

THE KAZHDAN–LUSZTIG BASIS AND THE TEMPERLEY–LIEB QUOTIENT IN TYPE D

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ABSTRACT. Let \mathcal{H} be a Hecke algebra associated with a Coxeter system of type D , and let \mathcal{TL} be the corresponding Temperley–Lieb quotient. The algebra \mathcal{TL} admits a canonical basis, which facilitates the construction of irreducible representations. In this paper, we explain the relationship between the canonical basis of \mathcal{TL} and the Kazhdan–Lusztig basis of \mathcal{H} .

1. INTRODUCTION

Let X be a Coxeter graph and let $W(X)$ be an associated Coxeter group with Coxeter generators $S(X)$ and length function ℓ . Let $\mathcal{H}(X)$ be the corresponding Hecke algebra. This is an associative, unital algebra over the ring $\mathcal{A} = \mathbb{Z}[v, v^{-1}]$ of Laurent polynomials. The Hecke algebra $\mathcal{H}(X)$ has generators T_s , one for each $s \in S(X)$, which are subject to the following relations: $T_s^2 = (q - 1)T_s + q$, where $q = v^2$; $(T_s T_{s'})^m = (T_{s'} T_s)^m$ if ss' has order $2m$; and $(T_s T_{s'})^m T_s = (T_{s'} T_s)^m T_{s'}$ if ss' has order $2m + 1$. When there is no need to specify the underlying Coxeter graph X , we sometimes simplify notation by writing W , S and \mathcal{H} for the Coxeter group, its distinguished set of generators, and the corresponding Hecke algebra.

The algebra \mathcal{H} has an \mathcal{A} -basis $\{T_w : w \in W\}$, where T_w is defined to be the product $T_{s_1} T_{s_2} \cdots T_{s_n}$ for any reduced expression $s_1 s_2 \cdots s_n$ equal to w . (A product $w_1 w_2 \cdots w_n$ of elements from W is called *reduced* if $\ell(w_1 w_2 \cdots w_n) = \sum_i \ell(w_i)$.) The presentation for \mathcal{H} given above ensures that the T_w are well defined.

Let $\mathcal{J}(X)$ be the two-sided ideal of $\mathcal{H}(X)$ generated by the elements $\sum_{x \in \langle s, s' \rangle} T_x$, where (s, s') runs over all pairs of noncommuting Coxeter generators such that the subgroup $\langle s, s' \rangle$ of $W(X)$ is finite. Define $\mathcal{TL}(X)$ to be the quotient \mathcal{A} -algebra $\mathcal{H}(X)/\mathcal{J}(X)$ and let θ denote the canonical map from $\mathcal{H}(X)$ to $\mathcal{TL}(X)$. When X is a Coxeter graph of type A , the quotient $\mathcal{TL}(X)$ is known as the Temperley–Lieb algebra, which emerged from the paper [14] and which has been studied in the context of knot theory by Jones [11].

When X is an arbitrary Coxeter graph, the quotient $\mathcal{TL}(X)$ is sometimes called a generalized Temperley–Lieb algebra. Graham [6] has classified the graphs X for which

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$\mathcal{TL}(X)$ is finite-dimensional; these graphs fall into seven infinite families, denoted by A, B, D, E, F, H , and I .

A canonical basis for $\mathcal{TL} = \mathcal{TL}(X)$ was introduced in [8]. This basis is defined in a manner similar to that of the Kazhdan–Lusztig basis, relative to a lattice and an involution, and it is uniquely determined by these data together with a pair of conditions (Theorem 2.3 gives a precise statement). When X is simply-laced and $\mathcal{TL}(X)$ is finite-dimensional, the canonical basis can be used to construct the irreducible representations of \mathcal{TL} (see the work of Fan [4]). Various examples suggest the possibility that the canonical basis of \mathcal{TL} can be obtained from a particular subset of the Kazhdan–Lusztig basis by projection to the quotient; in fact, such a relationship is known to exist when the underlying graph is of type A, B , or I [5, 8, 9].

We will show (Theorem 3.4) that the projection relationship described above holds in type D . The presence of a branch node in this context introduces some interesting complications. For example, whereas in type A the kernel of θ is spanned by the Kazhdan–Lusztig basis elements that it contains, this is not true in type D .

Our arguments will rely on some general properties of reduced expressions and on the particular nature of minimum length coset representatives in type D , all of which will be described in Section 3. We remark that our proof of Theorem 3.4 gives the corresponding type A result as a special case.

2. CANONICAL BASES

In this section, the underlying Coxeter graph X is of arbitrary type.

Let $\mathcal{A}^- = \mathbb{Z}[v^{-1}]$. The Hecke algebra \mathcal{H} admits a \mathbb{Z} -linear ring automorphism of order 2 that sends v to v^{-1} and T_w to $T_{w^{-1}}$; this involution is denoted by $h \mapsto \bar{h}$. Kazhdan and Lusztig [12, Theorem 1.1] have shown that for each $w \in W$, there exists a unique element $C'_w \in \mathcal{H}$ such that $\overline{C'_w} = C'_w$ and

$$C'_w = \sum_{\substack{x \in W \\ x \leq w}} v^{-\ell(x)} \tilde{P}_{x,w} T_x,$$

where $\tilde{P}_{x,w} \in v^{-1}\mathcal{A}^-$ if $x < w$, and $\tilde{P}_{w,w} = 1$. Here, \leq denotes the Bruhat–Chevalley partial ordering on W . The set $\{C'_w : w \in W\}$ is known as the Kazhdan–Lusztig basis of \mathcal{H} .

The algebra \mathcal{TL} has a canonical basis, which was introduced in [8]; a few additional definitions are necessary in order to describe it.

Definition 2.1. We say that an element $w \in W(X)$ is *complex* if it can be expressed as a reduced product $w_1 w_P w_2$, where w_P is the longest element of some parabolic subgroup P generated by a pair of noncommuting elements $s, s' \in S(X)$. Let $W_c = W_c(X)$ denote the set of all $w \in W(X)$ that are not complex.

For any $w \in W$, let t_w denote the image of T_w in \mathcal{TL} .

Theorem 2.2. [6, Theorem 6.2] *The set $\{t_w : w \in W_c\}$ is an \mathcal{A} -basis for the generalized Temperley–Lieb algebra \mathcal{TL} . \square*

The basis arising from Theorem 2.2 is sometimes called the *t-basis*. It plays a role in the definition of the canonical basis for \mathcal{TL} .

The \mathbb{Z} -linear ring involution $h \mapsto \bar{h}$ of \mathcal{H} induces an involution of \mathcal{TL} (see [8, Lemma 1.4]). We use the bar notation to represent this involution of \mathcal{TL} , which is given by $\overline{\sum_{w \in W_c} a_w t_w} = \sum_{w \in W_c} \bar{a}_w t_w^{-1}$.

Let \mathcal{L} denote the free \mathcal{A}^- -submodule of \mathcal{TL} with basis $\{v^{-\ell(w)} t_w : w \in W_c\}$, and let $\pi : \mathcal{L} \rightarrow \mathcal{L}/v^{-1}\mathcal{L}$ be the canonical projection.

Theorem 2.3. [8, Theorem 2.3] *There exists a unique basis $\{c_w : w \in W_c\}$ for the lattice \mathcal{L} such that $\bar{c}_w = c_w$ and $\pi(c_w) = \pi(v^{-\ell(w)} t_w)$ for all $w \in W_c$. \square*

Definition 2.4. The basis $\{c_w : w \in W_c\}$ arising from Theorem 2.3 will be called the *canonical basis* of \mathcal{TL} .

We remark that the canonical basis of \mathcal{TL} is an IC basis, as defined by Du in [1, Sect. 1.1]. In [8], the canonical basis of $\mathcal{TL}(X)$ was described for all graphs X of type A , D , or E , and the relationship between the canonical basis and the corresponding Kazhdan–Lusztig basis was discussed for graphs of type A .

Let $\mathcal{C} = \mathcal{C}(X)$ denote the set of all $C'_w \in \mathcal{H}(X)$ indexed by $w \in W_c(X)$. One sees from [8, Lemma 1.5] that the set $\theta(\mathcal{C})$ is a basis for $\mathcal{TL}(X)$. Note that the elements of $\theta(\mathcal{C})$ are fixed by the involution of $\mathcal{TL}(X)$ from above. It is natural to consider the question of whether $\theta(\mathcal{C})$ equals the canonical basis of $\mathcal{TL}(X)$. When these bases do coincide, we say that the graph X possesses the *projection property*. It is known from [5, Theorem 3.8.2] together with [8, Theorem 3.6] that graphs of type A possess the projection property; it was shown in [9] that the property also holds for graphs of type B or I .

Consider the situation where the ideal $\mathcal{J}(X)$ is spanned by the Kazhdan–Lusztig basis elements that it contains. This is equivalent to the condition that $C'_w \in \mathcal{J}(X)$ for all $w \notin W_c(X)$. The graph X must then possess the projection property [8, Proposition 1.2.3]. While this is a useful fact in the type A setting, it is not helpful for studying the case where X is of type D , as the following example demonstrates.

Example 2.5. Take the underlying Coxeter graph X to be of type D_4 . Denote the Coxeter generators by $\sigma_1, \sigma_2, \sigma_3, \sigma_4$, where σ_3 corresponds to the branch node. We claim that $\mathcal{J} = \mathcal{J}(X)$ is not spanned by the Kazhdan–Lusztig basis elements that it contains. Assume the contrary. Then $C'_w \in \mathcal{J}$, where $w = \sigma_2\sigma_3\sigma_4\sigma_3\sigma_1\sigma_2\sigma_3 \notin W_c$. Hence, $C'_{\sigma_1} C'_w \in \mathcal{J}$. But when the product $C'_{\sigma_1} C'_w$ is expressed as an \mathcal{A} -linear combination of Kazhdan–Lusztig basis elements (using the identity $C'_{\sigma_1} C'_w = C'_{\sigma_1 w} + \sum \mu(z, w) C'_z$, where the sum is over all z such that $\sigma_1 z < z < w$ and $\mu(z, w)$ is the coefficient of $v^{\ell(w) - \ell(z) - 1}$ in the Kazhdan–Lusztig polynomial $P_{z,w} = v^{\ell(w) - \ell(z)} \tilde{P}_{z,w}$), the element C'_x , where $x = \sigma_1\sigma_2\sigma_4\sigma_3$, appears with integer coefficient 1. This means that some

nonzero \mathcal{A} -linear combination of elements from \mathcal{C} belongs to \mathcal{J} , contradicting the fact that $\theta(\mathcal{C})$ is an \mathcal{A} -basis for \mathcal{TL} . Note that this example applies also to the situation where X is of type D_r , for $r > 4$.

Because of the phenomenon described in Example 2.5, we need a different condition for establishing that $\theta(\mathcal{C})$ equals the canonical basis. The following proposition provides us with such a condition. It will be used later in Section 3.

Proposition 2.6. [9, Proposition 1.2.2] *If $v^{-\ell(w)}t_w \in \mathcal{L}$ for all $w \in W(X)$, then $\theta(\mathcal{C})$ coincides with the canonical basis of $\mathcal{TL}(X)$. \square*

It is necessary to introduce one more basis for the algebra \mathcal{TL} .

Definition 2.7. Define, for each $s \in S$, $b_s = v^{-1}t_s + v^{-1}$. More generally, for each $w \in W_c$, it makes sense to define $b_w = b_{s_1}b_{s_2} \cdots b_{s_n}$, where $s_1s_2 \cdots s_n$ is any reduced expression for w . It is known (and follows from [6, Theorem 6.2]) that the set $\{b_w : w \in W_c\}$ is an \mathcal{A} -basis for \mathcal{TL} . We call it the *monomial basis*.

When X is a graph of type A , D , or E , the canonical basis for $\mathcal{TL}(X)$ equals the monomial basis [8, Theorem 3.6]. We mention in passing that if X is non-simply-laced, then the canonical basis of $\mathcal{TL}(X)$ does not equal the monomial basis [8, Remark 3.7 (1)].

3. TYPE D

In this section, we restrict our attention to Coxeter graphs of type D_r . Our goal is to prove that the canonical basis of $\mathcal{TL}(D_r)$ equals the image under θ of the set of all Kazhdan–Lusztig basis elements $C'_w \in \mathcal{H}(D_r)$ indexed by $w \in W_c(D_r)$.

It is known (see [2] or [7, Sect. 1]) that the algebra $\mathcal{TL}(D_r)$ is generated by the monomial basis elements b_s , with s ranging over $S(D_r)$, subject to the following relations: $b_s^2 = q_c b_s$, where $q_c = v + v^{-1}$; $b_s b_{s'} = b_{s'} b_s$ if ss' has order 2; and $b_s b_{s'} b_s = b_s$ if ss' has order 3.

Definition 3.1. For any $w \in W$, we define $c(w)$ to be the set of Coxeter generators $s \in S$ that appear in some (any) reduced expression for w . We call $c(w)$ the *content* of w . We define $\mathcal{R}(w)$ to be the set of all $s \in S$ such that $\ell(ws) < \ell(w)$. We call $\mathcal{R}(w)$ the *right descent* of w .

Let $\sigma_1, \sigma_2, \dots, \sigma_r$ denote the Coxeter generators of the Coxeter group $W(D_r)$, indexed so that each of the products $\sigma_1\sigma_3$, $\sigma_2\sigma_3$ and $\sigma_i\sigma_{i+1}$ ($i > 2$) has order 3. Thus, one has $W(D_0) = \{e\}$, $W(D_1) = W(A_1)$, $W(D_2) = W(A_1) \times W(A_1)$ and $W(D_3) = W(A_3)$. Let $W^{(r)}$ denote the set $\{w \in W(D_r) : 1 \leq i < r \Rightarrow \ell(\sigma_i w) > \ell(w)\}$. Then $W^{(r)}$ is a system of right coset representatives for the subgroup $W(D_{r-1})$ of $W(D_r)$, and $\ell(xy) = \ell(x) + \ell(y)$ for all $x \in W(D_{r-1})$ and $y \in W^{(r)}$; thus, each $y \in W^{(r)}$ is the unique element of minimum length in $W(D_{r-1})y$ (see [10, Sect. 5.12]).

The sets $W^{(r)}$ have a simple description. One has $W^{(1)} = \{e, \sigma_1\}$, $W^{(2)} = \{e, \sigma_2\}$, $W^{(3)} = \{e, \sigma_3, \sigma_3\sigma_2, \sigma_3\sigma_1, \sigma_3\sigma_2\sigma_1, \sigma_3\sigma_2\sigma_1\sigma_3\}$, and for $r > 3$ the elements of $W^{(r)}$ are given by

$$\begin{aligned} & \{e, \sigma_r, \sigma_r\sigma_{r-1}, \dots, \sigma_r\sigma_{r-1} \cdots \sigma_3\sigma_2, \sigma_r\sigma_{r-1} \cdots \sigma_3\sigma_1, \sigma_r\sigma_{r-1} \cdots \sigma_3\sigma_2\sigma_1, \\ & \sigma_r\sigma_{r-1} \cdots \sigma_3\sigma_2\sigma_1\sigma_3, \dots, \sigma_r\sigma_{r-1} \cdots \sigma_3\sigma_2\sigma_1\sigma_3 \cdots \sigma_{r-1}\sigma_r\}. \end{aligned}$$

Observe that each $y \in W^{(r)}$ has either a unique reduced expression, if σ_1, σ_2 do not both belong to $c(y)$, or else y has two reduced expressions. The reduced expression that does not contain the subexpression $\sigma_1\sigma_2$ will be called the *normal* reduced expression for the minimum length coset representative.

One can express any $w \in W(D_r)$ uniquely as a reduced product $w = w_1w_2 \cdots w_r$, where each $w_i \in W^{(i)}$. (To see uniqueness, let $w'_1w'_2 \cdots w'_r$ be another such product. The products $w_1w_2 \cdots w_{r-1}$ and $w'_1w'_2 \cdots w'_{r-1}$ both belong to $W(D_{r-1})$; hence the right coset of $W(D_{r-1})$ in $W(D_r)$ that contains $w = w_1w_2 \cdots w_r = w'_1w'_2 \cdots w'_r$ must also contain w_r and w'_r . Since both of these are elements of the system of coset representatives $W^{(r)}$, we have $w_r = w'_r$. Iterating this argument, we find that $w_i = w'_i$ for all $i = 1, 2, \dots, r$.) By deleting those w_i that equal the identity and replacing each of the remaining w_i with its normal reduced expression, we obtain a normal reduced expression $s_1s_2 \cdots s_n$ for w . The normal reduced expression has the following property: for each i , either s_i does not appear to the left of the i th position in $s_1s_2 \cdots s_n$, or s_{i-1}, s_i do not commute, or $s_i = \sigma_1$ and $s_{i-1} = \sigma_2$.

There are some properties of reduced expressions for elements in W that are useful for proving results about multiplication in the generalized Temperley–Lieb algebra. Perhaps the most fundamental is a well-known theorem of Tits, which states that for any $w \in W$, every reduced expression for w can be transformed into any other reduced expression for w by performing a sequence of braid moves (see [15, Théorème 3]). This is valid for an arbitrary Coxeter system. Using this result, one can characterize W_c as the set of $w \in W$ such that every reduced expression for w can be transformed into any other reduced expression for w by performing a sequence of commutation moves [13, Proposition 1.1]. One sometimes calls W_c the set of *fully commutative* elements of W .

There are two additional properties, peculiar to the simply-laced case, which play a role in our work on type D . We list these below. Both have previously appeared in the paper [4, Sect. 2]. Note that the first property can be obtained as a corollary to the theorem of Tits cited above; for a proof of the second property, see [3, Lem. 2].

Property R1. Let s_1, s_2, \dots, s_m be an arbitrary sequence from S . Then the product $s_1s_2 \cdots s_m$ is reduced and belongs to W_c if and only if between any two occurrences of a generator s in the sequence, there exist at least two occurrences of generators which do not commute with s .

Property R2. Let $w \in W_c$ and $s \in S$ satisfy $ws \notin W_c$. Then there exists a unique $s' \in S$ such that any reduced expression for w can be parsed as follows: $w = w_1sw_2s'w_3$, where ss' has order 3 and s commutes with every member of $c(w_2) \cup c(w_3)$.

Let $w \in W(D_r)$ and let $s_1s_2 \cdots s_m$ be an arbitrary reduced expression for w . Let $1 \leq i(1) < i(2) < \cdots < i(k) \leq m$. Then the product $b_{s_{i(1)}}b_{s_{i(2)}} \cdots b_{s_{i(k)}}$ equals $q_c^\mu b_{w'}$, for some nonnegative integer μ and some $w' \in W_c$; moreover, we have $\ell(w') \leq k$ and $w' \leq w$ and $s_{i(k)} \in \mathcal{R}(w')$. One can establish this by a straightforward induction on k , using Property R2, the subexpression characterization of Bruhat–Chevalley order, and the presentation of $\mathcal{TL}(D_r)$ given at the beginning of the section. The above fact will be invoked in the sequel.

The following lemma is known to hold for any Coxeter graph of type A , D , or E [4, Proposition 5.4.1]. It is possible to give a relatively simple, self-contained proof for the type D case, as we do below.

Lemma 3.2. *Let $w \in W_c$ and $s \in S$. Then $b_w b_s = q_c^\mu b_{w'}$, where $w' \in W_c$ and μ equals 0 or 1. If $\ell(ws) > \ell(w)$, then $\mu = 0$. If $\ell(ws) < \ell(w)$, then $w' = w$ and $\mu = 1$.*

Proof. Observe that the last assertion follows immediately from associativity of multiplication in \mathcal{TL} and the relation $b_s^2 = q_c b_s$.

So assume $\ell(ws) > \ell(w)$. If $ws \in W_c$, then the definition of the monomial basis gives $b_w b_s = b_{ws}$. We are left with the case $ws \notin W_c$, which we treat by induction on $n = \ell(w) \geq 2$. The basis for induction holds, so let $n > 2$ and let $s \in S$ satisfy $ws \notin W_c$. Let $s_1s_2 \cdots s_n$ be the normal reduced expression for w . We parse it according to Property R2: $w = w_1sw_2s'w_3$, where ss' has order 3 and s commutes with every member of $c(w_2) \cup c(w_3)$. We may assume $w_3 \neq e$; otherwise, $b_w b_s = b_{w_1w_2}b_s b_{s'}b_s = b_{w_1w_2}b_s = b_{w_1sw_2}$, and the inductive step follows. Thus, we have $w_3 = s_j s_{j+1} \cdots s_n$ for some $j \leq n$, and $b_w b_s = b_{u_1} b_{s_j} b_{s_{j+1}} \cdots b_{s_n}$, where $u_1 = w_1sw_2$. Observe that $u_1 \leq s_1s_2 \cdots s_{j-1}$.

We have $s_j \notin \mathcal{R}(u_1)$ (otherwise, u_1 has a reduced expression ending in s_j ; hence the product $w_1sw_2s' s_j \cdots s_n$ is either not reduced, or else it does not belong to W_c , a contradiction). If $u_1s_j \in W_c$, then we put $u_2 = u_1s_j$. If $u_1s_j \notin W_c$, then we apply the inductive hypothesis, obtaining $b_{u_1}b_{s_j} = b_{u'}$ for some $u' \in W_c$; in this case, we put $u_2 = u'$. In either case, the element u_2 has a reduced expression ending in s_j (this is a consequence of the paragraph that immediately follows Properties R1 and R2 above) and $u_2 \leq s_1s_2 \cdots s_j$. We may now consider $b_w b_s = b_{u_2} b_{s_{j+1}} b_{s_{j+2}} \cdots b_{s_n}$. We claim that $s_{j+1} \notin \mathcal{R}(u_2)$.

Since $s_1s_2 \cdots s_n$ is the normal reduced expression for w , either (1) s_{j+1} does not occur to the left of the $(j+1)$ th position in $s_1s_2 \cdots s_n$, in which case $s_{j+1} \notin c(u_2)$; or (2) s_j, s_{j+1} do not commute; or (3) $s_{j+1} = \sigma_1$ and $s_j = \sigma_2$. If either (1) or (2) holds, then it is clear that $s_{j+1} \notin \mathcal{R}(u_2)$. Suppose that (3) holds.

Now, any reduced expression $s'_1s'_2 \cdots s'_m$ belonging to W_c has the property that, if $\sigma_2\sigma_1$ is a consecutive subexpression, say $s'_i = \sigma_2$ and $s'_{i+1} = \sigma_1$, then neither σ_1 nor σ_2

appears to the left of the i th position in $s'_1 s'_2 \cdots s'_m$. (To see why, consider a minimum length counterexample and use Property R1 repeatedly to derive a contradiction.) Applying this to our normal reduced expression $s_1 s_2 \cdots s_n$, we have $\sigma_1 \notin c(s_1 s_2 \cdots s_j)$; hence $\sigma_1 \notin c(u_2)$. This implies that $s_{j+1} \notin \mathcal{R}(u_2)$. If $u_2 s_{j+1} \in W_c$, then we put $u_3 = u_2 s_{j+1}$. If $u_2 s_{j+1} \notin W_c$, then we apply the inductive hypothesis, obtaining $b_{u_2} b_{s_{j+1}} = b_{u''}$ for some $u'' \in W_c$; in this case, we put $u_3 = u''$. Observe that in either case, u_3 has a reduced expression ending in s_{j+1} and $u_3 \leq s_1 s_2 \cdots s_{j+1}$. We may now consider $b_w b_s = b_{u_3} b_{s_{j+2}} b_{s_{j+3}} \cdots b_{s_n}$.

Iterating, we eventually find that $b_w b_s = b_{u_{n-j+2}}$, for some $u_{n-j+2} \in W_c$. The inductive step is complete. \square

Remark 3.3. One can also prove Lemma 3.2 by using the diagram calculus for $\mathcal{TL}(D_r)$ developed by Green in [7].

The following theorem reconciles the Kazhdan–Lusztig basis of $\mathcal{H}(D_r)$ with the canonical basis of $\mathcal{TL}(D_r)$ (cf. [5, Theorem 3.8.2]; [9, Theorem 2.2.1]).

Theorem 3.4. *Let X be a Coxeter graph of type D . Then the canonical basis of $\mathcal{TL}(X)$ equals the image under θ of the set of all Kazhdan–Lusztig basis elements $C'_w \in \mathcal{H}(X)$ indexed by $w \in W_c(X)$.*

Proof. We shall verify that for every $w \in W$, the element $v^{-\ell(w)} t_w$ lies in the lattice \mathcal{L} . An application of Proposition 2.6 then gives the theorem.

As a first step, we prove by induction on $n = \ell(w) \geq 0$ that $v^{-\ell(w)} t_w$ equals a linear combination of monomial basis elements b_x ($x \in W_c$ and $x \leq w$) with coefficients in \mathcal{A}^- , and if $w \in W_c$ then the coefficient of b_w is 1. (It is known that for any $w \in W_c$, the element $v^{-\ell(w)} t_w - b_w$ is a linear combination of monomial elements b_x with coefficients in $v^{-1} \mathcal{A}^-$ [8, Lemma 3.5]; thus, we are going to prove a weaker statement for the more general case where w is not necessarily in W_c .)

If $n = 0$ then $w = e$, and $v^{-\ell(e)} t_e = b_e$. If $n = 1$ then w is a Coxeter generator, and $v^{-\ell(w)} t_w = b_w - v^{-1} b_e$. Let $n > 1$. Let $r > 1$ be the smallest integer such that $w \in W(D_r)$. Write $w = yz$ (reduced), where $y \in W(D_{r-1})$ and $z \in W^{(r)}$. We apply the inductive hypothesis to $v^{-\ell(y)} t_y$, writing it as a linear combination of b_x ($x \in W_c$ and $x \leq y$) with coefficients in \mathcal{A}^- ; if $y \in W_c$ then the coefficient of b_y is 1. Now consider, for any $x \in W_c$ satisfying $x \leq y$, the expression $b_x(v^{-\ell(z)} t_z)$. We shall show that this equals a linear combination of $b_{x'}$ ($x' \in W_c$ and $x' \leq w$) with coefficients in \mathcal{A}^- , and when $w \in W_c$, the coefficient of b_w is 1 if $x = y$ and is 0 if $x \neq y$. The inductive step will thereby be established.

Let $s_1 s_2 \cdots s_m$ be the normal reduced expression for the minimum length coset representative z (where $s_1 = \sigma_r$, $s_2 = \sigma_{r-1}, \dots$). We have

$$\begin{aligned} b_x(v^{-\ell(z)} t_z) &= b_x(v^{-1} t_{s_1})(v^{-1} t_{s_2}) \cdots (v^{-1} t_{s_m}) \\ &= b_x(b_{s_1} - v^{-1})(b_{s_2} - v^{-1}) \cdots (b_{s_m} - v^{-1}), \end{aligned}$$

and the last expression expands to a sum of terms

$$(-v)^{k-m} b_x b_{s_{i(1)}} b_{s_{i(2)}} \cdots b_{s_{i(k)}}.$$

Note that when $w \in W_c$, the only term which contributes a nonzero coefficient to b_w is the one where $x = y$ and $k = m$; the contributed coefficient is 1.

The remaining part of the inductive step rests on the following claim, the proof of which will be given in the following section.

Claim 3.5. *Let $x \in W(D_{r-1})$ and $z \in W^{(r)} \setminus \{e\}$. Let $s_1 s_2 \cdots s_m$ be the normal reduced expression for z . Define \mathcal{M} to be the collection of all k -tuples $I = (i(1), i(2), \dots, i(k))$ of integers ($k > 0$ varies) that satisfy $1 \leq i(1) < i(2) < \cdots < i(k) \leq m$ together with the following condition:*

$$b_x b_{s_{i(1)}} b_{s_{i(2)}} \cdots b_{s_{i(k)}} = q_c^\mu b_{x'}, \text{ where } x' \in W_c \text{ and } \mu > m - k.$$

Suppose $\mathcal{M} \neq \emptyset$. Then the following statements hold:

1. For any $I = (i(1), i(2), \dots, i(k)) \in \mathcal{M}$, when we write $b_x b_{s_{i(1)}} b_{s_{i(2)}} \cdots b_{s_{i(k)}} = q_c^\mu b_{x'}$, we have $\mu = m - k + 1$.
2. There exists $x'' \in W_c$ such that $b_x b_{s_{i(1)}} b_{s_{i(2)}} \cdots b_{s_{i(k)}} = q_c^{\mu(I)} b_{x''}$ for any $I = (i(1), i(2), \dots, i(k)) \in \mathcal{M}$.
3. The sets $\{I \in \mathcal{M} : |I| \text{ is odd}\}$ and $\{I \in \mathcal{M} : |I| \text{ is even}\}$ have the same cardinality. Here, $|I|$ denotes the number of entries in I .

We explain the relevance of Claim 3.5. The product $b_x(v^{-\ell(z)}t_z)$ is to be expressed as an \mathcal{A}^- -linear combination of monomial basis elements. Above, we have expanded $b_x(v^{-\ell(z)}t_z)$ into a sum of terms $(-v)^{k-m} b_x b_{s_{i(1)}} b_{s_{i(2)}} \cdots b_{s_{i(k)}}$, where the sum is taken over all multi-indices $I = (i(1), i(2), \dots, i(k))$ satisfying $1 \leq i(1) < i(2) < \cdots < i(k) \leq m$. We may ignore those multi-indices I which do not belong to \mathcal{M} , since such I must contribute a term with coefficient in \mathcal{A}^- . On the other hand, by the various assertions of the claim, if \mathcal{M} is nonempty, then the terms $(-v)^{k-m} b_x b_{s_{i(1)}} b_{s_{i(2)}} \cdots b_{s_{i(k)}}$ arising from $I \in \mathcal{M}$ equal $(-v)^{|I|-m} q_c^{m-|I|+1} b_{x''}$ and sum to $a b_{x''}$, where $a \in \mathcal{A}^-$ (note that the highest degree term of the Laurent polynomial $(-v)^{|I|-m} q_c^{m-|I|+1}$ is $(-1)^{|I|-m} v$, so that the positive degree terms involved in a cancel by the third assertion of Claim 3.5). The inductive step is complete.

We have shown, granting the truth of the claim, that for any $w \in W$, the element $v^{-\ell(w)}t_w$ equals a linear combination of b_x ($x \in W_c$ and $x \leq w$) with coefficients in \mathcal{A}^- , and if $w \in W_c$ then the coefficient of b_w equals 1. It follows by a straightforward induction on length that for any $x \in W_c$, the element b_x equals a linear combination of $v^{-\ell(y)}t_y$ ($y \in W_c$ and $y \leq x$) with coefficients in \mathcal{A}^- . We conclude that every $v^{-\ell(w)}t_w$ lies in \mathcal{L} . \square

4. COMBINATORICS

This section is devoted to providing a proof of Claim 3.5. Fix an integer $r > 1$. Fix elements $x \in W(D_{r-1})$ and $z \in W^{(r)} \setminus \{e\}$. Let $s_1 s_2 \cdots s_m$ be the normal reduced expression for z . By a *multi-index*, we shall always mean a k -tuple $I = (i(1), i(2), \dots, i(k))$ of integers ($k > 0$ varies) satisfying $1 \leq i(1) < i(2) < \cdots < i(k) \leq m$. We call $\{i(1), i(2), \dots, i(k)\}$ the *underlying set* of I ; sometimes, we abuse notation and denote the underlying set also by I (and its cardinality by $|I|$).

Given a multi-index $I = (i(1), i(2), \dots, i(k))$, we shall sometimes denote the product $b_{s_{i(1)}} b_{s_{i(2)}} \cdots b_{s_{i(k)}}$ by b_I . The set $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ will be denoted by $[n]$.

Definition 4.1. Let $I = (i(1), i(2), \dots, i(k))$ be a multi-index. Let $l \in [k]$. We say that $i(l)$ *contributes* q_c to $b_x b_I$ if $b_x b_{s_{i(1)}} b_{s_{i(2)}} \cdots b_{s_{i(l)}} = q_c \cdot (b_x b_{s_{i(1)}} b_{s_{i(2)}} \cdots b_{s_{i(l-1)}})$. Recall that $q_c = v + v^{-1}$.

Definition 4.2. Define \mathcal{M}' to be the set of all multi-indices $I = (i(1), i(2), \dots, i(k))$ satisfying the following two conditions:

1. There exists $l \in [k]$ such that $s_{i(l)} = \sigma_1$, $s_{i(l-1)} = \sigma_2$, and the entry $i(l)$ contributes q_c to $b_x b_I$.
2. For all $n \in [m]$, if $n \notin I$ then $n + 1 \in I$ and $n + 1$ contributes q_c to $b_x b_I$.

Note that if $I = (i(1), i(2), \dots, i(k)) \in \mathcal{M}'$, and the integer l is as in condition 1 of Definition 4.2, then $i(l-1) = i(l) - 1$. Observe also that condition 2 guarantees $m \in I$.

Definition 4.3. Let y be an arbitrary element of W_c and let μ be an arbitrary non-negative integer. We define $\lfloor q_c^\mu b_y \rfloor = y$.

Proposition 4.4. *Let \mathcal{M} and \mathcal{M}' be the collections of multi-indices defined in Claim 3.5 and Definition 4.2, respectively. We have $\mathcal{M} = \mathcal{M}'$. Also, if the multi-index $I = (i(1), i(2), \dots, i(k))$ belongs to \mathcal{M} and we write $b_x b_I = q_c^\mu b_{x'}$, then $\mu = m - k + 1$.*

Proposition 4.4 establishes the first assertion in Claim 3.5.

Proof. Let $I = (i(1), i(2), \dots, i(k))$ be a multi-index. We claim that if $n \in [k]$ and $s_{i(n)} \neq \sigma_1$, then $i(n)$ can contribute q_c to $b_x b_I$ only if $i(n) - 1 \notin \{0, i(1), i(2), \dots, i(k)\}$.

For $n = 1$, if $i(1) = 1$ then $s_{i(1)} \notin c(x)$; hence $i(1)$ does not contribute q_c to $b_x b_I$. If $i(1) > 1$ then clearly $i(1) - 1 \notin \{0, i(1), i(2), \dots, i(k)\}$. For $1 < n \leq k$, the element $\lfloor b_x b_{s_{i(1)}} b_{s_{i(2)}} \cdots b_{s_{i(n-1)}} \rfloor$ has a reduced expression ending in $s_{i(n-1)}$, hence by Lemma 3.2, $i(n)$ can contribute q_c to $b_x b_I$ only if $s_{i(n-1)}$ commutes with $s_{i(n)}$ (possibly $s_{i(n-1)} = s_{i(n)}$). But $s_{i(n-1)}$ and $s_{i(n)}$ can commute only if $s_{i(n)} = \sigma_1$ or $i(n-1) \neq i(n) - 1$. This establishes the claim.

Thus, when we write $b_x b_I = q_c^\mu b_{x'}$, we have $\mu \leq m - k + 1$, with equality if and only if both conditions of Definition 4.2 are satisfied. In particular, we have $\mu > m - k$ if and only if $I \in \mathcal{M}'$. \square

Henceforth, we shall assume $\mathcal{M} \neq \emptyset$. Note that this implies $r > 2$.

Proposition 4.5. *Let x, z be as above, and let $I = (i(1), i(2), \dots, i(k)) \in \mathcal{M}$. Then for all $n \in [k]$, we have*

$$\lfloor b_x b_{s_1} b_{s_2} \cdots b_{s_{i(n)}} \rfloor = \lfloor b_x b_{s_{i(1)}} b_{s_{i(2)}} \cdots b_{s_{i(n)}} \rfloor.$$

In particular, since $m \in I$, we have $\lfloor b_x b_I \rfloor = x''$ for all $I \in \mathcal{M}$, where $x'' = \lfloor b_x b_z \rfloor$.

Proposition 4.5 establishes the second assertion in Claim 3.5.

Proof. We proceed by induction on n . Let $n = 1$. The case where $i(1) = 1$ is trivial. If $i(1) \neq 1$, then $i(1) = 2$ and $i(1)$ contributes q_c to $b_x b_I$. Thus, x can be written as a reduced product ending in s_2 , say $x = x' s_2$. But then $b_x b_{s_1} b_{s_2} = b_{x' s_2} b_{s_1} b_{s_2} = b_{x'} b_{s_2} b_{s_1} b_{s_2} = b_{x'} b_{s_2} = b_x$; on the other hand, $b_x b_{s_{i(1)}} = b_x b_{s_2} = b_{x' s_2} b_{s_2} = b_{x'} b_{s_2} b_{s_2} = q_c b_{x'} b_{s_2} = q_c b_x$. The basis for induction is established.

Let $n > 1$. We consider two cases.

Case 1. $i(n) = i(n-1) + 1$. By induction, we have $\lfloor b_x b_{s_1} b_{s_2} \cdots b_{s_{i(n-1)}} \rfloor = \lfloor b_x b_{s_{i(1)}} b_{s_{i(2)}} \cdots b_{s_{i(n-1)}} \rfloor$. But then it immediately follows that

$$\lfloor b_x b_{s_1} b_{s_2} \cdots b_{s_{i(n)-1}} b_{s_{i(n)}} \rfloor = \lfloor b_x b_{s_{i(1)}} b_{s_{i(2)}} \cdots b_{s_{i(n-1)}} b_{s_{i(n)}} \rfloor.$$

Case 2. $i(n) = i(n-1) + 2$. Then $i(n)$ contributes q_c to $b_x b_I$. Let y be the element $\lfloor b_x b_{s_{i(1)}} b_{s_{i(2)}} \cdots b_{s_{i(n-1)}} \rfloor$. Then y can be written as a reduced product ending in $s_{i(n)}$, say $y = y' s_{i(n)}$. Note that $\lfloor b_x b_{s_{i(1)}} b_{s_{i(2)}} \cdots b_{s_{i(n-1)}} b_{s_{i(n)}} \rfloor$ equals y . We need to show that $\lfloor b_x b_{s_1} b_{s_2} \cdots b_{s_{i(n)}} \rfloor$ equals y , as well.

The inductive hypothesis and our assumption $i(n-1) = i(n) - 2$ together imply that $\lfloor b_x b_{s_1} b_{s_2} \cdots b_{s_{i(n)-2}} \rfloor = y$; let us write $b_x b_{s_1} b_{s_2} \cdots b_{s_{i(n)-2}} = q_c^\mu b_y$ for some nonnegative integer μ . Recall from the remark following Definition 4.2 that if $s_{i(l)} = \sigma_1$, then $i(l-1) = i(l) - 1$. The assumption $i(n-1) = i(n) - 2$ therefore implies $s_{i(n)} \neq \sigma_1$; hence $s_{i(n)-1}$ and $s_{i(n)}$ do not commute. Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} b_x b_{s_1} b_{s_2} \cdots b_{s_{i(n)-2}} b_{s_{i(n)-1}} b_{s_{i(n)}} &= q_c^\mu b_y b_{s_{i(n)-1}} b_{s_{i(n)}} = q_c^\mu b_y b_{s_{i(n)}} b_{s_{i(n)-1}} b_{s_{i(n)}} \\ &= q_c^\mu b_y b_{s_{i(n)}} \\ &= q_c^\mu b_y. \end{aligned}$$

The inductive step is complete. □

Let us regard \mathcal{M} as a partially ordered set, with ordinary set-theoretic inclusion as the partial ordering. In the following definition, we construct a multi-index J . It will be shown that J is the unique minimal element of \mathcal{M} , and $|J| < m$. Furthermore, if I is any multi-index satisfying $J \subseteq I \subseteq [m]$, then $I \in \mathcal{M}$. From this, we will be able to deduce that \mathcal{M} has as many elements with even cardinality as it has elements with odd cardinality, thereby establishing the third and final assertion of Claim 3.5.

Definition 4.6. Since $\mathcal{M} \neq \emptyset$, there exists $l \in [m]$ such that $s_l = \sigma_1$ and $s_{l-1} = \sigma_2$ (by Proposition 4.4). We define a multi-index J as follows. If x has a reduced expression

ending in s_2 , then put $j(1) = 2$; otherwise, put $j(1) = 1$. Suppose $j(1), j(2), \dots, j(n)$ have been defined, and $j(n) < m$. If $j(n)$ equals $l-2$ or $l-1$ or $m-1$, then put $j(n+1) = j(n)+1$. If instead $j(n) \neq l-2, l-1, m-1$, then consider $[b_x b_{s_{j(1)}} b_{s_{j(2)}} \cdots b_{s_{j(n)}}]$. If this member of W_c has a reduced expression ending in $s_{j(n)+2}$, then put $j(n+1) = j(n)+2$; otherwise, put $j(n+1) = j(n)+1$. This procedure produces a multi-index $(j(1), j(2), \dots, j(k'))$, which we denote by J .

Proposition 4.7. *We have $J \in \mathcal{M}$ and $|J| < m$.*

Proof. To show $J \in \mathcal{M}$, we use Definition 4.2; observe that we need only verify that J satisfies the last part of the first condition in Definition 4.2. Let $l' \in [k']$ satisfy $s_{j(l')} = \sigma_1$ and $s_{j(l'-1)} = \sigma_2$, and let $l = j(l')$. Note that $j(l' - 1) = j(l') - 1 = l - 1$. Let $y = [b_x b_{s_{j(1)}} b_{s_{j(2)}} \cdots b_{s_{j(l'-1)}}]$. The argument used in the proof of Proposition 4.5 gives us $y = [b_x b_{s_1} b_{s_2} \cdots b_{s_{j(l'-1)}}]$, and the latter expression can be rewritten as $[b_x b_{s_1} b_{s_2} \cdots b_{s_{l-1}}]$.

We claim that the last expression for y has a reduced expression ending in σ_1 . To see why, let $I = (i(1), i(2), \dots, i(k)) \in \mathcal{M}$, and let n satisfy $s_{i(n)} = \sigma_1$ and $s_{i(n-1)} = \sigma_2$. Recall that $i(n)$ must contribute q_c to $b_x b_I$. Thus, the element $[b_x b_{s_{i(1)}} b_{s_{i(2)}} \cdots b_{s_{i(n-1)}}]$ has a reduced expression ending in $s_{i(n)}$. By Proposition 4.5 and the equality $i(n-1) = i(n) - 1$, this last element equals $[b_x b_{s_1} b_{s_2} \cdots b_{s_{i(n)-1}}]$, and since $i(n) = l$, the claim follows.

So $y = [b_x b_{s_{j(1)}} b_{s_{j(2)}} \cdots b_{s_{j(l'-1)}}]$ has a reduced expression ending in $\sigma_1 = s_{j(l')}$. This is equivalent to saying that $j(l')$ contributes q_c to $b_x b_J$. The first part of the proposition is established.

We turn to the inequality $|J| < m$. As above, we let $l \geq 3$ denote the integer such that $s_l = \sigma_1$. There exists an integer $1 < n \leq l-1$ such that $x s_1 s_2 \cdots s_{n-1}$ is reduced and belongs to W_c , but $x s_1 s_2 \cdots s_n \notin W_c$. (Otherwise, $[b_x b_{s_{j(1)}} b_{s_{j(2)}} \cdots b_{s_{j(l-1)}}]$ equals the reduced product $x s_1 s_2 \cdots s_{l-2} s_{l-1} = x s_1 s_2 \cdots \sigma_3 \sigma_2 \in W_c$; hence l cannot contribute q_c to $b_x b_J$ by Lemma 3.2, contrary to $J \in \mathcal{M}$.) We claim that $s_n \in \mathcal{R}(x s_1 s_2 \cdots s_{n-2})$.

To establish the claim, apply Property R2 to the situation where $w = x s_1 s_2 \cdots s_{n-1}$ and $s = s_n$; since s_{n-1} and s_n do not commute, the reduced expression $x s_1 s_2 \cdots s_{n-1}$ (replace x with any reduced expression for x) can be parsed $w_1 s_n w_2 s' w_3$, where $s' = s_{n-1}$, $w_3 = e$, and s_n commutes with every element of $c(w_2)$. Thus, we have $w = w_1 w_2 s_n s_{n-1}$ (reduced); hence $x s_1 s_2 \cdots s_{n-2} = w s_{n-1} = w_1 w_2 s_n$, so that $s_n \in \mathcal{R}(x s_1 s_2 \cdots s_{n-2})$, as claimed.

But then, since $[b_x b_{s_{j(1)}} b_{s_{j(2)}} \cdots b_{s_{j(n-2)}}] = x s_1 s_2 \cdots s_{n-2}$ (recall that $x s_1 s_2 \cdots s_{n-1}$ is reduced and belongs to W_c), the procedure for constructing J gives $j(n-1) = n$; hence $n-1 \notin J$. \square

Proposition 4.8. *We have $J \subseteq I$ for all $I \in \mathcal{M}$.*

Proof. Let $I = (i(1), i(2), \dots, i(k)) \in \mathcal{M}$. We first show that $j(1) \in I$, and then we show that for any $1 \leq n' < k'$, if $j(n') \in I$ then $j(n'+1) \in I$.

If $j(1) = 1$ then by the construction of J , the element x does not have a reduced expression ending in s_2 . Hence, $i(1) = 1$ (otherwise, $1 \notin I$ yet 2 cannot contribute q_c to $b_x b_I$). If $j(1) = 2$, then by the construction of J , the element x can be expressed as a reduced product ending in s_2 , say $x = x' s_2$. Now assume for contradiction that $2 \notin I$. Then $1, 3 \in I$ ($i(1) = 1$, $i(2) = 3$) and 3 contributes q_c to $b_x b_I$. Since $s_1 = \sigma_r \notin c(x)$, the products $x s_1 = x' s_2 s_1$ are reduced and belong to W_c . Hence, $b_x b_{s_{i(1)}} = b_{x' s_2 s_1}$. Since one of the generators s_1, s_2 does not commute with s_3 , the entry $i(2) = 3$ cannot contribute q_c to $b_x b_I$, a contradiction. It follows that $j(1) = 2 \in I$.

Now let $1 \leq n' < k'$, and assume $j(n') \in I$. Let $n \in [k]$ satisfy $i(n) = j(n')$.

If $i(n) + 1 \notin I$, then $i(n) + 2 \in I$ and $i(n + 1) = i(n) + 2$ contributes q_c to $b_x b_I$. But then since $[b_x b_{s_{j(1)}} b_{s_{j(2)}} \cdots b_{s_{j(n')}}] = [b_x b_{s_{i(1)}} b_{s_{i(2)}} \cdots b_{s_{i(n)}}]$ (by Proposition 4.5), the procedure for constructing J ensures that $j(n' + 1) = i(n + 1) \in I$.

Now suppose $i(n) + 1 \in I$, so that $i(n + 1) = i(n) + 1$. If also $i(n) + 2 \in I$, then we must have $j(n' + 1) \in I$. Suppose instead $i(n) + 2 \notin I$. If $i(n) + 1 = m$ then $j(n' + 1) = m \in I$. If instead $i(n) + 1 < m$, then the assumption $i(n) + 2 \notin I$ and Definition 4.2 together imply $i(n) + 3 \in I$. Thus, $i(n + 2) = i(n) + 3$. We claim that $j(n' + 1) = j(n') + 1 = i(n + 1) \in I$. To see this, assume the contrary, so that $j(n' + 1) = j(n') + 2 = i(n) + 2$. Let $l \in [k]$ satisfy $s_{i(l)} = \sigma_1$, $s_{i(l-1)} = \sigma_2$. Recall that $i(l-1) = i(l) - 1$. The assumption $j(n' + 1) = j(n') + 2$ forces $j(n') \neq i(l-1) - 1, i(l) - 1$. Hence $i(n) + 1 = j(n') + 1 \neq i(l-1), i(l)$. From this we see that $s_{i(n)+1}$ commutes with neither of the generators $s_{i(n)}$, $s_{i(n)+2}$. Let $y = [b_x b_{s_{j(1)}} b_{s_{j(2)}} \cdots b_{s_{j(n')}}]$. Observe that by the construction of J , the element y has a reduced expression ending in $s_{j(n'+1)} = s_{i(n)+2}$; and since $y = [b_x b_{s_{i(1)}} b_{s_{i(2)}} \cdots b_{s_{i(n)}}]$, we see that y has a reduced expression ending in $s_{i(n)}$. Note that $s_{i(n)} \neq s_{i(n)+2}$. Thus, we can write y as a reduced product $y = y' s_{i(n)} s_{i(n)+2}$.

Since $s_{i(n+1)} = s_{i(n)+1}$ commutes with neither of the generators $s_{i(n)}$, $s_{i(n)+2}$, the product $y s_{i(n+1)} = y' s_{i(n)} s_{i(n)+2} s_{i(n)+1}$ is reduced and belongs to W_c (by Property R1). Hence, we have $[b_x b_{s_{i(1)}} b_{s_{i(2)}} \cdots b_{s_{i(n+1)}}] = y' s_{i(n)} s_{i(n)+2} s_{i(n)+1}$. But then $i(n + 2) = i(n) + 3$ cannot contribute q_c to $b_x b_I$, a contradiction. It follows that $j(n' + 1) = j(n') + 1 = i(n + 1) \in I$. \square

Definition 4.9. Let $I = (i(1), i(2), \dots, i(k))$ be a multi-index and let U be a subset of $[m]$. We define $I \circ U$ to be the unique multi-index with underlying set $\{i(1), i(2), \dots, i(k)\} \cup U$.

Proposition 4.10. *Let U be any subset of $[m]$. Then $J \circ U \in \mathcal{M}$. Combined with the conclusion of Proposition 4.8, this gives $\mathcal{M} = \{J \circ U : U \subseteq ([m] \setminus J)\}$. Therefore, the sets $\{I \in \mathcal{M} : |I| \text{ is odd}\}$ and $\{I \in \mathcal{M} : |I| \text{ is even}\}$ have the same cardinality.*

Proposition 4.10 establishes the third assertion in Claim 3.5.

Proof. We may assume $U \subseteq ([m] \setminus J)$. We verify that $J \circ U$ satisfies both conditions in Definition 4.2. Write $J \circ U = (i(1), i(2), \dots, i(k))$. For each $p' \in [k']$ there exists

$p \in [k]$ such that $i(p) = j(p')$. Moreover, we have

$$\lfloor b_x b_{s_{i(1)}} b_{s_{i(2)}} \cdots b_{s_{i(p)}} \rfloor = \lfloor b_x b_{s_{j(1)}} b_{s_{j(2)}} \cdots b_{s_{j(p')}} \rfloor.$$

This can be proved by induction on p' , by mimicking the proof of Proposition 4.5.

We first verify that $J \circ U$ satisfies condition 1 in Definition 4.2. Observe that since $J \subseteq J \circ U$, there exists $l \in [k]$ such that $s_{i(l)} = \sigma_1$ and $s_{i(l-1)} = \sigma_2$. Let $l' \in [k']$ satisfy $j(l') = i(l)$. Note the equalities $j(l' - 1) = j(l') - 1 = i(l) - 1 = i(l-1)$. Let $y = \lfloor b_x b_{s_{j(1)}} b_{s_{j(2)}} \cdots b_{s_{j(l'-1)}} \rfloor$. Since $j(l')$ contributes q_c to $b_x b_J$, the element y has a reduced expression ending in $s_{j(l')} = \sigma_1 = s_{i(l)}$. By the first paragraph, $\lfloor b_x b_{s_{i(1)}} b_{s_{i(2)}} \cdots b_{s_{i(l-1)}} \rfloor = y$. Hence, $i(l)$ contributes q_c to $b_x b_{J \circ U}$, so that the first condition in Definition 4.2 holds relative to $J \circ U$.

For the second condition, suppose we are given $n \in [m]$ satisfying $n \notin J \circ U$. Then in particular $n \notin J$; hence $n + 1 \in J \subseteq J \circ U$ and $n + 1$ contributes q_c to $b_x b_J$. We need to show that $n + 1$ contributes q_c to $b_x b_{J \circ U}$. Let $p \in [k]$ and $p' \in [k']$ satisfy $i(p) = n + 1 = j(p')$. Note that if $n > 1$ then $i(p - 1) = n - 1 = j(p' - 1)$. Let $y' = \lfloor b_x b_{s_{j(1)}} b_{s_{j(2)}} \cdots b_{s_{j(p'-1)}} \rfloor$. Since $n + 1$ contributes q_c to $b_x b_J$, the element y' has a reduced expression ending in s_{n+1} . But $\lfloor b_x b_{s_{i(1)}} b_{s_{i(2)}} \cdots b_{s_{i(p-1)}} \rfloor = y'$ by the first paragraph; hence $i(p) = n + 1$ contributes q_c to $b_x b_{J \circ U}$, as desired.

Finally, we address the last assertion. Recall from Proposition 4.7 that $[m] \setminus J$ is nonempty. Any nonempty finite set has as many subsets of odd cardinality as it has subsets of even cardinality. Since \mathcal{M} consists of the multi-indices $J \circ U$ for $U \subseteq ([m] \setminus J)$, and since $|J \circ U| = |J| + |U|$, we see that \mathcal{M} has as many elements with odd cardinality as it has elements with even cardinality. \square

We have established all of the assertions made in Claim 3.5.

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