A central limit theorem for the two-sided descent statistic on Coxeter groups

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Abstract

We study the asymptotic behaviour of the statistic $(des + ides)_W$ which assigns to an element w of a finite Coxeter group W the number of descents of w plus the number of descents of w^{-1} . Our main result is a central limit theorem for the probability distributions associated to this statistic. This answers a question of Kahle–Stump and builds upon work of Chatterjee–Diaconis, Özdemir and Röttger. **Mathematics Subject Classifications:** 20F55 (Primary), 05A15, 05A16, 60F05 (Secondary)

1 Introduction

Statistical and probabilistic methods in the investigation of combinatorial and algebraic objects are powerful tools and reveal deeply rooted connections between those fields. Of greatest significance in probabilistic asymptotics is the central limit theorem (CLT), that is the convergence in distribution of a sequence of random variables, normalised by its mean and its standard deviation, towards the standard Gaussian. This paper's main result is an equivalent formulation of the central limit theorem for a sequence of random variables that arises from a statistic on sequences of finite Coxeter groups.

In the symmetric group Sym(n), which is the Coxeter group of type \mathbf{A}_{n-1} , the descent statistic is defined as follows: Write the elements of Sym(n) in one-line notation. Then the

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number of descents $des(\pi)$ of an element $\pi \in Sym(n)$ is given by the number of positions where an entry is larger than its successor. This concept generalises to arbitrary finite Coxeter groups, the necessary definitions are presented in Section 2.

Fixing such a Coxeter group W, choosing an element of W uniformly at random and evaluating the descent statistic gives rise to a random variable D_W . Kahle and Stump recently showed that for sequences $(W_n)_n$ of finite Coxeter groups of growing rank¹, the sequence D_{W_n} satisfies the CLT if and only if its variance tends to infinity, see [10]. They asked [10, Problem 6.10] whether for the random variable T_W associated to the statistic $t(w) := \operatorname{des}(w) + \operatorname{des}(w^{-1})$, a similar statement holds true. The statistic t was studied by Chatterjee–Diaconis [7] who were motivated by defining a metric using descents; it also has a geometric interpretation in terms of a two-sided analogue of the Coxeter complex first introduced by Hultman [9] and also studied by Petersen [15], for details see Appendix A. Our main result is a positive answer to the question of Kahle–Stump under an additional hypothesis on the sequence of Coxeter groups. This hypothesis does not seem to be very restrictive, see the comments below.

Theorem 1. Let $(W_n)_n$ be a well-behaved sequence of finite Coxeter groups such that $\operatorname{rk}(W_n) \to \infty$ and let T_n be the random variable associated to the statistic t on W_n . Then the following are equivalent:

- 1. $(T_n)_n$ satisfies the CLT;
- 2. $\mathbb{V}(T_n) \to \infty$.

Item 2 can equivalently be defined in terms of the irreducible components of W_n (see Theorem 32). It is in particular satisfied if the maximal size of a dihedral parabolic subgroup in W_n does not grow too fast, e.g. if it is bounded. We give the definition of "well-behaved" and sufficient conditions in Section 6 but would like to remark that we were not able to construct a sequence of Coxeter groups that does not have this property. In particular, sequences $(W_n)_n$ that satisfy Item 2 are well-behaved if: the number or rank of irreducible factors occurring in any W_n are bounded; or there are no irreducible factors of dihedral type and only boundedly many irreducible components of W_n have rank not in $o(\operatorname{rk}(W_n))$. An example of a well-behaved sequence with an unbounded number of irreducible components that have rank not in $o(\operatorname{rk}(W_n))$ is given in Example 33 (i).

We would like to point out that since the first publication of this article, Valentin Féray [8] has shown how to remove the well-behaved condition from Theorem 1. This is achieved by applying an inequality of Mallows [12] to our proof, improving on Lemma 21. This allows to control better the convergence of the irreducible components that do not have rank in $o(\operatorname{rk}(W_n))$, such that the well-behaved condition is not required.

Special cases of Theorem 1 were known before: For the case where $W_n = \text{Sym}(n+1)$, the irreducible Coxeter group of type A_n , the result is due to Vatutin [19] and was later, with different methods, reproven by Chatterjee–Diaconis [7] and Özdemir [13]. Following

¹The rank of a Coxeter group W is the size of a particular generating set of W (the set of "simple reflections"). It can be seen as a measure of size or complexity of the group. The rank of the symmetric group is rk(Sym(n)) = n - 1.

the approach of Chatterjee and Diaconis, Röttger [16] generalised this to the cases where W_n is an irreducible Coxeter group of type B_n or D_n . Technical difficulties of these proofs lie in the dependencies between des(w) and des (w^{-1}) , which require probabilistic methods as for example interaction graphs, see [6], to establish the CLT.

In order to extend these results to arbitrary products of irreducible Coxeter groups, we take an approach similar to the one used by Kahle–Stump [10] for the descent statistic; this in particular involves an application of Lindeberg's theorem for triangular arrays. There is however a major difference between their approach and ours: The generating function of the descent statistic is given by the Eulerian polynomial which factors over the reals and has only negative roots, see [4] and [17]. Kahle and Stump heavily used this in order to deduce their result. In contrast to that, the generating function of the statistic t is the two-sided Eulerian polynomial as studied e.g. in [5], [14] and [20]. It does not have a such a nice factorisation, even in the setting of symmetric groups. In order to resolve the additional difficulties arising from this, we are led to compute higher moments of the random variables T_W . For this, we use and generalise the work of Özdemir [13].

Structure of article

The structure of the paper is as follows: Section 2 introduces some basic notations, finite Coxeter groups and the descent statistic. Section 3 explains how to derive recursively higher moments of the descent statistic and the statistic t. This is done using conditional expectations and a recursion solver software. In Section 4, we give sufficient conditions for establishing the CLT for weighted sums of sequences of random variables which all individually satisfy the CLT. These enable us in Section 5 to apply the Lindeberg Theorem and obtain the asymptotic normality of T_{W_n} for sequences of Coxeter groups W_n whose irreducible components satisfy a certain maximum condition. Combining these results, Section 6 delivers our main theorem. In the appendix we present a discussion of a geometric perspective on the statistic t in the context of the two-sided analogue of the Coxeter groups defined in [9], as well as a table of moments of the statistics des and tfor Coxeter groups of type A and B.

2 Preliminaries

2.1 Central limit theorems and o-notation

Let $(X_n)_n$ be a sequence of random variables with distribution functions $(F_n)_n$. We say that $(X_n)_n$ converges in distribution to a random variable X with distribution function F (denoted as $X_n \xrightarrow{D} X$), if for every x where F is continuous, we have $\lim_{n\to\infty} F_n(x) = F(x)$.

We say that a sequence of integrable random variables $(X_n)_n$ with finite variance satisfies the central limit theorem (CLT), if it holds that

$$\frac{X_n - \mathbb{E}(X_n)}{\sqrt{\mathbb{V}(X_n)}} \xrightarrow{D} N(0, 1),$$

which means that $(X_n)_n$, normalised by its mean and its standard deviation, converges in distribution towards the standard Gaussian.

The following will become useful for establishing CLTs later on:

Lemma 2. Let $(X_n)_n$ be a sequence of integrable random variables with finite variance. Then $(X_n)_n$ satisfies the CLT if and only if every subsequence of $(X_n)_n$ has a subsequence which satisfies the CLT.

Proof. This follows from the following elementary fact: Let $(a_n)_n$ be a sequence in a topological space A and let $a \in A$. If every subsequence of $(a_n)_n$ has a subsequence which converges to a, then $(a_n)_n$ converges to a. Apply this to the sequence of distribution functions.

In this paper, we use little-*o* and big-*O* notation. The definitions vary in the literature, we use the following conventions: Let f and g be maps from \mathbb{N}_+ or $\mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$ to $\mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$. We say that f(n) = o(g(n)), if it holds that $\lim_{n\to\infty} \frac{f(n)}{g(n)} = 0$. Furthermore, we write f(n) = O(g(n)), if there is a constant C > 0 and $N \in \mathbb{N}$ such that for all $n \geq N$, one has $f(n) \leq Cg(n)$. We say that f(n) is of order g(n), if $\lim_{n\to\infty} \frac{f(n)}{g(n)} = c$ where c is a positive constant.

2.2 Coxeter groups

We start with recalling some background about Coxeter groups. For further details, we refer the reader to [3].

Let S be a set. A matrix $m : S \times S \to \mathbb{N} \cup \{\infty\}$ is called a *Coxeter matrix*, if for all $(s, s') \in S \times S$, the following holds true:

$$m(s, s') = m(s', s) \ge 1,$$

$$m(s, s') = 1 \Leftrightarrow s = s'.$$

A group W is called a *Coxeter group*, if there is a set $S \subseteq W$ and a Coxeter matrix $m: S \times S \to \mathbb{N} \cup \{\infty\}$ such that a presentation of W is given by

$$W = \left\langle S \mid (ss')^{m(s,s')} = 1 \text{ for all } (s,s') \in S \times S \right\rangle.$$

In this setting, the pair (W, S) is called a *Coxeter system* and *S* the set of *simple reflections*. The size of *S* is called the *rank of* (W, S), abbreviated by rk(W). In what follows, when we talk about a Coxeter group *W*, we tacitly assume that it comes with a fixed set generating set *S* which make (W, S) a Coxeter system. Also, if we write *W* as a product of Coxeter groups $W = W_1 \times W_2 \times \cdots \times W_n$, we assume that $S = S_1 \cup S_2 \cup \ldots \cup S_n$, where S_i is the set of simple reflections of W_i .

A Coxeter group W is called *irreducible* if it cannot be written as a non-trivial product of Coxeter groups $W = W_1 \times W_2$. By the classification of finite reflection groups, every *finite* irreducible Coxeter group falls into one of the four infinite families A_n , B_n , D_n , $I_2(m)$ or is isomorphic to one of seven finite reflection groups of exceptional type. For combinatorial descriptions of the groups of type A_n , B_n , D_n , see [3, Chapter 8]. A Coxeter group W is said to be a *dihedral group* or *of dihedral type* if rk(W) = 2; if W is irreducible, this is equivalent to saying that it is of type $I_2(m)$ for some $m \ge 3$. Any finite Coxeter group W can be written as a product

$$W = W_1 \times W_2 \times \cdots \times W_k,$$

where each W_i is an irreducible Coxeter group. This decomposition is unique up to permutation of the factors and we call the W_i the *irreducible components of* W.

Example 3. Let W = Sym(n) be the symmetric group on an n element set and let S be the set of pairwise adjacent transpositions $\{(i, i + 1)|1 \leq i \leq n - 1\}$. Then (W, S) is a Coxeter system of rank |S| = n - 1. This gives Sym(n) the structure of the irreducible Coxeter group of type A_{n-1} .

2.3 Coxeter statistics

In this subsection, we fix a finite Coxeter group W with a set S of simple reflections. Given an element $w \in W$, the *descent set of* w is defined by

$$\operatorname{Des}(w) \coloneqq \left\{ s \in S \, | \, l_S(ws) < l_S(w) \right\},\,$$

where $l_S(w)$ is the length of w with respect to S, i.e. the smallest number n such that $w = s_1 s_2 \cdots s_n$, where $s_i \in S$ for all i. The number of descents gives rise to a statistic des : $W \to \mathbb{N}$ on W defined by $des(w) \coloneqq |Des(w)|$. Choosing an element of W uniformly at random and evaluating this statistic yields a random variable D on \mathbb{N} .

Example 4. Similar to Example 3, let W be the symmetric group Sym(3) and S its set of pairwise adjacent transpositions $S = \{s_1 = (12), s_2 = (23)\}$. Let $w \in$ Sym(3) be the 3-cycle (123). Then w can be written in terms of the simple reflections as $w = s_2s_1$. We have $l_S(w) = 2$, Des $(w) = \{s_1\}$ and des(w) = |Des(w)| = 1.

The aim of this article is to study the behaviour of the statistic t defined by

$$t: W \to \mathbb{N}$$
$$w \mapsto \operatorname{des}(w) + \operatorname{des}(w^{-1}).$$

Just like des, when we choose an element of W uniformly, the statistic t gives rise to a random variable on \mathbb{N} which we denote by T.

We also write des_W , D_W , t_W or T_W if we want to emphasise the ambient Coxeter group corresponding to these statistics and random variables.

Lemma 5. Assume that W decomposes as a product $W_1 \times W_2$ of Coxeter groups W_1 and W_2 . Then T_W can be written as a sum of independent random variables $T_W = T_{W_1} + T_{W_2}$.

Proof. Let S_1 and S_2 be the set of simple reflections of W_1 and W_2 , respectively. By assumption, we have $S = S_1 \cup S_2$. Every $w \in W$ can be uniquely written as a product $w = w_1w_2 = w_2w_1$, where $w_i \in W_i$ and one has $l_S(w) = l_{S_1}(w_1) + l_{S_2}(w_2)$. Consequently, $des_W(w) = des_{W_1}(w_1) + des_{W_2}(w_2)$ and $t_W(w) = t_{W_1}(w_1) + t_{W_2}(w_2)$. The claim now follows because choosing an element of W uniformly at random is equivalent to choosing uniformly at random w_1 from W_1 and independently w_2 from W_2 . **Theorem 6.** Let W be a finite Coxeter group and T as above.

- 1. $\mathbb{E}(T) = \operatorname{rk}(W)$.
- 2. If W is a product of dihedral groups, $W = \prod_{i=1}^{k} I_2(m_i)$, then $\mathbb{V}(T) = \sum_{i=1}^{k} \frac{4}{m_i}$.
- 3. If W_n is a sequence of finite Coxeter groups such that for all n, every irreducible component of W_n is of non-dihedral type, then $\mathbb{V}(T_{W_n})$ is of order $\mathrm{rk}(W_n)$.

Proof. Kahle–Stump computed the variance of T for all types of finite irreducible Coxeter groups in [10, Corollary 5.2]. Using Lemma 5 and additivity of the variance, the result follows immediately.

3 Fourth moments of T

As defined in Section 2, let D_W be the random variable associated to the statistic des_W and let T_W be the random variable associated to the statistic t_W for a finite Coxeter group W. The aim of this section is to prove the following theorem:

Theorem 7. Let W be an irreducible Coxeter group of type A_n, B_n or D_n . Then the fourth central moment $\mathbb{E}((T_W - \mathbb{E}(T_W))^4)$ of T_W is of order n^2 .

In order to show this, we follow and extend the ideas of Ozdemir. In [13], he formulated the conditional laws

$$\mathbb{E}(D_{\mathbf{A}_{n+1}}|D_{\mathbf{A}_n}) = \begin{cases} D_{\mathbf{A}_n} & \text{with probability } \frac{D_{\mathbf{A}_n+1}}{n+1}, \\ D_{\mathbf{A}_n}+1 & \text{with probability } \frac{n-D_{\mathbf{A}_n}}{n+1} \end{cases}$$
(1)

and

$$\mathbb{E}(D_{\mathbf{B}_{n+1}}|D_{\mathbf{B}_n}) = \begin{cases} D_{\mathbf{B}_n} & \text{with probability } \frac{2D_{\mathbf{B}_n}+1}{2n+2}, \\ D_{\mathbf{B}_n}+1 & \text{with probability } \frac{2n-2D_{\mathbf{B}_n}+1}{2n+2}. \end{cases}$$
(2)

Here $\mathbb{E}(D_{W_{n+1}}|D_{W_n})$ denotes the conditional expected value where $D_{W_{n+1}}$ is generated from D_{W_n} . For \mathbf{A}_n , this is done in the one-line notation by inserting n + 2 in a random position in the permutation of length n + 1. For \mathbf{B}_n , we insert n + 1 multiplied with a binary random variable that assigns equal probability to $\{\pm 1\}$ in a signed permutation of length n. See [13] for a detailed overview. Özdemir used these formulas to compute higher moments of $D_{\mathbf{A}_n}$ and $D_{\mathbf{B}_n}$. An important tool for his computations is the smoothing theorem (also known as the the law of total expectation) which can be stated as follows:

Theorem 8 (Smoothing Theorem; cf. [2, Theorem 34.4]). Let X and Y be integrable random variables defined on the same probability space. Then, it holds that

$$\mathbb{E}(\mathbb{E}(X|Y)) = \mathbb{E}(X).$$

Our approach for proving Theorem 7 is to compute inductively higher moments of T_W and D_W for the different families of Coxeter groups separately. We start in Section 3.1 by computing the fourth central moment of D_W in the case where W is irreducible and of type A or B. These computations serve as an illustration of the methods we use and the results will be needed for our inductive method of computing the fourth central moments of T_W later on. Building on this, we prove Theorem 7 for W of type A and B in Section 3.2 and Section 3.3, respectively. We finish the proof in Section 3.4.

3.1 Fourth moment of D

Ozdemir showed that the fourth central moment of the random variable D_{A_n} is of order n^2 [13, p. 3]. Using the **RSolve** function of MATHEMATICA, we are able to give an explicit formula for this moment:

Lemma 9. Let D_n be the random variable associated to the statistic des on the Coxeter group A_n , $n \ge 3$. Then we have:

$$\mathbb{E}((D_n - \mathbb{E}(D_n))^4) = \frac{1}{240}(n+2)(5n+8).$$

Proof. From (1), we derive the recursion formula

$$\mathbb{E}((D_{n+1} - \mathbb{E}(D_{n+1}))^4 | D_n) = \frac{(n-2)(D_n - \mathbb{E}(D_n))^4}{n+2} + \frac{(3n+4)(D_n - \mathbb{E}(D_n))^2}{2(n+2)} + \frac{1}{16}.$$
(3)

By applying \mathbb{E} on both sides of (3), the smoothing theorem leads to

$$\mathbb{E}((D_{n+1} - \mathbb{E}(D_{n+1}))^4) = \frac{(n-2)\mathbb{E}((D_n - \mathbb{E}(D_n))^4)}{n+2} + \frac{(3n+4)\operatorname{Var}(D_n)}{2(n+2)} + \frac{1}{16}$$

and with the formula for the variance found for example in [10, Corollary 5.2], we obtain a recursive formula for $a[n] = \mathbb{E}((D_n - \mathbb{E}(D_n))^4)$:

$$a[n+1] = \frac{(6n+11)}{48} + \frac{(n-2)a[n]}{n+2},$$

which was solved by computing the value $a[3] = \frac{23}{48}$ with SAGE and using the **RSolve** function of MATHEMATICA.

Using the same method and (2), we can compute the same moment in type B:

Lemma 10. Let D_n be the random variable associated to the statistic des on the Coxeter group B_n , $n \ge 4$. Then we have:

$$\mathbb{E}((D_n - \mathbb{E}(D_n))^4) = \frac{1}{240}(n+1)(5n+3).$$
(4)

Proof. From (2), we derive the recursion formula

$$\mathbb{E}((D_{n+1} - \mathbb{E}(D_{n+1}))^4 | D_n) = \frac{(n-3)(D_n - \mathbb{E}(D_n))^4}{n+1} + \frac{(3n+1)(D_n - \mathbb{E}(D_n))^2}{2(n+1)} + \frac{1}{16}.$$

This is the same recursion formula as for type A_{n-1} in (3), so we obtain a recursive formula for $a[n] = \mathbb{E}((D_n - \mathbb{E}(D_n))^4)$:

$$a[n+1] = \frac{(6n+5)}{48} + \frac{(n-3)a[n]}{n+1},$$

which was also solved by computing the starting value $a[4] = \frac{23}{48}$ with SAGE and using the **RSolve** function of MATHEMATICA.

3.2 Moments of T for type A_n

Throughout this subsection, let $T_n = T_{\mathbf{A}_n}$, $D_n = D_{\mathbf{A}_n}$ and let D'_n be the random variable associated to the statistic

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{A}_n \to \mathbb{N} \\ w \mapsto \operatorname{des}(w^{-1}) \end{aligned}$$

Clearly, we have $T_n = D_n + D'_n$, but D_n and D'_n are not independent. In order to compute the fourth central moment of T_n , we want to determine inductively mixed moments of the form $\mathbb{E}(D_n^k {D'_n}^l)$. To compute these moments recursively, we use the following twodimensional conditional law for (D_{n+1}, D'_{n+1}) given (D_n, D'_n) introduced by Özdemir:

Lemma 11 (see [13, p. 18]). In type A_n , the conditional law of (D_{n+1}, D'_{n+1}) given (D_n, D'_n) is

$$\mathbb{E}((D_{n+1}, D'_{n+1})|(D_n, D'_n)) = \begin{cases} (D_n, D'_n) & \text{with prob. } P_1 = \frac{(D_n + 1)(D'_n + 1) + n + 1}{(n+2)^2}, \\ (D_n + 1, D'_n) & \text{with prob. } P_2 = \frac{(n+1-D_n)(D'_n + 1) - n - 1}{(n+2)^2}, \\ (D_n, D'_n + 1) & \text{with prob. } P_3 = \frac{(D_n + 1)(n+1-D'_n) - n - 1}{(n+2)^2}, \\ (D_n + 1, D'_n + 1) & \text{with prob. } P_4 = \frac{(n+1-D_n)(n+1-D'_n) + n + 1}{(n+2)^2}. \end{cases}$$

We remark that in comparison to this, there is a shift of indices in [13, p. 18] as there, D_n corresponds to the descent statistic on $\text{Sym}(n) = \mathbf{A}_{n-1}$. Özdemir used this in order to compute the asymptotics of $\mathbb{E}((D_n - \mathbb{E}(D_n))^2(D'_n - \mathbb{E}(D'_n))^2)$, see [13, Lemma 5.1]. We obtain his results and generalisations of it in the proof of the following proposition.

Proposition 12. In type A_n , $n \ge 3$, the fourth central moment of T_n is given by

$$\mathbb{E}((T_n - \mathbb{E}(T_n))^4) = \frac{1}{60} \left(5n^2 + 79n + 258\right) - \frac{5n+2}{n(n+1)}.$$

Proof. Define $U_n \coloneqq D_n - \mathbb{E}(D_n) = D_n - n$ and $U'_n \coloneqq D'_n - \mathbb{E}(D'_n)$. Our goal is to compute

$$\mathbb{E}((T_n - \mathbb{E}(T_n))^4) = \mathbb{E}((U_n + U'_n)^4).$$

Multiplying out the right hand side of this equation and using linearity of the expected value, we see that it suffices to compute $\mathbb{E}(U_n^k U_n'^l)$ for all $0 \leq k, l \leq 4$ with k + l = 4.

Using the smoothing theorem and Lemma 11, we derive the following recursion formula for fixed k and l:

$$\mathbb{E}\left(U_{n+1}^{k}(U_{n+1}')^{l}\right) = \mathbb{E}\left(\left(U_{n}-\frac{1}{2}\right)^{k}\left(U_{n}'-\frac{1}{2}\right)^{l}P_{1}+\left(U_{n}+\frac{1}{2}\right)^{k}\left(U_{n}'-\frac{1}{2}\right)^{l}P_{2}\right.\\ \left.+\left(U_{n}-\frac{1}{2}\right)^{k}\left(U_{n}'+\frac{1}{2}\right)^{l}P_{3}+\left(U_{n}+\frac{1}{2}\right)^{k}\left(U_{n}'+\frac{1}{2}\right)^{l}P_{4}\right),$$

where P_1 , P_2 , P_3 and P_4 are as in Lemma 11 with $D_n = U_n + \frac{n}{2}$ and $D'_n = U'_n + \frac{n}{2}$. The right hand side of this equation only depends on $\mathbb{E}(U_n^i U_n'^j)$ with $i \leq k$ and $j \leq l$. Hence, inductively computing $\mathbb{E}(U_n^i U_n'^j)$ for all pairs (i, j) with $i \leq k, j \leq l$ and where at least one of this inequalities is strict, we obtain a recursion formula for $\mathbb{E}(U_n^k U_n'^l)$.

To obtain the claimed result, we computed the starting values with SAGE and solved the recursion with the **RSolve** command of MATHEMATICA, just as in Section 3.1. The intermediate results of these computations can be found in Appendix B.1. \Box

3.3 Moments of T for type B_n

We now turn to type B_n . Let $D_n \coloneqq D_{B_n}$, $T_n \coloneqq T_{B_n}$ and let D'_n be the random variable associated to

$$B_n \to \mathbb{N}$$
$$w \mapsto \operatorname{des}(w^{-1}).$$

To compute the fourth central moment of $T_n = D_n + D'_n$, we want to take the same approach as in Section 3.2. For this, we first need an analogue of Lemma 11. We start by setting

$$B_{n,i,j} \coloneqq \left| \{ w \in \mathbf{B}_n \, \big| \, \operatorname{des}(w) = i \text{ and } \operatorname{des}(w^{-1}) = j \} \right|.$$

These numbers are the coefficients of the type B_n two-sided Eulerian polynomial

$$B_n(s,t) \coloneqq \sum_{w \in \mathbf{B}_n} s^{\operatorname{des}(w)} t^{\operatorname{des}(w^{-1})},$$

as studied by Visontai in [20]. We clearly have

$$\mathbb{P}((D_n, D'_n) = (i, j)) = \frac{B_{n,i,j}}{|\mathsf{B}_n|}.$$

Lemma 13. The numbers $B_{n,i,j}$ satisfy the following recursion formula:

$$nB_{n,i,j} = (n + i + j + 2ij)B_{n-1,i,j} + (1 - i + (2n + 1)j - 2ij)B_{n-1,i-1,j} + (1 - j + (2n + 1)i - 2ij)B_{n-1,i,j-1} + (n(2n + 3) - (2n + 1)i - (2n + 1)j + 2ij)B_{n-1,i-1,j-1}.$$
(5)

Proof. In [20, Theorem 15], Visontai shows that the type B_n two-sided Eulerian polynomial satisfies

$$nB_{n}(s,t) = (2n^{2}st - nst + n)B_{n-1}(s,t) + (2nst(1-s) + s(1-s)(1-t))\frac{\partial}{\partial s}B_{n-1}(s,t) + (2nst(1-t) + t(1-s)(1-t))\frac{\partial}{\partial t}B_{n-1}(s,t) + 2st(1-s)(1-t)\frac{\partial^{2}}{\partial s\partial t}B_{n-1}(s,t).$$

From this, (5) follows by computing the derivatives and comparing the coefficients on both sides. $\hfill \Box$

Using this, we obtain the following analogue of Lemma 11:

Lemma 14. In type B_n , the conditional law of (D_{n+1}, D'_{n+1}) given (D_n, D'_n) is

$$\mathbb{E}((D_{n+1}, D'_{n+1})|(D_n, D'_n)) \\ = \begin{cases} (D_n, D'_n) & \text{with prob. } P_1 = \frac{n+1+D_n+D'_n+2D_nD'_n}{2(n+1)^2}, \\ (D_n+1, D'_n) & \text{with prob. } P_2 = \frac{-D_n+(2n+1)D'_n-2D_nD'_n}{2(n+1)^2}, \\ (D_n, D'_n+1) & \text{with prob. } P_3 = \frac{(2n+1)D_n-D'_n-2D_nD'_n}{2(n+1)^2}, \\ (D_n+1, D'_n+1) & \text{with prob. } P_4 = \frac{(2n+1)(n+1-(D_n+D'_n))+2D_nD'_n}{2(n+1)^2}. \end{cases}$$

As in (2), the signed permutation of length n corresponding to (D_n, D'_n) is generated from the signed permutation of length n-1 corresponding to (D_{n-1}, D'_{n-1}) by inserting n multiplied with a binary random variable that assigns equal probability to $\{\pm 1\}$ in a signed permutation of length n-1.

Proof. Dividing both sides of (5) by $n2^n n!$, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{B_{n,i,j}}{|\mathsf{B}_n|} = & \frac{n+i+j+2ij}{2n^2} \frac{B_{n-1,i,j}}{|\mathsf{B}_{n-1}|} \\ &+ \frac{1-i+(2n+1)j-2ij)}{2n^2} \frac{B_{n-1,i-1,j}}{|\mathsf{B}_{n-1}|} \\ &+ \frac{1-j+(2n+1)i-2ij)}{2n^2} \frac{B_{n-1,i,j-1}}{|\mathsf{B}_{n-1}|} \end{aligned}$$

$$+\frac{n(2n+3)-(2n+1)i-(2n+1)j+2ij}{2n^2}\frac{B_{n-1,i-1,j-1}}{|\mathsf{B}_{n-1}|},$$

where we used that $|B_n| = 2^n n!$. From this, the result follows because, as noted above, we have

$$\frac{B_{n,i,j}}{|\mathsf{B}_n|} = \mathbb{P}\big((D_n, D'_n) = (i, j)\big) \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{B_{n-1,k,l}}{|\mathsf{B}_{n-1}|} = \mathbb{P}\big((D_{n-1}, D'_{n-1}) = (k, l)\big),$$

and with the law of total probability, we derive the conditional probabilities.

Proposition 15. In type B_n , $n \ge 4$, the fourth central moment of T_n is given by

$$\mathbb{E}((T_n - \mathbb{E}(T_n))^4) = \frac{1}{60} \left(5n^2 + 39n + 79\right) + \frac{2n - 1}{4n(n-1)}$$

Proof. The proof is completely analogous to the one of Proposition 12. Again, we set $U_n \coloneqq D_n - \mathbb{E}(D_n)$ and $U'_n \coloneqq D'_n - \mathbb{E}(D'_n)$ such that $T_n - \mathbb{E}(T_n) = U_n + U'_n$ and observe that it suffices to compute $\mathbb{E}(U_n^k U'_n^l)$ for all $0 \leq k, l \leq 4$ with k + l = 4. This can be done inductively using the recursion formula

$$\mathbb{E}\left(U_{n+1}^{k}(U_{n+1}')^{l}\right) = \mathbb{E}\left(\left(U_{n}-\frac{1}{2}\right)^{k}\left(U_{n}'-\frac{1}{2}\right)^{l}P_{1}+\left(U_{n}+\frac{1}{2}\right)^{k}\left(U_{n}'-\frac{1}{2}\right)^{l}P_{2}\right.\\ \left.+\left(U_{n}-\frac{1}{2}\right)^{k}\left(U_{n}'+\frac{1}{2}\right)^{l}P_{3}+\left(U_{n}+\frac{1}{2}\right)^{k}\left(U_{n}'+\frac{1}{2}\right)^{l}P_{4}\right),$$

where P_1 , P_2 , P_3 and P_4 are as in Lemma 14 with $D_n = U_n + \frac{n}{2}$ and $D'_n = U'_n + \frac{n}{2}$. We solved the corresponding recursions with the **RSolve** command of MATHEMATICA; intermediate results can be found in Appendix B.2.

3.4 Proof of Theorem 7

We are now able to prove Theorem 7:

Proof of Theorem 7. For type A_n and B_n , we obtained the result in Proposition 12 and Proposition 15, respectively. For type D_n , we exploit the similarity of B_n and D_n to bound the difference between the respective fourth moments. The group B_n has a more combinatorial description as a group of signed permutations: It is isomorphic to the group of all mappings $\tilde{\pi} : \{\pm 1, \ldots, \pm n\} \rightarrow \{\pm 1, \ldots, \pm n\}$ such that $\tilde{\pi}(-i) = -\tilde{\pi}(i)$ (for further details, see [3, Chapter 8]). Choosing an element of B_n uniformly at random hence is equivalent to choosing a random permutation $\pi \in \text{Sym}(n)$ together with a tuple $(b_1, \ldots, b_n) \in \{\pm 1\}^n$ we then obtain $\tilde{\pi} \in B_n$ by setting $\tilde{\pi}(i) \coloneqq b_i \cdot \pi(i)$. In this description, D_n is the subgroup of B_n given by all signed permutations $\tilde{\pi}$ such that $|\{i \in \{1, \ldots, n\} \mid \tilde{\pi}(i) < 0\}|$ is an even number. Choosing an element of $\tilde{\pi} \in D_n$ uniformly at random is equivalent to choosing

a random permutation $\pi \in \text{Sym}(n)$ together with a tuple $(b_1, \ldots, b_{n-1}) \in \{\pm 1\}^{n-1}$ and setting

$$\tilde{\pi}(i) \coloneqq \begin{cases} b_i \cdot \pi(i) &, \ 1 \leq i \leq n-1 \\ (\prod_{j=1}^{n-1} b_j) \cdot \pi(i) &, \ i = n. \end{cases}$$

These considerations imply that we can write

$$T_{\mathsf{D}_n} \stackrel{d}{=} T_{\mathsf{B}_n} + Y_n$$

where Y_n is a bounded random variable (cf. [16, Proof of Theorem 3]). Using the Minkowski inequality, we obtain

$$\mathbb{E}\left(\left(T_{\mathsf{D}_n} - \mathbb{E}(T_{\mathsf{D}_n})\right)^4\right) \leqslant \left(\left(\mathbb{E}\left(\left(T_{\mathsf{B}_n} - \mathbb{E}(T_{\mathsf{B}_n})^4\right)\right)^{\frac{1}{4}} + O(1)\right)^4 = \mathbb{E}\left(\left(T_{\mathsf{B}_n} - \mathbb{E}(T_{\mathsf{B}_n})^4\right) + O\left(n^{\frac{3}{2}}\right).\right)^{\frac{1}{4}}$$

The result now follows from Proposition 15.

Remark 16. The results of this section show the convenience of the conditional expectation to compute the expected value: Instead of a combinatorial approach as for example in the proof of [10, Proposition 5.7], one derives a recursion formula and uses a recursion solver program like **RSolve** to find the solution. Of course, this approach is only possible if one can find a conditional expectation as for example in Lemma 14.

Remark 17. In [13, Section 5.7] it is shown how to derive the CLT for T in the case $(W_n)_n = (A_n)_n$ via the martingale convergence theorem and the recursive formulation of Lemma 11. This is an alternative proof of [7, Theorem 1.1] and one should be able to find an alternative proof for [16, Theorem 2], i.e. to prove the CLT for T when $(W_n)_n = (B_n)_n$ with the given formulas for the moments of $T_{\rm B}$.

4 CLTs for weighted sums of converging sequences

This section explains how to derive the asymptotic normality of a sequence of random variables $(X_n)_n$, where $X_n = \sum_{i=1}^{k_n} a_{n,i} X_{n,i}$, under the assumption that $(X_{n,i})_n \xrightarrow{D} N(0,1)$ for all *i*. The main idea is to use Lévy's continuity theorem via the pointwise convergence of the characteristic function of X_n towards the characteristic function of the standard normal distribution. We begin with some preparations:

Definition 18. The *characteristic function* of a random variable X is defined as $\psi_X(s) := \mathbb{E}(e^{isX})$ for $s \in \mathbb{R}$.

For a detailed introduction to characteristic functions, see for example [2]. Now, Lévy's continuity theorem states the following:

Theorem 19 (Lévy). For a sequence of random variables $(X_n)_n$, it holds that $X_n \xrightarrow{D} X$ for some random variable X if and only if $\lim_{n\to\infty} \psi_{X_n}(s) = \psi_X(s)$ for every $s \in \mathbb{R}$.

Characteristic functions of sums of independent random variables exhibit the following useful property:

Lemma 20. Let X and Y be real-valued random variables. If X and Y are independent and $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$, it holds that $\psi_{aX+bY}(s) = \psi_X(as)\psi_Y(bs)$ for every $s \in \mathbb{R}$.

Using the preceding results, one obtains the following lemma, which describes when a weighted sum of converging sequences satisfies the CLT. Note that in the following, the array $(X_{n,i})_{n,1 \leq i \leq k_n}$ is not required to be triangular.

Lemma 21. For each $n \in \mathbb{N}$, let $k_n \in \mathbb{N}_{>0}$ be a positive natural number. Let $a_{n,i} \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$, $1 \leq i \leq k_n$, such that $\sum_{i=1}^{k_n} a_{n,i}^2 = 1$ and let $X_{n,i}$, $1 \leq i \leq k_n$, be independent centred random variables with $\mathbb{V}(X_{n,i}) = 1$. Define $X_n = \sum_{i=1}^{k_n} a_{n,i} X_{n,i}$. Then if for each *i*, we have $X_{n,i} \xrightarrow{D} N(0,1)$ and

$$\lim_{k \to \infty} \sup_{n} \left(\sum_{i=k}^{k_n} a_{n,i}^2 \right) = 0, \tag{6}$$

it follows that $X_n \xrightarrow{D} N(0,1)$.

Before proving this, we give some comments on (6). Let $X_n^k := \sum_{i=1}^{\min(k,k_n)} a_{n,i} X_{n,i}$ be the random variable that is given by as the sum of the first k summands of X_n . We have $\mathbb{V}(X_n) = \sum_{i=1}^{k_n} a_{n,i}^2 = 1$ and

$$\mathbb{V}(X_n^k) = \sum_{i=1}^{\min(k,k_n)} a_{n,i}^2 = 1 - \sum_{i=k}^{k_n} a_{n,i}^2$$

Hence, (6) is equivalent to

$$\lim_{k \to \infty} \sup_{n} \left(\mathbb{V}(X_n) - \mathbb{V}(X_n^k) \right) = 0.$$

This means that the statement of Lemma 21 can roughly be phrased as follows: If all the columns of the array $(X_{n,i})_{n \in \mathbb{N}, 1 \leq i \leq k_n}$ satisfy the CLT and furthermore, the initial summands of X_n asymptotically contain all of the variance of X_n , then $(X_n)_n$ satisfies the CLT.

Proof of Lemma 21. The characteristic function of the normal distribution is $e^{-\frac{1}{2}s^2}$. To prove the asymptotic normality of X_n , we therefore show that for all $s \in \mathbb{R}$ and any $\delta > 0$, there is an $N \in \mathbb{N}$ so that $|\psi_{X_n}(s) - e^{-\frac{1}{2}s^2}| < \delta$ for all $n \ge N$. Now,

$$|\psi_{X_n}(s) - e^{-\frac{1}{2}s^2}| \leq |\psi_{X_n}(s) - \psi_{\sum_{i=1}^k a_{n,i}X_{n,i}}(s)| + |\psi_{\sum_{i=1}^k a_{n,i}X_{n,i}}(s) - e^{-\frac{1}{2}s^2}|$$

Condition (6) guarantees that for any $\varepsilon > 0$, there is a finite k such that for all n, one has $\sum_{i=k+1}^{\infty} a_{n,i}^2 \leqslant \varepsilon$. We conclude for the first summand with Jensen's inequality and $|e^{i\alpha} - 1| \leqslant |\alpha|$ that

$$\begin{aligned} |\psi_{X_n}(s) - \psi_{\sum_{i=1}^k a_{n,i}X_{n,i}}(s)| &= |\mathbb{E}(e^{isX_n} - e^{is\sum_{i=1}^k a_{n,i}X_{n,i}})| \\ &\leqslant \mathbb{E}|e^{is\sum_{i=k+1}^\infty a_{n,i}X_{n,i}} - 1| \\ &\leqslant \mathbb{E}|s\sum_{i=k+1}^\infty a_{n,i}X_{n,i}| \\ &\leqslant |s| \left(\mathbb{E}\left(\sum_{i=k+1}^\infty a_{n,i}X_{n,i}\right)^2\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \leqslant |s| \left(\sum_{i=k+1}^\infty a_{n,i}^2\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \leqslant |s|\varepsilon^{\frac{1}{2}}. \end{aligned}$$

For the second summand, with the uniform convergence of characteristic functions on compact intervals and the asymptotic normality of $(X_{n,i})_n$, i.e. $\psi_{X_{n,i}}(s) \to e^{-\frac{1}{2}s^2}$, we obtain for some positive constants C_1, C_2

$$\begin{aligned} |\psi_{\sum_{i=1}^{k} a_{n,i}X_{n,i}}(s) - e^{-\frac{s^{2}}{2}}| &\leq |\prod_{i=1}^{k} \psi_{X_{n,i}}(a_{n,i}s) - \prod_{i=1}^{k} e^{-a_{n,i}^{2}\frac{s^{2}}{2}}| + |e^{-\sum_{i=1}^{k} a_{n,i}^{2}\frac{s^{2}}{2}} - e^{-\frac{s^{2}}{2}}| \\ &\leq C_{1}\varepsilon + |e^{-\frac{s^{2}}{2}}(e^{-(1-\sum_{i=1}^{k} a_{n,i}^{2})\frac{s^{2}}{2}} - 1)| \\ &\leq C_{1}\varepsilon + |e^{-\frac{s^{2}}{2}}(e^{-\varepsilon\frac{s^{2}}{2}} - 1)| \leq C_{2}\varepsilon. \end{aligned}$$

These considerations imply that for any $\varepsilon > 0$ and some positive constant $C_3(s)$, there is an $N \in \mathbb{N}$ so that for all $n \ge N$ it holds that $|\psi_{X_n}(s) - e^{-\frac{1}{2}s^2}| \le C_3(s)\varepsilon = \delta$.

The following lemma is a consequence of Lemma 21 when k_n is globally bounded, but additionally allows for summands that converge in probability towards zero, instead of converging in distribution to the standard normal distribution.

Lemma 22. Let $(X_n)_n$ be a sequence of centred random variables and suppose that there is $k \in \mathbb{N}$ such that for each n, X_n can be written as a sum $X_n = X_{n,1} + \cdots + X_{n,k}$ of independent random variables $X_{n,i}$. Assume that for every $1 \leq i \leq k$, the following holds true: Either $(X_{n,i})_n$ satisfies the CLT or $\frac{X_{n,i}}{\sqrt{\mathbb{V}(X_n)}} \stackrel{\mathbb{P}}{\to} 0$. Then if at least one sequence $(X_{n,i})_n$ satisfies the CLT and $\mathbb{V}(X_n) \to \infty$, the sequence $(X_n)_n$ satisfies the CLT.

Proof. Without loss of generality, we can assume that there is $k' \ge 1$ such that for $1 \le i \le k'$, the sequence $(X_{n,i})_n$ satisfies the CLT while for all i > k', we have $\frac{X_{n,i}}{\sqrt{\mathbb{V}(X_n)}} \stackrel{\mathbb{P}}{\to} 0$. This implies that

$$Z_n \coloneqq \frac{X_{n,k'+1} + \dots + X_{n,k}}{\sqrt{\mathbb{V}(X_n)}} \xrightarrow{\mathbb{P}} 0$$

Using Slutsky's Theorem [11, Theorem 2.3.3], we see that X_n satisfies the CLT if the remaining sum $X'_n = X_n - Z_n = X_{n,1} + \cdots + X_{n,k'}$ satisfies the CLT. We can write

$$\frac{X'_n}{\sqrt{\mathbb{V}(X'_n)}} = \sum_{i=1}^{k'} a_{n,i} \frac{X_{n,i}}{\sqrt{\mathbb{V}(X_{n,i})}}, \quad \text{where} \quad a_{n,i} = \sqrt{\frac{\mathbb{V}(X_{n,i})}{\mathbb{V}(X'_n)}}.$$

We have

$$\sum_{i=1}^{k'} a_{n,i}^2 = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{k'} \mathbb{V}(X_{n,i})}{\mathbb{V}(X'_n)} = 1,$$

so the claim follows from Lemma 21 as (6) is trivially satisfied.

Lemma 23. In the setting of Lemma 22, the condition $\frac{X_{n,i}}{\sqrt{\mathbb{V}(X_n)}} \xrightarrow{\mathbb{P}} 0$ holds if $\frac{\mathbb{V}(X_{n,i})}{\mathbb{V}(X_n)} \to 0$.

Proof. The Chebyshev inequality shows that

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\frac{|X_{n,i}|}{\sqrt{\mathbb{V}(X_n)}} \ge \varepsilon\right) \leqslant \frac{\mathbb{V}(X_{n,i})}{\varepsilon^2 \mathbb{V}(X_n)}$$

which implies the convergence in probability of $\frac{|X_{n,i}|}{\sqrt{\mathbb{V}(X_n)}}$ towards zero if $\frac{\mathbb{V}(X_{n,i})}{\mathbb{V}(X_n)} \to 0$. \Box

5 CLT via the Lindeberg Theorem

A collection $(X_{n,i})_{n\geq 1}^{1\leq i\leq k_n}$ of random variables is called a *triangular array* if for each n, all $X_{n,i}$ are independent of each other. A triangular array is called *centred* if $\mathbb{E}(X_{n,i}) = 0$ for all n and i. Given such a triangular array, we set

$$X_n \coloneqq \sum_{i=1}^{k_n} X_{n,i}, \qquad s_{n,i}^2 \coloneqq \mathbb{V}(X_{n,i}) \qquad \text{and} \qquad s_n^2 \coloneqq \mathbb{V}(X_n) = \sum_{i=1}^{k_n} s_{n,i}^2.$$

The array $(X_{n,i})_{n,i}$ satisfies the maximum condition if

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} \max_{1 \le i \le k_n} \frac{s_{n,i}^2}{s_n^2} = 0.$$

$$\tag{7}$$

It satisfies the *Lindeberg condition* if for every $\varepsilon > 0$,

$$\frac{1}{s_n^2} \sum_{i=1}^{k_n} \mathbb{E}\left(X_{n,i}^2 \mathbb{1}_{\{|X_{n,i}| > \varepsilon s_n\}}\right) \to 0,$$

where $\mathbbm{1}_{\{\cdot\}}$ denotes the indicator function. The significance of these conditions for us is as follows:

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Theorem 24 (Lindeberg). Let $(X_{n,i})_{n,i}$ be a centred triangular array. Then $(X_{n,i})_{n,i}$ satisfies the Lindeberg condition if and only if it satisfies the maximum condition and the sequence $(X_n)_n$ satisfies the CLT.

The Lindeberg condition is implied by the Lyapunov condition, which is satisfied if for some $\delta > 0$ it holds that

$$\frac{1}{s_n^{2+\delta}} \sum_{i=1}^{k_n} \mathbb{E}\left(|X_{n,i}|^{2+\delta} \right) \to 0.$$

To apply this to our setting, let $(W_n)_n$ be a sequence of finite Coxeter groups and let

$$W_n = \prod_{i=1}^{k_n} W_{n,i},$$

be the decomposition of W_n into its irreducible components. Now, let T_n be the random variable associated to the statistic t on W_n . By Lemma 5, we have

$$T_n = \sum_{i=1}^{k_n} T_{n,i},$$

where $T_{n,i}$ is the random variable associated to the statistic t on $W_{n,i}$. From this, we obtain a centred triangular array by setting $X_{n,i} \coloneqq T_{n,i} - \mathbb{E}(T_{n,i})$. By the arguments above, we have $X_n = T_n - \mathbb{E}(T_n)$.

Lemma 25. Let $(W_n)_n$ be a sequence of finite Coxeter groups such that $\mathbb{V}(T_{n,1}) \ge \ldots \ge \mathbb{V}(T_{n,k_n})$ for all n and such that $\mathbb{V}(T_{n,1}) = o(\mathbb{V}(T_n))$ and $\mathbb{V}(T_n) \to \infty$. Then $(T_n)_n$ satisfies the CLT.

Proof. As above, let $(X_{n,i})_{n,i}$ be the triangular array associated to the sequence $(W_n)_n$. We want to apply the Lindeberg Theorem. The maximum condition is satisfied by assumption, so we only need to verify the Lindeberg condition. We do so via the Lyapunov condition. To check the Lyapunov condition, we choose $\delta = 2$. We see that $\mathbb{E}(X_{n,i}^4) = O(s_{n,i}^4)$ for the non-dihedral infinite families (cf. Theorem 7). If $W_{n,i}$ is of dihedral or exceptional type, $|X_{n,i}|$ is globally bounded: This is clear for the finitely many exceptional types. For $w \in I_2(m_{n,i})$, it is easy to verify that

$$0 \leqslant t(w) = \operatorname{des}(w) + \operatorname{des}(w^{-1}) \leqslant 4.$$

We have $rk(I_2(m_{n,i})) = 2$, so by Theorem 6, one has

$$|X_{n,i}| = |T_{n,i} - \mathbb{E}(T_{n,i})| \leq 2.$$

Therefore, the fourth moment of the dihedral or exceptional type is bounded by a constant, so $\mathbb{E}(X_{n,i}^4) = O(1) = O(s_{n,i}^4)$. Now, as $s_{n,1}^2 = o(s_n^2)$ and $s_n^2 = \sum_{i=1}^{k_n} s_{n,i}^2$, the Lyapunov condition holds, because

$$\sum_{i=1}^{k_n} \mathbb{E}\left(|X_{n,i}|^4\right) = O\left(\sum_{i=1}^{k_n} s_{n,i}^4\right) = O(s_{n,1}^2 s_n^2).$$

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6 Proof of the main theorem

Throughout this section, let $(W_n)_n$ be a sequence of finite Coxeter groups such that $\operatorname{rk}(W_n) \to \infty$, let

$$W_n = \prod_{i=1}^{k_n} W_{n,i}$$

be the decomposition of W_n into its irreducible components and define $T_n \coloneqq T_{W_n}$ and $T_{n,i} \coloneqq T_{W_{n,i}}$.

Assumption 26. We assume that the irreducible components are ordered such that for all n, we have $\mathbb{V}(T_{n,1}) \ge \ldots \ge \mathbb{V}(T_{n,k_n})$.

In the previous section, we proved the CLT for sequences where the variance of $T_{n,i}$ was of smaller magnitude than the variance of T_n (Lemma 25). However, this need not be the case in general; if the $W_{n,i}$ are of non-dihedral type, it is possible that for some i, the rank of $W_{n,i}$ is of the same order as the rank of W_n . An easy example of this is given by setting $W_n := \prod_{i=1}^k \mathbf{A}_n$ for some $k \in \mathbb{N}$; here, we have $\mathbb{V}(T_n)/\mathbb{V}(T_{n,i}) = k$ for all n. An example with a growing number of irreducible components is the sequence $W_n = \prod_{i=1}^{\lceil \log(n) \rceil} A_{\lceil \frac{n}{2^i} \rceil}$, so that $\mathbb{V}(T_n)/\mathbb{V}(T_{n,i}) = 2^i$. In order to extend our results to these cases, we need to separate the irreducible components that do not satisfy the maximum condition (7) from the remaining ones. For this, we make the following definition:

Let $f : \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0} \to \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$ be a non-decreasing map such that f(n) = o(n). An irreducible component $W_{n,i}$ of W_n is called *f*-small, if $\mathbb{V}(T_{n,i}) \leq f(\mathbb{V}(T_n))$. Let

 $m_n \coloneqq \min\{i \in \mathbb{N} : W_{n,i+1} \text{ is } f\text{-small}\}.$

By Assumption 26, $W_{n,i}$ is f-small for all $i \ge m_n$. We define $M_n^f \coloneqq \prod_{i=1}^{m_n} W_{n,i}$ and $W_n^f \coloneqq \prod_{i=m_n+1}^{k_n} W_{n,i}$. For all n, we can write $W_n = M_n^f \times W_n^f$. By Lemma 5, we have

$$T_n = T_{M_n^f} + T_{W_n^f} = \sum_{i=1}^{m_n} T_{n,i} + \sum_{i=m_n+1}^{k_n} T_{n,i}.$$

Remark 27. Among the class of all finite irreducible Coxeter groups W of dihedral or exceptional type, the variance $\mathbb{V}(T_W)$ is bounded from above: If W is dihedral, then $\mathbb{V}(T_W) \leq 2$ and there are only finitely many exceptional types. Hence if $\mathbb{V}(T_n) \to \infty$, then for every non-decreasing $f : \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0} \to \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$ with f(n) = o(n), there is $N \in \mathbb{N}$ such that for all $n \geq N$, every irreducible component of W_n is either of type A, B or D or it is f-small.

As was shown by Chatterjee–Diaconis [7] and Röttger [16], the sequences T_{A_n}, T_{B_n} and T_{D_n} satisfy the CLT. This allows us to apply Lemma 21 if the sequence $(W_n)_n$ satisfies the following property:

Definition 28. The sequence $(W_n)_n$ is *well-behaved*, if there exists a non-decreasing function $f : \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0} \to \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$ with f(n) = o(n), such that

$$\lim_{k \to \infty} \sup_{n} \left(\sum_{i=k}^{m_n} \frac{\mathbb{V}(T_{n,i})}{\mathbb{V}(T_{M_n^f})} \right) = 0.$$
(8)

Note that the condition (8) relates directly to condition (6) when we are interested in deriving the CLT for $T_{M_n^f}$ in the case that the $T_{n,i}$ satisfy the CLT.

Remark 29. While the definition seems to be rather technical, the authors have failed to construct a sequence that is not well-behaved. A reason why it is hard to find such a sequence is the following:

A sequence is always well-behaved if m_n , the number of irreducible components that are not *f*-small, is bounded. This follows because under Assumption 26 we have

$$\sum_{i=k}^{m_n} \frac{\mathbb{V}(T_{n,i})}{\mathbb{V}(T_{M_n^f})} \leq \max\{m_n - k, 0\} \cdot \frac{\mathbb{V}(T_{n,1})}{\mathbb{V}(T_{M_n^f})}$$

That m_n is bounded is for example the case if the rank or the number of irreducible components in W_n are bounded. It is also the case if there is a $J \in \mathbb{N}$ such that for all i > J, the sequence of *i*-th components $(T_{n,i})_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ satisfies $(\mathbb{V}(T_{n,i}))_{n \in \mathbb{N}} = o((\mathbb{V}(T_n))_{n \in \mathbb{N}})$. If there are no irreducible components of dihedral type, the latter is satisfied if there is $J \in \mathbb{N}$ such that for all i > J, we have $(\operatorname{rk}(W_{n,i}))_{n \in \mathbb{N}} = o((\operatorname{rk}(W_n))_{n \in \mathbb{N}})$ (see Remark 27 and Theorem 6); in other words, the sequence is well-behaved if there are only boundedly many irreducible components of W_n that have rank not in $o(\operatorname{rk}(W_n))$.

So if one wants to find a sequence that is not well-behaved, one needs m_n to be unbounded. However, even then well-behavedness occured in all examples that the authors considered, see e.g. Example 33 (i).

Remark 30. For all $L \subseteq \mathbb{N}$, we obviously have

$$\sup_{n \in L} \left(\sum_{i=k}^{m_n} \frac{\mathbb{V}(T_{n,i})}{\mathbb{V}(T_{M_n^f})} \right) \leq \sup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \left(\sum_{i=k}^{m_n} \frac{\mathbb{V}(T_{n,i})}{\mathbb{V}(T_{M_n^f})} \right) \text{ for all } k.$$

Thus, every subsequence of a well-behaved sequence is well-behaved again.

Proposition 31. If $(W_n)_n$ is well-behaved and $\mathbb{V}(T_n) \to \infty$, the sequence $(T_n)_n$ satisfies the CLT.

Proof. Choose f such that (8) is satisfied. As noted above, we have $T_n = T_{M_n^f} + T_{W_n^f}$, so by assumption $\mathbb{V}(T_{M_n^f}) + \mathbb{V}(T_{W_n^f}) = \mathbb{V}(T_n) \to \infty$.

By Lemma 2, it suffices to show that every subsequence of $(T_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ has a subsequence which satisfies the CLT. For any $L \subseteq \mathbb{N}$, the subsequence $(W_n)_{n \in L}$ satisfies all conditions of the proposition: Obviously, the rank $(\operatorname{rk}(W_n))_{n \in L}$ tends to infinity and so does the variance $(\mathbb{V}(T_n))_{n \in L}$. Furthermore, the sequence is well-behaved as noted in Remark 30. Hence, it suffices to consider the case where $L = \mathbb{N}$: We will now show that an (arbitrary) sequence $(T_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ as in the statement of the proposition has a subsequence that satisfies the CLT. It then follows that every subsequence of $(T_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ has a subsequence with this property as well.

If $\mathbb{V}(T_{M_n^f}) = o(\mathbb{V}(T_n))$, then $\mathbb{V}(T_{W_n^f})$ is of the same order as $\mathbb{V}(T_n)$. Hence, as every irreducible factor of $W_n^f = \prod_{i=m_n+1}^{k_n} W_{n,i}$ is *f*-small, we have $\mathbb{V}(T_{n,m_{n+1}}) = o(\mathbb{V}(T_{W_n^f}))$. This allows us to apply Lemma 25 to see that $(T_{W_n^f})_n$ satisfies the CLT. The CLT for $(T_n)_n$ now follows—even without passing to a subsequence—from Lemma 22 and Lemma 23 because $\mathbb{V}(T_{M_n^f})/\mathbb{V}(T_n) \to 0$.

Next assume that $\mathbb{V}(T_{M_n^f}) \neq o(\mathbb{V}(T_n))$. In this case, there is $L \subseteq \mathbb{N}$ such that $(\mathbb{V}(T_{M_n^f}))_{n \in L} \to \infty$ holds true². The subsequence $(M_n^f)_{n \in L}$ is again well-behaved and as noted in Remark 27, we can assume that every irreducible component of M_n^f is of type A, B or D. Thus, it follows from [7], [16] and Lemma 21 that the sequence $(T_{M_n^f})_{n \in L}$ satisfies the CLT. The asymptotic normality of $(T_n)_{n \in L}$ now follows from Lemma 22 and Lemma 23: Either $\mathbb{V}(T_{W_n^f})$ is of the same order as $\mathbb{V}(T_n)$; because every component of W_n^f is f-small, this implies that after possible passing to a further subsequence, $T_{W_n^f}$ satisfies the CLT. Or we have $\mathbb{V}(T_{W_n^f}) \to 0$.

We are now ready to prove our main theorem. Each W_n decomposes uniquely as

$$W_n = G_n \times I_n$$

where no irreducible component of G_n is of dihedral type and

$$I_n = \prod_{i=1}^{l_n} \mathtt{I}_2(m_{n,i}).$$

Note that by Remark 27, the sequence $(W_n)_n$ is well-behaved if and only if $(G_n)_n$ is. We use this decomposition in order to combine the results obtained so far and show:

Theorem 32. Let T_n be the random variable associated to the statistic t on W_n . Assume that $(W_n)_n$ is well-behaved. Then the following are equivalent:

- 1. $(T_n)_n$ satisfies the CLT;
- 2. $\mathbb{V}(T_n) \to \infty;$

3.
$$\operatorname{rk}(G_n) + \sum_{i=1}^{l_n} \frac{1}{m_{n,i}} \to \infty.$$

Proof. "(2) \Leftrightarrow (3)": By Lemma 5, the random variable T_n decomposes as a sum of independent random variables $T_n = T_{G_n} + T_{I_n}$. By Theorem 6, $\operatorname{rk}(G_n)$ is of order $\mathbb{V}(T_{G_n})$ and $\sum_{i=1}^{l_n} \frac{1}{m_{n,i}}$ is of order $\mathbb{V}(T_{I_n})$. Using additivity of the variance, it follows immediately that Item 2 is equivalent to Item 3.

"(2) \Rightarrow (1)": That Item 2 implies Item 1 is the statement of Proposition 31.

²Note that $(\mathbb{V}(T_{M_n^f}))_{n\in\mathbb{N}}\to\infty$ need not be true. This makes it necessary to pass to a subsequence here—in contrast to the previous paragraph.

"(1) \Rightarrow (2)": Lastly, as $T_n - \mathbb{E}(T_n)$ takes only values in \mathbb{Z} , the sequence $(T_n)_n$ can only satisfy a CLT if its variance tends to infinity [10, Proposition 6.15]. This shows that Item 1 implies Item 2.

We note that Item 1 implies Item 2 even without assuming that the sequence is wellbehaved.

Example 33. The following list of examples illustrates Theorem 32. To simplify the notation, we omit the rounding of the ranks of the irreducible components and write $W^k = \prod_{i=1}^k W$ for the product of k copies of the group W.

(i) $W_n = \prod_{i=1}^{\log(n)} \mathbf{A}_{\frac{n}{2^i}} \times (\mathbf{B}_{\sqrt{n}})^{\sqrt{n}}$ satisfies the CLT: $(\mathbf{B}_{\sqrt{n}})^{\sqrt{n}}$ satisfies (7). We need to show that the first factor $\prod_{i=1}^{\log(n)} \mathbf{A}_{\frac{n}{2^i}}$ is well-behaved. Note that $m_n = \log(n)$. We have $\mathbb{V}(T_{\mathbf{A}_n}) = \frac{n}{6} + O(1)$, such that

$$\sum_{i=k}^{m_n} \frac{\mathbb{V}(T_{n,i})}{\mathbb{V}(T_{M_n^f})} = \frac{\sum_{i=k}^{m_n} \mathbb{V}(T_{n,i})}{\sum_{i=1}^{m_n} \mathbb{V}(T_{n,i})} = \frac{\sum_{i=k}^{m_n} (\frac{n}{2^i} + O(1))}{\sum_{i=1}^{m_n} (\frac{n}{2^i} + O(1))} = \frac{\sum_{i=k}^{m_n} 2^{-i} + o(1)}{\sum_{i=1}^{m_n} 2^{-i} + o(1)}$$

As the geometric series converges, $\lim_{k\to\infty} \sup_n$ of the above goes to zero and therefore the sequence $(W_n)_n$ is well-behaved.

- (ii) For any $0 < \delta < 1$, the product $\mathbb{B}_n \times (\mathbb{A}_{n^{1-\delta}})^{n^{\delta}}$ satisfies the CLT: Define $f(n) \coloneqq n^{1-\delta}$. Then $m_n = 1$ is bounded and $(\mathbb{A}_{n^{1-\delta}})^{n^{\delta}}$ satisfies (7).
- (iii) $W_n = \prod_{i=1}^n I_2(i)$ satisfies the CLT, as the harmonic series diverges and therefore $\mathbb{V}(T_n) \to \infty$.
- (iv) $W_n = \prod_{i=1}^n I_2(i^2)$ does not satisfy the CLT, as $\mathbb{V}(T_n)$ is bounded.
- (v) $W_n = \mathbf{A}_3^n \times \mathbf{D}_5^n \times \mathbf{F}_4^n \times \prod_{i=1}^n I_2(i^2)$ satisfies the CLT, as $m_n = 0$ and $\mathbb{V}(T_n) \to \infty$. Note that \mathbf{F}_4 is a Coxeter group of exceptional type.

A Geometric interpretation of t

Throughout this section, let (W, S) be a fixed Coxeter system and let n := |S| be its rank. In this section, we give an interpretation of the statistic

$$t: W \to \mathbb{N}$$
$$w \mapsto \operatorname{des}(w) + \operatorname{des}(w^{-1}).$$

in terms of a boolean complex defined by Hultman [9]. We here use the same notation as Petersen in [15].

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Associated to W is its Coxeter complex $\Sigma = \Sigma(W, S)$, a simplicial complex which is defined as follows: For $I \subseteq S$, denote by W_I the (parabolic) subgroup of W generated by I. The faces of Σ are given by all cosets wW_I , where $w \in W$ and $I \subseteq S$; the face relation is defined by

$$wW_I \leq w'W_{I'}$$
 if and only if $wW_I \supseteq w'W_{I'}$.

Coxeter complexes are classical, well-studied structures that give a geometric way of investigating properties of Coxeter groups and related structures; for further details, see e.g. [1, Chapter 3].

In [9], Hultman defines a complex $\Xi = \Xi(W, S)$, which can be seen as a *two-sided Coxeter complex*. The faces of Ξ are given by all triples $(I, W_I w W_J, J)$, where $I, J \subseteq S$, $w \in W$ and $W_I w W_J$ denotes the corresponding double coset. The face relation is given by

$$(I, W_I w W_J, J) \leqslant_{\Xi} (I', W_{I'} w' W_{J'}, J') \quad \text{if and only if} \quad \begin{cases} I \supseteq I', \\ J \supseteq J' \text{ and} \\ W_I w W_J \supseteq W_{I'} w' W_{J'}. \end{cases}$$

Petersen [15] showed that Ξ shares several properties with Σ : It is a balanced, shellable complex and if W is finite, the geometric realisation of Ξ is homeomorphic to a sphere of dimension 2n - 1. A difference between the two structures is that Ξ is not a simplicial, but only a boolean complex. A *boolean complex* (or *simplicial poset*) is a poset P with a unique minimal element $\hat{0}$ such that every lower interval $[\hat{0}, p]$ is a boolean algebra, i.e. equivalent to the face poset of a simplex. Such a poset can also be seen as a semi-simplical set; its maximal faces (or *facets*) are the maximal elements of P and the face maps are induced by the partial order of P. Using this description, the vertices are the minimal elements of $P \setminus {\hat{0}}$. The face poset of a simplicial complex is an example of a boolean complex. The complex Ξ however is not simplicial—in fact, all of its facets share the same vertex set.

From now on, we assume that W, and hence Ξ , is finite. The statistic t has two interpretations in terms of Ξ . Firstly, it describes the *h*-vector of this complex and secondly, it is related to the gallery distance on Ξ :

A.1 *h*-vectors

The *f*-vector of a non-empty finite complex X of dimension d-1 is given by the tuple $f(X) = (f_{-1}, f_0, \ldots, f_{d-1})$, where $f_{-1} = 1$ and for $i \ge 0$, f_i denotes the number of *i*-faces of X. The *h*-vector $h(X) = (h_0, \ldots, h_d)$ is defined from this by the linear relations

$$h_k := \sum_{i=0}^k (-1)^{k-i} {d-i \choose k-i} f_{i-1}.$$

Just like the f-vector, the h-vector encodes the number of faces of different dimensions of X. It has a particularly nice interpretation in the case where X is partitionable (which

is in particular the case for the shellable complex Ξ), see e.g. [18, Proposition III.2.3]. Hultman showed in [9, Example 5.9, Theorem 5.10] that the *h*-polynomial of Ξ equals the generating function of the statistic *t*, i.e. that one has

$$h(\Xi, x) = \sum_{i=0}^{d} h_i x^i = \sum_{w \in W} x^{\operatorname{des}(w) + \operatorname{des}(w^{-1})}.$$

A.2 Chamber complexes

Let X be a *pure* complex (i.e. all of its facets have the same dimension). Two facets of X are called *adjacent* if their intersection is a face of codimension 1. The complex X is called a *chamber complex* if every pair of facets $\sigma, \tau \in X$ can be connected by a *gallery*, i.e. a sequence of facets $\sigma = \tau_0, \ldots, \tau_l = \tau$ such that for all $0 \leq i \leq l$, the facets τ_i and τ_{i+1} are adjacent. In this setting, l is called the *length* of the gallery. For two facets σ, τ of a chamber complex X, the *gallery distance* $d(\sigma, \tau)$ is defined as the minimal length of a gallery connecting σ and τ . Galleries of minimal length can be seen as the analogue of geodesics in the realm of chamber complexes.

To see that Ξ is a chamber complex, we first note that the facets of Ξ are given by triples $(\emptyset, w, \emptyset)$, i.e. they are in one-to-one correspondence with the elements of W. Denote by σ_w the facet corresponding to $w \in W$. Spelling out the definitions, it is easy to see that σ_w and $\sigma_{w'}$ share a face of codimension 1 if and only if w' = ws or w' = swfor some $s \in S$. Hence, the fact that S generates W implies that for any two facets of Ξ , there is a gallery connecting the two.

In particular, for every $w \in W$, a gallery between the simplex σ_e corresponding to the neutral element $e \in W$ and σ_w corresponds to writing w as a product of the elements in S. Furthermore, if $\sigma_e = \sigma_{w_0}, \ldots, \sigma_{w_l} = \sigma_w$ is a gallery of minimal length, we have

$$l_S(w_i) = i$$
 for all $0 \leq i \leq l$,

where $l_S(\cdot)$ denotes the word length with respect to S. One consequence of this is that the gallery distance $d(\sigma_e, \sigma_w)$ equals the word length $l_S(w)$. Furthermore, in such a gallery, there must be $s \in S$ such that $w_{l-1} = ws$ or $w_{l-1} = sw$ and $l_S(w_{l-1}) = l_S(w) - 1$. Noting that $s \in \text{Des}(w^{-1})$ if and only if

$$l_S(w^{-1}s) = l_S((sw)^{-1}) = l_S(sw) < l_S(w),$$

we find the following, second interpretation of t in terms of Ξ :

Observation 34. For any $w \in W$, the number of facets of Ξ which are adjacent to σ_w and lie on a gallery of minimal length between σ_e and σ_w is given by $t(w) = \operatorname{des}(w) + \operatorname{des}(w^{-1})$.

In this sense, the statistic t counts the number of geodesics starting at facets in Ξ .

B Higher moments of T

This section contains the higher moments of the random variables which were described in the proofs of Proposition 12 and Proposition 15.

Let $D_n = D_{W_n}$, $T_n = T_{W_n}$, let D'_n be the random variable associated to the statistic

$$W_n \to \mathbb{N}$$

 $w \mapsto \operatorname{des}(w^{-1})$

and define $U_n := D_n - \mathbb{E}(D_n)$ and $U'_n := D'_n - \mathbb{E}(D'_n)$.

For the proofs of Proposition 12 and Proposition 15, one needs to compute inductively $\mathbb{E}(U_n^k U_n'^l)$ for all $0 \leq k, l \leq 4$ where $W_n = A_n$ and $W_n = B_n$, respectively. Note that $\mathbb{E}(U_n^k U_n'^l) = \mathbb{E}(U_n^l U_n'^k)$. For the sake of completeness, we also list the mixed moments of (D_n, D_n') , which can be computed similarly, although they are not needed to prove Proposition 12 and Proposition 15.

B.1 Type A

For $W_n = \mathbf{A}_n$ we display the list of (joint) moments up to degree 4 in Table 1. The result for $\mathbb{E}(U_n^4)$ corresponds to Lemma 9 and the result for $\mathbb{E}((T_n - \mathbb{E}(T_n))^4)$ to Proposition 12. The moments in boldface were already known before and can be found in [10].

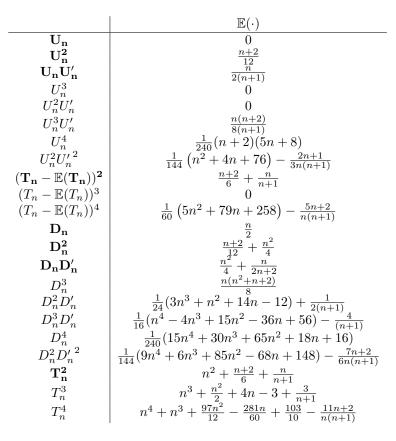


Table 1: List of moments for type A_n .

B.2 Type B

For $W_n = B_n$ we display the list of (joint) moments up to degree 4 in Table 2. The result for $\mathbb{E}(U_n^4)$ corresponds to Lemma 10 and the result for $\mathbb{E}((T_n - \mathbb{E}(T_n))^4)$ to Proposition 15. The moments in boldface were already known before and can be found in [10].

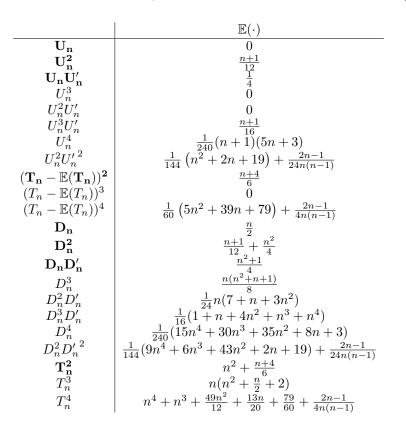


Table 2: List of moments for type B_n .

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