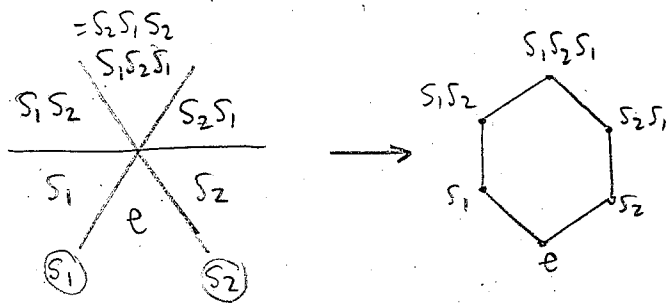
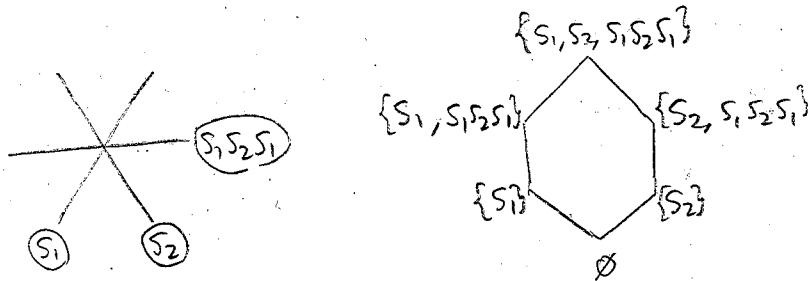


The weak order for  $S_3$ :

$S_3$  as group of reflections:



Recall  $u < v \Leftrightarrow T_L(u) \subset T_L(v)$



DICTIONARY

geometry  $\leftrightarrow$  alg./Comb.

regions  $\leftrightarrow$  group elements  $W$

walls of "home" region  $\leftrightarrow$  generators  $S$

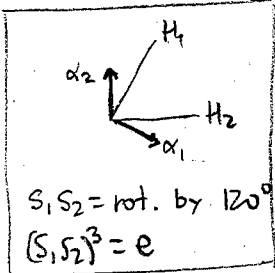
hyperplanes  $\leftrightarrow$  reflections  $T$

hyps separating a region from "home"  $\leftrightarrow$  reflections that shorten an element  $T_L(w)$

part of regions by separation from "home"  $\leftrightarrow$  weak order

4. Geometric Representation of Coxeter Grp

Idea: I can represent  $S_3$  as generated by two reflections at  $60^\circ$  angle.



Can I do this in general for any  $W$ ?

I can't always get the correct angle in Euclidean space, but I can change the way I measure angles!

$(W, S)$  Coxeter system, matrix  $m$

$S = \{s_1, \dots, s_n\}$

- $V = \mathbb{R}$ -vector space with basis  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n$
- Bilinear form  $\langle, \rangle : V \times V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

$\langle \alpha_i, \alpha_j \rangle = -\cos\left(\frac{\pi}{m_{ij}}\right)$

Geom. Repr.

$W \rightarrow GL(V)$

$s_i \mapsto \sigma_i$

$\sigma_i(v) = v - 2\langle v, \alpha_i \rangle \alpha_i$

"Reflection" by "hyperplane" "orthogonal" to  $\alpha_i$

Think: "angle" between hyperplane  $i$  and  $j$  is  $\pi/m_{ij}$ , so

$s_i s_j = \text{rot. by } 2\pi/m_{ij}$

$(s_i s_j)^{m_{ij}} = e$

$(m_{ij} = \infty \rightarrow \langle \alpha_i, \alpha_j \rangle = -1)$   
 $(m_{ii} = 1 \rightarrow \langle \alpha_i, \alpha_i \rangle = 1)$

Prop The map  $s_i \mapsto \sigma_i$  extends uniquely to a homomorphism  $W \rightarrow GL(V)$ .

Note I "proved" this incorrectly in lecture 8.

Uniqueness is clear, existence needs  $(\sigma_i \sigma_j)^{m_{ij}} = e$ .

Lemma. For  $1 \leq i < j \leq n$  let

$$V_{ij} = \text{span}(\alpha_i, \alpha_j)$$

$$V_{ij}^\perp = \{v \in V \mid \langle v, w \rangle = 0 \text{ for } w \in V_{ij}\}$$

Then  $V = V_{ij} \oplus V_{ij}^\perp$ . (For  $m_{ij} \neq \infty$ )

Pf. Say  $i, j = 1, 2$

Existence: Given  $v \in V$  we need

$$v = \lambda_i \alpha_i + \lambda_j \alpha_j + v^\perp$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} \langle \alpha_i, v \rangle = \lambda_i + \lambda_j c \\ \langle \alpha_j, v \rangle = \lambda_i c + \lambda_j \end{cases} \quad c = -\cos\left(\frac{\pi}{m_{ij}}\right)$$

→ solve for  $\lambda_i, \lambda_j$ . ( $c \neq 1$ )  
→ for  $v^\perp$

Uniqueness:  $\lambda_i, \lambda_j$  are determined as above.  $\square$

By lemma,  $\sigma_i \sigma_j$  acts "independently" on  $V_{ij}$  and  $V_{ij}^\perp$ .

On  $V_{ij}^\perp$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma_i(v) &= v - 2\langle v, \alpha_i \rangle \alpha_i = v \\ \sigma_j(v) &= v \\ (\sigma_i \sigma_j)^{m_{ij}} v &= v \end{aligned}$$

On  $V_{ij}$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma_i(\lambda_i \alpha_i + \lambda_j \alpha_j) &= \lambda_i \alpha_i + \lambda_j \alpha_j - 2\langle \lambda_i \alpha_i + \lambda_j \alpha_j, \alpha_i \rangle \alpha_i \\ &= (-\lambda_i - 2c\lambda_j) \alpha_i + \lambda_j \alpha_j \end{aligned}$$

$$\sigma_i \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_i \\ \lambda_j \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & -2c \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_i \\ \lambda_j \end{bmatrix} \quad \sigma_j \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_i \\ \lambda_j \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -2c & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_i \\ \lambda_j \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\sigma_i \sigma_j \text{ acts as } \begin{bmatrix} -1 & -2c \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -2c & -1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -1+4c^2 & 2c \\ -2c & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

eigenvalues  $\uparrow e^{\frac{2\pi i c}{m_{ij}}}$

so  $(\sigma_i \sigma_j)^{m_{ij}} = e$   $\square$

Note: This shows  $\sigma_i \sigma_j$  has order  $m_{ij}$ .

(Similar argument when  $m_{ij} = \infty$ )

Theorem The order of  $s_i s_j$  in  $W$  is  $m_{ij}$ .

Pf If  $s_i s_j$  had smaller order in  $W$ , it would also in the geom repr.  $\square$

Later:

Will show  $W \xrightarrow{\cong} GL(V)$  is faithful (fidel) (injective)