

# Approximationsalgorithmen

8. Vorlesung: Scheduling Jobs on Parallel Machines  
via Parametrized Pruning

– Folien von J. Spoerhase –

Referenzen: [Vazirani, §17] und [Williamson & Shmoys, §2.3]  
[Lenstra, Shmoys, Tardos, *Mathematical Programming*, 1990]

# Scheduling on Parallel Machines

**Given:** A set  $J$  of **jobs**, a set  $M$  of **machines**, and for each  $j \in J$  and  $i \in M$  the **processing time**  $p_{ij} \in \mathbb{N}^+$  of  $j$  on  $i$ .

$$J = \{1, 2, \dots, 8\}$$

$$M = \{1, 2, 3\}$$

$$(p_{ij})_{i \in M, j \in J}$$

# Scheduling on Parallel Machines

**Given:** A set  $J$  of **jobs**, a set  $M$  of **machines**, and for each  $j \in J$  and  $i \in M$  the **processing time**  $p_{ij} \in \mathbb{N}^+$  of  $j$  on  $i$ .

**Find:** A **schedule**  $\sigma: J \rightarrow M$  of the jobs on the machines that minimizes the total time to completion (**makespan**), i.e., minimizes the maximum time a machine is in use.

1	$p_{11}$	$p_{13}$	$p_{18}$
---	----------	----------	----------

$$J = \{1, 2, \dots, 8\}$$

2	$p_{22}$	$p_{27}$
---	----------	----------

$$M = \{1, 2, 3\}$$

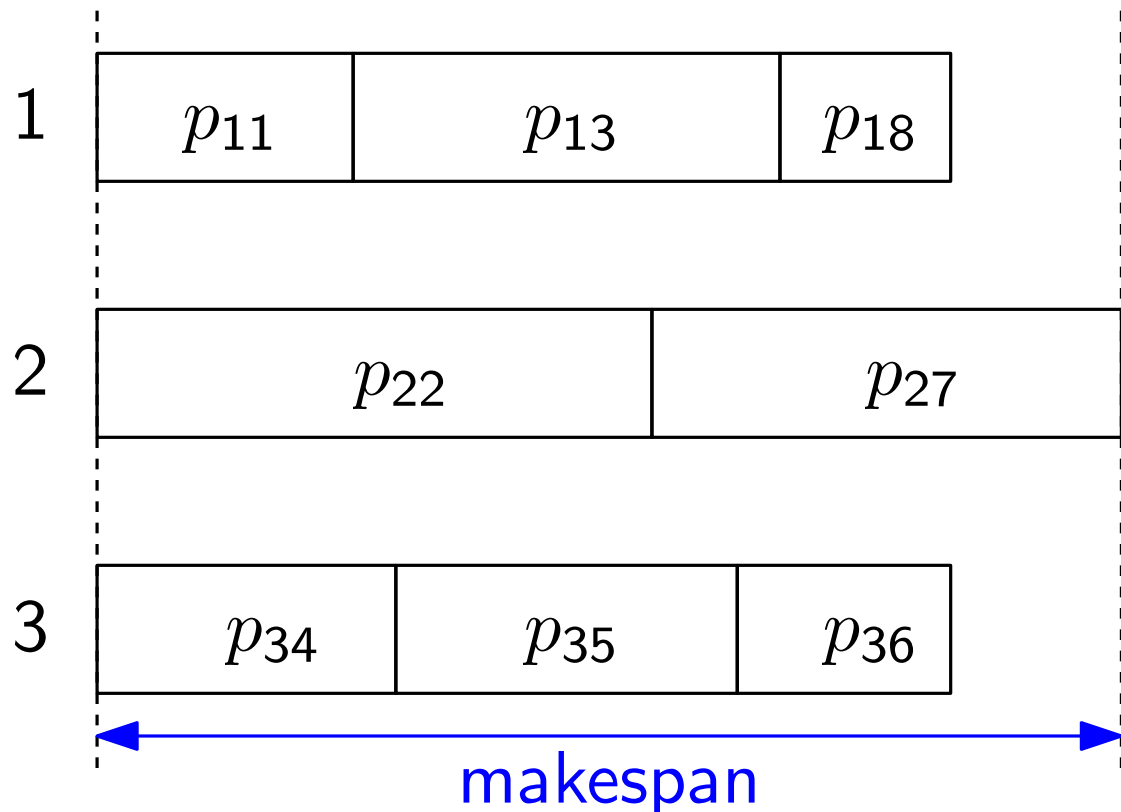
3	$p_{34}$	$p_{35}$	$p_{36}$
---	----------	----------	----------

$$(p_{ij})_{i \in M, j \in J}$$

# Scheduling on Parallel Machines

**Given:** A set  $J$  of **jobs**, a set  $M$  of **machines**, and for each  $j \in J$  and  $i \in M$  the **processing time**  $p_{ij} \in \mathbb{N}^+$  of  $j$  on  $i$ .

**Find:** A **schedule**  $\sigma: J \rightarrow M$  of the jobs on the machines that minimizes the total time to completion (**makespan**), i.e., minimizes the maximum time a machine is in use.



$$J = \{1, 2, \dots, 8\}$$

$$M = \{1, 2, 3\}$$

$$(p_{ij})_{i \in M, j \in J}$$

# A natural ILP

Minimize  $t$

subject to

# A natural ILP

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{Minimize} && t \\ &\text{subject to} && \sum_{i \in M} x_{ij} = 1, && j \in J \\ & && \sum_{j \in J} x_{ij} p_{ij} \leq t, && i \in M \\ & && x_{ij} \in \{0, 1\}, && i \in M, j \in J \end{aligned}$$

# A natural ILP

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{Minimize} & t \\ \text{subject to} & \sum_{i \in M} x_{ij} = 1, \quad j \in J \\ & \sum_{j \in J} x_{ij} p_{ij} \leq t, \quad i \in M \\ & x_{ij} \in \{0, 1\}, \quad i \in M, j \in J \end{array}$$

**Task:** Show that the integrality gap of this ILP is unbounded!

# A natural ILP

$$\begin{array}{ll}
 \text{Minimize} & t \\
 \text{subject to} & \sum_{i \in M} x_{ij} = 1, \quad j \in J \\
 & \sum_{j \in J} x_{ij} p_{ij} \leq t, \quad i \in M \\
 & x_{ij} \in \{0, 1\}, \quad i \in M, j \in J
 \end{array}$$

**Task:** Show that the integrality gap of this ILP is unbounded!

**Solution:**

$m$  machines and one job with processing time  $m$



# A natural ILP

$$\begin{array}{ll}
 \text{Minimize} & t \\
 \text{subject to} & \sum_{i \in M} x_{ij} = 1, \quad j \in J \\
 & \sum_{j \in J} x_{ij} p_{ij} \leq t, \quad i \in M \\
 & x_{ij} \in \{0, 1\}, \quad i \in M, j \in J
 \end{array}$$

**Task:** Show that the integrality gap of this ILP is unbounded!

**Solution:**

$m$  machines and one job with processing time  $m$

$\Rightarrow \text{OPT} = m$  and  $\text{OPT}_{\text{frac}} = 1$ .

# Parametrized Pruning

Strengthen the ILP  $\rightarrow$  implicit (non-linear) constraint:

If  $p_{ij} > t$  then set  $x_{ij} = 0$ .

# Parametrized Pruning

Strengthen the ILP  $\rightarrow$  implicit (non-linear) constraint:

If  $p_{ij} > t$  then set  $x_{ij} = 0$ .

Introduce a parameter  $T \in \mathbb{N}$  to estimate lower bound on OPT.

# Parametrized Pruning

Strengthen the ILP  $\rightarrow$  implicit (non-linear) constraint:

If  $p_{ij} > t$  then set  $x_{ij} = 0$ .

Introduce a parameter  $T \in \mathbb{N}$  to estimate lower bound on OPT.

Define  $S_T := \{ (i, j) : i \in M, j \in J, p_{ij} \leq T \}$ .

# Parametrized Pruning

Strengthen the ILP  $\rightarrow$  implicit (non-linear) constraint:

If  $p_{ij} > t$  then set  $x_{ij} = 0$ .

Introduce a parameter  $T \in \mathbb{N}$  to estimate lower bound on OPT.

Define  $S_T := \{ (i, j) : i \in M, j \in J, p_{ij} \leq T \}$ .

Define the “pruned” relaxation LP( $T$ ):

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i: (i,j) \in S_T} x_{ij} &= 1, & j \in J \\ \sum_{j: (i,j) \in S_T} x_{ij} p_{ij} &\leq T, & i \in M \\ x_{ij} &\geq 0, & (i, j) \in S_T \end{aligned}$$

# Parametrized Pruning

Strengthen the ILP  $\rightarrow$  implicit (non-linear) constraint:

If  $p_{ij} > t$  then set  $x_{ij} = 0$ .

Introduce a parameter  $T \in \mathbb{N}$  to estimate lower bound on OPT.

Define  $S_T := \{ (i, j) : i \in M, j \in J, p_{ij} \leq T \}$ .

Define the “pruned” relaxation LP( $T$ ):

LP( $T$ ) has no objective function; we just need to decide whether a feasible solution exists.

$$\sum_{i: (i,j) \in S_T} x_{ij} = 1, \quad j \in J$$

$$\sum_{j: (i,j) \in S_T} x_{ij} p_{ij} \leq T, \quad i \in M$$

$$x_{ij} \geq 0, \quad (i, j) \in S_T$$

# Parametrized Pruning

Strengthen the ILP  $\rightarrow$  implicit (non-linear) constraint:

If  $p_{ij} > t$  then set  $x_{ij} = 0$ .

Introduce a parameter  $T \in \mathbb{N}$  to estimate lower bound on OPT.

Define  $S_T := \{ (i, j) : i \in M, j \in J, p_{ij} \leq T \}$ .

Define the “pruned” relaxation LP( $T$ ):

$$\sum_{i: (i,j) \in S_T} x_{ij} = 1, \quad j \in J$$

$$\sum_{j: (i,j) \in S_T} x_{ij} p_{ij} \leq T, \quad i \in M$$

$$x_{ij} \geq 0, \quad (i, j) \in S_T$$

LP( $T$ ) has no objective function; we just need to decide whether a feasible solution exists.

But why does this LP solve the problem with the integrality gap?

# Properties of Extreme-Point Solutions

Use binary search to find the smallest  $T$  so that  $\text{LP}(T)$  has a solution. Let  $T^*$  be this value of  $T$ .

$\text{LP}(T)$

$$\sum_{i: (i,j) \in S_T} x_{ij} = 1, \quad j \in J$$

$$\sum_{j: (i,j) \in S_T} x_{ij} p_{ij} \leq T, \quad i \in M$$

$$x_{ij} \geq 0, \quad (i,j) \in S_T$$



# Properties of Extreme-Point Solutions

Use binary search to find the smallest  $T$  so that  $LP(T)$  has a solution. Let  $T^*$  be this value of  $T$ .

What are the bounds for our search?

LP( $T$ )

$$\sum_{i: (i,j) \in S_T} x_{ij} = 1, \quad j \in J$$

$$\sum_{j: (i,j) \in S_T} x_{ij} p_{ij} \leq T, \quad i \in M$$

$$x_{ij} \geq 0, \quad (i,j) \in S_T$$

# Properties of Extreme-Point Solutions

Use binary search to find the smallest  $T$  so that  $LP(T)$  has a solution. Let  $T^*$  be this value of  $T$ .

What are the bounds for our search?

Note:  $T^* \leq OPT$

LP( $T$ )

$$\sum_{i: (i,j) \in S_T} x_{ij} = 1, \quad j \in J$$

$$\sum_{j: (i,j) \in S_T} x_{ij} p_{ij} \leq T, \quad i \in M$$

$$x_{ij} \geq 0, \quad (i, j) \in S_T$$

# Properties of Extreme-Point Solutions

Use binary search to find the smallest  $T$  so that  $LP(T)$  has a solution. Let  $T^*$  be this value of  $T$ .

What are the bounds for our search?

Note:  $T^* \leq OPT$

Idea: Round an extreme-point solution of  $LP(T^*)$  to a schedule whose makespan is  $\leq 2T^*$

$LP(T)$

$$\sum_{i: (i,j) \in S_T} x_{ij} = 1, \quad j \in J$$

$$\sum_{j: (i,j) \in S_T} x_{ij} p_{ij} \leq T, \quad i \in M$$

$$x_{ij} \geq 0, \quad (i, j) \in S_T$$

# Properties of Extreme-Point Solutions

Use binary search to find the smallest  $T$  so that  $LP(T)$  has a solution. Let  $T^*$  be this value of  $T$ .

What are the bounds for our search?

Note:  $T^* \leq OPT$

Idea: Round an extreme-point solution of  $LP(T^*)$  to a schedule whose makespan is  $\leq 2T^*$

LP( $T$ )

$$\sum_{i: (i,j) \in S_T} x_{ij} = 1, \quad j \in J$$

$$\sum_{j: (i,j) \in S_T} x_{ij} p_{ij} \leq T, \quad i \in M$$

$$x_{ij} \geq 0, \quad (i, j) \in S_T$$

## Lemma 1.

Each extreme-point solution to  $LP(T)$  has at most  $m + n$  positive variables where  $m = |M|$ ,  $n = |J|$ .

# Properties of Extreme-Point Solutions

Use binary search to find the smallest  $T$  so that  $\text{LP}(T)$  has a solution. Let  $T^*$  be this value of  $T$ .

What are the bounds for our search?

Note:  $T^* \leq \text{OPT}$

Idea: Round an extreme-point solution of  $\text{LP}(T^*)$  to a schedule whose makespan is  $\leq 2T^*$

$\text{LP}(T)$

$$\sum_{i: (i,j) \in S_T} x_{ij} = 1, \quad j \in J$$

$$\sum_{j: (i,j) \in S_T} x_{ij} p_{ij} \leq T, \quad i \in M$$

$$x_{ij} \geq 0, \quad (i, j) \in S_T$$

## Lemma 1.

Each extreme-point solution to  $\text{LP}(T)$  has at most  $m + n$  positive variables where  $m = |M|$ ,  $n = |J|$ .

## Lemma 2.

Any extreme-point solution to  $\text{LP}(T)$  must set at least  $n - m$  jobs integrally.

# Extreme-Point Solutions of $LP(T)$

Def. bipartite graph  $G = (J \cup M, E)$  s.t.  $(j, i) \in E \Leftrightarrow x_{ij} \neq 0$ .

# Extreme-Point Solutions of $LP(T)$

Def. bipartite graph  $G = (J \cup M, E)$  s.t.  $(j, i) \in E \Leftrightarrow x_{ij} \neq 0$ .

Jobs can be assigned *integrally* or *fractionally*.

# Extreme-Point Solutions of $LP(T)$

Def. bipartite graph  $G = (J \cup M, E)$  s.t.  $(j, i) \in E \Leftrightarrow x_{ij} \neq 0$ .

Jobs can be assigned *integrally* or *fractionally*.

$$(\exists i \in M : 0 < x_{ij} < 1)$$



# Extreme-Point Solutions of $LP(T)$

Def. bipartite graph  $G = (J \cup M, E)$  s.t.  $(j, i) \in E \Leftrightarrow x_{ij} \neq 0$ .

Jobs can be assigned *integrally* or *fractionally*.

$$(\exists i \in M : 0 < x_{ij} < 1)$$

Let  $F \subseteq J$  be the set of fractionally assigned jobs.

Let  $H := G[F \cup M]$ .

# Extreme-Point Solutions of $LP(T)$

Def. bipartite graph  $G = (J \cup M, E)$  s.t.  $(j, i) \in E \Leftrightarrow x_{ij} \neq 0$ .

Jobs can be assigned *integrally* or *fractionally*.

$$(\exists i \in M : 0 < x_{ij} < 1)$$

Let  $F \subseteq J$  be the set of fractionally assigned jobs.

Let  $H := G[F \cup M]$ .

Note:  $(i, j)$  is an edge in  $H \Leftrightarrow 0 < x_{ij} < 1$

# Extreme-Point Solutions of $LP(T)$

Def. bipartite graph  $G = (J \cup M, E)$  s.t.  $(j, i) \in E \Leftrightarrow x_{ij} \neq 0$ .

Jobs can be assigned *integrally* or *fractionally*.

$$(\exists i \in M : 0 < x_{ij} < 1)$$

Let  $F \subseteq J$  be the set of fractionally assigned jobs.

Let  $H := G[F \cup M]$ .

Note:  $(i, j)$  is an edge in  $H \Leftrightarrow 0 < x_{ij} < 1$

A matching in  $H$  is called *F-perfect* if it matches every vertex in  $F$ .

# Extreme-Point Solutions of $LP(T)$

Def. bipartite graph  $G = (J \cup M, E)$  s.t.  $(j, i) \in E \Leftrightarrow x_{ij} \neq 0$ .

Jobs can be assigned *integrally* or *fractionally*.

$$(\exists i \in M : 0 < x_{ij} < 1)$$

Let  $F \subseteq J$  be the set of fractionally assigned jobs.

Let  $H := G[F \cup M]$ .

Note:  $(i, j)$  is an edge in  $H \Leftrightarrow 0 < x_{ij} < 1$

A matching in  $H$  is called *F-perfect* if it matches every vertex in  $F$ .

**Key step:** Show that  $H$  always has an *F-perfect* matching.

# Extreme-Point Solutions of $LP(T)$

Def. bipartite graph  $G = (J \cup M, E)$  s.t.  $(j, i) \in E \Leftrightarrow x_{ij} \neq 0$ .

Jobs can be assigned *integrally* or *fractionally*.

$$(\exists i \in M : 0 < x_{ij} < 1)$$

Let  $F \subseteq J$  be the set of fractionally assigned jobs.

Let  $H := G[F \cup M]$ .

Note:  $(i, j)$  is an edge in  $H \Leftrightarrow 0 < x_{ij} < 1$

A matching in  $H$  is called *F-perfect* if it matches every vertex in  $F$ .

**Key step:** Show that  $H$  always has an *F-perfect* matching.

Why is this useful ....?

# Algorithm

- Assign job  $j$  to machine  $i$  such that  $i$  is the machine minimizing  $p_{ij}$ . Let  $\alpha$  be the makespan of this schedule.

# Algorithm

- Assign job  $j$  to machine  $i$  such that  $i$  is the machine minimizing  $p_{ij}$ . Let  $\alpha$  be the makespan of this schedule.
- By a binary search in the interval  $[\frac{\alpha}{m}, \alpha]$ , find the smallest value of  $T \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  for which  $\text{LP}(T)$  has a feasible solution and let this value be  $T^*$ .

# Algorithm

- Assign job  $j$  to machine  $i$  such that  $i$  is the machine minimizing  $p_{ij}$ . Let  $\alpha$  be the makespan of this schedule.
- By a binary search in the interval  $[\frac{\alpha}{m}, \alpha]$ , find the smallest value of  $T \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  for which  $\text{LP}(T)$  has a feasible solution and let this value be  $T^*$ .
- Find an extreme point solution, say  $\mathbf{x}$ , to  $\text{LP}(T^*)$ .



# Algorithm

- Assign job  $j$  to machine  $i$  such that  $i$  is the machine minimizing  $p_{ij}$ . Let  $\alpha$  be the makespan of this schedule.
- By a binary search in the interval  $[\frac{\alpha}{m}, \alpha]$ , find the smallest value of  $T \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  for which  $\text{LP}(T)$  has a feasible solution and let this value be  $T^*$ .
- Find an extreme point solution, say  $\mathbf{x}$ , to  $\text{LP}(T^*)$ .
- Assign all integrally set jobs to machines as in  $\mathbf{x}$ .

# Algorithm

- Assign job  $j$  to machine  $i$  such that  $i$  is the machine minimizing  $p_{ij}$ . Let  $\alpha$  be the makespan of this schedule.
- By a binary search in the interval  $[\frac{\alpha}{m}, \alpha]$ , find the smallest value of  $T \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  for which  $\text{LP}(T)$  has a feasible solution and let this value be  $T^*$ .
- Find an extreme point solution, say  $\mathbf{x}$ , to  $\text{LP}(T^*)$ .
- Assign all integrally set jobs to machines as in  $\mathbf{x}$ .
- Construct the graph  $H$  and find a perfect matching  $P$  in it (see Lemma 4 later).

# Algorithm

- Assign job  $j$  to machine  $i$  such that  $i$  is the machine minimizing  $p_{ij}$ . Let  $\alpha$  be the makespan of this schedule.
- By a binary search in the interval  $[\frac{\alpha}{m}, \alpha]$ , find the smallest value of  $T \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  for which  $\text{LP}(T)$  has a feasible solution and let this value be  $T^*$ .
- Find an extreme point solution, say  $\mathbf{x}$ , to  $\text{LP}(T^*)$ .
- Assign all integrally set jobs to machines as in  $\mathbf{x}$ .
- Construct the graph  $H$  and find a perfect matching  $P$  in it (see Lemma 4 later).
- Assign the fractional jobs to machines using  $P$ .

# Algorithm

- Assign job  $j$  to machine  $i$  such that  $i$  is the machine minimizing  $p_{ij}$ . Let  $\alpha$  be the makespan of this schedule.
- By a binary search in the interval  $[\frac{\alpha}{m}, \alpha]$ , find the smallest value of  $T \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  for which  $\text{LP}(T)$  has a feasible solution and let this value be  $T^*$ .
- Find an extreme point solution, say  $\mathbf{x}$ , to  $\text{LP}(T^*)$ .
- Assign all integrally set jobs to machines as in  $\mathbf{x}$ .
- Construct the graph  $H$  and find a perfect matching  $P$  in it (see Lemma 4 later).
- Assign the fractional jobs to machines using  $P$ .

**Thm.** This algorithm is a 2-approximation (assuming that we have an  $F$ -perfect matching).

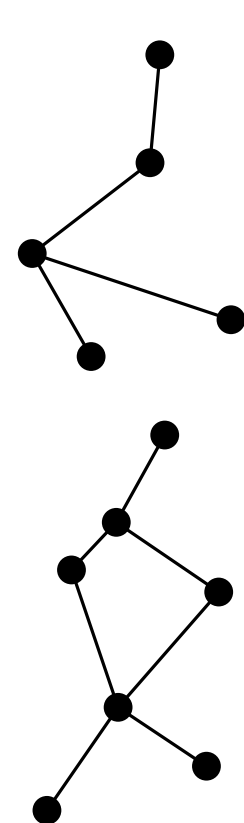
# Pseudo-Trees and -Forests

A connected graph with vertex set  $V$  is called a **pseudo-tree** if it has at most  $|V|$  edges.

# Pseudo-Trees and -Forests

A connected graph with vertex set  $V$  is called a **pseudo-tree** if it has at most  $|V|$  edges.

A pseudo-tree is a tree or a tree plus a single edge.

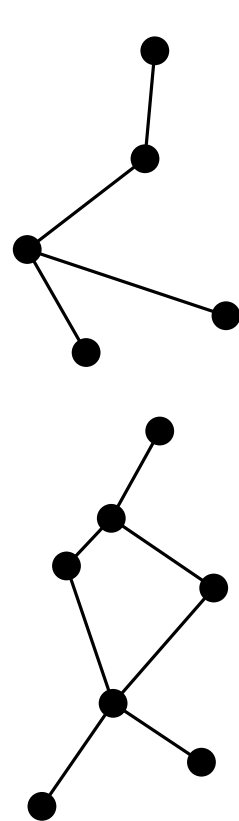


# Pseudo-Trees and -Forests

A connected graph with vertex set  $V$  is called a **pseudo-tree** if it has at most  $|V|$  edges.

A pseudo-tree is a tree or a tree plus a single edge.

A collection of disjoint pseudo-trees is called a **pseudo-forest**.

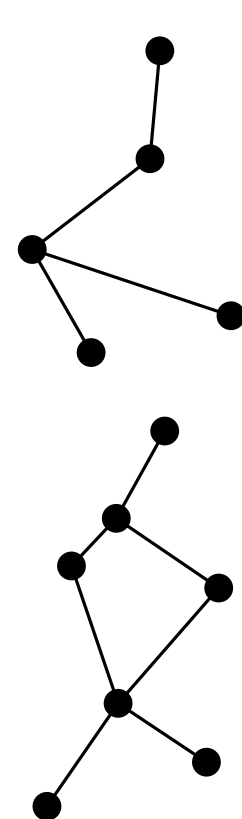


# Pseudo-Trees and -Forests

A connected graph with vertex set  $V$  is called a **pseudo-tree** if it has at most  $|V|$  edges.

A pseudo-tree is a tree or a tree plus a single edge.

A collection of disjoint pseudo-trees is called a **pseudo-forest**.



**Lem. 3.** The bipartite graph  $G = (J \cup M, E)$  is a pseudo-forest.

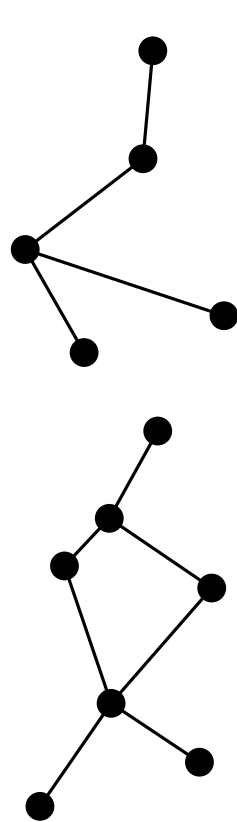


# Pseudo-Trees and -Forests

A connected graph with vertex set  $V$  is called a **pseudo-tree** if it has at most  $|V|$  edges.

A pseudo-tree is a tree or a tree plus a single edge.

A collection of disjoint pseudo-trees is called a **pseudo-forest**.



**Lem. 3.** The bipartite graph  $G = (J \cup M, E)$  is a pseudo-forest.

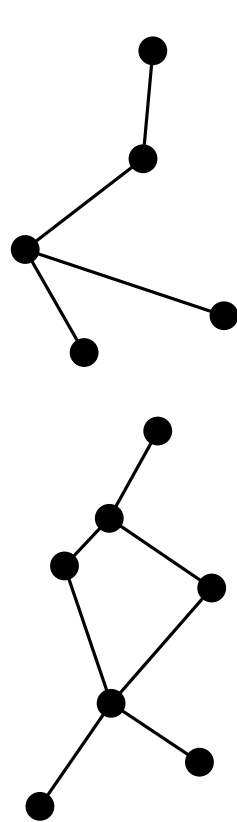
Extreme-point solutions have  $\leq n + m$  non-zero variables (L1).

# Pseudo-Trees and -Forests

A connected graph with vertex set  $V$  is called a **pseudo-tree** if it has at most  $|V|$  edges.

A pseudo-tree is a tree or a tree plus a single edge.

A collection of disjoint pseudo-trees is called a **pseudo-forest**.



**Lem. 3.** The bipartite graph  $G = (J \cup M, E)$  is a pseudo-forest.

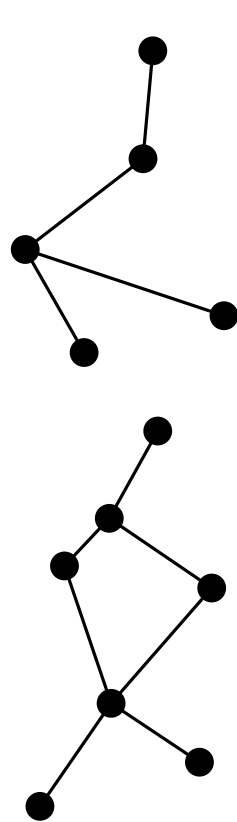
Extreme-point solutions have  $\leq n + m$  non-zero variables (L1).  
Each component of  $G$  corresponds to extreme-point solution.

# Pseudo-Trees and -Forests

A connected graph with vertex set  $V$  is called a **pseudo-tree** if it has at most  $|V|$  edges.

A pseudo-tree is a tree or a tree plus a single edge.

A collection of disjoint pseudo-trees is called a **pseudo-forest**.



**Lem. 3.** The bipartite graph  $G = (J \cup M, E)$  is a pseudo-forest.

Extreme-point solutions have  $\leq n + m$  non-zero variables (L1).  
Each component of  $G$  corresponds to extreme-point solution.

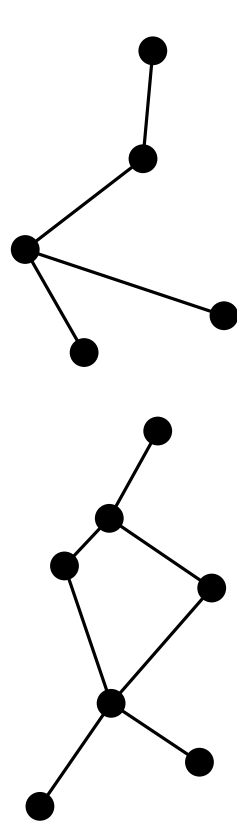
**Lem. 4.** The graph  $H$  has an  $F$ -perfect matching.

# Pseudo-Trees and -Forests

A connected graph with vertex set  $V$  is called a **pseudo-tree** if it has at most  $|V|$  edges.

A pseudo-tree is a tree or a tree plus a single edge.

A collection of disjoint pseudo-trees is called a **pseudo-forest**.



**Lem. 3.** The bipartite graph  $G = (J \cup M, E)$  is a pseudo-forest.

Extreme-point solutions have  $\leq n + m$  non-zero variables (L1).  
Each component of  $G$  corresponds to extreme-point solution.

**Lem. 4.** The graph  $H$  has an  $F$ -perfect matching.

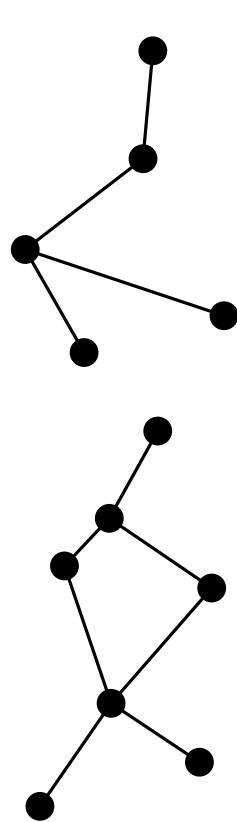
$H$  is a pseudo-forest, too.

# Pseudo-Trees and -Forests

A connected graph with vertex set  $V$  is called a **pseudo-tree** if it has at most  $|V|$  edges.

A pseudo-tree is a tree or a tree plus a single edge.

A collection of disjoint pseudo-trees is called a **pseudo-forest**.



**Lem. 3.** The bipartite graph  $G = (J \cup M, E)$  is a pseudo-forest.

Extreme-point solutions have  $\leq n + m$  non-zero variables (L1).  
Each component of  $G$  corresponds to extreme-point solution.

**Lem. 4.** The graph  $H$  has an  $F$ -perfect matching.

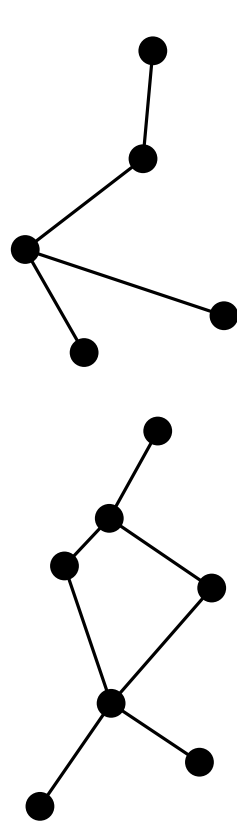
$H$  is a pseudo-forest, too. The leaves in  $H$  are machines.

# Pseudo-Trees and -Forests

A connected graph with vertex set  $V$  is called a **pseudo-tree** if it has at most  $|V|$  edges.

A pseudo-tree is a tree or a tree plus a single edge.

A collection of disjoint pseudo-trees is called a **pseudo-forest**.



**Lem. 3.** The bipartite graph  $G = (J \cup M, E)$  is a pseudo-forest.

Extreme-point solutions have  $\leq n + m$  non-zero variables (L1).  
Each component of  $G$  corresponds to extreme-point solution.

**Lem. 4.** The graph  $H$  has an  $F$ -perfect matching.

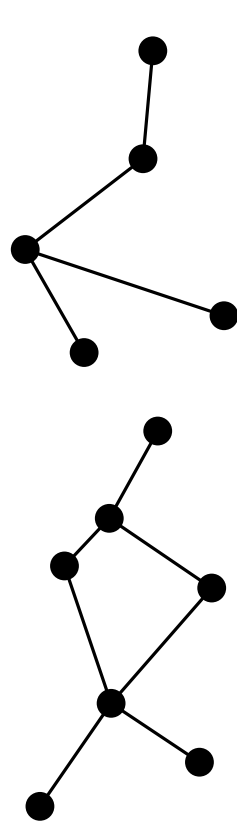
$H$  is a pseudo-forest, too. The leaves in  $H$  are machines.  
After picking leaf edges exhaustively,

# Pseudo-Trees and -Forests

A connected graph with vertex set  $V$  is called a **pseudo-tree** if it has at most  $|V|$  edges.

A pseudo-tree is a tree or a tree plus a single edge.

A collection of disjoint pseudo-trees is called a **pseudo-forest**.



**Lem. 3.** The bipartite graph  $G = (J \cup M, E)$  is a pseudo-forest.

Extreme-point solutions have  $\leq n + m$  non-zero variables (L1).  
Each component of  $G$  corresponds to extreme-point solution.

**Lem. 4.** The graph  $H$  has an  $F$ -perfect matching.

$H$  is a pseudo-forest, too. The leaves in  $H$  are machines.  
After picking leaf edges exhaustively, only even cycles remain.

# Scheduling on Parallel Machines

**Thm.** There is an LP-based 2-approximation algorithm for the problem of scheduling jobs on unrelated parallel machines.



# Scheduling on Parallel Machines

**Thm.** There is an LP-based 2-approximation algorithm for the problem of scheduling jobs on unrelated parallel machines.

Is this tight?

# Scheduling on Parallel Machines

**Thm.** There is an LP-based 2-approximation algorithm for the problem of scheduling jobs on unrelated parallel machines.

Is this tight?     **Yes!**

Instance  $I_m$ :

- $m^2 - m + 1$  jobs to be scheduled on  $m$  machines.
- job  $j_1$  has a processing time of  $m$  on all machines,
- all other jobs have unit processing time on each machine.

# Scheduling on Parallel Machines

**Thm.** There is an LP-based 2-approximation algorithm for the problem of scheduling jobs on unrelated parallel machines.

Is this tight? **Yes!**

Instance  $I_m$ :

- $m^2 - m + 1$  jobs to be scheduled on  $m$  machines.
- job  $j_1$  has a processing time of  $m$  on all machines,
- all other jobs have unit processing time on each machine.

Optimum: one machine with  $j_1$ , and all others spread evenly.

# Scheduling on Parallel Machines

**Thm.** There is an LP-based 2-approximation algorithm for the problem of scheduling jobs on unrelated parallel machines.

Is this tight? **Yes!**

Instance  $I_m$ :

- $m^2 - m + 1$  jobs to be scheduled on  $m$  machines.
- job  $j_1$  has a processing time of  $m$  on all machines,
- all other jobs have unit processing time on each machine.

Optimum: one machine with  $j_1$ , and all others spread evenly.

Algorithm:

- LP( $T$ ) has no feasible solutions for any  $T < m$ .
- Extreme-pt. solution: Assign  $1/m$  of  $j_1$  and  $m - 1$  other jobs to each machine.  $\Rightarrow$  Makespan  $2m - 1$ .

# Scheduling on Parallel Machines

**Thm.** There is an LP-based 2-approximation algorithm for the problem of scheduling jobs on unrelated parallel machines. The approximation factor is tight.