

# Submodular Functions

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# Outline

- Submodular Functions
  - Examples
    - Discrete Convexity
    - Base Polyhedra
- Submodular Function Minimization
  - Min-Max Theorem
    - Combinatorial Algorithms
- Symmetric Submodular Functions
  - Minimum Degree Orderings

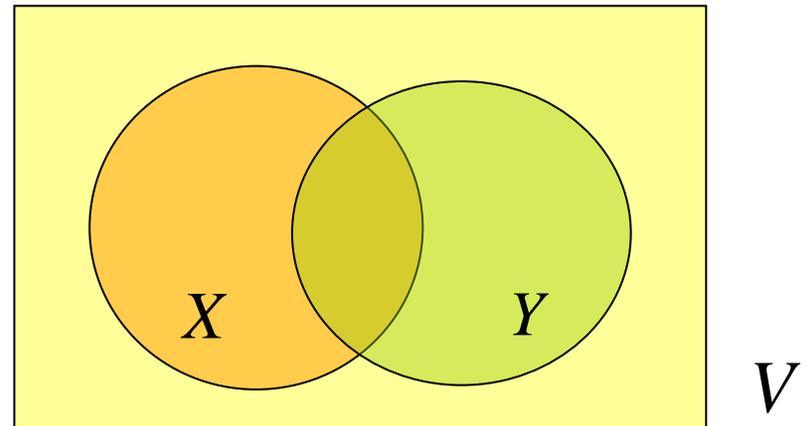
# Submodular Functions

$V$  : Finite Set

$$f : 2^V \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \quad \forall X, Y \subseteq V$$

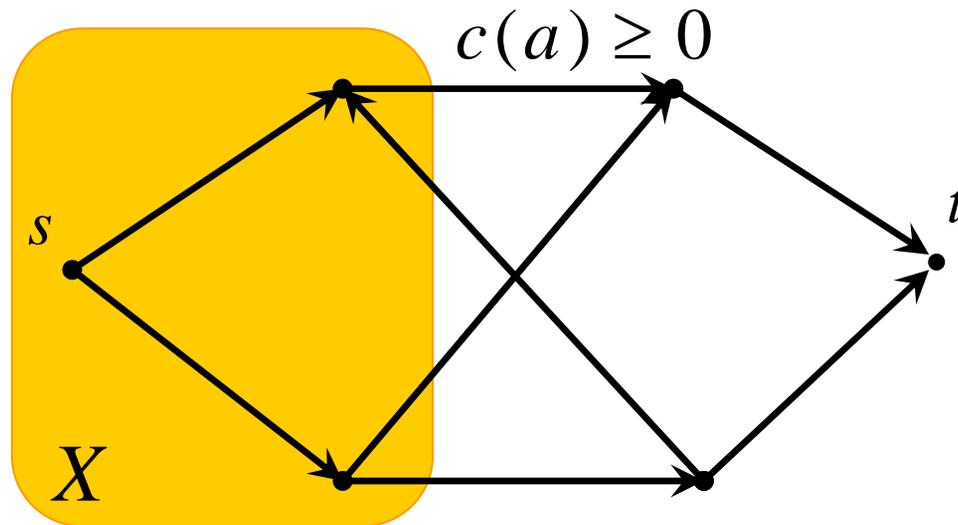
$$f(X) + f(Y) \geq f(X \cap Y) + f(X \cup Y)$$

- Cut Capacity Functions
- Matroid Rank Functions
- Entropy Functions



# Cut Capacity Function

Cut Capacity  $\kappa(X) = \sum \{c(a) \mid a : \text{leaving } X\}$



Max Flow Value = Min Cut Capacity

# Matroids

$$M = (E, \mathfrak{I})$$

Whitney (1935)

$$\emptyset \in \mathfrak{I}$$

$$I \subseteq J \in \mathfrak{I} \Rightarrow I \in \mathfrak{I}$$

$$\forall I, J \in \mathfrak{I}, |I| < |J| \Rightarrow \exists j \in J - I, I \cup \{j\} \in \mathfrak{I}$$

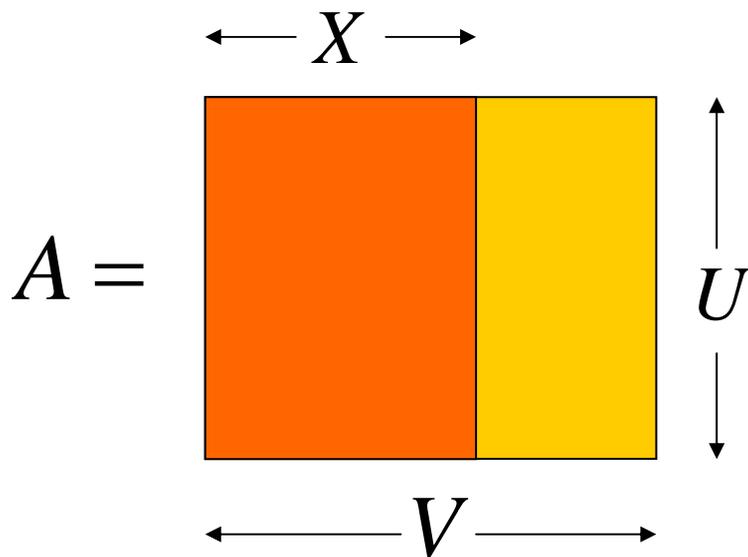
Rank Function

$$\rho(Y) = \max \{ |J| : J \subseteq Y, J \in \mathfrak{I} \}$$

# Matroid Rank Functions

Matrix Rank Function

$$\rho(X) = \text{rank } A[U, X]$$



$$\rho: 2^V \rightarrow \mathbf{Z}_+$$

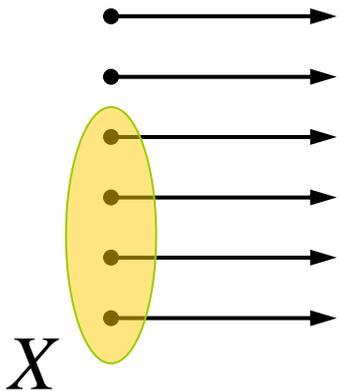
$$\forall X \subseteq V, \rho(X) \leq |X|.$$

$$X \subseteq Y \Rightarrow \rho(X) \leq \rho(Y).$$

$\rho$ : Submodular.

# Entropy Functions

Information Sources



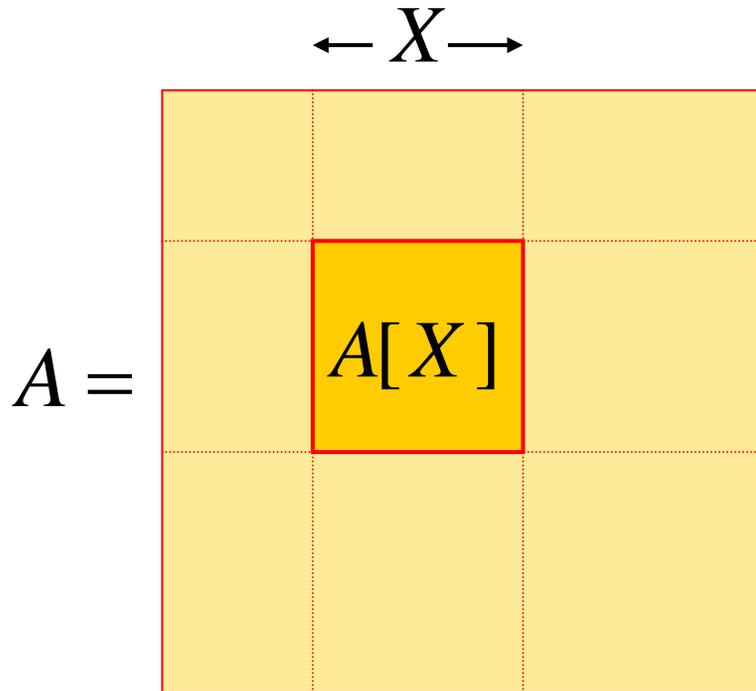
$$h(\phi) = 0$$

$h(X)$  : Entropy of the Joint Distribution

$$h(X) + h(Y) \geq h(X \cap Y) + h(X \cup Y)$$

Conditional Mutual Information  $\geq 0$

# Positive Definite Symmetric Matrices



$$f(\phi) = 0$$

$$f(X) = \log \det A[X]$$

Ky Fan's Inequality

$$f(X) + f(Y) \geq f(X \cap Y) + f(X \cup Y)$$

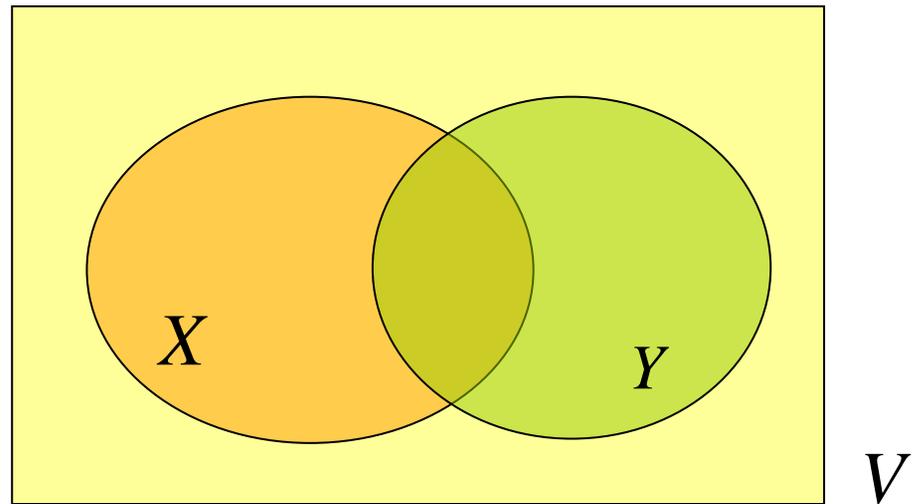
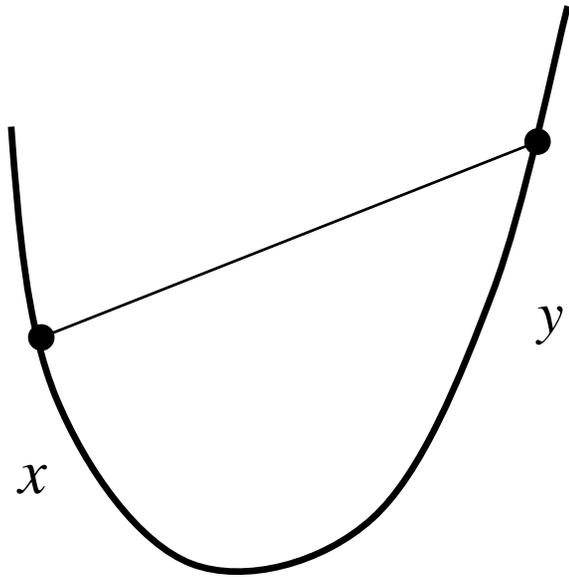
Extension of the Hadamard Inequality

$$\det A \leq \prod_{i \in V} A_{ii}$$

# Discrete Convexity

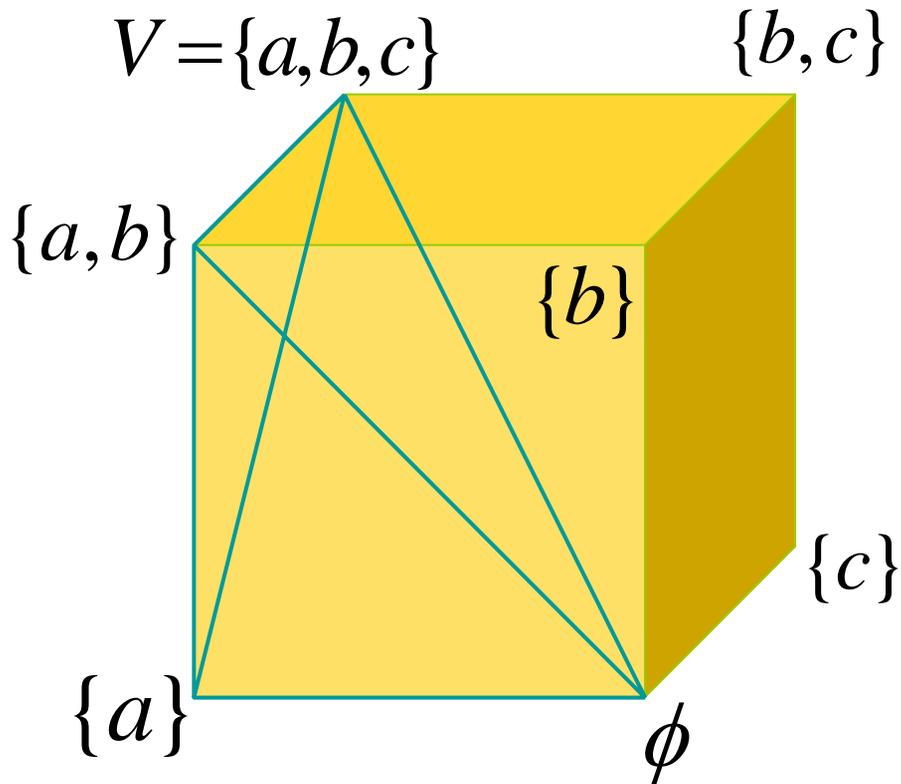
Convex Function

$$f(X) + f(Y) \geq f(X \cap Y) + f(X \cup Y)$$



# Discrete Convexity

Lovász (1983)



$\hat{f}$  : Linear Interpolation

$\hat{f}$  : Convex



$f$  : Submodular

Discrete Convex Analysis

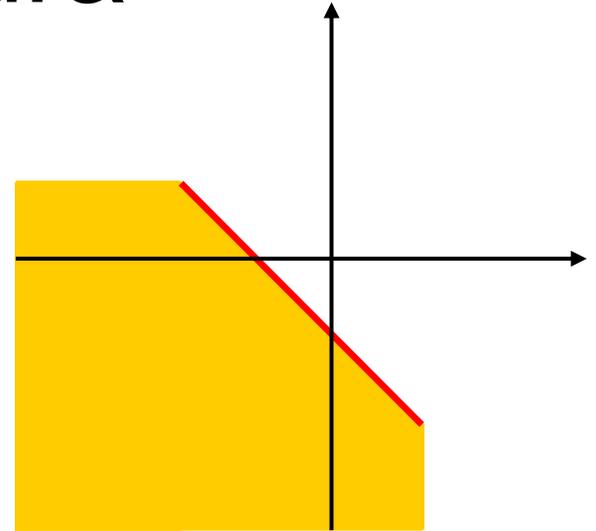
Murota (2003)

# Base Polyhedra

$$\mathbf{R}^V = \{x \mid V \rightarrow \mathbf{R}\}$$

$$x(Y) = \sum_{v \in Y} x(v)$$

$$f(\emptyset) = 0$$



Submodular Polyhedron

$$P(f) = \{x \mid x \in \mathbf{R}^V, \forall Y \subseteq V, x(Y) \leq f(Y)\}$$

Base Polyhedron

$$B(f) = \{x \mid x \in P(f), x(V) = f(V)\}$$

# Greedy Algorithm

Edmonds (1970)  
Shapley (1971)



$$y(v) = f(L(v)) - f(L(v) - \{v\}) \quad (v \in V)$$

$y$  : Extreme Base

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & \ddots & \vdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & \cdots & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} y(v_1) \\ y(v_2) \\ \vdots \\ y(v_n) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} f(L(v_1)) \\ f(L(v_2)) \\ \vdots \\ f(L(v_n)) \end{bmatrix}$$

# Greedy Algorithm

$y \in B(f)$ ?

$$y(X) \leq f(X), \quad \forall X \subseteq V$$

Induction on  $|X|$



$$y(X \setminus \{v^*\}) \leq f(X \setminus \{v^*\})$$

Submodularity

$$y(X) = y(X \setminus \{v^*\}) + y(v^*)$$

$$\leq f(X \setminus \{v^*\}) + f(L(v^*)) - f(L(v^*) \setminus \{v^*\})$$

$$\leq f(X)$$

# Linear Optimization

$$\max \{ \langle p, x \rangle \mid x \in B(f) \} ?$$

$$p \in \mathbf{R}_+^V$$

$$\underline{\max \{ \langle p, x \rangle \mid x \in P(f) \} ?}$$

$$\langle p, x \rangle := \sum_{v \in V} p(v)x(v)$$

Greedy Algorithm with  $p(v_1) \geq p(v_2) \geq \dots \geq p(v_n)$

$$y(v) = f(L(v)) - f(L(v) - \{v\}) \quad (v \in V)$$

$y$  : Optimal

$$\hat{f}(p) = \max \{ \langle p, x \rangle \mid x \in B(f) \} \longrightarrow \hat{f} : \text{Convex}$$

# Linear Optimization

## Dual LP

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Minimize} \quad & \sum_{X \subseteq V} q_X f(X) \\ \text{subject to} \quad & \sum_{X \ni v} q_X = p(v), \quad \forall v \in V, \\ & q_X \geq 0, \quad \forall X \subseteq V. \end{aligned}$$

$$q_X := \begin{cases} p(v_j) - p(v_{j+1}) & (X = L(v_j)) \\ 0 & (\text{otherwise}) \end{cases}$$

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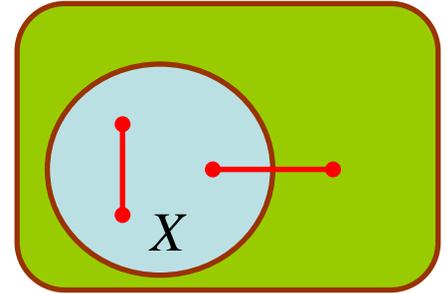
$$\sum_{X \subseteq V} q_X f(X) = \sum_{j=1}^n [p(v_j) - p(v_{j+1})] f(L(v_j)) = \hat{f}(p)$$

# Graph Orientation

$G = (V, E)$ : Graph       $b: V \rightarrow \mathbf{Z}_+$

$e(X)$ : Number of Edges Incident to  $X$ .

Hakimi [1965]



$e$ : Submodular

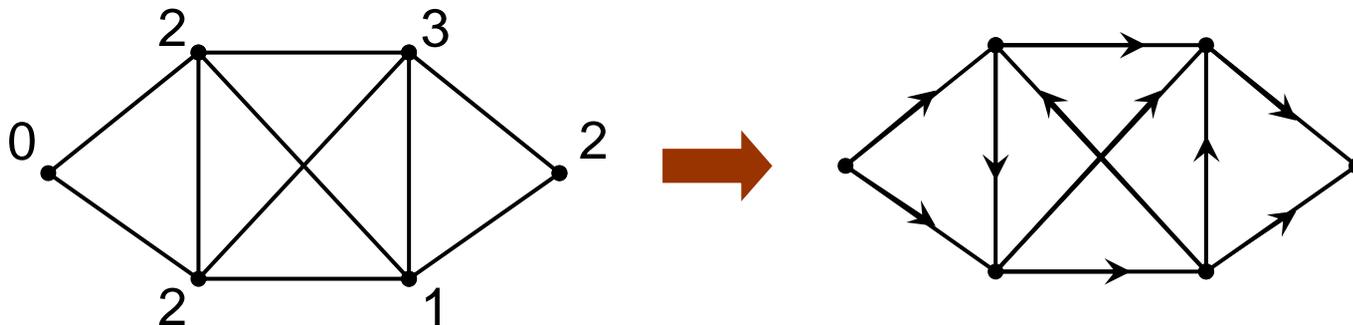
There exists an orientation  $\vec{G}$  with  $\text{in-deg}(v) = b(v)$  for every  $v \in V$ .



$$b(X) \leq e(X), \quad \forall X \subseteq V,$$

$$b(V) = e(V).$$

$$b \in B(e)$$



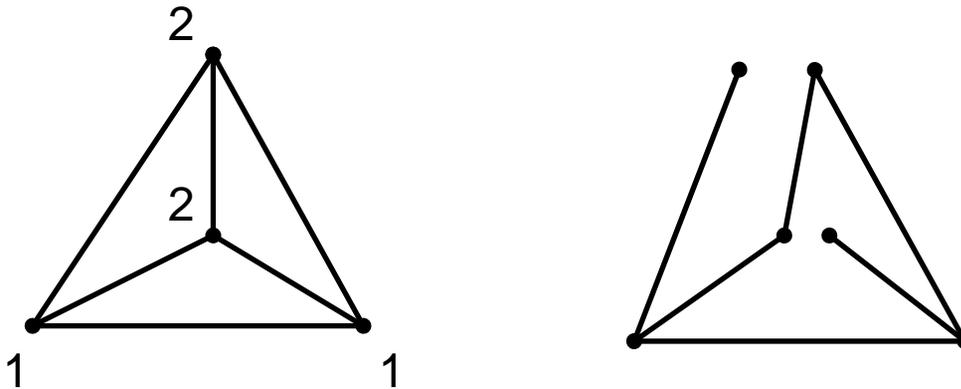
# Connected Detachment

$G = (V, E)$ : Connected Graph

$b: V \rightarrow \mathbf{Z}_+$

Detachment

$G = (V, E) \longrightarrow \hat{G} = (W, E):$



Split each vertex  $v \in V$  into  $b(v)$  vertices. Each edge should be incident to some corresponding vertices.

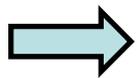
# Connected Detachment

Theorem (Nash-Williams [1985])

There exists a connected  $b$ -detachment of  $G$ .

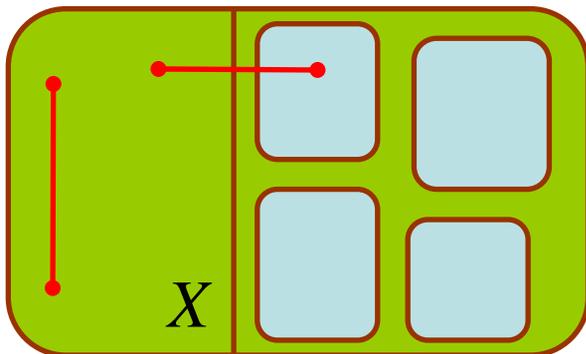
$$\iff b(X) \leq e(X) - c(X) + 1, \quad \forall X \subseteq V.$$

$c(X)$ : Number of Connected Components in  $G \setminus X$ .



Consider an  $b$ -detachment.

Shrink each connected component in  $G \setminus X$ .



Number of vertices:  $b(X) + c(X)$ .

Number of edges:  $e(X)$ .

If the resulting graph is connected,

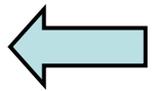
$$b(X) + c(X) \leq e(X) + 1.$$

# Connected Detachment

$f(X) := e(X) - c(X) + 1$     Submodular

$$f(V) = |E| + 1, \quad f(\emptyset) = 0.$$

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$$b \in P(f)$$

$$\exists h \in B(f), \quad h \geq b.$$

$$s \in V \quad y(v) := \begin{cases} h(v) & (v \neq s) \\ h(s) - 1 & (v = s) \end{cases}$$

$$y \in B(e)$$

$\exists$  Orientation  $\vec{G}$  with in-deg  $(v) = y(v)$ ,  $\forall v \in V$ .

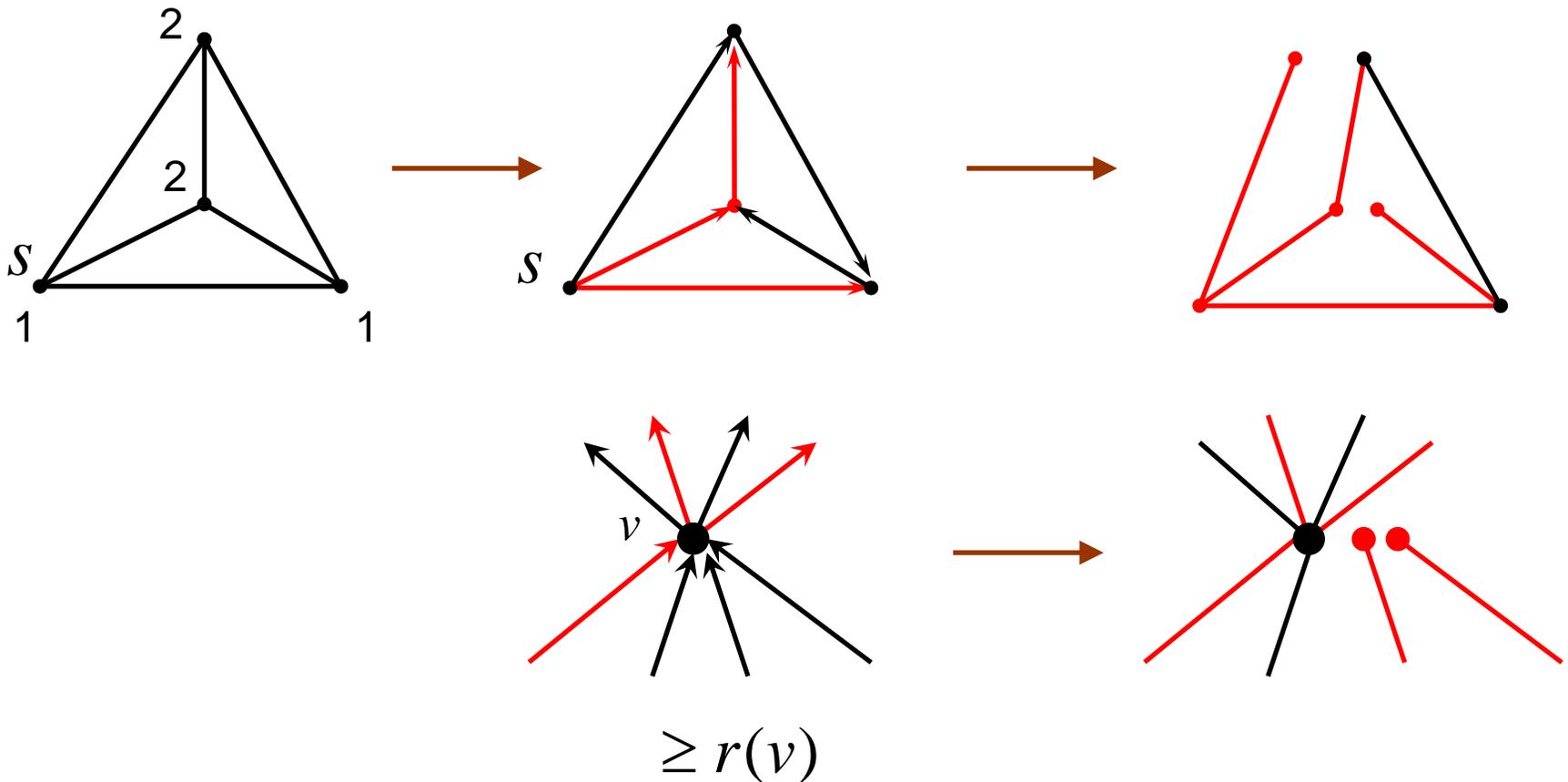
$R$ : Set of vertices reachable from  $s$ .

$$\underline{e(R)} = y(R) = h(R) - 1 \leq \underline{f(R)} - 1$$

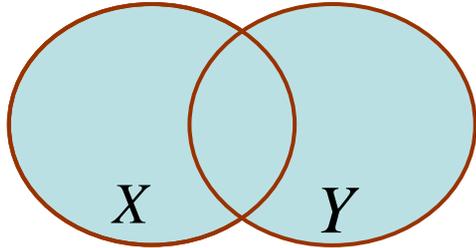
$$R = V$$

# Connected Detachment

An orientation connected from a root  $s$  such that  $\text{in-deg}(v) \geq b(v)$  for every  $v \neq s$  and  $\text{in-deg}(s) \geq b(s) - 1$ .



# Intersecting Submodular Functions



Intersecting:

$$X \cap Y \neq \emptyset, \quad X \setminus Y \neq \emptyset, \quad Y \setminus X \neq \emptyset.$$

$$f : 2^V \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$$

Intersecting Submodular:

$$f(X) + f(Y) \geq f(X \cap Y) + f(X \cup Y)$$

$\forall X, Y \subseteq V$  : Intersecting

# Intersecting Submodular Functions

$f : 2^V \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$  Intersecting Submodular  $f(\emptyset) = 0$

$$P(f) = \{x \mid x \in \mathbf{R}^V, \forall Y \subseteq V, x(Y) \leq f(Y)\}$$

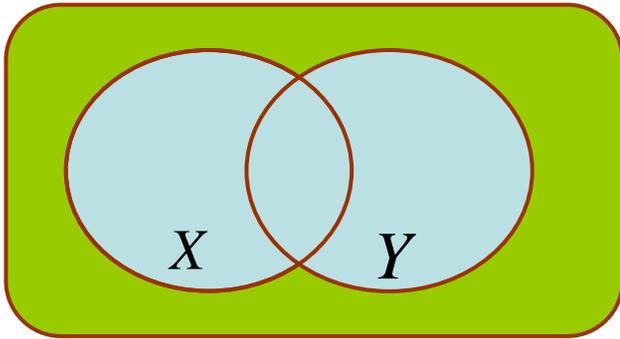
Theorem (Lovász [1977])

There exists a fully submodular function

$$\tilde{f} : 2^V \rightarrow \mathbf{R} \text{ such that } P(f) = P(\tilde{f}).$$

$$\tilde{f}(X) = \min \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^k f(X_i) \mid \{X_1, \dots, X_k\} : \text{partition of } X \right\}$$

# Crossing Submodular Functions



Crossing:

$$X \cap Y \neq \phi, \quad X \cup Y \neq V,$$

$$X \setminus Y \neq \phi, \quad Y \setminus X \neq \phi.$$

$$f : 2^V \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$$

Crossing Submodular:

$$f(X) + f(Y) \geq f(X \cap Y) + f(X \cup Y)$$

$$\forall X, Y \subseteq V : \text{Crossing}$$

# Crossing Submodular Functions

$f : 2^V \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$  Crossing Submodular  $f(\emptyset) = 0$

$$B(f) = \{x \mid x \in \mathbf{R}^V, x(V) = f(V), \forall Y \subseteq V, x(Y) \leq f(Y)\}$$

Theorem (Frank [1982], Fujishige [1984])

There exists a fully submodular function

$\tilde{f} : 2^V \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$  such that  $B(f) = B(\tilde{f})$ ,

provided that  $B(f)$  is nonempty.

Bi-truncation Algorithm Frank & Tardos [1988].

# Graph Orientation

$G = (V, E)$ : Graph       $b: V \rightarrow \mathbf{Z}_+$

$e(X)$ : Number of Edges Incident to  $X$ .

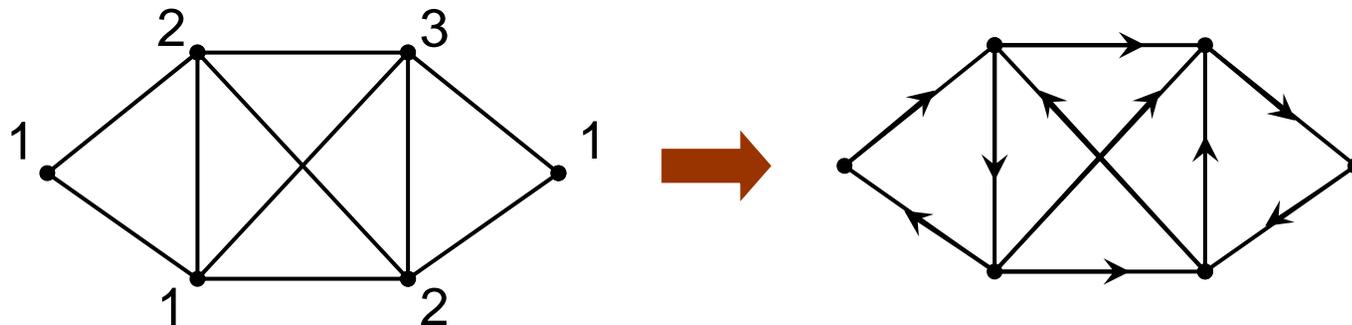
$$b \in B(f)$$

There exists an  $k$ -arc-connected orientation  $\vec{G}$  with  $\text{in-deg}(v) = b(v)$  for every  $v \in V$ .



$$b(X) \leq e(X) - k, \quad \forall X \subseteq V,$$

$$b(V) = e(V).$$



# Graph Orientation

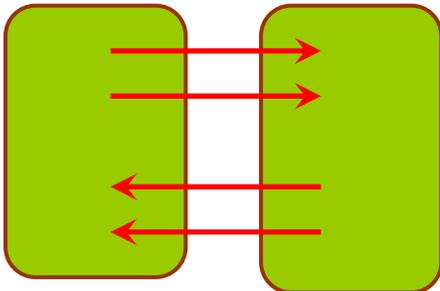
When is  $B(f)$  nonempty?

Theorem (Nash-Williams [1969])

There exists an  $k$ -arc-connected orientation of  $G$ .



$G : 2k$ -edge-connected



$$x(v) := d(v) / 2 \quad (v \in V)$$

$$x \in B(f)$$

# Minimax Acyclic Orientation

$G = (V, E)$ : Graph

Find an acyclic orientation that minimizes the maximum in-degree

