

Partial rank symmetry of distributive lattices for fences

Sergi Elizalde

(joint work with Bruce Sagan)

Dartmouth College

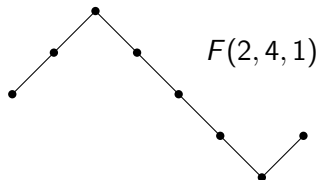
University of Minnesota Combinatorics Seminar
April 22, 2022

Fence posets

Let $\beta = (\beta_1, \beta_2, \dots, \beta_s)$ with $\beta_i \geq 1$ for all i .

Definition

The *fence* $F(\beta)$ is the poset consisting of chains of lengths $\beta_1, \beta_2, \dots, \beta_s$, where the i th and $(i+1)$ st chains share their maximum element if i is odd, and they share their minimum element if i is even.

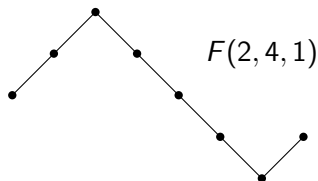


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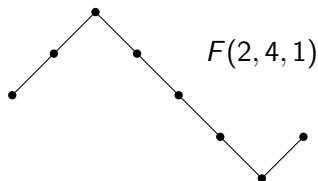
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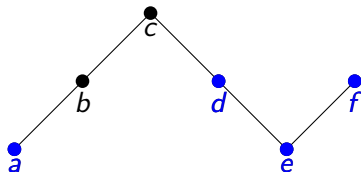
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Let $n = |F(\beta)| = \beta_1 + \dots + \beta_s + 1$.

Lower order ideals

A *lower order ideal* of a poset is a subset I satisfying that if $x \in I$ and $y \leq x$, then $y \in I$.

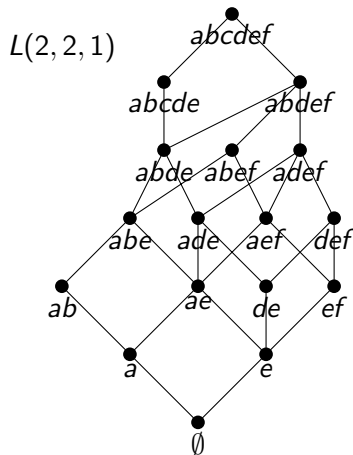
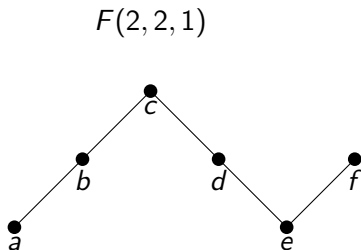
$F(2, 2, 1)$



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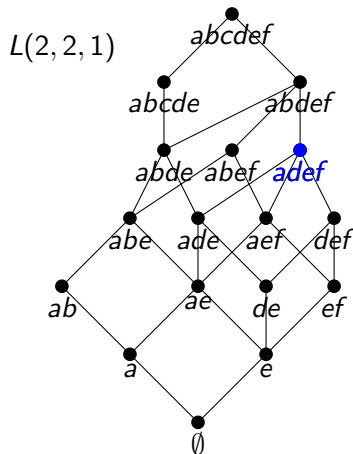
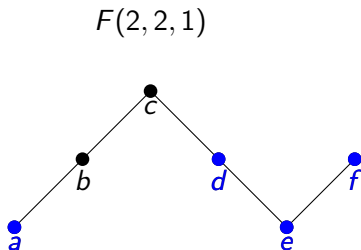
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The lattices $L(\beta)$

The lattices $L(\beta)$ can be used to calculate the mutations in a cluster algebra derived from a surface with marked points on the boundary [Schiffler '08 '10, Schiffler–Thomas '09, Musiker–Schiffler–Williams '11, Yurikusa '19, Claussen '20, Propp '20].

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Since $L(\beta)$ is ranked, it has an associated rank sequence

$$r(\beta) : r_0, r_1, \dots, r_n$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} r_k &= \text{number of elements at rank } k \text{ in } L(\beta) \\ &= \text{number of ideals of } F(\beta) \text{ of size } k. \end{aligned}$$

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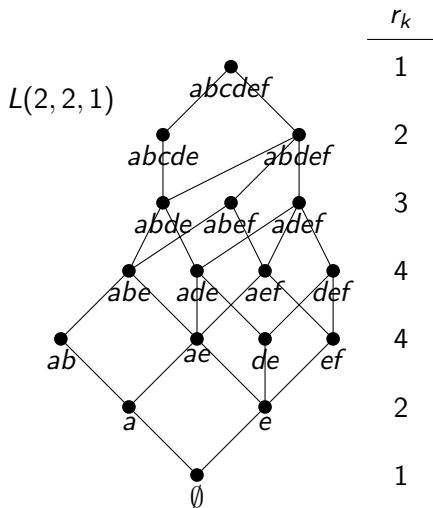
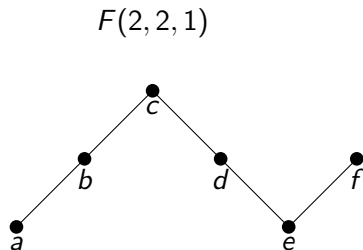
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The corresponding rank generating functions

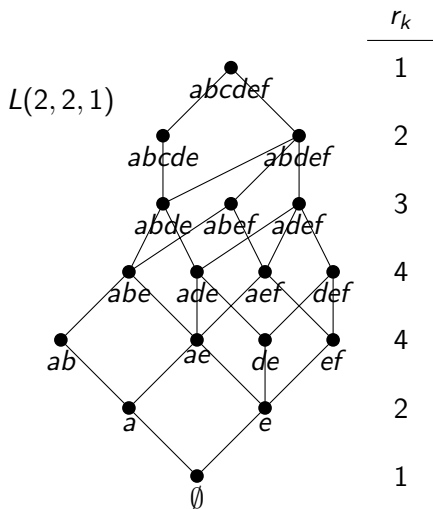
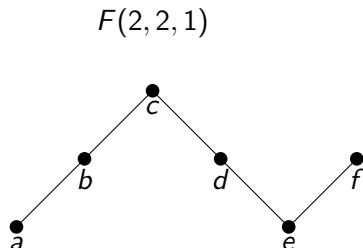
$$r(q; \beta) = \sum_{k=0}^n r_k q^k$$

were used by Morier-Genoud and Ovsienko '20 to define q -analogues of rational and real numbers.

The rank generating function: example



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$$r(2, 2, 1) : 1, 2, 4, 4, 3, 2, 1$$

The rank generating function: a larger example

For $\beta = (4, 3, 2, 1, 5)$, we have

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Definition

A sequence r_0, r_1, \dots, r_n is **unimodal** if there is an index m such that

$$r_0 \leq r_1 \leq \dots \leq r_m \geq r_{m+1} \geq \dots \geq r_n.$$

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Conjecture (Morier-Genoud, Ovsienko '20)

For all β , the sequence $r(\beta)$ is unimodal.

Other properties of sequences

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top interlacing \implies top heavy and unimodal

bottom interlacing \implies bottom heavy and unimodal

A refined conjecture

Conjecture (McConville, Sagan, Smyth '21)

Let $\beta = (\beta_1, \dots, \beta_s)$.

- If $s = 1$ then $r(\beta) = (1, 1, \dots, 1)$.
- If s is even, then $r(\beta)$ is bottom interlacing.
- Suppose $s \geq 3$ is odd and let $\beta' = (\beta_2, \dots, \beta_{s-1})$.
 - If $\beta_1 > \beta_s$ then $r(\beta)$ is bottom interlacing.
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 - If $\beta_1 = \beta_s$ then $r(\beta)$ is symmetric, bottom interlacing, or top interlacing depending on whether $r(\beta')$ is symmetric, top interlacing, or bottom interlacing, respectively.

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The above conjectures are true.

The proof uses induction and algebraic manipulation, as well as a circular version of fences.

Our main result

In general, the sequence $r(\beta)$ is not symmetric, but we will show that it exhibits partial symmetry.

Theorem

Suppose that $\beta = (\beta_1, \beta_2, \dots, \beta_s)$ where s is odd. Then, for all $k \leq \min\{\beta_1, \beta_s\}$ we have

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Ideals and filters

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Fix $\beta = (\beta_1, \beta_2, \dots, \beta_{2\ell+1})$ with an odd number of parts.

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To give a bijective proof of our main result, we will construct a bijection

$$\Phi : \mathcal{I}_k(\beta) \rightarrow \mathcal{U}_k(\beta)$$

for all $k \leq \min\{\beta_1, \beta_{2\ell+1}\}$.

A simpler case: gates

A **gate** is obtained by removing the first and last segments of a fence, and requiring ascending segments to have length one.

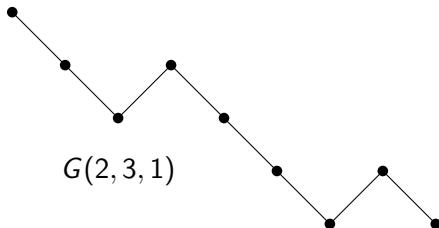
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For a composition $\delta = (\delta_1, \delta_2, \dots, \delta_\ell)$, define the gate

$$G(\delta) = F(\delta_1, 1, \delta_2, 1, \dots, \delta_{\ell-1}, 1, \delta_\ell)^*,$$

where $*$ indicates poset dual.

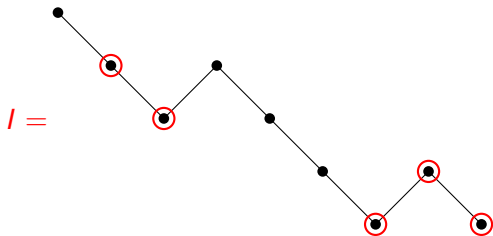


Restricted ideals of gates

Let D_1, \dots, D_ℓ be the descending segments of $G(\delta)$ from left to right.

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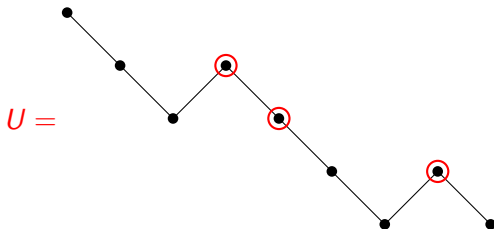
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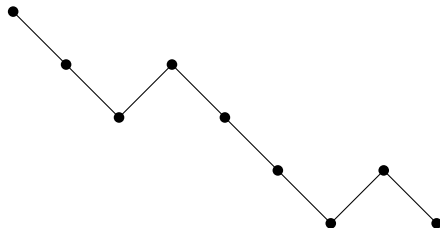
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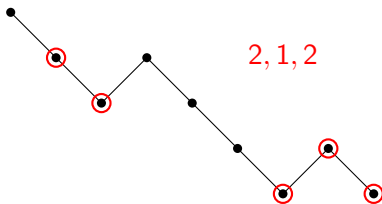


We will describe a cardinality-preserving bijection

$$\phi : \{\text{restricted ideals of } G(\delta)\} \rightarrow \{\text{restricted filters of } G(\delta)\}.$$

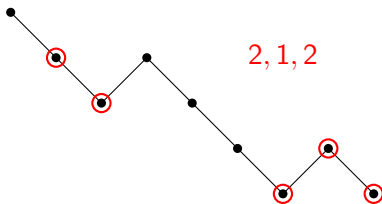
Encoding restricted ideals/filters of gates

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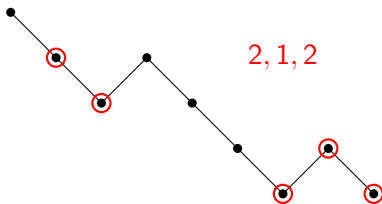


Such sequences can be characterized as those satisfying:

- 1 for $i \in [\ell]$, we have $0 \leq d_i \leq |D_i|$,
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Similarly, a restricted filter U of $G(\delta)$ can be encoded by a sequence e_1, e_2, \dots, e_ℓ , where $e_i = |U \cap D_i|$, characterized by similar conditions.

The bijection ϕ for restricted ideals/filters of gates

Given a sequence d_1, d_2, \dots, d_ℓ encoding a restricted ideal I :

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Given a sequence d_1, d_2, \dots, d_ℓ encoding a restricted ideal I :

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The resulting sequence encodes a restricted filter $\phi(I)$.

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The general case: encoding ideals of fences

Fix $\beta = (\beta_1, \beta_2, \dots, \beta_{2\ell+1})$, and let $F = F(\beta)$.

Ascending segments: $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_{\ell+1}$.

Descending segments: D_1, D_2, \dots, D_ℓ .

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Descending segments: D_1, D_2, \dots, D_ℓ .

Let \tilde{A}_i be obtained from A_i by removing the elements shared with descending segments, so that each element appears in exactly one of the \tilde{A}_i or D_i .

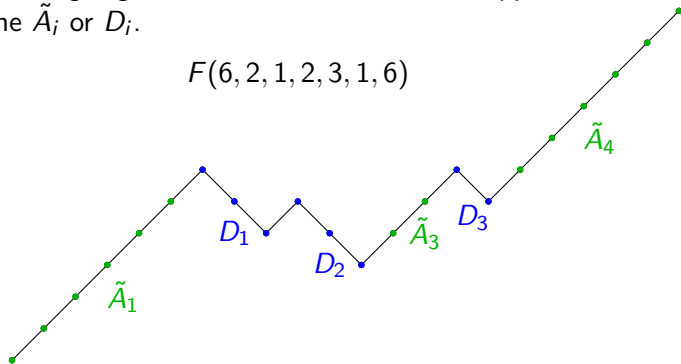
The general case: encoding ideals of fences

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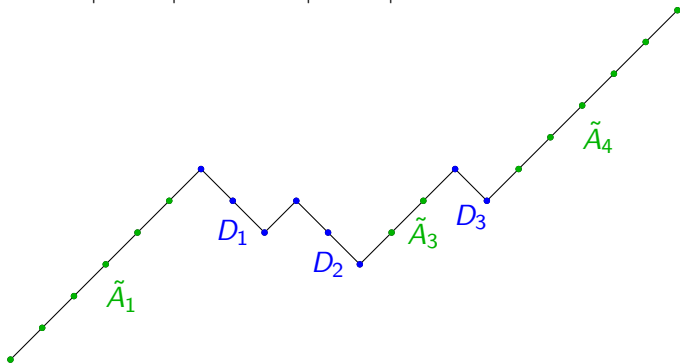


The general case: encoding ideals of fences

We encode ideals I of F as arrays of numbers

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} a_1 & & a_2 & & \cdots & & a_\ell & & a_{\ell+1} \\ & d_1 & & d_2 & & \cdots & & d_\ell & \end{array}$$

where $a_i = |I \cap \tilde{A}_i|$ and $d_i = |I \cap D_i|$ for all i .

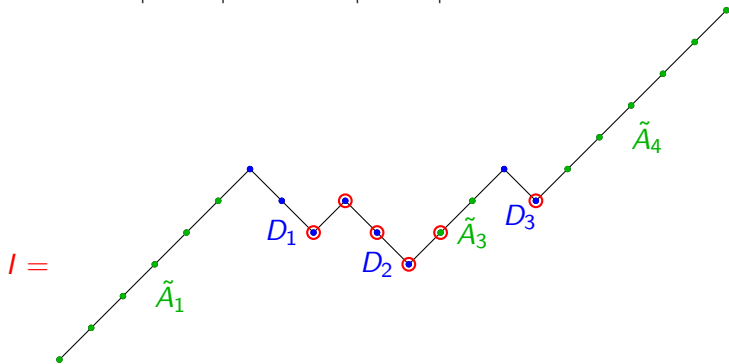


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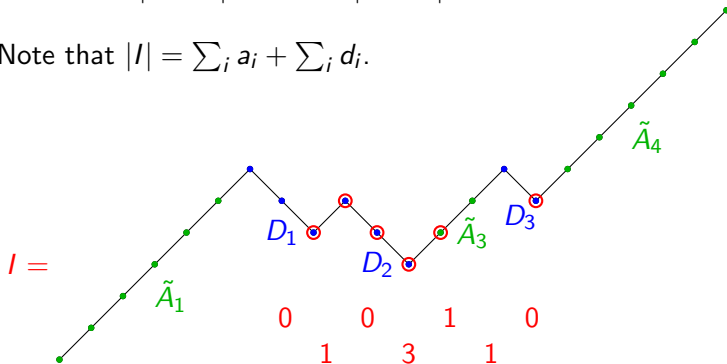
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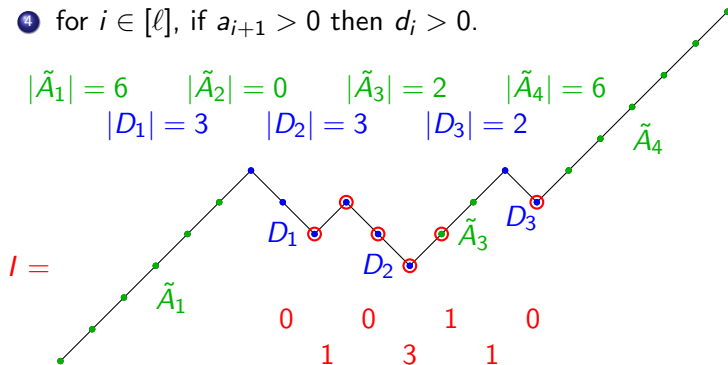
Note that $|I| = \sum_i a_i + \sum_i d_i$.



The general case: encoding ideals of fences

Such an array encodes an ideal of F if and only if:

- 1 for $i \in [\ell + 1]$ we have $0 \leq a_i \leq |\tilde{A}_i|$,
- 2 for $i \in [\ell]$ we have $0 \leq d_i \leq |D_i|$,
- 3 for $i \in [\ell]$, if $d_i = |D_i|$ then $a_i = |\tilde{A}_i|$, and if $i > 1$ then $d_{i-1} > 0$ as well,
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Similarly, we encode filters U of F as arrays of numbers

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} b_1 & & b_2 & & \cdots & & b_\ell & & b_{\ell+1} \\ & & e_1 & & e_2 & & \cdots & & e_\ell \end{array}$$

where $b_i = |U \cap \tilde{A}_i|$ and $e_i = |U \cap D_i|$ for all i .

Such arrays can be characterized by similar conditions.

The bijection Φ for ideals/filters of fences

Next we define $\Phi : \mathcal{I}_k(F) \rightarrow \mathcal{U}_k(F)$, where $k \leq \min\{\beta_1, \beta_{2\ell+1}\}$.

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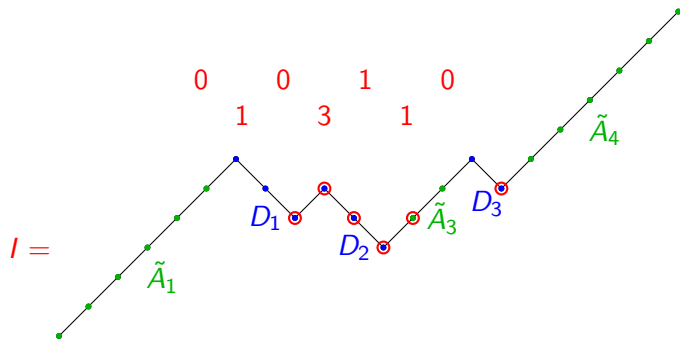
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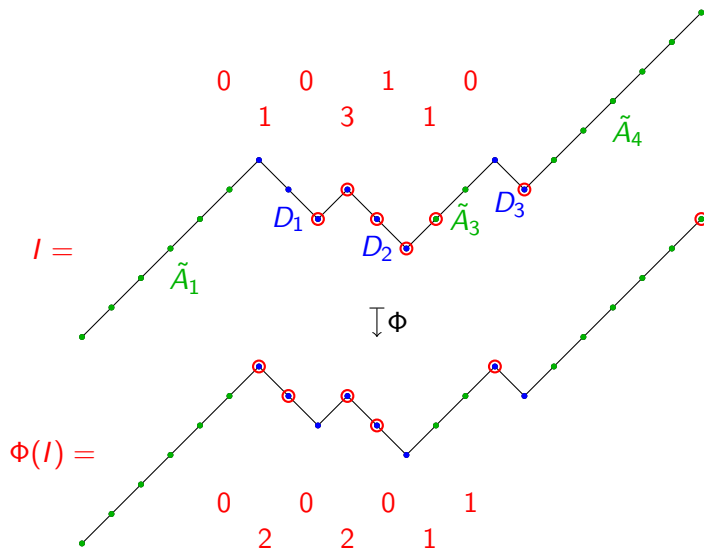
The resulting array encodes the filter $\Phi(I)$.

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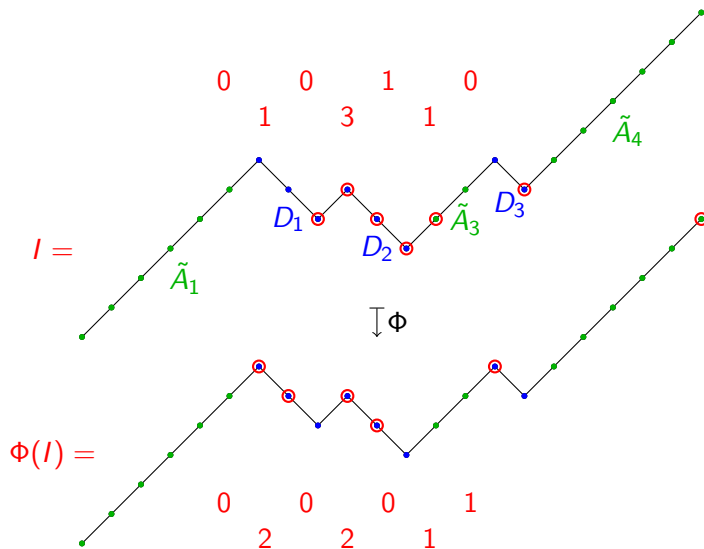
Example of Φ



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The inverse Φ^{-1} is essentially Φ conjugated with 180° rotation.

Oğuz and Ravichandran's proof of the (refined) unimodality of the sequences $r(\beta)$ relies on so-called **circular fences**.

Circular fences

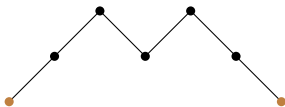
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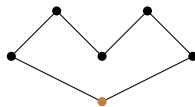
Definition

The **circular fence** $\bar{F}(\beta)$ is obtained by identifying the leftmost and the rightmost elements of $F(\beta)$.

$F(2, 1, 1, 2)$



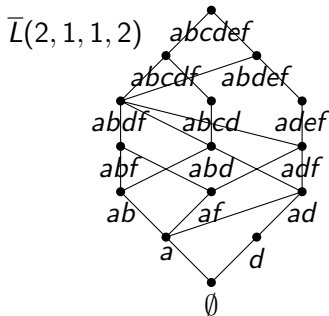
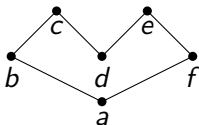
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Rank symmetry for circular fences

Let $\bar{L}(\beta)$ be the distributive lattice of lower order ideals of $\bar{F}(\beta)$, ordered by containment, and let $\bar{r}(\beta)$ be its rank sequence.

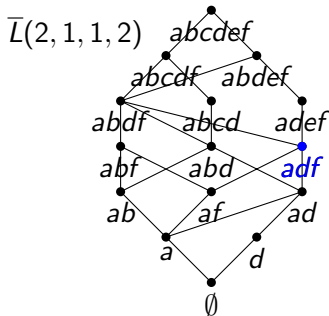
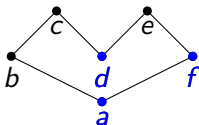
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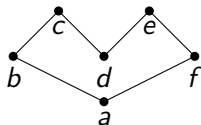
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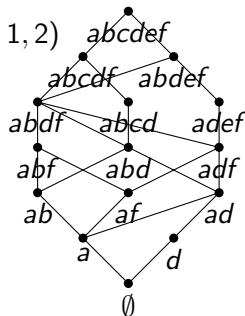
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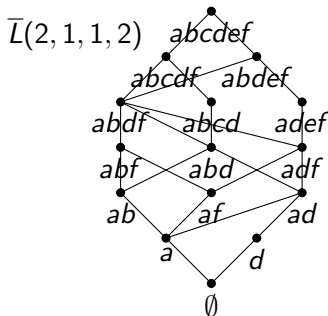
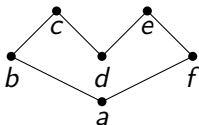


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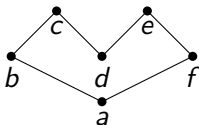
Theorem (Oğuz and Ravichandran '21)

For every circular fence, the sequence $\bar{r}(\beta)$ is symmetric.

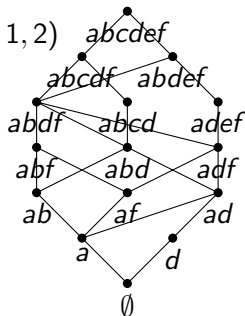
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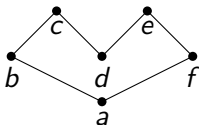
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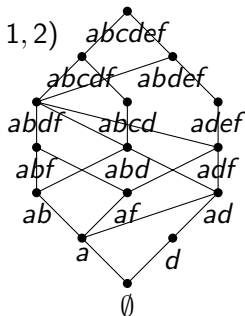
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We will give a bijective proof by modifying our bijection for fences.

Ideals and filters of circular fences: easier case

We want a cardinality-preserving bijection

$$\bar{\Phi} : \{\text{ideals of } \bar{F}(\beta)\} \rightarrow \{\text{filters of } \bar{F}(\beta)\}.$$

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Similarly, a filter U of $\overline{F}(\beta)$ can be encoded by a sequence e_1, e_2, \dots, e_ℓ , where $e_i = |U \cap D_i|$, satisfying analogous conditions.

The bijection $\bar{\phi}$ for $\bar{F}(1, \delta_1, 1, \delta_2, \dots, 1, \delta_\ell)$

If $d : d_1, d_2, \dots, d_\ell$ encodes an ideal I , denote by $\langle d \rangle$ the circular sequence with subscripts taken modulo ℓ , so that d_ℓ and d_1 are considered adjacent.

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- 1 For each maximal block B of positive integers in $\langle d \rangle$,

$\langle 7, 1, 1, 0, 5, 1, 0, 0, 3 \rangle$

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The bijection $\bar{\phi}$ for $\bar{F}(1, \delta_1, 1, \delta_2, \dots, 1, \delta_\ell)$

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If all the entries of $\langle d \rangle$ are positive, do nothing. Otherwise:

- 1 For each maximal block B of positive integers in $\langle d \rangle$, factor it as $B = B'T$, where T is the maximal suffix consisting of 1s.

$\langle 7, 1, 1, 0, 5, 1, 0, 0, 3 \rangle$

$\langle 7, 1, 1, 0, 5, 1, 0, 0, 3 \rangle$

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- 2 For each nonempty T , exchange T with the 0 to its right.

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$\langle 7, 1, 1, 0, 5, 1, 0, 0, 3 \rangle$

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- 3 For each B' with $|B'| \geq 2$, decrease its last entry by 1 and increase its first entry by 1.

$\langle 7, 1, 1, 0, 5, 1, 0, 0, 3 \rangle$

$\langle 7, 1, 1, 0, 5, 1, 0, 0, 3 \rangle$

$\langle 7, 1, 1, 0, 5, 1, 0, 0, 3 \rangle$

$\langle 7, 0, 1, 1, 5, 0, 1, 0, 3 \rangle$

$\langle 6, 0, 1, 1, 5, 0, 1, 0, 4 \rangle$

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The resulting sequence encodes the filter $\bar{\phi}(I)$.

$\langle 7, 1, 1, 0, 5, 1, 0, 0, 3 \rangle$

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$\langle 7, 1, 1, 0, 5, 1, 0, 0, 3 \rangle$

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Encoding ideals/filters of arbitrary circular fences $\overline{F}(\beta)$

Consider now the general case, where $\beta = (\beta_1, \beta_2, \dots, \beta_{2\ell})$.

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Ascending segments with shared elements removed: $\tilde{A}_1, \tilde{A}_2, \dots, \tilde{A}_\ell$.

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$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} a_1 & & a_2 & & \cdots & & a_\ell & & a_1 \\ & d_1 & & d_2 & & \cdots & & d_\ell & \end{array}$$

where $a_i = |I \cap \tilde{A}_i|$ and $d_i = |I \cap D_i|$,

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- 1 for $i \in [\ell]$ we have $0 \leq a_i \leq |\tilde{A}_i|$,
- 2 for $i \in [\ell]$ we have $0 \leq d_i \leq |D_i|$,
- 3 for $i \in [\ell]$, if $d_i = |D_i|$ then $a_i = |\tilde{A}_i|$ and $d_{i-1} > 0$,
- 4 for $i \in [\ell]$, if $a_i > 0$ then $d_{i-1} > 0$,

with subscripts modulo ℓ .

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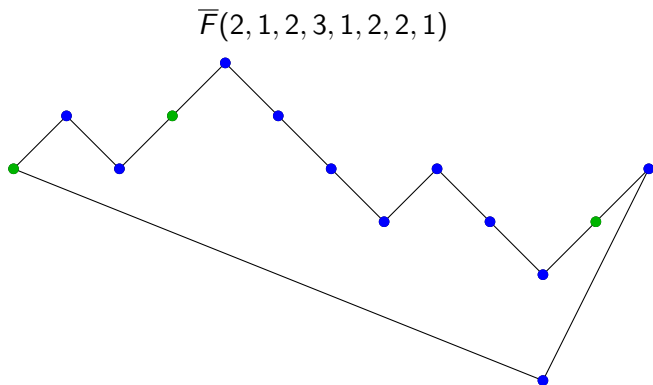
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- 4 for $i \in [\ell]$, if $a_i > 0$ then $d_{i-1} > 0$,

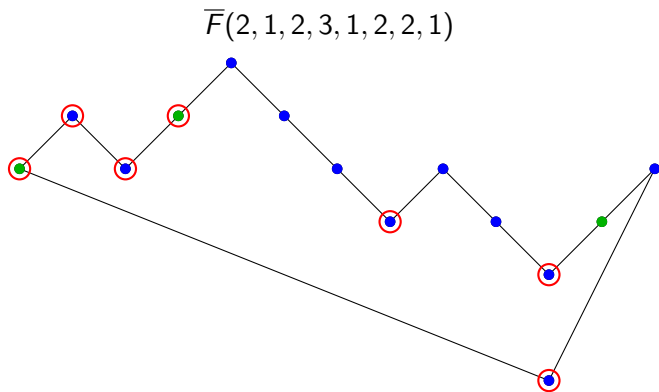
with subscripts modulo ℓ .

A filter of $\overline{F}(\beta)$ can be encoded similarly.

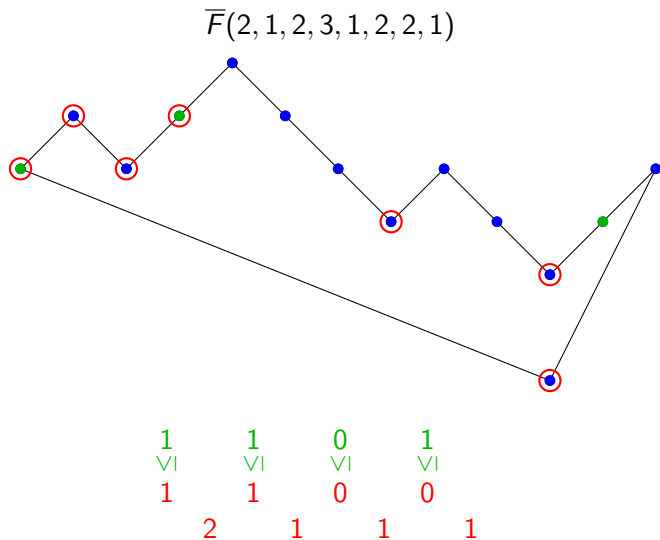
Encoding ideals/filters of arbitrary circular fences $\overline{F}(\beta)$



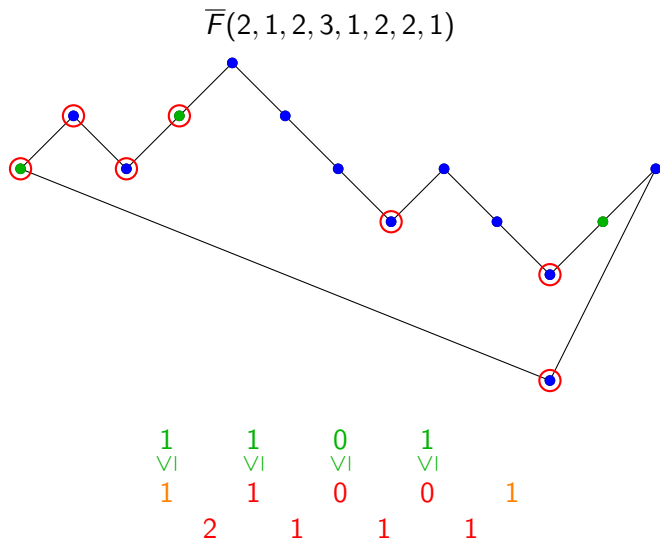
Encoding ideals/filters of arbitrary circular fences $\overline{F}(\beta)$



Encoding ideals/filters of arbitrary circular fences $\overline{F}(\beta)$



Encoding ideals/filters of arbitrary circular fences $\bar{F}(\beta)$



The bijection $\bar{\Phi}$ for arbitrary circular fences $\bar{F}(\beta)$

Suppose that an ideal I of $\bar{F}(\beta)$ is encoded by an array

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} a_1 & & a_2 & & \cdots & & a_\ell & & a_1 \\ & & d_1 & & & & d_2 & & \cdots & & & & & & d_\ell \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{cccccc} 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & & \\ \vee & \vee & \vee & \vee & & \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & \\ & 2 & 1 & 1 & 1 & \end{array}$$

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$$\begin{array}{cccccc} \color{green}1 & \color{green}1 & \color{green}0 & \color{green}1 & & \\ \color{green}\vee & \color{green}\vee & \color{green}\vee & \color{green}\vee & & \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & \color{red}0 & 1 & \\ & 2 & 1 & \color{red}1 & 1 & \end{array}$$

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- 3 For every $i \in [\ell]$ s.t. $b_i > 0$ & $e_i = 0$, let $b_i := b_i - 1$ & $e_i := 1$.

$$\begin{array}{cccccc} \begin{array}{c} 1 \\ \vee \\ 1 \end{array} & \begin{array}{c} 1 \\ \vee \\ 1 \end{array} & \begin{array}{c} 0 \\ \vee \\ 0 \end{array} & \begin{array}{c} 1 \\ \vee \\ 1 \end{array} & & 1 \\ & \color{red}{1} & 0 & 1 & & \\ & 1 & \color{red}{0} & 1 & 2 & \end{array}$$

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The bijection $\bar{\Phi}$ for arbitrary circular fences $\bar{F}(\beta)$

Suppose that an ideal I of $\bar{F}(\beta)$ is encoded by an array

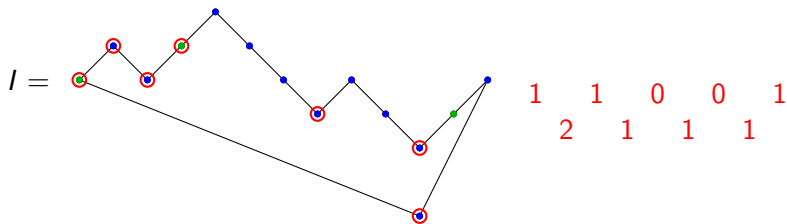
$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} a_1 & a_2 & \cdots & a_\ell & a_1 \\ & d_1 & & d_\ell & \end{array}$$

We perform the following operations, with subscripts modulo ℓ :

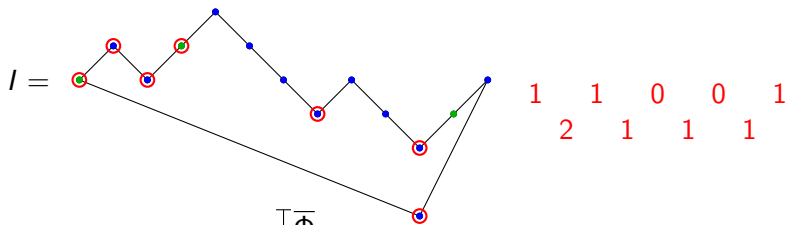
- ① For every $i \in [\ell]$ s.t. $d_i = 1$ and $a_{i+1} < |\tilde{A}_{i+1}|$, let $d_i := 0$ and $a_{i+1} := a_{i+1} + 1$.
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$$\begin{array}{cccccccc} \color{green}1 & \color{green}1 & \color{green}0 & \color{green}1 & & \color{green}1 & \color{green}1 & \color{green}0 & \color{green}1 \\ \color{green}\vee & \color{green}\vee & \color{green}\vee & \color{green}\vee & & \color{green}\vee & \color{green}\vee & \color{green}\vee & \color{green}\vee \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ & 1 & 1 & 1 & 2 & & 1 & 0 & 1 & 2 \end{array}$$

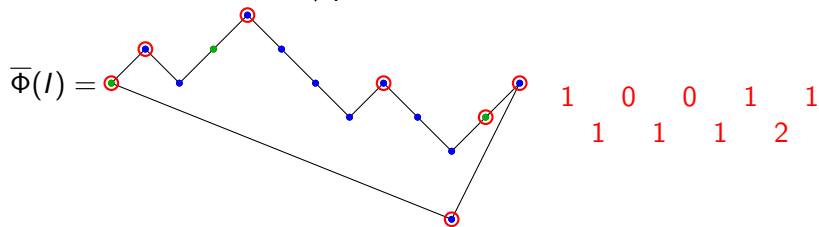
Example of $\overline{\Phi}$



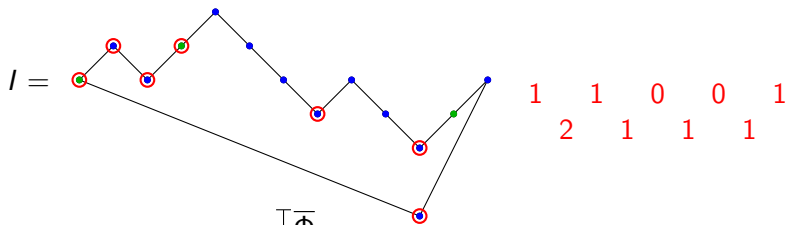
Example of $\bar{\Phi}$



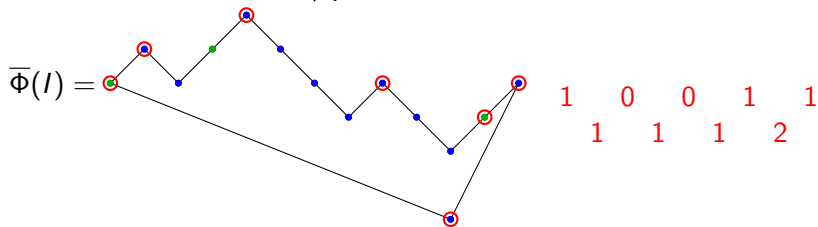
$\bar{\Phi}$



Example of $\bar{\Phi}$



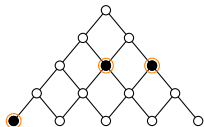
$\bar{\Phi}$



The inverse map $\bar{\Phi}^{-1}$ can be described by applying $\bar{\Phi}$ to the horizontal reflection of the arrays.

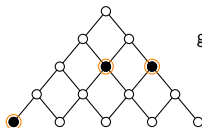
Rowmotion on antichains of a poset

antichains



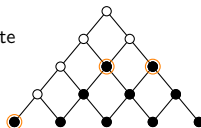
Rowmotion on antichains of a poset

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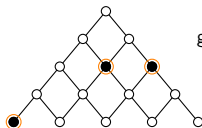
generate
ideal
→

order ideals



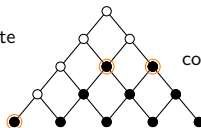
Rowmotion on antichains of a poset

antichains



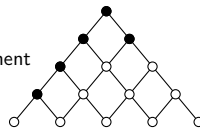
generate
ideal
→

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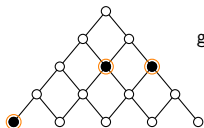
complement
→

order filters



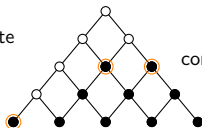
Rowmotion on antichains of a poset

antichains

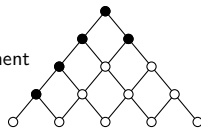


generate
ideal
→

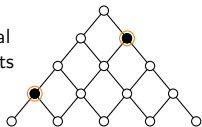
order ideals



complement
→

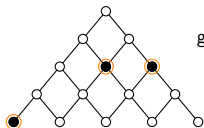


minimal
elements
→



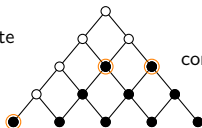
Rowmotion on antichains of a poset

antichains

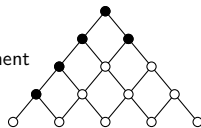


generate
ideal
→

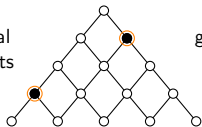
order ideals



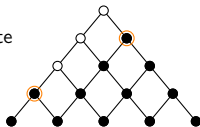
complement
→



minimal
elements
→

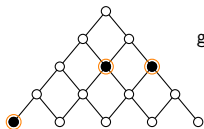


generate
ideal
→



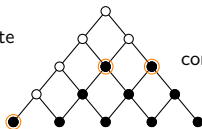
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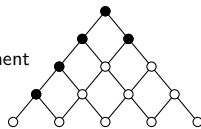
generate
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→

order ideals

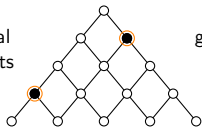


complement
→

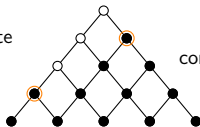
order filters



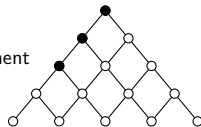
minimal
elements
→



generate
ideal
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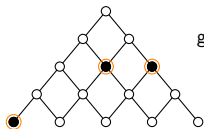


complement
→



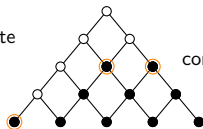
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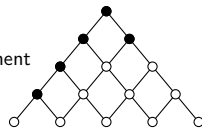
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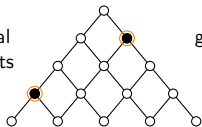


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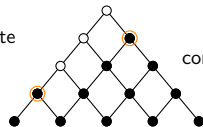
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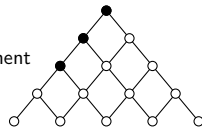
minimal
elements
→



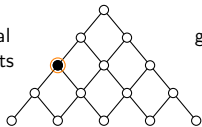
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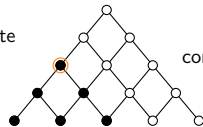
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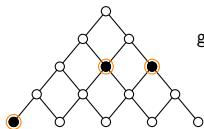


complement
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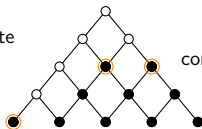
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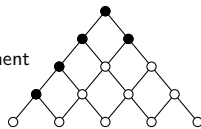
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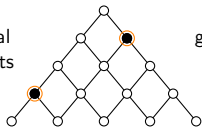
order filters



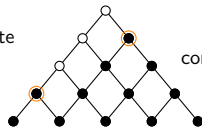
rowmotion

↓ $\rho_{\mathcal{A}}$

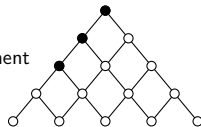
minimal
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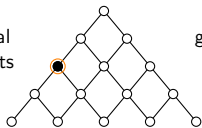
complement
→



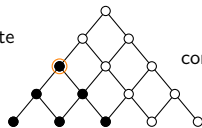
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Rowmotion, homomesy and homometry

Rowmotion was first studied by Duchet '73 in a special case, and independently by Brouwer and Schrijver '74.

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Given a set S and a bijection $\rho : S \rightarrow S$, a statistic on S is called **homomesic** under the action of ρ if its average over each orbit is the same.

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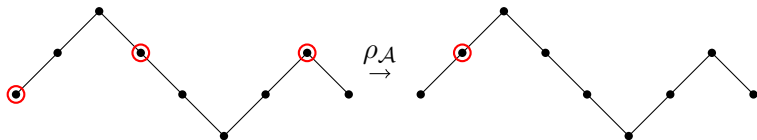
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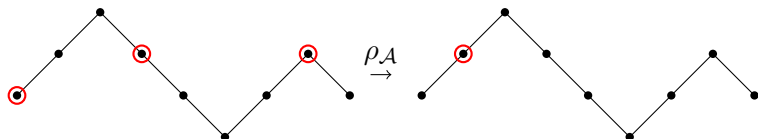
For an antichain A , define the statistic $\chi_{\mathcal{A}}(A) = |A|$.

For an ideal I , define the statistic $\chi_{\mathcal{I}}(I) = |I|$.

Rowmotion on fences



Rowmotion on fences

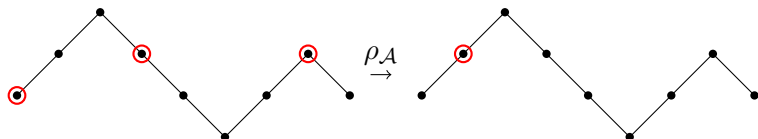


Theorem (E.–Plante–Roby–Sagan '21)

For fences with two segments $F(a-1, b-1)$:

- rowmotion has $\gcd(a, b)$ orbits, of which all have size $\text{lcm}(a, b)$ except for one that has size $\text{lcm}(a, b) + 1$.

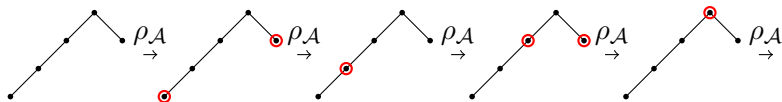
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- the statistic $\chi_{\mathcal{I}}$ is homometric under the action of $\rho_{\mathcal{I}}$.



Theorem (E.–Plante–Roby–Sagan '21)

For fences of the form $F(a, b, a)$:

- *the statistic $\chi_{\mathcal{A}}$ is homometric under the action of $\rho_{\mathcal{A}}$,*
- *the statistic $\chi_{\mathcal{I}}$ is homomesic under the action of $\rho_{\mathcal{I}}$.*

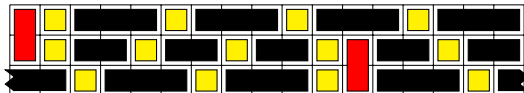
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The proof relies on a certain encoding of the orbits as tilings:



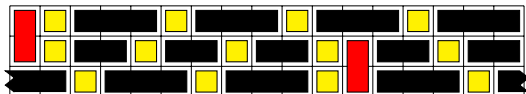
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Conjecture (E.–Plante–Roby–Sagan '21)

For fences of the form $F(a-1, a, a, \dots, a, a-1)$:

- the statistic χ_A is homometric under the action of ρ_A ,
- if the number of segments is odd, the statistic χ_I is homomesic under the action of ρ_I .

Open questions

For fences $F(\beta)$, Oğuz and Ravichandran proved recursively that the sequences $r(\beta)$ are unimodal and, more strongly, bottom or top interlacing depending on the case.

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In the case of circular fences $\bar{F}(\beta)$, unimodality of $\bar{r}(\beta)$ does not always hold, but it often does.

Conjecture (Oğuz–Ravichandran '21)

Assuming β has an even number of parts, $\bar{r}(\beta)$ is unimodal except when $\beta = (1, k, 1, k)$ or $\beta = (k, 1, k, 1)$ for some $k \geq 1$.

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Question 2

Can this be proved by modifying the bijection $\bar{\Phi}$?

Open problems

Recall that a_0, a_1, \dots, a_n is **log-concave** if

$$a_i^2 \geq a_{i-1}a_{i+1}$$

for all $0 < i < n$. For positive sequences, this condition implies unimodality.

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Question 3

For which β are $r(\beta)$ or $\bar{r}(\beta)$ log-concave?

The sequences $r(\beta)$ are not always log-concave, e.g.

$r(1, 1) : 1, 2, 1, 1$.

The sequences $\bar{r}(\beta)$ can be unimodal but not log-concave, e.g.

$\bar{r}(1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1) : 1, 3, 3, 4, 3, 1$.

Open problems

For any poset P , denote by $L(P)$ its lattice of order ideals.

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What conditions on P imply that the rank sequence of $L(P)$ satisfies conditions such as symmetry, unimodality, etc.?

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THE END

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- Elizalde and Sagan, Partial rank symmetry of distributive lattices for fences, arXiv:2201.03044.
 - Elizalde, Plante, Roby and Sagan, Rowmotion on fences, arXiv:2108.12443.