

## Lemma 2 (Chernoff Bounds)

Let  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  be  $n$  *independent* 0-1 random variables, not necessarily identically distributed. Then for  $X = \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$  and  $\mu = E[X]$ ,  $L \leq \mu \leq U$ , and  $\delta > 0$

$$\Pr[X \geq (1 + \delta)U] < \left( \frac{e^\delta}{(1 + \delta)^{1+\delta}} \right)^U,$$

and

$$\Pr[X \leq (1 - \delta)L] < \left( \frac{e^{-\delta}}{(1 - \delta)^{1-\delta}} \right)^L,$$

### Lemma 3

For  $0 \leq \delta \leq 1$  we have that

$$\left( \frac{e^\delta}{(1+\delta)^{1+\delta}} \right)^U \leq e^{-U\delta^2/3}$$

and

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# Proof of Chernoff Bounds

## Markov's Inequality:

Let  $X$  be random variable taking non-negative values.

Then

$$\Pr[X \geq a] \leq E[X]/a$$

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That's awfully weak :(

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**This may be a lot better (!?)**

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Now, we apply Markov:

$$\begin{aligned}\Pr[X \geq (1 + \delta)U] &= \Pr[e^{tX} \geq e^{t(1+\delta)U}] \\ &\leq \frac{\mathbb{E}[e^{tX}]}{e^{t(1+\delta)U}}\end{aligned}$$

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## Lemma 4

For  $0 \leq \delta \leq 1$  we have that

$$\left( \frac{e^\delta}{(1+\delta)^{1+\delta}} \right)^U \leq e^{-U\delta^2/3}$$

and

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True for  $\delta = 0$ . Divide by  $U$  and take derivatives:

$$-\ln(1+\delta) \leq -2\delta/3$$

**Reason:**

As long as derivative of left side is smaller than derivative of right side the inequality holds.

$$f(\delta) := -\ln(1 + \delta) + 2\delta/3 \leq 0$$

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$$f(0) = 0 \text{ and } f(1) = -\ln(2) + 2/3 < 0$$

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True for  $\delta = 0$ . Divide by  $U$  and take derivatives:

$$-\ln(1+\delta) \leq -1/3 \iff \ln(1+\delta) \geq 1/3 \quad (\text{true})$$

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As long as derivative of left side is smaller than derivative of right side the inequality holds.

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True for  $\delta = 0$ . Divide by  $L$  and take derivatives:

$$\ln(1-\delta) \leq -\delta$$

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This holds for  $0 \leq \delta < 1$ .

# Integer Multicommodity Flows

- ▶ Given  $s_i$ - $t_i$  pairs in a graph.
- ▶ Connect each pair by a path such that not too many paths use any given edge.

$$\begin{array}{ll} \min & W \\ \text{s.t.} & \forall i \quad \sum_{p \in \mathcal{P}_i} x_p = 1 \\ & \sum_{p: e \in p} x_p \leq W \\ & x_p \in \{0, 1\} \end{array}$$

# Integer Multicommodity Flows

## Randomized Rounding:

For each  $i$  choose one path from the set  $\mathcal{P}_i$  at random according to the probability distribution given by the Linear Programming solution.

## Theorem 5

If  $W^* \geq c \ln n$  for some constant  $c$ , then with probability at least  $n^{-c/3}$  the total number of paths using any edge is at most  $W^* + \sqrt{cW^* \ln n}$ .

## Theorem 6

With probability at least  $n^{-c/3}$  the total number of paths using any edge is at most  $W^* + c \ln n$ .

# Integer Multicommodity Flows

Let  $X_e^i$  be a random variable that indicates whether the path for  $s_i-t_i$  uses edge  $e$ .

Then the number of paths using edge  $e$  is  $Y_e = \sum_i X_e^i$ .

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Choose  $\delta = \sqrt{(c \ln n)/W^*}$ .

Then

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# 17.3 MAXSAT

## Problem definition:

- ▶  $n$  Boolean variables
- ▶  $m$  clauses  $C_1, \dots, C_m$ . For example

$$C_7 = x_3 \vee \bar{x}_5 \vee \bar{x}_9$$

- ▶ Non-negative weight  $w_j$  for each clause  $C_j$ .
- ▶ Find an assignment of true/false to the variables such that the total weight of clauses that are **satisfied** is maximum.

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### Terminology:

- ▶ A variable  $x_i$  and its negation  $\bar{x}_i$  are called **literals**.
- ▶ Hence, each clause consists of a set of literals (i.e., no duplications:  $x_i \vee x_i \vee \bar{x}_j$  is not a clause).
- ▶ We assume a clause does not contain  $x_i$  and  $\bar{x}_i$  for any  $i$ .
- ▶  $x_i$  is called a **positive literal** while the negation  $\bar{x}_i$  is called a **negative literal**.
- ▶ For a given clause  $C_j$  the number of its literals is called its **length** or **size** and denoted with  $l_j$ .
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# MAXSAT: Flipping Coins

Set each  $x_i$  independently to **true** with probability  $\frac{1}{2}$  (and, hence, to **false** with probability  $\frac{1}{2}$ , as well).

Define random variable  $X_j$  with

$$X_j = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } C_j \text{ satisfied} \\ 0 & \text{otw.} \end{cases}$$

Then the total weight  $W$  of satisfied clauses is given by

$$W = \sum_j w_j X_j$$

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# MAXSAT: LP formulation

- ▶ Let for a clause  $C_j$ ,  $P_j$  be the set of positive literals and  $N_j$  the set of negative literals.

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# MAXSAT: Randomized Rounding

Set each  $x_i$  independently to **true** with probability  $y_i$  (and, hence, to **false** with probability  $(1 - y_i)$ ).

## Lemma 7 (Geometric Mean $\leq$ Arithmetic Mean)

For any nonnegative  $a_1, \dots, a_k$

$$\left( \prod_{i=1}^k a_i \right)^{1/k} \leq \frac{1}{k} \sum_{i=1}^k a_i$$

## Definition 8

A function  $f$  on an interval  $I$  is **concave** if for any two points  $s$  and  $r$  from  $I$  and any  $\lambda \in [0, 1]$  we have

$$f(\lambda s + (1 - \lambda)r) \geq \lambda f(s) + (1 - \lambda)f(r)$$

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Let  $f$  be a concave function on the interval  $[0, 1]$ , with  $f(0) = a$  and  $f(1) = a + b$ . Then

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for  $\lambda \in [0, 1]$ .

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$\Pr[C_j \text{ not satisfied}]$

$$\Pr[C_j \text{ not satisfied}] = \prod_{i \in P_j} (1 - y_i) \prod_{i \in N_j} y_i$$

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$$\begin{aligned}
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&= \left[ 1 - \frac{1}{\ell_j} \left( \sum_{i \in P_j} y_i + \sum_{i \in N_j} (1 - y_i) \right) \right]^{\ell_j} \\
&\leq \left( 1 - \frac{z_j}{\ell_j} \right)^{\ell_j} .
\end{aligned}$$

The function  $f(z) = 1 - (1 - \frac{z}{\ell})^\ell$  is concave. Hence,

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$f''(z) = -\frac{\ell-1}{\ell} \left[1 - \frac{z}{\ell}\right]^{\ell-2} \leq 0$  for  $z \in [0, 1]$ . Therefore,  $f$  is concave.

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# MAXSAT: The better of two

## Theorem 10

*Choosing the better of the two solutions given by randomized rounding and coin flipping yields a  $\frac{3}{4}$ -approximation.*

Let  $W_1$  be the value of randomized rounding and  $W_2$  the value obtained by coin flipping.

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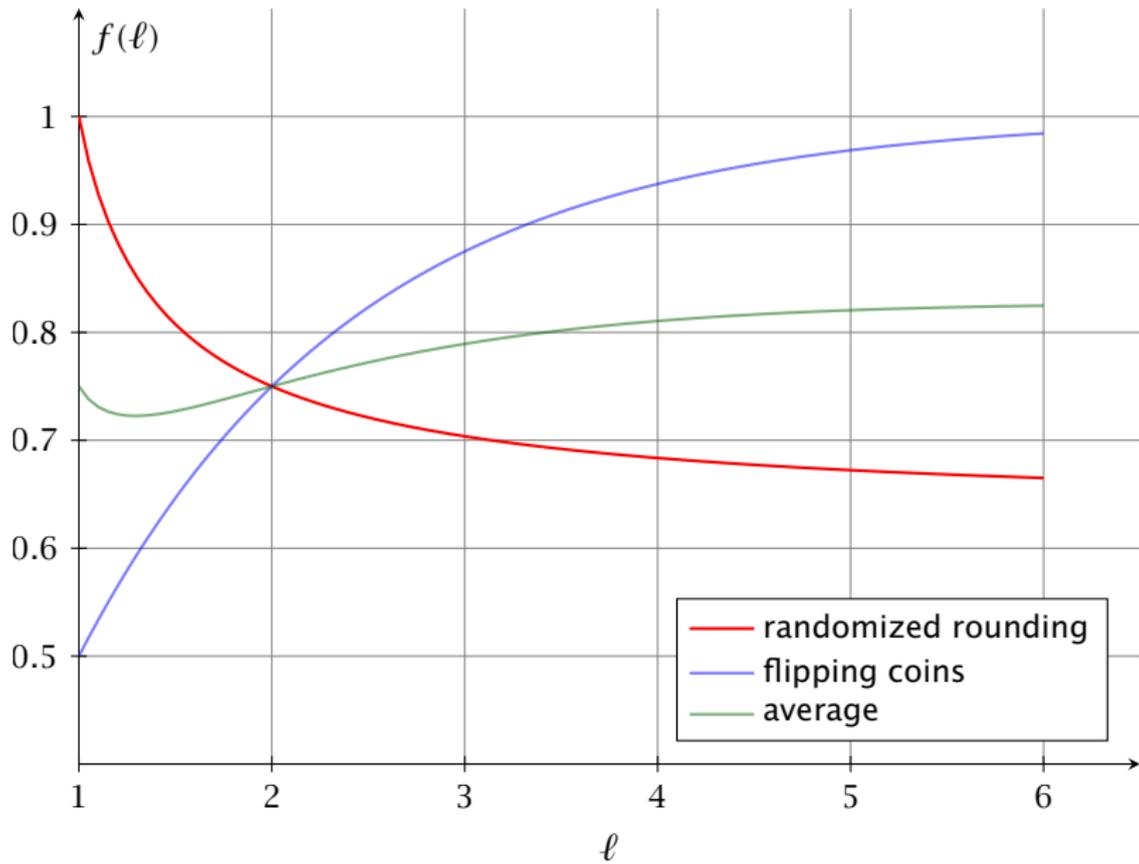
$$\begin{aligned} E[\max\{W_1, W_2\}] &\geq E[\frac{1}{2}W_1 + \frac{1}{2}W_2] \\ &\geq \frac{1}{2} \sum_j w_j z_j \left[ 1 - \left(1 - \frac{1}{\ell_j}\right)^{\ell_j} \right] + \frac{1}{2} \sum_j w_j \left(1 - \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{\ell_j}\right) \end{aligned}$$

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# MAXSAT: Nonlinear Randomized Rounding

So far we used **linear** randomized rounding, i.e., the probability that a variable is set to 1/true was exactly the value of the corresponding variable in the linear program.

We could define a function  $f : [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, 1]$  and set  $x_i$  to true with probability  $f(y_i)$ .

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*Rounding the LP-solution with a function  $f$  of the above form gives a  $\frac{3}{4}$ -approximation.*

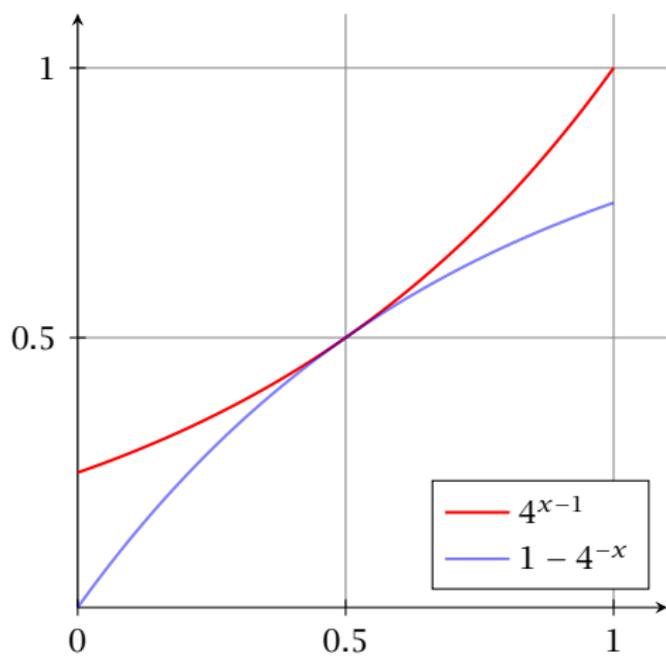
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## Can we do better?

Not if we compare ourselves to the value of an optimum LP-solution.

### Definition 12 (Integrality Gap)

The integrality gap for an ILP is the worst-case ratio over all instances of the problem of the value of an optimal IP-solution to the value of an optimal solution to its linear programming relaxation.

Note that the integrality is less than one for maximization problems and larger than one for minimization problems (of course, equality is possible).

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## Lemma 13

Our ILP-formulation for the MAXSAT problem has integrality gap at most  $\frac{3}{4}$ .

$$\begin{array}{ll} \max & \sum_j w_j z_j \\ \text{s.t.} & \forall j \quad \sum_{i \in P_j} y_i + \sum_{i \in N_j} (1 - y_i) \geq z_j \\ & \forall i \quad y_i \in \{0, 1\} \\ & \forall j \quad z_j \leq 1 \end{array}$$

Consider:  $(x_1 \vee x_2) \wedge (\bar{x}_1 \vee x_2) \wedge (x_1 \vee \bar{x}_2) \wedge (\bar{x}_1 \vee \bar{x}_2)$

- ▶ any solution can satisfy at most 3 clauses
- ▶ we can set  $y_1 = y_2 = 1/2$  in the LP; this allows to set  $z_1 = z_2 = z_3 = z_4 = 1$
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## MaxCut

Given a weighted graph  $G = (V, E, w)$ ,  $w(v) \geq 0$ , partition the vertices into two parts. Maximize the weight of edges between the parts.

## Trivial 2-approximation

# Semidefinite Programming

$$\begin{array}{ll} \max / \min & \sum_{i,j} c_{ij} x_{ij} \\ \text{s.t.} & \forall k \quad \sum_{i,j} a_{ijk} x_{ij} = b_k \\ & \forall i, j \quad x_{ij} = x_{ji} \\ & X = (x_{ij}) \text{ is psd.} \end{array}$$

- ▶ linear objective, linear constraints
- ▶ we can constrain a square matrix of variables to be symmetric positive definite

Note that wlog. we can assume that all variables appear in this matrix. Suppose we have a non-negative scalar  $z$  and want to express something like

$$\sum_{i,j} a_{ijk} x_{ij} + z = b_k$$

where  $x_{ij}$  are variables of the positive semidefinite matrix. We can add  $z$  as a diagonal entry  $x_{\ell\ell}$ , and additionally introduce constraints  $x_{\ell r} = 0$  and  $x_{r\ell} = 0$ .

# Vector Programming

$$\begin{array}{ll} \max / \min & \sum_{i,j} c_{ij} (v_i^t v_j) \\ \text{s.t.} & \forall k \quad \sum_{i,j,k} a_{ijk} (v_i^t v_j) = b_k \\ & \forall i, j \quad x_{ij} = x_{ji} \\ & v_i \in \mathbb{R}^n \end{array}$$

- ▶ variables are vectors in  $n$ -dimensional space
- ▶ objective functions and constraints are linear in inner products of the vectors

This is equivalent!

## **Fact [without proof]**

We (essentially) can solve Semidefinite Programs in polynomial time...

# Quadratic Programs

**Quadratic Program for MaxCut:**

$$\begin{array}{ll} \max & \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j} w_{ij} (1 - y_i y_j) \\ \forall i & y_i \in \{-1, 1\} \end{array}$$

This is exactly MaxCut!

# Semidefinite Relaxation

$$\begin{array}{ll} \max & \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j} w_{ij} (1 - v_i^t v_j) \\ & \forall i \quad v_i^t v_i = 1 \\ & \forall i \quad v_i \in \mathbb{R}^n \end{array}$$

- ▶ this is clearly a relaxation
- ▶ the solution will be vectors on the unit sphere

# Rounding the SDP-Solution

- ▶ Choose a random vector  $r$  such that  $r/\|r\|$  is uniformly distributed on the unit sphere.
- ▶ If  $r^t v_i > 0$  set  $y_i = 1$  else set  $y_i = -1$

## Rounding the SDP-Solution

Choose the  $i$ -th coordinate  $r_i$  as a Gaussian with mean 0 and variance 1, i.e.,  $r_i \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$ .

Density function:

$$\varphi(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-x^2/2}$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} \Pr[r = (x_1, \dots, x_n)] &= \frac{1}{(\sqrt{2\pi})^n} e^{-x_1^2/2} \cdot e^{-x_2^2/2} \cdot \dots \cdot e^{-x_n^2/2} dx_1 \cdot \dots \cdot dx_n \\ &= \frac{1}{(\sqrt{2\pi})^n} e^{-\frac{1}{2}(x_1^2 + \dots + x_n^2)} dx_1 \cdot \dots \cdot dx_n \end{aligned}$$

Hence the probability for a point only depends on its distance to the origin.

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# Rounding the SDP-Solution

## Fact

The projection of  $r$  onto two unit vectors  $e_1$  and  $e_2$  are independent and are normally distributed with mean 0 and variance 1 iff  $e_1$  and  $e_2$  are orthogonal.

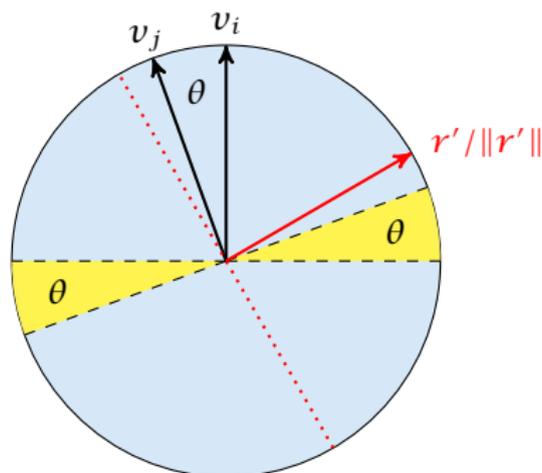
Note that this is clear if  $e_1$  and  $e_2$  are standard basis vectors.

# Rounding the SDP-Solution

## Corollary

If we project  $r$  onto a hyperplane its normalized projection  $(r' / \|r'\|)$  is uniformly distributed on the unit circle within the hyperplane.

# Rounding the SDP-Solution



- ▶ if the normalized projection falls into the shaded region,  $v_i$  and  $v_j$  are rounded to different values
- ▶ this happens with probability  $\theta/\pi$

# Rounding the SDP-Solution

- ▶ contribution of edge  $(i, j)$  to the SDP-relaxation:

$$\frac{1}{2}w_{ij}(1 - v_i^t v_j)$$

- ▶ (expected) contribution of edge  $(i, j)$  to the rounded instance  $w_{ij} \arccos(v_i^t v_j) / \pi$
- ▶ ratio is at most

$$\min_{x \in [-1, 1]} \frac{2 \arccos(x)}{\pi(1-x)} \geq 0.878$$

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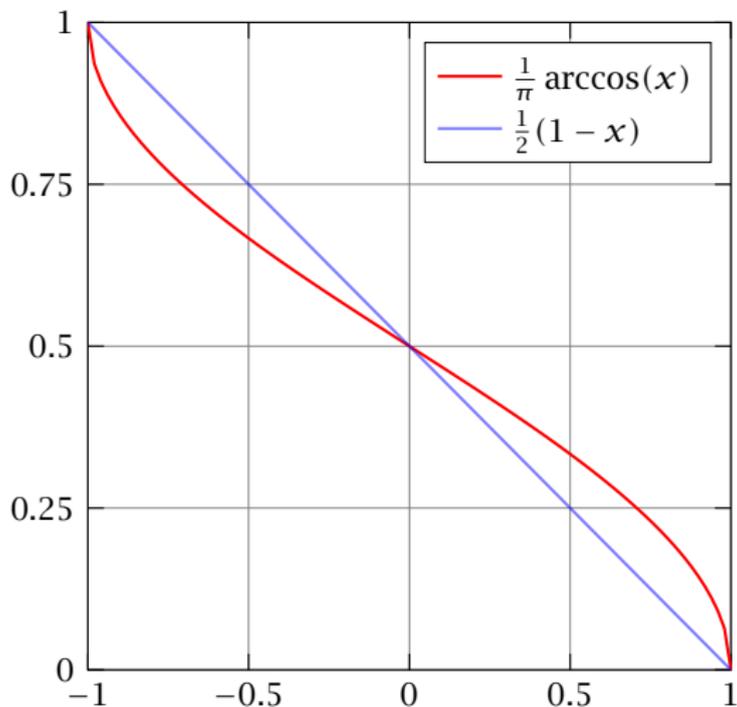
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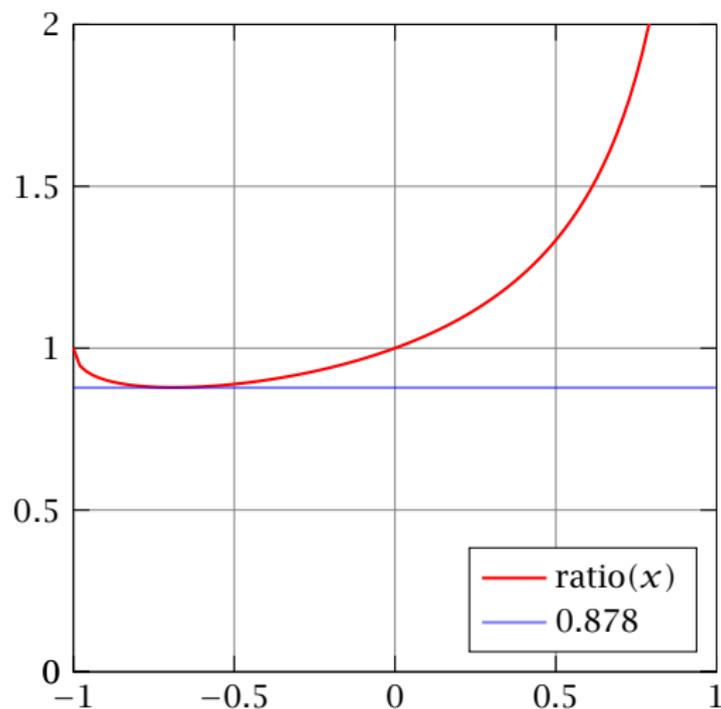
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# Rounding the SDP-Solution



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## Theorem 14

*Given the unique games conjecture, there is no  $\alpha$ -approximation for the maximum cut problem with constant*

$$\alpha > \min_{x \in [-1, 1]} \frac{2 \arccos(x)}{\pi(1-x)}$$

*unless  $P = NP$ .*