

Rowmotion on the chain of V 's poset, whirling dynamics and the flux-capacitor homomesy

Matthew Plante
(Joint work with Tom Roby)

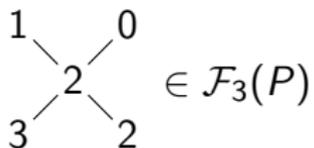
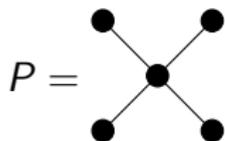
Slides available at www.matthewplante.com

April 6th, 2025

- ① Whirling and rowmotion
- ② Rowmotion on the chain of V 's poset
- ③ Rowmotion on the chain of claws poset

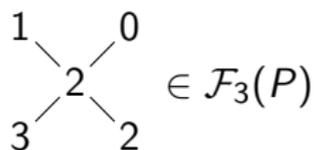
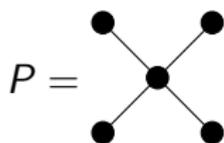
Definition of whirling on posets

Let \mathcal{F}_k be the set of *order-reversing function* from P to $\{0, 1, \dots, k\}$. Also referred to as *P -partitions*.



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Let P be a poset. For $f \in \mathcal{F}_k(P)$ and $x \in P$ define $w_x : \mathcal{F}_k(P) \rightarrow \mathcal{F}_k(P)$, called the *whirl at x* , as follows: repeatedly add 1 (mod $k + 1$) to the value of $f(x)$ until we get a function in $\mathcal{F}_k(P)$. This new function is $w_x(f)$.

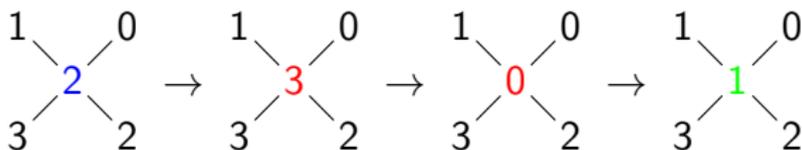
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Let (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_p) be a linear extension of P . Define $w : \mathcal{F}_k(P) \rightarrow \mathcal{F}_k(P)$ by $w := w_{x_1} w_{x_2} \dots w_{x_p}$.

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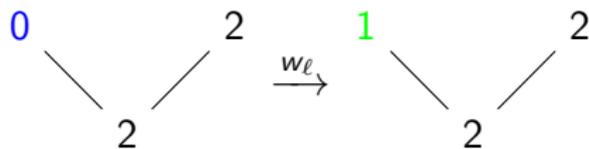
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The above proposition shows that this is well-defined, since one can get from any linear extension to any other by a sequence of interchanges of incomparable elements.

Example of whirling V

We whirl the example $\begin{array}{ccc} \ell & & r \\ & \searrow & / \\ & c & \end{array}$ first at ℓ , r , then c .

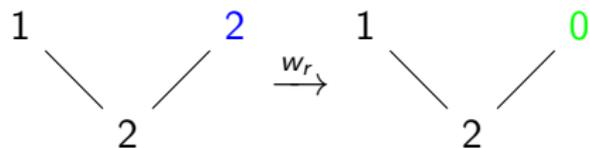
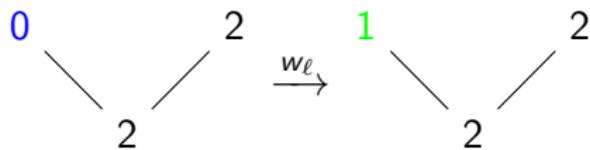
Start with $(0, 2, 2) \in \mathcal{F}_2(V)$.



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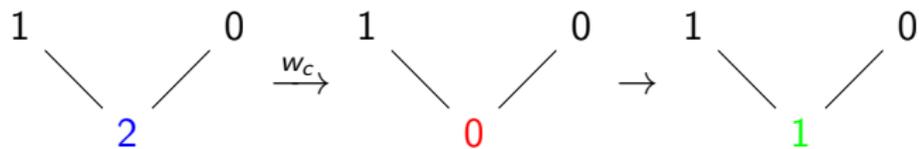
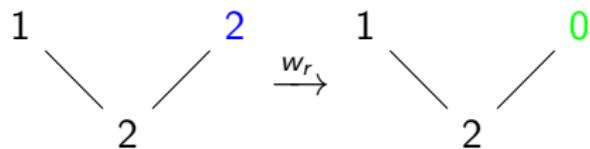
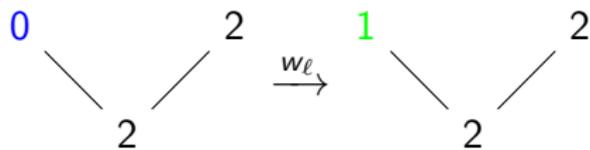
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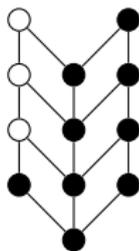
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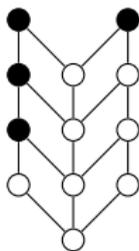
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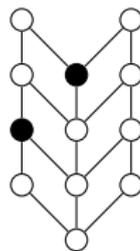
- Let $\mathcal{J}(P)$ denote the set of order ideals of a poset P .
That is, for $I \subseteq V(n)$, $I \in \mathcal{J}_n$ if and only if $x \in I \implies y \in I$ for all $y \leq x$.



Order Ideal



Order Filter

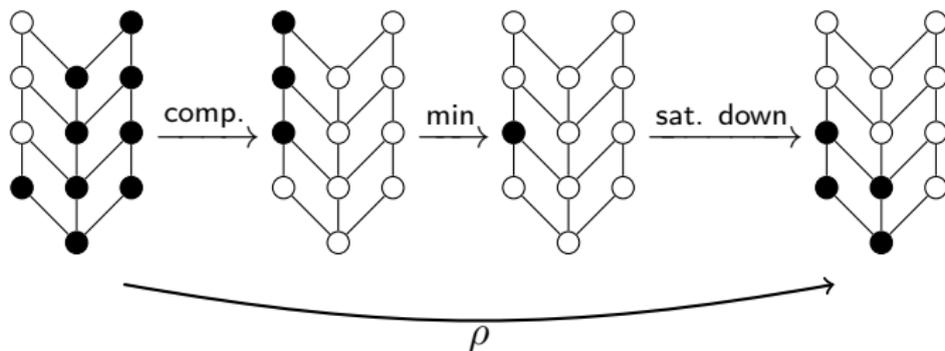


Antichain

- Denote *rowmotion* on order ideals by ρ . We define ρ on order ideals by taking the minimal elements of the complement and saturating down.

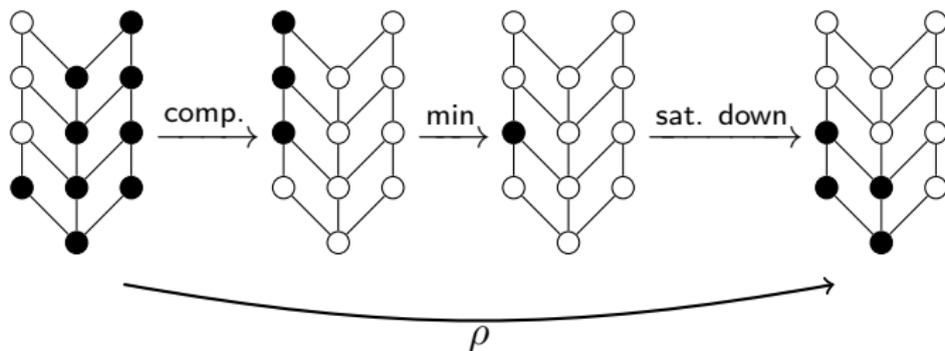
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This map and its inverse have been considered with varying degrees of generality by many people: Duchet, Brouwer and Schrijver, Vameron and Fon Der Flaass, Fukuda, Panyushev, Rush and Shi, and Striker and Williams, who named it rowmotion.

Rowmotion as a product of toggles

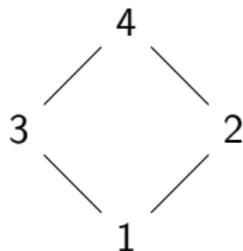
- Rowmotion has an alternate definition as a composition of toggling involutions by Cameron and Fon-der-Flaass [CaFl95]

$$\tau_i(I) = \begin{cases} I \setminus \{i\} & \text{if } i \in I \text{ and } I \setminus \{i\} \in \mathcal{J}(P) \\ I \cup \{i\} & \text{if } i \notin I \text{ and } I \cup \{i\} \in \mathcal{J}(P) \\ I & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

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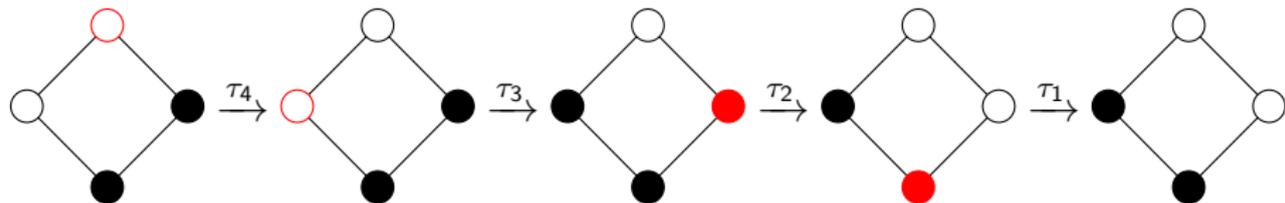
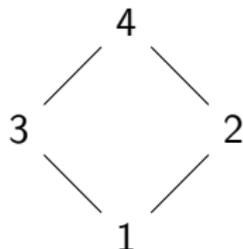
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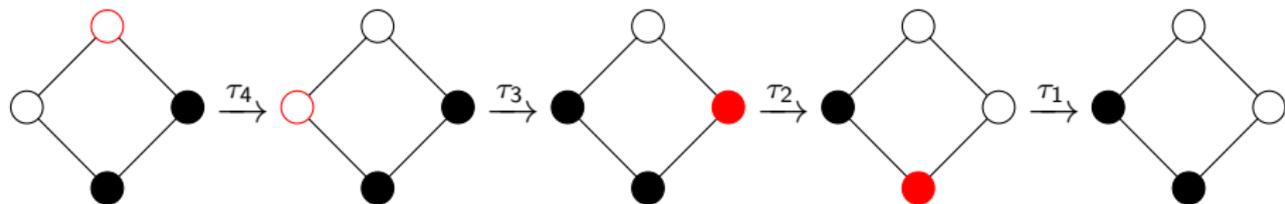
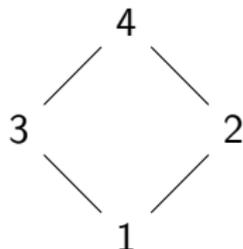
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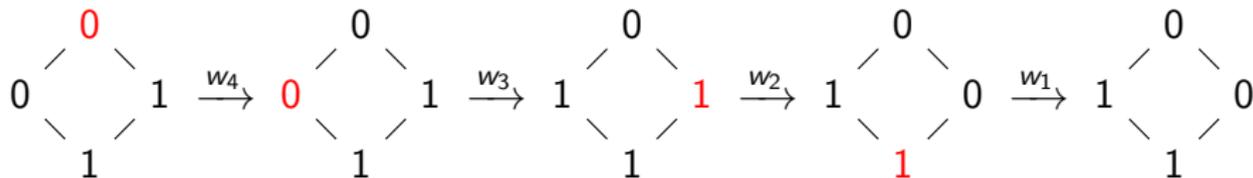
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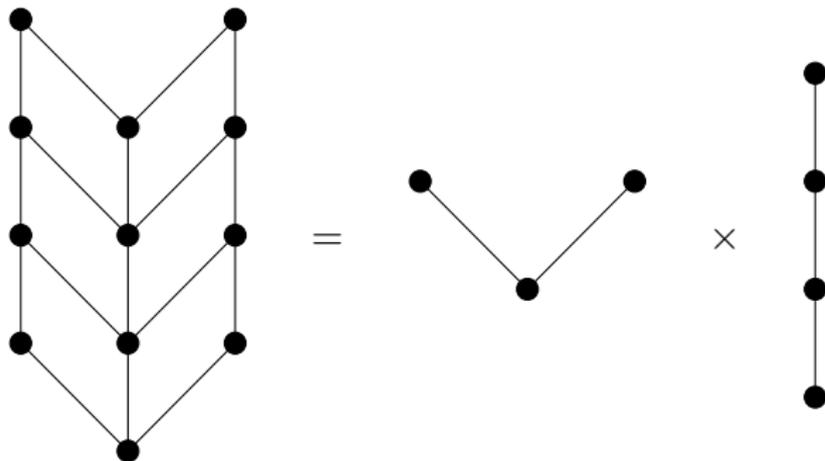


This coincides with whirling labeling from $\mathcal{F}_1(P)$.



Definition

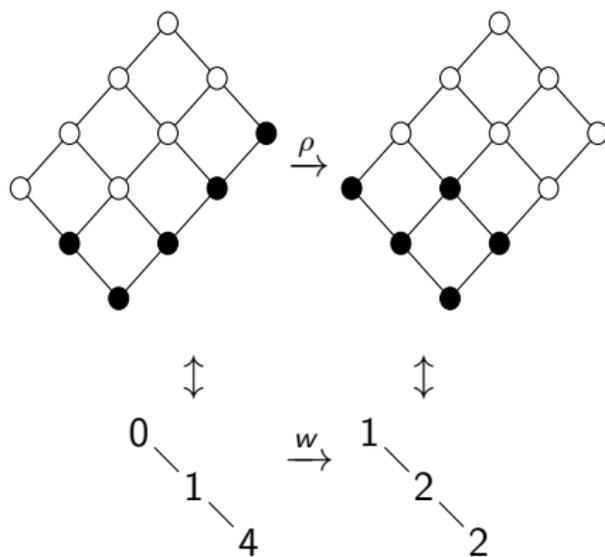
A *chain-factor poset* is a poset P such that $P = Q \times [n]$ for some poset Q .



Equivariant bijection between whirling and rowmotion

Theorem

There is an equivariant bijection between $\mathcal{F}_k(P)$ and $\mathcal{J}(P \times [k])$ (order ideals of chain-factor posets) which sends w to ρ .



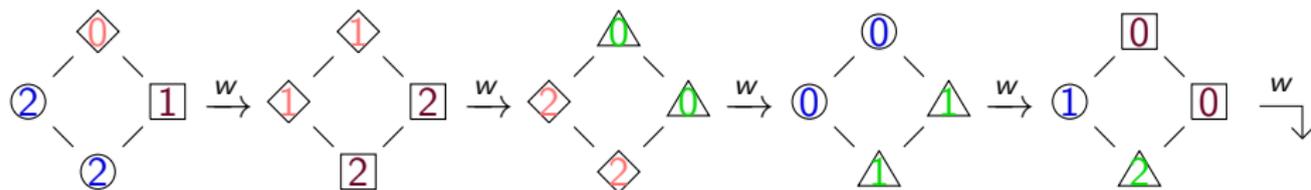
Definition

For any $x \in P$ and $f \in \mathcal{F}_k(P)$, define (x, f) to be a *whirl element*. The whirl element (y, g) is *whirl successive* to (x, f) if either:

- ① $y = x$ and $g(y) = w(f)(x) = f(x) + 1$, or
- ② x covers y , $f = g$, and $f(x) = g(y)$.

Two elements in a sequence of whirl successive elements are called *whorm-connected*. A *whorm* is a maximal set of whirl successive elements.

An orbit of whirling $\mathcal{F}_2(P)$ (for $P = [2] \times [2]$) with its four whorms indicated by the same color and (redundantly) node-shape.



Definition (Propp–Roby [PR15, Def. 1.1])

Let the invertible action τ act on the set S . Let f be the statistic $f : S \rightarrow K$. Assume every τ -orbit is finite. We say f is *homomesic* if there exists $c \in K$ such that

$$\frac{\sum_{s \in O} f(s)}{\#O} = c$$

for all orbits O . In such a case we say the triple (S, τ, f) exhibit *homomesy* with average c .

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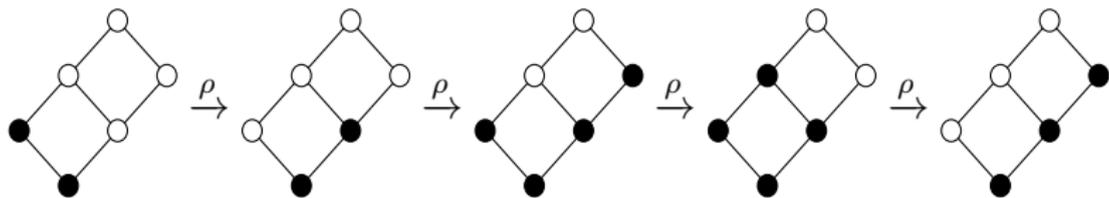
- If S is finite, then we can switch out c from the equation above with the global average.

$$\frac{\sum_{s \in O} f(s)}{\#O} = \frac{\sum_{s \in S} f(s)}{\#S}.$$

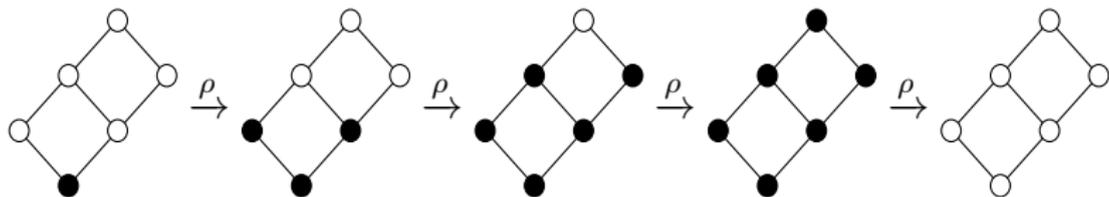
- If (S, τ, f) exhibit *homomesy* with average c we say f is *c-mesic*.

Homomesy of product of two chains

Let χ_p be the indicator function of p in order ideal I . Consider the statistic $\sum_{p \in P} \chi_p$.



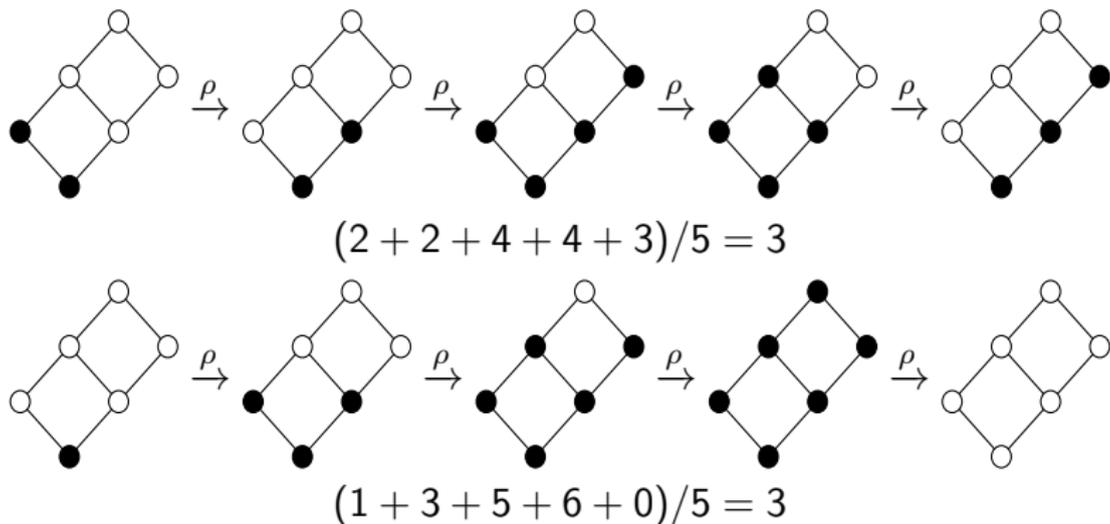
$$(2 + 2 + 4 + 4 + 3)/5 = 3$$



$$(1 + 3 + 5 + 6 + 0)/5 = 3$$

Homomesy of product of two chains

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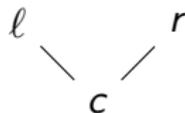
Theorem (Propp–Roby [PR15])

The action of rowmotion on $\mathcal{J}([a] \times [b])$ with cardinality statistic is $ab/2$ -mesic.

Rowmotion on the chain of V 's poset

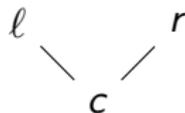
The poset $V \times [k]$

- Let V be the three-element partially ordered set with Hasse diagram

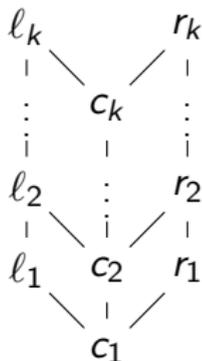


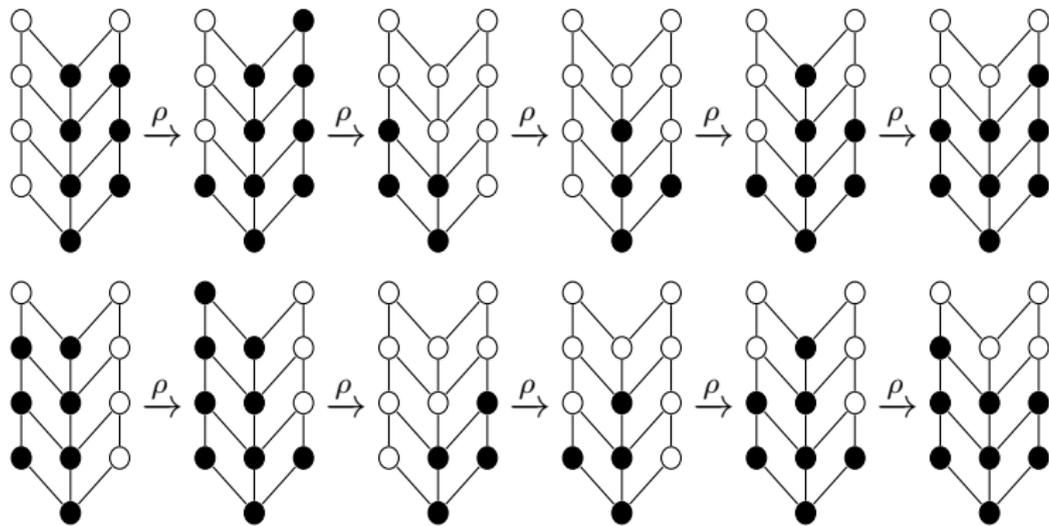
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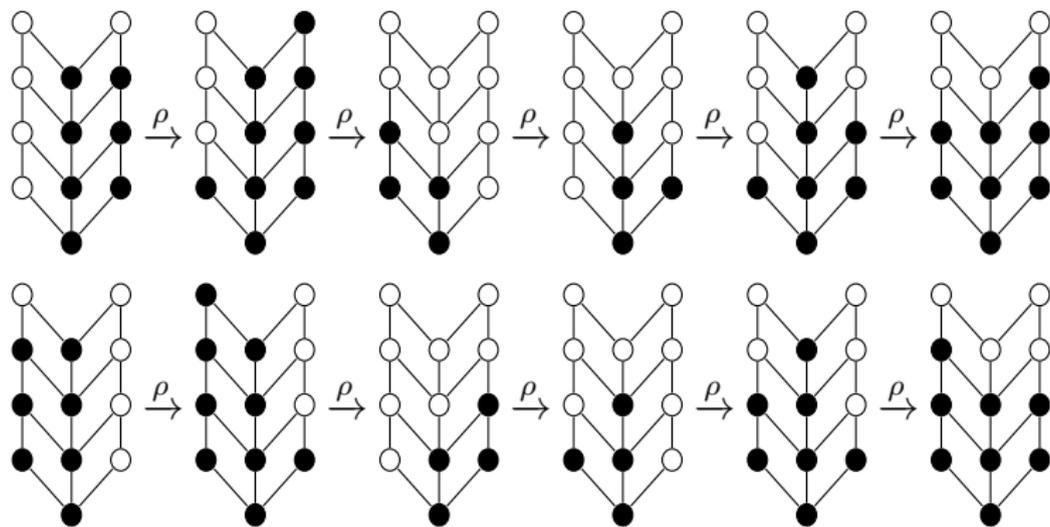
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- The poset of interest is $V \times [k]$



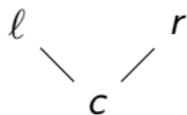




Theorem

Order ideals of $V \times [k]$ are reflected about the center chain after $k + 2$ iterations of ρ , and furthermore, the order of ρ on order ideals of $V \times [k]$ is $2(k + 2)$.

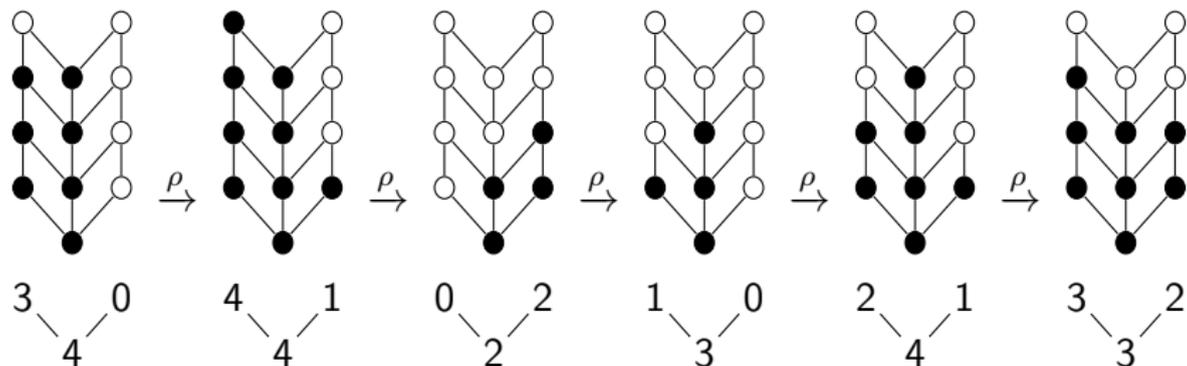
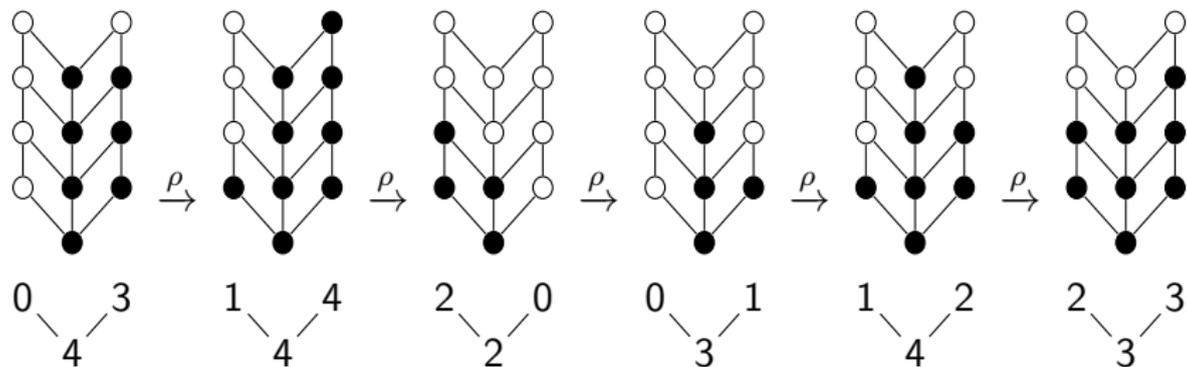
Map to order-reversing functions on V



- 1 Define $\mathcal{F}_k(V) = \{(l, c, r) \in \{0, \dots, k\}^3 : l, r \leq c\}$.
- 2 Define $\phi : \mathcal{J}(V \times [k]) \rightarrow \mathcal{F}_k(V)$ by $\phi(I) = (\sum \chi_{l_i}, \sum \chi_{c_i}, \sum \chi_{r_i})$.

$$\phi \left(\begin{array}{c} \circ \quad \circ \quad \circ \\ \circ \quad \circ \quad \bullet \\ \circ \quad \bullet \quad \bullet \\ \circ \quad \bullet \quad \bullet \\ \bullet \quad \bullet \quad \bullet \end{array} \right) = (0, 3, 3) \leftrightarrow \begin{array}{ccc} 0 & & 3 \\ & \diagdown & / \\ & 3 & \end{array}$$

Example of rowmotion orbit with triples



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Direct inspection of order-reversing functions on V gives a straightforward proof of periodicity. However a study of *whorms* gives a deeper understanding of the orbit structure.

1	2	2			
2	3	0			
3	4	1			
4	4	2			
0	3	3			
1	4	0			
2	2	1			
0	3	2			
1	4	3			
2	4	4			
3	3	0			
0	4	1			
			0	2	0
			1	3	1
			2	4	2
			3	3	3
			0	4	0
			1	1	1

Tiling an orbit board with whorms

Definition

For any $x \in P$ and $f \in \mathcal{F}_k(P)$, define (x, f) to be a *whirl element*. The whirl element (y, g) is *whirl successive* to (x, f) if either:

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2	4	4			
3	3	0			
0	4	1			
			0	2	0
			1	3	1
			2	4	2
			3	3	3
			0	4	0
			1	1	1

The red whorm is a *left whorm* and a *one-tailed whorm*, the green whorm is a *right whorm* and one-tailed whorm, and the blue whorm is a *two-tailed whorm*. For a whorm ξ , let $h(\xi)$ be the number of rows intersecting the center column, and let $t(\xi)$ be the number of rows intersecting the outer columns.

Center-seeking whorms

Theorem

Any orbit board of $\mathcal{F}_k(V)$ can be decomposed into 6 one-tailed whorms of length $k + 2$ (or 2 two-tailed whorms if the functions are symmetric.) We call these whorms, center-seeking whorms.

1 2 2

2 3 0

3 4 1

4 4 2

0 3 3

1 4 0

2 2 1

0 3 2

1 4 3

2 4 4

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0 4 1

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2	4	4
3	3	0
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0	2	0
1	3	1
2	4	2
3	3	3
0	4	0
1	1	1

Using the lemma

Given a whorm ξ in an orbit board of $\mathcal{F}_k(V)$, it can be reasoned $h(\xi) + t(\xi) = k + 2$. We will place a circular order on the whorms. Let ξ_1 and ξ_2 be whorms in an orbit board of $\mathcal{F}_k(V)$. If there exists $(c, f) \in \xi_1$ with $f(c) = k$ such that $(c, w(f)) \in \xi_2$, then we say ξ_2 is *in front of* ξ_1 . We call a sequence of whorms *consecutive* if each is in front of the next.

Lemma

Given an orbit board \mathcal{R} of w on $\mathcal{F}_k(V)$, let ξ_1, ξ_2 , and ξ_3 be three consecutive whorms (not necessarily all distinct), that is, ξ_3 is in front of ξ_2 which is in front of ξ_1 in \mathcal{R} .

- 1 If \mathcal{R} is tiled entirely by one-tailed whorms, then

$$t(\xi_1) + t(\xi_2) + t(\xi_3) = 2(k + 2).$$

- 2 Otherwise, if \mathcal{R} is tiled entirely by two-tailed whorms, then

$$t(\xi_1) + t(\xi_2) = k + 2.$$

1	2	2
2	3	0
3	4	1
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Lemma

Given an orbit board with one-tailed whorms, let ξ_1, ξ_2, ξ_3 , and ξ_4 be consecutive, then

$$t(\xi_4) = t(\xi_1).$$

Otherwise, if the orbit board contains two-tailed whorms, then $t(\xi_1) = t(\xi_3)$.

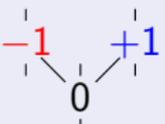
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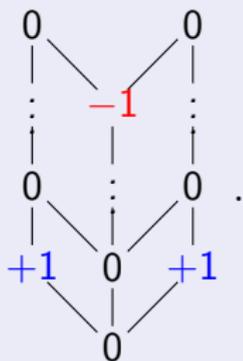
Let $(x, y, z) \in \mathcal{F}_k(V)$, then $w^{k+2}(x, y, z) = (z, y, x)$.

1	2	2
2	3	0
3	4	1
4	4	2
0	3	3
1	4	0
2	2	1
0	3	2
1	4	3
2	4	4
3	3	0
0	4	1

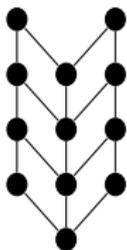
Theorem

For the action of rowmotion on order ideals of $V \times [k]$:

- The statistic $\chi_{r_i} - \chi_{l_i}$ is 0-mesic  for each $i = 1, \dots, k$,
 where χ_p is the indicator function.
- The statistic $\chi_{l_1} + \chi_{r_1} - \chi_{c_k}$ is $\frac{2(k-1)}{k+2}$ -mesic.



Sketch of proof of homomesy



$$\sum \chi_{l_1} + \chi_{r_1} - \chi_{c_k}$$

$$= (2(k+2)-3) + (2(k+2)-3) - 6$$

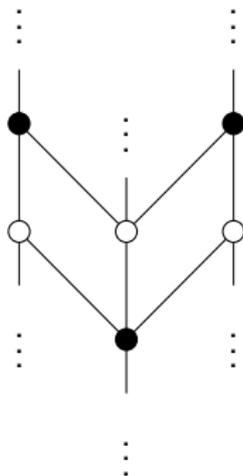
Thus we see

$$\frac{4(k+2) - 12}{2(k+2)} = \frac{2k-2}{k+2}.$$

1	2	2	} $2(k+2)$ rows
2	3	0	
3	4	1	
4	4	2	
0	3	3	
1	4	0	
2	2	1	
0	3	2	
1	4	3	
2	4	4	
3	3	0	
0	4	1	

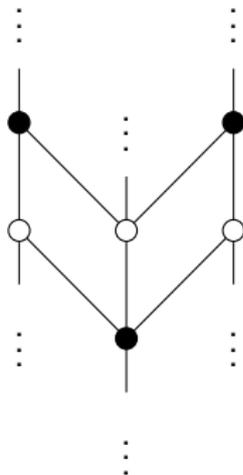
Flux capacitor

Let $F_i = \chi_{\ell_i} + \chi_{r_i} + \chi_{c_{i-1}}$, which has the following *flux-capacitor* shape in $V \times [k]$.



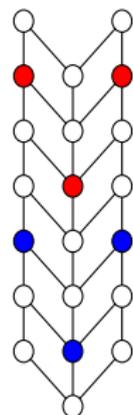
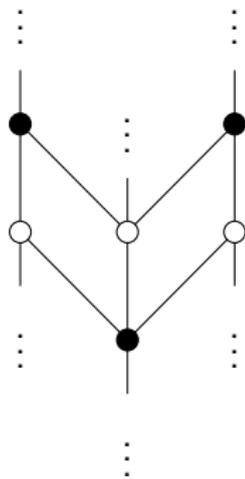
Flux capacitor

Let $F_i = \chi_{l_i} + \chi_{r_i} + \chi_{c_{i-1}}$, which has the following *flux-capacitor* shape in $V \times [k]$.



The flux capacitor homomesy

Let $F_i = \chi_{l_i} + \chi_{r_i} + \chi_{c_{i-1}}$, which has the following *flux-capacitor* shape in $V \times [k]$.



$F_3 - F_6$

Theorem

For $k > 1$. The difference of **symmetrically-placed** flux-capacitor statistics, $F_i - F_{k+2-i}$, is $\frac{3(k+2-2i)}{k+2}$ -mesic.

Rowmotion on the chain of claw's poset

Definition

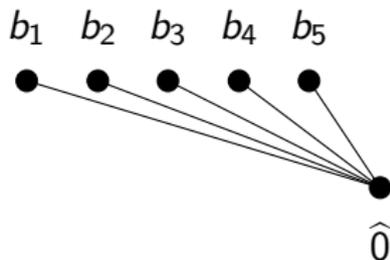
We define the *claw poset*

$C_n = \{b_1, \dots, b_n, \hat{0}\}$ where each b_i covers $\hat{0}$.

The *chain of claws poset* is defined to be

$C_n \times [k]$.

For example, the Hasse diagram of C_5 would be



Orbit of whirling $\mathcal{F}_3(C_5)$ with whorms high-lighted.

	b_1	b_2	b_3	b_4	b_5	$\hat{0}$
1	1	1	0	1	2	3
2	2	2	1	2	3	3
3	3	3	2	3	0	3
0	0	0	3	0	1	3
1	1	1	0	1	2	2
2	2	2	1	2	0	3
3	3	3	2	3	1	3
0	0	0	3	0	2	3
1	1	1	0	1	3	3
2	2	2	1	2	0	2
0	0	0	2	0	1	3
1	1	1	3	1	2	3
2	2	2	0	2	3	3
3	3	3	1	3	0	3
0	0	0	2	0	1	2

Definition

For any $A \subseteq [0, k]$, define the family of order-reversing maps

$$\mathcal{F}_k^A(C_n) = \{f : f \in \mathcal{F}_k(C_n) \text{ and } f(b_j) \in A \text{ for all } j \in [n]\}.$$

Then set $\bar{w}_A := \mathcal{F}_k^A(C_n)$ to be the map which whirls (cyclically increments *within the subset A*) each label on the non- $\hat{0}$ elements of C_n .

Consider $f = (1, 3, 3, 0, 4, 1, 6) \in \mathcal{F}_9(C_6)$. We see $A(f) = \{0, 1, 3, 4\}$ so

$$\bar{w}_{A(f)}(1, 3, 3, 0, 4, 1, 6) = (3, 4, 4, 1, 0, 3, 6).$$

The last entry remains unchanged, and the earlier entries are increasing cyclically within the set $A(f) = \{0, 1, 3, 4\}$, with $\alpha := \#A = 4$.

Order of rowmotion on chain of claws

Theorem

Let w be the whirling action on k -bounded P -partitions in $\mathcal{F}_k(C_n)$. For any $f \in \mathcal{F}_k(C_n)$ with $A = A(f)$ and $\alpha = \alpha(f) = \#A(f)$, we have $w^{k+2}f = \bar{w}_{A(f)}f$. Thus, $w^{\alpha(k+2)}f = f$.

Similar to the $V \times [k]$ case, this theorem is proved using whorms.

Theorem

Let $m = \min(k + 1, n)$. The order of rowmotion on the chain of claws poset $\mathcal{J}(C_n \times [k])$ is $(k + 2)\text{lcm}(1, 2, \dots, m)$.

b_1	b_2	b_3	b_4	b_5	$\hat{0}$
1	1	0	1	2	3
2	2	1	2	3	3
3	3	2	3	0	3
0	0	3	0	1	3
1	1	0	1	2	2
2	2	1	2	0	3
3	3	2	3	1	3
0	0	3	0	2	3
1	1	0	1	3	3
2	2	1	2	0	2
0	0	2	0	1	3
1	1	3	1	2	3
2	2	0	2	3	3
3	3	1	3	0	3
0	0	2	0	1	2

Theorem

Let $\chi_{(i,a)}$ denote the indicator function for $(b_i, a) \in C_n \times [k]$. Then for the action of rowmotion on $\mathcal{J}(C_n \times [k])$, the statistic $\chi_{(i,a)} - \chi_{(j,a)}$ is 0-mesic for all $i, j \in [n]$ and $a \in [k]$.

The “flux-capacitor” homomesy fails to generalize to the claw-graph setting.

Future projects include whirling investigations of

- ① chains of minuscule posets,
- ② chains of fence posets,
- ③ chains of zig-zag posets, and
- ④ product of three-chains.

Thank You!

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