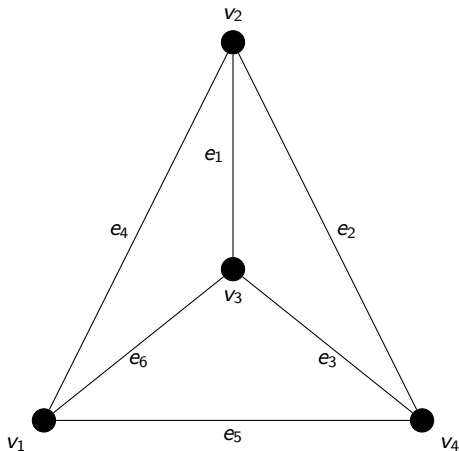


# Constructive Torelli Theorem for Regular Matroids

Alec Elhindi

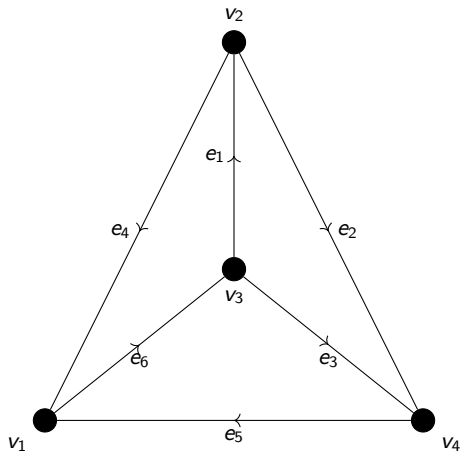
4th November 2024

A **graph**  $G = (V, E)$  consists of **vertices**  $v_i \in V$  and **edges**  $e_i = \{v_j, v_k\} \in E$ .



A graph is **connected** if there is a path between any two vertices.

It can be **oriented**, edges become ordered pairs  $e_i = (v_j, v_k)$ .

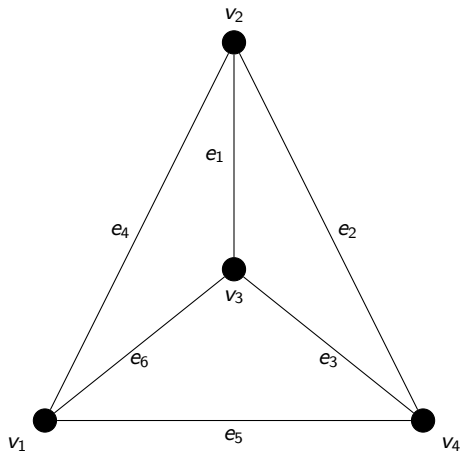


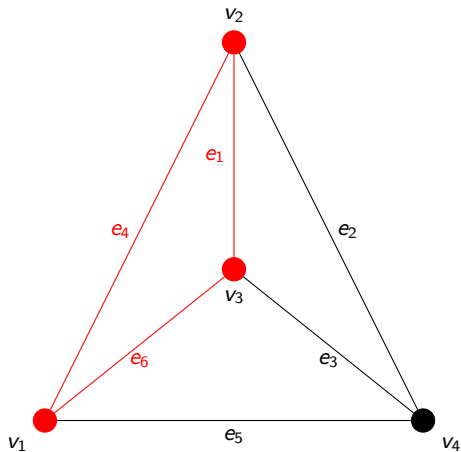
An oriented graph is **strongly connected** if there is an oriented path between any two vertices.

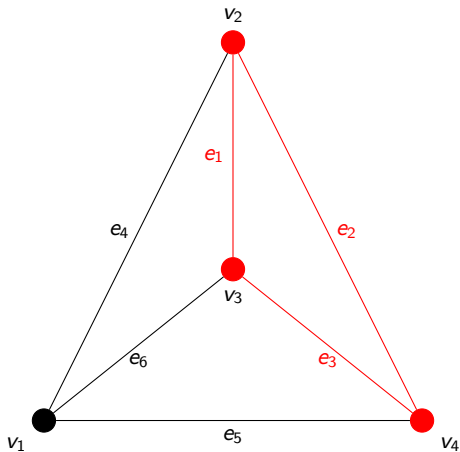
A graph is  $n$ -**connected** if upon removing  $n - 1$  edges it remains connected.

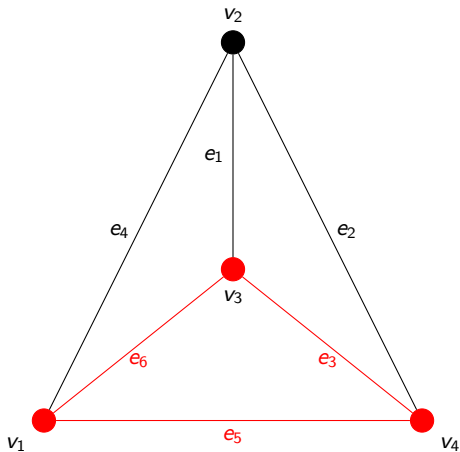
A **cycle** in a graph is a subset  $C \subseteq E$  which is a minimal closed walk.

A graph is 2-connected if every edge participates in a cycle.

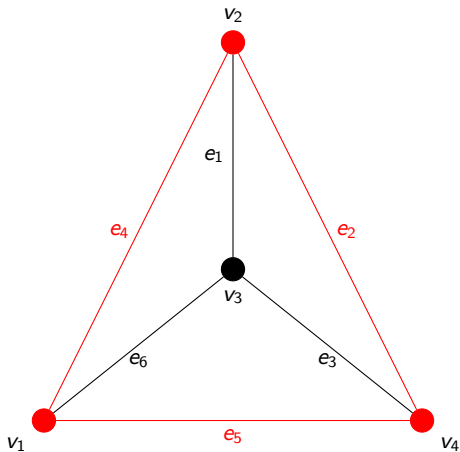


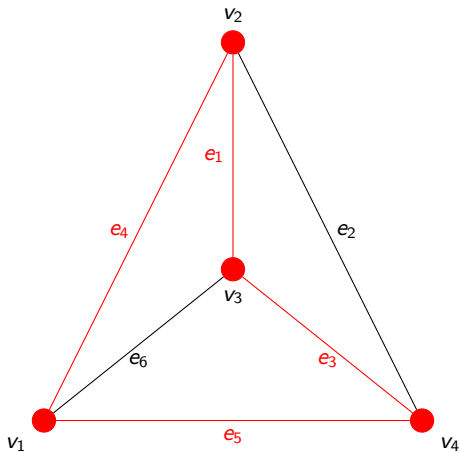


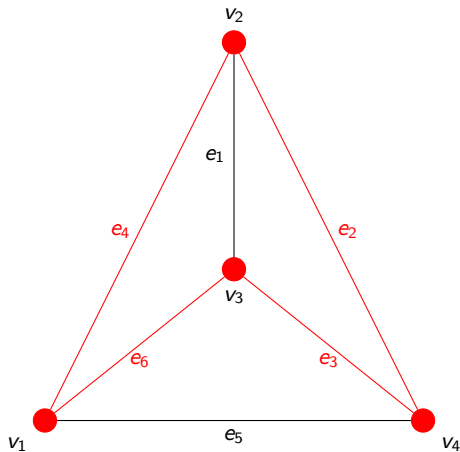


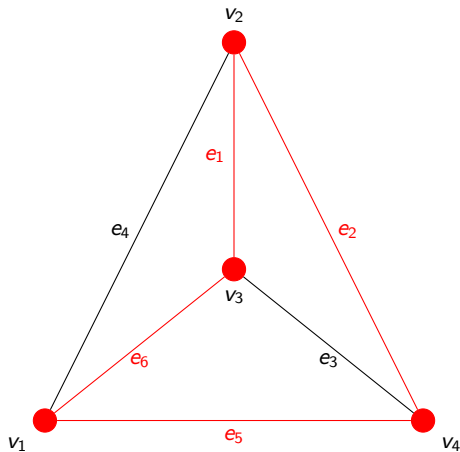








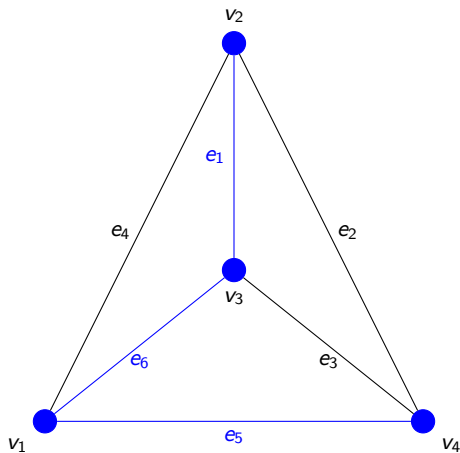


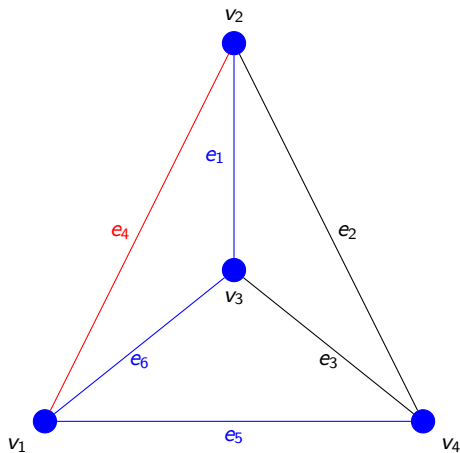


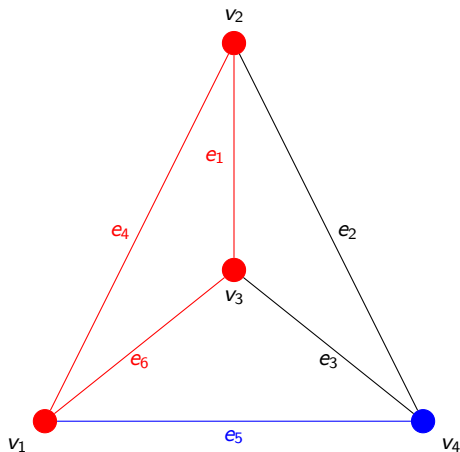
A **spanning tree** is a subset  $T \subseteq E$  which meets every vertex but contains no cycles.

A **cycle basis** is a set of cycles which cover every edge (and are linearly independent) – these only exist for 2-connected graphs.

One can be found by considering the **fundamental cycles** with respect to a spanning tree.

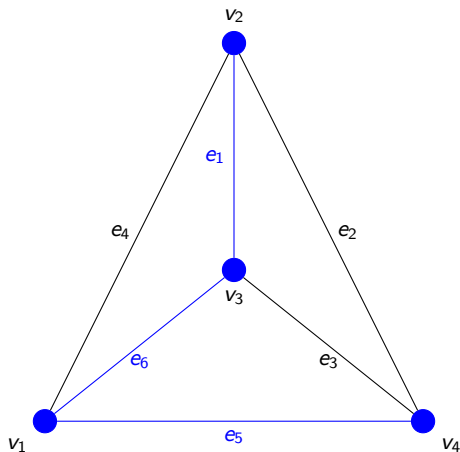




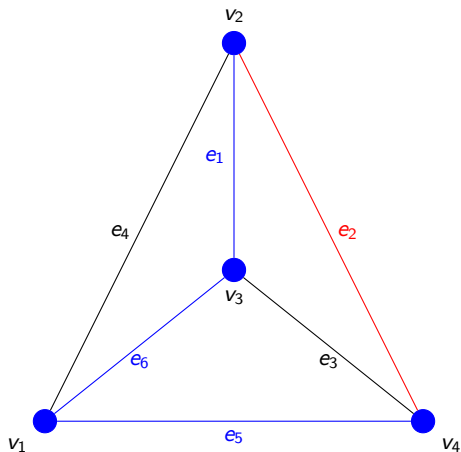


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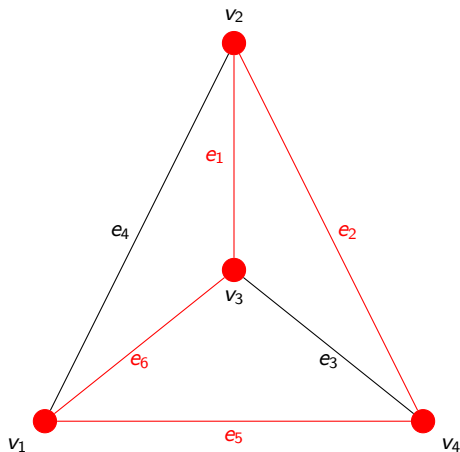




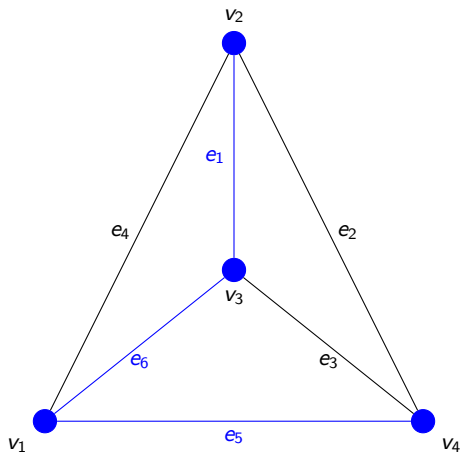
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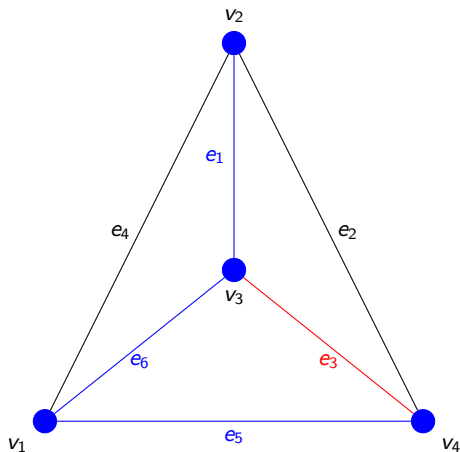
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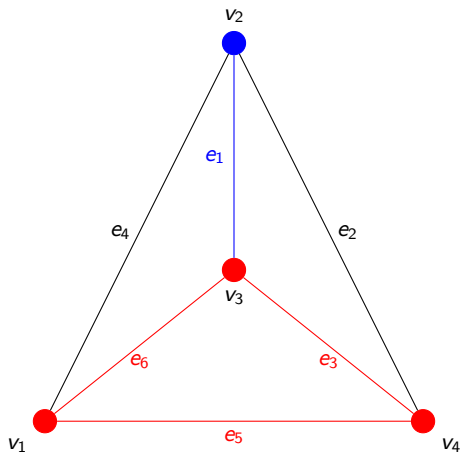
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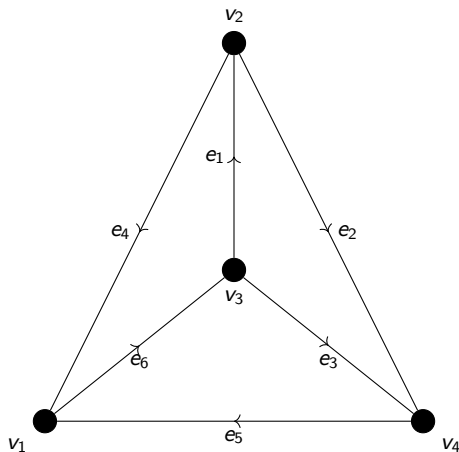
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An orientation on a graph causes cycles to become **oriented cycles**.

Start following an edge clockwise (or counterclockwise), if an edges orientation agrees along the cycle it gets a positive coefficient, otherwise negative.

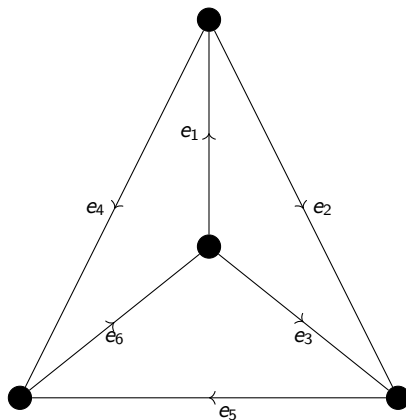
We call a cycle **positive** (or **negative**) if the coefficients are all positive (or negative).

A **positive cycle basis** consists of positive cycles.

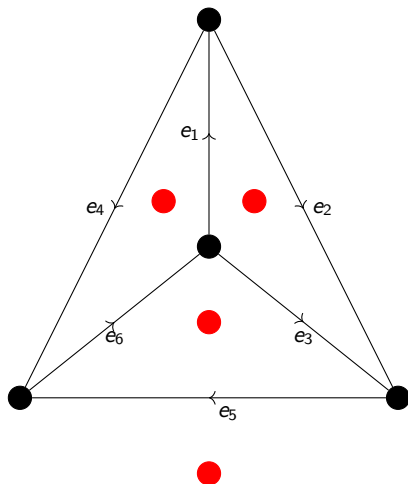


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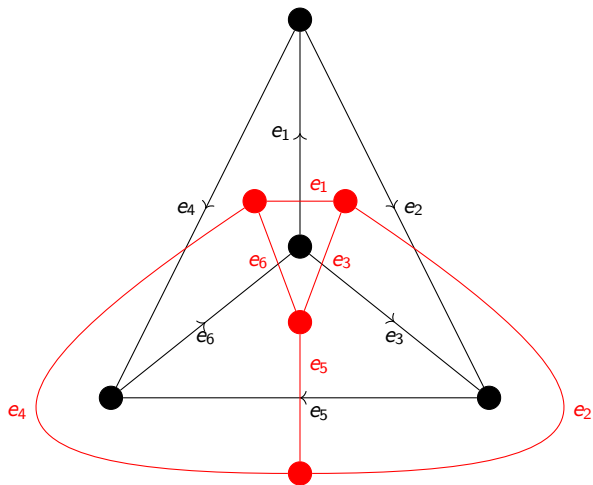


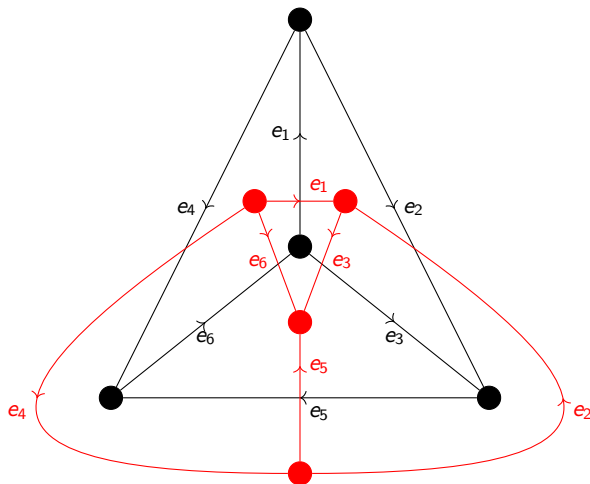


# Dual (Planar) Graph



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- Regular matroids – Su and Wagner (2010)

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- 1  $\emptyset \in \mathcal{I}$ .
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- 3 If  $I_1, I_2 \in \mathcal{I}$  are such that  $|I_1| < |I_2|$ , then there exists  $e \in I_2 \setminus I_1$  such that  $I_1 \cup \{e\} \in \mathcal{I}$ .

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Any of the above can define a matroid, they each come with a set of axioms.



- ④ Given a matrix  $M$  over  $\mathbb{F}$ , letting  $E(\mathcal{M})$  be the columns of  $M$ , then a matroid is formed in the natural way of linear independence. Such a matroid is called a  **$\mathbb{F}$ -representable matroid**.

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A matroid which is representable over any field is called a **regular matroid**.  
Any graphical matroid is regular by finding the graphs signed adjacency matrix.

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In fact regular matroids are closed under duality, and graphical matroids and their duals (almost) generate all regular matroids.

Given a regular matroid  $\mathcal{M}$  with representing matrix  $M$ , the lattice of integer flows is

$$\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{M}) = \ker(M) \cap \mathbb{Z}^E.$$

This coincides for the signed incidence matrix of a graph – the natural representing matrix for a graphical matroid.

Any circuit basis then is a basis of the lattice of integer flows.

The lattice of integer flows is a (in most cases strict) sub-lattice of  $\mathbb{Z}^E$ . Can we explicitly recover  $\mathcal{M}$  from  $\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{M})$ ?

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We provide a constructive algorithm for recovering the matroid – a *constructive Torelli theorem*. The first step is strengthening the following theorem.

**Theorem 1:** [Su-Wagner] *Let  $\mathcal{M}$  and  $\mathcal{N}$  be 2-connected regular matroids. Then  $\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{M}) \cong \mathcal{F}(\mathcal{N})$  if and only if  $\mathcal{M} \cong \mathcal{N}$ .*

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**Proposition:** A positive circuit basis exists for any 2-connected regular matroid.



**Proposition:** An isomorphism of lattices  $\varphi : \mathcal{F}(\mathcal{M}) \rightarrow \mathcal{F}(\mathcal{N})$  lifts to an isomorphism of Euclidean lattices  $\Phi : \mathbb{Z}^{E(\mathcal{M})} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}^{E(\mathcal{N})}$ .

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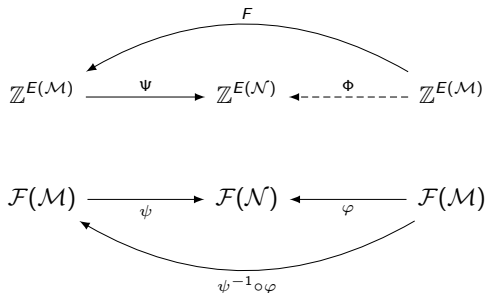
$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 \mathbb{Z}^{E(\mathcal{M})} & \xrightarrow{\quad \Psi \quad} & \mathbb{Z}^{E(\mathcal{N})} & \xleftarrow{\quad \Phi \quad} & \mathbb{Z}^{E(\mathcal{M})} \\
 \\ 
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 & & \searrow \quad \quad \quad \nearrow & & \\
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 \end{array}$$

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2

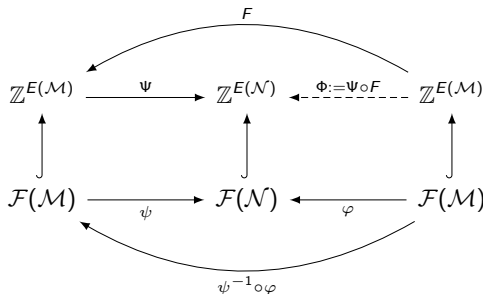


**Proposition:** An isomorphism of lattices  $\varphi : \mathcal{F}(\mathcal{M}) \rightarrow \mathcal{F}(\mathcal{N})$  lifts to an isomorphism of Euclidean lattices  $\Phi : \mathbb{Z}^{E(\mathcal{M})} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}^{E(\mathcal{N})}$ .

**Proof:**

- 1 Use Greene's rigid embedding theorem to show any automorphism of  $\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{M})$  lifts – relies on the existence of a positive circuit basis of  $\mathcal{M}$ .

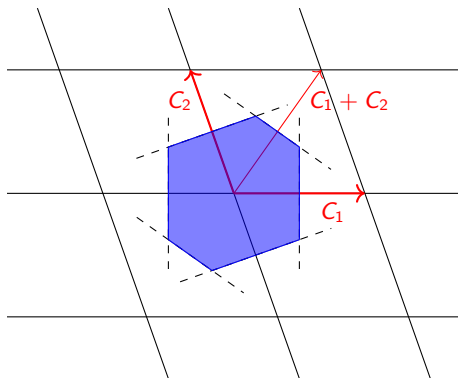
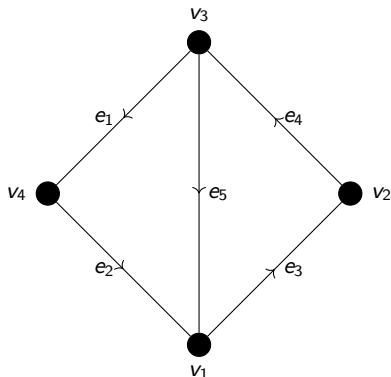
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The **Voronoi cell**  $\mathcal{V}(\Lambda)$  of a lattice  $\Lambda$  is the collection of points in space (i.e. in  $\Lambda \otimes \mathbb{R}$ ) closer to the origin than any other lattice point in  $\Lambda$ .

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$$C_1 = \{+e_1, +e_2, -e_5\}, C_2 = \{+e_3, +e_4, +e_5\}, C_1 + C_2 = \{+e_1, +e_2, +e_3, +e_4\}.$$

Faces of the Voronoi cell form a partially ordered set (poset)  $\mathcal{FP}(\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{M}))$  with inclusion given by dimension.

Oriented submatroids  $(\mathcal{M}, \omega_{\mathcal{M}})$  which are strongly connected form a poset  $\mathcal{SC}(\mathcal{M})$  with inclusion  $(\mathcal{M}, \omega_{\mathcal{M}}) \leq (\mathcal{N}, \omega_{\mathcal{N}})$  if and only if  $\mathcal{N}$  is a submatroid of  $\mathcal{M}$  and  $\omega_{\mathcal{M}}$  restricted to  $\mathcal{N}$  is  $\omega_{\mathcal{N}}$ .

**Theorem 2:** *For a finite regular matroid  $\mathcal{M}$ ,  $\mathcal{FP}(\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{M})) \cong \mathcal{SC}(\mathcal{M})$  as graded posets.*

**Example:** Codimension one faces of the Voronoi cell correspond to circuits in  $\mathcal{M}$ . Edges of the Voronoi cell correspond to maximal strongly orientable submatroids of  $\mathcal{M}$ .

The parallel faces of the Voronoi cell correspond to the different strongly connected orientations of the same underlying matroid.

For a face  $F$ , we consider  $[F]$  the **equivalence class of faces that are parallel to  $F$** .

For a subset  $A \subseteq E(\mathcal{M})$  we denote  $[F_A]$  to be the face(s) which corresponds to  $\mathcal{M} \setminus A$  (provided it is strongly orientable).

A matroid is 3-connected if  $\mathcal{M} \setminus \{e\}$  is 2-connected for all  $e \in E(\mathcal{M})$ . Furthermore, a 2-connected matroid can always be strongly oriented as it always has a positive circuit basis.

Reconstructing 3-connected matroids:

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- 1 There is a bijection  $e \leftrightarrow [F_{\{e\}}]$  for  $e \in E(\mathcal{M})$ .
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For general 2-connected matroids steps (2) and (3) remain the same, but step (1) requires much more work, as maximal strongly connected submatroids may be of the form  $\mathcal{M} \setminus S$  for (possibly different sized)  $|S| > 1$ .

The key to the reconstruction for 2-connected matroids are **2-cut blocks**.

These are the equivalence classes of the equivalence relation  $e \sim f$  if and only if  $e = f$  or  $\{e, f\}$  is a cocircuit (a circuit in the dual matroid).

These 2-cut blocks are precisely those sets for which  $\mathcal{M} \setminus S$  is a maximal strongly connected submatroid, so denote  $S_{[\epsilon]}$  for the 2-cut block which corresponds to the parallel class of edges  $[\epsilon]$ .

- 1 Create a circuit basis  $B$  such that  $|\langle C_i, C_j \rangle| = |C_i \cap C_j|$  for all  $C_i, C_j \in B$ .

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- 3 For each basis circuit  $C_i, i = 1, \dots, r$ , write the equation

$$\sum_{[\epsilon] \notin F_{C_i}} |S_{[\epsilon]}| = \langle C_i, C_i \rangle,$$

and for each pair of basis circuits  $\{\{C_i, C_j\}, i, j = 1, \dots, r, i \neq j\}$  write the equation

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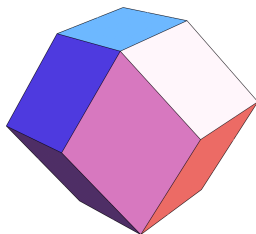
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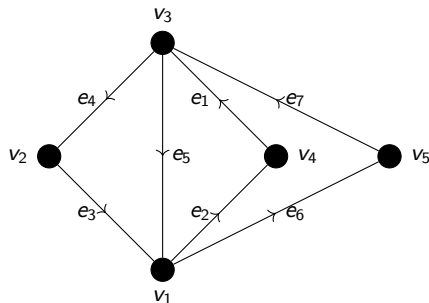
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- 5  $E(\mathcal{M})$  is the disjoint union of the sets  $\{S_{[\epsilon]}\}$ .
- 6 Again, the element  $e$  belongs to a circuit  $C$  if and only if no member of the corresponding edge parallel class  $[\epsilon]$  belongs to the face  $[F_C]$ .





$$\begin{array}{c} C_1 \\ C_2 \\ C_3 \end{array} \begin{pmatrix} C_1 & C_2 & C_3 \\ 3 & 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 3 & 0 \\ 2 & 0 & 4 \end{pmatrix}$$



$$\begin{aligned} C_1 &= \{+e_1, +e_2, +e_5\}, \\ C_2 &= \{+e_5, +e_6, +e_7\}, \\ C_3 &= \{+e_1, +e_2, +e_3, +e_4\}. \end{aligned}$$

Greene showed that:

**Theorem 3:** *The  $d$ -invariant of the lattice of integer flows of a 2-connected graph determines its stable isomorphism type.*

Then naturally conjectured:

**Conjecture 1:** *The  $d$ -invariant of the lattice of integer flows of a 2-connected regular matroid determines its stable isomorphism type.*

The approach we used shows most of what is required for this conjecture to be true.