

# Sums of Squares in Combinatorial optimization

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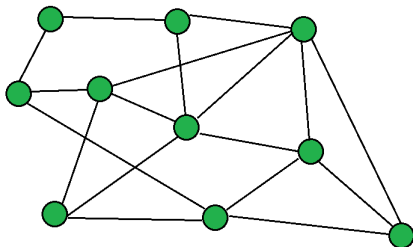
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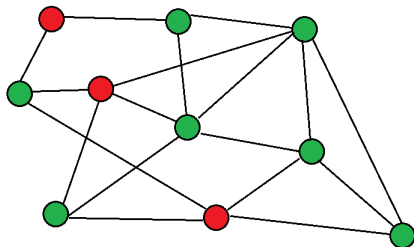
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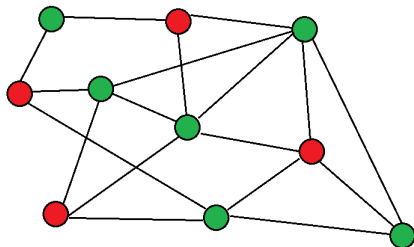
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- **this problem is NP-hard in general.**



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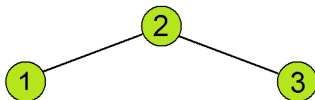
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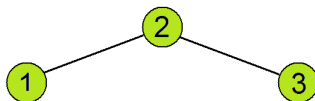
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- let  $S_G \subset \{0, 1\}^n$  be the collection of all those vectors;
- the polytope  $\text{STAB}(G)$  is then defined as the convex hull of the vectors in  $S_G$ .

# Example

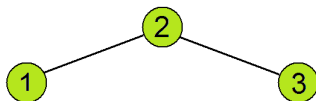


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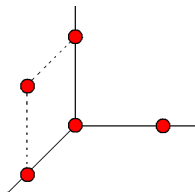


$$S_G = \{(0, 0, 0), (1, 0, 0), (0, 1, 0), (0, 0, 1), (1, 0, 1)\}$$

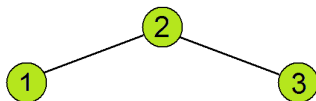
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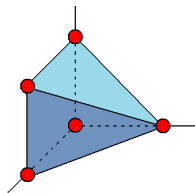
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# Reformulation of the Problem

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Given a graph  $G = ([n], E)$  and a weight vector  $\omega \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , solve

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We intend to find approximations for it.

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It is possible to optimize over this polytope in polynomial time.

**It is in general not a very good relaxation.**



# Definition of Theta Body

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Given a graph  $G = ([n], E)$  we define its **theta body**,  $\text{TH}(G)$ , as the set of all vectors  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$  such that

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & x^t \\ x & U \end{bmatrix} \succeq 0$$

for some symmetric  $U \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  with  $\text{diag}(U) = x$  and  $U_{ij} = 0$  for all  $(i, j) \in E$ .

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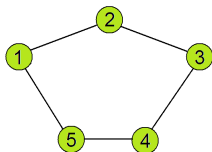
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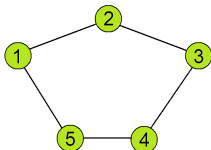
## Theorem (Lovász ~ 1980)

*The relaxation is tight, i.e.  $\text{TH}(G) = \text{STAB}(G)$ , if and only if the graph  $G$  is perfect.*

# Example

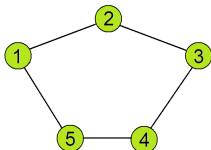


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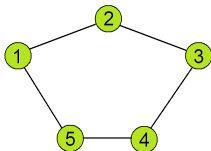
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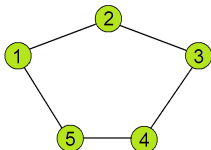
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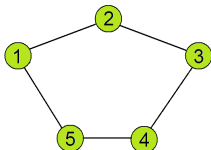
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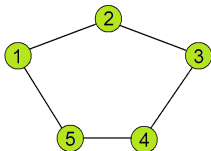


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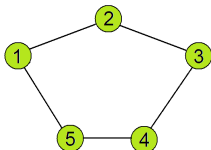
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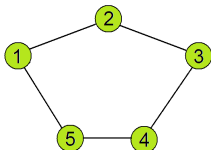
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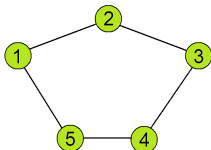
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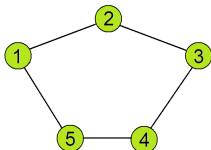
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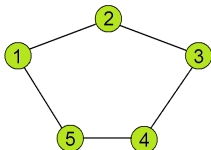
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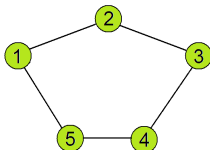
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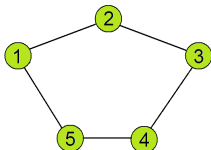
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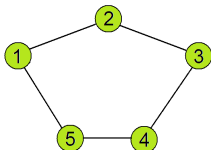


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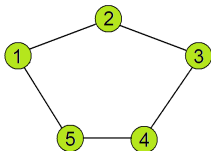
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In this case  $\text{TH}(G) \neq \text{STAB}(G)$

# k-Sums of Squares

Let  $I \subseteq \mathbb{R}[x]$  be an ideal.

$f \in \mathbb{R}[x]$  is **k-sos** modulo  $I$  if and only if

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For any  $p$  in  $\mathcal{V}_{\mathbb{R}}(I)$  we have

$$f(p) = h_1^2(p) + \dots + h_m^2(p) \geq 0,$$

so being  $k$ -sos modulo  $I$ , implies being nonnegative on  $\mathcal{V}_{\mathbb{R}}(I)$ .

# Convex Hulls of Varieties

We want to use this tool to approximate  $S = \mathcal{V}_{\mathbb{R}}(I)$ . Note that

## Convex Hull

$$\overline{\text{conv}(S)} = \bigcap_{\ell \text{ linear}, \ell|_S \geq 0} \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n : \ell(\mathbf{x}) \geq 0\}.$$

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which we call the  $d$ -th Theta Body of  $I$ .

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We have  $\overline{\text{conv}(S)} \subseteq \cdots \subseteq \text{TH}_3(I) \subseteq \text{TH}_2(I) \subseteq \text{TH}_1(I)$ .

# Theta body - Example

(Loading...)

$$\text{TH}_2(I) \text{ for } I = \langle x(x^2 + y^2) - x^4 - x^2y^2 - y^4 \rangle.$$



# Back to Stable Sets

For a graph  $G$ , let  $S_G = \{\chi_S : S \text{ is stable}\}$  and  $I_G = \mathcal{I}(S_G)$ , then  $\text{TH}_k(I_G)$  is a hierarchy approximating  $\text{STAB}(G)$ .

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## Stable Set Ideal

$$I_G = \langle x_1^2 - x_1, x_2^2 - x_2, \dots, x_n^2 - x_n, x_i x_j \mid \text{for all } \{i, j\} \in E \rangle.$$

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This relates the new relaxations to the Lovász theta body.

## Theorem

For any graph  $G$ ,  $\text{TH}(G) = \text{TH}_1(I_G)$ .

# Certificates

If  $H \subseteq G$  is a clique, then

$$1 - \sum_{i \in H} x_i \geq 0$$

is valid on  $\text{STAB}(G)$ . Is it valid on  $\text{TH}_1(I_G)$ ?

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Since, modulo  $I_G$ ,  $x_i^2 = x_i$  and  $x_i x_j = 0$  for  $\{i, j\} \in E$ ,

$$1 - \sum_{i \in H} x_i \equiv \left(1 - \sum_{i \in H} x_i\right)^2 \text{ modulo } I_G$$

hence it is 1-sos and valid on  $\text{TH}_1(I_G)$ .

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$\text{TH}_2(I_G) = \text{STAB}(G)$  for  $h$ -perfect graphs.

# Further Thoughts on Stable Sets

Since  $G$  is  $\text{TH}_1$ -exact if and only if it is perfect, makes sense to ask

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We know for example that odd cycle and odd wheel inequalities are captured in  $\text{TH}_2(I_G)$ . Little else has been done, which raises another interesting open question.

## Question

Find an explicit family  $G_n$  for which  $\text{TH}_n(I_{G_n}) \neq \text{STAB}(G_n)$  for all  $n$ .

# Combinatorial Moment Matrices

**How to optimize over these bodies?**

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be a basis of  $\mathbb{R}[x]/I$  and  $\mathcal{B}_k$  its truncation at degree  $k$ .

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$$(f^k(x))(f^k(x))^t = \sum_{f_i \in \mathcal{B}} A_i f_i(x)$$

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for some symmetric matrices  $A_i$ . Given a vector  $y$  indexed by the elements in  $\mathcal{B}$  we define the  **$k$ -th truncated combinatorial moment matrix** of  $y$  as

$$M_{\mathcal{B},k}(y) = \sum_{f_i \in \mathcal{B}} A_i y_{f_i}.$$

# Combinatorial Moment Matrices - Example

Let  $I = \langle x_1^2 - x_1, x_2^2 - x_2, x_3^2 - x_3 \rangle \subset \mathbb{R}[x_1, x_2, x_3]$ ,

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1	$y_0$	$y_1$	$y_2$	$y_3$	$y_{12}$	$y_{13}$	$y_{23}$	$y_{123}$
$x_1$	$y_1$	$y_1$	$y_{12}$	$y_{13}$	$y_{12}$	$y_{13}$	$y_{123}$	$y_{123}$
$x_2$	$y_2$	$y_{12}$	$y_2$	$y_{23}$	$y_{12}$	$y_{123}$	$y_{23}$	$y_{123}$
$x_3$	$y_3$	$y_{13}$	$y_{23}$	$y_3$	$y_{123}$	$y_{13}$	$y_{23}$	$y_{123}$
$x_1x_2$	$y_{12}$	$y_{12}$	$y_{12}$	$y_{123}$	$y_{12}$	$y_{123}$	$y_{123}$	$y_{123}$
$x_1x_3$	$y_{13}$	$y_{13}$	$y_{123}$	$y_{13}$	$y_{123}$	$y_{13}$	$y_{123}$	$y_{123}$
$x_2x_3$	$y_{23}$	$y_{123}$	$y_{23}$	$y_{23}$	$y_{123}$	$y_{123}$	$y_{23}$	$y_{123}$
$x_1x_2x_3$	$y_{123}$	$y_{123}$	$y_{123}$	$y_{123}$	$y_{123}$	$y_{123}$	$y_{123}$	$y_{123}$

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$M_{\mathcal{B},2}(y)$  is given by:

$$\begin{array}{c} 1 \\ x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_1x_2 \\ x_1x_3 \\ x_2x_3 \\ x_1x_2x_3 \end{array} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & x_1 & x_2 & x_3 & x_1x_2 & x_1x_3 & x_2x_3 & x_1x_2x_3 \\ \mathbf{y_0} & \mathbf{y_1} & \mathbf{y_2} & \mathbf{y_3} & \mathbf{y_{12}} & \mathbf{y_{13}} & \mathbf{y_{23}} & y_{123} \\ \mathbf{y_1} & \mathbf{y_1} & \mathbf{y_{12}} & \mathbf{y_{13}} & \mathbf{y_{12}} & \mathbf{y_{13}} & \mathbf{y_{123}} & y_{123} \\ \mathbf{y_2} & \mathbf{y_{12}} & \mathbf{y_2} & \mathbf{y_{23}} & \mathbf{y_{12}} & \mathbf{y_{123}} & \mathbf{y_{23}} & y_{123} \\ \mathbf{y_3} & \mathbf{y_{13}} & \mathbf{y_{23}} & \mathbf{y_3} & \mathbf{y_{123}} & \mathbf{y_{13}} & \mathbf{y_{23}} & y_{123} \\ \mathbf{y_{12}} & \mathbf{y_{12}} & \mathbf{y_{12}} & \mathbf{y_{123}} & \mathbf{y_{12}} & \mathbf{y_{123}} & \mathbf{y_{123}} & y_{123} \\ \mathbf{y_{13}} & \mathbf{y_{13}} & \mathbf{y_{123}} & \mathbf{y_{13}} & \mathbf{y_{123}} & \mathbf{y_{13}} & \mathbf{y_{123}} & y_{123} \\ \mathbf{y_{23}} & \mathbf{y_{123}} & \mathbf{y_{23}} & \mathbf{y_{23}} & \mathbf{y_{123}} & \mathbf{y_{123}} & \mathbf{y_{23}} & y_{123} \\ y_{123} & y_{123} & y_{123} & y_{123} & y_{123} & y_{123} & y_{123} & y_{123} \end{bmatrix}$$

# Moment relaxation

Define the convex body

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## Theorem

For any ideal  $I$ ,  $\overline{L_k(I)} = \text{TH}_k(I)$ .

This allows us to optimize over  $\text{TH}_k(I)$  efficiently.

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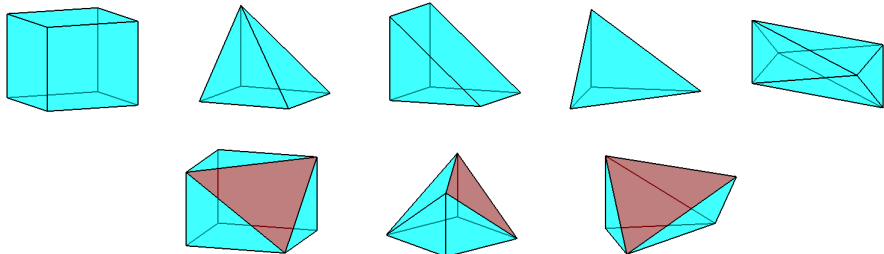
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*If  $S \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  is finite and  $I = \mathcal{I}(S)$  then  $\text{TH}_1(I) = \text{conv}(S)$  if and only if  $S$  is the set of vertices of a 2-level polytope.*

# Examples in $\mathbb{R}^3$



# The Max-Cut Problem

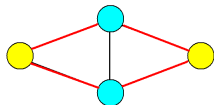
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Given a graph  $G = (V, E)$  and a partition  $V_1, V_2$  of  $V$  the set  $C$  of edges between  $V_1$  and  $V_2$  is called a **cut**.

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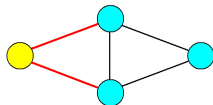
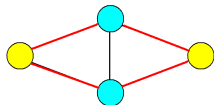
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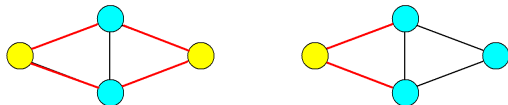
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## The Problem

Given edge weights  $\alpha$  we want to find which cut  $C$  maximizes

$$\alpha(C) := \sum_{e \in C} \alpha_e.$$

# The Cut Polytope

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For each cut  $C$ , consider its characteristic vectors  $\chi_C \subseteq \mathbb{R}^E$ , where  $(\chi_C)_e = -1$  if  $e \in C$  and 1 otherwise.

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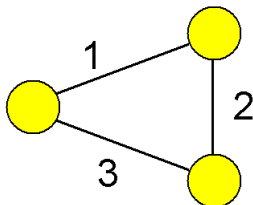
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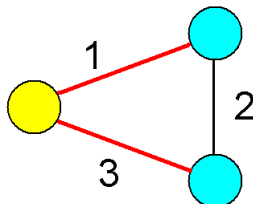


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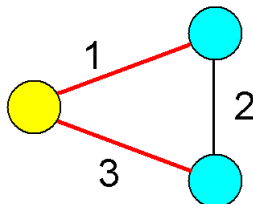


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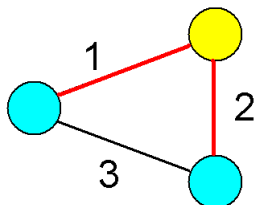


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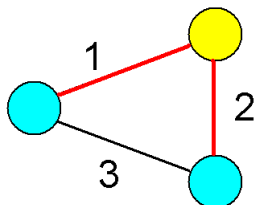


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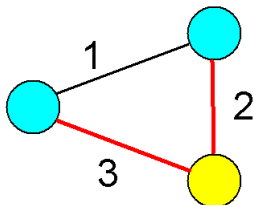


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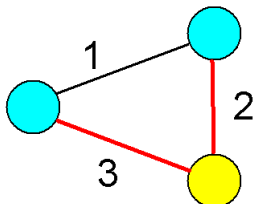


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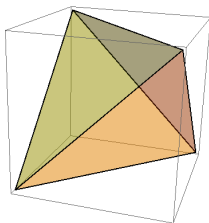


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# LP formulation and relaxation

Our plan is to consider the vanishing ideal

$$I_G := \{f \in \mathbb{R}[\mathbf{x}] : f(\chi_C) = 0 \text{ for all cuts of } G\},$$

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This again can be done ‘efficiently’ using combinatorial moment matrices.

# T-Joins

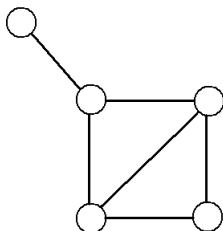
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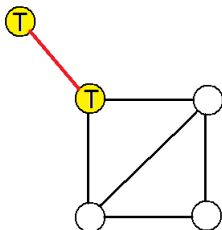
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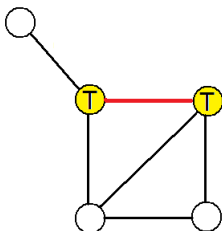
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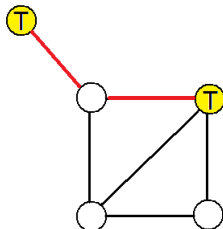
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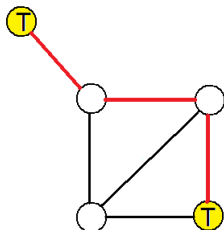
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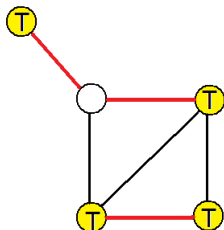
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# The Ideal

## Theorem

If  $G$  is connected then the set

$$\{x_e^2 - 1 : e \in E\} \cup \{1 - \mathbf{x}^A : A \subseteq E, A \text{ circuit in } G\}$$

generates  $I_G$ , and

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Given a graph  $G = (V, E)$  the body  $TH_1(I_G)$  is the set of all  $x \in \mathbb{R}^E$  such that

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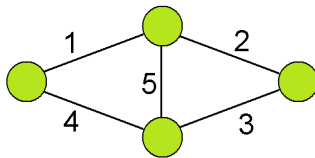
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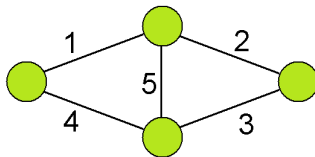
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# Example

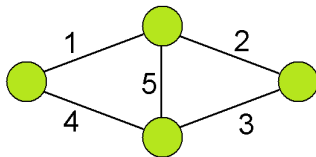


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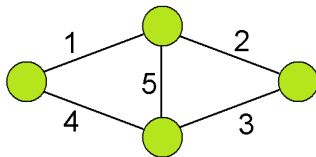
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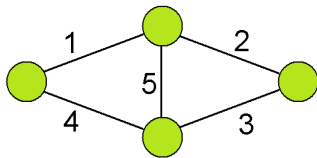
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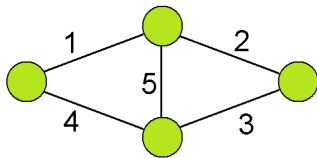
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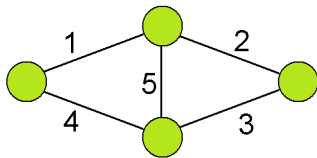
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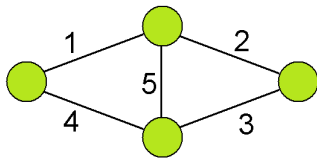
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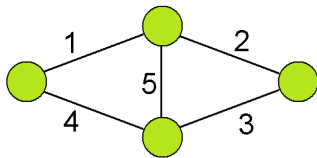


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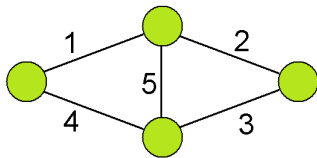
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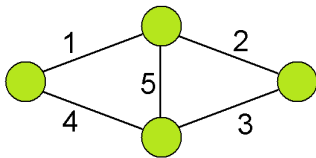
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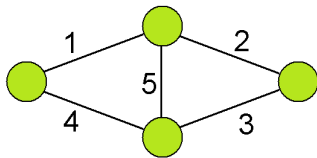
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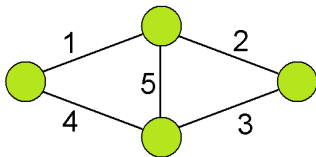
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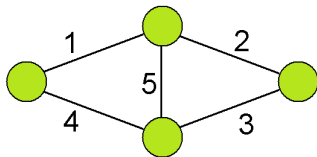
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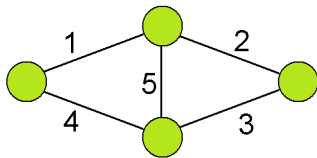
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## Theorem

*A graph is cut-perfect if and only if it has no  $K_5$  minor and no chordless cycle of size larger than 4.*

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- How general are these relaxations? How can we generate better ones?
- This connects to a rich theory of lift-and-project procedures, and of extensions of polytopes...

The End

Thank You