

## 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

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