

On pattern-avoiding Fishburn permutations¹

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Permutation Patterns 2019



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Joint work with Mike Weiner

¹Preprint arXiv:1812.01682, December 2018

Motivation: Fishburn numbers $\xi(n)$, defined by

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \xi(n) q^n = 1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \prod_{j=1}^n (1 - (1 - q)^j).$$

Sequence A022493 in the OEIS:

1, 2, 5, 15, 53, 217, 1014, 5335, 31240, 201608, 1422074, . . . ,

²M. Bousquet-Mélou, A. Claesson, M. Dukes, S. Kitaev, $(2 + 2)$ -free posets, ascent sequences and pattern avoiding permutations, *J. Combin. Theory Ser. A*

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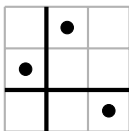
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Bivincular pattern $(231, \{1\}, \{1\})$

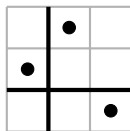
A permutation $\pi \in S_n$ is said to contain the bivincular pattern $(231, \{1\}, \{1\})$ if there are positions $i < k$ with $\pi(i) > 1$, $\pi(k) = \pi(i) - 1$, such that the subsequence $\pi(i)\pi(i+1)\pi(k)$ forms a 231 pattern:



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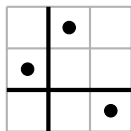
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For $n = 4$, there are 9 permutations containing such a pattern:

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The permutation 3**1**42 contains 231 but avoids .

Fishburn permutations

Let $\mathcal{F}_n$ denote the class of permutations in S_n that avoid .
M. Bousquet-Mélou et. al. (2010) proved that $\mathcal{F}_n$ is enumerated
by $\xi(n)$, so we call the elements of $\mathcal{F}_n$ *Fishburn permutations*.

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For example,

$$\mathcal{F}_4 = \{1234, 1243, 1324, 1423, 1432, 2134, 2143, 3124, \\ \textcolor{red}{3142}, 3214, 4123, 4132, 4213, 4312, 4321\}$$

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It is easier to avoid  than it is to avoid 231.

Pattern avoidance

Let $\mathcal{F}_n(\sigma)$ denote the class of Fishburn permutations that avoid the pattern σ . Our goal is to study $F_n(\sigma) = |\mathcal{F}_n(\sigma)|$ for classical patterns of size 3 or 4.

Since $\text{Av}_n(231) \subset \mathcal{F}_n$ and $\mathcal{F}_n(231) \subset \text{Av}_n(231)$, we get

$$\mathcal{F}_n(231) = \text{Av}_n(231), \text{ thus } F_n(231) = C_n = \frac{1}{n+1} \binom{2n}{n}.$$

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Theorem

For $\sigma \in \{123, 132, 213, 312\}$, we have $F_n(\sigma) = 2^{n-1}$.

Theorem

$\mathcal{F}_n(321)$ is in bijection with the set of n -Dyck paths that avoid the subpath UUDU.

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By a result from Sapounakis/Tasoulas/Tsikouras,³ we then have

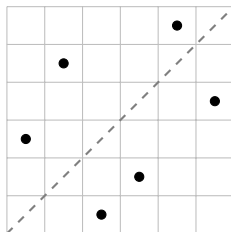
$$F_n(321) = \sum_{j=0}^{\lfloor (n-1)/2 \rfloor} \frac{(-1)^j}{n-j} \binom{n-j}{j} \binom{2n-3j}{n-j+1}.$$

This is sequence A105633 (1, 2, 4, 9, 22, 57, 154, 429, 1223, ...).

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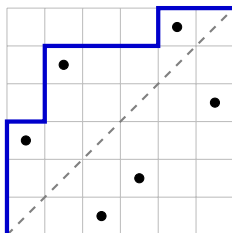
Av(321) to Dyck paths

For example, for $\pi = 351264 \in \text{Av}_6(321)$ we get:



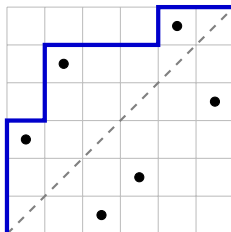
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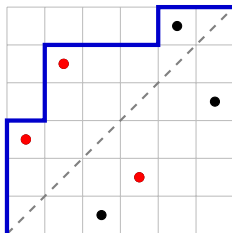
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Not Fishburn!

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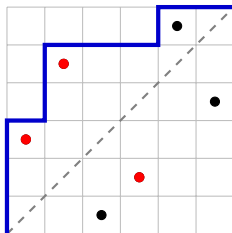
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Note that an ascent $\pi_i < \pi_{i+1}$ in $\pi \in \text{Av}_n(321)$ with $k = \pi_{i+1} - \pi_i$ generates UDU^k in the associated Dyck path P , and if $\pi_i - 1 = \pi_j$ for some $j > i + 1$, then P must necessarily contain $UUDU^k$.

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Avoiding classical patterns of size 3

Pattern σ	$ \mathcal{F}_n(\sigma) $	OEIS
123, 132, 213, 312	1, 2, 4, 8, 16, 32, 64, 128, 256, 512, ...	A000079
231	1, 2, 5, 14, 42, 132, 429, 1430, 4862, ...	A000108
321	1, 2, 4, 9, 22, 57, 154, 429, 1223, 3550, ...	A105633

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Pattern σ	$ \mathcal{F}_n^{\text{ind}}(\sigma) $	OEIS
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312	1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, ...	A000012
321	1, 1, 1, 2, 5, 13, 35, 97, 275, 794, ...	A082582

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1342	1, 2, 5, 15, 51, 188, 731, 2950, ...	A007317
1432	1, 2, 5, 14, 43, 142, 495, 1796, ...	
2314	1, 2, 5, 15, 52, 200, 827, 3601, ...	
2341	1, 2, 5, 15, 52, 202, 858, 3910, ...	
3412	1, 2, 5, 15, 52, 201, 843, 3764, ...	A202062*
3421	1, 2, 5, 15, 52, 203, 874, 4076, ...	
4123	1, 2, 5, 14, 42, 133, 442, 1535, ...	
4231	1, 2, 5, 15, 52, 201, 843, 3765, ...	
4312	1, 2, 5, 14, 43, 143, 508, 1905, ...	
4321	1, 2, 5, 14, 45, 162, 639, 2713, ...	
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*w/L. Pudwell
(in progress)

Catalan class

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For $\sigma \in \{1234, 1243, 1324, 1423, 2134, 2143, 3124, 3142\}$,
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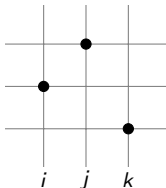
$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 \mathcal{F}_n(3124) & \xleftarrow{\alpha_1} & \boxed{\mathcal{F}_n(3142)} & \xrightarrow{\gamma} & \mathcal{F}_n(2143) & \xleftarrow{\phi} & \mathcal{F}_n(2134) \\
 \alpha_2 \downarrow & & & & & & \\
 \mathcal{F}_n(1324) & \xrightarrow{\alpha} & \mathcal{F}_n(1234) & \xrightarrow{\phi} & \mathcal{F}_n(1243) & \xleftarrow{\alpha} & \mathcal{F}_n(1423)
 \end{array}$$

Theorem

We have $\mathcal{F}_n(3142) = \mathcal{F}_n(231)$, hence $|\mathcal{F}_n(3142)| = C_n$.

Proof. Clearly, $\mathcal{F}_n(231) \subseteq \mathcal{F}_n(3142)$.

Suppose $\pi \in \mathcal{F}_n(3142)$ contains the pattern 231 and let $i < j < k$ be the positions of the most-left closest 231 pattern contained in π :

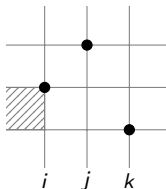


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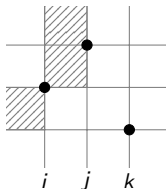


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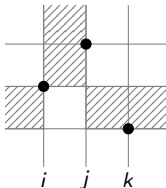


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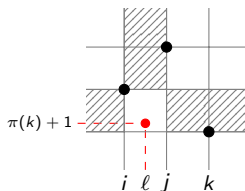


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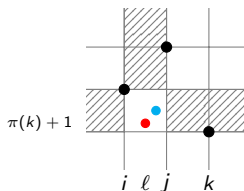


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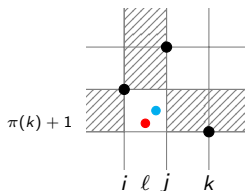


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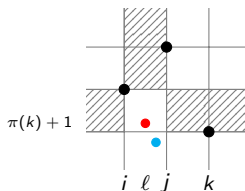
Fishburn violation

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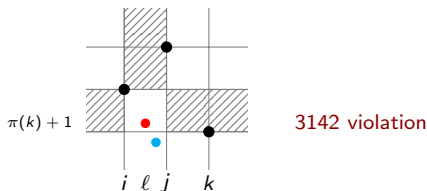


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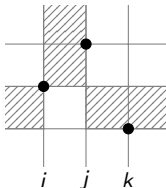


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Suppose $\pi \in \mathcal{F}_n(3142)$ contains the pattern 231 and let $i < j < k$ be the positions of the most-left closest 231 pattern contained in π :



In conclusion, no permutation $\pi \in \mathcal{F}_n(3142)$ contains a 231 pattern. Thus $\mathcal{F}_n(3142) \subseteq \mathcal{F}_n(231)$. □

Future directions. . .

- ▶ Pattern avoiding ascent sequences

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- ▶ Indecomposable permutations of size 4

Indecomposable permutations

Pattern σ	$ \mathcal{F}_n^{\text{ind}}(\sigma) $	OEIS
1234	1, 1, 2, 6, 22, 85, 324, 1204, ...	
1243, 2134	1, 1, 2, 6, 21, 75, 266, 938, ...	A289597(?)
1324	1, 1, 2, 6, 22, 84, 317, 1174, ...	
1342	1, 1, 2, 6, 22, 88, 367, 1568, ...	A165538
1423, 3124	1, 1, 2, 6, 20, 68, 233, 805, ...	A279557
1432	1, 1, 2, 6, 20, 71, 263, 1002, ...	
2143	1, 1, 2, 6, 19, 62, 207, 704, ...	A026012
2314	1, 1, 2, 6, 23, 99, 450, 2109, ...	
2341	1, 1, 2, 6, 22, 91, 409, 1955, ...	
2413, 2431, 3241	1, 1, 2, 6, 22, 90, 395, 1823, ...	A165546(?)
3142	1, 1, 2, 5, 14, 42, 132, 429, ...	A000108

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3214	1, 1, 2, 6, 20, 72, 275, 1096, ...	
3412	1, 1, 2, 6, 22, 90, 396, 1840, ...	
3421	1, 1, 2, 6, 22, 92, 423, 2088, ...	
4123	1, 1, 2, 5, 14, 43, 143, 507, ...	
4132, 4213	1, 1, 2, 5, 15, 51, 188, 732, ...	
4231	1, 1, 2, 6, 22, 90, 396, 1841, ...	
4312	1, 1, 2, 5, 15, 51, 188, 733, ...	
4321	1, 1, 2, 5, 17, 66, 279, 1256, ...	

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