
Beyond Alternating Permutations: Pattern Avoidance in Young Diagrams and Tableaux

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MIT PRIMES

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Alternating Permutations

Pattern Avoidance
in Alternating
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Alternation

Patterns

Previous Results

Main Theorem

Pattern Avoidance
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Beyond Alternating
Permutations

- We will treat a permutation $w \in S_n$ as a sequence w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n containing every positive integer $k \leq n$ exactly once.

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- A permutation w is called *alternating* if

$$w_1 < w_2 > w_3 < w_4 > \dots .$$

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For example, 352614 is alternating.

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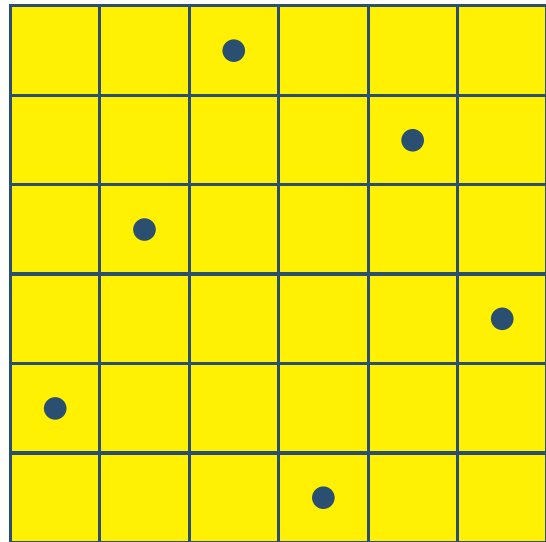
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For example, 352614 is alternating. Graphically, this is



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- A permutation w is said to *contain* a permutation q if there is a subsequence of w order-isomorphic to q . If w does not contain q , then w *avoids* q .

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- A permutation w is said to *contain* a permutation q if there is a subsequence of w order-isomorphic to q . If w does not contain q , then w *avoids* q .
For example, **325641** contains 231.

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- A permutation w is said to *contain* a permutation q if there is a subsequence of w order-isomorphic to q . If w does not contain q , then w *avoids* q .
For example, **325641** contains 231.
- Given a permutation q and a positive integer n , let $S_n(q)$ ($A_n(q)$) denote the set of all (alternating) permutations of length n that avoid q .

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- If $|S_n(p)| = |S_n(q)|$ for all n , we say that p and q are *Wilf-equivalent*.
- If $|A_n(p)| = |A_n(q)|$ for all n , we say that p and q are *equivalent for alternating permutations*.

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- (Mansour, Deutsch, Reifegerste) If q is a pattern of length 3, then $|A_n(q)|$ is a Catalan number (i.e. of the form $C_k = \frac{(2k)!}{k!(k+1)!}$).
The indices depend on the choice of q and on the parity of n .

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- (Lewis) For patterns of length 4,

$$|A_{2n}(1234)| = |A_{2n}(2143)| = \frac{2(3n)!}{n!(n+1)!(n+2)!},$$

$$|A_{2n+1}(1234)| = \frac{16(3n)!}{(n-1)!(n+1)!(n+3)!},$$

$$|A_{2n+1}(2143)| = \frac{2(3n+3)!}{n!(n+1)!(n+2)!(2n+1)(2n+2)(2n+3)}.$$

The Main Theorem and Its Motivation

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Theorem (Backelin-West-Xin). *For all $t \geq k$ and all permutations q of $\{k + 1, k + 2, k + 3, \dots, t\}$, the patterns $123 \cdots kq$ and $k(k - 1)(k - 2) \cdots 1q$ are Wilf-Equivalent.*

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Main Results:

For all q , the following sets of patterns are equivalent for alternating permutations.

- $12q$ and $21q$

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Main Results:

For all q , the following sets of patterns are equivalent for alternating permutations.

- $12q$ and $21q$
- $123q$, $213q$ and $321q$

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Main Results:

For all q , the following sets of patterns are equivalent for alternating permutations.

- $12q$ and $21q$
- $123q$, $213q$ and $321q$
- (Conjecture) For all k , $123 \dots kq$ and $k(k - 1)(k - 2) \dots 1q$

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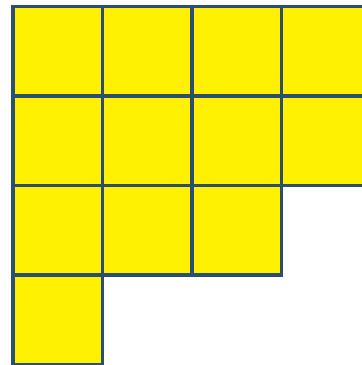
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- A *Young diagram* with n rows/columns is a set Y of squares of an $n \times n$ board such that if a square $S \in Y$, then any square above and to the left of S is also in Y .



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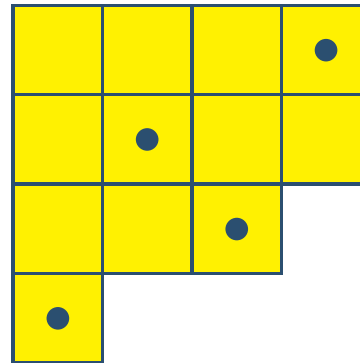
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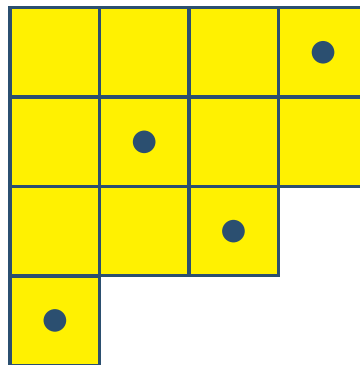
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contains $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$.

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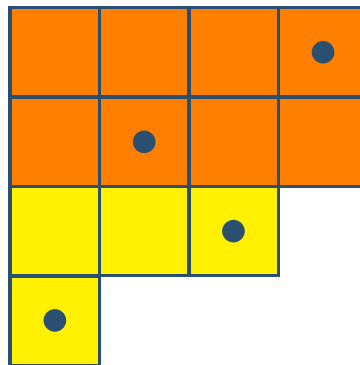
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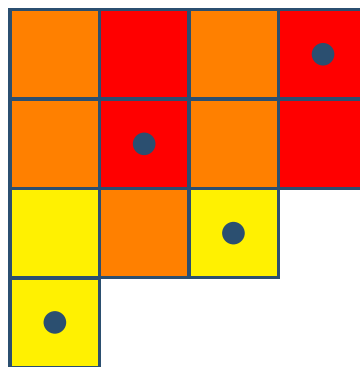
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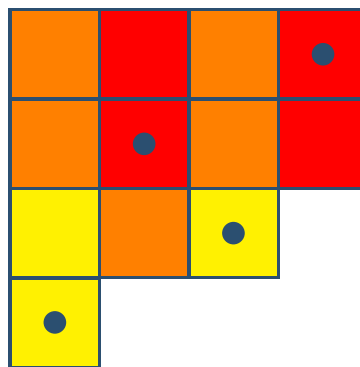
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All 4 red squares are in the Young diagram.

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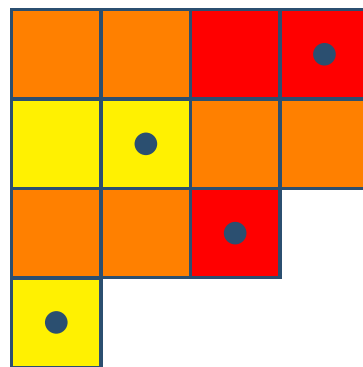
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is not a copy of $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$.

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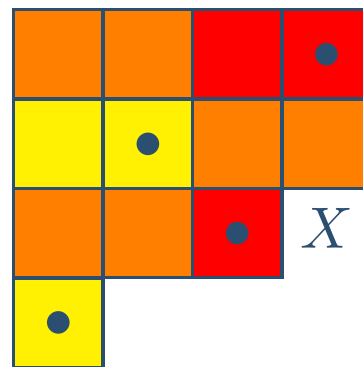
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The square X is not in the Young diagram.

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- If permutation matrices M and M' are such that, for all Young diagrams Y , the number of transversals of Y avoiding M is the same as the number avoiding M' , we say that M and M' are *shape-Wilf equivalent*.

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- Given a transversal $T = \{(i, b_i)\}$ of a Young diagram, we say that i is *an ascent of T* (descent) when it is an ascent (descent) of $b_1 b_2 \cdots$.

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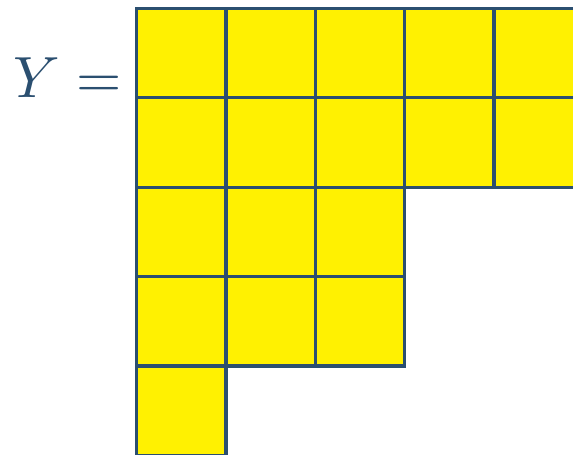
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- An *AD-Young diagram* is a triple $\mathcal{Y} = (Y, A, D)$ of a Young diagram Y with n rows, and disjoint sets $A, D \subseteq [n - 1]$ such that if $i \in A \cup D$, then the i th and $(i + 1)$ st rows of Y have the same length.



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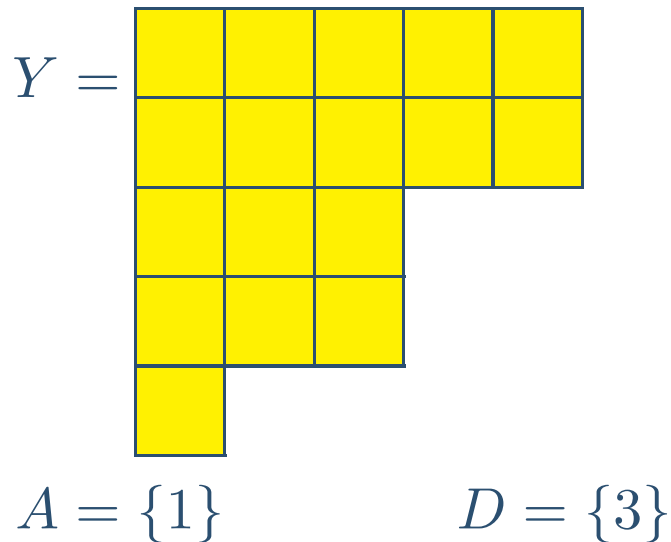
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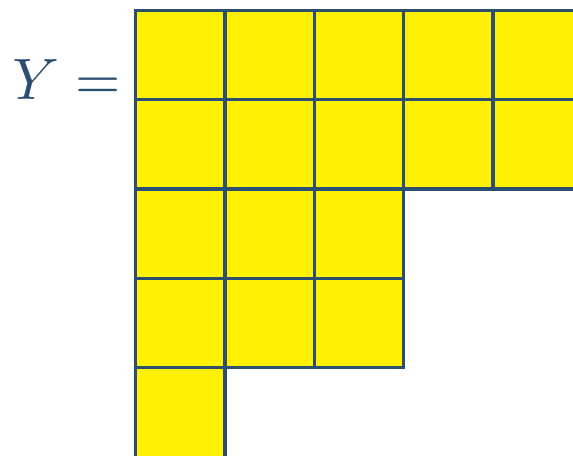
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- A *valid transversal* of \mathcal{Y} is a transversal T of Y such that if $i \in A$ (D), then i is an ascent (descent) of T .



$$A = \{1\}$$

$$D = \{3\}$$

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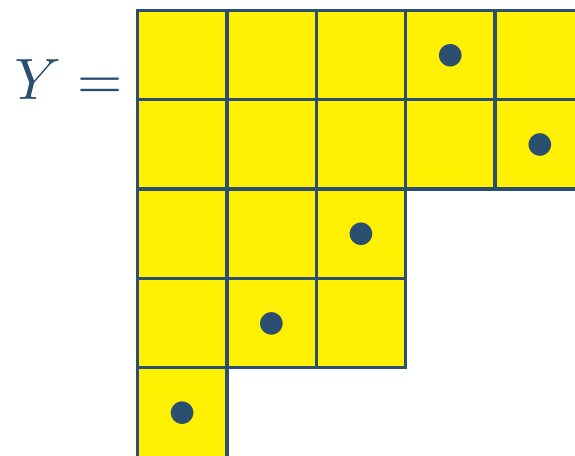
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- A *valid transversal* of \mathcal{Y} is a transversal T of Y such that if $i \in A$ (D), then i is an ascent (descent) of T . Pattern avoidance is exactly as in Young diagrams.
- Given a permutation matrix M and an AD-Young diagram \mathcal{Y} , let $S_{\mathcal{Y}}(M)$ denote the set of valid transversals of \mathcal{Y} that avoid M .

Alternating AD-Young Diagrams

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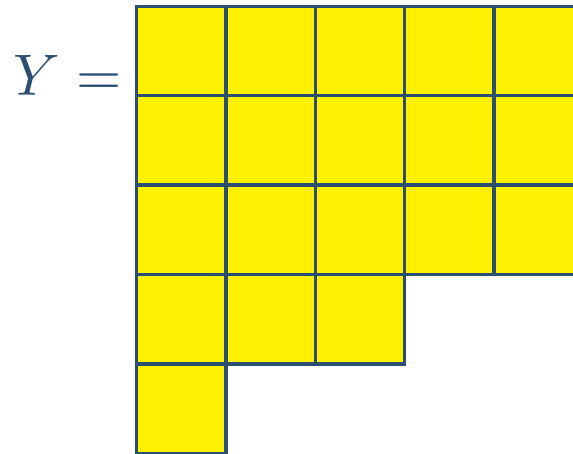
Permutations

Matrix Extension

Main Theorem

Beyond Alternating
Permutations

- An AD-Young diagram $\mathcal{Y} = (Y, A, D)$ with Y a Young diagram with n columns is called *x-alternating* if it satisfies the property that if $i \leq n - x$, then $i \in A$ if and only if $i + 1 \in D$.



Alternating AD-Young Diagrams

Pattern Avoidance
in Alternating
Permutations

Pattern Avoidance
of Young Diagrams

Basic Definitions
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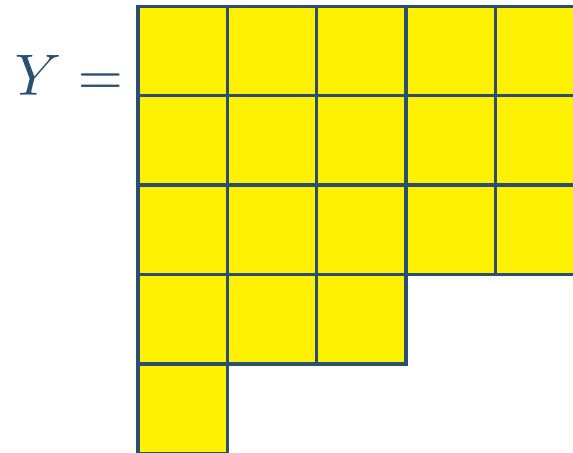
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$$A = \{1\}$$

$$D = \{2\}$$

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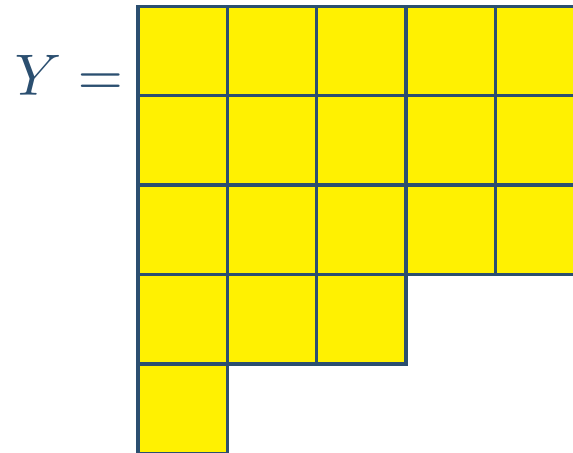
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$$A = \{1\}$$

$$D = \{2\}$$

is 1-alternating.

Alternating AD-Young Diagrams

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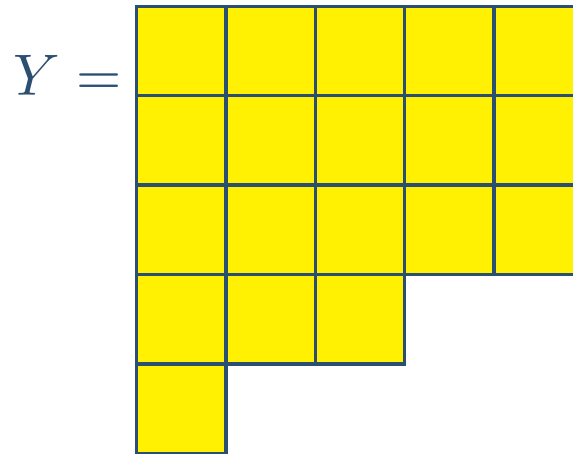
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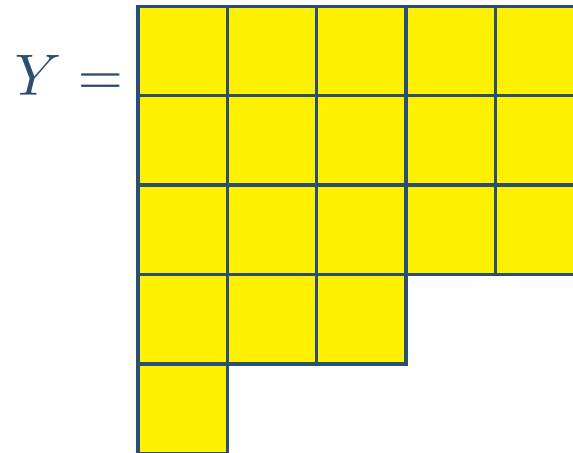
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$$A = \{2\}$$

$$D = \emptyset$$

Alternating AD-Young Diagrams

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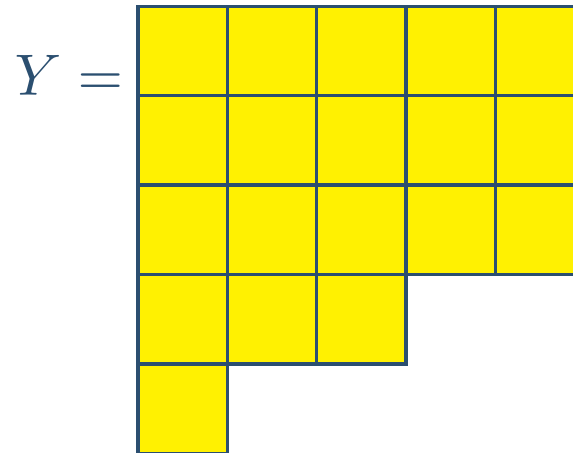
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$$A = \{2\}$$

$$D = \emptyset$$

is 4-alternating.

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- If M and M' are permutation matrices such that for all x -alternating AD-Young diagrams \mathcal{Y} , we have $|S_{\mathcal{Y}}(M)| = |S_{\mathcal{Y}}(M')|$, then we say that M and M' are *shape-equivalent for x-alternating AD-Young diagrams*.

Alternating Permutations as Transversals

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Beyond Alternating
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- We can treat a permutation b of length n as a transversal $\{(i, b_i)\}$ of the $n \times n$ Young diagram.

Alternating Permutations as Transversals

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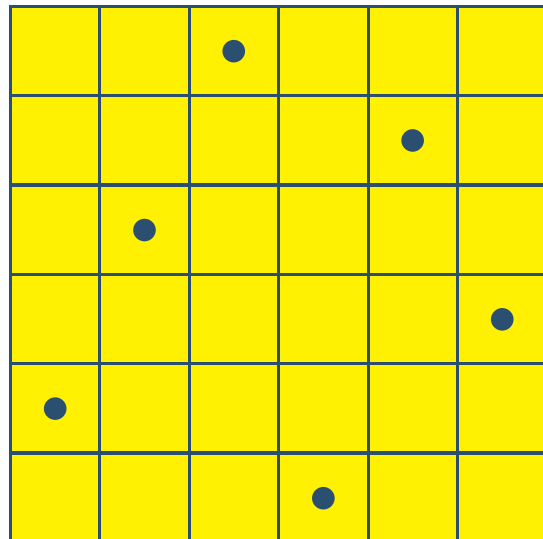
Permutations

Matrix Extension

Main Theorem

Beyond Alternating
Permutations

- We can treat a permutation b of length n as a transversal $\{(i, b_i)\}$ of the $n \times n$ Young diagram.
- We can treat an alternating permutation b of length $2n$ as a valid transversal $\{(i, b_i)\}$ of the 2-alternating AD-Young diagram (Y, A, D) with Y the $2n \times 2n$ square, $A = \{1, 3, 5, \dots, 2n - 1\}$, and $D = \{2, 4, 6, \dots, 2n - 2\}$.
The permutation 352614 is



Alternating Permutations as Transversals

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- A permutation b avoids a pattern q if and only if its corresponding transversal avoids q 's permutation matrix.

Alternating Permutations as Transversals

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- A permutation b avoids a pattern q if and only if its corresponding transversal avoids q 's permutation matrix.
- Similarly, alternating permutations of odd length, can be treated as valid transversals of 1-alternating AD-Young diagrams.

Extending Alternating Shape-Equivalences

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Main Theorem

Beyond Alternating
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Theorem (Babson-West). *If M and M' are permutation matrices that are shape-Wilf equivalent, and P is a permutation matrix of positive dimensions, then the matrices*

$$\begin{bmatrix} M & 0 \\ 0 & P \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \begin{bmatrix} M' & 0 \\ 0 & P \end{bmatrix}$$

are shape-Wilf equivalent.

Extending Alternating Shape-Equivalences

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are shape-Wilf equivalent.

Theorem. *If M and M' are permutation matrices that are shape-Equivalent for x -alternating AD-Young diagrams, and P is an $r \times r$ permutation matrix, then the matrices*

$$\begin{bmatrix} M & 0 \\ 0 & P \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \begin{bmatrix} M' & 0 \\ 0 & P \end{bmatrix}$$

are shape-equivalent for $x + r$ -alternating AD-Young diagrams.

The Main Theorem Revisited

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Theorem (Backelin-West-Xin). *For all k , the permutation matrices of the permutations $(k - 1)(k - 2)(k - 3) \cdots 1k$ and $k(k - 1)(k - 2) \cdots 1$ are shape-Wilf equivalent.*

The Main Theorem Revisited

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Theorem. *The permutation matrices corresponding to the permutations 12 and 21 are shape-equivalent for 1-alternating AD-Young diagrams.*

The Main Theorem Revisited

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Theorem. *The permutation matrices corresponding to the permutations 12 and 21 are shape-equivalent for 1-alternating AD-Young diagrams.*

Theorem. *The permutation matrices corresponding to the permutations 213 and 321 are shape-equivalent for 1-alternating AD-Young diagrams.*

The Main Theorem Revisited

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Theorem. *The permutation matrices corresponding to the permutations 12 and 21 are shape-equivalent for 1-alternating AD-Young diagrams.*

Theorem. *The permutation matrices corresponding to the permutations 213 and 321 are shape-equivalent for 1-alternating AD-Young diagrams.*

Corollary. *For all $t > 2$ and all permutations q of $\{3, 4, 5, \dots, t\}$, the patterns 12 q and 21 q are equivalent for alternating permutations. For all $t > 3$ and all permutations q of $\{4, 5, 6, \dots, t\}$, the patterns 123 q , 213 q and 321 q are equivalent for alternating permutations.*

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Further Work

- Joel's question in his paper.

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Further Work

- Joel's question in his paper.
- Bijection from permutations to Young tableaux
 - ◆ Definition of tableau

				6	8
		3	5	7	9
1	2	4	10		

- ◆ Entries increase left to right; top to bottom

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 - ◆ Definition of tableau

				6	8
		3	5	7	9
1	2	4	10		

- ◆ Entries increase left to right; top to bottom
- ◆ l : Number of adjacent edges between adjacent rows
- ◆ k : Number of cells per row (except top row)
- ◆ n : Total number of cells/values in the permutation
- ◆ Ex. $(2, 4, 10)$; $l = 2, k = 4, n = 10$

Reading Words

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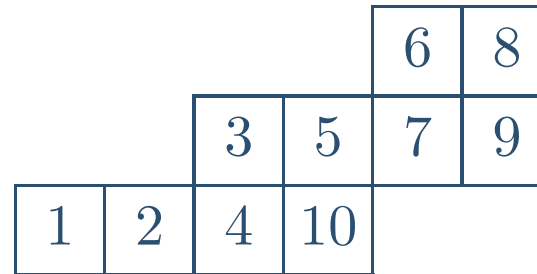
321 Applications

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Further Work



- Reading word: 124(10)357968
- Pattern avoidance is exactly as in permutations.

Reading Words

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Further Work

				6	8
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- Reading word: 124(10)357968
- Pattern avoidance is exactly as in permutations.
- Define $U_n^{k,l}(r)$ to be the set of permutations p that fill tableau of the form (l, k, n) and such that p avoids r .

Reading Words

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				6	8
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- Reading word: 124(10)357968
- Pattern avoidance is exactly as in permutations.
- Define $U_n^{k,l}(r)$ to be the set of permutations p that fill tableau of the form (l, k, n) and such that p avoids r .
- Alternating permutation pattern avoidance is a special case:
 $A_n(r) = U_n^{2,1}(r)$.

321 Avoidance

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Theorem. *For $t > 1$, we have*

$$\left| U_{kt+1}^{k,1}(321) \right| = \sum_{i=k(t-1)+2}^{kt} \left| U_i^{k,1}(321) \right|.$$

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$$\left| U_{kt+1}^{k,1}(321) \right| = \sum_{i=k(t-1)+2}^{kt} \left| U_i^{k,1}(321) \right|.$$

Example when $k = 3$:

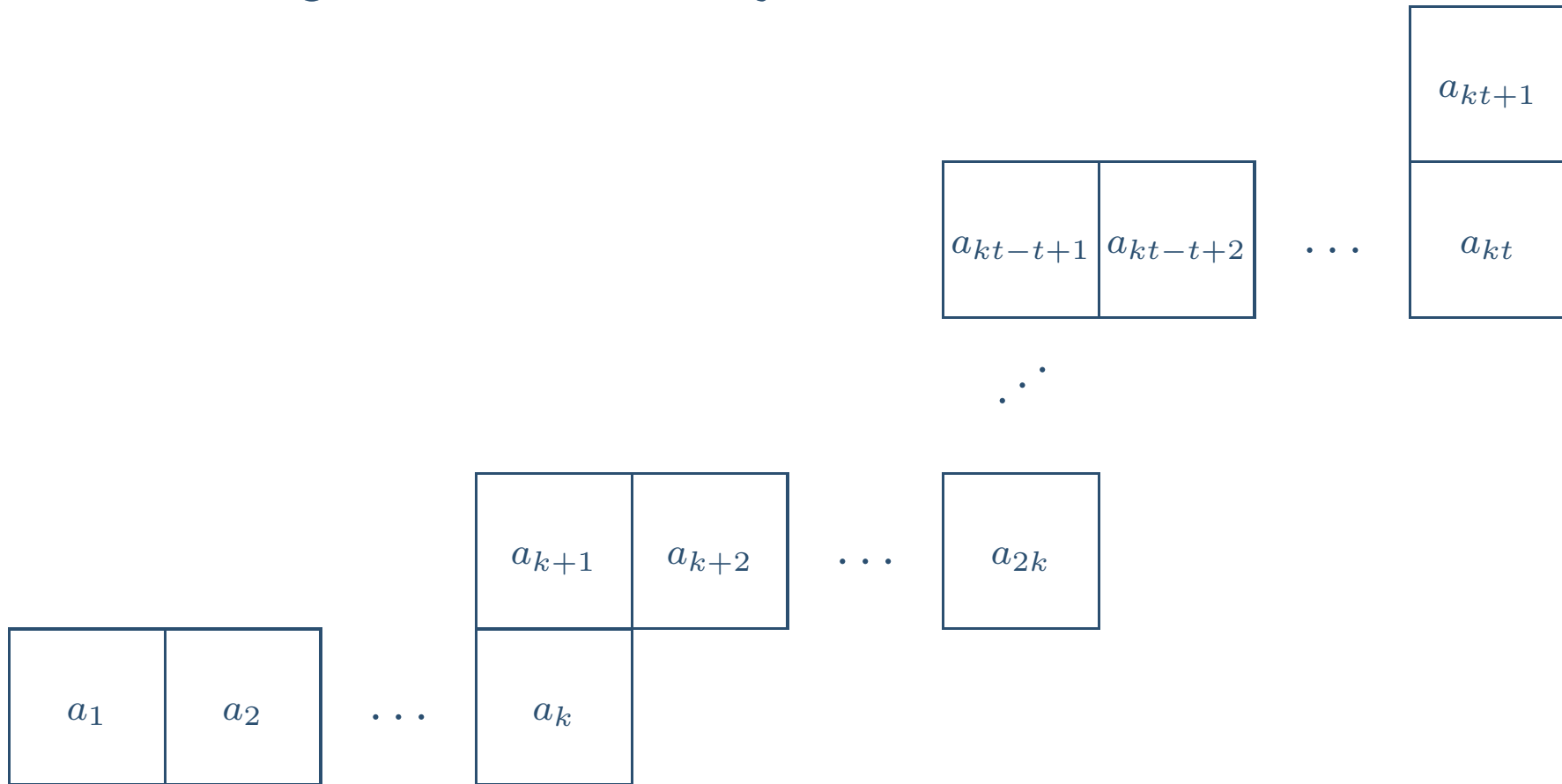
$$\left| U_{3t+1}^{3,1}(321) \right| = \left| U_{3t-1}^{3,1}(321) \right| + \left| U_{3t}^{3,1}(321) \right|$$

Some data:

n	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
$\left U_n^{3,1}(321) \right $	1	1	1	3	9	19	28	90	207	297

Outline of Proof Regarding 321 Avoidance

$l = 1$: one edge shared between adjacent rows



Outline of Proof Regarding 321 Avoidance

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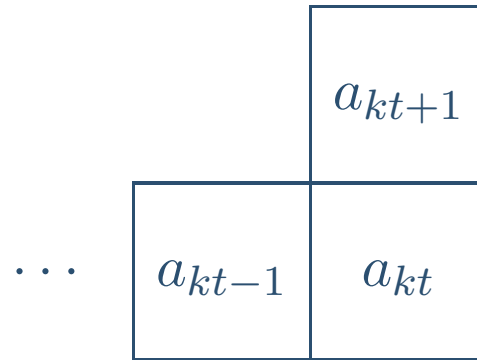
321 Applications

Data for $l = 0$

Investigating $l = 0$

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Further Work



Claim: $a_{kt} = kt + 1$.

- Assume for sake of contradiction that $a_{kt} < kt + 1$.

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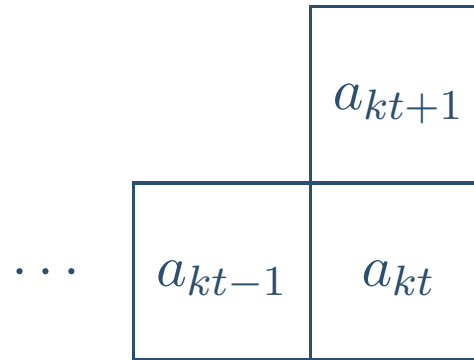
321 Applications

Data for $l = 0$

Investigating $l = 0$

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Further Work



Claim: $a_{kt} = kt + 1$.

- Assume for sake of contradiction that $a_{kt} < kt + 1$.
- Since $a_{kt+1} < a_{kt}$, we have $a_{kt+1} \neq kt + 1$.

Outline of Proof Regarding 321 Avoidance

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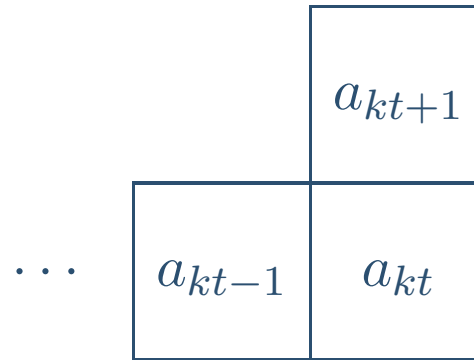
321 Applications

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- So, for some $i < kt$, we have $a_i = kt + 1$.

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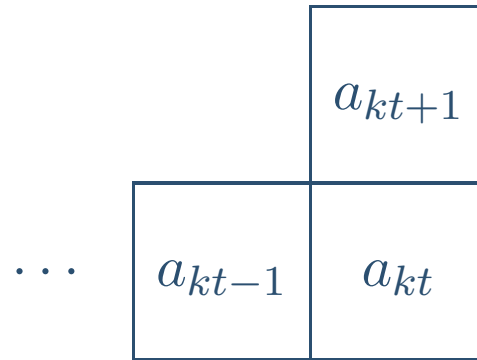
321 Applications

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- Assume for sake of contradiction that $a_{kt} < kt + 1$.
- Since $a_{kt+1} < a_{kt}$, we have $a_{kt+1} \neq kt + 1$.
- So, for some $i < kt$, we have $a_i = kt + 1$.
- Then, $a_i a_{kt} a_{kt+1}$ is order-isomorphic to 321, contradiction.

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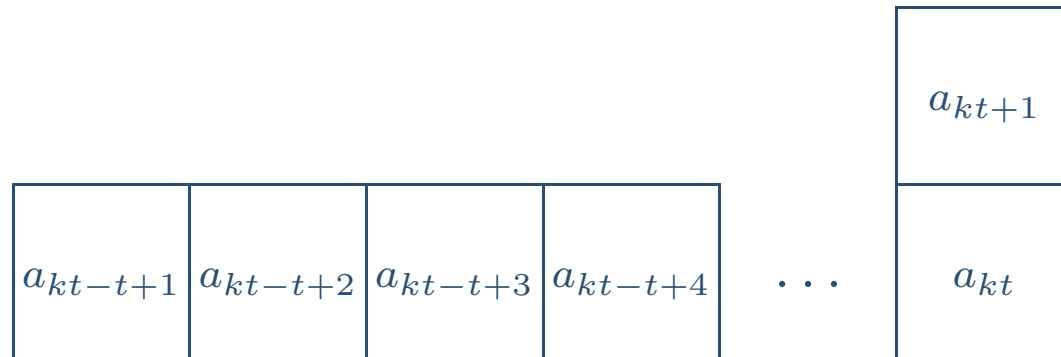
Investigating $l = 0$

Repetitive Patterns

Further Work

Define a *consecutive block* to be a subsequence $a_i a_{i+1} \cdots a_j$ of $a_1 a_2 \cdots a_n$, such that the values a_k are consecutive and in increasing order for $i < k < j$.

We remove the largest consecutive block with anchor (last value) a_{kt} for each permutation in $U_{kt+1}^k(321)$; suppose that the block has length s . Then,



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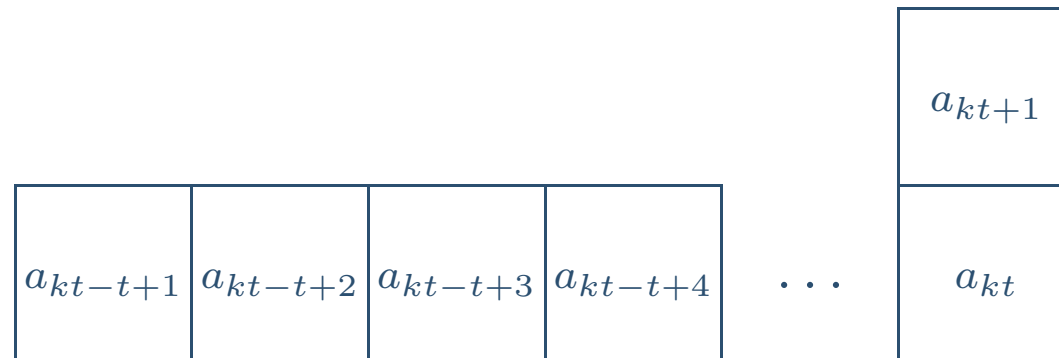
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is sent to



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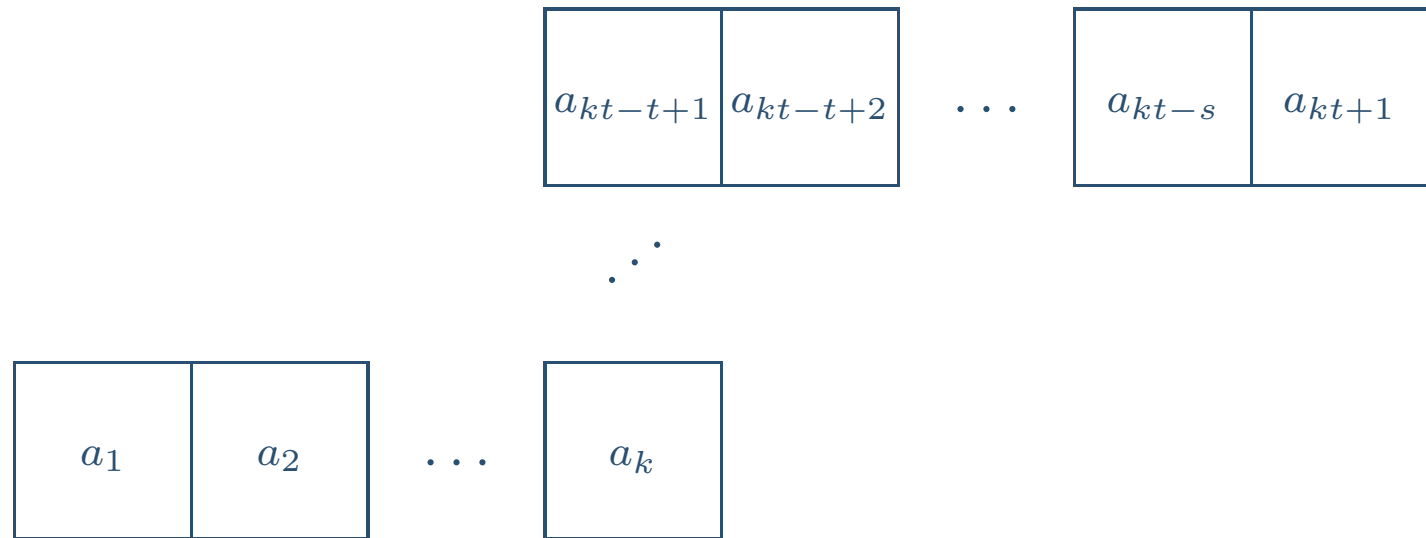
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Data for $l = 0$

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Further Work



The other direction of inserting a consecutive block is clear.
Thus, the bijection holds.

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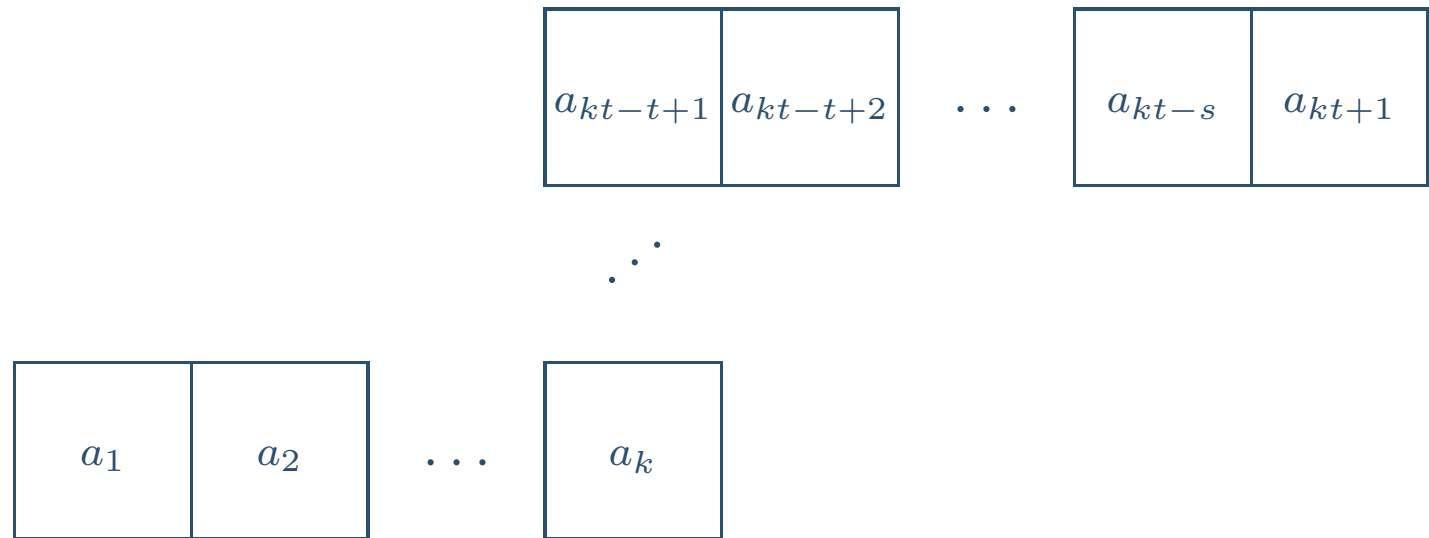
321 Applications

Data for $l = 0$

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Further Work



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Thus, the bijection holds.

$$\left| U_{kt+1}^{k,1}(321) \right| = \sum_{i=k(t-1)+2}^{kt} \left| U_i^{k,1}(321) \right|.$$

Further Application of (321)-avoidance

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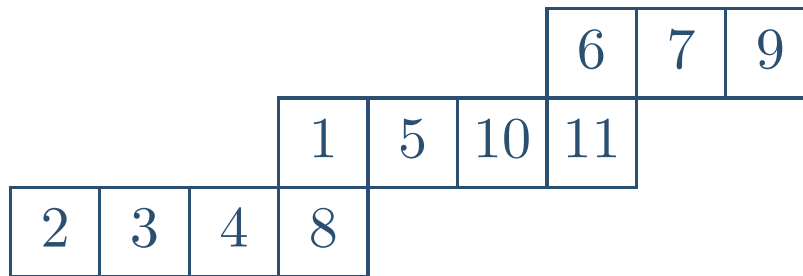
Repetitive Patterns

Further Work

- This gives us a nice enumeration of $U_n^{k,l}(321)$ for $n = kt + 1$.
- What about $n = kt + m$?

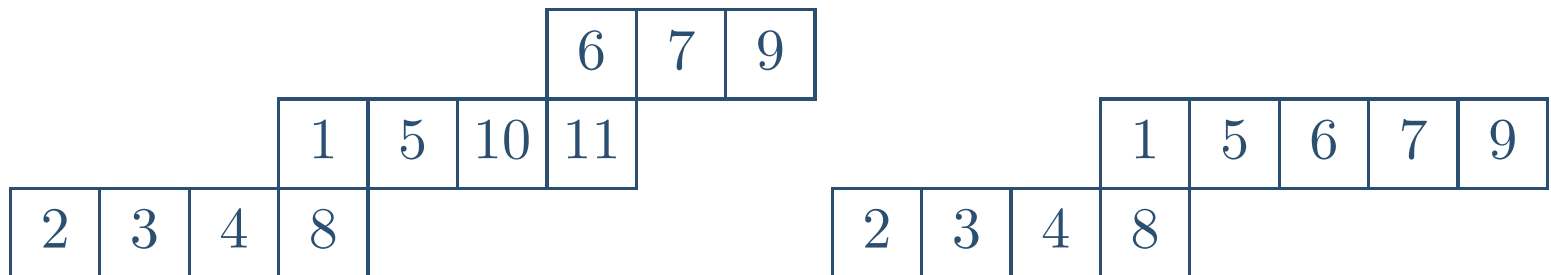
Further Application of (321)-avoidance

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Further Application of (321)-avoidance

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Further Application of (321)-avoidance

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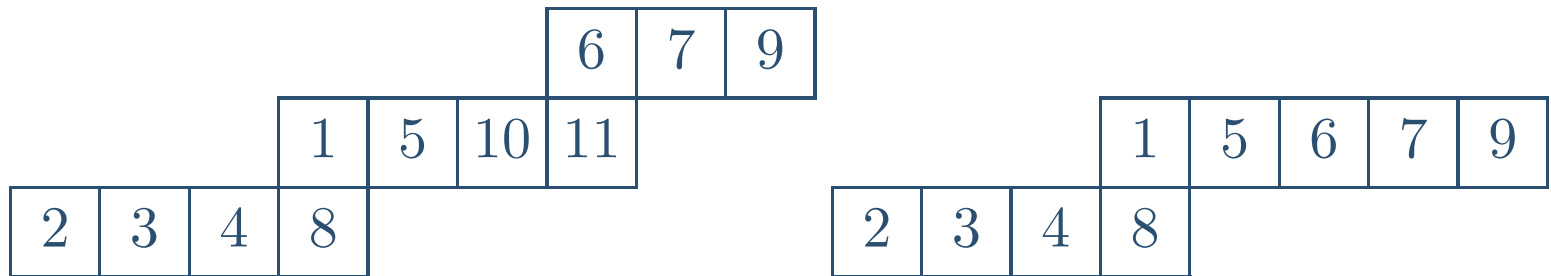
Data for $l = 0$

Investigating $l = 0$

Repetitive Patterns

Further Work

- This gives us a nice enumeration of $U_n^{k,l}(321)$ for $n = kt + 1$.
- What about $n = kt + m$?
- A similar removal of a consecutive block likely holds, but the procedure of “collapsing” the highest row into the row under it may result in a row with more than k elements:



- Thus, we will likely need to define new classes (different from $U_n^{k,l}$) to describe such tableaux, and so, the recursion for this case is likely more complicated, but not intractable.

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Further Work

- Now we turn to the $l = 0$ case.

Data for $l = 0$

- Now we turn to the $l = 0$ case.

For $k = 3$:

	1342	1243	2341	3124	2134	4123
1	1	1	1	1	1	1
2	1	1	1	1	1	1
3	1	1	1	1	1	1
4	3	3	3	4	4	4
5	6	6	6	10	10	10
6	10	10	10	10	10	10
7	37	38	38	60	60	60
8	90	94	94	180	190	190
9	180	190	190	180	190	190
10	725	806	806	1330	1400	1400

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Further Work

- Only avoidance patterns of a particular structure show nontrivial repetitions for $n = m$ and $n = m + 1$ for large n .
- Let q be a permutation of length t that is structurally dictated as a single down-step followed by $t - 2$ up-steps, i.e. $q = b123 \cdots (b - 1)(b + 1) \cdots (t - 1)t$ with $b \neq 1$.
- We shall call such patterns *repetitive patterns*.

Enumerations of Repetitive Patterns

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Theorem. For $k \geq t - 1$ and q a repetitive pattern, we have

$$\left| U_{km+(t-2)}^{k,0}(q) \right| = \left| U_{km+(t-1)}^{k,0}(q) \right| = \left| U_{km+t}^{k,0}(q) \right| = \cdots = \left| U_{km+k}^{k,0}(q) \right|$$

- The approach to this is a bijective proof.
- Based on the pattern q , we perform an insertion of the proper value into a corresponding location.
- This serves as a surprising result for no other patterns contain repeats; for all other patterns q , $\left| U_n^{k,0}(q) \right| < \left| U_{n+1}^{k,0}(q) \right|$ (except for patterns of the form $123 \cdots t$ of course).

Possible Further Directions to Our Work

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Further Work

- The result in the previous slide is quite nice, but it is very limited. However, checking numerical data indicates that a similar theorem holds for $l > 0$.

Acknowledgements

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Further Work

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