

# Brouwer's fan theorem and convexity

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## Part 1) Brouwer's fan theorem

- ▶  $\{0,1\}^*$  the set of finite binary sequences  $u, v, w$
- ▶  $|u|$  the length of  $u$ , i.e.

for  $u = (u_0, \dots, u_{n-1})$  we have  $|u| = n$

- ▶  $u * v$  the concatenation of  $u$  and  $v$ , i.g.

$$(0, 1) * (0, 0, 1) = (0, 1, 0, 0, 1)$$

- ▶  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma$  infinite binary sequences
- ▶  $\bar{\alpha}n$  the restriction of  $\alpha$  to the first  $n$  elements, i.e.

$$\bar{\alpha}n = (\alpha_0, \dots, \alpha_{n-1})$$

$B \subseteq \{0, 1\}^*$  is

- ▶ *detachable* if  $\forall u (u \in B \vee u \notin B)$
- ▶ a *bar* if  $\forall \alpha \exists n (\bar{\alpha}n \in B)$  (“every  $\alpha$  hits  $B$ ”)
- ▶ a *uniform bar* if  $\exists N \forall \alpha \exists n \leq N (\bar{\alpha}n \in B)$

**FAN** every detachable bar is a uniform bar

## Proposition 1

(Julian, Richman 1984) *The following are equivalent:*

- ▶ FAN
- ▶  $f : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+ \text{ u/c} \Rightarrow \inf f > 0$

## Proposition 2

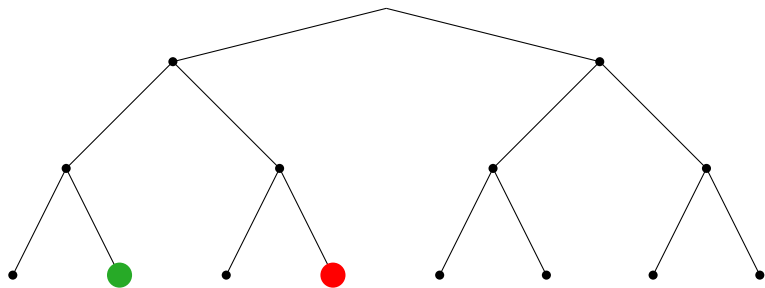
(B., Svindland 2016)

$f : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+ \text{ u/c} + \mathbf{convex} \Rightarrow \inf f > 0$

## Question:

Is there a corresponding extra condition on bars such that FAN becomes constructively valid?

## Part 2) Co-convex sets



$$(0, 0, 1) < (0, 1, 1)$$

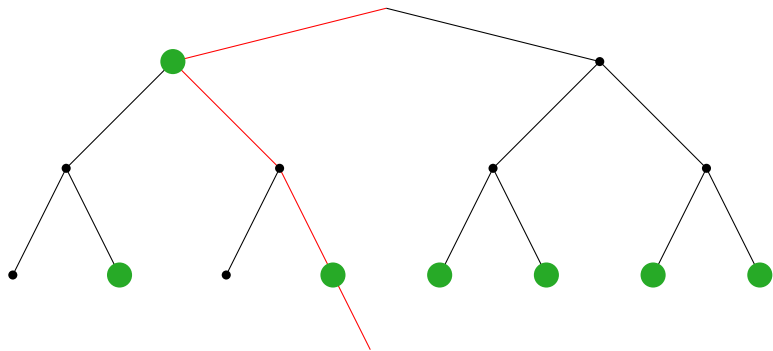
$$u < v \stackrel{\text{def}}{\Leftrightarrow} |u| = |v| \wedge \exists i < |u| (\bar{u}i = \bar{v}i \wedge u_i = 0 \wedge v_i = 1)$$

$$u \leq v \stackrel{\text{def}}{\Leftrightarrow} u < v \vee u = v$$

## Definition

A subset  $B$  of  $\{0, 1\}^*$  is co-convex if for every  $\alpha$  which hits  $B$  there exists an  $n$  such that either

$$\{v \mid v \leq \bar{\alpha}n\} \subseteq B \quad \text{or} \quad \{v \mid \bar{\alpha}n \leq v\} \subseteq B.$$



### Proposition 3

*Every co-convex bar is a uniform bar.*

#### Question:

How is this related to positive convex functions having positive infimum?



## Part 3) From bars to functions

- ▶ A subset  $S$  of a metric space  $(X, d)$  is *totally bounded* if for every  $\varepsilon > 0$  there exist  $s_1, \dots, s_n \in S$  such that

$$\forall s \in S \exists i \in \{1, \dots, n\} (d(s, s_i) < \varepsilon)$$

and *compact* if it is totally bounded and *complete* (i.e. every Cauchy sequence in  $S$  has a limit in  $S$ ).

- ▶ The mapping

$$(\alpha, \beta) \mapsto \inf \left\{ 2^{-k} \mid \bar{\alpha}k = \bar{\beta}k \right\}$$

defines a compact metric on  $\{0, 1\}^{\mathbb{N}}$ .

- ▶ If  $S$  is totally bounded, then for all  $x \in X$  the distance

$$d(x, S) = \inf \{d(x, s) \mid s \in S\}$$

exists and the function  $x \mapsto d(x, S)$  is uniformly continuous.

- ▶ Uniformly continuous images of totally bounded sets are totally bounded.
- ▶ If  $S$  is totally bounded and  $f : S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is uniformly continuous, then

$$\inf f = \inf \{f(s) \mid s \in S\}$$

exists.

## Proposition 4

*(Julian, Richman 1984)*

*For every detachable subset  $B$  of  $\{0, 1\}^*$  there exists a uniformly continuous function  $f_B : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  such that*

- ▶  *$B$  is a bar  $\Leftrightarrow f_B$  is positive-valued*
- ▶  *$B$  is a uniform bar  $\Leftrightarrow \inf f_B > 0$ .*

## Easy proof of Proposition 4, based on compactness

We can assume that  $B$  is closed under extension and does not contain the empty sequence.

$$\eta_B(\alpha) := \inf \left\{ 3^{-k} \mid \bar{\alpha}k \notin B \right\}$$

$$\bar{\alpha}n \in B \Leftrightarrow \eta_B(\alpha) > 3^{-n}$$

$$\kappa(\alpha) := \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \alpha_k \cdot 3^{-(k+1)}$$

The set

$$K = \left\{ (\kappa(\alpha), \eta_B(\alpha)) \mid \alpha \in \{0, 1\}^{\mathbb{N}} \right\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^2$$

is compact.

$$f_B : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, t \mapsto d((t, 0), K)$$

Then the following are equivalent:

- ▶  $B$  is a uniform bar
- ▶  $\inf \eta_B > 0$
- ▶  $\inf f_B > 0$

Assume that  $B$  is a bar. Fix  $t \in [0, 1]$ . In view of Bishop's lemma and the compactness of  $K$ , it is sufficient to show that

$$d((t, 0), (\kappa(\alpha), \eta_B(\alpha))) > 0$$

for each  $\alpha$ . This follows from  $\eta_B(\alpha) > 0$ .

Now assume that  $f_B$  is positive-valued. Fix  $\alpha$ . Since

$$d((\kappa(\alpha), 0), K) = f_B(\kappa(\alpha)) > 0,$$

we can conclude that

$$\eta_B(\alpha) = d((\kappa(\alpha), 0), (\kappa(\alpha), \eta_B(\alpha))) > 0,$$

which implies that  $\alpha$  hits  $B$ .



## Part 4) Weakly convex functions

Our aim is to include

▶  $B$  is co-convex  $\Leftrightarrow f_B$  is weakly convex  
into Proposition 4.

### Definition

For  $S \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ , a function  $f : S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is weakly convex if for all  $t \in S$  with  $f(t) > 0$  there exists  $\varepsilon > 0$  such that either

$$\forall s \in S (s \leq t \Rightarrow f(s) \geq \varepsilon)$$

or

$$\forall s \in S (t \leq s \Rightarrow f(s) \geq \varepsilon).$$

Define  $g_B$  by

$$g_B : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \quad t \mapsto f_B(t) - d(t, C),$$

where

$$C = \left\{ \kappa(\alpha) \mid \alpha \in \{0, 1\}^{\mathbb{N}} \right\}.$$

- ▶  $B$  is a bar  $\Leftrightarrow g_B$  is positive-valued
- ▶  $B$  is a uniform bar  $\Leftrightarrow \inf g_B > 0$ .
- ▶  $g_B(\kappa(\alpha)) = f_B(\kappa(\alpha)) \leq \eta_B(\alpha)$
- ▶  $g_B(\kappa(\alpha)) > 3^{-n} \Rightarrow \bar{\alpha}n \in B \Rightarrow g_B(\kappa(\alpha)) \geq 3^{-n}$



Assume that  $g_B$  is weakly convex. Fix  $\alpha$  which hits  $B$ . Then  $g_B(\kappa(\alpha)) > 0$ . There exists an  $n$  such that

$$\forall s (s \leq \kappa(\alpha) \Rightarrow g_B(s) > 3^{-n})$$

or

$$\forall s (\kappa(\alpha) \leq s \Rightarrow g_B(s) > 3^{-n}).$$

Assume the first case. Fix  $v$  with  $v \leq \bar{\alpha}n$ . Then  $\kappa(v) \leq \kappa(\alpha)$ . If  $v \notin B$ , then

$$g_B(\kappa(v)) \leq 3^{-n}.$$

This contradiction shows that

$$\{v \mid v \leq \bar{\alpha}n\} \subseteq B.$$

Thus  $B$  is co-convex.

$$-C = \{t \in [0, 1] \mid d(t, C) > 0\}.$$

- ▶  $-C$  is dense in  $[0, 1]$
- ▶ for every  $t \in -C$  there exists a unique pair  $\gamma, \gamma'$  such that

$$t \in (\kappa(\gamma), \kappa(\gamma')) \subseteq -C$$

- ▶ if  $\bar{\gamma}n \in B$  and  $\overline{\gamma'}n \in B$ , then  $g_B(t) \geq 3^{-n}$
- ▶ if  $d(\kappa(\gamma), t) < d(t, \kappa(\gamma'))$ , then

$$\gamma \text{ hits } B \Leftrightarrow g_B(\kappa(\gamma)) > 0 \Leftrightarrow$$

$$g_B(t) > 0 \Leftrightarrow \inf \{g_B(s) \mid \kappa(\gamma) \leq s \leq t\} > 0$$

Assume that  $B$  is co-convex. We show that the restriction of  $g_B$  to  $-C$  is weakly convex. Fix  $t \in -C$  such that  $g_B(t) > 0$ . There exist  $\gamma$  and  $\gamma'$  such that

$$t \in (\kappa(\gamma), \kappa(\gamma')) \subseteq -C.$$

We can assume that  $d(\kappa(\gamma), t) < d(t, \kappa(\gamma'))$ , therefore

$$\inf \{g_B(s) \mid \kappa(\gamma) \leq s \leq t\} > 0$$

and  $\gamma$  hits  $B$ . There exists an  $n$  such that either

$$\underbrace{\{v \mid v \leq \bar{\alpha}n\}}_{\subseteq B} \quad \text{or} \quad \underbrace{\{v \mid \bar{\alpha}n \leq v\}}_{\subseteq B} .$$

$$\Rightarrow \inf\{g_B(s) \mid s \in [0, t]\} > 0 \quad \Rightarrow \inf\{g_B(s) \mid s \in [t, 1]\} > 0$$



## Part 5) From functions to bars

A construction from (B., Ishihara 2005) works. Since the function

$$F : \{0, 1\}^{\mathbb{N}} \rightarrow [0, \infty[, \alpha \mapsto f \left( \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \alpha_k \cdot 2^{-(k+1)} \right)$$

is uniformly continuous, there exists a strictly increasing function  $M : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  such that

$$|F(\alpha) - F(\bar{\alpha}(M(n)))| < 2^{-n}$$

for all  $\alpha$  and  $n$ . Since  $M$  is strictly increasing, for every  $k$  the statement

$$\exists n (k = M(n))$$

is decidable.

For every  $u$  we can choose  $\lambda_u \in \{0, 1\}$  such that

$$\lambda_u = 0 \Rightarrow \forall n (|u| \neq M(n)) \vee \exists n (|u| = M(n) \wedge F(u) < 2^{-n+2})$$

$$\lambda_u = 1 \Rightarrow \exists n (|u| = M(n) \wedge F(u) > 2^{-n+1}).$$

The set

$$B = \{u \in \{0, 1\}^* \mid \exists l \leq |u| (\lambda_{\bar{u}l} = 1)\}$$

is detachable and closed under extension. Note that





$$F(\alpha) \geq 2^{-n+3} \Rightarrow \bar{\alpha}(M(n)) \in B \Rightarrow F(\alpha) \geq 2^{-n}$$

for all  $\alpha$  and  $n$ .



## Remarks

- ▶ weak convexity of  $f$  is a weak property
- ▶ many functions are weakly convex
- ▶ the use of Brouwer's fan theorem as an axiom is often unnecessary
- ▶ applications in constructive reverse mathematics, e.g. when calibrating theorems in finance

-  Josef Berger and Hajime Ishihara, *Brouwer's fan theorem and unique existence in constructive analysis*, Math. Log. Quart. 51, No. 4 (2005), 360–364
-  Josef Berger and Gregor Svindland, *Convexity and constructive infima*, Archive for Mathematical Logic (2016)
-  Josef Berger and Gregor Svindland, *A separating hyperplane theorem, the fundamental theorem of asset pricing, and Markov's principle*, Annals of Pure and Applied Logic (2016)
-  William Julian and Fred Richman, 'A uniformly continuous function on  $[0, 1]$  that is everywhere different from its infimum.' *Pacific J. Math.* 111 (1984), 333–340

## **Bishop's lemma**

Let  $A$  be a complete, located subset of a metric space  $(X, d)$ , and  $x$  a point of  $X$ . Then there exists a point  $a$  in  $A$  such that  $d(x, a) > 0$  entails  $d(x, A) > 0$ .