

# Euler characteristic reciprocity for chromatic and order polynomials.

(j.w. T. Hasebe)

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Reference: T. Hasebe, M. Yoshinaya, [arxiv:1601.00254](https://arxiv.org/abs/1601.00254)

# 1. Combinatorial Reciprocity

# 1. Combinatorial Reciprocity

An Example from high-school math.

$$p, n > 0, [n] = \{1, 2, 3, \dots, n\}.$$

$$O_p^<(n) := \#\{(x_1, \dots, x_p) \in [n]^p \mid x_1 < x_2 < \dots < x_p\}$$

$$O_p^{\leq}(n) := \#\{(x_1, \dots, x_p) \in [n]^p \mid x_1 \leq x_2 \leq \dots \leq x_p\}$$

The following formulae are well-known.

$$O_p^<(n) = \binom{n}{p} = \frac{n(n-1)\dots(n-p+1)}{p!} \in \mathbb{Q}[n]$$

$$O_p^{\leq}(n) = \binom{n+p-1}{p} = \frac{(n+p-1)\dots(n+1)n}{p!} \in \mathbb{Q}[n]$$

# 1. Combinatorial Reciprocity

$$\#\{(x_1, \dots, x_p) \in [n]^p \mid x_1 < x_2 < \dots < x_p\}$$

$$= \mathcal{O}_p^<(n)$$

$$= \frac{n(n-1)\cdots(n-p+1)}{p!}$$

$$\#\{(x_1, \dots, x_p) \in [n]^p \mid x_1 \leq x_2 \leq \dots \leq x_p\}$$

$$= \mathcal{O}_p^{\leq}(n)$$

$$= \frac{(n+p-1)\cdots(n+1)n}{p!}$$

↖ ↗  
Consider these as polynomials on  $n$ .  
These two polynomials  
are related by "reciprocity"

$$\mathcal{O}_p^<(n) = (-1)^p \cdot \mathcal{O}_p^{\leq}(-n).$$

# 1. Combinatorial Reciprocity

"Combinatorial reciprocity" (after R. Stanley) :

An enumerative problem



The counting function

$$F_1(n)$$

Another enumerative problem



The counting function

$$F_2(n)$$

$$F_1(n) = \pm F_2(-n)$$

Different enumerative problems are sometimes related by "combinatorial reciprocity".

# 1. Combinatorial Reciprocity

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The counting function

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$$F_1(n) = \pm F_2(-n)$$

Examples (Stanley)

①  $P$ : a finite poset.  $\# \text{Hom}^{\leftarrow}(P, [n]) \longleftrightarrow \# \text{Hom}^{\rightarrow}(P, [n])$ .

(A generalization of "high-school reciprocity". discussed in detail later.)

②  $G$ : a finite simple graph.

Regular  $n$ -coloring  $\longleftrightarrow$  Acyclic orientation with compatible  
(NOT discussed today) maps to  $[n]$ .

# 1. Combinatorial Reciprocity

## Example

③ Ehrhart reciprocity: Let  $P \subset \mathbb{R}^d$  be a lattice polytope.

$$L_P(n) := \#(\mathbb{Z}^d \cap n \cdot P)$$

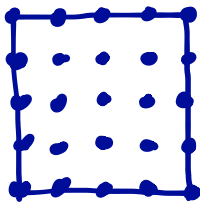
$$L_P^\circ(n) := \#(\mathbb{Z}^d \cap n \cdot P^\circ)$$

← The interior of  $P$

$$\Rightarrow L_P^\circ(n) = (-1)^d \cdot L_P(-n).$$

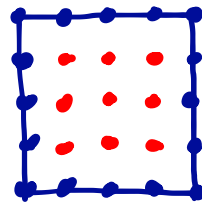
$$P = \square$$

The unit square  $\Rightarrow$



$$L_P(n) = (n+1)^2$$

$$(n \leftrightarrow -n)$$
  
$$\longleftrightarrow$$



$$L_P^\circ(n) = (n-1)^2$$



# 1. Combinatorial Reciprocity

Back to "high school" again.  $p > 0$ .

$$\#\{(x_1, \dots, x_p) \in [n]^p \mid x_1 < x_2 < \dots < x_p\}$$

$$= O_p^<(n)$$

$$= \frac{n(n-1)\cdots(n-p+1)}{p!}$$

$$\#\{(x_1, \dots, x_p) \in [n]^p \mid x_1 \leq x_2 \leq \dots \leq x_p\}$$

$$= O_p^{\leq}(n)$$

$$= \frac{(n+p-1)\cdots(n+1)n}{p!}$$

These polynomials count the # of maps of posets.

$$O_p^<(n) = \#\{f: [p] \rightarrow [n] \mid i < j \Rightarrow f(i) < f(j)\}$$

$$O_p^{\leq}(n) = \#\{f: [p] \rightarrow [n] \mid i < j \Rightarrow f(i) \leq f(j)\}$$

# 1. Combinatorial Reciprocity

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Abstraction (after Stanley) : Replace  $[p], [n]$  by posets.

Def. Let  $P, Q$  be **poset** (Partially Ordered Set).

Define the set of strictly/**weakly** increasing maps (poset hom) by

$$\text{Hom}^{\leq}(P, Q) := \left\{ f: P \rightarrow Q \mid \begin{array}{l} x_1, x_2 \in P, x_1 < x_2 \\ \Rightarrow f(x_1) \leq f(x_2) \end{array} \right\}$$

# 1. Combinatorial Reciprocity

Def. Let  $P, Q$  be poset (Partially Ordered Set).

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Let  $Q = [n] = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ . Then,

$$\text{Hom}^{\leq}(P, [n]) = \left\{ f: P \rightarrow [n] \mid x_1 < x_2 \Rightarrow f(x_1) \leq f(x_2) \right\}.$$

Thm. (Stanley) Let  $P$  be a finite poset.

(i)  $\exists \mathcal{O}_P^{\leq}(t), \mathcal{O}_P^{\geq}(t) \in \mathbb{Q}[t]$  s.t.  $\mathcal{O}_P^{\geq}(n) = \# \text{Hom}^{\leq}(P, [n])$ .

(ii) (Reciprocity)  $\mathcal{O}_P^{\leq}(t) = (-1)^{\#P} \cdot \mathcal{O}_P^{\geq}(-t)$ .

# 1. Combinatorial Reciprocity

$$\text{Hom}^{\leq}(\mathbb{P}, [n]) := \{f: \mathbb{P} \rightarrow [n] \mid x_1 < x_2 \Rightarrow f(x_1) \leq f(x_2)\}.$$

Thm. (Stanley) Let  $\mathbb{P}$  be a finite poset.

$$(i) \exists \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}}^<(t), \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}}^{\leq}(t) \in \mathbb{Q}[t] \text{ s.t. } \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}}^{\leq}(n) = \#\text{Hom}^{\leq}(\mathbb{P}, [n]).$$

$$(ii) \text{ (Reciprocity) } \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}}^<(t) = (-1)^{\#\mathbb{P}} \cdot \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}}^{\leq}(-t).$$

A Question. Can we generalize Stanley's result  $[n] \rightsquigarrow \mathcal{Q}$ ? a poset

Very informally, Stanley's reciprocity can be stated as

$$\#\text{Hom}^<(\mathbb{P}, [n]) = (-1)^{\#\mathbb{P}} \cdot \#\text{Hom}^{\leq}(\mathbb{P}, [-n])$$

Can we make rigorous " $\#\text{Hom}^<(\mathbb{P}, \mathcal{Q}) = (-1)^{\#\mathbb{P}} \cdot \#\text{Hom}^{\leq}(\mathbb{P}, -\mathcal{Q})$ "?

$\rightsquigarrow$  Yes!

## 2. Euler characteristics

## 2. Euler characteristics

Starting observation:

The Euler characteristics of semi-algebraic sets satisfy "reciprocity-like" formula.

Recall,  $X \subseteq \mathbb{R}^N$  is a semi-algebraic set iff it is a Boolean combination (union, intersection, complement) of finitely many sets of the form  $\{x \in \mathbb{R}^N \mid f(x) > 0\}$ , for  $f \in \mathbb{R}[x_1, \dots, x_N]$

## 2. Euler characteristics

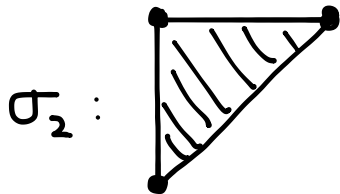
Recall,  $X \subseteq \mathbb{R}^N$  is a semi-algebraic set iff it is a Boolean combination (union, intersection, complement) of finitely many sets of the form

$$\{x \in \mathbb{R}^N \mid f(x) > 0\}, \text{ for } f \in \mathbb{R}[x_1, \dots, x_N]$$

Example Closed/Open simplex

$$\sigma_d := \{(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_d) \in \mathbb{R}^d \mid 0 \leq x_1 \leq x_2 \leq \dots \leq x_d \leq 1\}$$

$$\sigma_d^\circ := \{(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_d) \in \mathbb{R}^d \mid 0 < x_1 < x_2 < \dots < x_d < 1\}$$



## 2. Euler characteristics

$$\sigma_d := \{(\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_d) \in \mathbb{R}^d \mid 0 \leq \alpha_1 \leq \alpha_2 \leq \dots \leq \alpha_d \leq 1\}$$

$$\sigma_d^\circ := \{(\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_d) \in \mathbb{R}^d \mid 0 < \alpha_1 < \alpha_2 < \dots < \alpha_d < 1\}$$

Every semi-algebraic set  $X \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  has a stratification

$$X = \bigsqcup_{\lambda \in \Lambda} X_\lambda$$

s.t.

$$\#\Lambda < \infty, \quad X_\lambda \cong \sigma_{d_\lambda}^\circ \text{ for some } d_\lambda \geq 0.$$

( $\sigma_0 = \sigma_0^\circ = \{\text{pt}\}$  by convention)

Def-Thm  $e(X) := \sum_{\lambda \in \Lambda} (-1)^{d_\lambda} \in \mathbb{Z}$  is independent

of the stratification. (the Euler characteristic)



## 2. Euler characteristics

$$X = \bigsqcup_{\lambda \in \Lambda} X_\lambda, \quad X_\lambda \cong \sigma_{d_\lambda}^0 \text{ for some } d_\lambda \geq 0.$$

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Facts ①  $X \cong Y$  (homeomorphic)  $\Rightarrow e(X) = e(Y)$

$$\text{② } e(X \cup Y) = e(X) + e(Y)$$

$$\text{③ } e(X \times Y) = e(X) \cdot e(Y).$$

Remark  $e(X)$  is not a homotopy invariant

Example

$$e(\sigma_d^0) = (-1)^d, \quad \sigma(\sigma_d) = 1 \quad \left( e(\text{triangle}) = e(\sigma_2^0) + 3 \cdot e(\sigma_1^0) + 3 \cdot e(\sigma_0^0) = 1 \right)$$

## 2. Euler characteristics

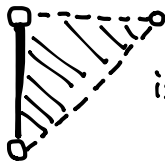
$$X = \bigsqcup_{\lambda \in \Lambda} X_\lambda, \quad X_\lambda \cong \sigma_{d_\lambda}^0 \text{ for some } d_\lambda \geq 0.$$

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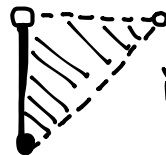
Remark If  $X$  is a locally compact semi-algebraic set,  $e(X)$  is the Euler characteristic of the Borel-Moore homology  $H_*^{\text{BM}}(X, \mathbb{Z})$ , which implies the well-definedness of  $e(X)$ .

It should be noted that even  $X$  is not loc. cpt,  $e(X)$  is well-defined.

Example



is locally compact,



is not locally compact.

## 2. Euler characteristics

Again back to ....

Example

$$e(\sigma_d^0) = (-1)^d, \quad \sigma(\sigma_d) = 1 \quad \left( \begin{array}{l} e(\text{triangle}) = e(\sigma_2^0) + 3 \cdot e(\sigma_1^0) \\ = 1 + 3 \cdot e(\sigma_0^0) \end{array} \right)$$

A weaker result may be

$$e(\sigma_d^0) = (-1)^d \cdot e(\sigma_d).$$

This is

— looking alike "reciprocity"

— related to the poset structure of the interval

$$(0, 1) = \{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid 0 < x < 1\}.$$

## 2. Euler characteristics

$$\#\{(x_1, \dots, x_p) \in [n]^p \mid x_1 < x_2 < \dots < x_p\}$$

$$= \mathcal{O}_p^<(n) = \frac{n(n-1)\cdots(n-p+1)}{p!}$$

$$\#\{(x_1, \dots, x_p) \in [n]^p \mid x_1 \leq x_2 \leq \dots \leq x_p\}$$

$$= \mathcal{O}_p^{\leq}(n) = \frac{(n+p-1)\cdots(n+1)n}{p!}$$

$$\mathcal{O}_p^<(n) = (-1)^p \cdot \mathcal{O}_p^{\leq}(-n)$$

open simplex

$$\sigma_d^{\circ} = \{(x_1, \dots, x_d) \in \mathbb{R}^d \mid 0 < x_1 < \dots < x_d < 1\}$$

$$e(\sigma_d^{\circ}) = (-1)^d$$

closed simplex

$$\sigma_d = \{(x_1, \dots, x_d) \in \mathbb{R}^d \mid 0 \leq x_1 \leq \dots \leq x_d \leq 1\}$$

$$e(\sigma_d) = 1$$

$$e(\sigma_d^{\circ}) = (-1)^d \cdot e(\sigma_d)$$

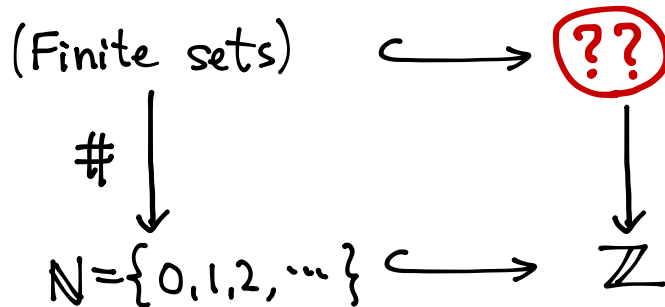
These examples should be unified...

## 2. Euler characteristics

Another story on the Euler characteristic:

The quest for "Negative sets".

Schanuel (1991)



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Another story on the Euler characteristic:

The quest for "Negative sets".

Schanuel (1991)

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{(Finite sets)} & \hookrightarrow & \text{(Semi-algebraic Sets)} \\ \# \downarrow & & \downarrow e : \text{the Euler char.} \\ \mathbb{N} = \{0, 1, 2, \dots\} & \hookrightarrow & \mathbb{Z} \end{array}$$

Other possibilities : Semi-linear (polyhedral) sets, 0-minimal...

### 3. Euler characteristic reciprocity

### 3. Euler characteristic reciprocity

Problems so far: We would like to ...

- generalize Stanley's reciprocity by making rigorous a formula of the form

$$\text{"} \# \text{Hom}^{\leftarrow}(P, Q) = (-1)^{\#P} \cdot \# \text{Hom}^{\rightarrow}(P, -Q) \text{"}$$

- include  $e(\sigma_d^{\circ}) = (-1)^d \cdot e(\sigma_d)$  as an example of reciprocity.

Schanuel's View suggests to consider semi-algebraic sets and Euler characteristic.



### 3. Euler characteristic reciprocity

Joint Work with Takahiro Hasebe (Hokkaido U.)

Definition  $(\mathbb{P}, \leq)$  is a semi-algebraic poset



- $(\mathbb{P}, \leq)$  is a poset, and
- $\mathbb{P}$  admits a structure of semi-algebraic set such that

$$\{(x, y) \in \mathbb{P} \times \mathbb{P} \mid x < y\}$$

is also a semi-algebraic set

(In other words, the order " $\leq$ " is semi-algebraically defined.)

### 3. Euler characteristic reciprocity

Definition  $(P, \leq)$  is a semi-algebraic poset

- $\Leftrightarrow$   
def
- $(P, \leq)$  is a poset, and
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#### Examples

(1) A finite poset  $P$  is a semi-algebraic poset. ( $e(P) = \#P$ )

(2) The open interval  $(0, 1)$  is a semi-alg. poset.

$$(e((0, 1)) = -1)$$

### 3. Euler characteristic reciprocity

Definition  $(P, \leq)$  is a semi-algebraic poset

- $\Leftrightarrow_{\text{def}}$
- $(P, \leq)$  is a poset, and
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Examples (1) A finite poset  $P$  is a semi-algebraic poset. ( $e(P) = \#P$ )

(2) The open interval  $(0, 1)$  is a semi-alg. poset. ( $e((0, 1)) = -1$ )

Prop. If  $P$  and  $Q$  are semi-alg. posets, then

$P \times Q$  with lexicographic ordering is also a semi-alg poset.

$$(p_1, q_1) \leq (p_2, q_2) \Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} \circ p_1 < p_2 \text{ or} \\ \circ p_1 = p_2 \text{ and } q_1 \leq q_2 \end{cases}$$

### 3. Euler characteristic reciprocity

Def. Let  $\mathcal{Q}$  be a semi-algebraic poset. Then define the negative of  $\mathcal{Q}$  by

$$-\mathcal{Q} := \mathcal{Q} \times (0, 1).$$

Remarks:

- " $-\mathcal{Q}$ " is a semi-alg poset with  $e(-\mathcal{Q}) = e(\mathcal{Q} \times (0, 1)) = -e(\mathcal{Q})$ .
- Even if  $\mathcal{Q}$  is a finite poset,  $-\mathcal{Q}$  is no longer finite.
- $(0, 1) \times \mathcal{Q} \neq \mathcal{Q} \times (0, 1)$  (different poset str.)  
↑ only this works for later purposes.
- $-(-\mathcal{Q}) \neq \mathcal{Q}$ .

### 3. Euler characteristic reciprocity

Prop. Let  $P$  be a **finite** poset, and  $Q$  be a **semi-alg** poset. Then  $\text{Hom}^{\leq}(P, Q)$  is a semi-algebraic set.

Proof for the case  $P = \begin{array}{c} 2 \quad 3 \\ \diagdown \quad / \\ 1 \end{array}$  (i.e.  $P = \{1, 2, 3\}$  with ordering  $1 < 2$  and  $1 < 3$ . 2 and 3 are not comparable.)

$$\text{Hom}^{\leq}(P, Q) = \{f: P \rightarrow Q \mid f(1) < f(2), f(1) < f(3)\} \subset Q^3$$

$\{f(1) < f(2)\} \subset Q^2$   $\xrightarrow{\pi_{12}}$   $\{f(1) < f(3)\} \subset Q^2$   $\xrightarrow{\pi_{13}}$   $\{f(1) < f(3)\}$  //

semi-alg. by def.  $\rightarrow$

### 3. Euler characteristic reciprocity

Thm. 1 (Hasebe, Y.)

Let  $P$  be a finite poset, and  $Q$  be a semi-alg. poset.

Then

$$e(\text{Hom}^<(P, \pm Q)) = (-1)^{\#P} \cdot e(\text{Hom}^{\leq}(P, \mp Q))$$

Thm. 2 (The role of  $\mathcal{O}_P^{\leq}(t) \in \mathbb{Q}[t]$ )

Let  $P$  be a finite poset, and  $Q$  be a totally-ordered semi-algebraic poset. Then

$$e(\text{Hom}^{\leq}(P, Q)) = \mathcal{O}_P^{\leq}(e(Q)).$$

### 3. Euler characteristic reciprocity

Thm. 1 Let  $P$  be a finite poset, and  $Q$  be a semi-*alg.* poset.

Then 
$$e(\text{Hom}^{\leftarrow}(P, \pm Q)) = (-1)^{\#P} \cdot e(\text{Hom}^{\rightarrow}(P, \mp Q))$$

Thm. 2 Let  $P$  be a finite poset, and  $Q$  be a *totally-ordered* semi-algebraic poset. Then 
$$e(\text{Hom}^{\rightarrow}(P, Q)) = \mathcal{O}_P^{\rightarrow}(e(Q)).$$

#### Remark

• Thm 1 + Thm 2  $\implies$  Stanley's reciprocity

• Thm 1  $\implies e(\sigma_d^{\leftarrow}) = (-1)^d$

$P = [d], Q = \{\text{pt}\}$

# 3. Euler characteristic reciprocity

Sketch of the proof of

$$e(\mathrm{Hom}^{\leq}(P, +Q)) = (-1)^{\#P} \cdot e(\mathrm{Hom}^{\leq}(P, -Q))$$

$Q \times (0,1)$   
" "

Do the "fiber integral" for

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \pi : \mathrm{Hom}^{\leq}(P, Q \times (0,1)) & \longrightarrow & \mathrm{Hom}^{\leq}(P, Q) = Y \\ \text{X} // & & \cup \\ & & \mathrm{Hom}^{\leq}(P, Q) = Y' \end{array}$$

$$e(X) = \int_X 1 = \int_Y \pi_* 1 = \int_{Y'} \pi_* 1 + \int_{Y \setminus Y'} \pi_* 1$$

"Euler characteristic  
integral of constructible  
functions"

"0 (need further)  
decomp."  
" "  $(-1)^{\#P} \cdot e(Y)$   
 $\pi|_{\pi^{-1}(Y)}$  is a fibration with fiber  $(0,1)$  //



### 3. Euler characteristic reciprocity

Other results:

- Euler char. reciprocity for chromatic poly. of a simple graph.  
(Hasebe, Y.)
- — for Ehrhart reciprocity, Not yet. But there is  
ad hoc Euler char. explanation.
- — for flow polynomials of a graph.  
(Ongoing. Hasebe, Miyatani. Y.)

Reference : T. Hasebe, M. Yoshinaga, Euler characteristic  
reciprocity for chromatic and order polynomials.  
(arXiv:1601.00254)