

# Approximation Algorithms

Lecture 5:

LP-based Approximation Algorithms  
for SETCOVER

Part I:

LP-based Approximation Techniques

# I) LP-Rounding



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Difficulty: ensure **feasible** solution of  $\Pi$

Approximation factor  $ALG/OPT_{\Pi} \leq ALG/OPT_{relax}$

## II) Primal-Dual Approach



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increase  $s_d$  according to CS and make  $s_\Pi$  "more feasible".

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Approximation factor  $\leq \text{obj}(s_\Pi) / \text{obj}(s_d)$

Advantage: don't need LP-“machinery”; possibly faster, more flexible.

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# III) Dual Fitting

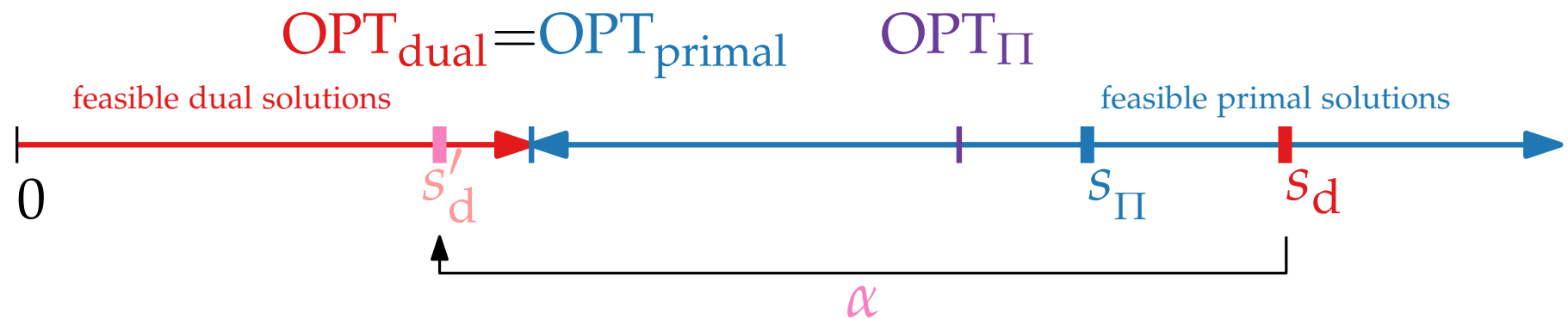


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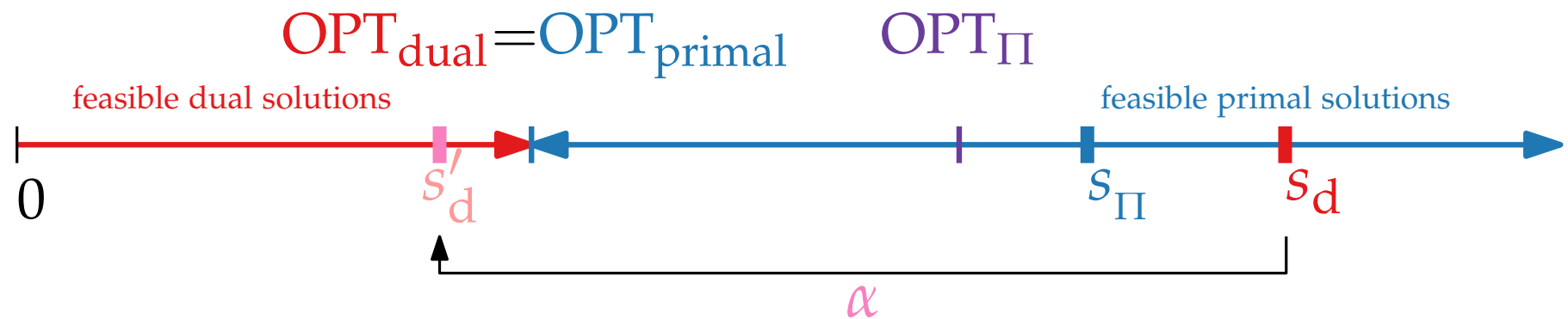
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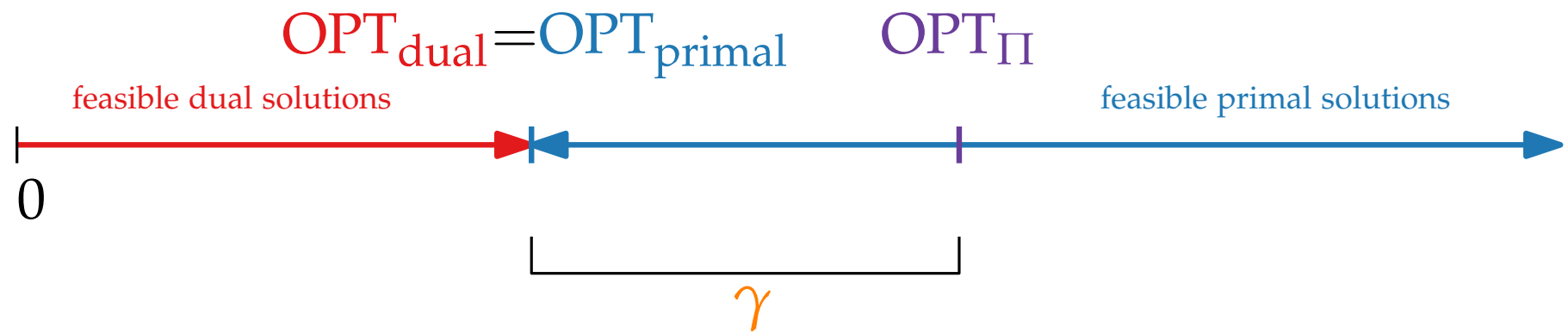
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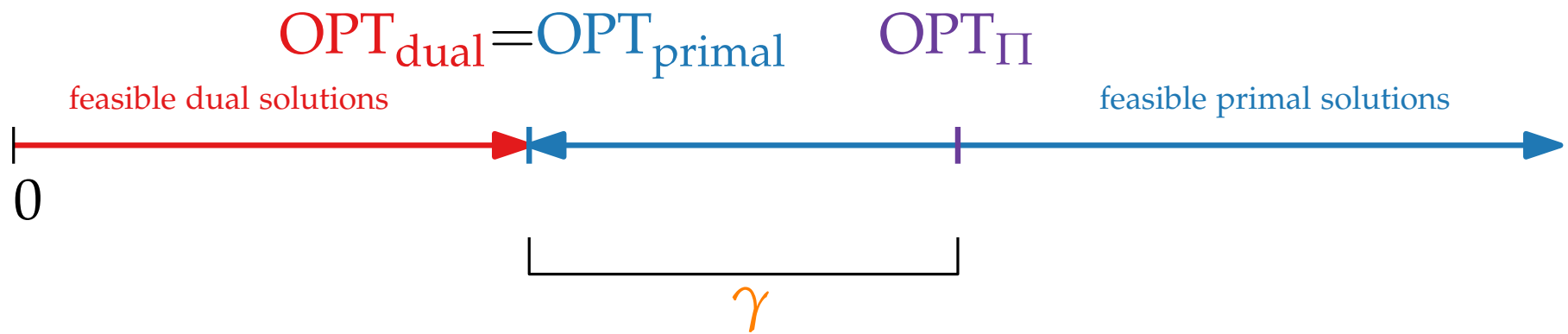
$\Rightarrow$  Scaling factor  $\alpha$  is approximation factor.

# Integrality Gap



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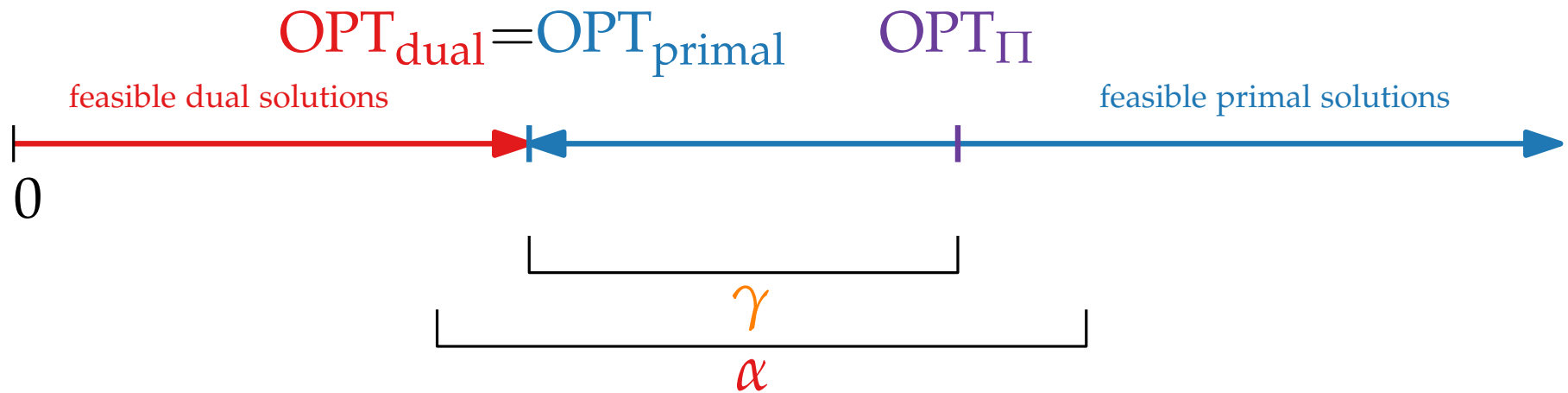
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$$\gamma = \sup_I \frac{OPT_{\Pi}(I)}{OPT_{\text{primal}}(I)}$$



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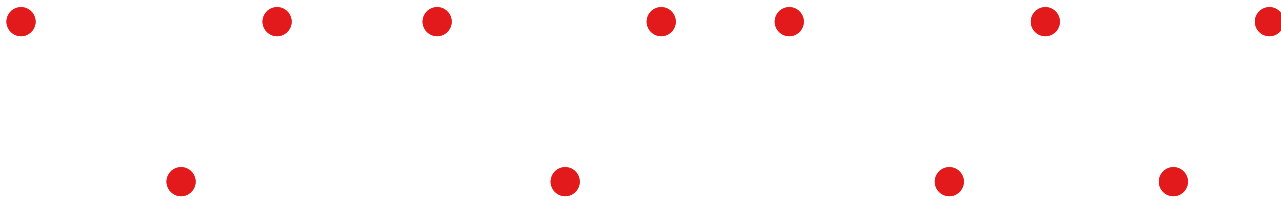
LP-based Approximation Algorithms  
for SETCOVER

Part II:

SETCOVER as an ILP

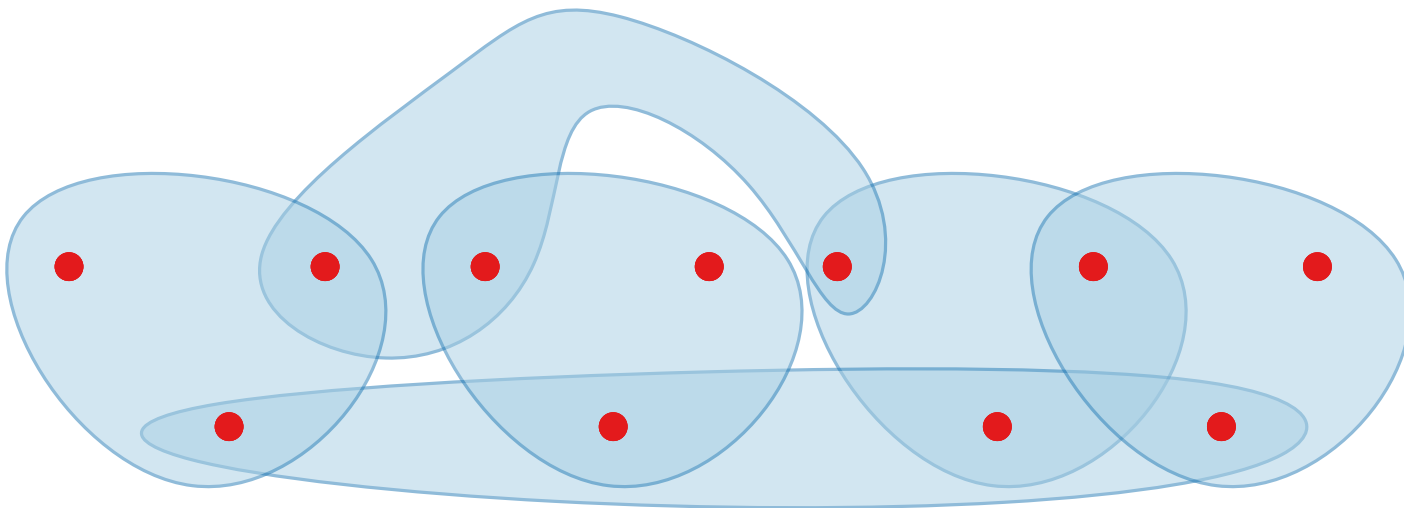
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Ground set  $U$



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Ground set  $U$   
Family  $\mathcal{S} \subseteq 2^U$  with  $\bigcup \mathcal{S} = U$

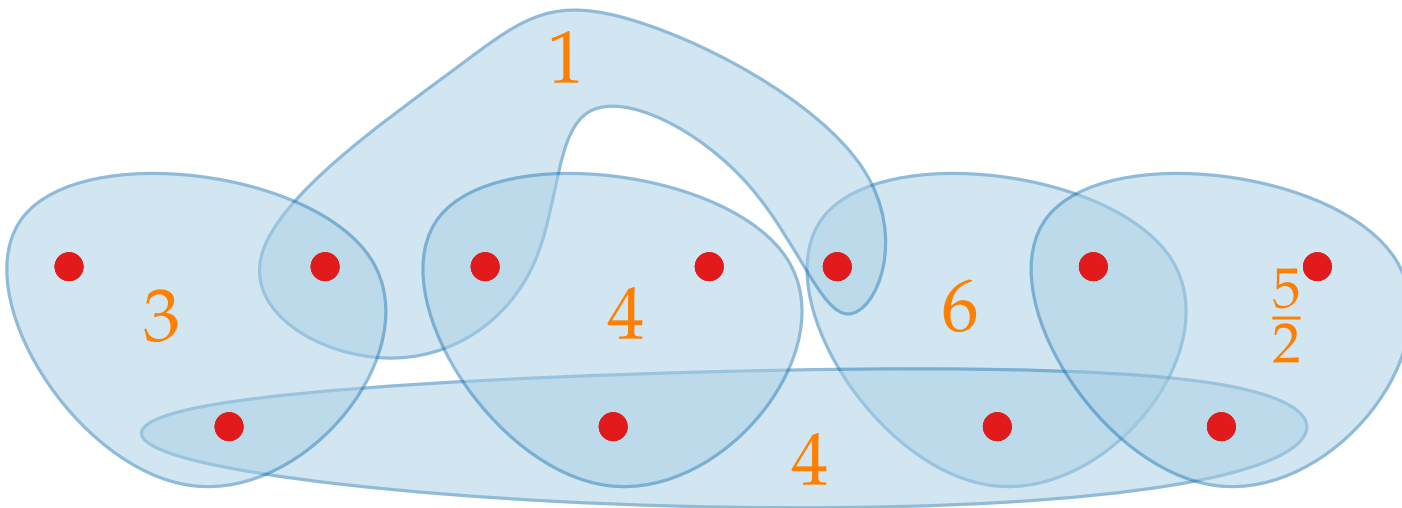


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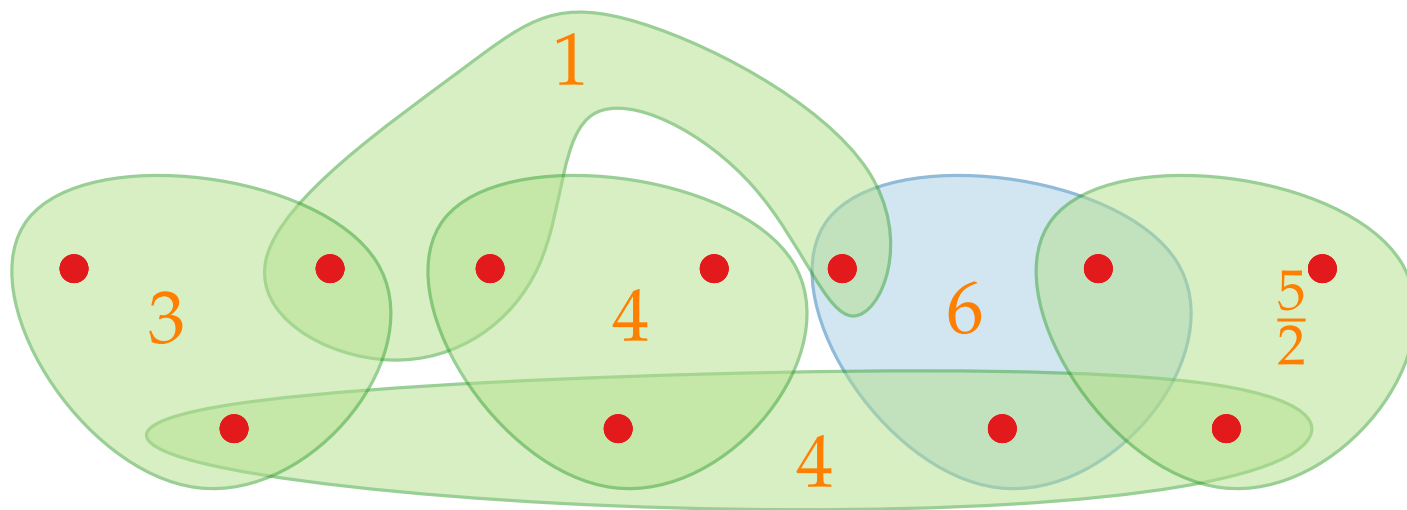


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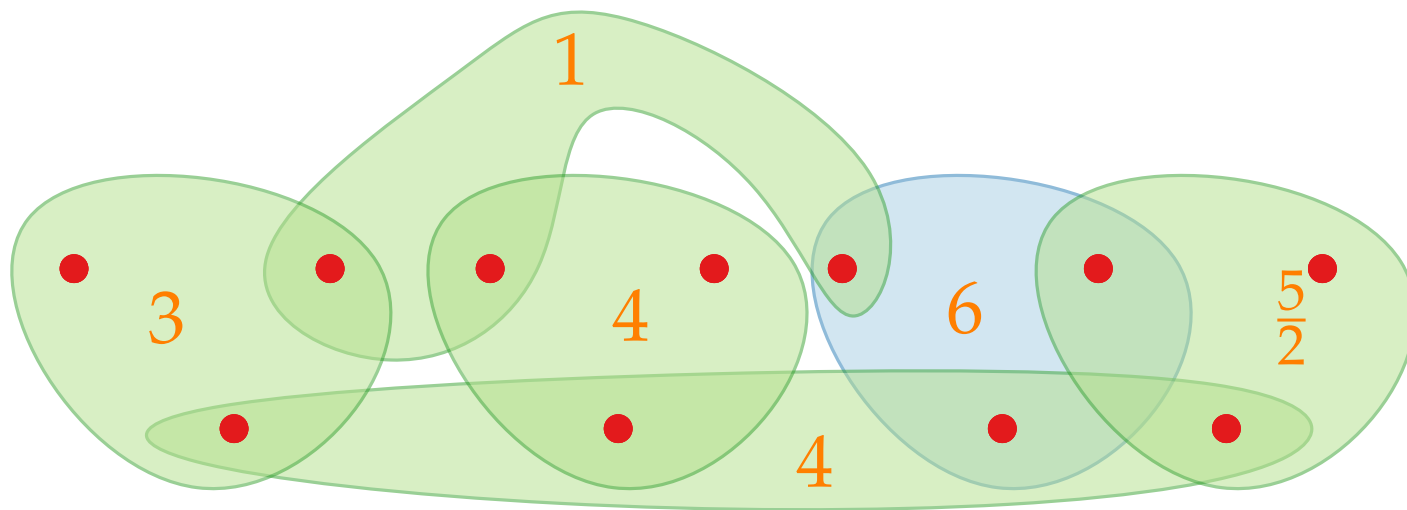
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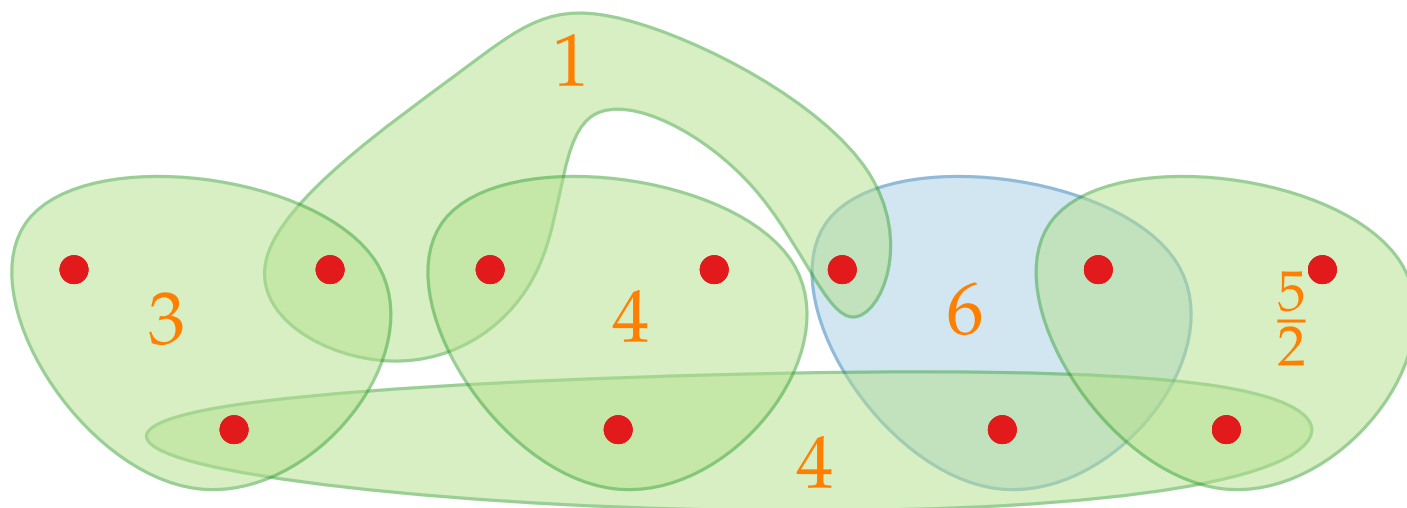
$x_S$

$S \in \mathcal{S}$

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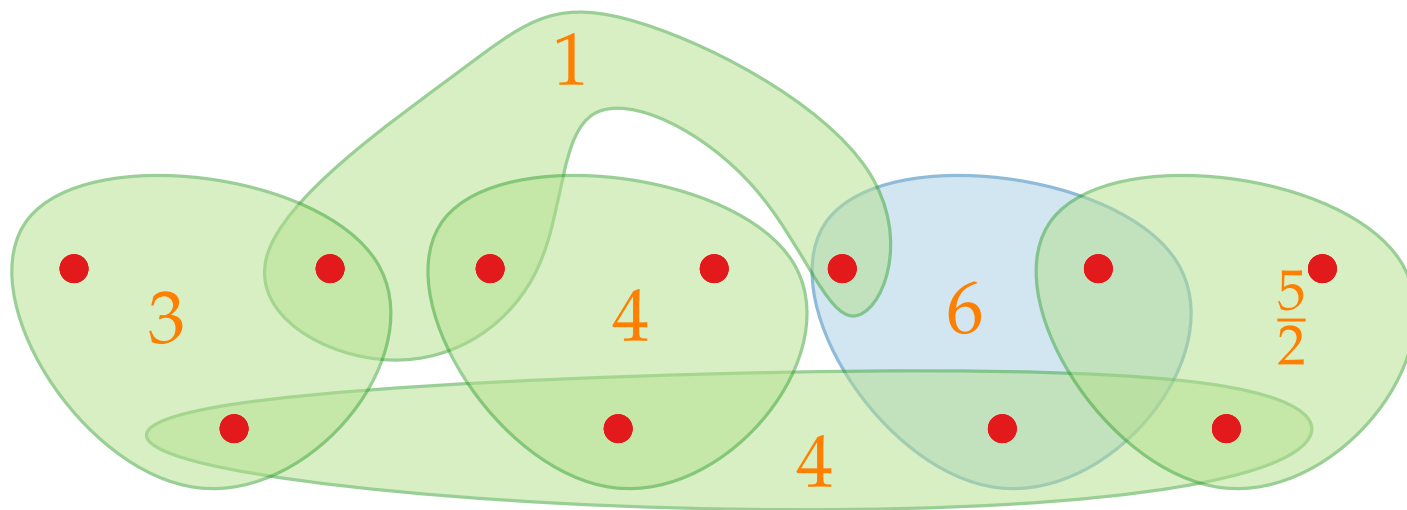
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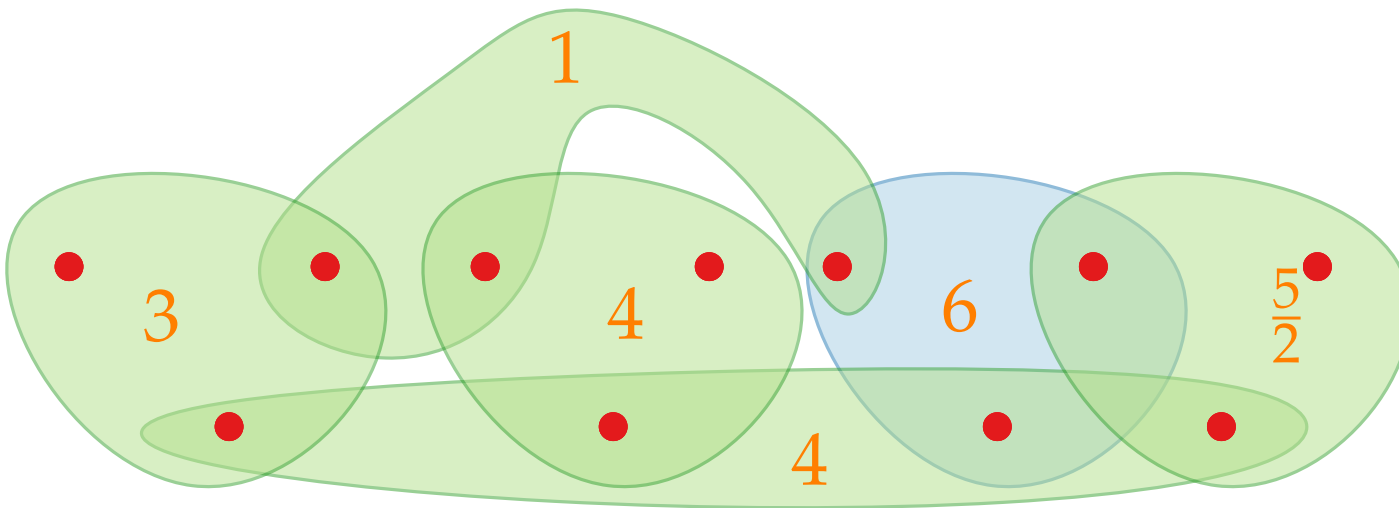
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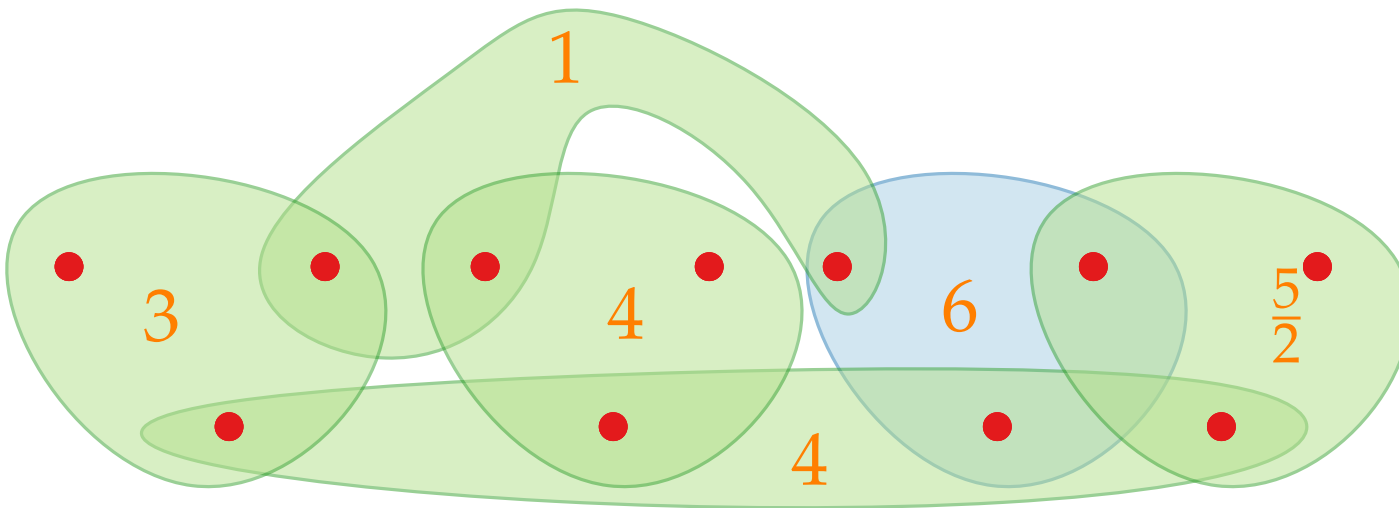
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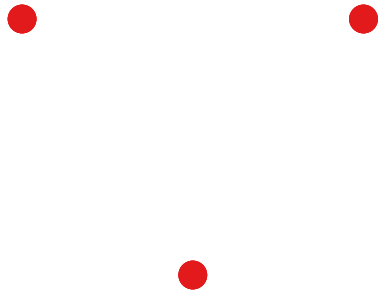
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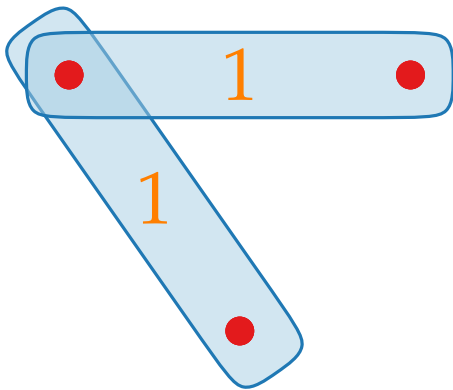
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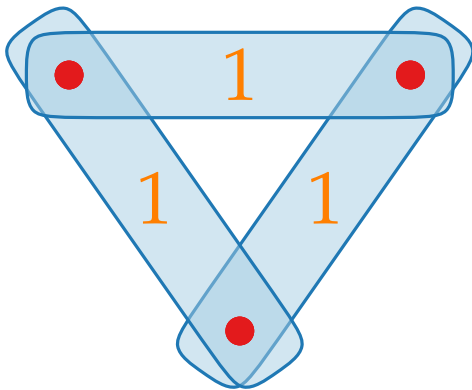




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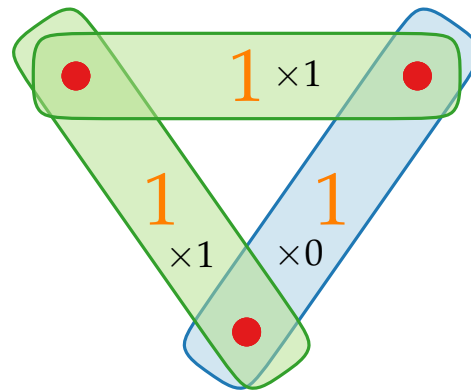
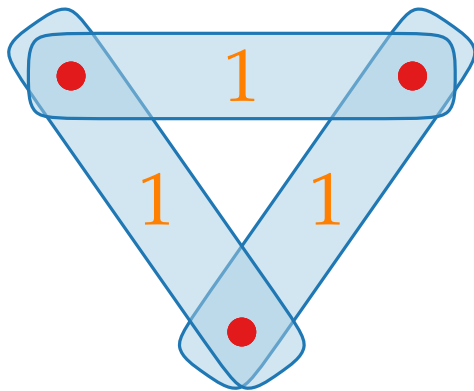
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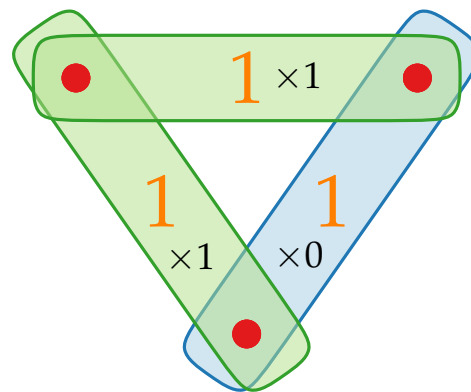
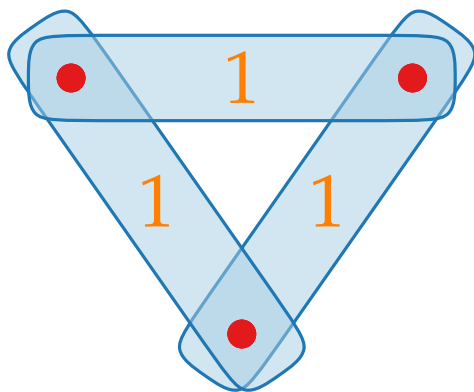


integer: 2

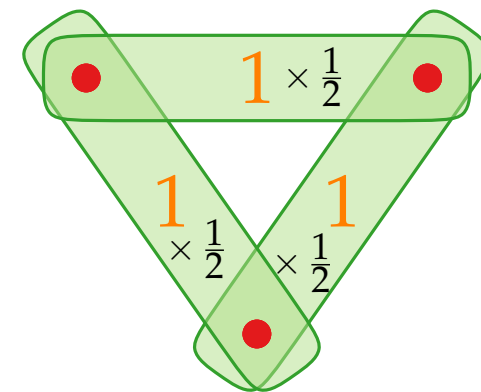
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fractional:  $\frac{3}{2}$

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# Approximation Algorithms

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LP-based Approximation Algorithms  
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Part III:

SETCOVER via LP-Rounding

# LP-Rounding: Approach I

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Round each  $x_S$  with  $x_S > 0$  to 1.

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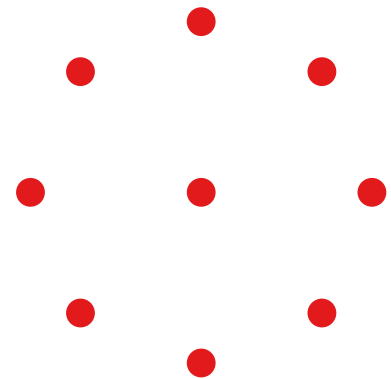
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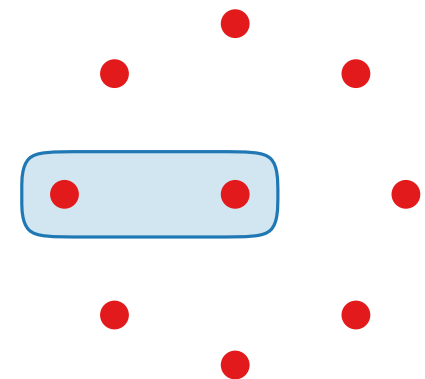
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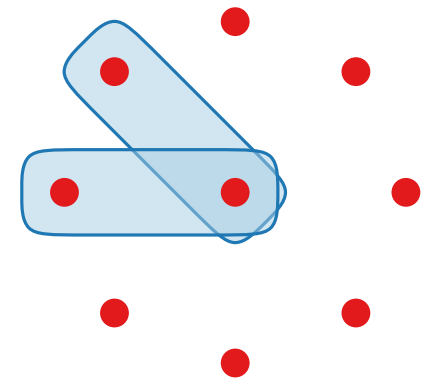
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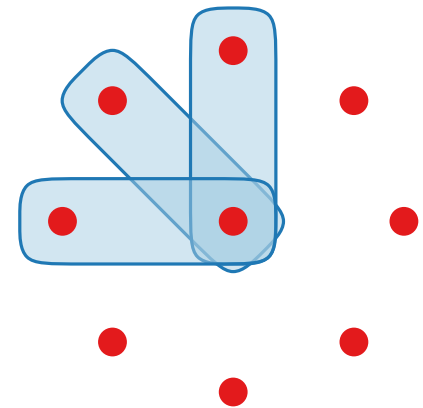
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LP-Rounding-One( $U, \mathcal{S}, c$ )

Compute optimal solution  $x$  for LP-Relaxation.  
Round each  $x_S$  with  $x_S > 0$  to 1.

Generates a valid solution

Scaling factor arbitrarily large



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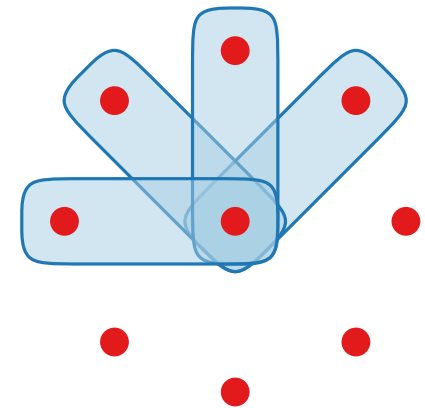
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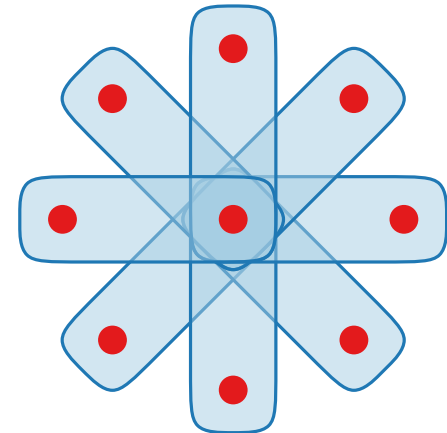
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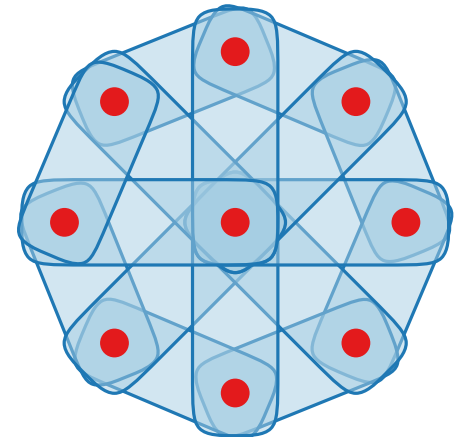
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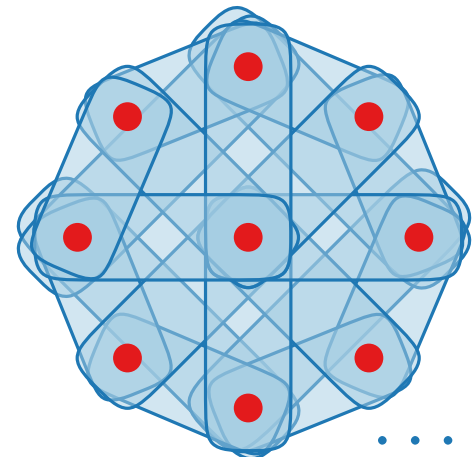
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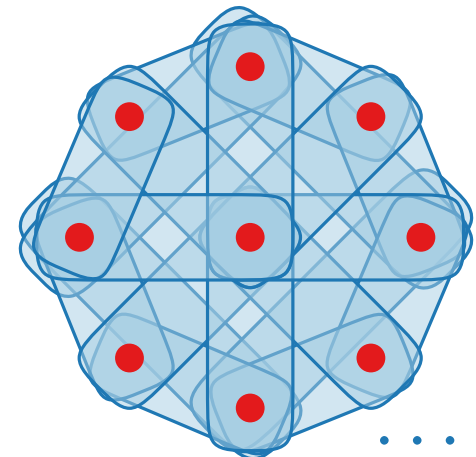
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Generates a valid solution

Scaling factor arbitrarily large

Use frequency  $h$



# LP-Rounding: Approach II

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LP-Rounding-Two( $U, \mathcal{S}, c$ )

Compute optimal solution  $x$  for LP-Relaxation.

Round each  $x_S$  with  $x_S \geq 1/h$  to 1; remaining to 0.

Let  $h$  be the frequency of (number of sets containing) the most frequent element.

# LP-Rounding: Approach II

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**Theorem.** LP-Rounding-Two is a factor- $h$ -approximation algorithm for SETCOVER.



# Approximation Algorithms

Lecture 5:

LP-based Approximation Algorithms  
for SETCOVER

Part IV:

SETCOVER via Primal-Dual Schema

# Complementary Slackness

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{minimize} & c^T x \\ \text{subject to} & Ax \geq b \\ & x \geq 0 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{maximize} & b^T y \\ \text{subject to} & A^T y \leq c \\ & y \geq 0 \end{array}$$

**Theorem.** Let  $x = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$  and  $y = (y_1, \dots, y_m)$  be valid solutions for the **primal** and **dual** program (resp.). Then  $x$  and  $y$  are optimal if and only if the following conditions are met:

**Primal CS:**

For each  $j = 1, \dots, n$ : either  $x_j = 0$  or  $\sum_{i=1}^m a_{ij} y_i = c_j$

**Dual CS:**

For each  $i = 1, \dots, m$ : either  $y_i = 0$  or  $\sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij} x_j = b_i$

# Relaxing Complementary Slackness

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{minimize} & c^\top x \\ \text{subject to} & Ax \geq b \\ & x \geq 0 \end{array}$$

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~~Primal CS:~~ Relaxed Primal CS

For each  $j = 1, \dots, n$ : either  $x_j = 0$  or  $\sum_{i=1}^m a_{ij} y_i = c_j$

$$c_j / \alpha \leq \sum_{i=1}^m a_{ij} y_i \leq c_j$$

**Dual CS:**

For each  $i = 1, \dots, m$ : either  $y_i = 0$  or  $\sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij} x_j = b_i$

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~~Dual CS:~~ Relaxed Dual CS

For each  $i = 1, \dots, m$ : either  $y_i = 0$  or  $\sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij} x_j = b_i$

$$b_i \leq \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij} x_j \leq \beta \cdot b_i$$

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$$\Leftrightarrow \sum_{j=1}^n c_j x_j = \sum_{i=1}^m b_i y_i \Rightarrow \sum_{j=1}^n c_j x_j \leq \alpha \beta \sum_{i=1}^m b_i y_i \leq \alpha \beta \cdot \text{OPT}_{\text{LP}}$$

# Primal-Dual Schema

Start with a feasible **dual** and infeasible **primal** solution (often trivial).

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Do so until the relaxed CS conditions are met.

Maintain that the **primal** solution is integer valued.

The feasibility of the **primal** solution and relaxed CS condition provide an approximation ratio.

# Relaxed CS for SETCOVER

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Relaxed dual CS:  $y_u \neq 0 \Rightarrow 1 \leq \sum_{S \ni u} x_S \leq h$ .

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**Relaxed dual CS:**  $y_u \neq 0 \Rightarrow 1 \leq \sum_{S \ni u} x_S \leq h \cdot 1$  trivial for binary  $x$  ←

# Primal-Dual-Schema for SETCOVER

PrimalDualSetCover( $U, \mathcal{S}, c$ )

$x \leftarrow 0, y \leftarrow 0$

**repeat**

|

**until** all elements are covered.

**return**  $x$



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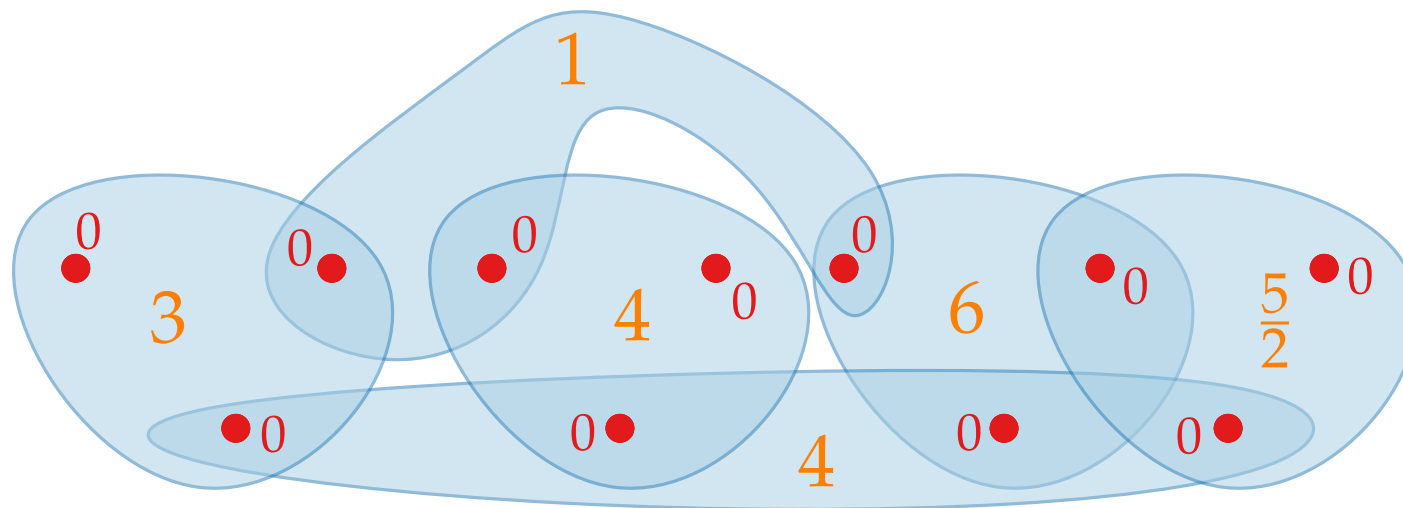
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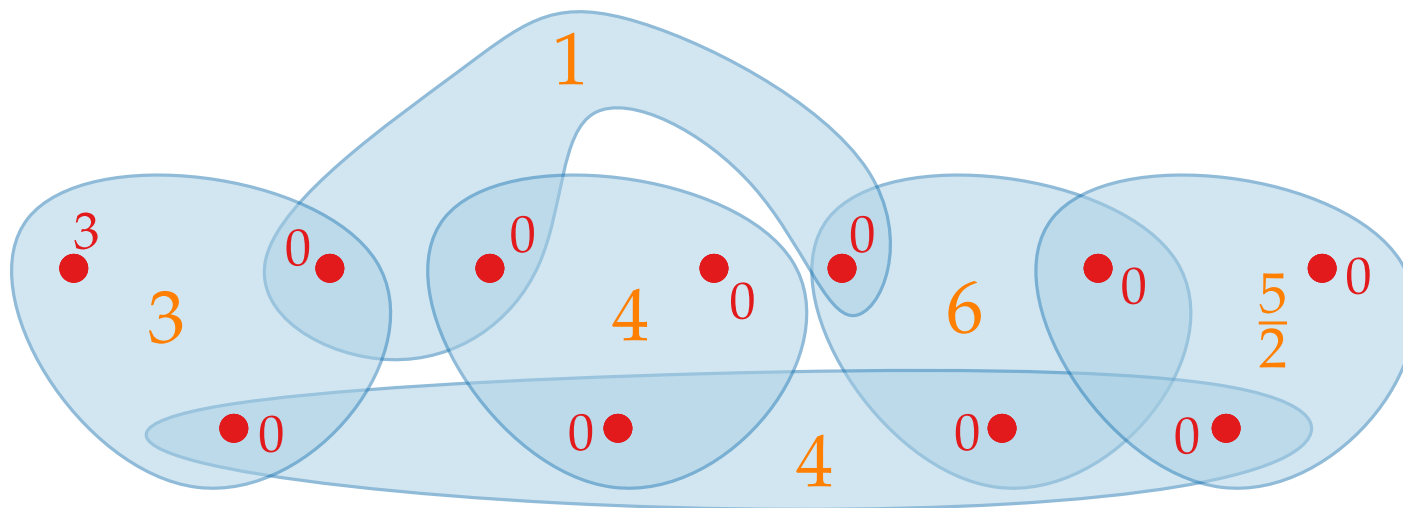
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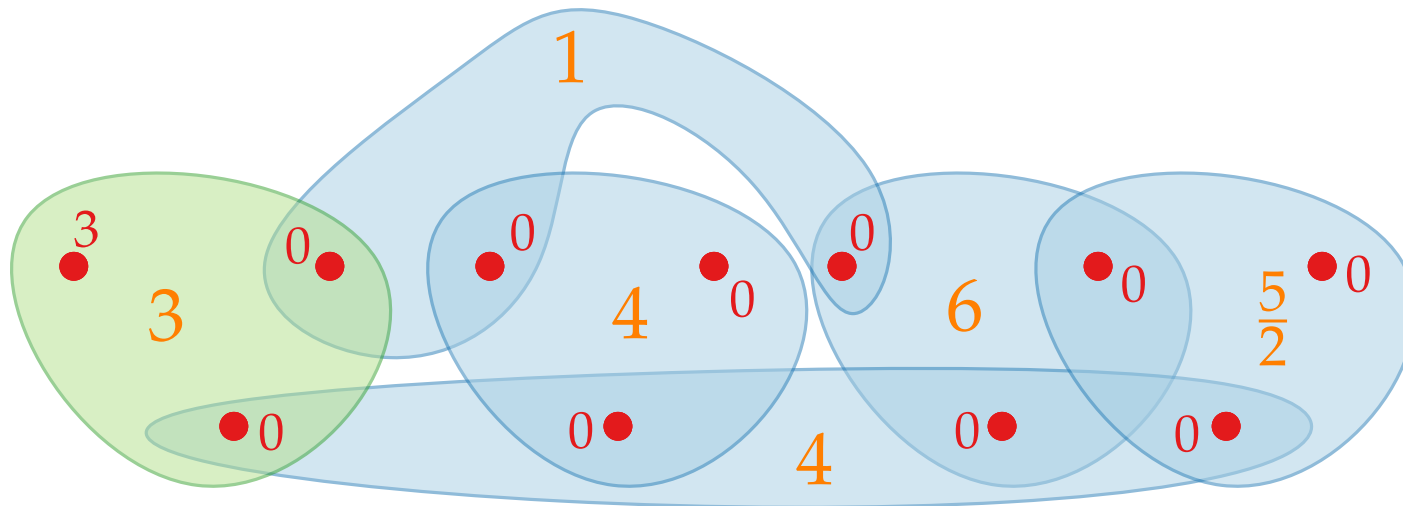
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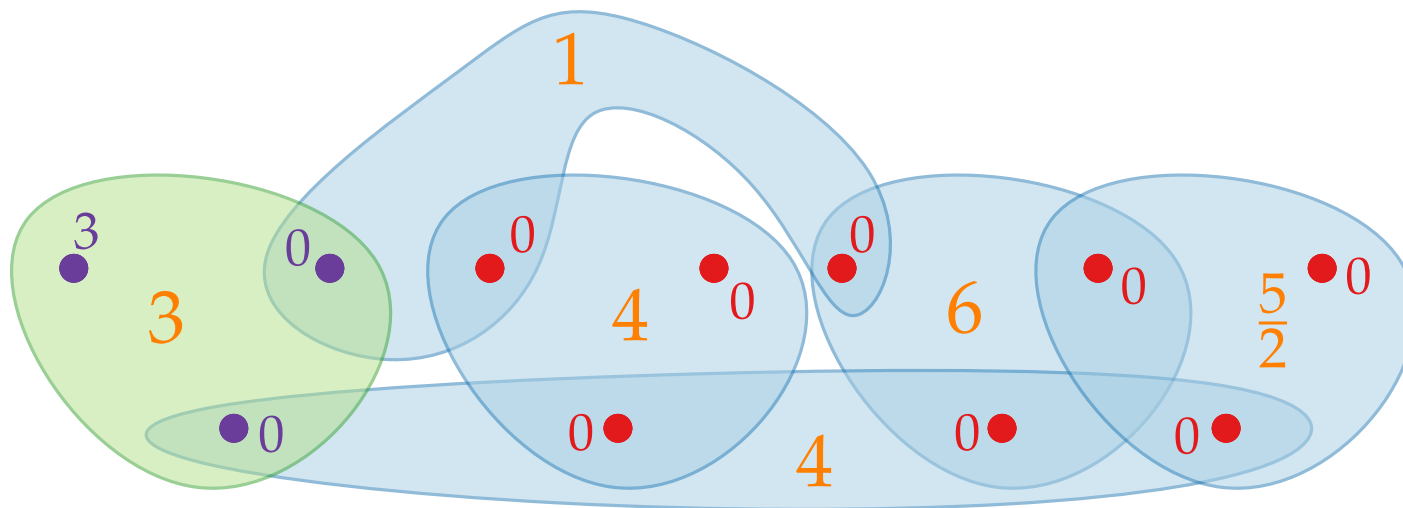
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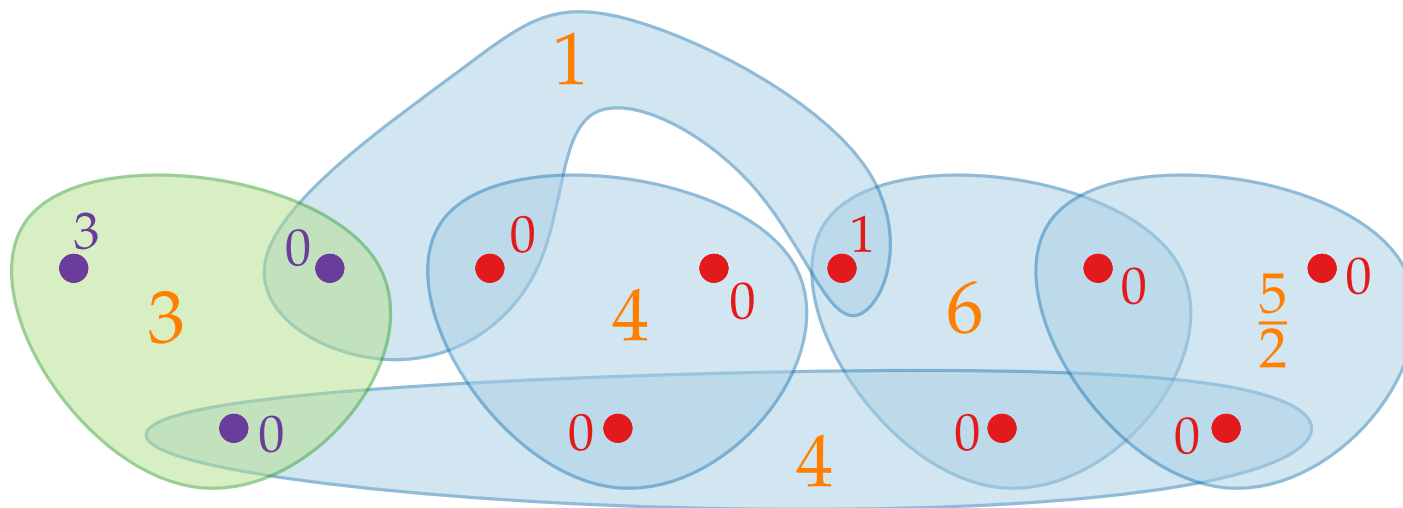
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PrimalDualSetCover( $U, S, c$ )

$x \leftarrow 0, y \leftarrow 0$

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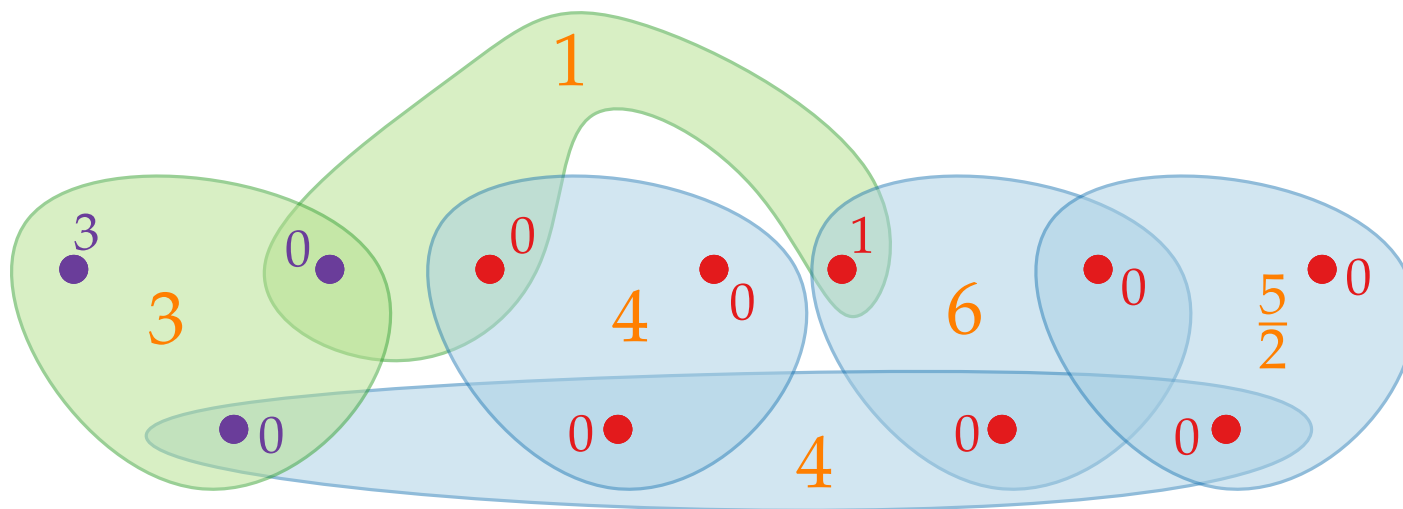
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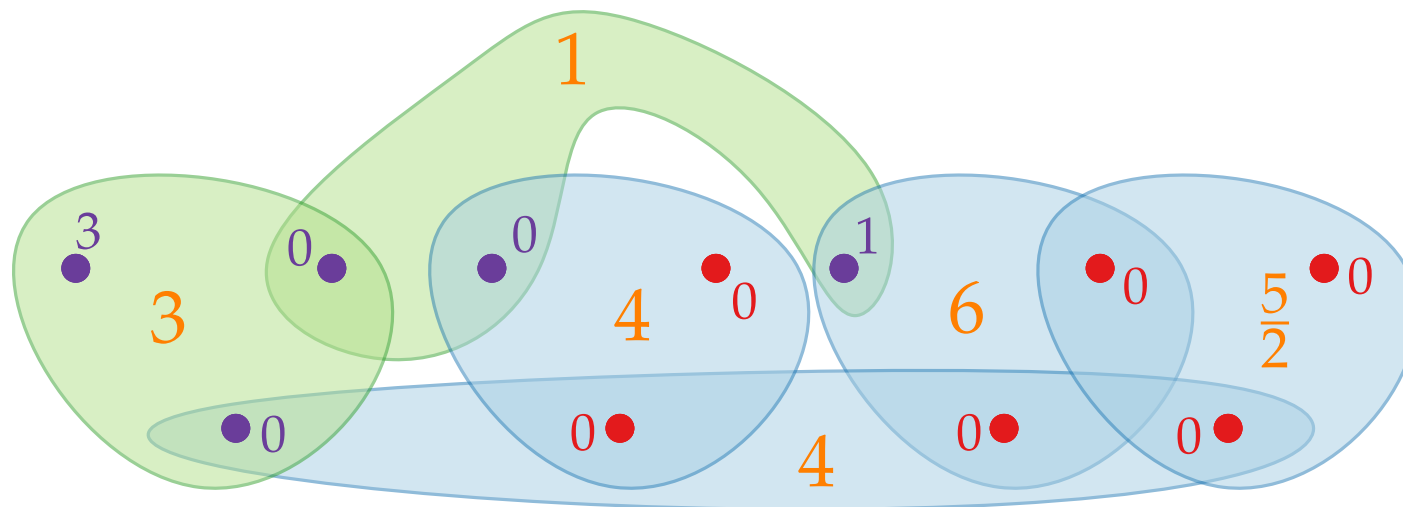
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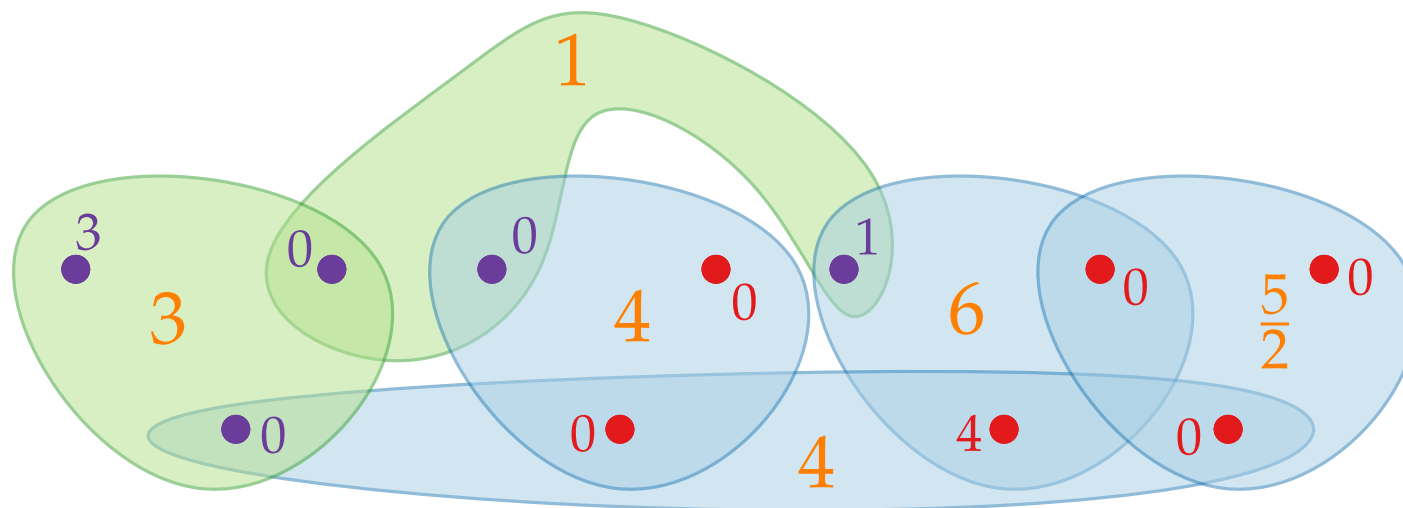
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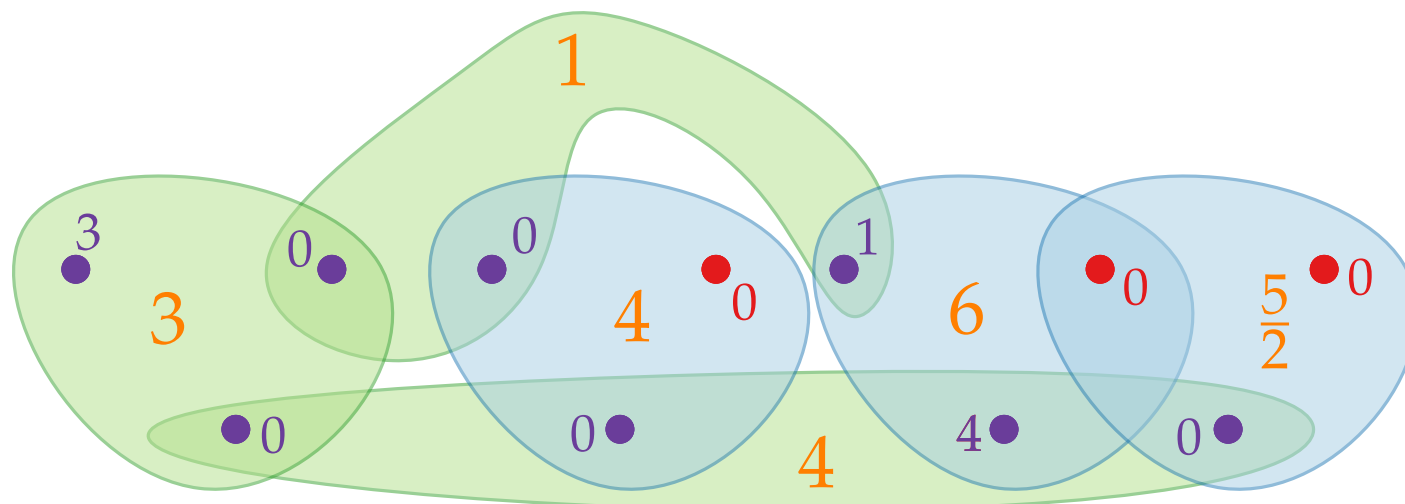
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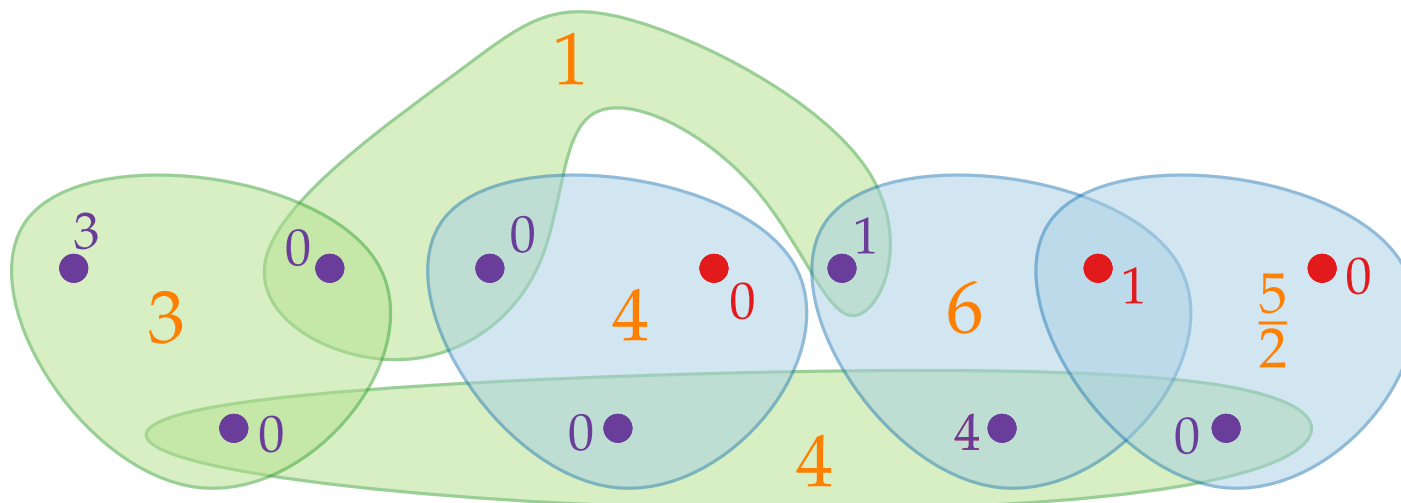
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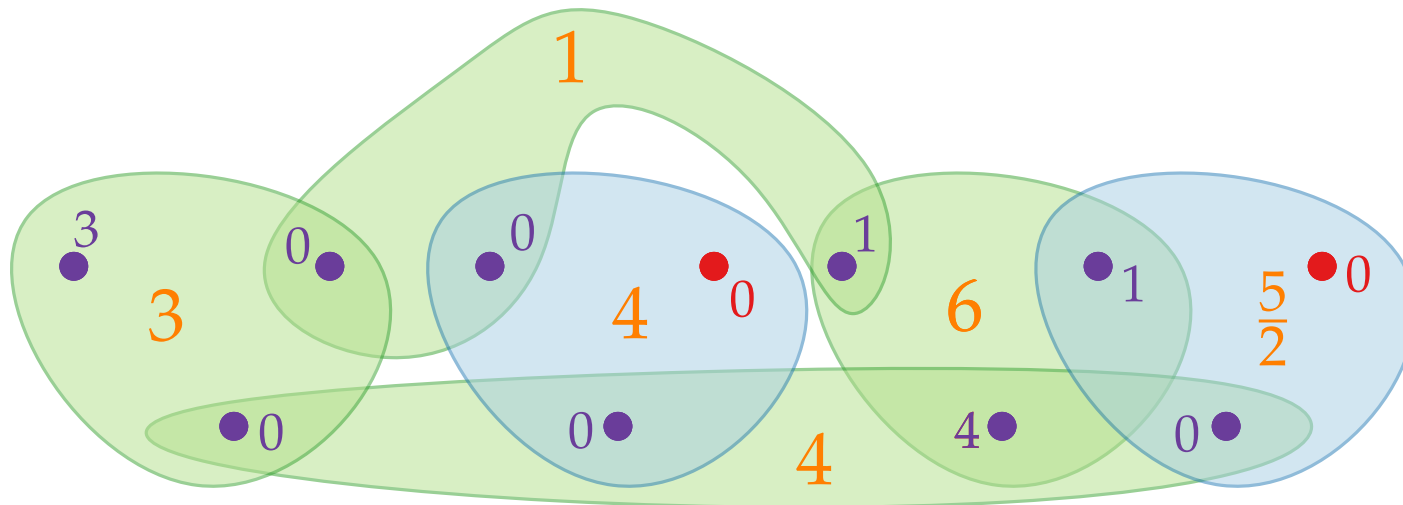
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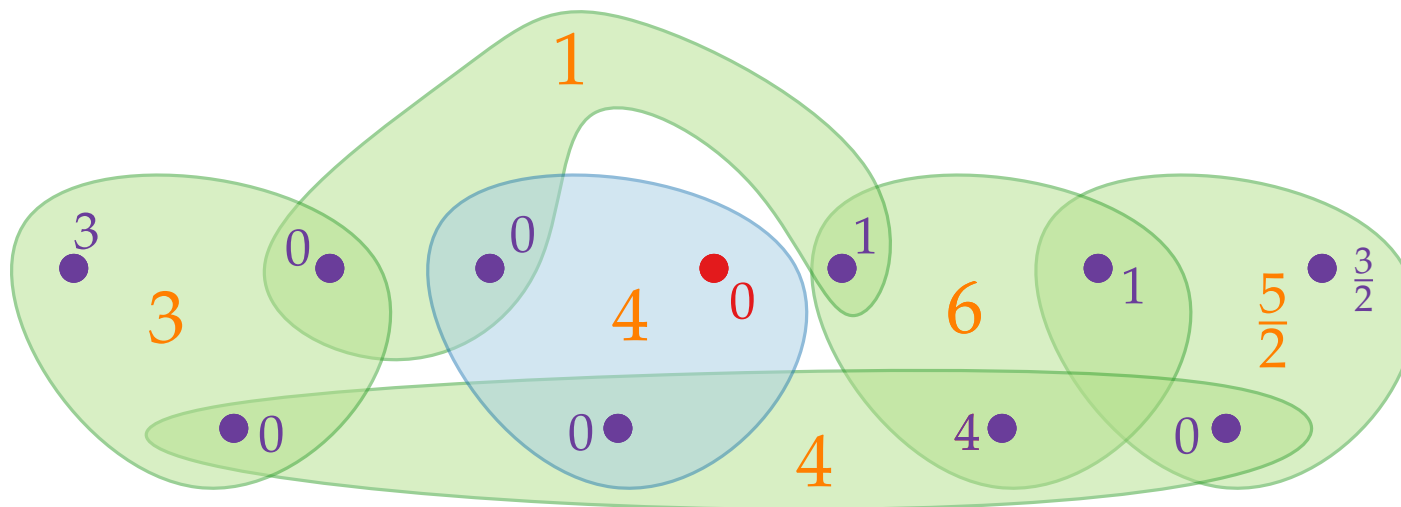
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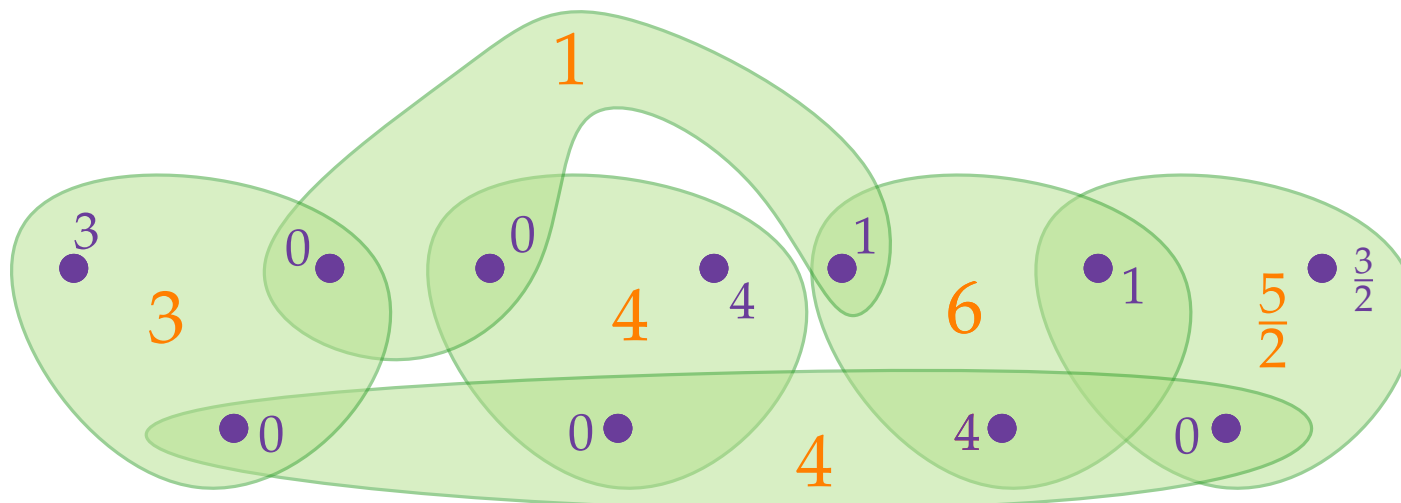
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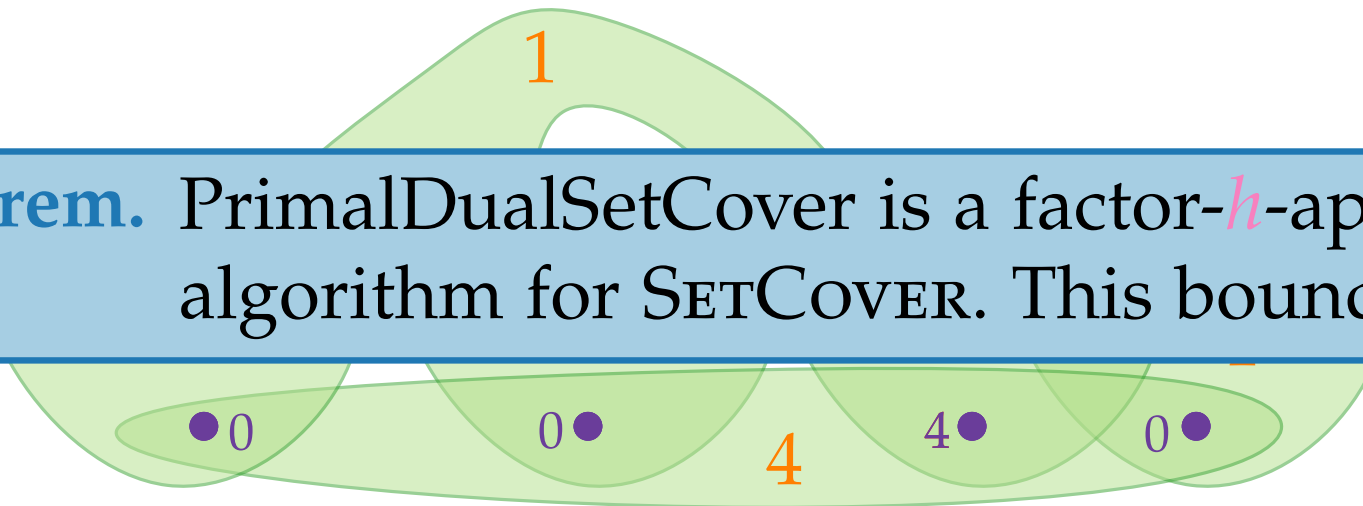
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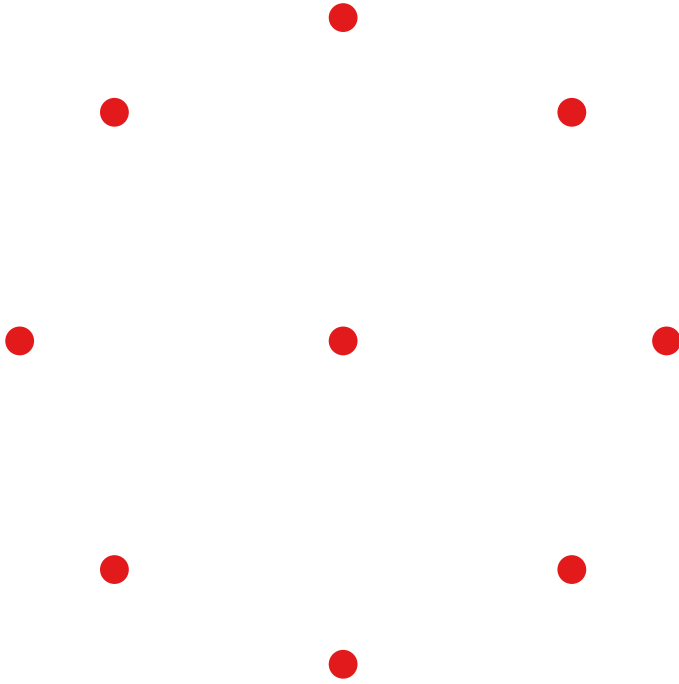
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**Theorem.** PrimalDualSetCover is a factor- $h$ -approximation algorithm for SETCOVER. This bound is tight.

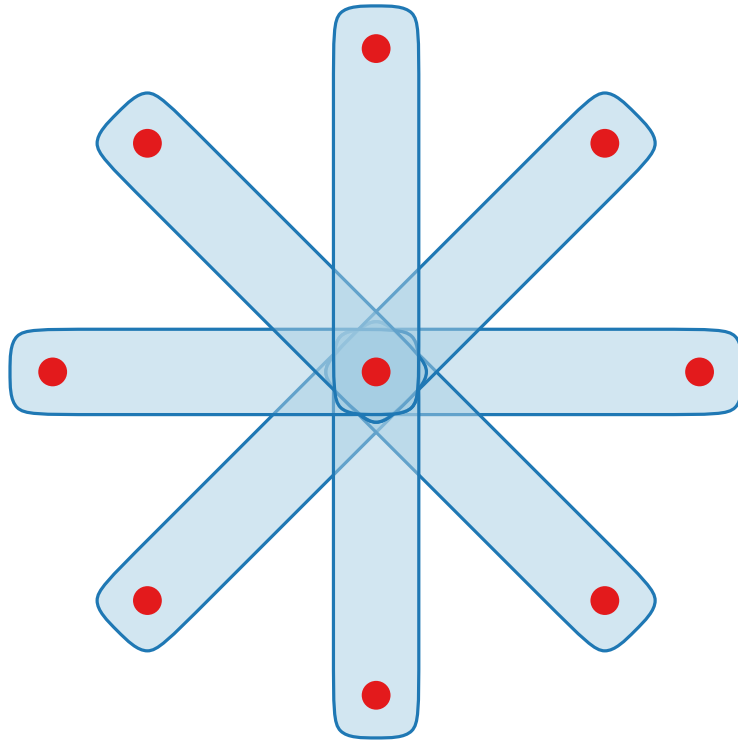


# Tight Example

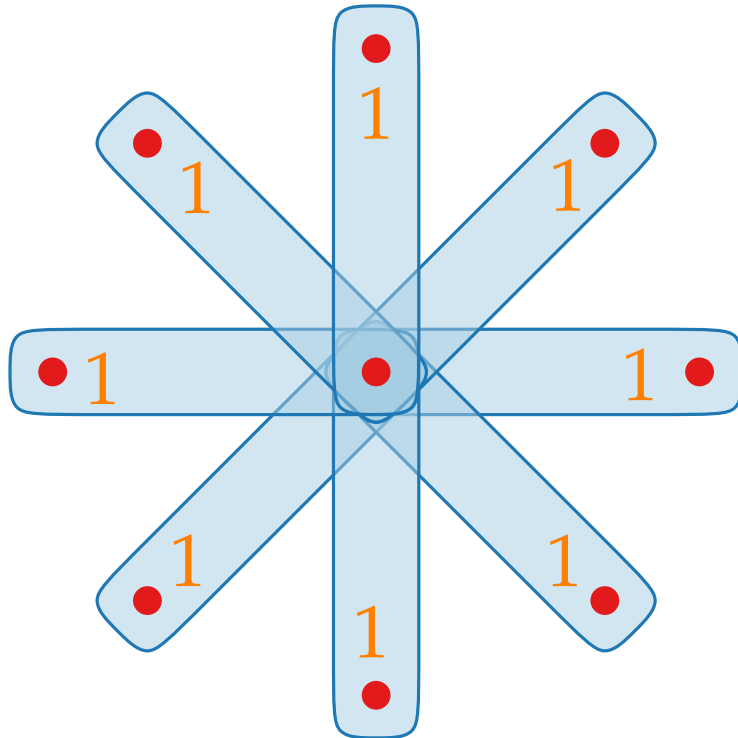
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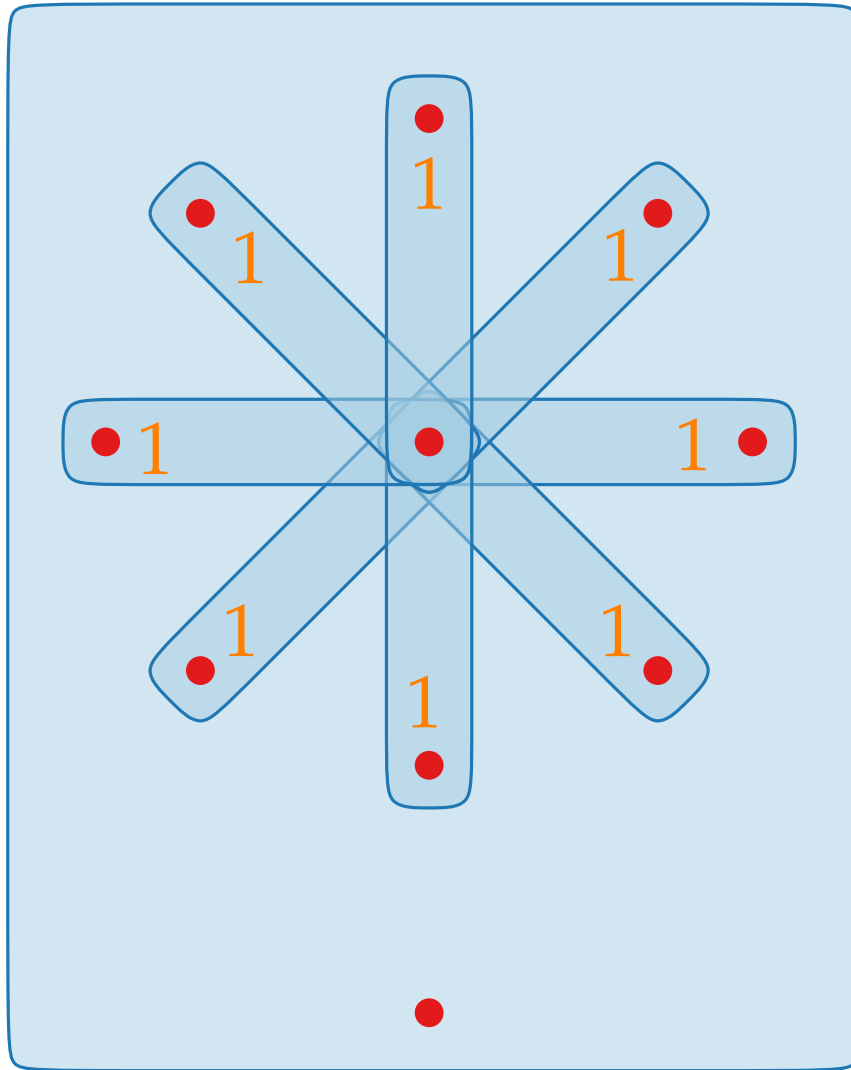
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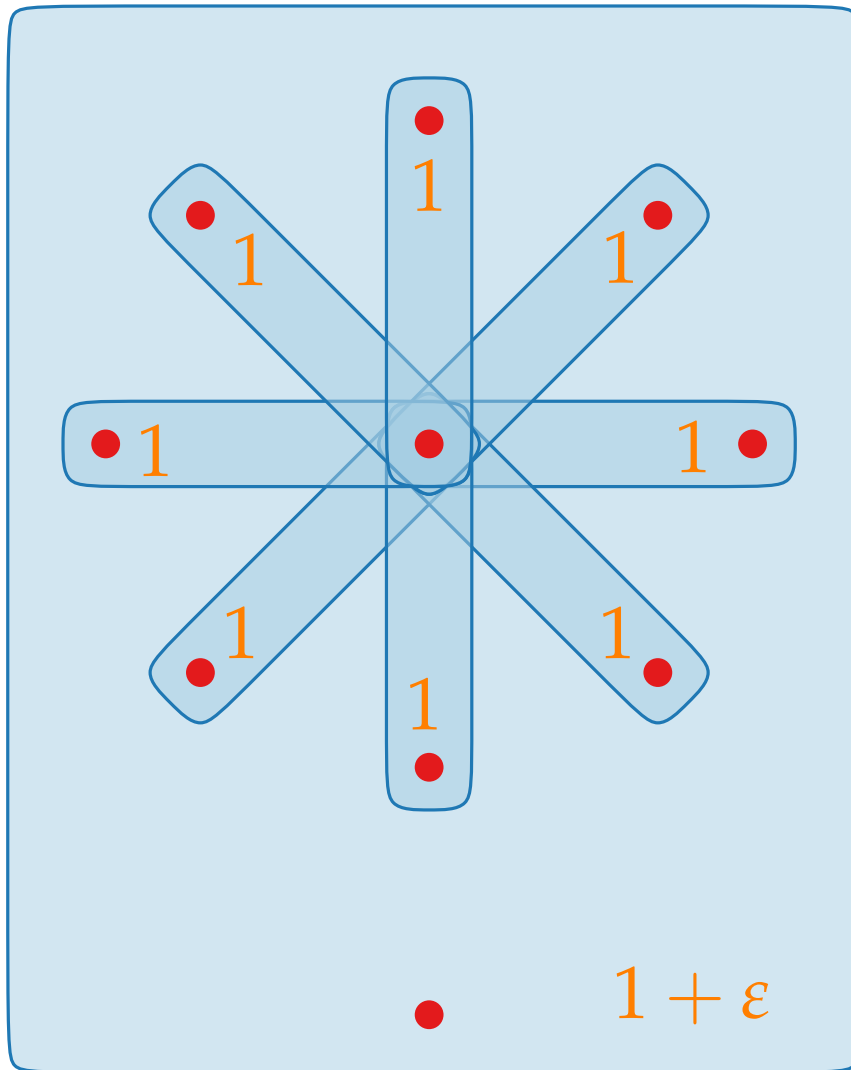
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# Approximation Algorithms

Lecture 5:

LP-based Approximation Algorithms  
for SETCOVER

Part V:

SETCOVER via Dual Fitting

# Dual Fitting for SETCOVER

Combinatorial (greedy) algorithm (see Lecture 02):

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GreedySetCover( $U, \mathcal{S}, c$ )
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 $C \leftarrow \emptyset$ 
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 $\mathcal{S}' \leftarrow \emptyset$ 
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while  $C \neq U$  do
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     $S \leftarrow$  Set from  $\mathcal{S}$  that minimizes  $\frac{c(S)}{|S \setminus C|}$ 
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    foreach  $u \in S \setminus C$  do
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Reminder:  $\sum_{u \in U} \text{price}(u) \dots$

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Reminder:  $\sum_{u \in U} \text{price}(u)$  completely pays for  $\mathcal{S}'$ .

# New: LP-based Analysis

**Observation.** For each  $u \in U$ ,  $\text{price}(u)$  is a dual variable

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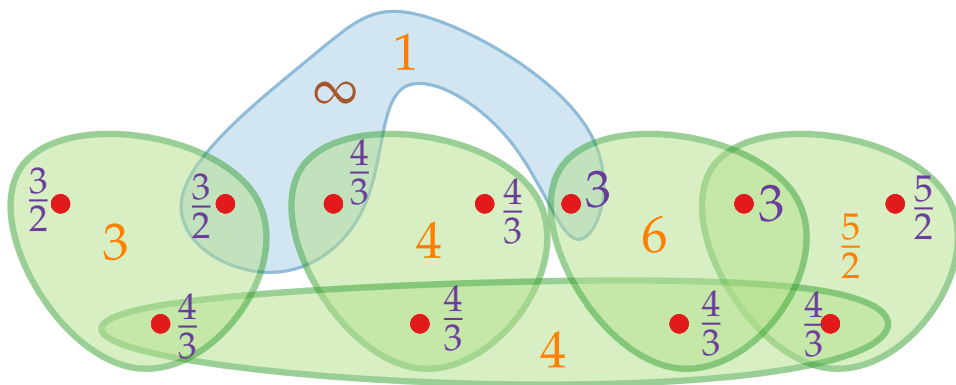
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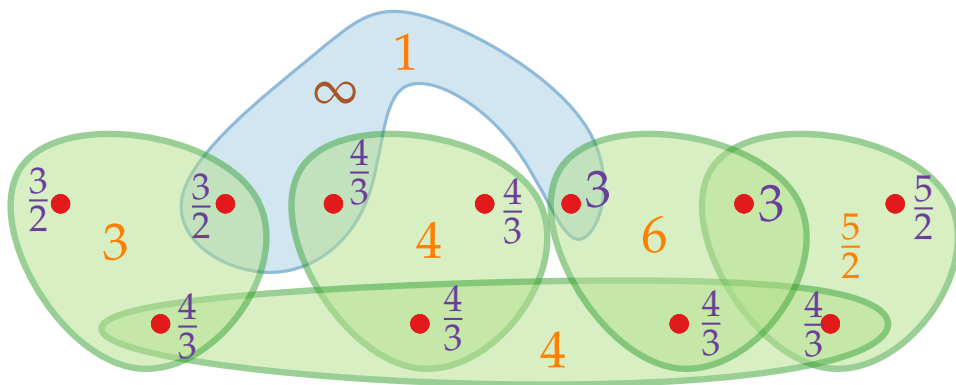
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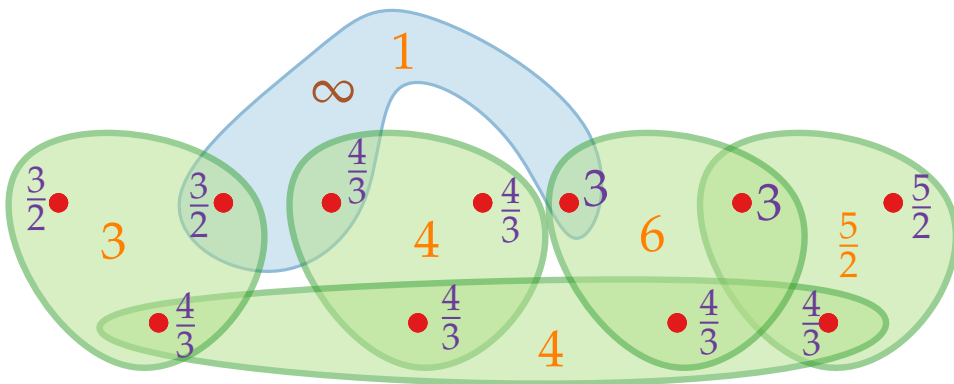
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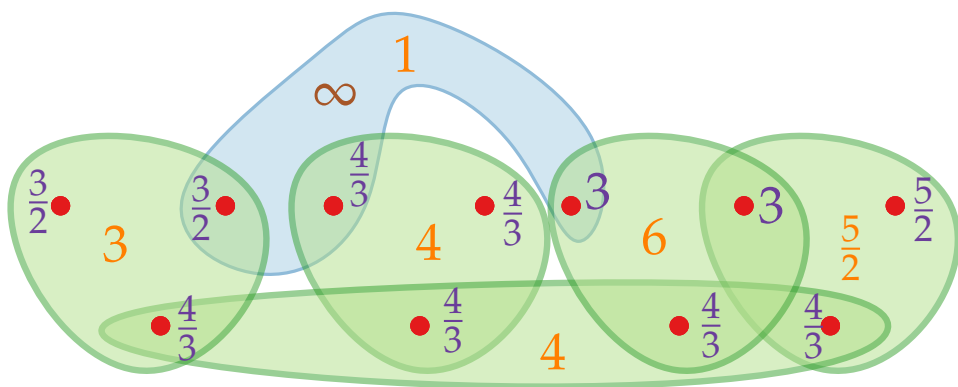
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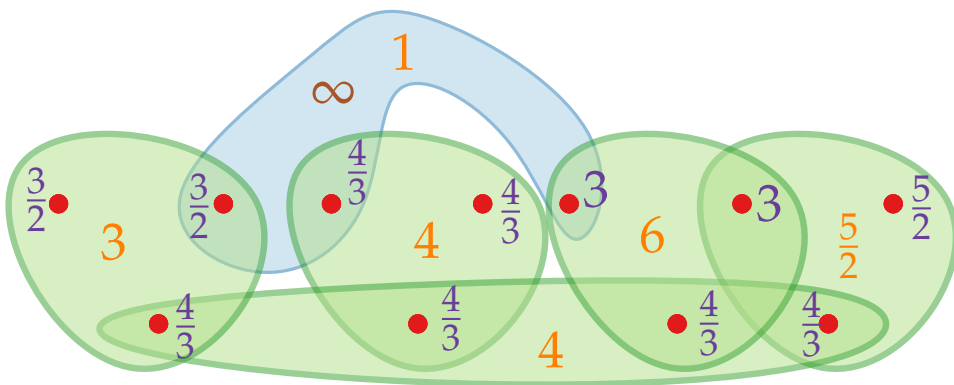
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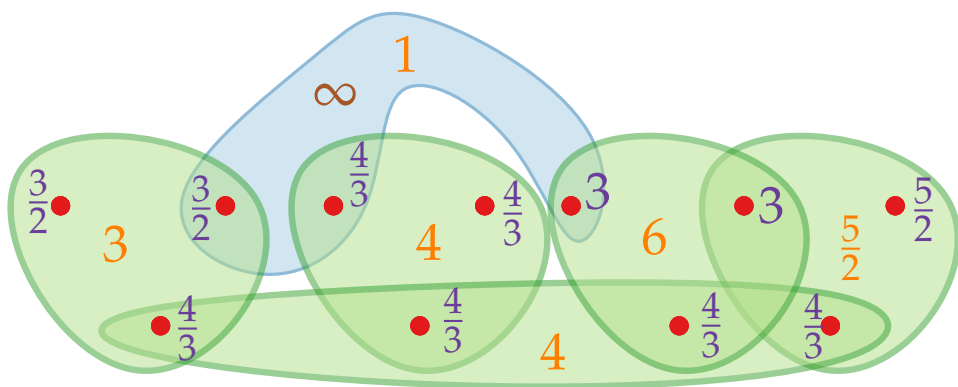
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