

Lemma:- If $k, l \geq 0$ then
 $(a b) (a c_1 \dots c_k b d_1 \dots d_l) = (a c_1 \dots c_k) (b d_1 \dots d_l)$

and
 $(a b) (a c_1 \dots c_k) (b d_1 \dots d_l) = (a c_1 \dots c_k b d_1 \dots d_l)$

Proof:- $a \rightarrow c_1 \rightarrow c_1, c_1 \rightarrow c_{i+1} \rightarrow c_{i+1} \forall i < k, c_k \rightarrow b \rightarrow a,$
 $b \rightarrow d_1 \rightarrow d_1, d_j \rightarrow d_{j+1} \rightarrow d_{j+1} \text{ if } j < l, d_l \rightarrow a \rightarrow b$

Similarly for next equality

Def:- If $\alpha \in S_n$ and $\alpha = \beta_1 \dots \beta_t$ is a complete factorization into disjoint cycles, then parity is defined as, $\prod_{i=1}^t ((-1)^{k_i - 1})$ where $\beta_i = (\beta_{i1}, \beta_{i2}, \dots, \beta_{ik_i})$

Idea

$S_3 \ni$
 $odd (1 2 3) \rightarrow +1$
 $odd (1)(2)(3) \rightarrow +1$
 $even (1 2)(1 3) = (1 3 2) \rightarrow +1$

$(a_1 a_2) \circledast$
 $a_2 - a_1 + a_2 - a_1 - 1$
 $(a_1 a_2 \beta_3)$
 $a_1 \sqrt{a_2 a_3 a_1}$

$\beta_i \rightarrow (\beta_{i1}, \beta_{i2}, \dots, \beta_{ik_i})$
 \downarrow
 $(-1)^{k_i - 1}$

$\beta_1 \quad \beta_2 \quad \beta_3$

$(1 6) (1 2 3) = \frac{(1 3)(1 2)}{\downarrow +1}$
 $1 2 3 4 5 6 \Rightarrow 3 1 2 4 5 6$
 $6 \underbrace{2 3 4 5 1} \downarrow 6 = 9$

Def:- If $\alpha \in S_n$ and $\alpha = \beta_1 \dots \beta_t$ is a complete factorization into disjoint cycles, then Signature α is defined as, $sgn(\alpha) = (-1)^{n-t}$

Lemma:- If $\beta \in S_n$ and τ is a transposition, then $sgn(\tau\beta) = -sgn(\beta)$

Proof:- $\tau = (a b)$ elements of $\beta = \beta_1 \beta_2 \dots \beta_t \rightarrow$ disjoint cycles complete factor
 $\therefore a, b \notin \beta_i$ then \Rightarrow it is done

Proof:- $\tau = (\alpha_1 \alpha_2 \dots \alpha_t)$ elements of β_1
 If $a, b \notin \beta_1$, then \Rightarrow it is done
 If a or $b \in \beta_i$ elements of β_i
 $a, b \in$ same β_k , $(a b) \beta_1 \beta_2 \dots \beta_k \dots \beta_t$
 $\Rightarrow (a b) \beta_k \beta_1 \beta_2 \dots \beta_{k-1} \beta_{k+1} \dots \beta_t$
 $\Rightarrow (a b) (a c_1 c_2 \dots c_j b d_1 d_2 \dots d_m) \beta_1 \beta_2 \dots \beta_t$
 $\Rightarrow \underline{(a c_1 c_2 \dots c_j) (b d_1 d_2 \dots d_m) \beta_1 \beta_2 \dots \beta_t}$
 $t+1$ terms \Rightarrow it is done

$a, b \in$ different β_k 's, $a \in \beta_{k_1}, b \in \beta_{k_2}$,

$(a b) \beta_1 \dots \beta_{k_1} \beta_{k_2} \dots \beta_t$
 $\Rightarrow (a b) \beta_{k_1} \beta_{k_2} \beta_1 \dots \beta_t \Rightarrow (a b) (a c_1 c_2 \dots c_j) (b d_1 d_2 \dots d_m) \beta_1 \dots \beta_t$
 $\Rightarrow \underline{(a c_1 \dots c_j b d_1 \dots d_m) \beta_1 \dots \beta_t}$
 $t-1$ terms \Rightarrow it is done

Theorem - For all $\alpha, \beta \in S_n$,
 $\text{sgn}(\alpha\beta) = \text{sgn}(\alpha)\text{sgn}(\beta)$

Proof:- $\alpha = \alpha_1 \alpha_2 \dots \alpha_n$ $\beta = \beta_1 \beta_2 \dots \beta_m$
 α can be in n transpositions β can be in m transpositions

For $n=1$, $\alpha = \alpha_1$, by lemma $\text{sgn}(\alpha\beta) = \text{sgn}(\alpha_1 \beta) = -\text{sgn}(\beta) = \text{sgn}(\alpha)\text{sgn}(\beta)$

For $n=m$ let it be true

$$\begin{aligned} \text{For } n=m+1, \text{sgn}(\alpha_1 \alpha_2 \dots \alpha_m \alpha_{m+1} \beta) &= (\text{sgn} \alpha_1) \text{sgn}(\alpha_2 \dots \alpha_{m+1} \beta) \\ &= \text{sgn}(\alpha_1 \alpha_2 \dots \alpha_{m+1}) \text{sgn}(\beta) \\ &= \text{sgn}(\alpha) \text{sgn}(\beta) \end{aligned}$$

Theorem:- A permutation $\alpha \in S_n$ is even if and only if $\text{sgn}(\alpha) = 1$
 " " $\alpha \in S_n$ is odd if and only if $\text{sgn}(\alpha) = -1$

Proof:- $\alpha = \alpha_1 \alpha_2 \dots \alpha_n \rightarrow$ transpositions

$$\text{sgn}(\alpha) = \text{sgn}(\alpha_1) \text{sgn}(\alpha_2) \dots \text{sgn}(\alpha_n) = (-1)^n$$

If $\text{sgn}(\alpha) = 1 \Rightarrow \text{sgn}(\alpha) = 1 \Rightarrow n$ is even \Rightarrow even permutation

Conversely, if even permutation $n = 2m, \Rightarrow \text{sgn}(\alpha) = (-1)^{2m} = 1$
Similarly for odd

Q) Show that an r -cycle is an even permutation if and only if r is odd.

Ans:- $(1 \ 2 \ 3 \ \dots \ r) = \underbrace{(1 \ r)(1 \ r-1) \dots (1 \ 2)}_{r-1 \text{ terms}}$

Parity = $(-1)^{r-1}$ if r is odd $\Rightarrow (-1)^{r-1} = 1 \Rightarrow$ even permutation

Q) $\alpha, \beta \in S_n$. If α and β have the same parity then $\alpha\beta$ is even, if α and β have distinct parity then $\alpha\beta$ is odd. Show this

Ans:- $\text{sgn}(\alpha\beta) = \text{sgn}(\alpha)\text{sgn}(\beta) = (+1)(+1)$ or $(-1)(-1) = 1$

$\text{sgn}(\alpha\beta) = \text{sgn}(\alpha)\text{sgn}(\beta) = (-1)(+1)$ or $(+1)(-1) = -1$

Q) Show that S_n has the same number of even permutations as of odd permutations

Ans:- Let's define a map, $f: S_n \rightarrow S_n$ $a, b \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$
 $\alpha \rightarrow (a \ b)\alpha$

$$\text{sgn}(\alpha) = -\text{sgn}((a \ b)\alpha)$$

different parity

even \rightarrow odd
odd \rightarrow even

$$f(\alpha_1) = f(\alpha_2)$$

$$(a \ b)\alpha_1 = (a \ b)\alpha_2$$

$$\alpha_1 = \alpha_2$$

So this is one-one and as cardinality of domain & codomain is

same it is onto. \Rightarrow bijection

$$\rightarrow | \text{even} | = | \text{odd} |$$