

**Solution 1:**

The code for this programming exercise can be found in the `hw_shapley_py_sol.ipynb` or `hw_shapley_vanilla_py_sol.ipynb` files for Python and in the `hw_shapley_R_sol.Rmd` or `hw_shapley_vanilla_R_sol.Rmd` files for R.

a)

$$\text{payoff}(S) = 10t + 10m + 10s + 2j + 20(t \wedge m) + 20(t \wedge m \wedge s) - 30((t \vee m \vee s) \wedge j)$$

$$\text{payoff}(\{t, m\}) = 10 + 10 + 20 = 40$$

$$\text{payoff}(\{t, j, s\}) = 10 + 10 + 2 - 30 = -8$$

b) Pseudocode of `payoff(coalition)`:

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**Algorithm 1** `payoff()`

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**Require:** `coalition`: Coalition vector (`set` or `list` or ...)

```
1: t  $\leftarrow$  boolean if 't' is in coalition
2: s  $\leftarrow$  boolean if 's' is in coalition
3: m  $\leftarrow$  boolean if 'm' is in coalition
4: j  $\leftarrow$  boolean if 'j' is in coalition
5: l  $\leftarrow$  boolean if 'l' is in coalition
6: return 10 * t + 10 * m + 2 * j + 20 * (t and m) + 20 * (t and m and s) - 30 * ((t or m or s) and j)
```

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$$\text{payoff}(\{\emptyset\}) = 0$$

$$\text{payoff}(\{t, m, s, j, l\}) = 10 + 10 + 10 + 2 + 20 + 20 - 30 = 42$$

Concerning `all_unique_subsets(population)`, both R and Python provide built-in functions that return the power set, i.e. the set of all subsets of a given set. Alternatively, one possible pseudocode of `all_unique_subsets(population)` would be:

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**Algorithm 2** `all_unique_subsets()`

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**Require:** `population`: Vector / list / set containing all available players

```
1: if population =  $\emptyset$  then subsets  $\leftarrow$   $\emptyset$ 
2: else if population  $\neq$   $\emptyset$  then
3:   first_member  $\leftarrow$  pick any element from population
4:   population_wo_member  $\leftarrow$  population \ first_member
5:   subsets_wo_member  $\leftarrow$  all_unique_subsets(population_wo_member)
6:   subsets_w_member  $\leftarrow$  list of all sets in subsets_wo_member each with first_member added to it
7:   subsets  $\leftarrow$  Union(subsets_w_member, subsets_wo_member)
8: end if
9: return subsets
```

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Pseudocode of `shapley_set(member, population, v_function)`:

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**Algorithm 3** `shapley_set()`

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**Require:** `member`: individual player, or feature of interest

**Require:** `population`: vector containing all available players

**Require:** `v_function`: Some value function

```
1: remainder ← everyone from the population but member (or: population \ member)
2: all_sets_wo_member ← all_unique_subsets(remainder)
3: F ← length of population
4: result ← 0
5: for coalition in all_sets_wo_member do
6:   S ← length of coalition
7:   diff ← v_function(Union(coalition, member)) - v_function(coalition)
8:   factor ← S! * (F - S - 1)! / F!
9:   result ← result + factor * diff
10: end for
11: return result
```

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- c) A function to generate all permutations can be implemented similar to the function `all_unique_subsets()`, also by first generating the first element and then calling the function on the set of remaining elements.

Pseudocode of `shapley_perm(member, population, v_function)`:

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**Algorithm 4** `shapley_perm()`

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**Require:** `member`: individual player, or feature of interest

**Require:** `population`: vector containing all available players

**Require:** `v_function`: Some value function

```
1: all_perms ← All permutations of population
2: F ← length of population
3: result ← 0
4: for perm in all_perms do
5:   member_ix ← index of member in perm
6:   coalition ← coalition of perm before member_ix
7:   diff ← v_function(Union(coalition, member)) - v_function(coalition)
8:   result ← result + diff
9: end for
10: return result / F!
```

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- d) Pseudocode of `shapley_perm_approx(member, population, v_function, num_iter)`:

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**Algorithm 5** `shapley_perm_approx()`

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**Require:** `member`: individual player, or feature of interest

**Require:** `population`: vector containing all available players

**Require:** `v_function`: value function

**Require:** `num_iter`: number of iterations

```
1: vals ← Empty vector or list
2: for i in num_iter do
3:   perm ← draw a random permutation of population
4:   member_ix ← index of member in perm
5:   coalition ← coalition of perm before member_ix
6:   vals[i] ← v_function(Union(coalition, member)) - v_function(coalition)
7: end for
8: return average of vals
```

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- e) (i) Pseudocode of `symmetry_check()`:

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**Algorithm 6** symmetry\_check()

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**Require:** j: first feature index

**Require:** k: second feature index

**Require:** population: vector containing all available players

**Require:** v\_function: value function

**Require:** shapley\_func: function for computing Shapley values

```
1: remainder ← everyone from the population but j, k
2: all_S ← all_unique_subsets(remainder)
3: for S in all_S do
4:   surplus_j ← v_function(Union(coalition, j)) - v_function(coalition)
5:   surplus_k ← v_function(Union(coalition, k)) - v_function(coalition)
6:   save surplus_j and surplus_k in vectors surpluss_j and surpluss_k, respectively, for every iteration
7: end for
8: if surpluss_j equal surpluss_k then
9:   print equal surplus
10:  val_j ← shapley_func(j, population, v_function)
11:  val_k ← shapley_func(k, population, v_function)
12:  return val_j == val_k
13: end if
14: return TRUE
```

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(ii) Pseudocode of dummy\_check():

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**Algorithm 7** dummy\_check()

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**Require:** j: feature index

**Require:** population: vector containing all available players

**Require:** v\_function: value function

**Require:** shapley\_func: function for computing Shapley values

```
1: remainder ← everyone from the population but j
2: all_S ← all_unique_subsets(remainder)
3: for S in all_S do
4:   surplus_j ← difference of v_function of S with j minus v_function of S
5:   save surplus_j in vector surpluss_j for every iteration
6: end for
7: if sum of |surpluss_j| == 0 then
8:   print has contribution
9:   val_j ← shapley_func(j, population, v_function)
10:  return val_j == 0
11: end if
12: return TRUE
```

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(iii) Pseudocode of additivity\_check():

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**Algorithm 8** additivity\_check()

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**Require:** population: vector containing all available players

**Require:** v\_function1: value function 1

**Require:** v\_function2: value function 2

**Require:** shapley\_func: function for computing Shapley values

```
1: combined ← addition of v_function1 and v_function2
2: vals1 ← Shapley values for all features using v_function1
3: vals2 ← Shapley values for all features using v_function2
4: vals_comb ← Shapley values for all features using combined
5: vals_additive ← vals1 + vals2
6: return vals_comb == vals_additive
```

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(iv) Pseudocode of efficiency\_check():

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**Algorithm 9** `efficiency_check()`

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**Require:** `population`: vector containing all available players

**Require:** `v_function`: value function

**Require:** `shapley_func`: function for computing Shapley values

- 1: `payoff_total`  $\leftarrow$  `v_function` of `population`
  - 2: `shapley_vals`  $\leftarrow$  Shapley values for all features using `v_function`
  - 3: `total_shapley_vals`  $\leftarrow$  sum of `shapley_vals`
  - 4: **return** `payoff_total == total_shapley_vals`
- 

### Solution 2:

**Setup.** Let  $P = \{1, \dots, p\}$  be the set of  $p := |P|$  players,  $v$  the value function and  $\phi_j$  the Shapley value of player  $j$ .

Recall the two equivalent definitions of Shapley values:

**Permutation-Based Definition of Shapley Values.** Let  $\text{Pred}_\pi(j)$  be the set of players that appear before player  $j$  in the permutation  $\pi$ . Then for any  $j$ , the Shapley value of player  $j$  is

$$\phi_j = \frac{1}{p!} \sum_{\pi \in \mathfrak{S}_P} \left( v(\text{Pred}_\pi(j) \cup \{j\}) - v(\text{Pred}_\pi(j)) \right),$$

where  $\mathfrak{S}_P$  is the set of all  $p!$  permutations of  $P$ . In words, we look at the “marginal contribution” of  $j$  each time it arrives in a permutation (depending on whichever players arrived before it), and then average over all permutations.

**Set-Based Definition of Shapley Values.** For any  $j$ , we consider all subsets  $S$  of  $P$  which do not contain  $j$ , then the Shapley value of player  $j$  is

$$\phi_j = \sum_{S \subseteq P \setminus \{j\}} \frac{|S|! (p - |S| - 1)!}{p!} \left( v(S \cup \{j\}) - v(S) \right).$$

In essence, both definitions are almost the same, just that those terms from the first definition that yield the same subsets  $S$  (although from different permutations), are summed up and counted in the second definition, so that the second definition has less terms in the sum.

(a) **Proof of the first 3 Axioms:** The Dummy and Additivity properties are relatively easy to proof.

**Theorem 1** (Null Player (Dummy)). *Let  $\{\phi_j\}_{j \in P}$  be the Shapley values induced by  $v$ . For any player  $j \in P$  it holds:*

$$\text{If } v(S \cup \{j\}) = v(S) \text{ for all } S \subseteq P \setminus \{j\}, \text{ then } \phi_j = 0.$$

*Proof.* Assume  $p \geq 1$ ,  $j \in P$  and  $v(S \cup \{j\}) = v(S)$  for all subsets  $S \subseteq P \setminus \{j\}$ . We need to prove that  $\phi_j = 0$ .

This follows directly from either of the two definitions: The assumption states that the difference  $v(S \cup \{j\}) - v(S)$  inside the sum is 0, for every  $S \subseteq P \setminus \{j\}$ , in other words for every summand. Therefore, also the whole sum is 0, so  $\phi_j = 0$ . □

**Theorem 2** (Additivity). *Let  $v, v_1, v_2 : 2^P \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be value functions with  $v = v_1 + v_2$ , which means that for every subset  $S \subseteq P$  we have  $v(S) = v_1(S) + v_2(S)$ . Let  $\{\phi_{j,v}\}_{j \in P}$  be the Shapley values induced by  $v$  and  $\{\phi_{j,v_1}\}_{j \in P}$  and  $\{\phi_{j,v_2}\}_{j \in P}$  those for  $v_1$  and  $v_2$  respectively. Then for any player  $j \in P$  it holds:*

$$\phi_{j,v} = \phi_{j,v_1+v_2} = \phi_{j,v_1} + \phi_{j,v_2}.$$

*Proof.* Assume  $p \geq 1$ ,  $j \in P$  and that  $v_1, v_2$  are two value functions. We need to prove that  $\phi_{j, v_1+v_2} = \phi_{j, v_1} + \phi_{j, v_2}$ .

For the marginal contributions of player  $j$  on any subset  $S \subseteq P$  we have:  $v(S \cup \{j\}) - v(S) = v_1(S \cup \{j\}) - v_1(S) + v_2(S \cup \{j\}) - v_2(S)$ . Plugging this into either of the two definitions yields the result:

$$\begin{aligned} \phi_{j, v} &= \phi_{j, v_1+v_2} = \sum_{S \subseteq P \setminus \{j\}} \frac{|S|! (p - |S| - 1)!}{p!} (v(S \cup \{j\}) - v(S)) \\ &= \sum_{S \subseteq P \setminus \{j, k\}} \frac{|S|! (p - |S| - 1)!}{p!} (v_1(S \cup \{j\}) - v_1(S) + v_2(S \cup \{j\}) - v_2(S)) \\ &= \sum_{S \subseteq P \setminus \{j, k\}} \frac{|S|! (p - |S| - 1)!}{p!} (v_1(S \cup \{j\}) - v_1(S)) + \sum_{S \subseteq P \setminus \{j, k\}} \frac{|S|! (p - |S| - 1)!}{p!} (v_2(S \cup \{j\}) - v_2(S)) \\ &= \phi_{j, v_1} + \phi_{j, v_2}. \end{aligned}$$

□

The symmetry axiom requires a little more calculation.

**Theorem 3** (Symmetry). *Let  $\{\phi_j\}_{j \in P}$  be the Shapley values induced by  $v$ . For any two players  $j, k \in P$  it holds:*

$$\text{If } v(S \cup \{j\}) = v(S \cup \{k\}) \text{ for all } S \subseteq P \setminus \{j, k\}, \text{ then } \phi_j = \phi_k.$$

*Proof.* Assume  $p \geq 2$  and  $j, k \in P$  and  $v(S \cup \{j\}) = v(S \cup \{k\})$  for all subsets  $S \subseteq P \setminus \{j, k\}$ . We need to prove that  $\phi_j = \phi_k$ .

We will use the set-based definition of Shapley values, and will show the claim by straightforward calculation and rearranging the sum. We first split the sum, which is over all sets  $S \subseteq P \setminus \{j\}$ , into two parts, depending on whether player  $k$  is in  $S$  or not:

$$\begin{aligned} \phi_j &= \sum_{S \subseteq P \setminus \{j\}} \frac{|S|! (p - |S| - 1)!}{p!} (v(S \cup \{j\}) - v(S)) \\ &= \sum_{S \subseteq P \setminus \{j, k\}} \frac{|S|! (p - |S| - 1)!}{p!} (v(S \cup \{j\}) - v(S)) + \sum_{\substack{S \subseteq P \setminus \{j\}, \\ k \in S}} \frac{|S|! (p - |S| - 1)!}{p!} (v(S \cup \{j\}) - v(S)). \end{aligned}$$

Now, in the first part of the sum we can directly use our assumption:

$$\sum_{S \subseteq P \setminus \{j, k\}} \frac{|S|! (p - |S| - 1)!}{p!} (v(S \cup \{j\}) - v(S)) = \sum_{S \subseteq P \setminus \{j, k\}} \frac{|S|! (p - |S| - 1)!}{p!} (v(S \cup \{k\}) - v(S))$$

For the second part, first note that both sums have the same number of summands, since there is a one-to-one correspondence (a bijection) between the subsets of  $P \setminus \{j, k\}$  and those subsets of  $P \setminus \{j\}$  that contain  $k$ , by either adding  $k$  to a given subset  $S \subseteq P \setminus \{j, k\}$  or not. We can use this bijection to define an “index transformation” for the second sum: We replace the set  $S$ , which we know must contain  $k$ , with  $S = \tilde{S} \cup \{k\}$ , in other words we define  $\tilde{S} := S \setminus \{k\}$ . We can then use our assumption on the set  $\tilde{S}$  as well. This yields:

$$\begin{aligned} &\sum_{\substack{S \subseteq P \setminus \{j\}, \\ k \in S}} \frac{|S|! (p - |S| - 1)!}{p!} (v(S \cup \{j\}) - v(S)) \\ &= \sum_{\tilde{S} \subseteq P \setminus \{j, k\}} \frac{(|\tilde{S}| + 1)! (p - (|\tilde{S}| + 1) - 1)!}{p!} (v(\tilde{S} \cup \{j, k\}) - v(\tilde{S} \cup \{k\})) \\ &= \sum_{\tilde{S} \subseteq P \setminus \{j, k\}} \frac{(|\tilde{S}| + 1)! (p - |\tilde{S}| - 2)!}{p!} (v(\tilde{S} \cup \{j, k\}) - v(\tilde{S} \cup \{j\})) \\ &= \sum_{\substack{S \subseteq P \setminus \{k\}, \\ j \in S}} \frac{|S|! (p - |S| - 1)!}{p!} (v(S \cup \{k\}) - v(S)). \end{aligned}$$

In the last step, we used this transformation backwards, so we add / remove  $j$  instead of  $k$  this time, in other words  $S = \tilde{S} \cup \{j\}$  and  $\tilde{S} := S \setminus \{j\}$ . This is possible since  $\tilde{S}$  contains neither  $j$  nor  $k$ .

We now use the first step from the beginning backwards and arrive at the desired result:

$$\begin{aligned}\phi_j &= \sum_{S \subseteq P \setminus \{j, k\}} \frac{|S|! (p - |S| - 1)!}{p!} \left( v(S \cup \{k\}) - v(S) \right) + \sum_{\substack{S \subseteq P \setminus \{k\}, \\ j \in S}} \frac{|S|! (p - |S| - 1)!}{p!} \left( v(S \cup \{k\}) - v(S) \right) \\ &= \sum_{S \subseteq P \setminus \{k\}} \frac{|S|! (p - |S| - 1)!}{p!} \left( v(S \cup \{k\}) - v(S) \right) = \phi_k.\end{aligned}$$

□

(b) **Bonus: Proof of the Efficiency Axiom**

Efficiency requires a little more effort than the others:

**Theorem 4** (Efficiency). *Let  $\{\phi_j\}_{j \in P}$  be the Shapley values induced by  $v$ . Then*

$$\sum_{j=1}^p \phi_j = v(P).$$

The proof idea is as follows: Because we sum up the Shapley values over all players, the values  $v(S)$  of each coalition not equal to  $P$ , so  $S \subsetneq P$ , appear with both minus and plus signs that exactly cancel each other out. Apart from that, the term  $v(P)$  occurs for every player, and one only needs to calculate that its weights sum up to 1.

We will use the order-based definition of Shapley values here, since with it the proof is simpler.

*Proof.* We first plug in the definition and swap the two sums:

$$\begin{aligned}\sum_{j=1}^p \phi_j &= \sum_{j=1}^p \frac{1}{p!} \sum_{\pi \in \mathfrak{S}_P} \left( v(\text{Pred}_\pi(j) \cup \{j\}) - v(\text{Pred}_\pi(j)) \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{p!} \sum_{\pi \in \mathfrak{S}_P} \sum_{j=1}^p \left( v(\text{Pred}_\pi(j) \cup \{j\}) - v(\text{Pred}_\pi(j)) \right).\end{aligned}$$

Now the inner sum corresponds to a single permutation, and sums over all players in this permutation.

Fix a particular permutation  $\pi$ . We consider the order of the players given by this permutation:  $(\pi(1), \pi(2), \dots, \pi(p))$ . Each marginal contribution inside the inner sum corresponds to one step in this ordering. We reorder the inner sum according to this ordering given by the permutation:

$$\begin{aligned}\sum_{j=1}^p \left( v(\text{Pred}_\pi(j) \cup \{j\}) - v(\text{Pred}_\pi(j)) \right) &= \sum_{i=1}^p \left( v(\{\pi(1), \dots, \pi(i)\}) - v(\{\pi(1), \dots, \pi(i-1)\}) \right) \\ &= \underbrace{v(\{\pi(1)\}) - v(\emptyset)}_{i=1 \text{ or } j=\pi(1)} + \underbrace{v(\{\pi(1), \pi(2)\}) - v(\{\pi(1)\})}_{i=2 \text{ or } j=\pi(2)} + \underbrace{v(\{\pi(1), \pi(2), \pi(3)\}) - v(\{\pi(1), \pi(2)\})}_{i=3 \text{ or } j=\pi(3)} \\ &\quad + \dots + \underbrace{v(\{\pi(1), \dots, \pi(p)\}) - v(\{\pi(1), \dots, \pi(p-1)\})}_{i=p \text{ or } j=\pi(p)} = v(\pi(1), \dots, \pi(p)) - v(\emptyset) = v(P).\end{aligned}$$

In other words, the inner sum is a telescope sum, where all the terms except the first and the last one cancel. Plugging this into the outer sum yields the desired result:

$$\begin{aligned}\sum_{j=1}^p \phi_j &= \frac{1}{p!} \sum_{\pi \in \mathfrak{S}_P} \left( \sum_{j=1}^p \left( v(\text{Pred}_\pi(j) \cup \{j\}) - v(\text{Pred}_\pi(j)) \right) \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{p!} \sum_{\pi \in \mathfrak{S}_P} v(P) = \frac{1}{p!} \cdot (p! \cdot v(P)) = v(P).\end{aligned}$$

□

When using the set-based definition, one can show that the term  $v(P)$  appears exactly once per player (hence  $p$  times in total) for the coalition  $S = P \setminus \{j\}$  with the weight  $\frac{|P-1|! (|P|-|P-1|-1)!}{|P|!} = \frac{1}{p}$  each, and then one just has to show that for all the other terms, their number of appearance together with their weights cause them to cancel out. See also here.

(c) **Bonus: Proof of Linearity**

This is as straightforward as the additivity:

**Theorem 5** (Linearity). *Let  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $v, v_1, v_2 : 2^P \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be value functions with  $v = \alpha v_1 + \beta v_2$ , which means that for every subset  $S \subseteq P$  we have  $v(S) = \alpha \cdot v_1(S) + \beta \cdot v_2(S)$ . Let  $\{\phi_{j,v}\}_{j \in P}$  be the Shapley values induced by  $v$  and  $\{\phi_{j,v_1}\}_{j \in P}$  and  $\{\phi_{j,v_2}\}_{j \in P}$  those for  $v_1$  and  $v_2$  respectively. Then for any player  $j \in P$  it holds:*

$$\phi_{j,v} = \phi_{j,\alpha v_1 + \beta v_2} = \alpha \phi_{j,v_1} + \beta \phi_{j,v_2}.$$

*Proof.* Since additivity was already proven in part (a), we only have to prove homogeneity, that means that  $\phi_{j,\alpha v_1} = \alpha \phi_{j,v_1}$  for any  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ .

So let  $p \geq 1$ ,  $j \in P$ ,  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $v_1$  be any value function. Denote  $v = \alpha v_1$ . For the marginal contributions of player  $j$  on any subset  $S \subseteq P$  we have:  $v(S \cup \{j\}) - v(S) = \alpha v_1(S \cup \{j\}) - \alpha v_1(S) = \alpha (v_1(S \cup \{j\}) - v_1(S))$ . As for the additivity, plugging this into either of the two definitions yields the results:

$$\begin{aligned} \phi_{j,v} &= \sum_{S \subseteq P \setminus \{j\}} \frac{|S|! (p - |S| - 1)!}{p!} (v(S \cup \{j\}) - v(S)) = \sum_{S \subseteq P \setminus \{j\}} \frac{|S|! (p - |S| - 1)!}{p!} \alpha (v_1(S \cup \{j\}) - v_1(S)) \\ &= \alpha \sum_{S \subseteq P \setminus \{j\}} \frac{|S|! (p - |S| - 1)!}{p!} (v_1(S \cup \{j\}) - v_1(S)) = \alpha \phi_{j,v_1}. \end{aligned}$$

□