

FLAG-MAJOR INDEX AND FLAG-INVERSION NUMBER ON COLORED WORDS AND WREATH PRODUCT

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ABSTRACT. In [*Proc. Amer. Math. Soc.* **19** (1968), 236–240], Dominique Foata constructed a map Φ , called *second fundamental transformation*, exchanging the integer-valued statistics *inversion number* “inv” and *major index* “maj” on words whose letters are integers. Later, Foata and Han introduced the *flag-inversion number* “finv” and extended Φ on signed words and permutations, showing that the *flag major index* “fmaj” and “finv” were equidistributed. In this paper we give an extension of Φ to ℓ -colored words. Using this extension, we show that the bivariate statistics (fmaj, des^{*}) and (finv, pcol) are equidistributed, where “pcol” is the sum of color powers and “des^{*}” is a new statistic derived from “des”.

1. INTRODUCTION

The *second fundamental transformation*, denoted by Φ and described in [5] by Foata, is defined on finite words whose letters are integers. If $\mathbf{m} = (m_1, \dots, m_r)$ is a sequence of nonnegative integers, let $R_{\mathbf{m}}$ be the set of all rearrangements $w = x_1 x_2 \cdots x_m$ of the sequence $1^{m_1} 2^{m_2} \dots n^{m_r}$ where $m = m_1 + m_2 + \cdots + m_r$. The transformation Φ maps each word w to another word $\Phi(w)$ and has the following properties:

- (1) $\text{maj } w = \text{inv } \Phi(w)$;
- (2) $\Phi(w)$ is a rearrangement of w and the restriction of Φ to $R_{\mathbf{m}}$ is a bijection of $R_{\mathbf{m}}$ onto itself.

Further properties were proved later on by Foata and Schützenberger [7], and by Björner and Wachs [3], in particular, when the transformation is restricted to act on the symmetric group S_r .

The purpose of this paper is to extend the transformation Φ to ℓ -colored words.

Let C_ℓ be the ℓ -cyclic group generated by $\zeta = e^{2i\pi/\ell}$. By an ℓ -colored word, we understand a pair (ε, x) , where $\varepsilon \in (C_\ell)^m$ and x is a word of length m whose letters are nonnegative integers. For reasons which will appear later, if $w := (\varepsilon, x)$ is an ℓ -colored word where $\varepsilon = (\varepsilon_1, \varepsilon_2, \dots, \varepsilon_m)$ and $x = x_1 x_2 \cdots x_m$, we write $w := w_1 w_2 \cdots w_m$ where $w_j = \varepsilon_j x_j$ ($1 \leq j \leq m$). For any j with $1 \leq j \leq m$, ε_j is called the *color* of w_j and, if $\varepsilon_j = \zeta^{k_j}$, k_j is the power of this color. For small values of ℓ , we shall use k_j bars over x_j instead of $\zeta^{k_j} x_j$.

For example, if $w = \zeta^2 3 \zeta^2 1 \zeta^0 4 \zeta 1 \zeta^2 3$, then we write $w = \bar{3}\bar{1}\bar{4}\bar{1}\bar{3}$.

Any ℓ -colored word can be considered as a finite word over the alphabet $\Sigma_\ell := \{\xi_j; \xi \in C_\ell, j \geq 1\}$.

Let $w := w_1 w_2 \cdots w_m := \varepsilon_1 x_1 \varepsilon_2 x_2 \cdots \varepsilon_m x_m$ be an ℓ -colored word. We write

$$\begin{aligned} |w_i| &:= x_i, & 1 \leq i \leq m; \\ |w| &:= |w_1| |w_2| \cdots |w_m|; \end{aligned} \tag{1.1}$$

and we define the statistic *power-color* “pcol” by

$$\begin{aligned} \text{pcol}_i w &:= \sum_{0 \leq j \leq \ell-1} j \chi(\varepsilon_i = \zeta^j), & 1 \leq i \leq m; \\ \text{pcol } w &:= \sum_{1 \leq i \leq m} \text{pcol}_i w. \end{aligned} \tag{1.2}$$

If $\mathbf{m} = (m_1, \dots, m_r)$ is a sequence of nonnegative integers such that $m_1 + \cdots + m_r = m$, let $G_{\ell, \mathbf{m}}$ be the set of all ℓ -colored words $w = w_1 w_2 \cdots w_m$ such that $|w| \in R_{\mathbf{m}}$. The class $G_{\ell, \mathbf{m}}$ contains $\ell^m \binom{m}{m_1, m_2, \dots, m_r}$ ℓ -colored words. When $m_1 = m_2 = \cdots = m_r = 1$, the class $G_{\ell, \mathbf{m}}$ is the wreath product $C_\ell \wr S_r$ denoted by $G_{\ell, r}$. We define an order relation on Σ_ℓ as follows:

$$\zeta^j i > \zeta^{j'} i' \iff [j < j'] \quad \text{or} \quad [(j = j') \quad \text{and} \quad (i > i')]. \tag{1.3}$$

The restriction of this order to the class of ordinary words (with nonnegative letters) is the usual order.

As in [6], the statistics “inv” and “maj” must be adapted to ℓ -colored words and correspond to classical statistics when applied to ordinary words. Let

$$(\omega; q)_n := \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } n = 0; \\ (1 - \omega)(1 - \omega q) \cdots (1 - \omega q^{n-1}) & \text{if } n \geq 1; \end{cases}$$

denote the usual q -shifted factorial, and let

$$\left[\begin{matrix} m_1 + m_2 + \cdots + m_r \\ m_1, m_2, \dots, m_r \end{matrix} \right]_q := \frac{(q; q)_{m_1 + m_2 + \cdots + m_r}}{(q; q)_{m_1} (q; q)_{m_2} \cdots (q; q)_{m_r}}$$

be the q -multinomial coefficient.

With the order relation defined in (1.3), the natural extensions of the *flag-major index* “fmaj” and the *flag-inversion number* “finv” introduced by Foata and Han [6] to ℓ -colored

words are defined as follows: for all ℓ -colored word $w := w_1 w_2 \cdots w_m$,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{fmaj } w &:= \ell \sum_{i=1}^{m-1} i \chi(w_i > w_{i+1}) + \text{pcol } w; \\ \text{finv } w &:= \sum_{\substack{1 \leq i < j \leq m \\ \xi \in C_\ell}} \chi(\xi w_i > w_j) + \text{pcol } w. \end{aligned}$$

Foata and Han defined $(-q; q)_m [m_1, m_2, \dots, m_r]_q$ as a q -analog of $2^m (m_1, m_2, \dots, m_r)$. By analogy, $\frac{(q^\ell; q^\ell)_m}{(q; q)_m} [m_1, m_2, \dots, m_r]_q$ is a natural q -analog of $\ell^m (m_1, m_2, \dots, m_r)$.

We claim that

$$\frac{(q^\ell; q^\ell)_m}{(q; q)_m} \left[m_1, m_2, \dots, m_r \right]_q = \sum_{w \in G_{\ell, \mathbf{m}}} q^{\text{finv } w}. \quad (1.4)$$

This can be established by induction on m . Indeed, let us consider the bijective transformation

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi : G_{\ell, \mathbf{m}} &\longrightarrow \{0, 1, \dots, \ell - 1\} \times \bigcup_{k=1}^r G_{\ell, \mathbf{m}-\mathbf{1}_k}, \\ w := w_1 w_2 \cdots w_m &\longmapsto (s, w') := (\text{pcol}_m w, w_1 w_2 \cdots w_{m-1}) \end{aligned}$$

where $\mathbf{m}-\mathbf{1}_k = (m_1, m_2, \dots, m_{k-1}, m_k - 1, m_{k+1}, \dots, m_r)$. We have $k = |w_m|$ and

$$\begin{aligned} \text{finv } w &= \text{finv } w' + s + \sum_{\substack{1 \leq i \leq m-1 \\ 0 \leq j \leq \ell-1}} \chi(\zeta^j |w_i| > w_m) \\ &= \text{finv } w' + ms + (m_{k+1} + \cdots + m_r) \chi(k < r). \end{aligned}$$

So,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{w \in G_{\ell, \mathbf{m}}} q^{\text{finv } w} &= \sum_{0 \leq s \leq \ell-1} q^{ms} \left(\sum_{w' \in G_{\ell, \mathbf{m}-\mathbf{1}_r}} q^{\text{finv } w'} + \sum_{1 \leq k \leq r-1} q^{m_{k+1} + \cdots + m_r} \sum_{w' \in G_{\ell, \mathbf{m}-\mathbf{1}_k}} q^{\text{finv } w'} \right) \\ &= \frac{1 - q^{\ell m}}{1 - q^m} \left(\sum_{w' \in G_{\ell, \mathbf{m}-\mathbf{1}_r}} q^{\text{finv } w'} + \sum_{1 \leq k \leq r-1} q^{m_{k+1} + \cdots + m_r} \sum_{w' \in G_{\ell, \mathbf{m}-\mathbf{1}_k}} q^{\text{finv } w'} \right). \end{aligned}$$

By induction, for each $1 \leq k \leq r$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{w' \in G_{\ell, \mathbf{m}-\mathbf{1}_k}} q^{\text{finv } w'} &= \frac{(q^\ell; q^\ell)_{m-1}}{(q; q)_{m-1}} \frac{(q; q)_{m-1}}{(q; q)_{m_1} \cdots (q; q)_{m_{k-1}} (q; q)_{m_k-1} (q; q)_{m_{k+1}} \cdots (q; q)_{m_r}} \\ &= \frac{(q^\ell; q^\ell)_{m-1} (1 - q^{m_k})}{(q; q)_m} \frac{(q; q)_m}{(q; q)_{m_1} \cdots (q; q)_{m_k} \cdots (q; q)_{m_r}}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus,

$$\begin{aligned}
& \sum_{1 \leq k \leq r-1} q^{m_{k+1} + \dots + m_r} \sum_{w' \in G_{\ell, \mathbf{m}-\mathbf{1}_k}} q^{\text{finv } w'} \\
&= \frac{(q^\ell; q^\ell)_{m-1}}{(q; q)_m} \frac{(q; q)_m}{(q; q)_{m_1} \cdots (q; q)_{m_k} \cdots (q; q)_{m_r}} \sum_{1 \leq k \leq r-1} q^{m_{k+1} + \dots + m_r} (1 - q^{m_k}) \\
&= \frac{(q^\ell; q^\ell)_{m-1} (q^{m_r} - q^m)}{(q; q)_m} \frac{(q; q)_m}{(q; q)_{m_1} \cdots (q; q)_{m_k} \cdots (q; q)_{m_r}}
\end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
\sum_{w \in G_{\ell, \mathbf{m}}} q^{\text{finv } w} &= \frac{1 - q^{\ell m}}{1 - q^m} \left(\frac{(q^\ell; q^\ell)_{m-1} (1 - q^{m_r})}{(q; q)_m} \frac{(q; q)_m}{(q; q)_{m_1} \cdots (q; q)_{m_k} \cdots (q; q)_{m_r}} \right. \\
&\quad \left. + \frac{(q^\ell; q^\ell)_{m-1} (q^{m_r} - q^m)}{(q; q)_m} \frac{(q; q)_m}{(q; q)_{m_1} \cdots (q; q)_{m_k} \cdots (q; q)_{m_r}} \right) \\
&= \frac{(q^\ell; q^\ell)_m}{(q; q)_m} \frac{(q; q)_m}{(q; q)_{m_1} \cdots (q; q)_{m_k} \cdots (q; q)_{m_r}} \\
&= \frac{(q^\ell; q^\ell)_m}{(q; q)_m} \left[\begin{matrix} m \\ m_1, m_2, \dots, m_r \end{matrix} \right]_q.
\end{aligned}$$

This concludes the proof of the claim in (1.4).

We construct the extension $\widehat{\Phi}$ of the second fundamental transformation Φ to ℓ -colored words in the next section. Define

$$\text{des}^* w = \ell \text{des } w - \text{des } |w| + \text{pcol}_1 w, \quad (1.5)$$

where $\text{des } w := \sum_{i=1}^{m-1} \chi(w_i > w_{i+1})$.

The main purpose of this paper is to prove the following theorem.

Theorem 1.1. *The transformation $\widehat{\Phi}$ constructed in Section 2 has the following properties*

- (1) *For every ℓ -colored word w , $(\text{fmaj}, \text{des}^*) w = (\text{finv}, \text{pcol}) \widehat{\Phi}(w)$;*
- (2) *The restriction of $\widehat{\Phi}$ to each class $G_{\ell, \mathbf{m}}$ is a bijection of $G_{\ell, \mathbf{m}}$ onto itself.*

Corollary 1.2. *For each $\mathbf{m} = (m_1, m_2, \dots, m_r)$, the bivariate statistics $(\text{fmaj}, \text{des}^*)$ and $(\text{finv}, \text{pcol})$ are equidistributed on $G_{\ell, \mathbf{m}}$.*

Example 1.3. Let us consider the hyperoctahedral group of order 2.

w	12	$\bar{1}2$	$1\bar{2}$	$\bar{1}\bar{2}$	21	$\bar{2}1$	$2\bar{1}$	$\bar{2}\bar{1}$
fmaj w	0	1	3	2	2	1	3	4
des* w	0	1	2	1	1	0	1	2
finv w	0	1	2	3	1	2	3	4
pcol w	0	1	1	2	0	1	1	2

Now consider the statistic Rfinv defined on the hyperoctahedral group of order n as follows:

$$\text{Rfinv } w = \text{inv } w + \sum_{i=1}^n |w_i| \chi(w_i < 0).$$

If one uses the natural order relation on $[-n, n]$ given by

$$-n < -(n-1) < \dots < -1 < 1 < \dots < (n-1) < n, \quad (1.6)$$

Brenti [4] shows that finv coincides with the traditional *length function*, and Adin and Roichman [1] proved that Rfinv and fmaj are equidistributed on the hyperoctahedral group.

Back to the order relation (1.3) on $[-n, n]$, i.e.,

$$-1 < \dots < -(n-1) < -n < 1 < \dots < (n-1) < n$$

one has

$$\text{length function} \neq \text{Rfinv} \quad \text{and} \quad \text{finv} \neq \text{Rfinv},$$

but we observe that Rfinv remains equidistributed with fmaj , and we prove that its extension to the wreath product is also Mahonian. We have the following theorem.

Theorem 1.4. *The statistic Rfinv defined on the wreath product $C_\ell \wr S_n$ by*

$$\text{Rfinv } w = \text{inv } w + \sum_{i=1}^n |w_i| \text{pcol}_i w \quad (1.7)$$

is Mahonian.

By a result of Haglund, Loehr and Remmel [8], we obtain the following corollary.

Corollary 1.5. *We have*

$$\sum_{\sigma \in G_{\ell, n}} q^{\text{Rfinv } \sigma} = \sum_{\sigma \in G_{\ell, n}} q^{\text{finv } \sigma} = \frac{(q^\ell; q^\ell)_n}{(1-q)^n}. \quad (1.8)$$

2. THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE TRANSFORMATION $\widehat{\Phi}$

Let us recall the second fundamental transformation Φ from [5]. First, for each integer x , we recall the transformation γ_x . Let $w = x_1 x_2 \dots x_m$ be a word with positive letters. The first (respectively last) letter x_1 (respectively x_m) is denoted by $F(w)$ (respectively $L(w)$). If $L(w) \leq x$ (respectively $L(w) > x$), w admits the unique factorization

$$(u_1 y_1, u_2 y_2, \dots, u_p y_p)$$

called its *x-right-to-left factorization* having the following properties:

- (1) each y_i ($1 \leq i \leq p$) is a letter verifying $y_i \leq x$ (respectively $y_i > x$);
- (2) each u_i ($1 \leq i \leq p$) is a factor which is either empty or has all its letters greater than (respectively smaller than or equal to) x .

Then, the bijective transformation γ_x maps $w = u_1y_1u_2y_2 \dots u_p y_p$ to the word

$$\gamma_x(w) = y_1u_1y_2u_2 \dots y_p u_p.$$

Foata defined $\Phi(w)$ by induction on the length of w . If w has length one, then $\Phi(w) = w$. If it has more than one letter, write the word as vx where x is the last letter and define $\Phi(vx)$ to be the juxtaposition product

$$\Phi(vx) := \gamma_x(\Phi(v))x. \quad (2.1)$$

We now define $\widehat{\Phi}$ as follows. For each word $u = x_1 x_2 \dots x_m$ with nonnegative letters and each element $\epsilon := (\epsilon_1, \dots, \epsilon_m)$ of $(\mathcal{C}_\ell)^m$, we denote by $\Psi_u(\epsilon)$ the element $\epsilon' = (\epsilon'_1, \dots, \epsilon'_m)$ of $(\mathcal{C}_\ell)^m$ defined as follows:

$$\begin{cases} \epsilon'_i = \frac{\epsilon_i}{\epsilon_{i+1}} \zeta^{-\chi(x_i > x_{i+1})} & \text{if } i < m, \\ \epsilon'_m = \epsilon_m & \text{if } i = m. \end{cases} \quad (2.2)$$

Let $w := (\epsilon, u)$ be an ℓ -colored word ($u = |w|$). Define

$$\widehat{\Phi}(w) = (\Psi_u(\epsilon), \Phi(u)). \quad (2.3)$$

Example 2.1. Let us take $\ell = 4$ and $w = \bar{3}\bar{1}\bar{4}\bar{1}\bar{3}$. We have

$$w = ((\zeta^2, \zeta, 1, \zeta, \zeta^2), 31413).$$

By construction of Φ (relation (2.1)), we have

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi(3) &= 3, \\ \Phi(31) &= \gamma_1(\Phi(3))1 = \gamma_1(3)1 = 31, \\ \Phi(314) &= \gamma_4(\Phi(31))4 = \gamma_4(31)4 = 314, \\ \Phi(3141) &= \gamma_1(\Phi(314))1 = \gamma_1(314)1 = 3411, \\ \Phi(31413) &= \gamma_3(\Phi(3141))3 = \gamma_3(3411)3 = 31413. \end{aligned}$$

In the other hand,

$$\epsilon'_1 = \frac{\zeta^2}{\zeta} \zeta^{-1} = 1, \quad \epsilon'_2 = \frac{\zeta}{1} = \zeta, \quad \epsilon'_3 = \frac{1}{\zeta^1} \zeta^{-1} = \zeta^2, \quad \epsilon'_4 = \frac{\zeta^1}{\zeta^2} = \zeta^3, \quad \epsilon'_5 = \zeta^2.$$

Therefore,

$$w' = \widehat{\Phi}(\bar{3}\bar{1}\bar{4}\bar{1}\bar{3}) = 3\bar{1}\bar{4}\bar{1}\bar{3}.$$

We have $(\text{fmaj}, \text{des}^*)w = (\text{finv}, \text{pcol})w' = (34, 8)$.

3. PROOF OF THEOREM 1.1

Lemma 3.1. *Let $w := w_1w_2 \dots w_m$ be an ℓ -colored word. With notation in relation (1.2), we have*

$$\text{finv } w = \text{inv } |w| + \sum_{i=1}^m i \text{ pcol}_i w. \quad (3.1)$$

Proof. For all integers i, j, k such that $1 \leq i < j \leq m$ and $0 \leq k \leq \ell - 1$, one has:

$$\chi(\zeta^k |w_i| > w_j) = \chi(k < \text{pcol}_j w) + \chi(k = \text{pcol}_j w) \chi(|w_i| > |w_j|).$$

Thus,

$$\text{finv } w = \sum_{j=1}^m (j-1) \text{pcol}_j w + \text{inv } |w| + \sum_{j=1}^m \text{pcol}_j w = \text{inv } |w| + \sum_{j=1}^m j \text{pcol}_j w.$$

□

Now, slightly abusing notation, let $w = (\epsilon, |w|)$ be an ℓ -colored word of length m and $w' = (\epsilon', |w'|) := \widehat{\Phi}(w)$. For each i such that $1 \leq i \leq m-1$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} - \text{ if } |w_i| \leq |w_{i+1}|, \text{ then } \epsilon'_i &= \frac{\epsilon_i}{\epsilon_{i+1}} = \zeta^{\text{pcol}_i w - \text{pcol}_{i+1} w}; \\ - \text{ if } |w_i| > |w_{i+1}|, \text{ then } \epsilon'_i &= \frac{\epsilon_i}{\epsilon_{i+1}} \zeta^{-1} = \zeta^{\text{pcol}_i w - \text{pcol}_{i+1} w - 1}. \end{aligned}$$

So,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{pcol}_i w' &= [\text{pcol}_i w - \text{pcol}_{i+1} w + \ell \chi(\text{pcol}_i w < \text{pcol}_{i+1} w)] \chi(|w_i| \leq |w_{i+1}|) \\ &\quad + [\text{pcol}_i w - \text{pcol}_{i+1} w - 1 + \ell \chi(\text{pcol}_i w \leq \text{pcol}_{i+1} w)] \chi(|w_i| > |w_{i+1}|) \\ &= \text{pcol}_i w - \text{pcol}_{i+1} w + \ell \chi(\text{pcol}_i w < \text{pcol}_{i+1} w) \\ &\quad + \ell \chi(\text{pcol}_i w = \text{pcol}_{i+1} w) \chi(|w_i| > |w_{i+1}|) - \chi(|w_i| > |w_{i+1}|). \end{aligned}$$

Thus, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \text{pcol } w' &= \sum_{i=1}^m \text{pcol}_i w' \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^m \text{pcol}_i w - \sum_{i=2}^m \text{pcol}_i w + \ell \sum_{i=1}^{m-1} [\chi(\text{pcol}_i w < \text{pcol}_{i+1} w) \\ &\quad + \chi(\text{pcol}_i w = \text{pcol}_{i+1} w) \chi(|w_i| > |w_{i+1}|)] - \sum_{i=1}^{m-1} \chi(|w_i| > |w_{i+1}|) \\ &= \text{pcol}_1 w + \ell \text{des } w - \text{des } |w| \\ &= \text{des}^* w, \end{aligned}$$

and, by Φ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{finv } w' &= \text{inv } |w'| + \sum_{i=1}^m i \text{pcol}_i w' \\
&= \text{maj } |w| + \sum_{i=1}^m i \text{pcol}_i w - \sum_{i=1}^m (i-1) \text{pcol}_i w \\
&\quad + \ell \sum_{i=1}^{m-1} i [\chi(\text{pcol}_i w < \text{pcol}_{i+1} w) + \chi(\text{pcol}_i w = \text{pcol}_{i+1} w) \chi(|w_i| > |w_{i+1}|)] \\
&\quad - \sum_{i=1}^{m-1} i \chi(|w_i| > |w_{i+1}|) \\
&= \text{maj } |w| + \sum_{i=1}^m \text{pcol}_i w + \ell \sum_{i=1}^{m-1} i \chi(w_i > w_{i+1}) - \text{maj } |w| \\
&= \ell \sum_{i=1}^{m-1} i \chi(w_i > w_{i+1}) + \text{pcol } w \\
&= \text{fmaj } w.
\end{aligned}$$

Finally, we show that $\widehat{\Phi}$ is a bijection of $G_{\ell, \mathbf{m}}$ onto itself. Indeed, let $w' := (\epsilon', u)$ be an element of $G_{\ell, \mathbf{m}}$. By the relation (2.2), if $w := (\epsilon, u')$ is an element of $G_{\ell, \mathbf{m}}$ such that $\widehat{\Phi}(w) = w'$, then $u = \Phi^{-1}(u')$, $\epsilon_m = \epsilon'_m$ and, for $i < m$,

$$\epsilon_i = \epsilon'_m \prod_{i \leq j \leq m-1} \epsilon'_j \zeta^{\chi(x_j > x_{j+1})},$$

where $u := x_1 x_2 \cdots x_m$.

This concludes the proof of Theorem 1.1.

4. PROOF OF THEOREM 1.4

Consider the following transformations:

▷ **Transformation ρ**

$$\begin{aligned}
\rho : G_{\ell, n} &\longrightarrow G_{\ell, n} \\
w = (\epsilon, |w|) &\longmapsto \rho(w) = w' = (\epsilon', |w'|),
\end{aligned}$$

where

$$|w'| = |w|^{-1} \quad \text{and} \quad \epsilon'_i = \epsilon_{|w|^{-1}(i)};$$

▷ **Transformation τ**

For each $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n)$ in $[0, \ell - 1]^n$, put $\Sigma_\alpha = \{\zeta^{\alpha_1}, \zeta^{\alpha_2}, \dots, \zeta^{\alpha_n}\}$, and let G_α be the class of ℓ -colored permutations whose letters are in Σ_α , i.e.,

$$G_\alpha = \{w = w_1 w_2 \cdots w_n \in G_{\ell, n} : \text{pcol}_i w = \alpha_i \text{ for all } i \in [n]\}.$$

Note that $\sharp G_\alpha = n!$. We denote by I_α the increasing bijection from $[n]$ to Σ_α , and we define τ for each class G_α by $\tau(w) = w'_1 w'_2 \dots w'_n$, where

$$w'_i = I_\alpha(|w_i|).$$

Lemma 4.1. *For all $w \in G_{\ell,n}$, we have*

$$\text{finv } w = \text{Rfinv } \tau \circ \rho(w).$$

Proof of Lemma 4.1. Let $w = w_1 w_2 \dots w_n \in G_{\ell,n}$. Consider the auxiliary statistics

$$\begin{aligned} \wp(w) &:= \sum_{i=1}^n i \text{pcol}_i w; \\ \mathfrak{S}(w) &:= \sum_{i=1}^n |w_i| \text{pcol}_i w; \\ |\text{inv}| w &:= \text{inv } |w|. \end{aligned}$$

It is easy to see that ρ is an involution preserving $|\text{inv}|$ and transforming \wp into \mathfrak{S} and vice versa:

$$(|\text{inv}|, \wp)w = (|\text{inv}|, \mathfrak{S})\rho(w),$$

and τ preserves \mathfrak{S} and transforms $|\text{inv}|$ into inv , i.e.,

$$(|\text{inv}|, \mathfrak{S})w = (\text{inv}, \mathfrak{S})\rho(w).$$

By Lemma 3.1, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \text{finv } w &= |\text{inv}| w + \wp(w) \\ &= |\text{inv}| \rho(w) + \mathfrak{S} \rho(w) = \text{inv } \tau \circ \rho(w) + \mathfrak{S} \tau \circ \rho(w) \\ &= \text{Rfinv } \tau \circ \rho(w). \end{aligned}$$

□

Example 4.2. $w = \bar{5}\bar{3}\bar{1}\bar{2}\bar{4}$, $\text{finv } w = 18$; $\rho(w) = \bar{3}\bar{4}\bar{2}\bar{5}\bar{1}$. Let $\alpha = (0, 2, 1, 0, 1)$. I_α is defined as follows:

i	1	2	3	4	5
$I_\alpha(i)$	$\bar{2}$	$\bar{3}$	$\bar{5}$	1	4

So

$$\tau \circ \rho(w) = w' = \bar{5}\bar{1}\bar{3}\bar{4}\bar{2} \quad \text{and} \quad \text{Rfinv } w' = 18.$$

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