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Eric Babson (babson@math.uwshington.edu) and Helene Barcelo\* (barcelo@asu.edu), Department of Mathematics and Statistics, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ 85287-1804, and Reinhard Laubenbacher. A-Theory and real linear hyperplane arrangements. Preliminary report.

A new combinatorial homotopy theory, called A-theory is applied to the k-equal arrangements. We show that the Agroups of the order complex of the Boolean lattice are closely related to the classical homotopy groups of the k-equal arrangements. This result is generalized to real linear hyperplane arrangements and their associated zonotope. (Received August 20, 2002)