# Shuffle to One, Shuffle to Normal

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#### A discrete probability problem in card shuffling

#### M. Bhaskara Rao, Haimeng Zhang, Chunfeng Huang & Fu-Chih Cheng

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"The original question raised was to determine how many times catalysts are expected to be added in order to get a single lump of all molecules."

#### Model



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For any  $n \geq 2$ ,

$$n \leq \mathbb{E}[X_n] \leq n + \sqrt{n} \Rightarrow \lim_{n \to \infty} \frac{\mathbb{E}[X_n]}{n} = 1.$$

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 $\mathbb{E}[X_n],$ 



 $\mathbb{E}[X_n], \quad Var[X_n],$ 



 $\mathbb{E}[X_n]$ ,  $Var[X_n]$ , Central Limit Theorem



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#### Remark

Experiments shows  $\mathbb{E}[X_n] - n \sim \log n$ .

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[*n*]

### $[n] \xrightarrow{\tau} [k]$

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$$X_n = 1 + X_k$$
 with probability  $ho_{n,k} \Rightarrow \mathbb{E}[X_n] = \sum_{k=1}^n (1 + \mathbb{E}[X_k]) 
ho_{n,k}.$ 

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Namely,

 $X_n = \overline{1 + X_k}$  with probability  $p_{n,k} \Rightarrow \mathbb{E}[X_n] = \sum_{k=1}^n (1 + \mathbb{E}[X_k]) p_{n,k}.$ 

Let  $\mu_n = \mathbb{E}[X_n]$ :

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Let μ<sub>n</sub> = ℝ[X<sub>n</sub>]:
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Let µ<sub>n</sub> = E[X<sub>n</sub>]:
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▶ The conditional expectation recurrence

$$\mu_n = 1 + \sum_{k=1}^n p_{n,k} \mu_k$$

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## Conditional Expectation

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works for general card shuffling models.

- "general" refers to other models that reduce the number of cards in a different way.
- 2 And if given the sequence  $p_{n,k}$ , to find the asymptotic expression of  $\mu_n$  can be considered independent of the shuffling model.

### n=2 and n=3

#### 1. For n = 2:

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## Definition

A permutation of n integers 1, 2, ..., n is said to have k lumps if and only if when the numbers are read from left to right, after the numbers in consecutive increasing order are merged, there are exactly k mergers including those standing alone.

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#### Theorem

The number of lumps of permutations of [n] is

$$A(n,k) = \binom{n-1}{k-1} \frac{(k+1)!}{k} \sum_{j=0}^{k+1} \frac{(-1)^j}{j!}.$$

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## 2. A(n, k): A010027.

EXAMPLE	Triangle	starts:							
	1;								
	1, 1;								
	1, 2,	3;							
	1, 3,	9, 11;							
	1, 4,	18, 44,	53;						
	1, 5,	30, 110,	265,	309;					
	1, 6,	45, 220,	795,	1854,	2119;				
	1, 7,	63, 385,	1855,	6489,	14833,	16687;			
	1, 8,	84, 616,	3710,	17304,	59332,	133496,	148329;		
	1, 9,	108, 924,	6678,	38934,	177996,	600732,	1334961,	1468457;	
	For n=3,	the permu	itatio	ns 123,	132, 213	3, 231,	312, 321 1	have respecti	vely
	2,0,0,	1,1,0 cons	secutiv	/e ascer	iding pai	irs, so	row 3 of t	the triangle	is
	3,2,1.	- N. J. J	A. Slo	ane, Api	12 2014	4			
	In the a	lternative	e defin	nition,	T(4,2) = 3	3 becaus	e we have	234.1, 4.123	, and
	34.12	(the block	ks are	separat	ed by do	ots)	Emeric De	utsch, May 16	2010

#### Theorem (S. Chern, L. Jiu, and I. Simonelli)

Let  $\varepsilon_n := \mu_n - n - \mathcal{H}_{n-1}$ , where the harmonic number is defined by  $\mathcal{H}_n := 1 + \frac{1}{2} + \cdots + \frac{1}{n}$ .

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3. Abel summation by parts:

Lemma  $(U(n) := \sum_{k=1}^{n} u_k)$ 

$$\sum_{n=1}^{N} u_n v_n = U(N) v_{N+1} + \sum_{n=1}^{N} U(n) (v_n - v_{n+1})$$



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# $Var[X_n]$

## Theorem (M. Rao, H. Zhang, C. Huang, and F.-C. Cheng)

For any  $n \geq 2$ ,

$$E(X_{n}^{2}) = \left(1 + 2\sum_{k=2}^{n} \frac{A(n,k)}{n!} E(X_{k}) + \sum_{k=2}^{n-1} \frac{A(n,k)}{n!} E(X_{k}^{2})\right) / \left(1 - \frac{A(n,n)}{n!}\right)$$
# $Var[X_n]$

## Theorem (M. Rao, H. Zhang, C. Huang, and F.-C. Cheng) For any n > 2,

$$E\left(X_{n}^{2}\right) = \left(1 + 2\sum_{k=2}^{n} \frac{A(n,k)}{n!} E\left(X_{k}\right) + \sum_{k=2}^{n-1} \frac{A(n,k)}{n!} E\left(X_{k}^{2}\right)\right) / \left(1 - \frac{A(n,n)}{n!}\right)$$

Theorem (S. Chern, L. Jiu, and I. Simonelli)

 $\operatorname{Var}[X_n] = \mathbb{E}[(X_n - \mu_n)^2] \sim n.$ 



# $Var[X_n]$

## Theorem (M. Rao, H. Zhang, C. Huang, and F.-C. Cheng) For any n > 2,

$$E(X_{n}^{2}) = \left(1 + 2\sum_{k=2}^{n} \frac{A(n,k)}{n!} E(X_{k}) + \sum_{k=2}^{n-1} \frac{A(n,k)}{n!} E(X_{k}^{2})\right) / \left(1 - \frac{A(n,n)}{n!}\right)$$

Theorem (S. Chern, L. Jiu, and I. Simonelli)

 $\operatorname{Var}[X_n] = \mathbb{E}[(X_n - \mu_n)^2] \sim n.$ 

1. The ultimate goal is to show

$$\frac{X_n-n}{\sqrt{n}} \stackrel{w}{\rightarrow} Z \sim \mathcal{N}(0,1).$$

$$\left(1-\frac{A(n,n)}{n!}\right)\operatorname{Var}\left[X_{n}\right]=\sum_{k=1}^{n-1}\frac{A(n,k)}{n!}\operatorname{Var}\left[X_{k}\right]+1+O\left(n^{-1}\right)$$

Let  $\{\lambda_n\} \subset \mathbb{C}$  with  $\lambda_n \sim Mn^L$  as  $n \to \infty$  for fixed  $L \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$  and  $M \in \mathbb{C}$ , where  $M \neq 0$  if  $L \neq 0$ . Define sequence  $\xi_n$  by the recurrence

$$\left(1-\frac{A(n,n)}{n!}\right)\xi_n=\lambda_n+\sum_{k=1}^{n-1}\frac{A(n,k)}{n!}\xi_k,$$

for  $n > n_0 \ge 2$  with initial values  $\xi_1, \ldots, \xi_{n_0}$ . Then, as  $n \to \infty$ ,

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$$\left(1 - \frac{A(n,n)}{n!}\right) \mathsf{E}\left[\left(X_n - \mu_n\right)^{2M}\right] = \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \frac{A(n,k)}{n!} \mathsf{E}\left[\left(X_k - \mu_k\right)^{2M}\right] + * \\ \left(1 - \frac{A(n,n)}{n!}\right) \mathsf{E}\left[\left(X_n - \mu_n\right)^{2M+1}\right] = \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \frac{A(n,k)}{n!} \mathsf{E}\left[\left(X_k - \mu_k\right)^{2M+1}\right] + **$$

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4.  $\mu_n = 1 + \sum_{k=1}^{n} \frac{A(n,k)}{n!} \mu_k$ . In our case, the initial value is  $\mu_1 = 0$ . For generic initial value, say  $\mu_1 = x$ :

$$\mu_n = a_n x + b_n, \text{ a linear function of } x;$$

$$a_n = \frac{\sum_{k=2}^{n-1} \frac{A(n,k)}{n!} a_k}{1 - \frac{A(n,n)}{n!}} \text{ and } b_n = \frac{1 + \sum_{k=2}^{n-1} \frac{A(n,k)}{n!} b_k}{1 - \frac{A(n,n)}{n!}}$$
with  $a_1 = 1$  and  $b_1 = 0$ .

- 1. What is the limit of  $\overline{\varepsilon_n} := \mu_n n \mathcal{H}_{n-1}$ ?
- 2. Let  $f_n(s) = \mathbb{E}[e^{sX_n}]$  be the moment generating function of  $X_n$ . Then,

$$f_n(s) = \frac{e^s\left(\sum_{k=1}^{n-1}\frac{A(n,k)}{n!}f_k(s)\right)}{1-e^s\frac{A(n,n)}{n!}} \Leftrightarrow \frac{1}{e^s} = \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{A(n,k)}{n!}\frac{f_k(s)}{f_n(s)}.$$

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with  $a_1 = 1$  and  $b_1 = 0$ . Apparently,  $b_n = \mu_n$  and it seems that  $a_n$  has a limit.

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1. 
$$\frac{A(n,k)}{n!} \rightarrow p_{n,k}$$

$$\mu_n = 1 + \sum_{k=1}^n p_{n,k}$$

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1. 
$$\frac{A(n,k)}{n!} 
ightarrow p_{n,k}$$

$$\mu_n = 1 + \sum_{k=1}^n p_{n,k} \mu_k$$

#### 2. Inverse model

1. 
$$\frac{A(n,k)}{n!} 
ightarrow p_{n,k}$$
 $\mu_n = 1 + \sum_{k=1}^n p_{n,k} \mu_k$ 

2. Inverse model random trees

$$rac{A(n,k)}{n!} 
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#### 2. Inverse model random trees

## Definition

A Galton–Watson tree  $\mathcal{T}$  is a tree in which each node is given a random number of child nodes, where the numbers of child nodes are drawn independently from the same distribution  $\xi$  which is often called the offspring distribution.

$$rac{A(n,k)}{n!} o p_{n,k}$$
 $\mu_n = 1 + \sum_{k=1}^n p_{n,k} \mu_k$ 

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 $k^{k}$ 

# End: Any Questions?



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