

All edges are assumed to be undirected.

Problem setup: When considering a new index p_i , add up to two edges: add (i, j) , such that j is maximized, $1 \leq j < i$, and $p_j > p_i$, and add (i, k) such that k is minimized, $i < k \leq n$, and $p_k > p_i$. If no such j exists, do not add (i, j) , and likewise for k .

Observations: For no edge to be added to an index, p_1, \dots, p_i must be monotonically increasing, and p_i, \dots, p_n must be monotonically decreasing.

We count the number of acyclic permutations, rather than counting the number of cyclic permutations.