

Lecture 5

Carathéodory : $\forall A \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d, \forall a \in \text{conv } A$



$$\Rightarrow \exists A' \subseteq A \text{ s.t. } \begin{cases} |A'| \leq d+1 \\ a \in \text{conv } A' \end{cases} \quad C(\varepsilon)$$

- $d+1$ cannot be improved.
- Is there a dim-free version?

§ Colorful Helly

Thm (?) Given a finite fam of conv sets $\mathcal{F}_1, \mathcal{F}_2, \dots, \mathcal{F}_{d+1}$ in $\mathbb{R}^d$,

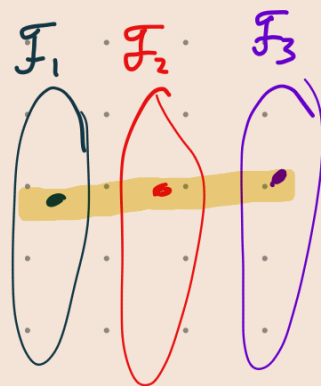
if $\forall$ transversal rainbow $(d+1)$ -tuple

$\forall C_i \in \mathcal{F}_i, i \in [d+1]$

is intersecting: $\bigcap_{i \in [d+1]} C_i \neq \emptyset$



$\exists i \in [d+1]$
s.t. $\mathcal{F}_i$ is intersecting:
 $\bigcap \mathcal{F}_i \neq \emptyset$



Remark : • If we take $\mathcal{F}_1 = \dots = \mathcal{F}_{d+1} = \mathcal{F} \Rightarrow$ Helly

• Helly number of $\mathcal{F} = \min h : \text{if } \forall h\text{-tuple of } \mathcal{F} \text{ inter.}$

$\Rightarrow \bigcap \mathcal{F} \neq \emptyset$

Helly Thm : Helly # of conv sets in $\mathbb{R}^d = d+1$

• Colorful Helly # of $\mathcal{F} = \min k : \forall \text{ finite } \mathcal{F}_1, \dots, \mathcal{F}_k \subseteq \mathcal{F}$

if all transversal intersecting

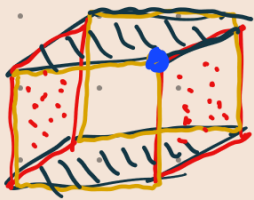
$\Rightarrow$ One color $\mathcal{F}_i$ is intersecting.



Colorful Helly

Colorful Helly # of conv sets in $\mathbb{R}^d = d+1$

Example [Colorfully Helly # $\gg$ Helly #]



Let $\mathcal{F}$ be the fam. of axis-aligned boxes in $\mathbb{R}^3$



Ex. Helly # = 2

Colorful Helly # > 3

In general : axis-aligned boxes in $\mathbb{R}^d$

$$\begin{cases} \text{Helly \#} = 2 \\ \text{colorful Helly \#} = d+1 \end{cases}$$

Pf [Colorful Helly]

• May assume all convex sets are polytope.

• Take a colorful d -tuple

$$\tilde{\mathcal{H}} = \{A_1, \dots, A_d\}$$

$$\text{s.t. } a \cdot p_{\tilde{\mathcal{H}}} = \min_{\text{colorful } d\text{-tuple } \mathcal{H}} a \cdot p_{\mathcal{H}}$$

W.l.o.g. may assume $A_i \in \mathcal{F}_i$

Claim : $p_{\tilde{\mathcal{H}}} \in \bigcap \mathcal{F}_{d+1}$

Pf Apply Lemma to $\{A_1, \dots, A_d, C\} = \mathcal{H}$

$$\forall C \in \mathcal{F}_{d+1}$$

$$(\tilde{\mathcal{H}} \text{ is the } \mathcal{H}^*) \Rightarrow^{(i)} p_{\tilde{\mathcal{H}}} = p_{\mathcal{H}} \in \bigcap \mathcal{H}$$

$$\Rightarrow p_{\tilde{\mathcal{H}}} \in C \quad \forall C \in \mathcal{F}_{d+1} \quad \square$$

$\forall \mathcal{H} \in \mathcal{H}(\mathcal{F})$ direction

$\exists$ unique max $p_{\mathcal{H}} : a \cdot x$

$$M = \{p_{\mathcal{H}} : \mathcal{H} \in \mathcal{H}(\mathcal{F})\}$$

$\exists$ unig. min $p_{\mathcal{H}^*}$
("1st axis")

Lemma (i) $\forall \mathcal{H} \supseteq \mathcal{H}^*, \mathcal{H} \in \mathcal{H}(\mathcal{F})$

$$\Rightarrow p_{\mathcal{H}} = p_{\mathcal{H}^*}$$

(ii) assuming Helly for $\mathbb{R}^{d-1}$

$$\Rightarrow |\mathcal{H}^*| \leq d$$

§ 3rd pt of (colorful) Helly via Carathéodory

Thm [Multiple Separation]

Let $C_1, \dots, C_n$ be closed convex sets in $\mathbb{R}^d$, $n \geq 2$
and C_1 is compact

Then $\bigcap_{i \in [n]} C_i = \emptyset \iff$

$\exists$ closed half-spaces $H_1, \dots, H_n$ s.t.

$$C_i \subset H_i$$

$$\bigcap_{i=1}^n H_i = \emptyset$$

Pf. ($\Leftarrow$) trivial

($\Rightarrow$) $n=2$ is separation thm.

Induction on n .

Illustrate w/ $n=3$. (general n exer.)

$$\underbrace{(C_1 \cap C_2)}_{\text{compact}} \cap \underbrace{(C_3)}_{\text{closed}} = \emptyset$$

by $n=2$ case $\Rightarrow \exists$ closed half-space $H_3 \supseteq C_3$

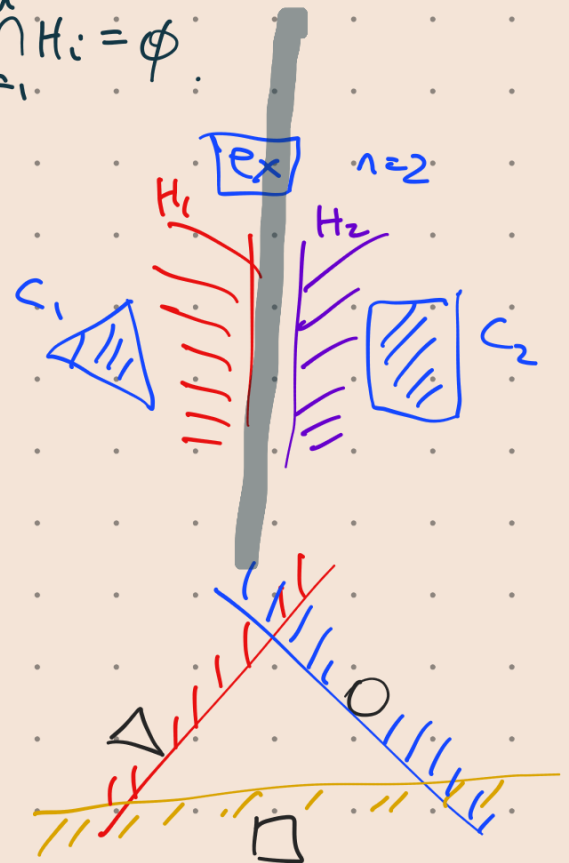
$$\text{s.t. } (C_1 \cap C_2) \cap H_3 = \emptyset$$

$$\underbrace{(C_1 \cap H_3)}_{\text{compact}} \cap \underbrace{C_2}_{\text{closed}} = \emptyset$$

$$\Rightarrow \exists H_2 \supseteq C_2 \text{ s.t. } (C_1 \cap H_3) \cap H_2 = \emptyset$$

$$\underbrace{C_1}_{\text{compact}} \cap \underbrace{(H_2 \cap H_3)}_{\text{closed}} = \emptyset \Rightarrow \exists H_1 \supseteq C_1 \text{ closed half-space}$$

$$\text{s.t. } \bigcap_{i \in [3]} C_i = \emptyset$$



Pf. (Colorful) Hellu

Contrapositive

$$\bigcap_{i \in [n]} C_i \neq \emptyset \Rightarrow$$

$$\exists I \in \binom{[n]}{d+1} \text{ s.t. } \bigcap_{i \in I} C_i = \emptyset$$

all convex sets

by polytope reduction then $\Rightarrow$ are polytope compact

$$\bigcap_{i \in I} F_i = \emptyset \dots \bigcap_{i \in I} F_{d+1} = \emptyset \Rightarrow \exists \text{ transversal } C_i \in F_i$$

So by multiple separation theorem, we have closed half-spaces

$$H_i \supseteq C_i \quad \forall i \in [n] \quad \text{s.t.} \quad \bigcap_{i \in [n]} H_i = \emptyset$$

$$H_i := \{x \in \mathbb{R}^d : a_i \cdot x \leq b_i\} \quad \text{for some } a_i \in \mathbb{R}^d, b_i \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$\bigcap_{i \in I} F_i = \emptyset$$

$$\bigcap_{i \in [n]} H_i = \emptyset$$

Farkas

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \in \text{cone} \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} a_i \\ b_i \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{d+1}, i \in [n] \right\}$$

? 😊?

$$\exists I \in \binom{[n]}{d+1} \text{ s.t.}$$

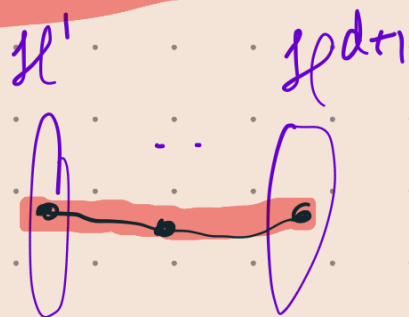
$$\bigcap_{i \in I} C_i = \emptyset \Leftarrow \bigcap_{i \in I} H_i = \emptyset$$

Farkas

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \in \text{cone} \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} a_i \\ b_i \end{pmatrix} : i \in I \right\}$$

Colorful Carathéodory (cone)

$$\exists I \in \binom{[n]}{d+1} \text{ s.t.}$$



$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Exer: Prove Colorful Helly using this method.

Carathéodory

