

# Signed Graphs Homework Problems<sup>1</sup>

**Problem 1** (Due 6 February 2017). Let  $\Sigma$  be a signed graph. Show the following:

1. Every negation set of  $\Sigma$  is a deletion set.
2. Deletion sets of  $\Sigma$  need not be negation sets.
3. Every minimal deletion set of  $\Sigma$  is a minimal negation set.<sup>2</sup>
4. A negation set of  $\Sigma$  need not be a minimal deletion set.

Is every minimal negation set a minimal deletion set?

**Problem 2** (Due 10 February 2017). Show that the maximal frustration index of  $K_n$  is equal to the frustration index of  $-K_n$  and compute the value thereof.<sup>3</sup> In symbols, show  $\ell_{\max}(K_n) = \ell(-K_n)$  and compute.

**Problem 3** (Due 10 February 2017). Show that the frustration index of  $\Sigma$  satisfies:

$$\ell(\Sigma) = \min \{ \#E^-(\Sigma^S) \mid S \subseteq V(\Sigma) \}$$

**Problem 4** (Open). Characterize the graphs  $\Gamma$  for which  $\ell_{\max}(\Gamma) = \ell(-\Gamma)$ .

**Problem 5** (Open). Let integers  $3 \leq r \leq s$  be given, and let  $q(r, s)$  denote the number of switching isomorphism classes of  $K_{r,s}$ . Compute  $q(r, s)$ .<sup>4</sup>

**Problem 6** (Due 13 February 2017). Let integer  $3 \leq s$  be given and consider  $K_{3,s}$ .

1. Compute  $q(3, s)$  for all  $s \geq 3$ .
2. Describe the switching isomorphism classes of  $K_{3,3}$ .  
Repeat for  $K_{3,s}$  if it is feasible to do so.
3. Compute the frustration index of each switching isomorphism class of  $K_{3,3}$ .  
Repeat for  $K_{3,s}$  if it is feasible to do so.
4. Compute a minimal representative of each switching isomorphism class of  $K_{3,3}$ .<sup>5</sup>  
Repeat for  $K_{3,s}$  if it is feasible to do so.

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<sup>1</sup>These are assigned problems from lectures in Signed Graphs given by Tom Zaslavsky during the spring of 2017 as Binghamton University. This list was L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>Xed by Chris Eppolito (email eppolito-at-math-dot-binghamton-dot-edu with errors), and this version was most recently compiled March 29, 2017.

<sup>2</sup>“Minimal” means “minimal with respect to containment.”

<sup>3</sup>This result is attributed to Petersdorf.

<sup>4</sup>Various results are known which could be used to relate  $q(r, s)$  to other invariants.

<sup>5</sup>“Minimal” here means “minimal with respect to the number of negative edges among all elements of the class.”