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OBSTRUCTION COMPLEXES IN GRID HOMOLOGY

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Recently, Manolescu–Sarkar constructed a stable homotopy-type for link Floer homology, which uses grid homology and accounts for all domains that do not pass through a specific square. In doing so, they produced an obstruction chain complex of the grid diagram with that square removed. We define the obstruction chain complex of the full grid, without the square removed, and compute its homology. Though this homology is too complicated to immediately extend the Manolescu–Sarkar construction, we give results about the existence of sign assignments in grid homology.

1. Introduction

Link Floer homology, developed by Ozsváth and Szabó [\[2004a;](#page-29-0) [2008\]](#page-29-1), and [Ras](#page-29-2)[mussen](#page-29-2) [2003] is an invariant of oriented links in three-manifolds which comes from Heegaard Floer homology, from [\[Ozsváth and Szabó 2004c;](#page-29-3) [2004b\]](#page-29-4). Manolescu et al. [\[2007;](#page-28-0) [2009a\]](#page-28-1) and [Ozsváth et al.](#page-29-5) [2015] gave a combinatorial description of the link Floer chain complex for a link in *S* ³ using grid diagrams, known as grid homology. A toroidal grid diagram is a $n \times n$ grid of squares, with the left and right edges identified and the top and bottom edges identified, together with markings *X* and *O*, such that each row and column contains exactly one *X* and one *O*. Given a grid diagram G, drawing vertical segments from the *X* to the *O* in each column and horizontal segments — going under the vertical segments whenever they cross from the *O* to the *X* in each row gives the diagram of an oriented link *L*; we say that G is a grid diagram for *L*. [Figure 1](#page-2-0) shows a 5×5 grid diagram for the trefoil. The grid chain complex is generated by unordered *n*-tuples of intersection points between the horizontal and vertical circles — [Figure 1](#page-2-0) shows an example of such a generator.

Grid diagrams have been useful in a variety of applications in Heegaard Floer homology. [Manolescu et al.](#page-28-2) [2009b] and [Manolescu and Ozsváth](#page-28-3) [2010] obtain the Heegaard Floer invariants of 3- and 4-manifolds using grid diagrams, which give algorithmically computable descriptions. [Sarkar](#page-29-6) [2011] uses grid homology to give another proof of Milnor's conjecture on the slice genus of torus

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Figure 1. A 5×5 grid diagram for the trefoil, along with the generator [51243] drawn with •. Note that the generator is independent of the *X* and *O* markings.

knots. Ozsváth et al. [\[2008\]](#page-29-7), [Ng et al.](#page-28-4) [2008], [Chongchitmate and Ng](#page-28-5) [2013], and [Khandhawit and Ng](#page-28-6) [2010] use a version of grid homology to prove results about Legendrian knots.

[Manolescu and Sarkar](#page-28-7) [2021] constructed a stable homotopy refinement of knot Floer homology from the grid chain complex, using framed flow categories in the sense of [\[Cohen et al. 1995\]](#page-28-8). The Manolescu–Sarkar construction uses only those domains that do not pass through a particular square on the grid, and uses obstruction theory. Their obstruction chain complexes CD∗ and CDP∗, which we will henceforth denote $\widehat{\text{CD}}_*$ and $\widehat{\text{CDP}}_*$, respectively, have simple enough homology to construct a stable homotopy-type. We will extend them to complexes CD∗ and CDP_* which contain all domains in the grid, first with $\mathbb{Z}/2$ coefficients, which can be extended to $\mathbb Z$ coefficients using obstruction theory. We take the first step towards extending the Manolescu–Sarkar construction, by computing the homology of CD∗ and partially computing the homology of CDP∗.

To state our main results, we fix the following convention throughout the paper. For a ring *R*, R^{2^n} will denote the chain complex given by $R^{n \choose k}$ in grading *k* with no differentials, and *R*[*U*] the chain complex given by *R* in every nonnegative even grading and 0 in every odd grading (which by definition has no differentials). We begin by showing that:

Proposition 1.1. $H_*(CD_*, \mathbb{Z}/2)$ *is isomorphic to* $\mathbb{Z}/2[U]$ *.*

In order to frame the moduli spaces in the Manolescu–Sarkar construction, we will need a sign assignment for the grid diagram. A sign assignment is a particular way of orienting the index 1 domains in Heegaard Floer homology; equivalently, it is a particular assignment of 0 or 1 to each rectangle in the grid. The existence and uniqueness (up to gauge equivalence) of sign assignments for toroidal grid diagrams was constructed in [\[Manolescu et al. 2007\]](#page-28-0); see also [\[Gallais 2008\]](#page-28-9) for an explicit construction. In the course of our later computations, we will provide a different proof of this fact via obstruction theory:

Theorem 1.2. *Sign assignments for* CD∗ *exist and are unique up to gauge equivalence* (*equivalently, up to* 1*-coboundaries of* CD_* *with* $\mathbb{Z}/2$ *coefficients*).

Given a sign assignment for CD_* , we obtain a definition of CD_* in $\mathbb Z$ coefficients. Perhaps unsurprisingly, we then obtain the following analogue of [Proposition 1.1.](#page-2-1)

Proposition 1.3. $H_*(CD_*, \mathbb{Z})$ *is isomorphic to* $\mathbb{Z}[U]$ *.*

In the end, our eventual goal is to extend the Manolescu–Sarkar construction over the full grid. Since the moduli spaces presented in [\[Manolescu and Sarkar 2021\]](#page-28-7) exhibit some bubbling, we will compute the first few homology groups of CDP∗. Unfortunately, CDP_* has too much homology to immediately construct a stable homotopy-type. So instead, we will work towards constructing a framed 1-flow category, which is a formulation by [Lobb et al.](#page-28-10) [2020] that still contains all the information needed to define invariants such as the second Steenrod square. This requires only a sign assignment and a frame assignment, whose obstructions lie in the following lower homologies.

Theorem 1.4. *We have that*:

- (0) $H_0(\text{CDP}_*; \mathbb{Z}/2)$ *is isomorphic to* $\mathbb{Z}/2$ *.*
- (1) $H_1(\text{CDP}_*; \mathbb{Z}/2)$ *is isomorphic to* $(\mathbb{Z}/2)^n$ *.*
- (2) $H_2(CDP_*; \mathbb{Z}/2)$ *is isomorphic to* $(\mathbb{Z}/2)^{{n \choose 2}+1}$ *.*
- (3) $H_3(CDP_*; \mathbb{Z}/2)$ *is isomorphic to* $(\mathbb{Z}/2)^{{n \choose 3}+n}$.

In this paper, we'll show existence and uniqueness of sign assignments for CDP∗.

Theorem 1.5. *A sign assignment s on* CDP∗ *exists*, *and is unique up to gauge transformations and the values of*

$$
s_j := s(c_{x^{\text{Id}}}, \vec{e}_j, (1)).
$$

(The elements $(c_{x^{\text{Id}}}, \vec{e}_j, (1)) \in \text{CDP}_*$ will be defined later in Section 4.)

Just like for CD_{*}, we can use [Theorem 1.5](#page-3-0) to define CDP_{*} with $\mathbb Z$ coefficients. We have the following analogue of [Theorem 1.4.](#page-3-1)

It remains to find a frame assignment for CDP∗ using the above homology computation, and to complete the construction of the 1-flow category for the full grid, which we will carry out in a future paper. This present paper may be treated as a prelude thereof.

2. The obstruction complex

Definitions related to grid diagrams are summarized below. For details, see [\[Manolescu et al. 2007;](#page-28-0) [2009a;](#page-28-1) [Ozsváth et al. 2015\]](#page-29-5).

• An index *n* grid diagram G is a torus together with *n* α -circles (drawn horizontally) and *n* β -circles (drawn vertically). The complements of the α (respectively, β) circles are called the horizontal (respectively, vertical) annuli — the complements of the α and β circles are called the square regions.

• Each vertical and horizontal annulus contains exactly one *X* and *O* marking, which are arbitrarily labeled X_1, \ldots, X_n and O_1, \ldots, O_n .

• The horizontal (respectively, vertical) annuli can be labeled by which *O*-marking they pass through — write H_i (respectively, V_i) for the horizontal (respectively, vertical) annulus passing through *Oⁱ* .

• Given a fixed planar drawing of the grid, we can also label the α circles $\alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_n$ from bottom to top, and the β circles β_1, \ldots, β_n from left to right. The annuli can also be labeled by which sets of α or β circles they lie between — write $H_{(i)}$ (respectively, $V_{(i)}$) for the horizontal annulus between α_i and α_{i+1} (respectively, vertical annulus between β_i and β_{i+1}). Note that $H_{(n)}$ and $V_{(n)}$ lie between α_n and α_1 , and β_n and β_1 , respectively.

• A generator is an unordered *n*-tuple of points such that each α and β circle contains exactly one. Generators can equivalently be viewed a Z-linear combination of *n* points, or alternatively as permutations — for a permutation $\sigma \in S_n$ the generator x^{σ} is the unique generator with a point at each $\alpha_{\sigma(i)} \cap \beta_i$. In this paper we will use the convention that $[a_1a_2 \ldots a_n]$ denotes the permutation $\sigma \in S_n$ where $\sigma(j) = a_j$ for each *j*. For instance, [Figure 1](#page-2-0) shows the generator $x^{[51243]}$, which we will interchangeably denote as [51243].

• A domain is a \mathbb{Z} -linear combination of square regions with the property that $\partial(\partial D \cap \alpha) = y - x$ for some generators *x*, *y*. We say that *D* is a domain from *x* to *y*, and write $D \in \mathcal{D}(x, y)$. *D* is said to be positive if none of its coefficients are negative, in which case we would write $D \in \mathcal{D}^+(x, y)$.

• Given $D \in \mathcal{D}(x, y)$, $E \in \mathcal{D}(y, z)$, we get a domain $D * E \in \mathcal{D}(x, z)$ by adding D and *E* as 2-chains.

• The constant domain from a generator *x* to itself is the domain $c_x \in \mathcal{D}(x, x)$ whose coefficients are zero in every square region.

• For every domain *D*, there is an associated integer $\mu(D)$ called its Maslov index, which satisfies:

- $-\mu(D * E) = \mu(D) + \mu(E).$
- For a positive domain *D*, $\mu(D) \geq 0$, with equality if and only if *D* is some constant domain.
- $-$ For *D* ∈ $\mathscr{D}^+(x, y)$, $\mu(D) = 1$ if and only if *D* is a rectangle: that is, its bottom left and top right corners are coordinates of *x*, its bottom right and top left

corners are coordinates of *y*, and the other $n - 2$ coordinates of *x* and *y* agree and do not lie in *D*.

 $-\mu(D) = k$ if and only if *D* can be decomposed (not necessarily uniquely) into k rectangles $D = R_1 * \cdots * R_k$.

It will be particularly helpful to classify positive index 2 domains, which are exactly those that can be decomposed as two rectangles. Thus every positive index 2 domain $D \in \mathcal{D}^+(x, y)$ is a horizontal or vertical annulus

(Here the generator *x* is shown with • while *y* is shown with \circ .) Note that while a horizontal or vertical annulus admits exactly one decomposition into rectangles, all the other positive index 2 domains admit exactly two.

Given a grid diagram G, we define the complex of positive domains, on which our desired sign assignment can be constructed as a cochain.

Definition 2.1. The complex of positive domains $CD_* = CD_*(G; \mathbb{Z}/2)$ is freely generated over $\mathbb{Z}/2$ by the positive domains, with the homological grading being the Maslov index

$$
CD_k = \mathbb{Z}/2 \langle \{ (x, y, D) \mid D \in \mathcal{D}^+(x, y), \mu(D) = k \} \rangle.
$$

Sometimes the generators *x*, *y* will be omitted. The differential ∂ : CD_{*k*} → CD_{*k*-1} of $D \in \mathcal{D}^+(x, y)$ is given by

$$
\partial(D) = \sum_{R*E=D} E + \sum_{E*R=D} E,
$$

where R is a rectangle, and E is a positive domain.

Note that CD∗ is independent of the placement of the *X*'s and *O*'s.

Lemma 2.2. (CD_{*}, ∂) *is a chain complex, that is,* $\partial^2 = 0$ *.*

Proof. Let *R* and *S* denote rectangles, then

$$
\partial^{2}(D) = \sum_{R+S*E=D} E + \sum_{R*E+S=D} E + \sum_{S*E*R=D} E + \sum_{E+S*R=D} E.
$$

The second and third terms cancel (modulo 2). If *R* ∗ *S* is a hexagon or two rectangles, then it has exactly one other decomposition $R * S = R' * S'$, so $R * S * E$ and $R' * S' * E$ cancel in the first term. Similarly, $E * R * S$ and $E * R' * S'$ cancel in the last term. Finally, if $R * S$ is not a hexagon or two rectangles, it must be a horizontal or vertical annulus, and then the terms $E * R * S$ and $R * S * E$ in the first and last term cancel, and so $\partial^2(D) = 0$.

We now compute the homology CD∗ by constructing filtrations, for which we need the following fact. Given two generators *x* and *y*, we say that $x \le y$ if there exists a positive domain from *y* to *x* that does not intersect the topmost row $H_{(n)}$ or rightmost column $V_{(n)}$ of the grid. It is clear that the set of generators with \leq is a partially ordered set (which actually coincides with the opposite of the Bruhat ordering on the symmetric group *Sn*, see [\[Manolescu and Sarkar 2021,](#page-28-7) Section 3.2]).

Proof of [Proposition 1.1.](#page-2-1) The proof is nearly identical to the proof of [\[Manolescu and](#page-28-7) [Sarkar 2021,](#page-28-7) Proposition 3.4], so we present the most relevant parts. To $D \in CD_*$ associate $A(D) \in \mathbb{N}^n$ by its coefficients in the rightmost vertical annulus. Note that here, unlike in [\[Manolescu and Sarkar 2021\]](#page-28-7), *A*(*D*) is an *n*-tuple, since there is no assumption that domains do not pass through the top right corner. By definition, the differential only preserves or lowers $A(D)$, so it is a filtration on CD_* . Now let CD^{*a*}_{*} be the associated graded complex in filtration grading $A(D) = a$.

Let $M(D) = min\{coordinates of A(D)\}$ — by definition, a positive domain *D* contains exactly $M(D)$ copies of the rightmost vertical annulus $V_{(n)}$, so write $D = D' * M(D)V_{(n)}$. $A(D')$ contains a 0, so without loss of generality (since the differential of CD_*^a does not change $A(D)$ and thus does not change where the 0 is located) *D'* does not contain the top right corner. Now let $B(D) \in \mathbb{N}^{n-1}$ be the coordinates of D' in the top row (except the top right corner). Similarly, $B(D)$ is a filtration on the associated graded complex CD_*^a , so let $CD_*^{a,b}$ be the associated graded complex in grading $A(D) = a, B(D) = b$.

Now fix (a, b) and consider the differential ∂ on $CD_*^{a,b}$. Consider the following new filtration. For any domain $D \in \mathcal{D}^+(x, y)$ with $A(D) = a, B(D) = b$, let the generator *y* be its filtration grading. With respect to the aforementioned partial ordering of the generators, ∂ preserves or decreases *y* since we only consider removing domains that do not pass through the topmost row and rightmost column. Therefore *y* is a filtration grading, so let $CD_*^{a,b,y}$ be the associated graded complex

with respect to this filtration. Unless $a = (l, l, \ldots, l)$, $b = 0$, and $y = x^{\text{Id}}$, the proof in [\[Manolescu and Sarkar 2021\]](#page-28-7) shows that $CD_*^{a,b,y}$ is acyclic. When $a = (l, l, \ldots, l)$, $b = 0$, and $y = x^{\text{Id}}$, the complex $CD_*^{a,b,y}$ has one generator (since x^{Id} is maximal), which is represented by the domain $lV_{(n)}$, lying in grading 2*l*.

Finally, because the associated graded complex has homology only in even gradings, CD_* must have the same homology. $□$

In order to later remove obstructions in grading 2, we now explicitly find the generator *U* of $H_2(CD_*)$. We define the following index 2 domains (see [Figure 2\)](#page-7-0):

• A_1, \ldots, A_{n-1} where A_i is the vertical annulus in the $(n-i)$ -th column from the left from the generator $[n23 \dots (n - i) 1(n - i + 1) \dots (n - 1)]$ to itself, and A_0 is the rightmost vertical annulus from the identity generator x^{Id} to itself.

• B_1, \ldots, B_{n-1} where B_i is the horizontal annulus in the $(n - i)$ -th row from the bottom from the generator $[(n-i+1) 23 \dots (n-i)(n-i+2) \dots n]$ to itself, and B_0 is the topmost horizontal annulus from the identity generator x^{Id} to itself.

• C_1, \ldots, C_{n-2} where C_i is a hexagon from the generator

$$
[n23... (n - i) 1(n - i + 1)...(n - 1)]
$$

to the generator $[12 \dots (n - i - 1) n(n - i) \dots (n - 1)].$

Figure 2. The domains A_i , B_i , C_i , D_i , E_i , $F_{i,j}$, and $G_{i,j}$ in the special case of a 6×6 grid, where each domain is drawn from a generator *x* (drawn with \bullet) to a generator *y* (drawn with \circ).

• D_1, \ldots, D_{n-2} where D_i is a hexagon from the generator

$$
[(n-i+1) 23 \dots (n-i)(n-i+2) \dots n1]
$$

to the generator $[12 \dots (n - i - 1)(n - i + 1) \dots n(n - i)].$

• E_1, \ldots, E_{n-2} where E_i is a hexagon from the generator

$$
[12... (n - i - 1) n(n - i + 1)...(n - 1)(n - i)]
$$

to the generator $[12 \dots (n - i - 2) n(n - i) \dots (n - 1)(n - i - 1)].$

• $F_{i,1}, \ldots, F_{i,n-i-2}$ for each $i = 1, \ldots, n-3$, where $F_{i,j}$ is a hexagon from the generator

$$
[12... (n-i-j-2)(n-i-j)(n-i)(n-i-j+1) ... (n-i+1)...n(n-i-j-1)]
$$

to the generator

$$
[12... (n-i-j-2)(n-i+1)(n-i-j)(n-i-j+1) \dots (n-i)(n-i+2)...n(n-i-j-1)].
$$

• $G_{i,1}, \ldots, G_{i,n-i-2}$ for each $i = 1, \ldots, n-3$, where $G_{i,j}$ is a hexagon from the generator

$$
[12... (n-i-j-2) n(n-i-j-1)(n-i-j+1) ... (n-i-1)(n-i-j)(n-i)...(n-1)]
$$

to the generator

 $[12... (n-i-j-2) n(n-i-j)...(n-i)(n-i-j-1)(n-i+1)...(n-1)].$

Let

$$
U := \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} (A_i + B_i) + \sum_{i=1}^{n-2} (C_i + D_i) + \sum_{i=1}^{n-2} E_i + \sum_{i=i}^{n-3} \sum_{j=1}^{n-i-2} (F_{i,j} + G_{i,j})
$$

Proposition 2.3. *U* is the generator of $H_2(CD_*)$

[Proposition 2.3](#page-8-0) will follow from the following computational lemmas.

Lemma 2.4. *U* is a cycle in CD_2 (that is, $\partial U = 0$).

Proof. We consider the possible rectangles that appear in ∂U , starting with the following rectangles that will be useful to name for the purposes of giving signs later.

• $R_{1,2}, \ldots, R_{1,n-1}$ where $R_{1,i}$ is the $1 \times i$ rectangle from

$$
[n23...(n-i+1)1(n-i+2)...(n-1)]
$$

to $[n23... (n - i) 1(n - i + 1)... (n - 1)]$, and $R_{1,1}$ is the 1×1 rectangle from x^{Id} to $[n23 \ldots (n-1)1]$.

• $R_{2,2}, \ldots, R_{2,n-1}$ where $R_{2,i}$ is the $1 \times i$ rectangle from

$$
[12\ldots(n-i)\,n(n-i+1)\ldots(n-1)]
$$

to $[12 \dots (n-i-1) n(n-i) \dots (n-1)]$, and $R_{2,1}$ is the 1×1 rectangle from x^{Id} to $[12 \ldots (n-2) n(n-1)]$

• $R_{3,2}, \ldots, R_{3,n-1}$ where $R_{3,i}$ is the $i \times 1$ rectangle from

$$
[(n-i+1) 23 \dots (n-i)(n-i+2) \dots n1]
$$

- to $[(n-i) 23 \dots (n-i-1)(n-i+1) \dots n]$, and $R_{3,1} = R_{1,1}$.
- $R_{4,2}, \ldots, R_{4,n-1}$ where $R_{4,i}$ is the $i \times 1$ rectangle from

$$
[12\ldots(n-i)(n-i+2)\ldots n(n-i+1)]
$$

to $[12 \dots (n - i - 1)(n - i + 1) \dots n(n - i)]$, and $R_{4,1} = R_{2,1}$.

• $R_{5,1}, \ldots, R_{5,n-2}$, where $R_{5,i}$ is the $1 \times i$ rectangle from

$$
[12... (n - i - 2)(n - i) n(n - i + 1)...(n - 1)(n - i - 1)]
$$

 $\text{to } [12 \dots (n - i - 2) n(n - i) \dots (n - 1)(n - i - 1)].$

• $R_{6,1}, \ldots, R_{6,n-2}$, where $R_{6,i}$ is the $i \times 1$ rectangle from

$$
[12...(n-i-2)n(n-i-1)(n-i+1)...(n-1)(n-i)]
$$

to $[12 \dots (n - i - 2) n(n - i) \dots (n - 1)(n - i - 1)].$

We cancel each of these rectangles in the boundary as follows (see [Figure 3\)](#page-9-0):

• $R_{1,1}$ occurs in ∂*U* twice, from ∂ A_0 and ∂ B_0 , so it cancels in ∂*U*. $R_{1,i}$ occurs in ∂A_{i-1} and ∂C_{i-1} for $i = 2, \ldots n-1$, so they also cancel in ∂U .

Figure 3. The rectangles $R_{1,i}$, $R_{2,i}$, $R_{3,i}$, $R_{4,i}$, $R_{5,i}$, $R_{6,i}$, where each rectangle is drawn from a generator x (drawn with \bullet) to a generator *y* (drawn with ◦).

• $R_{2,1}$ occurs in ∂*U* twice, from ∂ C_1 and ∂ D_1 , so it cancels in ∂*U*, $R_{2,n-1}$ occurs in ∂A_{n-1} and ∂E_{n-2} , and for $i = 2, \ldots n-2$, $R_{2,i}$ occurs in ∂C_i and ∂E_i , so they also cancel in ∂*U*.

- For $i = 2, \ldots n-1$, $R_{3,i}$ occurs in ∂B_{i-1} and ∂D_{i-1} .
- For $i = 2, \ldots n-2$, $R_{4,i}$ occurs in ∂D_i and ∂E_{i-1} .
- *R*_{5,1} occurs in ∂E_1 and $\partial F_{1,1}$; for $i = 2, \ldots n-2$, *R*_{5,*i*} occurs in ∂E_i and $\partial F_{1,i-1}$.
- $R_{6,1}$ occurs in ∂E_1 and $\partial G_{1,1}$; for $i = 2, \ldots n-2$, $R_{6,i}$ occurs in ∂E_i and $\partial G_{1,i-1}$. Next, we consider the following rectangles:
- $P_{i,1} \ldots P_{i,n-i-1}$ for each $i = 2 \ldots n-2$, where $P_{i,j}$ is the $1 \times j$ rectangle from

$$
[12... (n-i-j-1)(n-i-j+1)(n-i+1)(n-i-j+2) ... (n-i)(n-i+2)...n(n-i-j)]
$$

to $[12...((n-i-j-1)(n-i+1)(n-i-j+1)...(n-i)(n-i+2)...(n-i-j)],$ and $P_{1,j} = R_{5,j}$ for each $j = 1, ..., n-2$.

• $Q_{i,1} \ldots Q_{i,n-i-1}$ for each $i = 2 \ldots n-2$, where $Q_{i,j}$ is the $j \times 1$ rectangle from

$$
[12... (n-i-j-1) n(n-i-j)(n-i-j+2) ... (n-i)(n-i-j+1)(n-i+1)...(n-1)]
$$

to $[12...(n-i-j-1)n(n-i-j+1)...(n-i)(n-i-j)(n-i+1)...(n-1)],$ and $Q_{1,j} = R_{6,j}$ for each $j = 1, ..., n-2$.

We cancel each of these rectangles in the boundary as follows (see [Figure 4\)](#page-10-0):

• $P_{n-2,1}$ occurs in $\partial F_{n-3,1}$ and ∂B_{n-2} . For $i = 2, \ldots n-3$, $P_{i,j}$ occurs in $\partial F_{i-1,j}$ and either $\partial F_{i,j-1}$ if $j \geq 2$ or $\partial F_{i,1}$ if $j = 1$.

 \bullet *Q*_{*n*−2,1} occurs in ∂*G*_{*n*−3,1} and ∂*A*_{*n*−2}. For *i* = 2, . . . *n*−3, *Q_{i,j}* occurs in ∂*G*_{*i*−1,*j*} and either $\partial G_{i,j-1}$ if *j* ≥ 2 or $\partial G_{i,1}$ if *j* = 1.

Figure 4. The rectangles $P_{i,j}$ and $Q_{i,j}$ in the special case of a 6×6 grid, where each domain is drawn from a generator *x* (drawn with \bullet) to a generator *y* (drawn with \circ).

Finally, the remaining rectangles have the following form:

• R'_1 $R'_{1,1} \ldots R'_{1,n-1}$, where R'_1 $I_{1,i}$ is the $(n-i) \times 1$ rectangle from

$$
[n23... (n - i) 1(n - i + 1)... (n - 1)]
$$

to $[12 \ldots (n-i) n(n-i+1) \ldots (n-1)].$

• R'_2 $R'_{2,1} \ldots R'_{2,n-1}$, where R'_{2} $\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} i$ is the 1 × (*n* − *i*) rectangle from

$$
[(n-i+1) 23 \dots (n-i)(n-i+2) \dots n]
$$

to $[12 \dots (n-i)(n-i+2) \dots n(n-i+1)].$

• P_i' $P'_{i,2} \ldots P'_{i,n-i-1}$ for $i = 1 \ldots n-3$, where $P'_{i,n}$ $i'_{i,j}$ is the $j \times 1$ rectangle from $[12 \n\t\ldots (n-i-j-1)(n-i)(n-i-j+1)\ldots (n-i-1)(n-i+1)\ldots n(n-i-j)]$ to $[12...((n-i-j-1)(n-i+1)(n-i-j+1)...(n-i)(n-i+2)...(n-i-j)],$ and $P'_{i,1} = P_{i,1}$.

• Q_i' $Q'_{i,2} \cdots Q'_{i,n-i-1}$ for $i = 1 \ldots n-3$, where Q'_{i} i,j is the $1 \times j$ rectangle from $[12... (n-i-j-1) n(n-i-j+1)...(n-i-1)(n-i-j)(n-i)...(n-1)]$ to $[12... (n-i-j-1) n(n-i-j+1)...(n-i) (n-i-j)(n-i+1)...(n-1)],$ and $Q'_{i,1} = Q_{i,1}$.

We cancel each of these rectangles in the boundary as follows (see [Figure 5\)](#page-11-0):

Figure 5. The rectangles R'_1 $'_{1,i}, R'_2$ $'_{2,i}, P'_{i}$ $Q'_{i,j}$, Q'_{i} $i_{i,j}$ in the special case of a 6 × 6 grid, where each domain is drawn from a generator *x* (drawn with \bullet) to a generator *y* (drawn with \circ).

• R'_1 ¹_{1,1}</sub> occurs in ∂*B*⁰ and ∂*C*₁, *R*¹_{1,*n*−1}</sub> occurs in ∂*A*_{*n*−1} and ∂*C*_{*n*−2}. *R*¹₁</sup> $_{1,i}^{\prime}$ occurs in ∂C_{i-1} and ∂C_i for $i = 2, \ldots, n-2$.

• R'_2 $\sum_{2,1}$ occurs in ∂A₀ and ∂D₁, $R'_{2,n-1}$ occurs in ∂B_{n−1} and ∂D_{n−2}. R₂¹ $C_{2,i}$ occurs in ∂D_{i-1} and ∂D_i for $i = 2, \ldots, n-2$.

• $P'_{i,n-i-1}$ occurs in $\partial F_{i,n-i-2}$ and ∂B_i . For $2 \leq j \leq n-i-2$, $P'_{i,n}$ $\sum_{i,j}^{\prime}$ occurs in ∂*Fi*,*j*−¹ and ∂*Fi*,*^j* .

• $Q'_{i,n-i-1}$ occurs in $\partial G_{i,n-i-2}$ and ∂A_i . For $2 \leq j \leq n-i-2$, Q'_i i,j occurs in ∂*Gi*,*j*−¹ and ∂*Gi*,*^j* .

Since these are the only rectangles produced by ∂A_i , ∂B_i , ∂C_i , ∂D_i , ∂E_i , $\partial F_{i,j}$, $\partial G_{i,j}$, we conclude that indeed $\partial U = 0$. □

Lemma 2.5. *U is not homologous to zero in* CD∗*.*

Proof. Let *r* be the 2-cochain which is 1 on the rightmost vertical annulus from any generator to itself, and zero on all other domains; we will first show that *r* is a cocycle, at which point it suffices to show that $r(U) \neq 0$. Let *E* be an index 3 domain. If *E* does not contain the rightmost vertical annulus, then clearly $\delta r(E) = 0$. If *E* does contain the rightmost vertical annulus, then *E* can be written exactly two ways as the product of the rightmost vertical annulus $V_{(n)}$ with an index 1 domain: $E = D * V_{(n)} = V_{(n)} * D$. So $\delta r(E) = 0$ and therefore *r* is a cocycle, and $r(U) = 1$ since *U* contains exactly one copy of the rightmost vertical annulus. \Box

Proof of [Proposition 2.3.](#page-8-0) This immediately follows from Lemmas [2.4](#page-8-1) and [2.5](#page-12-0) and [Proposition 1.1.](#page-2-1) \Box

3. Sign assignments

In order to extend CD_* over $\mathbb Z$ coefficients (and to frame some of the 0-dimensional moduli spaces in the Manolescu–Sarkar construction), we need a sign assignment for CD_* , which is a particular $\mathbb{Z}/2$ -valued 1-cochain on CD_* . The following conditions for a sign assignment ensures that 1-dimensional moduli spaces are frameable, since their boundaries must have opposite signs; see [\[Manolescu and](#page-28-7) [Sarkar 2021\]](#page-28-7) for more details, and note also that this agrees with the sign assignments defined in [\[Manolescu et al. 2007;](#page-28-0) [Gallais 2008\]](#page-28-9), though we are giving a new proof of their existence.

Definition 3.1. A sign assignment for G is a Z/2-valued 1-cochain *s* on CD_{*} such that:

(1) (square rule) If D_1 , D_2 , D_3 , D_4 are distinct rectangles and $D_1 * D_2 = D_3 * D_4 = E$ which is not an annulus, then $s(D_1) + s(D_2) = s(D_3) + s(D_4) + 1$.

(2) (annuli) If D_1 , D_2 are rectangles and $D_1 * D_2$ is a vertical annulus, then $s(D_1) = s(D_2) + 1$. If D_1, D_2 are rectangles such that $D_1 * D_2$ is a horizontal annulus, then $s(D_1) = s(D_2)$.

In order to prove that such a sign assignment exists, we will show that the 2-cocycle that we hypothesize to be δ*s* is indeed a 2-coboundary.

Lemma 3.2. *Let T be the* 2*-cochain with the following values*:

- (1) (*square rule*) For any index 2 domain D that is not an annulus, $T(D) = 1$.
- (2) (*annuli*) *T* (*V*) = 1 *for all vertical annuli V*, *and T* (*H*) = 0 *for all horizontal annuli H.*

Then T is a 2*-coboundary.*

Proof. First, we show that *T* is a cocycle. Let *E* be any index 3 domain; we must show that $\langle T, \partial E \rangle = 0$. For every decomposition $E = D * A$, where *A* is a vertical or horizontal annulus, there is a corresponding decomposition $E = A * D$, so that *A* occurs an even number of times in ∂*E*. It now suffices to show that ∂*E* contains an even number of every other type of index 2 domain.

To every index 3 domain *E* from a generator *x* to a generator *y*, consider a graph with vertices *x* at level 3, *y* at level 0, and edges down 1 level corresponding to each way to break off an index 1 domain (see [Figure 6](#page-14-0) for an example of such a graph). Then each level 2 vertex has an index 2 domain to *y*, which decomposes into rectangles exactly two ways, so each level 2 vertex has downward degree 2, and each level 1 vertex has an index 2 domain from x , which decomposes into rectangles exactly two ways, so each level 1 vertex has upward degree 2. Therefore there are the same number of level 2 and level 1 vertices, so since each index 2 domain that shows up in ∂*E* corresponds to a level 2 or 1 vertex, there are an even number of index 2 domains. Since an even number of these are annuli, we must therefore have an even number of hexagons. This shows that $\langle T, \partial E \rangle = 0$, as desired.

By Propositions [1.1](#page-2-1) and [2.3](#page-8-0) it now suffices to show that $T(U) = 0$ where *U* is the generator of $H_2(CD_*)$. By definition, *U* consists of *n* annuli A_i , *n* annuli B_i , *n* − 2 hexagons *C_i*, *n* − 2 hexagons *D_i*, *n* − 2 hexagons E_i , $\binom{n-2}{2}$ $\binom{-2}{2}$ hexagons $F_{i,j}$, and $\binom{n-2}{2}$ $\binom{-2}{2}$ hexagons $G_{i,j}$, so for any *T* satisfying the conditions of [Lemma 3.2,](#page-13-0)

$$
T(U) \equiv n + 3(n - 2) + 2{n - 2 \choose 2} \equiv 0 \pmod{2}
$$

so that *T* is indeed a coboundary. \Box

Lemma 3.3. *Let T be the* 2*-coboundary from* [Lemma 3.2](#page-13-0)*. Then* $T = \delta s$ *if and only if s is a sign assignment.*

Proof. This is clear from the definitions. \Box

Figure 6. An example of a positive index 3 domain from a generator *x* (drawn with \bullet) to a generator *y* (drawn with \circ), along with the graph defined in the proof of [Proposition 1.3.](#page-3-2) The generators z_i are given by ∘ on the *i*-th rectangle from the left and • on the other two, while the generators w_i are given by \bullet on the *i*-th rectangle from the left and ◦ on the other two.

Proof of [Theorem 1.2.](#page-2-2) Existence immediately follows from Lemmas [3.2](#page-13-0) and [3.3.](#page-13-1) For uniqueness, suppose $T = \delta s = \delta s'$. Then $\delta(s - s') = 0$, so $s - s'$ is a 1-cocycle, which is cohomologous to zero by [Proposition 1.1,](#page-2-1) so there is a 0-cochain *g* such that $s = s' + \delta g$. \Box + δg .

Given a sign assignment *s*, we can use it to redefine CD_* in $\mathbb Z$ coefficients:

Definition 3.4. CD_{*}(\mathbb{G} ; \mathbb{Z}) is freely generated over \mathbb{G} by the positive domains, with the homological grading being the Maslov index. The differential ∂ : CD_{*k*} → CD_{*k*−1} of $D \in \mathcal{D}^+(x, y)$ is given by

$$
\partial(D) = \sum_{R*E=D} (-1)^{s(R)} E + (-1)^k \sum_{E*R=D} (-1)^{s(R)} E,
$$

where *R* is a domain of index 1 from *x* to some generator *z* and *E* is a positive domain from *z* to *y*.

We now have analogues of [Lemma 2.2](#page-6-0) and [Proposition 1.1](#page-2-1) in $\mathbb Z$ coefficients, in the following lemma and [Proposition 1.3,](#page-3-2) respectively.

Lemma 3.5. (CD_* , ∂) *is a chain complex.*

Proof. The proof is similar to the proof of [Lemma 2.2,](#page-6-0) except we must keep track of signs. \Box

Proof of [Proposition 1.3.](#page-3-2) The proof is similar to the proof of [Proposition 1.1.](#page-2-1) Specifically, our proof of [Proposition 1.1](#page-2-1) over $\mathbb{Z}/2$ adapts the proof of [\[Manolescu](#page-28-7) [and Sarkar 2021,](#page-28-7) Proposition 3.4]. This proof is over $\mathbb Z$, and a similar adaptation will prove [Proposition 1.3.](#page-3-2) \Box

4. The obstruction complex with partitions

The moduli spaces in the construction of the 1-flow category require more than just positive domains. Since periodic domains (annuli) can bubble, [Manolescu and](#page-28-7) [Sarkar](#page-28-7) [2021] introduces a new complex to keep track of the bubbles — since there are *n* different types of bubbles (corresponding to bubbling of the *j*-th horizontal or vertical annulus) which can be at the same or different heights, these correspond to *n*-tuples of ordered partitions.

It is convenient to use both of the following equivalent definitions of an ordered partition of a positive integer *N* (and when $N = 0$, a partition of *N* is the empty set).

• An ordered partition λ is a tuple of nonnegative integers $\lambda = (\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_m)$ such that $N = \sum \lambda_i$ (*m* is called the *length* of the partition, and is denoted $l(\lambda)$).

• An ordered partition λ is a tuple $\epsilon(\lambda) = (\epsilon_1(\lambda), \ldots, \epsilon_{N-1}(\lambda)) \in \{0, 1\}^{N-1}$, where an ϵ_i equaling 1 indicates a split at that point. For instance, the ordered partitions $(1, 1, 1), (1, 2), (2, 1),$ and (3) of 3 are written $(1, 1), (1, 0), (0, 1),$ and $(0, 0)$.

Besides annuli bubbling off (the second type of terms that will be in the differential — the first being terms in the differential of CD∗), there are two other boundary degenerations that occur with existing bubbles. Bubbles of the same type may come to the same height (the third type of term), and bubbles may go to height $\pm \infty$ (the fourth and final type of term). The corresponding changes to the partitions are described below.

Definition 4.1. The following changes to an ordered partition will describe the differential terms (see [\[Manolescu and Sarkar 2021,](#page-28-7) Definitions 4.1, 4.2, 4.3] for more details):

• A unit enlargement (at position *k*) increases *N* by 1 and adds a 1 to the tuple λ (at position *k*). The set of unit enlargements of λ is denoted UE(λ).

• An elementary coarsening (at position *k*) replaces both terms λ_k and λ_{k+1} with one term $\lambda_k + \lambda_{k+1}$. The set of elementary coarsenings of λ is denoted EC(λ).

• An initial reduction removes λ_1 (and decreases *N* by λ_1), and a final reduction removes $λ_m$ (and decreases *N* by $λ_m$). The set of initial reductions (respectively, final reductions) of λ is denoted IR(λ) (respectively, FR(λ)), where we consider both sets empty if $N = 0$.

We are now ready to define the complex of domains with partitions, CDP_{*} .

Definition 4.2. The complex of positive domains with $CDP_* = CDP_*(\mathbb{G}; \mathbb{Z}/2)$ is freely generated by triples of the form $D, \vec{N}, \vec{\lambda}$, where:

- $D \in \mathcal{D}^+(x, y)$ is a positive domain.
- $\vec{N} \in \mathbb{N}^n$ is an *n*-tuple of nonnegative integers, $\vec{N} = (N_1, \ldots, N_n)$.

• $\vec{\lambda} = (\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n)$ is an *n*-tuple of ordered partitions for $\lambda_j = (\lambda_{j,1}, \dots, \lambda_{j,m_j})$, an ordered partition of *N^j* .

We denote $|\vec{N}| := \sum_{j=1}^n N_j$, and define $|l(\vec{\lambda})| := \sum_{j=1}^n l(\lambda_j)$ be the total length of $\vec{\lambda}$. The grading of $(D, \vec{N}, \vec{\lambda})$ is given by the Maslov index of *D* plus $|l(\vec{\lambda})|$. The differential is given by the sum of the following four terms.

- Type I terms, given by taking out a rectangle from *D*, just like in the differential of CD∗.
- Type II terms, given by taking out a vertical or horizontal annulus passing through O_j from *D* and performing a unit enlargement to λ_j .
- Type III terms, given by an elementary coarsening of one of the partitions λ_j .
- Type IV terms, given by taking the initial or final reduction of one of the partitions λ*^j* .

Precisely, we can write $\partial = \partial_1 + \partial_2 + \partial_3 + \partial_4$ where

$$
\partial_1(D, \vec{N}, \vec{\lambda}) = \sum_{R * E = D} (E, \vec{N}, \vec{\lambda}) + \sum_{E * R = D} (E, \vec{N}, \vec{\lambda}),
$$

\n
$$
\partial_2(D, \vec{N}, \vec{\lambda}) = \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{D = E * H_j \text{ or } E * V_j} \sum_{\lambda'_j \in \text{UE}(\lambda_j)} (E, \vec{N} + \vec{e}_j, \vec{\lambda}'),
$$

\n
$$
\partial_3(D, \vec{N}, \vec{\lambda}) = \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{\lambda'_j \in \text{EC}(\lambda_j)} (D, \vec{N}, \vec{\lambda}'),
$$

\n
$$
\partial_4(D, \vec{N}, \vec{\lambda}) = \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{\lambda'_j \in \text{IR}(\lambda_j)} (D, \vec{N} - \lambda_{j,1} \vec{e}_j, \vec{\lambda}') + \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{\lambda'_j \in \text{FR}(\lambda_j)} (D, \vec{N} - \lambda_{j,m_j} \vec{e}_j, \vec{\lambda}').
$$

As in [Definition 2.1,](#page-5-0) *R* is a rectangle, and the annuli H_j , V_j are the ones passing through the *j*-th O marking. We also use $\vec{\lambda}' := (\lambda_1, \ldots, \lambda_{j-1}, \lambda'_j, \lambda_{j+1}, \ldots, \lambda_n)$, and $\vec{e}_j := (0, \ldots, 0, 1, 0, \ldots, 0)$ with the 1 in the *j*-th position.

It will help us to classify the lower grading generators, that is, generators of CDP_0 , CDP_1 , CDP_2 , CDP_3 (see [\[Manolescu and Sarkar 2021,](#page-28-7) Section 4.2] for details).

- (0) CDP₀ is generated by the constant domains with no partitions $(c_x, 0, 0)$ for some generator *x*.
- (1) CDP_1 is generated by rectangles with no partitions $(R, 0, 0)$ as well as triples of the form $(c_x, N\vec{e}_i, (N))$ for a constraint domain c_x .
- (2) $CDP₂$ is generated by Maslov index 2 domains with no partition $(D, 0, 0)$ (for a classification of the kinds of domains *D*, see above or [\[Ozsváth et al. 2015\]](#page-29-5)), triples of the form $(R, N\vec{e}_i, (N))$ for a rectangle *R*, or a constant domain with partitions of total length 2. Specifically, we can have triples of the form $(c_x, N\vec{e}_j + M\vec{e}_k, ((N), (M)))$ (where $j \neq k$), or $(c_x, (N + M)\vec{e}_j, (N, M))$.
- (3) Finally, CDP₃ is generated by Maslov index 3 domains with no partition, Maslov index 2 domains with a partition of the form $(D, N\vec{e}_i, (N))$, rectangles with a partition of total length 2, and constant domains with partitions of total length 3, which has the following cases:
	- $(c_x, N_i \vec{e}_i + N_k \vec{e}_k + N_l \vec{e}_l, ((N_i), (N_k), (N_l))$ for j, k, l distinct.
	- $(c_x, (N_j + M_j) \vec{e}_j + N_k \vec{e}_k, ((N_j, M_j), (N_k))$ for *j*, *k* distinct.

•
$$
(c_x, (N_j + M_j + P_j) \vec{e}_j, (N_j, M_j, P_j)).
$$

Lemma 4.3. (CDP $_{*}$, ∂) *is a chain complex.*

Proof. The proof follows a similar case analysis to [\[Manolescu and Sarkar 2021,](#page-28-7) Lemma 4.4]. Write $\partial = \partial_1 + \partial_2 + \partial_3 + \partial_4$, where ∂_k is the type *k* term in the differential. Since ∂_1 is just the differential from CD_{*}, we have by [Lemma 2.2](#page-6-0) that $\partial_1^2 = 0$. Now for ∂_2^2 , the terms will correspond to removing two annuli (and doing two unit enlargements). If the annuli pass through two different O_i and O_j , then the corresponding term shows up twice, once in each order. If the annuli pass through the same O_j , then the corresponding term also shows up twice — once for each order in doing the unit enlargements. So, $\partial_2^2 = 0$. We can similarly show that

$$
\partial_3^2 = 0, \quad \partial_1 \partial_2 + \partial_2 \partial_1 = 0, \quad \partial_1 \partial_3 + \partial_3 \partial_1 = 0, \quad \partial_2 \partial_3 + \partial_3 \partial_2 = 0, \quad \partial_1 \partial_4 + \partial_4 \partial_1 = 0
$$

by doing the respective operations in two different orders.

Now consider $\partial_2\partial_4 + \partial_4\partial_2$, the terms of which correspond to a unit enlargement and an initial or final reduction, in either order. If one is done to λ_i and another to λ_j where $i \neq j$, then the two commute and cancel just like before. If both are done to λ_i , then all terms follow one of these cases:

• A unit enlargement not at the beginning, followed by an initial reduction. This cancels with the initial reduction followed by doing the enlargement one place earlier.

• A unit enlargement not at the end, followed by a final reduction. This cancels with the final reduction followed by the same enlargement.

• A unit enlargement at the beginning, followed by an initial reduction; or a unit enlargement at the end, followed by a final reduction. These cancel with each other.

Finally, consider the last terms of ∂^2 , $\partial_4^2 + \partial_3 \partial_4 + \partial_4 \partial_3$. Again there are some special types of terms:

• The elementary coarsening of λ_i by combining the first two parts, followed by a initial reduction of λ_i , cancels with two initial reductions of λ_i .

• The elementary coarsening of λ_i by combining the last two parts, followed by a final reduction of λ_i , cancels with two final reductions of λ_i .

where all the other terms cancel by doing the operations in two different orders. \Box

We would like to compute the homology of CDP_∗ using successive filtrations, as in the proof of [Proposition 1.1.](#page-2-1)

Proposition 4.4. *There is a filtration on* CDP∗ *such that the associated graded has homology* $(\mathbb{Z}/2)^{2^n} \otimes (\mathbb{Z}/2)[U]$ *.*

Proof. We again follow the proof of [\[Manolescu and Sarkar 2021,](#page-28-7) Proposition 4.6]. We can filter the complex CDP'_{\ast} in several steps. First we filter CDP_{\ast} by the quantity $A(D) \in \mathbb{N}^n$ which are the coefficients of *D* in the rightmost column. As in the proof of [Proposition 1.1,](#page-2-1) we can assume without loss of generality that the minimum of $A(D)$ occurs in the top right corner, and then filter the associated graded CDP_*^a by $B(D) \in \mathbb{N}^{n-1}$ which are the coefficients of *D* in the topmost row. In the associated graded $CDP_*^{a,b}$, there are no type II terms in the differential, since such terms must decrease either *A* or *B*. Since $|\vec{N}|$ is kept constant by type I and type III terms and decreased by type IV terms, it is a filtration on $CDP^{a,b}_*$, so filtering by $|\vec{N}|$ and (as in the proof of [Proposition 1.1\)](#page-2-1) the end generator *y* gives a direct sum of complexes $CDP_*^{a,b,y,\vec{N}}$.

When $a \neq (l, l, \ldots, l)$ or $b \neq 0$ or $y \neq x^{\text{Id}}$, filtering by the total length of $\vec{\lambda}$ removes all type III terms and keeps all type I terms, so $CDP_*^{a,b,y,\vec{N}}$ is a direct sum of complexes $CD_*^{a,b,y}$ which were all shown to be acyclic in the proof of [\[Manolescu](#page-28-7) [and Sarkar 2021,](#page-28-7) Proposition 3.4]. Additionally, when $a = (l, l, \ldots, l)$, $b = 0$, $y = x^{\text{Id}}$, and at least one $N_j > 1$, every generator of CDP^{*a*,*b*,*y*, \overrightarrow{N} is represented by} some $(D, \vec{N}, \vec{\lambda})$ where $D = kV_n$, so we only have type III terms. The partitions of N_j are given by $(\epsilon_1, \ldots, \epsilon_{N_j-1})$, where the elementary coarsenings just change a 1 to a 0. This gives a hypercube complex, which is acyclic. Therefore, we are only left with the associated graded complexes $CDP^{a,b,y,\tilde{N}}$ where $a = (l, l, \ldots, l)$, $b = 0$, $y = x^{\text{Id}}$, and every N_j is 0 or 1.

Corollary. H_k (CDP_{*}; $\mathbb{Z}/2$) has rank at most

$$
\sum_{l=0}^{\lfloor k/2\rfloor} \binom{n}{k-2l}.
$$

In the proof of [Proposition 2.3,](#page-8-0) we found a cocycle that detects the generator of $H_2(CD_*)$. We will use a similar procedure to compute $H_0(CDP_*)$ through H_3 (CDP_{*}).

Proof of [Theorem 1.4.](#page-3-1) $(k = 0)$. This case is clear.

 $(k = 1)$. The *n* generators of $H_1(AssGr(CDP_*))$ are the triples

$$
g_j:=(c_{x^{\text{Id}}},\vec{e}_j,(1)),
$$

which are still cycles in $CDP₁$ (because their initial and final reductions cancel). It will suffice to show that there exist *n* 1-cocycles r_i such that $r_i(g_k) = 1$ if and only if *j* = *k*. Let f_i be the 1-cochain in CD_{*} such that $\delta f_i(D) = 1$ if and only if *D* is the vertical annulus V_i or the horizontal annulus H_i where f_i exists by [Proposition 2.3](#page-8-0) because the 2-cocycle which is 1 on V_j and H_j and zero on every other index 2 domain is a coboundary, since it is zero on the generator *U* of $H_2(CD_*)$. We can extend f_j to CDP_{*} by setting it equal to zero on all triples $(c_x, N\vec{e}_j, (N))$. Let N_j be the 1-cocycle that is the value of N_j in the triple $(D, \vec{N}, \vec{\lambda})$, and

$$
r_j := N_j + f_j.
$$

To show that r_j is a cocycle, we consider all possible triples $(D, \vec{N}, \vec{\lambda})$ in grading 2. If $N_j = 0$ and *D* is not the annulus V_j or H_j , then by definition $\delta r_j(D, \vec{N}, \vec{\lambda}) = 0$. If $N_j = 0$ and $D = V_j$ or H_j , then $\vec{N} = 0$ and

$$
\delta r_j(D, 0, 0) = N_j(c_x, \vec{e}_j, (1)) + (f_j(R_1) + f_j(R_2)) = 1 + 1 = 0 \pmod{2},
$$

where $D = R_1 * R_2$ is the decomposition into rectangles. Finally, if $N_i = M > 0$, there are three cases:

• *D* is a rectangle. In this case $\vec{N} = M\vec{e}_i$ and $\lambda_i = (M)$, so the initial and final reduction of λ_i cancel, and the only other differential terms are removing *D*. If *D* is a rectangle from *x* to *y*, then

$$
\delta r_i(D, M\vec{e}_j, (M)) = N_j(c_x, M\vec{e}_j, (M)) + N_j(c_y, M\vec{e}_j, (M))
$$

= M + M = 0 (mod 2).

• Some $N_k > 0$, where $k \neq j$. Then *D* must be a constant domain, and both λ_j and λ_k are length 1 partitions, so their initial and final reductions all cancel.

• *D* is a constant domain and $\lambda_j = (M_1, M_2)$ is a length 2 partition. In this case we have all of the type III and type IV differentials, which gives

$$
\delta r_j(c_x, (M+N)\vec{e}_j, (M,N))
$$

= $N_j(c_x, M\vec{e}_j, (M)) + N_j(c_x, N\vec{e}_j, (N)) + N_j(c_x, (M+N)\vec{e}_j, (M+N))$
= $M + N + (M+N) = 0 \pmod{2}$.

Therefore r_j is a cocycle for each *j*, and by definition $r_j(g_j) = 1$ if and only if $j = k$, so the g_j are in fact the generators of $H_1(\text{CDP}_*)$.

(*k* = 2). Now consider 2-cocycles. $(\mathbb{Z}/2)^{\binom{n}{2}}$ of the generators of $H_2(AssGr(CDP_*))$ are the triples

$$
g_{j,k} := (c_{x^{\text{Id}}}, \vec{e}_j + \vec{e}_k, ((1), (1))),
$$

which are similarly still cycles in $CDP₂$. The final generator will be given by a slight modification *U'* of $(U, 0, 0)$, where *U* is the generator of $H_2(CD_*)$. The boundary of *U* in CDP∗ contains only pairs of triples of the form

$$
(c_{x^j}, \vec{e}_j, (1))
$$
 and $(c_{y^j}, \vec{e}_j, (1))$

corresponding to type II differentials on the annuli A_j and B_j . Here we have that x^j and y^j are, respectively, the generators $[n23 \dots (n-j) 1(n-i+1) \dots (n-1)]$ and $[(n - j + 1) 23 ... (n - j)(n - j + 2) ... n]$, as depicted in [Figure 2.](#page-7-0) For each *j*, the generators x^j and y^j each have a planar domain (that is, a domain that does not intersect the topmost row or rightmost column of the grid), $D_{j,1}$ and $D_{j,2}$ respectively, from the identity generator x^{Id} . From [Figure 2,](#page-7-0) we see that $D_{j,2}$ is the reflection of $D_{i,1}$ about the diagonal from the bottom left to the top right of the grid, so that $(-D_{j,1}) * D_{j,2}$ is an even index planar domain from x^j to y^j . This domain decomposes into an even number of planar rectangles $\pm R_{ik}$ (where each R_{ik} is positive), so that adding each $(R_{jk}, \vec{e}_j, (1))$ to $(U, 0, 0)$ will cancel the rest of its boundary, making a cycle *U* ′ .

In the proof of [Proposition 2.3,](#page-8-0) we used the 2-cocycle r which is 1 on the rightmost vertical annulus and zero on every other 2-chain. Extending *r* to CDP∗ by setting it equal to zero on every 2-chain with $|\vec{N}| > 0$ still gives a cocycle, since CDP∗ has no new ways to create an annulus in the boundary, and we still have that $r(U') = 1$, while all of the $r(g_{j,k}) = 0$. Now it suffices to find $r_{j,k}$ such that $r_{j,k}(U') = 0$ for all *j*, *k*, and $r_{j,k}(g_{l,m}) = 1$ if and only if $\{l, m\} = \{j, k\}$. Let f_j be the 1-cocycles defined in the proof of (1), and let

$$
f_j^k(R, \vec{N}, \vec{\lambda}) = N_k f_j(R),
$$

where *R* is a rectangle and $\vec{\lambda}$ has total length 1 (and $f_j^k = 0$ on all other 2-chains). Now let $N_j N_k$ be the 2-cocycle that is the product of the values of N_j and N_k for a triple (D, N, λ) , and let

$$
r_{j,k} := N_j N_k + f_j^k + f_k^j.
$$

To show that $r_{i,k}$ is a cocycle, we consider all possible triples $(D, \vec{N}, \vec{\lambda})$ in grading 3. If $N_i = 0$ (respectively, $N_k = 0$) and *D* does not contain the annulus V_i or H_i (respectively, V_k or H_k), then by definition $\delta r_{i,k}(D, \vec{N}, \vec{\lambda}) = 0$. If $N_i = 0$, $N_k > 0$ (or vice versa), and *D* contains V_j or H_j , then $D = V_j$ or H_j and all $N_l = 0$ for $l \neq k$, so that $\delta r_{j,k}(D, \vec{N}, \vec{\lambda}) = 0$ similarly to the proof of (1). Finally, if $N_j = M_j > 0$ and $N_k = M_k > 0$, there are three cases:

• *D* is a rectangle. In this case $\vec{N} = M_i \vec{e}_i + M_k \vec{e}_k$, $\lambda_i = (M_i)$, and $\lambda_k = (M_k)$, so the initial and final reductions of λ_j and λ_k cancel, and the only other differential terms are removing *D*. If *D* is a rectangle from *x* to *y*, then

 $\delta r_{ik}(D, \vec{N}, \vec{\lambda})$ $=N_jN_k(c_x, M_j\vec{e}_j+M_k\vec{e}_k, ((M_j), (M_k))\big) + N_iN_j(c_y, M_j\vec{e}_j+M_k\vec{e}_k, ((M_j), (M_k))\big)$ $=M_i M_i + M_i M_j = 0 \pmod{2}$.

• Some $N_l > 0$, where $l \neq j, k$. Then *D* must be a constant domain, and all of λ_j , λ_k , and λ_l are length 1 partitions, so their initial and final reductions all cancel.

• *D* is a constant domain and $\lambda_j = (M_{j,1}, M_{j,2})$ is a length 2 partition (or symmetrically, $\lambda_k = (M_{k,1}, M_{k,2})$). In this case the initial and final reductions of λ_k cancel, but we have all of the type III and type IV differentials of λ_j , which give

$$
\delta r_{j,k}(c_x, (M_{j,1} + M_{j,2}) \vec{e}_j + M_k \vec{e}_k, ((M_{j,1}, M_{j,2}), (M_k)))
$$

= $N_j N_k(c_x, M_{j,1} \vec{e}_j + M_k \vec{e}_k, ((M_{j,1}), (M_k)))$
+ $N_j N_k(c_x, M_{j,2} \vec{e}_j + M_k \vec{e}_k, ((M_{j,2}), (M_k)))$
+ $N_j N_k(c_x, (M_{j,1} + M_{j,2}) \vec{e}_j + M_k \vec{e}_k, ((M_{j,1} + M_{j,2}), (M_k)))$
= $M_k(M_{j,1} + M_{j,2} + (M_{j,1} + M_{j,2})) = 0 \pmod{2}.$

Therefore $r_{j,k}$ is a cocycle for all *j*, *k*, and by definition $r_{j,k}(U) = 0$. *U'* only adds an even number of planar rectangles with partitions that can contribute to f_j^k or f_k^j k ^{*l*}, no two of which can ever form an annulus, so $r_{j,k}(U') = 0$. Finally, by definition $r_{j,k}(g_{l,m}) = 1$ if and only if $\{l, m\} = \{j, k\}$, so these (along with *U'*) are in fact the generators of $H_2(CDP_*)$.

 $(k = 3)$. $\binom{n}{3}$ $\binom{n}{3}$ of the generators of $H_3(AssGr(CDP_*))$ are the triples

$$
g_{j,k,l} := (c_{x^{ld}}, \vec{e}_j + \vec{e}_k + \vec{e}_l, ((1), (1), (1))),
$$

which are similarly still cycles in CDP₃. The other *n* generators are the triples U'_i *j* obtained from U' by performing unit enlargements on N_j and adding the triples $(R_{jk}, 2\vec{e}_j, (2))$ defined previously (for this fixed *j*). Let $V_{(n)}$ be the rightmost vertical annulus and define the cochain

$$
rr_j(D, \vec{N}, \vec{\lambda}) := \begin{cases} 0, & D \text{ does not contain } V_{(n)}, \\ r_j(D * -V_{(n)}, \vec{N}, \vec{\lambda}), & D \text{ contains } V_{(n)}, \end{cases}
$$

where r_j is the 1-cocycle from the proof of (1). To show that rr_j are cocycles, we consider all $\delta rr_j(D, \vec{N}, \vec{\lambda})$ for triples $(D, \vec{N}, \vec{\lambda}) \in \text{CDP}_4$. If *D* does not contain $V_{(n)}$, then this quantity is zero by definition. If *D* contains $V_{(n)}$, then its Maslov index is at least 2, so that we have the following cases:

• *D* is an index 4 domain. In this case, $\vec{N} = 0$, so let $E = D * (-V_{(n)})$. If *E* is also an annulus V_k , then

$$
\delta r r_j(D, \vec{N}, \vec{\lambda})
$$

= $r r_j(A_1 * V_{(n)}, 0, 0) + r r_j(A_2 * V_{(n)}, 0, 0) + r r_j(E * B_1, 0, 0) + r r_j(E * B_2, 0, 0)$
+ $r r_j(V_{(n)}, \vec{e}_k, (1)) + r r_j(E, \vec{e}_n, (1))$ (where $A_1 * A_2 = E, B_1 * B_2 = V_{(n)}$)
= $r_j(A_1, 0, 0) + r_j(A_2, 0, 0) + r_j(c_x, \vec{e}_k, (1))$
+ $(r_j(B_1, 0, 0) + r_j(B_2, 0, 0) + r_j(c_x, \vec{e}_n, (1)))$ (added if and only if $k = n$)
= 0

by definition of r_j (since this is just $\delta r_j(V_k)$ with possibly $\delta r_j(V_{(n)})$ added if $k = n$). If *E* is not an annulus, we similarly have

$$
\delta r r_j(D, \vec{N}, \vec{\lambda})
$$

= $r r_j(A_1 * V_{(n)}, 0, 0) + r r_j(A_2 * V_{(n)}, 0, 0) + r r_j(E * B_1, 0, 0)$
+ $r r_j(E * B_2, 0, 0) + r r_j(E, \vec{e}_n, (1))$ (where $A_1 * A_2 = E, B_1 * B_2 = V_{(n)}$)
= $r_j(A_1, 0, 0) + r_j(A_2, 0, 0) + r_j(c_x, \vec{e}_k, (1)) = 0.$

• $D = R * V_{(n)}$ is an index 3 domain, where R is a rectangle from a generator *x* to a generator *y*. In this case, $\vec{N} = N \vec{e}_k$ and $\vec{\lambda} = \lambda_k = (N)$. Suppose that in the domain *D*, $V_{(n)} = A * B$, and $R = B$ (or symmetrically, $R = A$). In this case,

$$
\delta r r_j(D, \vec{N}, \vec{\lambda})
$$

= $r r_j(R * A, N \vec{e}_k, (N)) + r r_j(A * R, N \vec{e}_k, (N)) + r r_j(R, N \vec{e}_k + e_n, ((N), (1)))$
= $r_j(c_x, N \vec{e}_k, (N)) + r_j(c_y, N \vec{e}_k, (N)) = 0.$

by definition of r_j . If *R* is not *A* or *B*, we similarly have

$$
\delta r r_j(D, \vec{N}, \vec{\lambda}) = r r_j(R * A, N \vec{e}_k, (N)) + r r_j(R * B, N \vec{e}_k, (N)) \n+ r r_j(V_{(n)}, N \vec{e}_k, (N)) \qquad \text{(at the generator } x) \n+ r r_j(V_{(n)}, N \vec{e}_k, (N)) \qquad \text{(at } y) \n+ r r_j(R, N \vec{e}_k + \vec{e}_n, ((N), (1))) \n= r_j(c_x, N \vec{e}_k, (N)) + r_j(c_y, N \vec{e}_k, (N)) = 0.
$$

• *D* is an index 2 domain. In this case, we have that $D = V_{(n)}$, $|\vec{\lambda}| = 2$, and $\delta r r_j(D, \vec{N}, \vec{\lambda}) = \delta r_j(c_x, \vec{N}, \vec{\lambda})$ since the type I and type II terms cannot possibly have an annulus; note that we previously showed this expression to be zero in showing that r_j is a cocycle.

Therefore rr_j is a cocycle, and by construction $rr_j(U_k)$ k' = 1 if and only if $k = j$, and all of the $rr_j(g_{k,l,m}) = 0$. It remains to find cocycles $r_{j,k,l}$ such that $r_{j,k,l}(U'_m) = 0$ for all j, k, l, m, and $r_{j,k,l}(g_{m,p,q}) = 1$ if and only if $\{m, p, q\} = \{j, k, l\}$. Let f_i be the 1-cocycles defined in the proof of (1), and let

$$
f_j^{k,l}(R, \vec{N}, \vec{\lambda}) = N_k N_l f_j(R),
$$

where *R* is a rectangle and λ_k , λ_l are both length 1 partitions (and $f_j^{k,l} = 0$ on all other 3-chains). Now let $N_i N_k N_l$ be the 3-cocycle that is the product of the values of N_i , N_k , and N_l for a triple $(D, \vec{N}, \vec{\lambda})$, and let

$$
r_{j,k,l} = N_j N_k N_l + f_j^{k,l} + f_k^{j,l} + f_l^{j,k}.
$$

To show that $r_{j,k,l}$ is a cocycle, we consider all possible triples $(D, \vec{N}, \vec{\lambda})$ in grading 4. If $N_i = 0$ (respectively, $N_k = 0$ or $N_l = 0$) and *D* does not contain the annulus V_i

or H_j (respectively, V_k or H_k , or V_l or H_l), then by definition $\delta r_{j,k,l}(D, \vec{N}, \vec{\lambda}) = 0$. If $N_i = 0$, $N_k > 0$, and $N_l > 0$ (or symmetrically, any other case where exactly one is zero), and *D* contains V_j or H_j , then $D = V_j$ or H_j and all $N_m = 0$ for $m \neq k, l$, so that $\delta r_{j,k,l}(D, \vec{N}, \vec{\lambda}) = 0$ similarly to the proof of (1). Finally, if $N_i = M_i > 0$, $N_k = M_k > 0$, and $N_l = M_l > 0$, there are three cases:

• *D* is a rectangle. In this case $\vec{N} = M_j \vec{e}_j + M_k \vec{e}_k + M_l \vec{e}_l$, $\lambda_j = (M_j)$, $\lambda_k = (M_k)$, and $\lambda_l = (M_l)$, so the initial and final reductions of λ_j , λ_k and λ_l cancel, and the only other differential terms are removing D . If D is a rectangle from x to y , then

$$
\delta r_{j,k,l}(D, \vec{N}, \vec{\lambda}) = N_j N_k N_l(c_x, M_j \vec{e}_j + M_k \vec{e}_k + M_l \vec{e}_l, ((M_j), (M_k), (M_l))) + N_j N_k N_l(c_y, M_j \vec{e}_j + M_k \vec{e}_k + M_l \vec{e}_l, ((M_j), (M_k), (M_l))) = M_j M_k M_l + M_j M_k M_l = 0 \text{ (mod 2)}.
$$

• Some $N_m > 0$, where $m \neq j, k, l$. Then *D* must be a constant domain, and all of λ_j , λ_k , λ_l , and λ_m are length 1 partitions, so their initial and final reductions all cancel.

• *D* is a constant domain and $\lambda_j = (M_{j,1}, M_{j,2})$ is a length 2 partition (or symmetrically, $\lambda_k = (M_{k,1}, M_{k,2})$ or $\lambda_l = (M_{l,1}, M_{l,2})$. In this case the initial and final reductions of λ_k and λ_l cancel, but we have all of the type III and type IV differentials of λ_j , which give

$$
\delta r_{j,k,l}(c_x, (M_{j,1} + M_{j,2}) \vec{e}_j + M_k \vec{e}_k + M_l \vec{e}_l, ((M_{j,1}, M_{j,2}), (M_k), (M_l)))
$$

= $N_j N_k N_l(c_x, M_{j,1} \vec{e}_j + M_k \vec{e}_k + M_l \vec{e}_l, ((M_{j,1}), (M_k), (M_l)))$
+ $N_j N_k N_l(c_x, M_{j,2} \vec{e}_j + M_k \vec{e}_k + M_l \vec{e}_l, ((M_{j,2}), (M_k), (M_l)))$
+ $N_j N_k N_l(c_x, (M_{j,1} + M_{j,2}) \vec{e}_j + M_k \vec{e}_k + M_l \vec{e}_l, ((M_{j,1} + M_{j,2}), (M_k), (M_l)))$
= $M_k M_l(M_{j,1} + M_{j,2} + (M_{j,1} + M_{j,2})) = 0 \pmod{2}$

Therefore $r_{j,k,l}$ are cocycles, satisfying $r_{j,k,l}(F''_m) = 0$ for all *j*, *k*, *l*, *m*, and $r_{j,k,l}(c_{x^{Id}}, \vec{e}_m + \vec{e}_p + \vec{e}_q, ((1), (1))) = 1$ if and only if $\{m, p, q\} = \{j, k, l\}.$ □

5. Sign assignments for domains with partitions

Similarly to Section 3, we find the criteria that the coboundary of a sign assignment for CDP_* must satisfy:

Definition 5.1. A sign assignment for CDP_* is a 1-cochain *s* on CDP_* such that:

- (1) $\delta s(D, 0, 0) = 1$ for any index 2 domain *D* that is not an annulus.
- (2) $\delta s(V, 0, 0) = 1$ for any vertical annulus *V*, and $\delta s(H, 0, 0) = 0$ for any horizontal annulus *H*.
- (3) $\delta s(R, (0, N\vec{e}_i, (N)) = 0$ for any rectangle *R*, any $N > 0$, and any *j*.
- (4) $\delta s(c_x, N\vec{e}_j + M\vec{e}_k, ((N), (M))) = 0$ for any constant domain c_x , any $N, M > 0$, and any j, k .
- (5) $\delta s(c_x, (N+M)\vec{e}_j, ((N, M))) = 0$ for any constant domain c_x , any $N, M > 0$, and any *j*.

Proof of [Theorem 1.5.](#page-3-0) Let *T* be the 2-cochain with values given by (1)–(5) of [Definition 5.1.](#page-23-0) To see that *T* is a cocycle, we evaluate δT on all triples $(D, \tilde{N}, \tilde{\lambda})$ in grading 3. These are given by:

 \bullet (*D*, 0, 0) where *D* is an index 3 domain. The proof of [Lemma 3.3](#page-13-1) shows that the contributions to δ*T* by Type I differential terms all cancel. If *D* does not contain an annulus, these are all the differential terms. If *D* does contain an annulus $A = H_i$ or V_j , we can write $D = R * A$ for a rectangle R, so that the type II differential term gives $(R, (0, \vec{e}_j, (1)),$ which does not contribute to δT by (3).

• (*D*, $N\vec{e}_i$, (*N*)) where *D* is an index 2 domain. Here the initial and final reduction of the partition both give $(D, 0, 0)$ so their contributions to δT cancel. The decompositions of *D* into rectangles do not contribute to δT by condition (3), and again if *D* is not an annulus, then these are the only other boundary terms. If *D* is an annulus, then either $D = H_j$, $D = V_j$, or *D* is some other annulus H_k or *V*_{*k*}. In the latter case, the type II differential term gives $(c_x, N\vec{e}_j + \vec{e}_k, ((N), (1)))$ which does not contribute to δT by (4). In the former case, the type II differential gives two terms, $(c_x, (N + 1) \vec{e}_j)$, $(1, N)$ and $(c_x, (N + 1) \vec{e}_j, (N, 1))$, which do not contribute to δT by (5).

• $(R, \vec{N}, \vec{\lambda})$ where $R \in \mathcal{D}^+(x, y)$ is a rectangle and $\vec{\lambda}$ has total length 2. Here the type I differential removes R two ways, leaving either $(c_x, M\vec{e}_j + N\vec{e}_k, ((M), (N)))$ (and the corresponding term for c_y , which do not contribute to δT by (4)), or $(c_x, (M+N) \vec{e}_i)$, (M, N) (and the corresponding term for c_y , which do not contribute by (5)). All type III and type IV terms do not contribute by (3). Since *R* cannot possibly contain an annulus, there are no further terms so $\delta T(R, \vec{N}, \vec{\lambda}) = 0$. • $(c_x, \vec{N}, \vec{\lambda})$ where c_x is a constant domain and $\vec{\lambda}$ has total length 3. None of these terms contribute to δT by (4) and (5).

Hence T is a cocycle, so it remains to show T is zero on every generator of *H*₂(CDP_{*}) listed in the proof of [Theorem 1.4.](#page-3-1) By definition, we have that every $T(c_x, \vec{e}_j + \vec{e}_k, ((1), (1))) = 0$. Also, $T(U, 0, 0) = 0$ by [Lemma 3.2,](#page-13-0) so $T(U') = 0$ by condition (3), since these are the only types of triples added to $(U, 0, 0)$. Therefore *T* must be the zero cocycle by [Theorem 1.4,](#page-3-1) so $T = \delta s$ for some *s*. The values s_j uniquely determine the H^1 (CDP_{*}) class of *s* by [Theorem 1.4,](#page-3-1) so at that point *s* is unique up to gauge equivalence (like sign assignments for CD_*).

There are two types of triples in grading 1— rectangles with no partitions and constant domains with a length 1 partition. By uniqueness, the sign of a rectangle with no partition in CDP^{*} agrees with the sign of that rectangle in CD^* , so it remains to compute the signs of constant domains with a length 1 partition.

Proposition 5.2. *For any constant domain* c_x *and any N* > 0,

$$
s(c_x, N\vec{e}_j, (N)) = Ns_j \pmod{2}.
$$

Proof. We first show that the sign is independent of the generator *x*. Let $R \in \mathcal{D}^+(x, y)$ be a rectangle. By (3) of [Definition 5.1,](#page-23-0) we have

$$
0 = \delta s(R, N\vec{e}_j, (N)) = s(c_x, N\vec{e}_j, (N)) + s(R, 0, 0) + s(R, 0, 0) + s(c_y, N\vec{e}_j, (N))
$$

so that $s(c_x, N\vec{e}_i, (N)) = s(c_y, N\vec{e}_i, (N))$, and given any domain from *x* to *y*, we find a decomposition into rectangles and repeatedly apply this equation. Therefore we can now assume without loss of generality that $x = x^{\text{Id}}$. We will use the uniqueness of *s* up to the values s_j to proceed by induction on *N*. The base case is clear, and by (5) of [Definition 5.1](#page-23-0) we must have that

$$
0 = \delta s(c_x, N\vec{e}_j, (1, N-1))
$$

= $s(c_x, \vec{e}_j, (1)) + s(c_x, (N-1)\vec{e}_j), (N-1)) + s(c_x, N\vec{e}_j, (N))$
= $s_j + (N-1) s_j \pmod{2}$

by the inductive hypothesis, so that $s(c_x, N\vec{e}_i, (N)) = Ns_i \pmod{2}$, which completes the induction. □

Remark 5.3. It would suffice by uniqueness to define a sign assignment on CDP[∗] by defining a sign assignment on CD∗ and extending it by [Proposition 5.2.](#page-25-0) Doing so would give another proof of [Theorem 1.5.](#page-3-0)

Again, now that we have a sign assignment *s*, we can extend CDP_* to $\mathbb Z$ coefficients. As in CD∗, the sign associated to breaking off a rectangle is the sign of the rectangle $s(R)$ given by the sign assignment. We now describe the sign of the other differential terms.

Definition 5.4. Let *s* be a sign assignment for CDP_∗.

• Given an ordered partition λ and the unit enlargement

$$
\lambda'=(\lambda_1,\ldots,\lambda_{k-1},1,\lambda_k,\ldots,\lambda_m),
$$

the sign of the unit enlargement is

$$
s(\lambda, \lambda') = k + 1 \pmod{2}.
$$

• Given an ordered partition λ and the elementary coarsening

$$
\lambda'=(\lambda_1,\ldots,\lambda_{k-1},\lambda_k+\lambda_{k+1},\lambda_{k+2},\ldots,\lambda_m),
$$

the sign of the elementary coarsening is

$$
s(\lambda, \lambda') = k \pmod{2}.
$$

• Given an ordered partition $\lambda = (\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_m)$ and its initial reduction λ' , the sign of the reduction is given by

$$
s(\lambda, \lambda') = \lambda_1 s_j \pmod{2}.
$$

The sign of its final reduction is given by the same expression, with λ_m replacing λ_1 .

Definition 5.5. The complex of positive domains that have the partitions $CDP_* =$ $CDP_*(\mathbb{G}; \mathbb{Z})$ is freely generated by triples of the form *D*, \vec{N} , $\vec{\lambda}$, where:

- $D \in \mathcal{D}^+(x, y)$ is a positive domain.
- $\vec{N} \in \mathbb{N}^n$ is an *n*-tuple of nonnegative integers, $\vec{N} = (N_1, \dots, N_n)$.

• $\vec{\lambda} = (\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n)$ is an *n*-tuple of ordered partitions, where $\lambda_j = (\lambda_{j,1}, \dots, \lambda_{j,m_j})$ is an ordered partition of *N^j* .

The grading of $(D, \vec{N}, \vec{\lambda})$ is given by the Maslov index of *D* plus the sum of the lengths of the λ_j (which is referred to as the total length of $\vec{\lambda}$). The differential is given by four terms, $\partial = \partial_1 + \partial_2 + \partial_3 + \partial_4$, where

$$
\partial_1(D, \vec{N}, \vec{\lambda}) = \sum_{R*E=D} (-1)^{s(R)} (E, \vec{N}, \vec{\lambda}) + (-1)^{\mu(D)} \sum_{E*R=D} (-1)^{s(R)} (E, \vec{N}, \vec{\lambda}),
$$

\n
$$
\partial_2(D, \vec{N}, \vec{\lambda}) = (-1)^{\mu(D)} \sum_{j=1}^n (-1)^{l(\lambda_1) + \dots + l(\lambda_{j-1})} \sum_{D=E*H_j \text{ (horizontal)}} (-1)^{1+s(\lambda_j, \lambda'_j)}
$$

\n
$$
\sum_{\substack{\lambda'_j \in \text{UE}(\lambda_j)}} (E, \vec{N} + \vec{e}_j, \vec{\lambda}')
$$

\n
$$
+ (-1)^{\mu(D)} \sum_{j=1}^n (-1)^{l(\lambda_1) + \dots + l(\lambda_{j-1})} \sum_{D=E*V_j \text{ (vertical)}} (-1)^{s(\lambda_j, \lambda'_j)}
$$

\n
$$
\partial_3(D, \vec{N}, \vec{\lambda}) = (-1)^{\mu(D)} \sum_{j=1}^n (-1)^{l(\lambda_1) + \dots + l(\lambda_{j-1})} \sum_{\substack{\lambda'_j \in \text{UE}(\lambda_j)}} (-1)^{s(\lambda_j, \lambda'_j)} (D, \vec{N}, \vec{\lambda}'),
$$

\n
$$
\partial_4(D, \vec{N}, \vec{\lambda}) = (-1)^{\mu(D)} \sum_{j=1}^n (-1)^{l(\lambda_1) + \dots + l(\lambda_{j-1})} \sum_{\substack{\lambda'_j \in \text{EE}(\lambda_j)}} (-1)^{s(\lambda_j, \lambda'_j)} (D, \vec{N} - \lambda_{j, 1} \vec{e}_j, \vec{\lambda}')
$$

\n
$$
+ (-1)^{\mu(D)} \sum_{j=1}^n (-1)^{l(\lambda_1) + \dots + l(\lambda_j)} \sum_{\substack{\lambda'_j \in \text{IR}(\lambda_j)}} (-1)^{s(\lambda_j, \lambda'_j)} (D, \vec{N} - \lambda_{j, m_j} \vec{e}_j, \vec{\lambda}').
$$

Remark 5.6. In the case that all $s_j = 0$, these signs agree with the signs of [\[Manolescu and Sarkar 2021,](#page-28-7) Definitions 4.1–4.3], with the exception of the type II differential.

Lemma 5.7. (CDP $_{*}$, ∂) *is a chain complex.*

Proof. The proof is similar to that of [\[Manolescu and Sarkar 2021,](#page-28-7) Lemma 4.4], which is the same case analysis of [Lemma 4.3,](#page-17-0) except where we keep track of signs. In the case of

$$
(\partial_4)^2 + \partial_3 \partial_4 + \partial_4 \partial_3 = 0,
$$

we still have all but two cases canceling in pairs by reversing the order of the two operations. These two cases are:

• Two initial reductions and an elementary coarsening at the beginning, followed by an initial reduction. The former has sign

$$
\lambda_1 s_j + \lambda_2 s_j \pmod{2}
$$

and the latter has sign

$$
1+(\lambda_1+\lambda_2) s_j \pmod{2},
$$

which is the opposite sign.

• Two final reductions and an elementary coarsening at the end, followed by a final reduction. Note that final reductions have an extra sign of $l(\lambda_i)$ compared to initial reductions, so that including this extra sign, the former has sign

$$
l(\lambda_j) + (l(\lambda_j) - 1) + \lambda_m s_j + \lambda_{m-1} s_j \pmod{2}
$$

and the latter has sign

 $(l(\lambda_i) - 1) + (l(\lambda_i) - 1) + (\lambda_{m-1} + \lambda_m) s_i \pmod{2}$

which is the opposite sign.

Finally, although we still have $\partial_2\partial_4 + \partial_4\partial_2 = 0$, the change to the sign of the type II differential gives a new set of cancellations

$$
\partial_1^2 + \partial_2 \partial_4 + \partial_4 \partial_2 = 0.
$$

For this case, suppose $D = A * E = E * A$ is the domain where $A = R * S$ is an annulus.

• If *A* is a vertical annulus V_j , then $s(R) + s(S) = 1$, so that removing *R* then *S* from the front has sign 1, while the type II differential that produces a unit enlargement at the front of λ_j followed by the initial reduction of λ_j has sign 0. Also, removing S then R from the back has sign 0 (since the Maslov index of the domain decreases once), while the type II differential that produces a unit enlargement at the end of λ_j followed by the final reduction of λ_j has sign $l(\lambda_j) + 1 + l(\lambda_j) = 1 \pmod{2}$.

• If *A* is a horizontal annulus H_j , then $s(R) + s(S) = 0$, so that removing *R* then *S* from the front has sign 0, while the type II differential that produces a unit enlargement at the front of λ_j followed by the initial reduction of λ_j has sign 1. Also, removing *S* then *R* from the back has sign 1 (since the Maslov index of the domain decreases once), while the type II differential that produces a unit enlargement at the end of λ_i followed by the final reduction of λ_i has sign $l(\lambda_j) + l(\lambda_j) = 0 \pmod{2}$.

The analogue of [Proposition 4.4](#page-18-0) also holds over \mathbb{Z} .

Proposition 5.8. *There is a filtration on* CDP∗ *such that the associated graded has homology* Z 2 *n* ⊗ Z[*U*]*. In particular*, *H^k* (CDP∗) *has rank at most*

$$
\sum_{l=0}^{\lfloor k/2\rfloor}\binom{n}{k-2l}.
$$

Proof. The proof is identical to the proof of [Proposition 4.4.](#page-18-0) \Box

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