

Xiangying Chen

# What is also a matroid and a delta-matroid?

**arXiv:2303.06668**

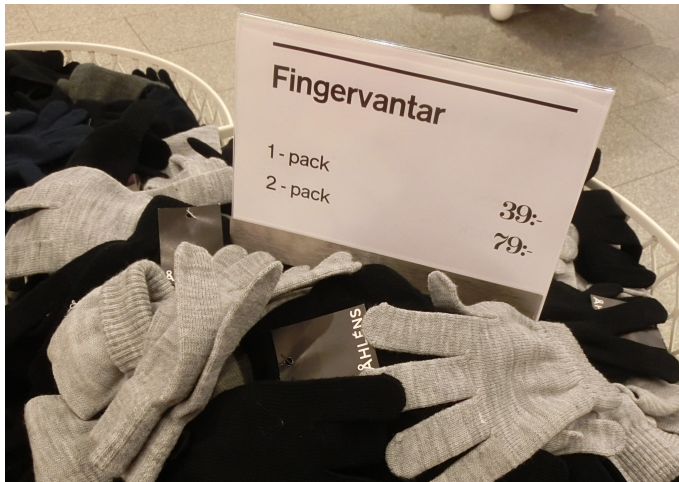
Wittenberg, 05.05.2023

**Institut für Algebra und Geometrie**  
Otto-von-Guericke-Universität Magdeburg



DFG-Graduiertenkolleg  
**MATHEMATISCHE**  
**KOMPLEXITÄTSREDUKTION**

# Pricing



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The pricing function  $p: E \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  should be

- **monotonic**  $p(A) \leq p(B)$  for all  $A \subseteq B \subseteq E$ ,
- **submodular**  $p(A) + p(B) \geq p(A \cap B) + p(A \cup B)$  for all  $A, B \subseteq E$  and
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Examples: correct pricing, dimensions of subspaces, entropy functions, ...



# Matroids

Let  $E$  be a finite ground set.

A set function  $r: E \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  is (the **rank function** of) a **matroid** if it satisfies

(monotonicity)  $r(A) \leq r(B)$  for all  $A \subseteq B \subseteq E$ ,

(submodularity)  $r(A) + r(B) \geq r(A \cap B) + r(A \cup B)$  for all  $A, B \subseteq E$ ,

(subcardinality)  $r(A) \leq |A|$  for all  $A \subseteq E$ .

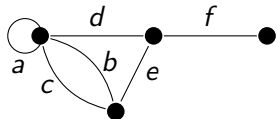


## Examples

$$E = \{a, b, c, d, e, f\}, A \subseteq E$$

Graph  $G = (V, E)$

$$r(A) = |V| - k(G\langle A \rangle)$$



vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^3$

$$r(A) = \dim(\text{span}(A))$$

$$a = \mathbf{0}, b = 2\mathbf{e}_1, c = \mathbf{e}_1, \\ d = \mathbf{e}_2, e = \mathbf{e}_1 + \mathbf{e}_2, f = \mathbf{e}_3$$

rational functions in  $\mathbb{C}(x, y, z)$

$$r(A) = \text{trdeg}_{\mathbb{C}}(\mathbb{C}(A))$$

$$a = 3, b = x, c = x^2, \\ d = y, e = xy, f = z$$

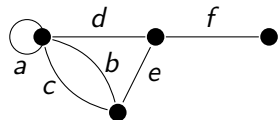


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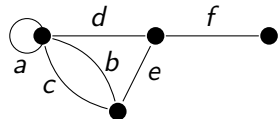
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**independent sets:** trees, linearly independent sets, algebraically independent sets

$$bdf, bef, cdf, cef, def, bd, be, bf, cd, ce, cf, de, df, ef, b, c, d, e, f, \emptyset$$



# Bases and independent sets

Let  $r: 2^E \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  be the rank function of a matroid on  $E$ .

A subset  $S \subseteq E$  is **independent** if  $r(S) = |S|$ , and a **basis** if  $r(S) = |S| = r(E)$ .



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A simplicial complex  $\mathcal{I} \subseteq 2^E$  is the set of independent sets of a matroid iff

**(AUG)**  $I_1, I_2 \in \mathcal{I}, |I_1| < |I_2| \Rightarrow \exists x \in I_2 \setminus I_1 : I_1 \cup x \in \mathcal{I}$ .





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These are also two *equivalent definitions* of matroids!



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Cryptomorphisms: same mathematical object, different interpretations



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reflexive, symmetric and transitive relations

disjoint nonempty subsets of  $E$  whose union is  $E$



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**Topology:** open sets, closed sets, neighborhoods, closure, interior, exterior, boundary,...

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- (C. 2023+) semigraphoids satisfying  $i \not\perp\!\!\!\perp j | K \Rightarrow i \perp\!\!\!\perp \ell | jKL$



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Let  $\{X_e : e \in E\}$  be a set of random variables indexed by  $E$ .

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In particular, if the random variables take finite numbers of values, the entropy (surprise) function  $h: 2^E \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a polymatroid.

$$h(iK) + h(jK) \geq h(ijK) + h(K)$$

$$h(iK) + h(jK) = h(ijK) + h(K) \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad i \perp\!\!\!\perp j | K$$



# Matroid and conditional independence

## Theorem

A CI-structure is defined by a loopless matroid  $M$  iff it satisfies

$$\text{(MCI)} \quad i \not\perp\!\!\!\perp j | K \Rightarrow i \perp\!\!\!\perp \ell | jKL,$$

$$\text{(SG)} \quad i \perp\!\!\!\perp j | K \wedge i \perp\!\!\!\perp \ell | jK \Rightarrow i \perp\!\!\!\perp \ell | K \wedge i \perp\!\!\!\perp j | \ell K.$$

Moreover, the correspondence between matroids and CI-structures satisfying (MCI) and (SG) is one-to-one.



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- **bimonotonic**

$$r(\text{something}, \text{🍏}) \geq r(\text{something}), \quad r(\text{something}, \text{🍏}) \leq r(\text{something}),$$



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- **bisubcardinal**

$$r(\text{nothing}) = 0, \quad r(\text{🍏}), r(\text{🍌}), \dots \leq 1.$$



# Delta-matroid

Recall that a nonempty family  $\mathcal{B} \subseteq 2^E$  is the set of bases of a matroid iff

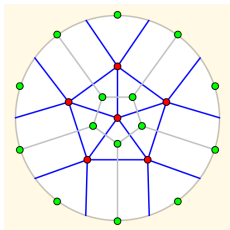
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A nonempty family  $\mathcal{B} \subseteq 2^E$  is the set of **bases** of a delta-matroid iff

( $\Delta$ -EXC)  $B_1, B_2 \in \mathcal{B}, x \in B_1 \Delta B_2 \Rightarrow \exists y \in B_1 \Delta B_2 : B_1 \Delta \{x, y\} \in \mathcal{B}$ .



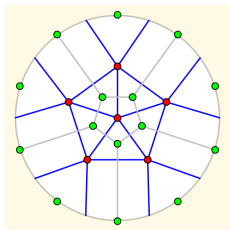
# Matroids and delta-matroids



The Petersen graph and  $K_6$  are not planar, but they are dual to each other when embedded on  $\mathbb{RP}^2$ .



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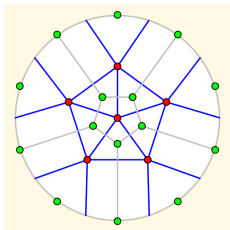
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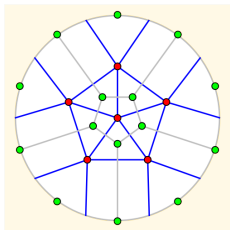
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matroid  
graphs

delta-matroid  
graphs embedded on a surface



# Matroids and delta-matroids



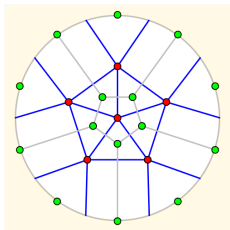
The Petersen graph and  $K_6$  are not planar, but they are dual to each other when embedded on  $\mathbb{RP}^2$ .

matroid	delta-matroid
graphs	graphs embedded on a surface
vanishing of maximal minors	vanishing of principal minors





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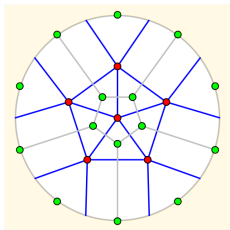


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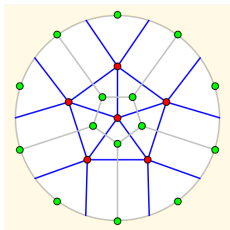


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basis exchange of type $A$	basis exchange of type $B$



## Delta-matroids as CI-structures of type B

Write  $[\pm n] := \{1, \dots, n, \bar{1}, \dots, \bar{n}\}$ , and  $S \sqsubseteq [\pm n]$  if  $\emptyset \neq S \subseteq [\pm n]$  and  $j \in S \Rightarrow \bar{j} \notin S$ .



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The set of **B-CI statements** is

$$\mathcal{B}_n := \{(ij|K) : K \sqsubseteq [\pm n], \{i, j\} \subseteq [\pm n] \setminus (K \cup \bar{K}), i \neq j\} \cup \\ \cup \{(i\bar{i}|K) : K \sqsubseteq [\pm n], |K| = n - 1, i \in [\pm n] \setminus (K \cup \bar{K})\}.$$



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## Theorem

A subset  $\mathcal{G} \subseteq \mathcal{B}_n$  corresponds to a delta-matroid on  $[n]$  iff

(CG1)  $\{(ij|L), (j\bar{j}|iL), (i\bar{j}|L)\} \subseteq \mathcal{G} \Rightarrow \{(\bar{i}\bar{j}|L), (j\bar{j}|\bar{i}L), (\bar{i}\bar{j}|L)\} \subseteq \mathcal{G}$ ,

(DMCI)  $(ij|K) \in \mathcal{B}_n \setminus \mathcal{G} \Rightarrow (\bar{i}\bar{j}|K), (i\bar{\ell}|jKL), (\bar{i}\bar{\ell}|jKL), (i\bar{i}|jKL') \in \mathcal{G}$ .

Moreover, the correspondence between loopless delta-matroids and subsets of  $\mathcal{B}_n$  satisfying (CG1) and (DMCI) is one-to-one.

*“Anyone who has worked with matroids has come away with the conviction that matroids are one of the richest and most useful mathematical ideas of our day. It is as if one were to condense all trends of present day mathematics onto a single structure, a feat that any would a priori deem impossible, were it not for the fact that matroids do exist.”*

*Indiscrete thoughts (2008), Gian-Carlo Rota*

Thank you!

