

A2.2 The symmetric group S_n

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Part 1

Two generators, like (12) and (23) . They just must not be even both, because one could not build up odd permutations out of them.

Part 2

$$(1\ 6\ 2\ 3) (3\ 6\ 4\ 5) (1\ 3\ 4\ 2) = (1\ 2\ 6\ 4\ 3\ 5)$$

Algorithm: Take a number (\downarrow), see where it goes (\hookrightarrow , \curvearrowright) and what the final result (\hookrightarrow) is. Write that pair to the right. Repeat that process with the number you got (2 here) and see where that goes (6 here).

Part 3

$$\left[(1\ 2\ 3\ 4\ 5\ 6) (7\ 8\ 9\ 10\ 11) \right]^{30}$$

$$= (1\ 2\ 3\ 4\ 5\ 6)^{30} (7\ 8\ 9\ 10\ 11)^{30}$$

disjoint cycles

$$= e^5 \cdot e^6 = e$$

To me it is trivial that a cycle of k element will become the identity after k applications. Patrick said that he looks into how trivial that

actually B.