

Locally anti-blocking lattice polytopes and their h^* -polynomials

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joint work with Hidefumi Ohsugi (Kwansei Gakuin University)



OT1 Enriched chain polytopes, *Israel J. Math.*, to appear.

OT2 The h^* -polynomials of locally anti-blocking lattice polytopes and their γ -positivity, arXiv:1906.04719.

OT3 Reflexive polytopes arising from bipartite graphs with γ -positivity associated to interior polynomials, arXiv:1810.12258.

1. Unimodality, γ -positivity and real-rootedness
2. Anti-blocking polytopes, unconditional polytopes and locally anti-blocking polytopes
3. Chain polytopes, enriched chain polytopes and twinned chain polytopes
4. Symmetric edge polytopes of types A and B



Palindromic polynomials and γ -positivity

$f(t) = \sum_{i=0}^d a_i t^i \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}[t]$: a **palindromic** polynomial

i.e., $a_i = a_{d-i}$ for any $1 \leq i \leq \lfloor d/2 \rfloor$

Then there exists a unique expression

$$f(t) = \sum_{i=0}^{\lfloor d/2 \rfloor} \gamma_i t^i (1+t)^{d-2i}$$

$\gamma(t) := \sum_{i=0}^{\lfloor d/2 \rfloor} \gamma_i t^i \in \mathbb{Z}[t]$ is called the γ -polynomial of $f(t)$.

(RR) $f(t)$ is **real-rooted** if all roots of $f(t)$ are real.

(GP) $f(t)$ is **γ -positive** if $\gamma_i \geq 0$ for all i .

(UN) $f(t)$ is **unimodal** if $a_0 \leq \dots \leq a_k \geq \dots \geq a_d$ with some k .

In general, **(RR)** \Rightarrow **(GP)** \Rightarrow **(UN)**. If $f(t)$ is γ -positive, then

$$f(t) \text{ is real-rooted} \iff \gamma(t) \text{ is real-rooted}$$



Gal Conjecture

Conjecture (Real Root Conjecture, disproved)

The h -polynomial of a flag triangulation of a sphere is real-rooted.

Gal found a counterexample for the Real Root Conjecture.

Conjecture (Gal Conjecture)

The h -polynomial of a flag triangulation of a sphere is γ -positive.

Conjecture (Nevo-Petersen Conjecture)

The γ -polynomial of the h -polynomial of a flag triangulation of a sphere coincides with the f -polynomial of a flag simplicial complex.



Ehrhart theory

$\mathcal{P} \subset \mathbb{R}^d$: a lattice polytope of dimension d

(i.e., a convex polytope all of whose vertices are in \mathbb{Z}^d)

$m\mathcal{P} = \{m\mathbf{x} : \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{P}\}$: the m th dilated polytope of \mathcal{P}

$L_{\mathcal{P}}(m) := |m\mathcal{P} \cap \mathbb{Z}^d|$: the Ehrhart polynomial of \mathcal{P}

Theorem (Ehrhart)

$L_{\mathcal{P}}(m)$ is a polynomial in m of degree d .

$\text{Ehr}(\mathcal{P}, t) := 1 + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} L_{\mathcal{P}}(k)t^k$: the Ehrhart series of \mathcal{P} .

$(1-t)^{d+1}\text{Ehr}(\mathcal{P}, t) = \sum_{i=0}^d h_i^* t^i =: h^*(\mathcal{P}, t)$: the h^* -polynomial of \mathcal{P} .

Remark

- $h_0^* = 1, h_1^* = |\mathcal{P} \cap \mathbb{Z}^d| - (d+1)$ and $h_d^* = |\text{int}(\mathcal{P}) \cap \mathbb{Z}^d|$.
- each $h_i^* \geq 0$ (Stanley).
- $h^*(\mathcal{P}, 1)$ equals the normalized volume of \mathcal{P} .



Reflexive polytope

$\mathcal{P} \subset \mathbb{R}^d$: a lattice polytope of dimension d

$\text{int}(\mathcal{P})$:= the interior of \mathcal{P}

$\mathbf{0} \in \mathbb{R}^d$: the origin of \mathbb{R}^d

Assume that $\mathbf{0} \in \text{int}(\mathcal{P})$.

$\mathcal{P}^\vee := \{\mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^d : \langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \rangle \leq 1 \text{ for } \forall \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{P}\}$: the dual polytope of \mathcal{P}

Definition

We say that \mathcal{P} is reflexive if $\mathbf{0} \in \text{int}(\mathcal{P})$ and \mathcal{P}^\vee is a lattice polytope.

Definition

We say that \mathcal{P} is Gorenstein if $r\mathcal{P} + \mathbf{w}$ is reflexive for some $r \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 1}$ and $\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{Z}^d$.



Palindromic h^* -polynomials

Theorem (Hibi)

A lattice polytope $\mathcal{P} \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ with $\mathbf{0} \in \text{int}(\mathcal{P})$ is reflexive if and only if $h^(\mathcal{P}, t)$ is palindromic and of degree d .*

Theorem (De Negri-Hibi)

A lattice polytope \mathcal{P} is Gorenstein if and only if $h^(\mathcal{P}, t)$ is palindromic.*

Theorem (Bruns-Römer)

If \mathcal{P} is a Gorenstein polytope with a regular unimodular triangulation (\iff the toric ideal of \mathcal{P} has a squarefree initial ideal), then $h^(\mathcal{P}, t)$ is unimodal.*

Conjecture (Gal Conjecture in Ehrhart theory)

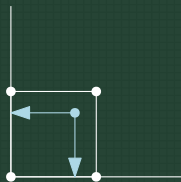
The h^ -polynomial of a reflexive polytope with a central, flag, regular unimodular triangulation is γ -positive.*



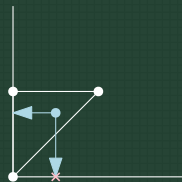
Anti-blocking polytopes

Definition

A lattice polytope $\mathcal{P} \subset \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}^d$ of dimension d is called **anti-blocking** if for any $\mathbf{y} = (y_1, \dots, y_d) \in \mathcal{P}$ and $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_d) \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}^d$ with $0 \leq x_i \leq y_i$ for all i , it holds that $\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{P}$.



anti-blocking



NOT anti-blocking



Unconditional polytopes

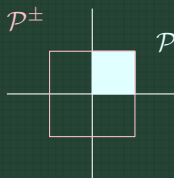
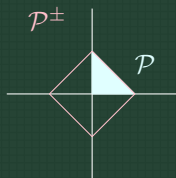
For $\varepsilon \in \{-1, 1\}^d$ and $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d$, set $\varepsilon \mathbf{x} := (\varepsilon_1 x_1, \dots, \varepsilon_d x_d) \in \mathbb{R}^d$.

Definition (Kohl-Olsen-Raman)

Given an anti-blocking lattice polytope $\mathcal{P} \subset \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}^d$ of dimension d , define

$$\mathcal{P}^\pm := \{\varepsilon \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d : \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{P}, \varepsilon \in \{-1, 1\}^d\}.$$

The polytope \mathcal{P}^\pm is called an **unconditional lattice polytope**.

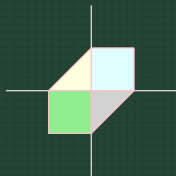


Locally anti-blocking polytopes

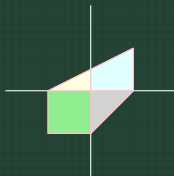
Given $\varepsilon \in \{-1, 1\}^d$, define $\mathbb{R}_\varepsilon^d := \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d : \varepsilon_i x_i \geq 0, \forall i\}$.

Definition

A lattice polytope $\mathcal{P} \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ of dimension d is called **locally anti-blocking** if for each $\varepsilon \in \{-1, 1\}^d$, there exists an anti-blocking lattice polytope $\mathcal{P}_\varepsilon \subset \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}^d$ of dimension d such that $\mathcal{P} \cap \mathbb{R}_\varepsilon^d = \mathcal{P}_\varepsilon^\pm \cap \mathbb{R}_\varepsilon^d$. We call \mathcal{P}_ε the **anti-blocking piece** on ε of \mathcal{P} .



locally anti-blocking



NOT locally anti-blocking

Remark

Unconditional lattice polytopes are locally anti-blocking.



h^* -polynomials of locally anti-blocking lattice polytopes

Theorem (Ohsugi-T)

Let $\mathcal{P} \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ be a locally anti-blocking lattice polytope of dimension d and for each $\varepsilon \in \{-1, 1\}^d$, let \mathcal{P}_ε be the anti-blocking piece on ε . Then one has

$$h^*(\mathcal{P}, t) = \frac{1}{2^d} \sum_{\varepsilon \in \{-1, 1\}^d} h^*(\mathcal{P}_\varepsilon^\pm, t).$$

In particular, $h^*(\mathcal{P}, t)$ is γ -positive if $h^*(\mathcal{P}_\varepsilon^\pm, t)$ is γ -positive for all $\varepsilon \in \{-1, 1\}^d$.



Chain polytopes

$(P, <_P)$: a poset on $[d] := \{1, \dots, d\}$.

Definition (Stanley)

The **chain polytope** of P is

$$\mathcal{C}_P := \{\mathbf{x} \in [0, 1]^d : x_{i_1} + \dots + x_{i_r} \leq 1 \text{ if } i_1 <_P \dots <_P i_r \text{ is a chain in } P\}.$$

Proposition

\mathcal{C}_P is an anti-blocking lattice polytope with a flag regular unimodular triangulation.

Theorem (Stanley, Hibi)

\mathcal{C}_P is Gorenstein if and only if P is pure.



P -Eulerian polynomials

$(P, <_P)$: a **naturally labeled** poset on $[d]$, i.e., $i <_P j \Rightarrow i < j$.

$\mathcal{L}(P)$: the set of linear extensions of P .

For $\pi \in \mathcal{L}(P)$, set

$$\text{des}(\pi) := |\{1 \leq i \leq d-1 : \pi_i < \pi_{i+1}\}|.$$

$W_P(t) := \sum_{\pi \in \mathcal{L}(P)} t^{\text{des}(\pi)}$: the P -Eulerian polynomial.

Theorem (Stanley)

$$h^*(\mathcal{O}_P, t) = h^*(\mathcal{C}_P, t) = W_P(t).$$

Theorem (Brändén)

If P is pure, then $W_P(t)$ is γ -positive.

Conjecture (Stanley)

$W_P(t)$ is unimodal.



Enriched Chain polytopes

P : a poset on $[d]$

Definition (Ohsugi-T)

The enriched chain polytope of P is

$$\mathcal{C}_P^{(e)} := \mathcal{C}_P^{\pm}.$$

Theorem (Ohsugi-T)

$\mathcal{C}_P^{(e)}$ is an unconditional reflexive polytope with a central flag regular unimodular triangulation.

Remark

We call $\mathcal{C}_P^{(e)}$ an **enriched** chain polytope because this polytope is related to the theory of enriched P -partitions introduced by John Stembridge.



Enriched Order Polytopes

P : a naturally labeled poset on $[d]$.

$f : P \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$ is called a P -partition if for any $i <_P j$,

- $f(i) \leq f(j)$.

$f : P \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$ is called a left enriched P -partition if for any $i <_P j$,

- $|f(i)| \leq |f(j)|$;

- $|f(i)| = |f(j)| \Rightarrow f(j) \geq 0$.

The order polytope \mathcal{O}_P of P is the convex hull of $\{(f(1), \dots, f(d)) : f \text{ is a } P\text{-partition with } f(i) \leq 1\}$.

The enriched order polytope $\mathcal{O}_P^{(e)}$ of P is the convex hull of $\{(f(1), \dots, f(d)) : f \text{ is a left enriched } P\text{-partition with } |f(i)| \leq 1\}$.

Theorem (Stanley, Ohsugi-T)

- $L_{\mathcal{O}_P}(t) = L_{\mathcal{C}_P}(t) = |\{P\text{-partitions } f \text{ with } f(i) \leq t\}|$

- $L_{\mathcal{O}_P^{(e)}}(t) = L_{\mathcal{C}_P^{(e)}}(t) = |\{\text{left enriched } P\text{-partitions } f \text{ with } |f(i)| \leq t\}|$



Left peak polynomials

$(P, <_P)$: a naturally labeled poset on $[d]$.

For $\pi \in \mathcal{L}(P)$ with $\pi_0 = 0$, set

$$\text{peak}^{(\ell)}(\pi) := |\{1 \leq i \leq d-1 : \pi_{i-1} < \pi_i > \pi_{i+1}\}|.$$

$W_P^{(\ell)}(t) := \sum_{\pi \in \mathcal{L}(P)} t^{\text{peak}^{(\ell)}(\pi)}$: the left peak polynomial of P .

Theorem (Ohsugi-T, Petersen, Stembridge)

$$h^*(\mathcal{O}_P^{(e)}, t) = h^*(\mathcal{C}_P^{(e)}, t) = (t+1)^d W_P^{(\ell)}\left(\frac{4t}{(t+1)^2}\right).$$

Namely, the γ -polynomial equals $W_P^{(\ell)}(4t)$.

Theorem (Nevo-Petersen, Ohsugi-T)

$W_P^{(\ell)}(4t)$ coincides with the f -polynomial of a flag simplicial complex.



Twinned chain polytopes

For a lattice polytope $\mathcal{P} \subset \mathbb{R}^d$, write $-\mathcal{P} := \{-\mathbf{x} : \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{P}\}$.

P, Q : posets on $[d]$.

Definition (Ohsugi-Hibi, Hibi-Matsuda-T)

The **twinned chain polytope** of P and Q is

$$\mathcal{C}_{P,Q} := \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_P \cup (-\mathcal{C}_Q)).$$

Theorem (Hibi-Matsuda-T,T)

$\mathcal{C}_{P,Q}$ is a locally anti-blocking reflexive polytope with a central flag regular unimodular triangulation. In particular, each anti-blocking piece is a chain polytope.



Twinned chain polytopes

For $W \subset [d]$, write $\overline{W} = [d] \setminus W$.

P_W : the induced subposet of P on W .

Theorem (Ohsugi-T)

For each $\varepsilon \in \{-1, 1\}^d$, let $I_\varepsilon = \{i \in [d] : \varepsilon_i = 1\}$ and R_ε a naturally labeled poset which is obtained from $P_{I_\varepsilon} \oplus Q_{\overline{I_\varepsilon}}$ by reordering the label.

Set

$$W_{P,Q}(t) = \frac{1}{2^d} \sum_{\varepsilon \in \{-1, 1\}^d} W_{R_\varepsilon}^{(\ell)}(t).$$

Then one has

$$h^*(\mathcal{C}_{P,Q}, t) = (1+t)^d W_{P,Q} \left(\frac{4t}{(1+t)^2} \right).$$

Namely, the γ -polynomial equals $W_{P,Q}(4t)$.



Symmetric edge polytopes of type B

G : a simple graph on $[d]$ with edge set $E(G)$

Definition (Ohsugi-T)

The symmetric edge polytope of type B of G is

$$\mathcal{B}_G := \text{conv}(\{\pm \mathbf{e}_1, \dots, \pm \mathbf{e}_d\} \cup \{\pm \mathbf{e}_i \pm \mathbf{e}_j : \{i, j\} \in E(G)\}).$$

Theorem (Ohsugi-T)

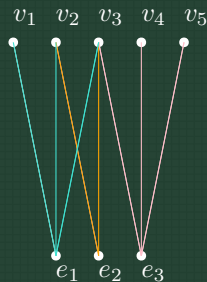
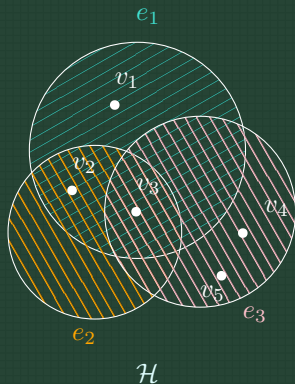
\mathcal{B}_G is unconditional. Moreover, \mathcal{B}_G is reflexive (with a regular unimodular triangulation) if and only if G is bipartite. Furthermore, \mathcal{B}_G is reflexive with a (central) flag regular unimodular triangulation if and only if G is a chordal bipartite graph.



Interior polynomials of hypergraphs

A hypergraph is a pair $\mathcal{H} = (V, E)$, where $V = \{v_1, \dots, v_m\}$ and $E = \{e_1, \dots, e_n\} \subset 2^V \setminus \{\emptyset\}$.

Bip \mathcal{H} is the bipartite graph with a bipartition $V \cup E$ such that $\{v_i, e_j\}$ is an edge of **Bip** \mathcal{H} if $v_i \in e_j$



Bip \mathcal{H}



Interior polynomials of hypergraphs

Let $G = \text{Bip}\mathcal{H}$ and assume that G is connected.

A **hypertree** in \mathcal{H} is a function $\mathbf{f} : E \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$ such that there exists a spanning tree Γ of G such that $\deg(e) = \mathbf{f}(e) + 1$ for any $e \in E$.

$$B_{\mathcal{H}} := \{\text{hypertrees in } \mathcal{H}\}$$

$e_j \in E$ is said to be **internally inactive** with respect to $\mathbf{f} \in B_{\mathcal{H}}$ if there exist $\mathbf{f}' \in B_{\mathcal{H}}$ and $j' < j$ such that

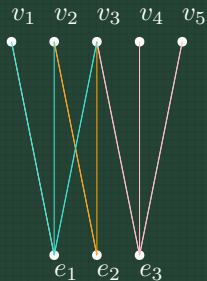
$$\mathbf{f}'(e_i) = \begin{cases} \mathbf{f}(e_i) - 1 & (i = j) \\ \mathbf{f}(e_i) + 1 & (i = j') \\ \mathbf{f}(e_i) & (\text{otherwise}) \end{cases}$$



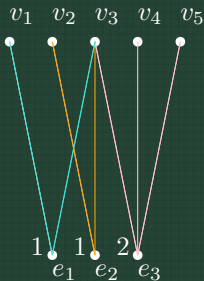
Interior polynomials of hypergraphs

$e_j \in E$ is said to be **internally inactive** with respect to $\mathbf{f} \in B_{\mathcal{H}}$ if there exist $\mathbf{f}' \in B_{\mathcal{H}}$ and $j' < j$ such that

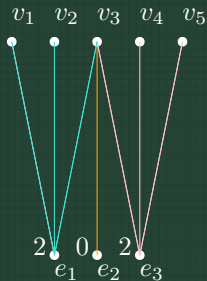
$$\mathbf{f}'(e_i) = \begin{cases} \mathbf{f}(e_i) - 1 & (i = j) \\ \mathbf{f}(e_i) + 1 & (i = j') \\ \mathbf{f}(e_i) & (\text{otherwise}) \end{cases}$$



$\text{Bip}\mathcal{H}$



e_2 is internally inactive



Interior polynomials of hypergraphs

$\bar{\tau}(\mathbf{f})$: the number of internally inactive hyperedges of $\mathbf{f} \in B_{\mathcal{H}}$.

The **interior polynomial** of \mathcal{H} is the generating function

$$I_{\mathcal{H}}(t) = \sum_{\mathbf{f} \in B_{\mathcal{H}}} t^{\bar{\tau}(\mathbf{f})}.$$

If G is a connected bipartite graph such that $G = \text{Bip}\mathcal{H}$ for a hypergraph \mathcal{H} , then we write $I_G(t) := I_{\mathcal{H}}(t)$.

For a connected bipartite graph G on $[d]$, the **edge polytope** (or **root polytope**) of G is

$$\mathcal{P}_G = \text{conv}(\{\mathbf{e}_i + \mathbf{e}_j : \{i, j\} \in E(G)\}).$$

Theorem (Kálmán-Postnikov)

For a connected bipartite graph G , one has

$$h^*(\mathcal{P}_G, t) = I_G(t).$$



The γ -positivity of $h^*(\mathcal{B}_G, t)$

G : a bipartite graph with a bipartition $V_1 \cup V_2 = [d]$

Let \tilde{G} be the connected bipartite graph on $[d+2]$ whose edge set is

$$E(\tilde{G}) = E(G) \cup \{\{d+1, d+2\}\} \cup \{\{i, d+1\} : i \in V_1\} \cup \{\{j, d+2\} : j \in V_2\}$$



Theorem (Ohsugi-T)

$$h^*(\mathcal{B}_G, t) = (1+t)^d I_{\tilde{G}} \left(\frac{4t}{(1+t)^2} \right)$$

Namely, the γ -polynomial equals $I_{\tilde{G}}(4t)$.



Symmetric edge polytopes of type A

G : a graph on $[d]$ with the edge set $E(G)$.

Definition (Ohsugi-Hibi)

The symmetric edge polytope of type A of G is

$$\mathcal{A}_G := \text{conv}(\{\pm(\mathbf{e}_i - \mathbf{e}_j) : \{i, j\} \in E(G)\}).$$

Theorem (Ohsugi-Hibi)

\mathcal{A}_G is reflexive with a regular unimodular triangulation.

Theorem (Higashitani-Jochemko-Michalek)

Let $K_{m+1, n+1}$ be a complete $(m+1, n+1)$ -bipartite graph. Then

$$h^*(\mathcal{A}_{K_{m+1, n+1}}, t) = \sum_{i=0}^{\min(m, n)} \binom{2i}{i} \binom{m}{i} \binom{n}{i} t^i (t+1)^{t+t-2i+1}.$$

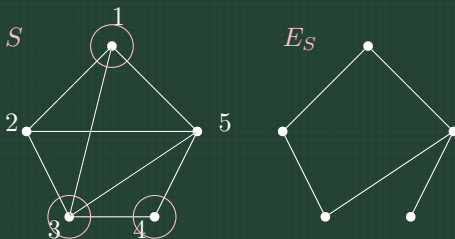
In particular $h^*(\mathcal{A}_{K_{m+1, n+1}}, t)$ is γ -positive. (In fact, it is real-rooted.)

Cuts of graphs

Given a subset $S \subset [d]$,

$E_S := \{e \in E(G) : |e \cap S| = 1\}$: a **cut** of G .

We identify E_S with the subgraph of G on the vertex set $[d]$ and the edge set E_S . In particular, E_S is a bipartite graph.



$\text{Cut}(G)$: the set of all cuts of G .

Note that $|\text{Cut}(G)| = 2^{d-1}$.



γ -positivity of $h^*(\mathcal{A}_{\widehat{G}}, t)$

Let \widehat{G} be the suspension of G , i.e., the connected bipartite graph on $[d+1]$ whose edge set is

$$E(\widehat{G}) = E(G) \cup \{\{i, d+1\} : i \in [d]\}.$$

Theorem (Ohsugi-T)

$\mathcal{A}_{\widehat{G}}$ is unimodularly equivalent to a locally anti-blocking reflexive polytope and one has

$$h^*(\mathcal{A}_{\widehat{G}}, t) = \frac{1}{2^{d-1}} \sum_{H \in \text{Cut}(G)} h^*(\mathcal{B}_H, t) = (t+1)^d f_G \left(\frac{4t}{(t+1)^2} \right),$$

where

$$f_G(t) = \frac{1}{2^{d-1}} \sum_{H \in \text{Cut}(G)} I_{\widetilde{H}}(t).$$

Namely, the γ -polynomial equals $f_G(4t)$.



γ -positivity of $h^*(\mathcal{A}_{\tilde{G}}, t)$

Theorem (Ohsugi-T)

Let G be a bipartite graph on $[d]$. Then the γ -polynomial of $h^*(\mathcal{A}_{\tilde{G}}, t)$ coincides with that of $h^*(\mathcal{A}_{\hat{G}}, t)$. Hence $h^*(\mathcal{A}_{\tilde{G}}, t)$ is γ -positive.

For example, by using these formulas, we can compute

$$h^*(\mathcal{A}_{K_d}, t) = \sum_{i=0}^{\lfloor (d-1)/2 \rfloor} \binom{d-1}{2i} \binom{2i}{i} t^i (t+1)^{d-1-2i}.$$

$$h^*(\mathcal{A}_{K_{m+1, n+1}}, t) = \sum_{i=0}^{\min(m, n)} \binom{2i}{i} \binom{m}{i} \binom{n}{i} t^i (t+1)^{t+t-2i+1}.$$



γ -positivity of $h^*(\mathcal{A}_{C_d}, t)$

Ohsugi-Shibata computed the $h^*(\mathcal{A}_{C_d}, t)$. By using the result, we can obtain

$$h^*(\mathcal{A}_{C_d}, t) = \sum_{i=0}^{\lfloor (d-1)/2 \rfloor} \binom{2i}{i} x^i (x+1)^{d-2i-1}.$$

In particular, it is γ -positive.

$\mathcal{A}_{C_{2m+1}}$ is unimodularly equivalent to the del Pezzo polytope V_{2m} . We can compute the h^* -polynomials of pseudo-del Pezzo polytopes.

Theorem (Ohsugi-T)

The h^ -polynomial of any pseudo-symmetric simplicial reflexive polytope is γ -positive.*



γ -positivity of $h^*(\mathcal{A}_G, t)$

$h^*(\mathcal{A}_G, t)$ is γ -positive if one of the following

- $G = \widehat{H}$ for some graph H (e.g., complete graphs, wheel graphs);
- $G = \widetilde{H}$ for some bipartite graph H (e.g., complete bipartite graphs);
- G is a cycle;
- G is an outerplaner bipartite graph.

Conjecture

$h^*(\mathcal{A}_G, t)$ is γ -positive for any graph G .



γ -positivity for locally anti-blocking reflexive polytopes

Conjecture

The h^ -polynomial of a locally anti-blocking reflexive polytope is γ -positive.*

In order to prove this conjecture, it is enough to show the following conjecture:

Conjecture

The h^ -polynomial of an unconditional reflexive polytope is γ -positive.*

