

# Wilf-equivalences derived from a bijection between $Av(231)$ and $Av(132)$

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joint work with Michael Albert

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June 2012, at *groupe de travail CÉA...*

We study permutations sortable by sorting operators which are compositions of stack sorting operators **S** and reverse operators **R**.

From our previous work with O. Guibert, we have:

### Theorem

*There are as many permutations of  $\mathfrak{S}_n$  sortable by  $\mathbf{S} \circ \mathbf{S}$  as permutations of  $\mathfrak{S}_n$  sortable by  $\mathbf{S} \circ \mathbf{R} \circ \mathbf{S}$ , and many permutation statistics are equidistributed across these two sets.*

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Computer experiments then suggest that:

### Conjecture (*The (id, R) conjecture*)

*For any operator **A** which is a composition of operators **S** and **R**, there are as many permutations of  $\mathfrak{S}_n$  sortable by  $\mathbf{S} \circ \text{id} \circ \mathbf{A}$  as permutations of  $\mathfrak{S}_n$  sortable by  $\mathbf{S} \circ \mathbf{R} \circ \mathbf{A}$ . Moreover, many permutation statistics are equidistributed across these two sets.*

## In 2013: a first talk...

Our primary purpose is to prove the  $(id, \mathbf{R})$  conjecture.

### Theorem

*The  $(id, \mathbf{R})$  conjecture holds.*

The proof uses:

- The characterization of preimages of permutations by  $\mathbf{S}$
- A new bijection (denoted  $P$ ) between  $\text{Av}(231)$  and  $\text{Av}(132)$

## In 2013: a first talk... and a second one

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### Theorem

*The  $(id, \mathbf{R})$  conjecture holds.*

The proof uses:

- The characterization of preimages of permutations by **S**
- A new bijection (denoted  $P$ ) between  $\text{Av}(231)$  and  $\text{Av}(132)$

The bijection  $P$  has nice properties, which allow us to derive **unexpected enumerative results** (Wilf-equivalences). For instance:

### Theorem

*$\text{Av}(231, 31254)$  and  $\text{Av}(132, 42351)$  have the same enumerative sequence, and their common generating function is*

$$F_5(t) = \frac{t^3 - t^2 - 2t + 1}{2t^3 - 3t + 1}.$$

# Definitions

# Permutations and patterns

**Permutation:** Bijection from  $[1..n]$  to itself. Set  $\mathfrak{S}_n$ .

We view permutations as **words**,  $\sigma = \sigma_1\sigma_2\dots\sigma_n$

**Example:**  $\sigma = 1\ 8\ 3\ 6\ 4\ 2\ 5\ 7$ .

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**Occurrence of a pattern:**  $\pi \in \mathfrak{S}_k$  is a pattern of  $\sigma \in \mathfrak{S}_n$  if  $\exists i_1 < \dots < i_k$  such that  $\sigma_{i_1} \dots \sigma_{i_k}$  is **order isomorphic** ( $\equiv$ ) to  $\pi$ .

Notation:  $\pi \preceq \sigma$ .

Equivalently: The **normalization** of  $\sigma_{i_1} \dots \sigma_{i_k}$  on  $[1..k]$  yields  $\pi$ .

**Example:**  $2\ 1\ 3\ 4 \preceq \mathbf{3\ 1\ 2\ 8\ 5\ 4\ 7\ 9\ 6}$  since  $3\ 1\ 5\ 7 \equiv 2\ 1\ 3\ 4$ .



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**Avoidance:**  $Av(\pi, \tau, \dots) =$  set of permutations that do not contain any occurrence of  $\pi$  or  $\tau$  or  $\dots$

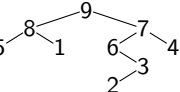
## In-order trees of permutations

Recursively defined by  $T_{in}(LnR) = \begin{array}{c} n \\ \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ T_{in}(L) \quad T_{in}(R) \end{array}$  where  
 $n = \max(LnR)$ , and  $T_{in}(\varepsilon) = \emptyset$ .

Example: For  $\pi = 5\ 8\ 1\ 9\ 6\ 2\ 3\ 7\ 4$ ,  $T_{in}(\pi) = \begin{array}{c} 9 \\ \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ 8 \quad 7 \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ 5 \quad 1 \quad 6 \quad 4 \\ \quad \quad \quad \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ \quad \quad \quad 2 \quad 3 \end{array}$

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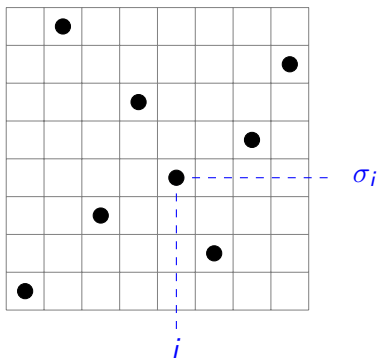
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**Example:** For  $\pi = 5\ 8\ 1\ 9\ 6\ 2\ 3\ 7\ 4$ ,  $T_{in}(\pi) =$  

**Remark:** Many permutation statistics are determined by the shape of in-order trees:

- number and positions of the right-to-left maxima,
- number and positions of the left-to-right maxima,
- up-down word.

## Diagrams of permutations; Sum and skew sum

Diagram of  $\sigma = 1\ 8\ 3\ 6\ 4\ 2\ 5\ 7$ :

$\alpha$  a permutation of  $\mathfrak{S}_a$ ,  
 $\beta$  a permutation of  $\mathfrak{S}_b$

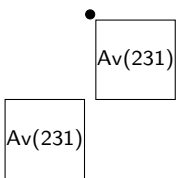
## ■ Sum:

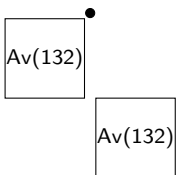
$$\alpha \oplus \beta = \alpha(\beta + a) = \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \beta \\ \hline \alpha \\ \hline \end{array}$$

## ■ Skew sum:

$$\alpha \ominus \beta = (\alpha + b)\beta = \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \alpha \\ \hline \beta \\ \hline \end{array}$$

Describing permutations in  $Av(231)$  and  $Av(132)$ 

■  $Av(231) = \varepsilon +$  

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- Any  $\pi \neq \varepsilon \in Av(231)$  is decomposed as

$$\pi = \alpha \oplus (1 \ominus \beta)$$

with  $\alpha, \beta \in Av(231)$ .

- Any  $\pi \neq \varepsilon \in Av(132)$  is decomposed as

$$\pi = (\alpha \oplus 1) \ominus \beta$$

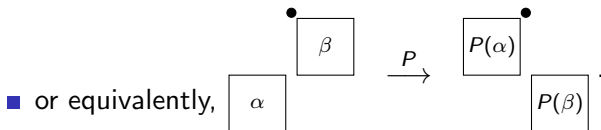
with  $\alpha, \beta \in Av(132)$ .

**Bijection**  $Av(231) \xleftrightarrow{P} Av(132)$

# Bijection $P$ from $Av(231)$ to $Av(132)$

$P$  is recursively defined as:

- If  $\pi = \alpha \oplus (1 \ominus \beta)$  then  $P(\pi) = (P(\alpha) \oplus 1) \ominus P(\beta)$ .



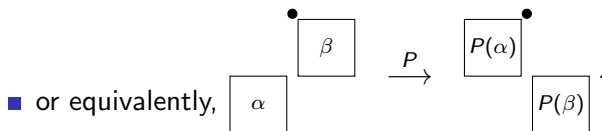
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**Example:** For  $\pi = 153249867 \in Av(231)$ ,  
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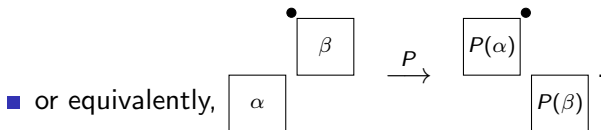
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 $P(\pi) = 785469312$ .



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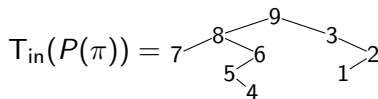
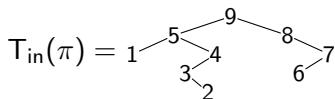
**Remark:**  $P$  is the identity map on  $Av(231, 132)$ .

## Some properties of $P$

**Proposition:**  $P$  preserves the shape of in-order trees.

**Proof:** From the recursive definition of  $P$ .

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**Consequence:**  $P$  preserves the following statistics:

- number and positions of the right-to-left maxima,
- number and positions of the left-to-right maxima,
- up-down word.

**Proof:** These are determined by the shape of in-order trees.

**More about the bijection**

$$Av(231) \xleftrightarrow{P} Av(132)$$

**Related Wilf-equivalences**

# $P$ and Wilf-equivalences

Two classes  $Av(\pi, \pi', \dots, \pi'')$  and  $Av(\tau, \tau', \dots, \tau'')$  are **Wilf-equivalent** when they are enumerated by the same sequence.

**Examples:**

- $Av(231)$  and  $Av(123)$ ;
- trivial Wilf-equivalences:  $Av(\pi, \pi', \dots, \pi'')$  and  $Av(\mathbf{Z}(\pi), \mathbf{Z}(\pi'), \dots, \mathbf{Z}(\pi''))$  for every symmetry  $\mathbf{Z}$ ;

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**Theorem:** Description of the patterns  $\pi \in Av(231)$  such that  $P$  provides a bijection between  $Av(231, \pi)$  and  $Av(132, P(\pi))$   
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**Theorem:** Computation of the generating function of such classes  $Av(231, \pi) \dots$  and it depends only on  $|\pi|$ .  
 $\Rightarrow$  Even more Wilf-equivalences!

# The families of patterns $(\lambda_n)$ and $(\rho_n)$

- $\lambda_0 = \rho_0 = \varepsilon$  (or  $\lambda_1 = \rho_1 = 1$ )
- $\lambda_n = 1 \oplus \rho_{n-1}$
- $\rho_n = \lambda_{n-1} \oplus 1$

$$\lambda_n = \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \bullet \\ \hline \rho_{n-1} \\ \hline \end{array}, \quad \rho_n = \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \rho_{n-1} \\ \hline \bullet \\ \hline \end{array}; \quad \lambda_6 = \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \bullet \\ \hline \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \bullet \\ \hline \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \bullet \\ \hline \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \bullet \\ \hline \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \bullet \\ \hline \end{array} \\ \hline \end{array} \\ \hline \end{array} \\ \hline \end{array} \\ \hline \end{array} \bullet \\ \hline \end{array}, \quad \rho_6 = \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \bullet \\ \hline \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \bullet \\ \hline \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \bullet \\ \hline \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \bullet \\ \hline \end{array} \\ \hline \end{array} \\ \hline \end{array} \\ \hline \end{array} \\ \hline \end{array} \\ \hline \end{array} \bullet \\ \hline \end{array}$$



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Remarks: for all  $n$ ,

- $\lambda_n$  starts with its maximum, and  $\rho_n$  ends with its maximum;
- $\lambda_n$  is  $\oplus$ -indecomposable and  $\rho_n$  is  $\ominus$ -indecomposable;
- $\lambda_n$  and  $\rho_n$  are in  $Av(231, 132)$ , hence are fixed by  $P$ .

# Patterns $\pi$ such that $Av(231, \pi) \xleftrightarrow{P} Av(132, P(\pi))$

## Theorem

A pattern  $\pi \in Av(231)$  is such that  $P$  provides a bijection between  $Av(231, \pi)$  and  $Av(132, P(\pi))$  if and only if  $\pi = \lambda_k \oplus (1 \ominus \rho_{n-k-1})$ .



**Remark:**  $Av(231, \pi) \xleftrightarrow{P} Av(132, P(\pi))$  is equivalent to  $\forall \sigma \in Av(231), \pi \preceq \sigma$  iff  $P(\pi) \preceq P(\sigma)$ .

# Patterns $\pi$ such that $\text{Av}(231, \pi) \xleftrightarrow{P} \text{Av}(132, P(\pi))$

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$\Leftarrow$  If  $\pi = \lambda_k \oplus (1 \ominus \rho_{n-k-1})$  then  $\text{Av}(231, \pi) \xleftrightarrow{P} \text{Av}(132, P(\pi))$

- Proof by induction on  $n$ .
- Examine how  $\lambda_k \oplus (1 \ominus \rho_{n-k-1})$  can occur in  $\sigma \in \text{Av}(231)$ .
- Examine how  $P(\lambda_k \oplus (1 \ominus \rho_{n-k-1}))$  can occur in  $P(\sigma) \in \text{Av}(132)$ .

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$\Rightarrow$  If  $\text{Av}(231, \pi) \xleftrightarrow{P} \text{Av}(132, P(\pi))$  then  $\pi = \lambda_k \oplus (1 \ominus \rho_{n-k-1})$

- Such a  $\pi$  may be written  $\pi = \alpha \oplus (1 \ominus \beta)$ .
- **Claim 1:**  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are also such that  $\text{Av}(231, \gamma) \xleftrightarrow{P} \text{Av}(132, P(\gamma))$ .
- **Claim 2:**  $\alpha$  starts with its maximum, and  $\beta$  ends with its maximum.
- By induction, every  $\gamma$  such that  $\text{Av}(231, \gamma) \xleftrightarrow{P} \text{Av}(132, P(\gamma))$  starting (resp. ending) with its maximum is equal to  $\lambda_\ell$  (resp.  $\rho_\ell$ ) for some  $\ell$ .

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$\Rightarrow$  If  $\text{Av}(231, \pi) \xleftrightarrow{P} \text{Av}(132, P(\pi))$  then  $\pi = \lambda_k \oplus (1 \ominus \rho_{n-k-1})$

**Consequence:** For all  $\pi = \lambda_k \oplus (1 \ominus \rho_{n-k-1})$ ,  $\text{Av}(231, \pi)$  and  $\text{Av}(132, P(\pi))$  are Wilf-equivalent.

## Example:

- $\lambda_3 \oplus (1 \ominus \rho_1) = 31254 \in \text{Av}(231)$  and  $P(31254) = 42351$ .
- $\Rightarrow$   $P$  is a bijection between  $\text{Av}(231, 31254)$  and  $\text{Av}(132, 42351)$
- $\Rightarrow$   $\text{Av}(231, 31254)$  and  $\text{Av}(132, 42351)$  are Wilf-equivalent

# Known Wilf-equivalences that we recover (or not)

☺ We recover

- for  $\pi = 312$ ,  $Av(231, 312) \sim_{Wilf} Av(132, 312)$ ,
- for  $\pi = 3124$ ,  $Av(231, 3124) \sim_{Wilf} Av(132, 3124)$ ,
- for  $\pi = 1423$ ,  $Av(231, 1423) \sim_{Wilf} Av(132, 3412)$ ,

which are (up to symmetry) referenced in Wikipedia.

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- for  $\pi = 1423$ ,  $\text{Av}(231, 1423) \sim_{\text{Wilf}} \text{Av}(132, 3412)$ ,

which are (up to symmetry) referenced in Wikipedia.

With  $|\pi| = 3$  or  $4$ , there are five more non-trivial Wilf-equivalences of the form  $\text{Av}(231, \pi) \sim_{\text{Wilf}} \text{Av}(132, \pi')$  (up to symmetry).

☹ We do not recover them.

# More Wilf-equivalences that we obtain

Patterns  $\pi$  such that  $Av(231, \pi) \sim_{Wilf} Av(132, P(\pi))$

and  $Av(231, \pi) \xrightarrow{P} Av(132, P(\pi))$ :

$\pi$	$P(\pi)$
42135	42135
21534	43512
53124	53124
31254	42351
15324	45213

$\pi$	$P(\pi)$
216435	546213
531246	531246
312645	534612
642135	642135
421365	532461
164235	563124

$\pi$	$P(\pi)$
6421357	6421357
3127546	6457213
7531246	7531246
4213756	6435712
1753246	6742135
5312476	6423571
2175346	6573124

$\pi$	$P(\pi)$
31286457	75683124
75312468	75312468
64213587	75324681
53124867	75346812
86421357	86421357
21864357	76842135
42138657	75468213
18642357	78531246

Except two they are non-trivial.



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531246	531246
312645	534612
642135	642135
421365	532461
164235	563124

$\pi$	$P(\pi)$
6421357	6421357
3127546	6457213
7531246	7531246
4213756	6435712
1753246	6742135
5312476	6423571
2175346	6573124

$\pi$	$P(\pi)$
31286457	75683124
75312468	75312468
64213587	75324681
53124867	75346812
86421357	86421357
21864357	76842135
42138657	75468213
18642357	78531246

Except two they are non-trivial.

But because of symmetries, there are some **redundancies**.

## Conjectural Wilf-equivalences that we miss

Patterns  $\pi$  such that **conjecturally**  $Av(231, \pi) \sim_{Wilf} Av(132, P(\pi))$

$\pi$	$P(\pi)$
2137465	5467231
1327645	5647312

$\pi$	$P(\pi)$
63125478	64235178
87153246	87452136
65312478	65312478
87421356	87421356

For all of those,  $Av(231, \pi) \xrightarrow{P} Av(132, P(\pi))$  **does not** hold.

Common generating function when  $\text{Av}(231, \pi) \xrightarrow{P} \text{Av}(132, P(\pi))$ 

**Definition:**  $F_1(t) = 1$  and  $F_{n+1}(t) = \frac{1}{1-tF_n(t)}$ .

## Theorem

*For  $\pi \in \text{Av}(231)$  such that  $\text{Av}(231, \pi) \xrightarrow{P} \text{Av}(132, P(\pi))$ , denoting  $n = |\pi|$ , the generating function of  $\text{Av}(231, \pi)$  is  $F_n$ .*

Common generating function when  $\text{Av}(231, \pi) \xrightarrow{P} \text{Av}(132, P(\pi))$ 

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## Proof:

- Recall that  $\pi = \lambda_k \oplus (1 \ominus \rho_{n-k-1})$ .
- For  $\pi = \lambda_n$  or  $\rho_n$ , proof by induction.
- For the general case, use a nice property of  $(F_n)$ :  
 setting  $g(x, y) = \frac{1-xy}{1-tx-ty}$ , we have  $F_n = g(F_j, F_k)$  for any  $j, k, n$  such that  $j + k = n - 1$ .

# Many Wilf-equivalent classes

## Theorem

*The classes  $\text{Av}(231, \pi)$  and  $\text{Av}(132, P(\pi))$  are **all** Wilf-equivalent when  $|\pi| = n$  and  $\pi$  is of the form  $\lambda_k \oplus (1 \ominus \rho_{n-k-1})$ . Moreover, their generating function is  $F_n$ .*

**Remark:** For other patterns  $\pi$  of size  $n = 7$  or  $8$  such that  $\text{Av}(231, \pi)$  and  $\text{Av}(132, P(\pi))$  are conjecturally Wilf-equivalent, the generating function of class  $\text{Av}(231, \pi)$  is **not**  $F_n$ .

# Many Wilf-equivalent classes . . . and even more?

## Theorem

*The classes  $\text{Av}(231, \pi)$  and  $\text{Av}(132, P(\pi))$  are **all** Wilf-equivalent when  $|\pi| = n$  and  $\pi$  is of the form  $\lambda_k \oplus (1 \ominus \rho_{n-k-1})$ . Moreover, their generating function is  $F_n$ .*

**Remark:** For other patterns  $\pi$  of size  $n = 7$  or  $8$  such that  $\text{Av}(231, \pi)$  and  $\text{Av}(132, P(\pi))$  are conjecturally Wilf-equivalent, the generating function of class  $\text{Av}(231, \pi)$  is **not**  $F_n$ .

**In future?:** For classes recursively described (like  $\text{Av}(231)$  and  $\text{Av}(132)$ ), define recursive bijections (like  $P$ ), to find or explain more Wilf-equivalences.