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4860-3

HW open until Monday.

Permutations:

$$[n] = \{1, \dots, n\}$$

$\sigma$

Every permutation of  $[n]$   
has a sign

$$\underline{\underline{\text{sgn}(\sigma)}} = \prod_{i < j} \frac{\sigma(j) - \sigma(i)}{j - i}$$

$$= \frac{\prod (\sigma(j) - \sigma(i))}{\prod (j - i)}$$

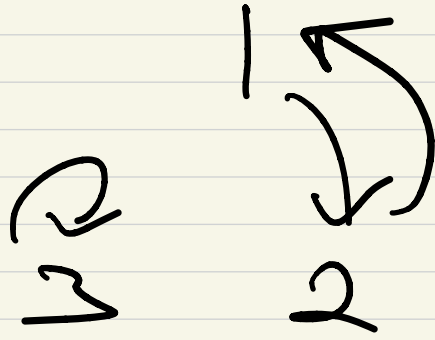
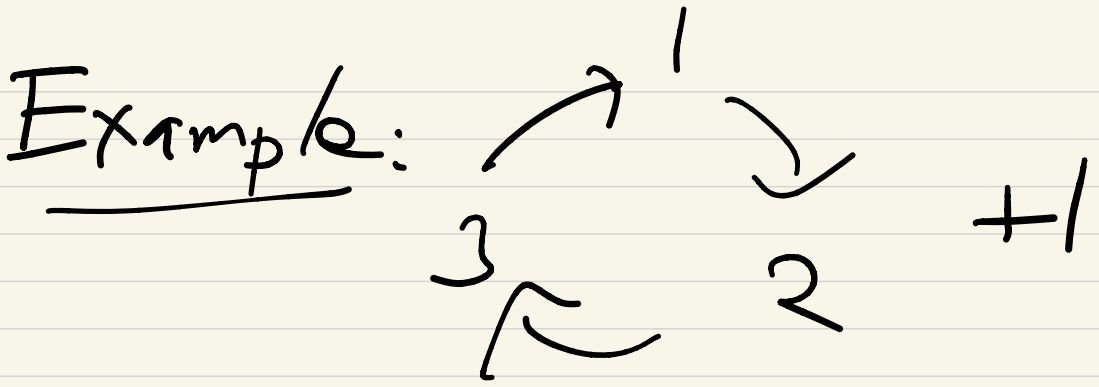
Rmk: As we range over  
all pairs  $\{i, j\}$ ,

the pairs  $\{\sigma(i), \sigma(j)\}$

also range over all pairs  
(but maybe in "wrong" order)

$$\Rightarrow \prod_{\substack{i < j \\ \text{"}}} |j - i| = \prod_{\substack{i < j \\ \text{"}}} |\sigma(i) - \sigma(j)|$$

$$\Rightarrow \underline{\underline{\text{sgn}(\sigma) = \pm 1}}$$



$$\left( \frac{1-2}{2-1} \right) \cdot \left( \frac{3-2}{3-1} \right) \cdot \left( \frac{3-1}{3-2} \right)$$

$$\sigma(1)=2 \quad \sigma(2)=1 \quad \sigma(3)=3 = 1$$

# Property (composition $\rightarrow$ product)

$\sigma, \tau$  permutations

$$\Rightarrow \text{sgn}(\sigma \circ \tau) = \text{sgn}(\sigma) \cdot \text{sgn}(\tau)$$

Pf:

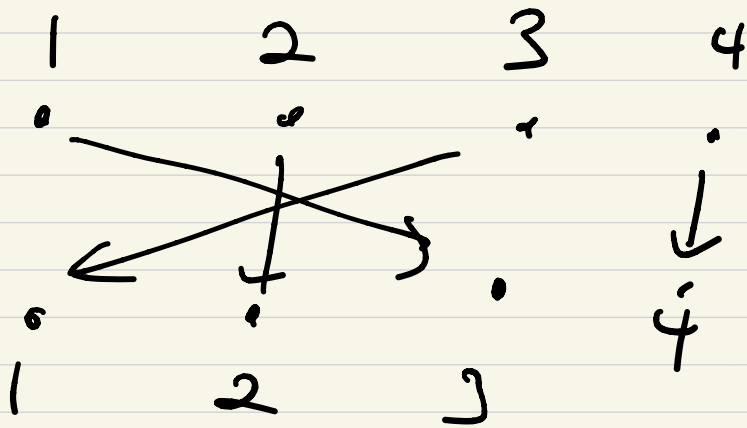
$$\text{sgn}(\sigma \circ \tau) = \prod_{j < i} \frac{\sigma(\tau(j)) - \sigma(\tau(i))}{j - i}$$
$$= \prod_{j < i} \frac{\sigma(\tau(j)) - \sigma(\tau(i))}{\tau(j) - \tau(i)} \cdot \frac{\tau(j) - \tau(i)}{j - i}$$

$\downarrow$   $\uparrow$

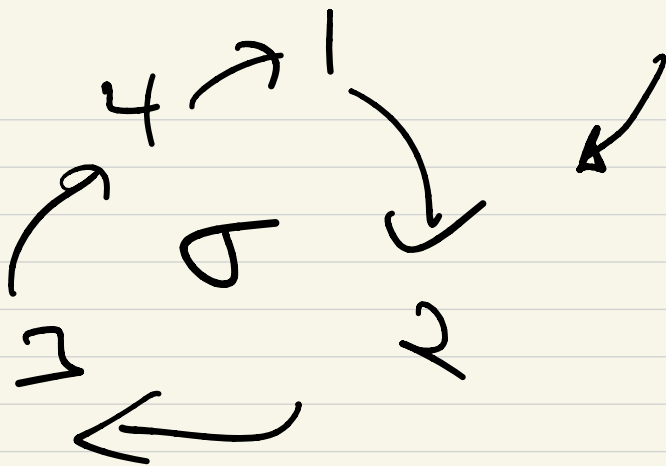
$\text{sgn}(\sigma)$   $\text{sgn}(\tau)$

Moral: If we can find  
permutations that "generate"  
all symmetries of  $[n]$ ,  
their signs determine all  
the signs!

Transpositions:



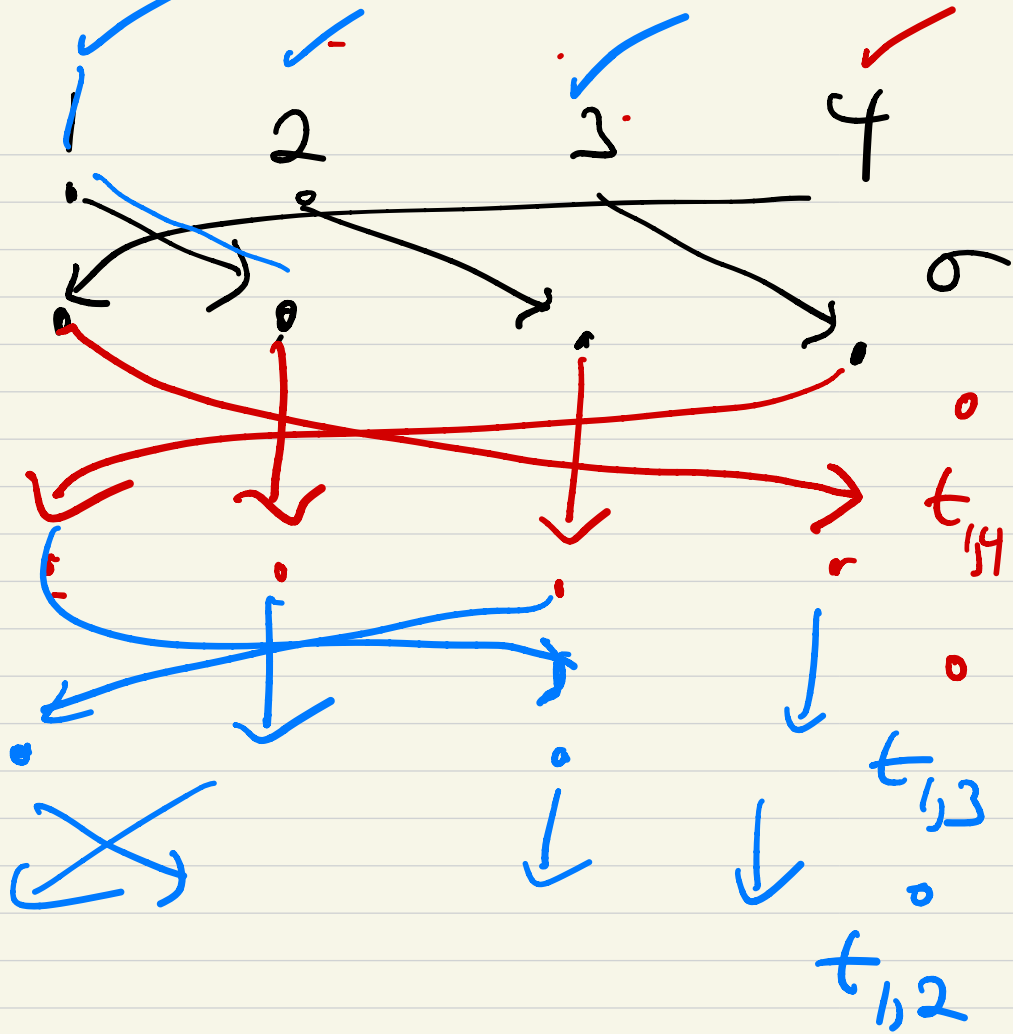
$$\underline{\underline{\sigma(4) = 1}}$$



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Name:  $t_{i,j}$  = transposition  
swapping  
 $i$  and  $j$ .

$$\begin{aligned} & \overbrace{t_{3,4} \circ \sigma(4)} \\ &= t_{3,4}(1) = 4 \end{aligned}$$



$$\tau_{1,2} \circ \tau_{1,3} \circ \tau_{1,4} \circ \sigma = \text{id}$$

~~$$\tau_{1,2} \circ \tau_{1,3} \circ \tau_{1,4} \circ \sigma = \tau_{1,2}$$~~

~~$$\tau_{1,3} \circ \tau_{1,4} \circ \sigma = \tau_{1,4} \circ \tau_{1,3} \circ \tau_{1,2}$$~~



Proposition: The transpositions

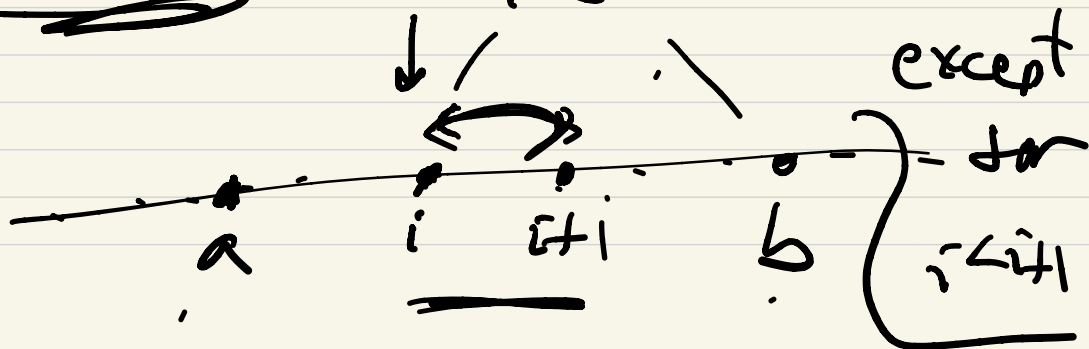


$t_{12}, t_{23}, \dots, t_{n-1n}$  are

enough to generate all symmetries

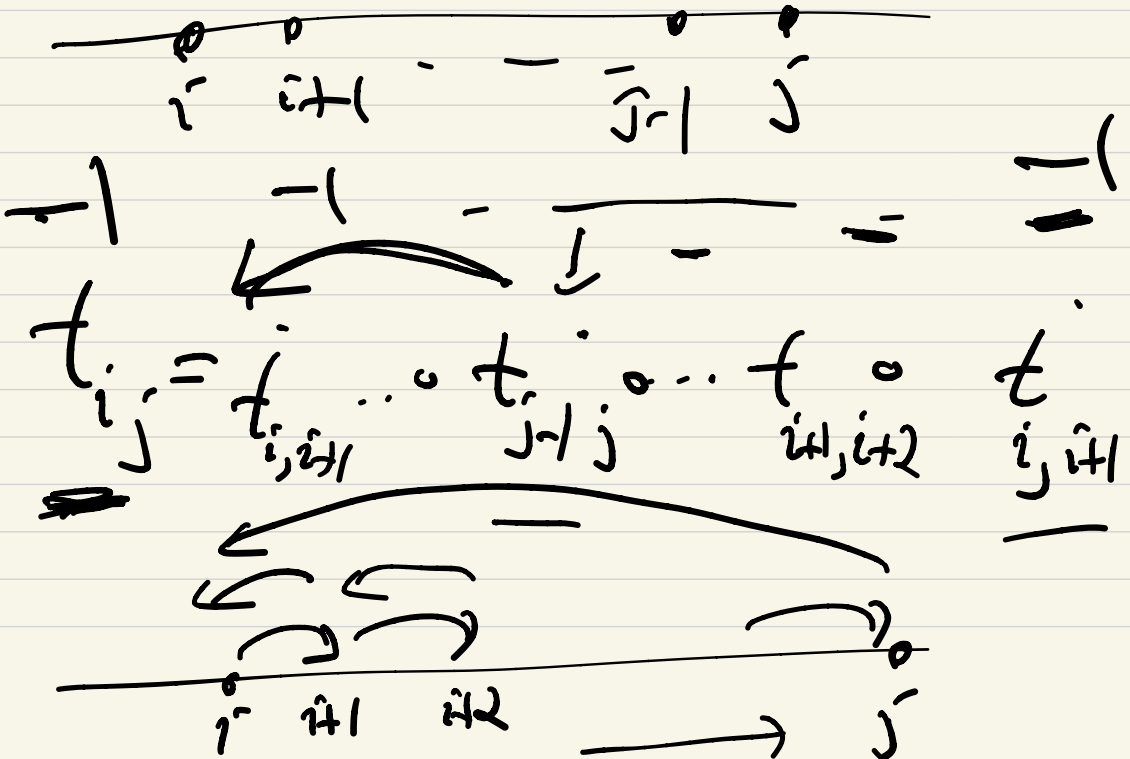
$$\text{sgn}(t_{i \ i+1}) = -1 \quad \begin{matrix} \text{all} \\ \downarrow \\ + \end{matrix}$$

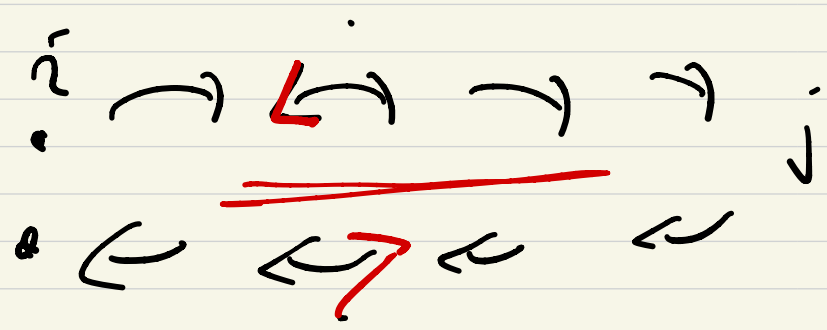
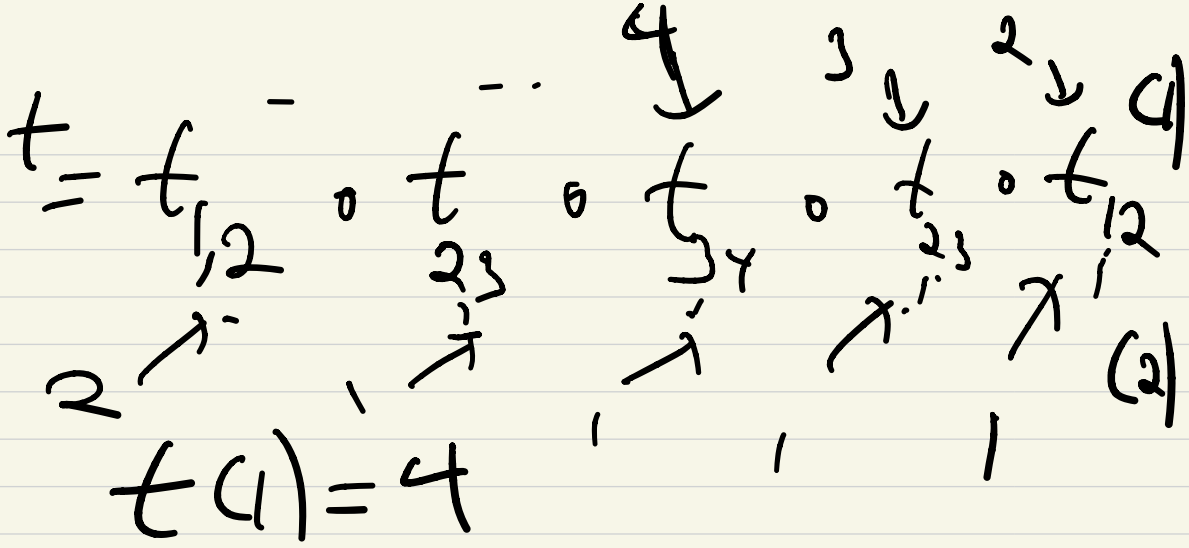
$$\text{sgn}(t_{i \ i+1}) = \prod_{a < b} \frac{t(b) - t(a)}{b - a}$$



In fact,  $\text{sgn}(t_{ij}) = -1$

E.s. See this by expressing  $t_{ij}$  as a product:





Upshot:  $\text{sgn}(t_{i,j}) = -1$

Remarkable consequence:

Every permutation is  
a <sup>composition</sup> ~~product~~ of either an  
odd or even # of transpositions

$$\text{odd} \Leftrightarrow (\text{sgn}(\sigma) = -1)$$

$$\text{even} \Leftrightarrow (\text{sgn}(\sigma) = +1)$$

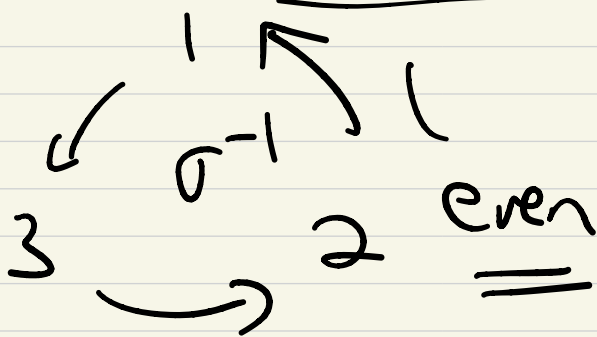
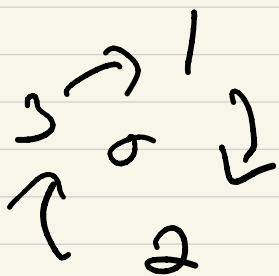
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# All permutations of $[3]$

$$Id = 1_{[3]} \quad \underline{\text{even}}$$

$$\underline{t_{12}}, \underline{t_{13}}, \underline{t_{23}} \quad \underline{\underline{\text{odd}}}$$

$$\sigma = \underline{t_{13}} \circ \underline{t_{12}} \quad \sigma^{-1} = \underline{t_{12}} \circ \underline{t_{13}}$$



$$\sigma = t_{13} \circ t_{12} \quad \begin{matrix} (1) = 2 \\ (2) = 3 \\ (3) = 1 \end{matrix}$$

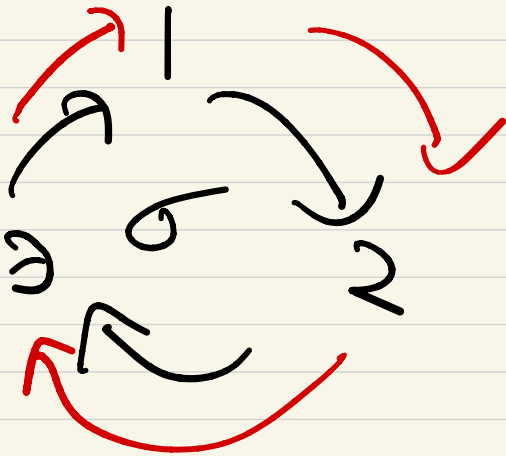
Fact: Exactly half  
the permutations of  $(n)$   
are even.

Fact: The even permutations  
are closed under composition.

The even permutations of  $(n)$   
are called the alternating  
group.

Ex. [3]

$$\left[ \begin{array}{l} \sigma, \sigma^{-1}, \text{id} = \text{alt.} \\ \sigma \circ \sigma = \sigma^{-1} \end{array} \right. \text{gp.}$$



$$\sigma^2(1) = 3$$

$$\sigma^2(2) = 1$$

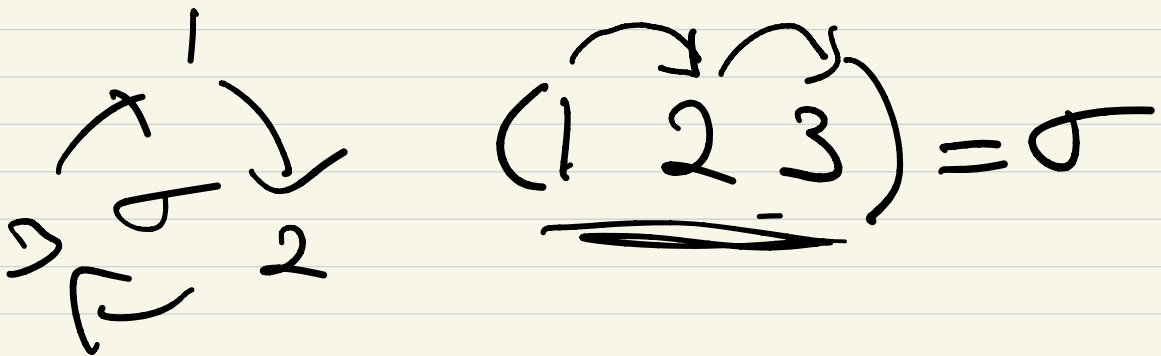
$$\sigma^2(3) = 2$$



Q: What's the best way to record a permutation?

A: (Cayley 1800's)

Via the orbits.

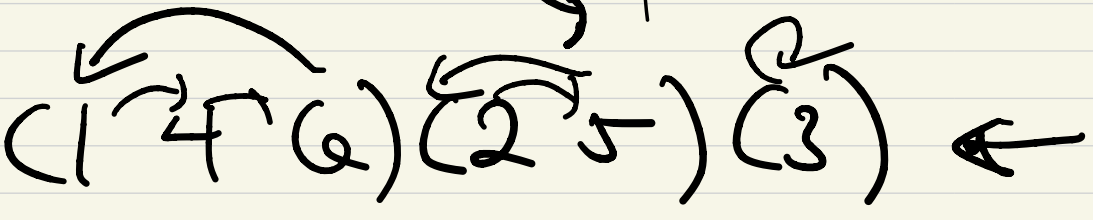
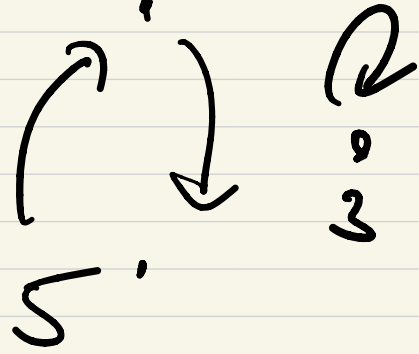
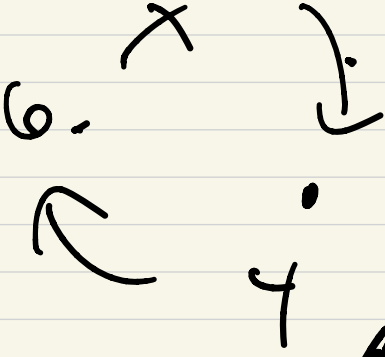


$(1 \xrightarrow{\text{travels}} )$  (missing from 1st orbit)



Ex:

19:



24

All permutations of  $[4]$ :

Q: what could the orbits look like qualitatively?

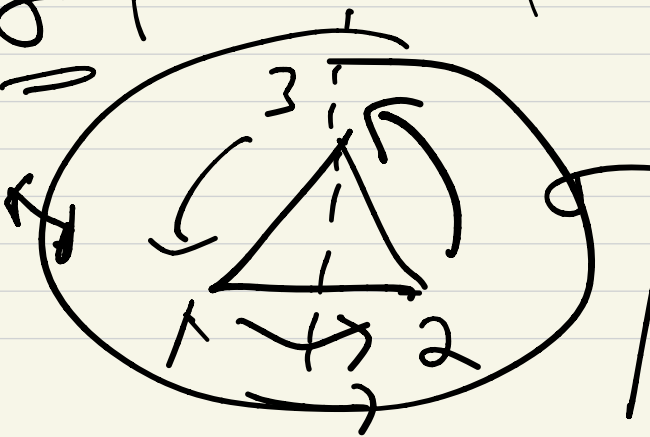
- id.  $(1)(2)(3)(4)$  even 1
- tr:  $\binom{2}{\quad} (1)(1)(1)$  odd  $\binom{4}{2} = 6$
- two pair  $\binom{2}{\quad} \binom{2}{\quad}$  2 cycle even 3
- 3 of a kind  $\binom{1}{\quad} (1)$  3 cycle even 8
- 4 of a kind  $(1^4)$  4 cycle odd 6
-

$1 \rightarrow 2$   
 $2 \rightarrow 1 \rightarrow 3$   
 $3 \rightarrow 1$

# Composition Table

for  $[3]$

	$(12)$	$(13)$	$(23)$	$(123)$	$(132)$
$e$	$t_{12}$	$t_{13}$	$t_{23}$	$\sigma$	$\sigma^2$
$t_{12}$	$1$	$\sigma$			
$t_{13}$	$\sigma^2$	$1$			
$t_{23}$			$1$		
$\sigma$				$\sigma^2$	$1$
$\sigma^2$				$1$	$\sigma$



Sill in!

Symmetry

at  $\Delta!$

Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a category

- objects
- functions/morphisms.

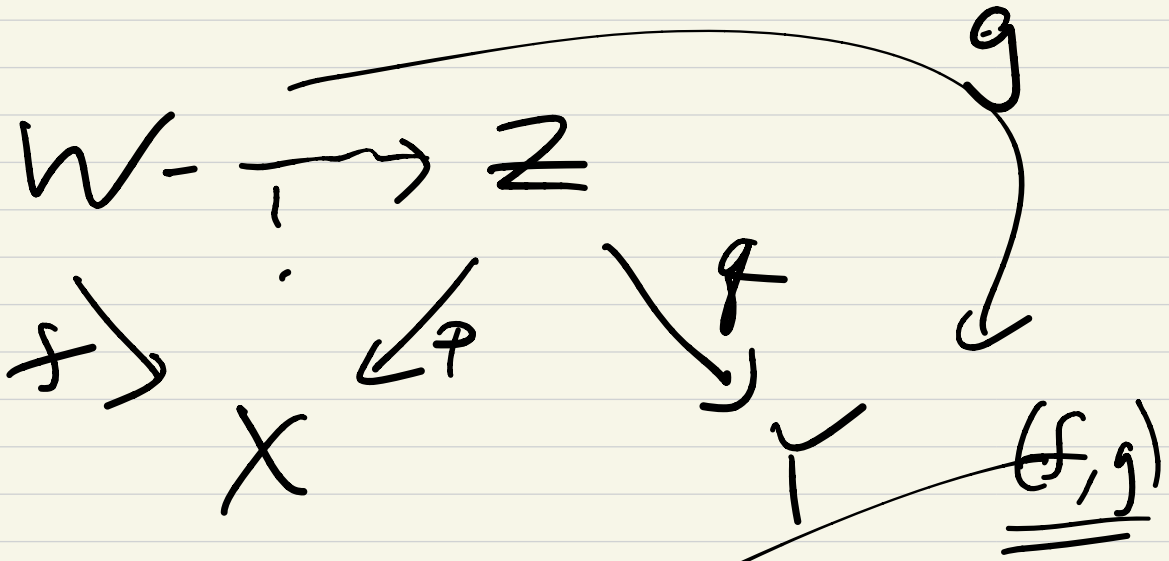
Let  $X, Y$  be objects.

The a product of  $X$  &  $Y$   
is a third object  $Z$   
together with pr-functions:

$$(\underline{Z \xrightarrow{p} X}, \underline{Z \xrightarrow{f} Y})$$

This tripe should be

"universal":



Example 1:  $W = X \times Y = \{(x, y)\}$

is the product of sets.

A commutative diagram for the Cartesian product example. At the top, a set  $W = X \times Y = \{(x, y)\}$  has a function  $\cdot$  mapping to a set  $Z$ . Below  $W$ , a set  $X$  has a function  $f$  mapping to  $Z$ . To the right of  $X$ , a set  $Y$  has a function  $g$  mapping to  $Z$ . A function  $p$  maps  $X$  to  $Y$ . A function  $(f, g)$  maps  $X$  to  $Y$ . A curved arrow connects  $W$  to  $Y$ , and another curved arrow connects  $W$  to  $Z$ .

Product of subsets:

is the intersection

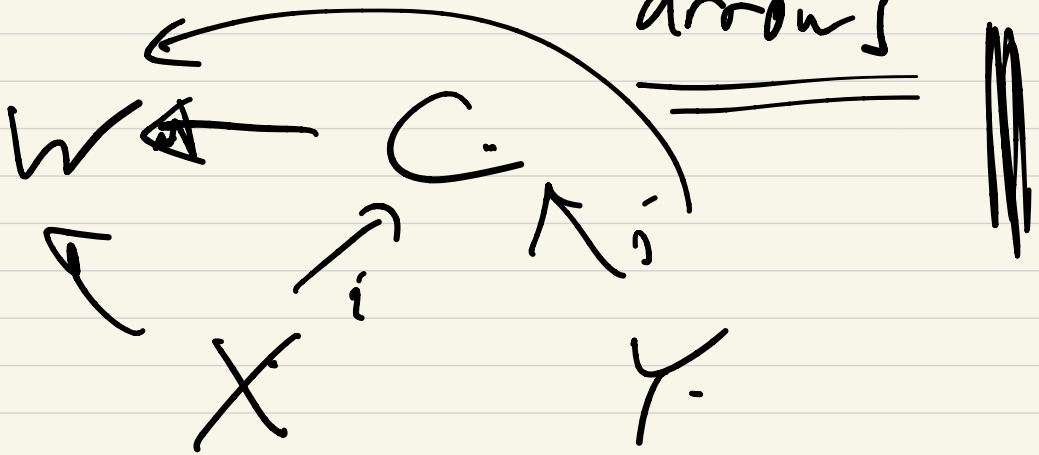
$$S, T \subseteq U$$

$$W \subseteq Z$$

$$S \supseteq T$$

$$Z \subseteq S, Z \subseteq T$$

Co-product: reversed



In sets:  $X \cup Y \supseteq \underline{\text{the}}$   
coproduct.

In subsets: union  $\supseteq C$   
 $\subseteq$   $\cup$   $T$

$$t_{12} \circ t_{23} = (132)$$

$$(1 \overset{\rightarrow}{3})(2 \overset{\curvearrowright}{3})$$

$$= (132)$$

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$$t_{12} \circ (123)$$

$$(13)(1 \overset{\rightarrow}{2} \overset{\curvearrowright}{3}) = (12)$$

$$\underline{\underline{\quad}} = t_{12}$$