

1. Suppose that the entries of  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  are non-negative and the sum of any row or column is 1. Show that  $A$  is a convex combination of permutation matrices (i.e. quadratic matrices where every row and column is a unit vector).
2. Let  $T$  be (the edge set of) a tree with  $r \in V(T)$ . Consider the hypergraph  $\mathcal{H} := \{P \subseteq T : P \text{ is a path starting at } r\}$ . Show that the incidence matrix of  $\mathcal{H}$  is TU.
3. Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a bipartite graph with minimal degree  $k$ . Show that there is a partition  $F_1, \dots, F_k$  of  $E$  such that  $(V, F_i)$  has no isolated vertices.
4. Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a bipartite graph. Give a necessary and sufficient condition for the existence of  $F, H \subseteq E$  with  $d_H(v) = d_F(v) + 1$  for every  $v \in V$ .
5. Let  $D = (V, A)$  be a digraph. An  $x \in \mathbb{R}^A$  is called a **circulation** if  $\varrho_x(v) = \delta_x(v)$  for  $v \in V$ . Let  $f, g \in \mathbb{R}^A$  with  $f \leq g$  be given. Circulation  $x$  is **feasible** if  $f \leq x \leq g$ . Show that there is a feasible circulation if and only if  $\varrho_f(Z) \leq \delta_g(Z)$  holds for every  $Z \subseteq V$ .

Hints for the hard direction: call an edge  $e$  **tight** (with respect to  $D, f, g$ ) if  $f(e) = g(e)$ . Similarly  $Z \subseteq V$  is tight if  $\varrho_f(Z) = \delta_g(Z)$ .

1. Start with a hypothetical counterexample  $D, f, g$ , where  $f, g$  are chosen for  $D$  in such a way that the sum of the number of tight sets and tight edges is as large as possible.
2. Show that there is an edge  $e$  which is not tight.
3. Let  $d_{g-f}(X, Y)$  be the sum of the values of  $(g-f)$  on the edges between  $X \setminus Y$  and  $Y \setminus X$  (both direction). Let  $\beta(Z) := \delta_g(Z) - \delta_f(Z)$  and prove the following equation by checking that the contribution of any edge is the same for both sides:
 
$$\beta(X) + \beta(Y) = \beta(X \cup Y) + \beta(X \cap Y) + d_{g-f}(X, Y) \quad (\forall X, Y \subseteq V).$$
4. Check that  $e$  leaves a tight set  $X$  and enters a tight set  $Y$  and get a contradiction applying the previous equation and the fact that  $e$  is not tight.
6. Prove that if  $f, g \in \mathbb{Z}^A$  in the previous exercise, then the feasible circulation can be chosen integral.