# Abstract tropical linear programming



Georg Loho

## Signed tropical matroids

**Definition** 

- ightharpoonup Set of bipartite graphs  $\mathcal T$  corresponding to the cells in a subdivision of a subpolytope  $\Delta_{d-1} \times \Delta_{n-1}$
- ▶ Sign matrix  $\Sigma \in \{+, -, \bullet\}^{d \times n}$

Background:

- ▶ Description of subdivision of  $\Delta_{d-1} \times \Delta_{n-1}$  as *Tropical* Oriented Matroids (Ardila, Develin 2009; Oh, Yoo 2011; Horn 2016)
- Regular subdivisions in bijection with tropical point configurations (Develin, Sturmfels 2004; Fink, Rincón 2015; Joswig, Loho 2016)



Given  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$ ,  $b \in \mathbb{R}^n$ . Consider

$$A \cdot x \leq b$$
.

Problem: Find a feasible point  $y \in \mathbb{R}^d$  fulfilling the system.

- 1:  $I \leftarrow \text{appropriate } d\text{-elem. subset of } [n] \text{ (basis of rows)}$
- 2:  $y \leftarrow \text{solution of } A_I \cdot x = b_I$
- 3: **while** y does not fulfill the system and no certificate for infeasibility found **do**
- $f \leftarrow \text{particular element of } [n] \setminus I$
- $e \leftarrow$  particular element of I
- $I \leftarrow I \cup \{f\} \setminus \{e\}$  (again a basis)
- $y \leftarrow \text{solution of } A_l \cdot x = b_l$
- 8: end while
- 9: **return** *y*

#### **Basic Covectors**

Fix  $I \subset [n]$  of size d.

Classical (Cramer 1750)

$$(A_I|-b_I)\cdot x=0.$$

Solution vector given by  $d \times d$ -subdeterminants of  $(A_I - b_I)$ .

Tropical ('Max Plus' '90, RGST 2005, AGG 2014)

min attained twice per row in  $M_I \odot_{\min} x = (\min_{j \in [d+1]} (m_{ij} + x_j))_{i \in I}$ 

- Solution given by tropical  $d \times d$ -subdet. of  $M \in (\mathbb{R} \cup \infty)^{n imes (d+1)}$ .
- ightharpoonup Tropical determinants are minimal  $d \times d$  matchings.

#### Abstract Tropical (L 2017)

Cramer covector of I: Bipartite tree on  $[d+1] \sqcup [n]$  such that dnodes in  $I \subset [n]$  have degree 2 (and the others are of degree 1).

Generalization of 'min attained twice', special covector graphs.

# Combinatorial Progress measure

- Affine coordinates of a point with given covector are the weights of the paths from fixed node to coordinate nodes.
- Purely combinatorial criterion on the paths using the concept of 'odd' and 'even' edges

## **Covectors from Tropical Matrices**

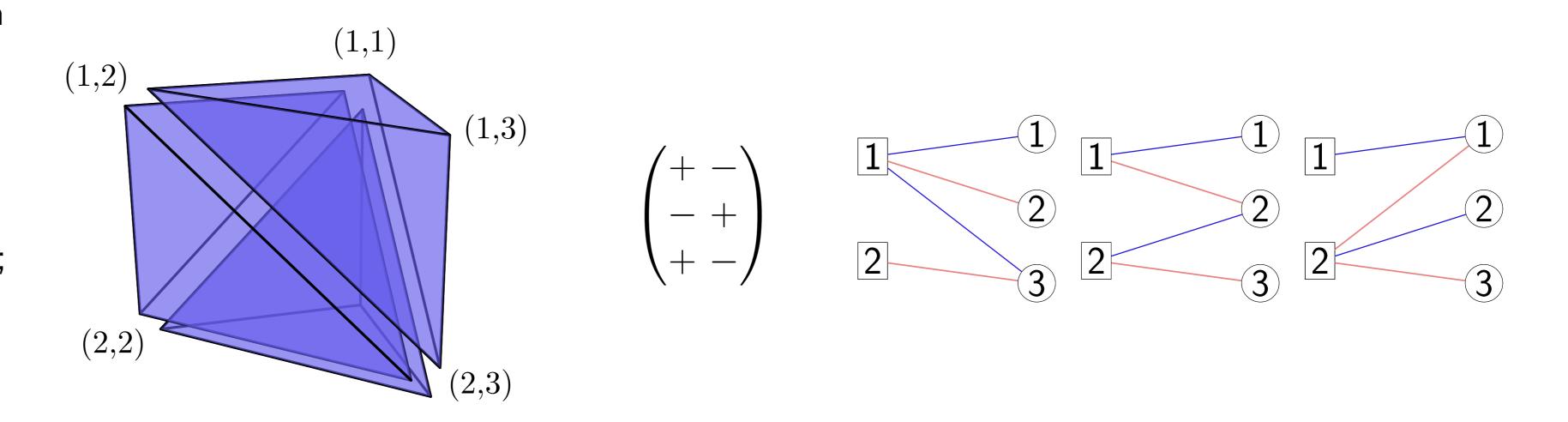
$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & -2 \\ 0 & -2 & -4 \\ 0 & \infty & -6 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} + & - & - \\ + & - & + \\ - & \bullet & + \end{pmatrix}$$
Inequality system
$$x_1 \leq \min(x_2, x_3)$$

$$\min(x_1, x_3 - 2) \leq x_2 - 1$$

$$\min(x_1, x_3 - 4) \leq x_2 - 2$$

$$x_3 - 6 \leq x_1$$

$$(-8, -6, -2)$$



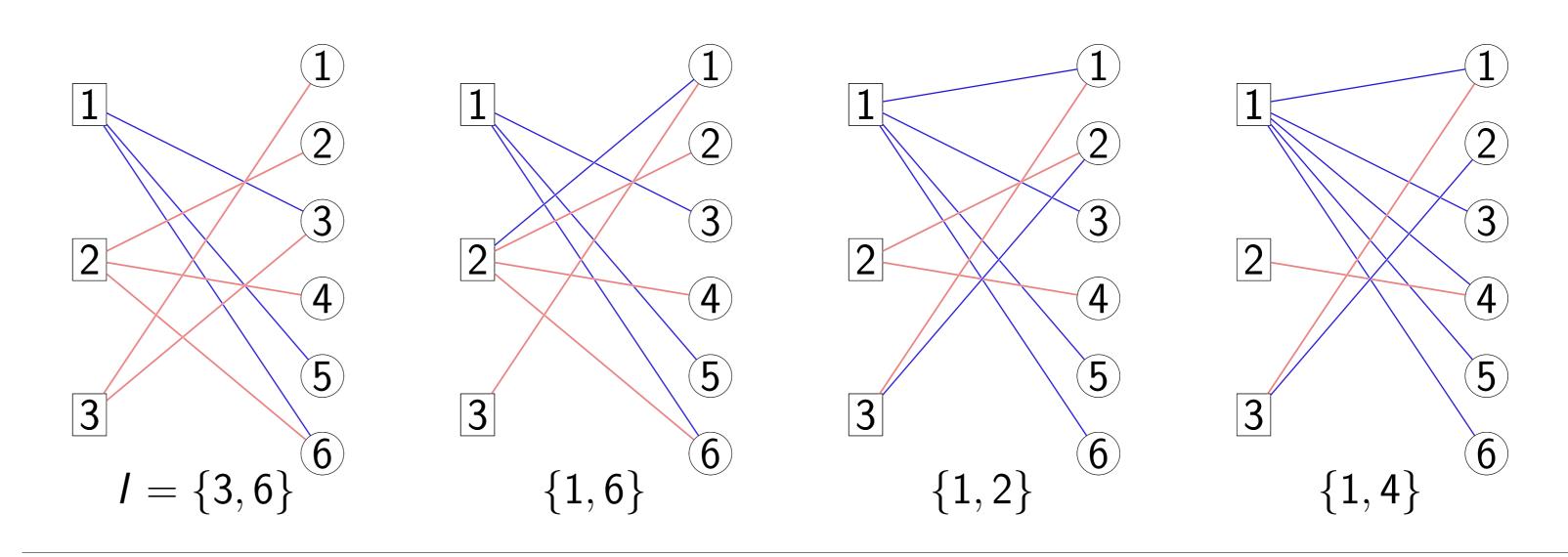
#### Abstract Tropical Feasibility Algorithm (Loho 2017)

Problem: Find feasible Cramer covector.

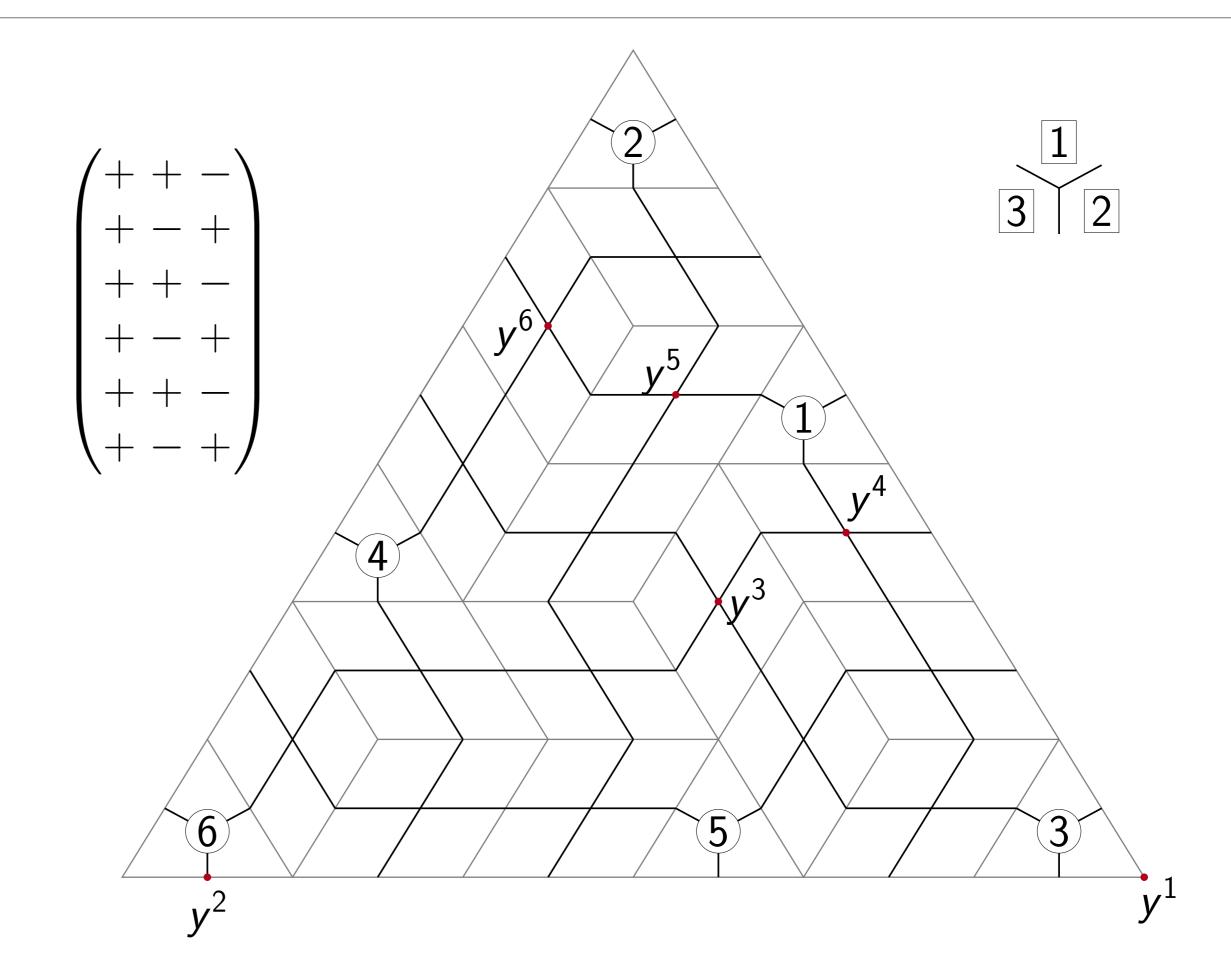
- 1:  $I \leftarrow \text{appropriate } d\text{-elem. subset of } [n]$
- 2: **while** There is  $j \in [n]$  only incident with negative edges in Cramer covector of I (and it is not totally infeasible) do
- $k \leftarrow \text{node in } [n]$  incident with same node in [d+1] via negative edge
- $I \leftarrow I \setminus \{k\} \cup \{j\}$
- 5: end while
- 6: return /

#### Theorem (L 2017)

The algorithm works in a not-necessarily regular triangulation of  $\Delta_d \times \Delta_{n-1}$  and returns a feasible Cramer covector or a witness that there is no feasible Cramer covector.



# TLP in a Non-Regular Triangulation of $\Delta_2 \times \Delta_5$



### Runtime Analysis and the Secondary Fan of $\Delta_{d-1} \times \Delta_{n-1}$

Theorem (L 2017)

The algorithm takes  $\mathcal{O}(d\omega)$  steps for a tropical linear inequality system given by a matrix  $M \in (\mathbb{Z} \cup \{\infty\})^{n \times (d+1)}$ .

Here,  $\omega$  is the maximal finite entry of a fixed non-negative integer matrix which induces the same regular subdivision of  $\Delta_d \times \Delta_{n-1}$  as M.

#### References

Abstract tropical linear programming, Georg Loho, 2017, arXiv:1612.01890