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Brant Jones* (brant@math.jmu.edu), Department of Mathematics and Statistics, MSC 1911, Harrisonburg, VA 22807, and **Alexander Woo** (woo@stolaf.edu). *Mask formulas for Kazhdan–Lusztig polynomials.*

The Iwahori–Hecke algebra is a deformation of the group algebra of a Coxeter group. In 1979, Kazhdan and Lusztig constructed a basis for this algebra that has found various applications in geometry and representation theory. Unfortunately, the Kazhdan–Lusztig basis is defined recursively, and no simple manifestly positive description is known, even for the symmetric groups. In this talk, we describe a framework developed by Deodhar that gives formulas for Kazhdan–Lusztig bases in terms of combinatorial objects called masks. We explain how to interpret a formula of Lascoux and Schützenberger for Kazhdan–Lusztig polynomials associated to cograssmannian permutations in this setting. (Received September 14, 2010)