



*Combinatorics and Algebras From A to Z, Monday July 26, 2021*

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# Growth rates of grids and merges of permutation classes

Vince Vatter (U Florida)

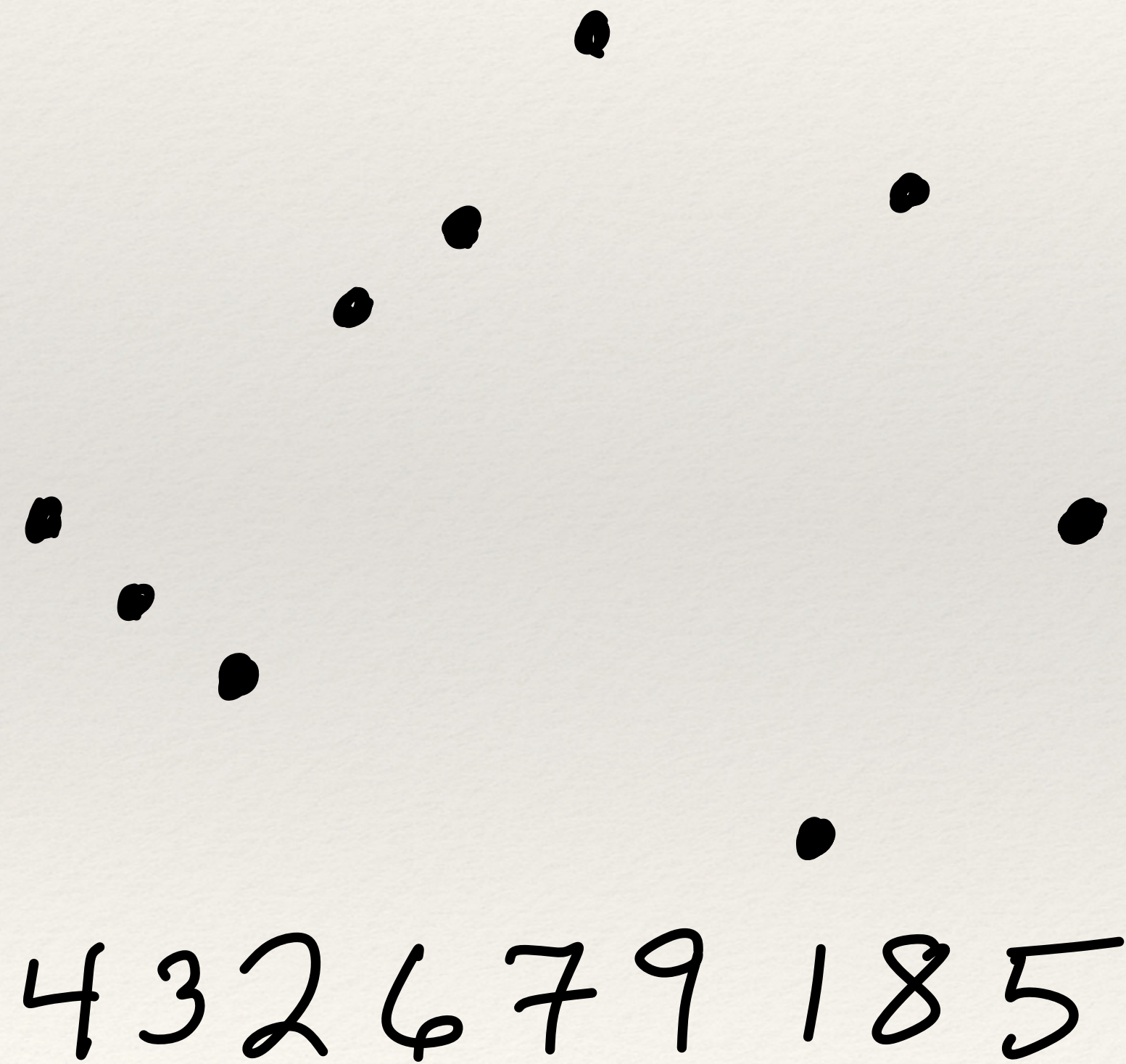
with  
Michael Albert and Jay Pantone



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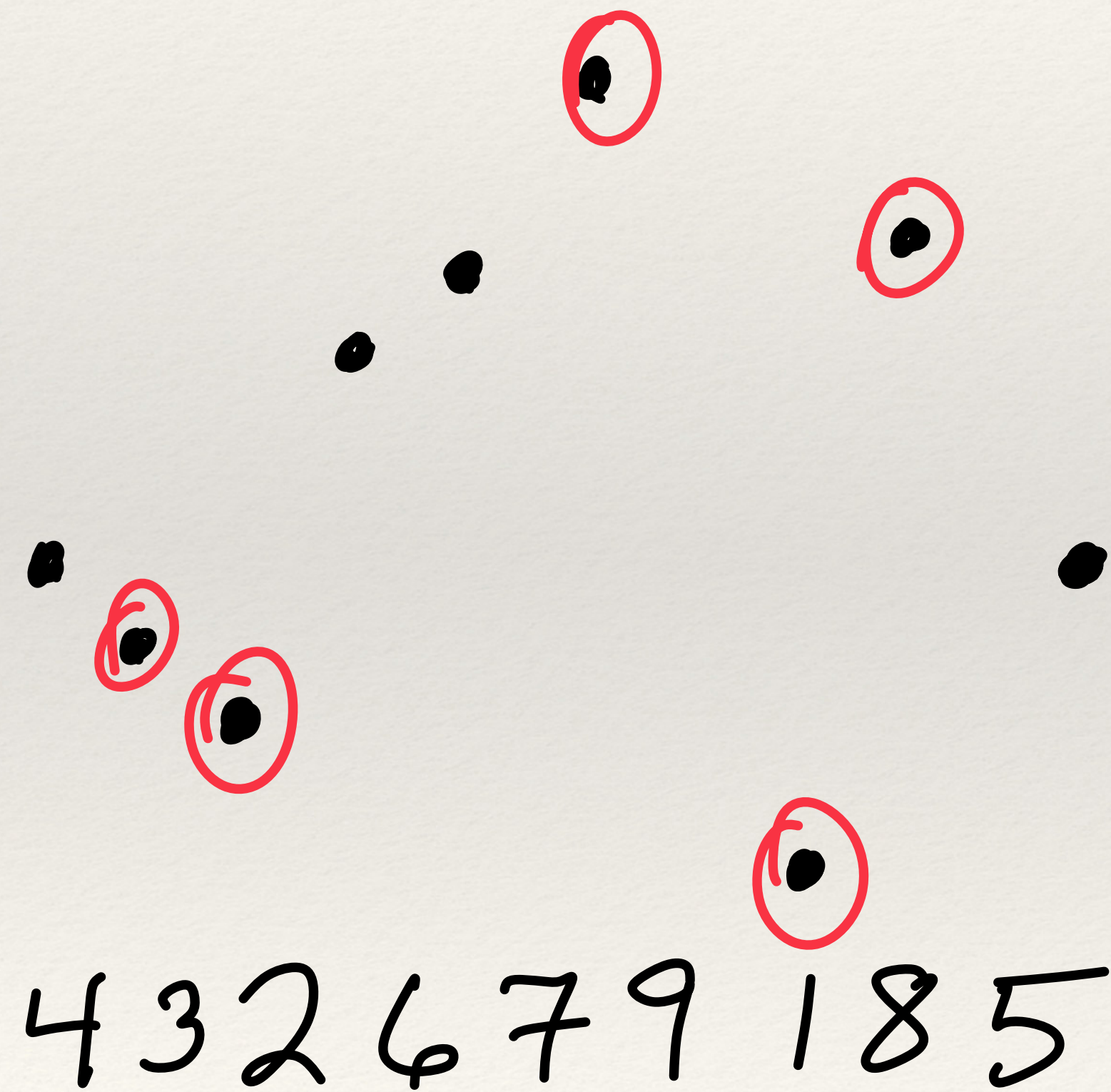
# Permutation patterns

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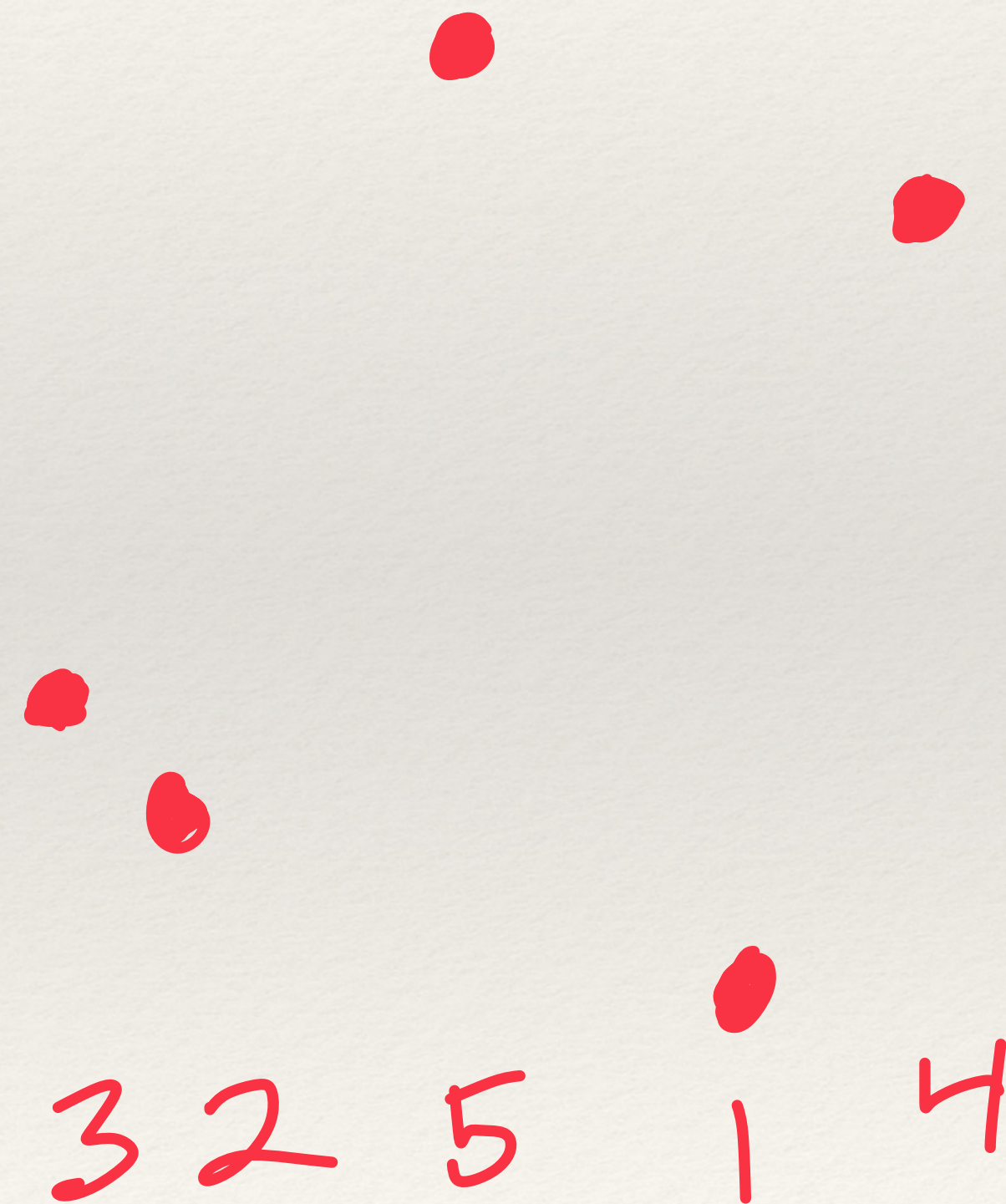




# Permutation patterns



$\geq$





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# Permutation classes

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This is a partial order on the set of all (finite) permutations.

A downset in this order is called a **permutation class**.

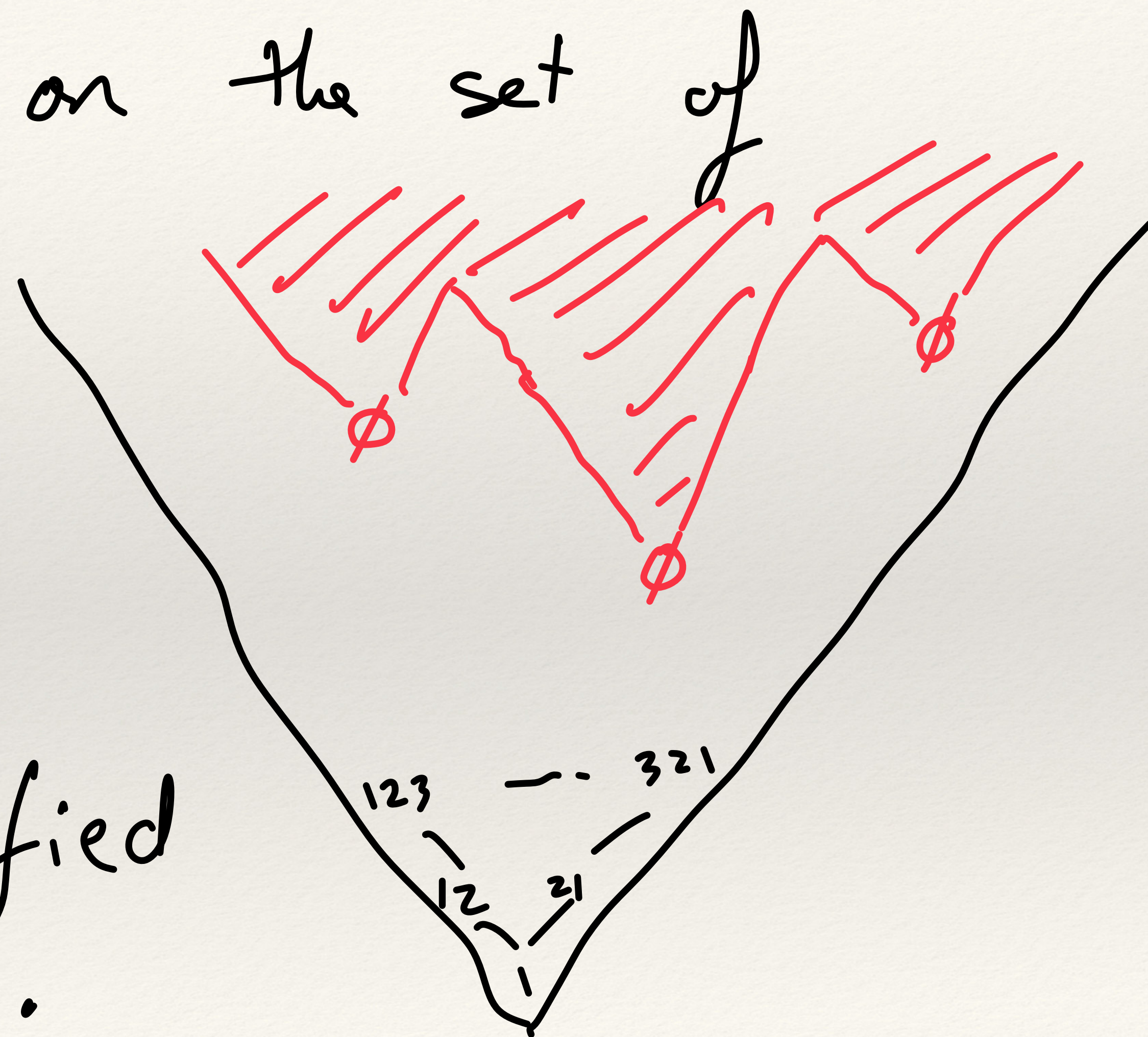


# Permutation classes

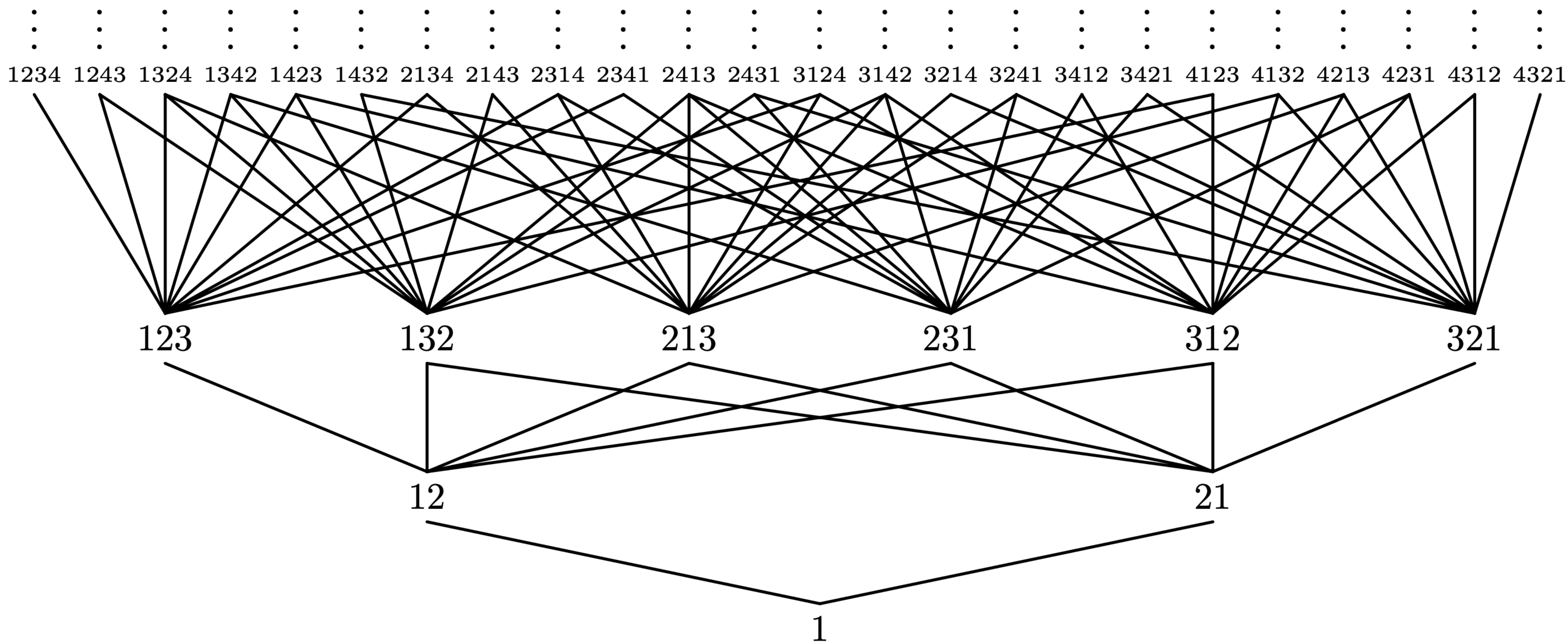
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Every class can be specified by **avoidance** —  $Av(B)$ .

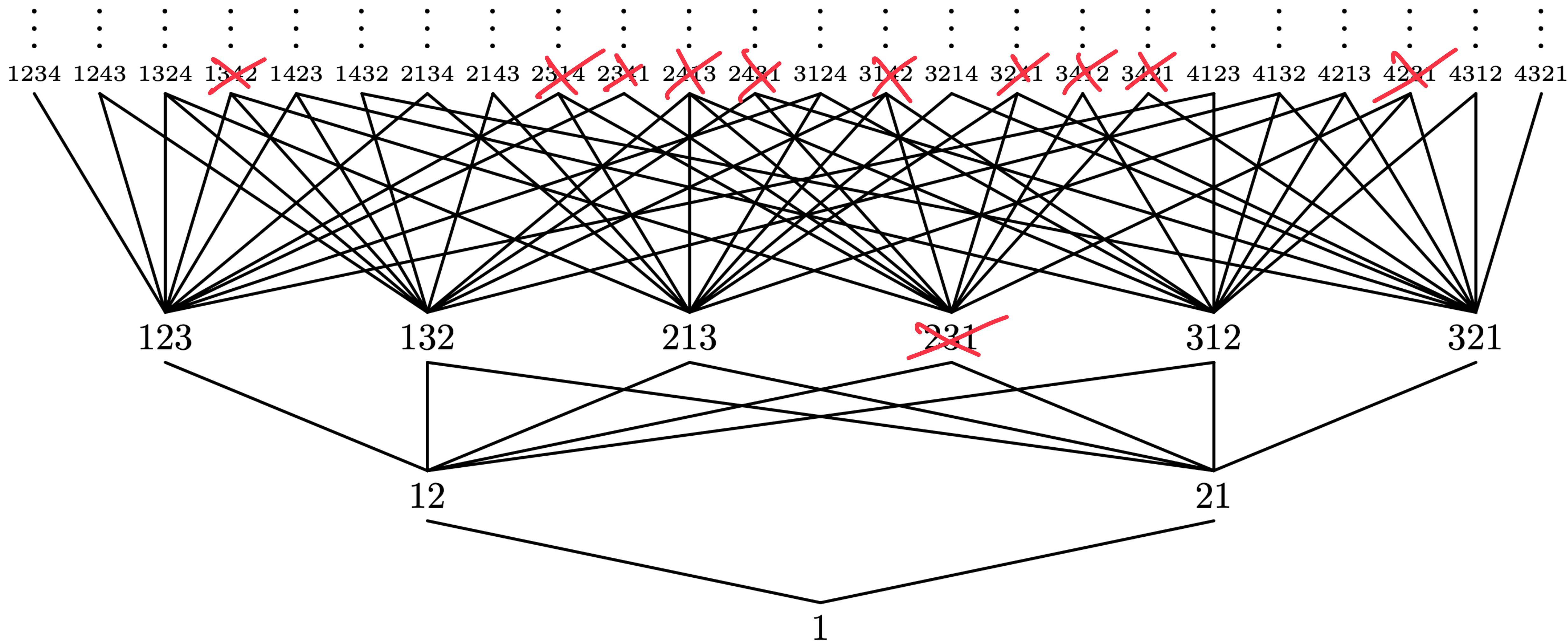








$Av(231)$

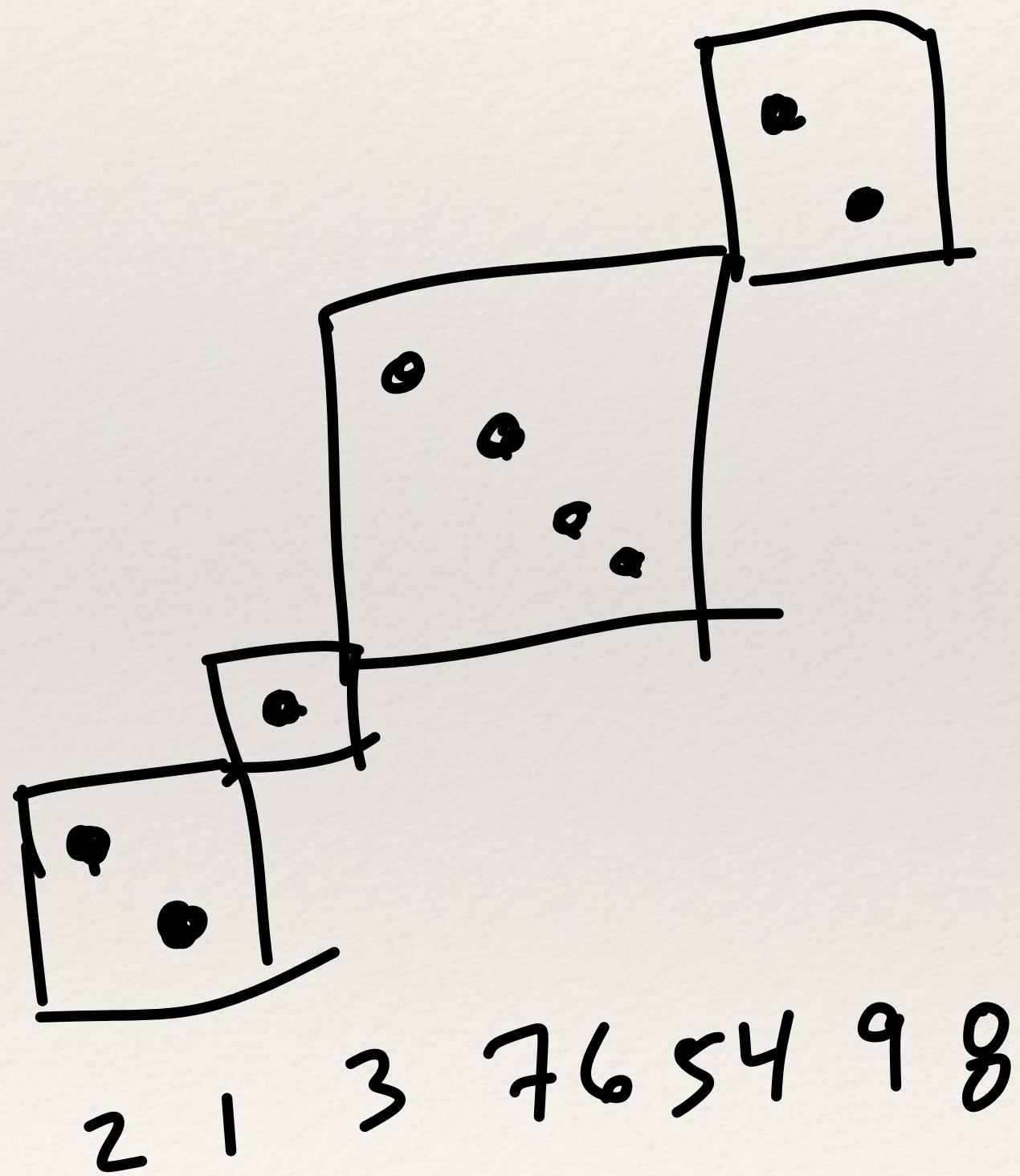




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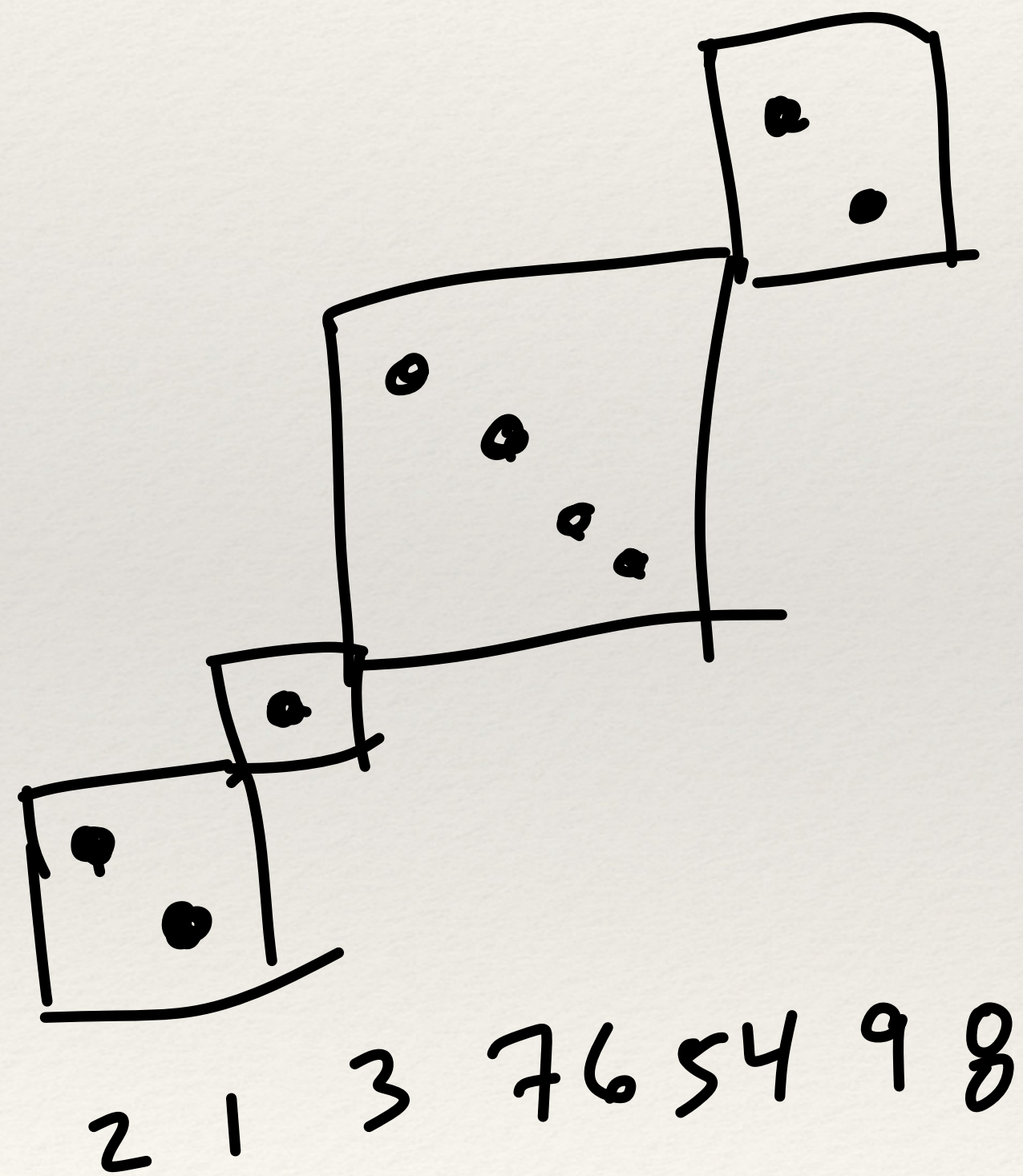
# Example: layered permutations

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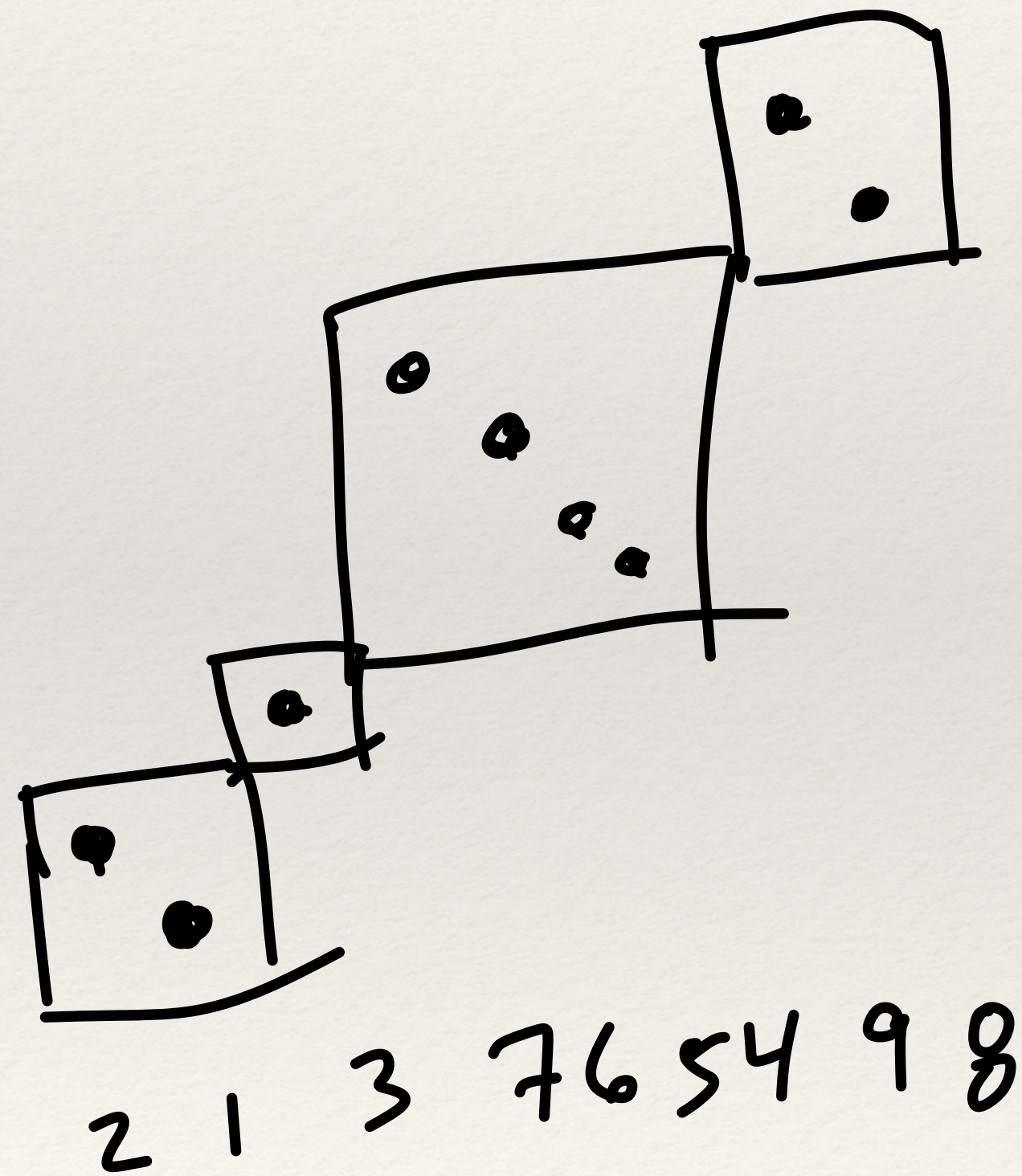
# Example: layered permutations



← → Compositions  
of  $n$   
 $2^{n-1}$  of length  $n$



# Example: layered permutations



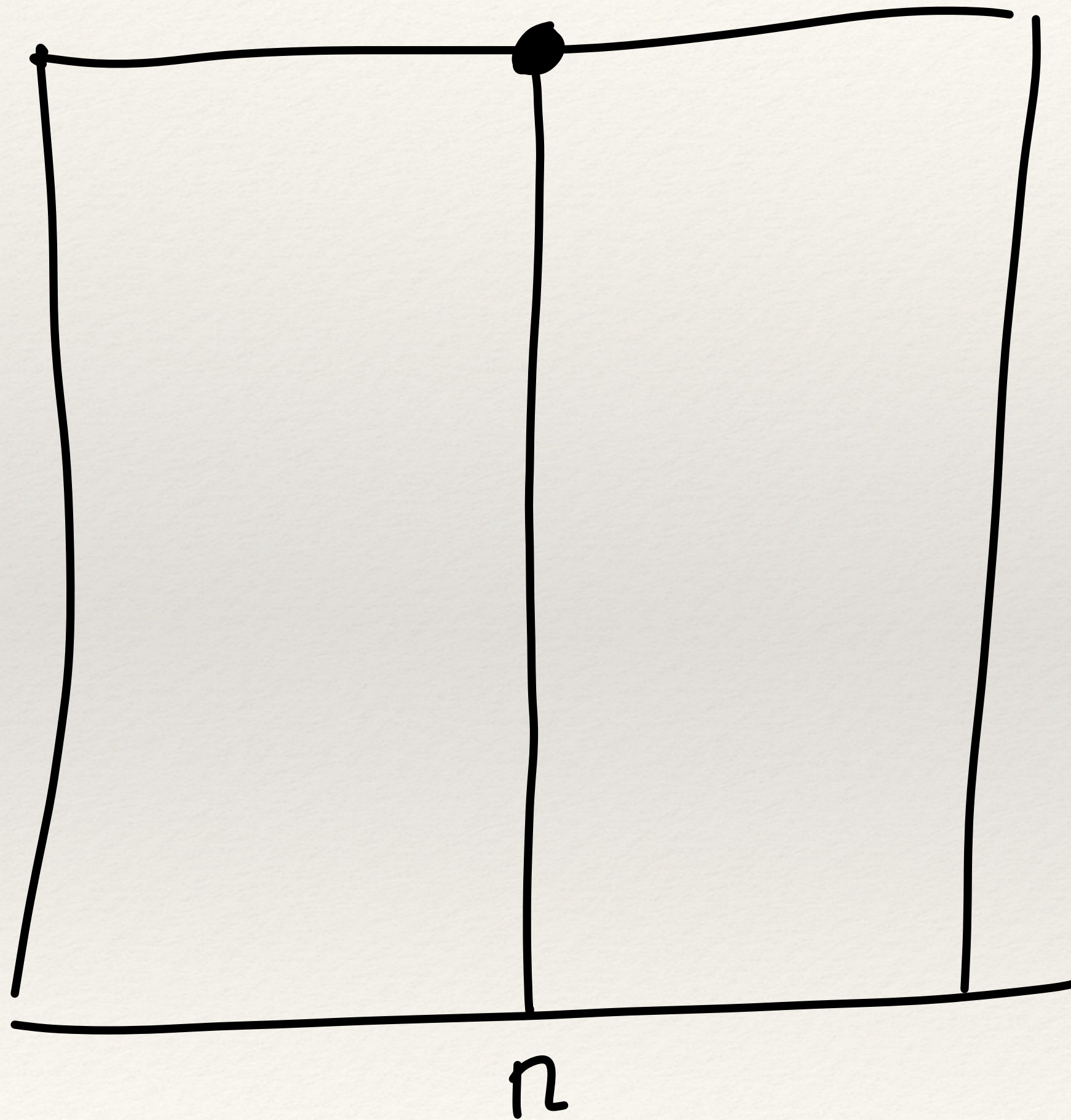
Compositions  
of  $n$   
 $2^{n-1}$  of length  $n$   
 $Av(231, 312)$



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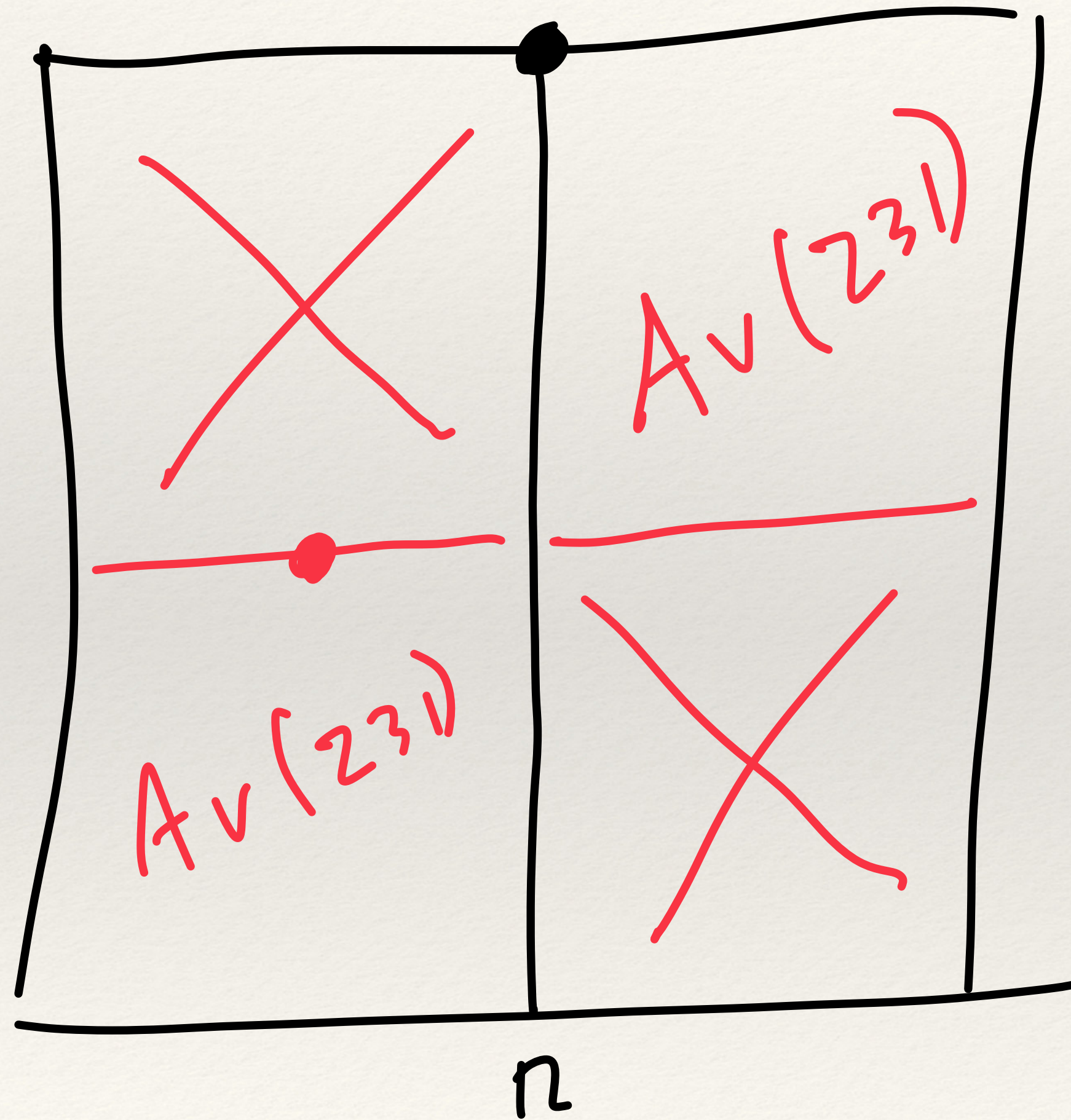
# Example: $Av(231)$

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# Example: $Av(231)$



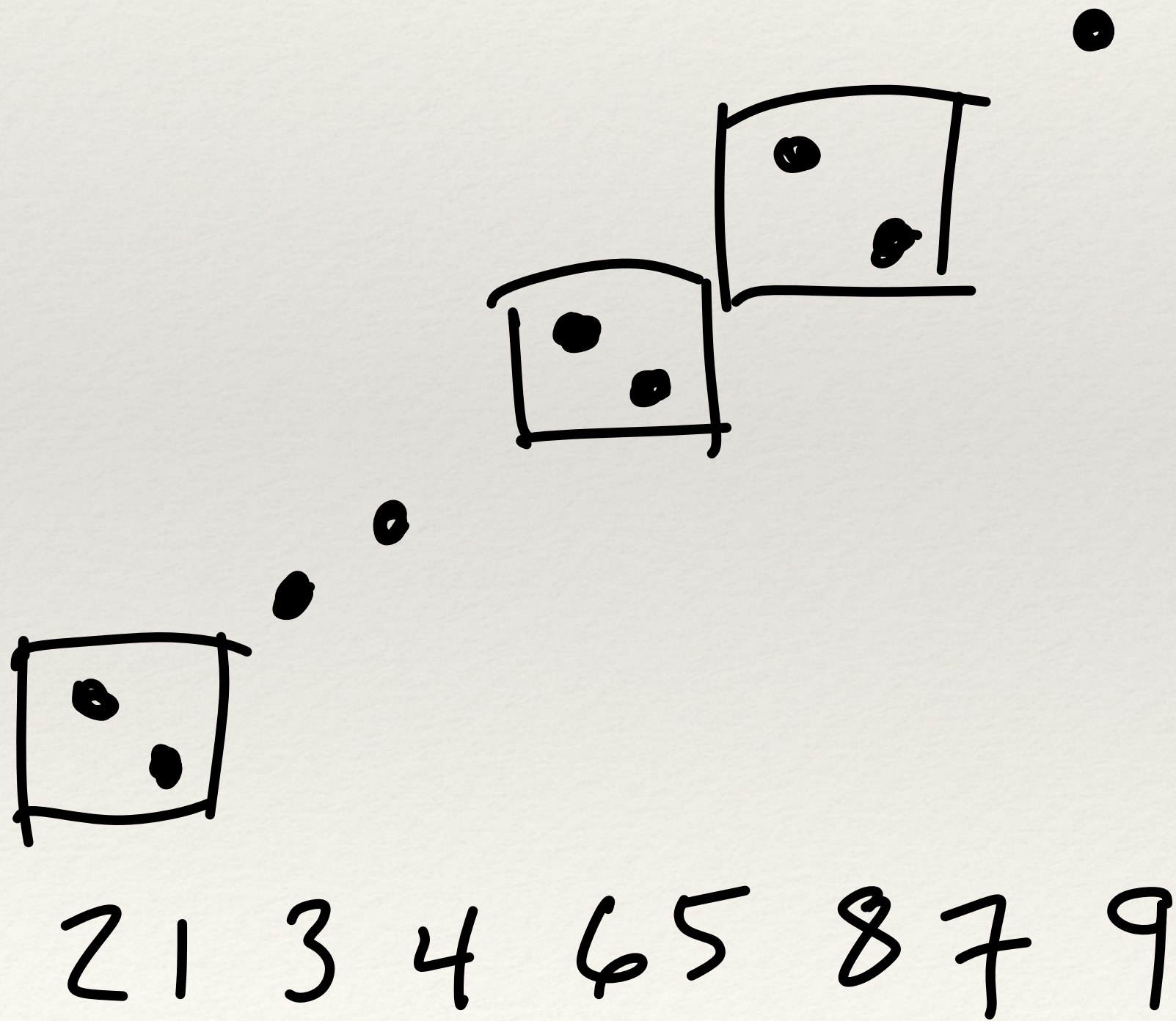
Catalan #S  
 $\approx 4^n$  of length  $n$



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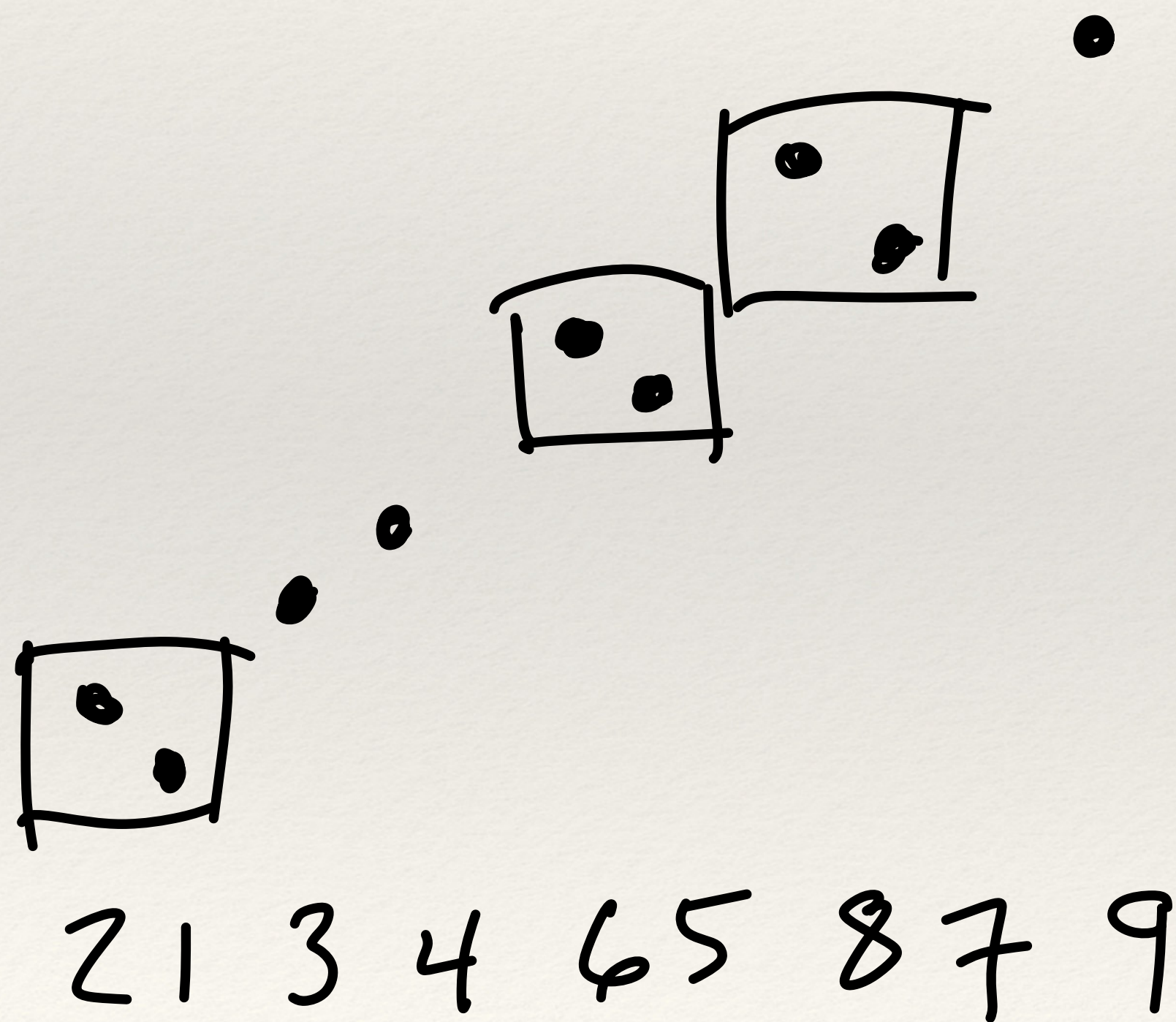
# Example: $Av(231, 312, 321)$

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# Example: $\text{Av}(231, 312, 321)$



$\longleftrightarrow$  Fibonacci #s  
 $\approx 1.62^n$  of length  $n$



# Growth rates of permutation classes

Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a class,  
and  $\mathcal{C}_n$  be the permutations  
of length  $n$  in  $\mathcal{C}$ .

$$gr(\mathcal{C}) = \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[n]{|\mathcal{C}_n|}$$



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if  $|\mathcal{C}_{n+m}| \geq |\mathcal{C}_n| |\mathcal{C}_m|$

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Examples:

- $gr(\text{layered}) = 2$
- $gr(\text{Av}(231)) = 4$
- $gr(\text{Av}(231, 312, 321)) \approx 1.62$



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Regev (1981):

$$gr(\text{Av}(k \cdots 21)) = (k-1)^2$$

(One of the many implications  
of "Asymptotic values for  
degrees associated with  
strips of Young diagrams".)



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Is there an elementary  
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# The set of all growth rates

- ❖ What does the set of all growth rates of all classes look like?

Kaiser and Klazar (2003): it begins

0, 1,  $\approx 1.62$ , ..., 2

all come from g.f. denominators of  $1 - x - x^2 - \dots - x^k$ ,  
accumulate at 2

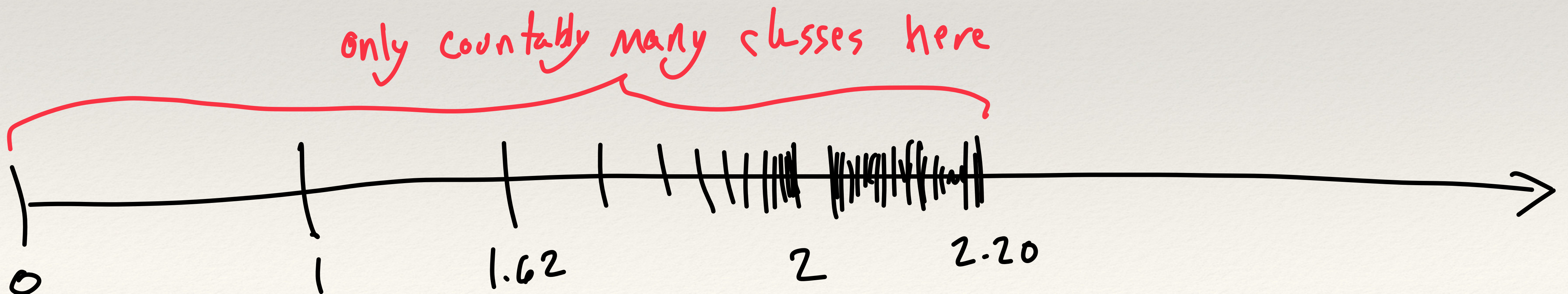




# The set of all growth rates

- ❖ What does the set of all growth rates of all classes look like?

$V(2011)$ : extend list to  $\approx 2.20$ , where there are uncountably many classes.

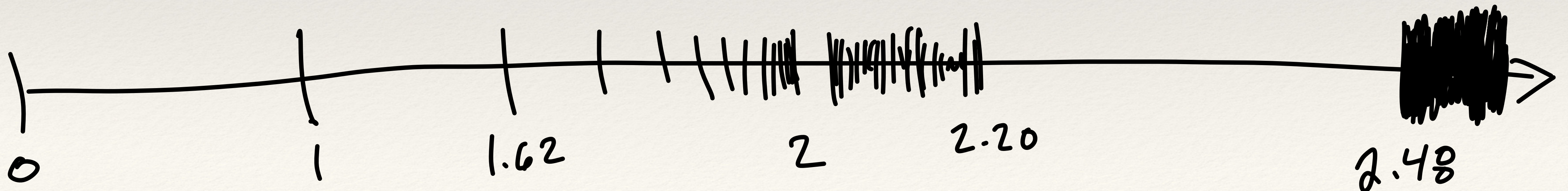




# The set of all growth rates

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Albert and Linton (2009),  
V(2010): above  $\approx 2.48$ , every real #  
is the growth rate of some class.





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Bevan (2018): Make that  $\approx 2.36$ .



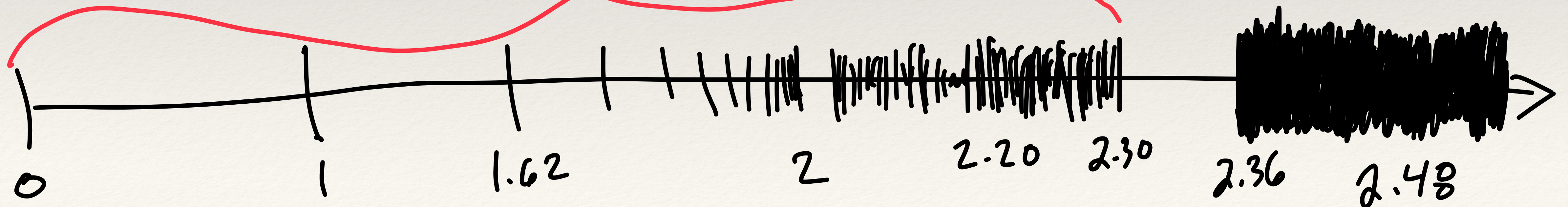


# The set of all growth rates

- ❖ What does the set of all growth rates of all classes look like?

$V(2019)$  and Pantone and  $V(2020)$ : extend list to  $\approx 2.30$ , where there are uncountably many growth rates.

only countably many growth rates here

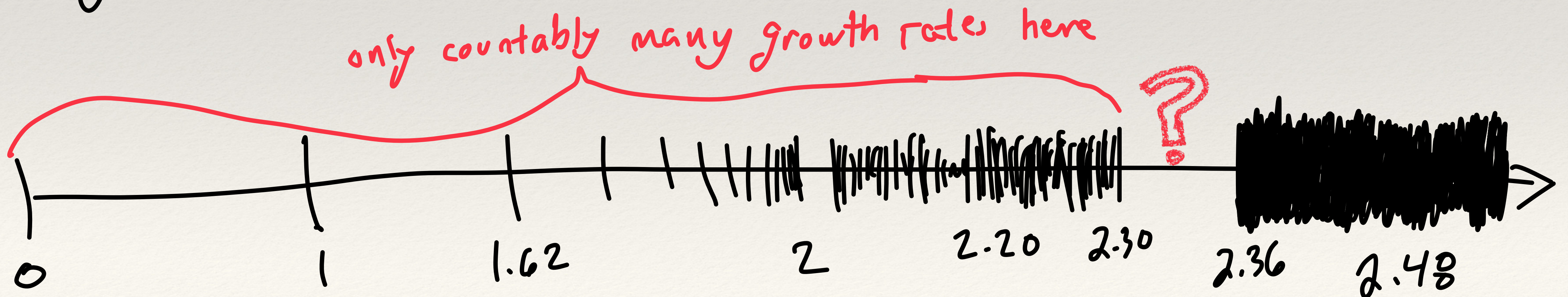




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# Growth rates of certain classes

- What about avoiding a single pattern?
- $gr(Av(231)) = gr(Av(321)) = 4$
- $gr(Av(4321)) = 9$  (Regev 1981)
- $gr(Av(1342)) = 8$  (Bóna 1997)
- $gr(Av(1324)) = ?$  (probably  $\approx 11.6$ )



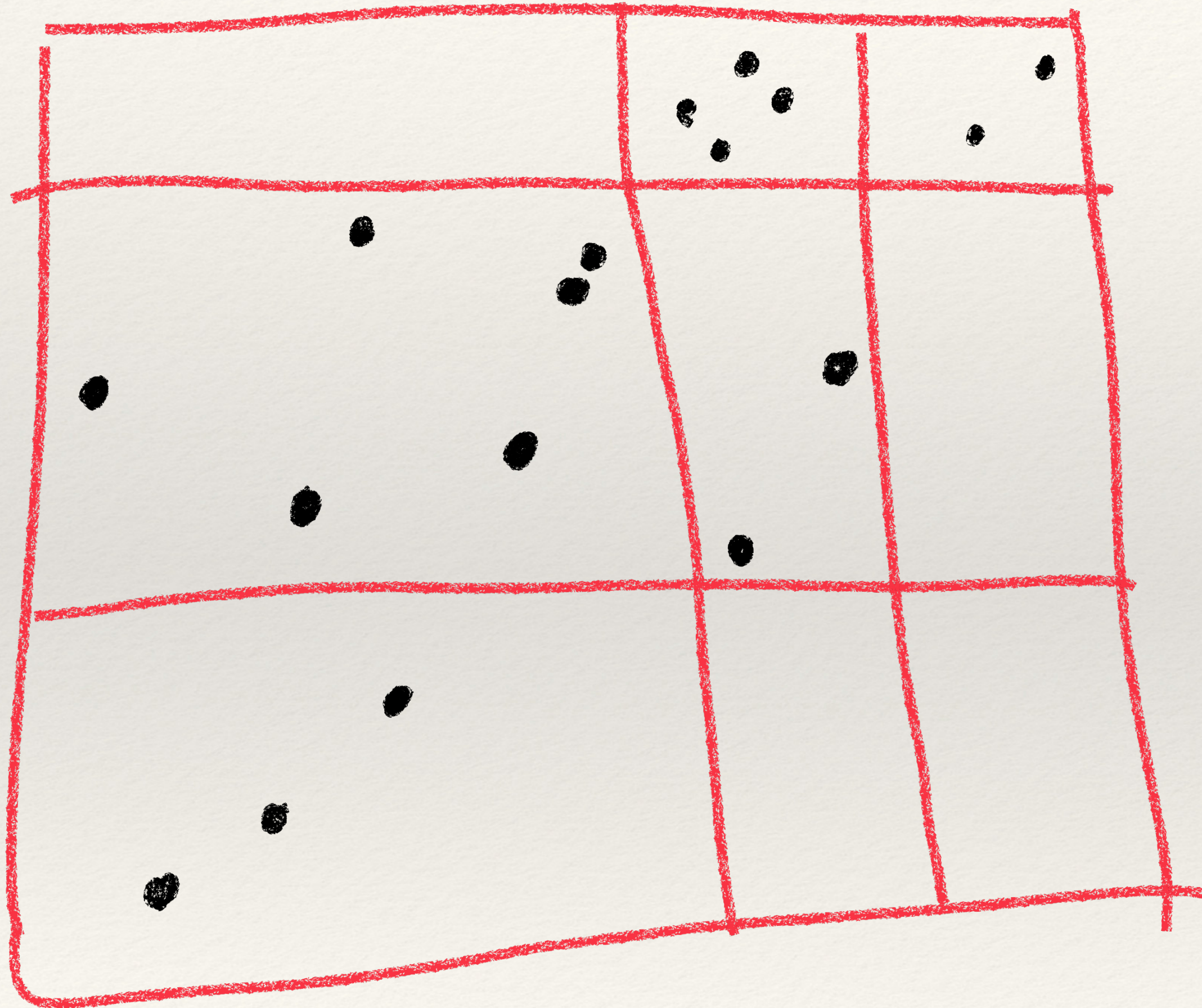
# Grid classes

A (generalized) **grid class** is defined by a matrix of permutation classes. It contains those perms that can be subdivided in a compatible manner.

$\emptyset$	$Av(321)$	$Av(21)$
$Av(321)$	$Av(21)$	$\emptyset$
$Av(21)$	$\emptyset$	$\emptyset$



# Grid classes

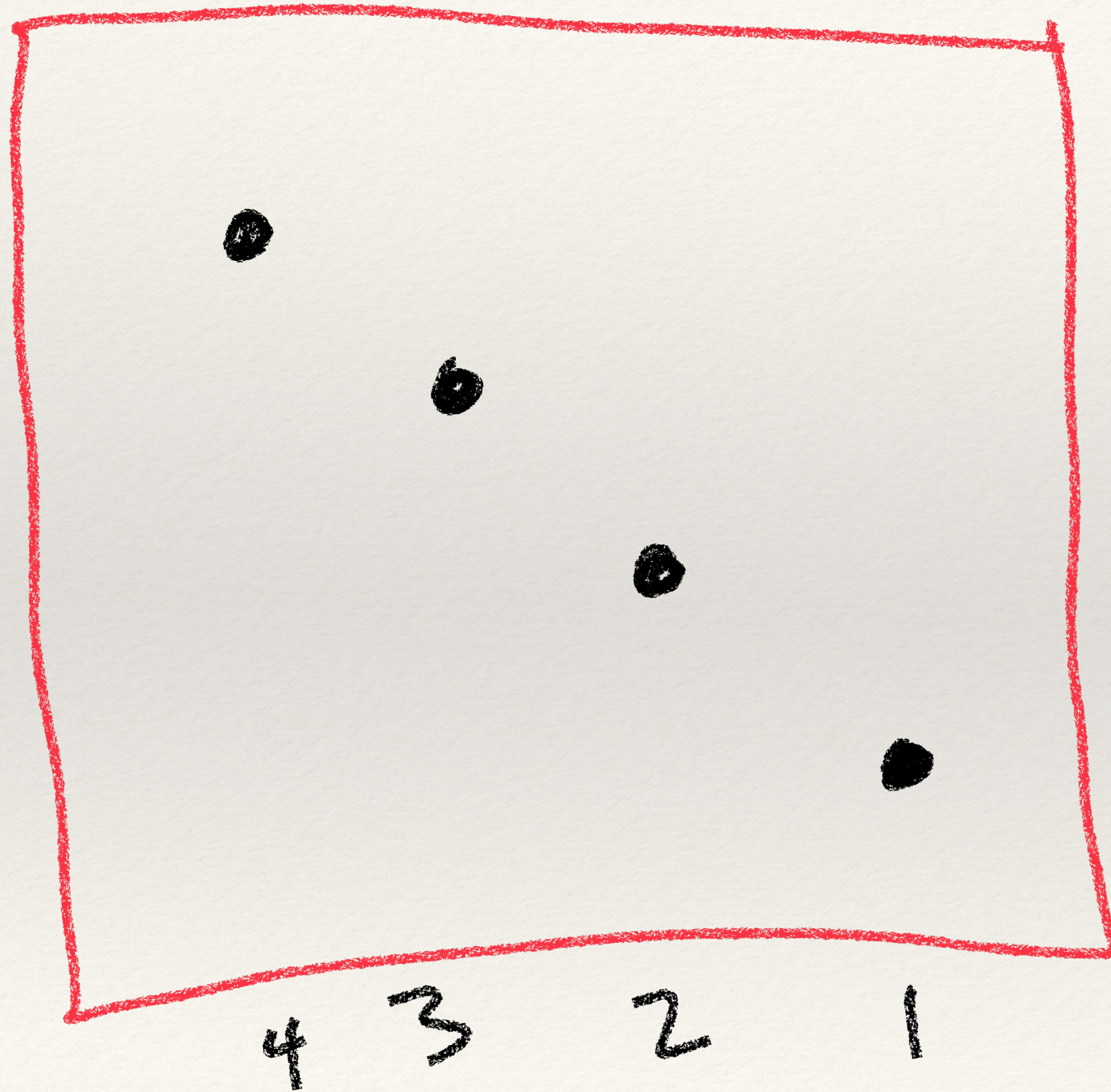


$\in$

$\emptyset$	$A_v(321)$	$A_v(21)$
$A_v(321)$	$A_v(21)$	$\emptyset$
$A_v(21)$	$\emptyset$	$\emptyset$



# Grid classes



$\notin$

$\emptyset$	$A_v(321)$	$A_v(21)$
$A_v(321)$	$A_v(21)$	$\emptyset$
$A_v(21)$	$\emptyset$	$\emptyset$



# Growth rates of grid classes

Building on Devan (2015):

Albert and V (2019): Define

a matrix  $\Gamma$  by

$$\Gamma(k, l) = \sqrt{g_r(\text{class in that cell})}.$$

Then

$$g_r(\text{grid class}) = \text{largest eigenvalue of } \Gamma^t \Gamma.$$

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(Because square of largest singular value of  $\Gamma$ .)

$\emptyset$	$Av(321)$	$Av(21)$
$Av(321)$	$Av(21)$	$\emptyset$
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# Growth rates of grid classes

In this example,

$$\Gamma = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 2 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

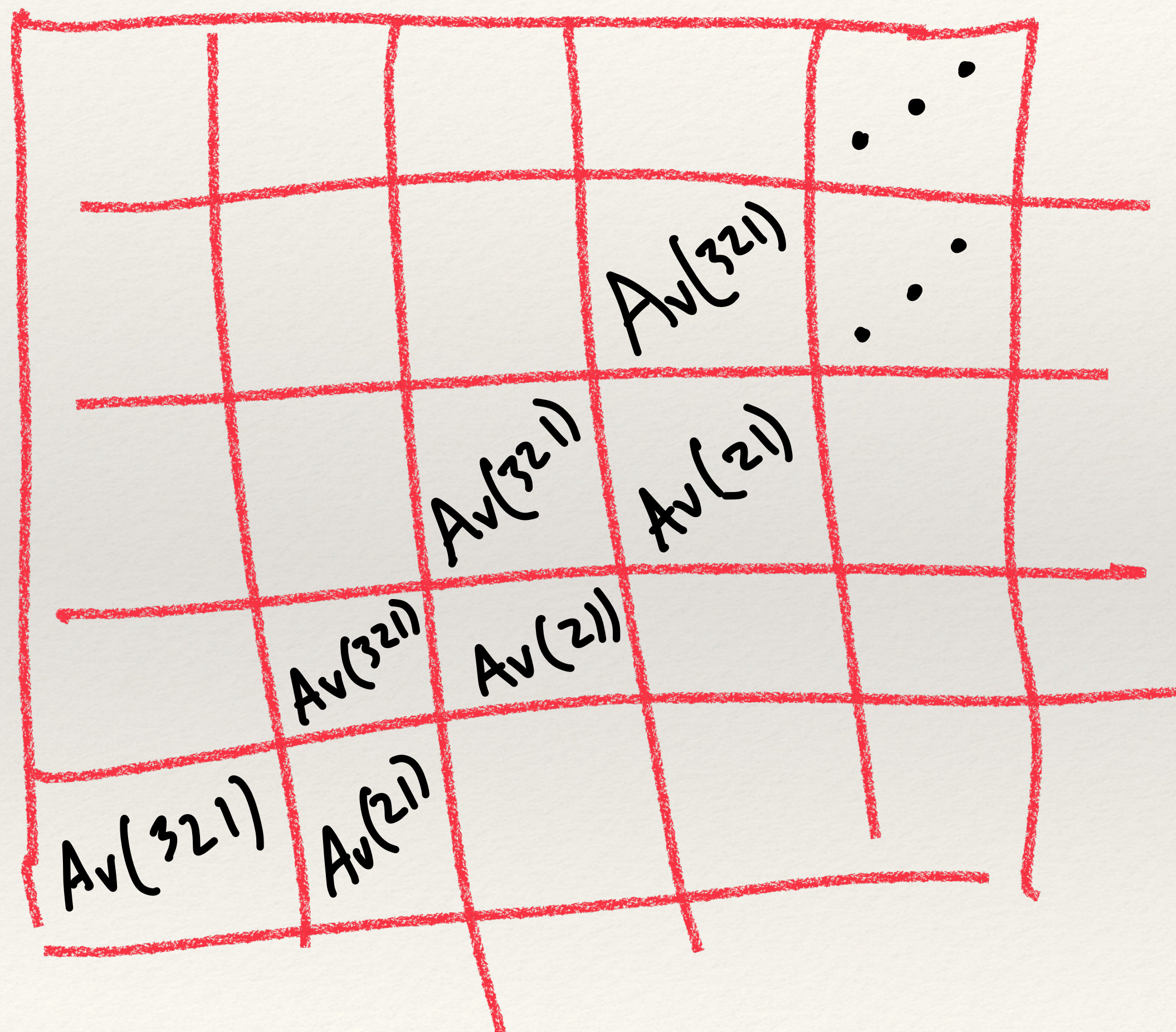
$$\Gamma^t \Gamma = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 2 & 0 \\ 2 & 5 & 2 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{gr}(\text{grid}) \approx 7.34.$$

$\emptyset$	$A_v(321)$	$A_v(21)$
$A_v(321)$	$A_v(21)$	$\emptyset$
$A_v(21)$	$\emptyset$	$\emptyset$



# Avoiding a monotone pattern



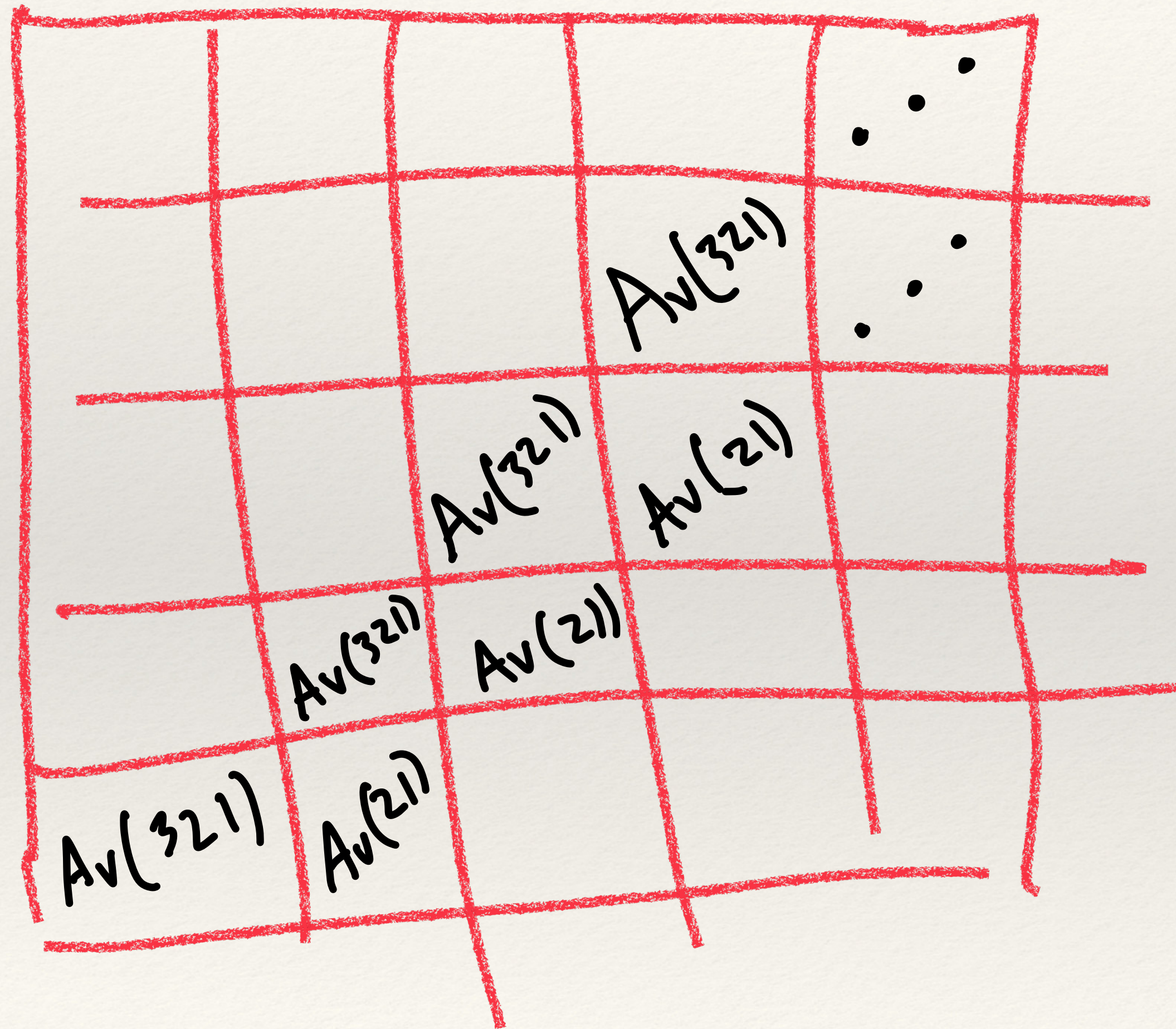
$$\Gamma^t \Gamma = \begin{bmatrix} & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & 2 & 5 & 2 \\ & & 2 & 5 & 2 \\ & 2 & 5 & 2 & \\ 5 & 2 & & & \end{bmatrix}$$

Now, there is a formula for the eigenvalues of a tri-diag Toeplitz...  
If we start with a  $t \times t$  grid...

$$5 + 4 \cos\left(\frac{1}{t+1}\right) \rightarrow 9.$$



# Avoiding a monotone pattern



This generalizes in the obvious way to prove

$$gr(Av(k \dots 21)) \geq (k-1)^2.$$



# Merges of classes

Albert, Pantone, and V (2019) generalized this construction to obtain results about merges.

Given two classes  $\mathcal{C}$  and  $\mathcal{D}$ , their **merge** is all perms whose entries can be **partitioned** into a member of  $\mathcal{C}$  and a member of  $\mathcal{D}$  (sometimes thought of as a red-blue coloring of these entries).



# Merges of classes

Let  $\mathcal{C} \circ \mathcal{D}$  = merge of  $\mathcal{C}$  and  $\mathcal{D}$ .

Easy:  $|\mathcal{C} \circ \mathcal{D}|_n \leq \sum_{i=0}^n \binom{n}{i} |\mathcal{C}_i| |\mathcal{D}_{n-i}|$ , so

$$gr(\mathcal{C} \circ \mathcal{D}) \leq \left( \sqrt{gr(\mathcal{C})} + \sqrt{gr(\mathcal{D})} \right)^2.$$

Note:  $Av(4321) = Av(321) \circ Av(21)$ .



# When is that an equality?

This easy upper bound is the truth if ...

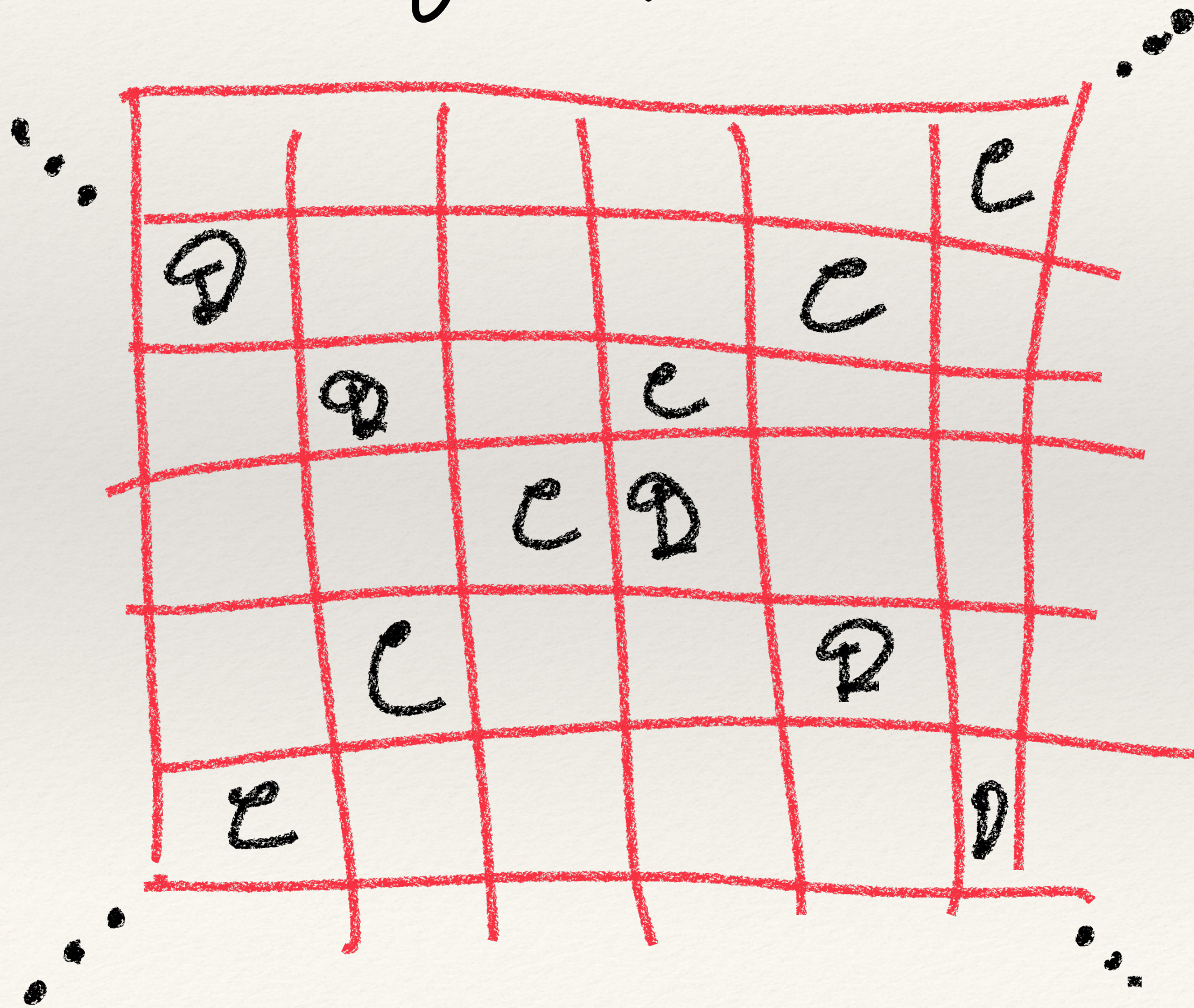
					C	...
				C	D	
			C	D		
		C	D			
	C	D				
C	D					

$$\subseteq \mathcal{C} \odot \mathcal{D}$$



# When is that an equality?

This easy upper bound is <sup>also</sup> the truth if ...



$$\subseteq \mathcal{C} \odot \mathcal{D}$$



# Some corollaries

Bona (2005):

$$\begin{aligned} \text{gr}(\text{Av}(\underline{54213})) &= \left( \sqrt{\text{gr}(\text{Av}(21))} + \sqrt{\text{gr}(\text{Av}(4213))} \right)^2 \\ &= \left( \sqrt{\text{gr}(\text{Av}(21))} + \sqrt{\text{gr}(\text{Av}(1342))} \right)^2 \\ &= (1 + \sqrt{8})^2 \\ &= 9 + 4\sqrt{2}. \end{aligned}$$



# Some corollaries

Bona (2007):

$$\text{gr}(\text{Av}(\boxed{\alpha} \cdot \boxed{\beta})) = \left( \text{gr}(\text{Av}(\boxed{\alpha} \cdot)) + \text{gr}(\text{Av}(\cdot \boxed{\beta})) \right)^2.$$



## One more question

Is it always true that

$$gr(\mathcal{C} \odot \mathcal{D}) = \left( \sqrt{gr(\mathcal{C})} + \sqrt{gr(\mathcal{D})} \right)^2 ?$$



## One more question

Is it always true that

$$gr(c \odot \dot{D}) = \left( \sqrt{gr(c)} + \sqrt{gr(D)} \right)^2 ?$$

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!