

Reductions on Double Occurrence Words

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03/08/2013

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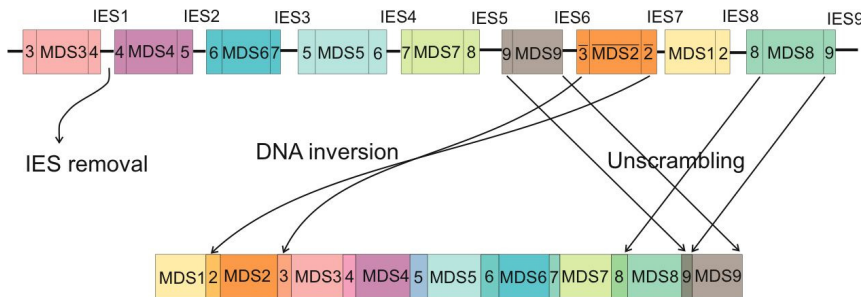
- 1 Biological background
- 2 Double occurrence words
- 3 Reduction of a double occurrence word
- 4 Nesting index of a double occurrence word
- 5 Chord diagrams
- 6 Circle graphs
- 7 Questions and Conjectures

Biological motivation



Figure: A ciliate under microscope

Genome rearrangement



- Segments of ciliate DNA are eliminated or rearranged. ¹

¹Prescott, D.M. and Greslin, A.F., Scrambled actin I gene in the micronucleus of *Oxytricha nova*. Dev. Genet. (1992), 13: 66-74.

Model for rearrangement

- 4-valent rigid vertex graphs with endpoints (assembly graphs) are used to model genome rearrangement ²

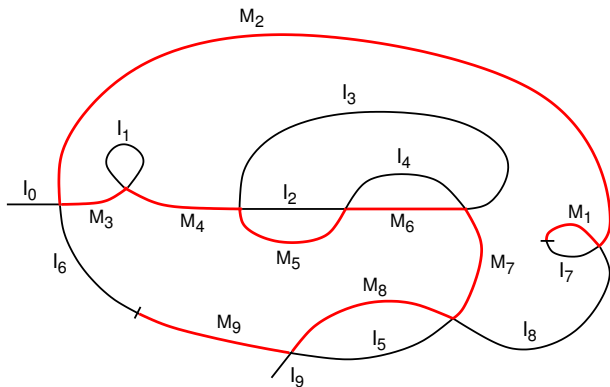


Figure: Assembly graph model for Actin I gene in *Oxytricha Nova*

²A. Angeleska, N. Jonoska, M. Saito, L.F. Landweber, RNA-Guided DNA Assembly, *J. of Theoretical Biology* (2007) 248:706-720.

Patterns in scrambled genes

- A pattern observed in the scrambled genes of ciliates is related to its evolutionary complexity. ³

³W.-J. Chang, P.D. Bryson, H. Liang, M.K. Shin, L.F. Landweber. The evolutionary origin of a complex scrambled gene. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. (2005) 102(42):15149-15154

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 - 2 Define words that relate to the patterns observed

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 - 2 Define words that relate to the patterns observed
 - 3 Define reduction operations on double occurrence words

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- Goal:
 - 1 Double occurrence words from assembly graphs
 - 2 Define words that relate to the patterns observed
 - 3 Define reduction operations on double occurrence words
 - 4 Define the nesting index as a measurement of complexity for scrambled genes
 - 5 Observe how the nesting index relates to other representations of double occurrence words (e.g. chord diagrams and circle graphs)

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Double occurrence words

- A *double occurrence word* is a word over a finite alphabet $\Sigma = \{1, 2, 3, \dots, n\}$ in which each symbol appears exactly twice

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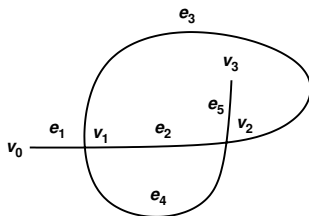
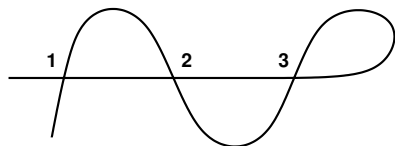


Figure: Assembly graph represented by word $v_1 v_2 v_1 v_2$ or 1212

Patterns translated

- A *return word* is a word of the form

$$a_1 a_2 \cdots a_n a_n \cdots a_2 a_1, \quad a_i \in \Sigma \text{ for all } i, \text{ and } a_i \neq a_j \text{ for } i \neq j$$



(a) 123321 is a return word

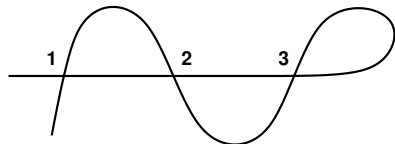
Patterns translated

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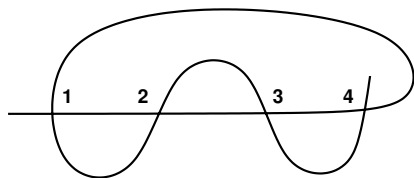
$$a_1 a_2 \cdots a_n a_n \cdots a_2 a_1, \quad a_i \in \Sigma \text{ for all } i, \text{ and } a_i \neq a_j \text{ for } i \neq j$$

- A *repeat word* is a word of the form

$$a_1 a_2 \cdots a_n a_1 a_2 \cdots a_n, \quad a_i \in \Sigma \text{ for all } i, \text{ and } a_i \neq a_j \text{ for } i \neq j$$



(a) 123321 is a return word



(b) 12341234 is a repeat word

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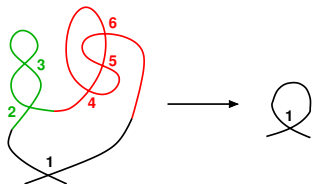
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Reductions

- Two reduction operations

Reductions

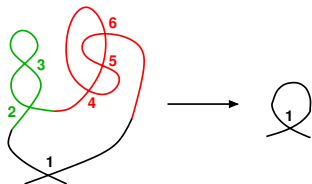
- Two reduction operations
 - 1 Removal of all maximal repeat and return words



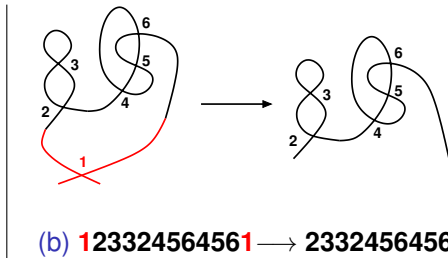
(a) **123324564561** \rightarrow **11**

Reductions

- Two reduction operations
 - 1 Removal of all maximal repeat and return words
 - 2 Removal of a letter



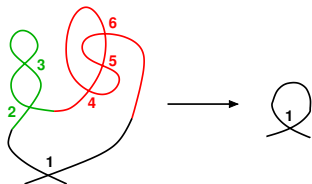
(a) **123324564561** \longrightarrow **11**



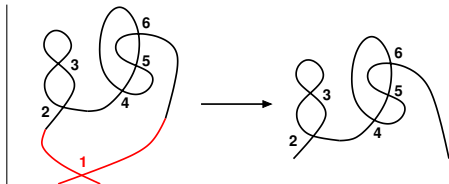
(b) **123324564561** \longrightarrow **2332456456**

Reductions

- Two reduction operations
 - 1 Removal of all maximal repeat and return words
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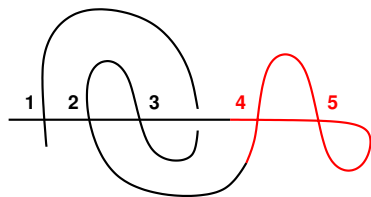
(a) **123324564561** \longrightarrow **11**



(b) **123324564561** \longrightarrow **2332456456**

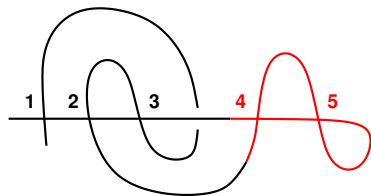
- A reduction \mathcal{R} of a word w is a sequence of words $(w = w_0, w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n = \epsilon)$ where w_{i+1} is obtained from w_i for $0 \leq i < n$ by one of the two reduction operations.

Example 1

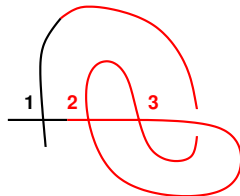


(a) $w_0 = 1234554231$

Example 1

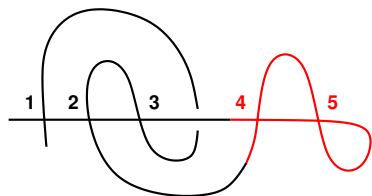


(a) $w_0 = 1234554231$

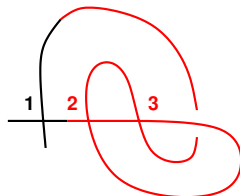


(b) $w_1 = 123231$

Example 1



(a) $w_0 = 1234554231$

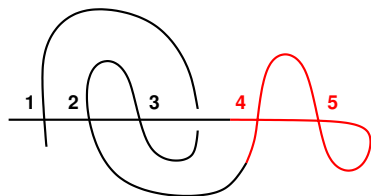


(b) $w_1 = 123231$

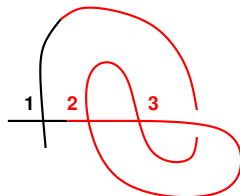


(c) $w_2 = 11$

Example 1



(a) $w_0 = 1234554231$



(b) $w_1 = 123231$

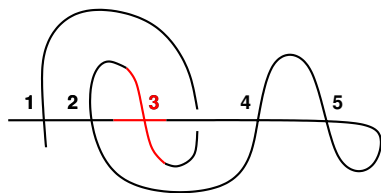


(c) $w_2 = 11$



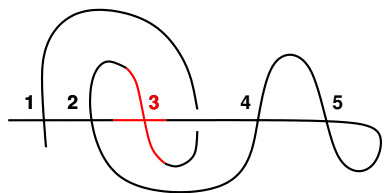
(d) $w_3 = \epsilon$

Example 2

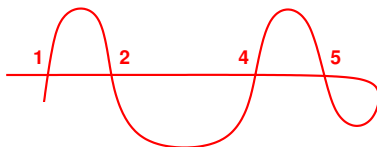


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Example 2

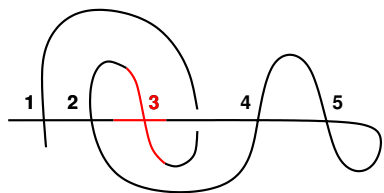


(a) $w_0 = 1234554231$

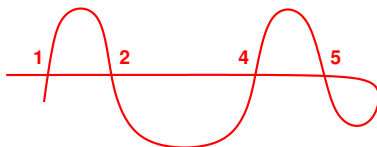


(b) $w_1 = 124421$

Example 2



(a) $w_0 = 1234554231$



(b) $w_1 = 124421$



(c) $w_2 = \epsilon$

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Nesting index

- *Nesting index* of a word w is the least number of reduction operations that reduce w to ϵ
- More formally,

$$NI(w) = \min\{n : (w = w_0, w_1, \dots, w_n = \epsilon) \text{ is a reduction of } w\}$$

	Example 1	Example 2
w_0	1234554231	1234554231
w_1	123231	12455421
w_2	11	ϵ
w_3	ϵ	N/A

Table: Reductions of $w = 12344321$

- No known efficient algorithm to compute Nesting index

A more complex case

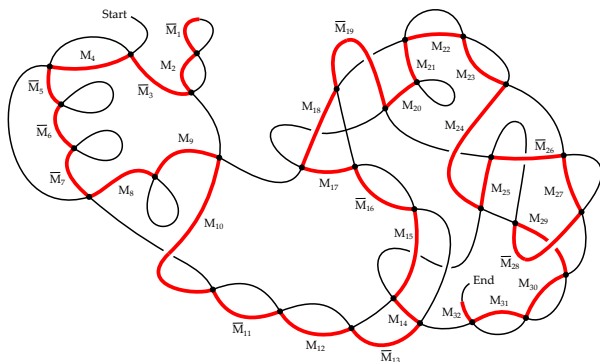


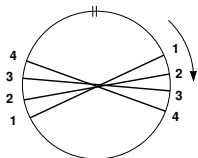
Figure: Assembly graph for word 1, 2, 3, 4, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 11, 18, 12, 19, 20, 18, 21, 7, 22, 23, 16, 24, 25, 26, 3, 27, 27, 28, 28, 2, 1, 29, 30, 30, 29, 5, 26, 25, 24, 17, 23, 22, 6, 21, 31, 31, 8, 9, 10, 20, 19, 13, 14, 15

- Nesting index = 15

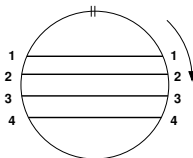
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Chord diagrams

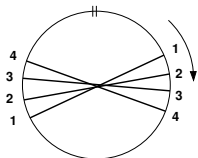


(a) $w = 12341234$

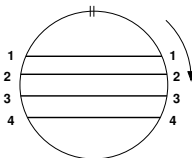


(b) $w = 12344321$

Chord diagrams



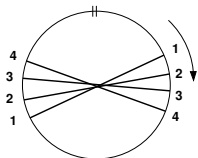
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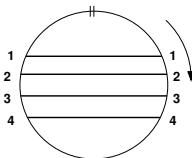
(b) $w = 12344321$

- If w is a repeat word, then every pair of chords intersect.
- If w is a return word, then no pair of chords intersect.

Chord diagrams



(a) $w = 12341234$

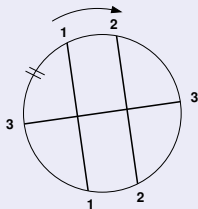


(b) $w = 12344321$

- If w is a repeat word, then every pair of chords intersect.
- If w is a return word, then no pair of chords intersect.

And now for something completely different...

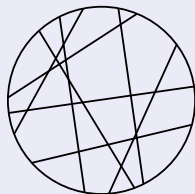
Word $w = 123213$ has chord diagram



Chord diagrams and nesting index

Theorem

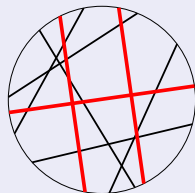
Every reduction of w must use the second reduction operation if and only if the chord diagram of w has the following sub-chord diagram.



Chord diagrams and nesting index

Theorem

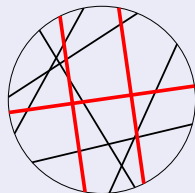
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Chord diagrams and nesting index

Theorem

Every reduction of w must use the second reduction operation if and only if the chord diagram of w has the following sub-chord diagram.



Corollary

Let $2 \leq n \leq m$ be integers. If a word w has a chord diagram with the following as a sub-chord diagram, then $\text{NI}(w) \geq n + 1$.

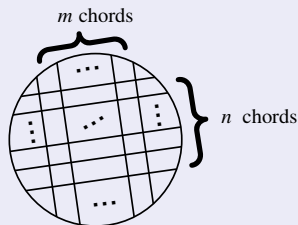


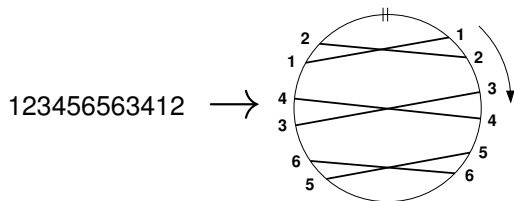
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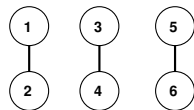
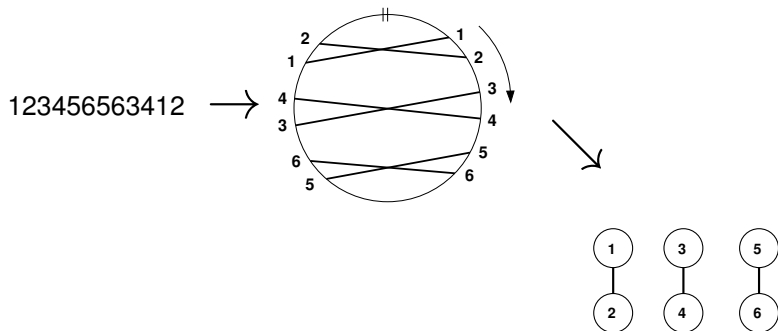
Circle graphs

123456563412

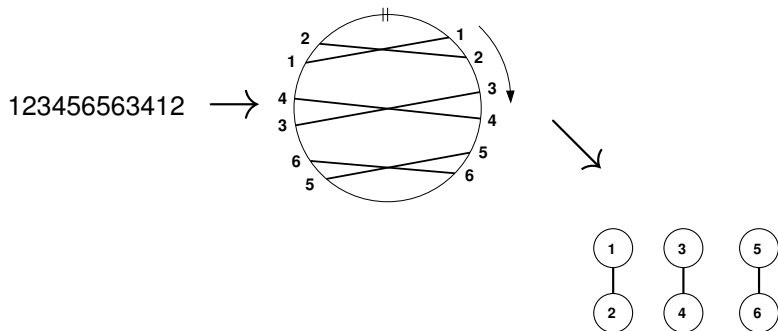
Circle graphs



Circle graphs



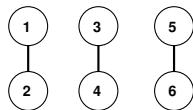
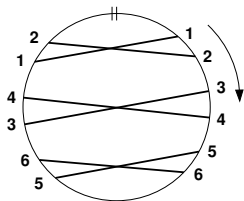
Circle graphs



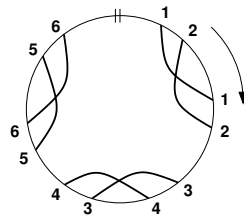
121234345656

Circle graphs

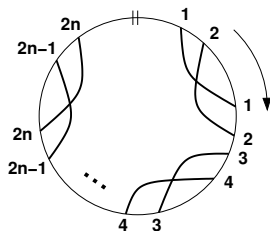
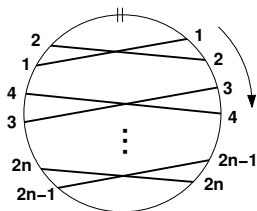
123456563412



121234345656



Circle graphs and nesting index



Fact

There exist words w_1 and w_2 over $2n$ letters, that have the same circle graph and

$$\text{NI}(w_1) = n, \quad \text{NI}(w_2) = 1$$

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Questions and Conjectures

Questions involving circle graphs

- Can we characterize words with same circle graph and same nesting index?

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- Can we characterize words with same circle graph and same nesting index?
- Let S be a set of words with the same circle graph and nesting index. Does there exist N independent of S such that $|S| \leq N$?

Questions and Conjectures

Questions involving circle graphs

- Can we characterize words with same circle graph and same nesting index?
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Minimal realization

How many letters are needed to construct a word with nesting index n ?

Questions and Conjectures

Questions involving circle graphs

- Can we characterize words with same circle graph and same nesting index?
- Let S be a set of words with the same circle graph and nesting index. Does there exist N independent of S such that $|S| \leq N$?

Minimal realization

How many letters are needed to construct a word with nesting index n ?

Conjecture:

$$n + \#\text{nonzero squares less than } n$$

Nesting index counts and conjectures

Table: Number of words of a given size and nesting index

Size	Nesting Index									
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	7	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4	17	78	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	41	424	479	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
6	99	1915	6248	2133	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	239	7914	50247	69879	6856	0	0	0	0	0
8	577	31370	328810	1004642	648065	13561	0	0	0	0
9	1393	122530	1927900	10125920	17081040	5187788	12854	0	0	0
10								2019	0	0
11									4	0
12										0

- First column corresponds to the numerators of continued fraction convergents to $\sqrt{2}$.

Thanks!

Many thanks to Dr. Nataša Jonoska, Dr. Masahico Saito, Jonathan Burns, Sarah Croome, Egor Dolzhenko, Maja Milošević, Jamie Sprecher, and Timothy Yeatman.

For related work please visit <http://knot.math.usf.edu>



This work has been supported in part by NSF Grant DMS #0900671