# Antichains of Permutations 

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Tuesday 17th June, 2008

## Introduction

(9) Introduction

- Permutation Classes
- Antichains
- Partial Well Order
(2) Grid Classes
- Monotone Classes
- Antichains and Pin Sequences
- Juxtapositions


## Pattern Containment

- A permutation $\tau=t_{1} t_{2} \ldots t_{k}$ is contained in the permutation $\sigma=s_{1} s_{2} \ldots s_{n}$ if there exists a subsequence $s_{i_{1}}, s_{i_{2}}, \ldots, s_{i_{k}}$ order isomorphic to $\tau$.


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## Example

The class $\mathcal{C}=\operatorname{Av}(12)$ consists of all the decreasing permutations:

$$
\{1,21,321,4321, \ldots\}
$$

## Antichains

- Set of pairwise incomparable permutations.


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## Example (Increasing Oscillating Antichain)




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- Bottom copies of 4123 must match up (the anchor).


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- Each point is matched in turn.


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- Last pair cannot be embedded.


## Complete and Fundamental Antichains

- Closure of a set $A: \mathrm{Cl}(A)=\{\pi: \pi \leq \alpha$ for some $\alpha \in A\}$.


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## Example

The increasing oscillating antichain is fundamental, but not complete.


Not complete: $I \cup\{321\}$ is an antichain.

## More on Fundamental Antichains

- For any permutation $\pi$ and antichain $A, A^{\| \pi}=\{\alpha \in A: \pi \| \alpha\}$.


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## Lemma

$A$ is fundamental if and only if the proper closure $C l(A) \backslash A$ is pwo and for every $\pi \in C l(A) \backslash A$ the set $A^{\| \pi}$ is finite.

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- This condition means that terms of a fundamental antichain look "similar".


## Conjectures: Antichain Structure

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## Conjecture

Every member of a fundamental antichain contains at most two proper intervals.

## An Ordering on Antichains

- Define an order on antichains:

$$
B \preceq A \Leftrightarrow \text { for every } \alpha \in A \text {, there exists } \beta \in B \text { with } \beta \leq \alpha
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- Note that $A \subseteq B$ implies $B \preceq A$ !
- Interested in antichains that are minimal under $\preceq$.


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- Interested in antichains that are minimal under $\preceq$.


## Lemma

An antichain is minimal under $\preceq$ if and only if it is complete and fundamental.

## Partial Well Order

- A permutation class is partially well-ordered (pwo) if it contains no infinite antichains.


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## Question

Can we decide whether a permutation class given by a finite basis is pwo?

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- To prove not pwo - find an antichain.


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- To prove pwo - Higman's theorem is useful.
- To prove not pwo - find an antichain.


## Proposition (Nash-Williams, 1963)

Every non-pwo permutation class contains an antichain that is minimal under $\preceq$.

## Corollary

Every non-pwo permutation class contains a fundamental antichain.

## More on Minimal Antichains

## Theorem (Cherlin and Latka, 2000)

For each natural number $k$, there is a finite set $\Lambda_{k}$ of antichains minimal under $\preceq$ with the property that a class avoiding exactly $k$ permutations is pwo if and only if its intersection with each antichain in $\Lambda_{k}$ is finite.

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The problem of deciding whether a hereditary property of tournaments with two basis elements is pwo is decidable in polynomial time.

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- Caveat: algorithm is not known.


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Proposition (Atkinson, Murphy and Ruškuc, 2002)
$\operatorname{Av}(\beta)$ is pwo if and only if $\beta \in\{1,12,21,132,213,231,312\}$

## Topology

- $\mathcal{A}$ - set of all minimal antichains, viewed as a topological space.
- Open sets: for $B$ a finite set of permutations

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\mathcal{A}_{B}=\{A \in \mathcal{A}: A \cap \operatorname{Av}(B) \text { is infinite }\}
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- Equivalence relation:

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A_{1} \rho A_{2} \Leftrightarrow\left\{\mathcal{A}_{B}: A_{1} \in \mathcal{A}_{B}\right\}=\left\{\mathcal{A}_{B}: A_{1} \in \mathcal{A}_{B}\right\}
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- Easier: $A_{1} \rho A_{2}$ iff $\mathrm{Cl}\left(A_{1}\right) \backslash A=\mathrm{Cl}\left(A_{2}\right) \backslash A$.
- Quotient: $\mathcal{A}^{\prime}=\mathcal{A} / \rho$ (is a $T_{0}$ space).


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- Quotient: $\mathcal{A}^{\prime}=\mathcal{A} / \rho$ (is a $T_{0}$ space).
- $A \in \mathcal{A}$ is isolated in $\mathcal{A}^{\prime}$ if there is some finite basis $B$ such all infinite fundamental antichains in $\operatorname{Av}(B)$ are equivalent (in $\mathcal{A}^{\prime}$ ) to $A$.


## Conjectures

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Not all minimal antichains are isolated.

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Not all minimal antichains are isolated.

- There are some minimal antichains that are never needed to prove that a finitely based class is non-pwo.


## Conjecture

For each isolated antichain $A$ "in" $\mathcal{A}$ ", there is an algorithm to decide whether an arbitrary permutation belongs to $\mathrm{Cl}(A) \backslash A$.

- Minimal isolated antichains have some kind of reliable structure.


## Grid Classes

- Matrix $\mathcal{M}$ whose entries are permutation classes.
- $\operatorname{Grid}(\mathcal{M})$ the grid class of $\mathcal{M}$ : all permutations which can be "gridded" so each cell satisfies constraints of $\mathcal{M}$.


## Example

- Let $\mathcal{M}=\left(\begin{array}{ccc}\operatorname{Av}(21) & \operatorname{Av}(231) & \emptyset \\ \operatorname{Av}(123) & \emptyset & \operatorname{Av}(12)\end{array}\right)$.



## Monotone Grid Classes

- Special case: all cells of $\mathcal{M}$ are $\operatorname{Av}(21)$ or $\operatorname{Av}(12)$.
- Rewrite $\mathcal{M}$ as a matrix with entries in $\{0,1,-1\}$.


## Example

$$
\mathcal{M}=\left(\begin{array}{ccc}
1 & 1 & 0 \\
-1 & 0 & 1 \\
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## The Graph of a Matrix

- Graph of a matrix, $G(\mathcal{M})$, formed by connecting together all non-zero entries that share a row or column and are not "separated" by any other nonzero entry.


## Example

$$
\left(\begin{array}{cccc}
1 & 0 & 0 & -1 \\
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## Monotone Grids and Partial Well Order

## Theorem (Murphy and Vatter, 2003)

The monotone grid class $\operatorname{Grid}(\mathcal{M})$ is pwo if and only if $G(\mathcal{M})$ is a forest, i.e. $G(\mathcal{M})$ contains no cycles.

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The monotone grid class $\operatorname{Grid}(\mathcal{M})$ is pwo if and only if $G(\mathcal{M})$ is a forest, i.e. $G(\mathcal{M})$ contains no cycles.

## Proof.

$(\Leftarrow)$ New shorter proof in Waton's Thesis (2007).


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$(\Leftarrow)$ Partial multiplication table.


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$(\Leftarrow) \pm 1$ correspond to directions.


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## Proof.

$(\Leftarrow)$ Form one order per arrow.

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { - } 1<9<8<4 \text {. } \\
& \text { - } 5<10<6<7 \text {. } \\
& \text { - } 2<3 \text {. } \\
& \text { - } 1<2<3<4 \text {. } \\
& \text { - } 5<6 \text {. } \\
& \text { - } 10<9<8<7 \text {. }
\end{aligned}
$$

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## Proof.

$(\Leftarrow)$ No cycles, so this gives a poset.


- $1<9<8<4$.
- $5<10<6<7$.
- $2<3$.
- $1<2<3<4$.
- $5<6$.
- $10<9<8<7$.


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## Proof.

$(\Leftarrow)$ Linear extension: $5<10<1<9<2<6<8<3<7<4$


- Encode by region: 3412532541 .
- Higman's Theorem: $\{1,2,3,4,5\}^{*}$ is pwo under the subword order.
- Encoding is reversible, hence $\operatorname{Grid}(\mathcal{M})$ is pwo.


## Monotone Grids and Partial Well Order

## Theorem (Murphy and Vatter, 2003)

The monotone grid class $\operatorname{Grid}(\mathcal{M})$ is pwo if and only if $G(\mathcal{M})$ is a forest, i.e. $G(\mathcal{M})$ contains no cycles.

## Proof.

$(\Rightarrow)$ Construct fundamental antichains that "walk" around a cycle.



## The Widdershins Antichain



- "Spirals" out from the centre.
- Constructed by means of a pin sequence.
- In general: a pin sequence with first and last pins inflated forms a fundamental antichain.


## Quasi-Square



- Not constructible by a pin sequence.


## Quasi-Square



- Not constructible by a pin sequence.
- Flip each column...


## Quasi-Square



- Not constructible by a pin sequence.
- ...Widdershins!


## Bigger Grids



- Carry out row flips and column reversals: $r_{1} \circ r_{2} \circ r_{3} \circ f_{3}$.


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## Bigger Grids



- Carry out row flips and column reversals: $r_{1} \circ r_{2} \circ r_{3} \circ f_{3}$.
- Resulting structure behaves a bit like a pin sequence.


## Grid Pin Sequences

- Local separation: $p_{i+1}$ separates $p_{i}$ from $p_{i+1}$.
- Row-column agreement: $p_{i+1}$ must be placed in the same row or column as $p_{i}$.
- Local externality: $p_{i+1}$ extends from $\operatorname{Rect}\left(p_{i-1}, p_{i}\right)$.
- Non-interaction: $p_{i+1}$ could not have been used in $p_{1}, \ldots, p_{i}$.


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- Grid pin sequences on an $m \times n$ grid can be encoded in a regular language on $\left\{c_{1}, \ldots, c_{m}, r_{1}, \ldots, r_{n}\right\}$.


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## Conjecture

It is decidable whether a subclass of monotone grid class ("monotone griddable") given by a finite basis is partially well ordered.

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## Theorem (Hucznyska and Vatter, 2006)

A permutation class is monotone griddable if and only if it does not contain arbitrarily long sums of 21 or skew sums of 12.

## Other Antichains

- Increasing Oscillating - pin sequence in a single cell.



## Other Antichains

- Two cells: antichain $V$.



## Other Antichains

- Two cells: antichain $V$.
- LHS: skew sums of 12 .



## Other Antichains

- Two cells: antichain $V$.
- RHS: direct sums of 21.



## Juxtaposition

- The juxtaposition of two classes $\mathcal{C}$ and $\mathcal{D}$ is $[\mathcal{C} \mathcal{D}]=\operatorname{Grid}(\mathcal{C} \mathcal{D})$.
- Think of them as grid classes with 2 cells.


## Question

When is the juxtaposition of two classes pwo?

## Juxtaposition II

- If $\mathcal{D}$ contains arbitrarily long oscillations and $\mathcal{C} \neq \operatorname{Av}(12,21)$ then $[\mathcal{C} \mathcal{D}]$ is not pwo. ("Tied by One" antichain)



## Juxtaposition II

- If $\mathcal{C}$ and $\mathcal{D}$ both contain arbitrarily long sums of 21 or skew sums of 12 , then $[\mathcal{C} \mathcal{D}]$ is not pwo.



## Juxtaposition II

- If $\mathcal{C}$ and $\mathcal{D}$ do not contain arbitrarily long sums of 21 or skew sums of 12 , then they are monotone griddable.
- Not pwo if $\mathcal{C}$ and $\mathcal{D}$ contain arbitrarily long vertical alternations.



## Thanks!

## Appendix: Proper Pin Sequences



- Start with a point placed in relation to the origin.


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## Encoding Grid Pin Sequences

- Letter $r_{i}$ : place a pin in row $i$.
- Letter $c_{j}$ : place a pin in column $j$.
- This defines the placement of the pin uniquely.
- For example: $r_{2}$


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