{n-1} \times (n-1)!$$

$$\Pi' = \text{UNRANK}(r', n-1),$$

$$\Pi[i] = \begin{cases} \Pi'[i-1], & \text{if } \Pi'[i-1] < \Pi[1] \\ \Pi'[i-1] + 1, & \text{if } \Pi'[i-1] > \Pi[1] \end{cases} \quad \text{for } 2 \leq i \leq n$$

**PERMLEXUNRANK**( $r, n$ )

```

     $\Pi[n] \leftarrow 1;$ 
    for  $j \leftarrow 1$  to  $n-1$  do
         $d \leftarrow \frac{r \bmod (j+1)!}{j!};$  // calculates  $d_j$ 
         $r \leftarrow r - d * j!;$ 
         $\Pi[n-j] \leftarrow d + 1;$ 
        for  $i \leftarrow n-j+1$  to  $n$  do
            if  $(\Pi[i] > d)$  then  $\Pi[i] \leftarrow \Pi[i] + 1;$ 
    return  $\Pi;$ 

```

### 3.2. Generating permutations: Minimal Change Ordering

Minimal change for permutations: two permutations must differ by adjacent transposition.

The Trotter-Johnson algorithm follows the following ordering:

$$T^1 = [[1]]$$

$$T^2 = [[1, \mathbf{2}], [\mathbf{2}, 1]]$$

$$T^3 = [[1, 2, \mathbf{3}], [1, \mathbf{3}, 2], [\mathbf{3}, 1, 2], [\mathbf{3}, 2, 1], [2, \mathbf{3}, 1], [2, 1, \mathbf{3}]]$$

How to build  $T^3$  using  $T^2$ :

$$\begin{array}{rcccc}
 & & 1 & & 2 & & \mathbf{3} \\
 & & 1 & & \mathbf{3} & & 2 \\
 & & \mathbf{3} & & 1 & & 2 \\
 \hline
 & & \mathbf{3} & & 2 & & 1 \\
 & & 2 & & \mathbf{3} & & 1 \\
 & & 2 & & 1 & & \mathbf{3}
 \end{array}$$

See picture for  $T^4$  in page 58 of the textbook.

## Ranking

Let

$$\Pi = [\Pi[1], \dots, \Pi[k-1], \mathbf{\Pi[k]} = \mathbf{n}, \Pi[k+1], \dots, \Pi[n]].$$

Thus,  $\Pi$  is built from  $\Pi'$  by inserting  $n$ , where

$$\Pi' = [\Pi[1], \dots, \Pi[k-1], \Pi[k+1], \dots, \Pi[n]].$$

$$\mathbf{RANK}(\Pi, n) = n \times \mathbf{RANK}(\Pi', n-1) + E,$$

$$E = \begin{cases} n - k, & \text{if Rank}(\Pi', n-1) \text{ is even} \\ k - 1, & \text{if Rank}(\Pi', n-1) \text{ is odd} \end{cases}$$

Example:

$$\mathbf{RANK}([3, 4, 2, 1], 4) = 4 \times \mathbf{RANK}([3, 2, 1], 3) + E = 4 \times 3 + (2 - 1) = 13.$$

**PERMTROTTERJOHNSONRANK**( $\Pi, n$ )

```

r ← 0;
for j ← 2 to n do
  k ← 1; i ← 1;
  while (Π[i] ≠ j) do
    if (Π[i] < j) then k ← k + 1;
    i ← i + 1;
  if (r ≡ 0 mod 2) then r ← j * r + j - k;
  else r ← j * r + k - 1;
return r;
```

## Unranking

Based on similar recursive principle.

Let  $r' = \lfloor \frac{r}{n} \rfloor$ ,  $\Pi' = \text{UNRANK}(r', n - 1)$ .

Let  $k = r - n \times r'$ .

Insert  $n$  into  $\Pi'$  in position:

$$\begin{aligned} k + 1, & \quad \text{if } r' \text{ is odd} \\ n - k, & \quad \text{if } r' \text{ is even} \end{aligned}$$

**PERMTROTTERJOHNSONUNRANK**( $n, r$ )

```

   $\Pi[1] \leftarrow 1;$ 
   $r_2 \leftarrow 0;$ 
  for  $j \leftarrow 2$  to  $n$  do
     $r_1 \leftarrow \lfloor \frac{r * j!}{n!} \rfloor;$  // rank of  $\Pi$  when restricted to  $\{1, 2, \dots, j\}$ 
     $k \leftarrow r_1 - j * r_2;$ 
    if ( $r_2$  is even) then
      for  $i \leftarrow j - 1$  downto  $j - k$  do
         $\Pi[i + 1] \leftarrow \Pi[i];$ 
       $\Pi[j - k] \leftarrow j;$ 
    else
      for  $i \leftarrow j - 1$  downto  $k + 1$  do
         $\Pi[i + 1] \leftarrow \Pi[i];$ 
       $\Pi[k + 1] \leftarrow j;$ 
     $r_2 \leftarrow r_1;$ 
  return  $\Pi;$ 

```

## Successor

There are four cases to analyse:

- $\mathbf{RANK}(\Pi')$  is even
  - If possible, move left:  
 $\mathbf{SUCCESSOR}([1, \mathbf{4}, 2, 3]) = ([\mathbf{4}, 1, 2, 3])$
  - If  $n$  is in first position, get successor of the remaining permutation:  $\mathbf{SUCCESSOR}([\mathbf{4}, 1, 2, 3]) = ([\mathbf{4}, 1, 3, 2])$ ,
- $\mathbf{RANK}(\Pi')$  is odd
  - If possible, move right:  
 $\mathbf{SUCCESSOR}([3, \mathbf{4}, 2, 1]) = ([3, 2, \mathbf{4}, 1])$
  - If  $n$  is in last position, get successor of the remaining permutation:  $\mathbf{SUCCESSOR}([3, 2, 1, \mathbf{4}]) = ([2, 3, 1, \mathbf{4}])$ .

We need to be able to determine the parity of  $\mathbf{RANK}(\Pi')$ .

The parity of a permutation is the parity of the number of interchanges necessary for transforming the permutation into  $[1, 2, \dots, n]$ .

$\Pi' = [5, 1, 3, 4, 2]$  is an even permutation since 2 steps are sufficient to convert it into  $[1, 2, 3, 4, 5]$ .

Note that: parity of  $\mathbf{RANK}(\Pi') =$  parity of  $\Pi'$ , since in the Trotter-Johnson algorithm  $[1, 2, \dots, n]$  has rank 0, and each swap increases the rank by 1.

It is easy to compute the parity of a permutation in  $\Theta(n^2)$ :

$$\text{PERMPARITY}(n, \Pi) = |\{(i, j) : \Pi[i] > \Pi[j], 1 \leq i \leq j \leq n\}|.$$

See the textbook for a  $\Theta(n)$  algorithm.

**PERMTROTTERJOHNSONSUCCESSOR**( $n, \Pi$ )

```

s ← 0;
for i ← 1 to n do ρ[i] ← Π[i];
done ← false;
m ← n;
while (m > 1) and (not done) do
  d ← 1;
  while (ρ[d] ≠ m) do d ← d + 1;
  for i ← d to m - 1 do ρ[i] ← ρ[i + 1];
  par ← PERMPARITY(m - 1, ρ);
  if (par = 1) then
    if (d = m) then m ← m - 1;
    else swap Π[s + d], Π[s + d + 1]
       done ← true;
  else
    if (d = 1) then m ← m - 1; s ← s + 1
    else swap Π[s + d], Π[s + d + 1]
       done ← true;
if (m = 1) then return [1, 2, ..., n]
  else return Π;

```