

# Symmetry of Narayana Numbers and Rowvacuation of Root Posets

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Wednesday, October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020

BIRS 2020 Online Workshop  
on Dynamical Algebraic Combinatorics

see slides + write-up on my webpage

(this talk is being recorded)

ALTERNATE TALK:

"Order polynomial product  
formulas + poset dynamics"

$W$  Weyl group,  $\phi$  root system.

The  $W$ -Catalan number

$$\text{Cat}(W) = \prod_{i=1}^r \frac{h + di}{di} \quad \text{is ...}$$

Reading

1) # vertices of  $W$ -associahedron  
= # facets of cluster complex  
Simion, Fomin, Zelevinsky, Reading, ...

2) # "noncrossing partitions"  
 $\leq \# [e, c]_{\text{abs}}$  Reiner, Athanasiadis,  
Brady-Watt, Bessis, ...

3) # "nonnesting partitions"  
= # antichains of  $\phi^+$  Postnikov

Cellini-Pappi

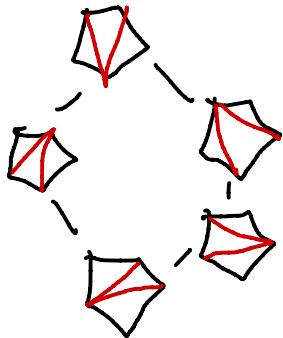
4) #  $W$ -orbits of  $\mathbb{Q}/(h+1)\mathbb{Q}$  Haiman

5) # dominant regions of Shi arrangement Shi

Shi

In Type A, we get familiar objects...

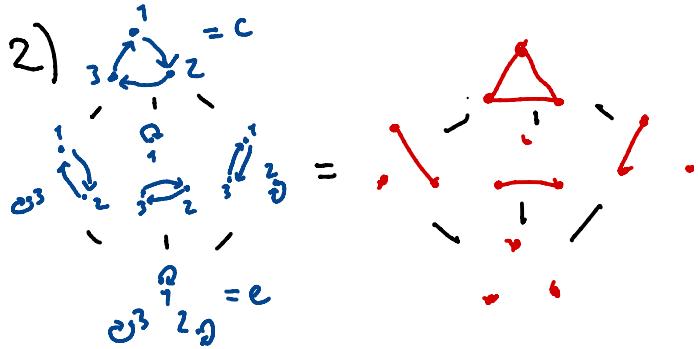
1)



vertices of  
associahedron

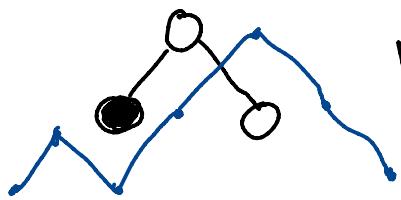
= triangulations of  
 $n$ -gons

2)



lattice of  
noncrossing partitions

3)



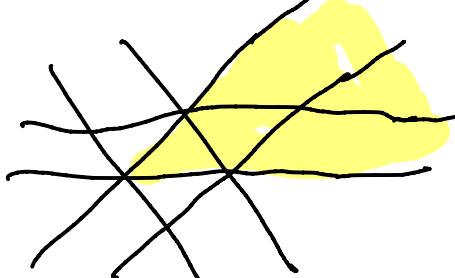
root poset antichains  
= Dyck paths

4)  $\mathbb{Q}/(n+1)\mathbb{Q} = \text{parking fn's} =$

$W$ -orbits = **decreasing**  
parking fn's

210	201	120
102	021	012
200	020	002
110	101	011
101	010	001
000		

5)



← Shi curr.



= dominant  
cone

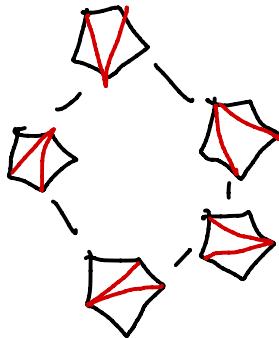
# The W-Narayana number

$\text{Nar}(W, k)$  for  $k = 0, 1, \dots, r$  is...

- 1)  $h_k$  ( $W$ -associahedron)
- 2) # noncrossing partitions  
of rank  $k$
- 3) # antichains  $A \in A(\phi^+)$   
of cardinality  $k$
- 4) #  $W$ -orbits of  $Q/(h+1) Q$   
w/ Stabilizer of rank  $k$
- 5)  $h_k$  (complex dual to dominant  
regions of Shi arrangement)

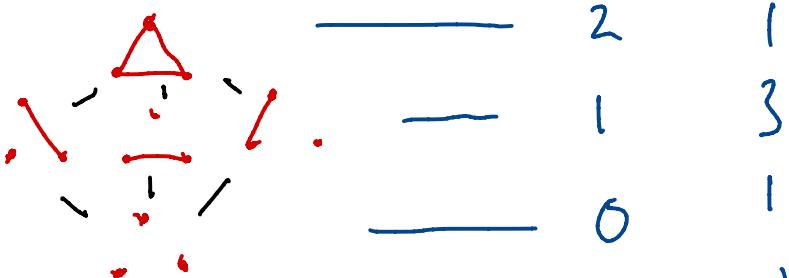
In Type A, ...

1)



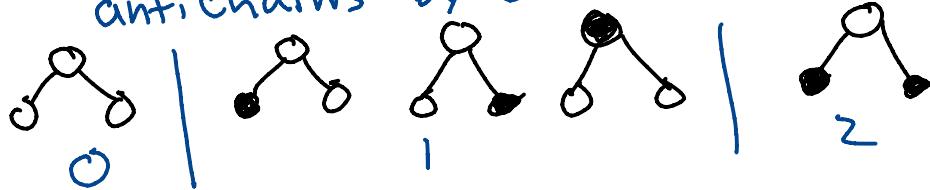
$$f = (1, 5, 5, 1)$$
$$h = (1, 3, 1)$$

2)



3)

antichains by cardinality:



4)

decreasing Pf's by stabilizer rank:

210

200

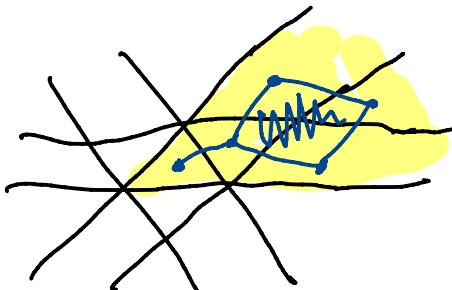
110

100

000

2

5)



$$f = (1, 5, 5, 1)$$

$$h = (1, 3, 1)$$

# Curious symmetry of Narayana t's :

$$\text{Nar}(W, k) = \text{Nar}(W, r-k)$$

- 1) For W-associahedron, follows from  
Dehn-Sommerville relations
- 2) For noncrossing partitions, follows  
from self-duality of the lattice
- 3) For nonnesting partitions, ...  
???

Panyushev's Problem:

Explain ??? bijectively!

Conjecture<sup>#1</sup> (Panyushev, "ad-nilpotent ideals...")

There's a "natural" involution

$\phi: A(\phi^+) \rightarrow A(\phi^+)$  for which

$$\#A + \#\phi(A) = r \quad \forall A \in A(\phi^+).$$

---

Panyushev could not define  $\phi$  in general, but did give a definition for Type A, which turns out to be equivalent to the Lalanne-Kreweras involution on Dyck paths (subject of Mike's talk).

Types B/C follow easily from A via "folding" (a.k.a. symmetry).

But in a follow-up paper ...

Conjecture<sup>#2</sup> (Panyushev, "Orbits of antichains...")

Rowmotion Row:  $A(\phi^+) \rightarrow A(\phi^+)$  satisfies:

- $\text{Row}^{2h}(A) = A$ , and
  - $\sum_{i=0}^{2h-1} \# \text{Row}^i(A) = hr \quad \forall A \in A(\phi^+).$
- 

Conj. #1

Can partition  $A(\phi^+)$   
into subsets of  
size dividing 2  
s.t. avg. of #  
in any part =  $\frac{r}{2}$

Conj. #2

Can partition  $A(\phi^+)$   
into subsets of  
size dividing  $2h$   
s.t. avg. of #  
in any part =  $\frac{r}{2}$

---

Conj. #2 was proved by Armstrong-Stump-Thomas.  
It initiated a lot of recent PAC (homomesy, etc.).

## Rowmotion + Rowvacuation:

Recall (Cameron-Fon-der-Flaass, Striker-Williams)

Row:  $\underline{J}(P) \rightarrow \underline{J}(P) = t_0 t_1 t_2 \cdots t_{r(P)}$ ,

where  $P$  is a graded poset of rank  $r(P)$

and  $t_i :=$  order ideal toggle at  
all elem.'s of rank  $= i$

Rowvacuation Rvac:  $\underline{J}(P) \rightarrow \underline{J}(P)$  is

Rvac :=  $t_{r(P)}(t_{r(P)}, t_{r(P)}) \cdots (t_i, \dots t_{r(P)}) (t_0 \cdots t_{r(P)})$

Note: Just like promotion + evacuation,

$t_i^2 = \text{identity}$       •  $Rvac^2 = \text{identity}$

+  $t_i t_j = t_j t_i \Rightarrow$

if  $|i-j| > 1$

•  $Rvac \cdot \text{Row} =$   
 $\text{Row}^{-1} \cdot Rvac$

## Antichain Versions of $\underline{\text{Row}}$ , $\underline{\text{Rvac}}$ :

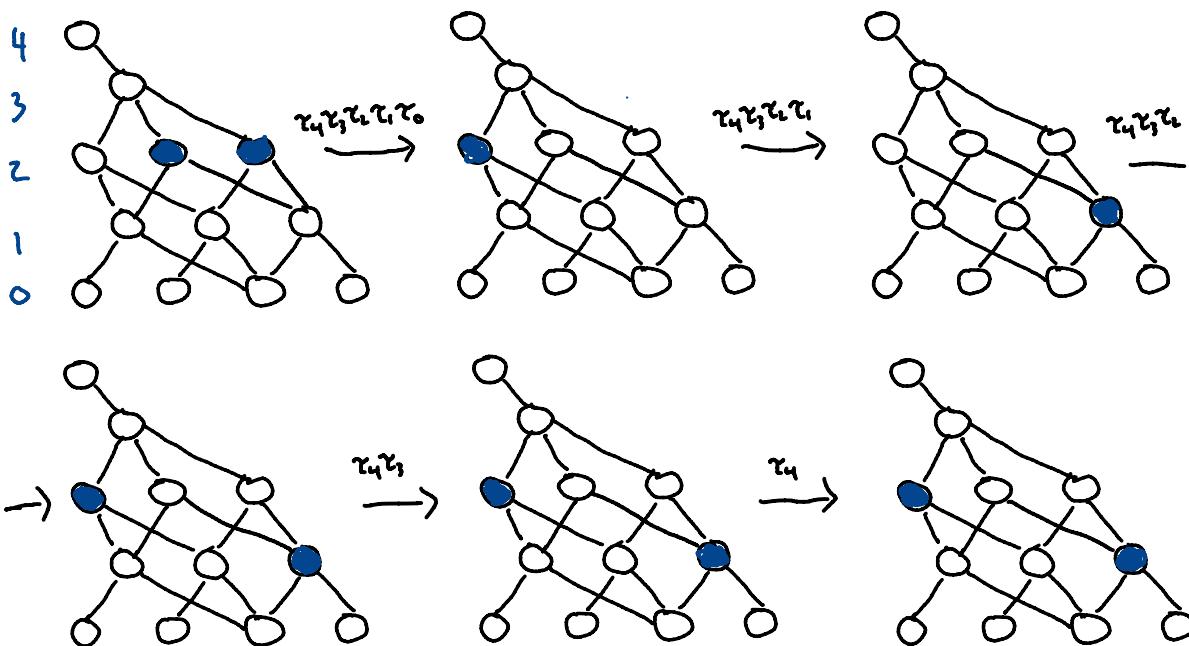
Prop. (Joseph)  $\underline{\text{Row}}, \underline{\text{Rvac}} : A_{\underline{\text{P}}} \rightarrow A_{\underline{\text{P}}}$

satisfy  $\underline{\text{Row}} = \gamma_{r(P)} \dots \gamma_1 \gamma_0$

$$\underline{\text{Rvac}} = \gamma_{r(P)} (\gamma_{r(P)} \gamma_{r(P)-1}) \dots (\gamma_{r(P)} \dots \gamma_1) (\gamma_{r(P)} \dots \gamma_0)$$

where  $\gamma_i :=$  antichain toggle at all elem's of rank = i

E.g.  $P = \Phi^+(D_4)$



Conjecture For  $\phi$  of classical type A, B, C or D,

$$\#A + \#Rvac(A) = r \quad \forall A \in A(\phi^+), \text{ so}$$

Rowvacuation is Panyushev's involution  $\Phi$ .

For Types A, B/C definitely true b/c ...

Theorem (H.-Joseph)  $Rvac: A(\phi^+(A_n)) \rightarrow A(\phi^+(A_n))$

is the Lalanne-Kreweras involution.

For  $D_n$ , verified for  $n \leq 8$ . ✓

Unfortunately fails for exceptional types  $F_4, E_8 \dots$  but even then works for 90% + of antichains ...

↑ What's going on here?!

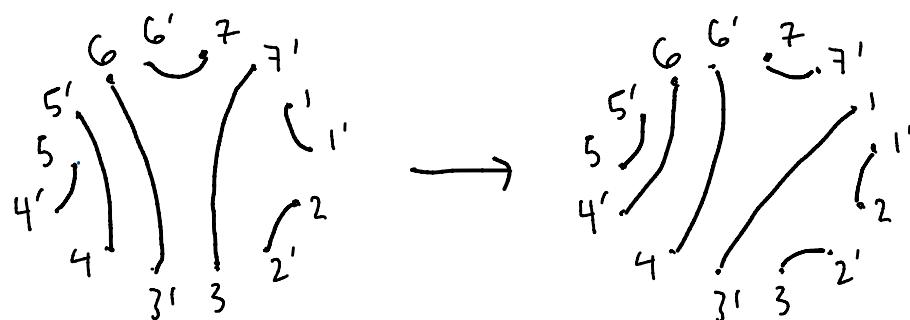
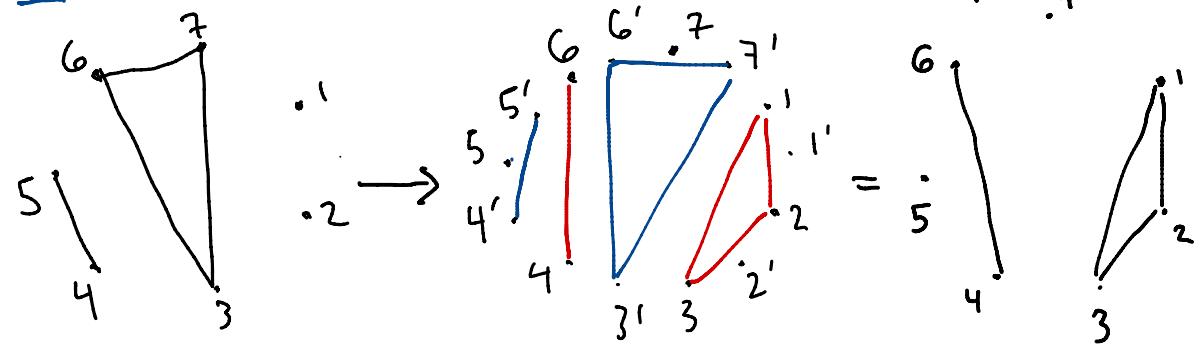
Can it be fixed?!

To resolve conjecture, helpful to review Armstrong-Stump-Thomas (AST) results...

Let  $NC(W) = NC(W, c) := [e, c]_{abs}$ , and recall Kreweras complement  $K_{\text{rew}}: NC(W) \rightarrow NC(W)$  is  $K_{\text{rew}}(w) := cw^{-1}$ .

It's a self-duality of lattice  $NC(W)$ .

E.g., Type A: Kreweras comp. of noncrossing partitions



= rotation of noncrossing matchings

Answering a conjecture of Bessis-Reiner ...

Theorem (AST) There's a **unique** bijection

$$\Theta: A(\phi^+) \rightarrow NC(w) \text{ s.t.}$$

- (base case)  $\dots$  Key Property  
↓
  - (equivariance)  $\Theta \cdot R \circ w = k_{rw} \cdot \Theta$
  - (parabolic induction)  $\dots$
- 

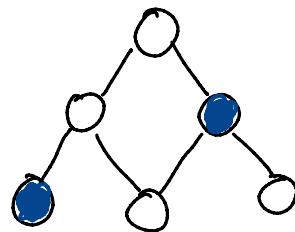
Good

- Uniformly stated
- Computationally efficient
- involves interesting dynamics

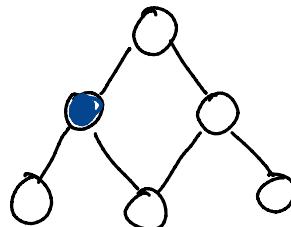
Bad

- not uniformly proved
- parabolic induction is hiding a lot ...
- classical type proofs are via special models and are complicated!

Eg. Type A:

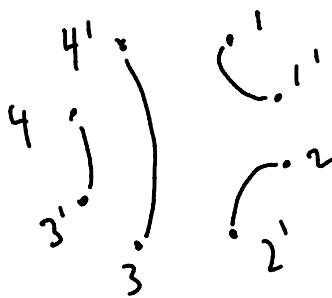


Row

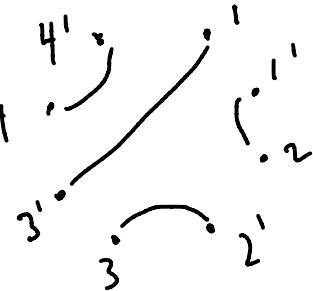


$\Theta \downarrow$

$\Theta \downarrow$



Rot.



How to work rowvacuation into this?

Define **Flip**:  $NC(W) \rightarrow NC(W)$  by

$$\text{Flip}(w) := gw^{-1}g^{-1}$$

where  $g \in W$  is correct **involution** for  $c$ :

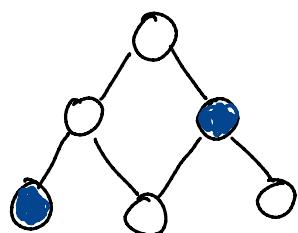
- $c = \text{Standard Cox. elem. in Type A} \Rightarrow g = w_0$
- (N. Williams)  $c = c_L c_R$  bipartite  $\Rightarrow g = c_L$

Theorem For AST bijection  $\Theta: A(\phi^+) \rightarrow NC(W)$ ,

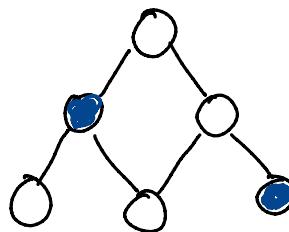
$$\Theta \cdot \text{Row}^{-1} \cdot \text{Rvac} = \text{Flip} \cdot \Theta.$$

Follows just from general properties of  $\Theta$ !

E.g. Type A:  $\text{Flip} = \text{flip accross diameter}$

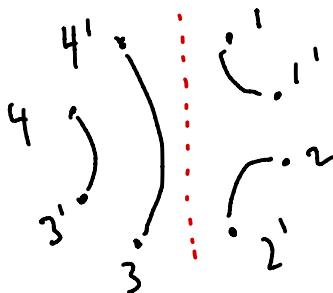


$\text{Row}^{-1} \cdot \text{Rvac} \rightarrow$

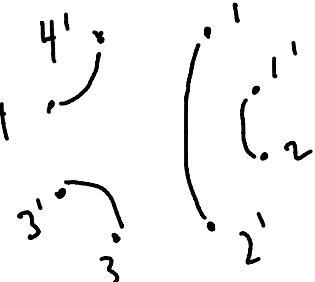


$\Theta \downarrow$

$\downarrow \Theta$



$\text{Flip} \rightarrow$



Idea: with a precise understanding of AST bij.  $\Theta$  in Type D, could use this to resolve rowvacuation conjecture.

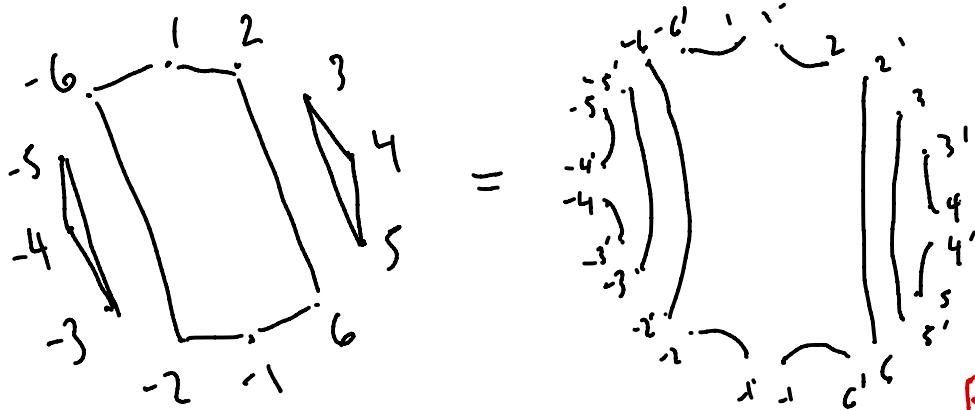
Thank you!

and

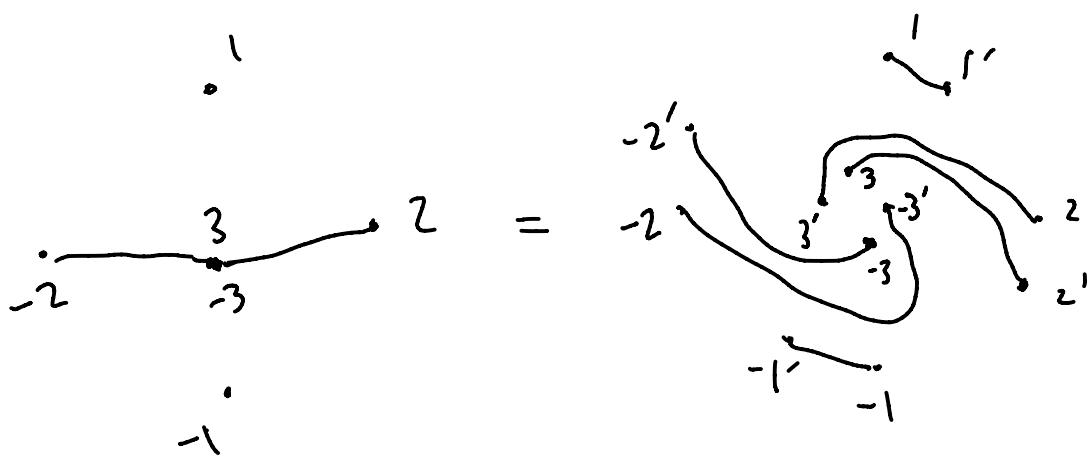
a Special Thanks  
to the Organizers!

Secret bonus slide: NC(W) for W=B/D

Type B =  $180^\circ$  sym. Type A ✓



Type D = complicated!



Athanasiadis-Reiner '04