
Forbidden patterns and shift systems

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, ...

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

Are they random? Are they deterministic?

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The first one is deterministic: taking $f(x) = 4x(1 - x)$, we have

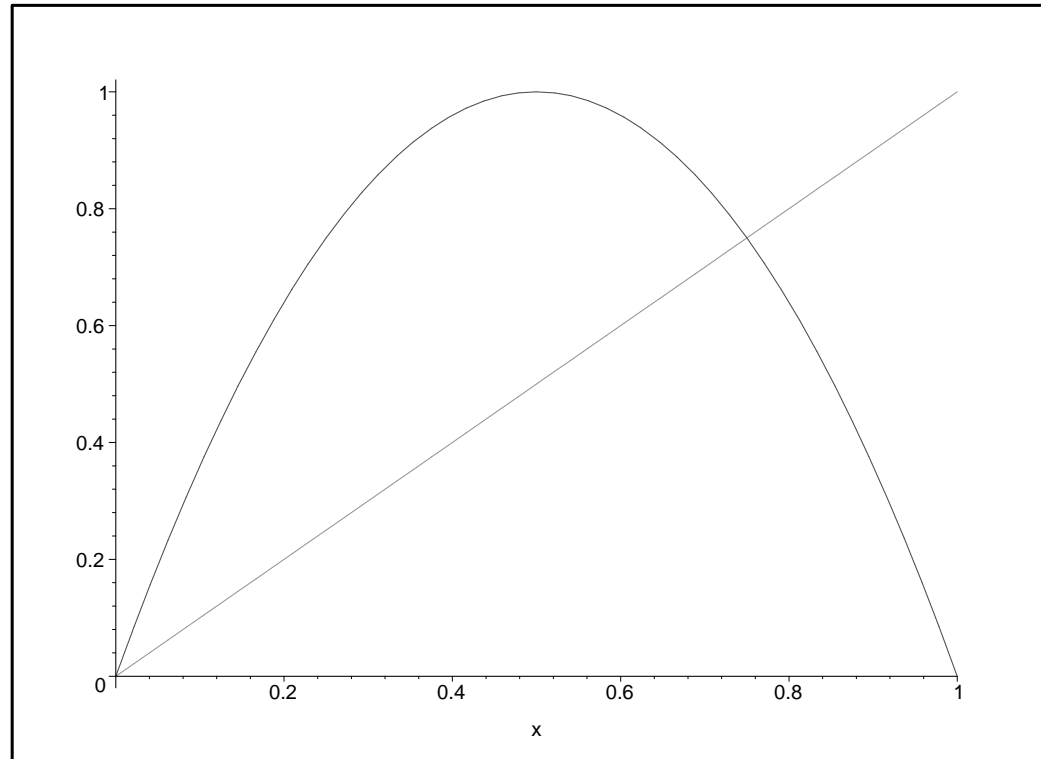
$$f(.6146) = .9198,$$

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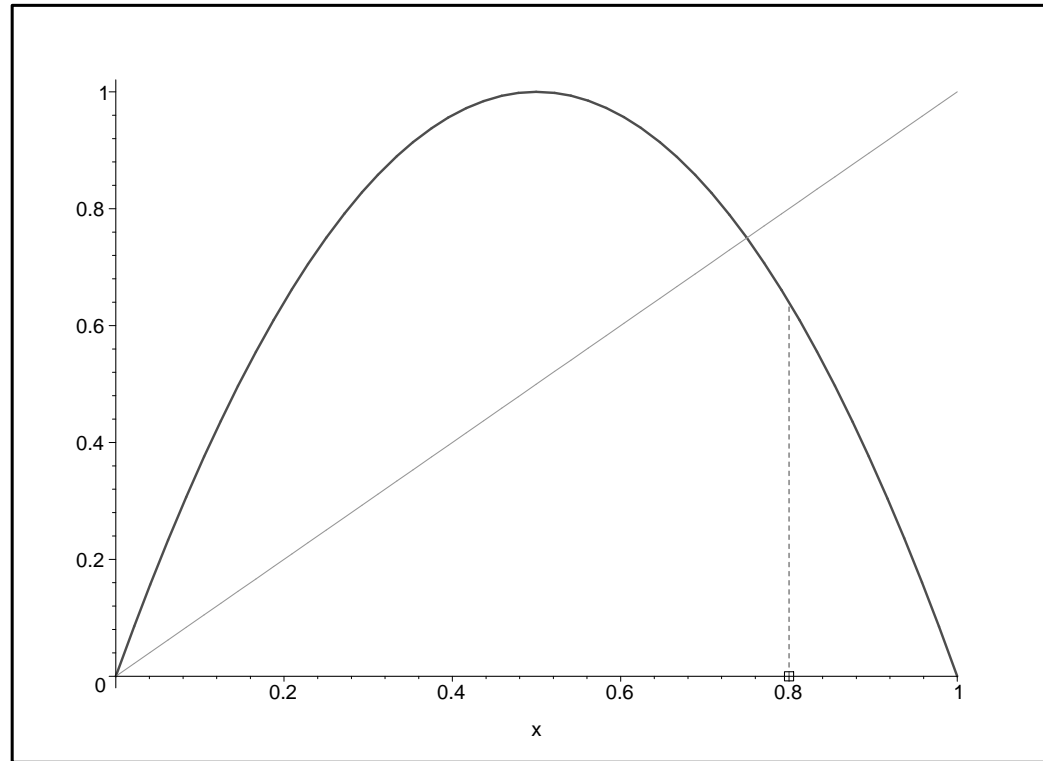
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...

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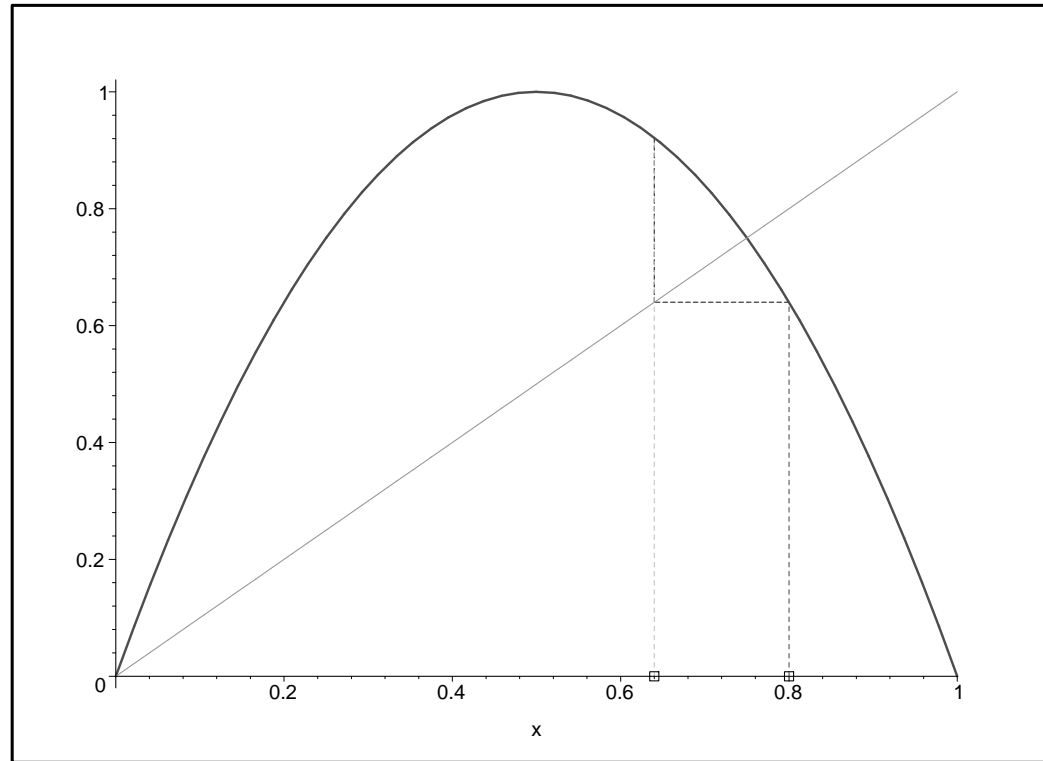


Given $x \in [0, 1]$, consider the sequence

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

For $x = 0.8$ and $n = 4$, $[0.8,$

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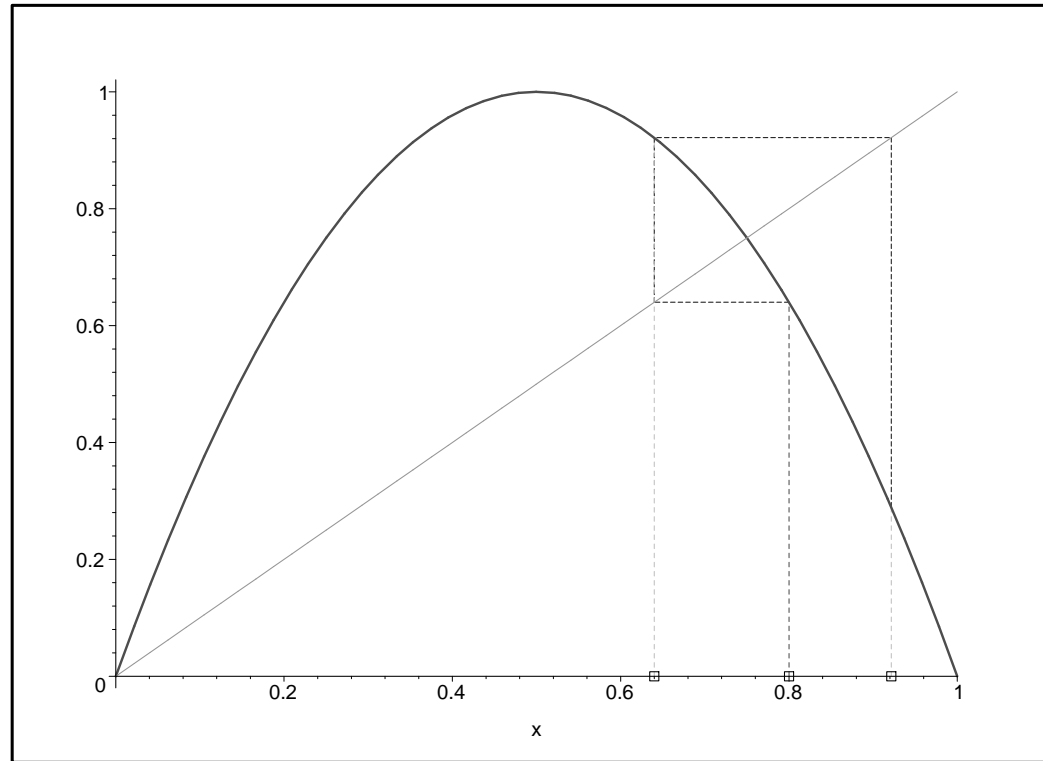


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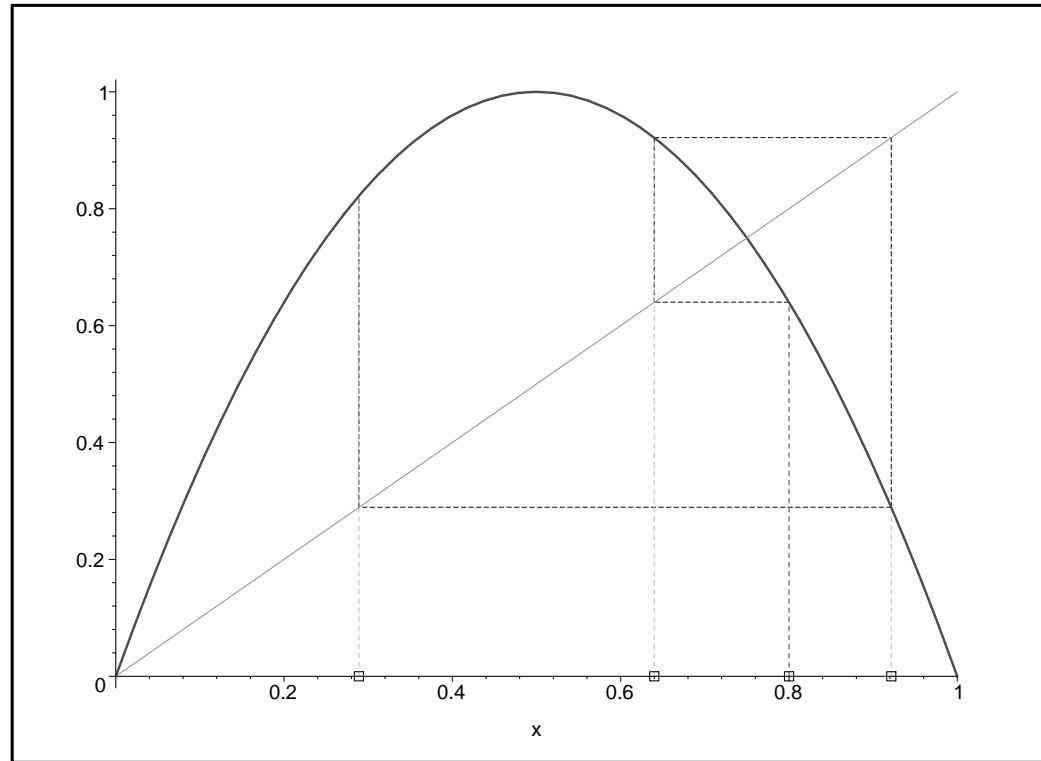


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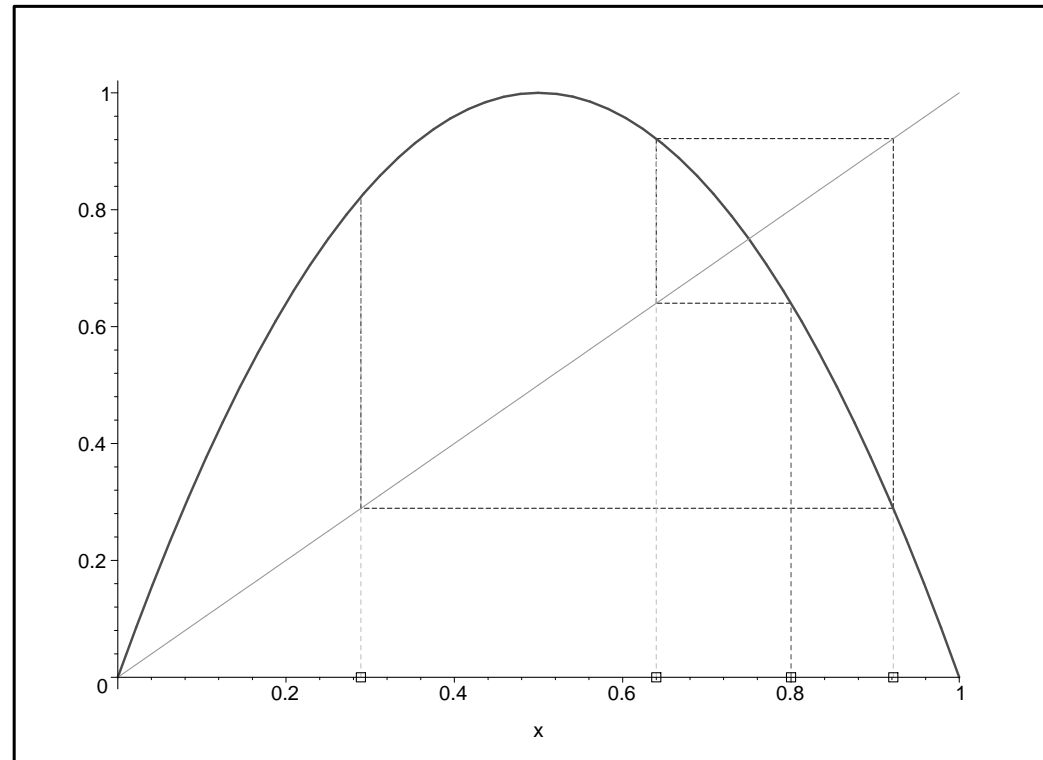


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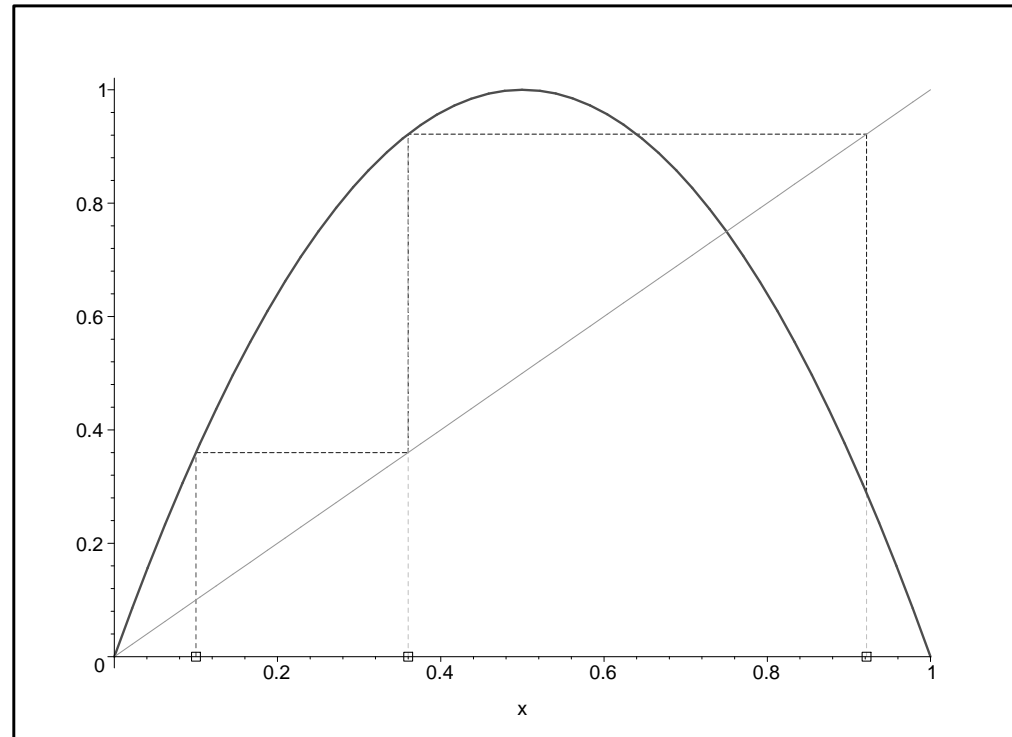
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For $x = 0.8$ and $n = 4$, $[0.8, 0.64, 0.9216, 0.2890]$

We say that x defines the pattern $[3, 2, 4, 1]$, and we write $x \rightsquigarrow 3241$.

What patterns can appear?

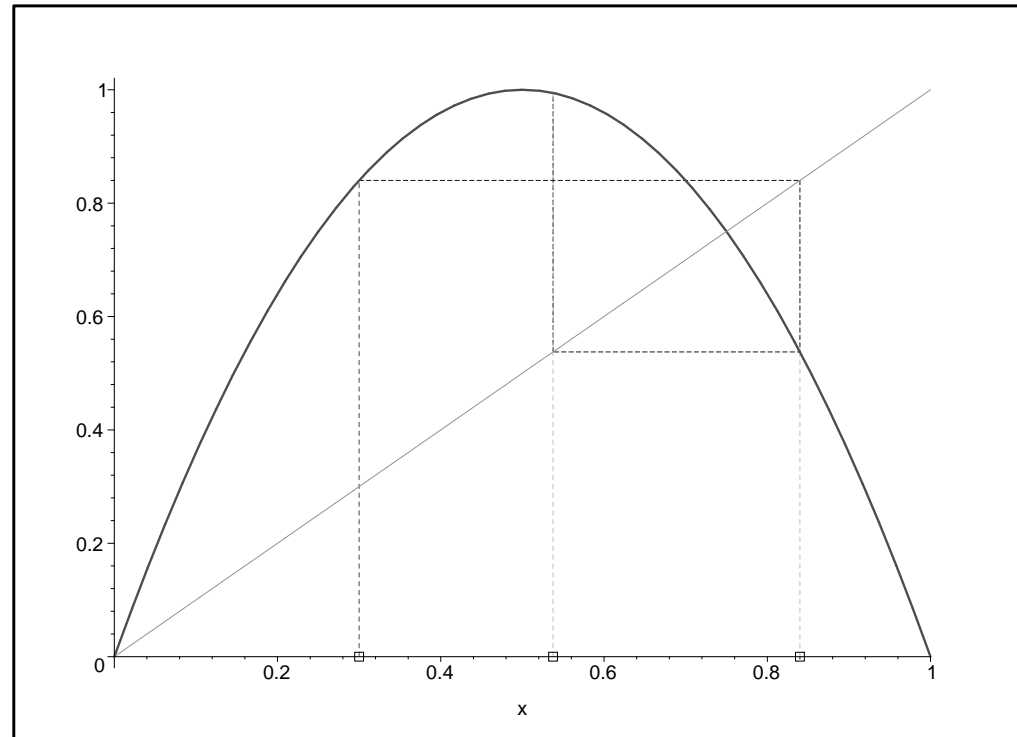
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$x = 0.1 \rightsquigarrow 123$

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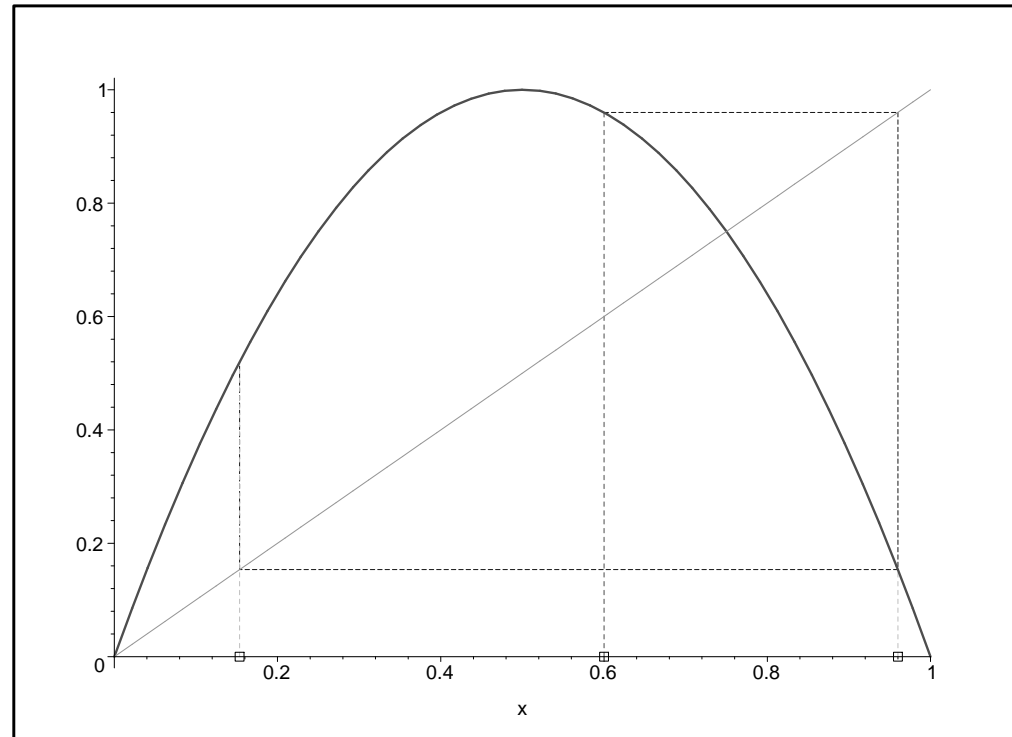
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$x = 0.1$ \rightsquigarrow 123
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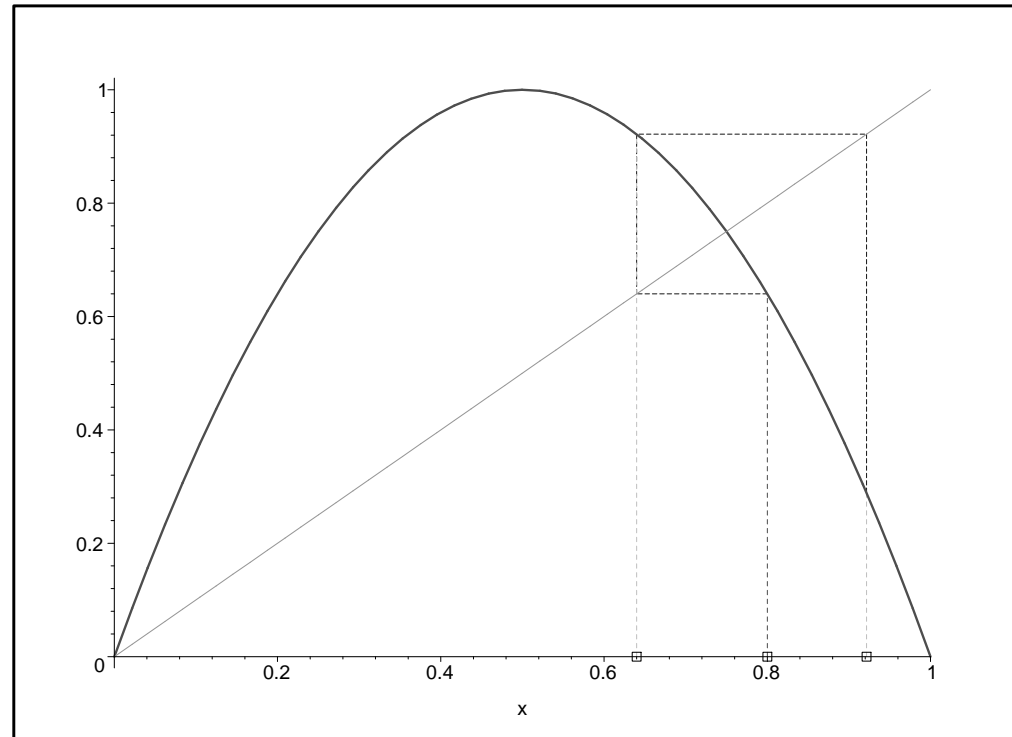
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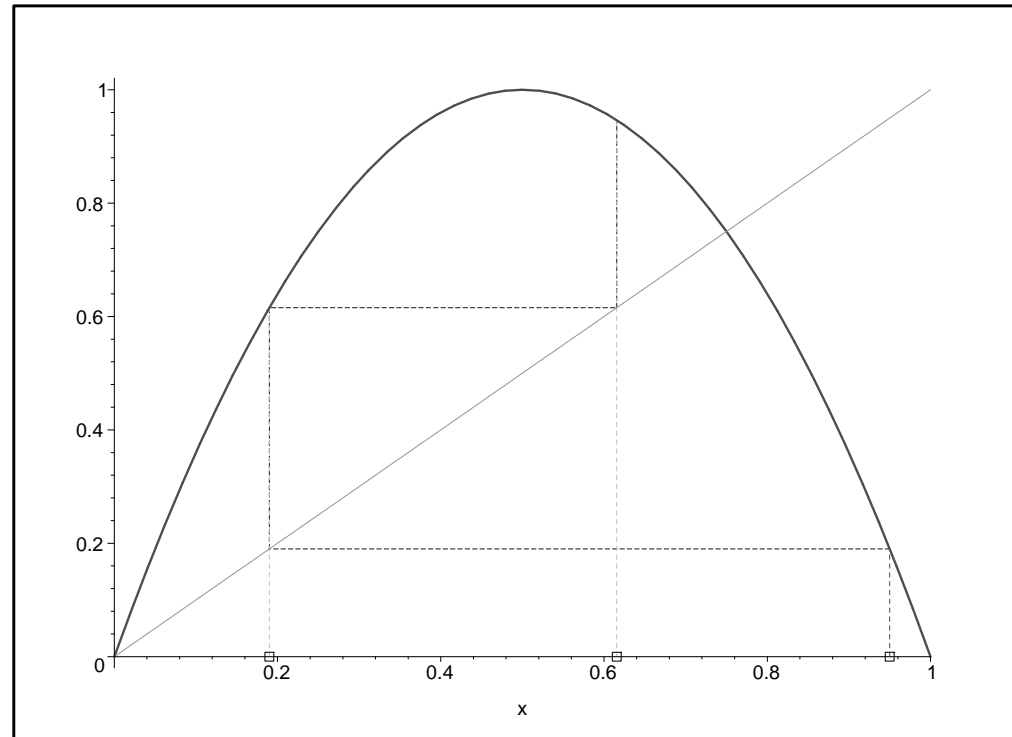
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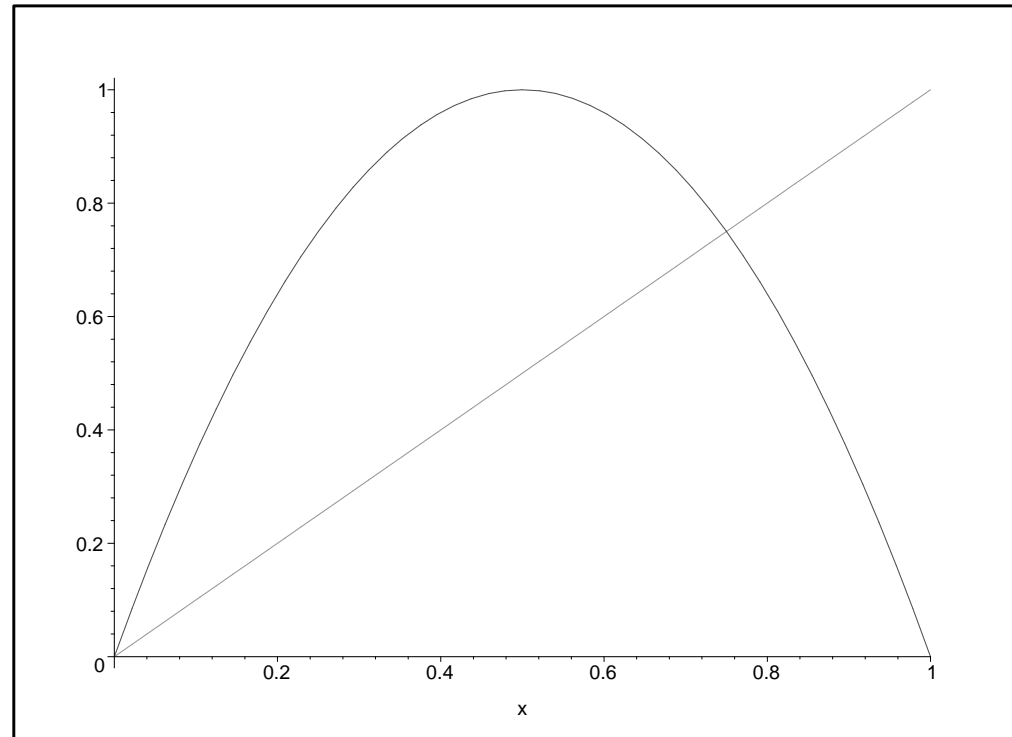
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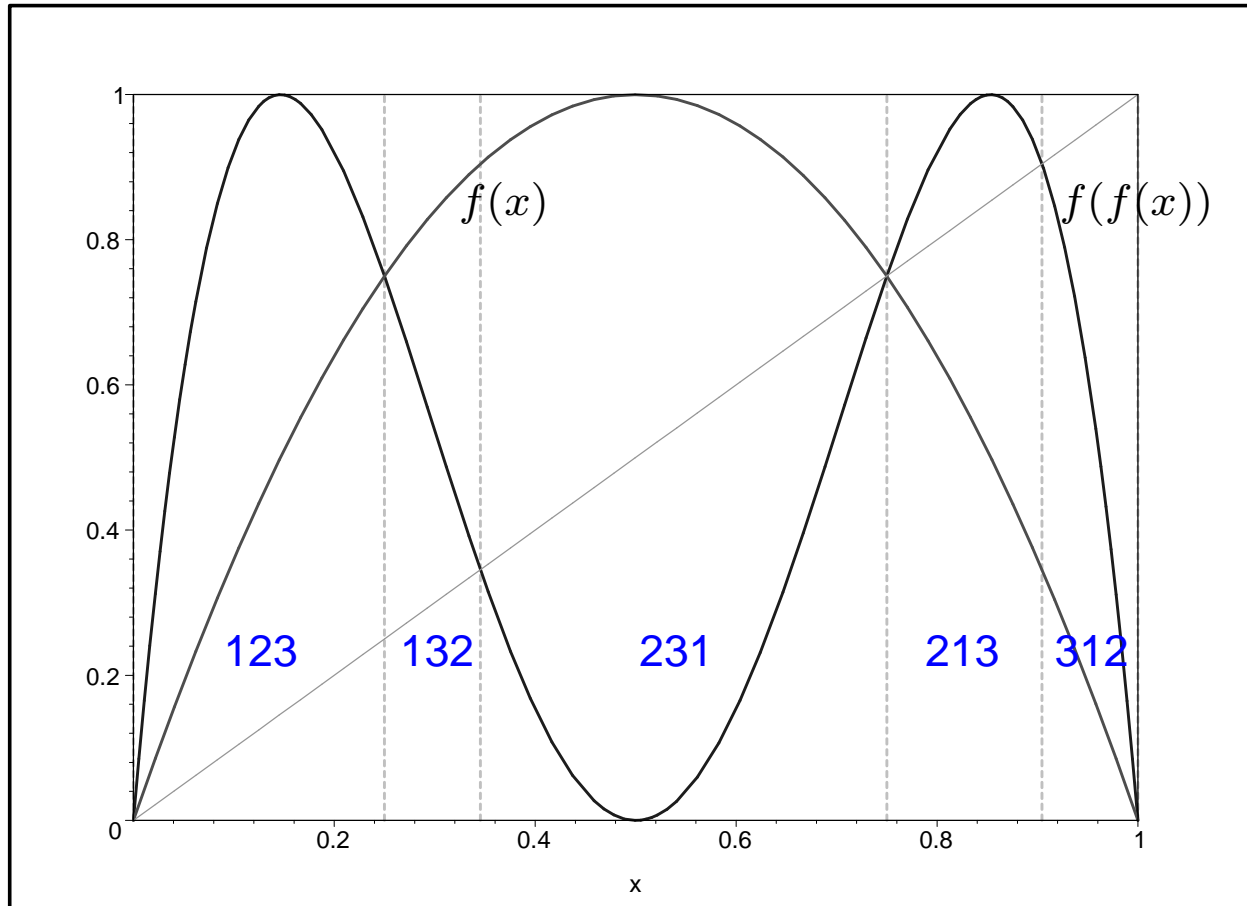
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How about the pattern 321?

The pattern **321** does not appear for any x .



We say that **321** is a *forbidden pattern* of f .

$I \subset \mathbb{R}$ closed interval, $f : I \rightarrow I$, $\pi \in \mathcal{S}_n$.

Def. π is *realized* by f if there exists $x \in I$ such that

$$[x, f(x), f(f(x)), \dots, f^{n-1}(x)] \sim [\pi_1, \pi_2, \dots, \pi_n],$$

where $[a_1, \dots, a_n] \sim [b_1, \dots, b_n]$ means that $a_i < a_j$ iff $b_i < b_j$.

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$$\text{Allow}_n(f) = \{\pi \in \mathcal{S}_n : \pi \text{ is realized by } f\} \quad \text{Forb}_n(f) = \mathcal{S}_n \setminus \text{Allow}_n(f)$$

$$\text{Allow}(f) = \bigcup_{n \geq 1} \text{Allow}_n(f)$$

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

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This follows from a result of **Bandt-Keller-Pompe** that relates allowed patterns of f with its **topological entropy**.

In fact,

$$|\text{Allow}_n(f)| < C^n \ll n! = |\mathcal{S}_n|$$

for some constant C .

Comparison with random sequences

Consider a sequence x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m produced by a black box, with $0 \leq x_i \leq 1$.

- 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 m large enough).

For example, the pattern **321** is missing from

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

- On the other hand, if the sequence was generated by m i.i.d. random variables, then the probability that any fixed pattern π is missing goes to 0 exponentially as m grows.

Consecutive patterns in permutations

$$\sigma = \sigma_1 \sigma_2 \cdots \sigma_n \in \mathcal{S}_n, \quad \pi_1 \pi_2 \cdots \pi_k \in \mathcal{S}_k$$

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Theorem (E., Noy). For any $\pi \in \mathcal{S}_k$ with $k \geq 3$, there exist constants $0 < c, d < 1$ such that

$$c^n n! \leq |\text{Av}_n(\pi)| \leq d^n n! \quad \text{for all } n \geq k.$$

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$$\text{BF}_4(f) = \{\mathbf{1423}, \mathbf{2134}, \mathbf{2143}, \mathbf{3142}, \mathbf{4231}\}$$

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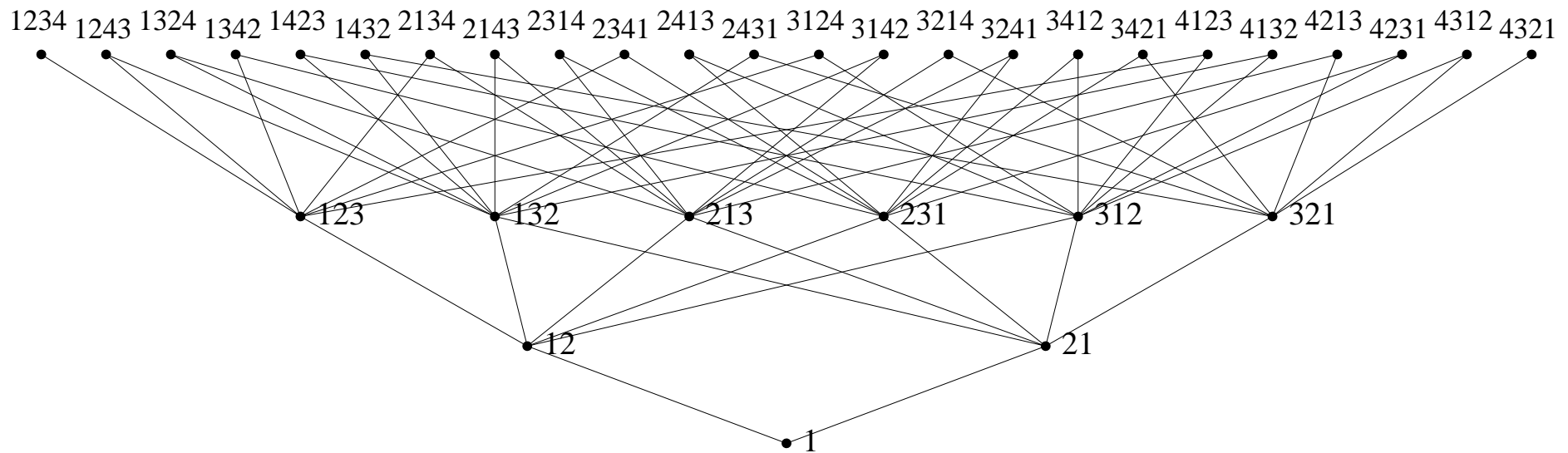
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Poset of permutations under consec. pattern containment

We can consider the infinite poset of all permutations where

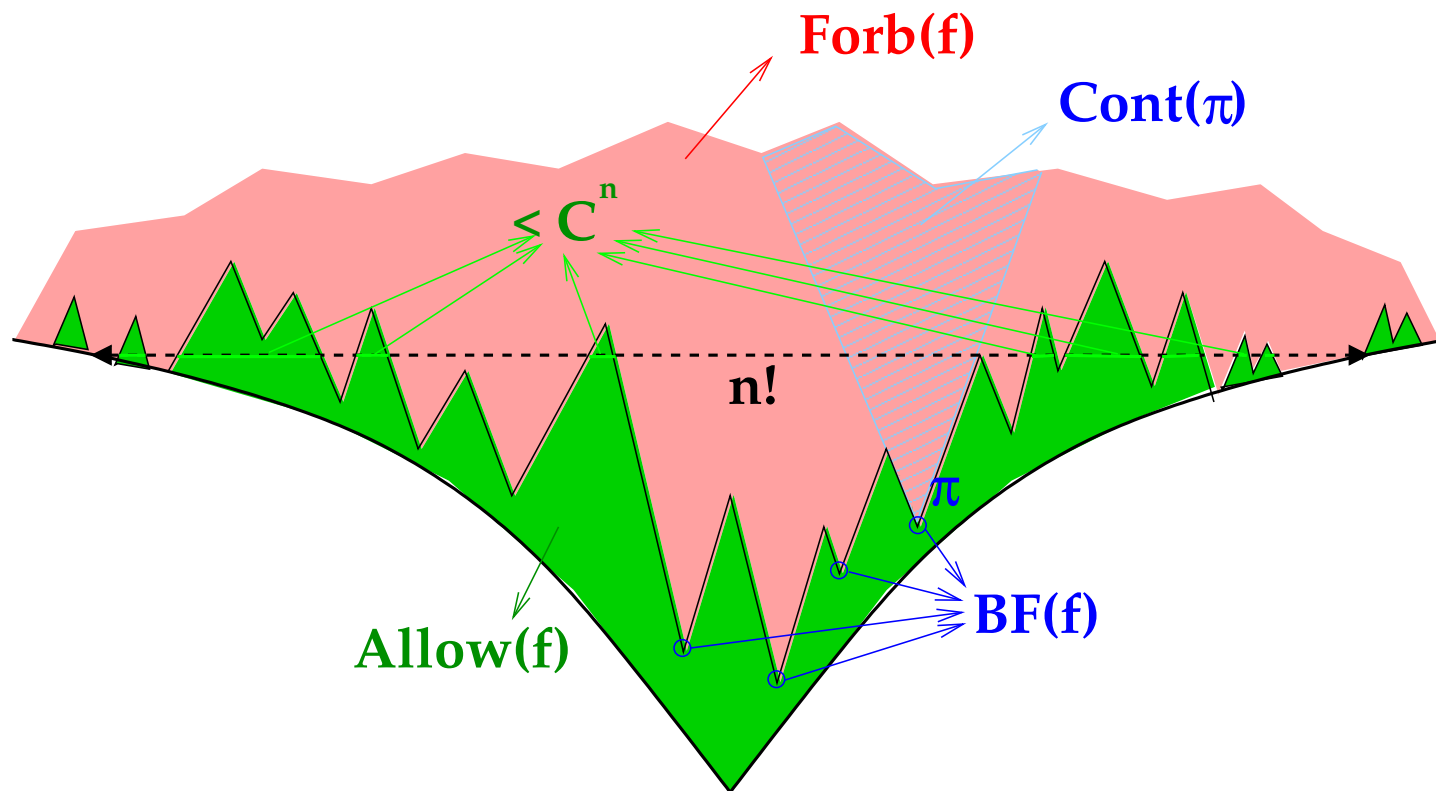
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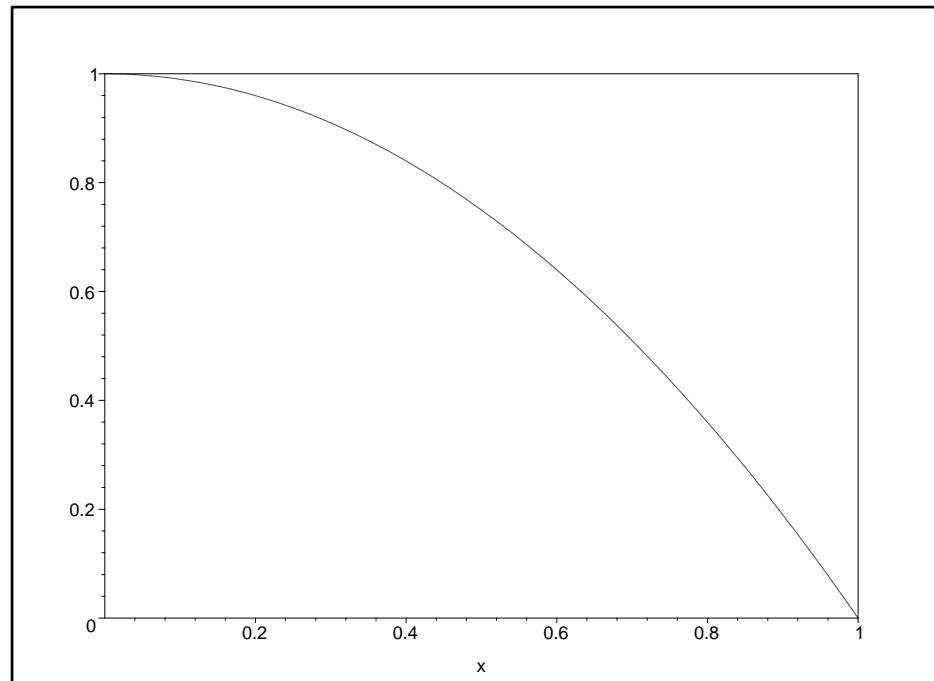
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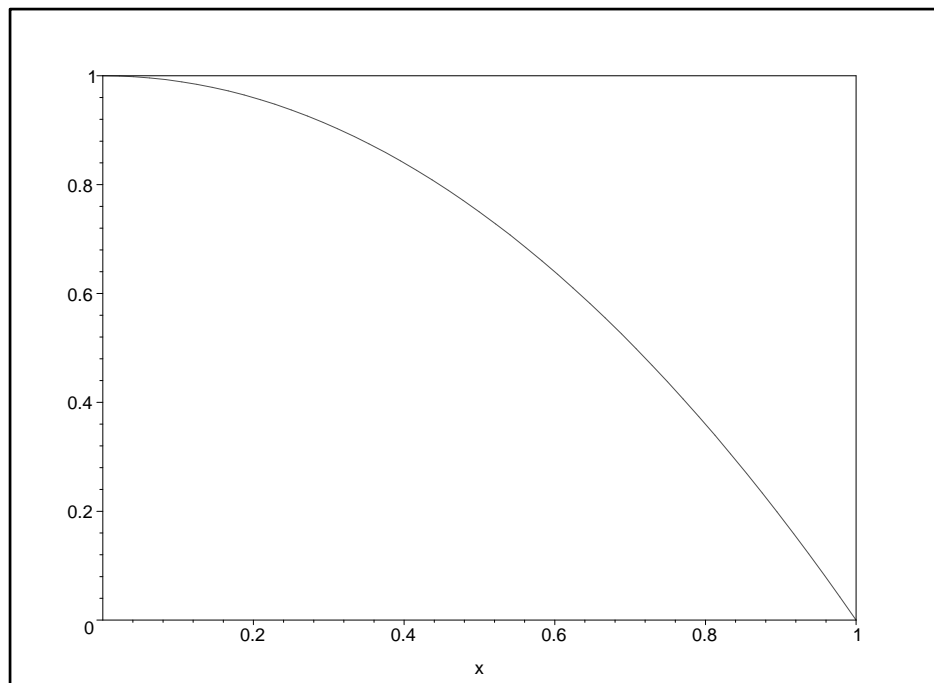
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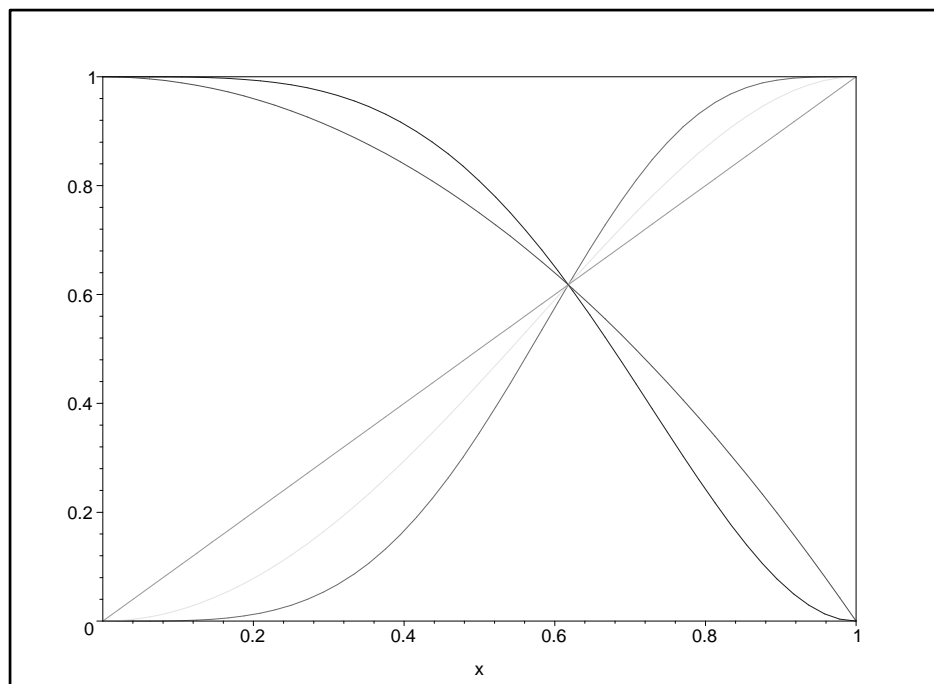
$$\text{BF}(g) = \{\mathbf{123}, \mathbf{132}, \mathbf{312}, \mathbf{321}\}$$

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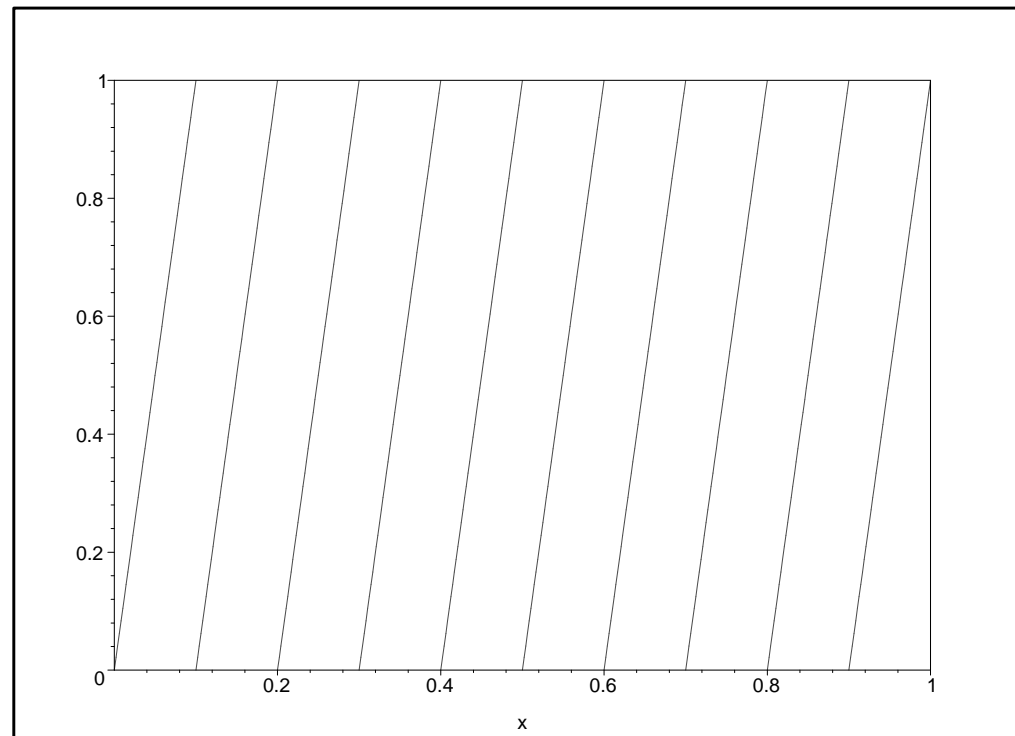
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This is a piecewise linear map, so it has forbidden order patterns.



One-sided shift on N symbols

For $N \geq 2$, let $\mathcal{W}_N = \{0, 1, \dots, N - 1\}^{\mathbb{N}}$, and let

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \Sigma_N : & \mathcal{W}_N & \longrightarrow \mathcal{W}_N \\ & w_1 w_2 w_3 \dots & \longmapsto w_2 w_3 w_4 \dots \end{array}$$

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Order patterns are defined using the lexicographic order in \mathcal{W}_N .

Example. The word $w = 2102212210 \dots \in \mathcal{W}_3$ defines the pattern **4217536**:

2102212210...	4
102212210...	2
02212210...	1
2212210...	7
212210...	5
12210...	3
2210...	6

Theorem (Amigó, E., Kennel).

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Example. The smallest forbidden patterns of Σ_4 are

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

The number of permutations realized by a shift

Let $a_{n,N} = |\text{Allow}_n(\Sigma_N) \setminus \text{Allow}_n(\Sigma_{N-1})|$,
the # of permutations in \mathcal{S}_n that require N symbols to be realized.

$n \backslash N$	2	3	4	5	6	7
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3	6					
4	18	6				
5	48	66	6			
6	126	402	186	6		
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Theorem (E.). For $n \geq N + 2$,

$$a_{n,N} = \sum_{i=0}^{N-2} (-1)^i \binom{n}{i} \left((N-i-2)(N-i)^{n-2} + \sum_{t=1}^{n-1} \psi_{N-i}(t)(N-i)^{n-t-1} \right),$$

where $\psi_M(k)$ is the number of primitive words of length k over an M -letter alphabet.

Maps without forbidden patterns

The condition of piecewise monotonicity is essential:

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

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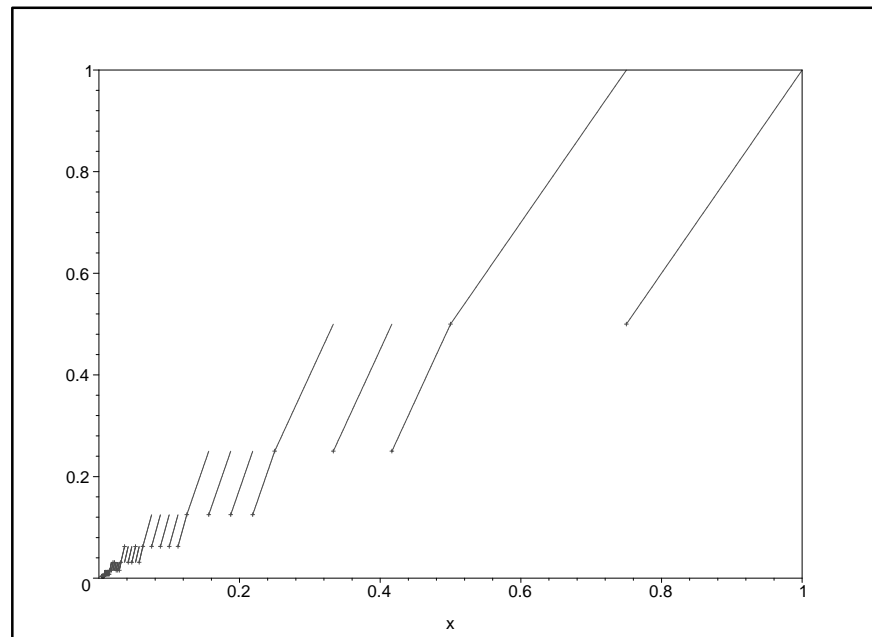
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- Define on each I_m a properly scaled version of h_m from I_m to I_m .



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- What else can we say about the structure or the asymptotic growth of $\text{Allow}(f)$ or $\text{Forb}(f)$?