

# Peckness of Edge Posets

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# Outline of Talk

- 1 Background
- 2 Edge Poset Construction
- 3 Main Result
- 4 CCT Actions
- 5 Non-CCT actions
- 6 Final remarks

# Basic Definitions

## Definition

Let  $P$  be a finite graded poset of rank  $n$ . That is:

- Elements of  $P$  are a disjoint union of  $P_0, P_1, \dots, P_n$ , called the *ranks*
- If  $x \in P_i$  and  $x \leq y$ , then  $y \in P_{i+1}$
- Define  $\text{rk}(x) = k$ , where  $x \in P_k$ .

## Definition

A map  $f: P \rightarrow Q$  is a *morphism* from  $P$  to  $Q$  if  $x \leq_P y \implies f(x) \leq_Q f(y)$  and  $\text{rk}(x) = \text{rk}(f(x))$ . We say that  $f$  is *injective/surjective/bijective* if it is an injection/surjection/bijection from  $P$  to  $Q$  as sets.

# Peck Posets

## Definition

Write  $p_i = |P_i|$ .  $P$  is

- *Rank-symmetric* if  $p_i = p_{n-i}$  for all  $1 \leq i \leq n$
- *Rank-unimodal* if for some  $0 \leq k \leq n$  we have

$$p_0 \leq p_1 \leq \dots \leq p_k \geq p_{k+1} \geq \dots \geq p_n$$

- *k-Sperner* if no disjoint union of  $k$  antichains (sets of pairwise incomparable elements) in  $P$  is larger than the disjoint union of the largest  $k$  ranks of  $P$
- *Strongly Sperner* if it is  $k$ -Sperner for all  $1 \leq k \leq n$ .
- *Peck* if  $P$  is rank-symmetric, rank-unimodal, and strongly Sperner.

## Definition

Let  $V(P)$  and  $V(P_i)$  be the complex vector spaces with bases  $\{x|x \in P\}$  and  $\{x|x \in P_i\}$

## Lemma (Stanley, 1982)

*$P$  is Peck if and only if there exists a linear transformation  $U: V(P) \rightarrow V(P)$  such that*

- *For every basis element  $x \in P$ ,*

$$U(x) = \sum_{y \succ x} c_{x,y} y$$

- *For all  $0 \leq i < \frac{n}{2}$ , the map  $U^{n-2i}: V(P_i) \rightarrow V(P_{n-i})$  is an isomorphism.*

## Definition

If the Lefschetz map defined by

$$L(x) = \sum_{y \succ x} y$$

satisfies the second condition in the previous lemma, then  $P$  is *unitary Peck*.

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# Definition of the Edge Poset

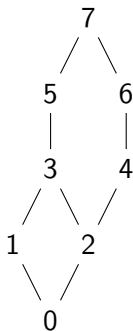
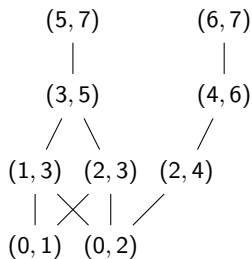
## Definition

For  $P$  a finite graded poset, its *edge poset*  $\mathcal{E}(P)$  is the finite graded poset defined as follows.

- Elements of  $\mathcal{E}(P)$  are ordered pairs  $(x, y) \in P \times P$  where  $x \lessdot y$
- Define  $(x, y) \lessdot_{\mathcal{E}} (x', y')$  if  $x \lessdot_P x'$  and  $y \lessdot_P y'$
- Define  $\leq_{\mathcal{E}}$  to be the transitive closure of  $\lessdot_{\mathcal{E}}$
- Define  $\text{rk}_{\mathcal{E}}(x, y) = \text{rk}_P(x)$ .



# Basic Example


 $P$ 

 $\mathcal{E}(P)$

# Conjecture on the Peckness of Edge Posets

## Definition

The *boolean algebra of rank  $n$*  is the poset whose elements are subsets of  $[n]$  with order given by containment, i.e. for  $x, y \in B_n$ ,  $x \leq y$  if  $x \subseteq y$ .

## Conjecture (Hemminger, Landesman, and Yao 2014)

Let  $G \subseteq \text{Aut}(B_n)$ . Then  $\mathcal{E}(B_n/G)$  is Peck.

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# Main Result

## Definition

A group action of  $G$  on  $P$  is *common cover transitive* (CCT) if whenever  $x, y, z \in P$  such that  $x \triangleleft z$ ,  $y \triangleleft z$ , and  $y \in Gx$ , there exists some  $g \in \text{Stab}_G(z)$  such that  $g \cdot x = y$ .

## Theorem (Hemminger, Landesman, and Yao 2014)

If a group action of  $G$  on  $B_n$  is CCT, then  $\mathcal{E}(B_n/G)$  is Peck.

## Definition

Given a group action of  $G$  on  $P$ , define a group action of  $G$  on  $\mathcal{E}(P)$  by letting  $g \cdot (x, y) = (g \cdot x, g \cdot y)$  for all  $g \in G$ .

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Given a group action of  $G$  on  $P$ , define a group action of  $G$  on  $\mathcal{E}(P)$  by letting  $g \cdot (x, y) = (g \cdot x, g \cdot y)$  for all  $g \in G$ .

## Proposition

*The map  $q: \mathcal{E}(P)/G \rightarrow \mathcal{E}(P/G)$  defined by  $q(G(x, y)) = (Gx, Gy)$  is a surjective morphism. Furthermore,  $q$  is also injective if and only if the action of  $G$  on  $P$  is CCT.*

## Lemma

*If  $f: P \rightarrow Q$  is a bijective morphism and  $P$  is Peck then  $Q$  is Peck.*

Theorem (Stanley, 1984; Harper, 1984; Pouzet and Rosenberg, 1986)

*If  $P$  is unitary Peck and  $G \subseteq \text{Aut}(P)$ , then  $P/G$  is Peck.*

It suffices to show that  $\mathcal{E}(B_n)$  is unitary Peck. Our proof of this is complicated. Instead, we construct a unitary Peck poset  $\mathcal{H}(B_n)$  such that there is a bijective morphism  $\mathcal{H}(B_n)/G \rightarrow \mathcal{E}(B_n)/G$ .

# Definition of $\mathcal{H}(P)$

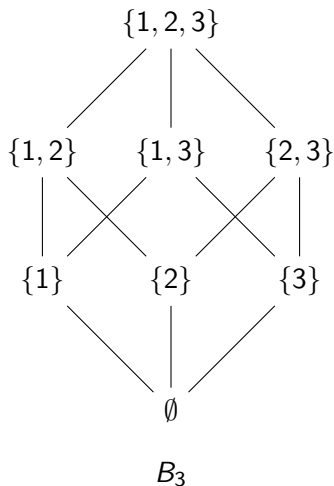
## Definition

For  $P$  a finite graded poset, define the graded poset  $\mathcal{H}(P)$  as follows.

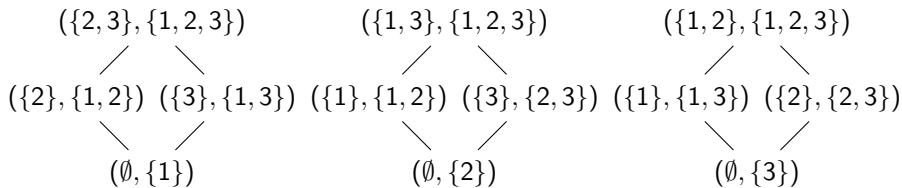
- Elements are pairs  $(x, y) \in P \times P$  such that  $x \leq y$
- Define  $(x, y) \leq_{\mathcal{H}} (x', y')$  if  $x \leq_P x', y \leq_P y'$  **and**  $y \neq x'$
- Define  $\leq_{\mathcal{H}}$  to be the transitive closure of  $\leq_{\mathcal{H}}$
- Define  $rk_{\mathcal{H}}(x, y) = rk_P(x)$ .



# The Boolean Algebra $B_3$



# $\mathcal{H}(B_3)$ is unitary Peck



$\mathcal{H}(B_3)$

## Definition

As before, for  $G$  acting on  $\mathcal{H}(P)$ , define  $g \cdot (x, y) = (g \cdot x, g \cdot y)$ .

## Remark

Since  $\mathcal{E}(P)$  and  $\mathcal{H}(P)$  have the same elements and  $(x, y) \leq_{\mathcal{H}} (x', y') \implies (x, y) \leq_{\mathcal{E}} (x', y')$ , there is a natural bijective morphism  $\mathcal{H}(P)/G \rightarrow \mathcal{E}(P)/G$ .

## Proof of Main Result.

$\mathcal{H}(B_n)$  unitary Peck  $\implies \mathcal{H}(B_n)/G$  Peck  $\implies \mathcal{E}(B_n)/G$  Peck  
 $\implies \mathcal{E}(B_n/G)$  Peck. □

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# CCT actions

## Lemma

*Let  $G$  be a group acting on a graded poset  $P$ . The following are equivalent:*

- ① *The action of  $G$  on  $P$  is CCT.*
- ② *Whenever  $w \triangleleft x, w \triangleleft y$ , and  $x \in Gy$ , there exists some  $g \in \text{Stab}(w)$  with  $gx = y$ .*
- ③ *The map  $q: \mathcal{E}(P)/G \rightarrow \mathcal{E}(P/G)$  defined by  $q(G(x, z)) = (Gx, Gz)$  is a bijective morphism (but not necessarily an isomorphism).*
- ④ *For all  $i$  there is an equality  $|(\mathcal{E}(P)/G)_i| = |(\mathcal{E}(P/G))_i|$*

# Some examples of CCT actions

## The building blocks

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- 3 The group  $D_{2n}$  acting on  $B_n$  when  $n = p$  or  $n = 2p$ , and  $p$  is a prime;



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- 1 The trivial group;
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- 3 The group  $D_{2n}$  acting on  $B_n$  when  $n = p$  or  $n = 2p$ , and  $p$  is a prime;
- 4 The elementary 2-group  $(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})^k$  with any action on  $B_n$  induced by an action on  $[n]$ .

# The direct product

## Lemma

*For  $\phi : G \times P \rightarrow P, \psi : H \times Q \rightarrow Q$  two CCT actions, then the direct product*

*$\phi \times \psi : (G \times H) \times (P \times Q) \rightarrow (P \times Q), (g, h) \cdot (x, y) \mapsto (gx, hy)$  is also CCT.*

# The semi-direct product

## Proposition

*Let  $G \subseteq \text{Aut}(P)$ ,  $H \triangleleft G$ ,  $K \subset G$  such that  $G = H \rtimes K$ . Suppose that the action of  $H$  on  $P$  is CCT and the action of  $K$  on  $P/H$  is CCT. Then the action of  $G$  on  $P$  is CCT.*

# The wreath product

## Corollary

*If  $\psi : G \times P \rightarrow P$  is CCT, then  $\phi : G \wr S_I \times P^I \rightarrow P^I$  where  $\phi$  is the induced action is also CCT.*

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## Corollary

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## Corollary

*The action  $S_m \wr S_l \times B_n \rightarrow B_n$  is CCT, where  $n = ml$ .*

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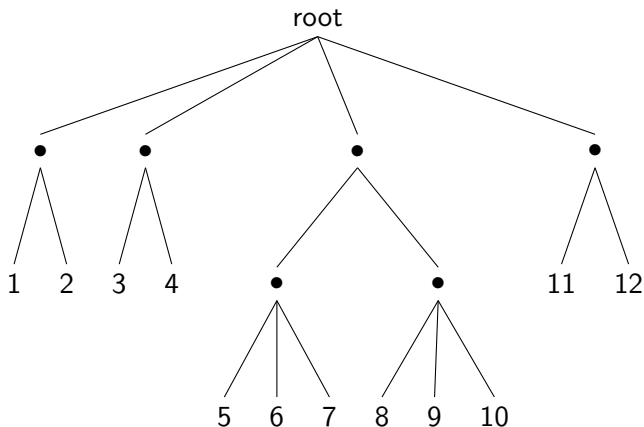
*The action  $S_m \wr S_I \times B_n \rightarrow B_n$  is CCT, where  $n = ml$ .*

## Remark

This recovers a special case of a theorem obtained by Pak & Panova:

The poset  $\mathcal{E}(B_n/S_m \wr S_I)$  is rank symmetric and rank unimodal.  
(Furthermore, it is Peck!)

# The automorphism of rooted trees



# Automorphism of rooted trees

## Proposition

*Let  $P$  be a rooted tree. Then,*

$$\text{Aut}(P) = (G_1 \wr S_{i_1}) \times (G_2 \wr S_{i_2}) \times \cdots \times (G_m \wr S_{i_m}),$$



# Automorphism of rooted trees

## Proposition

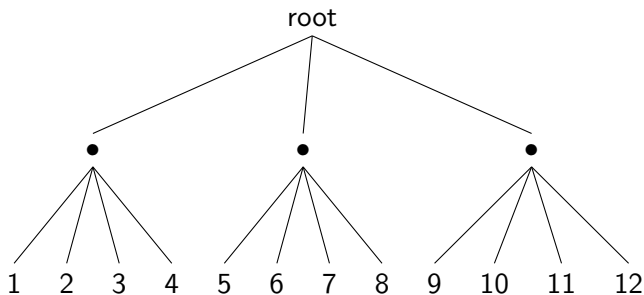
*Let  $P$  be a rooted tree. Then,*

$$\text{Aut}(P) = (G_1 \wr S_{i_1}) \times (G_2 \wr S_{i_2}) \times \cdots \times (G_m \wr S_{i_m}),$$

## Corollary

*Let  $P$  be a rooted tree with leaves  $L(P)$ , and let  $n = |L(P)|$ , then the action of  $\text{Aut}(P)$  on  $B_n$  induced from the action of  $\text{Aut}(P)$  on  $L(P)$  is CCT.*

# Rooted trees and the wreath product



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# Unimodality of ranks of certain edge posets

## Lemma

*Let  $C_n$  be the cyclic group which acts naturally on  $B_n$ , then size of the  $i^{\text{th}}$  rank of the poset  $\mathcal{E}(B_n)/C_n$  is*

$$|\mathcal{E}(B_n)/C_n|_i = \binom{n-1}{i}.$$

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## Lemma

Let  $C_p$  be the cyclic group with prime order  $p$ , then

$$|(\mathcal{E}(B_p)/C_p)_i| - |(\mathcal{E}(B_p)/C_p)_{i-1}| = \frac{p-1}{2}.$$

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## Proposition

The poset  $\mathcal{E}(B_n/C_n)$  is rank symmetric and rank unimodal.

# Unimodality of ranks of certain edge posets

## Lemma

*Let  $D_{2n}$  be the dihedral group of size  $2n$  which acts naturally on  $B_n$ , then size of the  $i^{\text{th}}$  rank of the poset  $\mathcal{E}(B_n)/D_{2n}$  is*

$$|\mathcal{E}(B_n)/D_{2n}|_i = \frac{1}{2} \left( \binom{n-1}{i} + \frac{1}{2} [(-1)^{n(i+1)} + 1] \cdot \binom{\lceil n/2 \rceil - 1}{\lceil (i+1)/2 \rceil - 1} \right)$$

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# The $q$ analog of the problem

## The $q$ -Boolean algebra

Let  $B_n(q)$  be the poset of all  $\mathbb{F}_q$ -subspaces of  $V_n(q) := (\mathbb{F}_q)^n$ , and  $G < GL_n(\mathbb{F}_q)$ . We consider  $\mathcal{E}(B_n(q))/G$  and  $\mathcal{E}(B_n(q))/G$ .

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## Lemma

*Let  $q$  be a prime, then*

$$|\mathcal{F}^1(B_n(q))/C_n(q)|_i = \binom{n-1}{i}_q.$$

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## Lemma

*Let  $q$  be a prime, then*

$$|\mathcal{F}^1(B_n(q))/C_n(q)|_i = \binom{n-1}{i}_q.$$

## Questions

Is  $\mathcal{E}(B_n(q)/G)$  Peck? or more weakly, is it rank unimodal?

# Some Generalizations of $\mathcal{E}$ and Remarks

## $\mathcal{E}^r(P)$

Similarly we can define the  $\mathcal{E}^r(P)$  on a graded poset  $P$ . The elements of  $\mathcal{E}^r(P)$  are  $(x, y)$  where  $x, y \in P$ ,  $x \leq_P y$ , and  $\text{rk}(y) = \text{rk}(x) + r$ . Define the covering relation  $\triangleleft_{\mathcal{E}}$  by  $(x, y) \triangleleft_{\mathcal{E}} (x', y')$  if  $x \triangleleft_P x'$  and  $y \triangleleft_P y'$ .

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## Other generalizations

$\mathcal{H}^r(P)$ ;  $\mathcal{E}^{\vec{r}}(P)$ ;  $\mathcal{H}^{\vec{r}}(P)$ .

Background  
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Edge Poset Construction  
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Main Result  
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CCT Actions  
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Non-CCT actions  
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Final remarks  
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# References

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