

# Pseudo-Codewords: Fractional Vectors in Coding Theory

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# Overview of Talk

- Communications setup
- Linear programming (LP) decoding
- Pseudo-codeword spectra
- Graph-cover interpretation of pseudo-codewords
- Influence of redundant rows in the parity-check matrix and of cycles in the Tanner graph
- Pseudo-codewords and the edge zeta function
- Canonical completion construction
- LP decoding thresholds for the binary symmetric channel (BSC)

*Note: see appendices for more details.*

# Communication systems and Shannon's channel coding theorem

# Communication System (Part 1)

Source

Sink



# Communication System (Part 1)



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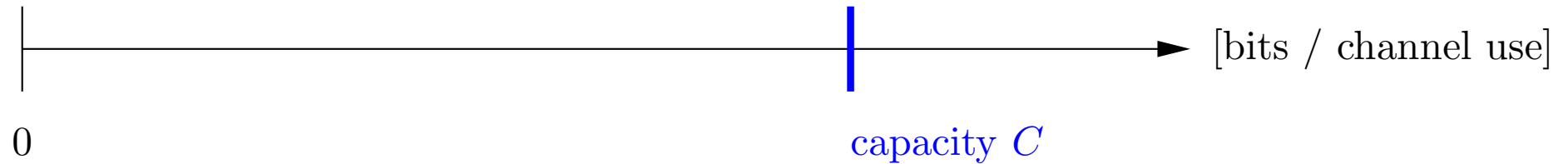
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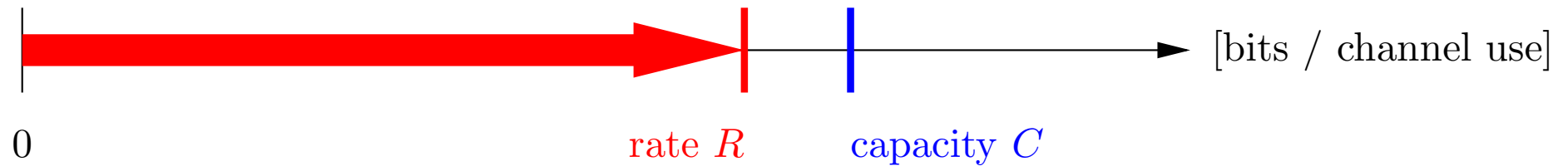
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# Communication System (Part 2)



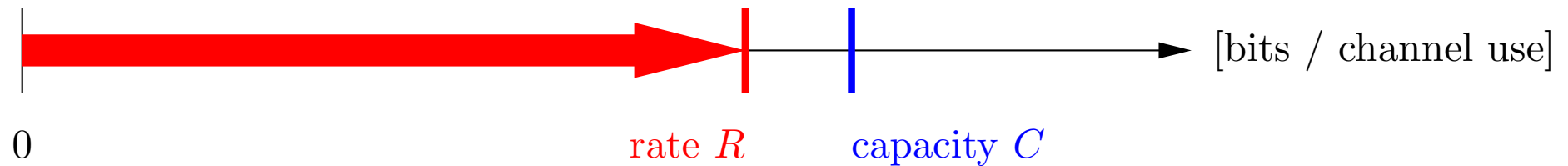
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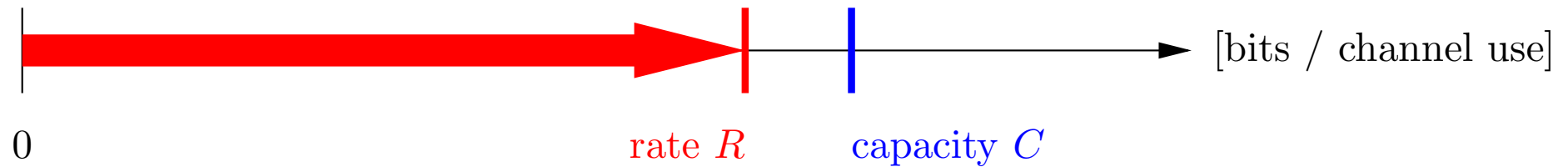
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- If  $R < C$ : there are codes, encoders, and decoders such that arbitrarily low error probabilities can be guaranteed (as long as one allows arbitrarily long codes).
- Shannon's proof was though **non-constructive**, i.e. it was not clear at all how to obtain specific well-performing finite-length codes that possess efficient encoders and decoders.



# “Traditional” vs. “Modern” Coding and Decoding

	Code design		Decoding
”Traditional”	Reed-Solomon codes etc.	→	?
”Modern”	?	→	Message-passing iterative decoding LP decoding

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”Traditional”	Reed-Solomon codes etc.	→	Berlekamp-Massey decoder etc.
”Modern”	Codes on Graphs (LDPC/Turbo codes, etc.)	→	Message-passing Iterative decoding LP decoding

# Communication Model (Part 1)



Information word:  $\mathbf{u} = (u_1, \dots, u_k) \in \mathcal{U}^k$

Sent codeword:  $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_n) \in \mathcal{C} \subseteq \mathcal{X}^n$

Received word:  $\mathbf{y} = (y_1, \dots, y_n) \in \mathcal{Y}^n$

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Depending on what criterion we optimize, we obtain different **decoding algorithms**.

# Communication Model (Part 2)



- Min. the block error prob. results in **block-wise MAP decoding**

$$\hat{\mathbf{u}}_{\text{MAP}}^{\text{block}}(\mathbf{y}) = \underset{\mathbf{u} \in \mathcal{U}^k}{\operatorname{argmax}} P_{\mathbf{U}|\mathbf{Y}}(\mathbf{u}|\mathbf{y}) = \underset{\mathbf{u} \in \mathcal{U}^k}{\operatorname{argmax}} P_{\mathbf{U},\mathbf{Y}}(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{y}).$$



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# Linear Code Representations

Image representation:

Kernel representation:

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Image representation (based on generator matrix  $\mathbf{G}$ ):

$$\mathcal{C} = \{ \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{F}^n \mid \text{there exists } \mathbf{u} \in \mathbb{F}^k \text{ such that } \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{G} \} .$$

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Kernel representation (based on parity-check matrix  $\mathbf{H}$ ):

$$\mathcal{C} = \{ \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{F}^n \mid \mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{H}^T = \mathbf{0} \} .$$

# Linear Code Representations (Example 1)

$$\mathbf{G} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \mathbf{H} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$



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Tanner / factor graph representation:

$x_1$  ○

$x_2$  ○

$x_3$  ○

$x_4$  ○

$x_5$  ○

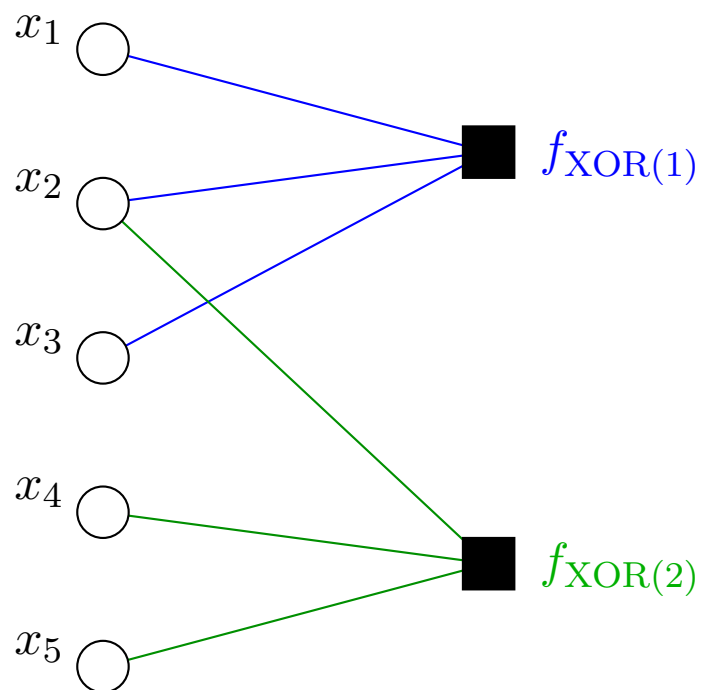
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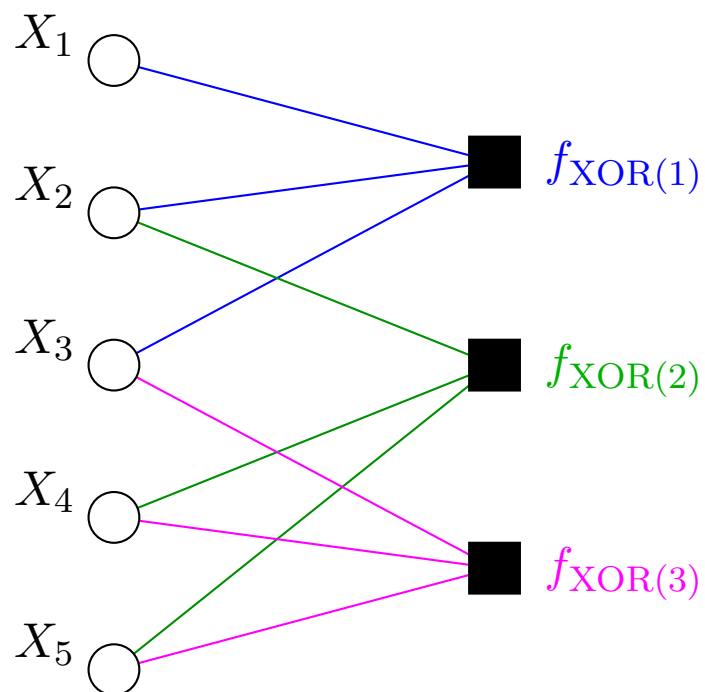
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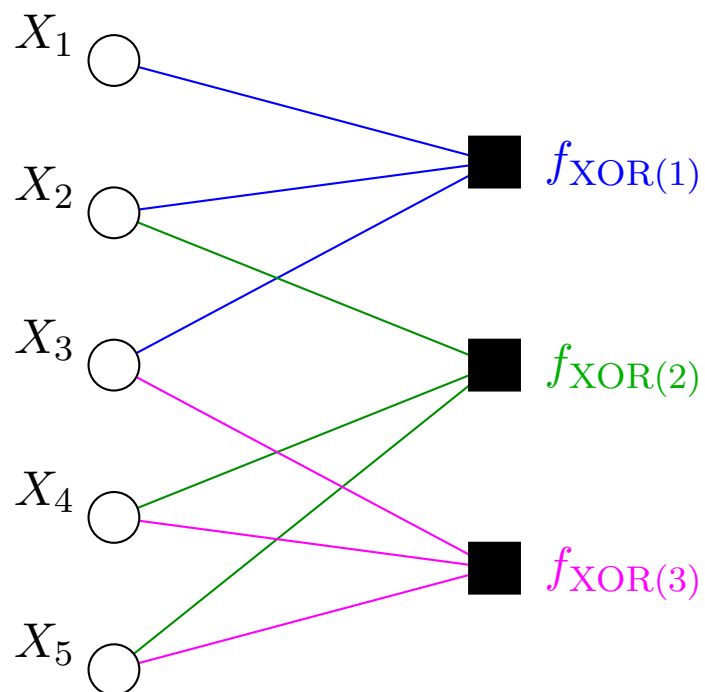
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Tanner / factor graph representation:



Note: in contrast to Example 1, this Tanner graph has cycles.

**Expressing a decoder as  
the solution of a linear program**



# ML Decoding as an *Integer* LP

For memoryless channels, block-wise ML decoding of a binary code can be written as a linear program.

$$\hat{\mathbf{x}}_{\text{ML}}^{\text{block}}(\mathbf{y}) = \arg \max_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{C}} P_{\mathbf{Y}|\mathbf{X}}(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{x})$$

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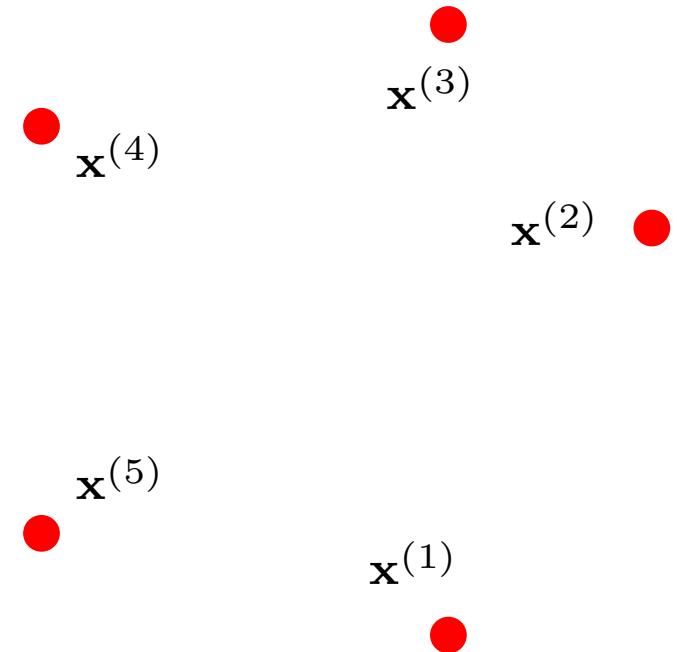
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where

$$\lambda_i \triangleq \lambda_i(y_i) \triangleq \log \frac{P_{\mathbf{Y}|\mathbf{X}}(y_i|0)}{P_{\mathbf{Y}|\mathbf{X}}(y_i|1)}.$$

# ML Decoding as an LP

$$\arg \min_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{C}} \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i x_i$$



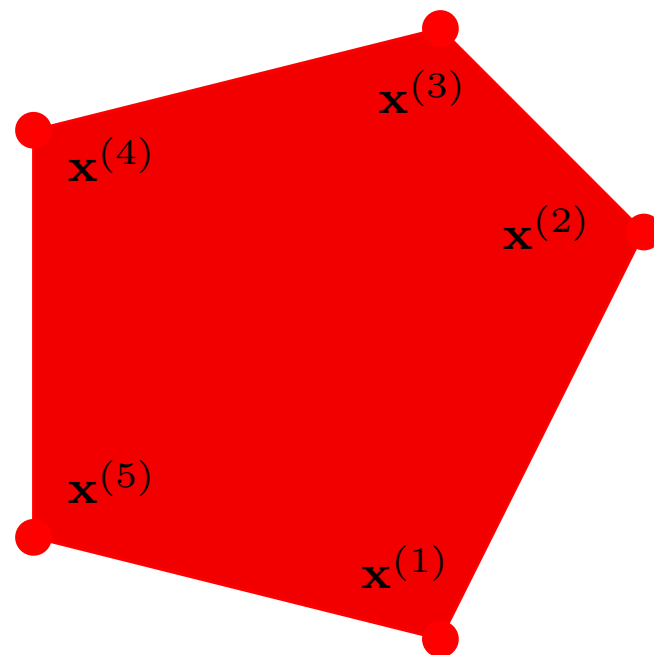
e.g.

$$\mathcal{C} = \left\{ \mathbf{x}^{(1)}, \dots, \mathbf{x}^{(5)} \right\}$$

# ML Decoding as an LP

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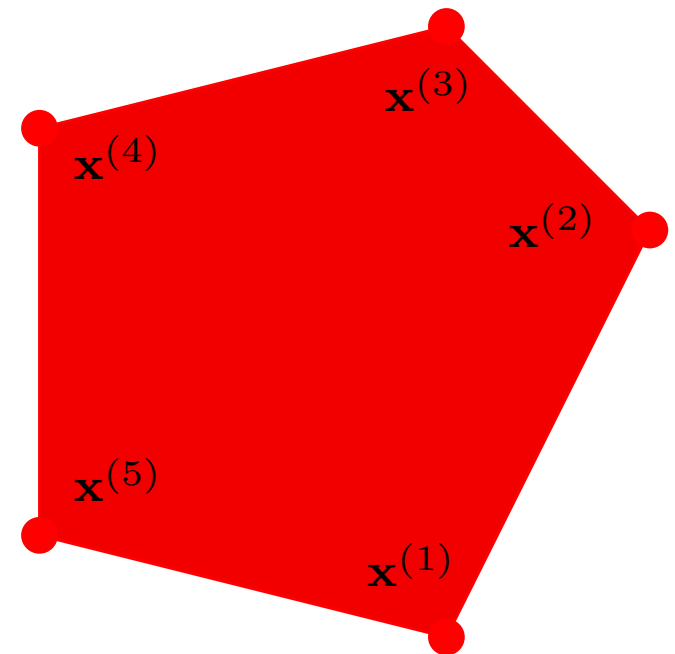
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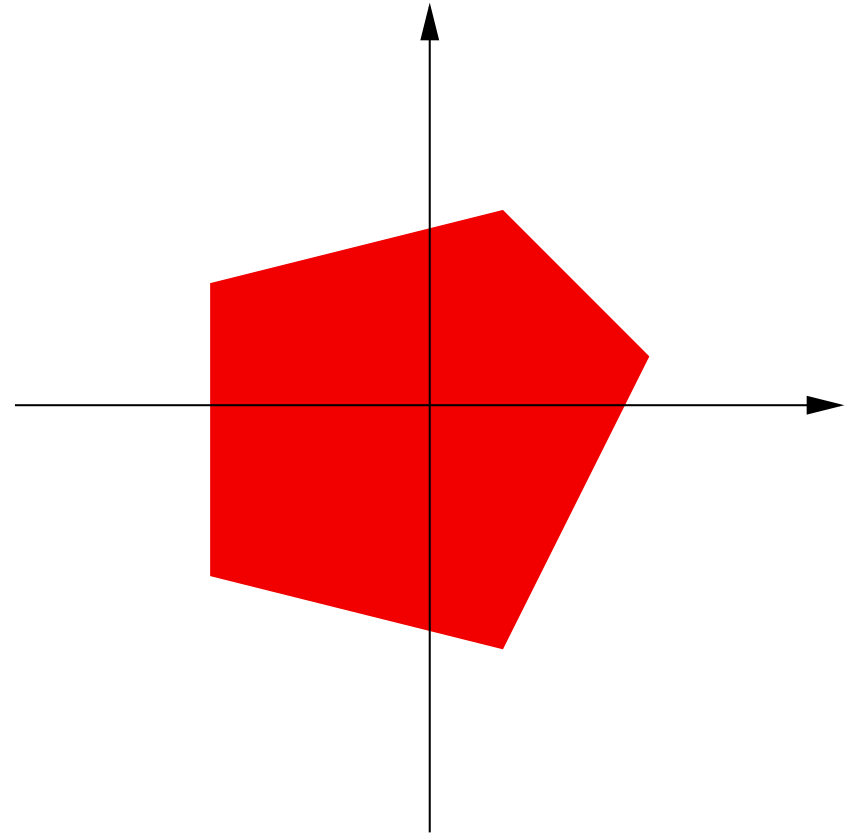
However, the

number of variables / equalities / inequalities needed to describe the polytope  $\text{conv}(\mathcal{C})$  is (usually) **exponential in  $n$** .



# Relaxing the Previous LP

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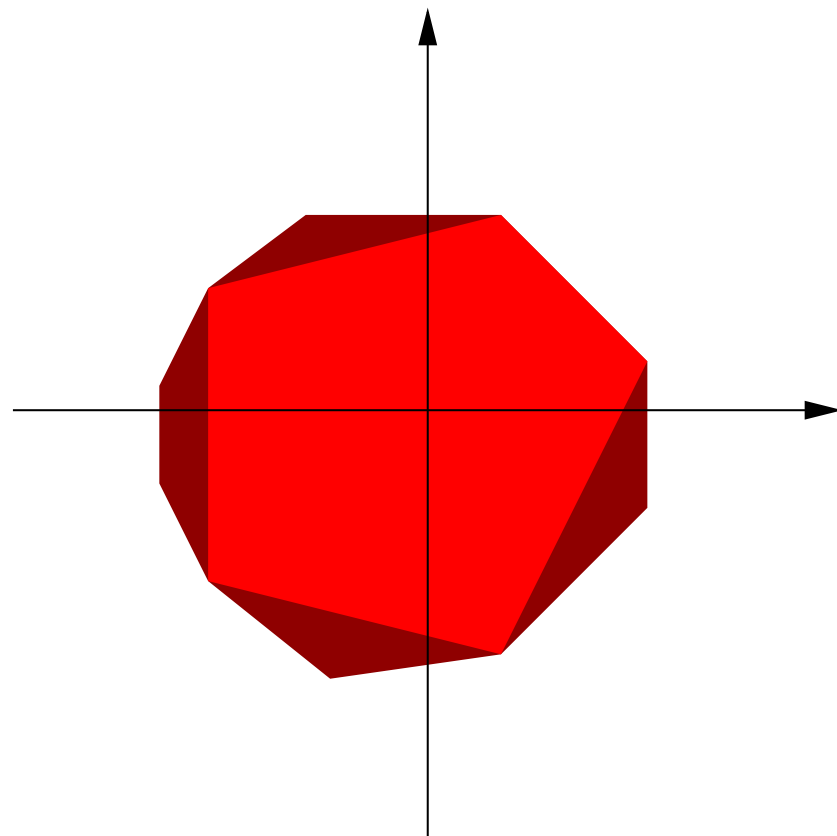


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$$\arg \min_{\mathbf{x} \in \text{conv}(C)} \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i x_i$$

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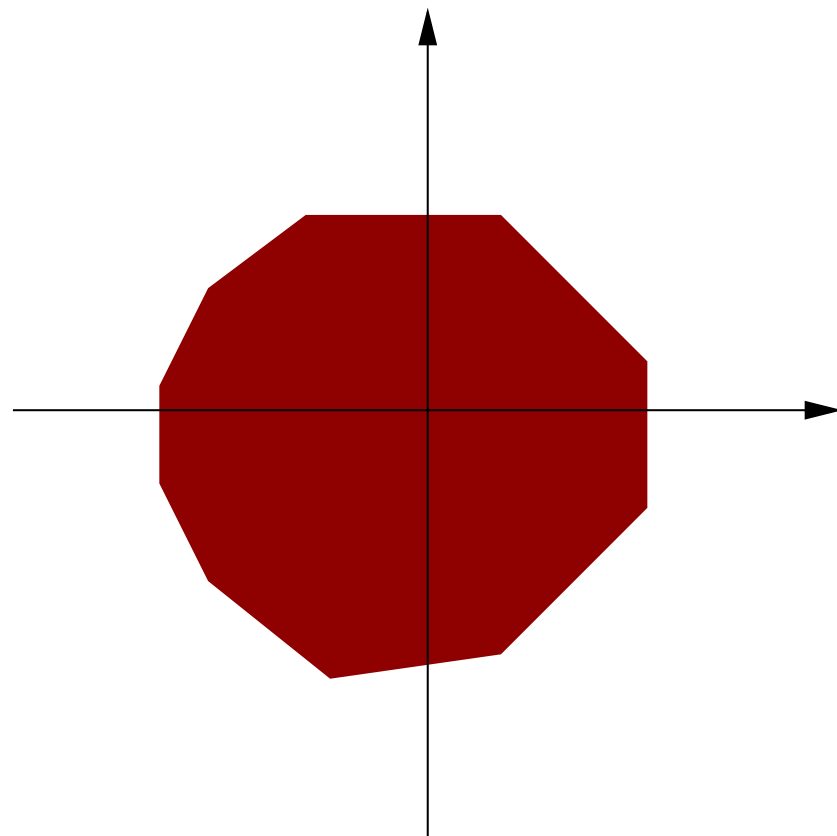


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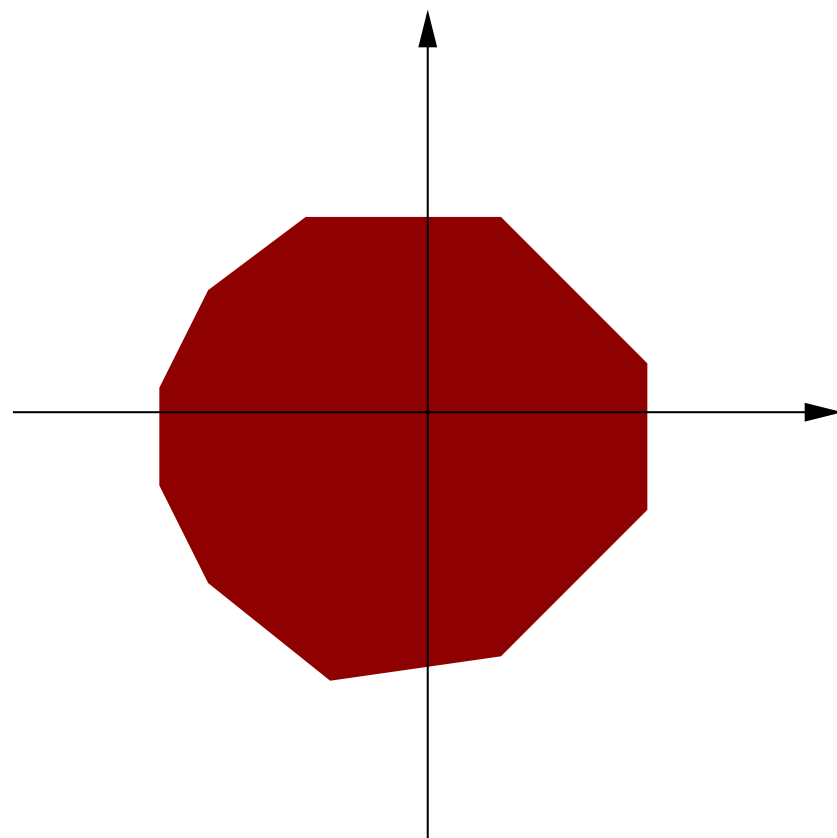


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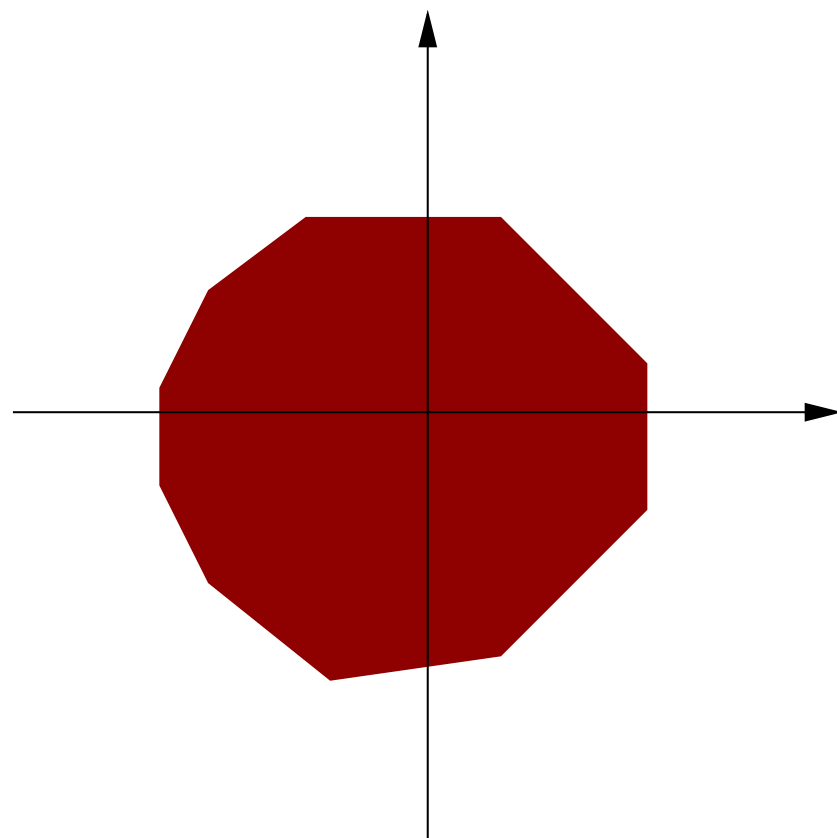
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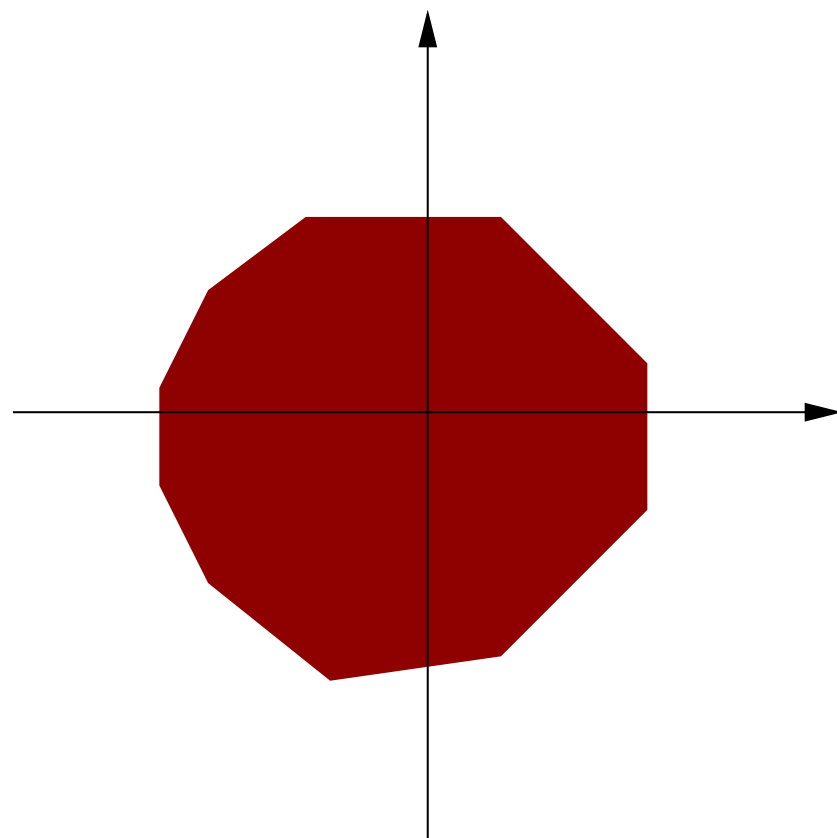
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## Desirable features:

- old vertices are also vertices in relaxation;
- relaxation has simple description.

# A Interesting Relaxation

$$\mathbf{H} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \mathcal{C}_1$$
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$$\Rightarrow \mathcal{C} = \bigcap_{j=1}^m \mathcal{C}_j \quad \Rightarrow \underbrace{\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{H}) = \bigcap_{j=1}^m \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_j)}_{\text{relaxation}}$$



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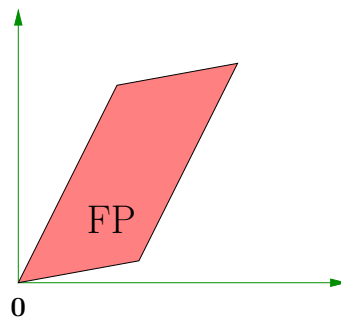
$$\hat{\omega}_{\text{LP}}(\mathbf{y}) = \arg \min_{\omega \in \cap_{j=1}^m \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_j)} \sum_{i=1}^n \omega_i \lambda_i.$$

The above choice of  $\text{relax}(\text{conv}(C))$  was suggested by [Feldman/Wainwright/Karger:03/05]. (Here,  $\mathcal{C}_j$  is the set of vectors that satisfy only the parity-check given by the  $j$ -th row of  $\mathbf{H}$ .)

# Fundamental Polytope / Cone

$$\mathbf{H} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_1)$$
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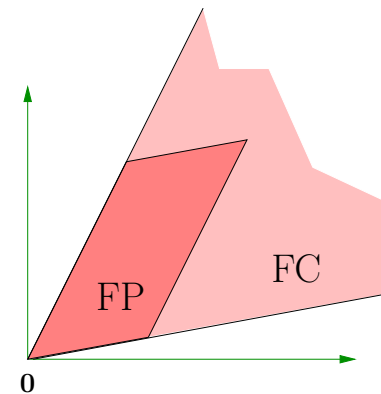
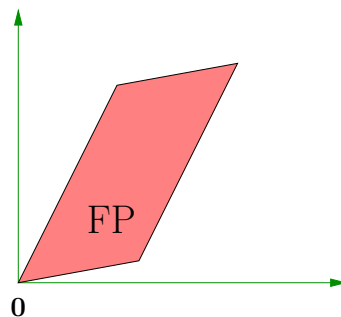
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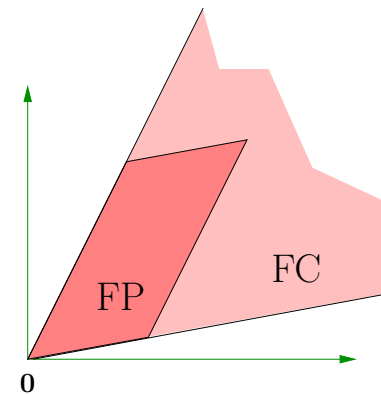
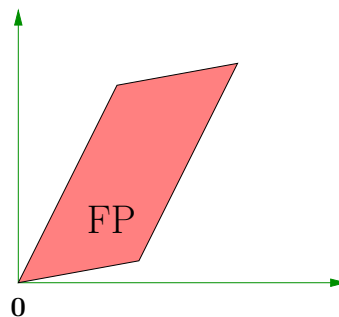
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$$\Rightarrow \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_2) \Rightarrow \text{conic}(\mathcal{C}_2)$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_3) \Rightarrow \text{conic}(\mathcal{C}_3)$$

$$\Rightarrow \underbrace{\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{H}) = \bigcap_{j=1}^m \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_j)}_{\text{Fundamental polytope}} \Rightarrow \underbrace{\mathcal{K}(\mathbf{H}) = \bigcap_{j=1}^m \text{conic}(\mathcal{C}_j)}_{\text{Fundamental cone}}$$





# Fundamental Polytope / Cone

Definitions:

# Fundamental Polytope / Cone

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- Vectors in the fundamental polytope are called **pseudo-codewords**.

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- Edges of the fundamental polytope/cone through origin are called **minimal pseudo-codewords**.

# Fundamental Polytope / Cone

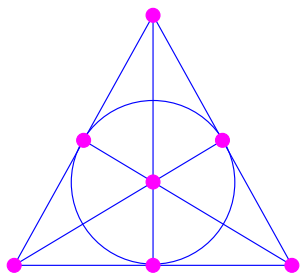
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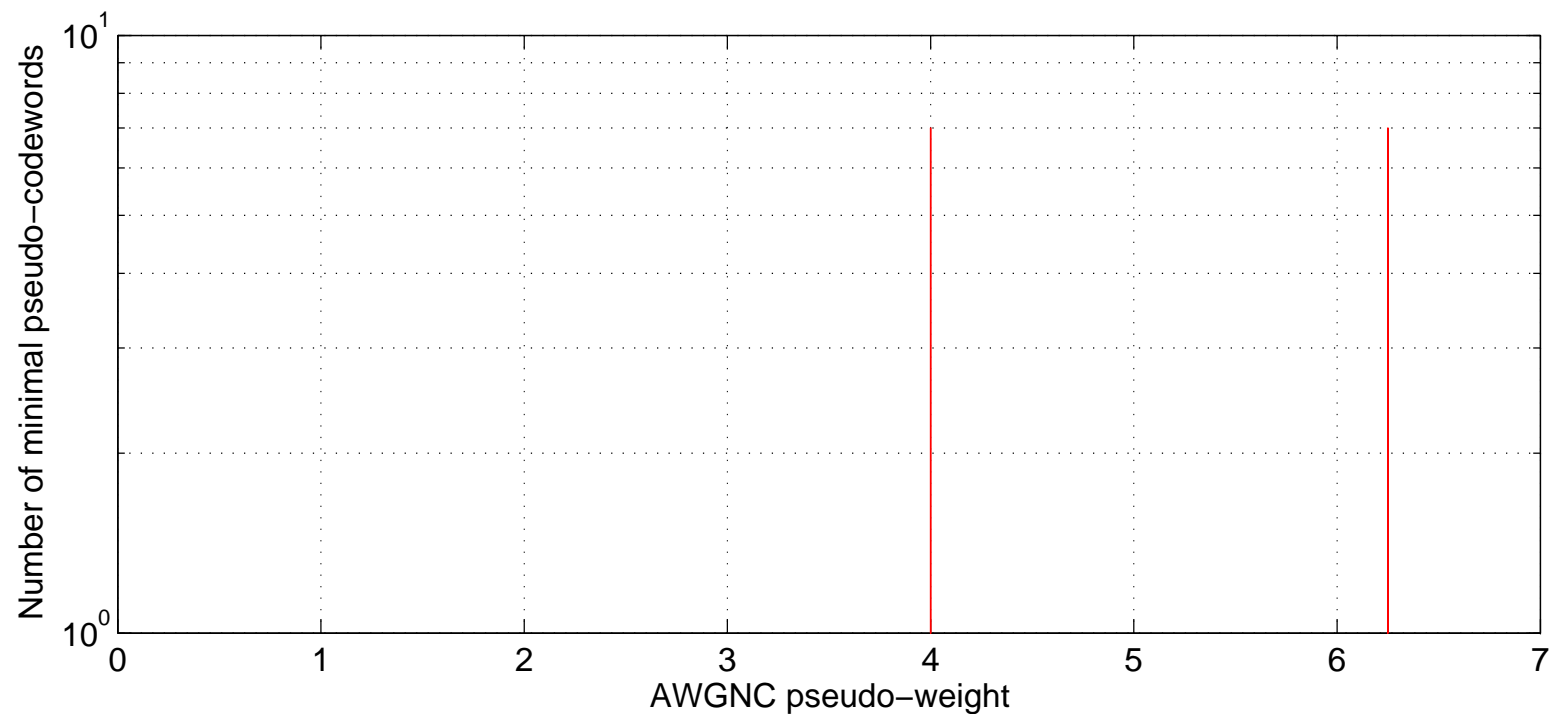
Very important: **the fundamental polytope is a function of the parity-check matrix** representing a code — different parity-check matrices for the same code can yield different fundamental polytopes.

# Pseudo-codeword spectra

# Pseudo-Codeword Spectra



Consider the  $PG(2,2)$ -based  $[7, 3, 4]$  binary linear code.  
Here is its **minimal pseudo-codeword spectrum**:

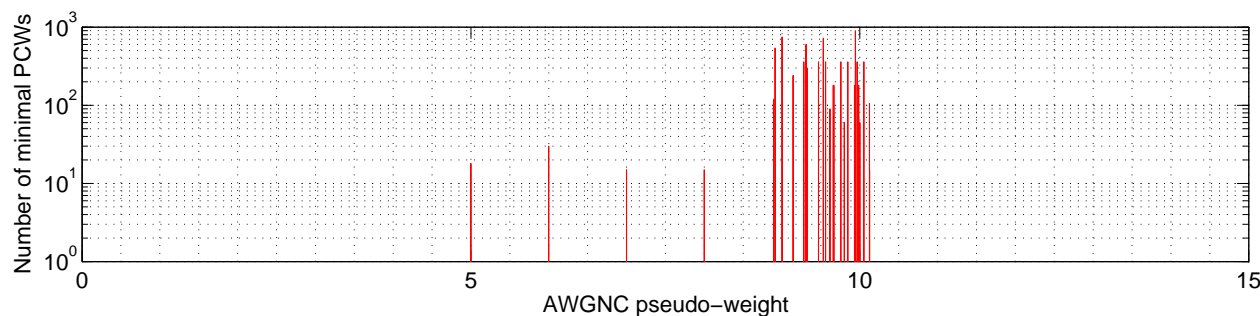




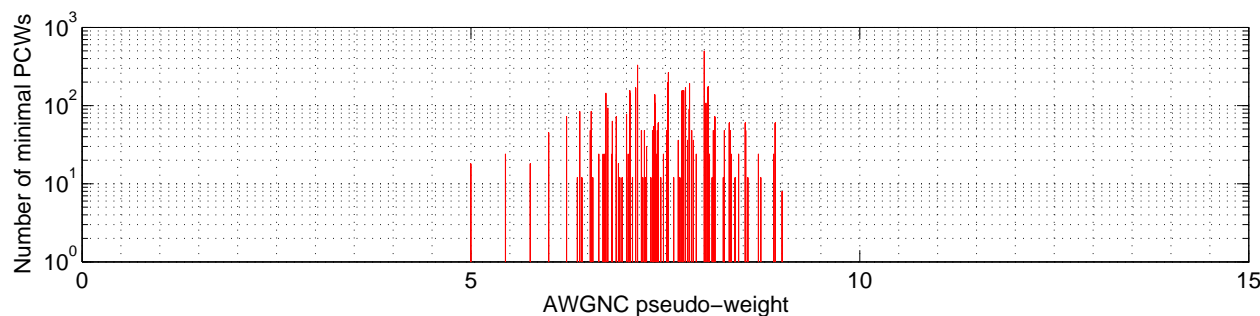
# Pseudo-Codeword Spectra

Consider the EG(2,4)-based  $[15, 7, 5]$  binary linear code.

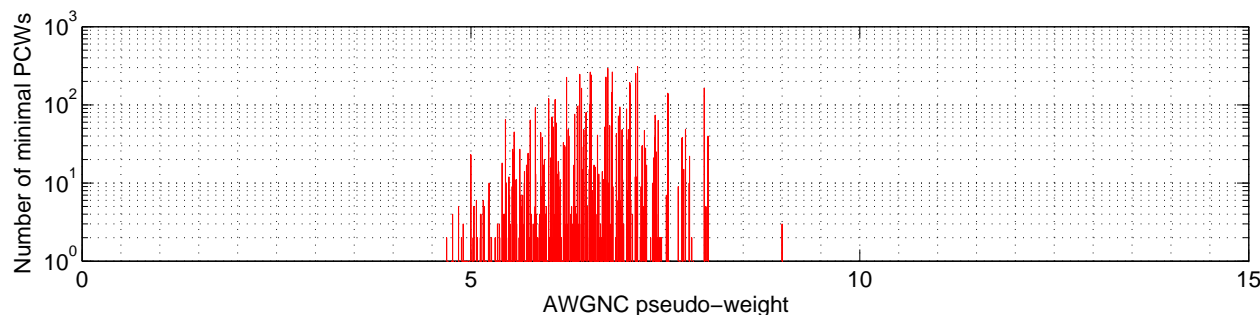
Here are some **minimal pseudo-codeword spectra** for different parity-check matrices of this code:



PCM of  
size  
 $15 \times 15$



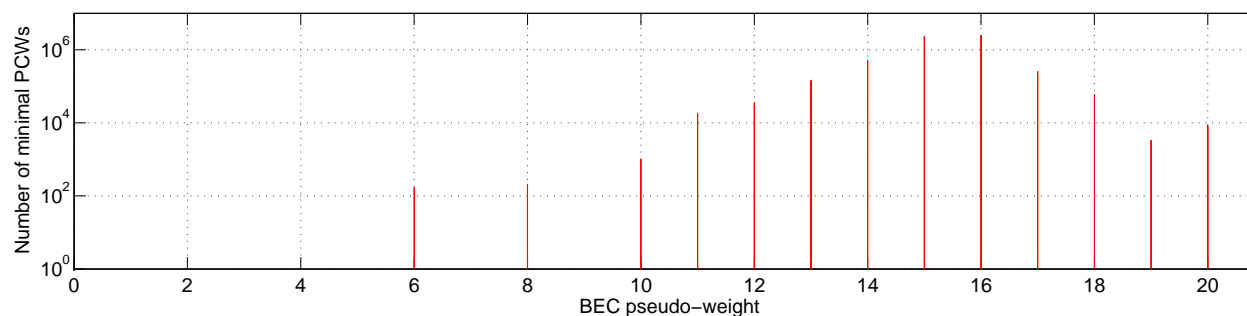
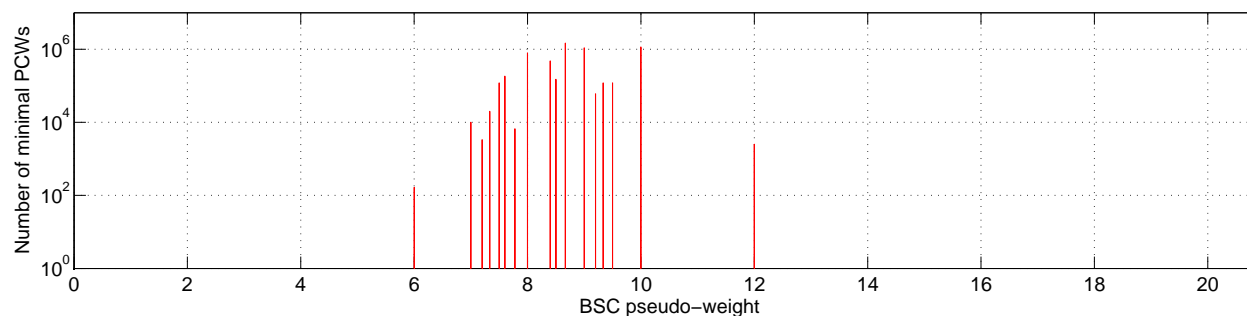
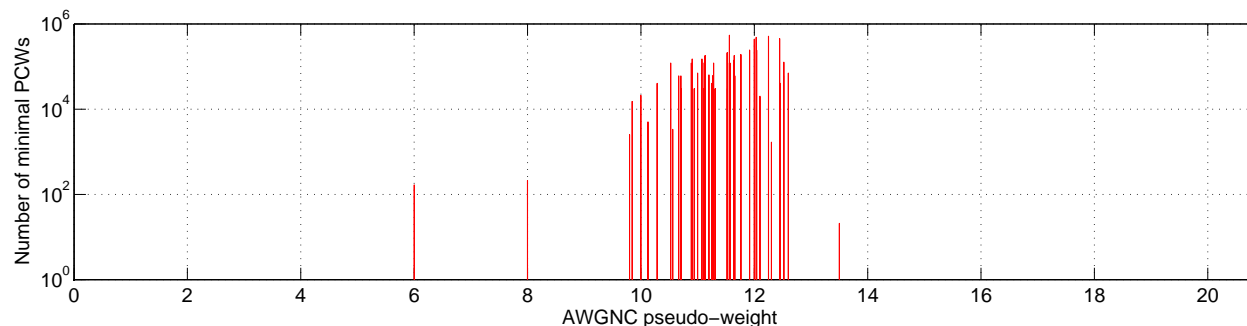
PCM of  
size  
 $9 \times 15$



PCM of  
size  
 $8 \times 15$

# Pseudo-Codeword Spectra

Consider the PG(2,4)-based  $[21, 11, 6]$  binary linear code.



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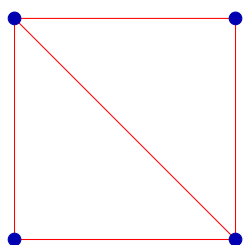
⇒ **It is important which channel is used!**

- Chertkov / Stepanov paper (ISIT 2007) presented an interesting heuristic for approximating the pseudo-weight spectra of minimal codewords for a given code.

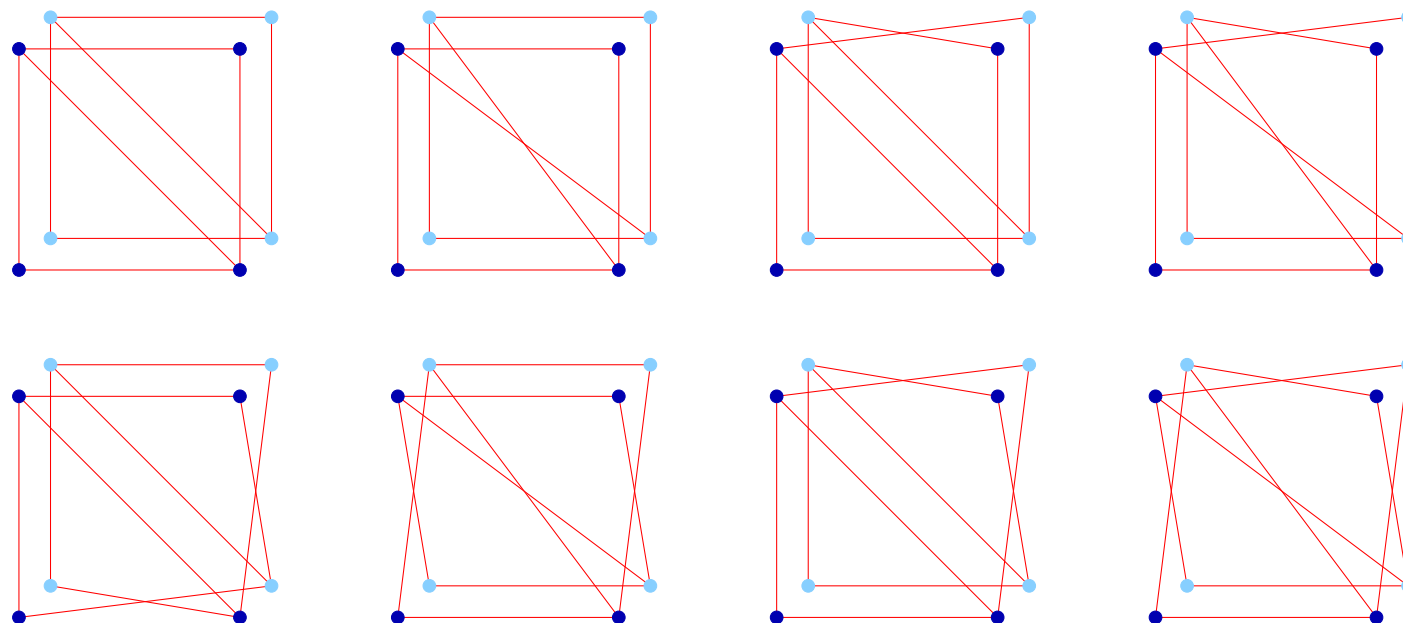
# Graph-cover interpretation of pseudo-codewords



# Graph Covers (Part 1)



original graph

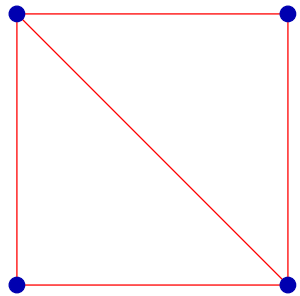


sample of possible  
double covers of  
the original graph

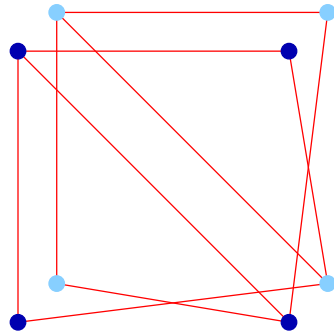
**Definition:** A double cover of a graph is . . .

Note: the above graph has  $2! \cdot 2! \cdot 2! \cdot 2! \cdot 2! = 32$  double covers.

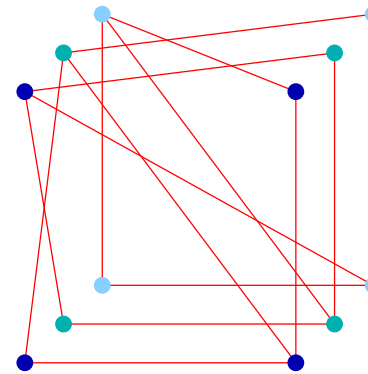
# Graph Covers (Part 2)



original graph



(a possible)  
double cover of  
the original graph

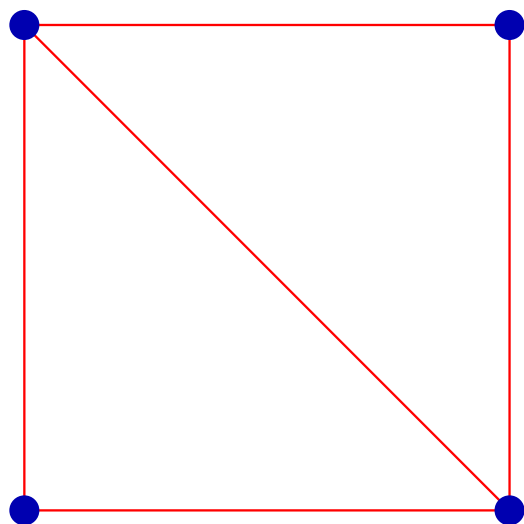


(a possible)  
triple cover of  
the original graph

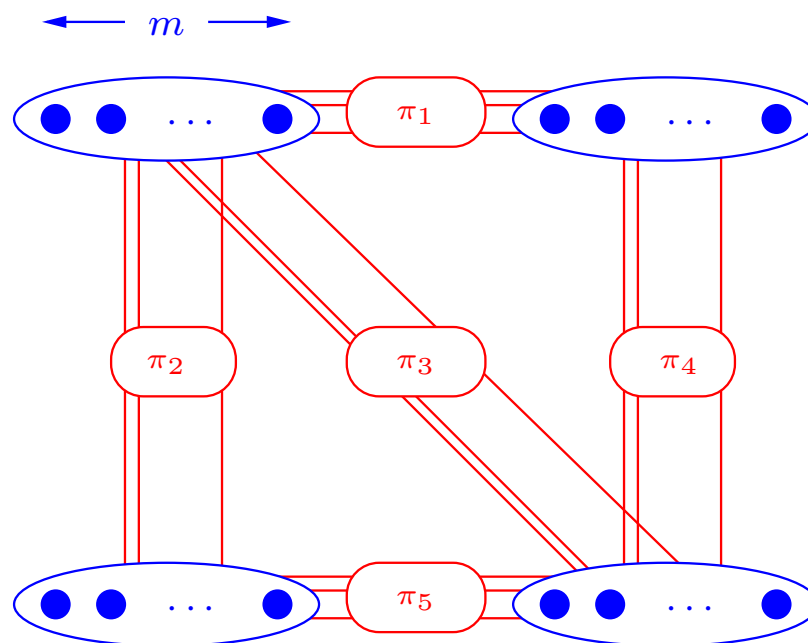
...

Besides **double** covers, a graph also has many **triple** covers, **quadruple** covers, **quintuple** covers, etc.

# Graph Covers (Part 3)



original graph



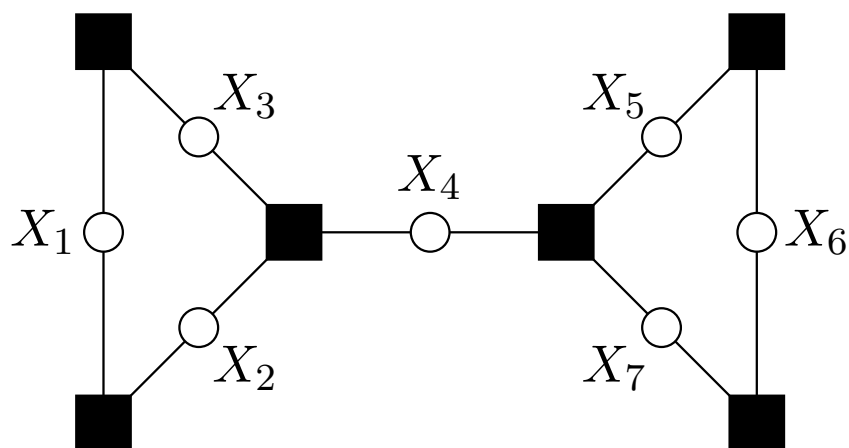
(possible)  
 $m$ -fold cover of  
original graph

An  $m$ -fold cover is also called a cover of degree  $m$ . Do not confuse this degree with the degree of a vertex!

Note: there are many possible  $m$ -fold covers of a graph.

# Codewords in Graph Covers (Part 1)

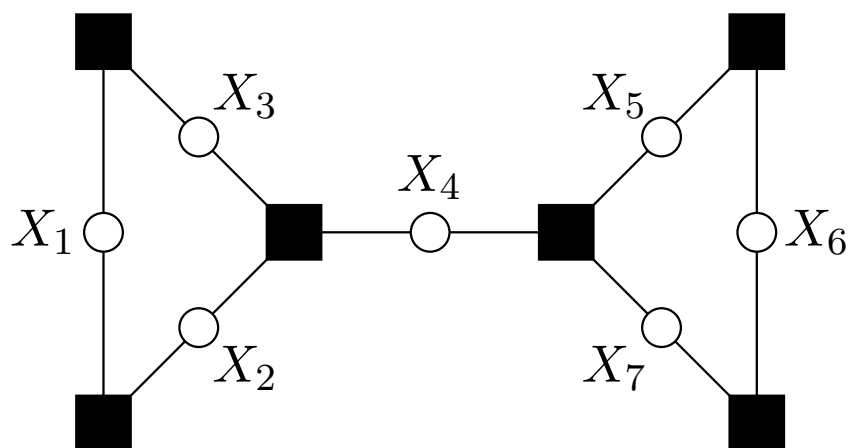
We can also consider covers of Tanner/factor graphs. Here is e.g. a **possible double cover** of some Tanner/factor graph.



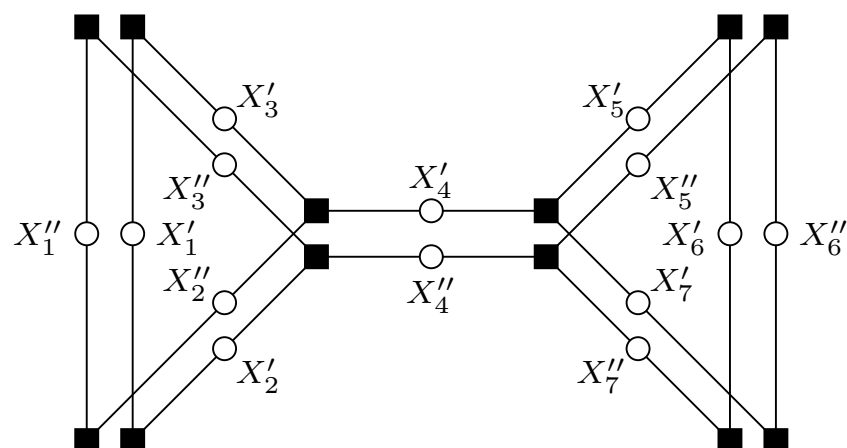
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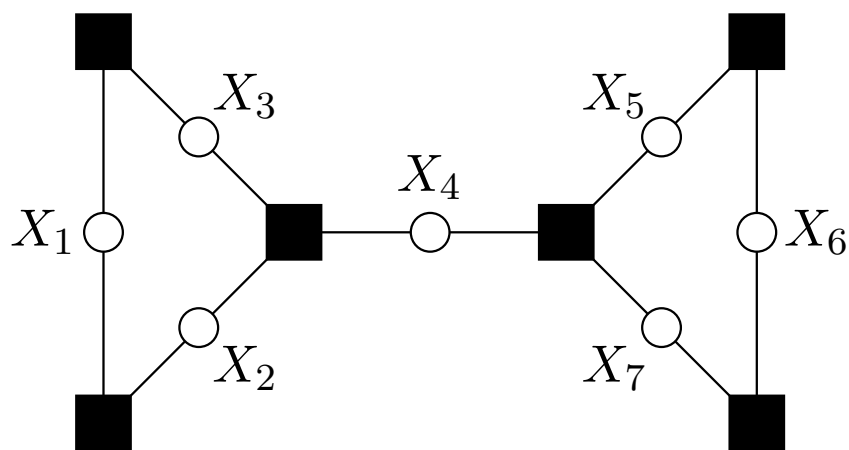
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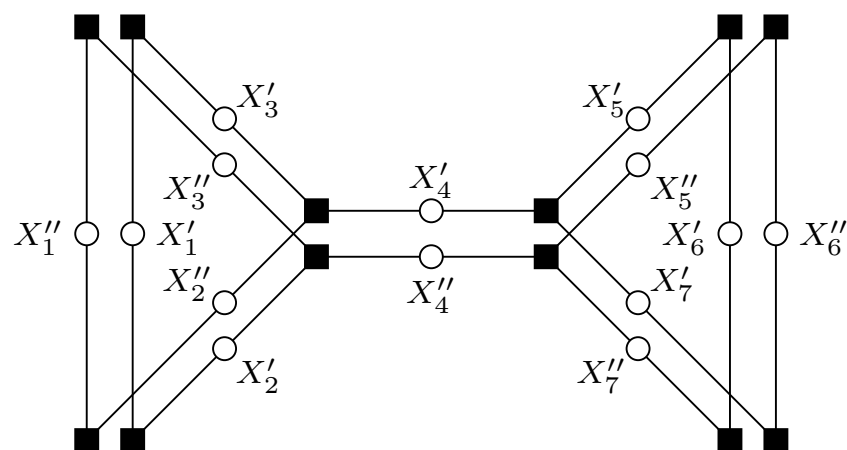
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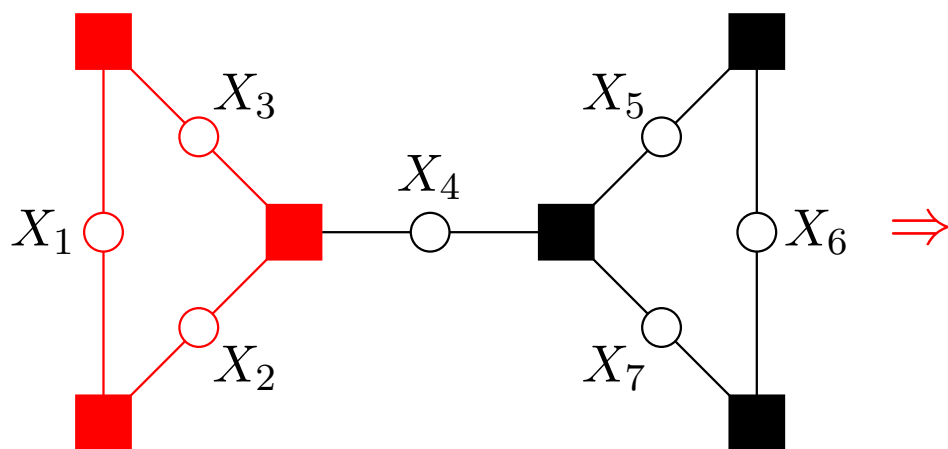


Possible **double cover** of  
the base Tanner/factor graph

Let us **study the codes defined by the graph covers** of the base Tanner/factor graph.

# Codewords in Graph Covers (Part 2)

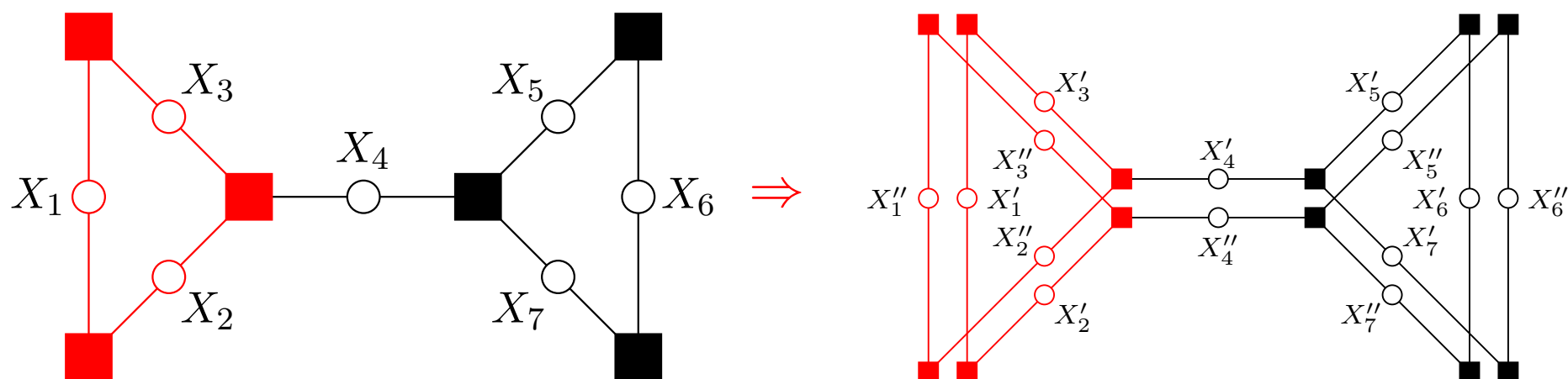
Obviously, **any codeword** in the base Tanner/factor graph can be **lifted** to a codeword in the double cover of the base Tanner/factor graph.



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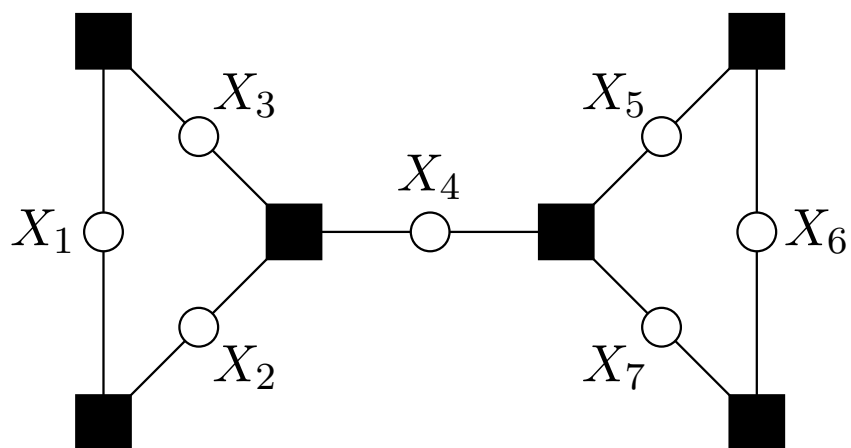
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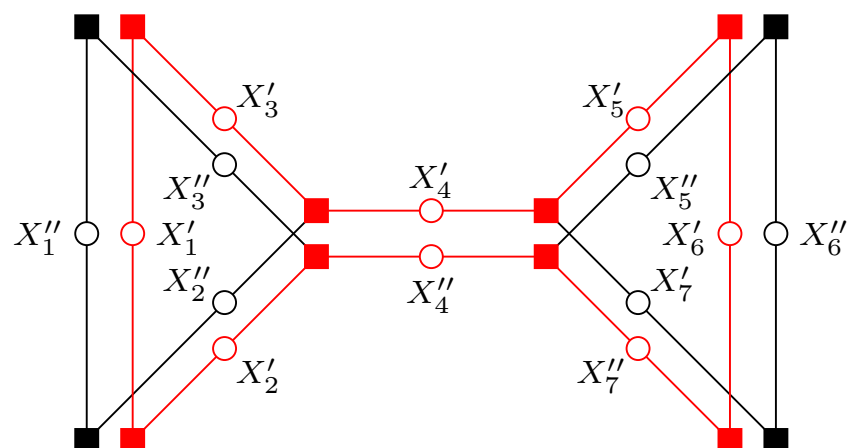


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But in the double cover of the base Tanner/factor graph there are also codewords that **are not liftings** of codewords in the base Tanner/factor graph!



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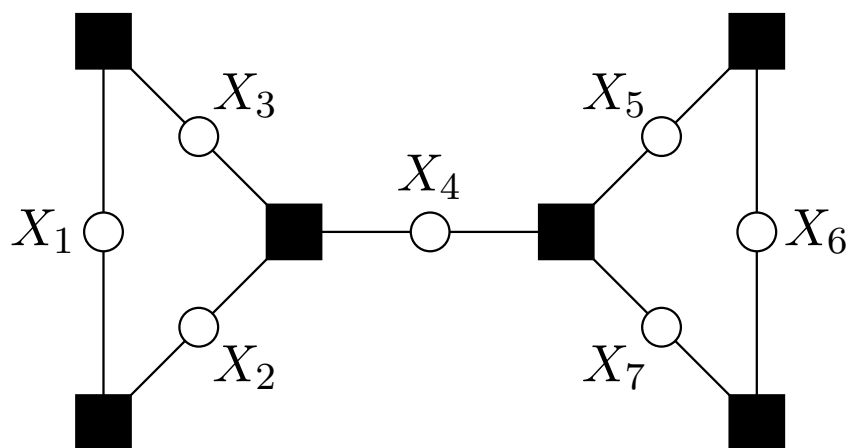


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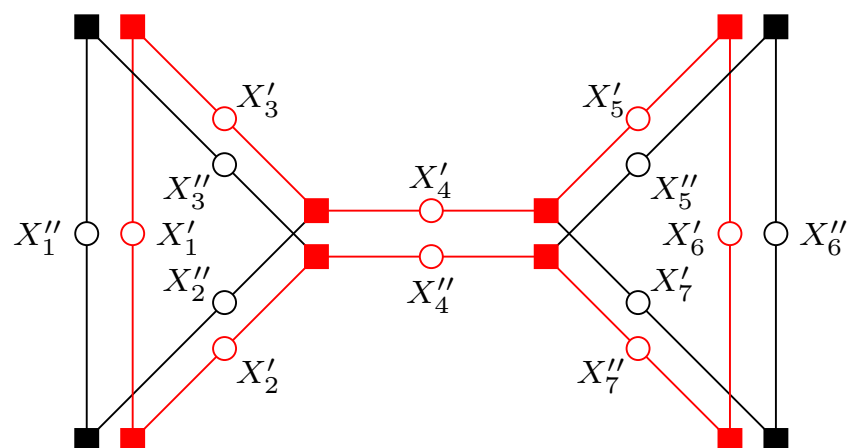
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What about

$$\left( \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{2}{2}, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2} \right) ?$$

$$(1:0, 1:0, 1:0, 1:1, 1:0, 1:0, 0:1)$$

# Codewords in Graph Covers (Part 4)

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Moreover, note that all vertices of  $\mathcal{P}$  are vectors with rational entries and are therefore also in  $\mathcal{P}'$ .

# Influence

of redundant rows in the parity-check matrix  
and of cycles in the Tanner graph



# A Tanner Graph with Four-Cycles

Observation:

$$\mathbf{H} = \begin{pmatrix} \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ \dots & \mathbf{1} & \mathbf{1} & \mathbf{1} & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} & \dots \\ \dots & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{1} & \mathbf{1} & \mathbf{1} & \mathbf{1} & \dots \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{matrix} \dots \\ \omega \in \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_1) \\ \omega \in \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_2) \\ \dots \end{matrix}$$

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If the support of the blue and the green line coincide in **at least two position** then we have

$$\text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_1) \cap \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_2) \supseteq \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_1) \cap \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_2) \cap \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_{12}).$$

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# Tanner Graphs with/without Four-Cycles

**Proposition:** It seems to be favorable to have no four-cycles in the Tanner graph: “we get some inequalities for free!”

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Note: this argument can be easily extended to Tanner graphs with no six-cycles, no eight-cycles, etc.



# Obtaining tighter Relaxations

Let the relaxation  $\text{relax}(\mathcal{C})$  of  $\mathcal{C}$  be the set of all vectors  $\omega \in \mathbb{R}^5$  that fulfill three conditions:

$$\mathbf{H} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{array}{l} \omega \in \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_1) \\ \omega \in \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_2) \\ \omega \in \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_3) \end{array}$$

Therefore,

$$\text{relax}(\mathcal{C}) \triangleq \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_1) \cap \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_2) \cap \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_3).$$

How well can we do by **adding** more (redundant) lines to the parity-check matrix?

# Obtaining tighter Relaxations (Part 2)

What about taking a parity-check matrix  $\mathbf{H}'$  that contains all the non-zero codewords from the dual code?

$$\mathbf{H}' = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{array}{l} \omega \in \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_1) \\ \omega \in \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_2) \\ \omega \in \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_3) \\ \omega \in \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_{12}) \\ \omega \in \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_{13}) \\ \omega \in \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_{23}) \\ \omega \in \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_{123}) \end{array}$$

$$\text{relax}'(\mathcal{C}) \triangleq \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_1) \cap \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_2) \cap \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_3) \cap \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_{12}) \cap \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_{13}) \cap \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_{23}) \cap \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_{123}).$$

# Obtaining tighter Relaxations (Part 3)

Translating a theorem from [matroid theory](#) we get the following result:

**Theorem** (Seymour 1981) We have

$$\text{relax}'(\mathcal{C}) = \text{conv}(\mathcal{C})$$

if and only if there is no way to shorten and puncture  $\mathcal{C}$  such that we get the codes  $F_7^*$ ,  $M(K_5)$ , or  $R_{10}$ .

$F_7^*$ : [7, 3, 4] code

$M(K_5)$ : [10, 6, 3] code

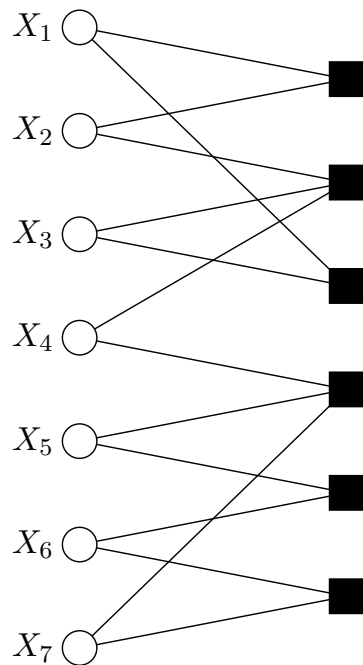
$R_{10}$ : [10, 5, 4] code

# Pseudo-codewords and the edge zeta function

# Tanner/Factor Graph of a Cycle Code

**Cycle codes** are codes which have a Tanner/factor graph where all bit nodes have **degree two**. (Equivalently, the parity-check matrix has two ones per column.)

Example:

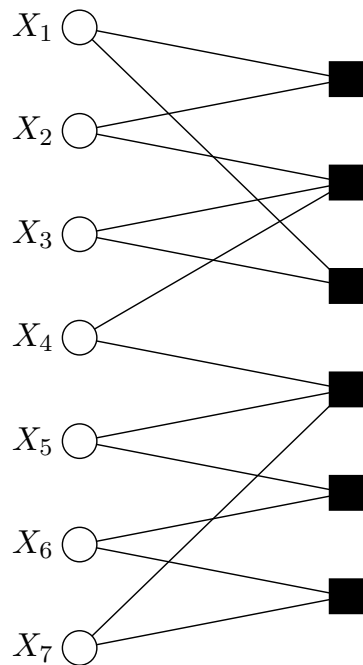


Tanner/factor graph

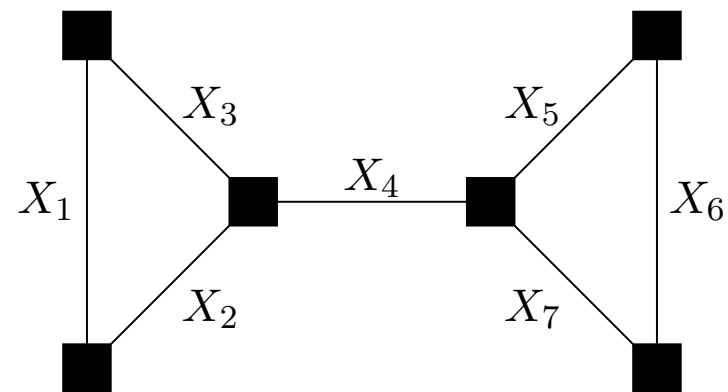
# Tanner/Factor Graph of a Cycle Code

**Cycle codes** are codes which have a Tanner/factor graph where all bit nodes have **degree two**. (Equivalently, the parity-check matrix has two ones per column.)

Example:



Tanner/factor graph

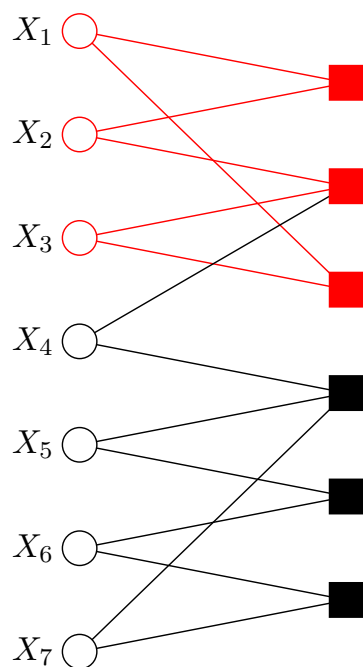


Corresponding  
normal factor graph 

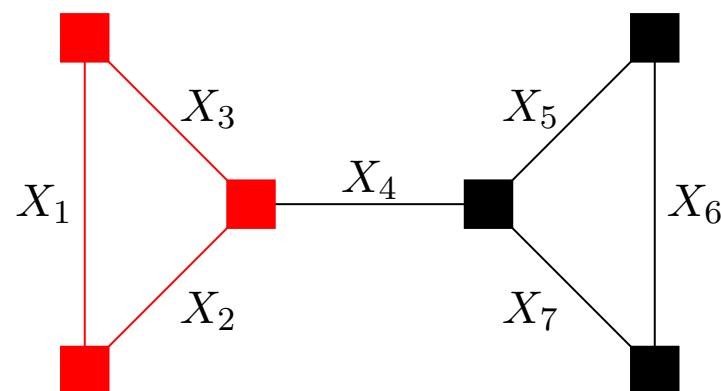
# Tanner/Factor Graph of a Cycle Code

**Cycle codes** are called cycle codes because codewords correspond to **simple cycles** (or to the **symmetric difference set of simple cycles**) in the Tanner/factor graph.

Example:



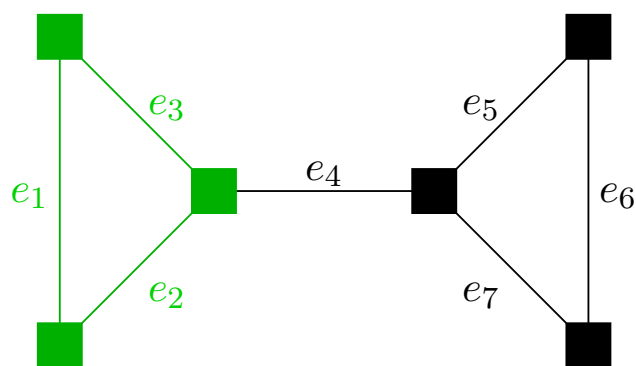
Tanner/factor graph



Corresponding  
normal factor graph

# The Edge Zeta Function of a Graph

**Definition (Hashimoto, see also Stark/Terras):**



Here:  $\Gamma = (e_1, e_2, e_3)$

Let  $\Gamma$  be a path in a graph  $X$  with edge-set  $E$ ; write

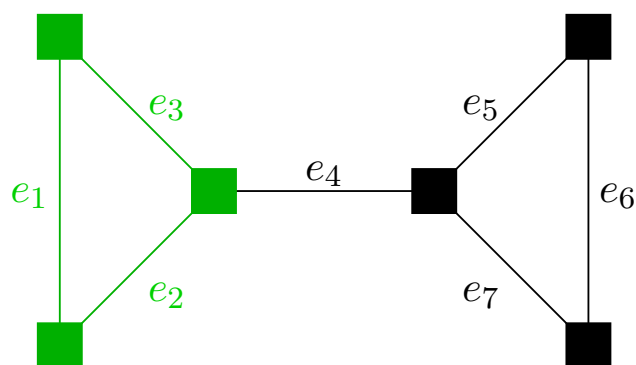
$$\Gamma = (e_{i_1}, \dots, e_{i_k})$$

to indicate that  $\Gamma$  begins with the edge  $e_{i_1}$  and ends with the edge  $e_{i_k}$ .

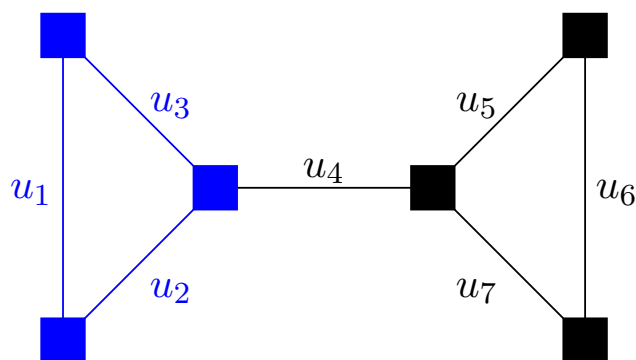


# The Edge Zeta Function of a Graph

**Definition (Hashimoto, see also Stark/Terras):**



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Here:  $g(\Gamma) = u_1 u_2 u_3$

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to indicate that  $\Gamma$  begins with the edge  $e_{i_1}$  and ends with the edge  $e_{i_k}$ .

The **monomial** of  $\Gamma$  is given by

$$g(\Gamma) \triangleq u_{i_1} \cdots u_{i_k},$$

where the  $u_i$ 's are indeterminates.

# The Edge Zeta Function of a Graph

**Definition (Hashimoto, see also Stark/Terras):**

The **edge zeta function of  $X$**  is defined to be the **power series**

$$\zeta_X(u_1, \dots, u_n) \in \mathbb{Z}[[u_1, \dots, u_n]]$$

given by

$$\zeta_X(u_1, \dots, u_n) = \prod_{[\Gamma] \in A(X)} \frac{1}{1 - g(\Gamma)},$$

where  $A(X)$  is the collection of equivalence classes of **backtrackless, tailless, primitive cycles in  $X$** .

Note: unless  $X$  contains only one cycle, the set  $A(X)$  will be countably infinite.

# The Edge Zeta Function of a Graph

## Theorem (Bass):

- The edge zeta function  $\zeta_X(u_1, \dots, u_n)$  is a **rational function**.
- More precisely, for any directed graph  $\vec{X}$  of  $X$ , we have

$$\zeta_X(u_1, \dots, u_n) = \frac{1}{\det(\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{U}\mathbf{M}(\vec{X}))} = \frac{1}{\det(\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{M}(\vec{X})\mathbf{U})}$$

where

- $\mathbf{I}$  is the identity matrix of size  $2n$ ,
- $\mathbf{U} = \text{diag}(u_1, \dots, u_n, u_1, \dots, u_n)$  is a diagonal matrix of indeterminants.
- $\mathbf{M}(\vec{X})$  is a  $2n \times 2n$  matrix derived from some directed graph version  $\vec{X}$  of  $X$ .

# Relationship Pseudo-Codewords and Edge Zeta Function (Part 1: Theorem)

## Theorem:

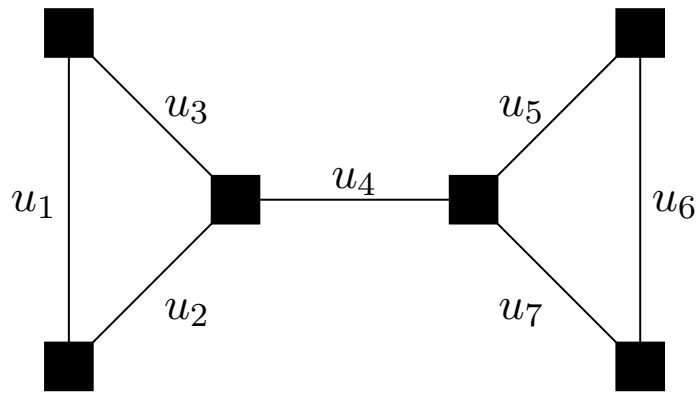
- Let  $C$  be a cycle code defined by a parity-check matrix  $\mathbf{H}$  having normal graph  $N \triangleq N(\mathbf{H})$ .
- Let  $n = n(N)$  be the number of edges of  $N$ .
- Let  $\zeta_N(u_1, \dots, u_n)$  be the edge zeta function of  $N$ .
- Then

the monomial  $u_1^{p_1} \dots u_n^{p_n}$  has a nonzero coefficient in the Taylor series expansion of  $\zeta_N$

if and only if

the corresponding exponent vector  $(p_1, \dots, p_n)$  is an unscaled pseudo-codeword for  $C$ .

# Relationship Pseudo-Codewords and Edge Zeta Function (Part 2: Example)

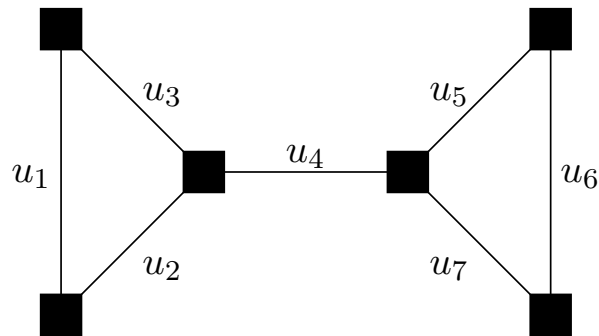


This normal graph  $N$  has the following inverse edge zeta function:

$$\zeta_N(u_1, \dots, u_7) = \frac{1}{\det(\mathbf{I}_{14} - \mathbf{UM})}$$

$$= \frac{1}{1 - 2u_1u_2u_3 + u_1^2u_2^2u_3^2 - 2u_5u_6u_7 + 4u_1u_2u_3u_5u_6u_7 - 2u_1^2u_2^2u_3^2u_5u_6u_7 - 4u_1u_2u_3u_4^2u_5u_6u_7 + 4u_1^2u_2^2u_3^2u_4^2u_5u_6u_7 + u_5^2u_6^2u_7^2 - 2u_1u_2u_3u_5^2u_6^2u_7^2 + u_1^2u_2^2u_3^2u_5^2u_6^2u_7^2 + 4u_1u_2u_3u_4^2u_5^2u_6^2u_7^2 - 4u_1^2u_2^2u_3^2u_4^2u_5^2u_6^2u_7^2}$$

# Relationship Pseudo-Codewords and Edge Zeta Function (Part 3: Example)



The Taylor series expansion is

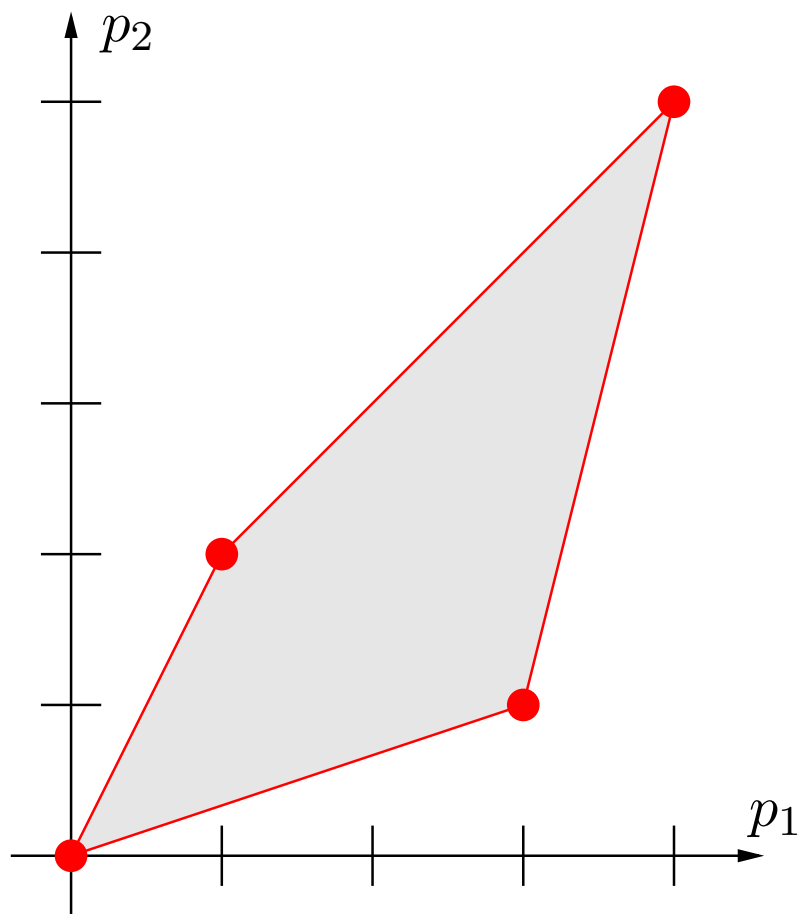
$$\zeta_N(u_1, \dots, u_7)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= 1 + 2u_1u_2u_3 + 3u_1^2u_2^2u_3^2 + 2u_5u_6u_7 \\
 &\quad + 4u_1u_2u_3u_5u_6u_7 + 6u_1^2u_2^2u_3^2u_5u_6u_7 \\
 &\quad + 4u_1u_2u_3u_4^2u_5u_6u_7 + 12u_1^2u_2^2u_3^2u_4^2u_5u_6u_7 \\
 &\quad + \dots
 \end{aligned}$$

We get the following exponent vectors:

$(0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0)$	codeword
$(1, 1, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0)$	codeword
$(2, 2, 2, 0, 0, 0, 0)$	pseudo-codeword (in $\mathbb{Z}$ -span)
$(0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 1, 1)$	codeword
$(1, 1, 1, 0, 1, 1, 1)$	codeword
$(2, 2, 2, 0, 1, 1, 1)$	pseudo-codeword (in $\mathbb{Z}$ -span)
$(1, 1, 1, 2, 1, 1, 1)$	pseudo-codeword (not in $\mathbb{Z}$ -span)
$(2, 2, 2, 2, 1, 1, 1)$	pseudo-codeword (in $\mathbb{Z}$ -span)

# The Newton Polytope of a Polynomial



Here:  $P(u_1, u_2)$

$$= u_1^0 u_2^0 + 3u_1^1 u_2^2 + 4u_1^3 u_2^1 - 2u_1^4 u_2^5$$

## Definition:

The Newton polytope of a polynomial  $P(u_1, \dots, u_n)$  in  $n$  indeterminates is the **convex hull** of the points in  $n$ -dimensional space given by the exponent vectors of the nonzero monomials appearing in  $P(u_1, \dots, u_n)$ .

Similarly, we can associate a polyhedron to a power series.

# Characterizing the Fundamental Cone Through the Zeta Function

Collecting the results from the previous slides we get:

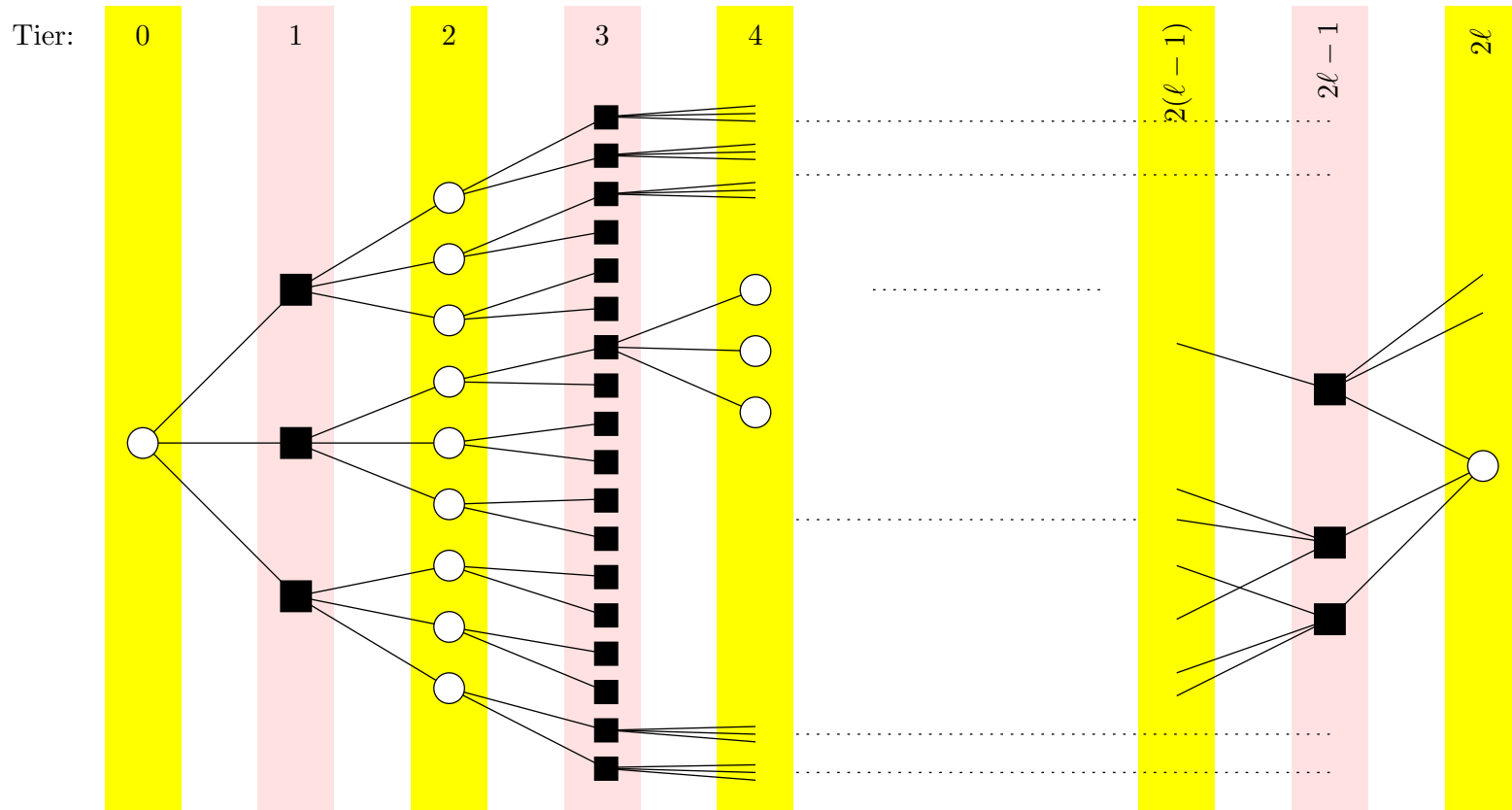
**Proposition:** Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be some **cycle code** with parity-check matrix  $\mathbf{H}$  and normal factor graph  $N(\mathbf{H})$ .

The Newton polyhedron of the zeta function of  $N(\mathbf{H})$   
equals  
the fundamental cone  $\mathcal{K}(\mathbf{H})$ .



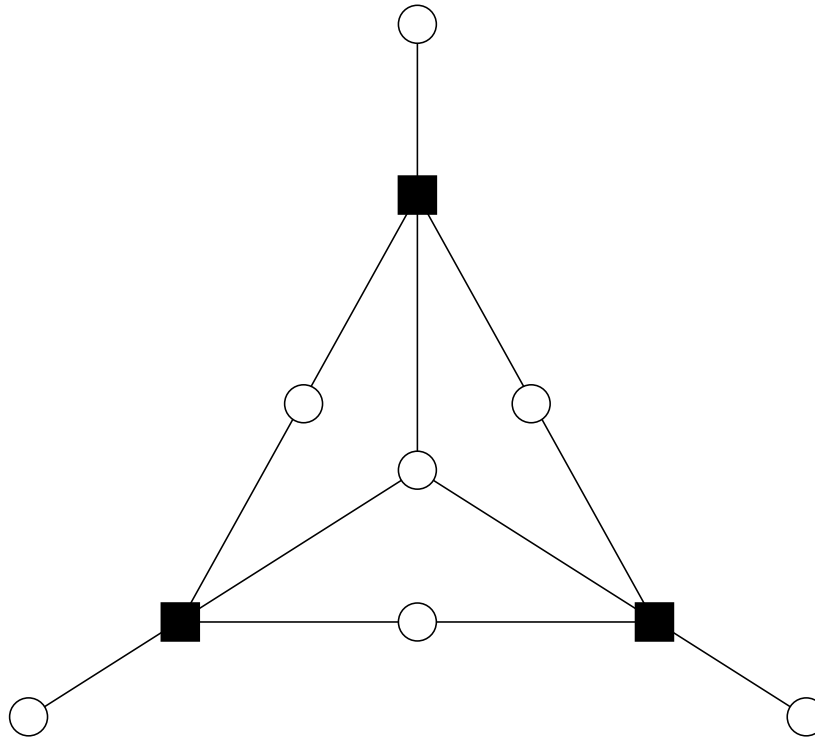
# The canonical completion

# Trying to Construct a Codeword



# Pseudo-Codewords: the Canonical Completion

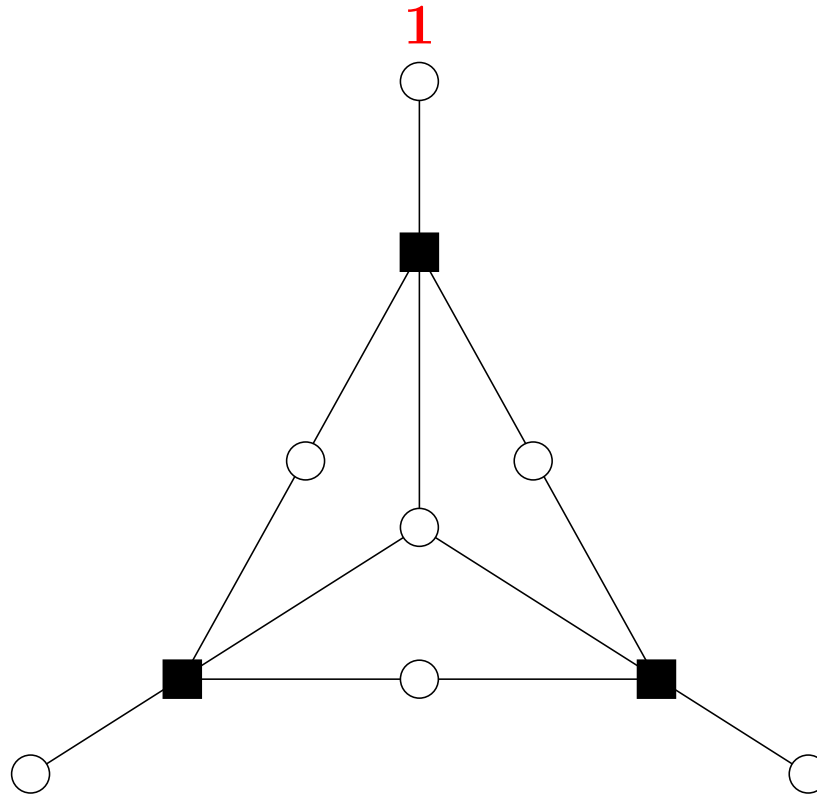
Example:  $[7, 4, 3]$  binary Hamming code.



Note that all checks have degree  $k = 4$ .  $\Rightarrow$  completion factor  $\frac{1}{k-1} = \frac{1}{3}$ .

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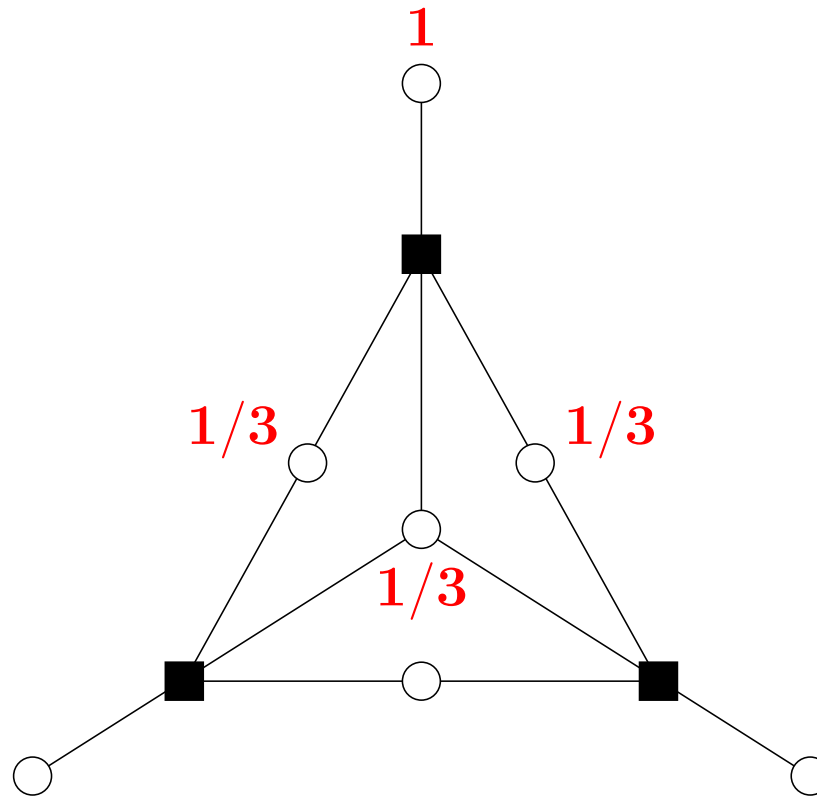
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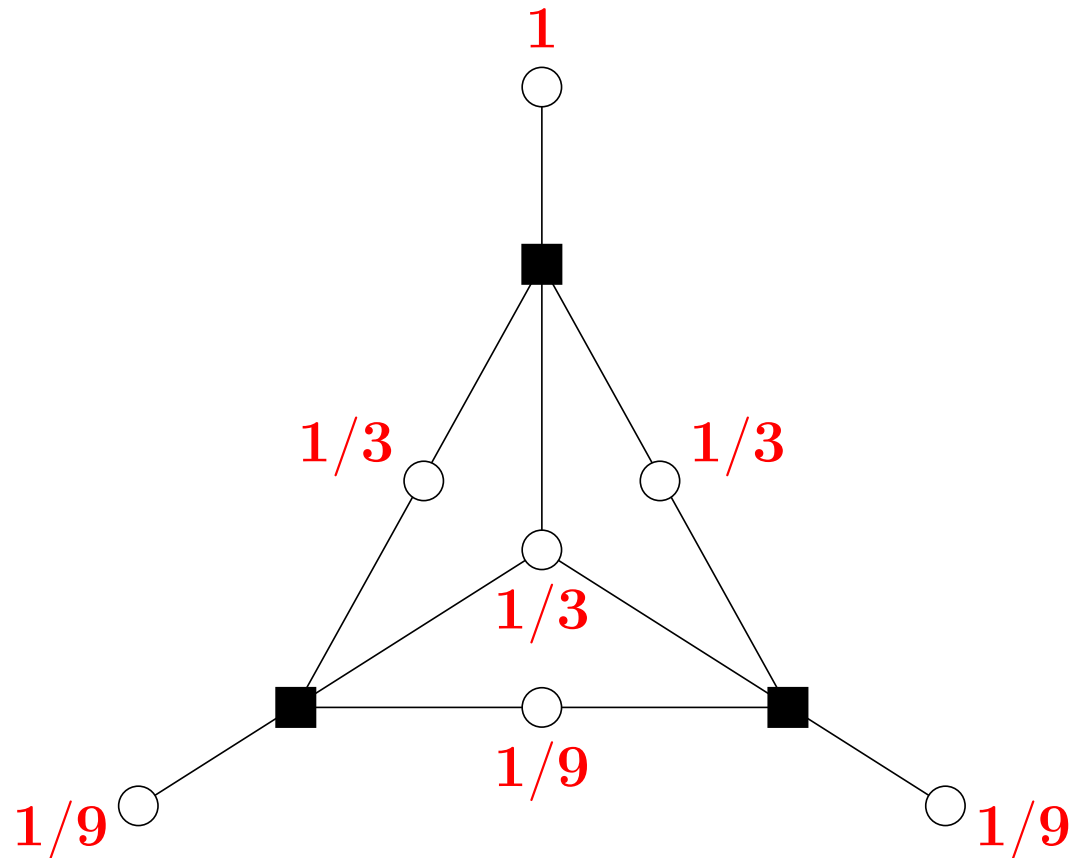
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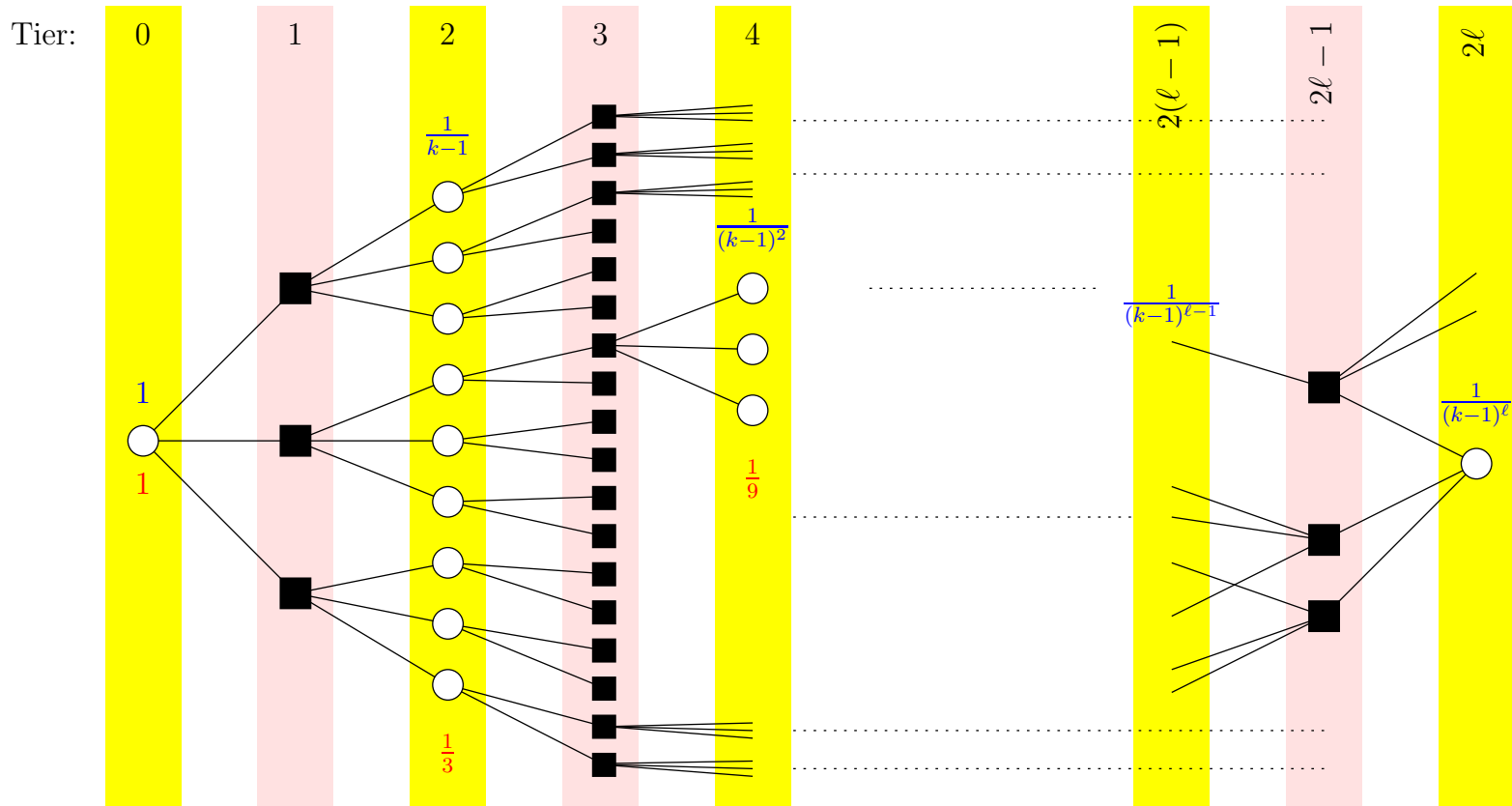
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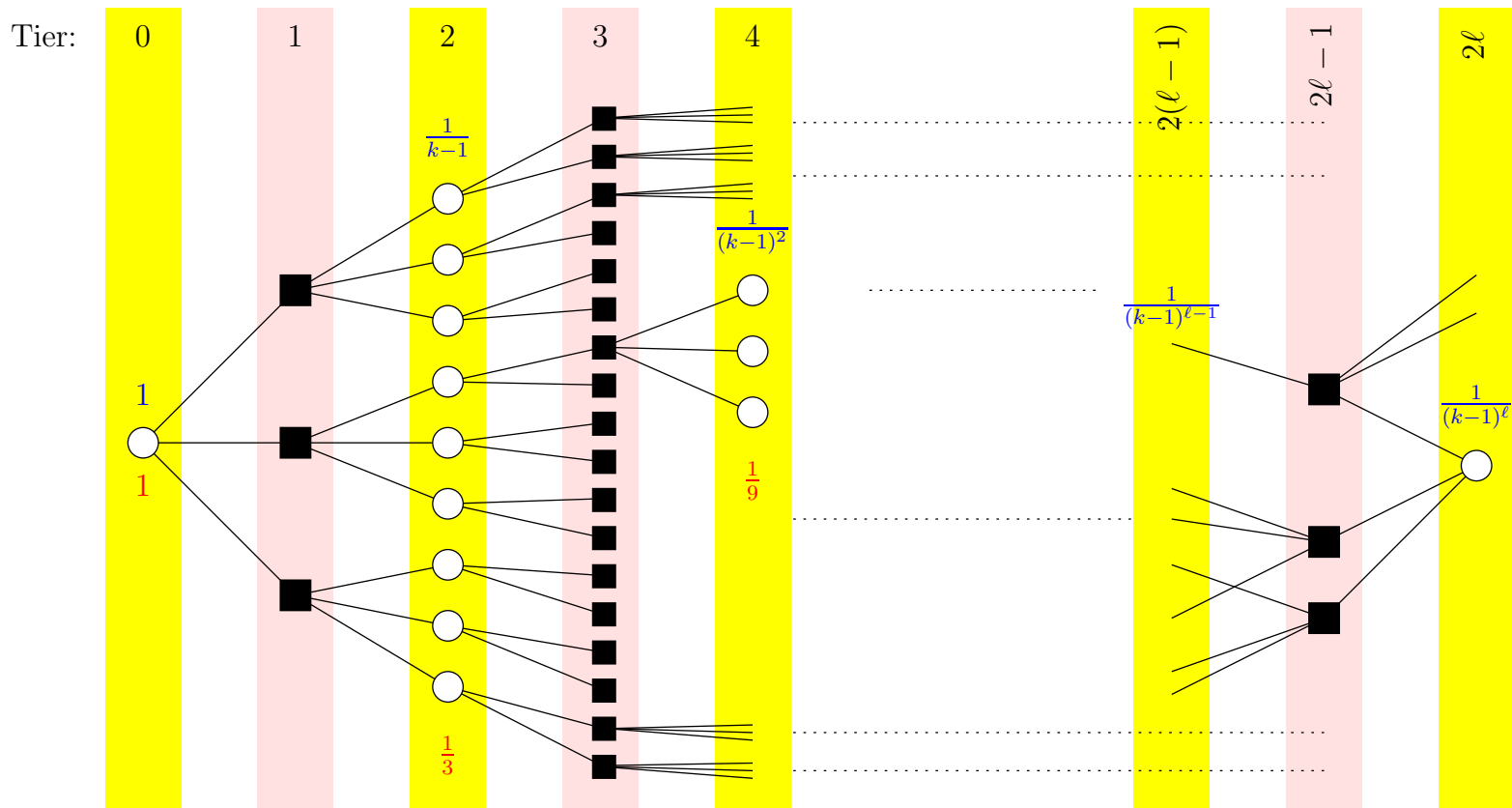


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# Pseudo-Codewords: the Canonical Completion



# Pseudo-Codewords: the Canonical Completion



The canonical completion for a  $(j = 3, k = 4)$ -regular LDPC code. On check-regular graphs the (scaled) canonical completion **always** gives a (valid) pseudo-codeword.



# An Upper Bound on the Minimum Pseudo-Weight based on Can. Compl.

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**Theorem:** Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a  $(j, k)$ -regular LDPC code with  $3 \leq j < k$ . Then the minimum pseudo-weight is upper bounded by

$$w_{p,\min}^{\text{AWGNC}}(\mathcal{C}) \leq \beta'_{j,k} \cdot n^{\beta_{j,k}},$$

where

$$\beta'_{j,k} = \left( \frac{j(j-1)}{j-2} \right)^2, \quad \beta_{j,k} = \frac{\log((j-1)^2)}{\log((j-1)(k-1))} < 1.$$

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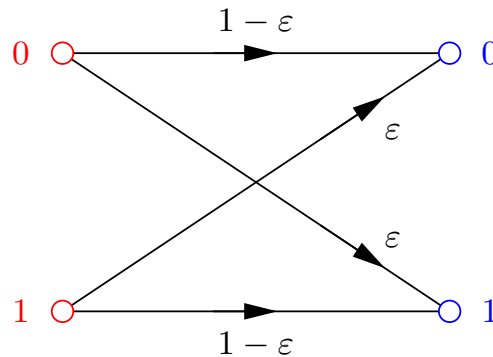
$$\beta'_{j,k} = \left( \frac{j(j-1)}{j-2} \right)^2, \quad \beta_{j,k} = \frac{\log((j-1)^2)}{\log((j-1)(k-1))} < 1.$$

**Corollary:** The minimum relative pseudo-weight for any sequence  $\{\mathcal{C}_i\}$  of  $(j, k)$ -regular LDPC codes of increasing length satisfies

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{w_{p,\min}^{\text{AWGNC}}(\mathcal{C}_i)}{n} \right) = 0.$$

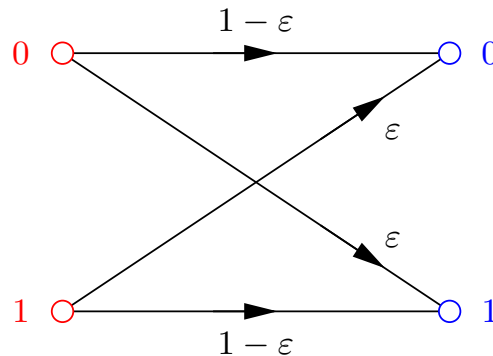
# LP decoding thresholds for the BSC

# The Binary Symmetric Channel (Part 1)



Let  $\varepsilon \in [0, 1]$ . The binary symmetric channel (BSC) with cross-over probability  $\varepsilon$  is a discrete memoryless channel

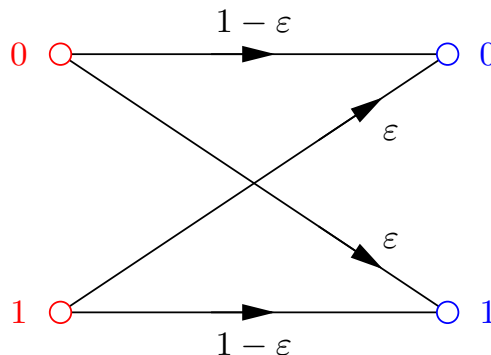
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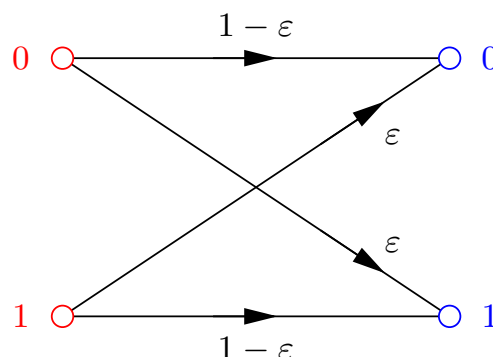
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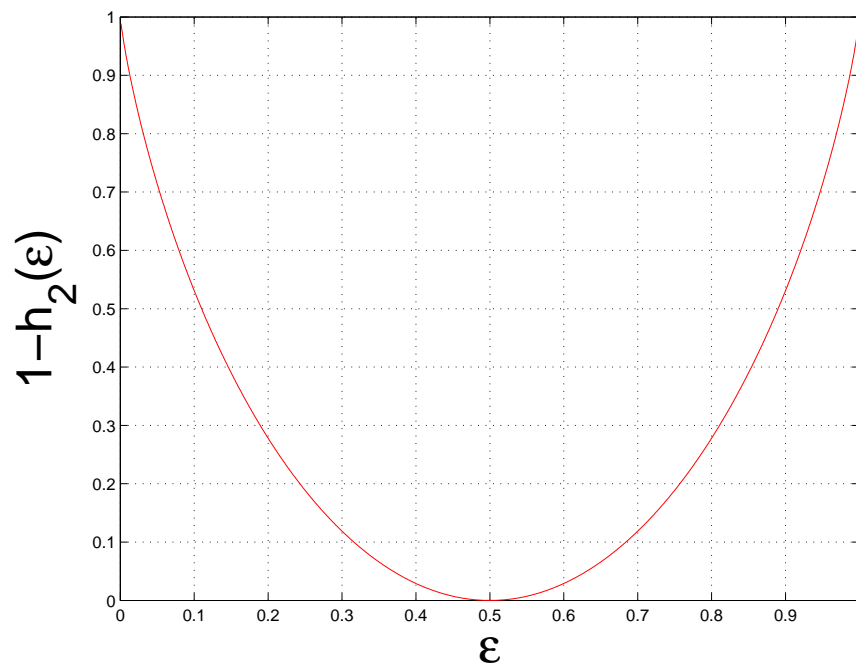
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- with input alphabet  $\mathcal{X} = \{0, 1\}$ ,
- with output alphabet  $\mathcal{Y} = \{0, 1\}$ ,
- and with conditional probability mass function

$$P_{Y_i|X_i}(y_i|x_i) = \begin{cases} 1 - \varepsilon & (y_i = x_i) \\ \varepsilon & (y_i \neq x_i) \end{cases}.$$



# The Binary Symmetric Channel (Part 2)

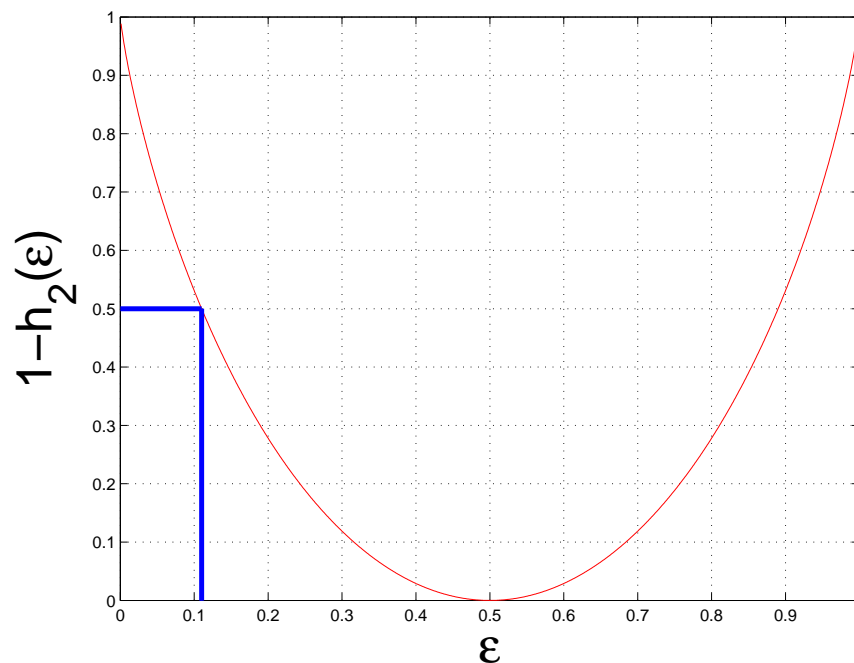


The capacity for the BSC as a function of the cross-over probability  $\epsilon$  is

$$C_{\text{BSC}} = 1 - h_2(\epsilon),$$

where  $h_2(\epsilon) \triangleq -\epsilon \log_2(\epsilon) - (1 - \epsilon) \log_2(1 - \epsilon)$ .

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Important: we are allowed to use the **best available coding** and decoding schemes for a given rate  $R$ .

# The Binary Symmetric Channel (Part 4)



Assume that the channel is a **BSC** with cross-over probability  $\epsilon$ .

Additionally, assume that we put **restrictions** on the coding schemes and/or on the decoding schemes.

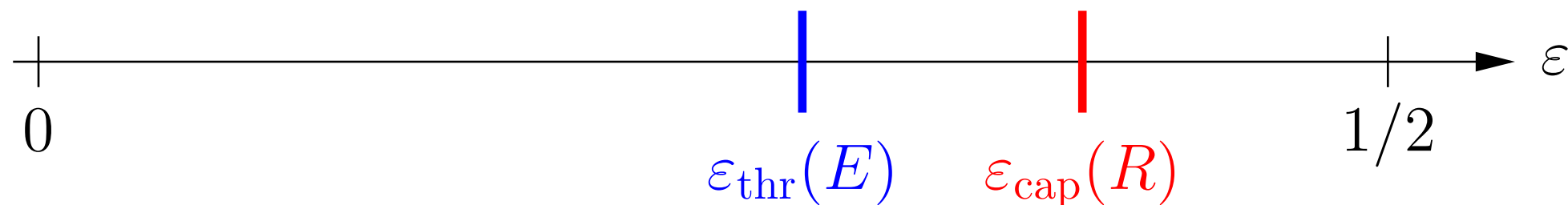
# The Binary Symmetric Channel (Part 4)



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⇒ **Thresholds**.





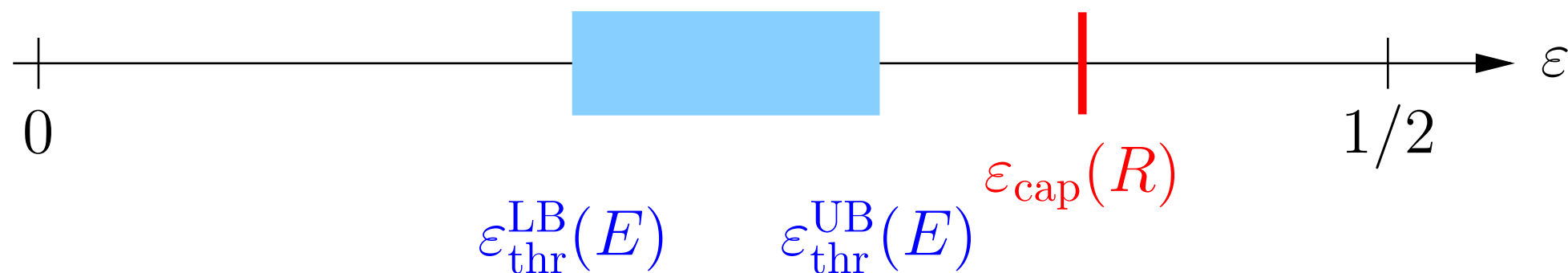
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- The tight connection between **min-sum algorithm decoding** and LP decoding suggests that families/ensembles that have a threshold under min-sum algorithm decoding also have a threshold under LP decoding.
- [Koetter:Vontobel:06]: **there is an LP decoding threshold** for  **$(w_{\text{col}}, w_{\text{row}})$ -regular LDPC codes** where  $2 < w_{\text{col}} < w_{\text{row}}$ .

# BSC: An Upper Bound on the Threshold (Part 1)

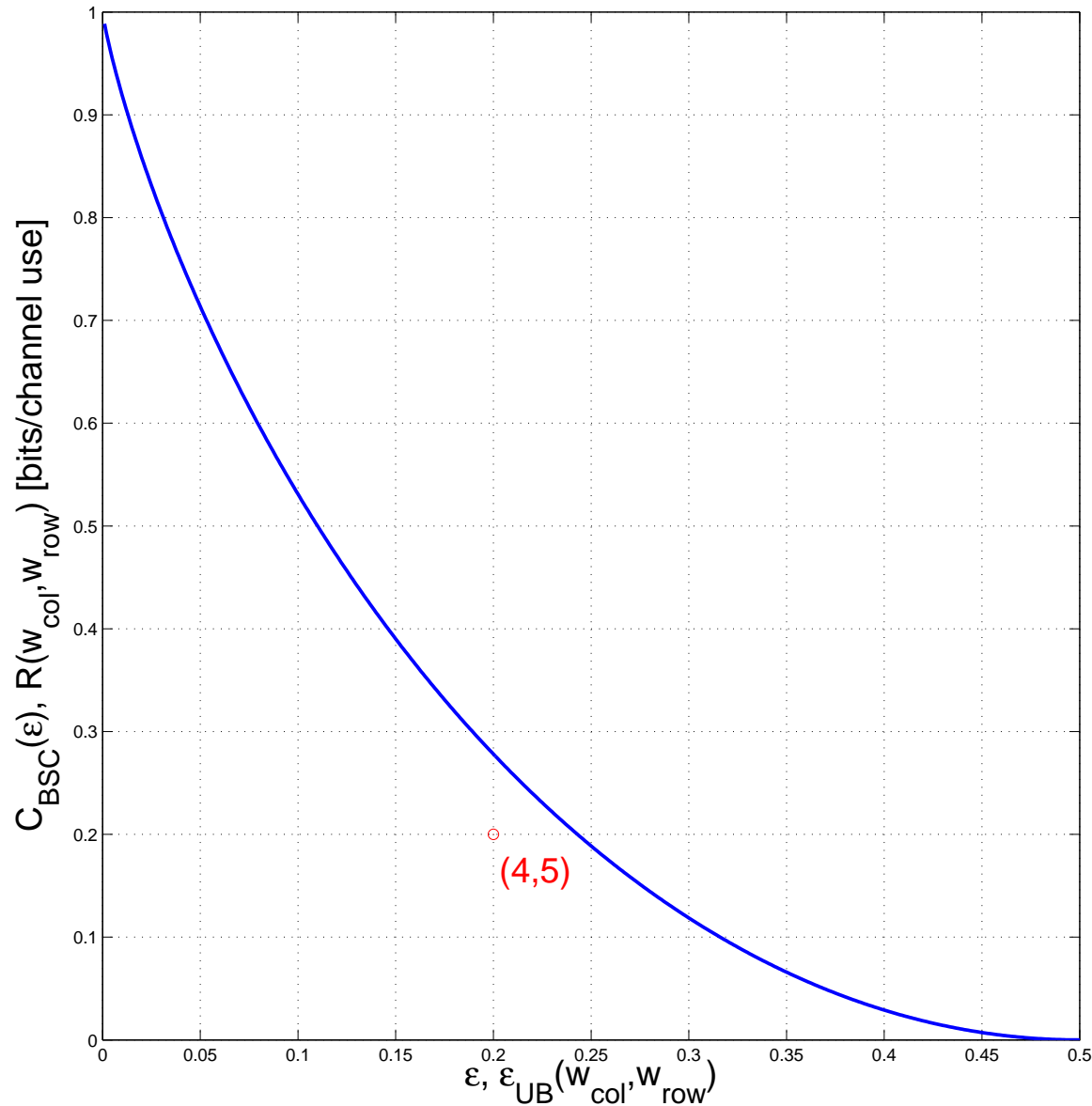
## Theorem:

- Consider a family of  $(w_{\text{col}}, w_{\text{row}})$ -regular codes of increasing block length  $n$ .
- Consider a BSC with cross-over probability  $\varepsilon$ .
- In the limit  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , if

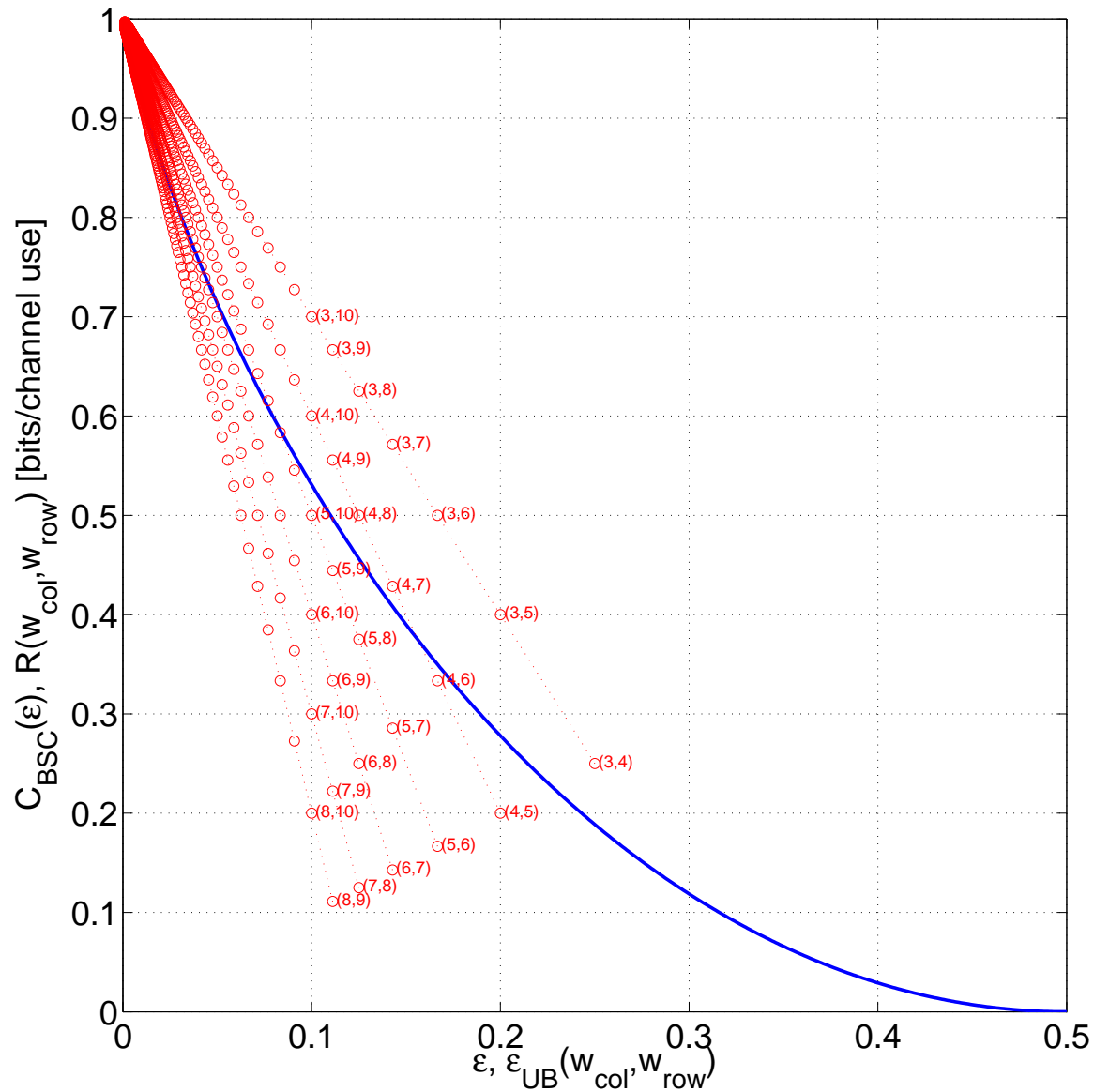
$$\varepsilon > \frac{1}{w_{\text{row}}}$$

then with probability 1 the LP decoder **will not decode** to the transmitted codeword.

# BSC: An Upper Bound on the Threshold (Part 2)



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# BSC: An Upper Bound on the Threshold (Part 3)

**Theorem:** Consider a family of codes where the minimal row-degree goes to  $w_{\text{row}}^{\min}(\infty)$  when  $n \rightarrow \infty$  and a BSC with cross-over probability  $\varepsilon$ . In the limit  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , if

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then with probability 1 the LP decoder **will not decode** to the transmitted codeword.

**Corollary:** For any family of codes where  $w_{\text{row}}^{\min}(n)$  grows **unboundedly**, i.e. where

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} w_{\text{row}}^{\min}(n) = \infty,$$

the above right-hand side expression goes to 0.

# BSC: An Upper Bound on the Threshold (Proof)

Linear programming (LP) decoding:

$$\hat{\omega} = \arg \min_{\omega \in \mathcal{P}(\mathbf{H})} \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i \omega_i.$$

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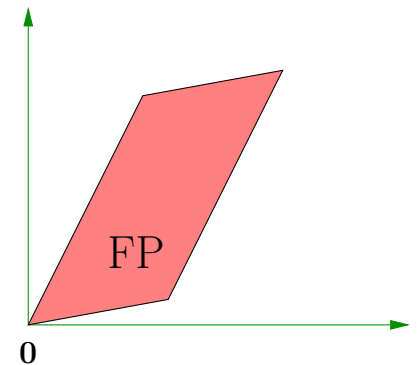
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Assume that the zero codeword has been sent. LP decoding **does not** decide for the all-zeros codeword if there is a vector

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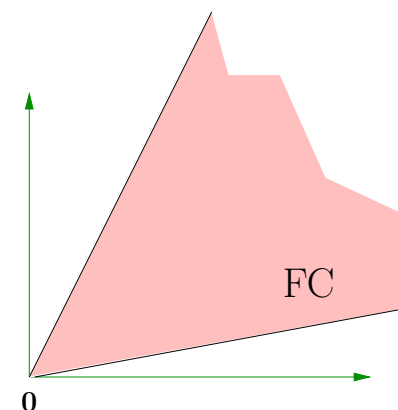
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$$\omega_i \triangleq \begin{cases} \frac{1}{w_{\text{row}}-1} & \text{if } \lambda_i \geq 0 \\ 1 & \text{if } \lambda_i < 0 \end{cases}.$$

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One can easily verify that  $\omega \in \mathcal{K}(\mathbf{H})$ .

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$$\omega_i \triangleq \begin{cases} \frac{1}{w_{\text{row}}-1} & \text{if } \lambda_i \geq 0 \\ 1 & \text{if } \lambda_i < 0 \end{cases}.$$

One can easily verify that  $\omega \in \mathcal{K}(\mathbf{H})$ .

Note: this pseudo-codeword construction is inspired by the canonical completion construction.



# BSC: An Upper Bound on the Threshold (Proof)

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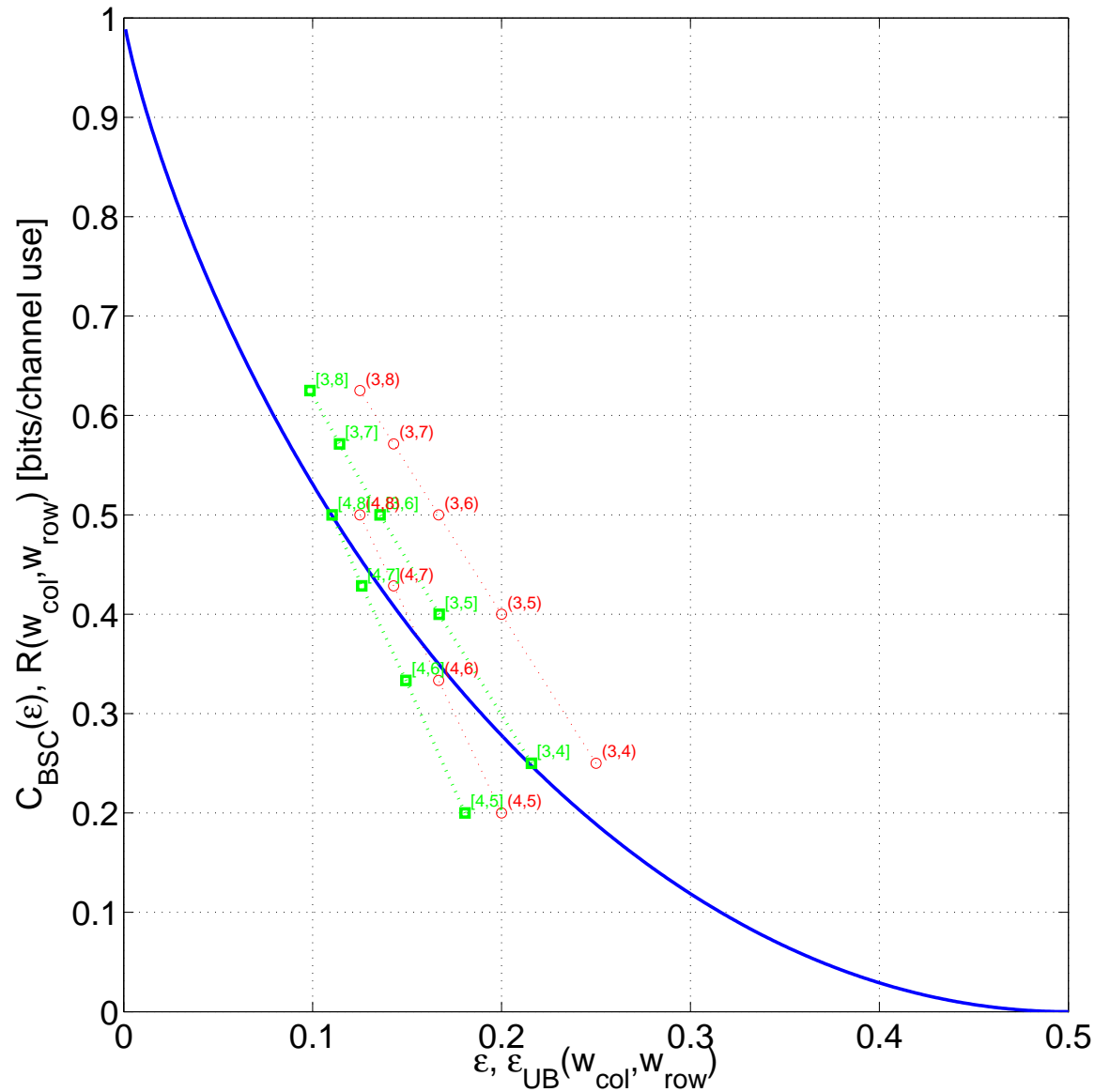
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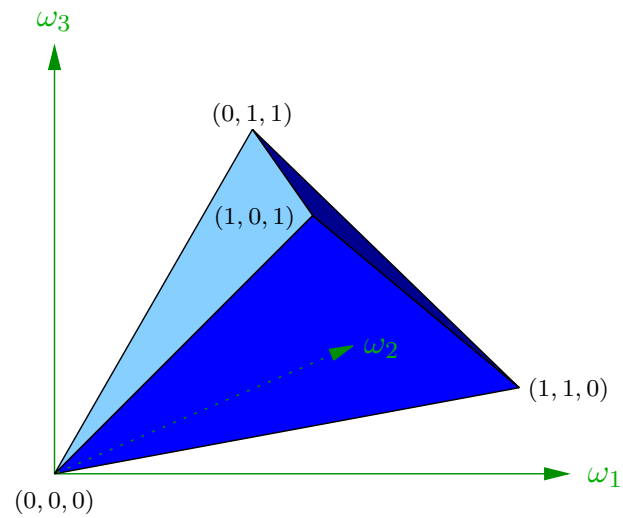
- In the rest of the proof, one shows for which  $\varepsilon$  this pseudo-codeword leads to a decoding error (details omitted).

# 2-Neighborhood-Based Bounds on the Threshold



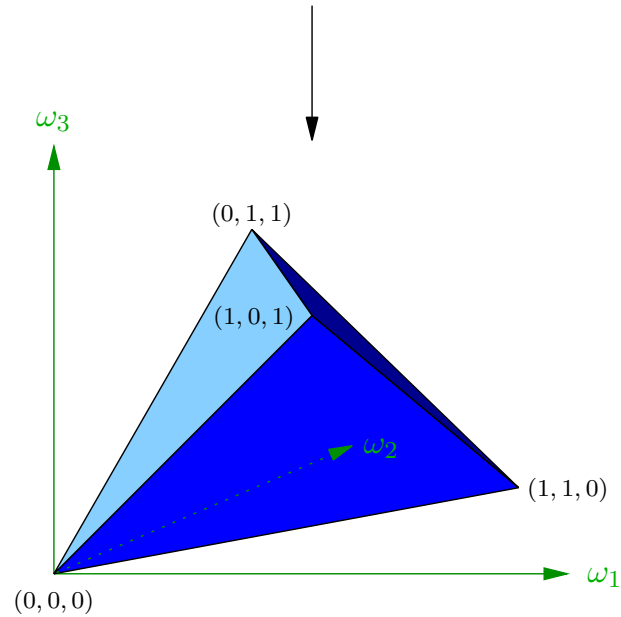
# The fundamental polytope in various contexts

# The Fundamental Polytope in Various Contexts



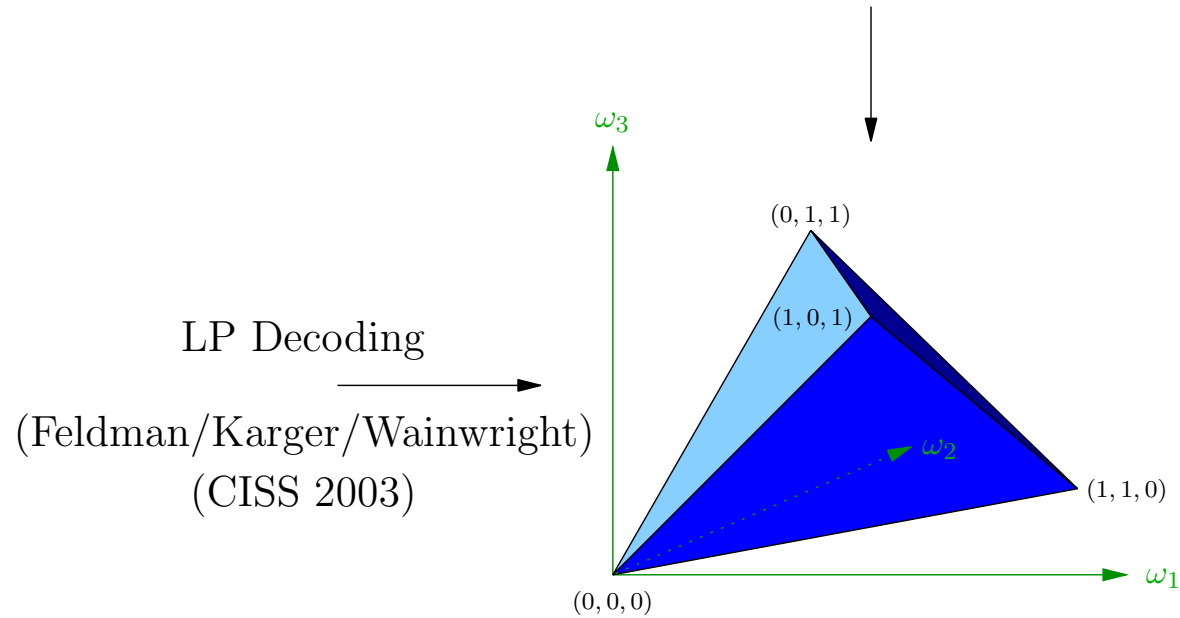
# The Fundamental Polytope in Various Contexts

Finite-length analysis of iterative decoding based on graph covers  
(Koetter/Vontobel, Turbo Conf. 2003)



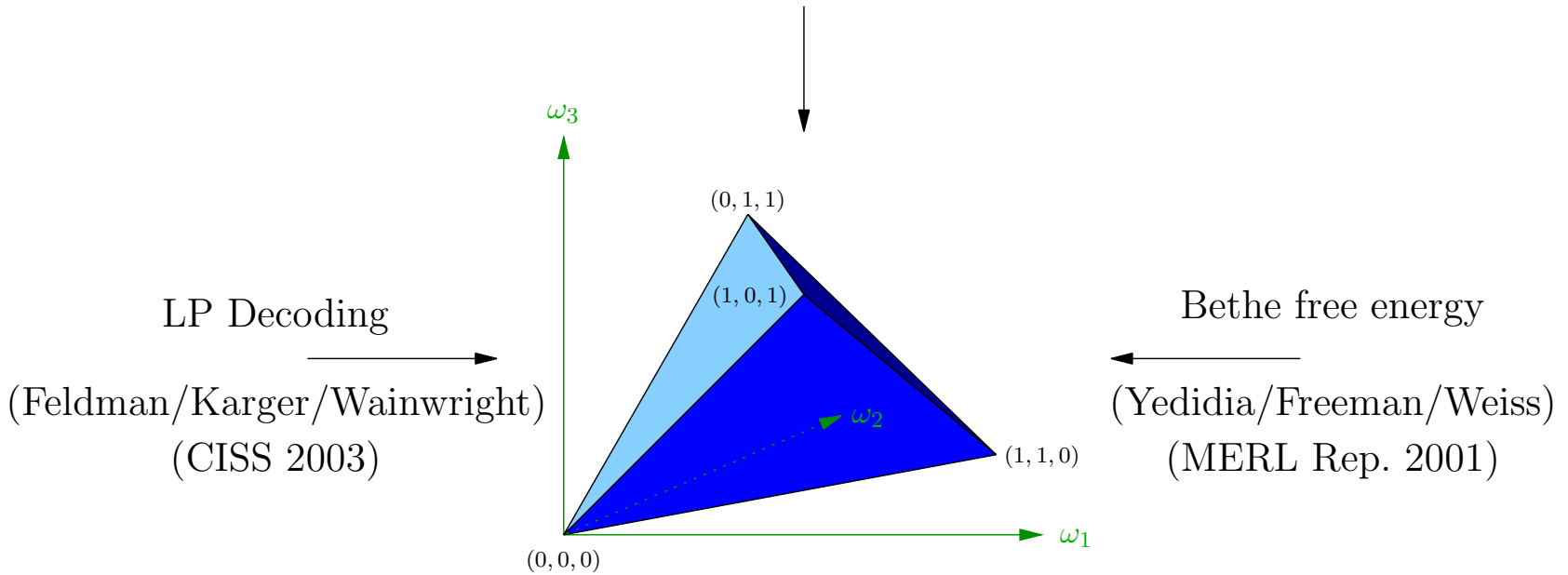
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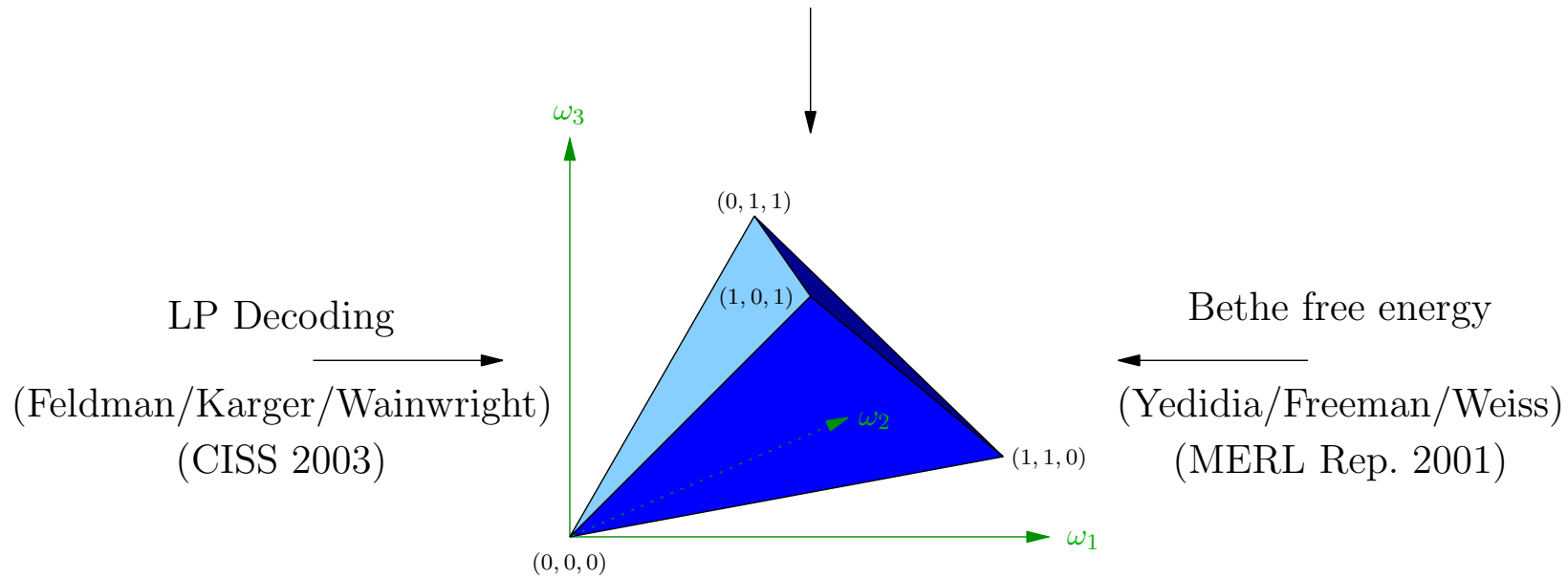
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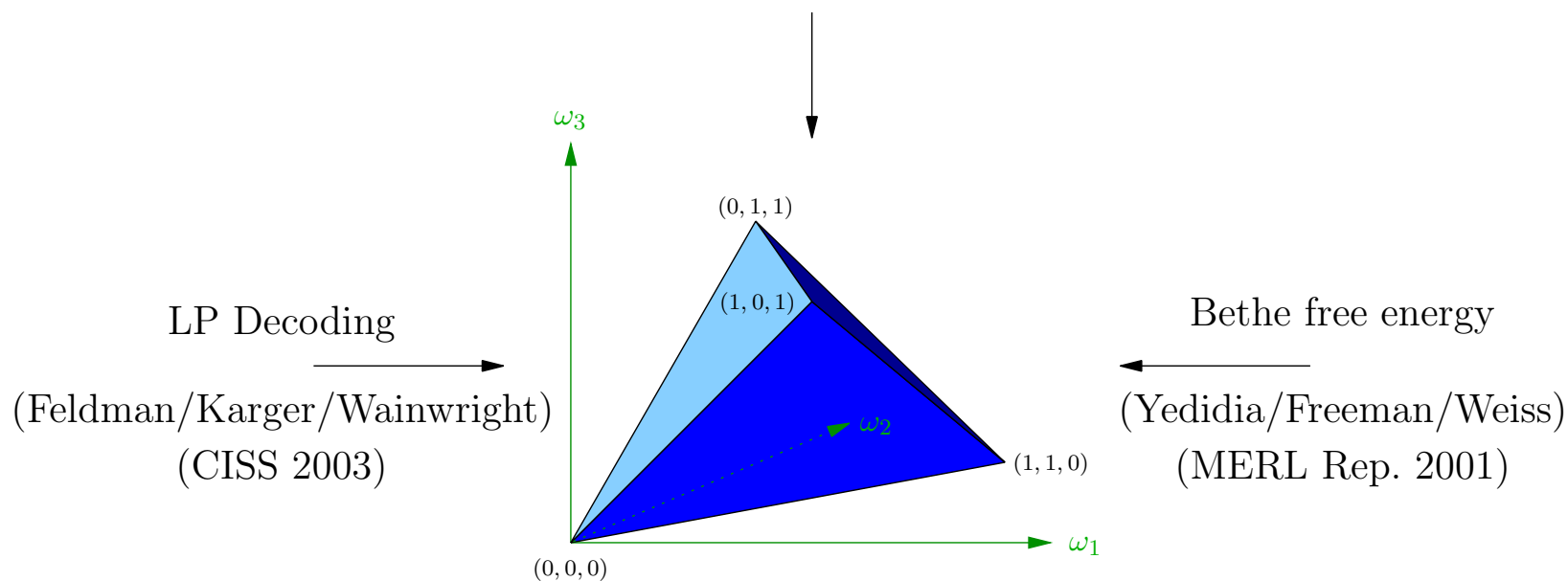


Fundamental cone of cycle codes is the Newton polyhedron  
of the edge zeta function of normal factor graph  
(Koetter/Li/Vontobel/Walker, ITW2004)



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”The Tropical Geometry of Statistical Models”  
Sturmfels, plenary talk at Allerton 2004

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# References

- More details: see the appendices.
- Papers listed at **[www.pseudocodewords.info](http://www.pseudocodewords.info)**



**Thank you!**

# Appendices

# Communication systems and Shannon's channel coding theorem

# Communication System (Part 1)

Source

Sink

# Communication System (Part 1)



# Communication System (Part 1)



Shannon (1948): it is a **good idea** to use channel codes!

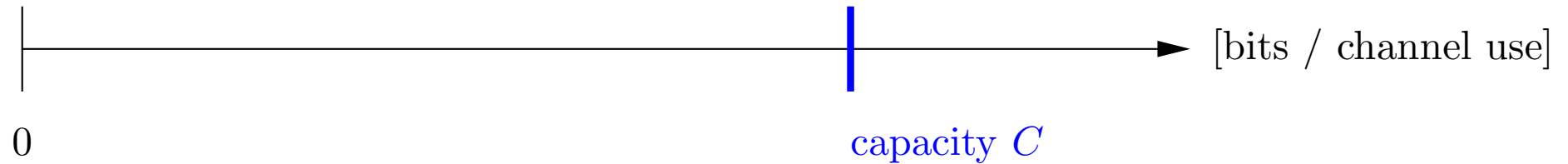


# Communication System (Part 1)



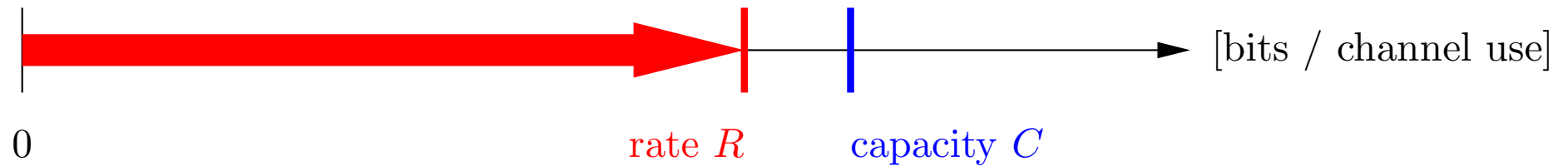
Shannon (1948): it is a **good idea** to use channel codes!

# Communication System (Part 2)



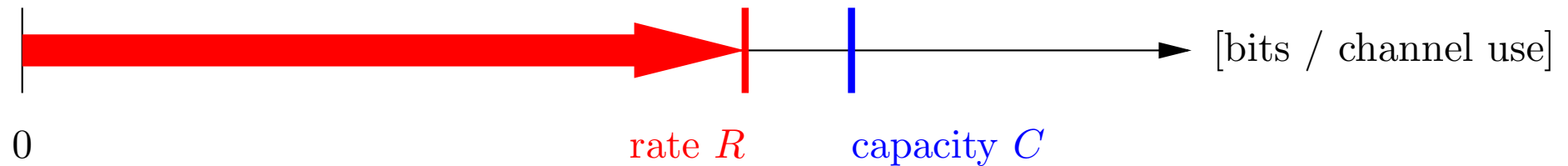
- A **channel** is characterized by a number  $C$  called the **capacity**.

# Communication System (Part 2)



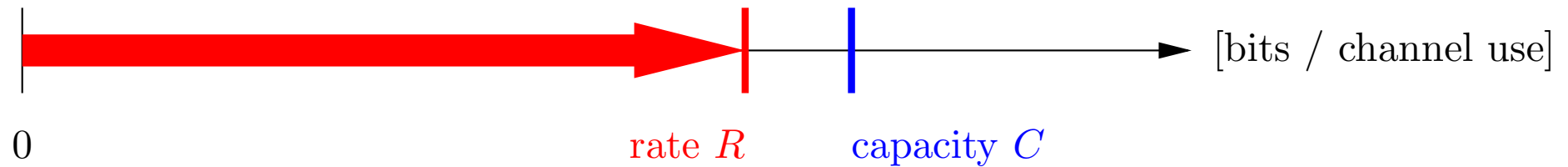
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- A **code** is characterized by a number  $R$  called the **rate**.

# Communication System (Part 2)



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- A **code** is characterized by a number  $R$  called the **rate**.
- If  $R < C$ : there are codes, encoders, and decoders such that arbitrarily low error probabilities can be guaranteed (as long as one allows arbitrarily long codes).

# Communication System (Part 2)



- A **channel** is characterized by a number  $C$  called the **capacity**.
- A **code** is characterized by a number  $R$  called the **rate**.
- If  $R < C$ : there are codes, encoders, and decoders such that arbitrarily low error probabilities can be guaranteed (as long as one allows arbitrarily long codes).
- Shannon's proof was though **non-constructive**, i.e. it was not clear at all how to obtain specific well-performing finite-length codes that possess efficient encoders and decoders.

# “Traditional” vs. “Modern” Coding and Decoding

	Code design		Decoding
”Traditional”	Reed-Solomon codes etc.	→	?
”Modern”	?	→	Message-passing iterative decoding LP decoding

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In both “traditional” and “modern” coding theory, “structure” is an important keyword. By imposing structural constraints

- one usually loses somewhat in generality;
- however, (mathematical) tools become available that can yield big analytical and practical gains.

# Communication Model (Part 1)



Information word:  $\mathbf{u} = (u_1, \dots, u_k) \in \mathcal{U}^k$

Sent codeword:  $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_n) \in \mathcal{C} \subseteq \mathcal{X}^n$

Received word:  $\mathbf{y} = (y_1, \dots, y_n) \in \mathcal{Y}^n$

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**Decoding:** Based on  $\mathbf{y}$  we would like to estimate the transmitted codeword  $\hat{\mathbf{x}}$  or the information word  $\hat{\mathbf{u}}$ .

Depending on what criterion we optimize, we obtain different **decoding algorithms**.

# Communication Model (Part 2)



- Min. the block error prob. results in **block-wise MAP decoding**

$$\hat{\mathbf{u}}_{\text{MAP}}^{\text{block}}(\mathbf{y}) = \underset{\mathbf{u} \in \mathcal{U}^k}{\operatorname{argmax}} P_{\mathbf{U}|\mathbf{Y}}(\mathbf{u}|\mathbf{y}) = \underset{\mathbf{u} \in \mathcal{U}^k}{\operatorname{argmax}} P_{\mathbf{U},\mathbf{Y}}(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{y}).$$

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# Binary linear codes

# Binary Linear Codes (Part 1)

Let **H** be a parity-check matrix, e.g.

$$\mathbf{H} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

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The code  $\mathcal{C}$  described by  $\mathbf{H}$  is then

$$\mathcal{C} = \left\{ (x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5) \in \mathbb{F}_2^5 \mid \mathbf{H} \cdot \mathbf{x}^T = \mathbf{0}^T \pmod{2} \right\}.$$

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A vector  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{F}_2^5$  is a codeword if and only if

$$\mathbf{H} \cdot \mathbf{x}^T = \mathbf{0}^T \pmod{2}.$$

# Binary Linear Codes (Part 2)

This means that  $\mathbf{x}$  is a codeword if and only if  $\mathbf{x}$  fulfills the following two equations:

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In summary,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{C} &= \left\{ (x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5) \in \mathbb{F}_2^5 \mid \mathbf{H} \cdot \mathbf{x}^T = \mathbf{0}^T \pmod{2} \right\} \\ &= \left\{ (x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5) \in \mathbb{F}_2^5 \mid \begin{aligned} x_1 + x_2 + x_3 &= 0 \pmod{2} \\ x_2 + x_4 + x_5 &= 0 \pmod{2} \end{aligned} \right\}. \end{aligned}$$



# Binary Linear Codes (Part 3)

Defining the codes  $\mathcal{C}_1$  and  $\mathcal{C}_2$  where

$$\mathcal{C}_1 = \left\{ (x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5) \in \mathbb{F}_2^5 \mid x_1 + x_2 + x_3 = 0 \pmod{2} \right\},$$

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the code  $\mathcal{C}$  can be written as the intersection of  $\mathcal{C}_1$  and  $\mathcal{C}_2$ :

$$\mathcal{C} = \mathcal{C}_1 \cap \mathcal{C}_2.$$

# Graphical representation of a code

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$$\mathbf{H} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$x_1$  ○

$x_2$  ○

$x_3$  ○

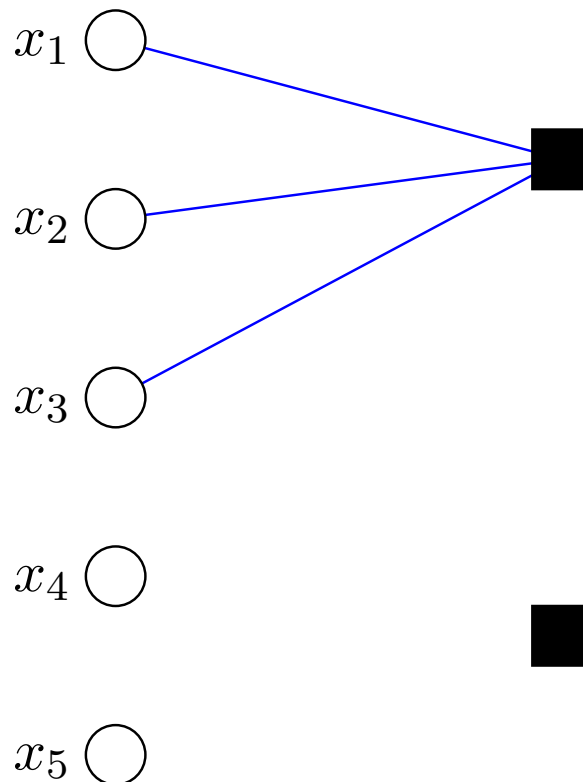
$x_4$  ○

$x_5$  ○



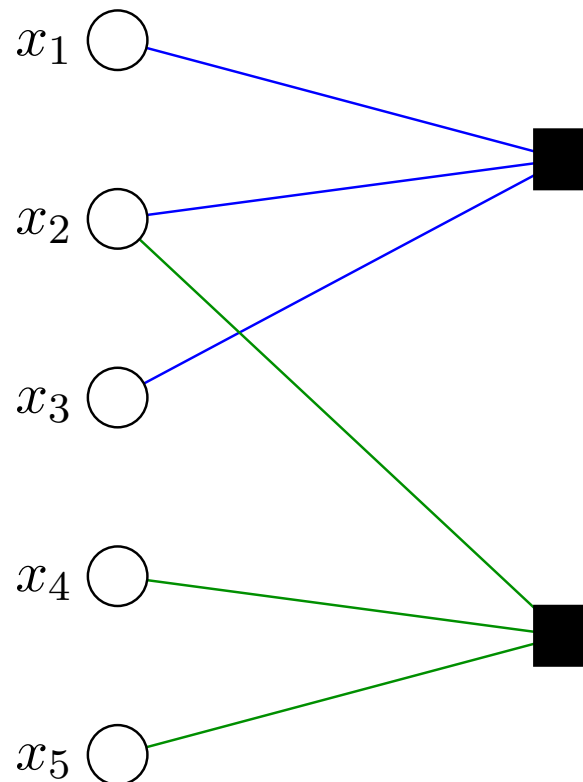
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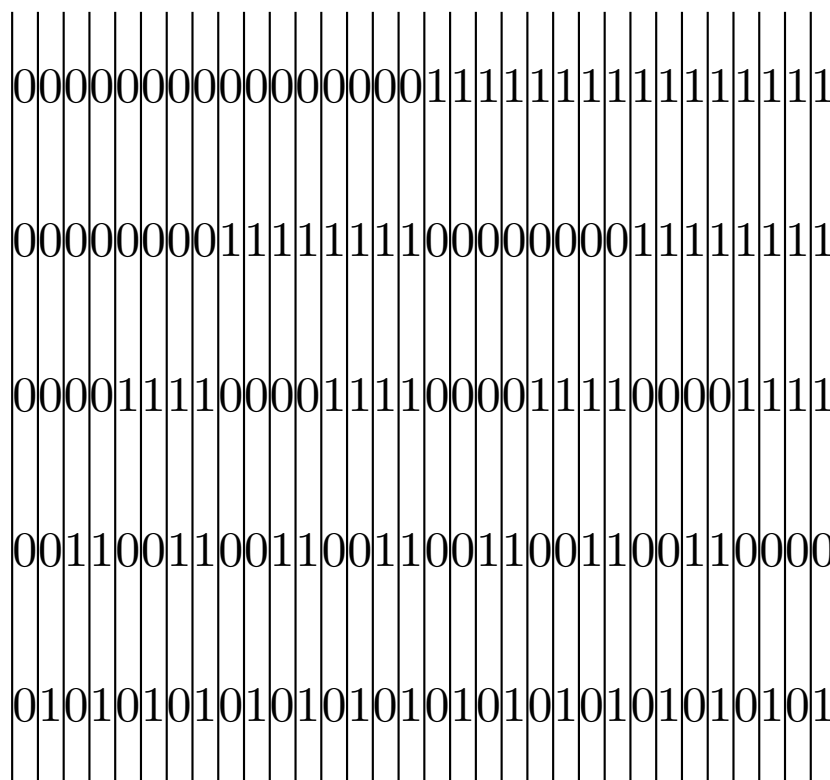
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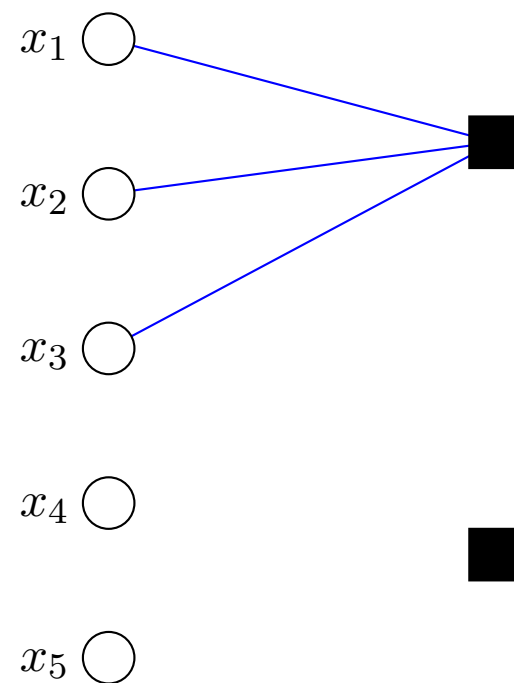




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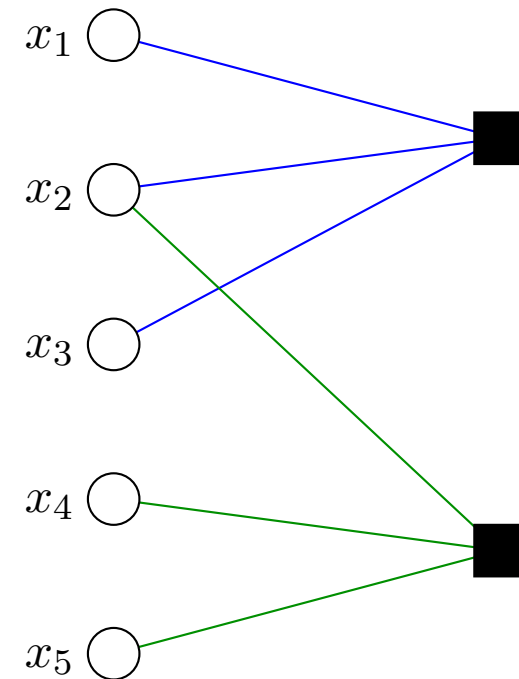
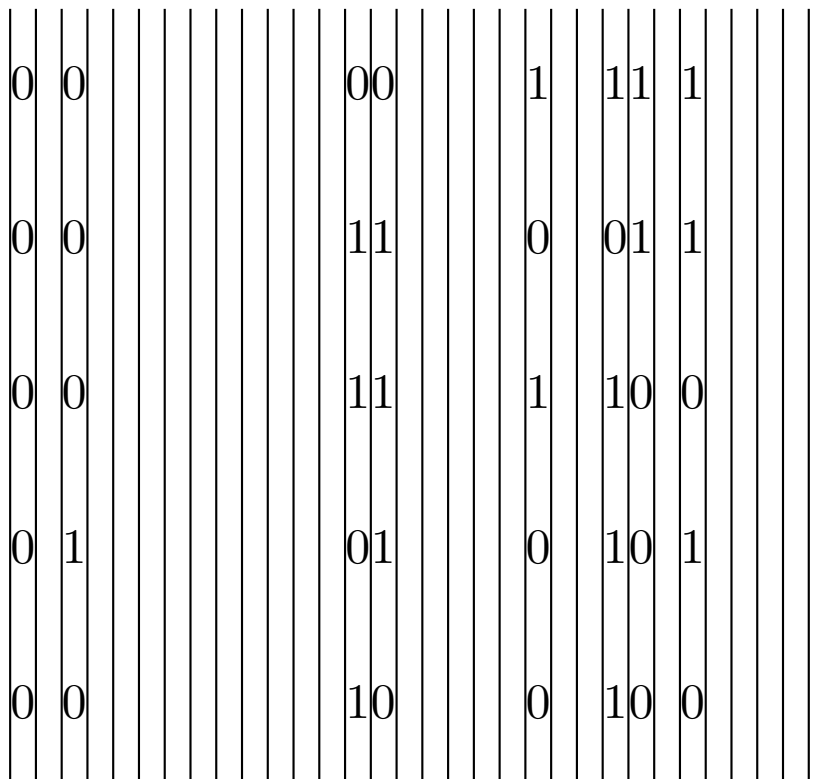
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0000	0000	1111111111
0000	1111	00001111
0000	1111	11110000
0011	0011	00110011
0101	0101	01010101



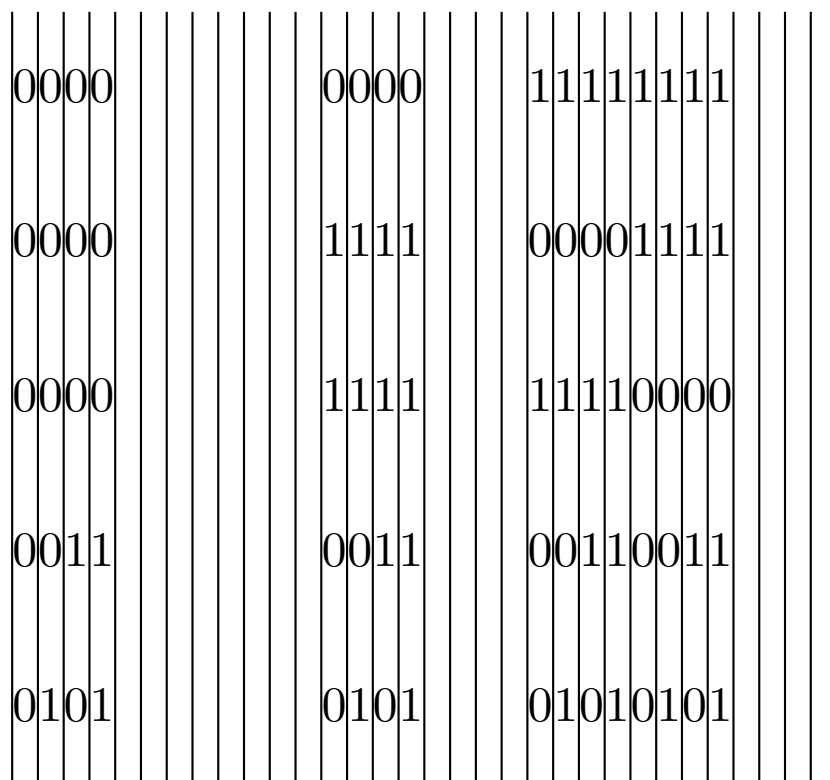
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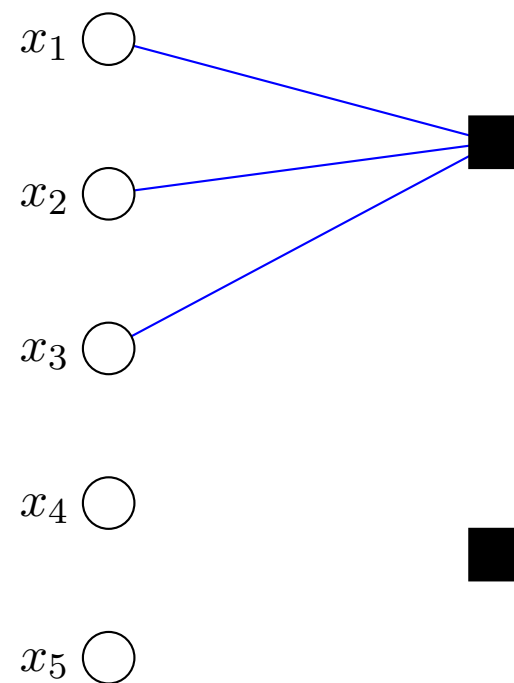


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code  $\mathcal{C}_1$

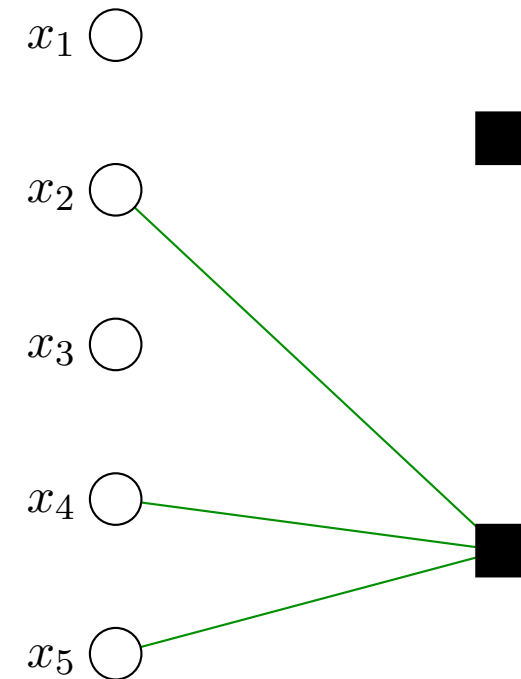


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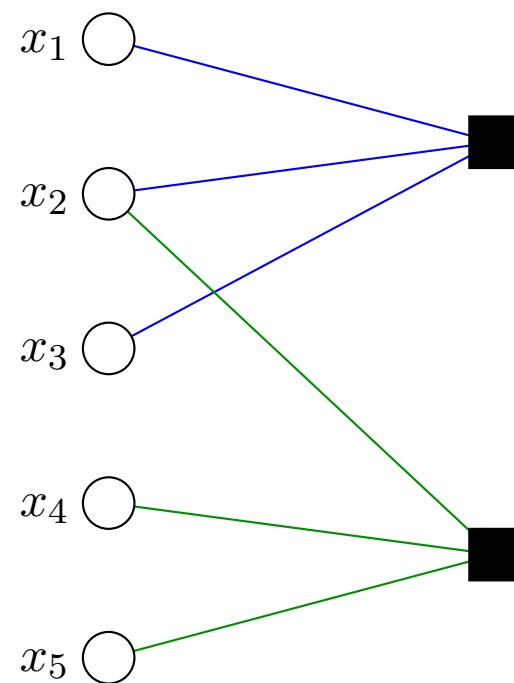
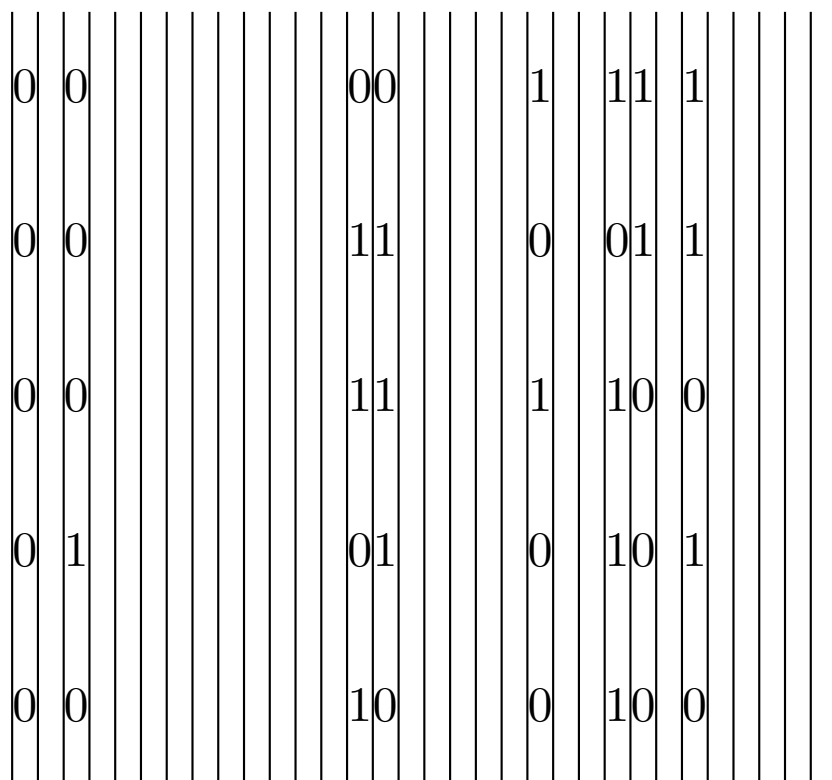
0	00	0	00	00	1	11	1	11	1	1
0	00	0	11	11	0	00	0	11	1	1
0	01	1	00	11	0	01	1	00	1	1
0	10	1	01	01	0	10	1	01	0	0
0	10	1	10	10	0	10	1	10	1	1

code  $\mathcal{C}_2$



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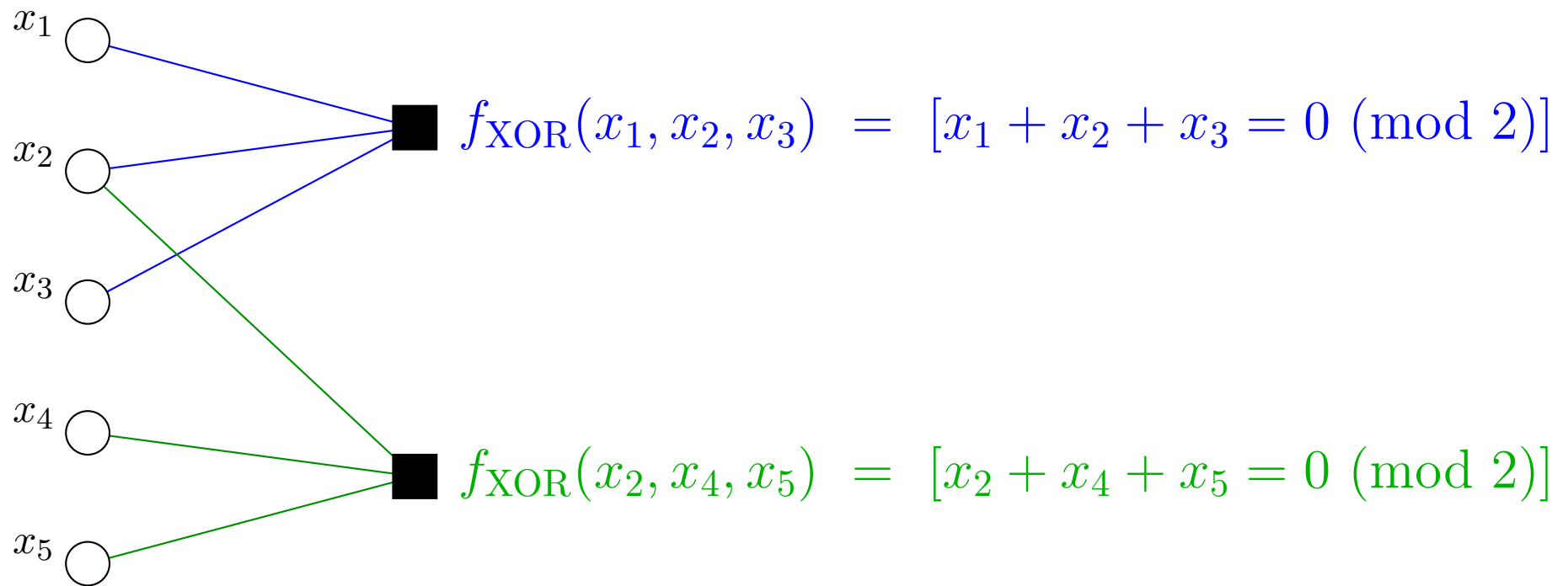
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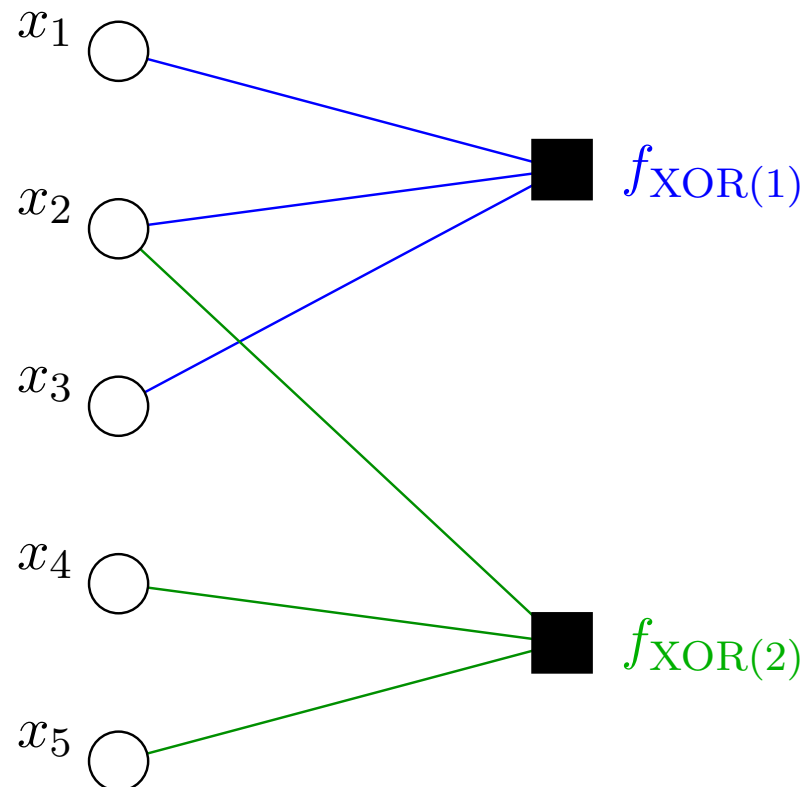
# FG of a Data Communication System based on a parity-check code

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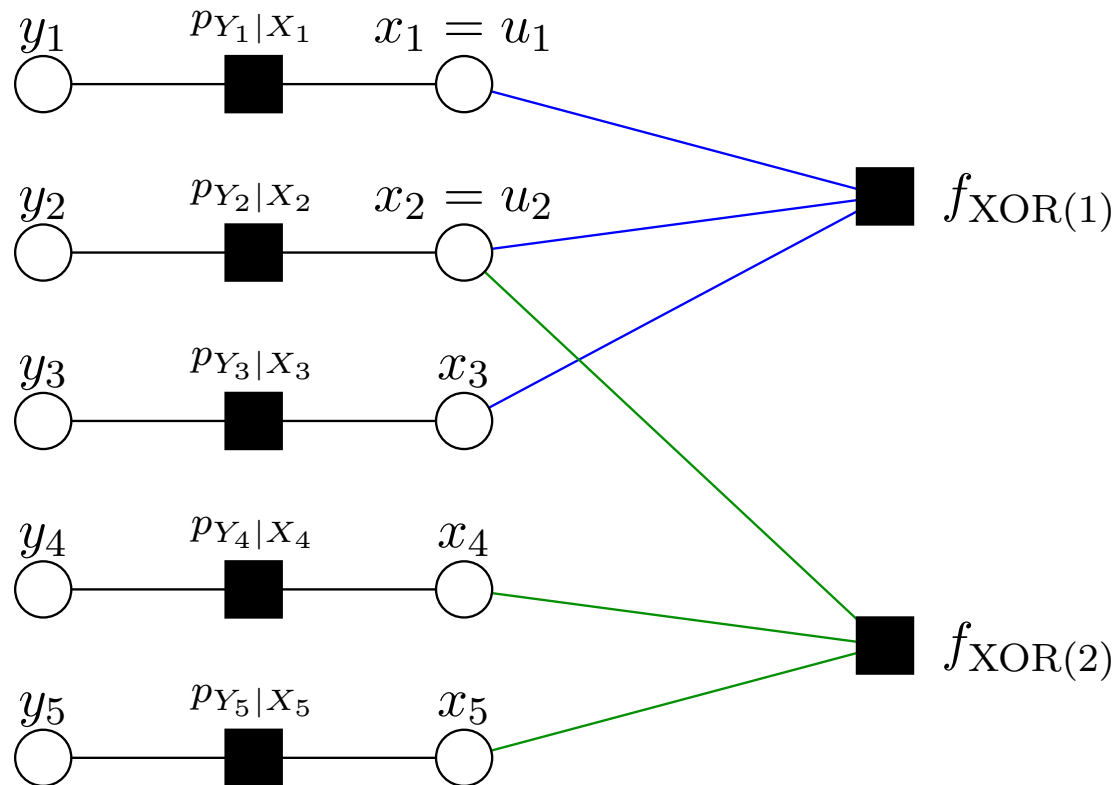
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**Expressing a decoder as  
the solution of a linear program**

# ML Decoding as an *Integer* LP

For memoryless channels, block-wise ML decoding of a binary code can be written as a linear program.

$$\hat{\mathbf{x}}_{\text{ML}}^{\text{block}}(\mathbf{y}) = \arg \max_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{C}} P_{\mathbf{Y}|\mathbf{X}}(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{x})$$

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where

$$\lambda_i \triangleq \lambda_i(y_i) \triangleq \log \frac{P_{\mathbf{Y}|\mathbf{X}}(y_i|0)}{P_{\mathbf{Y}|\mathbf{X}}(y_i|1)}.$$

# ML Decoding as an *Integer* LP

Derivation (we assume to have a memoryless channel):

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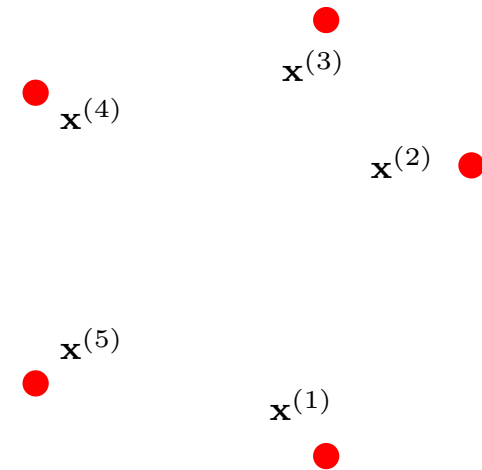
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# ML Decoding as an LP

$$\arg \min_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{C}} \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i x_i$$



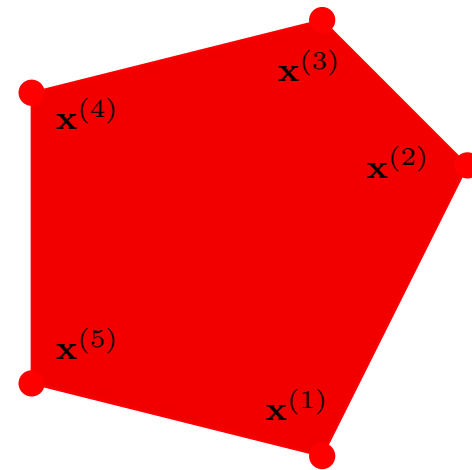
e.g.

$$\mathcal{C} = \left\{ \mathbf{x}^{(1)}, \dots, \mathbf{x}^{(5)} \right\}$$

# ML Decoding as an LP

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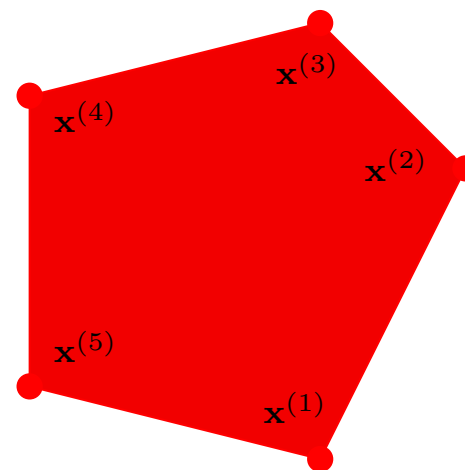
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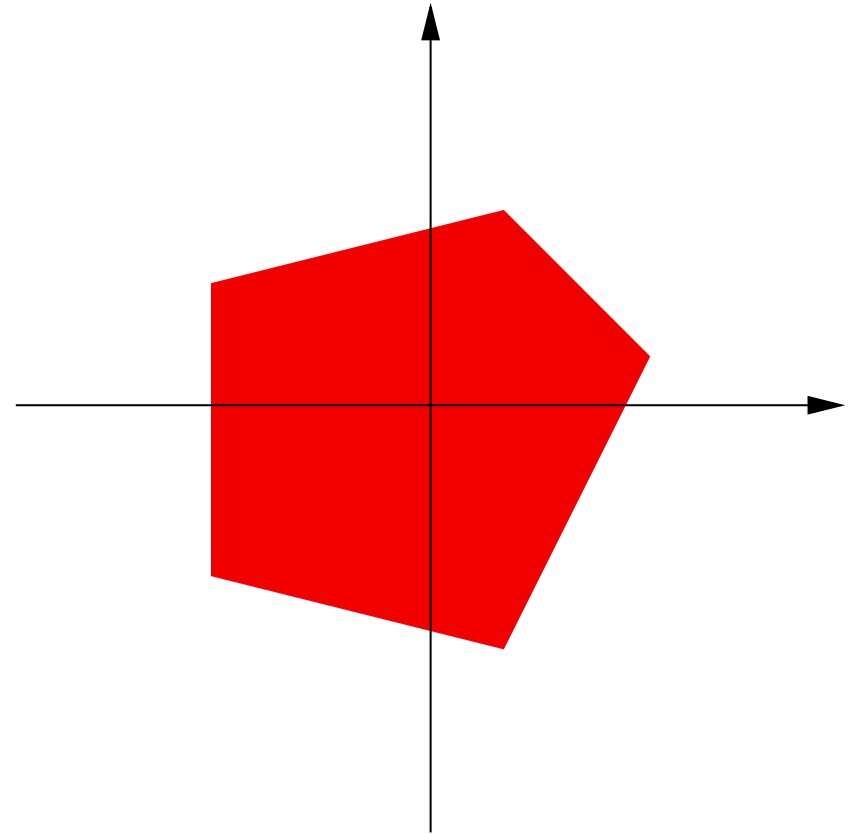


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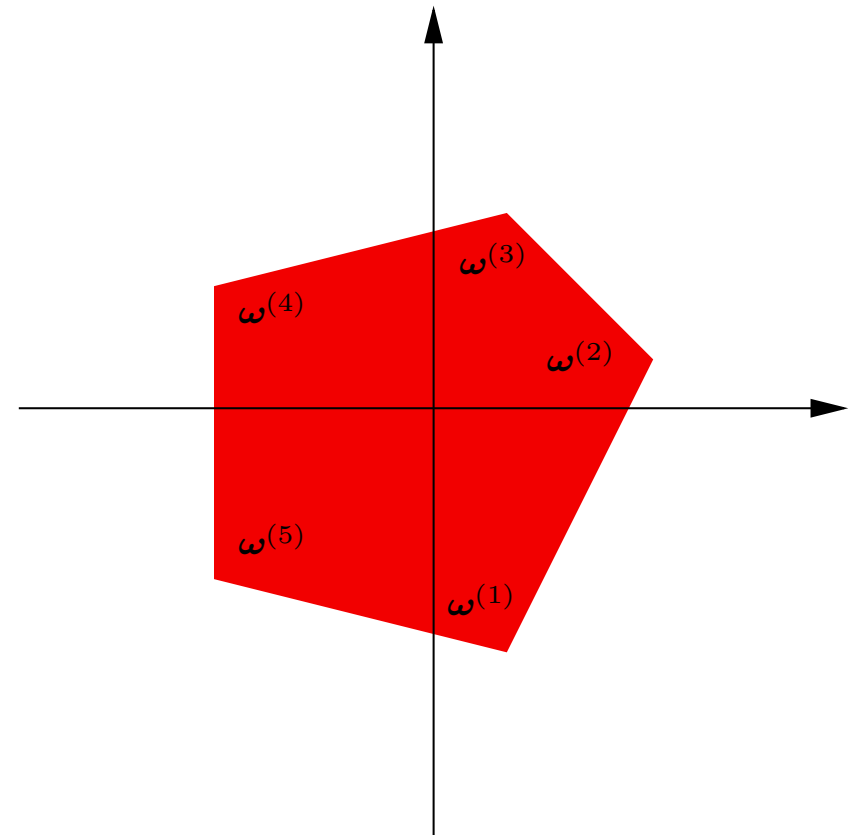
# Linear Programs (LPs) (Part 1)

$$\arg \max_{\omega \in A} \sum_{i=1}^n c_i \omega_i$$



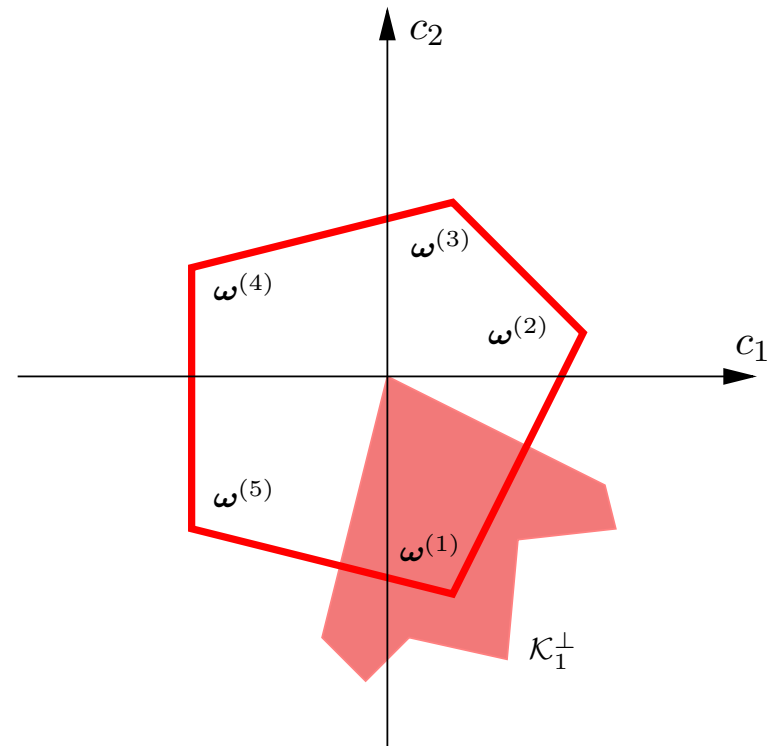
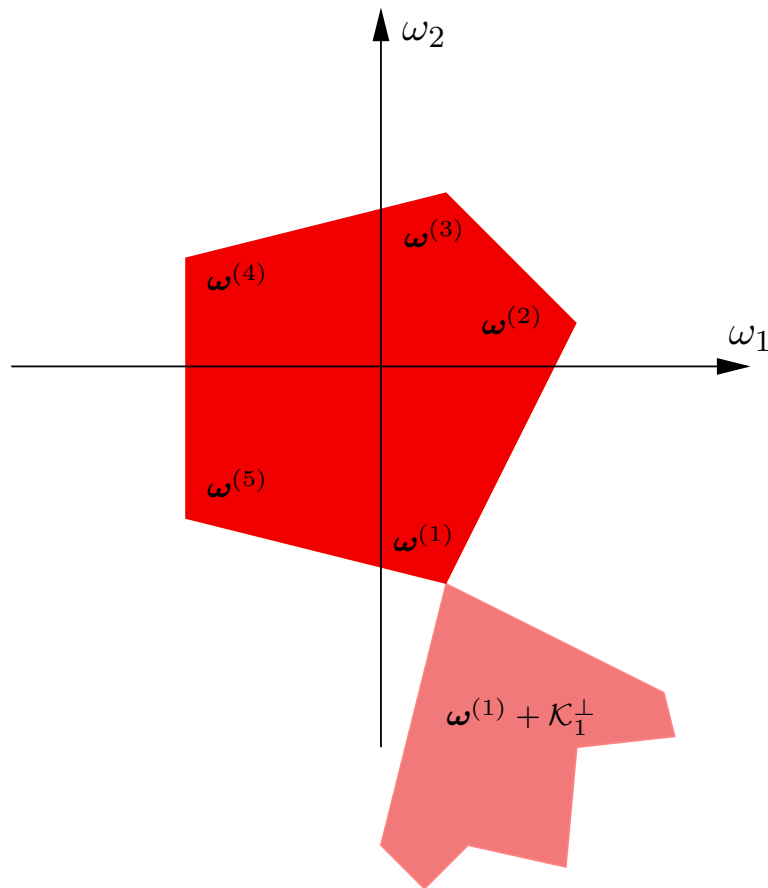
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Because the cost function is linear and because  $\mathcal{A}$  is a polytope, one of the vertices of  $\mathcal{A}$  is always in the solution set.

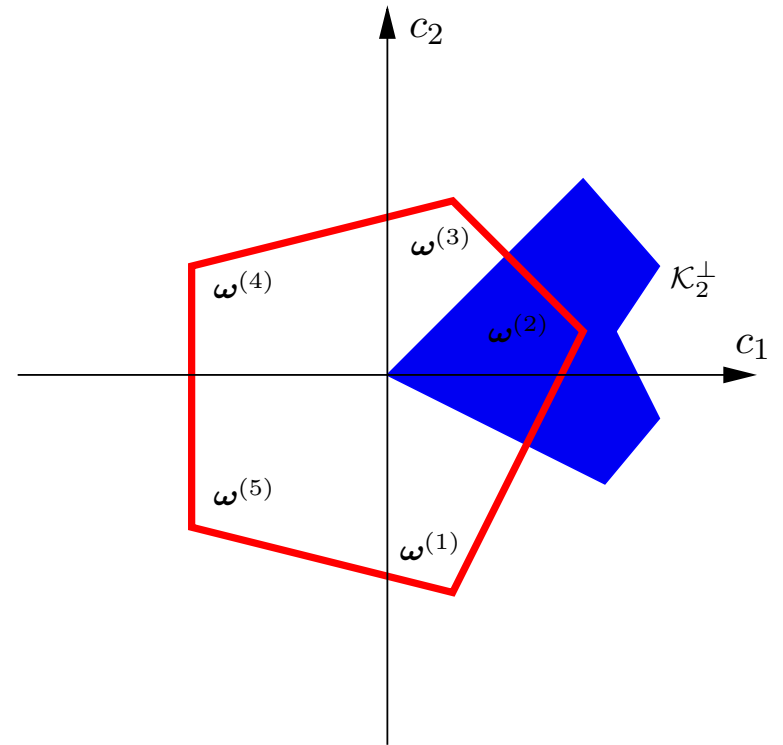
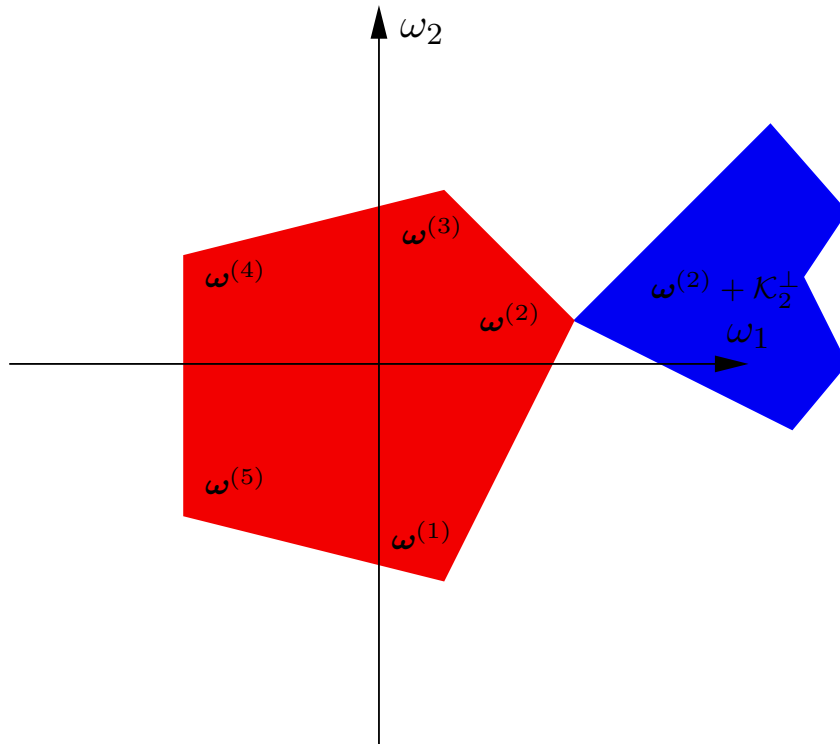
# Linear Programs (LPs) (Part 2)



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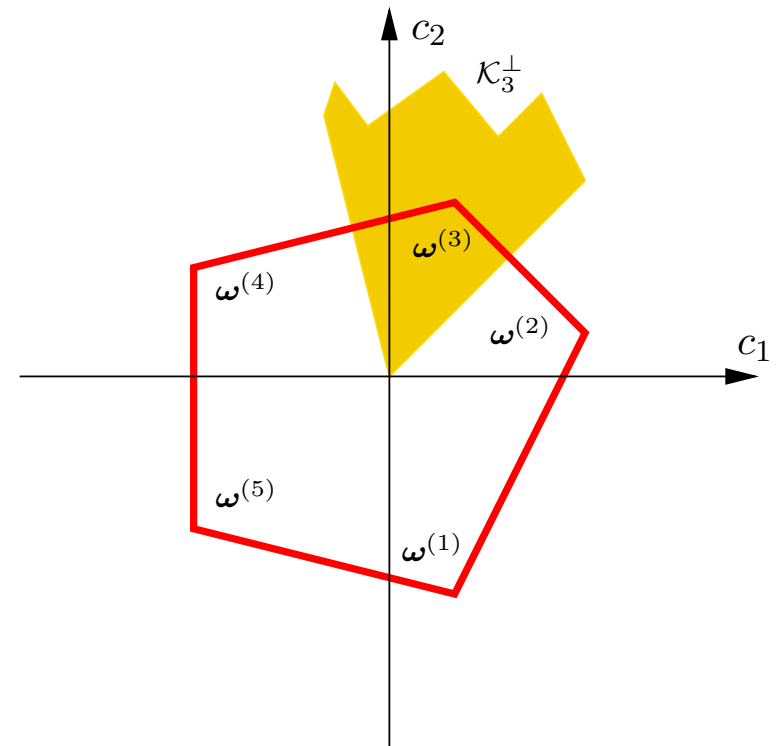
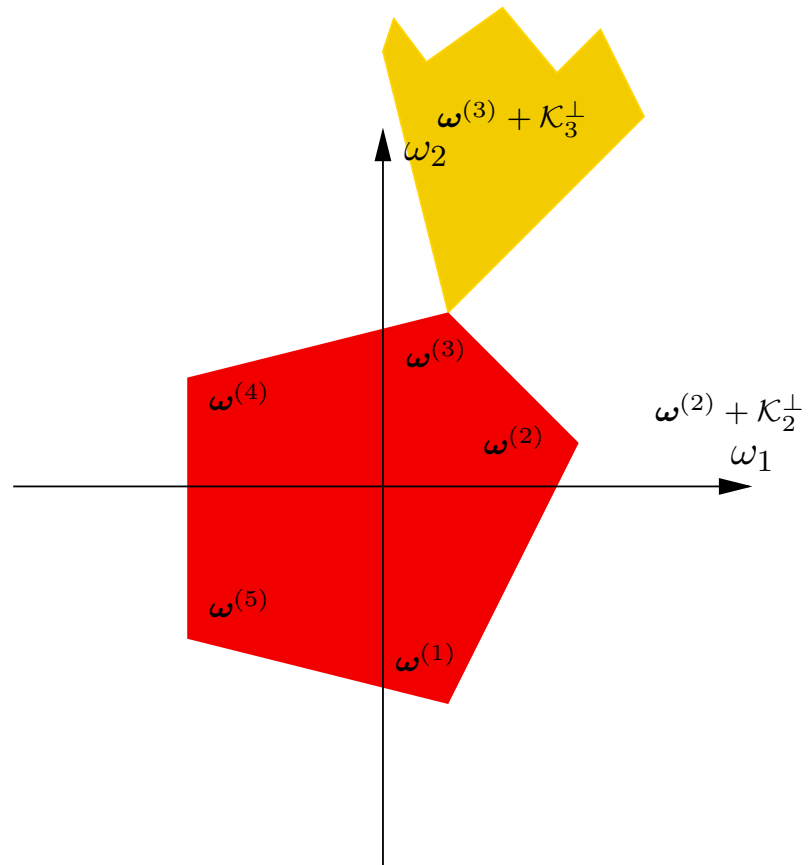


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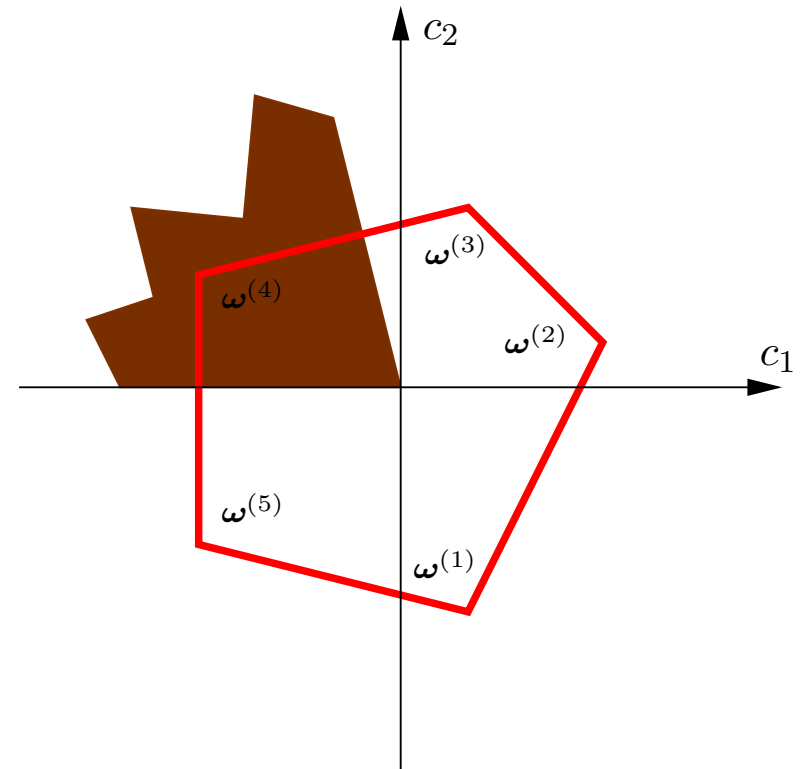
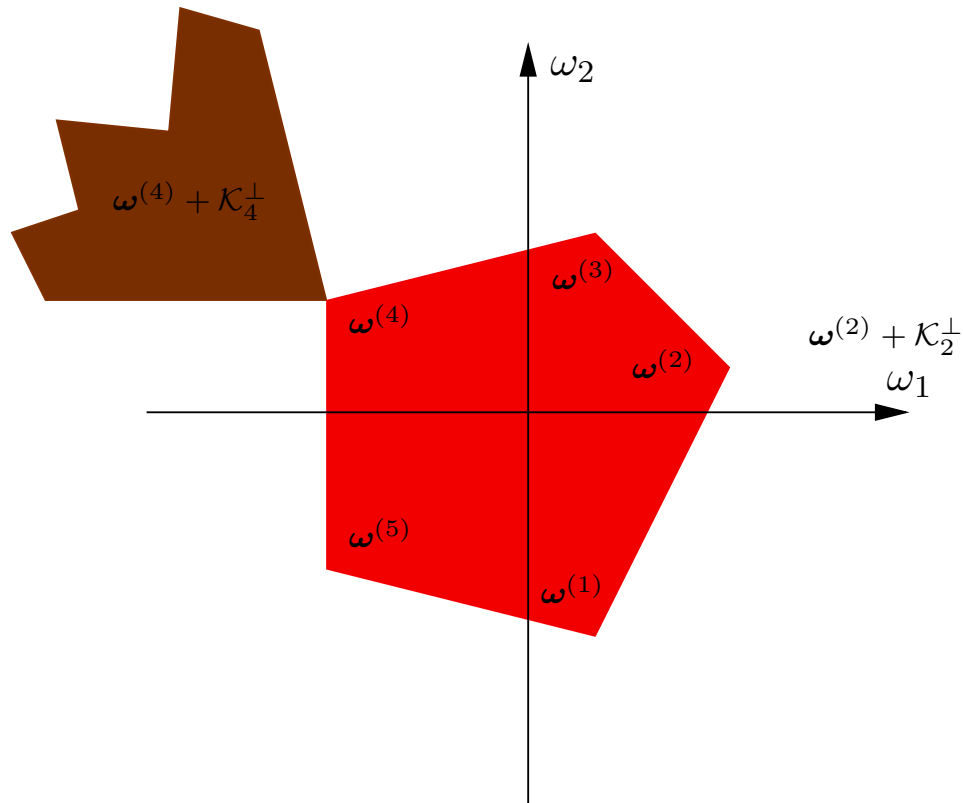
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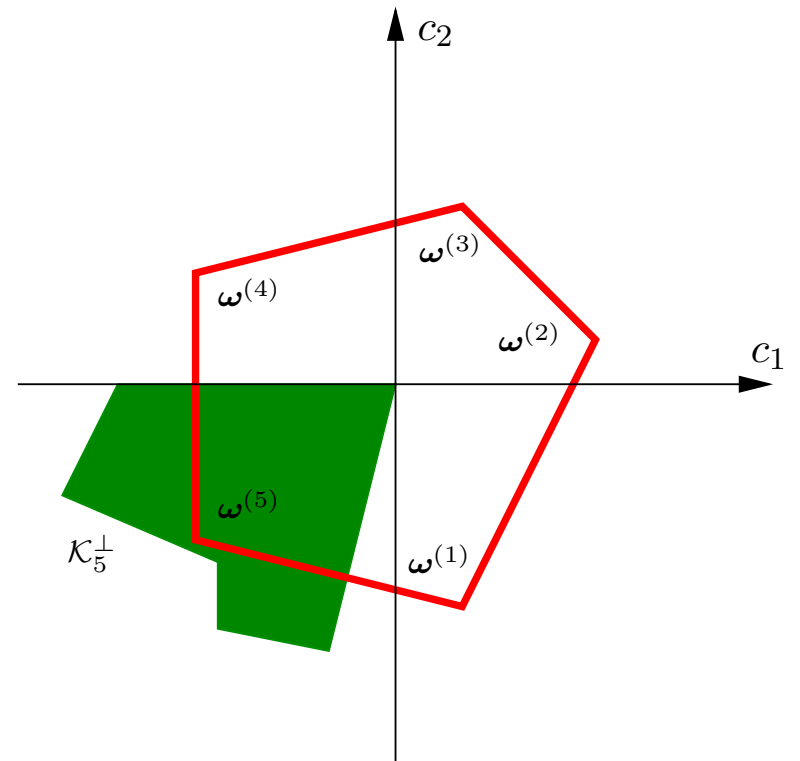
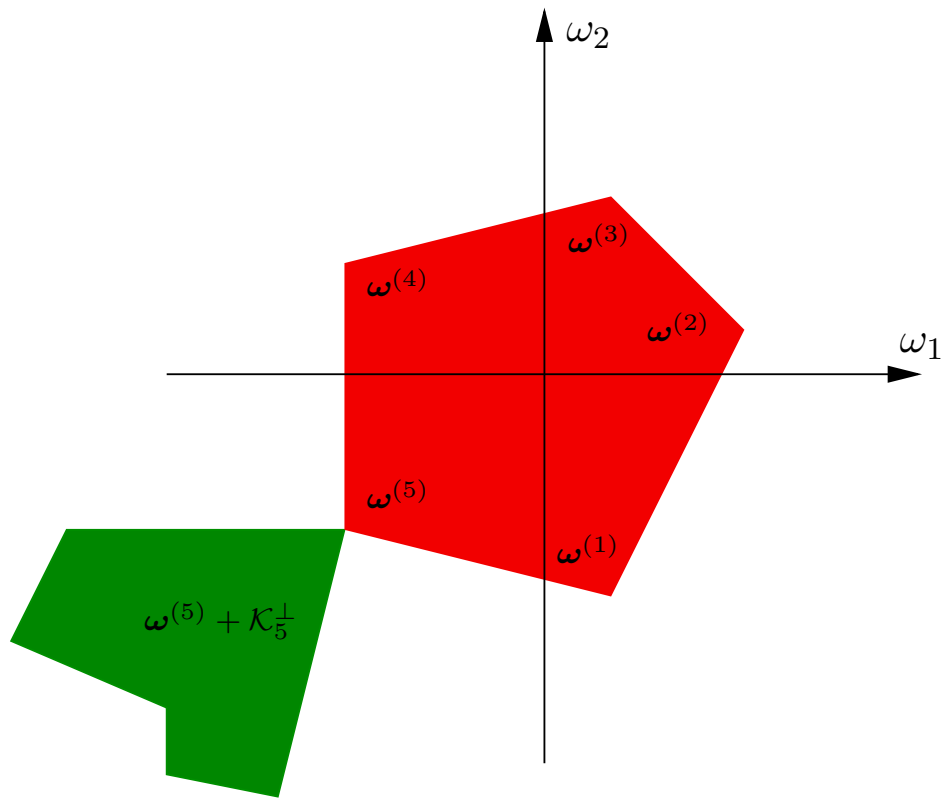
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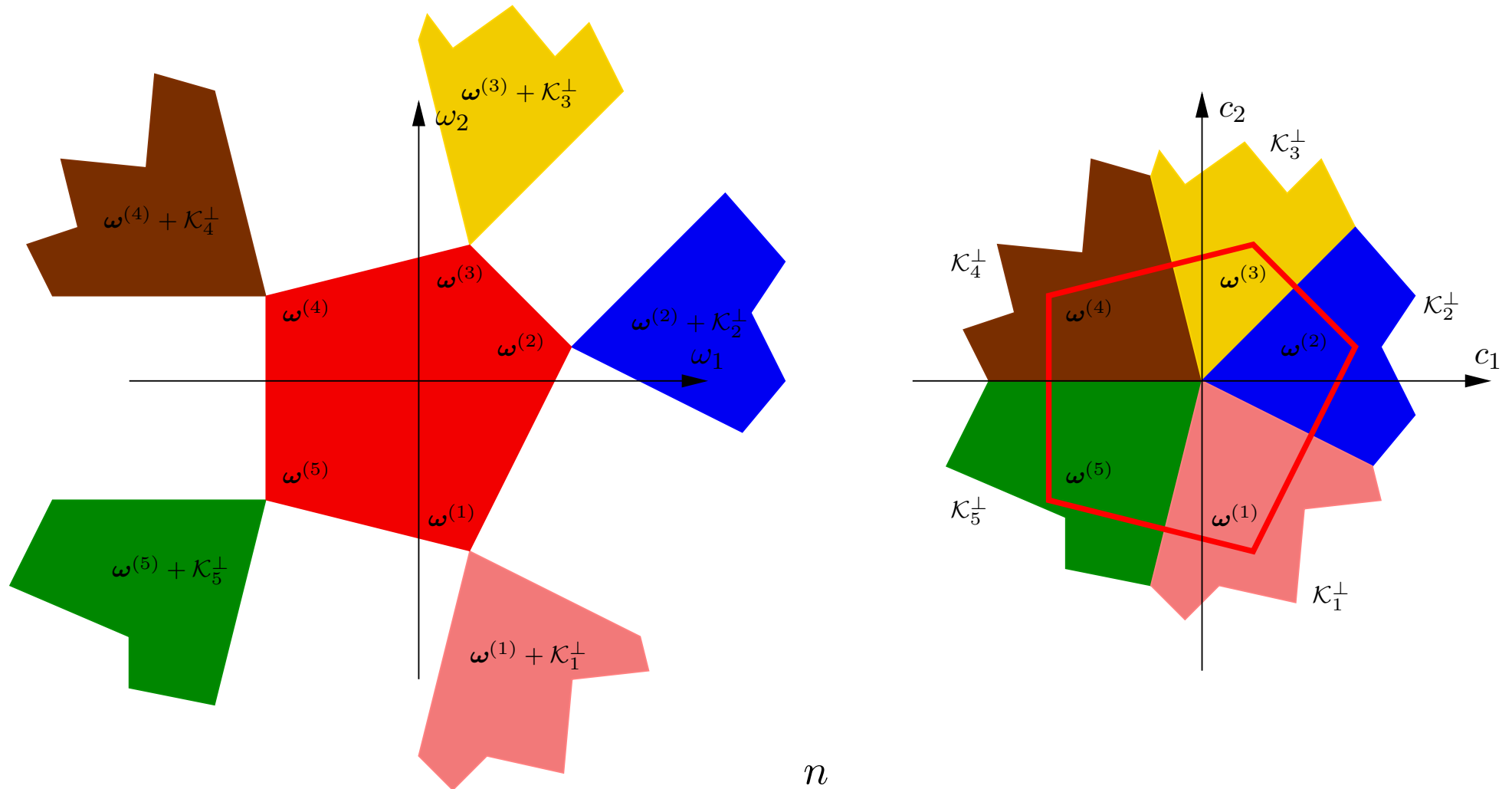
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$$\hat{\mathbf{x}}_{\text{ML}}^{\text{block}}(\mathbf{y}) = \arg \min_{\mathbf{x} \in \text{conv}(\mathcal{C})} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i \lambda_i,$$

This is a **linear program**.

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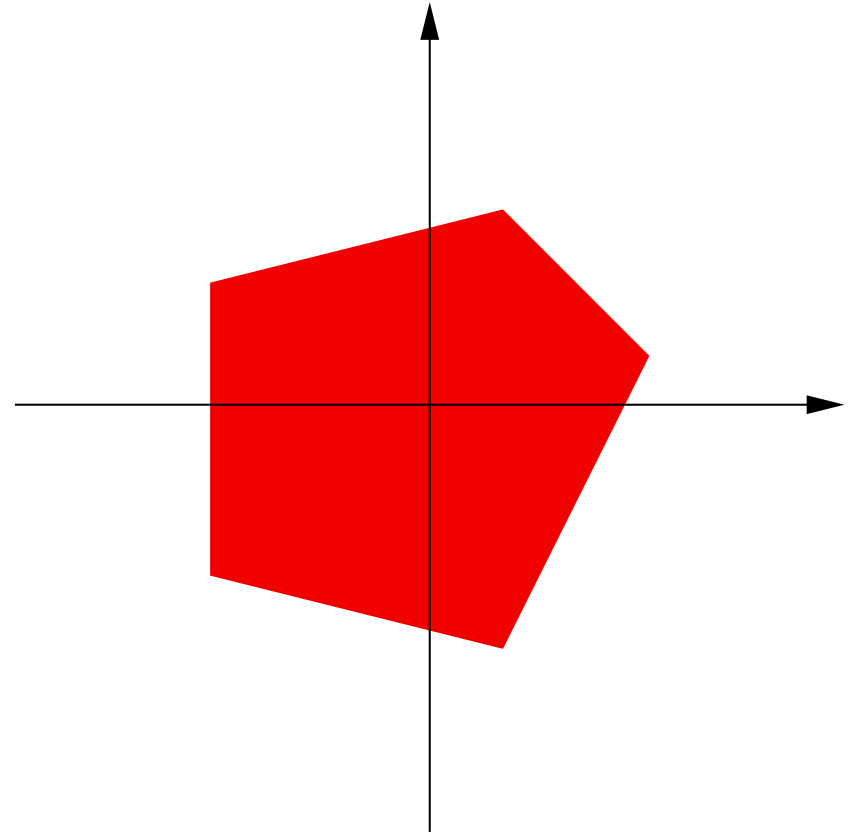
number of variables / equalities / inequalities  
needed to describe the polytope  $\text{conv}(\mathcal{C})$  is (usually) **exponential in  $n$** .

# Relaxed linear programs and LP decoding



# Relaxed Linear Programs (Part 1)

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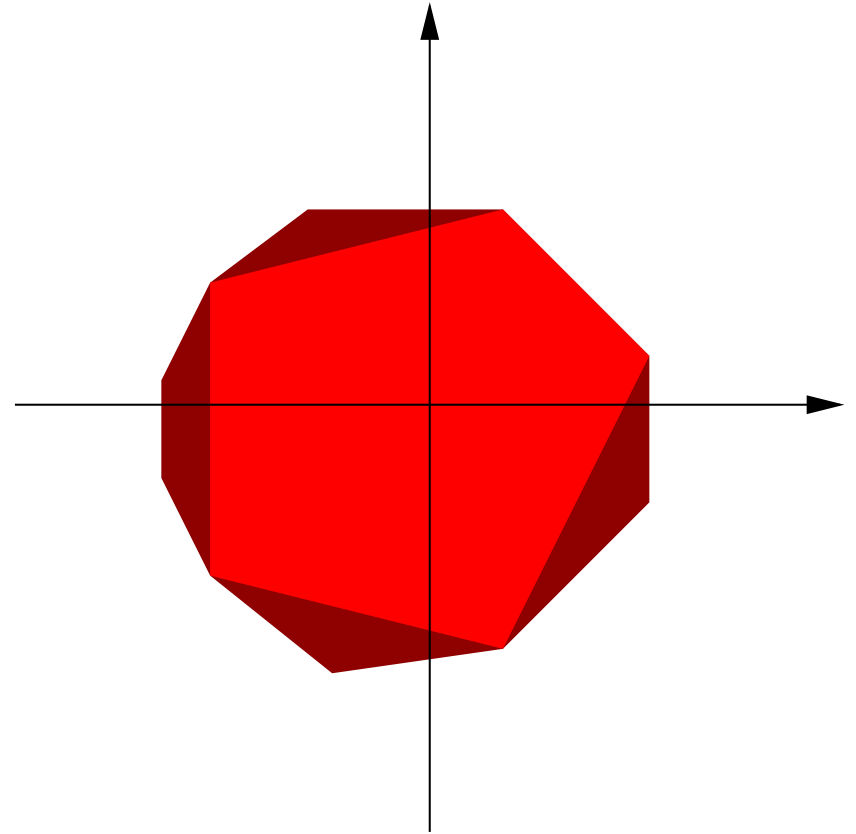


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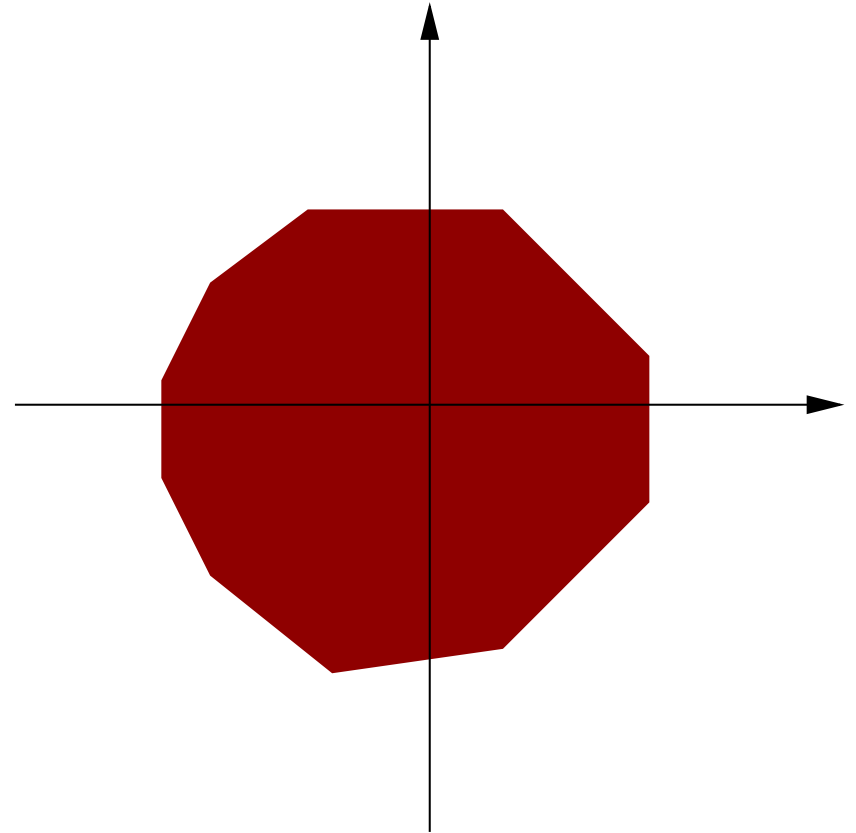


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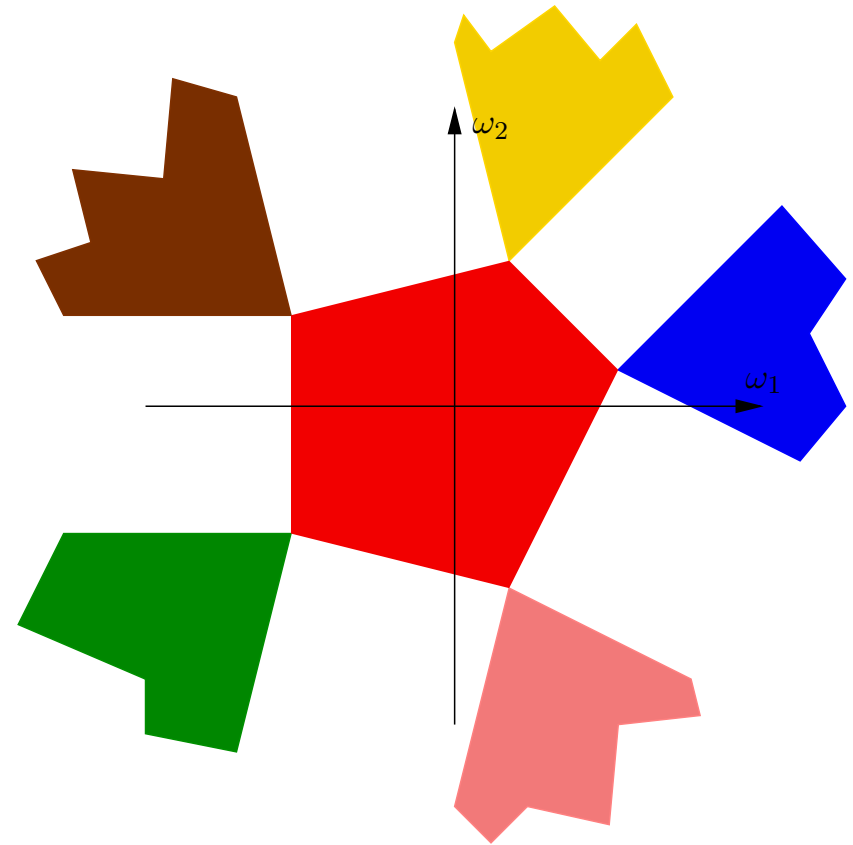
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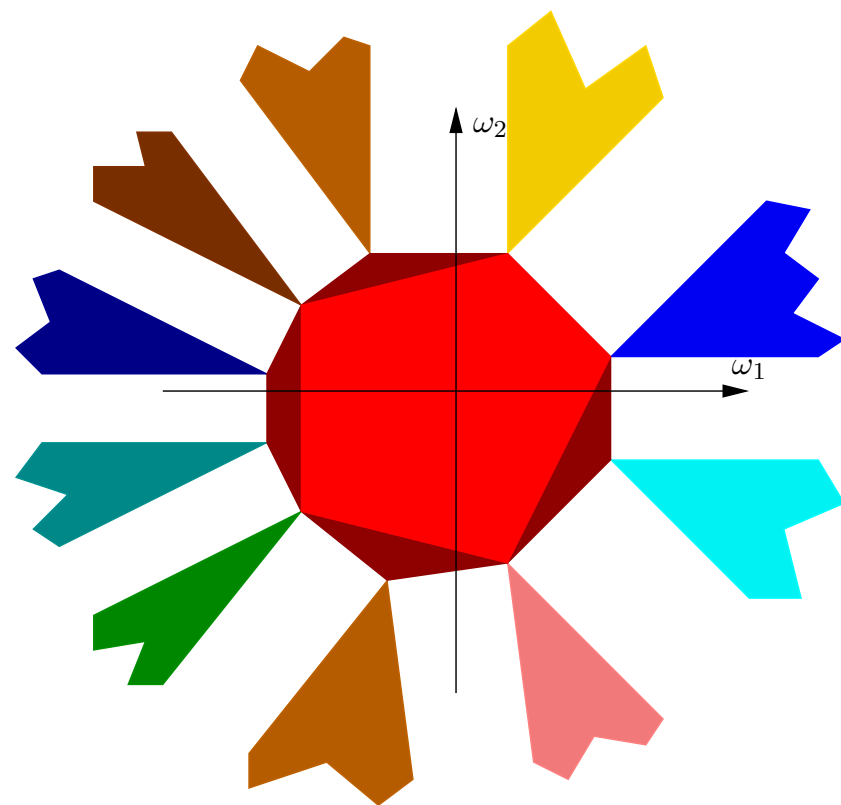


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A standard approach in optimization theory is then to relax the set  $\text{conv}(\mathcal{C})$  to a set  $\text{relax}(\text{conv}(\mathcal{C}))$  whose description complexity is much lower:

$$\hat{\omega}_{\text{LP}}(\mathbf{y}) = \arg \min_{\omega \in \text{relax}(\text{conv}(\mathcal{C}))} \sum_{i=1}^n \omega_i \lambda_i.$$

# Linear Programming Decoding (Part 4)

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Before showing how this relaxation works, let us remember how we define a code using a parity-check matrix.

Let  $\mathbf{H}$  be a parity-check matrix, e.g.

$$\mathbf{H} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

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A vector  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{F}_2^5$  is a codeword if and only if

$$\mathbf{H}\mathbf{x}^T = \mathbf{0}^T.$$

# Linear Programming Decoding (Part 5)

In our case this means that  $\mathbf{x}$  is a codeword if and only if  $\mathbf{x}$  fulfills the following three equations:

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where

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# Linear Programming Decoding (Part 6)

Let the relaxation  $\text{relax}(\mathcal{C}) \triangleq \text{relax}(\text{conv}(\mathcal{C}))$  of  $\mathcal{C}$  be the set of all vectors  $\omega \in \mathbb{R}^5$  that fulfill three conditions:

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This relaxation turns out to have many desirable properties. Note that the points in  $\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{H})$  are called pseudo-codewords.

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# Block-wise ML Decoding vs. LP Decoding

Block-wise ML decoding:

LP decoding:

# Block-wise ML Decoding vs. LP Decoding

Block-wise ML decoding:

$$\hat{\mathbf{x}}_{\text{ML}}^{\text{block}}(\mathbf{y}) = \arg \min_{\mathbf{x} \in \text{conv}(\mathcal{C})} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i \lambda_i.$$

LP decoding:

# Block-wise ML Decoding vs. LP Decoding

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$$\hat{\mathbf{x}}_{\text{ML}}^{\text{block}}(\mathbf{y}) = \arg \min_{\mathbf{x} \in \text{conv}(\mathcal{C})} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i \lambda_i.$$

LP decoding:

$$\hat{\omega}_{\text{LP}}(\mathbf{y}) = \arg \min_{\omega \in \mathcal{P}(\mathbf{H})} \sum_{i=1}^n \omega_i \lambda_i.$$

# Block-wise ML Decoding vs. LP Decoding

Block-wise ML decoding:

$$\hat{\mathbf{x}}_{\text{ML}}^{\text{block}}(\mathbf{y}) = \arg \min_{\mathbf{x} \in \text{conv}(\cap_{j=1}^m \mathcal{C}_j)} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i \lambda_i.$$

LP decoding:

$$\hat{\omega}_{\text{LP}}(\mathbf{y}) = \arg \min_{\omega \in \cap_{j=1}^m \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_j)} \sum_{i=1}^n \omega_i \lambda_i.$$

# Fundamental Polytope

$$\mathbf{H} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \mathcal{C}_1$$
$$\Rightarrow \mathcal{C}_2$$
$$\Rightarrow \mathcal{C}_3$$

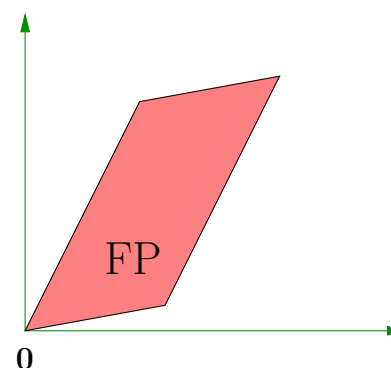
$$\Rightarrow \mathcal{C} = \bigcap_{j=1}^m \mathcal{C}_j$$



# Fundamental Polytope

$$\mathbf{H} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \mathcal{C}_1 \quad \Rightarrow \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_1)$$
$$\quad \quad \quad \Rightarrow \mathcal{C}_2 \quad \Rightarrow \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_2)$$
$$\quad \quad \quad \Rightarrow \mathcal{C}_3 \quad \Rightarrow \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_3)$$

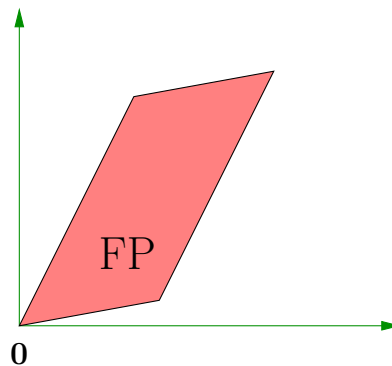
$$\Rightarrow \mathcal{C} = \bigcap_{j=1}^m \mathcal{C}_j \quad \Rightarrow \underbrace{\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{H}) = \bigcap_{j=1}^m \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_j)}_{\text{Fundamental polytope}}$$



# Fundamental Polytope / Cone (Part 1)

$$\mathbf{H} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_1)$$
$$\Rightarrow \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_2)$$
$$\Rightarrow \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_3)$$

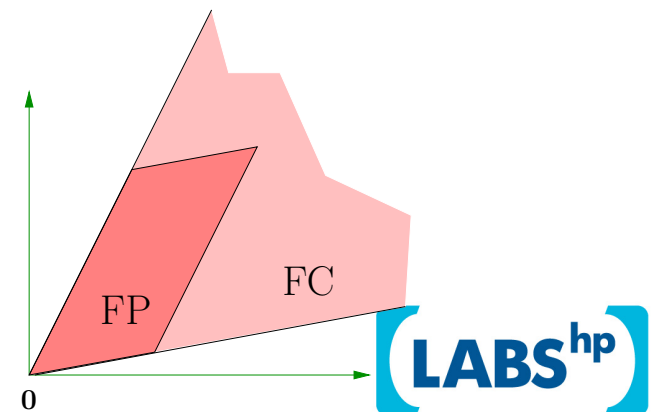
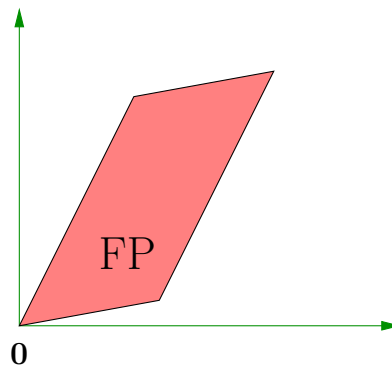
$$\Rightarrow \underbrace{\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{H}) = \bigcap_{j=1}^m \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_j)}_{\text{Fundamental polytope}}$$



# Fundamental Polytope / Cone (Part 1)

$$\mathbf{H} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_1)$$
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$$\Rightarrow \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_3)$$

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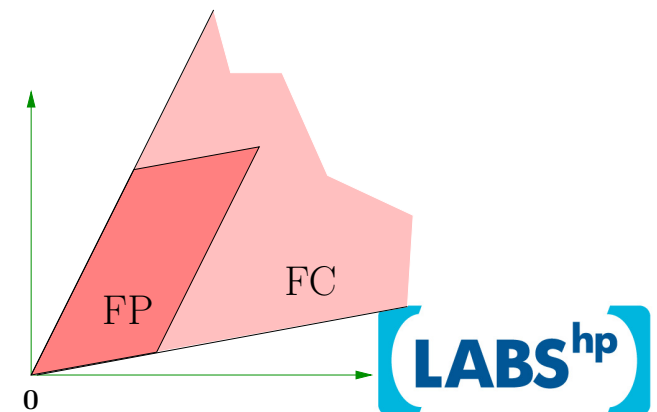
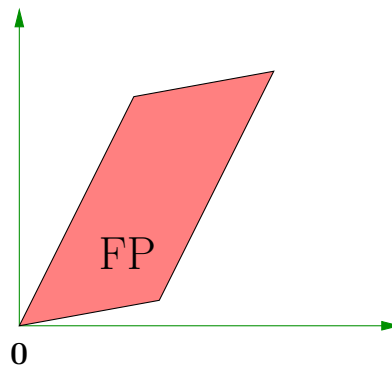
# Fundamental Polytope / Cone (Part 1)

$$\mathbf{H} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_1) \Rightarrow \text{conic}(\mathcal{C}_1)$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_2) \Rightarrow \text{conic}(\mathcal{C}_2)$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_3) \Rightarrow \text{conic}(\mathcal{C}_3)$$

$$\Rightarrow \underbrace{\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{H}) = \bigcap_{j=1}^m \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_j)}_{\text{Fundamental polytope}} \Rightarrow \underbrace{\mathcal{K}(\mathbf{H}) = \bigcap_{j=1}^m \text{conic}(\mathcal{C}_j)}_{\text{Fundamental cone}}$$



# Convex hull of simple codes

# Convex Hull of Simple Codes (Part 1)

Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be defined by the parity-check matrix

$$\mathbf{H} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then

$$\mathcal{C} = \{(0, 0), (1, 1)\}$$

and

$$\text{conv}(\mathcal{C}) = \left\{ \boldsymbol{\omega} \in [0, 1]^2 \left| \begin{array}{l} -\omega_1 + \omega_2 \geq 0 \\ +\omega_1 - \omega_2 \geq 0 \end{array} \right. \right\},$$

where  $[0, 1] = \{r \in \mathbb{R} \mid 0 \leq r \leq 1\}$ .

# Convex Hull of Simple Codes (Part 2)

Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be defined by the parity-check matrix

$$\mathbf{H} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then

$$\mathcal{C} = \{(0, 0, 0), (1, 1, 0), (1, 0, 1), (0, 1, 1)\}$$

and

$$\text{conv}(\mathcal{C}) = \left\{ \omega \in [0, 1]^3 \left| \begin{array}{l} -\omega_1 + \omega_2 + \omega_3 \geq 0 \\ +\omega_1 - \omega_2 + \omega_3 \geq 0 \\ +\omega_1 + \omega_2 - \omega_3 \geq 0 \\ -\omega_1 - \omega_2 - \omega_3 \geq -2 \end{array} \right. \right\}.$$

# Conic Hull of Simple Codes (Part 1)

Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be defined by the parity-check matrix

$$\mathbf{H} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then

$$\mathcal{C} = \{(0, 0), (1, 1)\}$$

and

$$\text{conic}(\mathcal{C}) = \left\{ \boldsymbol{\omega} \in \mathbb{R}_+^2 \mid \begin{array}{l} -\omega_1 + \omega_2 \geq 0 \\ +\omega_1 - \omega_2 \geq 0 \end{array} \right\},$$

where  $\mathbb{R}_+ = \{r \in \mathbb{R} \mid r \geq 0\}$ .



# Conic Hull of Simple Codes (Part 2)

Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be defined by the parity-check matrix

$$\mathbf{H} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then

$$\mathcal{C} = \{(0, 0, 0), (1, 1, 0), (1, 0, 1), (0, 1, 1)\}$$

and

$$\text{conic}(\mathcal{C}) = \left\{ \boldsymbol{\omega} \in \mathbb{R}_+^3 \mid \begin{array}{l} -\omega_1 + \omega_2 + \omega_3 \geq 0 \\ +\omega_1 - \omega_2 + \omega_3 \geq 0 \\ +\omega_1 + \omega_2 - \omega_3 \geq 0 \end{array} \right\}.$$

# A Simple Code (Part 1)

Let us consider the length-3 code  $\mathcal{C}$  defined by the parity-check matrix

$$\mathbf{H} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

The code  $\mathcal{C}$  can be written as  $\mathcal{C} = \mathcal{C}_1 \cap \mathcal{C}_2 \cap \mathcal{C}_3$  with

$$\mathcal{C}_1 = \{(0, 0, 0), (1, 1, 0), (0, 0, 1), (1, 1, 1)\}$$

$$\mathcal{C}_2 = \{(0, 0, 0), (1, 1, 0), (1, 0, 1), (0, 1, 1)\}$$

$$\mathcal{C}_3 = \{(0, 0, 0), (0, 1, 1), (1, 0, 0), (1, 1, 1)\}$$

# A Simple Code (Part 2)

The fundamental polytope is  $\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{H}) = \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_1) \cap \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_2) \cap \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_3)$  with

$$\text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_1) = \text{conv} \left( \{(0, 0, 0), (1, 1, 0), (0, 0, 1), (1, 1, 1)\} \right)$$

$$= \left\{ \omega \in [0, 1]^3 \mid \begin{array}{l} -\omega_1 + \omega_2 \geq 0 \\ +\omega_1 - \omega_2 \geq 0 \end{array} \right\}$$

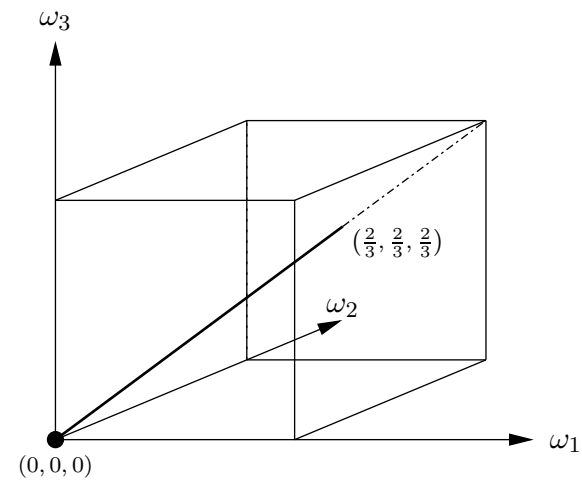
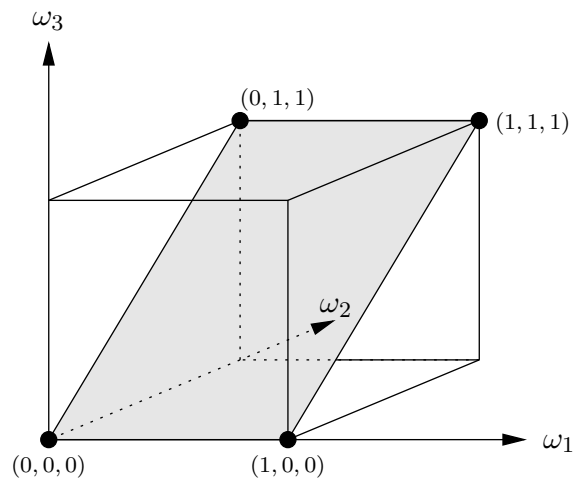
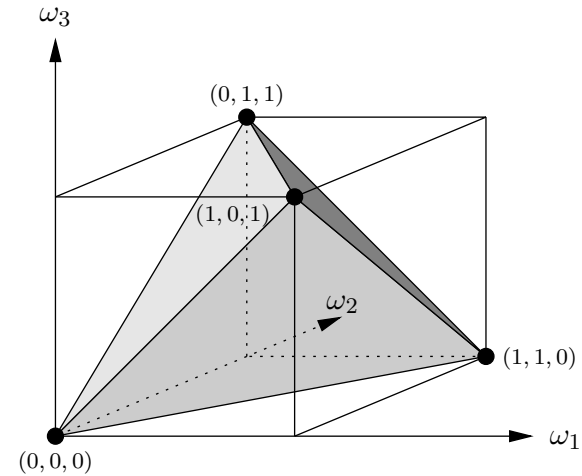
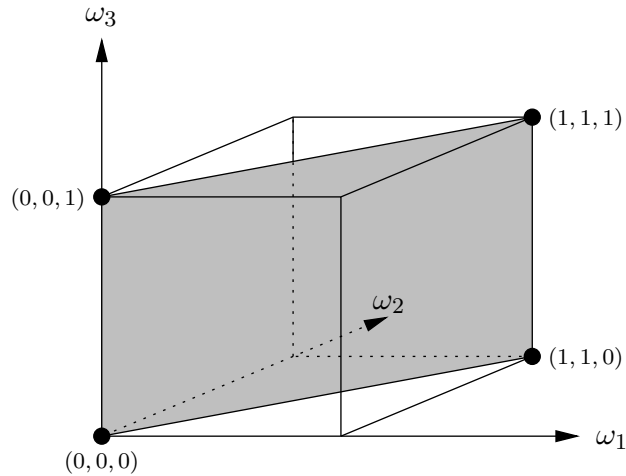
$$\text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_2) = \text{conv} \left( \{(0, 0, 0), (1, 1, 0), (1, 0, 1), (0, 1, 1)\} \right)$$

$$= \left\{ \omega \in [0, 1]^3 \mid \begin{array}{l} -\omega_1 + \omega_2 + \omega_3 \geq 0 \\ +\omega_1 - \omega_2 + \omega_3 \geq 0 \\ +\omega_1 + \omega_2 - \omega_3 \geq 0 \\ -\omega_1 - \omega_2 - \omega_3 \geq -2 \end{array} \right\}$$

$$\text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_3) = \text{conv} \left( \{(0, 0, 0), (0, 1, 1), (1, 0, 0), (1, 1, 1)\} \right)$$

$$= \left\{ \omega \in [0, 1]^3 \mid \begin{array}{l} -\omega_2 + \omega_3 \geq 0 \\ +\omega_2 - \omega_3 \geq 0 \end{array} \right\}$$

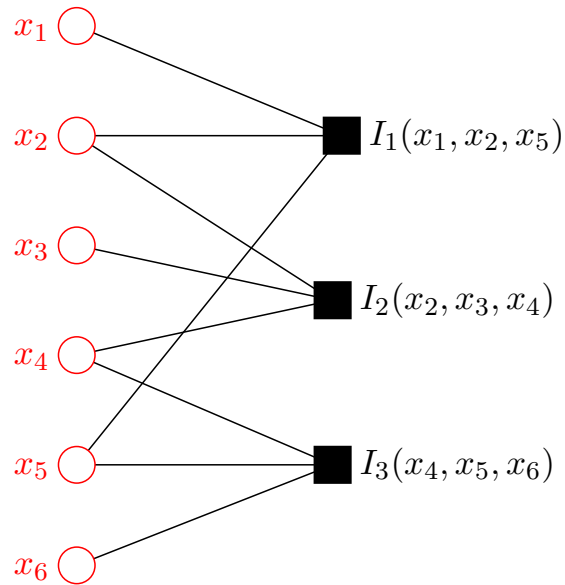
# A Simple Code (Part 3)



$\text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_1)$	$\text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_2)$
$\text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_3)$	$\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{H})$

# Pseudo-codewords and Tanner graphs

# Tanner / Factor graphs



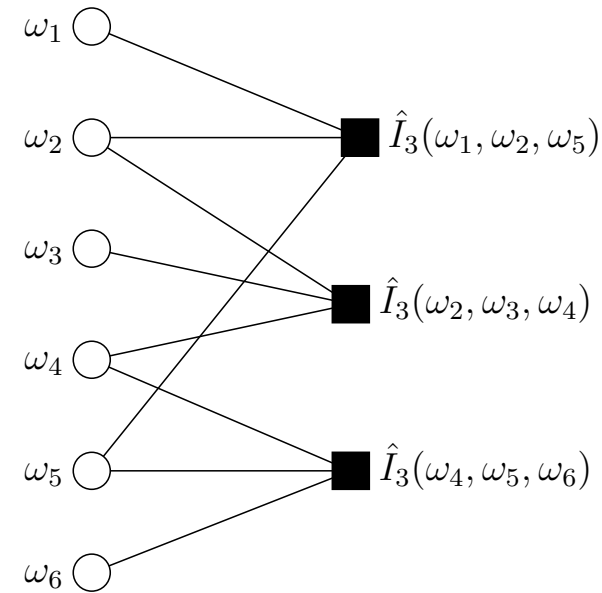
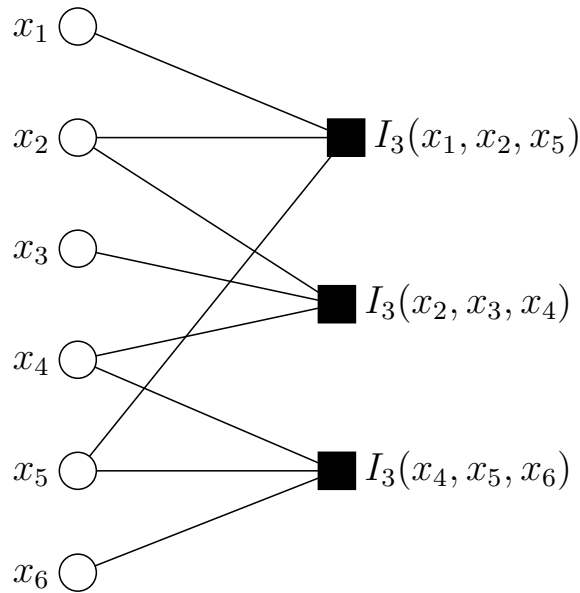
$$\mathbf{H} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Codeword indicator function:

$$\begin{aligned} & I_1(x_1, x_2, x_5) \cdot I_2(x_2, x_3, x_4) \cdot I_3(x_4, x_5, x_6) \\ &= [(x_1, x_2, x_5) \in \mathcal{C}_1] \cdot \\ & \quad [(x_2, x_3, x_4) \in \mathcal{C}_2] \cdot \\ & \quad [(x_4, x_5, x_6) \in \mathcal{C}_3] \end{aligned}$$

Note:  $x_i \in \{0, 1\}$

# Pseudo-Codewords / Fundamental Polytope



Codeword indicator function:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & I_1(x_1, x_2, x_5) \cdot I_2(x_2, x_3, x_4) \cdot I_3(x_4, x_5, x_6) \\
 &= [(x_1, x_2, x_5) \in \mathcal{C}_1] \cdot \\
 & \quad [(x_2, x_3, x_4) \in \mathcal{C}_2] \cdot \\
 & \quad [(x_4, x_5, x_6) \in \mathcal{C}_3]
 \end{aligned}$$

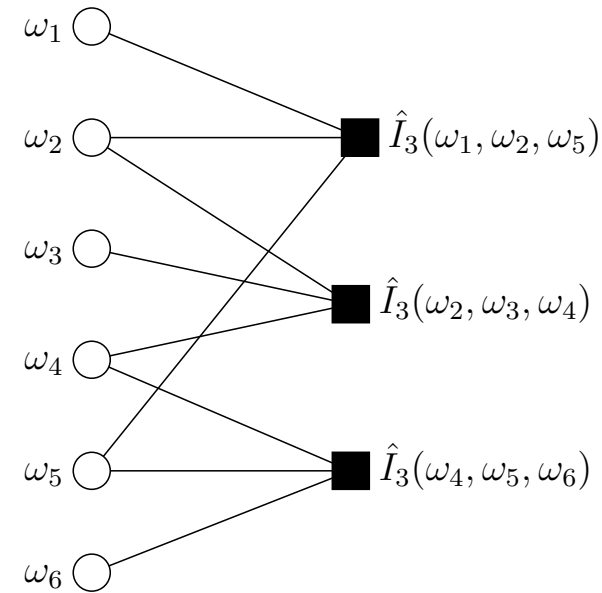
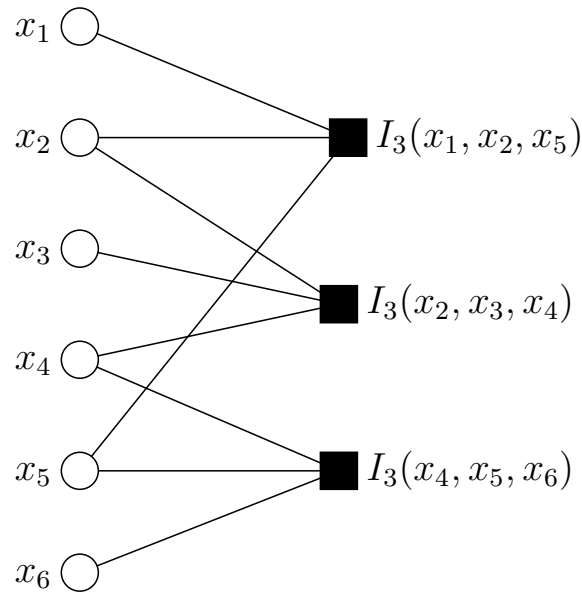
Note:  $x_i \in \{0, 1\}$

Pseudo-codeword indicator function:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \hat{I}_1(\omega_1, \omega_2, \omega_5) \cdot \hat{I}_2(\omega_2, \omega_3, \omega_4) \cdot \hat{I}_3(\omega_4, \omega_5, \omega_6) \\
 &= [(\omega_1, \omega_2, \omega_5) \in \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_1)] \cdot \\
 & \quad [(\omega_2, \omega_3, \omega_4) \in \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_2)] \cdot \\
 & \quad [(\omega_4, \omega_5, \omega_6) \in \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_3)]
 \end{aligned}$$

Note:  $0 \leq \omega_i \leq 1$

# Pseudo-Codewords / Fundamental Cone



Codeword indicator function:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & I_1(x_1, x_2, x_5) \cdot I_2(x_2, x_3, x_4) \cdot I_3(x_4, x_5, x_6) \\
 &= [(x_1, x_2, x_5) \in \mathcal{C}_1] \cdot \\
 & \quad [(x_2, x_3, x_4) \in \mathcal{C}_2] \cdot \\
 & \quad [(x_4, x_5, x_6) \in \mathcal{C}_3]
 \end{aligned}$$

Note:  $x_i \in \{0, 1\}$

Pseudo-codeword indicator function:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \hat{I}_1(\omega_1, \omega_2, \omega_5) \cdot \hat{I}_2(\omega_2, \omega_3, \omega_4) \cdot \hat{I}_3(\omega_4, \omega_5, \omega_6) \\
 &= [(\omega_1, \omega_2, \omega_5) \in \text{conic}(\mathcal{C}_1)] \cdot \\
 & \quad [(\omega_2, \omega_3, \omega_4) \in \text{conic}(\mathcal{C}_2)] \cdot \\
 & \quad [(\omega_4, \omega_5, \omega_6) \in \text{conic}(\mathcal{C}_3)]
 \end{aligned}$$

Note:  $0 \leq \omega_i$



# Pseudo-Codewords / Fundamental Cone

E.g.

$$[(\omega_1, \omega_2, \omega_5) \in \text{conic}(\mathcal{C}_1)] = 1$$

if and only if

$$\omega_1 \leq \omega_2 + \omega_5$$

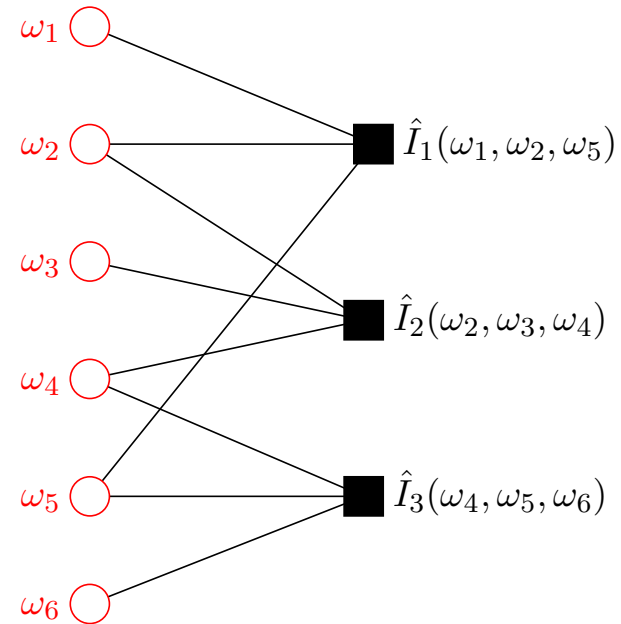
$$\omega_2 \leq \omega_1 + \omega_5$$

$$\omega_5 \leq \omega_1 + \omega_2$$

$$\omega_1 \geq 0$$

$$\omega_2 \geq 0$$

$$\omega_3 \geq 0$$



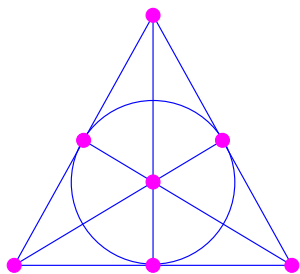
Pseudo-codeword indicator function:

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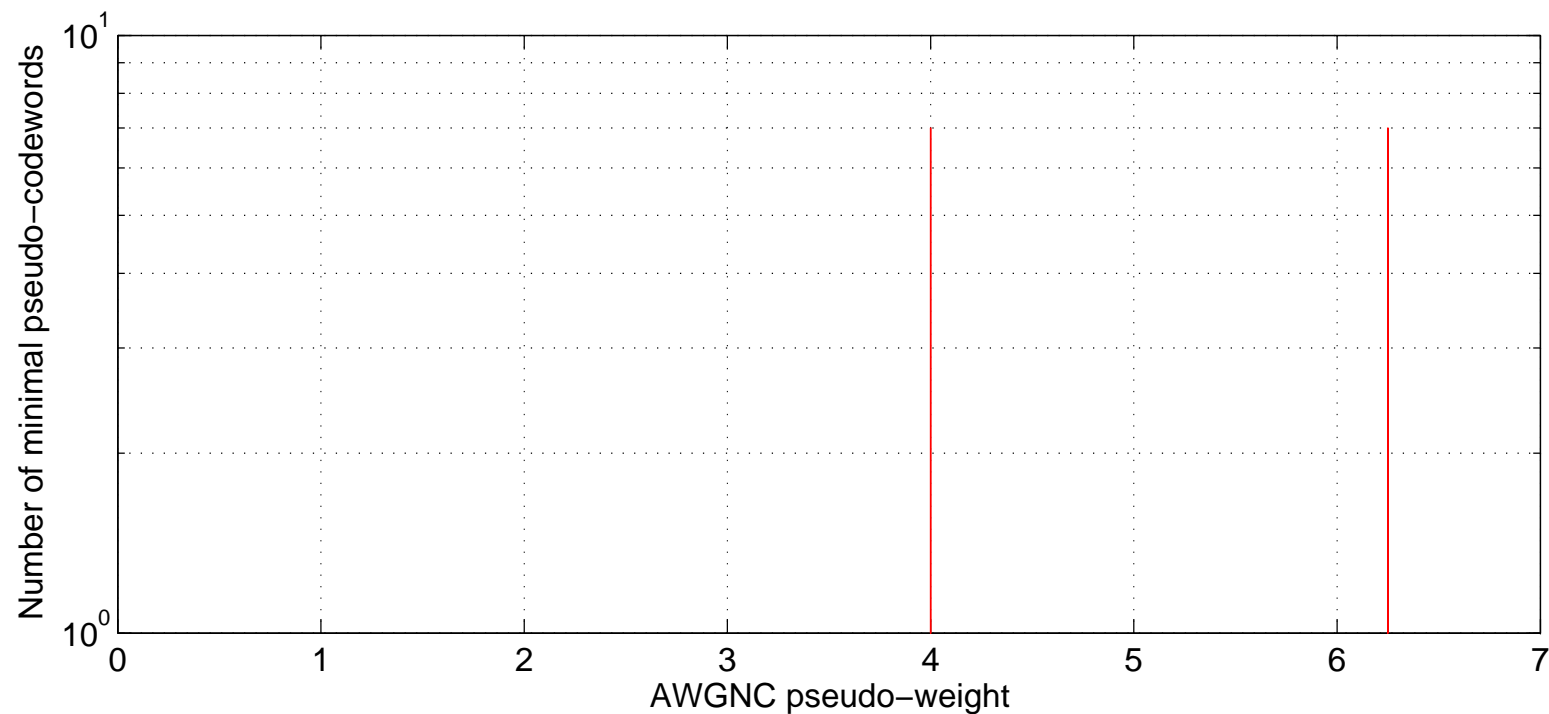
Note:  $0 \leq \omega_i$

# Pseudo-codeword spectra

# Pseudo-Codeword Spectra (Part 1)



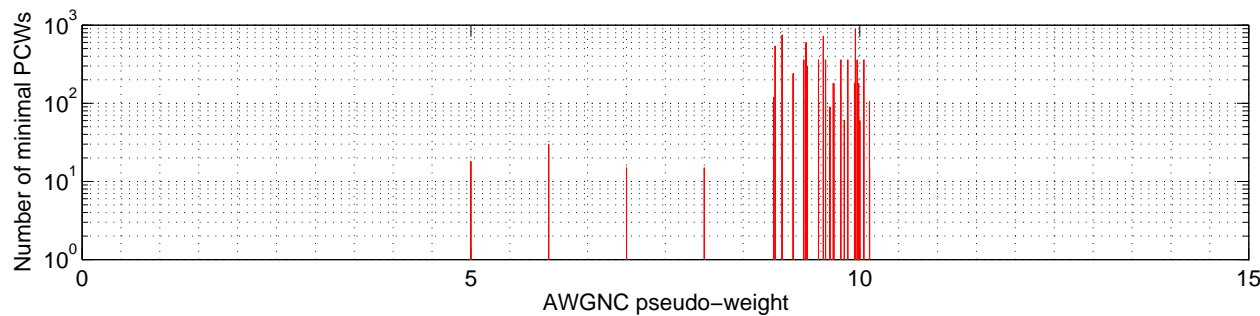
Consider the  $PG(2,2)$ -based  $[7, 3, 4]$  binary linear code.  
Here is its **minimal pseudo-codeword spectrum**:



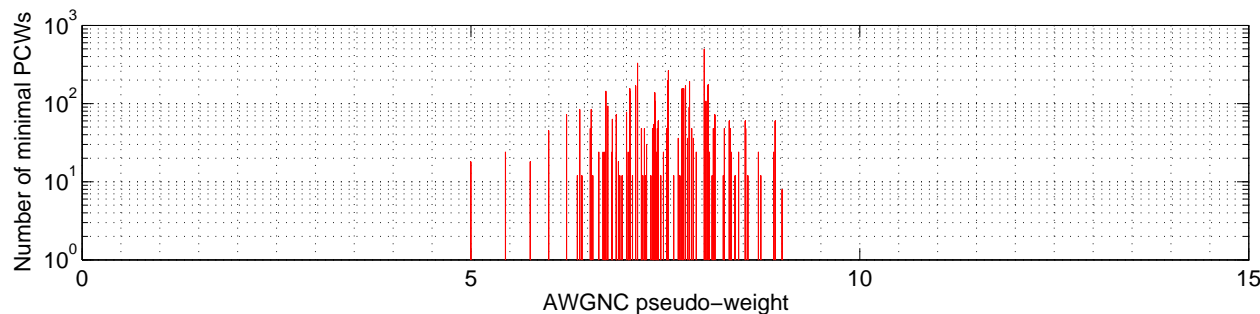
# Pseudo-Codeword Spectra (Part 2)

Consider the EG(2,4)-based  $[15, 7, 5]$  binary linear code.

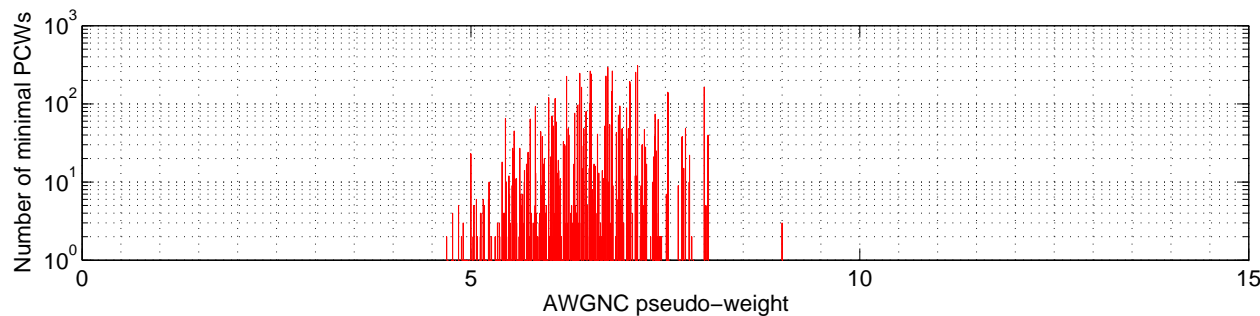
Here are some **minimal pseudo-codeword spectra** for different parity-check matrices of this code:



PCM of  
size  
 $15 \times 15$



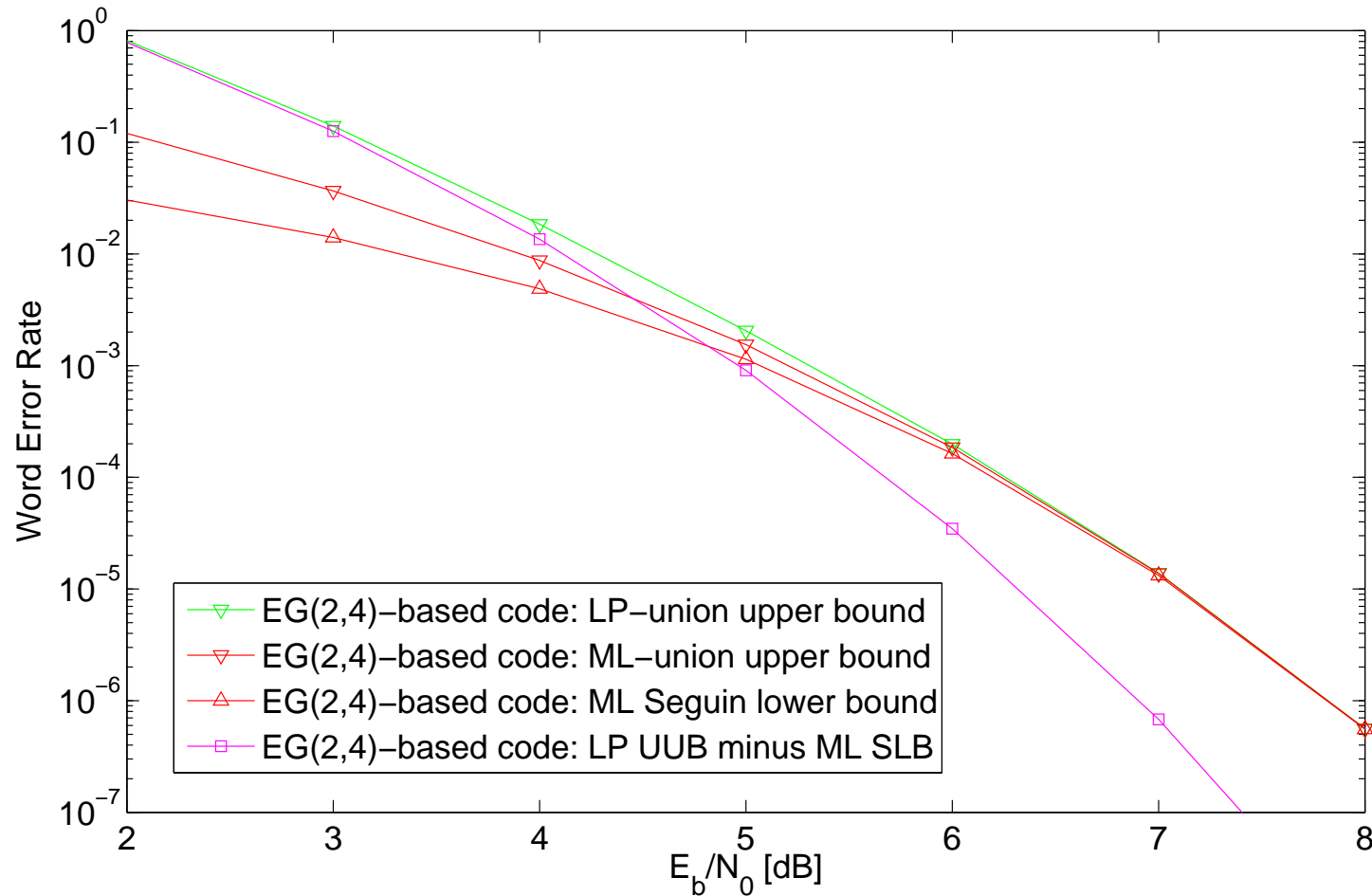
PCM of  
size  
 $9 \times 15$



PCM of  
size  
 $8 \times 15$

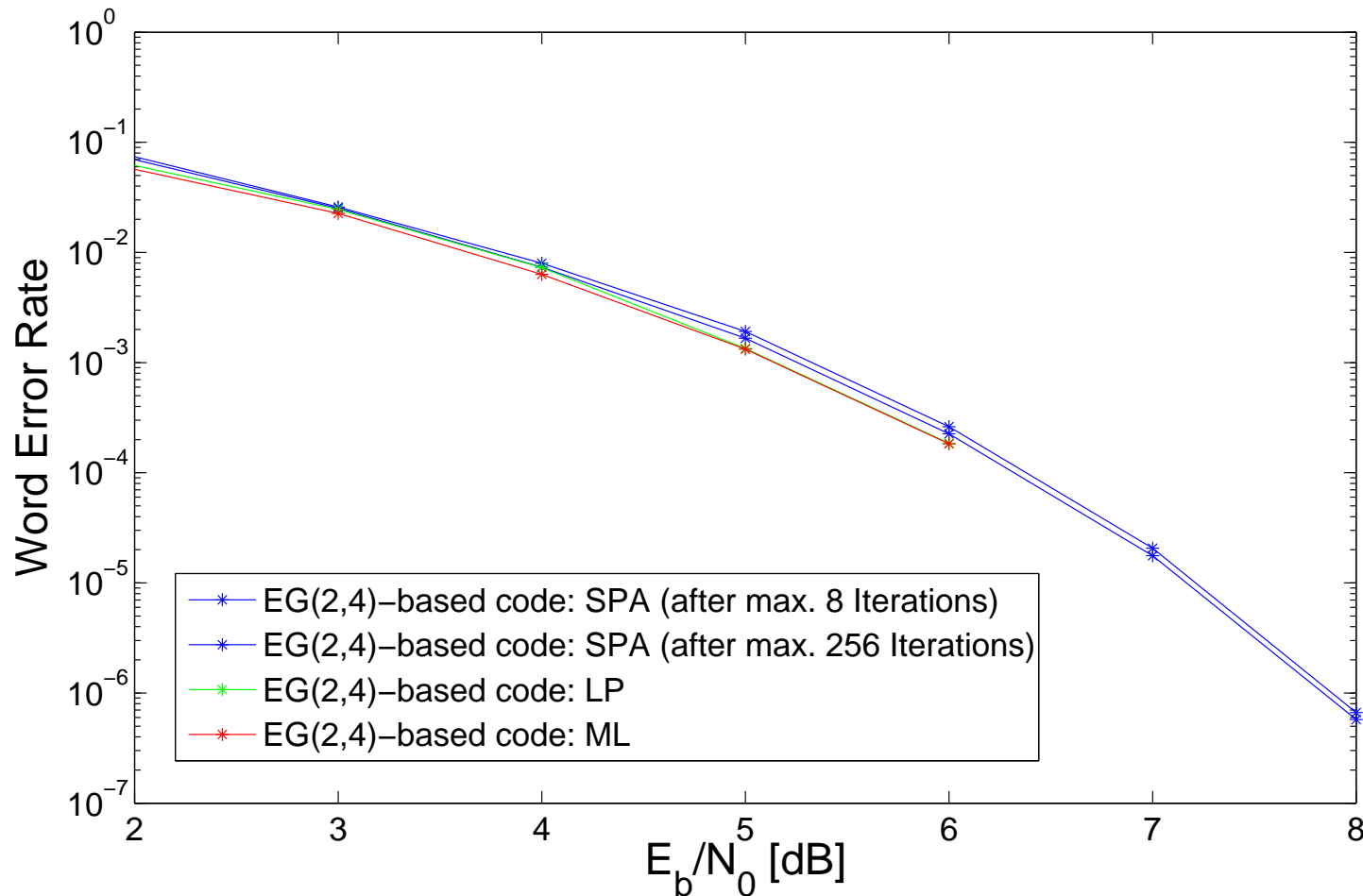
# Pseudo-Codeword Spectra (Part 3)

Consider the EG(2,4)-based  $[15, 7, 5]$  binary linear code. The following plot shows upper and lower bounds on the word error rate of LP and ML decoding.



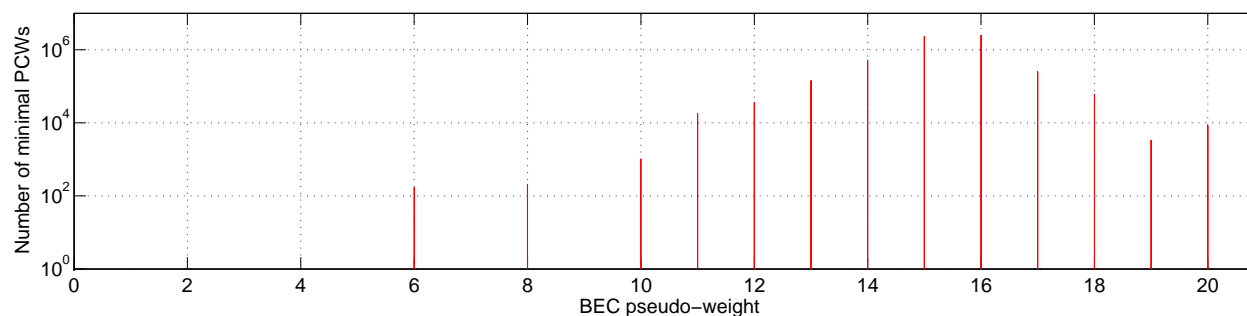
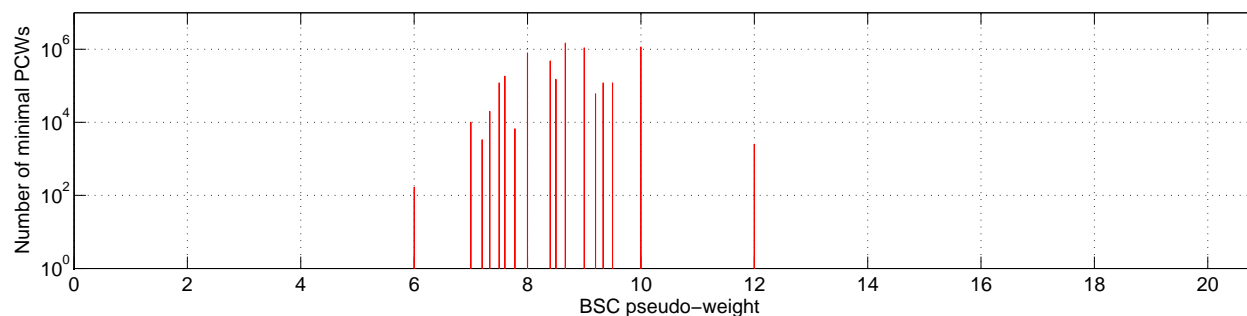
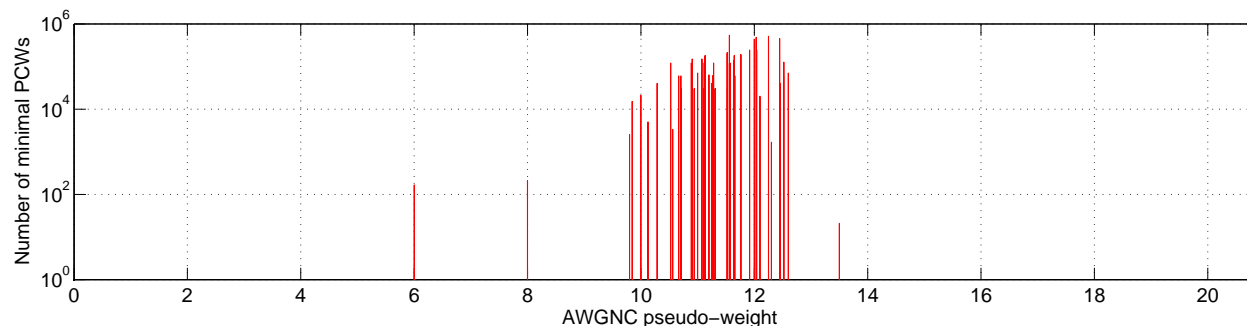
# Pseudo-Codeword Spectra (Part 4)

Consider the EG(2,4)-based  $[15, 7, 5]$  binary linear code. The following plot shows the word error rate for different decoding algorithms. (Note: LP/ML WER curves for small WER can be obtained from bounds shown in the previous plot.)



# Pseudo-Codeword Spectra (Part 5)

Consider the PG(2,4)-based  $[21, 11, 6]$  binary linear code.



# Pseudo-Codeword Spectra (Part 6)

Some remarks:

- Haley / Grant paper (ISIT 2005) presented a class of LDPC codes



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  - where the **minimal BEC pseudo-weight** grows with growing block length,

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- ⇒ It is important which channel is used!

# Pseudo-Codeword Spectra (Part 6)

Some remarks:

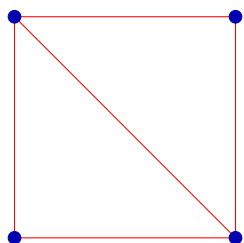
- Haley / Grant paper (ISIT 2005) presented a class of LDPC codes
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⇒ **It is important which channel is used!**

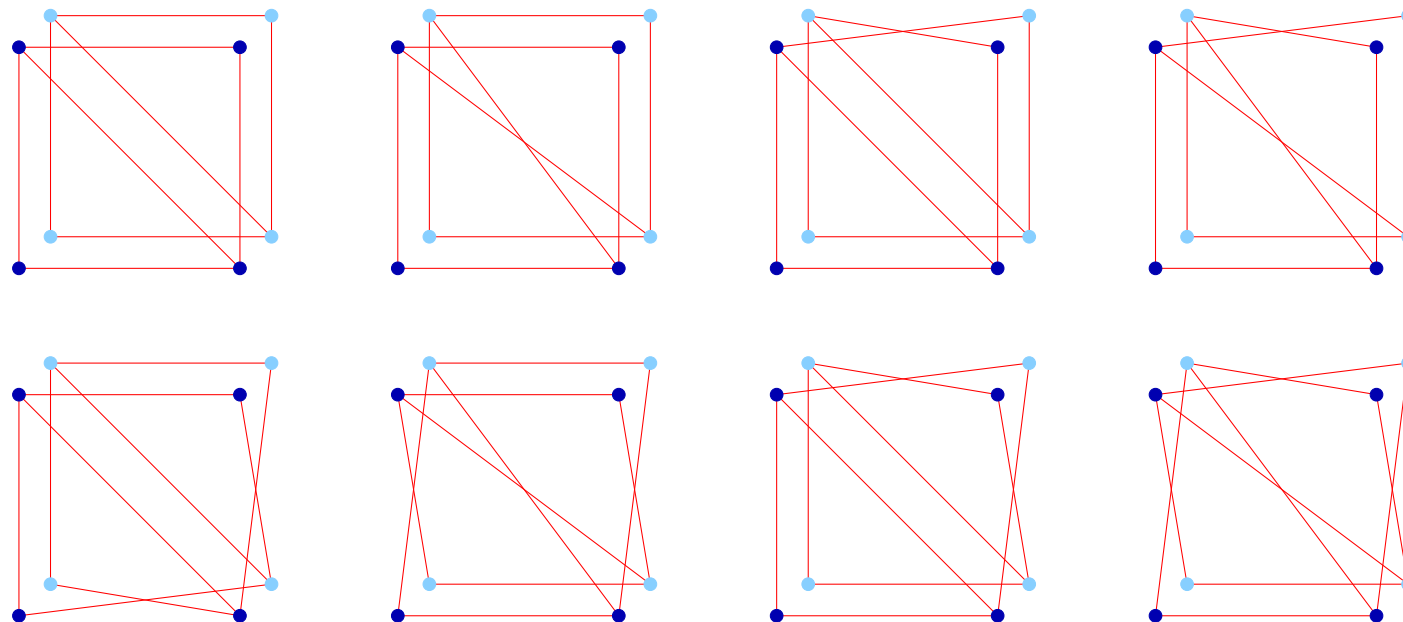
- Chertkov / Stepanov paper (ISIT 2007) presented an interesting heuristic for approximating the pseudo-weight spectra of minimal codewords for a given code.

# Graph-cover interpretation of pseudo-codewords

# Graph Covers (Part 1)



original graph

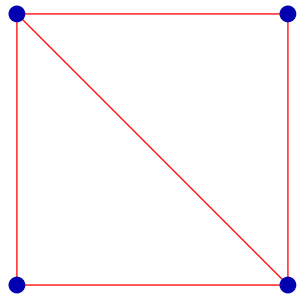


sample of possible  
double covers of  
the original graph

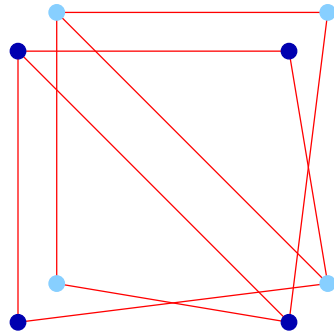
**Definition:** A double cover of a graph is . . .

Note: the above graph has  $2! \cdot 2! \cdot 2! \cdot 2! \cdot 2! = 32$  double covers.

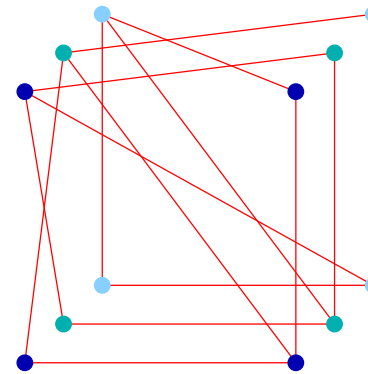
# Graph Covers (Part 2)



original graph



(a possible)  
double cover of  
the original graph

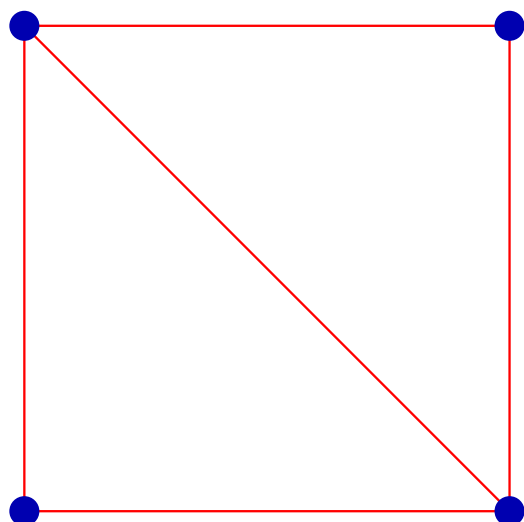


(a possible)  
triple cover of  
the original graph

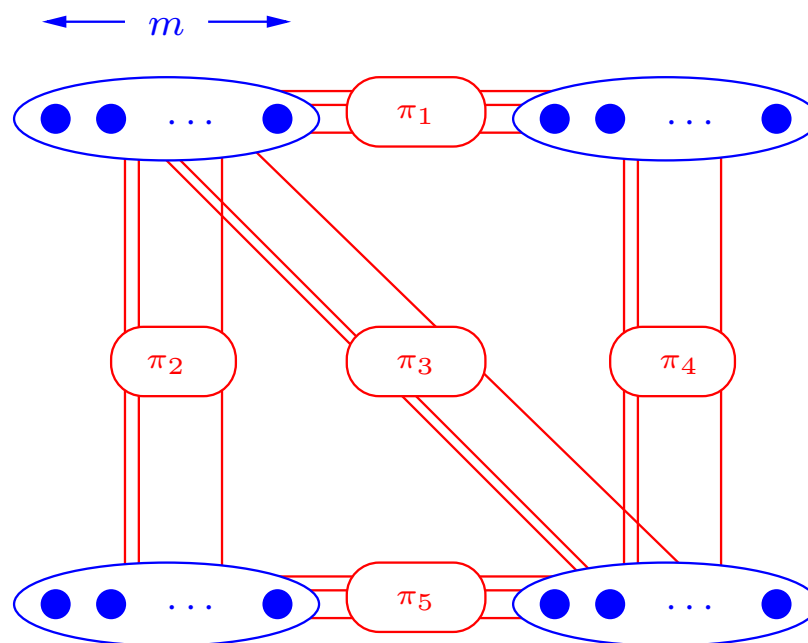
...

Besides **double** covers, a graph also has many **triple** covers, **quadruple** covers, **quintuple** covers, etc.

# Graph Covers (Part 3)



original graph



(possible)  
 $m$ -fold cover of  
original graph

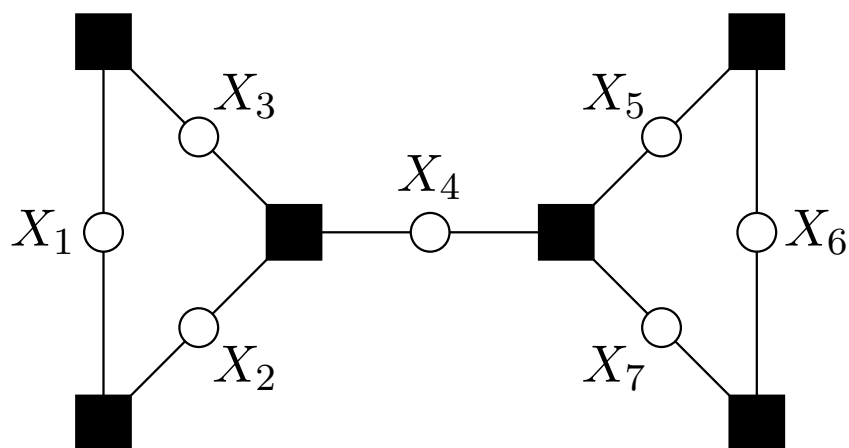
An  $m$ -fold cover is also called a cover of degree  $m$ . Do not confuse this degree with the degree of a vertex!

Note: there are many possible  $m$ -fold covers of a graph.



# Codewords in Graph Covers (Part 1)

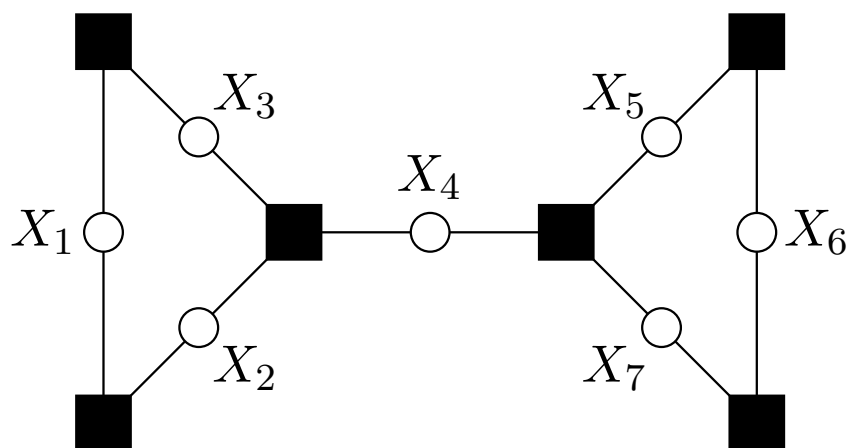
We can also consider covers of Tanner/factor graphs. Here is e.g. a **possible double cover** of some Tanner/factor graph.



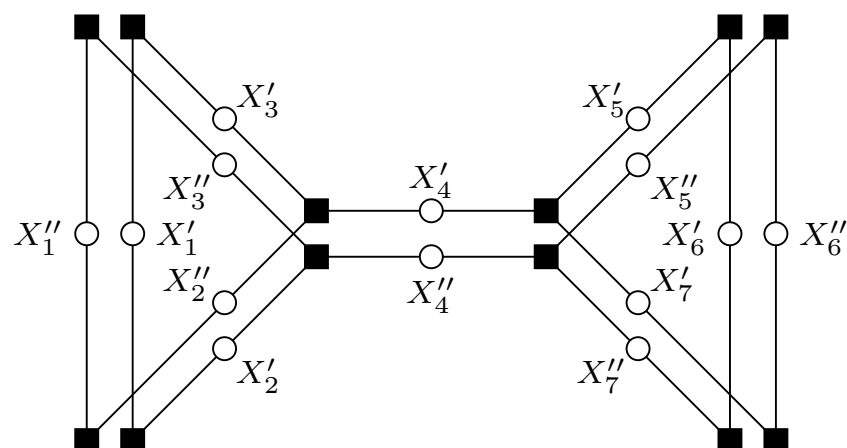
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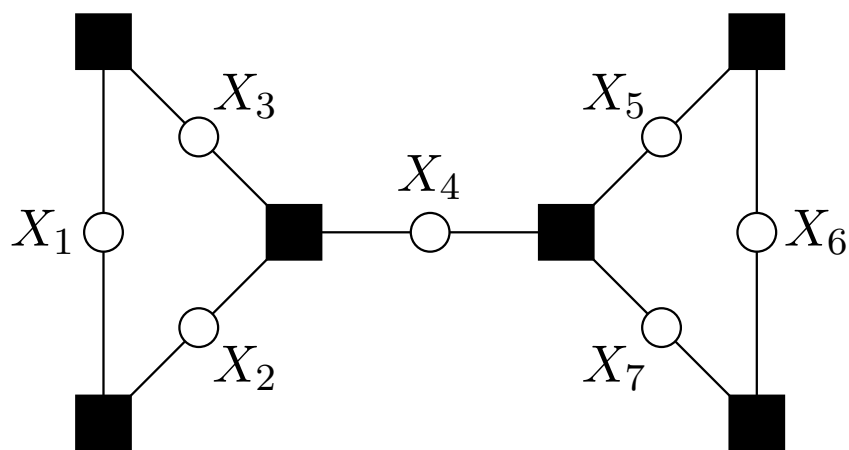
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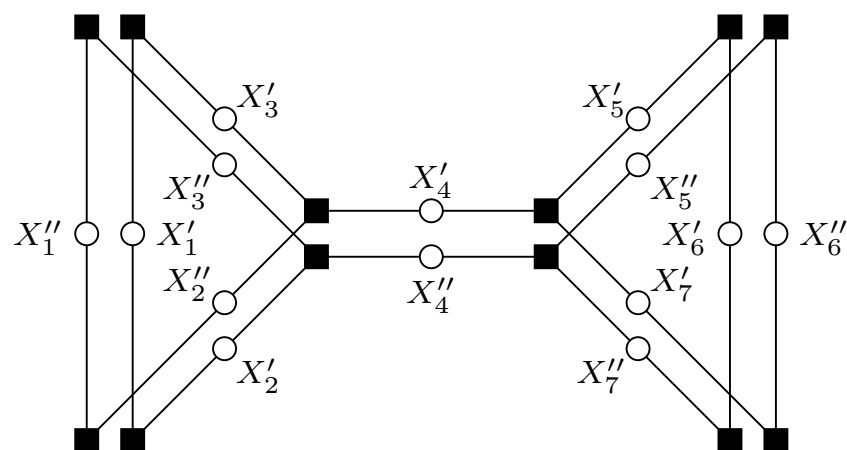
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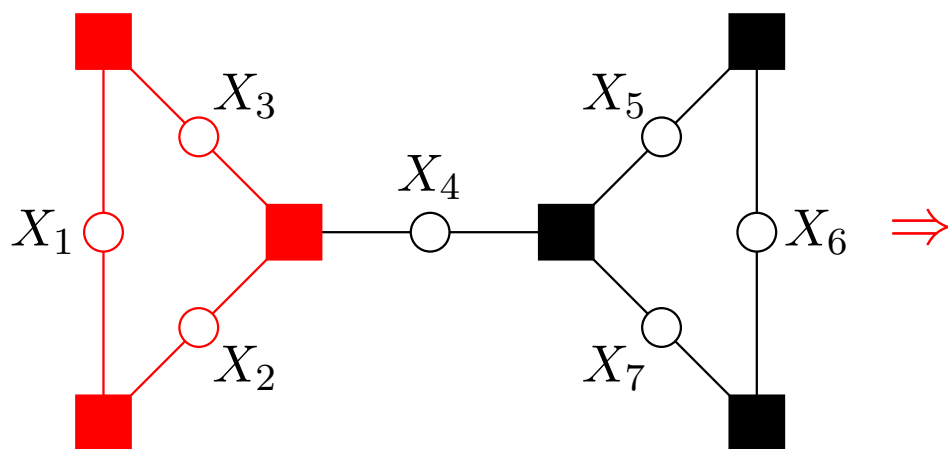


Possible **double cover** of  
the base Tanner/factor graph

Let us **study the codes defined by the graph covers** of the base Tanner/factor graph.

# Codewords in Graph Covers (Part 2)

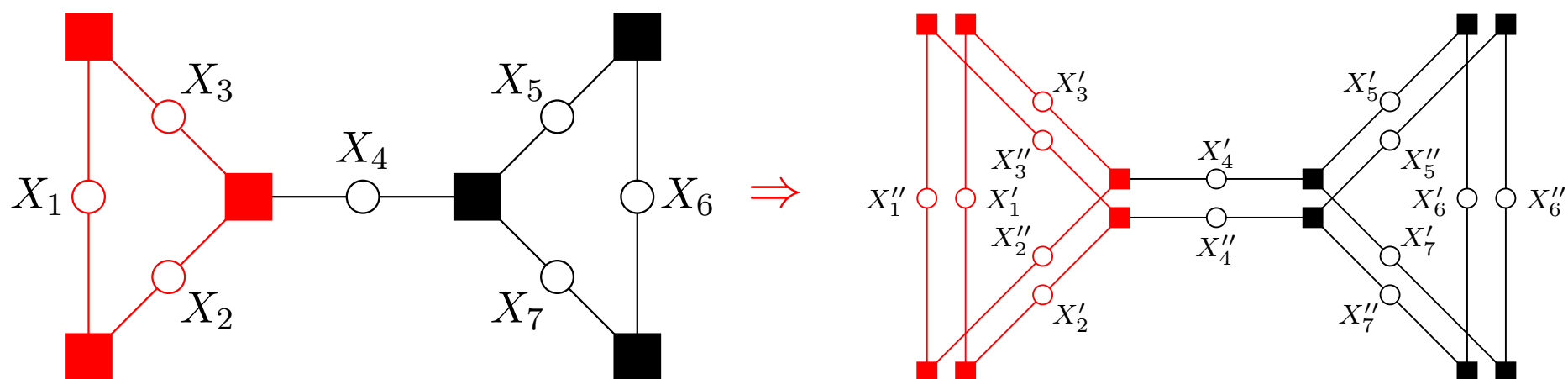
Obviously, **any codeword** in the base Tanner/factor graph can be **lifted** to a codeword in the double cover of the base Tanner/factor graph.



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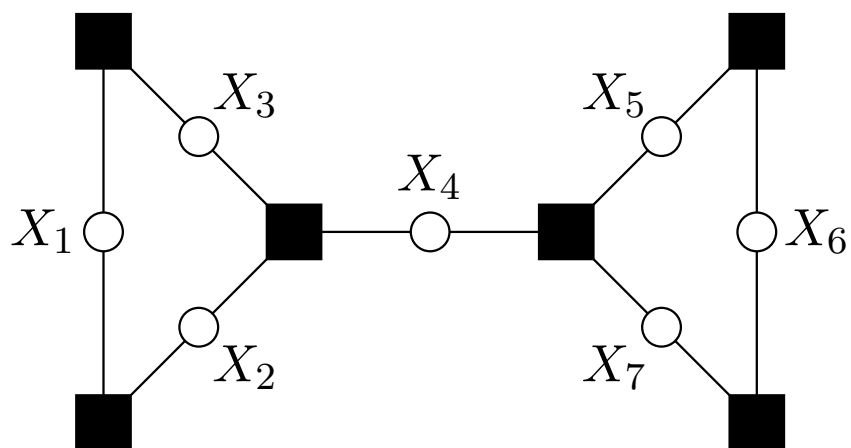


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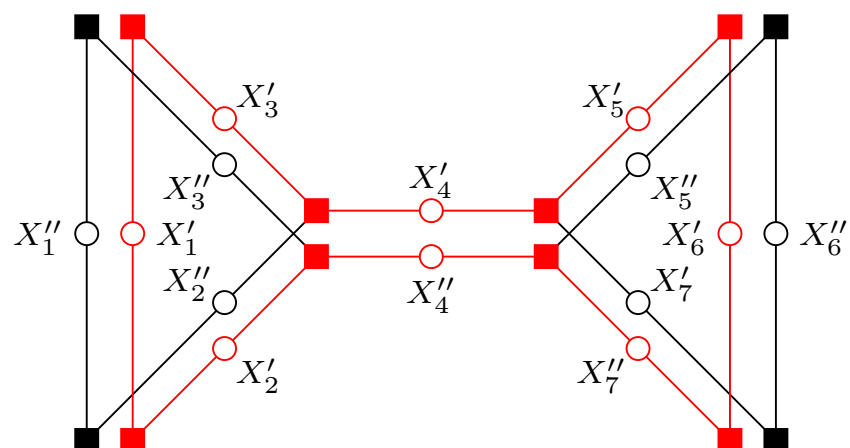
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# Codewords in Graph Covers (Part 3)

But in the double cover of the base Tanner/factor graph there are also codewords that **are not liftings** of codewords in the base Tanner/factor graph!



?

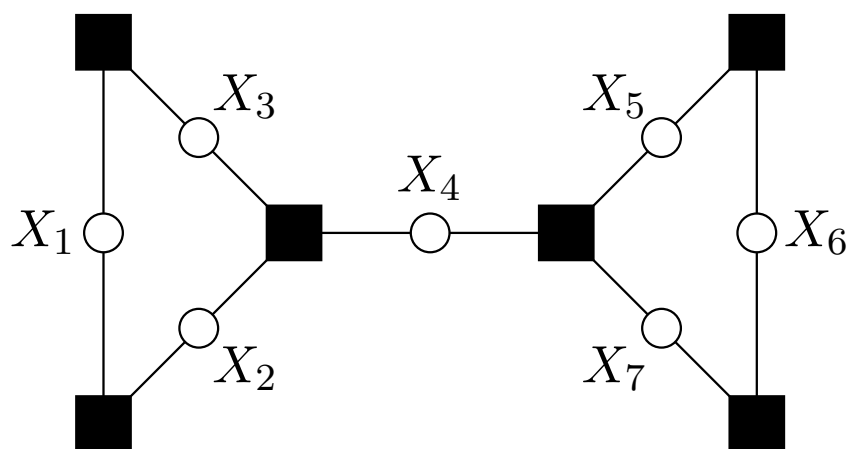


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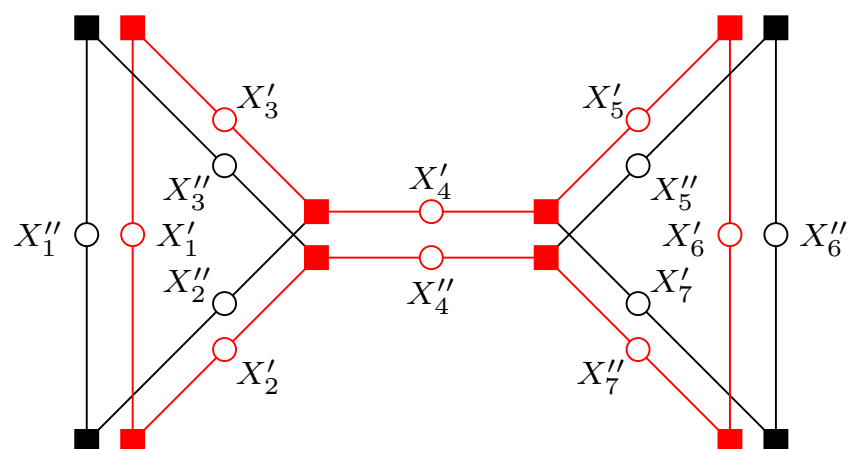
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← ?



What about

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$$(1:0, 1:0, 1:0, 1:1, 1:0, 1:0, 0:1)$$

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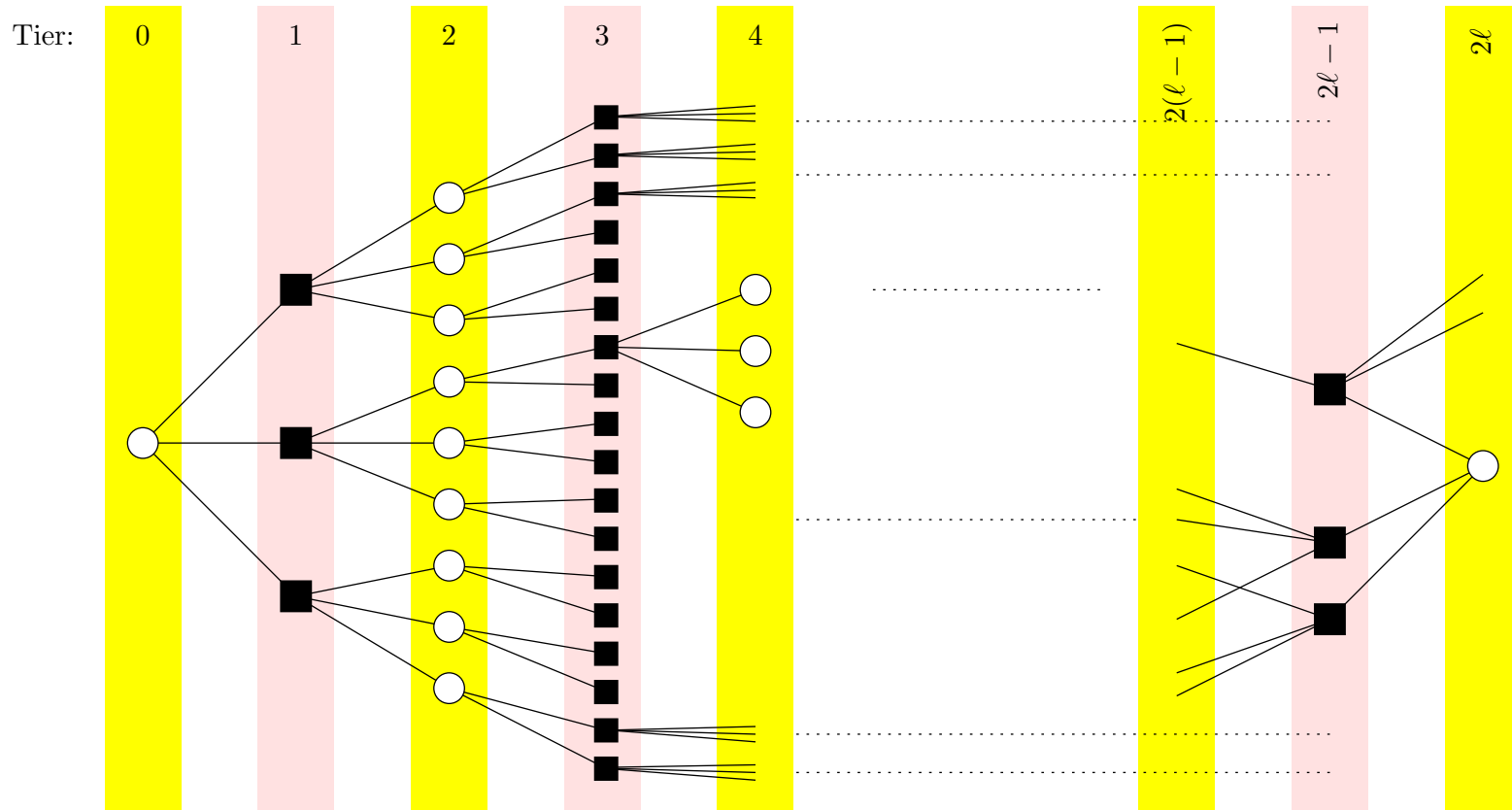
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Moreover, note that all vertices of  $\mathcal{P}$  are vectors with rational entries and are therefore also in  $\mathcal{P}'$ .

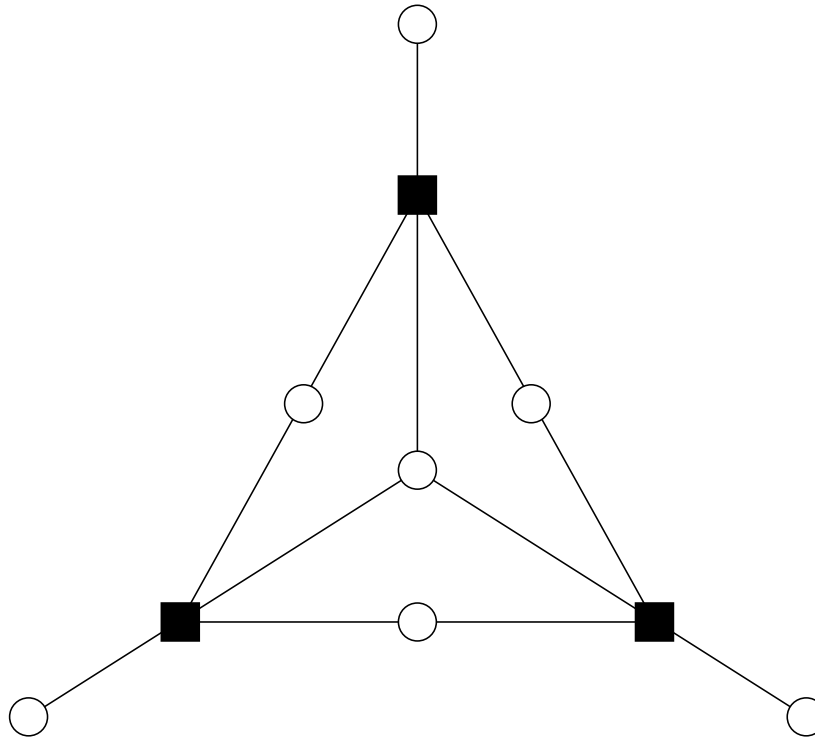
# The canonical completion

# Trying to Construct a Codeword



# Pseudo-Codewords: the Canonical Completion

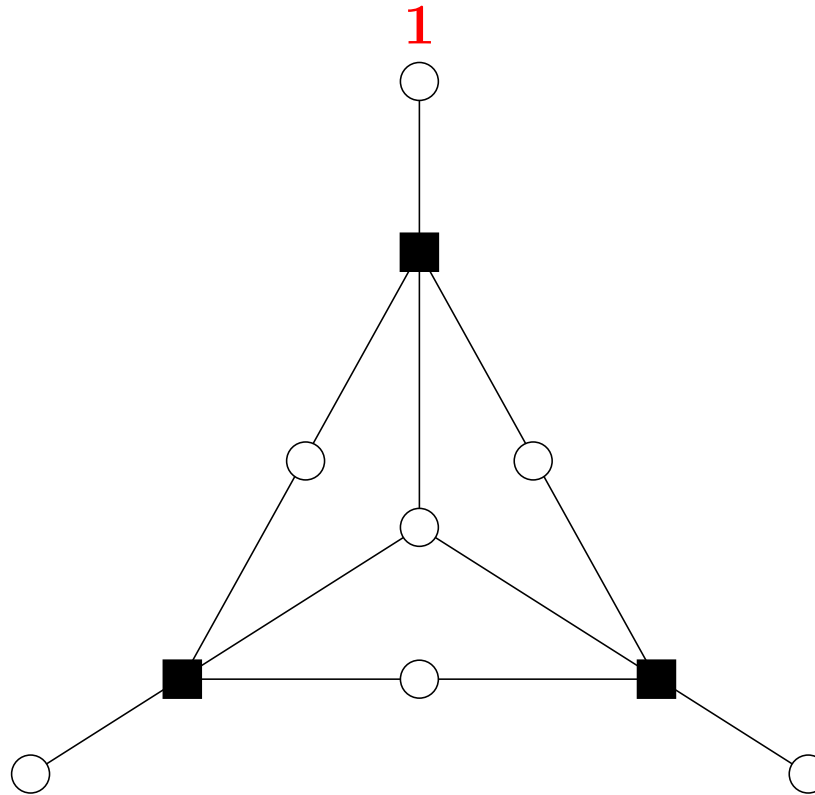
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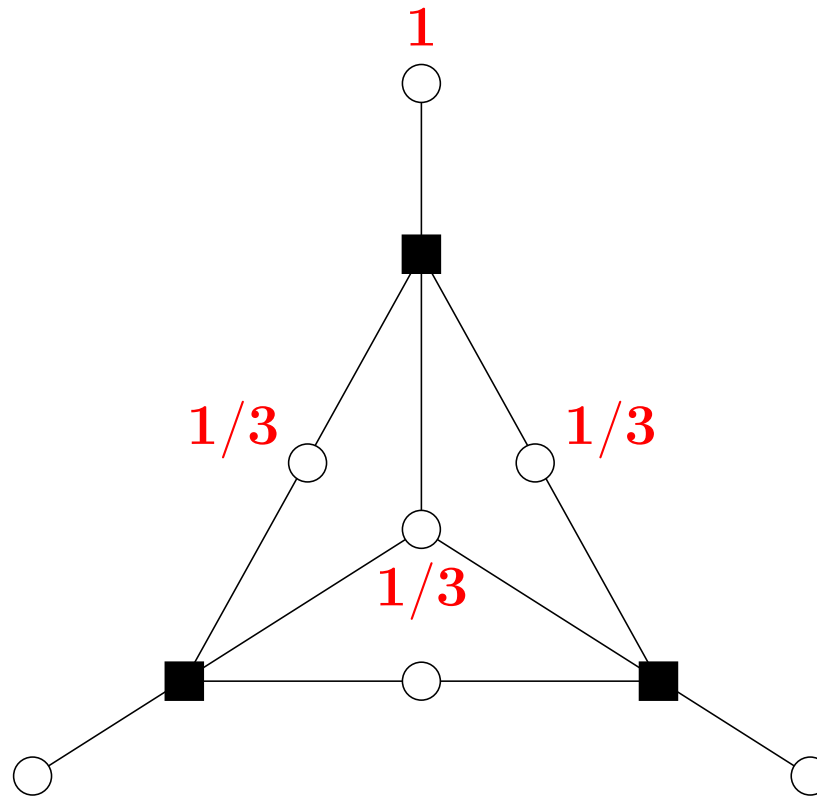


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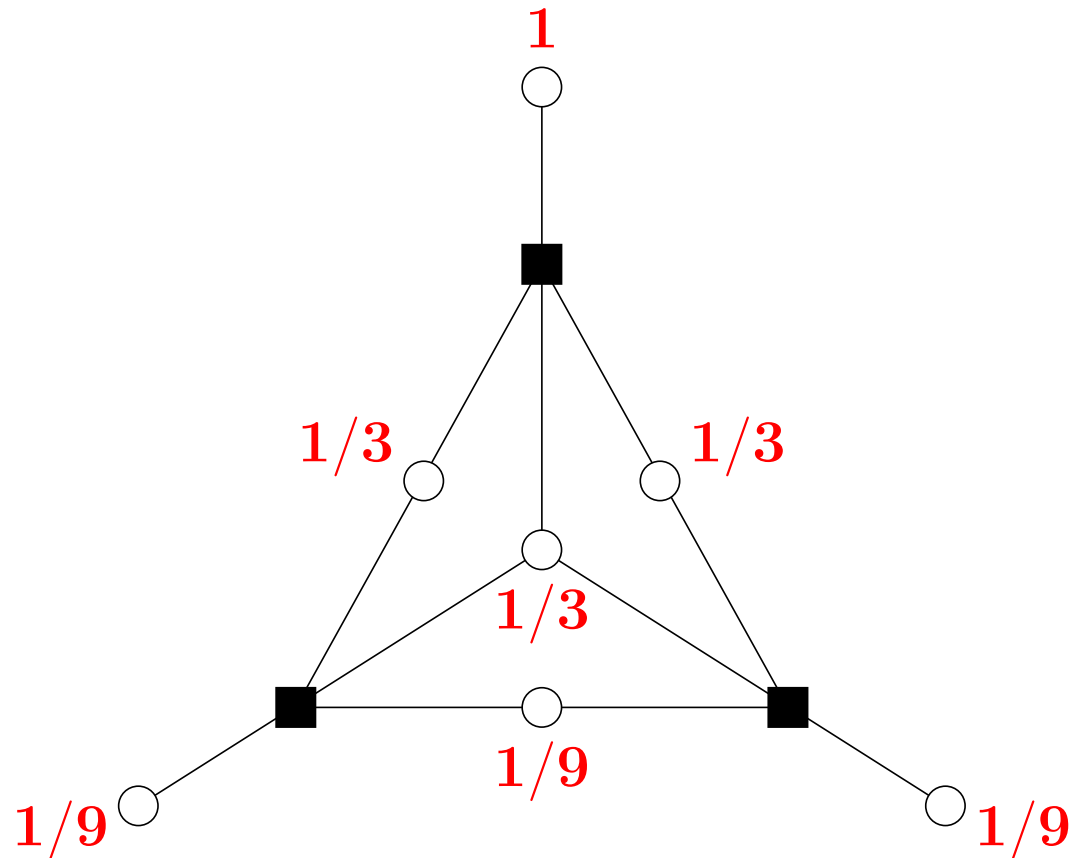
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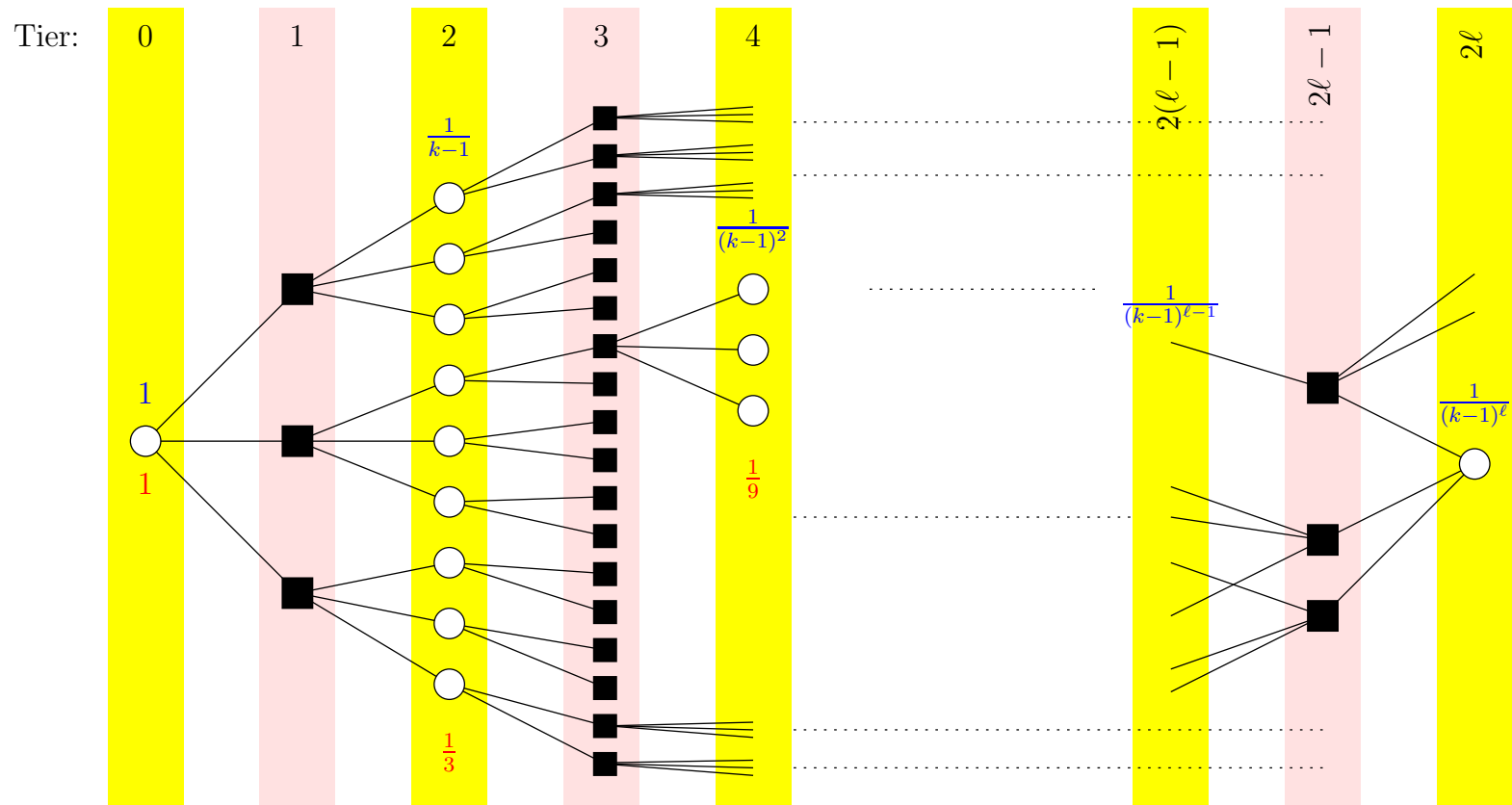
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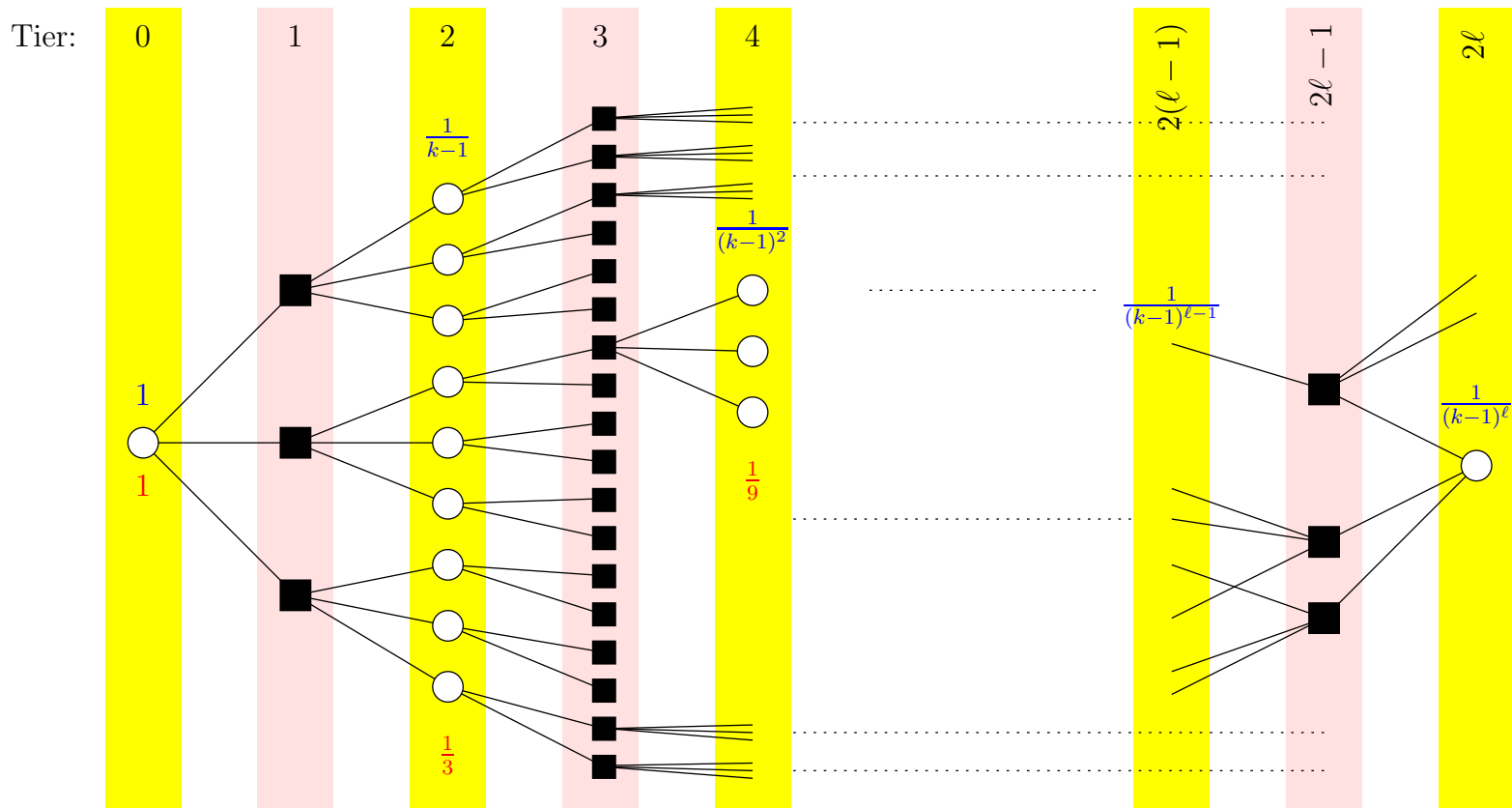


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# Pseudo-Codewords: the Canonical Completion



The canonical completion for a  $(j = 3, k = 4)$ -regular LDPC code. On check-regular graphs the (scaled) canonical completion **always** gives a (valid) pseudo-codeword.

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**Theorem:** Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a  $(j, k)$ -regular LDPC code with  $3 \leq j < k$ . Then the minimum pseudo-weight is upper bounded by

$$w_{p,\min}^{\text{AWGNC}}(\mathcal{C}) \leq \beta'_{j,k} \cdot n^{\beta_{j,k}},$$

where

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**Corollary:** The minimum relative pseudo-weight for any sequence  $\{\mathcal{C}_i\}$  of  $(j, k)$ -regular LDPC codes of increasing length satisfies

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{w_{p,\min}^{\text{AWGNC}}(\mathcal{C}_i)}{n} \right) = 0.$$

# Influence

of redundant rows in the parity-check matrix  
and of cycles in the Tanner graph



# A Tanner Graph with Four-Cycles

Observation:

$$\mathbf{H} = \begin{pmatrix} \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ \dots & \mathbf{1} & \mathbf{1} & \mathbf{1} & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} & \dots \\ \dots & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{1} & \mathbf{1} & \mathbf{1} & \mathbf{1} & \dots \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{array}{c} \dots \\ \omega \in \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_1) \\ \omega \in \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_2) \\ \dots \end{array}$$

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If the support of the blue and the green line coincide in **at least two position** then we have

$$\text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_1) \cap \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_2) \supseteq \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_1) \cap \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_2) \cap \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_{12}).$$

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# Tanner Graphs with/without Four-Cycles

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Note: this argument can be easily extended to Tanner graphs with no six-cycles, no eight-cycles, etc.



# Obtaining tighter Relaxations

Let the relaxation  $\text{relax}(\mathcal{C})$  of  $\mathcal{C}$  be the set of all vectors  $\omega \in \mathbb{R}^5$  that fulfill three conditions:

$$\mathbf{H} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{array}{l} \omega \in \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_1) \\ \omega \in \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_2) \\ \omega \in \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_3) \end{array}$$

Therefore,

$$\text{relax}(\mathcal{C}) \triangleq \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_1) \cap \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_2) \cap \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_3).$$

How well can we do by adding more (redundant) lines to the parity-check matrix?

# Obtaining tighter Relaxations (Part 2)

What about taking a parity-check matrix  $\mathbf{H}'$  that contains all the non-zero codewords from the dual code?

$$\mathbf{H}' = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{array}{l} \omega \in \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_1) \\ \omega \in \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_2) \\ \omega \in \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_3) \\ \omega \in \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_{12}) \\ \omega \in \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_{13}) \\ \omega \in \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_{23}) \\ \omega \in \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_{123}) \end{array}$$

$$\text{relax}'(\mathcal{C}) \triangleq \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_1) \cap \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_2) \cap \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_3) \cap \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_{12}) \cap \\ \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_{13}) \cap \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_{23}) \cap \text{conv}(\mathcal{C}_{123}).$$

# Obtaining tighter Relaxations (Part 3)

Translating a theorem from [matroid theory](#) we get the following result:

**Theorem** (Seymour 1981) We have

$$\text{relax}'(\mathcal{C}) = \text{conv}(\mathcal{C})$$

if and only if there is no way to shorten and puncture  $\mathcal{C}$  such that we get the codes  $F_7^*$ ,  $M(K_5)$ , or  $R_{10}$ .

$F_7^*$ : [7, 3, 4] code

$M(K_5)$ : [10, 6, 3] code

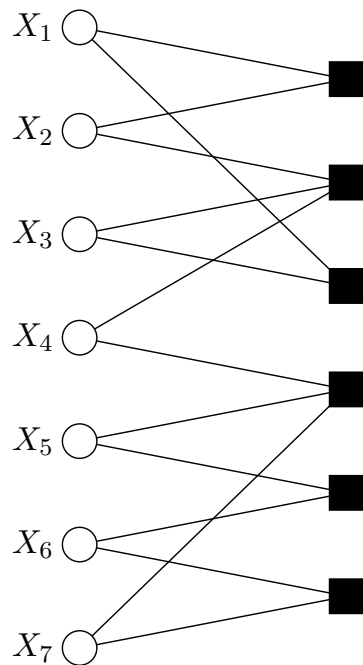
$R_{10}$ : [10, 5, 4] code

# Pseudo-codewords and the edge zeta function

# Tanner/Factor Graph of a Cycle Code

**Cycle codes** are codes which have a Tanner/factor graph where all bit nodes have **degree two**. (Equivalently, the parity-check matrix has two ones per column.)

Example:

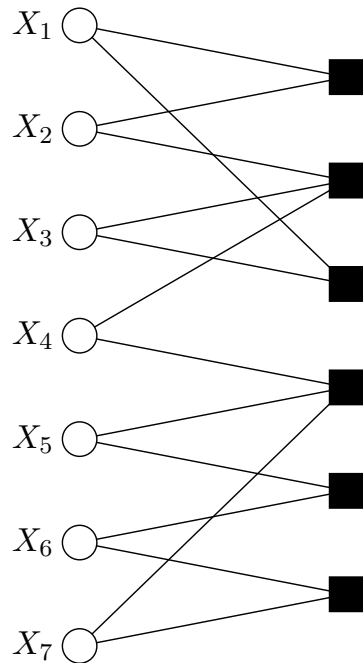


Tanner/factor graph

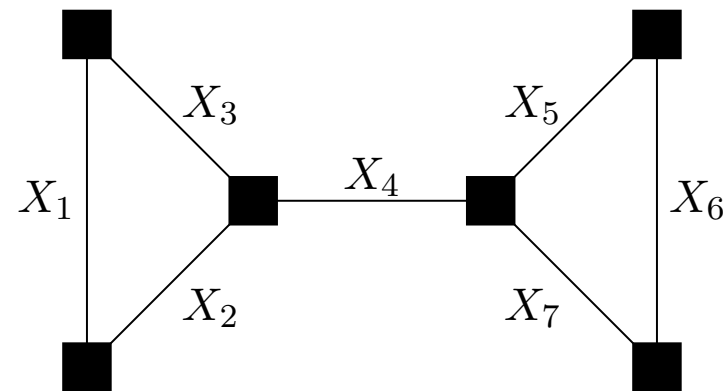
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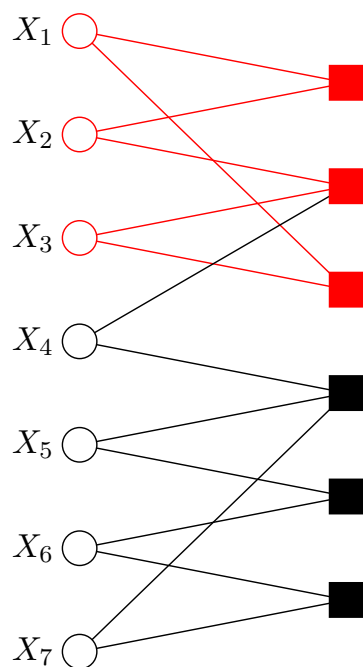


Corresponding  
normal factor graph 

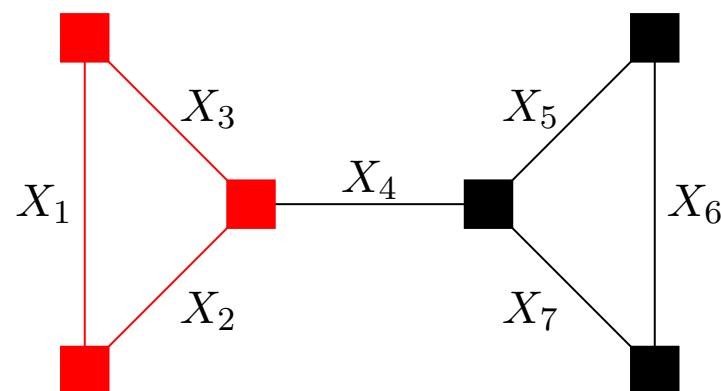
# Tanner/Factor Graph of a Cycle Code

**Cycle codes** are called cycle codes because codewords correspond to **simple cycles** (or to the **symmetric difference set of simple cycles**) in the Tanner/factor graph.

Example:



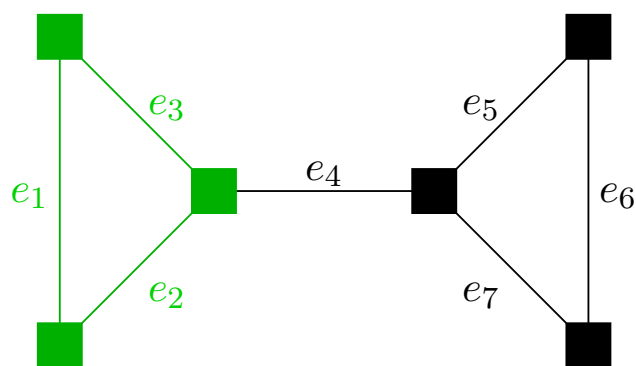
Tanner/factor graph



Corresponding  
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# The Edge Zeta Function of a Graph

**Definition (Hashimoto, see also Stark/Terras):**



Here:  $\Gamma = (e_1, e_2, e_3)$

Let  $\Gamma$  be a path in a graph  $X$  with edge-set  $E$ ; write

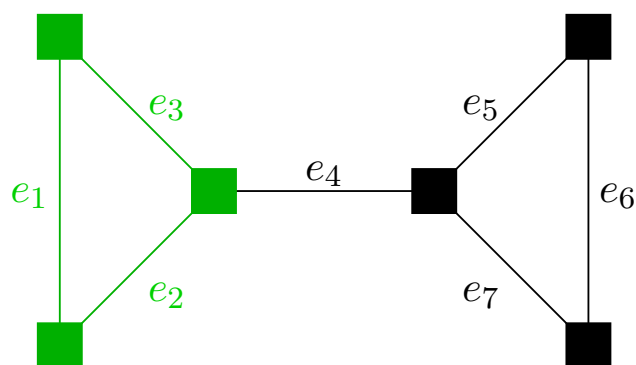
$$\Gamma = (e_{i_1}, \dots, e_{i_k})$$

to indicate that  $\Gamma$  begins with the edge  $e_{i_1}$  and ends with the edge  $e_{i_k}$ .

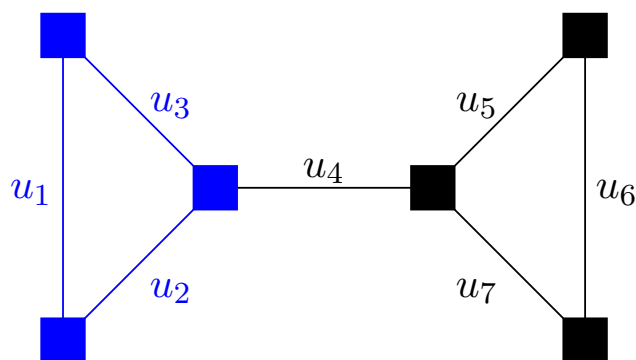


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to indicate that  $\Gamma$  begins with the edge  $e_{i_1}$  and ends with the edge  $e_{i_k}$ .

The **monomial** of  $\Gamma$  is given by

$$g(\Gamma) \triangleq u_{i_1} \cdots u_{i_k},$$

where the  $u_i$ 's are indeterminates.

# The Edge Zeta Function of a Graph

**Definition (Hashimoto, see also Stark/Terras):**

The **edge zeta function of  $X$**  is defined to be the **power series**

$$\zeta_X(u_1, \dots, u_n) \in \mathbb{Z}[[u_1, \dots, u_n]]$$

given by

$$\zeta_X(u_1, \dots, u_n) = \prod_{[\Gamma] \in A(X)} \frac{1}{1 - g(\Gamma)},$$

where  $A(X)$  is the collection of equivalence classes of **backtrackless, tailless, primitive cycles in  $X$** .

Note: unless  $X$  contains only one cycle, the set  $A(X)$  will be countably infinite.

# The Edge Zeta Function of a Graph

## Theorem (Bass):

- The edge zeta function  $\zeta_X(u_1, \dots, u_n)$  is a **rational function**.
- More precisely, for any directed graph  $\vec{X}$  of  $X$ , we have

$$\zeta_X(u_1, \dots, u_n) = \frac{1}{\det(\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{UM}(\vec{X}))} = \frac{1}{\det(\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{M}(\vec{X})\mathbf{U})}$$

where

- $\mathbf{I}$  is the identity matrix of size  $2n$ ,
- $\mathbf{U} = \text{diag}(u_1, \dots, u_n, u_1, \dots, u_n)$  is a diagonal matrix of indeterminants.
- $\mathbf{M}(\vec{X})$  is a  $2n \times 2n$  matrix derived from some directed graph version  $\vec{X}$  of  $X$ .

# Relationship Pseudo-Codewords and Edge Zeta Function (Part 1: Theorem)

## Theorem:

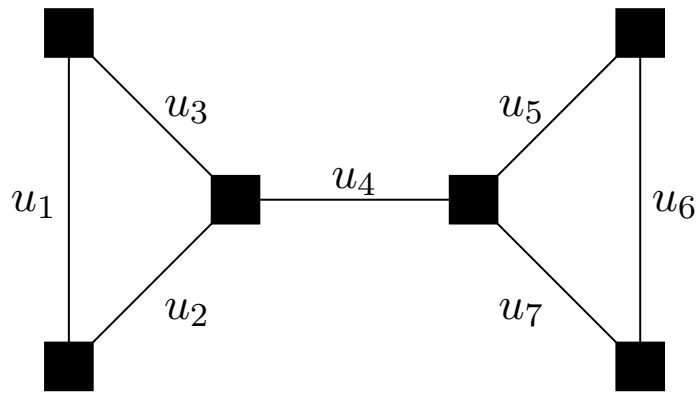
- Let  $C$  be a cycle code defined by a parity-check matrix  $\mathbf{H}$  having normal graph  $N \triangleq N(\mathbf{H})$ .
- Let  $n = n(N)$  be the number of edges of  $N$ .
- Let  $\zeta_N(u_1, \dots, u_n)$  be the edge zeta function of  $N$ .
- Then

the monomial  $u_1^{p_1} \dots u_n^{p_n}$  has a nonzero coefficient in the Taylor series expansion of  $\zeta_N$

if and only if

the corresponding exponent vector  $(p_1, \dots, p_n)$  is an unscaled pseudo-codeword for  $C$ .

# Relationship Pseudo-Codewords and Edge Zeta Function (Part 2: Example)

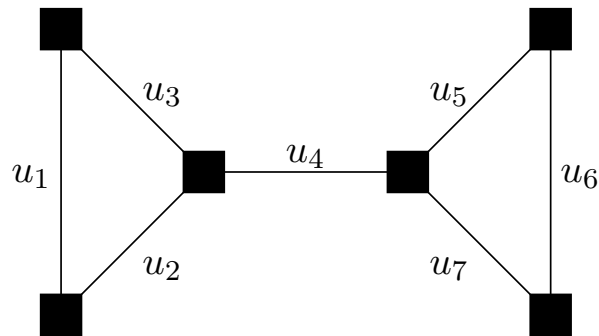


This normal graph  $N$  has the following inverse edge zeta function:

$$\zeta_N(u_1, \dots, u_7) = \frac{1}{\det(\mathbf{I}_{14} - \mathbf{UM})}$$

$$= \frac{1}{1 - 2u_1u_2u_3 + u_1^2u_2^2u_3^2 - 2u_5u_6u_7 + 4u_1u_2u_3u_5u_6u_7 - 2u_1^2u_2^2u_3^2u_5u_6u_7 - 4u_1u_2u_3u_4^2u_5u_6u_7 + 4u_1^2u_2^2u_3^2u_4^2u_5u_6u_7 + u_5^2u_6^2u_7^2 - 2u_1u_2u_3u_5^2u_6^2u_7^2 + u_1^2u_2^2u_3^2u_5^2u_6^2u_7^2 + 4u_1u_2u_3u_4^2u_5^2u_6^2u_7^2 - 4u_1^2u_2^2u_3^2u_4^2u_5^2u_6^2u_7^2}$$

# Relationship Pseudo-Codewords and Edge Zeta Function (Part 3: Example)



The Taylor series expansion is

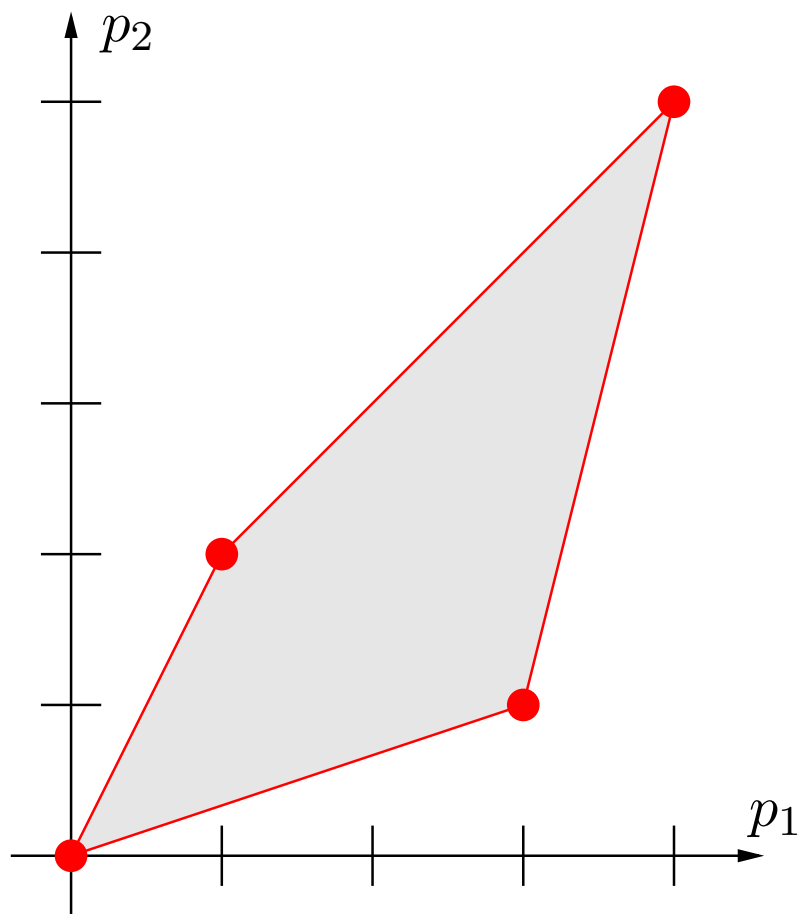
$$\zeta_N(u_1, \dots, u_7)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= 1 + 2u_1u_2u_3 + 3u_1^2u_2^2u_3^2 + 2u_5u_6u_7 \\
 &\quad + 4u_1u_2u_3u_5u_6u_7 + 6u_1^2u_2^2u_3^2u_5u_6u_7 \\
 &\quad + 4u_1u_2u_3u_4^2u_5u_6u_7 + 12u_1^2u_2^2u_3^2u_4^2u_5u_6u_7 \\
 &\quad + \dots
 \end{aligned}$$

We get the following exponent vectors:

(0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0)	codeword
(1, 1, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0)	codeword
(2, 2, 2, 0, 0, 0, 0)	pseudo-codeword (in $\mathbb{Z}$ -span)
(0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 1, 1)	codeword
(1, 1, 1, 0, 1, 1, 1)	codeword
(2, 2, 2, 0, 1, 1, 1)	pseudo-codeword (in $\mathbb{Z}$ -span)
(1, 1, 1, 2, 1, 1, 1)	pseudo-codeword (not in $\mathbb{Z}$ -span)
(2, 2, 2, 2, 1, 1, 1)	pseudo-codeword (in $\mathbb{Z}$ -span)

# The Newton Polytope of a Polynomial



Here:  $P(u_1, u_2)$

$$= u_1^0 u_2^0 + 3u_1^1 u_2^2 + 4u_1^3 u_2^1 - 2u_1^4 u_2^5$$

## Definition:

The Newton polytope of a polynomial  $P(u_1, \dots, u_n)$  in  $n$  indeterminates is the **convex hull** of the points in  $n$ -dimensional space given by the exponent vectors of the nonzero monomials appearing in  $P(u_1, \dots, u_n)$ .

Similarly, we can associate a polyhedron to a power series.

# Characterizing the Fundamental Cone Through the Zeta Function

Collecting the results from the previous slides we get:

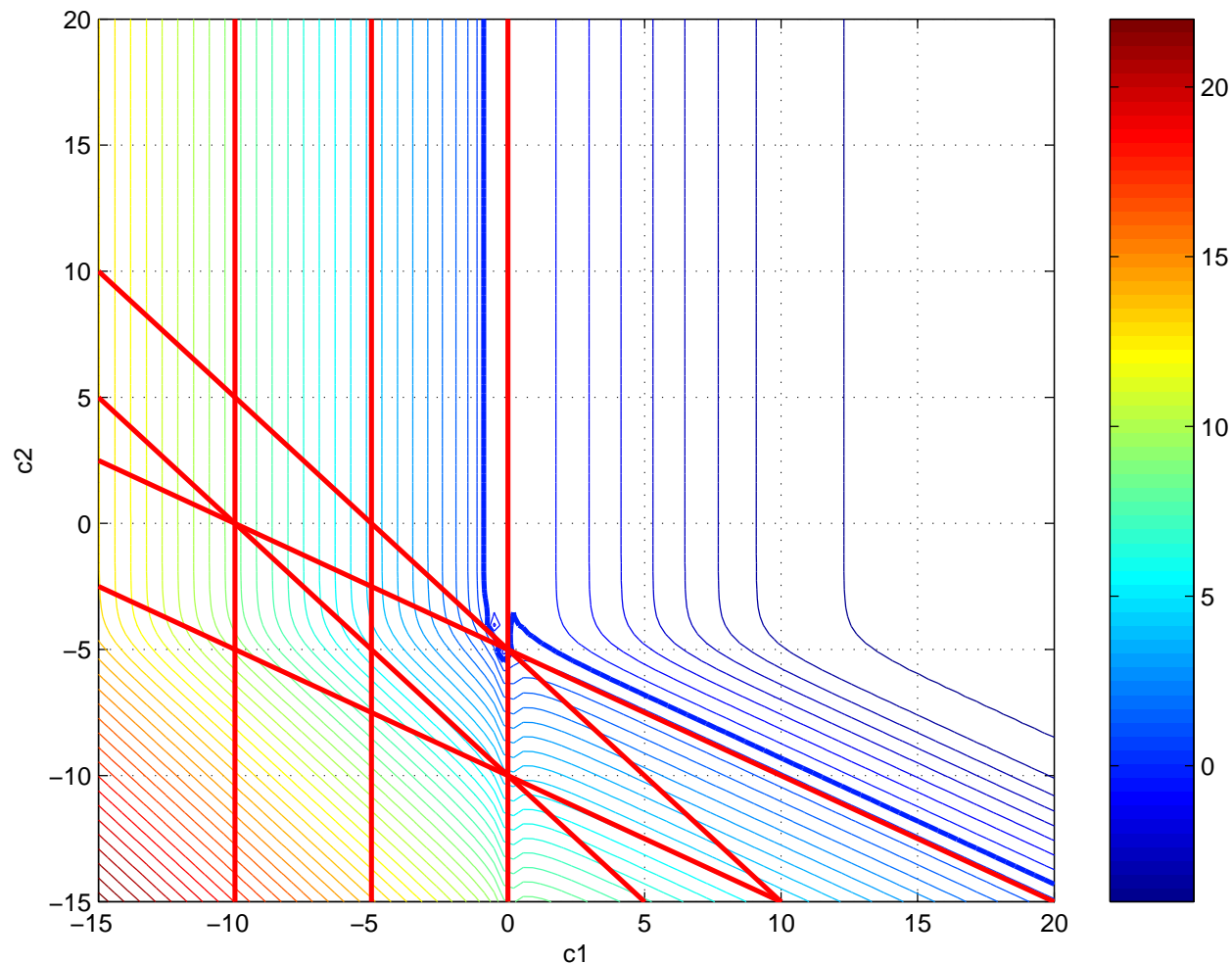
**Proposition:** Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be some **cycle code** with parity-check matrix  $\mathbf{H}$  and normal factor graph  $N(\mathbf{H})$ .

The Newton polyhedron of the zeta function of  $N(\mathbf{H})$   
equals  
the fundamental cone  $\mathcal{K}(\mathbf{H})$ .



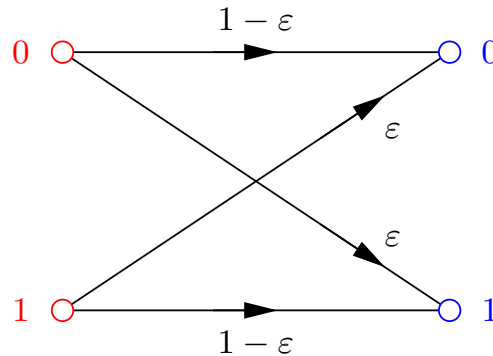
# Characterizing the Fundamental Cone Through the Zeta Function

The inverse of the zeta function seems to give some valuable information about the **dual cone** of the fundamental cone.



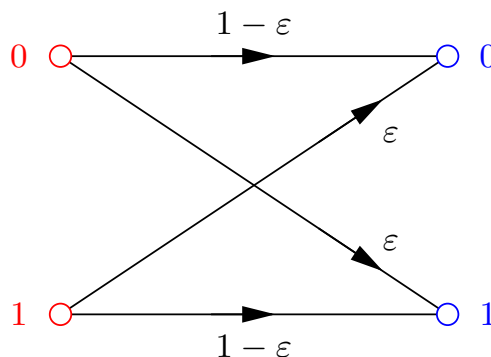
# LP decoding thresholds for the BSC

# The Binary Symmetric Channel (Part 1)



Let  $\varepsilon \in [0, 1]$ . A simple model is e.g. the binary symmetric channel (BSC) with cross-over probability  $\varepsilon$ . It is a DMC

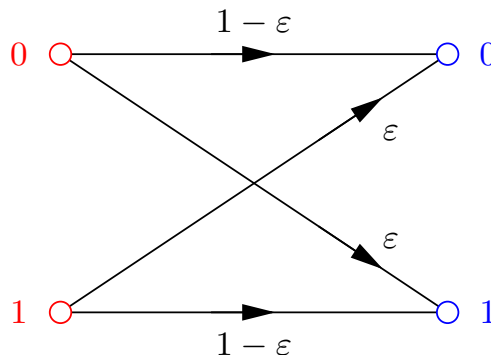
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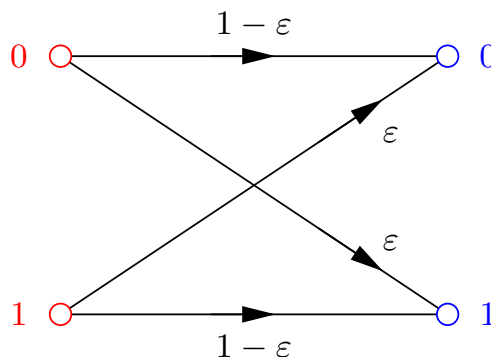
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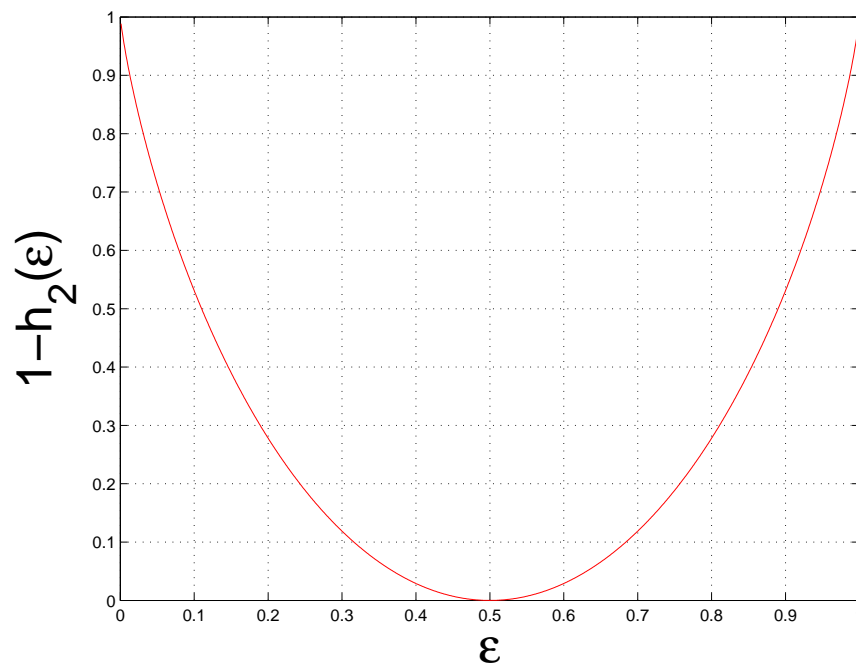


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- with input alphabet  $\mathcal{X} = \{0, 1\}$ ,
- with output alphabet  $\mathcal{Y} = \{0, 1\}$ ,
- and with conditional probability mass function

$$P_{Y_i|X_i}(y_i|x_i) = \begin{cases} 1 - \varepsilon & (y_i = x_i) \\ \varepsilon & (y_i \neq x_i) \end{cases}.$$

# The Binary Symmetric Channel (Part 2)

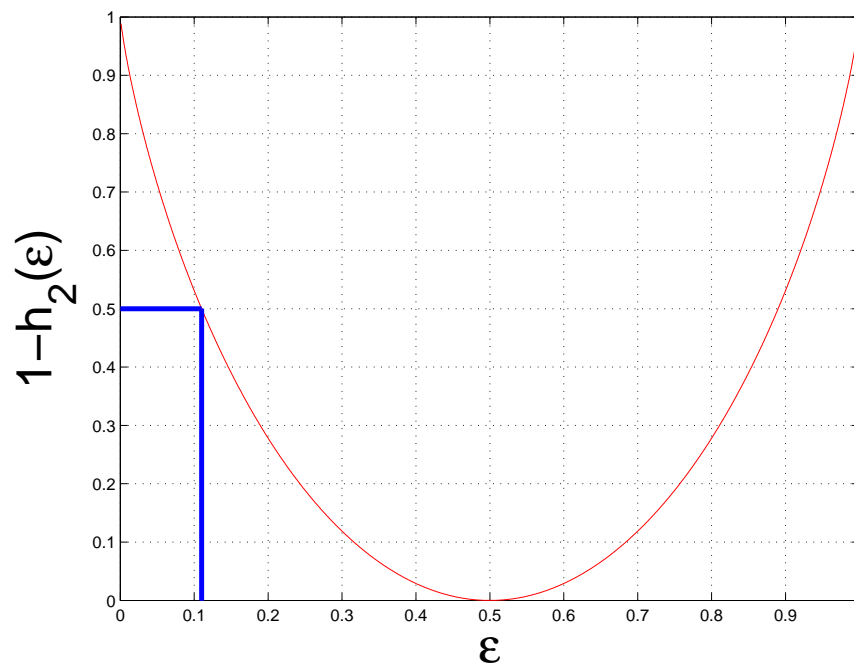


The capacity for the BSC as a function of the cross-over probability  $\epsilon$  is

$$C_{\text{BSC}} = 1 - h_2(\epsilon),$$

where  $h_2(\epsilon) \triangleq -\epsilon \log_2(\epsilon) - (1 - \epsilon) \log_2(1 - \epsilon)$ .

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Important: we are allowed to use the **best available coding** and decoding schemes for a given rate  $R$ .

# The Binary Symmetric Channel (Part 4)



Assume that the channel is a **BSC** with cross-over probability  $\epsilon$ .

Additionally, assume that we put **restrictions** on the coding schemes and/or on the decoding schemes.

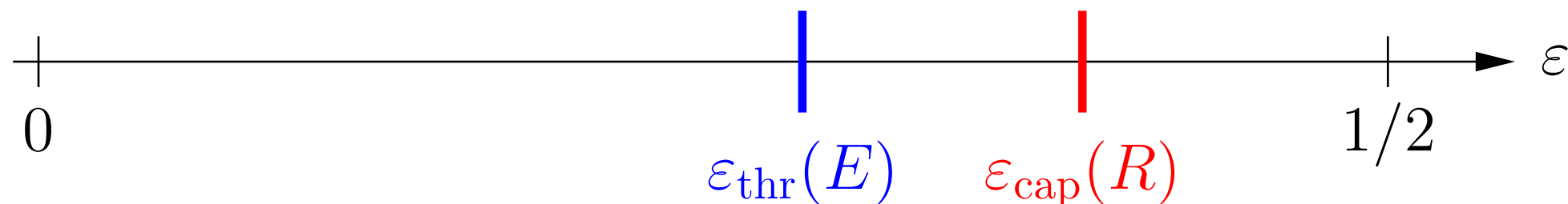
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⇒ **Thresholds**.



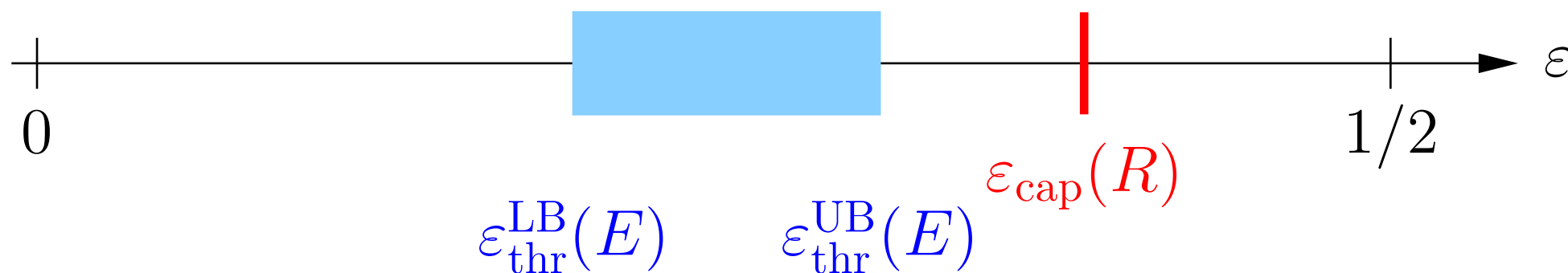
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# Existence of LP Decoding Thresholds

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- The tight connection between **min-sum algorithm decoding** and LP decoding suggests that families/ensembles that have a threshold under min-sum algorithm decoding also have a threshold under LP decoding.
- [Koetter:Vontobel:06]: **there is an LP decoding threshold** for  **$(w_{\text{col}}, w_{\text{row}})$ -regular LDPC codes** where  $2 < w_{\text{col}} < w_{\text{row}}$ .

# BSC: An Upper Bound on the Threshold (Part 1)

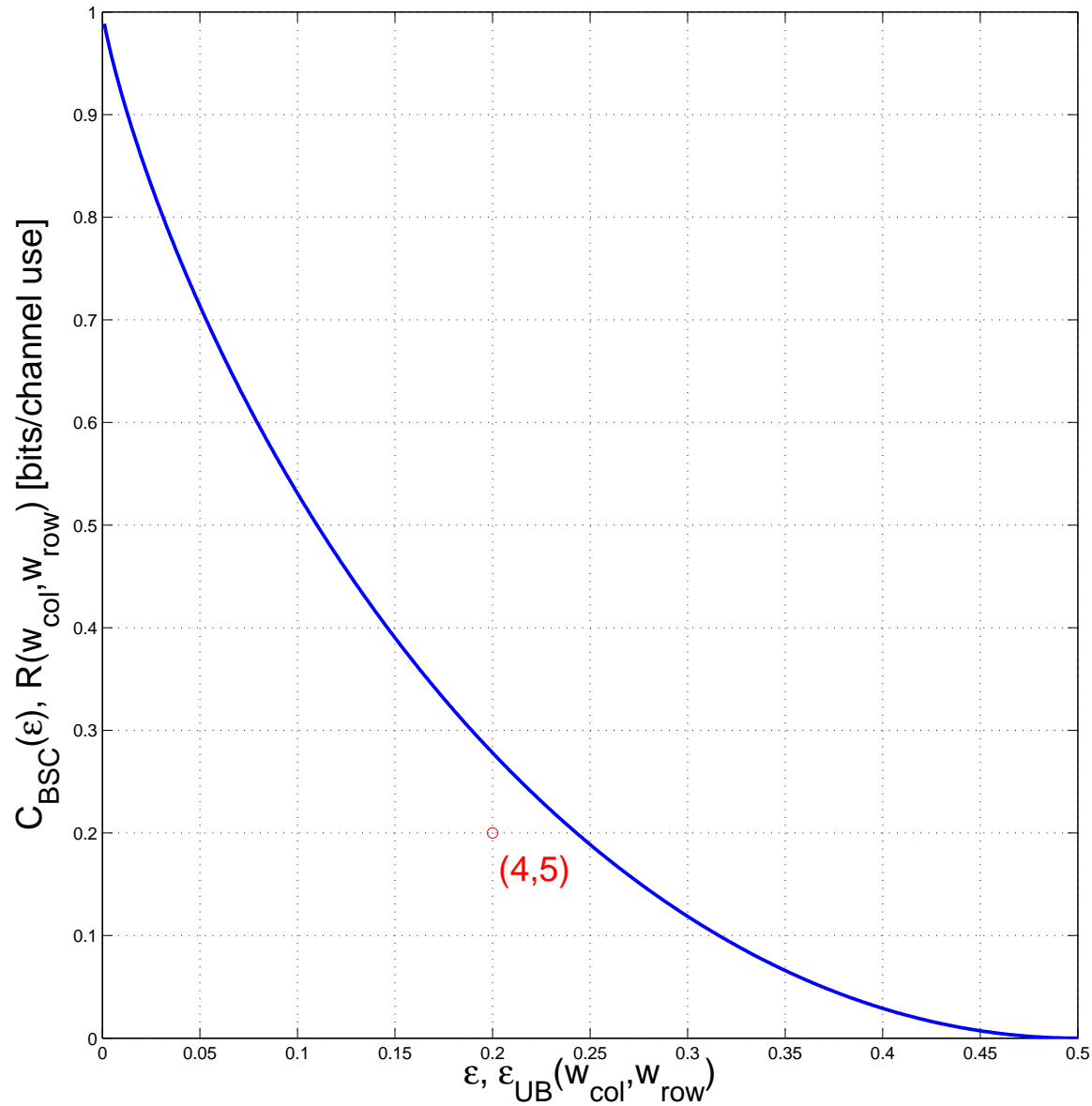
## Theorem:

- Consider a family of  $(w_{\text{col}}, w_{\text{row}})$ -regular codes of increasing block length  $n$ .
- Consider a BSC with cross-over probability  $\varepsilon$ .
- In the limit  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , if

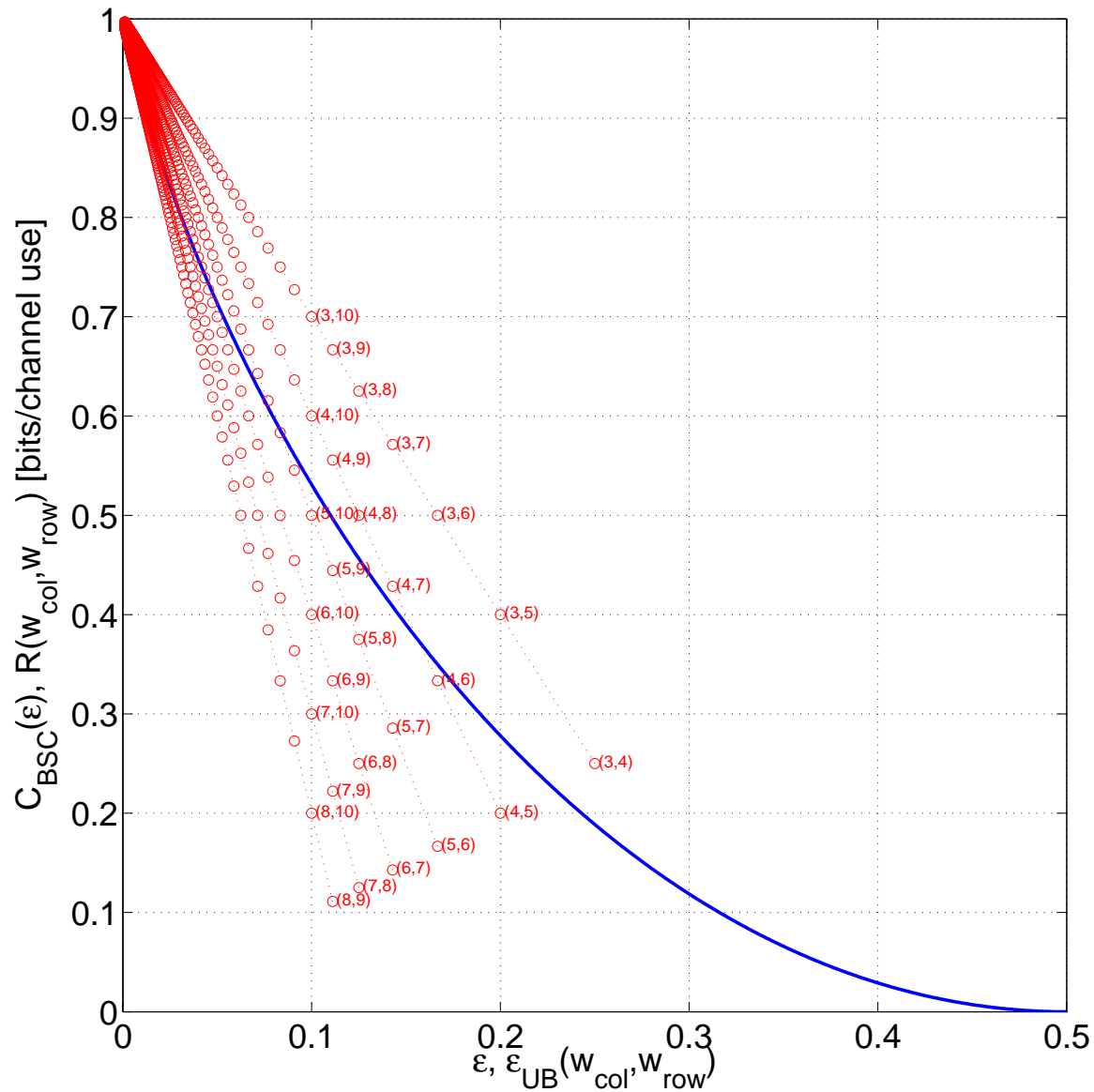
$$\varepsilon > \frac{1}{w_{\text{row}}}$$

then with probability 1 the LP decoder **will not decode** to the transmitted codeword.

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**Theorem:** Consider a family of codes where the minimal row-degree goes to  $w_{\text{row}}^{\min}(\infty)$  when  $n \rightarrow \infty$  and a BSC with cross-over probability  $\varepsilon$ . In the limit  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , if

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**Corollary:** For any family of codes where  $w_{\text{row}}^{\min}(n)$  grows **unboundedly**, i.e. where

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} w_{\text{row}}^{\min}(n) = \infty,$$

the above right-hand side expression goes to 0.

# Not Deciding for the All-Zeros Codeword (Part 1)

Linear programming (LP) decoding:

$$\hat{\omega} = \arg \min_{\omega \in \mathcal{P}(\mathbf{H})} \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i \omega_i.$$



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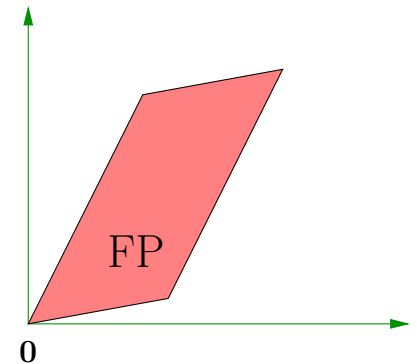
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# Not Deciding for the All-Zeros Codeword (Part 2)

Linear programming (LP) decoding:

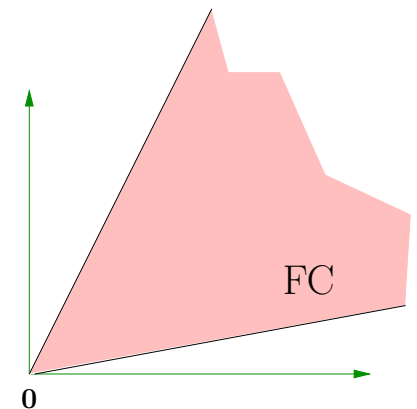
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- So, if

$$0 > \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i \omega_i = \left( \sum_{\substack{i=1 \\ \lambda_i \geq 0}}^n \lambda_i \right) \cdot \frac{1}{w_{\text{row}} - 1} + \left( \sum_{\substack{i=1 \\ \lambda_i < 0}}^n \lambda_i \right) \cdot 1$$

then LP decoding **does not** decide for the all-zeros codeword.

# Not Deciding for the All-Zeros Codeword: BSC (Part1)

- For simplicity, assume that we are transmitting over a BSC with crossover probability  $0 \leq \epsilon < 1/2$ .

$$\Rightarrow \lambda_i \in \{\pm L\} \quad \text{where} \quad L \triangleq \log \left( \frac{1-\epsilon}{\epsilon} \right) > 0.$$

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- In the limit  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , the above condition is **with probability one** equal to the condition

$$0 > \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i \omega_i = L \cdot \left( (1 - \varepsilon) \frac{1}{w_{\text{row}} - 1} - \varepsilon \right) \text{ [LABS<sup>hp</sup>]$$

# BSC: An Upper Bound on the Threshold (Part 1)

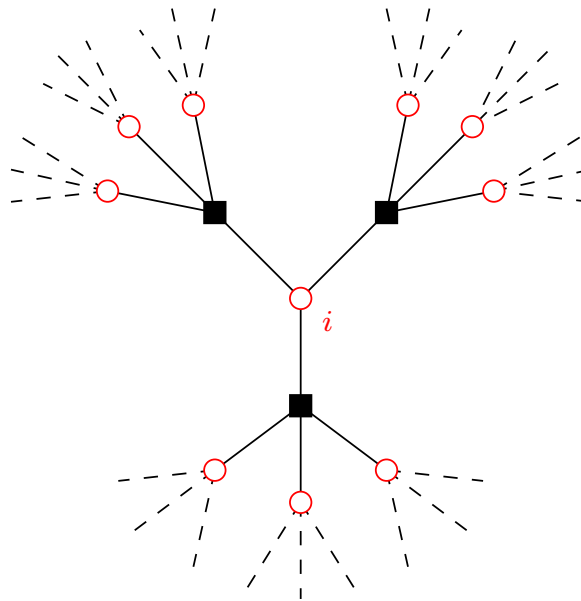
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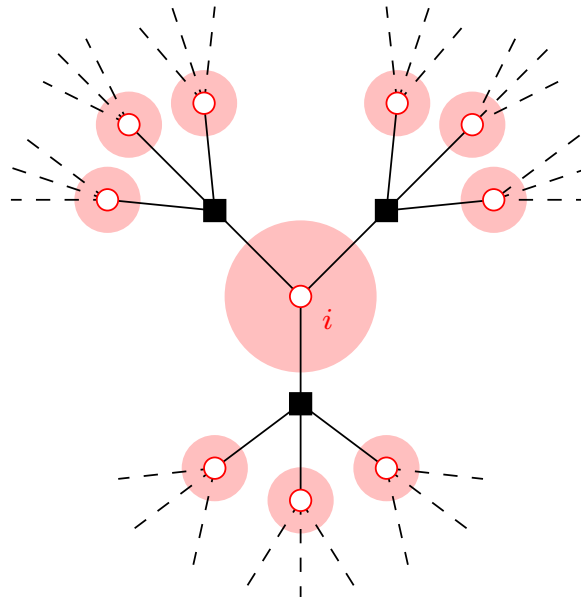
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# 0-Neighborhood-Based Bounds (Part 1)



$\omega$ -vector that we constructed before: note that the the assignment of a value to  $\omega_i$  was based only on the value of  $\lambda_i$ .

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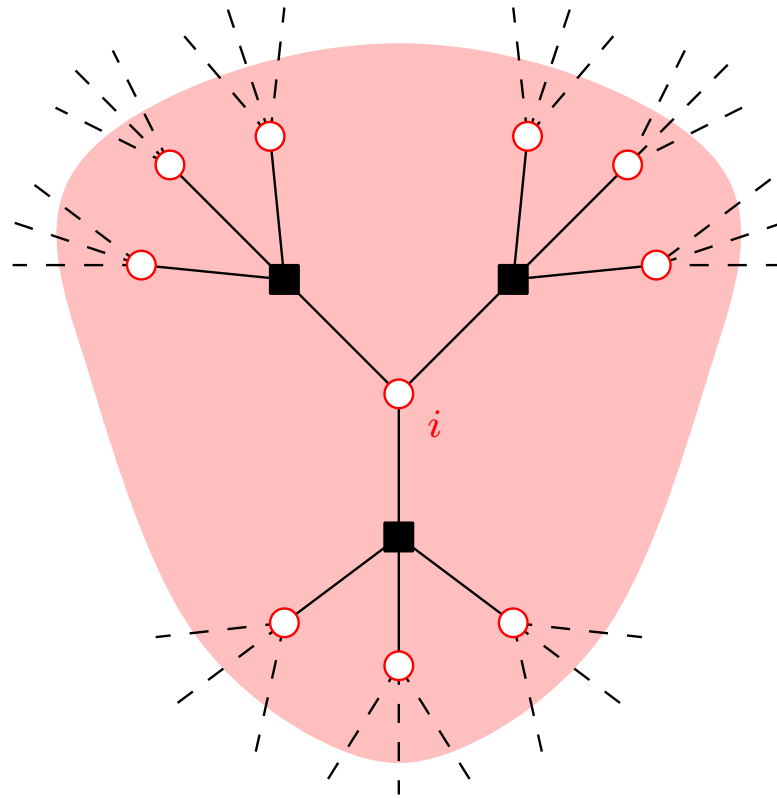
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One can easily check that  $\omega \in \mathcal{K}(\mathbf{H})$ .

# 2-Neighborhood-Based Bounds on the Threshold

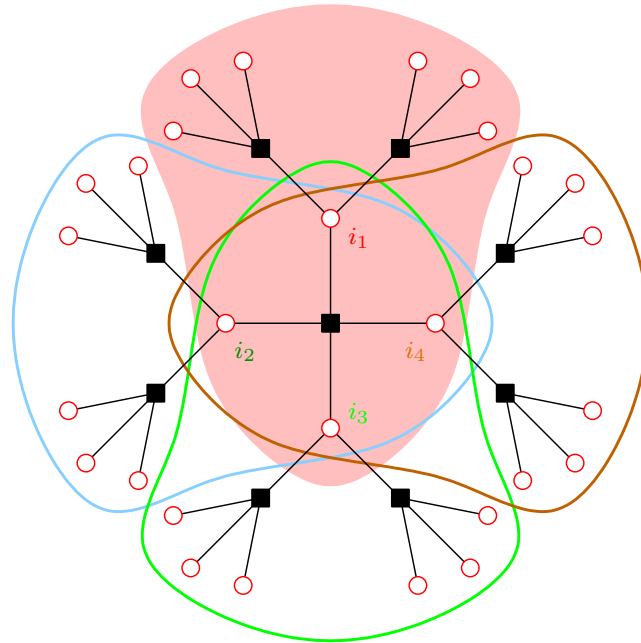


Generalization:

$$\omega_i = f \left( \{ \lambda_{i'} \}_{i' \in \mathcal{N}_i^{(2)}} \right).$$

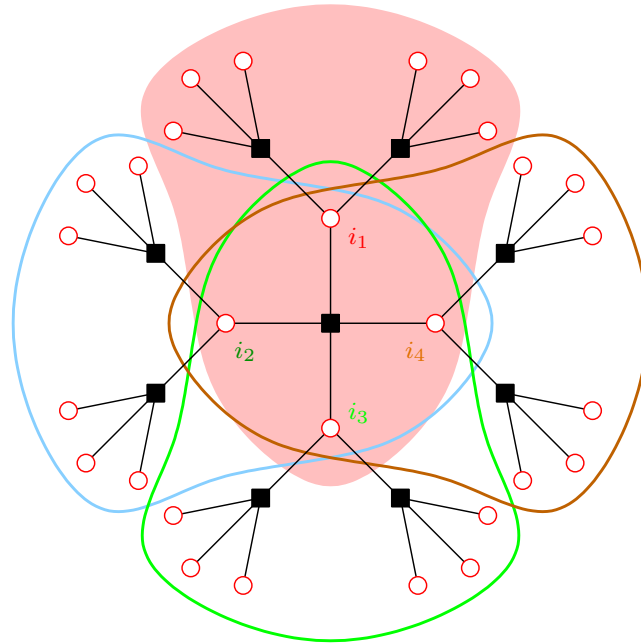


# 2-Neighborhood-Based Bounds on the Threshold



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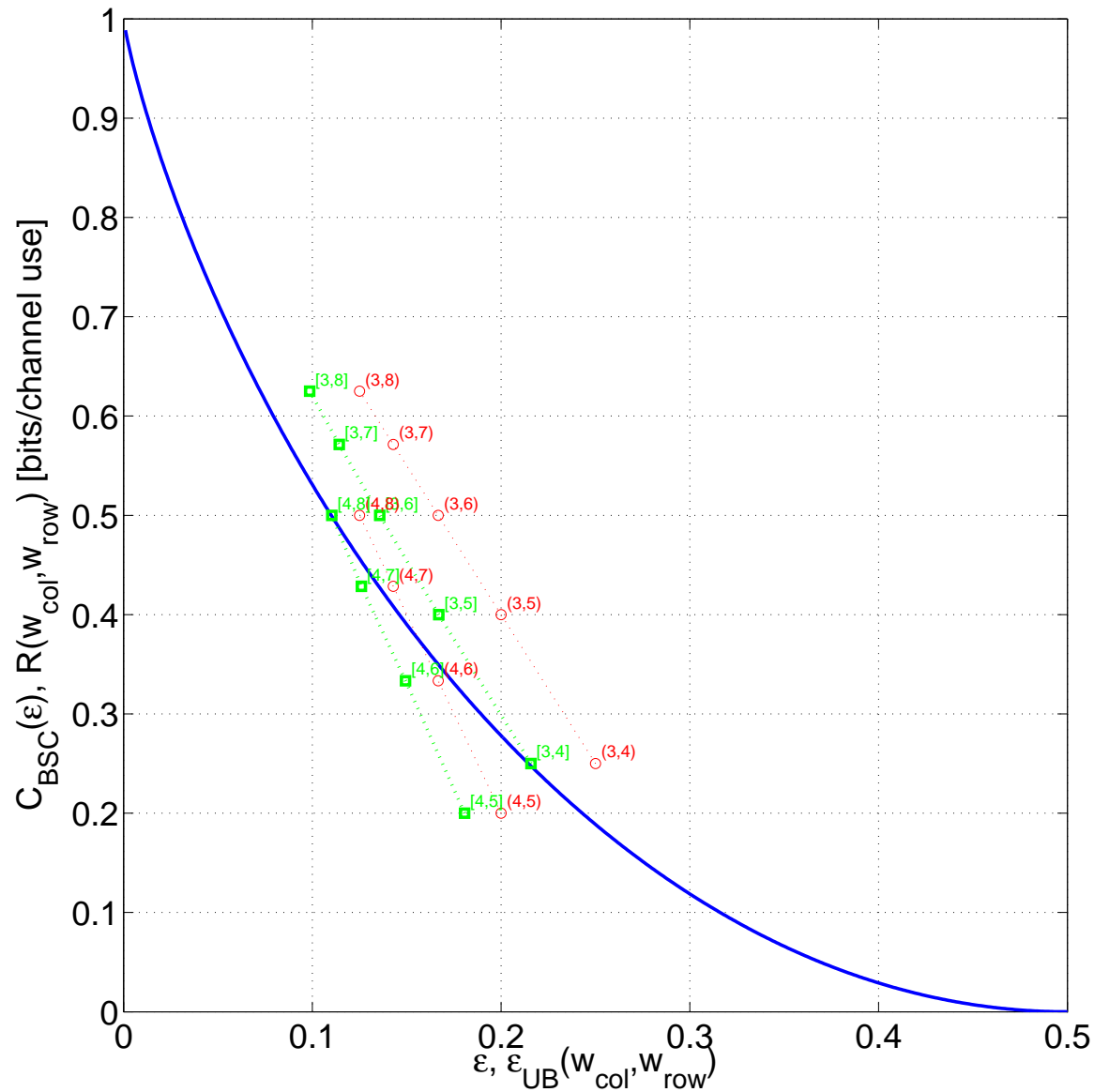
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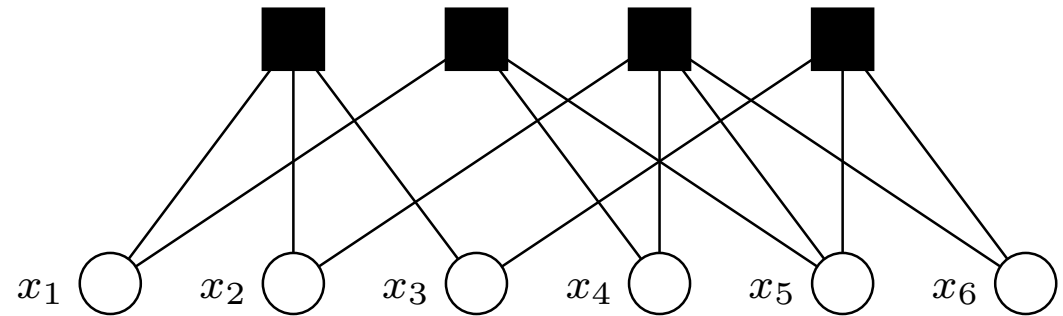
$\Rightarrow$  We can set up a linear program that yields the **best possible threshold** for a 2-neighborhood. (Graph automorphisms help in simplifying that LP.)

# 2-Neighborhood-Based Bounds on the Threshold



**Stopping sets, near-codewords, . . .**

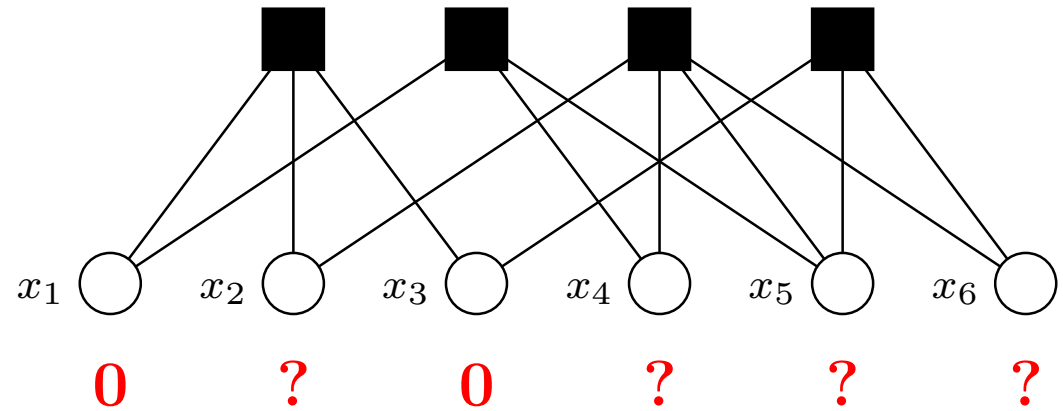
# Stopping Sets (Part 1)



received values:

after first iteration:

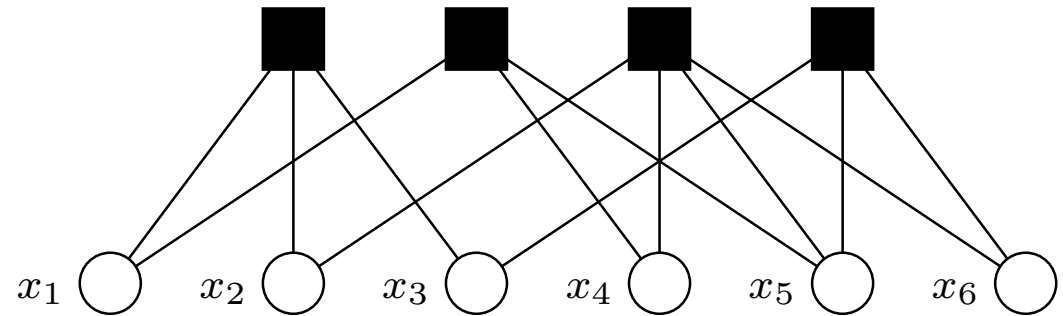
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after first iteration:

# Stopping Sets (Part 1)



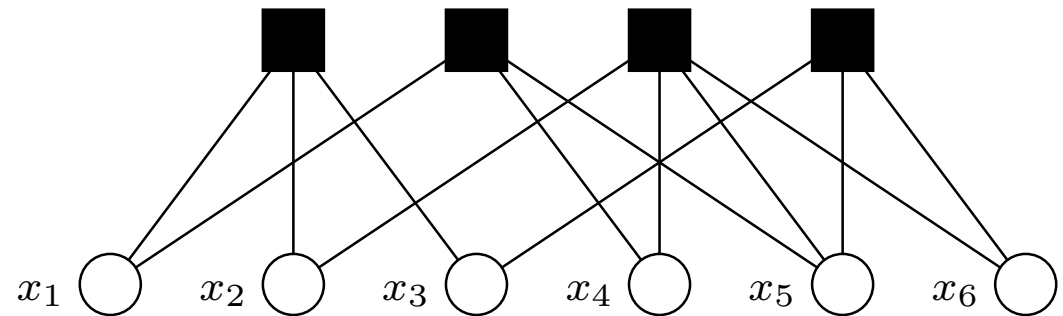
received values:

**0**   **?**   **0**   **?**   **?**   **?**

after first iteration:

**0**   **0**   **0**   **?**   **?**   **?**

# Stopping Sets (Part 1)



received values:

**0**   **?**   **0**   **?**   **?**   **?**

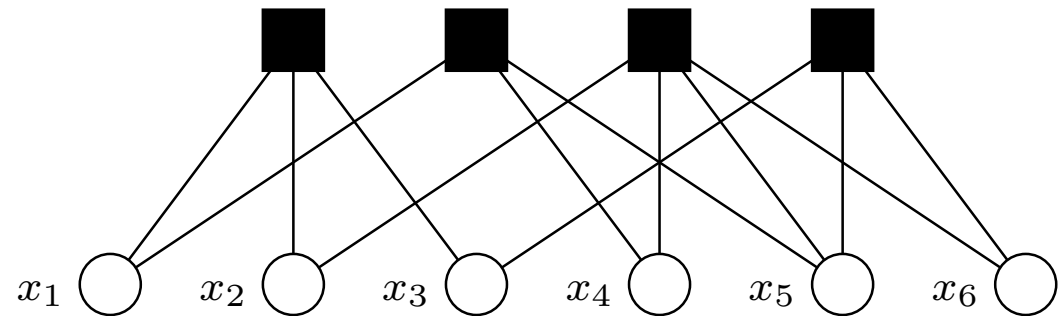
after first iteration:

**0**   **0**   **0**   **?**   **?**   **?**

**stuck!**



# Stopping Sets (Part 1)



received values:

**0**   **?**   **0**   **?**   **?**   **?**

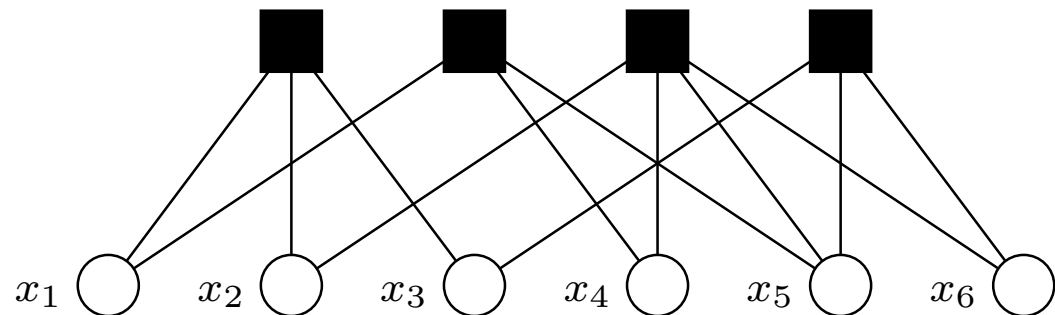
after first iteration:

**0**   **0**   **0**   **?**   **?**   **?**

**stuck!**

Stopping set:  $\mathcal{S} = \{x_4, x_5, x_6\}$ .

# Stopping Sets (Part 1)



received values:

**0**   **?**   **0**   **?**   **?**   **?**

after first iteration:

**0**   **0**   **0**   **?**   **?**   **?**

**stuck!**

Stopping set:  $\mathcal{S} = \{x_4, x_5, x_6\}$ .

The log-likelihood ratio vector for the above example is

$\lambda = (+\infty, 0, +\infty, 0, 0, 0)$ . Note that under LP decoding the vector  $(0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0)$  (which is a codeword) and the vector  $(0, 0, 0, \frac{2}{3}, \frac{2}{3}, \frac{2}{3})$  (which is a pseudo-codeword) have equal cost, i.e. cost zero.

# Stopping Sets (Part 2)

**Theorem:**

# Stopping Sets (Part 2)

## Theorem:

- The support of any pseudo-codeword is a stopping set.

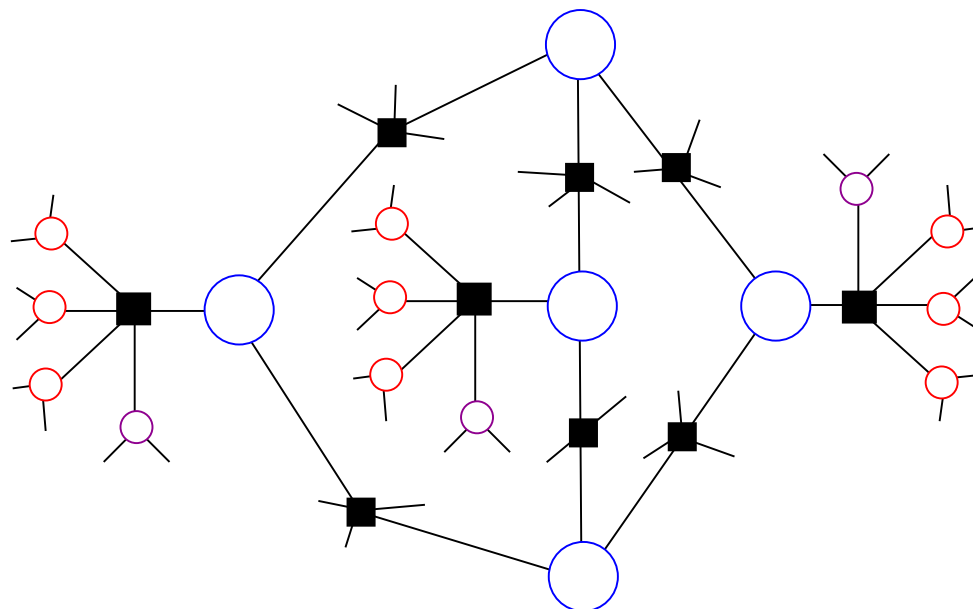
# Stopping Sets (Part 2)

## Theorem:

- The support of any pseudo-codeword is a stopping set.
- For any stopping set there exists at least one pseudo-codeword such that its support equals that stopping set.

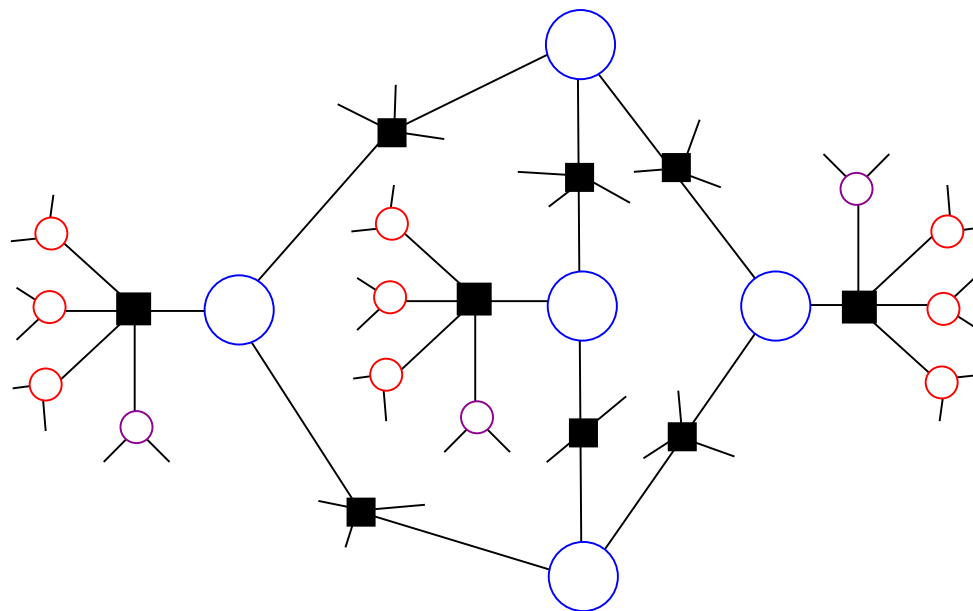
# Near-Codewords (Part 1)

Example: a  $[155, 64, 20]$  binary linear code by Tanner.



# Near-Codewords (Part 1)

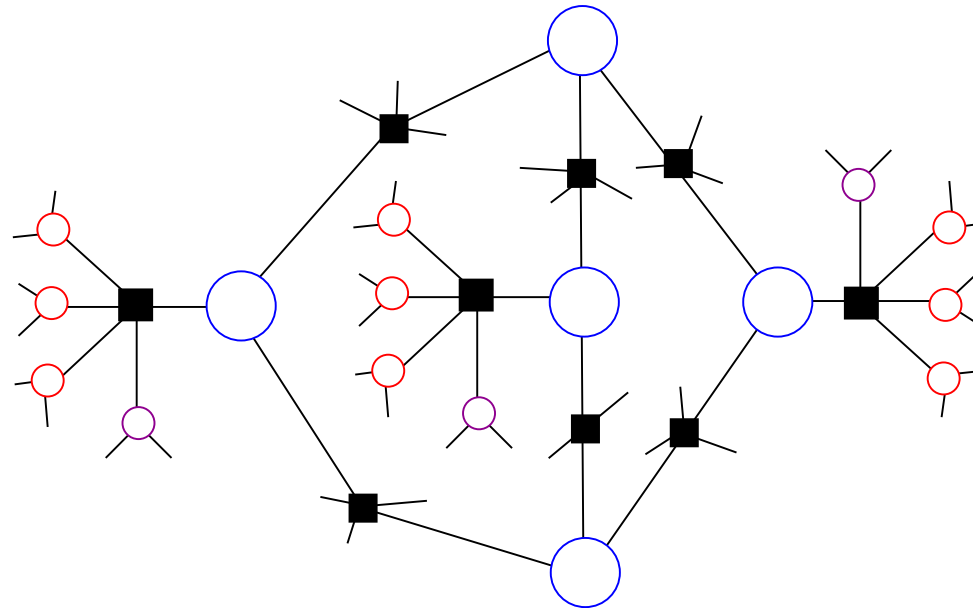
Example: a  $[155, 64, 20]$  binary linear code by Tanner.



The blue vertices form a so-called  $(5, 3)$  near-codeword.

# Near-Codewords (Part 2)

Example: a  $[155, 64, 20]$  binary linear code by Tanner.

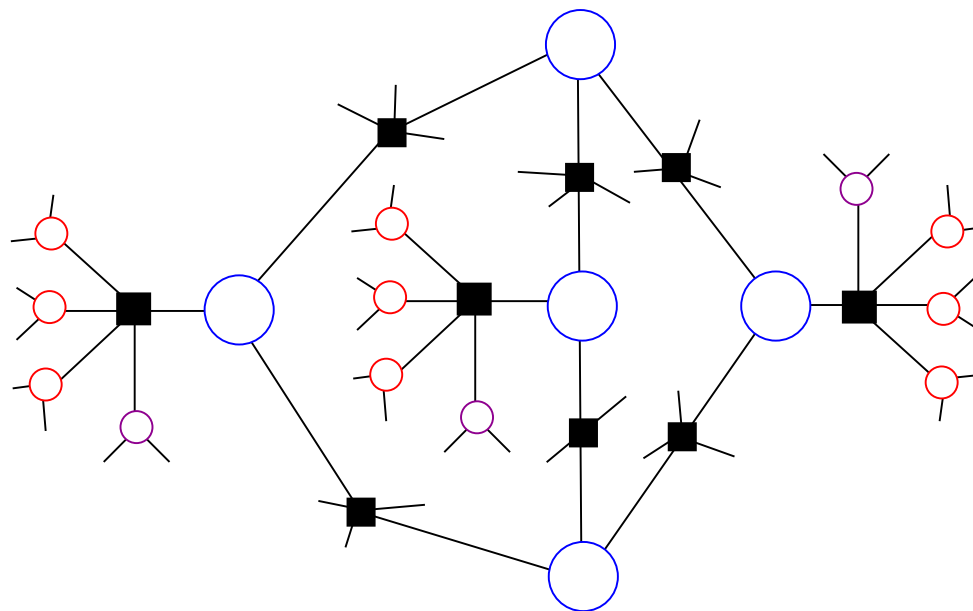


Heuristic why near-codewords are bad for MPI decoding: the **canonical completion** w.r.t. the set of blue vertices gives a pseudo-codeword which is “bad” itself or is a good starting point for searching “bad” pseudo-codewords in the fundamental cone.



# Near-Codewords (Part 2)

Example: a  $[155, 64, 20]$  binary linear code by Tanner.

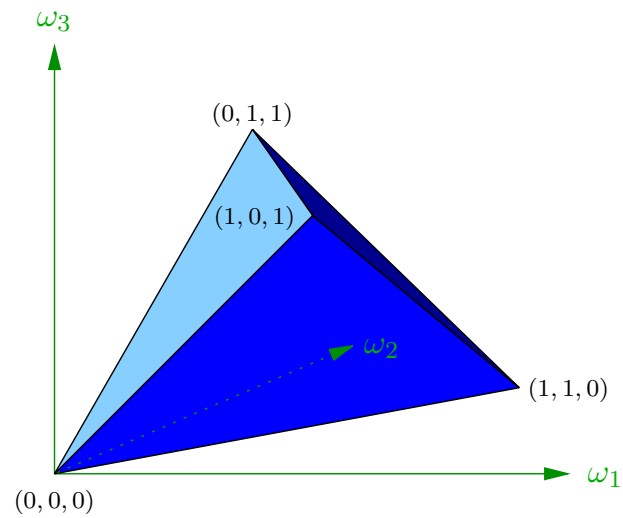


Heuristic why near-codewords are bad for MPI decoding: the **canonical completion** w.r.t. the set of blue vertices gives a pseudo-codeword which is “bad” itself or is a good starting point for searching “bad” pseudo-codewords in the fundamental cone.

Closely related notions: **trapping sets**, **absorption sets**.

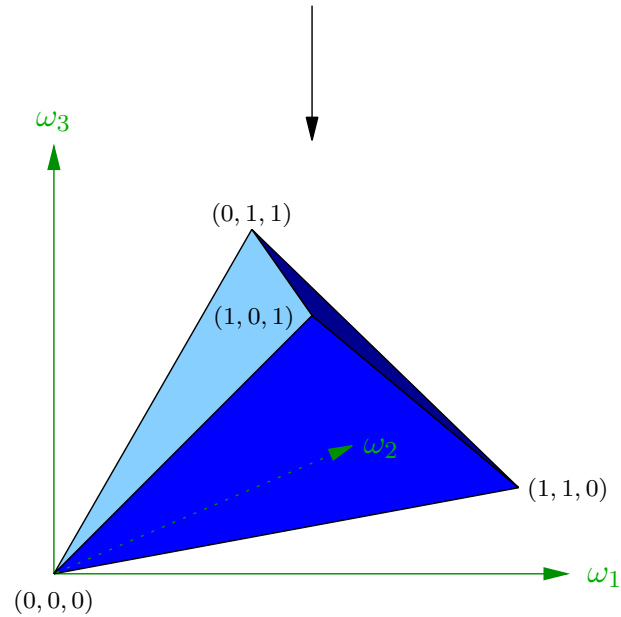
# The fundamental polytope in various contexts

# The Fundamental Polytope in Various Contexts



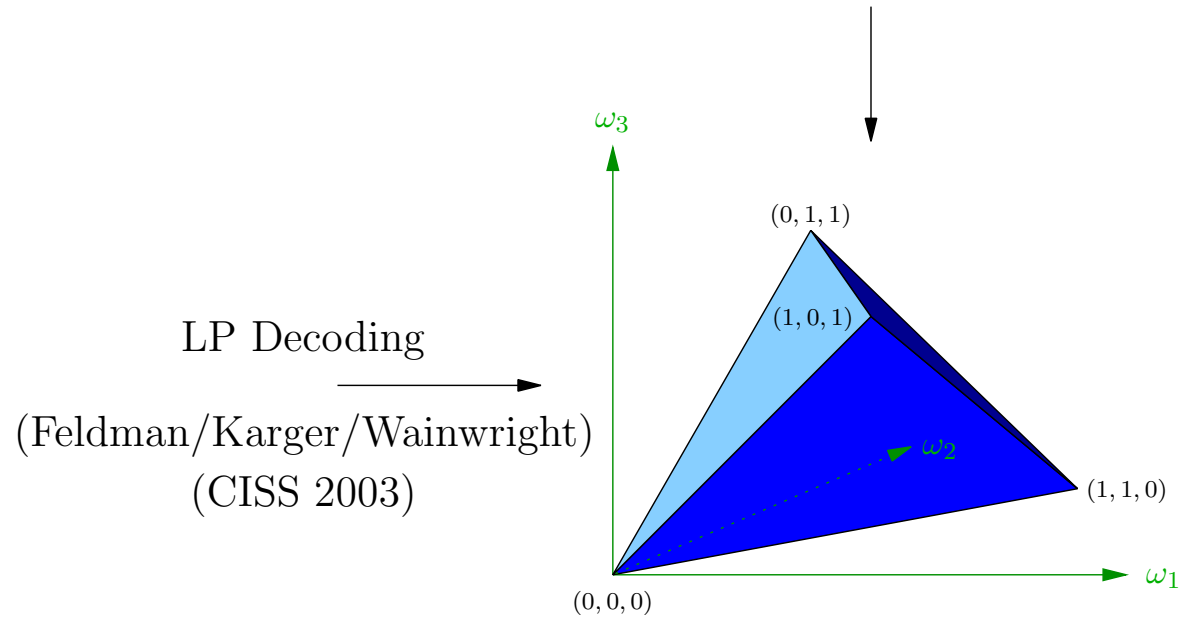
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Finite-length analysis of iterative decoding based on graph covers  
(Koetter/Vontobel, Turbo Conf. 2003)



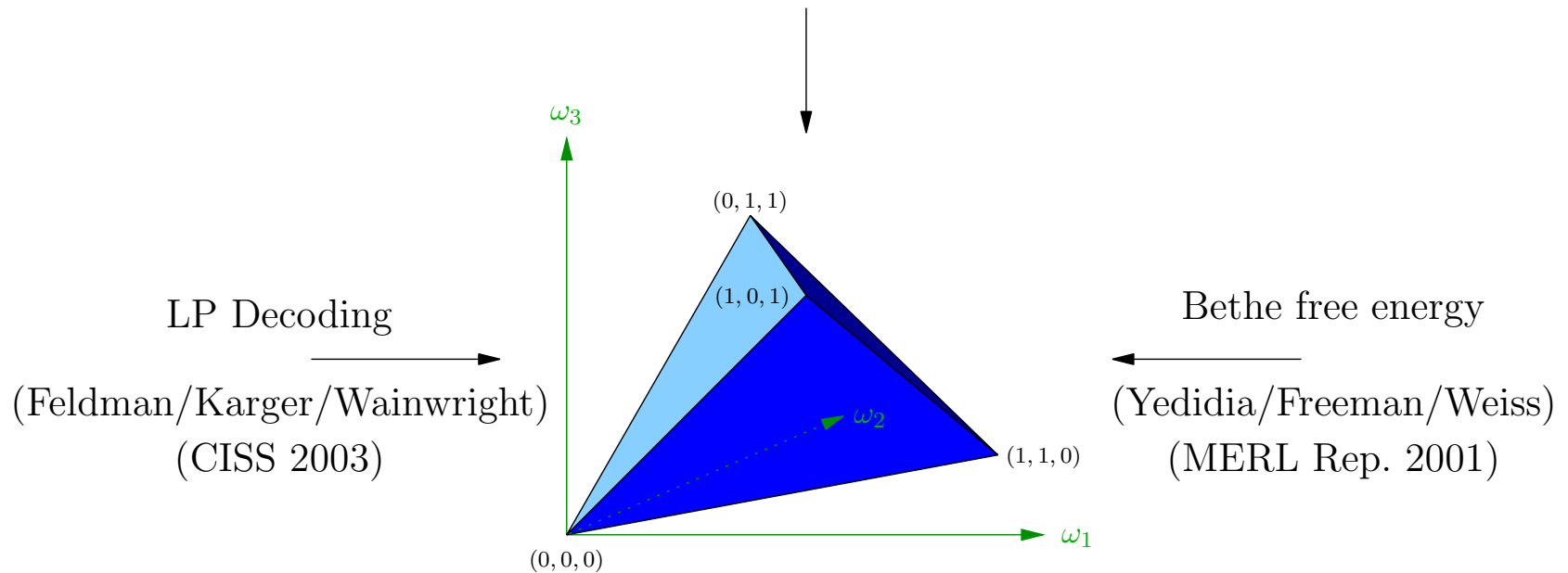
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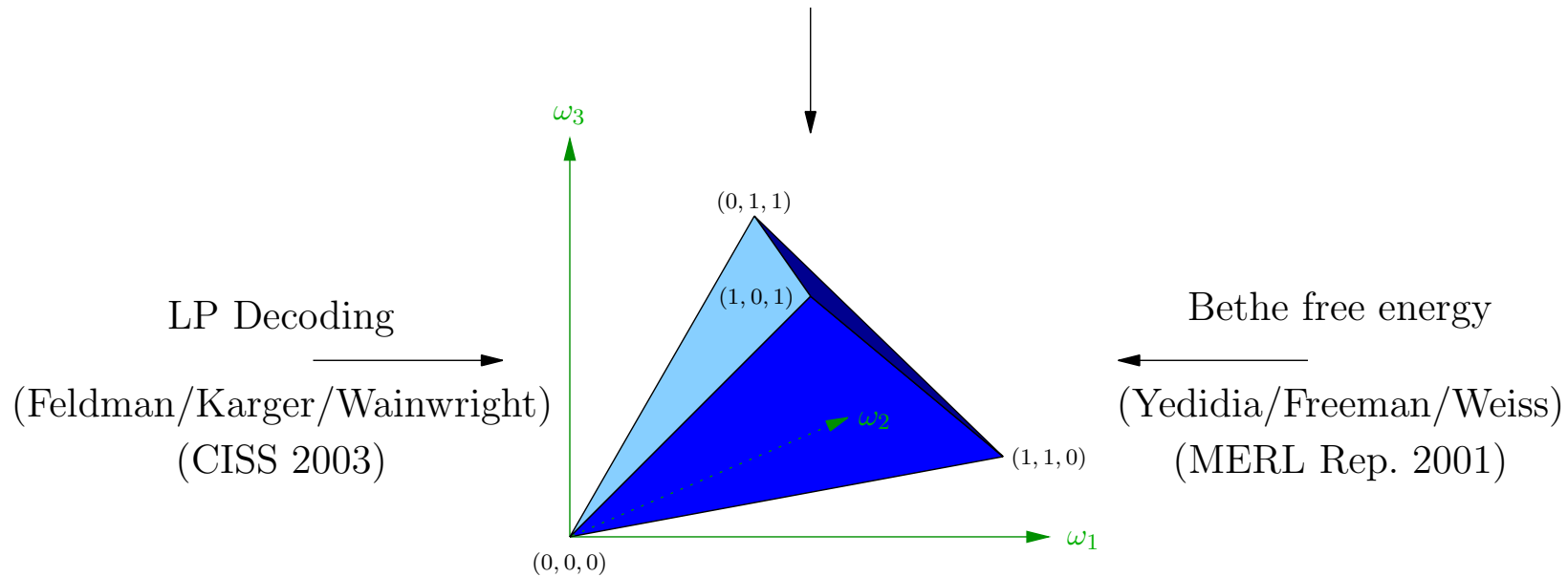
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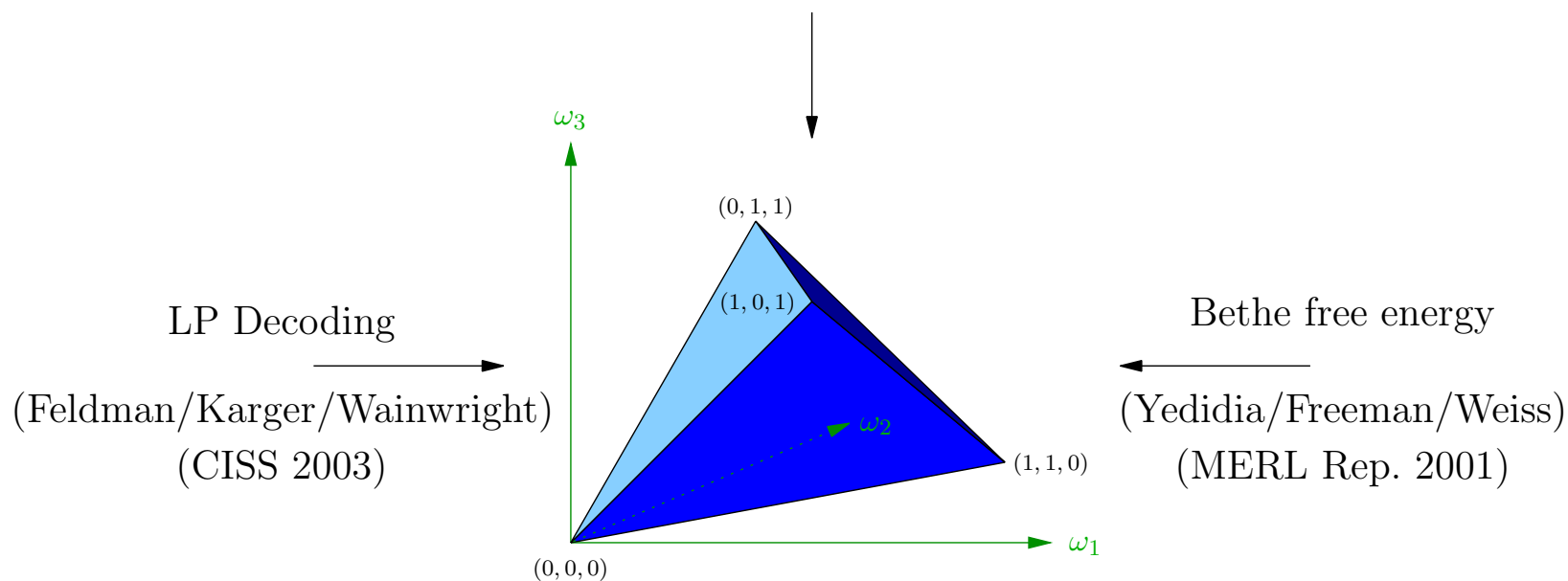
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Fundamental cone of cycle codes is the Newton polyhedron  
of the edge zeta function of normal factor graph  
(Koetter/Li/Vontobel/Walker, ITW2004)

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”The Tropical Geometry of Statistical Models”  
Sturmfels, plenary talk at Allerton 2004

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