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# $K(\pi, 1)$ 'S FOR ARTIN GROUPS OF FINITE TYPE

THOMAS BRADY AND COLUM WATT

## 1. INTRODUCTION.

This paper is a continuation of a programme to construct new  $K(\pi, 1)$ 's for Artin groups of finite type which began in [4] with Artin groups on 2 and 3 generators and was extended to braid groups in [3]. These  $K(\pi, 1)$ 's differ from those in [6] in that their universal covers are simplicial complexes.

In [4] a complex is constructed whose top-dimensional cells correspond to minimal factorizations of a Coxeter element as a product of reflections in a finite Coxeter group. Asphericity is established in low dimensions using a metric of non-positive curvature. Since the non-positive curvature condition is difficult to check in higher dimensions a combinatorial approach is used in [3] in the case of the braid groups.

It is clear from [3] that the techniques used can be applied to any finite Coxeter group  $W$ . When  $W$  is equipped with the partial order given by reflection length and  $\gamma$  is a Coxeter element in  $W$ , the construction of the  $K(\pi, 1)$ 's is exactly analogous provided that the interval  $[I, \gamma]$  forms a lattice. In dimension 3, see [4], establishing this condition amounts to observing that two planes through the origin meet in a unique line. In the braid group case, see [3], where the reflections are transpositions and the Coxeter element is an  $n$ -cycle this lattice property is established by identifying  $[I, \gamma]$  with the lattice of non-crossing partitions of  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ .

In this paper, we consider the Artin groups of type  $C_n$  and  $D_n$ . Thus, for each finite reflection group  $W$  of type  $C_n$  or  $D_n$ , partially ordered by reflection length, we identify a lattice inside  $W$  and use it to construct a finite aspherical complex  $K(W)$ . In the  $C_n$  case this lattice coincides with the lattice of noncrossing partitions of  $\{1, 2, \dots, n, -1, \dots, -n\}$  studied in [8]. The final ingredient is to prove that  $\pi_1(K(W))$  is isomorphic to  $A(W)$ , the associated finite type Artin group. As in [4] and [3] this involves a lengthy check that the obvious maps between the two presentations are well-defined.

David Bessis has independently obtained similar results which can be seen at [1]. His approach exploits in a clever way the extra structure given by viewing these groups as complex reflection groups. In addition, he has verified that in the exceptional cases that the interval  $[I, \gamma]$  forms a lattice and that the corresponding poset groups are isomorphic to the respective Artin groups of finite type. Combined with the results of our section 5 below this provides the new  $K(\pi, 1)$ 's in these cases and we thank him for drawing our attention to this fact.

In section 2 we collect some general facts about the reflection length function on finite reflection groups and the induced partial order. In section 3 we study the cube group  $C_n$  and its index two subgroup  $D_n$ . In section 4 we identify the subposets of interest in  $C_n$  and  $D_n$  and show that they are lattices. In section 5 we define the poset group  $\Gamma(W, \alpha)$  associated to the interval  $[I, \alpha]$  for  $\alpha \in W$ . In the case where  $[I, \alpha]$  is a lattice we construct the complexes  $K(W, \alpha)$  and show that they are  $K(\pi, 1)$ 's. Section 6 shows that the groups  $\Gamma(C_n, \gamma_C)$  and  $\Gamma(D_n, \gamma_D)$  are indeed the Artin groups of the appropriate type when  $\gamma_C$  and  $\gamma_D$  are the respective Coxeter elements.

## 2. A PARTIAL ORDER ON FINITE REFLECTION GROUPS.

Let  $W$  be a finite reflection group with reflection set  $\mathcal{R}$  and identity element  $I$ . We let  $d : W \times W \rightarrow \mathbf{Z}$  be the distance function in the Cayley graph of  $W$  with generating set  $\mathcal{R}$  and define the *reflection length function*  $l : W \rightarrow \mathbf{Z}$  by  $l(w) = d(I, w)$ . So  $l(w)$  is the length of the shortest product of reflections yielding the element  $w$ . It follows from the triangle inequality for  $d$  that  $l(w) \leq l(u) + l(u^{-1}w)$  for any  $u, w \in W$ .

**Definition 2.1.** *We introduce the relation  $\leq$  on  $W$  by declaring*

$$u \leq w \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad l(w) = l(u) + l(u^{-1}w).$$

Thus  $u \leq w$  if and only if there is a geodesic in the Cayley graph from  $I$  to  $w$  which passes through  $u$ . Alternatively, equality occurs if and only if there is a shortest factorisation of  $u$  as a product of reflections which is a prefix of a shortest factorisation of  $w$ . It is readily shown that  $\leq$  is reflexive, antisymmetric and transitive so that  $(W, \leq)$  becomes a partially ordered set.

Since  $(u^{-1}w)^{-1}w = w^{-1}uw$  is conjugate to  $u$  it follows that  $u^{-1}w \leq w$  whenever  $u \leq w$ . Furthermore, whenever  $\alpha \leq \beta \leq \gamma$  we have

$$l(\gamma) = l(\alpha) + (l(\alpha^{-1}\beta) + l(\beta^{-1}\gamma)),$$

so that  $\alpha^{-1}\beta \leq \alpha^{-1}\gamma$ .

We recall some general facts about orthogonal transformations from [5]. If  $A \in O(n)$ , we associate to  $A$  two subspaces of  $\mathbf{R}^n$ , namely

$$M(A) = \text{im}(A - I) \quad \text{and} \quad F(A) = \ker(A - I).$$

We recall that  $M(A)^\perp = F(A)$ . We use the notation  $|V|$  for  $\dim(V)$  when  $V$  is a subspace of  $\mathbf{R}^n$ . It is shown in [5] that

$$|M(AC)| \leq |M(A)| + |M(C)|$$

We define a partial order on  $O(n)$  by

$$A \leq_o B \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad |M(B)| = |M(A)| + |M(A^{-1}B)|$$

and we note that  $A \leq_o B$  if and only if  $M(B) = M(A) \oplus M(A^{-1}B)$ . In particular  $A \leq_o B$  implies that  $M(A) \subseteq M(B)$  or equivalently  $F(B) \subseteq F(A)$ . The main result we will use from [5] is that for each  $A \in O(n)$  and each subspace  $V$  of  $M(A)$  there exists a unique  $B \in O(n)$  with  $B \leq_o A$  and  $M(B) = V$ .

Our finite reflection group  $W$  is a subgroup of  $O(n)$ , so the results of [5] can be applied to the elements of  $W$ . We begin with a geometric interpretation of the length function  $l$  on  $W$ .

**Proposition 2.2.**  $l(\alpha) = |M(\alpha)| = n - |F(\alpha)|$ , for  $\alpha \in W$ .

*Proof.* First note that the proposition holds when  $\alpha = I$  so we will assume  $\alpha \neq I$  and let  $k = |M(\alpha)| > 0$ .

To establish the inequality  $l(\alpha) \leq k$  we show that  $\alpha$  can be expressed as a product of  $k$  reflections. We will use induction on  $k$  noting that the case  $k = 1$  is immediate. Consider the subspace  $F(\alpha) \neq \mathbf{R}^n$ . Recall from part (d) of Theorem 1.12 of [7] that the subgroup  $W'$  of  $W$  of elements which fix  $F(\alpha)$  pointwise is generated by those reflections  $R$  in  $W$  satisfying  $F(\alpha) \subset F(R)$ . Since  $\alpha \neq I$  there exists at least one such reflection  $R$ . Since  $M(A) = F(A)^\perp$  we have  $M(R) \subset M(\alpha)$ . The unique orthogonal transformation induced on  $M(R)$  by  $\alpha$  must be  $R$  by Corollary 3 of [5]. Hence  $R \leq_o \alpha$  and

$$|M(R\alpha)| = |M(\alpha)| - |M(R)| = k - 1.$$

By induction  $R\alpha$  can be expressed as a product of  $k - 1$  reflections and hence there is an expression  $\alpha = R_1 \dots R_k$  for  $\alpha$  as a product of  $k$  reflections. We note that by construction each of these reflections  $R_i$  satisfies  $M(R_i) \subset M(\alpha)$ .

To establish the other inequality suppose  $\alpha = S_1 S_2 \dots S_m$  is an expression for  $\alpha$  as a product of  $m$  reflections realizing  $l(\alpha) = m$ . Repeated

use of the identity  $|M(AC)| \leq |M(A)| + |M(C)|$  gives

$$k = |M(\alpha)| \leq |M(S_1)| + \cdots + |M(S_m)| = m = l(\alpha). \quad \text{q.e.d.}$$

In particular the partial order  $\leq$  on  $W$  is a restriction of the partial order  $\leq_o$  on  $O(n)$  and we will drop the subscript from  $\leq_o$  from now on. The following lemma is immediate.

**Lemma 2.3.** *Let  $W$  be a finite Coxeter group with reflection set  $\mathcal{R}$  and let  $W_1$  be a subgroup generated by a subset  $\mathcal{R}_1$  of  $\mathcal{R}$ . Then the length function for  $W_1$  is equal to the restriction to  $W_1$  of the length function for  $W$ .*

**Definition 2.4.** *For each  $\delta \in W$  we define the reflection set of  $\delta$ ,  $S_\delta$ , by  $S_\delta = \{R \in \mathcal{R} \mid r \leq \delta\}$ .*

Repeated application of  $A \leq B \Rightarrow |M(B)| = |M(A)| + |M(A^{-1}B)|$  gives  $M(\delta) = \text{Span}\{M(R) \mid R \leq \delta\}$  so that  $S_\delta$  determines  $M(\delta)$ . However, in the case where  $\delta \leq \gamma$ ,  $\delta$  itself is determined by  $\gamma$  and  $S_\delta$  since  $\delta$  is the unique orthogonal transformation induced on  $M(\delta)$  by  $\gamma$ . The following results are consequences of this fact.

**Lemma 2.5.** *If  $\alpha, \beta \leq \gamma$  in  $W$  and  $S_\alpha \subseteq S_\beta$  then  $\alpha \leq \beta$ .*

*Proof.*  $M(\alpha) \subset M(\beta) \subset M(\gamma)$  and by uniqueness the transformation induced on  $M(\alpha)$  by  $\beta$  is the same as the transformation induced by  $\gamma$ , namely  $\alpha$ . q.e.d.

**Lemma 2.6.** *Suppose  $\alpha, \beta \leq \gamma$  in  $W$ . If there is an element  $\delta \in W$  with  $\delta \leq \gamma$  and  $S_\delta = S_\alpha \cap S_\beta$  then  $\delta$  is the greatest lower bound of  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  in  $W$ , that is, if  $\tau \in W$  satisfies  $\tau \leq \alpha, \beta$  then  $\tau \leq \delta$ .*

### 3. THE CUBE GROUPS $C_n$ AND $D_n$ .

For general facts about the groups  $C_n$  and  $D_n$  see [2] or [7]. Let  $I = [-1, 1]$  and let  $C_n$  denote the group of isometries of the cube  $I^n$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . That is

$$C_n = \{\alpha \in O(n) : \alpha(I^n) = I^n\}$$

Let  $e_1, \dots, e_n$  denote the standard basis for  $\mathbb{R}^n$  and let  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  denote the corresponding coordinates. The set  $\mathcal{R}_c$  of all reflections in  $C_n$  consists of the following  $n^2$  elements. For each  $i = 1, \dots, n$ , reflection in the hyperplane  $x_i = 0$  is denoted  $[i]$  and also by  $[-i]$ . For each  $i \neq j$ , reflection in the hyperplane  $x_i = x_j$  is denoted by any one of the four expressions  $((i, j))$ ,  $((j, i))$ ,  $((-i, -j))$  and  $((-j, -i))$ , while reflection in the plane  $x_i = -x_j$  is denoted by any one of the four expressions  $((i, -j))$ ,  $((-i, j))$ ,  $((j, -i))$ , and  $((-j, i))$ . The set of these  $n(n-1)$  reflections,

in hyperplanes of the form  $x_i = \pm x_j$ , is denoted  $\mathcal{R}_d$  and the subgroup they generate,  $D_n$ , is well known to be an index two subgroup of  $C_n$ . The group  $C_n$  acts on the set  $\{e_1, \dots, e_n, -e_1, \dots, -e_n\}$  in the obvious manner and this action satisfies  $\alpha \cdot (-e_i) = -(\alpha \cdot e_i)$  for each  $i$  and each  $\alpha \in C_n$ . Thus we obtain an injective homomorphism  $p$  from  $C_n$  into the group  $\Sigma_{2n}$  of permutations of the set  $\{1, 2, \dots, n, -1, -2, \dots, -n\}$ . Note that for each  $i$ ,  $p([i])$  is a transposition in  $\Sigma_{2n}$ , while each element of  $\mathcal{R}_d$  is mapped to a product of two disjoint transpositions. Thus  $p(D_n)$  is contained in the subgroup of even permutations.

For each cycle  $c = (i_1, \dots, i_r)$  in  $\Sigma_{2n}$ , we define the cycle  $\bar{c}$  by

$$\bar{c} = (-i_1, \dots, -i_r)$$

Note that  $\bar{c} = z_0 c z_0$  where  $z_0 = (1, -1)(2, -2) \dots (n, -n)$  has order two. Note also that  $z_0 = p(\zeta_0)$  where  $\zeta_0 = [1][2] \dots [n]$  is the nontrivial element in the centre of  $C_n$ .

**Proposition 3.1.** *The image  $p(C_n)$  is the centraliser  $Z(z_0)$  of  $z_0$  in  $\Sigma_{2n}$ . It consists of all products of disjoint cycles of the form*

$$(1) \quad c_1 \bar{c}_1 \dots c_k \bar{c}_k \gamma_1 \dots \gamma_r \quad \text{where } \gamma_j = \bar{\gamma}_j \quad \forall j = 1, \dots, r.$$

*The image  $p(D_n)$  consists of all elements of the form (1) with  $r$  even.*

*Proof.* Since  $z_0$  has order 2 and  $z_0 c_1 c_2 \dots c_k z_0 = \bar{c}_1 \bar{c}_2 \dots \bar{c}_k$  for any product of cycles in  $\Sigma_{2n}$ , it follows that the centraliser  $Z(z_0)$  consists of those products of disjoint cycles  $c_1 c_2 \dots c_k$  for which

$$c_1 c_2 \dots c_k = \bar{c}_1 \bar{c}_2 \dots \bar{c}_k$$

By uniqueness (up to reordering) of cycle decomposition in  $\Sigma_{2n}$ , for each  $i$  either  $c_i = \bar{c}_j$  for some  $j \neq i$  or else  $c_i = \bar{c}_i$ . It follows that the centraliser of  $z_0$  is precisely the set of elements in  $\Sigma_{2n}$  of the form (1). For each  $\alpha \in C_n$ , the identity  $\zeta_0 \alpha \zeta_0 = \alpha$  implies that  $p(\alpha)$  lies in the centraliser of  $z_0$ . Thus  $p(C_n) \subset Z(z_0)$ . In the reverse direction, if  $c = (i_1, \dots, i_k)$  is disjoint from  $\bar{c}$ , one may readily verify that

$$(2) \quad c \bar{c} = p((i_1, i_2)(i_2, i_3) \dots (i_{q-1}, i_q))$$

Likewise, if  $c = \bar{c}$  then  $c$  must be the form  $c = (i_1, \dots, i_k, -i_1, \dots, -i_k)$  for some  $-n \leq i_1, i_2, \dots, i_k \leq n$  and one may verify that

$$(3) \quad c = (i_1, -i_1)(i_1, i_2)(-i_1, -i_2) \dots (i_{k-1}, i_k)(-i_{k-1}, -i_k)$$

$$(4) \quad = p([i_1](i_1, i_2) \dots (i_{k-1}, i_k))$$

It follows that any element of the form (1) lies in  $p(C_n)$  and hence  $p(C_n) = Z(z_0)$ .

Let  $\alpha \in D_n$  and write  $p(\alpha) = c_1 \bar{c}_1 \dots c_k \bar{c}_k \gamma_1 \dots \gamma_r$ . Since  $p(\alpha)$  and each  $c_i \bar{c}_i$  is an even permutation while each  $\gamma_j$  is an odd permutation,  $r$  must

be even. To show that every element of the form (1) with  $r$  even is in  $p(D_n)$ , we need only note the following facts.

- If the cycle  $c$  is disjoint from  $\bar{c}$  then equation (2) implies that  $c\bar{c} \in p(D_n)$ .
- If  $i \neq j$  then  $[i][j] = (i, j)(i, -j)$  and hence is an element of  $p(D_n)$ . It now follows from equation (3) that if  $c_1 = \bar{c}_1$  and  $c_2 = \bar{c}_2$  are disjoint cycles then  $c_1c_2 \in p(D_n)$ . q.e.d.

**Notation.** From now on we will identify  $C_n$  and  $D_n$  with their respective images in  $\Sigma_{2n}$ . If a cycle  $c = (i_1, \dots, i_k)$  is disjoint from  $\bar{c}$  then we write

$$((i_1, \dots, i_k)) = c\bar{c} = (i_1, \dots, i_k)(-i_1, \dots, -i_k)$$

and we call  $c\bar{c}$  a *paired cycle*. If  $k = 1$  then  $c = (i_1)$  and the paired cycle  $c\bar{c} = ((i_1))$  fixes the vector  $e_{i_1}$ . If  $c = \bar{c} = (i_1, \dots, i_r, -i_1, \dots, -i_r)$  then we say that  $c$  is a *balanced cycle* and we write

$$c = [i_1, \dots, i_k].$$

This notation is consistent with that introduced earlier for the elements of the generating set  $\mathcal{R}_c$ . With these conventions, proposition 3.1 states that each element of  $C_n$  may be written as a product of disjoint paired cycles and balanced cycles. If  $\alpha \in C_n$  fixes the standard basis vector  $e_i$  then we will assume that the paired cycle  $((i))$  appears in the corresponding expression (1) for  $\alpha$ .

Denote the length function for  $C_n$  with respect to the generating set  $\mathcal{R}_c$  by  $l$ . Lemma 2.3 allows us to use the same symbol  $l$  for the length function of  $D_n$  with respect to the set  $\mathcal{R}_d$ . The length function for  $\Sigma_{2n}$  with respect to the set  $T$  of all transpositions is denoted by  $L$ .

**Lemma 3.2.** *The fixed space  $F(((i_1, \dots, i_k)))$  has dimension  $n - k + 1$  and is given by*

$$\{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : x_{i_1} = x_{i_2} = \dots = x_{i_k}\}$$

where  $x_i$  means  $-x_{|i|}$  for  $i < 0$ . *The fixed space  $F([i_1, \dots, i_k])$  has dimension  $n - k$  and is given by*

$$\{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : x_{i_1} = x_{i_2} = \dots = x_{i_k} = 0\}$$

*Proof.* By inspection. q.e.d.

**Lemma 3.3.** *The  $l$ -length of a paired cycle  $c\bar{c} = ((i_1, \dots, i_k))$  is  $k - 1$ . Moreover, no minimal length factorisation of  $c\bar{c}$  as a product of elements of  $\mathcal{R}_c$  contains a generator of the form  $[i]$ .*

*Proof.* The fixed space  $F(c\bar{c})$  has dimension  $n - k + 1$  by lemma 3.2 and thus  $l(c\bar{c}) = n - (n - k + 1) = k - 1$ .

If a minimal  $l$ -length factorisation of  $c\bar{c}$  contained a term of the form  $[i]$ , we would obtain a factorisation of  $c\bar{c}$  as a product of fewer than  $2(k - 2) + 1 = 2k - 3$  transpositions. As  $L(c\bar{c}) = 2k - 2$  this is impossible. q.e.d.

**Lemma 3.4.** *The  $l$ -length of  $\gamma = [j_1, \dots, j_r]$  as a product of elements of  $\mathcal{R}_c$  is  $r$ . Moreover any minimal length factorisation of  $\gamma$  as a product of elements of  $\mathcal{R}_c$  contains exactly one generator of the form  $[i]$ .*

*Proof.* As the fixed space  $F(\gamma)$  is  $(n - r)$ -dimensional by lemma 3.2, we find  $l(\gamma) = n - (n - r) = r$ .

As  $L(\gamma) = 2r - 1$ , any factorisation of  $\gamma$  as a product of  $r$  elements of  $\mathcal{R}_c$  can contain at most one generator of the form  $[i]$ . If such a factorisation contained no element of this form, we would have an expression for  $\gamma$  as a product of an even number of transpositions. But this contradicts the fact that the  $2r$ -cycle  $\gamma$  has odd parity in  $\Sigma_{2n}$ . q.e.d.

**Proposition 3.5.** *If  $\alpha = c_1\bar{c}_1 \dots c_a\bar{c}_a\gamma_1 \dots \gamma_b \in C_n$  is a product of disjoint cycles then*

$$l(\alpha) = \sum_{i=1}^a l(c_i\bar{c}_i) + \sum_{j=1}^b l(\gamma_j)$$

*Proof.* By choosing a new basis from  $\{e_1, \dots, e_n, -e_1, \dots, -e_n\}$  if necessary, we may assume that  $c_i = (j_{i-1} + 1, j_{i-1} + 2, \dots, j_i)$  and  $\gamma_i = [k_{i-1} + 1, k_{i-1} + 2, \dots, k_i]$  where  $1 = j_0 < j_1 < \dots < j_a < j_a + 1 = k_0 < k_1 < \dots < k_b = n$ . Then  $c_i\bar{c}_i$  (resp.  $\gamma_j$ ) maps  $U_i = \text{span}(e_{j_{i-1}+1}, e_{j_{i-1}+2}, \dots, e_{j_i})$  (resp.  $V_i = \text{span}(e_{k_{i-1}+1}, e_{k_{i-1}+2}, \dots, e_{k_i})$ ) to itself and leaves all the other  $U$ 's and  $V$ 's pointwise fixed. As  $c_i\bar{c}_i$  (resp.  $\gamma_j$ ) fixes a 1 (resp. 0) dimensional subspace of  $U_i$  (resp.  $V_j$ ), we see that  $\alpha$  fixes an  $a$ -dimensional subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Therefore  $l(\alpha) = n - a$ . Since  $\sum(1 + l(c_i\bar{c}_i)) + \sum l(\gamma_j) = n$  by lemmas 3.3 and 3.4, the result follows. q.e.d.

Consider now the effect of multiplying  $\alpha \in C_n$  on the right by a reflection  $R = ((i, j))$  or  $R = [i]$ . It is clear that only those cycles which contain an integer of  $R$  will be affected. The following example lists the possibilities and the corresponding changes in lengths.



**Example 3.6.** *The following four identities can be verified directly.*

$$\begin{aligned} [i_1, i_2, \dots, i_k][i_k] &= ((i_1, i_2, \dots, i_k)) \\ [i_1, i_2, \dots, i_k)((i_j, i_k)) &= [i_1, \dots, i_j)((i_{j+1}, i_{j+2}, \dots, i_k)) \\ ((i_1, i_2, \dots, i_k))((i_j, i_k)) &= ((i_1, \dots, i_j))((i_{j+1}, i_{j+2}, \dots, i_k)) \\ [i_1, \dots, i_j][i_{j+1}, \dots, i_k)((-i_j, i_k)) &= ((i_1, i_2, \dots, i_k)) \end{aligned}$$

*Since each reflection has order 2, the following identities are immediate.*

$$\begin{aligned} [i_1, i_2, \dots, i_k] &= ((i_1, i_2, \dots, i_k))[i_k] \\ [i_1, i_2, \dots, i_k] &= [i_1, \dots, i_j)((i_{j+1}, i_{j+2}, \dots, i_k))((i_j, i_k)) \\ ((i_1, i_2, \dots, i_k)) &= ((i_1, \dots, i_j))((i_{j+1}, i_{j+2}, \dots, i_k))((i_j, i_k)) \\ [i_1, \dots, i_j][i_{j+1}, \dots, i_k] &= ((i_1, i_2, \dots, i_k))(-i_j, i_k) \end{aligned}$$

*By proposition 3.5, we see that*

$$\begin{aligned} l([i_1, i_2, \dots, i_n]) &= l(((i_1, i_2, \dots, i_n))) + 1 \\ l([i_1, i_2, \dots, i_n]) &= l([i_1, \dots, i_j][i_{j+1}, i_{j+2}, \dots, i_n]) + 1 \\ l(((i_1, i_2, \dots, i_n))) &= l(((i_1, \dots, i_j))((i_{j+1}, i_{j+2}, \dots, i_n))) + 1 \\ l([i_1, \dots, i_j][i_{j+1}, \dots, i_k]) &= l(((i_1, i_2, \dots, i_k))) + 1 \end{aligned}$$

**Definition 3.7.** *Let  $\sigma = c_1 c_2 \cdots c_k$  and  $\tau = d_1 d_2 \cdots d_l$  be two products of disjoint cycles in  $\Sigma_{2n}$ . We say that  $\sigma$  is contained in  $\tau$  (and write  $\sigma \subset \tau$ ) if for each  $i$  we can find  $j$  such that the set of integers in the cycle  $c_i$  is a subset of the set of integers in the cycle  $d_j$ . This notion restricts to give a notion of containment for elements of  $C_n$ .*

*A reflection  $((i, j))$  is  $s$ -contained in  $\alpha = c_1 \bar{c}_1 \cdots c_a \bar{c}_a \gamma_1 \cdots \gamma_b \in C_n$  (and we write  $((i, j)) \sqsubset \alpha$ ) if  $i$  is contained in  $\gamma_k$  and  $j$  is contained in  $\gamma_l$  for some  $k \neq l$ .*

**Lemma 3.8.** *Let  $\alpha \in C_n$  and  $R \in \mathcal{R}_c$ . Then  $R \leq \alpha$  if and only if  $R \subset \alpha$  or  $R \sqsubset \alpha$ .*

*Proof.* By proposition 3.5 and the calculations in example 3.6 we see that  $l(\alpha R) < l(\alpha)$  if and only if  $R \subset \alpha$  or  $R \sqsubset \alpha$ . Since  $R \leq \alpha$  if and only if  $l(\alpha R) < l(\alpha)$ , the lemma follows. q.e.d.

#### 4. THE LATTICE PROPERTY

In this section we show that the interval  $[1, \gamma]$  in  $(W \leq)$  is a lattice for  $W = C_n, D_n$  and  $\gamma$  a Coxeter element in  $W$ . Since all Coxeter elements in  $W$  are conjugate we can choose our favourite one in each case.

**Definition 4.1.** *We choose the Coxeter elements  $\gamma_C$  in  $C_n$  and  $\gamma_D$  in  $D_n$  given by  $\gamma_C = [1, 2, \dots, n]$  and  $\gamma_D = [1][2, 3, \dots, n]$ .*

**Proposition 4.2.** *Write the Coxeter element  $\gamma_C \in C_n$  (resp.  $\gamma_D \in D_n$ ) as  $\gamma_C = R_1 R_2 \dots R_n$  (resp.  $\gamma_D = R_1 R_2 \dots R_n$ ) for reflections  $R_1, \dots, R_n$  in  $\mathcal{R}_c$  (resp.  $\mathcal{R}_d$ ) and let  $b_i$  denote the number of balanced cycles in  $R_1 R_2 \dots R_i$ . Then there exists  $i_0$  such that  $b_i = 0$  for  $i < i_0$  and  $b_i = 1$  (resp.  $b_i = 2$ ) for  $i \geq i_0$ . In the  $D_n$  case, if  $b_i = 2$  then one of the balanced cycles in  $R_1 \dots R_i$  must be [1].*

*Proof.* By example 3.6, if the multiplication of  $\alpha \in C_n$  by  $R \in \mathcal{R}_c$  increases the number of balanced cycles then  $l(\alpha R) = l(\alpha) + 1$  and  $\alpha R$  contains either 1 or 2 balanced cycles more than  $\alpha$ . Conversely, if multiplication of  $\alpha$  by  $R$  decreases either the number of balanced cycles or the size of a balanced cycle, then  $l(\alpha R) = l(\alpha) - 1$ . Since  $l(R_1 \dots R_i) + 1 = l(R_1 \dots R_{i+1})$  it follows that  $b_{i+1} - b_i \in \{0, 1, 2\}$ . As  $\gamma_C$  consists of a single balanced cycle, the claim for  $C_n$  is immediate. For  $\gamma_D$ , none of the  $R_i$  can be of the form  $[j]$  and hence  $b_{i+1} - b_i$  cannot be 1. As the passage from  $R_1 \dots R_i$  to  $R_1 \dots R_{i+1}$  cannot decrease the size of any balanced cycle and as  $\gamma_D$  contains the balanced cycle [1], this cycle must be present in  $R_1 \dots R_i$  for each  $i \geq i_0$ . q.e.d.

**Corollary 4.3.** *If  $\alpha \leq \gamma_C$  in  $C_n$  then  $\alpha$  has at most one balanced cycle. If  $\beta \leq \gamma_D$  in  $D_n$  then  $\beta$  has either no balanced cycles or two balanced cycles. In the latter case, one of these balanced cycles is [1].*

**4.1. The  $C_n$  lattice.** Set  $\gamma = \gamma_C = [1, 2, \dots, n]$ .

**Definition 4.4.** *The action of  $\gamma$  defines a cyclic order on the set  $A = \{1, \dots, n, -1, \dots, -n\}$  in which the successor of  $i$  is  $\gamma(i)$  (thus 1 is the successor of  $-n$ ). An ordered set of elements  $i_1, i_2, \dots, i_s$  in  $A$  is oriented consistently (with the cyclic order on  $A$ ) if there exist integers  $0 < r_2 < \dots < r_s \leq 2n - 1$  such that  $i_j = \gamma^{r_j}(i_1)$  for  $j = 2, \dots, s$ . A cycle  $(i_1, \dots, i_s)$  or  $[i_1, \dots, i_s]$  is oriented consistently if the ordered set  $i_1, \dots, i_s, -i_1, \dots, -i_s$  in  $A$  is oriented consistently.*

**Definition 4.5.** *Two disjoint reflections  $R_1 = ((i, j))$  and  $R_2 = ((k, l))$  (resp.  $R_2 = [k]$ ) are said to cross if one of the following four ordered sets is oriented consistently in  $A$ :  $i, k, j, l$  or  $i, -k, j, -l$  or  $k, i, l, j$  or  $k, -i, l, -j$  (resp.  $i, k, j, -k$  or  $i, -k, j, k$  or  $k, i, -k, j$  or  $-k, i, k, j$ ). Two disjoint cycles  $\zeta_1$  and  $\zeta_2$  in  $C_n$  are said to cross if there exist crossing reflections  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  which are contained in  $\zeta_1$  and  $\zeta_2$  respectively. An element  $\sigma \in C_n$  is called crossing if some pair of disjoint cycles of  $\sigma$  cross. Otherwise  $\sigma$  is non-crossing.*

**Proposition 4.6.** *If  $\sigma \in C_n$  satisfies  $\sigma \leq \gamma$  then the cycles of  $\sigma$  are oriented consistently and are noncrossing.*

*Proof.* We will proceed by induction on  $n - l(\sigma)$ . If  $l(\sigma) = n$  then  $\sigma = \gamma$  and the two conditions of the conclusion are satisfied.

We assume therefore that the proposition is true for  $\tau \in C_n$  with  $n - l(\tau) = 0, 1, \dots, k - 1$  and that  $\sigma \leq \gamma$  satisfies  $l(\sigma) = n - k$ . By definition there is an expression for  $\gamma$  as a product of  $n$  reflections  $\gamma = R_1 R_2 \dots R_{n-k} R R_{n-k+2} \dots R_n$  with  $\sigma = R_1 R_2 \dots R_{n-k}$ . We define  $\tau = \sigma R$  so that  $l(\tau) = l(\sigma) + 1$  and  $\tau \leq \gamma$ . By induction, the cycles of  $\tau$  are noncrossing and oriented consistently with  $\gamma$ .

We know that  $R$  is either of the form  $((i, j))$  or  $[i]$  and that  $R \leq \tau \leq \gamma$ . Lemma 3.8 thus implies that  $R$  is contained in some paired cycle or some balanced cycle of  $\tau$ . The effect of multiplying this cycle by  $R$  is thus described by one of the first three equations in Example 3.6. Since the cycles of  $\tau$  are noncrossing and oriented consistently with  $\gamma$ , we see that the same is true for  $\sigma$ . q.e.d.

**Proposition 4.7.** *Let  $\sigma \in C_n$ . If the cycles of  $\sigma$  are oriented consistently and are noncrossing then  $\sigma \leq \gamma$ .*

*Proof.* Assume that  $\sigma \in C_n$  satisfies the two hypotheses of the proposition. Write  $\sigma = c_1 \bar{c}_1 \dots c_a \bar{c}_a \gamma_1 \dots \gamma_b$  and set  $t(\sigma) = a + b$ . We proceed by induction on  $t(\sigma)$ . If  $t(\sigma) = 1$  then either  $\sigma$  consists of a single balanced cycle or a single paired cycle. In the former case, consistent orientation implies that  $\sigma \leq \gamma$ . In the latter case, consistent orientation implies that  $\sigma = ((i, i + 1, \dots, n, -1, \dots, -i + 1))$  for some  $i$ . As  $l(\sigma) = n - 1$  and  $\sigma[i - 1] = \gamma$ , we see that  $\sigma \leq \gamma$ .

Assume now that  $t(\sigma) \geq 2$  and that the proposition is true for each element  $\theta \in C_n$  with  $t(\theta) < t(\sigma)$ . If  $\sigma$  contains a balanced cycle, the non-crossing hypothesis implies that there can be only one which we denote  $\tau = [i_1, \dots, i_r]$ . Otherwise let  $\tau = ((i_1, \dots, i_r))$  be some paired cycle of  $\sigma$ . As  $\sigma \neq \tau$ , there exists an  $i_k$  whose successor does not lie in  $\{\pm i_1, \dots, \pm i_r\}$ . By choosing one of the other  $2r - 1$  cycle expressions for  $\tau$  if necessary, we may assume that the successor  $j_1$  of  $i_r$  does not lie in  $\{\pm i_1, \dots, \pm i_r\}$ . Let  $\rho = ((j_1, \dots, j_s))$  be the paired cycle of  $\sigma$  which contains  $j_1$  and let  $R = ((i_r, j_s))$ . Then  $\sigma = \tau \rho \sigma_1 \dots \sigma_k$  for some disjoint paired cycles  $\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_k$  (some  $k \geq 0$ ) and

$$\sigma R = \begin{cases} [i_1, \dots, i_r, j_1, \dots, j_s] \sigma_1 \dots \sigma_k & \text{or} \\ ((i_1, \dots, i_r, j_1, \dots, j_s)) \sigma_1 \dots \sigma_k. \end{cases}$$

Note that  $t(\sigma R) = t(\sigma) - 1$ . As the cycles  $\tau$  and  $\rho$  do not cross and each is oriented consistently, our choice of  $j_1$  ensures that the ordered set  $i_1, \dots, i_r, j_1, \dots, j_s, -i_1, \dots, -i_r, -j_1, \dots, -j_s$  is also oriented consistently.

Assume now that one of the cycles  $\sigma_e$  crosses the cycle  $\tau\rho R$  of  $\sigma R$ . Then there exist crossing reflections  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  contained in  $\tau\rho R$  and  $\sigma_e$  respectively. Since  $\sigma_e$  is paired,  $R_2$  is necessarily paired;  $R_2 = \langle\langle c, d \rangle\rangle$  say. Since  $\sigma$  is non-crossing,  $R_1$  cannot be contained in  $\tau$  or in  $\rho$ . There are three cases to consider

- (1)  $R_1 = \langle\langle i_a, j_b \rangle\rangle$  for some  $1 \leq a \leq r$  and  $1 \leq b \leq s$ .
- (2)  $R_1 = \langle\langle j_b, -j_b \rangle\rangle$  for some  $1 \leq b \leq s$  ( $\tau$  is necessarily balanced).
- (3)  $R_1 = \langle\langle i_a, -j_b \rangle\rangle$  for some  $1 \leq b \leq s$  ( $\tau$  is necessarily balanced).

By a suitable choice of the representative  $R = \langle\langle c, d \rangle\rangle = \langle\langle d, c \rangle\rangle = \langle\langle -c, -d \rangle\rangle = \langle\langle -d, -c \rangle\rangle$ , the first case splits into two essential subcases: (a) the ordered set  $i_a, c, j_b, d$  is oriented consistently and (b) the ordered set  $c, i_a, d, j_b$  is oriented consistently. We know that  $c$  is not in  $\{\pm i_1, \dots, \pm i_r, \pm j_1, \dots, \pm j_s\}$ . In particular  $c \neq i_r, j_1$ . In case (1a), if  $c$  precedes  $i_r$ , then  $S = \langle\langle i_1, i_r \rangle\rangle$  is contained in  $\tau$  and crosses  $R_2$ , contradicting the fact that  $\sigma$  is non-crossing. Likewise, if  $c$  follows  $i_r$  then  $c$  follows  $j_1$  and  $S = \langle\langle j_1, j_b \rangle\rangle$  is contained in  $\rho$  and crosses  $R_2$ , again contradicting the fact that  $\sigma$  is non-crossing. Thus case (1a) is impossible. A similar argument shows that case (1b) is also impossible.

As in case 1, case 2 splits into two subcases: (a) the ordered set  $j_b, c, -j_b, d$  is oriented consistently and (b) the ordered set  $c, j_b, d, -j_b$  is oriented consistently. In case (2a), if  $c$  precedes  $-i_r$  then the ordered set  $i_r, j_b, c, -i_r, d$  is oriented consistently and hence  $\langle\langle c, d \rangle\rangle$  crosses  $[-i_r] \subset \tau$ . But this contradicts the fact that  $\sigma$  is non-crossing. If  $c$  follows  $-i_r$ , then  $c$  necessarily succeeds  $-j_1$  and we find that the ordered set  $-j_1, c, -j_b, d$  is consistently oriented. Thus  $\langle\langle c, d \rangle\rangle$  crosses  $\langle\langle -j_1, -j_b \rangle\rangle \subset \rho$ , again contradicting the fact that  $\sigma$  is non-crossing. Thus case (2a) is impossible. A similar argument shows that case (2b) is also impossible.

Finally, case 3 also splits into two subcases: (a) the ordered set  $i_a, c, -j_b, d$  is oriented consistently and (b) the ordered set  $c, i_a, d, -j_b$  is oriented consistently. We show that (3b) is impossible (the proof that case (3a) is impossible is similar). We are given that the ordered set  $c, i_a, d, -j_b$  is oriented consistently. If  $d$  precedes  $-i_a$  then  $\langle\langle c, d \rangle\rangle$  crosses  $[i_a]$  in  $\sigma$ , a contradiction. Therefore  $d$  follows  $-i_a$ . If  $d$  now precedes  $-i_r$ , then the ordered set  $c, -i_a, d, -i_r$  is oriented consistently. Hence  $\langle\langle -i_a, -i_r \rangle\rangle$  crosses  $\langle\langle c, d \rangle\rangle$  in  $\sigma$ , a contradiction. Therefore  $d$  follows  $-i_r$  and hence  $-j_1$ . But now  $\langle\langle -j_1, -j_b \rangle\rangle$  crosses  $\langle\langle c, d \rangle\rangle$  in  $\sigma$ , a contradiction. Thus case (3b) is impossible.

We conclude that the cycles  $\tau\rho R$  and  $\sigma_e$  do not cross. Since no two distinct elements of  $\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_k$  cross (because  $\sigma$  is assumed non-crossing), it follows that  $\sigma R$  is non-crossing. As  $t(\sigma R) = t(\sigma) - 1$  and the cycles

of  $\sigma R$  are oriented consistently, it follows by induction that  $\sigma R \leq \gamma$ . Thus there exist reflections  $R_1, \dots, R_k$  with  $k = n - l(\sigma R)$  and

$$(5) \quad \sigma R R_1 \dots R_k = \gamma$$

As  $l(\sigma R) = l(\sigma) + 1$  by lemmas 3.3 and 3.4 and proposition 3.5, we see that  $k + 1 = n - l(\sigma)$ . Hence equation (5) also implies that  $\sigma \leq \gamma$ . q.e.d.

**Lemma 4.8.** *If  $\sigma \leq \gamma$  and  $\tau \leq \gamma$  then  $\sigma \leq \tau$  if and only if  $\sigma \subset \tau$ .*

*Proof.* Follows from Lemma 2.5 and lemma 3.8. q.e.d.

Combining the previous three results yields the following Theorem.

**Theorem 4.9.** *Let  $NCP$  denote Reiner's non-crossing partition lattice for the  $C_n$  group from [8]. The mapping*

$$: \{\alpha \in C_n : \alpha \leq \gamma\} \longrightarrow NCP$$

*which takes  $\alpha$  to the noncrossing partition defined by its cycle structure is a bijective poset map. In particular,  $\{\alpha \in C_n : \alpha \leq \gamma\}$  is a lattice.*

**4.2. The  $D_n$  lattice.** Set  $\gamma = \gamma_D = [1][2, 3, \dots, n]$  and suppose  $\alpha \leq \gamma$ . Recall from Corollary 4.3 that for such an  $\alpha$  either  $[1][k] \leq \alpha$  for some  $k \in \{2, 3, \dots, n\}$  or  $l$  and  $-l$  are in different  $\alpha$  orbits for all  $l \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ . In the former case we will call  $\alpha$  *balanced* and in the latter case we will call  $\alpha$  *paired*.

We note that lattices are associated to the groups  $C_n$  and  $D_n$  in [8]. We have shown the Reiner  $C_n$  lattices are isomorphic to ours. However the Reiner  $D_n$  lattices are not the same as the ones we consider. In particular, the Reiner  $D_n$  lattices are subposets of the Reiner  $C_n$  lattices.

To show that the interval  $[I, \gamma]$  in  $D_n$  is a lattice we will compute  $\alpha \wedge \beta$  for  $\alpha, \beta \leq \gamma$ . Since the poset is finite the existence of least upper bounds follows. We will consider different cases depending on the types of  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ . In all cases we will construct a candidate  $\sigma$  for  $\alpha \wedge \beta$  and show that  $\sigma \in D_n$ ,  $\sigma \leq \alpha, \beta$  and  $S_\alpha \cap S_\beta \subset S_\sigma$ . Since the reverse inclusion is immediate it follows from Lemma 2.6 that  $\sigma = \alpha \wedge \beta$ .

**Note 4.10.** *In this section we will frequently pass between the posets determined by  $C_n$ ,  $D_n$  and several other finite reflection subgroups of  $C_n$ . As the partial order on each of these groups is the restriction of the partial order on  $O(n)$ , we can use the same symbol  $\leq$  to denote the partial order in each case. The reflection subgroup in question should be clear from the context.*

Suppose first that both  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are balanced. Since  $D_n \subset C_n$  and  $C_{n-1}$  can be identified with the subgroup of  $C_n$  which fixes 1, each balanced element of  $D_n$  can be used to define a balanced element of  $C_{n-1}$ , that is, an element containing a balanced cycle. Thus we define the balanced  $C_{n-1}$  elements  $\alpha'$  and  $\beta'$  by

$$\alpha = [1]\alpha' \quad \text{and} \quad \beta = [1]\beta'$$

and the  $C_{n-1}$  element  $\sigma' = \alpha' \wedge \beta'$ , where the meet is taken in  $C_{n-1}$ . Now  $\sigma'$  may or may not be balanced. If  $\sigma'$  is balanced define the  $C_n$  element  $\sigma$  by  $\sigma = [1]\sigma'$ . If  $\sigma'$  is not balanced set  $\sigma = \sigma'$ .

**Proposition 4.11.** *If  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are balanced and  $\sigma$  is defined as above then  $\sigma \in D_n$ ,  $\sigma \leq \alpha, \beta$  and  $S_\alpha \cap S_\beta \subset S_\sigma$ .*

*Proof.* We show that  $\sigma \in D_n$  and  $\sigma \leq \alpha$ . The proof that  $\sigma \leq \beta$  is completely analogous. First consider the case where  $\sigma'$  is balanced. Thus  $[k] \leq \sigma' \leq \alpha'$  in  $C_{n-1}$  for some  $k$  satisfying  $2 \leq k \leq n$ . So we can find reflections  $R_1, \dots, R_s$  in  $C_{n-1}$  with

$$\alpha' = R_1 R_2 \dots R_s, \quad \sigma' = R_1 R_2 \dots R_t, \quad R_1 = [k],$$

where  $l(\alpha') = s \geq t = l(\sigma')$ . Since  $\alpha' \in C_{n-1}$ , Lemma 3.4 gives  $R_2, \dots, R_s$  all of the form  $(i, j)$  or  $(i, -j)$  for  $2 \leq i < j \leq n$ . In particular, these reflections lie in  $D_n$ . Now  $\alpha$  is of length  $s + 1$  in  $C_n$  and

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha &= [1]R_1 R_2 \dots R_t R_{t+1} \dots R_s \\ &= [1][k]R_2 \dots R_t R_{t+1} \dots R_s \\ &= (1, k)(1, -k)R_2 \dots R_t R_{t+1} \dots R_s. \end{aligned}$$

This last expression only uses  $D_n$  reflections so that

$$\sigma = (1, k)(1, -k)R_2 \dots R_t \leq \alpha \quad \text{in } D_n.$$

Next we consider the case where  $\sigma'$  is paired. Here  $\sigma' \leq \alpha'$  and  $\alpha'$  is balanced so we can find reflections  $R_1, \dots, R_s$  in  $C_{n-1}$  with

$$\alpha' = R_1 R_2 \dots R_s, \quad \sigma' = R_1 R_2 \dots R_t,$$

where  $l(\alpha') = s > t = l(\sigma')$  and exactly one of  $R_{t+1}, \dots, R_s$  is of form  $[k]$ . Since  $R[k] = [k]([k]R[k])$ , we can assume  $R_{t+1} = [k]$ . Note also that  $R_1, \dots, R_t$  are each of the form  $(i, j)$  or  $(i, -j)$  for  $2 \leq i < j \leq n$  and hence commute with  $[1]$  in  $C_n$ . Thus we can write the following identities in  $C_n$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha &= [1]R_1 R_2 \dots R_t [k] R_{t+2} \dots R_s \\ &= R_1 \dots R_t [1][k] R_{t+2} \dots R_s \\ &= R_1 \dots R_t (1, k)(1, -k) R_{t+2} \dots R_s. \end{aligned}$$

This last expression only uses  $D_n$  reflections so that  $\sigma \leq \alpha$  in  $D_n$ .

Finally we show that  $S_\alpha \cap S_\beta \subset S_\sigma$ . First suppose  $\sigma'$  is balanced and  $R \in S_\alpha \cap S_\beta$ . Thus  $R$  is a reflection satisfying  $R \leq \alpha, \beta$ . If  $R$  is of the form  $((1, k))$ , then  $[1][k] \leq \alpha, \beta$  since  $k$  must belong to a balanced cycle of both  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ . Thus  $[k] \leq \alpha', \beta'$  so that  $[k] \leq \sigma'$  and  $[1][k] \leq \sigma$ , which gives  $((1, k)) \leq \sigma$  as required. If  $R$  is not of form  $((1, k))$  then  $R \leq \alpha, \beta$  implies  $R \leq \alpha', \beta'$  so that  $R \leq \sigma'$  and  $R \leq \sigma$ .

In the case where  $\sigma'$  is paired,  $R \leq \alpha, \beta$  implies  $R$  must be of form  $((i, j))$  or  $((i, -j))$  for  $2 \leq i < j \leq n$  so that  $R \leq \alpha', \beta'$  giving  $R \leq \sigma' = \sigma$ . q.e.d.

Since we have completed the case where both  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are balanced we will assume from now on that  $\alpha$  is paired. We note some consequences of this fact which will apply in the remaining cases. The fact that  $\alpha$  is paired means that  $\alpha \leq ((1, k))\gamma$  or  $\alpha \leq ((1, -k))\gamma$  for some  $k \in \{2, 3, \dots, n\}$ . Since conjugation by the  $C_{n-1}$  element  $[2, \dots, n]$  is a poset isomorphism of the interval  $[I, \gamma]$  in  $D_n$ , we may assume for convenience of notation that  $k = -2$  so that

$$\alpha \leq ((1, -2))[1][2, \dots, n] = ((1, 2, \dots, n)).$$

If we let  $\delta = ((1, 2, \dots, n))$  then a reflection  $R$  in  $D_n$  satisfies  $R \leq \delta$  if and only if  $R \subset \delta$ . Thus we can identify the interval  $[I, \delta]$  in  $D_n$  with the set of non-crossing partitions of  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ . Recall that a non-crossing partition of the ordered set  $\{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n\}$  is a partition with the property that whenever

$$1 \leq i < j < k < l \leq n$$

with  $a_i, a_k$  belonging to the same block  $B_1$  and  $a_j, a_l$  belonging to the same block  $B_2$  we have  $B_1 = B_2$ . If  $\alpha \wedge \beta$  exists, it will satisfy

$$\alpha \wedge \beta \leq \alpha \leq ((1, 2, \dots, n))$$

and so will correspond to a noncrossing partition of  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ . Accordingly, we define a reflexive, symmetric relation on  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  by

$$i \sim j \iff i = j \quad \text{or} \quad ((i, j)) \leq \alpha, \beta.$$

We need to show that  $\sim$  is transitive and hence is an equivalence relation. We then show that the resulting partition of  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  is non-crossing and determines an element  $\sigma$  of  $D_n$  which satisfies  $\sigma \leq \alpha, \beta$  and  $S_\alpha \cap S_\beta \subset S_\sigma$ .

Suppose that  $\alpha$  is paired and  $\beta$  is balanced. Recall that  $\beta$  has two balanced cycles, one of which is  $[1]$ . For convenience of terminology we will call the other balanced cycle the second balanced cycle of  $\beta$ . As

above we will have occasion to use the balanced element  $\beta' \leq [2, \dots, n]$  in  $C_{n-1}$  defined by  $\beta = [1]\beta'$ .

**Proposition 4.12.** *If  $\alpha$  is paired and  $\beta$  is balanced then the relation  $\sim$  above determines an element  $\sigma$  of  $D_n$  satisfying  $\sigma \leq \alpha, \beta$  and  $S_\alpha \cap S_\beta \subset S_\sigma$ .*

*Proof.* First we establish the transitivity of the  $\sim$  relation. Suppose  $i, j, k$  are distinct elements of  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  with  $i \sim j$  and  $j \sim k$ . Since  $((i, j), (j, k)) \leq \alpha$  we get  $((i, k)) \leq \alpha$  since  $\alpha$  corresponds to a partition of  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ . If  $1 \notin \{i, j, k\}$  then  $((i, j), (j, k)) \subset \beta$  (s-containment cannot arise) and it follows that  $((i, k)) \leq \beta$ . If  $i = 1$ , then  $((i, j)) \leq \beta$  means that  $((i, j)) \sqsubset \beta$  so that  $j$  belongs to the second balanced cycle of  $\beta$ . Since  $j \sim k \neq 1$ ,  $k$  also belongs to this second balanced cycle and  $((i, k)) \leq [1][j, k] \leq \beta$ . If  $j = 1$ , then both  $i$  and  $k$  belong to the second balanced cycle of  $\beta$ . Hence  $((i, k)) \leq \beta$ . The case  $k = 1$  is analogous to the case  $i = 1$ .

To show that the partition of  $\{1, \dots, n\}$  defined by  $\sim$  is non-crossing suppose  $1 \leq i < j < k < l \leq n$  with

$$((i, k), (j, l)) \leq \alpha, \beta.$$

Since  $\alpha$  corresponds to a noncrossing partition we have  $((i, j, k, l)) \leq \alpha$ . If  $i = 1$ , then  $k$  belongs to the second balanced cycle and  $[k] \leq \beta'$  in  $C_{n-1}$ . Since  $1 < j < k < l$ ,  $((j, l)) \leq \beta'$  and  $\beta' \leq [2, \dots, n]$  in  $C_{n-1}$ , the crossing pair consisting of  $(j, l)$  and  $(k, -k)$  must lie in the same  $\beta'$  cycle. Thus  $[j, k, l] \leq \beta'$  and  $((1, j, k, l)) \leq [1][j, k, l] \leq \beta$ . If  $i \neq 1$ , then  $((i, k), (j, l)) \leq \beta'$  and since  $\beta' \leq [2, \dots, n]$  in  $C_{n-1}$ ,  $((i, j, k, l)) \leq \beta'$  by proposition 4.6, giving  $((i, j, k, l)) \leq \beta$ .

Thus the relation  $\sim$  defines a noncrossing partition of  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  and hence determines an element  $\sigma$  of  $D_n$ . By the definition of  $\sim$  the element  $\sigma$  satisfies  $\sigma \leq \alpha, \beta$  and  $S_\alpha \cap S_\beta \subset S_\sigma$ . q.e.d.

Finally we consider the case where both  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are paired.

**Proposition 4.13.** *If  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are paired then the relation  $\sim$  above determines an element  $\sigma$  of  $D_n$  satisfying  $\sigma \leq \alpha, \beta$  and  $S_\alpha \cap S_\beta \subset S_\sigma$ .*

*Proof.* To establish the transitivity of  $\sim$  in this case let  $i, j, k$  be distinct elements of  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  with  $i \sim j$  and  $j \sim k$ . As in the previous proposition,  $((i, k)) \leq \alpha$  follows immediately. Since  $\beta$  is paired,  $i \sim j$  and  $j \sim k$  mean that  $i, j, k$  belong to the same cycle of  $\beta$  so that  $((i, k)) \leq \beta$  also.



To show that the partition of  $\{1, \dots, n\}$  defined by  $\sim$  is noncrossing suppose  $1 \leq i < j < k < l \leq n$  with

$$((i, k), (j, l)) \leq \alpha, \beta.$$

Since  $\alpha$  corresponds to a noncrossing partition we have  $((i, j, k, l)) \leq \alpha$ . The element  $\beta$  is paired so we can assume  $\beta \leq \tau = ((1, m))\gamma$  or  $\beta \leq \tau = ((1, -m))\gamma$ , for some  $m \in \{2, 3, \dots, n\}$ . Looking at the case  $\tau = ((1, m))\gamma$  first we get

$$\tau = ((1, -m, -m - 1, \dots, -n, 2, 3, \dots, m - 1)).$$

Since  $\beta \leq \tau$  the element  $\beta$  corresponds to a noncrossing partition of the ordered set  $\{1, -m, -m - 1, \dots, -n, 2, 3, \dots, m - 1\}$ . Since  $1 \leq i < j < k < l \leq n$ , we deduce that either

$$1 \leq i < j < k < l \leq m - 1 \quad \text{or} \quad m \leq i < j < k < l \leq n.$$

Since  $\beta$  corresponds to a noncrossing partition of the ordered set

$$\{1, -m, -m - 1, \dots, -n, 2, 3, \dots, m - 1\}$$

and  $((i, k), (j, l)) \leq \beta$  it follows in either case that  $((i, j, k, l)) \leq \beta$ . The case  $\tau = ((1, -m))\gamma$  is similar. Here

$$\tau = ((1, m, m + 1, \dots, n, -2, -3, \dots, -m + 1)),$$

and again we can deduce  $((i, j, k, l)) \leq \beta$ .

Thus  $\sim$  defines a noncrossing partition of  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  and hence an element  $\sigma$  in  $D_n$  satisfying  $\sigma \leq \alpha, \beta$  and  $S_\alpha \cap S_\beta \subset S_\sigma$  as in previous proposition. q.e.d.

Combining the results of this subsection we obtain the following theorem.

**Theorem 4.14.** *The interval  $[I, \gamma]$  in  $D_n$  is a lattice.*

## 5. POSET GROUPS AND $K(\pi, 1)$ 'S.

**Definition 5.1.** *If  $W$  is a finite Coxeter group and  $\gamma \in W$  we define the poset group  $\Gamma = \Gamma(W, \gamma)$  to be the group with the following presentation. The generating set for  $\Gamma$  consists of a copy of the set of non-identity elements in  $[I, \gamma]$ . We will denote by  $\{w\}$  the generator of  $\Gamma$  corresponding the element  $w \in (I, \gamma]$ . The relations in  $\Gamma$  are all identities of the form  $\{w_1\}\{w_2\} = \{w_3\}$ , where  $w_1, w_2$  and  $w_3$  lie in  $(I, \gamma]$  with  $w_1 \leq w_3$  and  $w_2 = w_1^{-1}w_3$ .*

Since none of the relations involve inverses of the generators, there is a semigroup, which we will denote by  $\Gamma_+ = \Gamma_+(W, \gamma)$ , with the same presentation. As in section 5 of [3], we define a *positive* word in  $\Gamma$  to

be a word in the generators that does not involve the inverses of the generators. We say two positive words  $A$  and  $B$  are *positively equal*, and we write  $A \doteq B$ , if  $A$  can be transformed to  $B$  through a sequence of positive words, where each word in the sequence is obtained from the previous one by replacing one side of a defining relator by the other side. Since the interval  $(I, \gamma]$  inherits the reflection length from  $W$  we use this to associate a *length* to each generator of  $\Gamma(W, \gamma)$  and hence a length  $l(A)$  to each positive word  $A$ . It is immediate that positively equal words have the same length.

From now on we only consider those pairs  $(W, \gamma)$  with the property that *the interval  $[I, \gamma]$  in  $W$  forms a lattice*. It is clear that the results stated for the braid group in sections 5 and 6 of [3] apply to poset groups under this extra assumption. We will review them briefly below.

In [3] it is shown that this lattice condition is satisfied when  $W$  is a Coxeter group of type  $A_n$  and  $\gamma$  is a Coxeter element. In section 4 above we have shown that the lattice condition is satisfied when  $W$  is a Coxeter group of type  $C_n$  or  $D_n$  and  $\gamma$  is a Coxeter element. When the Coxeter group is generated by two reflections the lattice condition is automatic for any  $\gamma$ . When the Coxeter group is generated by three reflections the lattice condition reduces to checking the only case where

$$\alpha \wedge \beta \notin \{\alpha, \beta, \gamma\}.$$

This occurs when  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are distinct reflections and have at least one common upper bound of length 2. Any such length 2 element  $\delta$  must have  $F(\delta)$  coinciding with the unique line of intersection of the two reflection planes. Hence  $\delta$  is unique. This is precisely the ingredient which makes the metric constructed in [4] have non-positive curvature. The following result is taken from [3]. Its proof is the same.

**Lemma 5.2.** *Assume that the interval  $[I, \gamma]$  forms a lattice and suppose  $a, b, c \leq \gamma$ . We define nine elements  $d, e, f, g, h, k, l, m$  and  $n$  in  $[I, \gamma]$  by the equations*

$$a \vee b = ad = be, \quad b \vee c = bf = cg, \quad c \vee a = ch = ak$$

and

$$a \vee b \vee c = (a \vee b)l = (b \vee c)m = (c \vee a)n.$$

Then we can deduce

$$e \vee f = el = fm, \quad d \vee k = dl = kn, \quad h \vee g = hn = gm.$$

The statements and proofs of the results of section 5 and section 6 of [3] generalize in a straightforward manner to the current setting. In particular, we have the following definitions and results.

**Lemma 5.3.** *The semigroup associated to  $\Gamma$  has right and left cancellation properties.*

**Lemma 5.4.** *Suppose  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_k \leq \gamma$  in  $W$ ,  $P$  is positive and*

$$P \doteq X_1\{a_1\} \doteq \dots \doteq X_k\{a_k\}$$

*with  $X_i$  all positive. Then there is a positive word  $Z$  satisfying*

$$P \doteq Z\{a_1 \vee \dots \vee a_k\}.$$

**Theorem 5.5.** *In  $\Gamma$ , if two positive words are equal they are positively equal. In other words, the semigroup  $\Gamma_+$  embeds in  $\Gamma$ .*

As in [3] we define an abstract simplicial complex  $X(W, \gamma)$  for each  $\Gamma(W, \gamma)$ .

**Definition 5.6.** *We let  $X = X(W, \gamma)$  be the abstract simplicial complex with vertex set  $\Gamma$ , which has a  $k$ -simplex on the subset  $\{g_0, g_1, \dots, g_k\}$  if and only if  $g_i = g_0\{w_i\}$  for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, k$  where*

$$I < w_1 < \dots < w_k \leq \gamma \quad \text{in } W.$$

There is an obvious simplicial action of  $\Gamma$  on  $X$  given by

$$g \cdot \{g_0, g_1, \dots, g_k\} = \{gg_0, gg_1, \dots, gg_k\}.$$

The main result of section 6 of [3] also holds for these poset groups.

**Theorem 5.7.**  *$X(W, \gamma)$  is contractible.*

If we define  $K = K(W, \gamma)$  to be the quotient space  $K = \Gamma \backslash X$ , then  $K$  is a  $K(\Gamma, 1)$ .

We finish this section with an example of a poset group  $\Gamma(W, \gamma)$ , with  $[I, \gamma]$  a lattice but  $\gamma$  not a Coxeter element in  $W$ .

**Example 5.8.** *Let  $W = C_2$  and  $\gamma = [1][2]$ . The group  $\Gamma(C_2, \gamma)$  has presentation*

$$\langle a, b, c, d, x \mid x = ab = ba = cd = dc \rangle$$

*where  $a = \{[1]\}$ ,  $b = \{[2]\}$ ,  $c = \{(1, 2)\}$ ,  $d = \{(1, -2)\}$  and  $x = \{[1][2]\}$ . From the presentation we see that  $\Gamma$  is an amalgamated free product of a copy  $\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}$  generated by  $a$  and  $b$  with a copy  $\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}$  generated by  $c$  and  $d$  over the infinite cyclic subgroup generated by  $x$ . The above construction gives a two-dimensional contractible universal cover for the presentation 2-complex which can be shown to be simplicially isomorphic to  $X(C_2, [1, 2])$ .*

6. GROUP PRESENTATIONS.

In this section we prove that the poset groups  $\Gamma(W, \gamma)$  of section 5 are isomorphic to the Artin groups  $A(W)$  for  $W$  of type  $C_n$  or  $D_n$  and  $\gamma$  the appropriate Coxeter element. The proof is based on the following surprising property that these Artin groups share with the braid group. If  $X = x_1x_2 \dots x_n$  is the product of the standard Artin generators then there is a finite set of elements in  $A(W)$  which is invariant under conjugation by  $X$ . Moreover under the canonical surjection from  $A(W)$  to  $W$  this set is taken bijectively to the set of reflections in  $W$ . The following lemma is a straightforward generalisation of Lemma 4.5 of [3].

**Lemma 6.1.** *The poset group  $\Gamma(W, \gamma)$  is isomorphic to the abstract group generated by the set of all  $\{R\}$ , for  $R$  a reflection in  $[I, \gamma]$ , subject to the relations*

$$\{R_1\}\{R_2\} \dots \{R_n\} = \{S_1\}\{S_2\} \dots \{S_n\},$$

for  $R_i, S_j$  reflections satisfying

$$\gamma = R_1R_2 \dots R_n \quad \text{and} \quad \gamma = S_1S_2 \dots S_n,$$

where  $n = l(\gamma)$ .

We will refer to  $\{w\} \in \Gamma(W, \gamma)$  as the lift of  $w \in W$  whenever  $w \leq \gamma$ . In particular, we will refer to  $\{w\}$  as a reflection lift whenever  $w$  is a reflection.

Since the Artin groups of type  $C_n$  and  $D_n$  both contain copies of the  $n$ -strand braid group  $B_n$  we collect here some facts about the braid group which will be useful. We recall that  $B_n$  is the group with generating set  $x_2, x_3, \dots, x_n$  and defining relations

$$x_i x_{i+1} x_i = x_{i+1} x_i x_{i+1} \quad \text{for} \quad 2 \leq i \leq n-1,$$

$$x_i x_j = x_j x_i \quad \text{for} \quad |j - i| \geq 2.$$

We define  $x_{i,j}$  and  $Y_{i,j}$ , for  $1 \leq i < j \leq n$  by

$$Y_{i,j} = x_{i+1} \dots x_j, \quad \text{and} \quad Y_{i,j} = Y_{i+1,j} x_{i,j}.$$

Then Lemma 4.2 of [3] gives, for  $1 \leq i < j < k \leq n$ ,

$$x_{i,j} x_{j,k} = x_{j,k} x_{i,k} = x_{i,k} x_{i,j}.$$

Since  $x_k = x_{k-1,k}$  it follows that  $x_{i,j} Y_{i,j-1} = Y_{i,j}$  and that

$$x_k Y_{i,j} = Y_{i,j} x_{k-1} \quad \text{for} \quad i+2 \leq k \leq j.$$

When  $k = i+1$  we have  $x_{i+1} Y_{i,j} = x_{i+1} Y_{i+1,j} x_{i,j} = Y_{i,j} x_{i,j}$ .

**6.1. The  $C_n$  case.** The Artin group  $A(C_n)$  has a presentation with generating set  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$ , subject to the relations

$$x_1x_2x_1x_2 = x_2x_1x_2x_1$$

$$x_i x_{i+1} x_i = x_{i+1} x_i x_{i+1}$$

whenever  $1 < i < n$  and

$$x_i x_j = x_j x_i$$

whenever  $|j - i| \geq 2$ .

**Definition 6.2.** We define a function  $\phi$  from the generators of  $A(C_n)$  to  $\Gamma(C_n, \gamma)$  by

$$x_1 \mapsto \{[1]\}, x_2 \mapsto \{(1, 2)\}, x_3 \mapsto \{(2, 3)\}, \dots, x_n \mapsto \{(n-1, n)\}$$

**Lemma 6.3.** The function  $\phi$  determines a well-defined and surjective homomorphism.

*Proof:* The relations involving  $\phi(x_1)$  hold in  $\Gamma(C_n, \gamma)$  by virtue of the following identities in  $\Gamma(C_n, \gamma)$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \{[1]\}\{(1, 2)\}\{[1]\}\{(1, 2)\} &= \{[1, 2]\}\{[1, 2]\} \\ &= \{(1, 2)\}\{[2]\}\{(1, -2)\}\{[1]\} \\ &= \{(1, 2)\}\{[1, 2]\}\{[1]\} \\ &= \{(1, 2)\}\{[1]\}\{(1, 2)\}\{[1]\} \end{aligned}$$

$$\{[1]\}\{(i, i+1)\} = \{(i, i+1)\}\{[1]\}, \quad \text{for } i \geq 2.$$

The image of the subgroup generated by  $\{x_2, \dots, x_n\}$  lies in the copy of the braid group corresponding to  $\Sigma_n < C_n$  so that the relations not involving  $\phi(x_1)$  hold by Lemma 4.2 and Lemma 4.4 of [3]. Thus  $\phi$  is well-defined.

To establish surjectivity, first note that

$$\{(i, i+1, \dots, j)\} = \phi(Y_{i,j}) \quad \text{and} \quad \{(i, j)\} = \phi(x_{i,j})$$

for  $1 \leq i < j \leq n$  all lie in  $\text{im}(\phi)$ . Next  $\{[j]\} \in \text{im}(\phi)$  since

$$\phi(x_1 x_{1,j}) = \{[1]\}\{(1, j)\} = \{[1, j]\} = \{(1, j)\}\{[j]\}.$$

Finally,  $\{(i, -j)\} \in \text{im}(\phi)$  for  $1 \leq i < j \leq n$  since

$$\{(i, j)\}\{[j]\} = \{[i, j]\} = \{[j]\}\{(i, -j)\}.$$

q.e.d.

To construct an inverse to  $\phi$  we will use the presentation for  $\Gamma(C_n, \gamma)$  given by lemma 6.1.

**Definition 6.4.** We define a function  $\theta$  from the generators of  $\Gamma(C_n, \gamma)$  to  $A(C_n)$  by

$$\begin{aligned} \{[1]\} &\mapsto x_1, \{(i, j)\} \mapsto x_{i,j} \quad \text{for } 1 \leq i < j \leq n, \\ \{[j]\} &\mapsto y_j \text{ for } 2 \leq j \leq n, \quad \{(i, -j)\} \mapsto z_{i,j} \text{ for } 1 \leq i < j \leq n, \end{aligned}$$

where  $y_j$  is the unique element of  $A(C_n)$  satisfying

$$x_1 x_2 \dots x_j = x_2 \dots x_j y_j$$

and  $z_{i,j}$  is the unique element of  $A(C_n)$  satisfying

$$z_{i,j} y_i = y_i x_{i,j}.$$

The homomorphism determined by  $\theta$  will be surjective since each  $x_i$  is the image of some reflection lift. We note that  $Y_{i,j} y_j = y_i Y_{i,j}$  for  $1 \leq i < j \leq n$  if we define  $y_1 = x_1$ . To show that  $\theta$  determines a well-defined homomorphism we first define the special element  $X = x_1 x_2 \dots x_n$  in  $A(C_n)$  and establish the following result.

**Proposition 6.5.** For any reflection  $R$  in  $C_n$ ,

$$X\theta(\{R\})X^{-1} = \theta(\{\gamma R \gamma^{-1}\}).$$

*Proof.* Since  $X = x_1 Y_{1,n}$  and  $x_1$  commutes with  $x_3, \dots, x_n$ , it follows that  $Xx_i = x_{i+1}X$  for  $2 \leq i < n$  and  $Xx_{i,j} = x_{i+1,j+1}X$  for  $1 \leq i < j < n$ . This establishes the proposition for  $R$  of the form  $\{(i, j)\}$  for  $1 \leq i < j < n$ .

The identity  $Xy_j = y_{j+1}X$  for  $1 \leq j < n$  is a consequence of the following calculation.

$$\begin{aligned} Y_{2,j+1}Xy_j &= x_2 Y_{3,j+1}Xy_j = x_2 X Y_{2,j} y_j = x_2 X x_1 Y_{2,j} \\ &= x_2 x_1 x_2 Y_{3,n} x_1 Y_{2,j} = x_2 x_1 x_2 x_1 Y_{3,n} Y_{2,j} \\ &= x_1 x_2 x_1 x_2 Y_{3,n} Y_{2,j} = x_1 x_2 X Y_{2,j} = x_1 x_2 Y_{3,j+1} X \\ &= x_1 Y_{2,j+1} X = Y_{2,j+1} y_{j+1} X \end{aligned}$$

This establishes the proposition for  $R$  of the form  $[j]$  for  $1 \leq i < n$ .

Conjugating  $y_n$  by  $X$  gives  $x_1$ , since

$$Xy_n = (x_1 x_2 \dots x_n) y_n = x_1 (x_2 \dots x_n y_n) = x_1 (x_1 \dots x_n).$$

This establishes the proposition for the reflection  $[n]$ .

Next we show  $Xx_{i,n} = z_{1,i+1}X$ .

$$\begin{aligned} z_{1,i+1}X &= z_{1,i+1} x_1 Y_{1,n} = x_1 x_{1,i+1} Y_{1,n} = x_1 x_{1,i+1} Y_{1,i} Y_{i,n} \\ &= x_1 Y_{1,i} x_{i+1} Y_{i,n} + x_1 Y_{1,i} x_{i+1} Y_{i+1,n} x_{i,n} = x_1 Y_{1,n} x_{i,n} = Xx_{i,n} \end{aligned}$$

This establishes the proposition for  $R$  of the form  $\{(i, n)\}$  for  $1 \leq i < n$ .

The identity  $Xz_{i,j} = z_{i+1,j+1}X$  for  $1 \leq i < j < n$  follows from the definition of  $z_{i,j}$  and the corresponding identities for  $x_{i,j}$  and  $y_i$ , which establishes the proposition for  $R$  of the form  $((i, -j))$  for  $1 \leq i < j < n$ .

Next we observe that, for  $3 \leq j \leq n$ ,  $y_j z_{1,j} = x_{1,j} y_j$  because

$$\begin{aligned} Y_{1,j} y_j z_{1,j} x_1 &= x_1 Y_{1,j} z_{1,j} x_1 = x_1 Y_{1,j} x_1 x_{1,j} = x_1 x_2 Y_{2,j} x_1 x_{1,j} \\ &= x_1 x_2 x_1 Y_{2,j} x_{1,j} = x_1 x_2 x_1 Y_{1,j} = x_1 x_2 x_1 x_2 Y_{2,j} \\ &= x_2 x_1 x_2 x_1 Y_{2,j} = x_2 x_1 x_2 Y_{2,j} x_1 = x_2 x_1 Y_{1,j} x_1 \\ &= x_2 Y_{1,j} y_j x_1 = Y_{1,j} x_{1,j} y_j x_1. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $Xz_{i,n} y_i = X y_i x_{i,n} = y_{i+1} z_{1,i+1} X = x_{1,i+1} y_{i+1} X = x_{1,i+1} X y_i$ , it follows that  $Xz_{i,n} = x_{1,i+1} X$  and hence the proposition is established for the final case,  $R$  of the form  $((i, -n))$  for  $1 \leq i < n$ . q.e.d.

**Definition 6.6.** We define a lift of  $\gamma$  to  $A(C_n)$  to be an element of the form

$$E = \theta(\{R_1\})\theta(\{R_2\}) \dots \theta(\{R_n\}),$$

where the  $R_i$  are reflections in  $C_n$  satisfying  $R_1 R_2 \dots R_n = [1, 2, 3, \dots, n]$ .

We note that one lift of  $\gamma$  to  $A(C_n)$  is

$$X = x_1 x_2 \dots x_n = \theta(\{[1]\})\theta(\{(1, 2)\}) \dots \theta(\{(n-1, n)\}).$$

To show that  $\theta$  is well-defined it suffices, by Lemma 6.1, to prove the following.

**Proposition 6.7.** For any lift  $E$  of  $\gamma$  to  $A(C_n)$  we have  $E = X$ .

*Proof.* Given a lift  $E = \theta(\{R_1\})\theta(\{R_2\}) \dots \theta(\{R_n\})$  of  $\gamma$  to  $A(C_n)$ , we know that  $R_1 R_2 \dots R_n = [1, 2, \dots, n]$  and by Lemma 3.4 exactly one of the  $R_k$  is of the form  $[j]$ . Since  $E = X$  if and only if  $X^l E X^{-l} = X$  for any integer  $l$ , we may assume by the previous proposition that  $R_k = [1]$ . We will construct a new lift  $E'$  of  $\gamma$  satisfying  $E' = E$  and

$$E' = \theta(\{R_1\}) \dots \theta(\{R_{k-2}\})\theta(\{[1]\})\theta(\{R'\})\theta(\{R_{k+1}\}) \dots \theta(\{R_n\}),$$

for some reflection  $R'$ .

To simplify notation we set  $R_{k-1} = T$  so that  $R_{k-1} R_k = T[1]$ . Since  $T[1] \leq \gamma$  we know that  $T \leq \gamma[1]$  or

$$T \leq (1, -2, -3, \dots, -n)$$

so that  $T$  has the form  $((1, -p))$  for  $2 \leq p \leq n$  or  $T$  has the form  $((i, j))$  with  $2 \leq i < j \leq n$ . In the latter case  $\theta(\{T\})$  lies in the subgroup of  $A(C_n)$  generated by  $\{x_3, x_4, \dots, x_n\}$  and so commutes with  $\theta(\{[1]\}) = x_1$ .

Thus we can use  $R' = T$ . In the former case,  $\theta(\{T\}) = z_{1,p}$  and  $E'$  can be constructed using

$$\theta(\{T\})\theta(\{[1]\}) = z_{1,p}x_1 = x_1x_{1,p} = \theta(\{[1]\})\theta(\{(1,p)\}).$$

After  $k - 1$  such steps we get  $E = x_1\theta(\{S_2\})\dots\theta(\{S_n\})$ , where the product on the right is a lift of  $\gamma$  to  $A(C_n)$ . However, this means  $S_2S_3\dots S_n = (1, 2, \dots, n)$  in  $C_n$  so that  $S_i \in \Sigma_n < C_n$  and

$$\theta(\{S_2\})\dots\theta(\{S_n\}) = x_2x_3\dots x_n,$$

by Lemma 4.6 of [3].

q.e.d.

Combining the results in this subsection we get the following theorem.

**Theorem 6.8.** *The poset group  $\Gamma(C_n, \gamma)$  is isomorphic to the Artin group  $A(C_n)$  for  $\gamma$  a Coxeter element in  $C_n$ .*

**6.2. The  $D_n$  case.** In this case our approach will be exactly as in the  $C_n$  case. However, the computations are more numerous and more complicated. The Artin group  $A(D_n)$  has a presentation with generating set  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$ , subject to the relations

$$\begin{aligned} x_1x_2 &= x_2x_1, \\ x_1x_3x_1 &= x_3x_1x_3, \\ x_1x_i &= x_ix_1, \quad \text{for } i \geq 4 \\ x_ix_{i+1}x_i &= x_{i+1}x_ix_{i+1}, \quad \text{for } 1 < i < n \quad \text{and} \\ x_ix_j &= x_jx_i, \quad \text{for } |j - i| \geq 2 \quad \text{and } i, j \neq 1. \end{aligned}$$

**Definition 6.9.** *We define a function  $\phi$  from the generators of  $A(D_n)$  to  $\Gamma(D_n, \gamma)$  by*

$$x_1 \mapsto \{(1, -2)\}, x_2 \mapsto \{(1, 2)\}, x_3 \mapsto \{(2, 3)\}, \dots, x_n \mapsto \{(n-1, n)\}$$

**Lemma 6.10.** *The function  $\phi$  determines a well-defined surjective homomorphism.*

*Proof:* The relations involving  $\phi(x_1)$  hold in  $\Gamma(D_n, \gamma)$  by virtue of the following identities in  $\Gamma(D_n, \gamma)$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \{(1, -2)\}\{(1, 2)\} &= \{[1][2]\} = \{(1, 2)\}\{(1, -2)\} \\ \{(1, -2)\}\{(2, 3)\}\{(1, -2)\} &= \{(1, -2, -3)\}\{(1, -2)\} \\ &= \{(2, 3)\}\{(1, -3)\}\{(1, -2)\} \\ &= \{(2, 3)\}\{(1, -2, -3)\} \\ &= \{(2, 3)\}\{(1, -2)\}\{(2, 3)\} \\ \{(1, -2)\}\{(i, i+1)\} &= \{(i, i+1)\}\{(1, -2)\}, \quad \text{for } i \geq 3. \end{aligned}$$



The image of the subgroup generated by  $\{x_2, \dots, x_n\}$  again lies in the copy of the braid group corresponding to  $\Sigma_n < D_n$  so that the relations not involving  $\phi(x_1)$  hold by Lemma 4.2 and Lemma 4.4 of [3]. Thus  $\phi$  is well-defined.

To establish surjectivity, note that both  $\{(i, j)\}$  and  $\{(i, i+1, \dots, j)\}$  lie in  $\text{im}(\phi)$ , for  $1 \leq i < j \leq n$  as in the  $C_n$  case. To find the other reflection lifts in  $\text{im}(\phi)$  first note that

$$\phi(x_1 x_2 \dots x_j) = \{[1][2, 3 \dots, j]\} = \{(1, -2)\}\{(1, 2, \dots, j)\} \in \text{im}(\phi),$$

and  $\{(1, -j)\} \in \text{im}(\phi)$  for  $j \geq 3$  since

$$\{(1, 2, \dots, j)\}\{(1, -j)\} = \{[1][2, \dots, j]\}.$$

Reflection lifts of the form  $\{(2, -j)\}$  for  $j \geq 3$  lie in  $\text{im}(\phi)$  since

$$\{(1, -2)\}\{(1, j)\} = \{(1, j, -2)\} = \{(2, -j)\}\{(1, -2)\}$$

and reflection lifts of the form  $\{(i, -j)\}$  for  $3 \leq i < j \leq n$  lie in  $\text{im}(\phi)$  since

$$\{(i, -j)\}\{(1, i)\}\{(1, -i)\} = \{[1][i, j]\} = \{(1, i)\}\{(1, -i)\}\{(i, j)\}.$$

q.e.d.

To construct an inverse to  $\phi$  we will use the presentation for  $\Gamma(D_n, \gamma)$  given by Lemma 6.1.

**Definition 6.11.** *We define a function  $\theta$  from the generators of  $\Gamma(D_n, \gamma)$  to  $A(D_n)$  by*

$$\{(1, -2)\} \mapsto x_1, \quad \{(i, j)\} \mapsto x_{i,j} \quad \text{and} \quad \{(i, -j)\} \mapsto z_{i,j},$$

for  $1 \leq i < j \leq n$ , where  $z_{i,j}$  is the unique element of  $A(D_n)$  satisfying

$$\begin{aligned} z_{1,j}x_1 &= x_1x_{2,j} & \text{when } j &\geq 3 \\ z_{2,j}x_1 &= x_1x_{1,j} & \text{when } j &\geq 3 \\ z_{i,j}x_{1,i}z_{1,i} &= x_{1,i}z_{1,i}x_{i,j} & \text{when } 3 \leq i < j &\leq n \end{aligned}$$

We note that  $z_{1,2} = x_1$ . Since each  $x_{i,j}$  lies in the copy of  $B_n$  generated by  $\{x_2, \dots, x_n\}$  the elements  $x_{i,j}$  satisfy the same identities as in the  $C_n$  case. The homomorphism determined by  $\theta$  will be surjective since each  $x_i$  is the image of some reflection lift. To show that  $\theta$  determines a well-defined homomorphism we define the special element  $X = x_1x_2 \dots x_n$  in  $A(D_n)$  and establish the  $D_n$  analogue of Proposition 6.5 .

**Proposition 6.12.** *For any reflection  $R$  in  $D_n$ ,*

$$X\theta(\{R\})X^{-1} = \theta(\{\gamma R \gamma^{-1}\}).$$

*Proof.* Since  $X = x_1 Y_{1,n}$  and  $x_1$  commutes with  $x_4, \dots, x_n$  it follows that  $Xx_i = x_{i+1}X$  for  $3 \leq i < n$  and  $Xx_{i,j} = x_{i+1,j+1}X$  for  $3 \leq i < j < n$ . This establishes the proposition in the case  $R = ((i, j))$  for  $3 \leq i < j < n$ .

For some of the later cases we will require the identities  $x_{2,j}z_{1,j} = x_1x_{2,j}$  and  $x_{1,j}z_{2,j} = x_1x_{1,j}$  for  $3 \leq j \leq n$ . The first follows from

$$\begin{aligned} Y_{3,j}x_{2,j}z_{1,j}x_1 &= x_3Y_{3,j}z_{1,j}x_1 = x_3Y_{3,j}x_1x_{2,j} = x_3x_1Y_{3,j}x_{2,j} \\ &= x_3x_1x_3Y_{3,j} = x_1x_3x_1Y_{3,j} = x_1x_3Y_{3,j}x_1 = x_1Y_{3,j}x_{2,j}x_1 \\ &= Y_{3,j}x_1x_{2,j}x_1, \end{aligned}$$

while the second follows from

$$\begin{aligned} x_1Y_{2,j}x_{1,j}z_{2,j}x_1 &= x_1x_2Y_{2,j}z_{2,j}x_1 = x_1x_2Y_{2,j}x_1x_{1,j} = x_1x_2x_3Y_{3,j}x_1x_{1,j} \\ &= x_1x_2x_3x_1Y_{3,j}x_{1,j} = x_2x_1x_3x_1Y_{3,j}x_{1,j} = x_2x_3x_1x_3Y_{3,j}x_{1,j} \\ &= x_2x_3x_1Y_{2,j}x_{1,j} = x_2x_3x_1x_2Y_{2,j} = x_2x_3x_1x_2Y_{2,j} \\ &= x_2x_3x_2x_1Y_{2,j} = x_3x_2x_3x_1Y_{2,j} = x_3x_2x_3x_1x_3Y_{3,j} \\ &= x_3x_2x_1x_3x_1Y_{3,j} = x_3x_2x_1x_3Y_{3,j}x_1 = x_3x_2x_1Y_{2,j}x_1 \\ &= x_3x_1x_2Y_{2,j}x_1 = x_3x_1Y_{2,j}x_{1,j}x_1 = x_3x_1x_3Y_{3,j}x_{1,j}x_1 \\ &= x_1x_3x_1Y_{3,j}x_{1,j}x_1 = x_1x_3Y_{3,j}x_{1,j}x_1. \end{aligned}$$

The conjugation action of  $X$  on  $x_1$  is given by  $Xx_1 = x_{1,3}X$  since

$$\begin{aligned} x_3Xx_1 &= x_3x_1x_2x_3Y_{3,n}x_1 = x_3x_1x_2x_3x_1Y_{3,n} = x_3x_2x_1x_3x_1Y_{3,n} \\ &= x_3x_2x_3x_1x_3Y_{3,n} = x_2x_3x_2x_1x_3Y_{3,n} = x_2x_3x_1x_2x_3Y_{3,n} \\ &= Y_{1,3}X = x_3x_{1,3}X. \end{aligned}$$

A similar calculation gives  $x_3Xx_2 = x_1x_3X$ . Since

$$x_1x_3X = x_1x_{2,3}X = x_{2,3}z_{1,3}X$$

we get  $Xx_2 = z_{1,3}X$ . This establishes the proposition in the cases  $R = (1, -2)$  and  $R = (1, 2)$ .

Next we establish  $Xx_n = z_{2,n}X$ .

$$Xx_n = x_1Y_{1,n}x_n = x_1x_{1,n}Y_{1,n-1}x_n = z_{2,n}x_1Y_{1,n} = z_{2,n}X$$

which takes care of the case  $R = ((n-1, n))$ . To obtain the identity  $Xx_{1,j} = z_{1,j+1}X$  we note that

$$Y_{1,n}x_{1,j}Y_{1,j-1} = Y_{1,n}Y_{1,j} = Y_{2,j+1}Y_{1,n} = x_{2,j+1}Y_{2,j}Y_{1,n} = x_{2,j+1}Y_{1,n}Y_{1,j-1}$$

giving  $Y_{1,n}x_{1,j} = x_{2,j+1}Y_{1,n}$  so that

$$Xx_{1,j} = x_1Y_{1,n}x_{1,j} = x_1x_{2,j+1}Y_{1,n} = z_{1,j+1}x_1Y_{1,n} = z_{1,j+1}X.$$

This completes the case  $R = (1, j)$  for  $2 \leq j < n$ .

For the identity  $Xx_{1,n} = x_2X$  we compute

$$Xx_{1,n} = x_1x_2(x_3 \dots x_n)x_{1,n} = x_1x_2(x_2x_3 \dots x_n) = x_2X,$$

which establishes the case  $R = (1, n)$ .

For  $2 \leq i < n$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} Xx_{i,n} &= x_1Y_{1,i+1}Y_{i+1,n}x_{i,n} = x_1Y_{1,i+1}x_{i+1}Y_{i+1,n} \\ &= x_1x_{1,i+1}Y_{1,i}x_{i+1}Y_{i+1,n} = z_{2,i+1}x_1Y_{1,n} = z_{2,i+1}X \end{aligned}$$

and hence the proposition is true for  $R = (i, n)$  with  $2 \leq i < n$ .

The identity  $Xz_{1,j} = x_{1,j+1}X$  for  $3 \leq j < n$  follows from

$$Xz_{1,j}x_1 = Xx_1x_{2,j} = x_{1,3}x_{3,j+1}X = x_{1,j+1}x_{1,3}X = x_{1,j+1}Xx_1,$$

while the identity  $Xz_{1,n} = z_{1,2}X = x_1X$  follows from

$$Xz_{1,n}x_1 = Xx_1x_{2,n} = x_{1,3}z_{2,3}X = x_1x_{1,3}X = x_1Xx_1.$$

This establishes the proposition for  $R = (1, -j)$  with  $2 \leq j \leq n$ .

The identity  $Xz_{i,n} = x_{2,i+1}X$  for  $2 \leq i < n$  follows from

$$\begin{aligned} Xz_{i,n}x_{1,i}z_{1,i} &= Xx_{1,i}z_{1,i}x_{i,n} = z_{1,i+1}x_{1,i+1}z_{2,i+1}X \\ &= z_{1,i+1}x_1x_{1,i+1}X = x_1x_{2,i+1}x_{1,i+1}X \\ &= x_{2,i+1}z_{1,i+1}x_{1,i+1}X = x_{2,i+1}Xx_{1,i}z_{1,i}. \end{aligned}$$

This establishes the proposition for  $R = (i, -n)$  with  $2 \leq i < n$ .

Finally we note that  $x_{1,i}z_{1,i} = z_{1,i}x_{1,i}$  since

$$\begin{aligned} x_{2,i}x_{1,i}z_{1,i} &= x_2x_{2,i}z_{1,i} = x_2x_1x_{2,i} = x_1x_2x_{2,i} \\ &= x_1x_{2,i}x_{1,i} = x_{2,i}z_{1,i}x_{1,i}. \end{aligned}$$

From this we deduce that  $Xz_{i,j} = z_{i+1,j+1}X$  for  $2 \leq i < j < n$  since

$$\begin{aligned} Xz_{i,j}x_{1,i}z_{1,i} &= Xx_{1,i}z_{1,i}x_{i,j} = z_{1,i+1}x_{1,i+1}x_{i+1,j+1}X \\ &= z_{i+1,j+1}z_{1,i+1}x_{1,i+1}X = z_{i+1,j+1}Xx_{1,i}z_{1,i}. \end{aligned}$$

This establishes the proposition for the remaining cases  $R = (i, -j)$  with  $2 \leq i < j < n$ . q.e.d.

**Definition 6.13.** We define a lift of  $\gamma$  to  $A(D_n)$  to be an element of the form

$$E = \theta(\{R_1\})\theta(\{R_2\}) \dots \theta(\{R_n\}),$$

where the  $R_i$  are reflections in  $D_n$  satisfying  $R_1R_2 \dots R_n = [1][2, 3, \dots, n]$ .

We note that one lift of  $\gamma$  to  $A(D_n)$  is

$$X = x_1 x_2 \dots x_n = \theta(\{(1, -2)\})\theta(\{(1, 2)\}) \dots \theta(\{(n-1, n)\}).$$

To show that  $\theta$  determines a well-defined homomorphism it suffices, by Lemma 6.1, to prove the following.

**Proposition 6.14.** *For any lift  $E$  of  $\gamma$  to  $A(D_n)$  we have  $E = X$ .*

*Proof:* Given a lift  $E$  of  $\gamma$  to  $A(D_n)$ , where

$$E = \theta(\{R_1\})\theta(\{R_2\}) \dots \theta(\{R_n\}),$$

we know that  $R_1 R_2 \dots R_n = [1][2, \dots, n]$ . It follows for the proof of proposition 4.2 that one of the  $R_k$  is of the form  $(1, \pm j)$ . Since  $E = X$  if and only if  $X^l E X^{-l} = X$  for any integer  $l$ , we may assume  $R_k = (1, \pm 2)$ . We treat these two cases separately.

Suppose that  $R_k = (1, -2)$ . We will construct a new lift  $E'$  of  $\gamma$  satisfying  $E' = E$  and

$$E' = \theta(\{R_1\}) \dots \theta(\{R_{k-2}\})\theta(\{(1, -2)\})\theta(\{R'\})\theta(\{R_{k+1}\}) \dots \theta(\{R_n\}),$$

for some reflection  $R'$ .

To simplify notation we set  $R_{k-1} = T$  so that  $R_{k-1} R_k = T(1, -2)$ . Since  $T(1, -2) \leq [1][2, \dots, n]$  we know that

$$T \leq (1, -3, -4, \dots, -n, 2)$$

so that  $T$  has one of the forms

- (1)  $(1, 2)$ ,
- (2)  $(i, j)$  for  $3 \leq i < j \leq n$ ,
- (3)  $(1, -p)$  for  $3 \leq p \leq n$  or
- (4)  $(2, -p)$  for  $3 \leq p \leq n$ .

In the first case  $\theta(\{T\}) = x_2$ , which commutes with  $\theta(\{(1, -2)\}) = x_1$ . In the second case,  $\theta(\{T\}) = x_{i,j}$  lies in the subgroup generated by  $\{x_4, \dots, x_n\}$  and hence also commutes with  $x_1$ . In the third case  $E'$  can be constructed using

$$\theta(\{T\})\theta(\{(1, -2)\}) = z_{1,p}x_1 = x_1x_{2,p} = \theta(\{(1, -2)\})\theta(\{(2, p)\})$$

and in the fourth case using

$$\theta(\{T\})\theta(\{(1, -2)\}) = z_{2,p}x_1 = x_1x_{1,p} = \theta(\{(1, -2)\})\theta(\{(1, p)\}).$$

After  $k-1$  such steps we get  $E = x_1\theta(\{S_2\}) \dots \theta(\{S_n\})$ , where the product on the right is a lift of  $\gamma$  to  $A(D_n)$ . However, this means  $S_2 S_3 \dots S_n = (1, 2, \dots, n)$  in  $C_n$  so that  $S_i \in \Sigma_n < C_n$  and

$$\theta(\{S_2\}) \dots \theta(\{S_n\}) = x_2 x_3 \dots x_n,$$

by Lemma 4.6 of [3].

Next suppose  $R_k = \langle\langle 1, 2 \rangle\rangle$ . As in the previous case, we will construct a new lift  $E'$  of  $\gamma$  satisfying  $E' = E$  and

$$E' = \theta(\{R_1\}) \dots \theta(\{R_{k-2}\}) \theta(\langle\langle 1, 2 \rangle\rangle) \theta(\{R'\}) \theta(\{R_{k+1}\}) \dots \theta(\{R_n\}),$$

for some reflection  $R'$ . To simplify notation we again set  $R_{k-1} = T$  so that  $R_{k-1}R_k = T\langle\langle 1, 2 \rangle\rangle$ . Since  $T\langle\langle 1, 2 \rangle\rangle \leq [1][2, \dots, n]$  we know that

$$T \leq \langle\langle 1, 3, 4, \dots, n, -2 \rangle\rangle$$

so that  $T$  has one of the forms

- (1)  $\langle\langle 1, -2 \rangle\rangle$ ,
- (2)  $\langle\langle i, j \rangle\rangle$  for  $3 \leq i < j \leq n$ ,
- (3)  $\langle\langle 1, p \rangle\rangle$  for  $3 \leq p \leq n$  or
- (4)  $\langle\langle 2, -p \rangle\rangle$  for  $3 \leq p \leq n$ .

In the first case  $\theta(\{T\}) = x_1$ , which commutes with  $\theta(\langle\langle 1, 2 \rangle\rangle) = x_2$ . In the second case,  $\theta(\{T\}) = x_{i,j}$  lies in the subgroup generated by  $\{x_4, \dots, x_n\}$  and hence also commutes with  $x_2$ . In the third case  $E'$  can be constructed using

$$\theta(\{T\})\theta(\langle\langle 1, 2 \rangle\rangle) = x_{1,p}x_{1,2} = x_{1,2}x_{2,p} = \theta(\langle\langle 1, 2 \rangle\rangle)\theta(\langle\langle 2, p \rangle\rangle).$$

In the fourth case  $E'$  is constructed using

$$\theta(\{T\})\theta(\langle\langle 1, 2 \rangle\rangle) = z_{2,p}x_2 = x_2z_{1,p} = \theta(\langle\langle 1, 2 \rangle\rangle)\theta(\langle\langle 1, -p \rangle\rangle).$$

The middle equality holds since

$$z_{2,p}x_2x_1 = z_{2,p}x_1x_2 = x_1x_{1,p}x_2 = x_1x_2x_{2,p} = x_2x_1x_{2,p} = x_2z_{1,p}x_1.$$

After  $k - 1$  such steps we get  $E = x_2\theta(\{S_2\}) \dots \theta(\{S_n\})$ , where the product on the right is a lift of  $\gamma$  to  $A(D_n)$ . However, this means  $S_2S_3 \dots S_n = \langle\langle 1, -2, \dots, -n \rangle\rangle$  in  $C_n$  so that  $S_i$  lie in the copy of  $\Sigma_n$  generated  $\{\langle\langle 1, -2 \rangle\rangle, \langle\langle 2, 3 \rangle\rangle, \dots, \langle\langle n-1, n \rangle\rangle\}$  and

$$\theta(\{S_2\}) \dots \theta(\{S_n\}) = x_1x_3 \dots x_n,$$

by Lemma 4.6 of [3]. Finally

$$E = x_2x_1x_3 \dots x_n = x_1x_2x_3 \dots x_n.$$

q.e.d.

Combining the results in this subsection we get the following theorem.

**Theorem 6.15.** *The poset group  $\Gamma(D_n, \gamma)$  is isomorphic to the Artin group  $A(D_n)$  for  $\gamma$  a Coxeter element in  $D_n$ .*

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