

GEOMETRY OF FLAG VARIETY

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A (FULL/COMPLETE) FLAG is
 $\underline{F} = (0 = V_0 \subset V_1 \subset \dots \subset V_n = \mathbb{C}^n)$ $\dim V_i = i$

The set of all flags is denoted \mathcal{F}

ASA: $\mathcal{F} \stackrel{\text{Zariski closed}}{\subset} \text{Gr}(1,n) \times \dots \times \text{Gr}(1,n) \Rightarrow \mathcal{F}$ is a projective var.

Let $\{e_i\}_{i=1, \dots, n}$ be the canonical basis of \mathbb{C}^n

The COORDINATE FLAG is \underline{F}_0 $V_0 = \{0\}$
 $V_i = \text{span}\{e_j \mid j \leq i\} \quad i=1, \dots, n$

$$G = \text{GL}_n(\mathbb{C}) \curvearrowright \mathbb{C}^n, \mathcal{F}$$

$$G \times \mathcal{F} \rightarrow \mathcal{F}$$

$$(g, \underline{F}) \mapsto g\underline{F} = (gV_i)_{i=0, \dots, n}$$

This action is TRANSITIVE, $G \cdot \underline{F}_0 = \mathcal{F}$

$\text{Stab}_G(\underline{F}_0) = \Pi_n(\mathbb{C})$ subgroup of upper trig matrices in G
 $= B$ a Borel subgroup of G

$$\Rightarrow G/B = \{gB \mid g \in G\} \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathcal{F}$$

① \mathcal{F} is smooth (G/B is smooth, it is an homog. space)

② We can generalize the concept of flag variety.
 So for any reductive gp G , one defines the flag variety of G as G/B , $B \subset_{\text{Borel}} G$

$$G/B \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathcal{B} = \{B' \subset G \mid B' \text{ Borel subgroup of } G\}$$

$$gB \mapsto gBg^{-1}$$

Proof. use 1) $N_G(B) = B$ 2) all Borel subgroups of G are conj \square

Idea: give a decomposition of G with some "nice" properties

and use the $\pi: G \rightarrow G/B \simeq B$ To deduce
 $g \mapsto gB$ info on the geom.
of the flag variety

$T \subset B \subset G$
maximal torus Borel group

$\frac{N_G(T)}{T} = W$ finite group

R root system ass. to G, T
finite set

fixing $B \leftrightarrow$ fixing S, R
 $\leftrightarrow R^+$

$\forall \alpha \in R \Rightarrow$ the root subgroup associated to $\alpha: U_\alpha = \text{im } u_\alpha$
 $u_\alpha: (\mathbb{C}, +) \rightarrow G$ alg gp morph

$tu_\alpha(z)t^{-1} = u_\alpha(\alpha(t)z) \quad z \in \mathbb{C}$
 $t \in T$
 $[\alpha: T \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^\times]$

$S \rightsquigarrow W(S)$ simple reflections in W

$W = \langle s_i \mid (s_i s_j)^{m(s_i s_j)} = 1 \rangle$

the length function

$l: W \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$

$w \mapsto l(w) = \min \{n \mid w = s_{i_1} \dots s_{i_n} \quad s_{i_j} \in W(S)\}$

$\Rightarrow \exists! w_0 \in W$ s.t. $l(w_0)$ is maximal, the LONGEST ELEMENT

$\forall w \in W$. fix a rep $w_i \in N_G(T) \mid w \in \mathcal{S}_n$

Example:

$\mathbb{D}_n(\mathbb{C}) \leq \text{Mat}_n(\mathbb{C}) \subset GL_n(\mathbb{C})$
diagonal invertible matrices

$\{ \text{monomial matrices} \} \simeq \mathcal{S}_n$
 $\mathbb{D}_n(\mathbb{C})$

$\varepsilon_i: \mathbb{D}_n(\mathbb{C}) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^\times$
 $(t_1, \dots, t_n) \mapsto t_i$

$R = \{ \varepsilon_i \varepsilon_j^{-1} \mid 1 \leq i \neq j \leq n \}$
 $S = \{ \varepsilon_i \varepsilon_{i+1}^{-1} \mid i = 1, \dots, n-1 \}$
 $R^+ = \{ \varepsilon_i \varepsilon_j^{-1} \mid i < j \}$

$u_{\varepsilon_i \varepsilon_j^{-1}}: (\mathbb{C}, +) \rightarrow G$
 $z \mapsto \text{id} + z e_{ij}$

$\mathcal{S}_n = \langle (i, i+1) \mid 1 \leq i < n \rangle$
 $s_i^2 = 1$
 $(s_i s_{i+1})^3 = 1$
 $s_i s_j = s_j s_i \quad |i-j| \geq 2$

$\forall w \in W$, fix a repr. $\dot{w} \in N_G(T)$ | $w \in \mathfrak{S}_n$
 $\dot{w} \in G \ni (e_i \mapsto e_{w(i)})_{i=1, \dots, n}$

Def. The BRUHAT CELL relative to $w \in W$ is $C(w) = B \dot{w} B$

conn. alg gp $(B \times B) \times G \xrightarrow{\text{variety}} G$
 $((b_1, b_2), g) \mapsto b_1 g b_2^{-1}$
 BgB is the orbit of $g \in G$ under this action

$C(w)$ are orbits : - locally closed irr subv. of G
 - $\overline{C(w)} = C(w) \cup$ other BgB s.t. $\dim(BgB) < \dim(C(w))$

Ex. $G = GL_2(\mathbb{C})$ $B = \Pi_2(\mathbb{C})$
 $W = \mathfrak{S}_2 = \{1, s\}$ $s = (12)$ $\dot{s} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \in N_G(T)$

$$C(1) = B = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ 0 & d \end{pmatrix} \mid ad \neq 0 \right\}$$

$x \in G \setminus B \Rightarrow x = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}$ s.t. $c \neq 0$
 $ad - bc \neq 0$

you find that $x = u \dot{s} b'$ $u = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & * \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \in B$, $b' \in B$

$$x \in B \dot{s} B = C(\dot{s})$$

Act. $G = C(1) \sqcup C(\dot{s})$

Properties of Bruhat cells. $w \in W$

1) $w = s_{i_1} s_{i_2} \dots s_{i_\ell}$ red. exp. $s_{i_j} \in W(S)$ $\ell = \ell(w)$
 $\psi: \mathbb{A}^\ell(\mathbb{C}) \times B \longrightarrow G$

$$(x_1, \dots, x_e, b) \mapsto u_{\alpha_{i_1}}(x_1) \dot{s}_{i_1} u_{\alpha_{i_2}}(x_2) \dot{s}_{i_2} \dots \dot{s}_{i_e} b$$

inj. morph. of varieties in $\mathcal{Y} \simeq C(W)$

$$\Rightarrow \dim C(w) = \dim B + \ell(w) \quad \forall w \in W$$

BRUHAT'S LEMMA: $G = \bigsqcup_{w \in W} C(w)$

BIBLIOGRAPHY:
[Springer, LAG]
ch. 6, 8

1) $H = \bigcup_{w \in W} C(w) \subset G$

$G \subset H, GH \subset H$

This is true bec. $P_i = C(s_i) \cup C(1) \overset{\text{closed conn}}{\subset} G$

$G = \langle P_i \mid s_i \in W(S) \rangle$

and $P_i H \subset H \quad \forall i$ bec. $C(s)C(w) = \begin{cases} C(sw) \\ C(sw) \cup C(w) \end{cases}$
 $GH \subset H$

2) Have to show that $C(w_1) \cap C(w_2) \neq \emptyset \Rightarrow w_1 = w_2$

use the fact that they are orbits of $B \times B$ + \uparrow + ind. on $\ell(w)$

We have our deco of $G \Rightarrow$ say something on B
through $\pi: G \rightarrow G/B \simeq B$
 $g \mapsto gB$

Def. $\forall w \in W, X(w) = \pi(C(w))$ the SCHUBERT cell
rel. to w .

Properties: $X(w)$ are B -orbits in G/B $B \times G/B \rightarrow G/B$
 $(b, gB) \mapsto bgB$

• $X(w)$ are disjoint, locally closed subv. of G/B

• $C(w) \simeq \mathbb{A}^{\ell(w)}(\mathbb{C}) \times B \Rightarrow X(w) \simeq \mathbb{A}^{\ell(w)}(\mathbb{C})$

Def. $\overline{X(w)} = S(w)$ SCHUBERT VARIETY corr to $w \in W$

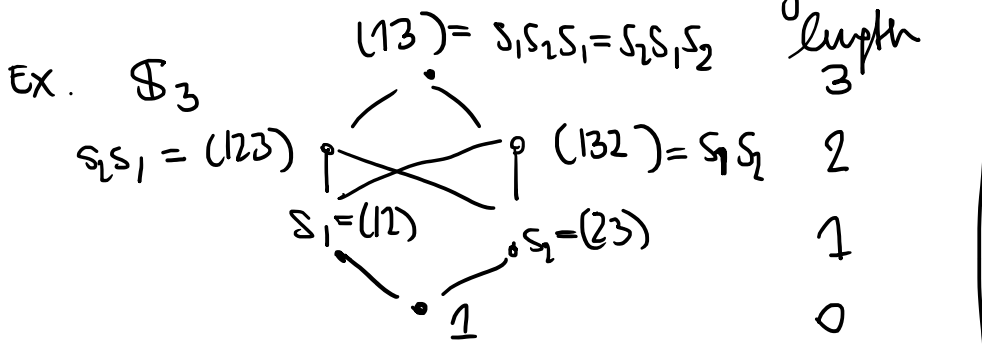
AIM: describe Schubert varieties.

$\Rightarrow \overline{X(w)} = X(w) \cup$ (other B -orbits in G/B)
 other Schubert cells $X(w')$
 s.t. $\dim X(w') < \dim X(w)$

Which ones?

THM [Chevalley] $S(w) = \overline{X(w)} = \bigsqcup_{w' \ll w} X(w')$
 in the Bruhat order on W

Recall $w' \ll w$ B.o. \Leftrightarrow a reduced expression of w' can be obtained from a red. exp. of w by deleting some simple reflections



Pf. Equivalently, we show $\overline{C(w)} = \bigsqcup_{w' \ll w} C(w')$
 Bruhat

$w = s_{i_1} \dots s_{i_\ell}$ $\ell = \ell(w)$ and $s_{i_j} \in W(S)$

$P_{i_j} = C(s_{i_j}) \cup C(e) \subset G$
 conn. closed

$C(w) \subset P := P_{i_1} \dots P_{i_\ell} = \bigcup_{w' \ll w} C(w')$ | $C(s)C(w) = C(sw)$

$$C(lw) \subset P := \underbrace{P_{i_1} \dots P_{i_e}}_{\text{irr. closed}} = \bigcup_{w' \leq w} C(lw') \quad \left| \quad C(s) \subset C(w) \right. \left. \begin{matrix} C(lw) \\ \cup \\ C(lw) \end{matrix} \right.$$

$$\Rightarrow \overline{C(lw)} \subset P = \bigcup_{w' \leq w} C(lw') \quad \dim = \ell(w) \Rightarrow \text{equality} \quad \square$$

$\dim = \ell(w)$

$\Rightarrow (X(lw))_{w \in W}$ give a stratification of $B \cong G/B$ into finitely many loc. closed smooth affine strata

Application cohomology of B

Regard B as a compact differentiable manifold of $\dim 2\ell(w_0)$

\Rightarrow The SCHUBERT CLASSES are $[S(w)] \quad w \in W$

$\left[\begin{array}{l} C(w_0) \text{ open dense } G \\ \Rightarrow X(w_0) \text{ open dense in } G/B \\ \text{ex. compute dimensions.} \end{array} \right.$

they form an additive basis of $H^*(B)$

$$\dim S(w) = \ell(w) \Rightarrow [S(w)] \in H^{2(\ell(w_0) - \ell(w))}(B)$$

Poincaré duality

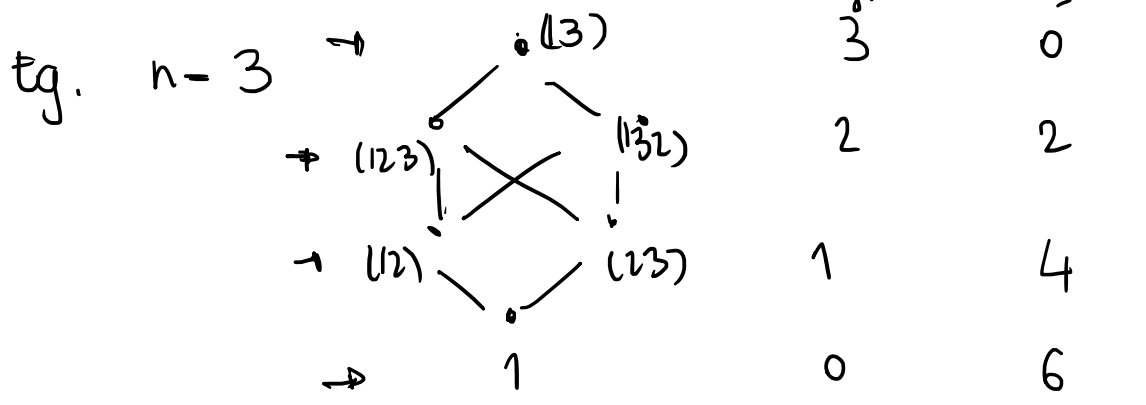
Eg. $G = GL_2(\mathbb{C}) \supseteq B = \pi_2(\mathbb{C})$

$$G/B \cong \mathcal{F} = \{ (0 \neq \langle v \rangle \subset \mathbb{C}^2) \mid 0 \neq v \in \mathbb{C} \} \cong \mathbb{P}^1(\mathbb{C})$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} G & = & B \quad \cup \quad B \dot{\cup} B \\ \pi \downarrow & & \\ G/B & = & \{pt\} \quad \cup \quad X(s) \cong \mathbb{A}^1(\mathbb{C}) \end{array}$$

$$H^*(B, \mathbb{C}) \cong_{\text{vir}} H_0(B, \mathbb{C}) \oplus H_2(B, \mathbb{C}) \quad \begin{matrix} \text{P. poly} \\ 1 + t^2 \end{matrix}$$

$$H^*(B, \mathbb{C}) \cong \bigoplus_{i=0}^n H_i(B, \mathbb{C})$$



Poincaré Poly: $1 + 2t^2 + 2t^4 + t^6$