# Forbidden patterns in telling random from deterministic time series

Sergi Elizalde

sergi.elizalde@dartmouth.edu

**Dartmouth College** 

Joint work with José M. Amigó and Matt Kennel

Two sequences of numbers in [0, 1]:

.6416, .9198, .2951, .8320, .5590, .9861, .0550, .2078, .6584, .8996, .3612, .9230, .2844, .8141, .6054,  $\ldots$ 

.9129, .5257, .4475, .9815, .4134, .9930, .1576, .8825, .3391, .0659, .1195, .5742, .1507, .5534, .0828,  $\ldots$ 

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```
Let f(x) = 4x(1 - x). Then
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f(.6146) = .9198,
```

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f(.9198) = .2951,
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f(.2951) = .8320,
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. . .

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Given  $x \in [0, 1]$ , consider the sequence

 $[x, f(x), f(f(x)), \dots, f^{(k-1)}(x)].$ 

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For x = 0.8 and k = 4, we get [0.8, 0.64, 0.9216, 0.2890]We say that *x* defines the order pattern [3, 2, 4, 1].



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For x = 0.8 and k = 4, we get [0.8, 0.64, 0.9216, 0.2890]We say that x defines the order pattern 3241.













#### How about the pattern 321?

# Forbidden patterns

The pattern 321 does not appear for any x.



We say that 321 is a forbidden pattern of f.

# Notation

 $I \subset \mathbb{R}$  closed interval,  $f: I \to I$ ,  $x \in I$ . We say that *x* defines the order pattern  $\pi \in S_k$  if

 $(x, f(x), f(f(x)), \dots, f^{(k-1)}(x)) \sim (\pi_1, \pi_2, \dots, \pi_k),$ 

where  $(a_1, \ldots, a_k) \sim (b_1, \ldots, b_j)$  means that  $a_i < a_j$  iff  $b_i < b_j$ .

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Given  $\pi \in S_k$ , let  $I_{\pi} = \{x \in I : x \text{ defines } \pi\}.$ 

Let

Allow<sub>k</sub>(f) = {
$$\pi \in S_k : I_{\pi} \neq \emptyset$$
}, Forb<sub>k</sub>(f) =  $S_k \setminus Allow_k(f)$ .

$$\operatorname{Allow}(f) = \bigcup_{k \ge 1} \operatorname{Allow}_k(f), \quad \operatorname{Forb}(f) = \bigcup_{k \ge 1} \operatorname{Forb}_k(f).$$

Forb(f) is the set of *forbidden patterns* of f.

**Theorem.** If  $f : I \rightarrow I$  is a piecewise monotone map, then

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*Piecewise monotone*: there is a finite partition of I into intervals such that f is continuous and strictly monotone on each interval.

This follows from a result of [Bandt, Keller, Pompe]:

 $|\text{Allow}_k(f)| \propto e^{k h_{\text{top}}(f)},$ 

where  $h_{top}(f)$  is the topological entropy of f.

- $\mathcal{P}$  partition of *I* into intervals on which *f* is strictly monotone.
- $\mathcal{P}^{(n)}$  partition of *I* into all sets of the form  $P_1 \cap f^{-1}(P_2) \cap \cdots \cap f^{-(n-1)}(P_n)$  with  $P_1, \ldots, P_n \in \mathcal{P}$ .

Then the topological entropy of f is

$$h_{\text{top}}(f) = \lim_{n \to \infty} \frac{1}{n} \log |\mathcal{P}^{(n)}|.$$

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It follows that

$$|\operatorname{Allow}_k(f)| \propto e^{k h_{\operatorname{top}}(f)} \ll k! = |\mathcal{S}_k|,$$

so f has forbidden patterns.

Consider a sequence  $x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_N$  produced by a black box, with  $0 \le x_i \le 1$ .

If the sequence is of the form  $x_{i+1} = f(x_i)$ , for some piecewise monotone map f, then it must have missing patterns (if N large enough).

For example, the pattern 321 is missing from .6416, .9198, .2951, .8320, .5590, .9861, .0550, .2078, .6584, .8996, .3612, .9230, .2844, .8141, .6054,.... Consider a sequence  $x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_N$  produced by a black box, with  $0 \le x_i \le 1$ .

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Besides, the number of missing patterns of length k is at least  $k! - C^k$ , for some constant C.

On the other hand, if the sequence was generated by N i.i.d. random variables, then the probability that any fixed pattern π is missing goes to 0 exponentially as N grows.  $\sigma = \sigma_1 \sigma_2 \cdots \sigma_n \in \mathcal{S}_n, \quad \pi_1 \pi_2 \cdots \pi_k \in \mathcal{S}_k$ 

**Definition.**  $\sigma$  contains  $\pi$  as a consecutive pattern if there exists i such that

$$\sigma_i \sigma_{i+1} \dots \sigma_{i+k-1} \sim \pi_1 \pi_2 \dots \pi_k$$

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**Example.**  $41\underline{5372}6$  contains  $\underline{3241}$ , but it avoids  $\underline{123}$ .

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**Example.**  $41\underline{5372}6$  contains 3241, but it avoids 123.

Cont<sub>n</sub>( $\pi$ ) = { $\sigma \in S_n$  :  $\sigma$  contains  $\pi$  as a consecutive pattern} Av<sub>n</sub>( $\pi$ ) = { $\sigma \in S_n$  :  $\sigma$  avoids  $\pi$  as a consecutive pattern}

$$\operatorname{Av}(\pi) = \bigcup_{n \ge 1} \operatorname{Av}_n(\pi)$$

#### E., Noy:

Formulas for the generating functions for the number of permutations avoiding a pattern of the form

$$\pi = 12 \cdots k \quad \text{or}$$

$$\pi = 12 \cdots (a-1)a \underbrace{\cdots}_{\text{perm. of } \{a+2,a+3,\ldots,k\}} (a+1).$$

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 ${\color{black} {\rm I}}$  For any  $\pi \in \mathcal{S}_k$  with  $k \geq 3$  , there exist constants 0 < c, d < 1 such that

$$c^n n! \le |\operatorname{Av}_n(\pi)| \le d^n n!$$

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for all  $n \ge k$ .

#### Kitaev:

Formulas for the number of permutations avoiding multiple consecutive patterns of length 3.

 $\sigma \in \operatorname{Allow}(f)$  $\sigma \text{ contains } \tau \text{ as a consecutive pattern }$ 

$$\Rightarrow \quad \tau \in \operatorname{Allow}(f).$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \pi \in \operatorname{Forb}_k(f) \\ n \ge k \end{array} \right\} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \operatorname{Cont}_n(\pi) \subseteq \operatorname{Forb}_n(f).$$

Equivalently,

 $\operatorname{Allow}_n(f) \subseteq \operatorname{Av}_n(\pi).$ 

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Equivalently,

 $\operatorname{Allow}_n(f) \subseteq \operatorname{Av}_n(\pi).$ 

We are interested in the minimal elements of Forb(f), i.e., those not containing any smaller pattern in Forb(f).
Note that

$$\operatorname{Allow}(f) = \operatorname{Av}(\operatorname{Root}(f)).$$

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Example: For f(x) = 4x(1 - x),  $\operatorname{Root}_2(f) = \emptyset$   $\operatorname{Root}_3(f) = \{321\}$  $\operatorname{Root}_4(f) = \{1423, 2134, 2143, 3142, 4231\}$ 

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Example: For f(x) = 4x(1 - x),  $Root_2(f) = \emptyset$   $Root_3(f) = \{321\}$   $Root_4(f) = \{1423, 2134, 2143, 3142, 4231\}$  $Forb_4(f) =$ 

 $\{\mathbf{1423}, \underline{1432}, \mathbf{2134}, \mathbf{2143}, \underline{2431}, \mathbf{3142}, \underline{3214}, \underline{3421}, \underline{4213}, \mathbf{4231}, \underline{4312}, \underline{4321}\}$ 

We can consider the infinite poset of all permutations where

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 $\pi \leq \sigma \qquad \Leftrightarrow \qquad \sigma \text{ contains } \pi \text{ as a consecutive pattern.}$ 



$$\left[ \begin{array}{c} 1 \\ 0.8 \\ 0.6 \\ 0.6 \\ 0.4 \\ 0.4 \\ 0.2 \\ 0.2 \\ 0.2 \\ 0.4 \\ 0.6 \\ 0.6 \\ 0.8 \\ 1 \end{array} \right]$$

 $g_1(x) = x^2$ 

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Root
$$(g_1) = \{\mathbf{12}\}$$
  
Allow $_n(g_1) = Av_n(\mathbf{12}) = \{n \dots 21\}$ 

$$g_2(x) = 1 - x^2$$

 $q_2(x) = 1 - x^2$ 

Root
$$(g_2) = \{123, 132, 312, 321\}$$
  
Allow<sub>3</sub> $(g_2) = \{213, 231\}$   
Allow<sub>4</sub> $(g_2) = \{3241, 2314\}$   
Allow<sub>5</sub> $(g_2) = \{32415, 34251\}$ 

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$$g_3(x) = 4x^3 - 6x^2 + 3x$$



$$q_3(x) = 4x^3 - 6x^2 + 3x$$

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Allow<sub>n</sub>( $g_3$ ) = {12..., n, n...21}



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 $\begin{array}{cccc} h_{10}: & [0,1] & \longrightarrow & [0,1] \\ & x & \mapsto & 10x \mod 1 \\ & 0.a_1a_2a_3\ldots & \mapsto & 0.a_2a_3a_4\ldots \end{array}$ 

For example,  $h_{10}(0.837435...) = 0.37435...$ 

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We can think of it as a map

$$\tilde{h}_{10}: \{0, 1, \dots, 9\}^* \longrightarrow \{0, 1, \dots, 9\}^* \\
(a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots) \longmapsto (a_2, a_3, a_4, \dots)$$

 $\begin{array}{ccccc} h_{10}: & [0,1] & \longrightarrow & [0,1] \\ & x & \mapsto & 10x \mod 1 \\ & 0.a_1a_2a_3\ldots & \mapsto & 0.a_2a_3a_4\ldots \end{array}$ 

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For  $N \ge 2$ ,  $\tilde{h}_N$  is called the *(one-sided)* shift on N symbols, and

$$h_N: x \mapsto Nx \mod 1$$

is called the *sawtooth map*.

## Sawtooth map



## Sawtooth map



### Forbidden patterns in shift systems

Order patterns in $\frown$  $\tilde{h}_N : \{0, 1, \dots, N-1\}^* \rightarrow \{0, 1, \dots, N-1\}^*$  $h_N : [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, 1]$  $\longleftarrow$  $\tilde{h}_N : \{0, 1, \dots, N-1\}^*$ using the lexicographic order

**Example.** For  $h_3$  and k = 7, the point x = (2, 1, 0, 2, 2, 1, 2, 2, 1, 0, ...) defines the pattern 4217536.

$$(2, 1, 0, 2, 2, 1, 2, 2, 1, 0, \dots) \stackrel{\tilde{h}_{3}}{\mapsto} (1, 0, 2, 2, 1, 2, 2, 1, 0, \dots) \stackrel{\tilde{h}_{3}}{\mapsto} (0, 2, 2, 1, 2, 2, 1, 0, \dots) \stackrel{\tilde{h}_{3}}{\mapsto} \\ \stackrel{\tilde{h}_{3}}{\mapsto} (2, 2, 1, 2, 2, 1, 0, \dots) \stackrel{\tilde{h}_{3}}{\mapsto} (2, 1, 2, 2, 1, 0, \dots) \stackrel{\tilde{h}_{3}}{\mapsto} (1, 2, 2, 1, 0, \dots) \stackrel{\tilde{h}_{3}}{\mapsto} (2, 2, 1, 0, \dots)$$

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#### Theorem.

•  $h_N$  has **no** forbidden patterns of length k for any  $k \leq N + 1$ .

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**Example.** The smallest forbidden patterns of  $h_4$  are

 $\{615243, 324156, 342516, \\162534, 453621, 435261\}.$ 

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**Conjecture.** For all  $N \ge 2$ ,  $h_N$  has exactly 6 forbidden patterns of length N + 2.

The condition of piecewise monotonicity is essential:

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**Decompose** [0, 1] into infinitely many intervals, e.g.,

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Define on each  $I_N$  a properly scaled version of  $h_N$  from  $I_N$  to  $I_N$ .



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  How many are there of each length?

Root $(f) = \{321, 1423, 2134, 2143, 3142, 4231, 14523, 23415, 23514, 31245, 31254, 41253, 41352, 45132, 52341, \ldots\}$ 

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- For what maps f can we describe Root(f) (or Forb(f), or Allow(f))?
- Characterize the maps f for which Root(f) is finite.
- Is there an efficient algorithm to find Root(f), given f in some suitable class?

How about to find the length of the smallest forbidden pattern?
## **Open questions**

Solution For what sets  $\Sigma$  of patterns does there exist a map f such that  $Root(f) = \Sigma$ ?

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- Note:  $\Sigma$  must be such that  $\operatorname{Av}_n(\Sigma) < C^n$  for some constant C, since  $\operatorname{Av}_n(\Sigma) = \operatorname{Allow}_n(f)$ .

For example, if  $\Sigma = \{\pi\}$ , where  $\pi$  has length at least 3, then there is no f such that  $\operatorname{Allow}(f) = \operatorname{Av}(\pi)$ , because  $\operatorname{Av}_n(\pi) > \lambda^n n!$  for some  $0 < \lambda < 1$ .

On the other hand, we know that  $|Av_n(132, 231)| = 2^{n-1}$ . Is there an *f* such that  $Root(f) = \{132, 231\}$ ?

- Solution For what sets  $\Sigma$  of patterns does there exist a map f such that  $Root(f) = \Sigma$ ?
- Note:  $\Sigma$  must be such that  $\operatorname{Av}_n(\Sigma) < C^n$  for some constant C, since  $\operatorname{Av}_n(\Sigma) = \operatorname{Allow}_n(f)$ .

For example, if  $\Sigma = \{\pi\}$ , where  $\pi$  has length at least 3, then there is no f such that  $\operatorname{Allow}(f) = \operatorname{Av}(\pi)$ , because  $\operatorname{Av}_n(\pi) > \lambda^n n!$  for some  $0 < \lambda < 1$ .

On the other hand, we know that  $|Av_n(132, 231)| = 2^{n-1}$ . Is there an *f* such that  $Root(f) = \{132, 231\}$ ?

What else can we say about the structure or the asymptotic growth of Allow(f) or Forb(f)?

Discrete Mathematics Day Saturday, October 27, 2007 Dartmouth College Hanover, NH http://math.dartmouth.edu/~dmd

Speakers:

- Jim Propp, University of Massachusetts at Lowell
- Vera Sos, Mathematical Institute of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Budapest
- Mikkel Thorup, AT&T Labs Research
- **Lauren Williams**, Harvard University
- Josephine Yu, MIT