

# Pattern avoidance sets and infinite permutations

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# Outline of talk

Review of terminology of closed sets

Examples of their origin

Atomic sets and a new view of closed sets

Main theorem and its proof

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- ▶ The (ordinary) *generating function* of  $\mathcal{X}$  gives the number of permutations of each length
- ▶ To compute the number of permutations of each length we have to work out *structural properties* of  $\mathcal{X}$

## Where closed sets come from

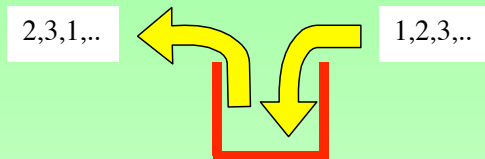
- ▶ An explicit set of permutations to avoid
- ▶ Permutations generated by stacks and other data structures
- ▶ Token-passing networks [Atkinson et al., 1997]
- ▶ *Ad hoc* combinatorial constructions
- ▶ Subpermutations of some infinite bijection



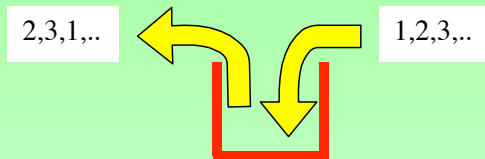
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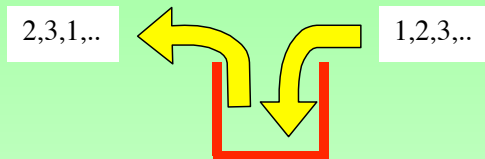


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Characterized by avoiding 312

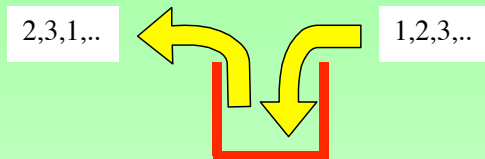
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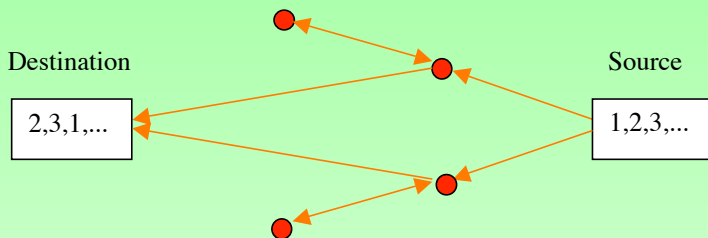
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For a large number of variations see Miklos Bóna's survey [Bóna, 2003].

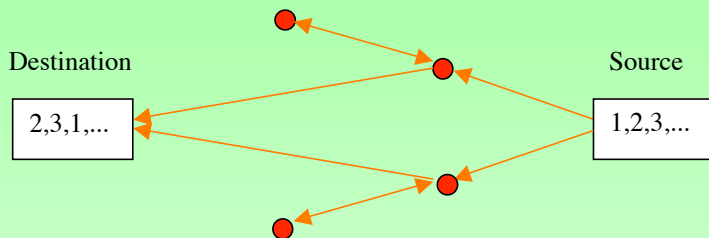
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# Token passing networks



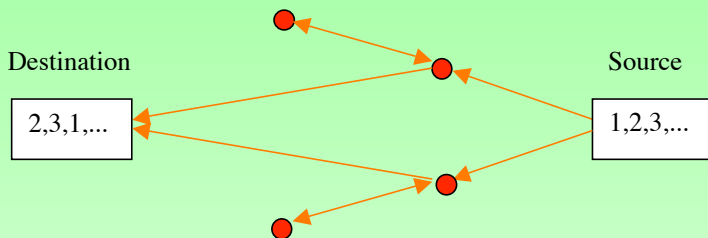
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  - ▶ Rational generating function
- ▶ Many other examples

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# Infinite bijections

Define subsets of  $\mathfrak{R}$

$$A = \{1 - 1/2^i, 2 - 1/2^i \mid i = 1, 2, \dots\}$$

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The set  $\text{Sub}(\pi)$  of (finite) subpermutations of  $\pi$  is a closed set (in this case defined by the restrictions 321, 2143, 3142)



## A structure theory?

*Can we devise a structure theory that says sensible things about closed sets but does not depend on how they are presented?*

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- ▶ If we understand atomic sets all we need do is take unions

# The structure of atomic sets

## Theorem

$\mathcal{X}$  is atomic if and only if there exist sets  $A, B \subseteq \mathfrak{R}$  and a bijection  $\pi : A \longrightarrow B$  such that

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$\Leftarrow$ : Suppose  $\mathcal{X} = \text{Sub}(\pi)$  but  $\mathcal{X} = \mathcal{Y} \cup \mathcal{Z}$ . Choose  $\eta \in \mathcal{Y} \setminus \mathcal{Z}$  and  $\zeta \in \mathcal{Z} \setminus \mathcal{Y}$ . Then  $\eta, \zeta$  are represented in  $\pi$  as subsequences. Their union represents a permutation  $\theta \in \mathcal{X}$  containing both  $\eta$  and  $\zeta$ . So  $\theta \in \mathcal{Y} \implies \zeta \in \mathcal{Y}$  etc.

## Natural closed sets

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- ▶ Therefore consider the simplest case where the order type of  $A$  and  $B$  is that of  $\mathbb{N}$ .
- ▶ A closed set is *natural* if it has the form  $\text{Sub}(\pi)$  where  $\pi : \mathbb{N} \longrightarrow \mathbb{N}$  is a bijection

## A supply of natural sets

- ▶ Many closed sets have the *sum-complete* property

$$\sigma, \tau \in \mathcal{S} \implies \sigma \oplus \tau \in \mathcal{S}$$

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- ▶ If  $\mathcal{S}$  is closed and sum-complete and  $\gamma$  is any (finite) permutation then  $\text{Sub}(\gamma) \oplus \mathcal{S}$  is natural
  - ▶ List the permutations of  $\mathcal{S}$  as  $\sigma_1, \sigma_2, \dots$  and put

$$\pi = \gamma \oplus \sigma_1 \oplus \sigma_2 \cdots$$

# Main result

## Theorem

*If  $\mathcal{X}$  is natural and finitely based then either*

- ▶  *$\mathcal{X} = \text{Sub}(\gamma) \oplus \mathcal{S}$  where  $\gamma$  is finite and  $\mathcal{S}$  is sum-complete and finitely based, or*
- ▶  *$\pi$  is periodic from some point on; i.e. there exist integers  $N$  and  $p > 0$  such that, for all  $n > N$ ,  $\pi(n + p) = \pi(n) + p$ . In this case  $\pi$  is determined by  $\mathcal{X}$  uniquely.*

*Periodic example*

*Finite basis is necessary*

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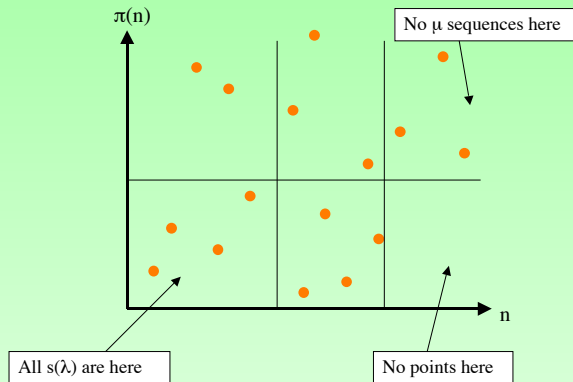
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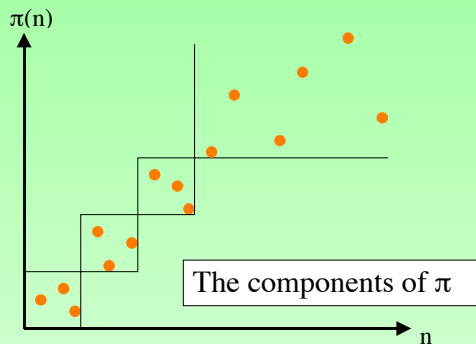
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- ▶ From some further point on we only have values larger than those occurring in the  $s(\lambda)$ s (no limit points!)
- ▶ From this point in  $\pi$  no subsequences isomorphic to a  $\mu$  sequence occur

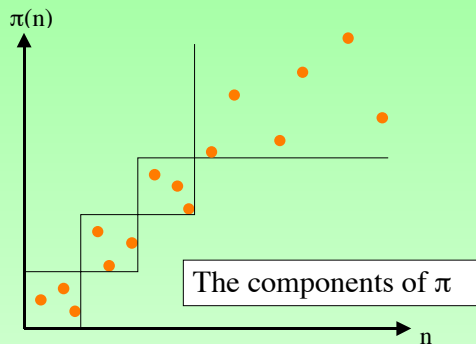
# The graph of $\pi$



# The division into cases

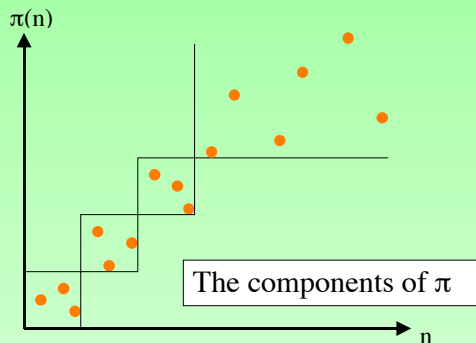


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- ▶ Finitely many components and the final component contains a  $\mu$ -sequence; this gives  $\pi$  periodic

## Further discussion

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- ▶ Only exceptions are when  $\pi$  is periodic
- ▶ What can we say about  $\text{Sub}(\pi)$  when  $\pi$  is periodic?

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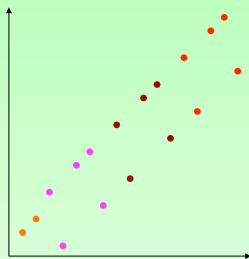
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- ▶  $\text{Sub}(\pi)$  can be enumerated algorithmically
- ▶ Generating function of  $\text{Sub}(\pi)$  is rational

# Not every periodic $\text{Sub}(\pi)$ is finitely based

► If

$$\pi = 2\ 3\ \{5\ 1\ 7\ 8\ 4\}\ \{10\ 6\ 12\ 13\ 9\}\ \{15\ 11\ 17\ 18\ 14\}\ \dots$$




then  $\text{Sub}(\pi)$  is not finitely based.



# Questions?



# References

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*Regular closed sets of permutations*  
Theoretical Computer Science 306 (2003), 85–100.
-  M. D. Atkinson, D. H. Tulley, M. J. Livesey  
*Permutations generated by token passing in graphs*  
Theoretical Computer Science 178 (1997), 103–118.
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*A Survey of Stack-Sorting Disciplines*  
Electronic J. Combin. 9(2) (2003), Paper A1.

## The finite basis assumption is necessary

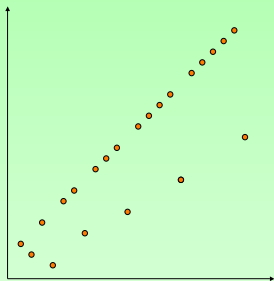
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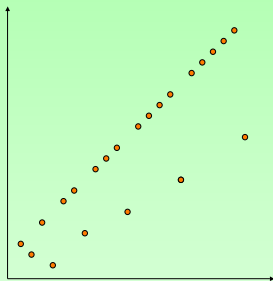
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- ▶  $\pi$  is not periodic and  $\text{Sub}(\pi)$  is not of the form “ $\text{Sub}(\gamma) \oplus \mathcal{S}$  where  $\mathcal{S}$  is sum-complete”.

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