

Rigged configurations and the $*$ -involution

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Abstract We give an explicit description of the $*$ -involution on the rigged configuration model for $B(\infty)$.

Keywords Crystal · Rigged configuration · $*$ -Involution

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1 Introduction

The $*$ -involution is an involution on the crystal $B(\infty)$ that is induced from a subtle involutive antiautomorphism of $U_q(\mathfrak{g})$. The importance of $*$ in the theory of crystal bases and their applications cannot be understated. Here are just a few of its applications.

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1. Saito [36] used the involution during the proof that Lusztig's PBW basis has a crystal structure isomorphic to $B(\infty)$, provided that \mathfrak{g} is a finite-dimensional semisimple Lie algebra.
2. Kamnitzer and Tingley [14] generalize the definition of the crystal commutor of Henriques and Kamnitzer [6] in terms of the $*$ -involution. This leads to a proof by Savage [41] that the category of crystals forms a coboundary category over any symmetrizable Kac–Moody algebra.
3. In affine type A , Jacon and Lecouvey [10] prove that $*$ coincides with the Zelevinsky involution [26, 50] on the set of simple modules for the affine Hecke algebra.

Several combinatorial realizations of the $*$ -involution are known in the literature. For example, Lusztig [25] gave a description of the behavior of $*$ on Lusztig's PBW basis in the finite types, Kamnitzer [12] showed that $*$ acts on an MV polytope by negation, Kashiwara and Saito [18] gave a description of $*$ in terms of quiver varieties [18], and Jacon and Lecouvey [10] give a description of the involution in terms of the multisegment model. Such model-specific calculations of the $*$ -crystal operators are important as, a priori, the algorithm for computing the action of these operators is not efficient [16, Thm. 2.2.1] (see also [17, Prop. 8.1]).

In this paper, the authors continue their development of the rigged configuration model of $B(\infty)$ [38, 40]. Rigged configurations are sequences of partitions, one for every node of the underlying Dynkin diagram, where each part is paired with an integer, satisfying certain conditions. These objects arose as an important tool in mathematical physics from the studies of the Bethe Ansatz by Kerov et al. [19, 20], and they have been shown to correspond to the action and angle variables of box–ball systems [21]. Additionally, rigged configurations have been used extensively in the theory of Kirillov–Reshetikhin crystals [4, 5, 29, 30, 32, 33, 37, 42–44, 46, 47]. During the course of this study, a crystal structure was given to rigged configurations [43, 44].

Our description of $*$ is as nice as one could hope: in contrast to the definition of e_a and f_a on rigged configurations, one interchanges “label” and “colabel” to obtain a definition of e_a^* and f_a^* (see Definition 2). From this, we obtain our main result: applying the $*$ -involution to a rigged configuration replaces all labels with their corresponding colabels and leaves the partitions fixed (see Corollary 1). Our results show that rigged configurations are an excellent model for crystals as the description of $*$ is simple and natural with a uniform crystal structure across all symmetrizable types whose crystal operators are described combinatorially.

The method of proof applied here is to use a classification theorem of $B(\infty)$ asserted by Tingley and Webster [49] by translating the $*$ -involution directly into the classification theorem of Kashiwara and Saito [18] without the use of Kashiwara's embedding. This classification theorem requires several assertions to be satisfied, and proving these assertions hold in $RC(\infty)$ with our new $*$ -crystal operators consumes most of Sect. 4.

The (conjectural) bijection Φ between $U'_q(\mathfrak{g})$ -rigged configurations and tensor products of Kirillov–Reshetikhin crystals [29, 31–34, 42, 44, 45, 47] is given roughly as follows. It removes the largest row with a colabel of 0, which is the minimal colabel, for each e_a from b to the highest weight element in $B(\Lambda_1)$, where b is the leftmost factor in the tensor product. Let θ be the involution on $U'_q(\mathfrak{g})$ -rigged configurations which interchanges labels with colabels on classically highest weight $U'_q(\mathfrak{g})$ -rigged configurations

and let $\tilde{*}^L$ denote the involution which is the composition of Lusztig's involution and the map sending the result to the classically highest weight element [42, 45] (where it is also denoted by $*$). It is known that $\Phi \circ \theta = \tilde{*}^L \circ \Phi$ on classically highest weight elements. In particular, the latter map reverses the order of the tensor product. Thus, given the description of the crystal commutor, our work suggests there is a strong link between the $*$ -involution and the bijection Φ . We hope this could lead to a more direct description of the bijection Φ , its related properties, and a (combinatorial) proof of the $X = M$ conjecture of [4, 5].

Another model for $B(\infty)$ uses marginally large tableaux, as developed by Cliff [2] and Hong and Lee [8, 9]. It is known that the bijection Φ mentioned above can be extended to a $U_q(\mathfrak{g})$ -crystal isomorphism between rigged configurations and marginally large tableaux [39] when \mathfrak{g} is of finite classical type or type G_2 . An ambitious hope of this paper is that it may lead to a description of the $*$ -crystal structure on marginally large tableaux. (In finite type A , this result is in [1].) However, this appears to be a hard problem as the bijection Φ is highly recursive and depends on conditions on colabels, many of which can change under applying the $*$ -crystal operators.

There is also a model for $B(\infty)$ using Littelmann paths constructed by Li and Zhang [23]. From [35], natural virtualization maps, which are crystal analogues of diagram foldings, arise to the embeddings on the underlying geometric information. The virtualization map on rigged configurations is also quite natural, giving evidence that rigged configurations encode more geometry than their combinatorial origins and description suggests. This is also evidence that there exists a straightforward and natural explicit combinatorial bijection between rigged configurations and the Littelmann path model. Thus this work could potentially lead to a description of the $*$ -crystal on the Littelmann path model.

In a similar vein, the virtualization map is known to act naturally on MV polytopes [11, 27], also reflecting the geometric information of the root systems via the Weyl group. This is evidence that there should be a natural explicit combinatorial bijection between MV polytopes and rigged configurations (and the Littelmann path model). Moreover, considering the $*$ -involution, which acts by negation on MV polytopes [12, 13], this work gives further evidence that such a bijection should exist. Furthermore, this bijection would suggest a natural generalization beyond finite type, which the authors expect to recover the KLR polytopes of [49].

This paper is organized as follows. In Sect. 2, we give the necessary background on crystals and the $*$ -involution. In Sect. 3, we give background information on the rigged configuration model for $B(\infty)$. In Sect. 4, we give the proof of our main theorem and some consequences. In Sect. 5, we give a description of highest weight crystals using the $*$ -crystal structure and describe the natural projection from $B(\infty)$ in terms of rigged configurations.

2 Crystals and the $*$ -involution

Let \mathfrak{g} be a symmetrizable Kac–Moody algebra with quantized universal enveloping algebra $U_q(\mathfrak{g})$ over $\mathbf{Q}(q)$, index set I , generalized Cartan matrix $A = (A_{ij})_{i,j \in I}$, weight lattice P , root lattice Q , fundamental weights $\{\Lambda_i : i \in I\}$, simple roots

$\{\alpha_i : i \in I\}$, and simple coroots $\{h_i : i \in I\}$. There is a canonical pairing $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle : P^\vee \times P \rightarrow \mathbf{Z}$ defined by $\langle h_i, \alpha_j \rangle = A_{ij}$, where P^\vee is the dual weight lattice.

An abstract $U_q(\mathfrak{g})$ -crystal is a set B together with maps

$$e_i, f_i : B \rightarrow B \sqcup \{0\}, \quad \varepsilon_i, \varphi_i : B \rightarrow \mathbf{Z} \sqcup \{-\infty\}, \quad \text{wt} : B \rightarrow P$$

satisfying certain conditions (see [7,17]). Any $U_q(\mathfrak{g})$ -crystal basis, defined in the classical sense (see [15]), is an abstract $U_q(\mathfrak{g})$ -crystal. In particular, the negative half $U_q^-(\mathfrak{g})$ of the quantized universal enveloping algebra of \mathfrak{g} has a crystal basis which is an abstract $U_q(\mathfrak{g})$ -crystal. We denote this crystal by $B(\infty)$ (rather than the using the entire tuple $(B(\infty), e_i, f_i, \varepsilon_i, \varphi_i, \text{wt})$), and denote its highest weight element by u_∞ . As a set, one has

$$B(\infty) = \{f_{i_d} \cdots f_{i_2} f_{i_1} u_\infty : i_1, \dots, i_d \in I, d \geq 0\}.$$

The remaining crystal structure on $B(\infty)$ is

$$\begin{aligned} \text{wt}(f_{i_d} \cdots f_{i_2} f_{i_1} u_\infty) &= -\alpha_{i_1} - \alpha_{i_2} - \cdots - \alpha_{i_d}, \\ \varepsilon_i(b) &= \max\{k \in \mathbf{Z} : e_i^k b \neq 0\}, \\ \varphi_i(b) &= \varepsilon_i(b) + \langle h_i, \text{wt}(b) \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

We say that $b \in B(\infty)$ has depth d if $b = f_{i_d} \cdots f_{i_2} f_{i_1} u_\infty$ for some $i_1, \dots, i_d \in I$.

There is a $\mathbf{Q}(q)$ -antiautomorphism $*$: $U_q(\mathfrak{g}) \rightarrow U_q(\mathfrak{g})$ defined by

$$E_i \mapsto E_i, \quad F_i \mapsto F_i, \quad q \mapsto q, \quad q^h \mapsto q^{-h},$$

where E_i, F_i , and q^h ($i \in I, h \in P^\vee$) are the generators for $U_q(\mathfrak{g})$. This is an involution which leaves $U_q^-(\mathfrak{g})$ stable. Thus, the map $*$ induces a map on $B(\infty)$, which we also denote by $*$, and is called the **-involution* or *star involution* (and is sometimes known as Kashiwara’s involution [1, 10, 12, 41, 49]). Denote by $B(\infty)^*$ the image of $B(\infty)$ under $*$.

Theorem 1 [16,24] *We have $B(\infty)^* = B(\infty)$.*

This induces a new crystal structure on $B(\infty)$ with Kashiwara operators

$$e_i^* = * \circ e_i \circ *, \quad f_i^* = * \circ f_i \circ *,$$

and the remaining crystal structure is given by

$$\varepsilon_i^* = \varepsilon_i \circ *, \quad \varphi_i^* = \varphi_i \circ *,$$

and weight function wt , the usual weight function on $B(\infty)$. Additionally, for $b \in B(\infty)$ and $i \in I$, define

$$\kappa_i(b) := \varepsilon_i(b) + \varepsilon_i^*(b) + \langle h_i, \text{wt}(b) \rangle. \tag{1}$$

This was called the i -jump in [22].

We will appeal to the following statement from [1], which was proven in a dual form in [49] based on Kashiwara and Saito’s classification theorem for $B(\infty)$ from [18]. First, a bicrystal is a set B with two abstract $U_q(\mathfrak{g})$ -crystal structures $(B, e_i, f_i, \varepsilon_i, \varphi_i, \text{wt})$ and $(B, e_i^*, f_i^*, \varepsilon_i^*, \varphi_i^*, \text{wt})$ with the same weight function. In such a bicrystal B , we say $b \in B$ is a highest weight element if $e_i b = e_i^* b = 0$ for all $i \in I$.

Proposition 1 Fix a bicrystal B with highest weight b_0 such the crystal data is determined by setting $\text{wt}(b_0) = 0$. Assume further that, for all $i \neq j$ in I and all $b \in B$,

1. $f_i b, f_i^* b \neq 0$;
2. $f_i^* f_j b = f_j f_i^* b$;
3. $\kappa_i(b) \geq 0$;
4. $\kappa_i(b) = 0$ implies $f_i b = f_i^* b$;
5. $\kappa_i(b) \geq 1$ implies $\varepsilon_i^*(f_i b) = \varepsilon_i^*(b)$ and $\varepsilon_i(f_i^* b) = \varepsilon_i(b)$;
6. $\kappa_i(b) \geq 2$ implies $f_i f_i^* b = f_i^* f_i b$.

Then

$$(B, e_i, f_i, \varepsilon_i, \varphi_i, \text{wt}) \cong (B, e_i^*, f_i^*, \varepsilon_i^*, \varphi_i^*, \text{wt}) \cong B(\infty),$$

with $e_i^* = e_i^*$ and $f_i^* = f_i^*$.

However, we will need to slightly weaken the assumptions of Proposition 1.

Proposition 2 Let $(B, e_i, f_i, \varepsilon_i, \varphi_i, \text{wt})$ and $(B^*, e_i^*, f_i^*, \varepsilon_i^*, \varphi_i^*, \text{wt})$ be highest weight abstract $U_q(\mathfrak{g})$ -crystals with the same highest weight vector $b_0 \in B \cap B^*$, where the remaining crystal data is determined by setting $\text{wt}(b_0) = 0$. Suppose also that (1)–(6) are satisfied. Then

$$(B, e_i, f_i, \varepsilon_i, \varphi_i, \text{wt}) \cong (B^*, e_i^*, f_i^*, \varepsilon_i^*, \varphi_i^*, \text{wt}) \cong B(\infty),$$

with $e_i^* = e_i^*$ and $f_i^* = f_i^*$.

Proof We prove that $B \cap B^*$ is closed under f_i and f_i^* by using induction on the depth and making repeated use of conditions (1)–(6) above. The base case is depth 0, where we just have b_0 . Suppose all elements of depth at most d in B and B^* are in $B \cap B^*$. Next, fix some $b \in B \cap B^*$ at depth d . If $\kappa_i(b) = 0$, then $f_i b = f_i^* b$ for all $i \in I$. If $i \neq j$, then $f_i^* f_j b' = f_j f_i^* b'$. Hence $f_i^* b \in B \cap B^*$, and $f_j b \in B \cap B^*$ by our induction assumption and that B (resp., B^*) is closed under f_j (resp., f_j^*). A similar argument shows that $f_i b \in B \cap B^*$ if $\kappa_i(b) \geq 1$ since $\kappa_i(b') \geq 2$. Therefore $B = B \cap B^* = B^*$ since $B \cap B^*$ is closed under f_i and f_j^* and generated by b_0 (along with B and B^*). Thus the claim follows by Proposition 1. \square

3 Rigged configurations

Let $\mathcal{H} = I \times \mathbf{Z}_{>0}$. A rigged configuration is a sequence of partitions $\nu = (\nu^{(a)} : a \in I)$ such that each row $\nu_i^{(a)}$ has an integer called a rigging, and we let $J = (J_i^{(a)} : (a, i) \in$

\mathcal{H}), where $J_i^{(a)}$ is the multiset of riggings of rows of length i in $v^{(a)}$. We consider there to be an infinite number of rows of length 0 with rigging 0; i.e., $J_0^{(a)} = \{0, 0, \dots\}$ for all $a \in I$. The term rigging will be interchanged freely with the term *label*. We identify two rigged configurations (v, J) and (\tilde{v}, \tilde{J}) if

$$v = \tilde{v} \quad \text{and} \quad J_i^{(a)} = \tilde{J}_i^{(a)}$$

for any fixed $(a, i) \in \mathcal{H}$. Let $(v, J)^{(a)}$ denote the rigged partition $(v^{(a)}, J^{(a)})$.

Define the *vacancy numbers* of v to be

$$p_i^{(a)}(v) = p_i^{(a)} = - \sum_{(b,j) \in \mathcal{H}} A_{ab} \min(i, j) m_j^{(b)}, \tag{2}$$

where $m_i^{(a)}$ is the number of parts of length i in $v^{(a)}$ and $(A_{ab})_{a,b \in I}$ is the underlying Cartan matrix. The *corrigging*, or *colabel*, of a row in $(v, J)^{(a)}$ with rigging x is $p_i^{(a)} - x$. In addition, we can extend the vacancy numbers to

$$p_\infty^{(a)} = \lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} p_i^{(a)} = - \sum_{b \in I} A_{ab} |v^{(b)}|$$

since $\sum_{j=1}^\infty \min(i, j) m_j^{(b)} = |v^{(b)}|$ for $i \gg 1$. Note this is consistent with letting $i = \infty$ in Eq. (2).

Let $\text{RC}(\infty)$ denote the set of rigged configurations generated by $(v_\emptyset, J_\emptyset)$, where $v_\emptyset^{(a)} = 0$ for all $a \in I$, and closed under the crystal operators as follows. Recall that, in our convention, $x \leq 0$ since there the string $(0, 0)$ is in each $(v, J)^{(a)}$.

Definition 1 Fix some $a \in I$, and let $x \leq 0$ be the smallest rigging in $(v, J)^{(a)}$.

e_a : If $x = 0$, then $e_a(v, J) = 0$. Otherwise, let r be a row in $(v, J)^{(a)}$ of minimal length ℓ with rigging x . Then $e_a(v, J)$ is the rigged configuration which removes a box from row r , sets the new rigging of r to be $x + 1$, and changes all other riggings such that the corriggings remain fixed.

f_a : Let r be a row in $(v, J)^{(a)}$ of maximal length ℓ with rigging x . Then $f_a(v, J)$ is the rigged configuration which adds a box to row r , sets the new rigging of r to be $x - 1$, and changes all other riggings such that the corriggings remain fixed.

We define the remainder of the crystal structure on $\text{RC}(\infty)$ by

$$\begin{aligned} \varepsilon_a(v, J) &= \max\{k \in \mathbf{Z} : e_a^k(v, J) \neq 0\}, \\ \varphi_a(v, J) &= \langle h_a, \text{wt}(v, J) \rangle + \varepsilon_a(v, J), \\ \text{wt}(v, J) &= - \sum_{a \in I} |v^{(a)}| \alpha_a. \end{aligned}$$

From this structure, we have $p_\infty^{(a)} = \langle h_a, \text{wt}(v, J) \rangle$ for all $a \in I$.

Theorem 2 [38,40] *Let \mathfrak{g} be of symmetrizable type. Then $\text{RC}(\infty) \cong B(\infty)$ as $U_q(\mathfrak{g})$ -crystals.*

Proposition 3 ([37,38,43]) *Let $(\nu, J) \in \text{RC}(\infty)$ and fix some $a \in I$. Let x denote the smallest label in $(\nu, J)^{(a)}$. Then we have*

$$\varepsilon_a(\nu, J) = -\min(0, x) \quad \varphi_a(\nu, J) = p_\infty^{(a)} - \min(0, x).$$

It is a straightforward computation from the vacancy numbers to show that

$$\langle h_a, \lambda \rangle - \sum_{b \in I} A_{ab} m_i^{(b)} = -p_{i-1}^{(a)} + 2p_i^{(a)} - p_{i+1}^{(a)}. \tag{3}$$

From this, we obtain the well-known convexity properties of the vacancy numbers.

Lemma 1 (Convexity) *If $m_i^{(a)} = 0$, then we have*

$$2p_i^{(a)} \geq p_{i-1}^{(a)} + p_{i+1}^{(a)}.$$

Moreover, suppose $m_i^{(a)} = 0$ for all $j < i < j'$. Then $p_j^{(a)} \geq p_i^{(a)} \leq p_{j'}^{(a)}$ for some $j < i < j'$ if and only if $p_j^{(a)} = p_i^{(a)} = p_{j'}^{(a)}$ for all $j < i < j'$.

In the sequel, we will refer to this lemma simply as convexity as we will frequently use it.

4 Star-crystal structure

Definition 2 Fix some $a \in I$, and let $x \leq 0$ be the smallest corigging in $(\nu, J)^{(a)}$.

e_a^* : If $x = 0$, then $e_a(\nu, J) = 0$. Otherwise let r be a row in $(\nu, J)^{(a)}$ of minimal length ℓ with corigging x . Then $e_a^*(\nu, J)$ is the rigged configuration which removes a box from row r and sets the new corigging of r to be $x + 1$.

f_a^* : Let r be a row in $(\nu, J)^{(a)}$ of maximal length ℓ with corigging x . Then $f_a^*(\nu, J)$ is the rigged configuration which adds a box to row r and sets the new colabel of r to be $x - 1$.

If e_a^* removes a box from a row of length ℓ in (ν, J) , then the the vacancy numbers change by the formula

$$\tilde{p}_i^{(b)} = \begin{cases} p_i^{(b)} & \text{if } i < \ell, \\ p_i^{(b)} + A_{ab} & \text{if } i \geq \ell. \end{cases} \tag{4}$$

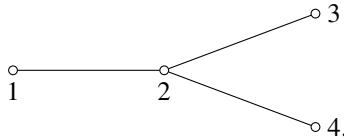
On the other hand, if f_a^* adds a box to a row of length ℓ , then the vacancy numbers change by

$$\tilde{p}_i^{(b)} = \begin{cases} p_i^{(b)} & \text{if } i \leq \ell, \\ p_i^{(b)} - A_{ab} & \text{if } i > \ell. \end{cases} \tag{5}$$

Similar equations hold for e_a and f_a respectively. So the riggings of unchanged rows are changed according to Eqs. (4) and (5) under e_a and f_a , respectively.

Remark 1 By Eqs. (4) and (5), the crystal operators e_a and f_a preserve all colabels of (v, J) other than the row changed in $(v, J)^{(a)}$.

Example 1 Consider type D_4 with Dynkin diagram



Let (v, J) be the rigged configuration

$$\begin{aligned}
 (v, J) &= f_2^* f_3^* f_1^* f_2^* f_2^* f_4^* f_3^* f_1^* f_2^* (v_\emptyset, J_\emptyset) \\
 &= -1 \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline & \\ \hline \end{array} 0 \quad -3 \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline & & \\ \hline \end{array} -2 \quad -1 \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline & \\ \hline \end{array} 0 \quad 0 \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \\ \hline \end{array} 0.
 \end{aligned}$$

Then

$$f_2^*(v, J) = -1 \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline & \\ \hline \end{array} 0 \quad -5 \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|} \hline & & & \\ \hline \end{array} -3 \quad -1 \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline & \\ \hline \end{array} 0 \quad 0 \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \\ \hline \end{array} 0.$$

Let $\text{RC}(\infty)^*$ denote the closure of $(v_\emptyset, J_\emptyset)$ under f_a^* and e_a^* . We define the remaining crystal structure by

$$\begin{aligned}
 \varepsilon_a^*(v, J) &= \max\{k \in \mathbf{Z} : (e_a^*)^k(v, J) \neq 0\}, \\
 \varphi_a^*(v, J) &= \langle h_a, \text{wt}(v, J) \rangle + \varepsilon_a^*(v, J), \\
 \text{wt}(v, J) &= - \sum_{a \in I} |v^{(a)}| \alpha_a.
 \end{aligned}$$

Remark 2 We will say an argument holds by duality when we can interchange:

- “label” and “colabel”;
- e_a and e_a^* ;
- f_a and f_a^* .

For an example, compare the proof of Proposition 4 with [37, Thm. 3.8].

Lemma 2 *The tuple $(\text{RC}(\infty)^*, e_a^*, f_a^*, \varepsilon_a^*, \varphi_a^*, \text{wt})$ is an abstract $U_q(\mathfrak{g})$ -crystal.*

Proof The proof that $(\text{RC}(\infty)^*, e_a^*, f_a^*, \varepsilon_a^*, \varphi_a^*, \text{wt})$ is an abstract $U_q(\mathfrak{g})$ -crystal is dual to that $\text{RC}(\infty)$ is an abstract $U_q(\mathfrak{g})$ -crystal under e_a and f_a in [38, Lemma 3.3]. \square

Proposition 4 *Let $(v, J) \in \text{RC}(\infty)$ and fix some $a \in I$. Let x denote the smallest colabel in $(v, J)^{(a)}$. Then we have*

$$\varepsilon_a^*(v, J) = -\min(0, x), \quad \varphi_a^*(v, J) = p_\infty^{(a)} - \min(0, x).$$

Proof The following argument for ε_a^* is essentially the dual to that given in [37, Thm. 3.8]. We include it here as an example of Remark 2.

It is sufficient to prove $\varepsilon_a^*(v, J) = -\max(0, x)$ since $p_\infty^{(a)} = \langle h_a, \text{wt}(v, J) \rangle$. If $x \geq 0 = \varepsilon_a^*(v, J)$, then $e_a^*(v, J) = 0$ by definition. Thus we proceed by induction on $\varepsilon_a^*(v, J)$ and assume $x < 0$. Let $(v', J') = e_a^*(v, J)$ and y' denote the resulting colabel from a colabel y . In particular, we have $x' = x + 1$ and all other colabels follow Eq. (4). Next, let y denote the colabel of a row of length j . For $j < \ell$, we have $y > x$ (equivalently $y \geq x + 1$) because we chose ℓ as small as possible. Thus $y' = y$, and hence $y' = y \geq x + 1 = x'$. For $j \geq \ell$, we have $y \geq x$ by the minimality of x and $y' = y + 2$. Hence, $y' = y + 2 > x + 1 = x'$, and so $\varepsilon_a^*(v', J') = \varepsilon_a^*(v, J) - 1$ as desired. \square

The rest of this section will amount to showing that Conditions (1)–(6) of Proposition 2 hold. Note that using Proposition 4 and [38, Prop. 4.2], we can rewrite Eq. (1) as

$$\begin{aligned} \kappa_a(v, J) &= -\min(0, x_\ell) - \min(0, x_c) + \langle h_a, \text{wt}(v, J) \rangle, \\ &= -\min(0, x_\ell) - \min(0, x_c) + p_\infty^{(a)}, \end{aligned} \tag{6}$$

where x_ℓ and x_c are the smallest label and colabel, respectively, in $(v, J)^{(a)}$.

Lemma 3 Fix $(v, J) \in \text{RC}(\infty)$ and $a \in I$. Assume $\kappa_a(v, J) = 0$. Then $f_a(v, J) = f_a^*(v, J)$.

Proof Suppose that f_a adds a box to a row of length i with rigging x . Recall that $x = -\varepsilon_a(v, J)$. Suppose the longest row of $v^{(a)}$ has length $\ell > i$ and let x_ℓ denote any rigging of the longest row. Therefore, we have $x_\ell > x$ by the definition of f_a , and we have $p_\ell^{(a)} \leq p_\infty^{(a)}$ by convexity. Thus from the definition of ε_a^* , we have

$$\varepsilon_a^*(v, J) \geq x_\ell - p_\ell^{(a)} > x - p_\infty^{(a)} = -\varepsilon_a(v, J) - p_\infty^{(a)}. \tag{7}$$

This implies $\varepsilon_a^*(v, J) + \varepsilon_a(v, J) + p_\infty^{(a)} > 0$, which is a contradiction. Therefore f_a must add a box to one of the longest rows of $v^{(a)}$. Moreover, if $p_\ell^{(a)} < p_\infty^{(a)}$, then Eq. (7) would still hold and result in a contradiction. Similar statements holds for f_a^* by duality.

Therefore f_a and f_a^* act on the longest row of $v^{(a)}$ and $p_i^{(a)} = p_{i+1}^{(a)} = p_\infty^{(a)}$. Let x and x^* denote the label of the row on which f_a and f_a^* act, respectively. Both of these labels decrease by 1 after applying f_a (by the definition of f_a) and f_a^* (by Eq. (5) and the equality $p_i^{(a)} = p_{i+1}^{(a)}$), respectively. So it is sufficient to show $x = x^*$. Note that $x \leq x^*$ as the smallest colabel is the one with the largest rigging. Suppose $x < x^*$, then we have

$$\varepsilon_a^*(v, J) \geq x^* - p_i^{(a)} > x - p_\infty^{(a)} \geq -\varepsilon_a(v, J) - p_\infty^{(a)},$$

which is a contradiction. Therefore we have $f_a = f_a^*$. \square

Example 2 Let (ν, J) be the rigged configuration of type D_4 from Example 1. Then $\kappa_2(\nu, J) = 0$, and

$$f_2(\nu, J) = -1 \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \end{array} 0 \quad -5 \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|} \hline \square & \square & \square & \square \\ \hline \square & & & \\ \hline \end{array} -3 \quad -1 \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \end{array} 0 \quad 0 \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \square \\ \hline \end{array} 0.$$

One can check that this agrees with $f_2^*(\nu, J)$ from Example 1.

Lemma 4 Fix $(\nu, J) \in \text{RC}(\infty)$ and $a \in I$. Assume $\kappa_a(\nu, J) \geq 1$. Then

$$\varepsilon_a^*(f_a(\nu, J)) = \varepsilon_a^*(\nu, J), \quad \varepsilon_a(f_a^*(\nu, J)) = \varepsilon_a(\nu, J).$$

Proof Let x^c denote the smallest colabel of $(\nu, J)^{(a)}$. Let x and i denote the rigging and length of the row on which f_a acts. By the minimality of x^c , we have $x^c := p_i^{(a)} - x \geq x^c$. Note that the colabel of the row after the application of f_a becomes

$$\tilde{x}_c := p_{i+1}^{(a)} - 2 - (x - 1) = p_{i+1}^{(a)} - x - 1, \tag{8}$$

which implies that

$$\tilde{x}_c = x_c + p_{i+1}^{(a)} - p_i^{(a)} - 1. \tag{9}$$

The remainder of the proof will be split into two cases: $x^c = p_i^{(a)} - x$ and $x^c < p_i^{(a)} - x$.
 $x^c = p_i^{(a)} - x$

First, consider the case $p_{i+1}^{(a)} \leq p_i^{(a)}$. We also assume there exists a row of length $\ell > i$ of $\nu^{(a)}$, and let x_ℓ denote the rigging of that row. Thus $x < x_\ell$ and $x^c \leq p_\ell^{(a)} - x_\ell$ by the definition of f_a and the minimality of x^c . Hence

$$p_i^{(a)} - x = x^c \leq p_\ell^{(a)} - x_\ell < p_\ell^{(a)} - x,$$

which is equivalent to $p_i^{(a)} < p_\ell^{(a)}$. It must be the case, then, that $p_{i+1}^{(a)} > p_i^{(a)}$ by convexity, which is impossible. Thus the longest row of $\nu^{(a)}$ must be of length i . Convexity implies $p_i^{(a)} = p_{i+1}^{(a)} = p_\infty^{(a)}$, which results in

$$\begin{aligned} \kappa_a(\nu, J) &= p_\infty^{(a)} - \min(x, 0) - \min(x^c, 0) \\ &= p_i^{(a)} - \min(x, 0) - \min(p_i^{(a)} - x, 0). \end{aligned}$$

Since x was the rigging chosen by f_a , we must have $x \leq 0$. Additionally, if $p_i^{(a)} - x = x^c \leq 0$, we have

$$1 \leq \kappa_a(\nu, J) = p_i^{(a)} - x - (p_i^{(a)} - x) = 0,$$

which is a contradiction. Therefore $x^c \geq 1$, which implies $\varepsilon_a^*(\nu, J) = 0 = \varepsilon_a^*(f_a(\nu, J))$ since $\tilde{x}_c \geq 0$.

Next if $p_{i+1}^{(a)} = p_i^{(a)} + 1$, then $\varepsilon_a^*(f_a(v, J)) = \varepsilon_a^*(v, J)$ since $\tilde{x}_c = x^c$, all other corrigings are fixed, and $\tilde{x}_c = x^c$ by Eq. (9).

So we now assume $p_{i+1}^{(a)} \geq p_i^{(a)} + 2$, which implies $\tilde{x}_c > x^c$. If there is another row with a corriging of x^c or $x^c \geq 0$, then $\varepsilon_a^*(f_a(v, J)) = \varepsilon_a^*(v, J)$. So assume f_a acts on the only row with a corriging of $x^c < 0$. Note that $p_i^{(a)} - x = x^c < 0$ and $x \leq 0$ implies $p_i^{(a)} < 0$.

We have $m_i^{(a)} = 1$ as, otherwise, we would either have a second corriging of x^c or a smaller corriging from the minimality of x . Thus, by Eq. (3),

$$\begin{aligned} -2 - \sum_{b \neq a} A_{ab} m_i^{(b)} &= -p_{i-1}^{(a)} + 2p_i^{(a)} - p_{i+1}^{(a)} \\ &\leq -p_{i-1}^{(a)} + 2p_i^{(a)} - p_i^{(a)} - 2 \\ &= -p_{i-1}^{(a)} + p_i^{(a)} - 2. \end{aligned}$$

Since $m_i^{(b)} \geq 0$ and $-A_{ab} \geq 0$ for all $a \neq b$, we then have

$$0 \leq -p_{i-1}^{(a)} + p_i^{(a)},$$

or, equivalently, $p_{i-1}^{(a)} \leq p_i^{(a)}$. If i is the length of the smallest row, then $0 \leq p_{i-1}^{(a)} \leq p_i^{(a)} < 0$ by convexity, which is a contradiction. Thus let x_ℓ denote rigging of the longest row in $v^{(a)}$ such that $\ell < i$, and by convexity, we have $p_\ell^{(a)} \leq p_i^{(a)}$. By the definition of f_a , we have $x_\ell \geq x$. Thus, we have $p_\ell^{(a)} - x_\ell \leq p_i^{(a)} - x$. However, by the unique minimality of x^c , we have $p_\ell^{(a)} - x_\ell > x^c = p_i^{(a)} - x$. This is a contradiction. Therefore $\varepsilon_a^*(f_a(v, J)) = \varepsilon_a^*(v, J)$.

$$x^c < p_i^{(a)} - x$$

Assume $\varepsilon_a^*(f_a(v, J)) \neq \varepsilon_a^*(v, J)$. This implies

$$p_{i+1}^{(a)} - x - 1 = \tilde{x}_c < x^c$$

as, otherwise, the new corriging is not smaller than the minimal corriging, which occurs on a different row and does not change under f_a . Therefore, we obtain

$$p_{i+1}^{(a)} - p_i^{(a)} - 1 < x^c + x - p_i^{(a)} < 0. \tag{10}$$

We rewrite Eq. (10) as

$$p_{i+1}^{(a)} - 1 < x^c + x < p_i^{(a)}. \tag{11}$$

Suppose there exists a row of length $\ell > i$ in $v^{(a)}$ with $m_j^{(a)} = 0$ for all $i < j < \ell$. Then $x_\ell > x$ and $x^c \leq p_\ell^{(a)} - x_\ell$, and then we use the left inequality of Eq. (11) to obtain

$$p_{i+1}^{(a)} - 1 < p_\ell^{(a)} - x_\ell + x < p_\ell^{(a)}. \tag{12}$$

Note that we must have $\ell > i + 1$ as otherwise we would have $p_{i+1}^{(a)} < p_{i+1}^{(a)}$. Furthermore, Eqs. (11) and (12) imply $p_i^{(a)} > p_{i+1}^{(a)} < p_\ell^{(a)}$. However, convexity implies that $p_i^{(a)} = p_{i+1}^{(a)} = p_\ell^{(a)}$, but this is a contradiction. Therefore $\varepsilon_a^*(f_a(v, J)) = \varepsilon_a^*(v, J)$. □

Example 3 Again, let (v, J) be the rigged configuration of type D_4 from Example 1. Then $\varepsilon_3(v, J) = 0$, $\varepsilon_3^*(v, J) = 1$, and $\kappa_3(v, J) = 1$. We have

$$\begin{aligned}
 f_3(v, J) &= -1 \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \end{array} 0 & -1 \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline \square & \square & \square \\ \hline \square & & -1 \\ \hline \end{array} -1 & -2 \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline \square & \square & \square \\ \hline \end{array} -1 & 0 \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \square \\ \hline \end{array} 0 \\
 f_3^*(v, J) &= -1 \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \end{array} 0 & -2 \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline \square & \square & \square \\ \hline \square & & -1 \\ \hline \end{array} -2 & -2 \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline \square & \square & \square \\ \hline \end{array} 0 & 0 \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \square \\ \hline \end{array} 0.
 \end{aligned}$$

Then $\varepsilon_3^*(f_3(v, J)) = 1$ and $\varepsilon_3(f_3^*(v, J)) = 0$.

Lemma 5 Fix $(v, J) \in RC(\infty)$ and $a \in I$. Assume $\kappa_a(v, J) \geq 2$. Then

$$f_a f_a^*(v, J) = f_a^* f_a(v, J).$$

Proof Suppose f_a (resp., f_a^*) acts on row r of length i (resp., row r^* of length i^*) with rigging x (resp., x^*). Without loss of generality, let r (resp., r^*) be the northernmost such row in the diagram of $v^{(a)}$. Let $x_c^* = p_{i^*}^{(a)} - x^*$ and $x_c = p_i^{(a)} - x$. Note that $x \leq x^*$ and $x_c^* \leq x_c$. Applying f_a^* , the new rigging (and the only changed rigging) is

$$\tilde{x}^* = x^* + p_{i^*+1}^{(a)} - p_{i^*}^{(a)} - 1. \tag{13}$$

Recall that Eq. (9) gives the new corigging (and only changed corigging)

$$\tilde{x}_c = x_c + p_{i+1}^{(a)} - p_i^{(a)} - 1$$

after applying f_a . We split the proof into three cases: the first two are cases in which $r \neq r^*$ and the last is when $r = r^*$.

$r \neq r^*$ and f_a acts on row r in $f_a^*(v, J)$

Suppose $f_a f_a^*(v, J) \neq f_a^* f_a(v, J)$. This is equivalent to f_a^* acting on row $r' \neq r^*$ in $f_a(v, J)$. Note that if $r' \neq r$, then we would have $r' = r^*$ since f_a preserves all colabels other than the colabel associated to r , so we have $r' = r$. From Eq. (9), we must have $p_{i+1}^{(a)} < p_i^{(a)} + 2$, as otherwise $\tilde{x}_c > x_c \geq x_c^*$, which would imply $r' = r^*$ and be a contradiction. Next, consider when $p_{i+1}^{(a)} = p_i^{(a)} + 1$. Thus we have $\tilde{x}_c = x_c$. Since $r' \neq r^*$, we must have $i = i^*$ and $x_c^* = \tilde{x}_c = x_c$. However, this contradicts the assumption $r \neq r^*$ as we have $x = x^*$.

Hence $p_{i+1}^{(a)} \leq p_i^{(a)}$. Suppose i is the length of the longest row of $v^{(a)}$. Then $p_i^{(a)} = p_{i+1}^{(a)} = p_\infty^{(a)}$ by convexity. Moreover, we have $\tilde{x}_c = x_c - 1 = x_c^*$ since $r, r' \neq r^*$. Note that since f_a (resp., f_a^*) acts on r (resp., r^*), we must have $x \leq 0$

(resp., $x_c^* \leq 0$). Therefore, we have

$$\begin{aligned} 2 \leq \kappa_a(v, J) &= p_i^{(a)} - \min(x, 0) - \min(x_c^*, 0) \\ &= p_i^{(a)} - x - x_c^* \\ &= p_i^{(a)} - x - (p_i^{(a)} - x - 1) = 1, \end{aligned}$$

which is a contradiction.

Suppose there exists a row r_ℓ of length $\ell > i$ in $v^{(a)}$. Let x_ℓ denote the rigging of r_ℓ , and note $x < x_\ell$ by our assumption. Therefore, we have

$$p_{i+1}^{(a)} - x - 1 = (p_{i+1}^{(a)} - 2) - (x - 1) = \tilde{x}_c \leq x_c^* \leq p_\ell^{(a)} - x_\ell < p_\ell^{(a)} - x,$$

which implies $p_{i+1}^{(a)} \leq p_\ell^{(a)}$. Assume there exists a row of length $i + 1$ in $v^{(a)}$ with rigging x_{i+1} . It follows that

$$p_{i+1}^{(a)} - x > p_{i+1}^{(a)} - x_{i+1} \geq x_c^* = p_{i^*}^{(a)} - x^*,$$

which is equivalent to

$$p_{i+1}^{(a)} - p_{i^*}^{(a)} > x - x^*.$$

Furthermore,

$$p_{i+1}^{(a)} - x - 1 = \tilde{x}_c \leq x_c^* = p_{i^*}^{(a)} - x^*,$$

which results in

$$x - x^* \geq p_{i+1}^{(a)} - p_{i^*}^{(a)} - 1. \tag{14}$$

Additionally, Eq. (14) is necessarily a strict inequality if $i^* > i$ because it must be the case that $\tilde{x}_c < x_c^*$. Hence

$$p_{i+1}^{(a)} - p_{i^*}^{(a)} > x - x^* \geq p_{i+1}^{(a)} - p_{i^*}^{(a)} - 1,$$

which is a contradiction for $i^* > i$ as the right inequality becomes a strict inequality. Hence $i^* \leq i$.

Next, to show that $i^* \neq i$, note that $\tilde{x}^* = x^* + p_{i^*+1}^{(a)} - p_{i^*}^{(a)} - 1 \geq x$ since f_a acts on r . Hence

$$p_{i^*+1}^{(a)} - p_{i^*}^{(a)} - 1 \geq x - x^*, \tag{15}$$

which is a strict inequality for $i \leq i^*$. Thus

$$p_{i^*+1}^{(a)} - p_{i^*}^{(a)} - 1 \geq x - x^* \geq p_{i+1}^{(a)} - p_{i^*}^{(a)} - 1,$$

or, equivalently, $p_{i^*+1}^{(a)} \geq p_{i+1}^{(a)}$. Since $i \leq i^*$, we have $p_{i^*+1}^{(a)} > p_{i+1}^{(a)}$, and hence $i = i^*$ cannot occur.

Now suppose $i^* < i$. Therefore $x_c < p_{i+1}^{(a)} - x_{i+1}$, which implies

$$p_{i+1}^{(a)} - x - 1 = \tilde{x}_c \leq x_c^* < p_{i+1}^{(a)} - x_{i+1} < p_{i+1}^{(a)} - x.$$

So $p_{i+1}^{(a)} < p_{i+1}^{(a)}$, which is a contradiction.

Finally, if there does not exist a row of length $i + 1$, and let ℓ be minimal such that there exists a row of length $\ell > i$. As above, we have $p_{i+1}^{(a)} \leq p_\ell^{(a)}$, and then convexity implies $p_i^{(a)} = p_{i+1}^{(a)} = p_\ell^{(a)}$. So the argument given above will still yield a contradiction. Hence, $f_a f_a^*(v, J) = f_a^* f_a(v, J)$.
 $r \neq r^*$ and f_a acts on row $r' \neq r$ in $f_a^*(v, J)$

Note that $r' = r^*$ as f_a^* fixes all other riggings and r^* is the only row whose rigging changed. So from Lemma 4, we have

$$\tilde{x}^* = -\varepsilon_a(f_a^*(v, J)) = -\varepsilon_a(v, J) = x,$$

and hence $i \leq i^*$. Therefore $x < x^*$ as $x = x^*$ implies $r = r^*$. Thus,

$$x = \tilde{x}^* = x^* + p_{i^*+1}^{(a)} - p_{i^*}^{(a)} - 1 > x + p_{i^*+1}^{(a)} - p_{i^*}^{(a)} - 1,$$

and hence $p_{i^*+1}^{(a)} \leq p_{i^*}^{(a)}$. Dually, f_a^* acts on row r in $f_a(v, J)$ since this would contradict f_a acting on $r^* \neq r$ because f_a fixes all other colabels as above. Similarly,

$$\tilde{x}_c = -\varepsilon_a^*(f_a^*(v, J)) = -\varepsilon_a^*(v, J) = x_c^*$$

by the dual version of Lemma 4, implying $i^* \leq i$. Hence, $i = i^*$ and

$$p_i^{(a)} - x^* = x_c^* = \tilde{x}_c = x_c + p_{i+1}^{(a)} - p_i^{(a)} - 1 = -x + p_{i+1}^{(a)} - 1,$$

which yields $x - x^* = p_{i+1}^{(a)} - p_i^{(a)} - 1$. Thus

$$\begin{aligned} x &= \tilde{x}^* = x^* + p_{i+1}^{(a)} - p_i^{(a)} - 1 \\ p_i^{(a)} - x^* &= x_c^* = \tilde{x}_c = x_c + p_{i+1}^{(a)} - p_i^{(a)} - 1 = p_{i+1}^{(a)} - x - 1 \leq p_i^{(a)} - x - 1, \end{aligned}$$

which implies $x - x^* \leq -1$. Hence,

$$p_i^{(a)} - p_{i+1}^{(a)} = x^* - x - 1 \leq -2,$$

and this contradicts $0 \leq p_i^{(a)} - p_{i+1}^{(a)}$. Therefore, $f_a f_a^*(v, J) = f_a^* f_a(v, J)$.
 $\underline{r = r^*}$

From $x = x^*$ and $i = i^*$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{x}^* &= x^* + p_{i+1}^{(a)} - p_i^{(a)} - 1 = x + p_{i+1}^{(a)} - p_i^{(a)} - 1, \\ \tilde{x}_c &= x_c + p_{i+1}^{(a)} - p_i^{(a)} - 1 = p_i^{(a)} - x + p_{i+1}^{(a)} - p_i^{(a)} - 1 = p_{i+1}^{(a)} - x - 1, \\ x_c^* &= x_c = p_i^{(a)} - x. \end{aligned}$$

If $p_{i+1}^{(a)} \leq p_i^{(a)} + 1$, then $\tilde{x}^* \leq x$ and $\tilde{x}_c \leq x_c^*$. Hence, f_a and f_a^* select row r in $f_a^*(v, J)$ and $f_a(v, J)$, respectively, and so we have $f_a f_a^*(v, J) = f_a^* f_a(v, J)$. Next, consider the case when $p_{i+1}^{(a)} \geq p_i^{(a)} + 2$. Then $\tilde{x}^* > x$ and $\tilde{x}_c > x_c^*$. If $m_i^{(a)} \geq 2$, then all rows of length i must have a rigging of $x = x^*$ as otherwise $r \neq r^*$. So there exists a row $r' \neq r$ such that $x^* = x$ and $x_c^* = x_c$. So f_a and f_a^* select row r' in $f_a^*(v, J)$ and $f_a(v, J)$, respectively, and thus we have $f_a f_a^*(v, J) = f_a^* f_a(v, J)$. If $m_i^{(a)} = 1$, then, as in Lemma 4, we have

$$-2 - \sum_{b \neq a} A_{ab} m_i^{(b)} = -p_{i-1}^{(a)} + 2p_i^{(a)} - p_{i+1}^{(a)} \leq -p_{i-1}^{(a)} + p_i^{(a)} - 2.$$

from Eq. (3). This implies $p_{i-1}^{(a)} \leq p_i^{(a)}$. We consider the case when r is the smallest row of $v^{(a)}$, which implies r is the unique row with rigging x and corigging x_c^* . Moreover, we have $0 \leq p_{i-1}^{(a)} \leq p_i^{(a)}$ by convexity. Because we are acting on r by f_a and f_a^* , we have $x \leq 0$ and $x_c^* \leq 0$. Hence,

$$0 \leq p_i^{(a)} \leq p_i^{(a)} - x = x_c^* \leq 0 \implies 0 = p_i^{(a)} = x = x_c^*.$$

Therefore f_a (resp., f_a^*) acts on a row of length 0 in $f_a^*(v, J)$ (resp., $f_a(v, J)$) as all other riggings (resp., coriggings) are positive. Moreover, the resulting rigging is -1 in both cases, and so $f_a f_a^*(v, J) = f_a^* f_a(v, J)$.

Now assume there exists a row r_ℓ of length $\ell < i$ in $v^{(a)}$, and without loss of generality, suppose ℓ is maximal. Let x_ℓ denote the rigging of r_ℓ . By the definition of f_a and f_a^* , we have $x_\ell \geq x$ and $p_\ell^{(a)} - x_\ell \geq x_c^* = p_i^{(a)} - x$, and hence $p_\ell^{(a)} \geq p_i^{(a)}$. Furthermore, we have $p_\ell^{(a)} \leq p_{i-1}^{(a)} \leq p_i^{(a)}$ as $p_\ell^{(a)} \geq p_{i-1}^{(a)}$ and convexity would imply they are all equal (and the inequality still holds). Therefore, we have $p_\ell^{(a)} = p_i^{(a)}$ and

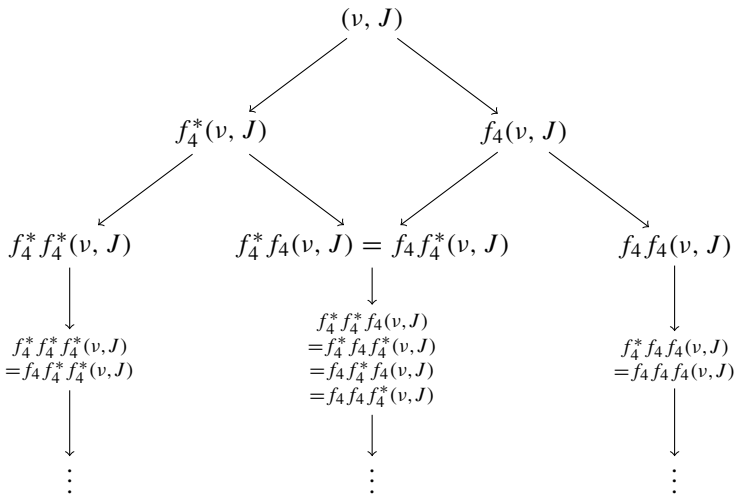
$$p_i^{(a)} - x \leq p_\ell^{(a)} - x_\ell \leq p_i^{(a)} - x.$$

Thus we have $p_i^{(a)} - x = p_\ell^{(a)} - x_\ell$, implying $x = x_\ell$. Therefore f_a and f_a^* acts on r_ℓ in $f_a^*(v, J)$ and $f_a(v, J)$, respectively. Thus we have $f_a f_a^*(v, J) = f_a^* f_a(v, J)$. □

Example 4 Continuing our running example, let (v, J) be the rigged configuration of type D_4 from Example 1. Then $\kappa_4(v, J) = 2$ and

$$f_4^* f_4(v, J) = f_4 f_4^*(v, J) = \begin{matrix} -1 & \square & \square & 0 & -1 & \square & \square & \square & -1 & -1 & \square & \square & 0 & -2 & \square & \square & \square & -1. \end{matrix}$$

With $a = 4$, we have the diagram



As discussed in [1, Cor. 2.8], $\kappa_4(v, J)$ counts how many times one must apply either f_4 or f_4^* to (v, J) to reach a point where f_4 and f_4^* have the same affect.

Theorem 3 *Let e_a and f_a be the crystal operators given by Definition 1, and let e_a^* and f_a^* be given by Definition 2. Then we have*

$$e_a^* = * \circ e_a \circ *, \quad f_a^* = * \circ f_a \circ *.$$

Proof We show the conditions of Proposition 1 hold for $RC(\infty)$ with the given crystal operations. Fix some $(v, J) \in RC(\infty)$ and $a \in I$.

We first note the fact that $f_a(v, J), f_a^*(v, J) \neq 0$ follows immediately from the definitions. So we have Condition (1). Now let $b \in I$. As f_b acts on labels and preserves colabels in $(v, J)^{(k)}$, for $k \neq b$ in I , and f_a^* acts on colabels and preserves labels in $(v, J)^{(k)}$, for $k \neq a$ in I , it follows that $f_a^* f_b(v, J) = f_b f_a^*(v, J)$ for all $a \neq b$. Hence Condition (2) is satisfied.

Lemma 3 implies Condition (4).

Lemma 4 implies Condition (5).

Lemma 5 implies Condition (6).

Thus it remains we prove Condition (3), that $\kappa_a(v, J) \geq 0$. We prove this by induction on the depth of (v, J) . Observe that $\kappa_a(v_\emptyset, J_\emptyset) = 0$, which is our base case. Now suppose $\kappa_a(v, J) \geq 0$ for all $(v, J) \in RC(\infty)$ at depth at most d . It suffices to show that $\kappa_a(f_a(v, J)) \geq 0$ and $\kappa_a(f_a^*(v, J)) \geq 0$.

Note that all labels, except for the row of $v^{(a)}$ at which the box was added, possibly change by adding $-A_{ab}$ under f_a by Eq. (5). Additionally, $p_\infty^{(b)}$ changes by $-A_{ab}$. Thus for $b \neq a$ a label, and hence possibly $-\varepsilon_b(v, J)$, increases by $-A_{ab}$ and the

colabels, and hence $-\varepsilon_b^*(v, J)$, stay fixed. Therefore, by the above and its dual, for $a \neq b$, we have

$$\kappa_b(f_a(v, J)), \kappa_b(f_a^*(v, J)) \geq \kappa_b(v, J) \geq 0,$$

since $-A_{ab} \geq 0$. Now it is sufficient to show that $\varepsilon_a^*(v, J)$ increases by at least $1 - \kappa_a(v, J)$ because $\varphi_a(v, J) = p_\infty^{(a)} + \varepsilon_a(v, J)$ decreases by 1 after the application of f_a . If $\kappa_a(v, J) = 0$, then Lemma 3 gives $f_a(v, J) = f_a^*(v, J)$, and so $\varepsilon_a^*(v, J)$ is increased by 1. By Lemma 4, we have $\varepsilon_a^*(v, J) = \varepsilon_a^*(f_a(v, J))$ when $\kappa_a(v, J) \geq 1$. Note that by our assumption, this is all possible values. Therefore, both $\kappa_a(f_a(v, J)), \kappa_a(f_a^*(v, J)) \geq 0$, as required.

Thus Conditions (1)–(6) are satisfied. Moreover, $\text{RC}(\infty)$ and $\text{RC}(\infty)^*$ are both generated by the highest weight element $(v_\emptyset, J_\emptyset)$. Therefore $\text{RC}(\infty) = \text{RC}(\infty)^*$ and the result follows from Proposition 2. \square

Remark 3 We have given a uniform proof of Theorem 3, which gives a uniform proof of the results of [38, 40] by Proposition 2.

Now from Definitions 1 and 2, we have that the $*$ -involution is given as follows.

Corollary 1 *The $*$ -involution on $\text{RC}(\infty)$ is given by replacing every rigging x of a row of length i in $(v, J)^{(a)}$ by the corresponding corigging $p_i^{(a)} - x$ for all $(a, i) \in \mathcal{H}$.*

Let \mathfrak{g} and $\widehat{\mathfrak{g}}$ be symmetrizable Kac–Moody algebras such that there exists a folding of the Dynkin diagram of \mathfrak{g} to the Dynkin diagram of $\widehat{\mathfrak{g}}$ with corresponding index sets I and \widehat{I} , respectively. Consider the map $\phi: \widehat{I} \searrow I$ induced by such a Dynkin diagram folding and consider a sequence $(\gamma_a \in \mathbf{Z}_{>0})_{a \in I}$ such that the map $\Psi: P \rightarrow \widehat{P}$ given by

$$\Lambda_a \mapsto \gamma_a \sum_{b \in \phi^{-1}(a)} \Lambda_b$$

also satisfies

$$\alpha_a \mapsto \gamma_a \sum_{b \in \phi^{-1}(a)} \alpha_b.$$

This induces a *virtualization map* v of $B(\infty)$ of type \mathfrak{g} to that of type $\widehat{\mathfrak{g}}$. In particular, on $\text{RC}(\infty)$, the image $(\widehat{v}, \widehat{J})$ of a rigging configuration (v, J) is given by

$$\widehat{m}_{\gamma_a i}^{(b)} = m_i^{(a)}, \quad \widehat{J}_{\gamma_a i}^{(b)} = \gamma_a J_i^{(a)},$$

for all $b \in \phi^{-1}(a)$. We refer the reader to [34, 39, 44] for more details.

Corollary 2 *Let v be a virtualization map on $B(\infty)$ of type \mathfrak{g} to $\widehat{\mathfrak{g}}$. Then*

$$* \circ v = v \circ *.$$

Proof This follows from the fact $\widehat{p}_{\gamma_a i}^{(b)} = \gamma_a p_i^{(a)}$ for all $b \in \phi^{-1}(a)$ and Corollary 1. \square

5 Highest weight crystals

We wish to classify the subcrystal of $RC(\infty)$ which is isomorphic to $B(\lambda)$ with respect to the $*$ -crystal structure. In particular, defining $B(\lambda)$ requires the additional condition that $\varphi_a^*(v, J) = \max\{k \in \mathbf{Z} : (f_a^*)^k(v, J) \neq 0\}$. For example, the condition $\varphi_a(v, J) = \max\{k \in \mathbf{Z} : f_a^k(v, J) \neq 0\}$ means, for all riggings x corresponding to a row of length i in $v^{(a)}$, we have $x \leq p_i^{(a)}$. If we consider the natural dual to this, we have $p_i^{(a)} - x \leq p_i^{(a)}$, or equivalently $x \geq 0$. We show this is the correct condition by proving the dual version of [38, Thm. 6.1].

For any $\lambda \in P^+$, we define

$$RC(\lambda) := \{(v, J) \in RC(\infty) : \max J_i^{(a)} \leq p_i^{(a)}(v; \lambda) \text{ for all } (a, i) \in \mathcal{H}\},$$

where

$$p_i^{(a)}(v; \lambda) := \langle h_a, \lambda \rangle - \sum_{b \in I} A_{ab} \sum_{j \in \mathbf{Z}_{>0}} \min(i, j) m_j^{(b)}. \tag{16}$$

Note that Eq. (16) differs from Eq. (2) by

$$p_i^{(a)}(v) + \langle h_a, \lambda \rangle = p_i^{(a)}(v; \lambda).$$

When there is no danger of confusion, we will simply write $p_i^{(a)} = p_i^{(a)}(v; \lambda)$.

We consider a crystal structure on $RC(\lambda)$ as that inherited from $RC(\infty)$ under the natural projection except with $\text{wt}(v, J) = \lambda - \sum_{a \in I} |v^{(a)}| \alpha_a$.

Theorem 4 [38,40,43] *We have $RC(\lambda) \cong B(\lambda)$.*

Using the $*$ -crystal structure, we easily obtain [17, Prop. 8.2]. (We refer the reader to [17] or [7] for an exposition on the tensor product of crystals. Note that we are using the opposite, anti-Kashiwara, convention. The precise definition in this setting may be found, for example, in [38].)

Proposition 5 *Let $\lambda \in P^+$. Then we have*

$$RC(\lambda) \cong \{t_\lambda \otimes (v, J) \in T_\lambda \otimes RC(\infty) : \varepsilon_a^*(v, J) \leq \langle h_a, \lambda \rangle \text{ for all } a \in I\}.$$

Proof Fix some $(v, J) \in RC(\infty)$. Let x be a rigging of a row of length i . We have

$$\langle h_a, \lambda \rangle \geq \varepsilon_a^*(v, J) = -\min(0, p_i^{(a)} - x)$$

if and only if

$$p_i^{(a)} + \langle h_a, \lambda \rangle \geq x.$$

Recall that the left-hand side is the vacancy numbers in $RC(\lambda)$ by Eq. (16), and so we have the defining relation for $RC(\lambda)$. □

By letting $\pi_\lambda : B(\infty) \rightarrow B(\lambda)$ be the natural projection, we can rephrase the last proposition as

$$\tau(b^*) = \varepsilon(b), \quad \varepsilon(b^*) = \tau(b),$$

where $\varepsilon(b) = \sum_{a \in I} \varepsilon_a(b) \Lambda_a$ and $\tau(b) = \min\{\lambda : \pi_\lambda(b) \in B(\lambda)\}$. In [40], τ was called the difference statistic and can be explicitly given on rigged configurations by

$$\tau(v, J) = \sum_{a \in I} \min_{i \in \mathbf{Z}_{>0}} \{p_i^{(a)} - \max J_i^{(a)}\} \Lambda_a.$$

Now we formalize the dual version of $\text{RC}(\lambda)$.

Definition 3 Let $\text{RC}(\lambda)^*$ denote the closure of $(v_\emptyset, J_\emptyset)$ under e_a^* and the following modified f_a^* , both using the vacancy numbers given by Eq. (16) to determine the colabels. Consider f_a^* as in Definition 2 except define $f_a^*(v, J) = 0$ if in the result, there exists a rigging $x < 0$.

Note that the condition that $x \geq 0$ is equivalent to $p_i^{(a)} - x \leq p_i^{(a)}$. Hence, by duality, the proof of [43, Lemma 3.6] holds, and we obtain the following.

Lemma 6 Let $(v, J) \in \text{RC}(\lambda)^*$. Then

$$\varphi_a^*(v, J) = \max\{k \in \mathbf{Z} : (f_a^*)^k(v, J) \neq 0\}$$

for all $a \in I$.

Let $\text{RC}_\lambda(\infty)^* = T_\lambda \otimes \text{RC}(\infty)$ with the $*$ -crystal structure. Let $C = \{c\}$ be the crystal given by

$$\text{wt}(c) = 0, \quad \varphi_a^*(c) = \varepsilon_a^*(c) = 0, \quad f_a^*c = e_a^*c = 0,$$

for all $a \in I$. Nakashima [28, Thm. 3.1] has shown that the connected component generated by $c \otimes t_\lambda \otimes u_\infty$ is isomorphic to $B(\lambda)$.

In [38], the map $\psi_{\lambda, \mu} : \text{RC}(\lambda) \rightarrow \text{RC}(\mu)$, for $\lambda \leq \mu$ in $P^+ \sqcup \{\infty\}$, is the identity map on rigged configurations. This follows because e_a and f_a are determined by the riggings alone, not the vacancy numbers, and so preserving the labels is sufficient to show $\psi_{\lambda, \mu}$ commutes with the crystal operators. However, for the $*$ -crystal structure, we need to preserve corigings, and as such, we need to take into account the shift in vacancy numbers. Thus, define a map $\psi_{\lambda, \mu}^* : \text{RC}(\lambda)^* \rightarrow \text{RC}(\mu)^*$ as the identity on the partitions but with new riggings

$$x' = x + \langle h_a, \mu - \lambda \rangle,$$

where we make the convention that $\langle h_a, \infty \rangle = 0$. Note that $\psi_{\lambda, \mu}^*$ commutes with the crystal operators (however, it only becomes a crystal embedding after an appropriate tensor product is taken to shift weights).

With this modification, Proposition 4, and Lemma 6, we have the dual argument of [38, Thm. 6.1].

Theorem 5 *Let C_{\emptyset}^* denote the connected component of $C \otimes RC_{\lambda}(\infty)^*$ generated by $c \otimes (v_{\emptyset}, J_{\emptyset})$. The map $\Psi : C_{\emptyset}^* \rightarrow RC(\lambda)^*$ given by*

$$c \otimes (v_{\lambda}, J_{\lambda}) \mapsto (\psi_{\lambda, \infty}^*)^{-1}(v_{\lambda}, J_{\lambda})$$

is a weight-preserving bijection which commutes with e_a^ and f_a^* for every $a \in I$.*

Corollary 3 *Let \mathfrak{g} be of symmetrizable type. Then $RC(\lambda)^* \cong B(\lambda)$.*

Hence, we can now construct an explicit crystal isomorphism $RC(\lambda)^* \cong RC(\lambda)$ by passing through $RC(\infty)$.

Corollary 4 *Let \mathfrak{g} be a symmetrizable Kac–Moody algebra and let $\lambda \in P^+$. Define $\mathcal{E} : RC(\lambda) \rightarrow RC(\lambda)^*$ by $\mathcal{E}(v, J) = (v, J')$, where the resulting riggings are*

$$x' = x + \langle h_a, \lambda \rangle.$$

Then \mathcal{E} is a crystal isomorphism.

Proof We have $\mathcal{E} = (\psi_{\lambda, \infty}^*)^{-1} \circ \psi_{\lambda, \infty}$. □

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Appendix: SAGEMATH examples

The crystal $RC(\infty)$ has been implemented in SAGEMATH [3,48] by the second author and the $*$ -crystal has been implemented by the first author.

In order to make the rigged configurations display in a vertical-space-saving manner, we use the following.

```
sage: RiggedConfigurations.global_options(display=
    "horizontal")
```

Now let’s check our running example using SAGEMATH. To initialize the rigged configuration from Example 1, one does

```
sage: RC = crystals.infinity.RiggedConfigurations("D4")
sage: RCstar = crystals.infinity.Star(RC)
sage: nu0star = RCstar.module_generators[0]
sage: nustar = nu0star.f_string([2, 1, 3, 4, 2, 2, 1, 3, 2])
sage: nustar
-1[ ][ ]0      -3[ ][ ][ ]-2      -1[ ][ ]0      0[ ]0
                -1[ ]-1
sage: nustar.f(2)
-1[ ][ ]0      -5[ ][ ][ ][ ]-3      -1[ ][ ]0      0[ ]0
                -1[ ]-1
```

Continuing to Examples 2, 3, and 4, we must compute $\kappa_a(v, J)$ for $a \in I$.

```
sage: [nustar.jump(i) for i in nustar.index_set()]
[1, 0, 1, 2]
```

To check Example 2, we must initialize the corresponding rigged configuration with respect to the usual crystal operators.

```
sage: nu = RC(nustar.value)
sage: nu.f(2)
-1[ ][ ]0   -5[ ][ ][ ][ ]-3   -1[ ][ ]0   0[ ]0
          -1[ ]-1
```

Since $\kappa_3(v, J) = 1$, we can verify Condition (5) of Proposition 1 for this particular rigged configuration, which is the content of Example 3.

```
sage: nustar.jump(3)
1
sage: RCstar(nu.f(3)).epsilon(3) == nustar.epsilon(3)
True
sage: RC(nustar.f(3).value).epsilon(3) == nu.epsilon(3)
True
```

Finally, Example 4 gives a particular instance where f_a and f_a^* commute, since $\kappa_4(v, J) = 2$.

```
sage: nustar.jump(4)
2
sage: RCstar(nu.f(4)).f(4)
-1[ ][ ]0   -1[ ][ ][ ][ ]-1   -1[ ][ ]0   -2[ ][ ][ ][ ]-1
          -1[ ]-1
sage: RC(nustar.f(4).value).f(4)
-1[ ][ ]0   -1[ ][ ][ ][ ]-1   -1[ ][ ]0   -2[ ][ ][ ][ ]-1
          -1[ ]-1
```

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