

# MAXCUT, ORTHONORMAL REPRESENTATIONS, AND EXTENSION COMPLEXITY OF POLYTOPES

By: Igor Balla



**Question(Lovász):** What is the maximum of the length  $\|\sum_{i=1}^n x_i\|$  over all unit vectors  $x_1, \dots, x_n \in \mathbb{R}^d$  such that among any three, some pair is orthogonal?



**Question(Lovász):** What is the maximum of the length  $\|\sum_{i=1}^n x_i\|$  over all unit vectors  $x_1, \dots, x_n \in \mathbb{R}^d$  such that among any three, some pair is orthogonal?

**Answer(Konyagin 81, Alon 94):**  $\Theta(n^{2/3})$ .



**Question(Lovász):** What is the maximum of the length  $\|\sum_{i=1}^n x_i\|$  over all unit vectors  $x_1, \dots, x_n \in \mathbb{R}^d$  such that among any three, some pair is orthogonal?

**Answer(Konyagin 81, Alon 94):**  $\Theta(n^{2/3})$ .

**Question(Erdős):** What is the maximum number of vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^d$  such that among any three, some pair is orthogonal?



**Question(Lovász):** What is the maximum of the length  $\|\sum_{i=1}^n x_i\|$  over all unit vectors  $x_1, \dots, x_n \in \mathbb{R}^d$  such that among any three, some pair is orthogonal?

**Answer(Konyagin 81, Alon 94):**  $\Theta(n^{2/3})$ .

**Question(Erdős):** What is the maximum number of vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^d$  such that among any three, some pair is orthogonal?

**Answer(Rosenfeld 81):**  $2d$ .



**Question(Lovász):** What is the maximum of the length  $\|\sum_{i=1}^n x_i\|$  over all unit vectors  $x_1, \dots, x_n \in \mathbb{R}^d$  such that among any three, some pair is orthogonal?

**Answer(Konyagin 81, Alon 94):**  $\Theta(n^{2/3})$ .

**Question(Erdős):** What is the maximum number of vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^d$  such that among any three, some pair is orthogonal?

**Answer(Rosenfeld 81):**  $2d$ .

**Question(Erdős):** What about if among any  $k + 1$ , some pair is orthogonal? Is the answer  $kd$ ?



**Question(Lovász):** What is the maximum of the length  $\|\sum_{i=1}^n x_i\|$  over all unit vectors  $x_1, \dots, x_n \in \mathbb{R}^d$  such that among any three, some pair is orthogonal?

**Answer(Konyagin 81, Alon 94):**  $\Theta(n^{2/3})$ .

**Question(Erdős):** What is the maximum number of vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^d$  such that among any three, some pair is orthogonal?

**Answer(Rosenfeld 81):**  $2d$ .

**Question(Erdős):** What about if among any  $k+1$ , some pair is orthogonal? Is the answer  $kd$ ?

**Answer and follow-up question(Füredi and Stanley 92):** No!

But maybe the answer is still at most  $(kd)^{O(1)}$ ?



**Question(Lovász):** What is the maximum of the length  $\|\sum_{i=1}^n x_i\|$  over all unit vectors  $x_1, \dots, x_n \in \mathbb{R}^d$  such that among any three, some pair is orthogonal?

**Answer(Konyagin 81, Alon 94):**  $\Theta(n^{2/3})$ .

**Question(Erdős):** What is the maximum number of vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^d$  such that among any three, some pair is orthogonal?

**Answer(Rosenfeld 81):**  $2d$ .

**Question(Erdős):** What about if among any  $k + 1$ , some pair is orthogonal? Is the answer  $kd$ ?

**Answer and follow-up question(Füredi and Stanley 92):** No!

But maybe the answer is still at most  $(kd)^{O(1)}$ ?

**Answer(Alon and Szegedy 99):** No! Can have  $d^{\Omega(\log k / \log \log k)}$  many vectors.



# Nearly Equivalent Questions



# Nearly Equivalent Questions

**Setup:** Let  $R$  be a Euclidean space with inner product  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ .  
Let  $G$  be a graph with vertex set  $V(G)$  and edge set  $E(G)$ .



# Nearly Equivalent Questions

**Setup:** Let  $R$  be a Euclidean space with inner product  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ .  
Let  $G$  be a graph with vertex set  $V(G)$  and edge set  $E(G)$ .

**Definition:**  $f: V(G) \rightarrow R$  is called an *orthonormal representation* if

- $f(v)$  is a unit vector,
- $\langle f(u), f(v) \rangle = 0$  for distinct  $u, v \in V(G)$  such that  $uv \notin E(G)$ .



# Nearly Equivalent Questions

**Setup:** Let  $R$  be a Euclidean space with inner product  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ .  
Let  $G$  be a graph with vertex set  $V(G)$  and edge set  $E(G)$ .

**Definition:**  $f: V(G) \rightarrow R$  is called an *orthonormal representation* if

- $f(v)$  is a unit vector,
- $\langle f(u), f(v) \rangle = 0$  for distinct  $u, v \in V(G)$  such that  $uv \notin E(G)$ .

**Definition:** The *minimum semidefinite rank*  $\text{msr}(G)$  is the minimum  $d$  such that there exists an orthonormal representation  $f: V(G) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$ .



# Nearly Equivalent Questions

**Setup:** Let  $R$  be a Euclidean space with inner product  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ .  
Let  $G$  be a graph with vertex set  $V(G)$  and edge set  $E(G)$ .

**Definition:**  $f: V(G) \rightarrow R$  is called an *orthonormal representation* if

- $f(v)$  is a unit vector,
- $\langle f(u), f(v) \rangle = 0$  for distinct  $u, v \in V(G)$  such that  $uv \notin E(G)$ .

**Definition:** The *minimum semidefinite rank*  $\text{msr}(G)$  is the minimum  $d$  such that there exists an orthonormal representation  $f: V(G) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$ .

**Question**(B., Letzter, Sudakov 20): What is the minimum of  $\text{msr}(G)$  over all  $H$ -free graphs  $G$  with  $n$  vertices?



# Nearly Equivalent Questions

**Setup:** Let  $R$  be a Euclidean space with inner product  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ .  
Let  $G$  be a graph with vertex set  $V(G)$  and edge set  $E(G)$ .

**Definition:**  $f: V(G) \rightarrow R$  is called an *orthonormal representation* if

- $f(v)$  is a unit vector,
- $\langle f(u), f(v) \rangle = 0$  for distinct  $u, v \in V(G)$  such that  $uv \notin E(G)$ .

**Definition:** The *minimum semidefinite rank*  $\text{msr}(G)$  is the minimum  $d$  such that there exists an orthonormal representation  $f: V(G) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$ .

**Question**(B., Letzter, Sudakov 20): What is the minimum of  $\text{msr}(G)$  over all  $H$ -free graphs  $G$  with  $n$  vertices?

**Answer**(Rosenfeld 81):  $\lceil n/2 \rceil$  when  $H$  is a triangle.



# Nearly Equivalent Questions



# Nearly Equivalent Questions

**Question**(B., Letzter, Sudakov 20): What is the minimum of  $\text{msr}(G)$  over all  $H$ -free graphs  $G$  with  $n$  vertices?



# Nearly Equivalent Questions

**Question**(B., Letzter, Sudakov 20): What is the minimum of  $\text{msr}(G)$  over all  $H$ -free graphs  $G$  with  $n$  vertices?

**Answer**(B., Letzter, Sudakov 20):  $\lceil n/k \rceil$  when  $H$  is a cycle of length  $k + 1$ .



# Nearly Equivalent Questions

**Question**(B., Letzter, Sudakov 20): What is the minimum of  $\text{msr}(G)$  over all  $H$ -free graphs  $G$  with  $n$  vertices?

**Answer**(B., Letzter, Sudakov 20):  $\lceil n/k \rceil$  when  $H$  is a cycle of length  $k + 1$ .

**Answer**(Alon and Szegedy 99): At most  $n^{O(\log \log k / \log k)}$  when  $H$  is the complete graph on  $k$  vertices.



# Nearly Equivalent Questions

**Question**(B., Letzter, Sudakov 20): What is the minimum of  $\text{msr}(G)$  over all  $H$ -free graphs  $G$  with  $n$  vertices?

**Answer**(B., Letzter, Sudakov 20):  $\lceil n/k \rceil$  when  $H$  is a cycle of length  $k + 1$ .

**Answer**(Alon and Szegedy 99): At most  $n^{O(\log \log k / \log k)}$  when  $H$  is the complete graph on  $k$  vertices.

**Answer**(B. 24): At most  $n^{O(\log \log k / \log k)}$  when  $H$  is the complete bipartite graph with parts of size  $k$ .



# Nearly Equivalent Questions

**Question**(B., Letzter, Sudakov 20): What is the minimum of  $\text{msr}(G)$  over all  $H$ -free graphs  $G$  with  $n$  vertices?

**Answer**(B., Letzter, Sudakov 20):  $\lceil n/k \rceil$  when  $H$  is a cycle of length  $k + 1$ .

**Answer**(Alon and Szegedy 99): At most  $n^{O(\log \log k / \log k)}$  when  $H$  is the complete graph on  $k$  vertices.

**Answer**(B. 24): At most  $n^{O(\log \log k / \log k)}$  when  $H$  is the complete bipartite graph with parts of size  $k$ .

Cool, but why should we care?



# Nearly Equivalent Questions



# Nearly Equivalent Questions

**Definition:** The *Lovász theta function*  $\vartheta(G)$  is the maximum over all orthonormal representations  $f$  of  $\overline{G}$ , of the largest eigenvalue of the Gram matrix defined by  $M(u, v) = \langle f(u), f(v) \rangle$



# Nearly Equivalent Questions

**Definition:** The *Lovász theta function*  $\vartheta(G)$  is the maximum over all orthonormal representations  $f$  of  $\overline{G}$ , of the largest eigenvalue of the Gram matrix defined by  $M(u, v) = \langle f(u), f(v) \rangle$

**Question**(B., Letzter, Sudakov 20): What is the maximum of  $\vartheta(\overline{G})$  over all  $H$ -free graphs  $G$  with  $n$  vertices?



## Nearly Equivalent Questions

**Definition:** The *Lovász theta function*  $\vartheta(G)$  is the maximum over all orthonormal representations  $f$  of  $\overline{G}$ , of the largest eigenvalue of the Gram matrix defined by  $M(u, v) = \langle f(u), f(v) \rangle$

**Question**(B., Letzter, Sudakov 20): What is the maximum of  $\vartheta(\overline{G})$  over all  $H$ -free graphs  $G$  with  $n$  vertices?

**Answer**(Konyagin 81, Alon 94):  $\Theta(n^{1/3})$  when  $H$  is a triangle.



# Nearly Equivalent Questions

**Definition:** The *Lovász theta function*  $\vartheta(G)$  is the maximum over all orthonormal representations  $f$  of  $\overline{G}$ , of the largest eigenvalue of the Gram matrix defined by  $M(u, v) = \langle f(u), f(v) \rangle$

**Question**(B., Letzter, Sudakov 20): What is the maximum of  $\vartheta(\overline{G})$  over all  $H$ -free graphs  $G$  with  $n$  vertices?

**Answer**(Konyagin 81, Alon 94):  $\Theta(n^{1/3})$  when  $H$  is a triangle.

**Answer**(B., Letzter, Sudakov 20): At most  $O(n^{1/k})$  when  $H$  is the cycle of length  $k$ , for a fixed  $k$ .



# Nearly Equivalent Questions

**Definition:** The *Lovász theta function*  $\vartheta(G)$  is the maximum over all orthonormal representations  $f$  of  $\overline{G}$ , of the largest eigenvalue of the Gram matrix defined by  $M(u, v) = \langle f(u), f(v) \rangle$

**Question**(B., Letzter, Sudakov 20): What is the maximum of  $\vartheta(\overline{G})$  over all  $H$ -free graphs  $G$  with  $n$  vertices?

**Answer**(Konyagin 81, Alon 94):  $\Theta(n^{1/3})$  when  $H$  is a triangle.

**Answer**(B., Letzter, Sudakov 20): At most  $O(n^{1/k})$  when  $H$  is the cycle of length  $k$ , for a fixed  $k$ .

Tight if  $k$  is odd or if  $k$  is 4, 6, 10.





# Nearly Equivalent Questions

**Definition:** The *Lovász theta function*  $\vartheta(G)$  is the maximum over all orthonormal representations  $f$  of  $\overline{G}$ , of the largest eigenvalue of the Gram matrix defined by  $M(u, v) = \langle f(u), f(v) \rangle$

**Question**(B., Letzter, Sudakov 20): What is the maximum of  $\vartheta(\overline{G})$  over all  $H$ -free graphs  $G$  with  $n$  vertices?

**Answer**(Konyagin 81, Alon 94):  $\Theta(n^{1/3})$  when  $H$  is a triangle.

**Answer**(B., Letzter, Sudakov 20): At most  $O(n^{1/k})$  when  $H$  is the cycle of length  $k$ , for a fixed  $k$ .

Tight if  $k$  is odd or if  $k$  is 4, 6, 10.

Due to "optimally pseudorandom"  $H$ -free graphs which are extremal for the bipartite Turán number problem.



# Nearly Equivalent Questions



# Nearly Equivalent Questions

**Question**(B., Letzter, Sudakov 20): What is the maximum of  $\vartheta(\overline{G})$  over all  $H$ -free graphs  $G$  with  $n$  vertices?



## Nearly Equivalent Questions

**Question**(B., Letzter, Sudakov 20): What is the maximum of  $\vartheta(\overline{G})$  over all  $H$ -free graphs  $G$  with  $n$  vertices?

**Answer**(Feige 95): At least  $n^{1-O(1/\log k)}$  when  $H$  is the complete graph on  $k$  vertices.



## Nearly Equivalent Questions

**Question**(B., Letzter, Sudakov 20): What is the maximum of  $\vartheta(\overline{G})$  over all  $H$ -free graphs  $G$  with  $n$  vertices?

**Answer**(Feige 95): At least  $n^{1-O(1/\log k)}$  when  $H$  is the complete graph on  $k$  vertices.

When  $H$  is a complete bipartite graph, an “optimally pseudorandom”  $H$ -free graph can at best give  $\vartheta(\overline{G}) \geq \Omega(\sqrt{n})$ .



## Nearly Equivalent Questions

**Question**(B., Letzter, Sudakov 20): What is the maximum of  $\vartheta(\overline{G})$  over all  $H$ -free graphs  $G$  with  $n$  vertices?

**Answer**(Feige 95): At least  $n^{1-O(1/\log k)}$  when  $H$  is the complete graph on  $k$  vertices.

When  $H$  is a complete bipartite graph, an “optimally pseudorandom”  $H$ -free graph can at best give  $\vartheta(\overline{G}) \geq \Omega(\sqrt{n})$ .

**Question**(B., Letzter, Sudakov 20): Is the answer closer to  $\sqrt{n}$  or  $n$  for  $H$  being a complete bipartite graph with parts of size  $k$ ?



## Nearly Equivalent Questions

**Question**(B., Letzter, Sudakov 20): What is the maximum of  $\vartheta(\overline{G})$  over all  $H$ -free graphs  $G$  with  $n$  vertices?

**Answer**(Feige 95): At least  $n^{1-O(1/\log k)}$  when  $H$  is the complete graph on  $k$  vertices.

When  $H$  is a complete bipartite graph, an “optimally pseudorandom”  $H$ -free graph can at best give  $\vartheta(\overline{G}) \geq \Omega(\sqrt{n})$ .

**Question**(B., Letzter, Sudakov 20): Is the answer closer to  $\sqrt{n}$  or  $n$  for  $H$  being a complete bipartite graph with parts of size  $k$ ?

**Answer**(B. 24) At least  $n^{1-O(\log \log k / \log k)}$ .



# Nearly Equivalent Questions

**Question**(B., Letzter, Sudakov 20): What is the maximum of  $\vartheta(\overline{G})$  over all  $H$ -free graphs  $G$  with  $n$  vertices?

**Answer**(Feige 95): At least  $n^{1-O(1/\log k)}$  when  $H$  is the complete graph on  $k$  vertices.

When  $H$  is a complete bipartite graph, an “optimally pseudorandom”  $H$ -free graph can at best give  $\vartheta(\overline{G}) \geq \Omega(\sqrt{n})$ .

**Question**(B., Letzter, Sudakov 20): Is the answer closer to  $\sqrt{n}$  or  $n$  for  $H$  being a complete bipartite graph with parts of size  $k$ ?

**Answer**(B. 24) At least  $n^{1-O(\log \log k / \log k)}$ .

**Theorem**(Lovász 79):  $\vartheta(G) \leq \text{msr}(G)$  and  $\vartheta(G)\vartheta(\overline{G}) \geq n$



# Nearly Equivalent Questions

**Question**(B., Letzter, Sudakov 20): What is the maximum of  $\vartheta(\overline{G})$  over all  $H$ -free graphs  $G$  with  $n$  vertices?

**Answer**(Feige 95): At least  $n^{1-O(1/\log k)}$  when  $H$  is the complete graph on  $k$  vertices.

When  $H$  is a complete bipartite graph, an “optimally pseudorandom”  $H$ -free graph can at best give  $\vartheta(\overline{G}) \geq \Omega(\sqrt{n})$ .

**Question**(B., Letzter, Sudakov 20): Is the answer closer to  $\sqrt{n}$  or  $n$  for  $H$  being a complete bipartite graph with parts of size  $k$ ?

**Answer**(B. 24) At least  $n^{1-O(\log \log k / \log k)}$ .

**Theorem**(Lovász 79):  $\vartheta(G) \leq \text{msr}(G)$  and  $\vartheta(G)\vartheta(\overline{G}) \geq n$

So  $\vartheta(\overline{G}) \geq n/\text{msr}(G)$ .



# MaxCut



# MaxCut

**Definition:** For a graph  $G$ ,  $\text{MaxCut}(G)$  is defined to be the maximum over all partitions  $A, B$  of the vertex set  $V(G)$  of the number of edges between  $A$  and  $B$ .



# MaxCut

**Definition:** For a graph  $G$ ,  $\text{MaxCut}(G)$  is defined to be the maximum over all partitions  $A, B$  of the vertex set  $V(G)$  of the number of edges between  $A$  and  $B$ .

**Theorem(Edwards 73):**  $\text{MaxCut}(G) \geq m/2 + \Omega(\sqrt{m})$  for any graph  $G$  with  $m$  edges.



# MaxCut

**Definition:** For a graph  $G$ ,  $\text{MaxCut}(G)$  is defined to be the maximum over all partitions  $A, B$  of the vertex set  $V(G)$  of the number of edges between  $A$  and  $B$ .

**Theorem(Edwards 73):**  $\text{MaxCut}(G) \geq m/2 + \Omega(\sqrt{m})$  for any graph  $G$  with  $m$  edges.

**Question(Alon, Bollobás, Krivelevich, Sudakov 03):** What is the minimum of  $\text{MaxCut}(G) - m/2$  over all  $H$ -free graphs  $G$  with  $m$  edges?



# MaxCut

**Definition:** For a graph  $G$ ,  $\text{MaxCut}(G)$  is defined to be the maximum over all partitions  $A, B$  of the vertex set  $V(G)$  of the number of edges between  $A$  and  $B$ .

**Theorem(Edwards 73):**  $\text{MaxCut}(G) \geq m/2 + \Omega(\sqrt{m})$  for any graph  $G$  with  $m$  edges.

**Question(Alon, Bollobás, Krivelevich, Sudakov 03):** What is the minimum of  $\text{MaxCut}(G) - m/2$  over all  $H$ -free graphs  $G$  with  $m$  edges?

Erdos and Lovász 79, Shearer 92 studied the case  $H$  a triangle.

**Answer(Alon 94, 96):**  $\Theta(m^{4/5})$  when  $H$  is the triangle.



# MaxCut

**Definition:** For a graph  $G$ ,  $\text{MaxCut}(G)$  is defined to be the maximum over all partitions  $A, B$  of the vertex set  $V(G)$  of the number of edges between  $A$  and  $B$ .

**Theorem(Edwards 73):**  $\text{MaxCut}(G) \geq m/2 + \Omega(\sqrt{m})$  for any graph  $G$  with  $m$  edges.

**Question(Alon, Bollobás, Krivelevich, Sudakov 03):** What is the minimum of  $\text{MaxCut}(G) - m/2$  over all  $H$ -free graphs  $G$  with  $m$  edges?

Erdos and Lovász 79, Shearer 92 studied the case  $H$  a triangle.

**Answer(Alon 94, 96):**  $\Theta(m^{4/5})$  when  $H$  is the triangle.

**Conjecture(Alon, Bollobás, Krivelevich, Sudakov 03):** For any fixed  $H$ , there exists  $\varepsilon > 0$ , such that the answer is at least  $\Omega(m^{3/4+\varepsilon})$ .



# MaxCut



# MaxCut

Question(Alon, Bollobás, Krivelevich, Sudakov 03): What is the minimum of  $\text{MaxCut}(G) - m/2$  over all  $H$ -free graphs  $G$  with  $m$  edges?



# MaxCut

**Question**(Alon, Bollobás, Krivelevich, Sudakov 03): What is the minimum of  $\text{MaxCut}(G) - m/2$  over all  $H$ -free graphs  $G$  with  $m$  edges?

**Answer**(Alon, Krivelevich, Sudakov 05):  $\Omega(m^{(k+1)/(k+2)})$  when  $H$  is an even cycle of length  $k$ .



# MaxCut

**Question**(Alon, Bollobás, Krivelevich, Sudakov 03): What is the minimum of  $\text{MaxCut}(G) - m/2$  over all  $H$ -free graphs  $G$  with  $m$  edges?

**Answer**(Alon, Krivelevich, Sudakov 05):  $\Omega(m^{(k+1)/(k+2)})$  when  $H$  is an even cycle of length  $k$ .

**Answer**(Glock, Janzer, and Sudakov 23):  $\Omega(m^{(k+1)/(k+2)})$  when  $H$  is an odd cycle of length  $k$ .



# MaxCut

**Question**(Alon, Bollobás, Krivelevich, Sudakov 03): What is the minimum of  $\text{MaxCut}(G) - m/2$  over all  $H$ -free graphs  $G$  with  $m$  edges?

**Answer**(Alon, Krivelevich, Sudakov 05):  $\Omega(m^{(k+1)/(k+2)})$  when  $H$  is an even cycle of length  $k$ .

**Answer**(Glock, Janzer, and Sudakov 23):  $\Omega(m^{(k+1)/(k+2)})$  when  $H$  is an odd cycle of length  $k$ .

**Theorem**(B., Janzer, and Sudakov 24):

$\text{MaxCut}(G) - \frac{m}{2} \geq \frac{1}{\pi} \cdot \frac{m}{\vartheta(\overline{G}) - 1}$  for any graph  $G$  with  $m$  edges.



# MaxCut

**Question**(Alon, Bollobás, Krivelevich, Sudakov 03): What is the minimum of  $\text{MaxCut}(G) - m/2$  over all  $H$ -free graphs  $G$  with  $m$  edges?

**Answer**(Alon, Krivelevich, Sudakov 05):  $\Omega(m^{(k+1)/(k+2)})$  when  $H$  is an even cycle of length  $k$ .

**Answer**(Glock, Janzer, and Sudakov 23):  $\Omega(m^{(k+1)/(k+2)})$  when  $H$  is an odd cycle of length  $k$ .

**Theorem**(B., Janzer, and Sudakov 24):

$\text{MaxCut}(G) - \frac{m}{2} \geq \frac{1}{\pi} \cdot \frac{m}{\vartheta(\overline{G}) - 1}$  for any graph  $G$  with  $m$  edges.

**Corollary**(B., Janzer, and Sudakov 24):  $\Omega(m^{(k+1)/(k+2)})$  when  $H$  is a cycle of length  $k$ .



# MaxCut



# MaxCut

**Theorem(B., Janzer, and Sudakov 24):**

$\text{MaxCut}(G) - \frac{m}{2} \geq \frac{1}{\pi} \cdot \frac{m}{\vartheta(\overline{G}) - 1}$  for any graph  $G$  with  $m$  edges.



# MaxCut

**Theorem**(B., Janzer, and Sudakov 24):

$\text{MaxCut}(G) - \frac{m}{2} \geq \frac{1}{\pi} \cdot \frac{m}{\vartheta(G)-1}$  for any graph  $G$  with  $m$  edges.

**Definition:** The *Lovász theta function*  $\vartheta(G)$  is the minimum  $\kappa$ , such that there exists a map  $f: V(G) \rightarrow (\text{unit sphere})$  satisfying  $\langle f(u), f(v) \rangle = -1/(\kappa - 1)$  for all  $uv \notin E(G)$ .



# MaxCut

**Theorem**(B., Janzer, and Sudakov 24):

$\text{MaxCut}(G) - \frac{m}{2} \geq \frac{1}{\pi} \cdot \frac{m}{\vartheta(G)-1}$  for any graph  $G$  with  $m$  edges.

**Definition:** The *Lovász theta function*  $\vartheta(G)$  is the minimum  $\kappa$ , such that there exists a map  $f: V(G) \rightarrow (\text{unit sphere})$  satisfying  $\langle f(u), f(v) \rangle = -1/(\kappa - 1)$  for all  $uv \notin E(G)$ .

**Proof idea:** Choose a random hyperplane and partition the vertices according to which side of it they fall on.



# MaxCut

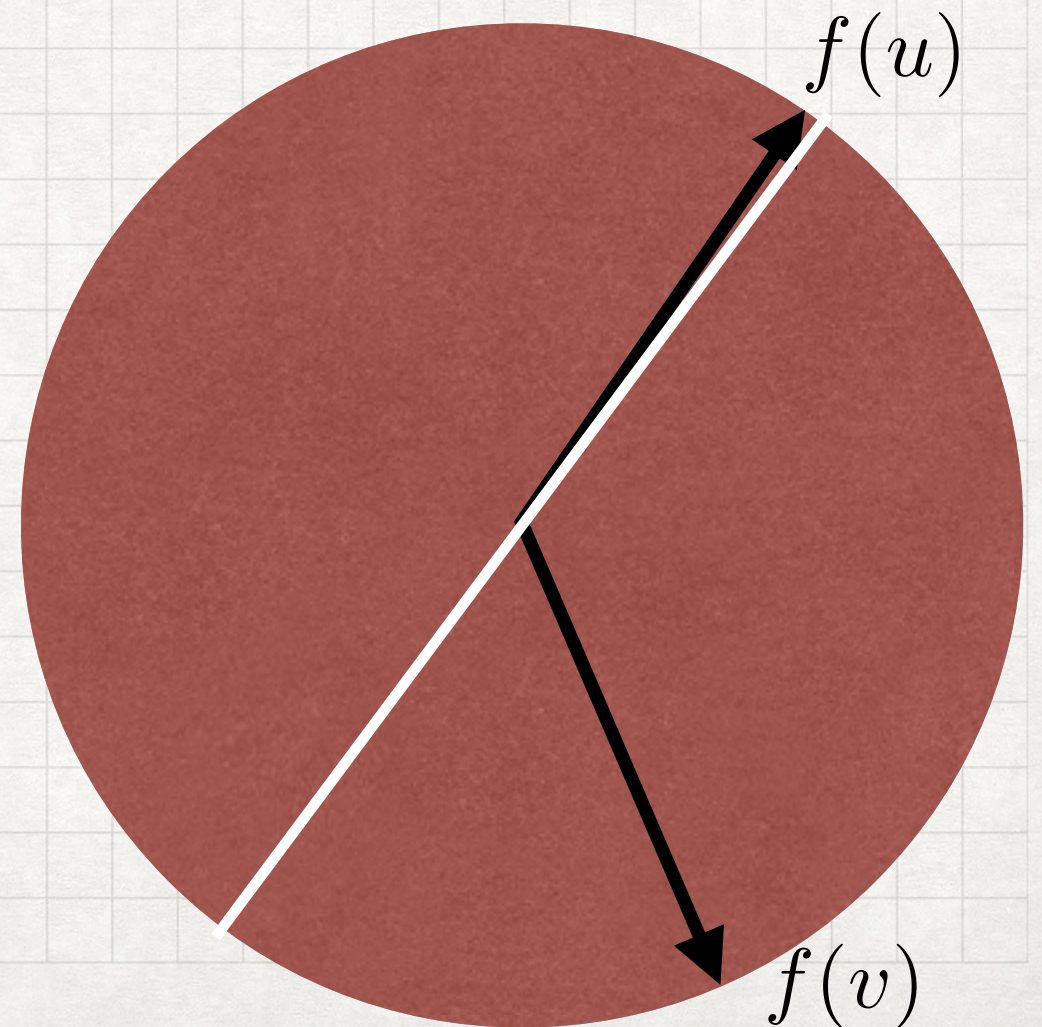
**Theorem**(B., Janzer, and Sudakov 24):

$\text{MaxCut}(G) - \frac{m}{2} \geq \frac{1}{\pi} \cdot \frac{m}{\vartheta(G)-1}$  for any graph  $G$  with  $m$  edges.

**Definition:** The *Lovász theta function*  $\vartheta(G)$  is the minimum  $\kappa$ , such that there exists a map  $f: V(G) \rightarrow (\text{unit sphere})$  satisfying  $\langle f(u), f(v) \rangle = -1/(\kappa - 1)$  for all  $uv \notin E(G)$ .

**Proof idea:** Choose a random hyperplane and partition the vertices according to which side of it they fall on.

The probability that edge  $uv$  falls in different sides is





# MaxCut

**Theorem**(B., Janzer, and Sudakov 24):

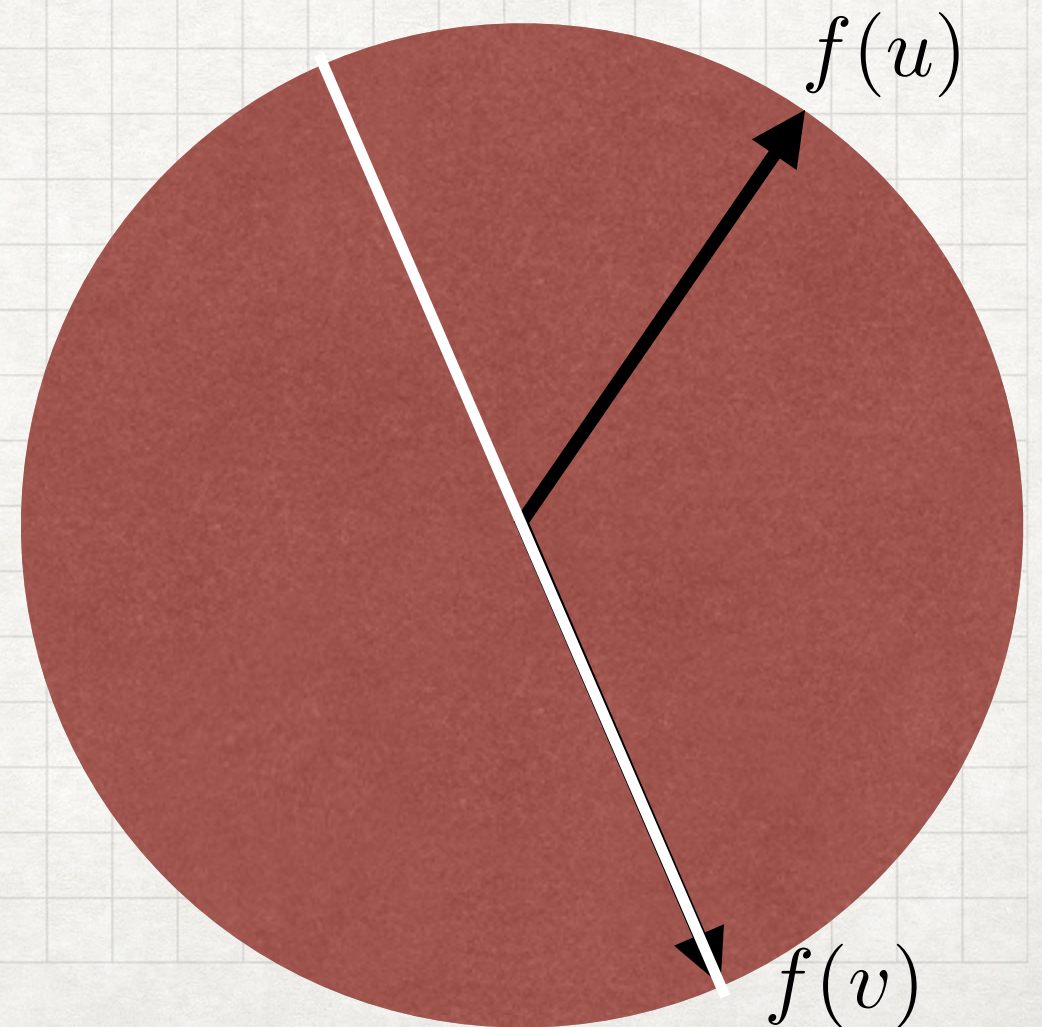
$\text{MaxCut}(G) - \frac{m}{2} \geq \frac{1}{\pi} \cdot \frac{m}{\vartheta(G)-1}$  for any graph  $G$  with  $m$  edges.

**Definition:** The *Lovász theta function*  $\vartheta(G)$  is the minimum  $\kappa$ , such that there exists a map  $f: V(G) \rightarrow (\text{unit sphere})$  satisfying  $\langle f(u), f(v) \rangle = -1/(\kappa - 1)$  for all  $uv \notin E(G)$ .

**Proof idea:** Choose a random hyperplane and partition the vertices according to which side of it they fall on.

The probability that edge  $uv$  falls in different sides is

$$\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{\pi} \arcsin(-\langle f(u), f(v) \rangle)$$





# MaxCut

**Theorem**(B., Janzer, and Sudakov 24):

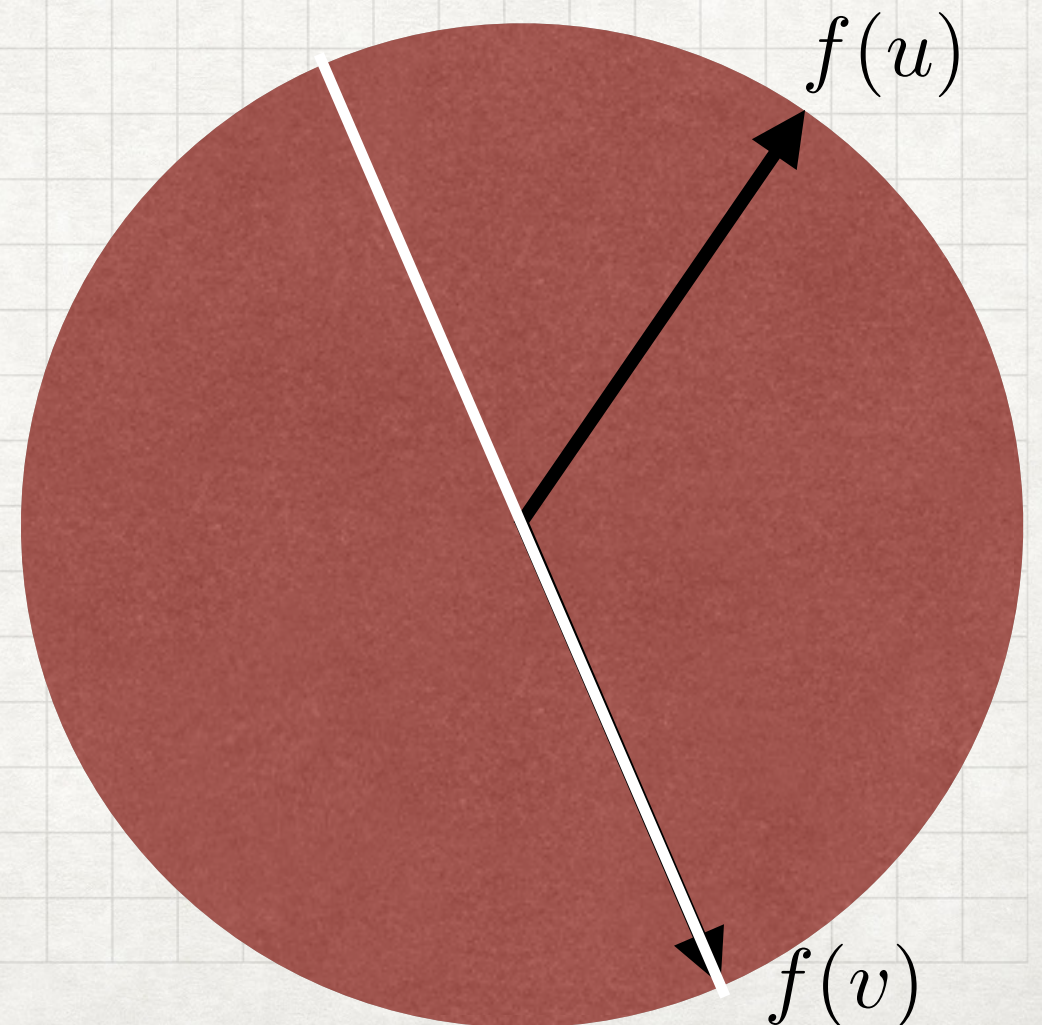
$\text{MaxCut}(G) - \frac{m}{2} \geq \frac{1}{\pi} \cdot \frac{m}{\vartheta(G)-1}$  for any graph  $G$  with  $m$  edges.

**Definition:** The *Lovász theta function*  $\vartheta(G)$  is the minimum  $\kappa$ , such that there exists a map  $f: V(G) \rightarrow (\text{unit sphere})$  satisfying  $\langle f(u), f(v) \rangle = -1/(\kappa - 1)$  for all  $uv \notin E(G)$ .

**Proof idea:** Choose a random hyperplane and partition the vertices according to which side of it they fall on.

The probability that edge  $uv$  falls in different sides is

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{\pi} \arcsin(-\langle f(u), f(v) \rangle) \\ \geq \frac{1}{2} + \frac{-\langle f(u), f(v) \rangle}{\pi} \end{aligned}$$





# MaxCut



# MaxCut

**Definition:** The *vector chromatic number*  $\chi_{\text{vec}}(G)$  is the minimum  $\kappa$ , such that there exists a map  $f: V(G) \rightarrow (\text{unit sphere})$  satisfying  $\langle f(u), f(v) \rangle \leq -1/(\kappa - 1)$  for all  $uv \in E(G)$ .



# MaxCut

**Definition:** The *vector chromatic number*  $\chi_{\text{vec}}(G)$  is the minimum  $\kappa$ , such that there exists a map  $f: V(G) \rightarrow (\text{unit sphere})$  satisfying  $\langle f(u), f(v) \rangle \leq -1/(\kappa - 1)$  for all  $uv \in E(G)$ .

**Theorem**(B., Janzer, and Sudakov 24):

$\text{MaxCut}(G) - \frac{m}{2} \geq \frac{1}{\pi} \cdot \frac{m}{\chi_{\text{vec}}(G) - 1}$  for any graph  $G$  with  $m$  edges.



# MaxCut

**Definition:** The *vector chromatic number*  $\chi_{\text{vec}}(G)$  is the minimum  $\kappa$ , such that there exists a map  $f: V(G) \rightarrow (\text{unit sphere})$  satisfying  $\langle f(u), f(v) \rangle \leq -1/(\kappa - 1)$  for all  $uv \in E(G)$ .

**Theorem**(B., Janzer, and Sudakov 24):

$\text{MaxCut}(G) - \frac{m}{2} \geq \frac{1}{\pi} \cdot \frac{m}{\chi_{\text{vec}}(G) - 1}$  for any graph  $G$  with  $m$  edges.

**Conjecture**(Elphick 23):  $\text{MaxCut}(G) - \frac{m}{2} \geq \frac{1}{3} \cdot \frac{m}{\chi_{\text{vec}}(G) - 1}$ .



# Extension Complexity of Polytopes



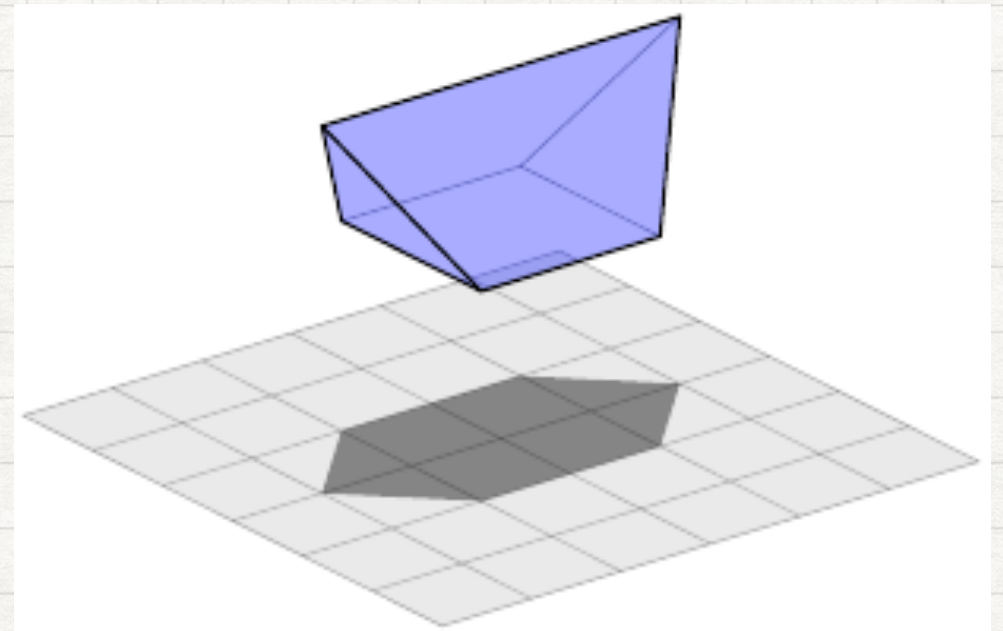
# Extension Complexity of Polytopes

**Definition:** For a  $d$ -dimensional polytope  $P$ , its *extension complexity*  $xc(P)$ , is the minimum number of facets of a polytope  $P'$  such that  $P$  is the orthogonal projection of  $P'$  onto some  $d$ -dimensional subspace.



# Extension Complexity of Polytopes

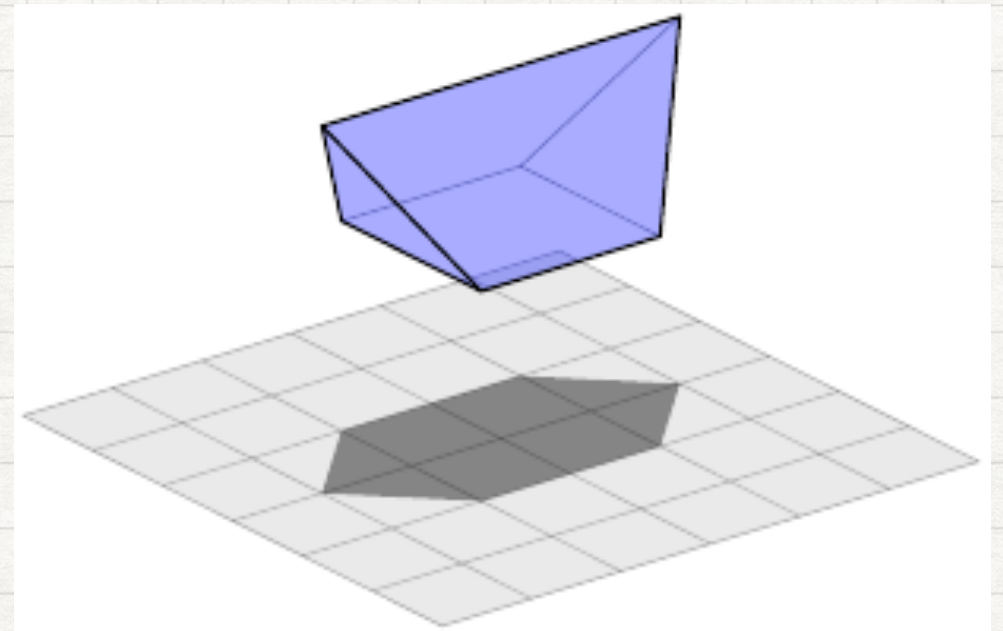
**Definition:** For a  $d$ -dimensional polytope  $P$ , its *extension complexity*  $xc(P)$ , is the minimum number of facets of a polytope  $P'$  such that  $P$  is the orthogonal projection of  $P'$  onto some  $d$ -dimensional subspace.





# Extension Complexity of Polytopes

**Definition:** For a  $d$ -dimensional polytope  $P$ , its *extension complexity*  $xc(P)$ , is the minimum number of facets of a polytope  $P'$  such that  $P$  is the orthogonal projection of  $P'$  onto some  $d$ -dimensional subspace.



**Theorem(Kwan, Sauermann, Zhao 22):** There exists an  $n^{o(1)}$ -dimensional polytope with at most  $n$  vertices and extension complexity at least  $n^{1-o(1)}$ .



# Extension Complexity of Polytopes



# Extension Complexity of Polytopes

Any polytope can be described by constraints:

$$P = \{v : b_i - \langle a_i, v \rangle \geq 0, i = 1, \dots, t\}$$



# Extension Complexity of Polytopes

Any polytope can be described by constraints:

$$P = \{v : b_i - \langle a_i, v \rangle \geq 0, i = 1, \dots, t\}$$

slack



# Extension Complexity of Polytopes

Any polytope can be described by constraints:

$$P = \{v : b_i - \langle a_i, v \rangle \geq 0, i = 1, \dots, t\}$$

slack

One can define a corresponding *slack matrix* whose entries are the slacks of the vertices of  $P$ .



# Extension Complexity of Polytopes

Any polytope can be described by constraints:

$$P = \{v : b_i - \langle a_i, v \rangle \geq 0, i = 1, \dots, t\}$$

slack

One can define a corresponding *slack matrix* whose entries are the slacks of the vertices of  $P$ .

**Definition:** For a nonnegative matrix  $M$ , its *nonnegative rank*  $\text{rank}_+(M)$  is defined to be the minimum  $r$  such that we can write  $M = \sum_{i=1}^r R_i$ , where each  $R_i$  is nonnegative and rank 1.



# Extension Complexity of Polytopes

Any polytope can be described by constraints:

$$P = \{v : b_i - \langle a_i, v \rangle \geq 0, i = 1, \dots, t\}$$

slack

One can define a corresponding *slack matrix* whose entries are the slacks of the vertices of  $P$ .

**Definition:** For a nonnegative matrix  $M$ , its *nonnegative rank*  $\text{rank}_+(M)$  is defined to be the minimum  $r$  such that we can write  $M = \sum_{i=1}^r R_i$ , where each  $R_i$  is nonnegative and rank 1.

**Theorem(Yannakakis 91):** The extension complexity of any polytope  $P$  equals the nonnegative rank of any slack matrix of  $P$ .



# Extension Complexity of Polytopes

Any polytope can be described by constraints:

$$P = \{v : b_i - \langle a_i, v \rangle \geq 0, i = 1, \dots, t\}$$

slack

One can define a corresponding *slack matrix* whose entries are the slacks of the vertices of  $P$ .

**Definition:** For a nonnegative matrix  $M$ , its *nonnegative rank*  $\text{rank}_+(M)$  is defined to be the minimum  $r$  such that we can write  $M = \sum_{i=1}^r R_i$ , where each  $R_i$  is nonnegative and rank 1.

**Theorem**(Yannakakis 91): The extension complexity of any polytope  $P$  equals the nonnegative rank of any slack matrix of  $P$ .

**Question**(Hrubeš 12): What is the maximum of  $\frac{\text{rank}_+(M)}{\text{rank}(M)}$  over all nonnegative  $n \times n$  matrices?



# Extension Complexity of Polytopes



# Extension Complexity of Polytopes

Question(Hrubeš 12): What is the maximum of  $\frac{\text{rank}_+(M)}{\text{rank}(M)}$  over all nonnegative  $n \times n$  matrices?



# Extension Complexity of Polytopes

**Question**(Hrubeš 12): What is the maximum of  $\frac{\text{rank}_+(M)}{\text{rank}(M)}$  over all nonnegative  $n \times n$  matrices?

**Answer**(Kwan, Sauermann, Zhao 22): At least  $n^{1-O(\log \log n / \sqrt{\log n})}$



# Extension Complexity of Polytopes

**Question**(Hrubeš 12): What is the maximum of  $\frac{\text{rank}_+(M)}{\text{rank}(M)}$  over all nonnegative  $n \times n$  matrices?

**Answer**(Kwan, Sauermann, Zhao 22): At least  $n^{1-O(\log \log n / \sqrt{\log n})}$

**Answer**(B. 24): At least  $n^{1-O(\sqrt{\log \log n} / \sqrt{\log n})}$ .



# Extension Complexity of Polytopes

**Question**(Hrubeš 12): What is the maximum of  $\frac{\text{rank}_+(M)}{\text{rank}(M)}$  over all nonnegative  $n \times n$  matrices?

**Answer**(Kwan, Sauermann, Zhao 22): At least  $n^{1-O(\log \log n / \sqrt{\log n})}$

**Answer**(B. 24): At least  $n^{1-O(\sqrt{\log \log n} / \sqrt{\log n})}$ .

**Proof sketch:** For a nonnegative matrix  $M$ ,  $\text{rank}_+(M)$  is at least the minimum number of rectangles whose union is the support of  $M$ .



# Extension Complexity of Polytopes

**Question**(Hrubeš 12): What is the maximum of  $\frac{\text{rank}_+(M)}{\text{rank}(M)}$  over all nonnegative  $n \times n$  matrices?

**Answer**(Kwan, Sauermann, Zhao 22): At least  $n^{1-O(\log \log n / \sqrt{\log n})}$

**Answer**(B. 24): At least  $n^{1-O(\sqrt{\log \log n} / \sqrt{\log n})}$ .

**Proof sketch:** For a nonnegative matrix  $M$ ,  $\text{rank}_+(M)$  is at least the minimum number of rectangles whose union is the support of  $M$ .

Consider the Gram matrix  $M$  of an orthonormal representation of an  $H$ -free graph on  $n$  vertices (for  $H$  being the complete bipartite graph with parts of size  $k$ ).



# Extension Complexity of Polytopes

**Question**(Hrubeš 12): What is the maximum of  $\frac{\text{rank}_+(M)}{\text{rank}(M)}$  over all nonnegative  $n \times n$  matrices?

**Answer**(Kwan, Sauermann, Zhao 22): At least  $n^{1-O(\log \log n / \sqrt{\log n})}$

**Answer**(B. 24): At least  $n^{1-O(\sqrt{\log \log n} / \sqrt{\log n})}$ .

**Proof sketch:** For a nonnegative matrix  $M$ ,  $\text{rank}_+(M)$  is at least the minimum number of rectangles whose union is the support of  $M$ .

Consider the Gram matrix  $M$  of an orthonormal representation of an  $H$ -free graph on  $n$  vertices (for  $H$  being the complete bipartite graph with parts of size  $k$ ).

So any *rectangle* in the support of  $M$  has cardinality at most  $2kn$



# Extension Complexity of Polytopes

**Question**(Hrubeš 12): What is the maximum of  $\frac{\text{rank}_+(M)}{\text{rank}(M)}$  over all nonnegative  $n \times n$  matrices?

**Answer**(Kwan, Sauermann, Zhao 22): At least  $n^{1-O(\log \log n / \sqrt{\log n})}$

**Answer**(B. 24): At least  $n^{1-O(\sqrt{\log \log n} / \sqrt{\log n})}$ .

**Proof sketch:** For a nonnegative matrix  $M$ ,  $\text{rank}_+(M)$  is at least the minimum number of rectangles whose union is the support of  $M$ .

Consider the Gram matrix  $M$  of an orthonormal representation of an  $H$ -free graph on  $n$  vertices (for  $H$  being the complete bipartite graph with parts of size  $k$ ).

So any *rectangle* in the support of  $M$  has cardinality at most  $2kn$  and thus  $\text{rank}_+(M) \geq \frac{m}{2kn}$ , where  $m$  is the size of the support.



**Can the following be improved (or proven)?**



Can the following be improved (or proven)?

Let  $\mathcal{F}_n$  be the family of all  $H$ -free graphs on  $n$  vertices where  $H$  is the clique of size  $k$ .

$$\Omega(n^{3/k}) \leq \min\{\text{msr}(G) : G \in \mathcal{F}_n\} \leq n^{O(\log \log k / \log k)}$$

$$n^{1-O(1/\log k)} \leq \max\{\vartheta(\overline{G}) : G \in \mathcal{F}_n\} \leq O(n^{1-2/k})$$



Can the following be improved (or proven)?

Let  $\mathcal{F}_n$  be the family of all  $H$ -free graphs on  $n$  vertices where  $H$  is the clique of size  $k$ .

$$\Omega(n^{3/k}) \leq \min\{\text{msr}(G) : G \in \mathcal{F}_n\} \leq n^{O(\log \log k / \log k)}$$

$$n^{1-O(1/\log k)} \leq \max\{\vartheta(\overline{G}) : G \in \mathcal{F}_n\} \leq O(n^{1-2/k})$$

Fix  $H$  and let  $\mathcal{F}_m$  be the family of all  $H$ -free graphs with  $m$  edges.

**Conjecture**(Alon, Krivelevich, Sudakov 05): Does there exist  $c(H)$  such that  $\min\{\text{MaxCut}(G) - m/2 : G \in \mathcal{F}_m\} = \Theta(m^{c(H)})$ ?



**Can the following be improved (or proven)?**

Let  $\mathcal{F}_n$  be the family of all  $H$ -free graphs on  $n$  vertices where  $H$  is the clique of size  $k$ .

$$\Omega(n^{3/k}) \leq \min\{\text{msr}(G) : G \in \mathcal{F}_n\} \leq n^{O(\log \log k / \log k)}$$

$$n^{1-O(1/\log k)} \leq \max\{\vartheta(\overline{G}) : G \in \mathcal{F}_n\} \leq O(n^{1-2/k})$$

Fix  $H$  and let  $\mathcal{F}_m$  be the family of all  $H$ -free graphs with  $m$  edges.

**Conjecture**(Alon, Krivelevich, Sudakov 05): Does there exist  $c(H)$  such that  $\min\{\text{MaxCut}(G) - m/2 : G \in \mathcal{F}_m\} = \Theta(m^{c(H)})$ ?

**Conjecture**(Alon, Bollobás, Krivelevich, Sudakov 03):  $c(H) > 1/4$ .



# Can the following be improved (or proven)?

Let  $\mathcal{F}_n$  be the family of all  $H$ -free graphs on  $n$  vertices where  $H$  is the clique of size  $k$ .

$$\Omega(n^{3/k}) \leq \min\{\text{msr}(G) : G \in \mathcal{F}_n\} \leq n^{O(\log \log k / \log k)}$$

$$n^{1-O(1/\log k)} \leq \max\{\vartheta(\overline{G}) : G \in \mathcal{F}_n\} \leq O(n^{1-2/k})$$

Fix  $H$  and let  $\mathcal{F}_m$  be the family of all  $H$ -free graphs with  $m$  edges.

**Conjecture**(Alon, Krivelevich, Sudakov 05): Does there exist  $c(H)$  such that  $\min\{\text{MaxCut}(G) - m/2 : G \in \mathcal{F}_m\} = \Theta(m^{c(H)})$ ?

**Conjecture**(Alon, Bollobás, Krivelevich, Sudakov 03):  $c(H) > 1/4$ .

**Conjecture**(Elphick 23):  $\text{MaxCut}(G) - \frac{m}{2} \geq \frac{1}{3} \cdot \frac{m}{\chi_{\text{vec}}(G) - 1}$ .



# Can the following be improved (or proven)?

Let  $\mathcal{F}_n$  be the family of all  $H$ -free graphs on  $n$  vertices where  $H$  is the clique of size  $k$ .

$$\Omega(n^{3/k}) \leq \min\{\text{msr}(G) : G \in \mathcal{F}_n\} \leq n^{O(\log \log k / \log k)}$$

$$n^{1-O(1/\log k)} \leq \max\{\vartheta(\overline{G}) : G \in \mathcal{F}_n\} \leq O(n^{1-2/k})$$

Fix  $H$  and let  $\mathcal{F}_m$  be the family of all  $H$ -free graphs with  $m$  edges.

**Conjecture**(Alon, Krivelevich, Sudakov 05): Does there exist  $c(H)$  such that  $\min\{\text{MaxCut}(G) - m/2 : G \in \mathcal{F}_m\} = \Theta(m^{c(H)})$ ?

**Conjecture**(Alon, Bollobás, Krivelevich, Sudakov 03):  $c(H) > 1/4$ .

**Conjecture**(Elphick 23):  $\text{MaxCut}(G) - \frac{m}{2} \geq \frac{1}{3} \cdot \frac{m}{\chi_{\text{vec}}(G) - 1}$ .

$$n^{1-O\left(\sqrt{\frac{\log \log n}{\log n}}\right)} \leq \max \left\{ \frac{\text{rank}_+(M)}{\text{rank}(M)} : M \text{ is nonnegative and } n \times n \right\} \leq ?$$



[illegible]