

Totally unimodular matrices  $\leftarrow$  all determinants of minors are  $\{\pm 1, 0\}$

Why? Create integral polytopes

Applications for many CS algorithms beyond König's theorem

Example: binary matrix completion  $\rightarrow$  integer linear program  $\rightarrow \mathbb{Z}^p$

Binary Rank-1 approximation of a binary matrix  $A$ :

$$\begin{aligned}\sum_{ij} |(A - x_1 x_2^T)_{ij}| &= \sum (A_{ij} - x_{1i} x_{2j})^2 \\ &= \sum (A_{ij}^2 - 2A_{ij} x_{1i} x_{2j} + x_{1i}^2 x_{2j}^2) \\ &= \sum A_{ij}^2 - \sum x_{1i} (2A_{ij} - 1) x_{2j} \\ &= \|A\|_F^2 - x_1^T W x_2\end{aligned}$$

$$\left[ \begin{array}{l} \max \sum_{ij} W_{ij} z_{ij} \\ -x_{1i} - x_{2j} + 2z_{ij} \leq 0 \quad W_{ij} = 1 \\ x_{1i} + x_{2j} - z_{ij} \leq 1 \quad W_{ij} = -1 \\ x_{1i}, x_{2j}, z_{ij} \in \{0, 1\} \end{array} \right] \quad \begin{array}{l} A_{ij} = 1 \\ A_{ij} = 0 \end{array} \left( \begin{array}{l} z_{ij} \text{ is binary \& } z_{ij} = 1 \Leftrightarrow \\ x_{1i}, x_{2j} = 1 \end{array} \right)$$

By total unimodularity, this can be relaxed to  
 $x_{1i}, x_{2j}, z_{ij} \in [0, 1]$

Can be extended for matrices with missing patterns. [Shen, Ji, Ye, '09]

How to test for TUM?

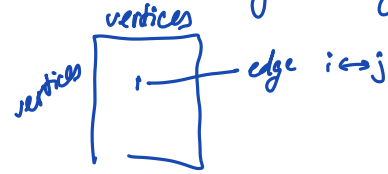
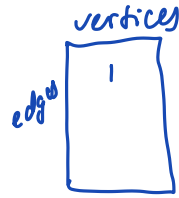
- Incidence matrices of unoriented graphs are TUM only if graphs are bipartite
- In general, there are many graph-based criterions

[Schröjver "Theory of linear and integer programming"  
Chapters 13-21  
"Recognizing total unimodularity"]

e.g. for a 0-1 matrix, if there exists a permutation for every

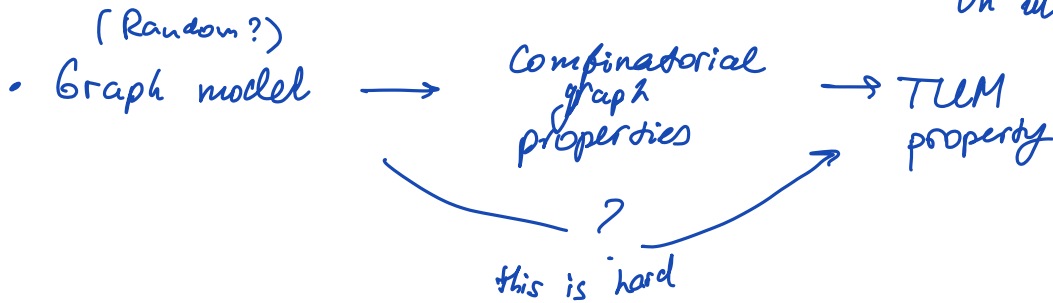
row, so that 1's appear consecutively, then it is TUM

- Note the distinction between incidence and adjacency matrices!



e.g. [Akbari, Kirkland, '07]

"On unimodular graphs"



→ Singularity of random Bernoulli matrices

$M_n \sim \pm 1$  independent entries with prob  $p$ .

$$\mathbb{P}(M_n \text{ is singular}) = \left(\frac{1}{2} + O_n(1)\right)^n \oplus$$

Linear independence of  $n$  independent vectors sampled uniformly from a unit cube  $\pm 1/n$ ?

- Komlos (87) have shown  $\mathbb{P}(M_n \text{ is singular}) = o_n(1)$

⋮

- Tikhomirov (2019) got  $\oplus$  which is exact (probability that two rows will coincide)