

# Combinatorial Exploration

Henning Ulfarsson  
ICE-TCS Theory Day 2019

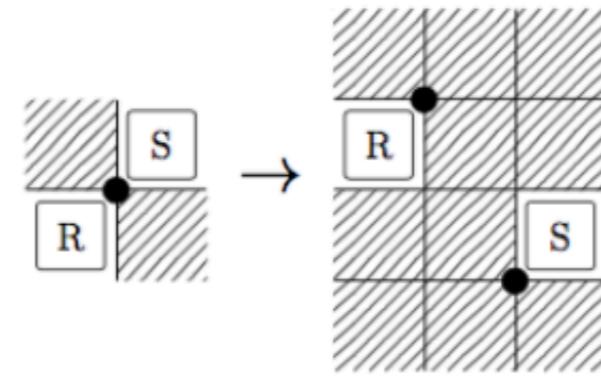
A collaborative research project with the  
Permuta Triangle

# permutatriangle.github.io

## Permuta Triangle

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The study of permutation patterns is a very active area of research and has connections to many other fields of mathematics as well as to computer science and physics. One of the main questions in the field is the enumeration problem: Given a particular set of permutations, how many permutations does the set have of each length? The main goal of this research group is to develop a novel algorithm which will aid researchers in finding structures in sets of permutations and use those structures to find generating functions to enumerate the set. Our research interests lead also into various topics in discrete mathematics and computer science.



### Members

- [Michael Albert](#), Professor, Otago University
- [Christian Bean](#), Postdoctoral Researcher, Reykjavik University
- [Anders Claesson](#), Professor, University of Iceland
- [Jay Pantone](#), Assistant Professor, Marquette University
- [Henning Ulfarsson](#), Assistant Professor, Reykjavik University

### Current students

- [Ragnar Pall Ardal](#), MSc student at Reykjavik University
- [Arnar Bjarni Arnarson](#), MSc student at Reykjavik University
- [Unnar Freyr Erlendsson](#), MSc student at Reykjavik University

# Permutations

\*  $\epsilon$

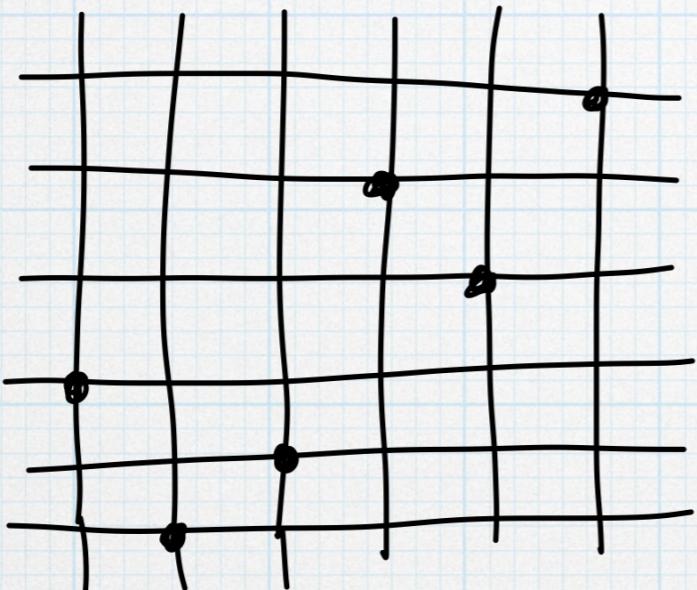
\* 1

\* 12, 21

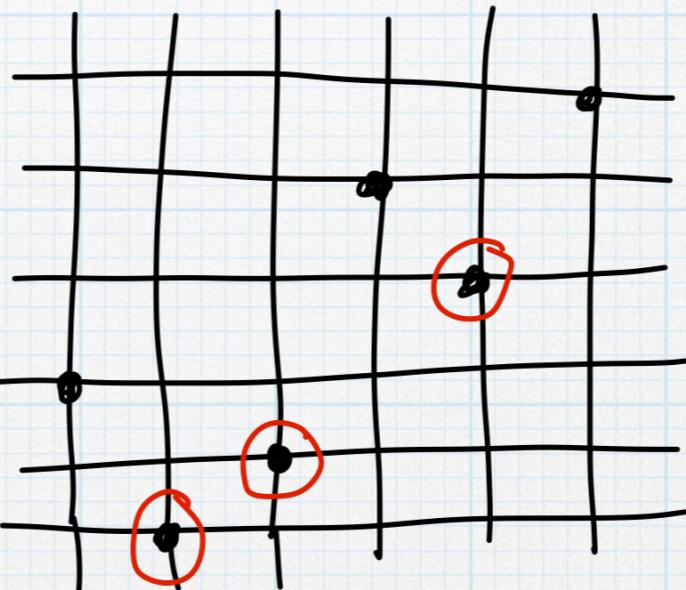
\* 123, 132, 213, 231, 312, 321

\* 1234, 1243, 1324, 1342, ...

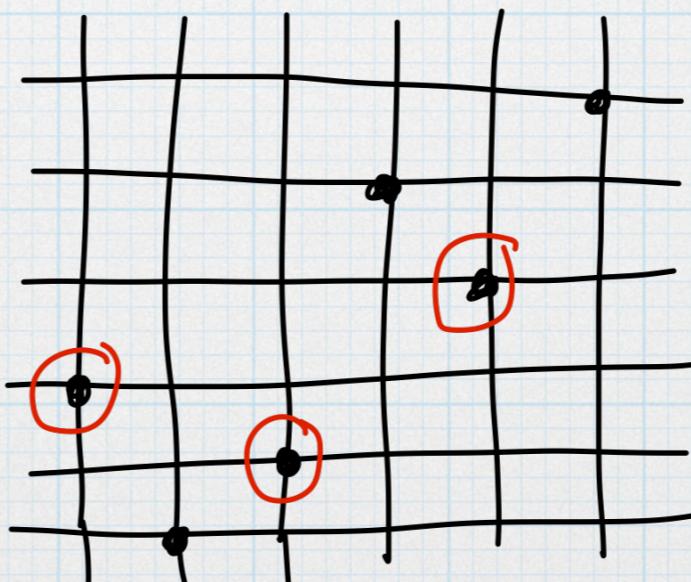
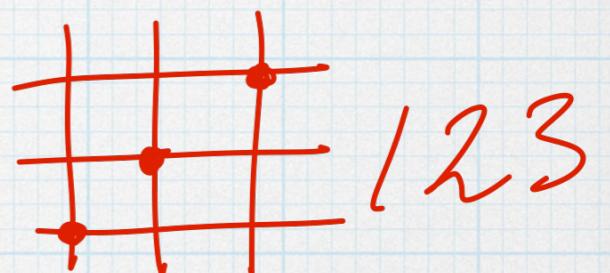
# Patterns



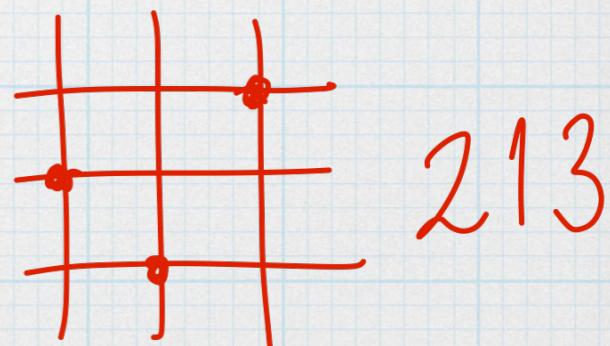
3 1 2 5 4 6



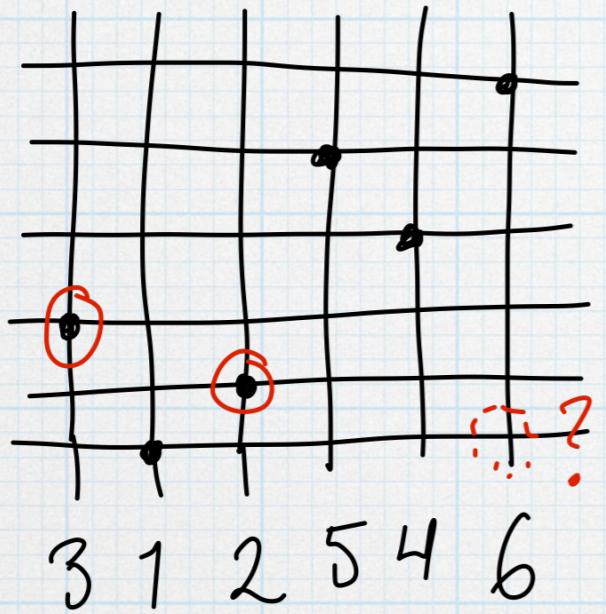
3 1 2 5 4 6



3 1 2 5 4 6



# Avoidance

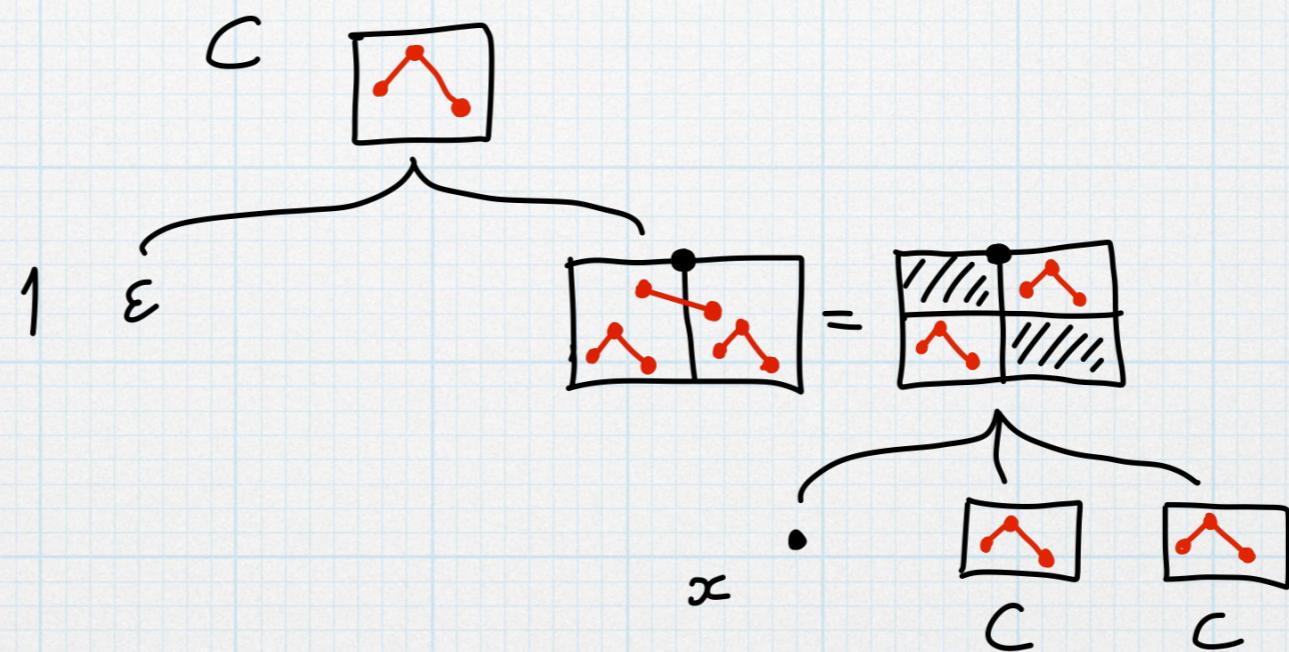


No   
321

So  $312546 \underbrace{\text{ avoids}}_{\in \text{Av}(321)} 321$

# “Original problem”

How many permutations of length  $n$  are in  $A = \text{Av}(231)$ ?



We now understand the structure.

How many?  $C$  = generating function

$$C = 1 + x \cdot C \cdot C$$

$$C = \frac{1 - \sqrt{1 - 4x}}{2x} = 1 + x + 2x^2 + 5x^3 + 14x^4 + 42x^5 + \dots$$

number of  
perms in  
 $\text{Av}(231)$  of  
length 4

# Running the algorithm

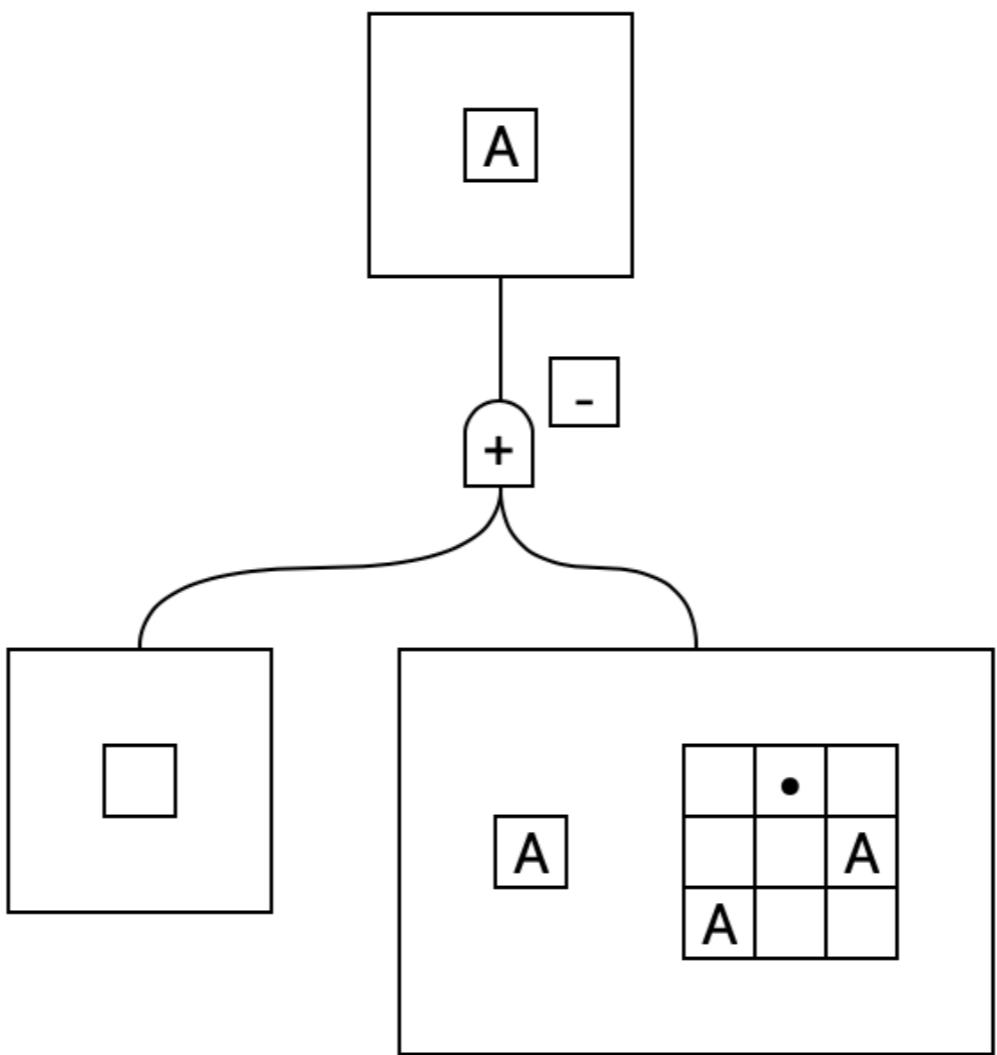
combrunner 231 point\_placements

```

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```

# Use combopal.ru.is to draw



# Mechanical Mathematician

## WILF CLASSIFICATION OF SUBSETS OF EIGHT AND NINE FOUR-LETTER PATTERNS

*Toufik Mansour<sup>1,\*</sup> and Matthias Schork<sup>2,†</sup>*

<sup>1</sup>Department of Mathematics, University of Haifa,  
Haifa, Israel

<sup>2</sup>Im Haindell, Sulzbach, Germany

Received: September 5, 2016; Accepted: December 13, 2016

Takes about two minutes on this laptop

# Pushing the boundary



Contents lists available at [ScienceDirect](#)

Journal of Combinatorial Theory,  
Series A

[www.elsevier.com/locate/jcta](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/jcta)



Generating permutations with restricted containers



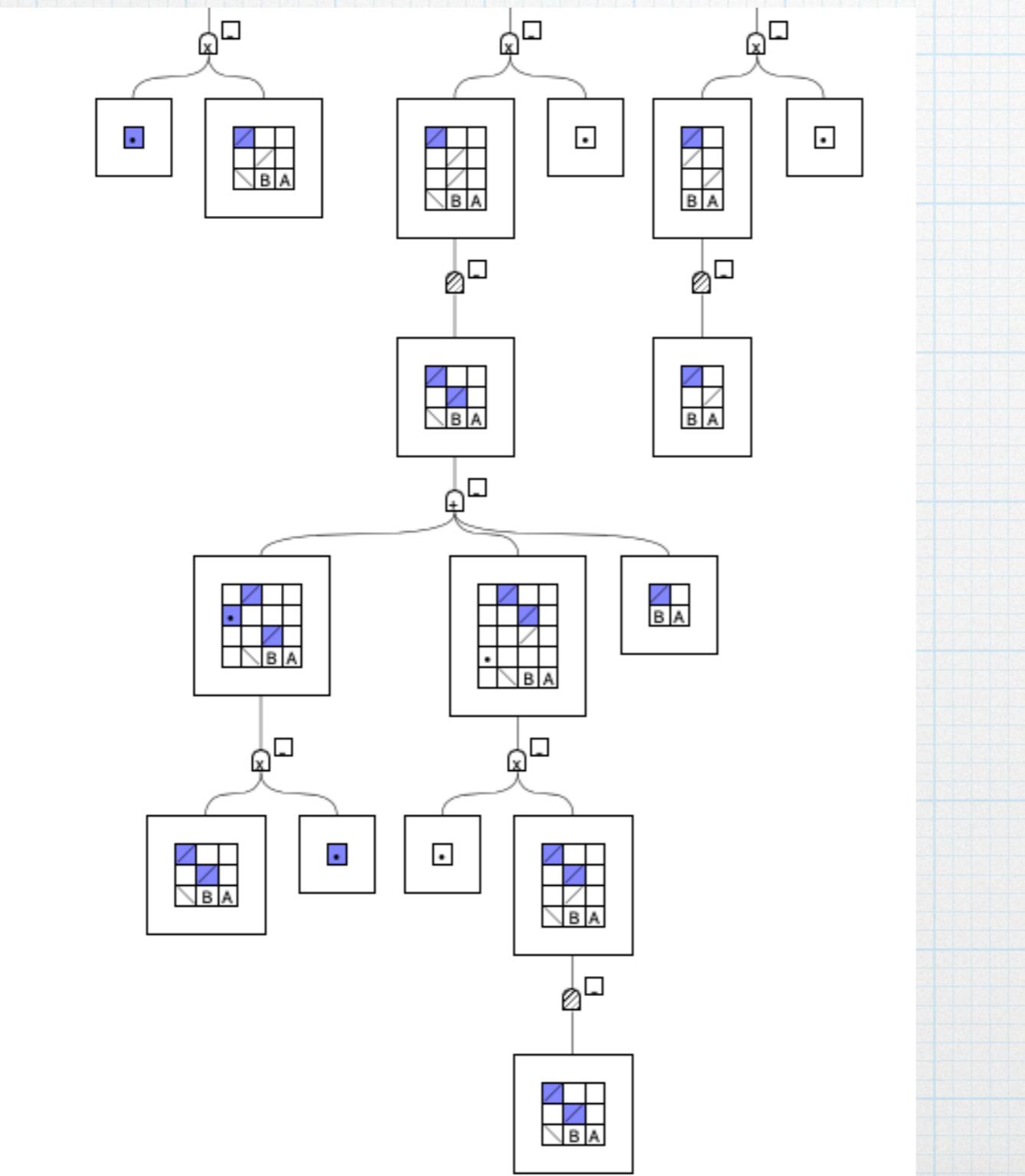
Michael H. Albert<sup>a</sup>, Cheyne Homberger<sup>b</sup>, Jay Pantone<sup>c,1</sup>,  
Nathaniel Shar<sup>d</sup>, Vincent Vatter<sup>e,1</sup>

One of the problems:  $\text{Av}(0132, 0213, 0321)$   
Best known answer: Polynomial time algorithm

pypy3 guided\_search.py 0132\_0213\_0321

(20 seconds)

# Pushing the boundary



```
def F_25(n):
    if n < 0:
        return 0
    if n in mem['F_25']:
        return mem['F_25'][n]
    ans = F_66(n) + F_0(n) + F_65(n)
    mem['F_25'][n] = ans
    return ans

def F_37(n):
    if n < 0:
        return 0
    if n in mem['F_37']:
        return mem['F_37'][n]
    ans = 0
    ans += F_51(n-1)
    mem['F_37'][n] = ans
    return ans

def F_66(n):
    if n < 0:
        return 0
    if n in mem['F_66']:
        return mem['F_66'][n]
    ans = 0
    ans += F_25(n-1)
    mem['F_66'][n] = ans
    return ans

def F_65(n):
    if n < 0:
        return 0
    if n in mem['F_65']:
        return mem['F_65'][n]
```

# Pushing the boundary

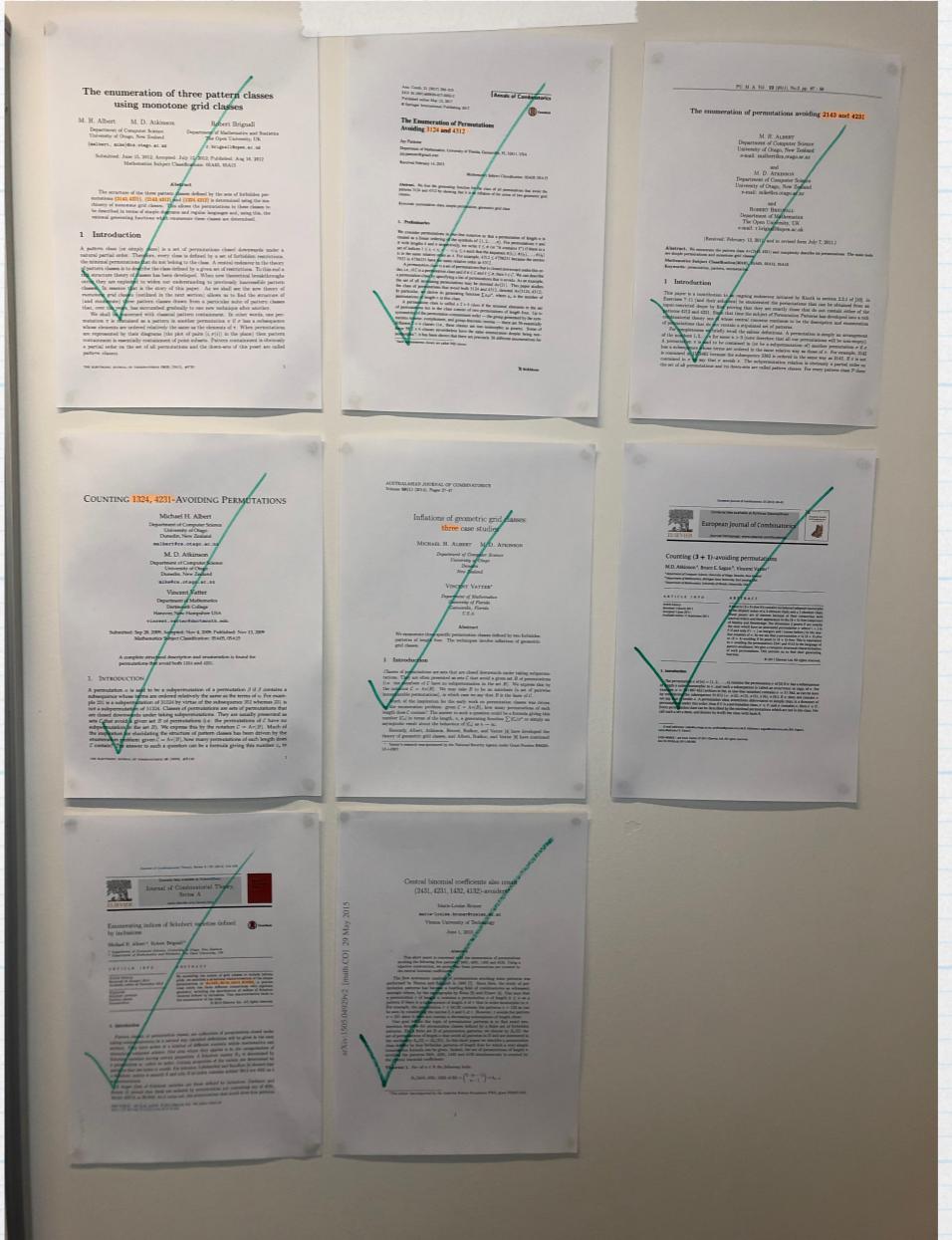
0 1  
1 1  
2 2  
3 6  
4 21  
5 79  
6 310  
7 1251  
8 5150  
9 21517  
10 90921  
11 387595  
12 1663936  
13 7183750  
14 31158310  
15 135661904  
16 592558096  
17 2595232344  
18 11392504426  
19 50109205789  
20 220777103354  
21 974162444028  
22 4303957562319  
23 19036842605855  
24 84285643628790  
25 373502845338552  
26 1656428550764640  
27 7351106011540209

28 32643855249507805  
29 145040974005303590  
30 644756480385363800  
31 2867442403207032074  
32 12757585143032068182  
33 56780610004782571243  
34 252798432449723547544  
35 1125843555685097572217  
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42 39369858650227527845883378  
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45 3495609284854653450577518243  
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# Successes

- \* To run heavier computations we use the Garpur cluster
- \* Have automated about two dozen research articles
- \* Subsumed several previous algorithmic methods



# Future

- \* As part of his PhD thesis, Christian Bean developed a general framework to apply combinatorial exploration to mathematical objects
- \* Set partitions, polyominoes, trees, graphs, ...

