## Extended Nestohedra and their Face Numbers

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UMN REU

July 24, 2019

## Introduction

■ Nestohedra are a well-understood class of convex polytopes

- Generalized by Lam-Pylyavskyy '15 and Devadoss-Heath-Vipismakul '11 independently
- LP-algebras
- Moduli space of a Riemann surface


## What is known so far

|  | Non-extended | Extended ( $\square)$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| When flag | Y |  |
| Link decomposition | Y |  |
| Polytopality | Y |  |
| Gal's conjecture | Y |  |
| Combinatorial interpretation for $\gamma$-vector | chordal $\mathcal{B}$ |  |
| Shellings | $\mathcal{B}_{K_{n}}$ |  |
| Cluster/LP algebras | Y |  |
| How are they related? |  |  |

Goal: fill in the column!

## Building Sets

## Definition

A (connected) building set $\mathcal{B}$ on $[n]:=\{1, \ldots, n\}$ is a collection of subsets of $[n]$ such that
$1 \mathcal{B}$ contains all singletons $\{i\}$ and the whole set $[n]$
2 if $I, J \in \mathcal{B}$ with $I \cap J \neq \varnothing$, then $I \cup J \in \mathcal{B}$.

## Definition

For an undirected graph $G$, its corresponding graphical building set $\mathcal{B}_{G}$ is

$$
\mathcal{B}_{G}=\{I \subseteq V(G) \mid G[I] \text { is connected }\}
$$

## Examples of Building Sets

Complete graph $K_{n}$

- all subsets of $[n]$
- $\mathcal{B}_{K_{4}}=$
$\{1,2,3,4,12,13,14,23,24,34,123,234,124,134,1234\}$
Path graph $P_{n}$

- all interval subsets of [ $n$ ]

- $\mathcal{B}_{P_{3}}=\{1,2,3,12,23,123\}$

Star graph $K_{1, n}$

- All singletons and all subsets of $[n+1]$ that contain


■ $\mathcal{B}_{K_{1,3}}=\{1,2,3,4,14,24,34,124,134,234,1234\}$

## Nested Collections

## Definition

For a building set $\mathcal{B}$, a nested collection $N$ of $\mathcal{B}$ is a collection of elements $\left\{I_{1}, \ldots, I_{m}\right\}$ of $\mathcal{B} \backslash\{[n]\}$ such that

1 for any $i \neq j, I_{i}$ and $I_{j}$ are either nested or disjoint
2 for any $I_{i_{1}}, \ldots, l_{i_{k}}$ pairwise disjoint, their union is not an element of $\mathcal{B}$
Consider $\mathcal{B}=\mathcal{B}_{P_{4}}=\{1,2,3,4,12,23,34,123,234,1234\}$.

- $\{1,3,34\}$ is a nested collection
- $\{1,2,23\}$ is not a nested collection since $\{1\} \cup\{2\} \in \mathcal{B}$.


## Nested Complexes

## Definition

For a connected building set $\mathcal{B}$ on $[n]$, the nested set complex $\mathcal{N}(\mathcal{B})$ is the simplicial complex with

- vertices $\{I \mid I \in \mathcal{B} \backslash[n]\}$
- faces $\left\{I_{1}, \ldots, I_{m}\right\}$ that are nested collections of $\mathcal{B}$


## Definition

The nestohedron $\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{B})$ is the polytope dual to the nested set complex $\mathcal{N}(\mathcal{B})$.

In the literature, $\mathcal{P}\left(\mathcal{B}_{P_{n}}\right)$ is known as the associahedron, and $\mathcal{P}\left(\mathcal{B}_{K_{n}}\right)$ is known as the permutohedron.

## Extended Nested Collections

## Definition

For a building set $\mathcal{B}$ on [ $n$ ], an extended nested collection $N^{\square}$ of $\mathcal{B}$ is a collection of elements $\left\{I_{1}, \ldots, I_{m}, x_{i_{1}}, \ldots, x_{i_{r}}\right\}$ such that
$1 I_{k} \in \mathcal{B}$ for all $k$, and $\left\{I_{1}, \ldots, I_{m}\right\}$ form a nested collection of $\mathcal{B}$
$2 i_{j} \in[n]$ for all $j$, and $i_{j} \notin I_{k}$ for all $1 \leq k \leq m$
$\mathcal{B}=\mathcal{B}_{P_{4}}$

- $\left\{1,3,34, x_{2}\right\}$ is an extended nested collection
- $\left\{1,3,34, x_{4}\right\}$ is not an extended nested collection


## Extended Nested Complexes and Nestohedra

## Definition

For a building set $\mathcal{B}$ on [ $n$ ], the extended nested set complex $\mathcal{N}^{\square}(\mathcal{B})$ is the simplicial complex with

■ vertices $\{I \mid I \in \mathcal{B}\} \cup\left\{x_{i} \mid i \in[n]\right\}$

- faces $\left\{I_{1}, \ldots, I_{m}, x_{i_{1}}, \ldots, x_{i_{r}}\right\}$ that are extended nested collections of $\mathcal{B}$

$$
\mathcal{B}=\{1,2,3,12,23,123\}
$$



## Extended Nested Complexes and Nestohedra

## Definition

For a building set $\mathcal{B}$ on [ $n$ ], the extended nested set complex $\mathcal{N}^{\square}(\mathcal{B})$ is the simplicial complex with

- vertices $\{I \mid I \in \mathcal{B}\} \cup\left\{x_{i} \mid i \in[n]\right\}$
- faces $\left\{I_{1}, \ldots, I_{m}, x_{i_{1}}, \ldots, x_{i_{r}}\right\}$ that are extended nested collections of $\mathcal{B}$


## Definition

The extended nestohedron $\mathcal{P}^{\square}(\mathcal{B})$ is the polytope dual to the extended nested set complex

## What is known so far

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| :--- | :---: | :---: |
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| Link decomposition | Y |  |
| Polytopality | Y |  |
| Gal's conjecture | Y |  |
| Combinatorial interpretation for $\gamma$-vector | chordal $\mathcal{B}$ |  |
| Shellings | $\mathcal{B}_{K_{n}}$ |  |
| Cluster/LP algebras | Y |  |
| How are they related? | $\mathcal{N}^{\square}(\mathcal{B}) \simeq \mathcal{N}\left(\mathcal{B}^{\prime}\right)$ sometimes |  |

## When is $\mathcal{N} \square(\mathcal{B}) \simeq \mathcal{N}\left(\mathcal{B}^{\prime}\right)$ ?

Theorem (Manneville - Pilaud '17)
Let $G, G^{\prime}$ be undirected graphs such that $\mathcal{N}^{\square}\left(\mathcal{B}_{G}\right) \simeq \mathcal{N}\left(\mathcal{B}_{G^{\prime}}\right)$. Then $G$ is a spider and $G^{\prime}$ is the corresponding octopus.


## When is $\mathcal{N} \square(\mathcal{B}) \simeq \mathcal{N}\left(\mathcal{B}^{\prime}\right)$ ?

## Theorem (Manneville-Pilaud '17)

Let $G, G^{\prime}$ be undirected graphs such that $\mathcal{N}^{\square}\left(\mathcal{B}_{G}\right) \simeq \mathcal{N}\left(\mathcal{B}_{G^{\prime}}\right)$. Then $G$ is a spider and $G^{\prime}$ is the octopus.


## When is $\mathcal{N} \square(\mathcal{B}) \simeq \mathcal{N}\left(\mathcal{B}^{\prime}\right)$ ?

## Corollary (Manneville-Pilaud '17)

- $\mathcal{N} \square\left(\mathcal{B}_{K_{n}}\right) \simeq \mathcal{N}\left(\mathcal{B}_{K_{1, n}}\right)$ is the dual of the stellohedron.
$\square \mathcal{N}^{\square}\left(\mathcal{B}_{P_{n}}\right) \simeq \mathcal{N}\left(\mathcal{B}_{P_{n+1}}\right)$ is the dual of the $(n-2)$-associahedron.


## Remark (REU '19)

When $G=C_{4}$, we do not have $\mathcal{N}^{\square}\left(\mathcal{B}_{G}\right) \simeq \mathcal{N}\left(\mathcal{B}^{\prime}\right)$ for any other building set $\mathcal{B}^{\prime}$.

## Theorem (REU '19)

If $\mathcal{B}$ is a building set on $[n]$ such that all elements $l \in \mathcal{B}$ are intervals, then there exists $\mathcal{B}^{\prime}$ such that $\mathcal{N}^{\square}(\mathcal{B}) \simeq \mathcal{N}\left(\mathcal{B}^{\prime}\right)$.

## What is known so far

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## When is $\mathcal{N}^{\square}(\mathcal{B})$ flag?

## Definition

A simplicial complex $\Delta$ is flag if $\Delta$ has no minimal non-faces of degree greater than 2. In other words, $\Delta$ is determined by its 1 -skeleton.

## Proposition (REU '19)

$\mathcal{N}(\mathcal{B})$ is flag if and only if $\mathcal{N}^{\square}(\mathcal{B})$ is flag.
For a graphical building set $\mathcal{B}=\mathcal{B}_{G}$, it was shown in (PRW '08) that $\mathcal{N}(\mathcal{B})$ is a flag simplicial complex.

## Corollary (REU '19)

If $G$ is an undirected graph, then $\mathcal{N}^{\square}\left(\mathcal{B}_{G}\right)$ is flag.

## What is known so far

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| :--- | :---: | :---: |
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## Link Decompositions of $\mathcal{N}(\mathcal{B})$ and $\mathcal{N}^{\square}(\mathcal{B})$

## Theorem (Zelevinsky '06)

Let $\mathcal{B}$ be a building set on $S$. Then the link of $C \in \mathcal{B}$ in $\mathcal{N}(\mathcal{B})$

$$
\mathcal{N}(\mathcal{B})_{C} \simeq \mathcal{N}\left(\left.\mathcal{B}\right|_{C}\right) * \mathcal{N}(\mathcal{B} / C)
$$

## Theorem (REU '19)

For the extended nested complex $\mathcal{N}^{\square}(\mathcal{B})$, we have:

$$
\mathcal{N}^{\square}(\mathcal{B})_{x_{i}} \simeq \mathcal{N}^{\square}\left(\mathcal{B}_{1}\right) * \cdots * \mathcal{N}^{\square}\left(\mathcal{B}_{k}\right)
$$

where $\mathcal{B}_{1}, \ldots, \mathcal{B}_{k}$ are the connected components of $\left.\mathcal{B}\right|_{[n] \backslash\{i\}}$, and

$$
\mathcal{N}^{\square}(\mathcal{B})_{C} \simeq \mathcal{N}\left(\left.\mathcal{B}\right|_{C}\right) * \mathcal{N}^{\square}(\mathcal{B} / C)
$$

for $C \in \mathcal{B}$.

## What is known so far

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## Polytopality

## Theorem (REU '19)

For any building set $B, \mathcal{N}^{\square}(\mathcal{B})$ can be realized as the boundary of a polytope $\mathcal{N}_{\mathcal{B}}$.

## Polytopality

- Consider $\mathbb{R}^{n}$ with standard basis vectors $e_{1}, \ldots, e_{n}$. Start with cross polytope in $\mathbb{R}^{n}$ with vertices $e_{i}$ labeled $\{i\} \in \mathcal{B}$ and vertices $-e_{i}$ labeled $x_{i}$ for all $i \in[n]$.


$$
\mathcal{B}=\{1,2,3,12,123\}
$$

## Polytopality

- Consider $\mathbb{R}^{n}$ with standard basis vectors $e_{1}, \ldots, e_{n}$. Start with cross polytope in $\mathbb{R}^{n}$ with vertices $e_{i}$ labeled $\{i\} \in \mathcal{B}$ and vertices $-e_{i}$ labeled $x_{i}$ for all $i \in[n]$.
■ Order the non-singletons of $\mathcal{B}$ by decreasing cardinality, then for each $I \in \mathcal{B}$ a non-singleton, perform stellar subdivision on the face $\mathcal{I}=\{\{i\} \mid i \in I\}$, with the new added vertex labeled $I$.


$$
\mathcal{B}=\{1,2,3,12,123\}
$$

## Polytopality

■ Consider $\mathbb{R}^{n}$ with standard basis vectors $e_{1}, \ldots, e_{n}$. Start with cross polytope in $\mathbb{R}^{n}$ with vertices $e_{i}$ labeled $\{i\} \in \mathcal{B}$ and vertices $-e_{i}$ labeled $x_{i}$ for all $i \in[n]$.

- Order the non-singletons of $\mathcal{B}$ by decreasing cardinality, then for each $I \in \mathcal{B}$ a non-singleton, perform stellar subdivision on the face $\mathcal{I}=\{\{i\} \mid i \in I\}$, with the new added vertex labeled $/$.
- The boundary of the resulting polytope $\mathcal{N}_{\mathcal{B}}$ will be isomorphic to $\mathcal{N}^{\square}(\mathcal{B})$.


$$
\mathcal{B}=\{1,2,3,12,123\}
$$

## Polytopality

We also obtain a polytopal realization of $\mathcal{P}^{\square}(\mathcal{B})$ as a Minkowski sum.

## Theorem (REU '19)

Let $B$ a building set on $[n]$, and consider $\mathbb{R}^{n}$ with standard basis vectors $e_{1}, \ldots, e_{n}$. Then $\mathcal{P}^{\square}(\mathcal{B})$ is isomorphic to the boundary of the polytope:

$$
\mathcal{P}:=\sum_{i \in[n]} \operatorname{Conv}\left(0, e_{i}\right)+\sum_{I \in B} \operatorname{Conv}\left(\left\{e_{S} \mid S \subsetneq I\right\}\right),
$$

where the coordinates of $e_{S}$ are given by the indicator function on $S$ i.e. $\left(e_{S}\right)_{i}=1$ if and only if $i \in S$.

Intuitively, the first sum is the $n$-dimensional cube $\mathcal{C}^{n}$, while each term of the next sum corresponds to shaving a face $I \in \mathcal{B}$ from the cube.

## What is known so far

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| Combinatorial interpretation for $\gamma$-vector | chordal $\mathcal{B}$ |  |
| Shellings | $\mathcal{B}_{K_{n}}$ |  |
| Cluster/LP algebras | Y |  |
| How are they related? | $\mathcal{N}^{\square}(\mathcal{B}) \simeq \mathcal{N}\left(\mathcal{B}^{\prime}\right)$ sometimes, through $f$ - and $h$-vectors |  |

## $f, h, \gamma$-vectors for $\mathcal{P}^{\square}(\mathcal{B})$

## Definition

For a polytope $\mathcal{P}$, let $f_{k}$ be the number of $k$-dimensional faces of $\mathcal{P}$. The $f$-vector of $\mathcal{P}$ is defined to be $f=\left(f_{-1}, \ldots, f_{d-1}\right)$.

## Definition

The $h$-vector $h=\left(h_{0}, \ldots, h_{d}\right)$ of $\mathcal{P}$ is defined by

$$
\sum_{i=0}^{d} h_{i} t^{i}=\sum_{i=0}^{d} f_{i-1}(t-1)^{i-1}
$$

If $\mathcal{P}$ is a simple polytope, then we have $h_{i}=h_{d-i}$ for all $i=0, \ldots,\left\lfloor\frac{d}{2}\right\rfloor$.

## $f, h, \gamma$-vectors for $\mathcal{P}^{\square}(\mathcal{B})$

## Proposition (REU '19)

$$
f_{\mathcal{P} \square(\mathcal{B})}(t)=\sum_{S \subseteq[n]}(t+1)^{n-|S|} f_{\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{B} \mid S)}(t)
$$

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## Gal's Conjecture for Flag $\mathcal{P}^{\square}(\mathcal{B})$

## Definition

The $\gamma$-vector for a simple polytope $\mathcal{P}$ is given by

$$
\sum_{i=0}^{\left\lfloor\frac{d}{2}\right\rfloor} \gamma_{i} t^{i}(t+1)^{d-2 i}=\sum_{j=0}^{d} h_{j} t^{j} .
$$

## Gal's Conjecture (2005)

The $\gamma$-vector of any flag simple polytope is nonnegative.

■ Shown true for $\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{B})$ by Volodin '10

## Gal's Conjecture for Flag $\mathcal{P}^{\square}(\mathcal{B})$

## Theorem (REU '19)

Gal's conjecture is true for flag extended nestohedra $\mathcal{P}^{\square}(\mathcal{B})$.

- Start with flag building set $\mathcal{B}$
- There exists minimal flag building set $\mathcal{B}_{\text {min }} \subseteq \mathcal{B}$, and $\mathcal{P}^{\square}\left(\mathcal{B}_{\text {min }}\right)$ has nonnegative $\gamma$-vector
- Add back in elements $\mathcal{B} \backslash \mathcal{B}_{\text {min }}$
- Corresponds to shaving a codimension 2 face

■ Use link decomposition to show that $\gamma$-vector remains nonnegative

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| How are they related? | $\left.\begin{array}{l}\mathcal{N} \square \\ \hline\end{array} \mathrm{B}\right) \simeq \mathcal{N}\left(\mathcal{B}^{\prime}\right)$ sometimes, |  |
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## Gal's Conjecture for Flag $\mathcal{P}^{\square}(\mathcal{B})$

■ Chordal: nice class of building sets, includes $\mathcal{B}_{K_{n}}, \mathcal{B}_{P_{n}}, \mathcal{P}_{K_{1, n}}$

- $\widehat{\mathfrak{S}}_{n}(\mathcal{B})=\{\mathcal{B}$-permutations with no double or final descents $\}$


## Theorem (Postnikov-Reiner-Williams '08)

For chordal $\mathcal{B}$ on $[n], \quad \gamma_{\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{B})}(t)=\sum_{w \in \widehat{\mathfrak{S}}_{n}(\mathcal{B})} t^{\operatorname{des}(w)}$.
■ $\widehat{\mathfrak{S}}_{n+1}=\{$ extended $\mathcal{B}$-permutations with no double or final descents $\}$

## Theorem (REU '19)

For chordal $\mathcal{B}$ on $[n], \quad \gamma_{\mathcal{P} \square(\mathcal{B})}(t)=\sum_{w \in \widehat{\mathfrak{S}}_{n+1}^{\square}(\mathcal{B})} t^{\operatorname{des}(w)}$.

## What is known so far

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## Weak Bruhat Order

■ $w=\left(\begin{array}{llll}a_{1} & a_{2} & \cdots & a_{n}\end{array}\right) \in \mathfrak{S}_{n}$

- Transpositions $s_{i}=\left(\begin{array}{ll}i & i+1\end{array}\right)$

■ $\ell(w):=\left|\left\{1 \leq i<j \leq n \mid a_{i}>a_{j}\right\}\right|$, i.e. the minimum number of transpositions

## Definition

The weak Bruhat order on $\mathfrak{S}_{n}$ is defined by the following:

$$
\pi \lessdot \sigma \text { if and only if } \ell(\sigma)=\ell(\pi)+1 \text { and } \sigma=\pi \cdot s_{i}
$$

## Weak Bruhat Order



## Partial Permutations

## Definition

Define the set of partial permutations on [n], denoted $\mathfrak{P}_{n}$, to be set of permutations $w \in \mathfrak{S}_{s}$ for some $S \subseteq[n]$.

$$
\mathfrak{P}_{2}: \underbrace{\left(\begin{array}{ll}
1 & 2
\end{array}\right),\left(\begin{array}{ll}
2 & 1
\end{array}\right)}_{S=\{1,2\}}, \underbrace{(1)}_{S=\{1\}}, \underbrace{(2)}_{S=\{2\}}, \underbrace{()}_{S=\varnothing}
$$

## Remark

- $\mathfrak{S}_{n}$ is in bijection with facets of $\mathcal{N}\left(\mathcal{B}_{K_{n}}\right)$
- $\mathfrak{P}_{n}$ is in bijection with the facets of $\mathcal{N}^{\square}\left(\mathcal{B}_{K_{n}}\right)$


## Partial Order on $\mathfrak{P}_{n}$

## Definition (REU '19)

Define map $\varphi: \mathfrak{P}_{n} \rightarrow \mathfrak{S}_{n+1}$ as follows.

- Consider partial permutation $w \in \mathfrak{S}_{S}, S \subseteq[n]$
- Append numbers in $[n+1] \backslash S$ to end of $w$ in descending order
- Resulting permutation $\varphi(w) \in \mathfrak{S}_{n+1}$

$$
w=\left(\begin{array}{lll}
2 & 4 & 1
\end{array}\right) \in \mathfrak{P}_{5} \Longrightarrow \varphi(w)=\left(\begin{array}{llllll}
2 & 4 & 1 & 6 & 5 & 3
\end{array}\right)
$$

## Definition (REU '19)

The partial order on $\mathfrak{P}_{n}$ defined by the following:
$\pi<\sigma$ if and only if $\varphi(\pi)<\varphi(\sigma)$ in the weak Bruhat order on $\mathfrak{S}_{n+1}$

## Partial Order on $\mathfrak{P}_{n}$



## Partial Order on $\mathfrak{P}_{n}$

## Definition

A congruence on a lattice $L$ is an equivalence relation $\Theta$ on elements of $L$ which respects joins and meets, i.e. if $a_{1} \equiv a_{2}$ and $b_{1} \equiv b_{2}$, then

$$
a_{1} \wedge b_{1} \equiv a_{2} \wedge b_{2}, \quad a_{1} \vee b_{1} \equiv a_{2} \vee b_{2}
$$

A lattice quotient $L / \Theta$ is a partial order on the equivalence classes under $\Theta$ :

$$
[a]_{\Theta} \leq[b]_{\Theta} \Leftrightarrow x \leq_{L} y \text { for some } x \in[a], y \in[b] .
$$

## Proposition (REU '19)

The defined partial order on $\mathfrak{P}_{n}$ is a lattice quotient of the weak Bruhat order on $\mathfrak{S}_{n+1}$.

## Partial Order on $\mathfrak{P}_{n}$

## Corollary (McConville '16, Reading '02)

- Every interval of $\mathfrak{P}_{n}$ is contractible or homotopy equivalent to a sphere

■ If $x=\vee^{\mathfrak{P}_{n}} Y$ for some $Y \subseteq \mathfrak{P}_{n}$, then $x=\vee^{\mathfrak{S}_{n+1}} Y$
■ Möbius function $\mu(u, v)$ only takes on values $0, \pm 1$

## Shellings of $\mathcal{N}\left(\mathcal{B}_{K_{n}}\right), \mathcal{N} \square\left(\mathcal{B}_{K_{n}}\right)$

■ Shellings: nice way to build up a simplicial complex facet by facet

## Theorem (Björner '84)

Label facets of $\mathcal{N}\left(\mathcal{B}_{K_{n}}\right)$ by permutations $w \in \mathfrak{S}_{n}$. If $\pi_{1}<\cdots<\pi_{k}$ is a linear extension of the weak Bruhat order on $\mathfrak{S}_{n}$, then $F_{\pi_{1}}, \ldots, F_{\pi_{k}}$ gives a shelling of $\mathcal{N}\left(\mathcal{B}_{K_{n}}\right)$.

## Theorem (REU '19)

Label facets of $\mathcal{N} \square\left(\mathcal{B}_{K_{n}}\right)$ by partial permutations $w \in \mathfrak{P}_{n}$. If $\pi_{1}<\cdots<\pi_{k}$ is a linear extension of the partial order on $\mathfrak{P}_{n}$, then $F_{\pi_{1}}, \ldots, F_{\pi_{k}}$ gives a shelling of $\mathcal{N} \square\left(\mathcal{B}_{K_{n}}\right)$.

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| Shellings | $\mathcal{B}_{K_{n}}$ | $\mathcal{B}_{K_{n}}$ |
| Cluster/LP algebras | Y | $?$ |
| How are they related? | $\mathcal{N} \square$ <br>  <br> through $f$ - and h-vectors, ...? |  |

## Future Work

- Is there a combinatorial interpretation for the $\gamma$-vector of $\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{B}), \mathcal{P}^{\square}(\mathcal{B})$ of arbitrary flag building sets?
- When does a total ordering on (extended) $\mathcal{B}$-permutations give a shelling of the (extended) nested complexes?
■ Can $\mathcal{N}^{\square}(\mathcal{B})$ provide a combinatorial interpretation of the exchange polynomials of LP-algebras? (Lam-Pylyavskyy)


## Conjecture

Let $G$ be a forest and $L(G)$ be the line graph of $G$. Then

$$
f_{\mathcal{P}\left(\mathcal{B}_{G}\right)}(t)=f_{\mathcal{P}_{\square}\left(\mathcal{B}_{L(G)}\right)}(t) .
$$



## Acknowledgements and References

- Thank you to Vic Reiner and Sarah Brauner for all of their support and guidance!
- See our REU report for a complete set of references


## Questions?



