Linear orders, cyclic orders and permutations

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1, 2. Generating functions.

The empty set is vacuously ordered in one way; a 1-element set is trivially ordered in 1 way; and an *n*-element set can be linearly ordered by choosing a maximal element in one of *n* ways and linearly ordering the remaining (n - 1)-element subset. Hence, $|L_n| = n!$ and

$$|L|(z) = \sum_{n \ge 0} \frac{|L_n|}{n!} z^n = \sum_{n \ge 0} z^n = \frac{1}{1-z}$$

The empty set admits no cyclic orders. If $\{x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n\}$ is an *n*-element set, the map

 $x_1 < x_2 < \cdots < x_n \mapsto (x_1 x_2 \dots x_n)$

is an *n*-to-1 and onto function from linear orders to cyclic permutations Therefore, $|C_n| = \frac{1}{n}|L_n|$ (except for $C_0 = 0$) and

$$|C|(z) = \sum_{n \ge 1} \frac{z^n}{n} = \ln\left(\frac{1}{1-z}\right).$$

It follows that

$$\frac{d}{dz}|C|(z) = |L|(z); \qquad \frac{d}{dz}|L|(z) = |L|^2(z); \qquad \text{and} \quad e^{|C|(z)} = |L|(z)$$

3. Structure type isomorphisms.

A $\frac{D}{DZ}C$ -structure on an *n*-element set is a pointed *C*-structure on an (n + 1)-element set. But this is equivalent to a linear order starting with the basepoint and increasing by the action of the cyclic permutation, so it provides a linear order of the original *n*-element set. Conversely, a linear order on an *n*-element set can be turned into a pointed cyclic order on an (n + 1)-element set by inserting the basepoint between the maximal and minimal elements for the linear order. Hence,

$$\frac{D}{DZ}C \cong L$$

Similarly, a pointed linear order on an (n + 1)-element set is equivalent to an ordered partition of an *n*element set into two linearly ordered (possibly empty) subsets. Conversely, given an ordered pair of linearly ordered sets having jointly *n* elements, one can insert a basepoint between the first and second sets and obtain a pointed linear order on an (n + 1)-element set. Therefore,

$$\frac{D}{DZ}L \cong L^2$$

Finally, observe that a cyclic permutation is a "connected permutation" and that exponentiation of structure types corresponds to building possibly disconnected structures from connected ones. Indeed, any permutation has a unique cycle decomposition, which is a partition of the original set into a collection of orbits of cyclic permutations. Hence,

$$E^C \cong P.$$

Although |P| = |L|, a linear order is not a permutation. For each finite set, the permutations on it form a group P_n , and the linear orders form a P_n -torsor. There can be no canonical isomorphism between the two.

4. The groupoid cardinality of C(1/2!).

We have

$$|C(1/2!)| = \ln\left(\frac{1}{1-\frac{1}{2}}\right) = \ln 2.$$