Decompositions of Ehrhart h^* -polynomials for rational polytopes

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Decompositions of $h^*(P; z)$

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Benjamin Braun (Univ. of Kentucky)

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Theorem: (Ehrhart 1962) Given a rational polytope P, the counting function $L_P(t) := |tP \cap \mathbb{Z}^d|$ is a quasipolynomial of the form

$$\operatorname{vol}(P)t^{d} + k_{d-1}(t)t^{d-1} + \cdots + k_{1}(t)t + k_{0}(t),$$

where $k_0(t), k_1(t), \ldots, k_{d-1}(t)$ are periodic functions in t.

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where $k_0(t), k_1(t), \ldots, k_{d-1}(t)$ are periodic functions in t. We call $L_P(t)$ the *Ehrhart quasipolynomial* of P, and each period of $k_0(t), k_1(t), \ldots, k_{d-1}(t)$ divides the *denominator* q of P, which is the least common multiple of all its vertex coordinate denominators.

Ehrhart Quasipolynomials

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Ehrhart Quasipolynomials

A quasipolynomial $L_P(t)$ is a function $\mathbb{Z} \to \mathbb{R}$ of the form

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where k_0, \dots, k_d are periodic functions in the integer variable *t*.

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where k_0, \dots, k_d are periodic functions in the integer variable *t*.

Alternatively, for a quasipolynomial, there exist a positive integer q and polynomials f_0, \ldots, f_{p-1} , such that

$$L_P(t) = egin{cases} f_0(t) & ext{if } t \equiv 0 \mod q \ f_1(t) & ext{if } t \equiv 1 \mod q \ dots & dots &$$

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The Ehrhart series is the rational generating function

$$\mathsf{Ehr}(P;z) := \sum_{t \ge 0} L_P(t) z^t = \frac{h^*(P;z)}{(1-z^q)^{d+1}},$$

where $h^*(P; z)$ is a polynomial of degree less than q(d + 1) called the h^* -polynomial of P.

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Let
$$P = \operatorname{conv}\left\{\left(\frac{-1}{2}, 1\right), \left(\frac{-1}{2}, -1\right), \left(\frac{1}{2}, 1\right), \left(\frac{1}{2}, -1\right)\right\}.$$

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Decompositions of $h^*(P; z)$

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$$L_P(t) = egin{cases} 2t^2+3t+1 & ext{when } t ext{ is even}, \ 2t^2+t & ext{when } t ext{ is odd}. \end{cases}$$

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$$\begin{aligned} \mathsf{Ehr}(P;z) &= \sum_{t \ge 0} L_P(t) z^t \\ &= \sum_{\substack{t \ge 0 \\ t \text{ even}}} (2t^2 + 3t + 1) z^t + \sum_{\substack{t \ge 1 \\ t \text{ odd}}} (2t^2 + t) z^t \\ &= \frac{3z^4 + 12z^2 + 1}{(1 - z^2)^3} + \frac{z^5 + 12z^3 + 3z}{(1 - z^2)^3} \\ &= \frac{z^5 + 3z^4 + 12z^3 + 12z^2 + 3z + 1}{(1 - z^2)^3}, \end{aligned}$$

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Theorem: (Ehrhart–Macdonald Reciprocity, 1971) Let *P* be a rational polytope. Then $L_P(-t) = (-1)^d L_{P^\circ}(t)$. Similarly, Ehr $(P; \frac{1}{z}) = (-1)^{d+1}$ Ehr $(P^\circ; z)$. **Theorem:** (Ehrhart–Macdonald Reciprocity, 1971) Let *P* be a rational polytope. Then $L_P(-t) = (-1)^d L_{P^\circ}(t)$. Similarly, Ehr $(P; \frac{1}{z}) = (-1)^{d+1} \operatorname{Ehr}(P^\circ; z)$.

Theorem:(Stanley's Non-negativity Result, 1980) For a rational *d*-polytope with $Ehr(P; z) = \frac{h^*(P;z)}{(1-z^q)^{d+1}}$, the coefficients of the h^* -polynomial are non-negative integers, i.e., $h_j^* \ge \mathbb{Z}_{\ge 0}$. Theorem: (Ehrhart–Macdonald Reciprocity, 1971) Let *P* be a rational polytope. Then $L_P(-t) = (-1)^d L_{P^\circ}(t)$. Similarly, Ehr $(P; \frac{1}{z}) = (-1)^{d+1} \operatorname{Ehr}(P^\circ; z)$.

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Theorem: (Stanley's Monotonicity Result, 1993) For $P \subseteq Q$, where qP and qQ are integral for some $q \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$, $h^*(P) \leq h^*(Q)$.

- Present a generalization of a decomposition of the h*-polynomial for lattice polytopes due to Betke and McMullen (1985).
 - (i) Use this decomposition to provide another proof of Stanley's Monotonicity Result.
- Present a generalization of the h*-polynomial for lattice polytopes due to Stapledon (2009).

(i) Application of this decomposition.

• A rational pointed simplicial cone is a set of the form

$$\mathcal{K}(\mathbf{W}) = \left\{\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i \mathbf{w}_i : \lambda_i \ge 0\right\},$$

where $\mathbf{W} := {\mathbf{w}_1, \dots, \mathbf{w}_n}$ is a set of linearly independent vectors in \mathbb{Z}^d .

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• Define the open parallelepiped associated with $K(\mathbf{W})$ as

$$\mathsf{Box}(\mathbf{W}) := \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i \mathbf{w}_i : 0 < \lambda_i < 1
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Let u : ℝ^d → ℝ denote the projection onto the last coordinate. We then define the *box polynomial* as

$$B(\mathbf{W};z) := \sum_{\mathbf{v}\in \mathsf{Box}(\mathbf{W})\cap\mathbb{Z}^d} z^{u(\mathbf{v})}.$$

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Example: Let $\mathbf{W} = \{(1,3), (2,3)\}$. Then

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Example: Let $\mathbf{W} = \{(1,3), (2,3)\}$. Then Box $(W) = \{\lambda_1(1,3) + \lambda_2(2,3) : 0 < \lambda_1, \lambda_2 < 1\}.$



Thus, Box(\mathbf{W}) $\cap \mathbb{Z}^2 = \{(1,2), (2,4)\}$ and its associated box polynomial is

$$B(\mathbf{W};z)=z^2+z^4.$$

Define the *fundamental parallelepiped* Π(W) to be the half-open variant of Box(W), namely

$$\Pi(\mathbf{W}) := \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i \mathbf{w}_i : \mathbf{0} \le \lambda_i < 1 \right\}$$

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• For a rational polytope $P \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ with vertices $\mathbf{v}_1, \ldots, \mathbf{v}_n \in \mathbb{Q}^d$, we lift the vertices into \mathbb{R}^{d+1} by appending a 1 as the last coordinate. Then the *cone* of P is

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• A *triangulation* T of a *d*-polytope P is a subdivision of P into simplices (of all dimensions) that is closed under taking faces.

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• If all vertices of *T* are rational points, define the *denominator* of *T* to be the least common multiple of all vertex coordinate denominators of the faces of *T*.

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For each Δ ∈ T, we define the *h*-polynomial of Δ with respect to T as

$$h_T(\Delta; z) := (1-z)^{d-\dim(\Delta)} \sum_{\Delta \subseteq \Phi \in T} \left(\frac{z}{1-z}\right)^{\dim(\Phi)-\dim(\Delta)},$$

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where the sum is over all simplices $\Phi \in \mathcal{T}$ containing Δ .

For a simplex Δ with denominator p, let W be the set of integral ray generators of cone(Δ) at height p. We define the h*-polynomial of Δ as the generating function of the last coordinate of integer points in Π(W) := Π(Δ), that is,

$$h^*(\Delta; z) = \sum_{\mathbf{v} \in \Pi(\Delta) \cap \mathbb{Z}^{d+1}} z^{u(\mathbf{v})}.$$

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• Let *P* be a rational *d*-polytope and *T* be a triangulation with denominator *q*.

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- For an *m*-simplex $\Delta \in T$, let $\mathbf{W} = \{(\mathbf{r}_1, q), \dots, (\mathbf{r}_{m+1}, q)\}$, where the (\mathbf{r}_i, q) are the integral ray generators for cone (Δ) at height q.

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- Set $B(\mathbf{W}; z) =: B(\Delta; z)$ and $Box(\mathbf{W}) =: Box(\Delta)$.

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- Set $B(\mathbf{W}; z) =: B(\Delta; z)$ and $Box(\mathbf{W}) =: Box(\Delta)$.

Lemma: Fix a triangulation T with denominator q of a rational d-polytope P and let $\Delta \in T$. Then $h^*(\Delta; z) = \sum_{\Omega \subset \Delta} B(\Omega; z)$.

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$$\mathsf{Ehr}(P;z) = \frac{\sum_{\Omega \in \mathcal{T}} B(\Omega;z)h(\Omega;z^q)}{(1-z^q)^{d+1}}.$$

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Proof Sketch:

 Write P as the disjoint union of all open nonempty simplices in T (Ehr(P; z) = 1 + Σ_{Δ∈T\Ø} Ehr(Δ°; z)).

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- Write P as the disjoint union of all open nonempty simplices in T $(Ehr(P; z) = 1 + \sum_{\Delta \in T \setminus \emptyset} Ehr(\Delta^{\circ}; z)).$
- Use Ehrhart-Macdonald reciprocity.

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- Apply previous lemma.

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- Use the symmetry of box polynomials.

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- Use Ehrhart-Macdonald reciprocity.
- Apply previous lemma.
- Use the symmetry of box polynomials.
- Use the definition of the *h*-polynomial.

Theorem: (Stanley 1993) Suppose $P \subseteq Q$ are rational polytopes with qP and qQ integral (for minimal possible $q \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$). Define the h^* -polynomials via

$$\operatorname{Ehr}(P;z) = rac{h^*(P;z)}{(1-z^q)^{\dim(P)+1}}$$
 and $\operatorname{Ehr}(Q;z) = rac{h^*(Q;z)}{(1-z^q)^{\dim(Q)+1}}$.

Then $h_i^*(P; z) \le h_i^*(Q; z)$ coefficient-wise.

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- 1 the join $T * \operatorname{conv} \{ \mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_n \}$ is a subcomplex of T' and
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For every face $\Omega \in T$, the coefficient-wise inequality $h_T(\Omega; z) \leq h_{T'}(\Omega, z)$ holds.

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Rational *h*^{*}-Monotonicity

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Proof Sketch:

• Let P contained in Q and let T be a triangulation of P and T' a triangulation of Q such that $T'|_P$ is T, where if dim $(P) < \dim(Q)$ the triangulation T' satisfies the conditions from the previous lemma.

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- By rational Betke–McMullen, $h^*(P; z) = \sum_{\Omega \in T} B(\Omega; z)h(\Omega; z^q)$.

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- By rational Betke–McMullen, $h^*(P; z) = \sum_{\Omega \in T} B(\Omega; z) h(\Omega; z^q)$.
- Since $P \subseteq Q$, $h^*(Q; z) = \sum_{\Omega \in T} B(\Omega; z) h_{T'|_P}(\Omega; z^q) + \sum_{\Omega \in T' \setminus T} B(\Omega; z) h_{T'}(\Omega; z^q).$

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- By rational Betke–McMullen, $h^*(P; z) = \sum_{\Omega \in T} B(\Omega; z) h(\Omega; z^q)$.
- Since $P \subseteq Q$, $h^*(Q; z) = \sum_{\Omega \in T} B(\Omega; z) h_{T'|_P}(\Omega; z^q) + \sum_{\Omega \in T' \setminus T} B(\Omega; z) h_{T'}(\Omega; z^q).$
- By the lemma, the coefficients of Σ_{Ω∈T} B(Ω; z)h_{T'|P}(Ω; z^q) dominate the coefficients of Σ_{Ω∈T} B(Ω; z)h_{T'}(Ω; z^q).

Theorem: (Stanley 1993) Suppose $P \subseteq Q$ are rational polytopes with qP and qQ integral. Then $h_i^*(P; z) \leq h_i^*(Q; z)$ coefficient-wise.

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- By rational Betke–McMullen, $h^*(P; z) = \sum_{\Omega \in T} B(\Omega; z) h(\Omega; z^q)$.
- Since $P \subseteq Q$, $h^*(Q; z) = \sum_{\Omega \in T} B(\Omega; z) h_{T'|_P}(\Omega; z^q) + \sum_{\Omega \in T' \setminus T} B(\Omega; z) h_{T'}(\Omega; z^q).$
- By the lemma, the coefficients of $\sum_{\Omega \in \mathcal{T}} B(\Omega; z) h_{\mathcal{T}'|_{P}}(\Omega; z^{q})$ dominate the coefficients of $\sum_{\Omega \in \mathcal{T}} B(\Omega; z) h_{\mathcal{T}'}(\Omega; z^{q})$.
- $\sum_{\Omega \in T} B(\Omega; z) h(\Omega; z^q) \leq \sum_{\Omega \in T} B(\Omega; z) h_{T'|_P}(\Omega; z^q) \leq \sum_{\Omega \in T} B(\Omega; z) h_{T'|_P}(\Omega; z^q) + \sum_{\Omega \in T' \setminus T} B(\Omega; z) h_{T'}(\Omega; z^q).$

Decomposition from Boundary Triangulation

Image: A matrix
Set-up:

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- Take l∈ Z_{>0}, such that lP contains a lattice point a in its interior. Thus (a, l) ∈ cone(P)° ∩ Z^{d+1} is a lattice point in the interior of the cone of P at height l and cone((a, l)) is the ray through the point (a, l).

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- Take ℓ ∈ Z_{>0}, such that ℓP contains a lattice point a in its interior. Thus (a, ℓ) ∈ cone(P)° ∩ Z^{d+1} is a lattice point in the interior of the cone of P at height ℓ and cone((a, ℓ)) is the ray through the point (a, ℓ).
- We cone over each $\Delta \in T$ and define $\mathbf{W} = \{(\mathbf{r}_1, q), \dots, (\mathbf{r}_{m+1}, q)\}$ where the (\mathbf{r}_i, q) are integral ray generators of cone (Δ) at height q.

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- We cone over each $\Delta \in T$ and define $\mathbf{W} = \{(\mathbf{r}_1, q), \dots, (\mathbf{r}_{m+1}, q)\}$ where the (\mathbf{r}_i, q) are integral ray generators of cone (Δ) at height q.
- Let B(W; z) =: B(Δ; z) and W' = W ∪ {(a, ℓ)} be the set of generators from W together with (a, ℓ) and set cone(Δ') to be the cone generated by W', wich associated box polynomial B(W'; z) =: B(Δ'; z).

Image: A matrix

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- For each v ∈ cone(P) we associate two faces Δ(v) and Ω(v) of T, where Δ(v) is chosen to be the minimal face of T such that v ∈ cone(Δ'(v)) and we define Ω(v) := conv {r_i/q : i ∈ I(v))} ⊆ Δ(v).

Theorem: (Beck–Braun–Vindas-Meléndez 2020+) Consider a rational *d*-polytope *P* that contains an interior point $\frac{\mathbf{a}}{\ell}$, where $\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{Z}^d$ and $\ell \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$.

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$$h^*(P;z) = \frac{1-z^q}{1-z^\ell} \sum_{\Omega \in \mathcal{T}} \left(B(\Omega;z) + B(\Omega';z) \right) h(\Omega;z^q)$$
$$= \frac{1+z+\dots+z^{q-1}}{1+z+\dots+z^{\ell-1}} \sum_{\Omega \in \mathcal{T}} \left(B(\Omega;z) + B(\Omega';z) \right) h(\Omega;z^q).$$





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- For v ∈ cone(P) then the only options for Δ(v) to be chosen as a minimal face of T such that v ∈ cone Δ'(v) are again to consider Ø, Δ₁, and Δ₂. In this example, Ω(v) = Δ(v).



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$$h^{*}(P;z) = \frac{1-z^{3}}{1-z^{4}} \left(1+z^{3}+z^{2}+z^{5}\right)$$
$$= 1+z^{2}+z^{4}, \quad \text{and} \quad \text{and$$

Proposition: (Beck–Braun–Vindas-Meléndez 2020+) Let P be a rational d-polytope with denominator q and Ehrhart series

$$\operatorname{Ehr}(P;z) = rac{h^*(P;z)}{(1-z^q)^{d+1}}$$

Then deg $h^*(P; z) = s$ if and only if (q(d + 1) - s)P is the smallest integer dilate of P that contains an interior lattice point.

Rational Stapledon Decomposition and Inequalities

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Next, we turn our attention to the polynomial

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Theorem: (Beck–Braun–Vindas-Meléndez 2020+) Let P be a rational d-polytope with denominator q, and let $s := \deg h^*(P; z)$. Then $\overline{h^*}(P; z)$ has a unique decomposition

$$\overline{h^*}(P;z) = a(z) + z^\ell b(z) \,,$$

where $\ell = q(d+1) - s$ and a(z) and b(z) are polynomials with integer coefficients satisfying $a(z) = z^{q(d+1)-1}a\left(\frac{1}{z}\right)$ and $b(z) = z^{q(d+1)-1-\ell}b\left(\frac{1}{z}\right)$.

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where $\ell = q(d+1) - s$ and a(z) and b(z) are polynomials with integer coefficients satisfying $a(z) = z^{q(d+1)-1}a\left(\frac{1}{z}\right)$ and $b(z) = z^{q(d+1)-1-\ell}b\left(\frac{1}{z}\right)$. Moreover, the coefficients of a(z) and b(z) are nonnegative. **Theorem:** (Beck–Braun–Vindas-Meléndez 2020+) Let *P* be a rational *d*-polytope with denominator *q*, let $s := \deg h^*(P; z)$ and $\ell := q(d+1) - s$.

Theorem: (Beck–Braun–Vindas-Meléndez 2020+) Let *P* be a rational *d*-polytope with denominator *q*, let $s := \deg h^*(P; z)$ and $\ell := q(d+1) - s$. The *h**-vector $(h_0^*, \ldots, h_{q(d+1)-1}^*)$ of *P* satisfies the following inequalities:

$$h_0^* + \dots + h_{i+1}^* \ge h_{q(d+1)-1}^* + \dots + h_{q(d+1)-1-i}^*, \qquad i = 0, \dots, \left\lfloor \frac{q(d+1)-1}{2} \right\rfloor - 1, \quad (1)$$

$$h_s^* + \dots + h_{s-i}^* \ge h_0^* + \dots + h_i^*, \qquad i = 0, \dots, q(d+1)-1. \quad (2)$$

Decompositions of $h^*(P; z)$

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Theorem: (Beck–Braun–Vindas-Meléndez 2020+) Let P be a rational polytope containing the origin. The dual of P is a lattice polytope if and only if $\overline{h^*}(P; z) = h^*(z) = a(z)$, that is, b(z) = 0 in the a/b-decomposition of $\overline{h^*}(P; z)$.

The End



¡Gracias!

Andrés R. Vindas Meléndez (U. of Kentucky)

Decompositions of $h^*(P; z)$

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