

- Given a set of  $n$  points, any subset of  $k$  points that can be separated from the other  $n - k$  points by a hyperplane is called a  $k$ -set.

For the planar case, the upper bound on the number of  $k$ -sets in a set of  $n$  points is  $O(nk^{1/3})$ . [Dey '98]

- First note the following: For a given set of  $n$  points in the plane in general position, a pair of points  $p, q \in P$  form a  $k$ -set if there are exactly  $k$  points in the (closed) halfplane below the line passing through  $p$  and  $q$ .
- Consider the graph  $G(P, E)$  that has an edge for every  $k$ -set  
edges of  $G$  can be decomposed into  $k - 1$  (resp.  $n - k + 1$ ) convex chains  
any crossing of two edges of  $G$  is an intersection point of one convex chain of  $C_1, \dots, C_{k-1}$  with a concave chain of  $D_1, \dots, D_{n-k+1}$ ;  
hence, there are at most  $2(k - 1)(n - k + 1)$  crossings of  $G \Rightarrow m^3/n^2 = O(nk)$ , which implies  $m = O(nk^{1/3})$

The maximum number of  $k$ -sets in a set of  $n$  points located in  $\mathbb{R}^d$  is still unknown.

- The  $k$ -level in an arrangement  $A(H)$  induced by a set  $H$  of  $n$  hyperplanes is defined as the set of points with at most  $k - 1$  hyperplanes strictly above it, and at most  $n - k$  hyperplanes strictly below it.

For the planar case, the upper bound on the complexity of any  $k$ -level in an arrangement of  $n$  lines is  $O(nk^{1/3})$ .

- since the  $k$ -level problem is the  $k$ -set problem in the dual setting

The tight bounds on the maximum complexity of any  $k$ -level is still unknown, even in the planar case.

- Assuming lines are in general position, the number of vertices of level at most  $k$  in an arrangement  $A(H)$  of set  $H$  of  $n$  lines in the plane is  $O(nk)$ .

- \* choose a subset  $R \subseteq H$  at random, by including each line  $h \in H$  into  $R$  with probability  $p$ ; let  $f$  denote the number of vertices of level 0 in the arrangement  $A(R)$ ;  $E[f] \leq E[|R|] = pn$
- \* for any vertex  $v$  of  $A(H)$ , let  $A_v$  be an event of  $v$  becoming one of the vertices of level 0 in  $A(R)$ ;  $p[A_v] = p^2(1 - p)^{\ell(v)}$ , where  $\ell(v)$  denotes the level of  $v$  in  $A(H)$ ;
- \* let  $V_{\leq k}$  (resp.  $V$ ) be the set of vertices of level at most  $k$  (resp. 0) in  $A(H)$ ;  
$$np \geq E[f] = \sum_{v \in V} \text{prob}(A_v) \geq \sum_{v \in V_{\leq k}} \text{prob}(A_v) = \sum_{v \in V_{\leq k}} p^2(1 - p)^{\ell(v)} \geq |V_{\leq k}| p^2(1 - p)^k \Rightarrow |V_{\leq k}| \leq \frac{n}{p(1 - p)^k};$$
choosing  $p = \frac{1}{k+1}$  to (approximately) maximize RHS gives  $|V_{\leq k}| \leq 3(k + 1)n$

**Clarkson-Shor theorem:** The number of vertices of level at most  $k$  in an arrangement of  $n$  hyperplanes in  $\mathbb{R}^d$  is  $O(n^{\lfloor d/2 \rfloor} (k + 1)^{\lceil d/2 \rceil})$ .

— proof is a generalization of the above argument

- Given a set of  $n$  points in the plane, any subset of at most  $k$  points that can be separated from all other point (there are at least  $n - k$  of them) by a line is called a  $(\leq k)$ -set.

In the plane, the maximum number of  $(\leq k)$ -sets is  $\Theta(nk)$ , and it is  $\Theta(n^{\lfloor d/2 \rfloor} (k + 1)^{\lceil d/2 \rceil})$  in  $\mathbb{R}^d$ .

#### References:

- Lectures on Discrete Geometry by J. Matousek.