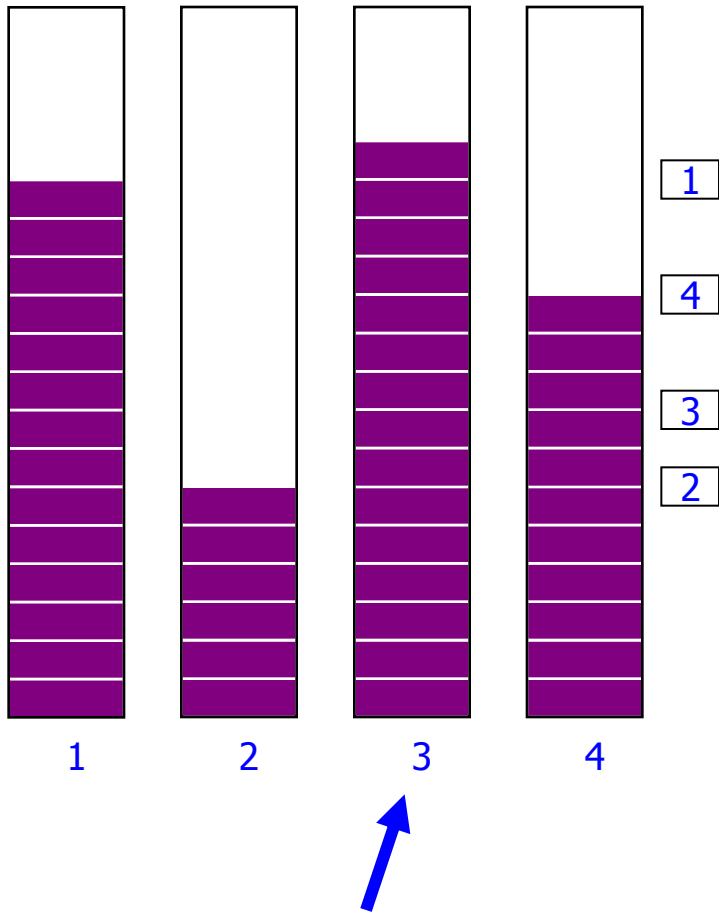


**048704/236803**  
**Seminar on Coding for**  
**Non-Volatile Memories**

# Rank Modulation



Ordered set of  $n$  cells

Assume discrete levels

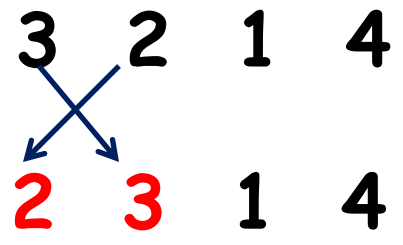
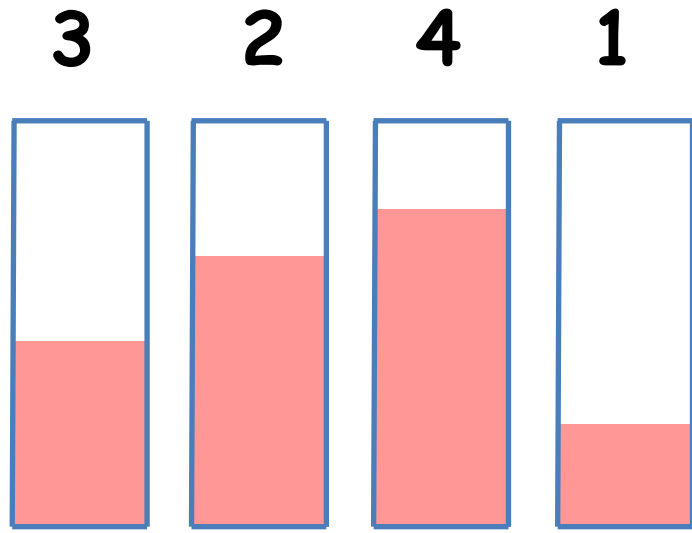
**Relative** levels define a **permutation**

Basic operation: **push-to-the-top**

Overshoot is not a concern

Writing is much faster

Increased reliability (data retention)

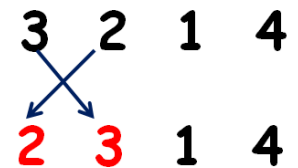
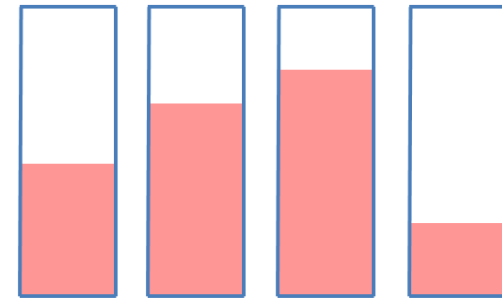


# Kendall's Tau Distance

- For a permutation  $\sigma$  an **adjacent transposition** is the local exchange of two adjacent elements
- For  $\sigma, \pi \in S_m$ ,  $d_\tau(\sigma, \pi)$  is the **Kendall's tau** distance between  $\sigma$  and  $\pi$   
 = Number of adjacent transpositions to change  $\sigma$  to be  $\pi$

$\sigma=2413$  and  $\pi=2314$

$\underline{2}413 \rightarrow 2\underline{1}43 \rightarrow 2\underline{1}34 \rightarrow 2314$   
 $d_\tau(\sigma, \pi) = 3$



It is called also the **bubble-sort** distance

The Kendall's tau distance is the number of pairs that do not agree in their order

# Kendall's Tau Distance

- **Lemma:** Kendall's tau distance induces a metric on  $S_n$
- The Kendall's tau distance is the number of pairs that do not agree in their order
- For a permutation  $\sigma$ ,  $W_\tau(\sigma) = \{(i,j) \mid i < j, \sigma^{-1}(i) > \sigma^{-1}(j)\}$
- **Lemma:**  $d_\tau(\sigma, \pi) = |W_\tau(\sigma) \setminus W_\tau(\pi)| + |W_\tau(\pi) \setminus W_\tau(\sigma)|$
- $d_\tau(\sigma, \text{id}) = |W_\tau(\sigma)|$
- The maximum Kendall's tau distance is  $n(n-1)/2$

# ECCs for Kendall's Tau Distance

- **Goal:** Construct codes correcting a single error
- Assume  $k$  or  $k+1$  is prime
- Encode a permutation in  $S_k$  to a permutation in  $S_{k+2}$
- A code over  $S_{k+2}$  with  $k!$  codewords
  - $s=(s_1, \dots, s_k) \in S_k$  is the information permutation
  - set the locations of  $k+1 \in Z_{k+1}$  and  $k+2 \in Z_{k+2}$  to be
$$\text{loc}(k+1) = \sum_1^k (2i-1)s_i \pmod{m}$$
$$\text{loc}(k+2) = \sum_1^k (2i-1)^2 s_i \pmod{m}$$
$$m=k \text{ if } k \text{ is prime and } m=k+1 \text{ if } k+1 \text{ is prime}$$
- **Ex:**  $k=7, s=(7613245)$ 
$$\text{loc}(8) = 1 \cdot 7 + 3 \cdot 6 + 5 \cdot 1 + 7 \cdot 3 + 9 \cdot 2 + 11 \cdot 4 + 13 \cdot 5 = 3 \pmod{7}$$
$$\text{loc}(9) = 1^2 \cdot 7 + 3^2 \cdot 6 + 5^2 \cdot 1 + 7^2 \cdot 3 + 9^2 \cdot 2 + 11^2 \cdot 4 + 13^2 \cdot 5 = 2 \pmod{7}$$
$$E(s) = (769183245)$$

# ECCs for Kendall's Tau Distance

- A code over  $S_{k+2}$  with  $k!$  codewords
  - $\mathbf{s}=(s_1,\dots,s_k) \in S_k$  is the information permutation
  - set the locations of  $k+1 \in \mathbb{Z}_{k+1}$  and  $k+2 \in \mathbb{Z}_{k+2}$  to be
 
$$\text{loc}(k+1) = \sum_1^k (2i-1)s_i \pmod{m}$$

$$\text{loc}(k+2) = \sum_1^k (2i-1)^2 s_i \pmod{m}$$

$$m=k \text{ if } k \text{ is prime and } m=k+1 \text{ if } k+1 \text{ is prime}$$
- **Ex:**  $k=3, m=3$ 
  - $123 \Rightarrow 15423$  ;  $\text{loc}(4)=1\cdot 1+3\cdot 2+5\cdot 3=1 \pmod{3}$ ,  $\text{loc}(5)=1\cdot 1+9\cdot 2+25\cdot 3=1 \pmod{3}$
  - $132 \Rightarrow 13542$  ;  $\text{loc}(4)=1\cdot 1+3\cdot 3+5\cdot 2=2 \pmod{3}$ ,  $\text{loc}(5)=1\cdot 1+9\cdot 3+25\cdot 2=2 \pmod{3}$
  - $213 \Rightarrow 21543$  ;  $\text{loc}(4)=1\cdot 2+3\cdot 1+5\cdot 3=2 \pmod{3}$ ,  $\text{loc}(5)=1\cdot 2+9\cdot 1+25\cdot 3=2 \pmod{3}$
  - $231 \Rightarrow 52431$  ;  $\text{loc}(4)=1\cdot 2+3\cdot 3+5\cdot 1=1 \pmod{3}$ ,  $\text{loc}(5)=1\cdot 2+9\cdot 3+25\cdot 1=0 \pmod{3}$
  - $312 \Rightarrow 34512$  ;  $\text{loc}(4)=1\cdot 3+3\cdot 1+5\cdot 2=1 \pmod{3}$ ,  $\text{loc}(5)=1\cdot 3+9\cdot 1+25\cdot 2=2 \pmod{3}$
  - $321 \Rightarrow 35241$  ;  $\text{loc}(4)=1\cdot 3+3\cdot 2+5\cdot 1=2 \pmod{3}$ ,  $\text{loc}(5)=1\cdot 3+9\cdot 2+25\cdot 1=1 \pmod{3}$

# ECCs for Kendall's Tau Distance

- A code over  $S_{k+2}$  with  $k!$  codewords
  - $\mathbf{s}=(s_1,\dots,s_k) \in S_k$  is the information permutation
  - set the locations of  $k+1 \in Z_{k+1}$  and  $k+2 \in Z_{k+2}$  to be  
 $\text{loc}(k+1) = \sum_1^k (2i-1)s_i \pmod m$ ;       $\text{loc}(k+2) = \sum_1^k (2i-1)^2 s_i \pmod m$
- **Theorem:** This code can correct a single Kendall's tau error.
- **Proof:** Enough to show that the Kendall's tau distance between every two codewords is at least 3
  - $\mathbf{s}=(s_1,\dots,s_k) \in S_k$ ,  $\mathbf{u}=\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{s})$ ;  $\mathbf{t}=(t_1,\dots,t_k) \in S_k$ ,  $\mathbf{v}=\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{t})$
  - If  $d_\tau(\mathbf{s},\mathbf{t}) \geq 3$  then  $d_\tau(\mathbf{u},\mathbf{v}) \geq 3$  ✓
  - If  $d_\tau(\mathbf{s},\mathbf{t})=1$ , write  $\mathbf{t}=(s_1,\dots,s_{i+1},s_i,\dots,s_k)$ , let  $\delta = s_{i+1}-s_i$   
 $\text{loc}_s(k+1)-\text{loc}_t(k+1)=(2i-1)s_i+(2i+1)s_{i+1}-(2i-1)s_{i+1}-(2i+1)s_i=2s_{i+1}-2s_i=2\delta \pmod k$   
 thus, they are **not** positioned in the same location. ✓
  - $\text{loc}_s(k+2)-\text{loc}_t(k+2)=(2i-1)^2 s_i+(2i+1)^2 s_{i+1}-(2i-1)^2 s_{i+1}-(2i+1)^2 s_i$   
 $=8is_{i+1}-8is_i=8i\delta \pmod k$   
 thus, they are **not** positioned in the same location either ✓.



# ECCs for Kendall's Tau Distance

## Proof (cont):

–  $\mathbf{s}=(s_1,\dots,s_k) \in S_k$ ,  $\mathbf{u}=\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{s})$ ;  $\mathbf{t}=(t_1,\dots,t_k) \in S_k$ ,  $\mathbf{v}=\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{t})$

– If  $d_{\tau}(\mathbf{s},\mathbf{t})=1$ , write  $\mathbf{t}=(s_1,\dots,s_{i+1},s_i,\dots,s_k)$ , let  $\delta = s_{i+1}-s_i$

$$\text{loc}_{\mathbf{s}}(k+1)-\text{loc}_{\mathbf{t}}(k+1)=(2i-1)s_i+(2i+1)s_{i+1}-(2i-1)s_{i+1}-(2i+1)s_i=2s_{i+1}-2s_i=2\delta \pmod{k}$$

thus, they are **not** positioned in the same location. ✓

$$\text{loc}_{\mathbf{s}}(k+2)-\text{loc}_{\mathbf{t}}(k+2)=(2i-1)^2s_i+(2i+1)^2s_{i+1}-(2i-1)^2s_{i+1}-(2i+1)^2s_i=8is_{i+1}-8is_i=8i\delta \pmod{k}$$

thus, they are **not** positioned in the same location either ✓.

– If  $d_{\tau}(\mathbf{s},\mathbf{t})=2$ , write  $\mathbf{t}=(s_1,\dots,s_{i+1},s_i,\dots,s_{i+1},s_i,\dots,s_k)$ ,  $\delta_1=s_{i+1}-s_i$ ,  $\delta_2=s_{j+1}-s_j$

$$\text{loc}_{\mathbf{s}}(k+1)-\text{loc}_{\mathbf{t}}(k+1)=2(\delta_1+\delta_2) \pmod{k}$$

$$\text{loc}_{\mathbf{s}}(k+2)-\text{loc}_{\mathbf{t}}(k+2)=8i\delta_1+8j\delta_2 \pmod{k}$$

If  $\delta_1+\delta_2$  is **NOT** a multiple of  $k$  then  $k+1$  appears in different locations ✓

Otherwise,  $\delta_2=-\delta_1 \pmod{k}$  and  $\text{loc}_{\mathbf{s}}(k+2)-\text{loc}_{\mathbf{t}}(k+2)=8(i-j)\delta_1 \pmod{k}$ ,

so  $k+2$  appears in different locations ✓

– If  $d_{\tau}(\mathbf{s},\mathbf{t})=2$ , write  $\mathbf{t}=(s_1,\dots,s_{i+2},s_i,s_{i+1},\dots,s_k)$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{loc}_{\mathbf{s}}(k+1)-\text{loc}_{\mathbf{t}}(k+1) &= (2i-1)s_i+(2i+1)s_{i+1}+(2i+3)s_{i+2}-(2i-1)s_{i+2}-(2i+1)s_i-(2i+3)s_{i+1} \\ &= 4s_{i+2}-2s_{i+1}-2s_i \pmod{k} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{loc}_{\mathbf{s}}(k+2)-\text{loc}_{\mathbf{t}}(k+2)=8((2i+1)s_{i+2}-(i+1)s_{i+1}-is_i) \pmod{k}$$

# Perfect $t$ -Error-Correcting Codes

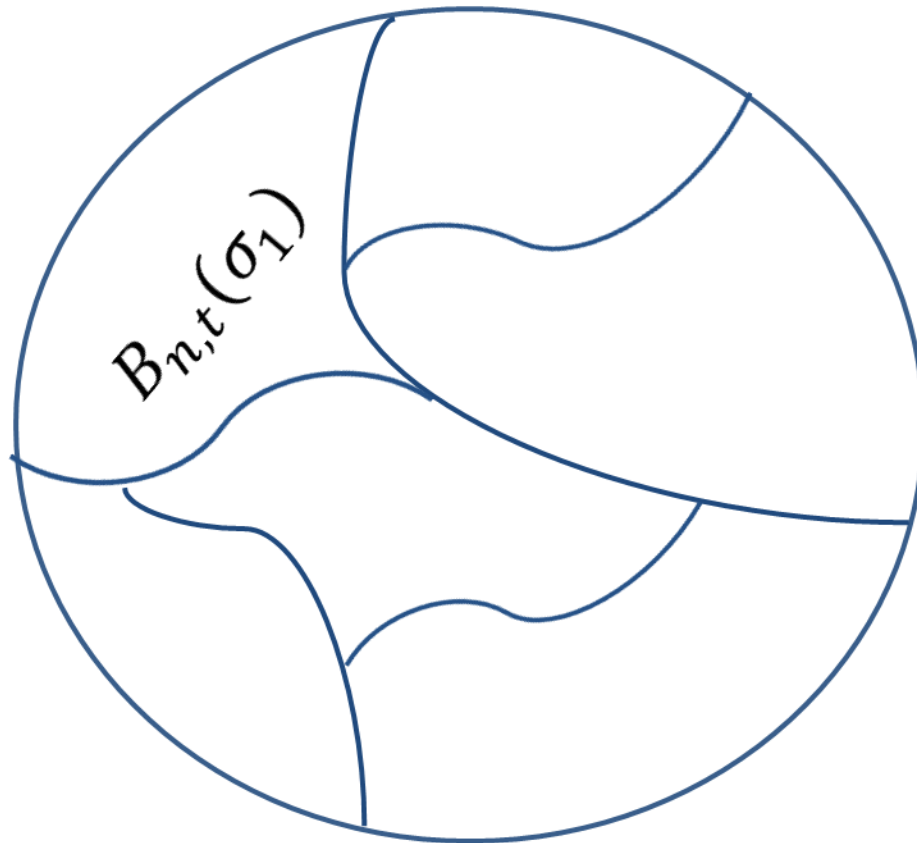
## A perfect $t$ -Error-Correcting Code:

A code  $C \subset S_n$  s.t. for every  $\pi \in S_n$  there exists **exactly** one codeword  $\sigma \in C$  s.t.  $d_K(\sigma, \pi) \leq t$ .

## The ball of radius $t$ centered at $\sigma \in S_n$ :

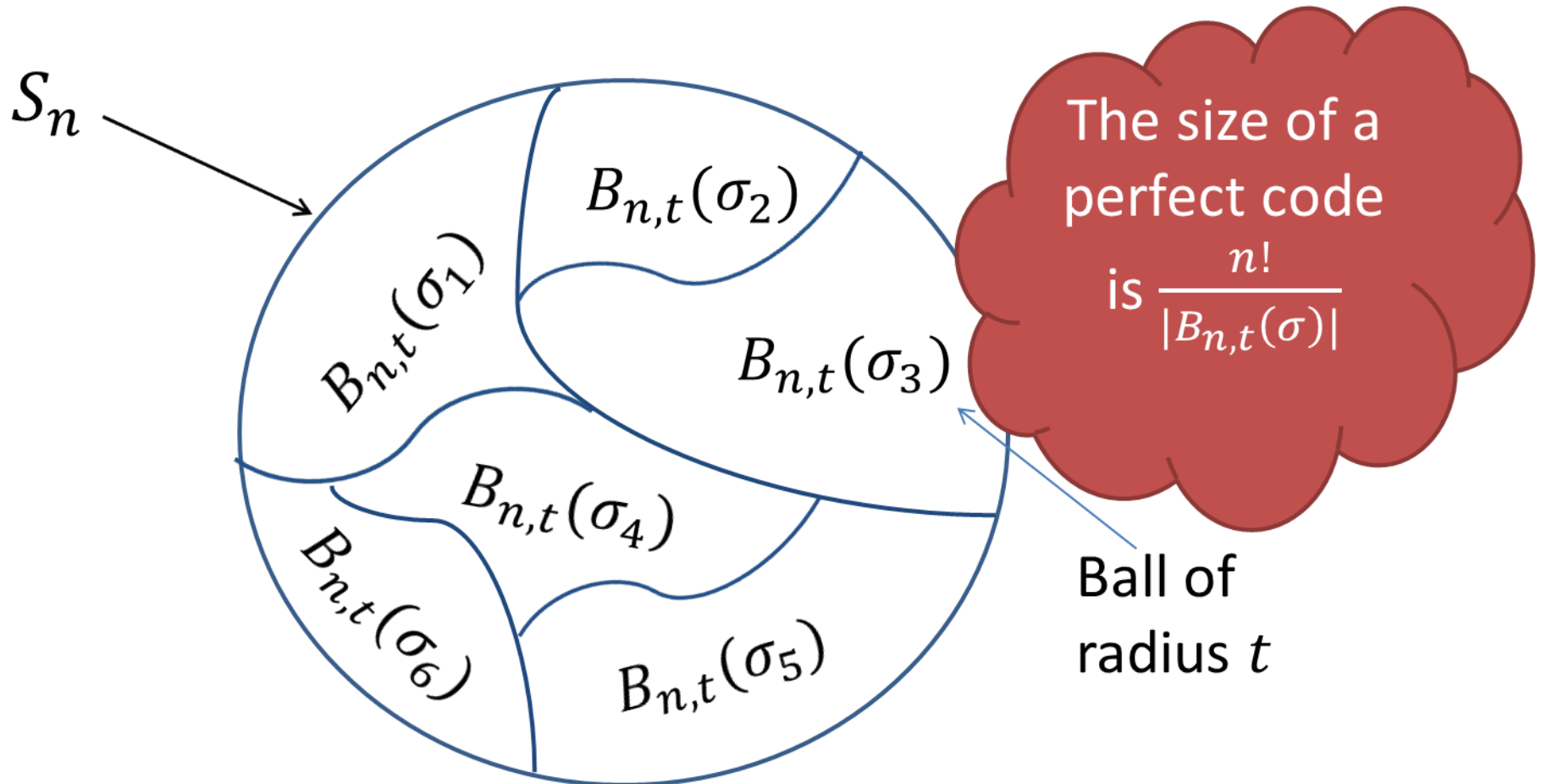
$$B_{n,t}(\sigma) = \{\pi \in S_n : d_K(\sigma, \pi) \leq t\}$$

# Perfect $t$ -Error-Correcting Codes



Codewords are the centers of the balls

# Perfect $t$ -Error-Correcting Codes



Codewords are the centers of the balls

# Perfect $t$ -Error-Correcting Codes

## Examples:

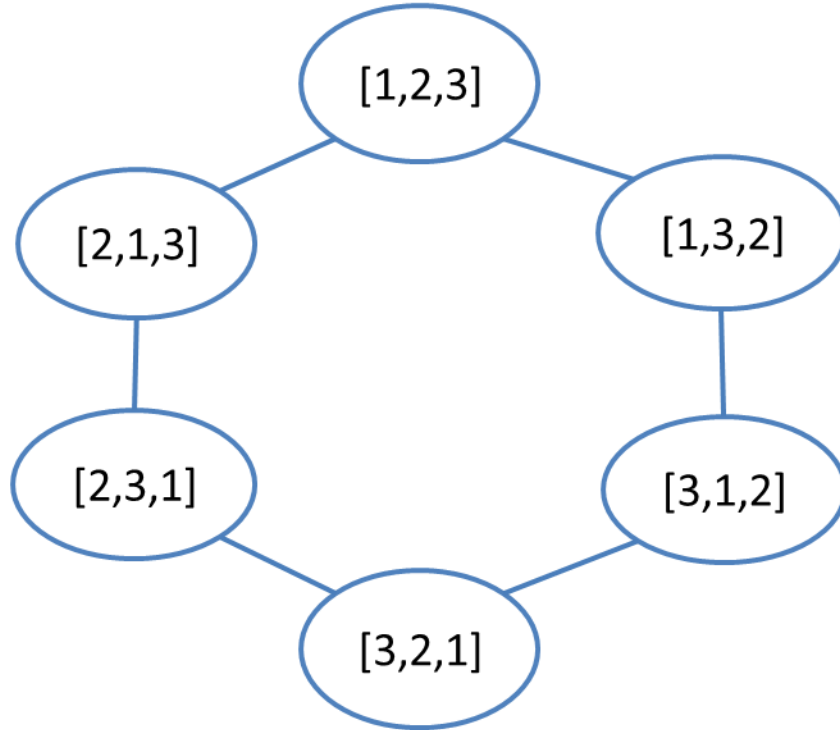
- $t = \binom{n}{2}$ :

One codeword is a perfect  $\binom{n}{2}$ -error-correcting code in  $S_n$ .

# Perfect $t$ -Error-Correcting Codes

## Examples:

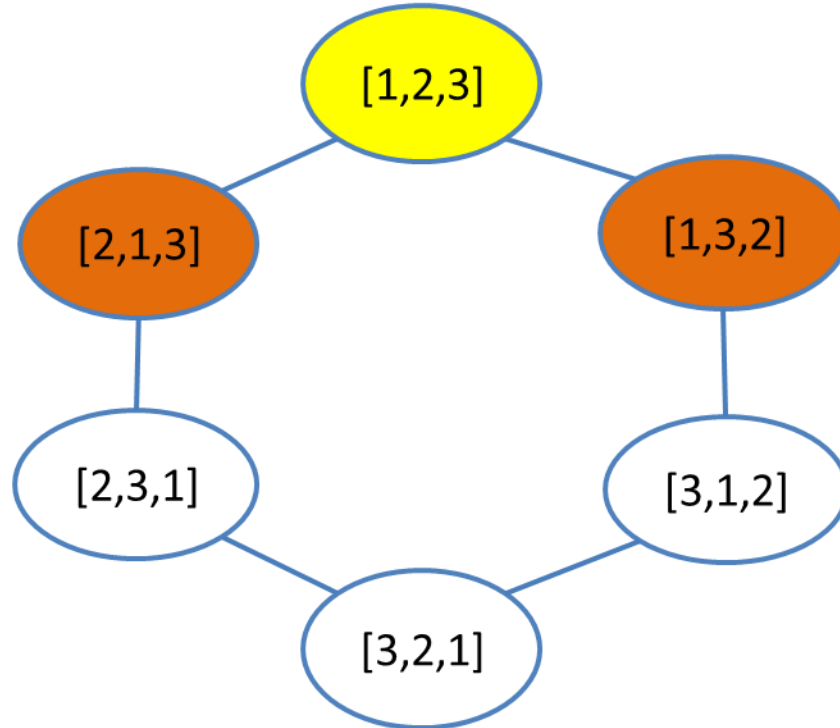
- $n = 3, t = 1$ :



# Perfect $t$ -Error-Correcting Codes

## Examples:

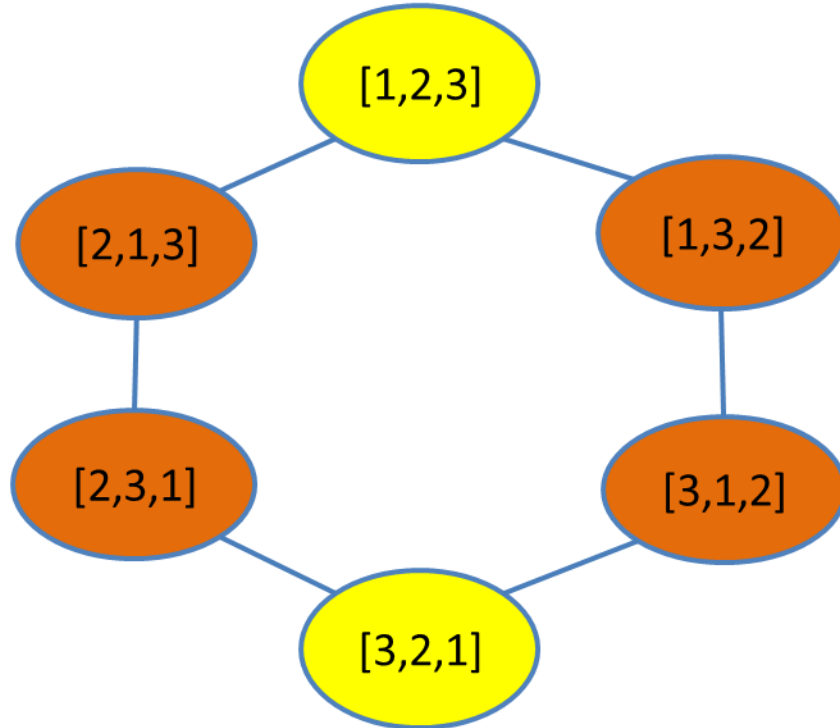
- $n = 3, t = 1$ :



# Perfect $t$ -Error-Correcting Codes

## Examples:

- $n = 3, t = 1$ :

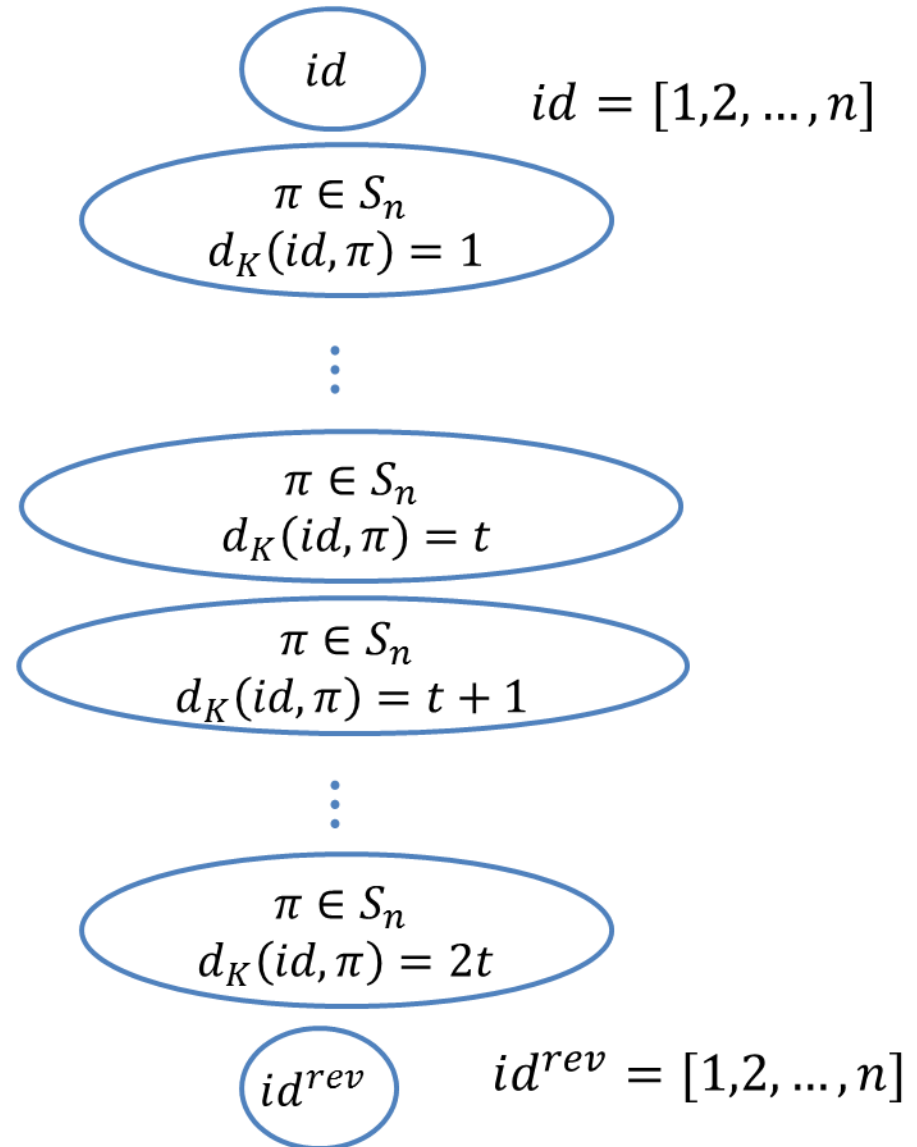




# Perfect $t$ -Error-Correcting Codes

## Examples:

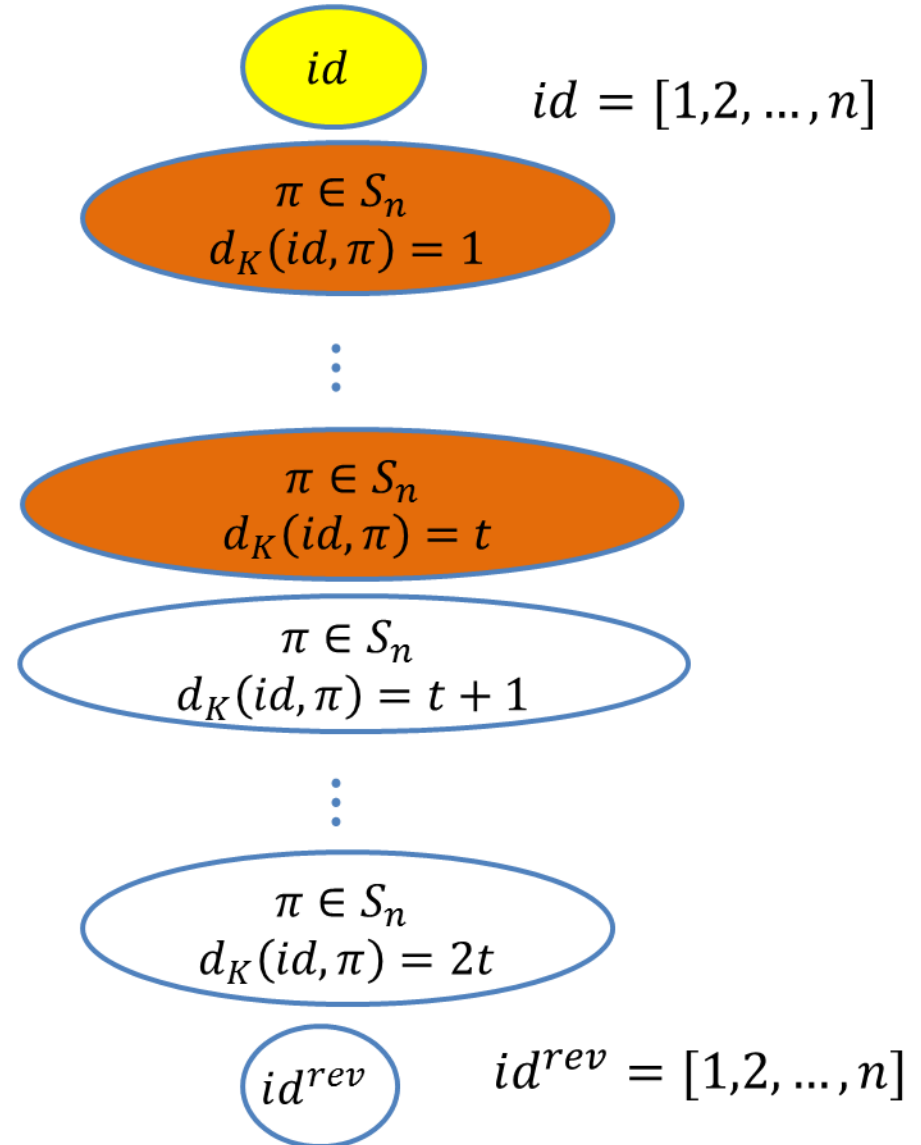
- $\binom{n}{2}$  is odd,  $t = \frac{\binom{n}{2} - 1}{2}$ :



# Perfect $t$ -Error-Correcting Codes

## Examples:

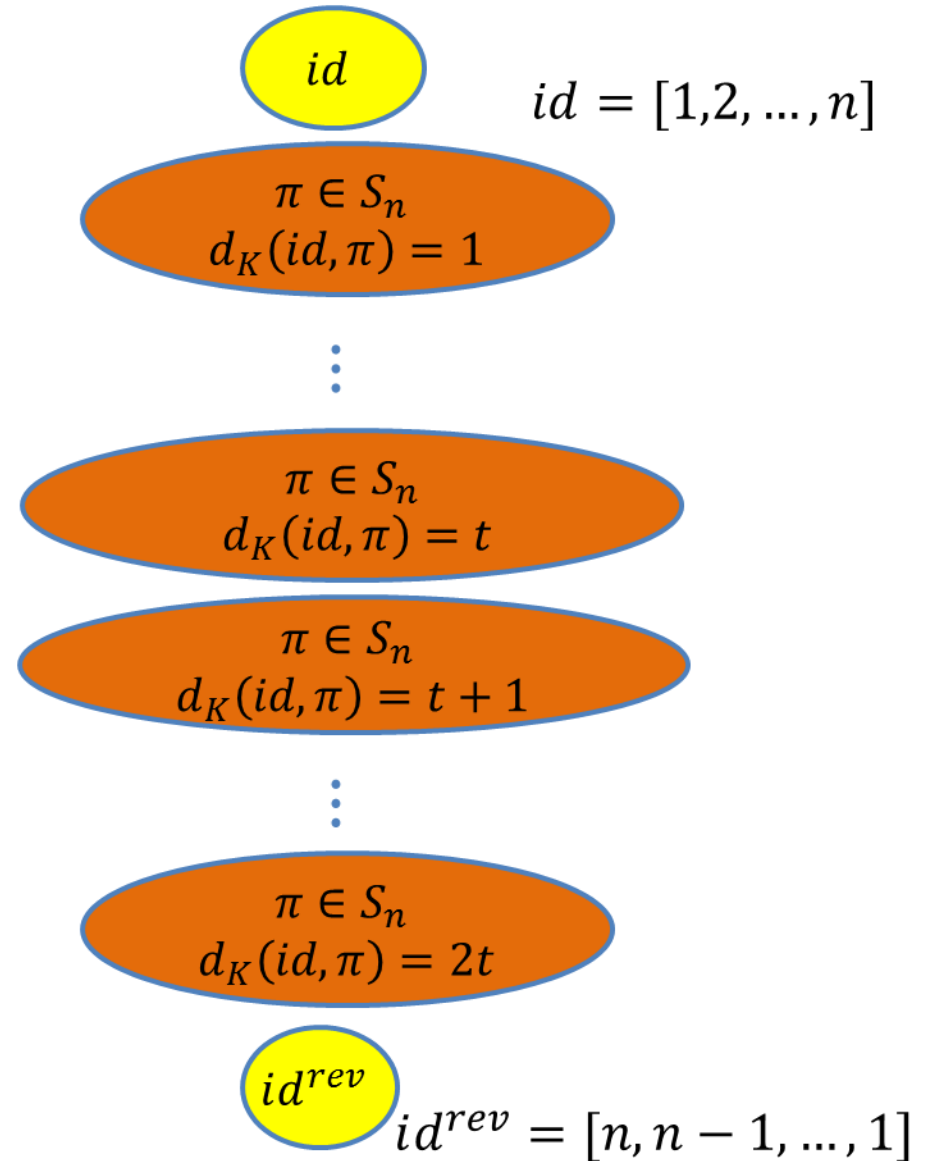
- $\binom{n}{2}$  is odd,  $t = \frac{\binom{n}{2} - 1}{2}$ :



# Perfect $t$ -Error-Correcting Codes

## Examples:

- $\binom{n}{2}$  is odd,  $t = \frac{\binom{n}{2} - 1}{2}$ :



# Perfect Single-Error-Correcting Code

**Problem:** Do perfect single-error-correcting codes exist?

- The size of such a code is  $\frac{n!}{n} = (n - 1)!$



# Perfect Single-Error-Correcting Code

**Problem:** Do perfect single-error-correcting codes exist?

- The size of such a code is  $\frac{n!}{n} = (n - 1)!$

**Theorem:** There is no perfect single-error-correcting code in  $S_n$ ,  $n > 3$  is a prime.

# Proof

- Let  $C \subset S_n$  be a perfect single-error-correcting code.

For all  $1 \leq i \leq n$ :

- $S_i = \{\sigma \in S_n : \sigma(i) = 1\}$ .
- $C_i = C \cap S_i$ .
- $x_i = |C_i|$ .

# Proof

Counting elements of  $S_1$ :

$$(n - 1)x_1 + x_2 = |S_1| = (n - 1)!$$

# Proof

Counting elements of  $S_1$ :

$$(n - 1)x_1 + x_2 = |S_1| = (n - 1)!$$

Similarly,

$$x_{n-1} + (n - 1)x_n = |S_n| = (n - 1)!$$

and for all  $2 \leq i \leq n - 1$

$$x_{i-1} + (n - 2)x_i + x_{i+1} = |S_i| = (n - 1)!$$



# Proof

$$\begin{pmatrix}
 n-1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\
 1 & n-2 & 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\
 0 & 1 & n-2 & 1 & \dots & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\
 \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\
 \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\
 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 & \dots & 1 & n-2 & 1 & 0 \\
 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 1 & n-2 & 1 \\
 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 & 1 & n-1
 \end{pmatrix}
 \begin{pmatrix}
 x_1 \\
 x_2 \\
 \vdots \\
 x_n
 \end{pmatrix}
 =
 \begin{pmatrix}
 (n-1)! \\
 (n-1)! \\
 \vdots \\
 (n-1)!
 \end{pmatrix}$$

- The matrix is nonsingular for  $n \geq 4 \Rightarrow$  unique solution

$$x_i = \frac{(n-1)!}{n}$$

# Proof

$$\begin{pmatrix} n-1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 1 & n-2 & 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & n-2 & 1 & \dots & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 & \dots & 1 & n-2 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 1 & n-2 & 1 \\ 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 & 1 & n-1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} (n-1)! \\ (n-1)! \\ \vdots \\ (n-1)! \end{pmatrix}$$

- The matrix is nonsingular for  $n \geq 4 \Rightarrow$  unique solution

$$x_i = \frac{(n-1)!}{n}$$

- $x_i$  is not an integer if  $n > 3$  is a prime or if  $n = 4$ .  
No perfect single -error-correcting codes!!!