

Enumeration with Moon Polyominoes and Beyond

Catherine Yan

Department of Mathematics
Texas A&M University
College Station, TX 77843, USA

Formal Power Series and Algebraic Combinatorics, July 2015

Outline

- 1 Three Motivating Problems
- 2 The Model of Fillings of Polyominoes
- 3 Combinatorial Statistics
 - inversions
 - mixed statistics
 - charged polyominoes
 - the major index
 - descents
- 4 More General Shapes

1. The Motivation

Permutation Statistics

Let $\sigma = a_1 a_2 \cdots a_n$ be a permutation,

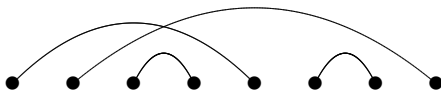
- $\text{Inv}(\sigma) = \{(a_i, a_j) : i < j, a_i > a_j\}$, $\text{inv}(\sigma) = |\text{Inv}(\sigma)|$.
and $\text{coinv}(\sigma) = \binom{n}{2} - \text{inv}(\sigma)$.
- $\text{Des}(\sigma) = \{i : a_i > a_{i+1}, 1 \leq i < n\}$, $\text{des}(\sigma) = |\text{Des}(\sigma)|$.
- $\text{maj}(\sigma) = \sum_{i \in \text{DES}(\sigma)} i = \sum_i \text{des}(a_i a_{i+1} \cdots a_n)$.

Permutation Statistics

Let $\sigma = a_1 a_2 \cdots a_n$ be a permutation, e.g. $\sigma = 3712645$

- $\text{Inv}(\sigma) = \{(a_i, a_j) : i < j, a_i > a_j\}$, $\text{inv}(\sigma) = |\text{Inv}(\sigma)|$.
and $\text{coinv}(\sigma) = \binom{n}{2} - \text{inv}(\sigma)$.
 $\text{Inv}(\sigma) = \{31, 32, 71, 72, 76, 74, 75, 64, 65\}$, $\text{inv}(\sigma) = 9$,
 $\text{coinv}(\sigma) = 12$
- $\text{Des}(\sigma) = \{i : a_i > a_{i+1}, 1 \leq i < n\}$, $\text{des}(\sigma) = |\text{Des}(\sigma)|$.
 $\text{Des}(\sigma) = \{2, 5\}$, $\text{des}(\sigma) = 2$.
- $\text{maj}(\sigma) = \sum_{i \in \text{DES}(\sigma)} i = \sum_i \text{des}(a_i a_{i+1} \cdots a_n)$.
 $\text{maj}(\sigma) = 7$

Matchings: crossings and nestings



$$\text{cr}_2(\alpha) = 1, \quad \text{ne}_2(\alpha) = 3.$$

Let

$$L_n(p, q) = \sum_{\alpha \in M(2n)} p^{\text{cr}_2(\alpha)} q^{\text{ne}_2(\alpha)},$$

Theorem (Touchard, Riordan, Kasraoui & Zeng)

$$\sum_{n \geq 0} L_n(p, q) z^n = \frac{1}{1 - \frac{z}{1 - \frac{[2]_{p,q} z}{1 - \frac{[3]_{p,q} z}{\dots}}}}}$$

If we fix the sets of minimal elements and maximal elements,



$$\sum_M p^{\text{cr}_2(M)} q^{\text{ne}_2(M)} = (p+q)(p+q).$$

In general, it is always a product of (p, q) -integers, where $[n]_{p,q} = p^{n-1} + p^{n-2}q + \cdots + pq^{n-2} + q^{n-1}$.

Problem 1.

A crossing/nesting with edges $(i_1, j_1), (i_2, j_2)$ is:

$$\begin{cases} \text{odd} & \text{if } i_1 \text{ is odd} \\ \text{even} & \text{if } i_1 \text{ is even} \end{cases}$$

Observation

$$\sum_M p^{\text{odd cr}_2 + \text{even ne}_2} q^{\text{even cr}_2 + \text{odd ne}_2} = \sum_M p^{\text{cr}_2(M)} q^{\text{ne}_2(M)}$$

Problem 2.

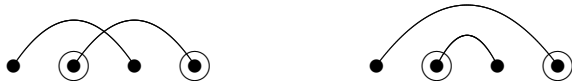
A crossing with edges $(i_1, j_1), (i_2, j_2)$ is:

$\begin{cases} \text{small} & \text{if } i_2 + j_2 \leq 2n; \\ \text{large} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$

A nesting with edges $(i_1, j_1), (i_2, j_2)$ is

$\begin{cases} \text{small} & \text{if } i_2 + j_1 \leq 2n; \\ \text{large} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$

◀ Back

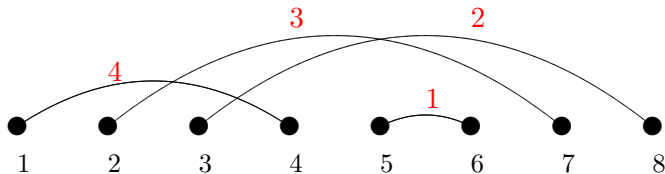


Observation

$$\sum_M p^{\text{small cr}_2 + \text{large ne}_2} q^{\text{large cr}_2 + \text{small ne}_2} = \sum_M p^{\text{cr}_2(M)} q^{\text{ne}_2(M)}$$

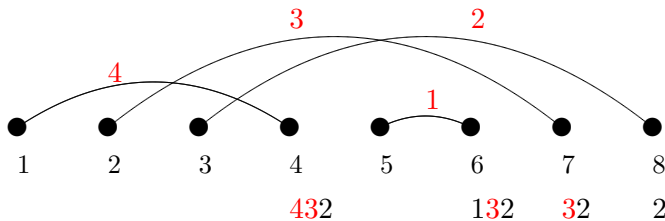
Problem 3.

A major index for matching:



Problem 3.

A major index for matching:



$$\text{pmaj}(M) := \sum_i \text{des}(\sigma_i).$$

[Chen, Gessel, Y & Yang 2008]: pmaj has the same distribution as cr_2 .

Question: Foata-type transformation?

2. A Combinatorial Model

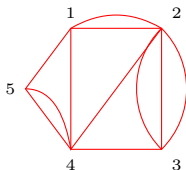
Fillings of polyominoes

Polyomino: a finite subset of \mathbb{Z}^2 , represented by square cells; each cell is assigned a natural number.

- 01-fillings of rectangles: Permutations and Words
- Triangular shape: graphs on $[n]$

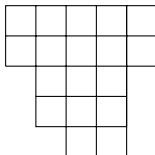
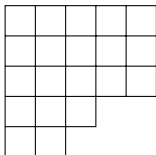
e.g. $\sigma = 4132$

	1	2	3	4
1				1
2	1			
3			1	
4		1		



	5	4	3	2
1	1	1	0	2
2	0	1	3	
3	0	1		
4	2			

- Ferrers diagrams (Backelin, West & Xin; Krattenthaler, de Mier): Graphs with given degree sequence, matchings, set partitions with given MIN/ MAX block-elements, rook placements
- Stack polyominoes (Jonsson; Jonsson & Welker): pattern avoidance of set partitions (Jelínek & Mansour)

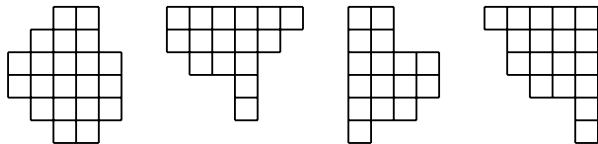


Moon polyominoes

convex any column or row is connected.

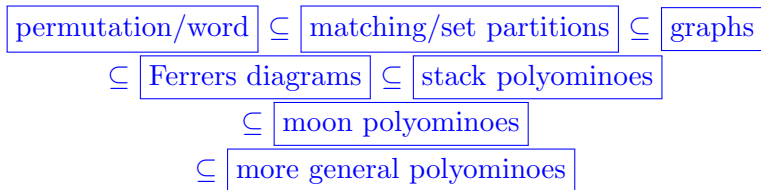
intersection-free Every two rows are comparable, i.e., the column-coordinates of the longer one cover those of the shorter one.

moon polyomino (L-connected) a convex and intersection-free polyomino (Rubey, Kasraoui,...)



We consider 01-fillings.

A combinatorial hierarchy



Allow various approaches and techniques, e.g.

- fix the polyomino and change the fillings
- transform the polyominoes
- bijection, induction,
- tableaux operations ...

3. Combinatorial Statistics

Inversion: basic correspondences

	inversion/coinversion	in	permutations
\iff	crossings/nestings of two edges	in	matchings
\iff	northeast/southeast chains of size 2	in	01-fillings



Denote by $ne_2(M)$ and $se_2(M)$ the numbers of ne-/se-chains of size 2 in a filling M .

A nice theorem

Given $\mathbf{s} = (s_1, \dots, s_n) \in \mathbb{N}^n$ and $\mathbf{e} = (e_1, \dots, e_m) \in \{0, 1\}^m$.
 Let $\mathbf{F}(\mathcal{M}, \mathbf{s}, \mathbf{e})$ be the set of 01-fillings of \mathcal{M} with row-sum \mathbf{s}
 and column-sum \mathbf{e} .

Theorem (Kasraoui 2010)

$$\sum_{M \in \mathbf{F}(\mathcal{M}, \mathbf{s}, \mathbf{e})} p^{\text{ne}_2(M)} q^{\text{se}_2(M)} = \sum_{M \in \mathbf{F}(\mathcal{M}, \mathbf{s}, \mathbf{e})} q^{\text{ne}_2(M)} p^{\text{se}_2(M)} = \prod_{i=1}^n \left[\begin{matrix} h_i \\ s_i \end{matrix} \right]_{p,q}$$

REMARK

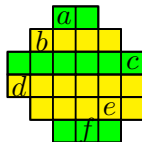
- ① Not true if allow arbitrary row sum *and* arbitrary column sum
- ② Not true if not *convex* or *intersection-free*

It contains results on

- permutations: $\sum_{\pi \in \mathfrak{S}_n} p^{\text{inv}(\pi)} q^{\text{coinv}(\pi)} = [n]_{p,q}!$
- matchings [de Sainte-Catherine'83]
- set partitions [Kasraoui & Zeng'06]
- crossings and alignments for permutation [Corteel'07]
- linked partitions [Chen, Wu & Y'08]

A mixed variant

Bicolor the rows of \mathcal{M} and mix the 2-chains by the position of the top cell.



Define **top-mixed statistics**

$$\alpha(M): \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \text{yellow} & \text{yellow} \\ \hline 1 & 1 \\ \hline \end{array} \quad \text{or} \quad \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \text{green} & \text{green} \\ \hline 1 & 1 \\ \hline \end{array} \quad \beta(M): \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \text{yellow} & \text{yellow} \\ \hline 1 & 1 \\ \hline \end{array} \quad \text{or} \quad \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \text{green} & \text{green} \\ \hline 1 & 1 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$\alpha(M) = 3$ with chains ef, ae, af ;

$\beta(M) = 4$ with chains be, bf, cd, ce .

Over $\mathbf{F}(\mathcal{M}, \mathbf{s}, \mathbf{e})$

Theorem (Chen, Wang, Y & Zhao 2010)

The joint distribution $(\alpha(M), \beta(M))$ is always symmetric and independent of the bi-coloring. In particular,

$$\sum_M p^{\alpha(M)} q^{\beta(M)} = \sum_M p^{\text{ne}_2(M)} q^{\text{se}_2(M)}$$

Also true if one mixes by the bottom cell, or bi-coloring columns of \mathcal{M} .

This explains Problem 1. [◀ Problem 1](#)

Charged polyominoes

Equip with \mathcal{M} a charge function $C : \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \{\pm 1\}$.

For a 2×2 submatrix S of \mathcal{M} , set $\text{sgn}(S)$ as the charge of its lower-right corner.

Definition

A chain with the support matrix S is **positive** with respect to C if it is

- 1 a **northeast** chain with $\text{sgn}(S) = 1$, or
- 2 a **southeast** chain with $\text{sgn}(S) = -1$.

Otherwise, the chain is negative.



(a) Positive chains

(b) Negative chains

Conjecture

Then the distribution of $(\text{pos}_C(M), \text{neg}_C(M))$ does not depend on the charge function C . Consequently,

$$\sum_{M \in \mathbf{F}(\mathcal{M}, \mathbf{s}, \mathbf{e})} p^{\text{pos}_C(M)} q^{\text{neg}_C(M)} = \sum_{M \in \mathbf{F}(\mathcal{M}, \mathbf{s}, \mathbf{e})} p^{\text{ne}_2(M)} q^{\text{se}_2(M)}.$$

Not always!

Theorem (Wang & Y 2013)

The conjecture is true if the polyomino is top aligned or left aligned.

This explains Problem 2.

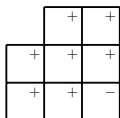
Not always!

Theorem (Wang & Y 2013)

The conjecture is true if the polyomino is top aligned or left aligned.

This explains Problem 2.

In general,

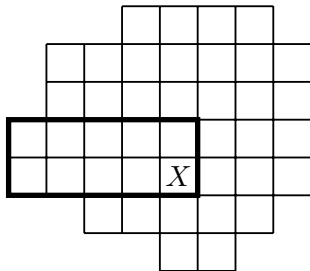


$$\sum_M p^{\text{ne}_2(M)} q^{\text{se}_2(M)} = p^2 + 2pq + q^2,$$

$$\sum_M p^{\text{pos}_C(M)} q^{\text{neg}_C(M)} = 2p^2 + 2q^2.$$

The restrictive positivity

For a cell $X \in \mathcal{M}$, define \mathcal{R}_X , *the box of X* , to be the widest rectangle contained in \mathcal{M} whose lower right corner is X .



A 2×2 submatrix is *restrictive* if it is contained in the box of its lower right corner.

Definition

Let M be a 01-filling of a charged moon polyomino M with a charge function C . A chain with the support matrix S is **restrictively positive** with respect to C if it is

- 1 a **northeast** chain with $\text{sgn}(S) = 1$ or not restrictive,
- 2 a **southeast** chain with $\text{sgn}(S) = -1$ and restrictive.

Otherwise, the chain is restrictively negative.

Symmetry in the general case

Let $\overline{\text{pos}}_C(M)$ and $\overline{\text{neg}}_C(M)$ be the numbers of restrictively positive chains and restrictively negative chains of M with respect to C . Set

$$\overline{F}_C(p, q) = \sum_{M \in \mathbf{F}(\mathcal{M}, \mathbf{s}, \mathbf{e})} p^{\overline{\text{pos}}_C(M)} q^{\overline{\text{neg}}_C(M)}.$$

Theorem (Wang & Y 2013)

The bi-variate generating function $\overline{F}_C(p, q)$ does not depend on the charge function C . Consequently,

$$\overline{F}_C(p, q) = \overline{F}_+(p, q) = \sum_{M \in \mathbf{F}(\mathcal{M}, \mathbf{s}, \mathbf{e})} p^{\text{ne}_2(M)} q^{\text{se}_2(M)}.$$

Idea of the proofs:

- 1 In a rectangle shape, establish a bijection between fillings while changing the color of one row, or the charge of one cell.
- 2 In general, gradually change the bi-coloring to a single coloring, or the charge function to *all positive*.

The major index

Goal: A statistic that can be defined in a uniform way on permutations / matchings / set partitions, which specializes to the major index on permutations.

Theorem (Chen, Poznanović, Y & Yang 2010)

The major index can be extended to 01-fillings in $\mathbf{F}(\mathcal{M}, \mathbf{e}, \mathbf{s})$. It has the same distribution as ne_2 .

Definition of the major index

Let \mathcal{M} be a top-aligned stack polyomino. Let M be a filing of \mathcal{M} with at most one 1 in each row.

- If \mathcal{M} is a rectangle,

$\text{des}(M) := \#$ ne-chains formed by 1s in adjacent nonempty rows.

- Let $M(r_i)$ be the maximal rectangle with bottom row r_i .
- Define

$$\text{maj}(M) := \sum_{i=1}^n \text{des}(M(r_i)).$$

An example

		1		
				1
	1			
			1	
1				
1				

An example

		1		
				1
	1			
			1	
1				
1				

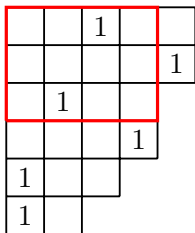
- $\text{des}(M(r_1)) = 0$.

An example

		1		
				1
	1			
			1	
1				
1				

- $\text{des}(M(r_1)) = 0.$
- $\text{des}(M(r_2)) = 0.$

An example



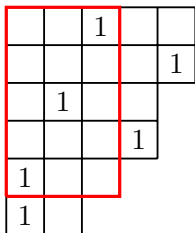
- $\text{des}(M(r_1)) = 0.$
- $\text{des}(M(r_2)) = 0.$
- $\text{des}(M(r_3)) = 1.$

An example

		1		
				1
	1			
			1	
1				
1				

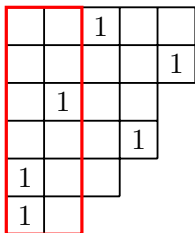
- $\text{des}(M(r_1)) = 0.$
- $\text{des}(M(r_2)) = 0.$
- $\text{des}(M(r_3)) = 1.$
- $\text{des}(M(r_4)) = 1.$

An example



- $\text{des}(M(r_1)) = 0.$
- $\text{des}(M(r_2)) = 0.$
- $\text{des}(M(r_3)) = 1.$
- $\text{des}(M(r_4)) = 1.$
- $\text{des}(M(r_5)) = 2.$

An example



- $\text{des}(M(r_1)) = 0.$
- $\text{des}(M(r_2)) = 0.$
- $\text{des}(M(r_3)) = 1.$
- $\text{des}(M(r_4)) = 1.$
- $\text{des}(M(r_5)) = 2.$
- $\text{des}(M(r_6)) = 1.$

An example

		1		
				1
	1			
			1	
1				
1				

- $\text{des}(M(r_1)) = 0.$
 - $\text{des}(M(r_2)) = 0.$
 - $\text{des}(M(r_3)) = 1.$
 - $\text{des}(M(r_4)) = 1.$
 - $\text{des}(M(r_5)) = 2.$
 - $\text{des}(M(r_6)) = 1.$
- $\text{maj}(M)=5.$

An example

		1		
				1
	1			
			1	
1				
1				

- $\text{des}(M(r_1)) = 0.$
- $\text{des}(M(r_2)) = 0.$
- $\text{des}(M(r_3)) = 1.$
- $\text{des}(M(r_4)) = 1.$
- $\text{des}(M(r_5)) = 2.$
- $\text{des}(M(r_6)) = 1.$

$$\text{maj}(M) = 5.$$

In general, $\text{maj}(M)$ is defined as an alternating sum.

$$\text{maj}(M) := \sum_i \text{maj}(R_i) - \sum_i \text{maj}(R_i \cap R_{i+1})$$

where R_1, \dots, R_k are maximal rectangles.

A Foata-type bijection

Theorem

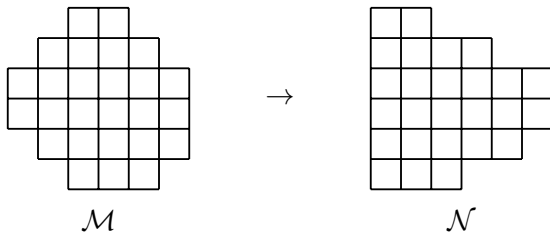
$\text{maj}(M)$ has the same distribution as $\text{ne}_2(M)$.

Define a bijection $\phi : \mathbf{F}(\mathcal{M}, \mathbf{e}, \mathbf{s}) \rightarrow \mathbf{F}(\mathcal{M}, \mathbf{e}, \mathbf{s})$ recursively such that $\text{ne}_2(\phi(M)) = \text{maj}(M)$.

- 1 If \mathcal{M} has only one row, $\phi(M) = M$.
- 2 If \mathcal{M} has more than one row
 - 1 $M_1 =$ remove the 1st row from \mathcal{M} .
 - 2 Inductive step $N_1 = \phi(M_1)$
 - 3 **Modify N_1 to get N_2**
 - 4 $\phi(M) =$ add the 1st row back to N_2 .

[CPYY] Foata-type transformation can be defined on fillings of **left-aligned stack polyominoes** by a set of **row operations**.

For general polyominoes: move shorter columns to the right.



- Construct a bijection from fillings of \mathcal{M} to \mathcal{N} that preserves the major index.
- Construct a bijection from fillings of \mathcal{M} to \mathcal{N} that preserves ne_2 .

(This answers problem 3.)

A little results on descent

Recall on permutations: fix $D = \{d_1, d_2, \dots, d_k\} \subset [n - 1]$ and let

$$\beta(D, q) = \sum_{\sigma: \text{Des}(\sigma) = D} q^{\text{inv}(\sigma)}, \quad \alpha(D, q) = \sum_{\sigma: \text{Des}(\sigma) \subseteq D} q^{\text{inv}(\sigma)}$$

Then

Theorem

$$\alpha(D; q) = \left[\begin{matrix} n \\ d_1, d_2 - d_1, \dots, n - d_k \end{matrix} \right]_q,$$

and

$$\beta(D; q) = \det \left[\left[\begin{matrix} n - d_i \\ d_{j+1} - d_i \end{matrix} \right]_q \right].$$

Restricted fillings in Ferrers diagram

Let \mathcal{F} be a Ferrers diagram with row lengths $r_1 \leq r_2 \leq \dots \leq r_n$.

Theorem (Song & Y 2012)

$$\alpha_F(D, q) = \prod_{i=0}^k LP(\vec{s}_i; q), \quad \beta_F(D, q) = \det[f_{i,j+1}]$$

where $f(i, j) = LP(\vec{s}_{i+1}, \dots, \vec{s}_j; q)$ for $i \leq j$.

Here $s_i = r_i - i + 1$, and $LP(\vec{s}; q)$ is the **area-enumerator of lattice paths with right boundary \vec{s}** .

- an extension of Stanley's inv q -analog of G.F. of Eulerian polynomials
- a new G.F. of descent polynomials for permutations with maximal drop size, [Chung, Claesson, Dukes, Graham'10].

4. More General Shapes?

What happens if one swaps the rows of the polyomino?

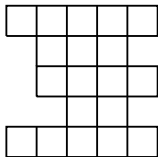
What happens if one swaps the rows of the polyomino?

Idea: extend to polyominoes that allow arbitrary permutations of rows.

What happens if one swaps the rows of the polyomino?

Idea: extend to polyominoes that allow arbitrary permutations of rows.

Layer Polyomino: intersection-free and row-convex, but not necessarily column-convex.



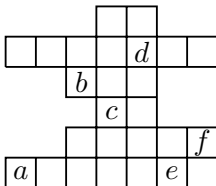
Regular chains in fillings of layer polyomino

A 2×2 submatrix

$$S = \{(i_1, j_1), (i_1, j_2), (i_2, j_1), (i_2, j_2) \in \mathcal{L} : i_1 < i_2, j_1 < j_2\}.$$

ne-chain: S with $(i_1, j_2), (i_2, j_1)$ filled with 1.

se-chain: S with $(i_1, j_1), (i_2, j_2)$ filled with 1.



4 ne-chains: bd, cd, ad, ef 2 se-chains: df, de

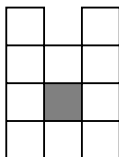
Main result on Layer Polyomino \mathcal{L}

Fix row sum \mathbf{s} and column sum \mathbf{e} .

Theorem (Phillipson, Y & Yeh 2013, 2015)

- 1 If either \mathbf{s} or \mathbf{e} is a 01-vector, then permuting rows of \mathcal{L} does not change the distribution of (ne_2, se_2) .
Consequently, the distribution of (ne_2, se_2) is symmetric.
- 2 For arbitrary \mathbf{s}, \mathbf{e} , the distribution of (ne_2, se_2) may not be symmetric.

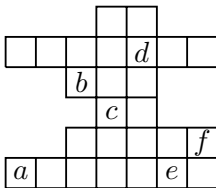
Cannot get rid of all convexity.



Strong Chains

Definition

An *ne/se-chain* is **strong** if the minimal rectangle containing it is also in \mathcal{L} .



3 strong ne-chains: bd, cd, ef , no strong se-chains.

Let ne_2^\square and se_2^\square be the number of strong ne- and se-chains of length 2. Then

Theorem (Phillipson, Y & Yeh 2013, 2015)

- 1 $(ne_2^\square, se_2^\square)$ is not preserved under permutations of rows
- 2 The distribution of $(ne_2^\square, se_2^\square)$ is symmetric if either row-sum or column-sum is a 01-vector.
- 3 An involution for (2) is constructed.
- 4 Fix both row sum and column sum in \mathbb{N} , the distribution of ne_2^\square and se_2^\square may not be the same; however
- 5 there is a bijection between fillings with no strong ne-chains to fillings with no strong se-chains, for both 01-fillings and \mathbf{N} -fillings.

How about $ne(M)$, the size of maximal northeast chains?

Exchanging rows WILL change the distribution of this statistic!

One needs more restrictions on layer polyomino.

Please come to the talk at 12:00.

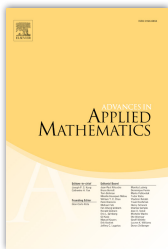
[Poznanović & Yan]:

*Maximal increasing sequences in fillings of
almost-moon polyominoes*

Acknowledgments

Thanks for my coauthors: William Chen, Eva Deng, Rosena Du, Ira Gessel, Mitch Phillipson, Svetlana Poznonavic, Chunwei Song, Richard Stanley, Andrew Wang, Arthur Yang, Jean Yeh, Alina Zhao

ADVANCES IN APPLIED MATHEMATICS



Interdisciplinary in its coverage, *Advances in Applied Mathematics* is dedicated to the publication of original and survey articles on rigorous methods and results in applied mathematics. The journal features articles on discrete applied mathematics, applied commutative algebra and algebraic geometry, theoretical bioinformatics, experimental mathematics, theoretical computer science, and other areas.

Did you know that *Advances in Applied Mathematics* has an open archive? All articles published after 48 months have unrestricted access and are free to read and download.

Editorial Team

Editors in Chief

Joseph P.S. Kung, *University of North Texas, Texas, USA*

Catherine Yan, *Texas A&M University, Texas, USA*

Serving the research community
for 35 years with high quality
papers in Applied Mathematics



Visit the journal homepage:
www.elsevier.com/locate/aam