

# EKT of Some Wonderful Compactifications

and recent results on Complete Quadrics.

(Based on joint works with Soumya Banerjee and Michael Joyce)

Mahir Bilen Can

April 16, 2016

# What is a spherical variety?

Let

- $G$  be a reductive group,  $B \subseteq G$  be a Borel subgroup,
- $X$  be a  $G$ -variety,
- and  $\mathcal{B}(X)$  denote the set of  $B$ -orbits in  $X$ .

If  $|\mathcal{B}(X)| < \infty$ , then  $X$  is called a spherical  $G$ -variety.

# Examples.

Simple examples include

- toric varieties,
- (partial) flag varieties,
- symmetric varieties,
- linear algebraic monoids.

There are many other important examples..

Our goal is to present a description of the equivariant K-theory for all smooth projective spherical varieties and record some recent progress on the geometry of the variety of complete quadrics.

# Equivariant Chow groups

Let  $X$  be a projective nonsingular spherical  $G$ -variety and  $T \subseteq G$  be a maximal torus.

## Theorem (Brion '97)

*The map  $i^* : A_T^*(X)_{\mathbb{Q}} \rightarrow A_T^*(X^T)_{\mathbb{Q}}$  is injective. Moreover, the image of  $i^*$  consists of families  $(f_x)_{x \in X^T}$  such that*

- $f_x \equiv f_y \pmod{\chi}$  whenever  $x$  and  $y$  are connected by a  $T$ -curve with weight  $\chi$ .
- $f_x - 2f_y + f_z \equiv 0 \pmod{\alpha^2}$  whenever  $\alpha$  is a positive root,  $x, y, z$  lie in a connected component of  $X^{\ker(\alpha)}$  which is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{P}^2$ .
- $f_x - f_y + f_z - f_w \equiv 0 \pmod{\alpha^2}$  whenever  $\alpha$  is a positive root,  $x, y, z, w$  lie in a connected component of  $X^{\ker(\alpha)}$  which is isomorphic to a rational ruled surface.

## Remarks

The underlying idea in Brion's result is to study the fixed loci of all codimension one subtori  $S \subset T$ . This point is exploited by Vezzosi and Vistoli for  $K$ -theory:

### Theorem (Vezzosi-Vistoli '03)

*Suppose  $D$  is a diagonalizable group acting on a smooth proper scheme  $X$  defined over a perfect field; denote by  $T$  the toral component of  $D$ , that is the maximal subtorus contained in  $D$ . Then the restriction homomorphism on  $K$ -groups  $K_{D,*}(X) \rightarrow K_{D,*}(X^T)$  is injective, and its image equals the intersection of all images of the restriction homomorphisms  $K_{D,*}(X^S) \rightarrow K_{D,*}(X^T)$  for all subtori  $S \subset T$  of codimension 1.*

Therefore, for a spherical  $G$ -variety  $X$ , we need to analyze  $X^S$  when  $S$  is a codimension one subtorus of  $T$ .

# Equivariant $K$ -theory

Let  $k$  denote the underlying base field that our schemes are defined over and let  $R(T)$  denote the representation ring of  $T$ .

Theorem (Banerjee-Can, around 2013, posted in 2016)

*The  $T$ -equivariant  $K$ -theory  $K_{T,*}(X)$  is isomorphic to the ring of ordered tuples*

$$(f_x)_{x \in X^T} \in \prod_{x \in X^T} K_*(k) \otimes R(T)$$

*satisfying the following congruence relations:*

# Equivariant $K$ -theory

## Theorem (Banerjee-Can '13, continued)

1) *If there exists a  $T$ -stable curve with weight  $\chi$  connecting  $x, y \in X^T$ , then*

$$f_x - f_y = 0 \pmod{(1 - \chi)}.$$

# Equivariant $K$ -theory

## Theorem (Banerjee-Can '13, continued)

2) If there exists a root  $\chi$  such that an irreducible component  $Y \subseteq X^{\ker \chi}$  isomorphic to  $Y \simeq \mathbb{P}^2$  connects  $x, y, z \in X^T$ , then

$$\begin{aligned}f_x - f_y &= 0 \pmod{1 - \chi}, \\f_x - f_z &= 0 \pmod{1 - \chi}, \\f_y - f_z &= 0 \pmod{1 - \chi^2}.\end{aligned}$$

Moreover, in this case, there is an element in the Weyl group of  $(G, T)$  that fixes  $x$  and permutes  $y$  and  $z$ .



# Equivariant $K$ -theory

## Theorem (Banerjee-Can '13, continued)

3) If there exists a root  $\chi$  such that an irreducible component  $Y \subseteq X^{\ker \chi}$  isomorphic to  $Y \simeq \mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^1$  connects  $x, y, z, t \in X^T$ , then

$$f_x - f_y = 0 \pmod{1 - \chi},$$

$$f_y - f_z = 0 \pmod{1 - \chi},$$

$$f_z - f_t = 0 \pmod{1 - \chi},$$

$$f_x - f_t = 0 \pmod{1 - \chi}.$$

Moreover, in this case, there is an element in the Weyl group of  $(G, T)$  that fixes two and permutes the other two.

# Equivariant $K$ -theory

## Theorem (Banerjee-Can '13, continued)

4) *If there exists a root  $\chi$  such that an irreducible component  $Y \subseteq X^{\ker \chi}$  isomorphic to a Hirzebruch surface  $F_n$  that connects  $x, y, z, t \in X^T$ , then*

$$f_x - f_y = 0 \pmod{1 - \chi},$$

$$f_z - f_t = 0 \pmod{1 - \chi},$$

$$f_y - f_z = 0 \pmod{1 - \chi^{2n}},$$

$$f_x - f_t = 0 \pmod{1 - \chi^n}.$$

*Moreover, in this case, there is an element in the Weyl group of  $(G, T)$  that fixes the points  $x$  and  $t$  and permutes  $z$  and  $y$ .*

# Equivariant $K$ -theory

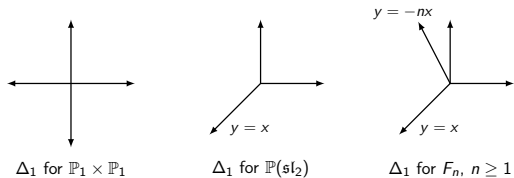


Figure: Fans of the irreducible components  $Y \subset X^S$

# Equivariant $K$ -theory

## Theorem (Banerjee-Can '13, continued)

Since  $W = W(G, T)$  acts on  $X^T$ , it induces an action on  $\prod_{x \in X^T} K_*(k) \otimes R(T)$ .

The  $G$ -equivariant  $K$ -theory of  $X$  is given by the space of invariants:

$$K_{G,*}(X) = K_{T,*}(X) \cap \left( \prod_{x \in X^T} K_{T,*}(k) \otimes R(T) \right)^W .$$

# Applications to wonderful compactifications

- $k$ : algebraically closed, characteristic 0;
- $G$ : semisimple simply-connected algebraic group;
- $\theta : G \rightarrow G$  an involutory automorphism;
- $H = G^\theta$ : the fixed point subgroup;
- $\tilde{H}$ : the normalizer of  $H$  in  $G$ .

# Prolongement magnifique de Demazure

- $\mathfrak{g} = \text{Lie}(G)$ ,
- $\mathfrak{h} = \text{Lie}(H)$  with  $d = \dim \mathfrak{h}$ ,
- $Gr(\mathfrak{g}, d)$ : grassmannian of  $d$  dimensional vector subspaces of  $\mathfrak{g}$ ,
- $[\mathfrak{h}]$ : the point corresponding to  $\mathfrak{h} \subset \mathfrak{g}$ ,

The wonderful compactification  $X_{G/H}$  of  $G/\tilde{H}$  is the Zariski closure of the orbit

$$\overline{G \cdot [\mathfrak{h}]} \subset Gr(\mathfrak{g}, d).$$

# General properties of $X_{G/H}$

## De Concini-Procesi '82:

- $X_{G/H}$  is smooth, complete, and  $G$ -spherical.
- The open orbit is  $G/H \hookrightarrow X_{G/H}$ .
- There are finitely many boundary divisors  $X^{\{\alpha\}}$  which are  $G$ -stable and indexed by elements of a system of simple roots,  $\alpha \in \Delta_{G/H}$ .
- Each  $G$ -orbit closure is of the form  $X^I := \bigcap_{\alpha \in I} X^{\{\alpha\}}$  for a subset  $I \subseteq \Delta_{G/H}$  and moreover

$$X^I \subseteq X^J \iff J \subseteq I.$$

- There exists a unique closed  $G$ -orbit  $X^{\Delta_{G/H}}$  which is necessarily of the form  $G/P$  for some parabolic subgroup  $P$ .

## First example, the group case.

Let  $\mathbf{G} = G \times G$  and  $\theta : \mathbf{G} \rightarrow \mathbf{G}$  be the automorphism

$$\theta(g_1, g_2) = (g_2, g_1).$$

The fixed subgroup  $\mathbf{H}$  is the diagonal copy of  $G$  in  $\mathbf{G}$ .

- The open orbit is  $\mathbf{G}/\mathbf{H} \cong G$ .
- The closed orbit is isomorphic to  $G/B \times G/B^-$ , where  $B^-$  is the opposite Borel.



## Back to the general case.

Let  $G/P$  denote the closed orbit in  $X_{G/H}$ .

- $P$ : parabolic subgroup opposite to  $\theta(P)$
- $L = P \cap \theta(P)$
- $T \subset L$  a maximal torus
- $T_0 = \{t \in T : \theta(t) = t\}$
- $T_1 = \{t \in T : \theta(t) = t^{-1}\}$
- $W_G, W_H, W_L$  associated Weyl groups
- $\Phi_G, \Phi_H, \Phi_L$  the root systems of  $(G, T), (H, T_0), (L, T)$
- The rank of  $G/H$  is  $\text{rank}(G/H) := \dim T_1$

# Spherical pairs of minimal rank

$G/H$  is called of minimal rank if

$$\text{rank}(G/H) + \text{rank}(H) = \text{rank}(G).$$

Geometry of these varieties are studied by Tchoudjem in '05 and Brion-Joshua in '08.

## Theorem (Ressayre '04)

*Irreducible minimal rank spherical pairs  $(G, H)$  with  $G$  semisimple and  $H$  simple are*

- $(\mathbf{G}, \mathbf{H})$  with  $\mathbf{H}$  simple.
- $(SL_{2n}, Sp_n)$ .
- $(SO_{2n}, SO_{2n-1})$ .
- $(E_6, F_4)$ .
- $(SO_7, G_2)$ .

# Little Weyl group

Let  $\mathcal{X}(T)$  denote the character group of  $T$ .

- If  $p : \mathcal{X}(T) \rightarrow \mathcal{X}(T_1^0)$  is the restriction map, then

$$\Phi_{G/H} := p(\Phi_G) - \{0\}$$

is a root system, which is possibly non reduced.

- $\Delta_{G/H} = \{\alpha - \theta(\alpha) : \alpha \in \Delta_G - \Delta_L\}$  is a basis for  $\Phi_{G/H}$ .
- The little Weyl group of  $G/H$  is defined as

$$W_{G/H} := N_G(T_1^0)/Z_G(T_1^0).$$

## Wonderful toric variety

There is a natural torus embedding  $T/T_0 \hookrightarrow G/H$ . The closure  $Y := \overline{T/T_0} \subset X_{G/H}$  is a smooth projective toric variety. Furthermore,  $Y = W_{G/H} \cdot Y_0$ , where  $Y_0$  is the affine toric subvariety of  $Y$  associated with the positive Weyl chamber dual of  $\Delta_{G/H}$ .  $Y_0$  has a unique  $T$ -fixed point, denoted by  $z_0$ .

## Lemma (Brion-Joshua, Tchoudjem)

- (i) *The  $T$ -fixed points of  $X_{G/H}$  (resp. of  $Y$ ) are exactly the points  $w \cdot z_0$  where  $w \in W_G/W_L$  (resp.  $w \in W_H/W_L = W_{G/H}$ ).*
- (ii) *For any positive root  $\alpha \in \Phi_G^+ \setminus \Phi_L^+$ , there exists unique irreducible  $T$ -stable curve  $C_{\alpha \cdot z_0}$  connecting  $z_0$  and  $\alpha z_0$ . The torus  $T$  acts on  $C_{\alpha \cdot z_0}$  via the character  $\alpha$ . This curve is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{P}^1$  and we call it as a Type 1 curve.*
- (iii) *For any simple root  $\gamma = \alpha - \theta(\alpha) \in \Delta_{G/H}$ , there exists unique irreducible  $T$ -stable curve  $C_{\gamma \cdot z_0}$  connecting  $z_0$  and  $s_\alpha s_{\theta(\alpha)} \cdot z_0$ . The torus  $T$  acts on  $C_{\gamma \cdot z_0}$  by the character  $\gamma$ . This curve is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{P}^1$  and we call it by a Type 2 curve.*
- (iv) *The irreducible  $T$ -stable curves in  $X$  are precisely the  $W_G$ -translates of the curves  $C_{\alpha \cdot z_0}$  and  $C_{\gamma \cdot z_0}$ . They are all isomorphic to  $\mathbb{P}^1$ .*
- (v) *The irreducible  $T$ -stable curves in  $Y$  are the  $W_{G/H}$ -translates of the curves  $C_{\gamma \cdot z_0}$ .*

## Corollary

*The minimal rank wonderful compactification  $X_{G/H}$  is  $T$ -skeletal; there are finitely many  $T$ -fixed points and finitely many  $T$ -stable curves.*

Using these observations, in 2008 Brion and Joshua obtained a concrete description of the equivariant Chow ring of a wonderful compactification of minimal rank.

We do the same (actually to a finer degree) with the equivariant algebraic K-theory.

## Corollary (Banerjee-Can '13)

The  $T$ -equivariant  $K$ -theory  $K_{T,*}(X_{G/H})$  of  $X_{G/H}$  is isomorphic to the space of tuples  $(f_{w \cdot z_0}) \in \prod_{w \in W_G/W_L} K_*(k) \otimes R(T)$  such that

$$f_{w \cdot z_0} - f_{w' \cdot z_0} = \begin{cases} 0 \pmod{1 - \alpha} & \text{if } w^{-1}w' = s_\alpha \\ 0 \pmod{1 - \alpha \cdot \theta(\alpha)^{-1}} & \text{if } w^{-1}w' = (s_\alpha \cdot s_{\theta(\alpha)})^\pm \end{cases}.$$

The  $T$ -equivariant  $K$ -theory  $K_{T,*}(Y)$  of the toric variety  $Y$  is isomorphic to the space of tuples  $(f_{w \cdot z_0}) \in \prod_{w \in W_H/W_L} K_*(k) \otimes R(T)$  such that

$$f_{w \cdot z_0} - f_{w' \cdot z_0} = 0 \pmod{1 - \alpha \cdot \theta(\alpha)^{-1}} \text{ and } w^{-1}w' = (s_\alpha \cdot s_{\theta(\alpha)})^\pm.$$

Let  $W^H$  denote the minimal coset representatives of  $W_G/W_H$ .

### Theorem (Banerjee-Can '15)

*There is an isomorphism of rings*

$$\prod_{w \in W^H} K_{T,*}(Y) \cong K_{T,*}(X_{G/H}).$$

*Moreover this is an isomorphism of  $K_*(k) \otimes R(T)$  modules.*

### Corollary (Banerjee-Can '15)

*The  $G$ -equivariant  $K$ -theory  $K_{G,*}(X_{G/H})$  of  $X_{G/H}$  is isomorphic to  $W_H$ -invariants of the  $T$ -equivariant  $K$ -theory of the toric variety  $Y$ .*



## A non $T$ -skeletal example

Consider the automorphism  $\theta : SL_n \rightarrow SL_n$  defined by  $\theta(g) = (g^{-1})^\top$ . Then the fixed subgroup of  $\theta$  is  $SO_n$ , hence the symmetric variety  $G/G^\theta$  is

$$G/H := SL_n/SO_n.$$

The maximal torus of diagonal matrices in  $SL_n$  is unisotropic with respect to  $\theta$ ;  $T = T_1$ , hence the set of restricted simple roots  $\Delta_{G/H}$  is the root system of  $(SL_n, T)$ .

Let  $X_0$  denote the open set of the projectivization of  $\text{Sym}_n$ , the space of symmetric  $n$ -by- $n$  matrices, consisting of matrices with non-zero determinant. Elements of  $X_0$  should be interpreted as (the defining equations of) smooth quadric hypersurfaces in  $\mathbb{P}^{n-1}$ . The group  $SL_n$  acts on  $X_0$  by change of variables defining the quadric hypersurfaces, which translates to the action

$$g \cdot A = gAg^T$$

on  $\text{Sym}_n$ .

$X_0$  is a homogeneous space under this  $SL_n$  action and the stabilizer of the quadric  $x_1^2 + x_2^2 + \cdots + x_n^2 = 0$  (equivalently, the class of the identity matrix) is the normalizer group of  $SO_n$  in  $SL_n$ , which we denote by  $\widetilde{SO}_n$ .

## Definition

The variety of complete quadrics  $X_n$  is the wonderful compactification of  $SL_n/\widetilde{SO}_n$ .

Its classical definition (Schubert 1879) is as follows. A point  $\mathcal{P} \in X_n$  is described by the data of a flag

$$\mathcal{F} : V_0 = 0 \subset V_1 \subset \cdots \subset V_{s-1} \subset V_s = \mathbb{C}^n \quad (1)$$

and a collection  $\mathcal{Q} = (Q_1, \dots, Q_s)$  of quadrics, where  $Q_i$  is a quadric in  $\mathbb{P}(V_i)$  whose singular locus is  $\mathbb{P}(V_{i-1})$ .

There are alternative descriptions of  $X_n$ :

### Theorem (Semple 1948)

$X_n$  is the closure of the image of the map

$$[A] \mapsto ([A], [\Lambda^2(A)], \dots, [\Lambda^{n-1}(A)]) \in \prod_{i=1}^{n-1} \mathbb{P}(\Lambda^i(\text{Sym}_n)).$$

### Theorem (Vainsencher 1982)

$X_n$  can be obtained by the following sequence of blow-ups: in the naive compactification  $\mathbb{P}^{n-1}$  of  $X_0$ , first blow up the locus of rank 1 quadrics; then blow up the strict transform of the rank 2 quadrics; ...; then blow up the strict transform of the rank  $n - 1$  quadrics.

The closed  $SL_n$ -orbit in  $X_n$  is  $SL_n/B$  and the dense open orbit is  $SL_n/\widetilde{SO}_n$ . To describe the geometry of  $X_n$ , first, one needs to understand the combinatorics of Borel orbits in  $X_n$ . Notation:

- A composition of  $n$  is an ordered sequence  $\mu = (\mu_1, \dots, \mu_k)$  of positive integers that sum to  $n$ .
- Define  $\text{set}(\mu)$  of a composition by

$$\mu = (\mu_1, \dots, \mu_k) \leftrightarrow \text{set}(\mu) := \{\mu_1, \mu_1 + \mu_2, \dots, \mu_1 + \dots + \mu_{k-1}\},$$

This yields an equivalent parameterization of the  $G$ -orbits of  $X_n$ .

- The  $G$ -orbit associated with the composition  $\mu$  is denoted by  $O^\mu$ .

Let  $\mu'$  and  $\mu$  be two compositions of  $n$ . In Zariski topology

$$O^{\mu'} \subseteq \overline{O^\mu} \iff \text{set}(\mu) \subseteq \text{set}(\mu').$$

The  $B$ -orbits of  $X_n$  lying in the open orbit  $O^{(n)}$  are parametrized by  $I_n$ , the set of involutions in  $S_n$ .

More generally, (as noticed by Springer '04) the  $B$ -orbits in  $O^\mu$  are parameterized by combinatorial objects that we call  $\mu$ -involutions. Concisely, a  $\mu$ -involution is a permutation of the set  $[n]$  written in one-line notation and partitioned into strings by  $\mu$ , so that each string is an involution with respect to the relative ordering of its numbers. For example,  $[26|8351|7|94]$  is a  $(2, 4, 1, 2)$ -involution and the string 8351 is equivalent to the involution 4231.



We denote by  $I_\mu$  the set of  $\mu$ -involutions. The identity  $\mu$ -involution, whose entries are given in the increasing order, is the representative of the dense  $B$ -orbit in the  $G$ -orbit  $O^\mu$ . At the other extreme, the  $B$ -orbits in the closed orbit are parametrized by permutations and the inclusion relations among  $B$ -orbit closures is just the opposite of the well-known Bruhat-Chevalley ordering (so that the identity permutation corresponds to the dense  $B$ -orbit).

Associated to a  $\mu$ -involution  $\pi$  is a distinguished complete quadric  $Q_\pi$ . Viewed as a permutation,  $\pi \in I_\mu$  has the decomposition  $\pi = uv$  with  $u \in S_\mu$  and  $v \in S^\mu$ , where  $S^\mu$  is the minimal length right coset representatives of the parabolic subgroup  $S_\mu$  in  $S_n$ .

Suppose  $\mu = (\mu_1, \dots, \mu_k)$  and let  $e_i$  denote the  $i$ -th standard basis vector of  $\mathbb{C}^n$ . Then the desired flag of  $Q_\pi$  is given by the subspaces  $V_i$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, k$ , which are spanned by  $e_{\pi(j)}$  for  $1 \leq j \leq \mu_1 + \mu_2 + \dots + \mu_i$ .

To construct the corresponding sequence of smooth quadrics, consider  $(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_k)$ , the image of  $u$  under the isomorphism  $S_\mu \cong S_{\mu_1} \times S_{\mu_2} \times \dots \times S_{\mu_k}$ . Since  $\pi$  is a  $\mu$ -involution, each  $u_i \in I_{\mu_i}$ . Then the smooth quadric in  $\mathbb{P}(V_i/V_{i-1})$  that defines  $Q_\pi$  is given by the symmetric matrix in the permutation matrix representation of  $u_i$ .

## Lemma (Banerjee-Can-Joyce '16)

Let  $\pi = [\pi_1 | \cdots | \pi_k]$  be a  $\mu$ -involution and let  $Y_\pi$  be the corresponding  $B$ -orbit. Then

$Y_\pi$  has a  $T$ -fixed point if and only if for  $i = 1, \dots, k$  the length of  $\pi_i$  (as a string) is at most 2; if  $\pi_i = i_1 i_2$  for numbers  $i_1, i_2 \in [n]$ , then  $i_1 > i_2$  (hence  $\pi_i$  corresponds to the nonsingular quadric  $x_{i_1} x_{i_2}$ ).

## Definition

We call a  $\mu$ -involution as in the above lemma a *barred permutation*. The number of barred permutations of  $[n]$  is denoted by  $t_n$ ,  $n \geq 1$ . By convention we set  $t_0 = 1$ . The set of all barred permutations on  $[n]$  is denoted by  $B(S_n)$ .

## Theorem (Banerjee-Can-Joyce '16)

The exponential generating series  $F_{\text{exp}}(x) := \sum_{n \geq 0} \frac{t_n}{n!} x^n$  of the number of  $T$ -fixed points in  $X_n$  is given by

$$F_{\text{exp}}(x) = \frac{1 + x - x^2/2 - x^3/2}{(1 - x - x^2/2)^2} = \frac{-(x+1)(x^2-2)}{(2x^2+4x-4)^2}.$$

## Corollary (Banerjee-Can-Joyce '16)

The number of  $T$ -fixed points in  $X_n$  is equal to

$$a_n(n+1)! + a_{n-1}n!,$$

where

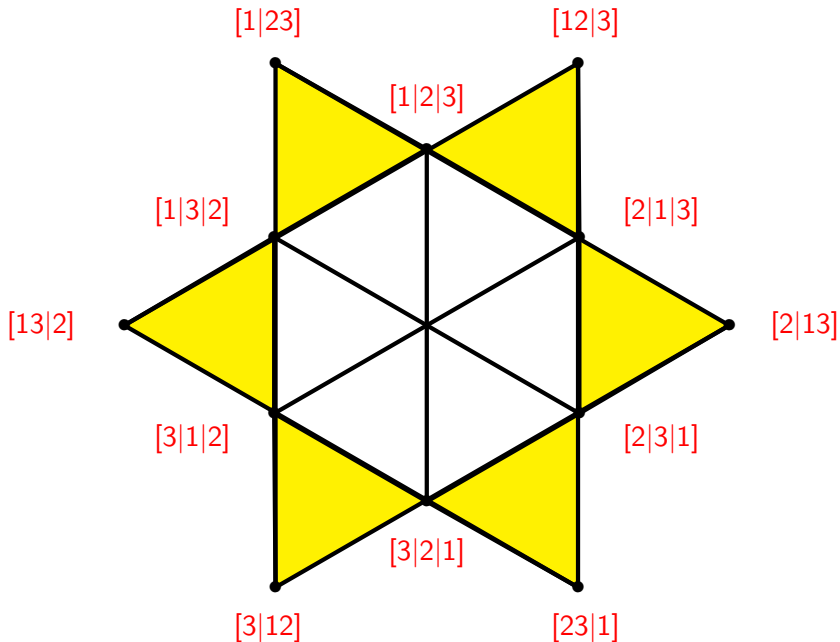
$$a_n = \begin{cases} \frac{\sum_{i=0}^{n/2} \binom{n+1}{2i+1} 3^i}{2^n} & \text{if } n+1 = 2m+1; \\ \frac{\sum_{i=0}^{(n-1)/2} \binom{n+1}{2i+1} 3^i}{2^n} & \text{if } n+1 = 2m. \end{cases}$$

Our next task is to understand the  $T$ -stable surfaces and curves in  $X_n$ :

### Theorem (Banerjee-Can-Joyce '16)

*An irreducible component of  $X^S$ , the fixed locus of a codimension-one subtorus of  $T$  is either a  $\mathbb{P}^1$  or a  $\mathbb{P}^2$ .*

We can tell exactly how do these  $\mathbb{P}^1$ 's and  $\mathbb{P}^2$ 's fit together. For example, when  $n = 3$  we have:



## Theorem (Banerjee-Can-Joyce '16)

Let  $T \subset G = SL_n$  denote maximal torus of diagonal matrices. The  $T$  equivariant  $K$ -theory  $K_{T,*}(X_n)$  is isomorphic to the ring of tuples  $(f_x) \in \prod_{x \in B(S_n)} K_*(k) \otimes R(T)$  satisfying the following congruence conditions:

- $f_x - f_y = 0 \pmod{1 - \chi}$  when  $x, y$  are connected by a  $T$  stable curve with weight  $\chi$ .
- $f_x - f_y = f_x - f_z = 0 \pmod{1 - \chi}$  and  $f_y - f_z = 0 \pmod{1 - \chi^2}$ ,  $\chi$  is a root and  $x, y, z$  lie on a component of the subvariety  $X_n^{\ker(\chi)}$ , which is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{P}^2$ . There is a permutation that fixes  $x$  and permutes  $y$  and  $z$ .

Moreover, the symmetric group  $S_n$  acts on the torus fixed point set  $X_n^T$  by permuting them and the  $G$  equivariant  $K$ -theory is given by the space of  $S_n$ -invariants in  $K_{T,*}(X_n)$ .



Define  $\tau : \{\mu\text{-involutions}\} \rightarrow \{\text{barred permutations}\}$  as follows: Suppose  $\pi = \pi_1 | \pi_2 | \dots | \pi_k$ . For each  $\pi_j$ , order its cycles in lexicographic order on the largest value in each cycle. Then add bars between each cycle. Since  $\pi$  is a  $\mu$ -involution, every cycle that occurs in each  $\pi_j$  has length one or two. Finally, convert one-cycles  $(i)$  into the numeral  $i$  and two-cycles  $(ij)$  with  $i < j$  into the string  $ji$ . For example,

$$\tau((68)|(25)(4)(9)|(13)(7)) = [86|4|52|9|31|7].$$

### Theorem (Banerjee-Can-Joyce '16)

*There is a 1-PSG  $\lambda$  such that for any  $\mu$ -involution  $\pi$ , the limit  $\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \lambda(t) \cdot Q_\pi$  is the  $T$ -fixed quadric parameterized by  $\tau(\pi)$ .*

We now wish to define a map

$$\sigma : \{\text{barred permutations}\} \rightarrow \{\mu\text{-involutions}\}$$

which will have the following geometric interpretation.

Let  $Q_\alpha$  be the  $T$ -fixed quadric associated to a barred permutation  $\alpha$ . Then  $\sigma(\alpha)$  will correspond to the distinguished quadric in the dense  $B$ -orbit of the cell that contains  $Q_\alpha$ . In other words, the  $B$ -orbit of  $Q_{\sigma(\alpha)}$  will have the largest dimension among all  $B$ -orbits that flow to  $Q_\alpha$ .

First, we define the notion of ascents and descents in a barred permutation  $\alpha = [\alpha_1|\alpha_2|\dots|\alpha_k]$ . First, define  $d_j$  to be the largest value occurring in  $\alpha_j$ , giving rise to a sequence  $\mathbf{d} = (d_1, d_2, \dots, d_k)$ . For example, if  $\alpha = [86|9|52|4|7|31]$ , then  $\mathbf{d} = (8, 9, 5, 4, 7, 3)$ . We say that  $\pi$  has a descent (resp., ascent) at position  $i$  if  $\mathbf{d}$  has a descent (resp., ascent) at position  $i$ .

The  $\mu$ -involution  $\sigma(\alpha)$  is constructed by first converting strings  $i$  of length 1 into one-cycles  $(i)$  and strings  $ji$  of length 2 into two-cycles  $(ij)$ . Then remove the bars at positions of ascent and keep the bars at positions of descent in  $\alpha$ . For example,

$$\sigma([86|4|52|9|31|7]) = (68)|(25)(4)(9)|(13)(7).$$

## Theorem (Banerjee-Can-Joyce '16)

*For any barred permutation  $\alpha$ , the  $B$ -orbit of  $Q_{\sigma(\alpha)}$  has the largest dimension among all  $B$ -orbits that flow to  $Q_\alpha$ .*

We illustrate the resulting cell decomposition when  $n = 3$  in the next figure. The dimension of a cell corresponding to a vertex in the figure is equal to the length of any chain from the bottom cell. A vertex corresponding to cell  $C$  is connected by an edge to a vertex of a cell  $C'$  of one dimension lower if and only if  $C'$  is contained in the closure of  $C$ .

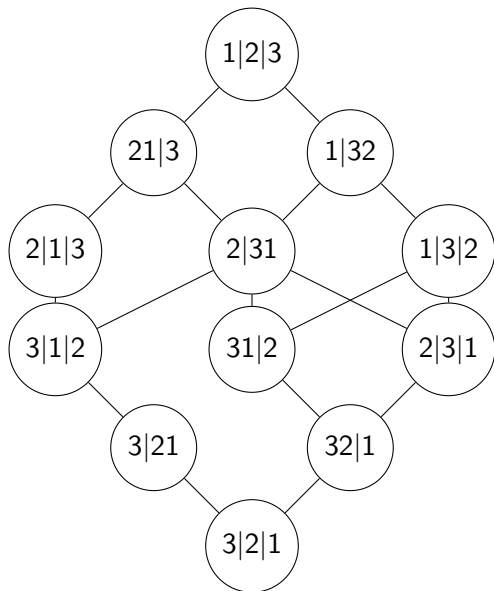
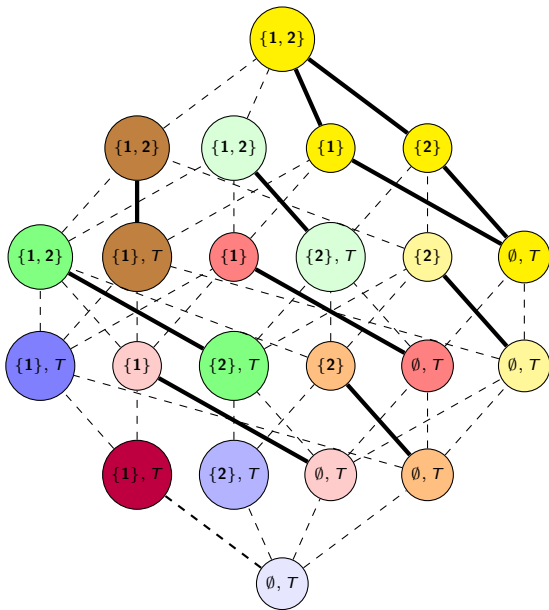


Figure: Cell decomposition of the complete quadrics for  $n = 3$ . The labels give the barred permutation parametrizing the  $T$ -fixed point in the cell.



Given a barred permutation  $\alpha$ , let  $w(\alpha)$  denote the permutation in one-line notation that is obtained by removing all bars in  $\alpha$ . Let  $\text{inv}(\alpha)$  denote the number of length 2 strings that occur and let  $\text{asc}(\alpha)$  denote the number of ascents in  $\alpha$ .

### Theorem (Banerjee-Can-Joyce '16)

*The dimension of the cell containing the  $T$ -fixed quadric parameterized by  $\alpha$  is  $\ell(w_0) - \ell(w(\alpha)) + \text{inv}(\alpha) + \text{asc}(\alpha)$ .*



We found an algorithm to decide when two cells closures are contained in each other by describing the Bruhat-Chevalley ordering on the Borel orbits contained in the same  $G$ -orbit + by using  $W$ -sets of Brion.

# Appendix

## Definition of algebraic K-theory:

- $\mathcal{C}$ : a small category;
- $B\mathcal{C}$ : the classifying complex of  $\mathcal{C}$ , which, by definition, is the topological realization of the simplicial complex whose simplices are chains of morphisms.

## Definition

- $n$ th K-group of  $\mathcal{C}$  is the  $n$ th homotopy group of  $B\mathcal{C}$ .
- If  $X$  is a  $G$ -variety, then its  $n$ th  $G$ -equivariant K-group is the  $n$ th K-group of the (small) category of  $G$ -equivariant vector bundles on  $X$ .