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Toppleable permutations and excedances

Recall that an excedance of a permutation π is any position i such that $\pi_i > i$. Inspired by the work of Hopkins, McConville and Propp (Elec. J. Comb., 2017) on sorting using toppling, we say that a permutation is toppleable if it gets sorted by a certain sequence of toppling moves. We will show that the number of toppleable permutations on n letters is the same as the number of permutations on n letters for which excedances happen exactly at $\{1, \ldots, \lfloor (n-1)/2 \rfloor$). Time permitting, we will show bijectively that this is also the number of acyclic orientations with unique sink of the complete bipartite graph $K_{\lceil n/2 \rceil, \lfloor n/2 \rfloor + 1}$.

This is joint work with D. Hathcock and P. Tetali (arXiv:2010.11236).