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Realizing postcritical combinatorics

We say that $X \subset \mathbb{P}^1$ is a *postcritical configuration* if there is a rigid postcritically finite map f with $P_f = X$. In this talk, we determine exactly which subsets $X \subset \mathbb{P}^1$ are postcritical configurations, and we investigate the extent to which the combinatorics of the map $f : P_f \rightarrow P_f$ can be specified for $X = P_f$. This talk is based on joint work with L. DeMarco and C. McMullen.