

# Lattice polytopes with a view toward algebraic geometry

Benjamin Nill

(Case Western Reserve University → Stockholm University)

MEGA Frankfurt 2013

# What is Toric Geometry?

Intro

Fano polytopes

Normal form

Two approaches

Volume bounds

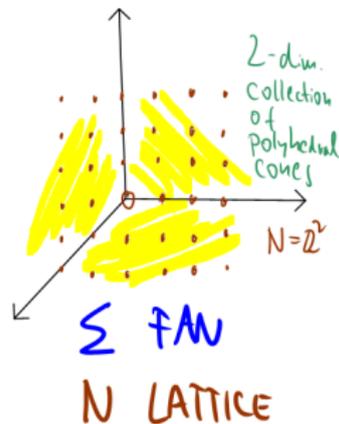
Unimodular polytopes

EKM's

High index

$X_{\Sigma}$  toric variety /  $\mathbb{C}$   
(normal, abstract)

2-dim.  
Complex  
algebraic  
surface



$X_{\Sigma} \cong X_{\Sigma'}$   $\iff$  affine lattice automorphism of  $N$  maps cones  
in  $\Sigma$  to cones of  $\Sigma'$

# Why Toric Geometry?

Lattice polytopes &  
Toric geometry

Benjamin Nill

## Intro

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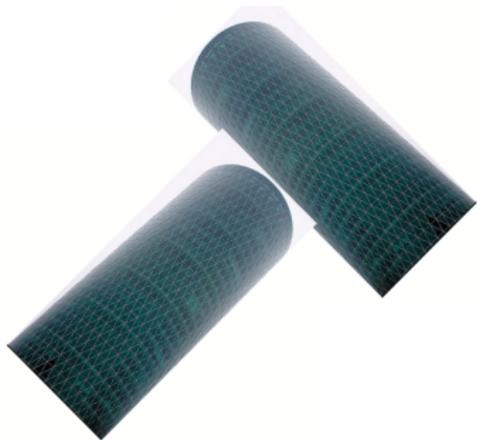
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# Why Toric Geometry?

- ▶ Shopping mall for algebraic geometers looking for:
  - ▶ examples
  - ▶ experiments
  - ▶ databases
  - ▶ conjectures
  - ▶ intuition
  - ▶ proof ideas

# Why Toric Geometry?

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  - ▶ intuition
  - ▶ proof ideas
- ▶ Hammer for geometric combinatorialists to nail proofs  
(and to provide new viewpoints and interesting headaches!)



# Toric Geometry is MEGA!

Toric varieties allow for

- ▶ explicit combinatorial description
- ▶ often complete classification results
- ▶ effective computation of invariants

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This talk:

LATTICE POLYTOPES AND TORIC GEOMETRY

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This talk:

LATTICE POLYTOPES AND TORIC GEOMETRY

Focus on

*Classifications and invariants of toric Fano varieties*

# Polytopes enter the picture ...

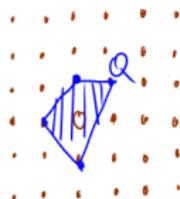
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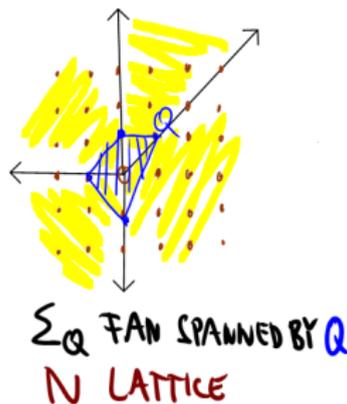
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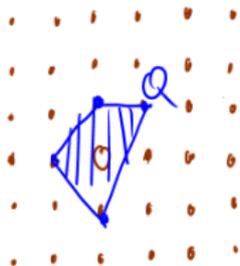
$X_{\Sigma_Q}$  PROJECTIVE  
TORIC VARIETY /  $\mathbb{C}$

$\leftrightarrow$



Different lattice polytopes may define same toric variety!

## ... Fano polytopes ...

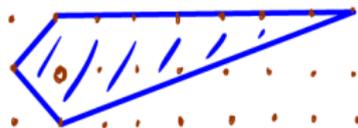


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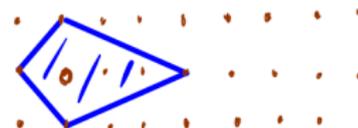
A polytope  $Q$  is called **Fano polytope**, if

- ▶ the origin is in the interior
- ▶ every vertex is a primitive lattice point

Yes:



No:



## ... and toric Fano varieties!

## Definition

Projective  $X$  is **Fano variety**, if  $-K_X$  is ample  $\mathbb{Q}$ -Cartier divisor.

## Correspondence:

toric Fano varieties  $X_{\Sigma_Q}$   $\longleftrightarrow$  Fano polytopes  $Q$

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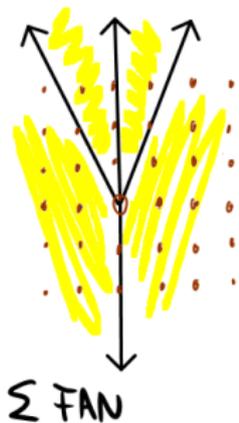
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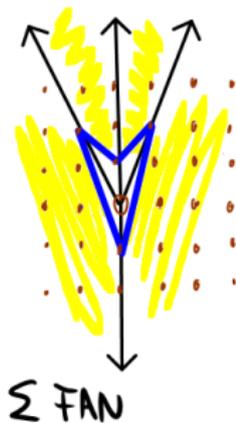
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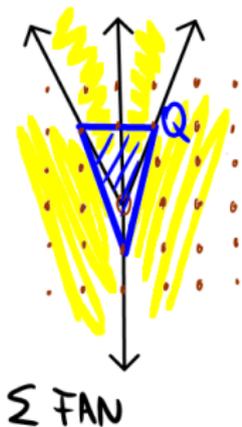
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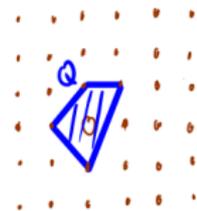
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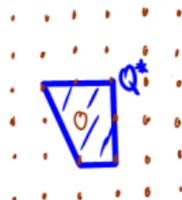
# The $M$ -side of things

Let  $M$  be the dual lattice of  $N$ .



$Q$  FANO POLY

$N$  LATTICE



$Q^*$  DUALS POLYTOPE

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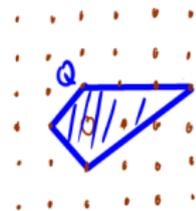
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$$Q^* := \{y : \langle x, y \rangle \geq -1 \quad \forall x \in Q\}$$

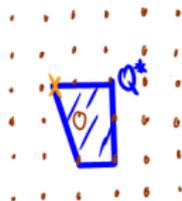
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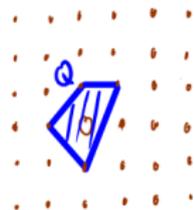
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Vertices of  $Q^*$  don't have to be lattice points anymore!

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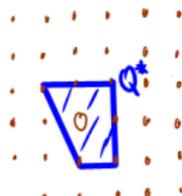
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$\leftrightarrow$



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## Correspondence

$Q$  is **reflexive**  $\longleftrightarrow$   $X_{\Sigma_Q}$  is **Gorenstein**  
 $(Q^*$  is lattice polytope)  $\longleftrightarrow$   $(-K_X$  is Cartier divisor)

In this case,  $H^0(X_{\Sigma_Q}, \mathcal{O}(-K_X))$  has  $Q^* \cap M$  as  $\mathbb{C}$ -basis.

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## Conjecture (Alexeev-Batyrev-Borisov-...)

For fixed  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $\epsilon > 0$ , there are **finitely** many families of  $n$ -dimensional Fano varieties with  $\epsilon$ -logterminal singularities.

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Known to hold for

- ▶ Fano manifolds
- ▶ toric Fano varieties
- ▶ ...

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Complete classification exists for Fano manifolds up to dimension 3

*Let's have a look at the toric case ...*

# THE TABLE of toric Fano varieties $X$ of dim. $n$

$n$	canonical	Gorenstein	smooth
2	16	16	5
3	674,688	4,319	18
4		473,800,776	124
5			866
6			7,622
7			72,256
8			749,892
9			8,229,721
due to	Kasprzyk	Kreuzer, Skarke	Watanabe, Watanabe; Batyrev; Sato; Kreuzer, Nill; Øbro

→ [Graded Ring Database \(GRDB\)](#)

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Current development [Coates, Corti, Galkin, Golyshev, Kasprzyk]

Many (all?) Fano manifolds may be reconstructed from 'mirror'  
Laurent polynomials found using these polytopes

# Excursion: Normal form algorithm

LOTS of Fano polytopes, how to check, if they are isomorphic?

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## Excursion: Normal form algorithm

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Solution: Normal form for list of vertices of lattice polytope  $Q$ :

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & -1 & 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow NF(Q) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & -1 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & -1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

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Keyword: **Hermite-normal form** (of permutations of the columns)



Max Kreuzer  
(1960-2010)

Implementation in PALP

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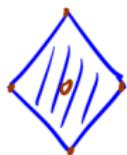
Implementation in PALP; MAGMA, SAGE [Grinis, Kasprzyk '13]

# Two classification approaches in a nutshell

## Growing [Kasprzyk]

Step 1: Classifying minimal Fano's (of certain type)

Minimal  $Q$



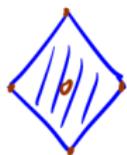
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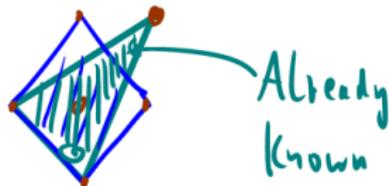
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Step 2: Recursively add vertices



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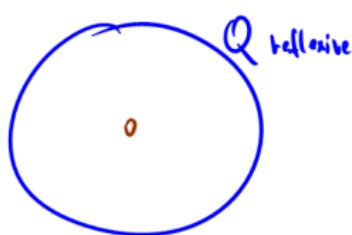
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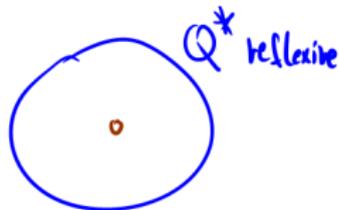
# Two classification approaches

## Duality [Kreuzer, Skarke]

$$Q \text{ reflexive} \Leftrightarrow Q^* \text{ reflexive}$$



$N$



$M$

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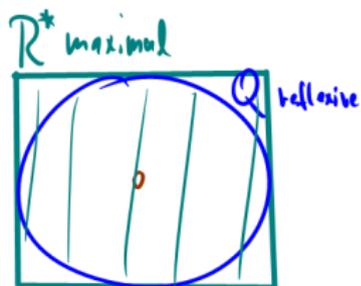
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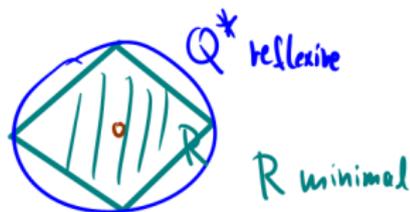
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# Volume bounds on canonical polytopes

## Definition

A Fano polytope  $Q$  is called **canonical polytope**, if the origin is *the only* lattice point in the interior.

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**Theorem** [Hensley '83; Lagarias, Ziegler '91; Pikhurko '01]

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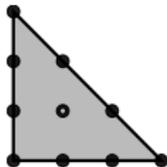
$$2^{n^2}$$

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# Volume bounds on canonical polytopes

## Sharp bounds on the maximal volume

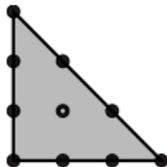
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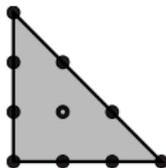
- ▶  $n = 3$  [Kasprzyk '08]: 12, attained by *two* canonical tetrahedra

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# Volume bounds on canonical polytopes

## Sharp bounds on the maximal volume

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- ▶  $n = 3$  [Kasprzyk '08]: 12, attained by *two* canonical tetrahedra
- ▶  $n \geq 4$ : Conjecture [Zaks, Perles, Wills '82; Hensley '83]:

$$2(s_n - 1)^2/n!,$$

where

$$s_1 = 2, \quad s_2 = 3, \quad s_3 = 7, \quad s_4 = 43, \dots, \quad s_k := s_1 \cdots s_{k-1} + 1.$$

Bound attained *only* for canonical simplex

$$Q_n := \text{conv}(0, s_1 e_1, \dots, s_{n-1} e_{n-1}, 2(s_n - 1) e_n)$$

# Volume bounds on canonical polytopes

Theorem [Averkov, Krümpelmann, Nill '13]

Conjecture holds for canonical *simplices*.

## Applications

- ▶ [Kasprzyk '13] 35,947 4-dimensional canonical simplices
- ▶ [Kasprzyk, N. '13] Conjecture holds for reflexive polytopes

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## Challenging problems:

- ▶ Conjecture still open for canonical *polytopes*
- ▶ Sharp bounds on number of lattice points?!

## NEXT:

- ▶ Proof sketch
- ▶ Translation into algebraic geometry

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# Proof of volume bound

Let  $Q$  be simplex with origin only interior lattice point.

Let  $\beta_0 \geq \dots \geq \beta_n > 0$  be the barycentric coordinates of  $0$ :

$$\sum_{i=0}^n \beta_i \mathbf{v}_i = \mathbf{0}, \quad \sum_{i=0}^n \beta_i = 1$$

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Lemma [Pikhurko '01]

$$n! \operatorname{vol}(Q) \leq \frac{1}{\beta_0 \cdots \beta_{n-1}}$$

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## Lemma [Pikhurko '01]

$$n! \operatorname{vol}(Q) \leq \frac{1}{\beta_0 \cdots \beta_{n-1}}$$

## Theorem [Averkov '11]

Let  $Q$  be *lattice* simplex. Then

for  $j = 0, \dots, n-1$  we have

$$\beta_0 \cdots \beta_j \leq \beta_{j+1} + \cdots + \beta_n$$

# Proof of volume bound

## Lemma [N.'07]

Let  $x_0 \geq \cdots \geq x_n > 0$  such that  $x_0 + \cdots + x_n = 1$  and

$$x_0 \cdots x_j \leq x_{j+1} + \cdots + x_n$$

for  $j = 0, \dots, n - 1$ .

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for  $j = 0, \dots, n-1$ . If  $n \geq 4$ , then

$$x_0 \cdots x_{n-1} \geq \frac{1}{2(s_n - 1)^2}$$

# Proof of volume bound

## Lemma [N.'07]

Let  $x_0 \geq \dots \geq x_n > 0$  such that  $x_0 + \dots + x_n = 1$  and

$$x_0 \cdots x_j \leq x_{j+1} + \dots + x_n$$

for  $j = 0, \dots, n-1$ . If  $n \geq 4$ , then

$$x_0 \cdots x_{n-1} \geq \frac{1}{2(s_n - 1)^2}$$

## Proof finish

$Q$  canonical simplex  $\implies$

$$n! \operatorname{vol}(Q) \leq \frac{1}{\beta_0 \cdots \beta_{n-1}} \leq 2(s_n - 1)^2$$



# Why does the sequence 2, 3, 7, 43, ... appear?

$$\beta_0 + \beta_1 + \beta_2 + \beta_3 + \beta_4 = 1$$

$$\beta_0 > \beta_1 > \beta_2 > \beta_3 > \beta_4 > 0$$

$$\beta_0 \leq \beta_1 + \beta_2 + \beta_3 + \beta_4$$

$$\beta_0 \cdot \beta_1 \leq \beta_2 + \beta_3 + \beta_4$$

$$\beta_0 \cdot \beta_1 \cdot \beta_2 \leq \beta_3 + \beta_4$$

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with minimal

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# Why does the sequence 2, 3, 7, 43, ... appear?

Assume

$$\beta_0 + \beta_1 + \beta_2 + \beta_3 + \beta_4 = 1$$

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# Why does the sequence 2, 3, 7, 43, ... appear?

$$\beta_0 + \epsilon + \beta_1 - \epsilon + \beta_2 + \beta_3 + \beta_4 = 1$$

$$\beta_0 + \epsilon > \beta_1 - \epsilon > \beta_2 > \beta_3 > \beta_4 > 0$$

$$\begin{aligned} \beta_0 + \epsilon &< \beta_1 - \epsilon + \beta_2 + \beta_3 + \beta_4 \\ (\beta_0 + \epsilon) &\cdot (\beta_1 - \epsilon) \leq \beta_2 + \beta_3 + \beta_4 \\ (\beta_0 + \epsilon) &\cdot (\beta_1 - \epsilon) \cdot \beta_2 \leq \beta_3 + \beta_4 \\ (\beta_0 + \epsilon) &\cdot (\beta_1 - \epsilon) \cdot \beta_2 \cdot \beta_3 \leq \beta_4 \end{aligned}$$

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with

$$(\beta_0 + \epsilon) \cdot (\beta_1 - \epsilon) \cdot \beta_2 \cdot \beta_3$$

contradiction, since

$$(\beta_0 + \epsilon)(\beta_1 - \epsilon) = \beta_0\beta_1 - \epsilon(\beta_0 - \beta_1) - \epsilon^2 < \beta_0\beta_1.$$

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$$\frac{1}{2} + \beta_1 + \beta_2 + \beta_3 + \beta_4 = 1$$

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# What about algebraic geometry?

$$(-K_X)^n = n! \operatorname{vol}(Q^*).$$

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# What about algebraic geometry?

$$(-K_X)^n = n! \operatorname{vol}(Q^*).$$

Proof arguments imply (*with a slight tweak*)

## Corollary

Let  $X := X_{\Sigma_Q}$  toric Fano variety for canonical simplex  $Q$ .

n	$n = 2$	$n = 3$	$n \geq 4$
$(-K_X)^n \leq$	9	72	$2(s_n - 1)^2$

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equality	$\mathbb{P}^2$	$\mathbb{P}(3, 1, 1, 1),$ $\mathbb{P}(6, 4, 1, 1)$	$\mathbb{P}\left(\frac{2(s_n-1)}{s_1}, \dots, \frac{2(s_d-1)}{s_{n-1}}, 1, 1\right)$

$\mathbb{P}(q_0, \dots, q_n)$  is *weighted projective space*, given as quotient of  $(\mathbb{C}^*)^{n+1}$  via

$$(\lambda_0, \dots, \lambda_n) \cdot (x_0, \dots, x_n) := (\lambda_0^{q_0} x_0, \dots, \lambda_n^{q_n} x_n).$$

# Back on track: Toric Fano manifolds

## Definition

A Fano polytope  $Q$  is called **unimodular polytope**, if the vertex set of every facet of  $Q$  forms a lattice basis.

## Correspondence:

toric Fano manifolds  $X_{\Sigma_Q}$   $\longleftrightarrow$  unimodular polytopes  $Q$

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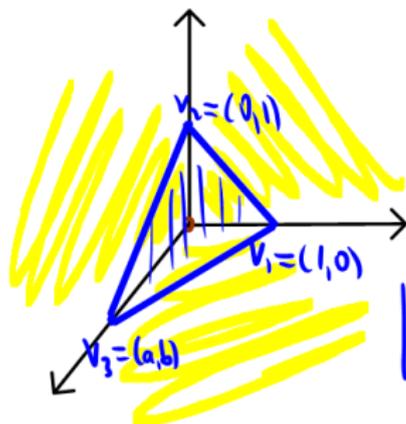
toric Fano manifolds  $X_{\Sigma_Q} \longleftrightarrow$  unimodular polytopes  $Q$

Up to lattice isomorphisms only ONE unimodular simplex:

$$\begin{vmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ a & b \end{vmatrix} = 1$$

$$\Downarrow$$

$$a = -1$$



$$X_{\Sigma_Q} \cong \mathbb{P}^2$$

$$\begin{vmatrix} a & b \\ 1 & 0 \end{vmatrix} = 1 \Rightarrow b = -1$$

# Picard number of toric Fano manifolds

**Picard number** is most important invariant:

$$\rho_X = \text{rank Pic}(X) = |\text{Verts}(Q)| - n$$

$$\rho_X = 1 \iff X \cong \mathbb{P}^n$$

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- ▶ Short proof of Casagrande's bound
- ▶ Introduced total ordering of unimodular polytopes
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**Still open:** Sharp upper bound on  $\chi(X) = |\text{facets}(Q)|$

# Toric Fano manifolds with large Picard number

Let  $S_2$  be  $\mathbb{P}^2$  blown-up in two torus-invariant points:



$X$  toric Fano manifold with  $\rho_X = 2n - k$

- ▶  $k=0$ : [N. 05; Casagrande '07]  $n$  even,  $S_2 \times \cdots \times S_2$

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**Conjecture [Assarf, Joswig, Paffenholz '13]**

If  $k \leq n/3$ , then

$$X \cong X' \times S_2 \times \cdots \times S_2$$

for  $X' \leq 3k + 1$ -dimensional toric Fano manifold.

# Excursion: Einstein-Kähler-Manifolds (EKM)

Lattice polytopes &  
Toric geometry

**Benjamin Nill**

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# Excursion: Einstein-Kähler-Manifolds (EKM)

## Minkowski's lattice point theorem

If  $K$  is  $n$ -dimensional convex body such that

1. origin is only interior lattice point,
2.  $K$  is centrally-symmetric with respect to origin,

then  $\text{vol}(K) \leq 2^n$ .

# Excursion: Einstein-Kähler-Manifolds (EKM)

## Ehrhart's conjecture ['64]

If  $K$  is  $n$ -dimensional convex body such that

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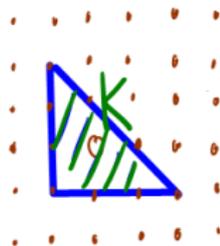
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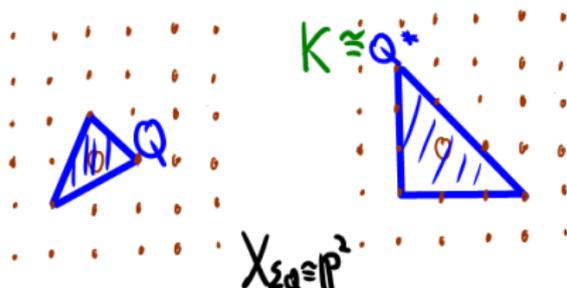
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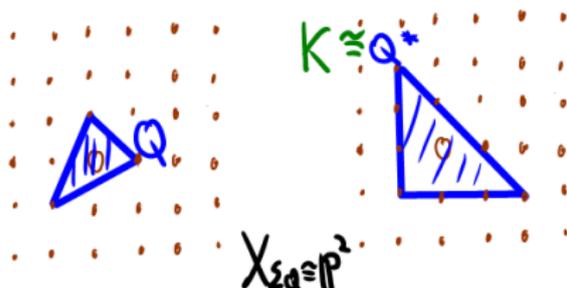
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## Criterion [Wang, Zhu '03]

2. holds for dual of unimodular polytope  $Q \iff X_{\Sigma_Q}$  is EKM

# Excursion: Einstein-Kähler-Manifolds (EKM)

[N., Paffenholz '09]:

Found counterexample to conjecture on EKM's in Øbro's database in dimension 6.

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## Theorem [Berman, Berndtsson '12]

- ▶  $\mathbb{P}^n$  has largest anticanonical degree among toric EKM's.
- ▶ Ehrhart's conjecture holds for duals of Fano polytopes.

→ [N., Paffenholz, '12]:

'On the equality case in Ehrhart's volume conjecture'

# What about higher dimensions?

$n$	canonical	Gorenstein	smooth
2	16	16	5
3	674,688	4,319	18
4		473,800,776	124
5		Guess: $\sim 10^{18}$	866
6			7,622
7			72,256
8			749,892
9			8,229,721
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## Definition

**Index** of Gorenstein toric Fano variety  $X$ :

$$i_X := \max(r : -K_X/r \text{ Cartier divisor})$$

# The index

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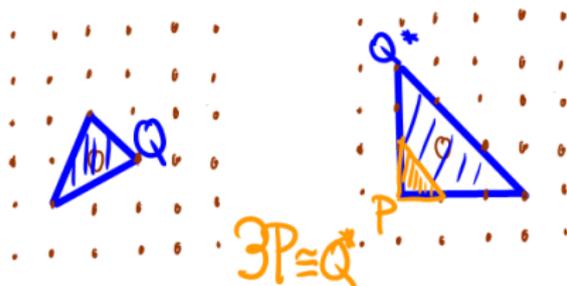
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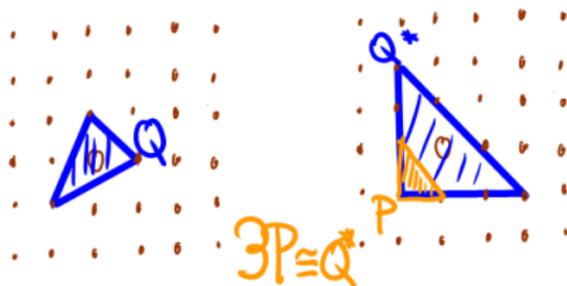
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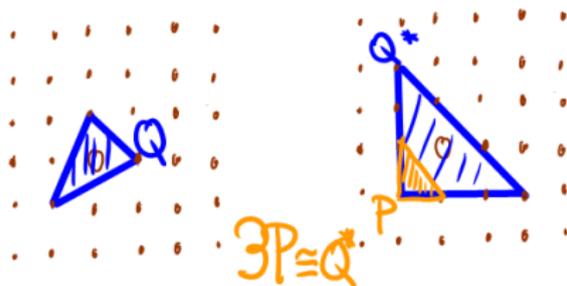
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Index of  $X_{\Sigma_Q}$  is maximal  $r$  such that exists such  $P$ .

Example:  $i_{\mathbb{P}^2} = 3$ .

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## Definition

$P$  lattice polytope.

- ▶  $P$  is called **Gorenstein polytope of index  $r$** , if  $rP$  is reflexive (up to affine-lattice isomorphisms)
- ▶  $P$  is called **smooth Gorenstein polytope**, if  $rP$  is dual of unimodular polytope (up to affine-lattice isomorphisms)

## A little step further into higher dimensions

Toric Fano manifolds with large index [Lorenz, N. '13]

Algorithm for smooth Gorenstein polytopes of large index yields

$n \setminus i_x$	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
2	3	1	1											
3	15	2		1										
4	118	4	1		1									
5	853	11	1			1								
6	7,590	27	3	1			1							
7	72,167	83	4	1				1						
8	749,620	256	12	2	1				1					
9	8,228,801	891	23	4	1					1				
10	*	*	63	6	2	1					1			
11	*	*	*	13	3	1						1		
12	*	*	*	*	6	2	1						1	
13	*	*	*	*	*	3	1							1

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# A pattern explained ...

Let  $i_X > \frac{n+3}{3}$ .

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# A pattern explained ...

Let  $i_X > \frac{n+3}{3}$ .

Mukai-Conjecture [Casagrande '05]

$$\rho_X(i_X - 1) \leq n$$

implies

$$\rho_X \leq 2$$

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[Kleinschmidt '88] implies

- ▶  $X \cong \mathbb{P}^n$  ( $i_X = n + 1$ ) or
- ▶  $X \cong \mathbb{P}^{\frac{n}{2}} \times \mathbb{P}^{\frac{n}{2}}$  ( $i_X = \frac{n+2}{2}$ ,  $n$  even) or
- ▶

$$X \cong \mathbb{P}_{\mathbb{P}^{n+1-2r}}(O(a_1) \oplus \cdots \oplus O(a_t) \oplus O^{r-t}),$$

for  $a_1 + \cdots + a_t = n + 2 - 2r > 0$ .

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# ... and there's more to this than meets the eye

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\blackbox{Cayley polytope associated to}

 $(n + 1 - 2r)$ -dimensional**generic Calabi-Yau complete intersection  $Y$** of  $r$  hypersurfaces of degrees

$$a_1 + 1, \dots, a_t + 1, 1, \dots, 1$$

in  $\mathbb{P}^{n+1-r}$ .

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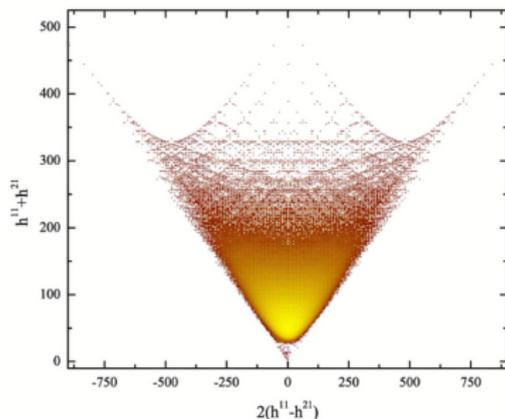
in  $\mathbb{P}^{n+1-r}$ .

*Isomorphism type of  $Y$  only depends on  $a_1, \dots, a_t$ , so only finitely many choices of such  $Y$  for fixed  $\dim(Y)$ .*

# THE TABLE of the 'Stringy Landscape'

## Hodge numbers of (so far found) Calabi-Yau 3-folds

[Ashmore, He '11, Jurke '13]



More than 90% found as Calabi-Yau complete intersections in Gorenstein toric Fano varieties [Batyrev-Borisov construction].

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# Publications (with more references)

- ▶ Nill, Kasprzyk: *Fano polytopes*, in: Strings, Gauge Fields, and the Geometry Behind - The Legacy of Maximilian Kreuzer, World Scientific, 2012
- ▶ Coates, Corti, Galkin, Golyshev, Kasprzyk: *Fano Search Blog*, <http://coates.ma.ic.ac.uk/fanosearch/>
- ▶ Grinis, Kasprzyk: *Normal forms of convex lattice polytopes*, arXiv:1301.6641
- ▶ Nill: *Volume and lattice points of reflexive simplices*, DCG 37, 301–320, 2007.
- ▶ Øbro: *Classification of smooth Fano polytopes*, thesis, 2007
- ▶ Assarf, Joswig, Paffenholz: *Smooth Fano Polytopes With Many Vertices*, arXiv:1209.3186
- ▶ Nill, Paffenholz: *On the equality case in Ehrhart's volume conjecture*, arXiv:1205.1270
- ▶ Nill, Lorenz: *On smooth Gorenstein polytopes*, arXiv:1303.2138