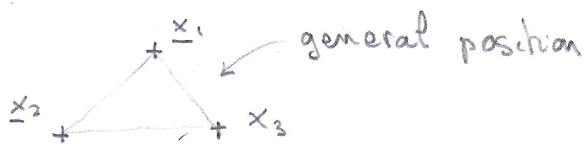
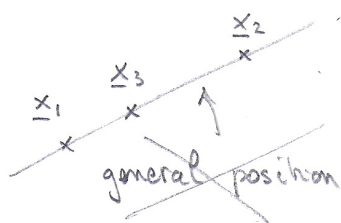


# Perception capacity

①

capacity: Fraction of true/false assignments that are linearly separable given a data configuration in general position.

reminder: A configuration  $(x_1, \dots, x_p) \in \mathbb{R}^N$  is in general position if there is no subset  $J \subset \{1, \dots, p\}$ ,  $|J| \leq N+1$  such that  $\{x_p\}_{p \in J}$  is linearly dependent.



sufficient condition: no hyperplane contains more than  $N$  points

## Cover's Function counting Theorem

If  $(x_1, \dots, x_p)$  is in general position, the number of linearly separable patterns (ie, the number of realizable dichotomies) is

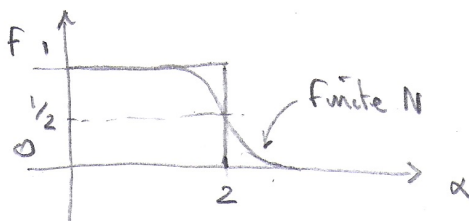
$$C(p, N) = 2 \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} \binom{p-1}{k} \text{ where } \binom{n}{m} = \frac{n!}{m!(n-m)!}$$

Capacity: \*  $p \leq N$ :  $f(p, N) = 2 \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{p-1}{k} / 2^p = 2^p / 2^p = 1$

\*  $p = 2N$ :  $f(2N, N) = 2 \sum_{k=0}^{2N-1} \binom{2N-1}{k} / 2^{2N} = 2 \cdot \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{2^{2N-1}}{2^N} = \frac{1}{2}$

\*  $p \gg N$ :  $f(p, N) = A p^N / 2^p$  for some  $A > 0$

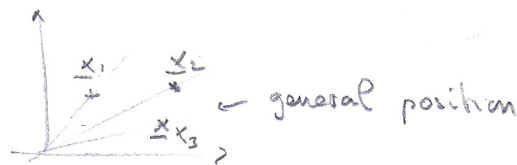
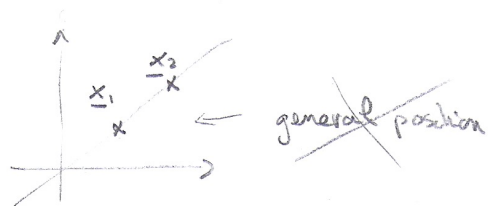
if  $\alpha = \frac{p}{N} = \text{constant}$ ,  $N \rightarrow +\infty$ :



Setting: homogeneous threshold linear function ( $\theta=0$ )

(2)

↳ general position:  $\text{rank} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} x_p \end{bmatrix}_{p \in J, |J|=k} \right\} = \min(k, N)$   
for all  $J \subset \{1, \dots, P\}$ .



Proof: idea → recurrence on the number of points  $P$ .

- \* Suppose  $P, N \in \mathbb{N}^*$  and denote  $C(P-1, N)$  the number of achievable dichotomies. Denote by  $\underline{w}_i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq C(P-1, N)$ , the weight vector implementing the  $i$ -th dichotomy with labels:  $y_{ip} = \text{sgn}(\underline{w}_i^T \cdot x_p)$  for all  $p \in \{1, \dots, P-1\}$
- \* Consider a new point  $x_P$  such that the configuration remains in general position. Then  $\underline{w}_i$  still defines a partition of the  $P$  points, that one which assigns labels  $\{y_{1i}; \dots; y_{(P-1)i}; \text{sgn}(\underline{w}_i^T \cdot x_P)\}$ . Thus,  $C(P, N) = C(P-1, N) + D$  where  $D$  is some possibly configuration-dependent non negative integer.

- \* The integer  $D$  actually counts the dichotomies over the  $(P-1)$  points  $p=1, \dots, P-1$  for which the  $P$ -th point can be labelled true or false. This corresponds to configurations for which there is an hyperplane going through the  $P$ -th point and realizing the old dichotomy over  $(P-1)$  points: if there is such an hyperplane, a slight change of angle categorizes the  $P$ -th point as true or false; if there is no such hyperplane

The  $P$ -th point always lies on the same side of an hyperplane realizing the old dichotomy over  $P-1$  points

\* Thus  $D$  is the number of dichotomies that can be realized among  $P$  points by an hyperplane going through one of the points. That point can be assumed to lie on one of the axis of  $R_n$ . The problem is then reduced to finding the number of dichotomies for the remaining  $(P-1)$  points projected onto the  $(N-1)$  other axes, i.e.  $C(P-1, N-1)$ , as the points remain in general position once projected.

conclusion:  $C(P, N) = C(P-1, N) + C(P-1, N-1)$

Iterating over  $P$ , we get  $C(P, N) = \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} \binom{P-1}{k} C(1, N-k)$

Observing that there are only two possible labellings of a single point,  $C(1, n) = 2, n \geq 1$ , which yields the result.

	P=1	P=2	P=3	P=4	P=5
N=1	2	2	2	2	2
N=2	2	4	6	8	10
N=3	2	4	8	14	22
N=4	2	4	8	16	30

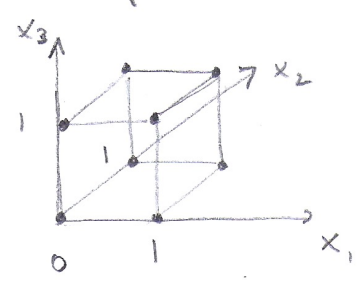
The above proof naturally generalizes to separating hypersurfaces obtained via high-dimensional embedding

$$\phi: \mathbb{X} \rightarrow (\phi_1(x), \phi_2(x), \dots, \phi_d(x)), \quad d \geq N.$$

This requires introducing the right notion of general position (see Cover)

# Capacity for "special" configurations

Example of non-generic configurations.



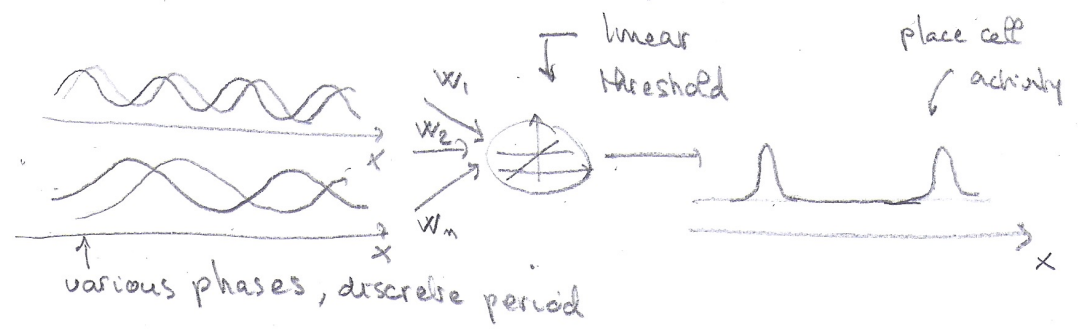
→ hypercube: set of boolean functions

$$f: \{0,1\}^k \rightarrow \{0,1\}$$

→ linear separability of boolean functions  
NP-hard problem.

## Motivation: Place cells / Grid cells

Grid cell input  
"structured"



What is the capacity of place cells activity, as modeled by perception?

Discrete model of grid input:  $M$  modules of periods  $\lambda_i, 1 \leq i \leq M$   
each with  $M$  grid cells

Ex: 2 modules:  $\lambda_1 = 2, \lambda_2 = 3$

activity matrix

1	0	1	0	1	0
0	1	0	1	0	1
1	0	0	1	0	0
0	1	0	0	1	0
0	0	1	0	0	1

position  $x$

if the  $\lambda_i$ 's are pairwise coprime  
there are  $\prod_{i=1}^M \lambda_i$  unambiguously  
encoded position (Chinese remainder  
Theorem).

Single position encoding

↳ The capacity of the grid cell encoding for single position readout can be measured via  $L = \prod_{i=1}^M \lambda_i$ , the total number of encoded position

↳ How optimal is it? Not much: it requires  $\sum_{i=1}^M \lambda_i$  cells.

A binary encoding strategy with  $\sum_{i=1}^M \lambda_i$  cells would yield  $2^{\sum_{i=1}^M \lambda_i}$  positions.

Hypothesis: the grid code allows for encoding of combination of positions.

$x_1$	$x_2$	$x_3$	$x_4$	$x_5$	$x_6$	$x_7$	$x_8$
0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1
0	0	1	1	0	0	1	1
0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1

binary

sparsity  
 $\longleftrightarrow$   
 hierarchy

$x_1$	$x_2$	$x_3$	$x_4$	$x_5$	$x_6$
1	0	1	0	1	0
0	1	0	1	0	1
1	0	0	1	0	0
0	1	0	0	1	0
0	0	1	0	0	1

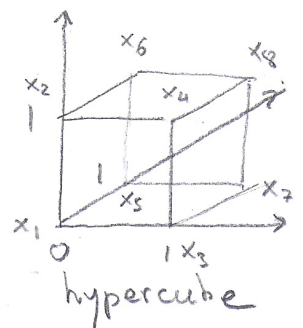
coprime

sparsity  
 $\longleftrightarrow$   
 hierarchy

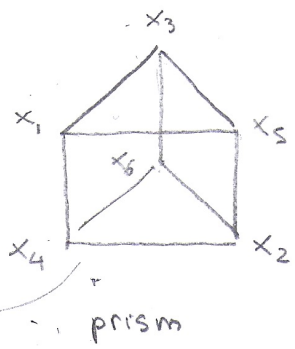
$x_1$	$x_2$	$x_3$	$x_4$
1	0	0	0
0	1	0	0
0	0	1	0
0	0	0	1

naive

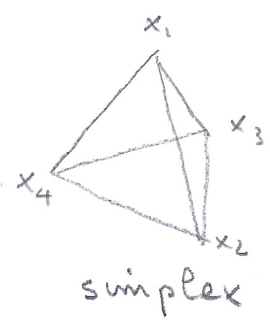
Different coding strategies



hypercube



prism  
 = product of simplices



simplex

$x_1, x_2$  not linearly separable

Different geometries

clear by -  
 permutation  
 invariance

Simplicial geometry: every combination of positions is linearly separable for defining a facet.

↳ Not true for coprime / grid code geometry

## Simplicial decomposition

The convex hull generated by the columns of the activity matrix  $A_{\underline{\lambda}}$ ,  $\underline{\lambda} = \{\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n\}$ ,  $\gcd(\lambda_i, \lambda_j) = 1$ ,  $i \neq j$ , defines  $d$ -dimensional polytope  $H_{\underline{\lambda}}$  with  $d = \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i - n$ . Moreover

$$H_{\underline{\lambda}} = \Delta^{\lambda_1} \times \dots \times \Delta^{\lambda_n}, \text{ where } \Delta^{\lambda_i} \text{ denotes the } (\lambda_i - 1)\text{-simplex}$$

Proof: By the Chinese remainder theorem, the columns of  $A_{\underline{\lambda}}$  have the following product structure:

$$C_{\underline{\lambda}} = \left\{ \underline{c} = (\underline{c}', \underline{e}_i) \mid c' \in C_{\underline{\lambda}'}, 0 \leq i < \lambda_n \right\}$$

$\uparrow$  components corresponding to the  $n$ -th module  
 $\uparrow$  components corresponding to modules  $1 \leq i \leq n-1$ .

Indeed,  $C_{\underline{\lambda}}$  comprises all the vectors that have a single one in each module  $\underline{c} = (\underline{e}_1 \mid \underline{e}_2 \mid \dots \mid \underline{e}_n)$

$$H_{\underline{\lambda}} = \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^{\lambda_n} \sum_{j=1}^{L/\lambda_n} \alpha_{ij} (\underline{c}_{ij} \mid \underline{e}_i) \mid \sum_{i=1}^{\lambda_n} \sum_{j=1}^{L/\lambda_n} \alpha_{ij} = 1 \right\}$$

vector with 0 components except in  $i$ th of length  $\lambda_n$ .

$$= \left\{ \left( \left( \sum_{j=1}^{L/\lambda_n} \left( \sum_{i=1}^{\lambda_n} \alpha_{ij} \right) \underline{c}_{j-} \right), \sum_{i=1}^{\lambda_n} \left( \sum_{j=1}^{L/\lambda_n} \alpha_{ij} \right) \underline{e}_i \right) \mid \sum_{i=1}^{\lambda_n} \sum_{j=1}^{L/\lambda_n} \alpha_{ij} = 1 \right\}$$

$$= \left\{ \left( \sum_{j=1}^{L/\lambda_n} \beta_j \underline{c}_j, \sum_{i=1}^{\lambda_n} \gamma_i \underline{e}_i \right) \mid \sum_{j=1}^{\lambda_n} \beta_j = 1, \sum_{i=1}^{L/\lambda_n} \gamma_i = 1 \right\}$$

$$= \left\{ (\underline{c}', \underline{\delta}) \mid c' \in H_{\underline{\lambda}'}, \delta \in \Delta^{\lambda_n} \right\} = H_{\underline{\lambda}'} \times \Delta^{\lambda_n}$$

Result follows by iterating.