

Primitive orthogonal idempotents for R -trivial monoids

Chris Berg, Nantel Bergeron, Sandeep Bhargava, Franco Saliola

September 28, 2010

Abstract

We show that the notions of R -trivial monoid and weakly ordered monoid are equivalent. We use this fact to construct a complete system of orthogonal idempotents for all R -trivial monoids.

1 Introduction

Recently, Denton ([5], [6]) gave a construction for a complete system of orthogonal idempotents for the 0-Hecke algebra of type A , the first since the question was posed by Norton [9] in 1979. A complete system of orthogonal idempotents for *left regular bands* was found by Brown [3] and Saliola [10]. Finding such collections is an important problem in representation theory because they give a decomposition of the algebra into projective indecomposable modules: If $\{e_J\}_{J \in \mathfrak{J}}$ is such a collection for an algebra A , then $A = \bigoplus_{J \in \mathfrak{J}} Ae_J$ for indecomposable modules Ae_J . They also allow for the explicit computation of the quiver, the Cartan invariants, and the Wedderburn decomposition of the algebra (see [2], [1]).

Schocker [11] constructed a class of monoids, called *weakly ordered monoids*, to generalize 0-Hecke monoids and left regular bands, with the broader aim of finding a complete system of orthogonal idempotents for the corresponding monoid algebras.

A key step in being able to do so is recognizing that the notions of weakly ordered monoid and *R -trivial monoid* are one and the same. In Section 2, we fill out an outline of a proof that Steinberg [12] pointed out to us that connects the two concepts. In Section 3, we use the equivalence to provide a

construction of a complete system of orthogonal idempotents for the resulting monoid algebras.

It should be noted that Denton, Hivert, Schilling and Thiéry [7] give a construction of a complete system of orthogonal idempotents for *J-trivial monoids*, which are a subclass of *R-trivial monoids*. Left regular bands, for example, are *R-trivial* but not necessarily *J-trivial*. In this paper, we give a uniform construction for all *R-trivial monoids*.

Acknowledgements

The authors are grateful to Tom Denton, Florent Hivert, Anne Schilling, Ben Steinberg and Nicholas Thiéry for useful discussions. This work relied heavily on the computer explorations done in Sage [8] and the algebraic combinatorics developed by the Sage-Combinat [4] community. We are especially grateful to Nicholas Thiéry and Florent Hivert for sharing their code.

2 Weakly ordered monoids and *R-trivial monoids*

Given any monoid T , that is, a set with an associative multiplication and an identity element, we can define a preorder \leq on T as follows: Given $u, v \in T$, $u \leq v$ if there exists $w \in T$ such that $uw = v$. We write $u < v$ if $u \leq v$ but $u \neq v$. Unless stated otherwise, the monoids throughout the paper are endowed with this “weak” order.

Definition 2.1. *Let (\mathcal{L}, \preceq) be an upper semilattice. A **weakly ordered monoid** W is a finite monoid with two maps $C, D : W \rightarrow \mathcal{L}$ such that*

1. C is a surjection of monoids.
2. If $u, v \in W$ are such that $uv \leq u$, then $C(v) \preceq D(u)$.
3. If $u, v \in W$ are such that $C(v) \preceq D(u)$, then $uv = u$.

Remark 2.2. *In Schocker’s paper, he actually calls these weakly ordered semigroups. However our understanding is that monoids include a unity and semigroups do not. So throughout the paper we call these weakly ordered monoids.*

Definition 2.3. *We say that the monoid S is **R-trivial** if, for all $x, y \in S$, $xS = yS$ implies $x = y$.*

We restrict our discussion to *finite* R -trivial monoids.

Example 2.4. A monoid W is called a **left regular band** if $x^2 = x$ and $xyx = xy$ for all $x, y \in W$. Left-regular bands are R -trivial. Indeed, if $xW = yW$, then there exist $u, v \in W$ such that $xu = y$ and $x = yv$. But then, since $uv = uvu$,

$$x = yv = xuv = xuvu = yvu = xu = y.$$

Left regular bands are also weakly ordered monoids, see Shocker [11], Eg. 2.4 and Brown [3], Appendix B.

Example 2.5. Let G be a Coxeter group with simple generators $\{s_i : i \in I\}$ and relations:

- $s_i^2 = 1$,
- $\underbrace{s_i s_j s_i s_j \dots}_{m_{ij}} = \underbrace{s_j s_i s_j s_i \dots}_{m_{ij}}$ for positive integers m_{ij} .

Then the 0-Hecke monoid $H_n^G(0)$ has generators $\{T_i : i \in I\}$ and relations:

- $T_i^2 = T_i$,
- $\underbrace{T_i T_j T_i T_j \dots}_{m_{ij}} = \underbrace{T_j T_i T_j T_i \dots}_{m_{ij}}$ for positive integers m_{ij} .

Of particular interest is the case when G is the symmetric group \mathfrak{S}_n . Norton [9] gave a decomposition of the monoid algebra $\mathbb{C}H_n^{\mathfrak{S}_n}(0)$ into left ideals and classified its irreducible representations. She was not able to construct a complete system of orthogonal idempotents for the algebra. Denton [5] gave the first construction of a set of orthogonal idempotents for $\mathbb{C}H_n^{\mathfrak{S}_n}(0)$.

The weakly ordered monoid $H_n^{\mathfrak{S}_n}(0)$ has maps C and D onto the lattice of subsets of $\{1, \dots, n-1\}$. The map C is the *content set* of an element, that is, if $x = T_{i_1} T_{i_2} \dots T_{i_k}$, then $C(x)$ is the set containing i_1, i_2, \dots, i_k . The map D is the subset of right descents of an element, that is, $xT_i = x$ if and only if $i \in D(x)$.

Example 2.6. Consider the 3×3 -matrices over \mathbb{Z} given by

$$g_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad g_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Let S be the monoid with identity generated by g_1 and g_2 , that is, $S = \{1, g_1, g_2, g_1g_2, g_2g_1\}$. S is both an R -trivial monoid and a weakly ordered monoid. For example, we can take \mathcal{L} be to be usual lattice of subsets of $\{1, 2\}$, with $C : S \rightarrow \mathcal{L}$ given by

$$C(1) = \emptyset, C(g_1) = \{1\}, C(g_2) = \{2\}, C(g_1g_2) = C(g_2g_1) = \{1, 2\},$$

and $D : S \rightarrow \mathcal{L}$ given by

$$D(1) = \emptyset, D(g_1) = \{1\}, D(g_2) = D(g_1g_2) = \{2\}, D(g_2g_1) = \{1, 2\}.$$

S , however, is neither a left regular band, since g_1g_2 is not idempotent, nor isomorphic to the 0-Hecke monoid $\mathbb{C}H_3^{\text{E}_3}(0)$ on 2 generators, since the latter has 6 elements.

The fact that the above examples are both weakly ordered monoids and R -trivial monoids is no coincidence: these two notions are equivalent.

Proposition 2.7. *A monoid S is R -trivial if and only if the preorder \leq defined above is a partial order.*

Proof. Suppose S is an R -trivial monoid and $x, y \in S$ are such that $x \leq y$ and $y \leq x$. Then there exist $u, v \in S$ such that $xu = y$ and $yv = x$. So $y \in xS$ and $x \in yS$, implying that $yS \subseteq xS$ and $xS \subseteq yS$. That is, $xS = yS$. Since S is R -trivial, $x = y$.

On the other hand, suppose that the given preorder is a partial order, and that $xS = yS$ for some $x, y \in S$. Since $x = x \cdot 1 \in xS = yS$, we have that $x = yu$ for some $u \in S$. So $y \leq x$. Similarly, $y \in xS$ implies that $x \leq y$. The antisymmetry of \leq implies then that $x = y$. So S is R -trivial. \square

Corollary 2.8. *A weakly ordered monoid is an R -trivial monoid.*

Proof. Let W be a weakly ordered monoid. Lemma 2.1 in [11] shows that the defining conditions of a weakly ordered monoid imply that the preorder on W is a partial order. The result now follows from Proposition 2.7. \square

Let S be a finite R -trivial monoid. We will show that S is a weakly ordered monoid using an argument outlined by Steinberg [12].

We must establish the existence of an upper semi-lattice \mathcal{L} and two maps C and D from S to \mathcal{L} that satisfy the conditions of Definition 2.1. We gather here the definitions of \mathcal{L} , C and D :

1. \mathcal{L} is the set of left ideals Se generated by idempotents e in S , ordered by reverse inclusion;
2. $C : S \rightarrow \mathcal{L}$ is defined as $C(x) = Sx^\omega$, where x^ω is the idempotent power of x (see Corollary 2.10);
3. $D : S \rightarrow \mathcal{L}$ is defined as $D(u) = C(e)$, where e is a maximal element in the set $\{s \in S : us = u\}$ (with respect to the preorder \leq).

The remainder of this section is dedicated to showing that these objects are well-defined and that they satisfy the conditions of Definition 2.1.

We begin by using Proposition 2.7 to show that the submonoid generated by any x in S stabilizes at a particular power of x .

Lemma 2.9. *For each $x \in S$, there exists a positive integer $\omega = \omega(x)$ such that $x^\omega x = x^\omega$.*

Proof. If $x = 1$, we may take ω to be 1. If $x \neq 1$, consider the set of positive integers $N = \{n : x^n = x^k \text{ for some } 0 \leq k < n\}$. Since the set $\{1, x, x^2, x^3, \dots\}$ is a subset of S and S is finite, the set N is nonempty. Let $m + 1$ be the smallest member of N . Since $x \neq 1$, $m + 1 \geq 2$. The minimality of $m + 1$ tells us that $1, x, x^2, \dots, x^m$ are distinct: Given our order, $1 < x < x^2 < \dots < x^m$. If $x^{m+1} = x^k$, where $k < m$, then we would have that $x^m \leq x^k$ because $x^m x = x^{m+1} = x^k$, and $x^k \leq x^m$ because $x^k x^{m-k} = x^m$. But then Proposition 2.7 tells us that $x^k = x^m$, contradicting $x^k < x^m$. So x^{m+1} must be x^m and we may take ω to equal m . \square

Consequently, every element in an R -trivial monoid has some power that is idempotent.

Corollary 2.10. *For each $x \in S$, there exists a positive integer $\omega = \omega(x)$ such that $(x^\omega)^2 = x^\omega$.*

Remark 2.11. *In what follows, if $x \in \mathbb{C}S$ and there exists an N such that $x^{N+1} = x^N$, we sometimes abuse notation by writing x^N instead of x^ω .*

The next technical lemma sets the groundwork needed to define the lattice \mathcal{L} and the maps $C, D : S \rightarrow \mathcal{L}$.

Lemma 2.12. *Let S be a finite R -trivial monoid. For all x and y in S ,*

1. $(xy)^\omega x = (xy)^\omega$
2. $(xy)^\omega x^\omega = (xy)^\omega$
3. $(x^\omega y^\omega)^\omega x^\omega = (x^\omega y^\omega)^\omega$
4. $(x^\omega y^\omega)^\omega = (x^\omega y^\omega)^\omega (xy)$
5. $(x^\omega y^\omega)^\omega = (x^\omega y^\omega)^\omega (xy)^\omega$

Proof. (1) Since $(xy)^\omega x \in (xy)^\omega S$, it follows that $(xy)^\omega xS \subseteq (xy)^\omega S$. To show the reverse inclusion, note that $(xy)^\omega = (xy)^\omega(xy) = ((xy)^\omega x)y \in (xy)^\omega xS$, where the first equality follows from Lemma 2.9. So $(xy)^\omega S \subseteq (xy)^\omega xS$. Thus $(xy)^\omega xS = (xy)^\omega S$. Since S is an R -trivial monoid, the desired result follows.

- (2) This follows from applying (1) repeatedly.
- (3) Let $u = x^\omega$ and $v = y^\omega$. Now, by (1), $(uv)^\omega u = (uv)^\omega$.
- (4) We compute:

$$\begin{aligned}
(x^\omega y^\omega)^\omega &= (x^\omega y^\omega)^{\omega-1} x^\omega y^\omega \\
&= (x^\omega y^\omega)^{\omega-1} x^\omega y^\omega y && \text{(by Lemma 2.9)} \\
&= (x^\omega y^\omega)^\omega y \\
&= (x^\omega y^\omega)^\omega x^\omega y && \text{(by (3))} \\
&= (x^\omega y^\omega)^\omega x^\omega xy && \text{(by Lemma 2.9)} \\
&= (x^\omega y^\omega)^\omega xy && \text{(by (3))}
\end{aligned}$$

- (5) This follows by repeatedly applying part (4). □

We are now ready to construct a lattice corresponding to the R -trivial monoid S . Define

$$\mathcal{L} = \{Se : e \in S \text{ such that } e^2 = e\}.$$

That is, \mathcal{L} is the set of left ideals generated by idempotents. Define a partial order on \mathcal{L} by

$$Se \preceq Sf \iff Se \supseteq Sf.$$

Proposition 2.13. *If e and f are idempotents in S , then $S(ef)^\omega$ is the least upper bound of Se and Sf in \mathcal{L} .*

Proof. First, let us show that $S(ef)^\omega$ is an upper bound for Se and Sf . Since, by Lemma 2.12(1), $(ef)^\omega = (ef)^\omega e$, we have that $(ef)^\omega \in Se$. Hence $S(ef)^\omega \subseteq Se$ and $S(ef)^\omega \succeq Se$. Moreover, $(ef)^\omega = ((ef)^{\omega-1}e)f \in Sf$. So

$S(e f)^\omega \subseteq S f$ and $S(e f)^\omega \succeq S f$. So $S(e f)^\omega$ is an upper bound for $S e$ and $S f$.

Next, let us show that $S(e f)^\omega$ is the least upper bound for $S e$ and $S f$. Suppose g is an idempotent in S such that $S g$ is an upper bound for $S e$ and $S f$. That is, $S g \subseteq S e$ and $S g \subseteq S f$. Since $S g \subseteq S e$, $g = t e$ for some $t \in S$. But then $g e = (t e) e = t e^2 = t e = g$. Similarly, $S g \subseteq S f$ implies that $g f = g$. So $g(e f) = (g e) f = g f = g$ and it follows that

$$g = g(e f) = \left(g(e f) \right) (e f) = g(e f)^2 = \left(g(e f) \right) (e f)^2 = g(e f)^3 = \cdots = g(e f)^\omega.$$

Consequently, $g \in S(e f)^\omega$, $S g \subseteq S(e f)^\omega$, and $S g \succeq S(e f)^\omega$. So $S(e f)^\omega$ is the least upper bound of $S e$ and $S f$. \square

Hence, we may define the join of two elements $S e$ and $S f$ in \mathcal{L} by

$$S e \vee S f = S(e f)^\omega.$$

That is, \mathcal{L} is an upper semilattice with respect to this join operation.

Define a map $C : S \rightarrow \mathcal{L}$ by $C(x) = S x^\omega$.

Proposition 2.14. *C is a surjective monoid morphism.*

Proof. Let $x, y \in S$. By Lemma 2.12 (5), we know that $(x^\omega y^\omega)^\omega = (x^\omega y^\omega)^\omega (x y)^\omega$. Hence, $(x^\omega y^\omega)^\omega \in S(x y)^\omega$ and $S(x^\omega y^\omega)^\omega \subseteq S(x y)^\omega$.

To show the reverse inclusion, we begin by noting that, by Lemma 2.12 (2), $(x y)^\omega = (x y)^\omega x^\omega$. So $(x y)^\omega \in S x^\omega$ and $S(x y)^\omega \subseteq S x^\omega$. That is, $S(x y)^\omega \succeq S x^\omega$. Also, by using Lemmas 2.9 and 2.12 (1), we have

$$\begin{aligned} (x y)^\omega &= (x y)^\omega (x y) \\ &= \left((x y)^\omega x \right) y = (x y)^\omega y \\ &= \left((x y)^\omega (x y) \right) y \\ &= \left((x y)^\omega x \right) y^2 = (x y)^\omega y^2 \\ &= \cdots \\ &= \left((x y)^\omega x \right) y^\omega = (x y)^\omega y^\omega. \end{aligned}$$

So $(x y)^\omega \in S y^\omega$, which implies that $S(x y)^\omega \subseteq S y^\omega$ and $S(x y)^\omega \succeq S y^\omega$. In particular, $S(x y)^\omega$ is an upper bound for both $S x^\omega$ and $S y^\omega$. So $S(x y)^\omega \succeq S x^\omega \vee S y^\omega = S(x^\omega y^\omega)^\omega$, that is, $S(x y)^\omega \subseteq S(x^\omega y^\omega)^\omega$.

Thus $C(xy) = S(xy)^\omega = S(x^\omega y^\omega)^\omega = Sx^\omega \vee Sy^\omega = C(x) \vee C(y)$, and C is a monoid morphism. Finally, we know that every element of \mathcal{L} is of the form Se for some idempotent e in S . But then $C(e) = Se^\omega = Se$; that is, C is a surjective morphism. \square

Given $x \in S$, we defined $C(x)$ to be the left ideal of S generated by x^ω . Here is an alternate characterization of $C(x)$:

Proposition 2.15. *Given $x \in S$, $C(x) = \{a \in S : ax = a\}$.*

Proof. Take an arbitrary element in Sx^ω , say tx^ω . Since $(tx^\omega)x = t(x^\omega x) = tx^\omega$ by Lemma 2.9, we see that $tx^\omega \in \{a \in S : ax = a\}$. On the other hand, take $b \in \{a \in S : ax = a\}$. Then

$$bx^\omega = (bx)x^{\omega-1} = bx^{\omega-1} = (bx)x^{\omega-2} = bx^{\omega-2} = \dots = bx = b.$$

So $b \in Sx^\omega$. \square

We now define a map $D : S \rightarrow \mathcal{L}$. Given $u \in S$, let $D(u) = C(e)$, where e is a maximal element in the set $\{s \in S : us = u\}$.

To check whether the map D is well-defined, let e and f be two distinct maximal elements in $\{s \in S : us = u\}$. Since $e \leq ef$ and $u(ef) = (ue)f = uf = u$, by the maximality of e , $e = ef$. Similarly, since $f \leq fe$ and $u(fe) = u$, the maximality of f implies $f = fe$. But then, by Proposition 2.14,

$$C(e) = C(ef) = C(e) \vee C(f) = C(f) \vee C(e) = C(fe) = C(f).$$

Note that the maximality of e and $ue^2 = u$ also implies that $e = e^2$, that is, e is idempotent.

The next proposition shows that the C and D maps on S interact in precisely the manner given in conditions 2 and 3 in Definition 2.1 of a weakly ordered monoid. The following lemma will help us prove this proposition.

Lemma 2.16. *Let $x, y \in S$. If $x \leq y$, then $C(x) \preceq C(y)$.*

Proof. Take $s \in C(y)$. Then $sy = s$. Since $x \leq y$, there exists $t \in S$ such that $y = xt$. So $sxt = s$ implying $sx \leq s$. But $s \leq sx$. Since, by Proposition 2.7, the order on S is a partial order, $sx = s$. That is, $s \in C(x)$. Hence $C(y) \subseteq C(x)$, that is, $C(x) \preceq C(y)$. \square

Proposition 2.17. *Let $u, v \in S$.*

(i) *If $uv \leq u$, then $C(v) \preceq D(u)$.*

(ii) *If $C(v) \preceq D(u)$, then $uv = u$.*

Proof. (i) Since $u \leq uv$, by Proposition 2.7, $u = uv$. Hence v lies in the set $\{s \in S : us = u\}$. Let e be a maximal element in this set such that $v \leq e$. Then, by Lemma 2.16, $C(v) \preceq C(e) = D(u)$.

(ii) By definition, $D(u) = C(e)$, where e is a maximal element of $\{s \in S : us = u\}$. So if $C(v) \preceq D(u)$, then $C(v) \preceq C(e)$. Hence $C(e) \subseteq C(v)$. Since $ue = u$, u lies in $C(e)$. So u is also a member of $C(v)$; that is, $uv = u$. \square

Propositions 2.14 and 2.17 tell us that an R -trivial monoid is a weakly ordered monoid. Combining this with Corollary 2.8, we have the following result.

Theorem 2.18. *A monoid W is a weakly ordered monoid if and only if it is an R -trivial monoid.*

3 Constructing idempotents

We begin this section with a small technical lemma about R -trivial monoids. The proof is rather trivial, but we use it often enough in proofs to justify stating it at the onset.

Lemma 3.1. *Suppose W is an R -trivial monoid. If $x, y, z \in W$ are such that $xyz = x$, then $xy = x$.*

Consequently, if $x, y_1, y_2, \dots, y_m \in W$ are such that $xy_1y_2 \dots y_m = x$, then $xy_i = x$ for all $1 \leq i \leq m$.

Proof. If $xyz = x$ then $xyW = xW$. Therefore $xy = x$ by the definition of W being R -trivial. The second statement immediately follows from the first. \square

Definition 3.2. *Let A be an algebra. Let $\Lambda = \{e_J : J \in \mathcal{I}\}$ be a set of nonzero elements of A . We say that Λ is a **complete system of orthogonal idempotents for A** if:*

1. e_J is idempotent, that is, $e_J^2 = e_J$ for all $J \in \mathcal{I}$;

2. e_J is orthogonal to e_K , that is, $e_J e_K = 0$ for $J, K \in \mathcal{I}$ with $J \neq K$; and
3. the collection Λ is a maximal set of nonzero elements with properties 1 and 2.

Remark 3.3. A collection of nonzero elements that satisfies 1, 2 and 3 in the above definition will also satisfy the following two conditions:

- e_J is primitive for all $J \in \mathcal{I}$, that is, if $e_J = x + y$, where x and y are idempotent and $xy = yx = 0$, then either x or y is zero; and
- $\sum_{J \in \mathcal{I}} e_J = 1$.

To see primitive, just note that if e_J can be written as $x + y$, then we could replace e_J in Λ with x and y , contradicting the maximality of Λ . To see the second condition, we just note that if $\sum_J e_J \neq 1$, then $1 - \sum_J e_J$ is idempotent and orthogonal to all other e_J . Combining this element with Λ would again contradict the maximality of Λ .

Let W denote a weakly ordered monoid with C and D being the associated “content” and “descent” maps from W to an upper semi-lattice \mathcal{L} . We let \mathcal{G} denote a set of generators of W . The main goal of this paper is to build a method for finding a complete system of orthogonal idempotents for the monoid algebra $\mathbb{C}W$. In particular, this solves the problem posed by Norton about the 0-Hecke algebra for the symmetric group.

For each $J \in \mathcal{L}$, we define a **Norton element** $A_J T_J$. Let us begin by defining T_J .

For each $J \in \mathcal{L}$, let

$$T_J = \left(\prod_{\substack{g \in \mathcal{G} \\ C(g) \leq J}} g^\omega \right)^\omega \in W.$$

Remark 3.4. A different ordering of the set \mathcal{G} of generators may produce different T_J 's; so we fix an (arbitrarily chosen) order.

We now define the A_J in the “Norton element” $A_J T_J$. First we let

$$B_J = \prod_{\substack{g \in \mathcal{G} \\ C(g) \not\leq J}} (1 - g^\omega) \in \mathbb{C}W.$$

We would like to raise B_J to a high enough power to make it idempotent. However, $B_J \notin W$, so B_J^ω may not be well defined. The following lemma and corollary resolve this problem.

Definition 3.5. Given $x \in \mathbb{C}W$ if $x = \sum_{w \in W} c_w w$, then the **coefficient** of w in x is c_w . We say w is a **term** of x if the coefficient of w in x is nonzero.

Lemma 3.6. Let $b \in W$ and suppose $bx^\omega = b$ for some $x \in \mathcal{G}$ with $C(x) \not\leq J$.

1. Then the coefficient of b in bB_J is zero; and
2. if c is a term of bB_J , then $c > b$.

Proof. Let $\mathcal{D} = \{x^\omega : x \in \mathcal{G}, C(x) \not\leq J, bx^\omega = b\}$. By assumption \mathcal{D} is not empty. Let g_1, g_2, \dots, g_m be the generators which appear in the definition of B_J . Then

$$B_J = \sum_{i_1 < i_2 < \dots < i_k} (-1)^k g_{i_1}^\omega g_{i_2}^\omega \cdots g_{i_k}^\omega.$$

It follows from Lemma 3.1 that the coefficient of b in bB_J is counting the terms in B_J where each of g_{i_1}, \dots, g_{i_k} come from \mathcal{D} , weighted with sign $(-1)^k$. If $|\mathcal{D}| = n \geq 1$ then this is $1 - n + \binom{n}{2} - \binom{n}{3} + \dots + (-1)^n = 0$.

The second statement follows from the first and the definition of order, as every term c of bB_J must be of the form $c = bm$ for some term m appearing in B_J , and hence $c \geq b$. \square

Lemma 3.7. For every $J \in \mathcal{L}$, there exists an integer N such that $y^\omega B_J^N = 0$ for all $y \in \mathcal{G}$ with $C(y) \not\leq J$.

Proof. Let $N = \ell + 1$, where ℓ is the length of the longest chain of elements in the poset (W, \leq) .

Suppose $y^\omega B_J^N \neq 0$. Let c_N be a term of B_J^N . Then c_N is a term of $c_{N-1} B_J$ for some term c_{N-1} in $y^\omega B_J^{N-1}$. Since $y^\omega y^\omega = y^\omega$, Lemma 3.6 (1) implies that y^ω is not a term of $y^\omega B_J^k$ for any $k \geq 1$. Hence, $c_{N-1} = y^\omega g_1^\omega \cdots g_m^\omega$ for some $m \geq 1$ and $g_i \in \mathcal{G}$ with $C(g_i) \not\leq J$. In particular, $c_{N-1} g_m^\omega = c_{N-1}$, and so, by Lemma 3.6 (2), $c_N > c_{N-1}$.

Repeated application of this argument produces a decreasing chain

$$c_N > c_{N-1} > c_{N-2} > \dots > c_1$$

of N elements in W , contradicting the fact that the length of the longest chain of elements in (W, \leq) is $\ell < N$. \square

Corollary 3.8. *For every $J \in \mathcal{L}$ there exists an N such that $B_J^{N+1} = B_J^N$.*

Proof. By Lemma 3.7, $(B - 1)B^N = 0$ for a sufficiently large N since every element of $B - 1$ is of the form y^ω where $y \in \mathcal{G}$ and $C(y) \not\leq J$. \square

This now allows us to define $A_J = B_J^\omega$.

Lemma 3.9. *Let $J \in \mathcal{L}$. Then:*

1. $T_J x = T_J$ for all x such that $C(x) \leq J$;
2. $y^\omega A_J = 0$ for all y such that $C(y) \not\leq J$ and $y \in \mathcal{G}$.

Proof. Since $J = C(T_J)$, $C(x) \leq J$ implies $C(x) \supseteq C(T_J)$. We also know that $T_J \in C(T_J)$ because T_J is idempotent. So $T_J \in C(x)$, that is, $T_J x = T_J$.

The second part follows from Lemma 3.7 since $A = B^N$. \square

Remark 3.10. *Although T_J and A_J are idempotents individually, their product, the ‘‘Norton element’’ z_J , need not be. For example, take the 0-Hecke algebra $H_6(0)$ corresponding to the symmetric group \mathfrak{S}_6 . Let J be the subset $\{1, 4, 5\}$ of $\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$. Then $T_J = T_1 T_4 T_5 T_4$, $A_J = (1 - T_2)(1 - T_3)(1 - T_2)$ and z_J is their product. No power of z_J is idempotent.*

Recall that $z_J = A_J T_J$.

Lemma 3.11. *The coefficient of T_J in z_J is 1. All other terms y in z_J have $C(y) \succ J$.*

Proof. The coefficient of the identity element 1 in A_J is 1. Each term of $A_J T_J$ is of the form $a T_J$ for a term a of A_J . If $a \neq 1$, then $C(a) \not\leq J$ so $C(a T_J) = C(a) \vee C(T_J) \succ C(T_J) = J$. Hence the coefficient of T_J in $A_J T_J$ is 1 and all other terms have content greater than J . \square

Lemma 3.12. *If $J \not\leq K$ then $z_J z_K = 0$.*

Proof. Since $J \not\leq K$, there exists a $g \in \mathcal{G}$ with $C(g) \leq J$ but $C(g) \not\leq K$. Expanding the product

$$z_J z_K = A_J T_J A_K T_K.$$

We will show $T_J A_K = 0$. By Lemma 3.9 (1), $T_J g^\omega = T_J$ and by Lemma 3.9 (2), $(1 - g^\omega) A_J = A_J$ or $g^\omega A_J = 0$. Hence $T_J A_J = T_J g^\omega A_J = 0$. \square

Definition 3.13. Let $J \in \mathcal{L}$. Let

$$P_J := \sum_{n,m \geq 0} (1 - z_J)^{n+m} z_J^2 = \sum_{k \geq 0} (k+1) (1 - z_J)^k z_J^2.$$

(Lemma 3.15 shows there are only finitely many terms in this summation.)

Remark 3.14. A monoid S is called J -trivial if $SxS = SyS$ implies $x = y$ for all $x, y \in S$. When S is J -trivial it suffices to define

$$P_K = \sum_{n \geq 0} (1 - z_K)^n z_K.$$

The next result shows that the sum in the definition of P_J contains only finitely many summands, and so P_J is a well-defined element of $\mathbb{C}W$ for each $J \in \mathcal{L}$.

Lemma 3.15. For all $J \in \mathcal{L}$, there exists an N such that $(1 - z_J)^N z_J^2 = 0$.

Proof. To simplify the notation, let us temporarily set $T = T_J$, $A = A_J$ and $z = z_J = AT$. We first note that for any integer $k \geq 0$,

$$\begin{aligned} (1 - z)^k z^2 &= z(1 - z)^k z \\ &= AT(1 - AT)^k AT \\ &= A(T(1 - A)T)^k AT. \end{aligned}$$

We will show that $(T(1 - A)T)^N A = 0$ for $N > \ell$, where ℓ is the length of the longest chain in the poset (W, \leq) .

Let us write $1 - A = \sum_{a \in W} c_a a$ where each term has $c_a \neq 0$ only if $a = g_1^\omega \cdots g_k^\omega$ with $C(g_i) \not\leq J$ for all i . Therefore

$$T(1 - A)T = \sum_{a \in W} c_a TaT = \sum_{\substack{a \in W \\ TaT = Ta}} c_a Ta + \sum_{\substack{a \in W \\ TaT \neq Ta}} c_a TaT.$$

Note that $c_1 = 0$ since 1 is not a term of $(1 - A)$. If $TaT = Ta$, then we have

$$TaT \cdot (T(1 - A)T) = Ta(1 - A)T = Ta - TaAT = Ta$$

since $aA = 0$ by Lemma 3.9. Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} (T(1-A)T)^N &= \left(\sum_{\substack{a_1 \in W \\ Ta_1 T = Ta_1}} c_{a_1} Ta_1 + \sum_{\substack{a_1 \in W \\ Ta_1 T \neq Ta_1}} c_{a_1} Ta_1 T \right) (T(1-A)T)^{N-1} \\ &= \sum_{\substack{a_1 \in W \\ Ta_1 T = Ta_1}} c_{a_1} Ta_1 + \left(\sum_{\substack{a_1 \in W \\ Ta_1 T \neq Ta_1}} c_{a_1} Ta_1 T \right) (T(1-A)T)^{N-1}. \end{aligned}$$

Next, rewrite the second summand above using the same argument:

$$\begin{aligned} &\left(\sum_{\substack{a_1 \in W \\ Ta_1 T \neq Ta_1}} c_{a_1} Ta_1 T \right) (T(1-A)T)^{N-1} \\ &= \left(\sum_{\substack{a_1 \in W \\ Ta_1 T \neq Ta_1}} c_{a_1} Ta_1 T \right) \left(\sum_{a_2 \in W} c_{a_2} Ta_2 T \right) (T(1-A)T)^{N-2} \\ &= \left(\sum_{\substack{a_1, a_2 \in W \\ Ta_1 T \neq Ta_1}} c_{a_1} c_{a_2} Ta_1 Ta_2 T \right) (T(1-A)T)^{N-2} \\ &= \sum_{\substack{Ta_1 T \neq Ta_1 \\ Ta_1 Ta_2 T = Ta_1 Ta_2}} c_{a_1} c_{a_2} Ta_1 Ta_2 \\ &\quad + \left(\sum_{\substack{Ta_1 T \neq Ta_1 \\ Ta_1 Ta_2 T \neq Ta_1 Ta_2}} c_{a_1} c_{a_2} Ta_1 Ta_2 T \right) (T(1-A)T)^{N-2}. \end{aligned}$$

Continuing in this way, we can write $(T(1-A)T)^N$ in the form

$$\begin{aligned} (T(1-A)T)^N &= \left(\sum c_{a_1} Ta_1 + \cdots + \sum c_{a_1} \cdots c_{a_N} Ta_1 \cdots Ta_N \right) \\ &\quad + \sum_{\substack{Ta_1 \cdots Ta_i T \neq Ta_1 \cdots Ta_i \\ 1 \leq i \leq N}} c_{a_1} \cdots c_{a_N} Ta_1 \cdots Ta_N T. \end{aligned}$$

By Lemma 3.9, we have $a_i A = 0$ for all terms a_i in $1 - A$, and so

$$(T(1 - A)T)^N \cdot A = \left(\sum_{\substack{Ta_1 \cdots Ta_i T \neq Ta_1 \cdots Ta_i \\ 1 \leq i \leq N}} c_{a_1} \cdots c_{a_N} Ta_1 \cdots Ta_N T \right) A.$$

This summation is 0 as it ranges over an empty set: indeed, if it is not empty, we would have an increasing chain of length $N > \ell$, namely

$$Ta_1 < Ta_1 Ta_2 < Ta_1 Ta_2 Ta_3 < \cdots < Ta_1 Ta_2 \cdots Ta_N,$$

Therefore, $(T(1 - A)T)^N A = 0$. \square

Lemma 3.16. *The coefficient of T_J in P_J is 1 and all other terms y of P_J have $C(y) \succ J$.*

Proof. If $n + m > 0$ then

$$A_J T_J A_J T_J (1 - A_J T_J)^{n+m} = A_J T_J A_J (T_J - T_J A_J T_J)^{n+m}.$$

Each term x in $(T_J - T_J A_J T_J)^{n+m}$ has $C(x) \succ J$, so no T_J appears in $z_J^2(1 - z_J)^{n+m}$. The coefficient of T_J in z_J is 1, by Lemma 3.11. Hence T_J appears in $z_J^2(1 - z_J)^0$ with coefficient 1. By Lemma 3.11, since all of the terms $y \neq T_J$ of z_J have $C(y) \succ J$ and P_J is a polynomial in z_J , all other terms w of P_J must have $C(w) \succ J$. \square

Lemma 3.17. *As polynomials in x ,*

$$x \sum_{n=0}^N (1 - x)^n = 1 - (1 - x)^{N+1},$$

for any nonnegative integer N .

Proof. Induct on N . \square

Proposition 3.18. *For each $J \in \mathcal{L}$, the element P_J is idempotent.*

Proof. Let $J \in \mathcal{L}$ be fixed and let N be such that $(1 - z_J)^N z_J^2 = 0$. Let us temporarily denote z_J by z . We can use Lemma 3.17 to rewrite P_J as

$$\begin{aligned}
P_J &= \sum_{n,m \geq 0} z^2 (1-z)^{n+m} \\
&= \sum_{n=0}^N \sum_{m=0}^{N-n} z^2 (1-z)^{n+m} \\
&= \sum_{n=0}^N (1-z)^n \left(z^2 \sum_{m=0}^{N-n} (1-z)^m \right) \\
&= \sum_{n=0}^N (1-z)^n (z - z(1-z)^{N-n+1}) \\
&= z \left(\sum_{n=0}^N (1-z)^n \right) - (N+1)z(1-z)^{N+1} \\
&= 1 - (1-z)^{N+1} - (N+1)z(1-z)^{N+1}.
\end{aligned}$$

This implies that $z^2 P_J = z^2$ since $z^2(1-z)^{N+1} = 0$, and so

$$P_J^2 = \left(\sum_{n=0}^N \sum_{m=0}^{N-n} (1-z)^{n+m} z^2 \right) P_J = \sum_{n=0}^N \sum_{m=0}^{N-n} (1-z)^{n+m} z^2 = P_J. \quad \square$$

Lemma 3.19. For all $J, K \in \mathcal{L}$, with $J \not\prec K$, $P_J P_K = 0$.

Proof. This is implied by Lemma 3.12 and the fact that P_J is a polynomial in z_J with no constant term. \square

Definition 3.20. For each $J \in \mathcal{L}$, let $e_J := P_J \left(1 - \sum_{K \succ J} e_K \right)$.

Lemma 3.21. T_J occurs in e_J with coefficient 1. All other terms y of e_J have $C(y) \succ J$. In particular, $e_J \neq 0$.

Proof. We proceed by induction. If J is maximal, then $e_J = P_J$, so the statement is implied by Lemma 3.16.

Now suppose the statement is true for all $M \succ J$. Then $e_J = P_J(1 - \sum_{M \succ J} e_M)$. By induction, all terms x of e_M have $C(x) \succeq M \succ J$. So terms y from $P_J e_M$ have $C(y) \succeq M \succ J$. The only other terms are those from P_J , for which the statement was proved in Lemma 3.16. \square

Lemma 3.22. $e_K P_J = 0$ for $K \not\leq J$.

Proof. The proof is by a downward induction on the semilattice. If K is maximal, then $e_K = P_K$, so by Lemma 3.19, $e_K P_J = P_K P_J = 0$.

Now suppose that for every $L \succ K$, $e_L P_J = 0$ for $L \not\leq J$, and we will show that $e_K P_J = 0$ for $K \not\leq J$. We expand $e_K P_J$:

$$e_K P_J = P_K \left(1 - \sum_{L \succ K} e_L \right) P_J = P_K P_J - \sum_{L \succ K} P_K e_L P_J.$$

Since $K \not\leq J$, we have $P_K P_J = 0$ by Lemma 3.19, and $e_L P_J = 0$ by induction, since $L \succ K$ and $K \not\leq J$ implies $L \not\leq J$. \square

Corollary 3.23. e_J is idempotent.

Proof. We expand $e_J e_J$:

$$\begin{aligned} e_J e_J &= P_J \left(1 - \sum_{M \succ J} e_M \right) P_J \left(1 - \sum_{M \succ J} e_M \right) \\ &= P_J \left(P_J - \sum_{M \succ J} e_M P_J \right) \left(1 - \sum_{M \succ J} e_M \right) \\ &= P_J^2 \left(1 - \sum_{M \succ J} e_M \right) && \text{(by Lemma 3.22)} \\ &= P_J \left(1 - \sum_{M \succ J} e_M \right) && \text{(by Lemma 3.18)} \\ &= e_J && \square \end{aligned}$$

Lemma 3.24. $e_J e_K = 0$ for $J \neq K$.

Proof. The proof is by downward induction on the lattice \mathcal{L} . For a maximal element $M \in \mathcal{L}$, $e_M = P_M$, so $e_M e_K = P_M P_K (1 - \sum e_L) = 0$ by Lemma 3.19. Now suppose that for all $M \succ J$, $e_M e_K = 0$ for $M \neq K$ and we will show that $e_J e_K = 0$ for $J \neq K$. We expand $e_J e_K$:

$$e_J e_K = P_J \left(1 - \sum_{L \succ J} e_L \right) e_K = P_J \left(e_K - \sum_{L \succ J} e_L e_K \right) \quad (1)$$

If $K \not\succeq J$, then $\sum_{L \succ J} e_L e_K = 0$ by our induction hypothesis, so $P_J(e_K - \sum_{L \succ J} e_L e_K) = P_J e_K = P_J P_K (1 - \sum_{M \succ K} e_M) = 0$ by Lemma 3.19.

If $K \succ J$, then $\sum_{L \succ J} e_L e_K = e_K$ since e_K is idempotent and $e_L e_K = 0$ for $L \neq K$ by the inductive hypothesis. Therefore $e_K - \sum_{L \succ J} e_L e_K = 0$ and hence the right hand side of (1) is zero. \square

Theorem 3.25. *The set $\{e_J : J \in \mathcal{L}\}$ is a complete collection of orthogonal idempotents for $\mathbb{C}W$.*

Proof. From [11], we know that the maximal number of such idempotents is the cardinality of \mathcal{L} . The rest of the claim is just Lemma 3.21, Corollary 3.23 and Lemma 3.24. \square

Appendix: Two examples

We show by example how to use the above construction to create orthogonal idempotents for R -trivial monoids.

Idempotents of the free left regular band on two generators

Let W be the left regular band freely generated by two elements a, b . Then $W = \{1, a, b, ab, ba\}$. All elements of W are idempotent. Also $aba = ab$ and $bab = ba$. The lattice \mathcal{L} has four elements: $\emptyset := W, \mathbf{a} := Wa, \mathbf{b} := Wb$ and $\mathbf{ab} := Wab = Wba$, where $\emptyset \prec \mathbf{a} \prec \mathbf{ab}$ and $\emptyset \prec \mathbf{b} \prec \mathbf{ab}$, but \mathbf{a} and \mathbf{b} have no relation.

When $J = \emptyset$, neither of the generators satisfies $C(g) \preceq J$, so $T_\emptyset = 1 \in W$. $B_\emptyset = (1 - a)(1 - b)$. Also

$$\begin{aligned} B_\emptyset^2 &= (1 - a)(1 - b)(1 - a)(1 - b) \\ &= (1 - a - b + ab)(1 - a)(1 - b) \\ &= (1 - a - b + ab)(1 - b) \\ &= (1 - a - b + ab) \\ &= B_\emptyset. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore $A_\emptyset = B_\emptyset = 1 - a - b + ab$, so $z_\emptyset = 1 - a - b + ab$. Therefore z_\emptyset is idempotent, so $P_\emptyset = 1 - a - b + ab$.

When $J = \mathbf{a}$, then $C(a) \preceq \mathbf{a}$ and $C(b) \not\preceq \mathbf{a}$, so $T_{\mathbf{a}} = a$ and $B_{\mathbf{a}} = 1 - b = A_{\mathbf{a}}$ since $1 - b$ is idempotent. Therefore $z_{\mathbf{a}} = (1 - b)a = a - ba$. $z_{\mathbf{a}}^2 = a - ab$ and one can check that $z_{\mathbf{a}}^3 = z_{\mathbf{a}}^2$, so $P_{\mathbf{a}} = z_{\mathbf{a}}^2(1 + (1 - z_{\mathbf{a}}) + (1 - z_{\mathbf{a}})^2 + \dots) = z_{\mathbf{a}}^2 = a - ab$. One can check that $P_{\mathbf{a}}$ is idempotent.

Similarly, $P_{\mathbf{b}} = b - ba$.

When $J = \mathbf{ab}$, $C(a), C(b) \preceq \mathbf{ab}$, so $T_{\mathbf{ab}} = ab$ and $A_{\mathbf{ab}} = 1$. $z_{\mathbf{ab}} = ab$ is idempotent, so $P_{\mathbf{ab}} = ab$. Since \mathbf{ab} is maximal, $e_{\mathbf{ab}} = ab$.

Since $P_{\mathbf{a}}e_{\mathbf{ab}} = (a - ab)ab = ab - ab = 0$, $e_{\mathbf{a}} = P_{\mathbf{a}}(1 - e_{\mathbf{ab}}) = P_{\mathbf{a}} = a - ab$.

Similarly, $e_{\mathbf{b}} = b - ba$.

$P_{\emptyset}e_{\mathbf{a}} = (1 - a - b + ab)(a - ab) = 0$. Similarly, $P_{\emptyset}e_{\mathbf{b}} = 0$. However, $P_{\emptyset}e_{\mathbf{ab}} = (1 - a - b + ab)ab = ab - ab - ba + ab = ab - ba$. So we let $e_{\emptyset} = P_{\emptyset}(1 - e_{\mathbf{ab}}) = P_{\emptyset} - P_{\emptyset}e_{\mathbf{ab}} = 1 - a - b + ab - ab + ba = 1 - a - b + ba$.

One can check that $\{e_{\emptyset}, e_{\mathbf{a}}, e_{\mathbf{b}}, e_{\mathbf{ab}}\}$ is a collection of mutually orthogonal idempotents.

Idempotents of $H^{\mathfrak{S}_5}(0)$

As mentioned above, $H^{\mathfrak{S}_5}(0)$ has generators T_1, T_2, T_3, T_4 . In this case, the corresponding lattice is the lattice of subsets of $\{1, 2, 3, 4\}$. $H^{\mathfrak{S}_5}(0)$ is actually a J -trivial monoid, so we can use the simplified formula from Remark 3.14. We use the shorthand notation $T(i_1, \dots, i_k)$ to denote the element $T_{i_1} \dots T_{i_k}$.

If $J = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$, then $T_J = T(1, 2, 3, 4)^{\omega} = T(1, 2, 3, 4, 1, 2, 3, 1, 2, 1)$. Also $A_J = 1$, so $z_J = A_J T_J = T_J$. Also, $P_J = z_J$, and since J is maximal, $e_J = P_J$, so

$$e_{\{1,2,3,4\}} = T(1, 2, 3, 4, 1, 2, 3, 1, 2, 1).$$

If $J = \{1, 2, 3\}$, then $T_J = T(1, 2, 3, 1, 2, 1)$ and $A_J = 1 - T(4)$. Then $z_J = (1 - T(4))T(1, 2, 3, 1, 2, 1) = T(1, 2, 3, 1, 2, 1) - T(4, 1, 2, 3, 1, 2, 1)$. One can check that $z_J^2 = z_J$, so $P_J = z_J$. Also, one can check that P_J is orthogonal to $e_{\{1,2,3,4\}}$. So $e_J = P_J$. Therefore

$$e_{\{1,2,3\}} = T(1, 2, 3, 1, 2, 1) - T(4, 1, 2, 3, 1, 2, 1).$$

Similarly,

$$e_{\{2,3,4\}} = T(2, 3, 4, 2, 3, 2) - T(1, 2, 3, 4, 2, 3, 2).$$

Now let $J = \{1, 2, 4\}$. $T_J = T(1, 2, 1, 4)$ and $A_J = (1 - T(3))$. Letting $z_J = A_J T_J$, one can check that $z_J(1 - z_J)^2 = 0$, so $P_J = z_J(1 + (1 - z_J))$.

Again P_J is orthogonal to $e_{\{1,2,3,4\}}$, so $e_J = P_J$. Therefore

$$e_{\{1,2,4\}} = -T(1, 2, 3, 4, 2, 3, 1, 2, 1) + T(1, 2, 3, 4, 3, 1, 2, 1) - T(3, 4, 1, 2, 1) + T(4, 1, 2, 1).$$

Similarly,

$$e_{\{1,3,4\}} = -T(1, 2, 3, 4, 1, 2, 3, 2, 1) + T(1, 2, 3, 4, 2, 3, 2, 1) - T(2, 3, 4, 3, 1) + T(3, 4, 3, 1).$$

When $J = \{1, 2\}$, $T_J = T(1, 2, 1)$ and $A_J = (1 - T(3))(1 - T(4))(1 - T(3))$. Then z_J is already idempotent, so $P_J = z_J$. One can check that P_J is already orthogonal to $e_{\{1,2,3,4\}}$, $e_{\{1,2,3\}}$, $e_{\{1,2,4\}}$. Therefore,

$$e_{\{1,2\}} = -T(3, 4, 3, 1, 2, 1) + T(3, 4, 1, 2, 1) + T(4, 3, 1, 2, 1) - T(3, 1, 2, 1) - T(4, 1, 2, 1) + T(1, 2, 1).$$

Similarly,

$$e_{\{3,4\}} = -T(1, 2, 3, 4, 3, 1) + T(1, 2, 3, 4, 3) + T(2, 3, 4, 3, 1) - T(3, 4, 3, 1) - T(2, 3, 4, 3) + T(3, 4, 3).$$

If $J = \{1, 3\}$, $T_J = T_1 T_3$ and $A_J = (1 - T_2)(1 - T_4)$. One can check that $z_J(1 - z_J)^2 = 0$, and $P_J = z_J(1 + 1 - z_J)$ is idempotent. P_J is orthogonal to $e_{\{1,2,3,4\}}$ and $e_{\{1,2,3\}}$, but not orthogonal to $e_{\{1,2,4\}}$. So we define $e_{\{1,3\}} = P_{\{1,3\}}(1 - e_{\{1,2,4\}})$. Then

$$e_{\{1,3\}} = T(1, 2, 3, 4, 1, 2, 3, 2, 1) - T(1, 2, 3, 4, 1, 2, 3, 1) - T(1, 2, 3, 4, 2, 3, 2, 1) + T(1, 2, 3, 4, 2, 3, 1) - T(2, 3, 4, 1, 2, 3, 2, 1) + T(2, 3, 4, 1, 2, 3, 1) + T(4, 1, 2, 3, 1, 2, 1) - T(1, 2, 3, 1, 2, 1) + T(3, 4, 1, 2, 3, 2, 1) - T(3, 4, 1, 2, 3, 1) - T(4, 1, 2, 3, 2, 1) + T(1, 2, 3, 2, 1) + T(4, 2, 3, 1) - T(2, 3, 1) - T(4, 3, 1) + T(3, 1).$$

Similarly,

$$e_{\{2,4\}} = T(1, 2, 3, 4, 2, 3, 1, 2, 1) - T(1, 2, 3, 4, 2, 3, 1, 2) - T(1, 2, 3, 4, 3, 1, 2, 1) + T(1, 2, 3, 4, 3, 1, 2) + T(1, 2, 3, 4, 2, 3, 2) - T(1, 2, 3, 4, 3, 2) - T(2, 3, 4, 2, 3, 1, 2, 1) + T(2, 3, 4, 2, 3, 1, 2) + T(2, 3, 4, 3, 1, 2, 1) - T(2, 3, 4, 3, 1, 2) + T(3, 4, 1, 2) - T(4, 1, 2) - T(2, 3, 4, 2, 3, 2) + T(2, 3, 4, 3, 2) - T(3, 4, 2) + T(4, 2).$$

We continue in this way, constructing all of the idempotents for the algebra. For the sake of completeness, the other idempotents are:

$$e_{\{2,3\}} = -T(1, 2, 3, 4, 1, 2, 3, 1, 2, 1) + T(1, 2, 3, 4, 1, 2, 3, 1, 2) + T(2, 3, 4, 1, 2, 3, 1, 2, 1) - T(2, 3, 4, 1, 2, 3, 1, 2) + T(4, 1, 2, 3, 2) - T(1, 2, 3, 2) - T(4, 2, 3, 2) + T(2, 3, 2);$$

$$e_{\{1,4\}} = -T(1, 2, 3, 4, 1, 2, 3, 1, 2, 1) + T(1, 2, 3, 4, 1, 2, 3, 2, 1) + T(1, 2, 3, 4, 2, 3, 1, 2, 1) - T(1, 2, 3, 4, 3, 1, 2, 1) - T(1, 2, 3, 4, 2, 3, 2, 1) + T(1, 2, 3, 4, 3, 2, 1) - T(2, 3, 4, 2, 1) + T(2, 3, 4, 1) + T(3, 4, 2, 1) - T(4, 2, 1) - T(3, 4, 1) + T(4, 1);$$

$$e_{\{4\}} = T(1, 2, 3, 4, 1, 2, 1) - T(1, 2, 3, 4, 1, 2) - T(1, 2, 3, 4, 2, 1) + T(1, 2, 3, 4, 1) + T(1, 2, 3, 4, 2) - T(1, 2, 3, 4) - T(2, 3, 4, 1, 2, 1) + T(2, 3, 4, 1, 2) + T(3, 4, 1, 2, 1) - T(4, 1, 2, 1) - T(3, 4, 1, 2) + T(4, 1, 2) + T(2, 3, 4, 2, 1) - T(2, 3, 4, 1) - T(3, 4, 2, 1) + T(4, 2, 1) + T(3, 4, 1) - T(4, 1) - T(2, 3, 4, 2) + T(2, 3, 4) + T(3, 4, 2) - T(4, 2) - T(3, 4) + T(4);$$

$$e_{\{3\}} = -T(1, 2, 3, 4, 1, 2, 3, 2) + T(1, 2, 3, 4, 1, 2, 3) + T(1, 2, 3, 4, 2, 3, 2) - T(1, 2, 3, 4, 2, 3) + T(2, 3, 4, 1, 2, 3, 2) - T(2, 3, 4, 1, 2, 3) + T(4, 1, 2, 3, 1) - T(1, 2, 3, 1) - T(3, 4, 1, 2, 3, 2) + T(3, 4, 1, 2, 3) - T(4, 1, 2, 3) + T(1, 2, 3) - T(4, 2, 3, 1) + T(2, 3, 1) + T(4, 3, 1) - T(3, 1) - T(2, 3, 4, 2, 3, 2) + T(2, 3, 4, 2, 3) + T(3, 4, 2, 3, 2) - T(3, 4, 2, 3) + T(4, 2, 3) - T(2, 3) - T(4, 3) + T(3);$$

$$e_{\{2\}} = -T(3, 4, 1, 2, 3, 1, 2, 1) + T(3, 4, 1, 2, 3, 1, 2) + T(4, 1, 2, 3, 1, 2, 1) - T(1, 2, 3, 1, 2, 1) - T(4, 1, 2, 3, 1, 2) + T(1, 2, 3, 1, 2) + T(3, 4, 2, 3, 1, 2, 1) - T(3, 4, 2, 3, 1, 2) - T(4, 2, 3, 1, 2, 1) + T(2, 3, 1, 2, 1) + T(4, 2, 3, 1, 2) - T(2, 3, 1, 2) + T(3, 4, 3, 1, 2) - T(3, 4, 1, 2) - T(4, 3, 1, 2) + T(3, 1, 2) + T(4, 1, 2) - T(1, 2) - T(3, 4, 3, 2) + T(3, 4, 2) + T(4, 3, 2) - T(3, 2) - T(4, 2) + T(2);$$

$$e_{\{1\}} = T(2, 3, 4, 2, 3, 2, 1) - T(2, 3, 4, 2, 3, 1) - T(2, 3, 4, 3, 2, 1) + T(2, 3, 4, 2, 1) + T(2, 3, 4, 3, 1) - T(2, 3, 4, 1) - T(3, 4, 2, 3, 2, 1) + T(3, 4, 2, 3, 1) + T(4, 2, 3, 2, 1) - T(2, 3, 2, 1) - T(4, 2, 3, 1) + T(2, 3, 1) + T(3, 4, 3, 2, 1) - T(3, 4, 2, 1) - T(4, 3, 2, 1) + T(3, 2, 1) + T(4, 2, 1) - T(2, 1) - T(3, 4, 3, 1) + T(3, 4, 1) + T(4, 3, 1) - T(3, 1) - T(4, 1) + T(1).$$

Finally, e_\emptyset is just the signed sum of all elements, with sign determined by Coxeter length.

One can check (ideally not by hand!) that $\{e_J : J \subset \{1, 2, 3, 4\}\}$ is a

complete system of orthogonal idempotents.

References

- [1] D. J. Benson. *Representations and cohomology. I*, volume 30 of *Cambridge Studies in Advanced Mathematics*. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, second edition, 1998. Basic representation theory of finite groups and associative algebras.
- [2] Murray Bremner. How to compute the wedderburn decomposition of a finite-dimensional associative algebra. 2010. preprint arXiv:1008.2006v1 [math.RA].
- [3] K. Brown. Semigroups, rings, and Markov chains. *J. Theoret. Probab.*, 13(3):871–938, 2000.
- [4] The Sage-Combinat community. Sage-combinat: enhancing sage as a toolbox for computer exploration in algebraic combinatorics.
- [5] Tom Denton. A combinatorial formula for orthogonal idempotents in the 0-Hecke algebra of S_N . *DMTCS proc.*, AN(01):701–712, 2010.
- [6] Tom Denton. A combinatorial formula for orthogonal idempotents in the 0-Hecke algebra of the symmetric group. 2010. preprint arXiv:1008.2401v1 [math.RT].
- [7] Tom Denton, Florent Hivert, Anne Schilling, and Nicolas M. Thiéry. The representation theory of \mathcal{J} -trivial monoids. In preparation, 2010.
- [8] W. A. Stein et al. Sage mathematics software.
- [9] P. Norton. 0-Hecke algebras. *J. Austral. Math. Soc. Ser. A*, 27:337–57, 1979.
- [10] F. Saliola. The Quiver of the Semigroup Algebra of a Left Regular Band. *International Journal of Algebra and Computation*, 17(8):1593–1610, 2007.
- [11] M. Schocker. Radical of weakly ordered semigroup algebras. *J. Algebr. Comb.*, 28:231–234, 2008.

[12] B. Steinberg. email communications.