

# EULERIAN REPRESENTATIONS FOR COINCIDENTAL REFLECTION GROUPS

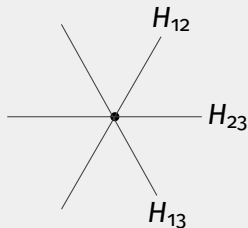
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BASED ON arXiv:2005.05953

**UMN COMBINATORICS SEMINAR**

OCTOBER 9, 2020



## Big Idea:

Generalize a beautiful Type A story connecting combinatorics, representation theory and topology to a broader class of reflection groups

## Outline:

- 1 Motivating Story: Type A
- 2 Coincidental reflection groups
- 3 Eulerian idempotents
- 4 The Varchenko-Gelfand ring
- 5 Main Results

# **MOTIVATING STORY: TYPE A**

# DESCENTS

The story of the Eulerian idempotents begins with descents...

For  $w = (w_1, \dots, w_n) \in S_n$ , the **descent set** of  $w$  is

$$\text{Des}(w) := \{i \in [n-1] : w_i > w_{i+1}\}$$

The **descent number** of  $w$  is  $\text{des}(w) := \#\text{Des}(w)$ .

**Example:** If  $w = (1, \mathbf{4}, 2, \mathbf{5}, 3)$ , then  $\text{Des}(w) = \{\mathbf{2}, \mathbf{4}\}$  and  $\text{des}(w) = 2$ .

Equivalently, in the language of Coxeter groups:

$$\text{Des}(w) := \left\{ \underbrace{s_i}_{\substack{\text{transposition} \\ (i, i+1)}} \in \underbrace{S}_{\substack{\text{Coxeter} \\ \text{generators}}} : \underbrace{\ell(ws_i)}_{\substack{\text{Coxeter} \\ \text{length}}} < \underbrace{\ell(w)}_{\substack{\text{Coxeter} \\ \text{length}}} \right\}.$$

**Remark:** **Des** and **des** can be defined for any Coxeter group.

# SOLOMON'S DESCENT ALGEBRA

Let  $\mathbb{R} S_n$  be the group algebra of  $S_n$  and  $w = (w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n) \in S_n$ .

**Surprising fact:** (Solomon, 1976)

There is a *subalgebra* of  $\mathbb{R} S_n$  generated by sums of elements with the same descent set:

$$\mathcal{D}(S_n) := \left\langle Y_T := \sum_{\substack{w \in S_n \\ \text{Des}(w) = T}} c_T w : c_T \in \mathbb{R}, T \subset [n-1] \right\rangle$$

called **Solomon's descent algebra**.

**Example:** When  $n = 3$ , the descent algebra  $\mathcal{D}(S_3)$  has basis:

$$Y_\emptyset = (1, 2, 3)$$

$$Y_1 = (2, 1, 3) + (3, 1, 2)$$

$$Y_2 = (1, 3, 2) + (2, 3, 1)$$

$$Y_{1,2} = (3, 2, 1).$$

# EULERIAN IDEMPOTENTS, DEFINITION 1

**Theorem** (Garsia-Reutenauer, 1989).

There is a family of idempotents in  $\mathbb{R} S_n$  defined by

$$\sum_{k=0}^{n-1} t^{k+1} \epsilon_k = \sum_{w \in S_n} \binom{t-1+n-\text{des}(w)}{n} w.$$

Call this family the **Eulerian idempotents**.

**Remark:**

By construction, the  $\epsilon_k$  are in the Descent algebra  $\mathcal{D}(S_n)$

In fact, the  $\epsilon_k$  generate a commutative subalgebra of  $\mathcal{D}(S_n)$  spanned by sums of elements with the same **descent number**

This subalgebra is known as the **Eulerian subalgebra**.

# IDEMPOTENTS FOR $n = 3$

**Example:** When  $n = 3$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}\epsilon_0 &= \frac{1}{6}((1, 2, 3) - (2, 1, 3) - (3, 1, 2) - (1, 3, 2) - (2, 3, 1) + 2(3, 2, 1)) \\ &= \frac{1}{6}(Y_\emptyset - Y_1 - Y_2 + 2Y_{1,2})\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\epsilon_1 &= \frac{1}{2}((1, 2, 3) - (3, 2, 1)) \\ &= \frac{1}{2}(Y_\emptyset - Y_{1,2})\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\epsilon_2 &= \frac{1}{6}((1, 2, 3) + (2, 1, 3) + (3, 1, 2) + (1, 3, 2) + (2, 3, 1) + (3, 2, 1)) \\ &= \frac{1}{6}(Y_\emptyset + Y_1 + Y_2 + Y_{1,2})\end{aligned}$$

# EULERIAN IDEMPOTENTS, DEFINITION 2

**Definition** (Barr, 1968).

The **Shuffle (Barr) element** in  $\mathbb{R} S_n$  is

$$\mathcal{S} := \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \sum_{\substack{w \in S_n: \\ \text{Des}(w) \subset \{i\}}} w \in \mathcal{D}(S_n) \subset \mathbb{R} S_n.$$

**Example:** When  $n = 3$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{S} &= \underbrace{(\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{2}, \mathbf{3}) + (\mathbf{2}, \mathbf{1}, \mathbf{3}) + (\mathbf{3}, \mathbf{1}, \mathbf{2})}_{\text{Des}(w) \subset \{1\}} + \underbrace{(\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{2}, \mathbf{3}) + (\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{3}, \mathbf{2}) + (\mathbf{2}, \mathbf{3}, \mathbf{1})}_{\text{Des}(w) \subset \{2\}} \\ &= 2(1, 2, 3) + (2, 1, 3) + (3, 1, 2) + (1, 3, 2) + (2, 3, 1). \end{aligned}$$



## EULERIAN IDEMPOTENTS, DEFINITION 2

**Theorem** (Gerstenhaber-Schack, 1987).

$\mathcal{S}$  acts **semisimply** on  $\mathbb{R} S_n$

$\mathcal{S}$  has **eigenvalues**  $\sigma_k := 2^{k+1} - 2$  for  $0 \leq k \leq n - 1$ .

**Corollary.**

By Lagrange interpolation, the **idempotent** projecting onto the  $\sigma_k$ -th eigenspace of  $\mathcal{S}$  is

$$e_k := \prod_{j \neq k} \frac{\mathcal{S} - \sigma_j}{\sigma_k - \sigma_j}.$$

**Theorem** (Loday, 1989).

These idempotents are precisely the Eulerian idempotents

## EULERIAN IDEMPOTENTS FOR $n = 3$

**Example:** When  $n = 3$ , the Barr element  $\mathcal{S}$  has eigenvalues 0, 2, 6:

$$\begin{aligned}\epsilon_0 &= \frac{(\mathcal{S} - 2)(\mathcal{S} - 6)}{(0 - 2)(0 - 6)} && \sigma_0 = 0\text{-eigenspace projector} \\ &= \frac{1}{6}((1, 2, 3) - (2, 1, 3) - (3, 1, 2) - (1, 3, 2) - (2, 3, 1) + 2(3, 2, 1))\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\epsilon_1 &= \frac{(\mathcal{S} - 0)(\mathcal{S} - 6)}{(2 - 0)(2 - 6)} && \sigma_1 = 2\text{-eigenspace projector} \\ &= \frac{1}{2}((1, 2, 3) - (3, 2, 1))\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\epsilon_2 &= \frac{(\mathcal{S} - 0)(\mathcal{S} - 2)}{(6 - 0)(6 - 2)} && \sigma_2 = 6\text{-eigenspace projector} \\ &= \frac{1}{6}((1, 2, 3) + (2, 1, 3) + (3, 1, 2) + (1, 3, 2) + (2, 3, 1) + (3, 2, 1))\end{aligned}$$

# EULERIAN REPRESENTATIONS

$S_n$  acts on  $\mathbb{R} S_n$  and  $\mathbb{R} S_n e_k$  by left multiplication...


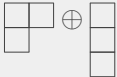

The **Eulerian representations** are defined as the family of representations  $\mathbb{R} S_n e_k$  induced by this action

By construction,  $\mathbb{R} S_n e_k$  is the  $\sigma_k$ -eigenspace of  $\mathcal{S}$

**Example:** When  $n = 3$  for any  $\tau \in S_3$ ,

$$\tau \cdot e_2 = \tau \cdot \frac{1}{6} \sum_{\sigma \in S_3} \sigma = \frac{1}{6} \sum_{\sigma \in S_3} \tau \sigma = \frac{1}{6} \sum_{\sigma' \in S_3} \sigma' = e_2.$$

# EXAMPLE: $n = 3$

$k$	Eulerian representation	Irreducible Decomposition
2	$\mathbb{R} S_3 \mathfrak{e}_2 = \sigma_2$ -eigenspace	
1	$\mathbb{R} S_3 \mathfrak{e}_1 = \sigma_1$ -eigenspace	
0	$\mathbb{R} S_3 \mathfrak{e}_0 = \sigma_0$ -eigenspace	

## Question:

Where do these representations naturally appear?

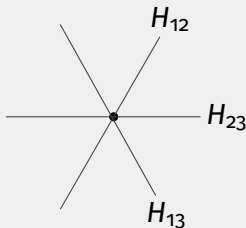
The answer is closely related to the **braid arrangement**,

$$\mathcal{A}_{S_n} := \{H_{ij} : 1 \leq i < j \leq n\}$$

where

$$H_{ij} := \{(x_1, \dots, x_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n : x_i = x_j\}.$$

**Example.** When  $n = 3$ , the essentialized braid arrangement  $\mathcal{A}_{S_3}$  is



# COMPLEMENT OF THE BRAID ARRANGEMENT

The braid arrangement has **complement**

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{M}(\mathcal{A}_{S_n}) &:= \mathbb{R}^n \setminus \mathcal{A} = \{(x_1, \dots, x_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n : x_i \neq x_j \text{ for } i, j \in [n]\} \\ &= \text{the } n\text{-th ordered configuration space of } \mathbb{R} \\ &= \text{Conf}_n(\mathbb{R}).\end{aligned}$$

We are interested in the  **$d$ -thickened complement**

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{M}^d(\mathcal{A}_{S_n}) &:= \mathcal{M}(\mathcal{A}) \otimes \mathbb{R}^d = \mathbb{R}^{dn} \setminus \left( \bigcup_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} H_{ij} \otimes \mathbb{R}^d \right) \\ &= \{(x_1, \dots, x_n) \in \mathbb{R}^{dn} : x_i \neq x_j \text{ for } i, j \in [n]\} \\ &= \text{the } n\text{-th ordered configuration space of } \mathbb{R}^d \\ &= \text{Conf}_n(\mathbb{R}^d).\end{aligned}$$

**Example:** When  $d = 2$ , this is equivalent to the complement of the complexified arrangement  $\mathcal{M}(\mathcal{A}) \otimes \mathbb{C}$

# COHOMOLOGY PRESENTATION

A natural question:

what is  $H^*(\text{Conf}_n(\mathbb{R}^d), \mathbb{R})$ ?

**Theorem** (Arnol'd (1969):  $d = 2$ , F. Cohen (1976):  $d \geq 2$ ).

The ring  $H^* \text{Conf}_n(\mathbb{R}^d)$  has presentation

$$\mathbb{R}\langle e_{ij} : 1 \leq i \neq j \leq n \rangle / \mathcal{J}$$

where each  $e_{ij}$  is in degree  $d - 1$  and  $\mathcal{J}$  is generated by

1.  $e_{ij}^2$
  2.  $e_{ij} = (-1)^d e_{ji}$
  3.  $e_{ij}e_{j\ell} + e_{j\ell}e_{\ell i} + e_{\ell i}e_{ij}$
- for any  $1 \leq i \neq j \neq \ell \leq n$ .

This implies that  $H^* \text{Conf}_n(\mathbb{R}^d)$  is

concentrated in degrees  $k(d - 1)$  for  $0 \leq k \leq n - 1$

**commutative** when  $d$  is **odd**

**anti-commutative** when  $d$  is **even**

# REPRESENTATIONS?

The symmetric group  $S_n$  acts on

$$\text{Conf}_n(\mathbb{R}^d) = \{(x_1, \dots, x_n) \in \mathbb{R}^{dn} : x_i \neq x_j \text{ for } i, j \in [n]\},$$

making  $H^* \text{Conf}_n(\mathbb{R}^d)$  into an  $S_n$ -module...

**Known fact:** When  $d$  is **odd**,

$$H^* \text{Conf}_n(\mathbb{R}^d) \cong_{S_n} \mathbb{R} S_n.$$

A more refined question:

What representation does  $H^{k(d-1)} \text{Conf}_n(\mathbb{R}^d)$  carry for **each**  $k$ ?

**Example:**  $H^0 \text{Conf}_n(\mathbb{R}^d)$  is always the trivial representation.



## Key connection:

When  $d \geq 3$  is **odd**, for  $0 \leq k \leq n - 1$ ,

$$H^{k(d-1)} \text{Conf}_n(\mathbb{R}^d) \cong_{S_n} \mathbb{R} S_n e_{n-1-k}.$$

## How do we know?

**1990** Hanlon computes the **characters** of  $\mathbb{R} S_n e_{n-1-k}$

**1997** Sundaram-Welker prove an **equivariant** formulation of the Goresky-MacPherson formula relating


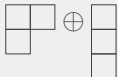

cohomology of a  
subspace arrangement  $\longleftrightarrow$  homology of its  
intersection lattice

As a **special case**:

they compute the characters of  $H^{k(d-1)} \text{Conf}_n(\mathbb{R}^d)$

# EXAMPLE: $n = 3$

**Example:** When  $n = 3$  and  $d$  is odd,

Eulerian representation	Configuration space cohomology	Irreducible decomposition
$\mathbb{R} S_3 \mathbf{e}_2 = \sigma_2$ -eigenspace	$H^0 \text{Conf}_3(\mathbb{R}^d)$ $= \mathbb{R}\{1\}$	
$\mathbb{R} S_3 \mathbf{e}_1 = \sigma_1$ -eigenspace	$H^{1(d-1)} \text{Conf}_3(\mathbb{R}^d)$ $= \mathbb{R}\{\mathbf{e}_{12}, \mathbf{e}_{23}, \mathbf{e}_{13}\} / \mathcal{J}_1$	
$\mathbb{R} S_3 \mathbf{e}_0 = \sigma_0$ -eigenspace	$H^{2(d-1)} \text{Conf}_3(\mathbb{R}^d)$ $= \mathbb{R}\{\mathbf{e}_{12}\mathbf{e}_{23}, \mathbf{e}_{12}\mathbf{e}_{13}\} / \mathcal{J}_2$	

# TYPE A SUMMARY

**Summary:** For  $0 \leq k \leq n - 1$ , the following are equivalent as  $S_n$ -representations:

1.  $H^{k(d-1)} \text{Conf}_n(\mathbb{R}^d)$  for odd  $d \geq 3$ ;
2. The  $k$ -th graded piece of Cohen's algebra for odd  $d \geq 3$ :

$$\mathbb{R}\langle e_{ij} : 1 \leq i < j \leq n \rangle / \mathcal{J}$$

3. The  $\sigma_{n-1-k} = \{2^{n-k} - 2\}$ -eigenspace of the Barr's shuffle element  $\mathcal{S} \in \mathbb{R} S_n$ ;
4. The representation  $\mathbb{R} S_n \epsilon_{n-1-k}$ , where  $\epsilon_{n-1-k}$  is defined by

$$\sum_{k=0}^{n-1} t^{k+1} \epsilon_k = \sum_{w \in S_n} \binom{t-1+n-\text{des}(w)}{n} w.$$

## Goal:

Generalize this statement to **coincidental reflection groups**, i.e. reflection groups whose exponents form an arithmetic progression

# COINCIDENTAL ANALOG

Recall the rising factorial  $(t)_k := (t)(t+1) \dots (t+k-1)$  and let

$$\beta_{W,k}(t) := \frac{\left(\frac{t+g-1}{g} - k\right)_k \cdot \left(\frac{t+1}{g}\right)_{r-k}}{\left(\frac{2}{g}\right)_r}.$$

**Theorem** (B—, 2020).

Let  $W$  be a real **coincidental reflection group** of rank  $r$ . For  $0 \leq k \leq r$ , the following are equivalent as  $W$ -representations:

1.  $H^{k(d-1)} \mathcal{M}^d(\mathcal{A}_W)$  for odd  $d \geq 3$
2.  $\mathcal{V}^k(\mathcal{A}_W)$ , the  $k$ -th graded piece of the **associated graded Varchenko-Gelfand ring**
3. The  $\sigma_{r-k}$ -th eigenspace of the **shuffle element**  $\mathcal{S}(W) \in \mathbb{R} W$
4. The representation  $\mathbb{R} W \epsilon_{r-k}$  where  $\epsilon_{r-k}$  is defined by

$$\sum_{k=0}^r t^k \epsilon_k = \sum_{w \in W} \beta_{W, \text{des}(w)}(t) \cdot w.$$

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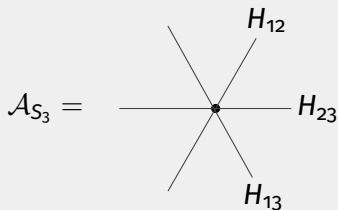
# COINCIDENTAL REFLECTION GROUPS

# REFLECTION ARRANGEMENTS

Every Coxeter group has a **reflection arrangement**  $\mathcal{A}_W$  where

reflections  $s \in W \longleftrightarrow$  hyperplanes  $H_s \in \mathcal{A}_W$ .

**Example:** The symmetric group  $S_3$  acts on



The transposition  $(ij) \in S_n$  reflects over the hyperplane  $H_{ij}$

# EXPONENTS

Every Coxeter group  $W$  of rank  $r$  has a unique set of integers

$$e_1 = 1 \leq e_2 \leq \cdots \leq e_r$$

called the **exponents** of  $W$ , which satisfy many **product formulas**:

Statistic	$S_n = A_{n-1}$	$W$
exponents	$1, 2, \dots, n-1$	$e_1, e_2, \dots, e_r$
$\#W$	$n! = 2 \cdot 3 \cdots n$	$\prod_{i=1}^r (1 + e_i)$
$\sum_{w \in W} q^{\ell(w)}$	$[n]_q! = [2]_q \cdot [3]_q \cdots [n]_q$	$\prod_{i=1}^r \frac{q^{1+e_i} - 1}{q - 1}$
$\sum_{w \in W} q^{\dim(V^w)}$	$(q+1)(q+2) \cdots (q+n-1)$	$\prod_{i=1}^r (q + e_i)$
$\sum_{X \in \mathcal{L}(A_W)} \mu(V, X) q^{\dim(X)}$	$(q-1)(q-2) \cdots (q-n+1)$	$\prod_{i=1}^r (q - e_i)$



# COINCIDENTAL REFLECTION GROUPS

$W$  has exponents  $e_1, e_2, \dots, e_r$ .

## Definition

A reflection group is **coincidental** if its exponents form an arithmetic progression:

$$1, 1 + g, 1 + 2g, \dots, 1 + (r - 1)g.$$

for some integer  $g$ .

The *real* coincidental reflection groups are:

$W$	$r :=$ rank	exponents	$g :=$ progression
$S_n$	$n - 1$	$1, 2, 3, \dots, n - 1$	1
$B_n$	$n$	$1, 3, 5, \dots, 2n - 1$	2
$H_3$	3	1, 5, 9	4
$I_2(m)$	2	$1, m - 1$	$m - 2$

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# EULERIAN IDEMPOTENTS

# EULERIAN IDEMPOTENTS

Recall that  $e_k \in \mathbb{R} S_n$  were defined in two ways:

1. As the **idempotent projectors** onto the eigenspaces of the shuffle element  $\mathcal{S}$ , and
2. Via the **generating function**

$$\sum_{k=0}^{n-1} t^{k+1} e_k = \sum_{w \in S_n} \binom{t-1+n-\text{des}(w)}{n} w.$$

The Eulerian idempotents have been extensively studied and generalized since then!

# GENERALIZING THE EULERIAN IDEMPOTENTS

**1992:** Bergeron-Bergeron define a **Type B analog**:

$$\sum_{k=0}^n t^k \epsilon_k = \sum_{w \in B_n} \binom{\frac{t-1}{2} + n - \text{des}(w)}{n} w.$$

**1992:** Bergeron-Bergeron-Howlett-Taylor define a finer family of **idempotents in  $\mathcal{D}(W)$**  for any reflection group  $W$

*The idempotents are indexed by descent sets; summing over idempotents with the same descent size recovers the  $\epsilon_k$*

**2009:** Saliola constructs for any central arrangement  $\mathcal{A}$ , a family of **idempotents  $\epsilon_X$  for each flat  $X \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A})$**

*In the case that  $\mathcal{A}$  is a reflection arrangement, the  $\epsilon_X$  can be realized in  $\mathbb{R}W$*

**2017:** Aguiar-Mahajan further develop the theory of  $\epsilon_X$ , particularly for **coincidental reflection groups**

## Upshot:

For any reflection group, these definitions all recover the same family of idempotents  $\epsilon_k \in \mathbb{R} W$  for  $0 \leq k \leq r \dots$

Call this family the **Eulerian idempotents**.

# A GENERALIZED SHUFFLE ELEMENT

Recall how Barr's shuffle element was defined:

$$S := \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \sum_{\substack{w \in S_n: \\ \text{Des}(w) \subset \{i\}}} w \in \mathcal{D}(S_n) \subset \mathbb{R} S_n.$$

**Definition** (Barr, 2020). For any reflection group  $W$  with generators  $s_1, \dots, s_r$ , the **shuffle element**  $S(W)$  is defined by

$$S(W) := \sum_{i=1}^r \sum_{\substack{w \in W: \\ \text{Des}(w) \subset \{s_i\}}} w \in \mathcal{D}(W) \subset \mathbb{R} W.$$

**Example:** In  $B_2$  with Coxeter generators  $s$  and  $t$ ,

$$S(B_2) = \underbrace{1 + s + ts + sts}_{\text{Des}(w) \subset \{s\}} + \underbrace{1 + t + st + tst}_{\text{Des}(w) \subset \{t\}}$$

# A GENERALIZED SHUFFLE ELEMENT

**Proposition** (B—, 2020).

$S(W)$  acts semisimply on  $\mathbb{R}W$  for any reflection group  $W$ .

When  $W$  is **coincidental**,

$S(W)$  has  $r + 1$  distinct, non-negative, integer eigenvalues  $\sigma_0 < \sigma_1 < \dots < \sigma_r$  and,

the projector onto the  $\sigma_k$ -th eigenspace of  $S(W)$  recovers the **Eulerian idempotents**.

This allows us to generalize the Eulerian subalgebra:

**Theorem** (B—, 2020).

There is an **Eulerian subalgebra** of  $\mathcal{D}(W)$  generated by sums of elements with the same **descent number**  
*if and only if*  $W$  is coincidental.

This subalgebra is always commutative.



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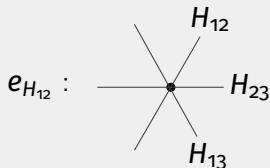
# THE VARCHENKO-GELFAND RING

# HEAVISIDE FUNCTIONS

Varchenko and Gelfand define **Heaviside functions** on  $\mathcal{M}(\mathcal{A})$  by

$$e_{H_i}(v) = \begin{cases} 1 & v \in H_i^+ \\ 0 & v \in H_i^- \end{cases}$$

**Example:** In Type A, when  $n = 3$ :



Multiplication is point-wise:

$$e_{H_{12}} : \begin{array}{c} H_{12} \\ \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ \bullet \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ H_{23} \\ \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ H_{13} \end{array} \cdot e_{H_{13}} : \begin{array}{c} H_{12} \\ \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ \bullet \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ H_{23} \\ \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ H_{13} \end{array} = e_{H_{12}} e_{H_{13}} : \begin{array}{c} H_{12} \\ \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ \bullet \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ H_{23} \\ \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ H_{13} \end{array}$$

# THE VARCHENKO-GELFAND RING

**Definition/Theorem** (Varchenko-Gelfand, 1987).

The **associated graded Varchenko-Gelfand ring**  $\mathcal{V}(\mathcal{A})$  has presentation

$$\mathbb{R}[e_{H_i} : H_i \in \mathcal{A}] / \mathcal{J}$$

where  $\mathcal{J}$  is generated by:

1. **Idempotent relation:**  $e_{H_i}^2$  for each  $H_i \in \mathcal{A}$ ;
2. **Circuit relation:** For every circuit (e.g. minimal linear dependency)  $C = (H_1, H_2, \dots, H_m)$  in  $\mathcal{A}$  such that  $C = C^+ \sqcup C^-$ ,

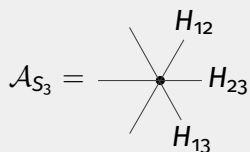
$$\sum_{i=1}^m c(i) e_{H_1} \cdots \widehat{e_{H_i}} \cdots e_{H_m}$$

where

$$c(i) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } H_i \in C^-, \\ -1 & \text{if } H_i \in C^+. \end{cases}$$

## EXAMPLE

**Example:** In Type A, when  $n = 3$ :



There is one circuit:  $C = \{H_{12}, H_{23}, H_{13}\}$ , which can be partitioned uniquely into  $C^+ = H_{12}, H_{23}$  and  $C^- = H_{13}$  so that

$$H_{12}^+ \cap H_{23}^+ \cap H_{13}^- = \emptyset.$$

Hence

$$\mathcal{V}(\mathcal{A}_{S_3}) = \mathbb{R}[e_{H_{12}}, e_{H_{23}}, e_{H_{13}}] / \left\langle e_{H_{12}}^2, e_{H_{23}}^2, e_{H_{13}}^2, e_{H_{12}} e_{H_{23}} - e_{H_{12}} e_{H_{13}} - e_{H_{23}} e_{H_{13}} \right\rangle$$

**Note:** This matches Cohen's presentation of  $H^* \text{Conf}_3(\mathbb{R}^d)$ ,  $d$  odd

# HYPERPLANE COMPLEMENTS

## Claim:

$\mathcal{V}(\mathcal{A}_W)$  generalizes  $H^* \text{Conf}_n(\mathbb{R}^d)$  for odd  $d \geq 3$ ...

## Recall:

$$\text{Conf}_n(\mathbb{R}^d) = \mathbb{R}^{dn} \setminus \left( \bigcup_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} H_{ij} \otimes \mathbb{R}^d \right)$$

## Definition:

For any central hyperplane arrangement  $\mathcal{A}$  of rank  $r$ ,

$$\mathcal{M}^d(\mathcal{A}) := \mathbb{R}^{rd} \setminus \left( \bigcup_{H_i \in \mathcal{A}} H_i \otimes \mathbb{R}^d \right)$$

As in Type A, consider  $H^* \mathcal{M}^d(\mathcal{A})$ .

# THE COHOMOLOGY OF $\mathcal{M}^d(\mathcal{A})$

The cohomology of  $\mathcal{M}^d(\mathcal{A}_W)$  depends on the **parity** of **d**!

## Even case:

**Theorem** (Orlik-Solomon, 1980). When  $d \geq 2$  is **even**, there is a  $W$ -equivariant ring isomorphism

$$H^* \mathcal{M}^d(\mathcal{A}_W) \cong_W \mathcal{OS}(\mathcal{A}_W),$$

where  $\mathcal{OS}(\mathcal{A}_W)$  is the Orlik-Solomon algebra of  $\mathcal{A}_W$ .

## Odd case:

**Theorem** (Moseley, 2017). When  $d \geq 3$  is **odd**, there is a  $W$ -equivariant ring isomorphism

$$H^* \mathcal{M}^d(\mathcal{A}_W) \cong_W \mathcal{V}(\mathcal{A}_W),$$

where  $\mathcal{V}(\mathcal{A}_W)$  is the associated-graded Varchenko-Gelfand ring of  $\mathcal{A}_W$ .

# A COMPARISON OF THE ODD AND EVEN CASES

	<b>even</b> $d \geq 2$	<b>odd</b> $d \geq 3$
$H^* \mathcal{M}^d(\mathcal{A}_W)$ is isomorphic to...	$\mathcal{OS}(\mathcal{A}_W)$	$\mathcal{V}(\mathcal{A}_W)$
multiplication in $H^* \mathcal{M}^d(\mathcal{A}_W)$	anti-commutative	commutative
presentation of $H^* \mathcal{M}^d(\mathcal{A}_W)$	$\mathbb{R}\langle e_H : H \in \mathcal{A} \rangle /$ idempotent & circuit relations	$\mathbb{R}[e_H : H \in \mathcal{A}] /$ idempotent & circuit relations
<b>Special cases</b>		
Cohen's presentation of $H^* \text{Conf}_n(\mathbb{R}^d)$	$\mathcal{OS}(\mathcal{A}_{S_n})$	$\mathcal{V}(\mathcal{A}_{S_n})$
Xicotencatl's presentation of $H^* \text{Conf}_n^{\mathbb{Z}_2}(\mathbb{R}^d)$	$\mathcal{OS}(\mathcal{A}_{B_n})$	$\mathcal{V}(\mathcal{A}_{B_n})$



# OUTLINE

- 1 Motivating Story: Type A
- 2 Coincidental reflection groups
- 3 Eulerian idempotents
- 4 The Varchenko-Gelfand ring**
- 5 Main Results

# MAIN RESULTS

# MAIN RESULTS

$$\text{Let } \beta_{W,k}(t) := \frac{\binom{t+g-1}{g} - k}{\binom{2}{g}_r} \cdot \binom{t+1}{g}_{r-k}.$$

**Theorem** (B—, 2020).

Let  $W$  be a real **coincidental reflection group** of rank  $r$ . For  $0 \leq k \leq r$ , the following are equivalent as  $W$ -representations:

1.  $H^{k(d-1)} \mathcal{M}^d(\mathcal{A}_W)$  for odd  $d \geq 3$ ,
2.  $\mathcal{V}^k(\mathcal{A}_W)$ , the  $k$ -th graded piece of the **associated graded Varchenko-Gelfand ring**
3. The  $\sigma_{r-k}$ -th eigenspace of the **shuffle element**  $S(W) \in \mathbb{R} W$
4. The representation  $\mathbb{R} W \epsilon_{r-k}$  where  $\epsilon_{r-k}$  is defined by

$$\sum_{k=0}^r t^k \epsilon_k = \sum_{w \in W} \beta_{W, \text{des}(w)}(t) \cdot w.$$

THANK YOU FOR **LISTENING!**

# FUTURE DIRECTIONS

## Complex Reflection Groups:

There are **complex** (non-real) coincidental reflection groups

These are precisely **Shephard groups**, which are the symmetry groups of complex polytopes

**Question:** To what extent does the story of the real Eulerian representations generalize to Shephard groups?

*I would love to discuss any ideas in this direction!*

## Properties of the Eulerian representations

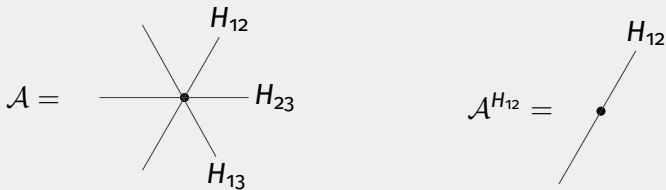
Many representation theoretic properties of  $\epsilon_k$  in Type A are not known in other types!

**Currently:**  $\mathbb{R} S_n \epsilon_k$  has a “hidden”  $S_{n+1}$  action. I am working on generalizing this to type B using configuration spaces

# WHAT MAKES THE COINCIDENTAL GROUPS SPECIAL?

For  $X \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A})$ , the **restriction arrangement**  $\mathcal{A}^X$  is

$$\mathcal{A}^X := \{H \cap X : H \in \mathcal{A}, X \not\subseteq H\}.$$



**Theorem:** (Abramenko, 1994; Aguiar-Mahajan, 2017).

$\mathcal{A}^X$  is a reflection arrangement for every  $X \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A})$   
if and only if

$W$  is a (product of) **coincidental reflection group(s)**

When  $W$  is **coincidental**:  $\mathcal{A}^X \cong \mathcal{A}^Y$  if and only if  $\dim(X) = \dim(Y)$

# RESULTS FOR ANY COXETER GROUP

Let  $[X] \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A})/W$  be the  $W$ -orbit of  $X \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A})$ .

**Theorem** (B-, 2020).

For any finite Coxeter group  $W$  and  $[X] \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A})/W$ ,

$$\underbrace{\mathbb{R} W e_{[X]}}_{\text{idempotent indexed by flat orbits}} \cong_W \underbrace{\mathcal{V}(\mathcal{A})_{[X]}}_{\text{decomposition of } \mathcal{V}(\mathcal{A}) \text{ by flat orbit}}$$

## **Big idea:**

Map  $\mathcal{S}(W)$  into the Tits (face) semigroup algebra of  $\mathcal{A}$

Relate eigenvalues of  $\mathcal{S}(W)$  to restriction arrangements  $\mathcal{A}^X$

Use the fact that when  $W$  is coincidental,  $\mathcal{A}^X$  depends only on the dimension of  $X$



