

# Introduction to Algebraic Methods in Graphical Models

at the SIAM Conference on Applied Algebraic Geometry (AG23)

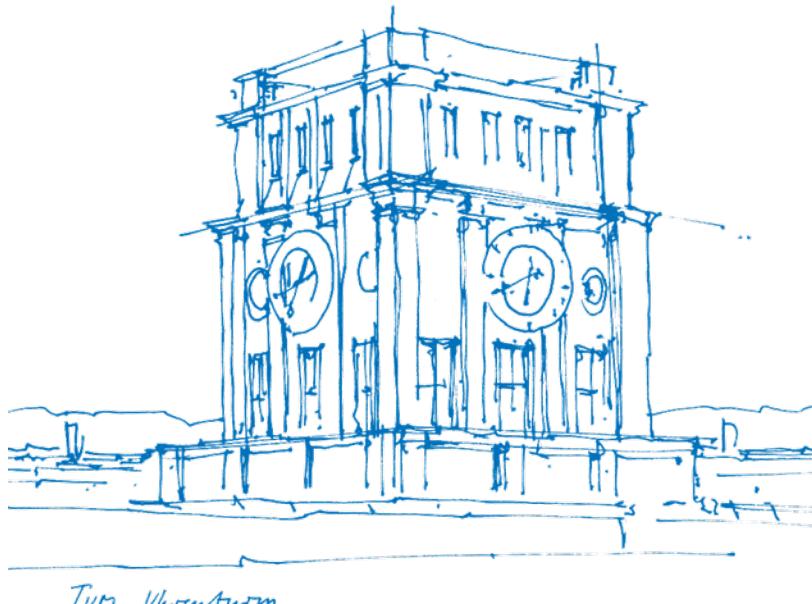
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(joint work with Mathias Drton, Alexandros Grosdos and Irem Portakal)



# Statistical Graphical Models

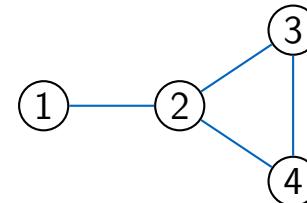
Setup: Random variables  $(X_v)_{v \in V}$  and undirected/directed graph  $G = (V, E)$ .

$$\mathcal{M}(G) = \{\text{probability distributions on } \mathbb{R}^{|V|} \text{ that factorize according to } G\}$$

Undirected Graphical Models:

$$p(x) = \frac{1}{Z} \prod_{C \in \mathcal{C}} \psi_C(x_C),$$

where  $\mathcal{C}$  is the collection of cliques of  $G$ .



$$p(x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4) \propto \psi_{12}(x_1, x_2) \cdot \psi_{234}(x_2, x_3, x_4)$$

# Statistical Graphical Models

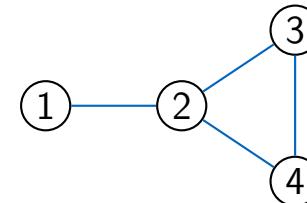
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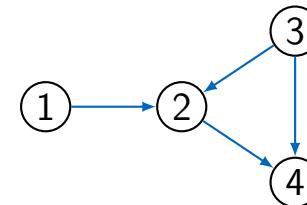


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## Directed Graphical Models:

$$p(x) = \prod_{v \in V} p(x_v | x_{\text{pa}(v)}),$$

where  $\text{pa}(v) = \{w \in V : w \rightarrow v \in E\}$ .



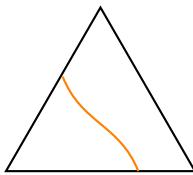
$$p(x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4) = p(x_1) \cdot p(x_2 | x_1, x_3) \cdot p(x_3) \cdot p(x_4 | x_2, x_3)$$

# Polynomial Parameterizations in Directed Graphical Models

## Discrete Distributions

- Finite state space:

$$\mathcal{I} = \times_{v \in V} [d_v].$$



- Each prob. distribution is a point in

$$\Delta_{|\mathcal{I}|-1} = \{p \in \mathbb{R}^{\mathcal{I}} : p(x) \geq 0, \sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}} p(x) = 1\}.$$

- Graphical model  $\mathcal{M}(G) \subseteq \Delta_{|\mathcal{I}|-1}$  is given by

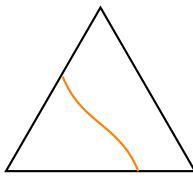
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## Gaussian Distributions

- Each distribution  $N(0, \Sigma)$  is given by cov. matrix

$$\Sigma \in PD(|V|) \subseteq \mathbb{R}^{\binom{|V|+1}{2}}.$$

- Weight matrix:

$$\mathbb{R}^E = \{\Lambda \in \mathbb{R}^{|V| \times |V|} : \lambda_{vu} = 0 \text{ if } u \rightarrow v \notin E\}.$$

- Graphical model  $\mathcal{M}^{(2)}(G) \subseteq PD(|V|)$  is given by

$$\mathcal{M}^{(2)}(G) = \{\Sigma \in PD(|V|) : \Sigma = (I - \Lambda)^{-1} \Omega (I - \Lambda)^{-\top}\},$$

where  $\Lambda \in \mathbb{R}^E$ ,  $\Omega \in \text{diag}_+$ .

Multiple graphical models have a **polynomial** parameterization.

# Example: Gaussian Directed Graphical Models



$$\Lambda = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \lambda_{21} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_{32} & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\Omega = \begin{pmatrix} \omega_{11} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \omega_{22} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \omega_{33} \end{pmatrix}$$

Covariance matrix:

$$\Sigma = \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_{11} & \sigma_{12} & \sigma_{13} \\ \cdot & \sigma_{22} & \sigma_{23} \\ \cdot & \cdot & \sigma_{33} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \omega_{11} & \omega_{11}\lambda_{21} & \omega_{11}\lambda_{21}\lambda_{32} \\ \cdot & \omega_{22} + \omega_{11}\lambda_{21}^2 & \omega_{22}\lambda_{32} + \omega_{11}\lambda_{21}^2\lambda_{32} \\ \cdot & \cdot & \omega_{33} + \omega_{22}\lambda_{32}^2 + \omega_{11}\lambda_{21}^2\lambda_{32}^2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Graphical model:

$$\mathcal{M}^{(2)}(G) = PD(|V|) \cap \mathbb{V}(\sigma_{12}\sigma_{23} - \sigma_{22}\sigma_{13})$$

# Questions of Interest in Graphical Modeling

## Statistics

- Model selection.
- Parameter identifiability.
- Parameter estimation.  
(Maximum-Likelihood-Estimation.)
- ...

## Algebraic Geometry

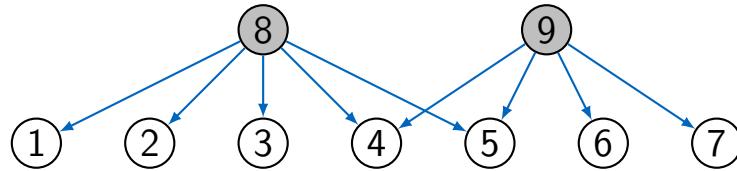
- Vanishing ideal of  $\mathcal{M}(G)$ .
- Is the parameterization map injective?
- Boundaries and singular locus of  $\mathcal{M}(G)$ .  
ML degree.
- ...

## Interesting:

Hidden variables, i.e.,  $V = \mathcal{O} \cup \mathcal{H}$ . Only observe marginal distribution  $X_{\mathcal{O}}$ .

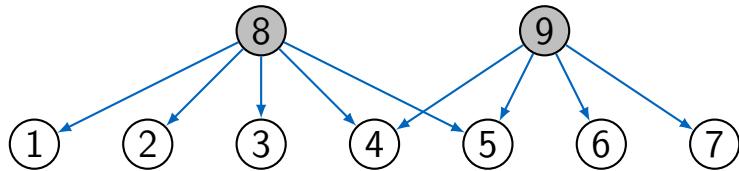
# Factor Analysis Models

Graph  $G = (\mathcal{O} \cup \mathcal{H}, E)$ , only edges from latent to observed variables. Usually,  $\mathcal{O} = [p]$ .



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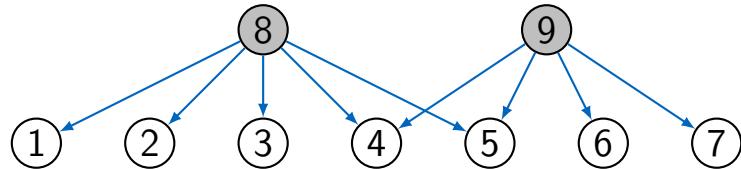


$$\Lambda = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \Lambda_{\mathcal{O}\mathcal{H}} \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\Omega = \begin{pmatrix} \Omega_{\mathcal{O}\mathcal{O}} & 0 \\ 0 & \Omega_{\mathcal{H}\mathcal{H}} \end{pmatrix}$$

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$$\Lambda = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \Lambda_{\mathcal{O}\mathcal{H}} \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \Omega = \begin{pmatrix} \Omega_{\mathcal{O}\mathcal{O}} & 0 \\ 0 & \Omega_{\mathcal{H}\mathcal{H}} \end{pmatrix}$$

- Covariance matrix:

$$\text{Cov} \left[ \begin{pmatrix} X_{\mathcal{O}} \\ X_{\mathcal{H}} \end{pmatrix} \right] = (I - \Lambda)^{-1} \Omega (I - \Lambda)^{-\top} = \begin{pmatrix} \Omega_{\mathcal{O}\mathcal{O}} + \Lambda_{\mathcal{O}\mathcal{H}} \Omega_{\mathcal{H}\mathcal{H}} \Lambda_{\mathcal{O}\mathcal{H}}^\top & \Lambda_{\mathcal{O}\mathcal{H}} \Omega_{\mathcal{H}\mathcal{H}} \\ \Omega_{\mathcal{H}\mathcal{H}} \Lambda_{\mathcal{O}\mathcal{H}}^\top & \Omega_{\mathcal{H}\mathcal{H}} \end{pmatrix}$$

- *Observed* covariance matrix (projection):

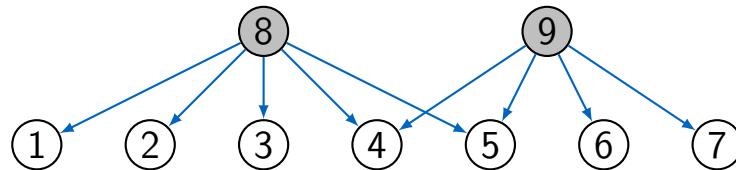
$$\text{Cov}[X_{\mathcal{O}}] = \Omega_{\mathcal{O}\mathcal{O}} + \Lambda_{\mathcal{O}\mathcal{H}} \Omega_{\mathcal{H}\mathcal{H}} \Lambda_{\mathcal{O}\mathcal{H}}^\top$$

- *Observed* covariance model:

$$\mathcal{F}_G = \{ \widetilde{\Omega} + \tilde{\Lambda} \tilde{\Lambda}^\top \in \mathbb{R}^{|\mathcal{O}| \times |\mathcal{O}|} : \widetilde{\Omega} > 0 \text{ diagonal}, \tilde{\Lambda} \in \mathbb{R}^{E_{\mathcal{O}\mathcal{H}}} \}$$

Goals:  $\dim(\mathcal{F}_G)? \quad I(\mathcal{F}_G) \subseteq \mathbb{R}[\sigma_{ij}, i < j]?$

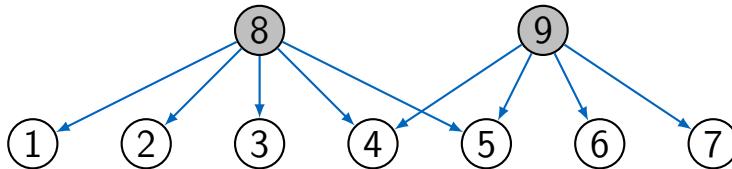
# Example: Factor Analysis Models



Parameter matrix:

$$\tilde{\Lambda} = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_{18} & \lambda_{28} & \lambda_{38} & \lambda_{48} & \lambda_{58} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \lambda_{49} & \lambda_{59} & \lambda_{69} & \lambda_{79} \end{pmatrix}^\top, \quad \widetilde{\Omega} = \text{diag}(\omega_{11}, \omega_{22}, \omega_{33}, \omega_{44}, \omega_{55}, \omega_{66}, \omega_{77}).$$

# Example: Factor Analysis Models



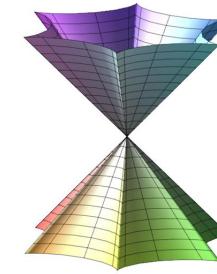
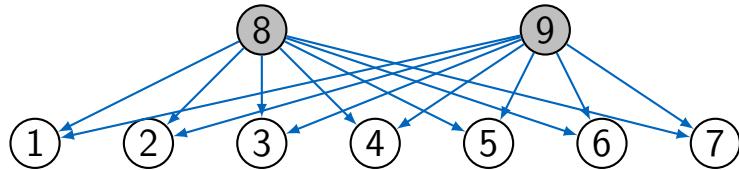
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Observed covariance matrix:

$$\Sigma = \begin{pmatrix} \omega_{11} + \lambda_{18}^2 & \lambda_{18}\lambda_{28} & \lambda_{18}\lambda_{38} & \lambda_{18}\lambda_{48} & \lambda_{18}\lambda_{58} & 0 & 0 \\ \lambda_{18}\lambda_{28} & \omega_{22} + \lambda_{28}^2 & \lambda_{28}\lambda_{38} & \lambda_{28}\lambda_{48} & \lambda_{28}\lambda_{58} & 0 & 0 \\ \lambda_{18}\lambda_{38} & \lambda_{28}\lambda_{38} & \omega_{33} + \lambda_{38}^2 & \lambda_{38}\lambda_{48} & \lambda_{38}\lambda_{58} & 0 & 0 \\ \lambda_{18}\lambda_{48} & \lambda_{28}\lambda_{48} & \lambda_{38}\lambda_{48} & \omega_{44} + \lambda_{48}^2 + \lambda_{49}^2 & \lambda_{48}\lambda_{58} + \lambda_{49}\lambda_{59} & \lambda_{49}\lambda_{69} & \lambda_{49}\lambda_{79} \\ \lambda_{18}\lambda_{58} & \lambda_{28}\lambda_{58} & \lambda_{38}\lambda_{58} & \lambda_{48}\lambda_{58} + \lambda_{49}\lambda_{59} & \omega_{55} + \lambda_{58}^2 + \lambda_{59}^2 & \lambda_{59}\lambda_{69} & \lambda_{59}\lambda_{79} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \lambda_{49}\lambda_{69} & \lambda_{59}\lambda_{69} & \omega_{66} + \lambda_{69}^2 & \lambda_{69}\lambda_{79} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \lambda_{49}\lambda_{79} & \lambda_{59}\lambda_{79} & \lambda_{69}\lambda_{79} & \omega_{77} + \lambda_{79}^2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

# Previous work: *Full* Factor Analysis Models

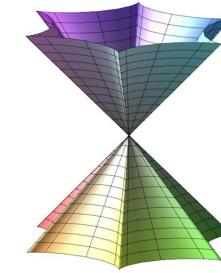
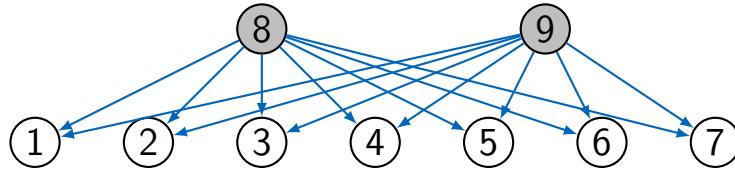


**Dimension:** [Drton et al., 2007]

$$\dim(F_G) = \min\{p(|\mathcal{H}| + 1) - \binom{|\mathcal{H}|}{2}, \binom{p+1}{2}\},$$

where  $|\mathcal{O}| = p$ .

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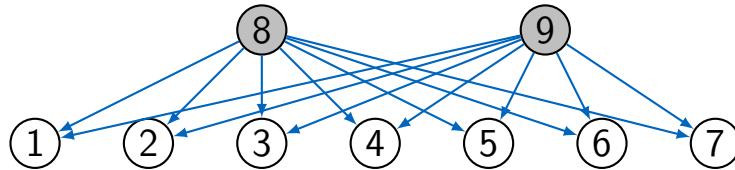
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**Ideal:** [Drton et al., 2007]

$$I(F_G) = M_{p,|\mathcal{H}|} \cap \mathbb{R}[\sigma_{ij}, i < j],$$

where  $M_{p,|\mathcal{H}|} \subseteq \mathbb{R}[\sigma_{ij}, i \leq j]$  is the ideal generated by all  $(|\mathcal{H}| + 1) \times (|\mathcal{H}| + 1)$  minors of a symmetric  $p \times p$  matrix.

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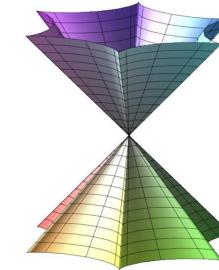
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**Gröbner basis:**

$$|\mathcal{H}| = 1:$$

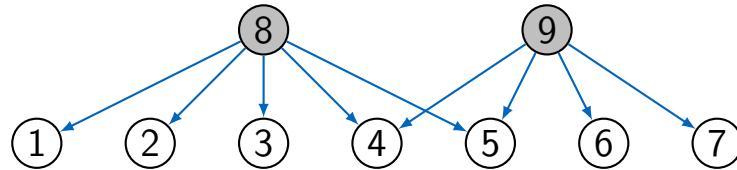
$$G_{p,1} = \{\sigma_{ij}\sigma_{kl} - \sigma_{ik}\sigma_{jl}, \sigma_{il}\sigma_{jk} - \sigma_{ik}\sigma_{jl} \mid 1 \leq i < j < k < l \leq p\}.$$

$$|\mathcal{H}| = 2:$$

- $\overline{F_G}$  secant variety of the 1-factor model.
- Delightful strategy. [Sullivant, 2009]

# New Project: Sparse Factor Analysis Models

At least one edge is missing, only  $|\mathcal{H}| = 2$  latent variables.



## Dimension:

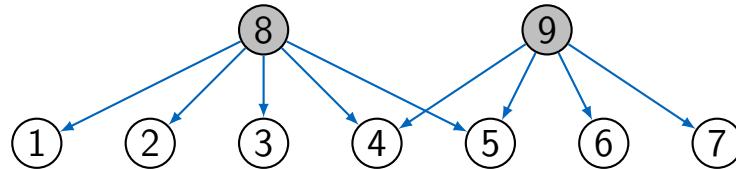
If  $p \geq 5$  and any latent node has at least 3 children, then  $\dim(F_G) = p + |E|$ .

## What about $I(F_G)$ ?

- If  $\text{pa}(u) \cap \text{pa}(v) = \emptyset$ , then  $\sigma_{uv} = 0$  (**singletons**).
- Let  $A, B \subseteq \mathcal{O}$  be disjoint sets s.t.  $|A| = |B| = 2$ . If  $|\text{pa}(A) \cap \text{pa}(B)| \leq 1$ , then  $\det(\Sigma_{A,B}) = 0$  (**tetrad**s).

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## Theorem:

$$\mathbb{V}(I(F_G)) = \mathbb{V}(\{M_{p,2} + S^{\leq 1}(G)\} \cap \mathbb{R}[\sigma_{ij}, i < j]),$$

where  $S^{\leq 1}(G)$  is the ideal generated by all singletons and tetrads corresponding to  $G$ .

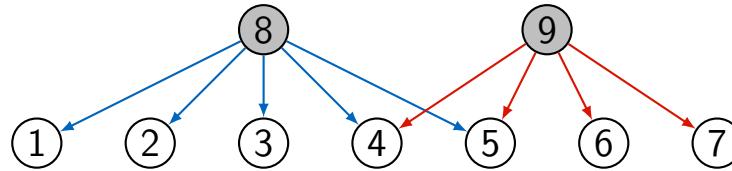
# Joins

Join of Varieties:

$$\mathcal{W}_1 * \mathcal{W}_2 = \overline{\{\lambda w_1 + (1 - \lambda) w_2 : w_1 \in \mathcal{W}_1, w_2 \in \mathcal{W}_2, \lambda \in \mathbb{R}\}}$$

(Sparse) Factor Models = Joins of (Sparse) One-Factor Models:

$$\sigma_{uv} = \begin{cases} \omega_{vv} + \sum_{h \in \text{pa}(v)} \lambda_{vh}^2 & \text{if } u = v, \\ \sum_{h \in \text{pa}(u) \cap \text{pa}(v)} \lambda_{uh} \lambda_{vh} & \text{if } u \neq v. \end{cases}$$



In accordance: For two ideals  $I_1, I_2$ , one defines the join ideal  $I_1 * I_2$  such that  $I_1 * I_2 = I(\mathbb{V}(I_1) * \mathbb{V}(I_2))$ .

$$\implies I(F_G) = I_1 * I_2$$

# Delightful Strategy for Gröbner Basis

## Observation:

$\text{in}_\prec(I_1 * I_2) \subseteq \text{in}_\prec(I_1) * \text{in}_\prec(I_2)$  for any term order  $\prec$ . If equality holds, then  $\prec$  is *delightful* for  $I_1, I_2$ .

“**Delightful**” strategy: [Sturmfels, Sullivant, 2006]

Find  $G \subseteq I_1 * I_2$  such that  $\langle \text{in}_\prec(g) | g \in G \rangle = \text{in}_\prec(I_1) * \text{in}_\prec(I_2)$ . Then  $G$  is a Gröbner basis.

1. Find delightful term order  $\prec$ .
2. Understand  $\text{in}_\prec(I_1) * \text{in}_\prec(I_2)$ .
3. Define polynomials  $g \in G$  with correct initial terms.

# Circular Term Order

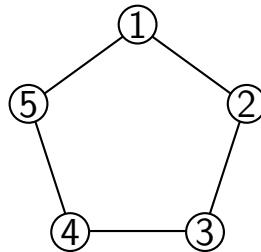
Circular distance on  $\mathcal{O} = [p]$ :

Length of the shortest path on regular  $p$ -gon.

Circular order:

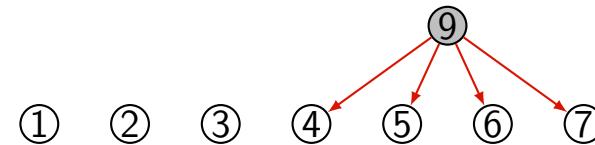
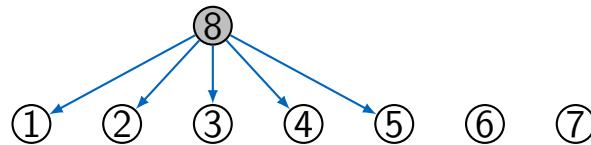
Any block-term order  $\prec$  such that  $\sigma_{uv} \succ \sigma_{wz}$  whenever the circular distance between  $u$  and  $v$  is smaller than the circular distance of  $w$  and  $z$ .

Example:

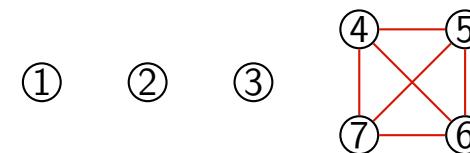
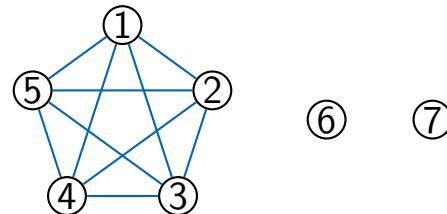


- $\sigma_{15} \succ \sigma_{24}$ ,
- $\sigma_{34} \succ \sigma_{25}$ .

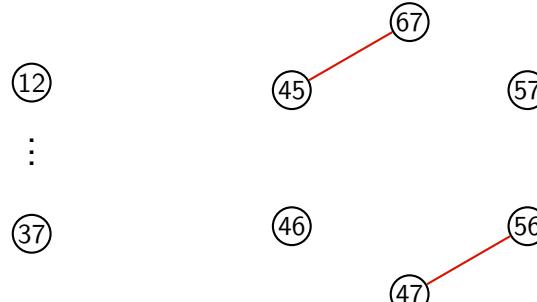
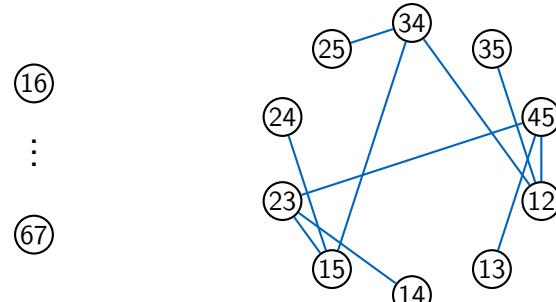
# Non-Crossing Edge Graphs



Complete graph on  $v \in V$  s.t.  $\text{pa}(v) \neq \emptyset$ :



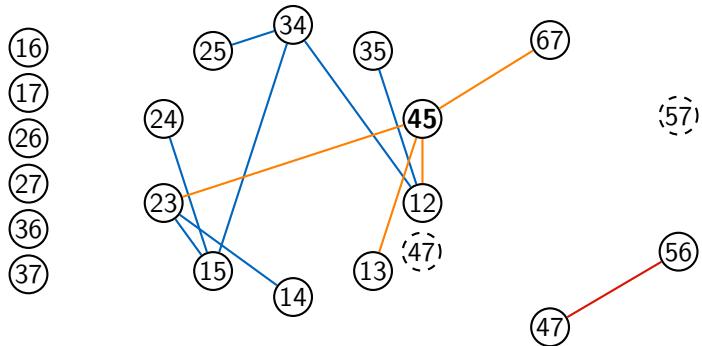
Non-crossing edge graph:



# Gröbner Basis for “Overlap = 2”

$\text{in}_\prec(I_1) * \text{in}_\prec(I_2)$  is given by the edge ideal of the hypergraph obtained by gluing the non-crossing edge graphs.

## Glued Hypergraph



## Gröbner basis of $I_1 * I_2 = I(F_G)$

- $\sigma_{16}, \sigma_{17}, \sigma_{26}, \sigma_{27}, \sigma_{36}, \sigma_{37}$ .
- $\sigma_{47}\sigma_{56} - \sigma_{57}\sigma_{46}$ ,  
 $\sigma_{12}\sigma_{34} - \sigma_{13}\sigma_{24}$ ,  
 $\sigma_{14}\sigma_{23} - \sigma_{13}\sigma_{24}$ ,  
 $\sigma_{12}\sigma_{35} - \sigma_{13}\sigma_{25}$ ,  
 $\sigma_{15}\sigma_{23} - \sigma_{13}\sigma_{25}$ ,  
 $\sigma_{15}\sigma_{24} - \sigma_{14}\sigma_{25}$ ,  
 $\sigma_{15}\sigma_{34} - \sigma_{14}\sigma_{35}$ ,  
 $\sigma_{25}\sigma_{34} - \sigma_{24}\sigma_{35}$ .
- $\sigma_{67}\sigma_{12}\sigma_{45} - \sigma_{67}\sigma_{24}\sigma_{15} - \sigma_{12}\sigma_{47}\sigma_{56}$ ,  
 $\sigma_{67}\sigma_{13}\sigma_{45} - \sigma_{67}\sigma_{34}\sigma_{15} - \sigma_{13}\sigma_{47}\sigma_{56}$ ,  
 $\sigma_{67}\sigma_{23}\sigma_{45} - \sigma_{67}\sigma_{34}\sigma_{25} - \sigma_{23}\sigma_{47}\sigma_{56}$ .

# Conclusion

- Latent variable models generally feature complicated geometry.
- Even in “simple” factor analysis models there is still lots to explore ...
- Circular term order is not delightful for “overlap = 3” ...
- What about  $|\mathcal{H}| \geq 3$ ?



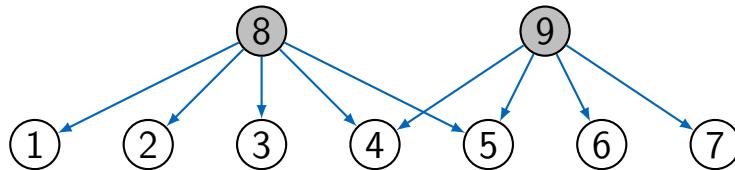
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Established by the European Commission

*Registration and travel support for this presentation was provided  
by the Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics.*

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# Appendix: Example



Singletons:

$$\sigma_{16}, \sigma_{26}, \sigma_{36}, \sigma_{17}, \sigma_{27}, \sigma_{37}.$$

Tetrads:

- $A = \{1, 2\}$  and  $B = \{4, 5\}$ . Then  $\text{pa}(A) \cap \text{pa}(B) = \{8\}$  and  $\sigma_{14}\sigma_{25} - \sigma_{24}\sigma_{15} \in S^{\leq 1}(G)$ .
- $A = \{1, 4\}$  and  $B = \{2, 5\}$ . Then  $\text{pa}(A) \cap \text{pa}(B) = \{8, 9\}$  and  $\sigma_{12}\sigma_{45} - \sigma_{24}\sigma_{15} \notin S^{\leq 1}(G)$ .