



Signed Mahonian identities on permutations

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Outline

- Signed Mahonian
- Main results:
 1. Caselli's conjecture verified
 - and explained
 2. Various applications
 - (1) Linear ext. of an injective labeling poset
 - (2) Restrict pattern avoidance
 - (3) signed version of Haglund-Loehr-Remmel
- Idea of proof
- Discussions



I

Signed Mahonian

inversion

- For $\sigma = \sigma_1\sigma_2 \dots \sigma_n \in \mathfrak{S}_n$, its inversion statistic **inv** is

$$\text{inv}(\sigma) := \#\{(i, j) : \sigma(i) > \sigma(j)\}.$$

- For $\sigma = \sigma_1\sigma_2 \dots \sigma_n \in \mathfrak{S}_n$, its descent set **Des** is

$$\text{Des}(\sigma) := \{i : \sigma(i) > \sigma(i+1)\},$$

and its major statistic **maj** is

$$\text{maj}(\sigma) := \sum_{i \in \text{Des}} i.$$

- For example

$$\cdot \text{inv}(315426) = \#\{(3, 1), (3, 2), (5, 4), (5, 2), (4, 2)\} = 5$$

$$\cdot \text{Des}(315426) = \{1, 3, 4\}, \quad \text{maj}(315426) = 8.$$

Mahonian

Theorem [MacMahon]

$$\sum_{\sigma \in \mathfrak{S}_n} q^{\text{inv}(\sigma)} = \sum_{\sigma \in \mathfrak{S}_n} q^{\text{maj}(\sigma)} = [1]_q [2]_q \cdots [n]_q,$$

where $[k]_q := 1 + q + q^2 + \cdots + q^k$.

- For example,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{\sigma \in \mathfrak{S}_3} q^{\text{inv}(\sigma)} &= \sum_{\sigma \in \mathfrak{S}_3} q^{\text{maj}(\sigma)} &= 1 + 2q + 2q^2 + q^3 \\ & &= (1)(1 + q)(1 + q + q^2) \\ & &= [1]_q [2]_q [3]_q. \end{aligned}$$

- A statistic (e.g. maj) equidistributed with inv is called a **Mahonian** statistic.

parabolic quotient

- \mathfrak{S}_n is the Coxeter group of type A_{n-1} .
 - generators are $\{s_1, \dots, s_{n-1}\}$
 - inv is the length function ℓ .
- Let $J := \{s_{n-k+1}, \dots, s_n\}$ (the last k generators)
 - W_J be the parabolic subgroup generated by J
 - ${}^J W$ be the left parabolic quotient of W_J , its nothing but...

$${}^J W = \{\sigma \in \mathfrak{S}_n : \sigma^{-1}(n-k+1) < \dots < \sigma^{-1}(n)\}$$

We denote it by $\mathfrak{S}_n^{[n-k+1, n]}$.

Theorem. [Humphreys]

$$\sum_{\sigma \in \mathfrak{S}_n^{[n-k+1, n]}} q^{\text{inv}(\sigma)} = [k+1]_q [k+2]_q \dots [n]_q.$$

Major holds too

- Amazingly, major holds also.

Theorem. [Stanley, Foata-Schützenberger]

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{\sigma \in \mathfrak{S}_n^{[n-k+1, n]}} q^{\text{inv}(\sigma)} &= \sum_{\sigma \in \mathfrak{S}_n^{[n-k+1, n]}} q^{\text{maj}(\sigma)} \\ &= [k+1]_q [k+2]_q \cdots [n]_q. \end{aligned}$$

Signed Mahonian

- Gessel and Simion considered the signed Mahonian:

Theorem. [Gessel, Simion]

$$\sum_{\sigma \in \mathfrak{S}_n} (-1)^{\text{inv}(\sigma)} q^{\text{maj}(\sigma)} = [1]_q [2]_{-q} [3]_q \cdots [n]_{(-1)^{n-1} q},$$

Hence it is natural to consider parabolic quotient $\mathfrak{S}_n(n - k + 1 : n)$.

Theorem. [Caselli, JCTA 2012]

$$\sum_{\sigma \in \mathfrak{S}_n^{[n-k+1, n]}} (-1)^{\text{inv}(\sigma)} q^{\text{maj}(\sigma)} = [k+1]_{\epsilon^{nk+n+k} q} [k+2]_{\epsilon^{k+1} q} \cdots [n]_{\epsilon^{n-1} q},$$

with $\epsilon := -1$.

Take the first generators

- Now one can take $J =: \{s_1, \dots, s_k\}$,
 - ... generate the parabolic subgroup W_J ,
 - ... and look at the left parabolic quotient ${}^J W$. Now

$${}^J W = \mathfrak{S}_n^{[1,k]} := \{\sigma \in \mathfrak{S}_n : \sigma^{-1}(1) < \dots < \sigma^{-1}(k)\}.$$

- ... and look at signed Mahonian

Caselli's conjecture

Conjecture [Caselli, JCTA 2012]. If n is even or k is odd, then

$$\sum_{\sigma \in \mathfrak{S}_n^{[1,k]}} (-1)^{\text{inv}(\sigma)} q^{\text{maj}(\sigma)} = \sum_{\sigma \in \mathfrak{S}_n^{[n-k+1,n]}} (-1)^{\text{inv}(\sigma)} q^{\text{maj}(\sigma)}$$

$n \setminus k$	0	1
0	??	??
1	–	??

- It is curious the conjecture holds for $(n, k) \equiv_2 (0, 0), (0, 1), (1, 1)$, but not $(1, 0)$

Our work

- We will verify Caselli's conjecture.
 - We will generalize it
 - We can fully explain **why** it holds only for even n or odd k .
- Our theory will establish many **new** signed Mahonian identities in...
 - subword preserving permutations,
 - linear extensions of any poset,
 - twisted pattern avoiding permutations,
 - signed version of Haglund-Loehr-Remmel identity,
 - etc, etc.



II

Caselli's conjecture

Relation increment by 2

- Let R be an **partial order** among numbers $\{1, 2, \dots, n - 2\}$
 - $R + 2$ be the partial order among $\{3, 4, \dots, n\}$ by a increment of 2.
- Let

$$\mathfrak{S}_n^R := \{\sigma \in \mathfrak{S}_n : \sigma^{-1} \text{ is consistent with all relations in } R\},$$

- For example, let $n = 5$ and $R = \{1 < 3, 2 < 3\}$
 - then $R + 2 = \{3 < 5, 4 < 5\}$
 - \mathfrak{S}_n^R are permutations in which 1, 2 appear before 3
 - \mathfrak{S}_n^{R+2} are permutations in which 3, 4 appear before 5.

descent monomial

- Recall $\text{Des}(\sigma)$ is the descent set of $\sigma \in \mathfrak{S}_n$. Let

$$\mathbf{x}^{\text{Des}(\sigma)} := \prod_{i \in \text{Des}(\sigma)} x_i$$

be its descent monomial.

- For example, $\sigma = 514632$ we have $\text{Des}(\sigma) = \{1, 4, 5\}$,
 - $\mathbf{x}^{\text{Des}(\sigma)} = x_1 x_4 x_5$
 - $\text{maj}(\sigma) = 10$.

Signed descent polynomial

Theorem. [-, 2018] For an **arbitrary** partial order R on $[n - 2]$, we have

$$\sum_{\sigma \in \mathfrak{S}_n^R} (-1)^{\text{inv}(\sigma)} \mathbf{x}^{\text{Des}(\sigma)} = \sum_{\sigma \in \mathfrak{S}_n^{R+2}} (-1)^{\text{inv}(\sigma)} \mathbf{x}^{\text{Des}(\sigma)}.$$

- Substitute x_i by tq^i we have

Theorem. [-, 2018] For an **arbitrary** partial order R on $[n - 2]$, we have

$$\sum_{\sigma \in \mathfrak{S}_n^R} (-1)^{\text{inv}(\sigma)} t^{\text{des}(\sigma)} q^{\text{maj}(\sigma)} = \sum_{\sigma \in \mathfrak{S}_n^{R+2}} (-1)^{\text{inv}(\sigma)} t^{\text{des}(\sigma)} q^{\text{maj}(\sigma)}.$$

Caselli's conj when $(n, k) \equiv_2 (0, 0), (1, 1)$.

- Taking $R = \{1 < 2 < \dots < k\}$, letting $t = 1$
 - apply above repeatedly
 - When $(n, k) \equiv_2 (0, 0), (1, 1)$, R can be translated to

$$\{n - k + 1 < \dots < n - 1 < n\}$$

Corollary. Caselli's conj. is verified if $(n, k) \equiv_2 (0, 0)$ or $(1, 1)$.

$$\sum_{\sigma \in \mathfrak{S}_n^{[1, k]}} (-1)^{\text{inv}(\sigma)} q^{\text{maj}(\sigma)} = \sum_{\sigma \in \mathfrak{S}_n^{[n-k+1, n]}} (-1)^{\text{inv}(\sigma)} q^{\text{maj}(\sigma)}$$

$n \setminus k$	0	1
0	OK	??
1	–	OK

Caselli's conj when $k \equiv_2 1$.

- The missing case can be done by

Theorem. [-, 2018] If k is odd, then we have

$$\sum_{\sigma \in \mathfrak{S}_n^{[a, a+k-1]}} (-1)^{\text{inv}(\sigma)} q^{\text{maj}(\sigma)} = \sum_{\sigma \in \mathfrak{S}_n^{[a+1, a+k]}} (-1)^{\text{inv}(\sigma)} q^{\text{maj}(\sigma)}.$$

- By a translation we can fill the missing case $(n, k) \equiv_2 (0, 1)$

Corollary. Caselli's conjecture is verified.

$n \setminus k$	0	1
0	OK	OK
1	–	OK

Generating function

- We can determine also the generating function.

Theorem. [-, 2018] Let n be arbitrary and k be even. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{\mathfrak{S}_n^{[n-k+1, n]}} (-1)^{\text{inv}(\sigma)} q^{\text{maj}(\sigma)} + \sum_{\mathfrak{S}_n^{[n-k, n-1]}} (-1)^{\text{inv}(\sigma)} q^{\text{maj}(\sigma)} \\ = 2[k+2]_{-q} [k+3]_q \cdots [n]_{(-1)^{n-k+1} q}. \end{aligned}$$

- From this, we can have a nice classification.....

The reason why $(n, k) = (1, 0)$ fails

- Let us say $\sum_{\mathfrak{S}_n^{[1,k]}} (-1)^{\text{inv}(\sigma)} q^{\text{maj}(\sigma)}$ is **indexed by $[1, k]$** .

Corollary. We have:

1. If k is even, then the signed Mahonian polynomials
 - indexed by $[1, k], [3, k + 2], [5, k + 4], \dots$ are of the same,
 - indexed by $[2, k + 1], [4, k + 3], [6, k + 5], \dots$ are of the same,
 - these two polynomials are different.
 2. If k is odd, then the signed Mahonian polynomials
 - indexed by $[1, k], [2, k + 1], [3, k + 2], \dots$ are all of the same.
- Now we know **why** $(n, k) = (1, 0)$ fails.
 - Because k is even, hence
 - $[n - k + 1, n]$ and $[1, k]$ belong to two different families.



III

Applications

- (1) Linear ext. of an injective labeling poset
 - (2) Restrict pattern avoidance
- (3) signed version of Haglund-Loehr-Remmel

(1) Linear ext. of an injective labeling poset

- Let P be a poset. Let
 - $f : P \rightarrow [n - 2]$ be an injective labeling.
 - $f + 2$ be the labeling by an increment of 2.
 - $\mathfrak{S}_n^f := \{\sigma \in \mathfrak{S}_n : \sigma^{-1}(f(x)) < \sigma^{-1}(f(y)), \text{ for } x < y \text{ in } P\}$
 - $\mathfrak{S}_n^{f+2} := \text{similarly.}$

Theorem. [-, 2018] For **any** P and **any** f , we have

$$\sum_{\sigma \in \mathfrak{S}_n^f} (-1)^{\text{inv}(\sigma)} \mathbf{x}^{\text{Des}(\sigma)} = \sum_{\sigma \in \mathfrak{S}_n^{f+2}} (-1)^{\text{inv}(\sigma)} \mathbf{x}^{\text{Des}(\sigma)}.$$

(2) Restrict pattern avoidance

- We can apply to pattern avoiding permutations.
 - ‘pattern’ here is in the classic sense. (231 means 2 – 3 – 1).
- Given a pattern π and a subset $S \subseteq [1, n - 2]$
 - hence $S + 2 \subseteq [3, n]$.

- Let

$$AV'_{n,S}(\pi) := \{\sigma \in \mathfrak{S}_n : \text{the } \pi\text{-avoidance are only for values in } S\},$$

$$AV''_{n,S}(\pi) := \{\sigma \in \mathfrak{S}_n : \text{the } \pi\text{-avoidance are only for values in } S + 2\}.$$

- $AV'_{9,\{1,3,4,6\}}(132)$ are those with no 132 pattern among $\{1, 3, 4, 6\}$.
- $AV''_{9,\{1,3,4,6\}}(132)$ are those with no 132 pattern among $\{3, 5, 6, 8\}$.
- For a set P of patterns, define $AV'_{n,S}(P)$, $AV''_{n,S}(P)$ similarly.

(2) Restrict pattern avoidance

Theorem. [-, 2018] Let P be an **arbitrary** set of patterns and $S \subseteq [n - 2]$. We have

$$\sum_{\sigma \in AV'_{n,S}(P)} (-1)^{\text{inv}(\sigma)} \mathbf{x}^{\text{Des}(\sigma)} = \sum_{\sigma \in AV''_{n,S}(P)} (-1)^{\text{inv}(\sigma)} \mathbf{x}^{\text{Des}(\sigma)}$$

• For example,

$$AV'_{4,[2]}(21) = \{1234, 1243, 1324, 1342, 1423, 1432, \\ 3124, 3142, 3412, 4123, 4132, 4312\}.$$

$$AV''_{4,[2]}(21) = \{1234, 1324, 1342, 2134, 2314, 2341, \\ 3124, 3142, 3214, 3241, 3412, 3421\}.$$

- Same signed descent polynomial $1 + x_2 - x_1x_2 - x_2x_3$.
- hence the same signed Mahonian value.

(3) signed Haglund-Loehr-Remmel Theorem

- Let τ be a permutation of the set $\{1, 2, \dots, n\} - \{r\}$ for a fixed r .
 - Let \mathfrak{S}_n^τ be the permutations contains τ as a subseq.

Theorem. [Haglund-Loehr-Remmel] We have

$$\sum_{\sigma \in \mathfrak{S}_n^\tau} q^{\text{maj}(\sigma)} = q^{\text{maj}(\tau)} [n]_q$$

Theorem. [-, 2018] Let τ be a permutation of the set $\{1, 2, \dots, n\} - \{r, r + 1\}$ for a fixed r . We have

$$\sum_{\sigma \in \mathfrak{S}_n^\tau} (-1)^{\text{inv}(\sigma)} q^{\text{maj}(\sigma)} = (-1)^{\text{inv}(\tau)} q^{\text{maj}(\tau)} [n - 1]_{\epsilon^n q} [n]_{\epsilon^{n-1} q}.$$



IV

Idea of proof

Key lemma

- The key of the proof is to see the cases that permutations by 2.
 - The pivot is the following lemma.
- Let $J \subseteq [n]$ with $j := |J|$, and $\pi \in \mathfrak{S}_J$
 - $\mathfrak{S}_n^\pi := \{\sigma \in \mathfrak{S}_n : \sigma^{-1}(\pi(1)) < \dots < \sigma^{-1}(\pi(j))\}$
 - $\pi + 2 := (\pi(1) + 2) \dots (\pi(j) + 2)$

Key Lemma. For any $\pi \in \mathfrak{S}_{[n-2]}$, there exists a bijection

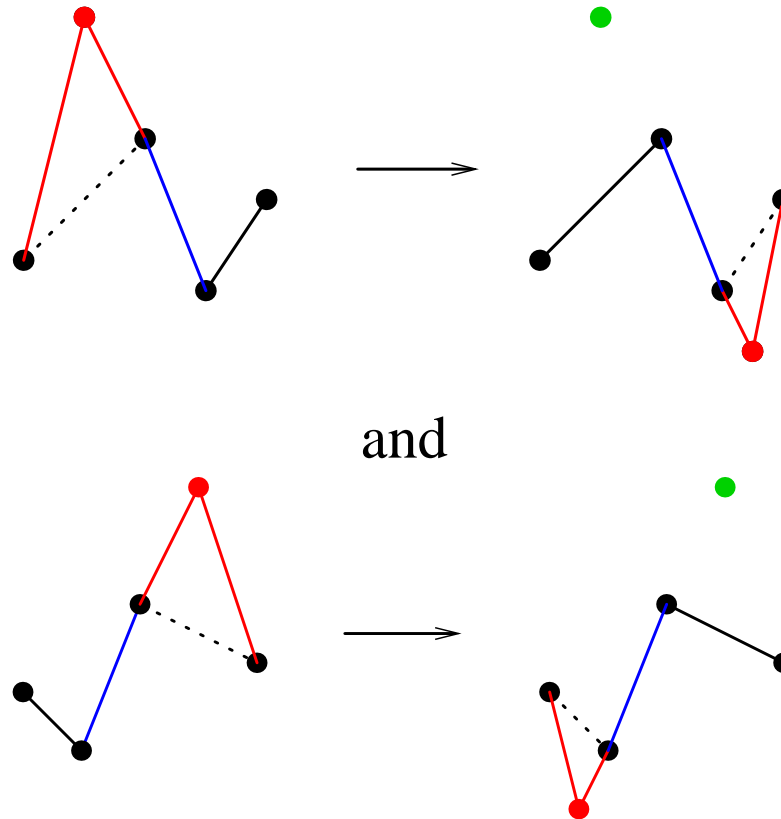
$$\phi : \mathfrak{S}_n^\pi \rightarrow \mathfrak{S}_n^{\pi+2}$$

such that

$$\text{inv}(\phi(\sigma)) \equiv_2 \text{inv}(\sigma), \quad \text{Des}(\phi(\sigma)) = \text{Des}(\sigma).$$

A naive idea

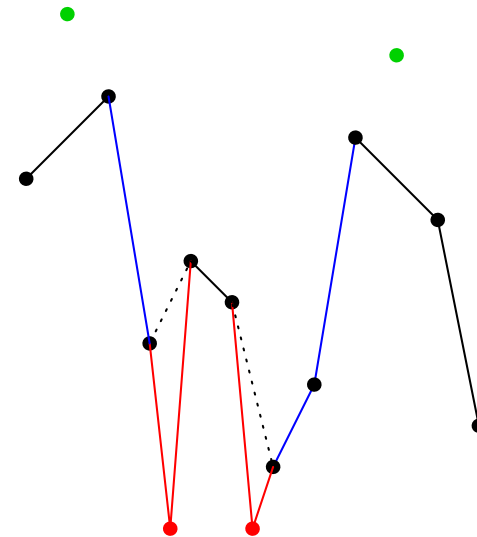
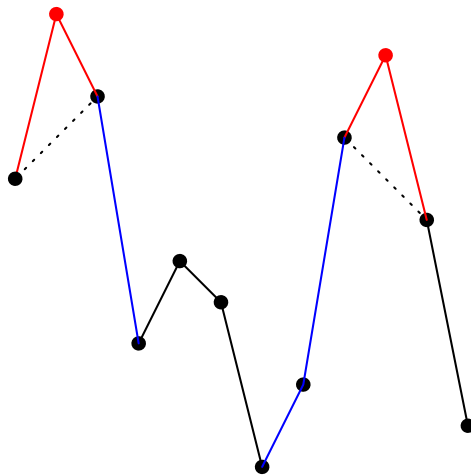
- The naive idea:
 - Change $\{n - 1, n\}$ to $\{1, 2\}$, keeping the shape and inversions
- The core operations:



For example

- For example,

8, 12, 10, 4, 6, 5, 1, 3, 9, 11, 7, 2 \mapsto 10, 12, 6, *, 8, 7, *, 3, 5, 11, 9, 4



- Now we have

- same shape (hence same Des)
- All black numbers +2 (hence keeping '+2 relation')
- switch 1, 2 (or not) such that inv has the correct parity.

Need a detailed analysis

- However there are too many exceptions:
 - If both paths collide?
 - If both paths interwine?
 - If 1, 2 cannot be exchanged?
- A **very careful** analysis is needed.
 - Anyway it can be done, and the theorems can be proved. □



V

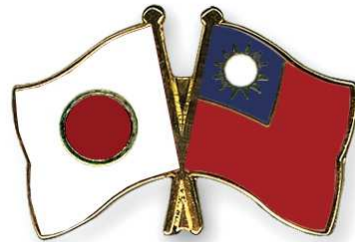
Discussions



Discussions

- We believe there is a Coxeter version of the above
 - under investigation, with preliminary results.
- A wreath product version?
- Add “signed” to other settings?
 - There are plenty of possibilities.

Thanks for your attention



Welcome any discussions and collaborations!