

COHOMOLOGY OF AFFINE ARTIN GROUPS AND APPLICATIONS

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ABSTRACT. The result of this paper is the determination of the cohomology of Artin groups of type A_n , B_n and \tilde{A}_n with non-trivial local coefficients. The main result is an explicit computation of the cohomology of the Artin group of type B_n with coefficients over the module $\mathbb{Q}[q^{\pm 1}, t^{\pm 1}]$. Here the first $n - 1$ standard generators of the group act by $(-q)$ -multiplication, while the last one acts by $(-t)$ -multiplication. The proof uses some technical results from previous papers plus computations over a suitable spectral sequence. The remaining cases follow from an application of Shapiro's lemma, by considering some well-known inclusions: we obtain the rational cohomology of the Artin group of affine type \tilde{A}_n as well as the cohomology of the classical braid group Br_n with coefficients in the n -dimensional representation presented in Tong, Yang, and Ma (1996). The topological counterpart is the explicit construction of finite CW-complexes endowed with a free action of the Artin groups, which are known to be $K(\pi, 1)$ spaces in some cases (including finite type groups). Particularly simple formulas for the Euler-characteristic of these orbit spaces are derived.

1. INTRODUCTION

Recall that for each Coxeter group W one has a group extension G_W , usually called an *Artin group* of type W (see Section 2). In this paper we give a detailed calculation of the cohomology of some Artin groups with non-trivial local coefficients. Let $R := \mathbb{Q}[q^{\pm 1}, t^{\pm 1}]$ be the ring of two-parameter Laurent polynomials. The main result (Theorem 1.1) is the computation of the cohomology of the Artin group G_{B_n} (of type B_n) with coefficients in the module $R_{q,t}$. The latter is the ring R with the module structure defined as follows: the generators associated with the first $n - 1$ nodes of the Dynkin diagram of B_n act by $(-q)$ -multiplication; the one associated to the last node acts by $(-t)$ -multiplication.

Let $\varphi_m(q)$ be the m -th cyclotomic polynomial in the variable q . Define the R -modules ($m > 1$, $i \geq 0$)

$$\{m\}_i = R/(\varphi_m(q), q^i t + 1),$$

and for $m = 1$, set

$$\{1\}_i = R/(q^i t + 1).$$

Notice that the modules $\{m\}_i$ are all non-isomorphic as R -modules. $\{m\}_i$ and $\{m'\}_{i'}$ are isomorphic as $\mathbb{Q}[q^{\pm 1}]$ -modules if and only if $m = m'$ and are isomorphic

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as $\mathbb{Q}[t^{\pm 1}]$ -modules if and only if $\phi(m) = \phi(m')$ (ϕ is the Euler function) and $\frac{m}{(m,i)} = \frac{m'}{(m,i')}$.

Our main result is the following.

Theorem 1.1.

$$H^i(G_{B_n}, R_{q,t}) = \begin{cases} \bigoplus_{d|n, 0 \leq k \leq d-2} \{d\}_k \oplus \{1\}_{n-1} & \text{if } i = n, \\ \bigoplus_{d|n, 0 \leq k \leq d-2, d \leq \frac{n}{j+1}} \{d\}_k & \text{if } i = n - 2j, \\ \bigoplus_{d \nmid n, d \leq \frac{n}{j+1}} \{d\}_{n-1} & \text{if } i = n - 2j - 1. \end{cases}$$

The proof uses the spectral sequence associated with a natural filtration of the algebraic complex exhibited in [Sal94], plus some technical results from [DCPS01].

We apply Shapiro's lemma to a well-known inclusion of $G_{\tilde{A}_{n-1}}$ into G_{B_n} to derive the cohomology of $G_{\tilde{A}_{n-1}}$ over the module $\mathbb{Q}[q^{\pm 1}]$, the action of each standard generator being $(-q)$ -multiplication.

By considering another natural inclusion of G_{B_n} into the classical braid group $\text{Br}_{n+1} := G_{A_n}$, we also use Shapiro's lemma in order to identify the cohomology of G_{B_n} with coefficients in $R_{q,t}$ with that of Br_{n+1} with coefficients in the irreducible $(n+1)$ -dimensional representation of Br_{n+1} found in [TYM96], twisted by an abelian representation. We derive the trivial \mathbb{Q} -cohomology of $G_{\tilde{A}_{n-1}}$ as well as the cohomology of the braid group over the irreducible representation in [TYM96].

Computation of the cohomology of Artin groups was done by several people: for classical *braid groups* and trivial coefficients it was first given by F. Cohen [Coh76], and independently by A. Vainšteĭn [Vai78] (see also [Arn68, Bri71, BS72, Fuk70]). For Artin groups of type C_n, D_n , see [Gor78], while for the exceptional cases, see [Sal94], where the \mathbb{Z} -module structure was given, while the ring structure was computed in [Lan00]. The case of non-trivial coefficients over the module of Laurent polynomials $\mathbb{Q}[q^{\pm 1}]$ is interesting because of its relation with the trivial \mathbb{Q} -cohomology of the Milnor fibre of the naturally associated bundle. For the classical braid groups, see [Fre88, Mar96, DCPS01], while for the cases C_n, D_n , see [DCPS99]. For computations over the integral Laurent polynomials $\mathbb{Z}[q^{\pm 1}]$, see [CS98] for the exceptional cases and recently [Cal06] for the case of braid groups, and [DCSS97] for the top cohomologies in all cases. In the case of Artin groups of non-finite type, some computations were given in [SS97] and [CD95].

The computations of Theorem 1.1 could be partially extended to integral coefficients; however, major complications occur because the Laurent polynomial ring $\mathbb{Z}[q^{\pm 1}]$ is not a P.I.D.

In the last part we also indicate (see [CMS]) an explicit construction of finite CW-complexes which are retracts of *orbit spaces* associated to Artin groups. The construction works as in [Sal94], with few variations necessary for infinite type Artin groups (see also [CD95] for a different construction). The Artin group identifies with the fundamental group of the orbit space, and the standard presentation follows easily (see [Bri71, Dün83, vdL83]). The Euler characteristic of the orbit space reduces to that of a simplicial complex and in some cases one has a particularly simple formula. It is conjectured that such orbit spaces are always $K(\pi, 1)$ spaces; for the affine groups, this is known in the cases \tilde{A}_n, \tilde{C}_n (see [Oko79, CP03]) and recently also for \tilde{B}_n ([CMS1]) (see also [CD95] for a different class of Artin groups of infinite type).

Notice also the geometrical meaning of the two-parameter cohomology of G_{B_n} : similar to the one-parameter case, it is equivalent to the trivial cohomology of the “homotopy-Milnor fibre” associated with the natural map of the orbit space onto a two-dimensional torus.

The main results of this paper were announced (without proof) in [CMS].

2. PRELIMINARY RESULTS

In this section we briefly fix the notation and recall some preliminary results.

2.1. **Coxeter groups and Artin groups.** A *Coxeter graph* is a finite undirected graph, whose edges are labelled with integers ≥ 3 or with the symbol ∞ .

Let S be the vertex set of a Coxeter graph. For every pair of vertices $s, t \in S$ ($s \neq t$) joined by an edge, define $m(s, t)$ to be the label of the edge joining them. If s, t are not joined by an edge, set by convention $m(s, t) = 2$. Also let $m(s, s) = 1$ (see [Bou68, Hum90]).

Two groups are associated with a Coxeter graph: the *Coxeter group* W defined by

$$W = \langle s \in S \mid (st)^{m(s,t)} = 1 \ \forall s, t \in S \text{ such that } m(s, t) \neq \infty \rangle$$

and the *Artin group* G defined by (see [BS72]):

$$G = \langle s \in S \mid \underbrace{stst\dots}_{m(s,t)\text{-terms}} = \underbrace{tsts\dots}_{m(s,t)\text{-terms}} \ \forall s, t \in S \text{ such that } m(s, t) \neq \infty \rangle.$$

Loosely speaking, G is the group obtained by dropping the relations $s^2 = 1$ ($s \in S$) in the presentation for W .

In this paper, we are primarily interested in Artin groups associated with Coxeter graphs of types A_n, B_n and \tilde{A}_{n-1} (see Figure 1).

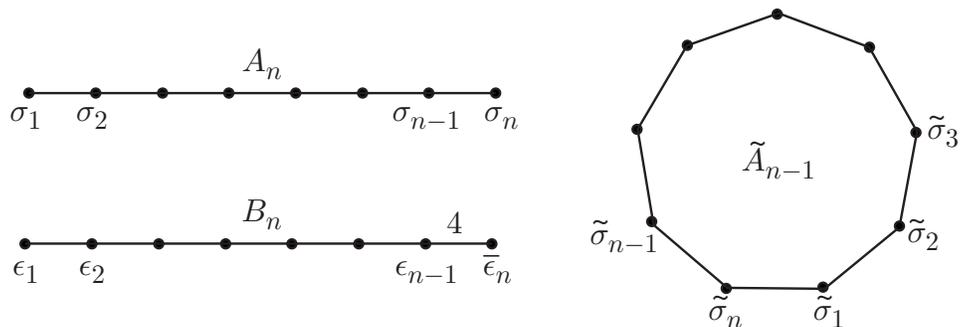


FIGURE 1. Coxeter graphs of types A_n, B_n ($n \geq 2$) and \tilde{A}_{n-1} ($n \geq 3$). Labels equal to 3, as usual, are not shown. Moreover, to fix notation, every vertex is labelled with the corresponding generator in the Artin group.

2.2. Inclusions of Artin groups. Let $\text{Br}_{n+1} := G_{A_n}$ be the braid group on $n + 1$ strands and $\text{Br}_{n+1}^{n+1} < \text{Br}_{n+1}$ be the subgroup of braids fixing the $(n + 1)$ -st strand. The group Br_{n+1}^{n+1} is called the annular braid group. Let $K_{n+1} = \{p_1, \dots, p_{n+1}\}$ be a set of $n + 1$ distinct points in \mathbb{C} . The classical braid group $\text{Br}_{n+1} = G_{A_n}$ can be realized as the fundamental group of the space of unordered configurations of $n + 1$ points in \mathbb{C} with basepoint K_{n+1} (see the left part of Figure 2, with $K_6 = \{1, \dots, 6\}$). We can now think of the subgroup $\text{Br}_{n+1}^{n+1} < \text{Br}_{n+1}$ as the fundamental group of the space of unordered configurations of n points in \mathbb{C}^* : in fact if we take $p_{n+1} = 0$ and $p_i \in S^1 \subset \mathbb{C}$ for $i \in 1, \dots, n$, since for a braid $\beta \in \text{Br}_{n+1}^{n+1}$ the orbit of the $(n + 1)$ -st point can be considered constant, up to homotopy, we can think of β as a braid with n strands in the annulus (see the right part of Figure 2).

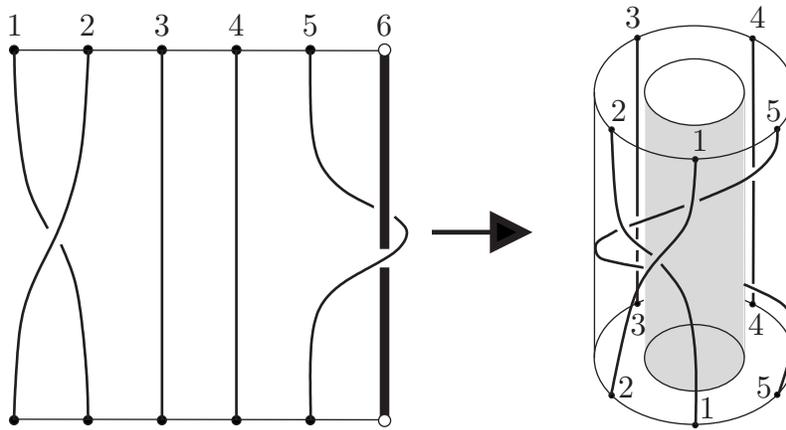


FIGURE 2. A braid in Br_6^6 represented as an annular braid on 5 strands

It is well known that the annular braid group is isomorphic to the Artin group G_{B_n} of type B_n . For a proof of the following theorem, see [Cri99] or [Lam94].

Theorem 2.1. *Let $\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_n$ and $\epsilon_1, \dots, \epsilon_{n-1}, \bar{\epsilon}_n$ be respectively the standard generators for G_{A_n} and G_{B_n} . Then, the map*

$$\begin{aligned} G_{B_n} &\rightarrow \text{Br}_{n+1}^{n+1} < \text{Br}_{n+1}, \\ \epsilon_i &\mapsto \sigma_i \quad \text{for } 1 \leq i \leq n - 1, \\ \bar{\epsilon}_n &\mapsto \sigma_n^2 \end{aligned}$$

is an isomorphism. □

Using the suggestion given by the identification with the annular braid group, a new interesting presentation for G_{B_n} can be worked out. Let $\tau = \bar{\epsilon}_n \epsilon_{n-1} \cdots \epsilon_2 \epsilon_1$. It is easy to verify that

$$\tau^{-1} \epsilon_i \tau = \epsilon_{i+1} \quad \text{for } 1 \leq i < n - 1;$$

i.e., conjugation by τ shifts forward the first $n - 2$ standard generators. By analogy, let $\epsilon_n = \tau^{-1} \epsilon_{n-1} \tau$. We have the following.

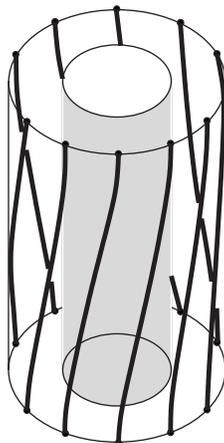


FIGURE 3. As an annular braid the element τ is obtained by turning the bottom annulus by a rotation of $2\pi/n$.

Theorem 2.2 ([KP02]). *The group G_{B_n} has presentation $\langle \mathcal{G} | \mathcal{R} \rangle$ where*

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{G} &= \{ \tau, \epsilon_1, \epsilon_2, \dots, \epsilon_n \}, \\ \mathcal{R} &= \{ \epsilon_i \epsilon_j = \epsilon_j \epsilon_i \text{ for } i \neq j - 1, j + 1 \} \cup \\ &\quad \{ \epsilon_i \epsilon_{i+1} \epsilon_i = \epsilon_{i+1} \epsilon_i \epsilon_{i+1} \} \cup \\ &\quad \{ \tau^{-1} \epsilon_i \tau = \epsilon_{i+1} \} \end{aligned}$$

where all indexes should be considered modulo n . □

Letting $\tilde{\sigma}_1, \tilde{\sigma}_2, \dots, \tilde{\sigma}_n$ be the standard generators of the Artin group of type \tilde{A}_{n-1} , we have the following straightforward corollary:

Corollary 2.3 ([KP02]). *The map*

$$G_{\tilde{A}_{n-1}} \ni \tilde{\sigma}_i \mapsto \epsilon_i \in G_{B_n}$$

gives an isomorphism between the group $G_{\tilde{A}_{n-1}}$ and the subgroup of G_{B_n} generated by $\epsilon_1, \dots, \epsilon_n$. Moreover, we have a semidirect product decomposition $G_{B_n} \cong G_{\tilde{A}_{n-1}} \rtimes \langle \tau \rangle$. □

We have thus a “curious” inclusion of the Artin group of infinite type \tilde{A}_{n-1} into the Artin group of finite type B_n .

Remark 2.4. The proof of Theorem 2.2 presented in the original paper is algebraic and based on Tietze moves; a somewhat more concise proof can however be obtained by standard topological constructions. Indeed, one can exhibit an explicit infinite cyclic covering $K(G_{\tilde{A}_{n-1}}, 1) \rightarrow K(G_{B_n}, 1)$ (see [All02]).

2.3. (q, t) -weighted Poincaré series for B_n . For future use in cohomology computations, we are interested in a (q, t) -analog of the usual Poincaré series for B_n , that is, an analog of the Poincaré series with coefficients in the ring $R = \mathbb{Q}[q^{\pm 1}, t^{\pm 1}]$ of Laurent polynomials. This result and similar ones are studied in [Rei93], to which we refer for details. We also use classical results from [Bou68, Hum90] without further reference.

Consider the Coxeter group W of type B_n with its standard generating reflections s_1, s_2, \dots, s_n . For $w \in W$, let $n(w)$ be the number of times s_n appears in a reduced expression for w . By standard facts, $n(w)$ is well defined.

We define the (q, t) -weighted Poincaré series for the Coxeter group of type B_n as the sum

$$W(q, t) = \sum_{w \in W} q^{\ell(w)-n(w)} t^{n(w)},$$

where ℓ is the length function.

We recall some notation. We define the q -analog of the number m by the polynomial

$$[m]_q := 1 + q + \dots + q^{m-1} = \frac{q^m - 1}{q - 1}.$$

Notice that $[m] = \prod_{i|m, i \neq 1} \varphi_m(q)$, where we denote with $\varphi_m(q)$ the m -th cyclotomic polynomial in the variable q . Moreover we define the q -factorial analog $[m]_q!$ as the product

$$\prod_{i=1}^m [i]_q$$

and the q -analog of the binomial $\binom{m}{i}$ as the polynomial

$$\left[\begin{matrix} m \\ i \end{matrix} \right]_q := \frac{[m]_q!}{[i]_q! [m-i]_q!}.$$

We can also define the (q, t) -analog of an even number

$$[2m]_{q,t} := [m]_q (1 + tq^{m-1})$$

and of the double factorial

$$[2m]_{q,t}!! := \prod_{i=1}^m [2i]_{q,t} = [m]_q! \prod_{i=0}^{m-1} (1 + tq^i).$$

Finally, we define the polynomial

$$\left[\begin{matrix} m \\ i \end{matrix} \right]'_{q,t} := \frac{[2m]_{q,t}!!}{[2i]_{q,t}!! [m-i]_q!} = \left[\begin{matrix} m \\ i \end{matrix} \right]_q \prod_{j=i}^{m-1} (1 + tq^j).$$

Proposition 2.5 ([Rei93]).

$$W(q, t) = [2n]_{q,t}!!.$$

Proof. Consider the parabolic subgroup W_I associated with the subset of reflections $I = \{s_1, \dots, s_{n-1}\}$. Notice that W_I is isomorphic to the symmetric group on n letters A_{n-1} and that it has index 2^n in B_n . Let W^I be the set of minimal coset representatives for W/W_I . Then, by multiplicative properties on reduced expressions:

$$\begin{aligned} W(q, t) &= \sum_{w \in W} q^{\ell(w)-n(w)} t^{n(w)} \\ (2.1) \quad &= \left(\sum_{w' \in W^I} q^{\ell(w')-n(w')} t^{n(w')} \right) \cdot \left(\sum_{w'' \in W_I} q^{\ell(w'')-n(w'')} t^{n(w'')} \right). \end{aligned}$$

Clearly, for elements $w'' \in W_I$, we have $n(w'') = 0$; so the second factor in (2.1) reduces to the well-known Poincaré series for A_{n-1} :

$$\sum_{w'' \in W_I} q^{\ell(w'') - n(w'')} t^{n(w'')} = [n]_q!$$

To deal with the first factor, instead, we explicitly enumerate the elements of W^I . Let $p_i = s_i s_{i+1} \cdots s_n$ for $1 \leq i \leq n$. Then, it can be easily verified that $W^I = \{p_{i_r} p_{i_{r-1}} \cdots p_{i_2} p_{i_1} \mid i_1 < i_2 < \cdots < i_{r-1} < i_r\}$. Notice that $n(p_{i_r} p_{i_{r-1}} \cdots p_{i_2} p_{i_1}) = r$ and $\ell(p_{i_r} p_{i_{r-1}} \cdots p_{i_2} p_{i_1}) = \sum_{j=1}^r \ell(p_{i_j}) = \sum_{j=1}^r (n + 1 - i_j)$. Thus,

$$\sum_{w' \in W^I} q^{\ell(w') - n(w')} t^{n(w')} = \prod_{i=0}^{n-1} (1 + tq^i).$$

Finally,

$$W(q, t) = \left(\prod_{i=0}^{n-1} (1 + tq^i) \right) [n]_q! = [2n]_{q,t}!! \quad \square$$

3. THE COHOMOLOGY OF G_{B_n}

3.1. Proof of the main theorem. In this section we prove Theorem 1.1 enunciated in the introduction. We use the notation given in the introduction.

To perform our computation we will use the complex discovered in [Sal94], [DCS96] (notice: an equivalent complex was discovered by different methods in [Squ94]), and the spectral sequence induced by a natural filtration.

The complex that computes the cohomology of G_{B_n} over $R_{q,t}$ is given as follows (see [Sal94]):

$$C_n^* = \bigoplus_{\Gamma \subset I_n} R_\Gamma$$

where I_n denote the set $\{1, \dots, n\}$ and the graduation is given by $|\Gamma|$.

The set I_n corresponds to the set of nodes of the Dynkin diagram of B_n and in particular the last element, n , corresponds to the last node.

It is useful to consider also the complex \overline{C}_n^* for the cohomology of G_{A_n} on the local system $R_{q,t}$. In this case the action associated with a standard generator is always the $(-q)$ -multiplication and so the complex \overline{C}_n^* and its cohomology are free as $\mathbb{Q}[t^\pm]$ -modules. The complex \overline{C}_n^* is isomorphic to C_n^* as an R -module. In both complexes the coboundary map is

$$(3.1) \quad \delta(q, t)(\Gamma) = \sum_{j \in I_n \setminus \Gamma} (-1)^{\sigma(j, \Gamma)} \frac{W_{\Gamma \cup \{j\}}(q, t)}{W_\Gamma(q, t)} (\Gamma \cup \{j\})$$

where $\sigma(j, \Gamma)$ is the number of elements of Γ that are less than j . In the case A_n , $W_\Gamma(q, t)$ is the Poincaré polynomial of the parabolic subgroup $W_\Gamma \subset A_n$ generated by the elements in the set Γ , with weight $-q$ for each standard generator, while in the case B_n , $W_\Gamma(q, t)$ is the Poincaré polynomial of the parabolic subgroup $W_\Gamma \subset B_n$ generated by the elements in the set Γ , with weight $-q$ for the first $n - 1$ generators and $-t$ for the last generator.

Using Proposition 2.5 we can give an explicit computation of the coefficients $\frac{W_{\Gamma \cup \{j\}}(q, t)}{W_\Gamma(q, t)}$. For any $\Gamma \subset I_n$, let $\overline{\Gamma}$ be the subgraph of the Dynkin diagram B_n

which is spanned by Γ . Recall that if $\bar{\Gamma}$ is a connected component of the Dynkin diagram of B_n without the last element, then

$$W_{\Gamma}(q, t) = [m + 1]_{q,t}!$$

where $m = |\Gamma|$. If $\bar{\Gamma}$ is connected and contains the last element of B_n , then

$$W_{\Gamma}(q, t) = [2m]_{q,t}!!$$

where $m = |\Gamma|$.

If $\bar{\Gamma}$ is the union of several connected components of the Dynkin diagram, $\bar{\Gamma} = \bar{\Gamma}_1 \cup \dots \cup \bar{\Gamma}_k$, then $W_{\Gamma}(q, t)$ is the product

$$\prod_{i=1}^k W_{\Gamma_i}(q, t)$$

of the factors corresponding to the different components.

If $j \notin \Gamma$ we can write $\bar{\Gamma}(j)$ for the connected component of $\overline{\Gamma \cup \{j\}}$ containing j . Suppose that $m = |\Gamma(j)|$ and i is the number of elements in $\Gamma(j)$ greater than j . Then, if $n \in \Gamma(j)$, we have

$$\frac{W_{\Gamma \cup \{j\}}(q, t)}{W_{\Gamma}(q, t)} = \left[\begin{matrix} m \\ i \end{matrix} \right]'_{q,t}$$

and

$$\frac{W_{\Gamma \cup \{j\}}(q, t)}{W_{\Gamma}(q, t)} = \left[\begin{matrix} m + 1 \\ i + 1 \end{matrix} \right]_q$$

otherwise.

It is convenient to represent generators $\Gamma \subset I_n$ by their characteristic functions $I_n \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$ and so, simply by strings of 0s and 1s of length n .

We define a decreasing filtration F on the complex (C_n^*, δ) : $F^s C_n$ is the subcomplex generated by the strings of type $A1^s$ (ending with a string of s 1s) and we have the inclusions

$$C_n = F^0 C_n \supset F^1 C_n \supset \dots \supset F^n C_n = R.1^n \supset F^{n+1} C_n = 0.$$

We have the following isomorphism of complexes:

$$(3.2) \quad (F^s C_n / F^{s+1} C_n) \simeq \bar{C}_{n-s-1}[s]$$

where \bar{C}_{n-s-1} is the complex for $G_{A_{n-s-1}}$ and the notation $[s]$ means that the degree is shifted by s . Let E_* be the spectral sequence associated with the filtration F . The equality (3.2) tells us what the E_1 -term of the spectral sequence looks like. In fact for $0 \leq s \leq n - 2$ we have

$$(3.3) \quad E_1^{s,r} = H^r(G_{A_{n-s-1}}, R_{q,t}) = H^r(G_{A_{n-s-1}}, \mathbb{Q}[q^{\pm 1}]_q)[t^{\pm 1}]$$

since the t -action is trivial. For $s = n - 1$ and $s = n$ the only non-trivial elements in the spectral sequence are

$$(3.4) \quad E_1^{n-1,0} = E_1^{n,0} = R.$$

In order to prove Theorem 1.1 we need to state the following lemmas.

Lemma 3.1. *Let $I(n, k)$ be the ideal generated by the polynomials*

$$\left[\begin{matrix} n \\ n - d \end{matrix} \right]'_{q,t} \quad \text{for } d \mid n \text{ and } d \leq k.$$

If $k \mid n$, the map

$$\alpha_{n,k} : R/(\varphi_k(q)) \rightarrow R/I(n, k - 1)$$

induced by the multiplication by $\left[\begin{smallmatrix} n \\ n - k \end{smallmatrix} \right]'_{q,t}$ is well defined and is injective.

Remark. The fact that this map is well defined will follow automatically from the general theory of spectral sequences, as it is clear from the proof of Theorem 1.1. However, below we prove it by other means.

Proof. Let d, k be positive integers such that $d \mid n$ and $k \mid n$. We can observe that $\varphi_d(q) \mid \left[\begin{smallmatrix} n \\ k \end{smallmatrix} \right]_q = \left[\begin{smallmatrix} n \\ n - k \end{smallmatrix} \right]_q$ if and only if $d \nmid k$. Moreover each factor φ_d appears in $\left[\begin{smallmatrix} n \\ k \end{smallmatrix} \right]_q$ at most with exponent 1.

Let $J(n, k)$ be the ideal generated by the polynomials $\left[\begin{smallmatrix} n \\ n - d \end{smallmatrix} \right]_q$ for $d \mid n$ and $d \leq k$. It is easy to see that we have the following inclusion:

$$\prod_{i=n-k}^{n-1} (1 + tq^i)J(n, k) \subset I(n, k).$$

Moreover $J(n, k)$ is a principal ideal and is generated by the product

$$p_{n,k}(q) = \prod_{d \mid n, k < d} \varphi_d(q).$$

It follows that $\left[\begin{smallmatrix} n \\ n - k \end{smallmatrix} \right]_q \varphi_k(q) \in J(n, k - 1)$ and so $\left[\begin{smallmatrix} n \\ n - k \end{smallmatrix} \right]'_{q,t} \varphi_k(q) \in I(n, k - 1)$.

This proves that the map $\alpha_{n,k}$ is well defined.

Now we notice that the factor $\varphi_k(q)$ divides each generator of $I(n, k - 1)$, but does not divide $\left[\begin{smallmatrix} n \\ n - k \end{smallmatrix} \right]'_{q,t}$. This implies that $\alpha_{n,k}$ is not the zero map and that every polynomial in the kernel of $\alpha_{n,k}$ must be a multiple of $\varphi_k(q)$; hence the map must be injective. \square

Lemma 3.2. *Let $I(n)$ be the ideal generated by the polynomials*

$$\left[\begin{smallmatrix} n \\ n - d \end{smallmatrix} \right]'_{q,t} \quad \text{for } d \mid n.$$

Then $I(n)$ is the direct product of the ideals $I_{i,d} = (\varphi_d(q), q^i t + 1)$ for $d \mid n$ and $0 \leq i \leq d - 2$ and of the ideal $I_{n-1} = (q^{n-1} t + 1)$. Moreover the ideals $I_{i,d}$ and I_{n-1} are pairwise coprime.

Proof: Notice that the polynomial $(1 + tq^{n-1})$ divides each generator of the ideal $I(n)$, so we can write

$$I(n) = (1 + tq^{n-1})\tilde{I}(n)$$

where $\tilde{I}(n)$ is the ideal generated by the polynomials

$$\widetilde{\left[\begin{smallmatrix} n \\ n - d \end{smallmatrix} \right]'_{q,t}} := \left[\begin{smallmatrix} n \\ n - d \end{smallmatrix} \right]'_{q,t} / (1 + tq^{n-1}).$$

Let $n = d_1 > \dots > d_h = 1$ be the list of all the divisors of n in decreasing order. If we set

$$P_i := \varphi_{d_i}(q) \text{ and}$$

$$Q_i := \prod_{j=d_{i+1}+1}^{d_i} (1 + tq^{n-j})$$

we can rewrite our ideal as

$$(3.5) \quad \tilde{I}(n) = \left(\begin{bmatrix} n \\ n - d_h \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} n \\ n - d_{h-1} \end{bmatrix} Q_{h-1}, \begin{bmatrix} n \\ n - d_{h-2} \end{bmatrix} Q_{h-2} Q_{h-1}, \dots \right. \\ \left. \dots, \begin{bmatrix} n \\ n - d_2 \end{bmatrix} Q_2 \dots Q_{h-1}, Q_1 \dots Q_{h-1} \right).$$

We claim that we can reduce to the following set of generators:

$$(3.6) \quad \tilde{I}(n) = (P_1 \dots P_{h-1}, P_1 \dots P_{h-2} Q_{h-1}, P_1 \dots P_{h-3} Q_{h-2} Q_{h-1}, \dots \\ \dots, P_1 Q_2 \dots Q_{h-1}, Q_1 \dots Q_{h-1}).$$

The first generator is the same in both equations and the j -th generator in (3.6) divides the corresponding generator in (3.5). Now suppose that a factor $\varphi_m(q)$ divides $\begin{bmatrix} n \\ n - d_j \end{bmatrix}$ but does not divide $P_1 \dots P_{j-1}$. We may distinguish two cases:

- i) Suppose that $m \nmid n$. Then we can get rid of the factor $\varphi_m(q)$ in $\begin{bmatrix} n \\ n - d_j \end{bmatrix}$ with an oportune combination with the polynomial

$$P_1 \dots P_{h-1}.$$

- ii) Suppose $m \mid n$. Then $m = d_l$ for some $l > j$ and we can get rid of $\varphi_m(q)$ using a suitable combination with the polynomial

$$P_1 \dots P_{l-1} Q_l \dots Q_{h-1}$$

We may now proceed inductively. Supposing we have already reduced the first $j - 1$ terms, we can reduce the j -th term of the ideal in (3.5) to the corresponding term in (3.6).

Now we observe that if J, I_1, I_2 are ideals and $I_1 + I_2 = (1)$, then $(J, I_1 I_2) = (J, I_1)(J, I_2)$. Since the polynomials P_i are all coprime, we can apply this fact to the ideal $\tilde{I}(n)$ $h - 2$ times. At the i -th step we set

$$I_1 = (P_i),$$

$$I_2 = (P_{i+1} \dots P_{h-1}, P_{i+1} \dots P_{h-2} Q_{h-1}, \dots, Q_{i+1} \dots Q_{h-1}),$$

$$J = (Q_i \dots Q_{h-1}).$$

So we can factor $\tilde{I}(n)$ as

$$(P_1, Q_1 \dots Q_{h-1})(P_2 \dots P_{h-1}, P_2 \dots P_{h-2} Q_{h-1}, Q_2 \dots Q_{h-1}) = \dots \\ = (P_1, Q_1 \dots Q_{h-1})(P_2, Q_2 \dots Q_{h-1}) \dots (P_{h-1}, Q_{h-1}).$$

Finally we can split $(P_s, Q_s \dots Q_{h-1})$ as the product

$$(P_s, 1 + tq^{n-d_s}) \dots (P_s, 1 + tq^{n-d_{h-1}}).$$

So we have reduced the ideal $I(n)$ in the product stated in the lemma, and it is easy to check that all the ideals of the splitting are coprime. \square

Proof of Theorem 1.1. We can now prove our theorem using the spectral sequence described in (3.3) and (3.4).

We introduce, as in [DCPS01], the following notation for the generators of the spectral sequence:

$$\begin{aligned} w_h &= 01^{h-2}0, \\ z_h &= 1^{h-1}0 + (-1)^h 01^{h-1}, \\ b_h &= 01^{h-2}, \\ c_h &= 1^{h-1}, \\ z_h(i) &= \sum_{j=0}^{i-1} (-1)^{hj} w_h^j z_h w_h^{i-j-1}, \\ v_h(i) &= \sum_{j=0}^{i-2} (-1)^{hj} w_h^j z_h w_h^{i-j-2} b_h + (-1)^{h(i-1)} w_h^{i-1} c_h. \end{aligned}$$

We write $\{m\}[t^{\pm 1}]$ for the module $R/(\varphi_m(q))$. The E_1 -term of the spectral sequence has a module $\{m\}[t^{\pm 1}]$ in position (s, r) if and only if one of the following conditions is satisfied:

- a) $m \mid n - s - 1$ and $r = n - s - 2 \frac{n-s-1}{m}$;
- b) $m \mid n - s$ and $r = n - s + 1 - 2 \frac{n-s}{m}$.

Moreover we have modules R in positions $(n - 1, 0)$ and $(n, 0)$. We now look at the d_1 map between these two modules. Notice that $E_1^{n-1,0}$ is generated by the string 01^{n-1} and $E_1^{n,0}$ is generated by the string 1^n . Furthermore the map

$$d_1^{n-1,0} : E_1^{n-1,0} \rightarrow E_1^{n,0}$$

is given by the multiplication by $\begin{bmatrix} n \\ n-1 \end{bmatrix}'_{q,t} = [n]_q(1 + tq^{n-1})$ and is injective.

It turns out that $E_2^{n-1,0} = 0$ and $E_2^{n,0} = R/([n]_q(1 + tq^{n-1}))$. Moreover all the following terms $E_j^{n,0}$ are quotients of $E_2^{n,0}$.

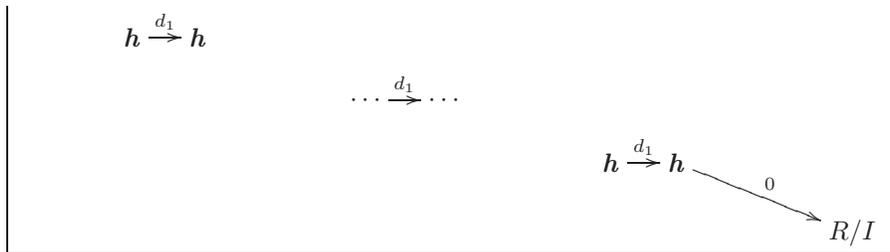
Notice that every map between modules of types $\{m\}[t^{\pm 1}]$ and $\{m'\}[t^{\pm 1}]$ must be zero if $m \neq m'$. So we can study our spectral sequence considering only maps between the same kinds of modules.

First let us consider an integer m that doesn't divide n . Say that $m \mid n + c$ with $1 \leq c < m$ and set $i = \frac{n+c}{m}$. The modules of type $\{m\}[t^{\pm 1}]$ are:

$$\begin{aligned} E_1^{\lambda m - c - 1, n + c - \lambda(m-2) - 2i + 1} & \text{ generated by } z_m(i - \lambda) 01^{\lambda m - c - 1}, \\ E_1^{\lambda m - c, n + c - \lambda(m-2) - 2i + 1} & \text{ generated by } v_m(i - \lambda) 01^{\lambda m - c} \end{aligned}$$

for $\lambda = 1, \dots, i - 1$.

Here is a diagram for this case (we use the notation \mathbf{h} for $\{m\}[t^{\pm 1}]$):



The map

$$d_1 : E_1^{\lambda m - c - 1, n + c - \lambda(m-2) - 2i + 1} \rightarrow E_1^{\lambda m - c, n + c - \lambda(m-2) - 2i + 1}$$

is given by the multiplication by $\left[\begin{matrix} \lambda m - c \\ \lambda m - c - 1 \end{matrix} \right]_{q,t}' = [\lambda m - c]_q (1 + tq^{\lambda m - c - 1})$.

Since $\varphi_m(q) \nmid [\lambda m - c]_q$ the map is injective and in the E_2 -term we have:

$$\begin{aligned} E_2^{\lambda m - c - 1, n + c - \lambda(m-2) - 2i + 1} &= 0, \\ E_2^{\lambda m - c, n + c - \lambda(m-2) - 2i + 1} &= \{m\}_{\lambda m - c - 1} = \{m\}_{m - c - 1} \end{aligned}$$

for $\lambda = 1, \dots, i - 1$.

The other map we have to consider is

$$d_m^{n-m, m-1} : E_m^{n-m, m-1} \rightarrow E_m^{n, 0}.$$

The module $E_m^{n-m, m-1} = \{m\}_{m-c-1}$ is generated by $1^{m-1} 0 1^{n-m}$ and so the map is the multiplication by $\left[\begin{matrix} n \\ n - m \end{matrix} \right]_{q,t}'$. Since $(1 + tq^{n-1})$ divides the coefficient

$\left[\begin{matrix} n \\ n - m \end{matrix} \right]_{q,t}'$, the image of the map $d_m^{n-m, m-1}$ must be contained in the submodule

$$(1 + tq^{n-1})E_m^{n, 0} = (1 + tq^{n-1})R/([n]_q(1 + tq^{n-1})),$$

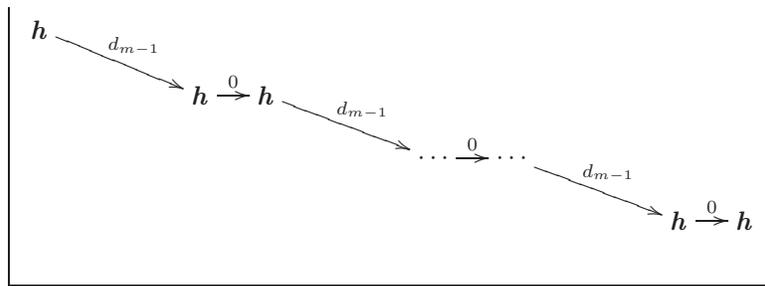
that is, in the quotient $R/([n]_q)$. Since $(\varphi_m(q), [n]_q) = (1)$ (recall that m does not divide n) there can be no non-trivial map between the modules $\{m\}_{m-c-1}$ and $R/([n]_q)$. It follows that the differential $d_m^{n-m, m-1}$ must be zero.

As a consequence the E_2 part described before collapses to E_∞ and we have a copy of $\{m\}_{m-c-1}$ as a direct summand of $H^{n-2j-1}(C_n)$ for $j = 0, \dots, i - 2$, that is, for $m \leq \frac{n}{j+1}$.

Now we consider an integer m that divides n and let $i = \frac{n}{m}$. The modules of type $\{m\}[t^{\pm 1}]$ are:

$$\begin{aligned} E_1^{\lambda m - 1, n - \lambda(m-2) - 2i + 1} &\text{ generated by } z_m(i - \lambda) 0 1^{\lambda m - 1} \text{ for } 1 \leq \lambda \leq i - 1, \\ E_1^{\lambda m, n - \lambda(m-2) - 2i + 1} &\text{ generated by } v_m(i - \lambda) 0 1^{\lambda m} \text{ for } 0 \leq \lambda \leq i - 1. \end{aligned}$$

The situation is shown in the next diagram ($\mathbf{h} = \{m\}[t^{\pm 1}]$):



The map

$$d_1 : E_1^{\lambda m - 1, n - \lambda(m-2) - 2i + 1} \rightarrow E_1^{\lambda m, n - \lambda(m-2) - 2i + 1}$$

is given by the multiplication by $\left[\begin{matrix} \lambda m \\ \lambda m - 1 \end{matrix} \right]_{q,t}' = [\lambda m]_q (1 + tq^{\lambda m - 1})$, but in this case the coefficient is zero in the module $\{m\}[t^{\pm 1}]$ because $\varphi_m(q) \mid [\lambda m]_q$ and so

we have that $E_1 = \cdots = E_{m-1}$. So we have to consider the map

$$d_{m-1}^{\lambda m, n-\lambda(m-2)-2i+1} : E_{m-1}^{\lambda m, n-\lambda(m-2)-2i+1} \rightarrow E_1^{(\lambda+1)m-1, n-(\lambda+1)(m-2)-2i+1}$$

for $\lambda = 0, \dots, i-2$.

This map corresponds to multiplication by

$$\left[\begin{matrix} (\lambda+1)m-1 \\ \lambda m \end{matrix} \right]_{q,t}' = \left[\begin{matrix} (\lambda+1)m-1 \\ \lambda m \end{matrix} \right]_q \prod_{j=\lambda m+1}^{(\lambda+1)m-1} (1+tq^{j-1}).$$

It is easy to see that the polynomial $\left[\begin{matrix} (\lambda+1)m-1 \\ \lambda m \end{matrix} \right]_q$ is prime with the torsion $\varphi_m(q)$ and so the map $d_{m-1}^{\lambda m, n-\lambda(m-2)-2i+1}$ is injective and the cokernel is isomorphic to

$$R / \left(\varphi_m(q), \prod_{j=\lambda m+1}^{(\lambda+1)m-1} (1+tq^{j-1}) \right) \simeq \bigoplus_{0 \leq k \leq m-2} \{m\}_k.$$

As a consequence we have that

$$\begin{aligned} E_m^{\lambda m-1, n-\lambda(m-2)-2i+1} &= \bigoplus_{0 \leq k \leq m-2} \{m\}_k && \text{for } 1 \leq \lambda \leq i-1, \\ E_m^{\lambda m, n-\lambda(m-2)-2i+1} &= 0 && \text{for } 0 \leq \lambda \leq i-2, \end{aligned}$$

and all these modules collapse to E_∞ . This means that we can find $\varphi_m(q)$ -torsion only in $H^{n-2j}(C_n)$ and for $j \geq 1$ the summand is given by

$$\bigoplus_{0 \leq k \leq m-2} \{m\}_k$$

for $d \leq \frac{n}{j+1}$.

We still have to consider all the terms $E_m^{n-m, m-1} = \{m\}[t^{\pm 1}]$ for $m \mid n$. Here the maps we have to look at are the following:

$$d_m^{n-m, m-1} : E_m^{n-m, m-1} \rightarrow E_m^{n, 0}.$$

These maps correspond to multiplication by the polynomials $\left[\begin{matrix} n \\ n-m \end{matrix} \right]_{q,t}'$. Moreover recall that

$$E_1^{n, 0} = R / \left(\left[\begin{matrix} n \\ n-1 \end{matrix} \right]_{q,t}' \right).$$

We can now use Lemma 3.1 to say that all the maps $d_m^{n-m, m-1}$ are injective and Lemma 3.2 to say that

$$E_{n+1}^{n, 0} = E_\infty^{n, 0} = \bigoplus_{m \mid n, 0 \leq k \leq d-2} \{m\}_k \oplus \{1\}_{n-1}.$$

Since $E_\infty^{n, 0} = H^n(C_n)$, this complete the proof of the theorem. □

3.2. Other computations. We may also consider the cohomology of G_{B_n} over the module $\mathbb{Q}[t^{\pm 1}]$, where the action is trivial for the generators $\epsilon_1, \dots, \epsilon_{n-1}$ and $(-t)$ -multiplication for the last generator $\bar{\epsilon}_n$. This cohomology is computed by the complex C_n^* of Section 3 where we specialize q to -1 . So we may use a similar filtration and associated spectral sequence. We used this argument in [CMS]. Here we

briefly indicate a different and more concise method, using the results of Theorem 1.1. We have:

Theorem 3.3.

$$\begin{aligned} H^k(G_{B_n}, \mathbb{Q}[t^{\pm 1}]) &= \mathbb{Q}[t^{\pm 1}]/(1+t) && 1 \leq k \leq n-1, \\ H^n(G_{B_n}, \mathbb{Q}[t^{\pm 1}]) &= \mathbb{Q}[t^{\pm 1}]/(1+t) && \text{for odd } n, \\ H^n(G_{B_n}, \mathbb{Q}[t^{\pm 1}]) &= \mathbb{Q}[t^{\pm 1}]/(1-t^2) && \text{for even } n. \end{aligned}$$

Sketch of proof. Consider the short exact sequence:

$$0 \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}[q^{\pm 1}, t^{\pm 1}] \xrightarrow{1+q} \mathbb{Q}[q^{\pm 1}, t^{\pm 1}] \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}[t^{\pm 1}] \rightarrow 0$$

and the induced long exact sequence for cohomology

$$\cdots \rightarrow H^i(G_{B_n}, \mathbb{Q}[q^{\pm 1}, t^{\pm 1}]) \xrightarrow{1+q} H^i(G_{B_n}, \mathbb{Q}[q^{\pm 1}, t^{\pm 1}]) \rightarrow H^i(G_{B_n}, \mathbb{Q}[t^{\pm 1}]) \rightarrow \cdots .$$

The result is now a straightforward consequence of Theorem 1.1. □

4. MORE CONSEQUENCES

By means of Shapiro’s lemma (see for instance [Bro82]), the inclusions introduced in Section 2.2 can be exploited to link the cohomology of the Artin group of type \tilde{A}_{n-1} , A_n to the cohomology of G_{B_n} .

4.1. Cohomology of $G_{\tilde{A}_{n-1}}$. Let M be any domain and let q be a unit of M . We indicate by M_q the ring M with the $G_{\tilde{A}_{n-1}}$ -module structure where the action of the standard generators is given by $(-q)$ -multiplication.

Proposition 4.1. *We have*

$$\begin{aligned} H_*(G_{\tilde{A}_{n-1}}, M_q) &\cong H_*(G_{B_n}, M[t^{\pm 1}]_{q,t}), \\ H^*(G_{\tilde{A}_{n-1}}, M_q) &\cong H^*(G_{B_n}, M[[t^{\pm 1}]]_{q,t}) \end{aligned}$$

where the action of G_{B_n} on $M[t^{\pm 1}]_{q,t}$ (and on $M[[t^{\pm 1}]]_{q,t}$) is given by $(-q)$ -multiplication for the generators $\epsilon_1, \dots, \epsilon_{n-1}$ and $(-t)$ -multiplication for the last generator $\bar{\epsilon}_n$.

Proof. Applying Shapiro’s lemma to the inclusion $\tilde{A}_{n-1} < G_{B_n}$, one obtains:

$$\begin{aligned} H_*(G_{\tilde{A}_{n-1}}, M_q) &\cong H_*(G_{B_n}, \text{Ind}_{G_{\tilde{A}_{n-1}}}^{G_{B_n}} M_q), \\ H^*(G_{\tilde{A}_{n-1}}, M_q) &\cong H^*(G_{B_n}, \text{Coind}_{G_{\tilde{A}_{n-1}}}^{G_{B_n}} M_q). \end{aligned}$$

By Corollary 2.3, any element of $\text{Ind}_{G_{\tilde{A}_{n-1}}}^{G_{B_n}} M_q := \mathbb{Z}[G_{B_n}] \otimes_{G_{\tilde{A}_{n-1}}} M_q$ can be represented as a sum of elements of the form $\tau^\alpha \otimes q^m$. Now, we have an isomorphism of $\mathbb{Z}[G_{B_n}]$ -modules

$$\mathbb{Z}[G_{B_n}] \otimes_{G_{\tilde{A}_{n-1}}} M_q \rightarrow M[t^{\pm 1}]_{q,t}$$

defined by sending $\tau^\alpha \otimes q^m \mapsto (-1)^{n\alpha} t^\alpha q^{(n-1)\alpha+m}$ and the result follows.

In cohomology we have similarly:

$$\text{Coind}_{G_{\tilde{A}_{n-1}}}^{G_{B_n}} M_q := \text{Hom}_{G_{\tilde{A}_{n-1}}}(\mathbb{Z}[G_{B_n}], M_q) \cong M[[t^{\pm 1}]]_{q,t}. \quad \square$$

By Propositions 4.1, in order to determine the cohomology $H^*(G_{\tilde{A}_{n-1}}, M_q)$ it is necessary to know the cohomology of G_{B_n} with values in the module $M[[t^{\pm 1}]]$ of Laurent series in the variable t . The latter is linked to the cohomology with values in the module of Laurent polynomials by:

Proposition 4.2 (Degree shift).

$$H^*(G_{B_n}, M[[t^{\pm 1}]]_{q,t}) \cong H^{*+1}(G_{B_n}, M[t^{\pm 1}]_{q,t}).$$

This result was obtained in [Cal05] in a slightly weaker form, but it is possible to extend it to our case with little effort.

From now on let $M = \mathbb{Q}[q^{\pm 1}]$. In this case we have $M[t^{\pm 1}]_{q,t} = R_{q,t}$, so we obtain the cohomology of the Artin group of affine type \tilde{A}_{n-1} with M_q -coefficients by means of Theorem 1.1.

In a similar way we get the rational cohomology of $G_{\tilde{A}_{n-1}}$:

Proposition 4.3. *We have*

$$\begin{aligned} H_*(G_{\tilde{A}_{n-1}}, \mathbb{Q}) &\cong H_*(G_{B_n}, \mathbb{Q}[t^{\pm 1}]), \\ H^*(G_{\tilde{A}_{n-1}}, \mathbb{Q}) &\cong H^*(G_{B_n}, \mathbb{Q}[[t^{\pm 1}]]) \end{aligned}$$

where the action of G_{B_n} on $\mathbb{Q}[t^{\pm 1}]$ (and on $\mathbb{Q}[[t^{\pm 1}]]$) is trivial for the generators $\epsilon_1, \dots, \epsilon_{n-1}$ and $(-t)$ -multiplication for the last generator $\bar{\epsilon}_n$.

To obtain the rational cohomology of $G_{\tilde{A}_{n-1}}$ we may apply Proposition 4.2 together with Theorem 3.3.

4.2. Cohomology of G_{A_n} with coefficient in the Tong-Yang-Ma representation. The Tong-Yang-Ma representation is an $(n+1)$ -dimensional representation of the classical braid group G_{A_n} discovered in [TYM96]. Below we just recall it, referring to [Sys01] for a discussion of its relevance in braid group representation theory.

Definition 4.4. Let V be the free $\mathbb{Q}[u^{\pm 1}]$ -module of rank $n+1$. The Tong-Yang-Ma representation is the representation

$$\rho : G_{A_n} \rightarrow \text{Gl}_{\mathbb{Q}[u^{\pm 1}]}(V)$$

defined w.r.t. the basis e_1, \dots, e_{n+1} of V by:

$$\rho(\sigma_i) = \begin{pmatrix} I_{i-1} & & & \\ & 0 & 1 & \\ & u & 0 & \\ & & & I_{n-i} \end{pmatrix}$$

where I_j denotes the j -dimensional identity matrix and all other entries are zero.

Notice that the image of the pure braid group under the Tong-Yang-Ma representation is abelian; hence this representation factors through the *extended Coxeter group* presented in [Tit66].

Proposition 4.5. *We have*

$$\begin{aligned} H_*(G_{B_n}, M[t^{\pm 1}]_{q,t}) &\cong H_*(G_{A_n}, M_q \otimes V), \\ H^*(G_{B_n}, M[t^{\pm 1}]_{q,t}) &\cong H^*(G_{A_n}, M_q \otimes V) \end{aligned}$$

where each generator of G_{A_n} acts on $M_q \otimes V$ by $(-q)$ -multiplication on the first factor and by the Tong-Yang-Ma representation on the second factor.

Sketch of proof. For the statement in homology, by Shapiro’s lemma, it is enough to show that $\text{Ind}_{G_{B_n}}^{G_{A_n}} M[t^{\pm 1}]_{q,t} \cong M_q \otimes V$.

Notice that $[G_{A_n} : G_{B_n}] = n + 1$ and let us choose as coset representatives for G_{A_n}/G_{B_n} the elements $\alpha_i = (\sigma_i \sigma_{i+1} \cdots \sigma_{n-1}) \sigma_n (\sigma_i \sigma_{i+1} \cdots \sigma_{n-1})^{-1}$ for $1 \leq i \leq n - 1$, $\alpha_n = \sigma_n$, $\alpha_{n+1} = e$.

Then by the definition of induced representation, there is an isomorphism of left G_{A_n} -modules,

$$\text{Ind}_{G_{B_n}}^{G_{A_n}} M[t^{\pm 1}]_{q,t} = \bigoplus_{i=1}^{n+1} M[t^{\pm 1}]e_i$$

where the action on the r.h.s. is as follows. For an element $x \in G_{A_n}$, write $x\alpha_k = \alpha_{k'}x'$ with $x' \in G_{B_n}$. Then x acts on an element $r \cdot e_k \in \bigoplus_{i=1}^{n+1} M[t^{\pm 1}]e_i$ as $x(r \cdot e_k) = (x'r) \cdot e_{k'}$.

Computing explicitly this action for the standard generators of G_{A_n} , we can write the representation in the following matrix form:

$$\sigma_i \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} -qI_{i-1} & & & \\ & 0 & -q & \\ & q^{-1}t & 0 & \\ & & & -qI_{n-i} \end{pmatrix}$$

for $1 \leq i \leq n - 1$, whereas

$$\sigma_n \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} -qI_{n-1} & & \\ & 0 & 1 \\ & -t & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Conjugating by $U = \text{Diag}(1, 1, \dots, 1, -q^{-1})$ and setting $u = -q^{-2}t$, one obtains the desired result.

Finally, since $[G_{A_n} : G_{B_n}] = n + 1 < \infty$, the induced and coinduced representations are isomorphic; so the analogous statement in cohomology follows. \square

In particular the cohomology of G_{B_n} determined in Theorem 1.1 is isomorphic to the cohomology of G_{A_n} with coefficient in the Tong-Yang-Ma representation twisted by an abelian representation.

By means of Shapiro’s lemma, we may as well determine the cohomology of G_{A_n} with coefficient in the Tong-Yang-Ma representation. Indeed:

Proposition 4.6. *We have*

$$\begin{aligned} H_*(G_{B_n}, \mathbb{Q}[t^{\pm 1}]) &\cong H_*(G_{A_n}, V), \\ H^*(G_{B_n}, \mathbb{Q}[t^{\pm 1}]) &\cong H^*(G_{A_n}, V) \end{aligned}$$

where V is the representation of G_{A_n} defined in Definition 4.4.

As a consequence we have

Corollary 4.7. *Let V be the $(n + 1)$ -dimensional representation of the braid group Br_{n+1} defined in Definition 4.4. Then the cohomology*

$$H^*(\text{Br}_{n+1}, V)$$

is given as in Theorem 3.3.

Remark 4.8. In particular the homology of $G_{\tilde{A}_{n-1}}$ with trivial coefficients is isomorphic to the homology of G_{A_n} with coefficients in the Tong-Yang-Ma representation.

5. RELATED TOPOLOGICAL CONSTRUCTIONS

We refer to [CMS] for the few changes which have to be done to the construction given in [Sal94] (see also [Sal87]) for non-finite type Artin groups (but still finitely generated). We obtain a *finite* CW-complex X_W , explicitly described, which is a deformation retract of the *orbit space* of the Artin group. The latter is defined as the quotient space

$$M(\mathcal{A})_W := M(\mathcal{A})/W,$$

where

$$M(\mathcal{A}) := [U^0 + i\mathbb{R}^n] \setminus \bigcup_{H \in \mathcal{A}} H_C,$$

$U^0 \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ being the interior part of the *Tits cone* of W , while \mathcal{A} is the hyperplane arrangement of W . The associated Artin group G_W is the fundamental group of the orbit space (see [Bou68, Vin71, Bri71, Dün83, vdL83]).

The simplest way to realize X_W is by taking one point x_0 inside a *chamber* C_0 and, for any maximal subset $J \subset S$ such that the parabolic subgroup W_J is finite, construct a $|J|$ -cell (a polyhedron) in U^0 as the “convex hull” of the W_J -orbit of x_0 in \mathbb{R}^n . So, we obtain a finite cell complex which is the union of (in general, different dimensional) polyhedra. Next, there are identifications on the faces of these polyhedra, which are the same as described in [Sal94] for the finite case. The resulting quotient space is a CW-complex X_W which has a $|J|$ -cell for each $J \subset S$ such that W_J is finite. We show an example in the case \tilde{A}_2 (see Figure 4).

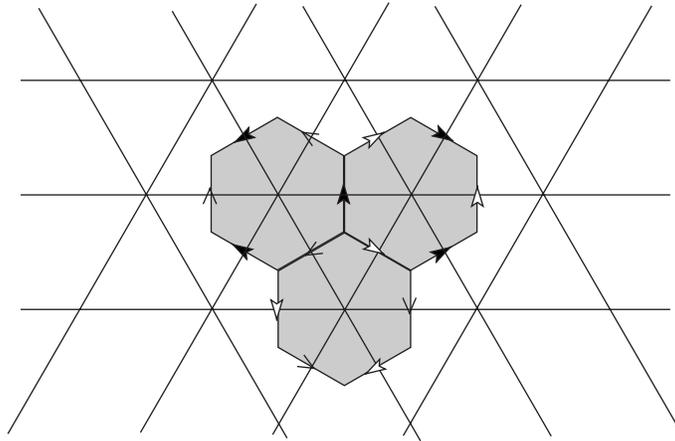


FIGURE 4. The space $K(G_{\tilde{A}_2}, 1)$ is given as a union of 3 hexagons with edges glued according to the arrows (there are: 1 0-cell, 3 1-cells, 3 2-cells in the quotient).

Remark 5.1. When W is an affine group, the orbit space is known to be a $K(\pi, 1)$ for types \tilde{A}_n, \tilde{C}_n (see [Oko79, CP03]) and recently for type \tilde{B}_n ([CMS1]); see [CD95] for further classes.

Remark 5.2. The standard presentation for G_W is quite easy to derive from the topological description of X_W ; we may thus recover van der Lek’s result [vdL83].

It follows that

Proposition 5.3. *Let $K_W^{fin} := \{J \subset S : |W_J| < \infty\}$ with the natural structure of a simplicial complex. Then the Euler characteristic of the orbit space (so, of the group G_W when such a space is of type $K(\pi, 1)$) equals*

$$\chi(K_W^{fin}).$$

If W is affine of rank $n + 1$ we have

$$\chi(\mathbf{M}(\mathcal{A})_W) = \chi(K_W^{fin}) = 1 - \chi(S^{n-1}) = (-1)^n.$$

If W is two-dimensional (so, all 3-subsets of S generate an infinite group) of rank n , then

$$\chi(\mathbf{M}(\mathcal{A})_W) = 1 - n + m$$

where m is the number of pairs in S having finite weight ($m = \frac{n(n-1)}{2}$ if there are no ∞ -edges in the Coxeter graph).

Proof. The first two statements were already mentioned in [CMS]. The last one is clear. \square

Remark 5.4. The cohomology of the orbit space in case \tilde{A}_n with trivial coefficients is deduced from Corollary 4.3 and from Theorem 3.3; that with local coefficients in the $G_{\tilde{A}_n}$ -module $\mathbb{Q}[q^{\pm 1}]$ is deduced from Theorem 1.1.

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