# Representing polytopes: the Yannakakis theorem 

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## Section 1

## Definitions and Motivation

## Polytopes

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vertices of the polytope $\longleftrightarrow$ minimal set of points
facets of the polytope $\longleftrightarrow$ minimal set of half-spaces

## Linear Programming and Polytopes

A linear program is an optimization problem of the type: maximize $\langle c, x\rangle$

$$
\left\langle a_{1}, x\right\rangle \leq b_{1}
$$

subject to

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LP is easy: polynomial on the number of facets/vertices

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Travelling Salesman Problem Reformulated Given distances $d_{\{i, j\}}$ from city $i$ to city $j$ solve

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\begin{array}{ll}
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## Ben-Tal, Nemirovski

Regular $2^{n}$-gons can be written as projections of polytopes with $2 n$ facets.

## Parity Polytope

$P_{n}$, the convex hull of all $0 / 1$ vectors with even number of ones, has $2^{n-1}$ facets and vertices but is the projection of a polytope with $O\left(n^{2}\right)$ facets.

## Questions

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## Question 2

Is the extension complexity of $\operatorname{TSP}(n)$ polynomial on $n$ ?
Attempts at proving $P=N P$ used extensions of the TSP, and one motivation for Yannakakis was to prove them infeasible.

## Section 2

## Yannakakis Theorem

## Slack Matrix

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| 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 |

$$
\begin{aligned}
x & \geq 0 \\
y & \geq 0 \\
z & \geq 0 \\
1-x & \geq 0 \\
1-y & \geq 0 \\
1-z & \geq 0
\end{aligned}
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\begin{aligned}
& \begin{array}{l|l|l|l|l|l|l|l}
0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\
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where $A$ and $B$ are nonnnegative.
Equivalently, it is a collection of vectors $a_{1}, \cdots, a_{m}$ and $b_{1}, \cdots b_{n}$ in $\mathbb{R}_{+}^{k}$ such that $M_{i, j}=\left\langle a_{i}, b_{j}\right\rangle$.

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The smallest size of a nonnegative factorization of $M$ is the nonnegative rank of $M$, rank ${ }_{+}(M)$.

## Example:

$$
M=\left[\begin{array}{lll}
1 & 1 & 2 \\
1 & 3 & 3 \\
0 & 2 & 1
\end{array}\right]=\left[\begin{array}{ll}
1 & 0 \\
1 & 1 \\
0 & 1
\end{array}\right]\left[\begin{array}{lll}
1 & 1 & 2 \\
0 & 2 & 1
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$$

## Yannakakis Theorem

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We transform a very hard geometric problem into a very hard algebraic one.

## Hexagon

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$$
\left[\begin{array}{llllll}
0 & 0 & 1 & 2 & 2 & 1 \\
1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 & 2 \\
2 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 \\
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\end{array}\right]=\left[\begin{array}{lllll}
1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\
1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\
0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 \\
0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\
0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 2 & 1 & 0
\end{array}\right]\left[\begin{array}{llllll}
0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 & 1 \\
1 & 2 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
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## Section 3

## Recent results in extension complexity

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Recently the assumption of symmetry was questioned.
Theorem (Kaibel-Pashkovich-Theis 2010)
Symmetry matters for sizes of extended formulations.

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Recently the assumption of symmetry was questioned.
Theorem (Kaibel-Pashkovich-Theis 2010)
Symmetry matters for sizes of extended formulations.
Finally the full result was proven.
Theorem (Fiorini-Massar-Pokutta-Tiwary-Wolf 2012) $\mathrm{xc}(\operatorname{TSP}(n))$ grows exponentially with $n$.

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## Matching Problem (continued)

## Matching Problem Reformulated

Given distances $d_{\{i, j\}}$ from point $i$ to point $j$ solve

$$
\begin{array}{ll}
\text { minimize } & \langle d, x\rangle \\
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\end{array}
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## Matching Problem (continued)

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Since the matching problem can be solved in polynomial time, one could expect potentially small lifts of MATCH $(n)$.

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Symmetry is specially demanding in this case.

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## Theorem (Rothvoss 2014)

$\mathrm{xc}(\mathrm{MATCH}(n))$ grows exponentially with $n$.

## Polygons

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$$
x c\left(P_{3}\right)=3
$$

$$
x c\left(P_{4}\right)=4
$$

$$
x c\left(P_{5}\right)=5
$$



$$
x c\left(P_{6}\right)=5 \quad \text { or }
$$

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x c\left(P_{6}\right)=6
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## Theorem (Shitov 2013)

All heptagons have extension complexity exactly 6.

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$$

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$$

$\operatorname{xc}\left(P_{6}\right)=5 \quad$ or $\quad \mathrm{xc}\left(P_{6}\right)=6$

## Theorem (Shitov 2013)

All heptagons have extension complexity exactly 6.

## Corollary

All $n$-gons have extension complexity at most $\lceil 6 n / 7\rceil$.


## Polygons (continued)

## Lemma

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## Theorem (Ben-Tal - Nemirovski 2001)

The extension complexity of a regular $n$-gon is at most $2\left\lceil\log _{2}(n)\right\rceil$.

## Polygons (continued)

## Lemma

The extension complexity of an $n$-gon is at least $\log _{2}(n)$. (In fact at least around $1.440 \cdots \log _{2}(n)$ )

## Theorem (Ben-Tal - Nemirovski 2001)

The extension complexity of a regular $n$-gon is at most $2\left[\log _{2}(n)\right\rceil$.

## Theorem (Fiorini - Rothvoss - Tiwary 2011)

The extension complexity of a generic $n$-gon is at least $\sqrt{2 n}$.

## Section 4

## Semidefinite extension complexity

## Semidefinite programming

A symmetric matrix $A$ is positive semidefinite $(A \succeq 0)$ if and only if

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\forall x \in \mathbb{R}^{n}, x^{t} A x \geq 0
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A semidefinite program (SDP) is an optimization problem of the type:
maximize $\langle c, x\rangle$

$$
\sum_{i=1}^{m} A_{i} x_{i} \succeq 0
$$

subject to

$$
x \in \mathbb{R}^{n}
$$

where $A_{i}$ are symmetric $k \times k$ matrices.

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## Note

- If we restrict $A_{i}$ to be diagonal we get back LP.


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where $A_{i}$ are symmetric $k \times k$ matrices.

## Note

- If we restrict $A_{i}$ to be diagonal we get back LP.
- SDP is efficiently solvable.


## Semidefinite extension complexity

A semidefinite representation of size $k$ of a polytope $P$ is a description

$$
P=\left\{x \in \mathbb{R}^{n} \mid \exists y \text { s.t. } A_{0}+\sum A_{i} x_{i}+\sum B_{i} y_{i} \succeq 0\right\}
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where $A_{i}$ and $B_{i}$ are $k \times k$ real symmetric matrices.

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The $0 / 1$ square is the projection onto $x_{1}$ and $x_{2}$ of

$$
\left[\begin{array}{ccc}
1 & x_{1} & x_{2} \\
x_{1} & x_{1} & y \\
x_{2} & y & x_{2}
\end{array}\right] \succeq 0
$$

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$$



The smallest $k$ for which such a representation exists is the semidefinite extension complexity of $P, \mathrm{xc}_{\mathrm{psd}}(P)$.

## Semidefinite Factorizations

Let $M$ be a $m$ by $n$ nonnegative matrix.

## Semidefinite Factorizations

 set of $k \times k$ positive semidefinite matrices $A_{1}, \cdots, A_{m}$ and $B_{1}, \cdots B_{n}$ such that $M_{i, j}=\left\langle A_{i}, B_{j}\right\rangle$.

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 set of $k \times k$ positive semidefinite matrices $A_{1}, \cdots, A_{m}$ and $B_{1}, \cdots B_{n}$ such that $M_{i, j}=\left\langle A_{i}, B_{j}\right\rangle$.
$\left[\begin{array}{lll}1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1\end{array}\right]$

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$$
\left[\begin{array}{cc}
1 / 2 & -1 / 2 \\
-1 / 2 & 1
\end{array}\right]\left[\begin{array}{cc}
1 / 2 & 0 \\
0 & 0
\end{array}\right] \quad\left[\begin{array}{ll}
0 & 0 \\
0 & 1
\end{array}\right]
$$

$\left[\begin{array}{lll}2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0\end{array}\right]\left[\begin{array}{ll}0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1\end{array}\right]\left[\begin{array}{ll}1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1\end{array}\right]\left[\begin{array}{ll}2 & 1 \\ 1 & 1\end{array}\right]$

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\end{array}\right] \quad\left[\begin{array}{cc}
1 / 2 & 0 \\
0 & 0
\end{array}\right] \quad\left[\begin{array}{ll}
0 & 0 \\
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The smallest $k$ for which such factorization exists is the positive semidefinite rank of $M$, $\operatorname{rank}_{\text {psd }}(M)$.

## Generalized Yannakakis Theorem

## Theorem (G-Parrilo-Thomas 2013)

Let $P$ be any polytope and $S$ its slack matrix.

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In fact this theorem is more general than just polytopes and semidefinite representations.

## The Hexagon

Consider again the regular hexagon.


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Consider again the regular hexagon.


Its $6 \times 6$ slack matrix.
$\left[\begin{array}{llllll}0 & 0 & 2 & 4 & 4 & 2 \\ 2 & 0 & 0 & 2 & 4 & 4 \\ 4 & 2 & 0 & 0 & 2 & 4 \\ 4 & 4 & 2 & 0 & 0 & 2 \\ 2 & 4 & 4 & 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 4 & 4 & 2 & 0\end{array}\right]$

## The Hexagon

Consider again the regular hexagon.

Its $6 \times 6$ slack matrix.

$$
\begin{aligned}
& {\left[\begin{array}{cccc}
1 & -1 & 0 & 1 \\
-1 & 1 & 0 & -1 \\
0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\
1 & -1 & 0 & 1
\end{array}\right],\left[\begin{array}{cccc}
1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 1 & 1 & -1 \\
0 & 1 & 1 & -1 \\
0 & -1 & -1 & 1
\end{array}\right],\left[\begin{array}{llll}
1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\
1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\
1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 0 & 1
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1 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\
1 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\
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1 & 1 & 0 & 1
\end{array}\right],} \\
& {\left[\begin{array}{cccc}
1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 1 & -1 & 1 \\
0 & -1 & 1 & -1 \\
0 & 1 & -1 & 1
\end{array}\right],\left[\begin{array}{cccc}
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\end{array}\right],\left[\begin{array}{llll}
1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\
1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\
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## The Hexagon - continued

The regular hexagon must have a size 4 representation.

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Consider the affinely equivalent hexagon $H$ with vertices $( \pm 1,0),(0, \pm 1),(1,-1)$ and $(-1,1)$.


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$$
H=\left\{\left(x_{1}, x_{2}\right):\left[\begin{array}{cccc}
1 & x_{1} & x_{2} & x_{1}+x_{2} \\
x_{1} & 1 & y_{1} & y_{2} \\
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x_{1}+x_{2} & y_{2} & y_{3} & 1
\end{array}\right] \succeq 0\right\}
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$$

In fact:

## Theorem (G-Robinson-Thomas 2013+)

All hexagons have semidefinite extension complexity 4.

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Can $\mathrm{xc}(P) \gg \mathrm{xc}_{\mathrm{psd}}(P)$ ?

A popular candidate for the last question is the polytope $\operatorname{STAB}(G)$ of a perfect graph, where $\operatorname{STAB}(G)$ is just the LP formulation of the max stable set problem.

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## Examples of work I would really like to do

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- Understand the role of symmetry.


## Conclusion

## To learn more about this work:

Fawzi, G, Parrilo, Robinson, and Thomas.
Positive semidefinite rank.
Coming soon...
G, P.A. Parrilo, and R.R. Thomas.
Lifts of convex sets and cone factorizations.
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## Thank you

