

# MILNOR FIBRATIONS OF HYPERPLANE ARRANGEMENTS

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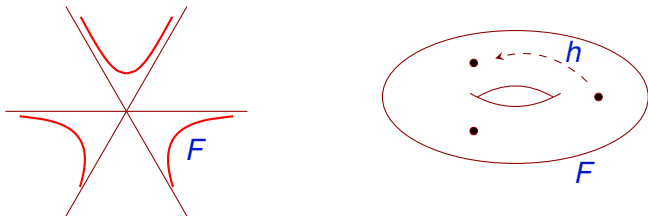
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# THE MILNOR FIBRATION

- Let  $f \in \mathbb{C}[z_0, \dots, z_d]$  be a homogeneous polynomial of degree  $n$ .
- Let  $V(f) = \{z \in \mathbb{C}^{d+1} \mid f(z) = 0\}$  and  $M = \mathbb{C}^{d+1} \setminus V(f)$ .
- The map  $f: \mathbb{C}^{d+1} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  restricts to a map  $f: M \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^*$ .
- This is the projection of a smooth, locally trivial bundle, known as the (global) *Milnor fibration* of  $f$ .
- The typical fiber,  $F = f^{-1}(1)$ , is homotopic to a finite CW-complex of dim  $d$ . If  $f$  is not a proper power, then  $F$  is connected.
- The monodromy of the fibration:  $h: F \rightarrow F$ ,  $z \mapsto e^{2\pi i/n} z$ .
- The algebraic monodromy:  $h_q: H_q(F, \mathbb{C}) \rightarrow H_q(F, \mathbb{C})$ .

- If  $f$  has an isolated critical point at  $0$ , then  $F \simeq \bigvee^{\mu} S^d$ , where  $\mu = (n-1)^{d+1}$ .
- For instance, let  $f = z_0^3 - z_1^3$ . Then  $F$  is a thrice-punctured torus (with  $h$  rotation by  $120^\circ$ ), and  $F \simeq \bigvee^4 S^1$ :



- More generally, if  $f = z_0^n - z_1^n$ , then  $F$  is a Riemann surface of genus  $\binom{n-1}{2}$  with  $n$  punctures, and so  $F \simeq \bigvee^{\binom{n-1}{2}} S^1$ .
- If the singularity at  $0$  is non-isolated, though, the Betti numbers  $b_q(F)$  and the algebraic monodromies  $h_q$  are hard to compute.

# CHARACTERISTIC VARIETIES

- Let  $X$  be a connected, finite cell complex, and let  $\pi = \pi_1(X, x_0)$ .
- Let  $\mathbb{k}$  be an algebraically closed field, and let  $\text{Hom}(\pi, \mathbb{k}^*) = H^1(X, \mathbb{k}^*)$  be the character group of  $\pi$ .
- The (degree 1) *characteristic varieties* of  $X$  are the jump loci for homology with coefficients in rank-1 local systems on  $X$ :

$$\mathcal{V}_s(X, \mathbb{k}) = \{\rho \in \text{Hom}(\pi, \mathbb{k}^*) \mid \dim_{\mathbb{k}} H_1(X, \mathbb{k}_\rho) \geq s\}.$$

## EXAMPLE (CIRCLE)

We have  $\widetilde{S^1} = \mathbb{R}$ . Identify  $\pi_1(S^1, *) = \mathbb{Z} = \langle t \rangle$  and  $\mathbb{k}\mathbb{Z} = \mathbb{k}[t^{\pm 1}]$ . Then:

$$C_*(\widetilde{S^1}, \mathbb{k}) : 0 \longrightarrow \mathbb{k}[t^{\pm 1}] \xrightarrow{t-1} \mathbb{k}[t^{\pm 1}] \longrightarrow 0.$$

For  $\rho \in \text{Hom}(\mathbb{Z}, \mathbb{k}^*) = \mathbb{k}^*$ , we get

$$C_*(\widetilde{S^1}, \mathbb{k}) \otimes_{\mathbb{k}\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{k}_\rho : 0 \longrightarrow \mathbb{k} \xrightarrow{\rho-1} \mathbb{k} \longrightarrow 0,$$

which is exact, except for  $\rho = 1$ , when  $H_0(S^1, \mathbb{k}) = H_1(S^1, \mathbb{k}) = \mathbb{k}$ . Hence:  $\mathcal{V}_1(S^1, \mathbb{k}) = \{1\}$  and  $\mathcal{V}_s(S^1, \mathbb{k}) = \emptyset$ , otherwise.

## EXAMPLE (PUNCTURED COMPLEX LINE)

Identify  $\pi_1(\mathbb{C} \setminus \{n \text{ points}\}) = F_n$ , and  $\text{Hom}(F_n, \mathbb{k}^*) = (\mathbb{k}^*)^n$ . Then:

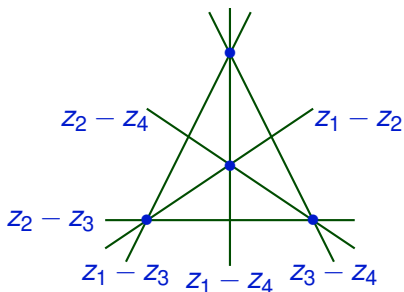
$$\mathcal{V}_s(\mathbb{C} \setminus \{n \text{ points}\}, \mathbb{k}) = \begin{cases} (\mathbb{k}^*)^n & \text{if } s < n, \\ \{1\} & \text{if } s = n, \\ \emptyset & \text{if } s > n. \end{cases}$$

- Let  $\pi: \mathbb{C}^{d+1} \setminus \{0\} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}P^d$  be the projection map, with fiber  $\mathbb{C}^*$ .
- This map restricts to  $\pi: M \rightarrow U$ , where  $U = M/\mathbb{C}^* = \mathbb{C}P^d \setminus V(f)$ .
- This map further restricts to a regular,  $\mathbb{Z}_n$ -cover  $F \rightarrow U$ .
- Assume  $f$  is square-free, and write  $f = f_1 \cdots f_r$ , with factors irreducible and distinct.
- Then the cover  $F \rightarrow U$  is classified by the homomorphism  $\delta: \pi_1(U) \twoheadrightarrow \mathbb{Z}_n$  that sends each meridian about  $V(f_i)$  to  $\deg(f_i)$ .
- Fix a field  $\mathbb{k}$ , and let  $\hat{\delta}: \text{Hom}(\mathbb{Z}_n, \mathbb{k}^*) \rightarrow \text{Hom}(\pi_1(U), \mathbb{k}^*)$  be the induced homomorphism between character groups.
- If  $\text{char}(\mathbb{k}) \nmid n$ , then

$$\dim_{\mathbb{k}} H_1(F, \mathbb{k}) = \sum_{s \geq 1} \left| \mathcal{V}_s(U, \mathbb{k}) \cap \text{im}(\hat{\delta}) \right|.$$

# HYPERPLANE ARRANGEMENTS

- $\mathcal{A}$ : A (central) arrangement of hyperplanes in  $\mathbb{C}^{d+1}$ .
- Intersection lattice:  $L(\mathcal{A})$ .
- Complement:  $M(\mathcal{A}) = \mathbb{C}^\ell \setminus \bigcup_{H \in \mathcal{A}} H$ .
- The Boolean arrangement  $\mathcal{B}_n$ 
  - $\mathcal{B}_n$ : all coordinate hyperplanes  $z_i = 0$  in  $\mathbb{C}^n$ .
  - $L(\mathcal{B}_n)$ : lattice of subsets of  $\{0, 1\}^n$ .
  - $M(\mathcal{B}_n)$ : complex algebraic torus  $(\mathbb{C}^*)^n$ .
- The braid arrangement  $\mathcal{A}_n$  (or, reflection arr. of type  $A_{n-1}$ )
  - $\mathcal{A}_n$ : all diagonal hyperplanes  $z_i - z_j = 0$  in  $\mathbb{C}^n$ .
  - $L(\mathcal{A}_n)$ : lattice of partitions of  $[n] = \{1, \dots, n\}$ .
  - $M(\mathcal{A}_n)$ : configuration space of  $n$  ordered points in  $\mathbb{C}$  (a classifying space for the pure braid group on  $n$  strings).



- $M$  has the homotopy type of a connected, finite CW-complex of dimension  $d + 1$ . In fact,  $M$  admits a minimal cell structure.
- In particular,  $H_*(M, \mathbb{Z})$  is torsion-free. The Betti numbers  $b_q(M) := \text{rank } H_q(M, \mathbb{Z})$  are given by the Möbius function of  $L(\mathcal{A})$ .
- The Orlik–Solomon algebra  $A = H^*(M, \mathbb{Z})$  is determined by  $L(\mathcal{A})$  but  $\pi_1(M)$  is not.



# MILNOR FIBRATIONS OF ARRANGEMENTS

- For each  $H \in \mathcal{A}$ , let  $f_H: \mathbb{C}^{d+1} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  be a linear form with kernel  $H$
- Let  $Q(\mathcal{A}) = \prod_{H \in \mathcal{A}} f_H$ , a homogeneous polynomial of degree  $n$ .
- This polynomial defines the Milnor fibration of  $\mathcal{A}$ , with fiber  $F = F(\mathcal{A})$ .

## EXAMPLE

Let  $\mathcal{B}_n$  be the Boolean arrangement, with  $Q = z_1 \cdots z_n$ . Then  $M(\mathcal{B}_n) = (\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  and  $F(\mathcal{B}_n) = \ker(Q) \cong (\mathbb{C}^*)^{n-1}$ .

- Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be an arrangement of planes in  $\mathbb{C}^3$ . Its projectivization,  $\bar{\mathcal{A}}$ , is an arrangement of lines in  $\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^2$ .
- A flat  $X \in L_2(\mathcal{A})$  has multiplicity  $q$  if  $\mathcal{A}_X = \{H \in \mathcal{A} \mid X \supset H\}$  has size  $q$ , i.e., there are exactly  $q$  lines from  $\bar{\mathcal{A}}$  passing through  $\bar{X}$ .

Question: Are the Betti numbers of  $F(\mathcal{A})$  and the characteristic polynomial of the algebraic monodromy determined by  $L(\mathcal{A})$ ? Let

$\Delta_{\mathcal{A}}(t) := \det(h_1 - t \cdot \text{id})$ . Then  $b_1(F(\mathcal{A})) = \deg \Delta_{\mathcal{A}}$ .

THEOREM (PAPADIMA–S. 2013)

*Suppose all flats  $X \in L_2(\mathcal{A})$  have multiplicity 2 or 3. Then  $\Delta_{\mathcal{A}}(t)$ , and thus  $b_1(F(\mathcal{A}))$ , are combinatorially determined.*

- We relate the cohomology jump loci of  $M(\mathcal{A})$  in characteristic  $p$  with those in characteristic 0.
- The bridge between the two goes through the representation variety  $\text{Hom}_{\text{Lie}}(\mathfrak{h}(\mathcal{A}), \mathfrak{sl}_2)$ .
- A key combinatorial ingredient is the notion of multinet.

# RESONANCE VARIETIES AND THE $\beta_p$ -INVARIANTS

- Let  $A = H^*(M(\mathcal{A}), \mathbb{k})$  — an algebra that depends only on  $L(\mathcal{A})$  (and the field  $\mathbb{k}$ ).
- For each  $a \in A^1$ , we have  $a^2 = 0$ . Thus, we get a cochain complex,  $(A, \cdot a): A^0 \xrightarrow{a} A^1 \xrightarrow{a} A^2 \longrightarrow \dots$
- The (degree 1) *resonance varieties* of  $\mathcal{A}$  are the cohomology jump loci of this “Aomoto complex”:

$$\mathcal{R}_s(\mathcal{A}, \mathbb{k}) = \{a \in A^1 \mid \dim_{\mathbb{k}} H^1(A, \cdot a) \geq s\},$$

- In particular,  $a \in A^1$  belongs to  $\mathcal{R}_1(\mathcal{A}, \mathbb{k})$  iff there is  $b \in A^1$  not proportional to  $a$ , such that  $a \cup b = 0$  in  $A^2$ .

- Now assume  $\mathbb{k}$  has characteristic  $p > 0$ .
- Let  $\sigma = \sum_{H \in \mathcal{A}} e_H \in \mathcal{A}^1$  be the “diagonal” vector, and define

$$\beta_p(\mathcal{A}) = \dim_{\mathbb{k}} H^1(\mathcal{A}, \cdot \sigma).$$

That is,  $\beta_p(\mathcal{A}) = \max\{s \mid \sigma \in \mathcal{R}_s^1(\mathcal{A}, \mathbb{k})\}$ .

- Clearly,  $\beta_p(\mathcal{A})$  depends only on  $L(\mathcal{A})$  and  $p$ . Moreover,  $0 \leq \beta_p(\mathcal{A}) \leq |\mathcal{A}| - 2$ .

### THEOREM

*If  $L_2(\mathcal{A})$  has no flats of multiplicity  $3r$  with  $r > 1$ , then  $\beta_3(\mathcal{A}) \leq 2$ .*

- For each  $m \geq 1$ , there is a matroid  $\mathcal{M}_m$  with all rank 2 flats of multiplicity 3, and such that  $\beta_3(\mathcal{M}_m) = m$ .
- $\mathcal{M}_1$ : pencil of 3 lines.  $\mathcal{M}_2$ : Ceva arrangement.
- $\mathcal{M}_m$  with  $m > 2$ : not realizable over  $\mathbb{C}$ .

# THE HOMOLOGY OF THE MILNOR FIBER

- The monodromy  $h: F(\mathcal{A}) \rightarrow F(\mathcal{A})$  has order  $n = |\mathcal{A}|$ . Thus,

$$\Delta_{\mathcal{A}}(t) = \prod_{d|n} \Phi_d(t)^{e_d(\mathcal{A})},$$

where  $\Phi_1 = t - 1$ ,  $\Phi_2 = t + 1$ ,  $\Phi_3 = t^2 + t + 1$ ,  $\Phi_4 = t^2 + 1$ , ... are the cyclotomic polynomials, and  $e_d(\mathcal{A}) \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$ .

- Easy to see:  $e_1(\mathcal{A}) = n - 1$ . Hence,  $H_1(F(\mathcal{A}), \mathbb{C})$ , when viewed as a module over  $\mathbb{C}[\mathbb{Z}_n]$ , decomposes as

$$(\mathbb{C}[t]/(t-1))^{n-1} \oplus \bigoplus_{1 < d|n} (\mathbb{C}[t]/\Phi_d(t))^{e_d(\mathcal{A})}.$$

- In particular,  $b_1(F(\mathcal{A})) = n - 1 + \sum_{1 < d|n} \varphi(d) e_d(\mathcal{A})$ .

- Thus, in degree 1, question (Q1) is equivalent to: are the integers  $e_d(\mathcal{A})$  determined by  $L_{\leq 2}(\mathcal{A})$ ?
- Not all divisors of  $n$  appear in the above formulas: If  $d$  does *not* divide  $|\mathcal{A}_X|$ , for some  $X \in L_2(\mathcal{A})$ , then  $e_d(\mathcal{A}) = 0$  (Libgober).
- In particular, if  $L_2(\mathcal{A})$  has only flats of multiplicity 2 and 3, then  $\Delta_{\mathcal{A}}(t) = (t-1)^{n-1}(t^2+t+1)^{e_3}$ .
- If multiplicity 4 appears, then also get factor of  $(t+1)^{e_2} \cdot (t^2+1)^{e_4}$ .

THEOREM (COHEN-ORLIK 2000, PAPADIMA-S. 2010)

$e_{p^s}(\mathcal{A}) \leq \beta_p(\mathcal{A})$ , for all  $s \geq 1$ .

## THEOREM

Suppose  $L_2(\mathcal{A})$  has no flats of multiplicity  $3r$ , with  $r > 1$ . Then  $e_3(\mathcal{A}) = \beta_3(\mathcal{A})$ , and thus  $e_3(\mathcal{A})$  is combinatorially determined.

A similar result holds for  $e_2(\mathcal{A})$  and  $e_4(\mathcal{A})$ , under some additional hypothesis.

## COROLLARY

If  $\bar{\mathcal{A}}$  is an arrangement of  $n$  lines in  $\mathbb{P}^2$  with only double and triple points, then  $\Delta_{\mathcal{A}}(t) = (t-1)^{n-1}(t^2+t+1)^{\beta_3(\mathcal{A})}$  is combinatorially determined.

## COROLLARY (LIBGOBER 2012)

If  $\bar{\mathcal{A}}$  is an arrangement of  $n$  lines in  $\mathbb{P}^2$  with only double and triple points, then the question whether  $\Delta_{\mathcal{A}}(t) = (t-1)^{n-1}$  or not is combinatorially determined.

## CONJECTURE

Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be an essential arrangement in  $\mathbb{C}^3$ . Then

$$\Delta_{\mathcal{A}}(t) = (t-1)^{|\mathcal{A}|-1} (t^2 + t + 1)^{\beta_3(\mathcal{A})} [(t+1)(t^2+1)]^{\beta_2(\mathcal{A})},$$

where  $\beta_3(\mathcal{A}) \in \{0, 1, 2\}$  and  $\beta_2(\mathcal{A}) \in \{0, 2\}$

Compare this conjecture with

## CONJECTURE (YOSHINAGA 2013)

Assume  $\mathcal{A}$  is a simplicial arrangement. Then

$$\Delta_{\mathcal{A}}(t) = (t-1)^{|\mathcal{A}|-1} (t^2 + t + 1)^{e_3(\mathcal{A})},$$

where  $e_3(\mathcal{A}) \in \{0, 1\}$ .



# MULTINETS

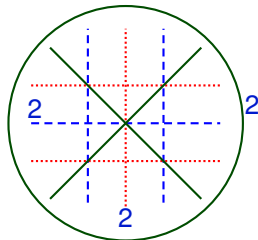
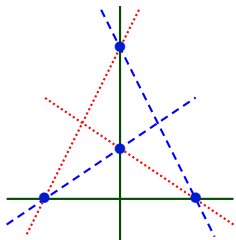
## DEFINITION (FALK AND YUZVINSKY)

A *multinet* on  $\mathcal{A}$  is a partition of the set  $\mathcal{A}$  into  $k \geq 3$  subsets  $\mathcal{A}_1, \dots, \mathcal{A}_k$ , together with an assignment of multiplicities,  $m: \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ , and a subset  $\mathcal{X} \subseteq L_2(\mathcal{A})$ , called the base locus, such that:

- ① There is an integer  $d$  such that  $\sum_{H \in \mathcal{A}_\alpha} m_H = d$ , for all  $\alpha \in [k]$ .
- ② If  $H$  and  $H'$  are in different classes, then  $H \cap H' \in \mathcal{X}$ .
- ③ For each  $X \in \mathcal{X}$ , the sum  $n_X = \sum_{H \in \mathcal{A}_\alpha: H \supset X} m_H$  is independent of  $\alpha$ .
- ④ Each set  $(\bigcup_{H \in \mathcal{A}_\alpha} H) \setminus \mathcal{X}$  is connected.

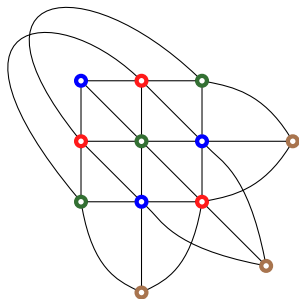
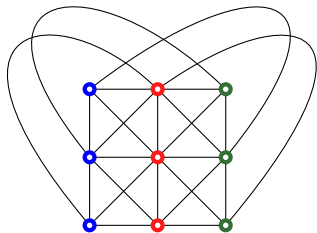
- A similar definition can be made for any (rank 3) matroid.
- A multinet as above is also called a  $(k, d)$ -multinet, or a  $k$ -multinet.
- The multinet is *reduced* if  $m_H = 1$ , for all  $H \in \mathcal{A}$ .

- A *net* is a reduced multinet with  $n_X = 1$ , for all  $X \in \mathcal{X}$ .
- In this case,  $|\mathcal{A}_\alpha| = |\mathcal{A}| / k = d$ , for all  $\alpha$ .
- Moreover,  $\bar{\mathcal{X}}$  has size  $d^2$ , and is encoded by a  $(k - 2)$ -tuple of orthogonal Latin squares.



A  $(3, 2)$ -net on the  $A_3$  arrangement  $\bar{\mathcal{X}}$  consists of 4 triple points ( $n_X = 1$ )

A  $(3, 4)$ -multinet on the  $B_3$  arrangement  $\bar{\mathcal{X}}$  consists of 4 triple points ( $n_X = 1$ ) and 3 triple points ( $n_X = 2$ )



A  $(3, 3)$ -net on the Ceva matroid. A  $(4, 3)$ -net on the Hessian matroid.

- If  $\mathcal{A}$  has no flats of multiplicity  $kr$ , for some  $r > 1$ , then every reduced  $k$ -multinet is a  $k$ -net.
- (Kawahara): given any Latin square, there is a matroid  $\mathcal{M}$  with a 3-net  $(\mathcal{M}_1, \mathcal{M}_2, \mathcal{M}_3)$  realizing it, such that each  $\mathcal{M}_\alpha$  is uniform.
- (Yuzvinsky and Pereira–Yuz): If  $\mathcal{A}$  supports a  $k$ -multinet with  $|\mathcal{X}| > 1$ , then  $k = 3$  or  $4$ ; if the multinet is not reduced, then  $k = 3$ .
- (Wakefield & al): The only  $(4, 3)$ -net in  $\mathbb{C}P^2$  is the Hessian; there are no  $(4, 4)$ ,  $(4, 5)$ , or  $(4, 6)$  nets in  $\mathbb{C}P^2$ .
- Conjecture (Yuz): The only 4-multinet is the Hessian  $(4, 3)$ -net.

## LEMMA

If  $\mathcal{A}$  supports a 3-net with parts  $\mathcal{A}_\alpha$ , then:

- ①  $1 \leq \beta_3(\mathcal{A}) \leq \beta_3(\mathcal{A}_\alpha) + 1$ , for all  $\alpha$ .
- ② If  $\beta_3(\mathcal{A}_\alpha) = 0$ , for some  $\alpha$ , then  $\beta_3(\mathcal{A}) = 1$ .
- ③ If  $\beta_3(\mathcal{A}_\alpha) = 1$ , for some  $\alpha$ , then  $\beta_3(\mathcal{A}) = 1$  or  $2$ .

All possibilities do occur:

- Braid arrangement: has a  $(3, 2)$ -net from the Latin square of  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ .  
 $\beta_3(\mathcal{A}_\alpha) = 0$  ( $\forall \alpha$ ) and  $\beta_3(\mathcal{A}) = 1$ .
- Pappus arrangement: has a  $(3, 3)$ -net from the Latin square of  $\mathbb{Z}_3$ .  
 $\beta_3(\mathcal{A}_1) = \beta_3(\mathcal{A}_2) = 0$ ,  $\beta_3(\mathcal{A}_3) = 1$  and  $\beta_3(\mathcal{A}) = 1$ .
- Ceva arrangement: has a  $(3, 3)$ -net from the Latin square of  $\mathbb{Z}_3$ .  
 $\beta_3(\mathcal{A}_\alpha) = 1$  ( $\forall \alpha$ ) and  $\beta_3(\mathcal{A}) = 2$ .

# COMPLEX COHOMOLOGY JUMP LOCI

Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be an arrangement in  $\mathbb{C}^3$ . Work of Arapura, Falk, Cohen–S., Libgober–Yuz, Falk–Yuz completely describes the varieties  $\mathcal{R}_s(\mathcal{A}, \mathbb{C})$ :

- $\mathcal{R}_1(\mathcal{A}, \mathbb{C})$  is a union of linear subspaces in  $H^1(M(\mathcal{A}), \mathbb{C}) = \mathbb{C}^{|\mathcal{A}|}$ .
- Each subspace has dimension at least 2, and each pair of subspaces meets transversely at 0.
- $\mathcal{R}_s(\mathcal{A}, \mathbb{C})$  is the union of those linear subspaces that have dimension at least  $s + 1$ .

- Each flat  $X \in L_2(\mathcal{A})$  of multiplicity  $k \geq 3$  gives rise to a *local* component of  $\mathcal{R}_1(\mathcal{A}, \mathbb{C})$ , of dimension  $k - 1$ .
- More generally, every  $k$ -multinet on a sub-arrangement  $\mathcal{B} \subseteq \mathcal{A}$  gives rise to a component of dimension  $k - 1$ , and all components of  $\mathcal{R}_1(\mathcal{A}, \mathbb{C})$  arise in this way.
- Note: the varieties  $\mathcal{R}_1(\mathcal{A}, \mathbb{k})$  with  $\text{char}(\mathbb{k}) > 0$  can be more complicated: components may be non-linear, and they may intersect non-transversely.

### THEOREM

Suppose  $L_2(\mathcal{A})$  has no flats of multiplicity  $3r$ , with  $r > 1$ . Then  $\mathcal{R}_1(\mathcal{A}, \mathbb{C})$  has at least  $(3^{\beta_3(\mathcal{A})} - 1)/2$  essential components, all corresponding to 3-nets.

Work of Arapura, Libgober, Cohen–S., S., Libgober–Yuz, Falk–Yuz, Dimca, Dimca–Papadima–S., Artal–Cogolludo–Matei, Budur–Wang ... provides a fairly explicit description of the varieties  $\mathcal{V}_s(\mathcal{A}, \mathbb{C})$ :

- Each variety  $\mathcal{V}_s(\mathcal{A}, \mathbb{C})$  is a finite union of torsion-translates of algebraic subtori of  $(\mathbb{C}^*)^n$ .
- If a linear subspace  $L \subset \mathbb{C}^n$  is a component of  $\mathcal{R}_s(\mathcal{A}, \mathbb{C})$ , then the algebraic torus  $T = \exp(L)$  is a component of  $\mathcal{V}_s(\mathcal{A}, \mathbb{C})$ .
- Moreover,  $T = f^*(H^1(S, \mathbb{C}^*))$ , where  $f: M(\mathcal{A}) \rightarrow S$  is an orbifold fibration, with base  $S = \mathbb{C}P^1 \setminus \{k \text{ points}\}$ , for some  $k \geq 3$ .
- All components of  $\mathcal{V}_s(\mathcal{A}, \mathbb{C})$  passing through the origin  $1 \in (\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  arise in this way (and thus, are combinatorially determined).

### THEOREM

If  $\mathcal{A}$  admits a reduced  $k$ -multinet, then  $e_k(\mathcal{A}) \geq k - 2$ .



# MAIN THEOREM

## THEOREM

Suppose  $L_2(\mathcal{A})$  has no flats of multiplicity  $3r$  with  $r > 1$ . Then TFAE:

- ①  $L_{\leq 2}(\mathcal{A})$  admits a reduced 3-multinet.
- ②  $L_{\leq 2}(\mathcal{A})$  admits a 3-net.
- ③  $\beta_3(\mathcal{A}) \neq 0$ .
- ④  $e_3(\mathcal{A}) \neq 0$ .

Moreover,  $\beta_3(\mathcal{A}) \leq 2$  and  $\beta_3(\mathcal{A}) = e_3(\mathcal{A})$ .

- (2)  $\Rightarrow$  (1): obvious.
- (1)  $\Rightarrow$  (4): by above theorem.
- (4)  $\Rightarrow$  (3): by modular bound  $e_p(\mathcal{A}) \leq \beta_p(\mathcal{A})$ .
- (3)  $\Rightarrow$  (2): use flat,  $\mathfrak{sl}_2$ -valued connections on the OS-algebra.
- $\beta_3(\mathcal{A}) \leq 2$ : a previous theorem.
- Last assertion: put things together.

Some ingredients in the proof:

- Let  $A$  be a graded, graded-commutative algebra over  $\mathbb{C}$ . Assume  $\dim A^i < \infty$  and  $A^0 = \mathbb{C}$ .
- Let  $\mathfrak{g}$  be a finite-dimensional Lie algebra over  $\mathbb{C}$ . On  $A \otimes \mathfrak{g}$ , set  $[a \otimes x, b \otimes y] = ab \otimes [x, y]$ .
- Define the space of flat,  $\mathfrak{g}$ -valued connections on  $A$  as

$$\mathcal{F}(A, \mathfrak{g}) = \{\omega \in A^1 \otimes \mathfrak{g} \mid [\omega, \omega] = 0\}.$$

- Alternatively, define the *holonomy Lie algebra* of  $A$  as

$$\mathfrak{h}(A) = \text{Lie}(A_1) / (\text{im}(\nabla)).$$

where  $\nabla: A_2 \rightarrow A_1 \wedge A_1$  is the dual to the multiplication map.

- Then, the canonical isomorphism  $A^1 \otimes \mathfrak{g} \cong \text{Hom}_{\mathbb{C}}(A_1, \mathfrak{g})$  restricts to a functorial isomorphism

$$\mathcal{F}(A, \mathfrak{g}) \cong \text{Hom}_{\text{Lie}}(\mathfrak{h}(A), \mathfrak{g}).$$

Given a linear subspace  $P \subset A^1$ , define a sub-algebra  $A_P \subset A^{\leq 2}$  by setting  $A_P^1 = P$ ,  $A_P^2 = A^2$  and restricting the multiplication map.

THEOREM (MACINIC, PAPADIMA, POPESCU, S. 2013)

Suppose  $\mathcal{R}_1(A) = \bigcup_{P \in \mathcal{P}} P$ , where  $\mathcal{P}$  is a finite collection of linear subspaces of  $A^1$ , intersecting pairwise only at  $0$ . Then:

- ①  $\mathcal{F}(A_P, \mathfrak{g}) \cap \mathcal{F}(A_{P'}, \mathfrak{g}) = \{0\}$ , for all distinct subspaces  $P, P' \in \mathcal{P}$ .
- ②  $\mathcal{F}(A, \mathfrak{g}) \supseteq \mathcal{F}^{(1)}(A, \mathfrak{g}) \cup \bigcup_{P \in \mathcal{P}} \mathcal{F}(A_P, \mathfrak{g})$ .
- ③ If  $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{sl}_2$ , then the above inclusion holds as an equality.

- Given a vector space  $V$ , and a finite set  $I$ , let

$$\mathcal{H}^1(V) = \{x = (x_i) \in V^I \mid \sum_{i \in I} x_i = 0\}.$$

- View each  $x \in V^I$  as a map  $x: I \rightarrow V$ . For a fixed  $\tau \in I^{\mathcal{A}}$ , we obtain a linear “evaluation” map,

$$\text{ev}_\tau: V^I \rightarrow V^{\mathcal{A}}, \quad \text{ev}_\tau(x)_u = x_{\tau(u)}, \text{ for } u \in \mathcal{A}.$$

## THEOREM

Suppose  $L_2(\mathcal{A})$  does not have flats of multiplicity  $3r$ , for any  $r > 1$ . Suppose  $\beta_3(\mathcal{A}) \neq 0$ , i.e., there is  $\tau \in H^1(M(\mathcal{A}), \mathbb{F}_3)$  non-constant, such that  $\tau \cup \sigma = 0$ . Then:

- ① The evaluation map  $\text{ev}_\tau: \mathfrak{g}^{\mathbb{F}_3} \rightarrow \mathfrak{g}^{\mathcal{A}}$  defines an algebraic map

$$\text{ev}_\tau: \mathcal{H}^{\mathbb{F}_3}(\mathfrak{g}) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_{\text{Lie}}(\mathfrak{h}(\mathcal{A}), \mathfrak{g}),$$

taking regular elements to regular elements.

- ② There is an integer  $k \geq 3$  and a  $k$ -multinet  $\mathcal{N} = \mathcal{N}(\tau)$  on  $\mathcal{A}$ , unique up to the natural  $\Sigma_k$ -action, with associated admissible map  $f_{\mathcal{N}}: M(\mathcal{A}) \rightarrow \mathcal{S} = \mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^1 \setminus \{k \text{ points}\}$ , such that  $\text{ev}_\tau(\mathcal{H}^{\mathbb{F}_3}(\mathfrak{sl}_2))$  is contained in the image of

$$(f_{\mathcal{N}}^*)^!: \text{Hom}_{\text{Lie}}(\mathfrak{h}(\mathcal{S}), \mathfrak{sl}_2) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_{\text{Lie}}(\mathfrak{h}(\mathcal{A}), \mathfrak{sl}_2).$$

With some more work, it can be shown that this 3-multinet is a 3-net.