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## NOTE ON CERTAIN PARTITIONS OF POINTS IN $R^d$

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Let  $\mathcal{X}$  be a finite set of points in the  $d$ -dimensional Euclidean space  $R^d$ . In [4] Radon partitions of types  $\{r, s\}$  (i.e.  $\mathcal{X}$  admits a partition into non-empty subsets  $\mathcal{X}_1$  and  $\mathcal{X}_2$  such that  $\text{card } \mathcal{X}_1 = r$ ,  $\text{card } \mathcal{X}_2 = s$  and  $\text{conv } \mathcal{X}_1 \cap \text{conv } \mathcal{X}_2 \neq \emptyset$ ) are studied. In this note a similar question for the cone hulls (with certain singularity) is solved.

Let  $o$  be the fixed origin and  $\mathcal{X} = (x_1, \dots, x_f)$  be an  $f$ -tuple of (not necessarily different) points in the  $d$ -dimensional Euclidean space  $R^d$ ,  $f \geq d + 2$ , for which  $o \notin \mathcal{X}$  and  $\dim \mathcal{X} = d$ . We say that  $\mathcal{X}$  has the *property*  $(r)$ ,  $r$  being a natural number,  $1 \leq r \leq f - 1$ , if there exists  $J \subset F = \{1, 2, \dots, f\}$  such that  $\text{card } J = r$  and either  $\text{conv } \mathcal{X}(J) \cap \text{conv } \mathcal{X}(F - J) = \{o\}$  or  $\text{cone } \mathcal{X}(J) \cap \text{cone } \mathcal{X}(F - J)$  contains a ray. (By  $\mathcal{X}(J)$  we denote the  $n$ -tuple  $(x_{i_1}, \dots, x_{i_n})$  with indices  $J = \{i_1, \dots, i_n\} \subset F$ .)

Let  $x_i = (x_{i1}, \dots, x_{id})$  for  $i = 1, \dots, f$  in a basis  $\mathcal{X}$ . We shall consider the  $f$  by  $d$  matrix

$$X = \begin{pmatrix} x_{11} & \dots & x_{1d} \\ \dots & \dots & \dots \\ x_{f1} & \dots & x_{fd} \end{pmatrix}$$

and we put  $L(X) = \text{lin } (x^{(1)}, \dots, x^{(d)})$ , where  $x^{(i)} \in R^f$  is the  $i$ th column in  $X$ ,  $D(X)$  its orthogonal complement in  $R^f$ . It is  $\dim L(X) = d$ ,  $\dim D(X) = f - d$ .

Forming the matrix

$$\bar{X} = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_{11} & \dots & \alpha_{1f-d} \\ \dots & \dots & \dots \\ \alpha_{f1} & \dots & \alpha_{ff-d} \end{pmatrix}$$

whose columns  $\alpha^{(j)}$ ,  $j = 1, \dots, f - d$  form a basis of  $D(X)$ , we shall assign the  $i$ th row  $\bar{x}_i \in R^{f-d}$  of  $\bar{X}$  to each  $x_i$ ,  $i \in F$ ; the  $f$ -tuple  $\bar{\mathcal{X}} = (\bar{x}_1, \dots, \bar{x}_f)$  of these points in  $R^{f-d}$  is called a *linear representation* of  $\mathcal{X}$  (see [5]).

By an *affine representation* (or *Gale transform*) we understand an  $f$ -tuple  $\tilde{\mathcal{X}} = (\tilde{x}_1, \dots, \tilde{x}_f)$ ,  $\tilde{x}_i = (\beta_{i1}, \dots, \beta_{if-d-1})$   $i = 1, \dots, f$  of points in  $R^{f-d-1}$ , where the columns of the matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix} \beta_{11} & \dots & \beta_{1f-d-1} \\ \dots & \dots & \dots \\ \beta_{f1} & \dots & \beta_{ff-d-1} \end{pmatrix}$$

form a basis of the orthogonal complement of the  $(d + 1)$ -space  $\text{lin } (x^{(1)}, \dots, x^{(d)}, \mathbf{1})$  in  $R^f$  (see [3], 5.4,  $o \in \mathcal{X}$  possibly.)

(\*) Under the assumption of  $o \in \text{conv } \mathcal{X}$  we denote by  $K$  the  $k$ -face of the polytope  $\text{conv } \mathcal{X}$ ,  $1 \leq k \leq d$ , for which  $o \in \text{relint } K$  and put  $G = \{i \in F \mid x_i \in K\}$ ,  $g = \text{card } G$ .

By  $h(X)$  we shall denote the dimension of the projection of  $D(X)$  on the coordinate  $(f - g)$ -space in  $R^f$  determined by the axes with indices  $F - G$  in the direction of

the complementary coordinate  $g$ -space; according to the definition we put  $h(X) = -1$  if  $G = F$ .

1. Under the situation (\*) it is  $h(X) = h(X')$ , where  $X$  or  $X'$  are the matrices belonging to  $\mathcal{X}$  in two arbitrary Cartesian systems  $\mathcal{K}$  or  $\mathcal{K}'$  in  $R^d$ , respectively, with the same origin  $o$ .

Proof. We simplify the denotation as follows: We denote by  $G$  or  $H = G^\perp$  the coordinate  $g$ -space or its orthogonal complement, resp. and let  $1, 2, \dots, g$  be the indices of the coordinate axes of  $G$ . We shall write briefly  $D, D', h, h'$  instead of  $D(X), D(X'), h(X), h(X')$ .

Putting  $\beta = D \cap H, \beta' = D' \cap H$  we shall prove that  $\dim \beta = \dim \beta'$ . To this purpose we denote the  $g$  by  $(f-d)$  matrix formed from the first  $g$  rows of  $X$  or  $X'$  by  $X^*$  or  $X'^*$ , resp. Then it is  $\beta = \{x \in R^f \mid x = \bar{X}\bar{\lambda}, \text{ where } \bar{\lambda} \in A = \{\lambda \in R^{f-d} \mid X^*\lambda = o\}\}$ ,  $\beta' = \{x \in R^f \mid x = \bar{X}'\bar{\lambda}', \text{ where } \bar{\lambda}' \in A' = \{\lambda' \in R^{f-d} \mid X'^*\lambda' = o\}\}$ . Since the columns of  $X$  and  $X'$  are linearly independent, it is  $\dim \beta = \dim A, \dim \beta' = \dim A'$ . Considering that  $X'^* = X^*R$  for a suitable regular matrix  $R$  (As  $R$  we can take a regular matrix such that  $X' = XR$  which exists because the column vectors of both matrices form the spaces of the same dimension  $f-d$ ), it is  $\dim A = \dim A'$  and hence  $\dim \beta = \dim \beta'$ .

Replacing  $H$  by  $G$  we shall prove that  $\dim \gamma = \dim \gamma'$ , where  $\gamma = G \cap D, \gamma' = G \cap D'$ . If we put  $\delta = \beta^\perp$  (the orthogonal complement of  $\beta$  in  $D$ ),  $\varepsilon = \gamma_\delta^\perp, \delta' = \beta'^\perp, \varepsilon' = \gamma'^\perp$ , we have  $\dim \delta = \dim \delta', \dim \varepsilon = \dim \varepsilon'$  and since  $h = \dim \beta + \dim \varepsilon, h' = \dim \beta' + \dim \varepsilon'$ , it follows  $h = h'$ .

**Remark.** Thus the number  $h(\mathcal{X})$  can be defined by the relation  $h(\mathcal{X}) = h(X)$ , where  $X$  corresponds to arbitrary basis in  $R^d$  with the origin  $o$  (under conditions (\*)).

2.  $\mathcal{X}$  has the property (r) if and only if there exists  $J \subset F$ ,  $\text{card } J = r$  and a hyperplane  $H$  in  $R^{f-d}, o \in H$  such that  $\overline{\mathcal{X}}(J) \subset H_1, \overline{\mathcal{X}}(F-J) \subset H_2$ , where  $H_1, H_2$  are closed halfspaces determined by  $H$  and  $\text{int } H_1 \cap \overline{\mathcal{X}}(J) \neq \emptyset \neq \text{int } H_2 \cap \overline{\mathcal{X}}(F-J)$ .

Such a separation is called the *semiseparation of points*.

Proof. I. Let  $\mathcal{X}$  have the property (r), i.e. there exists  $J \subset F$ ,  $\text{card } J = r$  and a point  $b \in R^f, b = (\beta_1, \dots, \beta_f)$  such that  $\sum_{i \in F} \beta_i x_i = o, \beta_i \geq 0$  for  $i \in J, \beta_i \leq 0$  for  $i \in F - J$  and at least in one case there holds the inequality. Since  $b \in D(X)$ , it is  $b = \sum_{j=1}^{f-d} \gamma_j \alpha^{(j)}$ . Put  $c = (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_{f-d})$ . It holds  $(c, \bar{x}_i) = \beta_i$  for each  $i \in F$ . Thus the hyperplane in  $R^{f-d}$  whose normal is determined by  $c$  semiseparates the  $\overline{\mathcal{X}}(J)$  and  $\overline{\mathcal{X}}(F-J)$ .

II. On the contrary, let  $\overline{\mathcal{X}}(J), \overline{\mathcal{X}}(F-J)$  be semiseparated by the hyperplane with  $c = (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_{f-d})$  as its normal. Put  $\beta_i = (c, \bar{x}_i)$  for  $i \in F, b = (\beta_1, \dots, \beta_f)$ . Then  $\beta_i \geq 0$  for  $i \in J, \beta_i \leq 0$  for  $i \in F - J$  and in both cases at least one inequality appears. It holds  $b = \sum_{j=1}^{f-d} \gamma_j \alpha^{(j)}$  and hence  $\sum_{i=1}^f \beta_i x_i = o$ . From this it follows that  $\sum_{i \in J} \beta_i x_i$  is the common point of cone  $\mathcal{X}(J)$  and cone  $\mathcal{X}(F-J)$ . If  $\sum_{i \in J} \beta_i x_i = o$ , it is  $o \in \text{conv } \mathcal{X}(J) \cap \text{conv } \mathcal{X}(F-J)$  and if  $\sum_{i \in J} \beta_i x_i \neq o$ , then cone  $\mathcal{X}(J)$  and cone  $\mathcal{X}(F-J)$  have the common ray.

3. (see [2], 358). If the points  $x_1, \dots, x_f \in R^d$  satisfy the condition  $o \in \text{int conv } \{x_1, \dots, x_f\}$ , then there exist positive numbers  $\lambda_i, i = 1, \dots, f$  such that  $o = \sum_{i=1}^f \lambda_i x_i$ .

4. Under the situation (\*) a hyperplane  $H$  of  $R^{t-d}$ ,  $o \in H$  exists for which  $\overline{\mathcal{X}}(F - G) \subset H$ ,  $\overline{\mathcal{X}}(G)$  lies in one of open halfspaces determined by  $H$ , cone  $\overline{\mathcal{X}}(F - G) = \text{lin } \overline{\mathcal{X}}(F - G)$  and  $h(\mathcal{X}) = \dim \text{cone } \overline{\mathcal{X}}(F - G)$ .

Proof. Since  $o \in \text{relint } K$ , it is (according to 3)  $o = \sum_{i=1}^f \beta_i x_i$  for a suitable  $(\beta_1, \dots, \beta_t)$  where  $\beta_i > 0$  for  $i \in G$ ,  $\beta_i = 0$  for  $i \in F - G$ . From this it follows that  $b = (\beta_1, \dots, \beta_t) \in D(X)$  and thus  $b = \sum_{j=1}^{f-d} \gamma_j \alpha^{(j)}$  for some  $c = (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_{t-d})$ ;  $c$  is the normal vector of the required hyperplane  $H$  because of  $(c, x_i) = \beta_i$  for  $i \in F$ . Further on it holds that, for no supporting hyperplane of  $\text{conv } \overline{\mathcal{X}}$  through  $o$ , more than  $g$  points from  $\overline{\mathcal{X}}$  lie in the corresponding open halfspace. (In fact, if more than  $g$  points from  $\overline{\mathcal{X}}$  lay in the open halfspace determined by such hyperplane, then there would exist more than  $g$  points of  $\mathcal{X}$  lying in  $K$ .) From this it follows cone  $\overline{\mathcal{X}}(F - G) = \text{lin } \overline{\mathcal{X}}(F - G)$ . We put  $h^*(X) = \dim \text{lin } \overline{\mathcal{X}}(F - G)$ . Then the equality  $h^*(X) = h(\mathcal{X})$  holds. ( $h^*(X)$  equals the rank of the  $f - g$  by  $f - d$  matrix formed from the rows of  $\overline{X}$  with indices  $F - G$ , which is also equal to the rank of the  $f$  by  $(f - d)$  matrix if we replace the rows with indices  $G$  by the zero rows and hence it equals the dimension of the projection of  $D(X)$  on the coordinate  $(f - g)$ -space.); q.e.d. Note that evidently  $f - d > h(\mathcal{X}) \geq -1$ .

5. (see [3], 5.4. iii)

If  $Z = (z_1, \dots, z_t)$  is an  $f$ -tuple of points in  $R^{t-d-1}$  for which  $\sum_{i=1}^f z_i = o$  and  $\dim \text{lin } Z = f - d - 1$ , then there exists an  $f$ -tuple  $\mathcal{X} \subset R^d$  such that  $\dim \text{aff } \mathcal{X} = d$  and  $Z$  is its affine representation.

6. (see [3], 7.1.4)

If  $P$  is a  $k$ -neighbourly  $d$ -polytope (i.e. each  $k$ -membered subset  $K \subset \text{vert } P$  forms a face  $S$  of  $P$  for which  $K = \text{vert } S$ ) and  $k > \left\lfloor \frac{d}{2} \right\rfloor$ , then  $P$  is a  $d$ -simplex.

**Note.** Corollary. If  $\mathcal{X}$  is the set of all vertices of some  $d$ -polytope (with  $f$  vertices) and  $f \geq d + 2$ , then there exists  $k \leq \left\lfloor \frac{d}{2} \right\rfloor$  such that  $\text{conv } \mathcal{X}$  is an  $l$ -neighbourly polytope for each  $1 \leq l \leq k$  and for  $l > k$  it is not  $l$ -neighbourly.

7. (see [4], lemma 2)

For each affine representation  $\overline{X} \subset R^{t-d-1}$ ,  $f \geq d + 2$  of an  $f$ -tuple  $\mathcal{X} \subset R^d$ ,  $\dim \mathcal{X} = d$  it holds:

Every open halfspace of  $R^{t-d-1}$  determined by a hyperplane  $H$ ,  $o \in H$  contains,

(i) at least one point of  $\overline{X}$ ; and some of them contains exactly one point if  $\mathcal{X} \neq \text{vert } P$  for every convex  $d$ -polytope  $P$  with  $f$  vertices,

(ii) at least  $k + 1$  points of  $\overline{X}$  if  $\mathcal{X} = \text{vert } P$  for some  $k$ -neighbourly convex  $d$ -polytope  $P$  with  $f$  vertices; and some of such halfspaces contains exactly  $k + 1$  points of  $\overline{X}$  if  $P$  is  $k$ - but not  $(k + 1)$ -neighbourly convex  $d$ -polytope.

8. The range of the value  $r$  for which the given  $f$ -tuple  $\mathcal{X} \subset R^d$  has the property (r) forms the integer interval.

Proof. Let  $H$ ,  $o \in H$  be a hyperplane of  $R^{t-d}$  that semiseparates  $r$  points of  $\overline{X}$ . There exists a point  $x \neq o$  such that  $x \in H \cap \text{int cone } \overline{\mathcal{X}}$ . Let  $\lambda$  be any  $(f - d - 2)$ -space going through  $o$ ,  $x$  and lying in  $H$ . If  $H$  rotates around  $\lambda$  from  $0^\circ$  to  $180^\circ$ ,

then for every  $r'$ ,  $r \leq r' \leq f - r$  there exists the position of  $H$  such that  $r'$  points from  $\overline{\mathcal{X}}$  are semiseparated.

9. Let  $\tilde{\mathcal{X}} = (\tilde{x}_1, \dots, \tilde{x}_t)$  be an  $f$ -tuple of points in  $R^1$ ,  $l \geq 1$ ,  $f \geq l + 1$ ,  $\dim \tilde{\mathcal{X}} = l$ ,  $o \in \text{int conv } \tilde{\mathcal{X}}$ . Then for every natural number  $r$  for which  $\frac{f-l-1}{2} < r < \frac{f+l+1}{2}$

there exists a hyperplane containing  $o$  that semiseparates  $r$  points from  $\tilde{\mathcal{X}}$ ; this interval cannot be enlarged.

Proof. In 8 it is shown that the range of  $r$  is an interval. Since  $o \in \text{int conv } \tilde{\mathcal{X}}$ , there exist (see 3) numbers  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_t > 0$  such that  $o = \sum_{i=1}^t \lambda_i \tilde{x}_i$ . According to 5 there exists an  $f$ -tuple  $\mathcal{X} \subset R^{t-1}$  such that the  $f$ -tuple  $\lambda_1 \tilde{x}_1, \dots, \lambda_t \tilde{x}_t$  is its affine representation and  $\dim \text{aff } \mathcal{X} = f - l - 1$ . The semiseparation of  $(\tilde{x}_1, \dots, \tilde{x}_t)$  is equivalent to the semiseparation of  $(\lambda_1 \tilde{x}_1, \dots, \lambda_t \tilde{x}_t)$ . If  $f = l + 1$ ,  $r$  points can be semiseparated for arbitrary  $r$ ,  $1 \leq r \leq l$  because  $\tilde{\mathcal{X}}$  is the set of vertices of an  $l$ -simplex and  $o \in \text{int conv } \tilde{\mathcal{X}}$ . Thus the assertion holds.

Let  $f \geq l + 2$ . A) If  $\mathcal{X}$  is the set of vertices of some convex  $(f - l - 1)$ -polytope  $P$  ( $\text{card vert } P = f$ ), then there exists exactly one  $k$ ,  $1 \leq k \leq \left\lfloor \frac{f-l-1}{2} \right\rfloor$  such that  $P$  is a  $k$ -neighbourly polytope and not  $m$ -neighbourly for every  $m > k$  (see 6). According to 7 (put  $l = f - d - 1$ ) every open halfspace in  $R^1$  determined by a hyperplane going through  $o$  contains at least  $k + 1$  points and some of them contains exactly  $k + 1$  points from  $\tilde{\mathcal{X}}$ . In general, the semiseparation of  $\left\lfloor \frac{f-l-1}{2} \right\rfloor + 1$  points from  $\tilde{\mathcal{X}}$  is guaranteed and no less. B) If A) does not work, then  $\mathcal{X}$  is not the set of vertices of the convex  $(f - l - 1)$ -polytope with  $f$  vertices and by 7 one point of  $\tilde{\mathcal{X}}$  can be semiseparated by a suitable hyperplane; q.e.d.

10. (see [4], theorem)

Let  $\mathcal{X}$  be an  $f$ -tuple of points in  $R^d$ ,  $\text{card } \mathcal{X} \geq d + 3$ . Then

(i) if  $\mathcal{X}$  is not the set of vertices of a convex polytope with  $f$  vertices,  $\mathcal{X}$  has a Radon partition of the type  $\{r, f - r\}$  for arbitrary  $r = 1, \dots, f - 1$ .

(ii) If  $\mathcal{X}$  is the set of a  $k$ -neighbourly convex polytope  $P$ , then there is no partition of the type  $\{r, f - r\}$  for  $r \leq k$ , and if  $P$  is exactly  $k$ -neighbourly, then it admits Radon partitions for every  $r$ ,  $f - k - 1 \geq r \geq k + 1$ .

11. (see [1], 3.2.)

If  $y \in \text{int conv } X$ ,  $X \subset R^d$ , then  $y \in \text{int conv } Y$  where  $Y \subset X$ ,  $\text{card } Y \leq 2d$ .

Let  $\mathcal{X}$  be an  $f$ -tuple of points in  $R^d$ ,  $f \geq d + 2$ ,  $o \notin \mathcal{X}$ ,  $\dim \mathcal{X} = d$ . Let us define for it the number  $s(\mathcal{X})$  as follows:

1. In the case of  $o \notin \text{conv } \mathcal{X}$  put  $s(\mathcal{X}) = \frac{d-1}{2}$

2. In the case of  $o \in \text{conv } \mathcal{X}$ , i.e. if (\*) is fulfilled, we put

2.1.  $s(\mathcal{X}) = 0$  for  $g > 2k$

and for  $g \leq 2k$  we define

2.2.1.  $s(\mathcal{X}) = \frac{g}{f-d} - 1$  if  $h(\mathcal{X}) = 0$  or  $= -1$

2.2.2.  $s(\mathcal{X}) = \frac{d-g}{2}$  if  $h(\mathcal{X}) = f - d - 1$



Case 2.2.2. Let  $H$  be the hyperplane in  $R^{f-d}$  from 4. Since for every hyperplane  $H' \neq H$  in  $R^{f-d}$  going through  $o$   $H' \cap H$  semiseparates in  $H$  at least one point of  $\overline{\mathcal{X}}(F - G)$  (because of cone  $\overline{\mathcal{X}}(F - G) = H$ ), the least number of points in  $\overline{\mathcal{X}}$  that can be semiseparated equals the minimal number of points from  $\overline{\mathcal{X}}(F - G)$  which can be semiseparated by a hyperplane in  $H$  going through  $o$ . According to 9, for every  $r$  where  $\frac{d-g}{2} < r < f - \frac{d-g}{2}$ ,  $r$  points of  $\overline{\mathcal{X}}$  can be semiseparated and this interval cannot be enlarged. By 2 it is  $s(\overline{\mathcal{X}}) = \frac{d-g}{2}$ .

Case 2.2.3. First of all it holds  $f - d \geq \dim \text{cone } \overline{\mathcal{X}}(G) \geq f - d - h(\overline{\mathcal{X}})$  and cone  $\overline{\mathcal{X}}(G)$  is a sharp cone. Denote by  $\tau$   $(f - d - h)$ -dimensional orthogonal complement to  $h$ -space cone  $\overline{\mathcal{X}}(F - G)$  and project the  $g$ -tuple  $\overline{\mathcal{X}}(G)$  on  $\tau$  in the direction of this  $h$ -space; denote by  $\overline{\mathcal{X}}_\tau(G)$  the projected  $g$ -tuple. The semiseparation of some points from  $\overline{\mathcal{X}}(G)$  by a hyperplane in  $R^{f-d}$  going through the  $h$ -space cone  $\overline{\mathcal{X}}(F - G)$  is equivalent to the semiseparation of points from  $\overline{\mathcal{X}}_\tau(G)$  by a hyperplane in  $R^{f-d-h}$ . According to the case 2.2.1  $\left[ \frac{g}{f-d-h} \right]$  points from  $\overline{\mathcal{X}}_\tau(G)$  can be semiseparated and this number is generally the minimal one. At the same time it equals the least number of points which can be semiseparated in  $\overline{\mathcal{X}}$  if the separating hyperplane contains cone  $\overline{\mathcal{X}}(F - G)$ . If the separating hyperplane (note it by  $H'$ ) is not of this kind, then  $H \cap H'$  is such a hyperplane that in each of its open halfspaces there lies at least one point of  $\overline{\mathcal{X}}(F - G)$ . According to 9 the semiseparation of  $\leq \left[ \frac{f-g-h-1}{2} \right]$  points from  $\overline{\mathcal{X}}(F - G)$  by  $H \cap H'$  cannot be guaranteed and this estimation is the best one. This number is the same even for the semiseparation of points from  $\overline{\mathcal{X}}$ . Since every separating hyperplane in  $R^{f-d}$  is one of the above types and the estimations in 9 and 2.2.1 are the best ones, our assertion follows from 2.

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