

# The Gaussian Centre and the Projection Centre of a Set of Points in $\mathbb{R}^3$

Steph Durocher\*

David Kirkpatrick†

## Abstract

We define the Gaussian centre and the projection centre of a non-empty finite set of points  $P \subseteq \mathbb{R}^3$ . We show the two centres are equal for any  $P \subseteq \mathbb{R}^3$ .

## 1 Introduction

Finding a centre point is a fundamental problem of geometry. The Euclidean centre, or centre of the smallest enclosing sphere, provides a natural definition for the centre of a set of points. As shown in [BBKS00] and [DK04], the Euclidean centre of a set of points  $P \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d$  is unstable; small perturbations at only a few points of  $P$  can result in an arbitrarily large relative change in the position of the Euclidean centre. To define a centre  $\Upsilon$  more stable than the Euclidean centre requires, at least for some sets of points, that  $\Upsilon$  differ from the Euclidean centre. Presumably, remaining central to  $P$  is desirable. These two factors are in opposition; high stability implies high eccentricity and vice-versa. In [DK04], the Gaussian centre of a set of points in the plane is introduced toward the objective of identifying a good centre that balances high stability with low eccentricity. The projection centre of a set of points in the plane is also defined and shown to be equivalent to the Gaussian centre.

The Gaussian centre's benefits extend beyond its definition as the centre of a set of static points. Recently, several questions of facility location have been posed within the setting of mobile facility location (e.g. [AGG02, AH01, BBKS00, Her03]). Given a set of mobile points, the fitness of a mobile facility is determined both by its eccentricity and also by the maximum velocity and continuity of its motion. As shown in [DK04], the stability of a centre is inversely related to the maximum velocity of a mobile facility, providing further motivation for the need of stability in a centre point.

The question of whether the Gaussian centre generalizes to three dimensions remained open. In this paper we define the Gaussian centre and the projection centre of a set of points  $P \subseteq \mathbb{R}^3$ . We show the equivalence of the two centres for any non-empty finite set  $P \subseteq \mathbb{R}^3$ .

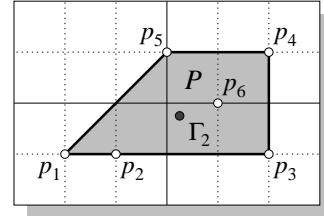


Figure 1: the 2D Gaussian centre of  $P$ ,  $\Gamma_2(P) = (\frac{1}{4}, -\frac{1}{4})$

## 2 Gaussian Centre Definition

**Definition 1** Let  $H = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^d \mid h_1x_1 + \dots + h_dx_d + h_{d+1} = 0\}$  define a  $(d-1)$ -dimensional hyperplane in  $\mathbb{R}^d$ , where  $h \in \mathbb{R}^{d+1} - \{(0, \dots, 0)\}$  is fixed. Let  $H^+ = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^d \mid h_1x_1 + \dots + h_dx_d + h_{d+1} > 0\}$  and let  $H^- = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^d \mid h_1x_1 + \dots + h_dx_d + h_{d+1} < 0\}$  define the respective positive and negative half-spaces of  $\mathbb{R}^d$  induced by  $H$ . A point  $p \in P \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d$  is an extreme point of  $P$  if and only if there exists a  $(d-1)$ -dimensional hyperplane  $H \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d$  with induced partition of  $\mathbb{R}^d$ ,  $\{H^+, H, H^-\}$ , such that  $H \cap P = \{p\}$ ,  $P \subseteq H^+ \cup H$ , and  $P \cap H^- = \emptyset$ .

The Gaussian centre was first defined for a set of points in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  [DK04]. The two-dimensional definition provides intuition for the three-dimensional case and we reproduce it here:

**Definition 2 ([DK04])** Let  $P \subseteq \mathbb{R}^2$  be a non-empty finite set of points. Let  $V_P \subseteq P$  be the set of extreme points of  $P$ . If  $|P| \geq 2$ , for every  $p \in V_P$ , let  $\alpha_p$  be the interior angle formed on the convex hull boundary at  $p$ . The Gaussian centre of  $P$  is

$$\Gamma_2(P) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \sum_{p \in P} w_p p, \quad (1)$$

where  $w_p$  is the Gaussian weight of point  $p$  given by

$$w_p = \begin{cases} 2\pi & \text{if } |P| = 1 \\ \pi - \alpha_p & \text{if } |P| \geq 2 \text{ and } p \in V_P \\ 0 & \text{if } p \in P - V_P \end{cases}. \quad (2)$$

Thus, the Gaussian weight of a point  $p$  on the convex hull of  $P$  corresponds to the turn angle at  $p$ . The greater the turn angle, the more significant the contribution  $p$  to  $\Gamma_2(P)$ . The turn angles of a polygon sum to  $2\pi$ , hence the normalizing factor.

In three dimensions, the Gaussian centre of  $P \subseteq \mathbb{R}^3$  is again defined as a normalized weighted mean. This time,

\*Department of Computer Science, University of British Columbia, durocher@cs.ubc.ca

†Department of Computer Science, University of British Columbia, kirk@cs.ubc.ca

however, a point  $p \in P$  is adjacent to two or more faces; the Gaussian weight of  $p$  is defined in terms of the angles formed at the faces that meet at  $p$ .

**Definition 3** Let  $P \subseteq \mathbb{R}^3$  be a non-empty finite set of points. Let  $V_P \subseteq P$  be the set of extreme points of  $P$ . If  $|P| \geq 2$ , for every  $p \in V_P$ , let  $F_p$  be the set of faces that meet at  $p$ . For every face  $f_j \in F_p$ , let  $\theta_{p,j}$  be the interior plane angle on  $f_j$  at  $p$ . The Gaussian centre of  $P$  is

$$\Gamma(P) = \frac{1}{4\pi} \sum_{p \in P} w_p p, \quad (3)$$

where  $w_p$  is the three-dimensional Gaussian weight of point  $p$  given by

$$w_p = \begin{cases} 4\pi & \text{if } |P| = 1 \\ 2\pi - \sum_{f_j \in F_p} \theta_{p,j} & \text{if } |P| \geq 2 \text{ and } p \in V_P \\ 0 & \text{if } p \in P - V_P \end{cases}. \quad (4)$$

The sum of the plane angles at a point  $p$  ranges from  $2\pi$  (when  $p$  is coplanar with its neighbours) and approaches a limit of 0 (when the neighbours of  $p$  approach a single point). The three-dimensional Gaussian weights of any polyhedron sum to  $4\pi$ . Thus, in three dimensions we normalize by  $1/4\pi$ .

The Gaussian centre is invariant under many affine transformations. Specifically, it is easy to show that  $\Gamma(f(P)) = f(\Gamma(P))$  where  $f : \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  is any translational, uniform scaling, or rotational transformation function and  $P \subseteq \mathbb{R}^3$  is any non-empty finite set of points.

When vertices are coplanar, a set of points  $P$  in three dimensions reduces to the two-dimensional case.

**Lemma 1** Let  $P \subseteq \mathbb{R}^3$  be a non-empty finite set of coplanar points. The three-dimensional Gaussian centre of  $P$  matches the two-dimensional Gaussian centre of  $P$ .

*Proof sketch.* Let  $\Gamma_2(P)$  and  $\Gamma(P)$  be the respective two- and three-dimensional Gaussian centres of  $P$ .

$$\Gamma(P) = \frac{1}{4\pi} \sum_i (2\pi - 2\theta_i)p = \frac{1}{2\pi} \sum_i (\pi - \theta_i)p = \Gamma_2(P). \quad \square \quad (5)$$

### 3 Projection Centre Definition

The projection centre was first defined in two dimensions [DK04]. Again, we introduce the three-dimensional definition by first presenting its two-dimensional analogue.

Let  $l_\theta$  be the line through the origin parallel to the unit vector  $u_\theta = (\cos \theta, \sin \theta)$ . Expressed in slope-intercept form,  $l_\theta$  is  $y = \tan \theta x$ . Given a set of points  $P \subseteq \mathbb{R}^2$ , let  $P_\theta$  be the projection of  $P$  onto  $l_\theta$ . See Figure 2A. That is,

$$P_\theta = \{u_\theta \langle p, u_\theta \rangle \mid p \in P\}, \quad (6)$$

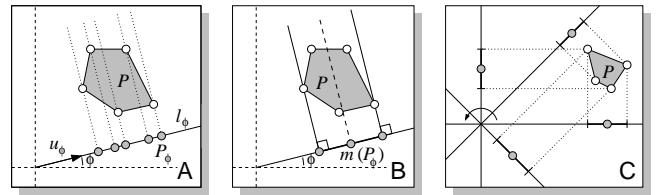


Figure 2: defining the projection centre  $\Lambda_2(P)$

where  $\langle x, y \rangle$  denotes the inner product of  $x$  and  $y$ . The midpoint of  $P_\theta$  is

$$m(P_\theta) = \frac{1}{2} \left( \min_{p \in P_\theta} p + \max_{q \in P_\theta} q \right), \quad (7)$$

where  $\max$  and  $\min$  return the extrema along line  $l_\theta$ . See Figure 2B.

The projection centre is defined as the normalized average midpoint over all projections of  $P$  onto lines  $l_\theta$ . See Figure 2C.

**Definition 4 ([DK04])** Let  $P \subseteq \mathbb{R}^2$  be a non-empty bounded set of points. The projection centre of  $P$  is

$$\Lambda_2(P) = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^\pi m(P_\theta) d\theta, \quad (8)$$

where  $m(P_\theta)$  is the midpoint of the projection of  $P$  onto the line  $y = \tan \theta x$ .

The factor of 2 is necessary since  $\frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^\pi u_\theta \langle p, u_\theta \rangle d\theta = p/2$ . The factor of  $1/\pi$  normalizes for the range of integration.

In three dimensions, we express the projection centre in terms of spherical coordinates. Let  $l_{\theta,\phi}$  be the line through the origin parallel to the unit vector  $u_{\theta,\phi} = (\cos \theta \sin \phi, \sin \theta \sin \phi, \cos \phi)$ . Let  $P_{\theta,\phi}$  and  $m(P_{\theta,\phi})$  be the natural generalizations of  $P_\theta$  and  $m(P_\theta)$  to spherical coordinates in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ , respectively.

The projection centre is defined as the normalized average midpoint over all projections of  $P$  onto lines  $l_{\theta,\phi}$ .

**Definition 5** Let  $P \subseteq \mathbb{R}^3$  be a non-empty bounded set of points. The projection centre of  $P$  is

$$\Lambda(P) = \frac{3}{2\pi} \int_0^\pi \int_0^\pi \sin \phi \cdot m(P_{\theta,\phi}) d\phi d\theta, \quad (9)$$

where  $m(P_{\theta,\phi})$  is the midpoint of the projection of  $P$  onto the line through the origin parallel to  $u_{\theta,\phi} = (\cos \theta \sin \phi, \sin \theta \sin \phi, \cos \phi)$ .

Note the factor  $\sin \phi$  to account for non-uniform density using spherical coordinates, the normalizing factor  $1/2\pi$  since  $\int_0^\pi \int_0^\pi \sin \phi d\phi d\theta = 2\pi$ , and the factor 3 since  $\frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^\pi \int_0^\pi \sin \phi \cdot u_{\theta,\phi} \langle p, u_{\theta,\phi} \rangle d\phi d\theta = p/3$ .

Similarly to the Gaussian centre, the projection centre is invariant under many affine transformations. Specifically, it

is easy to show that  $\Lambda(f(P)) = f(\Lambda(P))$  where  $f : \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  is any translational, uniform scaling, or rotational transformation function and  $P \subseteq \mathbb{R}^3$  is any non-empty finite set of points.

**Lemma 2** *Let  $P \subseteq \mathbb{R}^3$  be a non-empty bounded set of coplanar points. The three-dimensional projection centre of  $P$  matches the two-dimensional projection centre of  $P$ .*

*Proof sketch.* Let  $\Lambda_2(P)$  and  $\Lambda(P)$  be the respective two- and three-dimensional projection centres of  $P$ . Since  $\Lambda$  is invariant under rotation and translation, assume  $P$  is coplanar with the  $xy$ -plane. For any  $p \in P$ ,  $p = (x, y, 0)$  and

$$\int_0^\pi \sin \phi \cdot u_{\theta, \phi} \langle (x, y, 0), u_{\theta, \phi} \rangle d\phi = \frac{4}{3} u_\theta \langle (x, y), u_\theta \rangle. \quad (10)$$

Given  $\theta$ , if  $p$  is an extreme point of  $P_{\theta, \phi}$  for some  $\phi \neq 0 \bmod \pi$ , then  $p$  is an extreme point of  $P_{\theta, \phi}$  for any  $\phi$ . Therefore,

$$\Lambda(P) = \frac{3}{2\pi} \int_0^\pi \int_0^\pi \sin \phi \cdot m(P_{\theta, \phi}) d\phi d\theta \quad (11)$$

$$= \frac{3}{2\pi} \int_0^\pi \frac{4}{3} m(P_{\theta, \pi/2}) d\theta \quad (12)$$

$$= \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^\pi m(P_{\theta, \pi/2}) d\theta \quad (13)$$

$$= \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^\pi m(P_\theta) d\theta \quad (14)$$

$$= \Lambda_2(P). \square \quad (15)$$

Unless otherwise specified, we refer to the three-dimensional definitions of  $\Gamma$  and  $\Lambda$ . Although  $\Gamma(P)$  and  $\Lambda(P)$  are defined in terms of a finite set of points  $P \subseteq \mathbb{R}^3$ , since only extreme points of  $P$  affect the positions of  $\Gamma(P)$  and  $\Lambda(P)$ , each definition also applies to the polyhedron induced by the convex hull of  $P$ ,  $Q = CH(P)$ . Thus,  $\Gamma(Q)$  and  $\Lambda(Q)$  are well defined for any convex polyhedron  $Q$ .

#### 4 Convex Decomposition

We give an outline of proofs that for both the Gaussian centre and the projection centre, when a convex polyhedron is partitioned by a plane into two convex polyhedra, the relationships between the centres of the two components are identical. The analogous two-dimensional proofs are given in [DK04].

Let  $\bar{A}$  denote the closure of set  $A$ . Lemma 3 first derives the relationship between the Gaussian centres followed by Lemma 5 which derives the relationship between the projection centres.

**Lemma 3** *Let  $P \subseteq \mathbb{R}^3$  be a convex polyhedral region. Let  $h$  be a plane that intersects  $P$ . Let  $h^+$  and  $h^-$  be the half-spaces induced by  $h$ . Let  $\Gamma(Q)$  be the Gaussian centre of  $Q$ . The Gaussian centres of the components of the decomposition of  $P$  induced by  $h$  are related by*

$$\Gamma(P) = \Gamma(\overline{P \cap h^+}) + \Gamma(\overline{P \cap h^-}) - \Gamma(P \cap h). \quad (16)$$

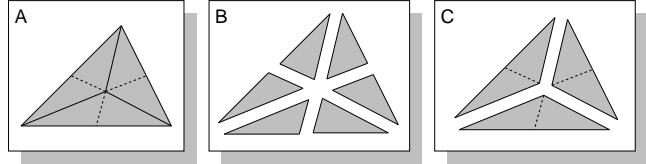


Figure 3: illustrations supporting Corollaries 4 and 6

*Proof sketch.* Let  $w_p, w_p^+, w_p^-,$  and  $w_p^h$  denote the Gaussian weights of a point  $p$  in polyhedra  $P$ ,  $\overline{P \cap h^+}$ ,  $\overline{P \cap h^-}$ , or  $P \cap h$ , respectively.

$$\Gamma(P) = \frac{1}{4\pi} \sum_{p \in P} w_p p \quad (17)$$

$$= \frac{1}{4\pi} \left[ \sum_{p \in P \cap h^+} w_p p + \sum_{p \in P \cap h^-} w_p p + \sum_{p \in P \cap h} w_p p \right] \quad (18)$$

$$= \frac{1}{4\pi} \left[ \sum_{p \in P \cap h^+} w_p^+ p + \sum_{p \in P \cap h^-} w_p^- p + \sum_{p \in P \cap h} (w_p^+ + w_p^- + w_p^h) p \right] \quad (19)$$

$$= \frac{1}{4\pi} \left[ \sum_{p \in \overline{P \cap h^+}} w_p^+ p + \sum_{p \in \overline{P \cap h^-}} w_p^- p - \sum_{p \in P \cap h} w_p^h p \right] \quad (20)$$

$$= \Gamma(\overline{P \cap h^+}) + \Gamma(\overline{P \cap h^-}) - \Gamma(P \cap h). \quad (21)$$

Note that  $w_p^A$  is defined respectively in terms of the faces adjacent to  $p$  in polyhedron  $A$ .

**Corollary 4** *Let  $P \subseteq \mathbb{R}^3$  be a convex polyhedral region such that  $P = P_1 \cup \dots \cup P_k$  where  $P_1, \dots, P_k$  forms a partition of  $P$  such that each  $P_i$  is also a convex polyhedral region. Let  $f_1, \dots, f_n$  be the faces that define the decomposition of  $P$ . The Gaussian centres of the components of the decomposition of  $P$  are related by*

$$\Gamma(P) = \sum_{i=1}^k \Gamma(P_i) - \sum_{j=1}^n \Gamma(f_j). \quad (22)$$

*Proof sketch.* Let  $f_1, \dots, f_n$  be the faces that define the decomposition of  $P$ . Let  $h_1, \dots, h_n$  be the planes such that face  $f_i$  lies in plane  $h_i$ . We further decompose  $P$  by the planes  $h_1, \dots, h_n$ . See Figure 3. The result follows by recursive applications of Lemmas 1 through 3 and Theorem 7 to decompose  $P$  and subsequently reconstruct each  $P_1, \dots, P_k$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 5** *Let  $P \subseteq \mathbb{R}^3$  be a convex polyhedral region. Let  $h$  be a plane that intersects  $P$ . Let  $h^+$  and  $h^-$  be the half-spaces induced by  $h$ . Let  $\Lambda(Q)$  be the projection centre of*

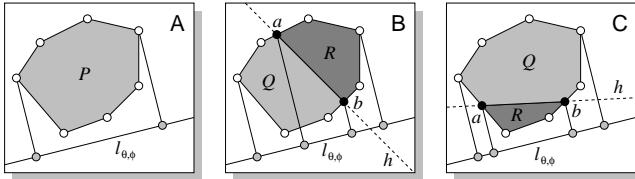


Figure 4: illustrations supporting Lemma 5

*Q. The projection centres of the components of the decomposition of  $P$  induced by  $h$  are related by*

$$\Lambda(P) = \Lambda(\overline{P \cap h^+}) + \Lambda(\overline{P \cap h^-}) - \Lambda(P \cap h). \quad (23)$$

*Proof sketch.* Let  $l_{\theta,\phi}$  be the line through the origin parallel to  $u_{\theta,\phi} = (\cos \theta \sin \phi, \sin \theta \sin \phi, \cos \phi)$ . Let  $Q = \overline{P \cap h^+}$ ,  $R = \overline{P \cap h^-}$ , and  $L = h \cap P$ . Let  $A_{\theta,\phi}$  be the projection of set  $A$  onto line  $l_{\theta,\phi}$ . Let  $m(A_{\theta,\phi})$  be the midpoint of  $A_{\theta,\phi}$ . By examination of the two possible cases (Figure 4),

$$m(P_{\theta,\phi}) = m(Q_{\theta,\phi}) + m(R_{\theta,\phi}) - m(L_{\theta,\phi}). \quad (24)$$

The relationship follows:

$$\Lambda(P) = \frac{3}{2\pi} \int_0^\pi \int_0^\pi \sin \phi \cdot m(P_{\phi,\theta}) d\phi d\theta \quad (25)$$

$$= \frac{3}{2\pi} \int_0^\pi \int_0^\pi \sin \phi [m(Q_{\theta,\phi}) + m(R_{\theta,\phi}) - m(L_{\theta,\phi})] d\phi d\theta \quad (26)$$

$$= \frac{3}{2\pi} \int_0^\pi \int_0^\pi \sin \phi \cdot m(Q_{\theta,\phi}) d\phi d\theta \\ + \frac{3}{2\pi} \int_0^\pi \int_0^\pi \sin \phi \cdot m(R_{\theta,\phi}) d\phi d\theta \\ - \frac{3}{2\pi} \int_0^\pi \int_0^\pi \sin \phi \cdot m(L_{\theta,\phi}) d\phi d\theta \quad (27)$$

$$= \Lambda(Q) + \Lambda(R) - \Lambda(L). \square \quad (28)$$

**Corollary 6** *Let  $P \subseteq \mathbb{R}^3$  be a convex polyhedral region such that  $P = P_1 \cup \dots \cup P_k$  where  $P_1, \dots, P_k$  forms a partition of  $P$  such that each  $P_i$  is also a convex polyhedral region. Let  $f_1, \dots, f_n$  be the faces that define the decomposition of  $P$ . The projection centres of the components of the decomposition of  $P$  are related by*

$$\Lambda(P) = \sum_{i=1}^k \Lambda(P_i) - \sum_{j=1}^n \Lambda(f_j). \quad (29)$$

*Proof sketch.* The proof is analogous to the proof of Corollary 4.

## 5 Equivalence of $\Gamma$ and $\Lambda$ in $\mathbb{R}^3$

**Theorem 7 ([DK04])** *Given any non-empty finite set of points  $P \subseteq \mathbb{R}^2$ , the location of its Gaussian centre,  $\Gamma_2(P)$ , and its projection centre,  $\Lambda_2(P)$ , are equal. That is,*

$$\forall P \subseteq \mathbb{R}^2, \Gamma_2(P) = \Lambda_2(P). \quad (30)$$

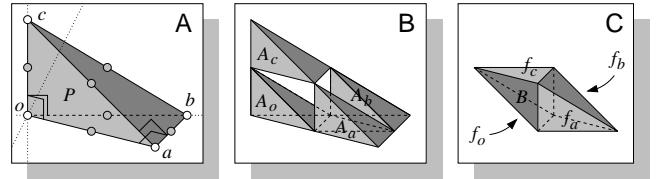


Figure 5: illustrations supporting Lemma 9

In this section we show Theorem 7 extends to any non-empty finite set  $P \subseteq \mathbb{R}^3$ .

**Definition 6** *A set of points  $P \subseteq \mathbb{R}^3$  is xyz-symmetric if there exists some  $q \in \mathbb{R}^3$  such that for all  $p, p \in P \Leftrightarrow (q - p) \in P$ .*

**Lemma 8** *For any xyz-symmetric non-empty finite set of points  $P \subseteq \mathbb{R}^3$ ,  $\Gamma(P) = \Lambda(P)$ .*

*Proof sketch.* Let  $P \subseteq \mathbb{R}^3$  be any xyz-symmetric non-empty finite set of points. Since  $\Gamma$  and  $\Lambda$  are invariant under translation, assume  $q = (0, 0, 0)$ .

Given  $\theta$  and  $\phi$ , let  $p_1$  be an extreme point of  $P_{\theta,\phi}$ . By symmetry,  $p_2 = -p_1$  is also an extreme point of  $P_{\theta,\phi}$ . Therefore  $m(P_{\theta,\phi}) = \frac{1}{2}(p_1 + p_2) = (0, 0, 0)$  and  $\Lambda(P) = \frac{3}{2\pi} \int_0^\pi \int_0^\pi \sin \phi \cdot m(P_{\phi,\theta}) d\phi d\theta = (0, 0, 0)$ .

Furthermore, for any extreme point  $p_1$  of  $P$ ,  $p_2 = -p_1$  is also an extreme point of  $P$ . If  $q_1, \dots, q_k$  are the neighbours of  $p_1$  on the convex hull of  $P$ , then  $r_1, \dots, r_k$  are the neighbours of  $p_2$  on the convex hull where  $r_i = -q_i$ . Therefore, the Gaussian weights of  $p_1$  and  $p_2$  are equal and  $w_{p_1}p_1 + w_{p_2}p_2 = (0, 0, 0)$ . Therefore,  $\Gamma(P) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \sum_{p \in P} w_p p = (0, 0, 0)$ .  $\square$

**Definition 7** *If  $P = \{o, a, b, c\}$  is a tetrahedron such that  $\angle aoc = \angle boc = \angle oab = \angle cab = \frac{\pi}{2}$  then  $P$  is a right-angle tetrahedron.*

**Lemma 9** *If  $P$  is a right-angle tetrahedron then  $\Gamma(P) = \Lambda(P)$ .*

*Proof sketch.* Assume  $P = \{o, a, b, c\}$  is a right-angle tetrahedron. By the invariance of  $\Gamma$  and  $\Lambda$  under translation and rotation, assume  $o = (0, 0, 0)$ ,  $a$  lies on the positive  $xy$ -plane,  $b$  lies on the positive  $y$ -axis, and  $c$  lies on the positive  $z$ -axis. See Figure 5A. Let  $m_1, \dots, m_6$  be the midpoints of the edges of  $P$ . Let  $e_1, \dots, e_{12}$  be the twelve edges induced by  $m_1, \dots, m_6$  that lie parallel to some edge of  $P$ . These new edges define a decomposition of  $P$  into four tetrahedra,  $A_o, A_a, A_b$ , and  $A_c$ , each isomorphic to  $P$ , plus one xyz-symmetric octahedron  $B$ . See Figures 5B and 5C. Let  $f_i$  be the face of intersection between tetrahedron  $A_i$  and octahedron  $B$ . Let  $v_i \in \mathbb{R}^3$  be the translation vector such that for all  $p, p \in A_o \Leftrightarrow (p + v_i) \in A_i$ . Note that  $p \in A_o \Leftrightarrow 2p \in P$ . The following equation follows from Lemmas 1 through 9,

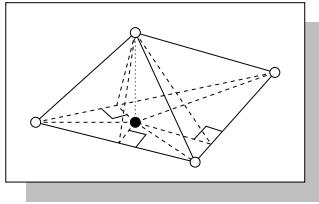


Figure 6: decomposition of a tetrahedron into right-angle tetrahedra

Corollaries 4 and 6, and Theorem 7.

$$\begin{aligned}
 \Gamma(P) &= \Gamma(A_o \cup A_a \cup A_b \cup A_c \cup B) & (31) \\
 &= \Gamma(A_o) + \Gamma(A_a) + \Gamma(A_b) + \Gamma(A_c) + \Gamma(B) \\
 &\quad - \Gamma(f_o) - \Gamma(f_a) - \Gamma(f_b) - \Gamma(f_c) & (32) \\
 &= 4\Gamma(A_o) + v_a + v_b + v_c + \Gamma(B) \\
 &\quad - \Gamma(f_o) - \Gamma(f_a) - \Gamma(f_b) - \Gamma(f_c) & (33) \\
 &= 4 \left[ \frac{1}{2} \Gamma(P) \right] + v_a + v_b + v_c + \Gamma(B) \\
 &\quad - \Gamma(f_o) - \Gamma(f_a) - \Gamma(f_b) - \Gamma(f_c) & (34) \\
 &= -v_a - v_b - v_c - \Gamma(B) \\
 &\quad + \Gamma(f_o) + \Gamma(f_a) + \Gamma(f_b) + \Gamma(f_c) & (35) \\
 &= -v_a - v_b - v_c - \Lambda(B) \\
 &\quad + \Lambda(f_o) + \Lambda(f_a) + \Lambda(f_b) + \Lambda(f_c) & (36) \\
 &= 4 \left[ \frac{1}{2} \Lambda(P) \right] + v_a + v_b + v_c + \Lambda(B) \\
 &\quad - \Lambda(f_o) - \Lambda(f_a) - \Lambda(f_b) - \Lambda(f_c) & (37) \\
 &= 4\Lambda(A_o) + v_a + v_b + v_c + \Lambda(B) \\
 &\quad - \Lambda(f_o) - \Lambda(f_a) - \Lambda(f_b) - \Lambda(f_c) & (38) \\
 &= \Lambda(A_o) + \Lambda(A_a) + \Lambda(A_b) + \Lambda(A_c) + \Lambda(B) \\
 &\quad - \Lambda(f_o) - \Lambda(f_a) - \Lambda(f_b) - \Lambda(f_c) & (39) \\
 &= \Lambda(A_o \cup A_a \cup A_b \cup A_c \cup B) & (40) \\
 &= \Lambda(P) \square & (41)
 \end{aligned}$$

**Theorem 10** Given any non-empty finite set of points  $P \subseteq \mathbb{R}^3$ , the location of its Gaussian centre,  $\Gamma(P)$ , and its projection centre,  $\Lambda(P)$ , are equal. That is,

$$\forall P \subseteq \mathbb{R}^3, \Gamma(P) = \Lambda(P). \quad (42)$$

*Proof sketch.* By induction on  $|V_P|$ . Let  $V_P$  be the set of extreme points of  $P$ . In the base case,  $|V_P| \leq 3$ . When  $|V_P| \leq 3$ , the points of  $P$  must be coplanar and  $\Gamma(P) = \Lambda(P)$  by Lemmas 1 and 2 and Theorem 7. If  $|V_P| \geq 4$ , tetrahedralize  $P$  (may require the addition of new vertices). If a tetrahedron  $T$  does not have any vertex that lies on a line perpendicular to the opposite face, then add a point  $p$  at the centre of the insphere of  $T$  and decompose  $T$  further into the four tetrahedra induced by  $p$ . Each of these can be decomposed into right-angle tetrahedra. See Figure 6. By Lemma 9, the Gaussian centre and projection centre of

any right-angle tetrahedron match.  $P$  can be reconstituted from these right-angle tetrahedra and by Corollaries 4 and 6,  $\Gamma(P) = \Lambda(P)$ .  $\square$

## References

- [AGG02] Pankaj K. Agarwal, Jie Gao, and Leonidas J. Guibas. Kinetic medians and  $kd$ -trees. In *10th Annual European Symposium on Algorithms*, 2002.
- [AH01] Pankaj K. Agarwal and Sariel Har-Peled. Maintaining approximate extent of moving points. In *Symposium on Discrete Algorithms*, pages 148–157. ACM Press, 2001.
- [BBKS00] Sergei Bespamyatnikh, Binay Bhattacharya, David Kirkpatrick, and Michael Segal. Mobile facility location. In *Fourth International ACM Workshop on Discrete Algorithms and Methods for Mobile Computing and Communications*, pages 46–53, 2000.
- [DK04] Stephane Durocher and David Kirkpatrick. The Gaussian centre of a set of points with applications to mobile facility location. *Discrete and Computational Geometry*, 2004. submitted for publication.
- [Her03] John Hershberger. Smooth kinetic maintenance of clusters. In *ACM Symposium on Computational Geometry*, pages 48–57. ACM Press, 2003.