Permutahedra & Associahedra



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MPRI 2-38-1. Algorithms and combinatorics for geometric graphs Thursday November 5th, 2020

slides available at: http://www.lix.polytechnique.fr/~pilaud/enseignement/MPRI/MPRI-2-38-1-VP4.pdf
Course notes available at: https://www.lix.polytechnique.fr/~pilaud/enseignement/MPRI/notesCoursMPRI20.pdf

PERMUTAHEDRA

braid fan $\mathcal{F}(n)$ = fan defined by hyperplanes { $x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid x_i = x_j$ } for $1 \le i < j \le n$



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regions \longleftrightarrow permutations of [n]rays \longleftrightarrow proper subsets of [n]cones \longleftrightarrow ordered partitions of [n]

$$i \leq_{\mu} j \iff i \text{ before } j \text{ in } \mu$$
$$C(\mu) = \{ \boldsymbol{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid x_i \leq x_j \text{ for } i \leq_{\mu} j \}$$



NUMBER OF ORDERED PARTITIONS

 $\ensuremath{\mathsf{QU}}\xspace$. Show that

- Ordered partitions of [n] into k parts are in bijection with surjections from [n] to [k].
- The number of surjections from A to B, with $|A| \ge |B|$ is given by

$$\sum_{p=0}^{|B|} (-1)^p \binom{|B|}{p} (|B|-p)^{|A|}.$$

(Apply the inclusion-exclusion formula to the sets $X_b := \{f : A \to B \mid b \notin f(A)\}$ for $b \in B$ to compute the number of non-surjective applications from A to B).

NUMBER OF ORDERED PARTITIONS

PROP. The number of ordered partitions of [n] into k parts is $\sum_{p=0}^{k} (-1)^p \binom{k}{p} (k-p)^n$.

proof: For finite sets A and B, we have

$$\{f: A \to B \mid f(A) \neq B\} = \bigcup_{b \in B} \{f: A \to B \mid b \notin f(A)\}.$$

Thus by inclusion-exclusion principle

$$\{f: A \to B \mid f(A) \neq B\} \mid = \sum_{\emptyset \neq C \subseteq B} (-1)^{|C|+1} \left| \bigcap_{c \in C} \{f: A \to B \mid c \notin f(A)\} \\ = \sum_{\emptyset \neq C \subseteq B} (-1)^{|C|+1} (|B| - |C|)^{|A|} = \sum_{p=1}^{|B|} (-1)^{p+1} \binom{|B|}{p} (|B| - p)^{|A|}.$$

Thus

$$|\{f: A \to B \mid f(A) = B\}| = \sum_{p=0}^{|B|} (-1)^p \binom{|B|}{p} (|B| - p)^{|A|}.$$

Ordered partitions of [n] into k parts are in bijection with surjections from [n] to [k]. (the parts of the partition are the fibers of the surjection)













WEAK ORDER



ASSOCIAHEDRA

ASSOCIAHEDRON

<u>associahedron</u> = polytope whose face lattice is isomorphic to the lattice of crossing-free sets of internal diagonals of a convex (n + 3)-gon, ordered by reverse inclusion.



THREE FAMILIES OF ASSOCIAHEDRA

POLYTOPE

SECONDARY



CHAP.-FOM.-ZEL.'S ASSOCIAHEDRON



DEF. binary tree T = tree where each internal node has exactly 2 children. Schröder tree S = tree where each internal node has at least 2 children. inorder labeling = label left subtree, then angle, then right subtree. $i \leq_S j \iff$ there is a path from i to j in S.









QU. Prove that the number of linear extensions of a binary tree T is $n!/\prod_{i\in[n]} n_i$, where n = number of vertices and $n_i =$ number of vertices in the subtree of node i.



1235476	1253476	1523476	5123476
1235746	1253746	1523746	5123746
1237546	1257346	1527346	5127346
1273546	1275346	1572346	5172346
1723546	1725346	1752346	5712346
7123546	7125346	7152346	7512346

 $7!/(2 \cdot 1 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 1 \cdot 7 \cdot 1) = 24$

PROP. The number of linear extensions of a binary tree T is $n!/\prod_{i\in[n]} n_i$, where n = number of vertices and $n_i =$ number of vertices in the subtree of node i.



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<u>proof</u>: Induction. Let L and R denote the left and right subtrees of T, with ℓ and r nodes. Then the number $\phi(T)$ of linear extensions of T is

$$\phi(T) = \phi(L) \cdot \phi(R) \cdot \binom{\ell+r}{\ell} = \frac{\ell!}{\prod_{i \in L} n_i} \frac{r!}{\prod_{i \in R} n_i} \frac{(n-1)!}{\ell! r!} = \frac{n!}{\prod_{i \in T} n_i}$$

LODAY'S ASSOCIAHEDRON





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TAMARI LATTICE

DEF. Tamari lattice = right rotations on binary trees

- = orientation of the graph of the associahedron
- = quotient of the weak order by the sylvester congruence



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THANKS

http://www.lix.polytechnique.fr/~pilaud/enseignement/MPRI/ Contact me for internship ideas.

