

# The $k$ -edge connected subgraph problem I : Polytopes and critical extreme points

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**Keywords :** Polytope, Cut, k-Edge connected graph, Critical extreme point

## Abstract

In this paper we consider the linear relaxation of the  $k$ -edge connected subgraph polytope,  $P(G, k)$ , given by the trivial and the so-called cut inequalities. We introduce an ordering on the fractional extreme points of  $P(G, k)$  and describe some structural properties of the minimal extreme points with respect to that ordering. Using this we give sufficient conditions for  $P(G, k)$  to be integral.