

UNIFORM EMULATIONS OF TWO DIFFERENT TYPES  
OF SHUFFLE EXCHANGE NETWORKS  
(revised version)

H.L.Bodlaender

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Abstract. Uniform network emulations are a method to obtain efficient and structure preserving simulations of large networks on smaller networks. There are two slightly different types of graphs, both realizing Stone's concept of a shuffle-exchange network: the (classical) shuffle-exchange graph and the 4-pin shuffle. We analyze the uniform emulations both types of graphs allow, give a complete characterisation of the possible uniform emulations of the (classical) shuffle-exchange graph with  $2^n$  nodes on itself and on the 4-pin shuffle with  $2^{n-1}$  nodes, and show that the 4-pin shuffle allows uniform emulations in instances where the (classical) shuffle-exchange graph does not.

1. Introduction. Parallel algorithms are normally designed for execution on a suitable network with  $N$  processors, with  $N$  depending on the size of the problem to be solved. In practice the size of the processor network will be small and fixed whereas the size of the problem will be large and varying. In [3] Fishburn and Finkel introduced the concept of network emulation to obtain an efficient and structure preserving simulation of larger networks. An extensive analysis of this concept was made by Bodlaender and van Leeuwen [1,2]. In this paper we will study the notion for two slightly different types of networks, both realizing Stone's concept of a shuffle exchange network [4].

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Definition. Let  $G = (V_G, E_G)$  and  $H = (V_H, E_H)$  be networks of processors (graphs). We say that  $G$  can be emulated on  $H$  if there exists a function  $f : V_G \rightarrow V_H$  such that for every edge  $(g, g') \in E_G$  :  $f(g) = f(g')$  or  $(f(g), f(g')) \in E_H$ . The function  $f$  is called an emulation function or, in short, an emulation of  $G$  on  $H$ .

Clearly, emulation between networks is transitive. We shall only be interested in surjective emulations  $f$ .

Let  $f$  be an emulation of  $G$  on  $H$ . Any processor  $h \in V_H$  must actively emulate the processors  $\in f^{-1}(h)$  in  $G$ . When  $g \in f^{-1}(h)$  communicates information to a neighbouring processor  $g'$ , then  $h$  must communicate the corresponding information "internally", when it emulates  $g'$  itself, or to a neighbouring processor  $h' = f(g')$  in  $H$  otherwise. If all processors act synchronously in  $G$ , then the emulaton will be slowed by a factor proportional to  $\max_h |f^{-1}(h)|$ .

Definition. Let  $G, H$  and  $f$  be as above. The emulation  $f$  is said to be (computationally) uniform if for all  $h, h' \in V_H$  :  $|f^{-1}(h)| = |f^{-1}(h')|$ .

Every uniform emulation  $f$  has associated with it a fixed constant  $c$ , called the computation factor, such that for all  $h \in V_H$  :  $|f^{-1}(h)| = c$ . It means that every processor of  $H$  emulates the same number of processors of  $G$ . Again, uniform emulation between networks is transitive. When  $G$  can be uniformly emulated on  $H$ , and  $H$  can be uniformly emulated on  $G$ , then  $G$  and  $H$  are necessarily isomorphic.

For graphs  $A, B$ , let  $A[B]$  denote the composition of  $A$  and  $B$ .

Lemma 1.1. [1]  $G$  can be uniformly emulated on  $H$  if and only if there exists a graph  $G'$  such that  $G$  is a spanning subgraph of  $H[G']$ .

Stone [4] proposed a network, called the shuffle exchange network, which has been successfully used as the interconnection network underlying a variety of parallel processing algorithms. However, there are two slightly different types of graphs, both realizing Stone's concept of a shuffle exchange network. We will use the terminology of [3] and call

these graphs the shuffle-exchange graph\* and the 4-pin shuffle, respectively. The nodes of the shuffle-exchange graph and the 4-pin shuffle are given  $n$ -bit addresses in the range  $0..2^n-1$ . In the shuffle-exchange graph there is an edge from node  $b$  to node  $c$  if and only if  $b$  can be "shuffled" (move the leading bit to tail position) or "exchanged" (flip the tail bit) into  $c$ . In the 4-pin shuffle there is an edge from node  $b$  to node  $c$  if and only if  $c$  can be reached from  $b$  by a shuffle or by a shuffle followed by an exchange. Computations proceed by iterating the networks some  $n$  or more times in a synchronized manner. We use the notation  $SE_n$  and  $S_n$  to denote the shuffle-exchange graph and the 4-pin shuffle, respectively, with  $2^n$  nodes.

In [2] the problem to decide whether a connected graph  $G$  can be uniformly emulated on a connected graph  $H$  was shown to be NP-complete, even if various additional restrictions are imposed upon  $G$ ,  $H$  and/or the computation factor. For instance the problem is NP-complete, if  $H$  is required to be a shuffle-exchange graph or a 4-pin shuffle, and the computation factor  $c$  is a fixed constant with  $c \geq 15$  or  $c \geq 7$ , respectively.

An important question is whether (large) networks of some class  $C$  can be uniformly emulated by networks of a smaller size within the same class  $C$ . Fishburn and Finkel [3] showed that such emulations exist for the following classes of processor networks: the (4-pin) shuffle-exchange network, the grid-connected network, the  $n$ -dimensional cube, the plus-minus network, the binary lens, and the cube-connected cycles. (The definitions of these networks can be found in [3].) In [1] a detailed analysis was made of the possible uniform emulations of the (4-pin) shuffle exchange, the  $n$ -dimensional cube, the ring and the grid-connected network.

Fishburn and Finkel [3] showed that every shuffle-exchange graph and 4-pin shuffle can be uniformly emulated on a 4-pin shuffle with a

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\* Warning: in [1] the term shuffle-exchange graph is used to denote the 4-pin shuffle.

smaller number of nodes. However they did not examine the question whether the shuffle-exchange graph can be uniformly emulated on the shuffle-exchange graph of smaller size. We conjecture that  $SE_n$  can be uniformly emulated on  $SE_k$  if and only if  $k|n$  or  $k \leq 2$ .

The main results of this paper are the following: we give a complete characterisation of the uniform emulations of  $SE_n$  on  $S_{n-1}$  and of the graph isomorphisms of  $SE_n$ , and show there exist uniform emulations of  $SE_n$  on  $SE_k$  if  $k|n$  or  $k \leq 2$ , and no uniform emulations of  $SE_n$  on  $SE_{n-1}$  for  $n \geq 4$ .

The paper is organized as follows. In section 2 we give some preliminary definitions and results and recall some results from [1]. In section 3 we examine the uniform emulations of  $SE_n$  on  $S_{n-1}$ . In section 4 we examine the uniform emulations of  $SE_n$  on  $SE_k$ , for  $k \leq n$ . In section 5 we briefly discuss the results obtained.

2. Preliminaries. First we introduce some notations:

- $\frac{0}{1}$  : a bit that can be 0 or 1
- $\bar{\alpha}$  : the complement of bit  $\alpha$  ( $\bar{0} = 1, \bar{1} = 0$ )
- $b$  : the  $n$ -bit address  $b_1 \dots b_n$
- $\bar{b}$  : the address one obtains by complementing every bit of  $b$  ( $\overline{b_1 \dots b_n} = \bar{b}_1 \dots \bar{b}_n$ )
- $b|_i$  :  $b_1 \dots b_i$  (truncation after the  $i^{\text{th}}$  bit)
- $_i|b$  :  $b_i \dots b_n$  (truncation "before" the  $i^{\text{th}}$  bit)
- $(b)_i$  :  $b_i$  (the  $i^{\text{th}}$  bit)

For functions  $f$  defined on  $n$ -bit numbers  $b$  we use:

$$f_i(b) : (f(b))_i \text{ (projection on the } i^{\text{th}} \text{ bit).}$$

We use  $b, c, \dots$  to denote full addresses and  $x, y, \dots$  to denote segments of bits. Individual bits are denoted  $\alpha, \beta, \dots$ .

Definition. The shuffle-exchange network is the graph  $SE_n = (V_n, \bar{E}_n)$  with  $V_n = \{b_1 \dots b_n \mid \forall 1 \leq i \leq n \ b_i = \frac{0}{1}\}$  and  $\bar{E}_n = \{(b, c) \mid b, c \in V_n \text{ and } ((\forall 2 \leq i \leq n \ b_i = c_{i-1} \wedge b_1 = c_n) \text{ or } (\forall 1 \leq i \leq n-1 \ b_i = c_i \wedge b_n = \bar{c}_n))\}$ . The 4-pin shuffle

network is the graph  $S_n = (V_n, E_n)$  with  $E_n = \{ (b, c) \mid b, c \in V_n \text{ and } \forall 2 \leq i \leq n \ b_i = c_{i-1} \}$ .

It follows that in  $SE_n$  a node  $b_1 \dots b_n$  is connected to  $b_2 \dots b_n b_1$  and  $b_1 \dots b_{n-1} \bar{b}_n$ , and in  $S_n$  it is connected to  $b_2 \dots b_n 0$  and  $b_2 \dots b_n 1$ . The fact that  $S_n$  and  $SE_n$  can be (uniformly) emulated on  $S_{n-1}$  and, hence, on every  $S_k$  ( $k < n$ ) derives from the following observation, using lemma 1.1. (Compare [3], theorem 1 and 2). Let  $K_2$  denote the complete graph on two nodes.

Lemma 2.1. (a)  $[1]$   $S_n$  is a spanning subgraph of  $S_{n-1}[\bar{K}_2]$ , for  $n \geq 1$ .  
 (b)  $SE_n$  is a spanning subgraph of  $S_{n-1}[\bar{K}_2]$  for  $n \geq 1$ .

Proof.

Consider the mappings  $h : S_n \rightarrow S_{n-1}[\bar{K}_2]$  and  $h' : SE_n \rightarrow S_{n-1}[\bar{K}_2]$  defined by  $h(b_1 \dots b_n) = h'(b_1 \dots b_n) = \langle b_1 \dots b_{n-1}, b_n \rangle$ .  $h, h'$  are clearly 1-1 and onto the set of nodes. One easily shows that  $h, h'$  are embeddings of  $S_n, SE_n$  respectively.  $\square$

From [1] we recall the following facts and definitions about emulations of the 4-pin shuffle.

Lemma 2.2. [1] (a)  $f$  is an emulation of  $S_n$  on  $S_{n-k}$  if and only if for all  $x \in (\frac{0}{1})^{n-1}$ ,  $y \in (\frac{0}{1})^{n-k-1}$  and  $\alpha, \beta \in (\frac{0}{1})$ : if  $f(\alpha x) = \beta y$  then  $(f(x0) = \beta y$  or  $f(x0) = y\frac{0}{1})$  and  $(f(x1) = \beta y$  or  $f(x1) = y\frac{0}{1})$ .

(b)  $f$  is emulation of  $S_n$  on  $S_{n-k}$  if and only if for all  $x \in (\frac{0}{1})^{n-1}$ ,  $y \in (\frac{0}{1})^{n-k-1}$  and  $\alpha, \beta \in (\frac{0}{1})$ : if  $f(x\alpha) = y\beta$  then  $(f(0x) = y\beta$  or  $f(0x) = \frac{0}{1}y)$  and  $(f(1x) = y\beta$  or  $f(1x) = \frac{0}{1}y)$ .

Definition. [1] A mapping  $g : S_n \rightarrow S_{n-k}$  is called step-simulating (or a step-simulation of  $S_n$  on  $S_{n-k}$ ) if and only if for all  $x \in (\frac{0}{1})^{n-1}$ ,  $y \in (\frac{0}{1})^{n-k-1}$  and  $\alpha, \beta \in (\frac{0}{1})$ , if  $f(\alpha x) = \beta y$  then  $f(x0) = y\frac{0}{1}$  and  $f(x1) = y\frac{0}{1}$ .

Lemma 2.3. [1] Every step-simulation of  $S_n$  on  $S_{n-k}$  is an emulation.



Lemma 2.4. [1] A mapping  $g : S_n \rightarrow S_{n-k}$  is step-simulating if and only if for all  $x \in \left(\frac{0}{1}\right)^{n-1}$ ,  $y \in \left(\frac{0}{1}\right)^{n-k-1}$  and  $\beta \in \left(\frac{0}{1}\right)$  : if  $f(x\alpha) = y\beta$  then  $f(0x) = \frac{0}{1}y$  and  $f(1x) = \frac{0}{1}y$ .

Theorem 2.5. [1] Every uniform emulation of  $S_n$  on  $S_{n-1}$  is step-simulating.

Proposition 2.6. [1] For every  $n$ ,  $S_n$  admits only the following two graph isomorphisms :  $g : g(x) = x$ ,  
and  $\bar{g} : \bar{g}(x) = \bar{x}$ .

The following fact follows directly from the definitions.

Lemma 2.7. (a)  $f$  is an emulation of  $SE_n$  on  $SE_{n-1}$  if and only if for all  $b \in \left(\frac{0}{1}\right)^n$ ,  $y \in \left(\frac{0}{1}\right)^{n-k}$  : if  $f(b) = y$  then  $\{f(b_2 \dots b_n b_1), f(b_1 \dots b_{n-1} \bar{b}_n)\} \subseteq \{y, y_1 \dots y_{n-1} \bar{y}_n, y_2 \dots y_n y_1\}$ .  
(b)  $f$  is an emulation of  $SE_n$  on  $SE_{n-1}$  if and only if for all  $b \in \left(\frac{0}{1}\right)^n$ ,  $y \in \left(\frac{0}{1}\right)^{n-k}$  : if  $f(b) = y$  then  $\{f(b_n b_1 \dots b_{n-1}), f(b_1 \dots b_{n-1} \bar{b}_n)\} \subseteq \{y, y_1 \dots y_{n-1} \bar{y}_n, y_n y_1 \dots y_{n-1}\}$ .  $\square$

For a mapping  $f$ , define its companion  $\bar{f}$  by  $\bar{f}_i(b) = \overline{f_i(b)}$ .

Lemma 2.8. If  $f$  is an emulation of  $S_n$  on  $S_k$  (or of  $S_n$  on  $SE_k$ ,  $SE_n$  on  $S_k$ ,  $SE_n$  on  $SE_k$ ), then so is  $\bar{f}$ .

In this paper we will use the notation  $(01)^*$  and  $(10)^*$  to denote a string consisting of a number of repetitions of 01 and 10, respectively. With  $(01)^*[0]$  (resp.  $(10)[1]$ ) we denote a string consisting of alternating 0's and 1's, starting with a 0 (resp. 1). The exact length of these strings will not be explicitly specified, but will always be clear from the context. For  $b, c \in \left(\frac{0}{1}\right)^n$  we denote by  $d(b, c)$  the shortest distance of  $b$  to  $c$  in the graph  $SE_n$ .

3. Uniform emulations of  $SE_n$  on  $S_{n-1}$ . In this section we examine the uniform emulations of  $SE_n$  on  $S_{n-1}$ . (Compare lemma 2.1b).

Lemma 3.1. Let  $f$  be a uniform emulation of  $SE_n$  on  $S_{n-1}$  with for all  $x \in \left(\frac{0}{1}\right)^{n-1}$  :  $f(x_0) = f(x_1)$ . Then

- (a) for all  $b \in \left(\frac{0}{1}\right)^n$   $f(b_1 \dots b_n) = b_1 \dots b_{n-1}$ , or  
 (b) for all  $b \in \left(\frac{0}{1}\right)^n$   $f(b_1 \dots b_n) = \bar{b}_1 \dots \bar{b}_{n-1}$ .

Proof.

Define  $g : S_{n-1} \rightarrow S_{n-1}$  by  $g(x) = f(x_0)$ .  $g$  is uniform, (i.e. 1-1), because if there exist  $x_1 \neq x_2$  with  $g(x_1) = g(x_2)$ , then  $f(x_1_0) = f(x_1_1) = f(x_2_0) = f(x_2_1)$  and  $f$  is not uniform. Also  $g$  is an emulation of  $S_{n-1}$  on  $S_{n-1}$ . Suppose  $g(x) = y$ . Then  $f(x_0) = y$  and  $f(x_1) = y$ , hence  $f(0x) = y$  or  $f(0x) = \frac{0}{1}y_1 \dots y_{n-2}$ , and  $f(1x) = y$  or  $f(1x) = \frac{0}{1}y_1 \dots y_{n-2}$ , so  $g(0x_1 \dots x_{n-2}) = f(0x_1 \dots x_{n-2}_0) \in \{y, \frac{0}{1}y_1 \dots y_{n-2}\}$  and  $g(1x_1 \dots x_{n-2}) = f(1x_1 \dots x_{n-2}_0) \in \{y, \frac{0}{1}y_1 \dots y_{n-2}\}$ . A uniform emulation of  $S_{n-1}$  on  $S_{n-1}$  necessarily is a graph isomorphism. We now use proposition 2.6 : either for all  $x \in \left(\frac{0}{1}\right)^{n-1}$   $g(x) = x$  or for all  $x \in \left(\frac{0}{1}\right)^{n-1}$   $g(x) = \bar{x}$ . If the former is the case, then for all  $b \in \left(\frac{0}{1}\right)^n$   $f(b) = b_1 \dots b_{n-1}$ , and if the latter is the case, then for all  $b \in \left(\frac{0}{1}\right)^n$   $f(b) = \bar{b}_1 \dots \bar{b}_{n-1}$ .  $\square$

Lemma 3.2. Let  $f$  be an emulation of  $SE_n$  on  $S_{n-1}$ . Then for all  $x \in \left(\frac{0}{1}\right)^{n-1}$  :  $f(x_0) = f(x_1)$  or  $\{f(x_0), f(x_1)\} = \{(01)*[0], (10)*[1]\}$ .

Proof.

If  $f(x_0) \neq f(x_1)$  then  $f(x_0)$  and  $f(x_1)$  must be adjacent nodes, connected by edges in both directions. The only way to realize this in  $S_{n-1}$  is to map the nodes  $f(x_0), f(x_1)$  onto the nodes of the set  $\{(01)*[0], (10)*[1]\}$ .  $\square$

Lemma 3.3. Let  $f$  be a uniform emulation of  $SE_n$  on  $S_{n-1}$ , and let  $n$  be odd. Then for all  $x \in \left(\frac{0}{1}\right)^{n-1}$  :  $f(x_0) = f(x_1)$ .

Proof.

Suppose the lemma does not hold. Then, by lemma 3.2, there is a  $x \in \left(\frac{0}{1}\right)^{n-1}$  such that  $\{f(x_0), f(x_1)\} = \{(01)*, (10)*\}$ .

Now suppose  $f((01)*_0) \notin \{(01)*, (10)*\}$ . Then by lemma 3.2  $f((01)*_1) = f((01)*_0)$ . If  $f((10)*_0) = f((10)*_1)$  then  $f((01)*_0)$  can reach itself by performing two shuffle-exchange steps note that  $(f((01)*_0), f((10)*_0)) \in$

$S_{n-1}$  and  $(f((1o)*1), f((o1)*1)) \in S_{n-1}$ , due to the uniformity of  $f$ , and  $f((1o)*o) = f((1o)*1)$  and  $f((o1)*1) = f((o1)*o)$ , which forces  $f((o1)*o) \in \{o^{n-1}, 1^{n-1}, (o1)*, (1o)*\}$ . If  $f((o1)*o) = \alpha^{n-1} = f((o1)*1)$ , then  $f(o(o1)*o) = f(1(o1)*o) = \bar{\alpha}\alpha^{n-2}$  (use uniformity of  $f$ ). If  $n \neq 3$ , then, by lemma 3.2  $f(o(o1)*o) = f(1(o1)*o) = f(o(o1)*oo) = f(1(o1)*oo)$ , which contradicts the uniformity of  $f$ . If  $n = 3$  then one obtains a contradiction by successively deriving that  $f(oo1) = f(1o1) = \bar{\alpha}\alpha$ , so  $f(ooo) = f(1oo) = \alpha\bar{\alpha}$ , and  $f(11o) = \alpha\bar{\alpha}$  (use uniformity of  $f$ ). So  $f((o1)*o) \in \{(o1)*, (1o)*\}$ . Contradiction. If  $f((1o)*o) \neq f((1o)*1)$ , then, because of lemma 3.2,  $f((1o)*1) \in \{(1o)*, (o1)*\}$ . Without loss of generality one may suppose  $f((1o)*1) = (1o)*$ ,  $f((1o)*o) = (o1)*$ . Then  $f((o1)*o) = o(o1)*$ ,  $f((o1)*1) = o(o1)*$  and  $f(1(o1)*o) = \frac{o}{1}o(o1)*o$ . Contradiction. So  $f((o1)*o) \in \{(o1)*, (1o)*\}$ .

In the same way one can prove  $f((1o)*1) \in \{(o1)*, (1o)*\}$ . We have now :  $f^{-1}(\{(o1)*, (1o)*\}) = \{(o1)*o, (o1)*1, (1o)*o, (1o)*1\}$ . From the assumption there is a  $x \in (\frac{o}{1})^{n-1}$  with  $\{f(xo), f(x1)\} = \{(o1)*, (1o)*\}$  now follows that one of the following cases must hold : I.  $f((o1)*o) = (o1)* \wedge f((o1)*1) = (1o)*$ ; II.  $f((o1)*o) = (1o)* \wedge f((o1)*1) = (o1)*$ ; III.  $f((1o)*1) = (o1)* \wedge f((1o)*o) = (1o)*$ ; IV.  $f((1o)*1) = (1o)* \wedge f((1o)*o) = (o1)*$ . We will only handle case I; the other cases are similar.

So suppose  $f((o1)*o) = (o1)*$  and  $f((o1)*1) = (1o)*$ . With downward induction on  $k$  we prove : for all  $x \in (\frac{o}{1})^{n-2k-2}$  there is a  $y \in (\frac{o}{1})^{n-2k-3}$  such that  $f((o1)^k oox) = (o1)^k ooy$ . First we prove this fact for  $n-2k-2=1$  i.e.  $k = \frac{1}{2}(n-3)$ .  $f((o1)*o) = (o1)* \Rightarrow f(o(o1)*o) = o(o1)*o \Rightarrow f(o(o1)*oo) = o(o1)*o \Rightarrow f((o1)*oo\frac{o}{1}) = (o1)*oo$  (use lemma 3.2 and the uniformity of  $f$ ). Now let the proposition be true for a certain  $k$ .  $f((o1)^k oox) = (o1)^k ooy$ , so  $f(1(o1)^{k-1} oox\frac{o}{1}) = (1o)^{k-1} 1ooy\frac{o}{1}$ . (Notice that  $f((o1)^k oox) = f((o1)^k oox_1 \dots x_{n-2k-3} \bar{x}_{n-2k-2})$ , and due to the uniformity of  $f$  one gets  $f(1(o1)^{k-1} oox\frac{o}{1}) \neq f((o1)^k oox)$ . Using basically the same argument one proves  $f((o1)^{k-1} oox\frac{oo}{11}) = (o1)^{k-1} ooy\frac{oo}{11}$ , thus completing the inductual proof of the proposition.

In particular we now have  $f(\{oox \mid x \in (\frac{o}{1})^{n-2}\}) = \{ooy \mid y \in (\frac{o}{1})^{n-3}\}$ . Now  $f((o1)*1) = (1o)* \Rightarrow f((1o)*11o) = (o1)*oo$ . With downward induction on  $k$  we prove  $f((1o)^k 11o(1o)^{(n-2k-3)/2}) = (o1)^k ooy$ , for some  $y$

$\in (\frac{0}{1})^{n-2k-3}$ . We already proved this to be true for  $k=(n-2k-3)/2$ . Now let it be true for certain  $k$ . Notice  $f((10)^k 110(10)^*) = f((10)^k 110(10)^* 11)$ , so  $f(o(10)^{k-1} 110(10)^* 1) \neq f((10)^k 110(10)^*)$ , so  $f(o(10)^* 110(10)^* 1) = 1(o1)^{k-1} ooy'$  for some  $y' \in (\frac{0}{1})^{n-2k-2}$ . Using the same type of argument one proves  $f((10)^{k-1} 110(10)^*) = (o1)^{k-1} ooy''$  for some  $y'' \in (\frac{0}{1})^{n-2k-1}$ .

This shows that  $f^{-1}(\{ooy \mid y \in (\frac{0}{1})^{n-3}\}) \supseteq \{oox \mid x \in (\frac{0}{1})^{n-2}\} \cup \{110(10)^*\}$ , which contradicts the uniformity of  $f$ .  $\square$

Lemma 3.4. Let  $f$  be a uniform emulation of  $SE_n$  on  $S_{n-1}$ . Let  $n$  be even. Let  $\tilde{f} : SE_n \rightarrow S_{n-1}$  be defined by  $\tilde{f}((o1)^*) = f((10)^*)$ ,  $\tilde{f}((10)^*) = f((o1)^*)$  and  $\tilde{f}(b) = f(b)$ , if  $b \notin \{(o1)^*, (10)^*\}$ . Then either for all  $x \in (\frac{0}{1})^{n-1} : f(xo) = f(x1)$  or for all  $x \in (\frac{0}{1})^{n-1} : \tilde{f}(xo) = \tilde{f}(x1)$ . In the latter case  $\tilde{f}$  is a uniform emulation function of  $SE_n$  on  $S_{n-1}$ .

Proof.

Note that  $f((o1)^*)$  and  $f((10)^*)$  must be adjacent with edges in both directions, or equal. If  $f((o1)^*) = f((10)^*)$ , then  $f((o1)^*oo) \neq f((o1)^*)$  by uniformity, hence  $\{f((o1)^*oo), f((o1)^*)\} = \{(o1)^*o, (10)^*1\}$ , and  $f((10)^*11) \neq f((10)^*)$ , hence  $\{f((10)^*11), f((10)^*)\} = \{(o1)^*o, (10)^*1\}$ . If  $f((o1)^*) \neq f((10)^*)$ , then  $f((o1)^*)$  and  $f((10)^*)$  must be mutually adjacent to each other, so  $\{f((o1)^*), f((10)^*)\} = \{(o1)^*o, (10)^*1\}$ . In both cases one has  $f^{-1}\{(o1)^*o, (10)^*1\} = \{(o1)^*, (10)^*, (o1)^*oo, (10)^*11\}$ .

Now suppose there is a  $x \in (\frac{0}{1})^{n-1}$  such that  $f(xo) \neq f(x1)$ . Then one of the following four cases must hold: I.  $f((o1)^*) = (o1)^*o$ ,  $f((o1)^*oo) = (10)^*1$ , II.  $f((o1)^*) = (10)^*1$ ,  $f((o1)^*oo) = (o1)^*o$ , III.  $f((10)^*) = (o1)^*o$ ,  $f((10)^*11) = (10)^*1$ , IV.  $f((10)^*) = (10)^*1$ ,  $f((10)^*11) = (o1)^*o$ . We will only examine case I; the other cases are similar.

So suppose  $f((o1)^*) = (o1)^*o$ , and  $f((o1)^*oo) = (10)^*1$ . Note that, due to the uniformity of  $f$ ,  $f(o(o1)^*o) \neq (o1)^*o$  and  $f(o(o1)^*o) \neq (10)^*o$ , so  $f(o(o1)^*o) = 1(10)^*$ . Now  $f(o(o1)^*1) = 1(10)^*$ ,  $f((o1)^*1o) = (10)^*o$  and  $f((o1)^*11) = (10)^*o$ . So  $f((10)^*11) = (o1)^*o$ , and  $f((10)^*) = (10)^*1$ . Notice that  $(10)^*$  is only adjacent to  $(o1)^*$  and  $(10)^*11$ , and  $(o1)^*$  is only adjacent to  $(10)^*$  and  $(o1)^*oo$  in  $SE_n$ ; each of these nodes is mapped to the set  $\{(o1)^*o, (10)^*1\}$ , so  $\tilde{f}$  is also an emulation function. It is

easy to verify (using lemma 3.2), that for all  $x \in \left(\frac{0}{1}\right)^{n-1}$   $\bar{f}(x_0) = \bar{f}(x_1)$ , and that  $\bar{f}$  is uniform.  $\square$

Theorem 3.5. (Characterisation Theorem).

(a) If  $n$  is odd, then every uniform emulation of  $SE_n$  on  $S_{n-1}$  is one of the following list:

$$\begin{aligned} f & : f(b_1 \dots b_n) = b_1 \dots b_{n-1} \\ \bar{f} & : \bar{f}(b_1 \dots b_n) = \bar{b}_1 \dots \bar{b}_{n-1} \end{aligned}$$

(b) If  $n$  is even, then every uniform emulation of  $SE_n$  on  $S_{n-1}$  is one of the following list :

$$\begin{aligned} f_1 & : f_1(b_1 \dots b_n) = b_1 \dots b_{n-1} \\ \bar{f}_1 & : \bar{f}_1(b_1 \dots b_n) = \bar{b}_1 \dots \bar{b}_{n-1} \\ f_2 & : f_2(b_1 \dots b_n) = b_1 \dots b_{n-1} \text{ if } b \in \{ (01)^*, (10)^* \} \\ & f_2((01)^*) = (10)^*1 \\ & f_2((01)^*) = (01)^*0 \\ \bar{f}_2 & : \bar{f}_2(b_1 \dots b_n) = \bar{b}_1 \dots \bar{b}_{n-1} \text{ if } b \notin \{ (01)^*, (01)^* \} \\ & \bar{f}_2((01)^*) = (01)^*0 \\ & \bar{f}_2((10)^*) = (10)^*1. \end{aligned}$$

Proof.

(a) Use lemma 3.1 and 3.3.

(b) Use lemma 3.4. If for all  $x \in \left(\frac{0}{1}\right)^{n-1}$   $f(x_0) = f(x_1)$ , then  $f$  is of the form  $f_1$  or  $\bar{f}_1$  (use lemma 3.1). If for all  $x \in \left(\frac{0}{1}\right)^{n-1}$   $\bar{f}(x_0) = \bar{f}(x_1)$ , then  $\bar{f}$  is of the form  $f_1$  or  $\bar{f}_1$ , so  $f$  is of the form  $f_2$  or  $\bar{f}_2$ .  $\square$

#### 4. Uniform emulations of $SE_n$ on $SE_k$ ( $k \leq n$ ).

Proposition 4.1. For  $n \geq 1$ ,  $SE_n$  admits precisely 2 graph isomorphisms.

Proof.

If  $n=1,2$ , verify directly.

Let  $n \geq 3$ . Clearly  $g$ , defined by  $g(b) = b$  and  $\bar{g}$ , defined by  $\bar{g}(b) = \bar{b}$  are isomorphisms. Suppose there is yet another isomorphism of  $SE_n$ ,  $\bar{g}$ . Define  $h(b) = \bar{g}(b)|_{n-1}$ .  $h$  is a uniform emulation of  $SE_n$  on  $S_{n-1}$ . We use theorem 3.5 and consider 4 cases :

Case I : for all  $b \in (\frac{0}{1})^n$  :  $h(b) = b_1 \dots b_n$ .

Because  $\bar{g} \neq g$ , there must be a  $b$  with  $\bar{g}(b) = b_1 \dots b_{n-1} \bar{b}_n$ . Now  $\bar{g}(b_n b_1 \dots b_n) = b_n b_1 \dots b_{n-2} \frac{0}{1}$  must be adjacent to  $b_1 \dots b_{n-1} \bar{b}_n$  in  $SE_n$ . So  $b_1 \dots b_n = \alpha^n$ , for some  $\alpha \in (\frac{0}{1})$ , and  $g(\alpha^n) = \alpha^{n-1} \bar{\alpha}$ . Now note that the outdegree of  $\alpha^n$  is 1 and the outdegree of  $\alpha^{n-1} \bar{\alpha}$  is 2 in  $SE_n$ , so  $\bar{g}$  is not a graph isomorphism. Contradiction.

Case II : for all  $b \in (\frac{0}{1})^n$  :  $h(b) = \bar{b}_1 \dots \bar{b}_{n-1}$ .

This case can be handled in the same way as case 1.

Case III :  $n$  is even,  $h(b) = b_1 \dots b_{n-1}$  if  $b \notin \{(01)^*, (10)^*\}$ ,  $h((01)^*) = (10)^*1$ ,  $h((10)^*) = (01)^*0$ .

If there is a  $b$  with  $\bar{g}(b) = b_1 \dots b_{n-1} \bar{b}_n$ , then we reach a contradiction in the same way as in case 1. So we may suppose  $\bar{g}(b) = b$  for all  $b \notin \{(01)^*, (10)^*\}$ . So  $\bar{g}((01)^*) = (10)^*$ ,  $\bar{g}((10)^*) = (01)^*$ , and now  $\bar{g}((01)^*)$  is not adjacent to  $\bar{g}((01)^*00)$ . Contradiction.

Case IV :  $n$  is even,  $h(b) = \bar{b}_1 \dots \bar{b}_{n-1}$ , if  $b \notin \{(01)^*, (10)^*\}$ ,  $h((01)^*) = (01)^*0$ ,  $h((10)^*) = (10)^*1$ .

This case can be handled in the same way as case 3. It follows that there are no other graph isomorphism of  $SE_n$  but  $g$  and  $\bar{g}$ .  $\square$

Theorem 4.2. Let  $k, n \geq 1$ ,  $k|n$ . Then the function  $f$ , defined by  $f_i(b_1 \dots b_n) = (\sum_{j=0}^{n/k-1} b_{j.k+i}) \bmod 2$  ( $i=1, \dots, k$ ) is a uniform emulation of  $SE_n$  on  $SE_k$ .

Proof.

By verifying that  $f_i(b_1 \dots b_n) = f_i(b_1 \dots b_{n-1} \bar{b}_n)$  for  $i \neq k$  and that  $f_i(b_1 \dots b_n) = f_{i+1}(b_2 \dots b_n b_1)$  for  $i \neq k$  and  $f_k(b_1 \dots b_n) = f_1(b_2 \dots b_n b_1)$  one proves that  $f$  is an emulation of  $SE_n$  on  $SE_k$ . If  $x$  and  $y \in SE_k$  differ only in the  $i$ 'th bit position, then  $f^{-1}(y) = (b_1 \dots b_{i-1} \bar{b}_i b_{i+1} \dots b_n \mid b \in f^{-1}(x))$ , so  $|f^{-1}(x)| = |f^{-1}(y)|$ . With induction one now can prove that for all  $x, y \in (\frac{0}{1})^k$   $|f^{-1}(x)| = |f^{-1}(y)|$ , so  $f$  is uniform.  $\square$

Proposition 4.3. Let  $n \geq 2$ . Then  $SE_n$  can be uniformly emulated on  $SE_2$ .

Proof.

If  $n$  is even, then use theorem 4.2.

Let  $n$  be odd. The graph  $SE_2$  is shown in fig. 4.1.

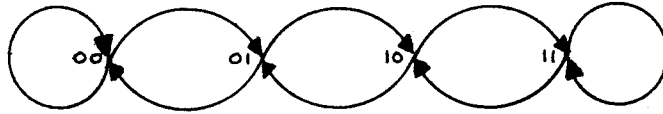


fig. 4.1.  $SE_2$

Let  $f$  be a mapping of  $SE_n$  on  $SE_2$ . We will show that  $f$  can be chosen such that  $f$  is a uniform emulation. We first want  $f$  to fulfill the following conditions :

$$f_1(b_1 \dots b_n) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } \sum_{i=1}^n b_i < \frac{1}{2}n \\ 1 & \text{if } \sum_{i=1}^n b_i > \frac{1}{2}n \end{cases}$$

$f$  maps one half of the nodes of  $SE_n$  on  $\{00,01\}$  and the other half on  $\{10,11\}$ . We can choose  $f$  in such a way that every string with  $\sum_{i=1}^n b_i = \lfloor \frac{1}{2}n \rfloor$  and  $b_n = 0$  is mapped to 01 and every string with  $\sum_{i=1}^n b_i = \lceil \frac{1}{2}n \rceil$  and  $b_n = 1$  is mapped to 10 and  $f$  is uniform. We show that  $f$  is an emulation of  $SE_n$  on  $SE_2$ : If  $b, b'$  are adjacent in  $SE_n$ , then there are four cases :

I.  $\sum_{i=1}^n b_i \leq \lfloor \frac{1}{2}n \rfloor$  and  $\sum_{i=1}^n b'_i \leq \lfloor \frac{1}{2}n \rfloor$ , then  $b, b'$  are mapped to nodes in the set  $\{00,01\}$ ; II.  $\sum_{i=1}^n b_i \leq \lfloor \frac{1}{2}n \rfloor$  and  $\sum_{i=1}^n b'_i \geq \lceil \frac{1}{2}n \rceil$ , then necessarily  $b = x0$  and  $b' = x1$  for some  $x \in (\frac{0}{1})^{n-1}$  and  $\sum_{i=1}^n x_i = \lfloor \frac{1}{2}n \rfloor$ , so  $b$  is mapped upon 01 and  $b'$  is mapped upon 10; III.  $\sum_{i=1}^n b_i \geq \lceil \frac{1}{2}n \rceil$ , and  $\sum_{i=1}^n b'_i \leq \lfloor \frac{1}{2}n \rfloor$ ; this case is similar to case II; IV.  $\sum_{i=1}^n b_i \geq \lceil \frac{1}{2}n \rceil$  and  $\sum_{i=1}^n b'_i \geq \lceil \frac{1}{2}n \rceil$ , then  $\{f(b_i), f(b'_i)\} \subseteq \{10,11\}$ . So  $f$  is a uniform emulation of  $SE_n$  on  $SE_2$ .  $\square$

For choices of  $n$  and  $k$  other than  $k|n$  and  $k \leq 2$  there are presently no uniform emulation functions of  $SE_n$  on  $SE_k$  known. We conjecture that for  $n, k > 2$  with  $n > k$ ,  $k \nmid n$ , no such function exists. The following results show that the conjecture is at least plausible. We show that from a uniform emulation of  $SE_n$  on  $SE_k$  with  $n > k > 2$  and  $k \nmid n$ , an emulation function of  $S_{n-1}$  on  $S_{k-1}$  can be derived, that is uniform, but not step-simulating. Presently no functions of this sort are known. We also show that for  $n \geq 4$ , there indeed are no uniform emulations of  $SE_n$  on  $SE_{n-1}$ .

Lemma 4.4. Let  $f$  be an emulation function  $SE_n \rightarrow SE_k$  ( $n, k \geq 1$ ).

- (a) If  $k$  is odd, then for all  $x \in (\frac{0}{1})^{n-1}$ :  $f(x_0)|_{k-1} = f(x_1)|_{k-1}$ .  
 (b) If  $k$  is even, then for all  $x \in (\frac{0}{1})^{n-1}$ :  $f(x_0)|_{k-1} = f(x_1)|_{k-1}$  or  $\{f(x_0), f(x_1)\} = \{(01)^*, (10)^*\}$ .

Proof.

$f(x_0)$  and  $f(x_1)$  must be adjacent or equal.  $\square$

Lemma 4.5. Let  $f$  be an emulation of  $SE_n$  on  $SE_k$  ( $n, k \geq 2$ ). Let  $\psi$  be a function  $(\frac{0}{1})^{n-1} \rightarrow (\frac{0}{1})$ . Let  $g : S_{n-1} \rightarrow S_{k-1}$  be defined by  $g(x) = f(x \psi(x))|_{k-1}$  (for all  $x \in (\frac{0}{1})^{n-1}$ ). Then  $g$  emulates  $S_{n-1}$  on  $S_{k-1}$ .

Proof.

We first show that  $g(\psi(x)(x|_{n-2}))$  is adjacent to  $g(x)$ . Let  $g(x) = y$ . Then  $f(x\psi(x)) = y \frac{0}{1}$ , so  $f(\psi(x)x) = y \frac{0}{1}$  or  $f(\psi(x)x) = \frac{0}{1}y$ . If  $x_{n-1} = \psi(\psi(x)(x|_{n-2}))$ , then  $g(\psi(x)(x|_{n-2})) = y$  or  $g(\psi(x)(x|_{n-2})) = \frac{0}{1}(y|_{k-1})$ , and adjacency is proved. If  $x_{n-1} = \overline{\psi(\psi(x)(x|_{n-2}))}$  then either  $f(\psi(x)(x|_{n-2})0)|_{n-1} = f(\psi(x)(x|_{n-2})1)|_{n-1}$  or  $\{f(\psi(x)(x|_{n-2})0), f(\psi(x)(x|_{n-2})1)\} = \{(01)^*, (10)^*\}$ . (In the latter case  $k$  must be even.) In the former case  $g(\psi(x)(x|_{n-2})) \in \{y, \frac{0}{1}(y|_{k-1})\}$ , and adjacency follows. In the latter case  $g(\psi(x)(x|_{n-2})) \in \{(01)^*0, (10)^*1\}$ , and  $f(\psi(x)x) \in \{(01)^*, (10)^*\}$ , hence  $f(x\psi(x)) \in \{(01)^*, (10)^*, (01)^*00, (10)^*11\}$  and  $g(x) \in \{(01)^*0, (10)^*1\}$ , and adjacency follows again.

Next we verify that  $g(\overline{\psi(x)}(x|_{n-2}))$  is adjacent (or equal) to  $g(x)$ . Let  $g(x) = y$ . Then  $f(x\psi(x)) = y \frac{0}{1}$ . If  $f(x\psi(x))|_{k-1} = f(x\overline{\psi(x)})|_{k-1}$ , then  $f(\overline{\psi(x)}x) = y \frac{0}{1}$  or  $f(\overline{\psi(x)}x) = \frac{0}{1}y$  and the argument can proceed as in the



first part of the proof. So suppose  $\{f(x\psi(x)), f(\overline{x\psi(x)})\} = \{(o1)*, (1o)*\}$ . Now  $g(x) \in \{(o1)*o, (1o)*1\}$  and  $f(\overline{\psi(x)x}) \in \{(o1)*, (1o)*, (o1)*oo, (1o)*11\}$ . Hence  $f(\overline{\psi(x)(x|_{n-2})} \psi(\overline{\psi(x)(x|_{n-2})})) \in \{(o1)*, (1o)*, (o1)*oo, (1o)*11\}$  and  $g(\overline{\psi(x)(x|_{n-2})}) \in \{(o1)*o, (1o)*1\}$ . Adjacency now follows again.  $\square$

Lemma 4.6. Let  $f$  be a uniform emulation of  $SE_n$  on  $SE_k$  ( $n > k$ ). There exists a  $\psi : \left(\frac{O}{1}\right)^{n-1} \rightarrow \left(\frac{O}{1}\right)$ , such that the function  $g$ , defined by  $g(x) = f(x\psi(x))|_{k-1}$  is a uniform emulation of  $S_{n-1}$  on  $S_{k-1}$ .

Proof.

Lemma 4.5 shows that  $g$  is an emulation for every choice of  $\psi$ . So we have to show that  $\psi$  can be chosen such that  $g$  is uniform. If  $k$  is odd, then any  $\psi : \left(\frac{O}{1}\right)^{n-1} \rightarrow \left(\frac{O}{1}\right)$  will do. Suppose  $g$  is not uniform. Then there is an  $x \in \left(\frac{O}{1}\right)^{k-1}$  with  $|g^{-1}(x)| \neq 2^{n-k}$ . One has  $g(b) = x \Leftrightarrow f(b\psi(b)) \in \{x_0, x_1\} \Leftrightarrow f(\overline{b\psi(b)}) \in \{x_0, x_1\}$  (use lemma 4.4.), so  $|f^{-1}(\{x_0, x_1\})| = 2 \cdot |g^{-1}(x)| \neq 2^{n-k+1}$ . So  $f$  is not uniform. Contradiction.

Now suppose  $k$  is even. For every  $x \in \left(\frac{O}{1}\right)^{n-1}$  with  $f(x_0)|_{k-1} = f(x_1)|_{k-1}$  we can choose  $\psi(x)$  arbitrarily. Let  $X = \{x \in \left(\frac{O}{1}\right)^{n-1} \mid f(x_0)|_{k-1} \neq f(x_1)|_{k-1}\} = \{x \in \left(\frac{O}{1}\right)^{n-1} \mid \{f(x_0), f(x_1)\} = \{(o1)*, (1o)*\}\}$ . There must be an even number of  $x$  with  $\{f(x_0), f(x_1)\} = \{(o1)*, (o1)*oo\}$ , else there would be an odd number of nodes mapped upon  $(o1)*oo$ . Likewise there must be an even number of  $x$  with  $\{f(x_0), f(x_1)\} = \{(1o)*, (1o)*11\}$ . Hence there must be an even number of  $x$  with  $\{f(x_0), f(x_1)\} = \{(o1)*, (1o)*\}$ .  $|X|$  is even. Choose  $X_1, X_2 \subseteq X$ , such that  $|X_1| = |X_2|$ ,  $X_1 \cup X_2 = X$ ,  $X_1 \cap X_2 = \emptyset$ . For  $x \in X_1$  we choose  $\psi(x)$ , such that  $f(x\psi(x)) = (o1)*$ . (This is possible, because  $\{f(x_0), f(x_1)\} = \{(o1)*, (1o)*\}$ . For  $x \in X_2$  we choose  $\psi(x)$ , such that  $f(x\psi(x)) = (1o)*$ . Now  $g$  is uniform. For  $y \in \{(o1)*o, (1o)*1\}$ ,  $g(b) = y \Leftrightarrow \{f(b_0), f(b_1)\} \subseteq \{y_0, y_1\}$ , so  $2^{n-k+1} = |f^{-1}(\{y_0, y_1\})| = 2|g^{-1}(y)|$ , and  $|g^{-1}(y)| = 2^{n-k}$ . If  $g(b) = (o1)*o$ , then either  $b \in \{x \mid \{f(x_0), f(x_1)\} \subseteq \{(o1)*, (o1)*oo\}\} = Z_1$  or  $b \in X_1$ . If  $g(b) = (1o)*1$ , then either  $b \in \{x \mid \{f(x_0), f(x_1)\} \subseteq \{(1o)*, (1o)*11\}\} = Z_2$  or  $b \in X_2$ . Finally notice that  $|Z_1| = |Z_2|$  and  $|X_1| = |X_2|$ . Hence  $|g^{-1}(\{(o1)*o\})| = |g^{-1}(\{(1o)*1\})|$ , which shows that  $|g^{-1}(y)| = 2^{n-k}$ , for all  $y \in \left(\frac{O}{1}\right)^{k-1}$ .  $\square$

Lemma 4.7. Let  $f$  be an emulation of  $SE_n$  on  $SE_k$  and let  $f$  be surjective\*. Let  $n \geq k \geq 3$  and  $k \nmid n$ . Let  $\psi$  be a function  $\left(\frac{0}{1}\right)^{n-1} \rightarrow \left(\frac{0}{1}\right)$ , and let  $g$  be the emulation of  $S_{n-1}$  on  $S_{k-1}$  defined by  $g(x) = f(x\psi(x))|_{k-1}$ . Then  $g$  is not step-simulating.

Proof.

Suppose  $g$  is step-simulating. We use the notation  $R^1(b)$  to denote the string obtained by rotating  $b$  1 bits to the left, i.e.  $R^1(b_1 \dots b_n) = b_{1+1} \dots b_n b_1 \dots b_1$ . Let  $f(b) = o^{k-2}11$  for certain  $b \in \left(\frac{0}{1}\right)^n$ .

With induction we prove : for all  $1 \leq l \leq n$   $f(R^l(b)) = R^l(f(b))$ . For  $l = 0$  this is trivially true. Suppose  $f(R^l(b)) = R^l(f(b))$  for certain  $l$ . Then  $f(R^l(b))|_{n-1} \psi(R^l(b)) = R^l(f(b))|_{k-1} \frac{0}{1}$  (notice that  $R^l(f(b)) \in \{(01)^*, (10)^*\}$ ), hence  $g(R^l(b))|_{n-1} = R^l(f(b))|_{k-1} \frac{0}{1}$ .  $g$  is step-simulating, so  $g(\frac{0}{1} R^l(b)) = \frac{0}{1} (R^l(f(b))|_{k-1} \frac{0}{1})$  and  $f(\frac{0}{1} R^l(b) (\psi(\frac{0}{1} R^l(b)))) = \frac{0}{1} (R^l(f(b))|_{k-1} \frac{0}{1} \frac{0}{1})$ . Notice that for even  $k$   $f(R^{l+1}(b)) = f(\frac{0}{1} R^l(b) R_1^1(b)) \notin \{(01)^*, (10)^*\}$ , because  $f(R^{l+1}(b))$  must be adjacent to  $f(R^l(b)) = R^l(o^{k-2}11)$  in  $SE_k$ . So  $f(R^{l+1}(b)) = f(\frac{0}{1} R^l(b) R_1^1(b)) = \frac{0}{1} (R^l(f(b))|_{k-1} \frac{0}{1} \frac{0}{1})$  and, because  $f(R^{l+1}(b))$  is adjacent to  $f(R^l(b))$ ,  $f(R^{l+1}(b)) = \frac{0}{1} (R^l(f(b))|_{k-1} R_k^1(f(b)) R_1^1(f(b))) = R^{l+1}(f(b))$ . This completes the inductive proof.

In particular we now have  $f(R^n(b)) = R^n(f(b)) \Rightarrow f(b) = R^n(f(b)) \Rightarrow k \nmid n$ , contradiction.  $\square$

The lemma indicates that it is not very likely that for  $k \nmid n$  and  $n > k \geq 3$  there exist uniform emulations of  $SE_n$  on  $SE_k$ , and that if they do exist, they will probably not have a nice structure. Presently no uniform emulations of  $S_n$  on  $S_{n-k}$  are known that are not step-simulating. As a corollary we have:

Theorem 4.8. There exist no uniform emulations of  $SE_n$  on  $SE_{n-1}$ , for  $n \geq 4$ .

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\* Note that every uniform emulation function is surjective.

Proof.

Suppose there exists a uniform emulation of  $SE_n$  on  $SE_{n-1}$ , for some  $n \geq 4$ . Then, by lemmas 4.5, 4.6 and 4.7 there exists a uniform emulation of  $S_{n-1}$  on  $S_{n-2}$ , that is not step-simulating. This contradicts theorem 2.5.  $\square$

5. Discussion. The 4-pin shuffle with  $2^n$  nodes can be emulated on the 4-pin shuffle with  $2^k$  nodes for all  $k \in \{0, \dots, n\}$ , whereas the shuffle-exchange network with  $2^n$  nodes cannot always be emulated on smaller shuffle-exchange networks. This indicates that from the (important) viewpoint of emulation the 4-pin shuffle is preferable over the (classical) shuffle-exchange network.

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