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Parabolic Subgroups and the Tableau Criterion

Ex. 1. $n=3$ Is $213 \prec 312$ in Bruhat order? $x = 213$, $y = 312$

Note: For S_n $\pi = abc\dots$, $D_R(\pi) = \{i \mid \pi(i) > \pi(i+1)\}$

1. Find $D_R(x) = \{1\}$ (index where x decreases)

2. Take the first i digits of x and y , in this case 1, and order/sort them in increasing order. $(2 \ 3) \quad 2 = x_{i,1}, 3 = y_{i,1}$

3. Check if $2 \leq 3$. If yes, then $213 \prec 312$ in Bruhat \checkmark

Ex. 2 $n=9$ Is $x = 3684759312 \prec y = 694287531$?

1. Find $D_R(x) = \{3, 5, 7\}$

2. Take the first i digits of x and y , in this case 7, and order sort them in increasing order:

$3456789 \prec 2456789$ (fails here, but keep going for example)

order first 5: $34678 \prec 24689$

order first 3: ~~3456789~~ $368 \prec 469$

3. Check it ~~fails~~, no since 372 , so 345
 $368 \prec 469$

Ex. 3 $n=7$ $\pi_1 = 4217653$ $\pi_2 = 5374612$

1. ~~D_R~~ $D_R(\pi_2) = \{1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 3\}$

2. take the first i digits of π_1 and π_2 , 6, and order them in increasing order.

6: $124567 \prec 134567$

5: $12467 \prec 34567$

4: $1247 \prec 3457$ fails here!

so ~~4~~ $4217653 \prec 5374612$

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Ex 4. Is $\pi_1 = 21435 < \pi_2 = 54312$?

$$1. DR(\pi_2) = \{1, 3\}$$

2. Sort the first 3 and then 2 largest 1 digits of π_1 and π_2 .

$$124 < 345$$

$$245$$

3. compare each value, it is less than for every number, so we can say $\pi_1 < \pi_2$ in Bruhat.

At the extremes, for $n=5$, we can see that:

$w = 12345$ has no descents

$w_0 = 54321$ has $DR(w_0) = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ and maximal descents

Big Picture/Intuitively $\ell(w) = \# \text{ inversions in } (w) = \{(i, j) \mid \pi(i) > \pi(j)\}$
by definition of Bruhat $v \leq w \Rightarrow \ell(v) \leq \ell(w)$

Parabolic subgroups and Quotients

For $J \subseteq S$, let W_J be the subgroup of W generated by the set J . Subgroups of (W, S) of this form are called parabolic.

- Prop 2.4.) (i) (W_J, J) is a Coxeter group.
- (ii) $\ell_J(w) = \ell(w)$, for all $w \in W_J$.
- (iii) $W_I \cap W_J = W_{I \cap J}$.
- (iv) $\langle W_I \cup W_J \rangle = W_{I \cup J}$.
- (v) $W_I = W_J \Rightarrow I = J$.

Consequently, parabolic subgroups form a sublattice of W 's subgroup lattice that is isomorphic to the boolean lattice 2^S . The Coxeter diagram for (W_J, J) is obtained by removing all nodes in $S \setminus J$ and their incident edges from the diagram for (W, S) .

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Since W_J is finite, it has top element. $w_0(J) = \text{top element of } W_J$.

Thus $w_0(\emptyset) = e$ and $w_0(S) = w_0$ (It W is finite). ~~Clearly~~ Clearly $w_0(I) \neq w_0(J)$ if $I \neq J$.

Abstract definition of a Descent Class.

Def 2.4.2 For $I \subseteq J \subseteq S$, let

$$D_I^J = \{w \in W \mid I \subseteq D_R(w) \subseteq J\}$$

$$W^J = D_{\emptyset}^J$$

$$D_I = D_I^S$$

Sets of the form D_I^J are called right descent classes. W^J is a special descent class called a quotient defined $W^J = \{w \in W \mid ws > w \forall s \in J\}$

Lemma 2.4.3 An element w belongs to W^J iff no reduced expression for w ends with a letter from J .

Prop 2.4.4 Let $J \subseteq S$. Then the following hold.

(i) Every $w \in W$ has a unique factorization $w = w^J \cdot w_J$ such that $w^J \in W^J$ and $w_J \in W_J$.

(ii) For this factorization, $l(w) = l(w^J) + l(w_J)$

Proof: (Existence) Choose $s_1 \in J$ so that $ws_1 < w$, it such s_1 exists. (continue choosing ~~randomly~~ $s_i \in J$ so that $ws_1 \dots s_i < ws_1 \dots s_{i-1}$ as long as such s_i can be found. The process must end after at most $l(w)$ steps. If it ends with $w_k = ws_1 \dots s_k$, then $w \leq w_k$ for all $s \in J$; that is, $w \in W^J$. Now, let $v = s_k s_{k-1} \dots s_1 \in W_J$. We have that $w = w_k v$, and by construction $l(w) = l(w_k) + l(v)$.

(Uniqueness) Suppose that $w = uv = xy$ with $u, x \in W^J$ and $v, y \in W_J$.

Let $u = s_1 s_2 \dots s_k$ and $v y^{-1} = s_1' s_2' \dots s_k'$ with the first expression reduced, $s_i \in S$, $s_i' \in J$. Then,

$$x = uv y^{-1} = s_1 s_2 \dots s_k s_1' s_2' \dots s_k'$$

From this, we can extract a reduced subword for x . It cannot end in some letter s_i' , since $x \in W^J$. Hence, it is a subword t of $s_1 s_2 \dots s_k$, and $x \leq u$ follows. By symmetry ~~we can take t and t~~ follows.

$$u=x \quad v=y$$

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Parabolic subgroups of S_n are often called Young subgroups. For notational simplicity, describe only maximal parabolic subgroups and their quotients. All permutations $x \in S_n$ will be denoted in complete notation as $x = x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$ where $x_i = x(i)$. For $k \in [n-1]$, let

$$S_n^{(k)} = \{x \in S_n \mid x_1 < \dots < x_k \text{ and } x_{k+1} < \dots < x_n\}$$

From convention of letting s_i denote the adjacent transpositions $(i, i+1)$,

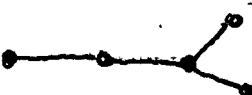
Lemma 2.4.7 Let $J = S \setminus \{s_k\}$. Then, $(S_n)_J = \text{Stab}([k]) \cong S_k \times S_{n-k}$ and $(S_n)^J = S_n^{(k)}$.

What does this mean? The reason why Parabolic subgroups are special is that you can read the result from the coverer graph

Ex ~~S_4~~ let $k=2$ $(S_4)_J = \{s_1, s_3\}$

~~\bullet~~ \bullet delete vertex corr to s_k and look at resulting graph
 $\bullet s_2 \quad \bullet s_3 = S_2 \times S_2$

$$\text{Thus } S_4 \setminus \{s_2\} = S_2 \times S_2$$

Ex ~~D_5~~ : 

$$(D_5)_J = S_5$$

If you understand subgroups well enough, you understand the whole group.

Proposition 2.4.8 For $x, y \in S_n^{(k)}$, the following are equivalent

- (i) $x \leq y$
- (ii) $x_i \leq y_i$, for $1 \leq i \leq k$.
- (iii) $x_i \geq y_i$, for $k+1 \leq i \leq n$.

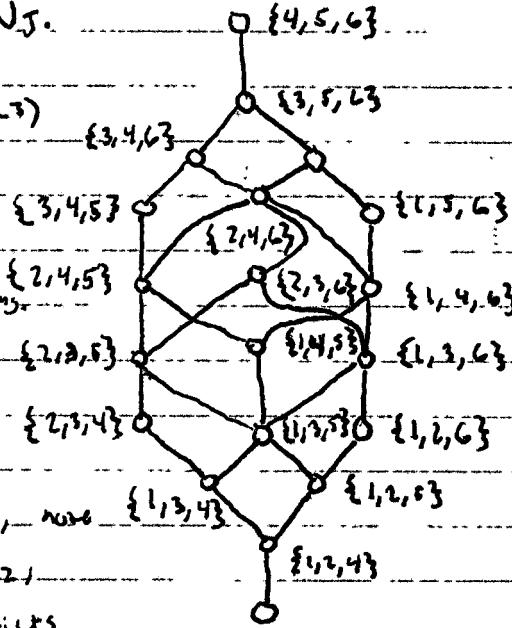
Parabolic subgroups

An element $x \in S_n^{(k)}$ is determined by the set $\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k\}$, so we can make the identification $S_n^{(k)} \leftrightarrow \binom{[n]}{k}$. Thus proposition 2.4.8 shows that the maximal parabolic ~~quotient~~ $S_n^{(k)}$ under Bruhat order can be identified with the family of k -subsets of $[n]$ under the product of k -tuples.

Bruhat Order on Quotients

Much of the ~~structure~~ structure found in Bruhat order on all of W is ~~found~~ only inherited when restricting to the sub poset W/J . This can to some extent be understood as the transfer of structure via the projection map J -fixed as follows. Let $J \subseteq S$, define a mapping $P^J: W \rightarrow W^J$, by $P^J(w) = w^J$. In other words, the projection map P^J sends w to its minimal coset representative modulo W_J .

Figure 2.7 The Bruhat Poset of $S_6^{(3)}$



Proposition 2.5.1 The map P^J is order-preserving.

Proof. Suppose that $w_1 \leq w_2$ in W .

We will show that $w_1^J \leq w_2^J$ by induction on $l(w_2)$.

To begin with, note that $w_1^J \leq w_1 \leq w_2$. Hence, if $w_2^J = w_2$,

we are done. If not, then there exists

some $S \in J$ such that $w_2S < w_2$. The relation

$w_1^J \leq w_2$ can be lifted to $w_1^J \leq w_2S$. Then by transitivity,

By induction, $w_1^J \leq (w_2S)^J = w_2^J$.

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Corollary 2.6.2 Let $u, w \in W$. Then, $u \leq w \Leftrightarrow P^{S \setminus \{u\}}(u) \leq P^{S \setminus \{w\}}_{w \circ u}(w)$, $\forall s \in D_R(u)$.
 If (v, s) is finite $u \leq w \Leftrightarrow P^{S \setminus \{s\}}(w, u) \leq P^{S \setminus \{s\}}(w, v)$, $\forall s \in S \setminus D_R(w)$.

We now return to the topic of describing Bruhat order for symmetric groups.

Theorem 2.6.3 (Tableau Criterion) For $x, y \in S_n$, let $x_{i,k}$ be the ~~the~~ i -th element in the increasing rearrangement of x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n , and similarly define $y_{i,k}$. Then, the following are equivalent:

- (i) $x \leq y$.
- (ii) $x_{i,k} \leq y_{i,k}$, for all $k \in D_R(x)$ and $1 \leq i \leq k$.
- (iii) $x_{i,k} \leq y_{i,k}$, for all $k \in [n-1] \setminus D_R(y)$ and $1 \leq i \leq k$.

Proof: Condition (ii) can be restated as saying that $P^{S \setminus \{k\}}(x) \leq P^{S \setminus \{k\}}(y)$ for all $k \in D_R(x)$. Similarly condition (iii) says that ~~P^{S \setminus \{k\}}(w, y) \leq P^{S \setminus \{k\}}(w, x)~~ $P^{S \setminus \{k\}}(w, y) \leq P^{S \setminus \{k\}}(w, x)$ for all $k \in D_R(w, y)$. The result therefore follows from Corollary 2.6.2.

Ex. Check whether $x = 368475912 \leq y = 694287531$, using version (iii)

1. Get $D_R(y) = \{2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8\}$, then take $[8] \setminus D_R(y) = \{1, 4\}$
2. arrange first 4 then first 1

$$\begin{array}{c} 3468 \\ 2469 \\ 326 \end{array}$$

3. Evaluate, since $3 \leq 2$, $x \not\leq y$