

Fibers of Maps to
Totally Nonnegative Spaces
≠ the Fomin-Shapiro Conjecture

Patricia Hersh

North Carolina State University

- partly joint work with Jim Davis & Ezra Miller

Today:

1. Anecdotes:


- ◆ "penalty time" for seminar speakers
- ◆ getting grilled regarding:



2. Fomin-Shapiro Conj (2014 Proof)

- ◆ $\text{im}(f_{(i_1, \dots, i_d)})$ is regular CW ball

3. New Results Regarding Fibers of $f_{(i_1, \dots, i_d)}$, including:

- ◆ cell decomposition/parametrization
- ◆ combinatorial model

(Recall: )

closed ball \nearrow \cong  $\not\cong$  \nwarrow homeomorphic

Topological Aspects of Total Positivity

- Lusztig (94), Fomin-M. Shapiro (00) initiate study of: **totally nonneg, real part of spaces of matrices, spaces of flags (i.e. GL_n/B)...** (i.e. having all minors nonnegative)
- Conjecturably / provably homeomorphic to closed balls
- Proving this by studying fibers (as is done in H. \ddagger in DHM)
 - imposes restrictions on $rel'n's$ amongst exp'd Chevalley gen's
 - reveals structure in Lusztig's canonical bases

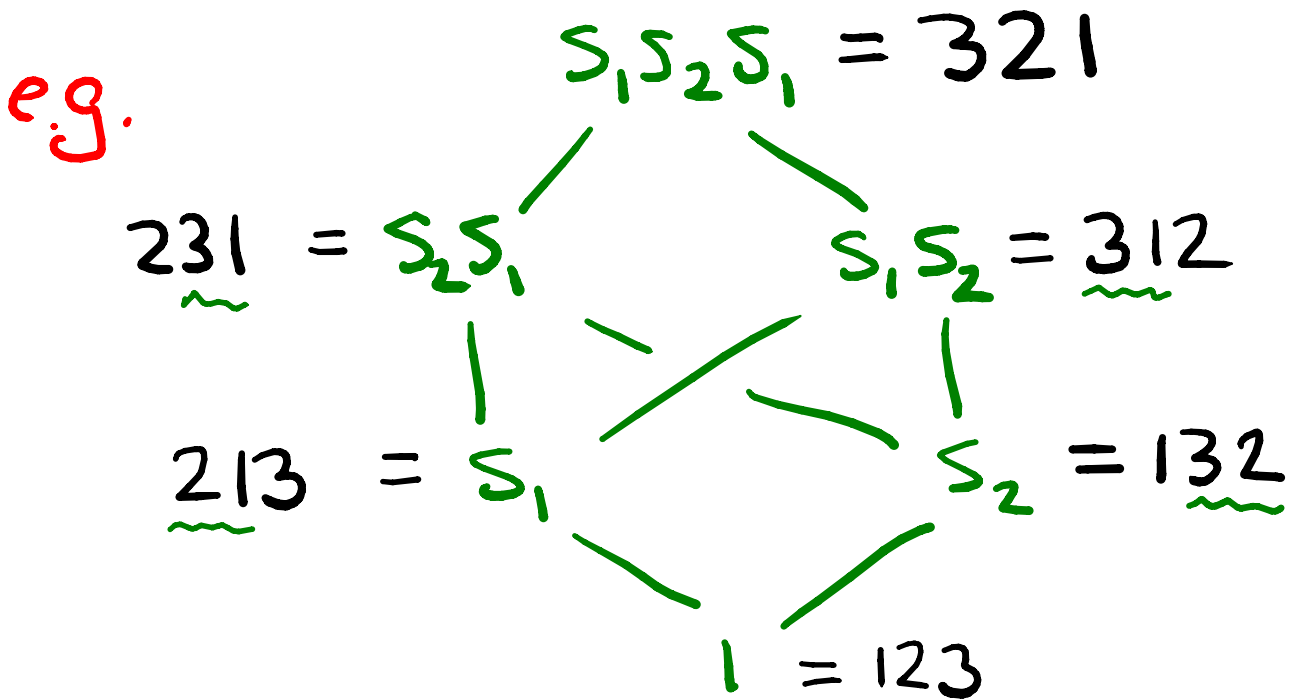
Background on Coxeter Groups

- $s_i := (i, i+1)$ a **simple reflection** in ω
type A (i.e. $\omega = S_n$)
- $s_{i_1} \dots s_{i_d}$ is **reduced expression** for $w \in \omega$ if $w = s_{i_1} \dots s_{i_d}$ for d as small as possible
- **length** of w , denoted $l(w)$, is this smallest d .

e.g. $s_1 s_2 s_1 = s_2 s_1 s_2$ has length 3

$$\underline{321} \xrightarrow{s_1} \underline{231} \xrightarrow{s_2} \underline{213} \xrightarrow{s_1} 123$$

- $(112, 121)$ is reduced word
- Bruhat order: partial order



on W (e.g. S_n) with $u \leq v$
 for $u, v \in W \iff$ any reduced
 word for v has subword that
 is reduced word for u .

Running Example: Totally Nonnegative Part of a Space of Matrices

$\bullet \chi_i(t) = I_n + t E_{i,i+1} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & & & \\ & \ddots & & \\ & & \ddots & \\ & & & 1+t \\ & & & & \ddots \\ & & & & & 1 \end{pmatrix}$

(general finite type, exponential Chevalley generator)

Annotations: $\exp(te_i)$ (pointing to I_n), (type A) (pointing to $E_{i,i+1}$), column $i+1$ (pointing to the t entry), row i (pointing to the t entry).

$\bullet f_{(i_1, \dots, i_d)}: \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}^d \rightarrow M_{n \times n} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^{n^2}$

reduced word $(t_1, \dots, t_d) \mapsto \chi_{i_1}(t_1) \cdots \chi_{i_d}(t_d)$

e.g. $f_{(1,2,1)}(t_1, t_2, t_3) = \chi_1(t_1) \chi_2(t_2) \chi_1(t_3)$

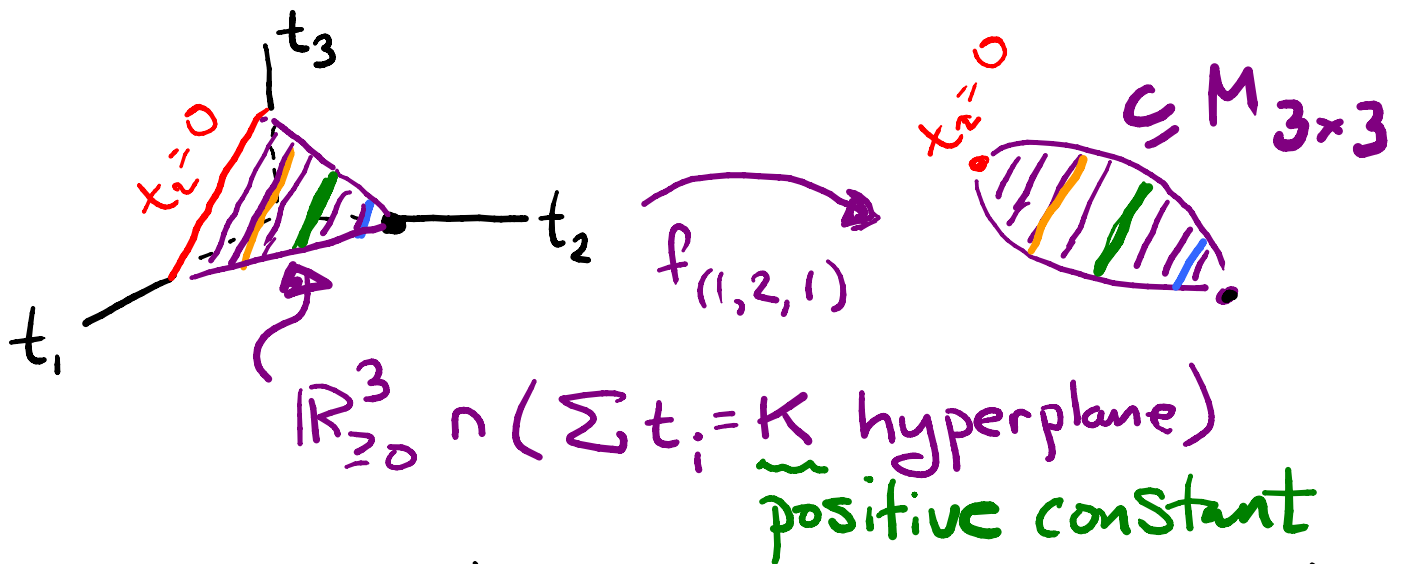
$$= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & t_1 & \\ & 1 & \\ & & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & & \\ & 1+t_2 & \\ & & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & t_3 & \\ & 1 & \\ & & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

wo case:

$$\left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 & * & \\ & 1 & * \\ & & 1 \end{pmatrix} \mid \text{tot. nonneg.} \right\}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & t_1+t_3 & t_1 t_2 \\ 0 & 1 & t_2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

"Picture" of $M_{\text{LP}} f_{(1,2,1)}$



$$f_{(1,2,1)}(t_1, t_2, t_3) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & t_1 \\ & 1 \\ & & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & t_2 \\ & 1 \\ & & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & t_3 \\ & 1 \\ & & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$t_2 = 0$

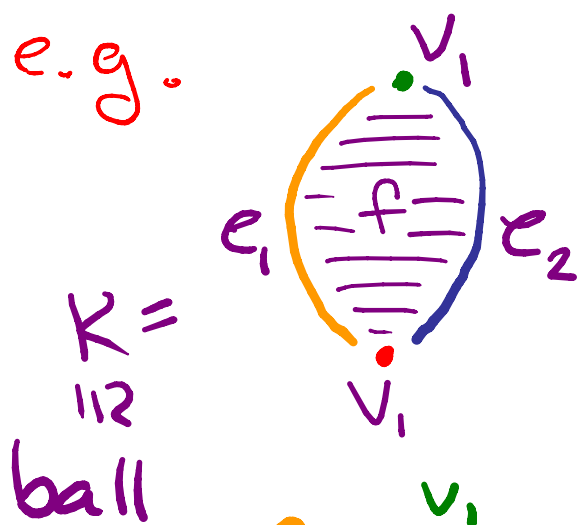
$$\begin{aligned}
 f_{(1,2,1)}(t_1, 0, t_3) &= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & t_1 \\ & 1 \\ & & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & t_3 \\ & 1 \\ & & 1 \end{pmatrix} \\
 &= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & t_1 + t_3 \\ & 1 \\ & & 1 \end{pmatrix} = x_1(t_1 + t_3)
 \end{aligned}$$

simplex faces w/ same image " $x_1^2 = x_1$ "

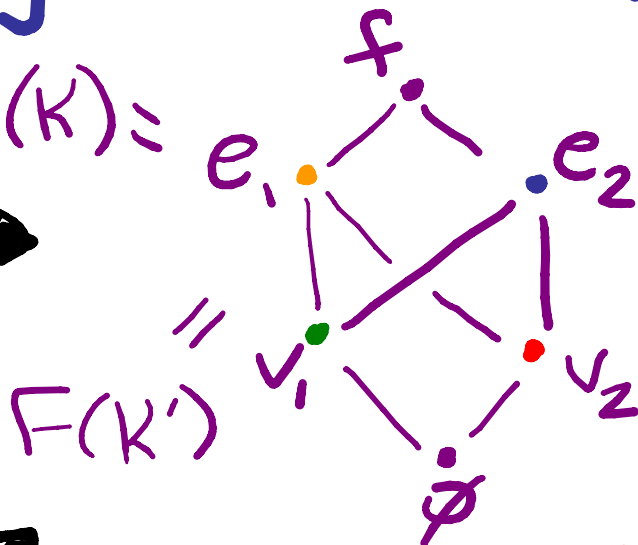
e.g. $\{x_1(t) | t > 0\} = \{x_1(t_1)x_1(t_2) | t_1, t_2 > 0\}$

CW Complexes \neq their Face Posets (Partially Ordered Sets)

e.g.



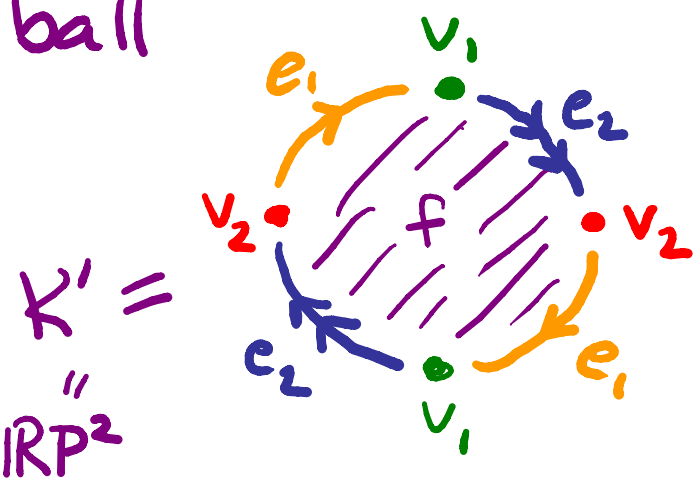
$F(K) =$



$F(K')$

"face poset"

$(u \leq v \Leftrightarrow u \subseteq \bar{v})$



Recall: A CW complex: cells $e_\alpha \cong \mathbb{R}^{\dim(e_\alpha)}$,

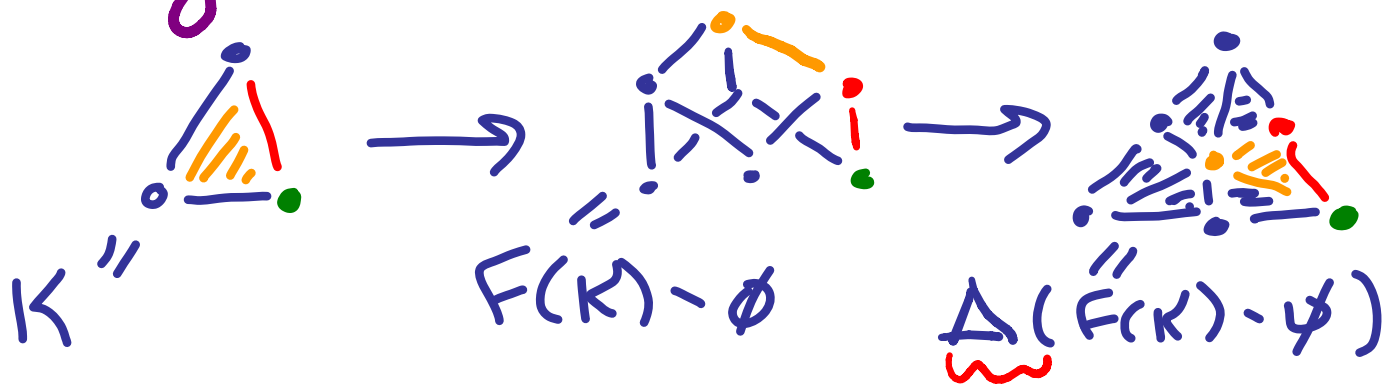
characteristic maps $f_\alpha: B^{\dim(e_\alpha)} \rightarrow \cup_{\beta \geq \alpha} e_\beta$

\neq attaching maps $f_\alpha|_{\partial B^{\dim(e_\alpha)}}$

Recall: CW complex is **regular**

if each f_α is homeomorphism.

- $\Delta(P)$ = "nerve" or "order complex" of P
- K **regular** $\Rightarrow K \cong \Delta(F(K) \setminus \emptyset) = \text{sd}(K)$

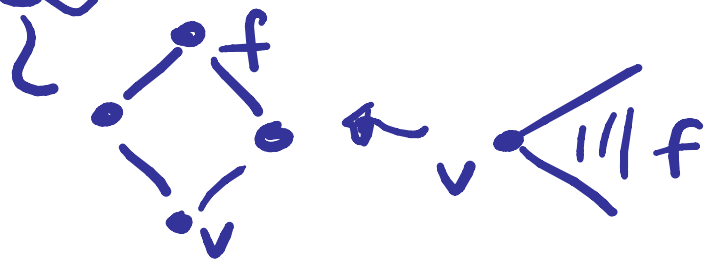
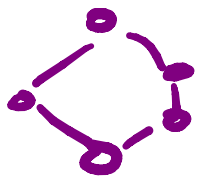


- a **CW poset** is any face poset of regular CW complex

- "Shellable" + "thin" \Rightarrow CW poset

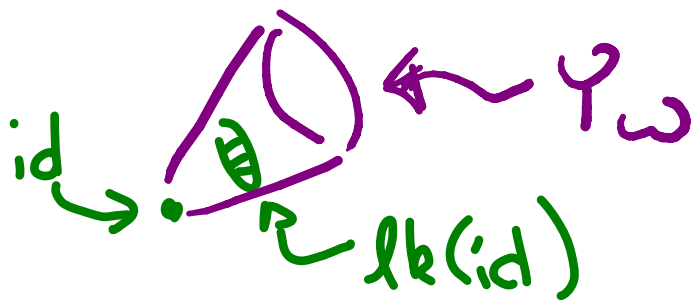
"Graded"

e.g. not



e.g. Bruhat order (Björner-Wachs; Matthew Dyer)

Fomin-Shapiro Conjecture: The Bruhat stratification of $lk(id)$ in totally nonneg. real part of unipotent radical in Borel in algebraic group (e.g. $im(f_{(1, \dots, 1)})$) is regular CW complex homeom. to closed ball (with Bruhat order as face poset).



$$Y_w = \left[\overline{B^- \omega B^-} \cap (\text{unipotent subsp of } B) \right]$$

lower triangular opposite Borel B^- \nearrow permutation ω \nearrow upper triang. w/ 1's on diagonal
 \nearrow totally nonneg. part

Bruhat Order

Closure poset $F(L)$ for Schubert cell decomposition L of flag variety $\mathbb{F}l_n = GL_n/B$ † "Schubert varieties" (over \mathbb{C}), namely for cell closures likewise for G/B in other types.

e.g. $\left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & * & * & 1 \\ 0 & * & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \right\} \supseteq \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & * & * & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$

$\mathbb{R}^6 = \mathbb{C}^3$ cell indexed by $1432 \in S_4$ 1342 -indexed cell $\cong \mathbb{C}^2 = \mathbb{R}^4$

flags $\langle \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \rangle \subseteq \langle \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ * \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \rangle \subseteq \dots$

A Motivation Stated by Fomin & M. Shapiro

"It should be mentioned that one of our 'hidden motivations' has been the desire to better understand the combinatorics of Kazhdan-Lusztig polynomials."

Their Results: face poset, homological results, fascinating projection map & much more!

Theorem (H., 2014, Invent.):

Fomin-Shapiro Conjecture holds.

Special Case (Running example):

Space of totally nonnegative upper triangular matrices with 1's on diagonal & entries just above diagonal summing to fixed positive constant, stratified by which minors are positive & which are 0.

Concrete Realization: Products

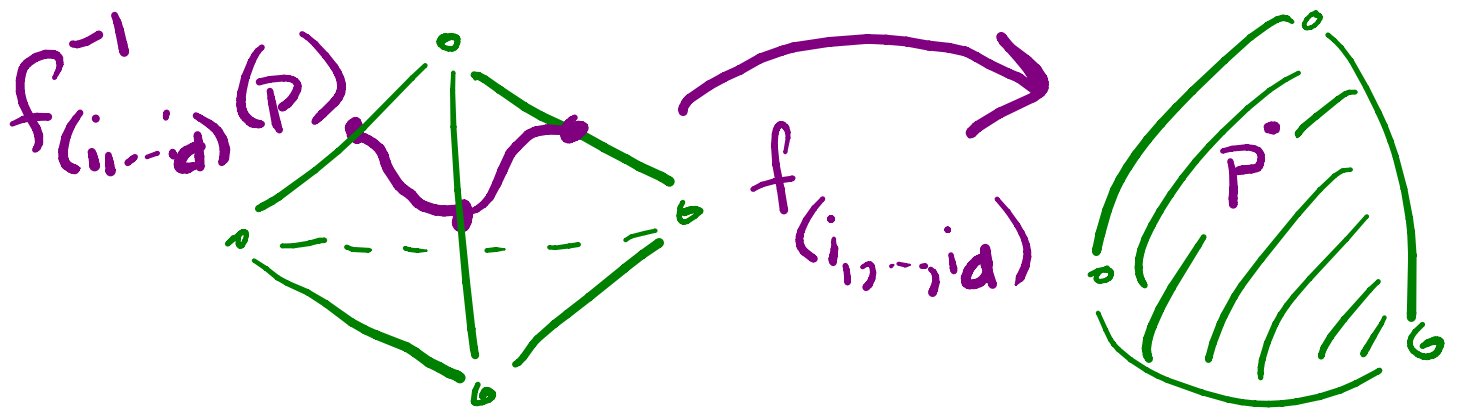
$x_{i_1}(t_1) \cdots x_{i_d}(t_d)$ of elementary matrices, by results of Whitney, Loewner & (beyond type A) Lusztig.

Conjecture (Davis-H-Miller):

$f_{(i_1, \dots, i_d)}^{-1}(p)$ is regular CW complex

homeomorphic to interior dual
block complex of subword

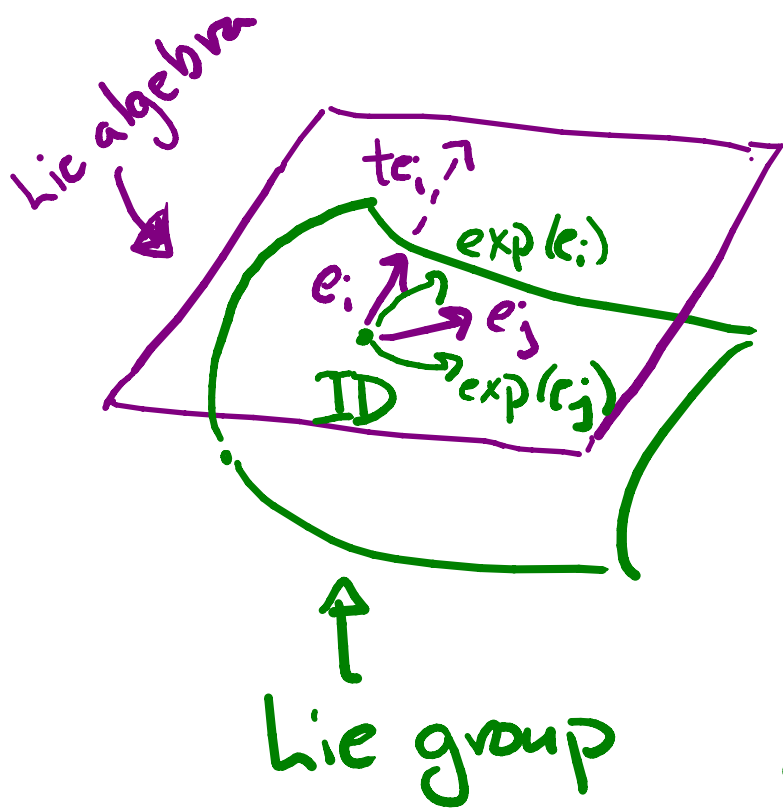
complex $\Delta((i_1, \dots, i_d), w)$ for $p \in \gamma_w^o$.



Thm (DHM): $f_{(i_1, \dots, i_d)}^{-1}(p)$ has cell
decomposition & "correct" face poset.

Thm (DHM): Interior dual block
complex of $\Delta((i_1, \dots, i_d), w)$ is contractible.

A Motivation to Study Fibers: Relations Among (Exponentiated) Chevalley Generators



$$te_i = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & t & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

} $\exp(-)$

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

$$\exp(t_1 e_i) \exp(t_2 e_j)$$

$$f_{(i,j)}(t_1, t_2) = x_i(t_1) x_j(t_2)$$

$$\exp(te_i) = \boxed{\text{ID} + te_i} + t^2 \frac{e_i^2}{2} + t^3 \frac{e_i^3}{6} + \dots$$

$0 = \frac{1}{2}$ $0 = \frac{1}{6}$

Rel'n's \Leftrightarrow Elts in same fiber of $f_{(i,j)}$

Subword Complexes

(introduced by Allen Knutson
& Ezra Miller)

$\Delta(\underbrace{Q}, \underbrace{w}) =$ (abstract) simplicial complex whose faces are subwords Q' of Q whose complement $Q \setminus Q'$ contains a reduced word for w

reduced or nonreduced word $\xrightarrow{\text{Coxeter group element}}$

Aside:

It arose as Stanley-Reisner complexes of initial ideals of coordinate rings of matrix Schubert varieties.

Thm (Knutson-Miller): $\Delta(Q, \omega)$ is homeomorphic to ball or sphere.

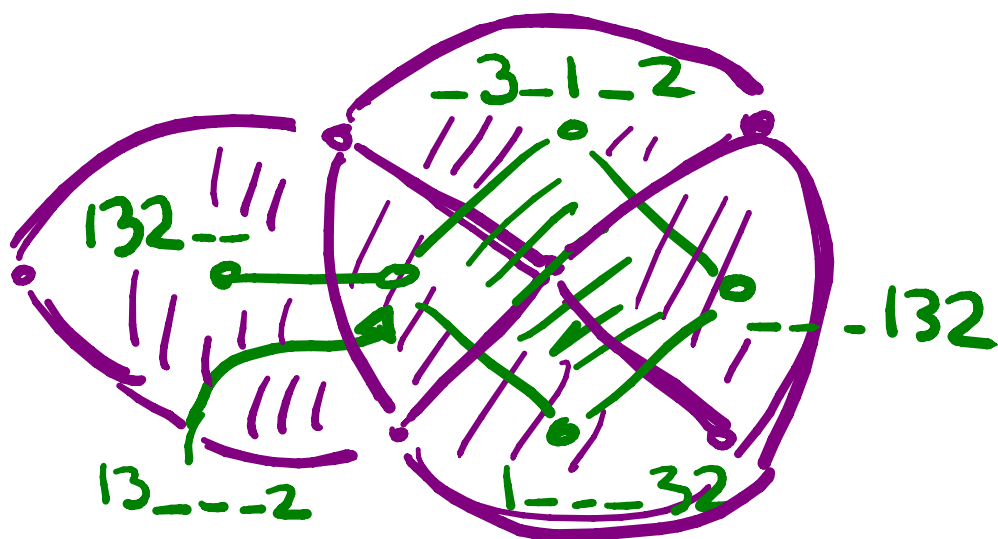
Example of Subword Complex & its Interior Dual Block Complex

$$\Delta(Q, \omega) =$$

$$Q = 132132$$

$$\omega = s_1 s_3 s_2$$

& its



Interior dual block complex

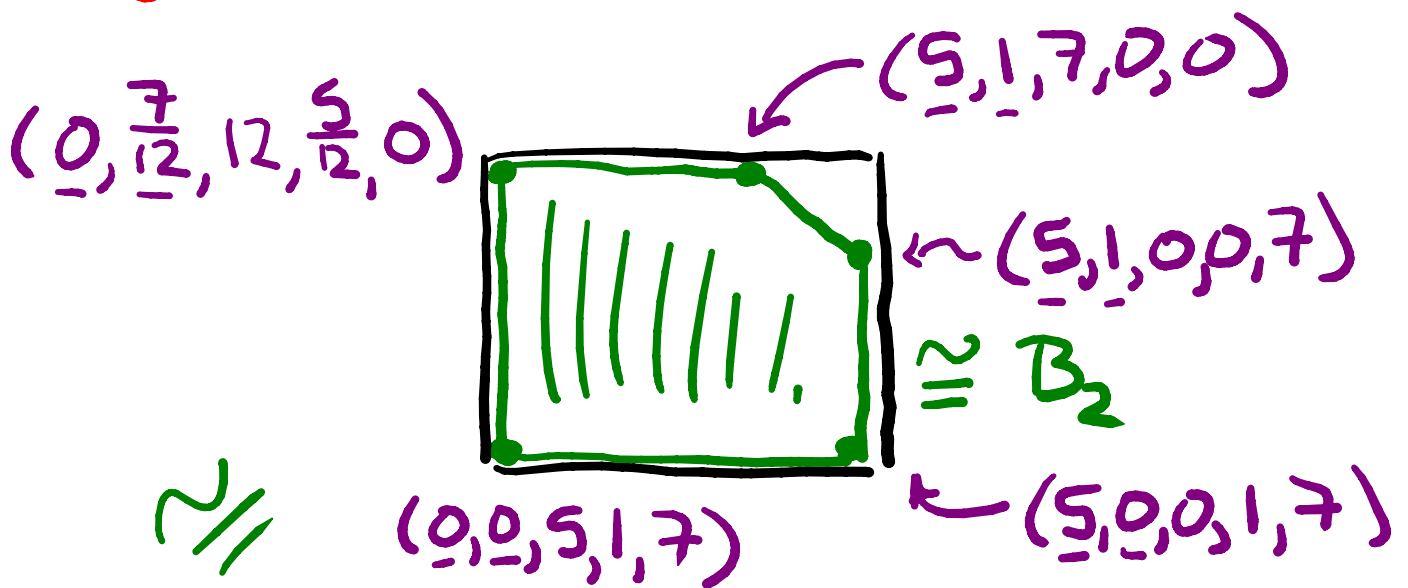
||

$$f^{-1}(1,3,2,1,3,2)(M) \text{ for } M \in Y_{(1,3,2)}^0$$

Examples of Fibers:

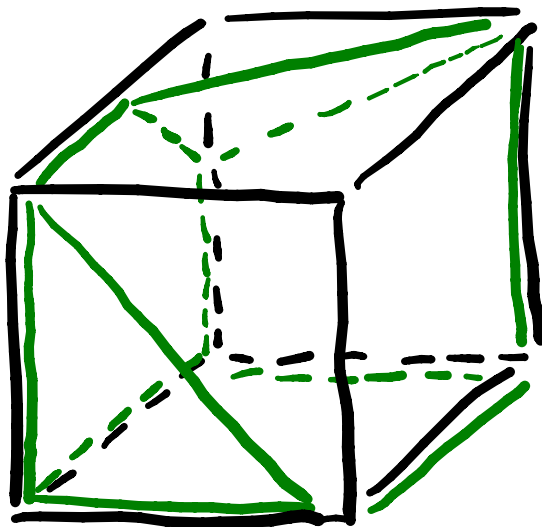
(with realizations as suggested by various results towards proof of DHM conjecture)

e.g.



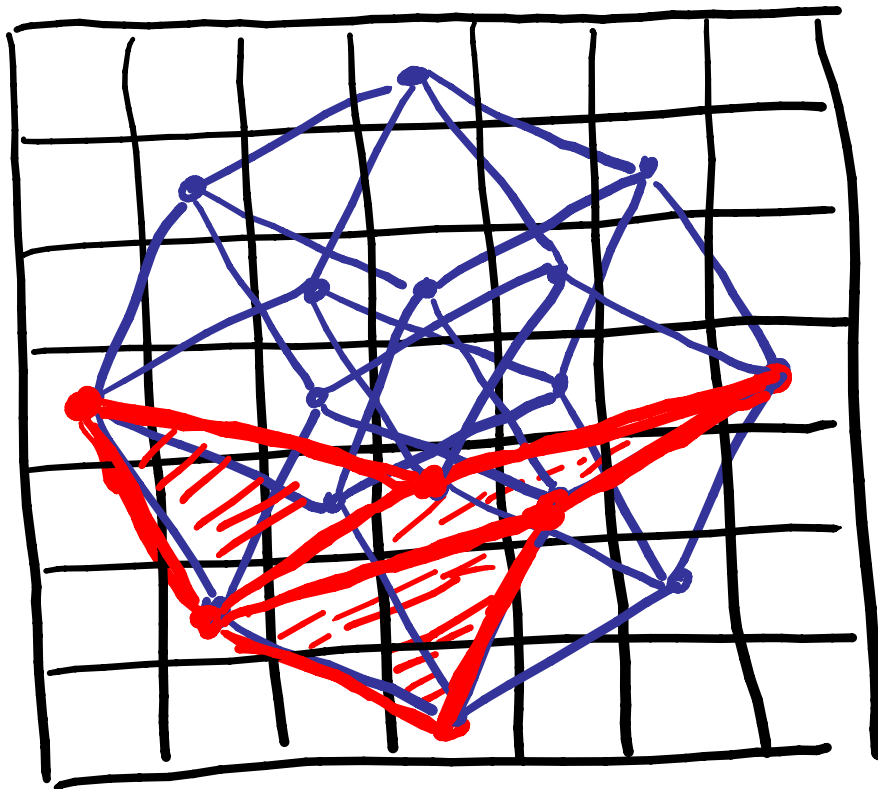
$f^{-1}(1, 2, 1, 2, 1)(M)$ for $M = x_1(5)x_2(1)x_1(7)$
 $\bigvee_0^{15, 5, 5, 5}$

\cong



$\cong B_3$

$f_{(1,2,1,2,1,2)}^{-1}(M)$ for $M \in \mathcal{Y}_{S_1 S_2 S_1}^{\mathbb{Z}^2}$



\cong

$f_{(1,2,1,2,1,2)}^{-1}(M)$ for $M \in \mathcal{Y}_{(1,2)}^{\mathbb{Z}^2}$

Role of Q -Hecke Algebra in Stratification for $\text{im}(f_{(i, \dots, id)})$

$$(1) x_i(t_1)x_i(t_2) = x_i(t_1+t_2)$$

↪ suppress parameters

$$x_i x_i = x_i$$

$$(2) x_i(t_1)x_{i+1}(t_2)x_i(t_3) = x_{i+1}\left(\frac{t_2 t_3}{t_1+t_3}\right)x_i(t_1+t_3)x_{i+1}\left(\frac{t_1 t_2}{t_1+t_3}\right)$$

↪ (type A)

for $t_1, t_2, t_3 > 0$

$$x_i x_{i+1} x_i = x_{i+1} x_i x_{i+1}$$

(\neq analogous relations outside type A)

Upshot: $\text{im}(F_1) = \text{im}(F_2) \Leftrightarrow \underbrace{\chi(F_1) = \chi(F_2)}$

equal as

Q -Hecke algebra elements

Thm (Lusztig): If (i, \dots, id) is reduced, then $f_{(i, \dots, id)}$ is homeomorphism on $\mathbb{R}_{>0}^d$

More Motivation for Nonnegative Real Part of Unipotent Radical

• Given quantized env. alg. $U = \mathfrak{u}^- \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}(v)} \mathfrak{u}^0 \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}(v)} \mathfrak{u}^+$ of Kac-Moody alg. (e.g. affine Lie alg.), then **canonical basis** is a basis B for \mathfrak{u}^- such that highest weight module with highest weight vector v_λ has basis $\{v_\lambda b \mid b \in B, v_\lambda b \neq 0\}$ for each λ .

• $f_{(i_1, \dots, i_d)}^{-1}(p) \rightarrow f_{(j_1, \dots, j_d)}^{-1}(p)$ coordinate change

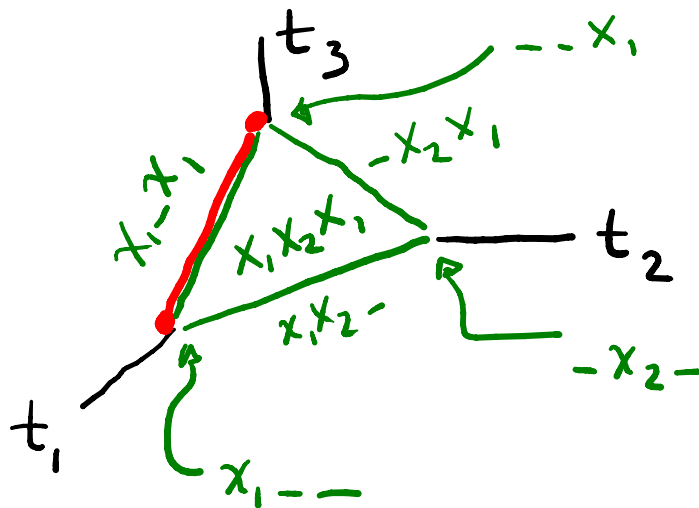
$$(t_1, t_2, t_3) \mapsto \left(\frac{t_2 t_3}{t_1 + t_3}, t_1 + t_3, \frac{t_1 t_2}{t_1 + t_3} \right)$$

tropicalizes to coordinate change:

$$(a, b, c) \mapsto (b + c - \min(a, c), \min(a, c), a + b - \min(a, c))$$

for canonical bases w/ same braid move

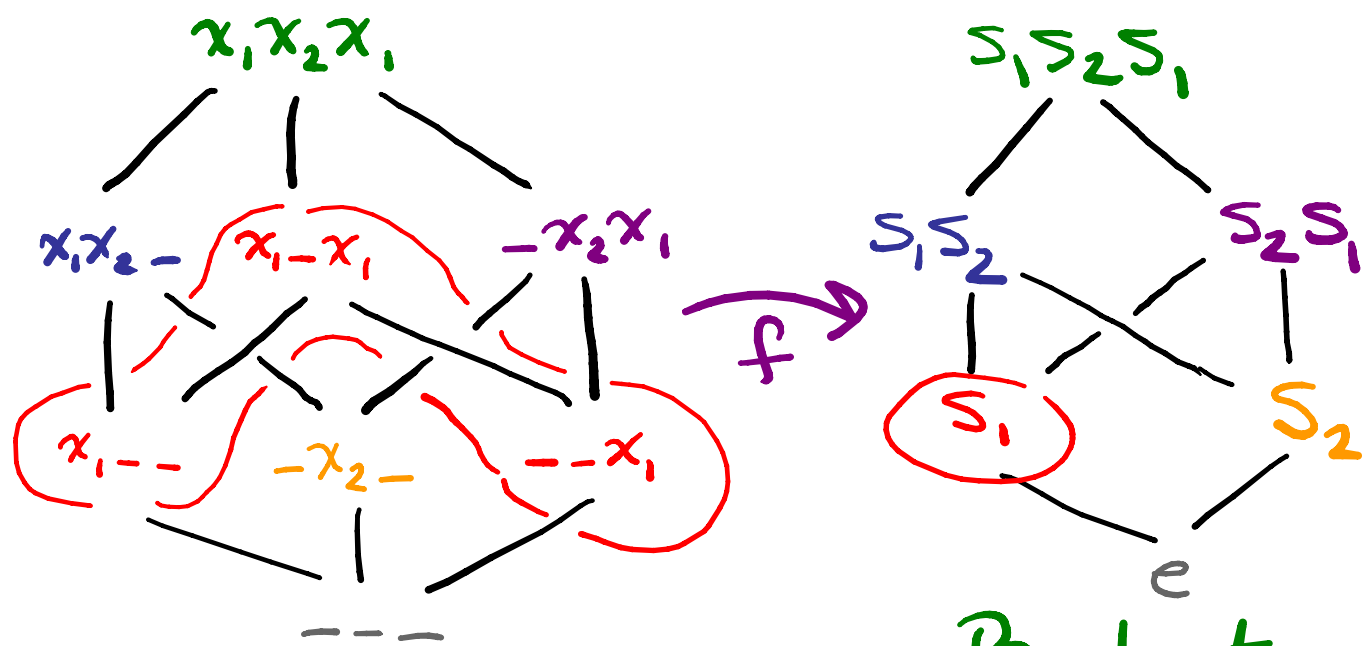
Faces of (Preimage) Simplex as Subexpressions in O-Hedke Algebra



- let Y_w^o = open cell in $\text{im}(f_{c_{i_1 \dots i_d}})$ indexed by $w \in W$
- let $\delta(x_{i_1} \dots x_{i_d})$ denote (unsigned) O-Hedke algebra product (a.k.a. "Demazure product")

e.g. $\delta(x_1 x_2 x_1 x_2 x_1) = \delta(x_2 x_1 x_2 x_1) = s_1 s_2 s_1$
 $\underbrace{x_1 x_2 x_1}_{x_2 x_1 x_2} \quad \uparrow \text{ since } x_2 x_2 = x_2$

Map of Face Posets Induced by Map f (lim-id) of Spaces



Boolean lattice B_n

Bruhat order

Face poset of simplex $F(\text{lim}(f_{(i,j)}))$

$$f: x_{i,j_1} \dots x_{i,j_r} \mapsto \delta(x_{i,j_1} \dots x_{i,j_r})$$

Proof of Fomin-Shepiro Conjecture (H., 2014, Invent.)

Set-up: Surjective fn $f_{(i_1, \dots, i_d)}: \Delta_{d-1} \rightarrow Y$
s.t. $f_{(i_1, \dots, i_d)}|_{\text{int}(\Delta_{d-1})}$ homeom. to $\text{int}(Y)$.

Step 1: Perform "cell collapses" on $\partial(\Delta_{d-1})$
designed to preserve homeom. type & regularity
via cont. surjective fns $g_i: \Delta_{d-1} \rightarrow \Delta_{d-1}$
yielding $(\Delta_{d-1})/\sim$ s.t.

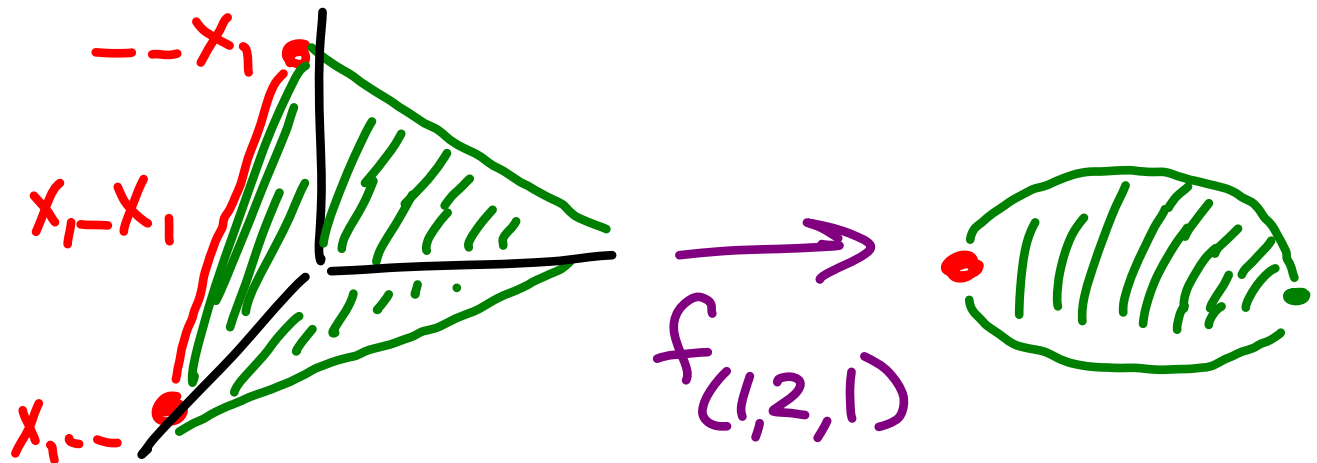
$$x_1 \sim x_2 \Rightarrow f_{(i_1, \dots, i_d)}(x_1) = f_{(i_1, \dots, i_d)}(x_2)$$

(eliminating faces given by nonreduced words)

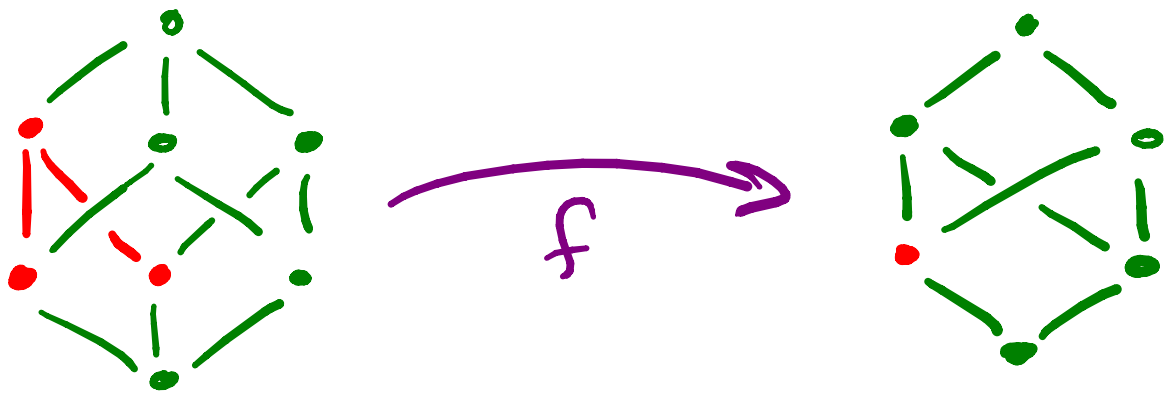
Step 2: Prove $\bar{f}_{(i_1, \dots, i_d)}: (\Delta_{d-1})/\sim \rightarrow Y$ is a
homeomorphism via **new regularity
criterion** for finite CW complexes.

Corollary of Proof: Contractibility of fibers

Combinatorics of fibers



Induced map of face posets:



Thm (Armstrong-H., 2011): For each $\overline{u} \in \mathcal{W}$, $f^{-1}_{\geq}(u) = \{x \in \mathcal{B}_n \mid f(x) \geq u\}$ is dual (i.e. upside-down) to face poset for subword complex $\Delta((i_1, \dots, i_\ell), u)$.

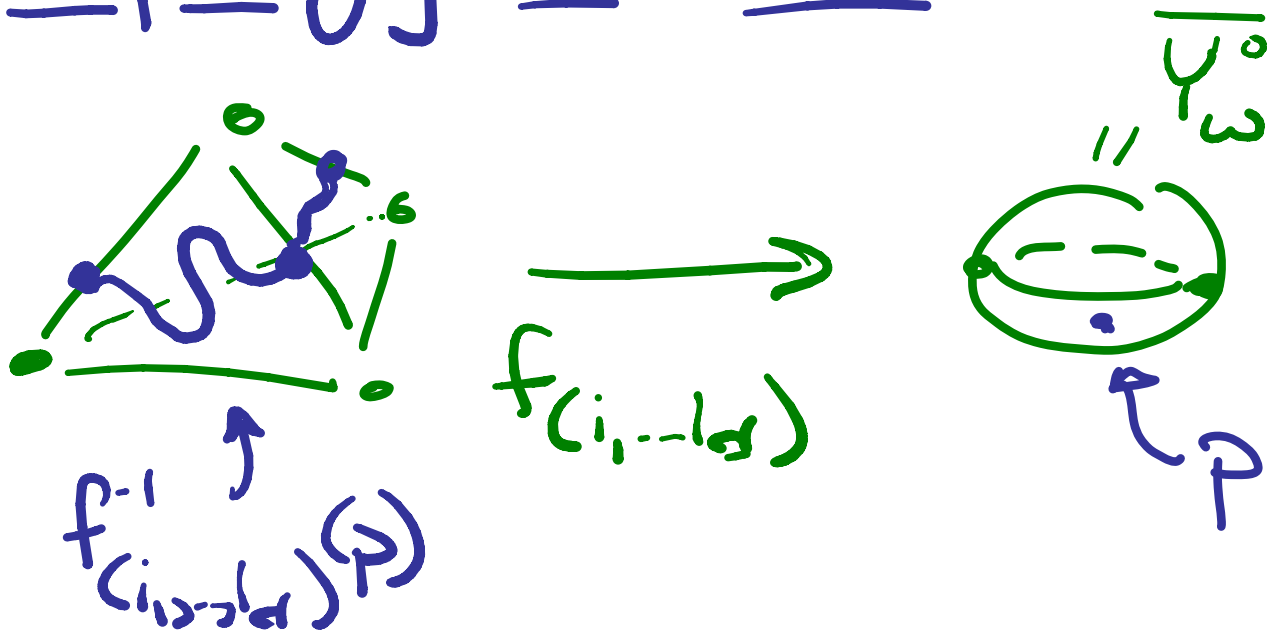
Thm (DHM, 2018): $f_{\leq}^{-1}(u)$ is face poset of interior dual block complex for subword complex $\Delta((i_1, \dots, i_d), u)$

Thm (DHM, 2018): Interior dual block complex of $\Delta((i_1, \dots, i_d), u)$ is contractible.

Pf: Discrete Morse theory

Combining: DHM Conjecture would imply $f_{(i_1, \dots, i_d)}^{-1}(p) \cong$ interior dual block complex of $\Delta((i_1, \dots, i_d), u)$ for $p \in Y_u^{\circ}$, hence $f_{(i_1, \dots, i_d)}^{-1}(p)$ contractible.

Topology of fibers



Thm (Davis-H-Miller): Each fiber $f^{-1}(p)$ admits a cell decomposition induced by the natural cell decomposition of the simplex Δ_{d-1} .

Proof: Parametrization + continuity lemmas

Topology of Fibers: Key Lemmas

Def'n (Davis-H-Miller): The

letter x_{i_1} is **redundant** in

$x_{i_1} \dots x_{i_d}$ if $\delta(i_1, \dots, i_d) = \delta(i_2, \dots, i_d)$

Lemma (Davis-H-Miller): x_{i_1}

is non-redundant in $x_{i_1} \dots x_{i_d}$

$\Leftrightarrow f_{(i_1, \dots, i_d)}^{-1}(p)$ for $p \in Y_{\delta(i_1, \dots, i_d)}^0$

$\{(t_1, \dots, t_d) \mid x_{i_1}(t_1) \dots x_{i_d}(t_d) = p\}$

has unique value k_1 for t_1 .

$\Leftrightarrow f_{(i_1, \dots, i_d)}^{-1}(p) \cong f_{(i_2, \dots, i_d)}^{-1}(x_{i_1}(k_1)p)$

Lemma (Davis-H-Miller): Given $(t_1, \dots, t_d) \in f_{(i_1, \dots, i_d)}^{-1}(p)$ with $t_1 > 0$ and x_{i_1} redundant, then $\exists (t'_1, \dots, t'_d) \in f_{(i_1, \dots, i_d)}^{-1}(p)$ for every $t'_1 \in [0, t_1]$.

e.g. $M = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \pi & e \\ & 1 & 14 \\ & & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ then $f_{(1,2,1,2)}^{-1}(M)$
 $\{(t_1, t_2, t_3, t_4) \mid x_1(t_1)x_2(t_2)x_1(t_3)x_2(t_4) = M\}$
 achieves every $t_1 \in [0, \frac{e}{14}]$.

Parametrization: Given (i_1, \dots, i_d) ,
 consider rightmost subword that
 is reduced word for $w = \delta(i_1, \dots, i_d)$

e.g. $(1, 2, 1, 2, 1, 2, 1)$

Parametrize $f_{(1, 2, 1, 2, 1, 2, 1)}^{-1}(p)$
 in $\mathcal{Y}_{S_1, S_2, S_1}$

$x_1(t_1) x_2(t_2) x_1(t_3) x_2(t_4) x_1(t_5) x_2(t_6) x_1(t_7)$
 "free" parameters "dependant" parameters

Thm (Davis-H-Miller):

$$[0, 1]^{\dim(\sigma)} \cong \bigcup_{v \in \bar{\tau} \subseteq \bar{\sigma}} \hat{\tau}$$

$\hat{\tau}$ source vertex of $\bar{\sigma}$



Totally Nonnegative Spaces w/ Seemingly Analogous Structure

1. Totally nonnegative real part of
Grassmannian: $Gr_{\geq 0}(k, n) = (GL_n / P)_{\geq 0}$

Postnikov: polytope of "plabic graphs"
w/ "measurement map" to $Gr_{\geq 0}(k, n)$
+ theory of (reduced) plabic graphs

Postnikov-Speyer-Williams: $Gr_{\geq 0}(k, n)$
is CW complex (via attaching maps
that are not homeomorphisms)

Galashin-Karp-Lam 2017 preprint:

$Gr_{\geq 0}(k, n)$ is homeom. to closed ball.

2. Totally nonnegative real part
of flag variety $\tilde{Fl}_{\geq 0} = (GL/B)_{\geq 0}$

Rietsch: poset of closure rel's. Cells
 $R_{u,v}^{\circ}$ given by $u \leq v$ in Bruhat order

Marsh-Rietsch: parametrization for $R_{u,v}^{\circ}$

Williams: poset is CW poset

Rietsch-Williams: (1) CW complex w/
attaching maps via canonical bases.

(2) Contractibility of each cell closure

Gekhtin-Karp-Lam: homeomorphism type
for closure of "big cell"

3. Stratified Spaces of Electrical Networks (Curtis-Ingerman-Morrow, Kenyon-Wilson, ...)

• Image of map Resp:  \mapsto response matrix

Lam: (1) $E_n \hookrightarrow Gr_{\geq 0}(n-1, 2n)$

(2) $F(E_n)$ is "Eulerian" (i.e. correct "Euler char.")

H-Kenyon: $F(E_n)$ shelling \neq $F(E_n)$ is CW poset (uses Dyer Bruhat shelling)

H-K Cor: shelling for each $[u, v]$ in face poset for edge-product space of phylogenetic trees (so CW poset)

Galashin-Karp-Lam: Homeom. type for closure of "big cell" for graph analogue of ω_0 , "well-connected graph"

4. (Deconed) Totally nonneg. real part
unipotent radical of Borel in semisimple
simply connected algebraic group

(a) Vertex "link" (nbhd) in $(\mathbb{F}^n)_{\geq 0}$
via Marsh-Rietsch parameters $\rightarrow 0$

(b) Image $(f_{(i_1, \dots, i_d)})$ for $w_0 = w(i_1, \dots, i_d)$

(c) Bruhat order as poset
of closure rel'ns

(d) Each cell closure homeom.
to closed ball.

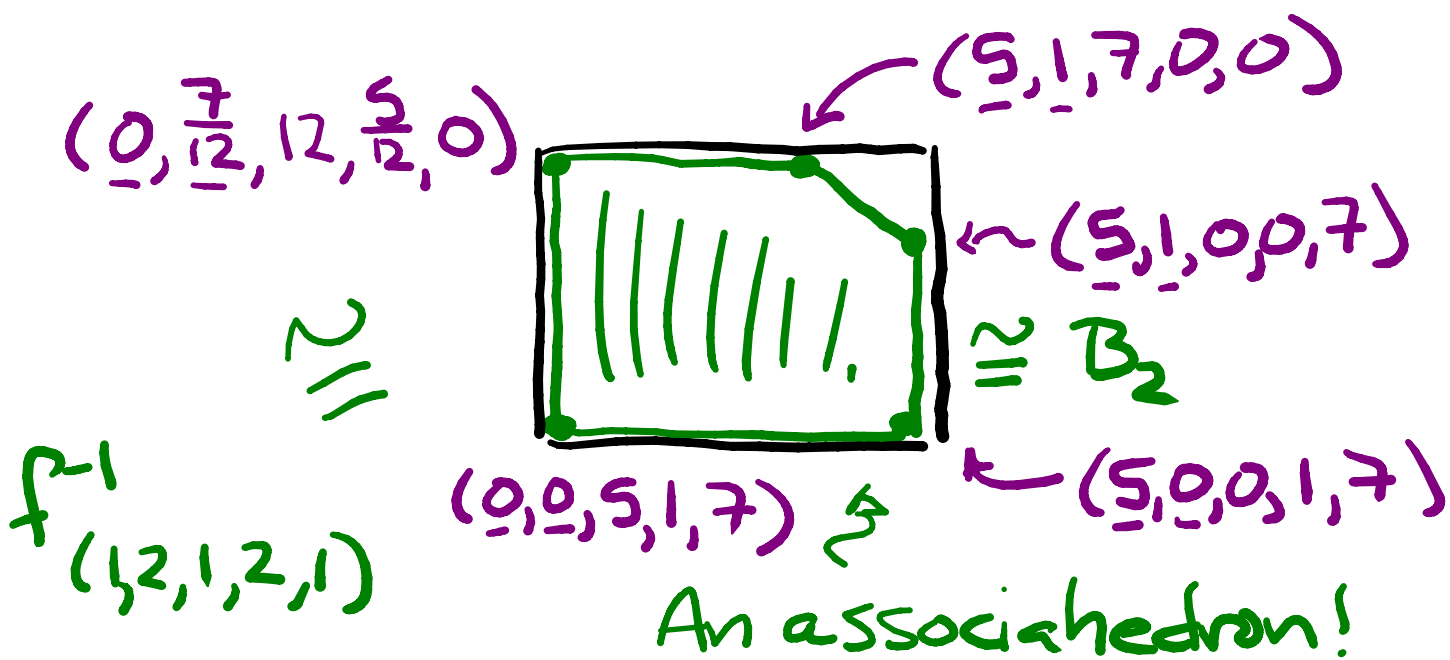
- known as Fomin-Shipiro Conjecture

- proved by H., 2014, Invent.

- special case of w_0 in type A

(shorter proof) GKL, 2017

Happy Birthday, Sergey!



- and thanks for making
so many interesting
mathematical associations!

Appendix: further
Remarks & Details

Thm (DHM): DHM Conjecture \Rightarrow
2nd (or 3rd?) proof of FS-Conjecture

Idea: Shellability of Bruhat Order
+ (Well Known) Topological Relationship

Fibers to Image: Let $g: B \rightarrow Z$ be
continuous surjection from ball B to
Hausdorff space Z whose restriction to
 $\text{int}(B)$ is an embedding. Suppose also:

$$(1) g(\partial B) \cong \partial B = S^n$$

$$(2) g(\partial B) \cap g(\text{int}(B)) = \emptyset$$

$$(3) g^{-1}(p) \text{ is contractible } \forall p \in g(\partial B)$$

Then $Z \cong B$.

Ingredients in this Relationship Between fibers & Image

- "CE-Approximation Theorem
(Kirby-Siebenmann (all dim's);
Quinn (dim 4); Armentrout (dim 3))

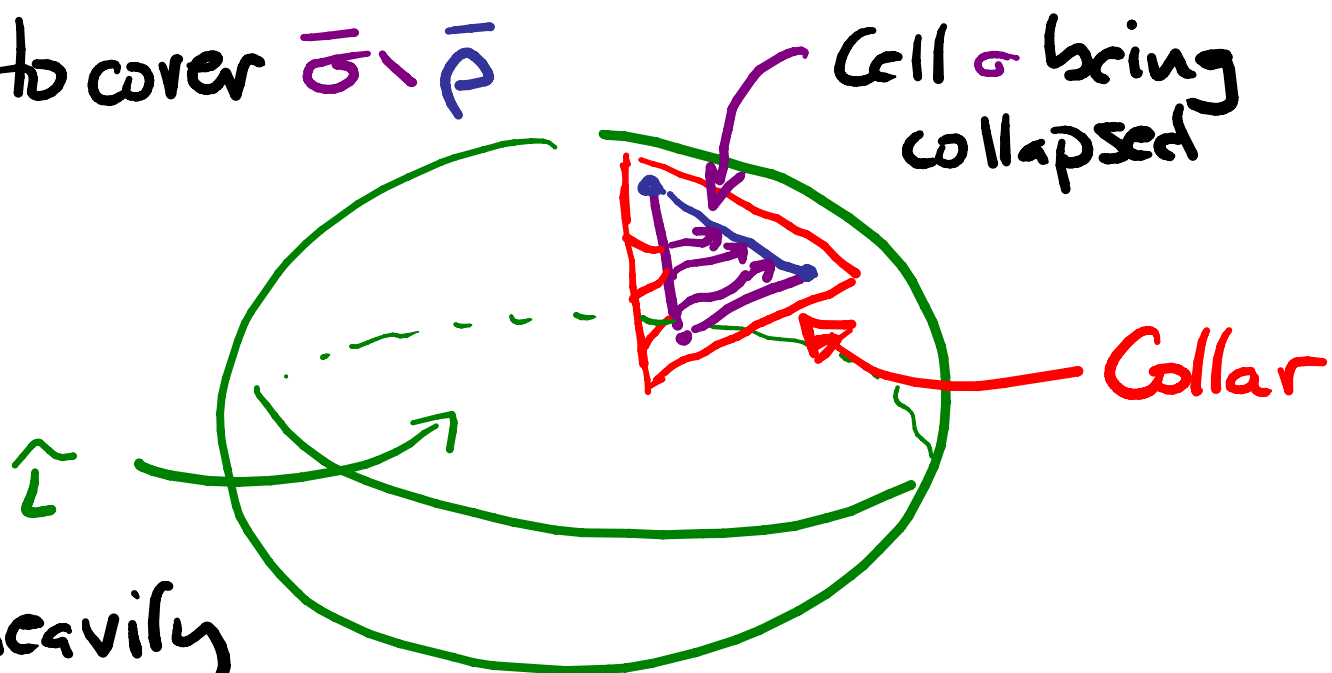
- $g: \partial B \rightarrow \partial B$ as above may
approximated by homeomorphisms

- Local Contractibility of $\text{Homeo}^+(S^n, S^n)$
- any two homeomorphisms "close
enough" to each other connected
by path of homeomorphisms

Step 1: Cell Collapses Preserving Homeom. Type, Regularity \neq Topol. Manifold

- Cover each non-reduced σ with "nice" curves each in single fiber of $f_{(i, -id)}$
- Collapse $\bar{\sigma}$ onto $\bar{\rho} \subseteq \partial\sigma$ by stretching curve extensions in "collar" for $\partial\sigma \setminus \bar{\rho}$

to cover $\bar{\sigma} \setminus \bar{\rho}$




heavily

uses combinatorics of reduced \neq nonreduced words in O-Hecke algebra

Step 2 via: New Regularity Criterion

Preparatory Lemma (H.): Let K be a finite CW complex w/ characteristic maps $\{f_\alpha\}$. Suppose:

(1) $\forall \alpha, f_\alpha(\partial B^{\dim \alpha})$ is a union of open cells (surjectivity)

Non-Example: 

(2) $\forall f_\alpha$, the preimages of the open cells of codim. one in \bar{e}_α are dense in $\partial(B^{\dim \alpha})$

Non-Example: 

Then $F(K)$ is graded by cell dimension.

Insightful feedback (Quinn): Next theorem "spreads around" injectivity requirement.

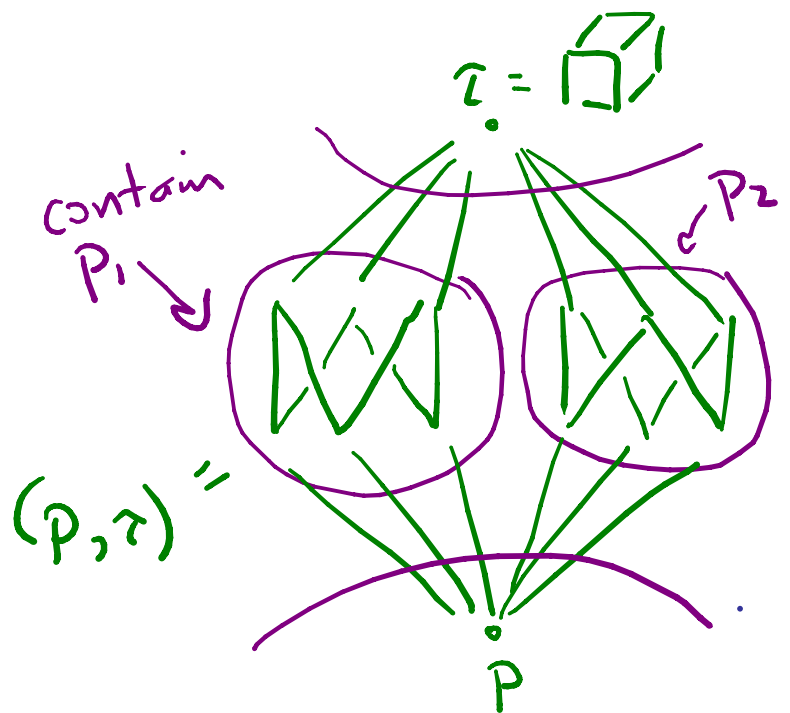
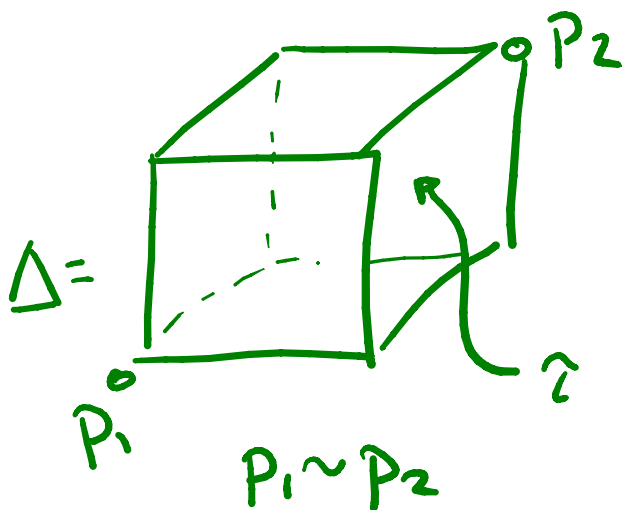
Thm (H.) Let K be finite CW complex w.r.t. characteristic maps $\{f_\alpha\}$. Then K is regular w.r.t. $\{f_\alpha\} \iff$

(1) K meets requirements of prop'n for $F(K)$ to be graded by cell dim.

(2) $F(K)$ is thin and each open interval (u, v) for $\dim(v) - \dim(u) > 2$ is connected (as graph)

(combinatorial condition)

Non-Example



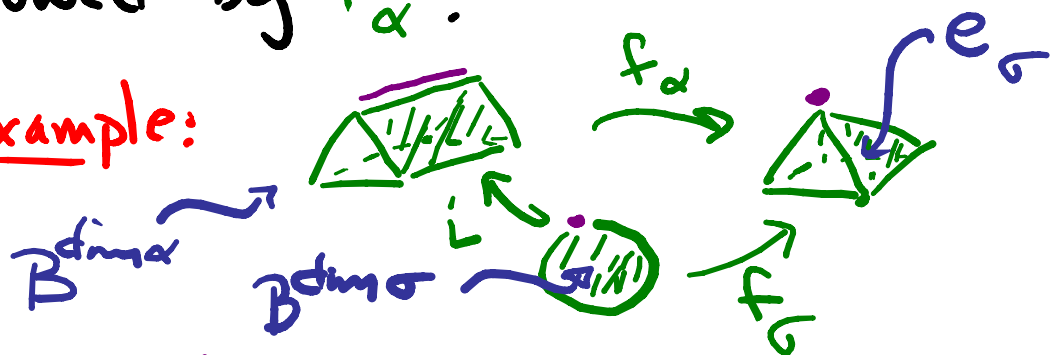
(3) For each α , the restriction of f_α to preimages of codim. one cells in \bar{e}_α is injective.
 (topological condition)

Non-Example:



(4) $\forall e_\sigma \subseteq \bar{e}_\alpha$, f_σ factors as continuous inclusion $i: B^{\dim \sigma} \rightarrow B^{\dim \alpha}$ followed by f_α .

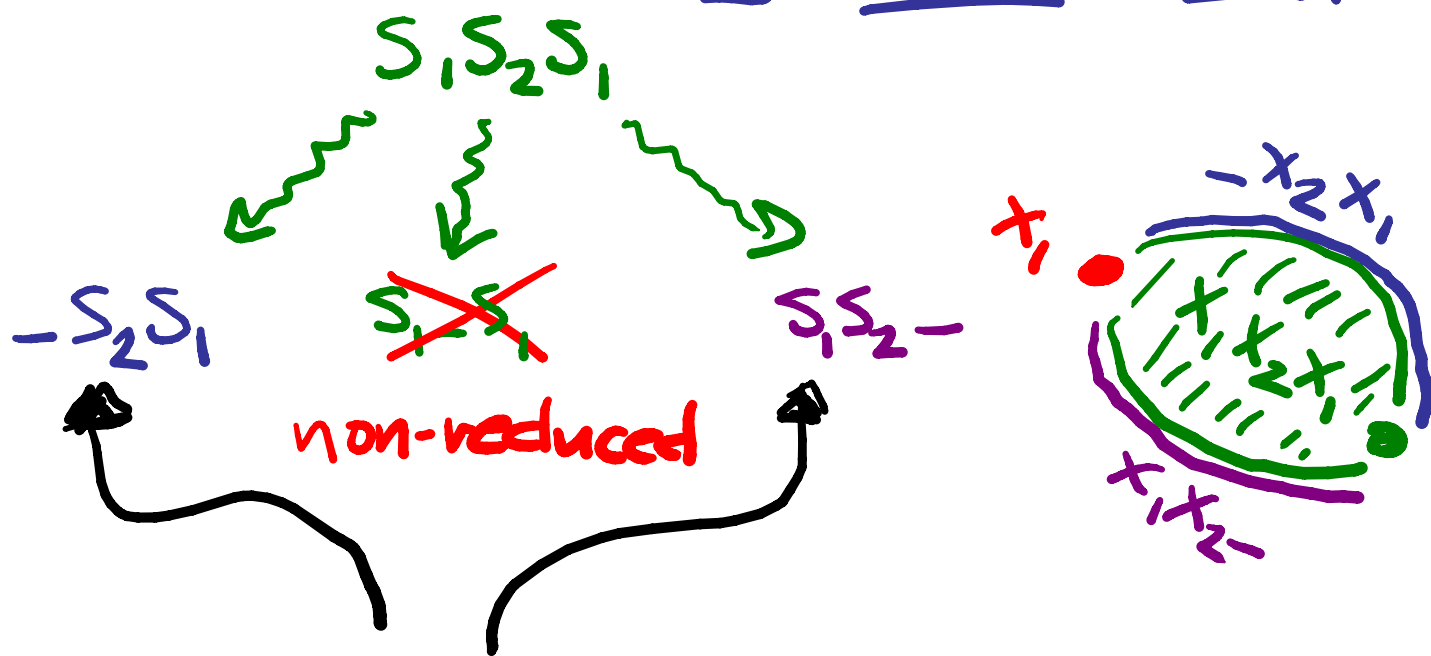
Non-Example:



Notably Absent: Injectivity requirement for $\{f_\alpha\}$ beyond codim. one.

Proof: Induction on difference in dim.

Confirming Codimension One Injectivity via Exchange Axiom for Coxeter Groups

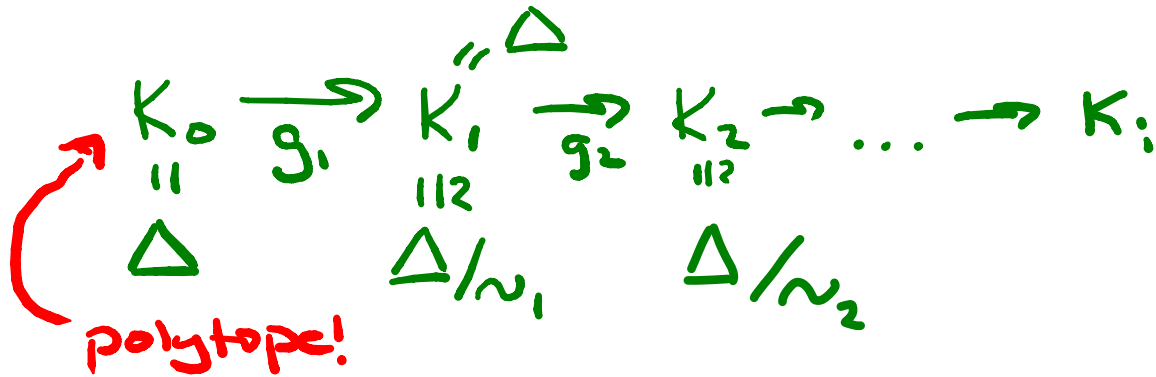


• reduced subexpressions of reduced expression obtained by deleting one letter give **distinct** $u \in W$

• Need codim one! e.g. $s_1 s_2 s_1$

\swarrow \searrow
 $s_1 - -$ $- - s_1$

(Mainly Combinatorial) Conditions Allowing Such Face Collapses Across Curves



• collapse face in K_i across images of parallel line segments in K_0 satisfying:

• Distinct endpoints condition (DE):



• Distinct initial points condition (DIP):



• Least upper bound condition (LUB)



(conditions checkable via O-Hecke algebra)

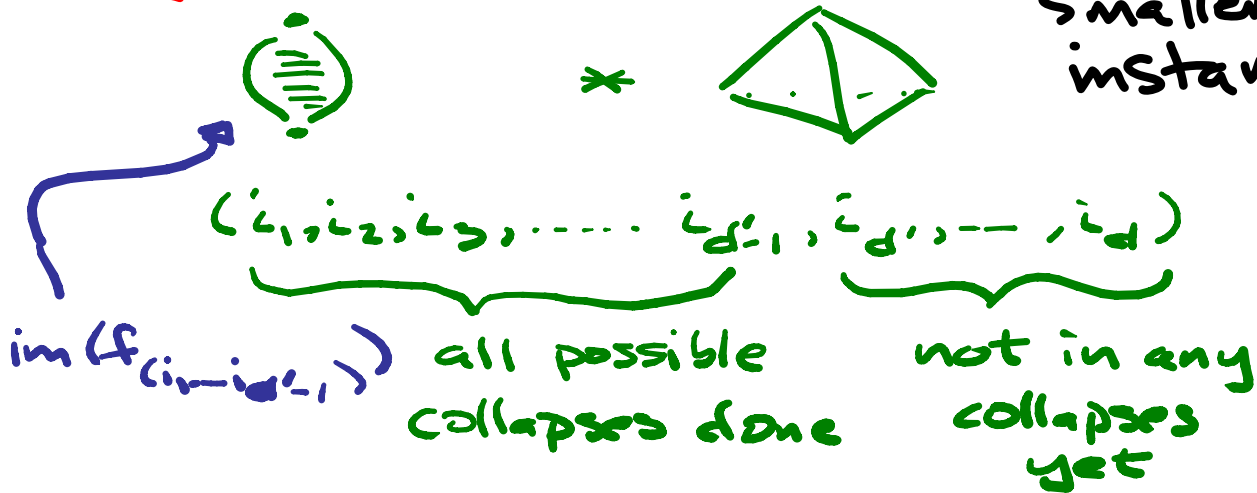
Additional Key Challenges

1. 0-Hecke algebra lacks inverses!
lacks cancellation law.

Key Idea: find ways to transfer properties from Coxeter gp

2. Need change-of-coords for braid moves as homeom's on closed cells

Key Idea: induction by embedding smaller instance



3. Need maps to extend to full complex

4. Tricky combinatorics to verify LUB at each collapsing step.