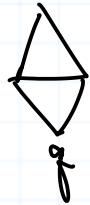


## Acyclic Orientations

- \*  $D \in \text{Div}(G)$  is maximal unwinnable if whenever  $D' \in \text{Div}(G)$  is unwinnable and  $D \leq D'$ , then  $D' = D$ .
- \*  $c \in \text{Config}(G, f)$  is a maximal superstable if whenever  $c' \in \text{Config}(G, f)$  is superstable and  $c \leq c'$ , then  $c' = c$ .
- \*  $D$  max'l unwinnable iff  $D$  unwinnable and  $D + v$  winnable  $\forall v \in V$   
 $c$  max'l superstable iff  $c$  superstable and  $c + v$  not superstable  $\forall v \in \tilde{V}$ .

Questions. Is each unwinnable divisor is dominated by some max'l unwinnable?

Is each superstable is dominated by some max'l superstable?

Example What are the maximal superstables of ?

What are its maximal unwinnable divisors?

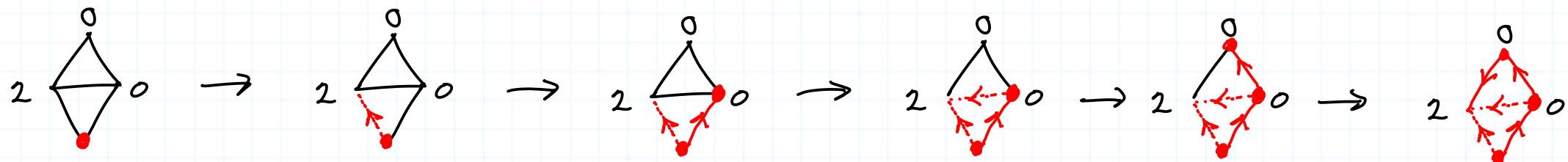
Question: If  $D$  is maximal unwinnable and  $D \sim D'$  is  $D'$  maximal unwinnable?

$$\begin{array}{ccc} D & \leq & D' \\ \downarrow \sigma & & \downarrow \sigma \\ \widetilde{D} & \leq & \widetilde{D}' \end{array}$$

Fact.  $D$  is max'l unwinnable iff its  $q$ -reduced form is  $c - q$  where  $c$  is a maximal superstable.

\* Only " $\Rightarrow$ " is straightforward to show.

What happens if we run Dhar's algorithm on a maximal superstable?



Result: an acyclic orientation of the graph:

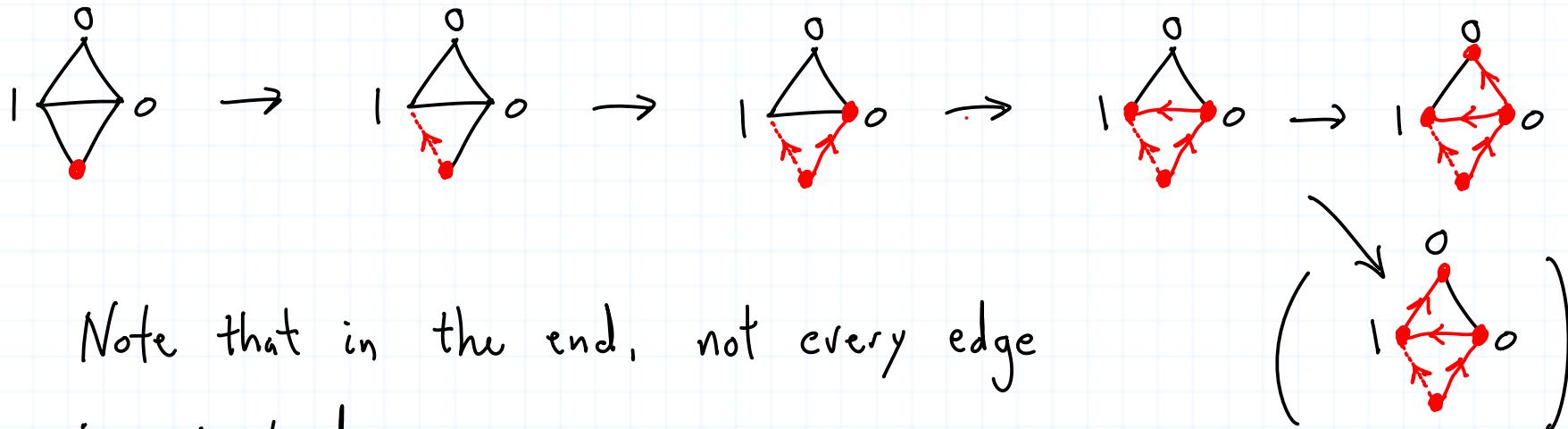


Questions: Why is it acyclic?

Why does it have a unique source?

Why is every edge oriented?

What if we run Dhar's on a non-maximal superstable?

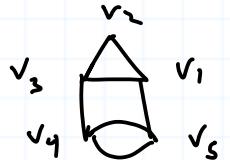


Note that in the end, not every edge  
is oriented.

In reverse: Which superstable is associated to ?

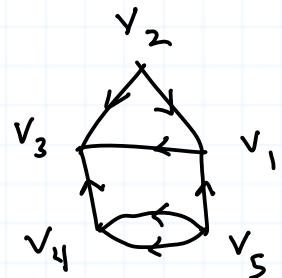
- \* Define  $\text{indeg}_\theta(v)$ .
- \* Lemma 4.2 An acyclic orientation is characterized by its indegree sequence.

Example Which acyclic orientation of



has indegree sequence  $(2, 0, 3, 2, 0)$ ?  
 $v_1 \quad v_2 \quad v_3 \quad v_4 \quad v_5$

Solution



Proof of lemma 4.2/ As in text.

Why does every acyclic orientation have a sink?

- \* Divisor & config. associated with an orientation  $\theta$ :

$$D(\theta) := \sum_{v \in V} (\text{indeg}_\theta(v) - 1)v, \quad c(\theta) = \sum_{v \in V} (\text{indeg}(v) - 1)\theta.$$

Thm 4.6 Fix  $q \in V$ . There is a bijection:

$\phi$ : acyclic orientations  $\longrightarrow$  max'l superstables  
with unique source  $q$

$$\Theta \longrightarrow \phi(\Theta) = \sum_{v \in V} (\text{index}_{\Theta}(v) - 1) v.$$