# The Varchenko-Gel'fand Ring for Weyl Cones 

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Arrangements in Ticino
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## Outline

(1) Hyperplane Arrangements \& their Cones
(2) Shi Arrangements
(3) The Varchenko-Gel'fand Ring
(4) Getting Off-Topic: a poset ring

## Arrangements of Hyperplanes

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- regions (= open, connected components of the complement), and
- intersections (= nonempty intersections of some of the hyperplanes).


## Arrangements of Hyperplanes

## The following arrangement has 6 regions and the set of intersections is

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$$
\mathbb{R}^{2}, H_{1}, H_{2}, H_{3}, H_{1} \cap H_{2} \cap H_{3}
$$

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- intersections (= nonempty intersections of some of the hyperplanes).


## Poset of Intersections

Let $\mathcal{A}$ be an arrangement in $V \cong \mathbb{R}^{d}$ with intersections $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A})$.

- The elements of $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A})$ form a
 poset under reverse inclusion.
- A theorem of Zaslavsky relates the Möbius function values of lower intervals $[V, X] \subseteq \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A})$ to the number of regions of the arrangement.



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## Zaslavsky's Theorem

Let $\mathcal{A}$ be an arrangement with regions $\mathcal{R}(\mathcal{A})$ and intersections $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A})$.
Theorem (Zaslavsky)

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\# \mathcal{R}(\mathcal{A})=\sum_{x \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A})}|\mu(V, X)|
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Zaslavsky's theorem says: $1+3(1)+2=6$.

## The Poincaré Polynomial

Let $\mathcal{A}$ be an arrangement in $\mathbb{R}^{d}$ with regions $\mathcal{R}(\mathcal{A})$ and intersections $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A})$. Define the Poincaré polynomial of $\mathcal{A}$ by

$$
\operatorname{Poin}(\mathcal{A}, t)=\sum_{X \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A})}|\mu(V, X)| t^{\operatorname{codim}(X)}
$$

Its coefficients are the Whitney numbers of the arrangement.


The Poincaré polynomial of this arrangement is $\operatorname{Poin}(\mathcal{A}, t)=1+3 t+2 t^{2}$.

## Cones of Hyperplane Arrangements

- A cone $\mathcal{K}$ of an arrangement $\mathcal{A}$ is an intersection of (open) halfspaces defined by some of the hyperplanes of $\mathcal{A}$.
- Cones are interesting in the theory of arrangements, as they unify the theory of central and affine arrangements while generalizing both.
Here are two examples of cones.


## Regions and Intersections for a Cone

Let $\mathcal{A}$ be an arrangement in $V$ with regions $\mathcal{R}(\mathcal{A})$ and intersections $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A})$, and let $\mathcal{C}$ be a cone.

- The regions of $\mathcal{C}$ are the regions of the arrangement contained in $\mathcal{C}$, i.e.

$$
\mathcal{R}(\mathcal{C})=\{R \in \mathcal{R}(\mathcal{A}) \mid R \subseteq \mathcal{C}\}
$$

- The intersections of $\mathcal{C}$ are the
 intersections $X \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A})$ which cut through the cone, i.e.,

$$
\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{C})=\{X \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A}) \mid X \cap \mathcal{C} \neq \emptyset\}
$$

## Zaslavsky's Theorem for Cones

Let $\mathcal{A}$ be an arrangement with regions $\mathcal{R}(\mathcal{A})$ and intersections $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A})$, and let $\mathcal{C}$ be a cone of that arrangement.

Theorem (Zaslavsky)

$$
\# \mathcal{R}(\mathcal{C})=\sum_{X \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{C})}|\mu(V, X)|
$$




Zaslavsky's theorem says: $1+1(1)=2$.

## The Poincaré Polynomial of a Cone

Define the Poincaré polynomial of a cone $\mathcal{C}$ in an arrangement by

$$
\operatorname{Poin}(\mathcal{C}, t)=\sum_{X \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{C})}|\mu(V, X)| t^{\operatorname{codim}(X)}
$$

Its coefficients are the Whitney numbers of the cone.


The Poincaré polynomial of this cone is $\operatorname{Poin}(\mathcal{C}, t)=1+1 t$.

## Example: A Cone in an Affine Arrangement

Below (left) is an example of a cone in an affine arrangement, together with its intersection poset (right)


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The Poincaré polynomial of this cone is $\operatorname{Poin}(\mathcal{C}, t)=1+3 t+t^{2}$.

## Example Cont'd



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The coefficients are the $n=3$ Narayana numbers

$$
N(n, k)=\frac{1}{n}\binom{n}{k}\binom{n}{k-1},
$$

which refine the Catalan numbers

$$
C_{n}=\frac{1}{n+1}\binom{2 n}{n}
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This isn't a coincidence!

## Shi Arrangements

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## based on joint work with Christian Stump arXiv 2204.05829

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The Shi arrangement of associated to $\Phi^{+}$has hyperplanes

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H_{\beta, k}=\left\{x \in \mathbb{R}^{n} \mid\langle\beta, x\rangle=k\right\}
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for $\beta \in \Phi^{+}$and $k=0,1$.

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## Example

The (Type A) Shi arrangement $\operatorname{Shi}\left(\Phi^{+}\right)$has hyperplanes

$$
H_{i, j, k}=\left\{x \in \mathbb{R}^{n} \mid x_{i}-x_{j}=k\right\}
$$

for $i<j \in[n]:=\{1,2, \ldots, n\}$ and $k=0,1$.

## Weyl Cones

Every Shi arrangement has a reflection subarrangement with hyperplanes

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H_{\beta, 0}=\left\{x \in \mathbb{R}^{n} \mid\langle\beta, x\rangle=0\right\}
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On the right, we show the Type A and Type B Shi arrangements (in rank 2). The hyperplanes of the reflection subarrangement are bolded.


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## Fact

The Weyl cones of $\operatorname{Shi}\left(\Phi^{+}\right)$are in bijection with the elements of the corresponding Weyl group $W$.

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On the right, we draw the $A_{2}$ Shi
 arrangement, and shade the dominant cone ( $=$ Weyl cone associated to $123 \in \mathfrak{S}_{n}$ ).

## Regions of the Dominant Cone

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The regions of the dominant cone are in bijection with antichains of $\Phi^{+}$.

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We view $\Phi^{+}$as a poset with order relations $\beta \prec \gamma$ if $\gamma-\beta$ is a nonnegative linear combination of simple roots.

## Theorem (Armstrong-Reiner-Rhoades)

For $w \in W$, the regions of the Weyl cone are in bijection with antichains of

$$
\Phi^{+} \backslash \operatorname{inv}\left(w^{-1}\right)
$$

where $\operatorname{inv}\left(w^{-1}\right)$ is the inversion set of $w^{-1}$.

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- This result holds for all Shi deletions (simply delete the corresponding roots from $\Phi^{+}$).
- The coefficient vector of the Poincaré polynomial is the f-vector of the antichain simplicial complex.


## Example: $B_{2}$



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The root poset has 6 antichains
$\emptyset,\{\alpha\},\{\beta\},\{\alpha, \beta\},\{\alpha+\beta\}$, and $\{2 \alpha+\beta\}$.

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The theorem tells us that our lattice of flats of the dominant cone should look like


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Then $\Phi^{+} \backslash \operatorname{inv}\left(s_{\alpha}^{-1}\right)$ has 4 antichains $\emptyset,\{\beta\},\{\alpha+\beta\}$, and $\{2 \alpha+\beta\}$.

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## $2 \alpha+\beta$



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## Back to Narayna Numbers



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If $e$ is the identity element of $W$, our theorem tells us that

$$
\operatorname{Poin}(e C, t)=\sum_{\substack{\text { anitchains } \\ A \subseteq \Phi^{+}}} t^{\# A} .
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Recall that the $W$-Narayana numbers

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- The interpretation of the Poincaré polynomial has a second proof via commutative algebra.


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- The interpretation of the Poincaré polynomial has a second proof via commutative algebra.
In the remainder of this talk, I want to tell you a bit about the algebraic proof.


## The Varchenko-Gel'fand Ring

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Warning: This section uses several terms that I haven't defined. Some useful references:

- Section 1 of "Gröbner Bases and Convex Polytopes" by Sturmfels
- Chapter 2 of "Ideals, Varieties, and Algorithms" by Cox, Little, O'Shea
The (very minor) extension to polynomial rings over $\mathbb{Z}$ is given in arXiv:2104.02740.


## A Ring from Regions

Let $\mathcal{A}$ be an arrangement and $\mathcal{C}$ a cone with regions $\mathcal{R}(\mathcal{C})$.

## Definition

The Varchenko-Gel'fand ring of $\mathcal{C}$ is the set of maps $f: \mathcal{R}(\mathcal{C}) \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$ with pointwise addition and multiplication.

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## Another Presentation

Let $\Delta \subset \Phi^{+} \subset \Phi$ be an irreducible crystallographic root system with choice of simple and positive roots.

## Theorem (Chapoton)

When $C$ is the domiant cone of $\operatorname{Shi}\left(\Phi^{+}\right)$, there exists an ideal $I_{\Phi^{+}} \subseteq \mathbb{Z}\left[e_{H} \mid H \in \mathcal{A}\right]$ such that

$$
\begin{aligned}
V G(\mathcal{C}) & \cong \mathbb{Z}\left[e_{H} \mid H \in \mathcal{A}\right] / I_{\Phi^{+}} \\
\mathfrak{g r V G}(\mathcal{C}) & \cong \mathbb{Z}\left[e_{H} \mid H \in \mathcal{A}\right] /\left(i n_{\operatorname{deg}} l_{\Phi^{+}}\right)
\end{aligned}
$$

In particular, both have bases indexed by antichains and

$$
\operatorname{Hilb}(\mathfrak{g r} V G(w C) ; t)=\sum_{\substack{\text { anitchains } \\ A \subseteq \Phi^{+}}} t^{\# A}
$$

Once you know what to look for, Chapoton's argument has the following easy extension to all Weyl cones.

## Another Presentation

Let $\Delta \subset \Phi^{+} \subset \Phi$ be an irreducible crystallographic root system with choice of simple and positive roots.

## Theorem (Chapoton + Armstrong-Reiner-Rhoades)

Let $W$ be the Weyl group associated to $\Phi^{+}$and $w \in W$. Then there exists an ideal $I_{\Phi^{+}, w} \subseteq \mathbb{Z}\left[e_{H} \mid H \in \mathcal{A}\right]$ such that

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[^0]
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$$

This extends to Shi deletions as well. But how to get to the Poincaré polynomial?

## A General Presentation

Let $\mathcal{A}$ be any arrangement and $\mathcal{C}$ any cone with regions $\mathcal{R}(\mathcal{C})$.

## Theorem (DB, 21)

One can explicitly describe a collection of polynomials $\mathcal{G} \subseteq \mathbb{Z}\left[e_{H} \mid H \in \mathcal{A}\right]$ such that for any "compatible" monomial order

$$
\begin{aligned}
V G(\mathcal{C}) & \cong \mathbb{Z}\left[e_{H} \mid H \in \mathcal{A}\right] /(\mathcal{G}) \\
\mathfrak{g r V G}(\mathcal{C}) & \cong \mathbb{Z}\left[e_{H} \mid H \in \mathcal{A}\right] /\left(i n_{\operatorname{deg}} \mathcal{G}\right)
\end{aligned}
$$

 certain filtration. In particular, the Hilbert series is

$$
\operatorname{Hilb}(\mathfrak{g r} V G(\mathcal{C}) ; t)=\operatorname{Poin}(\mathcal{C}, t)
$$

[^1]
## Combining these Results

Let $\Delta \subset \Phi^{+} \subset \Phi$ be an irreducible crystallographic root system with choice of simple and positive roots. Let $W$ be the Weyl group associated to $\Phi^{+}$and $w \in W$ and $w \in W$.

$$
\operatorname{Poin}(w C, t)=\operatorname{Hilb}(\mathfrak{g r} V G(w C) ; t)=\sum_{\substack{\text { anitchains } \\ A \subseteq \Phi^{+} \backslash \operatorname{inv}\left(w^{-1}\right)}} t^{\# A} .
$$

## This extends to Shi deletions as well.

## time check

## Getting Off-Topic: a poset ring

## A Ring from Order Ideals

Let $P$ be a poset and $J(P)$ its collection of order ideals (= down-sets).

## Definition

The order ring ${ }^{a}$ of $P$ is the set of maps $f: J(P) \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$ with pointwise addition and multiplication.

[^2]
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[^4]

This poset has 6 antichains $\emptyset,\{\alpha\},\{\beta\},\{\alpha, \beta\},\{\alpha+\beta\}$, and $\{2 \alpha+\beta\}$. An element of the order ring is an assignment of an integer weight to each of these order ideals.

## A Ring from Order Ideals

Let $O R(P)$ be the order ring of $P$.


If I contains an
element in the shaded region, then
$x_{\alpha+\beta}(I)=1$.

## A Ring from Order Ideals

Let $O R(P)$ be the order ring of $P$.
Theorem
This ring is generated by Heaviside functions, i.e.

$$
x_{i}(I)= \begin{cases}1 & \text { if } i \in I \\ 0 & \text { else }\end{cases}
$$

for $i \in P$ and $I \in J(P)$.

## A Ring from Order Ideals

Let $O R(P)$ be the order ring of $P$.


If $l$ is contained in the shaded region, then $1-x_{\alpha+\beta}(I)=1$. The empty ideal, for
example, is contained in the shaded region.

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## A Ring from Order Ideals

Let $O R(P)$ be the order ring of $P$.


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$x_{\alpha+\beta}\left(1-x_{2 \alpha+\beta}\right)(I)=1$

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for $i \in P$ and $I \in J(P)$. In particular, the following map is surjective

$$
\begin{aligned}
\mathbb{Z}\left[e_{i} \mid i \in P\right] & \rightarrow O R(P) \\
e_{i} & \mapsto x_{i}
\end{aligned}
$$

## A Ring from Order Ideals

Let $O R(P)$ be the order ring of $P$.


Its not hard to see why
$\left(1-x_{\alpha+\beta}\right) x_{2 \alpha+\beta}=0$

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and its kernel contains $\mathcal{G}=\left\{e_{j}\left(1-e_{i}\right) \mid i \leq_{p} j\right\}$.

## A Ring from Order Ideals



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The associated graded has Hilbert series

## Theorem

For any degree monomial order, the order ring OR(P) and its associated graded (w.r.t. the degree filtration) have presentations

$$
\begin{aligned}
O R(P) & \cong \mathbb{Z}\left[e_{i} \mid i \in P\right] /(\mathcal{G}) \\
\mathfrak{g r} O R(P) & \cong \mathbb{Z}\left[e_{i} \mid i \in P\right] /\left(i n_{\operatorname{deg}} \mathcal{G}\right)
\end{aligned}
$$

and moreover

$$
\operatorname{Hilb}(\mathfrak{g r} O R(P) ; t)=\sum_{\substack{A \subseteq P \\ \text { antichain }}} t^{\# A}
$$

A version of this theorem was proved by Chapoton.

## The Two Rings Together

Let $\Delta \subset \Phi^{+} \subset \Phi$ be an irreducible crystallographic root system with associated Weyl group W. Moreover, take

$$
\begin{aligned}
& w \in W, \\
& w C \text { a Weyl cone, and } \\
& E_{w}:=\Phi^{+} \backslash \operatorname{inv}\left(w^{-1}\right)
\end{aligned}
$$

## Upshot

Combining the previous statements gives $\mathbb{Z}$-algebra isomorphisms

$$
\begin{aligned}
V G(w C) & \cong O R\left(E_{w}\right) \\
\mathfrak{g r} V G(w C) & \cong \mathfrak{g r O R}\left(E_{w}\right),
\end{aligned}
$$

and in particular

$$
\operatorname{Poin}(w C, t)=\operatorname{Hilb}(\mathfrak{g r} V G(w C) ; t)=\sum_{\substack{\text { anitchains } \\ A \subseteq E_{w}}} t^{\# A} .
$$

## Question for the Audience

Are there other interesting arrangements/cones whose Varchenko-Gel'fand ring is isomorphic to an order ring of a poset?

## Thank you for your attention!

## Some References

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## Notable Mentions

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[^0]:    This extends to Shi deletions as well.

[^1]:    The $\mathcal{C}=V$ case was first proved by Varchenko and Gel'fand.

[^2]:    ${ }^{\text {a }}$ I'm open to suggestions on this name!

[^3]:    ${ }^{\text {a }}$ I'm open to suggestions on this name!

[^4]:    ${ }^{\text {a }}$ I'm open to suggestions on this name!

