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## RHYMING SCHEMES: CROSSINGS AND COVERINGS

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Some recent results on the enumeration of relations on finite totally ordered sets are unified by establishing correspondences between these relations and some types of rhyming scheme which are characterized by the planarity of certain graphical representations. These representations themselves and a systematic method of enumeration involving them are sketched. Interpretations and proofs of a number of combinatorial identities are obtained.

### 1. Introduction

The purpose of this paper is to draw together, by means of rhyming schemes [5, 7], some recent results on the enumeration of relations on finite, totally ordered sets [4, 5, 7, 12, 13, 14]. The rhyming scheme of an  $n$  line stanza may be regarded formally as a binary relation  $R$  on the set of lines  $X_n = \{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$  of the stanza where  $x_i R x_j$  if and only if the lines  $x_i$  and  $x_j$  rhyme.  $R$  is reflexive, symmetric, and transitive and so an equivalence relation on  $X_n$  and conversely an equivalence relation may be interpreted as a rhyming scheme. It is convenient to define a second relation  $R^*$  on  $X_n$  in terms of  $R$  by taking  $x_i R^* x_j$  whenever  $x_i R x_j$  but  $x_i \not R x_k$  for  $k$  with  $i < k < j$  and extending so that  $R^*$  is reflexive and symmetric.  $R^*$  is not in general transitive.

Two other types of relation, connective, and similarity relations, on finite, totally ordered sets, have attracted some attention recently. The relations  $R$  in question are again reflexive, symmetric relations on the totally ordered set  $X_n = \{x_i : 1 \leq i \leq n\}$  where now  $x_i$  are not necessarily the lines of a stanza but may sometimes have this interpretation.  $R$  is then a connective relation on  $X_n$  if, in addition,  $x_i R x_j$  for  $i \leq s \leq j \leq t$  whenever  $x_i R x_t$ ,  $i < j$ , [12, 13, 16] while  $R$  is a similarity relation on  $X_n$  if  $x_i R x_s$ ,  $x_s R x_j$  for  $i \leq s \leq j$  whenever  $x_i R x_j$  [4, 12, 14]. It is known [16, 14] that the number of relations of either kind on  $X_n$  is  $C_n$ , the  $n$ th Catalan number [15, Sequence 577], given by

$$C_n = \frac{1}{n+1} \binom{2n}{n}, \quad n \geq 1. \quad (1)$$

Here we establish an indirect biunique correspondence between the two sets of relations on  $X_n$  by first putting each set in correspondence with certain subsets of the set  $\mathcal{B}_n$  of rhyming schemes on  $X_n$  and then, in turn, putting these subsets of  $\mathcal{B}_n$  in correspondence (Section 2).

The two subsets of  $\mathcal{B}_n$  are characterized in terms of the planarity of one or other of two graphical representations (Section 2) and further enumerative results are obtained by studying graph theoretical properties arising from these representations. A relation  $R$  on  $X_n$  is said to be of valence at least one if for each  $x_i$  in  $X_n$  there is some  $j \neq i$  for which  $x_i R x_j$  (in terms of rhyming schemes, every line rhymes with at least one other). A relation of a given kind may often be made up of relations of the same kind of valence at least one. Moreover, in many of the correspondences we establish, the property of being valence at least one is preserved as is the number of edges in the various graphical representations. Another property of interest which, however, is not preserved, is that of spacing: a relation  $R$  on  $X_n$  is spaced if  $x_i R x_{i+1}$  for no  $i$  (no two adjacent lines rhyme).

These sets may be enumerated systematically by colouring the edges of the associated graphs independently with any one of a range of colours and then obtaining a convolutive or multiplicative identity, (see, for example, (4)), for the number of such coloured graphs by considering the first occurrence of some distinguishing feature. Closed expressions for these numbers are obtained using Lagrange's inversion formula [17, pp. 132–133] in the following modified form that if

$$A(x) = \sum_{n \geq 1} a_n x^n = xH(A(x)),$$

where, for example,  $H(t)$  is a polynomial in  $t$  (as it is in the cases considered below), then

$$na_n = \text{coefficient of } t^{n-1} \text{ in } ((H(t))^n).$$

We obtain, in the process, the number of graphs of certain kinds with given numbers of edges (Section 4).

The same considerations may be applied to the set  $\mathcal{B}_n$  itself to obtain (Section 5) combinatorial proofs of identities involving the Bell numbers [15, Sequence 585], and the Stirling numbers  $S(n, r)$  of the second kind [9, pp. 32–34], as well as other related numbers (see (14), (15), (17), (19)–(21)). The number  $B_n$  of rhyming schemes (equivalence relations) on  $X_n$  is the  $n$ th Bell number, where (compare (16)),

$$\sum_{n \geq 0} B_n \frac{x^n}{n!} = e^{(e^x - 1)}.$$

Similarly the number  $V_n$  of rhyming schemes in  $\mathcal{B}_n$  which are of valence at least one satisfies (see [15, Sequence 1387] and compare (18)),

$$\sum_{n \geq 0} V_n \frac{x^n}{n!} = e^{(e^x - x - 1)}.$$

The number of rhyming schemes on  $X_n$  was, according to [1], considered by Sylvester, but I have failed to discover this work in a brief search in Sylvester's

publications in the Bodleian Library, Oxford. The literary history and analysis of rhyming schemes is, however, very much older: Growney [7] draws attention to a 16th century work, Puttenham's *The Arte of English Poetrie*, while an early Japanese novel *The Tale of Genji*, of Murasaki Shikibu, is cited in the extensive bibliography [6].

## 2. Graphical representations

Consider a reflexive, symmetric relation  $R$  on a finite, totally ordered set  $X_n$  as before. The (undirected) graph  $\Gamma(R)$  of the relation  $R$  is the graph whose vertex set is  $X_n$ , identified with a set of  $n$  points on a line, labelled consecutively  $x_1$  to  $x_n$ , in which  $x_i$  is jointed to  $x_j$  if and only if  $x_i R x_j$ ,  $i \neq j$ , the graph being contained in a half plane bounded by the line of points [12]. Alternatively, we may take the vertices of  $\Gamma(R)$  to be points on a circle and the edges chords joining (some of) these points so that, in the case where  $\Gamma(R)$  is a planar graph, it is a ladder graph [2]. The bipartite graph  $B(R)$  of the relation  $R$  is the bipartite graph with vertex set  $X_n \cup Y_n$ , where  $Y_n = \{y_i : 1 \leq i \leq n\}$ , with edges unordered pairs  $\{x_i, y_j\}$  where  $\{x_i, y_j\}$  is an edge of  $B(R)$  if and only if  $x_i R x_j$ ,  $i < j$ .  $X_n$  and  $Y_n$  may conveniently be identified with ordered sets of  $n$  points on two parallel lines.  $R$  is uniquely specified in terms of the adjacency relation of either graph with the addition that  $R$  is reflexive. The number of edges in the two representations of  $R$  is the same.

A relation  $R$  on  $X_n$  is of valence at least one if and only if every vertex of  $\Gamma(R)$  has valence at least one or, equivalently, for every  $i$ , at least one of the vertices  $x_i, y_i$  of  $B(R)$  has valence at least one.

The unipartite representation of a rhyming scheme  $R$  on  $X_n$  is the graph  $\Gamma(R^*)$  [5, 7]. A rhyming scheme  $R$  is planar if its unipartite representation is a planar graph, that is  $x_i R^* x_j$  and  $x_s R^* x_t$  for no  $i < s < j < t$ ; otherwise  $R$  has crossings. Growney [7] showed that the number of planar rhyming schemes on  $X_n$  is  $C_n$ , as given by (1). The graphs  $\Gamma(R^*)$  of rhyming schemes  $R$  on  $X_3$  are shown in Fig. 1.

The bipartite representation of a rhyming scheme  $R$  on  $X_n$  is the graph  $B(R^*)$  [3]. A rhyming scheme  $R$  is uncovered if its bipartite representation is a planar graph, that is  $x_i R^* x_j$  and  $x_s R^* x_t$  for no  $i < s < t < j$ ; otherwise  $R$  has coverings. The bipartite representation of an uncovered rhyming scheme on  $X_n$  is a decreasing bipartite graph on  $X_n \cup Y_n$  in which  $\{x_i, y_i\}$  is not an edge for any  $i$  and so the number of such schemes is also  $C_n$  [3]. The graphs  $B(R^*)$  of rhyming schemes  $R$  on  $X_3$  are shown in Fig. 2.

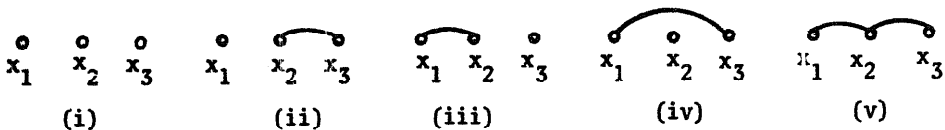
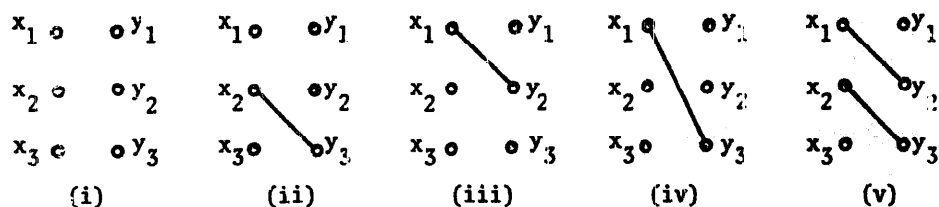
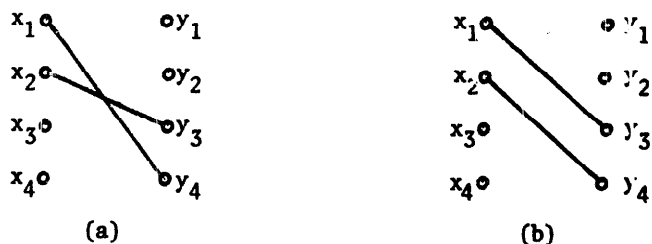


Fig. 1.  $\Gamma(R^*)$  for rhyming schemes  $R$  on  $X_3$ .

Fig. 2.  $B(R^*)$  for rhyming schemes  $R$  on  $X_3$ .

We apply the terms “planar” and “uncovered”, “has crossings” and “has coverings” interchangeably to  $R$  and  $R^*$ . The planarity of a scheme depends on the choice of representation: there are schemes which are planar but not uncovered and vice versa, as is shown in Figs. 3 and 4. (Figs. 3(b) and 4(b) show the graphs  $\Gamma(R^*)$  and  $B(R^*)$  for the quatrain  $R$  in which the lines rhyme alternatively.)

The first of the correspondences which we now proceed to describe, that between planar and uncovered schemes, is obtained by a process of unravelling crossings and coverings suggested by Fig. 3 and 4. (The graphs of corresponding (indeed, in this case identical) schemes on  $X_3$  have the same labels in Figs. 1 and 2.)

Fig. 3.  $\Gamma(R^*)$ : (a)  $R$  planar; (b)  $R$  uncovered.Fig. 4.  $B(R^*)$  for the same  $R$  as in Fig. 3.

### 3. Correspondences

In establishing a correspondence between planar and uncovered schemes it is only necessary to show how planar schemes with coverings correspond to uncovered schemes with crossings, leaving those schemes which are both planar and uncovered unchanged. Consider then a non-planar uncovered scheme  $R$  on  $X_n$  and define a sequence of reflexive, symmetric relations  $R_k$ ,  $k \geq 0$ , on  $X_n$  induc-



Fig. 5. Correspondence between planar rhyming schemes and connective relations: (a)  $\Gamma(R^*)$ ; (b)  $\Gamma(R_c)$ .

tively as follows:

(a)  $R_0 = R^*$ ;

(b) for  $k \geq 0$ , if  $R_k$  has a crossing and  $x_i R_k x_j, x_s R_k x_t$ , with  $i < s < j < t$  is the left most crossing (that is  $i$  and  $s$  are minimal subject to these conditions) then  $R_{k+1}$  is the same as  $R_k$  except that  $x_i R_{k+1} x_t, x_s R_{k+1} x_j$ , thereby replacing the left most crossing in  $R_k$  by a cover in  $R_{k+1}$ .

After a finite number of steps, say  $m$ , we obtain a relation  $S^* = R_m$  which corresponds to a planar scheme  $S$  with covers; and we may reverse the procedure to obtain  $R$  by working at each step with the outermost and left most cover. (The relation illustrated in Fig. 3(b) is taken into that shown in Fig. 3(a).) This establishes the required correspondence and we may further note that the number of crossings in  $R^*$  is the same as the number of coverings in  $S^*$ .

Consider again a planar rhyming scheme  $R$  on  $X_n$ . We may turn this into a connective relation  $R_c$  on  $X_n$  by gathering each set of rhyming lines (equivalence class) at the final appearance of their rhyme: more precisely if, for each  $i, x_{i_1}, \dots, x_{i_{k(i)}}$ , where  $i_1 < i_2 < \dots < i_{k(i)}$ , are all the lines which rhyme under  $R$  with  $x_i$  so that  $x_i = x_j$  for some  $j, 1 \leq j \leq k(i)$ , and  $x_i R^* x_{i_{s+1}}, 1 \leq s < k(i)$ , then we take  $x_i R_c x_{i_{k(i)}}, 1 \leq s \leq k(i)$ , and extend  $R_c$  to be reflexive and symmetric. Then the condition of planarity on  $R$  ensures that  $R_c$  is connective; and the correspondence is reversible so that we may recover  $R$  uniquely from  $R_c$ , via  $R^*$ . An illustration of this correspondence is given in Fig. 5.

Finally, given an uncovered rhyming scheme  $R$  on  $X_n$  we may regard it as the unique "skeleton" of a similarity relation  $R_s$  by taking  $x_p R_s x_q$  for  $i \leq p \leq q \leq j$  whenever  $x_i R^* x_j$  and extending  $R_s$  to be reflexive and symmetric. Conversely every similarity relation  $R_s$  has a unique skeleton  $R^*$  where  $R^*$  is reflexive and symmetric and  $x_i R^* x_j$  whenever  $x_i R_s x_j$  and  $x_i R_s x_q, j < q, x_p R_s x_j, p < i$ ; and, in turn,  $R^*$  corresponds to an uncovered scheme  $R$ . This correspondence is illustrated in Fig. 6.

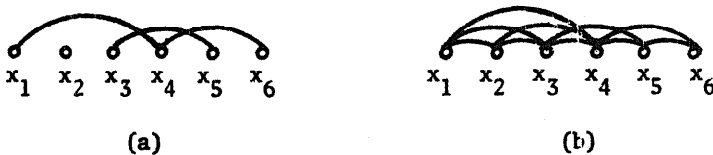


Fig. 6. Correspondence between uncovered rhyming schemes and similarity relations: (a)  $\Gamma(R^*)$ ; (b)  $\Gamma(R_s)$ .

The property of being spaced is not, in general, preserved under these correspondences. However, if a relation  $R$  on  $X_n$  is spaced then  $B(R)$  may be regarded as a graph  $B(R')$  on  $X_{n-1} = X_n \setminus \{x_n\}$  and  $Y'_{n-1} = Y_n \setminus \{y_1\}$  with the shift  $y'_i = y_{i+1}$ ,  $1 < i \leq n$ , and hence associated with a relation  $R'$  on  $X_{n-1}$  in a unique way. This provides a further one-to-one correspondence between rhyming schemes (respectively uncovered schemes)  $R$  on  $X_n$  for which  $R^*$  is spaced and rhyming schemes (respectively uncovered schemes) on  $X_{n-1}$ , a correspondence which, however, does not, in general, preserve the property of being of valence at least one.

In the first two correspondences established in this section, the number of edges in the graphical representations of corresponding relations is the same and the property of being of valence at least one is preserved. This is not the case with the third correspondence, that between uncovered schemes and similarity relations, in which additional edges are added and this explains in part the difference between the (additive) enumeration of similarity relations and the (convolutive or multiplicative) enumeration of connective relations remarked upon in [12, Section 9].

#### 4. Enumerative methods and results

The enumeration of the set  $\mathcal{C}_n$  of connective relations on  $X_n$  has been described fully elsewhere [13] and the enumeration of the sets  $\mathcal{U}_n$  and  $\mathcal{P}_n$  of respectively uncovered schemes (in the form of increasing bipartite graphs) and planar schemes on  $X_n$  may be treated similarly. Here we give a brief review of the methods and results for these sets concentrating on  $\mathcal{U}_n$  and, more especially, on  $\mathcal{P}_n$ .

Let  $f_k(n)$  be the number of graphs, associated with the relations in any one of these sets, whose edges are coloured independently with any one of a range of  $k$  colours using  $\Gamma(R)$  for  $R$  in  $\mathcal{C}_n$ ,  $B(R^*)$  for  $R$  in  $\mathcal{U}_n$  or  $\Gamma(R^*)$  for  $R$  in  $\mathcal{P}_n$ . In all three cases

$$f_k(1) = 1, \quad f_k(2) = 1 + k,$$

and, in [13], it is shown, by partitioning the set  $\mathcal{C}_n$  according to the largest integer  $i$  such that  $x_1 R x_i$  for  $R$  in  $\mathcal{C}_n$ , that

$$f_k(n) = f_k(n-1) + k \sum_{i=2}^{n-1} f_k(i-1) f_i(n-i) + k f_k(n-1), \quad n \geq 3. \quad (6a)$$

Similarly, partitioning the set  $\mathcal{U}_n$  according to the smallest integer  $i$ , if any, such that  $x_i R^* x_{i+1}$  for  $R$  in  $\mathcal{U}_n$ , we have

$$f_k(n) = k f_k(n-1) + k \sum_{i=2}^{n-1} f_k(i-1) f_k(n-i) + f_k(n-1), \quad n \geq 3, \quad (6b)$$

noting that if there is no such  $i$  then  $R$  is a spaced relation in  $\mathcal{U}_n$  and, by the remarks in Section 3, there are  $f_k(n-1)$  of these.

Finally, partitioning the set  $\mathcal{P}_n$  according to the largest integer  $i$  such that

$x_1 R^* x_i$ , we find

$$f_k(x) = f_k(n-1) + k f_k(n-1) + k \sum_{i=3}^n f_k(i-2) f_k(n-i+1), \quad n \geq 3. \quad (6c)$$

We may rewrite (6a), (6b), (6c) in the form

$$f_k(n) = (1+k) f_k(n-1) + k \sum_{r=1}^{n-2} f_k(r) f_k(n-r-1), \quad n \geq 3,$$

and it then follows, in terms of generating functions, that (compare [13, (12)])

$$\begin{aligned} F_k(x) &= \sum_{n \geq 1} f_k(n) x^n = x(1 + (1+k) f_k(x) + k(F_k(x))^2) \\ &= x(1 + k F_k(x))(1 + F_k(x)). \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

Applying Lagrange's inversion formula, as in (2), (3), to (7), we have

$$n f_k(n) = \text{coefficient of } t^{n-1} \text{ in } (1+kt)^n (1+t)^n.$$

Now

$$(1+kt)^n (1+t)^n = \left( \sum_{r=0}^n \binom{n}{r} k^r t^r \right) \left( \sum_{s=0}^n \binom{n}{s} t^{n-s} \right),$$

so

$$\begin{aligned} f_k(n) &= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{r=0}^{n-1} \binom{n}{r} \binom{n}{r+1} k^r, \quad n \geq 1, \\ &= \frac{1}{n+1} \sum_{r=0}^{n-1} \binom{n+1}{r+1} \binom{n-1}{r} k^r, \quad n \geq 1. \end{aligned}$$

Hence the number  $f(n, r)$  of graphs with  $r$  edges arising from any one of the sets  $\mathcal{C}_n$ ,  $\mathcal{Q}_n$ , or  $\mathcal{P}_n$ , is given by (compare [13, (1)])

$$f(n, r) = \frac{1}{n+1} \binom{n+1}{r+1} \binom{n-1}{r}, \quad 0 \leq r \leq n-1.$$

Moreover, for  $k=1$ , writing (7) in the form

$$F_1(x) = x(1 + F_1(x))^2,$$

another application of Lagrange's inversion formula yields (see (1)),

$$f(n) = f_1(n) = \frac{1}{n} \binom{2n}{n-1} = \frac{1}{n+1} \binom{2n}{n} = C_n, \quad n \geq 1.$$

A similar analysis holds for relations of valence at least one. For example, if  $g_k(n)$  is the number of graphs associated with schemes in  $\mathcal{P}_n$  of valence at least one, coloured as before, and  $\hat{g}_k(x)$  is the number of these in which  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  are joined then, with the same partition as above,  $g_k(2) = \hat{g}_k(2) = k$ ,  $g_k(3) = \hat{g}_k(3) = k^2$ ,

and

$$g_k(n) = \hat{g}_k(n) + \sum_{r=2}^{n-2} \hat{g}_k(n) g_k(n-r), \quad n \geq 4; \quad (8)$$

$$\hat{g}_k(n) = k(g_k(n-1) + g_k(n-2)), \quad n \geq 4. \quad (9)$$

Hence, combining (8) and (9) using generating functions, we have

$$\hat{G}_k(x) = \sum_{n \geq 2} \hat{g}_k(n) x^{n-1} = x[k(1 + \hat{G}_k(x)) + (G_k(x))^2],$$

from which it follows, as another application of Lagrange's inversion formula, that (compare [13, (14)])

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{g}_k(n+2) &= \frac{1}{n+1} \sum_{r=0}^{[n/2]} \binom{n}{n} \binom{n-r}{n-1-2r} k^{n+1-r}, \quad n \geq 0, \\ &= \sum_{r=0}^{[n/2]} \binom{n}{2r} C_r k^{n+1-r}, \quad n \geq 0. \end{aligned}$$

In particular

$$g_1(n+2) = m_n, \quad n \geq 0, \quad g_1(n) = \gamma_n, \quad n \geq 2,$$

where  $m_n$  is the  $n$ th Motzkin number [15, Sequence 456; 3] given by

$$m_n = \sum_{r=0}^{[n/2]} \binom{n}{2r} C_r, \quad n \geq 0, \quad (10)$$

and  $\gamma_n + \gamma_{n+1} = m_n$ ,  $n \geq 0$ ,  $\gamma_0 = 1$  (see [11, p. 219: 3]). Finally for  $R$  in  $\mathcal{P}_n$ , considering those  $x_i$  which are not related under  $R^*$  to any other  $x_j$ ,  $j \neq i$ , in  $X_n$ , we obtain the identities

$$C_{n+1} = \sum_{r=0}^n \binom{n}{r} m_r, \quad C_n = \sum_{r=0}^n \binom{n}{r} \gamma_r, \quad n \geq 0. \quad (11)$$

Analogous interpretations of (8), (9), (10) hold for  $\mathcal{C}_n$  and  $\mathcal{U}_n$ , and the sets of bipartite graphs considered in [3] may be enumerated in the same way.

The three partitions given above, when considered using the correspondences in Section 3 as partitions of the same set, are all distinct and so we may obtain further combinatorial results. For example transferring the partition of  $\mathcal{C}_n$  to  $\mathcal{P}_n$  (or  $\mathcal{U}_n$ ) the number of planar (or uncovered) schemes  $R$  on  $X_n$  for which for each  $i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$  there are  $s, t$  with  $s \leq i < t$  and  $x_s R^* x_t$  is  $C_{n-1}$ ,  $n \geq 1$ .

Arguing as for relations of valence at least one, we may show that the number of spaced planar schemes on  $X_{n+1}$  is  $m_n$ ,  $n \geq 0$  (from which we may deduce, by the correspondence of Section 3, that this is also the number of connective relations  $R_c$  on  $X_{n+1}$  for which  $x_i R_c x_k$ ,  $x_{i+1} R_c x_k$  for no  $i, k$  with  $i < k$  (see also [13])). A direct proof of this may be based on Motzkin's original definition [8] of the numbers  $m_n$  as the number of ladder graphs  $\Gamma(R^+)$  on  $X_n$  in which the



vertices are either isolated or joined in disjoint pairs. There are  $\binom{n}{2r}$  ways of choosing  $2r$  points from  $X_n$  and then, by a result of Errera [10],  $C_r$  ways of joining these in disjoint pairs by non-intersecting chords. We thus obtain a combinatorial interpretation of (10), the number of these graphs  $\Gamma(R^+)$  with  $r$  edges being

$$\binom{n}{2r} C_r \quad 0 \leq r \leq \lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor. \quad (12)$$

From a graph  $\Gamma(R^+)$  of this kind, we obtain a reflexive, symmetric relation  $R^+$  on  $X_n$  and we may, in turn, define a relation  $R^*$  on  $X_{n+1}$  by taking  $x_i R^* x_{j+1}$  whenever  $x_i R^+ x_j$ ,  $i < j$ , and extending  $R^*$  to be reflexive and symmetric. This correspondence between  $R^+$  and  $R^*$  is one-to-one and then the rhyming scheme  $R$  which corresponds to  $R^*$  as in Section 1 is a planar spaced one on  $X_{n+1}$ . Hence the number of such schemes on  $X_{n+1}$  is  $n_n$ ,  $n \geq 0$ , as stated and, moreover, since  $\Gamma(R^+)$  and  $\Gamma(R^*)$  have the same number of edges, the number of these schemes  $R$  on  $X_{n+1}$  whose graphs  $\Gamma(R^*)$  have  $r$  edges is also given by (12).

The enumeration of similarity relations may be obtained via the correspondence of Section 3 but, as remarked there, a direct approach proceeds somewhat differently from the foregoing and is described in [12].

## 5. Further enumerative results

The Stirling numbers  $S(n, r)$  of the second kind are the number of equivalence relations on  $X_n$  with  $r$  equivalence classes and are related to the Bell numbers  $B_n$  by

$$B_n = \sum_{r=0}^n S(n, r), \quad n \geq 0. \quad (13)$$

It follows that the number of  $B(n, r)$  of schemes in  $\mathfrak{B}_n$  whose unipartite representation has  $r$  edges is given by

$$B(n, r) = S(n, n-r), \quad 0 \leq r \leq n, \quad (14)$$

but we may also show this using the colouring technique of the previous section.

Let  $b_k(n)$  be the number of distinct  $k$  coloured graphs,  $\Gamma(R^*)$ , arising (as in that section) from schemes  $R$  in  $\mathfrak{B}_n$  (so  $b_1(n) = B_n$ ). There are  $\binom{n}{r}$  ways of choosing  $r$  lines to rhyme with the first line in a scheme on  $X_{n+1}$ . So  $b_k(0) = 1$  and

$$b_k(n+1) = \sum_{r=0}^n \binom{n}{r} b_k(n-r) k^r, \quad n > 0. \quad (15)$$

Writing (compare (4))

$$B_k(x) = \sum_{n \geq 0} b_k(n) \frac{x^n}{n!}$$

we have

$$B'_k(x) = e^{kx} B_k(x),$$

and so

$$\begin{aligned} B_k(x) &= e^{k^{-1}(e^{kx}-1)} = \sum_{n \geq 0} \frac{(kx)^n}{n!} \sum_{r=0}^n S(n, r) k^{-r} \\ &= \sum_{n \geq 0} \frac{x^n}{n!} \sum_{r=0}^n S(n, r) k^{n-r} \end{aligned} \quad (16)$$

from which (13), (14) follow.

Similarly, if  $V(n, r)$  is the number of schemes  $R$  of valence at least one in  $\mathfrak{B}_n$  whose graphs  $\Gamma(R^*)$  have  $r$  edges and  $v_k(n)$  is the total number of distinct  $k$  coloured graphs,  $\Gamma(R^*)$ , arising from schemes  $R$  of valence at least one in  $\mathfrak{B}_n$  then  $v_k(0) = 1$ ,  $v_k(1) = 0$ , and

$$v_k(n+1) = \sum_{r=1}^n \binom{n}{r} v_k(n-r) k^r, \quad n \geq 1, \quad (17)$$

leading to (compare (5))

$$\begin{aligned} V_k(x) &= \sum_{n \geq 0} v_k(n) \frac{x^n}{n!} = e^{k^{-1}(e^{kx}-kx-1)} \\ &= \sum_{n \geq 0} \frac{x^n}{n!} \sum_{r=0}^n b(n, r) k^{n-r} \end{aligned} \quad (18)$$

and

$$V(n, r) = b(n, n-r) \quad (19)$$

where  $b(n, r)$  is the associated Stirling number of the second kind [9, p. 77]. Moreover, considering lines rhyming with no other line, we have (compare (11))

$$b_k(n) = \sum_{r=0}^n \binom{n}{r} v_k(n-r).$$

We may show, arguing as for (15), (17), that the number of spaced schemes in  $\mathfrak{B}_n$  is  $B_{n-1}$ ,  $n \geq 1$ , as also follows by the approach in Section 3. Further, considering the lines, if any, rhyming with the final line, we may show that

$$B(n+1, s+1) = B(n, s+1) + (n-s)B(n, s), \quad (20)$$

$$V(n+1, s+1) = (n-s)V(n, s) + nV(n-1, s), \quad (21)$$

leading, via (14), (19), to familiar identities for the Stirling numbers  $S(n, r)$  and  $b(n, r)$  respectively.

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