# An introduction to Hessenberg varieties 

Hiraku Abe<br>Osaka Prefecture University

Hessenberg varieties in<br>Combinatorics, Geometry and Representation Theory BIRS<br>2018/10/22

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The (full) flag variety of $\mathbb{C}^{n}$ :

$$
F l\left(\mathbb{C}^{n}\right)=\left\{\left(V_{1} \subsetneq V_{2} \subsetneq \cdots \subsetneq V_{n}=\mathbb{C}^{n}\right) \mid \operatorname{dim} V_{i}=i, 1 \leq i \leq n\right\} .
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Hess $(X, h) \subseteq F l\left(\mathbb{C}^{n}\right)$ Hessenberg variety

$$
\left(\begin{array}{l}
X: \mathbb{C}^{n} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^{n} \\
\text { a linear map } \\
h:[n] \rightarrow[n]
\end{array} \quad \text { a Hessenberg function } \quad[n]=\{1,2, \ldots, n\}\right.
$$

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$\operatorname{Hess}(X, h) \subseteq F l\left(\mathbb{C}^{n}\right)$ Hessenberg variety
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$\operatorname{Hess}(X, h):=\left\{V_{\bullet} \in F l\left(\mathbb{C}^{n}\right) \mid X V_{i} \subseteq V_{h(i)}, 1 \leq i \leq n\right\}$

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Introduced by DeMari-Shayman 1988 and DeMari-Procesi-Shayman 1992.

Examples:
Flag variety, Springer fibers, Peterson variety, permutohedral variety, etc

$$
h:[n] \rightarrow[n] \text { is a Hessenberg function }
$$

$h:[n] \rightarrow[n]$ is a Hessenberg function

$$
\stackrel{\text { def }}{\Longleftrightarrow} \quad \bullet h(1) \leq h(2) \leq \ldots \leq h(n)
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\begin{array}{ll}
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& \bullet h(i) \geq i(i=1,2, \ldots, n)
\end{array}
$$

$$
\text { e.g. } h=(2,3,5,5,5)
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$\operatorname{Hess}(X, h)=\left\{V_{\bullet} \in F l\left(\mathbb{C}^{n}\right) \mid X V_{i} \subseteq V_{h(i)}, \quad 1 \leq i \leq n\right\}$
a Dyck path $\rightsquigarrow$ a subvariety of $F l\left(\mathbb{C}^{n}\right)$
$h$ Hess $(X, h)$
$h:[n] \rightarrow[n]$ is a Hessenberg function

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\stackrel{\text { def }}{\Longrightarrow} \quad \bullet h(1) \leq h(2) \leq \ldots \leq h(n)
$$

- $h(i) \geq i+1(i=1,2, \ldots, n-1)$

$$
\text { e.g. } h=(2,3,5,5,5)
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To share the idea that we can study Hessenberg varieties from several different perspectives.

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§0. Paving by affines

Theorem(Tymoczko '06)

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For any $X$ and any $h, \operatorname{Hess}(X, h)$ is paved by complex affine spaces.
paving by complex affine spaces
$=$ cellular decomposition by complex cells $\mathbb{C}^{k}$

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Theorem(Tymoczko '06)
For any $X$ and any $h, \operatorname{Hess}(X, h)$ is paved by complex affine spaces.
(with an explicit combinatorial formula for Betti numbers)
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- ring structure of $H^{*}(\operatorname{Hess}(X, h) ; \mathbb{Z})$ ?
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- ring structure of $H^{*}(\operatorname{Hess}(X, h) ; \mathbb{Z})$ ?
- Other Lie types ?
§1. cohomology, $\mathfrak{S}_{n}$-reps, hyperplane arr.
$S$ : regular semisimple matrix
(i.e. diagonalizable with distinct eigenvalues)
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$$
S \sim\left(\begin{array}{cccc}
c_{1} & & & \\
& c_{2} & & \\
& & c_{3} & \\
& & & c_{4}
\end{array}\right), \quad c_{i} \neq c_{j}(i \neq j)
$$

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\begin{aligned}
& \operatorname{Hess}(S, h)=\left\{V_{\bullet} \in F l\left(\mathbb{C}^{n}\right) \mid S V_{i} \subseteq V_{h(i)}, 1 \leq i \leq n\right\} \\
& \text { regular semisimple Hessenberg variety (smooth) }
\end{aligned}
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& \quad \underline{\text { regular semisimple Hessenberg variety }} \text { (smooth) }
\end{aligned}
$$

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { e.g. } h=(n, n, \cdots, n): \operatorname{Hess}(S, h)=F l\left(\mathbb{C}^{n}\right) \text {, } \\
& h=(2,3,4, \cdots, n, n): \operatorname{Hess}(S, h)=\text { permutohedral variety }
\end{aligned}
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## regular semisimple Hessenberg variety (smooth)

e.g. $h=(n, n, \cdots, n): \operatorname{Hess}(S, h)=F l\left(\mathbb{C}^{n}\right)$,

$$
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$$

$\mathfrak{S}_{n} \curvearrowright H^{*}(\operatorname{Hess}(S, h) ; \mathbb{C}):$ representation of symmetric group

$$
\binom{\text { monodromy action (geometry), or }}{\text { torus equiv cohomology (combinatorics) }}
$$

## $N$ : regular nilpotent matrix

(i.e. nilpotent matrix with single Jordan block)

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$\operatorname{Hess}(N, h)=\left\{V_{\bullet} \in F l\left(\mathbb{C}^{n}\right) \mid N V_{i} \subseteq V_{h(i)}, \quad 1 \leq i \leq n\right\}$ regular nilpotent Hessenberg variety (singular in general)
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e.g. $h=(n, n, \cdots, n): \operatorname{Hess}(N, h)=F l\left(\mathbb{C}^{n}\right)$,

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h=(2,3,4, \cdots, n, n): \operatorname{Hess}(N, h)=\text { Peterson variety }
$$



|  | $\operatorname{Hess}(N, h)$ | $\operatorname{Hess}(S, h)$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| dimension | $\sum_{i=1}^{n}(h(i)-i)$ | $\sum_{i=1}^{n}(h(i)-i)$ |
|  |  |  |


|  | $\operatorname{Hess}(N, h)$ | $\operatorname{Hess}(S, h)$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| dimension | $\sum_{i=1}^{n}(h(i)-i)$ <br> singular (in general) | $\sum_{i=1}^{n}(h(i)-i)$ <br> smooth |
| singularity |  |  |


|  | $\operatorname{Hess}(N, h)$ | $\operatorname{Hess}(S, h)$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| dimension | $\sum_{i=1}^{n}(h(i)-i)$ | $\sum_{i=1}^{n}(h(i)-i)$ |
| singularity | singular (in general $)$ | smooth |
| $h=(n, n, \ldots, n, n)$ | flag variety | flag variety |


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Theorem(A-Harada-Horiguchi-Masuda '15)

$$
H^{*}(\operatorname{Hess}(N, h) ; \mathbb{C}) \quad H^{*}(\operatorname{Hess}(S, h) ; \mathbb{C})
$$

|  | $\operatorname{Hess}(N, h)$ | $\operatorname{Hess}(S, h)$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
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Theorem(A-Harada-Horiguchi-Masuda '15)

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H^{*}(\operatorname{Hess}(N, h) ; \mathbb{C}) \quad H^{*}(\operatorname{Hess}(S, h) ; \mathbb{C})^{\mathfrak{S}_{n}}
$$

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Theorem(A-Harada-Horiguchi-Masuda '15)
There is a natural ring isomorphism

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H^{*}(\operatorname{Hess}(N, h) ; \mathbb{C}) \cong H^{*}(\operatorname{Hess}(S, h) ; \mathbb{C})^{\mathfrak{S}_{n}}
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$$

- Hyperplane arrangements
- Shareshian-Wachs conjecture
- $H^{*}(\operatorname{Hess}(S, h) ; \mathbb{C})$
- Schubert polynomials and $H^{*}(\operatorname{Hess}(N, h) ; \mathbb{C})$
- (non-regular) semisimple Hessenberg varieties
§2. Algebro-geometric aspects


## semisimple degenerates to nilpotent

semisimple degenerates to nilpotent
$S=\left(\begin{array}{llll}c_{1} & & & \\ & c_{2} & & \\ & & c_{3} & \\ & & & c_{4}\end{array}\right), \quad N=\left(\begin{array}{llll}0 & 1 & & \\ & 0 & 1 & \\ & & 0 & 1 \\ & & & 0\end{array}\right)$

## semisimple degenerates to nilpotent

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S=\left(\begin{array}{cccc}
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0 & 1 & & \\
& 0 & 1 & \\
& & 0 & 1 \\
& & & 0
\end{array}\right)
$$

$$
\Gamma(t)=\left(\begin{array}{cccc}
t c_{1} & 1 & & \\
& t c_{2} & 1 & \\
& & t c_{3} & 1 \\
& & & t c_{4}
\end{array}\right) \quad(t \in \mathbb{C})
$$

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\end{array}\right) \quad(t \in \mathbb{C})
$$

$$
\Gamma(t) \xrightarrow{t \rightarrow 0} N \quad \rightsquigarrow \quad \operatorname{Hess}(\Gamma(t), h) \xrightarrow{t \rightarrow 0} \operatorname{Hess}(N, h) \quad(\star)
$$

## semisimple degenerates to nilpotent

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S=\left(\begin{array}{llll}
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$$

$$
(t \neq 0: \Gamma(t) \sim t S)
$$

## semisimple degenerates to nilpotent

$$
\begin{aligned}
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c_{1} & & & \\
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0 & 1 & & \\
& 0 & 1 & \\
& & 0 & 1 \\
& & & 0
\end{array}\right) \\
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t c_{1} & 1 & & \\
& t c_{2} & 1 & \\
& & t c_{3} & 1 \\
& & & t c_{4}
\end{array}\right) \quad(t \in \mathbb{C}) \\
& \Gamma(t) \xrightarrow{t \rightarrow 0} N \quad \operatorname{Hess}(\Gamma(t), h) \xrightarrow{t \rightarrow 0} \operatorname{Hess}(N, h) \quad(\star) \\
& (t \neq 0: \Gamma(t) \sim t S) \text { reg. ss. reg. nilp. }
\end{aligned}
$$

semisimple degenerates to nilpotent
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$\Gamma(t)=\left(\begin{array}{cccc}t c_{1} & 1 & & \\ & t c_{2} & 1 & \\ & & t c_{3} & 1 \\ & & & t c_{4}\end{array}\right) \quad(t \in \mathbb{C})$
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e.g. Peterson variety is a flat limit of permutohedral variety

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- formula for the K-class [Hess $(R, h)$ ]
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( $X$ is weak Fano $\Longleftrightarrow-K_{X}$ is nef and big)

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Q. Can we construct explicit integrable system on $\operatorname{Hess}\left(S, h_{k}\right)$ ?

## §2. More developmemnts

- Harada-Precup : deeper study of $\mathfrak{S}_{n}$-representation on $H^{*}(\operatorname{Hess}(S, h))$ (verifying Stanley-Stembridge conjecture in certain cases)
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- Ayzenberg-Buchstaber : topological twin of $\operatorname{Hess}(S, h)$
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Thank you for your attention!

