

# A Fast Algorithm for Permutation Pattern Matching Based on Alternating Runs

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## Permutation patterns

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# Enumerative combinatorics

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## Stanley-Wilf conjecture, shown by Marcus and Tardos (2004)

For every permutation  $P$  there is a constant  $c$  such that the number of  $n$ -permutations that *do not contain*  $P$  as a pattern is bounded by  $c^n$ .

# Permutation Pattern Matching

## PERMUTATION PATTERN MATCHING (PPM)

*Instance:* A permutation  $T$  of length  $n$  (the text) and a permutation  $P$  of length  $k \leq n$  (the pattern).

*Question:* Is there a matching of  $P$  into  $T$ ?

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1993 (Bose, Buss, Lubiw): PPM is in general NP-complete.

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- ▶  $P$  has length at most 4  $\mathcal{O}(n \log n)$
- ▶ Pattern and Text avoid 321  $\mathcal{O}(k^2 n^6)$

## The general case

Anything better than the  
 $\mathcal{O}^*(2^n)$   
runtime of brute-force search?

# Parameterized Complexity Theory

Idea: confine the combinatorial explosion to a *parameter* of the input

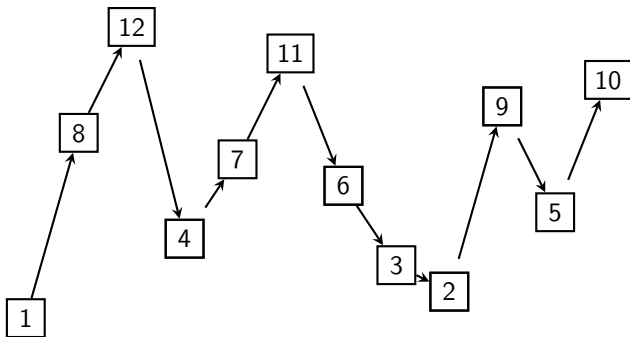
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## Fixed-parameter tractability

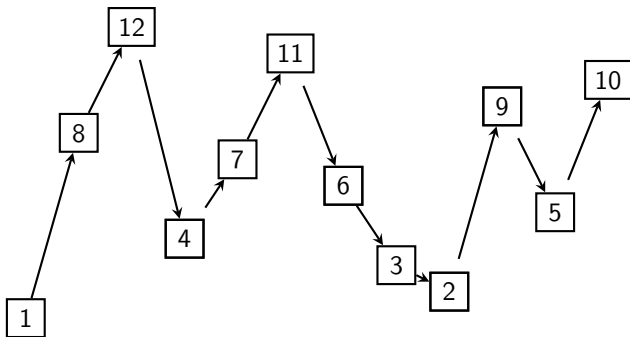
A problem is *fixed-parameter tractable with respect to a parameter  $k$*  if there is a computable function  $f$  and an integer  $c$  such that there is an algorithm solving the problem in time  $\mathcal{O}(f(k) \cdot |I|^c)$ .

## Alternating runs



1 8 12 (up), 4 (down), 7 11 (up), 6 3 2 (down), 9 (up), 5 (down), 10 (up)

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### Notation

$\text{run}(\pi)$ ...the number of alternating runs in  $\pi$ ,

# The alternating run algorithm

- ▶ Matching functions:  
Reduce the search space
- ▶ Dynamic programming algorithm:  
Checks for every matching function whether there is a compatible matching

# Matching functions

Pattern  $P$



↓ matching function ↓

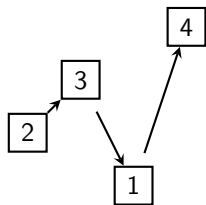


Text  $T$

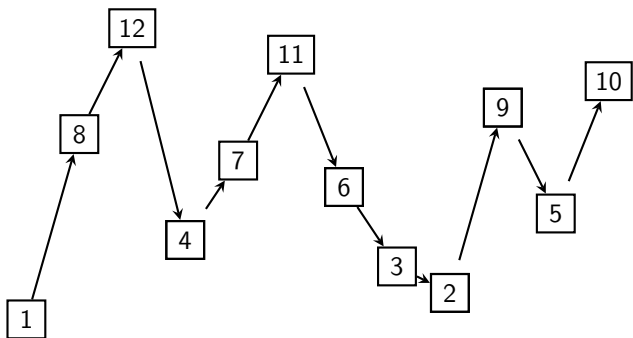


# Matching functions - an example

Pattern  $P$

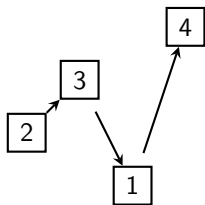


Text  $T$

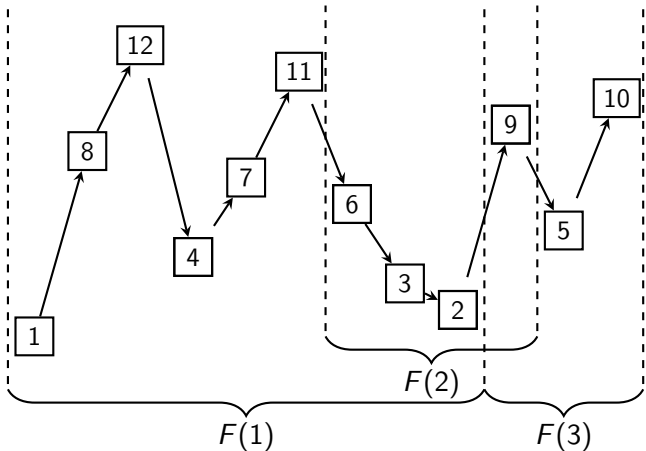


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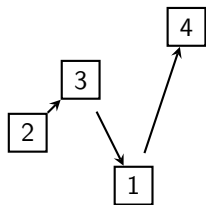


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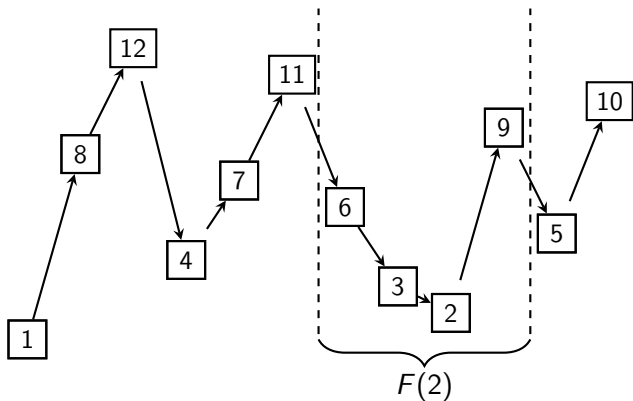


# The algorithm - finding a matching

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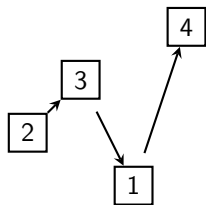


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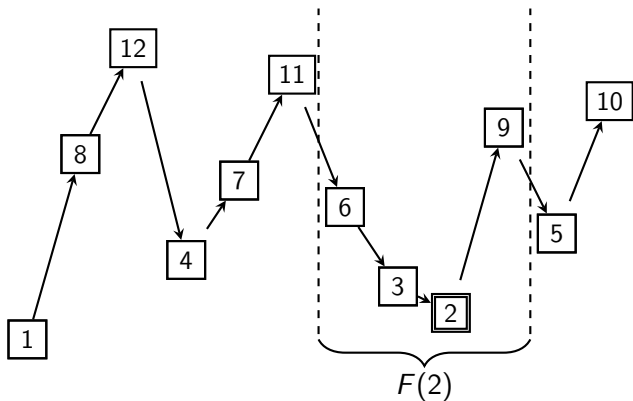


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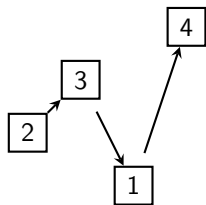


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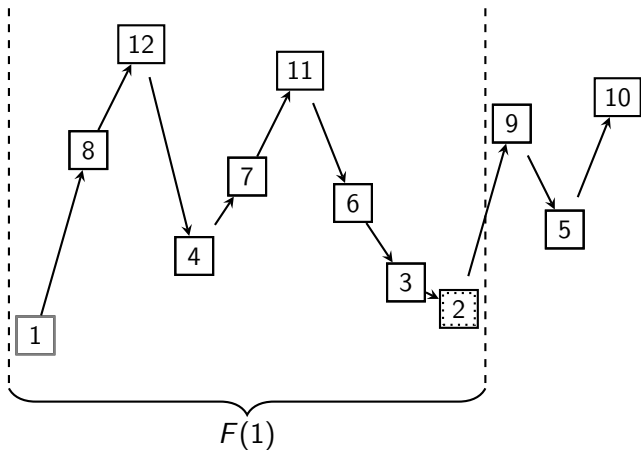


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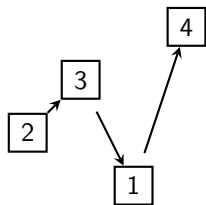


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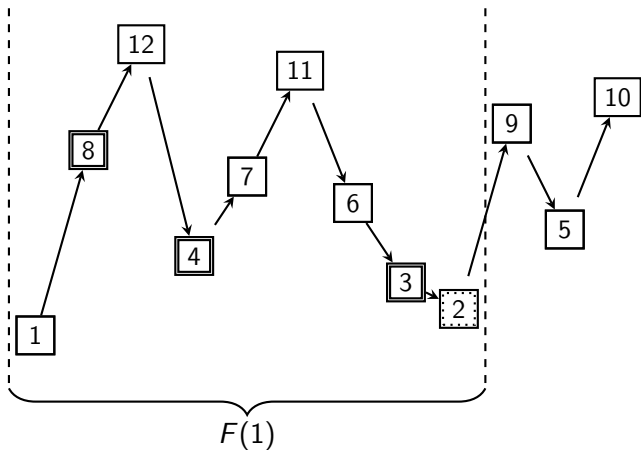


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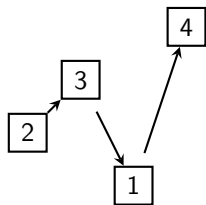


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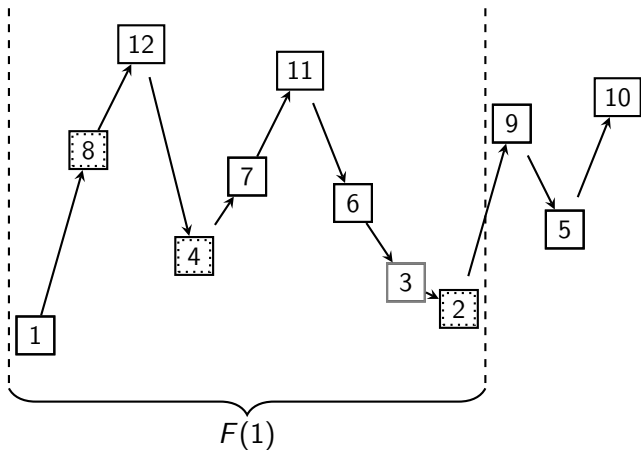


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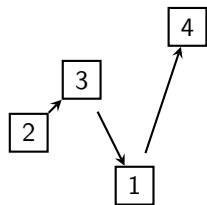


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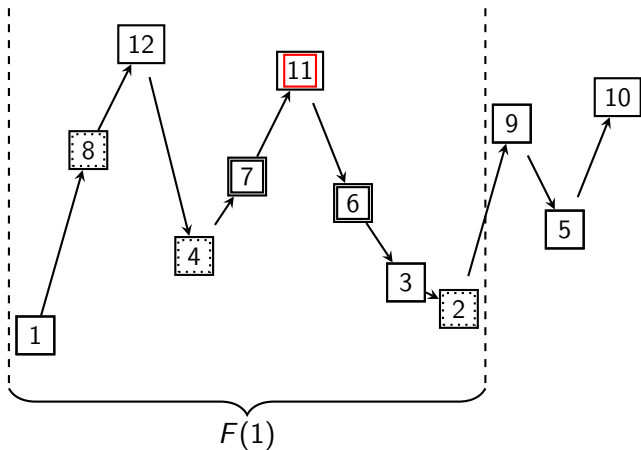


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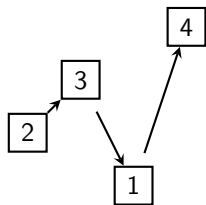
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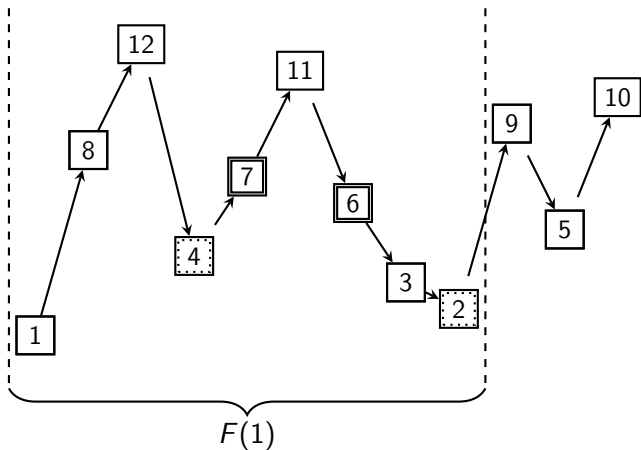


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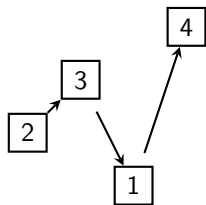


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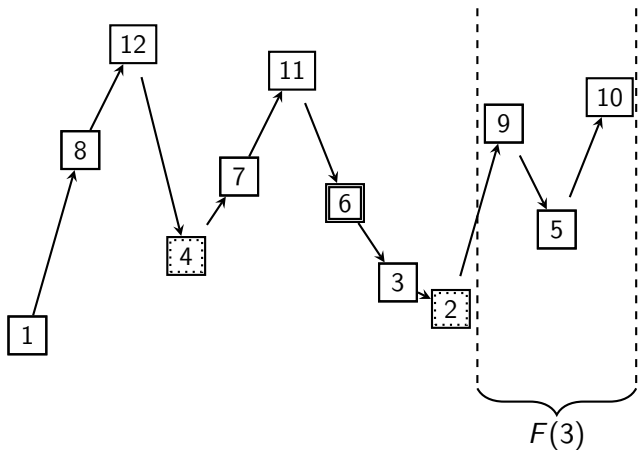


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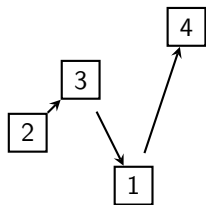


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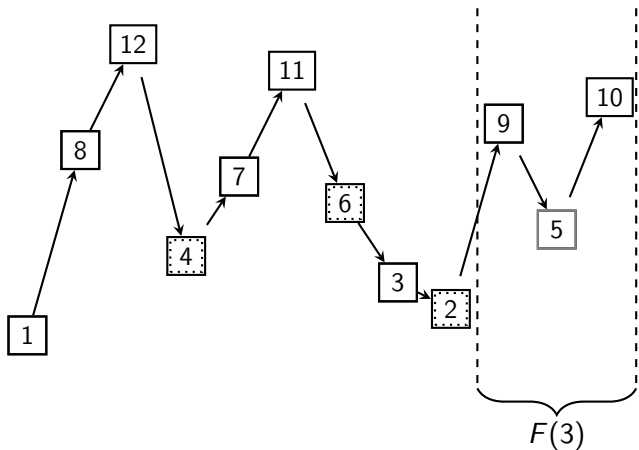


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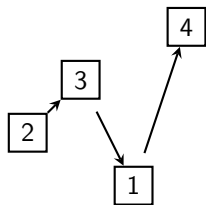


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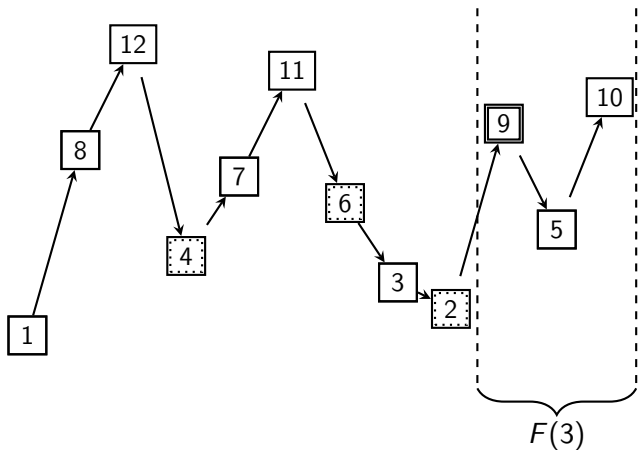


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Matching functions:

$$\sqrt{2}^{\text{run}(T)}$$

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Since  $\text{run}(T) \leq n$ , we also obtain  $\mathcal{O}^*(1.784^n)$



## Alternating runs in the pattern run( $P$ )

$$\mathcal{O}^*(1.784^{\text{run}(T)}) \quad \text{FPT, i.e. } f(k) \cdot n^c$$

$$\mathcal{O}^*\left(\left(\frac{n^2}{2^{\text{run}(P)}}\right)^{\text{run}(P)}\right) \quad \text{XP, i.e. } n^{f(k)}$$

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no FPT result possible (W[1]-hardness)

# Conclusion

## Main results

- ▶  $\mathcal{O}^*(1.784^{\text{run}(T)}) \rightarrow$  FPT result
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- ▶ Other permutation statistics of the text?