

Group theoretical methods in Machine Learning

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Tutorial at ICML 2007

Part 2

The symmetric group

S_n is the group of bijections

$$\sigma: \{1, 2, \dots, n\} \rightarrow \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$$

under composition of maps.

Clearly, $|S_n| = n!$.

$$\sigma(1) = 3$$

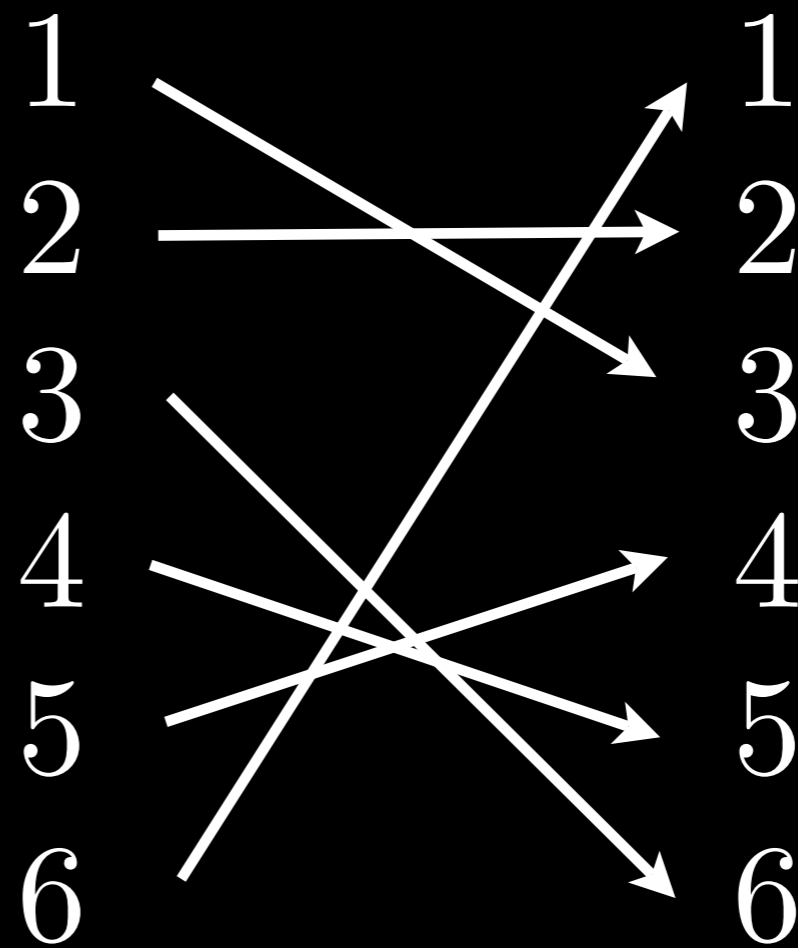
$$\sigma(2) = 2$$

$$\sigma(3) = 6$$

$$\sigma(4) = 5$$

$$\sigma(5) = 4$$

$$\sigma(6) = 1$$



$$\sigma = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 \\ 3 & 2 & 6 & 5 & 4 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Cycle notation

Example:

$$\sigma = (163)(45)(2)$$

Cycle type:

$$\sigma = (3, 2, 1)$$

Generators

Transpositions (i, j) generate the whole group.

In fact, adjacent transpositions are sufficient,
since (assuming $i < j$)

$$(i, j) = (i, i+1) \dots (j-2, -1)(j-1, j) \dots (i+1, i+2)(i, i+1)$$

Subgroups

Cayley's theorem:

Any finite group G is a subgroup of $S_{|G|}$.

Subgroups

$$\mathcal{S}_k < \mathcal{S}_n \quad \text{permutes} \quad \{1, 2, \dots, k\}$$

$$\mathcal{S}_\lambda = \mathcal{S}_{\lambda_1} \times \mathcal{S}_{\lambda_2} \times \dots \times \mathcal{S}_{\lambda_k} < \mathcal{S}_n \quad \text{permutes} \\ \{1, 2, \dots, \lambda_1\}, \{\lambda_1 + 1, \dots, \lambda_1 + \lambda_2\}, \dots, \{n - \lambda_k, \dots, n\}$$

Normal subgroups

$$A_n = \{ \sigma \in \mathfrak{S}_n \mid \text{sgn}(\sigma) = 1 \}$$

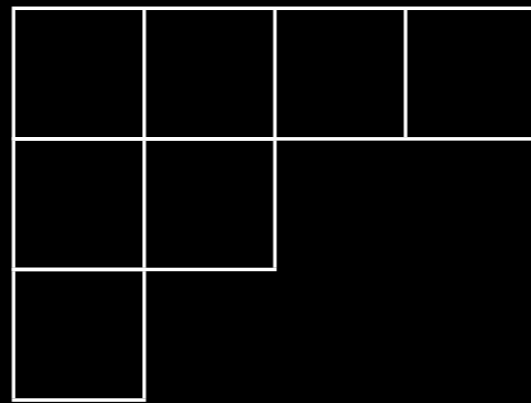
For $n \geq 5$ this is the only one!

Representations

1. The **trivial** representation $\rho_{\text{triv}}(\sigma) = (1)$
2. The **alternating** representation $\rho_{\text{triv}}(\sigma) = \text{sgn}(\sigma)$
3. The **defining** representation $[\rho_{\text{def}}(\sigma)]_{i,j} = \delta_{\sigma(i),j}$

reducible!!!

Young diagrams



\longleftrightarrow integer partitions $\lambda \vdash n$

\longleftrightarrow irreducible representations $\rho \in \mathcal{R}$

Young Tableaux

1	3	6	7
2	5		
4			

standard tableau if numbers increase left to right
and top to bottom

standard tableaux
of shape λ



dimensions of ρ_λ

Young's Orthogonal Representation (YOR)

$$[\rho_\lambda(\tau_k)]_{t,t} = 1/d_t(k, k+1)$$

$$[\rho_\lambda(\tau_k)]_{\tau_k(t),t} = \sqrt{1 - 1/d_t(k, k+1)^2} \quad \text{if } \tau_k(t) \text{ standard}$$

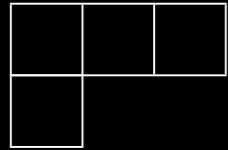
All $\rho_\lambda(\sigma)$ are real!

S_4

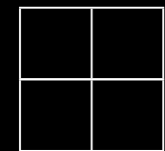


$$d = 1$$

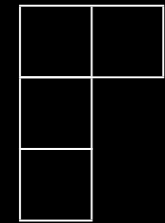
$$\rho_{(4)}(\sigma) = (1)$$



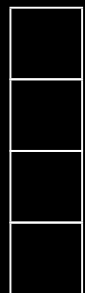
$$d = 3$$



$$d = 2$$



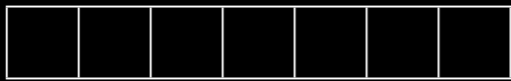
$$d = 3$$



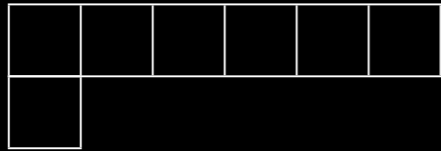
$$d = 1$$

$$\rho_{(1,1,1,1)}(\sigma) = (\text{sgn}(\sigma))$$

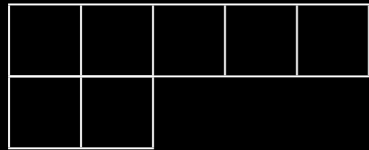
S_n



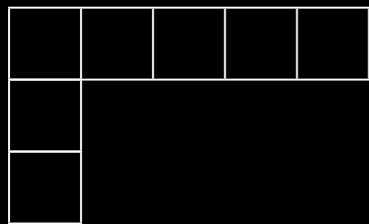
$$d = 1$$



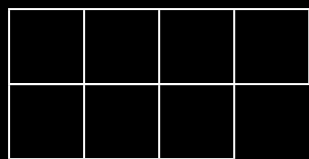
$$d = n - 1$$



$$d = n(n - 3)/2$$



$$d = (n - 1)(n - 2)/2$$



$$d = n(n - 1)(n - 5)/6$$

Hook rule

$$d_\lambda = \frac{n!}{\prod_{i=1}^n l_i}$$

$l_i =$ length of hook i

Restricted representations

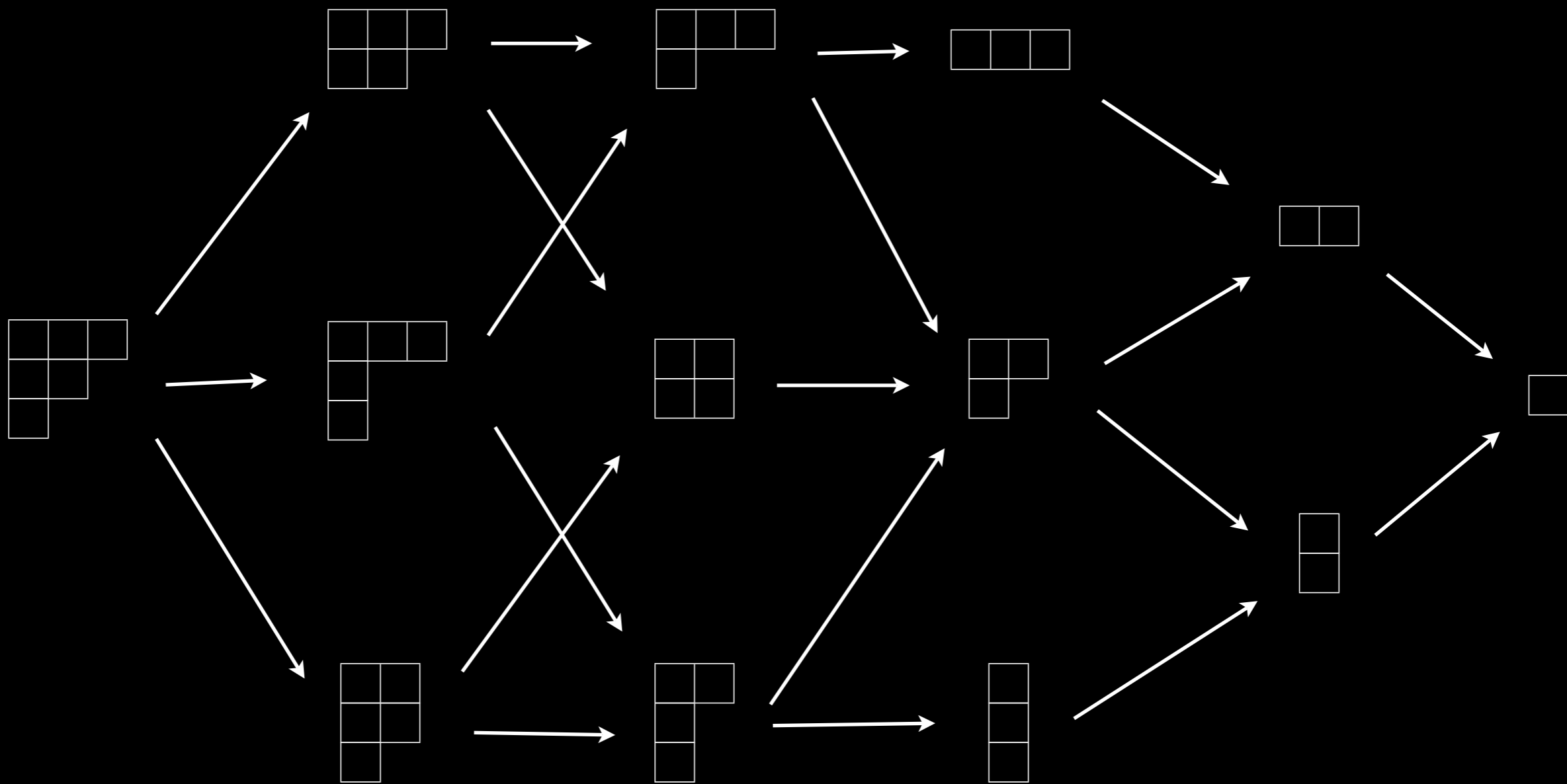
If ρ is a representation of S_n
 $\rho \downarrow_{S_k}$ is a representation of S_k given by

$$\rho \downarrow_{S_k}(\sigma) = \rho(\sigma) \quad \sigma \in S_k.$$

Young's Rule

In YOR

$$\rho_{\lambda} \downarrow_{\mathbb{S}_{n-1}}(\sigma) = \bigoplus_{\substack{\lambda^- \vdash n-1 \\ \lambda^- < \lambda}} \rho_{\lambda^-}(\sigma)$$



Clausen's FFT for S_n

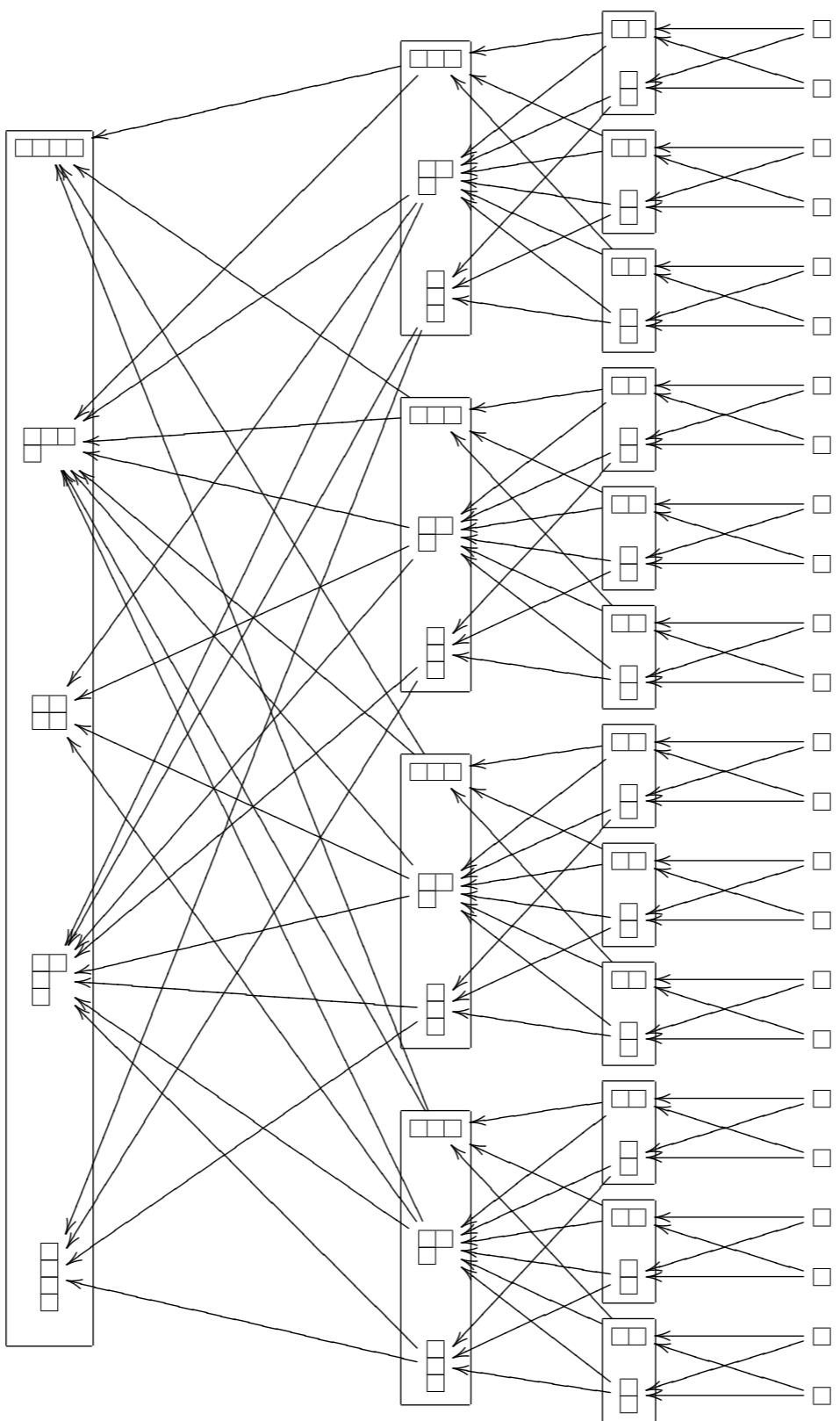
Define the **contiguous cycle**

$$[[i, j]] = (i, i + 1, i + 2, \dots, j)$$

The cosets $[[1, n]]S_{n-1}, [[2, n]]S_{n-1}, \dots, [[n, n]]S_{n-1}$
form a partition of S_n

Idea: decompose FT over S_n into n smaller
FTs over the $[[i, n]]S_{n-1}$ cosets.

$$\begin{aligned}
\widehat{f}(\lambda) &= \sum_{\sigma \in \mathbb{S}_n} \rho_\lambda(\sigma) f(\sigma) \\
&= \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{\sigma' \in \mathbb{S}_{n-1}} \rho_\lambda(\llbracket i, n \rrbracket \sigma') f(\llbracket i, n \rrbracket \sigma') \\
&= \sum_{i=1}^n \rho_\lambda(\llbracket i, n \rrbracket) \sum_{\sigma' \in \mathbb{S}_{n-1}} \rho_\lambda(\sigma') f_{\llbracket i, n \rrbracket \mathbb{S}_{n-1}}(\sigma') \\
&= \sum_{i=1}^n \rho_\lambda(\llbracket i, n \rrbracket) \bigoplus_{\substack{\lambda^- \vdash n-1 \\ \lambda^- < \lambda}} \widehat{f}_{\llbracket i, n \rrbracket \mathbb{S}_{n-1}}(\lambda^-)
\end{aligned}$$



Op count

- $[[i, k]]$ is a product of $k - i$ adjacent transpositions
- Computing $\rho_\lambda([[i, j]]) \cdot M$ takes $2d_\lambda^2$ time
- For $\lambda \vdash k$ $d_\lambda^2 = k!$
- Layer k has $n!/k!$ Fourier transforms.

$$\sum_{k=1}^n \sum_{i=1}^k 2(k-i)n! = n! \frac{(n+1)n(n-1)}{3}$$

S_n ob

S_n ob

A C++ library for fast Fourier transforms on the symmetric group.

author: Risi Kondor, Columbia University (risi@cs.columbia.edu)

Development version as of August 23, 2006 (unstable!):

Documentation: [\[ps\]](#)[\[pdf\]](#)

C++ source code: [\[directory\]](#)

BiBTeX entry: [\[bib\]](#)

Entire package: [\[tar.gz\]](#)

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GENERAL PUBLIC LICENSE [\[site\]](#)

References:

1. Michael Clausen: **Fast generalized Fourier transforms**. Theoretical Computer Science **67(1)**: 55-63, 1989.
2. David K. Maslen and Daniel N. Rockmore: **Generalized FFTs --- a survey of some recent results**. Proceedings of the DIMACS Workshop on Groups and Computation, 1997. [\[ps\]](#)
3. K.-J. Kueh, T. Olson, D. Rockmore and K.-S. Tan: **Nonlinear approximation theory on finite**

<http://www.cs.columbia.edu/~risi/SnOB>

```
#include <vector>

#include "base.h"
#include "Matrix.hpp"
#include <sstream>
#include "Sn.hpp"
#include "SnFunction.hpp"
#include "StandardTableau.hpp"

using namespace std;

class Sn::FourierTransform: FiniteGroup::FourierTransform{

public:

    friend class Sn::Function;
    friend class Sn::Ftree;

    FourierTransform(const Sn& _group);
    FourierTransform(const Sn& _group, int dummy):group(&_group),n(_group.n){};
    FourierTransform(const Sn& _group, const vector<Matrix<FIELD >*> matrices);
    FourierTransform(const Function& f);
    ~FourierTransform();

    Function* iFFT() const;

    FIELD operator()(const StandardTableau& t1, const StandardTableau& t2) const;

    double norm2() const {double result; for(int i=0; i<matrix.size(); i++) result+=1; return result;}

    string str() const;

    vector<Matrix<FIELD >*> matrix;

private:

    void fft(const Sn::Function& f, const int offset);
    void ifft(Sn::Function* target, const int _offset) const;

    const int n;
    const Sn* group;

};
```



Sn::Irreducible

Represents an irreducible representation ρ_λ of S_n .

Parent class: `FiniteGroup::Irreducible`

CONSTRUCTORS

`Irreducible(Sn* G, Partition& lambda)`

Construct the irreducible representation of the symmetric group G corresponding to the partition `lambda`.

MEMBER FUNCTIONS

`Matrix<FIELD>* rho(const Sn::Element& sigma)`

Returns $\rho(\sigma)$, the representation matrix of permutation `sigma` in Young's orthogonal representation.

`FIELD character(const Partition& nu)`

Returns $\chi(\mu)$, the character of this representation at permutations of cycle type μ .

`void computeTableaux()`

Compute the standard tableaux of this irreducible if they have not already been computed. Because this is an expensive operation, it is postponed until some function is called (such as `rho` or `character`) which requires the tableaux of this particular irreducible. `computeTableaux()` is called automatically by these functions, and once the tableaux have been computed they are stored for the lifetime of the `Irreducible`.

`StandardTableau* tableau(const int t)`

Return a new standard tableaux of index `t`. This works even if `tableauV` has not been computed.

`void computeYOR()`

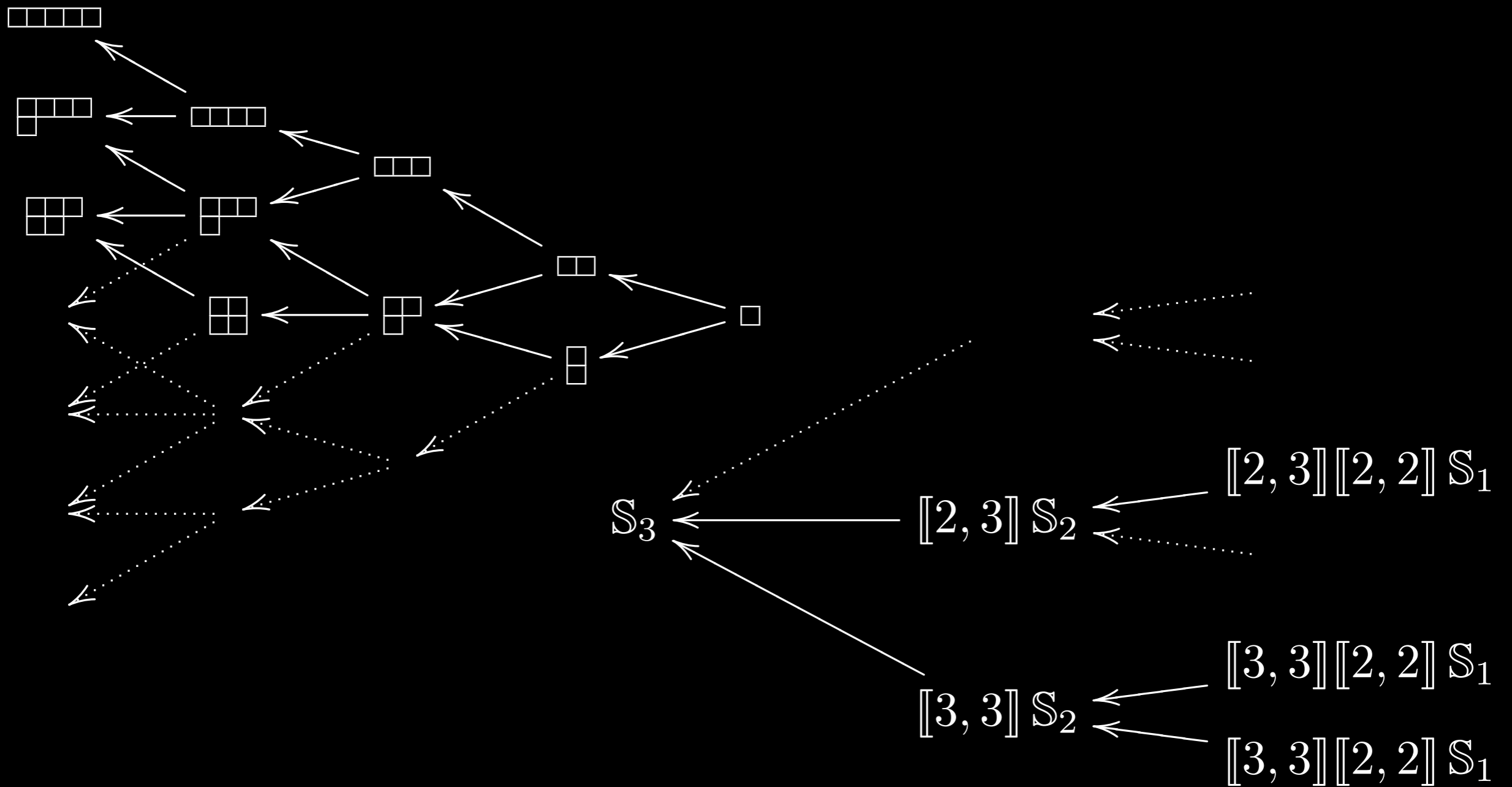
Compute and store the coefficients (2.5) and (2.6) in Young's orthogonal representation for all adjacent transpositions τ_k and all tableau t of shape λ . Because this is an expensive operation, these coefficients are not normally computed until they are demanded by functions such as `rho` or `character`. `computeYOR()` is called automatically by these functions, and once the tableaux have been computed they are stored for the lifetime of the `Irreducible`. `computeYOR()` also requires the tableaux, so it calls `computeTableaux()` if those have not been computed yet.

`void applyCycle(const int j, Matrix<FIELD>& M[, int m])`

`void applyCycle(const int j, Matrix<FIELD>& M[, int m])`



Sparse transforms



Twisted transforms

Restrict to two sided cosets $\sigma_L \mathcal{S}_k \sigma_R$

The isotypal components of S_n



“Group Representations in
Probability and Statistics”
IMS, 1988

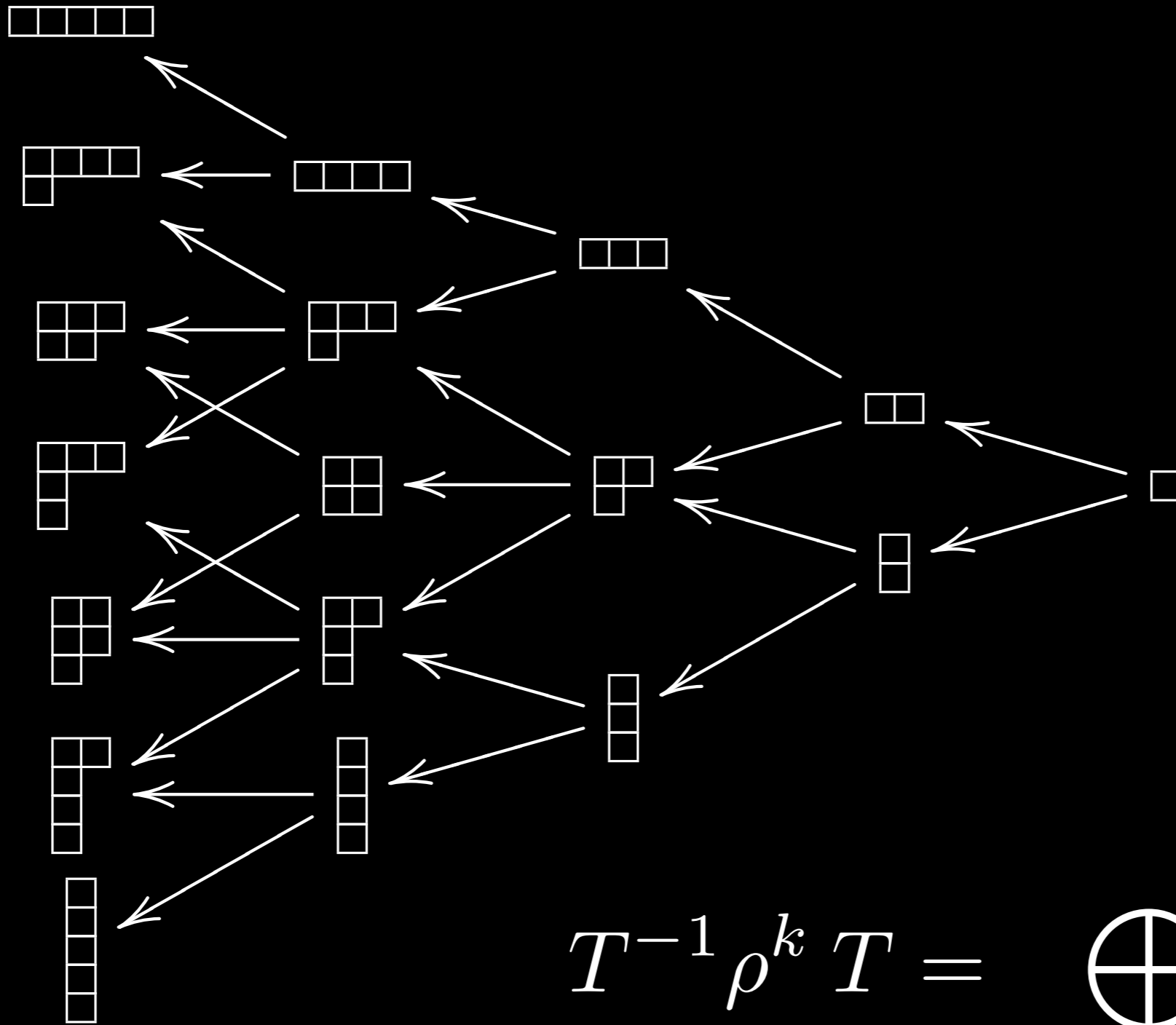
Persi Diaconis

Interpretation of σ : rank of j is $i = \sigma^{-1}(j)$

Partial rankings: $\sigma(\mathbb{S}_{\lambda_1} \times \dots \times \mathbb{S}_{\lambda_k})$ cosets

Permutation representations:

$$[\rho^k(\sigma)]_{(j_1, \dots, j_k), (i_1, \dots, i_k)} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \sigma(i_a) = j_a, \quad a = 1, 2, \dots, k \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

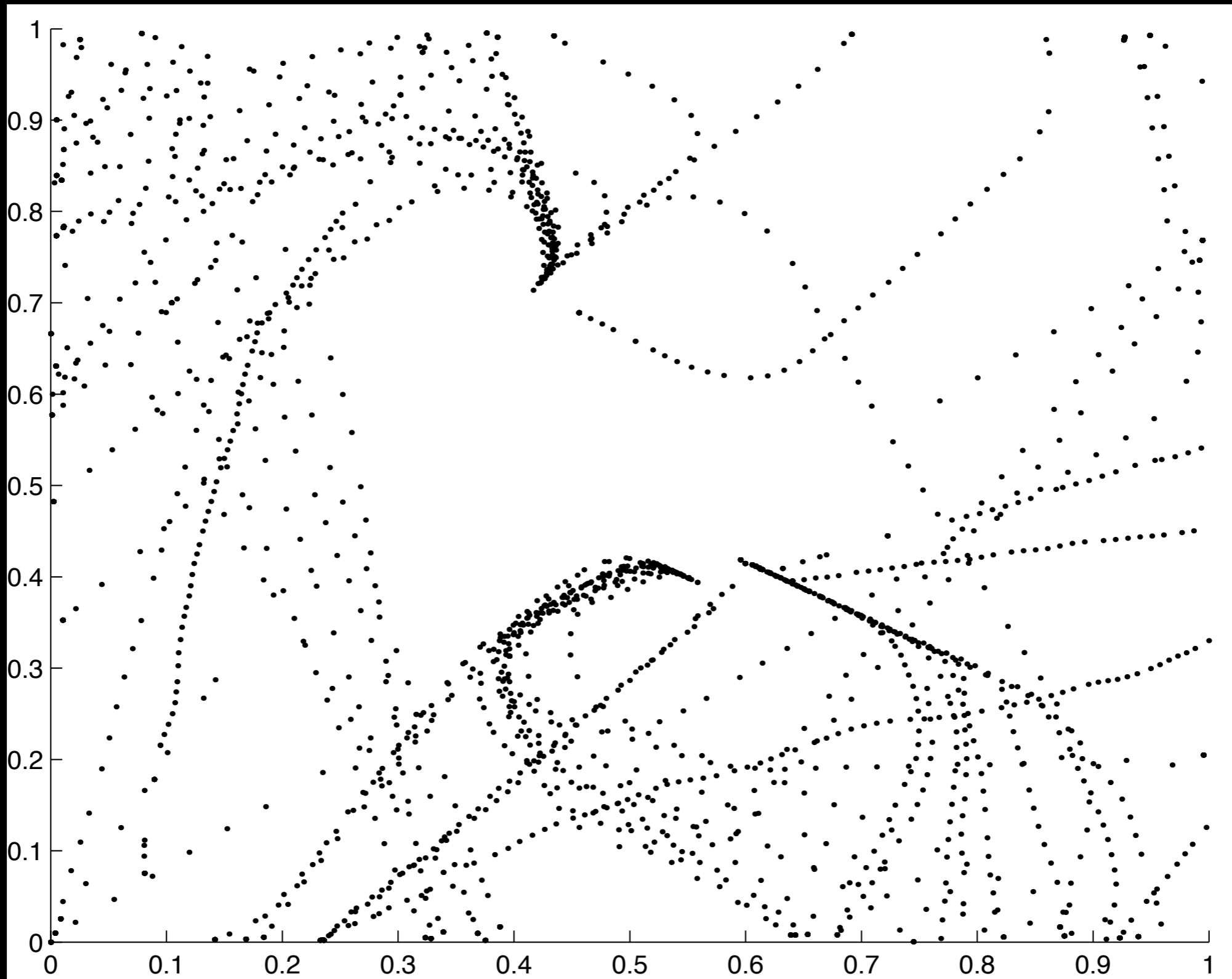


$$T^{-1} \rho^k T = \bigoplus \rho_\lambda$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \lambda \vdash n - k \\ & \lambda \geq (n - k) \end{aligned}$$

Application: multi-object tracking

R. Kondor, A. Howard, T. Jebara (AISTATS 2007)



<http://www4.passur.com/jfk.html>

Band limited approximation to $p(\sigma)$

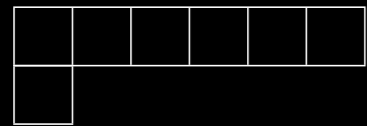
n	$n!$
2	2
3	6
4	24
5	120
6	720
7	5040
8	40320
9	362880
10	3628800
11	39916800
12	$4.8 \cdot 10^8$
\vdots	\vdots
15	$1.3 \cdot 10^{12}$
\vdots	\vdots
20	$2.4 \cdot 10^{18}$

$$\Delta_{\sigma_1, \sigma_2} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \sigma_1 = (i, j) \cdot \sigma_2 \\ -n(n-1)/2 & \text{if } \sigma_1 = \sigma_2, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

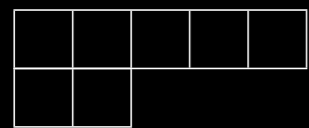
$$\alpha_\lambda = -\binom{n}{2} \left(1 - \frac{\text{tr} [\rho_\lambda((1, 2))]}{d_\lambda} \right)$$



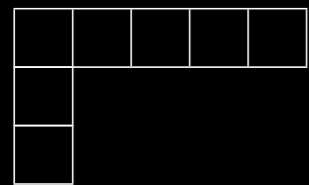
$$d = 1$$



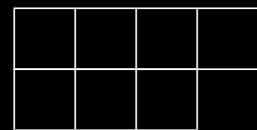
$$d = n - 1$$



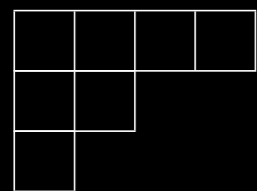
$$d = n(n - 3)/2$$



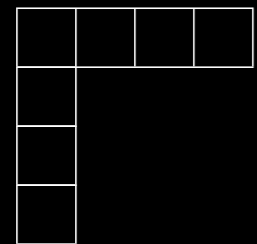
$$d = (n - 1)(n - 2)/2$$



$$d = n(n - 1)(n - 5)/6$$



$$d = n(n - 2)(n - 4)/3$$



$$d = (n - 1)(n - 2)(n - 3)/6$$

1. Noise: diffusion over transpositions

2. Observations: $O_{i \rightarrow j}$ with probability π

3. Inference: $p[\sigma(i) = j]$

I. Noise model

$$\mathbf{p}_{t'} = \left(I + \frac{\beta(t' - t)}{m} \Delta \right)^m \mathbf{p}_t = e^{\beta(t' - t)\Delta} \quad m \rightarrow \infty$$

$$\hat{p}_{t'}(\rho_\lambda) = e^{\beta\alpha_\lambda(t' - t)} \hat{p}_t(\rho_\lambda)$$

cost: $O(d_{\max}^2)$

2. Observations

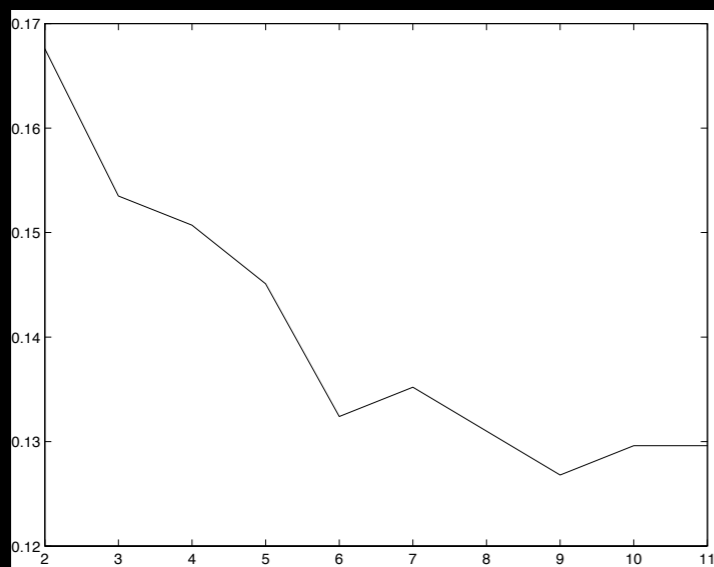
$$p(O_{i \rightarrow j} | \sigma) = \begin{cases} \pi & \text{if } \sigma(i) = j, \\ (1 - \pi)/(n - 1) & \text{if } \sigma(i) \neq j. \end{cases}$$

Compute the FT of $f_{i \rightarrow j}(\sigma') = f(\llbracket j, n \rrbracket \sigma' \llbracket i, n \rrbracket^{-1})$

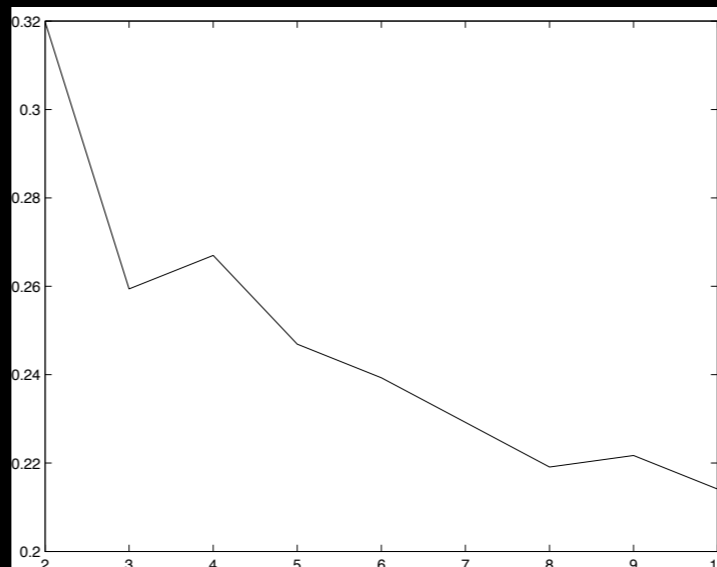
$$\hat{f}(\lambda) = \sum_{j=1}^n \rho(\llbracket j, n \rrbracket) \left[\bigoplus_{\lambda^-} \hat{f}_{i \rightarrow j}(\rho_{\lambda^-}) \right] \rho(\llbracket i, n \rrbracket^{-1})$$

cost: $O(d_{\max}^2 n)$

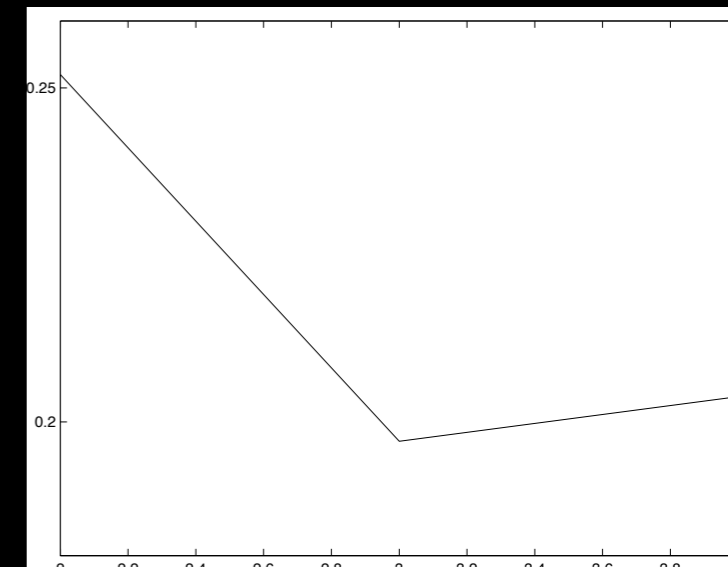
Results



$$n = 6$$
$$n! = 720$$



$$n = 10$$
$$n! = 6.6 \cdot 10^6$$



$$n = 15$$
$$n! = 1.3 \cdot 10^{12}$$

using just the components

$$\rho(4), \rho(n-1,1), \rho(n-2,2), \rho(n-2,1,1)$$

$$n = 15 \quad t \approx 59\text{ms}$$

$$n = 30 \quad t \approx 3\text{s}$$