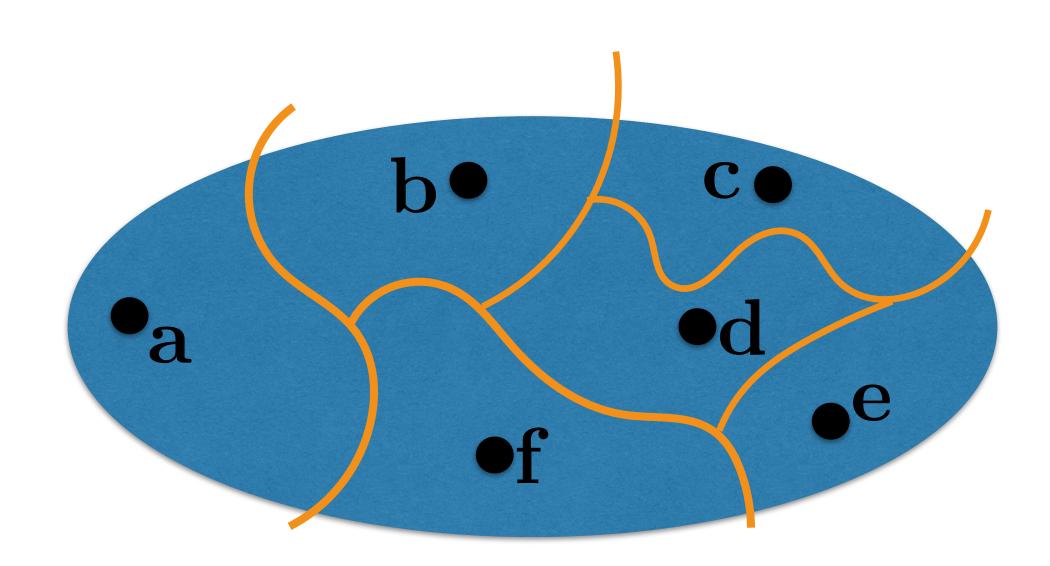
Multiway cut, linear programming and randomized rounding

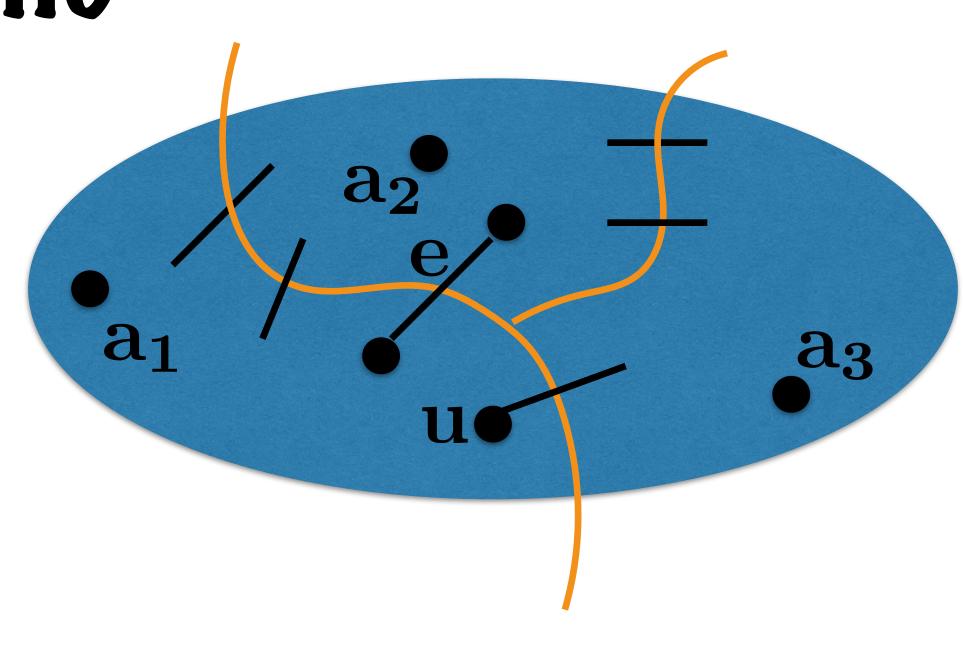


IP model

Variables

 $x_{u,i} = 1$ iff vertex u belongs to the cluster of terminal ai.

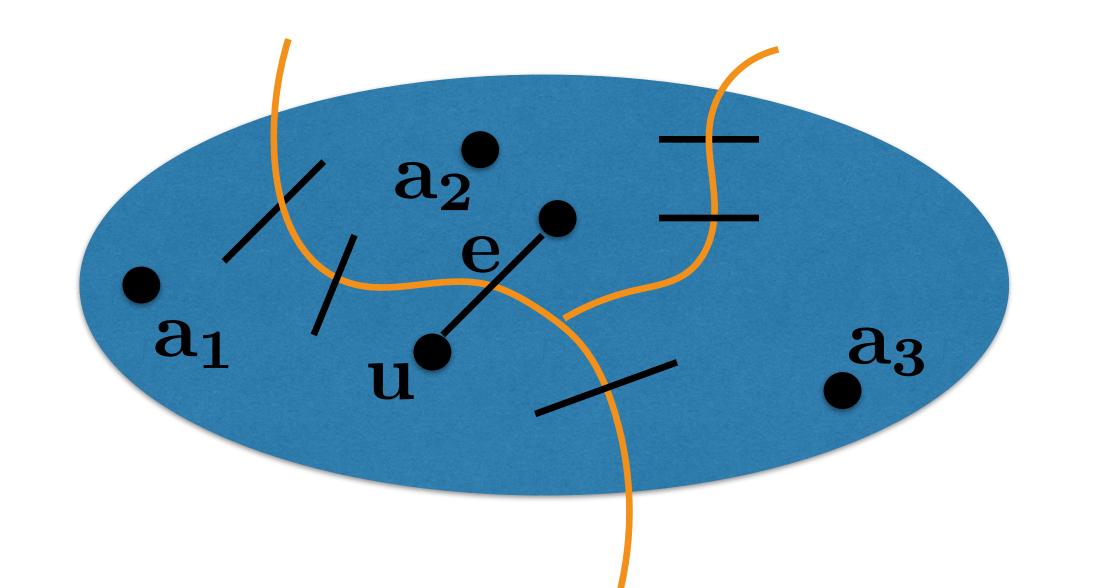
 $z_{e,i}=1$ iff removal of edge e separates ai from some other terminal



IP model

Constraints

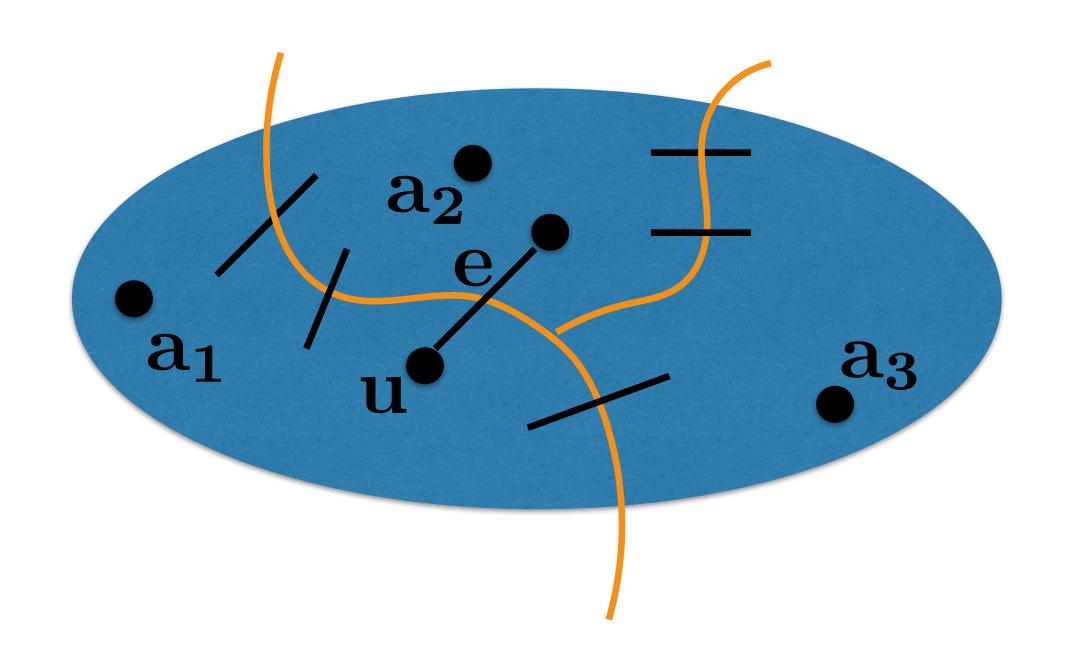
```
\begin{split} \mathbf{x_{u,i}, z_{e,i}} &\in \{0,1\} \\ \mathbf{x_{a_i,i}} &= 1 \ (a_i \ belongs \ to \ its \ own \ cluster) \\ \sum_i \mathbf{x_{u,i}} &= 1 \ (u \ belongs \ to \ some \ cluster) \\ \mathbf{z_{uv,i}} &= 1 \quad \text{iff} \quad \mathbf{x_{u,i}} \neq \mathbf{x_{v,i}} \end{split}
```



 $\mathbf{z_{uv,i}} = 1$ iff $\mathbf{x_{u,i}} \neq \mathbf{x_{v,i}}$ if model

Objective

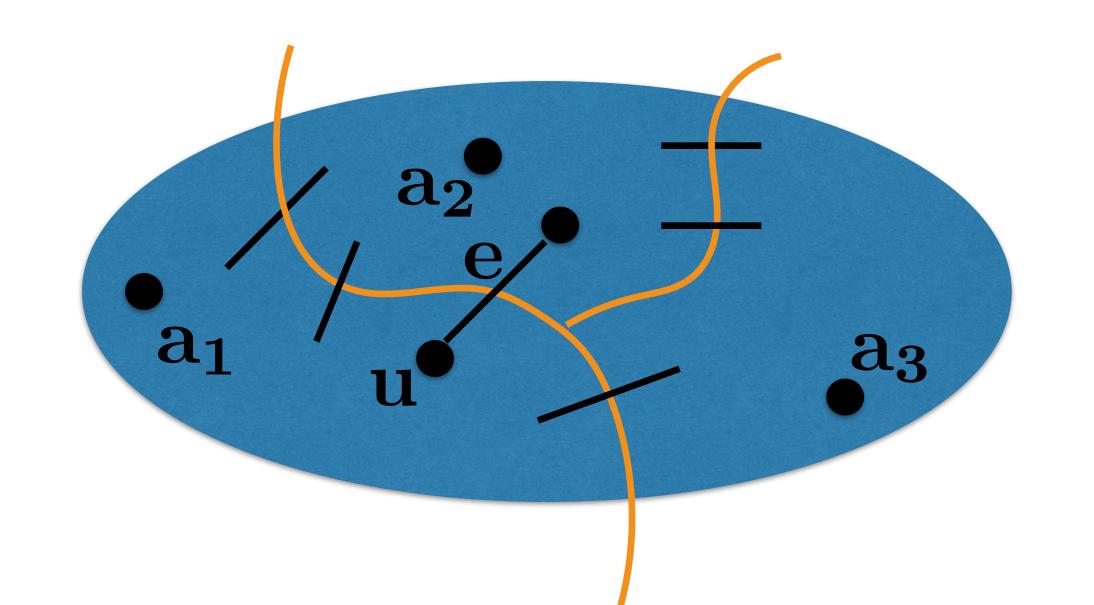
$$\min \ (1/2) \sum_{e,i} c_e z_{e,i}$$



 $\mathbf{z_{uv,i}} = 1$ iff $\mathbf{x_{u,i}} \neq \mathbf{x_{v,i}}$ IP model

How do we express that constraint?

$$egin{array}{c|c} \mathbf{z_{e,i}} \geq |\mathbf{x_{u,i}} - \mathbf{x_{v,i}}| \ \hline \mathbf{z_{e,i}} \geq \mathbf{x_{u,i}} - \mathbf{x_{v,i}} \ \mathbf{z_{e,i}} \geq \mathbf{x_{v,i}} - \mathbf{x_{u,i}} \end{array}$$



IP model

$$egin{aligned} \mathbf{x_{u,i}}, \mathbf{z_{e,i}} \in \{\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1}\} \ & \mathbf{x_{a_i,i}} = \mathbf{1} \ & \sum_{\mathbf{i}} \mathbf{x_{u,i}} = \mathbf{1} \ & \mathbf{z_{e,i}} \geq \mathbf{x_{u,i}} - \mathbf{x_{v,i}} \ & \mathbf{z_{e,i}} \geq \mathbf{x_{v,i}} - \mathbf{x_{u,i}} \end{aligned}$$
 $\mathbf{min} \quad (\mathbf{1/2}) \sum_{\mathbf{e,i}} \mathbf{c_e z_{e,i}}$

Linear programming relaxation

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{x_{u,i}}, \mathbf{z_{e,i}} &\in \{\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1}\} & \longrightarrow \mathbf{0} \leq \mathbf{x_{u,i}}, \mathbf{z_{e,i}} \leq \mathbf{1} \\ \mathbf{x_{a_i,i}} &= \mathbf{1} \\ \sum_{\mathbf{i}} \mathbf{x_{u,i}} &= \mathbf{1} \\ \mathbf{z_{e,i}} &\geq \mathbf{x_{u,i}} - \mathbf{x_{v,i}} \\ \mathbf{z_{e,i}} &\geq \mathbf{x_{v,i}} - \mathbf{x_{u,i}} \end{aligned}$$

$$\min \quad (\mathbf{1}/\mathbf{2}) \sum_{\mathbf{e}, \mathbf{i}} \mathbf{c_e} \mathbf{z_{e,i}}$$

A geometric interpretation

Variables

$$\mathbf{x_{u,i}} = 1$$
 iff vertex u belongs to the cluster of terminal ai.

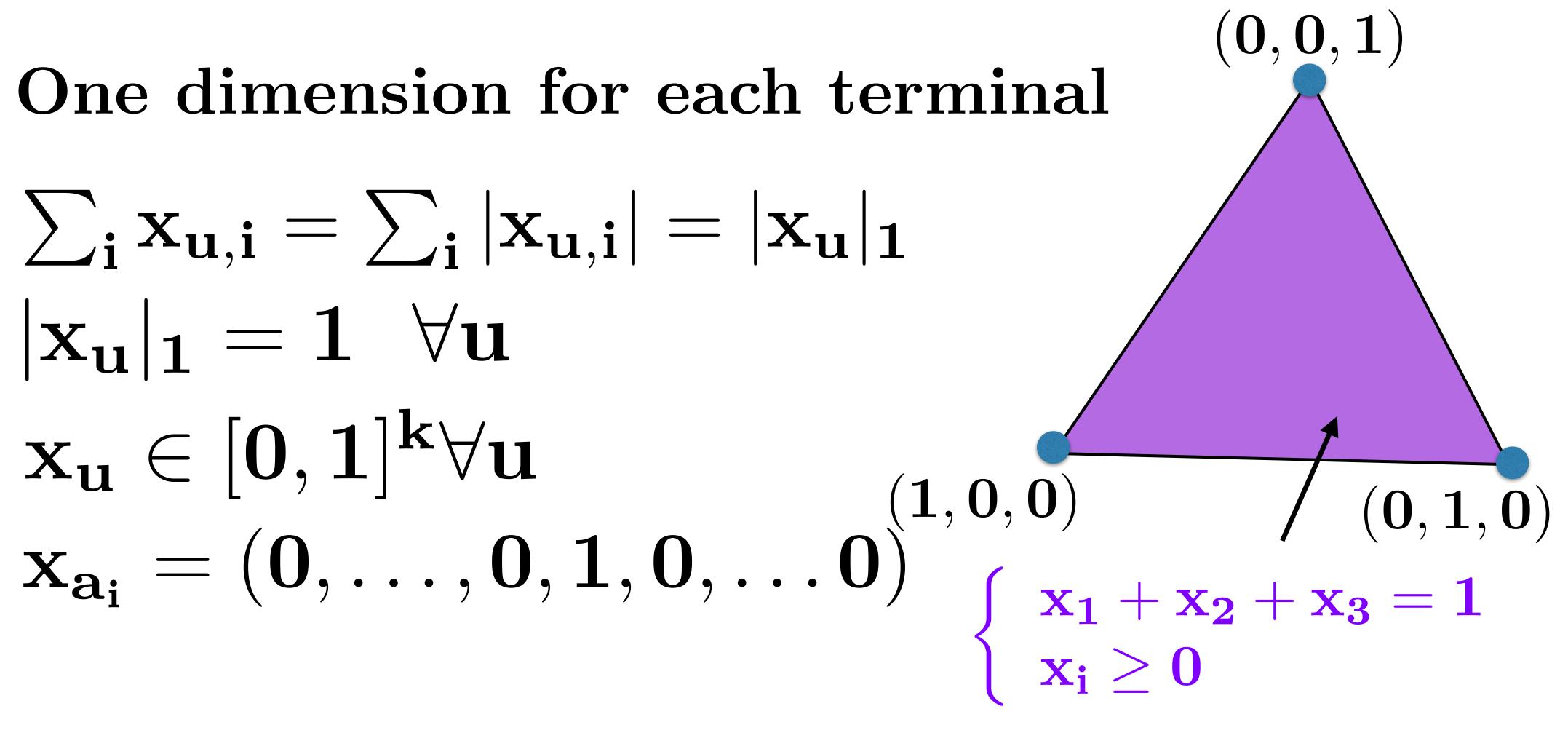
Vector
$$\mathbf{x_u} = (\mathbf{x_{u,i}})_i$$

One dimension for each terminal

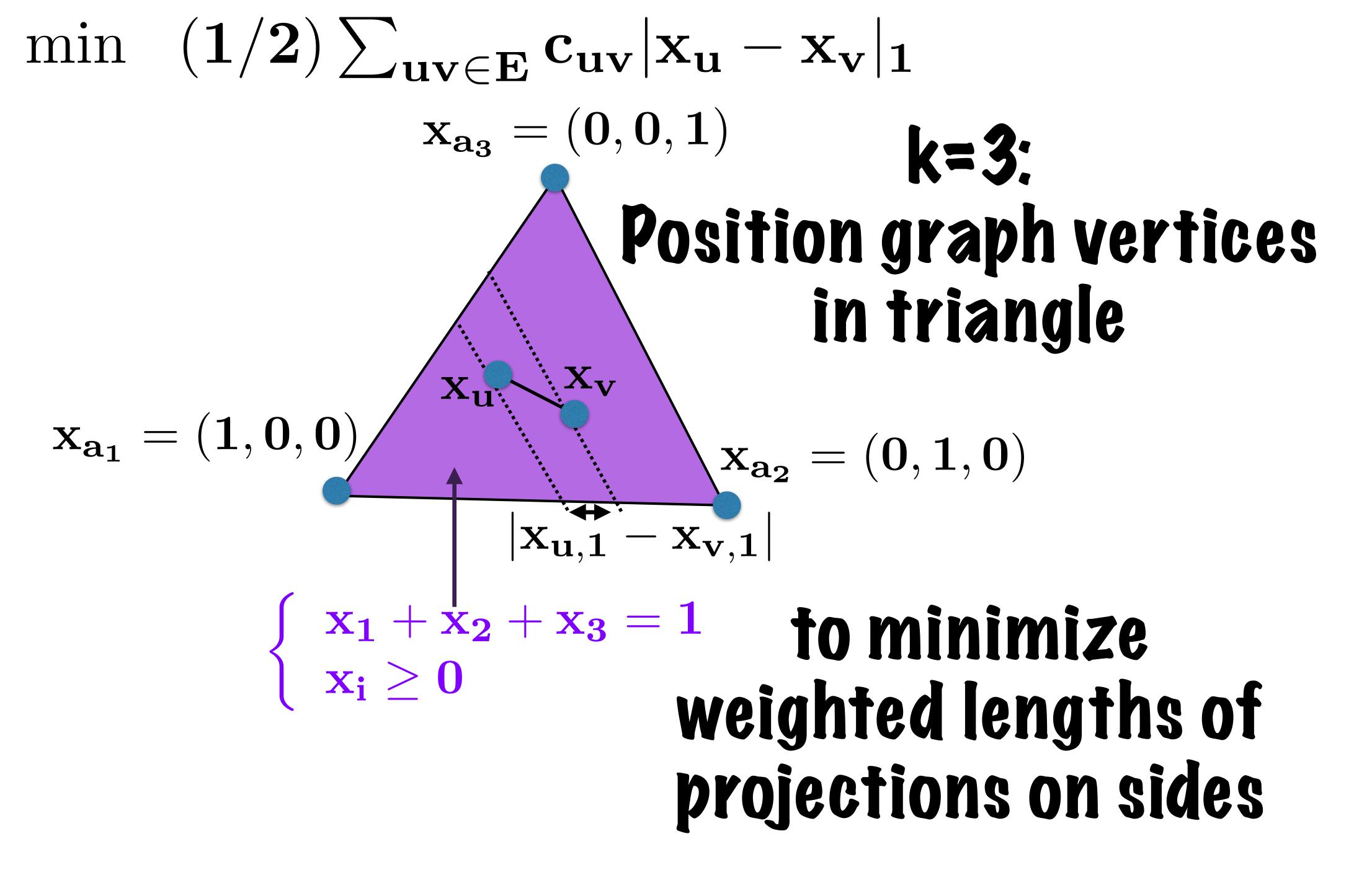
$$\sum\nolimits_{i} \mathbf{x}_{u,i} = \sum\nolimits_{i} |\mathbf{x}_{u,i}| = |\mathbf{x}_{u}|_{1}$$

A geometric interpretation

Vector $\mathbf{x_u} = (\mathbf{x_{u,i}})_i$

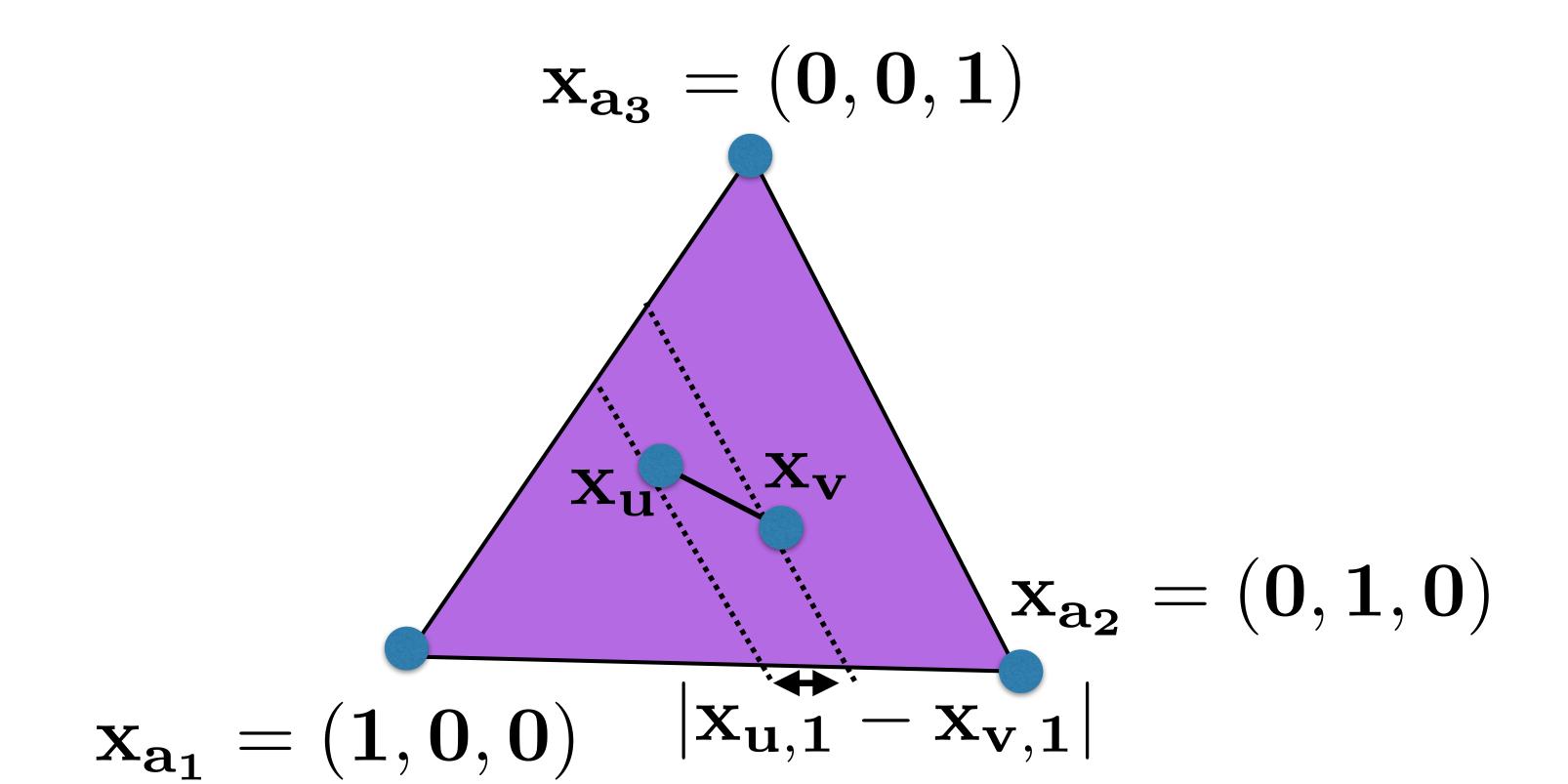


 $\min (1/2) \sum_{\mathbf{uv} \in \mathbf{E}} \mathbf{c_{uv}} |\mathbf{x_u} - \mathbf{x_v}|_1$



A geometric interpretation (k=3)

Position graph vertices in triangle to minimize weighted lengths of projections of graph edges on the sides



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