

Sigma-invariants and tropical varieties

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- 1 FINITENESS PROPERTIES OF ABELIAN COVERS
 - The Bieri–Neumann–Strebel–Renz invariants
 - The Dwyer–Fried invariants
- 2 CHARACTERISTIC VARIETIES AND FINITENESS PROPERTIES
 - Jump loci and exponential tangent cones
 - Resonance varieties
 - Bounding the Σ -invariants
 - A formula and a bound for the Ω -invariants
 - Comparing the Σ - and Ω -bounds
- 3 TROPICAL BOUNDS
 - Tropical geometry
 - Tropicalizing the characteristic varieties
- 4 APPLICATIONS
 - Toric complexes and right-angled Artin groups
 - Hyperplane arrangements
 - Kähler manifolds

THE BIERI-NEUMANN-STREBEL-RENZ INVARIANTS

- Let π be a finitely generated group, $n = b_1(\pi) > 0$. Let $S(\pi)$ be the unit sphere in $\text{Hom}(\pi, \mathbb{R}) = \mathbb{R}^n$.
- The BNSR-invariants of π form a descending chain of open subsets, $S(\pi) \supseteq \Sigma^1(\pi, \mathbb{Z}) \supseteq \Sigma^2(\pi, \mathbb{Z}) \supseteq \dots$.
- $\Sigma^k(\pi, \mathbb{Z})$ consists of all $\chi \in S(\pi)$ for which the monoid $\pi_\chi = \{g \in \pi \mid \chi(g) \geq 0\}$ is of type FP_k , i.e., there is a projective $\mathbb{Z}\pi$ -resolution $P_\bullet \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$, with P_i finitely generated for all $i \leq k$.
- The Σ -invariants control the finiteness properties of normal subgroups $N \triangleleft \pi$ for which π/N is free abelian:

$$N \text{ is of type } \text{FP}_k \iff S(\pi, N) \subseteq \Sigma^k(\pi, \mathbb{Z})$$

where $S(\pi, N) = \{\chi \in S(\pi) \mid \chi(N) = 0\}$.

- In particular: $\ker(\chi: \pi \rightarrow \mathbb{Z})$ is f.g. $\iff \{\pm\chi\} \subseteq \Sigma^1(\pi, \mathbb{Z})$.

- More generally, let X be a connected CW-complex with finite k -skeleton, for some $k \geq 1$.
- Let $\pi = \pi_1(X, x_0)$. For each $\chi \in \mathcal{S}(X) := \mathcal{S}(\pi)$, set

$$\widehat{\mathbb{Z}\pi}_\chi = \{\lambda \in \mathbb{Z}^\pi \mid \{g \in \text{supp } \lambda \mid \chi(g) < c\} \text{ is finite, } \forall c \in \mathbb{R}\}$$

be the Novikov–Sikorav completion of $\mathbb{Z}\pi$.

- Following Farber, Geoghegan, and Schütz (2010), define

$$\Sigma^q(X, \mathbb{Z}) = \{\chi \in \mathcal{S}(X) \mid H_i(X, \widehat{\mathbb{Z}\pi}_{-\chi}) = 0, \forall i \leq q\}.$$

- (Bieri) If π is FP_k , then $\Sigma^q(\pi, \mathbb{Z}) = \Sigma^q(K(\pi, 1), \mathbb{Z}), \forall q \leq k$.
- The sphere $\mathcal{S}(\pi)$ parametrizes all regular, free abelian covers of X . The Σ -invariants of X keep track of the geometric finiteness properties of these covers.

THE DWYER–FRIED INVARIANTS

- Now fix the rank r of the deck-transformation group.
- Regular \mathbb{Z}^r -covers of X are classified by epimorphisms $\nu: \pi \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}^r$.
- Such covers are parameterized by the Grassmannian $\text{Gr}_r(\mathbb{Q}^n)$, where $n = b_1(X)$, via the correspondence

$$\begin{aligned} \{\text{regular } \mathbb{Z}^r\text{-covers of } X\} &\longleftrightarrow \{r\text{-planes in } H^1(X, \mathbb{Q})\} \\ X^\nu \rightarrow X &\longleftrightarrow P_\nu := \text{im}(\nu^*: \mathbb{Q}^r \rightarrow H^1(X, \mathbb{Q})) \end{aligned}$$

- The *Dwyer–Fried invariants* of X are the subsets

$$\Omega_r^i(X) = \{P_\nu \in \text{Gr}_r(\mathbb{Q}^n) \mid b_j(X^\nu) < \infty \text{ for } j \leq i\}.$$

- For each $r > 0$, we get a descending filtration,

$$\text{Gr}_r(\mathbb{Q}^n) = \Omega_r^0(X) \supseteq \Omega_r^1(X) \supseteq \Omega_r^2(X) \supseteq \cdots$$

CHARACTERISTIC VARIETIES

- Let $\hat{\pi} = \text{Hom}(\pi, \mathbb{C}^*) = H^1(X, \mathbb{C}^*)$ be the character group of $\pi = \pi_1(X)$.
- The *characteristic varieties* of X are the sets

$$\mathcal{V}^i(X) = \{\rho \in \hat{\pi} \mid H_i(X, \mathbb{C}_\rho) \neq 0\}.$$

- If X has finite k -skeleton, then $\mathcal{V}^i(X)$ is a Zariski closed subset of the algebraic group $\hat{\pi}$, for each $i \leq k$.
- Let $X^{\text{ab}} \rightarrow X$ be the maximal abelian cover. View $H_*(X^{\text{ab}}, \mathbb{C})$ as a module over $\mathbb{C}[\pi_{\text{ab}}]$. Then

$$\bigcup_{i \leq j} \mathcal{V}^i(X) = \bigcup_{i \leq j} V(\text{ann}(H_i(X^{\text{ab}}, \mathbb{C}))).$$

- Moreover, $\mathcal{V}^1(X) \cap \hat{\pi}^0 = \{1\} \cup V(\Delta_\pi)$, where Δ_π is the Alexander polynomial of π .

PROPAGATION OF JUMP LOCI

- Bieri–Eckmann (1973): X is a *duality space* of dimension d if $H^i(X, \mathbb{Z}\pi) = 0$ for $i \neq d$, while $H^d(X, \mathbb{Z}\pi) \neq 0$ and torsion-free.
- We say X is an *abelian duality space* of dimension d if $H^i(X, \mathbb{Z}\pi_{ab}) = 0$ for $i \neq d$, while $H^d(X, \mathbb{Z}\pi_{ab}) \neq 0$ and torsion-free.
- Let $B = H^d(X, \mathbb{Z}\pi_{ab})$ be the dualizing $\mathbb{Z}\pi_{ab}$ -module. Given any $\mathbb{Z}\pi_{ab}$ -module A , we have $H^i(X, A) \cong H_{n-i}(X, B \otimes A)$.

THEOREM (DENHAM–S.–YUZVINSKY 2015)

Let X be an abelian duality space of dimension d . If $\rho: \pi_1(X) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^*$ satisfies $H^i(X, \mathbb{C}_\rho) \neq 0$, then $H^j(X, \mathbb{C}_\rho) \neq 0$, for all $i \leq j \leq d$.

Consequently,

- The characteristic varieties propagate, i.e., $\mathcal{V}^1(X) \subseteq \dots \subseteq \mathcal{V}^d(X)$.
- $\dim H^1(X, \mathbb{C}) \geq d - 1$.
- If $d \geq 2$, then $H^i(X, \mathbb{C}) \neq 0$, for all $0 \leq i \leq d$.

EXPONENTIAL TANGENT CONES

- Let $\exp: H^1(X, \mathbb{C}) \rightarrow H^1(X, \mathbb{C}^*)$ be the coefficient homomorphism induced by $\mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^*$, $z \mapsto e^z$.
- Given a Zariski closed subset $W \subset H^1(X, \mathbb{C}^*)$, define the *exponential tangent cone* of W at 1 as

$$\tau_1(W) = \{z \in H^1(X, \mathbb{C}) \mid \exp(\lambda z) \in W, \forall \lambda \in \mathbb{C}\}.$$

- $\tau_1(W)$ is a finite union of rationally defined linear subspaces.
- $\tau_1(W)$ is non-empty iff $1 \in W$.
- For instance, if $T \cong (\mathbb{C}^*)^r$ is an algebraic subtorus, then $\tau_1(T) = T_1(T) \cong \mathbb{C}^r$.
- Set $\tau_1^{\mathbb{k}}(W) = \tau_1(W) \cap H^1(X, \mathbb{k})$, for a subfield $\mathbb{k} \subset \mathbb{C}$.

RESONANCE VARIETIES

- Let $A = H^*(X, \mathbb{C})$. For each $a \in A^1$, we have that $a^2 = 0$. Thus, there is a cochain complex $(A, \cdot a): A^0 \xrightarrow{a} A^1 \xrightarrow{a} A^2 \longrightarrow \dots$.
- The *resonance varieties* of X are the homogeneous algebraic sets

$$\mathcal{R}^i(X) = \{a \in A^1 \mid H^i(A, a) \neq 0\}.$$

THEOREM (LIBGOBER 2002, DIMCA–PAPADIMA–S. 2009)

$$\tau_1(\mathcal{V}^i(X)) \subseteq \text{TC}_1(\mathcal{V}^i(X)) \subseteq \mathcal{R}^i(X).$$

THEOREM (DPS-2009, DP-2014)

Suppose X is a q -formal space. Then, for all $i \leq q$,

$$\tau_1(\mathcal{V}^i(X)) = \text{TC}_1(\mathcal{V}^i(X)) = \mathcal{R}^i(X).$$

BOUNDING THE Σ -INVARIANTS

- Let $\chi \in \mathcal{S}(X)$, and set $\Gamma = \text{im}(\chi)$; then $\Gamma \cong \mathbb{Z}^r$, for some $r \geq 1$.
- A Laurent polynomial $p = \sum_{\gamma} n_{\gamma} \gamma \in \mathbb{Z}\Gamma$ is χ -*monic* if the greatest element in $\chi(\text{supp}(p))$ is 0 , and $n_0 = 1$.
- Let $\mathcal{R}\Gamma_{\chi}$ be the Novikov ring, i.e., the localization of $\mathbb{Z}\Gamma$ at the multiplicative subset of all χ -monic polynomials (it's a PID).
- Let $b_i(X, \chi) = \text{rank}_{\mathcal{R}\Gamma_{\chi}} H_i(X, \mathcal{R}\Gamma_{\chi})$ be the Novikov–Betti numbers.

THEOREM (PAPADIMA–S. 2010)

- $-\chi \in \Sigma^k(X, \mathbb{Z}) \implies b_i(X, \chi) = 0, \forall i \leq k.$
- $\chi \notin \tau_1^{\mathbb{R}}(\bigcup_{q \leq i} \nu^q(X)) \iff b_i(X, \chi) = 0, \forall i \leq k.$

Hence, $\Sigma^i(X, \mathbb{Z}) \subseteq \mathcal{S}(X) \setminus \mathcal{S}(\tau_1^{\mathbb{R}}(\bigcup_{q \leq i} \nu^q(X))).$

Thus, $\Sigma^i(X, \mathbb{Z})$ is contained in the complement of a finite union of rationally defined great subspheres.

A FORMULA AND A BOUND FOR THE Ω -INVARIANTS

THEOREM (Dwyer–Fried 1987, Papadima–S. 2010)

For an epimorphism $\nu: \pi_1(X) \twoheadrightarrow \mathbb{Z}^r$, the following are equivalent:

- The vector space $\bigoplus_{i=0}^k H_i(X^\nu, \mathbb{C})$ is finite-dimensional.
- The algebraic torus $\mathbb{T}_\nu = \text{im}(\hat{\nu}: \widehat{\mathbb{Z}^r} \hookrightarrow \widehat{\pi_1(X)})$ intersects the variety $\mathcal{W}^k(X) = \bigcup_{i \leq k} \mathcal{V}^i(X)$ in only finitely many points.

Note that $\exp(P_\nu \otimes \mathbb{C}) = \mathbb{T}_\nu$. Thus:

COROLLARY

$$\Omega_r^i(X) = \{P \in \text{Gr}_r(H^1(X, \mathbb{Q})) \mid \dim(\exp(P \otimes \mathbb{C}) \cap \mathcal{W}^i(X)) = 0\}$$

COROLLARY

- If $\mathcal{W}^i(X)$ is finite, then $\Omega_r^i(X) = \text{Gr}_r(\mathbb{Q}^n)$, where $n = b_1(X)$.
- If $\mathcal{W}^i(X)$ is infinite, then $\Omega_n^q(X) = \emptyset$, for all $q \geq i$.

- Let V be a homogeneous variety in \mathbb{k}^n . The set $\sigma_r(V) = \{P \in \text{Gr}_r(\mathbb{k}^n) \mid P \cap V \neq \{0\}\}$ is Zariski closed.
- If $L \subset \mathbb{k}^n$ is a linear subspace, $\sigma_r(L)$ is the *special Schubert variety* defined by L . If $\text{codim } L = d$, then $\text{codim } \sigma_r(L) = d - r + 1$.

THEOREM

$$\Omega_r^i(X) \subseteq \text{Gr}_r(H^1(X, \mathbb{Q})) \setminus \sigma_r(\tau_1^{\mathbb{Q}}(\mathcal{W}^i(X)))$$

- Thus, each set $\Omega_r^i(X)$ is contained in the complement of a finite union of special Schubert varieties.
- If $r = 1$, the inclusion always holds as an equality. In general, though, the inclusion is strict.

EXAMPLE

Let $\pi = \langle x_1, x_2, x_3 \mid [x_1^2, x_2], [x_1, x_3], x_1[x_2, x_3]x_1^{-1}[x_2, x_3] \rangle$. Then

$$\mathcal{V}^1(\pi) = \{1\} \cup \{t \in (\mathbb{C}^*)^3 \mid t_1 = -1\}.$$

Thus, $\Omega_2^1(\pi)$ is a single point in $\text{Gr}_2(H^1(G, \mathbb{Q})) = \mathbb{Q}\mathbb{P}^2$, hence *not* open.

COMPARING THE Σ - AND Ω -BOUNDS

THEOREM

Suppose that $\Sigma^i(X, \mathbb{Z}) = S(X) \setminus S(\tau_1^{\mathbb{R}}(\mathcal{W}^i(X)))$.

Then $\Omega_r^i(X) = \text{Gr}_r(H^1(X, \mathbb{Q})) \setminus \sigma_r(\tau_1^{\mathbb{Q}}(\mathcal{W}^i(X)))$, for all $r \geq 1$.

COROLLARY

Suppose there is an integer $r \geq 2$ such that $\Omega_r^i(X)$ is not Zariski open.
Then $\Sigma^i(X, \mathbb{Z}) \neq S(\tau_1^{\mathbb{R}}(\mathcal{W}^i(X)))^c$.

In general, the implication from the theorem cannot be reversed.

EXAMPLE

Let $\pi = \text{BS}(1, 2) = \langle x_1, x_2 \mid x_1 x_2 x_1^{-1} = x_2^2 \rangle$. Then $\mathcal{V}^1(\pi) = \{1, 2\} \subset \mathbb{C}^*$.

Thus, $\Omega_1^1(\pi) = \{\text{pt}\}$, and so $\Omega_1^1(\pi) = \sigma_1(\tau_1^{\mathbb{Q}}(\mathcal{V}^1(\pi)))^c$.

On the other hand, $\Sigma^1(\pi) = \{-1\}$, whereas $S(\tau_1^{\mathbb{Q}}(\mathcal{V}^1(\pi)))^c = \{\pm 1\}$.

TROPICAL GEOMETRY

- Let $\mathbb{K} = \mathbb{C}\{\{t\}\}$ be the field of Puiseux series over \mathbb{C} .
- A non-zero element of \mathbb{K} has the form $c(t) = c_1 t^{a_1} + c_2 t^{a_2} + \dots$, where $c_j \in \mathbb{C}^*$ and $a_1 < a_2 < \dots$ are rational numbers with a common denominator.
- The (algebraically closed) field \mathbb{K} admits a discrete valuation $v: \mathbb{K}^* \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}$, given by $v(c(t)) = a_1$.
- Let $v: (\mathbb{K}^*)^n \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}^n \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ be the n -fold product of the valuation.
- The *tropicalization* of a variety $W \subset (\mathbb{K}^*)^n$, denoted $\text{Trop}(W)$, is the closure of the set $v(W)$ in \mathbb{R}^n .
- This is a rational polyhedral complex in \mathbb{R}^n . For instance, if W is a curve, then $\text{Trop}(W)$ is a graph with rational edge directions.

- If T be an algebraic subtorus of $(\mathbb{K}^*)^n$, then $\text{Trop}(T)$ is the linear subspace $\text{Hom}(\mathbb{K}^*, T) \otimes \mathbb{R} \subset \text{Hom}(\mathbb{K}^*, (\mathbb{K}^*)^n) \otimes \mathbb{R} = \mathbb{R}^n$.
- Moreover, if $z \in (\mathbb{K}^*)^n$, then $\text{Trop}(z \cdot T) = \text{Trop}(T) + v(z)$.
- For a variety $W \subset (\mathbb{C}^*)^n$, we may define its tropicalization by setting $\text{Trop}(W) = \text{Trop}(W \times_{\mathbb{C}} \mathbb{K})$.
- In this case, the tropicalization is a polyhedral fan in \mathbb{R}^n .
- For instance, if $W = V(f)$ is a hypersurface, defined by a Laurent polynomial $f \in \mathbb{C}[t_1^{\pm 1}, \dots, t_n^{\pm 1}]$, then $\text{Trop}(W)$ is the positive codimension- skeleton of the inner normal fan to the Newton polytope of f .

LEMMA

Let $W \subset (\mathbb{C}^*)^n$ be an algebraic variety. Then $\tau_1^{\mathbb{R}}(W) \subseteq \text{Trop}(W)$.

TROPICALIZING THE CHARACTERISTIC VARIETIES

- Let X be a connected CW-complex w/ finite k -skeleton, $n = b_1(X)$.
- For each $q \leq k$, let $\mathcal{W}^q(X) = \bigcup_{i \leq q} \mathcal{V}^i(X) \cap H^1(X, \mathbb{C}^*)^0 \subset (\mathbb{C}^*)^n$.
- Let $\text{Trop}(\mathcal{W}^q(X)) \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ be its tropicalization.

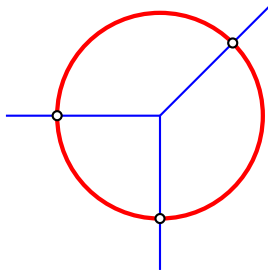
THEOREM

$$\Sigma^q(X, \mathbb{Z}) \subseteq S(X) \setminus S(\text{Trop}(\mathcal{W}^q(X))).$$

COROLLARY

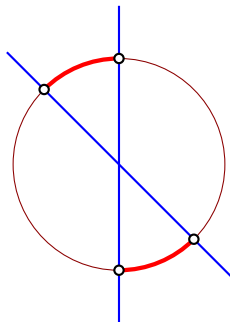
Let π be a finitely generated group, and let Δ_π be its Alexander polynomial. Then:

$$\Sigma^1(\pi) \subseteq S(\pi) \setminus S(\text{Trop}(V(\Delta_\pi))).$$



EXAMPLE

- Let $\pi = \langle a, b \mid a^{-1}b^2ab^{-2} = aba^{-1}b^{-1} \rangle$.
- By Brown's algorithm, $\Sigma^1(\pi, \mathbb{Z}) = S^1 \setminus \{(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}), (0, -1), (-1, 0)\}$.
- On the other hand, $\Delta_\pi = 1 + b - a$.
- Thus, $\Sigma^1(G) = S(\text{Trop}(V(\Delta_\pi)))^c$, although $\tau_1(\mathcal{V}^1(\pi)) = \{0\}$.



EXAMPLE

- Let $\pi = \langle a, b \mid a^2ba^{-1}ba^2ba^{-1}b^{-3}a^{-1}ba^2ba^{-1}bab^{-1}a^{-2}b^{-1}. ab^{-1}a^{-2}b^{-1}ab^3ab^{-1}a^{-2}b^{-1}ab^{-1}a^{-1}b \rangle$ (Dunfield's link group).
- Then $\Delta_\pi = (a - 1)(ab - 1)$, and so $S(\text{Trop}(V(\Delta_\pi)))$ consists of 4 points.
- Yet $\Sigma^1(\pi, \mathbb{Z})$ consists of two open arcs joining those two pairs of points. Thus, the tropical bound is strict in this case.

TORIC COMPLEXES AND RAAGS

- Let L be a d -dimensional simplicial complex on vertex set V with $|V| = n$.
- The *toric complex* T_L is the subcomplex of T^n obtained by deleting the cells corresponding to the missing simplices of L .
- T_L is a connected CW-complex, of dimension $d + 1$. Moreover, T_L is formal.
- $\pi_\Gamma := \pi_1(T_L)$ is the *right-angled Artin group* associated to the graph $\Gamma = L^{(1)}$.
- $K(\pi_\Gamma, 1) = T_{\Delta_\Gamma}$, where Δ_Γ is the flag complex of Γ .
- $H^*(T_L, \mathbb{Z})$ is the exterior Stanley-Reisner ring of L , with generators the duals v^* , and relations the monomials corresponding to the missing simplices of L .

L is *Cohen–Macaulay* if for each simplex $\sigma \in L$, the reduced cohomology of $\mathbb{k}(\sigma)$ is concentrated in degree $d - |\sigma|$ and is torsion-free.

THEOREM (N. BRADY–MEIER 2001, JENSEN–MEIER 2005)

A right-angled Artin group π_Γ is a duality group if and only if Δ_Γ is Cohen–Macaulay. Moreover, π_Γ is a Poincaré duality group if and only if Γ is a complete graph.

THEOREM (DSY 2015)

A toric complex T_L is an abelian duality space if and only if L is Cohen–Macaulay, in which case the characteristic varieties of T_L propagate.

- Identify $\widehat{\pi}_\Gamma = H^1(T_L, \mathbb{C}^*)$ with $(\mathbb{C}^*)^V = (\mathbb{C}^*)^n$.
- Each subset $W \subseteq V$ yields an algebraic subtorus $(\mathbb{C}^*)^W \subset (\mathbb{C}^*)^V$.

THEOREM (PAPADIMA–S. 2009)

$$\mathcal{V}^i(T_L) = \bigcup_W (\mathbb{C}^*)^W \quad \text{and} \quad \mathcal{R}^i(T_L) = \bigcup_W \mathbb{C}^W,$$

where the union is taken over all $W \subseteq V$ for which there is a simplex $\sigma \in L_{V \setminus W}$ and an index $j \leq i$ such that $\tilde{H}_{j-1-|\sigma|}(\text{lk}_{L_W}(\sigma), \mathbb{C}) \neq 0$.

COROLLARY

$$\Omega_r^i(T_L) = \text{Gr}_r(\mathbb{Q}^V) \setminus \sigma_r(\mathcal{R}^i(T_L, \mathbb{Q})).$$

Using results of Meier–Meinert–VanWyk & Bux–Gonzalez, we get:

COROLLARY

$$\Sigma^i(\pi_\Gamma, \mathbb{R}) = S(\mathcal{R}^i(\pi_\Gamma, \mathbb{R}))^{\mathbb{C}}.$$

HYPERPLANE ARRANGEMENTS

- Let $\mathcal{A} = \{H_1, \dots, H_n\}$ be an (essential, central) arrangement of hyperplanes in \mathbb{C}^d .
- Its complement, $M(\mathcal{A}) \subset (\mathbb{C}^*)^n$, is a Stein manifold, and thus has the homotopy type of d -dimensional CW-complex.
- $\text{Trop}(M(\mathcal{A}))$ is the ‘Bergman fan’ of the underlying matroid of \mathcal{A} .

THEOREM (DAVIS–JANUSZKIEWICZ–OKUN (2011), DSY (2015))

Suppose $A = \mathbb{Z}[\pi]$ or $A = \mathbb{Z}[\pi_{\text{ab}}]$. Then $H^p(M(\mathcal{A}), A) = 0$ for all $p \neq d$, and $H^d(M(\mathcal{A}), A)$ is a free abelian group.

COROLLARY

- $M(\mathcal{A})$ is a duality and an abelian duality space of dimension d .
- The characteristic varieties of $M(\mathcal{A})$ propagate.

- The cohomology ring $H^*(M(\mathcal{A}), \mathbb{Z})$ is the Orlik–Solomon algebra of the underlying matroid. Moreover, $M(\mathcal{A})$ is formal.
- Work of Arapura, Falk, D.Cohen–A.S., Libgober–Yuzvinsky, and Falk–Yuzvinsky completely describes the resonance varieties $\mathcal{R}^1(\mathcal{A}) = \mathcal{R}^1(M(\mathcal{A}), \mathbb{C})$:
 - $\mathcal{R}^1(\mathcal{A})$ is a union of linear subspaces in $H^1(M(\mathcal{A}), \mathbb{C}) \cong \mathbb{C}^{|\mathcal{A}|}$.
 - Each subspace has dimension at least 2, and each pair of subspaces meets transversely at 0.
 - Each k -multinet on a sub-arrangement $\mathcal{B} \subseteq \mathcal{A}$ gives rise to a component of $\mathcal{R}^1(\mathcal{A})$ of dimension $k - 1$. Moreover, all components of $\mathcal{R}^1(\mathcal{A})$ arise in this way.

QUESTION (S., AT OBERWOLFACH MINIWORKSHOP 2007)

Given an arrangement \mathcal{A} , do we have

$$\Sigma^1(M(\mathcal{A}), \mathbb{Z}) = S(\mathcal{R}^1(M(\mathcal{A}), \mathbb{R}))^c? \quad (\star)$$

EXAMPLE (KOBAN–MCCAMMOND–MEIER 2013)

- Let \mathcal{A} be the braid arrangement in \mathbb{C}^n , defined by $\prod_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} (z_i - z_j) = 0$. Then $M(\mathcal{A}) = \text{Conf}(n, \mathbb{C}) \simeq K(P_n, 1)$.
- Answer to (\star) is yes: $\Sigma^1(M(\mathcal{A}), \mathbb{Z})$ is the complement of the union of $\binom{n}{3} + \binom{n}{4}$ planes in $\mathbb{C}^{\binom{n}{2}}$, intersected with the unit sphere.

EXAMPLE (S.)

- Let \mathcal{A} be the “deleted B_3 ” arrangement, defined by $z_1 z_2 (z_1^2 - z_2^2)(z_1^2 - z_3^2)(z_2^2 - z_3^2) = 0$.
- $\mathcal{R}^1(M(\mathcal{A}), \mathbb{R}) \subsetneq \text{Trop}(\mathcal{V}^1(M(\mathcal{A})))$, and so the answer to (\star) is no.

KÄHLER MANIFOLDS

THEOREM (DELZANT 2010, PAPADIMA–S. 2010)

Let M be a compact Kähler manifold with $b_1(M) > 0$. Then

$$\Sigma^1(M, \mathbb{Z}) = S(\mathcal{R}^1(M, \mathbb{R}))^c$$

if and only if there is no pencil $f: M \rightarrow E$ onto an elliptic curve E such that f has multiple fibers.

THEOREM (S. 2013)

- If M admits an orbifold fibration with base genus $g \geq 2$, then $\Omega_r^1(M) = \emptyset$, for all $r > b_1(M) - 2g$.
- Otherwise, $\Omega_r^1(M) = \text{Gr}_r(H^1(M, \mathbb{Q}))$, for all $r \geq 1$.
- Suppose M admits an orbifold fibration with multiple fibers and base genus $g = 1$. Then $\Omega_2^1(M)$ is not an open subset of $\text{Gr}_2(H^1(M, \mathbb{Q}))$.