

6/11 PP Talk Thank orgs.

## Bruhat graphs and pattern avoidance w/Chris Conklin

will mention problem + sol'n first,  
then motivation - goal is motivation,  
problem + sol'n are initial observations

Outline

- 1 ~~Problem~~ Definition and problem
- 2 Answers
- 3 Motivation.

Bruhat graph  $B(w)$  for a permutation  $w$ .  
vertices labelled by perm.

e.g. 2431                      321

remove inversions to create  
new vertices. Edges connect vertices  
differing by transposition.

remove  
inversions  
arrows up.  
always  
bipartite

Show 3412

Observe: If  $w$  contains  $v$ , then  
 $B(w)$  contains  $B(v)$  as a subgraph  
(in fact embedded at the top vertex).  
The converse is false. (132 + 231,  
or 321 and 3412)

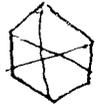
Problems: Which Bruhat graphs can be drawn in the plane? On a torus?

2 Answers      Def:  $\ell(w) = \# \text{inv}(w)$ .  
(length)

Thm:  $B(w)$  is planar if and only if

1)  $w$  avoids 321

2)  $\ell(w) < 4$

Pf: If  $w$  contains 321,  is part of graph - not planar.

If  $w$  contains 3412, same

If  $\ell(w) \geq 4$ , either  $w$  contains 321 or 3412 or not.

If  ~~$w$~~   $w$  avoids 321 + 3412,  $B(w)$  is the edge graph of a cube (Tenner, 2006) of dim.  $\ell(w)$ . This is planar iff  $\ell(w) < 4$ .

Thm.

Restatements - 29 patterns

$\ell(w) < 4$  means containing 21 at most 3 times. This ~~is~~ condition can be converted to finitely many patterns (Atkinson 1999)  
In this case, 29 patterns.

For a torus:

Thm.  $\mathcal{B}(w)$  can be drawn on a torus if

a)  $w$  avoids 3412

b)  $\ell(w) < 5$

c) If  $\ell(w) = 4$ ,  $w$  avoids 321.

PF: - 3412 (Eldredge) -  $K_{3,3}$  + cube.

- contain 321 +  $\ell(w) = 4$  ( $\ell(w) = 3$

- has  $K_{3,3} \times \rightarrow$

- no 321 or 3412 = cube.

same  
graph as  
321)

Can't find computation. (57?)

### 3 Motivation

Some properties of permutations are characterized by avoiding infinitely many patterns - e.g. sortability by deque (Pratt '73)  
But:

Thm (-, Billey-Weed, '09)

→  $P_{id,w}(1) \leq 2$  if and only if  $w$  avoids 66 patterns

- Kazhdan-Lusztig polynomial at  $q=1$  ( $\frac{1}{2}$  hr to define, a semester to explain)  
- Pos int coeff.

Thm (Billey-Braden '04)

$P_{id,w}(1) \leq k$  is always characterized by avoiding a list of patterns.

only known pt requires very sophisticated alg. geom.

Question (Billey '09) Is this list always finite? (Speculation - for  $k=3$ , seems likely; several hundred)

$\text{Im}(\text{Delany '06}) = P_{\text{id}, w}(q)$  depends  
only on  $B(w)$ . (not proven for  
 $P_{v, w}(q)$  in general)

We see ~~larger~~ finite sets of patterns  
for other Schubert phenomena:

~~smooth (2)~~  
~~vec (6)~~  
d

Whenever the answer involves classical  
patterns, the number seems finite.

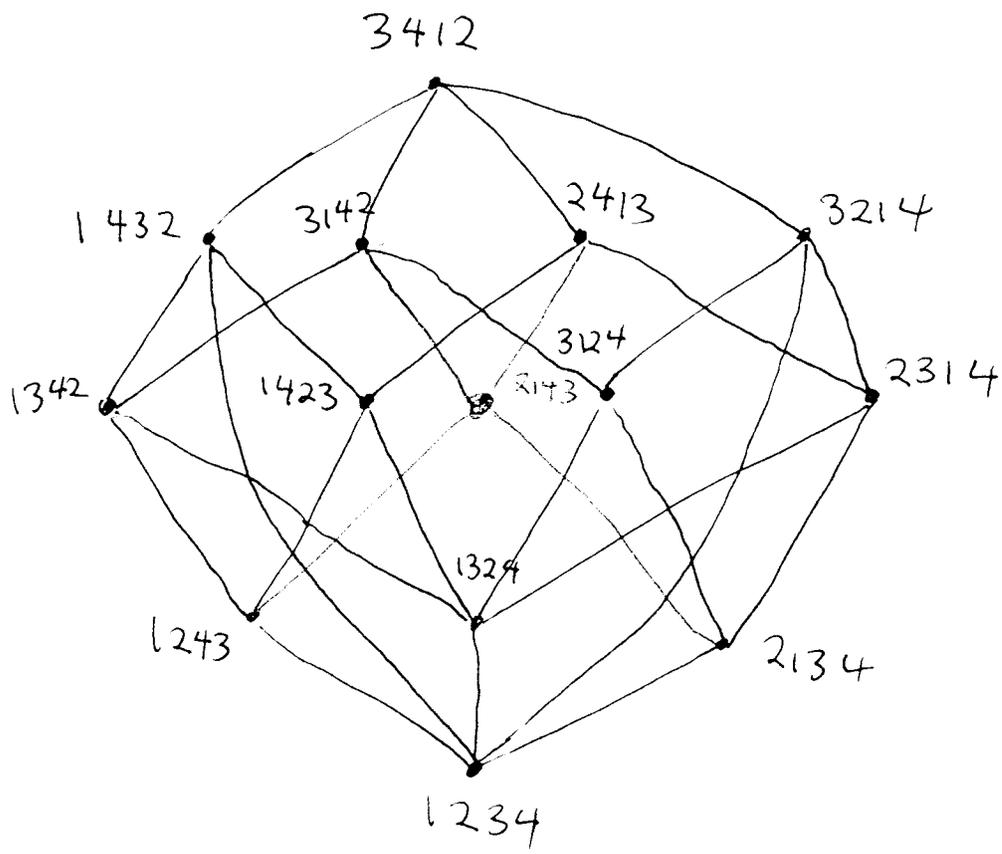
General question: If a property of  
permutations is

1) Characterized by classical  
patterns

2) Depends only on the Bruhat  
graph,

is it always characterized by a  
finite list of patterns?

Why planar & torus graphs? - these are  
beginnings of graph minor theory.



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