

# Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>Introduction</b>	<i>page</i> <b>1</b>
1.1	A List of Algorithms	4
1.2	Notation and Terminology	6
1.2.1	Groups	7
1.2.2	Permutation Groups	9
1.2.3	Algorithmic Concepts	10
1.2.4	Graphs	11
1.3	Classification of Randomized Algorithms	12
<b>2</b>	<b>Black-Box Groups</b>	<b>16</b>
2.1	Closure Algorithms	18
2.1.1	Orbit Computations	18
2.1.2	Closure of Algebraic Structures	23
2.2	Random Elements of Black-Box Groups	24
2.3	Random Subproducts	30
2.3.1	Definition and Basic Properties	30
2.3.2	Reducing the Number of Generators	33
2.3.3	Closure Algorithms without Membership Testing	37
2.3.4	Derived and Lower Central Series	38
2.4	Random Prefixes	40
2.4.1	Definition and Basic Properties	40
2.4.2	Applications	44
<b>3</b>	<b>Permutation Groups: A Complexity Overview</b>	<b>48</b>
3.1	Polynomial-Time Algorithms	48
3.2	Nearly Linear-Time Algorithms	51
3.3	Non-Polynomial-Time Methods	52

<b>4</b>	<b>Bases and Strong Generating Sets</b>	<b>55</b>
4.1	Basic Definitions	55
4.2	The Schreier–Sims Algorithm	57
4.3	The Power of Randomization	62
4.4	Shallow Schreier Trees	64
4.5	Strong Generators in Nearly Linear Time	70
4.5.1	Implementation	75
<b>5</b>	<b>Further Low-Level Algorithms</b>	<b>79</b>
5.1	Consequences of the Schreier–Sims Method	79
5.1.1	Pointwise Stabilizers	79
5.1.2	Homomorphisms	80
5.1.3	Transitive Constituent and Block Homomorphisms	81
5.1.4	Closures and Normal Closures	83
5.2	Working with Base Images	84
5.3	Permutation Groups as Black-Box Groups	93
5.4	Base Change	97
5.5	Blocks of Imprimitivity	100
5.5.1	Blocks in Nearly Linear Time	101
5.5.2	The Smallest Block Containing a Given Subset	107
5.5.3	Structure Forests	111
<b>6</b>	<b>A Library of Nearly Linear-Time Algorithms</b>	<b>114</b>
6.1	A Special Case of Group Intersection and Applications	115
6.1.1	Intersection with a Normal Closure	115
6.1.2	Centralizer in the Symmetric Group	117
6.1.3	The Center	120
6.1.4	Centralizer of a Normal Subgroup	120
6.1.5	Core of a Subnormal Subgroup	124
6.2	Composition Series	125
6.2.1	Reduction to the Primitive Case	126
6.2.2	The O’Nan–Scott Theorem	129
6.2.3	Normal Subgroups with Nontrivial Centralizer	133
6.2.4	Groups with a Unique Nonabelian Minimal Normal Subgroup	139
6.2.5	Implementation	146
6.2.6	An Elementary Version	149
6.2.7	Chief Series	155
6.3	Quotients with Small Permutation Degree	156
6.3.1	Solvable Radical and $p$ -Core	157

<i>Contents</i>		vii
<b>7 Solvable Permutation Groups</b>		<b>162</b>
7.1 Strong Generators in Solvable Groups		162
7.2 Power-Conjugate Presentations		165
7.3 Working with Elementary Abelian Layers		166
7.3.1 Sylow Subgroups		167
7.3.2 Conjugacy Classes in Solvable Groups		172
7.4 Two Algorithms for Nilpotent Groups		175
7.4.1 A Fast Nilpotency Test		176
7.4.2 The Upper Central Series in Nilpotent Groups		179
<b>8 Strong Generating Tests</b>		<b>183</b>
8.1 The Schreier–Todd–Coxeter–Sims Procedure		184
8.1.1 Coset Enumeration		184
8.1.2 Leon’s Algorithm		186
8.2 Sims’s Verify Routine		188
8.3 Toward Strong Generators by a Las Vegas Algorithm		191
8.4 A Short Presentation		197
<b>9 Backtrack Methods</b>		<b>201</b>
9.1 Traditional Backtrack		202
9.1.1 Pruning the Search Tree: Problem-Independent Methods		203
9.1.2 Pruning the Search Tree: Problem-Dependent Methods		205
9.2 The Partition Method		207
9.3 Normalizers		211
9.4 Conjugacy Classes		214
<b>10 Large-Base Groups</b>		<b>218</b>
10.1 Labeled Branchings		218
10.1.1 Construction		222
10.2 Alternating and Symmetric Groups		225
10.2.1 Number Theoretic and Probabilistic Estimates		228
10.2.2 Constructive Recognition: Finding the New Generators		235
10.2.3 Constructive Recognition: The Homomorphism $\lambda$		239
10.2.4 Constructive Recognition: The Case of Giants		244
10.3 A Randomized Strong Generator Construction		246
Bibliography		254
Index		262