

REU 2018 Day 6 Ben Brubaker  
(Linear)

## Algebraic Monoids

Rough idea: Last week, the  
group  $GL_n(F)$  for  $F$  a field  
general linear group  
of  $n \times n$  invertible matrices /  $F$

$$GL_n(F) \subseteq \underbrace{Mat_n(F)}$$

$n \times n$  matrices /  $F$ ,  
a **monoid** under multiplication.  
 $GL_n(F)$  are the group of  
units (invertible elements) inside.

Try to understand **rep'n theory of monoids**  
like  $Mat_n(F)$  in order to infer properties  
of their unit group (like  $GL_n(F)$ ).

Let's go back to ...

$S_n$  = symmetric group on  $n$  letters.

We know its representation theory, for example. Its irreducible representations are in bijection with partitions  $\lambda \vdash n$

$$(\lambda_1 \geq \lambda_2 \geq \dots) \quad \lambda_1 + \lambda_2 + \dots = n.$$

Moreover, given such an irrep  $\lambda$

$$\dim(V_\lambda) = \# \text{ of standard tableaux of shape } \lambda$$

$\chi_\lambda$  = character of  $V_\lambda$

is a function on conjugacy classes in  $S_n$  ( $\leftrightarrow$  cycle types for  $S_n$ )

e.g.  $\mu = (4, 2, 1) \vdash 7 \leftrightarrow$  cycle type  
 $(abcd)(ef)(g)$   
 $\underbrace{\quad\quad\quad}_4 \quad \underbrace{\quad}_2 \quad \underbrace{\quad}_1$

$$\chi_{\lambda}(\mu) = \sum_{\text{standard tableaux } T \text{ of shape } \lambda} \text{wt}_T(\mu)$$

standard  
tableaux  $T$   
of shape  $\lambda$

some known  
combinatorial  
rule!

$S_n$  is the group of units in a monoid —

the **rook monoid**  $R_n$

= {arrangements of **non-attacking rooks** on an  $n \times n$  chessboard}

= { $n \times n$  matrices of 1's and 0's,  
at most one 1 in each row  
and column}

$$\begin{pmatrix} & 1 & \\ \hline & 1 & \\ \hline & & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

In particular,  $S_n \cong$   $n \times n$  permutation matrices

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_3 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

but  $R_n$  also contains non invertible

matrices like  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$

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Consider representations of the  
 monoid

$$\phi : M \longrightarrow \text{End}(V)$$

$$m \longmapsto \phi(m), \text{ a } k \times k \text{ matrix}$$

if  $\dim V = k$

It's still true for  $R_n$  that rep's always **decompose into direct sums** of irreducible rep's.

The irreducible rep's are in bijection with **partitions of size  $\leq n$** , and there are character formulas, etc. (Sedman)

REU Exercise 14

(a) Find all irreducible rep's of  $S_3$

(b) ——— " ———  $R_3$

↗ Exercise in thinking about ways to construct rep's. So if you know one way, find another, or replace  $n=3$  by  $n=4$ .

(c) How many elements are there in  $R_n$ ?

## REU Problem 6 (roughly)

Study and classify irreducible  
rep's of monoids  $M$ , or  
equivalently, (modules over their)  
monoid algebras  $\mathbb{C}[M]$ , and their  
generalizations.  $\uparrow$

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Elements of  $\mathbb{C}[M]$  are just formal  
linear combinations of the form

$$\sum_{i=1}^k c_i [m_i], \quad m_i \in M, c_i \in \mathbb{C}$$

with  $[m_i] \cdot [m_j] = [m_i * m_j]$   
multiplication in  $M$

Which monoids should we study?

ANS: Ones that contain finite Coxeter groups.

For example,  $S_3$  is a Coxeter group since  $S_3$  is generated by

involutions, say  $r_1 = (1,2), r_2 = (2,3)$

e.g.  $r_1 \circ r_2 = (123)$

$$r_1 \circ r_2 \circ r_1 = (13) = r_2 \circ r_1 \circ r_2$$

$S_3$  has a presentation as  $\langle r_1, r_2 \mid r_1^2 = r_2^2 = 1, r_1 r_2 r_1 = r_2 r_1 r_2 \rangle$   
(or  $(r_1 r_2)^3 = 1$ )

*omitting the circles  $r_1, r_2$*

Encode the presentation in a **graph**:

vertices = generators

If generators  $r_i, r_j$   
have  $(r_i r_j)^2 = 1$ , don't connect them

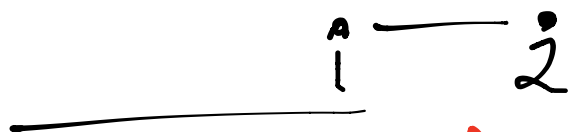
$(r_i r_j)^3 = 1$ , connect them

$(r_i r_j)^4 = 1$ , connect them  
with a double  
edge

and weirder things happen;  
we'll worry about how to decorate  
them later.

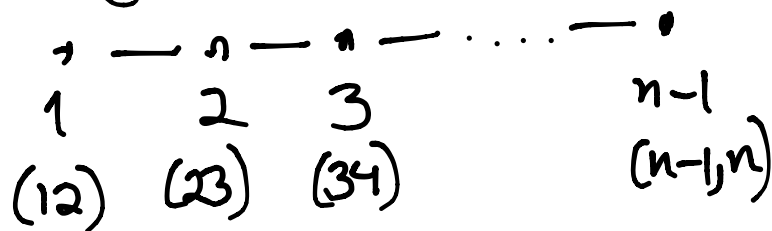


EXAMPLE:  $S_3$  has this graph



What are the **finite Coxeter groups**?

Check that  $S_n$  has presentation with graph



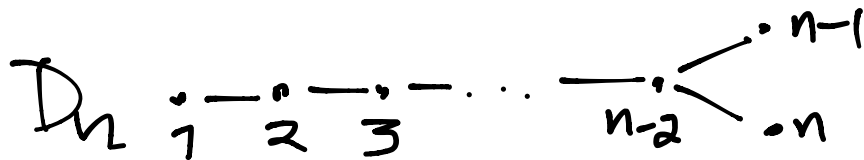
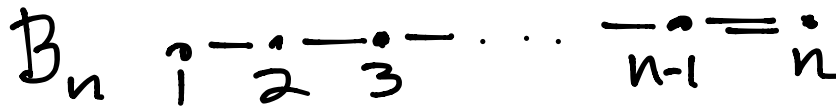
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A **finite Coxeter group** is a <sup>(finite)</sup> group with a presentation

$$\langle r_1, \dots, r_k \mid r_i^2 = 1, (r_i r_j)^{m_{ij}} = 1 \rangle$$

$\uparrow$   $r_i$  are involutions  
 $m_{ij} \in \{2, 3, \dots\}$

Others:



+ 9 more called

$E_6, E_7, E_8, F_4, G_2, H_3, H_4, I_2(k)$

dihedral groups = symmetries of regular  $k$ -sided polygon



(and any

product

$W_1 \times W_2 \times \dots \times W_k$   
of such groups)

e.g.

$$B_3 = \langle r_1, r_2, r_3 \mid r_i^2 = 1, r_1 r_2 r_1 = r_2 r_1 r_2, \\ r_2 r_3 r_2 r_3 = r_3 r_2 r_3 r_2, \\ r_1 r_3 = r_3 r_1 \rangle$$

$$= S_3 \ltimes (\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})^3$$

semidirect product

$B_3$  has a representation acting on  $\mathbb{R}^3$   
by **permuting/negating coordinates**

= the hyperoctahedral group  
of all **signed permutation matrices**

like

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & +1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & +1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Let's explore the monoids associated  
to  $B_n$ , the **symplectic root monoids**

$$"RSp_{2n}" := \left\{ A \in R_{2n} \mid \begin{array}{l} \text{either} \\ AJA^T = \bar{A}^T J A = 0 \\ \text{or } AJA^T = \bar{A}^T J A = J \end{array} \right\}$$

where  $J =$  block matrix  $\left( \begin{array}{c|c} \text{O} & \begin{matrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{matrix} \\ \hline \begin{matrix} 0 & -1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{matrix} & \text{O} \end{array} \right)$

### REU Exercise 15

(a) Determine the elements of  $RSp_4$ ,  
and show it contains an isomorphic  
copy of  $B_2$ .

(b) What is the order (cardinality) of  $RSp_{2n}$ ?

$RSp_{2n}$  was studied in 2007 (Li-Li-Gao)  
 but interesting questions remain.  
 For example,  $R_n$ -representations or  
 $RSp_{2n}$ -representations  
 can be **restricted** to a repn of the  
 Coxeter group ( $S_n$  or  $B_n$ ) inside.  
 ↑ Coxeter group  $A_{n-1}$

What is this map?

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \mu + k \leq 3 \\ V_\mu |_{S_3} = \bigoplus_{\nu \vdash 3} W_\nu \end{array} \right\} \begin{array}{l} c_\nu \leftarrow \text{multiplicity} \\ \uparrow S_3\text{-irrep.} \end{array}$$

REU Exercise #16

(a) Describe the **image** of irreducible  
 reps of  $R_3$  under restriction to  $S_3$ .  
 What about  $R_n$  to  $S_n$ ?

(b) Same question for  $RSp_{2n}$ ?

Why do we care?

$GL_n(\mathbb{F}_q)$   $\supset \mathbb{F}_q$  a finite field with  $q = p^k$  elements,  $k \geq 1$

contains a subgroup

$B = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} * & * & * \\ & * & * \\ 0 & & * \end{pmatrix} \right\} =$  upper triangular invertible  $n \times n$  matrices  
= the Borel subgroup

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THM (Bruhat decomposition)

$$GL_n(\mathbb{F}_q) = \bigsqcup_{w \in S_n} BwB$$

where  $BwB := \{b_1wb_2 : b_1, b_2 \in B\}$   
a double coset

e.g.  $B \in B = B \begin{pmatrix} 1 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & 1 \end{pmatrix} B = B$   
 (boing!)

Similarly, the **symplectic group**

$$\text{Sp}_{2n}(\mathbb{F}_q) = \bigsqcup_{w \in B_n} BwB$$

||DEFN

$$\{A \in \text{GL}_{2n}(\mathbb{F}_q) : A^T J A = J\}$$

where  $B :=$  upper triangular matrices in  $\text{Sp}_{2n}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ .

Consider the algebra over  $\mathbb{C}$  gen'd by the **characteristic functions** of the  $B$ -double cosets  $BwB$ , with multiplication by **convolution**.

This algebra is called the  
(Wakari-) Hecke algebra  $H(G, B)$ .

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Why would anyone consider this?  
(in 3 reasons)

Reason #1:  $G(\mathbb{F}_q)$  ( $G = \text{GL}_n, \text{Sp}_n$ )

rep'n theory is hard  
(main result of Deligne-Lusztig  
to construct them via  
fancy homology theory)

Better to try to break up the  
set of all irreducible reps into  
digestible chunks.



Consider reps with at least one  
nonzero  $B$ -fixed vector.

$$\phi: G \rightarrow \text{Aut}(V)$$

$$g \mapsto \phi(g)(v): \text{map on vectors in } V$$

Want  $v \in V$  s.t.  $\phi(b)v = v \forall b \in B$

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Reason #2:

THM (Borel-Matsumoto)

The map  $V \mapsto V^B = B$ -fixed vectors  
gives a bijection

$$\left\{ \text{irreps of } G(\mathbb{F}_q) \right\} \rightarrow \left\{ \text{irreps of } \right\}$$

with a  $B$ -fixed vector  $H(G, B)$

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Reason #3:

$$H(\text{GL}_n(\mathbb{F}_q), B) \cong \mathbb{C}[S_n]$$

$$H(\text{Sp}_{2n}(\mathbb{F}_q), B) \cong \mathbb{C}[B_n]$$

Conclusion: Reps of  $\text{GL}_n(\mathbb{F}_q)$   
with  $B$ -fixed vectors are indexed by  $\lambda \vdash n$

What about reps of monoids?  
Is there a similar story to tell?

REU Problem #6 (more precisely)

(a) Is there a Borel-Matsumoto Theorem

e.g.  $M_n = \text{Mat}_n(\mathbb{F}_q)$  for monoids?

$B := \{ \text{upper triangular invertible matrices} \}$

have  $M_n = \bigcup_{r \in \mathbb{R}_n} B r B$

So  $\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{H}(M_n, B)$  = convolution algebra as before

(b) Describe irreducible reps of

$\mathcal{H}(M\text{Span}, B)$  where  $M\text{Span}$  is monoid with units  $\text{Span}(\mathbb{F}_q) \cdot \mathbb{F}_q^x$

when  $n=2$ . General  $n$ ?

Defined more precisely in Li-Li-Gao "Alg. monoids & Renner monoids" Example 12

scalar matrices