

# The Euler characteristic of a (monodimensional) polyhedron as a valuation on a vector lattice

Andrea Pedrini

`andrea.pedrini@unimi.it`

Università degli Studi di Milano  
Dipartimento di Informatica e Comunicazione

Algebraic Semantics for Uncertainty and Vagueness  
18th - 20th May 2011

## Polyhedra

Let  $x_0, \dots, x_n \in \mathbb{R}^m$  be **affinely independent** points  
(i.e.  $x_1 - x_0, \dots, x_n - x_0$  linearly independent)

An  **$n$ -simplex** is the set of points

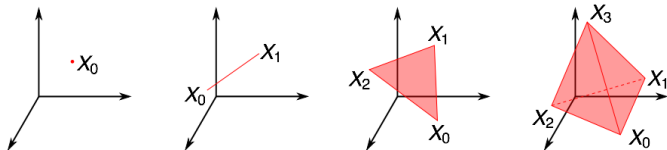
$$\sigma_n = (x_0, \dots, x_n) = \left\{ \sum_{i=0}^n \lambda_i x_i : \lambda_i \in \mathbb{R}, \lambda_i \geq 0, \sum_{i=0}^n \lambda_i = 1 \right\}$$

## Polyhedra

Let  $x_0, \dots, x_n \in \mathbb{R}^m$  be **affinely independent** points  
 (i.e.  $x_1 - x_0, \dots, x_n - x_0$  linearly independent)

An  **$n$ -simplex** is the set of points

$$\sigma_n = (x_0, \dots, x_n) = \left\{ \sum_{i=0}^n \lambda_i x_i : \lambda_i \in \mathbb{R}, \lambda_i \geq 0, \sum_{i=0}^n \lambda_i = 1 \right\}$$

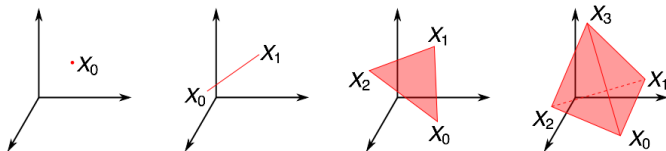


## Polyhedra

Let  $x_0, \dots, x_n \in \mathbb{R}^m$  be **affinely independent** points  
 (i.e.  $x_1 - x_0, \dots, x_n - x_0$  linearly independent)

An  **$n$ -simplex** is the set of points

$$\sigma_n = (x_0, \dots, x_n) = \left\{ \sum_{i=0}^n \lambda_i x_i : \lambda_i \in \mathbb{R}, \lambda_i \geq 0, \sum_{i=0}^n \lambda_i = 1 \right\}$$



A **face** of  $\sigma_n$  is any  $\tau_p = (x_{i_0}, \dots, x_{i_p}), \{x_{i_0}, \dots, x_{i_p}\} \subseteq \{x_0, \dots, x_n\}$

## Polyhedra

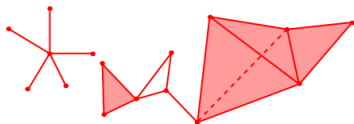
A **simplicial complex**  $K$  is a finite set of simplices such that

- ▶ if  $\sigma_n \in K$  and  $\tau_p$  is a face of  $\sigma_n$ , then  $\tau_p \in K$ ,
- ▶ if  $\sigma_n, \tau_p \in K$ , then  $\sigma_n \cap \tau_p$  is a common (possibly empty) face of  $\sigma_n$  and  $\tau_p$

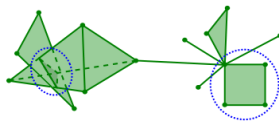
## Polyhedra

A **simplicial complex**  $K$  is a finite set of simplices such that

- ▶ if  $\sigma_n \in K$  and  $\tau_p$  is a face of  $\sigma_n$ , then  $\tau_p \in K$ ,
- ▶ if  $\sigma_n, \tau_p \in K$ , then  $\sigma_n \cap \tau_p$  is a common (possibly empty) face of  $\sigma_n$  and  $\tau_p$



This is a complex



This is not

## Polyhedra

A **simplicial complex**  $K$  is a finite set of simplices such that

- ▶ if  $\sigma_n \in K$  and  $\tau_p$  is a face of  $\sigma_n$ , then  $\tau_p \in K$ ,
- ▶ if  $\sigma_n, \tau_p \in K$ , then  $\sigma_n \cap \tau_p$  is a common (possibly empty) face of  $\sigma_n$  and  $\tau_p$

A **polyhedron** is a set  $P$  of points of  $\mathbb{R}^m$  that is the union of the simplices of some simplicial complex  $K$ .

$K$  is called a **triangulation** of  $P$ .

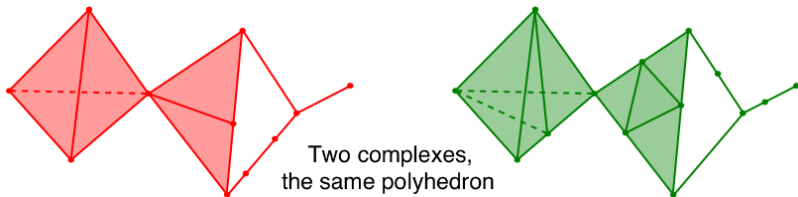
## Polyhedra

A **simplicial complex**  $K$  is a finite set of simplices such that

- ▶ if  $\sigma_n \in K$  and  $\tau_p$  is a face of  $\sigma_n$ , then  $\tau_p \in K$ ,
- ▶ if  $\sigma_n, \tau_p \in K$ , then  $\sigma_n \cap \tau_p$  is a common (possibly empty) face of  $\sigma_n$  and  $\tau_p$

A **polyhedron** is a set  $P$  of points of  $\mathbb{R}^m$  that is the union of the simplices of some simplicial complex  $K$ .

$K$  is called a **triangulation** of  $P$ .





## The Euler-Poincaré characteristic

Let  $K$  be a triangulation of the polyhedron  $P$ ,  
the **Euler-Poincaré characteristic** of  $P$  is the number

$$\chi(P) = \sum_{n=0}^m (-1)^n \alpha_n$$

where, for all  $n$ ,  $\alpha_n$  is the number of  $n$ -simplices of  $K$ .

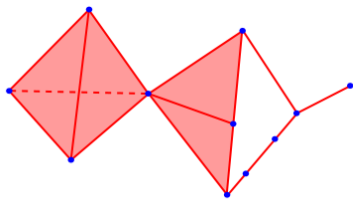
## The Euler-Poincaré characteristic

Let  $K$  be a triangulation of the polyhedron  $P$ ,  
 the **Euler-Poincaré characteristic** of  $P$  is the number

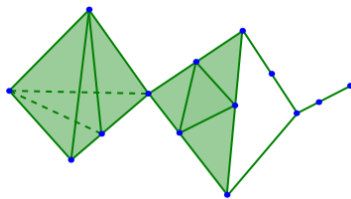
$$\chi(P) = \sum_{n=0}^m (-1)^n \alpha_n$$

where, for all  $n$ ,  $\alpha_n$  is the number of  $n$ -simplices of  $K$ .

It is well-defined: two different triangulations of  $P$  give the same number  $\chi(P)$ :



11



14

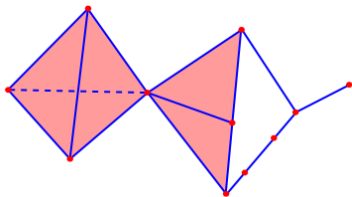
## The Euler-Poincaré characteristic

Let  $K$  be a triangulation of the polyhedron  $P$ ,  
 the **Euler-Poincaré characteristic** of  $P$  is the number

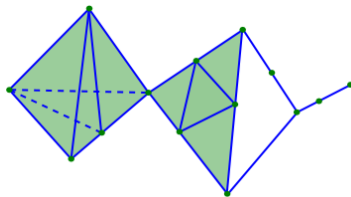
$$\chi(P) = \sum_{n=0}^m (-1)^n \alpha_n$$

where, for all  $n$ ,  $\alpha_n$  is the number of  $n$ -simplices of  $K$ .

It is well-defined: two different triangulations of  $P$  give the same number  $\chi(P)$ :



11 – 16



14 – 22

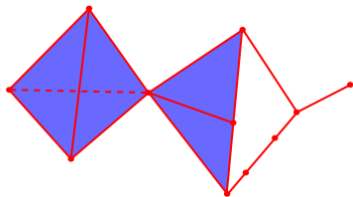
## The Euler-Poincaré characteristic

Let  $K$  be a triangulation of the polyhedron  $P$ ,  
 the **Euler-Poincaré characteristic** of  $P$  is the number

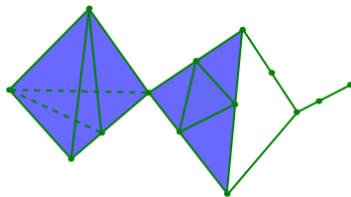
$$\chi(P) = \sum_{n=0}^m (-1)^n \alpha_n$$

where, for all  $n$ ,  $\alpha_n$  is the number of  $n$ -simplices of  $K$ .

It is well-defined: two different triangulations of  $P$  give the same number  $\chi(P)$ :



$$11 - 16 + 6$$



$$14 - 22 + 10$$

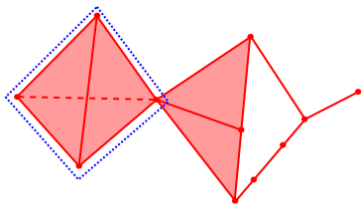
## The Euler-Poincaré characteristic

Let  $K$  be a triangulation of the polyhedron  $P$ ,  
 the **Euler-Poincaré characteristic** of  $P$  is the number

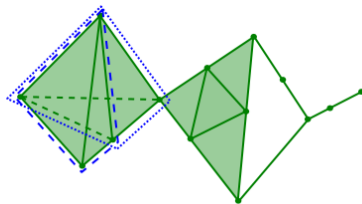
$$\chi(P) = \sum_{n=0}^m (-1)^n \alpha_n$$

where, for all  $n$ ,  $\alpha_n$  is the number of  $n$ -simplices of  $K$ .

It is well-defined: two different triangulations of  $P$  give the same number  $\chi(P)$ :



$$11 - 16 + 6 - 1 = 0$$



$$14 - 22 + 10 - 2 = 0$$

## Vector lattices

A **(real) vector lattice** is an algebra  $\mathbf{V} = (V, +, \wedge, \vee, \{\lambda\}_{\lambda \in \mathbb{R}}, 0)$  such that

- ▶  $(V, +, \{\lambda\}_{\lambda \in \mathbb{R}}, 0)$  is a vector space,
- ▶  $(V, \wedge, \vee)$  is a lattice,
- ▶ for all  $t, v, w \in V$ ,  $t + (v \wedge w) = (t + v) \wedge (t + w)$ ,
- ▶ for all  $v, w \in V$  and for all  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  
if  $\lambda \geq 0$  then  $\lambda(v \wedge w) = \lambda v \wedge \lambda w$ .

## Vector lattices

A (real) vector lattice is an algebra  $\mathbf{V} = (V, +, \wedge, \vee, \{\lambda\}_{\lambda \in \mathbb{R}}, 0)$  such that

- ▶  $(V, +, \{\lambda\}_{\lambda \in \mathbb{R}}, 0)$  is a vector space,
- ▶  $(V, \wedge, \vee)$  is a lattice,
- ▶ for all  $t, v, w \in V$ ,  $t + (v \wedge w) = (t + v) \wedge (t + w)$ ,
- ▶ for all  $v, w \in V$  and for all  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  
if  $\lambda \geq 0$  then  $\lambda(v \wedge w) = \lambda v \wedge \lambda w$ .

The lattice structure induces a partial order (defined as usual):

$$v \leq w \text{ if and only if } v \wedge w = v.$$

## Vector lattices

A **(real) vector lattice** is an algebra  $\mathbf{V} = (V, +, \wedge, \vee, \{\lambda\}_{\lambda \in \mathbb{R}}, 0)$  such that

- ▶  $(V, +, \{\lambda\}_{\lambda \in \mathbb{R}}, 0)$  is a vector space,
- ▶  $(V, \wedge, \vee)$  is a lattice,
- ▶ for all  $t, v, w \in V$ ,  $t + (v \wedge w) = (t + v) \wedge (t + w)$ ,
- ▶ for all  $v, w \in V$  and for all  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  
if  $\lambda \geq 0$  then  $\lambda(v \wedge w) = \lambda v \wedge \lambda w$ .

The lattice structure induces a partial order (defined as usual):

$$v \leq w \text{ if and only if } v \wedge w = v.$$

A **strong unit** is an element  $u \in V$  such that for all  $0 \leq v \in V$  there exists a  $0 \leq \lambda \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $v \leq \lambda u$ .



## Vector lattices

A **(real) vector lattice** is an algebra  $\mathbf{V} = (V, +, \wedge, \vee, \{\lambda\}_{\lambda \in \mathbb{R}}, 0)$  such that

- ▶  $(V, +, \{\lambda\}_{\lambda \in \mathbb{R}}, 0)$  is a vector space,
- ▶  $(V, \wedge, \vee)$  is a lattice,
- ▶ for all  $t, v, w \in V$ ,  $t + (v \wedge w) = (t + v) \wedge (t + w)$ ,
- ▶ for all  $v, w \in V$  and for all  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  
if  $\lambda \geq 0$  then  $\lambda(v \wedge w) = \lambda v \wedge \lambda w$ .

The lattice structure induces a partial order (defined as usual):

$$v \leq w \text{ if and only if } v \wedge w = v.$$

A **strong unit** is an element  $u \in V$  such that for all  $0 \leq v \in V$  there exists a  $0 \leq \lambda \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $v \leq \lambda u$ .

A **unital vector lattice** is a pair  $(\mathbf{V}, u)$ , where  $\mathbf{V}$  is a vector lattice and  $u$  is a strong unit of  $\mathbf{V}$ .

## Vector lattices

A function  $f : \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  is **piecewise linear** if there are finitely many linear polynomials  $w_1, \dots, w_s$  such that

$$\forall x \in \mathbb{R}^m \exists i \in \{1, \dots, s\} : f(x) = w_i(x).$$

## Vector lattices

A function  $f : \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  is **piecewise linear** if there are finitely many linear polynomials  $w_1, \dots, w_s$  such that

$$\forall x \in \mathbb{R}^m \exists i \in \{1, \dots, s\} : f(x) = w_i(x).$$

Let  $P$  a polyhedron in  $\mathbb{R}^m$ .

$$F(P) = \{f : P \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \text{ continuous and piecewise linear}\}$$

$$\nabla(P) = (F(P), +, \min, \max, \{\lambda\}_{\lambda \in \mathbb{R}}, 0)$$

$(\nabla(P), 1)$  is a unital vector lattice.

## Vector lattices

A function  $f : \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  is **piecewise linear** if there are finitely many linear polynomials  $w_1, \dots, w_s$  such that

$$\forall x \in \mathbb{R}^m \exists i \in \{1, \dots, s\} : f(x) = w_i(x).$$

Let  $P$  a polyhedron in  $\mathbb{R}^m$ .

$$F(P) = \{f : P \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \text{ continuous and piecewise linear}\}$$

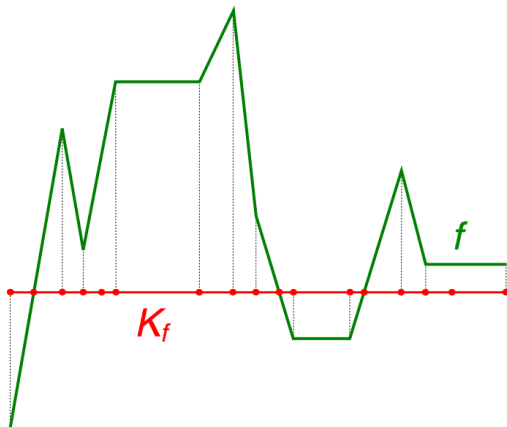
$$\nabla(P) = (F(P), +, \min, \max, \{\lambda\}_{\lambda \in \mathbb{R}}, 0)$$

$(\nabla(P), 1)$  is a unital vector lattice.

**Baker-Beynon duality:** each finitely presented  $(\mathbf{V}, u)$  is isomorphic to  $(\nabla(P), 1)$ , for some  $P$  in some Euclidean space  $\mathbb{R}^m$ .

## Vector lattices

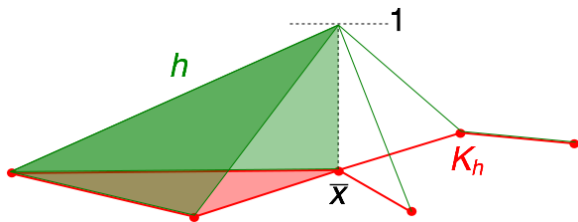
A triangulation  $K$  of the polyhedron  $P$  **linearizes**  $f \in \nabla(P)$  if  $f$  is linear on each simplex of  $K$ .



## Vector lattices

A triangulation  $K$  of the polyhedron  $P$  **linearizes**  $f \in \nabla(P)$  if  $f$  is linear on each simplex of  $K$ .

A **vl-Schauder hat** is an  $h \in \nabla(P)$  such that there is a triangulation  $K_h$  of  $P$  linearizing  $h$  and a 0-simplex  $\bar{x}$  of  $K_h$  such that  $h(\bar{x}) = 1$  and  $h(x) = 0$  for any other 0-simplices  $x$  of  $K_h$ .

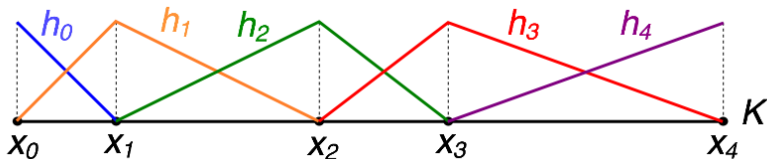


## Vector lattices

A triangulation  $K$  of the polyhedron  $P$  **linearizes**  $f \in \nabla(P)$  if  $f$  is linear on each simplex of  $K$ .

A **vl-Schauder hat** is an  $h \in \nabla(P)$  such that there is a triangulation  $K_h$  of  $P$  linearizing  $h$  and a 0-simplex  $\bar{x}$  of  $K_h$  such that  $h(\bar{x}) = 1$  and  $h(x) = 0$  for any other 0-simplices  $x$  of  $K_h$ .

The **vl-Schauder hats of  $K$**  is the set of vl-Schauder hats  $\{h_i\}$  such that  $h_i(x_i) = 1$  and  $h_i(x_j) = 0$ , where  $x_0, \dots, x_n$  are the 0-simplices of  $K$ .



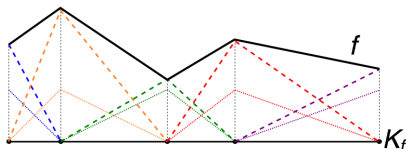
## Vector lattices

A triangulation  $K$  of the polyhedron  $P$  **linearizes**  $f \in \nabla(P)$  if  $f$  is linear on each simplex of  $K$ .

A **vl-Schauder hat** is an  $h \in \nabla(P)$  such that there is a triangulation  $K_h$  of  $P$  linearizing  $h$  and a 0-simplex  $\bar{x}$  of  $K_h$  such that  $h(\bar{x}) = 1$  and  $h(x) = 0$  for any other 0-simplices  $x$  of  $K_h$ .

The **vl-Schauder hats of  $K$**  is the set of vl-Schauder hats  $\{h_i\}$  such that  $h_i(x_i) = 1$  and  $h_i(x_j) = 0$ , where  $x_0, \dots, x_n$  are the 0-simplices of  $K$ .

Each  $f \in \nabla(P)$  can be seen as a sum  $\sum_{i=0}^n a_i h_i$  (where  $a_i \in \mathbb{R}$ ) of the vl-Schauder hats  $h_0, \dots, h_n$  of a triangulation  $K_f$  linearizing  $f$ .





## The Euler-Poincaré characteristic of a function

Let  $K$  a triangulation linearizing  $|f|$ ;

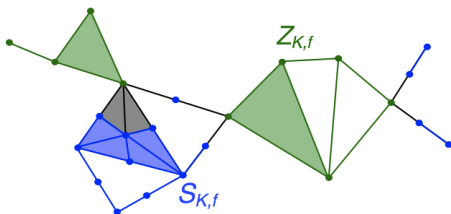
$$Z_{K,f} = \{\sigma \in K : f|_{\sigma} \equiv 0\}.$$

## The Euler-Poincaré characteristic of a function

Let  $K$  a triangulation linearizing  $|f|$ ;

$$Z_{K,f} = \{\sigma \in K : f|_{\sigma} \equiv 0\}.$$

The **supplement**  $S_{K,f}$  of  $f$  in  $K$  is an “inner approximation” of the support of  $f$ :

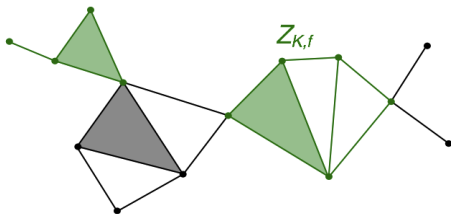


## The Euler-Poincaré characteristic of a function

Let  $K$  a triangulation linearizing  $|f|$ ;

$$Z_{K,f} = \{\sigma \in K : f|_{\sigma} \equiv 0\}.$$

The **supplement**  $S_{K,f}$  of  $f$  in  $K$  is an “inner approximation” of the support of  $f$ :

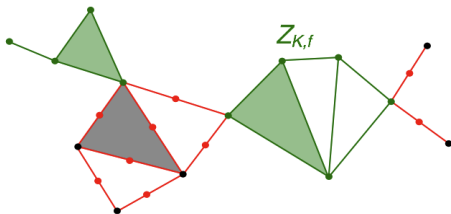


## The Euler-Poincaré characteristic of a function

Let  $K$  a triangulation linearizing  $|f|$ ;

$$Z_{K,f} = \{\sigma \in K : f|_{\sigma} \equiv 0\}.$$

The **supplement**  $S_{K,f}$  of  $f$  in  $K$  is an “inner approximation” of the support of  $f$ :

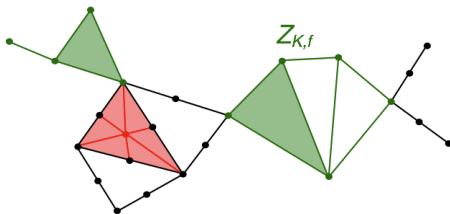


## The Euler-Poincaré characteristic of a function

Let  $K$  a triangulation linearizing  $|f|$ ;

$$Z_{K,f} = \{\sigma \in K : f|_{\sigma} \equiv 0\}.$$

The **supplement**  $S_{K,f}$  of  $f$  in  $K$  is an “inner approximation” of the support of  $f$ :

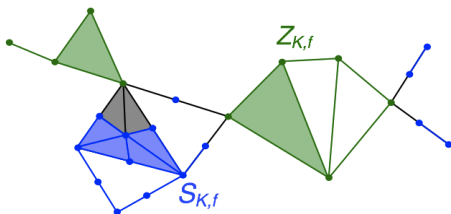


## The Euler-Poincaré characteristic of a function

Let  $K$  a triangulation linearizing  $|f|$ ;

$$Z_{K,f} = \{\sigma \in K : f|_{\sigma} \equiv 0\}.$$

The **supplement**  $S_{K,f}$  of  $f$  in  $K$  is an “inner approximation” of the support of  $f$ :

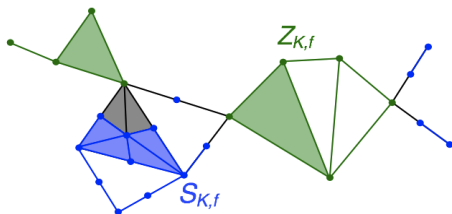


## The Euler-Poincaré characteristic of a function

Let  $K$  a triangulation linearizing  $|f|$ ;

$$Z_{K,f} = \{\sigma \in K : f|_{\sigma} \equiv 0\}.$$

The **supplement**  $S_{K,f}$  of  $f$  in  $K$  is an “inner approximation” of the support of  $f$ :



The **Euler-Poincaré characteristic** of  $f$ :

$$\chi(f) = \chi(\text{supp}(f)) = \chi(S_{K,f})$$

(it does not depend on the choice of  $K$ ).

# Valuations

A **vl-valuation** on  $(\nabla(P), 1)$  is a function  $\nu : \nabla(P) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  such that:

- ▶  $\nu(0) = 0$ ,
- ▶ for all  $f, g \in \nabla(P)$ ,  $\nu(f \vee g) = \nu(f) + \nu(g) - \nu(f \wedge g)$ ,
- ▶ for all  $0 \leq f, g \in \nabla(P)$ ,  $\nu(f + g) = \nu(f \vee g)$ ,
- ▶ for all  $0 \leq f, g \in \nabla(P)$ , if  $f \wedge g = 0$  then  $\nu(f - g) = \nu(f) - \nu(g)$ .



## Characterization Theorem

### Theorem

Let  $P$  be a polyhedron in  $\mathbb{R}^m$ , for some integer  $m \geq 1$ , and let  $(\nabla(P), 1)$  be the finitely presented unital vector lattice of real-valued piecewise linear functions on  $P$ .

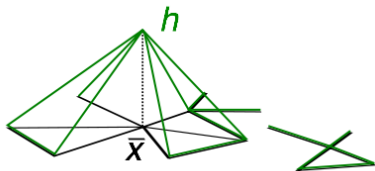
Then **Euler-Poincaré characteristic** is the unique vl-valuation

$$\chi : \nabla(P) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

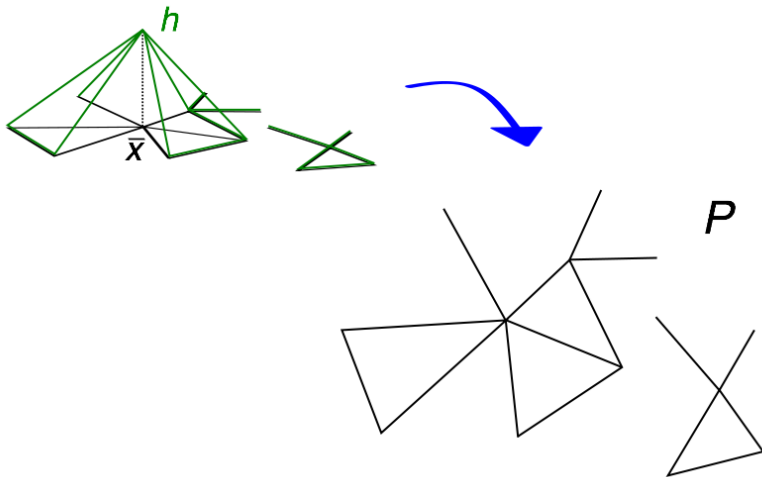
that assigns the value 1 to each vl-Schauder hat in  $\nabla(P)$ .

Moreover, the number  $\chi(1)$  is the Euler-Poincaré characteristic of the polyhedron  $P$ .

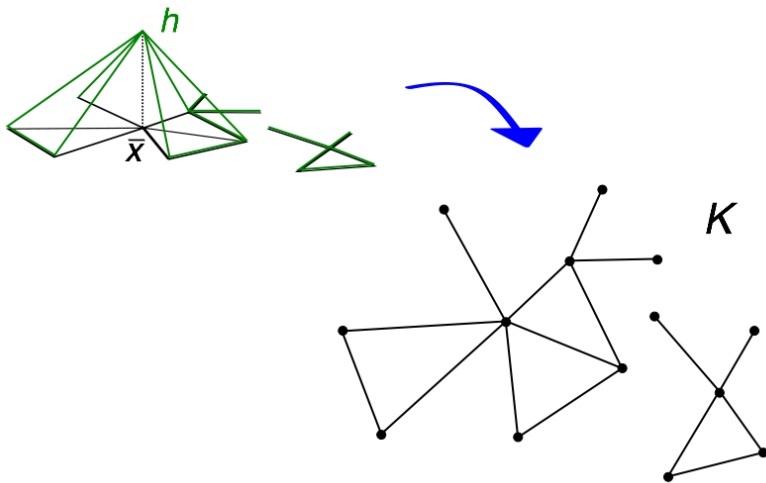
## A monodimensional hat



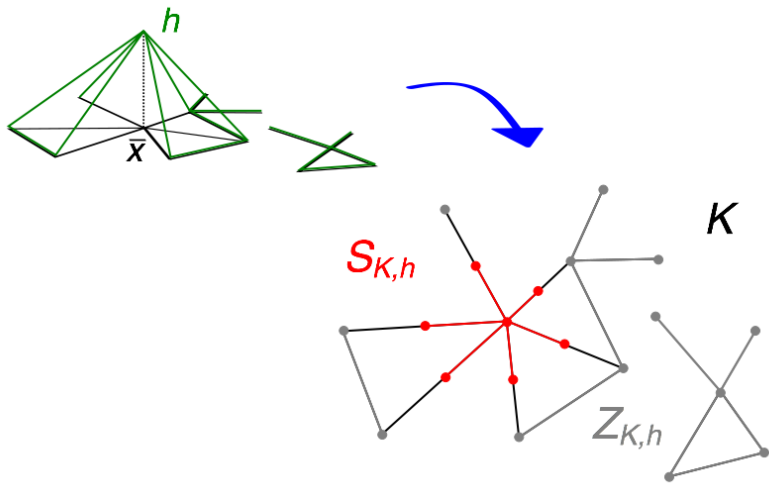
## A monodimensional hat



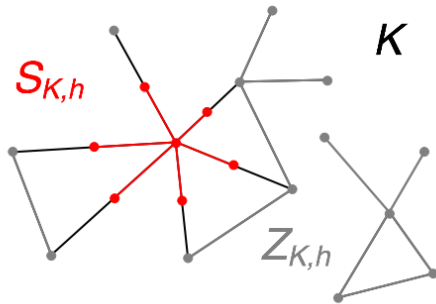
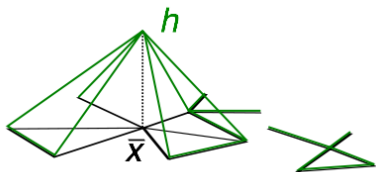
## A monodimensional hat



## A monodimensional hat



## A monodimensional hat



$$\chi(h) = (1+6) - 6 = 1$$

## Characterization Theorem

### Theorem

Let  $P$  be a polyhedron in  $\mathbb{R}^m$ , for some integer  $m \geq 1$ , and let  $(\nabla(P), 1)$  be the finitely presented unital vector lattice of real-valued piecewise linear functions on  $P$ .

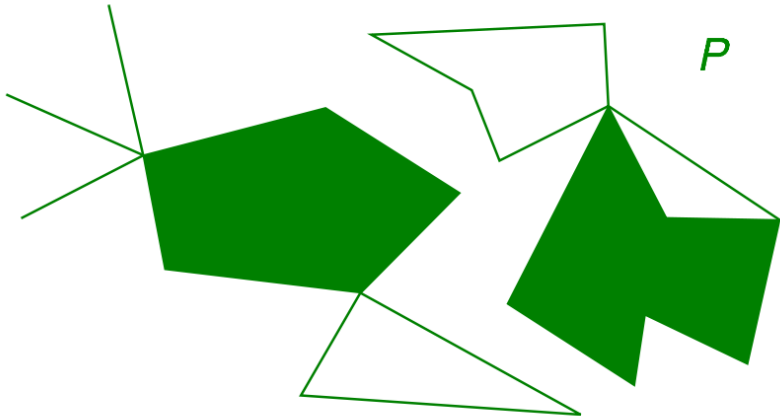
Then **Euler-Poincaré characteristic** is the unique vl-valuation

$$\chi : \nabla(P) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

that assigns the value 1 to each vl-Schauder hat in  $\nabla(P)$ .

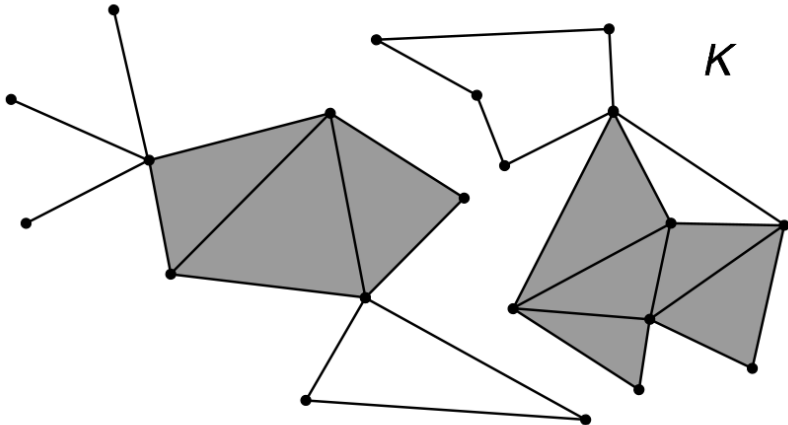
Moreover, the number  $\chi(1)$  is the Euler-Poincaré characteristic of the polyhedron  $P$ .

$$\chi(1) = \chi(P)$$

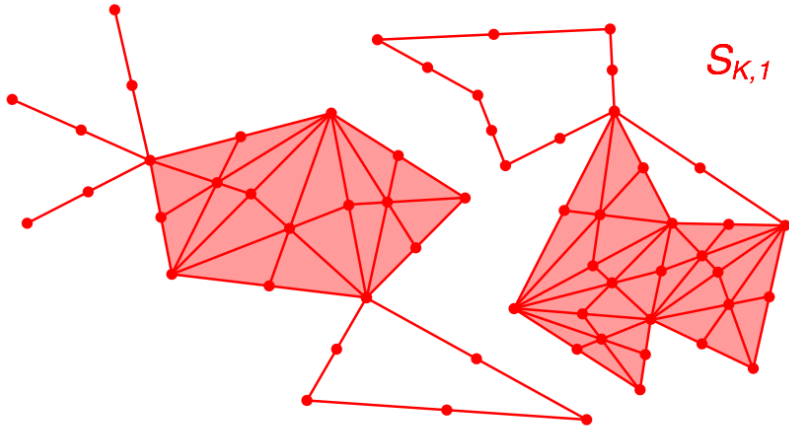




$$\chi(1) = \chi(P)$$



$$\chi(1) = \chi(P)$$



## Characterization Theorem

### Theorem

Let  $P$  be a polyhedron in  $\mathbb{R}^m$ , for some integer  $m \geq 1$ , and let  $(\nabla(P), 1)$  be the finitely presented unital vector lattice of real-valued piecewise linear functions on  $P$ .

Then **Euler-Poincaré characteristic** is the unique vl-valuation

$$\chi : \nabla(P) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

that assigns the value 1 to each vl-Schauder hat in  $\nabla(P)$ .

Moreover, the number  $\chi(1)$  is the Euler-Poincaré characteristic of the polyhedron  $P$ .

Thank you for your attention.