## Orientations of Simplices Determined by Orderings on the Coordinates of their Vertices

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## Motivation

Study of the 3D shape of anatomical structures.


Applications:
Anatomy, anthropology, paleontology, medicine

## Motivation

- The expert defines 3D landmark points based on anatomical knowledge


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- We encode the shape of the anatomical structure with the orientation of all quadruplets of points.


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- We encode the shape of the anatomical structure with the orientation of all quadruplets of points.
$\Longrightarrow$ combinatorial study of 3D anatomical structures


## The problem

But for an anatomical structure, we can define ordering relations between the coordinates of the points;


View from the front

## The problem

But for an anatomical structure, we can define ordering relations between the coordinates of the points;


View from the front


View from the right

## The problem

But for an anatomical structure, we can define ordering relations between the coordinates of the points; Some points are to the left of others


View from the front


View from the right

## The problem

But for an anatomical structure, we can define ordering relations between the coordinates of the points;
Some points are on top of others


View from the front


View from the right

## The problem

But for an anatomical structure, we can define ordering relations between the coordinates of the points; Some points are in front of others


View from the front


View from the right

## The problem

Landmark point positions change due to morphological variability or differences...


Skull 1


Skull k

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but they still respect the orderings.

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## Question

Can we determine quadruplets of points whose orientation depend only on the orderings (i.e. independently of the coordinate values)?

## Orientation of a simplex

## Definition

The orientation of a simplex $(\in\{+,-, 0\})$ :

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The orientation of a simplex $(\in\{+,-, 0\})$ : Triplet $(A, B, C)$ :




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$+$
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## Orientation of the triplet $(B, C, D)$

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The orientation of a simplex $(\in\{+,-, 0\})$ :

Orientations of simplices $=$ chirotopes of an oriented matroid

## Formalism

## Notations

- M: a formal matrix

$$
M=\left(\begin{array}{cccc}
1 & 1 & \ldots & 1 \\
x_{1,1} & x_{2,1} & \ldots & x_{n, 1} \\
x_{1,2} & x_{2,2} & \ldots & x_{n, 2} \\
\vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\
x_{1, n-1} & x_{2, n-1} & \ldots & x_{n, n-1}
\end{array}\right)
$$

where $x_{j, i}$ is a formal variable

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- M: a formal matrix
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- M: a formal matrix
- $\mathcal{P}$ : a set of $n$ points $P_{j}$ in a space of dimension $n-1$
- Assigns $M$ with $P_{j, i}$ ( $i$-th coordinate of the point $P_{j}$ )

$$
M_{\mathcal{P}}=\left(\begin{array}{cccc}
1 & 1 & \ldots & 1 \\
P_{1,1} & P_{2,1} & \ldots & P_{n, 1} \\
P_{1,2} & P_{2,2} & \ldots & P_{n, 2} \\
\vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\
P_{1, n-1} & P_{2, n-1} & \ldots & P_{n, n-1}
\end{array}\right)
$$

Orientation of $\mathcal{P}=\operatorname{sign}$ of $\operatorname{det}\left(M_{\mathcal{P}}\right)$

## Formalism

## Notations

- M: a formal matrix
- $\mathcal{P}$ : a set of $n$ points $P_{j}$ in a space of dimension $n-1$
- the real matrix $M_{\mathcal{P}}$

Orientation of $\mathcal{P}=\operatorname{sign}$ of $\operatorname{det}\left(M_{\mathcal{P}}\right)$

## Remark

Orientation of $\mathcal{P}=0 \Longleftrightarrow \mathcal{P}$ is contained in an hyperplane

## Configuration of orderings

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Example: a configuration $\mathcal{C}$ of 3 orderings in $\{A, B, C, D\}$

$$
\begin{gathered}
A<_{x} B<_{x} C<_{x} D \\
B<_{y} D<_{y} C \text { and } B<_{y} A<_{y} C \\
D<_{z} A
\end{gathered}
$$

## P satisfies $\mathcal{C}$

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## Definition

A set of points $\mathcal{P}$ satisfies $\mathcal{C}$ if
$\forall i \in\{1, \ldots, n-1\}, \forall e, f \in \mathcal{E}, \quad e<_{i} f \Longrightarrow x_{e, i}<x_{f, i}$

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$\mathcal{P}=\left\{P_{1}(0,4,3) ; P_{2}(2,2,3) ; P_{3}(3,5,0) ; P_{4}(5,3,1)\right\}$ satisfies $\mathcal{C}:$

$$
\begin{gathered}
x\left(P_{1}\right)<x\left(P_{2}\right)<x\left(P_{3}\right)<x\left(P_{4}\right) \\
y\left(P_{2}\right)<y\left(P_{4}\right)<y\left(P_{3}\right) \text { and } y\left(P_{2}\right)<y\left(P_{1}\right)<y\left(P_{3}\right) \\
z\left(P_{4}\right)<z\left(P_{1}\right)
\end{gathered}
$$

## Fixed configuration

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## Examples in 2D:

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non-fixed configuration

## Equivalence

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Two configurations of $n-1$ orderings are equivalent if they are equal up to a relabelling of $\mathcal{E}$, a permutation of orderings, and reversion(s) of orderings.

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$$
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a relabelling of $\mathcal{E}$
$B<_{x} A<_{x} C$
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## Example in 2D:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& A<_{x} B<_{x} C \\
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$$

a reversion of an ordering
$A<_{x} B<_{x} C$
$A<y C<y B$



## Sign of $\operatorname{det}(M): \sigma_{\mathcal{C}}(\operatorname{det}(M))$

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$\Longrightarrow \sigma_{\mathcal{C}}(\operatorname{det}(M)) \in\{\square+, \square\}$.
- if $\mathcal{C}$ is non-fixed: there exist $\mathcal{P}_{1}$ and $\mathcal{P}_{2}$ satisfying $\mathcal{C}$ such that $\operatorname{det}\left(M_{\mathcal{P}_{1}}\right)<0$ and $\operatorname{det}\left(M_{\mathcal{P}_{2}}\right)>0$.


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- if $\mathcal{C}$ is non-fixed: there exist $\mathcal{P}_{1}$ and $\mathcal{P}_{2}$ satisfying $\mathcal{C}$ such that $\operatorname{det}\left(M_{\mathcal{P}_{1}}\right)<0$ and $\operatorname{det}\left(M_{\mathcal{P}_{2}}\right)>0$. $\Longrightarrow \sigma_{\mathcal{C}}(\operatorname{det}(M))= \pm$.


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## Question (reminder)

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Determine the fixity of the configurations (determine if they are fixed or non-fixed).

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## The problem (rewording)

Determine the fixity of the configurations (determine if they are fixed or non-fixed).

## The problem (rewording 2)

Does there exist $\mathcal{P}$ satisfying $\mathcal{C}$ such that $\operatorname{det}\left(M_{\mathcal{P}}\right)=0$ ?

## Linear extensions

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## Example:

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A<_{x} B<_{x} C<_{x} D \\
B<_{y} D<_{y} C \underset{k_{z}}{\text { and }} B<_{y} A<_{y} C
\end{gathered}
$$

a linear extension of $\mathcal{C}$

$$
\begin{aligned}
& A<_{x} B<_{x} C<_{x} D \\
& B<_{y} D<_{y} A<_{y} C \\
& D<_{z} A<_{z} C<_{z} B
\end{aligned}
$$

## Linear extensions

## Proposition 1

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$\mathcal{C}$ is non-fixed $\Longleftrightarrow \exists$ a non-fixed linear extension of $\mathcal{C}$.

## Proposition 1 (rewording)

$\mathcal{C}$ is fixed $\Longleftrightarrow$ all linear extension of $\mathcal{C}$ are fixed.
$\Longrightarrow$ We will concentrate only on linear configurations.

## Computing $\sigma_{\mathcal{C}}(\operatorname{det}(M))$

## Definition

When $\operatorname{det}(M)$ can be written as

$$
" \operatorname{det}(M)=\sum \prod\left(x_{e, i}-x_{f, i}\right) "
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it is called an expression of $\operatorname{det}(M)$

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## Example:

$$
\operatorname{det}(M)=\operatorname{det}\left(\begin{array}{ccc}
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x_{A} & x_{B} & x_{C} \\
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\end{array}\right) \\
& =\operatorname{det}\left(\begin{array}{ccc}
1 & 0 & 0 \\
x_{A} & x_{B}-x_{A} & x_{C}-y_{A} \\
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\end{array}\right) \\
& =\left(x_{B}-x_{A}\right)\left(y_{C}-y_{A}\right)-\left(y_{B}-y_{A}\right)\left(x_{C}-x_{A}\right)
\end{aligned}
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## Definition

The sign $x_{e, i}-x_{f, i}$ w.r.t. $\mathcal{C}$, denoted $\sigma_{\mathcal{C}}\left(x_{e, i}-x_{f, i}\right)$, belongs to $\{\boxed{+}, \boxed{-}\}$ such that:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \sigma_{\mathcal{C}}\left(x_{e, i}-x_{f, i}\right)=\square \text { if } f<_{i} e \text { in } \mathcal{C} ; \\
& \sigma_{\mathcal{C}}\left(x_{e, i}-x_{f, i}\right)=- \text { if } e<_{i} f \text { in } \mathcal{C} .
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\end{aligned}
$$

## Definition

The sign of an expression of $\operatorname{det}(M)$ w.r.t. $\mathcal{C}$ is

- $\square$ or $\square-$ if it can be calculated
- ? if not


## Computing $\sigma_{\mathcal{C}}(\operatorname{det}(M))$

## Observation 1

If $\operatorname{det}(M)$ has such an expression whose sign is $\square+$ or $\boxed{-}$, then $\mathcal{C}$ is fixed.

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B<_{y} A<_{y} C \\
\operatorname{det}(M)=\left(x_{B}-x_{A}\right)\left(y_{C}-y_{A}\right)-\left(y_{B}-y_{A}\right)\left(x_{C}-x_{A}\right) \\
+\square+\square
\end{gathered}=
$$

## Computing $\sigma_{\mathcal{C}}(\operatorname{det}(M))$

## Observation 1

If $\operatorname{det}(M)$ has such an expression whose sign is $\square+$ or $\boxed{-}$, then $\mathcal{C}$ is fixed.

## Example:

$$
\begin{gathered}
A<_{x} B<_{x} C \\
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\boxed{+}=\square+\square
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$$

$\Longrightarrow \mathcal{C}$ is fixed

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## Example (2):

## Computing $\sigma_{\mathcal{C}}(\operatorname{det}(M))$

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## Example (2):

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\begin{gathered}
A<_{x} B<_{x} C \\
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\operatorname{det}\left(M_{\mathcal{P}}\right)=\left(x_{B}-x_{A}\right)\left(y_{C}-y_{A}\right)-\left(y_{B}-y_{A}\right)\left(x_{C}-x_{A}\right)
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$$

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& C<y B<y A \\
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& \begin{array}{cccc}
\hline+ & \boxed{+} & \boxed{-} & \boxed{-} \\
& + & - & + \\
& & &
\end{array}
\end{aligned}
$$

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\boxed{+}+\square \square+\square
\end{gathered}
$$

we can not directly conclude

## Key theorem / conjecture 1

## Observation 1

If $\operatorname{det}(M)$ has such an expression whose sign is $\square+$ or $\boxed{-}$, then $\mathcal{C}$ is fixed.

## Theorem / Conjecture 1

$\mathcal{C}$ is fixed if and only if $\operatorname{det}(M)$ has an expression whose sign is or - .

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$\mathcal{C}$ is fixed if and only if $\operatorname{det}(M)$ has an expression whose sign is + or - .
proved in dimension 2 and 3 ( $n=3$ and 4 )
conjecture in higher dimensions

## Characterization in dimension 2

## Theorems 1 and 2

Up to equivalence, there are exactly two configurations of 2 orderings

$$
\begin{aligned}
& A<_{x} B<_{x} C \\
& A<_{y} C<_{y} B
\end{aligned}
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## Characterization of the fixed configurations in 3D

## Theorem 3: fixed configurations

The following are equivalent:

- $\mathcal{C}$ is fixed
- the sign of an expression of $(\operatorname{det}(M)) \in\{\boxed{+}, \boxed{-}\}$
- (1) up to equivalence, $\mathcal{C}$ satisfies

$$
\begin{aligned}
& B<_{x} C<_{x} A \\
& C<_{y} A<_{y} B \\
& A<_{z} B<_{z} C
\end{aligned}
$$

and
(2) $\exists X \in\{A, B, C\}$ such that we have either

- $X<D$ in all the orderings
or
- $X>D$ in all the orderings


## Fixed configurations in 3D

Up to equivalence, there are exactly 4 fixed configurations:

$$
\begin{array}{ll}
B<_{x} C<_{x} A<_{x} D & B<_{x} C<_{x} D<_{x} A \\
C<_{y} A<_{y} B<_{y} D & C<_{y} A<_{y} B<_{y} D \\
A<_{z} B<_{z} C<_{z} D & A<_{z} B<_{z} C<_{z} D \\
& \\
B<_{x} D<_{x} C<_{x} A & B<_{x} C<_{x} D<_{x} A \\
C<_{y} A<_{y} B<_{y} D & C<_{y} D<_{y} A<_{y} B \\
A<_{z} B<_{z} C<_{z} D & A<_{z} B<_{z} C<_{z} D
\end{array}
$$

## An other characterization in 3D

$$
\begin{gathered}
\mathcal{C} \\
B<_{x} D<_{x} C<_{x} A \\
C<_{y} A<_{y} B<_{y} D \\
A<_{z} B<_{z} D<_{z} C
\end{gathered}
$$

a configuration induced by $\mathcal{C}$ w.r.t. the ordering $<_{y}$

$$
\begin{aligned}
& D<_{x} C<_{x} A \\
& A<_{z} D<_{z} C
\end{aligned}
$$

## An other characterization in 3D

$$
B<_{x} D<_{x} C<_{x} A
$$

$$
C<_{y} A<_{y} B<_{y} D
$$

$$
A<_{z} B<_{z} D<_{z} C
$$

a configuration induced by $\mathcal{C}$ w.r.t. the ordering $<_{y}$

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\end{aligned}
$$

## Theorem 4: non-fixed configurations

Let $\mathcal{C}^{\prime}$ be a configuration induced by $\mathcal{C}$ on $\mathcal{E}^{\prime}$ w.r.t. $<_{i}$. Let $P \in \mathcal{E} \backslash \mathcal{E}^{\prime}$.
$\mathcal{C}$ is non-fixed if and only if

- $\mathcal{C}^{\prime}$ is non-fixed and
- $P$ is extreme in the ordering $<_{i}$ of $\mathcal{C}$,


## An other characterization in 3D

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$\mathcal{C}$ is non-fixed if and only if

- $\mathcal{C}^{\prime}$ is non-fixed and
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## Example:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& C<_{x} D<_{x} A<_{x} B \\
& A<_{y} C<_{y} B<_{y} D \\
& A<_{z} B<_{z} C<_{z} D
\end{aligned}
$$

non-fixed configuration induced by $\mathcal{C}$
extreme point

## Experimentation

## In this example

Set of skulls for morphometrical analysis of craniofacial morphology (dental classes)


- 10 points 3D


## Experimentation

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Set of skulls for morphometrical analysis of craniofacial morphology (dental classes)


- 10 points 3D
- 210 configurations
- 8,112 linear extensions


## Experimentation

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Set of skulls for morphometrical analysis of craniofacial morphology (dental classes)


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- Software in C, very fast ( 450 ms )
- $\Longrightarrow 20$ fixed configurations


## Experimentation

## In this example

Set of skulls for morphometrical analysis of craniofacial morphology (dental classes)


- 10 points 3D
- 210 configurations
- 8,112 linear extensions
- Software in C, very fast ( 450 ms )
- $\Longrightarrow 20$ fixed configurations


## Goal

Find the quadruplets of points which characterize significantly the morphological differences.

## Conjecture

## Theorem / Conjecture 1

$\mathcal{C}$ is fixed if and only if $\operatorname{det}(M)$ has an expression whose sign is $\qquad$ or - .
proved in dimension 2 and $3(n=3$ and 4$)$
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## Thanks!

