

# A Type B Analogue of the Category of Finite Sets with Surjections

Nicholas Proudfoot\*

Department of Mathematics  
University of Oregon  
Eugene, Oregon, U.S.A.  
njp@uoregon.edu

Submitted: Apr 12, 2022; Accepted: Jul 12, 2022; Published: Aug 12, 2022

© The author. Released under the CC BY-ND license (International 4.0).

## Abstract

We define a type  $B$  analogue of the category of finite sets with surjections, and we study the representation theory of this category. We show that the opposite category is quasi-Gröbner, which implies that submodules of finitely generated modules are again finitely generated. We prove that the generating functions of finitely generated modules have certain prescribed poles, and we obtain restrictions on the representations of type  $B$  Coxeter groups that can appear in such modules. Our main example is a module that categorifies the degree  $i$  Kazhdan–Lusztig coefficients of type  $B$  Coxeter arrangements.

**Mathematics Subject Classifications:** 05B35, 14F43, 20F55

## 1 Introduction

Let  $\text{FS}_A$  be the category whose objects are nonempty finite sets and whose morphisms are surjective maps. The  $A$  in the subscript is there to call attention to the fact that this is a “type  $A$ ” structure. More concretely, for any positive integer  $n$ , the automorphism group of the object  $[n] = \{1, \dots, n\}$  is the Coxeter group type  $A_{n-1}$ , and the set of equivalence classes of morphisms with source  $[n]$  may be identified with the set of flats of the Coxeter hyperplane arrangement of type  $A_n$  (Example 23). Our aim is to define and study a “type  $B$ ” analogue of this category, which we call  $\text{FS}_B$ .

We begin with the definition. An object of  $\text{FS}_B$  is a pair  $(E, \sigma)$ , where  $E$  is a finite set and  $\sigma : E \rightarrow E$  is an involution with a unique fixed point. A morphism from  $(E_1, \sigma_1)$  to  $(E_2, \sigma_2)$  is a surjective map  $\varphi : E_1 \rightarrow E_2$  with  $\varphi \circ \sigma_1 = \sigma_2 \circ \varphi$ . For any natural number

---

\*Supported by NSF grants DMS-1954050, DMS-2039316, and DMS-2053243.

$n$ , we write  $[-n, n]$  to denote the object given by the set of integers between  $-n$  and  $n$  (inclusive) and the involution  $k \mapsto -k$ ; every object of  $\text{FS}_B$  is isomorphic to  $[-n, n]$  for some  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . The automorphism group  $W_n$  of the object  $[-n, n]$  is the Coxeter group of type  $B_n$ , and the set of equivalence classes of morphisms with source  $[-n, n]$  may be identified with the set of flats of the Coxeter hyperplane arrangement of type  $B_n$  (Example 23).

*Remark 1.* A more naive definition of  $\text{FS}_B$  would be to take finite sets with free involutions and equivariant maps. This category would have the right automorphism groups, but it would not have the same relationship with flats of the Coxeter hyperplane arrangements of type  $B$ . This distinction is not relevant when one studies the type  $B$  analogue of finite sets with *injections* [11], since any equivariant injection would have to preserve the fixed point. The same comment applies to the category  $\text{FS}_{S_2}$  studied in [9] and [10].

*Remark 2.* It is natural to ask why we do not also introduce and study a “type  $D$ ” analogue of this category. The brief answer is that the classes of Coxeter arrangements of types  $A$  and  $B$  are closed under contraction (Examples 23 and 24), but the analogous statement is false in type  $D$ . This property is crucial to the examples that we consider in this paper.

For the remainder of the introduction, we describe the results for  $\text{FS}_A$  and  $\text{FS}_B$  in parallel for comparison. All results that we state for  $\text{FS}_A$  appear in either [9] or [8].

## 1.1 Finiteness

The first half of this paper is devoted to applying the Sam–Snowden Gröbner theory of combinatorial categories [9] to the opposite category  $\text{FS}_B^{\text{op}}$ . More concretely, we fix a left Noetherian ring  $k$  and an essentially small category  $\mathcal{C}$  (which will always be either  $\text{FS}_A$  or  $\text{FS}_B$ ) and study the category  $\text{Rep}_k(\mathcal{C}^{\text{op}})$  of contravariant functors from  $\mathcal{C}$  to the category of left  $k$ -modules. Such a functor is called a  $\mathcal{C}^{\text{op}}$ -module over  $k$ . Given an object  $x$ , the **principal projective**  $P_x \in \text{Rep}_k(\mathcal{C}^{\text{op}})$  is the module that assigns to an object  $y$  the free  $k$ -module with basis  $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(y, x)$ , with maps defined on basis elements by composition. A module  $M$  is called **finitely generated** if there exists a finite set of objects  $x_1, \dots, x_r$  and a surjective map from  $\bigoplus_i P_{x_i}$  to  $M$ . The following theorem of Sam and Snowden says that finitely generated  $\text{FS}_A^{\text{op}}$ -modules form an Abelian category [9, Theorem 8.1.2].

**Theorem 3.** *Any submodule of a finitely generated  $\text{FS}_A^{\text{op}}$ -module over  $k$  is itself finitely generated.*

We prove here the analogous theorem for  $\text{FS}_B$ .

**Theorem 4.** *Any submodule of a finitely generated  $\text{FS}_B^{\text{op}}$ -module over  $k$  is itself finitely generated.*

An  $\text{FS}_A^{\text{op}}$ -module  $M$  is called **finitely generated in degree  $\leq d$**  if the generating objects can all be taken to be sets of cardinality at most  $d$ . Similarly, an  $\text{FS}_B$ -module  $N$  is called **finitely generated in degree  $\leq d$**  if the generating objects can all be taken to

have at most  $d$  free orbits; equivalently, they can all be taken to be objects of the form  $[-n, n]$  with  $n \leq d$ . A module over either category is called  **$d$ -small** if it is isomorphic to a subquotient of a module that is finitely generated in degree  $\leq d$ . Theorems 3 and 4 immediately implies that a  $d$ -small object is itself finitely generated, though the degree of generation might be much larger than  $d$ .

Borrowing terminology from [5] and [6], we call a module  **$d$ -smallish** if it admits a filtration whose associated graded module is  $d$ -small. The motivation for this definition is that, if we have a spectral sequence converging to  $N$  for which the modules on the  $E_1$ -page are all  $d$ -small, the same will necessarily be true for the  $E_\infty$ -page, which is isomorphic to the associated graded module of  $N$  with respect to some filtration, and  $N$  is therefore  $d$ -smallish. It is easy to prove that a  $d$ -smallish module is finitely generated [5, Proposition 2.14]. We do not know whether or not a  $d$ -smallish module must be  $d$ -small.

## 1.2 Growth

Fix a field  $k$  of characteristic zero. If  $\lambda = (\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_{\ell(\lambda)})$  is a partition of  $n$ , we write  $V_\lambda$  to denote the corresponding irreducible representation of  $S_n$  over  $k$ . If  $\lambda$  and  $\mu$  are partitions with  $|\lambda| + |\mu| = n$ , we write  $V_{\lambda, \mu}$  to denote the corresponding irreducible representation of  $W_n$  over  $k$ .

For an  $\text{FS}_A^{\text{op}}$ -module  $M$  and a positive integer  $n$ , we write  $M[n]$  to denote the  $S_n$ -representation  $M([n])$ , and we define the generating function

$$H_A(M; t) := \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} t^n \dim M[n].$$

If  $M$  is  $d$ -smallish, we define the limit

$$r_A^d(M) := \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\dim M[n]}{d^n},$$

which we will show always exists. The following theorem was proved in [8, Theorem 4.1].

**Theorem 5.** *Let  $M$  be a  $d$ -smallish  $\text{FS}_A^{\text{op}}$ -module.*

1. *The generating function  $H_A(M; t)$  is a rational function whose poles are contained in the set  $\{1/j \mid 1 \leq j \leq d\}$ .*
2. *The limit  $r_A^d(M)$  exists. Equivalently,  $H_A(M; t)$  has at worst a simple pole at  $1/d$ , and  $r_A^d(M)$  is the residue.*
3. *If  $|\lambda| = n$  and  $\text{Hom}_{S_n}(V_\lambda, M[n]) \neq 0$ , then  $\ell(\lambda) \leq d$ .*

We now state the type  $B$  analogue of Theorem 5. For an  $\text{FS}_B^{\text{op}}$ -module  $N$  and a nonnegative integer  $n$ , we write  $N[-n, n]$  to denote the  $W_n$ -representation  $N([-n, n])$ , and we define the generating function

$$H_B(N; t) := \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} t^n \dim N[-n, n].$$

If  $N$  is  $d$ -smallish, we define the limit

$$r_B^d(N) := \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\dim N[-n, n]}{(2d + 1)^n},$$

which we will show always exists.

**Theorem 6.** *Let  $N$  be a  $d$ -smallish  $\text{FS}_B^{\text{op}}$ -module.*

1. *The generating function  $H_B(M; t)$  is a rational function whose poles are contained in the set  $\{1/j \mid 1 \leq j \leq 2d + 1\}$ .*
2. *The limit  $r_B^d(N)$  exists. Equivalently,  $H_B(N; t)$  has at worst a simple pole at  $1/(2d + 1)$ , and  $r_B^d(N)$  is the residue.*
3. *If  $|\lambda| + |\mu| = n$  and  $\text{Hom}_{W_n}(V_{\lambda, \mu}, N[-n, n]) \neq 0$ , then  $\ell(\lambda) \leq d + 1$  and  $\ell(\mu) \leq d$ .*

### 1.3 Examples

For any nonempty finite set  $E$ , we define in Example 21 a hyperplane arrangement  $\mathcal{A}_E$  with the property that  $\mathcal{A}_{[n]}$  is the Coxeter arrangement of type  $A_n$ . Similarly, for any object  $(E, \sigma)$  of  $\text{FS}_B$ , we define in Example 22 a hyperplane arrangement  $\mathcal{A}_{(E, \sigma)}$  with the property that  $\mathcal{A}_{[-n, n]}$  is the Coxeter arrangement of type  $B_n$ .

In Section 5, we define an  $\text{FS}_A$ -module  $S_A^i$  that takes  $E$  to the degree  $i$  part of the Orlik–Solomon algebra of  $\mathcal{A}_E$ ; by taking the linear dual, we obtain an  $\text{FS}_A^{\text{op}}$ -module  $(S_A^i)^*$ . Similarly, we define an  $\text{FS}_B$ -module  $S_B^i$  that takes  $(E, \sigma)$  to the degree  $i$  part of the Orlik–Solomon algebra of  $\mathcal{A}_{(E, \sigma)}$  and the dual  $\text{FS}_B^{\text{op}}$ -module  $(S_B^i)^*$ . The following proposition was proved in [8, Proposition 5.1].

**Proposition 7.** *The  $\text{FS}_A^{\text{op}}$ -module  $(S_A^0)^*$  is 1-small. For all  $i > 0$ , the  $\text{FS}_A^{\text{op}}$ -module  $(S_A^i)^*$  is  $2i$ -small, and*

$$r_A^{2i}((S_A^i)^*) = 0.$$

Here we prove the following type  $B$  analogue of Proposition 7.

**Proposition 8.** *The  $\text{FS}_B^{\text{op}}$ -module  $(S_B^0)^*$  is 0-small. For all  $i > 0$ , the  $\text{FS}_B^{\text{op}}$ -module  $(S_B^i)^*$  is  $(2i - 1)$ -small, and*

$$r_B^{2i-1}((S_B^i)^*) = 0.$$

*Remark 9.* The smallness shift between Propositions 7 and 8 (which we will see again in Theorems 10 and 11) can be blamed on the fact that the object  $[n]$  of  $\text{FS}_A$  corresponds to the Coxeter group and Coxeter arrangement of type  $A_{n-1}$ , while the object  $[-n, n]$  of  $\text{FS}_B$  corresponds to the Coxeter group and Coxeter arrangement of type  $B_n$ . It is also related to the fact that  $[1]$  is the terminal object of  $\text{FS}_A$  while  $[0, 0]$  is the terminal object of  $\text{FS}_B$ .

For any hyperplane arrangement  $\mathcal{A}$ , one may define a singular algebraic variety  $X_{\mathcal{A}}$  called the **reciprocal plane** of  $\mathcal{A}$ . This variety has vanishing intersection cohomology in odd degree, and the even degree intersection cohomology Poincaré polynomial coincides with the **Kazhdan–Lusztig polynomial** of the associated matroid [1, Proposition 3.12]. In Section 7, we define an  $\text{FS}_{\mathcal{A}}$ -module  $D_{\mathcal{A}}^i$  that takes a nonempty finite set  $E$  to  $IH^{2i}(X_{\mathcal{A}_E})$  and an  $\text{FS}_{\mathcal{B}}$ -module  $D_{\mathcal{B}}^i$  that takes an object  $(E, \sigma)$  to  $IH^{2i}(X_{\mathcal{A}_{(E, \sigma)}})$ . One can think of  $D_{\mathcal{A}}^i$  and  $D_{\mathcal{B}}^i$  as categorifications of the degree  $i$  Kazhdan–Lusztig coefficients of Coxeter arrangements in types  $A$  and  $B$ , respectively. The following theorem was proved in [8, Theorem 6.1].

**Theorem 10.** *For any  $i > 0$ , the  $\text{FS}_{\mathcal{A}}^{\text{op}}$ -module  $(D_{\mathcal{A}}^i)^*$  is  $2i$ -smallish,<sup>1</sup> and we have*

$$r_{2i}((D_{\mathcal{A}}^i)^*) = \frac{\dim D_{\mathcal{A}}^{i-1}[2i]}{|S_{2i}|} = \frac{\dim D_{\mathcal{A}}^{i-1}[2i]}{(2i)!}.$$

Here we prove the following type  $B$  analogue of Theorem 10.

**Theorem 11.** *For any  $i > 0$ , the  $\text{FS}_{\mathcal{B}}^{\text{op}}$ -module  $(D_{\mathcal{B}}^i)^*$  is  $(2i - 1)$ -smallish, and we have*

$$r_{2i-1}((D_{\mathcal{B}}^i)^*) = \frac{\dim D_{\mathcal{B}}^{i-1}[1 - 2i, 2i - 1]}{|W_{2i-1}|} = \frac{\dim D_{\mathcal{B}}^{i-1}[1 - 2i, 2i - 1]}{2^{2i-1}(2i - 1)!}.$$

## 2 Gröbner and O-lingual categories

We begin by reviewing the relevant machinery from [9] that we will need to prove Theorems 4 and 6. Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be an essentially small category. Given morphisms  $\varphi : x \rightarrow y$  and  $\varphi' : x \rightarrow y'$ , we say  $\varphi \leq \varphi'$  if there exists a morphism  $\psi : y \rightarrow y'$  with  $\varphi' = \psi \circ \varphi$ . If  $\varphi \leq \varphi' \leq \varphi$ , then  $\varphi$  and  $\varphi'$  are said to be **equivalent**. The poset of equivalence classes of morphisms out of  $x$  is denoted  $|C_x|$ .

We say that  $\mathcal{C}$  is **directed** if it has no endomorphisms other than the identity maps. We say that  $\mathcal{C}$  has **property (G1)** if, for every object  $x$ , there exists a well order  $\prec$  on  $C_x$  that with the property that  $\varphi \prec \varphi' \Rightarrow \psi \circ \varphi \prec \psi \circ \varphi'$  whenever both compositions make sense. We say that  $\mathcal{C}$  has **property (G2)** if, for every object  $x$ , the poset  $|C_x|$  is **Noetherian**, meaning that every ideal (upwardly closed subset) has only finitely many minimal elements. A directed category with properties (G1) and (G2) is called **Gröbner**.

A functor  $\Phi : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}'$  has **property (F)** if, for any object  $x$  of  $\mathcal{C}'$ , there exist finitely many objects  $y_1, \dots, y_s$  of  $\mathcal{C}$  and morphisms  $\varphi_i : x \rightarrow \Phi(y_i)$  such that for any object  $y$  of  $\mathcal{C}$  and any morphism  $\varphi : x \rightarrow \Phi(y)$  in  $\mathcal{C}$ , there exists a morphism  $\psi : y_i \rightarrow y$  in  $\mathcal{C}$  with  $\varphi = \Phi(\psi) \circ \varphi_i$ . This definition is engineered precisely so that the following result will hold [9, Propositions 3.2.3].

**Proposition 12.** *Suppose that  $\Phi : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}'$  has property (F). Suppose that  $N \in \text{Rep}_k(\mathcal{C}')$  is finitely generated, with generating objects  $x_1, \dots, x_r$ . For each  $1 \leq i \leq r$ , choose objects*

<sup>1</sup>In the published version of the paper, we claimed that the module was  $2i$ -small, but we only proved that it is  $2i$ -smallish. This mistake was corrected in the arXiv version.

$y_{i1}, \dots, y_{is_i}$  of  $C$  corresponding to  $x_i$  as in the definition of property (F). Then the module  $\Phi^*N \in \text{Rep}_k(C)$  is finitely generated, with generating objects  $\{y_{ij} \mid 1 \leq i \leq r, 1 \leq j \leq s_i\}$ .

The category  $C'$  is called **quasi-Gröbner** if there exists a Gröbner category  $C$  and an essentially surjective functor  $\Phi : C \rightarrow C'$  with property (F). In this case, the category  $C$  is said to be a **Gröbner cover** of  $C'$ . Sam and Snowden use Proposition 12 to prove the following result [9, Theorem 4.3.2].

**Theorem 13.** *If  $C'$  is quasi-Gröbner and  $k$  is a left Noetherian ring, then any submodule of a finitely generated  $C'$ -module over  $k$  is itself finitely generated.*

Given a finite set  $\Sigma$ , we denote the set of words (finite sequences) in  $\Sigma$  by  $\Sigma^*$ . A **language** on  $\Sigma$  is a subset of  $\Sigma^*$ . Given two languages  $\mathcal{L}_1$  and  $\mathcal{L}_2$  on  $\Sigma$ , their **concatenation** is the set of sequences formed by concatenating a word in  $\mathcal{L}_1$  and a word in  $\mathcal{L}_2$ . The set of **ordered languages** on  $\Sigma$  is the smallest collection of languages on  $\Sigma$  that contains singleton languages and languages of the form  $\Pi^*$  for  $\Pi \subset \Sigma$  and is closed under finite unions and concatenations.

A **norm** on  $C$  is a function  $\nu$  from the set of isomorphism classes of objects of  $C$  to the natural numbers. The normed category  $C$  is said to be **O-lingual** if, for every object  $x$  of  $C$ , there exists a finite set  $\Sigma_x$  and an inclusion  $\iota_x : |C_x| \rightarrow \Sigma_x^*$  satisfying the following two properties:

- For any  $\varphi : x \rightarrow y$ ,  $\iota_x(\varphi)$  is a word of length  $\nu(y)$ .
- For any ideal  $I \subset |C_x|$ ,  $\iota_x(I) \subset \Sigma_x^*$  is an ordered language.

The final result that we will need is the following, which is proved in [9, Corollary 5.3.8 and Theorem 6.3.2] (see also Corollary 8.1.4).

**Theorem 14.** *Suppose that  $C$  is endowed with a norm and an O-lingual structure,  $k$  is a field, and  $N$  is an  $C$ -module over  $k$  that is generated by the objects  $x_1, \dots, x_r$ . Let  $m := \max\{|\Sigma_{x_i}|\}$  and*

$$H_C(N; t) := \sum_x t^{\nu(x)} \dim N(x),$$

where the sum is over isomorphism classes of objects. Then  $H_C(N; t)$  is a rational function whose poles are contained in the set  $\{1/j \mid 1 \leq j \leq m\}$ .

### 3 Ordered surjections

The purpose of this section is to prove theorems 4 and 6. We proceed by constructing a category  $\text{OS}_B$  such that  $\text{OS}_B^{\text{op}}$  is an O-lingual Gröbner cover of  $\text{FS}_B^{\text{op}}$ . The objects of  $\text{OS}_B$  will be pairs  $(E, \sigma)$ , where  $E$  is a totally ordered finite set and  $\sigma$  is an order-reversing involution with a unique fixed point. We will denote the fixed point by 0, and we will write  $-e := \sigma(e)$  for any  $e \in E$ . Let

$$E^+ := \{e \in E \mid e > 0\} E^- := \{e \in E \mid e < 0\},$$

so that

$$E = E^- \sqcup \{0\} \sqcup E^+.$$

For any element  $e \in E$ , we will write  $|e| := \max\{\pm e\}$ . For any subset  $D \subset E$ , we will write  $\text{init } D := \min\{|e| \mid e \in D\}$ . A morphism from  $(E_1, \sigma_1)$  to  $(E_2, \sigma_2)$  in  $\text{OS}_B$  will be a surjective map  $\varphi : E_1 \rightarrow E_2$  with  $\varphi \circ \sigma_1 = \sigma_2 \circ \varphi$  along with the following two additional properties:

- (i) For all  $e \in E_2^+$ ,  $\text{init } \varphi^{-1}(e) \in \varphi^{-1}(e)$ .
- (ii) For all  $e < f \in E_2^+$ ,  $\text{init } \varphi^{-1}(e) < \text{init } \varphi^{-1}(f)$ .

The following lemma says that composition in  $\text{OS}_B$  is well defined.

**Lemma 15.** *If the maps  $\varphi : (E_1, \sigma_1) \rightarrow (E_2, \sigma_2)$  and  $\psi : (E_2, \sigma_2) \rightarrow (E_3, \sigma_3)$  each have properties (i) and (ii), then so does the composition  $\psi \circ \varphi : (E_1, \sigma_1) \rightarrow (E_3, \sigma_3)$ .*

*Proof.* It will suffice to check that, for all  $e_3 \in E_3^+$ , the elements

$$e_1 := \text{init } \varphi^{-1}(\text{init } \psi^{-1}(e_3)) \quad f_1 := \text{init}(\psi \circ \varphi)^{-1}(e_3)$$

coincide. Let  $e_2 := \varphi(e_1)$  and  $f_2 := \varphi(f_1)$ . Property (i) for  $\varphi$  tells us that  $e_2 = \text{init } \psi^{-1}(e_3)$  and property (i) for  $\psi$  tells us that  $\psi(e_2) = e_3$ . Thus  $(\psi \circ \varphi)(e_1) = e_3$ , and therefore

$$f_1 = \text{init}(\psi \circ \varphi)^{-1}(e_3) \leq e_1.$$

We have  $\psi(f_2) = (\psi \circ \varphi)(f_1) \in \{\pm e_3\}$ , therefore

$$e_2 = \text{init } \psi^{-1}(e_3) = \text{init } \psi^{-1}(\pm e_3) \leq |f_2|.$$

Applying property (ii) for  $\varphi$ , we find that

$$e_1 = \text{init } \varphi^{-1}(e_2) \leq \text{init } \varphi^{-1}(|f_2|) = \text{init } \varphi^{-1}(f_2) \leq f_1.$$

This completes the proof that  $e_1 = f_1$ . □

Every object of  $\text{OS}_B$  is isomorphic to  $[-n, n]$  for some natural number  $n$ , and that there are no nontrivial endomorphisms. In particular,  $\text{OS}_B$  is essentially small and directed. We define a norm  $\nu$  on  $\text{OS}_B$  by taking  $\nu(E, \sigma)$  to be equal to the number of free orbits of  $\sigma$  on  $E$ , so that  $\nu([-n, n]) = n$ . Let  $\Phi : \text{OS}_B^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \text{FS}_B^{\text{op}}$  be the forgetful functor.

**Lemma 16.** *The functor  $\Phi : \text{OS}_B^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \text{FS}_B^{\text{op}}$  has property (F).*

*Proof.* Unpacking the definition of property (F), we see that it is sufficient to show that, for any morphism  $\varphi : (E_1, \sigma_1) \rightarrow (E_2, \sigma_2)$  in  $\text{FS}_B$  and any total order of  $E_2$  compatible with  $\sigma_2$ , there is a total order of  $E_1$  compatible with  $\sigma_1$  such that  $\varphi$  is a morphism in  $\text{OS}_B$ . Indeed, it is clear that we can choose a total order on  $E_1$ , compatible with  $\sigma_1$ , with the even stronger condition that  $\varphi$  is weakly order preserving. □

For each object  $(E, \sigma)$  of  $\text{OS}_B$ , we define a poset structure on  $E^*$  by putting  $e_1 \cdots e_m \leq f_1 \cdots f_n$  if there is a strictly increasing map  $\theta : [m] \rightarrow [n]$  satisfying the following two conditions:

- For all  $i \in [m]$ ,  $e_i = f_{\theta(i)}$ .
- For all  $j \in [n]$ , there exists  $i \in [m]$  such that  $\theta(i) \leq j$  and  $f_{\theta(i)} \in \{\pm f_j\}$ .

In plain English, we require that  $e_1 \cdots e_m$  is a subword of  $f_1 \cdots f_n$ , and that this subword contains the first occurrence of every  $\sigma$  orbit appearing in  $f_1 \cdots f_n$ .

**Proposition 17.** *For any object,  $(E, \sigma)$  of  $\text{OS}_B$ , the poset  $E^*$  is Noetherian.*

*Proof.* Suppose not, and choose a sequence  $w_1, w_2, w_3 \dots$  of words such that  $i < j \Rightarrow w_i \not\leq w_j$ . We may assume that our sequence is **minimal** in the sense that, for each  $i$ , the length of  $w_i$  is minimal among all such sequences that begin  $w_1, \dots, w_{i-1}$ . Given a word  $w$  and an element  $e \in E$ , we say that  $e$  is **exceptional** in  $w$  if either  $e$  or  $-e$  appears exactly once in  $w$  (and the other, if different, does not appear at all). If  $w$  has a non-exceptional element, we define  $m(w)$  to be the number of letters appearing to the right of the last non-exceptional element.

There are only finitely many words of each length, thus we may choose a natural number  $i_0$  such that, for all  $i \geq i_0$ , the length of  $w_i$  is strictly greater than  $\nu(E, \sigma) + 1$ . It follows that, for all  $i \geq i_0$ ,  $w_i$  has a non-exceptional element. There are only finitely many possible values for  $m(w_i)$  and only finitely many elements in  $E$ , so we may find a natural number  $m$  and an element  $e \in E$  and pass to a subsequence  $w_{i_1}, w_{i_2}, w_{i_3}, \dots$  such that  $m(w_{i_j}) = m$  for all  $j$  and the last non-exceptional element appearing in  $w_{i_j}$  is  $e$  for all  $j$ .

Let  $v_j$  be the word obtained from  $w_{i_j}$  by deleting the last appearance of  $e$ , and note that  $v_j < w_{i_j}$  for all  $j$ . Consider the sequence  $w_1, w_2, \dots, w_{i_1-1}, v_1, v_2, \dots$ . By minimality of our original sequence, this sequence must contain a pair of elements with the first less than or equal to the second. We know that this cannot happen in the first  $i_1 - 1$  terms, and we also cannot have  $w_k \leq v_j$  for some  $k < i_1$  and  $j \geq 1$ , because this would imply that  $w_k < w_{i_j}$ . Finally, there cannot exist  $j < k$  such that  $v_j \leq v_k$ , because this would imply that  $w_{i_j} < w_{i_k}$ . Thus we have arrived at a contradiction.  $\square$

**Corollary 18.** *For any object,  $(E, \sigma)$  of  $\text{OS}_B$ , every ideal in the poset  $E^*$  is an ordered language.*

*Proof.* If  $w = e_1 \cdots e_n \in E^*$ , we define  $I_w$  to be the principal ideal consisting of all words greater than or equal to  $w$ . By Proposition 17, every ideal in  $E^*$  is a finite union of principal ideals, so it is sufficient to show that  $I_w$  is an ordered language. For all  $i \in [n]$ , let  $\Pi_i = \{\pm e_1, \dots, \pm e_i\}$ . Then

$$I_w = e_1 \Pi_1^* e_2 \Pi_2^* \cdots e_n \Pi_n^*$$

is a concatenation of singleton languages and languages of the form  $\Pi_i^*$ , so it is ordered.  $\square$



Consider the norm on  $\text{OS}_B^{\text{op}}$  that takes  $(E, \sigma)$  to the number of free orbits in  $E$ ; in other words, the object  $[-n, n]$  has norm  $n$ . Given a morphism  $\varphi : [-n, n] \rightarrow (E, \sigma)$  in  $\text{OS}_B$ , let

$$\iota_{(E, \sigma)}(\varphi) := \varphi(1) \cdots \varphi(n) \in E^*.$$

Since every object of  $\text{OS}_B$  is uniquely isomorphic to  $[-n, n]$  for some  $n$ , this defines a map

$$\iota_{(E, \sigma)} : |(\text{OS}_B^{\text{op}})_{(E, \sigma)}| \rightarrow E^*.$$

**Lemma 19.** *Let  $(E, \sigma)$  be an object of  $\text{OS}_B$ .*

1. *The map  $\iota_{(E, \sigma)}$  is strictly order preserving. That is,  $\varphi < \varphi' \in |(\text{OS}_B^{\text{op}})_{(E, \sigma)}|$  if and only if  $\iota_{(E, \sigma)}(\varphi) < \iota_{(E, \sigma)}(\varphi') \in E^*$ .*
2. *The image of an ideal in  $|(\text{OS}_B^{\text{op}})_{(E, \sigma)}|$  is an ideal in  $E^*$ .*

*Proof.* We begin with statement (1). Suppose that  $\varphi : [-m, m] \rightarrow (E, \sigma)$ ,  $\varphi' : [-n, n] \rightarrow (E, \sigma)$ , and  $\varphi < \varphi'$ . Then there exists  $\psi : [-n, n] \rightarrow [-m, m]$  such that  $\varphi' = \varphi \circ \psi$ . Define a map  $\theta : [m] \rightarrow [n]$  by  $\theta(i) := \text{init } \psi^{-1}(i)$ . Then  $\theta$  exhibits the inequality  $\iota_{(E, \sigma)}(\varphi) < \iota_{(E, \sigma)}(\varphi') \in E^*$ .

Conversely, suppose that  $\iota_{(E, \sigma)}(\varphi) < \iota_{(E, \sigma)}(\varphi') \in E^*$ , and let  $\theta : [m] \rightarrow [n]$  be the map that exhibits this inequality. By definition, for each  $j \in [n]$ , there exists an element  $i \in [m]$  such that  $\theta(i) \leq j$  and  $\varphi'(\theta(i)) \in \{\pm\varphi'(j)\}$ . Let  $i$  be the minimal such element. Define  $\psi(j) = i$  if  $\varphi'(\theta(i)) = \varphi'(j)$  and  $-i$  if  $\varphi'(\theta(i)) = -\varphi'(j)$ . This extends uniquely to an  $\text{OS}_B$  morphism  $\psi : [-n, n] \rightarrow [-m, m]$  with  $\varphi' = \varphi \circ \psi$ , so  $\varphi < \varphi'$ .

For statement (2), we first observe that the image of  $\iota_{[-n, n]}$  is equal to the ideal  $I_{12\dots n} \subset [-n, n]^*$ . Suppose that  $I \subset |(\text{OS}_B^{\text{op}})_{[-n, n]}|$  is an ideal,  $\varphi \in I$ , and  $w \geq \iota_{[-n, n]}(\varphi)$ . Since the image of  $\iota_{[-n, n]}$  is an ideal, we have  $w = \iota_{[-n, n]}(\varphi')$  for some  $\varphi'$ . Statement (1) tells us that  $\varphi < \varphi'$ , so  $\varphi' \in I$  and  $w \in \iota_{[-n, n]}(I)$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 20.** *The category  $\text{OS}_B^{\text{op}}$  is Gröbner, and O-lingual with respect to the maps  $\iota_{(E, \sigma)}$ .*

*Proof.* Property (G2) follows from Proposition 17 and Lemma 19(1). Property (G1) is proved by pulling back the lexicographic order from  $E^*$  to  $|(\text{OS}_B^{\text{op}})_{(E, \sigma)}|$ . This shows that  $\text{OS}_B^{\text{op}}$  is Gröbner. The statement that  $\text{OS}_B^{\text{op}}$  is O-lingual follows from Corollary 18 and Lemma 19(2).  $\square$

*Proof of Theorem 4.* This follows from Theorem 13, Lemma 16, and Proposition 20.  $\square$

*Proof of Theorem 6.* We begin by proving statement (1) for an  $\text{FS}_B^{\text{op}}$ -module  $N$  that is generated in degrees  $\leq d$ . By Proposition 12 and Lemma 16, the  $\text{OS}_B^{\text{op}}$ -module  $\Phi^*N$  is also generated by objects of norm  $\leq d$ . Then Theorem 14 and Proposition 20 tell us that

$$H_B(N; t) = H_{\text{FS}_B^{\text{op}}}(N; t) = H_{\text{OS}_B^{\text{op}}}(\Phi^*N; t)$$

is a rational function with poles contained in the set  $\{1/j \mid 1 \leq j \leq 2d + 1\}$ . Now suppose that  $N$  is  $d$ -small. By Theorem 4, there is some  $d'$  such that  $N$  is finitely

generated in degrees  $\leq d'$ , so  $H_B(N; t)$  is a rational function with poles contained in the set  $\{1, \dots, 2d' + 1\}$ . However, the fact that  $N$  is  $d$ -small means that the dimension  $\dim N[-n, n]$  can only grow as fast as the dimension of a module that is finitely generated in degree  $\leq d$ , therefore  $H_B(N; t)$  cannot have a pole at  $1/j$  when  $j > 2d + 1$ . Finally, since passing to the associated graded of a filtration does not change the Hilbert series of a module, this proves statement (1) when  $N$  is  $d$ -smallish.

To prove statements (2) and (3), it is sufficient to check them for the principal projective  $P_{[-d, d]}$ . The dimension of  $P_{[-d, d]}[-n, n]$  is equal to the number of equivariant surjections from  $[-n, n]$  to  $[-d, d]$ . The total number of equivariant maps is  $n^{2d+1}$ , and when  $n$  is large, almost all equivariant maps are surjective, hence we have  $r_B^d(P_{[-d, d]}) = 1$ . Let  $\varphi$  be a morphism from  $[-n, n]$  to  $[-d, d]$ , and consider the subgroup

$$W_\varphi \cong W_{|\varphi^{-1}(0)|} \times S_{|\varphi^{-1}(1)|} \times \cdots \times S_{|\varphi^{-1}(d)|} \subset W_n$$

that stabilizes  $\varphi$ . Then the  $W_n$  representation  $P_{[-d, d]}[-n, n]$  is isomorphic to

$$\bigoplus_{\varphi} \text{Ind}_{W_\varphi}^{W_n}(\text{triv}),$$

where the sum is over one representative of each  $W_n$  orbit in  $\text{Hom}_{\text{FS}}([-n, n], [-d, d])$ . The fact that each one of these summands is a sum of representations of the form  $V_{\lambda, \mu}$  with  $\ell(\lambda) \leq d + 1$  and  $\ell(\mu) \leq d$  follows from induction on  $d$  using the type  $B$  Pieri rule [2, Section 6.1.9].  $\square$

## 4 Hyperplane arrangements

Let  $V$  be a finite dimensional vector space. A **hyperplane arrangement** in  $V$  is a finite set of codimension 1 linear subspaces of  $V$ . The following pair of examples will appear many times throughout this section.

**Example 21.** Given a nonempty finite set  $E$  and any element  $e \in E$ , let  $x_e$  be the  $e^{\text{th}}$  coordinate function on  $\mathbb{C}^E$ , and let  $V_E \subset \mathbb{C}^E$  be the codimension 1 subspace consisting of vectors whose coordinates add to zero. For any unordered pair of distinct elements  $e \neq f \in E$ , consider the hyperplane

$$H_{ef} := \{v \in V_E \mid x_e(v) = x_f(v)\}.$$

Let

$$\mathcal{A}_E := \{H_{ef} \mid e \neq f \in E\}$$

be the corresponding hyperplane arrangement in  $V_E$ . When  $E = [n]$ ,  $\mathcal{A}_E$  can be identified with the Coxeter arrangement of type  $A_{n-1}$ , or equivalently the set of reflection hyperplanes for the Coxeter group  $S_n$ .

**Example 22.** For any object  $(E, \sigma)$  of  $\text{FS}_B$ , consider the vector space

$$V_{(E, \sigma)} := \{v \in \mathbb{C}^E \mid x_e(v) + x_{\sigma(e)}(v) = 0 \text{ for all } e \in E\} \subset V_E \subset \mathbb{C}^E.$$

For each unordered pair  $e \neq f \in E$ , let

$$J_{ef} := V_{(E, \sigma)} \cap H_{ef} \subset V_{(E, \sigma)}.$$

Note that we have  $J_{\sigma(e)\sigma(f)} = J_{ef}$  for all  $e \neq f \in E$ , and if  $0 \in E$  is the unique fixed point, then  $J_{e\sigma(e)} = J_{e0}$  for all  $e \neq 0$ . Let

$$\mathcal{A}_{(E, \sigma)} := \{J_{ef} \mid e \neq f \in E\}$$

be the corresponding hyperplane arrangement in  $V_{(E, \sigma)}$ . When  $(E, \sigma) = [-n, n]$ ,  $\mathcal{A}_{(E, \sigma)}$  can be identified with the Coxeter arrangement of type  $B_n$ , or equivalently the set of reflection hyperplanes for the Coxeter group  $W_n$ .

Given a hyperplane arrangement  $\mathcal{A}$  in  $V$ , a **flat** of  $\mathcal{A}$  is a linear subspace  $F \subset V$  obtained by intersecting some subset of the hyperplanes. The **contraction** of  $\mathcal{A}$  at  $F$  is the hyperplane arrangement

$$\mathcal{A}^F := \{F \cap H \mid F \not\subset H \in \mathcal{A}\}$$

in the vector space  $F$ . The **localization** of  $\mathcal{A}$  at  $F$  is the hyperplane arrangement

$$\mathcal{A}_F := \{H/F \mid F \subset H \in \mathcal{A}\}$$

in the vector space  $V/F$ . If  $\mathcal{A}_1$  is a hyperplane arrangement in  $V_1$  and  $\mathcal{A}_2$  is a hyperplane arrangement in  $V_2$ , the **product**  $\mathcal{A}_1 \times \mathcal{A}_2$  is defined to be the hyperplane arrangement in  $V_1 \oplus V_2$  with hyperplanes

$$\{H_1 \oplus V_2 \mid H_1 \in \mathcal{A}_1\} \cup \{V_1 \oplus H_2 \mid H_2 \in \mathcal{A}_2\}.$$

**Example 23.** For any surjective map  $\varphi : E_1 \rightarrow E_2$  of finite sets, we may define a flat

$$F_\varphi := \bigcap_{\substack{e \neq f \in E_1 \\ \varphi(e) = \varphi(f)}} H_{ef} \subset V_E$$

of the arrangement  $\mathcal{A}_E$ . Every flat of  $\mathcal{A}_{E_1}$  is of this form, and if we have two surjections  $\varphi : E_1 \rightarrow E_2$  and  $\varphi' : E_1 \rightarrow E'_2$ , then  $F_\varphi = F_{\varphi'}$  if and only if there is a bijection  $\psi : E_2 \rightarrow E'_2$  such that  $\varphi' = \psi \circ \varphi$ . The contraction of  $\mathcal{A}_{E_1}$  at  $F_\varphi$  can be canonically identified with  $\mathcal{A}_{E_2}$ , and the localization of  $\mathcal{A}_{E_1}$  at the flat  $F_\varphi$  can be canonically identified with the product

$$\prod_{e \in E_2} \mathcal{A}_{\varphi^{-1}(e)}.$$

**Example 24.** Given a morphism  $\varphi : (E_1, \sigma_1) \rightarrow (E_2, \sigma_2)$  in  $\text{FS}_B$ , we may define a flat

$$G_\varphi := \bigcap_{\substack{e \neq f \in E_1 \\ \varphi(e) = \varphi(f)}} J_{ef} \subset V_{(E_1, \sigma_1)}$$

of the arrangement  $\mathcal{A}_{(E_1, \sigma_1)}$ . Every flat of  $\mathcal{A}_{(E_1, \sigma_1)}$  is of this form, and if we have two morphisms  $\varphi : (E_1, \sigma_1) \rightarrow (E_2, \sigma_2)$  and  $\varphi' : (E_1, \sigma'_1) \rightarrow (E_2, \sigma'_2)$ , then  $G_\varphi = G_{\varphi'}$  if and only if there is an isomorphism  $\psi : (E_2, \sigma_2) \rightarrow (E'_2, \sigma'_2)$  such that  $\varphi' = \psi \circ \varphi$ . The contraction of  $\mathcal{A}_{(E_1, \sigma_1)}$  at  $G_\varphi$  can be canonically identified with  $\mathcal{A}_{(E_2, \sigma_2)}$ . To understand the localization, we first choose a decomposition

$$E_2 = P_2 \sqcup \{0\} \sqcup \sigma_2(P_2),$$

where  $0 \in E_2$  is the unique fixed point. Then the localization of  $\mathcal{A}_{(E_1, \sigma_1)}$  at the flat  $G_\varphi$  can be canonically identified with the product

$$\mathcal{A}_{(\varphi^{-1}(0), \sigma_1)} \times \prod_{e \in P_2} \mathcal{A}_{\varphi^{-1}(e)}.$$

*Remark 25.* If we want to avoid choosing a decomposition of  $E_2$ , we can replace the product over  $P_2$  with a product over non-fixed  $\sigma_2$ -orbits, and replace the preimage of  $e \in P_2$  with the set of  $\sigma_1$ -orbits in the preimage of the  $\sigma_2$ -orbit. This would be more canonical, but also more unwieldy to notate.

## 5 Orlik–Solomon algebras

Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be a hyperplane arrangement. A set  $\mathcal{D} \subset \mathcal{A}$  is called **dependent** if the codimension of its intersection is smaller than its cardinality (equivalently, if the corresponding set of normal vectors is linearly dependent). For any dependent set  $\mathcal{D} = \{H_1, \dots, H_k\} \subset \mathcal{A}$  of cardinality  $k$ , we define a class

$$\partial u_{\mathcal{D}} := \sum_{i=1}^k (-1)^i \prod_{j \neq i} u_{H_j}$$

in the exterior algebra  $\Lambda_{\mathbb{C}}[u_H \mid H \in \mathcal{A}]$ . Note that the element  $u_S$  as we have defined it depends on the ordering of the elements of  $S$ , but only up to sign. The **Orlik–Solomon algebra**  $S(\mathcal{A})^2$  is defined as the quotient of  $\Lambda_{\mathbb{C}}[u_H \mid H \in \mathcal{A}]$  by the ideal generated by  $\partial u_S$  for every dependent set  $\mathcal{D}$ . If  $\mathcal{A}_1$  and  $\mathcal{A}_2$  are two hyperplane arrangements, then

$$S(\mathcal{A}_1 \times \mathcal{A}_2) \cong S(\mathcal{A}_1) \otimes S(\mathcal{A}_2). \tag{1}$$

---

<sup>2</sup>It is typical to denote the Orlik–Solomon algebra either  $OS(\mathcal{A})$  or  $A(\mathcal{A})$ , but we wish to avoid conflict with the notation for the category  $\text{OS}_B$  and with the use of the letter  $A$  for type  $A$  structures. So, with apologies to Peter Orlik, we are just using the letter  $S$ .

If  $F$  is a flat of  $\mathcal{A}$ , then there is a canonical map

$$S(\mathcal{A}) \rightarrow S(\mathcal{A}^F)$$

defined by sending  $u_H$  to  $u_{F \cap H}$  if  $F \not\subset H$  and to zero otherwise.

*Remark 26.* If  $V$  is a vector space over  $\mathbb{C}$ , then  $S(\mathcal{A})$  is canonically isomorphic to the cohomology of the complement of  $\mathcal{A}$  [4]. In this case, Equation (1) can be regarded as an application of the Künneth theorem. For a topological interpretation of the map from  $S(\mathcal{A})$  to  $S(\mathcal{A}^F)$ , see [8, Section 3].

Fix a natural number  $i$ . By Example 23, we have an  $\text{FS}_A$ -module that assigns to a finite set  $E$  the vector space  $S^i(\mathcal{A}_E)$ , and to a surjection  $\varphi : E_1 \rightarrow E_2$  the map

$$S^i(\mathcal{A}_{E_1}) \rightarrow S^i((\mathcal{A}_{E_1})^{F_\varphi}) \cong S^i(\mathcal{A}_{E_2}).$$

We denote this module by  $S_A^i$ , and we denote the dual  $\text{FS}_A^{\text{op}}$ -module by  $(S_A^i)^*$ . Similarly, by Example 24, we have an  $\text{FS}_B$ -module that assigns to an object  $(E, \sigma)$  the vector space  $S^i(\mathcal{A}_{(E, \sigma)})$ , and to a morphism  $\varphi : (E_1, \sigma_1) \rightarrow (E_2, \sigma_2)$  the map

$$S^i(\mathcal{A}_{(E_1, \sigma_1)}) \rightarrow S^i((\mathcal{A}_{(E_1, \sigma_1)})^{G_\varphi}) \cong S^i(\mathcal{A}_{(E_2, \sigma_2)}).$$

We denote this module by  $S_B^i$ , and we denote the dual  $\text{FS}_B^{\text{op}}$ -module by  $(S_B^i)^*$ .

*Proof of Proposition 8.* We have  $(S_B^0)^* \cong P_{[0,0]}$ , so the first statement is trivial, and we may assume that  $i > 0$ . Since the Orlik–Solomon algebra is generated in degree 1,  $S_B^i$  is a quotient of  $(S_B^1)^{\otimes i}$ , and therefore  $(S_B^i)^*$  is a submodule of  $((S_B^1)^*)^{\otimes i}$ . Thus it will suffice to show that, for any object of  $\text{FS}_B$  with at least  $2i$  free orbits, every element of  $(S_B^1)^*(E, \sigma)^{\otimes i}$  is a linear combination of pullbacks of classes along various maps to smaller objects.

Let  $0 \in E$  denote the unique fixed point. The vector space  $S_B^1(E, \sigma)$  is spanned by the elements  $u_{ef}$  for unordered pairs  $e \neq f$  that are distinct from 0 (recall that we have  $u_{e0} = u_{e\sigma(e)}$  for any  $e \neq 0$ ). For such an unordered pair, let  $v_{ef} \in (S_B^1(E, \sigma))^*$  be the element that evaluates to 1 on  $u_{ef} = u_{\sigma(e)\sigma(f)}$  and to 0 on all other generators. Then  $(S_B^1)^*(E, \sigma)^{\otimes i}$  is spanned by classes of the form  $v_{e_1 f_1} \otimes \cdots \otimes v_{e_i f_i}$ .

Let

$$F := \{e_1, \sigma(e_1), f_1, \sigma(f_1), \dots, e_i, \sigma(e_i), f_i, \sigma(f_i), 0\} \subset E,$$

so that  $(F, \sigma)$  is an object of  $\text{FS}_B$  with at most  $2i$  free orbits. Define a morphism  $\varphi : (E, \sigma) \rightarrow (F, \sigma)$  by fixing  $F \subset E$  and sending  $E \setminus F$  to 0. Our hypothesis implies that the class  $v_{e_1 f_1} \otimes \cdots \otimes v_{e_i f_i}$  is sent to itself by the map

$$\varphi^* : (S_B^1)^*(F, \sigma)^{\otimes i} \rightarrow (S_B^1)^*(E, \sigma)^{\otimes i}.$$

If the cardinality of  $F$  is strictly smaller than  $2i + 1$ , then we are done. If not, then the classes appearing in the definition of  $F$  are all distinct, so we may assume for ease of notation that  $(F, \sigma) = [-2i, 2i]$ , with  $e_j = (2j - 1)$  and  $f_j = 2j$  for all  $j$ .

We will consider three morphisms  $\psi_1, \psi_2, \psi_3$  from  $[-2i, 2i]$  to  $[1 - 2i, 2i - 1]$ , and we will prove that the class

$$v_{12} \otimes \cdots \otimes v_{2i-3, 2i-2} \otimes v_{2i-1, 2i} \in (S_B^1)^*[-2i, 2i]^{\otimes i}$$

is in the span of the images of the pullbacks along these three morphisms. Each of these morphisms will fix  $[2 - 2i, 2i - 2]$ , and they will be defined on the elements  $\{2i - 1, 2i\}$  as follows:<sup>3</sup>

- $\psi_1(2i) = 2i - 1$  and  $\psi_1(2i - 1) = 1 - 2i$
- $\psi_2(2i) = 2i - 1$  and  $\psi_2(2i - 1) = 0$
- $\psi_3(2i) = 0$  and  $\psi_3(2i - 1) = 2i - 1$ .

For each positive integer  $j < i$ , all three of these maps send the class  $v_{2j-1, 2j}$  to itself. Furthermore, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \psi_1^*(v_{2i-1, 1-2i}) &= v_{2i-1, 1-2i} + v_{2i, -2i} + v_{2i-1, 2i} \\ \psi_2^*(v_{2i-1, 1-2i}) &= v_{2i-1, 1-2i} + v_{2i-1, -2i} + v_{2i-1, 2i} \\ \psi_3^*(v_{2i-1, 1-2i}) &= v_{2i, -2i} + v_{2i-1, -2i} + v_{2i-1, 2i} \end{aligned}$$

and therefore

$$\psi_1^*(v_{2i-1, 1-2i}) - \psi_2^*(v_{2i-1, 1-2i}) + \psi_3^*(v_{2i-1, 1-2i}) = v_{2i-1, 2i}.$$

It follows that we have

$$\begin{aligned} v_{12} \otimes \cdots \otimes v_{2i-3, 2i-2} \otimes v_{2i-1, 2i} &= \psi_1^*(v_{12} \otimes \cdots \otimes v_{2i-3, 2i-2} \otimes v_{2i-1, 1-2i}) \\ &\quad - \psi_2^*(v_{12} \otimes \cdots \otimes v_{2i-3, 2i-2} \otimes v_{2i-1, 1-2i}) \\ &\quad + \psi_3^*(v_{12} \otimes \cdots \otimes v_{2i-3, 2i-2} \otimes v_{2i-1, 1-2i}). \end{aligned}$$

This completes the proof of smallness. For the final statement, we note that  $\dim S_B^1[-n, n] = n^2$ , therefore  $\dim S_B^i[-n, n] \leq \binom{n^2}{i}$ , and

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\binom{n^2}{i}}{(2i - 1)^n} = 0.$$

Thus  $r_{2i-1}((S_B^i)^*) = 0$ . □

---

<sup>3</sup>Note that this determines what the morphisms do to the elements  $\{-2i, 1 - 2i\}$ .

## 6 Combining small modules

We begin with the following analogue of [8, Lemma 4.2], which mixes modules over  $\text{FS}_A^{\text{op}}$  and  $\text{FS}_B^{\text{op}}$ .

**Lemma 27.** *Let  $N$  be an  $\text{FS}_B^{\text{op}}$ -module and let  $M_1, \dots, M_p$  be  $\text{FS}_A^{\text{op}}$ -modules, with  $N$   $d$ -small and  $M_i$   $c_i$ -small for all  $i$ . Consider the  $\text{FS}_B^{\text{op}}$ -module  $R$  defined on objects by the formula*

$$R(E, \sigma) = \bigoplus_{\varphi: (E, \sigma) \rightarrow [-p, p]} N(\varphi^{-1}(0), \sigma) \otimes M_1(\varphi^{-1}(1)) \otimes \cdots \otimes M_p(\varphi^{-1}(p)),$$

where the sum is over all morphisms in  $\text{FS}_B$  from  $(E, \sigma)$  to  $[-p, p]$ , and maps are defined in the natural way. The module  $R$  is  $(d + c_1 + \cdots + c_p)$ -small.

*Proof.* Since smallness is preserved by taking direct sums and passing to subquotients, we may immediately reduce to the case where  $N$  is the principal projective  $P_{[-n, n]}$  for some  $n \leq d$  and for each  $i$ ,  $M_i$  is the principal projective  $P_{[m_i]}$  for some  $m_i \leq c_i$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} R(E, \sigma) &\cong \bigoplus_{\varphi: (E, \sigma) \rightarrow [-p, p]} N(\varphi^{-1}(0), \sigma) \otimes M_1(\varphi^{-1}(1)) \otimes \cdots \otimes M_p(\varphi^{-1}(p)) \\ &\cong \bigoplus_{\varphi: (E, \sigma) \rightarrow [-p, p]} \mathbb{C} \left\{ \text{Hom}_{\text{FS}_B}((\varphi^{-1}(0), \sigma), [-n, n]) \times \prod_{i=1}^p \text{Hom}_{\text{FS}_A}(\varphi^{-1}(i), [m_i]) \right\} \\ &\cong \mathbb{C} \left\{ \text{Hom}_{\text{FS}_B}((E, \sigma), [-(n + m_1 + \cdots + m_p), (n + m_1 + \cdots + m_p)]) \right\} \\ &\cong P_{[-(n+m_1+\cdots+m_p), (n+m_1+\cdots+m_p)]}(E, \sigma). \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $R$  is  $(n + m_1 + \cdots + m_p)$ -small, and therefore  $(d + c_1 + \cdots + c_p)$ -small.  $\square$

For any natural numbers  $p$  and  $i$  and any object  $(E, \sigma)$  of  $\text{FS}_B$ , let

$$\begin{aligned} C_{p,i}(E, \sigma) &:= \bigoplus_{\varphi: (E, \sigma) \rightarrow [-p, p]} S^i((\mathcal{A}_{(E, \sigma)})_{G_\varphi}) \\ &\cong \bigoplus_{\varphi: (E, \sigma) \rightarrow [-p, p]} S^i(\mathcal{A}_{(\varphi^{-1}(0), \sigma)} \times \mathcal{A}_{\varphi^{-1}(1)} \times \cdots \times \mathcal{A}_{\varphi^{-1}(p)}) \\ &\cong \bigoplus_{\varphi: (E, \sigma) \rightarrow [-p, p]} \left( S(\mathcal{A}_{(\varphi^{-1}(0), \sigma)}) \otimes S(\mathcal{A}_{\varphi^{-1}(1)}) \otimes \cdots \otimes S(\mathcal{A}_{\varphi^{-1}(p)}) \right)^i \\ &= \bigoplus_{\substack{\varphi: (E, \sigma) \rightarrow [-p, p] \\ i_0 + i_1 + \cdots + i_p = i}} S_B^{i_0}(\varphi^{-1}(0), \sigma) \otimes S_A^{i_1}(\varphi^{-1}(1)) \otimes \cdots \otimes S_A^{i_p}(\varphi^{-1}(p)). \end{aligned}$$

Then  $C_{p,i}$  is naturally an  $\text{FS}_B$ -module, and its dual  $C_{p,i}^*$  is an  $\text{FS}_B^{\text{op}}$ -module. The following proposition is the type  $B$  analogue of [8, Proposition 5.3], and will be needed in the next section for the proof of Theorem 11.

**Proposition 28.** *If  $i > 0$ , the  $\text{FS}_B^{\text{op}}$ -module  $C_{p,i}^*$  is  $(2i - 1 + p)$ -small. If  $i = 0$ , it is  $p$ -small.*

*Proof.* By Propositions 7 and 8 and Lemma 27, the direct summand of  $C_{p,i}^*$  corresponding to the tuple  $(i_0, i_1, \dots, i_p)$  is  $(2i - 1 + d)$ -small, where  $d$  is the number of  $k \in \{0, 1, \dots, p\}$  such that  $i_k = 0$ . If  $i > 0$ , the maximum possible value of  $d$  is  $p$ , so the entire sum is  $(2i - 1 + p)$ -small. If  $i = 0$ , then  $d = p + 1$ , and the sum is  $p$ -small.  $\square$

## 7 Kazhdan–Lusztig coefficients

Let  $V$  be a vector space over  $\mathbb{C}$  and  $\mathcal{A}$  a hyperplane arrangement in  $V$  with  $\bigcap_{H \in \mathcal{A}} H = \{0\}$ . We have an inclusion

$$V \rightarrow \prod_{H \in \mathcal{A}} V/H \cong \prod_{H \in \mathcal{A}} \mathbb{A}^1 \subset \prod_{H \in \mathcal{A}} \mathbb{P}^1.$$

Let  $Y_{\mathcal{A}}$  be the closure of  $V$  inside of the product of projective lines, and let  $X_{\mathcal{A}} \subset Y_{\mathcal{A}}$  be the open subset consisting of points where no coordinate is equal to zero. The affine variety  $X_{\mathcal{A}}$  was introduced in [7], and is called the **reciprocal plane** of  $\mathcal{A}$ . We will be interested in the intersection cohomology of  $X_{\mathcal{A}}$  with coefficients in  $\mathbb{C}$ , which vanishes in odd degree, and has the property that its Poincaré polynomial

$$\sum_{i \geq 0} t^i \dim IH^{2i}(X_{\mathcal{A}})$$

is equal to the **Kazhdan–Lusztig polynomial** of  $\mathcal{A}$  [1, Proposition 3.12]. For this reason, we may regard the vector space  $IH^{2i}(X_{\mathcal{A}})$  as a categorification of the  $i^{\text{th}}$  Kazhdan–Lusztig coefficient of  $\mathcal{A}$ .

If  $F$  is a flat of  $\mathcal{A}$ , there is a (noncanonical) inclusion of varieties  $X_{\mathcal{A}^F} \rightarrow X_{\mathcal{A}}$ , which induces a (canonical) map of intersection cohomology groups  $IH^{2i}(X_{\mathcal{A}}) \rightarrow IH^{2i}(X_{\mathcal{A}^F})$ . These maps are functorial [8, Theorem 3.3]; in particular, we have an  $\text{FS}_{\mathcal{A}}$ -module  $D_{\mathcal{A}}^i$  that takes a finite set  $E$  to the vector space  $IH^{2i}(X_{\mathcal{A}_E})$  and a morphism  $\varphi : E_1 \rightarrow E_2$  to the map

$$IH^{2i}(X_{\mathcal{A}_{E_1}}) \rightarrow IH^{2i}(X_{(\mathcal{A}_{E_1})^{F\varphi}}) \cong IH^{2i}(X_{\mathcal{A}_{E_2}}),$$

and we have an  $\text{FS}_B$ -module  $D_B^i$  that takes an object  $(E, \sigma)$  to the vector space  $IH^{2i}(X_{\mathcal{A}_{(E, \sigma)}})$  and a morphism  $\varphi : (E_1, \sigma_1) \rightarrow (E_2, \sigma_2)$  to the map

$$IH^{2i}(X_{\mathcal{A}_{E_1}}) \rightarrow IH^{2i}(X_{(\mathcal{A}_{E_1})^{F\varphi}}) \cong IH^{2i}(X_{\mathcal{A}_{E_2}}).$$

*Proof of Theorem 11.* For any hyperplane arrangement  $\mathcal{A}$ , there a spectral sequence  $N(i, \mathcal{A})$  converging to  $IH^{2i}(X_{\mathcal{A}})$  with

$$N(i, \mathcal{A})_1^{p,q} = \bigoplus_{\dim F=p} S^{2i-p-q}(\mathcal{A}_F) \otimes IH^{2(i-q)}(X_{\mathcal{A}^F}),$$



where the direct sum is over flats  $F$  of  $\mathcal{A}$  [8, Theorem 3.1]. For any object  $(E, \sigma)$  of  $\text{FS}_B$ , let  $N(i, E, \sigma) = N(i, \mathcal{A}_{(E, \sigma)})$ . Then  $N(i, E, \sigma)$  converges to  $D_B^i(E, \sigma)$ , and Example 24 tells us that

$$N(i, E, \sigma)_1^{p,q} \cong (C_{p,2i-p-q}(E, \sigma) \otimes D_B^{i-q}(p))^{W_p}.$$

This construction is functorial [8, Theorem 3.3], meaning that we have a spectral sequence  $N(i)$  in the category of  $\text{FS}_B$ -modules converging to  $D_B^i$  with

$$N(i)_1^{p,q} = (C_{p,2i-p-q} \otimes D_B^{i-q}(p))^{W_p}.$$

Dualizing, we obtain a spectral sequence  $N^*(i)$  in the category of  $\text{FS}_B^{\text{op}}$ -modules converging to  $(D_B^i)^*$ . Since  $N(i)_1^{p,q}$  is a submodule of  $C_{p,2i-p-q} \otimes D_B^{i-q}(p)$ ,  $N^*(i)_1^{p,q}$  is a quotient of  $C_{p,2i-p-q}^* \otimes D_B^{i-q}(p)^*$ , and Proposition 28 implies that it is  $(2(2i - p - q) - 1 + p)$ -small unless  $p + q = 2i$ , in which case it is  $p$ -small. Furthermore, we have  $D_B^{i-q}(p) = 0$  unless either  $(p, q) = (0, i)$  or  $p > 2(i - q)$  [1, Proposition 3.4].

Let us consider first the case where  $p + q = 2i$ . Since  $i > 0$ , we cannot have  $(p, q) = (0, i)$ , so we must have  $p > 2(i - q)$  for  $N^*(i)_1^{p,q}$  to be nonzero. This means that  $p$  cannot be equal to  $2i$ , so we have  $p \leq 2i$ , which implies that  $N^*(i)_1^{p,q}$  is  $(2i - 1)$ -small. Even better, it tells us that  $N^*(i)_1^{p,q}$  is  $(2i - 2)$ -small unless  $p = 2i - 1$  and  $q = 1$ .

Now let us consider the case where  $p + q < 2i$ . If  $(p, q) = (0, i)$ , then  $(2(2i - p - q) - 1 + p) = 2i - 1$ , so  $N^*(i)_1^{0,i}$  is  $(2i - 1)$ -small. If  $p > 2(i - q)$ , then  $2(2i - p - q) - 1 + p = 2(i - q) - p + 2i - 1 < 2i - 1$ , so  $N^*(i)_1^{p,q}$  is  $(2i - 2)$ -small.

Since  $N^*(i)$  converges to  $(D_B^i)^*$  and the entries of the  $E_1$ -page of  $N^*(i)$  are all  $(2i - 1)$ -small, we can conclude that  $(D_B^i)^*$  is  $(2i - 1)$ -smallish. Furthermore, the  $E_\infty$  page of  $N^*(i)$  is concentrated on the diagonal  $p + q = 2i$ , hence

$$\begin{aligned} r_{2i-1}((D_B^i)^*) &= \sum_{p,q} r_{2i-1}(N^*(i)_\infty^{p,q}) \\ &= \sum_{p,q} (-1)^{p+q} r_{2i-1}(N^*(i)_\infty^{p,q}) \\ &= \sum_{p,q} (-1)^{p+q} r_{2i-1}(N^*(i)_1^{p,q}). \end{aligned}$$

Since  $r_{2i-1}$  vanishes on any  $\text{FS}_B^{\text{op}}$ -module that is  $(2i - 2)$ -small, this equation simplifies to

$$r_{2i-1}((D_B^i)^*) = r_{2i-1}(N^*(i)_1^{2i-1,1}) + (-1)^i r_{2i-1}(N^*(i)_1^{0,i}).$$

We have  $N^*(i)_1^{0,i} = C_{0,i}^* = (S_B^i)^*$ , thus Proposition 8 says that  $r_{2i-1}(N^*(i)_1^{0,i}) = 0$ . Finally, we have

$$\begin{aligned} N(i)_1^{2i-1,1} &= (C_{2i-1,0} \otimes D_B^{i-1}[1 - 2i, 2i - 1])^{W_{2i-1}} \\ &\cong (P_{[1-2i, 2i-1]}[-n, n] \otimes D_B^{i-1}[1 - 2i, 2i - 1])^{W_{2i-1}}, \end{aligned}$$

so

$$\begin{aligned} \dim N^*(i)_1^{2i-1,1}[-n, n] &= \dim N(i)_1^{2i-1,1}[-n, n] \\ &= \frac{\dim P_{[1-2i, 2i-1]}[-n, n] \cdot \dim D_B^{i-1}[1-2i, 2i-1]}{|W_{2i-1}|}, \end{aligned}$$

where the last equality follows from the fact that the group  $W_{2i-1}$  acts freely on a basis for  $P_{[1-2i, 2i-1]}[-n, n]$ . We therefore have

$$r_{2i-1}((D_B^i)^*) = r_{2i-1}(P_{[1-2i, 2i-1]}) \cdot \frac{\dim D_B^{i-1}[1-2i, 2i-1]}{|W_{2i-1}|} = \frac{\dim D_B^{i-1}[1-2i, 2i-1]}{|W_{2i-1}|}.$$

This completes the proof.  $\square$

**Example 29.** We illustrate Theorems 6 and 11 when  $i = 1$ . The coefficient of  $t$  in the Kazhdan–Lusztig polynomial of a hyperplane arrangement  $\mathcal{A}$  is equal to the number of flats of dimension 1 minus the number of hyperplanes [1, Proposition 2.12], thus Example 24 tells us that

$$\dim D_B^1[-n, n] = \left| \text{Hom}_{\text{FS}_B}([-n, n], [-1, 1]) / W_1 \right| - n^2 = \frac{3^n - 1}{2} - n^2.$$

This means that

$$H_B((D_B^1)^*, t) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left( \frac{3^n - 1}{2} - n^2 \right) t^n = \frac{1}{2(1-3t)} - \frac{1}{2(1-t)} - \frac{t}{(1-t)^2} - \frac{2t^2}{(1-t)^3}.$$

This is a rational function with a poles at 1 and 1/3. The pole at 1/3 is simple, with residue

$$\frac{1}{2} = \frac{\dim D_B^0[-1, 1]}{|W_1|}.$$

As a representation of  $W_n$ ,  $D_B^1[-n, n]^* \cong D_B^1[-n, n]$  is isomorphic to the permutation representation with basis given by the flats of dimension 1 modulo the permutation representation with basis given by the hyperplanes [3, Corollary 2.10]. If  $n < 3$ , then  $D_B^1[-n, n] = 0$ , while if  $n \geq 3$ , using the branching rule in [2, Lemma 6.1.3] allows us to compute

$$D_B^1[-n, n] = \bigoplus_{\substack{|\lambda| \leq n \\ \ell(\lambda) \leq 2}} V_{\lambda, [n-|\lambda|]}^{\oplus c_\lambda},$$

where

$$c_\lambda = \begin{cases} \lfloor \lambda_1/2 \rfloor - 1 & \text{if } \lambda = [n] \text{ or } \lambda = [n-1, 1] \\ \lfloor \lambda_1/2 \rfloor & \text{if } \lambda = [n-2, 2] \text{ or } \lambda = [n-2] \\ \lfloor \lambda_1/2 \rfloor + 1 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

## Acknowledgments

This work benefited greatly from the efforts of Patrick Durkin, who helped to formulate the definition of  $\text{FS}_B$  and wrote the first draft of the material in Section 3. The author is also grateful to Eric Ramos for his valuable help and suggestions.

## References

- [1] Ben Elias, Nicholas Proudfoot, and Max Wakefield, *The Kazhdan-Lusztig polynomial of a matroid*, Adv. Math. **299** (2016), 36–70.
- [2] Meinolf Geck and Götz Pfeiffer, *Characters of finite Coxeter groups and Iwahori-Hecke algebras*, London Mathematical Society Monographs. New Series, vol. 21, The Clarendon Press, Oxford University Press, New York, 2000.
- [3] Katie Gedeon, Nicholas Proudfoot, and Benjamin Young, *The equivariant Kazhdan-Lusztig polynomial of a matroid*, J. Combin. Theory Ser. A **150** (2017), 267–294.
- [4] Peter Orlik and Louis Solomon, *Combinatorics and topology of complements of hyperplanes*, Invent. Math. **56** (1980), no. 2, 167–189.
- [5] Nicholas Proudfoot and Eric Ramos, *Functorial invariants of trees and their cones*, Selecta Math. (N.S.) **25** (2019), no. 4, Paper No. 62, 28.
- [6] Nicholas Proudfoot and Eric Ramos, *The contraction category of graphs*, Represent. Theory **26** (2022), 673–697.
- [7] Nicholas Proudfoot and David Speyer, *A broken circuit ring*, Beiträge Algebra Geom. **47** (2006), no. 1, 161–166.
- [8] Nicholas Proudfoot and Ben Young, *Configuration spaces,  $\text{FS}^{\text{op}}$ -modules, and Kazhdan-Lusztig polynomials of braid matroids*, New York J. Math. **23** (2017), 813–832.
- [9] Steven V. Sam and Andrew Snowden, *Gröbner methods for representations of combinatorial categories*, J. Amer. Math. Soc. **30** (2017), no. 1, 159–203.
- [10] Steven V. Sam and Andrew Snowden, *Representations of categories of  $G$ -maps*, J. Reine Angew. Math. **750** (2019), 197–226.
- [11] Jennifer C. H. Wilson,  *$\text{FI}_{\mathcal{W}}$ -modules and stability criteria for representations of classical Weyl groups*, J. Algebra **420** (2014), 269–332.