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A. Postnikov conjectured that

(1) the size of the ideal in the Bruhat order (of type A) generated by a permutation w is at most the number of regions in the complement of the arrangement consisting of hyperplanes of the form $x_i = x_j$ for all inversions (i, j) in w , and

(2) the size of the given ideal equals the number of regions in the arrangement complement if and only if w avoids the patterns 4231, 35142, 42513 and 351624.

We proved (2) as stated, along with a restatement of (1) that applies to all finite Coxeter groups. (Received September 11, 2007)