1056-05-1831 Tom Boothby, Jeffrey Burkert, Morgan Eichwald and Dana C. Ernst* (dcernst@plymouth.edu), Mathematics Department, Plymouth State University, MSC 29, 17 High Street, Plymouth, NH 03264, and Richard M. Green and Matthew Macauley. On the cyclically fully commutative elements of Coxeter groups.

Let W be a Coxeter group. We say that $w \in W$ is cyclically fully commutative (CFC) if every cyclic shift of every reduced expression for w is fully commutative (in the sense of Stembridge). This definition is motivated by the conjugacy problem, because a cyclic shift of $w \in W$ is simply conjugation by the shifted generator. An element w in an infinite irreducible Coxeter group is said to be logarithmic if $l(w^k) = kl(w)$ for all $k \ge 1$. Speyer recently proved that Coxeter elements are logarithmic. In this talk, we will discuss one of our recent results that shows that for a large class of Coxeter groups, including all affine Weyl groups, CFC elements are logarithmic. This result gives credence to the idea that CFC elements are a natural generalization of Coxeter elements, and we outline the significance of this result to current and future work on the conjugacy problem for Coxeter groups. (Received September 22, 2009)