

# A Hopf Monoid on Set Families

Kevin Marshall  
University of Kansas  
kmarsh729@ku.edu

AMS Fall Central Sectional Meeting  
Formerly At University of Texas in El Paso

12-13 September 2020

- 1 Hopf Monoids and Antipodes
- 2 The Hopf Monoid **SetFam**
- 3 The Submonoid **LOI** of Lattices of Order Ideals

**Punchline:** **LOI** has a simple cancellation-free antipode formula!

A *vector species*  $H$  is a collection of vector spaces  $H[I]$  for all finite sets  $I$ .

- Associative **product** (“merge”):

$$\mu_{\Phi_1, \dots, \Phi_k} : H[\Phi_1] \otimes \cdots \otimes H[\Phi_k] \rightarrow H[\Phi_1 \sqcup \cdots \sqcup \Phi_k]$$

- Coassociative **coproduct** (“break”):

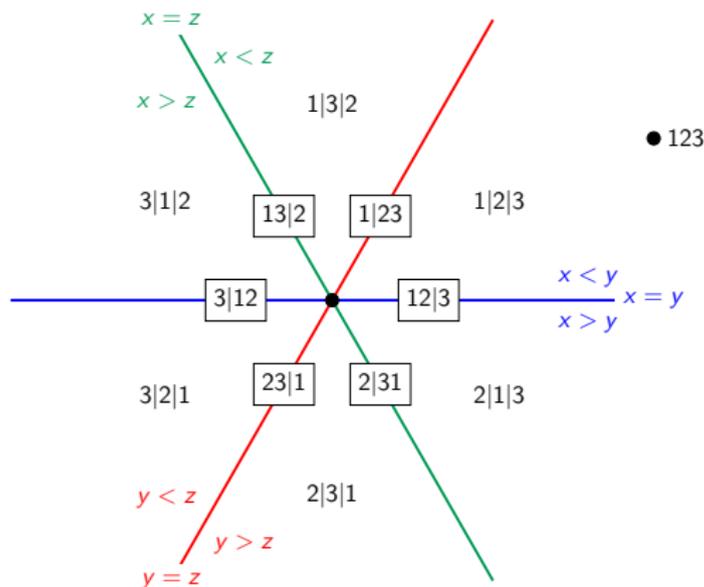
$$\Delta_{\Phi_1, \dots, \Phi_k} : H[\Phi_1 \sqcup \cdots \sqcup \Phi_k] \rightarrow H[\Phi_1] \otimes \cdots \otimes H[\Phi_k]$$

- Compatibility: “Merging then breaking = breaking then merging”
- Antipode: Takeuchi formula

$$S(X) = \sum_{\Phi = \Phi_1 | \cdots | \Phi_k = I} (-1)^k \mu_{\Phi}(\Delta_{\Phi}(X))$$

# The Braid Arrangement

- $Br_n$  consists of the hyperplanes  $x_i = x_j$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .
- Faces of  $Br_n \iff$  set compositions  $\Phi \models [n]$



# The Aguiar–Ardila Hopf Monoid **GP**

- Aguiar and Ardila studied a Hopf monoid, **GP**, on generalized permutahedra.
- Matroids form a submonoid.
- Takeuchi formula + braid arrangement = cancellation-free antipode for **GP**
- Applications
  - Inversion of formal power series
  - Group of multiplicative characters
  - Inversion in the character group
  - Reciprocity theorems

*Grounded set family on  $E$* : collection  $\mathcal{F} \subseteq 2^E$  such that  $\emptyset \in \mathcal{F}$

**SetFam**[ $I$ ] = vector space spanned by grounded set families on  $I$

## Proposition

The following operations make **SetFam** into a Hopf monoid:

$$\mu_{A,B}(\mathcal{F}_1, \mathcal{F}_2) = \mathcal{F}_1 * \mathcal{F}_2$$

$$\Delta_{A,B}(\mathcal{F}) = \mathcal{F}|_A \otimes \mathcal{F}/_A$$

where

$$\mathcal{F}_1 * \mathcal{F}_2 = \{X \cup Y \mid X \in \mathcal{F}_1, Y \in \mathcal{F}_2\} \quad (\text{"join"})$$

$$\mathcal{F}|_A = \{X \cap A \mid X \in \mathcal{F}\} \quad (\text{"restriction"})$$

$$\mathcal{F}/_A = \{X \in \mathcal{F} \mid X \cap A = \emptyset\} \quad (\text{"contraction"})$$

# An Example: Complete Flags

A *complete flag* on  $[n]$  is a set family  $\{X_0, \dots, X_n\}$  such that  $X_{i-1} \subset X_i$  and  $|X_i| = i$ .

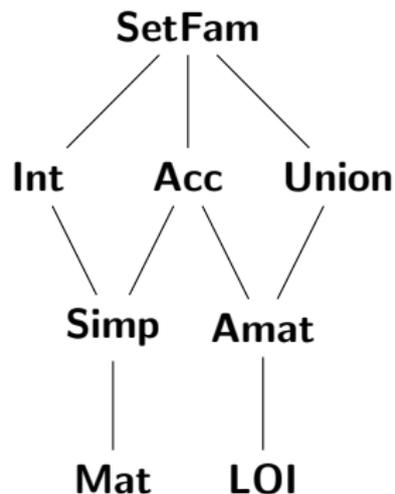
## Proposition

Let  $\mathcal{G} = \{\emptyset, [1], [2], \dots, [n]\}$ . Then

$$S(\mathcal{G}) = \sum_{B \subseteq [n]} \sum_{\substack{\Phi \models B \\ \text{natural}}} (-1)^{n-|B|+|\Phi|} \mathcal{G}_\Phi$$

where  $\mathcal{G}_\Phi$  is the family of unions of initial segments of blocks of  $\Phi$ .

# Submonoids of SetFam



- **Int** =  $\{\mathcal{F} : A, B \in \mathcal{F} \implies A \cap B \in \mathcal{F}\}$
- **Acc** = accessible set families
- **Union** =  $\{\mathcal{F} : A, B \in \mathcal{F} \implies A \cup B \in \mathcal{F}\}$
- **Simp** = simplicial complexes
- **Amat** = **Union**  $\cap$  **Acc** = antimatroids
- **Mat** = matroids
- **LOI** = lattices of order ideals

$$\mathbf{LOI}[I] = \mathbb{C}\langle J(P) = \{\text{order ideals of } P\} \mid P \text{ poset on } I \rangle$$

Note:  $J(P + Q) = J(P) * J(Q)$

# A cancellation-free antipode formula

Henceforth, let  $P$  be a poset on  $[n]$ .

Rewrite Takeuchi's formula by grouping like terms:

$$\begin{aligned} S(J(P)) &= \sum_{\Phi \models [n]} (-1)^{|\Phi|} \mu_{\Phi}(\Delta_{\Phi}(J(P))) \\ &= \sum_Q J(Q) \underbrace{\left( \sum_{\Phi \in X(Q)} (-1)^{|\Phi|} \right)}_{c_Q} \end{aligned}$$

where

$$X(Q) = \{ \Phi : \mu_{\Phi}(\Delta_{\Phi}(J(P))) = J(Q) \}$$

- 1 Which posets  $Q$  arise in the sum?
- 2 What does  $c_Q$  mean topologically?

# Terms of the antipode

Let  $\Phi \models [n]$  and  $a, b \in [n]$ .

Say  $b$  is *betrayed* by  $a$  (w.r.t.  $\Phi$ ) if  $a <_P b$  and  $a <_\Phi b$ .

$B(\Phi_i)$  = set of betrayed elements in  $\Phi_i$ ;  $B(\Phi) = \bigcup_i B(\Phi_i)$ .

## Lemma

$$\mu_\Phi(\Delta_\Phi(J(P))) = \mu_\Phi \left( \bigotimes_{i=1}^m J(K_i) \right) = J(K_1 + \cdots + K_m)$$

where  $K_i$  is the restriction of  $P$  to  $\Phi_i \setminus B(\Phi_i)$ .

# $X(Q)$ and $X_a(Q)$

- A *fracturing* of  $P$  is a disjoint sum of induced subposets of  $P$ .  
A fracturing  $Q$  is *good* if  $X(Q) \neq \emptyset$ .
- Suppose  $Q$  is a good fracturing of  $P$ . Let  $P \setminus Q = \{b_1, \dots, b_k\}$  and let  $a = (a_1, \dots, a_k)$  such that  $a_i <_P b_i$ . Define

$$X_a(Q) = \{\Phi \models [n] \mid \Phi \in X(Q) \text{ and } a_i <_\Phi b_i \forall i \in [k]\}.$$

- Observation:

$$X(Q) = \bigcup_a X_a(Q).$$

- Idea: Use inclusion/exclusion to calculate

$$c_Q = \sum_{\Phi \in X(Q)} (-1)^{|\Phi|}.$$

# Topological properties of $X(Q)$ and $X_a(Q)$

- $X(Q)$  is an relatively-open polyhedral subfan (not necessarily convex) of the braid fan.
- $X_a(Q)$  is a convex relatively-open polyhedral fan.
- If  $\Lambda$  is a collection of betrayal sequences, then  $\bigcap_{a \in \Lambda} X_a(Q) \neq \emptyset$ .
- Replace  $X(Q)$  with  $X_a(Q)$  in the formula for  $c_Q$ .
- Obtain  $\tilde{\chi}(\mathbb{B}^d) - \tilde{\chi}(\partial\mathbb{B}^d) = (-1)^d$ .
- Apply inclusion/exclusion.

## Theorem

Suppose  $J(P) \in \mathbf{LOI}$ . Then a cancellation free formula for the antipode is given as a sum over good fracturings of  $P$ :

$$S(J(P)) = \sum_Q (-1)^{u+k} J(Q)$$

where  $u$  is the number of disjoint summands of  $Q$  and  $k = |P \setminus Q|$ .

- $P$  is a chain: complete flags
- $P$  is an antichain:  $S(2^{[n]}) = (-1)^n 2^{[n]}$

- Use the antipode formula to study characters, polynomial invariants, etc. on **LOI**
- Cancellation-free antipode formula for other submonoids
  - Antimatroids?
  - Matroids?

Thank you!