

# Verification of zeros in underdetermined systems

Peter Franek<sup>1</sup>, Marek Krčál<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic

<sup>2</sup>IST Austria

June 9, 2015 Prague

# Introduction

Definition of the problem:

# Introduction

Definition of the problem:

Given  $f : [0, 1]^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ , decide whether  $f(x) = 0$  is satisfiable.

# Introduction

Definition of the problem:

Given  $f : [0, 1]^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ , decide whether  $f(x) = 0$  is satisfiable.

Let  $\mathcal{B}_k$  be the set of boxes in  $\mathbb{R}^k$  with rational vertices.

We assume that an interval function  $I_f : \mathcal{B}_m \rightarrow \mathcal{B}_n$  is given such that

# Introduction

Definition of the problem:

Given  $f : [0, 1]^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ , decide whether  $f(x) = 0$  is satisfiable.

Let  $\mathcal{B}_k$  be the set of boxes in  $\mathbb{R}^k$  with rational vertices.

We assume that an interval function  $I_f : \mathcal{B}_m \rightarrow \mathcal{B}_n$  is given such that

- For each  $B \in \mathcal{B}_m$  it holds that  $I_f(B) \supseteq f(B)$ , and
- “If the diameter of  $B$  is small enough, then the diameter of  $I_f(B)$  is small.”

## Verifying non-existence of zeros

## Verifying non-existence of zeros

If  $[0, 1]^m$  is covered by a grid of boxes  $B_j$

and  $0 \notin I_f(B_j)$  for all  $j$

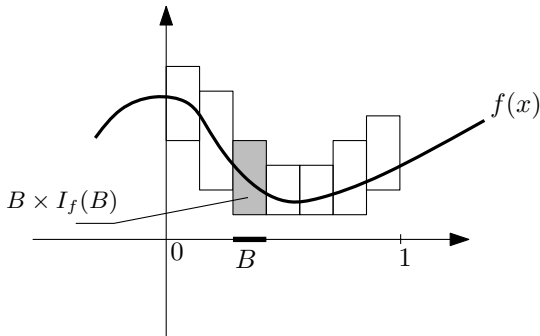
then  $f(x) = 0$  has no solution.

## Verifying non-existence of zeros

If  $[0, 1]^m$  is covered by a grid of boxes  $B_j$

and  $0 \notin I_f(B_j)$  for all  $j$

then  $f(x) = 0$  has no solution.



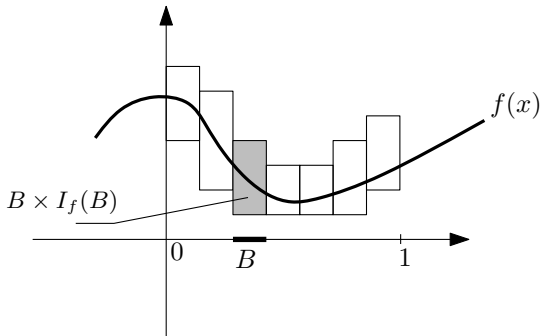


## Verifying non-existence of zeros

If  $[0, 1]^m$  is covered by a grid of boxes  $B_j$

and  $0 \notin I_f(B_j)$  for all  $j$

then  $f(x) = 0$  has no solution.



If  $f(x) = 0$  has no solution, then the above test eventually succeeds.

## Verifying existence of zeros

## Verifying existence of zeros

Common techniques for zero verification in case  $m = n$ :

## Verifying existence of zeros

Common techniques for zero verification in case  $m = n$ :

- Interval Newton (invertible Jacobi matrix needed)

## Verifying existence of zeros

Common techniques for zero verification in case  $m = n$ :

- Interval Newton (invertible Jacobi matrix needed)
- Brouwer's fpp: If  $f(x) + x$  maps a ball to itself, then  $f(x) + x$  has a fixed point

## Verifying existence of zeros

Common techniques for zero verification in case  $m = n$ :

- Interval Newton (invertible Jacobi matrix needed)
- Brouwer's fpp: If  $f(x) + x$  maps a ball to itself, then  $f(x) + x$  has a fixed point
- Miranda's theorem, Borsuk's theorem

## Verifying existence of zeros

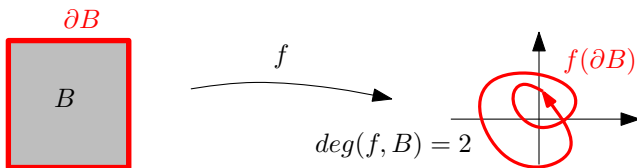
Common techniques for zero verification in case  $m = n$ :

- Interval Newton (invertible Jacobi matrix needed)
- Brouwer's fpp: If  $f(x) + x$  maps a ball to itself, then  $f(x) + x$  has a fixed point
- Miranda's theorem, Borsuk's theorem
- **Topological degree** computation: if  $\deg(f, B) \neq 0$  then  $f$  has a zero in  $B$

## Verifying existence of zeros

Common techniques for zero verification in case  $m = n$ :

- Interval Newton (invertible Jacobi matrix needed)
- Brouwer's fpp: If  $f(x) + x$  maps a ball to itself, then  $f(x) + x$  has a fixed point
- Miranda's theorem, Borsuk's theorem
- **Topological degree** computation: if  $\deg(f, B) \neq 0$  then  $f$  has a zero in  $B$

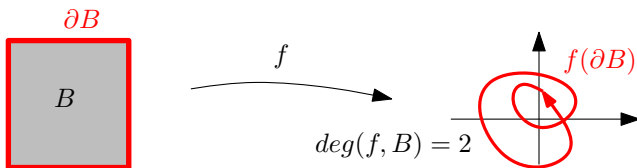




## Verifying existence of zeros

Common techniques for zero verification in case  $m = n$ :

- Interval Newton (invertible Jacobi matrix needed)
- Brouwer's fpp: If  $f(x) + x$  maps a ball to itself, then  $f(x) + x$  has a fixed point
- Miranda's theorem, Borsuk's theorem
- **Topological degree** computation: if  $\deg(f, B) \neq 0$  then  $f$  has a zero in  $B$

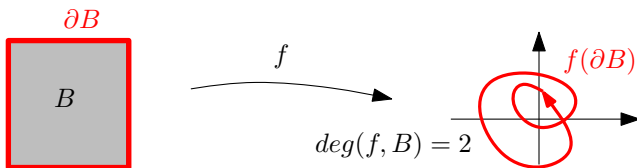


- The degree can be computed, given  $I_f$ .

## Verifying existence of zeros

Common techniques for zero verification in case  $m = n$ :

- Interval Newton (invertible Jacobi matrix needed)
- Brouwer's fpp: If  $f(x) + x$  maps a ball to itself, then  $f(x) + x$  has a fixed point
- Miranda's theorem, Borsuk's theorem
- **Topological degree** computation: if  $\deg(f, B) \neq 0$  then  $f$  has a zero in  $B$



- The degree can be computed, given  $I_f$ .  
[ Franek, Ratschan, *Effective Topological Degree Computation Based on Interval Arithmetic*, AMS Math of Compu, 2015 ]

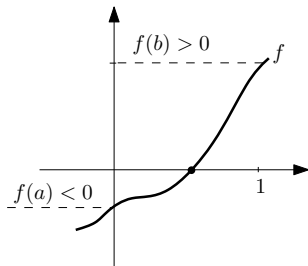
# Robustness

## Robustness

If these tests succeed, then  $f(x) = 0$  has a “robust solution”.

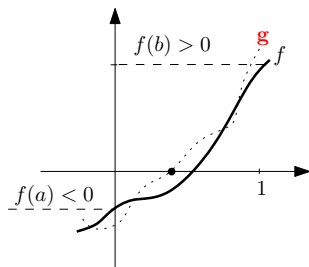
## Robustness

If these tests succeed, then  $f(x) = 0$  has a “robust solution”.



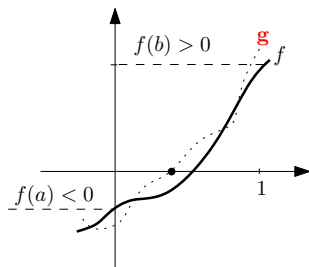
## Robustness

If these tests succeed, then  $f(x) = 0$  has a “robust solution”.



## Robustness

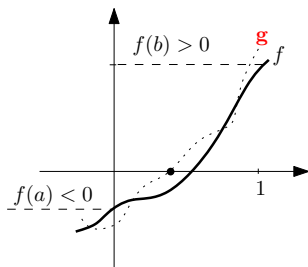
If these tests succeed, then  $f(x) = 0$  has a “robust solution”.



There exists  $\varepsilon > 0$  s.t. each continuous  $g$ ,  $\|g - f\| < \varepsilon$ , has a zero.

## Robustness

If these tests succeed, then  $f(x) = 0$  has a “robust solution”.



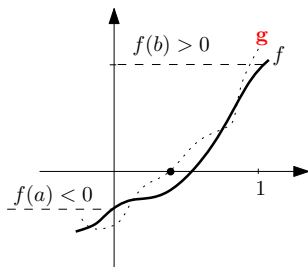
There exists  $\varepsilon > 0$  s.t. each continuous  $g$ ,  $\|g - f\| < \varepsilon$ , has a zero.

This is never the case for overdetermined systems ( $m < n$ ).



## Robustness

If these tests succeed, then  $f(x) = 0$  has a “robust solution”.



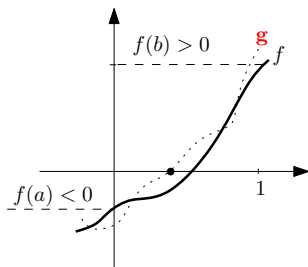
There exists  $\varepsilon > 0$  s.t. each continuous  $g$ ,  $\|g - f\| < \varepsilon$ , has a zero.

This is never the case for overdetermined systems ( $m < n$ ).

If  $m = n$  and  $f(x) = 0$  is robust, then the degree test eventually succeeds.

## Robustness

If these tests succeed, then  $f(x) = 0$  has a “robust solution”.



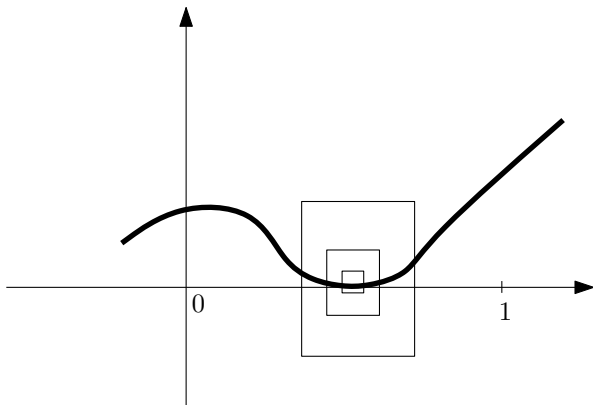
There exists  $\varepsilon > 0$  s.t. each continuous  $g$ ,  $\|g - f\| < \varepsilon$ , has a zero.

This is never the case for overdetermined systems ( $m < n$ ).

If  $m = n$  and  $f(x) = 0$  is robust, then the **degree test** eventually succeeds. [ Franek, Ratschan, Zgliczynski, *Quasi-decidability of a Fragment of the First-order Theory of Real Numbers*. ]

## Robustness

If  $f(x) = 0$  has a “non-robust” zero, then it may be undetectable via the  $I_f$  oracle.



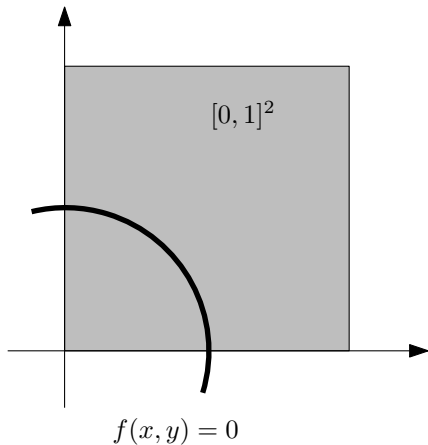
## Section method

## Section method

Assume that  $m > n$  (**underdetermined systems**).

## Section method

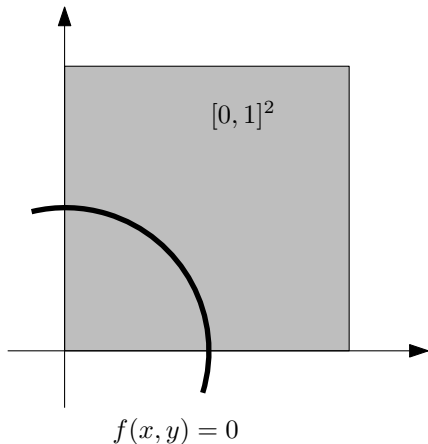
Assume that  $m > n$  (**underdetermined systems**).



## Section method

Assume that  $m > n$  (**underdetermined systems**).

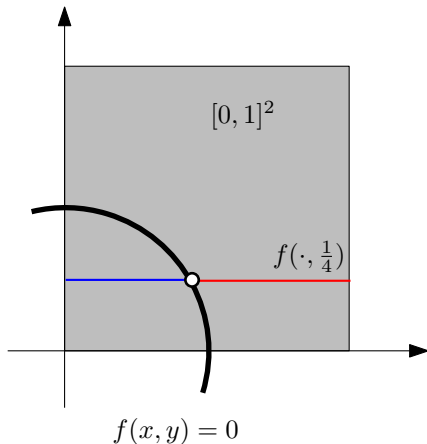
One way how to verify a zero is to fix certain  $m - n$  coordinates to be  $\alpha$  and analyze  $f(\alpha, \cdot) = 0$ .



## Section method

Assume that  $m > n$  (**underdetermined systems**).

One way how to verify a zero is to fix certain  $m - n$  coordinates to be  $\alpha$  and analyze  $f(\alpha, \cdot) = 0$ .

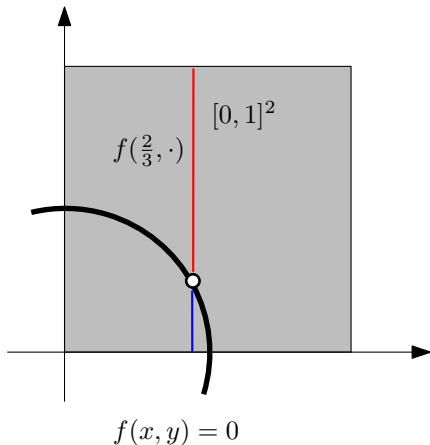




## Section method

Assume that  $m > n$  (**underdetermined systems**).

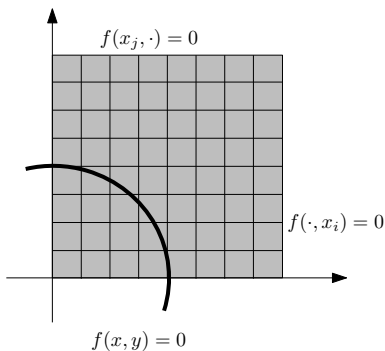
One way how to verify a zero is to fix certain  $m - n$  coordinates to be  $\alpha$  and analyze  $f(\alpha, \cdot) = 0$ .



## Section method

Assume that  $m > n$  (**underdetermined systems**).

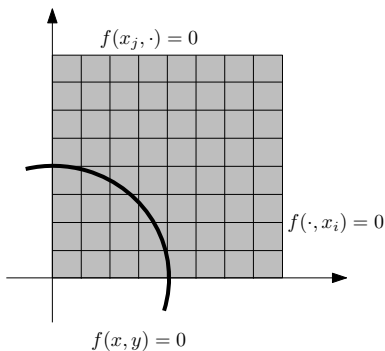
One way how to verify a zero is to fix certain  $m - n$  coordinates to be  $\alpha$  and analyze  $f(\alpha, \cdot) = 0$ .



## Section method

Assume that  $m > n$  (**underdetermined systems**).

One way how to verify a zero is to fix certain  $m - n$  coordinates to be  $\alpha$  and analyze  $f(\alpha, \cdot) = 0$ .



If  $df(x)$  is regular in each  $x \in f^{-1}(0)$ , then the **section test** eventually succeeds.

Incompleteness of the section method.

## Incompleteness of the section method.

Surprisingly, the section method may fail to identify a zero even in robust cases.

## Incompleteness of the section method.

Surprisingly, the section method may fail to identify a zero even in robust cases.

The following function  $H : [-1, 1]^4 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  has a zero in the origin:

$$\begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{H} \begin{pmatrix} 2(x_1x_3 + x_2x_4) \\ 2(x_2x_3 - x_1x_4) \\ x_1^2 + x_2^2 - x_3^2 - x_4^2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

## Incompleteness of the section method.

Surprisingly, the section method may fail to identify a zero even in robust cases.

The following function  $H : [-1, 1]^4 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  has a zero in the origin:

$$\begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{H} \begin{pmatrix} 2(x_1x_3 + x_2x_4) \\ 2(x_2x_3 - x_1x_4) \\ x_1^2 + x_2^2 - x_3^2 - x_4^2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

But

## Incompleteness of the section method.

Surprisingly, the section method may fail to identify a zero even in robust cases.

The following function  $H : [-1, 1]^4 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  has a zero in the origin:

$$\begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{H} \begin{pmatrix} 2(x_1x_3 + x_2x_4) \\ 2(x_2x_3 - x_1x_4) \\ x_1^2 + x_2^2 - x_3^2 - x_4^2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

But

- Arbitrary continuous  $g$ ,  $\|g - H\| \leq 1$ , has a zero.
- For each  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $i \in \{1, \dots, 4\}$ ,  $H(x_i = \alpha, \cdot)$  has no robust zero.



## Incompleteness of the section method.

Surprisingly, the section method may fail to identify a zero even in robust cases.

The following function  $H : [-1, 1]^4 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  has a zero in the origin:

$$\begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{H} \begin{pmatrix} 2(x_1 x_3 + x_2 x_4) \\ 2(x_2 x_3 - x_1 x_4) \\ x_1^2 + x_2^2 - x_3^2 - x_4^2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

But

- Arbitrary continuous  $g$ ,  $\|g - H\| \leq 1$ , has a zero.
- For each  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $i \in \{1, \dots, 4\}$ ,  $H(x_i = \alpha, \cdot)$  has no robust zero.

No analogy in smaller dimensions  $m, n$ .

# Topological methods

## Topological methods

One way to built techniques capable of verifying zero in underdetermined cases is via topological methods.

## Topological methods

One way to build techniques capable of verifying zero in underdetermined cases is via topological methods.

It is natural to address the **robust satisfiability problem**

Given continuous  $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $r > 0$ , does each continuous  $g$ ,  $\|g - f\| \leq r$ , has a zero?

## Topological methods

One way to build techniques capable of verifying zero in underdetermined cases is via topological methods.

It is natural to address the **robust satisfiability problem**

Given continuous  $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $r > 0$ , does each continuous  $g$ ,  $\|g - f\| \leq r$ , has a zero?

### Theorem

*If  $X$  is compact, then the above robust satisfiability problem is equivalent to the non-existence of the following extension:*

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & X & \\ & \uparrow & \text{---} \\ \cup & & \\ f^{-1}(S^{n-1}(r)) & \xrightarrow{f} & S^{n-1}(r) \end{array}$$

## Topological methods

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & X & \\ & \uparrow & \searrow \\ f^{-1}(S^{n-1}(r)) & \xrightarrow{f} & S^{n-1}(r) \end{array}$$

## Topological methods

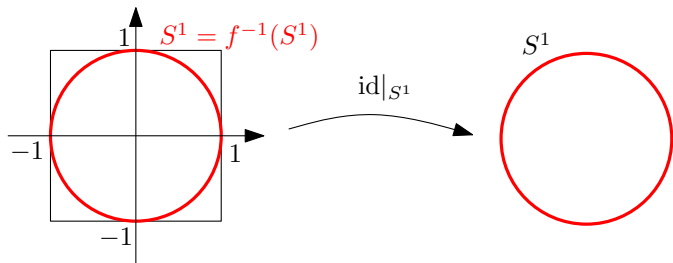
$$\begin{array}{ccc} & X & \\ & \uparrow & \searrow \\ & \cup & \\ f^{-1}(S^{n-1}(r)) & \xrightarrow{f} & S^{n-1}(r) \end{array}$$

Example:  $f = \text{id} : [-1, 1]^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ .

## Topological methods

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & X & \\ & \uparrow & \searrow \\ & \cup & \\ f^{-1}(S^{n-1}(r)) & \xrightarrow{f} & S^{n-1}(r) \end{array}$$

Example:  $f = \text{id} : [-1, 1]^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ .

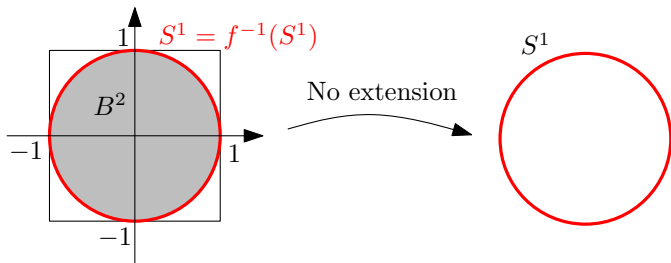




## Topological methods

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & X & \\ & \uparrow & \searrow \\ & \cup & \\ f^{-1}(S^{n-1}(r)) & \xrightarrow{f} & S^{n-1}(r) \end{array}$$

Example:  $f = \text{id} : [-1, 1]^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ .



## Topological methods

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & X & \\ & \uparrow & \searrow \text{---} \\ f^{-1}(S^{n-1}(r)) & \xrightarrow{f} & S^{n-1}(r) \end{array}$$

The diagram illustrates a commutative triangle. At the top vertex is the space  $X$ . At the bottom-left vertex is the preimage  $f^{-1}(S^{n-1}(r))$ . At the bottom-right vertex is the sphere  $S^{n-1}(r)$ . A solid vertical arrow labeled  $\cup$  points from  $f^{-1}(S^{n-1}(r))$  to  $X$ . A solid horizontal arrow labeled  $f$  points from  $f^{-1}(S^{n-1}(r))$  to  $S^{n-1}(r)$ . A dashed diagonal arrow points from  $X$  to  $S^{n-1}(r)$ .

## Topological methods

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & X & \\ & \uparrow & \searrow \text{---} \\ f^{-1}(S^{n-1}(r)) & \xrightarrow{f} & S^{n-1}(r) \end{array}$$

- Extendability depends only on the **homotopy class** of  $f|_{S^{n-1}(r)}$

## Topological methods

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & X & \\ & \uparrow & \searrow \\ f^{-1}(S^{n-1}(r)) & \xrightarrow{f} & S^{n-1}(r) \end{array}$$

- Extendability depends only on the **homotopy class** of  $f|_{S^{n-1}(r)}$
- In generic cases, the above spaces and maps can be approximated by triangulated spaces and piecewise linear maps.

## Topological methods

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & X & \\ & \uparrow & \searrow \\ \text{U} & & \\ & f^{-1}(S^{n-1}(r)) & \xrightarrow{f} S^{n-1}(r) \end{array}$$

- Extendability depends only on the **homotopy class** of  $f|_{S^{n-1}(r)}$
- In generic cases, the above spaces and maps can be approximated by triangulated spaces and piecewise linear maps.
- The extension problem for piecewise linear maps on triangulated spaces is decidable if  $\dim X = m \leq 2n - 3$ .

## Topological methods

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & X & \\ & \uparrow & \searrow \\ f^{-1}(S^{n-1}(r)) & \xrightarrow{f} & S^{n-1}(r) \end{array}$$

- Extendability depends only on the **homotopy class** of  $f|_{S^{n-1}(r)}$
- In generic cases, the above spaces and maps can be approximated by triangulated spaces and piecewise linear maps.
- The extension problem for piecewise linear maps on triangulated spaces is decidable if  $\dim X = m \leq 2n - 3$ .  
[ Matoušek, Čadek, Krčál, Wagner: *Extending Continuous Maps: Polynomiality and Undecidability*, STOC 13]

## Robust satisfiability problem

Assume that  $X$  is a triangulation of  $[0, 1]^m$  and  $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  is piecewise linear.

## Robust satisfiability problem

Assume that  $X$  is a triangulation of  $[0, 1]^m$  and  $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  is piecewise linear.

### Theorem

*The problem of deciding, for  $m, n, X, f$  and  $r > 0$  whether or not each continuous  $g$ ,  $\|g - f\| \leq r$ , has a zero,*

*is decidable if  $m \leq 2n - 3$  or  $n$  is even.*

*If  $n$  is fixed and  $m \leq 2n - 3$ , then the decision procedure is polynomial.*



## Robust satisfiability problem

Assume that  $X$  is a triangulation of  $[0, 1]^m$  and  $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  is piecewise linear.

### Theorem

*The problem of deciding, for  $m, n, X, f$  and  $r > 0$  whether or not each continuous  $g$ ,  $\|g - f\| \leq r$ , has a zero,*

*is decidable if  $m \leq 2n - 3$  or  $n$  is even.*

*If  $n$  is fixed and  $m \leq 2n - 3$ , then the decision procedure is polynomial.*

[Franek, Krčál, *Robust Satisfiability of Systems of Equations*, SODA 2014 ]

## Robust satisfiability problem

Assume that  $X$  is a triangulation of  $[0, 1]^m$  and  $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  is piecewise linear.

### Theorem

*The problem of deciding, for  $m, n, X, f$  and  $r > 0$  whether or not each continuous  $g$ ,  $\|g - f\| \leq r$ , has a zero,*

*is decidable if  $m \leq 2n - 3$  or  $n$  is even.*

*If  $n$  is fixed and  $m \leq 2n - 3$ , then the decision procedure is polynomial.*

[Franek, Krčál, *Robust Satisfiability of Systems of Equations*, SODA 2014 ]

If  $f$  is given via an interval function  $I_f$ , we can algorithmically construct an arbitrary close piecewise linear approximation.

# Problems

- Interesting instances of zero detection problems in underdetermined systems?

# Problems

- Interesting instances of zero detection problems in underdetermined systems?
- Natural instances of zero detection problems with **incomplete information**? An approximation of  $f$  can be given as a multidimensional bitmap, for example.

# Problems

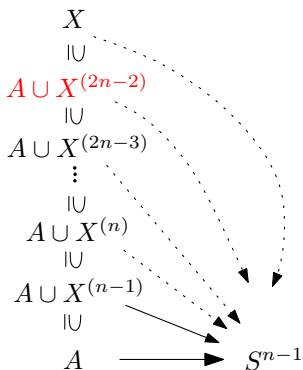
- Interesting instances of zero detection problems in underdetermined systems?
- Natural instances of zero detection problems with **incomplete information**? An approximation of  $f$  can be given as a multidimensional bitmap, for example.
- Effective implementation? Realistic only in low dimensions.

# Problems

- Interesting instances of zero detection problems in underdetermined systems?
- Natural instances of zero detection problems with **incomplete information**? An approximation of  $f$  can be given as a multidimensional bitmap, for example.
- Effective implementation? Realistic only in low dimensions.
- If  $f$  is given via a formula, does the “Section method” succeed in most natural cases?

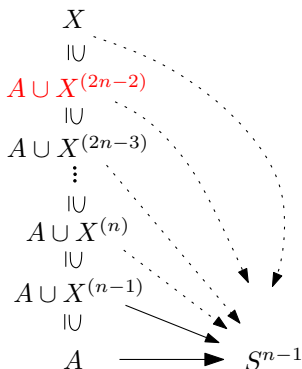
## Partial extensions..

The extension problem is solved hierarchically:



## Partial extensions..

The extension problem is solved hierarchically:

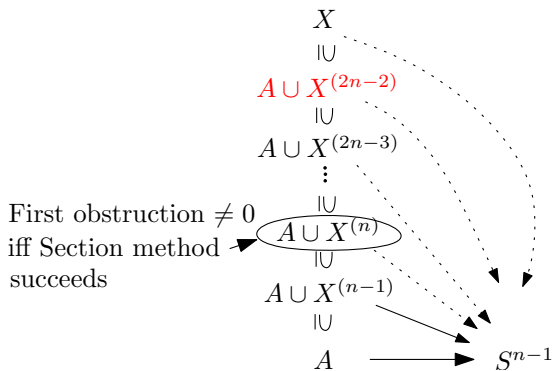


If an extension  $f : A \cup X^{(k)}$  is given and  $k < 2n - 3$ , we can compute the **obstruction** to extendability to  $A \cup X^{(k+1)}$ : the obstruction is an element of  $H^{k+1}(X, A, \pi_k(S^{n-1}))$ .



## Partial extensions..

The extension problem is solved hierarchically:



If an extension  $f : A \cup X^{(k)}$  is given and  $k < 2n - 3$ , we can compute the **obstruction** to extendability to  $A \cup X^{(k+1)}$ : the obstruction is an element of  $H^{k+1}(X, A, \pi_k(S^{n-1}))$ .

## References

[ Franek, Krčál. *Robust Satisfiability of Systems of Equations*, to appear in JACM ]

(Reductions: robust satisfiability  $\longleftrightarrow$  extension problem)

[ Franek, Ratschan, Zgliczynski, *Quasi-decidability of a Fragment of the First-order Theory of Real Numbers*, submitted ]

(Exploiting topological degree in case  $m = n$ )

[Cadek, Krcal, Matousek, Vokrinek, Wagner: *Extending Continuous Maps: Polynomiality and Undecidability*, STOC 13 ]

(Algorithmization of the extension problem)