

# *Lifting for Simplicity: Concise Descriptions of Convex Sets*

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# Joint work with:



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*U Cambridge*



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*U Coimbra*



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*MIT*



**Richard Robinson**  
*Nvidia*



**James Saunderson**  
*Monash U*

# Linear Programming

nonnegative orthant:  $\mathbb{R}_+^m$

linear program:

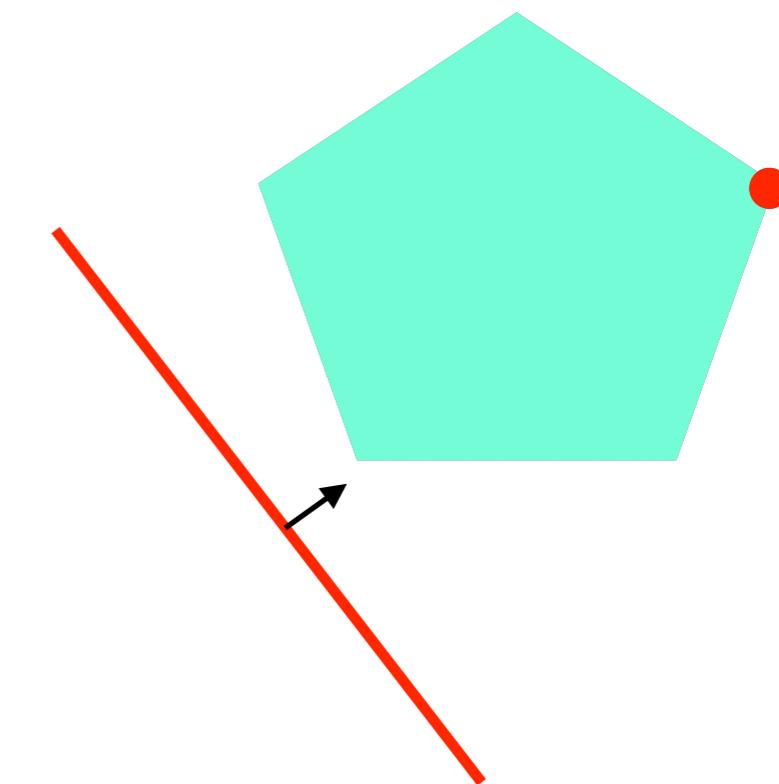
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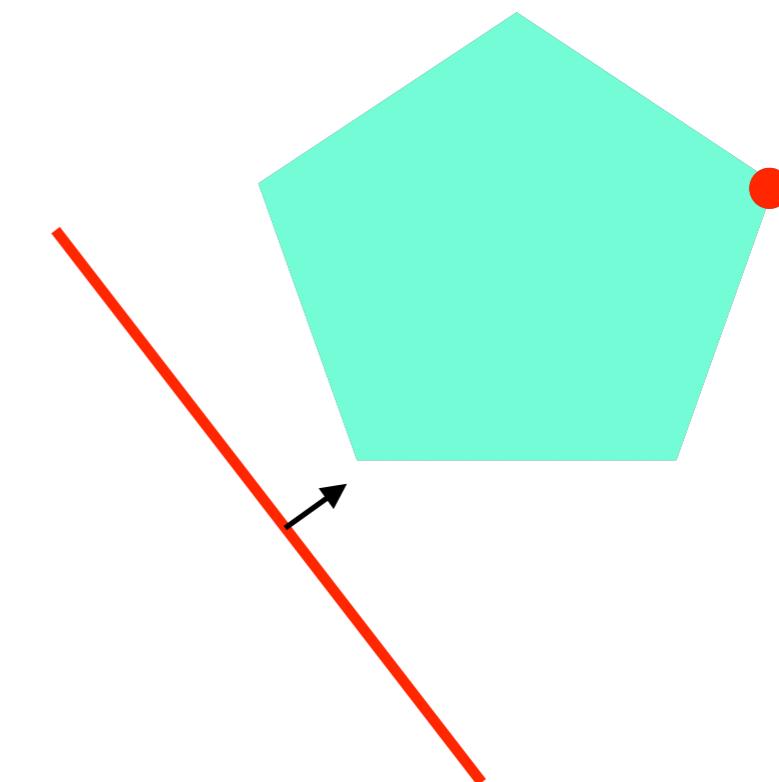


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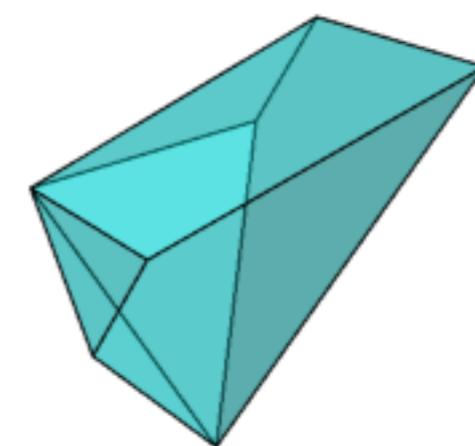
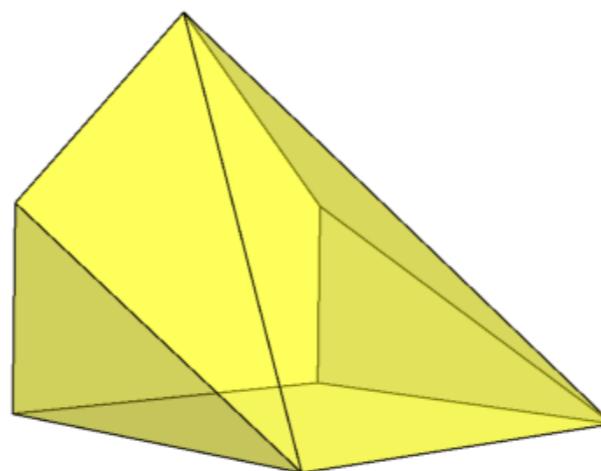
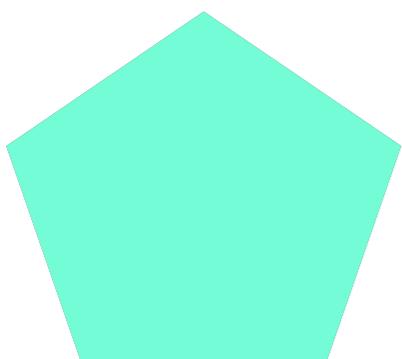
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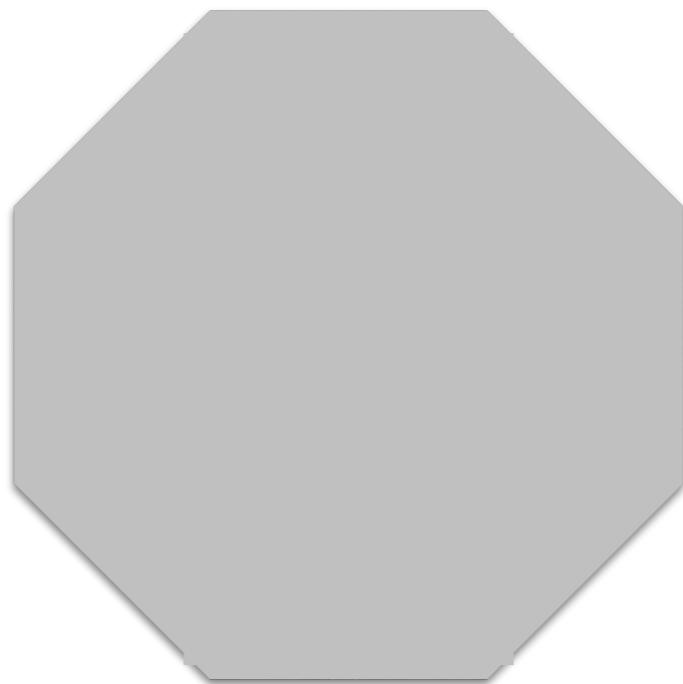


polyhedra: feasible regions of linear programs  
(slices of positive orthants by affine spaces)



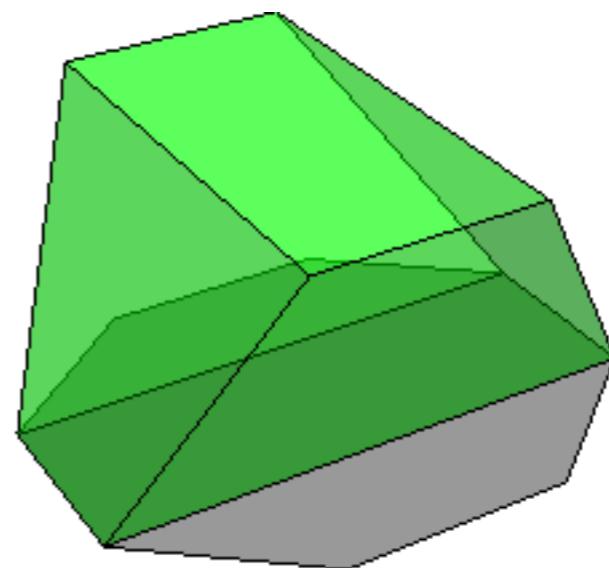
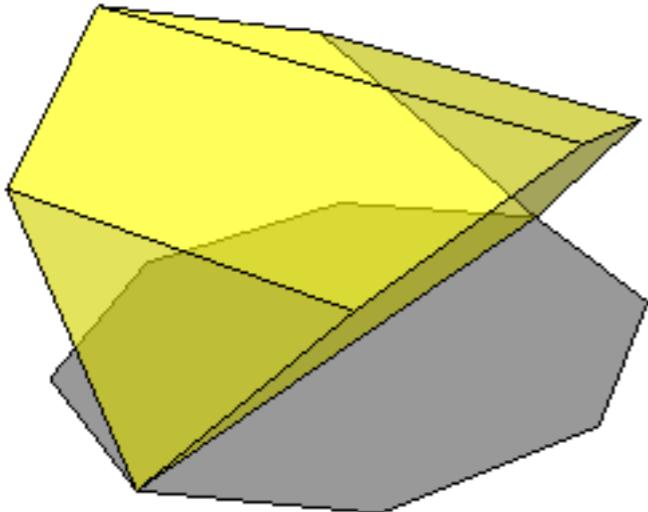
# Polygons

*What is the most efficient linear representation of an octagon?*



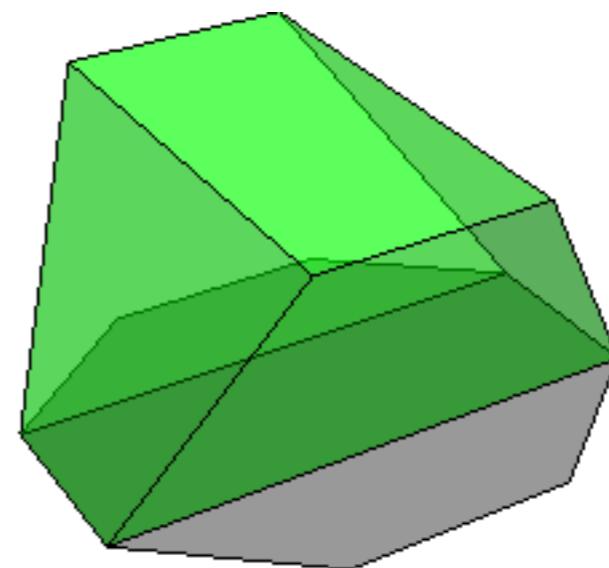
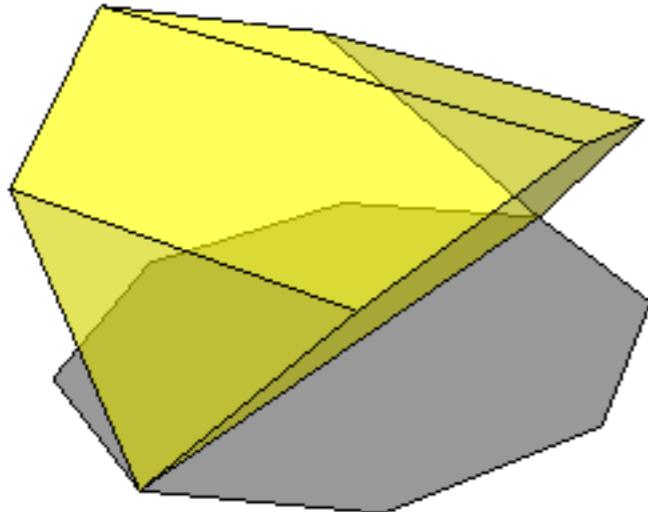
# Polygons

An octagon is the projection of a polytope with 6 facets!



# Polygons

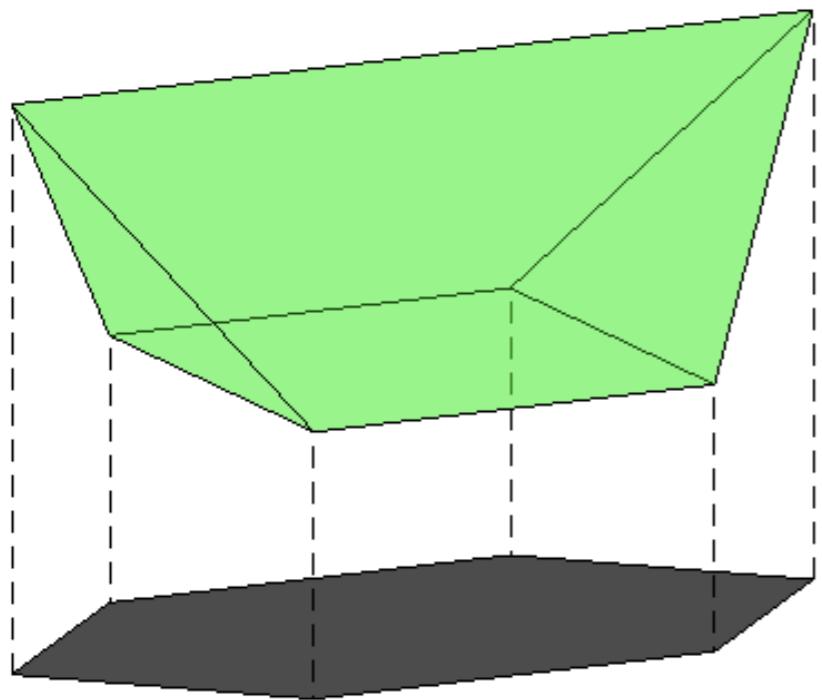
An octagon is the projection of a polytope with 6 facets.



**Ben-Tal Nemirovski (2001):** A regular  $2^n$ -gon is the projection of a polytope with  $2n + 4$  facets

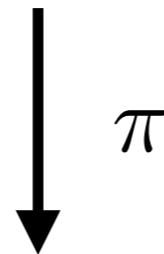
Now extended to all regular  $n$ -gons, need about  
 $2\lceil \log_2 n \rceil$  facets

# Polyhedral Lifts of Polytopes



lift of  $P$

affine slice of  
 $\mathbb{R}_+^m$

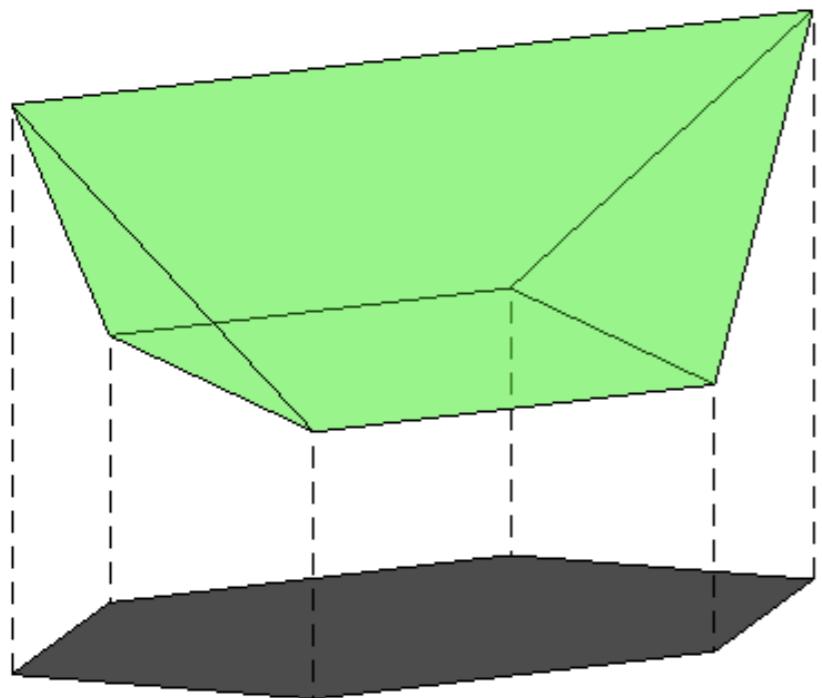


$P$

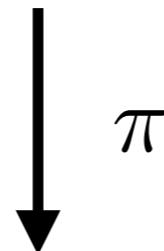
polytope

$$P = \pi(\mathbb{R}_+^m \cap L)$$

# Polyhedral Lifts of Polytopes



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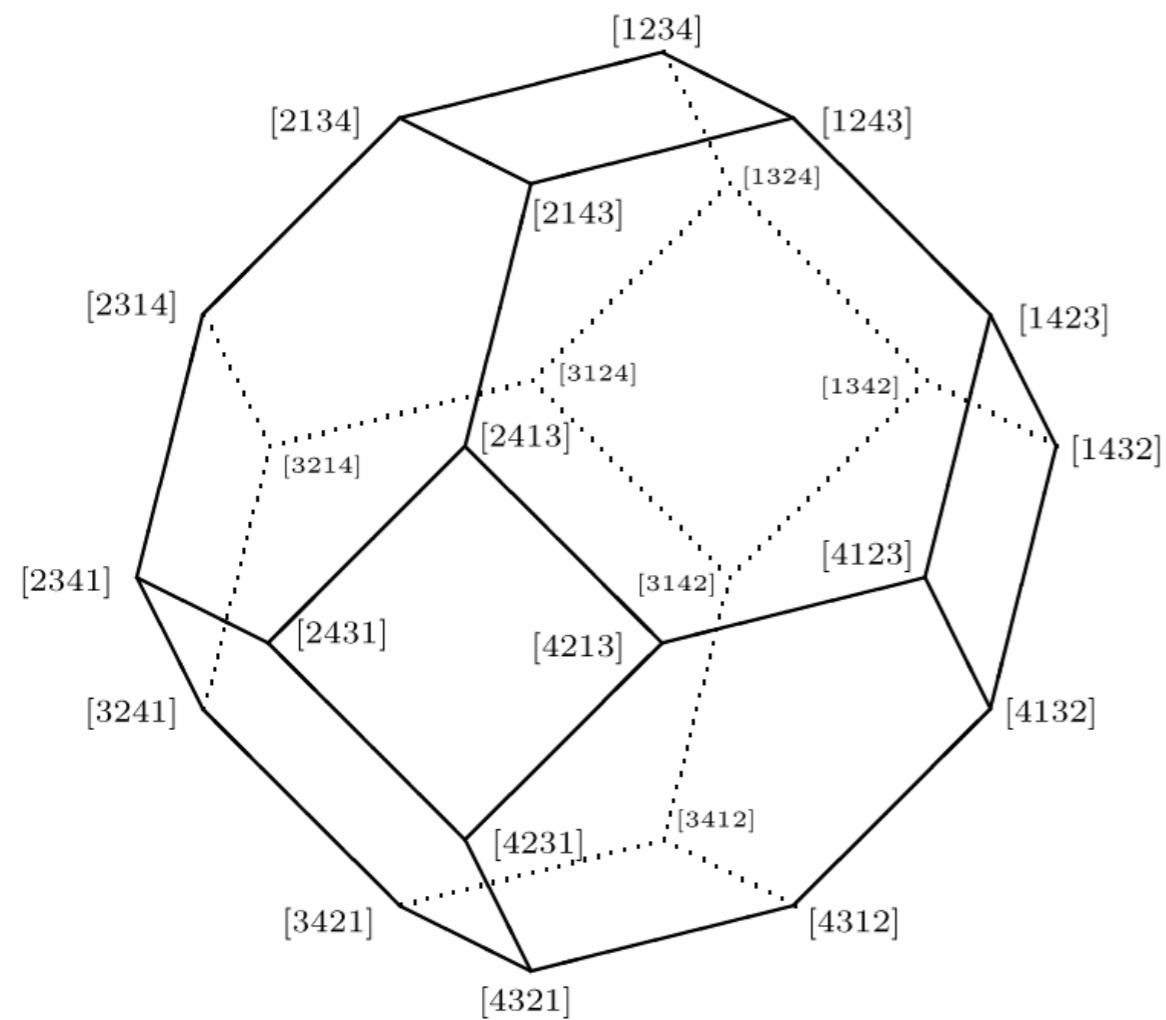
*Can optimize a linear function over the lift instead of over  $P$*

# Permutahedron

$$\Pi_n = \text{conv}(\text{permutations of } (1, 2, \dots, n))$$

$n!$  vertices

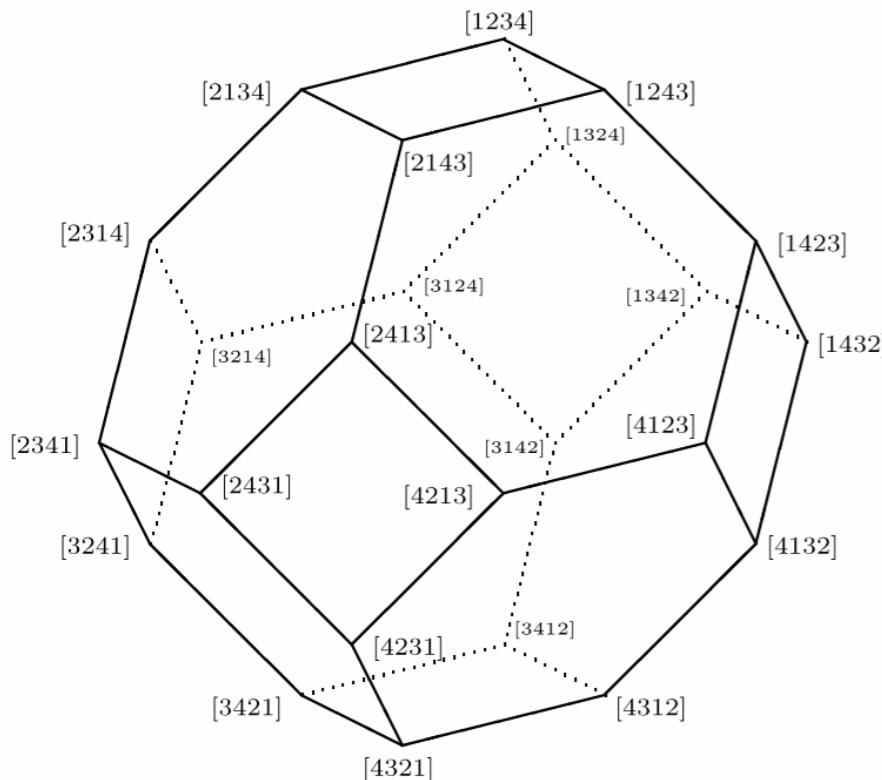
$2^n - 2$  facets



# Permutahedron

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$n!$  vertices  
 $2^n - 2$  facets



## Birkhoff polytope

$$B_n = \left\{ X \in \mathbf{R}^{n \times n} : \begin{array}{l} \sum_j X_{ij} = 1, \quad \forall i \in [n], \\ \sum_j X_{ij} = 1, \quad \forall j \in [n], \\ X_{ij} \geq 0 \quad \forall 1 \leq i, j \leq n \end{array} \right\}$$

*doubly stochastic matrices*

$$\Pi_n = \pi(B_n)$$

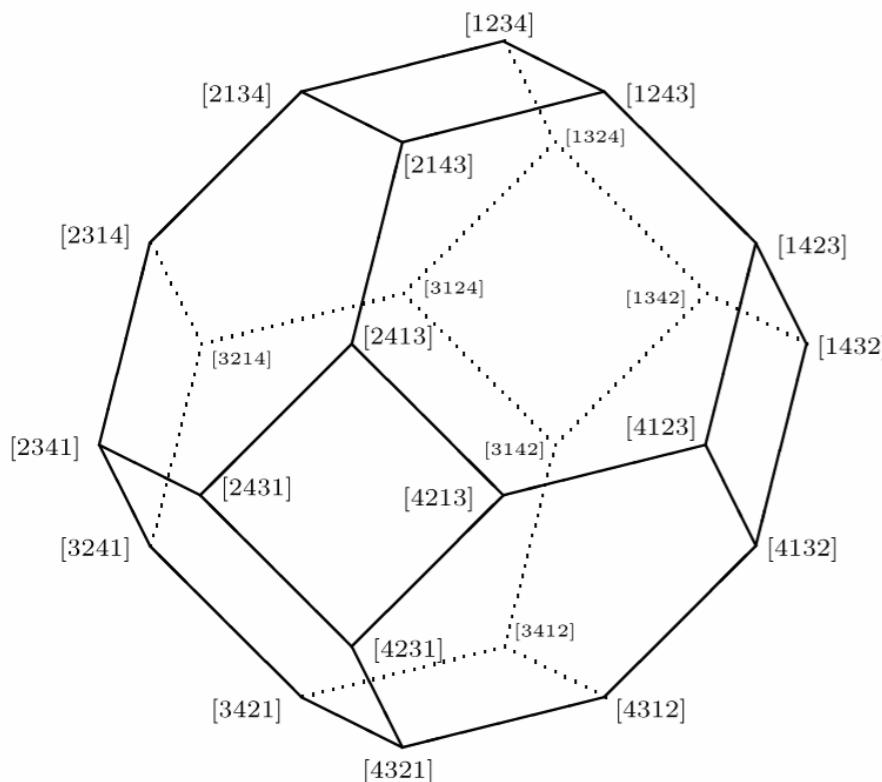
$O(n^2)$ -lift

# Permutahedron

$$\Pi_n = \text{conv}(\text{permutations of } (1, 2, \dots, n))$$

$n!$  vertices

$2^n - 2$  facets



**Goemans (2015):**  
 $\Pi_n$  has a  $O(n \log n)$ -lift

## Birkhoff polytope

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$$\Pi_n = \pi(B_n)$$

$O(n^2)$ -lift

*doubly stochastic matrices*

# Honeycomb lift of the Horn cone

$\text{Horn}(n) := \{(\lambda, \mu, \nu) \in (\mathbb{R}^n)^3 :$

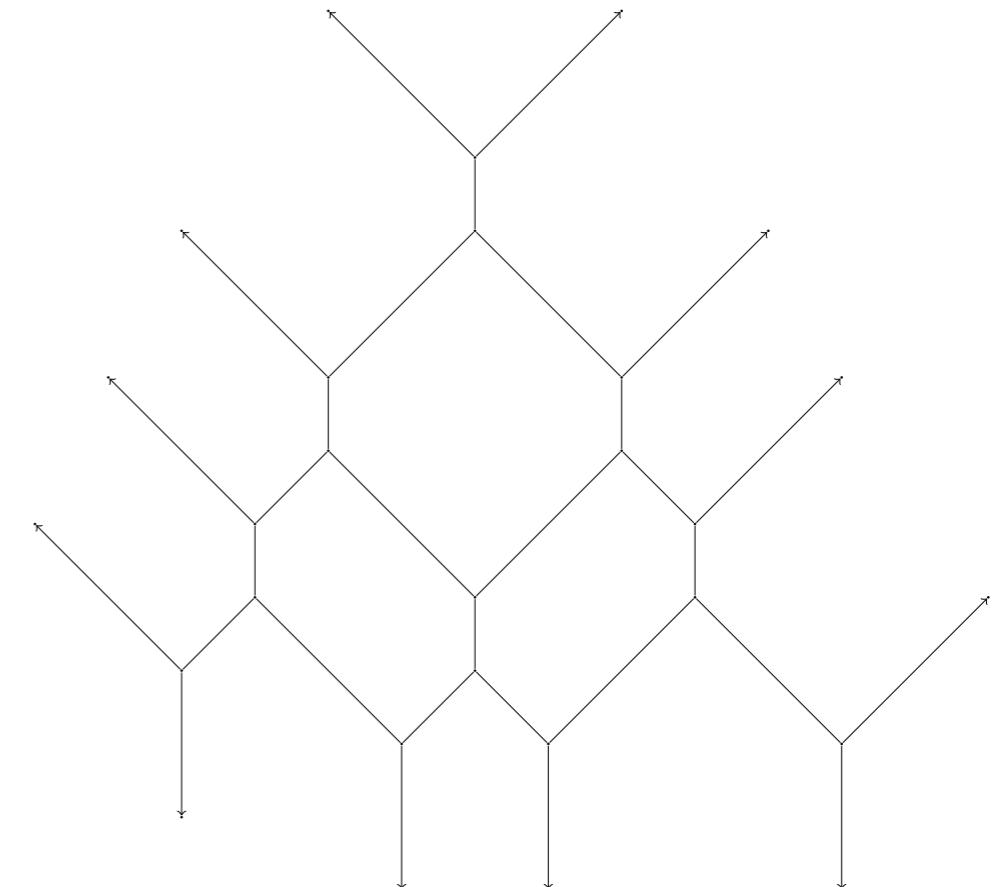
$\exists A, B$  Hermitian  $n \times n$  with

$\lambda = \text{eig}(A), \quad \mu = \text{eig}(B),$

$\nu = \text{eig}(-(A + B))\}$

Knutson-Tao (1999)

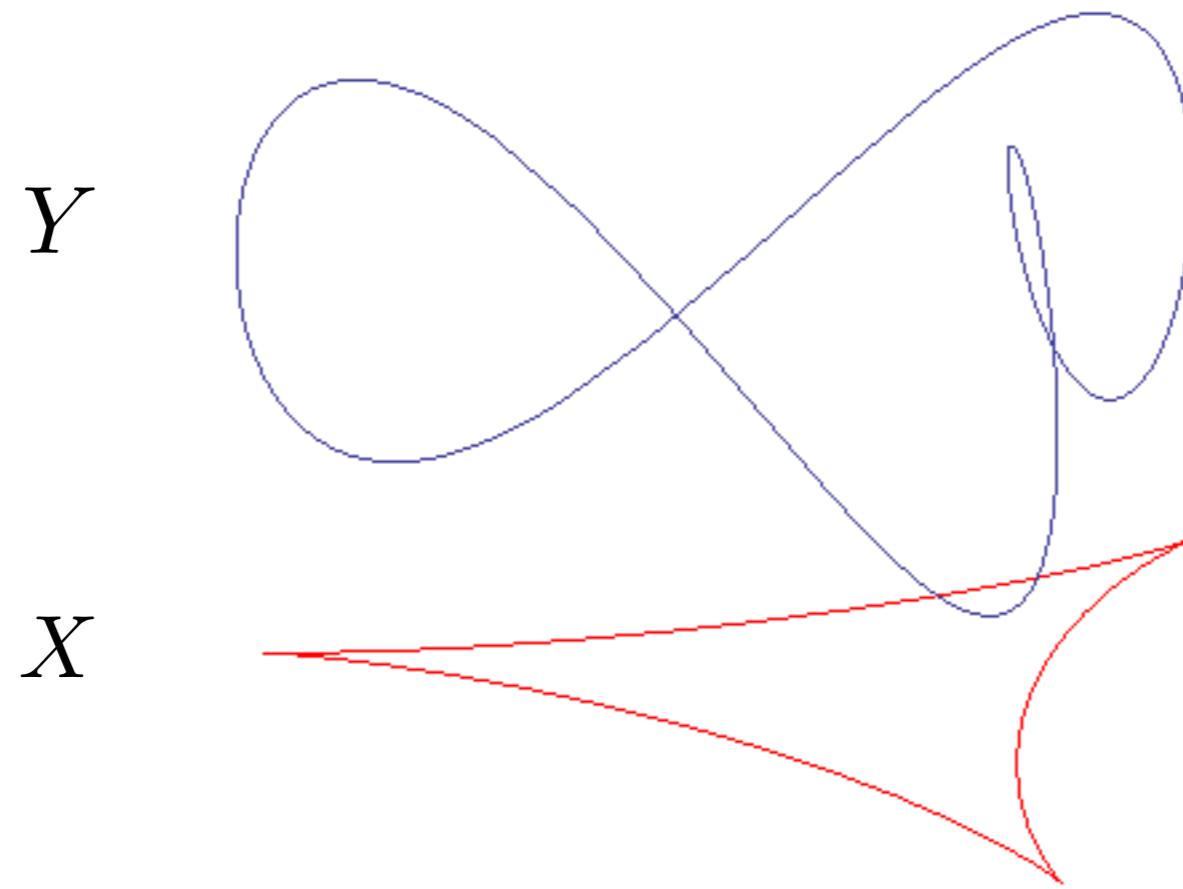
$O(n^2)$ -lift



- allows a polynomial time check whether a triple is a Horn triple
- connections to representation theory of  $GL(n)$

# Resolution of Singularities

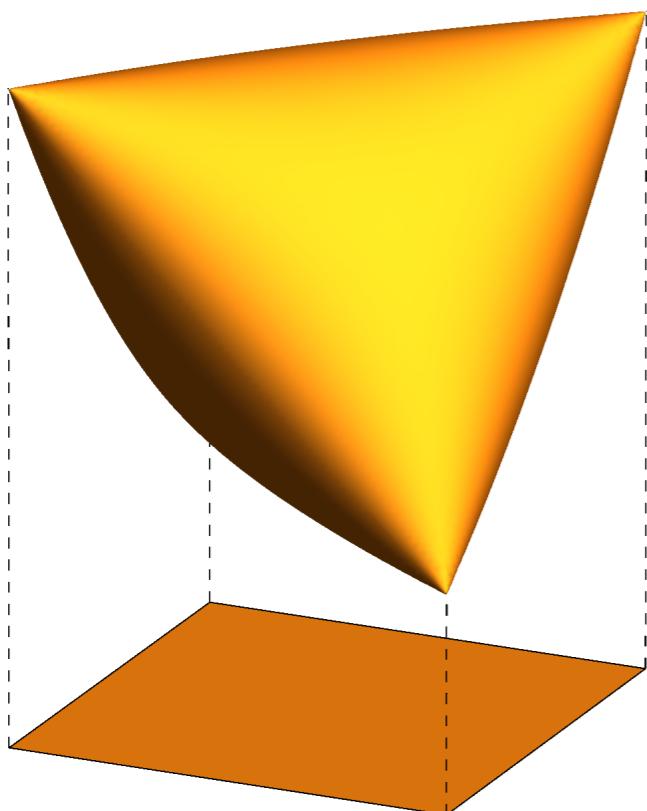
Hironaka (1964)



$$X = \{(1 + 2\cos(t) - 2\sin(t)^2, 2\sin(t) - 2\sin(t)\cos(t)) : t \in [0, 2\pi]\}$$

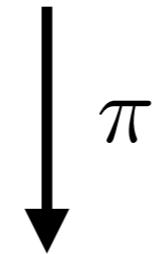
$$Y = \{(1 + 2\cos(t) - 2\sin(t)^2, 2\sin(t) - 2\sin(t)\cos(t), \sin(3t)) : t \in [0, 2\pi]\}$$

# Conic Lifts of Convex Sets



lift of  $C$

affine slice of a  
closed convex cone  
 $K$



$$C = \pi(K \cap L)$$

$C$

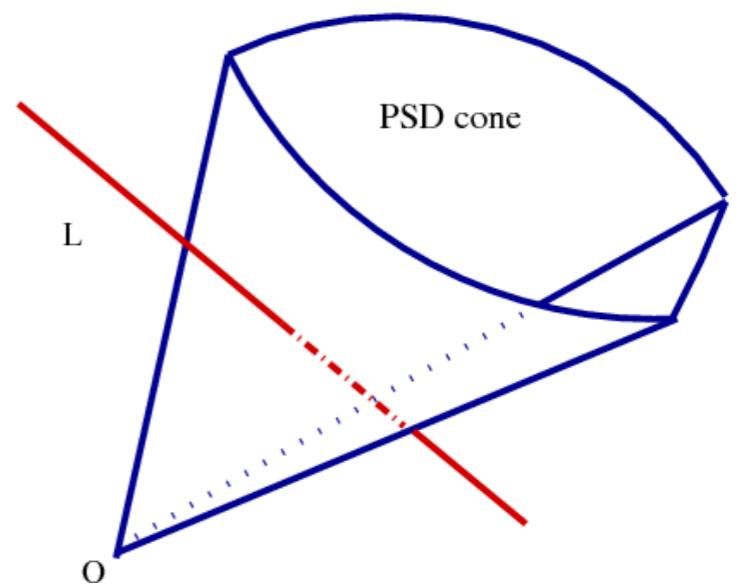
convex set

# Semidefinite Programming

psd cone:  $\mathcal{S}_+^n = \{n \times n \text{ psd matrices}\}$

semidefinite program:

$$\begin{aligned} \max \quad & C \cdot X \\ \text{subject to} \quad & A_i \cdot X = b_i \quad i = 1, \dots, m \\ & X \succeq 0 \end{aligned}$$

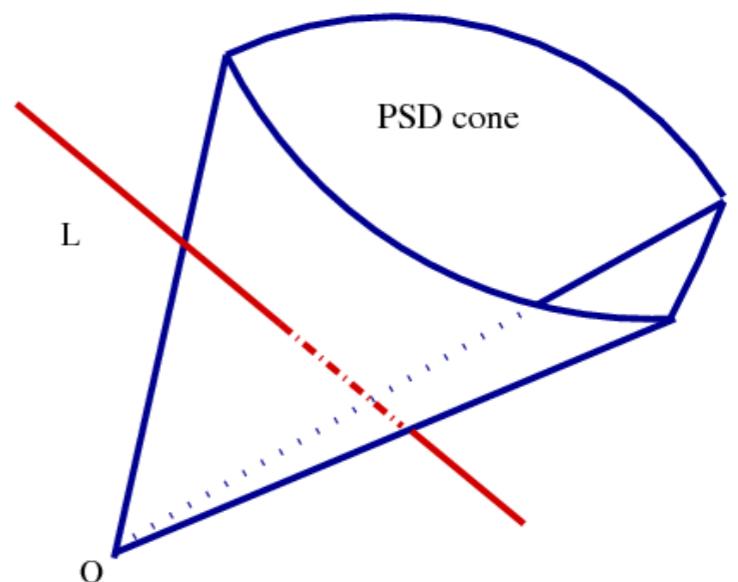


# Semidefinite Programming

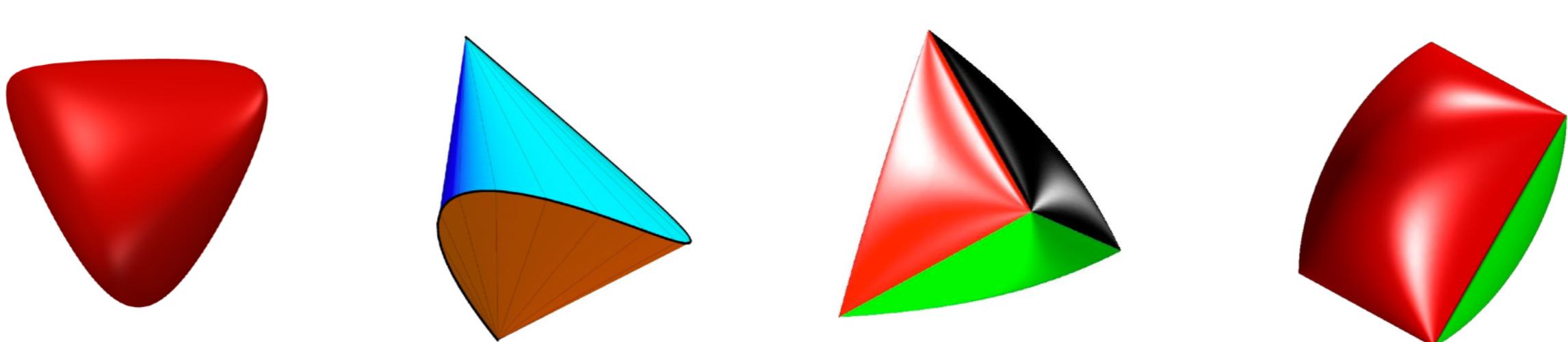
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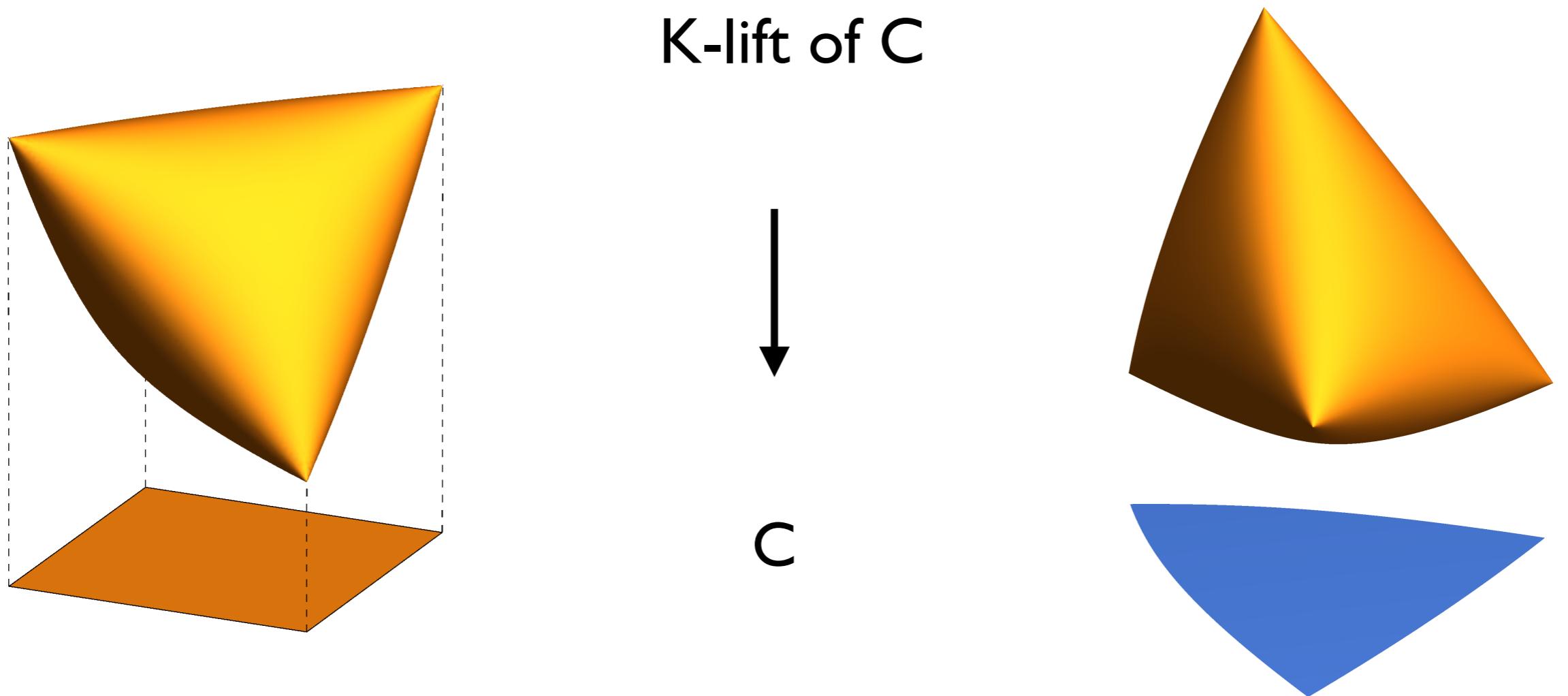
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spectrahedra: feasible regions of semidefinite programs  
(slices of the psd cone by affine spaces)

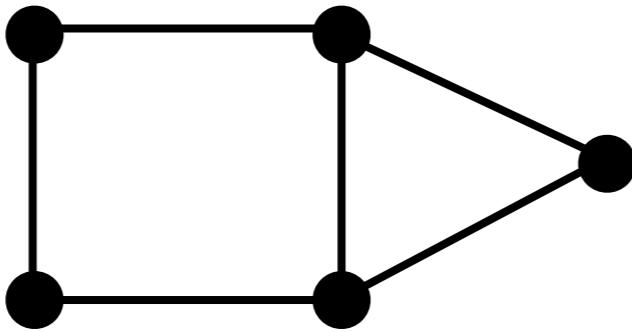


# Spectrahedral Lifts of Convex Sets

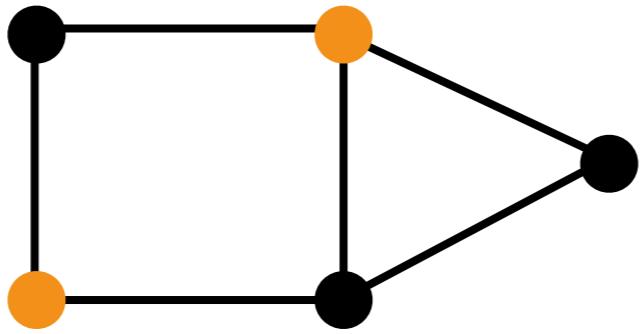


$$K = \mathcal{S}_+^m$$

$$G = ([n], E)$$

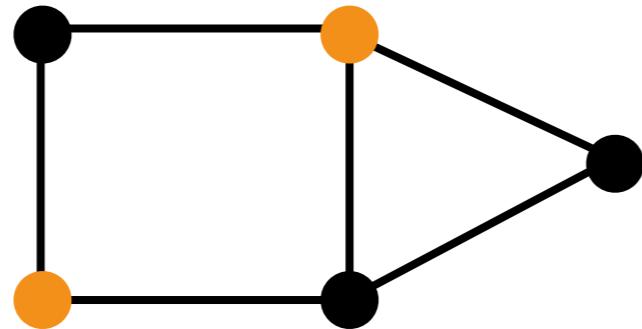


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$S \subseteq [n]$  is stable if  
 $\forall i, j \in S, ij \notin E$

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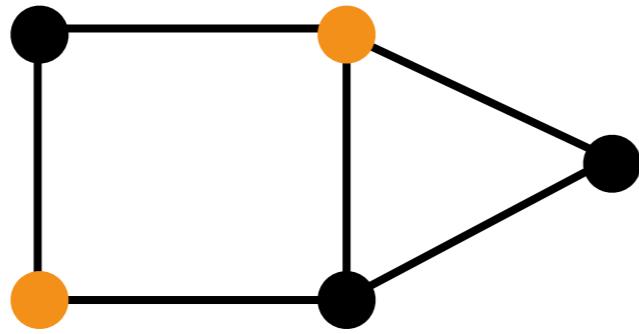


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Stable set problem:

$$\max \{|S| : S \text{ stable set in } G\}$$

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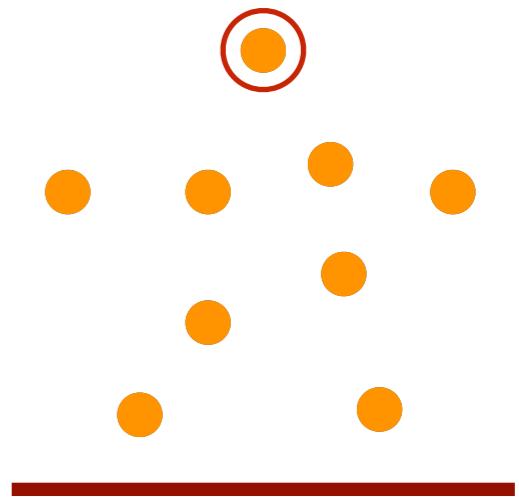
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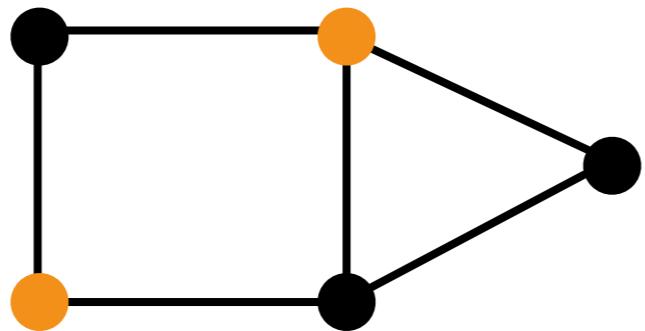
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$$S \leftrightarrow \chi^S \quad \text{where} \quad (\chi^S)_i = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } i \in S \\ 0 & \text{if } i \notin S \end{cases}$$

$$\max \left\{ \sum_{i \in [n]} x_i : \begin{array}{ll} x_i^2 = x_i & \forall i \in [n] \\ x_i x_j = 0 & \forall ij \in E \end{array} \right\}$$



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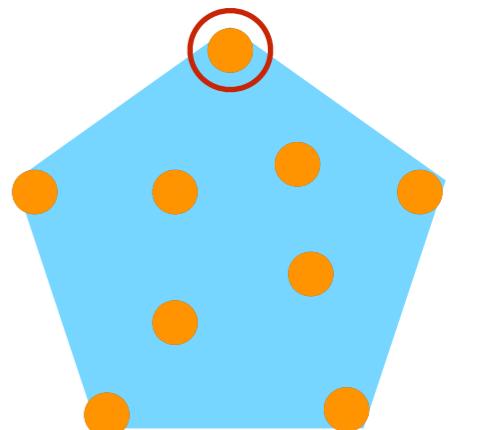
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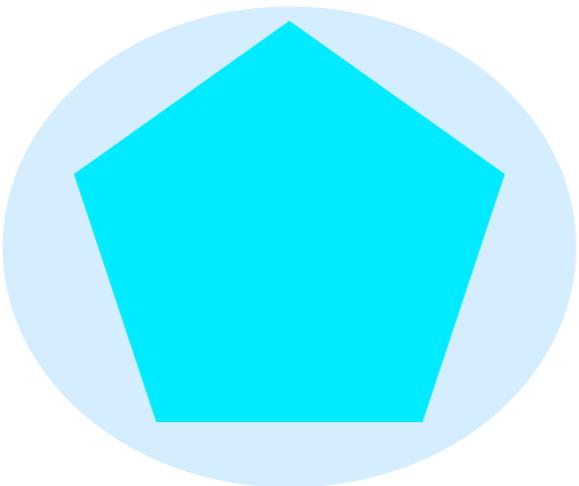
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$$= \max \left\{ \sum_{i \in [n]} x_i : x \in \underbrace{\text{conv}\{\chi^S : S \text{ stable}\}}_{\text{STAB}(G)} \right\}$$

# Lovàsz theta body of a graph

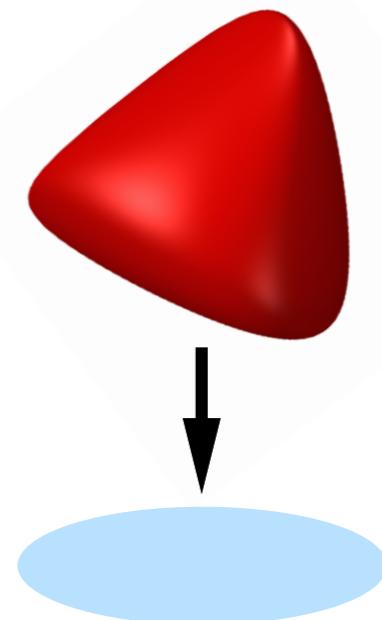
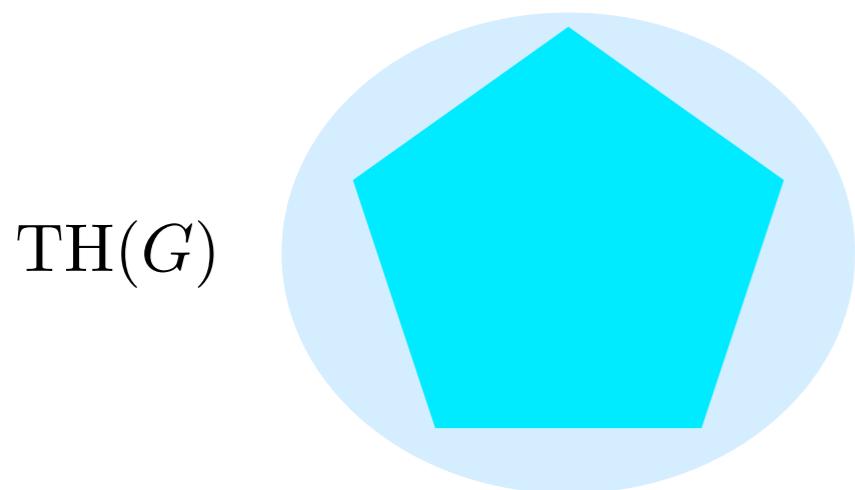
$\text{TH}(G)$



**Lovàsz ('79):**  $\text{TH}(G) = \left\{ x \in \mathbf{R}^n : \exists U \text{ s.t. } \begin{pmatrix} 1 & x^\top \\ x & U \end{pmatrix} \succeq 0 \right\}$

$$U_{ii} = x_i \quad \forall i, \quad U_{ij} = 0 \quad \forall ij \in E$$

# Lovàsz theta body of a graph

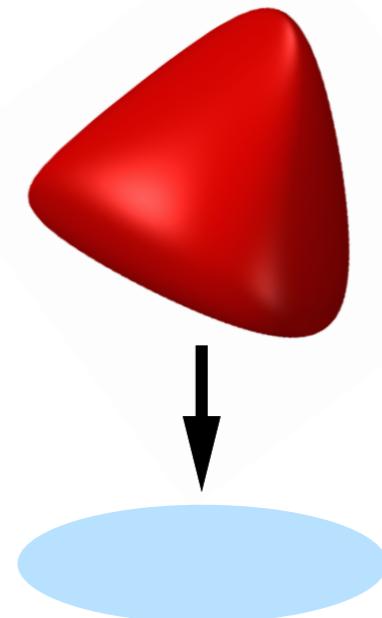
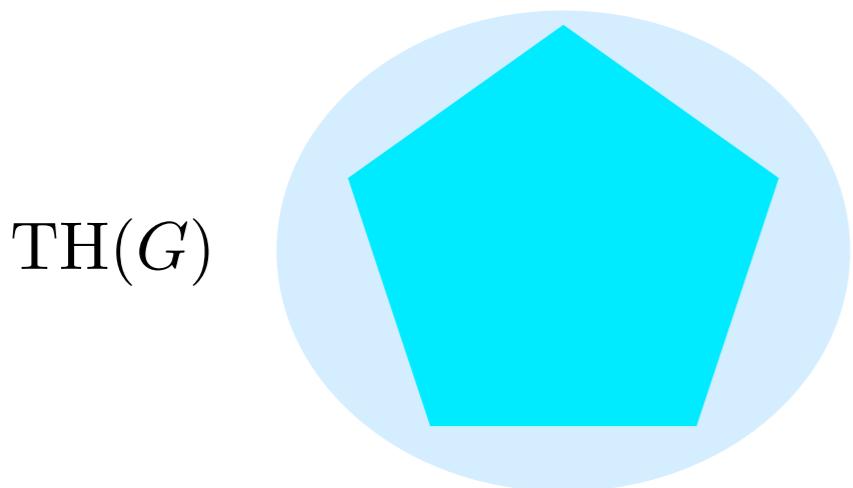


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**Geometry:**  $\text{TH}(G)$  is the projection of a spectrahedron

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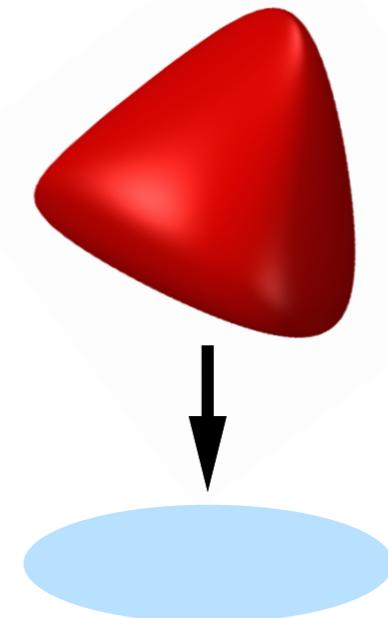
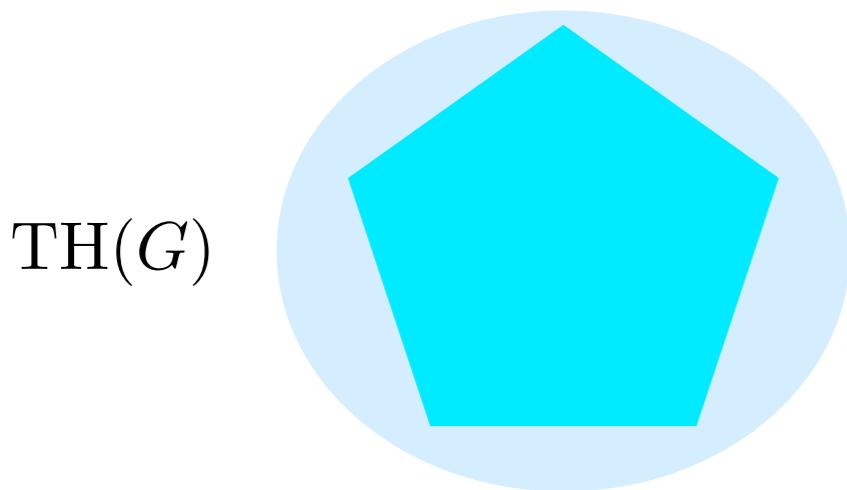
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**Complexity:** Can optimize over  $\text{TH}(G)$  in polynomial time using semidefinite programming

# Lovàsz theta body of a graph



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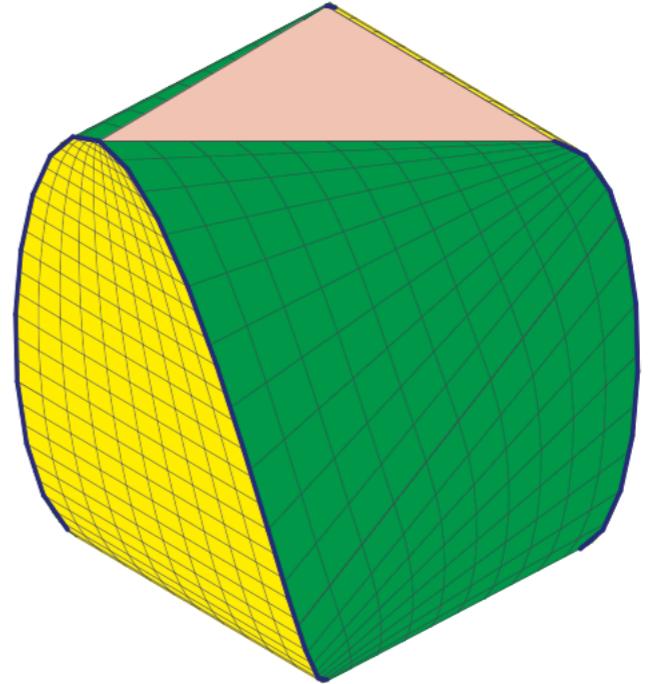
**Exactness:**  $\text{STAB}(G) = \text{TH}(G) \Leftrightarrow G$  perfect graph

## Ranestad-Sturmfels (2010)

$$C = \text{conv}(\cos(\theta), \sin(2\theta), \cos(3\theta))$$

boundary consists of

- 2 triangles
- a cubic surface
- surface of degree 16 (green)

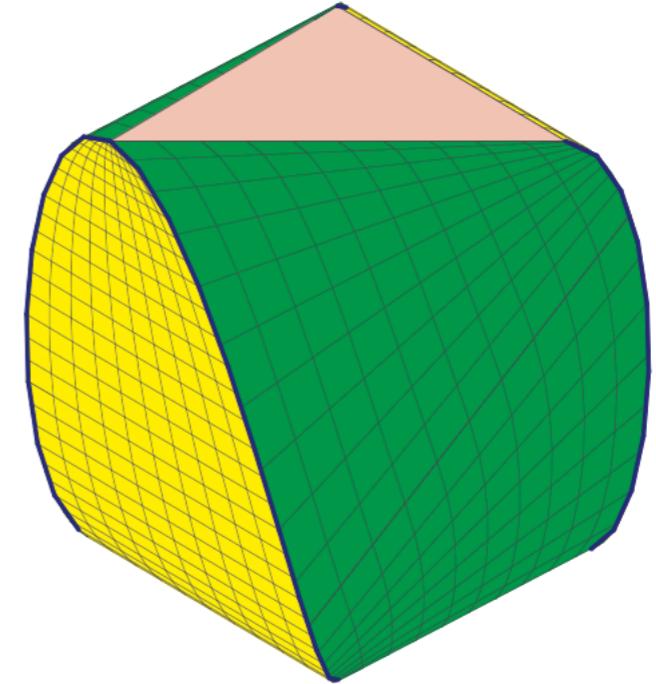


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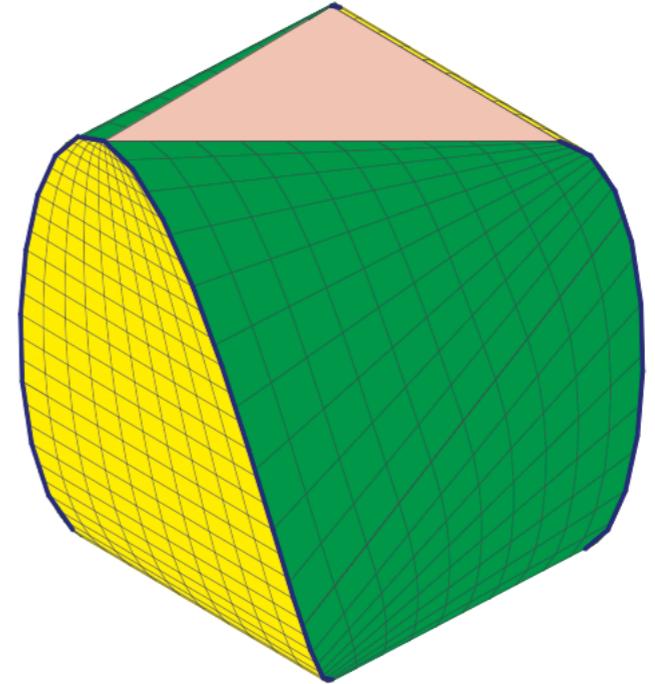
$$\begin{aligned}
 & 1024x^{16} - 12032x^{14}y^2 + 52240x^{12}y^4 - 96960x^{10}y^6 + 56160x^8y^8 + 19008x^6y^{10} + 1296x^4y^{12} + 6144x^{15}z - 14080x^{13}y^2z \\
 & - 72000x^{11}y^4z + 149440x^9y^6z + 79680x^7y^8z + 7488x^5y^{10}z + 15360x^{14}z^2 + 36352x^{12}y^2z^2 + 151392x^{10}y^4z^2 + 131264x^8y^6z^2 \\
 & + 18016x^6y^8z^2 + 20480x^{13}z^3 + 73216x^{11}y^2z^3 + 105664x^9y^4z^3 + 23104x^7y^6z^3 + 15360x^{12}z^4 + 41216x^{10}y^2z^4 + 16656x^8y^4z^4 \\
 & + 6144x^{11}z^5 + 6400x^9y^2z^5 + 1024x^{10}z^6 - 26048x^{14} - 135688x^{12}y^2 + 178752x^{10}y^4 + 124736x^8y^6 - 210368x^6y^8 + 792x^4y^{10} \\
 & + 5184x^2y^{12} + 432y^{14} - 77888x^{13}z + 292400x^{11}y^2z + 10688x^9y^4z - 492608x^7y^6z - 67680x^5y^8z + 21456x^3y^{10}z + 2592xy^{12}z \\
 & - 81600x^{12}z^2 - 65912x^{10}y^2z^2 - 464256x^8y^4z^2 - 192832x^6y^6z^2 + 31488x^4y^8z^2 + 6552x^2y^{10}z^2 - 40768x^{11}z^3 - 194400x^9y^2z^3 \\
 & - 196224x^7y^4z^3 + 14912x^5y^6z^3 + 8992x^3y^8z^3 - 20800x^{10}z^4 - 84088x^8y^2z^4 - 7360x^6y^4z^4 + 7168x^4y^6z^4 - 12480x^9z^5 \\
 & - 9680x^7y^2z^5 + 3264x^5y^4z^5 - 2624x^8z^6 + 760x^6y^2z^6 + 64x^7z^7 + 189649x^{12} + 104700x^{10}y^2 - 568266x^8y^4 + 268820x^6y^6 \\
 & + 118497x^4y^8 - 42984x^2y^{10} - 432y^{12} + 62344x^{11}z - 592996x^9y^2z + 421980x^7y^4z + 377780x^5y^6z - 79748x^3y^8z - 18288xy^{10}z \\
 & + 104620x^{10}z^2 + 56876x^8y^2z^2 + 480890x^6y^4z^2 - 12440x^4y^6z^2 - 51354x^2y^8z^2 - 936y^{10}z^2 + 35096x^9z^3 + 181132x^7y^2z^3 \\
 & + 73800x^5y^4z^3 - 52792x^3y^6z^3 - 3780xy^8z^3 - 6730x^8z^4 + 52596x^6y^2z^4 - 19062x^4y^4z^4 - 5884x^2y^6z^4 + y^8z^4 + 6008x^7z^5 \\
 & + 2516x^5y^2z^5 - 4324x^3y^4z^5 + 4xy^6z^5 + 2380x^6z^6 - 1436x^4y^2z^6 + 6x^2y^4z^6 - 152x^5z^7 + 4x^3y^2z^7 + x^4z^8 - 305250x^{10} \\
 & + 313020x^8y^2 + 174078x^6y^4 - 291720x^4y^6 + 74880x^2y^8 + 84400x^9z + 278676x^7y^2z - 420468x^5y^4z + 20576x^3y^6z + 40704xy^8z \\
 & - 25880x^8z^2 - 76516x^6y^2z^2 - 148254x^4y^4z^2 + 77840x^2y^6z^2 + 5248y^8z^2 - 29808x^7z^3 - 49388x^5y^2z^3 + 23080x^3y^4z^3 \\
 & + 14560xy^6z^3 + 14420x^6z^4 - 7852x^4y^2z^4 + 9954x^2y^4z^4 + 568y^6z^4 + 848x^5z^5 + 92x^3y^2z^5 + 1164xy^4z^5 - 984x^4z^6 + 724x^2y^2z^6 \\
 & - 2y^4z^6 + 112x^3z^7 - 4xy^2z^7 - 2x^2z^8 + 140625x^8 - 270000x^6y^2 + 172800x^4y^4 - 36864x^2y^6 - 75000x^7z + 36000x^5y^2z \\
 & + 46080x^3y^4z - 24576xy^6z - 12500x^6z^2 + 49200x^4y^2z^2 - 19968x^2y^4z^2 - 4096y^6z^2 + 15000x^5z^3 - 10560x^3y^2z^3 \\
 & - 3072xy^4z^3 - 2250x^4z^4 - 1872x^2y^2z^4 + 768y^4z^4 - 520x^3z^5 + 672xy^2z^5 + 204x^2z^6 - 48y^2z^6 - 24xz^7 + z^8.
 \end{aligned}$$

## Ranestad-Sturmfels (2010)

$$C = \text{conv}(\cos(\theta), \sin(2\theta), \cos(3\theta))$$

boundary consists of

- 2 triangles
- a cubic surface
- surface of degree 16 (green)



$C$  is the linear image of a spectrahedron

$$\left\{ (x, y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^3 \mid \exists u, v, w \in \mathbb{R} : \begin{pmatrix} 1 & x + ui & v + yi & z + wi \\ x - ui & 1 & x + ui & v + yi \\ v - yi & x - vi & 1 & x + ui \\ z - wi & v - yi & x - ui & 1 \end{pmatrix} \succeq 0 \right\}.$$

# Polyhedral lifts of polytopes

Given

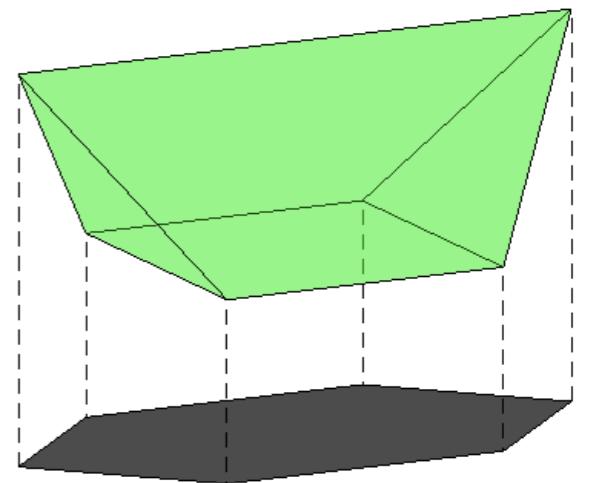
$$P \subset \mathbb{R}^n \quad K = \mathbb{R}_+^m$$

*polytope*

when is

$$P = \pi(K \cap L)?$$

$$\pi \quad \text{linear map} \quad L \quad \text{affine space}$$

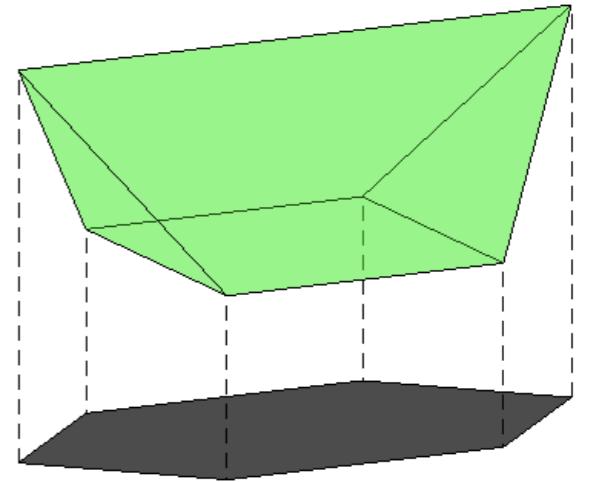


# Polyhedral lifts of polytopes

Given  $P \subset \mathbb{R}^n$        $K = \mathbb{R}_+^m$   
*polytope*

when is  $P = \pi(K \cap L)$ ?

$\pi$     *linear map*       $L$     *affine space*



$$P = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : Fx \leq d\}$$

$v$  vertices       $f$  facets

$$S_P = \begin{pmatrix} & & & \\ & \vdots & & \\ \cdots & d_j - f_j^\top v_i & \cdots & \\ & \vdots & & \\ & & & \end{pmatrix}_{v \times f} v_i$$

*slack matrix of  $P$*

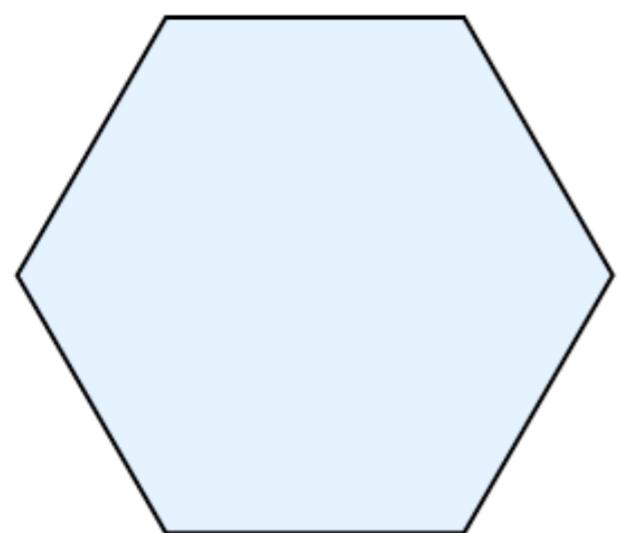
$$d_j - f_j^\top x \geq 0$$

$$P = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : Fx \leq d\}$$

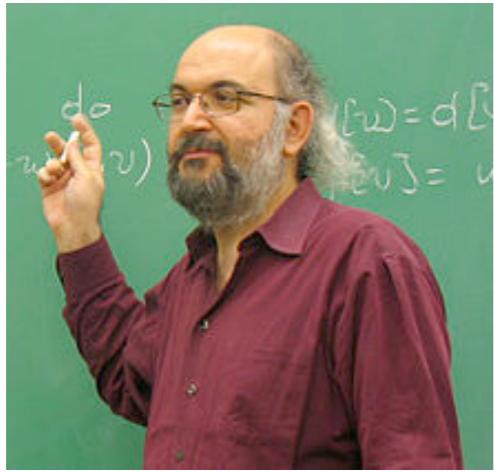
$v$  vertices       $f$  facets

$$S_P = \begin{pmatrix} & & & & \vdots & \\ \cdots & & d_j - f_j^\top v_i & & \cdots & \\ & & & & \vdots & \\ & & & & & \end{pmatrix}_{v \times f} v_i$$

*slack matrix of  $P$*



$$\longrightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 & 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 2 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 2 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 2 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$



## Yannakakis' Theorem

$$K = \mathbb{R}_+^m$$

$K$ -factorization of  $S_P$

$$a_1, \dots, a_v \in K$$

$$b_1, \dots, b_f \in K^*$$

$$\text{s.t. } \langle a_i, b_j \rangle = d_j - f_j^\top v_i$$

$$K^* = \{y : \langle y, x \rangle \geq 0 \ \forall x \in K\}$$

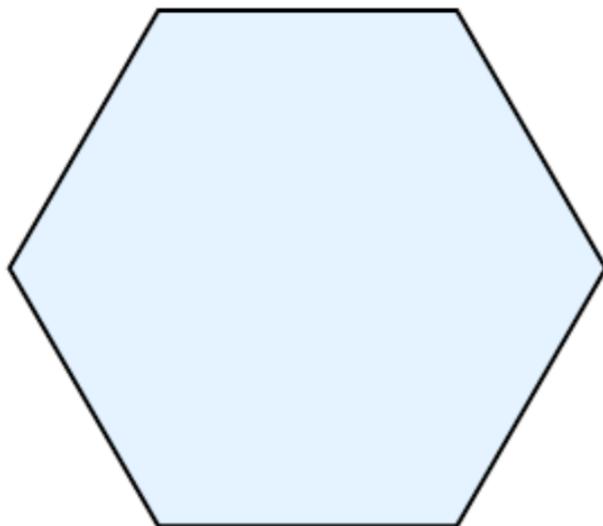
$\mathbb{R}_+^m$ -factorization

**nonnegative factorization**

Yannakakis (1991):

$P$  has a  $\mathbb{R}_+^m$ -lift  $\Leftrightarrow S_P$  has a  $\mathbb{R}_+^m$ -factorization

## Regular Hexagon

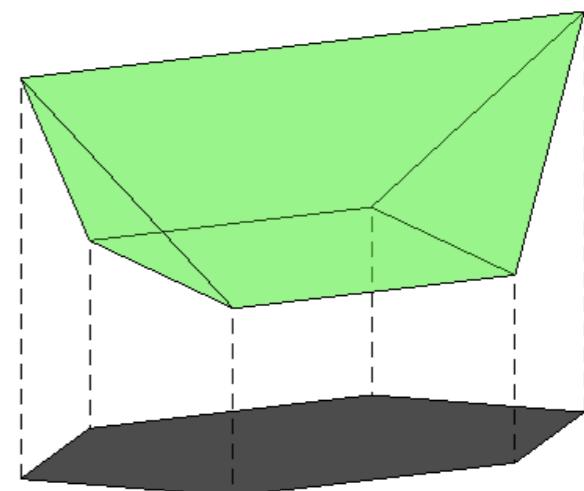


$$\begin{array}{lllll}
 x & + & y/\sqrt{3} & \leq & 1 \\
 & & 2y/\sqrt{3} & \leq & 1 \\
 -x & + & y/\sqrt{3} & \leq & 1 \\
 -x & - & y/\sqrt{3} & \leq & 1 \\
 & - & 2y/\sqrt{3} & \leq & 1 \\
 x & - & y/\sqrt{3} & \leq & 1
 \end{array}$$

$$S := \left( \begin{array}{cccccc}
 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 & 2 & 1 \\
 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 & 2 \\
 2 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 \\
 2 & 2 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\
 1 & 2 & 2 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\
 0 & 1 & 2 & 2 & 1 & 0
 \end{array} \right) = \left( \begin{array}{ccccc}
 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\
 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\
 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 \\
 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\
 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\
 0 & 0 & 2 & 1 & 0
 \end{array} \right) \left( \begin{array}{cccccc}
 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 & 1 \\
 1 & 2 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\
 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\
 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1
 \end{array} \right)$$

regular hexagon has a  $\mathbb{R}_+^5$ -lift

$$\left\{ y \in \mathbb{R}_+^5 : \begin{array}{l} y_1 + y_2 + y_3 + y_5 = 2 \\ y_3 + y_4 + y_5 = 1 \end{array} \right\}$$



# Lifts of convex sets

Gouveia-Parrilo-T. (2011)

Given

$$C \subset \mathbb{R}^n$$

*convex set*

$$K \subset \mathbb{R}^m$$

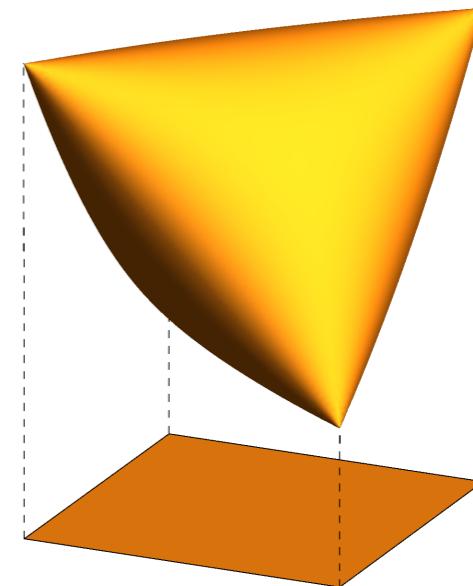
*convex cone*

when is

$$C = \pi(K \cap L)?$$

$\pi$  *linear map*

$L$  *affine space*

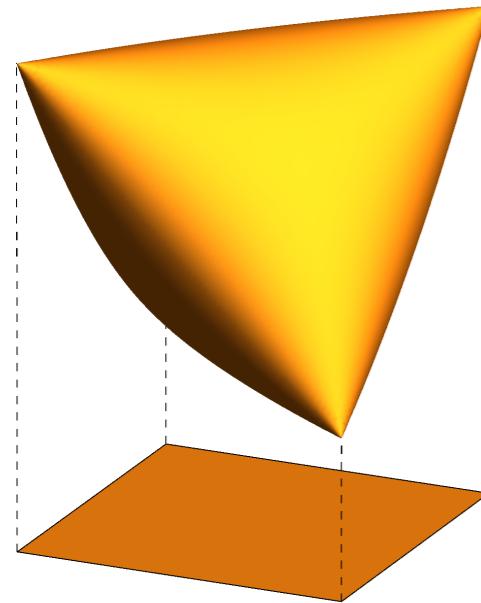


Theorem GPT (2011):

$C$  has a  $K$ -lift  $\Leftrightarrow S_C$  has a  $K$ -factorization.

*generalizes Yannakakis theorem*

# Spectrahedral Lift of a Square



$$P = \left\{ (x, y) \in \mathbf{R}^2 : \begin{pmatrix} 1 & x & y \\ x & 1 & z \\ y & z & 1 \end{pmatrix} \succeq 0 \right\}$$

$$S_P = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$A : \quad \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 & -1 \\ -1 & -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 & -1 \\ -1 & 1 & 1 \\ -1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 & 1 \\ -1 & 1 & -1 \\ 1 & -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$B : \quad \frac{1}{4} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 & 0 \\ -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \frac{1}{4} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \frac{1}{4} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \frac{1}{4} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{slack operator: } S_C : \text{ext}(C) \times \text{ext}(C^\circ) \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$$
$$(x, y) \mapsto 1 - \langle x, y \rangle$$

$$C^\circ = \{y : \langle x, y \rangle \leq 1 \ \forall x \in C\}$$

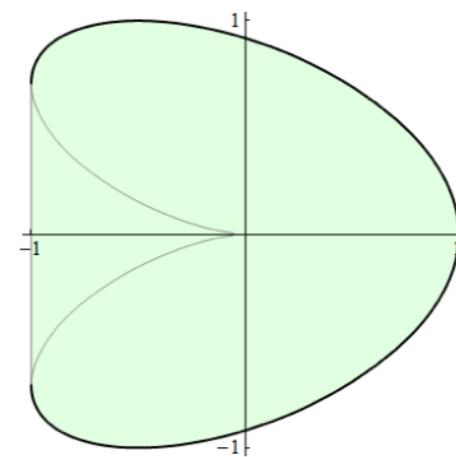
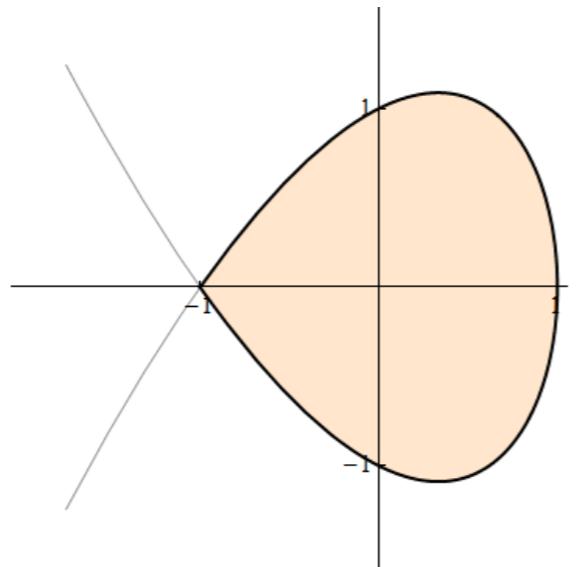
*slack operator:*  $S_C : \text{ext}(C) \times \text{ext}(C^\circ) \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$

$$(x, y) \mapsto 1 - \langle x, y \rangle$$

$$C^\circ = \{y : \langle x, y \rangle \leq 1 \ \forall x \in C\}$$

$$(1 - t^2, 2t - t^3)$$

$$t \in [-\sqrt{2}, \sqrt{2}]$$

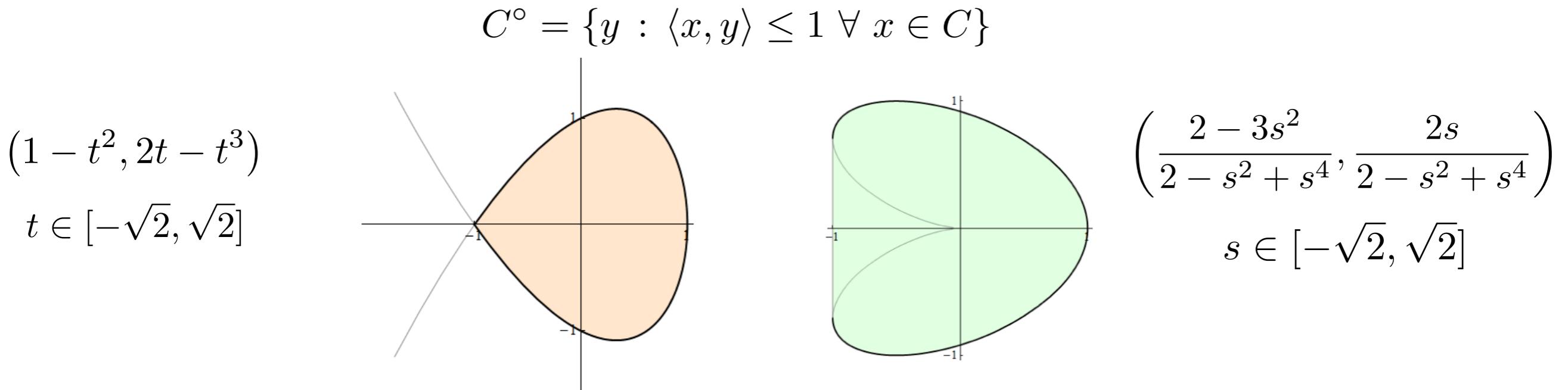


$$\left( \frac{2 - 3s^2}{2 - s^2 + s^4}, \frac{2s}{2 - s^2 + s^4} \right)$$

$$s \in [-\sqrt{2}, \sqrt{2}]$$

*slack operator:*  $S_C : \text{ext}(C) \times \text{ext}(C^\circ) \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$

$$(x, y) \mapsto 1 - \langle x, y \rangle$$



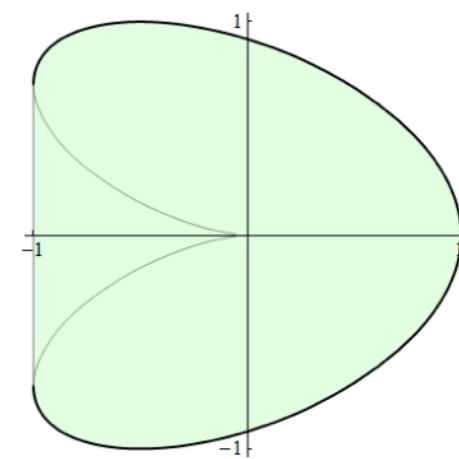
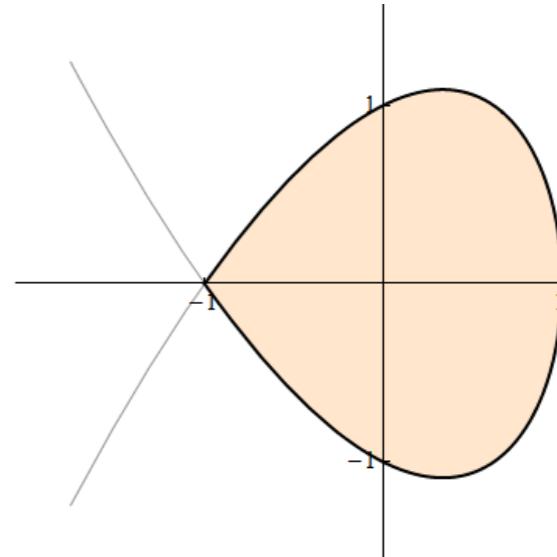
$$s_C : [-\sqrt{2}, \sqrt{2}] \times [-\sqrt{2}, \sqrt{2}] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$$

$$s_C(s, t) = 1 - \frac{(2 - 3s^2)(1 - t^2) + 2s(2t - t^3))}{2 - s^2 + s^4}$$

$$= \frac{(2 - t^2)(t - s)^2 + (s^2 - t^2)^2}{s^4 + (2 - s^2)}$$

$S_C$  is  $K$ -factorizable if  $\exists A : \text{ext}(C) \rightarrow K, B : \text{ext}(C^\circ) \rightarrow K^*$  s.t.

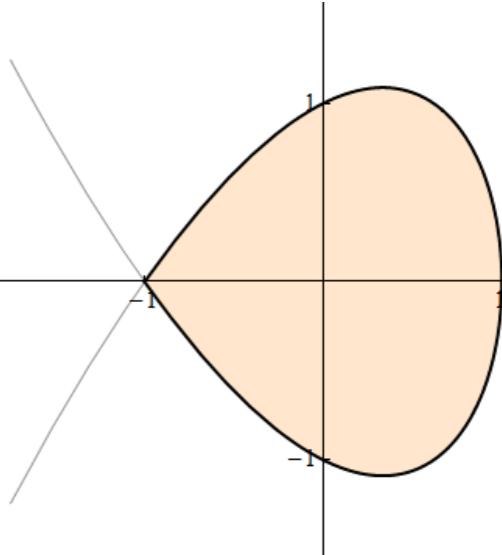
$$S_C(x, y) = 1 - \langle x, y \rangle = \langle A(x), B(y) \rangle$$



$S_C$  is  $K$ -factorizable if  $\exists A : \text{ext}(C) \rightarrow K, B : \text{ext}(C^\circ) \rightarrow K^*$  s.t.

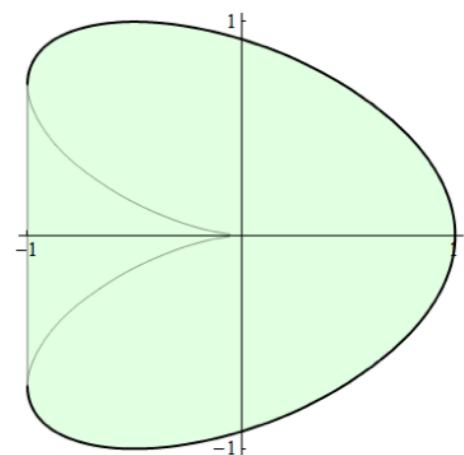
$$S_C(x, y) = 1 - \langle x, y \rangle = \langle A(x), B(y) \rangle$$

$$A(t) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1-t^2 \\ 0 & 2-t^2 & t(2-t^2) \\ 1-t^2 & t(2-t^2) & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \leftarrow \quad t$$



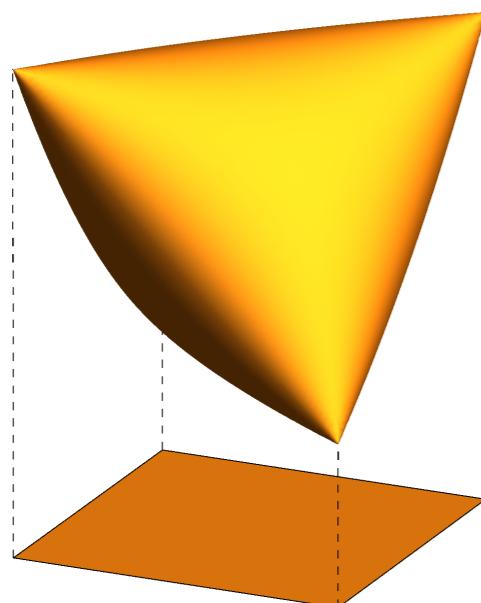
$$\langle A(t), B(s) \rangle = s_C(s, t)$$

$$B(s) = \frac{1}{2-s^2+s^4} \begin{pmatrix} (s^2-1)^2 & -s(s^2-1) & s^2-1 \\ -s(s^2-1) & s^2 & -s \\ s^2-1 & -s & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \leftarrow \quad s$$



# Constructions for Spectrahedral Lifts

$C = \text{conv}(X)$  has  $\mathcal{S}_+^m$ -lift  $\Leftrightarrow \exists$  subspace  $V$  of functions on  $X$   
 $\dim(V) \leq m$  s.t.  $\forall l(x) \leq 1$  valid on  $C$   
 $1 - l(x)|_X = \sum h_k^2$  for  $h_k \in V$



$\mathcal{S}_+^3$ -lift

$$X = \{(\pm 1, \pm 1)\} = \{(x, y) : x^2 = 1, y^2 = 1\}$$

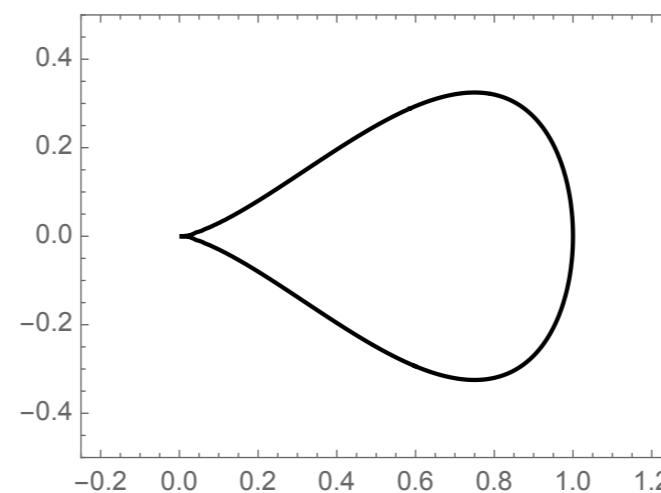
$$C = \text{conv}(X) = [-1, 1]^2$$

$$V = \text{span}(1, x, y)$$

$$1 - x = \frac{1}{2}(1 - x)^2 \quad \forall x \in X$$

If  $X$  algebraic, natural choice for  $V$  is all polynomial functions on  $X$  of degree at most  $d$

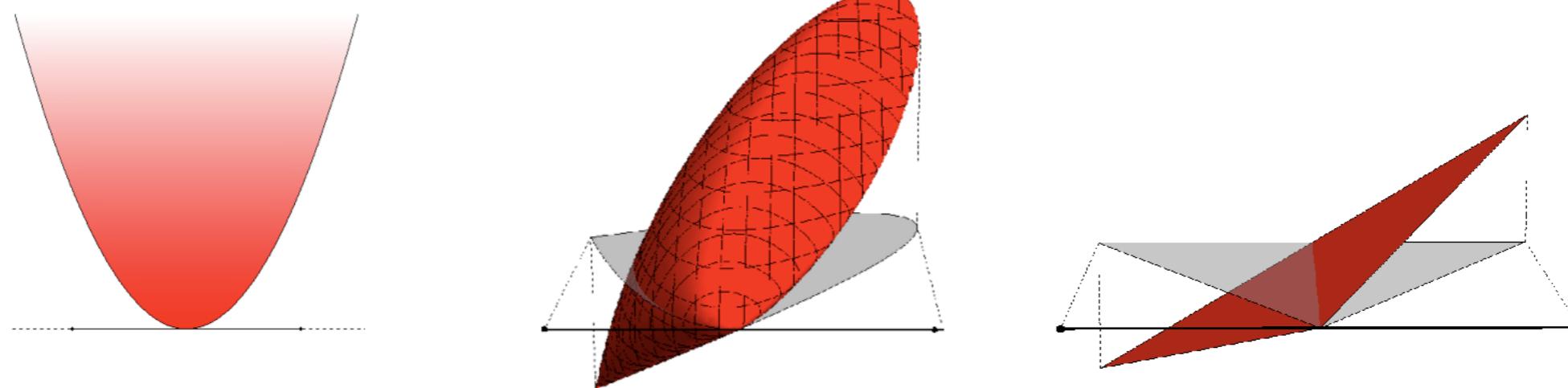
## Limitations:



**piriform curve**

$$y^2 - x^3 + x^4 = 0$$

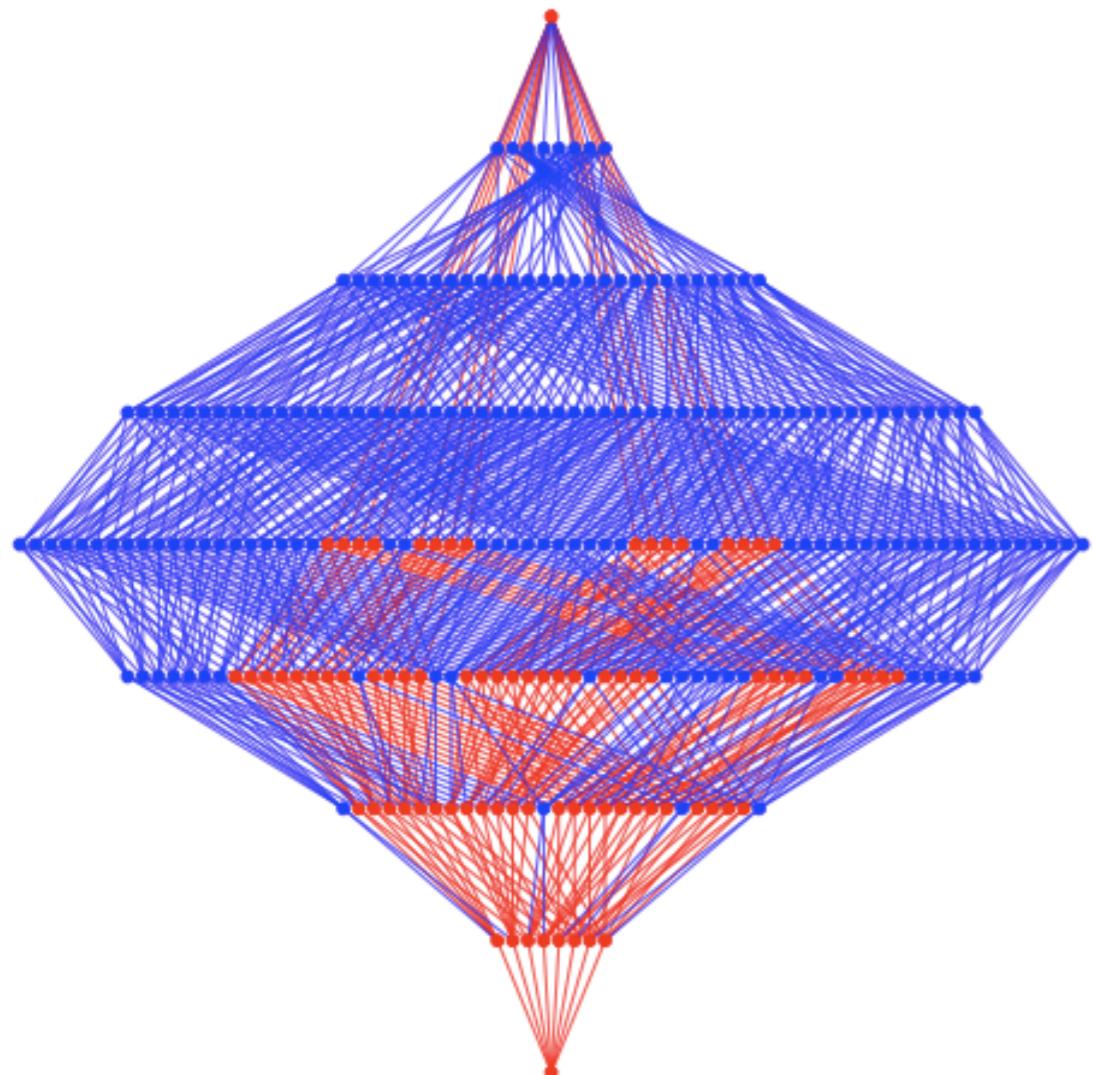
## Heirarchies:



$$I = \langle (x+1)x(x-1)^2 \rangle$$

$$\text{conv}(V_{\mathbb{R}}(I)) = [-1, 1]$$

# Obstructions & Lower Bounds (polyhedral lifts)



If  $Q$  is a lift of  $P$ , the face lattice of  $P$  embeds into the face lattice of  $Q$

**Goemans (2015)**

$P$  polytope,  $v$  vertices  
 $\Rightarrow$  a  $\mathbb{R}_+^m$ -lift needs  $m \geq \lceil \log v \rceil$

$O(n \log n)$ -lift of  $\Pi_n$  is optimal

Kaibel

## Famous Lower Bounds (polyhedral lifts)

Yannakakis (1991) symmetric nonnegative rank of the matching polytope of  $K_{2n}$  is exponential in  $n$

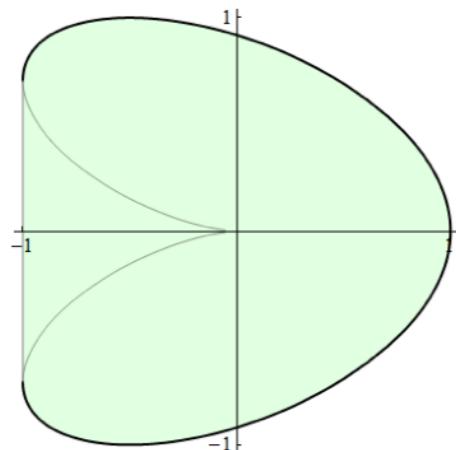
Kaibel-Pashkovich-Theis (2012) example of a polytope with exponential gap between sizes of symmetric and non-symmetric polyhedral-lift

Fiorini et al(2015) traveling salesman polytopes need exponential size polyhedral lifts

Rothvoss (2013) polyhedral lift of matching polytope of  $K_{2n}$  is exponential in  $n$

# Obstructions & Lower Bounds (spectrahedral lifts)

$C$  has a  $K$ -lift  $\Rightarrow$  length of maximal chain of faces of  $C$   
 $<$  length of maximal chain of faces of  $K$



does not have  $\mathcal{S}_+^2$ -lift  
does not have a smooth cone lift

$P$  polytope,  $\dim(P) = n$  has  $\mathcal{S}_+^m$ -lift  $\Rightarrow m \geq n + 1$

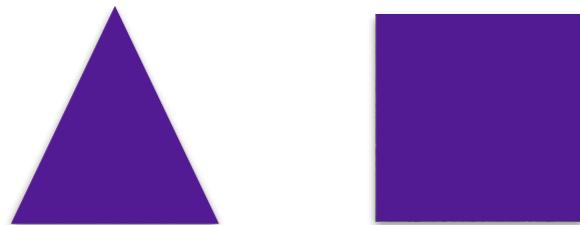
further obstructions based on neighborliness, facial structure,  
algebraic properties etc

# psd-minimal polytopes

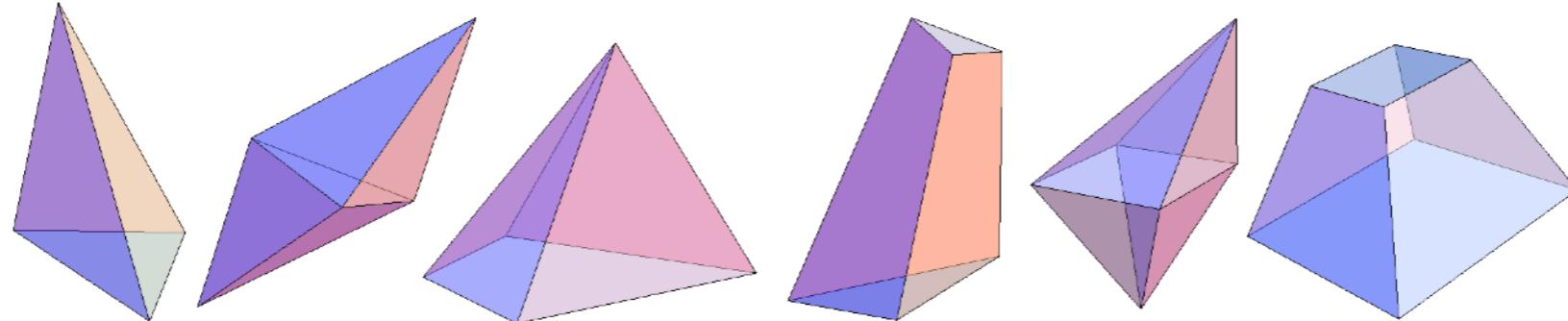
Which  $n$ -dimensional polytopes have  $\mathbf{S}_+^{n+1}$ -lifts?

Gouveia-Robinson-T. (2013)

$d = 2 :$



$d = 3 :$



**Theorem:**  $\text{STAB}(G)$  is psd-minimal  $\Leftrightarrow G$  is perfect

Gouveia-Pashkovich-Robinson-T. (2017)

$d = 4 :$  31 combinatorial classes

# Open Questions

- *Is there a family of polytopes with a significant gap between the size of the smallest polyhedral and spectrahedral lifts?*
- *Not much is known about obstructions to lifts for general convex sets.*
- *How does one find subspaces  $V$  of functions that guarantee small spectrahedral lifts?*
- *It is known that all convex semi algebraic sets in the plane have spectrahedral lifts (Scheiderer). How small?*
- *Scheiderer also proved that not all convex semi algebraic sets have spectrahedral lifts.*
  - *What is the smallest example?*
  - *Is there one in dim 3?*

**Thank You**