

# *Chessboard complexes*

Siniša Vrećica, University of Belgrade

Adam Mickiewicz University

Poznań, October 17, 2018

## *On applications of Algebraic topology*

- The applicability of the results and methods of Algebraic topology throughout the Mathematics is its crucial and one of the most significant properties.

## *On applications of Algebraic topology*

- The applicability of the results and methods of Algebraic topology throughout the Mathematics is its crucial and one of the most significant properties.
- The early examples include the fundamental theorem of algebra, Brouwer's fixed point theorem and the domain invariance theorem; the ham-sandwich theorem.

## *On applications of Algebraic topology*

- The applicability of the results and methods of Algebraic topology throughout the Mathematics is its crucial and one of the most significant properties.
- The early examples include the fundamental theorem of algebra, Brouwer's fixed point theorem and the domain invariance theorem; the ham-sandwich theorem.
- There are now many applications in other areas of Mathematics and sciences in general (the shape recognition, topological robotics, motion planning algorithms, topological complexity, topological data analysis, topological analysis of neural networks).

## *On applications of Algebraic topology*

- Some of the applications were quite unexpected, such as Lovász proof of Kneser conjecture, saying that the chromatic number of Kneser graph (with vertices  $\binom{[2n+k]}{n}$ )  $K_{n,k}$  equals  $k + 2$ .

## *On applications of Algebraic topology*

- Some of the applications were quite unexpected, such as Lovász proof of Kneser conjecture, saying that the chromatic number of Kneser graph (with vertices  $\binom{[2n+k]}{n}$ )  $K_{n,k}$  equals  $k + 2$ .
- **Theorem.** (D. Gale) If  $C$  is a compact convex set in  $\mathbb{R}^d$  of the width  $w$  and  $C'$  is the image of the injective, continuous Lipschitz mapping (with Lipschitz constant  $L$ )  $f : C \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$ , then the width of the set  $C'$  is at most  $Lw$ .

## *On applications of Algebraic topology*

- Some of the applications were quite unexpected, such as Lovász proof of Kneser conjecture, saying that the chromatic number of Kneser graph (with vertices  $\binom{[2n+k]}{n}$ )  $K_{n,k}$  equals  $k + 2$ .
- **Theorem.** (D. Gale) If  $C$  is a compact convex set in  $\mathbb{R}^d$  of the width  $w$  and  $C'$  is the image of the injective, continuous Lipschitz mapping (with Lipschitz constant  $L$ )  $f : C \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$ , then the width of the set  $C'$  is at most  $Lw$ .
- Both results depend on topological methods, in particular Borsuk-Ulam theorem.

# *Borsuk-Ulam theorem*

- Borsuk-Ulam theorem is one of the most often used topological results.



# *Borsuk-Ulam theorem*

- Borsuk-Ulam theorem is one of the most often used topological results.
- It has several equivalent formulations and relatives and many consequences.

## *Borsuk-Ulam theorem*

- Borsuk-Ulam theorem is one of the most often used topological results.
- It has several equivalent formulations and relatives and many consequences.
- There is no antipodal ( $\mathbb{Z}/2$ -equivariant) mapping  $S^{n+1} \rightarrow S^n$ , or  $X \rightarrow Y$  if  $Y$  is  $n$ -dimensional and  $X$  is  $n$ -connected and the action is free.

## *On applications of Algebraic topology*

- **Theorem.** (R. Živaljević, S. V., 1990) For every collection  $\mu_1, \dots, \mu_k$  of probability measures on  $\mathbb{R}^d$ , there is a  $(k - 1)$ -dimensional flat  $F$  so that every half-space  $H_+$  containing  $F$  satisfies  $\mu_i(H_+) \geq \frac{1}{d-k+2}$  for every  $i = 1, \dots, k$ .

## *On applications of Algebraic topology*

- **Theorem.** (R. Živaljević, S. V., 1990) For every collection  $\mu_1, \dots, \mu_k$  of probability measures on  $\mathbb{R}^d$ , there is a  $(k - 1)$ -dimensional flat  $F$  so that every half-space  $H_+$  containing  $F$  satisfies  $\mu_i(H_+) \geq \frac{1}{d-k+2}$  for every  $i = 1, \dots, k$ .
- The special case  $k = 1$  reduces to the well-known Rado's center point theorem, and the special case  $k = d$  reduces to the ham-sandwich theorem.

## *On applications of Algebraic topology*

- The proof uses determination of certain Stiefel-Whitney characteristic classes in the cohomology ring of the Grassmann manifold.

## *On applications of Algebraic topology*

- The proof uses determination of certain Stiefel-Whitney characteristic classes in the cohomology ring of the Grassmann manifold.
- For the polynomials in the variables  $x_1, \dots, x_n, y_1, \dots, y_k$  the ideal generated by the symmetric polynomials in all  $n + k$  variables does not contain the monomial  $(x_1 x_2 \cdots x_n)^k$ .

## *Chessboard complex $\Delta_{m,n}$*

- **vertices of  $\Delta_{m,n}$ :** squares in a chessboard which has  $n$  rows and  $m$  columns,

## *Chessboard complex* $\Delta_{m,n}$

- **vertices of  $\Delta_{m,n}$ :** squares in a chessboard which has  $n$  rows and  $m$  columns,
- **simplices of  $\Delta_{m,n}$ :** non-taking rooks placements, i.e. at most one vertex from each row and each column,



## *Chessboard complex* $\Delta_{m,n}$

- **vertices of  $\Delta_{m,n}$ :** squares in a chessboard which has  $n$  rows and  $m$  columns,
- **simplices of  $\Delta_{m,n}$ :** non-taking rooks placements, i.e. at most one vertex from each row and each column,
- The first examples:  $\Delta_{3,2}$  is a hexagon,  $\Delta_{4,3}$  is a torus.

# The first examples

(1, 1)	(2, 1)	(3, 1)
(1, 2)	(2, 2)	(3, 2)

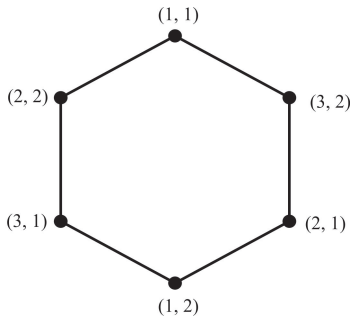


Figure:  $\Delta_{3,2}$  is a hexagon

# The first examples

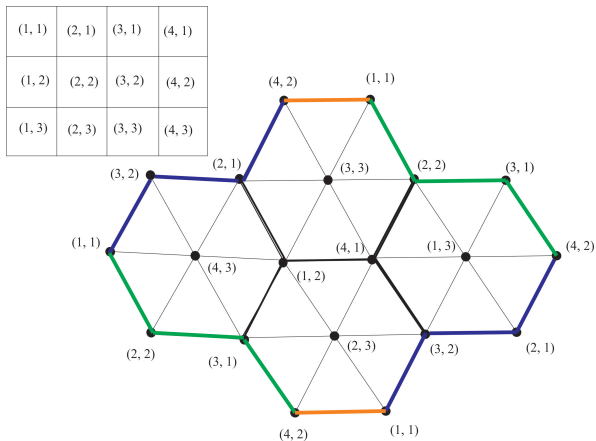


Figure:  $\Delta_{4,3}$  is a torus

# The first examples

(1, 1)

(2, 2)

(3, 3)

	(2, 1)	(3, 1)	(4, 1)
(1, 2)		(3, 2)	(4, 2)
(1, 3)	(2, 3)		(4, 3)

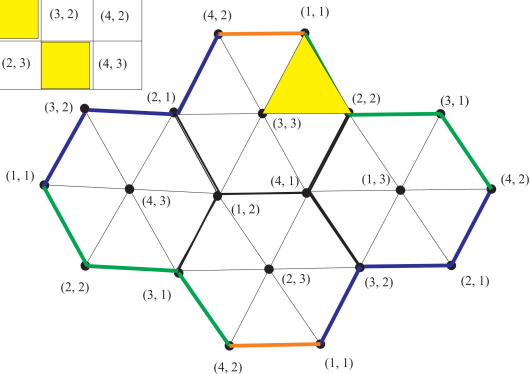


Figure:  $\Delta_{4,3}$  is a torus

# The first examples

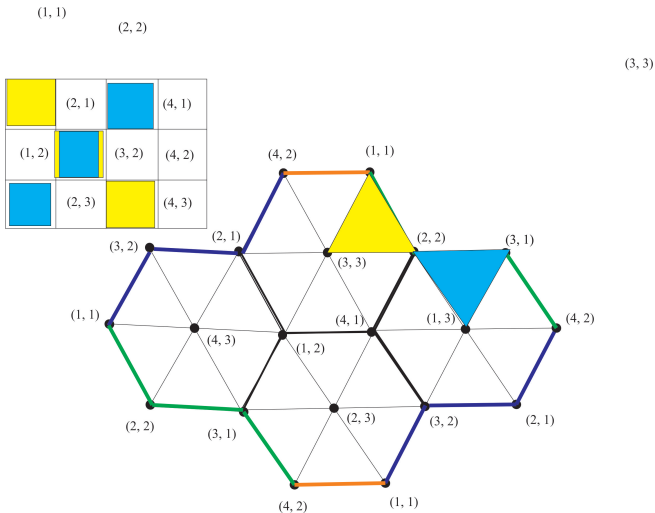


Figure:  $\Delta_{4,3}$  is a torus

*Chessboard complexes appear as...*

*coset complex of certain subgroups in the symmetric group*

$$\Delta_{m,n} = \Delta(\mathbb{S}_m, \mathcal{H}_n)$$

## *Chessboard complexes appear as...*

*coset complex of certain subgroups in the symmetric group*

$$\Delta_{m,n} = \Delta(\mathbb{S}_m, \mathcal{H}_n)$$

*matching complex in a complete bipartite graph*

$$\Delta_{m,n} = M(K_{m,n})$$

## *Chessboard complexes appear as...*

*coset complex of certain subgroups in the symmetric group*

$$\Delta_{m,n} = \Delta(\mathbb{S}_m, \mathcal{H}_n)$$

*matching complex in a complete bipartite graph*

$$\Delta_{m,n} = M(K_{m,n})$$

*n-fold 2-deleted join of vertices of the (m - 1)-simplex*

$$\Delta_{m,n} = [m]_{\Delta(2)}^{*n} = ((\sigma^{m-1})^{(0)})_{\Delta(2)}^{*n} = ([1]_{\Delta(2)}^{*m})_{\Delta(2)}^{*n}$$



*Properties of chessboard complexes are important!*

- **Colored Tverberg theorem.** (R. Živaljević, S. V., 1992) For  $r$  prime and any  $d + 1$  collections (colors) of finite sets of  $2r - 1$  points each in  $\mathbb{R}^d$ , there are  $r$  disjoint sets each containing at most one point of every color so that their convex hulls intersect.

*Properties of chessboard complexes are important!*

- **Colored Tverberg theorem.** (R. Živaljević, S. V., 1992) For  $r$  prime and any  $d + 1$  collections (colors) of finite sets of  $2r - 1$  points each in  $\mathbb{R}^d$ , there are  $r$  disjoint sets each containing at most one point of every color so that their convex hulls intersect.
- If such  $r$  sets do not exist, we have the mapping from the configuration space of joins of  $r$ -tuples of disjoint simplices to the join of  $r$  copies of  $\mathbb{R}^d$  missing the diagonal.

*Properties of chessboard complexes are important!*

- **Colored Tverberg theorem.** (R. Živaljević, S. V., 1992) For  $r$  prime and any  $d + 1$  collections (colors) of finite sets of  $2r - 1$  points each in  $\mathbb{R}^d$ , there are  $r$  disjoint sets each containing at most one point of every color so that their convex hulls intersect.
- If such  $r$  sets do not exist, we have the mapping from the configuration space of joins of  $r$ -tuples of disjoint simplices to the join of  $r$  copies of  $\mathbb{R}^d$  missing the diagonal.
- Simplices with one vertex of each color  $[2r - 1]^{*(d+1)}$ .

## *Properties of chessboard complexes are important!*

- **Colored Tverberg theorem.** (R. Živaljević, S. V., 1992) For  $r$  prime and any  $d + 1$  collections (colors) of finite sets of  $2r - 1$  points each in  $\mathbb{R}^d$ , there are  $r$  disjoint sets each containing at most one point of every color so that their convex hulls intersect.
- If such  $r$  sets do not exist, we have the mapping from the configuration space of joins of  $r$ -tuples of disjoint simplices to the join of  $r$  copies of  $\mathbb{R}^d$  missing the diagonal.
- Simplices with one vertex of each color  $[2r - 1]^{*(d+1)}$ .
- Collections of  $r$  vertex-disjoint simplices with at most one vertex of each color could be described as 
$$([2r - 1]^{*(d+1)})_{\Delta}^{*r} = ([2r - 1]_{\Delta}^{*r})^{*(d+1)} = (\Delta_{r,2r-1})^{*(d+1)}.$$

*Properties of chessboard complexes are important!*

- $\Delta_{m,r}$  is  $(r - 2)$ -connected for  $m \geq 2r - 1$ .

*Properties of chessboard complexes are important!*

- $\Delta_{m,r}$  is  $(r - 2)$ -connected for  $m \geq 2r - 1$ .
- The first non-zero homology class of  $(\Delta_{r,2r-1})^{*(d+1)}$  is of dimension at least  $(r - 1)(d + 1) + d = r(d + 1) - 1$ , and so it is  $(r(d + 1) - 2)$ -connected.

*Properties of chessboard complexes are important!*

- $\Delta_{m,r}$  is  $(r - 2)$ -connected for  $m \geq 2r - 1$ .
- The first non-zero homology class of  $(\Delta_{r,2r-1})^{*(d+1)}$  is of dimension at least  $(r - 1)(d + 1) + d = r(d + 1) - 1$ , and so it is  $(r(d + 1) - 2)$ -connected.
- $(\mathbb{R}^d)_{\Delta}^{*r} \simeq \mathbb{R}^{rd+r-1} \setminus \mathbb{R}^d \simeq \mathbb{R}^{rd+r-d-1} \setminus \{0\} \simeq S^{(r-1)(d+1)-1}$ .

*Properties of chessboard complexes are important!*

- $\Delta_{m,r}$  is  $(r - 2)$ -connected for  $m \geq 2r - 1$ .
- The first non-zero homology class of  $(\Delta_{r,2r-1})^{*(d+1)}$  is of dimension at least  $(r - 1)(d + 1) + d = r(d + 1) - 1$ , and so it is  $(r(d + 1) - 2)$ -connected.
- $(\mathbb{R}^d)_{\Delta}^{*r} \simeq \mathbb{R}^{rd+r-1} \setminus \mathbb{R}^d \simeq \mathbb{R}^{rd+r-d-1} \setminus \{0\} \simeq S^{(r-1)(d+1)-1}$ .
- For a prime  $r$  **there is no**  $\mathbb{Z}_r$ -map  $(\Delta_{r,2r-1})^{*(d+1)} \rightarrow (\mathbb{R}^d)_{\Delta}^{*r}$ .



*Properties of chessboard complexes are important!*

- The colored Tverberg theorem was used to establish the halving plane theorem, the point selection theorem, the hitting set theorem, the weak  $\epsilon$ -net theorem. (N. Alon, I. Bárány, Z. Füredi, D. Kleitman, L. Lovász)

## *Properties of chessboard complexes are important!*

- The colored Tverberg theorem was used to establish the halving plane theorem, the point selection theorem, the hitting set theorem, the weak  $\epsilon$ -net theorem. (N. Alon, I. Bárány, Z. Füredi, D. Kleitman, L. Lovász)
- This result is improved by P. Blagojević, B. Matschke, G. Ziegler in 2009. by proving that  $r$  points of each color is sufficient when  $r + 1$  is prime, establishing in this way the original conjecture by I. Bárány and D. Larman in this special case.

*Properties of chessboard complexes are important!*

- The same year we (S. V., R. Živaljević) gave a simpler proof of this theorem, based on the fact that  $\Delta_{r,r-1}$  is an orientable pseudomanifold.

*Properties of chessboard complexes are important!*

- The same year we (S. V., R. Živaljević) gave a simpler proof of this theorem, based on the fact that  $\Delta_{r,r-1}$  is an orientable pseudomanifold.
- **Theorem.** (S. V., R. Živaljević, 2009) The degree of each  $\mathbb{Z}/r$ -equivariant map  $f : (\Delta_{r,r-1})^{*d} \rightarrow S(W_r^{\oplus d})$  satisfies  $\deg(f) \equiv_{\text{mod } r} (-1)^d$ , provided  $r$  is a prime number.

## *Some generalizations*

- A. Björner, L. Lovász, S. V., R. Živaljević proved in 1994 the general lower bound on the connectivity of chessboard complexes and also for some of their generalizations (obtained from higher-dimensional chessboards, matching complexes of complete multipartite hypergraphs etc.). Some other properties and invariants of these complexes were considered.

## *Some generalizations*

- A. Björner, L. Lovász, S. V., R. Živaljević proved in 1994 the general lower bound on the connectivity of chessboard complexes and also for some of their generalizations (obtained from higher-dimensional chessboards, matching complexes of complete multipartite hypergraphs etc.). Some other properties and invariants of these complexes were considered.
- It was later proved that these estimates are sharp. (J. Shareshian, M. Wachs)

## *Some generalizations*

- We (S. V., R. Živaljević, 1994) established a new version of Colored Tverberg theorem (where the number of colors needed not to be  $d + 1$ ) and showed that in this case the result was optimal.

## *Some generalizations*

- We (S. V., R. Živaljević, 1994) established a new version of Colored Tverberg theorem (where the number of colors needed not to be  $d + 1$ ) and showed that in this case the result was optimal.
- For every constellation of five red, five blue and five white stars in the space, there exist three vertex disjoint triangles formed by stars of different colors which have a nonempty intersection.



# *Symmetric homology of algebras*

- Considering the symmetric analogue of the cyclic homology of algebras, S. Ault, Z. Fiedorowicz wanted to show that there was a spectral sequence converging strongly to  $HS_*(A)$  with the  $E^1$ -term

$$E_{p,q}^1 = \bigoplus_{\bar{u} \in X^{p+1}/S_{p+1}} \tilde{H}_{p+q}(EG_{\bar{u}} \times_{G_{\bar{u}}} NS_p/NS'_p; k).$$

# *Symmetric homology of algebras*

- Considering the symmetric analogue of the cyclic homology of algebras, S. Ault, Z. Fiedorowicz wanted to show that there was a spectral sequence converging strongly to  $HS_*(A)$  with the  $E^1$ -term

$$E_{p,q}^1 = \bigoplus_{\bar{u} \in X^{p+1}/S_{p+1}} \tilde{H}_{p+q}(EG_{\bar{u}} \times_{G_{\bar{u}}} NS_p/NS'_p; k).$$

- The fact that the connectivity of the space  $NS_p/NS'_p$  is an increasing function of  $p$  is crucial to show this convergence.

## *Cycle-free chessboard complexes*

- They considered another complex  $Sym_*^{(p)}$  to compute the homology of  $NS_p/NS'_p$ .

## *Cycle-free chessboard complexes*

- They considered another complex  $Sym_*^{(p)}$  to compute the homology of  $NS_p/NS'_p$ .
- We (S. V., R. Živaljević, 2009) showed this complex to be a suspension of a subcomplex  $\Omega_{p+1}$  of the chessboard complex  $\Delta_{p+1} = \Delta_{p+1,p+1}$ .

## *Cycle-free chessboard complexes*

- They considered another complex  $Sym_*^{(p)}$  to compute the homology of  $NS_p/NS'_p$ .
- We (S. V., R. Živaljević, 2009) showed this complex to be a suspension of a subcomplex  $\Omega_{p+1}$  of the chessboard complex  $\Delta_{p+1} = \Delta_{p+1,p+1}$ .
- The subcomplex  $\Omega_{p+1}$  is obtained from the chessboard complex  $\Delta_{p+1,p+1}$  by deleting the simplices of the form  $((x_{\sigma(1)}, x_{\sigma(2)}), (x_{\sigma(2)}, x_{\sigma(3)}), \dots, (x_{\sigma(k)}, x_{\sigma(1)}))$  for any  $k \in \{1, \dots, p+1\}$  and any permutation  $\sigma$  (cycles).

## *Cycle-free chessboard complexes*

- They considered another complex  $Sym_*^{(p)}$  to compute the homology of  $NS_p/NS'_p$ .
- We (S. V., R. Živaljević, 2009) showed this complex to be a suspension of a subcomplex  $\Omega_{p+1}$  of the chessboard complex  $\Delta_{p+1} = \Delta_{p+1,p+1}$ .
- The subcomplex  $\Omega_{p+1}$  is obtained from the chessboard complex  $\Delta_{p+1,p+1}$  by deleting the simplices of the form  $((x_{\sigma(1)}, x_{\sigma(2)}), (x_{\sigma(2)}, x_{\sigma(3)}), \dots, (x_{\sigma(k)}, x_{\sigma(1)}))$  for any  $k \in \{1, \dots, p+1\}$  and any permutation  $\sigma$  (cycles).
- We proved that  $Sym_*^{(p)}$  was  $\lfloor \frac{2}{3}(p-1) \rfloor$ -connected.

## *Multiple chessboard complex* $\Delta_{m,n}^{k_1, \dots, k_n; l_1, \dots, l_m}$

- **vertices:** squares in a chessboard which has  $n$  rows and  $m$  columns,

## *Multiple chessboard complex* $\Delta_{m,n}^{k_1, \dots, k_n; l_1, \dots, l_m}$

- **vertices:** squares in a chessboard which has  $n$  rows and  $m$  columns,
- **simplices:** having at most  $k_i$  vertices from the  $i$ -th row and at most  $l_j$  vertices from the  $j$ -th column for each  $i, j$ ,



# Multiple chessboard complex $\Delta_{m,n}^{k_1, \dots, k_n; l_1, \dots, l_m}$

- **vertices:** squares in a chessboard which has  $n$  rows and  $m$  columns,
- **simplices:** having at most  $k_i$  vertices from the  $i$ -th row and at most  $l_j$  vertices from the  $j$ -th column for each  $i, j$ ,

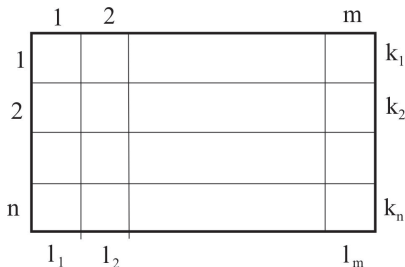


Figure:  $\Delta_{m,n}^{k_1, \dots, k_n; l_1, \dots, l_m}$

## *The important special case*

- If  $k_1 = \cdots = k_n = k$  and  $l_1 = \cdots = l_m = l$ , we denote it by  $\Delta_{m,n}^{k;l}$ .

## *The important special case*

- If  $k_1 = \cdots = k_n = k$  and  $l_1 = \cdots = l_m = l$ , we denote it by  $\Delta_{m,n}^{k;l}$ .
- First, we treated the simpler case  $\Delta_{m,n}^{k_1, \dots, k_n; 1}$  and  $\Delta_{m,n}^{k; 1}$ , i.e. the case  $l_1 = \cdots = l_m = 1$ .

## *The important special case*

- If  $k_1 = \cdots = k_n = k$  and  $l_1 = \cdots = l_m = l$ , we denote it by  $\Delta_{m,n}^{k;l}$ .
- First, we treated the simpler case  $\Delta_{m,n}^{k_1, \dots, k_n; 1}$  and  $\Delta_{m,n}^{k; 1}$ , i.e. the case  $l_1 = \cdots = l_m = 1$ .
- The first examples:

$$\Delta_{3,2}^{2;1} \approx S^1 \times D^1, \quad \Delta_{4,2}^{2,1;1} \approx S^2, \quad \Delta_{5,2}^{2;1} \approx S^3.$$

# The new examples

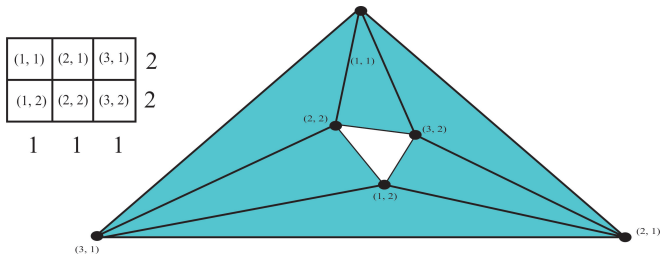


Figure:  $\Delta_{3,2}^{2,1}$  is a triangulation of cylinder

# The new examples

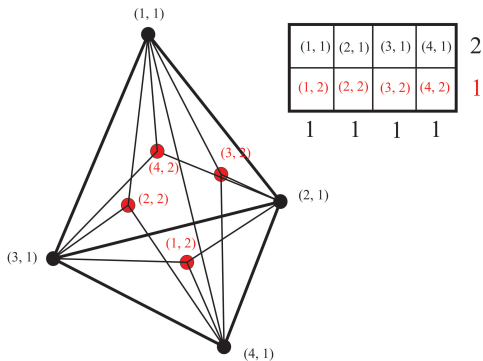


Figure:  $\Delta_{4,2}^{2,1;1} \cong \mathbb{S}^2$

# *The new examples*

$$\Delta_{5,2}^{2,1} \approx \mathbb{S}^3$$

## *The new examples*

$$\Delta_{5,2}^{2,1} \approx \mathbb{S}^3$$

- link of a vertex in  $\Delta_{5,2}^{2,1}$  is  $\Delta_{4,2}^{2,1;1} \cong \mathbb{S}^2$



## *The new examples*

$$\Delta_{5,2}^{2,1} \approx \mathbb{S}^3$$

- link of a vertex in  $\Delta_{5,2}^{2,1}$  is  $\Delta_{4,2}^{2,1;1} \cong \mathbb{S}^2$
- link of an edge in  $\Delta_{5,2}^{2,1}$  is a circle  
(old chessboard complex  $\Delta_{3,2}$  or  $\Delta_{3,1}^{2,1}$ )

## The new examples

$$\Delta_{5,2}^{2,1} \approx \mathbb{S}^3$$

- link of a vertex in  $\Delta_{5,2}^{2,1}$  is  $\Delta_{4,2}^{2,1;1} \cong \mathbb{S}^2$
- link of an edge in  $\Delta_{5,2}^{2,1}$  is a circle  
(old chessboard complex  $\Delta_{3,2}$  or  $\Delta_{3,1}^{2,1}$ )
- link of a 2-simplex in  $\Delta_{5,2}^{2,1}$  is a set of two points

## *The new examples*

$$\Delta_{5,2}^{2,1} \approx \mathbb{S}^3$$

- link of a vertex in  $\Delta_{5,2}^{2,1}$  is  $\Delta_{4,2}^{2,1;1} \cong \mathbb{S}^2$
- link of an edge in  $\Delta_{5,2}^{2,1}$  is a circle  
(old chessboard complex  $\Delta_{3,2}$  or  $\Delta_{3,1}^{2,1}$ )
- link of a 2-simplex in  $\Delta_{5,2}^{2,1}$  is a set of two points
- $\Delta_{5,2}^{2,1}$  is a 2-connected, simplicial 3-manifold.

## *The appearances*

- $\Delta_{m,n}^{k;l}$  is a "matching" complex of  $K_{m,n}$  where each red vertex is matched with at most  $k$  blue vertices, and each blue vertex is matched with at most  $l$  red vertices.

## *The appearances*

- $\Delta_{m,n}^{k;l}$  is a "matching" complex of  $K_{m,n}$  where each red vertex is matched with at most  $k$  blue vertices, and each blue vertex is matched with at most  $l$  red vertices.
- $\Delta_{m,n}^{k;l}$  is  $n$ -fold  $(l+1)$ -deleted join of the  $(k-1)$ -skeleton of the  $(m-1)$ -simplex or  $n$ -fold  $(l+1)$ -deleted join of  $m$ -fold  $(k+1)$ -deleted join of a point.

## The appearances

- $\Delta_{m,n}^{k;l}$  is a "matching" complex of  $K_{m,n}$  where each red vertex is matched with at most  $k$  blue vertices, and each blue vertex is matched with at most  $l$  red vertices.
- $\Delta_{m,n}^{k;l}$  is  $n$ -fold  $(l+1)$ -deleted join of the  $(k-1)$ -skeleton of the  $(m-1)$ -simplex or  $n$ -fold  $(l+1)$ -deleted join of  $m$ -fold  $(k+1)$ -deleted join of a point.

- $$\Delta_{m,n}^{k;l} = ((\sigma^{m-1})^{(k-1)})_{\Delta(l+1)}^{*n} = ([1]_{\Delta(k+1)}^{*m})_{\Delta(l+1)}^{*n}$$

## The appearances

- $\Delta_{m,n}^{k;l}$  is a "matching" complex of  $K_{m,n}$  where each red vertex is matched with at most  $k$  blue vertices, and each blue vertex is matched with at most  $l$  red vertices.
- $\Delta_{m,n}^{k;l}$  is  $n$ -fold  $(l+1)$ -deleted join of the  $(k-1)$ -skeleton of the  $(m-1)$ -simplex or  $n$ -fold  $(l+1)$ -deleted join of  $m$ -fold  $(k+1)$ -deleted join of a point.

- $$\Delta_{m,n}^{k;l} = ((\sigma^{m-1})^{(k-1)})_{\Delta(l+1)}^{*n} = ([1]_{\Delta(k+1)}^{*m})_{\Delta(l+1)}^{*n}$$

- Establishing the topological properties of these complexes was our main motivation.

## *Topological properties*

- **Theorem.** (D. Jojić, S. V., R. Živaljević, 2018) If  $k_1 + \cdots + k_n \leq l_1 + \cdots + l_m - n + 1$ , the multiple chessboard complex  $\Delta_{m,n}^{k_1, \dots, k_n; l_1, \dots, l_m}$  is  $(k_1 + \cdots + k_n - 2)$ -connected.



## Topological properties

- **Theorem.** (D. Jojić, S. V., R. Živaljević, 2018) If  $k_1 + \cdots + k_n \leq l_1 + \cdots + l_m - n + 1$ , the multiple chessboard complex  $\Delta_{m,n}^{k_1, \dots, k_n; l_1, \dots, l_m}$  is  $(k_1 + \cdots + k_n - 2)$ -connected.
- **Corollary.** By replacing rows and columns, we see that if  $l_1 + \cdots + l_m \leq k_1 + \cdots + k_n - m + 1$ , the same complex is  $(l_1 + \cdots + l_m - 2)$ -connected. If  $k_1 = \cdots = k_n = k$  and  $l_1 = \cdots = l_m = l$ , we obtain the chessboard complex  $\Delta_{m,n}^{k;l}$ , and it follows that this complex is  $(kn - 2)$ -connected if  $kn \leq lm - n + 1$ , and it is  $(lm - 2)$ -connected if  $lm \leq kn - m + 1$ .

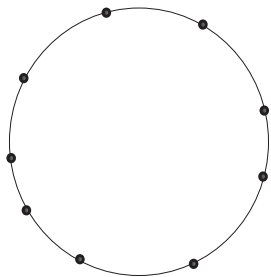
## *The applications - Van Kampen*

- We could consider topological Tverberg theorem and require the dimensions of faces of a simplex whose images intersect to be prescribed.

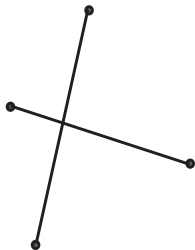
## *The applications - Van Kampen*

- We could consider topological Tverberg theorem and require the dimensions of faces of a simplex whose images intersect to be prescribed.
- Van Kampen-Flores theorem is an example of the result of this type, saying that for each continuous map  $f : \Delta_N \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{2d}$ , where  $N = 2d + 2$  and  $\Delta_N$  is an  $N$ -dimensional simplex, there exist two disjoint faces  $\sigma_1$  and  $\sigma_2$  of  $\Delta_N$  such that  $\dim(\sigma_i) \leq d$  and  $f(\sigma_1) \cap f(\sigma_2) \neq \emptyset$ .

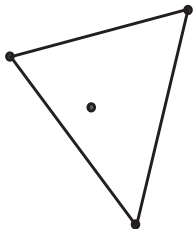
## Radon's theorem



(a)



(b)



(c)

*Figure:* In the planar case of Radon's theorem the  $(1, 1)$ -partitions are persistent, while  $(2, 0)$  are not.

## *The applications - Van Kampen*

- P. Blagojević, F. Frick and G. Ziegler raised a conjecture that, under some hypothesis, there are  $r$  disjoint faces of a simplex whose dimensions are two consecutive integers and whose images intersect.

## The applications - Van Kampen

- P. Blagojević, F. Frick and G. Ziegler raised a conjecture that, under some hypothesis, there are  $r$  disjoint faces of a simplex whose dimensions are two consecutive integers and whose images intersect.
- **Theorem.** (D. Jojić, S. V., R. Živaljević, 2017) Let  $r \geq 2$  be a prime power,  $d \geq 1$ ,  $N \geq (r - 1)(d + 2)$ , and  $rk + s \geq (r - 1)d$  for integers  $k \geq 0$  and  $0 \leq s < r$ . Then for every continuous map  $f : \Delta_N \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$ , there are  $r$  pairwise disjoint faces  $\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_r$  of  $\Delta_N$  such that  $f(\sigma_1) \cap \dots \cap f(\sigma_r) \neq \emptyset$ , with  $\dim \sigma_i \leq k + 1$  for  $1 \leq i \leq s$  and  $\dim \sigma_i \leq k$  for  $s < i \leq r$ .

## *Symmetrized multiple chessboard complex*

- The configuration space is a multiple chessboard complex  $\Delta_{N+1,r}^{k+2,\dots,k+2,k+1,\dots,k+1;1}$ , and is highly connected.

## *Symmetrized multiple chessboard complex*

- The configuration space is a multiple chessboard complex  $\Delta_{N+1,r}^{k+2,\dots,k+2,k+1,\dots,k+1;1}$ , and is highly connected.
- In order to have a group action of permuting the rows, we have to deal with a symmetrized multiple chessboard complexes

$$\Sigma_{N+1,r}^{k_1,\dots,k_r;1} = S_r \cdot \Delta_{N+1,r}^{k_1,\dots,k_r;1} = \bigcup_{\sigma \in S_r} \Delta_{N+1,r}^{k_{\sigma(1)},\dots,k_{\sigma(r)};1},$$

where  $k_1, \dots, k_r = k + 2, \dots, k + 2, k + 1, \dots, k + 1$ .



# *Symmetrized multiple chessboard complex*

- If  $r = p^\alpha$  is a prime power, there is a fixed point free action of the group  $(\mathbb{Z}/p)^\alpha$  on the complex  $\Sigma_{m,r}^{k_1, \dots, k_r; 1}$ .

# *Symmetrized multiple chessboard complex*

- If  $r = p^\alpha$  is a prime power, there is a fixed point free action of the group  $(\mathbb{Z}/p)^\alpha$  on the complex  $\Sigma_{m,r}^{k_1, \dots, k_r; 1}$ .
- If such  $r$  faces does not exist, we obtain equivariant mapping of this complex to the representation sphere of appropriate dimension.

## Consequences

- (1) Implies positive answer to the 'balanced case' of the problem whether each *admissible*  $r$ -tuple is *Tverberg prescribable*,

## Consequences

- (1) Implies positive answer to the 'balanced case' of the problem whether each *admissible*  $r$ -tuple is *Tverberg prescribable*,
- (2) The classical van Kampen-Flores theorem is obtained if  $d$  is even,  $r = 2$ ,  $s = 0$ , and  $k = \frac{d}{2}$ ;

## Consequences

- (1) Implies positive answer to the 'balanced case' of the problem whether each *admissible*  $r$ -tuple is *Tverberg prescribable*,
- (2) The classical van Kampen-Flores theorem is obtained if  $d$  is even,  $r = 2$ ,  $s = 0$ , and  $k = \frac{d}{2}$ ;
- (3) The sharpened van Kampen-Flores theorem corresponds to the case when  $d$  is odd,  $r = 2$ ,  $s = 1$ , and  $k = \lfloor \frac{d}{2} \rfloor$ ;

## Consequences

- (1) Implies positive answer to the 'balanced case' of the problem whether each *admissible*  $r$ -tuple is *Tverberg prescribable*,
- (2) The classical van Kampen-Flores theorem is obtained if  $d$  is even,  $r = 2$ ,  $s = 0$ , and  $k = \frac{d}{2}$ ;
- (3) The sharpened van Kampen-Flores theorem corresponds to the case when  $d$  is odd,  $r = 2$ ,  $s = 1$ , and  $k = \lfloor \frac{d}{2} \rfloor$ ;
- (4) The case  $d = 3$  of the 'sharpened van Kampen-Flores theorem' is equivalent to the Conway-Gordon-Sachs theorem which says that the complete graph  $K_6$  on 6 vertices is 'intrinsically linked';

## Consequences

- (1) Implies positive answer to the 'balanced case' of the problem whether each *admissible*  $r$ -tuple is *Tverberg prescribable*,
- (2) The classical van Kampen-Flores theorem is obtained if  $d$  is even,  $r = 2$ ,  $s = 0$ , and  $k = \frac{d}{2}$ ;
- (3) The sharpened van Kampen-Flores theorem corresponds to the case when  $d$  is odd,  $r = 2$ ,  $s = 1$ , and  $k = \lfloor \frac{d}{2} \rfloor$ ;
- (4) The case  $d = 3$  of the 'sharpened van Kampen-Flores theorem' is equivalent to the Conway-Gordon-Sachs theorem which says that the complete graph  $K_6$  on 6 vertices is 'intrinsically linked';
- (5) The generalized van Kampen-Flores theorem which improves upon earlier results of Sarkaria and Volovikov, follows for  $s = 0$  and  $k = \lceil \frac{r-1}{r} d \rceil$ .

## *The applications - Van Kampen*

- We could also provide a new proof for a generalization treating  $j$ -wise disjoint faces.



## *The applications - Van Kampen*

- We could also provide a new proof for a generalization treating  $j$ -wise disjoint faces.
- **Theorem.** Let  $r$  be a prime power, and let  $(k + 1)r + r - 1 \leq (N + 1)(j - 1)$  and  $(r - 1)(d + 1) + 1 \leq r(k + 1)$ . Then for every continuous mapping from  $\Delta^N$  to  $\mathbb{R}^d$  there are  $r$   $j$ -wise disjoint faces of the simplex  $\Delta^N$  of dimension at most  $k$  whose images have nonempty intersection.

## *The applications - colored Tverberg*

- We could prove a colored Tverberg type theorem, allowing more than 1 vertex of the same color in each face, and we consider  $j$ -wise disjoint faces.

## *The applications - colored Tverberg*

- We could prove a colored Tverberg type theorem, allowing more than 1 vertex of the same color in each face, and we consider  $j$ -wise disjoint faces.
- **Theorem.** (D. Jojić, S. V., R. Živaljević, 2018) Let  $r$  be a prime power. Given  $k$  finite sets of points in  $\mathbb{R}^d$  (called colors), of  $m$  points each, so that  $pr \leq m(j-1) - r + 1$  and  $(r-1)(d+1) + 1 \leq prk$ , it is possible to divide the points in  $r$   $j$ -wise disjoint sets containing at most  $p$  points of each color, so that their convex hulls intersect.

## *The applications - colored Tverberg*

- **Theorem.** (D. Jojić, S. V., R. Živaljević, 2018) Let  $r$  be a prime power. Given  $k$  finite sets of points in  $\mathbb{R}^d$  (called colors), of  $m$  points each, so that  $jm - 1 \leq pr$  and  $(r - 1)(d + 1) + 1 \leq (j - 1)mk$ , it is possible to divide the points in  $r$   $j$ -wise disjoint sets containing at most  $p$  points of each color, so that their convex hulls intersect.

## *The applications - colored Tverberg*

- **Theorem.** (D. Jojić, S. V., R. Živaljević, 2018) Let  $r$  be a prime power. Given  $k$  finite sets of points in  $\mathbb{R}^d$  (called colors), of  $m$  points each, so that  $jm - 1 \leq pr$  and  $(r - 1)(d + 1) + 1 \leq (j - 1)mk$ , it is possible to divide the points in  $r$   $j$ -wise disjoint sets containing at most  $p$  points of each color, so that their convex hulls intersect.
- Let us consider the very special case  $p = 1$  and  $j = 2$ .

## *The applications - colored Tverberg*

- **Theorem.** Let  $r$  be a prime power. Given  $k$  finite sets of points in  $\mathbb{R}^d$  (called colors), of  $m$  points each, so that  $2m - 1 \leq r$  and  $(r - 1)(d + 1) + 1 \leq mk$ , it is possible to divide the points in  $r$  pairwise disjoint sets containing at most 1 point of each color, so that their convex hulls intersect.

## *The applications - colored Tverberg*

- **Theorem.** Let  $r$  be a prime power. Given  $k$  finite sets of points in  $\mathbb{R}^d$  (called colors), of  $m$  points each, so that  $2m - 1 \leq r$  and  $(r - 1)(d + 1) + 1 \leq mk$ , it is possible to divide the points in  $r$  pairwise disjoint sets containing at most 1 point of each color, so that their convex hulls intersect.
- It is easy to see that the assumptions on the total number of points is the best possible, since the set of  $(r - 1)(d + 1)$  points in the general position could not be divided in  $r$  disjoint sets whose convex hulls intersect.

## References

A. Björner, L. Lovász, S. Vrećica, R. Živaljević. Chessboard complexes and matching complexes. *J. London Math. Soc.* 49 (2), 1994, 25–39.

P. Blagojević, F. Frick, G. Ziegler. Tverberg plus constraints. *Bull. London Math. Soc.* 46 (2014), 953–967.

P. Blagojević, B. Matschke, G. Ziegler. Optimal bounds for the colored Tverberg problem. *J. European Math. Soc.* 17, 4, 2015, 739–754.



## References

D. Jojić, S. Vrećica, R. Živaljević. Multiple chessboard complexes and the colored Tverberg problem. *Journal of Combinatorial Theory, Series A* 145, 2017, 400–425.

D. Jojić, S. Vrećica, R. Živaljević. Symmetric multiple chessboard complexes and a new theorem of Tverberg type. *Journal of Algebraic Combinatorics* 46, no. 1, 2017, 15–31.

S. Vrećica, R. Živaljević, New cases of the Colored Tverberg theorem, u H. Barcello, G. Kalai (eds.), *Jerusalem Combinatorics, Contemporary Math.* 178, AMS, 1994, 325–334.

## References

S. Vrećica, R. Živaljević, Cycle-free chessboard complexes and symmetric homology of algebras, *European J. Combinatorics* 30, 2009, 542–554.

S. Vrećica, R. Živaljević, Chessboard complexes indomitable, *J. Combin. Theory Ser. A* 118 (7), 2011, 2157–2166.

R. Živaljević, S. Vrećica, An extension of the ham-sandwich theorem, *Bull. London Math. Soc.* 22, 1990, 183–186.

R. Živaljević, S. Vrećica, The colored Tverberg's problem and complexes of injective functions, *J. Combin. Theory Ser. A* 61, 2, 1992, 309–318.

**THANK YOU  
FOR YOUR  
ATTENTION!**