

ON CLASSIFICATION OF PERMUTATIONS

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ABSTRACT. Some researchers in combinatorics have developed permutation algorithms using different approaches. We contribute to this area by developing a formula for generating permutations whereby, starting with an identity permutation, each succeeding permutation is a composition on the preceding one. We also determine the conditions by which the resulting permutations form a group.

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1. INTRODUCTION

In this paper, we develop an algorithm for generating permutations whereby the initial permutation is the identity permutation and a composition rule is derived for computing the succeeding permutations. In the second section, we review permutations and show that the set of all permutations is a group under permutation multiplication. In section three, we present some developed permutation algorithms while in section four we present our results on permutation algorithm. In section five we give some algebraic properties of the generated permutations.

2. PERMUTATIONS

A *bijection* is a mapping that is both one-to-one (hereby called an *injection*) and onto (hereby called a *surjection*). A *permutation* of a finite set X is a function $\alpha: X \rightarrow X$ such that α is a

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bijection. For example, if $X = \{1, 2, 3\}$, then a mapping $\alpha: X \rightarrow X$ such that $1\alpha = 3$, $2\alpha = 1$ and $3\alpha = 2$ is a permutation of X , and is written as:

$$\alpha = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 3 & 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}, \text{ or simply } \alpha = (3 \ 1 \ 2)$$

In lemma 2.1, we show that composition of two permutations is a binary operation.

Lemma 2.1 *Let X be a finite set and let α_i, α_j be any two permutations on X . Then their composition, written as $\alpha_i\alpha_j$, is another permutation on X .*

Proof

Indeed, $\alpha_i\alpha_j$ is an injection, for if $x_1(\alpha_i\alpha_j) = x_2(\alpha_i\alpha_j)$, that is, if $(x_1\alpha_i)\alpha_j = (x_2\alpha_i)\alpha_j$, then $x_1\alpha_i = x_2\alpha_i$ (since α_j is one-to-one). But this implies that $x_1 = x_2$ since α_i is also a bijection. Next, $\alpha_i\alpha_j$ is a surjection since whenever $x_3 \in X$, then there must exist an $x_2 \in X$ for which $x_2\alpha_j = x_3$ (since α_j is onto X). Also, since α_i is onto X , then there exists an $x_1 \in X$ such that $x_1\alpha_i = x_2$. Thus, $x_2\alpha_j = (x_1\alpha_i)\alpha_j = x_3$, or $x_1(\alpha_i\alpha_j) = x_3$, and therefore, whenever $x_3 \in X$ there must exist an $x_1 \in X$ for which $x_1(\alpha_i\alpha_j) = x_3$, and so $\alpha_i\alpha_j$ is onto. Since $\alpha_i\alpha_j$ is both one-to-one and onto, we then conclude that it is a bijection and, consequently, is a permutation on X . \square

The binary operation in the above lemma is called *permutation multiplication*. As an example, if

$$\alpha_i = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 3 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } \alpha_j = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 3 & 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix},$$

are two permutations on X , then $\alpha_i\alpha_j$ is the permutation obtained as follows:

$$\alpha_i\alpha_j = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 3 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 3 & 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 1 & 3 \end{pmatrix}.$$

If X has n elements, then there are $n!$ unique permutations on X .

In theorem 2.2, it is shown that the set of all permutations on a set X is a group under permutation multiplication.

Theorem 2.2 [1]. *Let X be a non-empty set. Then the collection of all permutations on X is a group under permutation multiplication.*

Proof

We have seen in lemma 2.1 that permutation multiplication is a binary operation. Thus, if we denote the set of all permutations on X by \mathbf{P} , then \mathbf{P} is closed under this operation.

Now, permutation multiplication is defined as function composition, which is known to be associative. Next, there is a permutation $\alpha_0 \in \mathbf{P}$ for which $x\alpha_0 = x$ for all $x \in X$. α_0 acts as the

identity in \mathbf{P} . Finally, for a permutation $\alpha_i \in \mathbf{P}$, the inverse function α_i^{-1} is the permutation that reverses the direction of the mapping α_i . Thus, $x\alpha_i^{-1}$ is the element x' of X for which $x'\alpha_i = x$. The existence of exactly one such an element x' is a consequence of the fact that, as a function, α_i^{-1} is a bijection. Thus, every member of \mathbf{P} has an inverse in \mathbf{P} . Since \mathbf{P} satisfies all the group axioms, we then conclude that it is a group. \square

The above group is called the *symmetric group* on X and we shall denote it by S_n . This group is non-abelian.

In the ongoing example with $X = \{1, 2, 3\}$, S_3 has $3! = 6$ members. These are given below:

$$\alpha_0 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 \end{pmatrix}; \alpha_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 3 & 1 \end{pmatrix}; \alpha_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 3 & 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix};$$

$$\alpha_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 & 2 \\ 3 & 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}; \alpha_4 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 3 & 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}; \alpha_5 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 1 & 3 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Thus, (S_3, \circ) is a group where $S_3 = \{\alpha_0, \alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3, \alpha_4, \alpha_5\}$ with α_0 as the identity permutation and \circ denote the permutation multiplication. This group is non-abelian. The group table for (S_3, \circ) is given below:

TABLE 1. (S_3, \circ) Group Table

\circ	α_0	α_1	α_2	α_3	α_4	α_5
α_0	α_0	α_1	α_2	α_3	α_4	α_5
α_1	α_1	α_2	α_0	α_4	α_5	α_3
α_2	α_2	α_0	α_1	α_5	α_3	α_4
α_3	α_3	α_5	α_4	α_0	α_2	α_1
α_4	α_4	α_3	α_5	α_1	α_0	α_2
α_5	α_5	α_4	α_3	α_2	α_1	α_0

Theorem 2.3 [1]. Every group is isomorphic to a group of permutations.

A relation between non-empty sets E and F is a subset R of $E \times F$. We read $(e, f) \in R$ as “ e is related to f ” and write eRf .

If X is a non-empty set, an *equivalence relation* on X is a subset \sim of $X \times X$ which satisfies the following properties for all $x, y, z \in X$:

- i. Reflexive: $x \sim x$
- ii. Symmetry: $x \sim y \implies y \sim x$
- iii. Transitive: $x \sim y$ and $y \sim z \implies x \sim z$

An example of equivalence relation is the *congruence modulo n* for a positive integer n . If $n \in \mathbb{N}^+$, define a relation $\sim: \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z} \implies \mathbb{Z}$ by $h \sim k(\text{mod } n)$ if and only if $h - k = nt$ for some $t \in \mathbb{Z}$. Then $h \sim h(\text{mod } n)$ since $h - h = n(0)$ and $0 \in \mathbb{Z}$. Thus \sim is reflexive. Next, if $h \sim k(\text{mod } n)$, then $h - k = nt$ for some $t \in \mathbb{Z}$. But this shows that $k - h = n(-t)$ and $-t \in \mathbb{Z}$ whenever $t \in \mathbb{Z}$. So $k \sim h(\text{mod } n)$ and this shows that \sim is symmetric. Finally, let $h \sim k(\text{mod } n)$ and $k \sim l(\text{mod } n)$. Then $h - k = ns$ and $k - l = nt$ for some $s, t \in \mathbb{Z}$. Adding the two equations we obtain $h - l = n(s + t)$ and $s + t \in \mathbb{Z}$ whenever $s, t \in \mathbb{Z}$. Therefore, $h \sim l(\text{mod } n)$ and this shows that \sim is transitive. So we conclude that \sim is an equivalence relation on \mathbb{Z} .

The equivalence relation in the above example is denoted by " \equiv ", that is, $h \equiv k(\text{mod } n)$ if and only if $h - k = nt$ for some $t \in \mathbb{Z}$. It is employed in developing a permutation algorithm in section four.

Each permutation α on a set X determines a natural partition of X into cells with the property that $x_i, x_j \in X$ are in the same cell if and only if $x_j = x_i \alpha^n$ for some $n \in \mathbb{Z}$. This partition is established by the following equivalence relation:

For each $x_i, x_j \in X$, let $x_i \sim x_j$ if and only if $x_j = x_i \alpha^n$ for some $n \in \mathbb{Z}$. Then \sim is clearly an equivalence relation on X . Indeed, we have;

Reflexivity: $x_i \sim x_i$ since $x_i = x_i I = x_i \alpha^0$

Symmetry: If $x_i \sim x_j$, then $x_j = x_i \alpha^n$. But this implies that $x_i = x_j \alpha^{-n}$ and $-n \in \mathbb{Z}$ whenever $n \in \mathbb{Z}$. Thus, $x_j \sim x_i$.

Transitivity: Suppose that $x_i \sim x_j$ and $x_j \sim x_k$. Then $x_i = x_j \alpha^n$ and $x_j = x_k \alpha^m$ for some $m, n \in \mathbb{Z}$. Therefore, $x_i = (x_k \alpha^m) \alpha^n = x_k \alpha^{m+n}$ and $m + n \in \mathbb{Z}$ whenever $m, n \in \mathbb{Z}$. Thus, $x_i \sim x_k$.

If α is a permutation of X , then the equivalence classes in X determined by the above equivalence relation are the *orbits* of α .

A permutation $\alpha \in S_n$ is a *cycle* if it has at most one orbit containing more than one element. The *length* of a cycle is the number of elements in its orbit. A cycle of length 2 is called a *transposition*.

Theorems 2.4, 2.5 and 2.6 below give some properties of permutations.

Theorem 2.4 [1]. *Every permutation of a non-empty set is a product of disjoint cycles.*

Corollary 2.5 [1]. *Any permutation of a finite set of at least two elements is a product of transpositions.*

Theorem 2.6 [1]. No permutation in S_n can be expressed both as a product of an even number of transpositions and as a product of an odd number of transpositions.

A permutation of a finite set is *even* or *odd* according to whether it can be expressed as a product of an even number of transpositions or a product of an odd number of transpositions respectively.

Theorem 2.7 [1]. If $n \geq 2$ is the number of elements in X , then the group of all even permutations of X is a subgroup of S_n of order $\frac{n!}{2}$.

The subgroup of S_n described in theorem 2.7 is called the *alternating group* on X and is denoted by A_n .

3. PERMUTATIONS ALGORITHMS

Let $Q = \{q_1, q_2, \dots, q_{n-1}\}$ be a sequence such that $q_i = +1$ or $q_i = -1$. A permutation with signature Q is a permutation $\alpha = x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$ of the integers $1, 2, \dots, n$ such that $x_i < x_{i+1}$ if $q_i = +1$ or $x_i > x_{i+1}$ if $q_i = -1$ for all $i = 1, 2, \dots, n - 1$. An alternating permutation is a permutation with signature $Q = (+1, -1, \dots, (-1)^{i+1}, \dots)$.

Some researchers have worked on the problem of enumerating permutations with a given signature. The problem of generating all permutations with a given signature is equivalent to the problem of generating all topological sorting of a poset whose Hasse diagram is a path.

D. Roulants and F. Ruskey [2] in 1992 presented the first constant average time algorithm for generating all permutations with a given signature.

G. Sypro [3] in 2001 presented a new derivation of an enumeration formula for permutations of a given signature. They used random number sequences which mimic the permutations, in the sense that they rise and fall as determined by the permutation's signature.

A permutation $\alpha = (1\alpha, 2\alpha, \dots, n\alpha)$ of n integers $1, 2, \dots, n$ is said to have a rising sequence if $i\alpha < (i + 1)\alpha < \dots < (i + k)\alpha$. A falling sequence is defined similarly.

H. O. Foulkes [4], in 1970 described a method by which the enumeration of permutations of $1, 2, \dots, n$ with a prescribed sequence A of rises and falls, or a prescribed sequence B of inversions of orders, or with both A and B , is effected in terms of numbers derived from the representation theory of the symmetric group.

N. Dershowitz [5], in 1975 presented an algorithm for generating permutations that generate the next permutation by reversing a certain suffix of its predecessor. A large number of generating functions for permutation statistics can be obtained by applying homomorphisms

to simple symmetric function identities. In particular, a large number of generating functions involving the number of descents of a permutation α , denoted $des(\alpha)$, arises in this way.

F. Breuti [6], in 2000 introduced and studied a class of symmetric functions that depend on a parameter q , which include symmetric functions.

For a given finite set A of positive integers, J. Rammal and M. Riehl [7] in 2010 developed a method to produce similar generating functions for the set of permutations of the symmetric group A_n whose descent set contains A .

The literature in this section motivates us to develop a permutation generating algorithm as a way of contributing to this topic. Our results are contained in sections four and five.

4. DEVELOPMENT OF $\cup_{x_k}^n$ -PERMUTATIONS

In this section, a class of permutations is obtained by first coming up with a mapping on a finite set. It is then proved that this mapping is a bijection and hence it is a permutation. Some examples of permutations are then provided.

Let N be a finite set of ordered objects, say $N = \{x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots, x_n\}$ for some $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Fix $\alpha_0 = (x_1 \ x_2 \ x_3 \ \dots \ x_n)$. For some $q \in \mathbb{N}$ and such that q divides n , partition N into q cells, that is, C_1, C_2, \dots, C_q , whereby $x_i \in C_j$ if and only if $i \equiv j \pmod{q}$. Let the partition of N allocate members of N into the cells C_j for $j = 1, 2, \dots, q$ in a manner that their relative positions in N is preserved. Therefore, we obtain a partition $P_{\alpha_0}^n = \{C_j : x_i \in C_j \text{ if and only if } i \equiv j \pmod{q}\}$

For a fixed $x_k \in N$, the union $\cup_{x_k}^n$ of the cells in $P_{\alpha_0}^n$ is obtained as follows:

$$\cup_{x_k}^n [P_{\alpha_0}^n] = \cup_{j=1}^q \{C_j : C_r \text{ is at fixed position } t \text{ if } x_k \in C_r\},$$

where $t = 1, 2, \dots, q$. Again, the union of the cells C_j for $j = 1, 2, \dots, q$ are such that the relative positions of the cells in $P_{\alpha_0}^n$ are preserved.

Let $\cup_{x_k}^n [P_{\alpha_0}^n] = \alpha_1$. Repeat the above process in succession to obtain $\alpha_2, \alpha_3, \dots$ etc. We thus obtain a mapping $\cup_{x_k}^n : N \rightarrow N$ such that:

$$\cup_{x_k}^n [N] = \alpha_1$$

$$\cup_{x_k}^n [P_{\alpha_1}^n] = \alpha_2$$

\vdots

$$\cup_{x_k}^n [P_{\alpha_{s-1}}^n] = \alpha_s$$

\vdots

Theorem 4.1 The mapping $\cup_{x_k}^n : N \rightarrow N$ described above is a permutation in N .

Proof

We need to show that $\bigcup_{x_k}^n$ is a bijection on N . First, $\bigcup_{x_k}^n$ is one-to-one for if $x_i, x_j \in N$ with $\bigcup_{x_k}^n(x_i) = \bigcup_{x_k}^n(x_j)$, then $x_i = x_j$ necessarily for there are no instances where distinct members of N are mapped to identical members of N under $\bigcup_{x_k}^n$. Thus $\bigcup_{x_k}^n$ is one-to-one.

Next, $\bigcup_{x_k}^n$ is onto N since every member of N is some $\bigcup_{x_k}^n$ -image of a member in N . Therefore, we conclude that $\bigcup_{x_k}^n$ is a permutation on N . \square

Notation 4.2: We shall denote the set of all such permutations on N by $N_{x_k}^n$ and call them the $\bigcup_{x_k}^n$ -permutations.

Corollary 4.3 The set of all $\bigcup_{x_k}^n$ -permutations on N is a subset of N_n , the set of all permutations on N .

Proof

Now, from theorem 4.1, if $\alpha \in N_{x_k}^n$ then α is a permutation on N and hence $\alpha \in N_n$, the set of all permutations on N . \square

Three categories of permutations are considered for construction, that is, when $n = 9, n = 12$ and $n = 15$. To obtain the first category of permutations, we consider $q = 3, k = 4, n = 9$ and t is the middle position.

Let $N = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9\}$. Note that here $x_k = x_4 = 4$. Then

$$\alpha_0 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 & 9 \end{pmatrix}$$

Therefore,

$$\alpha_0 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 & 9 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 & 9 \end{pmatrix}$$

When N is mapped the first time, the first permutation denoted by α_1 is obtained as shown below:

$$\alpha_0 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 & 9 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$C_1 = \{1, 4, 7\}, C_2 = \{2, 5, 8\}, C_3 = \{3, 6, 9\}$$

Then,

$$P_{\alpha_0}^9 = \{\{1, 4, 7\}, \{2, 5, 8\}, \{3, 6, 9\}\}$$

Taking the union, we obtain

$$\bigcup_4^9[P_{\alpha_0}^9] = \{3, 6, 9, 1, 4, 7, 2, 5, 8\}$$

Therefore

$$\alpha_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 & 9 \\ 3 & 6 & 9 & 1 & 4 & 7 & 2 & 5 & 8 \end{pmatrix}$$

A mapping of α_1 yields the second permutation denoted by α_2 . This is possible after partitioning it into three cells as follows:

$$\alpha_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 6 & 9 & 1 & 4 & 7 & 2 & 5 & 8 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$C_1 = \{3, 1, 2\}, C_2 = \{6, 4, 5\}, C_3 = \{9, 7, 8\}$$

Then,

$$P_{\alpha_1}^9 = \{\{3, 1, 2\}, \{6, 4, 5\}, \{9, 7, 8\}\}$$

Taking the union, we obtain

$$\bigcup_4^9 [P_{\alpha_1}^9] = \{3, 1, 2, 6, 4, 5, 9, 7, 8\}$$

Therefore

$$\alpha_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 & 9 \\ 3 & 1 & 2 & 6 & 4 & 5 & 9 & 7 & 8 \end{pmatrix}$$

From the first category, we obtain three unique permutations, that is;

$$N_4^9 = \{\alpha_0, \alpha_1, \alpha_2\}.$$

Constructing the second category of permutations, we consider $n = 12, k = 4, q = 3, t$ is the middle position, and $N = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12\}$. Again, $x_k = x_4 = 4$. Since $N = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12\}$, then we have

$$\alpha_0 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 & 9 & 10 & 11 & 12 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 & 9 & 10 & 11 & 12 \end{pmatrix}$$

When N is mapped for the first time, the first permutation denoted by α_1 is obtained as follows;

$$\alpha_0 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 & 9 & 10 & 11 & 12 \\ 1 & 4 & 7 & 10 & 2 & 5 & 8 & 11 & 3 & 6 & 9 & 12 \end{pmatrix}$$

Then,

$$P_{\alpha_0}^{12} = \{\{1, 4, 7, 10\}, \{2, 5, 8, 11\}, \{3, 6, 9, 12\}\}$$

Taking the union, we obtain

$$\bigcup_4^{12} [P_{\alpha_0}^{12}] = \{3, 6, 9, 12, 1, 4, 7, 10, 2, 5, 8, 11\}$$

Therefore

$$\alpha_1 = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 & 9 & 10 & 11 & 12 \\ 3 & 6 & 9 & 12 & 1 & 4 & 7 & 10 & 2 & 5 & 8 & 11 \end{array} \right\}$$

The next permutation denoted by α_2 is obtained when N undergoes the second permutation as follows;

$$\alpha_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 6 & 9 & 12 & 1 & 4 & 7 & 10 & 2 & 5 & 8 & 11 \\ 3 & 12 & 7 & 5 & 6 & 1 & 10 & 8 & 9 & 4 & 2 & 11 \end{pmatrix}$$

Then,

$$P_{\alpha_1}^{12} = \{\{3, 12, 7, 5\}, \{6, 1, 10, 8\}, \{9, 4, 2, 11\}\}$$

Taking the union, we obtain

$$\bigcup_4^{12}[P_{\alpha_1}^{12}] = \{6, 1, 10, 8, 9, 4, 2, 11, 3, 12, 7, 5\}$$

Therefore

$$\alpha_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 & 9 & 10 & 11 & 12 \\ 6 & 1 & 10 & 8 & 9 & 4 & 2 & 11 & 3 & 12 & 7 & 5 \end{pmatrix}$$

When N undergoes the next permutation, we obtain α_3 as follows:

$$\alpha_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 6 & 1 & 10 & 8 & 9 & 4 & 2 & 11 & 3 & 12 & 7 & 5 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$C_1 = \{6, 8, 2, 12\}, C_2 = \{1, 9, 11, 7\}, C_3 = \{10, 4, 3, 5\}$$

Then,

$$P_{\alpha_2}^{12} = \{\{6, 8, 2, 12\}, \{1, 9, 11, 7\}, \{10, 4, 3, 5\}\}$$

Taking the union, we obtain

$$\bigcup_4^{12}[P_{\alpha_2}^{12}] = \{1, 9, 11, 7, 10, 4, 3, 5, 6, 8, 2, 12\}$$

Therefore

$$\alpha_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 & 9 & 10 & 11 & 12 \\ 1 & 9 & 11 & 7 & 10 & 4 & 3 & 5 & 6 & 8 & 2 & 12 \end{pmatrix}$$

The fourth permutation is obtained as follows:

$$\alpha_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 9 & 11 & 7 & 10 & 4 & 3 & 5 & 6 & 8 & 2 & 12 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$C_1 = \{1, 7, 3, 8\}, C_2 = \{9, 10, 5, 2\}, C_3 = \{11, 4, 6, 12\}$$

Then,

$$P_{\alpha_3}^{12} = \{\{1, 7, 3, 8\}, \{9, 10, 5, 2\}, \{11, 4, 6, 12\}\}$$

Taking the union, we obtain

$$\bigcup_4^{12}[P_{\alpha_3}^{12}] = \{9, 10, 5, 2, 11, 4, 6, 12, 1, 7, 3, 8\}$$

Therefore

$$\alpha_4 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 & 9 & 10 & 11 & 12 \\ 9 & 10 & 5 & 2 & 11 & 4 & 6 & 12 & 1 & 7 & 3 & 8 \end{pmatrix}$$

When N undergoes the fifth permutation, we obtain α_5 as follows;

$$\alpha_4 = \begin{pmatrix} 9 & 10 & 5 & 2 & 11 & 4 & 6 & 12 & 1 & 7 & 3 & 8 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$C_1 = \{9, 2, 6, 7\}, C_2 = \{10, 11, 12, 3\}, C_3 = \{5, 4, 1, 8\}$$

Then,

$$P_{\alpha_4}^{12} = \{\{9, 2, 6, 7\}, \{10, 11, 12, 3\}, \{5, 4, 1, 8\}\}$$

Taking the union, we obtain

$$\bigcup_4^{12}[P_{\alpha_4}^{12}] = \{10, 11, 12, 3, 5, 4, 1, 8, 9, 2, 6, 7\}$$

Therefore

$$\alpha_5 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 & 9 & 10 & 11 & 12 \\ 10 & 11 & 12 & 3 & 5 & 4 & 1 & 8 & 9 & 2 & 6 & 7 \end{pmatrix}$$

When N is mapped for the sixth time, the sixth permutation denoted by α_6 is obtained as follows;

$$\alpha_5 = \begin{pmatrix} 10 & 11 & 12 & 3 & 5 & 4 & 1 & 8 & 9 & 2 & 6 & 7 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$C_1 = \{10, 3, 1, 2\}, C_2 = \{11, 5, 8, 6\}, C_3 = \{12, 4, 9, 7\}$$

Then,

$$P_{\alpha_5}^{12} = \{\{10, 3, 1, 2\}, \{11, 5, 8, 6\}, \{12, 4, 9, 7\}\}$$

Taking the union, we obtain

$$\bigcup_4^{12}[P_{\alpha_5}^{12}] = \{11, 5, 8, 6, 12, 4, 9, 7, 10, 3, 1, 2\}$$

Therefore

$$\alpha_6 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 & 9 & 10 & 11 & 12 \\ 11 & 5 & 8 & 6 & 12 & 4 & 9 & 7 & 10 & 3 & 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

The next permutation denoted by α_7 is obtained when N undergoes the seventh permutation as follows;

$$\alpha_6 = \begin{pmatrix} 11 & 5 & 8 & 6 & 12 & 4 & 9 & 7 & 10 & 3 & 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$C_1 = \{11, 6, 9, 3\}, C_2 = \{5, 12, 7, 1\}, C_3 = \{8, 4, 10, 2\}$$

Then,

$$P_{\alpha_6}^{12} = \{\{11, 6, 9, 3\}, \{5, 12, 7, 1\}, \{8, 4, 10, 2\}\}$$

Taking the union, we obtain

$$\bigcup_4^{12}[P_{\alpha_6}^{12}] = \{5, 12, 7, 1, 8, 4, 10, 2, 11, 6, 9, 3\}$$

Therefore

$$\alpha_7 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 & 9 & 10 & 11 & 12 \\ 5 & 12 & 7 & 1 & 8 & 4 & 10 & 2 & 11 & 6 & 9 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

When N undergoes the next permutation, we obtain α_8 as follows;

$$\alpha_7 = \begin{pmatrix} 5 & 12 & 7 & 1 & 8 & 4 & 10 & 2 & 11 & 6 & 9 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$C_1 = \{5, 1, 10, 6\}, C_2 = \{12, 8, 2, 9\}, C_3 = \{7, 4, 11, 3\}$$

Then,

$$P_{\alpha_7}^{12} = \{\{5, 1, 10, 6\}, \{12, 8, 2, 9\}, \{7, 4, 11, 3\}\}$$

Taking the union, we obtain

$$\bigcup_4^{12}[P_{\alpha_7}^{12}] = \{12, 8, 2, 9, 7, 4, 11, 3, 5, 1, 10, 6\}$$

Therefore

$$\alpha_8 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 & 9 & 10 & 11 & 12 \\ 12 & 8 & 2 & 9 & 7 & 4 & 11 & 3 & 5 & 1 & 10 & 6 \end{pmatrix}$$

The ninth permutation is obtained as follows:

$$\alpha_8 = \begin{pmatrix} 12 & 8 & 2 & 9 & 7 & 4 & 11 & 3 & 5 & 1 & 10 & 6 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$C_1 = \{12, 9, 11, 1\}, C_2 = \{8, 7, 3, 10\}, C_3 = \{2, 4, 5, 6\}$$

Then,

$$P_{\alpha_8}^{12} = \{\{12, 9, 11, 1\}, \{8, 7, 3, 10\}, \{2, 4, 5, 6\}\}$$

Taking the union, we obtain

$$\bigcup_4^{12}[P_{\alpha_8}^{12}] = \{8, 7, 3, 10, 2, 4, 5, 6, 12, 9, 11, 1\}$$

Therefore

$$\alpha_9 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 & 9 & 10 & 11 & 12 \\ 8 & 7 & 3 & 10 & 2 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 12 & 9 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

When N undergoes the tenth permutation, we obtain α_{10} as follows;

$$\alpha_9 = \begin{pmatrix} 8 & 7 & 3 & 10 & 2 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 12 & 9 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$C_1 = \{8, 10, 5, 9\}, C_2 = \{7, 2, 6, 11\}, C_3 = \{3, 4, 12, 1\}$$

Then,

$$P_{\alpha_9}^{12} = \{\{8, 10, 5, 9\}, \{7, 2, 6, 11\}, \{3, 4, 12, 1\}\}$$

Taking the union, we obtain

$$\bigcup_4^{12}[P_{\alpha_9}^{12}] = \{7, 2, 6, 11, 3, 4, 12, 1, 8, 10, 5, 9\}$$

Therefore

$$\alpha_{10} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 & 9 & 10 & 11 & 12 \\ 7 & 12 & 6 & 11 & 3 & 4 & 12 & 1 & 8 & 10 & 5 & 9 \end{pmatrix}$$

When N undergoes the eleventh permutation, we obtain α_{11} as follows;

$$\alpha_{10} = \begin{pmatrix} 7 & 12 & 6 & 11 & 3 & 4 & 12 & 1 & 8 & 10 & 5 & 9 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$C_1 = \{7, 11, 12, 10\}, C_2 = \{2, 3, 1, 5\}, C_3 = \{6, 4, 8, 9\}$$

Then,

$$P_{\alpha_{10}}^{12} = \{\{7, 11, 12, 10\}, \{2, 3, 1, 5\}, \{6, 4, 8, 9\}\}$$

Taking the union, we obtain

$$\bigcup_4^{12}[P_{\alpha_{10}}^{12}] = \{2, 3, 1, 5, 6, 4, 8, 9, 7, 11, 12, 10\}$$

Therefore

$$\alpha_{11} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 & 9 & 10 & 11 & 12 \\ 2 & 3 & 1 & 5 & 6 & 4 & 8 & 9 & 7 & 11 & 12 & 10 \end{pmatrix}$$

From the second category of permutations, we obtain twelve unique permutations, that is,

$$N_4^{12} = \{\alpha_0, \alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3, \alpha_4, \alpha_5, \alpha_6, \alpha_7, \alpha_8, \alpha_9, \alpha_{10}, \alpha_{11}\}.$$

The third category of permutations is obtained, when we consider $k = 4, q = 3, t$ is the middle position and

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

Therefore,

$$\alpha_0 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 & 9 & 10 & 11 & 12 & 13 & 14 & 15 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 & 9 & 10 & 11 & 12 & 13 & 14 & 15 \end{pmatrix}$$

When N undergoes the first permutation, we obtain α_1 as shown below:

$$\alpha_0 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 & 9 & 10 & 11 & 12 & 13 & 14 & 15 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$C_1 = \{1, 4, 7, 10, 13\}, C_2 = \{2, 5, 8, 11, 14\}, C_3 = \{3, 6, 9, 12, 15\}$$

Then,

$$P_{\alpha_0}^{15} = \{\{1, 4, 7, 10, 13\}, \{2, 5, 8, 11, 14\}, \{3, 6, 9, 12, 15\}\}$$

Taking the union, we obtain

$$\bigcup_4^{15} [P_{\alpha_0}^{15}] = \{3, 6, 9, 12, 15, 1, 4, 7, 10, 13, 2, 5, 8, 11, 14\}$$

Therefore

$$\alpha_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 & 9 & 10 & 11 & 12 & 13 & 14 & 15 \\ 3 & 6 & 9 & 12 & 15 & 1 & 4 & 7 & 10 & 13 & 2 & 5 & 8 & 11 & 14 \end{pmatrix}$$

When N undergoes the next mapping we obtain permutation α_2 as shown below;

$$\alpha_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 6 & 9 & 12 & 15 & 1 & 4 & 7 & 10 & 13 & 2 & 5 & 8 & 11 & 14 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$C_1 = \{3, 12, 4, 13, 8\}, C_2 = \{6, 15, 7, 2, 11\}, C_3 = \{9, 1, 10, 5, 14\}$$

Then,

$$P_{\alpha_1}^{15} = \{\{3, 12, 4, 13, 8\}, \{6, 15, 7, 2, 11\}, \{9, 1, 10, 5, 14\}\}$$

Taking the union, we obtain

$$\bigcup_4^{15} [P_{\alpha_1}^{15}] = \{9, 1, 10, 5, 14, 3, 12, 4, 13, 8, 6, 15, 7, 2, 11\}$$

Therefore

$$\alpha_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 & 9 & 10 & 11 & 12 & 13 & 14 & 15 \\ 9 & 1 & 10 & 5 & 14 & 3 & 12 & 4 & 13 & 8 & 6 & 15 & 7 & 2 & 11 \end{pmatrix}$$

N undergoes the third permutation, we obtain α_3 as shown below;

$$\alpha_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 9 & 1 & 10 & 5 & 14 & 3 & 12 & 4 & 13 & 8 & 6 & 15 & 7 & 2 & 11 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$C_1 = \{9, 5, 12, 8, 7\}, C_2 = \{1, 14, 4, 6, 2\}, C_3 = \{10, 3, 13, 15, 11\}$$

Then,

$$P_{\alpha_2}^{15} = \{\{9, 5, 12, 8, 7\}, \{1, 14, 4, 6, 2\}, \{10, 3, 13, 15, 11\}\}$$

Taking the union, we obtain

$$\bigcup_4^{15} [P_{\alpha_2}^{15}] = \{9, 5, 12, 8, 7, 1, 14, 4, 6, 2, 10, 3, 13, 15, 11\}$$

Therefore

$$\alpha_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 & 9 & 10 & 11 & 12 & 13 & 14 & 15 \\ 9 & 5 & 12 & 8 & 7 & 1 & 14 & 4 & 6 & 2 & 10 & 3 & 13 & 15 & 11 \end{pmatrix}$$

The fourth permutation denoted by α_4 is obtained when N undergoes the fourth permutation as shown below;

$$\alpha_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 9 & 5 & 12 & 8 & 7 & 1 & 14 & 4 & 6 & 2 & 10 & 3 & 13 & 15 & 11 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$C_1 = \{9, 8, 14, 2, 13\}, C_2 = \{5, 7, 4, 10, 15\}, C_3 = \{12, 1, 6, 3, 11\}$$

Then,

$$P_{\alpha_3}^{15} = \{\{9, 8, 14, 2, 13\}, \{5, 7, 4, 10, 15\}, \{12, 1, 6, 3, 11\}\}$$

Taking the union, we obtain

$$\bigcup_4^{15}[P_{\alpha_3}^{15}] = \{9, 8, 14, 2, 13, 5, 7, 4, 10, 15, 12, 1, 6, 3, 11\}$$

Therefore

$$\alpha_4 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 & 9 & 10 & 11 & 12 & 13 & 14 & 15 \\ 9 & 8 & 14 & 2 & 13 & 5 & 7 & 4 & 10 & 15 & 12 & 1 & 6 & 3 & 11 \end{pmatrix}$$

When N goes through the fifth permutation, we obtain α_5 as shown below;

$$\alpha_4 = \begin{pmatrix} 9 & 8 & 14 & 2 & 13 & 5 & 7 & 4 & 10 & 15 & 12 & 1 & 6 & 3 & 11 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$C_1 = \{9, 2, 7, 15, 6\}, C_2 = \{8, 13, 4, 12, 3\}, C_3 = \{14, 5, 10, 1, 11\}$$

Then,

$$P_{\alpha_4}^{15} = \{\{9, 2, 7, 15, 6\}, \{8, 13, 4, 12, 3\}, \{14, 5, 10, 1, 11\}\}$$

Taking the union, we obtain

$$\bigcup_4^{15}[P_{\alpha_4}^{15}] = \{9, 2, 7, 15, 6, 8, 13, 4, 12, 3, 14, 5, 10, 1, 11\}$$

Therefore

$$\alpha_5 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 & 9 & 10 & 11 & 12 & 13 & 14 & 15 \\ 9 & 2 & 7 & 15 & 6 & 8 & 13 & 4 & 12 & 3 & 14 & 5 & 10 & 1 & 11 \end{pmatrix}$$

The sixth permutation α_6 is obtained when the N undergoes the sixth mapping as shown below;

$$\alpha_5 = \begin{pmatrix} 9 & 2 & 7 & 15 & 6 & 8 & 13 & 4 & 12 & 3 & 14 & 5 & 10 & 1 & 11 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$C_1 = \{9, 15, 13, 3, 10\}, C_2 = \{2, 6, 4, 14, 1\}, C_3 = \{7, 8, 12, 5, 11\}$$

Then,

$$P_{\alpha_5}^{15} = \{\{9, 15, 13, 3, 10\}, \{2, 6, 4, 14, 1\}, \{7, 8, 12, 5, 11\}\}$$

Taking the union, we obtain

$$\bigcup_4^{15}[P_{\alpha_5}^{15}] = \{9, 15, 13, 3, 10, 2, 6, 4, 14, 1, 7, 8, 12, 5, 11\}$$

Therefore

$$\alpha_6 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 & 9 & 10 & 11 & 12 & 13 & 14 & 15 \\ 9 & 15 & 13 & 3 & 10 & 2 & 6 & 4 & 14 & 1 & 7 & 8 & 12 & 5 & 11 \end{pmatrix}$$

The seventh permutation denoted by α_7 is obtained when N undergoes the seventh permutation as shown below;

$$\alpha_6 = \begin{pmatrix} 9 & 15 & 13 & 3 & 10 & 2 & 6 & 4 & 14 & 1 & 7 & 8 & 12 & 5 & 11 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$C_1 = \{9, 3, 6, 1, 12\}, C_2 = \{15, 10, 4, 7, 5\}, C_3 = \{13, 2, 14, 8, 11\}$$

Then,

$$P_{\alpha_6}^{15} = \{\{9, 3, 6, 1, 12\}, \{15, 10, 4, 7, 5\}, \{13, 2, 14, 8, 11\}\}$$

Taking the union, we obtain

$$\bigcup_4^{15}[P_{\alpha_6}^{15}] = \{9, 3, 6, 1, 12, 15, 10, 4, 7, 5, 13, 2, 14, 8, 11\}$$

Therefore

$$\alpha_7 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 & 9 & 10 & 11 & 12 & 13 & 14 & 15 \\ 9 & 3 & 6 & 1 & 12 & 15 & 10 & 4 & 7 & 5 & 13 & 2 & 14 & 8 & 11 \end{pmatrix}$$

From the third category of permutations, we obtain eight unique permutations, that is,

$$N_4^{15} = \{\alpha_0, \alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3, \alpha_4, \alpha_5, \alpha_6, \alpha_7\}.$$

Three categories of permutations have been generated in this section. Using the equivalence relation introduced in section 2 we can present these permutations in terms of their cycles as shown below:

When $n = 9$, the following permutations are obtained;

$$\alpha_0 = (1)(2)(3)(4)(5)(6)(7)(8)(9)$$

$$\alpha_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 & 9 & 8 & 5 & 4 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 6 & 7 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\alpha_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 6 & 5 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 7 & 9 & 8 \end{pmatrix}$$

When $n = 12$, we have 12 permutations whose cycles are as follows;

$$\alpha_0 = (1)(2)(3)(4)(5)(6)(7)(8)(9)(10)(11)(12)$$

$$\alpha_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 & 9 & 2 & 6 & 4 & 12 & 11 & 8 & 10 & 5 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 7 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\alpha_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 6 & 4 & 8 & 11 & 7 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 10 & 12 & 5 & 9 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\alpha_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 9 & 6 & 4 & 7 & 3 & 11 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 5 & 10 & 8 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 12 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\alpha_4 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 9 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 10 & 7 & 6 & 4 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 5 & 11 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 8 & 12 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\alpha_5 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 10 & 2 & 11 & 6 & 4 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 5 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 8 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 9 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\alpha_6 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 11 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 5 & 12 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 8 & 7 & 9 & 10 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 6 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\alpha_7 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 5 & 8 & 2 & 12 & 3 & 7 & 10 & 6 & 4 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 9 & 11 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\alpha_8 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 12 & 6 & 4 & 9 & 5 & 7 & 11 & 10 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 8 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\alpha_9 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 8 & 6 & 4 & 10 & 9 & 12 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 7 & 5 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 11 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\alpha_{10} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 7 & 12 & 9 & 8 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 6 & 4 & 11 & 5 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 10 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\alpha_{11} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 5 & 6 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 7 & 8 & 9 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 10 & 11 & 12 \end{pmatrix}$$

When $n = 15$, there are 8 permutations and their cycles are given below;

$$\alpha_0 = (1)(2)(3)(4)(5)(6)(7)(8)(9)(10)(11)(12)(13)(14)(15)$$

$$\alpha_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 & 9 & 10 & 13 & 8 & 7 & 4 & 12 & 5 & 15 & 14 & 11 & 2 & 6 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha_2 &= (1\ 9\ 13\ 7\ 12\ 15\ 11\ 6\ 3\ 10\ 8\ 4\ 5\ 14\ 2) \\ \alpha_3 &= (1\ 9\ 6)(2\ 5\ 7\ 14\ 15\ 11\ 10)(3\ 12)(4\ 8)(13) \\ \alpha_4 &= (1\ 9\ 10\ 15\ 11\ 12)(2\ 8\ 4)(3\ 14)(5\ 13\ 6)(7) \\ \alpha_5 &= (1\ 9\ 12\ 7\ 5\ 6\ 8\ 4\ 15\ 11\ 14)(2)(3\ 7\ 13\ 10) \\ \alpha_6 &= (1\ 9\ 14\ 5\ 10)(2\ 15\ 11\ 7\ 6)(3\ 13\ 12\ 8\ 4) \\ \alpha_7 &= (1\ 9\ 7\ 10\ 5\ 12\ 2\ 3\ 6\ 15\ 11\ 13\ 14\ 8\ 4) \end{aligned}$$

5. ALGEBRAIC STRUCTURE OF THE $\bigcup_{x_k}^n$ -PERMUTATIONS

Here, we consider the $\bigcup_{x_k}^n$ -permutations with $t = m$, where m is the middle position among the n positions in set N , and $n \in \mathbb{N}$ is a product of two primes. In the next result, we prove that this category of permutations form a group under permutation multiplication.

Theorem 5.1 *Let $n \in \mathbb{N}$ be a product of two primes and let $N = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}$. Let m be the element in the middle position of set N . Then for $t = m$, the set $N_{x_m}^n$ of all the $\bigcup_{x_m}^n$ -permutations on N is a group under permutation multiplication. This group is abelian.*

Proof

Clearly, $N_{x_m}^n$ is closed under permutation multiplication for if $\alpha_i, \alpha_j \in N_{x_m}^n$, then $\alpha_i \alpha_j$ is another permutation in $N_{x_m}^n$.

Next, $N_{x_m}^n$ is associative under permutation multiplication for if $\alpha_i, \alpha_j, \alpha_k \in N_{x_m}^n$, then $\alpha_i(\alpha_j \alpha_k) = (\alpha_i \alpha_j) \alpha_k$

Also, the permutation $\alpha_0 \in N_{x_m}^n$ and is the identity permutation in $N_{x_m}^n$.

Finally, for every $\alpha_i \in N_{x_m}^n$, there must be a permutation $\alpha_i' \in N_{x_m}^n$ with $\alpha_i \alpha_i' = \alpha_0$. That is, every permutation in $N_{x_m}^n$ has an inverse in $N_{x_m}^n$. Thus, $N_{x_m}^n$ is a group. This group is abelian for we have $\alpha_i \alpha_j = \alpha_j \alpha_i \forall \alpha_i, \alpha_j \in N_{x_m}^n$. \square

Corollary 5.2 *The group $N_{x_m}^n$ is a subgroup of the group N_n of all permutations on N .*

Proof

We have seen in theorem 2.2 that N_n is a group under permutation multiplication. we have seen from corollary 4.3 that $N_{x_m}^n$ is a subset of N_n , the set of all permutations on N . Also, we have seen in theorem 5.1 that $N_{x_m}^n$ is a group. Thus, we conclude that $N_{x_m}^n$ is a subgroup of N_n . \square

Three categories of permutations were considered for this category, that is, when $n = 9$, $n = 15$ and $n = 21$. When $q = 3$, $m = 5$ and $n = 9$, then, $x_m = x_5 = 5$. In this case we have:

$$\alpha_0 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 & 9 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 & 9 \end{pmatrix}$$

When N is mapped the first time, the first permutation denoted by α_1 is obtained as shown below;

$$\alpha_0 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 & 9 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$C_1 = \{1, 4, 7\}, C_2 = \{2, 5, 8\}, C_3 = \{3, 6, 9\}$$

Then,

$$P_{\alpha_0}^9 = \{\{1, 4, 7\}, \{2, 5, 8\}, \{3, 6, 9\}\}$$

Taking the union, we obtain

$$\bigcup_5^9 [P_{\alpha_0}^9] = \{1, 4, 7, 2, 5, 8, 3, 6, 9\}$$

Therefore

$$\alpha_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 & 9 \\ 1 & 4 & 7 & 2 & 5 & 8 & 3 & 6 & 9 \end{pmatrix}$$

The set $N_5^9 = \{\alpha_0, \alpha_1\}$ is a group whose group table is

TABLE 2. N_5^9 Group Table

\circ	α_0	α_1
α_0	α_0	α_1
α_1	α_1	α_0

Note that we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha_1 \alpha_1 &= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 & 9 \\ 1 & 4 & 7 & 2 & 5 & 8 & 3 & 6 & 9 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 & 9 \\ 1 & 4 & 7 & 2 & 5 & 8 & 3 & 6 & 9 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 & 9 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 & 9 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \alpha_0 \end{aligned}$$

Clearly, this group is isomorphic to $(\mathbb{Z}_2, +)$, for if we define a function $\Phi : N_5^9 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_2$ by $\Phi(\alpha_i) = i$ for some $i = 0, 1$, then Φ is clearly an isomorphism for we have $\Phi(\alpha_0) = 0$ and $\Phi(\alpha_1) = 1$. Note that the Cayley table for $(\mathbb{Z}_2, +)$ is given by:

TABLE 3. Table for $(\mathbb{Z}_2, +)$

$+$	0	1
0	0	1
1	1	0

When we consider $m = 8, p = 3, x_m = m_8 = 8$ and $n = 15$, we obtain

$$N = \{ 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 \}$$

Therefore,

$$\alpha_0 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 & 9 & 10 & 11 & 12 & 13 & 14 & 15 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 & 9 & 10 & 11 & 12 & 13 & 14 & 15 \end{pmatrix}$$

N undergoes the first permutation, we obtain the permutation α_1 as shown below.

$$\alpha_0 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 & 9 & 10 & 11 & 12 & 13 & 14 & 15 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$C_1 = \{1, 4, 7, 10, 13\}, C_2 = \{2, 5, 8, 11, 14\}, C_3 = \{3, 6, 9, 12, 15\}$$

Then,

$$P_{\alpha_0}^{15} = \{\{1, 4, 7, 10, 13\}, \{2, 5, 8, 11, 14\}, \{3, 6, 9, 12, 15\}\}$$

Taking the union, we obtain

$$\bigcup_8^{15} [P_{\alpha_0}^{15}] = \{1, 4, 7, 10, 13, 2, 5, 8, 11, 14, 3, 6, 9, 12, 15\}$$

Therefore

$$\alpha_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 & 9 & 10 & 11 & 12 & 13 & 14 & 15 \\ 1 & 4 & 7 & 10 & 13 & 2 & 5 & 8 & 11 & 14 & 3 & 6 & 9 & 12 & 15 \end{pmatrix}$$

When N undergoes the next permutation we obtain α_2 as shown below;

$$\alpha_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 4 & 7 & 10 & 13 & 2 & 5 & 8 & 11 & 14 & 3 & 6 & 9 & 12 & 15 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$C_1 = \{1, 10, 5, 14, 9\}, C_2 = \{4, 13, 8, 3, 12\}, C_3 = \{7, 2, 11, 6, 15\}$$

Then,

$$P_{\alpha_1}^{15} = \{\{1, 10, 5, 14, 9\}, \{4, 13, 8, 3, 12\}, \{7, 2, 11, 6, 15\}\}$$

Taking the union, we obtain

$$\bigcup_8^{15} [P_{\alpha_1}^{15}] = \{1, 10, 5, 14, 9, 4, 13, 8, 3, 12, 7, 2, 11, 6, 15\}$$

Therefore

$$\alpha_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 & 9 & 10 & 11 & 12 & 13 & 14 & 15 \\ 1 & 10 & 5 & 14 & 9 & 4 & 13 & 8 & 3 & 12 & 7 & 2 & 11 & 6 & 15 \end{pmatrix}$$

N undergoes the next permutation and we obtain α_3 as shown below;

$$\alpha_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 10 & 5 & 14 & 9 & 4 & 13 & 8 & 3 & 12 & 7 & 2 & 11 & 6 & 15 \end{pmatrix} g$$

$$C_1 = \{1, 14, 13, 12, 11\}, C_2 = \{10, 9, 8, 7, 6\}, C_3 = \{5, 4, 3, 2, 15\}$$

Then,

$$P_{\alpha_2}^{15} = \{\{1, 14, 13, 12, 11\}, \{10, 9, 8, 7, 6\}, \{5, 4, 3, 2, 15\}\}$$

Taking the union, we obtain

$$\bigcup_8^{15} [P_{\alpha_2}^{15}] = \{1, 14, 13, 12, 11, 10, 19, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 15\}$$

Therefore

$$\alpha_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 & 9 & 10 & 11 & 12 & 13 & 14 & 15 \\ 1 & 14 & 13 & 12 & 11 & 10 & 9 & 8 & 7 & 6 & 5 & 4 & 3 & 2 & 15 \end{pmatrix}$$

The fourth permutation denoted by α_4 is obtained when N undergoes the next permutation as shown below.

$$\alpha_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 14 & 13 & 12 & 11 & 10 & 9 & 8 & 7 & 6 & 5 & 4 & 3 & 2 & 15 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$C_1 = \{1, 12, 9, 6, 3\}, C_2 = \{14, 11, 8, 5, 2\}, C_3 = \{13, 10, 7, 4, 15\}$$

Then,

$$P_{\alpha_3}^{15} = \{\{1, 12, 9, 6, 3\}, \{14, 11, 8, 5, 2\}, \{13, 10, 7, 4, 15\}\}$$

Taking the union, we obtain

$$\bigcup_8^{15} [P_{\alpha_3}^{15}] = \{1, 12, 9, 6, 3, 14, 11, 8, 5, 2, 13, 10, 7, 4, 15\}$$

Therefore

$$\alpha_4 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 & 9 & 10 & 11 & 12 & 13 & 14 & 15 \\ 1 & 12 & 9 & 6 & 3 & 14 & 11 & 8 & 5 & 2 & 13 & 10 & 7 & 4 & 15 \end{pmatrix}$$

When N goes through the fifth permutation we obtain α_5 as shown below;

$$\alpha_4 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 12 & 9 & 6 & 3 & 14 & 11 & 8 & 5 & 2 & 13 & 10 & 7 & 4 & 15 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$C_1 = \{1, 6, 11, 2, 7\}, C_2 = \{12, 3, 8, 13, 4\}, C_3 = \{9, 14, 5, 10, 15\}$$

Then,

$$P_{\alpha_4}^{15} = \{\{1, 6, 11, 2, 7\}, \{12, 3, 8, 13, 4\}, \{9, 14, 5, 10, 15\}\}$$

Taking the union, we obtain

$$\bigcup_8^{15} [P_{\alpha_4}^{15}] = \{1, 6, 11, 2, 7, 12, 3, 8, 13, 4, 9, 14, 5, 10, 15\}$$

Therefore

$$\alpha_5 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 & 9 & 10 & 11 & 12 & 13 & 14 & 15 \\ 1 & 6 & 11 & 2 & 7 & 12 & 3 & 8 & 13 & 4 & 9 & 14 & 5 & 10 & 15 \end{pmatrix}$$

The set $N_8^{15} = \{\alpha_0, \alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3, \alpha_4, \alpha_5\}$ is a group whose cayley table is as shown by Table 4 below:

Clearly, this group is isomorphic to $(\mathbb{Z}_6, +)$, for if we define a function $\Phi : N_8^{15} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_6$ by $\Phi(\alpha_i) = i$ for some $i = 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5$, then Φ is clearly an isomorphism for we have $\Phi(\alpha_0) = 0$, $\Phi(\alpha_1) = 1$, $\Phi(\alpha_2) = 2$, $\Phi(\alpha_3) = 3$, $\Phi(\alpha_4) = 4$ and $\Phi(\alpha_5) = 5$. Note that the cayley table for $(\mathbb{Z}_6, +)$ is as shown in Table 5 below:

When $m = 11$, $q = 3$ and $n = 21$, we obtain

$$N = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21\}$$

Therefore,

TABLE 4. N_8^{15} Group Table

\circ	α_0	α_1	α_2	α_3	α_4	α_5
α_0	α_0	α_1	α_2	α_3	α_4	α_5
α_1	α_1	α_2	α_3	α_4	α_5	α_0
α_2	α_2	α_3	α_4	α_5	α_0	α_1
α_3	α_3	α_4	α_5	α_0	α_1	α_2
α_4	α_4	α_5	α_0	α_1	α_2	α_3
α_5	α_5	α_0	α_1	α_2	α_3	α_4

TABLE 5. $(\mathbb{Z}_6, +)$

$+$	0	1	2	3	4	5
0	0	1	2	3	4	5
1	1	2	3	4	5	0
2	2	3	4	5	0	1
3	3	4	5	0	1	2
4	4	5	0	1	2	3
5	5	0	1	2	3	4

$$\alpha_0 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 & 9 & 10 & 11 & 12 & 13 & 14 & 15 & 16 & 17 & 18 & 19 & 20 & 21 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 & 9 & 10 & 11 & 12 & 13 & 14 & 15 & 16 & 17 & 18 & 19 & 20 & 21 \end{pmatrix}$$

N undergoes a permutation we obtain α_1 as shown below.

$$\alpha_0 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 & 9 & 10 & 11 & 12 & 13 & 14 & 15 & 16 & 17 & 18 & 19 & 20 & 21 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$C_1 = \{1, 4, 7, 10, 13, 16, 19\}, C_2 = \{2, 5, 8, 11, 14, 17, 20\}, C_3 = \{3, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, 21\}$$

Then,

$$P_{\alpha_0}^{21} = \{\{1, 4, 7, 10, 13, 16, 19\}, \{2, 5, 8, 11, 14, 17, 20\}, \{3, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, 21\}\}$$

Taking the union, we obtain

$$\bigcup_{11}^{21}[P_{\alpha_0}^{21}] = \{1, 4, 7, 10, 13, 16, 19, 2, 5, 8, 11, 14, 17, 20, 3, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, 21\}$$

Therefore

$$\alpha_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 & 9 & 10 & 11 & 12 & 13 & 14 & 15 & 16 & 17 & 18 & 19 & 20 & 21 \\ 1 & 4 & 7 & 10 & 13 & 16 & 19 & 2 & 5 & 8 & 11 & 14 & 17 & 20 & 3 & 6 & 9 & 12 & 15 & 18 & 21 \end{pmatrix}$$

When N undergoes the next permutation we obtain α_2 as shown below;

$$\alpha_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 4 & 7 & 10 & 13 & 16 & 19 & 2 & 5 & 8 & 11 & 14 & 17 & 20 & 3 & 6 & 9 & 12 & 15 & 18 & 21 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$C_1 = \{1, 10, 19, 8, 17, 6, 15\}, C_2 = \{4, 13, 2, 11, 20, 9, 18\}, C_3 = \{7, 16, 5, 14, 3, 12, 21\}$$

Then,

$$P_{\alpha_1}^{21} = \{\{1, 10, 19, 8, 17, 6, 15\}, \{4, 13, 2, 11, 20, 9, 18\}, \{7, 16, 5, 14, 3, 12, 21\}\}$$

Taking the union, we obtain

$$\bigcup_{11}^{21}[P_{\alpha_1}^{21}] = \{1, 10, 19, 8, 17, 6, 15, 4, 13, 2, 11, 20, 9, 18, 7, 16, 5, 14, 3, 12, 21\}$$

Therefore

$$\alpha_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 & 9 & 10 & 11 & 12 & 13 & 14 & 15 & 16 & 17 & 18 & 19 & 20 & 21 \\ 1 & 10 & 19 & 8 & 17 & 6 & 15 & 4 & 13 & 2 & 11 & 20 & 9 & 18 & 7 & 16 & 5 & 14 & 3 & 12 & 21 \end{pmatrix}$$

When N undergoes the next permutation we obtain α_3 as shown below;

$$\alpha_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 10 & 19 & 8 & 17 & 6 & 15 & 4 & 13 & 2 & 11 & 20 & 9 & 18 & 7 & 16 & 5 & 14 & 3 & 12 & 21 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$C_1 = \{1, 8, 15, 2, 9, 16, 3\}, C_2 = \{10, 17, 4, 11, 18, 5, 12\}, C_3 = \{19, 6, 13, 20, 7, 14, 21\}$$

Then,

$$P_{\alpha_2}^{21} = \{\{1, 8, 15, 2, 9, 16, 3\}, \{10, 17, 4, 11, 18, 5, 12\}, \{19, 6, 13, 20, 7, 14, 21\}\}$$

Taking the union, we obtain

$$\bigcup_{11}^{21}[P_{\alpha_2}^{21}] = \{1, 8, 15, 2, 9, 16, 3, 10, 17, 4, 11, 18, 5, 12, 19, 6, 13, 20, 7, 14, 21\}$$

Therefore

$$\alpha_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 & 9 & 10 & 11 & 12 & 13 & 14 & 15 & 16 & 17 & 18 & 19 & 20 & 21 \\ 1 & 8 & 15 & 2 & 9 & 16 & 3 & 10 & 17 & 4 & 11 & 18 & 5 & 12 & 19 & 6 & 13 & 20 & 7 & 14 & 21 \end{pmatrix}$$

The set $N_{11}^{21} = \{\alpha_0, \alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3\}$ is a group whose group is shown below:

TABLE 6. N_{11}^{21} Group Table

\circ	α_0	α_1	α_2	α_3
α_0	α_0	α_1	α_2	α_3
α_1	α_1	α_2	α_3	α_0
α_2	α_2	α_3	α_0	α_1
α_3	α_3	α_0	α_1	α_2

Clearly, this group is isomorphic to $(\mathbb{Z}_4, +)$.

For if we define a function $\Phi : N_{11}^{21} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_4$ by $\Phi(\alpha_i) = i$ for some $i = 0, 1, 2, 3$, then Φ is clearly an isomorphism for we have $\Phi(\alpha_0) = 0$, $\Phi(\alpha_1) = 1$, $\Phi(\alpha_2) = 2$ and $\Phi(\alpha_3) = 3$. Note that the Cayley table for $(\mathbb{Z}_4, +)$ is as shown below:

In this section, we have considered a class of permutations forming a group. Three categories are considered and their cycles are provided below.

When $n = 9$, there are two permutations. Their cycles are given below:

TABLE 7. $(\mathbb{Z}_4, +)$

+	0	1	2	3
0	0	1	2	3
1	1	2	3	0
2	2	3	0	1
3	3	0	1	2

$$\alpha_0 = (1)(2)(3)(4)(5)(6)(7)(8)(9)$$

$$\alpha_1 = \left(\begin{matrix} 1 \\ 2 \ 4 \end{matrix} \right) \left(\begin{matrix} 3 \ 7 \\ 5 \end{matrix} \right) \left(\begin{matrix} 6 \ 8 \\ 9 \end{matrix} \right)$$

When $n = 15$, there are six permutations and their cycles are shown below:

$$\alpha_0 = (1)(2)(3)(4)(5)(6)(7)(8)(9)(10)(11)(12)(13)(14)(15)$$

$$\alpha_1 = \left(\begin{matrix} 1 \\ 2 \ 4 \ 10 \ 14 \ 12 \ 6 \end{matrix} \right) \left(\begin{matrix} 3 \ 7 \ 5 \ 13 \ 9 \ 11 \end{matrix} \right) \left(\begin{matrix} 8 \\ 15 \end{matrix} \right)$$

$$\alpha_2 = \left(\begin{matrix} 1 \\ 2 \ 10 \ 12 \end{matrix} \right) \left(\begin{matrix} 3 \ 5 \ 9 \end{matrix} \right) \left(\begin{matrix} 4 \ 14 \ 6 \end{matrix} \right) \left(\begin{matrix} 7 \ 13 \ 11 \end{matrix} \right) \left(\begin{matrix} 8 \\ 15 \end{matrix} \right)$$

$$\alpha_3 = \left(\begin{matrix} 1 \\ 2 \ 14 \end{matrix} \right) \left(\begin{matrix} 3 \ 13 \end{matrix} \right) \left(\begin{matrix} 4 \ 12 \end{matrix} \right) \left(\begin{matrix} 5 \ 11 \end{matrix} \right) \left(\begin{matrix} 6 \ 10 \end{matrix} \right) \left(\begin{matrix} 7 \ 9 \end{matrix} \right) \left(\begin{matrix} 8 \\ 15 \end{matrix} \right)$$

$$\alpha_4 = \left(\begin{matrix} 1 \\ 2 \ 10 \ 12 \end{matrix} \right) \left(\begin{matrix} 3 \ 5 \ 9 \end{matrix} \right) \left(\begin{matrix} 4 \ 14 \ 6 \end{matrix} \right) \left(\begin{matrix} 7 \ 13 \ 11 \end{matrix} \right) \left(\begin{matrix} 8 \\ 15 \end{matrix} \right)$$

$$\alpha_5 = \left(\begin{matrix} 1 \\ 2 \ 6 \ 12 \ 14 \ 10 \ 4 \end{matrix} \right) \left(\begin{matrix} 3 \ 11 \ 9 \ 13 \ 5 \ 7 \end{matrix} \right) \left(\begin{matrix} 8 \\ 15 \end{matrix} \right)$$

When $n = 21$, there are four permutations and their cycles are shown below:

$$\alpha_0 = (1)(2)(3)(4)(5)(6)(7)(8)(9)(10)(11)(12)(13)(14)(15)(16)(17)(18)(19)(20)(21)$$

$$\alpha_1 = \left(\begin{matrix} 1 \\ 2 \ 4 \ 10 \ 8 \end{matrix} \right) \left(\begin{matrix} 3 \ 7 \ 19 \ 15 \end{matrix} \right) \left(\begin{matrix} 5 \ 13 \ 17 \ 9 \end{matrix} \right) \left(\begin{matrix} 6 \ 16 \end{matrix} \right) \left(\begin{matrix} 11 \\ 12 \ 14 \ 20 \ 18 \end{matrix} \right) \left(\begin{matrix} 21 \end{matrix} \right)$$

$$\alpha_2 = \left(\begin{matrix} 1 \\ 1 \ 10 \end{matrix} \right) \left(\begin{matrix} 3 \ 19 \end{matrix} \right) \left(\begin{matrix} 4 \ 8 \end{matrix} \right) \left(\begin{matrix} 5 \ 17 \end{matrix} \right) \left(\begin{matrix} 6 \\ 7 \ 15 \end{matrix} \right) \left(\begin{matrix} 9 \ 13 \end{matrix} \right) \left(\begin{matrix} 11 \\ 12 \ 20 \end{matrix} \right) \left(\begin{matrix} 14 \ 18 \end{matrix} \right) \left(\begin{matrix} 16 \\ 21 \end{matrix} \right)$$

$$\alpha_3 = \left(\begin{matrix} 1 \\ 2 \ 8 \ 10 \ 4 \end{matrix} \right) \left(\begin{matrix} 3 \ 15 \ 19 \ 7 \end{matrix} \right) \left(\begin{matrix} 5 \ 9 \ 17 \ 13 \end{matrix} \right) \left(\begin{matrix} 6 \ 16 \end{matrix} \right) \left(\begin{matrix} 11 \\ 7 \ 18 \ 20 \ 14 \end{matrix} \right) \left(\begin{matrix} 21 \end{matrix} \right)$$

6. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

In sections 4 and 5, two classes of permutations are generated. In section 4, examples of permutations not forming a group are presented while section 5 presents a class of permutations forming a group. The generated permutations have also been presented in terms of their cycles. It would be interesting to further analyze these permutations with an aim of determining more properties like the nature of their signatures among other properties. A study of the graphs resulting from these permutations may also reveal more of their properties.

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