

# Universal parameters for Stanley-Reisner rings and a colorful Hochster formula

A. Adams (UC Davis)

V. Reiner (U. Minnesota)

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1. Stanley-Reisner ring reminder  $\begin{cases} \text{f-vectors} \\ \text{h-vectors} \\ \text{Hilbert series} \end{cases}$
2. Hochster's formula (1977)
3. Colorful Hochster formula (new!)
4. Universal parameters : depth,  
resolutions (CONJ!)

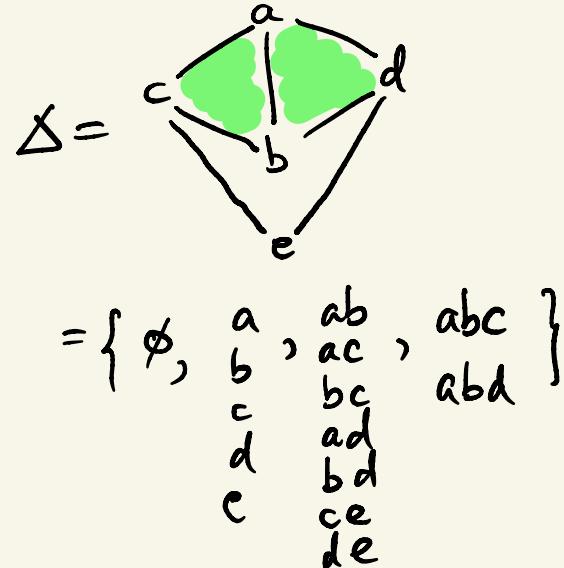
# 1. Stanley-Reisner ring reminder

$\Delta$  a simplicial complex

has f-vector

$$\underline{f} = (f_{-1}, f_0, f_1, \dots, f_{d-1})$$

where  $f_i = \# \text{ faces } F \text{ of dimension } i$   
(size  $\#F = i+1$ )

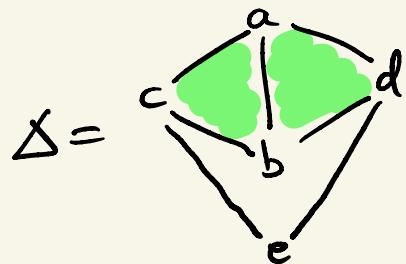


$$\underline{f} = (1, 5, 7, 2)$$
$$f_{-1} \quad f_0 \quad f_1 \quad f_2$$

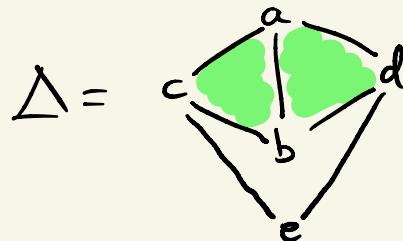
The f-vector of  $\Delta$  is related to its

Stanley-Reisner ring over a field  $k$

$$k[\Delta] = \underbrace{k[a, b, c, d, e]}_{S := \text{polynomial ring in vertex variables}} / \underbrace{(cd, ae, be)}_{I_\Delta := \text{ideal generated by non-face monomials}}$$



$k[\Delta]$  has  $k$ -basis given by monomials supported on faces



$$\Delta = \quad k[\Delta] = k[a, b, c, d, e] / (cd, ae, be)$$

degree:      0      1      2      3      4

has  $k$ -basis     $\{ 1, a, b, c, d, e, a^2, b^2, c^2, d^2, e^2, ab, ac, ad, bc, bd, ce, de, \dots \}$

## Hilbert series

$$\text{Hilb}(k[\Delta], t) := \sum_{d=0}^{\infty} \dim_k k[\Delta]_d \cdot t^d$$

$$\underline{f} = (1, 5, 7, 2)$$

*not hard!*

$$= \sum_{i=0}^d f_{i+1} \left( \frac{t}{1-t} \right)^i = 1 + 5 \left( \frac{t}{1-t} \right)^1 + 7 \left( \frac{t}{1-t} \right)^2 + 2 \left( \frac{t}{1-t} \right)^3$$

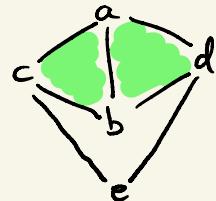
$$= : \frac{\sum_{i=0}^d h_i t^i}{(1-t)^d} = \frac{1 + 2t + 0 \cdot t^2 - t^3}{(1-t)^3}$$

$$\underline{h} = (1, 2, 0, -1)$$

$$h_0, h_1, h_2, h_3$$

Def'n of  $h$ -vector

$$\underline{h} = (h_0, h_1, \dots, h_d)$$



## 2. Hochster's formula (1977)

Can also compute  $\text{Hilb}(k[\Delta], t)$  from a finite (minimal) free resolution of  $k[\Delta]$  as an  $S$ -module:

syzygies:      0<sup>th</sup>      1<sup>st</sup>      2<sup>nd</sup>      3<sup>rd</sup>

$$0 \leftarrow k[\Delta] \leftarrow S \leftarrow S(-2)^3 \leftarrow S(-3)^1 \leftarrow S(-5)^1 \leftarrow 0$$

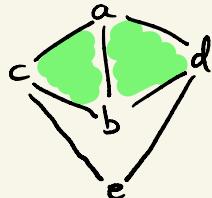
$\Downarrow$

$$S/I_\Delta \quad k[a,b,c,d,e]$$

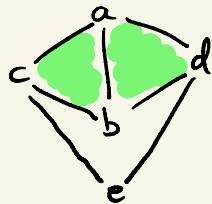
$\oplus$

$$S(-4)^2$$

$\begin{matrix} cd & \longleftarrow & e_{cd} \\ ae & \longleftarrow & e_{ae} \\ be & \longleftarrow & e_{be} \end{matrix}$



$S(-d)$  := free  $S$ -module with 1 basis element in degree  $d$



syzygies:      0<sup>th</sup>                  1<sup>st</sup>                  2<sup>nd</sup>                  3<sup>rd</sup>

$$0 \leftarrow k[\Delta] \xleftarrow[k(a,b,c,d,e)]{S/I_\Delta} S^1 \xleftarrow[S(-2)^3]{ } S(-3)^1 \xleftarrow[S(-4)^2]{\oplus} S(-5)^1 \leftarrow 0$$


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exactness  
⇒

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Hilb}(k[\Delta], t) &= \text{Hilb}(S, t) \cdot (t - 3t^2 + (t^3 + 2t^4) - t^5) \\ &= \frac{1}{(1-t)^5} (1 - 3t^2 + t^3 + 2t^4 - t^5) = \frac{1 + 2t - t^3}{(1-t)^3} \end{aligned}$$

requires some cancellation!

**THEOREM** (Hochster 1977) The minimal free  $S$ -resolution of  $k[\Delta]$  has

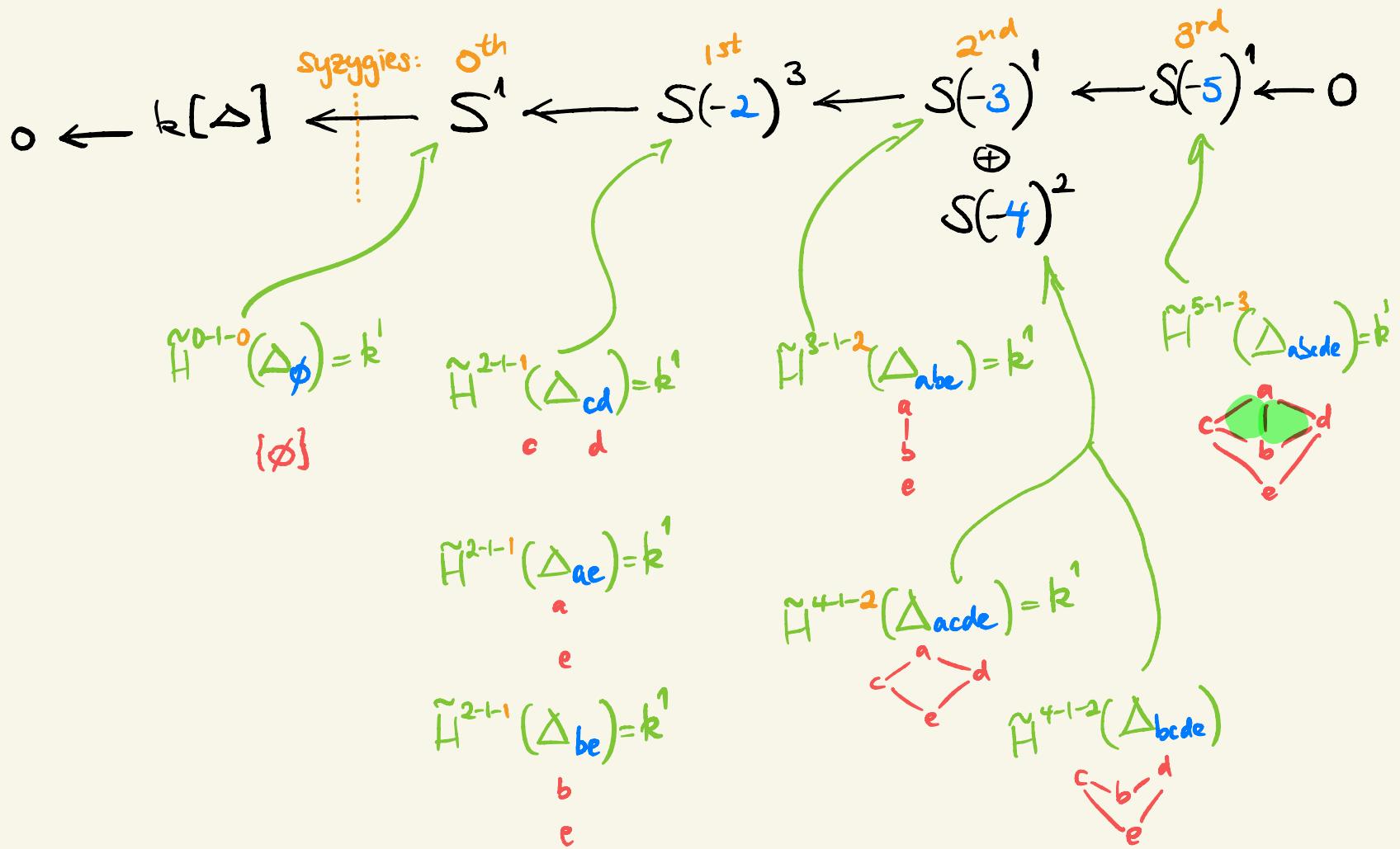
for each vertex subset  $T$  its **vertex-selected subcomplex**

$$\Delta_T := \{ F \in \Delta : F \subseteq T \}$$

contributing  $\dim_k H^{\#T-1-i}(\Delta_T; k)$

$\uparrow$  (reduced) simplicial homology

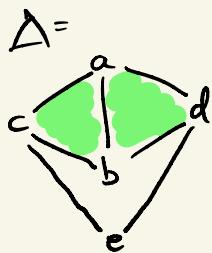
copies of  $S(-\#T)$  to the  $i^{\text{th}}$  syzygies.



### 3. Colorful Hochster formula

The  $S$ -free resolution of  $K[\Delta] = S/I_\Delta$  is unnecessarily long:

**THEOREM**  
(Auslander-Buchsbaum 1959)



has depth  $k[\Delta] = 2$ ,  
so  $S$ -free res'n  
had  $5 - 2 = 3$   
syzygy steps

It will always take

$\frac{\#\text{variables in } S}{\#\text{vertices in } \Delta} - \text{depth } k[\Delta]$  syzygy steps

max. length of a regular sequence

$\Theta_1, \Theta_2, \dots, \Theta_g$  in  $k[\Delta]_+$

nonzero divisor

nonzero divisor mod  $\Theta_1$

nonzero divisor mod  $\Theta_1, \dots, \Theta_{g-1}$

$\geq \#\text{vertices in } \Delta - (\dim \Delta + 1)$  ↗ sometimes huge!

There are shorter resolutions of  $k[\Delta]$  ...

Given any **proper  $t$ -coloring** of the graph/1-skeleton of  $\Delta$   
(= vertices + edges)

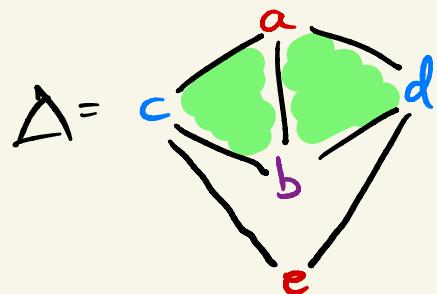
define **colorful parameters**  $\Theta_1, \Theta_2, \dots, \Theta_t \in k[\Delta]$

$$\Theta_i := \sum_{\substack{\text{vertices } j \\ \text{of color } i}} x_j$$

Then  $k[\Delta]$  is a fin. gen'd module over  $A = k[z_1, z_2, \dots, z_t]$ ,  
 $z_i$  acting on  $k[\Delta]$  as multiplication by  $\Theta_i$ .

The (minimal)  $A$ -free resolution has length (by Auslander  
- Buchsbaum Thm)

$$t - \text{depth } k[\Delta] \leq t = \# \text{ colors}$$



has colorful parameters  $\Theta_1 = a + e$   
 $\Theta_2 = c + d$   
 $\Theta_3 = b$

minimal  $A$ -free resolution over  $A = k[z_1, z_2, z_3]$ :

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 & & \text{0th} & & \text{1st} & & \\
 & 0 & \leftarrow k[\Delta] & \leftarrow & A^1 & \leftarrow & A(-2)^1 \leftarrow 0 \\
 & & \downarrow & & \oplus & & \\
 & & A(-1)^2 & & & & \oplus \\
 & & \oplus & & & & A(-3)^1 \\
 & & A(-2)^1 & & & &
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \Rightarrow \text{Hilb}(k[\Delta], t) &= \text{Hilb}(A, t) \cdot (t^0 + 2t^1 + t^2 - (t^2 + t^3)) \\
 &\stackrel{\checkmark}{=} \frac{1}{(1-t)^3} (1 + 2t - t^3)
 \end{aligned}$$

**THEOREM**  
 (Adams - R. 2020)  
 "Colorful Hochster formula"

For any proper  $t$ -coloring of the graph of  $\Delta$ ,  
 minimal free  $A$ -resolution of  $k[\Delta]$  has

for each color subset  $T \subseteq \{1, 2, \dots, t\}$  the **color-selected subcomplex**

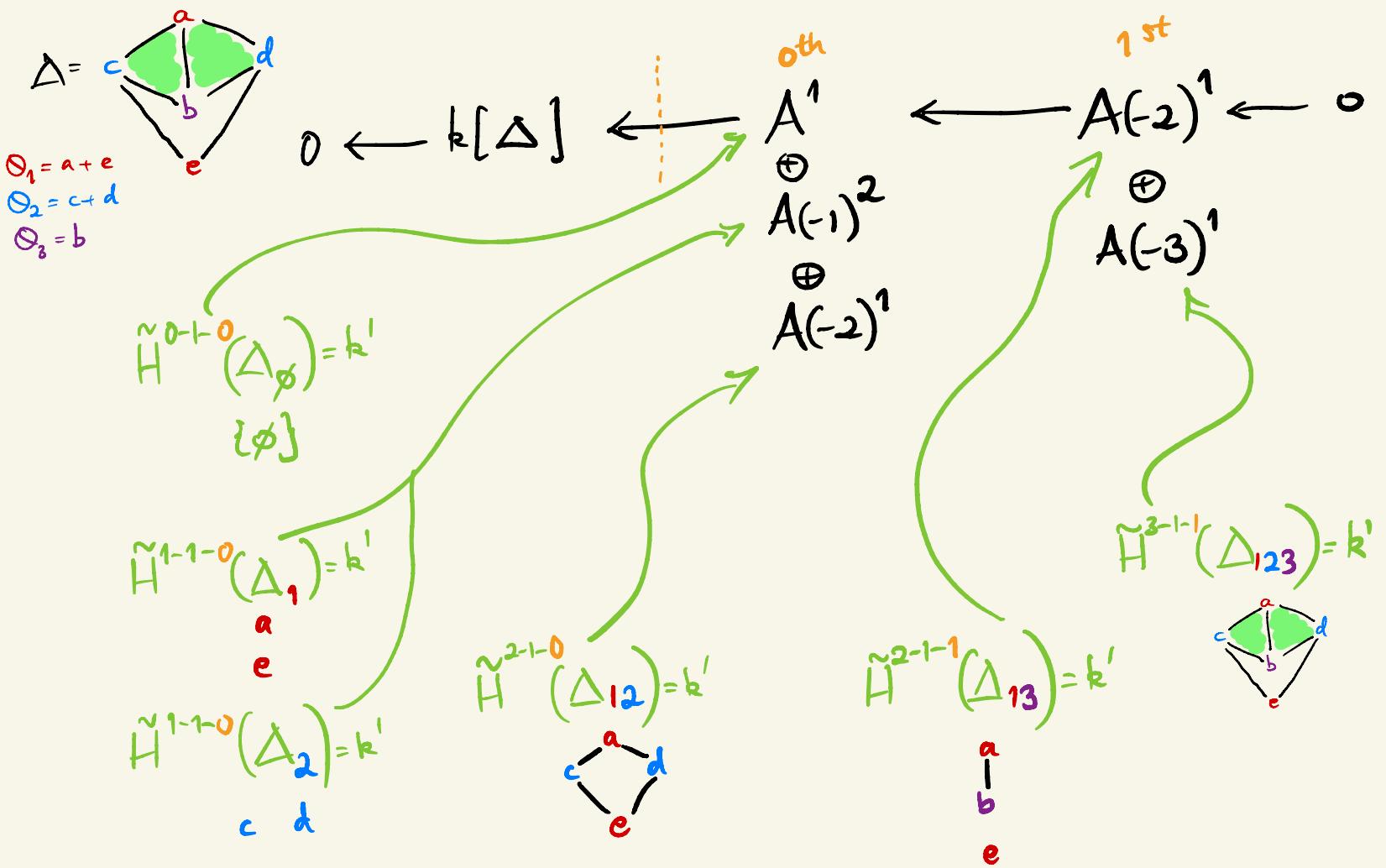
$$\Delta_T := \{ F \in \Delta : \text{colors of } F \subseteq T \}$$

contributing  $\dim_k \tilde{H}^{\#T-1-i}(\Delta_T; k)$

(reduced) simplicial homology

copies of  $S(-\#T)$  to the  $i^{\text{th}}$  syzygies.

( = Hochster's formula for the trivial coloring )

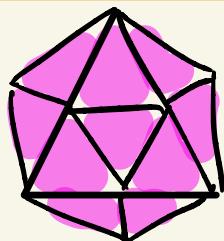


## 4. Universal parameters

Two complaints:

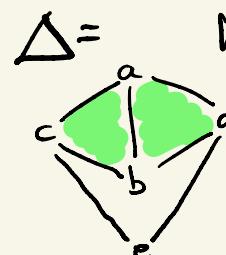
- What if  $d = \dim \Delta + 1$ , but we can't properly  $d$ -color the graph of  $\Delta$ ?  
Can we still find  $d$  parameters  $\Theta_1, \Theta_2, \dots, \Theta_d$  to resolve with?
- What if  $\Delta$  has some group  $G$  of symmetries?  
Can we make a resolution that helps describe  $k[\Delta]$  as a  $G$ -representation in each degree  $k[\Delta]_d$ ?

$\Delta =$   
boundary  
of  
icosahedron  
(a polytope,  
woo-hoo!)



not  
3-colorable!

has symmetry  
group  $G = H_3$   
with  $\#G = 120$



$\Delta =$   
has symmetry group  
 $G = \{e, (a,b), (c,d), (a,b)(c,d)\}$   
 $= \langle (a,b), (c,d) \rangle$   
 $\cong \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$

It helps to have parameters  $\Theta_1, \Theta_2, \dots, \Theta_d \in k[\Delta]$   
fixed pointwise by all symmetries of  $\Delta$ .

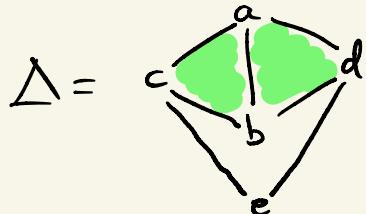
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### DEFINITION

(De Concini - Eisenbud  
- Procesi 1972,  
Garsia - Stanton 1984,  
D.E. Smith 1990,  
Herzog - Moradi 2020)

The universal parameters  $\Theta_1, \Theta_2, \dots, \Theta_d$  in  $k[\Delta]$

are  $\Theta_i := \sum_{\substack{\text{faces } F \in \Delta \\ \text{with } \#F = i}} \frac{x^F}{\prod_{j \in F} x_j}$  for  $i=1, 2, \dots, d$   
where  $d = \dim \Delta + 1$



$$k[\Delta] = k[a, b, c, d, e] / (cd, ae, be)$$

$$\Theta_1 = a + b + c + d + e$$

$$\Theta_2 = ab + ac + bc + ad + bd + ce + de$$

$$\Theta_3 = abc + abd$$

**(easy) PROPOSITION**  $k[\Delta]$  is fin. gen'd over  $A = k[z_1, \dots, z_d]$ ,  
 $z_i$  acting by the universal parameter  $\Theta_i$ :

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### THEOREM

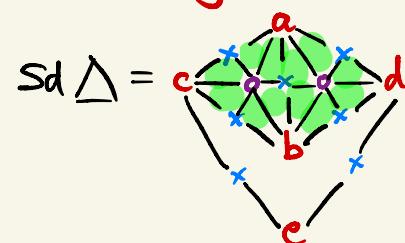
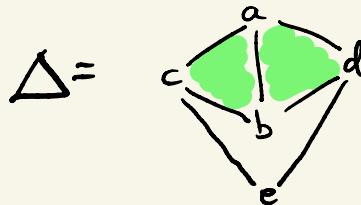
(D.E. Smith 1990  
for  $\Delta$  pure,  
Adams-R. 2020  
in general)

The universal parameters detect depth:

$$\text{depth } k[\Delta] = \max \left\{ s : \Theta_1, \Theta_2, \dots, \Theta_s \text{ are a regular sequence in } k[\Delta] \right\}$$

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The universal parameters  $\Theta_i$  are closely related to the colorful parameters for the natural  $d$ -coloring of  $Sd\Delta :=$  barycentric subdivision of  $\Delta$



CONJECTURE  
(Adams - R. 2020)

The shape of the resolution of  
 $k[\Delta]$  over the universal parameters  $\Theta$ :

is the same as those predicted by the colorful Hochster formula  
for the resolution of  $k[Sd\Delta]$  over its colorful parameters.

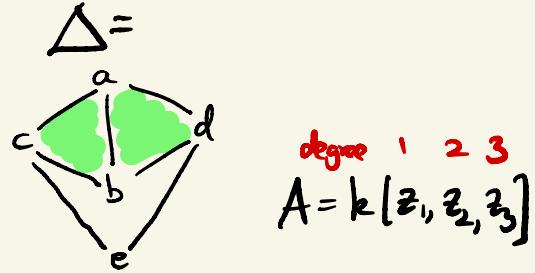
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For each subset  $T \subseteq \{1, 2, \dots, d\}$ , the subcomplex  $(Sd\Delta)_T$

contributes  $\dim_k \tilde{H}^{\#T-1-i}((Sd\Delta)_T; k)$  copies of

- proven  $\circ A(-\#T)$  to the  $i^{\text{th}}$  syzygies of  $k[Sd\Delta]$  over colorful parameters,  
conjecture  $\circ A\left(-\sum_{j \in T} j\right)$  to the  $i^{\text{th}}$  syzygies of  $k[\Delta]$  over universal parameters.

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 0 & \leftarrow k[\Delta] & \xleftarrow{\text{out}} & A' & \xleftarrow{\text{1st}} & A(-4)' & \leftarrow 0 \\
 & & & & & & \\
 \text{resolved} & & & & & & \\
 \text{over universal} & & & & & & \\
 & & \oplus & & & & \\
 & & A(-1)^4 & & & & \\
 & & & & \oplus & & \\
 & & & & A(-5)^2 & & \\
 & & & & & & \\
 & & \ominus & & & & \\
 & & A(-2)^6 & & & & \\
 & & & & \oplus & & \\
 & & & & A(-6)^1 & & \\
 & & & & & & \\
 & & \oplus & & & & \\
 & & A(-3)^4 & & & & \\
 & & & & & & \\
 & & \oplus & & & & \\
 & & A(-4)^1 & & & & \\
 \end{array}$$

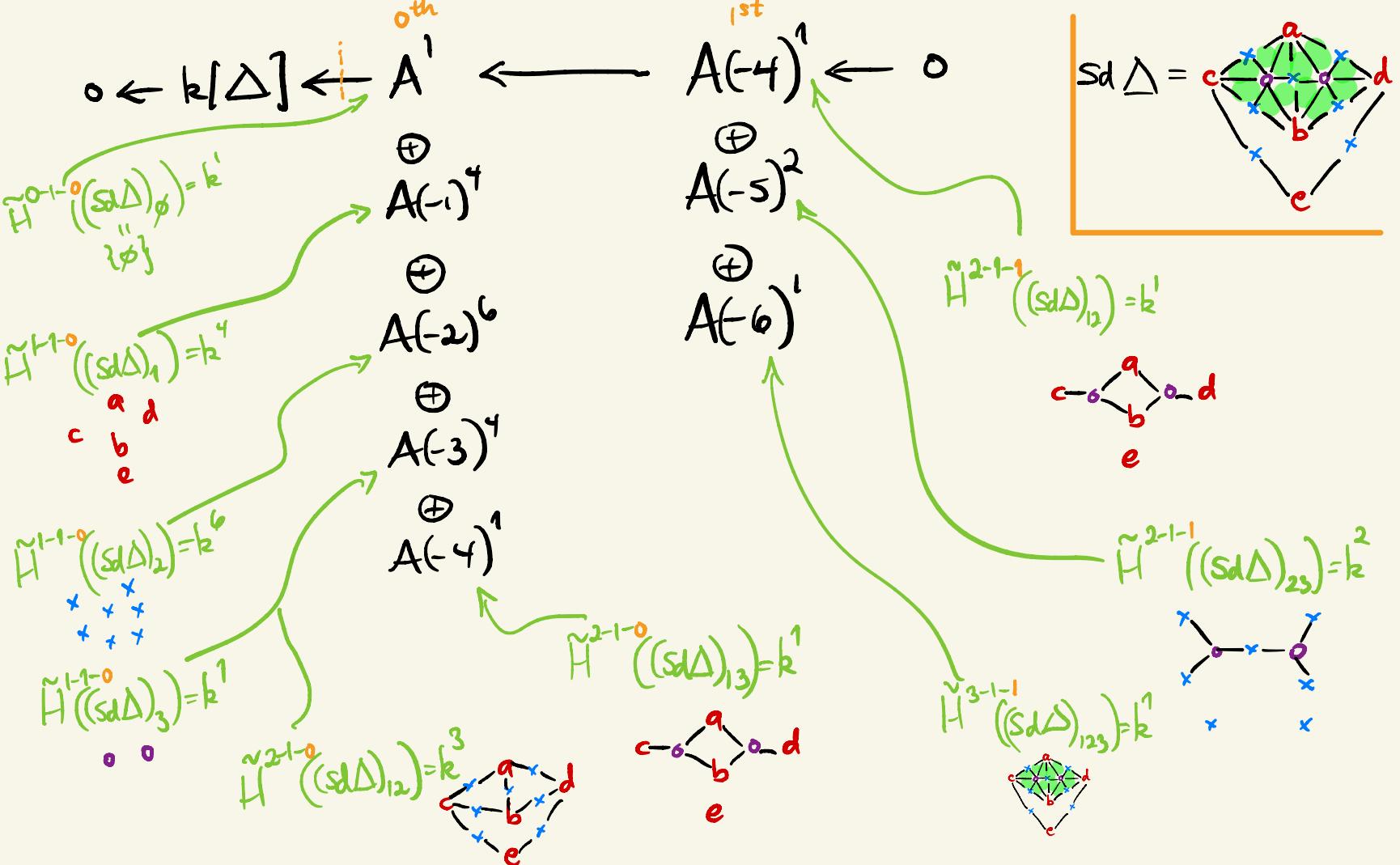


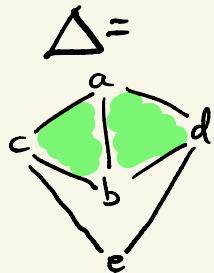
$$\Theta_1 = a + b + c + d + e$$

$$\Theta_2 = ab + ac + bc + ad + bd + ce + de$$

$$\Theta_3 = abc + abd$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \Rightarrow \text{Hilb}(k[\Delta], t) &= \text{Hilb}(A, t) \cdot (t^0 + 4t^1 + 6t^2 + 4t^3 + t^4 - (t^4 + 2t^5 + t^6)) \\
 &= \frac{1}{(1-t)(1-t^2)(1-t^3)} (1 + 4t + 6t^2 + 4t^3 - 2t^5 + t^6) \quad \checkmark \\
 &= \frac{1 + 2t - t^3}{(1-t)^3}
 \end{aligned}$$





$$\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$$

$$G = \langle (ab), (cd) \rangle$$

$$\begin{matrix} \alpha & \downarrow \\ -1 & \end{matrix} \quad \begin{matrix} \gamma & \downarrow \\ -1 & \end{matrix}$$

$$0 \leftarrow k[\Delta] \leftarrow \overset{1}{A^1} \leftarrow \overset{1}{A(-4)} \leftarrow 0$$

$$\begin{array}{c} 2+\alpha+\gamma \\ \oplus \\ A(-1)^4 \\ \oplus \\ A(-2)^6 \\ \oplus \\ A(-3)^4 \\ \oplus \\ A(-4)^1 \end{array}$$

$\gamma \oplus A(-6)^1$

G-equivariant resolution  
of  $k[\Delta]$  over  
universal parameters

$$\Rightarrow \text{Hilb}_G(k[\Delta], t) = \frac{1}{(1-t)(1-t^2)(1-t^3)} \left( 1 + (2+\alpha+\gamma)t + (2+\alpha+2\gamma+\alpha\gamma)t^2 + (1+\alpha+\gamma+\alpha\gamma)t^3 + \alpha\gamma t^4 - (t^4 + (1+\gamma)t^5 + \gamma t^6) \right)$$

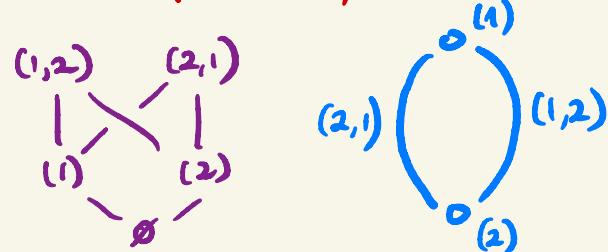
(  $\Rightarrow$  quasi-polynomial expression for G-representation on  $k[\Delta]_d$  )

## REMARKS :

- Works not just for Stanley-Reisner rings  $k[\Delta]$  of simplicial complexes but also for Stanley's face rings of simplicial posets (1991)

EXAMPLE complex of injective words

studied by Athanasiadis (2018)



— (S. Murai)

Is  $k[\Delta]$  isomorphic as  $\Lambda$ -module over universal parameters  
to  $k[Sd\Delta]$  as  $\Lambda$ -module over colorful parameters ?

( i.e. do maps also coincide in the two resolutions ? )

Thanks for  
your attention !