

# Another proof of optimality for greedy

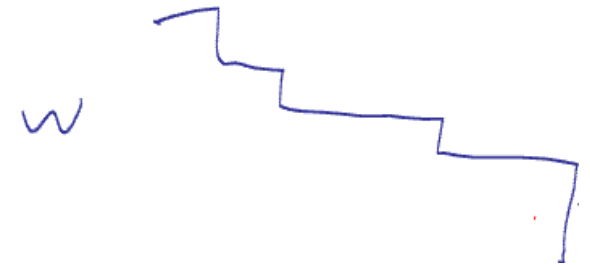
(If you can do it simple, make it complicated and sketch !)

Thm (Edmonds) :  $M = (S, \mathcal{F})$  mat.

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} x(A) \in v(A) \\ x \geq 0 \end{array} \right\} = \text{conv}(\mathcal{F})$$

$$\sum_{a \in A} x_a$$

Proof:  $w_1 \geq \dots \geq w_n$   
 $U_i = \{1, \dots, i\}$



Submodularity  $\Rightarrow$  Sets  $A$  with positive dual variables form a chain !

The  $F$  that we find satisfies:  $|F \cap U_i| = r(U_i)$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} w(F) = (w_1 - w_2) |F \cap U_1| + \\ + (w_2 - w_3) |F \cap U_2| + \dots \\ + w_n |F \cap U_n| \end{array} \right\} \text{dual solution}$$

# The inverse of the duality theorem

**Theorem** (Edmonds) :  $M = (S, \mathcal{F})$  matroid. Then

$$\text{conv} (\chi_F : F \in \mathcal{F}_i) = \{ x \in \mathbb{R}^S : x(A) \leq r(A) \text{ for all } A \subseteq S, x \geq 0 \}$$

**Proof :**  $\subseteq$  : Clear !

For  $\supseteq$  show  $\forall w \in \mathbb{R}^S$   $\max w^T x$  for  $x$  on the left =  $\max w^T x$  for  $x$  on the right

This suffices , since **if not  $=$ , then  $\subset$  and the hyperplane  $c^T x = b$  separating some  $x$  on the right from all on the left** , shows that the max of  $c^T x$  is larger on the right (choosing the sign of  $c$  appropriately).

But max of  $c^T x$  on the right is equal, by the duality theorem to **the min of its dual so the latter is larger than the max of  $c^T x$  on the left**, contradicting Edmonds' minimax theorem (previous transparency).

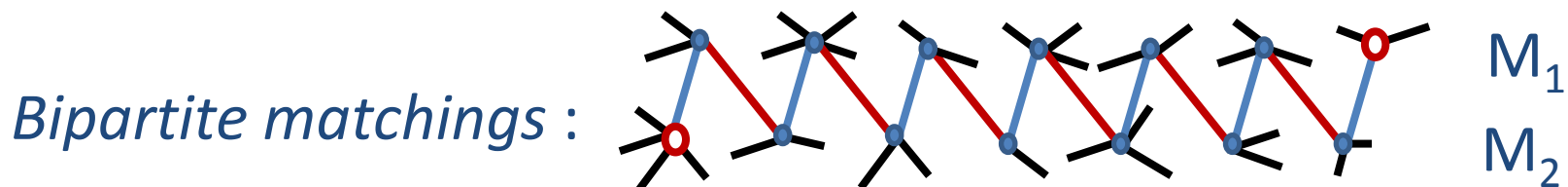
# Matroid Intersection

Edmonds (1979)

Let  $M_1$  and  $M_2$  be two matroids,  
 $(S, r_1)$  and  $(S, r_2)$   
 $(S, \mathcal{F}_1)$  and  $(S, \mathcal{F}_2)$   
 $c: S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$   
maximize  $\{ c(F) : F \in \mathcal{F}_1 \cap \mathcal{F}_2 \}$

## Two examples :

*2 disjoint spanning trees* :  $M_1$  and  $M_2 := M_1^*$  ,  $c = 1$  everywhere;  
actually arbitrary number of disjoint spanning trees (network design)



Both  $M_1, M_2$  are partition matroids: sums of uniform matroids on stars

# Matroid Intersection Theorem

How to conjecture a « good characterization » ?

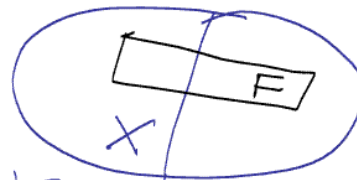
We know :  $x \in \text{conv}(\chi_F : F \in \mathcal{F}_i) \Leftrightarrow x(A) \leq r_i(A)$  for all  $A \subseteq S$

maximize  $\{ |F| : F \in \mathcal{F}_1 \cap \mathcal{F}_2 \} = ?$        $\text{conv}(\chi_F : F \in \mathcal{F}_1 \cap \mathcal{F}_2) = ?$

$\{x(A) \leq r_i(A) \ (i=1, 2) \text{ for all } A \subseteq S\}$

Theorem (Edmonds 1979):       $\max_{F \in \mathcal{F}_1 \cap \mathcal{F}_2} |F| = \min_{X \subseteq S} r_1(X) + r_2(S \setminus X)$

Proof:  $\leq$   
 $F \in \mathcal{F}_1 \cap \mathcal{F}_2$



$$F : |F| = |F \cap X| + |F \setminus X| \leq \\ \leq r_1(X) + r_2(S \setminus X)$$

If  $|F| = r_1(M)$  define  $X$  !

# Matroid Intersection Theorem

Generalization of bipartite matching  
(of the alternating paths in the « Hungarian method »)

Proof of  $\geq$  : that is, there is  $F$  and  $X$  with  $|F| = r_1(X) + r_2(S \setminus X)$  .

We prove that the following algorithm terminates with such an  $F$  and  $X$ .

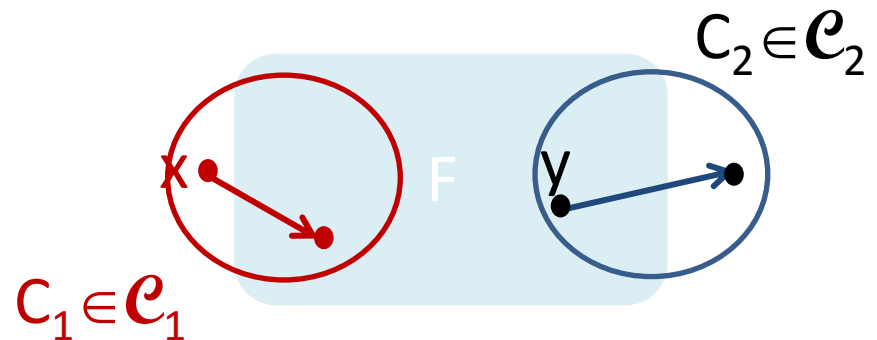
## Intersection algorithm

What is the INPUT ?  $S$  and  $\rightarrow$  ORACLE - rank, independence, etc

0.) Let :  $F \in \mathcal{F}_1 \cap \mathcal{F}_2$  maximal by inclusion (greedily)

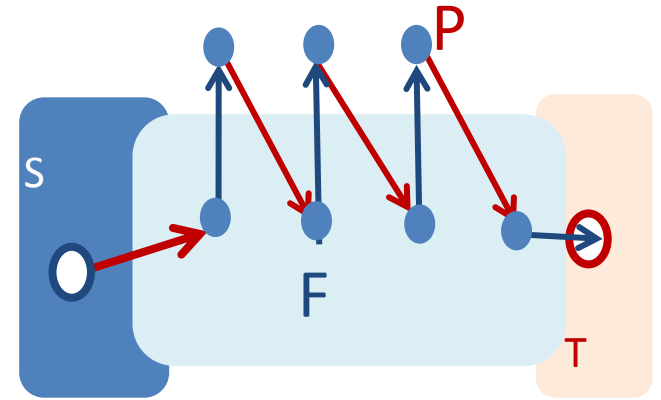
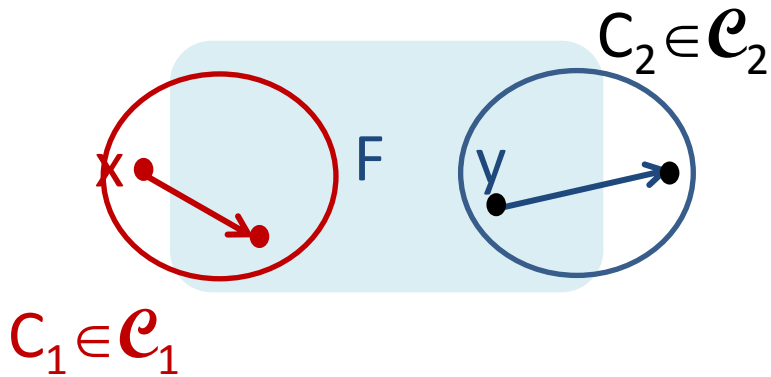
1.) Define arcs from  
unique cycles

Between  $S \setminus F$  and  $S$  :



# Matroid Intersection Theorem

## Algorithmic proof

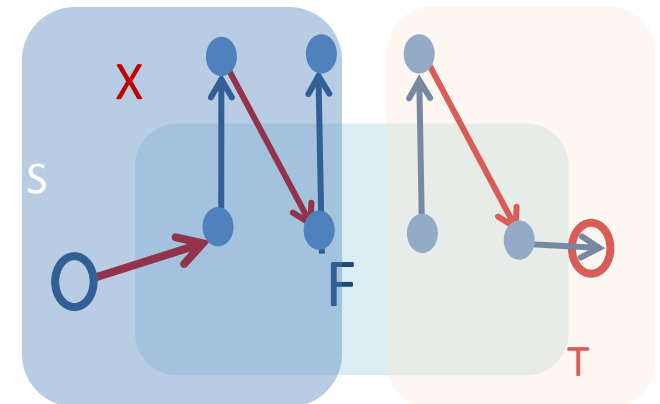


3.) Sources  $S := \{x \in S \setminus F, F \cup \{x\} \in \mathcal{F}_2\}$  Sinks  $T := \{x \in S \setminus F, F \cup \{x\} \in \mathcal{F}_1\}$   
 If S or T is empty?

Find an (S,T)-path.

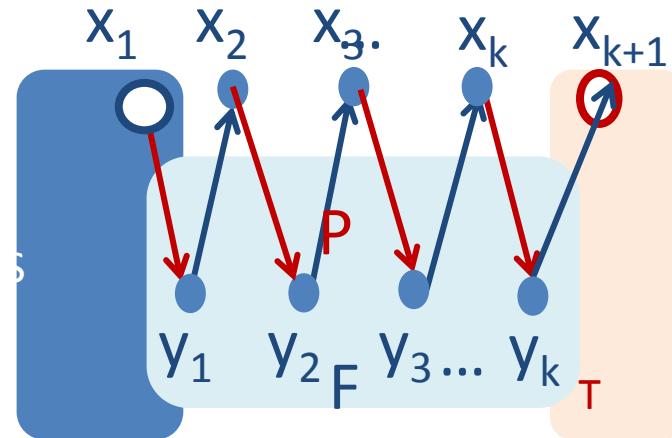
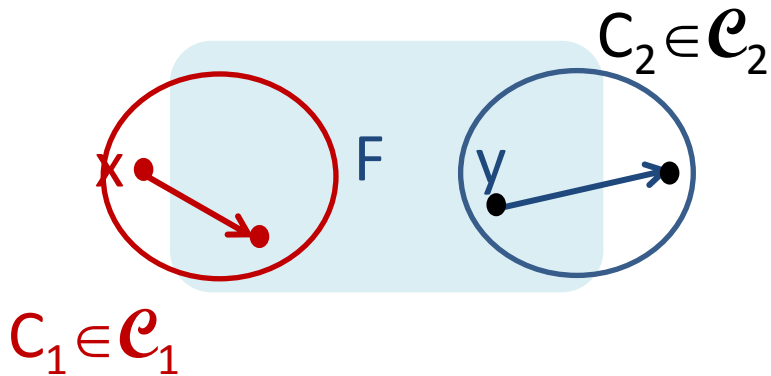
a.) If there exists one, let **P** be one with  
**inclusionwise minimal vertex-set**  
 (equivalently, P is chordless).

b.) If there exists none,  $T \cap X = \emptyset$ , where  
 $X := \{x \in S : x \text{ is reachable from } S\}$



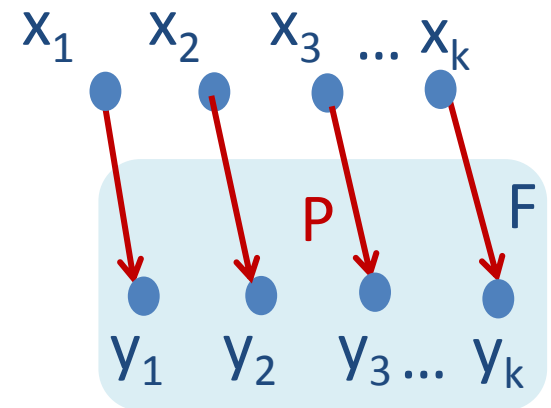
# Matroid Intersection Theorem

exchange along an improving path



a.) If  $P = \{x_1, y_1, x_2, \dots, x_k, y_k, x_{k+1}\}$  is a chordless path, then  $F \Delta P \in \mathcal{F}_1 \cap \mathcal{F}_2$   
 To prove this, apply the following to  $F \cup \{x_1\} \in \mathcal{F}_2$ , and  $F \cup \{x_{k+1}\} \in \mathcal{F}_1$

**Lemma :**  $M = (S, \mathcal{F})$  matroid,  $F \in \mathcal{F}$ ,  $x_1, \dots, x_k \notin F$   
 If  $y_i$  is in the unique cycle of  $F \cup x_i$ ,  
 but  $y_j$ ,  $j=i+1, \dots, k$  is not, then  
 $(F \setminus \{y_1, \dots, y_k\}) \cup \{x_1, \dots, x_k\} \in \mathcal{F}$



**Proof:** For  $k=1$  true, and then use it by induction to  $(F \setminus \{y_k\}) \cup \{x_k\}$ .

# Matroid Intersection Theorem

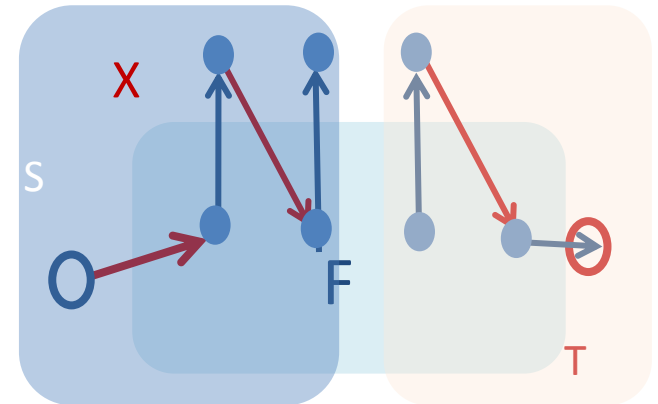
No improving path : show that the solution is optimal

Let  $X := \{x \in S : x \text{ is reachable from } S\}$

**Lemma** : Suppose  $b.) : X \cap T = \emptyset$ , where

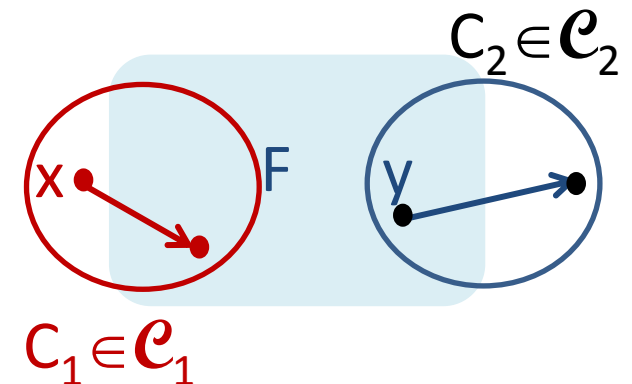
$X := \{x \in S : x \text{ is reachable from } S\}$

Then  $|F| = r_1(X) + r_2(S \setminus X)$



**Proof** :  $r_1(X) = |F \cap X|$ , because  $X \subseteq sp_1(F \cap X)$ .

$r_2(S \setminus X) = |F \setminus X|$ , because  $S \setminus X \subseteq sp_2(F \setminus X)$ .





# Corollaries

Conversely these can be deduced with a similar algorithm and imply matroid intersection.

matchability to an independent set

Matroid union (partition)

Minimum number of independent sets covering every element

Maximum number of disjoint bases

**Theorem** (Nashwilliams) : In a graph there exist  $k$  disjoint spanning trees, if and only if for any partition  $\mathcal{P}$  of the vertex-set there exist at least  $|\mathcal{P}| - 1$  edges with endpoints in different classes.

# On the crossroad of the postman and the salesman



# Polyhedra for the postman and the salesman

For the postman apply to  $T:=T_G$  :

**Theorem** Edmonds,Johnson (1973) :  $\text{conv}(\text{T-joins}) + \mathbb{R}_+^n =$

$$Q_+(G,T) := \{x \in \mathbb{R}_+^E \mid x(\delta(W)) \geq 1, \delta(W) \text{ is a T-cut, i.e. } |W \cap T| \text{ is odd}\}$$

**Fractional relaxation of the TSP (subtour elimination « Held-Karp »):**

$$P(V,s,t) = \{x \in \mathbb{R}_+^E : x(\delta(W)) \geq 2, \emptyset \neq W \subset V, s, t \in W \text{ or } \notin W, \\ \text{if } s, t \text{ separated by } W\}$$

Integer points : Hamiltonian cycles

**Objectifs :** **Conjecture:**  $\text{OPT} \leq 4/3 \text{ LIN}$

**Conjecture (s,t) :**  $\text{OPT} \leq 3/2 \text{ LIN}$

$\text{OPT} := c\text{-min Ham}$

**Relaxation:**  $\text{LIN} := \min \{ c^T x : x \in P(V,s,t) \} \rightarrow \mathbf{x}^*$

# Tours

A *tour* in  $G=(V,E)$  is a « spanning Eulerian subgraph of  $2G$  », that is,  $H = (V, F)$  such that

- the elements of  $F$  are in  $E$  and with 1 or 2 parallel copies
- all degrees of  $H$  are even
- $H$  is connected

min c-weight of a tour = OPT of TSP (min of metric HAM)

Tour = 'Graphical TSP tour' of  
Cornuéjols, Fonlupt, Naddef (1986)

= TSP

min cardinality of a tour = OPT of graph - TSP

# Reformulations to tours

## TSP

INPUT:  $G$  graphe,  $c: E(G) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$

OUTPUT:  $c$ -min **tour** (dans  $2G$ , degrés pairs, connexe)

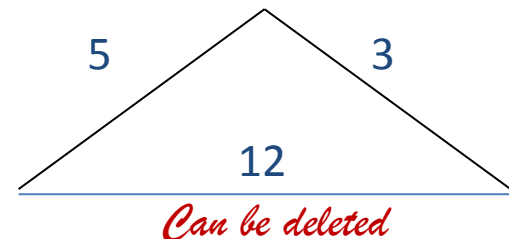
## TSP PATH

INPUT:  $G$  graph,  $s, t \in V(G)$ ,  $c: E(G) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$

OUTPUT: min  $(s, t)$ -**tour** (in  $2G$ ,  $s, t$ : odd, otherwise even, connected)

Advantages :

- **No restriction on  $c$** , - no more necessarily a metric !
- Even degrees, relaxed comparing to 2
- equivalence with a less dense graph
- **has a cardinality case  $c \equiv 1$**
- becomes graph theory with combinatorial methods



**graph-TSP : minimum cardinality of a tour**

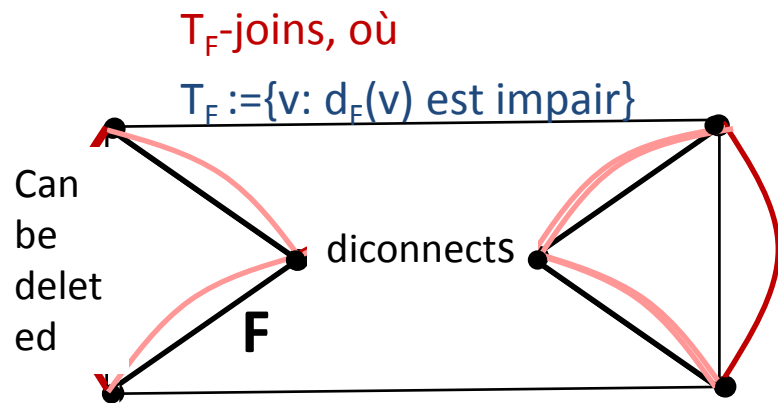
# The last results

cycle or path / cardinality or weights	cycle	(s,t)-path
cardinality	Sebő, Vygen SV12, Jan 2012 <b>1.4</b>	Gao: preuve simple, mars 2013  Sebő, Vygen SV12, Jan 2012 <b>1,5</b>
general	Christofides CHR, 1976 <b>1,5</b>	Sebő S12, Sept 2012 <b>1,6</b>



# Christofides : connectivity & parity correction

**Christofides Tour** : c-min spanning tree  $F$  + parity correction (pc)



tour  $\setminus T_F$ -join is a  $T_F$ -join  $\Rightarrow pc \leq 1/2$

for (s,t)-tours  $2/3$

**Trick** : If  $x \in Q_+(G, T)$ , then  $c(\text{modifying the parity on } T) \leq c^T x$

**Wolsey '80** :  $x^* \in P(G, s=t)$ , so  $x^*/2 \in Q_+(G, T) \forall T$ , apply to  $T=T_F$



# 5/3 for T-tours: another proof

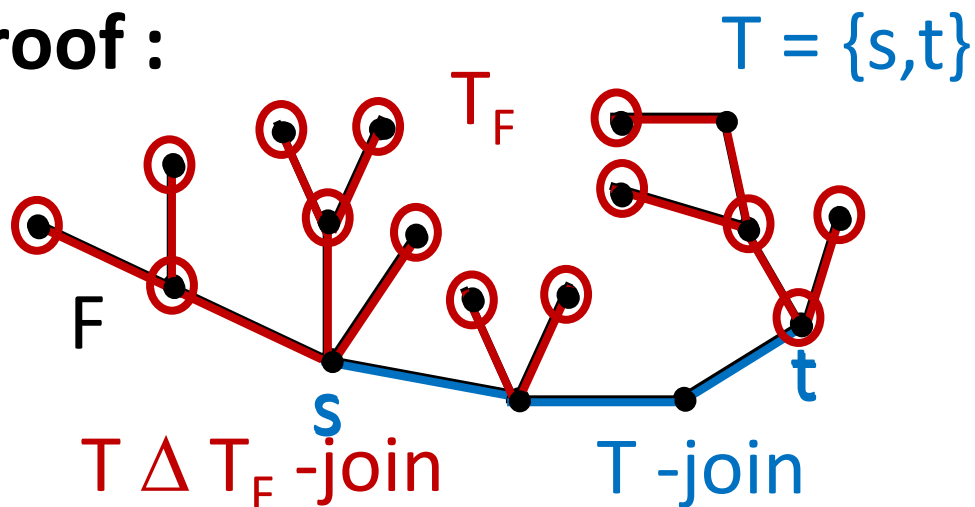
INPUT :  $G$  graph,  $T \subseteq V(G)$ ,  $c: E(G) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$

OUTPUT: **shortest T-tour**

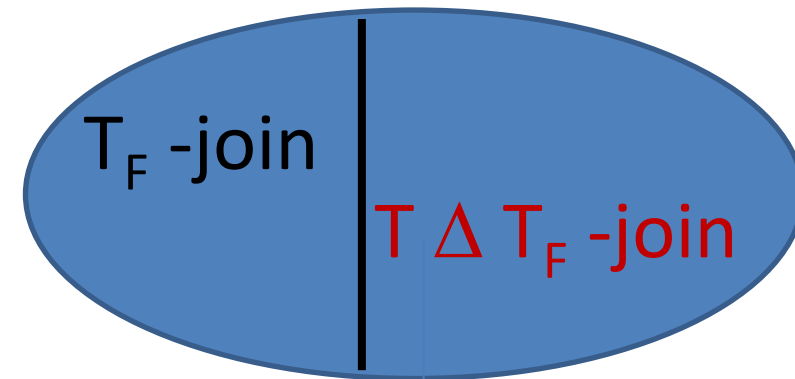
**Theorem:** (Hoogeveen 1991) : Christofides-type alg is 5/3-approx

'Christofides type' : c-min spanning tree  $F$  + **parity correction**

**Proof :**



opt connected T-join



# Graph-TSP paths = $\{s,t\}$ -tours, cardinality

**Theorem (SV12)** :  $3/2$  approximation for graph-TSP paths

$$\text{OPT} \leq 3/2 \text{ LIN}'$$

**Theorem (Gao, mars 2013)** :  $\text{OPT} \leq 3/2 \text{ LIN}$

**Proof:** AKS:  $x^*/2$  can be  $\ll 1$  on T-cuts, no more good for parity corr !

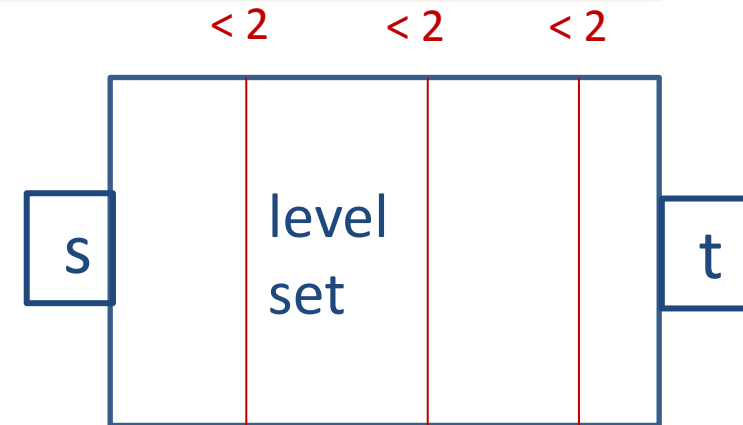
**AKS:**  $\mathcal{Q} := \{ Q \text{ is a cut, } x^*(Q) < 2 \}$  *narrow  $\{s,t\}$ -cuts*

*By submodularity, belongs to a chain of vertex-sets !*

**Gao** : The «level-sets » of  $\mathcal{Q}$  are connected :

$\exists$  spanning tree  $F$  st  $|F \cap Q| = 1$  for all  $Q \in \mathcal{Q}$

$x^*/2 \in Q_+(G, T_F)$  : good for parity correction



# {s,t}-tours arbitrary weights

**Theorem (S 12)** : 8/5 approximation for TSP paths

$$\text{OPT} \leq 8/5 \text{ LIN}$$

**'Classical'** part : « Random sampling » derived from  $x^*$ , where  $x^*$  is ( $\geq$ ) a conv combination of a pol number  $\mathcal{F}$  of spanning trees

Used by Gharan, Saberi, Singh ('12) for « random sampling » .

Not just matroid partition! Cunningham(1984), Barahona(1995), Gabow, Manu (1998)

**Best of Many (BOM) Algorithm:** (AKS11) Output  $F + J_F$ , where

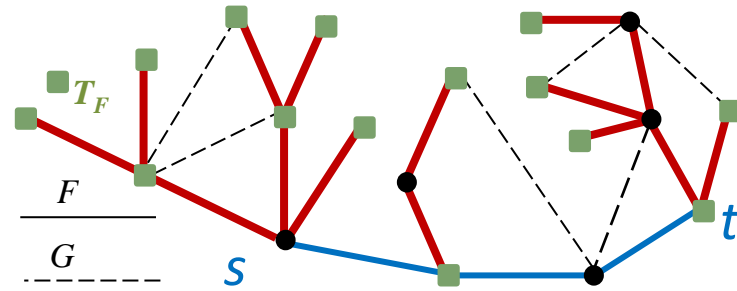
$F \in \mathcal{F}$  minimizes  $c(F) + c(J_F)$  ,  $J_F$  is a (c-min)  $T_F \Delta \{s,t\}$  -join in  $G$

**Complete**  $x^* / 2$  with some correcting vector (AKS11)



# {s,t}-tours arbitrary weights

New part (S 12) :



$$p^* := E[\mathcal{F}(s,t)]$$

$$q^* := E[\mathcal{F} \setminus \mathcal{F}(s,t)]$$

$$x^* = p^* + q^* = E[\mathcal{F}]$$

$(x^* + p^*) / 2$  is in  $Q_+$ , i.e. dominates parity correction

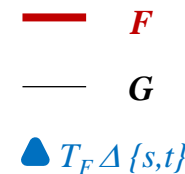
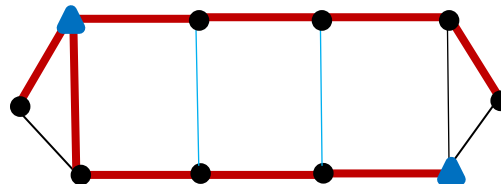
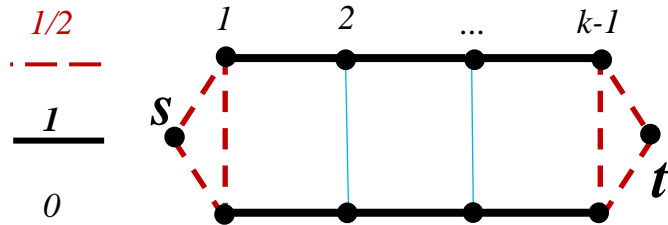
$\mathcal{F} \setminus \mathcal{F}(s,t)$  corrects the parity of  $\mathcal{F}$

$E[c(\text{parity correction})] \leq$

$$c^T x^* / 2 + c^T p^* / 2 = X / 2 + Y / 2$$

$$c^T q^* = c^T x^* - c^T p^* = X - Y$$

$$\leq 2/3 c^T x^* = 2/3 X$$



OPT=LIN

BOM=3/2 OPT

# Key idea (for $p_c \leq 3/5 \text{LIN}$ ) in the worst case

**Suppose the worst:**  $x^*(Q) = 3/2$  for all  $Q \in \mathcal{Q}$

**The complement:**  $x^Q(e) := \Pr(\{e\} = Q \cap \mathcal{F})$

Add  $x^Q$  only when necessary.

$\Pr(|Q \cap \mathcal{F}| = 1 \text{ and then we don't add } x^Q) \geq 1/2$

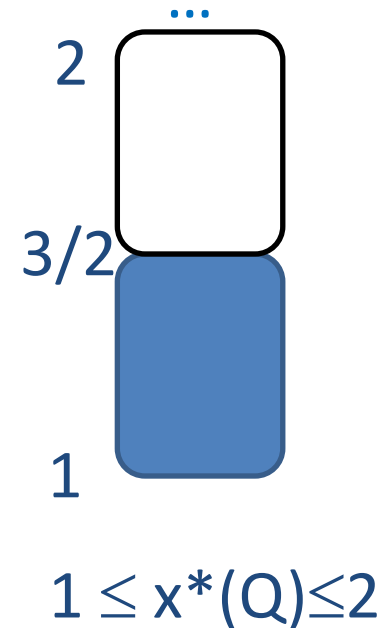
$\Pr(\text{we add } x^Q) \leq 1/2$

Events ' $Q \cap \mathcal{F} = \{e\}$ ' :

- mutually exclusive for different  $Q$ ,
- $\subseteq$  ' $e \in \mathcal{F}(s,t)$ '

In expectation we add:  $1/2 \sum x^Q \leq 1/2 p^*$

**Cost of the parity correction:**  $c^T \frac{1}{2} (x^* + p^* / 2)$



$X - Y$

$X/2 + Y/4$

≤ 0.6X

# Graph-TSP = min cardinality tours

**Theorem** : (SV12)  $\exists$  T-tour of cardinality  $\leq 3/2 \text{ LIN} - \pi$

**Corollary 1** : (SV12)  $\exists$  tour of cardinality  $\leq 7/5 \text{ LIN}$

**Proof** : Applying an ingenious lemma of Mömke & Svensson :  
 $\exists$  tour of cardinality  $\leq 4/3 |V| + 2/3 \pi$

**Relaxation** : 2-Edge-Connected Spanning Subgraph (2ECSS)

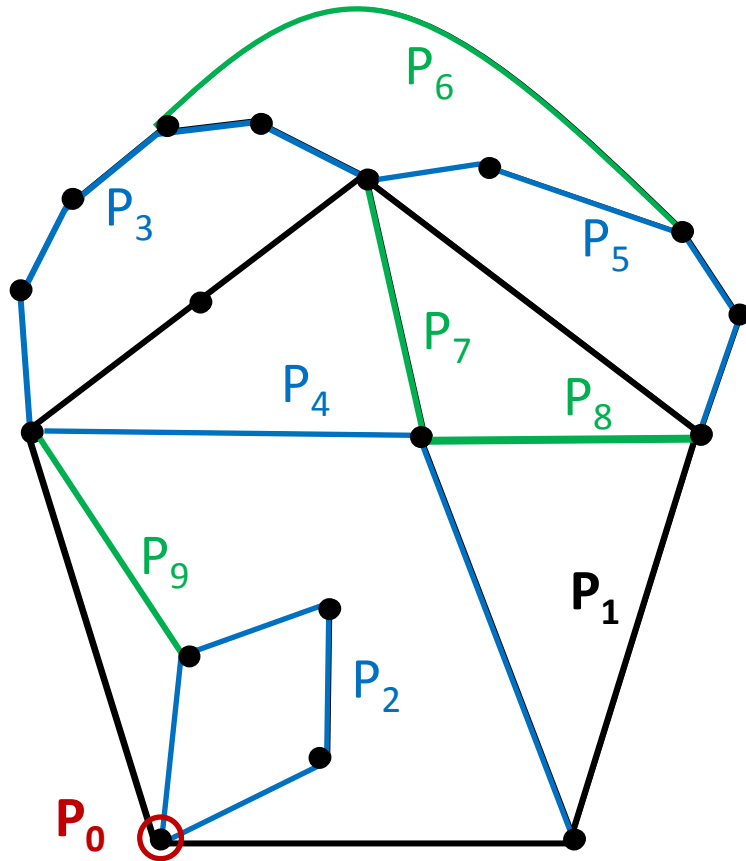
**Corollary 2** : (SV12)  $\exists$  2ECSS of size  $\leq 4/3 \text{ LIN}$

**Proof** : Simple recursion + result of A. Frank :  $5/4 \text{ LIN} + 1/2 \pi$

**The future ?** : Boyd, Iwata, Takazawa ('11) for 3-EC cubic:  $6/5 |V|$

# Ears

For understanding  $\pi$  + matroid idea + useful if you don't know :



$$G = P_0 + P_1 + P_2 + \dots + P_k$$

2-approx for 2ECSS: delete 1-ears!

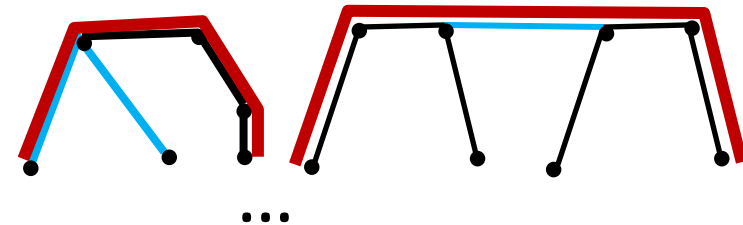
You get :  $\leq 5/4 \text{ OPT} + 1/2\pi_3$

The longer the ears, the smaller the quotient n. of edges / vertices

**Theorem :** (Whitney, Cheriyan, Sebő, Szigeti, Vygen, 1932-2012)

If  $G$  is 2-connected, then there exists a nice open ear-decomposition, i.e.

- 1-ears last, 2-ears, 3-ears « before the last »
- no edges between their inner vertices,
- min number of even ears

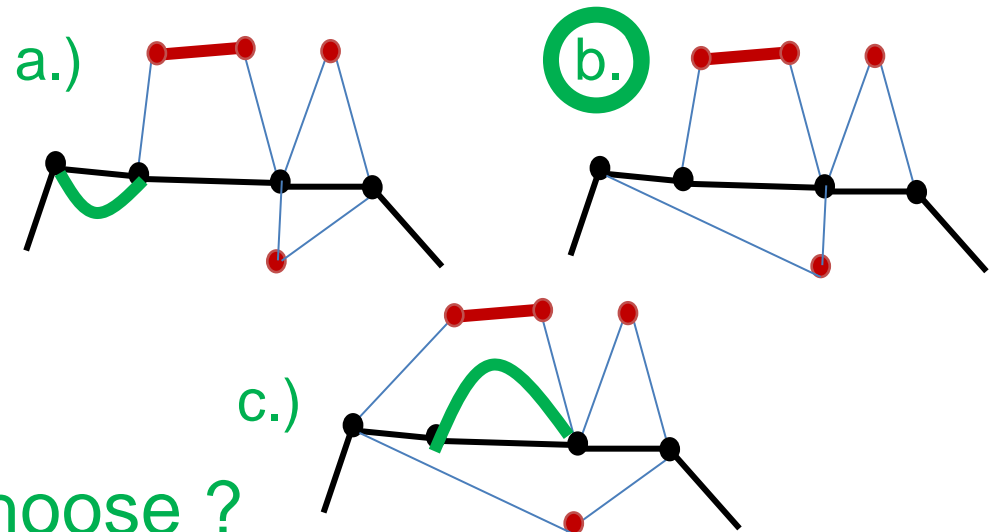
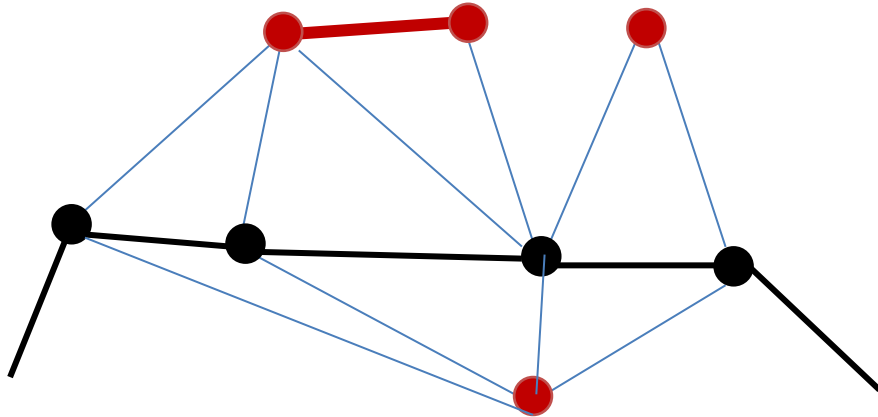
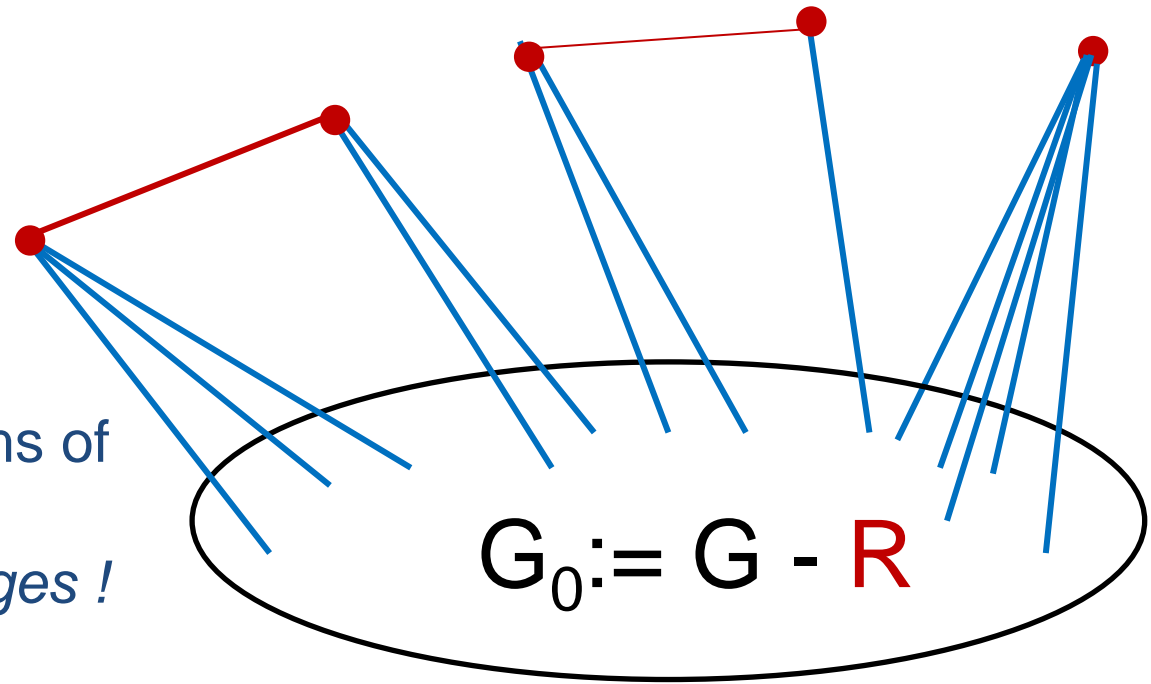




# « Rerout » short ears

R: = internal vertices  
of short ears  
(2-, 3-oreilles)

Short ears are not efficient in terms of  
**n. of edges / n.of vertices**  
*but they are very flexible for changes !*

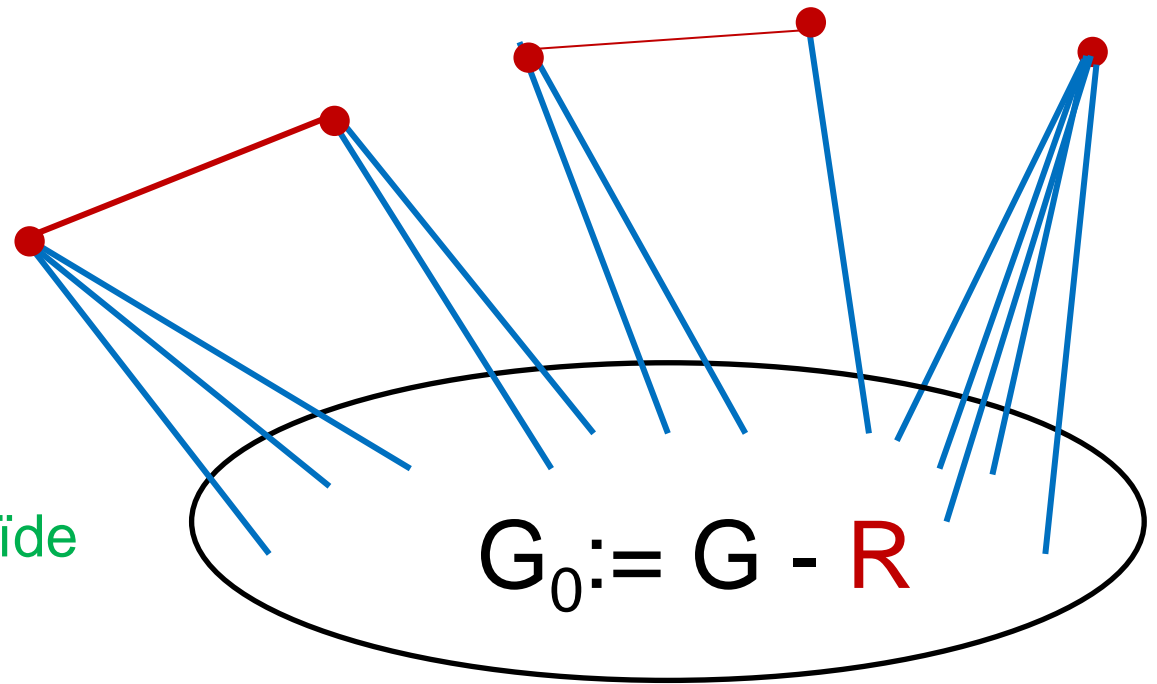


Which three ears would you choose ?

# The 2 ingredients of the alg and of the proof

a.) **1** ear for all edges  
and vertices in **R**  
(independent in a  
partition matroid)

b.) acyclic  
(independent in a cycle-matroid)



1.) Heureka, intersection of 2 matroides (Edmonds 1965) solves it !

2.) Heureka, the parity has to be corrected only in  $G_0$ , whence  $-\pi$



# THE APPY HEND

**Lower bounds for best guarantee unless P=NP (tours):**

$$\frac{5381}{5380} ; \frac{3813}{3812} ; \frac{220}{219} \quad (2000); \frac{185}{184} \quad (2012)$$

Papadimitriou, Vempala; Lampis

For paths ?

Can the bounds be improved ?

Study of BOM for all variants !

# .Directions from bird's eyes ...

