## C-groups of $\operatorname{PSL}(2, q)$ and $\operatorname{PGL}(2, q)$

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Coxeter groups

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String C-groups of $\operatorname{PSL}(2, q)$ and $\operatorname{PGL}(2, q)$

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## Coxeter groups

A (finitely generated) Coxeter group $(W, S)$ is a group $W$ together with a set $S=\left\{r_{0}, \ldots, r_{n-1}\right\}$ that admits the following presentation

$$
\begin{equation*}
G=\left\langle r_{0}, \ldots, r_{n-1} \mid\left(r_{i} r_{j}\right)^{m_{i j}}=1\right\rangle \tag{1}
\end{equation*}
$$

where

- $m_{i i}=1$;
- $2 \leq m_{i j} \leq \infty$, for $i \neq j$.

In other words, $W$ is a group generated by involutions $r_{0}, \ldots$, $r_{n-1}$; the only relations between the generators are the orders of their pairwise products.

## Coxeter groups

The diagram of the Coxeter group $(W, S)$ is an undirected labelled graph such that

- vertices are indexed by involutions $r_{0}, \ldots, r_{n-1}$;
- the pair $\left\{r_{i}, r_{j}\right\}$ is an edge iff $m_{i j} \geq 3$ (i.e. iff $r_{i}$ and $r_{j}$ do not commute);
- the edge $\left\{r_{i}, r_{j}\right\}$ is labelled with the order $p_{i j}=o\left(r_{i} r_{j}\right)$.

Finite Coxeter groups

| $A_{n}$ | $\bullet \bullet \bullet----\bullet \bullet$ | $B_{n}=C_{n}$ | - - - ---- ${ }^{4}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $D_{n}$ | $\bullet \bullet---\cdots$ | $F_{4}$ | $\bullet .4$ |
| $E_{6}$ |  | $\mathrm{H}_{3}$ | -. ${ }^{5}$ |
| $E_{7}$ |  | $\mathrm{H}_{4}$ | $\bullet .5$ |
| $E_{8}$ |  | $I_{2}(n)$ | $\bullet$ n |

## C-groups

A $C$-group of rank $n$ is a pair $(G, S)$ such that $G$ is a group and $S:=\left\{\rho_{0}, \ldots, \rho_{n-1}\right\}$ is a generating set of involutions of $G$ that satisfy the following property for all subsets $I, J \subseteq\{0, \ldots, n-1\}$.

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left\langle\rho_{i} \mid i \in I\right\rangle \cap\left\langle\rho_{j} \mid j \in J\right\rangle=\left\langle\rho_{k} \mid k \in I \cap J\right\rangle \tag{2}
\end{equation*}
$$

## C-groups

Let $\left(W,\left\{r_{0}, \ldots, r_{n-1}\right\}\right)$ be a Coxeter group and let ( $G,\left\{\rho_{0}, \ldots, \rho_{n-1}\right\}$ ) be a C-group of same diagram.
Then there exists a surjective homomorphism

$$
\sigma: W \rightarrow G: r_{i} \mapsto \rho_{i}
$$

such that $\sigma:\left\langle r_{i}, r_{j}\right\rangle \mapsto\left\langle\rho_{i}, \rho_{j}\right\rangle$ is an isomorphism. C-groups are smooth quotients of Coxeter groups.

## String C-groups

C-groups with a string diagram are called string C-groups. They are also called abstract regular polytopes.

- Natural generalization of 'usual' regular polytopes.
- Natural language between combinatorial object and algebraic structures.
- Many recent results
- in the context of finite simple groups
- from a combinatorial viewpoint
- from a topological viewpoint


## Polytopes for $\operatorname{PSL}(2, q)$ and $\operatorname{PGL}(2, q)$

Lemma (Sjerve \& Cherkassof, Leemans \& Vauthier, Leemans \& Schulte)
Let $q=p^{k}$ be a prime power and let $G=\operatorname{PSL}(2, q)$. Then $G$ may be generated by three involutions, two of which commute, if and only if $q \neq 2,3,7$ or 9 . Moreover, if $G$ is the full automorphism group of a regular polytope of rank 4 , then $q=11$ or 19. Finally, $G$ is not the full automorphism group of a regular polytope of rank 5 and higher.

## Lemma (Sjerve \& Cherkassof, Leemans \& Schulte)

Let $q=p^{k}$ be a prime power and let $G=\operatorname{PGL}(2, q)$. Then $G$ may be generated by three involutions, two of which commute, if and only if $q \neq 2$. Moreover, if $G$ is the full automorphism group of a regular polytope of rank 4 , then $G=\operatorname{PGL}(2,5) \cong S_{5}$. Finally, $G$ is not the full automorphism group of a regular polytope of rank 5 and higher.

## Dropping the string condition

- Natural generalization
- C-groups are smooth quotients of Coxeter groups
- Related to independent generating sets
- Flag-transitive, residually connected, thin geometries are C-groups
Drawback: in rank $\geq 4$, the converse is not necessarily true: a C-group may not be a regular geometry anymore.
- Results in the case of $\mathrm{Sz}(q)$ (Connor \& Leemans, 2013).


## Minimax sets of $\operatorname{PSL}(2, q)$

Theorem (Saxl \& Whiston, 2002)
Let $G \cong \operatorname{PSL}(2, q)$ for some prime power $q=p^{d}$.

- If $d=1$ then $\mu(G) \leq 4$. Moreover $\mu(G)=3$ unless $p \equiv \pm 1$ $\bmod 8$ or $p \equiv \pm 1 \bmod 10$.
- If $d \geq 2$ then $\mu(G) \leq \max (6, \pi+2)$ where $\pi=\pi(d)$ is the number of distinct prime divisors of $d$.

Theorem (Jambor, 2013)
Let $p$ be a prime. The group $\operatorname{PSL}(2, p)$ has a minimax set of size four if and only if $p \in\{7,11,19,31\}$. More precisely, up to automorphisms there are two minimax sets of size four for $\operatorname{PSL}(2,7)$, fourteen for $\operatorname{PSL}(2,11)$, three for PSL $(2,19)$ and one for $\operatorname{PSL}(2,31)$.

## C-groups related to $\operatorname{PSL}(2, q)$ and $\operatorname{PGL}(2, q)$

Theorem (Connor, Jambor \& Leemans, 2014)
Let $G \cong \operatorname{PSL}(2, q)$ for some prime power $q \geq 4$. The C-rank of $G$ is 4 if and only if $q \in\{7,9,11,19,31\}$. Otherwise it is 3 . The list of C-groups of rank 4 is given in Table 1.
Let $G \cong \operatorname{PGL}(2, q)$ for some prime power $q \geq 4$. The $C$-rank of $G$ is 4 if and only if $q=5$. Otherwise it is 3 . The list of $C$-groups of rank 4 is given in Table 2.

## C-groups of rank 4 for $\operatorname{PSL}(2, q)$

| $q$ | $\rho_{0} \rho_{1}$ | $\rho_{0} \rho_{2}$ | $\rho_{0} \rho_{3}$ | $\rho_{1} \rho_{2}$ | $\rho_{1} \rho_{3}$ | $\rho_{2} \rho_{3}$ | Max. Para. | FT |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 7 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 4 | $\mathrm{~S}_{4}, \mathrm{~S}_{4}, \mathrm{~S}_{4}, \mathrm{~S}_{4}$ | yes |
|  | 4 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 3 | $\mathrm{~S}_{4}, \mathrm{~S}_{4}, \mathrm{~S}_{4}, \mathrm{~S}_{4}$ | yes |
| 9 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 5 | $\mathrm{~A}_{5}, \mathrm{~A}_{5}, \mathrm{E}_{9} \nmid \mathrm{C}_{2}, \mathrm{~S}_{4}$ | no |
|  | 3 | 2 | 5 | 4 | 2 | 3 | $\mathrm{~S}_{4}, \mathrm{~A}_{5}, \mathrm{~A}_{5}, \mathrm{~S}_{4}$ | no |
| 11 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 5 | 2 | 3 | $\mathrm{~A}_{5}, \mathrm{D}_{20}, \mathrm{D}_{20}, \mathrm{~A}_{5}$ | yes |
|  | 5 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 3 | $\mathrm{~A}_{5}, \mathrm{D}_{12}, \mathrm{~A}_{5}, \mathrm{~A}_{5}$ | yes |
|  | 5 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 3 | $\mathrm{~A}_{5}, \mathrm{D}_{12}, \mathrm{~A}_{5}, \mathrm{~A}_{5}$ | yes |
|  | 3 | 3 | 3 | 5 | 5 | 5 | $\mathrm{~A}_{5}, \mathrm{~A}_{5}, \mathrm{~A}_{5}, \mathrm{~A}_{5}$ | no |
|  | 3 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 3 | $\mathrm{~A}_{5}, \mathrm{~A}_{5}, \mathrm{~A}_{5}, \mathrm{~A}_{5}$ | yes |
| 19 | 5 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 5 | $\mathrm{~A}_{5}, \mathrm{D}_{20}, \mathrm{D}_{20}, \mathrm{~A}_{5}$ | yes |
|  | 5 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 5 | $\mathrm{~A}_{5}, \mathrm{D}_{20}, \mathrm{~A}_{5}, \mathrm{~A}_{5}$ | yes |
|  | 3 | 3 | 5 | 5 | 3 | 3 | $\mathrm{~A}_{5}, \mathrm{~A}_{5}, \mathrm{~A}_{5}, \mathrm{~A}_{5}$ | yes |
| 31 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 5 | $\mathrm{~A}_{5}, \mathrm{~A}_{5}, \mathrm{~S}_{4}, \mathrm{~S}_{4}$ | yes |

Table: C-groups of rank 4 for $\operatorname{PSL}(2, q)$

## C-groups of rank 4 of $\operatorname{PGL}(2, q)$

| $\rho_{0} \rho_{1}$ | $\rho_{0} \rho_{2}$ | $\rho_{0} \rho_{3}$ | $\rho_{1} \rho_{2}$ | $\rho_{1} \rho_{3}$ | $\rho_{2} \rho_{3}$ | Max. Para. | FT |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 3 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 3 | $\mathrm{~S}_{4}, \mathrm{D}_{12}, \mathrm{D}_{12}, \mathrm{~S}_{4}$ | yes |
| 3 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 3 | $\mathrm{~S}_{4}, \mathrm{D}_{12}, \mathrm{~S}_{4}, \mathrm{~S}_{4}$ | yes |
| 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | $\mathrm{~S}_{4}, \mathrm{~S}_{4}, \mathrm{~S}_{4}, \mathrm{~S}_{4}$ | yes |

Table: C-groups of rank 4 for $\operatorname{PGL}(2,5)$

Strategy of the proof of the main result


Figure: The boolean lattice of a C-group of rank 3

## Strategy of the proof of the main result



Figure: The boolean lattice of a C-group of rank 4

## Strategy of the proof of the main result



Figure: The boolean lattice of a C-group of rank 5

## Strategy of the proof of the main result

1. Select possible subgroups of $\operatorname{PSL}(2, q)$ and $\operatorname{PGL}(2, q)$ that could be maximal parabolic subgroups (namely subfield subgroups, $\mathrm{A}_{5}, \mathrm{~S}_{4}$, elementary abelian 2-groups or simply even dihedral groups).
2. Use that information and the intersection property to bound the rank of a C-group representation for $\operatorname{PSL}(2, q)$ and PGL(2, q).
3. Build the list of possible diagrams of a C-group representation of $\operatorname{PSL}(2, q)$ and $\operatorname{PGL}(2, q)$ using C-groups representations of possible maximal parabolic subgroups.
4. Use the $\mathrm{L}_{2}$-quotient algorithm to build the actual C-groups representations.

Strategy of the proof of the main result


Table: Square diagrams (1)

Strategy of the proof of the main result


Table: Square diagrams (2)

## Strategy of the proof of the main result



Table: Cherry diagrams

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