

Discrete Mathematics & Computational Structures
Lattice-Point Counting in Convex Polytopes
(10) The Decomposition of a Polytope into Its Cones

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- ① The Identity “ $\sum_{m \in \mathbb{Z}} z^m = 0$ ” ... or “Much Ado About Nothing”
- ② Tangent Cones and Their Rational Generating Functions
- ③ Brion's Theorem
- ④ Brion Implies Ehrhart

Important theorems from the previous lectures

Theorem 3.8 (Ehrhart's Theorem)

\mathcal{P} is an integral convex d -polytope \Rightarrow
 $L_{\mathcal{P}}(t)$ is a polynomial in t of degree d

Theorem 3.23 (Ehrhart's Theorem for rational polytopes)

\mathcal{P} is a rational convex d -polytope \Rightarrow
 $L_{\mathcal{P}}(t)$ is a quasipolynomial in t of degree d ;
Its period divides the denominator of \mathcal{P}

Theorem 4.1 (Ehrhart–Macdonald reciprocity)

\mathcal{P} a convex rational polytope \Rightarrow for any $t \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$

$$L_{\mathcal{P}}(-t) = (-1)^{\dim \mathcal{P}} L_{\mathcal{P}^\circ}(t)$$

The goal of this chapter

Conclusion from the previous chapter

We saw the following can be computed efficiently (by means of reciprocity)

- Ehrhart polynomials of the Mordell–Pommersheim tetrahedra
- Ehrhart quasipolynomials of rational convex polygons

Question from the previous chapter

Can we compute the Ehrhart quasipolynomial of any convex polytope efficiently?

Goal of this chapter

Look at mathematical (**geometric**) ideas that form a basis of efficient algorithm for the task above

① The Identity “ $\sum_{m \in \mathbb{Z}} z^m = 0$ ” ... or “Much Ado About Nothing”

② Tangent Cones and Their Rational Generating Functions

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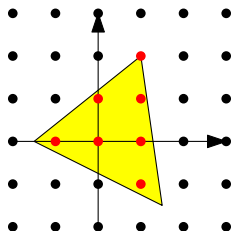
Integer-point transforms

Definition (Integer-point transform, recap)

The **integer-point transform** of $S \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d$ is

$$\sigma_S(\mathbf{z}) = \sigma_S(z_1, z_2, \dots, z_d) := \sum_{\mathbf{m} \in S \cap \mathbb{Z}^d} \mathbf{z}^{\mathbf{m}}$$

Recall: $\mathbf{z}^{\mathbf{m}} = z_1^{m_1} z_2^{m_2} \cdots z_d^{m_d}$



Example:

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma_S(z_1, z_2) &= z_1 z_2^2 + z_1 z_2 + z_1 + z_1 z_2^{-1} \\ &\quad + z_2 + 1 + z_1^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

A one-dimensional example (1)

- Consider the line segment $\mathcal{I} := [20, 34]$
- Then

$$\sigma_{\mathcal{I}}(z) = z^{20} + z^{21} + \cdots + z^{34}$$

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- Observation: Long polynomial representation vs. Short rational representation

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- Observation: Long polynomial representation vs. Short rational representation
- We rewrite the expression

$$\sigma_{\mathcal{I}}(z) = \frac{z^{20}}{1 - z} + \frac{z^{34}}{1 - \frac{1}{z}}$$

A one-dimensional example (2)

- As a matter of fact

$$\sigma_{[20, \infty)}(z) = \sum_{m \geq 20} z^m = \frac{z^{20}}{1 - z},$$

$$\sigma_{(-\infty, 34]}(z) = \sum_{m \leq 34} z^m = \frac{z^{34}}{1 - \frac{1}{z}}$$

A one-dimensional example (2)

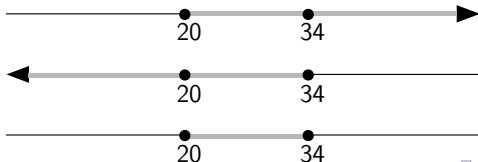
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- Therefore, it holds that as rational functions

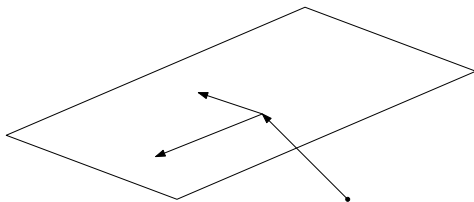
$$\sigma_{[20, \infty)}(z) + \sigma_{(-\infty, 34]}(z) = \sigma_{[20, 34]}(z)$$



Affine spaces

- Any affine space $\mathcal{A} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d$ equals $\mathbf{w} + \mathcal{V}$ for some $\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^d$ and some n -dimensional vector subspace $\mathcal{V} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d$
- \mathcal{A} contains integer points \Rightarrow we may choose $\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{Z}^d$
- \exists a basis $\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots, \mathbf{v}_n$ for $\mathcal{V} \cap \mathbb{Z}^d$
- \therefore Any integer point $\mathbf{m} \in \mathcal{A} \cap \mathbb{Z}^d$ can be uniquely written as

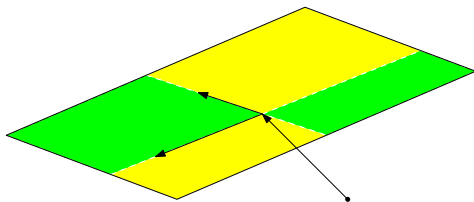
$$\mathbf{m} = \mathbf{w} + k_1 \mathbf{v}_1 + k_2 \mathbf{v}_2 + \dots + k_n \mathbf{v}_n \text{ for some } k_1, k_2, \dots, k_n \in \mathbb{Z}$$



Affine spaces

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$$\mathbf{m} = \mathbf{w} + k_1 \mathbf{v}_1 + k_2 \mathbf{v}_2 + \dots + k_n \mathbf{v}_n \text{ for some } k_1, k_2, \dots, k_n \in \mathbb{Z}$$



Skewed orthants

Definition (skewed orthant)

Using this fixed lattice basis for \mathcal{V} , we define the **skewed orthants** of \mathcal{A} as the sets of the form

$$\{\mathbf{w} + \lambda_1 \mathbf{v}_1 + \lambda_2 \mathbf{v}_2 + \cdots + \lambda_n \mathbf{v}_n\},$$

where for each $1 \leq j \leq n$, we require either $\lambda_j \geq 0$ or $\lambda_j < 0$

- So there are 2^n such skewed orthants, and their disjoint union equals \mathcal{A}
- We denote them by $\mathcal{O}_1, \mathcal{O}_2, \dots, \mathcal{O}_{2^n}$
- All of them are (half-open) pointed cones, and so their integer-point transforms are rational

Much Ado about Nothing

Lemma 9.1

Suppose \mathcal{A} is an n -dimensional affine space with skewed orthants $\mathcal{O}_1, \mathcal{O}_2, \dots, \mathcal{O}_{2^n}$. Then as rational functions,

$$\sigma_{\mathcal{O}_1}(\mathbf{z}) + \sigma_{\mathcal{O}_2}(\mathbf{z}) + \cdots + \sigma_{\mathcal{O}_{2^n}}(\mathbf{z}) = 0$$

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Proof:

- Suppose

$$\mathcal{A} = \{\mathbf{w} + \lambda_1 \mathbf{v}_1 + \lambda_2 \mathbf{v}_2 + \dots + \lambda_n \mathbf{v}_n : \lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n \in \mathbb{R}\}$$

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- Then a typical skewed orthant \mathcal{O} looks like

$$\mathcal{O} = \left\{ \mathbf{w} + \lambda_1 \mathbf{v}_1 + \lambda_2 \mathbf{v}_2 + \dots + \lambda_n \mathbf{v}_n : \begin{array}{l} \lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_k \geq 0, \\ \lambda_{k+1}, \dots, \lambda_n < 0 \end{array} \right\}$$

Proof of Lemma 9.1 (cont'd)

- The integer-point transform of \mathcal{O} is

$$\begin{aligned}
 \sigma_{\mathcal{O}}(\mathbf{z}) &= \mathbf{z}^{\mathbf{w}} \left(\sum_{j_1 \geq 0} \mathbf{z}^{j_1 \mathbf{v}_1} \right) \cdots \left(\sum_{j_k \geq 0} \mathbf{z}^{j_k \mathbf{v}_k} \right) \left(\sum_{j_{k+1} < 0} \mathbf{z}^{j_{k+1} \mathbf{v}_{k+1}} \right) \cdots \left(\sum_{j_n < 0} \mathbf{z}^{j_n \mathbf{v}_n} \right) \\
 &= \mathbf{z}^{\mathbf{w}} \frac{1}{1 - \mathbf{z}^{\mathbf{v}_1}} \cdots \frac{1}{1 - \mathbf{z}^{\mathbf{v}_k}} \frac{1}{\mathbf{z}^{\mathbf{v}_{k+1}} - 1} \cdots \frac{1}{\mathbf{z}^{\mathbf{v}_n} - 1}
 \end{aligned}$$

Proof of Lemma 9.1 (cont'd)

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- Consider the skewed orthant \mathcal{O}' with the same conditions on the λ 's as in \mathcal{O} except that we switch $\lambda_1 \geq 0$ to $\lambda_1 < 0$

Proof of Lemma 9.1 (cont'd)

- The integer-point transform of \mathcal{O} is

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- Consider the skewed orthant \mathcal{O}' with the same conditions on the λ 's as in \mathcal{O} except that we switch $\lambda_1 \geq 0$ to $\lambda_1 < 0$; Then the integer-point transform of \mathcal{O}' is

$$\sigma_{\mathcal{O}'}(\mathbf{z}) = \mathbf{z}^{\mathbf{w}} \frac{1}{\mathbf{z}^{\mathbf{v}_1} - 1} \frac{1}{1 - \mathbf{z}^{\mathbf{v}_2}} \cdots \frac{1}{1 - \mathbf{z}^{\mathbf{v}_k}} \frac{1}{\mathbf{z}^{\mathbf{v}_{k+1}} - 1} \cdots \frac{1}{\mathbf{z}^{\mathbf{v}_n} - 1}$$

Proof of Lemma 9.1 (further cont'd)

- $\therefore \sigma_{\mathcal{O}}(\mathbf{z}) + \sigma_{\mathcal{O}'}(\mathbf{z}) = 0$

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- $\therefore \sigma_{\mathcal{O}}(\mathbf{z}) + \sigma_{\mathcal{O}'}(\mathbf{z}) = 0$
- Since we can pair up all skewed orthants in this fashion, the sum of all their rational generating functions is zero \square

Proof of Lemma 9.1 (further cont'd)

- $\therefore \sigma_{\mathcal{O}}(\mathbf{z}) + \sigma_{\mathcal{O}'}(\mathbf{z}) = 0$
- Since we can pair up all skewed orthants in this fashion, the sum of all their rational generating functions is zero \square

Since $\mathcal{O}_1 \cup \mathcal{O}_2 \cup \cdots \cup \mathcal{O}_{2^n}$ is equal to \mathcal{A} as a disjoint union, it now makes sense to set

$$\sigma_{\mathcal{A}}(\mathbf{z}) := 0$$

when \mathcal{A} is an affine space of dimension $n > 0$

① The Identity “ $\sum_{m \in \mathbb{Z}} z^m = 0$ ” ... or “Much Ado About Nothing”

② Tangent Cones and Their Rational Generating Functions

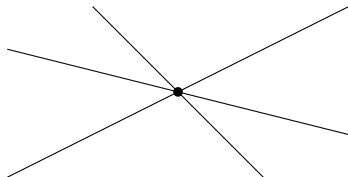
③ Brion's Theorem

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Hyperplane arrangements

Definition (Hyperplane arrangement)

- A **hyperplane arrangement** \mathcal{H} is a finite collection of hyperplanes
- An arrangement \mathcal{H} is **rational** if all its hyperplanes are, that is, if each hyperplane in \mathcal{H} is of the form $\{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d : a_1x_1 + a_2x_2 + \cdots + a_dx_d = b\}$ for some $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_d, b \in \mathbb{Z}$
- An arrangement \mathcal{H} is called a **central** hyperplane arrangement if its hyperplanes meet in (at least) one point



Convex cones

Definition (Convex cone)

A **convex cone** is the intersection of finitely many half-spaces of the form $\{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d : a_1x_1 + a_2x_2 + \cdots + a_dx_d \leq b\}$ for which the corresponding hyperplanes $\{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d : a_1x_1 + a_2x_2 + \cdots + a_dx_d = b\}$ form a central arrangement

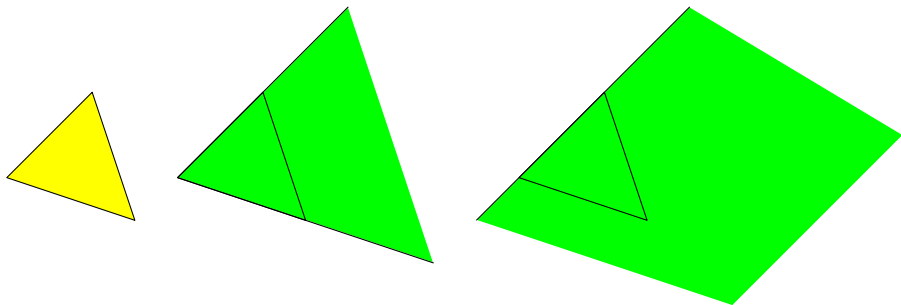
- This definition extends that of a pointed cone: a cone is pointed if the defining hyperplanes meet in *exactly* one point
- A cone is **rational** if all of its defining hyperplanes are rational
- Cones and polytopes are special cases of **polyhedra**, which are convex bodies defined as the intersection of finitely many half-spaces

Tangent cones

Definition (Tangent cone)

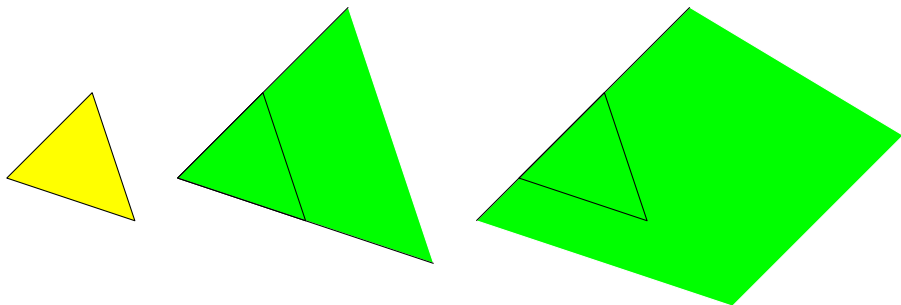
For a face \mathcal{F} of a convex polytope \mathcal{P} , define its **tangent cone** as

$$\mathcal{K}_{\mathcal{F}} := \{\mathbf{x} + \lambda(\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{x}) : \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{F}, \mathbf{y} \in \mathcal{P}, \lambda \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}\}$$



Properties of tangent cones

- $\mathcal{K}_{\mathcal{F}}$ is the smallest convex cone containing both $\text{span } \mathcal{F}$ and \mathcal{P}
- $\mathcal{K}_{\mathcal{P}} = \text{span } \mathcal{P}$
- $\mathcal{K}_{\mathbf{v}}$ is often called a **vertex cone** if \mathbf{v} is a vertex of \mathcal{P} ; it is pointed
- $\mathcal{K}_{\mathcal{F}}$ is not pointed for a k -face \mathcal{F} of \mathcal{P} with $k > 0$



Tangent cones and the spans of faces

Lemma 9.3

For any face \mathcal{F} of \mathcal{P} , $\text{span } \mathcal{F} \subseteq \mathcal{K}_{\mathcal{F}}$.

Proof: As \mathbf{x} and \mathbf{y} vary over all points of \mathcal{F} , $\mathbf{x} + \lambda(\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{x})$ varies over $\text{span } \mathcal{F}$ □

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Remarks

- Lem 9.3 implies that $\mathcal{K}_{\mathcal{F}}$ contains a line, unless \mathcal{F} is a vertex
- More precisely, if $\mathcal{K}_{\mathcal{F}}$ is not pointed, it contains the affine space $\text{span } \mathcal{F}$, which is called the **apex** of the tangent cone
- (A pointed cone has a point as apex)

Orthogonal complements of affine spaces

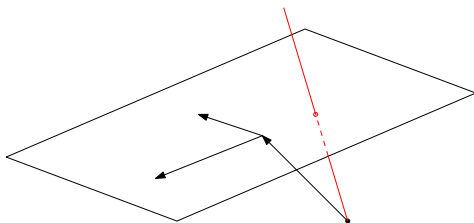
Reminder: An affine space $\mathcal{A} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d$ equals $\mathbf{w} + \mathcal{V}$ for some $\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^d$ and some vector subspace $\mathcal{V} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d$

Definition (Orthogonal complement)

The **orthogonal complement** \mathcal{A}^\perp of this affine space \mathcal{A} is defined by

$$\mathcal{A}^\perp := \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d : \mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{v} = 0 \text{ for all } \mathbf{v} \in \mathcal{V}\}$$

Note: $\mathcal{A} \oplus \mathcal{A}^\perp = \mathbb{R}^d$



A decomposition of tangent cones

Lemma 9.4

For any face \mathcal{F} of \mathcal{P} , the tangent cone $\mathcal{K}_{\mathcal{F}}$ has the decomposition

$$\mathcal{K}_{\mathcal{F}} = \text{span } \mathcal{F} \oplus \left((\text{span } \mathcal{F})^{\perp} \cap \mathcal{K}_{\mathcal{F}} \right);$$

Consequently, $\sigma_{\mathcal{K}_{\mathcal{F}}}(\mathbf{z}) = 0$ unless \mathcal{F} is a vertex

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Proof of the 1st part:

- Since $\text{span } \mathcal{F} \oplus (\text{span } \mathcal{F})^{\perp} = \mathbb{R}^d$,

$$\mathcal{K}_{\mathcal{F}} = \left(\text{span } \mathcal{F} \oplus (\text{span } \mathcal{F})^{\perp} \right) \cap \mathcal{K}_{\mathcal{F}}$$

(Lem 9.3)

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(Lem 9.3)

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A decomposition of tangent cones: 2nd part

Lemma 9.4

For any face \mathcal{F} of \mathcal{P} , the tangent cone $\mathcal{K}_{\mathcal{F}}$ has the decomposition

$$\mathcal{K}_{\mathcal{F}} = \text{span } \mathcal{F} \oplus \left((\text{span } \mathcal{F})^{\perp} \cap \mathcal{K}_{\mathcal{F}} \right);$$

Consequently, $\sigma_{\mathcal{K}_{\mathcal{F}}}(\mathbf{z}) = 0$ unless \mathcal{F} is a vertex

Proof of the 2nd part:

- Immediate from the 1st part since
 - $\sigma_{\text{span } \mathcal{F} \oplus ((\text{span } \mathcal{F})^{\perp} \cap \mathcal{K}_{\mathcal{F}})}(\mathbf{z}) = \sigma_{\text{span } \mathcal{F}}(\mathbf{z}) \sigma_{(\text{span } \mathcal{F})^{\perp} \cap \mathcal{K}_{\mathcal{F}}}(\mathbf{z})$ and
 - $\sigma_{\text{span } \mathcal{F}}(\mathbf{z}) = 0$



- ① The Identity “ $\sum_{m \in \mathbb{Z}} z^m = 0$ ” ... or “Much Ado About Nothing”
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Brion's theorem

The main theorem of this chapter

Theorem 9.7 (Brion's theorem)

Suppose \mathcal{P} is a rational convex polytope. Then as rational functions:

$$\sigma_{\mathcal{P}}(\mathbf{z}) = \sum_{\mathbf{v} \text{ a vertex of } \mathcal{P}} \sigma_{K_{\mathbf{v}}}(\mathbf{z})$$

Roadmap for the proof:

- Prove Thm 9.5 (Brianchon–Gram identity for simplices)
- Prove Cor 9.6 (Brion's theorem for simplices)
- Prove Thm 9.7

Brianchon–Gram identity for simplices

Definition (Indicator function)

The **indicator function** 1_S of a set $S \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ is defined by

$$1_S(\mathbf{x}) := \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \mathbf{x} \in S, \\ 0 & \text{if } \mathbf{x} \notin S \end{cases}$$

Brianchon–Gram identity for simplices

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Theorem 9.5 (Brianchon–Gram identity for simplices)

Let Δ be a d -simplex. Then

$$1_{\Delta}(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{\mathcal{F} \subseteq \Delta} (-1)^{\dim \mathcal{F}} 1_{\mathcal{K}_{\mathcal{F}}}(\mathbf{x}),$$

where the sum is taken over all nonempty faces \mathcal{F} of Δ

Proof of Brionchon–Gram for simplicies

We distinguish between two disjoint cases: whether or not \mathbf{x} is in Δ

- Case 1: $\mathbf{x} \in \Delta$

- Case 2: $\mathbf{x} \notin \Delta$



Proof of Brionchon–Gram for simplicies

We distinguish between two disjoint cases: whether or not \mathbf{x} is in Δ

- Case 1: $\mathbf{x} \in \Delta$
 - $\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{K}_{\mathcal{F}}$ for all $\mathcal{F} \subseteq \Delta$

- Case 2: $\mathbf{x} \notin \Delta$



Proof of Brion–Gram for simplicies

We distinguish between two disjoint cases: whether or not \mathbf{x} is in Δ

- Case 1: $\mathbf{x} \in \Delta$
 - $\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{K}_{\mathcal{F}}$ for all $\mathcal{F} \subseteq \Delta$
 - Then

$$1 = \sum_{k=0}^{\dim \Delta} (-1)^k f_k$$

by the Euler relation for simplices (Exer 5.5)

- Case 2: $\mathbf{x} \notin \Delta$



Proof of Brion–Gram for simplicies

We distinguish between two disjoint cases: whether or not \mathbf{x} is in Δ

- Case 1: $\mathbf{x} \in \Delta$
 - $\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{K}_{\mathcal{F}}$ for all $\mathcal{F} \subseteq \Delta$
 - Then

$$1 = \sum_{k=0}^{\dim \Delta} (-1)^k f_k = \sum_{\mathcal{F} \subseteq \Delta} (-1)^{\dim \mathcal{F}}$$

by the Euler relation for simplices (Exer 5.5)

- Case 2: $\mathbf{x} \notin \Delta$



Proof of Brion–Gram for simplicies

We distinguish between two disjoint cases: whether or not \mathbf{x} is in Δ

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 - $\exists!$ a minimal face $\mathcal{F} \subseteq \Delta$ (w.r.t. dimension) s.t. $\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{K}_{\mathcal{F}}$ and $\mathbf{x} \notin \mathcal{K}_{\mathcal{G}}$ for all faces $\mathcal{G} \subseteq \Delta$ that contain \mathcal{F} (Exer 9.2)



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 - Then $0 = \sum_{\mathcal{G} \supseteq \mathcal{F}} (-1)^{\dim \mathcal{G}}$ (Exer 9.4)



Brion's theorem for simplices

Corollary 9.6 (Brion's theorem for simplices)

Suppose Δ is a rational simplex. Then as rational functions:

$$\sigma_{\Delta}(\mathbf{z}) = \sum_{\mathbf{v} \text{ a vertex of } \Delta} \sigma_{\mathcal{K}_{\mathbf{v}}}(\mathbf{z})$$

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Proof:

- We sum both sides of the identity in Thm 9.5 $\forall \mathbf{m} \in \mathbb{Z}^d$:

$$\sum_{\mathbf{m} \in \mathbb{Z}^d} 1_{\Delta}(\mathbf{m}) \mathbf{z}^{\mathbf{m}} = \sum_{\mathbf{m} \in \mathbb{Z}^d} \sum_{\mathcal{F} \subseteq \Delta} (-1)^{\dim \mathcal{F}} 1_{\mathcal{K}_{\mathcal{F}}}(\mathbf{m}) \mathbf{z}^{\mathbf{m}}$$

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- But Lem 9.4 implies that $\sigma_{\mathcal{K}_{\mathcal{F}}}(\mathbf{z}) = 0$ unless \mathcal{F} is a vertex; Hence

$$\sigma_{\Delta}(\mathbf{z}) = \sum_{\mathbf{v} \text{ a vertex of } \Delta} \sigma_{\mathcal{K}_{\mathbf{v}}}(\mathbf{z})$$



Proof of Brion's theorem (1)

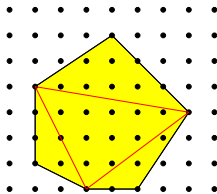
Theorem 9.7 (Brion's theorem)

Suppose \mathcal{P} is a rational convex polytope. Then as rational functions:

$$\sigma_{\mathcal{P}}(\mathbf{z}) = \sum_{\mathbf{v} \text{ a vertex of } \mathcal{P}} \sigma_{\mathcal{K}_{\mathbf{v}}}(\mathbf{z})$$

Proof: We use the same irrational trick as in the proofs of Thms 3.12 & 4.3

- Triangulate \mathcal{P} into the simplices $\Delta_1, \Delta_2, \dots, \Delta_m$ (using no new vertices)

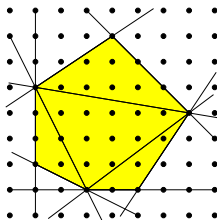


Proof of Brion's theorem (2)

- Consider the hyperplane arrangement

$$\mathcal{H} := \{\text{span } \mathcal{F} : \mathcal{F} \text{ is a facet of } \Delta_1, \Delta_2, \dots, \text{ or } \Delta_m\}$$

- Now shift the hyperplanes in \mathcal{H} , obtaining a new hyperplane arrangement $\mathcal{H}^{\text{shift}}$

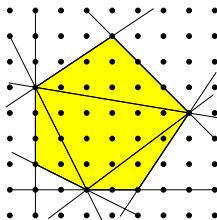


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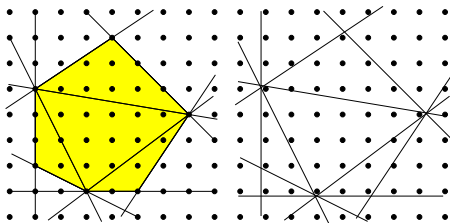
- Consider the hyperplane arrangement

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- Now shift the hyperplanes in \mathcal{H} , obtaining a new hyperplane arrangement $\mathcal{H}^{\text{shift}}$
- Those hyperplanes of \mathcal{H} that defined \mathcal{P} now define, after shifting, a new polytope that we will call $\mathcal{P}^{\text{shift}}$

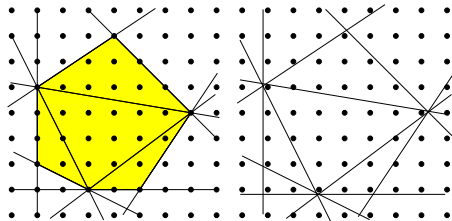


- Exer 9.6 ensures that we can shift \mathcal{H} in such a way that:
 - No hyperplane in $\mathcal{H}^{\text{shift}}$ contains any lattice point
 - $\mathcal{H}^{\text{shift}}$ yields a triangulation of $\mathcal{P}^{\text{shift}}$
 - The lattice points contained in a vertex cone of \mathcal{P} are precisely the lattice points contained in the corresp. vertex cone of $\mathcal{P}^{\text{shift}}$

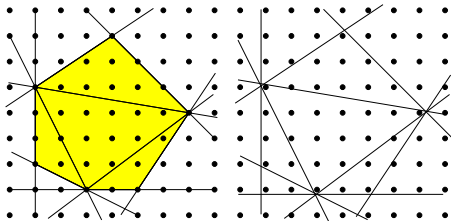


Proof of Brion's theorem (4)

- This setup implies that
 - the lattice points in \mathcal{P} are precisely the lattice points in $\mathcal{P}^{\text{shift}}$
 - the lattice points in a vertex cone of $\mathcal{P}^{\text{shift}}$ can be written as a *disjoint* union of lattice points in vertex cones of simplices of the triangulation that $\mathcal{H}^{\text{shift}}$ induces on $\mathcal{P}^{\text{shift}}$



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- These conditions, in turn, mean that Brion follows from Brion for simplices: the integer-point transforms on both sides of the identity can be written as a sum of integer-point transforms of simplices and their vertex cones



- ① The Identity “ $\sum_{m \in \mathbb{Z}} z^m = 0$ ” ... or “Much Ado About Nothing”
- ② Tangent Cones and Their Rational Generating Functions
- ③ Brion’s Theorem
- ④ Brion Implies Ehrhart

Proof of Ehrhart's theorem for rational polytopes

... by Brion's theorem

- As in our first proof of Ehrhart's thm, it suffices to prove Ehrhart's thm for simplices, because we can triangulate any polytope (using only the vertices)
- So suppose Δ is a rational d -simplex whose vertices have coordinates with denominator p

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- As in our first proof of Ehrhart's thm, it suffices to prove Ehrhart's thm for simplices, because we can triangulate any polytope (using only the vertices)
- So suppose Δ is a rational d -simplex whose vertices have coordinates with denominator p
- Goal: for a fixed $0 \leq r < p$, the function $L_{\Delta}(r + pt)$ is a polynomial in t
 - This means that L_{Δ} is a quasipolynomial with period dividing p

Proof (2)

- Then,

$$L_{\Delta}(r + pt) = \sum_{\mathbf{m} \in (r+pt)\Delta \cap \mathbb{Z}^d} 1$$

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Proof (2)

- Then, by Brion's thm

$$\begin{aligned}
 L_{\Delta}(r + pt) &= \sum_{\mathbf{m} \in (r+pt)\Delta \cap \mathbb{Z}^d} 1 = \lim_{z \rightarrow 1} \sigma_{(r+pt)\Delta}(\mathbf{z}) \\
 &= \lim_{z \rightarrow 1} \sum_{\mathbf{v} \text{ a vertex of } \Delta} \sigma_{(r+pt)\mathcal{K}_{\mathbf{v}}}(\mathbf{z})
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 \end{aligned}$$

- Note: $\mathcal{K}_{\mathbf{v}}$ are all simplicial, because Δ is a simplex
- So suppose

$$\mathcal{K}_{\mathbf{v}} = \{\mathbf{v} + \lambda_1 \mathbf{w}_1 + \lambda_2 \mathbf{w}_2 + \cdots + \lambda_d \mathbf{w}_d : \lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_d \geq 0\}$$

Proof (3)

- Then

$$\begin{aligned} & (r + pt)\mathcal{K}_v \\ &= \{(r + pt)\mathbf{v} + \lambda_1\mathbf{w}_1 + \cdots + \lambda_d\mathbf{w}_d : \lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_d \geq 0\} \end{aligned}$$

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 &= tp\mathbf{v} + r\mathcal{K}_{\mathbf{v}}
 \end{aligned}$$

- Important to note: $p\mathbf{v}$ is an integer vector
- In particular, we can safely write $\sigma_{(r+pt)\mathcal{K}_{\mathbf{v}}}(\mathbf{z}) = \mathbf{z}^{tp\mathbf{v}}\sigma_{r\mathcal{K}_{\mathbf{v}}}(\mathbf{z})$

Proof (4)

- Now we can rewrite as

$$L_{\Delta}(r + pt) = \lim_{\mathbf{z} \rightarrow \mathbf{1}} \sum_{\mathbf{v} \text{ vertex of } \Delta} \mathbf{z}^{t\mathbf{p}\mathbf{v}} \sigma_{r\mathcal{K}_{\mathbf{v}}}(\mathbf{z})$$

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- The exact forms of the rational functions $\sigma_{r \mathcal{K}_{\mathbf{v}}}(\mathbf{z})$ is not important, except for the fact that they do not depend on t
- To compute $L_{\Delta}(r + pt)$, we write all the rational functions on the RHS over one denominator and use L'Hôpital's rule to compute the limit of this one huge rational function

Proof (5)

- We wrote

$$L_{\Delta}(r + pt) = \lim_{\mathbf{z} \rightarrow \mathbf{1}} \sum_{\mathbf{v} \text{ vertex of } \Delta} \mathbf{z}^{t p \mathbf{v}} \sigma_{r \mathcal{K}_{\mathbf{v}}}(\mathbf{z})$$

- The variable t appears only in the simple monomials $\mathbf{z}^{t p \mathbf{v}}$, so the effect of L'Hôpital's rule is that we obtain linear factors of t every time we differentiate the numerator of this rational function
- At the end we evaluate the remaining rational function at $\mathbf{z} = \mathbf{1}$
- The result is a polynomial in t □