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BRAID GROUPS OF NORMALIZERS OF REFLECTION SUBGROUPS

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ABSTRACT. — Let W_0 be a reflection subgroup of a finite complex reflection group W , and let \tilde{B}_0 and B be their respective braid groups. In order to construct a Hecke algebra \tilde{H}_0 for the normalizer $N_W(W_0)$, one first considers a natural subquotient \tilde{B}_0 of B which is an extension of $N_W(W_0)/W_0$ by B_0 . We prove that this extension is split when W is a Coxeter group, and deduce a standard basis for the Hecke algebra \tilde{H}_0 . We also give classes of both split and non-split examples in the non-Coxeter case.

RÉSUMÉ. — Soit W_0 un sous-groupe de réflexions d'un groupe de réflexions complexe fini W , et soient B_0 et B leurs groupes de tresses respectifs. Dans le but de construire une algèbre de Hecke \tilde{H}_0 associée au normalisateur $N_W(W_0)$, on considère dans un premier temps un sous-quotient naturel \tilde{B}_0 de B qui est une extension de $N_W(W_0)/W_0$ par B_0 . On prouve que cette extension est scindée lorsque W est un groupe de Coxeter, ce qui permet de construire une base standard de l'algèbre de Hecke \tilde{H}_0 . Dans le cas des groupes de réflexions complexes finis qui ne sont pas des groupes de Coxeter, on donne des exemples de cas de figure où l'extension est scindée, ainsi que d'autres exemples où elle ne l'est pas.

1. Introduction

Let W be a finite complex reflection group and W_0 a reflection subgroup of W . We write $N_W(W_0)$ for the normalizer of W_0 in W . There are various cases in which $N_W(W_0)$ is a semidirect product of W_0 and some complementary subgroup, i.e. there is a known splitting of the short exact sequence of groups

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$$(1.1) \quad 1 \rightarrow W_0 \rightarrow N_W(W_0) \rightarrow N_W(W_0)/W_0 \rightarrow 1.$$

For one such case: when W is a finite Coxeter group, a choice of simple system for W determines a complement of W_0 in $N_W(W_0)$, as observed by Howlett [7] and recalled in greater generality in Lemma 3.3 below. For another: when W_0 is a parabolic subgroup of W , then it always has a complement in $N_W(W_0)$, as shown by Muraleedaran and Taylor [12]. On the other hand, there are cases where no complement exists, i.e. the short exact sequence (1.1) does not split: see Section 6.1.

Let B be the braid group associated to the complex reflection group W , defined topologically as in [5]. We can identify the braid group B_0 of W_0 with a subquotient of B . In [11, Section 2.2] the third author introduced another subquotient \tilde{B}_0 of B , which can be thought of loosely as the braid group of $N_W(W_0)$, although it actually depends on the pair (W, W_0) . (The notation \tilde{B}_0 is new to this paper, and refers to the $G = N_W(W_0)$ special case of the group denoted B_G in loc. cit.) The definition of \tilde{B}_0 , recalled in Section 2 below, is such that we have a natural short exact sequence of groups

$$(1.2) \quad 1 \rightarrow B_0 \rightarrow \tilde{B}_0 \rightarrow N_W(W_0)/W_0 \rightarrow 1,$$

lifting the short exact sequence (1.1).

The main question addressed in this paper is: when can we write \tilde{B}_0 as a semidirect product of B_0 and some complementary subgroup? More precisely, assuming we are in a case where we have a splitting of (1.1), does that splitting lift to a splitting of (1.2)?

One main reason for considering these questions, which was in fact the original motivation, is the study of the Hecke algebra \tilde{H}_0 associated to $N_W(W_0)$, which was defined in [11] as a certain quotient of the group algebra of \tilde{B}_0 . A splitting of (1.2) implies a semidirect product decomposition of \tilde{H}_0 . These algebras \tilde{H}_0 are the building blocks of the algebra \mathcal{C}_W constructed in [10] to describe the “Artin part” of the Yokonuma–Hecke algebra, in the sense that \mathcal{C}_W is Morita-equivalent to a direct sum of such Hecke algebras \tilde{H}_0 . As explained in [10], when W is the symmetric group, the algebra \mathcal{C}_W coincides with the diagram algebra of braids and ties of Aicardi and Juyumaya.

In Section 3 we will show that when W is a finite Coxeter group and W_0 is an arbitrary reflection subgroup, the known splitting of (1.1) does lift to a splitting of (1.2); see Theorem 3.13. In Section 3.5 we use this to define a standard basis, and a presentation, of \tilde{H}_0 in this case. Our proof

of the splitting of (1.2) applies also when W_0 is a reflection subgroup of an infinite Coxeter group W , on the assumption that the Artin group of W_0 occurs as a subquotient of the Artin group of W in the same manner as in the finite case; see (3.4) for the precise statement of this assumption.

In Section 4 we explain an alternative proof of the splitting of (1.2) in the Coxeter case, which is in some ways more conceptual; see Theorem 4.6. One aspect of this second proof may be of independent interest: in Section 4.2 we give a groupoid description of the complement of W_0 in $N_W(W_0)$ when W is a (possibly infinite) Coxeter group and W_0 is an arbitrary reflection subgroup, which was inspired by, but is different from, the description given by Brink and Howlett [4] in the case where W_0 is parabolic (see Remark 4.5 for a comparison).

The proofs we give in Sections 3 and 4 are both intrinsically Coxeter-theoretic, which suggests that, when we return to the setting of general complex reflection groups W , the splitting of (1.2) can most reasonably be expected in those cases which are most Coxeter-like. In Section 5 we will show that when $W = G(d, 1, n)$ and $W_0 = G(d, 1, k)$, the obvious splitting of (1.1) does lift to a splitting of (1.2). On the other hand, in Section 6.2 we will give examples where (1.1) splits but (1.2) does not split.

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2. Definitions and preliminaries

The goal of this section is to recall the definitions referred to in the introduction, in particular of the group \tilde{B}_0 , the short exact sequence (1.2), and the Hecke algebra \tilde{H}_0 . For more details, see [5, 11].

Let $W < \text{GL}_n(\mathbb{C})$ be a finite complex reflection group, let \mathcal{A} denote the arrangement of reflecting hyperplanes in \mathbb{C}^n for the reflections in W , and let $X = \mathbb{C}^n \setminus \bigcup_{H \in \mathcal{A}} H$ be the complement of that arrangement, on which W acts freely. We fix a base-point $\tilde{x} \in X$, let $[\tilde{x}]_W$ denote its image in the quotient X/W , and define the pure braid group $P = \pi_1(X, \tilde{x})$ and braid group $B = \pi_1(X/W, [\tilde{x}]_W)$. We denote by $\pi : B \rightarrow W$ the natural projection, whose kernel is identified with P .

Recall from [5, Theorem 2.17(1)] that B is generated by the elements known as *braided reflections* around the hyperplanes in \mathcal{A} . For $H \in \mathcal{A}$, let m_H denote the order of the cyclic subgroup of W fixing H , let $s_H \in W$ denote the distinguished reflection with hyperplane H , i.e. the one with determinant $\exp(2\pi\sqrt{-1}/m_H)$, and let $\sigma_H \in B$ be a braided reflection around H such that $\pi(\sigma_H) = s_H$, as in [5, Lemma 2.14]. Such a braided reflection σ_H is unique up to P -conjugacy; more generally, if $\beta \in B$, then $\beta\sigma_H\beta^{-1}$ is a braided reflection around the hyperplane $\pi(\beta)(H)$. The element $\sigma_H^{m_H} \in P$ and its P -conjugates are the homotopy classes of the particular loops in X based at \tilde{x} which are known as *meridians* around H . By [5, Theorem 2.18(1)], P is generated by the set of all the meridians around hyperplanes in \mathcal{A} . In fact, by [5, Proposition 2.8], it suffices to take one (well-chosen) meridian per hyperplane.

Now let W_0 be a reflection subgroup of W , let $\mathcal{A}_0 \subseteq \mathcal{A}$ be the collection of reflecting hyperplanes of W_0 , and let $X^0 = \mathbb{C}^n \setminus \bigcup_{H \in \mathcal{A}_0} H$. Again we have the pure braid group $P_0 = \pi_1(X^0, \tilde{x})$ and braid group $B_0 = \pi_1(X^0/W_0, [\tilde{x}]_{W_0})$, and the projection $\pi_0 : B_0 \rightarrow W_0$ with kernel P_0 .

The inclusion of X in X^0 induces a surjection $P \rightarrow P_0$, whose kernel is the subgroup K_0 of P generated by meridians around the hyperplanes in $\mathcal{A} \setminus \mathcal{A}_0$. As explained in [11, Section 2.2], we can identify $\pi_1(X/W_0, [\tilde{x}]_{W_0})$ with the subgroup $\pi^{-1}(W_0)$ of B , and thus the surjection $P \rightarrow P_0$ extends to a surjection $\pi^{-1}(W_0) \rightarrow B_0$ which still has kernel K_0 . Hence B_0 can be identified with the subquotient $\pi^{-1}(W_0)/K_0$ of B , in such a way that $\pi : \pi^{-1}(W_0) \rightarrow W_0$ factors through $\pi_0 : B_0 \rightarrow W_0$.

In the case when W_0 is a *parabolic* subgroup of W , i.e. W_0 is the pointwise stabilizer in W of some subspace of \mathbb{C}^n , it is shown in [5, Proposition 2.29] that there is a splitting of the surjection $\pi^{-1}(W_0) \rightarrow B_0$, well-defined up to conjugacy by P and compatible with π and π_0 . Hence in this case we have a commutative diagram

$$(2.1) \quad \begin{array}{ccccccc} 1 & \longrightarrow & P_0 & \longrightarrow & B_0 & \xrightarrow{\pi_0} & W_0 \longrightarrow 1 \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ 1 & \longrightarrow & P & \longrightarrow & B & \xrightarrow{\pi} & W \longrightarrow 1 \end{array}$$

and we can regard B_0 as a subgroup of B rather than a subquotient. However, for non-parabolic reflection subgroups W_0 , the surjection $\pi^{-1}(W_0) \rightarrow B_0$ is not split in general.

Let $N_W(W_0)$ denote the normalizer of W_0 in W , and define

$$\widehat{B}_0 = \pi^{-1}(N_W(W_0)) \leq B.$$

Let σ_H be a braided reflection around a hyperplane $H \in \mathcal{A} \setminus \mathcal{A}_0$ and let $\beta \in \tilde{B}_0$. Then $\sigma_H^{m_H}$ is a generator of K_0 , and as $\pi(\beta)$ normalizes W_0 we have $\pi(\beta)(H) \notin \mathcal{A}_0$, hence $\beta\sigma_H^{m_H}\beta^{-1} \in K_0$. This shows that K_0 is still normal in \tilde{B}_0 . The group \tilde{B}_0 mentioned in the introduction is defined to be the quotient \tilde{B}_0/K_0 . Note that \tilde{B}_0 contains $B_0 = \pi^{-1}(W_0)/K_0$ as a subgroup.

Let $\tilde{\pi}_0 : \tilde{B}_0 \rightarrow N_W(W_0)$ be the projection induced by π . Then we have a commutative diagram

$$(2.2) \quad \begin{array}{ccccccc} 1 & \longrightarrow & B_0 & \longrightarrow & \tilde{B}_0 & \longrightarrow & N_W(W_0)/W_0 \longrightarrow 1 \\ & & \downarrow \pi_0 & & \downarrow \tilde{\pi}_0 & & \downarrow = \\ 1 & \longrightarrow & W_0 & \longrightarrow & N_W(W_0) & \longrightarrow & N_W(W_0)/W_0 \longrightarrow 1 \end{array}$$

in which both rows are short exact sequences. These are the short exact sequences (1.1) and (1.2) mentioned in the introduction. It is trivial that any splitting of the top row would induce a splitting of the bottom row. In this paper, we consider cases where we have a splitting of the bottom row (equivalently, we have a subgroup of $N_W(W_0)$ complementary to W_0) and investigate whether it lifts to a splitting of the top row.

Recall from [5] the definition of the Hecke algebra H_0 associated to W_0 , which is a quotient of the group algebra $\mathbb{k}B_0$ by certain Hecke relations. Here \mathbb{k} can be taken to be the generic ring $\mathbb{Z}[a_{H,i}, a_{H,0}^{\pm 1}]$ where $a_{H,i}$ are indeterminates indexed by W_0 -orbits of hyperplanes $H \in \mathcal{A}_0$ and integers $0 \leq i < m_H$.

Recall from [11] that the Hecke algebra \tilde{H}_0 associated to $N_W(W_0)$ is defined as the quotient of $\mathbb{k}\tilde{B}_0$ by the same Hecke relations as in the definition of H_0 . If the short exact sequence (1.2) splits, then $\mathbb{k}\tilde{B}_0$ is a semidirect product of $\mathbb{k}B_0$ with the group $N_W(W_0)/W_0$, and consequently \tilde{H}_0 is a semidirect product of H_0 with the group $N_W(W_0)/W_0$.

As a general notational convention, on those occasions when we need to consider reflection subgroups of W other than our fixed W_0 , we denote them as W_1 or W_2 , etc. Our notation for the objects associated to W_i is then obtained by replacing 0 by i in the notation for the analogous objects for W_0 .

3. Reflection subgroups of Coxeter groups

Our aim in this section is to prove that the short exact sequence (1.2) does split in the case when W is a finite Coxeter group, that is, the complexification of a real reflection group, and W_0 is an arbitrary reflection subgroup. Our argument applies equally well to infinite Coxeter groups, as long as we make the assumption stated as (3.4) below. For most of this section, we let (W, S) be an arbitrary Coxeter system with W and S possibly infinite. From Section 3.4 onwards we re-impose the assumption that W is finite (except for Remarks 3.17 and 3.18).

In the setting of an arbitrary Coxeter system, we use the letter B to denote the Artin group of (W, S) (which is consistent with our previous usage if W is finite; see Section 3.4). Let Σ be the standard set of generators of B which is in canonical bijection with the (possibly infinite) set S of generators of W . As a notational convention, if s or s_i or s_{i_1} , for example, denotes an element of S , we write the corresponding element of Σ as σ or σ_i or σ_{i_1} , respectively. By definition of B , we have a projection homomorphism $\pi : B \rightarrow W$ which extends and is uniquely determined by the bijection from Σ to S . Recall that the pure Artin group $P := \ker(B \rightarrow W)$ is generated by elements of the form $\beta\sigma^2\beta^{-1}$ where $\beta \in B$ and $\sigma \in \Sigma$. The projection π has a (non-homomorphic) section $W \rightarrow B : w \mapsto \underline{w}$ where \underline{w} is the positive lift of w : explicitly, if $w = s_1 s_2 \cdots s_k$ is a reduced expression, then $\underline{w} = \sigma_1 \sigma_2 \cdots \sigma_k$.

3.1. Reflection subgroups and normalizers

We refer the reader to [6] for those results stated in this subsection for which no specific reference is given.

We denote by T the set $\bigcup_{w \in W} wSw^{-1}$ of reflections of W . We define the (left) inversion set of $w \in W$ as

$$N(w) := \{t \in T; \ell(tw) < \ell(w)\},$$

where ℓ is the usual length function relative to the simple system S . Given any reduced expression $s_1 s_2 \cdots s_k$ for $w \in W$, we have

$$N(w) = \{s_1, s_1 s_2 s_1, \dots, s_1 s_2 \cdots s_{k-1} s_k s_{k-1} \cdots s_2 s_1\},$$

where the elements listed on the right-hand side are distinct. In particular, we have $|N(w)| = \ell(w)$.

We have defined $N(w)$ in terms of left inversions, following [6], which means that the right inversion set of w is

$$(3.1) \quad N(w^{-1}) = \{t \in T; \ell(wt) < \ell(w)\} = w^{-1}N(w)w.$$

For any $w_1, w_2 \in W$ we have the cocycle rule

$$(3.2) \quad N(w_1w_2) = N(w_1) + w_1N(w_2)w_1^{-1},$$

where on the right-hand side $+$ means symmetric difference. So $\ell(w_1w_2) = \ell(w_1) + \ell(w_2)$ if and only if $N(w_1) \cap w_1N(w_2)w_1^{-1} = \emptyset$, which is equivalent to $N(w_1^{-1}) \cap N(w_2) = \emptyset$.

Let W_0 be a reflection subgroup of W , that is, a subgroup generated by a (possibly infinite) subset of T .

LEMMA 3.1 (A special case of [6, Theorem 3.3]). — *The reflection subgroup W_0 is a Coxeter group in a canonical way, with (possibly infinite) Coxeter generating set given by*

$$S_0 = \{t \in T; N(t) \cap W_0 = \{t\}\}.$$

Relative to this Coxeter structure, the set of reflections of W_0 is $T \cap W_0$ and the inversion set of $w \in W_0$ is $N(w) \cap W_0$.

LEMMA 3.2 (See [6, Corollary 3.4(ii)]). — *For $w \in W$, the following conditions are equivalent:*

- (1) *w has minimal length in its coset W_0w ;*
- (2) *$N(w) \cap W_0 = \emptyset$.*

Moreover, in any coset $W_0x \subseteq W$ there is a unique element which satisfies these conditions.

Proof. — It is clear that (1) implies (2), and that in any coset W_0x there is at least one element satisfying (1). From Lemma 3.1 we know that the identity is the only element of W_0 satisfying (2), and using (3.2) it is easy to deduce that in any coset W_0x there is at most one element satisfying (2). The result follows. □

We are interested in the normalizer $N_W(W_0)$ of W_0 in W . Define

$$U_0 := \{w \in N_W(W_0); N(w) \cap W_0 = \emptyset\}.$$

From (3.1) we see that this definition would be unchanged if we used right inversions:

$$U_0 = \{w \in N_W(W_0); N(w^{-1}) \cap W_0 = \emptyset\}.$$

LEMMA 3.3 (See [7, Lemma 2 and Corollary 3]). — U_0 is a subgroup of $N_W(W_0)$ which is complementary to W_0 . Thus we have a semidirect product decomposition

$$N_W(W_0) = W_0 \rtimes U_0.$$

The conjugation action of U_0 on W_0 preserves the Coxeter generating set S_0 .

Proof. — That U_0 is a subgroup of $N_W(W_0)$ follows easily from (3.2), and Lemma 3.2 implies that it is complementary to W_0 . Finally, if $u \in U_0$ and $t \in S_0$, then

$$\begin{aligned} N(utu^{-1}) \cap W_0 &= (N(u) + uN(t)u^{-1} + utN(u^{-1})tu^{-1}) \cap W_0 \\ &= (N(u) \cap W_0) + u(N(t) \cap W_0)u^{-1} + ut(N(u^{-1}) \cap W_0)tu^{-1} \\ &= \emptyset + \{utu^{-1}\} + \emptyset = \{utu^{-1}\}, \end{aligned}$$

so $utu^{-1} \in S_0$ as required. □

Example 3.4. — Let (W, S) be of type G_2 , with $S := \{s_1, s_2\}$. That is,

$$W = \langle s_1, s_2 \mid s_1^2 = s_2^2 = 1, s_1s_2s_1s_2s_1s_2 = s_2s_1s_2s_1s_2s_1 \rangle.$$

Let $W_0 < W$ be the subgroup of type A_2 generated by the reflections s_1 and $s_2s_1s_2$. Then it is easy to see that $S_0 = \{s_1, s_2s_1s_2\}$ and $U_0 = \{1, s_2\}$. In this case W_0 is normal in W , and the semidirect product decomposition of Lemma 3.3 is $W = W_0 \rtimes U_0$. We will return to this simple example later in the section.

Remark 3.5. — An alternative interpretation of the complementary subgroup U_0 is in terms of roots. We will not use this point of view in any proofs, but we describe it briefly for use in examples and remarks. Form a geometric representation V of (W, S) as in [6, Section 4], and let $\Pi = \{\alpha_s; s \in S\}$ denote the given basis of V in canonical bijection with S . Let $\Phi = W\Pi$ be the set of all roots, and $\Phi^+ = \{\alpha_t; t \in T\}$ the set of positive roots in canonical bijection with T . Then Φ is the disjoint union of Φ^+ and $\Phi^- := -\Phi^+$, and for $w \in W$ we have

$$N(w) = \{t \in T; w^{-1}(\alpha_t) \in \Phi^-\}$$

as in [6, Lemma 4.3].

The reflection subgroup W_0 gives rise to the subsets $\Phi_0^+ := \{\alpha_t; t \in T \cap W_0\}$ and $\Pi_0 := \{\alpha_t; t \in S_0\}$ of Φ^+ and the subset $\Phi_0^- := -\Phi_0^+$ of Φ^- . As a consequence of [6, Theorem 4.4], $\Phi_0 := W_0\Pi_0$ is the disjoint union of

Φ_0^+ and Φ_0^- , and every element of Φ_0^+ can be written as a positive linear combination of elements of Π_0 .

For any $w \in W$, we have $N(w^{-1}) \cap W_0 = \emptyset$ if and only if $w(\Phi_0^+) \subseteq \Phi^+$, which by the last remark is equivalent to $w(\Pi_0) \subseteq \Phi^+$. Combining this with the fact that the conjugation action of U_0 preserves S_0 , we see that

$$U_0 = \{w \in W ; w(\Phi_0^+) = \Phi_0^+\} = \{w \in W ; w(\Pi_0) = \Pi_0\}.$$

Example 3.6. — Let (W, S) be of type D_4 , with $S := \{s_1, s_2, s_3, s_4\}$, where s_1, s_2, s_4 are the simple reflections which commute with each other. The corresponding roots $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_4 \in \Pi$ are perpendicular to each other for the unique W -invariant inner product on V , and they are also perpendicular to the highest root $\alpha_1 + \alpha_2 + 2\alpha_3 + \alpha_4 = \alpha_t$ where $t = s_3s_1s_2s_4s_3s_4s_2s_1s_3$. Let $W_0 < W$ be the subgroup of type $4A_1$ generated by s_1, s_2, s_4, t . Then $S_0 = \{s_1, s_2, s_4, t\}$ and $\Pi_0 = \{\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_4, \alpha_t\}$. In this case $U_0 = \{w \in W ; w(\Pi_0) = \Pi_0\} = \{1, s_3s_1s_2s_3, s_3s_2s_4s_3, s_3s_1s_4s_3\}$ is isomorphic to the Klein 4-group, with its three non-identity elements acting on Π_0 as the three fixed-point-free involutions.

Remark 3.7. — If W_1 is another reflection subgroup of W which is conjugate to W_0 , then by Lemma 3.2 we can find $\tilde{w} \in W$ such that $W_0 = \tilde{w}W_1\tilde{w}^{-1}$ and $N(\tilde{w}) \cap W_0 = \emptyset$. A calculation which is very similar to that in the proof of Lemma 3.3 shows that $S_0 = \tilde{w}S_1\tilde{w}^{-1}$ and $U_0 = \tilde{w}U_1\tilde{w}^{-1}$. This observation is particularly useful when W_0 is a parabolic subgroup of W , i.e. a conjugate of a standard parabolic subgroup $W_1 = \langle S_1 \rangle$ for some subset $S_1 \subseteq S$. (Our use of the notation S_1 is consistent, because it does equal the canonical Coxeter generating set of W_1 .) The complementary subgroup U_1 for such a standard parabolic subgroup $W_1 \leq W$ was described by Howlett [7] in the case when W is finite and by Brink-Howlett [4] in general.

3.2. Reducing non-reduced expressions

The well-known Deletion Condition states that if (s_1, \dots, s_k) is a sequence of elements of S such that $s_1 \cdots s_k$ is non-reduced, meaning that $\ell(w) < k$ where $w = s_1 \cdots s_k$, then there exist $a_1, b_1 \in \{1, \dots, k\}$ with $a_1 < b_1$ such that

$$w = s_1 \cdots \widehat{s_{a_1}} \cdots \widehat{s_{b_1}} \cdots s_k.$$

Moreover, one can in fact stipulate that $a_1 \in \{1, \dots, k\}$ is maximal such that $s_{a_1} \cdots s_k$ is non-reduced; we make this choice of a_1 henceforth, and it

determines a unique choice of b_1 . (In fact, b_1 is the smallest integer greater than a_1 such that $s_{a_1} \cdots s_{b_1}$ is non-reduced.) Note that $s_{a_1+1} \cdots s_{b_1}$ and $s_{a_1} \cdots s_{b_1-1}$ are reduced expressions for the same element. Moreover, $s_{a_1+1} \cdots \widehat{s_{b_1}} \cdots s_k$ is reduced, because

$$\ell(s_{a_1+1} \cdots \widehat{s_{b_1}} \cdots s_k) = \ell(s_{a_1} \cdots s_k) = k - a_1 - 1$$

since $s_{a_1+1} \cdots s_k$ is reduced by the choice of a_1 .

Now if $s_1 \cdots \widehat{s_{a_1}} \cdots \widehat{s_{b_1}} \cdots s_k$ is still not reduced, we can define $a_2, b_2 \in \{1, \dots, k - 2\}$ in the same way, and we have $a_2 < a_1$ by the last remark.

In this way, starting with a sequence (s_1, \dots, s_k) of elements of S , we define a sequence of pairs

$$(a_1, b_1), (a_2, b_2), \dots, (a_r, b_r) \quad \text{with} \quad a_1 > a_2 > \dots > a_r.$$

After making all the successive deletions of two terms of the sequence indicated by these pairs, one obtains a reduced expression for $w = s_1 \cdots s_k$, so that $\ell(w) = k - 2r$. (If the original expression $s_1 \cdots s_k$ is already reduced, then $r = 0$ and the sequence of pairs is empty.)

The relevance of this construction for us lies in the following computation in B .

LEMMA 3.8. — *Let (s_1, \dots, s_k) be any sequence of elements of S , and define $(a_1, b_1), \dots, (a_r, b_r)$ as above. If σ_i denotes the generator of B corresponding to s_i , and $\underline{w} \in B$ denotes the positive lift of $w = s_1 \cdots s_k$, then we have the following equality in B :*

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma_1 \cdots \sigma_k = & (\sigma_1 \cdots \sigma_{a_1-1} \sigma_{a_1}^2 \sigma_{a_1-1}^{-1} \cdots \sigma_1^{-1}) (\sigma_1 \cdots \sigma_{a_2-1} \sigma_{a_2}^2 \sigma_{a_2-1}^{-1} \cdots \sigma_1^{-1}) \\ & \cdots (\sigma_1 \cdots \sigma_{a_r-1} \sigma_{a_r}^2 \sigma_{a_r-1}^{-1} \cdots \sigma_1^{-1}) \underline{w}. \end{aligned}$$

Proof. — Arguing by induction on r , we need only prove that if $r \geq 1$, then

$$\sigma_1 \cdots \sigma_k = (\sigma_1 \cdots \sigma_{a_1-1} \sigma_{a_1}^2 \sigma_{a_1-1}^{-1} \cdots \sigma_1^{-1}) \sigma_1 \cdots \widehat{\sigma_{b_1}} \cdots \widehat{\sigma_{b_1}} \cdots \sigma_k.$$

This follows immediately from the equality $\sigma_{a_1+1} \cdots \sigma_{b_1} = \sigma_{a_1} \cdots \sigma_{b_1-1}$, which holds since $s_{a_1+1} \cdots s_{b_1} = s_{a_1} \cdots s_{b_1-1}$ are reduced expressions of the same element of W . □

LEMMA 3.9. — *Let (s_1, \dots, s_k) be a sequence of elements of S obtained by concatenating reduced expressions for two elements of W , namely $w_1 =$*

$s_1 \cdots s_p$ and $w_2 = s_{p+1} \cdots s_k$. Define $(a_1, b_1), \dots, (a_r, b_r)$ as above. Then

$$N(w_1) \cap w_1 N(w_2) w_1^{-1} = \{s_1 s_2 \cdots s_{a_1-1} s_{a_1} s_{a_1-1} \cdots s_2 s_1, \dots, s_1 s_2 \cdots s_{a_r-1} s_{a_r} s_{a_r-1} \cdots s_2 s_1\},$$

where the elements listed on the right-hand side are distinct.

Proof. — Let $w = w_1 w_2 = s_1 \cdots s_k$. In this proof, to save space, we use the temporary notation

$$t_{[a,b]} := s_a s_{a+1} \cdots s_{b-1} s_b s_{b-1} \cdots s_{a+1} s_a, \quad \text{for } 1 \leq a < b \leq k.$$

Recall that $N(w_1) = \{t_{[1,1]}, t_{[1,2]}, \dots, t_{[1,p]}\}$ and that these p elements are distinct. Note that we have $a_1 \leq p$, since $s_{p+1} \cdots s_k$ is reduced. So the r elements $t_{[1,a_i]}$ listed in the statement are distinct and all belong to $N(w_1)$. From (3.2) we see that $N(w_1) \cap w_1 N(w_2) w_1^{-1} = N(w_1) \setminus N(w)$ and that this set has cardinality $\frac{\ell(w_1) + \ell(w_2) - \ell(w)}{2} = r$, so it suffices to prove that $t_{[1,a_i]} \notin N(w)$ for all i .

We prove this last statement by induction on r , the $r = 0$ case being vacuously true. Assume that $r \geq 1$. From (3.2) we have

$$(3.3) \quad N(w) = \{t_{[1,1]}, t_{[1,2]}, \dots, t_{[1,a_r]}\} + s_1 \cdots s_{a_r} N(s_{a_r+1} \cdots s_k) s_{a_r} \cdots s_{a_1}.$$

The induction hypothesis applies to the sequence (s_{a_r+1}, \dots, s_k) , for which the corresponding sequence of pairs is $(a_1 - a_r, b_1 - a_r), (a_2 - a_r, b_2 - a_r), \dots, (a_{r-1} - a_r, b_{r-1} - a_r)$, and tells us that $t_{[a_r+1, a_i]} \notin N(s_{a_r+1} \cdots s_k)$ for all $i < r$. As $t_{[1,1]}, t_{[1,2]}, \dots, t_{[1,p]}$ are all distinct, we conclude that for $i < r$, $t_{[1,a_i]}$ does not belong to either set on the right-hand side of (3.3). On the other hand, by definition of a_r we have $s_{a_r} \in N(s_{a_r+1} \cdots s_k)$, so $t_{[1,a_r]}$ belongs to both sets on the right-hand side of (3.3). In either case we are done. □

3.3. Properties of positive lifts

Now we return to considering the constructions associated with the choice of a reflection subgroup W_0 of our Coxeter group W .

We let K_0 be the subgroup of $P = \ker(\pi : B \twoheadrightarrow W)$ generated by the elements of the form $\beta \sigma^2 \beta^{-1}$ where $\beta \in B$ and $\sigma \in \Sigma$ are such that the reflection $\pi(\beta \sigma \beta^{-1}) \in T$ does not belong to W_0 . This is consistent with our previous definition of K_0 in the case that W is finite; see Section 3.4 below. It is clear that K_0 is normal in $\pi^{-1}(W_0)$ and in $\widehat{B}_0 = \pi^{-1}(N_W(W_0))$. Thus,

we can still define $\tilde{B}_0 = \hat{B}_0/K_0$ in this context, along with the projection $\tilde{\pi}_0 : \tilde{B}_0 \rightarrow N_W(W_0)$ induced by π .

Define a map

$$\psi : N_W(W_0) \rightarrow \tilde{B}_0$$

by $\psi(w) = \underline{w}K_0$. Note that ψ is injective, because $\tilde{\pi}_0 \circ \psi = \text{id}$. The map ψ is not a homomorphism but has the following “partial homomorphism” property:

PROPOSITION 3.10. — *Let $w_1, w_2 \in N_W(W_0)$. If we have $N(w_1^{-1}) \cap N(w_2) \cap W_0 = \emptyset$, then $\psi(w_1w_2) = \psi(w_1)\psi(w_2)$.*

Proof. — Let $w = w_1w_2$. We must prove that $\underline{w}K_0 = \underline{w_1w_2}K_0$. We form a sequence (s_1, \dots, s_k) of elements of S by concatenating a reduced expression for w_1 and a reduced expression for w_2 , as in Lemma 3.9. Apply Lemma 3.8 to this sequence: the left-hand side is exactly $\underline{w_1w_2}$, so it suffices to prove that each of the elements $\sigma_1 \cdots \sigma_{a_i-1} \sigma_{a_i}^2 \sigma_{a_i-1}^{-1} \cdots \sigma_1^{-1}$ on the right-hand side belongs to K_0 . By definition of K_0 , it suffices to show that the reflection $s_1 \cdots s_{a_i} \cdots s_1$ does not belong to W_0 . But by Lemma 3.9, this reflection belongs to $N(w_1) \cap w_1N(w_2)w_1^{-1}$, and our hypothesis is equivalent to $N(w_1) \cap w_1N(w_2)w_1^{-1} \cap W_0 = \emptyset$. \square

COROLLARY 3.11. — *The restriction $\psi : W_0 \hookrightarrow \pi^{-1}(W_0)/K_0$ is multiplicative on reduced expressions for the Coxeter system (W_0, S_0) . In other words, we have the following:*

- (1) *If $w_1, w_2 \in W_0$ are such that $\ell_0(w_1w_2) = \ell_0(w_1) + \ell_0(w_2)$ where ℓ_0 denotes the length function on W_0 relative to the generating set S_0 , then $\psi(w_1w_2) = \psi(w_1)\psi(w_2)$.*
- (2) *If $w \in W_0$ has a reduced expression $w = t_1t_2 \cdots t_k$ in terms of the generating set S_0 , then $\psi(w) = \psi(t_1)\psi(t_2) \cdots \psi(t_k)$.*
- (3) *With B_0 denoting the Artin group of the Coxeter system (W_0, S_0) , there is a unique group homomorphism $\tilde{\psi} : B_0 \rightarrow \pi^{-1}(W_0)/K_0$ such that, for any $w \in W_0$ with positive lift $\beta \in B_0$, we have $\tilde{\psi}(\beta) = \psi(w)$.*

Proof. — We first prove (1). Since the inversion sets of w_1^{-1} and w_2 relative to the Coxeter system (W_0, S_0) are $N(w_1^{-1}) \cap W_0$ and $N(w_2) \cap W_0$ respectively, the assumption that $\ell_0(w_1w_2) = \ell_0(w_1) + \ell_0(w_2)$ means that

$$(N(w_1^{-1}) \cap W_0) \cap (N(w_2) \cap W_0) = \emptyset.$$

Hence the hypothesis of Proposition 3.10 is satisfied and (1) follows. Now (2) is an immediate consequence of (1), and (3) follows from (2) because the

braid relations defining B_0 are equalities between positive lifts of reduced expressions. □

COROLLARY 3.12. — *Let $w_1, w_2 \in N_W(W_0)$. If at least one of w_1, w_2 belongs to U_0 , then $\psi(w_1 w_2) = \psi(w_1)\psi(w_2)$. In particular, we have:*

- (1) *The restriction $\psi : U_0 \hookrightarrow \tilde{B}_0$ is a group homomorphism.*
- (2) *For all $u \in U_0$ and $t \in S_0$ we have $\psi(u)\psi(t) = \psi(utu^{-1})\psi(u)$.*

Proof. — Since

$$\begin{aligned} U_0 &= \{w \in N_W(W_0); N(w) \cap W_0 = \emptyset\} \\ &= \{w \in N_W(W_0); N(w^{-1}) \cap W_0 = \emptyset\}, \end{aligned}$$

this follows immediately from Proposition 3.10. □

To recover our short exact sequence (1.2) we need to make the following assumption:

(3.4) The homomorphism

$$\tilde{\psi} : B_0 \rightarrow \pi^{-1}(W_0)/K_0 \text{ of Corollary 3.11(3) is an isomorphism.}$$

We will show in Proposition 3.16 that (3.4) holds when W is finite, using the interpretation of B and B_0 as fundamental groups of orbit spaces of hyperplane complements as in Section 2. Remarks 3.17 and 3.18 discuss the case when W is infinite.

Under the assumption (3.4), we have an injective homomorphism $B_0 \hookrightarrow \tilde{B}_0$ which is the composition of $\tilde{\psi}$ with the inclusion of $\pi^{-1}(W_0)/K_0$ in \tilde{B}_0 . We will show in Proposition 3.16 that, when W is finite, this injective homomorphism coincides with the one defined previously, so we can without ambiguity identify B_0 with a subgroup of \tilde{B}_0 in the current more general setting. It is clear from the definitions that this inclusion of B_0 in \tilde{B}_0 again fits into a short exact sequence (1.2) forming the top row of the commutative diagram (2.2) where the bottom row is the short exact sequence (1.1). We can now state the main result of this section.

THEOREM 3.13. — *Let W be a Coxeter group and W_0 a reflection subgroup of W such that assumption (3.4) holds; for example, this holds if W is finite. Then the splitting of the short exact sequence (1.1) given by Lemma 3.3 lifts to a splitting of the short exact sequence (1.2). Namely, after identifying $N_W(W_0)/W_0$ with U_0 , the splitting of (1.2) is the homomorphism $\psi : U_0 \hookrightarrow \tilde{B}_0$. Hence we have a semidirect product decomposition*

$$\tilde{B}_0 = B_0 \rtimes \psi(U_0).$$

The conjugation action of $\psi(U_0)$ on B_0 preserves the Artin generating set Σ_0 of B_0 , and for $u \in U_0$, the action of $\psi(u)$ on Σ_0 is the same as the conjugation action of u on S_0 .

Proof. — This follows from Corollary 3.12 in view of (3.4). □

Example 3.14. — We return to the setting of Example 3.4, with $W = \langle s_1, s_2 \rangle$ of type G_2 and $W_0 = \langle s_1, s_2s_1s_2 \rangle$ of type A_2 . In this case, the Artin group corresponding to W is

$$B = \langle \sigma_1, \sigma_2 \mid \sigma_1\sigma_2\sigma_1\sigma_2\sigma_1\sigma_2 = \sigma_2\sigma_1\sigma_2\sigma_1\sigma_2\sigma_1 \rangle.$$

The relevant subgroups of B are as follows:

- K_0 is the subgroup of B normally generated by σ_2^2 ,
- $\pi^{-1}(W_0)$ is the subgroup of B normally generated by σ_1 and σ_2^2 ,
- $\widehat{B}_0 = B$ itself, since W_0 is normal in W .

Clearly $\psi : W \rightarrow \widetilde{B}_0 = B/K_0$ is not a homomorphism, because $\psi(s_1)^2 = \sigma_1^2 K_0 \neq 1K_0 = \psi(s_1^2)$. However, as an example of Corollary 3.11, when $w_1 = s_2s_1s_2s_1$ and $w_2 = s_2s_1s_2$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \psi(w_1)\psi(w_2) &= \sigma_2\sigma_1\sigma_2\sigma_1\sigma_2\sigma_1\sigma_2 K_0 = \sigma_2^2\sigma_1\sigma_2\sigma_1\sigma_2\sigma_1 K_0 \\ &= \sigma_1\sigma_2\sigma_1\sigma_2\sigma_1 K_0 = \psi(w_1w_2). \end{aligned}$$

Moreover, the restriction of ψ to $U_0 = \langle s_2 \rangle$ is a homomorphism, in accordance with Corollary 3.12. Corollary 3.11 (3) and the assumption (3.4), true for finite W , imply that we can regard the Artin group B_0 of type A_2 as a subgroup of \widetilde{B}_0 by identifying the Artin generators of B_0 with $\sigma_1 K_0$ and $\sigma_2\sigma_1\sigma_2 K_0$. Then Theorem 3.13 states that we have a semidirect product decomposition $\widetilde{B}_0 = B_0 \rtimes \langle \sigma_2 K_0 \rangle$, where the conjugation action of $\psi(s_2) = \sigma_2 K_0$ interchanges $\sigma_1 K_0$ and $\sigma_2\sigma_1\sigma_2 K_0$.

Example 3.15. — Continue the notation of Example 3.6, where W is of type D_4 and W_0 of type $4A_1$. In this case, the Artin group B_0 is \mathbb{Z}^4 , identified with the subgroup of $\widetilde{B}_0 = \widehat{B}_0/K_0$ generated by

$$\sigma_1 K_0, \sigma_2 K_0, \sigma_4 K_0, \sigma_3\sigma_1\sigma_2\sigma_4\sigma_3\sigma_1\sigma_2\sigma_4\sigma_3 K_0.$$

Theorem 3.13 states that we have a semidirect product decomposition $\widetilde{B}_0 = \mathbb{Z}^4 \rtimes \psi(U_0)$, where $\psi(U_0)$ is the Klein 4-group $\langle \sigma_3\sigma_1\sigma_2\sigma_3 K_0, \sigma_3\sigma_2\sigma_4\sigma_3 K_0 \rangle$.

3.4. The finite Coxeter case

For the remainder of the section we assume that W is a finite Coxeter group. Thus we are in the setting of Section 2, but in addition there is a real

form V of the complex reflection representation \mathbb{C}^n on which W acts as a finite real reflection group. We endow V with a W -invariant inner product. For $t \in T$, we write H_t for the hyperplane $\ker(t - \text{id})$ in \mathbb{C}^n , and $V \cap H_t$ for the real hyperplane in V . We have a bijection $T \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathcal{A} : t \mapsto H_t$. The real hyperplane complement $V \cap X = V \setminus \bigcup_{t \in T} (V \cap H_t)$ is the union of contractible connected components called chambers, which are permuted simply transitively by W . Let C be a chamber which is compatible with the simple system S , i.e. a chamber whose walls are open subsets of the hyperplanes $V \cap H_s$ for $s \in S$. Then the chambers adjacent to C are those of the form $s(C)$ for $s \in S$. For any $w \in W$, the inversion set $N(w)$ consists exactly of those reflections $t \in T$ such that $V \cap H_t$ separates C from $w(C)$.

We choose our base-point \tilde{x} to belong to C . The two groups for which we have used the notation B , namely the Artin group of (W, S) and the fundamental group $\pi_1(X/W, [\tilde{x}]_W)$, can be identified in a standard way so that the natural projections $\pi : B \rightarrow W$ coincide. Recall how this standard identification works on the generators: for $s \in S$, the generator $\sigma = \underline{s}$ of the Artin group is identified with a special choice of braided reflection σ_{H_s} . As in [3, 5] (for instance), this braided reflection is defined to be the homotopy class of the image in X/W of a specific path from \tilde{x} to $s(\tilde{x})$ in X , which is a perturbation of the straight-line path from \tilde{x} to $s(\tilde{x})$ in V . Note that $s(\tilde{x})$ belongs to the chamber $s(C)$ which is adjacent to C . Let $\tilde{x}_s \in \overline{C}$ denote the orthogonal projection of \tilde{x} onto the common wall of these chambers. Then the straight-line path from \tilde{x} to $s(\tilde{x})$ in V crosses $V \cap H_s$ at \tilde{x}_s , and does not intersect any other hyperplane in \mathcal{A} . To produce the desired path from \tilde{x} to $s(\tilde{x})$ in X , one removes a small interval centred at \tilde{x}_s from the straight-line path in V , and replaces it with a semicircle in \mathbb{C}^n around H_s .

The element $\sigma^2 \in P$ is then identified with the homotopy class of a special meridian around H_s , namely the loop in X which travels on the straight line from \tilde{x} almost as far as \tilde{x}_s , then traverses a full circle in \mathbb{C}^n around H_s , and then returns along the same straight line to \tilde{x} . For any $\beta \in B$, the element $\beta\sigma^2\beta^{-1} \in P$ is a meridian around $H_{\pi(\beta\sigma\beta^{-1})}$, and every meridian around a hyperplane in \mathcal{A} is of this form for some $\beta \in B$ and $\sigma \in \Sigma$. This is why the two descriptions we have given of generating sets for $P = \ker(B \rightarrow W)$, and the two definitions we have given of its subgroup K_0 , are consistent.

The reflection subgroup W_0 has its own chambers, the connected components of $V \cap X^0$, each of which contains a number of chambers for W . Let C_0 be the unique chamber for W_0 which contains C , so in particular $\tilde{x} \in C_0$. Then the walls of C_0 are open subsets of the hyperplanes $V \cap H_t$

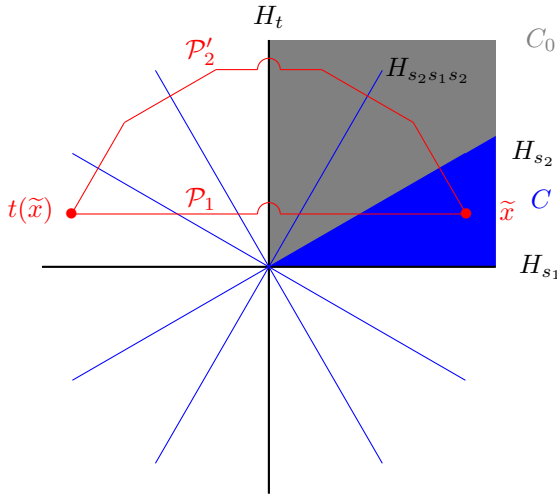


Figure 3.1. Chambers and paths for $\langle s_1, t \rangle < G_2$ with $t = s_2 s_1 s_2 s_1 s_2$

for $t \in S_0$. Replacing (W, S) with (W_0, S_0) in the above, we get an analogous standard identification between the two groups for which we have used the notation B_0 , namely the Artin group of (W_0, S_0) and the fundamental group $\pi_1(X^0/W_0, [\tilde{x}]_{W_0})$.

On the other hand, in Corollary 3.11 we saw a homomorphism $\tilde{\psi}$ from the Artin group of (W_0, S_0) to the subquotient $\pi^{-1}(W_0)/K_0$ of the Artin group of (W, S) , uniquely specified by the non-homomorphic map $\psi : W_0 \hookrightarrow \pi^{-1}(W_0)/K_0$ defined by $\psi(w) = \underline{w}K_0$. Once we make the standard identification of the Artin group of (W, S) with $\pi_1(X/W, [\tilde{x}]_W)$, the subquotient $\pi^{-1}(W_0)/K_0$ becomes identified with $\pi_1(X^0/W_0, [\tilde{x}]_{W_0})$ as we saw in Section 2. So $\tilde{\psi}$ becomes a homomorphism from B_0 to itself. The following result proves that (3.4) holds when W is finite, and also that our use of the notation B_0 is consistent and unambiguous.

PROPOSITION 3.16. — *Interpreted as above, $\tilde{\psi} : B_0 \rightarrow B_0$ is the identity. Equivalently, for any $w \in W_0$, $\psi(w)$ equals the positive lift of w to B_0 relative to the Coxeter generating set S_0 .*

Proof. — In view of Corollary 3.11, we need only check that, for any $t \in S_0$, $\psi(t)$ equals the corresponding Artin generator of B_0 . For this, let $t = s_1 s_2 \cdots s_k \cdots s_2 s_1$ be a palindromic reduced expression for t in the generating set S . (Recall that any reflection t has a palindromic reduced

expression: starting with an arbitrary reduced expression $s_1 s_2 \cdots s_{2k-1}$ for t , one can easily show as in [6, Lemma 2.7] that $t = s_1 s_2 \cdots s_k \cdots s_2 s_1$.)

We have two different ways to define a loop in X^0/W_0 based at $[\tilde{x}]_{W_0}$ associated to t , and we need to check that they are homotopic. The standard loop \mathcal{L}_1 , whose homotopy class is the generator of B_0 corresponding to t , is the image in X^0/W_0 of the path \mathcal{P}_1 from \tilde{x} to $t(\tilde{x})$ in X^0 obtained by perturbing the straight-line path in V , replacing a small interval centred on \tilde{x}_t with a semicircle in \mathbb{C}^n around H_t .

The alternative loop \mathcal{L}_2 , whose homotopy class is $\psi(t)$, actually lies in the subset $X/W_0 \subseteq X^0/W_0$, and its image in X/W has homotopy class $\sigma_1 \sigma_2 \cdots \sigma_k \cdots \sigma_2 \sigma_1 \in B$. One can construct \mathcal{L}_2 as the image in X/W_0 of a path \mathcal{P}_2 from \tilde{x} to $t(\tilde{x})$ in X obtained by perturbing the piecewise-linear path \mathcal{P}_3 in V which travels from \tilde{x} on a straight line to $s_1(\tilde{x})$, thence on a straight line to $s_1 s_2(\tilde{x})$, thence on a straight line to $s_1 s_2 s_3(\tilde{x})$, and so on until one reaches $t(\tilde{x})$. Note that the straight line segments of \mathcal{P}_3 cross exactly one hyperplane each, namely the hyperplanes corresponding to the elements of $N(t)$ in the order listed as follows:

$$N(t) = \{s_1, s_1 s_2 s_1, \dots, s_1 s_2 \cdots s_k \cdots s_2 s_1, \dots, s_1 s_2 \cdots s_k \cdots s_2 s_1 s_2 \cdots s_k \cdots s_2 s_1\}.$$

To obtain the path \mathcal{P}_2 , one perturbs \mathcal{P}_3 by replacing small intervals centred on the various hyperplane crossing points with semicircles in \mathbb{C}^n about the hyperplanes.

Since $t \in S_0$, the only element of $N(t) \cap W_0$ is t itself, appearing in the middle position in the above list. Accordingly, of the hyperplanes which \mathcal{P}_3 crosses, only the middle one H_t belongs to \mathcal{A}_0 . Hence, when viewed as a path from \tilde{x} to $t(\tilde{x})$ in X^0 rather than X , \mathcal{P}_2 is homotopic to another path \mathcal{P}'_2 which coincides with \mathcal{P}_3 except for maintaining the perturbation about the hyperplane H_t . Note that the first half of \mathcal{P}_3 lies entirely in C_0 , and the second half lies entirely in $t(C_0)$. Since these chambers are contractible, \mathcal{P}'_2 is homotopic to the standard path \mathcal{P}_1 , and we are done. (See Figure 3.1 for a picture showing the paths \mathcal{P}_1 and \mathcal{P}'_2 in a sample case.) \square

Remark 3.17. — The same argument shows that (3.4) also holds when W is of affine type. In this case one can interpret W as a reflection group on a Euclidean space V with an arrangement consisting of affine rather than linear hyperplanes, and with chambers of finite volume, as in [2, Chapter V, §4, no. 9]. The statements relating to W and B in the discussion before Proposition 3.16 remain true in this context, as seen in [13, 8] (for instance). By the classification of reflection subgroups of affine W given

in [6, Theorem 5.1 (ii)], the representation of W_0 on V is a direct product of standard reflection representations of finite and affine Coxeter groups. Consequently, the statements relating to W_0 and B_0 in the discussion before Proposition 3.16 also remain true. The proof of Proposition 3.16 then goes through unchanged.

Remark 3.18. — We do not yet know for which reflection subgroups of more general Coxeter groups the statement (3.4) holds. One observation we can make is that when S is finite and W_0 is a parabolic subgroup of W , the homomorphism $\tilde{\psi}$ is injective. To prove this, using Remark 3.7 we can assume that $S_0 \subseteq S$. In this case it was shown by van der Lek [8, Theorem 4.13] that the natural homomorphism $B_0 \rightarrow B$, mapping each Artin generator of B_0 to the corresponding Artin generator of B , is injective, so we can identify B_0 with a subgroup of $\pi^{-1}(W_0)$. Then $\tilde{\psi}$ is the composition of the inclusion $B_0 \hookrightarrow \pi^{-1}(W_0)$ with the projection $\pi^{-1}(W_0) \twoheadrightarrow \pi^{-1}(W_0)/K_0$, so it is injective if and only if $P_0 \cap K_0 = \{1\}$. But by the proof of [8, Lemma 4.11], the inclusion $P_0 \hookrightarrow P$ has a left inverse $P \twoheadrightarrow P_0$, and from the topological definition of the latter it is clear that each generator of K_0 belongs to $\ker(P \twoheadrightarrow P_0)$.

3.5. Hecke algebras

Continue to assume that W is a finite Coxeter group. The semidirect product decomposition of \tilde{B}_0 induces a semidirect product decomposition of the corresponding Hecke algebra \tilde{H}_0 , which allows us to write down a standard basis for that algebra. Recall that for $w \in W_0$, the image of the positive lift $\psi(w) \in B_0$ in the Hecke algebra H_0 is written T_w , and the elements $\{T_w\}_{w \in W_0}$ form the standard basis of H_0 . We simply extend this notation to $w \in N_W(W_0)$, writing T_w for the image in \tilde{H}_0 of $\psi(w) \in \tilde{B}_0$.

THEOREM 3.19. — *The elements $\{T_w\}_{w \in N_W(W_0)}$ form a basis of \tilde{H}_0 . The subset $\{T_w\}_{w \in W_0}$ spans a subalgebra which can be identified with H_0 with its standard basis. The subset $\{T_u\}_{u \in U_0}$ spans a subalgebra which can be identified with the group algebra $\mathbb{k}U_0$ with its obvious basis. Multiplication induces a \mathbb{k} -module isomorphism $H_0 \otimes_{\mathbb{k}} \mathbb{k}U_0 \xrightarrow{\sim} \tilde{H}_0$ and we have*

$$T_w T_u = T_{wu} = T_u T_{u^{-1}wu} \quad \text{for } w \in W_0, u \in U_0.$$

Proof. — This follows by combining the definition of \tilde{H}_0 with Theorem 3.13 and Corollary 3.12. \square

Let (S_U, R_U) be a presentation by generators and relations for the monoid U_0 , where S_U is stable under taking inverses. It follows from Theorem 3.19 that a presentation of \tilde{H}_0 is obtained by taking as generating set $\{T_s\}_{s \in S_0} \cup \{T_u\}_{u \in S_U}$ with the following relations:

- the relations of the Hecke algebra H_0 on the elements T_s for $s \in S_0$,
- the relations R_U on the elements T_u for $u \in S_U$ (which entail in particular that $T_u T_{u^{-1}} = T_{u^{-1}} T_u = 1$ for all $u \in S_U$),
- the relations $T_{u^{-1}} T_s T_u = T_{u^{-1} s u}$ for all $u \in S_U, s \in S_0$.

Recall that when W_0 is a parabolic subgroup of W , a presentation (S_U, R_U) of U_0 can be given using the results of [4, 7]. We are not aware of any similarly nice recipe for a presentation of U_0 when W_0 is an arbitrary reflection subgroup of W , but see Lemma 4.3 below for a related statement.

4. Groupoid descriptions of normalizers

In this section we present an alternative proof of the splitting of (1.2), which we find enlightening. The main idea is to adopt a more canonical point of view: instead of choosing a reflection subgroup W_0 of our Coxeter group W , we consider a groupoid (or rather, several groupoids) involving not just W_0 but all its conjugate subgroups. Thus we in fact upgrade the statement about groups to one about groupoids. The constructions and results of this section are valid for an arbitrary (not necessarily finite) Coxeter group, except for the splitting of the short exact sequence (1.2) (proved after Theorem 4.6 below), which as before is valid under the assumption (3.4).

This idea was inspired by the Brink–Howlett groupoid description [4] of the subgroup U_0 in the case where W_0 is a parabolic subgroup of W . However, our groupoids are different from theirs, and are defined for reflection subgroups which are not necessarily parabolic. We will comment further on the relationship between our groupoids and theirs in Remark 4.5.

4.1. Preliminaries on groupoids

A reference for the small amount of category theory we will need is [9]. A groupoid is a small category \mathcal{G} in which every morphism is invertible. We say that two objects x, y of \mathcal{G} are in the same connected component if $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{G}}(x, y)$ is non-empty. If this holds, then the groups $\text{End}_{\mathcal{G}}(x)$ and $\text{End}_{\mathcal{G}}(y)$ are isomorphic, with every morphism $\varphi \in \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{G}}(x, y)$ defining an isomorphism $\text{End}_{\mathcal{G}}(x) \xrightarrow{\sim} \text{End}_{\mathcal{G}}(y)$ by conjugation.

Recall from [9, Section II.8] the general concepts of congruences on a category and quotient categories. To specify a congruence on a groupoid amounts to specifying a collection $K_\bullet = (K_x)$ of subgroups $K_x < \text{End}_{\mathcal{G}}(x)$ for each object x of \mathcal{G} , satisfying the compatibility condition that for any $\varphi \in \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{G}}(x, y)$ we have $\varphi K_x \varphi^{-1} = K_y$. Note that this condition implies in particular that $K_x \triangleleft \text{End}_{\mathcal{G}}(x)$ for every x . Given such $K_\bullet = (K_x)$, the quotient groupoid \mathcal{G}/K_\bullet has the same objects as \mathcal{G} , and morphism sets $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{G}/K_\bullet}(x, y) = \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{G}}(x, y) / \sim$, where the equivalence relation \sim is defined by specifying that, for any $\psi, \psi' \in \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{G}}(x, y)$,

$$\psi \sim \psi' \iff \psi^{-1}\psi' \in K_x,$$

which is equivalent to

$$\psi'\psi^{-1} \in K_y.$$

The composition of morphisms in \mathcal{G}/K_\bullet is induced by that in \mathcal{G} . In other words, we have a full functor $\mathcal{G} \rightarrow \mathcal{G}/K_\bullet$ which is the identity on objects and maps each morphism $\varphi \in \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{G}}(x, y)$ to the equivalence class $\varphi K_x = K_y \varphi \in \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{G}/K_\bullet}(x, y)$.

4.2. Groupoids of reflection subgroups

Let (W, S) be a Coxeter system. Consider the groupoid \mathcal{N} whose objects are the reflection subgroups of W , with

$$\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{N}}(W_1, W_2) := \{w \in W; wW_1w^{-1} = W_2\}$$

and composition given by multiplication in W . Thus for any reflection subgroup W_0 of W , the group $\text{End}_{\mathcal{N}}(W_0)$ is exactly the normalizer $N_W(W_0)$. The connected components of \mathcal{N} are the conjugacy classes of reflection subgroups of W . For what follows, it would make no difference if we restricted attention to a single conjugacy class of reflection subgroups, so a reader who prefers groupoids to be connected may imagine that we have done so.

When it is necessary to distinguish between elements of W and the various morphisms in \mathcal{N} which they represent, we will write the elements of $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{N}}(W_1, W_2)$ as arrows $W_2 \xleftarrow{w} W_1$. We use left-facing arrows so that the morphisms compose in the expected order:

$$\left(W_3 \xleftarrow{w} W_2 \xleftarrow{w'} W_1 \right) =, W_3 \xleftarrow{ww'} W_1.$$

The main advantage of considering these groupoids is that, although we do not know a general presentation of the group $N_W(W_0)$, it is easy to give

a presentation for the groupoid \mathcal{N} as a whole, in the sense of presentations of categories [9, Section II.8].

LEMMA 4.1. — *As a category, \mathcal{N} has the following presentation:*

- *the generators are the morphisms $sW_1s \xleftarrow{s} W_1$, for s any element of S and W_1 any object of \mathcal{N} ;*
- *the relations are the Coxeter relations*

$$\begin{aligned} (W_1 \xleftarrow{s} sW_1s \xleftarrow{s} W_1) &= \text{id}_{W_1}, \\ &\left(\underbrace{stst \cdots}_m W_1 \cdots \underbrace{tsts}_m \xleftarrow{s} \underbrace{tst \cdots}_{m-1} W_1 \cdots \underbrace{tst}_{m-1} \xleftarrow{t} \cdots \xleftarrow{s} W_1 \right) \\ &= \left(\underbrace{tsts \cdots}_m W_1 \cdots \underbrace{stst}_m \xleftarrow{t} \underbrace{sts \cdots}_{m-1} W_1 \cdots \underbrace{sts}_{m-1} \xleftarrow{s} \cdots \xleftarrow{s} W_1 \right), \end{aligned}$$

for $s \neq t \in S$ such that st has finite order m in W .

Proof. — This is obvious from the fact that W itself has such a Coxeter presentation. □

Now let \mathcal{U} be the sub-groupoid of \mathcal{N} which has the same set of objects but with

$$\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{U}}(W_1, W_2) := \{w \in W; wW_1w^{-1} = W_2, N(w) \cap W_2 = \emptyset\}.$$

Note that by (3.1) the condition $N(w) \cap W_2 = \emptyset$ could be replaced by $N(w^{-1}) \cap W_1 = \emptyset$. The fact that this condition does define a sub-groupoid of \mathcal{N} is an easy consequence of (3.2). For any object W_0 , the group $\text{End}_{\mathcal{U}}(W_0)$ is exactly the complementary subgroup U_0 of W_0 in $N_W(W_0)$ considered in the previous section.

Let T_{\bullet} denote the “tautological” collection of subgroups $W_0 < \text{End}_{\mathcal{N}}(W_0)$ for all objects W_0 of \mathcal{N} , and let $\overline{\mathcal{N}} := \mathcal{N}/T_{\bullet}$ be the quotient groupoid with $\text{End}_{\overline{\mathcal{N}}}(W_0) = N_W(W_0)/W_0$. The splitting of (1.1) has the following groupoid version:

LEMMA 4.2. — *The composition $\mathcal{U} \hookrightarrow \mathcal{N} \twoheadrightarrow \overline{\mathcal{N}}$ is an isomorphism of groupoids.*

Proof. — Note that all the functors involved are the identity on the set of objects. It follows from Lemma 3.2 that the connected components of \mathcal{U} are the same as those of \mathcal{N} , and hence the same as those of $\overline{\mathcal{N}}$. Therefore the claim follows from the group isomorphism $U_0 \xrightarrow{\sim} N_W(W_0)/W_0$ proved in Lemma 3.3. □

Of the generating morphisms $sW_1s \xleftarrow{s} W_1$ of \mathcal{N} , those which belong to the sub-groupoid \mathcal{U} are those where $s \notin W_1$, or equivalently $s \notin sW_1s$. (Note that it is possible to have $s \notin W_1$ and $sW_1s = W_1$.) A crucial observation is that these morphisms generate \mathcal{U} .

LEMMA 4.3. — *As a category, \mathcal{U} has the following presentation:*

- *the generators are those generators $sW_1s \xleftarrow{s} W_1$ of \mathcal{N} which belong to \mathcal{U} , i.e. satisfy the additional condition that $s \notin W_1$;*
- *the relations are the same Coxeter relations as in the above presentation of \mathcal{N} , whenever those relations involve only generators belonging to \mathcal{U} .*

Proof. — Suppose that $W_2 \xleftarrow{w} W_1$ is a morphism of \mathcal{N} and let $w = s_1s_2 \cdots s_k$ be a reduced expression for w . Then $W_2 \xleftarrow{w} W_1$ equals the following composition of generators of \mathcal{N} :

$$W_2 \xleftarrow{s_1} s_1W_2s_1 \xleftarrow{s_2} s_2s_1W_2s_1s_2 \xleftarrow{s_3} \cdots \xleftarrow{s_k} W_1.$$

Since $N(w) = \{s_1s_2 \cdots s_{i-1}s_is_{i-1} \cdots s_2s_1; 1 \leq i \leq k\}$, we have

$$N(w) \cap W_2 = \emptyset \iff s_i \notin s_{i-1} \cdots s_1W_2s_1 \cdots s_{i-1}, 1 \leq i \leq k.$$

Thus $W_2 \xleftarrow{w} W_1$ is a morphism of \mathcal{U} if and only if all the generators involved in the above expression belong to \mathcal{U} . The claim now follows from Lemma 4.1. □

Example 4.4. — Let (W, S) be of type D_4 and define $W_0 = \langle s_1, s_2, s_4, t \rangle$ as in Example 3.6, with $t = s_3s_1s_2s_4s_3s_4s_2s_1s_3$. The other reflection subgroups in the conjugacy class of W_0 are

$$W_1 = s_3W_0s_3 = \langle s_1s_3s_1, s_2s_3s_2, s_4s_3s_4, s_1s_2s_4s_3s_4s_2s_1 \rangle$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} W_2 &= s_1W_1s_1 = s_2W_1s_2 = s_4W_1s_4 \\ &= \langle s_3, s_1s_2s_3s_2s_1, s_1s_4s_3s_4s_1, s_2s_4s_3s_4s_2 \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

As a consequence of Lemma 4.3, the connected component of \mathcal{U} with objects W_0, W_1, W_2 is completely encoded by the multi-graph where the (bi-directional) edges represent the conjugations by elements of S not belonging to the subgroups involved:

$$W_0 \xleftrightarrow{s_3} W_1 \begin{array}{c} \xleftrightarrow{s_1} \\ \xleftrightarrow{s_2} \\ \xleftrightarrow{s_4} \end{array} W_2$$

That is, the morphisms in \mathcal{U} between these objects are equivalence classes of directed walks in this multi-graph, where the equivalence relation on walks is that given by the Coxeter relations. For example, the three non-identity elements of U_0 , namely $s_3s_1s_2s_3$, $s_3s_2s_4s_3$, and $s_3s_1s_4s_3$, are walks from W_0 to W_2 and back again. The Coxeter relations imply that, for example, walking from W_1 to W_2 along the s_1 edge and then walking back along the s_2 edge is equivalent to walking first along the s_2 edge and then back along the s_1 edge; and walking from W_1 to W_2 and back along the same edge is equivalent to not moving.

Remark 4.5. — One can give an alternative description of the groupoid \mathcal{U} in terms of the root system Φ of (W, S) , as in Remark 3.5. The map sending W_0 to the subset $\Pi_0 \subseteq \Phi^+$ is a bijection between reflection subgroups of W and subsets of Φ^+ satisfying the condition of [6, Theorem 4.4]; call these the *simple subsets* of Φ^+ . For $w \in W$, we have $N(w^{-1}) \cap W_1 = \emptyset$ if and only if $w(\Pi_1)$ is a subset of Φ^+ , in which case it is clearly a simple subset. Hence \mathcal{U} is isomorphic to the groupoid \mathcal{U}' where the objects are simple subsets of Φ^+ and

$$\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{U}'}(\Pi_1, \Pi_2) := \{w \in W; w(\Pi_1) = \Pi_2\}.$$

Note that, under this isomorphism, the generators of \mathcal{U} described in Lemma 4.3 correspond to the morphisms $s(\Pi_1) \xleftarrow{s} \Pi_1$ where $s \in S$ and $\alpha_s \notin \Pi_1$.

In [4], Brink and Howlett effectively study the full sub-groupoid \mathcal{U}'' of \mathcal{U}' where the objects are the subsets of Π , all of which are simple in the above sense; the corresponding reflection subgroups are the standard parabolic subgroups of W . In fact, they restrict attention to the connected component $G(J, W)$ of \mathcal{U}'' containing a fixed subset $J \subseteq \Pi$, and give a presentation of $G(J, W)$ in [4, Theorem A] and a “semidirect product decomposition” of $G(J, W)$ in [4, Theorem B]. Since $G(J, W)$ has fewer objects in general than the connected component of \mathcal{U}' which contains it, their presentation is both more complicated than that given in Lemma 4.3, and more useful as a way of describing the endomorphism groups U_0 . However, their results say nothing about the connected components of \mathcal{U} consisting of non-parabolic reflection subgroups.

4.3. Artin groupoids

As in the previous section, let B denote the Artin group associated to (W, S) , and let $\pi : B \twoheadrightarrow W$ be the projection with its non-homomorphic

section $w \mapsto \underline{w}$. Define a groupoid $\widehat{\mathcal{B}}$ with the same set of objects as \mathcal{N} , but with

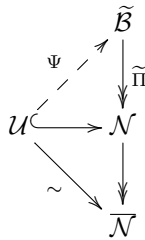
$$\text{Hom}_{\widehat{\mathcal{B}}}(W_1, W_2) := \{ \beta \in B; \pi(\beta)W_1\pi(\beta)^{-1} = W_2 \}.$$

For any object W_0 we have $\text{End}_{\widehat{\mathcal{B}}}(W_0) = \pi^{-1}(N_W(W_0)) = \widehat{B}_0$. It is easy to see that the subgroups $K_0 \triangleleft \widehat{B}_0$ defined in the previous section constitute a compatible collection, so that we can form the quotient groupoid $\widetilde{\mathcal{B}} := \widehat{\mathcal{B}}/K_\bullet$ with $\text{End}_{\widetilde{\mathcal{B}}}(W_0) = \widetilde{B}_0$.

The projection $\pi : B \twoheadrightarrow W$ induces a full functor $\widehat{\mathcal{B}} \twoheadrightarrow \mathcal{N}$. Since $K_0 < \ker(\pi)$, this functor factors through a full functor $\widetilde{\Pi} : \widetilde{\mathcal{B}} \twoheadrightarrow \mathcal{N}$. By definition, $\widetilde{\Pi}$ is the identity on objects and induces the projections $\widetilde{\pi}_0 : \widetilde{B}_0 \twoheadrightarrow N_W(W_0)$ on endomorphism groups.

The point now is that \mathcal{U} can be embedded in $\widetilde{\mathcal{B}}$ by taking positive lifts:

THEOREM 4.6. — *There is a faithful functor $\Psi : \mathcal{U} \hookrightarrow \widetilde{\mathcal{B}}$ which is the identity on objects and maps each morphism $w \in \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{U}}(W_1, W_2)$ to $\underline{w}K_1 \in \text{Hom}_{\widetilde{\mathcal{B}}}(W_1, W_2)$. We have the following commutative diagram of functors.*



Proof. — Recall the presentation of \mathcal{U} given in Lemma 4.3. We first want to show that there exists a functor $\Psi : \mathcal{U} \rightarrow \widetilde{\mathcal{B}}$ which is the identity on objects and maps each generating morphism $sW_1s \xleftarrow{s} W_1$ of \mathcal{U} to the morphism $sW_1s \xleftarrow{\sigma^{K_1}} W_1$ of $\widetilde{\mathcal{B}}$, where σ is the Artin generator of \widetilde{B} corresponding to $s \in S$. We need only check that these morphisms in $\widetilde{\mathcal{B}}$ satisfy the required Coxeter relations. The relation

$$\left(W_1 \xleftarrow{\sigma(\sigma^{K_1}\sigma^{-1})} sW_1s \xleftarrow{\sigma^{K_1}} W_1 \right) = \text{id}_{W_1}$$

is equivalent to $\sigma^2 \in K_1$, which holds because $s \notin W_1$ by assumption. The braid-type relations hold simply because the analogous braid relations hold in B .

Now it is clear that the functor $\Psi : \mathcal{U} \rightarrow \widetilde{\mathcal{B}}$ defined in this way maps each morphism $W_2 \xleftarrow{w} W_1$ of \mathcal{U} to the morphism $W_2 \xleftarrow{w^{K_1}} W_1$ of $\widetilde{\mathcal{B}}$. The top commutative triangle follows, and implies that Ψ is faithful. The bottom commutative triangle is from Lemma 4.2. □

Restricting the functors in Theorem 4.6 to the endomorphism groups at a particular object W_0 , we deduce the following commutative diagram of groups.

$$(4.1) \quad \begin{array}{ccc} & & \tilde{B}_0 \\ & \nearrow \psi & \downarrow \tilde{\pi}_0 \\ U_0 & \longrightarrow & N_W(W_0) \\ & \searrow \sim & \downarrow \\ & & N_W(W_0)/W_0 \end{array}$$

Thus, we have a new proof of the existence of the homomorphism $\psi : U_0 \hookrightarrow \tilde{B}_0$ which splits the short exact sequence (1.2) as in Theorem 3.13 (still under the assumption (3.4), so that this short exact sequence exists).

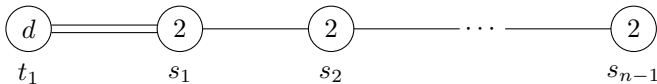
Remark 4.7. — As noted in Remark 4.5, a particularly interesting subgroupoid of \mathcal{U} is the Brink–Howlett groupoid obtained by restricting to standard parabolic subgroups of W . As a consequence of Theorem 4.6 we have an embedding of this Brink–Howlett groupoid in $\tilde{\mathcal{B}}$ also.

5. An example of splitting for the group $G(d, 1, n)$

In this section, we prove that the short exact sequence (1.2) splits when W is the complex reflection group $G(d, 1, n)$ and W_0 is the parabolic subgroup $G(d, 1, k)$ for $1 \leq k \leq n - 1$. We will see in Example 6.6 that this splitting does not hold for arbitrary parabolic subgroups $W_0 < G(d, 1, n)$.

5.1. Preliminaries

Fix $n \geq 1, d \geq 2$. Recall that the group $W = G(d, 1, n)$ has a Coxeter-like presentation with generating set $S = \{t_1, s_1, \dots, s_{n-1}\}$, with relations given by the type B_n braid relations (with $t_1 s_1 t_1 s_1 = s_1 t_1 s_1 t_1$), the relation $t_1^d = 1$, and the relations $s_i^2 = 1$ for all $1 \leq i \leq n - 1$. This presentation is encapsulated in the following diagram from [5].



In the standard realization of W as the group of monomial $n \times n$ matrices whose nonzero entries are d^{th} roots of unity, t_1 is the diagonal matrix with $\exp(2\pi\sqrt{-1}/d)$ in the first diagonal entry and 1 in the other diagonal entries, and s_1, s_2, \dots, s_{n-1} are the standard permutation matrices for the adjacent transpositions.

Note that when $d = 2$ we recover the Coxeter group of type B_n . By [5, Theorem 3.6], the braid group B of W can be identified with the Artin group of type B_n , whatever the value of d . We denote its standard Artin generating set by $\Sigma = \{\tau_1, \sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_{n-1}\}$, where $\pi(\tau_1) = t_1$ and $\pi(\sigma_i) = s_i$; these Artin generators are braided reflections in the sense of Section 2. Then $P = \ker(\pi : B \rightarrow W)$ is generated by elements of two types: the first type of generator is $\beta\tau_1^d\beta^{-1}$ for some $\beta \in B$, which topologically is a meridian around the hyperplane for the order- d reflection $\pi(\beta\tau_1\beta^{-1})$, and the second type of generator is $\beta\sigma_i^2\beta^{-1}$ for $\beta \in B$ and $1 \leq i \leq n - 1$, which topologically is a meridian around the hyperplane for the order-2 reflection $\pi(\beta\sigma_i\beta^{-1})$.

A major difference between the $d = 2$ Coxeter case and the $d \geq 3$ non-Coxeter case is that in the latter case there is no natural way to define a positive lifting map $W \rightarrow B$. However, consider the reflections $t_i := s_{i-1} \cdots s_1 t_1 s_1 \cdots s_{i-1}$ for $2 \leq i \leq n$. In matrix terms, t_i is the diagonal matrix with $\exp(2\pi\sqrt{-1}/d)$ in the i th diagonal entry and 1 in the other diagonal entries. In the $d = 2$ case, $s_{i-1} \cdots s_1 t_1 s_1 \cdots s_{i-1}$ is a reduced expression, so the positive lift of t_i is $\sigma_{i-1} \cdots \sigma_1 \tau_1 \sigma_1 \cdots \sigma_{i-1}$. This motivates defining the “positive lift” $\tau_i := \sigma_{i-1} \cdots \sigma_1 \tau_1 \sigma_1 \cdots \sigma_{i-1}$ for arbitrary d .

5.2. A direct product decomposition

Now fix $1 \leq k \leq n - 1$ and let $S_0 = \{t_1, s_1, \dots, s_{k-1}\}$ and $W_0 = \langle S_0 \rangle \cong G(d, 1, k)$. From the matrix realization it is easy to see that

$$(5.1) \quad N_W(W_0) = W_0 \times U_0$$

where $U_0 := \langle S_U \rangle \cong G(d, 1, n - k)$ for $S_U := \{t_{k+1}, s_{k+1}, s_{k+2}, \dots, s_{n-1}\}$. The notation U_0 is intended to be reminiscent of the Coxeter case, and indeed when $d = 2$ this subgroup U_0 does coincide with that in Lemma 3.3; the semi-direct product happens to be direct in this case. Since both W_0 and U_0 are groups of the same form as W , the above comments about W apply also to them with the obvious modifications.

The group $K_0 = \ker(P \rightarrow P_0)$ is generated by those generators $\beta\tau_1^d\beta^{-1}$ and $\beta\sigma_i^2\beta^{-1}$ of P for which the corresponding hyperplane is not in \mathcal{A}_0 , i.e. for which the reflection $\pi(\beta\tau_1\beta^{-1})$ or $\pi(\beta\sigma_i\beta^{-1})$ does not belong to W_0 .

Since W_0 is a parabolic subgroup of W , we have an injective homomorphism $B_0 \hookrightarrow B$ as in (2.1) whose image is a complement to K_0 in $\pi^{-1}(W_0)$. In this case, the homomorphism is the obvious one from the Artin group of type B_k to the Artin group of type B_n , sending τ_1 to τ_1 and σ_j to σ_j for $1 \leq j \leq k - 1$. So the inclusion $B_0 \hookrightarrow \tilde{B}_0$ maps τ_1 to $\tau_1 K_0$ and σ_j to $\sigma_j K_0$ for $1 \leq j \leq k - 1$.

We can now prove an analogue of Theorem 3.13 in the present case, where the splitting is still in some sense given by taking positive lifts.

PROPOSITION 5.1. — *With $W = G(d, 1, n)$ and $W_0 = G(d, 1, k)$ as above, the splitting of the short exact sequence (1.1) given by (5.1) lifts to a splitting of the short exact sequence (1.2). Namely, after identifying $N_W(W_0)/W_0$ with U_0 , the splitting of (1.2) is an injective group homomorphism $\psi : U_0 \hookrightarrow \tilde{B}_0$ which is defined on the generating set S_U by*

$$\psi(t_{k+1}) = \tau_{k+1}K_0 \quad \text{and} \quad \psi(s_i) = \sigma_i K_0, \quad \text{for } k + 1 \leq i \leq n - 1.$$

We have a direct product decomposition

$$\tilde{B}_0 \cong B_0 \times \psi(U_0).$$

Proof. — We first want to show that there exists a group homomorphism $\psi : U_0 \rightarrow \tilde{B}_0$ which has the stated definition on the generators. For this, we must show that the elements $\tau_{k+1}K_0, \sigma_{k+1}K_0, \dots, \sigma_{n-1}K_0$ of \tilde{B}_0 satisfy the relations in the Coxeter-like presentation of $U_0 \cong G(d, 1, n - k)$ analogous to that given above for W .

For the braid relations in this presentation, we can in fact see that they hold already for the elements $\tau_{k+1}, \sigma_{k+1}, \dots, \sigma_{n-1}$ in the type- B_n Artin group B . This is clear for the braid relations not involving τ_{k+1} , since those are themselves relations in the Artin presentation of B . Hence we only need to check that

$$(5.2) \quad \begin{aligned} &\tau_{k+1}\sigma_i = \sigma_i\tau_{k+1}, \quad \text{for } k + 2 \leq i \leq n, \\ &\text{and } \tau_{k+1}\sigma_{k+1}\tau_{k+1}\sigma_{k+1} = \sigma_{k+1}\tau_{k+1}\sigma_{k+1}\tau_{k+1}. \end{aligned}$$

Note that the truth of (5.2) is independent of d , so we can temporarily assume that we are in the $d = 2$ Coxeter case. Then (5.2) follows from the observations that

$$(5.3) \quad \begin{aligned} &t_{k+1}s_i = s_i t_{k+1}, \quad \text{for } k + 2 \leq i \leq n, \\ &t_{k+1}s_{k+1}t_{k+1}s_{k+1} = s_{k+1}t_{k+1}s_{k+1}t_{k+1}, \end{aligned}$$

and moreover that the lengths add in each of the expressions in (5.3).

It remains to show that the order relations hold in \tilde{B}_0 . For $k + 1 \leq i \leq n - 1$ we have $s_i \notin W_0$, so $\sigma_i^2 \in K_0$ which means that $(\sigma_i K_0)^2 = 1K_0$ as required. We also need to show that $(\tau_{k+1} K_0)^d = 1K_0$. Note that

$$(5.4) \quad \tau_{k+1} = (\sigma_k \cdots \sigma_1 \tau_1 \sigma_1^{-1} \cdots \sigma_k^{-1}) (\sigma_k \cdots \sigma_2 \sigma_1^2 \sigma_2^{-1} \cdots \sigma_k^{-1}) \\ (\sigma_k \cdots \sigma_3 \sigma_2^2 \sigma_3^{-1} \cdots \sigma_k^{-1}) \cdots \sigma_k^2.$$

Now all the factors on the right-hand side of (5.4) except the first factor belong to K_0 , since for all $1 \leq i \leq k$, the reflection $s_k \cdots s_i \cdots s_k$ has order 2 and is not in W_0 . Hence

$$(5.5) \quad (\tau_{k+1} K_0)^d = (\sigma_k \cdots \sigma_1 \tau_1 \sigma_1^{-1} \cdots \sigma_k^{-1})^d K_0 \\ = (\sigma_k \cdots \sigma_1 \tau_1^d \sigma_1^{-1} \cdots \sigma_k^{-1}) K_0 = 1K_0,$$

where the last equation holds since $s_k \cdots s_1 t_1 s_1 \cdots s_k = t_{k+1}$ is a reflection of order d which is not in W_0 . This concludes the proof that the homomorphism $\psi : U_0 \rightarrow \tilde{B}_0$ exists.

Since $\tilde{\pi}_0(\psi(u)) = u$ holds when u is one of the generators of U_0 , it holds for all $u \in U_0$. Hence $\psi : U_0 \hookrightarrow \tilde{B}_0$ is injective and is a splitting of (1.2).

Finally, to show that the semidirect product $B_0 \rtimes \psi(U_0)$ is direct, we need to show that each of $\tau_1 K_0, \sigma_1 K_0, \dots, \sigma_{k-1} K_0$ commutes with each of $\tau_{k+1} K_0, \sigma_{k+1} K_0, \dots, \sigma_{n-1} K_0$ in \tilde{B}_0 . Since each of $\tau_1, \sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_{k-1}$ commutes with each of $\sigma_{k+1}, \dots, \sigma_{n-1}$ as part of the Artin relations of B , it suffices to show that $\tau_1 \tau_{k+1} = \tau_{k+1} \tau_1$ and $\sigma_i \tau_{k+1} = \tau_{k+1} \sigma_i$ for $0 \leq i \leq k - 1$. These equations can be proved in the same way as (5.2). \square

6. Counter-examples in the general case

In this section we demonstrate that the short exact sequence (1.2) need not split in the general setting of Section 2, when W is a finite complex reflection group. It is notable that in some of our counter-examples the group W is close to being a Coxeter group, in the sense that it is a Shephard group, or in the sense that all its reflections have order 2; nevertheless the relationship between W and its subgroup W_0 fails to be sufficiently like the Coxeter case.

6.1. Non-parabolic reflection subgroups with no complement in their normalizer

As mentioned in the introduction, it was shown by Muraleedaran and Taylor [12] that when W_0 is a parabolic subgroup of W , there is always a

subgroup of $N_W(W_0)$ which is complementary to W_0 . There are cases where W_0 is a non-parabolic reflection subgroup and there is no such complement, i.e. the short exact sequence (1.1) does not split. This of course rules out the splitting of (1.2).

Example 6.1. — Suppose that $W = \langle s \rangle$ is cyclic of order $d \geq 2$. If e is a divisor of d with $1 < e < d$, then $W_0 = \langle s^e \rangle$ is a non-parabolic reflection subgroup of W of order d/e . If $\gcd(e, d/e) > 1$, there is clearly no complement to W_0 in W .

One could eliminate Example 6.1 by restricting to the case when W_0 is a full reflection subgroup of W , meaning that W_0 contains all the reflections in W whose hyperplane is in \mathcal{A}_0 . However, this still leaves many examples; we content ourselves with two.

Example 6.2. — Let W be the rank-2 imprimitive irreducible reflection group $G(4, 2, 2)$ of order 16, in which the reflections are the order-2 unitary reflections of \mathbb{C}^2 with hyperplanes defined by the linear forms $z_1, z_2, z_1 + z_2, z_1 - z_2, z_1 + \sqrt{-1}z_2, z_1 - \sqrt{-1}z_2$. Let W_0 be the reflection subgroup of order 4 generated by the reflections with hyperplanes defined by z_1, z_2 . Then $N_W(W_0) = W$, but there is no complement to W_0 in W . Indeed, if there was such a complement U_0 , then $U_0 \cap G(4, 4, 2)$ would be a complement to the centre in a dihedral group of order 8.

Example 6.3. — Let W be the rank-2 primitive irreducible reflection group of order 48 known as G_6 in the Shephard-Todd numbering (a Shephard group). The reflection subgroup W' of W generated by the six reflections of order 2 is a copy of $G(4, 2, 2)$. If we let $W_0 \triangleleft W'$ be as in the previous example, then $N_W(W_0) = W'$, so once again there is no complement to W_0 in $N_W(W_0)$.

6.2. Central elements of braid groups

Even when (1.1) splits, there can be an obstruction to the splitting of (1.2) coming from the centre $Z(B)$ of B . This obstruction can be seen already in the most trivial non-parabolic example.

Example 6.4. — Continue the notation of Example 6.1, without assuming $\gcd(e, d/e) > 1$. Then $\tilde{B}_0 = B = \langle \sigma \rangle$ is infinite cyclic and B_0 is the nontrivial subgroup $\langle \sigma^e \rangle$, so (1.2) does not split, regardless of whether (1.1) splits.

We now show that a similar phenomenon happens more generally, including in some cases when W_0 is a parabolic subgroup of W .

We assume henceforth that W is irreducible. The centre $Z(W)$ is then cyclic and acts on \mathbb{C}^n by scalar multiplication. Let $d := |Z(W)|$ and let z_W denote the generator of $Z(W)$ which acts on \mathbb{C}^n as multiplication by $\exp(2\pi\sqrt{-1}/d)$.

Recall from [5, Lemma 2.4] that there is a canonical central element $z_P \in P = \pi_1(X, \tilde{x})$, the homotopy class of the loop $[0, 1] \rightarrow X : t \mapsto \exp(2\pi\sqrt{-1}t)\tilde{x}$. Define $z_{P_0} \in P_0 = \pi_1(X^0, \tilde{x})$ similarly, as the homotopy class of the very same loop. Then under our identification of P_0 with P/K_0 , z_{P_0} corresponds to $z_P K_0$.

Let $z_B \in B = \pi_1(X/W, [\tilde{x}]_W)$ be the homotopy class of the loop in X/W which is the image of the path $[0, 1] \rightarrow X : t \mapsto \exp(2\pi\sqrt{-1}t/d)\tilde{x}$ from \tilde{x} to $z_W(\tilde{x})$. It is shown in [5, Lemma 2.22] that $z_B \in Z(B)$, that $\pi(z_B) = z_W$ and that $z_B^d = z_P$. (In fact, it is known that $Z(B) = \langle z_B \rangle$, by [5, Theorem 2.24] and [1, Theorem 12.8]; we will not need this.)

PROPOSITION 6.5. — *Suppose that W is irreducible with $d = |Z(W)|$ and that W_0 is a reflection subgroup of W .*

- (1) *If (1.2) splits, then there is an element $\gamma \in B_0$ such that $\gamma^d = z_{P_0}$.*
- (2) *If $N_W(W_0) = W_0 \times Z(W)$, then the converse to (1) also holds.*

Proof. — Note that $z_B K_0 \in \tilde{B}_0$ maps to $z_W W_0 \in N_W(W_0)/W_0$ under the homomorphism in (1.2). Since $(z_W W_0)^d = 1W_0$ holds in $N_W(W_0)/W_0$, the splitting of (1.2) implies that for some $\gamma \in B_0$ we have $(\gamma^{-1}(z_B K_0))^d = 1K_0$ in \tilde{B}_0 . Moreover, if $N_W(W_0) = W_0 \times Z(W)$, then the splitting of (1.2) is equivalent to the existence of such $\gamma \in B_0$. Since $z_B K_0 \in Z(\tilde{B}_0)$ and $(z_B K_0)^d = z_P K_0 = z_{P_0}$, the equation $(\gamma^{-1}(z_B K_0))^d = 1K_0$ in \tilde{B}_0 is equivalent to the equation $\gamma^d = z_{P_0}$ in B_0 . □

In the special case when $W_0 = \langle s \rangle$ is cyclic of order $m \geq 2$, we have that $B_0 = \langle \sigma \rangle$ is infinite cyclic with $\sigma^m = z_{P_0}$, so the existence of $\gamma \in B_0$ such that $\gamma^d = z_{P_0}$ is equivalent to $d \mid m$. This means that if $d \nmid m$, Proposition 6.5(1) guarantees that (1.2) does not split. Example 6.4 was such a case, and we can now easily find similar non-splitting examples with W_0 parabolic. The examples below all have the property that $N_W(W_0) = W_0 \times Z(W)$.

Example 6.6. — Let $W = G(3, 1, 2)$, for which $d = 3$, and let W_0 be a rank-1 parabolic subgroup generated by a reflection of order 2. Then (1.2) does not split.

Example 6.7. — Let $W = G(4, 2, 2)$ as in Example 6.2, for which $d = 4$, and let W_0 be any rank-1 parabolic subgroup, necessarily of order 2. Then (1.2) does not split.

Example 6.8. — Let W be the rank-2 primitive irreducible reflection group of order 24 known as G_4 in the Shephard–Todd numbering, for which $d = 2$. It is a Shephard group, with braid group the Artin group of type A_2 . Let W_0 be a rank-1 parabolic subgroup, necessarily of order 3. Then (1.2) does not split.

Much is known about the existence of roots of the canonical element z_P in the braid group B . In particular, if W is irreducible and *well-generated*, meaning that it can be generated by n reflections, then Bessis proved in [1, Theorem 12.4(i)] that for any positive integer m , there exists an element $\gamma \in B$ such that $\gamma^m = z_P$ if and only if m is *regular* for W (the “if” direction is easy). Recall that the regular numbers for W are the orders of those roots of unity which arise as eigenvalues for elements of W where the corresponding eigenvector belongs to the hyperplane complement X . The regular numbers can be deduced from the degrees and codegrees of W as explained in [1, Theorem 1.9(1)].

So Proposition 6.5 implies the following result.

COROLLARY 6.9. — *Suppose that W is irreducible with $d = |Z(W)|$, and that W_0 is a reflection subgroup of W such that each irreducible constituent of W_0 is well-generated.*

- (1) *If (1.2) splits, then d is regular for each irreducible constituent of W_0 .*
- (2) *If $N_W(W_0) = W_0 \times Z(W)$, then the converse to (1) also holds.*

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