

# INVITATION TO THE DOCTORAL SEMINAR


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**Frank J.J. de Meijer**  
Tilburg University

**“SDP-based bounds for the Quadratic Cycle Cover Problem  
via cutting plane augmented Lagrangian methods and  
reinforcement learning”**



classroom.aau.at/math- Wednesday, 16 June 2021  
stat

 10:00 a.m.

## **Abstract**

We study the Quadratic Cycle Cover Problem (QCCP), which aims to find a node-disjoint cycle cover in a directed graph with minimum interaction cost between successive arcs. We derive several semidefinite programming (SDP) relaxations and use facial reduction to make these strictly feasible. To solve our relaxations, we propose an algorithm that incorporates an augmented Lagrangian method into a cutting plane framework by utilizing Dykstra’s projection algorithm. Our algorithm is suitable for solving SDP relaxations with a large number of cutting planes. Computational results show that our SDP bounds and our efficient cutting plane algorithm outperform other QCCP bounding approaches from the literature. Finally, we provide a new SDP-based upper bounding technique, which is a sequential Q-learning method that exploits a solution of our SDP relaxation within a reinforcement learning environment.

Angelika Wiegele and the Department of Mathematics look forward to seeing  
you at the talk!

