

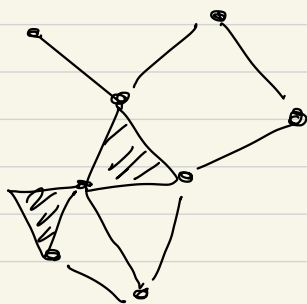
CPSC 531F

Jan 8, 2025

- Last time:

- Simplex in $\mathbb{R}^N$

- Simplicial Complex, K , in $\mathbb{R}^N$



in $\mathbb{R}^2$

Rem: Definition I gave in
class last time was incorrect...

- Today! (1) Correct the above
(2) Graphs and Simplicial
Complexes

Admin:

Notes posted to course website

<https://www.cs.ubc.ca/~jfk>

etc.

I usually collect homework at

- the end of the course
- sometime in the middle
- OR see me if you have questions

- Remark: Prof. Klaus Hoeschsmann
used to teach linear algebra as follows:

(1) 1st 2 weeks: the entire course,
restricted to 2×2 matrices
and 2×2 systems, and

(2) Weeks 3 and on: the entire
course again, but in the general
case.

We will often take a similar
approach ~

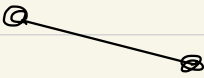
Recall:

$$d\text{-simplex} = \text{conv}(\vec{s}_0, \dots, \vec{s}_d)$$

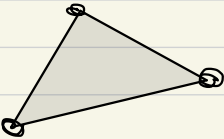
in $\mathbb{R}^N$

$d+1$ vectors
in general position

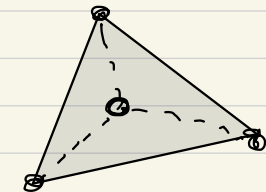
• 0-simplex



1-simplex



2-simplex



3-simplex

Formally: we define:

general position CPSC 531F

(and Armstrong: Basic
Topology (free))

(geometrically independent in
Munkres: Elements of Algebraic
Topology (not free,
excellent))

(affinely independent in
Matousek: Using the Borsuk-
Ulam Theorem)

We defined:

$$\text{conv}(\vec{s}_0, \dots, \vec{s}_d)$$

$$= \left\{ \alpha_0 \vec{s}_0 + \alpha_1 \vec{s}_1 + \dots + \alpha_d \vec{s}_d \mid \right.$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \alpha_0, \dots, \alpha_d \in \mathbb{R}, \quad \alpha_i \geq 0 \\ \alpha_0 + \dots + \alpha_d = 1 \end{array} \right\}$$

$(\alpha_0, \dots, \alpha_d)$ also called stochastic

General position: $\vec{s}_0, \dots, \vec{s}_d$

in general position if

$\vec{s}_1 - \vec{s}_0, \dots, \vec{s}_d - \vec{s}_0$ are linearly independent

Exercise: Show that if

$$\vec{x}_1 = (1, 1, 1) \in \mathbb{R}^3$$

$$\vec{x}_2 = (2, 4, 8) \in \mathbb{R}^3$$

$\vdots$

$$\vec{x}_n = (n, n^2, n^3) \in \mathbb{R}^3$$

$\vdots$

then any four of these

vectors are in general position.

Can you produce vectors in $\mathbb{R}^2$,

$\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \dots$ s.t. any 3 are in general position?

Hint: We know that a
 4×4 Vandermonde matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & a_1 & a_1^2 & a_1^3 \\ 1 & a_2 & a_2^2 & a_2^3 \\ 1 & a_3 & a_3^2 & a_3^3 \\ 1 & a_4 & a_4^2 & a_4^3 \end{pmatrix}$$

is invertible, $\det \neq 0$ if

$$a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4 \in \mathbb{R}$$

are distinct

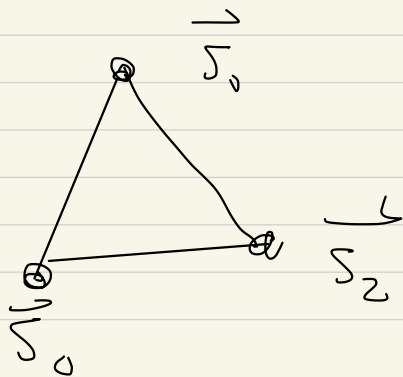
Simplex d -dimensional

$\text{Conv}(\vec{s}_0, \dots, \vec{s}_d)$ with

$\vec{s}_0, \dots, \vec{s}_d$ in general position.

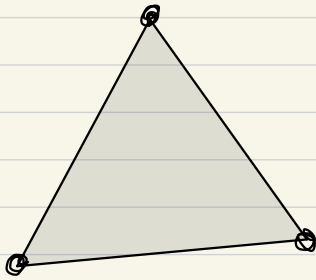
$\text{Conv}(\vec{s}_0, \dots, \vec{s}_d)$

$$\left\{ \alpha_0 \vec{s}_0 + \dots + \alpha_d \vec{s}_d \mid \begin{array}{l} (\alpha_0, \dots, \alpha_d) \\ \text{is} \\ \text{stochastic} \end{array} \right\}$$



$\subset \mathbb{R}^N$

Claim! Given



$$\subset \mathbb{R}^N$$

this subset $\curvearrowright$ uniquely determines

$$\{ \vec{s}_0, \vec{s}_1, \vec{s}_2 \} \text{ s.t.}$$

$$\text{Conv}(\vec{s}_0, \vec{s}_1, \vec{s}_2)$$

Exercise! Show that if

$$\vec{s}_0, \vec{s}_1, \vec{s}_2, \vec{t}_0, \vec{t}_1, \vec{t}_2 \text{ s.t.}$$

$$\text{Conv}(\vec{s}_0, \vec{s}_1, \vec{s}_2) = \text{Conv}(\vec{t}_0, \vec{t}_1, \vec{t}_2)$$

And $\vec{s}_0, \vec{s}_1, \vec{s}_2$ in general position

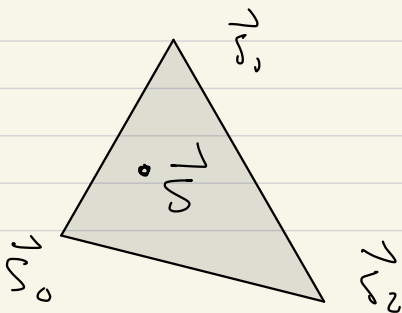
then $\vec{t}_0, \vec{t}_1, \vec{t}_2$ are " " "

and

$$\{\vec{s}_0, \vec{s}_1, \vec{s}_2\} = \{\vec{t}_0, \vec{t}_1, \vec{t}_2\}.$$

Hint!

$$\text{If } \vec{s} \in \text{Conv}(\vec{s}_0, \vec{s}_1, \vec{s}_2)$$



by definition

$$\vec{s} = \alpha_0 \vec{s}_0 + \alpha_1 \vec{s}_1 + \alpha_2 \vec{s}_2$$

$$\text{s.t. } \alpha_0, \alpha_1, \alpha_2 \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$$

$$\alpha_0 + \alpha_1 + \alpha_2 = 1.$$

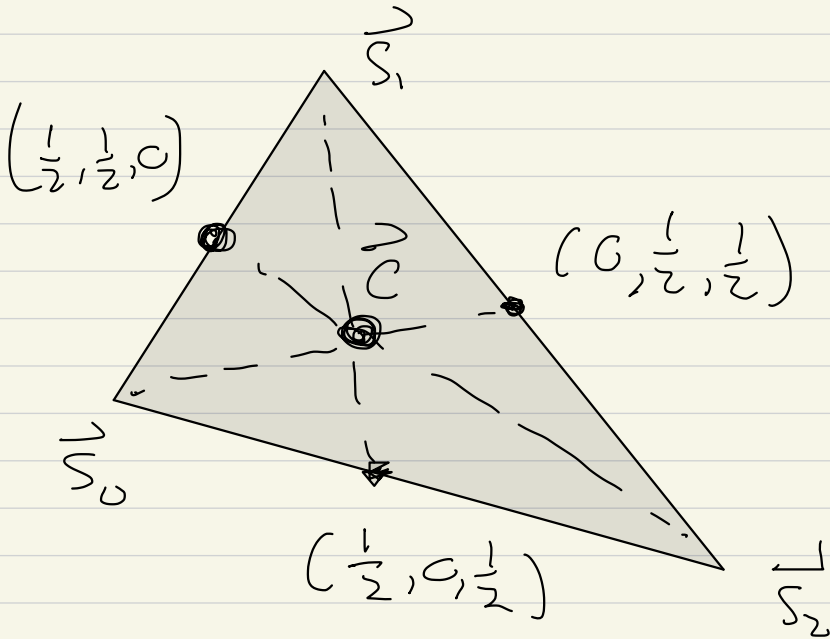
Exercise: Show that the
triple $(\alpha_0, \alpha_1, \alpha_2)$ is unique

(assuming $\vec{s}_0, \vec{s}_1, \vec{s}_2$ are in
general position).

This triple $(\alpha_0, \alpha_1, \alpha_2)$ is called

the Barycentric coordinates

of $\vec{S}$ with respect to $\vec{S}_0, \vec{S}_1, \vec{S}_2$



$\vec{C}$ = centre of mass

$= (\frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{3})$ in Barycentric
coordinates

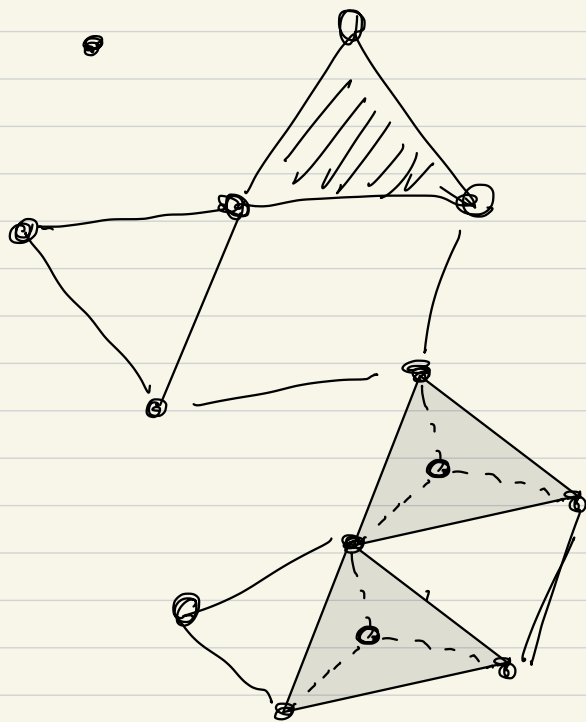
Simplicial complex:

K a set whose elements are
simplices in $\mathbb{R}^N$ s.t.

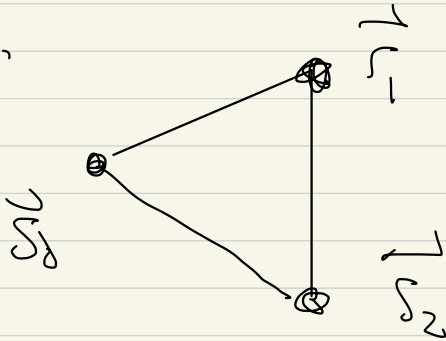
(1) if $S = \text{Conv}(\vec{x}_0, \dots, \vec{x}_d) \in K$
then so is the convex hull
of any subset

(2) $S, S' \in K$, then $S \cap S'$
is a "face" of S, S'
where a "face" of $\text{Conv}(\vec{x}_0, \dots, \vec{x}_d)$
is $\text{Conv}(\text{any subset of } \vec{x}_0, \dots, \vec{x}_d)$

$\mathbb{R}^N$



Exg.



$$K = \{ \emptyset, \{ \vec{s}_0 \}, \{ \vec{s}_1 \}, \{ \vec{s}_2 \},$$

$$\text{Conv}(\vec{s}_0, \vec{s}_1), \text{Conv}(\vec{s}_1, \vec{s}_2),$$

$$\text{Conv}(\vec{s}_0, \vec{s}_2) \}$$

Looks like a graph!

$$G = (V, E), \quad V = \{ \vec{s}_0, \vec{s}_1, \vec{s}_2 \}$$

$$E = \text{all sets of size 2 of } V$$

So! Abstract simplicial complex:

$$(\bar{V}, K_{\text{abs}})$$

$\bar{V}$ is a finite set

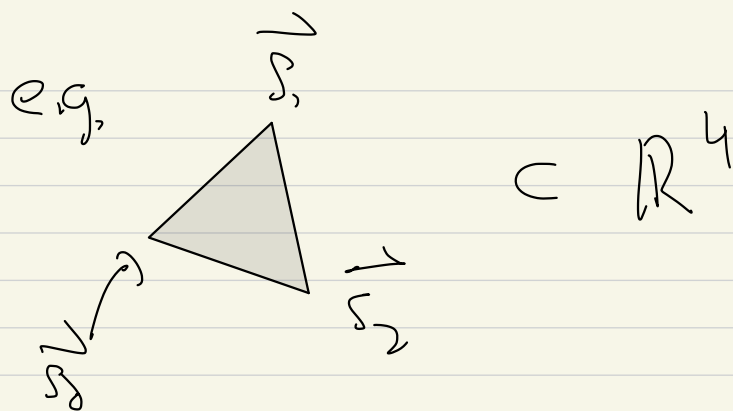
K_{abs} a set of subsets of $\bar{V}$

st, if $A \in K_{\text{abs}}$

and $A' \subseteq A$, then $A' \in K_{\text{abs}}$

K_{abs} contains $\{v\}$ for all $v \in \bar{V}$

$\bar{V}$ "vertex set of K_{abs} ."



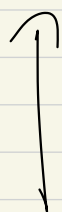
$$S = \text{Conv}(\vec{s}_0, \vec{s}_1, \vec{s}_2)$$

The largest simplicial complex K ,
with vertex set $V = \{\vec{s}_0, \vec{s}_1, \vec{s}_2\}$
is

$$K = \left\{ \begin{aligned} &\emptyset, \{\vec{s}_0\}, \{\vec{s}_1\}, \dots \\ &\text{conv}(\vec{s}_0, \vec{s}_1), \dots \\ &\text{conv}(\vec{s}_0, \vec{s}_1, \vec{s}_2) \end{aligned} \right\}$$

$$K_{abs} = \left\{ \emptyset, \{\vec{s}_0\}, \{\vec{s}_1\}, \{\vec{s}_0, \vec{s}_1\}, \dots, \{\vec{s}_0, \vec{s}_1, \vec{s}_2\} \right\}$$

$$K \leftrightarrow K_{abs}$$



a collection
of simplices

↑
combinatorial thing

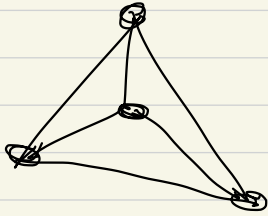
knowing $\vec{s}_0, \vec{s}_1, \vec{s}_2 \in \mathbb{R}^N$

If K_{abs} is abstract simplicial complex, then say that the $\dim(K_{abs}) = d$ if the largest size of a set in K_{abs} is size $d+1$.

Graph (simple graph)

$\longleftrightarrow$ $(d-1)$ -dim abstract simplicial complex

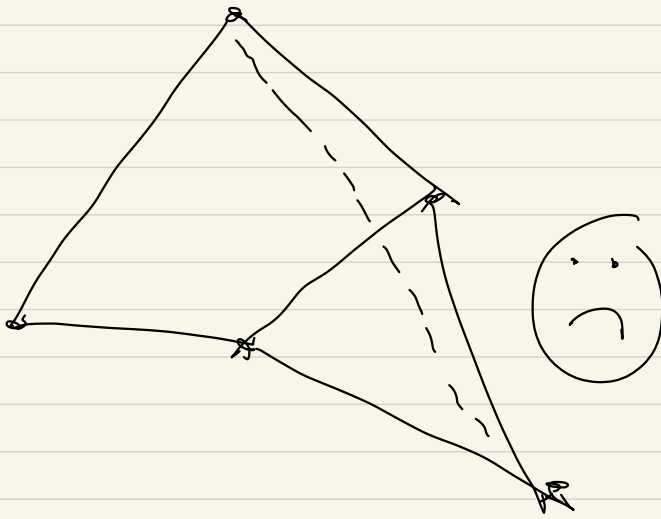
Example



is a simplicial
complex, K ,
in $\mathbb{R}^2$

Claim: If K is a simplicial
complex in $\mathbb{R}^2$, K_{abs} is
the abstract complex, and is
dimension 1, then

$K_{\text{abs}} \neq$ complete graph
on 5 vertices



$\mathbb{R}^2$

Thm: Any graph $G=(V,E)$
 is the abstr complex of a
 complex $K \subset \mathbb{R}^2$