

On the Connected Subgraphs Arrangement of the Wheel Graph : Intersection Lattice, Supersolvability, and Freeness

Authors Names	ABSTRACT
^a Rabeaa Gataa Abtan ^b Hassan Ahmed Ghanim Publication date: 13 /8 /2026 Keywords: Wheel Graph; Connected Subgraphs Arrangement; Hyperplane Arrangements; Intersection Lattice; Supersolvability; Freeness	This paper presents a comprehensive analysis of the connected subgraphs arrangement $A_{W_5}^{\text{conn}}$ associated with the wheel graph W_5 . Following the definition by [1], this arrangement consists of hyperplanes $\ker(\sum_{i \in I} x_i)$ where $I \subseteq \{0,1,2,3,4\}$ induces a connected subgraph of W_5 and either contains the central vertex 0 or forms a connected interval on the cycle C_4 . We explicitly compute the full intersection lattice of this arrangement, contains all 1570 non-empty intersections. Using this lattice , we provide two distinct proofs of fundamental algebraic properties. First, we demonstrate that $A_{W_5}^{\text{conn}}$ is not supersolvable by exhibiting a specific element that fails to be modular. Second, using a localization argument centered on a non-chordal cyclic subarrangement, we apply Stanley's theorem to prove that $A_{W_5}^{\text{conn}}$ is not free. Finally, we extend our discussion to the general family $A_{W_n}^{\text{conn}}$ for $n \geq 5$, conjecturing that these connected subgraphs arrangements are neither supersolvable nor free for all $n \geq 5$.

1. Introduction

The study of hyperplane arrangements from graphs has a rich history in algebraic combinatorics. While graphic arrangements $A_G = \{x_i - x_j = 0 \mid \{i, j\} \in E(G)\}$ are well known, a more recent family is that of connected subgraphs arrangements. For a given graph $G = (V, E)$ consists of a finite set V of vertices and a set E of edges, the connected subgraphs arrangement $\mathcal{A}_G^{\text{conn}}$ has hyperplanes of the form $\sum_{i \in I} x_i = 0$ where $I \subseteq V(G)$ gives a connected subgraph of G . This paper focuses on the connected subgraphs arrangement of the wheel graph W_5 . The wheel graph W_n has a central vertex 0 connected to all vertices of a cycle C_{n-1} . This family is a good place to test combinatorial and algebraic properties because it is symmetric but not simple. To work with this, we use some basic definitions. Let $\mathcal{A}$ be an arrangement and $L(\mathcal{A})$ includes V as the intersection of the empty collection of hyperplanes. Define a partial order relation on $L(\mathcal{A})$ by $X \leq Y$ if and only if $Y \subseteq X$ for each $X, Y \in L(\mathcal{A})$. The poset of $\mathcal{A}$ is called the lattice of $\mathcal{A}$ and denoted by $L_{\mathcal{A}}$. For $X \in L(\mathcal{A})$ define the localization A_X of A by $A_X = \{H \in A \mid X \subseteq H\}$ [2]. An arrangement $\mathcal{A}$ is supersolvable if its intersection lattice $L(\mathcal{A})$ contains a maximal chain of modular elements [2]. An arrangement A in $\mathbb{R}^n$ is free if its module of derivations is a free module of rank n over the polynomial ring [2]. The projective dimension $\text{pd}(M)$, of a finitely generated graded S -module M is defined as the length k of a minimal free graded resolution of M . This resolution is given by the sequence: $0 \rightarrow F_k \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow F_1 \rightarrow F_0 \rightarrow M \rightarrow 0$ where F_i are free graded S modules [6]. Our main contribution is a complete computational analysis of $A_{W_5}^{\text{conn}}$, conducted via its full intersection lattice, which reveals that the arrangement $A_{W_5}^{\text{conn}}$ is neither supersolvable nor free, then generalize these results by introducing the family $A_{W_n}^{\text{conn}}$ and discussing the broader implications of our findings

2. Preliminaries and Definitions

Definition 2.1: The wheel graph W_5 consists of a central vertex 0 connected to all vertices of a 4-cycle. The cycle vertices are labeled 1,2,3,4. The edge set is

^a Mustansiriyah University, College of Science, Department of Mathematics, Baghdad, Iraq.

E-Mail: dr.rabeaa@uomustansiriyah.edu.iq

^b Mustansiriyah University, College of Science, Department of Mathematics, Baghdad, Iraq.

E-Mail: hassanahmed@uomustansiriyahedu.iq

$$E(W_5) = \{(1,2), (2,3), (3,4), (4,1), (0,1), (0,2), (0,3), (0,4)\}$$

Definition 2.2: Following the definition in [1], the connected subgraphs arrangement $A_{W_5}^{conn}$ in R^5 with coordinates $(x_0, x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4)$ is:

$$A_{W_5}^{conn} = \{ \ker(\sum_{i \in I} x_i) \mid I \subseteq \{0,1,2,3,4\}, I \text{ induces a connected subgraph of } W_5 \}.$$

More explicitly, a hyperplane $\sum_{i \in I} x_i = 0$ is included if either:

1. $0 \in I$ (any connected subgraph containing the central vertex), or
2. $I \subseteq \{1,2,3,4\}$ forms a connected interval on the cycle C_4 .

This yields the following 29 hyperplanes, which we label H_1 through H_{29}

Table (3.1): The 29 hyperplanes of $A_{W_5}^{conn}$.

Hyperplanes Containing Vertex 0		Connected Intervals on the Cycle C_4		
Hyperplane	Equation	Hyperplane	Equation	Type
H_1	$x_0 = 0$	H_{17}	$x_1 = 0$	Singleton
H_2	$x_0 + x_1 = 0$	H_{18}	$x_2 = 0$	Singleton
H_3	$x_0 + x_2 = 0$	H_{19}	$x_3 = 0$	Singleton
H_4	$x_0 + x_3 = 0$	H_{20}	$x_4 = 0$	Singleton
H_5	$x_0 + x_4 = 0$	H_{21}	$x_1 + x_2 = 0$	Edge
H_6	$x_0 + x_1 + x_2 = 0$	H_{22}	$x_2 + x_3 = 0$	Edge
H_7	$x_0 + x_1 + x_3 = 0$	H_{23}	$x_3 + x_4 = 0$	Edge
H_8	$x_0 + x_1 + x_4 = 0$	H_{24}	$x_1 + x_4 = 0$	Edge
H_9	$x_0 + x_2 + x_3 = 0$	H_{25}	$x_1 + x_2 + x_3 = 0$	Path
H_{10}	$x_0 + x_2 + x_4 = 0$	H_{26}	$x_2 + x_3 + x_4 = 0$	Path
H_{11}	$x_0 + x_3 + x_4 = 0$	H_{27}	$x_1 + x_3 + x_4 = 0$	Path
H_{12}	$x_0 + x_1 + x_2 + x_3 = 0$	H_{28}	$x_1 + x_2 + x_4 = 0$	Path
H_{13}	$x_0 + x_1 + x_2 + x_4 = 0$	H_{29}	$x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + x_4 = 0$	Entire cycle
H_{14}	$x_0 + x_1 + x_3 + x_4 = 0$			
H_{15}	$x_0 + x_2 + x_3 + x_4 = 0$			
H_{16}	$x_0 + x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + x_4 = 0$			

3. The Intersection Lattice of

Using Python with SymPy, we counted all the kinds of intersections for $L(\mathbf{A}_{W_5}^{conn})$. The lattice was built step by step: began with the space R^5 , then we got more intersections by adding hyperplane. The lattice is ordered by rank (which is the codimension) of the intersections. Table 2 show how many elements in each rank.

Table 2: The intersection lattice $L(\mathbf{A}_{W_5}^{conn})$ of $\mathbf{A}_{W_5}^{conn}$

Rank	Dimension	Total Elements	Example Intersection
0	5	1	Universe: R^5
1	4	29	$H_1: x_0 = 0$
2	3	256	$H_1 \cap H_7: x_0 = 0, x_1 = -x_3$
3	2	743	$H_2 \cap H_3 \cap H_4: x_0 = -x_3, x_1 = x_3, x_2 = x_3$
4	1	541	$H_2 \cap H_3 \cap H_4 \cap H_5: x_0 = -x_4, x_1 = x_4, x_2 = x_4, x_3 = x_4$
5	0	1	Origin: $x_0 = x_1 = x_2 = x_3 = x_4 = 0$
Total		1571	

The lattice exhibits rich structure. For instance, intersections of two hyperplanes at rank 2 often involve three defining equations, as the system of two linear equations in R^5 defines a 3-dimensional subspace.

4. $\mathbf{A}_{W_5}^{conn}$ is not Supersolvable

In this section we will prove that $\mathbf{A}_{W_5}^{conn}$ is not Supersolvable

Corollary 4.1 [3]: An element $X \in L$ is modular if and only if $X + Y \in L$ for all $Y \in L$.

Proposition 4.2: $\mathbf{A}_{W_5}^{conn}$ is not supersolvable.

Proof: The intersections lattice $L(\mathbf{A}_{W_5}^{conn})$ of $\mathbf{A}_{W_5}^{conn}$ has no modular element of rank(3) for example $X \in L(\mathbf{A}_{W_5}^{conn})$ s.t $X = \{H_1 \cap H_2 \cap H_3 \cap H_6 \cap H_{17} \cap H_{18} \cap H_{21}\}$

$= \{(x_0, x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4) \in R^5 | x_0 = 0, x_1 = 0, x_2 = 0\}$ is not modular since $\exists Y \in L(\mathbf{A}_{W_5}^{conn})$

$Y = \{H_1 \cap H_7 \cap H_9 \cap H_{22}\} = \{(x_0, x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4) \in R^5 | x_0 = 0, x_1 = -x_3, x_2 = -x_3\}$

And $X + Y = \{(x_0, x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4) \in R^5 | x_0 = 0, x_1 = x_2\} \notin L(\mathbf{A}_{W_5}^{conn})$,

Therefore by Corollary(5.1) $\mathbf{A}_{W_5}^{conn}$ is not Supersolvable.

5. $A_{W_5}^{\text{conn}}$ is not Free

In this section we will prove that $A_{W_5}^{\text{conn}}$ is not free arrangement. The proof uses a localization argument and relies on a classic theorem by Stanley connecting graphic arrangements to chordal graphs [1]

Theorem 5.1 [4]. $D(\mathcal{A}_G)$ is free module if and only if the graph G is chordal (i.e., has no induced cycles of length ≥ 4). Therefore $pd(D(A_G)) = 0$

Proposition 5.2 [5]: Let $X \in L(A)$. Then $pd(A_X) \leq pd(A)$

Proposition 5.3. The arrangement $A_{W_5}^{\text{conn}}$ is not free

Proof : Consider

$$X = \{x_1 = x_2 = x_3 = x_4 = 0\} \in L(A_{W_5}^{\text{conn}})$$

The localization A_X consists of all hyperplanes whose defining linear forms vanish identically on, that is

$$A_X = \{(x_1), (x_2), (x_3), (x_4), (x_1 + x_2), (x_2 + x_3), (x_3 + x_4), (x_4 + x_1), (x_1 + x_2 + x_3), (x_2 + x_3 + x_4), (x_3 + x_4 + x_1), (x_4 + x_1 + x_2), (x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + x_4)\}$$

Thus, A_X contains the hyperplanes

$$x_1 + x_2 = 0, \quad x_2 + x_3 = 0, \quad x_3 + x_4 = 0, \quad x_4 + x_1 = 0$$

Which form a subarrangement corresponding to a cycle of length four. This cycle is chordless and hence defines a non-chordal graph. By Stanley's Theorem (6.1), a graphic arrangement is free if and only if the underlying graph is chordal. Therefore, the above subarrangement is not free, which obstructs the freeness of the localized arrangement A_X . Consequently,

$pd(D(A_X)) \geq 1$. Since projective dimension does not decrease under localization, we conclude that $pd(D(A)) \geq pd(D(A_X)) \geq 1$

■

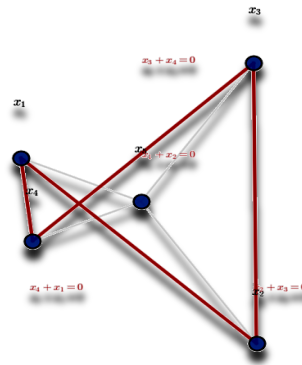


Figure 1 :The W_5 arrangement

Remark 5.4: in Figure 1 blue spheres represent variables x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4 . Thick red edges represent the C_4 cycle resulting from the substitution $x_1 = x_2 = x_3 = x_4 = 0$, satisfying: $x_1 + x_2 = 0$, $x_2 + x_3 = 0$, $x_3 + x_4 = 0$, $x_4 + x_1 = 0$. This is a chordless C_4 cycle. By Stanley's theorem, its existence prevents the original arrangement $A_{W_5}^{conn}$ from being free. Dashed gray edges (connected to x_0) disappear under localization.

Remark 5.5: This proof is significant because $A_{W_5}^{conn}$ is not itself a graphic arrangement, but its non-freeness is established by the presence of a non-chordal graphic arrangement within one of its localizations.

6. Generalization to the Family

The results for W_5 suggest a natural generalization to all wheel graphs W_n for $n \geq 4$. We define the connected subgraphs arrangement $A_{W_n}^{conn}$ in R^n with coordinates $(x_0, x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{n-1})$ as:

$$A_{W_n}^{conn} = \{ \ker(\sum_{i \in I} x_i) \mid I \subseteq \{0, 1, \dots, n-1\}, I \text{ induces a connected subgraph of } W_n \}$$

Equivalently, a hyperplane is included if either $0 \in I$ (any connected subgraph containing the central vertex) or $I \subseteq \{1, \dots, n-1\}$ forms a connected interval on the cycle C_{n-1} .

6.1. Intersection Lattice $L(A_{W_n}^{conn})$ of $A_{W_n}^{conn}$

The intersection lattice $L(A_{W_n}^{conn})$ of $A_{W_n}^{conn}$ will be significantly more complex than that of W_5 . However, its structure can be analyzed recursively. The element $Z_n = \{x_1 = x_2 = \dots = x_{n-1} = 0\}$ (the x_0 -axis) will always be present in the lattice. The localization of $A_{W_n}^{conn}$ at Z_n yields an arrangement in R^{n-1} (on coordinates $x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}$) consisting of all hyperplanes whose forms are independent of x_0 : $(A_{W_n}^{conn})_{Z_n} \sim \{\text{connected intervals on } C_{n-1}\}$. A subarrangement within this localization is the graphic arrangement of the cycle C_{n-1} itself, given by the forms $\{x_i + x_{i+1} = 0\}$ for $i = 1, \dots, n-2$ and $x_{n-1} + x_1 = 0$ (with cyclic indices (identifying x_n with x_1)).

6.2. Non-Freeness for $n \geq 5$

(7.2) Proposition. The arrangement $A_{W_n}^{conn}$ is not free for $n \geq 5$

Proof: Let $Z_n = \{x_1 = x_2 = \dots = x_n = 0\}$ Consider the localization $(A_{W_n}^{conn})_{Z_n}$. This localization has the graphic arrangement of the cycle C_{n-1} . given by: $x_i + x_{i+1} = 0, i = 1, \dots, n-2, \text{ and } x_{n-1} + x_1 = 0$
For $n \geq 5$, we have $n-1 \geq 4$, so C_{n-1} is non-chordal. By Stanley's Theorem(6.1), the graphic arrangement is not free. So, the localization is not free. This shows that $A_{W_n}^{conn}$ is not free. This argument holds for all $n \geq 5$. ■

6.3. Remark (Non-Supersolvability Argument for $n \geq 5$)

The non-supersolvability argument for W_5 used a specific pair of elements (X and Y) whose join was not in the lattice. This pattern is expected to extend. For W_n , one can consider the element $X_n = \{x_0 = 0, x_1 = 0, x_2 = 0\}$ (The intersection of H_1, H_{17}, H_{18} and several other extra hyperplanes) and another element $Y_n = \{x_0 = 0, x_1 = -x_3, x_2 = -x_3\}$. The join $X_n \vee Y_n$ would likely give the subspace $\{x_1 = 0, x_1 = x_2\}$, which is not an element of the lattice for $n \geq 5$ because it cannot be written as an intersection of the defining hyperplanes of $A_{W_n}^{conn}$. The existence of such a pair would violate the modularity condition, showing non-supersolvability. A full proof would need a more detailed lattice analysis, but the structural similarity to the $n = 5$ case strongly shows the property holds for all larger n

7. Conclusions

We have done a full investigation of the connected subgraphs hyperplane arrangement $A_{W_5}^{conn}$ with the wheel graph W_5 . By fully listing its intersection lattice, we gave concrete data that let two independent algebraic proofs. We showed $A_{W_5}^{conn}$ is neither supersolvable nor free. The non-freeness proof, in particular, shows a strong way: finding non-freeness in a non-graphic arrangement by using a localization that gives a non-chordal graphic subarrangement. Finally, we generalized these results to the infinite family $A_{W_n}^{conn}$, guessing that they share these same non-properties for all $n \geq 5$. This work shows the tight connection between graph theory and the algebraic combinatorics of hyperplane arrangements.

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