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## **Maximum Frustration in Signed Complete Bipartite Graphs**

## Abstract for the Combinatorics Seminar 2009 February 9

The frustration index of a signed graph is the smallest number of edges whose sign reversal yields a balanced signed graph (i.e., where all circles have positive sign product). In 1966, Petersdorf showed that the maximum frustration of a signed complete graph  $K_n$  is equal to floor[ $(n-1)^2/4$ ], and it is achieved by the all-negative signing. This is the only interesting graph family for which the problem has been solved. Using convex geometry, I show that the maximum frustration for a signed  $K_{l,r}$  is bounded above by

$$r \cdot (I/2) \cdot [1 - 2^{-(I-1)} \text{ binom}(I-1, \text{floor}[(I-1)/2])]$$

and that this bound is achieved by a signing of  $K_{l,2^{l-1}}$ .

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