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Professor Doron Zeilberger Department of Mathematics Temple University Philadelphia, PA 19122

Dear Doron,

Enclosed is a curious result I hit upon last week. I have no present plans to publish it, unless strongly urged otherwise, because it seems to make only a slight advance on what is already known. But it does have a strange beauty, so I am sending it to you as a connoisseur of bijections. Feel free to make copies for anybody else you think would be interested.

Cordially,

Donald E. Knuth

Professor

DEK/pw

P.S. I was discussing this with Svante Janson, who asked the natural question if anybody has analyzed the asymptotic *covariance* of (inversions, major index). If you know the answer, please write to him at Mathematics Department, P.O. Box 480, Uppsala University, Thunbergsv 3, S-751 06 Uppsala, Sweden.

Enclosure: An Interesting Bijection