

# Cyclically fully commutative elements in affine Coxeter groups

Mathias Pétréolle

ICJ

SLC 72, Mars 2014

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Cyclically fully commutative elements and heaps
- 3 Characterization and enumeration in finite and affine types

# Coxeter groups

Coxeter group  $W$  given by Coxeter matrix  $(m_{s,t})_{s,t \in S}$

$$\text{Relations } \left\{ \begin{array}{l} s^2 = 1 \\ \underbrace{sts \cdots}_{m_{s,t}} = \underbrace{tst \cdots}_{m_{s,t}} \end{array} \right. \begin{array}{l} \text{Braid relations} \\ \text{If } m_{s,t} = 2, \text{ commutation relations} \end{array}$$

# Coxeter groups

Coxeter group  $W$  given by Coxeter matrix  $(m_{s,t})_{s,t \in S}$

$$\text{Relations } \left\{ \begin{array}{l} s^2 = 1 \\ \underbrace{sts \cdots}_{m_{s,t}} = \underbrace{tst \cdots}_{m_{s,t}} \end{array} \right. \begin{array}{l} \text{Braid relations} \\ \text{If } m_{s,t} = 2, \text{ commutation relations} \end{array}$$

Length of  $w := \ell(w) =$  minimal  $\ell$  such that  $w = s_1 s_2 \dots s_\ell$  with  $s_i \in S$   
Such a word is a reduced decomposition of  $w \in W$

# Coxeter groups

Coxeter group  $W$  given by Coxeter matrix  $(m_{s,t})_{s,t \in S}$

$$\text{Relations } \left\{ \begin{array}{l} s^2 = 1 \\ \underbrace{sts \cdots}_{m_{s,t}} = \underbrace{tst \cdots}_{m_{s,t}} \end{array} \right. \begin{array}{l} \text{Braid relations} \\ \text{If } m_{s,t} = 2, \text{ commutation relations} \end{array}$$

Length of  $w := \ell(w) =$  minimal  $\ell$  such that  $w = s_1 s_2 \dots s_\ell$  with  $s_i \in S$   
Such a word is a reduced decomposition of  $w \in W$

## Theorem (Matsumoto, 1964)

Given two reduced decompositions of  $w$ , there is a sequence of **braid relations** which can be applied to transform one into the other.

## Definition

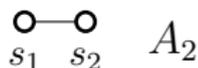
An element  $w$  is *fully commutative* if given two reduced decompositions of  $w$ , there is a sequence of **commutation relations** which can be applied to transform one into the other.

## Definition

An element  $w$  is *fully commutative* if given two reduced decompositions of  $w$ , there is a sequence of **commutation relations** which can be applied to transform one into the other.

Examples:  $id$ ,  $s_1$ ,  $s_2$ ,  $s_1s_2$  and  $s_2s_1$  FC

$s_1s_2s_1 = s_2s_1s_2$  not FC



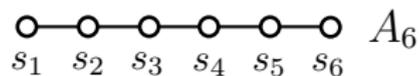
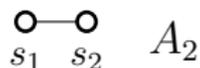
## Definition

An element  $w$  is *fully commutative* if given two reduced decompositions of  $w$ , there is a sequence of **commutation relations** which can be applied to transform one into the other.

Examples:  $id$ ,  $s_1$ ,  $s_2$ ,  $s_1s_2$  and  $s_2s_1$  FC

$s_1s_2s_1 = s_2s_1s_2$  not FC

$s_6s_2s_1s_3s_2s_5$  FC



# Fully commutative elements

Previous work on fully commutative elements:

- [Billey-Jockush-Stanley \(1993\)](#), [Hanusa-Jones \(2000\)](#), [Green \(2002\)](#):  
in type  $A$  and  $\tilde{A}$ , 321-avoiding permutations

# Fully commutative elements

Previous work on fully commutative elements:

- [Billiey-Jockush-Stanley](#) (1993), [Hanusa-Jones](#) (2000), [Green](#) (2002): in type  $A$  and  $\tilde{A}$ , 321-avoiding permutations
- [Fan, Graham](#) (1995): index a basis of the generalized Temperley-Lieb algebra

# Fully commutative elements

Previous work on fully commutative elements:

- [Billiey-Jockush-Stanley](#) (1993), [Hanusa-Jones](#) (2000), [Green](#) (2002): in type  $A$  and  $\tilde{A}$ , 321-avoiding permutations
- [Fan, Graham](#) (1995): index a basis of the generalized Temperley-Lieb algebra
- [Stembridge](#) (1996-1998): first general approach for FC finite cases

# Fully commutative elements

Previous work on fully commutative elements:

- [Billiey-Jockush-Stanley](#) (1993), [Hanusa-Jones](#) (2000), [Green](#) (2002): in type  $A$  and  $\tilde{A}$ , 321-avoiding permutations
- [Fan, Graham](#) (1995): index a basis of the generalized Temperley-Lieb algebra
- [Stembridge](#) (1996-1998): first general approach for FC finite cases
- [Biagioli-Jouhet-Nadeau](#) (2013): characterizations in terms of heaps, computation of  $W^{FC}(q) := \sum_{w \in W^{FC}} q^{\ell(w)}$

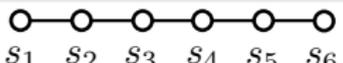
## Definition

An element  $w$  is **cyclically fully commutative** if every cyclic shift of every reduced decomposition for  $w$  is a reduced expression for a FC element.

# Cyclically fully commutative elements

## Definition

An element  $w$  is **cyclically fully commutative** if every cyclic shift of every reduced decomposition for  $w$  is a reduced expression for a FC element.

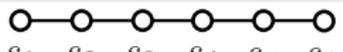
Examples in   $A_6$

$s_6 s_2 s_1 s_3 s_2 s_5$  FC  $\xrightarrow{\text{shift}}$   $s_5 s_6 s_2 s_1 s_3 s_2$  FC  $\xrightarrow{\text{shift}}$   $s_2 s_5 s_6 s_2 s_1 s_3$  not reduced

# Cyclically fully commutative elements

## Definition

An element  $w$  is **cyclically fully commutative** if every cyclic shift of every reduced decomposition for  $w$  is a reduced expression for a FC element.

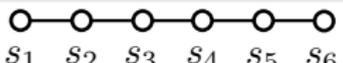
Examples in   $A_6$

$s_6 s_2 s_1 s_3 s_2 s_5$  FC  $\xrightarrow{\text{shift}}$   $s_5 s_6 s_2 s_1 s_3 s_2$  FC  $\xrightarrow{\text{shift}}$   $s_2 s_5 s_6 s_2 s_1 s_3$  not reduced  
 $s_6 s_2 s_1 s_3 s_5$  CFC

# Cyclically fully commutative elements

## Definition

An element  $w$  is **cyclically fully commutative** if every cyclic shift of every reduced decomposition for  $w$  is a reduced expression for a FC element.

Examples in   $A_6$

$s_6 s_2 s_1 s_3 s_2 s_5$  FC  $\xrightarrow{\text{shift}}$   $s_5 s_6 s_2 s_1 s_3 s_2$  FC  $\xrightarrow{\text{shift}}$   $s_2 s_5 s_6 s_2 s_1 s_3$  not reduced  
 $s_6 s_2 s_1 s_3 s_5$  CFC

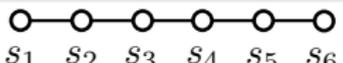
Previous work on cyclically fully commutative elements

- [Boothby et al.](#) (2012): introduction and first properties; a Coxeter group is FC finite  $\Leftrightarrow$  it is CFC finite

# Cyclically fully commutative elements

## Definition

An element  $w$  is **cyclically fully commutative** if every cyclic shift of every reduced decomposition for  $w$  is a reduced expression for a FC element.

Examples in   $A_6$

$s_6 s_2 s_1 s_3 s_2 s_5$  FC  $\xrightarrow{\text{shift}}$   $s_5 s_6 s_2 s_1 s_3 s_2$  FC  $\xrightarrow{\text{shift}}$   $s_2 s_5 s_6 s_2 s_1 s_3$  not reduced  
 $s_6 s_2 s_1 s_3 s_5$  CFC

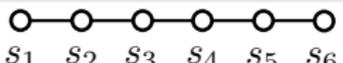
Previous work on cyclically fully commutative elements

- [Boothby et al.](#) (2012): introduction and first properties; a Coxeter group is FC finite  $\Leftrightarrow$  it is CFC finite
- [Marquis](#) (2013): characterization of CFC logarithmic elements

# Cyclically fully commutative elements

## Definition

An element  $w$  is **cyclically fully commutative** if every cyclic shift of every reduced decomposition for  $w$  is a reduced expression for a FC element.

Examples in   $A_6$

$s_6 s_2 s_1 s_3 s_2 s_5$  FC  $\xrightarrow{\text{shift}}$   $s_5 s_6 s_2 s_1 s_3 s_2$  FC  $\xrightarrow{\text{shift}}$   $s_2 s_5 s_6 s_2 s_1 s_3$  not reduced  
 $s_6 s_2 s_1 s_3 s_5$  CFC

Previous work on cyclically fully commutative elements

- [Boothby et al.](#) (2012): introduction and first properties; a Coxeter group is FC finite  $\Leftrightarrow$  it is CFC finite
- [Marquis](#) (2013): characterization of CFC logarithmic elements

Motivation for introducing CFC elements: looking for a cyclic version of Matsumoto's theorem.

## Proposition (Stembridge, 1995)

A reduced word represents a FC element if and only if no element of its commutation class contains a factor  $\underbrace{sts \cdots}_{m_{s,t}}$ , for a  $m_{s,t} \geq 3$

## Proposition (Stembridge, 1995)

A reduced word represents a FC element if and only if no element of its commutation class contains a factor  $\underbrace{sts \cdots}_{m_{s,t}}$ , for a  $m_{s,t} \geq 3$

⇒ We encode the whole commutation class of a FC elements by its heap.

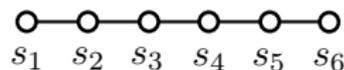
## Definition

The **heap** of a word  $\mathbf{w}$  is a **poset**  $(H, \prec)$  labelled by generators  $s_i$  of  $W$ . If two words are commutation equivalent, their heaps are isomorphic.

## Definition

The **heap** of a word  $\mathbf{w}$  is a **poset**  $(H, \prec)$  labelled by generators  $s_i$  of  $W$ . If two words are commutation equivalent, their heaps are isomorphic.

Example:



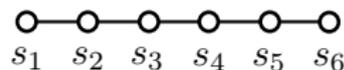
$A_6$

$$H = \begin{array}{cccccc} \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ s_1 & s_2 & s_3 & s_4 & s_5 & s_6 \\ \mathbf{w} = s_5 s_3 s_4 s_2 s_1 s_3 s_2 s_6 s_5 \end{array}$$

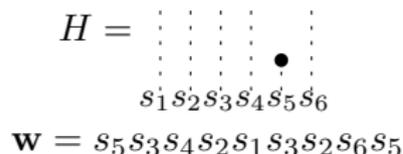
## Definition

The **heap** of a word  $\mathbf{w}$  is a **poset**  $(H, \prec)$  labelled by generators  $s_i$  of  $W$ . If two words are commutation equivalent, their heaps are isomorphic.

Example:



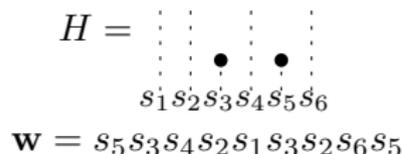
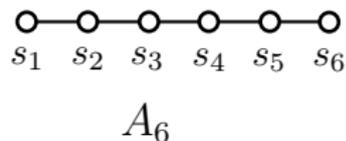
$A_6$



## Definition

The **heap** of a word  $\mathbf{w}$  is a **poset**  $(H, \prec)$  labelled by generators  $s_i$  of  $W$ . If two words are commutation equivalent, their heaps are isomorphic.

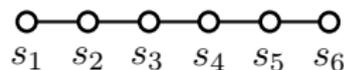
Example:



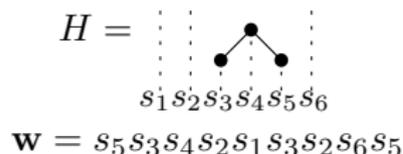
## Definition

The **heap** of a word  $\mathbf{w}$  is a **poset**  $(H, \prec)$  labelled by generators  $s_i$  of  $W$ . If two words are commutation equivalent, their heaps are isomorphic.

Example:



$A_6$

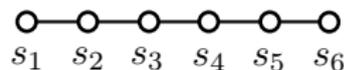


$\mathbf{w} = s_5 s_3 s_4 s_2 s_1 s_3 s_2 s_6 s_5$

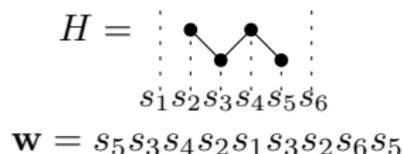
## Definition

The **heap** of a word  $\mathbf{w}$  is a **poset**  $(H, \prec)$  labelled by generators  $s_i$  of  $W$ . If two words are commutation equivalent, their heaps are isomorphic.

Example:



$A_6$

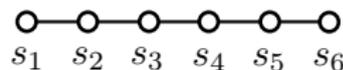


$\mathbf{w} = s_5 s_3 s_4 s_2 s_1 s_3 s_2 s_6 s_5$

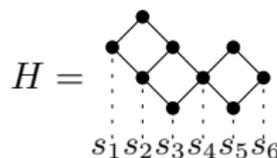
## Definition

The **heap** of a word  $\mathbf{w}$  is a **poset**  $(H, \prec)$  labelled by generators  $s_i$  of  $W$ . If two words are commutation equivalent, their heaps are isomorphic.

Example:



$A_6$

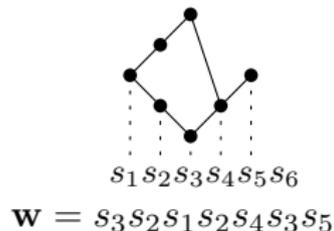
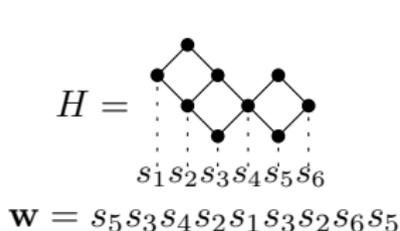
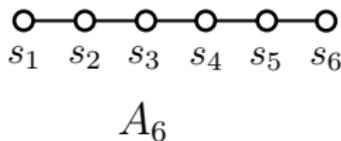


$\mathbf{w} = s_5 s_3 s_4 s_2 s_1 s_3 s_2 s_6 s_5$

## Definition

The **heap** of a word  $\mathbf{w}$  is a **poset**  $(H, \prec)$  labelled by generators  $s_i$  of  $W$ . If two words are commutation equivalent, their heaps are isomorphic.

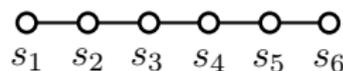
Example:



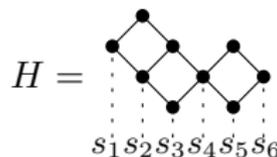
## Definition

The **heap** of a word  $\mathbf{w}$  is a **poset**  $(H, \prec)$  labelled by generators  $s_i$  of  $W$ . If two words are commutation equivalent, their heaps are isomorphic.

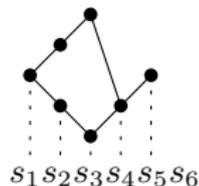
Example:



$A_6$



$\mathbf{w} = s_5s_3s_4s_2s_1s_3s_2s_6s_5$



$\mathbf{w} = s_3s_2s_1s_2s_4s_3s_5$

We write  $x \prec_c y$  if  $x$  and  $y$  are connected by an edge in  $H$  (**chain covering relation**)

# Characterization of FC elements

A chain  $i_1 \prec \cdots \prec i_\ell$  is **convex** if the only elements  $x$  satisfying  $i_1 \preceq x \preceq i_\ell$  are the elements  $i_j$  of the chain.

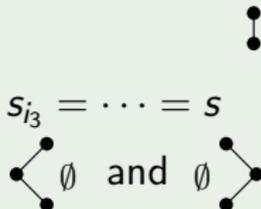
# Characterization of FC elements

A chain  $i_1 \prec \cdots \prec i_\ell$  is **convex** if the only elements  $x$  satisfying  $i_1 \preceq x \preceq i_\ell$  are the elements  $i_j$  of the chain.

## Proposition (Stembridge, 1995)

Heaps  $H$  of FC reduced words are characterized by:

- **No covering relation**  $i \prec j$  in  $H$  such that  $s_i = s_j$
- **No convex chain**  $i_1 \prec \cdots \prec i_{m_{s,t}}$  in  $H$  such that  $s_{i_1} = s_{i_3} = \cdots = s$  and  $s_{i_2} = s_{i_4} = \cdots = t$  where  $m_{s,t} \geq 3$



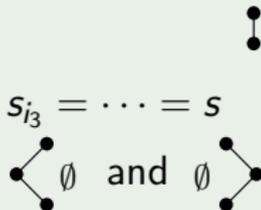
# Characterization of FC elements

A chain  $i_1 \prec \dots \prec i_\ell$  is **convex** if the only elements  $x$  satisfying  $i_1 \preceq x \preceq i_\ell$  are the elements  $i_j$  of the chain.

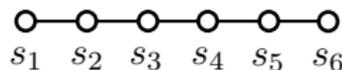
## Proposition (Stembridge, 1995)

Heaps  $H$  of FC reduced words are characterized by:

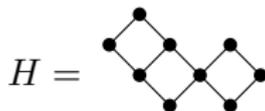
- **No covering relation**  $i \prec j$  in  $H$  such that  $s_i = s_j$
- **No convex chain**  $i_1 \prec \dots \prec i_{m_{s,t}}$  in  $H$  such that  $s_{i_1} = s_{i_3} = \dots = s$  and  $s_{i_2} = s_{i_4} = \dots = t$  where  $m_{s,t} \geq 3$



Example:



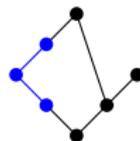
$A_6$



$H =$

$s_1 s_2 s_3 s_4 s_5 s_6$

$w = s_5 s_3 s_4 s_2 s_1 s_3 s_2 s_6 s_5$



$s_1 s_2 s_3 s_4 s_5 s_6$

$w = s_3 s_2 s_1 s_2 s_4 s_3 s_5$

FC

not FC

# Cylindric transformation

Let  $H$  be a heap. The **cylindric transformation**  $H^c$  is defined by the same points, labellings and chain covering relations  $\prec_c$  as  $H$ , and some new relations:

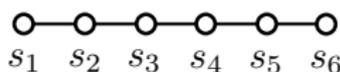
- for **each generator  $s$** , consider the minimal point  $a$  and the maximal point  $b$  in the chain  $H_s$  (for the partial order  $\prec$ ). If  $a$  is minimal and  $b$  is maximal in the poset  $H$ , we add a new relation  $b \prec_c a$ .
- for **each pair of generators  $(s,t)$**  such that  $m_{s,t} \geq 3$ , consider the minimal point  $a$  and the maximal point  $b$  in the chain  $H_{\{s,t\}}$  (for the partial order  $\prec$ ). If one has label  $s$  and the other has label  $t$ , we add a new relation  $b \prec_c a$ .

# Cylindric transformation

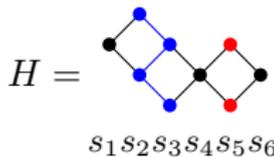
Let  $H$  be a heap. The **cylindric transformation**  $H^c$  is defined by the same points, labellings and chain covering relations  $\prec_c$  as  $H$ , and some new relations:

- for **each generator  $s$** , consider the minimal point  $a$  and the maximal point  $b$  in the chain  $H_s$  (for the partial order  $\prec$ ). If  $a$  is minimal and  $b$  is maximal in the poset  $H$ , we add a new relation  $b \prec_c a$ .
- for **each pair of generators  $(s,t)$**  such that  $m_{s,t} \geq 3$ , consider the minimal point  $a$  and the maximal point  $b$  in the chain  $H_{\{s,t\}}$  (for the partial order  $\prec$ ). If one has label  $s$  and the other has label  $t$ , we add a new relation  $b \prec_c a$ .

Example:

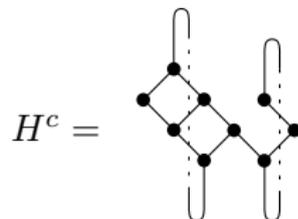


$A_6$



$s_1 s_2 s_3 s_4 s_5 s_6$

$\mathbf{w} = s_5 s_3 s_4 s_2 s_1 s_3 s_2 s_6 s_5$



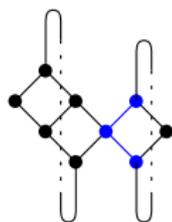
$H^c =$

# Cylindric convex chain

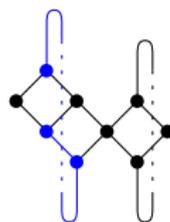
Consider a chain of distinct elements  $i_1 \prec_c \cdots \prec_c i_m$  in  $H^c$  with  $m \geq 3$ . Such a chain is called **cylindric convex** if the only elements  $u_1, \dots, u_d$ , satisfying  $i_1 \prec_c \cdots \prec_c i_k \prec_c u_1 \prec_c \cdots \prec_c u_d \prec_c i_m$  with all elements involved in this second chain distinct, are the elements  $i_j$  of the first chain.

# Cylindric convex chain

Consider a chain of distinct elements  $i_1 \prec_c \cdots \prec_c i_m$  in  $H^c$  with  $m \geq 3$ . Such a chain is called **cylindric convex** if the only elements  $u_1, \dots, u_d$ , satisfying  $i_1 \prec_c \cdots \prec_c i_k \prec_c u_1 \prec_c \cdots \prec_c u_d \prec_c i_m$  with all elements involved in this second chain distinct, are the elements  $i_j$  of the first chain.



not cylindric  
convex chain



cylindric  
convex chain

## Theorem (P., 2014)

Cylindric transformed heaps  $H^c$  of CFC elements are characterized by:

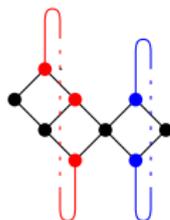
- **No chain covering relation**  $i \prec_c j$  in  $H^c$  such that  $s_i = s_j$  and  $i \neq j$
- **No cylindric convex chain**  $i_1 \prec_c \cdots \prec_c i_{m_{s,t}}$  in  $H^c$  such that  $s_{i_1} = s_{i_3} = \cdots = s$  and  $s_{i_2} = s_{i_4} = \cdots = t$  where  $m_{s,t} \geq 3$

# Characterization of CFC elements

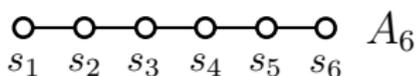
## Theorem (P., 2014)

Cylindric transformed heaps  $H^c$  of CFC elements are characterized by:

- **No chain covering relation**  $i \prec_c j$  in  $H^c$  such that  $s_i = s_j$  and  $i \neq j$
- **No cylindric convex chain**  $i_1 \prec_c \cdots \prec_c i_{m_{s,t}}$  in  $H^c$  such that  $s_{i_1} = s_{i_3} = \cdots = s$  and  $s_{i_2} = s_{i_4} = \cdots = t$  where  $m_{s,t} \geq 3$



$$w = s_5 s_3 s_4 s_2 s_1 s_3 s_2 s_6 s_5$$

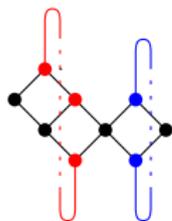


# Characterization of CFC elements

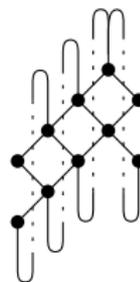
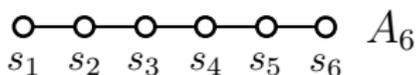
## Theorem (P., 2014)

Cylindric transformed heaps  $H^c$  of CFC elements are characterized by:

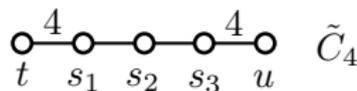
- **No chain covering relation**  $i \prec_c j$  in  $H^c$  such that  $s_i = s_j$  and  $i \neq j$
- **No cylindric convex chain**  $i_1 \prec_c \dots \prec_c i_{m_{s,t}}$  in  $H^c$  such that  $s_{i_1} = s_{i_3} = \dots = s$  and  $s_{i_2} = s_{i_4} = \dots = t$  where  $m_{s,t} \geq 3$



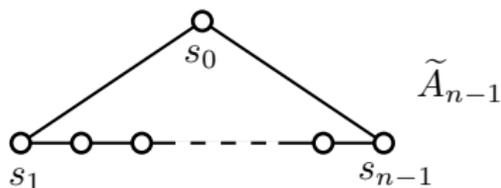
$$\mathbf{w} = s_5 s_3 s_4 s_2 s_1 s_3 s_2 s_6 s_5$$



$$\mathbf{w} = t s_1 t s_2 u t s_3 s_2 u s_3$$



# Type $\tilde{A}$

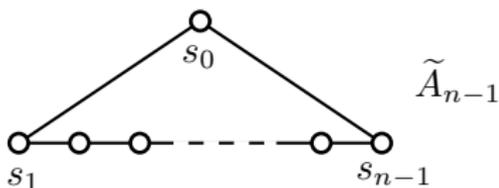


## Theorem (P., 2014)

$w \in \tilde{A}_{n-1}$  is CFC if and only if one (equivalently, any) of its reduced expressions  $\mathbf{w}$  verifies one of these conditions:

- (a) each generator occurs at most once in  $\mathbf{w}$ ,
- (b)  $\mathbf{w}$  is an alternating word and  $|\mathbf{w}_{s_0}| = |\mathbf{w}_{s_1}| = \dots = |\mathbf{w}_{s_{n-1}}| \geq 2$ .

# Type $\tilde{A}$



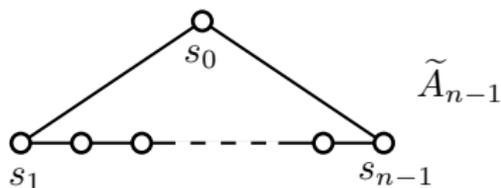
## Theorem (P., 2014)

$w \in \tilde{A}_{n-1}$  is CFC if and only if one (equivalently, any) of its reduced expressions  $\mathbf{w}$  verifies one of these conditions:

- (a) each generator occurs at most once in  $\mathbf{w}$ ,
- (b)  $\mathbf{w}$  is an alternating word and  $|\mathbf{w}_{s_0}| = |\mathbf{w}_{s_1}| = \dots = |\mathbf{w}_{s_{n-1}}| \geq 2$ .

$$\tilde{A}_{n-1}^{CFC}(q) := \sum_{w \in \tilde{A}_{n-1}} q^{\ell(w)} = P_{n-1}(q) + \frac{2^n - 2}{1 - q^n} q^{2n},$$

where  $P_{n-1}(q)$  is a computable polynomial.



## Theorem (P., 2014)

$w \in \tilde{A}_{n-1}$  is CFC if and only if one (equivalently, any) of its reduced expressions  $\mathbf{w}$  verifies one of these conditions:

- (a) each generator occurs at most once in  $\mathbf{w}$ ,
- (b)  $\mathbf{w}$  is an alternating word and  $|\mathbf{w}_{s_0}| = |\mathbf{w}_{s_1}| = \dots = |\mathbf{w}_{s_{n-1}}| \geq 2$ .

$$\tilde{A}_{n-1}^{CFC}(q) := \sum_{w \in \tilde{A}_{n-1}} q^{\ell(w)} = P_{n-1}(q) + \frac{2^n - 2}{1 - q^n} q^{2n},$$

where  $P_{n-1}(q)$  is a computable polynomial.

The coefficients of  $\tilde{A}_{n-1}^{CFC}(q)$  are **ultimately periodic** of exact period  $n$ , and the periodicity starts at length  $n$ .

## Theorem (P., 2014)

For  $W$  of any affine types, we have an explicit characterization and the enumeration of CFC elements. In all these types, the coefficients of  $W^{CFC}(q) := \sum_{w \in W^{CFC}} q^{\ell(w)}$  are **ultimately periodic**.

## Theorem (P., 2014)

For  $W$  of any affine types, we have an explicit characterization and the enumeration of CFC elements. In all these types, the coefficients of  $W^{CFC}(q) := \sum_{w \in W^{CFC}} q^{\ell(w)}$  are **ultimately periodic**.

## Theorem (P., 2014)

The CFC elements in type  $A_{n-1}$  are those having reduced expressions in which each generator occurs **at most once**.

## Theorem (P., 2014)

For  $W$  of any affine types, we have an explicit characterization and the enumeration of CFC elements. In all these types, the coefficients of  $W^{CFC}(q) := \sum_{w \in W^{CFC}} q^{\ell(w)}$  are **ultimately periodic**.

## Theorem (P., 2014)

The CFC elements in type  $A_{n-1}$  are those having reduced expressions in which each generator occurs **at most once**.

Moreover, for  $n \geq 3$ ,

$$A_{n-1}^{CFC}(q) = (2q + 1)A_{n-2}^{CFC}(q) - qA_{n-3}^{CFC}(q).$$

where  $A_0^{CFC}(q) = 1$ ,  $A_1^{CFC}(q) = 1 + q$ .

We say that an element  $w$  is **logarithmic** if and only if the equality  $\ell(w^k) = k\ell(w)$  holds for all positive integer  $k$ .

## Theorem (Marquis, 2013 - P., 2014)

For  $W = \tilde{A}, \tilde{B}, \tilde{C}$ , or  $\tilde{D}$ , if  $w$  is a CFC element,  $w$  is logarithmic if and only if a (equivalently, any) reduced expression  $\mathbf{w}$  of  $w$  has **full support** (i.e all generators occur in  $\mathbf{w}$ ).

Thank you for your attention