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Camillia Smith* (cammie@math.harvard.edu), Harvard University Department of Mathematics, 1 Oxford St, Cambridge, MA 02138. Enumeration of the distinct shuffles of permutations. Preliminary report.
A shuffle of two words is a word obtained by concatenating the two original words in either order and then sliding any letters from the second word back past letters of the first word, in such a way that the letters of each original word remain spelled out in their original relative order. Examples of shuffles of the words abcd and efgh are, for instance, $a e b c f g h d$ and $e a b c f g d h$. In this paper, I enumerate the distinct shuffles of two permutations of any two lengths, where the permutations are written as words in the letters $1,2,3, \ldots, m$ and $1,2,3, \ldots, n$, respectively. (Received September 15, 2008)

