

Disco I - WorkSheet 7

Oct 1, 1998- Professor Broughton

Name: _____

Box #: _____

1. How long does it take to shu - e?

According to the discussion in the text and classroom work so far, we are pretty much guaranteed (though not absolutely) that we have a shu - ing set if:

1. The candidate shu - ing elements $\pi; \bar{\pi}; \sigma; \bar{\sigma}$ generate all of S_n .
2. They are not all even or odd, i.e., both $\pi; \bar{\pi}; \sigma; \bar{\sigma} \in O_n$ and $\pi; \bar{\pi}; \sigma; \bar{\sigma} \in E_n$ are false.

The transition matrix D is too big to work with to determine the length of time to shu - e but at least we can find out how long it takes to “mix the cards up” by studying the powers of the C matrix which is much easier to handle. The goal of this worksheet is to understand these ideas by trying to find as good a possible shu - ing pair or triple S_n as possible.

Thus pick various (at least 5) generating pairs $\pi; \bar{\pi}$ or triples $\pi; \bar{\pi}; \sigma$ to shu - e an 8 card deck. On each of these selections, answer these questions:

1. Does the shu - ing set generate ?
2. Is there at least one even and one odd generator?
3. How long does it take to get C^k within .001 of the uniform distribution.

The scripts `shufgen3.mgm` and `shfspeed.mws` will be helpful. Organize your results into a table and make sure you try some nice shu - es.