

LECTURE 13 Fri 10/3

Φ any root system (not nec. crystallographic)

$\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_r$ simple roots, $s_1, \dots, s_r$ simple reflections.

Weyl group = group generated by reflections s_α , $\alpha \in \Phi$

Thm: W is generated by simple reflections $s_1, \dots, s_r$ with relations

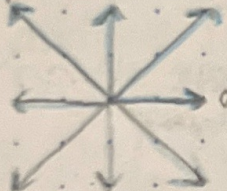
(Coxeter Relations) $s_i^2 = 1 \quad \forall i$

$\underbrace{s_j s_i s_j \dots}_{m_{ij} \text{ terms}} = \underbrace{s_j s_i s_j \dots}_{m_{ij} \text{ terms}}$

where $m_{ij} \in \{2, 3, 4, \dots\}$

s.t. $\Phi \cap \text{span}(\alpha_i, \alpha_j) = 2m_{ij}$

Ex. α_i 8 roots



$2m_{ij} = 8 \Rightarrow m_{ij} = 4$

2-dim rt. system in Φ

In Crystallographic Cases

$m_{ij} = \begin{cases} 2 & \text{if } i \neq j & A_1 \times A_1 \\ 3 & \text{if } \text{---} & A_2 \\ 4 & \text{if } \Rightarrow & B_2 \\ 6 & \text{if } \Rightarrow & G_2 \end{cases}$

Ex. A_r : $W = S_n$

$s_i^2 = 1$, $s_i s_j = s_j s_i$ $|i-j| \geq 2$, $s_i s_{i+1} s_i = s_{i+1} s_i s_{i+1}$

B_r W = hyperoctahedral group
= the group of symmetries of r -cube
= the group of signed permutations

s_i = reflect w.r.t. $x_i - x_{i+1} = 0$ for $i = 1, \dots, r-1$

s_r = reflect w.r.t. $x_r = 0$

same rels as A_r except with $s_{r-1} s_r s_{r-1} s_r = s_{r-1} s_r s_{r-1} s_r$

C_0 fundamental Weyl chamber, C any Weyl chamber

Prop: Any two products of simple reflections s, t

$$C = s_{i_1} s_{i_2} \dots s_{i_k}(C_0) = s_{j_1} s_{j_2} \dots s_{j_\ell}(C_0)$$

can be obtained from each other by the moves

$$(1) \quad \boxed{A} \boxed{s_i s_i} \boxed{B} \rightarrow \boxed{A} \boxed{B} \quad (\text{apply } s_i^2 = \text{Id})$$

$$(2) \quad \boxed{A} \underbrace{\boxed{s_i s_j s_i \dots}}_{m_{ij} \text{ terms}} \boxed{B} \rightarrow \boxed{A} \underbrace{\boxed{s_j s_i s_j \dots}}_{m_{ij} \text{ terms}} \boxed{B}$$

Corollary: The map $w \mapsto w(C_0)$ is a bijection between W & the set of Weyl chambers.

Proof: We showed earlier why the map is injective (can get any chamber)

Now we know it's surjective b/c prop tells us if we have different $s_{i_1} \dots s_{i_k}$ & $s_{j_1} \dots s_{j_\ell}$ sending C_0 to the same chamber,

these are equivalent via Coxeter group relations (so same w)

$$\text{Prop} \Rightarrow s_{i_1} \dots s_{i_k} = s_{j_1} \dots s_{j_\ell}$$

Prop $\Rightarrow$ Thrm

Proof Sketch of Prop

$$w = s_{i_1} s_{i_2} \dots s_{i_k} =$$

$$\dots (s_{i_1} s_{i_2} s_{i_3} s_{i_2}^{-1} s_{i_1}^{-1}) (s_{i_1} s_{i_2} s_{i_1}^{-1}) s_{i_1}$$

$\parallel$
 s_{β_3}

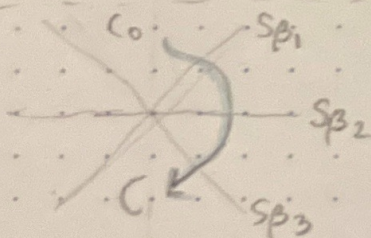
$\parallel$
 s_{β_2}

$\parallel$
 s_{β_1}

$$\begin{cases} \beta_1 = \alpha_{i_1} \\ \beta_2 = s_{i_1}(\alpha_{i_2}) \\ \beta_3 = s_{i_1} s_{i_2}(\alpha_{i_3}) \\ \text{etc} \end{cases}$$

Slight aside: Hurwitz action on decompositions in any group

$$a \cdot b = \dots (a b a^{-1}) a \dots$$

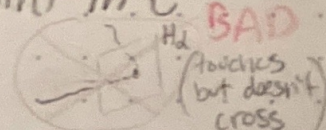


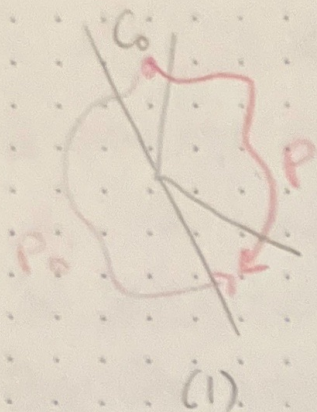
Any decomp. $w = s_{i_1} \dots s_{i_k}$ corresponds to a walk on alcoves $C_0 \rightarrow C_1 \rightarrow C_2 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow C$ s.t. C_{i-1} & C_i are adjacent alcoves separated by the hyperplane H_{β_i} .

Pick any "generic" continuous path from a pt. in C_0 to a point in C

(1) path is transversal (i.e. not tangent) to all H_α

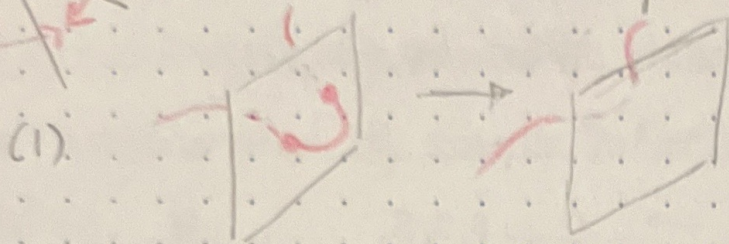
(2) Path does not pass through codim 2 intersection of H_α 's (can't cross intersection of 2 or more hyperplanes)



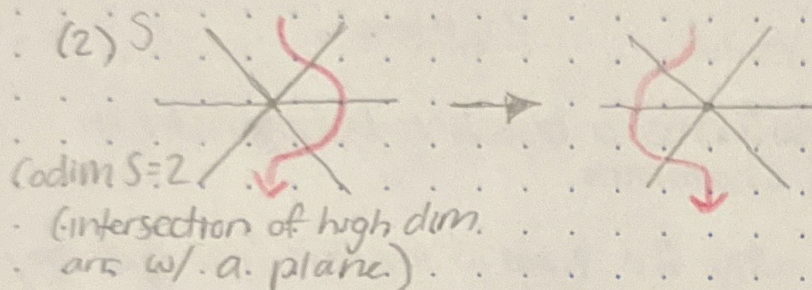


Want to transform one path into the other

Local moves on paths:

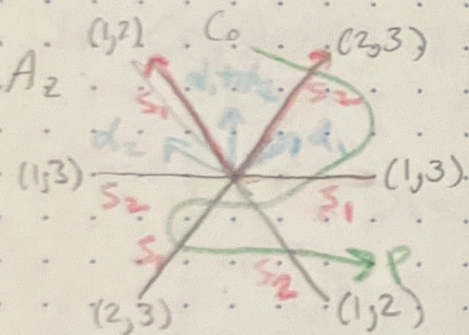


$$S_i^2 = Id$$



$$\underbrace{S_i S_j \dots}_{m_{ij}} = \underbrace{S_j S_i \dots}_{m_{ij}}$$

Why do we care about codim. 2 only?
When we deform a line, we get a 2 dim'l surface which sometimes crosses codim. 2 spaces, but never crosses lower dim. space in the generic case.



A different labelling of wall

simple transpositions

$$p = s_2 s_1 s_2 s_1 s_2$$

$$= s_{12} s_{23} s_{12} s_{13} s_{23} \leftarrow \text{non-simple transpositions}$$

$$\alpha_1 = e_1 - e_2 \rightsquigarrow \text{label } s_{\alpha_1} \text{ by } (1,2)$$

$$\alpha_2 = e_2 - e_3 \rightsquigarrow \text{label } s_{\alpha_2} \text{ by } (2,3)$$

$$\alpha_3 = e_1 - e_3 \rightsquigarrow \text{label } s_{\alpha_3} \text{ by } (1,3)$$