

1077-05-1935

**Joel Brewster Lewis\*** (jblewis@math.mit.edu), 77 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, MA 02139, and **Ricky Ini Liu, Alejandro H. Morales, Greta Panova, Steven V Sam** and **Yan X Zhang**. *Matrices with restricted entries and  $q$ -analogues of permutations.*

Classical formulas show that the number of invertible  $n \times n$  matrices over a finite field with  $q$  elements is a natural  $q$ -analogue of  $n!$ , and more generally that the number of  $n \times n$  matrices of rank  $r$  is a  $q$ -analogue of the number of ways to place  $r$  nonattacking rooks on an  $n \times n$  board. In this talk, we study the functions that count matrices of given rank over a finite field with specified positions equal to 0. We show that the number invertible matrices with zero diagonal is a natural  $q$ -analogue of the number of derangements (i.e., permutations with no fixed points). More generally, we show that the number of matrices of given rank with certain entries equal to 0 is a  $q$ -analogue of rook placements with restricted positions.

In addition, we study the question of when the number of matrices with given size, rank, and prescribed entries equal to 0 is a polynomial in the size  $q$  of the field. We also consider a variety of related questions concerning symmetric and skew-symmetric matrices. Most of our proofs are elementary, and we frame some of our results in the context of Lie theory. (Received September 21, 2011)