2.8 Coxeter groups Last updated Lectured on Thurs, June 25, 2020 Thurs, June 16, 2020 Thurs, June 18, 2020

We will now think of the symmetric group Snt1 as a Coxefer group W of type An.

A type An Coxeter group W is generated by S:= [s1, s2, ..., sn] C W

where  $S_k^2 = 1$  for all  $k \in [n]$ 

 $S_k S_{k+1} S_k = S_{k+1} S_k S_{k+1}$  (braid relation, or long braid relation) for all  $k \in [n-1]$ .



 $S_k S_j^{\circ} = S_j^{\circ} S_k$  if  $|k-j| \ge 2$  (commutation relation, or short braid relation)

The S1, S2, ..., Sn are called simple reflections.

Every element  $\pi \in \mathbb{W}$  can be written (non-uniquely) as a word in the alphabet of S, that is, as a product of the simple reflections:

 $\pi = S_{i_1} S_{i_2} \dots S_{i_k} S_{i_k} \in S = \{S_1, S_2, \dots, S_n\}.$ If I is minimal among all words for T, then I is called the length of T, and the word Si, Siz... Siz is called a reduced word for II. (or reduced decomposition, or reduced expression)

Example: T = S2 S1 S2 S1 S3 S2 S3 & W =  $S_1 S_2 S_1 S_1 S_3 S_2 S_3$  by the braid relation  $= S_1 S_2 (S_1 S_1) S_3 S_2 S_3$  $= S_1 S_2 S_3 S_2 S_3$ by the braid relation =  $S_1 S_2 S_2$   $\beta_0$  th  $S_1 S_2 S_2$  and  $S_3 S_1 S_2$  are reduced words for  $\pi$ . =  $S_3 S_1 S_2$   $\ell(\pi) = 3$ 

Facts  $\ell(\pi s) = \ell(\pi) + 1$  or  $\ell(\pi) - 1$  for any  $s \in S$  $l(s\pi) = l(\pi) + 1$  or  $l(\pi) - 1$  for any  $s \in S$ 

If  $x \in S$ ,

 $l(\pi x) < l(\pi)$  iff  $\pi$  has a reduced word which ends with x $J(x\pi) < J(\pi)$  iff  $\pi$  has a reduced word which starts with x.

txample: For 
$$\pi = S_1 S_2 S_2 = S_3 S_1 S_2$$
, 
$$L(\pi S_2) < L(\pi), \text{ but } L(\pi S_k) > L(\pi) \text{ for } k \neq 2.$$

#### Facts

The map 
$$E: s_k \mapsto -1$$
 for all  $s_k \in S$  extends to a group homomorphism 
$$E: \mathcal{W} \longrightarrow \{+1,-1\},$$
 so  $E(\pi) = (-1)^{l(\pi)}$  coxeter the group Half the elements of  $\mathcal{W}$  are odd permutations,  $\mathcal{R}$  half are even permutations.

So 
$$\mathcal{E}(\pi) = (-1)^{\mathcal{L}(\pi)}$$
 Coxeter the arm  $\mathcal{E}$ 

• 
$$l(\pi^{-1}) = l(\pi)$$

Example: the inverse of Si, Si, ... Si, is Si, ... Si, Si,

•  $l(\omega\pi) \leq l(\omega) + l(\pi)$ 

Def The right weak order on W can be defined by x ≤ y iff x appears as a prefix of a word of y, that is,

there are  $S_{i_1}$ ,  $S_{i_2}$ ,...,  $S_{i_j} \in S$  set  $y = x S_{i_1} S_{i_2} ... S_{i_j}$  with l(x) + j = l(y).  $X \leq Y$  when XS = Y for some  $S \in S$  with L(X)+1=L(Y).

The common convention is to set  $S_1:=(1,2), S_2:=(2,3), ..., S_n:=(n,n+1)$ .

Theorem  $U(\pi) = inv(\pi) := number of inversions$ 

· Multiplying by (k,k+1) on the right corresponds to swapping Tk and Tk+1

Example Here n=3, S4, Coxeter group of type A3.  $\pi = s_1 s_3 s_2 = s_3 s_1 s_2 = 2413$ 

$$S_1S_3S_2 = S_3S_1S_2 = 2413$$
 inv = 3
$$\begin{vmatrix} S_2 \\ S_1S_3 = S_3S_1 = 2143 \end{vmatrix}$$
 inv = 2
$$2134 = S_1$$

$$S_3 = S_1S_3 = 2143$$
 inv = 1
$$S_3 = S_1S_3 = S_1S_$$

The largest element,  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & n, n+1 \\ n+1, n, \dots, \lambda, 2, 1 \end{pmatrix}$  often denoted  $\omega_0$ , has length  $\begin{pmatrix} n+1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{(n+1)(n)}{2}$ .

- Wo TT is the complement of TT, sage: W. complement ()  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & -- & 3 & 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 12 & 112 & 112 & 112 & 112 & 112 \\ -11_1 & -11_2 & -11_3 & -114 & -- & -1 & -1 & -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$
- TI Wo is the reverse of  $\pi$ ,  $Srge: \omega$ . reverse ()  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & \dots & n-1, & n, & n+1 \\ \Pi_{n+1} & \Pi_n & \Pi_{n-1} & \dots & \Pi_3 & \Pi_2 & \Pi_n \end{pmatrix}$

# 2.9 Coxeter element & upper/lower vertices

Def Def Given  $\Pi \in S_{nH}$ , a <u>reduced word</u> for  $\Pi$  is a way to write  $\Pi$  as a shortest product of  $\{S_1, S_2, ..., S_n\}$ .

Note: each reduced word is a shortest path in the weak order of  $S_{n+1}$  from the identity permutation (minimum elt of the weak order) to  $\pi$ . E.g. The permutation  $1432 = S_3 S_2 S_3 = S_2 S_3 S_2$  has two reduced words.

Def A Coxeter element is a permutation  $C \in S_{n+1}$  which can be written as a product of  $\{S_1, S_2, S_3, ..., S_n\}$ , each used exactly once.

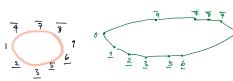
 $C = \underbrace{\dots S_{5}S_{3}S_{5}}_{\text{old indices}} \underbrace{S_{2}S_{4}\dots, S_{2}S_{4}\dots S_{2}}_{\text{old indices}} = \underbrace{S_{1}S_{3}S_{2} = S_{2}S_{1}S_{2}}_{\text{old indices}} = \underbrace{S_{1}S_{3}S_{5}\dots S_{2}S_{4}\dots S_{2}S_{4}\dots S_{2}}_{\text{old indices}} = \underbrace{S_{1}S_{3}S_{5}\dots S_{2}S_{4}\dots S_{2}S_{4}\dots S_{2}}_{\text{old indices}} = \underbrace{S_{1}S_{3}S_{5}\dots S_{2}S_{4}S_{6}}_{\text{old indices}} = \underbrace{S_{1}S_{1}S_{2}S_{4}S_{6}}_{\text{old indices}} = \underbrace{S_$ 

 $C = \frac{S_{\lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil} - ... S_1 S_{\lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil + 1} ... S_n}{C = S_2 S_1 S_3}$   $C = S_3 S_2 S_1 S_4 S_5 S_6$   $= S_3 S_2 S_4 S_1 S_5 S_6$ 

A Coxeter elt c= Sin Sin written in cycle notation is of the form (1 d, d2 ... d1, n+1, uk uk-1 ... u1) = (n+1, uk, uk-1, ..., u1, 1, d1, d2, ..., d2) where dische ... Sale are the lower-barred vertices of {2,...,n} and  $u_1 < u_2 ... < u_k$  are the upper-barred vertices of  $\{2,...,n\}$ .

A polygon Qc corresponding to c can be constructed as follows: Place the numbers 1 d, d2 ... d1, n+1, uk uk-1 ... u1 from this cycle around a circle.

c = S8 S7 S4 S1 S2 S3 S5 S6 E.g. = (89)(78)(45)(12)(23)(34)(56)(67) = (123569874)

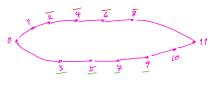


10 It won't make a difference whether 1 and n+1 are upper or lowered bar. Here, I set 1 and 9.

E.g. C = S1 S2 S3 S4 S5 S6 S7

If worst make a difference whether I and n+1 are upper or lowered bar. Here, I set 1 and 8.

E.g. C = S8 S6 S4 S2 S1 S3 S5 S7 S9 (89) (47) (45) (23) (12) (34) (56) (48) (9,10) = (1,3,5,7,9,10,8,6,4,2)



 $C = S_3 S_5 S_7 S_1 S_2 S_4 S_6 S_8 = S_3 S_5 S_1 S_7 S_2 S_4 S_6 S_8 = S_3 S_1 S_5 S_7 S_2 S_4 S_6 S_8 = S_1 S_3 S_5 S_7 S_2 S_4 S_6 S_8$ = (39)(56)(78)(12)(23)(95)(67)(89)

=(1246 89 753) lower-barred

= (975312468)



been using for the bipartite Cambrian lattice. If it's more natural to set 1

· To go from polygon Q to the Coxeter element c: Read the vertices of Q (excluding 0, 1+2) in counterclockwise order



Every Coxeter elt C & Sn+1 has a reduced word of the form Fac+ C = Suk Suk-1 ... Su S1 Sd Sd2 ... Sd1

which correspond to the correspond to the wood vertices

Gxefer element

C = Span -.. So Span on Sn, construct the polygon Q. - ended lecture Tue June 16 -

#### 2.10 C-sorting word

### Def of c-sorting word

Given  $\pi \in S_{n+1}$ , the  $(a_1,a_2,...,a_n)$ -sorting word for  $\pi$  is the subword of  $c^{\infty}$  which is lexicographically first (as a sequence of positions in  $c^{\infty}$ ) and is a reduced word for  $\pi$ .

· Every permutation has exactly one c-sorting word.

The c-sorting word depends on the choice of reduced word agaz...an.

(i)  $T = 1432 = S_3 S_2 S_3 = S_2 S_3 S_2$  has two reduced words.

the reduced word  $S_3S_2S_3$  is lexicographically first (as a sequence of positions in  $c^{\infty}$ ) so the c-sorting word for 1432 is  $S_2S_2S_3$ .

the reduced word S3 S2 S1S3 is the c-sorting word for w.

Algorithm for finding the (91,92,..., 9n)-sorting word of a permutation  $\pi$ , assuming we already know the length of  $\pi$ , and  $\pi \neq 1d$ . Ref: "Gamb. lattices + beyond"

We write down a reduced word  $T = u_1 u_2 \dots u_\ell$  as follows, where  $u_i \in S$ .

- First, try each lefter  $a_1, a_2, ..., a_n$  (in this order) until we find one  $a_i$  s.t  $L(a_i, \pi) < L(\pi)$ . Take  $a_i$  to be the first lefter for  $\pi$ , set  $u_i := a_i$ , and write  $\pi' = u_1 \pi$ .
- . If T'= 1d, then l=1 and uq is the desired (a1, a2, ..., an)-sorting word

Otherwise, try each of the n letters in the order  $a_{i+1}, a_{i+2}, ..., a_n, a_1, ...$  until we find one  $a_{i'}$  s.t  $L(a_{i'}, \pi') < L(\pi')$ . Take  $a_{i'}$  to be the second letter for  $\pi$ , set  $u_2 = a_{i'}$ , and define  $\pi'' = u_2 \pi'$ .

· If The ld, then l=2 and 4142 is the desired (a1, a2,...,an)-sorting word.

Otherwise, continuing in this manner, we eventually find a reduced word for T.

This is the (a1, a2,...,an)-sorting word for T.

Example 2 Example of computing a c-sorting word (Ref: Thesis by Suleiman) For c= S1S2S3S4 (i) Let T=S1 S4 S3 S4 = (12)(35) = 21543, and assume we know (For example by computing inv(TT) with Sage) that length (TT) = 4 S1 S2 S3 S4 S1 S2 S3 S4 S1 S2 S3 S4 · 11 = S, because S, S, = Id . Set T' = U1 TT = S, S, S4 S3 S4 = S4 S3 S4, of length 3 · Next, try each of £2,53,54,51, the next n letters in co after un, S1 S2 S3 S4 S1 S2 S3 S4 S1 S2 S3 S4 until we find si set l(si T) < l(T) \* Try S2: S2 TT = S2S4S3S4 has length 4 (To see this, we can check the number of inversions of T') Doesn't work - keep trying \* Try S3: S3 TT = S3 S4 S3 S4 = S4S3S4S4 by the long braid move = S<sub>4</sub> S<sub>3</sub> cince S<sub>4</sub> S<sub>4</sub> = 1d has length 2, smaller than 3 = LCT) So we set  $U_2 = S_3$ , and set  $\pi'' = U_2 \pi'$ = S3 S4S3 S4 = S4S3 S1 S2 S3 S4 S1 S2 S3 S4 S1 S2 S3 S4 · Next, try each of S4, S1, S2, S3, the next n letters in Co after u2 S1 S2 S3 S4 S1 S2 S3 S4 S1 S2 S3 S4 until we find Si s.t l(sim'') < l(m''). Then U3 = Sq because S4 TT" = S4 S4 S3 = S2 has [goth 1. Set T" = S3 S1 S2 S3 S4 S1 S2 S3 S4 · Next, U4= S3 stace TT = S2. .. The (51, S2, S3, S4)-sorting word of TT is S1 S3 S4 S3. PRACTICE Let  $w = s_2 s_1 = (2s)(iz) = (132) = 31245$ . Verify Following the algorithm, we get  $s_2 s_1$  as the  $(s_1, s_2, s_3, s_4)$  -sorting word of w. this example S1 S2 S3 S4 S1 S2 S3 S4 S1 S2 S3 S4.

(III) PRACTICE Let Z = S1 S3 S2 = S3 S1 S2 = (1243) = 24135.

Verify this Following the algorithm, we get \$15352 as the (51,52,53,54) -sorting word of Z.

S1 S2 S3 S4 S1 S2 S3 S4 S1 S2 S3 S4.

## 2.11 c-sortable words

Def of c-sortable word Let c be a Coxeter element, and a1 a2 a3... an be a reduced word of c.

For a set K = [ 1, < 12 < ... < ir ] C [n], let CK denote ai, aiz ... air.

 $\frac{6x}{x} = \frac{c = (a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4)}{x = \{1, 2, 4\}}$   $c_{x} = a_1 a_2 a_4$ 

The c-sorting word for a permutation TT & Sn+1 can be uniquely written as

T= Cky Ck2 ... Ckp, where p is minimal.

If K1 > K2 > ... > Kp, We say that

IT is c-sortable and Cky Ck2... Ckp is a c-sortable word.

· Not every permutation is c-sortable.

Fact Although the def of c-sortable requires a choice of a reduced word of c, the set of c-sortable elements does not depend on the choice of reduced word for c.

From above Example 1, 

is the c-sorting word for  $\omega$ , so  $\omega$  is not c-sortable.

From above example 2, for c = S1 S2 S3 S4

- (j) TT = S1S3S4S3 S1 S2S3S4S1 S2S3S4 S1 S2 S3 S4 is c-sortable. 151,53,543 21532 Ø ···
- (ii)  $\omega = S_2S_1$   $S_1 S_2 S_3 S_4 S_1 S_2 S_3 S_4 S_1 S_2 S_3 S_4$   $S_1 S_2 S_3 S_4 S_1 S_2 S_3 S_4$  not c-sortable

{s1, s3} \$\mathbb{Z}\$ {s2}

Thm 2.11 Let c be any Coxeter elt.

The identity permutation is c-sortable (since it is the empty word).

The longest elt wo is c-sortable.

Example 3 for Thin 2.11

Apply the algorithm 2.10 for A3, wo = 4321. We know wo has length  $\binom{4}{2}$  = 6.

For c = S1 S2 S3 (Tamari Coxeter element)

Note: Multiplying Si=(i, i+1) on the left corresponds to swapping values i, i+1

First, apply S1:  $S_1 W_0 = S_1 \circ 4321 \stackrel{21}{=} 4312$ . Set  $U_1 = S_1$ , and  $W_0' := S_1 W_0 = 4312$ 

(S) S<sub>2</sub> S<sub>3</sub> S<sub>1</sub> S<sub>2</sub> S<sub>3</sub> S<sub>1</sub> S<sub>2</sub> S<sub>3</sub>

Try the next letter in  $C^{\infty}$ , which is  $S_2$ :  $S_2 \, \omega o' = S_2 \cdot 4312 \stackrel{3}{=} 4213$ This puts 2,3 in order, which decreases the inversion number, So  $U(S_2 \, \omega o') < U(\omega o')$ . Set  $U_2 = S_2$ , and  $U_2 = S_2 \, \omega o' = 4213$  $U_3 = S_3 \, S_$ 

Try the next lefter in  $C^{\infty}$ , which is  $S_3$ :  $S_3$  wo" =  $S_3$ 0 4213 = 3214 Again,  $U(S_3 \circ Wo'') < L(Wo'')$ . Set  $U_3 = S_3$ , and  $Wo''' := S_3 Uo'' = 3214$ 

S1 S2 S3 S1 S2 S3 S1 S2 S3

The next lefter in  $C^{\circ}$ ,  $S_1$ , also works because entries 2,1 in Wo'''=3214 are out of order. Set  $U4=S_1$ , and  $Wo^{(4)}:=S_1Wo'''=3124$ .

The next (efter in  $C^{\infty}$ ,  $S_2$ , also works because entries 3,2 in  $Wo^{(4)}=3124$  are out of order. Set  $US=S_2$ , and  $Wo^{(5)}:=S_2W^{(4)}=2134$ .

S2 22 12 52 (2) (2) (2) (2) (2) (2)

The next letter in  $C^{\infty}$ , S3, does <u>not</u> work because S3  $Wo^{(5)} = S_3 \circ 2134 = 2143$ The next letter in  $C^{\infty}$  after S2 is S1:

Solver Sie works because  $S_1 \cdot W_0^{(5)} = S_1 \cdot 2_{134} = 1234$ . Set  $U_6 = S_1$ 

S) 22 (2) (2) (2) (2) (2) 23 (2) 23 (2)

.. The (s1, S2, S3)-sorting word for w=4321 is \$1 \$2 \$3 \$1 \$2 \$1.

Since {\$1, \$2, \$3} > {\$1, \$2} \${\$2,\$3}, this shows w=4321 is c-sortable.

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Example for Thm 2.11
    Apply the algorithm 2.10 for A4, wo = 54321. We know wo has length \binom{5}{2} = 10.
     For C = S_3 S_1 S_2 S_4 (a "bipartite" coxeter element)
      Note: Multiplying Si = (i, it) on the left corresponds to swapping values i, i+1
      First, try S3: S3 Wo = S3.54321 = 53421.
                   Set u_1 = S_3, and w_0' := S_3 w_0 = 53421
                   (S<sub>3</sub>) S<sub>1</sub> S<sub>2</sub> S<sub>4</sub> S<sub>3</sub> S<sub>1</sub> S<sub>2</sub> S<sub>4</sub> S<sub>3</sub> S<sub>1</sub> S<sub>2</sub> S<sub>4</sub>
       Try the next letter in co, which is S1: S1 wo' = S1 . 53421 = 53412
             This puts 1,2 in order, which decreases the inversion number,
              so 'd(s, wo') < d'(wo').
             Set u_2 = S_1, and w_0'' := S_1 \omega_0' = 53412.
                   (S3) S1 S2 S4 S3 S1 S2 S4 S3 S1 S2 S4
      The next letter in co, s2, works: s2 wo" = s20 53412 = 52413
            Set U3 = S2, and Wo" := S2 Wo" = 52413.
       Next, set u_4 = s_4, and
                                    \omega_{o}^{(4)} := S_{4} \omega_{o}^{"} = S_{4} \circ 52413 = 42513
                                    Wo(5): = S3 Wo(4) = S30 42513 = 32514
                   U5 = S3, and
  PRACTICE
                                   \omega_0^{(6)} := S_1 \omega_0^{(5)} = S_1 \circ 32514 = 31524
                   U6 = S1, and
   Verify
Computation
                                   Wo(7):= S2 Wo(6)=S20 31524 = 21534
                   U7 = S2, and
                                    w<sub>0</sub>(8):= S4 w<sub>0</sub>(7)=S4. 21534 = 21435
                  U8 = S4, and
                                    \omega_{o}(9) := 53 \omega_{o}(8) = 53 \cdot 21435 = 21345
                  lg = S_{3}, and
                  u_{10} = S1, and
                                   W. (10):= S1 W. (9) = S10 21345= 12345
                   so $4321 is 535,15254-sortable.
PRACTICE
lise Algorithm 2.10 More examples for type A4 Coxeter group
              • If C= S1 S3 S5 S2 Sq, Wo= (S1 S3 S5 S2 Sq S1 S3 S5 S2 Sq S1 S3 S5 S2 Sq) is the c-sorting word of wb,
to verify
                                                which shows Wo is c-sortable.
these two
examples
                is the c-sorting word of wo, which shows no is c-sortable.
   REU Exercise 11
      Exercises 8 & 9 give us the c-sorting word for c=s|s2...sn and c=(odd indices) even indices
  Now, consider the Coxeter element c := S \lceil \frac{1}{2} \rceil \dots S_3 S_2 S_1 S \lceil \frac{1}{2} \rceil + 1, \dots, S_{n-2}, S_{n-1}, S_n
      for example C = S_2 S_1 S_3

C = S_2 S_1 S_2 S_4
                                    the first half of indices the second half of indices
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C=S3S2S1S4S5S6 C=S4S3S2S1S5S6S7 Give the c-sorting word of Wo for ) for orbitrary n. Known For Tamari,  $\lambda_1 - 4 = \lambda_2$  for  $n \geqslant 4$ , for  $C = S_1 S_2 ... S_n$   $\lambda_1 - 2 = \lambda_2 \text{ for } n \geqslant 4, \text{ for } C = S_1 S_2 S_3 ... S_2 S_4 ....$ Conjecture For "halfway" C,  $\lambda_1 - 3 = \lambda_2$  for  $n \geqslant 4$ .

# Thm 2.11 (b)

A permutation IT is the minimum elt of its ?c-fiber iff
II is C-sortable.

mend Thu June 18,2020 ~ 79 10/10