

On the Gröbner fans of max-linear Bayesian networks

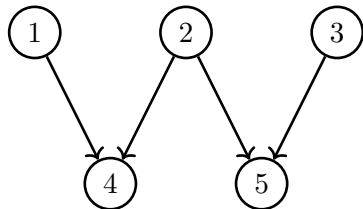
Kamillo Ferry (🚢)

TU Berlin

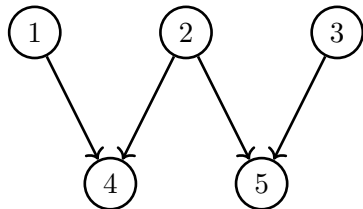
June 2nd, 2025

The 11th Conference of the Fachgruppe Computeralgebra
Leipzig

What is a max-linear Bayesian network?



What is a max-linear Bayesian network?



$$X_1 = Z_1$$

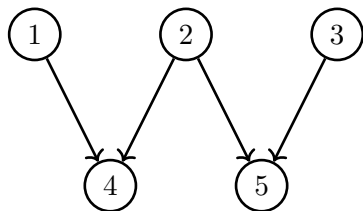
$$X_2 = Z_2$$

$$X_3 = Z_3$$

$$X_4 = c_{41}X_1 \vee c_{42}X_2 \vee Z_4$$

$$X_5 = c_{52}X_2 \vee c_{53}X_3 \vee Z_5$$

What is a max-linear Bayesian network?



$$X = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ c_{41} & c_{42} & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & c_{52} & c_{53} & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \cdot X \vee Z$$

Max-linear Bayesian networks

Definition (Gissibl and Klüppelberg 2018)

A max-linear Bayesian network is a random vector $X = (X_1, \dots, X_n)$ where the random variables X_i satisfy the recursive equations

$$X_i = \bigvee_{j=1}^n c_{ij} X_j \vee Z_i$$

for some $C \in \mathbb{T}^{n \times n}$ and independent random variables Z_i .

The expression for the X_i can be interpreted as the recursive affine equation

$$X = C \cdot X \vee Z.$$

Markov properties

Definition

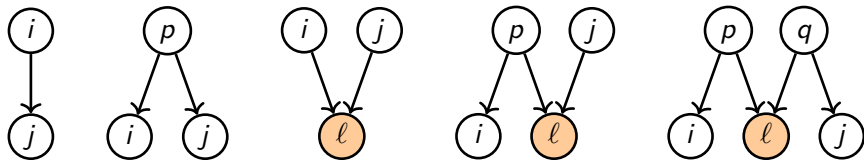
For three disjoint subsets $I, J, K \subset \{1, \dots, n\}$, we say that I and J are **-separated* by K in a DAG G ($I \perp_* J \mid K$) if there are no **-connecting paths* from I to J in G given K .

Theorem (Améndola, Klüppelberg, Lauritzen and Tran 2022)

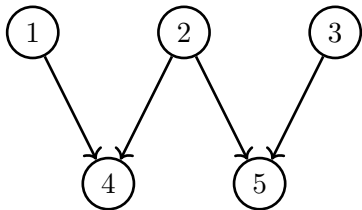
Let X be a max-linear Bayesian network supported on a DAG G . Then, for all $I, J, K \subset \{1, \dots, n\}$,

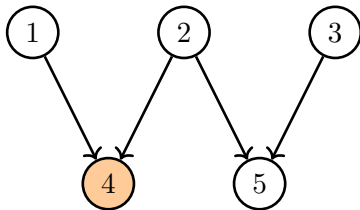
$$I \perp_* J \mid K \implies X_I \perp\!\!\!\perp X_J \mid X_K.$$

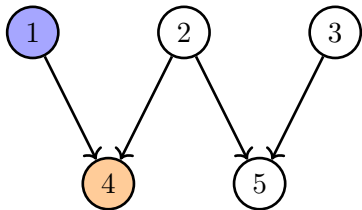
Types of $*$ -connecting paths

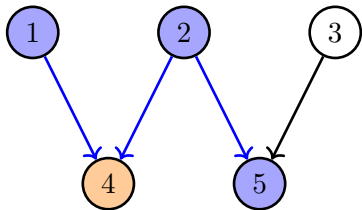


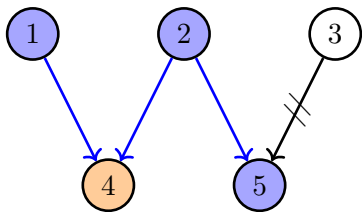
If any such path from i to j exists in G , then $i \not\downarrow_* j \mid K$.

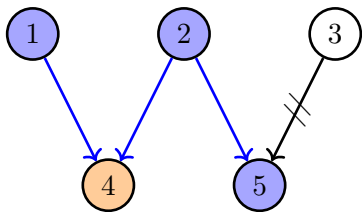




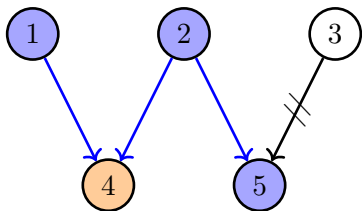








$$\implies 1 \perp_* 3 \mid 4$$



$$\implies 1 \perp_* 3 \mid 4 \implies X_1 \perp\!\!\!\perp X_3 \mid X_4$$

Maxoids

Definition

We denote by $\mathcal{M}_*(G, C)$ the set of all triples (I, J, K) for which $I \perp_{C^*} J \mid L$ in the DAG G with weight matrix C and call this the *maxoid* associated to (G, C) .

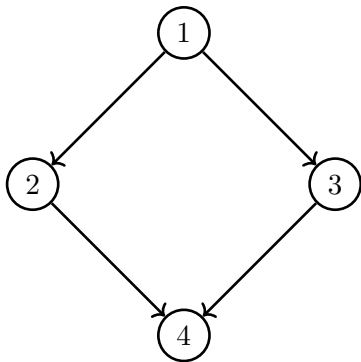
Theorem (Boege, , Hollering and Nowell 2025)

For any DAG G there is a hyperplane arrangement $\mathcal{H}_G \subseteq \mathbb{R}^E$ such that for every $C \in \mathbb{R}^E \setminus \mathcal{H}_G$ the set

$$\text{cone}_G(C) := \left\{ C' \in \mathbb{R}^E \setminus \mathcal{H}_G \mid \mathcal{M}_*(G, C) = \mathcal{M}_*(G, C') \right\}$$

is a full-dimensional open polyhedral cone. The collection of all closures of such cones for a fixed G forms a complete polyhedral fan \mathcal{F}_G in \mathbb{R}^E .

Moreover the map which sends a cone of \mathcal{F}_G to its maxoid is an inclusion-reversing surjection.



$$X_1 = Z_1$$

$$X_2 = c_{21} X_1 \vee Z_2$$

$$X_3 = c_{31} X_1 \vee Z_3$$

$$X_4 = c_{42} X_2 \vee c_{43} X_3 \vee Z_4$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} X_1 \\ X_2 \\ X_3 \\ X_4 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ c_{21} & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ c_{31} & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & c_{42} & c_{43} & 1 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} X_1 \\ X_2 \\ X_3 \\ X_4 \end{pmatrix} \vee \begin{pmatrix} Z_1 \\ Z_2 \\ Z_3 \\ Z_4 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} X_1 \\ X_2 \\ X_3 \\ X_4 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ c_{21} & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ c_{31} & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ c_{42}c_{21} \vee c_{43}c_{31} & c_{42} & c_{43} & 1 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} Z_1 \\ Z_2 \\ Z_3 \\ Z_4 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} X_1 \\ X_2 \\ X_3 \\ X_4 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \infty & \infty & \infty \\ c_{21} & 0 & \infty & \infty \\ c_{31} & \infty & 0 & \infty \\ c_{42}c_{21} \oplus c_{43}c_{31} & c_{42} & c_{43} & 0 \end{pmatrix} \odot \begin{pmatrix} Z_1 \\ Z_2 \\ Z_3 \\ Z_4 \end{pmatrix}$$

Kleene stars and polytropes

Definition

The Kleene star C^* of a tropical matrix $C \in \mathbb{T}^{n \times n}$ is given by

$$C^* := I_n \oplus C \oplus \dots \oplus C^{\odot(n-1)} \oplus \dots$$

Theorem (de la Puente 2013)

For a tropical matrix $C \in \mathbb{T}^{n \times n}$, the following sets coincide:

- The (tropical) column span of the Kleene star C^* .
- The intersection $Q(C)$ of half-spaces $x_i - x_j \leq c_{ij}$.

Kleene stars and polytropes

Definition

The Kleene star C^* of a tropical matrix $C \in \mathbb{T}^{n \times n}$ is given by

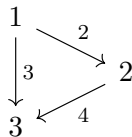
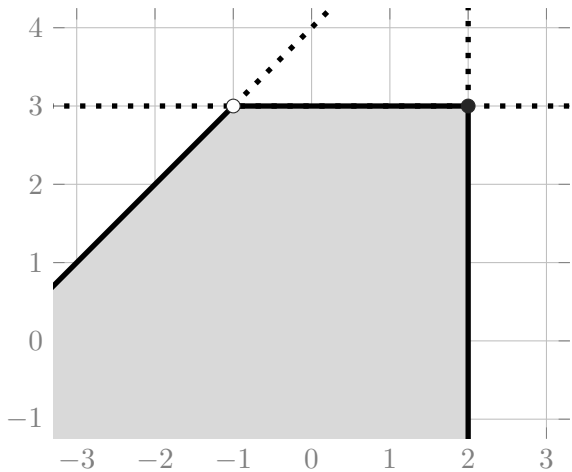
$$C^* := I_n \oplus C \oplus \dots \oplus C^{\odot(n-1)} \oplus \dots$$

Theorem (de la Puente 2013)

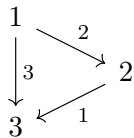
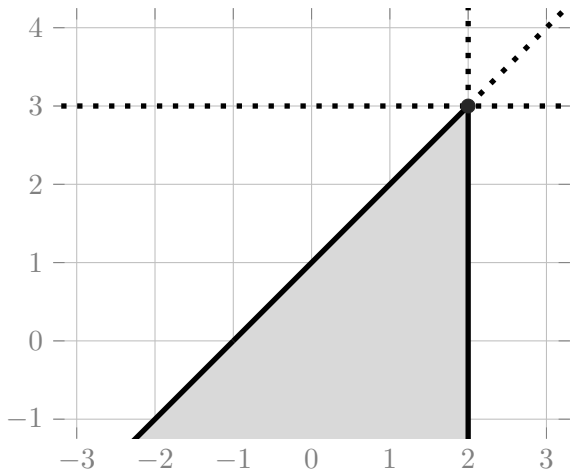
For a tropical matrix $C \in \mathbb{T}^{n \times n}$, the following sets coincide:

- The (tropical) column span of the Kleene star C^* .
- The intersection $Q(C)$ of half-spaces $x_i - x_j \leq c_{ij}$.

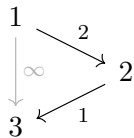
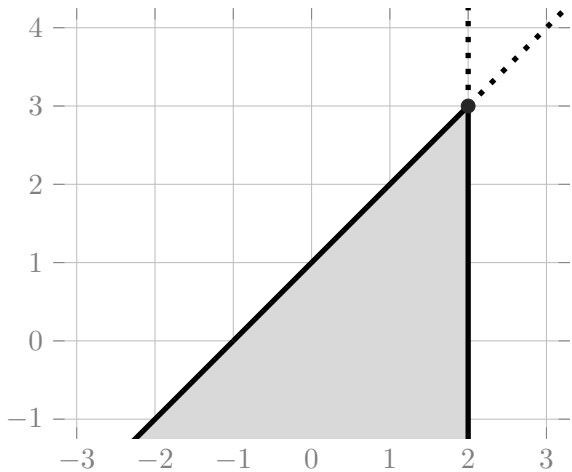
The polyhedron $Q(C)$ is the *polytrope* associated to C .



$$C = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \infty & \infty \\ 2 & 0 & \infty \\ 3 & 4 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$



$$C^* = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \infty & \infty \\ 2 & 0 & \infty \\ 3 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$



$$C^b = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \infty & \infty \\ 2 & 0 & \infty \\ \infty & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Edge rings and edge ideals

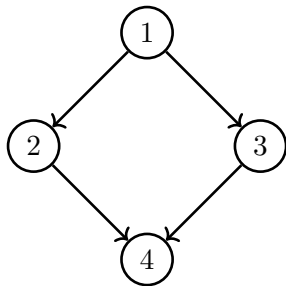
Definition

The *edge ring* of a directed graph G , denoted by $\mathbb{k}[G]$, is the polynomial ring generated by the edges of G , that is

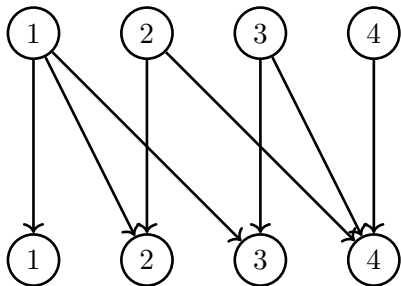
$$\mathbb{k}[G] := \mathbb{k}[\{e_{ij} \mid i \rightarrow j \text{ is a directed edge in } G\}].$$

The *edge ideal* $I_G \trianglelefteq \mathbb{k}[G]$ is the toric ideal given by the kernel of the ring morphism

$$\pi: \mathbb{k}[G] \rightarrow \mathbb{k}[s_1^\pm, t_1^\pm, \dots, s_n^\pm, t_n^\pm], \quad e_{ij} \mapsto \frac{s_j}{t_j}.$$



G



$B(G)$

... and edge ideals

Definition

To an even closed walk $w = i_0 \rightarrow i_1 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow i_\ell$ in a graph $B(G)$ we associate a binomial

$$e^w := e_1 \dots e_{r-1} - e_2 \dots e_\ell \in \mathbb{k}[G]$$

where $e_k = e_{i_{k-1}i_k}$.

Theorem (Reyes, Tatakis and Thoma 2012)

A universal Gröbner basis of the edge ideal I_G is given by the set

$$\{ e^w \mid e^w \text{ is primitive and } w \text{ is an even closed walk. } \}.$$

The elimination point-of-view

Theorem (Reyes, Tatakis and Thoma 2012)

A universal Gröbner basis of the edge ideal I_G is given by the set

$$\{ e^w \mid e^w \text{ is primitive and } w \text{ is an even closed walk. } \}.$$

Proposition

Let $H \subseteq G$ be directed graphs. Then

$$I_H = I_G \cap \mathbb{k}[H].$$

In other words, I_H is the elimination ideal of I_G for $i \rightarrow j \in G \setminus H$.

The determinantal point-of-view

Proposition (Villarreal 2015)

Let $G = K_n$ be the complete digraph. Then, I_G is the (dehomogenized) ideal of the Segre embedding of $\mathbb{P}^{n-1} \times \mathbb{P}^{n-1}$. In other words, I_G is the determinantal ideal given by the 2×2 -minors of

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & e_{12} & \dots & e_{1n} \\ e_{21} & 1 & \ddots & \vdots \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & e_{(n-1)n} \\ e_{n1} & \dots & e_{n(n-1)} & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Polytropes and edge ideals

$$Q(C) = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid x_i - x_j \leq c_{ij}\} \quad \text{for } C \in \mathbb{T}^{n \times n}$$

Theorem (2025)

A $(x_i - x_j = c_{ij})$ -hyperplane defines a facet of $Q(C)$ if and only if e_{ij} is not contained in the linear part of $\text{in}_C(I_G)$. In this case, $C = C^$.*

Polytopes and edge ideals

$$Q(C) = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid x_i - x_j \leq c_{ij}\} \quad \text{for } C \in \mathbb{T}^{n \times n}$$

Theorem (2025)

A $(x_i - x_j = c_{ij})$ -hyperplane defines a facet of $Q(C)$ if and only if e_{ij} is not contained in the linear part of $\text{in}_C(I_G)$. In this case, $C = C^$.
For C generic, this is an equivalence.*

Polytopes and edge ideals

$$Q(C) = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid x_i - x_j \leq c_{ij}\} \quad \text{for } C \in \mathbb{T}^{n \times n}$$

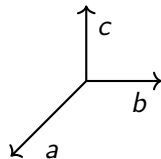
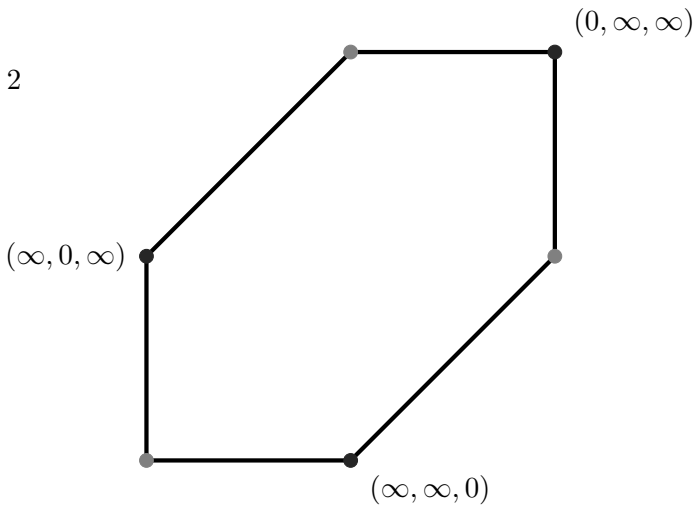
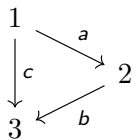
Theorem (2025)

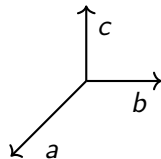
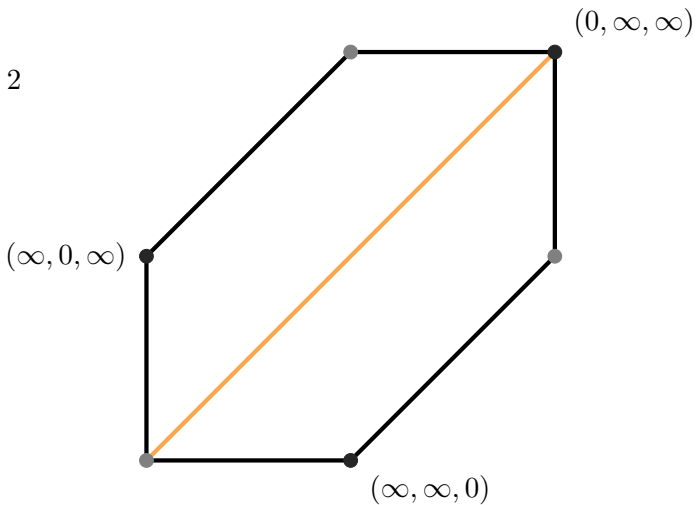
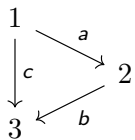
A $(x_i - x_j = c_{ij})$ -hyperplane defines a facet of $Q(C)$ if and only if e_{ij} is not contained in the linear part of $\text{in}_C(I_G)$. In this case, $C = C^$.*

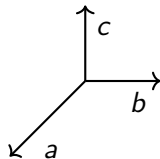
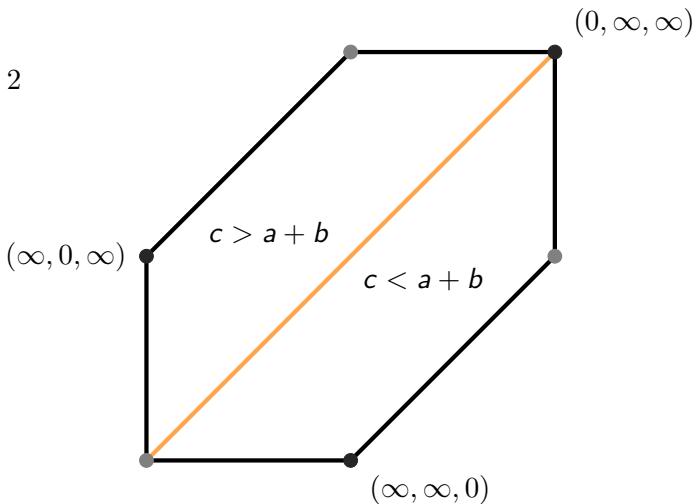
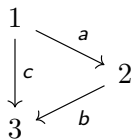
For C generic, this is an equivalence.

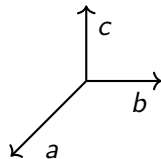
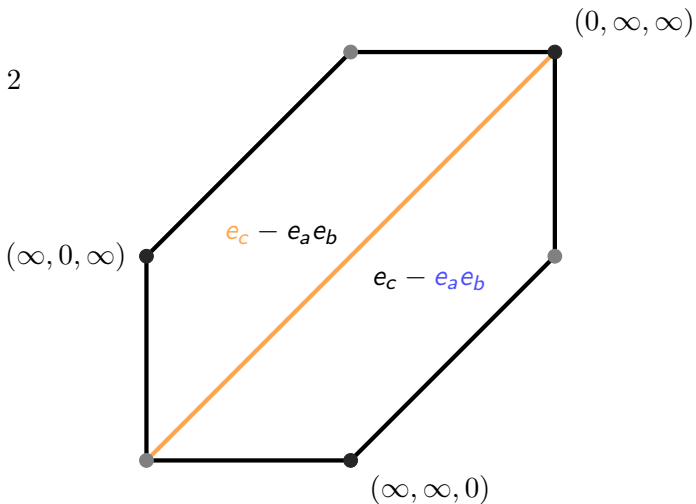
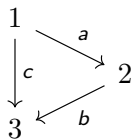
Corollary (2025)

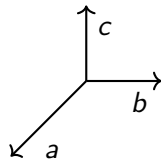
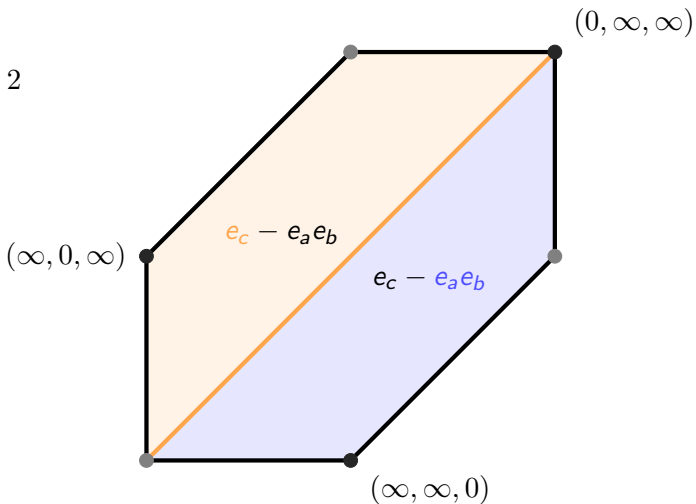
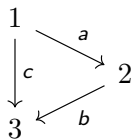
Suppose e_{ij} is in the linear part of $\text{in}_C(I_G)$. Then, $Q(C) = Q(C')$ where C' agrees with C except for $c'_{ij} = \infty$.

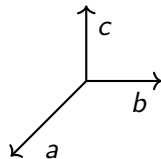
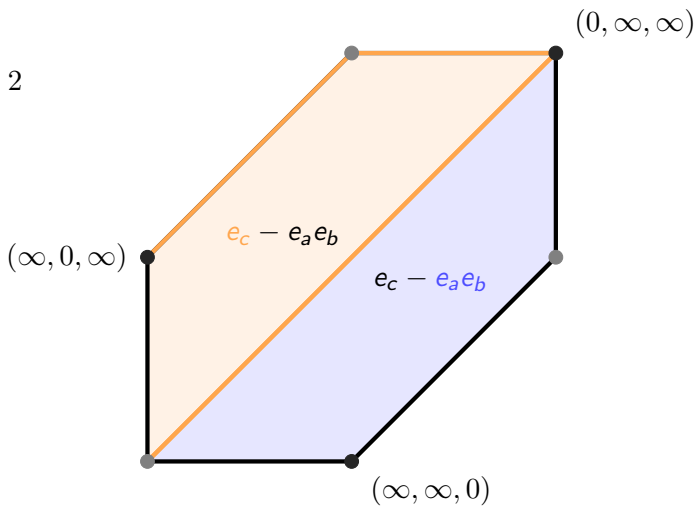
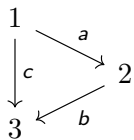


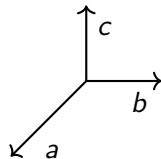
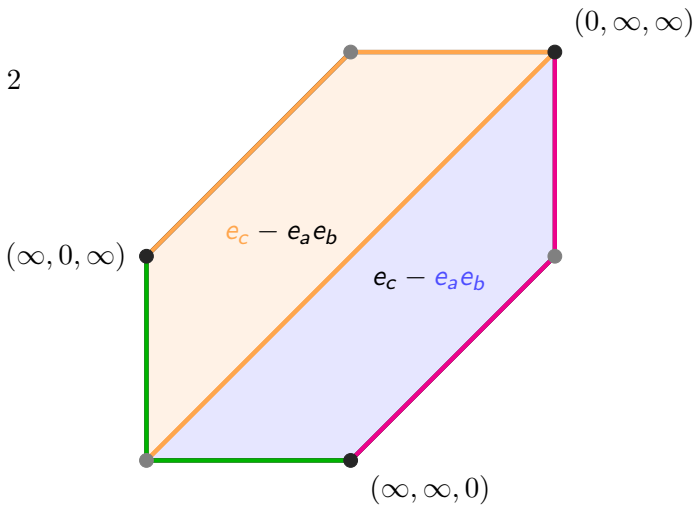
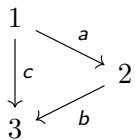


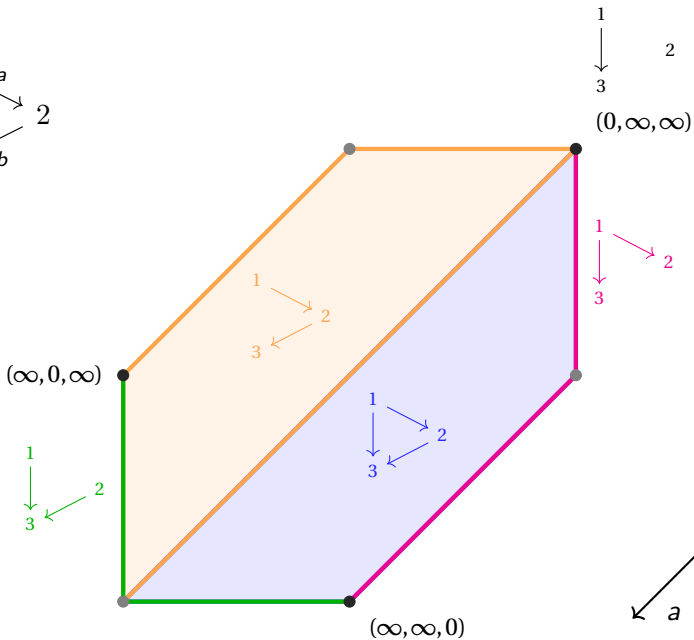
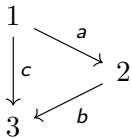



















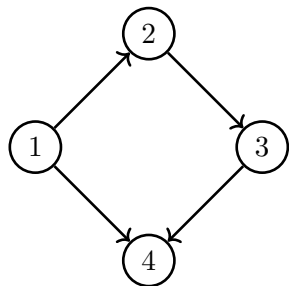
Bibliography I

-  Améndola, Carlos, Klüppelberg, Claudia, Lauritzen, Steffen and Tran, Ngoc M. (2022). 'Conditional independence in max-linear Bayesian networks'. In: *The Annals of Applied Probability* 32.1. ISSN: 1050-5164. DOI: 10.1214/21-AAP1670 (cit. on p. 6).
-  Boege, Tobias, , Hollering, Benjamin and Nowell, Francesco (2025). *Polyhedral Aspects of Maxoids*. arXiv: 2504.21068 [math.CO] (cit. on p. 15).
-  de la Puente, María Jesús (2013). 'On tropical Kleene star matrices and alcoved polytopes'. In: *Kybernetika* 49.6, pp. 897–910. ISSN: 0023-5954. DOI: 10338.dmlcz/143578 (cit. on pp. 20, 21).
-  Gissibl, Nadine and Klüppelberg, Claudia (2018). 'Max-linear models on directed acyclic graphs'. In: *Bernoulli* 24.4, pp. 2693–2720. ISSN: 1350-7265. DOI: 10.3150/17-BEJ941 (cit. on p. 5).

Bibliography II

-  Reyes, Enrique, Tatakis, Christos and Thoma, Apostolos (Jan. 2012). 'Minimal generators of toric ideals of graphs'. In: *Advances in Applied Mathematics* 48.1, pp. 64–78. ISSN: 01968858. DOI: 10.1016/j.aam.2011.06.003 (cit. on pp. 27, 28).
-  Villarreal, Rafael H. (2015). *Monomial algebras*. Second edition. Monographs and research notes in mathematics. Boca Raton: CRC Press, Taylor & Francis Group. 686 pp. ISBN: 978-1-4822-3469-5 (cit. on p. 29).

Caveat emptor



The edge ideal of this graph is generated by the binomial

$$e_{14} - e_{12}e_{23}e_{34}$$

which is *not* the 2×2 -minor of a matrix.

Proof: The elimination point-of-view

Proposition

Let $H \subseteq G$ be directed graphs. Then

$$I_H = I_G \cap \mathbb{k}[H].$$

Proof sketch: I_G can be taken as the ideal generated by e^w for all even closed walks in G . I_H is then generated by those e^w for which w is an even closed walk in $H \subseteq G$.

Proof: The elimination point-of-view

Proposition

Let $H \subseteq G$ be directed graphs. Then

$$I_H = I_G \cap \mathbb{k}[H].$$

In other words, I_H is the elimination ideal of I_G for $i \rightarrow j \in G \setminus H$.

Proof sketch: I_G can be taken as the ideal generated by e^w for all even closed walks in G . I_H is then generated by those e^w for which w is an even closed walk in $H \subseteq G$.