# Symmetric Generating Set of the Groups $A_{kn+1}$ and $S_{kn+1}$

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ABSTRACT. In this paper we will show how to generate in general  $A_{kn+1}$ and  $S_{kn+1}$  - the alternating and the symmetric groups of degrees  $kn + 1 - using a copy of <math>S_n$  and an element of order k + 1 in  $A_{kn+1}$  and  $S_{kn+1}$  for all positive integers  $n \ge 2$  and  $k \ge 2$ . We will also show how to generate  $A_{kn+1}$  and  $S_{kn+1}$  symmetrically using n elements each of order k + 1.

#### I. Introduction

Hammas<sup>[1]</sup>, showed that  $A_{2n+1}$  can be presented as

$$G = A_{2,n+1} = \langle X, Y, T | \langle X, Y \rangle = S_n, T^3 = [T, S_{n-1}] = 1 \rangle$$

for all  $3 \le n \le 11$  where  $[T, S_{n-1}]$  means that T commutes with Y and with  $(XY)^{X^{-(n-3)}}$ , the generators of  $S_{n-1}$ . The relations of the symmetric group  $S_n = \langle X, Y \rangle$  of degree n are found in Coxeter and Moser<sup>[3]</sup>. In order to complete the enumeration, we need to add some relations to the presentation that generate  $A_{2n+1}$ ,  $n \ge 2$ . Also in Hammas<sup>[1]</sup> it has been proved that for all  $3 \le n \le 11$ , the group  $A_{2n+1}$  can be symmetrically generated by n-elements each of order 3, and of the form  $T_0, T_1, \ldots, T_{n-1}$ , where,  $T_i = T^{X^i} = X^{-i} TX^i$  and T, X satisfy the relations of the group  $A_{2n+1}$  (see the definition in section 2).

Hammas *et al.*<sup>[2]</sup> have given a permutational generating set that generates  $A_{2n+1}$  for all  $n \ge 2$ , and satisfies the relations given in the group G above. Also, they have proved that for all  $n \ge 2$ , the group  $A_{2n+1}$  can be symmetrically generated by *n*-elements each of order  $3^{[2]}$ .

In this paper, we give permutations generate  $A_{kn+1}$  and  $S_{kn+1}$  for all  $n \ge 2$  and satisfy the relations given in presentation of  $A_{kn+1}$  and  $S_{kn+1}$ . Further, we prove that  $A_{kn+1}$  and  $S_{kn+1}$ :  $n \ge 2$  can be symmetrically generated by *n* permutations each of order 3 satisfying our definition in Hammas *et al.*<sup>[2]</sup>.

The results obtained here generalise the results given Hammas *et al.*<sup>[2]</sup> and lead us to formulate a conjecture which generalises the results given in Hammas<sup>[1]</sup>.

#### **II.** Symmetric Generating Sets

Let G be a group and  $\Gamma = \{T_0, T_1, \dots, T_{n-1}\}$  be a subset of G where,  $T_i = T^{X^i}$  for all  $i = 0, 1, \dots, n-1$ . Let  $S_n$  a copy of the symmetric group of degree-n be the normalizer in G of the set  $\Gamma$ . We define  $\Gamma$  to be a symmetric generating set of G if and only if  $G = \langle \Gamma \rangle$  and  $S_n$  permutes  $\Gamma$  doubly transitively by conjugation, i.e.,  $\Gamma$  is realizable as an inner automorphism.

## III. Permutational Generating Set of $A_{kn+1}$ and $S_{kn+1}$

**Theorem III.1.**  $A_{kn+1}$  and  $S_{kn+1}$  can be generated using a copy of  $S_n$  and an element of order k + 1 in  $A_{kn+1}$  and  $S_{kn+1}$  for all  $n \ge 2$  and all  $k \ge 2$ .

#### Proof

Let X, Y and T be the permutations :

X = (1, 2, ..., n) (n + 1, n + 2, ..., 2n) ... ((k-1)n + 1, (k-1)n + 2, ..., kn), Y = (1, 2) (n + 1, n + 2) ... ((k-1)n + 1, (k-1)n + 2), and T = (n, 2, n, 3n, ..., kn, kn + 1)be three permutations; the first of order n, the second of order 2 and the third of order k + 1. Let H be the group generated by X and Y. By Coxeter and Moser<sup>[3]</sup>, the group H is the symmetric group S<sub>n</sub>. Let  $\overline{G}$  be the group generated by X, Y and T. Consider the product TX. Let  $\beta = (TX)^n$ . Let  $K = \langle \beta, T \rangle$ . Since

 $B = (1, n + 1, 2n + 1, 3n + 1, \dots, kn + 1, n, 2n, 3n, \dots, kn, n-1, 2n-1, \dots, kn-1, n-2, 2n-2, \dots, kn-2, \dots, 2, n+2, 2n+2, \dots, (k-1)n+2)$ 

then we claim that K is either  $A_{kn+1}$  or  $S_{kn+1}$ . To show this, let  $\theta$  be the mapping which takes the element in the position *i* of the permutation  $\beta$  into the element *i* in the permutation (1, 2, ..., kn + 1). Under this mapping  $\theta$ , the group K will be mapped into the group

$$\theta(K) = \langle (1, 2, ..., kn + 1), (n-1, n, n+1, ..., n+k) \rangle.$$

Now if k is an odd integer then (n-1, n, n+1, ..., n+k) is an odd permutation. Hence  $\theta(K)$  is the symmetric group  $S_{kn+1}$ . Since K is a subgroup of  $\overline{G}$ , then  $\overline{G}$  is the symmetric group  $S_{kn+1}$ . While if k is an even integer then the permutations (1, 2, ..., kn+1) and (n-1, n, n+1, ..., n+k) are even. Hence  $\theta(K)$  is the alternating group  $A_{kn+1}$ . In this case X, Y and T are all even permutations. Therefore  $\overline{G}$  is  $A_{kn+1}$ .

### Conjecture

The above theorem led us to state the following conjecture which generalizes the result proved by Hammas<sup>[1]</sup>

Let 
$$G = \langle X, Y, T | \langle X, Y \rangle = S_n, T^{n+1} = [T, S_{n-1}] =$$

for all  $n \ge 2$  and all  $k \ge 2$ . If k is an even integer when  $G \cong S_{kn+1}$ .

It is important to notice that the elements X, Y and T described above satisfy the relations of the group G given in the conjecture above. In particular, the elements X, Y generate a copy of  $S_n$ . The elements Y and T commute for all  $n \ge 3$ . For all  $n \ge 3$ , the element T commutes with the group  $S_{n-1} = \langle Y, (XY)^{X^{-(n-3)}} \rangle$ .

IV. Symmetric Permutational Generating Set of  $A_{kn+1}$  and  $S_{kn+1}$ Theorem IV.1. Let

X = (1, 2, ..., n) (n + 1, n + 2, ..., 2n) ... ((k-1)n + 1, (k-1)n + 2, ..., kn), Y = (1, 2) (n + 1, n + 2) ... ((k-1)n + 1, (k-1)n + 2) and T = (n, 2, n, 3n, ..., kn, kn + 1)be the permutations described before. Let  $\Gamma = \{T_0, T_1, ..., T_{n-1}\}$  for all  $n \ge 2$ , where  $T_i = T^{X^i}$ . If k is an even integer, then the set  $\Gamma$  generates the alternating group  $A_{kn+1}$  symmetrically. If k is an odd integer, then the set  $\Gamma$  generates the symmetric group  $S_{kn+1}$  symmetrically.

### Proof

Let  $T_0 = (n, 2n, ..., kn, kn + 1), T_1 = T^X = (1, n + 1, ..., (k-1)n + 1, kn + 1), ..., T_{n-1} = T^{X^{n-1}} = (n-1, 2n-1, 3n-1, ..., kn-1, kn + 1).$  Let  $H = \langle \Gamma \rangle$ . We claim that  $H \cong A_{kn+1}$  or  $S_{kn+1}$ . To show this, consider the element.

$$\alpha = \prod_{i=1}^{n} T^{X}$$

It is not difficult to show that

 $\alpha = (1, n + 1, 2n + 1, 3n + 1, ..., (k-1)n + 1, 2, n + 2, 2n + 2, ..., (k-1)n + 2, ..., n, 2n, 3n, ..., kn, kn + 1).$ 

Let  $H_1 = \langle \alpha, T_0 \rangle$ . We claim that  $H_1 \cong H_{kn+1}$  or  $S_{kn+1}$ . To prove this, let  $\theta$  be the mapping which takes the element in the position *i* of the cycle  $\alpha$  into the element *i* of the cycle (1, 2, ..., kn + 1). Under this mapping the group  $H_1$  will be mapped into the group

$$\theta(H_1) = \langle (1, 2, \dots, kn+1), (k(n-1)+1, k(n-1)+2, \dots, kn, kn+1) \rangle.$$

As in the proof of the previous theorem we can conclude that if k is an odd integer then  $H \cong H_1 \cong \theta$  ( $H_1$ )  $\cong S_{kn+1}$ , and if k is an even integer then  $H \cong H_1 \cong \theta(H_1)$  $\cong A_{kn+1}$ .

The set  $\Gamma$  described above satisfies the conditions of the group given in Hammas<sup>[1]</sup>. It is important to note that  $\Gamma$  has to have at least *n* elements each of order k + 1 to generate  $A_{kn+1}$  or  $S_{kn+1}$ . The following theorem characterizes all groups found if we remove *m*-elements of the set  $\Gamma$ .

**Theorem IV.2** Let T and X be the permutations which have been described above, where  $T^{K+1} = 1$ . Let  $\Gamma = \{T_1, T_2, ..., T_n\}$  for all  $n \ge 2$ , where  $T_i = T^{X^i}$ . If k is an even integer then if we remove *m*-elements of the set  $\Gamma$  for all  $1 \le m \le n-2$  then the resulting set generates  $A_{k(n-m)+1}$ . If k is an odd integer then if we remove *m*-elements of the set  $\Gamma$  for all

 $1 \le m \le n-2$  then the resulting set generates  $S_{k(n-m)+}$  If we remove (n-1) - elements of the set  $\Gamma$  then the resulting set generates  $C_{k+1}$ .

#### Proof

Using induction on n-m, if n-m = 1 then let  $\Gamma_1 = \{T_1\}$ . Since  $T_1$  is the permutation (1, n + 1, ..., (k-1)n + 1, kn + 1) of order k + 1 then  $\Gamma_1$  generates  $C_{k+1}$ . Suppose that  $1 \le m \le n-2$ . Assume that the theorem is true for n-m = j. i.e., if  $\Gamma_j = \{T_1, ..., T_j\}$  then  $\Gamma_j$  generates  $A_{k(j)+1}$  or  $S_{k(j)+1}$  depending on whether k is an even or an odd integer respectively. For n-m = j + 1, let  $\Gamma_{j+1} = \{T_1, ..., T_{j+1}\}$ . Let  $F = \{T_1, ..., T_j\}$ . By this hypothesis, F generates  $A_{k(j)+1}$  or  $S_{k(j)+1}$ . Since

 $\mathcal{B} = (1, n + 1, 2n + 1, 3n + 1, \dots, (k-1)n + 1, 2, n + 2, 2n + 2, \dots, (k-1) \\ n + 2, \dots, j, n + j, 2n + j, \dots, (k-1)n + j, kn + 1) \in \langle F \rangle ,$ 

and since  $T_{j+1} = T^{x^{j+1}} = (j+1, n+j+1, 2n+j+1, ..., (k-1)n+j+1, kn+1)$ then

 $BT_{j+1} = (1, n+1, 2n+1, \dots, (k-1)n+1, 2, n+2, 2n+2, \dots, (k-1)n+2, \dots, j, n+j, 2n+j, \dots, (k-1)n+j, j+1, n+j+1, 2n+j+1, \dots, (k-1)n+j+1, kn+1) \in \langle F, T_{j+1} \rangle.$ 

But  $\langle F, T_{j+1} \rangle \cong A_{k(j)+1}$  or  $S_{k(j)+1}$  depending on whether k is an even or an odd integer respectively, and so the theorem is true for all m.

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المستخلص . في هذا البحث نقدم كيف يمكن توليد زمر التناظرات من الدرجة kn+1 بشكل عام باستخدام صورة من زمرة التناظرات "Sوعنصر من الرتبة k+1 في الزمرة <sub>kn+1</sub> و و الزمرة <sub>Skn+1</sub> لكل الأعداد الصحيحة الموجبة n>2 و x>2 . كذلك سوف نقدم برهانا يثبت أن الزمر <sub>kn+1</sub> و <sub>kn+1</sub> يمكن توليدها باستخدام مجموعة مولدات التهائل التي تتكون من عدد n من العناصر ذات الرتبة k+1