

NZMRI Summer School 2018  
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Flag varieties  
Lecture 2

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## Lecture 2

Last time:

(a) Generators and relations for  $S_n$

$$\begin{array}{c} i & i+1 \\ \diagdown & / \\ & \times \\ / & \diagdown \end{array} = s_i = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & & & & & \\ & \ddots & & & & \\ & & 1 & & & \\ & & & 0 & 1 & \\ & & & 1 & 0 & \\ & & & & & \ddots & \\ & & & & & & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

(b) Generators and relations for  $GL_n(\mathbb{C})$

$$\begin{array}{c} i & i+1 \\ \diagdown & / \\ & \times \\ / & \diagdown \end{array} = y_i(c) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & & & & & \\ & \ddots & & & & \\ & & 1 & & & \\ & & & c & 1 & \\ & & & 1 & 0 & \\ & & & & & \ddots & \\ & & & & & & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

# Flag varieties $G/B$

$$G = GL_n(\mathbb{C})$$

U

$$B = \{\text{upper triangular matrices}\}$$

U

$$T = \{\text{diagonal matrices}\}$$

$$W = \{\text{permutation matrices}\} = S_n$$

$$G = \bigsqcup_{w \in W} BwB$$

The flag variety is  $G/B = \{gB \mid g \in G\}$

The points of  $G/B$  in  $BwB$ :

$$BwB = \{y_{i_1}(c_1) y_{i_2}(c_2) \cdots y_{i_\ell}(c_\ell) B \mid c_1, c_2, \dots, c_\ell \in \mathbb{C}\}$$

if  $w = s_{i_1} s_{i_2} \cdots s_{i_\ell}$  is a reduced word.

$$\underline{n=2, \mathcal{P}' = GL_2(\mathbb{C})/B}$$

$$W = \{11, X\} = \{1, s_1\}$$

$$G = B \cup B s_1 B$$

$B$  is a point in  $G/B$

$$B s_1 B = \{y_1(c)B \mid c \in \mathbb{C}\}$$

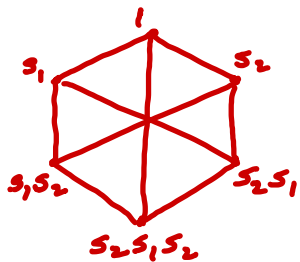
If  $\text{Card}(\mathbb{C}) = q$  then  $\text{Card}(G/B) = 1 + q$ .

$$\text{Card}(G/B) \Big|_{q=1} = \text{Card}(W).$$

$$\underline{n=3: GL_3(\mathbb{C})/B}$$

$$W = \{111, X1, 1X, XX, X, X\}$$

$$= \{1, s_1, s_2, s_1 s_2, s_2 s_1, s_1 s_2 s_1\}$$



$B$  is a point in  $G/B$

$$B s_1 B = \{y_1(c)B \mid c \in \mathbb{C}\}$$

$$B s_2 B = \{y_2(c)B \mid c \in \mathbb{C}\}$$

$$B s_1 s_2 B = \{y_1(c_1) y_2(c_2) B \mid c_1, c_2 \in \mathbb{C}\}$$

$$B s_2 s_1 B = \{y_2(c_1) y_1(c_2) B \mid c_1, c_2 \in \mathbb{C}\}$$

$$B s_2 s_1 s_2 B = \{y_2(c_1) y_1(c_2) y_2(c_3) B \mid c_1, c_2, c_3 \in \mathbb{C}\}$$

$$GL_3(\mathbb{C}) = B \cup B s_1 B \cup B s_2 B \cup B s_1 s_2 B \cup B s_2 s_1 B \cup B s_2 s_1 s_2 B$$

$$\text{If } \text{Card}(\mathbb{C}) = q \text{ then } \text{Card}(G/B) = 1 + 2q + 2q^2 + q^3 = (1+q)(1+q+q^2)$$

## Schubert Cells and Schubert Varieties

The Schubert cells are  $BwB$  in  $G/B$

The Schubert varieties are  $\overline{BwB}$  in  $G/B$

Proposition (Bott-Samelson resolution and Bruhat-Chevalley order)

Let  $w = s_{i_1} s_{i_2} \cdots s_{i_\ell}$  be a reduced word.

$$(a) BwB = Bs_{i_1}B \cdot Bs_{i_2}B \cdot \cdots \cdot Bs_{i_\ell}B$$

$$(b) \overline{BwB} = \overline{Bs_{i_1}B} \cdot \overline{Bs_{i_2}B} \cdot \cdots \cdot \overline{Bs_{i_\ell}B}$$

$$(c) \overline{BwB} = \bigsqcup_{v \leq w} BvB, \quad \text{where } v \leq w \text{ means } v \text{ is a subword of } w.$$

Example of (a) for  $n=3$

$$\begin{aligned} Bs_1B \cdot Bs_2B &= \{y_1(c)B \mid c \in \mathbb{C}\} \cdot Bs_2B \\ &= \{y_1(c)B \cdot Bs_2B \mid c \in \mathbb{C}\} = \{y_1(c)Bs_2B \mid c \in \mathbb{C}\} \\ &= \{y_1(c_1)y_2(c_2)B \mid c_1, c_2 \in \mathbb{C}\} = Bs_1s_2B \end{aligned}$$

$$\underline{\mathcal{P}' = GL_2(\mathbb{C})/\mathcal{B}}$$

Key computation:  $x_{2,1}(d) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ d & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} d^{-1} & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} d & 1 \\ 0 & -d^{-1} \end{pmatrix}$

So  $x_{2,1}(d)\mathcal{B} = y_1(d^{-1})\mathcal{B}$  if  $d \neq 0$ .

$$\mathcal{P}' = \mathcal{B} \cup \mathcal{B}s_1\mathcal{B} = \mathcal{B} \cup \{y_1(c)\mathcal{B} \mid c \in \mathbb{C}\} = \mathcal{B} \cup \begin{array}{|c|} \hline y_1(c)\mathcal{B} \\ \hline s_1\mathcal{B} \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$= \{x_{2,1}(d)\mathcal{B} \mid d \in \mathbb{C}\} \cup s_1\mathcal{B} = \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \mathcal{B} \\ \hline x_{2,1}(d)\mathcal{B} \\ \hline s_1\mathcal{B} \\ \hline \end{array}$$

So

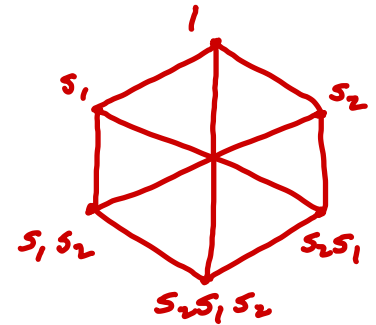
$$\mathcal{P}' = \mathcal{B} \cup \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \circ \\ \hline \text{circle} \\ \hline s_1\mathcal{B} \\ \hline \end{array} = \mathcal{B} \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{circle} \\ \hline \circ \\ \hline s_1\mathcal{B} \\ \hline \end{array} = \mathcal{B} \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{circle} \\ \hline s_1\mathcal{B} \\ \hline \end{array}$$

So

$$\overline{\mathcal{B}s_1\mathcal{B}} = \overline{\begin{array}{|c|} \hline s_1\mathcal{B} \\ \hline \end{array}} = \overline{\begin{array}{|c|} \hline \circ \\ \hline \text{circle} \\ \hline s_1\mathcal{B} \\ \hline \end{array}} = \mathcal{B} \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{circle} \\ \hline s_1\mathcal{B} \\ \hline \end{array} = \mathcal{B} \cup \mathcal{B}s_1\mathcal{B}$$

# Closures in $GL_3(\mathbb{C})/\mathcal{B}$

$$GL_3(\mathbb{C}) = \mathcal{B} \cup \mathcal{B}s_1\mathcal{B} \cup \mathcal{B}s_2\mathcal{B} \cup \mathcal{B}s_1s_2\mathcal{B} \cup \mathcal{B}s_2s_1\mathcal{B} \cup \mathcal{B}s_2s_1s_2\mathcal{B}$$



$\overline{\mathcal{B}} = \mathcal{B}$  is a point in  $G/\mathcal{B}$  !

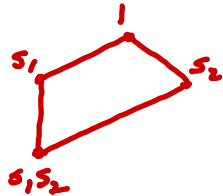
$$\overline{\mathcal{B}s_1\mathcal{B}} = \mathcal{B} \cup \mathcal{B}s_1\mathcal{B}$$



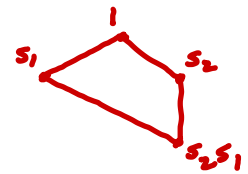
$$\overline{\mathcal{B}s_2\mathcal{B}} = \mathcal{B} \cup \mathcal{B}s_2\mathcal{B}$$



$$\overline{\mathcal{B}s_1s_2\mathcal{B}} = \mathcal{B} \cup \mathcal{B}s_1\mathcal{B} \cup \mathcal{B}s_2\mathcal{B} \cup \mathcal{B}s_1s_2\mathcal{B}$$



$$\overline{\mathcal{B}s_2s_1\mathcal{B}} = \mathcal{B} \cup \mathcal{B}s_1\mathcal{B} \cup \mathcal{B}s_2\mathcal{B} \cup \mathcal{B}s_2s_1\mathcal{B}$$



$$\overline{\mathcal{B}s_1s_2\mathcal{B}} = \overline{\mathcal{B}s_1\mathcal{B} \cdot \mathcal{B}s_2\mathcal{B}} = (\mathcal{B} \cup \mathcal{B}s_1\mathcal{B}) \cdot (\mathcal{B} \cup \mathcal{B}s_2\mathcal{B})$$

## Bruhat-Chevalley-Ehresmann order in $G/\mathcal{B}$

$$\overline{\mathcal{B}w\mathcal{B}} = \bigsqcup_{v \leq w} \mathcal{B}v\mathcal{B},$$

where  $v \leq w$  means  $v$  is a subword of

$w = s_{i_1} \cdots s_{i_\ell}$  (a reduced word for  $w$ ).

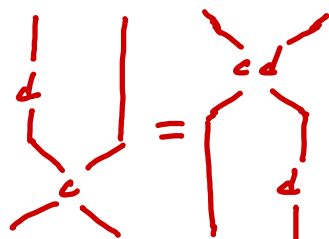
## The moment graph of $G/B$

The moment graph of  $G/B$  has

vertices: the  $T$ -fixed points of  $G/B$ ,

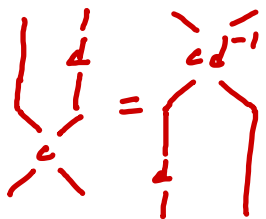
labeled edges: the 1-dimensional  $T$ -orbits in  $G/B$

Key computations:



$$\begin{pmatrix} d & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} cd & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & d \end{pmatrix}$$

$$h_j(d) y_j(c) = y_j(cd) h_{j+1}(d)$$



$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & d \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} cd^{-1} & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} d & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$h_{j+1}(d) y_j(c) = y_j(cd^{-1}) h_j(d)$$

$T$ -fixed points: Let  $w = s_{i_1} s_{i_2} \cdots s_{i_\ell}$  be a reduced word. Then

$$wB = s_{i_1} s_{i_2} \cdots s_{i_\ell} B = y_{i_1}(d) y_{i_2}(d) \cdots y_{i_\ell}(d) B \quad \text{for } w \in W$$

are the  $T$ -fixed points in  $G/B$ .



## One dimensional T-orbits

Key computation:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & \\ & d \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} cd \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} d & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & c \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & cd \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & d \end{pmatrix}$$

$$h_i(d) x_{ij}(c) = x_{ij}(cd) h_i(d)$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & \\ & d \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ c \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ cd^{-1} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & d \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & c \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & cd^{-1} \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & d \end{pmatrix}$$

$$h_j(d) x_{ij}(c) = x_{ij}(cd^{-1}) h_j(d)$$

$$h_i(d)(x_{ij}(c)wB) = x_{ij}(cd)h_i(d)wB = x_{ij}(cd)wh_{w(i)}(d)B = x_{ij}(cd)wB$$

$$h_j(d)(x_{ij}(c)wB) = x_{ij}(cd^{-1})h_j(d)wB = x_{ij}(cd^{-1})wh_{w(j)}(d)B = x_{ij}(cd^{-1})wB$$

$$h_k(d)(x_{ij}(c)wB) = x_{ij}(c)h_k(d)wB = x_{ij}(c)wh_{w(k)}(d)B = x_{ij}(c)wB$$

1-dimensional T-orbits: Let  $i, j \in \{1, \dots, n\}$  with  $i < j$ .

$\{x_{ij}(c)wB \mid c \in \mathbb{C}^{\times}\}$  is a 1-dimensional T-orbit

and these are all the 1-dimensional T-orbits.

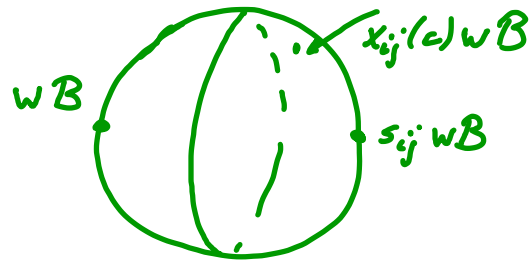
Since  $x_{ij}(c)wB = y_{ij}(c^{-1})wB$  for  $c \neq 0$ , then

(where  $y_{ij}(c^{-1}) = x_{ij}(c^{-1})s_{ij}$ , with  $s_{ij}$  the transposition switching  $i$  and  $j$ .)

$$\lim_{c \rightarrow 0} x_{ij}(c)wB = wB \quad \text{and} \quad \lim_{c \rightarrow \infty} x_{ij}(c)wB = \lim_{c^{-1} \rightarrow 0} y_{ij}(c^{-1})wB = s_{ij}wB$$

so the  $T$ -fixed points  $wB$  and  $s_{ij}wB$

are limit points of the orbit  $\{x_{ij}(c)wB \mid c \in \mathbb{C}^{\times}\}$



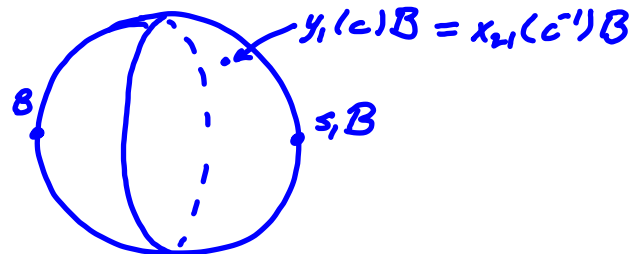
The moment graph of  $G/B$  has

vertices:  $w$

labeled edges:  $w \xrightarrow{x_{ij}} s_{ij}w$

The moment graph for  $\mathbb{P}^1$

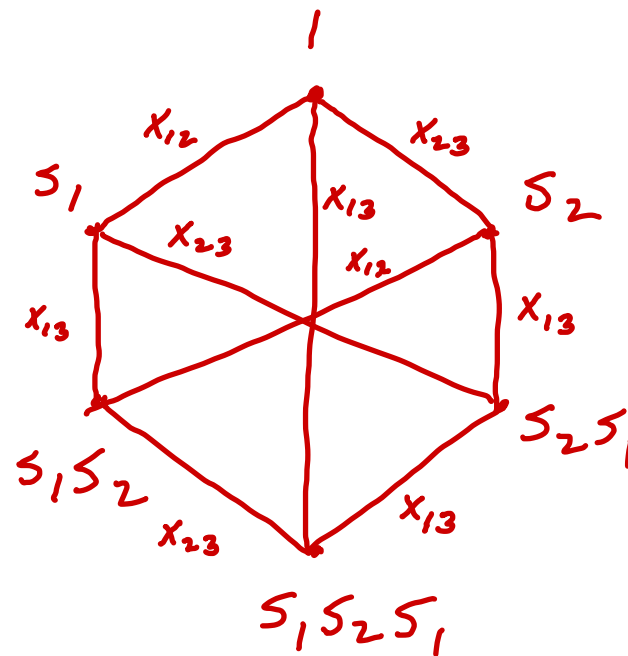
$$\mathbb{P}^1 = GL_2(\mathbb{C})/B = B \cup B s_1 B =$$



The moment graph for  $GL_3(\mathbb{C})/B$

$$GL_3(\mathbb{C})/B =$$

	$B$	
$B s_1 B$		$B s_2 B$
$B s_1 s_2 B$		$B s_2 s_1 B$
$B s_2 s_1 s_2 B$		



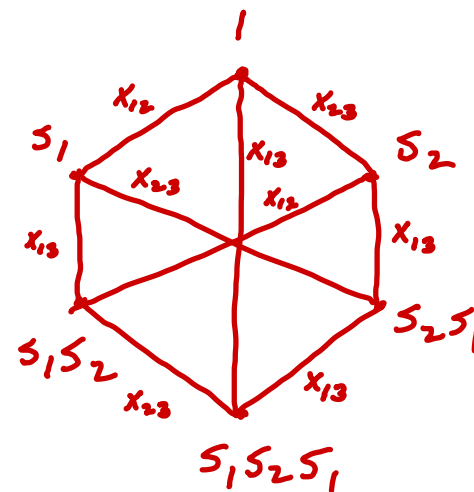
# Moment graphs of Schubert varieties $\overline{BwB}$ in $GL_3(\mathbb{C})/B$

$$\overline{Bs_1s_2s_1B} = GL_3(\mathbb{C})/B = B$$

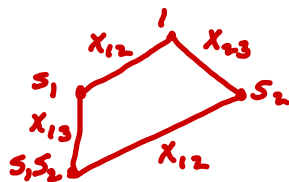
$$Bs_1B \quad Bs_2B$$

$$Bs_1s_2B \quad Bs_2s_1B$$

$$Bs_2s_1s_2B$$



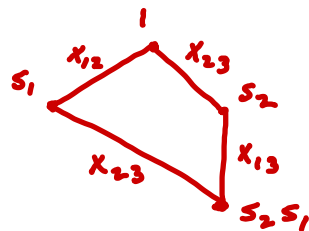
$$\overline{Bs_1s_2B} = B \cup Bs_1B \cup Bs_2B \cup Bs_1s_2B$$



$$\overline{Bs_1B} = B \cup Bs_1B$$



$$\overline{Bs_2s_1B} = B \cup Bs_1B \cup Bs_2B \cup Bs_2s_1B$$



$$\overline{Bs_2B} = B \cup Bs_2B$$



$$\overline{B} = B$$