

ECO-based Gray codes generation for particular classes of words

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- S. Bacchelli, E. Barcucci, E. Grazzini, E. Pergola, *Acta Informatica*, 2004
- A. Bernini, E. Grazzini, E. Pergola, R. Pinzani, *Acta Informatica*, 2007
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- F. Ruskey, Joe Sawada, Aaron Williams, in *Journal of Combinatorial Theory, Series A* 2012

$$\vartheta : \mathcal{O}_n \rightarrow 2^{\mathcal{O}_{n+1}}$$

If the operator ϑ satisfies :

- 1 if $x_1, x_2 \in \mathcal{O}$, and $x_1 \neq x_2$, then $\vartheta(x_1) \cap \vartheta(x_2) = \emptyset$,
- 2 for each $y \in \mathcal{O}_n$, $n \geq 1$, there exists a unique $x \in \mathcal{O}_{n-1}$ such that $y \in \vartheta(x)$,

then $\{\vartheta(x)\}_{x \in \mathcal{O}_{n-1}}$, $n \geq 1$, is a partition of \mathcal{O}_n and ϑ is called an **ECO operator**

ECO (or succession) rules= formal system consisting of

- a root $e_0 \in \Sigma$
- a set of *productions* of the form

$$\{(k) \rightsquigarrow (e_1(k))(e_2(k)) \cdots (e_{|k|}(k))\}_{k \in \Sigma}$$

which explain how to derive, for any given $k \in \Sigma$, its $|k|$ successors, $(e_1(k)), (e_2(k)), \dots, (e_{|k|}(k))$

Definition

p -ary Dyck words which are binary words with:

- exactly $p - 1$ times as many 0's as 1's
- satisfying the p -th order suffix property: any suffix has at least $p - 1$ times as many 0's as 1's

D_{np}^p = set of p -ary Dyck words of length np , and $D_{2n}^2 = D_{2n}$

Definition

If the suffix property condition is dropped, then the obtained word is called **Grand Dyck word** / **p -ary Grand Dyck words**

GD_{2n} = set of length $2n$ Grand Dyck words

GD_{np}^p = length np , p -ary Grand Dyck words

The set of length n binary words with exactly m occurrences of 0 is denoted by $C_{n,m}$

$$D_{np}^p \subset GD_{np}^p = C_{np, n(p-1)}$$

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A **Motzkin word** is a word over the alphabet $\{0, 1, a\}$ which after erasing each occurrence of a gives a Dyck word; and we denote M_n the set of length n Motzkin words

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A **Schröder word** is a Motzkin word in which each length maximal factor of the form $aa \dots a$ has even length

S_{2n} = the set of length $2n$ Schröder words

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Definition (T. Walsh)

A **Gray code** is an infinite collection of word-lists, one list for words with same length, such that the number of positions in which two consecutive words in each list differ is bounded (independently of the word-length)

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A Gray code has **distance** $\delta \geq 1$ if consecutive words differ in at most δ positions

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A Gray code has **distance** $\delta \geq 1$ if consecutive words differ in at most δ positions

- A Gray code is **circular** if the last and the first word in the list differ in the same way
- A Gray code is called **homogeneous** if the 1 and the 0 that exchange positions are separated only by 0's
- (k) or (\bar{k}) labeled node in the generating tree corresponds to a word with k successors
- the successors of a (\bar{k}) labeled node are the same as for (k) , but in reverse order

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Definition (F. Ruskey)

An algorithm for generating a list of words is called **CAT** (as **C**onstant **A**verage **T**ime) if the number of operations necessary to transform each word into its successor in the list, is constant in average

The succession rule for p -ary Dyck words

$$\begin{cases} (1) \\ (k) \rightsquigarrow (p)(p+1)\cdots(p+k-1) \end{cases}$$

i th return rule?

110010111000

i th return rule?

110010111000

i th return rule?

110010111000 \rightarrow 11100101110000

i th return rule?

110010111000 \rightarrow 11100101110000

*i*th return rule?

110010111000 → 11100101110000
→ 11001101110000

i th return rule?

110010111000 \longrightarrow 11100101110000
 \longrightarrow 11001101110000

i th return rule?

110010111000 → 11100101110000
→ 11001101110000
→ 11001011110000

i th return rule?

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i th return rule?

110010111000 \longrightarrow 11100101110000
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Last descent rule!

110010111000

Last descent rule!

110010111000

Last descent rule!

110010111000 \longrightarrow 11001011110000

Last descent rule!

110010111000 \longrightarrow 11001011110000
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Last descent rule!

110010111000 → 11001011110000
→ 11001011101000
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Last descent rule!

110010111000 → 11001011110000
→ 11001011101000
→ 11001011100100
→ 11001011100010

Let $d = d_1 d_2 \dots d_{np}$ be a p -ary Dyck word of length np , and ℓ be its length-maximal 0's suffix.

$$d = d_1 d_2 \dots d_{np-\ell} 0^\ell$$

- $d_{np-\ell} = 1$
- the suffix 0^ℓ is called the **last descent** of d

For each u , $0 \leq u \leq \ell$

$$d_1 d_2 \dots d_{np-\ell} 0^u 1 0^{\ell-u} 0^{p-1}$$

is a p -ary Dyck word of length $(n+1)p$ called a **successor** of d

last descent rule

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- (k) corresponds to a Dyck word with its last descent of length $k - 1$. Its (ordered list of) successors are obtained by:
 - inserting **from right to left** a **1** into its last descent
 - adding a 0^{p-1} suffix
- (\bar{k}) labeled node are the same but in reverse order

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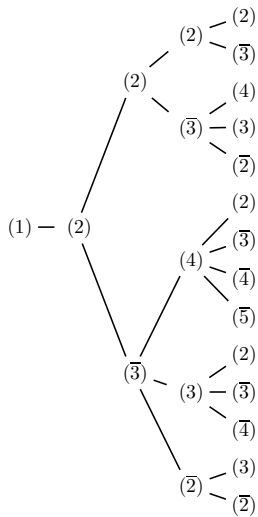
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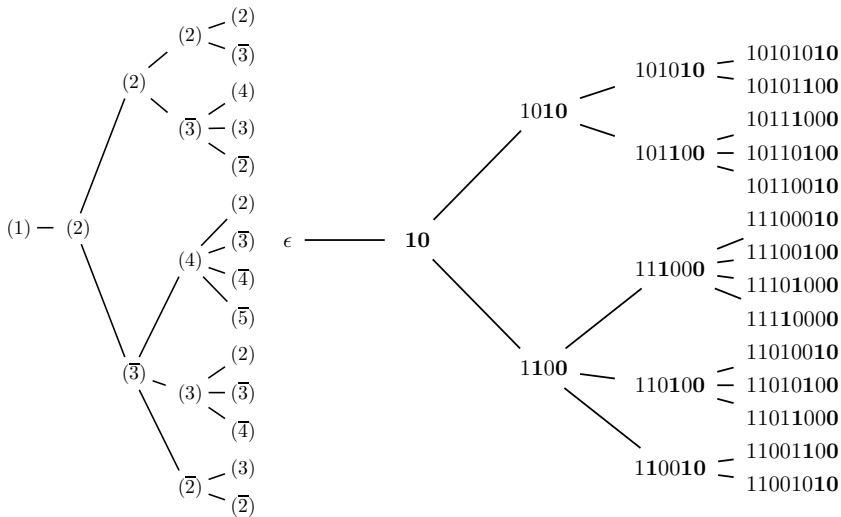
Theorem

The succession rule

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} (1) \\ (k) \rightsquigarrow (p)(\overline{p+1}) \cdots (\overline{p+k-1}) \end{array} \right.$$

gives a circular Gray code for p -ary Dyck words, where the root of the generating tree is the empty word ϵ





Proposition

For $p \geq 2$, the first and last word given by this succession rule are

- $(10^{p-1})^n, n \geq 1$, and
- $110^{2p-2}(10^{p-1})^{n-2}, n \geq 2$

Remark

For $p = 2$, the Gray code induced on D_{2n} by this succession rule is the reverse of Ruskey-Proskurowski's Gray code (1990)

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gives a *homogeneous* Gray code for p -ary Dyck words, where the root of the generating tree is the empty word ϵ

Proposition

The first and last length np word given by this succession rule are

- $(10^{p-1})^n$
- $1^n 0^{(p-1)n}$

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The Gray code induced on D_{np}^p by the succession rule is Eades-McKay-Bultena-Ruskey's Gray code (1998)

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Combinations and Grand Dyck words

i th descent rule

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*i*th descent rule

01011000

Combinations and Grand Dyck words

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Combinations and Grand Dyck words

*i*th descent rule

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→ 010110010
→ 010110001

Let $d = d_1 d_2 \dots d_n$ be a binary word in $C_{n,m}$, and ℓ be its length-maximal 0's suffix

$$d = d_1 d_2 \dots d_{n-\ell} 0^\ell$$

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For each u , $0 \leq u \leq \ell$,

$$d_1 d_2 \dots d_{n-\ell} 0^u 1 0^{\ell-u}$$

is a length $(n + 1)$ binary word in $C_{n+1,m}$, called a **successor** of d .

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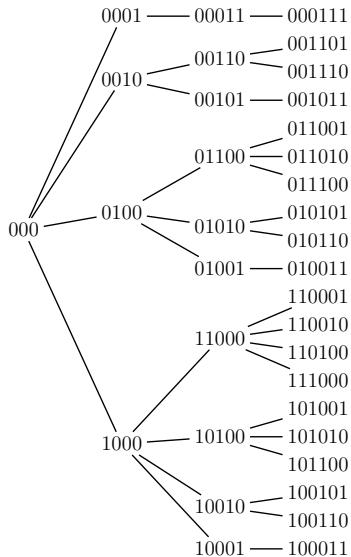
last descent rule

Theorem

For a fixed $m \geq 1$, the succession rule

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} (m+1) \\ (k) \rightsquigarrow (1)(\bar{2}) \cdots (\bar{k}) \end{array} \right.$$

gives a (circular) Gray code for $C_{n,m}$, $n \geq m$
where the size zero object is 0^m



In particular, for a given $p \geq 2$, when $n = \frac{m}{p-1} \cdot p$, (that is, at level $n - m$ in the generating tree) the succession this rule yields a Gray code for $GD_n^p = C_{n,m}$.

Remark

*The Gray code induced on $C_{n,m}$ by the succession rule (9) is the **revolving door** Gray code Liu-Tang/Nijenhuis-Wilf*

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Last descent rule?

Last descent rule?

1 a1 a1 aa000

Last descent rule?

1a1a1aa000

Last descent rule?

1a1a1aa000 \longrightarrow 1a1a1aa000a

Last descent rule?

$1a1a1aa000 \longrightarrow 1a1a1aa000a$
 $\longrightarrow 1a1a1aa00a0$

Last descent rule?

$1a1a1aa000 \longrightarrow 1a1a1aa000a$
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Last descent rule?

1 a1 a1 aa000 \longrightarrow 1 a1 a1 aa000a
 \longrightarrow 1 a1 a1 aa00a0
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 \longrightarrow 1 a1 a1 aa000a

Last descent rule?

1 a1 a1 aa000 → 1 a1 a1 aa000a
→ 1 a1 a1 aa00a0
→ 1 a1 a1 aa0a00
→ 1 a1 a1 aa a000
→ 1 a1 a1 aa00010

Last descent rule?

1a1a1aa000 → 1a1a1aa000a
→ 1a1a1aa00a0
→ 1a1a1aa0a00
→ 1a1a1aa0a000
→ 1a1a1aa00010
→ 1a1a1aa00100

Last descent rule?

1a1a1aa000 → 1a1a1aa000a
→ 1a1a1aa00a0
→ 1a1a1aa0a00
→ 1a1a1aa0a000
→ 1a1a1aa00010
→ 1a1a1aa00100
→ 1a1a1aa01000

Last descent rule?

1 a1 a1 aa000 → 1 a1 a1 aa000 a
→ 1 a1 a1 aa00 a0
→ 1 a1 a1 aa0 a00
→ 1 a1 a1 aa a000
→ 1 a1 a1 aa00010
→ 1 a1 a1 aa00100
→ 1 a1 a1 aa01000
→ 1 a1 a1 aa10000

Last descent rule?

1 a1 a1 aa000 → 1 a1 a1 aa000a
→ 1 a1 a1 aa00a0
→ 1 a1 a1 aa0a00
→ 1 a1 a1 aaa000
→ 1 a1 a1 aa00010
→ 1 a1 a1 aa00100
→ 1 a1 a1 aa01000
→ 1 a1 a1 aa10000

Last ascent-free rule!

Let $w \in M_n$ be a length- n Motzkin word, s its length-maximal suffix which does not contain the letter 1, and

$$k = |s|_a + 1 = \text{the number of successors of } w$$

Last ascent-free rule!

Let $w \in M_n$ be a length- n Motzkin word, s its length-maximal suffix which does not contain the letter 1, and

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- The word $w a$ is a Motzkin word of length $n + 1$ with $k + 1$ successors;

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Let $w \in M_n$ be a length- n Motzkin word, s its length-maximal suffix which does not contain the letter 1, and

$$k = |s|_a + 1 = \text{the number of successors of } w$$

- The word $w a$ is a Motzkin word of length $n + 1$ with $k + 1$ successors;
- If $|s|_a > 0$, then for a given j , $|s|_a \geq j > 0$ let $w' a s''$ be the factorization of w where s'' is the suffix of w with exactly $j - 1$ occurrences of a . The word $v = w' 1 s'' 0$ is a Motzkin word of length $n + 1$; it has j successors.

11a01a0a0

11a01a0a0

11a01a0a0 → 11a01a0a0a

11a01a0a0 → 11a01a0a0a
→ 11a0110a00

11a01a0a0 → 11a01a0a0a
→ 11a0110a00
→ 11a01a0100

Theorem

The succession rule

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} (1) \\ (k) \rightsquigarrow (\bar{1})(\bar{2}) \cdots (\overline{k-1})(k+1) \end{array} \right.$$

gives a Gray code for M_n with distance 4

Let $w \in \mathcal{S}_{2n}$, and k the length of its length-maximal 0's suffix, plus one; $w = w'0^{k-1}$

w has $2k$ successors and the following gives the successors of w (an ECO operator for the set of Schröder words)

- $waa \in \mathcal{S}_{2n+2}$; it has with 2 successors
- $w'100^{k-1} \in \mathcal{S}_{2n+2}$; it has $2k + 2$ successors

In addition, if $k > 1$, then for any j , $1 \leq j \leq k - 1$ we have

- $w'0^{k-1-j}aa0^j \in \mathcal{S}_{2n+2}$; it has $2j + 2$ successors
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- $w'0^{k-j}100^{j-1} \in \mathcal{S}_{2n+2}$; it has $2j + 2$ successors

11aa1aa000

11aa1aa000

11aa1aa000 \longrightarrow 11aa1aa000aa

last descent rule

11aa1aa000 \longrightarrow 11aa1aa000aa
 \longrightarrow 11aa1aa00aa0

last descent rule

11aa1aa000 → 11aa1aa000aa
→ 11aa1aa00aa0
→ 11aa1aa0aa00

11aa1aa000 → 11aa1aa000aa
→ 11aa1aa00aa0
→ 11aa1aa0aa00
→ 11aa1aaaa000

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11aa1aa000 → 11aa1aa000aa
→ 11aa1aa00aa0
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→ 11aa1aaaa000
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11aa1aa000 → 11aa1aa000aa
→ 11aa1aa00aa0
→ 11aa1aa0aa00
→ 11aa1aaaa000
→ 11aa1aa00010
→ 11aa1aa00100

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11aa1aa000 → 11aa1aa000aa
→ 11aa1aa00aa0
→ 11aa1aa0aa00
→ 11aa1aaaa000
→ 11aa1aa00010
→ 11aa1aa00100
→ 11aa1aa01000

last descent rule

11aa1aa000 → 11aa1aa000aa
→ 11aa1aa00aa0
→ 11aa1aa0aa00
→ 11aa1aaaa000
→ 11aa1aa00010
→ 11aa1aa00100
→ 11aa1aa01000
→ 11aa1aa10000

(8)

11aa1aa000 → 11aa1aa000aa
→ 11aa1aa00aa0
→ 11aa1aa0aa00
→ 11aa1aaaa000
→ 11aa1aa00010
→ 11aa1aa00100
→ 11aa1aa01000
→ 11aa1aa10000

(8)

11aa1aa000 → 11aa1aa000aa (2)

→ 11aa1aa00aa0

→ 11aa1aa0aa00

→ 11aa1aaaa000

→ 11aa1aa00010

→ 11aa1aa00100

→ 11aa1aa01000

→ 11aa1aa10000

(8)

11aa1aa000 → 11aa1aa000aa (2)

→ 11aa1aa00aa0 (4)

→ 11aa1aa0aa00

→ 11aa1aaaa000

→ 11aa1aa00010

→ 11aa1aa00100

→ 11aa1aa01000

→ 11aa1aa10000

(8)

11aa1aa000 → 11aa1aa000aa (2)

→ 11aa1aa00aa0 (4)

→ 11aa1aa0aa00 (6)

→ 11aa1aaaa000

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Theorem

The succession rule

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} (2) \\ (2k) \rightsquigarrow (2)(\bar{4})(\bar{4})(\bar{6})(\bar{6}) \cdots (\bar{2k})(\bar{2k})(\overline{2k+2}) \end{array} \right.$$

gives a Gray code for S_n with distance 5

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gives a Gray code for S_n with distance 5

- $(\bar{j}) : \dots aa \dots$
- $(\bar{j}) : \dots 10 \dots$

Algorithmic implementation

$$\begin{cases} (1) \\ (k) \rightsquigarrow (p)(\overline{p+1}) \cdots (\overline{p+k-1}) \end{cases}$$

`gen_Dyck_up` generates D_{np}^p

- words are stored in the global array d
- initialized by 0^{np}
- main call is: `gen_Dyck_up(0, 1)`
 - 0 is the size
 - 1 is the degree
- `gen_Dyck_down`
 - executes the statements of `gen_Dyck_up` in reverse order
 - replaces the calls of `gen_Dyck_up` by `gen_Dyck_down` and vice-versa

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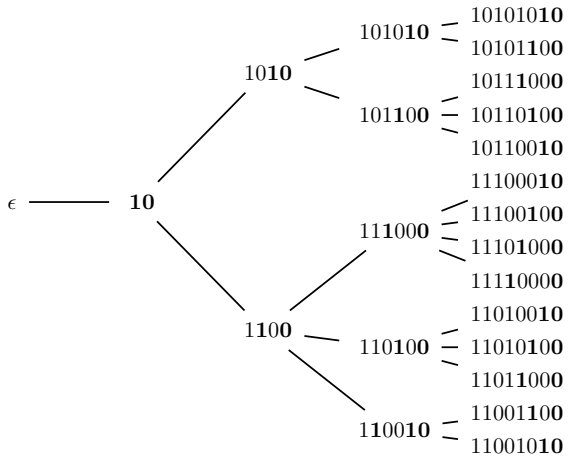
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```

procedure gen_Dyck_up (size, k)
local i;
if size =  $n \cdot p$  then Print (d);
else  $d[\textit{size} + 1] := 1$ ;
    gen_Dyck_up (size + p, p);
     $d[\textit{size} + 1] := 0$ ;
    for i from  $p + 1$  to  $k + p - 1$  do
         $d[\textit{size} + p + 1 - i] := 1$ ;
        gen_Dyck_down (size + p, i);
         $d[\textit{size} + p + 1 - i] := 0$ ;
    end do
end if
end procedure.

```



Proposition

Procedure `gen_Dyck_up` generates p -ary Dyck words of length np in constant average time.

- the total amount of computation in each call is proportional with the number of direct calls produced by this call
- each non-terminal call, except the root, produces at least two recursive calls (i.e., there is no call of degree one, except to the main call)
- each terminal call (degree-zero call) produces a new permutation

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Remark

Similar algorithms can be designed for

- *homogeneous Gray code for p -ary Dyck words*
- *Motzkin words*
- *Schröder words*

$C_{n,m}$

$$\begin{cases} (m+1) \\ (k) \rightsquigarrow (1)(\bar{2}) \cdots (\bar{k}) \end{cases}$$

The implementation of this succession rule does not give a CAT algorithm.

Remark (numerical evidences)

For an integer $p \geq 2$ and for $n = \frac{mp}{p-1}$ we have

$$\frac{\text{total amount of computation}}{\text{number of generated words}} \leq 2$$

and this rule yields a CAT algorithm for the set of p -ary Grand Dyck words

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