

SOME MULTIVARIATE POLYNOMIALS FOR DOUBLED PERMUTATIONS

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ABSTRACT. Flajolet and Françon [European. J. Combin. 10 (1989) 235-241] gave a combinatorial interpretation for the Taylor coefficients of the Jacobian elliptic functions in terms of doubled permutations. We show that a multi-variable counting of the doubled permutations has also an explicit continued fraction expansion generalizing the continued fraction expansions of Rogers and Stieltjes. The second goal of this paper is to study the expansion of the Taylor coefficients of the generalized Jacobian elliptic functions, which implies the symmetric and unimodal property of the Taylor coefficients of the generalized Jacobian elliptic functions. The main tools are the combinatorial theory of continued fractions due to Flajolet and bijections due to Françon-Viennot, Foata-Zeilberger and Clarke-Steingrímsson-Zeng.

1. **Introduction.** For a fixed *modulus* $x \in (0, 1)$, the Jacobi elliptic function $\operatorname{sn}(z, x)$ is the inverse of an elliptic integral, i.e.,

$$\operatorname{sn}(z, x) = y \text{ iff } z = \int_0^y \frac{dt}{\sqrt{(1-t^2)(1-x^2t^2)}}.$$

The other two Jacobi elliptic functions are respectively defined by

$$\begin{aligned} \operatorname{cn}(z, x) &:= \sqrt{1 - \operatorname{sn}^2(z, x)}, \\ \operatorname{dn}(z, x) &:= \sqrt{1 - x^2 \operatorname{sn}^2(z, x)}. \end{aligned}$$

These functions appear in a variety of problems in physics and have been extensively studied in mathematical physics, algebraic geometry, combinatorics and number theory (see [5, 6, 8, 9, 11, 12, 19, 20, 21, 27, 28] for instance). When $x = 0$ or $x = 1$, the Jacobi elliptic functions degenerate into trigonometric or hyperbolic functions:

$$\begin{aligned} \operatorname{sn}(z, 0) &= \sin z, \quad \operatorname{cn}(z, 0) = \cos z, \quad \operatorname{dn}(z, 0) = 1, \\ \operatorname{sn}(z, 1) &= \tanh z, \quad \operatorname{cn}(z, 1) = \operatorname{dn}(z, 1) = \operatorname{sech} z. \end{aligned}$$

The three Jacobi elliptic functions are connected by the differential system (see [2]):

$$\begin{cases} \frac{d}{dz} \operatorname{sn}(z, x) = \operatorname{cn}(z, x) \operatorname{dn}(z, x), \\ \frac{d}{dz} \operatorname{cn}(z, x) = -\operatorname{sn}(z, x) \operatorname{dn}(z, x), \\ \frac{d}{dz} \operatorname{dn}(z, x) = -x^2 \operatorname{sn}(z, x) \operatorname{cn}(z, x). \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

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Note that

$$(-i) \cdot \operatorname{sn}(iz, 1) + \operatorname{cn}(iz, 1) = \tan z + \sec z = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} E_n \frac{z^n}{n!}, \tag{2}$$

where $i = \sqrt{-1}$ and E_n is the number of alternating permutations (also known as up-down permutations) in \mathfrak{S}_n (see [26]). The Taylor series expansions of these Jacobian elliptic functions are given as follows:

$$\operatorname{sn}(z, x) = z - (1 + x^2) \frac{z^3}{3!} + (1 + 14x^2 + x^4) \frac{z^5}{5!} - (1 + 135x^2 + 135x^4 + x^6) + \dots, \tag{3}$$

$$\operatorname{cn}(z, x) = 1 - \frac{z^2}{2!} + (1 + 4x^2) \frac{z^4}{4!} - (1 + 44x^2 + 16x^4) \frac{z^6}{6!} + \dots, \tag{4}$$

$$\operatorname{dn}(z, x) = 1 - x^2 \frac{z^2}{2!} + x^2(4 + x^2) \frac{z^4}{4!} - x^2(16 + 44x^2 + x^4) \frac{z^6}{6!} + \dots. \tag{5}$$

Defining the Laplace-Borel transforms of sn and cn by:

$$S_1(z, x) = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-t} \operatorname{sn}(zt, x) dt \text{ and } C_0(z, x) = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-t} \operatorname{cn}(zt, x) dt,$$

i.e., the series obtained from (3) and (4) by replacing $z^n/n!$ by z^n , Rogers and Stieltjes [21, 27] found the following continued fractions expansions.

$$S_1(z, x) = \frac{z}{1 + (1 + x^2)z^2 - \frac{z}{1 \cdot 2^2 \cdot 3 \cdot x^2 z^4} \frac{z}{1 + (1 + x^2) \cdot 3^2 z^2 - \frac{3 \cdot 4^2 \cdot 5 \cdot x^2 z^4}{1 + (1 + x^2) \cdot 5^2 z^2 - \dots}}}, \tag{6}$$

$$C_0(z, x) = \frac{1}{1 + z^2 - \frac{1}{1^2 \cdot 2^2 \cdot x^2 z^4} \frac{1}{1 + (3^2 + 2^2 x^2)z^2 - \frac{3^2 \cdot 4^2 \cdot x^2 z^4}{1 + (5^2 + 4^2 x^2)z^2 - \dots}}}. \tag{7}$$

According to [12], the question of the possible combinatorial significance of the coefficients of $J_n(x)$ in

$$1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n J_{2n}(x) \frac{z^{2n}}{(2n)!} + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n J_{2n+1}(x) \frac{z^{2n+1}}{(2n+1)!} = \operatorname{cn}(z, x) + \operatorname{sn}(z, x)$$

was first raised by Schützenberger. The first combinatorial interpretation was given by Viennot [28], and is expressed in terms of so-called Jacobi permutations. Using his combinatorial theory of continued fractions Flajolet [11] proved that the coefficients of $\operatorname{cn}(z, x)$ count classes of alternating (up-and-down) permutations based on the parity of peaks. Dumont [8] finally discovered some further relations between these functions and the cycle structure of permutations. Flajolet-Françon [12] gave an interpretation of the elliptic functions as generating functions of *doubled permutations*.

A polynomial $f(x) = \sum_i a_i x^i \in \mathbb{R}[x]$ is called γ -positive if $f(x) = \sum_{i=0}^{\lfloor n/2 \rfloor} \gamma_i x^i (1+x)^{n-2i}$ for $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and nonnegative reals $\gamma_0, \gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_{\lfloor n/2 \rfloor}$, the notion of γ -positivity appeared first in the work of Foata and Schützenberger [13]. A recent survey on γ -positivity in combinatorics and geometry was given by Athanasiadis [1]. In a series of papers Shin and Zeng [22, 23, 24] exploited the combinatorial theory of continued fractions to derive various γ -positivity results.

In this paper, by generalizing the continued fraction expansions of Rogers and Stieltjes, we generalize Flajolet and Françon’s the combinatorial interpretation of the Taylor coefficients of the Jacobian elliptic functions. Furthermore, we show that the Taylor coefficients of the generalized Jacobian elliptic functions are γ -positive. The main tools are the combinatorial theory of continued fractions due to Flajolet and bijections due to Françon-Viennot, Foata-Zeilberger and Clarke-Steingrímsson-Zeng.

2. Main results. We follow [4, 17, 16, 22, 23] for notations and the nomenclature of various permutation statistics. First we recall three classical involutions defined on \mathfrak{S}_n , namely, the reverse, complement and the composition of the two. For $\pi \in \mathfrak{S}_n$,

$$\begin{aligned} \pi^r &:= \pi(n) \cdots \pi(2)\pi(1), \\ \pi^c &:= (n + 1 - \pi(1))(n + 1 - \pi(2)) \cdots (n + 1 - \pi(n)), \\ \pi^{rc} &:= (n + 1 - \pi(n)) \cdots (n + 1 - \pi(2))(n + 1 - \pi(1)). \end{aligned}$$

Denote by π^{-1} the inverse permutation of π . If we use the standard two-line notation to write π , then π^{-1} is obtained by switching the two lines and rearranging the columns to make the first line increasing. For instance, if $\pi = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 3 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$, then

$$\pi^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 3 & 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Let \mathfrak{S}_n be the set of permutations of $[n] = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$. Given a permutation $\pi = \pi(1)\pi(2) \cdots \pi(n) \in \mathfrak{S}_n$ we say that $i \in [n - 1]$ is a *descent* (resp. *excedance*) of π if $\pi(i) > \pi(i + 1)$ (resp. $\pi(i) > i$). Let $\text{des } \pi$ (resp. $\text{exc } \pi$) denote the number of descents (resp. excedances) of π .

Definition 2.1. For $\pi \in \mathfrak{S}_n$, let $\pi(0) = \pi(n + 1) = 0$. Then any entry $\pi(i)$ ($i \in [n]$) can be classified according to their *ordinal type* into four categories:

- a *peak* if $\pi(i - 1) < \pi(i)$ and $\pi(i) > \pi(i + 1)$;
- a *valley* if $\pi(i - 1) > \pi(i)$ and $\pi(i) < \pi(i + 1)$;
- a *double ascent* if $\pi(i - 1) < \pi(i)$ and $\pi(i) < \pi(i + 1)$;
- a *double descent* if $\pi(i - 1) > \pi(i)$ and $\pi(i) > \pi(i + 1)$.

Let $\text{pk } \pi$ (resp. $\text{val } \pi$, $\text{da } \pi$, $\text{dd } \pi$) be the number of peaks (resp. valleys, double ascents, double descents) in π . Note that for $\pi \in \mathfrak{S}_n$, $\text{pk } \pi + \text{dd } \pi = \text{des } \pi + 1$.

For $\sigma \in \mathfrak{S}_n$ with convention $0 - \infty$, i.e., $\sigma(0) = 0$ and $\sigma(n + 1) = \infty$, any entry $\pi(i)$ ($i \in [n]$) can be classified according to their *left ordinal type* into four categories: let Lpk (resp. Lval , Lda , Ldd) be the set of *peaks* (resp. *valleys*, *double ascents* and *double descents*) and denote the corresponding cardinality by lpk (resp. lval , lda and ldd).

Definition 2.2. For $\sigma = \sigma(1) \cdots \sigma(n) \in \mathfrak{S}_n$, we define its *star companion* σ^* as a permutation of $\{0, \dots, n\}$ by

$$\sigma^* = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 2 & \dots & n \\ n & \sigma(1) - 1 & \sigma(2) - 1 & \dots & \sigma(n) - 1 \end{pmatrix}. \tag{8}$$

Any entry $\pi(i)$ ($i \in [n]$) can be classified according to their *star cyclic type* into four categories:

$$\text{Cpk}^* \sigma = \{i \in [n - 1] : (\sigma^*)^{-1}(i) < i > \sigma^*(i)\}, \tag{9}$$

$$\text{Cval}^* \sigma = \{i \in [n - 1] : (\sigma^*)^{-1}(i) > i < \sigma^*(i)\}, \tag{10}$$

$$\text{Cda}^* \sigma \cup \text{Fix}^* \sigma = \{i \in [n - 1] : (\sigma^*)^{-1}(i) < i < \sigma^*(i)\} \cup \{i \in [n - 1] : i = \sigma^*(i)\}, \tag{11}$$

$$\text{Cdd}^* \sigma = \{i \in [n - 1] : (\sigma^*)^{-1}(i) > i > \sigma^*(i)\}. \tag{12}$$

The corresponding cardinalities are denoted by cpk^* , cval^* , $\text{cda}^* \cup \text{fix}^*$ and cdd^* respectively.

Definition 2.3. A permutation is a *doubled permutation* iff for all $0 \leq i \leq \lfloor (n - 2)/2 \rfloor$, elements (i.e. values) $2i + 1$ and $2i + 2$ are of the same ordinal type. The set of doubled permutations is denoted by \mathcal{DP}_n . A permutation is a *star doubled permutation* iff for all $0 \leq i \leq \lfloor (n - 2)/2 \rfloor$, elements (i.e. values) $2i + 1$ and $2i + 2$ are of the same star cyclic type. The set of star doubled permutations is denoted by \mathcal{DP}_n^* .

For example, $\pi_1 = 6315427 \in \mathcal{DP}_7$ since 1 and 2 (resp. 3 and 4, 5 and 6) are valleys (resp. double descents, peaks) of π_1 . $\pi_2 = 6732451 \in \mathcal{DP}_7^*$ since $\{1, 2\} \in \text{Cval}^* \pi_2$, $\{3, 4\} \in \text{Cdd}^* \pi_2$ and $\{5, 6\} \in \text{Cpk}^* \pi_2$.

The first goal of this paper is to explore the coefficients in the Taylor series expansion of Jacobi elliptic functions $\text{sn}(z, x)$ by generalizing the continued fractions of (6).

For $\sigma \in \mathfrak{S}_n$, the statistic $(31-2)\sigma$ (resp. $(13-2)\sigma$) is the number of pairs (i, j) such that $2 \leq i < j \leq n$ and $\sigma(i - 1) > \sigma(j) > \sigma(i)$ (resp. $\sigma(i - 1) < \sigma(j) < \sigma(i)$). Similarly, the statistic $(2-13)\sigma$ (resp. $(2-31)\sigma$) is the number of pairs (i, j) such that $1 \leq i < j \leq n - 1$ and $\sigma(j + 1) > \sigma(i) > \sigma(j)$ (resp. $\sigma(j + 1) < \sigma(i) < \sigma(j)$). Moreover, define

$$\text{cros}_i \sigma = \#\{j : j < i < \sigma(j) < \sigma(i) \text{ or } \sigma(i) < \sigma(j) \leq i < j\}, \tag{13}$$

$$\text{nest}_i \sigma = \#\{j : j < i < \sigma(i) < \sigma(j) \text{ or } \sigma(j) < \sigma(i) \leq i < j\}. \tag{14}$$

Let $\text{cros} = \sum_{i=1}^n \text{cros}_i$ and $\text{nest} = \sum_{i=1}^n \text{nest}_i$.

Let $J_{2n+1}(p, q, x, u, v, w)$ be the polynomials defined by the continued fraction expansion

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{n \geq 0} (-1)^n J_{2n+1}(p, q, x, u, v, w) z^{2n+1} \\ &= \cfrac{z}{1 + (u^2 + x^2 v^2)[1]_{p,q}^2 z^2 - \cfrac{[1]_{p,q}[2]_{p,q}^2 [3]_{p,q} x^2 w^2 z^4}{1 + (u^2 + x^2 v^2)[3]_{p,q}^2 z^2 - \cfrac{[3]_{p,q}[4]_{p,q}^2 [5]_{p,q} x^2 w^2 z^4}{\dots}}}, \end{aligned} \tag{15}$$

where $[n]_{p,q} = (p^n - q^n)/(p - q)$.

Theorem 2.4. *We have*

$$J_{2n+1}(p, q, x, u, v, w) := \sum_{\pi \in \mathcal{DP}_{2n+1}} p^{(2-13)\pi} q^{(31-2)\pi} x^{\text{des } \pi} u^{\text{da } \pi} v^{\text{dd } \pi} w^{\text{val } \pi} \tag{16}$$

$$= \sum_{\pi \in \mathcal{DP}_{2n+1}^*} p^{\text{nest } \pi} q^{\text{cros } \pi} x^{\text{exc } \pi} u^{\text{cdd}^* \pi} v^{(\text{cda}^* + \text{fix}^*) \pi} w^{\text{cval}^* \pi}. \tag{17}$$

As $J_{2n+1}(x) := J_{2n+1}(1, 1, x, 1, 1, 1)$, we derive

$$J_{2n+1}(x) = \sum_{\pi \in \mathcal{DP}_{2n+1}} x^{\text{des } \pi} \tag{18}$$

$$= \sum_{\sigma \in \mathcal{DP}_{2n+1}^*} x^{\text{exc } \sigma}. \tag{19}$$

Eq. (18) is due to Flajolet-Françon[12].

Theorem 2.5. *We have*

$$J_{2n+1}(p, q, x, u, v, w) = \sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor n/2 \rfloor} a_{2n+1,2k}(p, q)(xw)^{2k}(u^2 + v^2x^2)^{n-2k}, \tag{20}$$

where

$$a_{2n+1,2k}(p, q) := \sum_{\pi \in \mathcal{DP}_{2n+1,2k}} p^{(2-13)\pi} q^{(31-2)\pi}, \tag{21}$$

and

$$\mathcal{DP}_{2n+1,2k} := \{\pi \in \mathcal{DP}_{2n+1}, \text{dd}(\pi) = 0, \text{val } \pi = \text{des } \pi = 2k\}.$$

Moreover, for all $0 \leq k \leq \lfloor n/2 \rfloor$, the following divisibility holds

$$(p + q)^{2k} \mid a_{2n+1,2k}(p, q). \tag{22}$$

In particular, we obtain the following expansion of $J_{2n+1}(x)$ from (20).

Corollary 1. *For all $n \geq 1$, we have*

$$J_{2n+1}(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor} |\mathcal{DP}_{2n+1,2k}| x^{2k} (1 + x^2)^{n-2k}. \tag{23}$$

Remark 1. Using context-free grammar Ma-Ma-Yeh-Zhou gave another interpretation of γ -coefficients in increasing trees, see [20, Eq. (14)] and [20, Corollary 20], it would be interesting to find a direct bijection between $\mathcal{DP}_{2n+1,2k}$ and the γ -coefficients in [20].

The second goal of this paper is to explore the coefficients in the Taylor series expansion of Jacobi elliptic functions $\text{cn}(z, x)$ by generalizing the continued fractions of (7).

Definition 2.6. For $\sigma \in \mathfrak{S}_n$, any entry $\sigma(i)$ ($i \in [n]$) can be classified according to their *cyclic ordinal type* into four cases:

- a *cyclic peak* if $i = \sigma^{-1}(x) < x$ and $x > \sigma(x)$;
- a *cyclic valley* if $i = \sigma^{-1}(x) > x$ and $x < \sigma(x)$;
- a *double excedance* (resp. *fixed point*) if $i = \sigma^{-1}(x) < x$ and $x < \sigma(x)$ (resp. $x = \sigma(x)$);
- a *double drop* if $i = \sigma^{-1}(x) > x$ and $x > \sigma(x)$.

Let $\text{cpk } \sigma$ (resp. $\text{cval } \sigma$, $\text{cda } \sigma$, $\text{cdd } \sigma$, $\text{fix } \sigma$) be the number of cyclic peaks (resp. valleys, double excedances, double drops, fixed points) in σ .

Definition 2.7. For $\sigma \in \mathfrak{S}_n$ with convention $0-\infty$, a double ascent $\sigma(i)$ of σ ($i \in [n]$) is said to be a *foremaximum* if $\sigma(i)$ is a *left-to-right maximum* of σ , i.e., $\sigma(j) < \sigma(i)$ for all $1 \leq j < i$. Denote the number of foremaxima of σ by $\text{fmax } \sigma$.

For instance, $\text{lda}(42157368) = 3$, but $\text{da}(42157368) = 2$ and $\text{fmax}(42157368) = 2$.

Definition 2.8. A permutation π is said to be a *left doubled permutation* iff for all $0 \leq i \leq \lfloor (n - 2)/2 \rfloor$, elements (i.e. values) $2i + 1$ and $2i + 2$ in π are of the same left ordinal type. The set of left doubled permutation is denoted by \mathcal{LDP}_n . A permutation π is said to be a *cyclic doubled Permutation* iff for all $0 \leq i \leq \lfloor (n - 2)/2 \rfloor$, elements (i.e. values) $2i + 1$ and $2i + 2$ in π are of the same cyclic ordinal type. The set of cyclic doubled permutation is denoted by \mathcal{CDP}_n .

Let $J_{2n}(p, q, x, u, v, w, y)$ be the polynomials defined by the continued fraction expansion

$$\sum_{n \geq 0} (-1)^n J_{2n}(p, q, x, u, v, w, y) z^{2n} = \frac{1}{1 + y^2 z^2 - \frac{[1]_{p,q}^2 [2]_{p,q}^2 x^2 w^2 z^4}{1 + ((qu[2]_{p,q} + p^2 y)^2 + x^2 v^2 [2]_{p,q}^2) z^2 - \frac{[3]_{p,q}^2 [4]_{p,q}^2 x^2 w^2 z^4}{\dots}}}$$

Theorem 2.9. We have

$$J_{2n}(p, q, x, u, v, w, y) = \sum_{\pi \in \mathcal{LDP}_{2n}} p^{(2-31)\pi} q^{(31-2)\pi} x^{\text{des } \pi} u^{\text{lval } \pi} v^{\text{fmax } \pi} w^{\text{lval } \pi} y^{\text{fmax } \pi} \tag{25}$$

$$= \sum_{\sigma \in \mathcal{CDP}_{2n}} p^{\text{nest } \sigma} q^{\text{cros } \sigma} x^{\text{exc } \sigma} u^{\text{cdd } \sigma} v^{\text{cda } \sigma} w^{\text{cval } \sigma} y^{\text{fix } \sigma}. \tag{26}$$

Since $J_{2n}(x) = J_{2n}(1, 1, x, 1, 1, 1)$, we derive

$$J_{2n}(x) = \sum_{\pi \in \mathcal{LDP}_{2n}} x^{\text{des } \pi} \tag{27}$$

$$= \sum_{\sigma \in \mathcal{CDP}_{2n}} x^{\text{exc } \sigma}. \tag{28}$$

Eq. (27) is due to Flajolet-Françon [12].

When $u = 0$ and $t = v = 1$ we can write

$$J_{2n}(p, q, 1, 0, 1, w, y) := \sum_{k, j \geq 0} b_{2n, 2k, 2j}(p, q) w^{2k} y^{2j}, \tag{29}$$

where $b_{2n, 2k, 2j}(p, q)$ is a polynomial in p and q with non negative integral coefficients. Let $\mathcal{CDP}_{2n, 2k, 2j}$ denote the subset of all the permutations $\sigma \in \mathcal{CDP}_{2n}$ with exactly $2k$ cyclic valleys, $2j$ fixed points, and without double drops, and let $\mathcal{LDP}_{2n, 2k, 2j}$ denote the subset of all permutations $\sigma \in \mathcal{LDP}_{2n}$ with exactly $2k$ valleys and $2j$ double ascents, which are all foremaxima. We derive the following combinatorial interpretation of $b_{2n, 2k, 2j}(p, q)$ from Theorem 2.9.

Corollary 2. We have

$$b_{2n, 2k, 2j}(p, q) = \sum_{\sigma \in \mathcal{CDP}_{2n, 2k, 2j}} p^{\text{nest } \sigma} q^{\text{cros } \sigma} = \sum_{\sigma \in \mathcal{LDP}_{2n, 2k, 2j}} p^{(2-31)\sigma} q^{(31-2)\sigma}. \tag{30}$$

In particular, when $j = 0$, we obtain

$$b_{2n, 2k, 0}(p, q) = \sum_{\sigma \in \mathcal{DD}_{2n, 2k, 0}} p^{\text{nest } \sigma} q^{\text{cros } \sigma} = \sum_{\sigma \in \mathcal{DD}_{2n, 2k, 0}} p^{(2-31)\sigma} q^{(31-2)\sigma}, \tag{31}$$

where $\mathcal{DD}_{2n} := \{\pi \in \mathcal{CDP}_{2n}, \text{fix } \pi = 0\}$.

Recall (see [22]) that a *coderangement* is a permutation without foremaximum. Let \mathcal{DD}_{2n}^* be the subset of \mathcal{LDP}_{2n} consisting of coderangements, that is, $\mathcal{DD}_{2n}^* = \{\sigma \in \mathcal{LDP}_{2n} : \text{fmax } \sigma = 0\}$. Thus, $\mathcal{DD}_{2n,2k,0}$ is the subset of derangements $\sigma \in \mathcal{DD}_{2n}$ with exactly $2k$ cyclic valleys, and without double drops, and $\mathcal{DD}_{2n,2k,0}^*$ is the subset of coderangements $\sigma \in \mathcal{DD}_{2n}^*$ with exactly $2k$ valleys and without double ascents. The following is our main result about the polynomial

$$DD_{2n}(p, q, x, u, v, w) := J_{2n}(p, q, x, u, v, w, 0).$$

Theorem 2.10. *We have*

$$DD_{2n}(p, q, x, u, v, w) = \sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor n/2 \rfloor} b_{2n,2k,0}(p, q)(xw)^{2k}(q^2u^2 + x^2v^2)^{n-2k}. \quad (32)$$

A pair of integers (i, j) is an *inversion* of $\sigma \in \mathfrak{S}_n$ if $i < j$ and $\sigma(i) > \sigma(j)$. Let $\text{inv } \sigma$ be the inversion number of σ .

As $\text{inv} = \text{exc} + 2\text{nest} + \text{cros}$ (cf. [16, Eq. (2.41)]), taking $(p, q, x, u, v, w) = (q, 1, x, 1, 1, 1)$ (resp. $(p, q, x, u, v, w) = (q^2, q, xq, 1, 1, 1)$) in Eq. (32), we obtain the following corollary.

Corollary 3. *For all positive integers n and for each statistic $\text{stat} \in \{\text{nest}, \text{inv}\}$,*

$$\sum_{\pi \in \mathcal{DD}_{2n}} q^{\text{stat } \pi} x^{\text{exc } \pi} = \sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor n/2 \rfloor} \left(\sum_{\pi \in \mathcal{DD}_{2n,2k,0}} q^{\text{stat } \pi} \right) x^{2k} (1 + x^2)^{n-2k}. \quad (33)$$

For any permutation $\sigma \in \mathfrak{S}_n$, we denote by $\text{cyc } \sigma$ the number of its cycles. We give the following expansion.

Theorem 2.11. *We have*

$$\sum_{\sigma \in \mathcal{DD}_{2n}} q^{\text{cyc } \sigma} x^{\text{exc } \sigma} = \sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor n/2 \rfloor} \left(\sum_{\pi \in \mathcal{DD}_{2n,2k,0}} q^{\text{cyc } \pi} \right) x^{2k} (1 + x^2)^{n-2k}. \quad (34)$$

The rest of this paper is organized as follows. In Section 3, we recall some definitions and preliminaries of combinatorial theory of continued fractions. In Sections 4–7 we shall prove Theorem 2.4, Theorem 2.5, Theorem 2.9, Theorem 2.10 and Theorem 2.11, respectively. In Section 8, we refine the enumeration results on alternating permutations, which are related to the combinatorial interpretations of Jacobi elliptic functions.

3. Definitions and preliminaries. A Motzkin path of length n in the plan $\mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N}$ is a sequence of points (s_0, \dots, s_n) , where $s_0 = (0, 0)$, $s_i - s_{i-1} = (1, 0), (1, \pm 1)$ and $s_n = (n, 0)$. Each step (s_{i-1}, s_i) is called East (resp. North-East, South-East) if $s_i - s_{i-1} = (1, 0)$ (resp. $s_i - s_{i-1} = (1, 1), s_i - s_{i-1} = (1, -1)$). The *height* of the step (s_{i-1}, s_i) denoted by h_i is the ordinate of s_{i-1} .

A *2-Motzkin path* is a Motzkin path consists of two types of horizontal steps, either *blue* or *red*. The set of *2-Motzkin path* of length $n \geq 1$ is denoted by \mathcal{CM}_n . Denoting the North-East step (resp. East blue step, East red step, South-East step) by a (resp. b, b', c), see Figure 1 for a *2-Motzkin path*. If we weight each East blue (resp. East red, North-East, South-East) step of height i by b_i (resp. b'_i, a_i and

c_i), and define the weight of γ by the product of its step weights denoted by $w(\gamma)$. Then,

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \sum_{\gamma \in \mathcal{CM}_n} w(\gamma) z^n = \frac{1}{1 - (b_0 + b'_0)z - \frac{a_0 c_1 z^2}{1 - (b_1 + b'_1)z - \frac{a_1 c_2 z^2}{\ddots}}} \quad (35)$$

A 2-Motzkin path is a *doubled path* if the step at odd position is always followed by a step of the same type. See Figure 1 for a doubled path γ , whose weight is $w(\gamma) = a_0 a_1 b_2 b_2 c_2 c_1 a_0 a_1 c_2 c_1 b'_0 b'_0$.

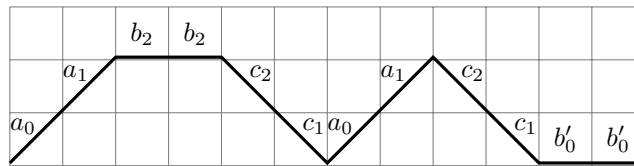


FIGURE 1. The doubled path γ

Grouping steps 2 by 2 in a doubled path of length $2n$ yields a 2-Motzkin path of length n , by (35) we obtain the following lemma.

Lemma 3.1. *If DM_{2n} is the set of doubled paths of length $2n$, then*

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \sum_{\gamma \in DM_{2n}} w(\gamma) z^n = \frac{1}{1 - (b_0^2 + b'_0{}^2)z - \frac{a_0 a_1 c_2 c_1 z^2}{1 - (b_2^2 + b'_2{}^2)z - \frac{a_2 a_3 c_4 c_3 z^2}{\ddots}}} \quad (36)$$

Definition 3.2. A *Laguerre history (restricted Laguerre history)* of length n is a couple $(\gamma, (p_1, \dots, p_n))$, where γ is a Motzkin path of length n and (p_1, \dots, p_n) is a sequence satisfying $0 \leq p_i \leq h_i$ (resp. $0 \leq p_i \leq h_i - 1$ if (s_{i-1}, s_i) is East red and South east). Denote by \mathcal{LH}_n (resp. \mathcal{LH}_n^*) the set of Laguerre histories (resp. restricted Laguerre histories) of length n . Similarly, a *doubled Laguerre history (restricted doubled Laguerre history)* of length n is a couple $(\gamma, (p_1, \dots, p_n))$, where γ is a doubled path of length n and (p_1, \dots, p_n) is a sequence satisfying $0 \leq p_i \leq h_i$ (resp. $0 \leq p_i \leq h_i - 1$ if (s_{i-1}, s_i) is East red and South east). Denote by \mathfrak{DLH}_n (resp. \mathfrak{DLH}_n^*) the set of doubled Laguerre histories (resp. doubled restricted Laguerre histories) of length n .

4. Proof of Theorem 2.4. Clarke-Steingrímsson-Zeng [4] gave a direct bijection Φ on permutations converting statistic *des* into *exc* on permutations, and linking the restricted Françon-Viennot’s bijection to Foata-Zeilberger bijection. As a variation of Φ , Shin and Zeng [23] constructed a bijection Ψ on permutations to derive a cycle version of linear statistics on permutations. Recently, Yan-Zhou-Lin [29] constructed a bijection ψ_{YZL} from \mathfrak{S}_{n+1} to \mathcal{LH}_n . Han-Mao-Zeng [16] showed that Yan-Zhou-Lin’s bijection ψ_{YZL} is a composition of Françon-Viennot’s bijection and Shin-Zeng’s bijection Ψ , see [16, Theorem 2.5]. Further, Han-Mao-Zeng also give another bijection Ψ^* on permutations converting statistic *des* into *exc* on permutations, see [16, Corollary 2.2].

Lemma 4.1 (Han-Mao-Zeng). *For $\sigma \in \mathfrak{S}_n$, we have*

$$(\text{Val}, \text{Pk} \setminus \{n\}, \text{Dd}, \text{Da})\sigma = (\text{Cval}^*, \text{Cpk}^*, \text{Cda}^* \cup \text{Fix}^*, \text{Cdd}^*)\Psi^*(\sigma) \tag{37}$$

and

$$((2-13)_i, (31-2)_i)\sigma = (\text{nest}_i, \text{cros}_i)\Psi^*(\sigma) \text{ for } i \in [n]. \tag{38}$$

Let

$$\text{wex}^*\sigma = \#\{i \in [n-1] : i \leq \sigma^*(i) = \sigma(i) - 1\} (= \text{exc}\sigma).$$

As $\text{exc} = \text{wex}^* = \text{cval}^* + \text{cda}^* + \text{fix}^*$, $\text{des} = \text{val} + \text{dd}$, by Lemma 4.1 and Definition 2.3, we obtain the following result.

Theorem 4.2. *Let $\widetilde{\Psi}^*$ be the restriction of Ψ^* on \mathcal{DP}_{2n+1} . Then $\widetilde{\Psi}^*$ is a bijection from \mathcal{DP}_{2n+1} to \mathcal{DP}_{2n+1}^* . Moreover, for $\sigma \in \mathcal{DP}_{2n+1}$, we have*

$$\begin{aligned} & (2-13, 31-2, \text{des}, \text{da}, \text{dd}, \text{val})\sigma \\ &= (\text{nest}, \text{cros}, \text{exc}, \text{cdd}^*, \text{cda}^* + \text{fix}^*, \text{cval}^*)\widetilde{\Psi}^*(\sigma). \end{aligned} \tag{39}$$

Proof of Theorem 2.4. For $i \in [2n+1]$, define $(31-2)_k\sigma$, $(2-31)_k\sigma$ and $(2-13)_k\sigma$ for $\sigma \in \mathcal{DP}_{2n+1}$ by

$$\begin{aligned} (31-2)_k\sigma &= \#\{i : i+1 < j \text{ and } \sigma(i+1) < \sigma(j) = k < \sigma(i)\}, \\ (2-31)_k\sigma &= \#\{i : j < i-1 \text{ and } \sigma(i) < \sigma(j) = k < \sigma(i-1)\}, \\ (2-13)_k\sigma &= \#\{i : j < i-1 \text{ and } \sigma(i-1) < \sigma(j) = k < \sigma(i)\}. \end{aligned}$$

We use Françon-Viennot’s bijection $\Psi_{FV} : \mathcal{DP}_{2n+1} \rightarrow \mathfrak{DH}_{2n}$. For any $\sigma \in \mathcal{DP}_{2n+1}$, the doubled Laguerre history $(s_0, \dots, s_{2n}, p_1, \dots, p_{2n})$ is constructed as follows. Let $s_0 = (0, 0)$ and for $i = 1, \dots, 2n$,

- the step (s_{i-1}, s_i) is North-East if i is a valley,
- the step (s_{i-1}, s_i) is South-East if i is a peak,
- the step (s_{i-1}, s_i) is East blue if i is a double ascent,
- the step (s_{i-1}, s_i) is East red if i is a double descent.

While $p_i = (2-13)_i\sigma$ for $i = 1, \dots, 2n$.

According to definition of h_i , $(31-2)_1\sigma + (2-13)_1\sigma = 0 = h_1$. For $i > 1$, if i is a valley, we have

$$(31-2)_i\sigma + (2-13)_i\sigma = \begin{cases} (31-2)_{i-1}\sigma + (2-13)_{i-1}\sigma - 1 & \text{if } i-1 \text{ is a peak,} \\ (31-2)_{i-1}\sigma + (2-13)_{i-1}\sigma + 1 & \text{if } i-1 \text{ is a valley,} \\ (31-2)_{i-1}\sigma + (2-13)_{i-1}\sigma & \text{if } i-1 \text{ is a double ascent,} \\ (31-2)_{i-1}\sigma + (2-13)_{i-1}\sigma & \text{if } i-1 \text{ is a double descent.} \end{cases}$$

By inductions we have

$$(31-2)_i\sigma + (2-13)_i\sigma = h_i \text{ if } i \text{ is a valley.}$$

Similarly, it is not difficult to prove by induction that $(31-2)_i\sigma + (2-13)_i\sigma = h_i$ if i is a peak, double ascent or double descent.

Since $\sigma(0) = \sigma(2n+2) = 0$, so $2n+1$ must be a peak and $\text{val}\sigma = \text{pk}\sigma - 1$. Thus $(s_0, \dots, s_{2n}, p_1, \dots, p_{2n})$ is a doubled Laguerre history of length $2n$ and

$$w(\sigma) = x^{\text{ER}\gamma + \text{NE}\gamma} u^{\text{EB}\gamma} v^{\text{ER}\gamma} w^{\text{NE}\gamma} \prod_{i=1}^{2n} p^{p_i} q^{h_i - p_i},$$

where $NE\gamma$, $EB\gamma$, and $ER\gamma$ are the number of North-East steps, East blue steps, and East red steps of γ . Therefore,

$$J_{2n+1}(p, q, x, u, v, w) = \sum_{\gamma \in DM_{2n}} x^{ER\gamma+NE\gamma} u^{EB\gamma} v^{ER\gamma} w^{NE\gamma} \prod_{i=1}^{2n} [h_i + 1]_{p,q}, \quad (40)$$

where $[n]_{p,q} = (p^n - q^n)/(p - q)$. Given a doubled path γ , the weight of each step at height k is created by using the following rules:

$$a_k := xw[k + 1]_{p,q}, \quad b_k := u[k + 1]_{p,q}, \quad b'_k := xv[k + 1]_{p,q}, \quad c_k := [k + 1]_{p,q}, \quad (41)$$

if the step is North-East, East blue, East red and South-East, respectively, and the weight of γ is defined to be the product of the step weights. Summing over all the doubled paths of length $2n$ with the rules (41), we have

$$J_{2n+1}(p, q, x, u, v, w) = \sum_{\gamma \in DM_{2n}} w(\gamma). \quad (42)$$

By Lemma 3.1, $J_{2n+1}(p, q, x, u, v, w)$ are the coefficients in the following continued fraction expansion,

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{n \geq 0} J_{2n+1}(p, q, x, u, v, w) z^n \\ = & \frac{1}{1 - (u^2 + x^2v^2)[1]_{p,q}^2 z - \frac{[1]_{p,q}[2]_{p,q}^2 [3]_{p,q} x^2 w^2 z^2}{1 - (u^2 + x^2v^2)[3]_{p,q}^2 z - \frac{[3]_{p,q}[4]_{p,q}^2 [5]_{p,q} x^2 w^2 z^2}{\dots}}}, \quad (43) \end{aligned}$$

by transforming z to $-z^2$ and multiplying both sides by z , we obtain (16) immediately. This completes the proof of (16). This lead to (17) combining (39) and (16). \square

5. Proof of Theorem 2.5.

Proof of Theorem 2.5. In view of (43), for $0 \leq k \leq \lfloor n/2 \rfloor$, let $a_{2n+1,2k}(p, q, x, u, v)$ be the coefficient of w^{2k} in $A_{2n+1}(p, q, x, u, v, w)$, i.e.,

$$J_{2n+1}(p, q, x, u, v, w) = \sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor n/2 \rfloor} a_{2n+1,2k}(p, q, x, u, v) w^{2k}. \quad (44)$$

Transforming z and w to $\frac{z}{(u^2+x^2v^2)}$ and $\frac{w(u^2+x^2v^2)}{x}$ in (43), respectively, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{n \geq 0} \sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor n/2 \rfloor} \frac{a_{2n+1,2k}(p, q, x, u, v)}{x^{2k} (u^2 + x^2v^2)^{n-2k}} w^{2k} z^n \\ = & \frac{1}{1 - [1]_{p,q}^2 z - \frac{[1]_{p,q}[2]_{p,q}^2 [3]_{p,q} w^2 z^2}{1 - [3]_{p,q}^2 z - \frac{[3]_{p,q}[4]_{p,q}^2 [5]_{p,q} w^2 z^2}{1 - [5]_{p,q}^2 z - \frac{[5]_{p,q}[6]_{p,q}^2 [7]_{p,q} w^2 z^2}{\dots}}}}. \quad (45) \end{aligned}$$

Since the right-hand side of the above identity is free of variables $x, u,$ and $v,$ the coefficient of $w^{2k}z^n$ in the left-hand side is a polynomial in p and q with nonnegative integral coefficients. Denote the coefficient of (45) by

$$P_{2n+1,2k}(p, q) := \frac{a_{2n+1,2k}(p, q, x, u, v)}{x^{2k}(u^2 + x^2v^2)^{n-2k}}.$$

On the other hand, Take $(p, q, x, u, v, w) = (p, q, 1, 1, 0, w)$ in (44), then the continued fraction (43) becomes the right-hand side of (45) immediately. With the definition of $a_{2n+1,2k}$ in (21), we see that

$$P_{2n+1,2k}(p, q) = a_{2n+1,2k}(p, q, 1, 1, 0) = a_{2n+1,2k}(p, q).$$

With Eq. (44), this proves (20). Finally, since $(p + q)^2 \mid [2n - 1]_{p,q}[2n]_{p,q}^2[2n + 1]_{p,q}$ for all $n \geq 1,$ each w^2 appears with a factor $(p + q)^2$ in the right-hand side of (45), and the polynomial $P_{2n+1,2k}(p, q)$ is divisible by $(p + q)^{2k}.$ This completes the proof. \square

In the rest of this section, we will provide a combinatorial proof of Corollary 1 via the modified Foata-Strehl actions on permutations.

Definition 5.1 (MFS-action). Let $\pi \in \mathfrak{S}_n$ with boundary condition $\pi(0) = \pi(n + 1) = 0,$ for any $a \in [n],$ the a -factorization of π reads $\pi = w_1w_2aw_3w_4,$ where w_2 (resp. w_3) is the maximal contiguous subword immediately to the left (resp. right) of a whose letters are all larger than $a.$ Following Foata and Strehl [14] we define the action φ_a by

$$\varphi_a(\pi) = w_1w_3aw_2w_4.$$

Note that if a is a double ascent (resp. double descent), then $w_2 = \emptyset$ (resp. $w_3 = \emptyset$), and if a is a peak then $w_2 = w_3 = \emptyset.$ For instance, if $a = 3$ and $\pi = 28531746 \in \mathfrak{S}_7,$ then $w_1 = 2, w_2 = 85, w_3 = \emptyset$ and $w_4 = 1746.$ Thus $\varphi_a(\pi) = 23851746.$ Clearly, φ_a is an involution acting on \mathfrak{S}_n and it is not hard to see that φ_a and φ_b commute for all $a, b \in [n].$ Brändén [3] modified the map φ_a to be

$$\varphi'_a(\pi) := \begin{cases} \varphi_a(\pi), & \text{if } a \text{ is not a valley of } \pi; \\ \pi, & \text{if } a \text{ is a valley of } \pi. \end{cases}$$

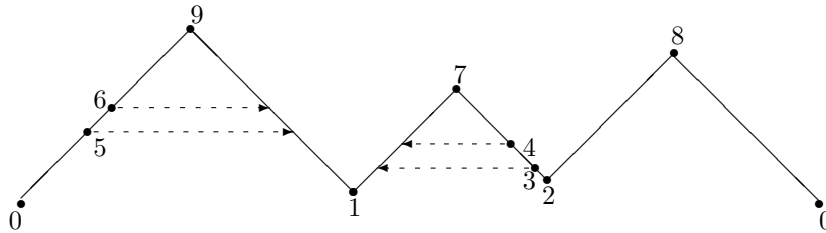


FIGURE 2. MFS-actions on 569174328 (recall $\pi(0) = \pi(10) = 0$)

See Figure 2 for illustration, where exchanging w_2 and w_3 in the a -factorisation is equivalent to move a from a double ascent to a double descent or vice versa. Note that the boundary condition does matter. Take the permutation 569173428 in Figure 2 as an example. If $\pi(0) = 10$ instead, then 5 becomes a valley and will be fixed by $\varphi'_5.$

It is clear that φ'_a 's are involutions and commute. For any subset $S \subseteq [n]$ we can then define the map $\varphi'_S : \mathcal{DP}_{2n+1} \rightarrow \mathcal{DP}_{2n+1}$ by

$$\varphi'_S(\pi) = \prod_{a \in S} \varphi'_{2a-1}(\pi)\varphi'_{2a}(\pi).$$

Note that $\varphi'_{2n+1}(\pi) = \pi$ and the concatenation of $\varphi'_{2a-1}(\pi)\varphi'_{2a}(\pi)$ is closed for $\pi \in \mathcal{DP}_{2n+1}$. Hence the group \mathbb{Z}_2^n acts on \mathcal{DP}_{2n+1} via the functions φ'_S , $S \subseteq [n]$. This action will be called the *Modified Foata-Strehl action (MFS-action)* for short).

Proof of Theorem 1. For any permutation $\pi \in \mathcal{DP}_{2n+1}$, let $\text{Orb}(\pi) = \{g(\pi) : g \in \mathbb{Z}_2^n\}$ be the orbit of π under the MFS-action. The MFS-action divides the set \mathcal{DP}_{2n+1} into disjoint orbits. Moreover, for $\pi \in \mathcal{DP}_{2n+1}$, $2a - 1$ and $2a$ are double descents (resp. double ascents) of π if and only if $2a - 1$ and $2a$ are double ascents (resp. double descents) of $\varphi'_{2a-1}(\pi)\varphi'_{2a}(\pi)$. Double descents (resp. double ascents) $2a - 1$ and $2a$ of π remains a double descent (resp. double ascent) of $\varphi'_{2b-1}(\pi)\varphi'_{2b}(\pi)$ for any $b \neq a$. Hence, there is a unique permutation in each orbit which has no double descent. Let $\bar{\pi}$ be this unique element in $\text{Orb}(\pi)$, then $\text{da } \bar{\pi} = 2n + 1 - \text{pk } \bar{\pi} - \text{val } \bar{\pi}$ and $\text{des } \bar{\pi} = \text{pk } \bar{\pi} - 1 = \text{val } \bar{\pi}$. And for any other $\pi' \in \text{Orb}(\pi)$, it can be obtained from $\bar{\pi}$ by repeatedly applying φ'_{2a-1} and φ'_{2a} for some double ascents $2a - 1$ and $2a$ of $\bar{\pi}$. Once $\varphi'_{2a-1}\varphi'_{2a}$ is used, $\frac{\text{des}}{2}$ increases by 1 and $\frac{\text{da}}{2}$ decreases by 1. Thus

$$\sum_{\sigma \in \text{Orb } \pi} x^{\frac{\text{des } \sigma}{2}} = x^{\frac{\text{des } \bar{\pi}}{2}} (1 + x)^{\frac{\text{da } \bar{\pi}}{2}} = x^{\frac{\text{des } \bar{\pi}}{2}} (1 + x)^{n - \text{des } \bar{\pi}}.$$

By summing over all the orbits that compose together to form \mathcal{DP}_{2n+1} , we obtain

$$\sum_{\pi \in \mathcal{DP}_{2n+1}} x^{\frac{\text{des } \pi}{2}} = \sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor} |\mathcal{DP}_{2n+1, 2k}| x^k (1 + x)^{n-2k},$$

by transforming x to x^2 , (23) is derived immediately. □

6. Proof of Theorem 2.9 and Theorem 2.10. We need the following result[16, Lemma 2.1].

Lemma 6.1 (Shin-Zeng). *For $\sigma \in \mathfrak{S}_n$, we have*

$$(\text{Lval}, \text{Lpk}, \text{Lda} \setminus \text{Fmax}, \text{Fmax}, \text{Ldd})\sigma \tag{46}$$

$$=(\text{Cval}, \text{Cpk}, \text{Cda}, \text{Fix}, \text{Cdd})(\Phi(\sigma)) \tag{47}$$

$$=(\text{Cval}, \text{Cpk}, \text{Cdd}, \text{Fix}, \text{Cda})(\Phi(\sigma))^{-1}, \tag{48}$$

and

$$((2-31)_i, (31-2)_i)\sigma = (\text{nest}_i, \text{cros}_i)(\Phi(\sigma))^{-1} \quad \text{for } i \in [n]. \tag{49}$$

As $\text{exc} = \text{cval} + \text{cda}$, $\text{des} = \text{lpk} + \text{ldd} = \text{lval} + \text{ldd}$, by Lemma 6.1 and Definition 2.8, we obtain the following result.

Theorem 6.2. *Let $\tilde{\Phi}$ be the restriction of Φ on \mathcal{LDP}_{2n} . Then $\tilde{\Phi}$ is a bijection from \mathcal{LDP}_{2n} to \mathcal{CDP}_{2n} . Moreover, for $\sigma \in \mathcal{LDP}_{2n}$, we have*

$$\begin{aligned} & (2-31, 31-2, \text{des}, \text{lda} - \text{fmax}, \text{ldd}, \text{lval}, \text{fmax}) \sigma \\ & = (\text{nest}, \text{cros}, \text{exc}, \text{cdd}, \text{cda}, \text{cval}, \text{fix})(\tilde{\Phi}(\sigma))^{-1}. \end{aligned} \tag{50}$$

Proof of Theorem 2.9. Using Foata-Zeilberger’s bijection $\Psi_{FZ} : \mathcal{CDP}_{2n} \rightarrow \mathfrak{D}\mathfrak{H}_{2n}^*$, the restricted doubled Laguerre history $(s_0, \dots, s_{2n}, p_1, \dots, p_{2n})$ is constructed as follows. Define $s_0 = (0, 0)$ and

- the step (s_{i-1}, s_i) is North-East if i is a cyclic valley,
- the step (s_{i-1}, s_i) is South-East if i is a cyclic peak,
- the step (s_{i-1}, s_i) is East blue if i is a double drop (or fixed point),
- the step (s_{i-1}, s_i) is East red if i is a double excedance,

while $p_i = \text{nest}_i \sigma$ for $i = 1, \dots, 2n$. Then, we have

$$\text{nest}_i \sigma + \text{cros}_i \sigma = \begin{cases} h_i, & \text{if } (s_{i-1}, s_i) \text{ is North-East;} \\ h_i - 1, & \text{if } (s_{i-1}, s_i) \text{ is South-East;} \\ h_i, & \text{if } (s_{i-1}, s_i) \text{ is East blue;} \\ h_i - 1, & \text{if } (s_{i-1}, s_i) \text{ is East red.} \end{cases}$$

Thus $(s_0, \dots, s_{2n}, p_1, \dots, p_{2n})$ is a restricted doubled Laguerre history of length $2n$ and

$$w(\sigma) = x^{\text{ER } \gamma + \text{NE } \gamma} u^{\text{EB } \gamma} v^{\text{ER } \gamma} w^{\text{NE } \gamma} y^{\text{EB}^* \gamma} q^{\text{NE } \gamma + \text{EB } \gamma} \prod_{i=1}^{2n} p^{p_i} q^{h_i - 1 - p_i},$$

where NE γ , EB γ , and ER γ are the number of North-East steps, East blue steps, and East red steps of γ and EB* γ is the number of East blue steps whose height is equal to p_i . Given a doubled path γ , the weight of each step at height k is created by using the following rules:

$$a_k := xw[k + 1]_{p,q}, \quad b_k := yp^k + qu[k]_{p,q}, \quad b'_k := xv[k]_{p,q}, \quad c_k := [k]_{p,q}, \quad (51)$$

if the step is North-East, East blue, East red and South-East, respectively, and the weight of γ is defined to be the product of the step weights. Summing over all the doubled paths of length $2n$ with the rules (51), we have

$$J_{2n}(p, q, x, u, v, w, y) = \sum_{\gamma \in \text{DM}_{2n}} w(\gamma). \quad (52)$$

By Lemma 3.1, $J_{2n}(p, q, x, u, v, w, y)$ are the coefficients in the following continued fraction expansion,

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{n \geq 0} J_{2n}(p, q, x, u, v, w, y) z^n \\ = & \frac{1}{1 - y^2 z - \frac{[1]_{p,q}^2 [2]_{p,q}^2 x^2 w^2 z^2}{1 - ((qu[2]_{p,q} + p^2 y)^2 + x^2 v^2 [2]_{p,q}^2) z - \frac{[3]_{p,q}^2 [4]_{p,q}^2 x^2 w^2 z^2}{\dots}}}. \end{aligned} \quad (53)$$

By transforming z to $-z^2$ in (53), we obtain (24) immediately. This completes the proof of (26). This lead to (25) combining (50) and (26). \square

Proof of Theorem 2.10. The generating function of the right side of Eq. (32) is

$$\sum_{n \geq 0} \sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor n/2 \rfloor} \left(\sum_{\pi \in \mathcal{DD}_{2n, 2k, 0}} p^{\text{nest } \pi} q^{\text{cros } \pi} \right) (xw)^{2k} (q^2 u^2 + x^2 v^2)^{n-2k} z^n \quad (54)$$

$$= \sum_{n \geq 0} \sum_{\pi \in \mathcal{DD}_{2n}} p^{\text{nest } \pi} q^{\text{cros } \pi} \left(\frac{xw}{q^2 u^2 + x^2 v^2} \right)^{\text{cval } \pi} ((q^2 u^2 + x^2 v^2) z)^n, \quad (55)$$

where $\widetilde{\mathcal{DD}}_{2n} := \cup_{k=0}^n \mathcal{DD}_{2n,2k,0}$. Using Theorem 2.9, we have

$$J_{2n}(p, q, 1, 0, 1, w, 0) := \sum_{\pi \in \widetilde{\mathcal{DD}}_{2n}} p^{\text{nest } \pi} q^{\text{cross } \pi} w^{\text{cval } \pi}.$$

Eq. (53) implies that

$$\begin{aligned} & 1 + \sum_{n \geq 1} \sum_{\pi \in \widetilde{\mathcal{DD}}_{2n}} p^{\text{nest } \pi} q^{\text{cross } \pi} w^{\text{cval } \pi} z^n \\ &= \frac{1}{1 - \frac{[1]_{p,q}^2 [2]_{p,q}^2 w^2 z^2}{1 - [2]_{p,q}^2 z - \frac{[3]_{p,q}^2 [4]_{p,q}^2 w^2 z^2}{1 - [4]_{p,q}^2 z \dots}}}}. \end{aligned}$$

Making the substitution $z \mapsto (q^2 u^2 + x^2 v^2)z$ and $w \mapsto xw / (q^2 u^2 + x^2 v^2)$ in the above equation, we obtain the continued fraction of (55) is

$$\frac{1}{1 - \frac{[1]_{p,q}^2 [2]_{p,q}^2 x^2 w^2 z^2}{1 - (q^2 u^2 [2]_{p,q}^2 + x^2 v^2 [2]_{p,q}^2)z - \frac{[3]_{p,q}^2 [4]_{p,q}^2 x^2 w^2 z^2}{1 - (q^2 u^2 [4]_{p,q}^2 + x^2 v^2 [4]_{p,q}^2)z \dots}}}}, \tag{56}$$

which is generating function of $\sum_{n \geq 0} J_{2n}(p, q, x, u, v, w, 0)z^n$ by (53). This completes the proof. \square

7. Proof of Theorem 2.11. We need the following lemma. Let

$$D_n(q, t, u, v, w) := \sum_{\sigma \in \mathfrak{D}_n} q^{\text{cyc } \sigma} x^{\text{exc } \sigma} u^{\text{cda } \sigma} v^{\text{cdd } \sigma} w^{\text{cval } \sigma}. \tag{57}$$

Lemma 7.1. [23, Eq. (41)] *We have*

$$\begin{aligned} & 1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} D_n(q, x, u, v, w)z^n \\ &= \frac{1}{1 - 0(xu + v)z - \frac{1(q + 0)xwz^2}{1 - 1(xu + v)z - \frac{2(q + 1)xwz^2}{1 - 2(xu + v)z - \frac{3(q + 2)xwz^2}{\dots}}}}}. \end{aligned} \tag{58}$$

Define $D_{2n}^{\text{cyc}}(\beta, x, u, v, w)$ to be the coefficients in the following continued fraction expansion

$$1 + \sum_{n \geq 1} (-1)^n D_{2n}^{\text{cyc}}(\beta, x, u, v, w)z^{2n} = \frac{1}{1 + b_0 z^2 - \frac{\lambda_1 x^2 w^2 z^4}{1 + b_1 z^2 - \frac{\lambda_2 x^2 w^2 z^4}{\dots}}}, \tag{59}$$

where, for $k \geq 0$,

$$b_k = (2k)^2(x^2 u^2 + v^2), \quad \text{and} \quad \lambda_{k+1} = (2k + 1)(2k + 2)(\beta + 2k)(\beta + 2k + 1).$$

Lemma 7.2. *We have*

$$D_{2n}^{\text{cyc}}(\beta, x, u, v, w) := \sum_{\pi \in \mathcal{DD}_{2n}} \beta^{\text{cyc } \pi} x^{\text{exc } \pi} u^{\text{cda } \pi} v^{\text{cdd } \pi} w^{\text{cval } \pi}. \tag{60}$$

Proof of Lemma 7.2. Comparing the definition of (57) and (60), observing the Eq. (58), we construct a doubled path γ , the weight is created by using the following rules:

$$b_k + b'_k := k(xu + v) \quad \text{and} \quad a_k c_{k+1} := (k + 1)(\beta + k)xw, \tag{61}$$

where a_k (resp. b_k, b'_k and c_k) is the weight of North-East (resp. East blue, East red and South-East) step at height k . The weight of γ is defined to be the product of the step weights. Summing over all the doubled paths of length $2n$ with the rules (61), we have

$$D_{2n}^{cyc}(\beta, x, u, v, w) = \sum_{\gamma \in DM_{2n}} w(\gamma).$$

By Lemma 3.1, $D_{2n}^{cyc}(\beta, x, u, v, w)$ are the coefficients in the following continued fraction expansion,

$$\begin{aligned} & 1 + \sum_{n \geq 1} D_{2n}^{cyc}(\beta, x, u, v, w) z^n \\ = & \frac{1}{1 - 0(x^2u^2 + v^2)z - \frac{2\beta(\beta + 1)x^2w^2z^2}{1 - 2^2(x^2u^2 + v^2)z - \frac{3(\beta + 2)4(\beta + 3)x^2w^2z^2}{\dots}}}, \end{aligned} \tag{62}$$

which is equivalent to (59) by transforming z to $(-z)^2$. □

Proof of Theorem 2.11. Then the generating function of the right side of Eq. (34) is

$$1 + \sum_{n \geq 1} \sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor n/2 \rfloor} \left(\sum_{\pi \in \mathcal{D}_{2n, 2k, 0}} q^{cyc \pi} \right) x^{2k} (1 + x^2)^{n-2k} z^n \tag{63}$$

$$= 1 + \sum_{n \geq 1} \sum_{\pi \in \overline{\mathcal{D}}_{2n}} q^{cyc \pi} \left(\frac{x}{1 + x^2} \right)^{cval \pi} ((1 + x^2)z)^n. \tag{64}$$

Using Lemma 7.2, we have

$$D_{2n}^{cyc}(\beta, 1, 1, 0, w) := \sum_{\pi \in \overline{\mathcal{D}}_{2n}} \beta^{cyc \pi} w^{cval \pi}.$$

Eq. (62) implies that

$$\begin{aligned} & 1 + \sum_{n \geq 1} \sum_{\pi \in \overline{\mathcal{D}}_{2n}} \beta^{cyc \pi} w^{cval \pi} z^n \\ = & \frac{1}{1 - 0 \cdot z - \frac{2\beta(\beta + 1)w^2z^2}{1 - 2^2 \cdot 1z - \frac{3(\beta + 2)4(\beta + 3)w^2z^2}{\dots}}}. \end{aligned} \tag{65}$$

Making the substitution $z \mapsto (1 + x^2)z$ and $w \mapsto x/(1 + x^2)$ in the above equation, we obtain the continued fraction of (64) is

$$\frac{1}{1 - 0 \cdot (1 + x^2)z - \frac{2\beta(\beta + 1)x^2z^2}{1 - 2^2 \cdot (1 + x^2)z - \frac{3(\beta + 2)4(\beta + 3)x^2z^2}{\dots}}}, \tag{66}$$

which is generating function of $1 + \sum_{n \geq 1} D_{2n}^{cyc}(\beta, x, 1, 1, 1)z^n$ by (62). This completes the proof. \square

8. The alternating permutations and Jacobi elliptic functions. A permutation $\sigma = \sigma_1\sigma_2 \cdots \sigma_n \in \mathfrak{S}_n$ is *alternating* (resp. *falling alternating*) permutation if $\sigma_1 < \sigma_2, \sigma_2 > \sigma_3, \sigma_3 < \sigma_4, \dots$ (resp. $\sigma_1 > \sigma_2, \sigma_2 < \sigma_3, \sigma_3 > \sigma_4, \dots$). Let \mathfrak{A}_n^* (resp. \mathfrak{A}_n) be the set of alternating (resp. *falling alternating*) permutations on $[n]$. Let *eval* π (resp. *oval*) and *opk* π (resp. *epk*) denote the number of even valleys (resp. odd valleys) and odd peaks of π (resp. even peaks).

A *Dyck path* is a Motzkin path without horizontal step. So the length of a Dyck path must be even. Let $Dyck_{2n}$ denote the set of Dyck paths of length $2n$. Then, it is well known (see [12]) that

$$1 + \sum_{n \geq 1} \sum_{\gamma \in Dyck_{2n}} w(\gamma)z^{2n} = \frac{1}{1 - \frac{a_0c_1z^2}{1 - \frac{a_1c_2z^2}{1 - \frac{a_2c_3z^2}{\ddots}}}}. \tag{67}$$

Recall Definition 3.2, let *Dyck path diagram* (resp. *restricted Dyck path diagram*) of length $2n$ be the Laguerre history (restricted Laguerre history) of length $2n$ without east steps. Denote by \mathcal{P}_{2n} (resp. \mathcal{P}_{2n}^*) the set of Dyck path diagram (restricted Dyck path diagram) of length $2n$. There are several well-known bijections between \mathfrak{A}_{2n} and \mathcal{P}_{2n-1} and \mathcal{P}_{2n}^* , see [22] and references therein.

We also need a standard contraction formula for continued fractions, see [22, Eq. (44)].

Lemma 8.1 (Contraction formula). *There holds*

$$\frac{1}{1 - \frac{c_1z}{1 - \frac{c_2z}{1 - \frac{c_3z}{1 - \frac{c_4z}{\ddots}}}}} = \frac{1}{1 - c_1z - \frac{c_1c_2z^2}{1 - (c_2 + c_3)z - \frac{c_3c_4z^2}{1 - \dots}}}.$$

Define the polynomials $E_n(p, q, x, y)$ by the continued fraction expansions

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n E_{2n}(p, q, x, y)z^{2n} = \frac{1}{1 + \frac{[1]_{p,q}^2 y^2 z^2}{1 + \frac{[2]_{p,q}^2 x^2 z^2}{1 + \frac{[3]_{p,q}^2 y^2 z^2}{1 + \frac{[4]_{p,q}^2 x^2 z^2}{\ddots}}}}} \tag{68}$$

$$= 1 - y^2 z^2 + y^2((p + q)^2 x^2 + y^2)z^4 + \dots,$$

and

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n E_{2n+1}(p, q, x, y) z^{2n+1} = \frac{xz}{1 + \frac{[1]_{p,q}[2]_{p,q}y^2z^2}{1 + \frac{[2]_{p,q}[3]_{p,q}x^2z^2}{1 + \frac{[3]_{p,q}[4]_{p,q}y^2z^2}{1 + \frac{[4]_{p,q}[5]_{p,q}x^2z^2}{\ddots}}}}} \tag{69}$$

$$= xz - (p + q)xy^2z^3 + ((p + q)^2(p^2 + pq + q^2)x^3y^2 + (p + q)^2xy^4)z^5 + \dots$$

We have the following combinatorial interpretations for $E_n(p, q, x, y)$.

Theorem 8.2. *For $n \geq 0$, we have*

$$E_{2n}(p, q, x, y) = \sum_{\pi \in \mathfrak{A}_{2n}} p^{(2-31)\pi} q^{(31-2)\pi} x^{\text{eval } \pi + \text{opk } \pi} y^{\text{oval } \pi + \text{epk } \pi}, \tag{70}$$

$$E_{2n+1}(p, q, x, y) = \sum_{\pi \in \mathfrak{A}_{2n+1}} p^{(2-13)\pi} q^{(31-2)\pi} x^{\text{eval } \pi + \text{opk } \pi} y^{\text{oval } \pi + \text{epk } \pi}. \tag{71}$$

Proof. We prove the Eq. (70) and Eq. (71) by using Françon-Viennot’s bijection $\Psi_{FV} : \mathfrak{A}_{2n+1} \rightarrow \mathcal{P}_{2n}$ and $\Psi_{FV}^* : \mathfrak{A}_{2n} \rightarrow \mathcal{P}_{2n}^*$. For $\sigma \in \mathfrak{A}_{2n+1}$, the corresponding Dyck path diagram $(s_0, \dots, s_{2n}, \xi_1, \dots, \xi_{2n})$ is constructed as follows: Let $s_0 = (0, 0)$ and for $i = 1, \dots, 2n$,

- the step (s_{i-1}, s_i) is North-East if i is a valley,
- the step (s_{i-1}, s_i) is South-East if i is a peak.

While $\xi_i = (31-2)_i\sigma$ for $i = 1, \dots, 2n$. We only prove Equation (70) and leave (71) to the interested reader.

For any $\sigma = \sigma_1\sigma_2 \dots \sigma_{2n} \in \mathfrak{A}_{2n}$, let $\sigma^* = \sigma_1\sigma_2 \dots \sigma_{2n}\sigma_{2n+1}$ with $\sigma_{2n+1} = 2n + 1$. Let $\Psi_{FV}^*(\sigma) := \Psi_{FV}(\sigma^*)$. Since 1 is the valley then $(31-2)_1\sigma + (2-31)_1\sigma = 0 = h_1$, and for $i > 1$,

$$(31-2)_{i\sigma} + (2-31)_{i\sigma} = \begin{cases} (31-2)_{i-1}\sigma + (2-31)_{i-1}\sigma + 1 & \text{if } i-1 \text{ is a valley and } i \text{ is a valley,} \\ (31-2)_{i-1}\sigma + (2-31)_{i-1}\sigma - 1 & \text{if } i-1 \text{ is a peak and } i \text{ is a peak,} \\ (31-2)_{i-1}\sigma + (2-31)_{i-1}\sigma & \text{if } i-1 \text{ is a valley and } i \text{ is a peak,} \\ (31-2)_{i-1}\sigma + (2-31)_{i-1}\sigma & \text{if } i-1 \text{ is a peak and } i \text{ is a valley,} \end{cases}$$

by induction we have

$$(31-2)_{i\sigma} + (2-31)_{i\sigma} = \begin{cases} h_i & \text{if } i \text{ is a valley,} \\ h_i - 1 & \text{if } i \text{ is a peak.} \end{cases}$$

Therefore,

$$w(\sigma) = x^{\text{ENE } \gamma + \text{OSE } \gamma} y^{\text{ONE } \gamma + \text{ESE } \gamma} q^{\text{NE } \gamma} \prod_{i=1}^{2n} p^{h_i - 1 - \xi_i} q^{\xi_i},$$

where NE γ , SE γ , ENE γ , ONE γ , ESE γ and OSE γ are the number of North-East steps, South-East steps, North-East steps at even positions, North-East steps at odd positions, South-East steps at even positions, and South-East steps at odd positions. By inductions it is easy to see that the the height h_{2i} (resp. $h_{2i'+1}$) of even step $(s_{2i-1}, s_{2i})(1 \leq i \leq n)$ (resp. odd step $(s_{2i'}, s_{2i'+1})(0 \leq i' \leq n - 1)$) of Dyck path is odd (resp. even). For example, $\sigma = 645231$ gives the path (ONE, ENE, OSE, ENE, OSE, ESE) and the weight (y, xp, xq, xp, xq, y) . Let $[n]_{p,q} = (p^n - q^n)/(p - q)$, given a Dyck path γ , the weight of each step is created by using the following rules:

$$a_{2k} := [2k + 1]_{p,q}y, a_{2k+1} := [2k + 2]_{p,q}x, c_{2k} := [2k]_{p,q}x, c_{2k+1} := [2k + 1]_{p,q}y, \tag{72}$$

if the step is North-East at height $2k$, North-East at height $2k + 1$, South-East at height $2k$, and South-East at height $2k + 1$, respectively, and the weight of γ is defined to be the product of the step weights. Summing over all the doubled paths of length $2n$ with the rules (72), we have

$$E_{2n}(p, q, x, y) = \sum_{\gamma \in Dyck_{2n}} w(\gamma). \tag{73}$$

By (67), $J_{2n}(p, q, x, y)$ are the coefficients in the following continued fraction expansion,

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} E_{2n}(p, q, x, y)z^{2n} = \frac{1}{1 - \frac{[1]_{p,q}^2 y^2 z^2}{1 - \frac{[2]_{p,q}^2 x^2 z^2}{1 - \frac{[3]_{p,q}^2 y^2 z^2}{1 - \frac{[4]_{p,q}^2 x^2 z^2}{\ddots}}}}}. \tag{74}$$

By transforming z^2 to $-z^2$ for the above equation, we obtain (68) immediately, This completes the proof of Eq. (70). \square

Remark 2. 1. By Lemma 8.1 it is easy to check that

$$E_{2n}(p, q, x, 1) = J_{2n}(p, q, x, 1, 1, 1), \tag{75}$$

$$E_{2n+1}(1, 1, 1, 1) = J_{2n+1}(1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1). \tag{76}$$

Given a Dyck path $Dyck_{2n}$, a North-East step at positions $(s_{2i-1}, s_{2i})(1 \leq i \leq n)$ is matched by some South-East step at $(s_{2i'}, s_{2i'+1})(0 \leq i' \leq n - 1)$, i.e., the number of North-East even steps is equal to the number of South-East odd steps. From the Françon-Viennot's bijection, the number of even valleys is equal to the number of odd peaks for $\pi \in \mathfrak{A}_{2n}$. Therefore, when $p = q = 1$, (70) reduces to Flajolet's result [12, Theorem 4].

2. When $x = y = 1$, (70) and (71) reduce to Shin-Zeng's result [22, Theorem 4].
3. Dumont [10, Propostion 7] obtained $E_{2n}(1, 1, x, y)$ by enumerating cycle-alternating permutations with distinct weights for even and odd cycle peaks. Further refinements of $E_{2n}(p, q, x, y)$ were given in [25, Section 2.15] with combinatorial interpretations in terms of cycle-alternating permutations.

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