

# Properties of the coordinate ring of a convex polyomino

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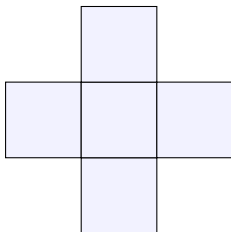
# Outline

- 1 Preliminaries
- 2 Gorenstein convex polyominoes
- 3 The regularity of  $\mathbb{K}[\mathcal{P}]$
- 4 The multiplicity of  $\mathbb{K}[\mathcal{P}]$

# Preliminaries

 A. Qureshi, *Ideals generated by 2-minors, collections of cells and stack polyominoes*, *J. Algebra* **357** (2012), 279–303.

The coordinate ring of a convex polyomino was introduced by Qureshi.



$x_{14}$	$x_{24}$	$x_{34}$	$x_{44}$
•	•	•	•
$x_{13}$	$x_{23}$	$x_{33}$	$x_{43}$
•	•	•	•
•	•	•	•
$x_{12}$	$x_{22}$	$x_{32}$	$x_{42}$
•	•	•	•
$x_{11}$	$x_{21}$	$x_{31}$	$x_{41}$
•	•	•	•

# Preliminaries

In order to define polyominoes and polyomino ideals, we give some terminology.

On  $\mathbb{N}^2$ , we consider the natural partial order defined as follows:

$$(i, j) \leq (k, l) \text{ if and only if } i \leq k \text{ and } j \leq l.$$

Let  $a = (i, j)$ ,  $b = (k, l) \in \mathbb{N}^2$  and  $a \leq b$ .

The set

$$[a, b] = \{c \in \mathbb{N}^2 \mid a \leq c \leq b\}$$

represents an interval in  $\mathbb{N}^2$ .

# Preliminaries

The interval

$$C = [a, a + (1, 1)]$$

is called a **cell** in  $\mathbb{N}^2$  with lower left corner  $a$ .

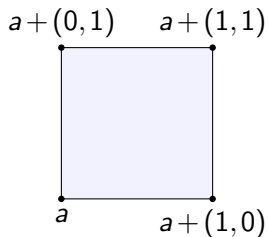


Figure: A cell in  $\mathbb{N}^2$

# Preliminaries

Let  $\mathcal{P}$  be a finite collection of cells in  $\mathbb{N}^2$ .

Two cells  $A$  and  $B$  of  $\mathcal{P}$  are connected by a path in  $\mathcal{P}$ , if there is a sequence of cells of  $\mathcal{P}$  given by  $A = A_1, A_2, \dots, A_{n-1}, A_n = B$  such that  $A_i \cap A_{i+1}$  is an edge of  $A_i$  and  $A_{i+1}$  for  $i \in \{1, \dots, n-1\}$ .

## Definition

A collection of cells  $\mathcal{P}$  is called a **polyomino** if any two cells of  $\mathcal{P}$  are connected by a path in  $\mathcal{P}$ .

## Preliminaries

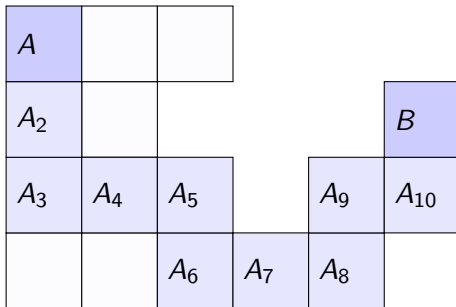
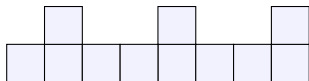
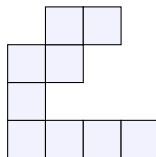


Figure: A polyomino

# Preliminaries



A column convex polyomino



A row convex polyomino

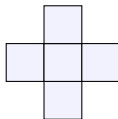
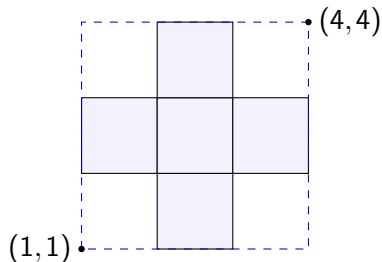


Figure: A convex polyomino



# Preliminaries

Let  $\mathcal{P}$  be a convex polyomino. After a possible translation, we consider  $[(1,1), (m,n)]$  to be the smallest interval which contains the vertices of  $\mathcal{P}$ .



We say that  $\mathcal{P}$  is a convex polyomino on  $[m] \times [n]$ , where  $[m] = \{1, \dots, m\}$  and  $[n] = \{1, \dots, n\}$ .

# Preliminaries

Let  $\mathcal{P}$  be a convex polyomino on  $[m] \times [n]$ . Fix a field  $\mathbb{K}$  and a polynomial ring

$$S = \mathbb{K}[x_{ij} \mid (i,j) \in V(\mathcal{P})],$$

where  $V(\mathcal{P})$  is the set of the vertices of  $\mathcal{P}$ .

The polyomino ideal  $I_{\mathcal{P}} \subset S$  is generated by all binomials

$$x_{il}x_{kj} - x_{ij}x_{kl}$$

for which  $[(i,j), (k,l)]$  is an interval in  $\mathcal{P}$ .

The  $\mathbb{K}$ -algebra  $S/I_{\mathcal{P}}$  is denoted  $\mathbb{K}[\mathcal{P}]$  and is called the **coordinate ring of  $\mathcal{P}$** .

## Preliminaries

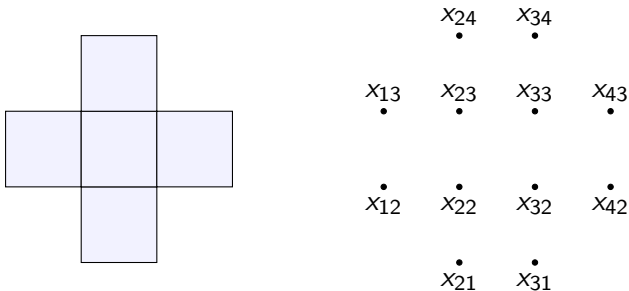


Figure: For the "cross",  $I_{\mathcal{P}}$  has 11 generators.

# Preliminaries

The ring

$$R = \mathbb{K}[x_i y_j \mid (i, j) \in V(\mathcal{P})] \subset \mathbb{K}[x_1, \dots, x_m, y_1, \dots, y_n]$$

can be viewed as an edge ring of a bipartite graph  $G_{\mathcal{P}}$  with vertex set

$$V(G_{\mathcal{P}}) = X \cup Y, \text{ where } X = \{x_1, \dots, x_m\} \text{ and } Y = \{y_1, \dots, y_n\}$$

and edge set

$$E(G_{\mathcal{P}}) = \{\{x_i, y_j\} \mid (i, j) \in V(\mathcal{P})\}.$$

# Preliminaries



A. Qureshi, *Ideals generated by 2-minors, collections of cells and stack polyominoes*, J. Algebra **357** (2012), 279–303.

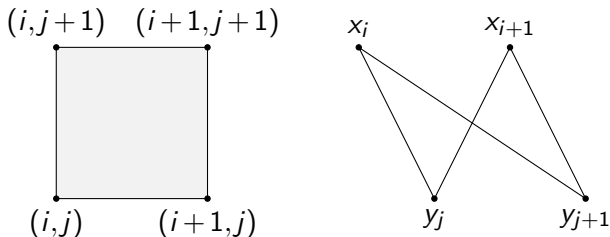



Figure: The bipartite graph attached to a cell in  $\mathbb{N}^2$

$\mathbb{K}[\mathcal{P}]$  can be identified with  $\mathbb{K}[G_{\mathcal{P}}]$ .

# Gorenstein convex polyominoes


 A. Qureshi, *Ideals generated by 2-minors, collections of cells and stack polyominoes*, J. Algebra **357** (2012), 279–303.

Let  $\mathcal{P}$  be a convex polyomino on  $[m] \times [n]$ .

Theorem (A. Qureshi, Theorem 2.2)

$\mathbb{K}[\mathcal{P}]$  is a Cohen-Macaulay domain with  $\dim \mathbb{K}[\mathcal{P}] = m + n - 1$ .

## Gorenstein convex polyominoes

 H. Ohsugi, T. Hibi, *Special simplices and Gorenstein toric rings*, J. Combinatorial Theory **113** (2006), 718–725.

Let  $X = \{x_1, \dots, x_m\}$  and  $Y = \{y_1, \dots, y_n\}$ .

Theorem (H. Ohsugi, T. Hibi, Theorem 2.1)

*We consider  $G$  to be a bipartite graph on  $X \cup Y$  and suppose that  $G$  is 2-connected. Then  $\mathbb{K}[G]$  is Gorenstein if and only if  $x_1 \cdots x_m y_1 \cdots y_n \in \mathbb{K}[G]$  and one has  $|N(T)| = |T| + 1$  for every subset  $T \subset X$  such that  $G_{T \cup N(T)}$  is connected and that  $G_{(X \cup Y) \setminus (T \cup N(T))}$  is a connected graph with at least one edge.*

# Gorenstein convex polyominoes

## Definition

Let  $G$  be a graph on  $V$ . Then we say that  $G$  is 2-connected if  $G$  together with  $G_{V \setminus \{v\}}$  for all  $v \in V$  are connected.

## Proposition

If  $\mathcal{P}$  is a convex polyomino on  $[m] \times [n]$ , then *the bipartite graph  $G_{\mathcal{P}}$  is 2-connected.*



## Gorenstein convex polyominoes

Let  $G$  be a graph and  $T \subset V(G)$ . The set

$$N(T) = \{y \in V(G) \mid \{x, y\} \in E(G) \text{ for some } x \in T\}$$

represents the set of the neighbors of the subset  $T \subset V(G)$ .

Let  $\mathcal{P}$  be a convex polyomino on  $[m] \times [n]$ .

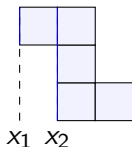
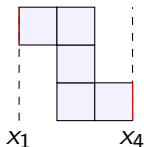
We set  $X = \{x_1, \dots, x_m\}$  and  $Y = \{y_1, \dots, y_n\}$  and, if needed, we identify the point  $(x_i, y_j)$  in the plane with the vertex  $(i, j) \in V(\mathcal{P})$ .

## Gorenstein convex polyominoes

## Definition

Let  $T \subset X$ . The set

$N_Y(T) = \{y \in Y \mid (x, y) \in V(\mathcal{P}) \text{ for some } x \in T\}$  is called a **neighbor vertical interval** if  $N_Y(T) = \{y_a, y_{a+1}, \dots, y_b\}$  with  $a < b$  and for every  $i \in \{a, a+1, \dots, b-1\}$  there exists  $x \in T$  such that  $[(x, y_i), (x, y_{i+1})]$  is an edge in  $\mathcal{P}$ .

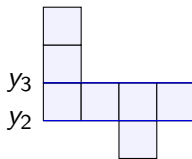
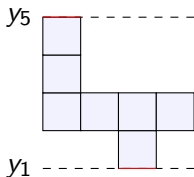


# Gorenstein convex polyominoes

## Definition

Let  $U \subset Y$ . The set

$N_X(U) = \{x \in X \mid (x, y) \in V(\mathcal{P}) \text{ for some } y \in U\}$  is called a **neighbor horizontal interval** if  $N_X(U) = \{x_a, x_{a+1}, \dots, x_b\}$  with  $a < b$  and for every  $i \in \{a, a+1, \dots, b-1\}$  there exists  $y \in U$  such that  $[(x_i, y), (x_{i+1}, y)]$  is an edge in  $\mathcal{P}$ .



# Gorenstein convex polyominoes

## Proposition

Let  $\mathcal{P}$  be a convex polyomino on  $[m] \times [n]$  and  $G_{\mathcal{P}}$  its associated bipartite graph. Then we have

$$x_1 \cdots x_m y_1 \cdots y_n \in \mathbb{K}[G_{\mathcal{P}}]$$

if and only if

$$|N_Y(T)| \geq |T| \text{ for every } T \subset X \text{ and}$$

$$|N_X(U)| \geq |U| \text{ for every } U \subset Y.$$

# Gorenstein convex polyominoes

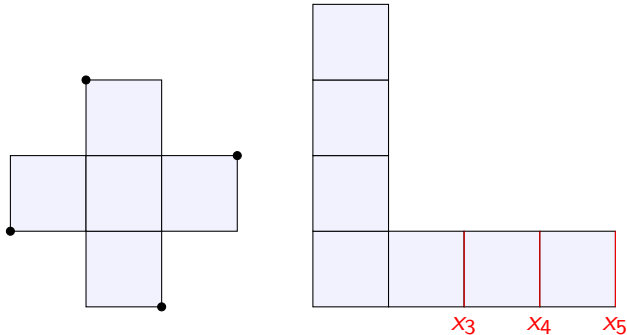


Figure: Perfect matching for  $G_{\mathcal{P}}$

# Gorenstein convex polyominoes

## Proposition

Let  $\mathcal{P}$  be a convex polyomino on  $[m] \times [n]$  and  $G := G_{\mathcal{P}}$  its associated bipartite graph. For each  $\emptyset \neq T \subsetneq X$ ,

$N_Y(T)$  is a neighbor vertical interval if and only if  
 $G_{T \cup N(T)}$  is a connected graph

and

$N_X(Y \setminus N_Y(T)) = X \setminus T$  is a neighbor horizontal interval if and  
only if  
 $G_{(X \cup Y) \setminus (T \cup N_Y(T))}$  is a connected graph with at least one edge.

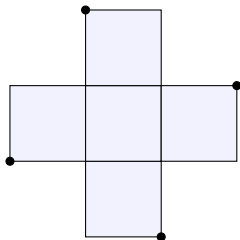
# Gorenstein convex polyominoes

## Theorem

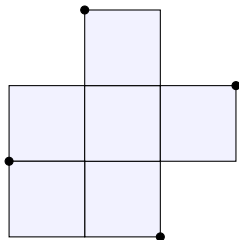
Let  $\mathcal{P}$  be a convex polyomino on  $[m] \times [n]$ . Then  $\mathbb{K}[\mathcal{P}]$  is *Gorenstein* if and only if the following conditions are fulfilled:

- ①  $|U| \leq |N_X(U)|$ ,  $\forall U \subset Y$  and  $|T| \leq |N_Y(T)| \forall T \subset X$ ;
- ② For every  $\emptyset \neq T \subsetneq X$  with properties
  - ①  $N_Y(T)$  is a neighbor vertical interval and
  - ②  $N_X(Y \setminus N_Y(T)) = X \setminus T$  is a neighbor horizontal interval,
 one has  $|N_Y(T)| = |T| + 1$ .

# Gorenstein convex polyominoes



$\mathbb{K}[\mathcal{P}]$  is not Gorenstein



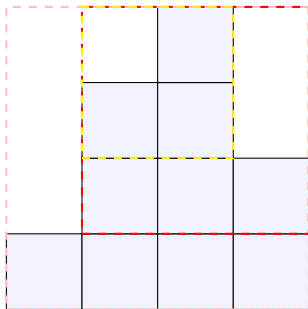
$\mathbb{K}[\mathcal{P}]$  is Gorenstein



# Gorenstein convex polyominoes

Let  $\mathcal{P}$  be a convex polyomino on  $[m] \times [n]$ .

Then  $\mathcal{P}$  is called a **stack polyomino** if all cells of the first line of  $[(1,1), (m,n)]$  are in  $\mathcal{P}$ .



Gorenstein stack polyomino

## The regularity of $\mathbb{K}[\mathcal{P}]$

Let  $\mathcal{P}$  be a stack polyomino on  $[m] \times [n]$ . We consider  $H_{\mathbb{K}[\mathcal{P}]}(t)$  to be the Hilbert series of  $\mathbb{K}[\mathcal{P}]$ . Then

$$H_{\mathbb{K}[\mathcal{P}]}(t) = \frac{Q(t)}{(1-t)^d}$$

where  $Q(t) \in \mathbb{Z}[t]$  and  $d$  is the Krull dimension of  $\mathbb{K}[\mathcal{P}]$ . It is known that

$$\text{reg}(\mathbb{K}[\mathcal{P}]) = \deg(Q(t)) = \dim(\mathbb{K}[\mathcal{P}]) + a(\mathbb{K}[\mathcal{P}]),$$

since  $\mathbb{K}[\mathcal{P}]$  is a Cohen-Macaulay ring. The  $a$ -invariant  $a(\mathbb{K}[\mathcal{P}])$  of  $\mathbb{K}[\mathcal{P}]$  is defined to be the degree of the Hilbert series of  $\mathbb{K}[\mathcal{P}]$ , which by definition is equal to  $\deg(Q(t)) - d$ .

# The regularity of $\mathbb{K}[\mathcal{P}]$

Let  $G_{\mathcal{P}}$  be the bipartite graph attached to  $\mathcal{P}$ . In this section, we consider  $G_{\mathcal{P}}$  as a digraph with all its arrows leaving the vertex set  $Y$ .

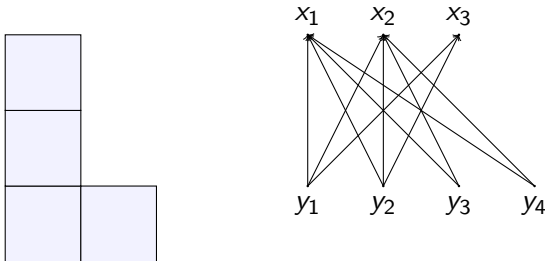


Figure: A stack polyomino and its associated digraph

# The regularity of $\mathbb{K}[\mathcal{P}]$

## Definition

If  $T \subset X \cup Y$ , then

$\delta^+(T) = \{e = (z, w) \in E(G_{\mathcal{P}}) \mid z \in T \text{ and } w \notin T\}$  is the set of edges leaving the vertex set  $T$  and

$\delta^-(T) = \{e = (z, w) \in E(G_{\mathcal{P}}) \mid z \notin T \text{ and } w \in T\}$  is the set of edges entering the vertex set  $T$ .

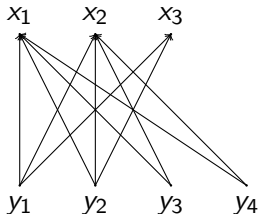
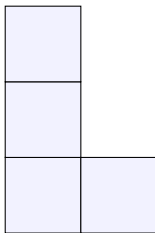
The set  $\delta^+(T)$  is called a directed cut of the digraph  $G_{\mathcal{P}}$  if  $\emptyset \neq T \subsetneq X \cup Y$  and  $\delta^-(T) = \emptyset$ .

# The regularity of $\mathbb{K}[\mathcal{P}]$

In the digraph of the following figure, let

$$T_1 = \{x_3, y_2, y_3\} \text{ and } T_2 = \{x_3, y_1, y_2\}.$$

Then  $\delta^+(T_2)$  is a directed cut, while  $\delta^+(T_1)$  is not.



## The regularity of $\mathbb{K}[\mathcal{P}]$

Since  $\mathbb{K}[\mathcal{P}] \cong \mathbb{K}[G_{\mathcal{P}}]$ ,

$$\delta^+(T) = \{(x, y) \in V(\mathcal{P}) \mid x \notin T \text{ and } y \in T\}$$

and


$$\delta^-(T) = \{(x, y) \in V(\mathcal{P}) \mid x \in T \text{ and } y \notin T\}$$

for every  $T \subset X \cup Y$ .

### Lemma

Let  $\mathcal{P}$  be a stack polyomino on  $[m] \times [n]$ ,  $G_{\mathcal{P}}$  its associated digraph and  $T \subset X \cup Y$ . Then  $\delta^+(T)$  is a directed cut of the digraph  $G_{\mathcal{P}}$  if and only if  $T = T^x \cup T^y$  with  $T^x \subset X$ ,  $T^y \subset Y$  and  $N_Y(T^x) \subset T^y$ .

## The regularity of $\mathbb{K}[\mathcal{P}]$

 C.E. Valencia, R.H. Villarreal, *Canonical modules of certain edge rings*, European J. Combin. **24** (2003), 471–487.

Proposition (C.E. Valencia, R.H. Villarreal, Proposition 4.2)

Let  $G$  be a connected bipartite graph with  $V(G) = X \cup Y$ . If  $G$  is a digraph with all its arrows leaving the vertex set  $Y$ , then

$-a(\mathbb{K}[G]) =$  the maximum number of disjoint directed cuts.

# The regularity of $\mathbb{K}[\mathcal{P}]$

## Proposition

If  $\mathcal{P}$  is a stack polyomino on  $[m] \times [n]$ , then

$$-a(\mathbb{K}[\mathcal{P}]) = \max\{m, n\}.$$

## Corollary

If  $\mathcal{P}$  is a stack polyomino on  $[m] \times [n]$ , then

$$\text{reg}(\mathbb{K}[\mathcal{P}]) = m + n - 1 - \max\{m, n\} = \min\{m, n\} - 1.$$



# The regularity of $\mathbb{K}[\mathcal{P}]$

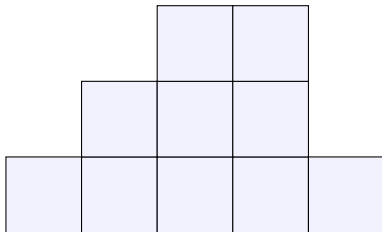


Figure:  $\text{reg}(\mathbb{K}[\mathcal{P}]) = 3$

## The multiplicity of $\mathbb{K}[\mathcal{P}]$

Let  $\mathcal{P}$  be a stack polyomino on  $[m] \times [n]$ .

The Hilbert series  $H_{\mathbb{K}[\mathcal{P}]}(t)$  of  $\mathbb{K}[\mathcal{P}]$  is given by

$$H_{\mathbb{K}[\mathcal{P}]}(t) = \frac{Q(t)}{(1-t)^d},$$

where  $Q(t) \in \mathbb{Z}[t]$  and  $d = \dim(\mathbb{K}[\mathcal{P}]) = m + n - 1$ .

The multiplicity of  $\mathbb{K}[\mathcal{P}]$ , denoted  $e(\mathbb{K}[\mathcal{P}])$ , is given by  $Q(1)$ .

## The multiplicity of $\mathbb{K}[\mathcal{P}]$

For every  $i \in [m]$ ,

$$\text{height}(i) = \max\{j \in [n] \mid (i, j) \in V(\mathcal{P})\}.$$

We give a total order on the variables  $x_{ij}$ , with  $(i, j) \in V(\mathcal{P})$ :

$x_{ij} > x_{kl}$  if and only if

$(\text{height}(i) > \text{height}(k))$  or  $(\text{height}(i) = \text{height}(k)$  and  $i > k)$

or  $(i = k$  and  $j > l)$ .

Let  $<$  be the reverse lexicographical order induced by this order of variables.

## The multiplicity of $\mathbb{K}[\mathcal{P}]$

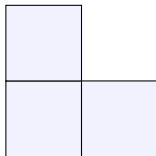
It is known that the polyomino ideal  $I_{\mathcal{P}}$  has a reduced Gröbner basis with respect to  $<$  consisting of all inner 2-minors of  $\mathcal{P}$ .

We may view  $\text{in}_{<}(I_{\mathcal{P}})$  as the Stanley-Reisner ideal of a simplicial complex, denoted  $\Delta_{\mathcal{P}}$ , on the vertex set  $V(\mathcal{P})$ .

It is known that  $\Delta_{\mathcal{P}}$  is a pure shellable simplicial complex.

## The multiplicity of $\mathbb{K}[\mathcal{P}]$

Let  $\mathcal{P}$  be the polyomino of the figure. Then  
 $\text{in}_{<}(I_{\mathcal{P}}) = (x_{11}x_{32}, x_{21}x_{32}, x_{21}x_{12}, x_{21}x_{13}, x_{22}x_{13})$  and  
 $\Delta_{\mathcal{P}} = \langle F_1 = \{(1,1), (2,1), (2,2), (2,3), (3,1)\};$   
 $F_2 = \{(1,1), (1,2), (2,2), (2,3), (3,1)\};$   
 $F_3 = \{(1,1), (1,2), (1,3), (2,3), (3,1)\};$   
 $F_4 = \{(1,2), (2,2), (2,3), (3,1), (3,2)\};$   
 $F_5 = \{(1,2), (1,3), (2,3), (3,1), (3,2)\}\rangle.$



The order of the variables:

$$x_{23} > x_{22} > x_{21} > x_{13} > x_{12} > x_{11} > x_{32} > x_{31}$$

# The multiplicity of $\mathbb{K}[\mathcal{P}]$

Since

$$H_{\mathbb{K}[\mathcal{P}]}(t) = H_{S/\text{in}_{<}(I_{\mathcal{P}})}(t) = H_{\mathbb{K}[\Delta_{\mathcal{P}}]},$$

we obtain

$$e(\mathbb{K}[\mathcal{P}]) = |\mathfrak{F}(\Delta_{\mathcal{P}})|,$$

where  $\mathfrak{F}(\Delta_{\mathcal{P}})$  denotes the set of the facets of  $\Delta_{\mathcal{P}}$ .

# The multiplicity of $\mathbb{K}[\mathcal{P}]$

## Definition

Let  $\Delta$  be a simplicial complex on the vertex set  $V$  and  $v \in V$ . The **link of  $v$**  in  $\Delta$  is the simplicial complex

$$\text{lk}(v) = \{F \in \Delta \mid v \notin F \text{ and } F \cup \{v\} \in \Delta\}$$

and the **deletion of  $v$**  is the simplicial complex

$$\text{del}(v) = \{F \in \Delta \mid v \notin F\}.$$

## The multiplicity of $\mathbb{K}[\mathcal{P}]$

Let  $x_{ij}$  be the smallest variable in  $S$  and fix

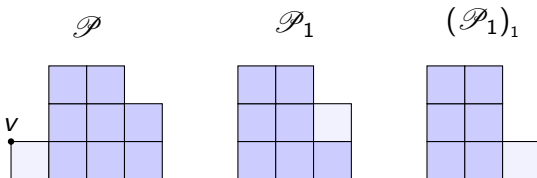
$$v = (i, \text{height}(i)) \in V(\mathcal{P}).$$

If  $i = 1$ , then we denote by  $\mathcal{P}_1$  the polyomino obtained from  $\mathcal{P}$  by deleting the cell which contains the vertex  $v$ .

Otherwise,  $\mathcal{P}_1$  is given by deleting the cell which contains the vertex  $(m, \text{height}(m))$ .



# The multiplicity of $\mathbb{K}[\mathcal{P}]$

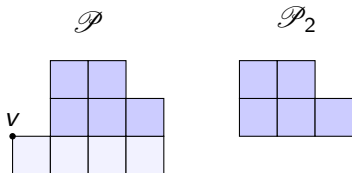


## Lemma

We have  $|\mathfrak{F}(\Delta_{\mathcal{P}_1})| = |\mathfrak{F}(\text{del}(v))|$ .

## The multiplicity of $\mathbb{K}[\mathcal{P}]$

Let  $\mathcal{P}_2$  be the polyomino obtained from  $\mathcal{P}$  by deleting all the cells of  $\mathcal{P}$  which lie below the horizontal edge interval containing the vertex  $v$ .



### Lemma

We have  $|\mathfrak{F}(\Delta_{\mathcal{P}_2})| = |\mathfrak{F}(\text{lk}(v))|$ .

# The multiplicity of $\mathbb{K}[\mathcal{P}]$

## Theorem

Let  $\mathcal{P}$  be a stack polyomino on  $[m] \times [n]$  and  $v = (i, j) \in V(\mathcal{P})$  with the properties:

- 1  $x_{i1}$  is the smallest variable in  $S$  and
- 2  $j = \text{height}(i)$ .

Let  $\mathcal{P}_1$  and  $\mathcal{P}_2$  be the polyominoes presented above. Then

$$e(\mathbb{K}[\mathcal{P}]) = e(\mathbb{K}[\mathcal{P}_1]) + e(\mathbb{K}[\mathcal{P}_2]).$$

# The multiplicity of $\mathbb{K}[\mathcal{P}]$

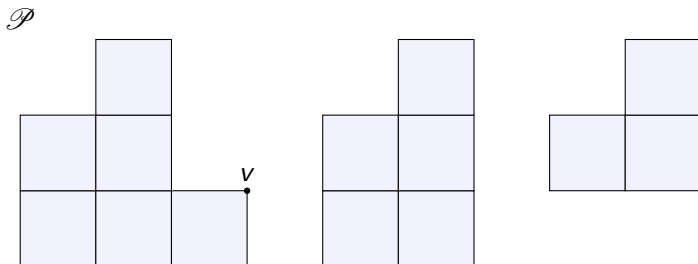
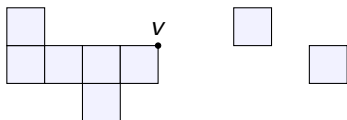


Figure:  $e(\mathbb{K}[\mathcal{P}]) = 14$

## The multiplicity of $\mathbb{K}[\mathcal{P}]$

Let  $\mathcal{P}$  be the following convex polyomino and  $v = (5, 3)$ . The link of  $v$  is the cone of the vertex  $(5, 2)$  with the simplicial complex which we may associate to the collection of cells displayed in the right figure.



**Figure:** The order of the variables is  $x_{24} > x_{23} > x_{22} > x_{14} > x_{13} > x_{12} > x_{43} > x_{42} > x_{41} > x_{33} > x_{32} > x_{31} > x_{53} > x_{52}$

