

TWO PROBLEMS IN TORIC TOPOLOGY

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Q1 (Lifting Problem): Let $\pi : M^n \rightarrow P^n$ be a small cover over a simple convex polytope P^n . Is there a quasi-toric manifold $\tilde{\pi} : M^{2n} \rightarrow P^n$ over P^n such that M^n is the fixed point set of the *conjugation involution* on M^{2n} ?

Remarks. The question is equivalent to asking the existence of the lifting $\tilde{\lambda}$ of $\lambda : \mathcal{F}(P) \rightarrow (\mathbb{Z}_2)^n$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 & & (\mathbb{Z})^n \\
 & \nearrow \tilde{\lambda} & \downarrow \text{mod } 2 \\
 \mathcal{F}(P) & \xrightarrow{\lambda} & (\mathbb{Z}_2)^n
 \end{array}$$

where $\lambda : \mathcal{F}(P) \rightarrow (\mathbb{Z}_2)^n$ is the characteristic function determined by $\pi : M^n \rightarrow P^n$, and $\mathcal{F}(P)$ is the set of all facets of P^n . The problem is still open except for the cases of $n \leq 3$ and $m - n \leq 3$, where m is the number of all facets of P^n (see arXiv:1305.0136).

Q2: Let P be a simple convex polytope, and let $s(P)$ (resp. $s_{\mathbb{R}}(P)$) be the Buchstaber invariant (resp. real Buchstaber invariant) of P . Is it true that $s(P) = s_{\mathbb{R}}(P)$?

Remarks. This is true if $\dim P \leq 3$. In addition, it has been known that $s(P) \leq s_{\mathbb{R}}(P)$. However, in the more general case to simplicial complexes, as shown by Anton Ayzenberg recently, there exists an example of the simplicial complex K of dimension 3 such that $s(K) \neq s_{\mathbb{R}}(K)$. More recently, it is shown by Yi Sun that for the universal real simplicial complex $U_{\mathbb{R}}^n$ determined by $(\mathbb{Z}_2)^n$, when $n = 4$, the difference $\Delta(U_{\mathbb{R}}^4) = s_{\mathbb{R}}(U_{\mathbb{R}}^4) - s(U_{\mathbb{R}}^4) = 1$, and

$$1 = \Delta(U_{\mathbb{R}}^4) \leq \Delta(U_{\mathbb{R}}^5) \leq \cdots \leq \Delta(U_{\mathbb{R}}^n) \leq \cdots .$$