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Iwan M. Duursma* (duursma@math.uiuc.edu), Department of Mathematics, Univ of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 1409 W. Green Street (MC-382), Urbana, IL 61801-2975. *Bruhat Decompositions and the Koetter and Vardy Conjecture*. Preliminary report.

The Koetter and Vardy construction for minimal linear tail-biting trellises makes use of so-called characteristic generators for the row space of a matrix. We give a novel description of their properties. Gluesing-Luerssen and Weaver have shown that some of the duality properties conjectured by Koetter and Vardy are not true in general. We show that the original conjecture is true after a minor adjustment. (Received August 10, 2015)