

# A User's Guide for `LattE integrale` v1.6 (Linux Release) \*



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# Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>Introduction</b>	<b>4</b>
1.1	What is <code>LattE</code> ?	4
1.1.1	Counting lattice points: Barvinok's Rational Functions	4
1.1.2	Integration	5
1.1.3	Weighted Ehrhart Polynomials	6
1.2	What can <code>LattE</code> compute?	7
<b>2</b>	<b>Input Files</b>	<b>7</b>
2.1	<code>LattE</code> h-representation	7
2.1.1	Inequality Description	7
2.1.2	Equality Constraints	8
2.1.3	Nonnegativity Constraints	9
2.1.4	Cost Vector	9
2.2	<code>LattE</code> v-representation	10
2.3	CDD Input Files	11
2.4	Non-full dimensional polytopes	11
2.5	<code>LattE</code> vs. CDD file formats	12
2.6	Polynomials and linear forms	12
2.7	Products of linear forms	13
<b>3</b>	<b>Running <code>LattE</code></b>	<b>13</b>
3.1	How to use <code>count</code>	13
3.2	How to use <code>integrate</code>	16
3.2.1	How to use <code>integrate</code> for computing weighted Ehrhart polynomials	17
3.3	Options common to both <code>count</code> and <code>integrate</code>	18
3.4	Optimization	19
<b>4</b>	<b>Downloading and Installing <code>LattE</code></b>	<b>20</b>

<b>5</b>	<b>A Brief Tutorial</b>	<b>20</b>
5.1	Counting Magic Squares . . . . .	20
5.2	Counting Lattice Points in the 24-Cell . . . . .	23
5.3	Integrating over a polytope . . . . .	24
5.4	Computing the Weighted Ehrhart Polynomial . . . . .	26
5.5	Example of Optimization with <b>LattE</b> . . . . .	28
<b>6</b>	<b>Release Information</b>	<b>29</b>
6.1	System Requirements . . . . .	29
6.2	Additional <b>Maple</b> Connection . . . . .	29
6.3	License Agreement . . . . .	29
6.4	How to Cite <b>LattE</b> . . . . .	29
6.5	The <b>LattE</b> Team . . . . .	30
6.6	Acknowledgments . . . . .	31
<b>7</b>	<b>The GNU General Public License</b>	<b>32</b>

# 1 Introduction

## 1.1 What is LattE?

The name “**LattE**” is an abbreviation for “**L**attice point **E**numeration.” **LattE** was developed in 2001 to count lattice points contained in convex polyhedra defined by linear equations and inequalities with integer coefficients. The polyhedra can be of any (reasonably small) dimension. In 2007, **LattE macchiato** was released and contained many algorithmic improvements, in particular primal variants of the algorithms. The newest edition, **LattE integrale**, developed in 2010 can compute integrals of polynomials and volumes of rational polytopes. All these algorithms run in polynomial time for fixed dimension. **LattE integrale** was extended in 2012/2013 with a hybrid C++ and **Maple** implementation for computing the top coefficients of weighted Ehrhart polynomials. To learn more about the exact details of our implementation for lattice point enumeration, the interested reader can consult [7, 9] and the references listed therein. For learning the algorithmic details of integration, see [2, 8]. Here we give a rather short description of the mathematical objects used by **LattE**. Note that all our computations are done over the integers or the rationals exactly. **LattE** does not accept floating-point numbers as input.

### 1.1.1 Counting lattice points: Barvinok’s Rational Functions

Given a convex polyhedron  $P = \{u \in \mathbb{R}^d : Au \leq b\}$ , where  $A$  and  $b$  are integral, the fundamental object that we compute is a short representation of the infinite power series:

$$f(P; x) = \sum_{\alpha \in P \cap \mathbb{Z}^d} x_1^{\alpha_1} x_2^{\alpha_2} \dots x_d^{\alpha_d}.$$

Here each lattice point is given by one monomial. Note that this can be a rather long sum, in fact for a polyhedral cone it can be infinite, but the good news is that it admits short representations.

**Example:** Let  $P$  be the quadrangle with vertices  $V_1 = (0, 0)$ ,  $V_2 = (5, 0)$ ,  $V_3 = (4, 2)$ , and  $V_4 = (0, 2)$ , see Figure 1.

$$f(P; x, y) = x^5 + x^4y + x^4 + x^4y^2 + yx^3 + x^3 + x^3y^2 + yx^2 + x^2 + x^2y^2 + xy + x + xy^2 + y + 1 + y^2$$

The fundamental theorem of Barvinok (circa 1993, see [3]) says that you can write  $f(P; x)$  as a sum of short rational functions, in polynomial time when the dimension of the polyhedron is fixed. In our running example we easily see that the 16 monomial polynomial can be written as shorter rational function sum:

$$f(P; x, y) = f(K_{V_1}; x, y) + f(K_{V_2}; x, y) + f(K_{V_3}; x, y) + f(K_{V_4}; x, y)$$

where

$$f(K_{V_1}; x, y) = \frac{1}{(1-x)(1-y)} \quad f(K_{V_2}; x, y) = \frac{(x^5 + x^4y)}{(1-x^{-1})(1-y^2x^{-1})}$$

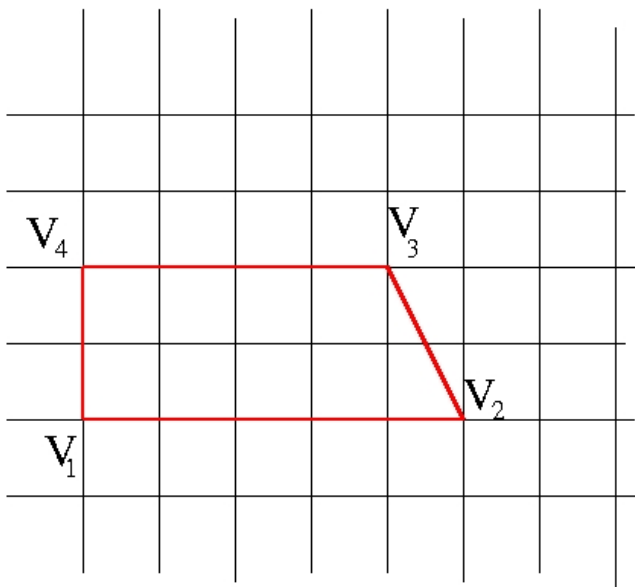


Figure 1: Quadrangle with vertices  $V_1 = (0,0)$ ,  $V_2 = (5,0)$ ,  $V_3 = (4,2)$ , and  $V_4 = (0,2)$ .

$$f(K_{V_3}; x, y) = \frac{(x^4 y^2 + x^4)}{(1-x^{-1})(1-xy^{-2})} \quad f(K_{V_4}; x, y) = \frac{y^2}{(1-y^{-1})(1-x)}$$

$$f(P; 1, 1) = 16$$

Counting the lattice points in convex polyhedra is a powerful tool which allows many applications in areas such as Combinatorics, Statistics, Optimization, and Number Theory.

For details of how the computations are done, see [7, 9].

### 1.1.2 Integration

**LattE integrale** has two different integration algorithms for integrating a rational polynomial  $p \in \mathbb{R}[x_1, \dots, x_d]$  over a  $d$  dimensional rational polytope. The first one, called the triangulation method, triangulates the polytope into simplices and integrates over each simplex. The other method, called the cone decomposition method, integrates over each tangent cone of the polytope. In order to do this, each tangent cone is triangulated into simple cones. This is the main trade off between the two integration algorithms: you can do one (possibly) large triangulation, or (possibly) many small tangent cone triangulations.

We decompose polynomials into finite sums of powers of linear forms because integrating powers of linear forms can be done in polynomial time [2]. A de-

composition of a polynomial as a sum of powers of linear forms is known as the polynomial Waring problem.

See [8] for a detailed explanation on why the next example gives the correct integral.

As an example, let us integrate the polynomial  $x_1 + x_2$  over the unit square with vertices  $(0, 0)$ ,  $(1, 0)$ ,  $(0, 1)$  and  $(1, 1)$ . The polynomial is already a power of a linear form so let  $\ell = (1, 1)$ . To integrate  $\int (x_1 + x_2)^M dx$  over the square, we need to compute

$$\frac{M!}{(M+d)!} |\det(u_1, \dots, u_d)| \frac{(\langle \ell, s \rangle)^{M+d}}{\prod_{i=1}^d \langle -\ell, u_i \rangle}$$

at each vertex  $s$  where the  $u_i$  are the rays from the tangent cone at  $s$ , and  $d$  is the dimension of the polytope.

Vertex  $s_1 = (0, 0)$ : Because  $\langle \ell, s_1 \rangle^{1+2} = 0$  the valuation on this cone is zero.

Vertex  $s_2 = (1, 1)$ :

$$\frac{M!}{(M+d)!} |\det(u_1, \dots, u_d)| \frac{(2)^{1+2}}{(-1)(-1)} = \frac{1!}{(1+2)!} \times 1 \times 8 = 4/3$$

Vertex  $s_3 = (1, 0)$ :

$$\frac{M!}{(M+d)!} |\det(u_1, \dots, u_d)| \frac{(1)^{1+2}}{(1)(-1)} = \frac{1!}{(1+2)!} \times 1 \times -1 = -1/6$$

Vertex  $s_4 = (0, 1)$ :

$$\frac{M!}{(M+d)!} |\det(u_1, \dots, u_d)| \frac{(1)^{1+2}}{(1)(-1)} = \frac{1!}{(1+2)!} \times 1 \times -1 = -1/6$$

The integral  $\int_{x_1=0}^{x_1=1} \int_{x_2=0}^{x_2=1} x_1 + x_2 dx_1 dx_2 = 0 + 4/3 - 1/6 - 1/6 = 1$  as it should be.

### 1.1.3 Weighted Ehrhart Polynomials

**LattE integrale** can also compute the weighted Ehrhart polynomials where the weight function is a polynomial or a sum of powers of linear forms. However, the polytope must be a simplicial polytope and **Maple** must be installed on your computer.

## 1.2 What can Latte compute?

Latte contains three key executables:

**count** counts lattice points, computes Ehrhart polynomials and Ehrhart series of polytopes. This executable has replaced **ehrhart**, but **ehrhart** is still included for backwards compatibility.

**integrate** integrates polynomials, powers of linear forms, and products of powers of linear forms over polytopes. Integrate can also compute weighted Ehrhart polynomials.

**max/minimize** perform linear integer optimization.

The other executables in latte are drivers, converters, and other small utility functions described in Section ??.

## 2 Input Files

A polytope can be defined from a list of vertices (a v-representation) or a list of hyperplane inequalities (h-representation) and so Latte can start from either representation in different formats. Here are four common file formats:

1. Latte style vertex file
2. Latte style hyperplane file
3. CDD style vertex file
4. CDD style hyperplane file

Users of Polymake will notice that Polymake's facets and vertices are printed in a format that is easily converted to a Latte style h- or v-representation.

We now explore the file syntax of each.

### 2.1 Latte h-representation

#### 2.1.1 Inequality Description

Let  $P$  be a polytope described by a system of inequalities  $Ax \leq b$ , where  $A \in \mathbb{Z}^{m \times d}$ ,  $A = (a_{ij})$ , and  $b \in \mathbb{Z}^m$ . Note that any hyperplane representation with rational coefficients can be brought into this form; for example  $x + 1/2y \leq 5/9$  should be written as  $18x + 9y \leq 10$ . With  $P = \{x : Ax \leq b\}$ , the input file is;

```
m d+1
b -A
```

**Example:** Let  $P = \{(x, y) : x \leq 1, y \leq 1, x + y \leq 1, x \geq 0, y \geq 0\}$ . Thus

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad b = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

and the `LattE` input file would be

```
5 3
1 -1 0
1 0 -1
1 -1 -1
0 1 0
0 0 1
```

### 2.1.2 Equality Constraints

By default, a constraint is an inequality of type  $a^T x \leq b$ . But to input an equality constraint  $a^T x = b$  we need to add a keyword.

**Example:** Let  $P$  be as in the previous example, but require  $x + y = 1$  instead of  $x + y \leq 1$ , thus,  $P = \{(x, y) : x \leq 1, y \leq 1, x + y = 1, x \geq 0, y \geq 0\}$ . Then the `LattE` input file that describes  $P$  would be as such:

```
5 3
1 -1 0
1 0 -1
1 -1 -1
0 1 0
0 0 1
linearity 1 3
```

The last line states that among the 5 inequalities one is to be considered an equality, the third one.

In general, the linearity syntax is :

```
linearity <number of equations> <row index of constraint, start counting from 1>
```



### 2.1.3 Nonnegativity Constraints

For bigger examples it quickly becomes cumbersome to state all nonnegativity constraints for the variables one by one. Instead, you may use another shorthand.

**Example:** Let  $P$  be as in the previous example, then the `LatTE` input file that describes  $P$  could also be described as such:

```
3 3
1 -1 0
1 0 -1
1 -1 -1
linearity 1 3
nonnegative 2 1 2
```

The last line states that there are two nonnegativity constraints and that the first and second variables are required to be nonnegative. **NOTE** that the first line reads “3 3” and not “5 3” as above!

In general, the nonnegative syntax is :

```
nonnegative <number of variables in list> <variable index, start counting from 1>
```

### 2.1.4 Cost Vector

The functions maximize and minimize solve the integer linear programs

$$\max\{c^T x : x \in P \cap \mathbb{Z}^d\}$$

and

$$\min\{c^T x : x \in P \cap \mathbb{Z}^d\}.$$

Besides a description of the polyhedron  $P$ , these functions need a linear objective function given by a certain cost vector  $c \in \mathbb{Z}^d$ , where the input style is very similar to a `LatTE` h-representation file.

**Example:** If the polyhedron is given in the file “fileName”

```
4 4
1 -1 0 0
1 0 -1 0
1 0 0 -1
1 -1 -1 -1
linearity 1 4
nonnegative 3 1 2 3
```

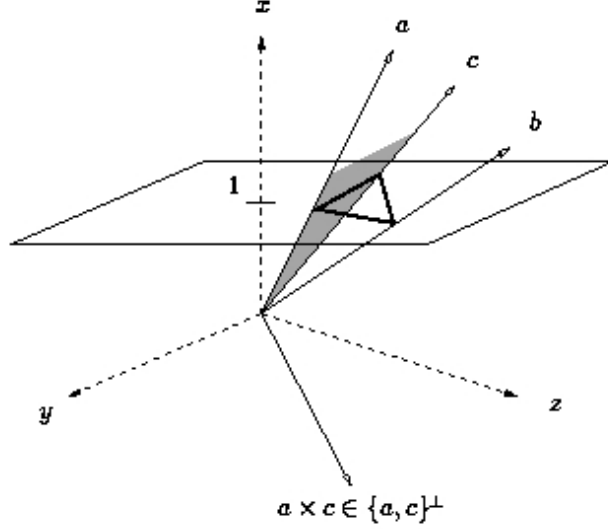


Figure 2: Homogenized triangle.

the cost vector must be given in the file “fileName.cost”, as for example in the following three-dimensional problem:

```
1 3
2 4 7
```

The first two entries state the size of a  $1 \times n$  matrix (encoding the cost vector), followed by the  $1 \times n$  matrix itself. Assuming that we call maximize, this whole data encodes the integer program

$$\max\{2x_1 + 4x_2 + 7x_3 : x_1 + x_2 + x_3 = 1, x_1, x_2, x_3 \in \{0, 1\}\}.$$

## 2.2 LattE v-representation

**LattE** can start from a homogenized v-representation of the polytope. To homogenize a vertex, simply add an leading 1 to the vertex. This has the effect of lifting the polytope to a cone in one dimension higher such that the original polytope can be extracted by intersecting the cone with the  $x_1 = 1$  plane. For example, take a triangle in the plane, then Figure 2 shows the resulting cone.

Let  $v_1, \dots, v_k$  be the vertices of a polytope  $P \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ , then the **LattE** v-representation file format is:

$$\begin{array}{c}
k(n+1) \\
1\ v_1 \\
\vdots \\
1\ v_k
\end{array}$$

**Example:** Note, like **LattE** h-representations files, a rational-vertex polytope with can be written with integer data by scaling each homogenized vertex. Below are the vertices of a rectangle  $(0, 0), (2/3, 0), (0, 1/4), (2/3, 1/4)$ :

```

4 3
1 0 0
3 2 0
4 0 1
12 8 3

```

## 2.3 CDD Input Files

In addition to the formats described above, **LattE** can also accept input files in standard CDD format. Below is an example of CDD input that is readable into **LattE**.

```

H-representation
begin
4 4 integer
2 -2 4 -1
3 -2 -2 3
6 2 -4 -3
1 2 2 1
end

```

For a complete description of CDD file syntax, see the CDD manual [6].

## 2.4 Non-full dimensional polytopes

When the input polytope is not full dimensional, **LattE** projects that polytope such that it becomes full dimensional. This transformation preserves the lattice count and volume of the input polytope. The current **LattE integrale** cannot integrate non-full dimensional polytopes.

## 2.5 Latte vs. CDD file formats

There are a few key differences between **Latte** and **CDD** file formats.

1. **CDD** used the file extension `*.ine` for h-representation files, and `*.ext` for v-representation files. However, **Latte** makes no assumption on the file extensions of files. We recommend `*.vrep.latte` and `*.hrep.latte` for **Latte** style files, but you are free to name your files anything.
2. **CDD** also requires “H-representation” or “V-representation” keywords in the file. Forgetting about the “linearity” and “nonnegative” keywords, there is no difference between a **Latte** v- and h-representation file.

## 2.6 Polynomials and linear forms

**Latte integrale** can also integrate polynomials and in particular sums of powers of linear forms. Powers of linear forms are the fundamental structure used to integrate. Next, we describe the syntax of polynomials and linear forms

- A polynomial is represented as a list of its monomials in the form

`[monomial1, monomial2, ...],`

where `monomiali` is represented by

`[coefficient, [exponent-vector]].`

For example,  $3x_0^2x_1^4x_2^6 + 7x_1^3x_2^5$  is input as `[[3, [2, 4, 6]], [7, [0, 3, 5]]]`.

- To deal directly with sums of powers of linear forms, a fundamental data structure in **Latte integrale**, the input format is

`[linear-term1, linear-term2, ...],`

where `linear-termi` is represented by

`[coefficient, [power, [coefficient-vector]]].`

For example,  $3(2x_0 + 4x_1 + 6x_2)^{10} + 7(3x_1 + 5x_2)^{12}$  is input as `[[3, [10, [2, 4, 6]]], [7, [12, [0, 3, 5]]]]`.

The reason this is useful is because any polynomial can be written as a sum of powers of linear forms, see [2].

## 2.7 Products of linear forms

**Latte integrale** can integrate a product of linear forms over a simplex or a triangulation of a polytope.

The input format for a sum of products of linear forms is

```
[ [coefficient, [[power1, [coefficient-vector1]], [power2,
[coefficient-vector2]], ...]], ...].
```

For example, the integrand

$$(1x_1 + 2x_2)^3(4x_1 + 5x_2)^6 + 7(8x_1 + 9x_2)^{10}(11x_1 + 12x_2)^{13}(14x_1 + 15x_2)^{16}$$

is written as

```
[[1, [ [3, [1, 2]], [6, [4, 5]] ]], [7, [ [10, [8, 9]], [13, [11,
12]], [16, [14, 15]] ] ] ]
```

## 3 Running Latte

### 3.1 How to use count

**count** has a nice help menu, to view it, run

```
./count --help
```

The following options control what **count** computes.

- Count the number of lattice points in polytope  $P$ , where  $P$  is given in a file named “fileName.hrep.latte” in different file formats.

```
./count fileName.hrep.latte
./count --vrep fileName.vrep.latte
./count --cdd fileName.inc
```

- Count the number of lattice points in  $nP$ , the dilation of  $P$  by the integer factor  $n$ .

```
./count --dilation=n fileName.hrep.latte
```

- Use the homogenized Barvinok algorithm [5] to count the number of lattice points in the polytope  $P$ . Use if number of vertices of  $P$  is big compared to the number of constraints.

```
./count --homog fileName.hrep.latte
```

- Compute the number of lattice points (default)

```
./count --count-lattice-points fileName.hrep.latte
```

- Compute the multivariate generating function of the set of lattice points of the polyhedron

```
./count --multivariate-generating-function fileName.hrep.latte
```

For unbounded polyhedra, one needs to combine this with `--compute-vertex-cones=4ti2`, as other methods in `LattE` currently refuse to handle unbounded polyhedra. For example,

```
count --compute-vertex-cones=4ti2 --multivariate-generating-function fileName
```

writes the multivariate generating function (in Maple notation) to “file-Name.rat.”

- Compute the Ehrhart polynomial of an *integral* polytope

```
./count --ehrhart-polynomial fileName.hrep.latte
```

- Compute the unsimplified Ehrhart series as a univariate rational function

```
./count --ehrhart-series fileName.hrep.latte
```

- Compute the simplified Ehrhart series as a univariate rational function (needs `Maple`).

```
./count --simplified-ehrhart-series fileName.hrep.latte
```

- Compute the first N terms of the Ehrhart series

```
./count --ehrhart-taylor=N fileName.hrep.latte
```

The following options relate to the Barvinok algorithm and were introduced by Matthias Köppe in `LattE macchiato`, see [7].

- Triangulate and signed-decompose in the dual space (traditional method, default)

```
./count --dual fileName.hrep.latte
```

- Triangulate in the dual space, signed-decompose in the primal space using irrationalization

```
./count --irrational-primal fileName.hrep.latte
```

- Triangulate and signed-decompose in the primal space using irrationalization

```
./count --irrational-all-primal fileName.hrep.latte
```

This gives a new method for computing Ehrhart polynomials of integral polytopes in the primal space

```
./count --all-primal --ehrhart-polynomial fileName.hrep.latte
```

- Decompose cones down to an index (determinant) of N instead down to unimodular cones (which have an index of 1).

```
./count --maxdet=N fileName.hrep.latte
```

- Do not signed-decompose simplicial cones

```
./count --no-decomposition fileName.hrep.latte
```

- Use polynomial substitution for specialization (traditional method, default)

```
./count --polynomial fileName.hrep.latte
```

- Use exponential substitution for specialization (recommended for maxdet larger than 1)

```
./count --exponential fileName.hrep.latte
```

**REMARK** The functionality of the LattE v1.2 `ehrhart` command has been merged into `count`:

```
count --ehrhart-series FILENAME
```

```
(replaces: ehrhart FILENAME)
```

```
count --simplified-ehrhart-series FILENAME
```

```
(replaces: ehrhart simplify FILENAME)
```

```
count --ehrhart-taylor=N FILENAME
```

```
(replaces: ehrhart N FILENAME)
```

The `ehrhart` program is still available, but it does not accept the new command-line options of `count`.

### 3.2 How to use integrate

Like `count`, `integrate` has a help menu. To view the menu, run

```
./integrate --help
```

There are two different integration (and volume) algorithms. The triangulation method triangulates the entire polytope and integrates over each simplex. In the cone decomposition method we integrate over each cone, possibly triangulating it first. Unlike other integration software, `LattE` integrates polynomials and powers of linear forms in exact arithmetic.

`integrate` is also able to compute weighted Ehrhart polynomials, see the next subsection.

- Integrates using the cone-decomposition method.

```
--cone-decompose
```

- Integrates using the triangulation method.

```
--triangulate
```

- Sets what you want to compute: a volume or an integral.

```
--valuation=integrate
```

```
--valuation=volume
```

- Sets the file that contains the polynomial, powers of linear forms, or products of powers of linear forms. If this option is not set, and the valuation is integration, the integrand will be read from stdin.

```
--monomials=FILE
```

```
--linear-forms=FILE
```

```
--product-linear-forms=FILE
```

If the integrand is a polynomial or a power of a linear form, there are two integration and volume algorithms available: a polytope triangulation based method and a tangent cone based method. If the integrand is a product of powers of linear forms, there is only one algorithm available and it is a polytope triangulation based method.

**Example:** Let us view a few examples of the above options

- Integrates a polynomial in file “FILE” using the triangulation method.



```
./integrate --valuation=integral --triangulate --monomials=FILE fileName.hrep.latte
```

- Find a volume using the cone decomposition method from a LattE v-representation file.

```
./integrate --valuation=volume --cone-decompose --vrep fileName.vrep.latte
```

- If an integration method is not given, LattE `integrale` computes the integral with *both* methods. This can also be done by the `--all` option. The next two commands do the same thing: find a volume using both methods from a LattE v-representation file.

```
./integrate --valuation=volume --vrep fileName.vrep.latte
```

```
./integrate --valuation=volume --all --vrep fileName.vrep.latte
```

### 3.2.1 How to use integrate for computing weighted Ehrhart polynomials

LattE `integrale` can (currently) only compute weighted Ehrhart polynomials if the polytope is simple and if the user has Maple.

- Sets what you want to compute: weighted ehrhart polynomials.

```
--valuation=top-ehrhart
```

- Sets the weight function from a file.

```
--monomials=FILE
```

```
--linear-forms=FILE
```

- Sets the weight function to 1 (unweighted). This is the default.

```
--top-ehrhart-unweighted
```

- Only compute the top K coefficients. The polynomial's coefficients are not computed incrementally. Use this option if you know in advance you can wait for the software to finish or have low memory requirements. When this option is missing, the entire polynomial's coefficients are computed incrementally which takes more memory but you may manually stop the computation at any time.

```
--num-coefficients=K
```

- Save the polynomial to a file. If `--num-coefficients=K` is used, the file write is done after the polynomial is computed. If `--num-coefficients=K` is missing, the polynomial's coefficients are saved as they are computed.

`--top-ehrhart-save=FILE`

- Compute the weighted Ehrhart polynomial that is valid for non-integer dilations.

`--real-dilations`

- Sets interactive mode if you want to manually type a polynomial or a sum of linear forms. You cannot compute a weighted Ehrhart polynomial where the weight is a product of linear forms.

`--interactive-mode`

**Example:** Let us view a few examples of the above options.

- Compute the unweighted Ehrhart polynomial that is valid for real dilations.

```
./integrate --valuation=top-ehrhart --real-dilations  
fileName.hrep.latte
```

- Compute weighted Ehrhart polynomial where the weight is a polynomial.

```
./integrate --valuation=top-ehrhart --monomials=FILE  
fileName.hrep.latte
```

- Find only the two largest degree terms of the linear form weighted Ehrhart polynomial

```
./integrate --valuation=top-ehrhart --linear-forms=FILE  
--num-coefficients=2 fileName.hrep.latte
```

- Manually enter a weight function and save the polynomial to a file

```
./integrate --valuation=top-ehrhart --interactive-mode  
--top-ehrhart-save=FILE fileName.hrep.latte
```

### 3.3 Options common to both count and integrate

A common subproblem in counting lattice points and integration requires finding triangulations and tangent cones. Also, there are many different software tools available to do this. Instead of reinventing the wheel, **LattE** links with other software tools to compute these basic objects. In this section, we describe how you can control which software tool is used.

- The `4ti2` program can be used instead of `cddlib` and `CDD+` to compute the vertex cones of polytopes, triangulations, and duals of cones. In many cases, `4ti2` is faster.

```
--compute-vertex-cones={cdd,4ti2}
--triangulation={cddlib,4ti2}
--dualization={cdd,4ti2}
```

- By default, `LattE` assumes the h-representation may contain redundant hyperplanes and tries to find and remove them. You can control how much more `LattE` should spend checking the input h-representation with the following option.

```
--redundancy-check={none,cddlib,full-cddlib}.
```

- “full-cddlib” (the default) uses `cddlib` to compute an irredundant system of linear equations and inequalities describing the polyhedron. This corresponds to the traditional `LattE` behavior; it can be expensive.
- “cddlib” (used to be the default in the 1.2+mk-0.9.x series) uses `cddlib` to compute some implicit linearities only; it often fails but is faster than full-cddlib.
- “none” does nothing, the input description of the polytope should be irredundant.

### 3.4 Optimization

`LattE` can also optimize over the integer points of a polytope. However, this part of the software is not as stable as the rest of the code. The optimization executables **require** a cost vector specified in “`fileName.cost`” if the polytope file is named “`fileName`.”

- Maximizes/Minimizes a given linear cost function over the lattice points in the polytope. The Digging algorithm [5] is used. Optimal point and optimal value is returned.

```
./latte-maximize fileName
./latte-minimize fileName
```

- Maximizes/Minimizes a given linear cost function over the lattice points in the polytope. The Binary search algorithm is used. Only optimal value is returned.

```
./latte-maximize bbs fileName
./latte-minimize bbs fileName
```

## 4 Downloading and Installing LatTE

LatTE is downloadable from the following website:

<http://www.math.ucdavis.edu/~latte/>

LatTE uses the GNU Autoconf and Automake tools. Please see the `README` file in the `LatTE` directory for detailed directions for installing `LatTE`.

## 5 A Brief Tutorial

In this section we invite the reader to follow along a few examples that show how to use `LatTE` and also how to counter-check results.

### 5.1 Counting Magic Squares

Our first example deals with counting magic  $4 \times 4$  squares. We call a  $4 \times 4$  array of nonnegative numbers a magic square if the sums of the 4 entries along each row, along each column and along the two main diagonals equals the same number  $s$ , the magic constant. Let us start with counting magic  $4 \times 4$  squares that have the magic constant 1. Associating variables  $x_1, \dots, x_{16}$  with the 16 entries, the conditions of a magic  $4 \times 4$  square of magic sum 1 can be encoded into the following input file “`EXAMPLES/magic4x4`” for `LatTE`.

```
10 17
1 -1 -1 -1 -1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
1 0 0 0 0 -1 -1 -1 -1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 -1 -1 -1 -1 0 0 0
1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 -1 -1 -1
1 -1 0 0 0 -1 0 0 0 -1 0 0 0 -1 0 0
1 0 -1 0 0 0 -1 0 0 0 -1 0 0 0 -1 0
1 0 0 -1 0 0 0 -1 0 0 0 -1 0 0 0 -1
1 0 0 0 -1 0 0 0 -1 0 0 0 -1 0 0 0
1 -1 0 0 0 0 -1 0 0 0 0 -1 0 0 0 -1
1 0 0 0 -1 0 0 -1 0 0 -1 0 0 -1 0 0
linearity 10 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
nonnegative 16 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16
```

Now we simply invoke the counting function of `LatTE` by typing:

```
./count EXAMPLES/magic4x4
```

The last couple of lines that `LatTE` prints to the screen look as follows:

```
Total Unimodular Cones: 418
Maximum number of simplicial cones in memory at once: 27
```

```
***** Total number of lattice points: 8 *****
```

```
Computation done.
Time: 1.24219 sec
```

Therefore, there are exactly 8 magic  $4 \times 4$  squares that have the magic constant 1. This is not yet impressive, as we could have done that by hand. Therefore, let us try and find the corresponding number for the magic constant 12. Since this problem is a dilation (by factor 12) of the original problem, we do not have to create a new file. Instead, we use the option “dilation” to indicate that we want to count the number of lattice points of a dilation of the given polytope:

```
./count --dilation=12 EXAMPLES/magic4x4
```

The last couple of lines that `LattE` prints to the screen look as follows:

```
Total Unimodular Cones: 418
Maximum number of simplicial cones in memory at once: 27
```

```
***** Total number of lattice points: 225351 *****
```

```
Computation done.
Time: 1.22656 sec
```

Therefore, there are exactly 225351 magic  $4 \times 4$  squares that have the magic constant 12. (We would NOT want to do THAT one by hand, would we?!)

Here is some amazing observation: the running time of `LattE` is roughly the same for counting magic squares of sum 1 and of sum 12. This phenomenon is due to the fact that the main part of the computation, the creation of the generating function that encodes all lattice points in the polytope, is nearly identical in both cases.

Although we may be already happy with these simple counting results, let us be a bit more ambitious and let us find a counting formula that, for given magic sum  $s$ , returns the number of magic  $4 \times 4$  squares that have the magic constant  $s$ .

For this, simply type (note that `LattE` invokes `Maple` to simplify intermediate expressions):

```
./count --simplified-ehrhart-series EXAMPLES/magic4x4
```

The last couple of lines that `LattE` prints to the screen looks as follows:

Rational function written to EXAMPLES/magic4x4.rat

Computation done.  
Time: 0.724609 sec

We are informed that this call created a file “EXAMPLES/magic4x4.rat” containing the Ehrhart series as a rational function:

$$(t^8 + 4t^7 + 18t^6 + 36t^5 + 50t^4 + 36t^3 + 18t^2 + 4t + 1) / (-1+t)^4 / (-1+t^2)^4$$

Now we could use **Maple** (or your favorite computer algebra software) to find a series expansion of this expression.

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{t^8 + 4t^7 + 18t^6 + 36t^5 + 50t^4 + 36t^3 + 18t^2 + 4t + 1}{(-1+t)^4(-1+t^2)^4} \\ = & 1 + 8t^1 + 48t^2 + 200t^3 + 675t^4 + 1904t^5 + 4736t^6 + 10608t^7 + 21925t^8 + \\ & 42328t^9 + 77328t^{10} + 134680t^{11} + 225351t^{12} + 364000t^{13} + 570368t^{14} + \\ & 869856t^{15} + O(t^{16}) \end{aligned}$$

The summands  $8t$  and  $225351t^{12}$  reconfirm our previous counts.

Although this rational function encodes the full Ehrhart series, it is not always as easy to compute as for magic  $4 \times 4$  squares. As it turns out, adding and simplifying rational functions, although in just one variable  $t$ , can be extremely costly due to the high powers in  $t$  and due to long integer coefficients that appear.

However, even if we cannot compute the full Ehrhart series, we can at least try and find the first couple of terms of it.

```
./count --ehrhart-taylor=15 EXAMPLES/magic4x4
```

The last couple of lines that **LattE** prints to the screen look as follows:

Memory Save Mode: Taylor Expansion:

```
1
8t^1
48t^2
200t^3
675t^4
1904t^5
4736t^6
10608t^7
21925t^8
42328t^9
```

```

77328t^10
134680t^11
225351t^12
364000t^13
570368t^14
869856t^15
Computation done.
Time: 1.83789 sec

```

Again, our previous counts are reconfirmed.

Nice, but the more terms we want to compute the more time-consuming this task becomes. Clearly, if we could find sufficiently many terms, we could compute the full Ehrhart series expansion in terms of a rational function by interpolation.

## 5.2 Counting Lattice Points in the 24-Cell

Our next example deals with a well-known combinatorial object, the 24-cell. Its description is given in the file “EXAMPLES/24\_cell”:

```

24 5
2 -1 1 -1 -1
1 0 0 -1 0
2 -1 1 -1 1
2 -1 1 1 1
1 0 0 0 1
1 0 1 0 0
2 1 -1 1 -1
2 1 1 -1 1
2 1 1 1 1
1 1 0 0 0
2 1 1 1 -1
2 1 1 -1 -1
2 1 -1 1 1
2 1 -1 -1 1
2 1 -1 -1 -1
1 0 0 1 0
2 -1 1 1 -1
1 0 0 0 -1
2 -1 -1 1 -1
1 0 -1 0 0
2 -1 -1 1 1
2 -1 -1 -1 1
2 -1 -1 -1 -1
1 -1 0 0 0

```

Now we invoke the counting function of `LatTE` by typing:

```
./count EXAMPLES/24_cell
```

The last couple of lines that `LatTE` prints to the screen look as follows:

```
Total Unimodular Cones: 240
Maximum number of simplicial cones in memory at once: 30

***** Total number of lattice points: 33 *****

Computation done.
Time: 0.429686 sec
```

Therefore, there are exactly 33 lattice points in the 24-cell. We get the same result by using the homogenized Barvinok algorithm:

```
./count --homog EXAMPLES/24_cell
```

The last couple of lines that `LatTE` prints to the screen look as follows:

```
Memory Save Mode: Taylor Expansion:

**** Total number of lattice points is: 33 ****

Computation done.
Time: 0.957031 sec
```

### 5.3 Integrating over a polytope

Let us integrate the polynomial  $w^2x^2y^4z^8 - 3/8x^2$  and the power of a linear form  $3(w + 2x + 4y + 6z)^{10}$  over the 24-cell.

Create a file named “even.polynomial” that has on its first line the polynomial. See Section 2.6 for a review of the syntax.

```
[[1,[2,2,4,8]], [-3/8,[0,2,0,0]]]
```

After running the integration command using the triangulation method

```
./integrate --valuation=integrate --triangulate --monomials=even.polynomial 24_cell
```

we see that the two monomials were decomposed into 406 powers of linear forms and the answer is



starting to integrate 406 linear forms.

Integration (using the triangulation method)

Answer: -110535307/170059500

Decimal: -0.64998019516698567266162725399052

Time: 1.92 sec

Computational time (algorithms + processing + program control)

Total time: 2.00 sec

Now create a new file named “power10.linearforms” that has in its first line the power of a linear form:

```
[[3,[10,[1,2,4,6]]]]
```

Then integrate this power of a linear form over the 24\_cell using the cone decomposition method with the following command:

```
./integrate --cone-decompose --linear-forms=power10.linearforms 24_cell
```

We see the answer is computed very quickly.

Integration (using the cone decomposition method)

Answer: 59555515086/77

Decimal: 773448247.87012987012987012987013

Time: 0.02 sec

Computational time (algorithms + processing + program control)

Total time: 0.07 sec

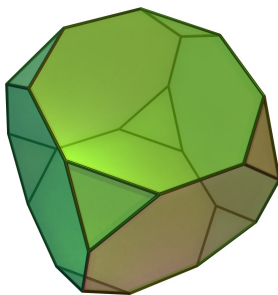


Figure 3: The truncated cube.

For the next example, consider the truncated cube in Figure 3

The vertices are

```

24 4
1 3 1 1
1 3 1 -1
1 3 -1 1
1 3 -1 -1
1 -3 1 1
1 -3 1 -1
1 -3 -1 1
1 -3 -1 -1
1 1 3 1
1 1 3 -1
1 1 -3 1
1 1 -3 -1
1 -1 3 1
1 -1 3 -1
1 -1 -3 1
1 -1 -3 -1
1 1 1 3
1 1 1 -3
1 1 -1 3
1 1 -1 -3
1 -1 1 3
1 -1 1 -3
1 -1 -1 3
1 -1 -1 -3

```

This time, let us enter the polynomial  $x^{40}y^{40}z^{40}$  from stdin, which will be decomposed into 68,920 powers of linear forms. Run

```
./integrate --cone-decompose --triangulation=4ti2 --vrep truncatedCube.vrep.latte
```

and type

```
p [[1,[40,40,40]]]
```

We see the exact answer is

$$\frac{93991283632941965714919247928639002510318209692293688827363993265109276641003769553256}{2795239135836124463932439643671211584534957465679791608181565}$$

This answer displays the power of using exact rational arithmetic!

## 5.4 Computing the Weighted Ehrhart Polynomial

Again, `LattE integrale` can (currently) only compute weighted Ehrhart polynomial functions if the polytope is simple and the user has `Maple`.

Consider a simple cube with vertices

```
4 3
1 0 0
1 1 0
1 0 1
1 1 1
```

Lets first compute the unweighted Ehrhart polynomial

```
./integrate --valuation=top-ehrhart --vrep cube.vrep.latte
```

and we get the answer  $N^2 + 2N + 1$ .

Next, compute the Ehrhart polynomial with weight  $x_1^2 x_2^4$  where we enter the polynomial from stdin:

```
./integrate --valuation=top-ehrhart --interactive-mode --vrep cube.vrep.latte
```

and then type

```
p
[[1,[2,4]]]
```

The answer is  $1/15 * N^8 + 4/15 * N^7 + 71/180 * N^6 + 1/4 * N^5 + 2/45 * N^4 - 1/60 * N^3 - 1/180 * N^2$ .

Finally, repeat the above commands, but find the polynomial that is correct if  $N$  is a rational dilation and save the answer to a file called “bigAnswer”. That is, add “-real-dilations -top-ehrhart-save=bigAnswer” to the command line and use the same polynomial.

Open the file “bigAnswer.” To evaluate the polynomial at a point  $a \in \mathbb{R}$ , first open the file “compute-top-ehrhart.mpl” that was made by **Latte integrale** and copy the same load path “compute-top-ehrhart.mpl” uses into “bigAnswer”. Make your “bigAnswer” file look something like this (your file path might be different):

```
read("/home/latte/dest/share/latte-int/Conebyconeapproximations_08_11_2010.mpl"):

epoly:= ‘‘something big’’;

eval(subs({N=a,n=a, MOD=latteMod},epoly);
```

Note that you had to set both  $n$  and  $N$  to the point  $a \in \mathbb{R}$  and the “latteMod” function is defined in the **Maple** script. If you then run this **Maple** file with the point  $a = 2.5$  you will get 85.00000031.

## 5.5 Example of Optimization with Latte

Next, let us solve the problem “cuww1” [4, 5]. Its description is given in the file “EXAMPLES/cuww1”:

```
1 6
89643482 -12223 -12224 -36674 -61119 -85569
linearity 1 1
nonnegative 5 1 2 3 4 5
```

The cost function can be found in the file “EXAMPLES/cuww1.cost”:

```
1 5
213 -1928 -11111 -2345 9123
```

Now let us maximize this cost function over the given knapsack polytope. Note that by default, the digging algorithm as described in [5] is used.

```
./latte-maximize EXAMPLES/cuww1
```

The last couple of lines that Latte prints to the screen look as follows:

```
Finished computing a rational function.
Time: 0.158203 sec.
```

```
There is one optimal solution.
```

```
No digging.
An optimal solution for [213 -1928 -11111 -2345 9123] is: [7334 0 0 0 0].
The projected down opt value is: 191928257104
The optimal value is: 1562142.
The gap is: 7995261.806
Computation done.
Time: 0.203124 sec.
```

The solution (7334, 0, 0, 0, 0) is quickly found. Now let us try to find the optimal value again by a different algorithm, the binary search algorithm.

```
./latte-maximize bbs EXAMPLES/cuww1
```

The last couple of lines that Latte prints to the screen look as follows:

```
Total of Iterations: 26
The total number of unimodular cones: 125562
The optimal value: 1562142

The number of optimal solutions: 1
Time: 0.042968
```

Note that we get the same optimal value, but no optimal solution is provided.

## 6 Release Information

### 6.1 System Requirements

**LattE** runs on Unix-like systems, including Mac OS and Linux.

### 6.2 Additional Maple Connection

The call

```
./count --simplified-ehrhart-series fileName
```

requires **Maple** for simplifications of expressions. It should be sufficient to have a copy of **Maple** installed on your machine, without any additional special configuration required. **LattE** will still run even if **Maple** is not installed, but this simplification feature to “count” will not be available.

We have tested this connection with **Maple** 5.1, 8.0, and 14.0 and experienced no problem. Please let us know about any problem you experience with our connection to **Maple**.

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## 6.4 How to Cite LattE

Although LattE is free software, your acknowledgment is requested. If LattE is useful in your research or applications please acknowledge it by referencing this manual as

De Loera, J.A., Dutra, B., Köppe, M., Moreinis, S., Pinto, G., Wu, J.  
*A User's Guide for LattE integrale v1.6*, 2011, software package LattE is available at <http://www.math.ucdavis.edu/~latte/>

## 6.5 The LattE Team

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- Jonathan Brooks (LattE v1.2)
- Carol Shih (LattE v1.2)
- Esteban Pauli (LattE v1.2)
- Mike Zhang (LattE v1.2)

## 6.6 Acknowledgments

`LattE` currently uses many wonderful pieces of software. First is `cdd` [6], developed by Komei Fukuda, whose webpage can be found at:

<http://www.cs.mcgill.ca/~fukuda/>

Next, `LattE` uses `4ti2` [1] whose webpage can be found at:

<http://www.4ti2.de>

`cdd` and `4ti2` is used for finding vertices of polytopes and the triangulation of cones.

In addition, `LattE` currently uses NTL, a Library for doing Number Theory, written by Victor Shoup [10], for LLL algorithm, matrix manipulations, storing variable length integers, and floating point numbers. NTL can be found at:

<http://shoup.net/ntl/>

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