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Compositions of positive integers n viewed as alternating sequences of increasing/decreasing partitions.

Decompositions of positive integers into partitions or compositions is well studied. Here we consider arbitrary compositions of n and split these up into blocks where each block is either increasing or decreasing. For example the composition 1432123 of 16 may be split up into partitions (143)(21)(23). How this is done depends on precisely how the blocks are defined. Here we find the expected value for the number of such blocks as n tends to infinity.