On a scissors congruence phenomenon for some polytopes

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Hilbert's Third Problem

In a famous lecture delivered at the International Congress of Mathematics at Paris in 1900, Hilbert posed 23 problems. Hilbert's Third Problem Are polyhedra in \mathbb{R}^3 of same volume scissors congruent ?

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For $d = 3$: a negative answer to Hilbert's Third problem was provided in 1902 by Dehn.

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Done by using the Dehn invariant of a polyhedron depending on edge lengths and edge dihedral angles.

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Question (Haase and McAllister, 2008) Is there a decomposition of P_1 in a finite number of polytopes Q_i and a set of affine unimodular transformations U_i such that the union of all $U_i(Q_i)$ is equal to P_2 ?

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Motivation : The Ehrahrt polynomial of an integer polytope is invariant under affine unimodular transformation.

Ehrhart polynomial

Let $\mathcal P$ be an integer polytope.

Ehrhart defined a function $L_p(t)$ on the integer parameter t which is the number of integer points inside the dilation $t\mathcal{P}$.

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Theorem (Ehrhart).
For every integer polytope P of dimension d,
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Polytope of Liu and Osserman

 $\{1,3\}$ -graphs : degree of every vertex is 1 or 3 For each degree -3 vertex v of a $\{1,3\}$ -graph G, let a, b , and c be the edges incident to v . $S(v)$ is the system defined on the variables w_a , w_b , and w_c : $w_a + w_b + w_c \leq 1$ $w_a \leq w_b + w_c$ $w_h \leq w_a + w_c$ $w_c \leq w_a + w_b$. *a c v b*

Polytope P_G :

solutions of the union of $S(v)$ for all degree-3 vertices v.

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Properties of this polytope are related to a work in algebraic geometry by Mochizuki, 1999.

Examples : polytopes of cubic graphs on two vertices

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Theorem (Fernandes, De Pina, Robins, R.A., 2018) Let G_1 and G_2 be two same-size connected $\{1,3\}$ -graphs. Then, \mathcal{P}_{G_1} and \mathcal{P}_{G_2} are unimodular equidecomposable.

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Main result

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Corollary The Ehrhart quasi-polynomials of \mathcal{P}_{G_1} and \mathcal{P}_{G_2} are the same.

This was a conjecture in the paper by Liu and Osserman (2006).

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Binary trees and rotations

Theorem (Culik and Wood, 1982) Any two binary trees with the same number of vertices can be transformed into one another through a finite series of rotations.

Nearest neighbor interchange

NNI : nearest neighbor interchange

 u and v adjacent vertices

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Loops and parallel edges allowed

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First result

Leaf : a degree -1 vertex

An edge is external if it is incident to a leaf, otherwise it is internal.

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Theorem (Fernandes, De Pina, Robins, R.A., 2018) Let G and G' be connected graphs with the same degree sequence and the same set of external edges. Then,

(a) G can be transformed into G' through a series of NNI moves.

(b) One can choose a spanning tree in G and a spanning tree in G' and require that all the pivots of the NNI moves are internal edges of both of these spanning trees.

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Extension of a theorem for cubic graphs by [Ts](#page-26-0)[uk](#page-28-0)[ui](#page-24-0)[\(](#page-27-0)[1](#page-28-0)[99](#page-0-0)6)

For the proof of the previous theorem...

- G : a connected graph that is not a tree.
- e : an edge of G that is in a cycle.

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- G : a connected graph that is not a tree.
- e : an edge of G that is in a cycle.

The graph obtained from G by cutting e is

the graph G' resulting from the splitting of e into two edges, each connecting one of the ends of e to one of two new leaves.

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Weighted NNIs

- $G = \{1, 3\}$ -graph
- e : edge between two degree-3 vertices of G

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 G' : $\{1,3\}$ -graph resulting from the NNI above

 w : a weight function defined on the edges of G

Weighted NNIs

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Let w' be defined on the edges of G' as $w'_f = w_f$ for every $f \neq e$ and $w_e' = w_e + \max\{w_a + w_b, w_c + w_d\} - \max\{w_a + w_d, w_b + w_c\}.$

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Note that if w has integer values, so does w' [.](#page-32-0)

Lemma. For every integer t, $w \in t\mathcal{P}_G$ if and only if $w' \in t\mathcal{P}_{G'}$.

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For example, if $w_e + w_a + w_b \leq t$, then

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w'_{e} + w_{b} + w_{c} \leq w'_{e} + w_{a} + w_{d}
$$

= $(w_{e} + w_{b} - w_{d}) + w_{a} + w_{d}$
= $w_{e} + w_{a} + w_{b} \leq t$.

We think a weighted NNI as a function $\psi(\bar G, w): \mathbb{R}^m \to \mathbb{R}^m$

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 $w'_e = w_e + w_b - w_d$ if $w_a + w_b \ge w_c + w_d$ and $w_a + w_d \ge w_b + w_c$, $w'_e = w_e + w_a - w_c$ if $w_a + w_b \ge w_c + w_d$ and $w_a + w_d < w_b + w_c$, $w'_e = w_e + w_c - w_a$ if $w_a + w_b < w_c + w_d$ and $w_a + w_d \ge w_b + w_c$, $w'_e = w_e + w_d - w_b$ if $w_a + w_b < w_c + w_d$ and $w_a + w_d < w_b + w_c$,

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We associate to ψ the hyperplanes $w_a + w_b - w_c - w_d = 0$ and $w_a - w_b - w_c + w_d = 0$, which are either the same hyperplane (if $a = b$ or $c = d$) or two orthogonal hyperplanes.

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We associate to ψ the hyperplanes $w_a + w_b - w_c - w_d = 0$ and $w_a - w_b - w_c + w_d = 0$, which are either the same hyperplane (if $a = b$ or $c = d$) or two orthogonal hyperplanes. Moreover, the matrix that gives the linear transformation in each case is unimodular.

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w'_3 = w_3 + \max\{w_1 + w_2, w_1 + w_2\} - \max\{2w_1, 2w_2\}
$$

= $w_3 + w_1 + w_2 - 2 \max\{w_1, w_2\}$
= $\begin{cases} w_3 - w_1 + w_2 & \text{if } w_1 \ge w_2 \\ w_3 + w_1 - w_2 & \text{if } w_1 \le w_2 \end{cases}$

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Tiavintío !! (Thanks in Mixteca)

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