

Let $n \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$.

The transpositions, or reflections are

$$s_{ij} = 1 + E_{ij} + E_{ji} - E_{ii} - E_{jj}$$

for $i, j \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ with $i \neq j$.

The simple transpositions are

$$s_1 = s_{1,2}, s_2 = s_{2,3}, \dots, s_{n-1} = s_{n-1,n}.$$

The symmetric group S_n is the group generated by $s_1, s_2, \dots, s_{n-1}$ under matrix multiplication.

The general linear group is

$$GL_n(\mathbb{C}) = \left\{ A \in M_{n \times n}(\mathbb{C}) \mid \begin{array}{l} \text{there exists } A^{-1} \in M_n(\mathbb{C}) \\ \text{such that} \\ AA^{-1} = I \text{ and } A^{-1}A = I \end{array} \right\}$$

with matrix multiplication.

Proposition The maps

$$\begin{aligned} GL_m(\mathbb{C}) \times GL_n(\mathbb{C}) &\longrightarrow GL_{m+n}(\mathbb{C}) \\ (A, B) &\longmapsto \left(\begin{array}{c|c} A & 0 \\ \hline 0 & B \end{array} \right) = A \oplus B \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma_n \times \sigma_m &\longrightarrow \sigma_{n+m} \\ (v, w) &\longmapsto \begin{pmatrix} v & 0 \\ 0 & w \end{pmatrix} = v \times w \end{aligned}$$

are bijective group homomorphisms.

Let $\gamma_1 = E_{11}$ in σ_1 and

$$\gamma_k = E_{12} + E_{23} + \dots + E_{k-1,k} + E_{k1} \text{ in } \sigma_k$$

for $k \in \mathbb{Z}_{>1}$. For $\mu_1, \dots, \mu_r \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$ let

$$\gamma_\mu = \gamma_{\mu_1} \times \dots \times \gamma_{\mu_r} \text{ in } \sigma_{\mu_1} \times \dots \times \sigma_{\mu_r} \subseteq \sigma_{\mu_1 + \dots + \mu_r}.$$

where $\mu = (\mu_1, \dots, \mu_r)$.

A Coxeter element of σ_n is an element of the conjugacy class of γ_μ in σ_n .

Let $[\gamma_\mu]$ denote the conjugacy class of γ_μ in $\sigma_{\mu_1 + \dots + \mu_r}$.

$$[\gamma_\mu] = \{ v^{-1} \gamma_\mu v \mid v \in \sigma_{\mu_1 + \dots + \mu_r} \}$$

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A partition of n is

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$\lambda = (k_1, \dots, k_\ell)$ such that $\ell \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$ and

$k_1, \dots, k_\ell \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$ and $k_1 \geq k_2 \geq \dots \geq k_\ell$.

and $k_1 + \dots + k_\ell = n$.

Theorem (a) The map

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \{\text{partitions of } n\} & \longleftrightarrow & \{\text{conjugacy classes of } S_n\} \\ \lambda & \longmapsto & [\gamma_\lambda]. \end{array}$$

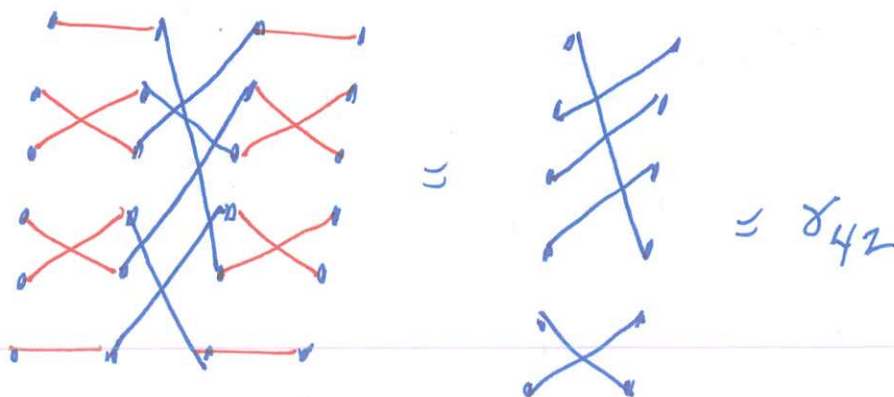
is a bijection.

(b) $\text{Card}([\gamma_\lambda]) = \frac{n!}{z_\lambda}$, where

$$z_\lambda = (1^{m_1} 2^{m_2} \dots) (m_1! m_2! \dots) \text{ if } \lambda = (1^{m_1} 2^{m_2} \dots)$$

so that m_i is the number of parts of size i in λ .

Proof



If

$$\gamma_\lambda = \gamma_1 \times \gamma_1 \times \gamma_1 \times \gamma_1 \times \gamma_1 \times \gamma_2 \times \gamma_2 \times \gamma_2 \times \gamma_3 \times \gamma_4 \times \gamma_4$$

then

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Card}(\text{Stab}(\gamma_\lambda)) &= 4! \cdot 1! \cdot 1! \cdot 1! \cdot 1! \cdot 3! \cdot 2! \cdot 2! \cdot 2! \cdot 3! \cdot 2! \cdot 4! \cdot 4! \\ &= 4! \cdot 1^4 \cdot 3! \cdot 2^3 \cdot 1! \cdot 3! \cdot 2! \cdot 4^2 \end{aligned}$$

so that

$$\text{Card}(\Sigma \gamma_\lambda) = \frac{\text{Card}(S_n)}{\text{Card}(\text{Stab}(\gamma_\lambda))} = \frac{n!}{z_\lambda \cdot p.}$$