

Difficulty: It is very hard to obtain info about a group from a presentation in terms of generators + relations.

"Word problem" (to tell whether a word is the identity) is undecidable - no algorithm can tell in general!

(Decidable for  $(W, S)$ , but that takes work!)

We want a more concrete way of realizing the group.

Recall:

Cayley: Every  $G$  lies inside a symmetric group.

•  $G \cong G'$  for  $G'$  a subgroup of  $S_G$

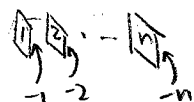
•  $G$  "is" a group of perms.

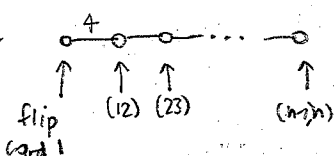
We want  $W$  as a group of signed perms.

Hyperoctahedral group  $S_n^B$

Signed permutations:

→ permuts of  $\{1, 2, \dots, n, -1, -2, \dots, -n\}$   
s.t. that  $\pi(-i) = -\pi(i)$

→ shuffles of 

$S_n^B =$  Coxeter group for 

The "signed permutation rep'n" of  $(W, S)$

Given: A Coxeter system  $(W, S)$

Goal: Find a copy of it inside some  $S_T^B$ .

① Which  $T$ ?

$T = \{wsw^{-1} \mid w \in W, s \in S\}$  "reflections"

② Where is  $(W, S)$  inside  $S_T^B$ ?

Given  $s \in S$ , need  $\pi_s \in S_T^B$ .

"  $w \in W$  "  $\pi_w$  "

$$\pi_s(t) = \begin{cases} sts & \text{if } s \neq t \\ -s & \text{if } s = t \end{cases}$$

(Why a permutation?)

$$\pi_w(t) = \pi_{s_1} \pi_{s_2} \dots \pi_{s_k}(t) \text{ for } w = s_1 \dots s_k$$

(Why doesn't it depend on  $s_1, \dots, s_k$ ?)

③ Is this really a copy of  $(W, S)$ ?

$\pi: W \rightarrow S_T^B$  is an injective group homom.

So  $W \cong \pi(W)$  ( $\pi(W)$  subgroup of  $S_T^B$ )

**Ex**  $(S_3, \{a, b\})$   $a = (12)$   
 $b = (23)$

$T = \{a, b, c\}$  ( $c = aba = bab$ )

$\pi_a \rightarrow \pi_a(a) = -a$   $\pi_a(b) = aba = c$   $\pi_a(c) = aca = b$

gens  $\begin{cases} \pi_a = [-a, c, b] = \times \\ \pi_b = [c, -b, a] = \times \end{cases}$

others  $\pi_c = ?$   $\pi_a \pi_b \pi_a = \times = (-b, -a, -c)$   $\pi_b \pi_a \pi_b = \times = (-b, -a, -c)$

They agree!  
Not obvious!

$\pi_e = [a, b, c]$   
 $\pi_a = [-a, c, b]$   
 $\pi_b = [c, -b, a]$   
 $\pi_{ab} = [b, -a, -c]$   
 $\pi_{ba} = [-c, a, -b]$   
 $\pi_c = [-b, -a, -c]$

$\left. \begin{matrix} \pi_a \\ \pi_b \\ \pi_{ab} \\ \pi_{ba} \\ \pi_c \end{matrix} \right\} S'$

$(W, S) \cong (W', S')$

Prop  $(W, S) = \text{Coxeter system}$

$T = \text{reflections in } W$

The map  $s \mapsto \pi_s$  extends uniquely to

$\pi: W \rightarrow S_T^B$

which is an injective group homom.

Pf By HW 1, it suffices to show

(a)  $\pi_s \in S_T^B$

(b)  $(\pi_s \pi_{s'})^{m(s, s')} = e$

(c)  $\pi$  injective

Recall:

$\pi_s(t) = \pm sts$

(- iff  $t = s$ )

(a)  $\pm sts = \pm sus \Rightarrow t = u$   $\square$

(b) Note

$\pi_{s_1} \pi_{s_2} \dots \pi_{s_k} t = \pm s_1 s_2 \dots s_k t s_k \dots s_1$

$\uparrow$   
 $(-1)^{n(s_1 s_2 \dots s_k, t)} = \# \text{ of times that } t = s_1 s_2 \dots s_i \dots s_2 s_1$   
 $(1 \leq i \leq k)$

So

$(\pi_{s_1} \pi_{s_2})^m t = \pm (s_1 s_2)^m t (s_1 s_2)^m = \pm t$

Check:  $+ t$   $\checkmark$

(c) Sup  $\pi_u = \pi_v \Rightarrow \pi_w = e$  for  $w = uv^{-1}$ .

But let  $w = s_1 \dots s_k$  with  $k$  min.

Then  $n(s_1 \dots s_k, s_1) = 1$  (or  $s_1 \dots s_i = s_2 \dots s_{i-1}$ )

So  $\pi_w(s_1) = -w s_1 w^{-1} \Rightarrow \pi_w \neq e$   $\square$  10