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*Crossings and nestings of two edges in set partitions*

Let  $\pi$  and  $\lambda$  be two set partitions with the same number of blocks. Assume  $\pi$  is a partition of  $[n]$ . For any integer  $l, m \geq 0$ , let  $\mathcal{T}(\pi, l)$  be the set of partitions of  $[n + l]$  whose restrictions to the last  $n$  elements are isomorphic to  $\pi$ , and  $\mathcal{T}(\pi, l, m)$  the subset of  $\mathcal{T}(\pi, l)$  consisting of those partitions with exactly  $m$  blocks. Similarly define  $\mathcal{T}(\lambda, l)$  and  $\mathcal{T}(\lambda, l, m)$ . We prove that if the statistic  $cr$  ( $ne$ ), the number of crossings (nestings) of two edges, coincides on the sets  $\mathcal{T}(\pi, l)$  and  $\mathcal{T}(\lambda, l)$  for  $l = 0, 1$ , then it coincides on  $\mathcal{T}(\pi, l, m)$  and  $\mathcal{T}(\lambda, l, m)$  for all  $l, m \geq 0$ . These results extend the ones obtained by Klazar on the distribution of crossings and nestings for matchings.