## Topology of braid arrangement via counting polynomials.

Weiyan Chen<br>University of Chicago

AMS Special Session on Topology and Combinatorics of Arrangements (in honor of Mike Falk)

March 20, 2016

## Theme



## Theme



## Theme



- Cohomology of the braid arrangement complement with an action of $S_{n}$


## Theme



- Cohomology of the braid arrangement complement with an action of $S_{n}$
- Counting polynomials over $\mathbb{F}_{q}$ with weights


## Set-up

## Set-up

- The complement of braid arrangement:

$$
\operatorname{Conf}_{n}(\mathbb{C}):=\left\{\left(x_{1}, \cdots, x_{n}\right) \in \mathbb{C}^{n}: x_{i} \neq x_{j}, \forall i \neq j\right\}
$$

## Set-up

- The complement of braid arrangement:

$$
\begin{gathered}
\operatorname{Conf}_{n}(\mathbb{C}):=\left\{\left(x_{1}, \cdots, x_{n}\right) \in \mathbb{C}^{n}: x_{i} \neq x_{j}, \forall i \neq j\right\} \\
S_{n} \curvearrowright \operatorname{Conf}_{n}(\mathbb{C})
\end{gathered}
$$

## Set-up

- The complement of braid arrangement:

$$
\begin{gathered}
\operatorname{Conf}_{n}(\mathbb{C}):=\left\{\left(x_{1}, \cdots, x_{n}\right) \in \mathbb{C}^{n}: x_{i} \neq x_{j}, \forall i \neq j\right\} \\
S_{n} \curvearrowright \operatorname{Conf}_{n}(\mathbb{C})
\end{gathered}
$$

- A basic question: understand $H^{i}\left(\operatorname{Conf}_{n}(\mathbb{C})\right)$ as a representation of $S_{n}$.


## Set-up

- The complement of braid arrangement:

$$
\begin{gathered}
\operatorname{Conf}_{n}(\mathbb{C}):=\left\{\left(x_{1}, \cdots, x_{n}\right) \in \mathbb{C}^{n}: x_{i} \neq x_{j}, \forall i \neq j\right\} \\
S_{n} \curvearrowright \operatorname{Conf}_{n}(\mathbb{C})
\end{gathered}
$$

- A basic question: understand $H^{i}\left(\operatorname{Conf}_{n}(\mathbb{C})\right)$ as a representation of $S_{n}$.
- More precise questions: Given any $S_{n}$-representation $W_{n}$, what is $\left\langle H^{i}\left(\operatorname{Conf}_{n}(\mathbb{C})\right), W_{n}\right\rangle_{s_{n}}$ ?


## Set-up

- The complement of braid arrangement:

$$
\begin{gathered}
\operatorname{Conf}_{n}(\mathbb{C}):=\left\{\left(x_{1}, \cdots, x_{n}\right) \in \mathbb{C}^{n}: x_{i} \neq x_{j}, \forall i \neq j\right\} \\
S_{n} \curvearrowright \operatorname{Conf}_{n}(\mathbb{C})
\end{gathered}
$$

- A basic question: understand $H^{i}\left(\operatorname{Conf}_{n}(\mathbb{C})\right)$ as a representation of $S_{n}$.
- More precise questions: Given any $S_{n}$-representation $W_{n}$, what is $\left\langle H^{i}\left(\operatorname{Conf}_{n}(\mathbb{C})\right), W_{n}\right\rangle_{S_{n}}$ ? Is there a formula for it in terms of $i, n$ and $W_{n}$ ?


## Set-up

- The complement of braid arrangement:

$$
\begin{gathered}
\operatorname{Conf}_{n}(\mathbb{C}):=\left\{\left(x_{1}, \cdots, x_{n}\right) \in \mathbb{C}^{n}: x_{i} \neq x_{j}, \forall i \neq j\right\} \\
S_{n} \curvearrowright \operatorname{Conf}_{n}(\mathbb{C})
\end{gathered}
$$

- A basic question: understand $H^{i}\left(\operatorname{Conf}_{n}(\mathbb{C})\right)$ as a representation of $S_{n}$.
- More precise questions: Given any $S_{n}$-representation $W_{n}$, what is $\left\langle H^{i}\left(\operatorname{Conf}_{n}(\mathbb{C})\right), W_{n}\right\rangle_{S_{n}}$ ? Is there a formula for it in terms of $i, n$ and $W_{n}$ ? Is there any structure in the answer?


## Why care?

Because the number $\left\langle H^{i}\left(\operatorname{Conf}_{n}(\mathbb{C})\right), W_{n}\right\rangle_{S_{n}}$ contains information about:

## Why care?

Because the number $\left\langle H^{i}\left(\operatorname{Conf}_{n}(\mathbb{C})\right), W_{n}\right\rangle_{S_{n}}$ contains information about:

- The braid group $B_{n}$.


## Why care?

Because the number $\left\langle H^{i}\left(\operatorname{Conf}_{n}(\mathbb{C})\right), W_{n}\right\rangle_{S_{n}}$ contains information about:

- The braid group $B_{\boldsymbol{n}}$. The Eilenberg-MacLane space for $B_{n}$ is precisely the quotient $\operatorname{UConf}_{n}(\mathbb{C}):=\operatorname{Conf}_{n}(\mathbb{C}) / S_{n}$. Thus we have

$$
\operatorname{dim} H^{k}\left(B_{n} ; W_{n}\right)=\left\langle H^{i}\left(\operatorname{Conf}_{n}(\mathbb{C})\right), W_{n}\right\rangle_{S_{n}}
$$

## Why care?

Because the number $\left\langle H^{i}\left(\operatorname{Conf}_{n}(\mathbb{C})\right), W_{n}\right\rangle_{S_{n}}$ contains information about:

- The braid group $B_{n}$. The Eilenberg-MacLane space for $B_{n}$ is precisely the quotient $\operatorname{UConf}_{n}(\mathbb{C}):=\operatorname{Conf}_{n}(\mathbb{C}) / S_{n}$. Thus we have

$$
\operatorname{dim} H^{k}\left(B_{n} ; W_{n}\right)=\left\langle H^{i}\left(\operatorname{Conf}_{n}(\mathbb{C})\right), W_{n}\right\rangle_{S_{n}}
$$

$\operatorname{dim} H^{k}\left(B_{n} ; W_{n}\right)$ has been computed for

- (Arnol'd and F. Cohen) $W_{n}=\mathbb{Q}$ (trivial).
- (F. Cohen and Vassiliev) $W_{n}= \pm \mathbb{Q}$ (sign).
- (F. Cohen and Vassiliev) $W_{n}=\mathbb{Q}^{n}$ (permutation).


## Why care?

Because the number $\left\langle H^{i}\left(\operatorname{Conf}_{n}(\mathbb{C})\right), W_{n}\right\rangle_{S_{n}}$ contains information about:

- The braid group $B_{n}$. The Eilenberg-MacLane space for $B_{n}$ is precisely the quotient $\operatorname{UConf}_{n}(\mathbb{C}):=\operatorname{Conf}_{n}(\mathbb{C}) / S_{n}$. Thus we have

$$
\operatorname{dim} H^{k}\left(B_{n} ; W_{n}\right)=\left\langle H^{i}\left(\operatorname{Conf}_{n}(\mathbb{C})\right), W_{n}\right\rangle_{S_{n}}
$$

$\operatorname{dim} H^{k}\left(B_{n} ; W_{n}\right)$ has been computed for

- (Arnol'd and F. Cohen) $W_{n}=\mathbb{Q}$ (trivial).
- (F. Cohen and Vassiliev) $W_{n}= \pm \mathbb{Q}$ (sign).
- (F. Cohen and Vassiliev) $W_{n}=\mathbb{Q}^{n}$ (permutation).
- A question of Mike Falk


## Why care?

Because the number $\left\langle H^{i}\left(\operatorname{Conf}_{n}(\mathbb{C})\right), W_{n}\right\rangle_{S_{n}}$ contains information about:

- The braid group $B_{n}$. The Eilenberg-MacLane space for $B_{n}$ is precisely the quotient $\operatorname{UConf}_{n}(\mathbb{C}):=\operatorname{Conf}_{n}(\mathbb{C}) / S_{n}$. Thus we have

$$
\operatorname{dim} H^{k}\left(B_{n} ; W_{n}\right)=\left\langle H^{i}\left(\operatorname{Conf}_{n}(\mathbb{C})\right), W_{n}\right\rangle_{S_{n}}
$$

$\operatorname{dim} H^{k}\left(B_{n} ; W_{n}\right)$ has been computed for

- (Arnol'd and F. Cohen) $W_{n}=\mathbb{Q}$ (trivial).
- (F. Cohen and Vassiliev) $W_{n}= \pm \mathbb{Q}$ (sign).
- (F. Cohen and Vassiliev) $W_{n}=\mathbb{Q}^{n}$ (permutation).
- A question of Mike Falk (March 19, 2016):


## Why care?

Because the number $\left\langle H^{i}\left(\operatorname{Conf}_{n}(\mathbb{C})\right), W_{n}\right\rangle_{S_{n}}$ contains information about:

- The braid group $B_{n}$. The Eilenberg-MacLane space for $B_{n}$ is precisely the quotient $\operatorname{UConf}_{n}(\mathbb{C}):=\operatorname{Conf}_{n}(\mathbb{C}) / S_{n}$. Thus we have

$$
\operatorname{dim} H^{k}\left(B_{n} ; W_{n}\right)=\left\langle H^{i}\left(\operatorname{Conf}_{n}(\mathbb{C})\right), W_{n}\right\rangle_{S_{n}}
$$

$\operatorname{dim} H^{k}\left(B_{n} ; W_{n}\right)$ has been computed for

- (Arnol'd and F. Cohen) $W_{n}=\mathbb{Q}$ (trivial).
- (F. Cohen and Vassiliev) $W_{n}= \pm \mathbb{Q}$ (sign).
- (F. Cohen and Vassiliev) $W_{n}=\mathbb{Q}^{n}$ (permutation).
- A question of Mike Falk (March 19, 2016): Do the numbers $\left\langle H^{i}\left(\operatorname{Conf}_{n}(\mathbb{C})\right), W_{n}\right\rangle_{S_{n}}$ carry any combinatorial information?


## Why care?

Because the number $\left\langle H^{i}\left(\operatorname{Conf}_{n}(\mathbb{C})\right), W_{n}\right\rangle_{S_{n}}$ contains information about:

- The braid group $B_{n}$. The Eilenberg-MacLane space for $B_{n}$ is precisely the quotient $\operatorname{UConf}_{n}(\mathbb{C}):=\operatorname{Conf}_{n}(\mathbb{C}) / S_{n}$. Thus we have

$$
\operatorname{dim} H^{k}\left(B_{n} ; W_{n}\right)=\left\langle H^{i}\left(\operatorname{Conf}_{n}(\mathbb{C})\right), W_{n}\right\rangle_{S_{n}}
$$

$\operatorname{dim} H^{k}\left(B_{n} ; W_{n}\right)$ has been computed for

- (Arnol'd and F. Cohen) $W_{n}=\mathbb{Q}$ (trivial).
- (F. Cohen and Vassiliev) $W_{n}= \pm \mathbb{Q}$ (sign).
- (F. Cohen and Vassiliev) $W_{n}=\mathbb{Q}^{n}$ (permutation).
- A question of Mike Falk (March 19, 2016): Do the numbers $\left\langle H^{i}\left(\operatorname{Conf}_{n}(\mathbb{C})\right), W_{n}\right\rangle_{S_{n}}$ carry any combinatorial information? Answer: Yes!


## Why care?

Because the number $\left\langle H^{i}\left(\operatorname{Conf}_{n}(\mathbb{C})\right), W_{n}\right\rangle_{S_{n}}$ contains information about:

- The braid group $B_{n}$. The Eilenberg-MacLane space for $B_{n}$ is precisely the quotient $\operatorname{UConf}_{n}(\mathbb{C}):=\operatorname{Conf}_{n}(\mathbb{C}) / S_{n}$. Thus we have

$$
\operatorname{dim} H^{k}\left(B_{n} ; W_{n}\right)=\left\langle H^{i}\left(\operatorname{Conf}_{n}(\mathbb{C})\right), W_{n}\right\rangle_{S_{n}}
$$

$\operatorname{dim} H^{k}\left(B_{n} ; W_{n}\right)$ has been computed for

- (Arnol'd and F. Cohen) $W_{n}=\mathbb{Q}$ (trivial).
- (F. Cohen and Vassiliev) $W_{n}= \pm \mathbb{Q}$ (sign).
- (F. Cohen and Vassiliev) $W_{n}=\mathbb{Q}^{n}$ (permutation).
- A question of Mike Falk (March 19, 2016): Do the numbers $\left\langle H^{i}\left(\operatorname{Conf}_{n}(\mathbb{C})\right), W_{n}\right\rangle_{S_{n}}$ carry any combinatorial information?
Answer: Yes!
- Polynomials over $\mathbb{F}_{\boldsymbol{q}}$.


## Why care?

Because the number $\left\langle H^{i}\left(\operatorname{Conf}_{n}(\mathbb{C})\right), W_{n}\right\rangle_{S_{n}}$ contains information about:

- The braid group $B_{n}$. The Eilenberg-MacLane space for $B_{n}$ is precisely the quotient $\operatorname{UConf}_{n}(\mathbb{C}):=\operatorname{Conf}_{n}(\mathbb{C}) / S_{n}$. Thus we have

$$
\operatorname{dim} H^{k}\left(B_{n} ; W_{n}\right)=\left\langle H^{i}\left(\operatorname{Conf}_{n}(\mathbb{C})\right), W_{n}\right\rangle_{S_{n}}
$$

$\operatorname{dim} H^{k}\left(B_{n} ; W_{n}\right)$ has been computed for

- (Arnol'd and F. Cohen) $W_{n}=\mathbb{Q}$ (trivial).
- (F. Cohen and Vassiliev) $W_{n}= \pm \mathbb{Q}$ (sign).
- (F. Cohen and Vassiliev) $W_{n}=\mathbb{Q}^{n}$ (permutation).
- A question of Mike Falk (March 19, 2016): Do the numbers $\left\langle H^{i}\left(\operatorname{Conf}_{n}(\mathbb{C})\right), W_{n}\right\rangle_{S_{n}}$ carry any combinatorial information? Answer: Yes!
- Polynomials over $\mathbb{F}_{\boldsymbol{q}} \cdot \operatorname{UConf}_{n}(\mathbb{C})$ and $\operatorname{Conf}_{n}(\mathbb{C})$ are algebraic varieties. Their cohomology groups contain information about counting polynomials over $\mathbb{F}_{q}$ with weighting.


## Theme

Topology

- The $S_{n}$-representation on $H^{*}\left(\operatorname{Conf}_{n}(\mathbb{C})\right)$


## Theme



- The $S_{n}$-representation on $H^{*}\left(\operatorname{Conf}_{n}(\mathbb{C})\right)$
- Counting polynomials over $\mathbb{F}_{q}$ with weights


## Theme



- The $S_{n}$-representation on $H^{*}\left(\operatorname{Conf}_{n}(\mathbb{C})\right)$
- (Church-Ellenberg-Farb) Representation stability of $H^{i}\left(\operatorname{Conf}_{n}(\mathbb{C})\right)$
- Counting polynomials over $\mathbb{F}_{q}$ with weights


## Theme



- The $S_{n}$-representation on $H^{*}\left(\operatorname{Conf}_{n}(\mathbb{C})\right)$
- (Church-Ellenberg-Farb) Representation stability of $H^{i}\left(\operatorname{Conf}_{n}(\mathbb{C})\right)$
- Counting polynomials over $\mathbb{F}_{q}$ with weights
- (Church-Ellenberg-Farb) Convergence of weighted point-counts


## Theme



- The $S_{n}$-representation on $H^{*}\left(\operatorname{Conf}_{n}(\mathbb{C})\right)$
- (Church-Ellenberg-Farb) Representation stability of $H^{i}\left(\operatorname{Conf}_{n}(\mathbb{C})\right)$
- Counting polynomials over $\mathbb{F}_{q}$ with weights
- (Church-Ellenberg-Farb) Convergence of weighted point-counts
- (Fulman) Generating functions for weighted point-counts


## Theme



- The $S_{n}$-representation on $H^{*}\left(\operatorname{Conf}_{n}(\mathbb{C})\right)$
- (Church-Ellenberg-Farb) Representation stability of $H^{i}\left(\operatorname{Conf}_{n}(\mathbb{C})\right)$

- (C-) Generating functions for $\left\langle H^{i}\left(\operatorname{Conf}_{n}(\mathbb{C})\right), W_{n}\right\rangle_{S_{n}}$
- Counting polynomials over $\mathbb{F}_{q}$ with weights
- (Church-Ellenberg-Farb) Convergence of weighted point-counts
- (Fulman) Generating functions for weighted point-counts


## Background

- Fix $k$. For any $\sigma \in S_{n}$, define

$$
X_{k}(\sigma):=\text { number of cycles of length } k \text { in } \sigma .
$$

## Background

- Fix $k$. For any $\sigma \in S_{n}$, define

$$
X_{k}(\sigma):=\text { number of cycles of length } k \text { in } \sigma .
$$

- A polynomial $P$ in $X_{1}, X_{2}, X_{3}, \cdots$ is called a character polynomial. A character polynomial $P$ defines a class function of $S_{n}$ for all $n$.


## Background

- Fix $k$. For any $\sigma \in S_{n}$, define

$$
X_{k}(\sigma):=\text { number of cycles of length } k \text { in } \sigma .
$$

- A polynomial $P$ in $X_{1}, X_{2}, X_{3}, \cdots$ is called a character polynomial. A character polynomial $P$ defines a class function of $S_{n}$ for all $n$.
- For example, let $S_{n}$ acts on $\mathbb{Q}^{n}$ by permuting coordinates. Then

$$
X_{1}=\chi_{\mathbb{Q}^{n}} \quad \text { for all } n
$$

## Background

- Fix $k$. For any $\sigma \in S_{n}$, define

$$
X_{k}(\sigma):=\text { number of cycles of length } k \text { in } \sigma .
$$

- A polynomial $P$ in $X_{1}, X_{2}, X_{3}, \cdots$ is called a character polynomial. A character polynomial $P$ defines a class function of $S_{n}$ for all $n$.
- For example, let $S_{n}$ acts on $\mathbb{Q}^{n}$ by permuting coordinates. Then

$$
X_{1}=\chi_{\mathbb{Q}^{n}} \quad \text { for all } n
$$

## Theorem (Church-Ellenberg-Farb)

For any character polynomial $P$, for each fixed $i$, the multiplicity

$$
\left\langle H^{i}\left(\operatorname{Conf}_{n}(\mathbb{C})\right), P\right\rangle_{S_{n}}
$$

will be eventually independent of $n$ when $n \gg i$.

## Theme



- Computing $\left\langle H^{i}\left(\operatorname{Conf}_{n}(\mathbb{C})\right), W_{n}\right\rangle_{S_{n}}$
- (Church-Ellenberg-Farb) Representation stability of $H^{i}\left(\operatorname{Conf}_{n}(\mathbb{C})\right)$

- (C-) Generating functions for $\left\langle H^{i}\left(\operatorname{Conf}_{n}(\mathbb{C})\right), W_{n}\right\rangle_{S_{n}}$
- Counting polynomials over $\mathbb{F}_{q}$ with weights
- (Church-Ellenberg-Farb) Weighted point-counts converge
- (Fulman) Generating functions for weighted point-counts


## Theme



- Computing $\left\langle H^{i}\left(\operatorname{Conf}_{n}(\mathbb{C})\right), W_{n}\right\rangle_{S_{n}}$
- (Church-Ellenberg-Farb) Representation stability of $H^{i}\left(\operatorname{Conf}_{n}(\mathbb{C})\right)$

- (C-) Generating functions for $\left\langle H^{i}\left(\operatorname{Conf}_{n}(\mathbb{C})\right), W_{n}\right\rangle_{S_{n}}$
- Counting polynomials over $\mathbb{F}_{q}$ with weights
- (Church-Ellenberg-Farb) Weighted point-counts converge
- (Fulman) Generating functions for weighted point-counts
- Let $\lambda=\left(\lambda_{1}, \lambda_{2}, \cdots, \lambda_{l}\right)$ be a sequence of nonnegative integers.

$$
\binom{X}{\lambda}:=\prod_{k=1}^{1}\binom{X_{k}}{\lambda_{k}}
$$

(Recall $X_{k}(\sigma):=$ number of $k$-cycles in $\sigma$, for $\sigma$ any permutation.)

- Let $\lambda=\left(\lambda_{1}, \lambda_{2}, \cdots, \lambda_{I}\right)$ be a sequence of nonnegative integers.

$$
\binom{X}{\lambda}:=\prod_{k=1}^{\prime}\binom{X_{k}}{\lambda_{k}}
$$

(Recall $X_{k}(\sigma):=$ number of $k$-cycles in $\sigma$, for $\sigma$ any permutation.)

- For every $n$, the vector space of class functions on $S_{n}$ is spanned by character polynomials of the form $\binom{X}{\lambda}$.
- Let $\lambda=\left(\lambda_{1}, \lambda_{2}, \cdots, \lambda_{l}\right)$ be a sequence of nonnegative integers.

$$
\binom{X}{\lambda}:=\prod_{k=1}^{\prime}\binom{X_{k}}{\lambda_{k}}
$$

(Recall $X_{k}(\sigma):=$ number of $k$-cycles in $\sigma$, for $\sigma$ any permutation.)

- For every $n$, the vector space of class functions on $S_{n}$ is spanned by character polynomials of the form $\binom{X}{\lambda}$. Hence, to compute $\left\langle H^{i}\left(\operatorname{Conf}_{n}(\mathbb{C})\right), W_{n}\right\rangle_{S_{n}}$ for all representations $W_{n}$, it suffices to consider when $W_{n}$ is given by $\binom{X}{\lambda}$ for some $\lambda$.
- Let $\lambda=\left(\lambda_{1}, \lambda_{2}, \cdots, \lambda_{l}\right)$ be a sequence of nonnegative integers.

$$
\binom{X}{\lambda}:=\prod_{k=1}^{\prime}\binom{x_{k}}{\lambda_{k}}
$$

(Recall $X_{k}(\sigma):=$ number of $k$-cycles in $\sigma$, for $\sigma$ any permutation.)

- For every $n$, the vector space of class functions on $S_{n}$ is spanned by character polynomials of the form $\binom{X}{\lambda}$. Hence, to compute $\left\langle H^{i}\left(\operatorname{Conf}_{n}(\mathbb{C})\right), W_{n}\right\rangle_{S_{n}}$ for all representations $W_{n}$, it suffices to consider when $W_{n}$ is given by $\binom{X}{\lambda}$ for some $\lambda$.


## Theorem (C-)

Let $\lambda=\left(\lambda_{1}, \lambda_{2}, \cdots, \lambda_{l}\right)$ be any sequence of nonnegative integers. Let $\mu$ be the classical Möbius function, and let $M_{k}\left(z^{-1}\right):=\frac{1}{k} \sum_{j \mid k} \mu\left(\frac{k}{j}\right) z^{-j}$. Abbreviate $b_{i, n}(\lambda):=\left\langle H^{i}\left(\operatorname{Conf}_{n}(\mathbb{C})\right),\binom{X}{\lambda}\right\rangle_{S_{n}}$.

$$
\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} b_{i, n}(\lambda)(-z)^{i} t^{n}=\frac{1-z t^{2}}{1-t} \prod_{k=1}^{l}\binom{M_{k}\left(z^{-1}\right)}{\lambda_{k}}\left(\frac{(t z)^{k}}{1+(t z)^{k}}\right)^{\lambda_{k}}
$$

## Corollaries: stability and recurrence

We can get a new proof of Church-Ellenberg-Farb's result:

## Corollaries: stability and recurrence

We can get a new proof of Church-Ellenberg-Farb's result:
Theorem (Church-Ellenberg-Farb)
For any character polynomial $P$, for each fixed $i$, the multiplicity

$$
b_{i, n}:=\left\langle H^{i}\left(\operatorname{Conf}_{n}(\mathbb{C})\right), P\right\rangle_{S_{n}}
$$

will be eventually independent of $n$ when $n \gg i$.

## Corollaries: stability and recurrence

We can get a new proof of Church-Ellenberg-Farb's result:
Theorem (Church-Ellenberg-Farb)
For any character polynomial $P$, for each fixed $i$, the multiplicity

$$
b_{i, n}:=\left\langle H^{i}\left(\operatorname{Conf}_{n}(\mathbb{C})\right), P\right\rangle_{S_{n}}
$$

will be eventually independent of $n$ when $n \gg i$.
Moreover, we discover a new phenomenon:

## Corollaries: stability and recurrence

We can get a new proof of Church-Ellenberg-Farb's result:
Theorem (Church-Ellenberg-Farb)
For any character polynomial $P$, for each fixed $i$, the multiplicity

$$
b_{i, n}:=\left\langle H^{i}\left(\operatorname{Conf}_{n}(\mathbb{C})\right), P\right\rangle_{S_{n}}
$$

will be eventually independent of $n$ when $n \gg i$.
Moreover, we discover a new phenomenon:

## Theorem (C-)

For any character polynomial $P$, the $i$-th stable multiplicity

$$
b_{i, \infty}:=\lim _{n \rightarrow \infty}\left\langle H^{i}\left(\operatorname{Conf}_{n}(\mathbb{C})\right), P\right\rangle_{S_{n}}
$$

will eventually satisfy a linear recurrence relation in $i$.

## Corollaries: stability and recurrence

We can get a new proof of Church-Ellenberg-Farb's result:

## Theorem (Church-Ellenberg-Farb)

For any character polynomial $P$, for each fixed $i$, the multiplicity

$$
b_{i, n}:=\left\langle H^{i}\left(\operatorname{Conf}_{n}(\mathbb{C})\right), P\right\rangle_{S_{n}}
$$

will be eventually independent of $n$ when $n \gg i$.
Moreover, we discover a new phenomenon:

## Theorem (C-)

For any character polynomial $P$, the $i$-th stable multiplicity

$$
b_{i, \infty}:=\lim _{n \rightarrow \infty}\left\langle H^{i}\left(\operatorname{Conf}_{n}(\mathbb{C})\right), P\right\rangle_{S_{n}}
$$

will eventually satisfy a linear recurrence relation in $i$. There exist $c_{1}, \cdots, c_{N}$ such that $b_{i+N, \infty}=c_{1} b_{i, \infty}+\cdots+c_{N} b_{i+N-1, \infty}$ for all $i \geq 2$.

## Example: $b_{i, n}=\left\langle H^{i}\left(\operatorname{Conf}_{n}(\mathbb{C})\right) ; \Lambda^{2} \mathbb{Q}^{n-1}\right\rangle_{S_{n}}$

| $b_{i, n}$ | $n=3$ | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| ---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $i=0$ | $\mathbf{0}$ | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 1 | 0 | $\mathbf{0}$ | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2 | 0 | 1 | $\mathbf{2}$ | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| 3 |  | 1 | 3 | $\mathbf{5}$ | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 |
| 4 |  |  | 1 | 4 | $\mathbf{6}$ | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 |
| 5 |  |  |  | 1 | 5 | $\mathbf{7}$ | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 |
| 6 |  |  |  |  | 2 | 7 | $\mathbf{1 0}$ | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 |
| 7 |  |  |  |  |  | 3 | 9 | $\mathbf{1 3}$ | 13 | 13 | 13 | 13 |
| 8 |  |  |  |  |  |  | 3 | 10 | $\mathbf{1 4}$ | 14 | 14 | 14 |
| 9 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 3 | 11 | $\mathbf{1 5}$ | 15 | 15 |
| 10 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 4 | 13 | $\mathbf{1 8}$ | 18 |
| 11 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 5 | 15 | $\mathbf{2 1}$ |
| 12 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 5 | 16 |
| 13 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 5 |

## Further works and questions

- Similar results hold for other arrangment complements (such as type B), and flag varieties.


## Further works and questions

- Similar results hold for other arrangment complements (such as type B), and flag varieties.
- Further question:
- Are there other examples where the stable multiplicities satisfy a linear recurrence relation?


## Further works and questions

- Similar results hold for other arrangment complements (such as type B), and flag varieties.
- Further question:
- Are there other examples where the stable multiplicities satisfy a linear recurrence relation? For example, do similar results hold for

$$
\operatorname{PConf}_{n} M:=\left\{\left(x_{1}, \cdots, x_{n}\right) \in M: x_{i} \neq x_{j}, \forall i \neq j\right\}
$$

when $M$ is a manifold?

## Further works and questions

- Similar results hold for other arrangment complements (such as type B), and flag varieties.
- Further question:
- Are there other examples where the stable multiplicities satisfy a linear recurrence relation? For example, do similar results hold for

$$
\operatorname{PConf}_{n} M:=\left\{\left(x_{1}, \cdots, x_{n}\right) \in M: x_{i} \neq x_{j}, \forall i \neq j\right\}
$$

when $M$ is a manifold?

- Is there a topological proof/explanation for the recurrence of stable multiplicities for $\operatorname{Conf}_{n}(\mathbb{C})$ ?


# Thank you! <br> Happy birthday, Mike! 

## Reference

國 W. Chen.
Twisted cohomology of configuration spaces and spaces of maximal tori via point-counting.
Preprint, arXiv:1603.03931

