

EQUIVALENCE CLASSES OF MESH PATTERNS WITH A DOMINATING PATTERN

MURRAY TANNOCK

School of Computer Science, Reykjavik University, Reykjavik, Iceland

ABSTRACT. Two mesh patterns are coincident if they are avoided by the same set of permutations, and are Wilf-equivalent if they have the same number of avoiders at each length. We provide sufficient conditions for coincidence among mesh patterns, whilst also avoiding a longer classical pattern. Using these conditions we completely classify coincidences between families containing a mesh pattern of length 2 and a classical pattern of length 3. Furthermore, we completely Wilf-classify equivalences of mesh patterns of length 2 whilst also avoiding the classical pattern 231.

Keywords: permutation, pattern, mesh pattern, pattern coincidence

1. INTRODUCTION

The study of permutation patterns began as a result of Knuth's statements on stack sorting in *The Art of Computer Programming*[6, p. 243, Ex. 5,6]. This original concept—a subsequence of symbols having a particular relative order, now known as classical patterns—has been expanded to a variety of definitions. Mesh patterns Babson and Steingrímsson [1] considered *vincular* patterns—also known as *generalised* or *dashed* patterns—where two adjacent entries in the pattern must also be adjacent in the permutation. Bousquet-Mélou, Claesson, Dukes, *et al.* [3] look at classes of pattern where both columns and rows can be shaded, these are called *bivincular* patterns. *Bruhat-restricted* patterns were studied by Woo and Yong [7] in order to establish necessary conditions for a Schubert variety to be Gorenstein. All of these definitions are subsumed under the definition of *mesh patterns*, introduced by Brändén and Claesson [4] to capture explicit expansions for certain permutation statistics.

When considering permutation patterns some of the main questions posed relate to how and when a pattern is avoided by, or contained in, an arbitrary set of permutations. Two patterns π and σ are *Wilf-equivalent* if the number of permutations that avoid π of length n is equal to the number of permutations that avoid σ of length n . A stronger equivalence condition is that of *coincidence*, where the set of permutations avoiding π is exactly equal to the set of permutations avoiding σ . Avoiding pairs of patterns of the same length with certain properties has been studied previously, Claesson

E-mail address: murray14@ru.is.

and Mansour [5] considered avoiding a pair of vincular patterns of length 3. Bean, Claesson, and Ulfarsson [2] study avoiding a vincular and a covincular pattern simultaneously in order to achieve some interesting counting results. However, very little work has been done on avoiding a mesh pattern and a classical pattern simultaneously.

In this work we aim to establish some ground in this field by computing coincidences and Wilf-classes and calculating some of the enumerations of avoiders of a mesh pattern of length 2 and a classical pattern of length 3. We begin by establishing coincidences between mesh patterns of length 2 while avoiding a classical pattern of length 3, this is used to establish sufficient conditions for coincidence. We then establish Wilf-equivalence classes of these coincidence classes who avoid the classical pattern 231.

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