

# HYPERBOLIC SPACES AND QUADRATIC FORMS

JOSEPH E. VALENTINE

**1. Introduction.** A semimetric  $(n+1)$ -tuple is a set of  $n+1$  "points"  $p_0, p_1, \dots, p_n$  with a nonnegative real number  $p_i p_j = p_j p_i$  ( $i, j = 0, 1, \dots, n$ ), attached to each pair of elements, while  $p_i p_j = 0$  if and only if  $i = j$ ; i.e., if and only if  $p_i = p_j$ . Coxeter and Todd [4] have even investigated spaces with distances not necessarily real numbers. Menger [5], [6] investigated necessary and sufficient conditions that a semimetric  $(n+1)$ -tuple be isometrically imbeddable in a euclidean  $n$ -dimensional space  $E_n$ . He solved this problem by means of equations and inequalities involving certain determinants. Blumenthal and Garrett [3] and Blumenthal [2] solved the similar problems for  $n$ -dimensional spherical space  $S_{n,r}$  of radius  $r$  and  $n$ -dimensional hyperbolic space  $H_{n,r}$  of curvature  $-1/r^2$ ,  $r > 0$  by means of certain determinants. Schoenberg [7], [8] gave complete and independent solutions for the problems for euclidean and spherical spaces by means of quadratic forms. The purpose of this paper is to solve the problem for hyperbolic space by means of quadratic forms. A related problem in hyperbolic space is solved. The solution to this problem is quite trivial in the setting of quadratic forms, while it would be quite difficult if only the determinant conditions of Blumenthal were available.

**2. The criterion.** A complete solution to the problem of necessary and sufficient conditions that a semimetric  $(n+1)$ -tuple be isometrically imbeddable in hyperbolic space is given by the following theorem.

**THEOREM.** *A necessary and sufficient condition that a semimetric  $(n+1)$ -tuple,  $p_0, p_1, \dots, p_n$  be congruently imbeddable in  $H_{k,r}$  and not in  $H_{k-1,r}$  is that the quadratic form*

$$G(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = \sum_{i,j=1}^n [\cosh(p_0 p_i / r) \cosh(p_0 p_j / r) - \cosh(p_i p_j / r)] x_i x_j$$

*be positive semidefinite of rank  $k$ .*

**PROOF.** Suppose points  $q_0, q_1, \dots, q_n$  of  $H_{n,r}$  exist such that  $p_i p_j = q_i q_j$  ( $i, j = 0, 1, 2, \dots, n$ ). It is known, [1, Exercise 2, p. 273], that the " $n$ -bein" formed by the rays

---

Received by the editors May 1, 1969.

$$\overrightarrow{q_0q_h} \quad (h = 1, 2, \dots, n)$$

of  $H_{n,r}$  is isogonally imbeddable in an  $n$ -dimensional euclidean space  $E_n$ . Let  $\mu$  denote the " $n$ -bein" of  $E_n$  which is isogonal with the " $n$ -bein" of  $H_{n,r}$ , and let  $\rho_h$  correspond to

$$\overrightarrow{q_0q_h} \quad (h = 1, 2, \dots, n).$$

If  $\rho_h$  intersects the unit sphere  $S_{n-1,1}$  with center at the vertex of  $\mu$  in  $p'_h$  ( $h = 1, 2, \dots, n$ ), then  $p'_i p'_j = \text{spher dist}(p'_i, p'_j) = \sphericalangle q_0: q_i, q_j$  ( $i, j = 1, 2, \dots, n$ ), where  $\sphericalangle q_0: q_i, q_j$  denotes the angle formed at  $q_0$  by the rays

$$\overrightarrow{q_0q_i}, \quad \overrightarrow{q_0q_j}.$$

By the hyperbolic law of cosines,

$$\begin{aligned} \cos(\sphericalangle q_0: q_i, q_j) &= [\cosh(q_0q_i/r) \cosh(q_0q_j/r) \\ &\quad - \cosh(q_iq_j/r)] / [\sinh(q_0q_i/r) \sinh(q_0q_j/r)] \end{aligned}$$

thus,

$$\begin{aligned} \cos(p'_i p'_j) &= [\cosh(q_0q_i/r) \cosh(q_0q_j/r) \\ &\quad - \cosh(q_iq_j/r)] / [\sinh(q_0q_i/r) \sinh(q_0q_j/r)]. \end{aligned}$$

According to Theorem 2 [6, pp. 727, 728] a necessary and sufficient condition that points  $p'_i, p'_j$  ( $i, j = 1, 2, \dots, n$ ) exist on the unit sphere  $S_{n-1,1}$  is that the quadratic form  $\Phi(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = \sum_{i,j=1}^n \cos(p'_i p'_j) x_i x_j$  be positive semidefinite. Moreover, if the rank of  $\Phi$  is  $k$ , then such points lie on  $S_{k-1,1}$  but not on  $S_{k-2,1}$ .

Hence, a necessary and sufficient condition that a semimetric  $(n+1)$ -tuple  $p_0, p_1, \dots, p_n$  be isometrically imbeddable in  $H_{k,r}$  and not in  $H_{k-1,r}$  is that the quadratic form

$$\begin{aligned} G'(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) &= \sum_{i,j=1}^n [\cosh(p_0p_i/r) \cosh(p_0p_j/r) \\ &\quad - \cosh(p_i p_j/r)] / [\sinh(p_0p_i/r) \sinh(p_0p_j/r)] x_i x_j \end{aligned}$$

be positive semidefinite of rank  $k$ .

Now  $G'$  is positive semidefinite of rank  $k$  if and only if the quadratic form

$$G(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = \sum_{i,j=1}^n [\cosh(p_0p_i/r) \cosh(p_0p_j/r) - \cosh(p_i p_j/r)] x_i x_j$$

has the same properties.

**COROLLARY.** *A semimetric  $(n+1)$ -tuple  $p_0, p_1, \dots, p_n$  is isometrically imbeddable in  $H_{k,r}$  and not in  $H_{k-1,r}$  if and only if the quadratic form  $\sum_{i,j=0}^n \cosh(p_i p_j / r) x_i x_j$  is negative semidefinite of rank  $k$  on the hyperplane  $x_0 = -\sum_{j=1}^n \cosh(p_0 p_j / r) x_j$ .*

**PROOF.** It is clear that

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i,j=0}^n \cosh(p_i p_j / r) x_i x_j &= x_0^2 + 2x_0 \sum_{i=1}^n \cosh(p_0 p_i / r) x_i \\ &\quad + \sum_{i,j=1}^n \cosh(p_i p_j / r) x_i x_j; \end{aligned}$$

and for all values of  $x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n$  such that  $x_0 = -\sum_{j=1}^n \cosh(p_0 p_j / r) x_j$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} &\sum_{i,j=0}^n \cosh(p_i p_j / r) x_i x_j \\ &= -\sum_{j=1}^n \cosh(p_0 p_j / r) x_j \sum_{i=1}^n \cosh(p_0 p_i / r) x_i + \sum_{i,j=1}^n \cosh(p_i p_j / r) x_i x_j \\ &= -\sum_{i,j=1}^n \cosh(p_0 p_j / r) \cosh(p_0 p_i / r) x_i x_j + \sum_{i,j=1}^n \cosh(p_i p_j / r) x_i x_j \\ &= -\sum_{i,j=1}^n [\cosh(p_0 p_j / r) \cosh(p_0 p_i / r) - \cosh(p_i p_j / r)] x_i x_j. \end{aligned}$$

Thus,  $\sum_{i,j=0}^n \cosh(p_i p_j / r) x_i x_j$  is negative semidefinite of rank  $k$  on the hyperplane  $x_0 = -\sum_{j=1}^n \cosh(p_0 p_j / r) x_j$  if and only if  $\sum_{i,j=1}^n [\cosh(p_0 p_j / r) \cosh(p_0 p_i / r) - \cosh(p_i p_j / r)] x_i x_j$  is positive semidefinite of rank  $k$ .

**3. An application.** As an example of the possible utility of the above characterization, we give an affirmative answer to the following problem.

Suppose  $p'_0, p'_1, \dots, p'_n$  and  $p''_0, p''_1, \dots, p''_n$  are vertices of two  $n$ -simplices in  $H_{n,r}$ . Let  $r_{ij} = r \cosh^{-1} [\cosh(p'_i p'_j / r) \cosh(p''_i p''_j / r)]$  ( $i, j = 0, 1, 2, \dots, n$ ). Does an  $n$ -simplex of  $H_{n,r}$  exist with edges equal to  $r_{ij}$ ?

By the theorem it suffices to consider the quadratic form

$$K(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = \sum_{i,j=1}^n [\cosh(r_{0i} / r) \cosh(r_{0j} / r) - \cosh(r_{ij} / r)] x_i x_j.$$

Now,

$$\begin{aligned}
 & K(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \\
 &= \sum_{i,j=1}^n [\cosh(p'_0 p'_i / r) \cosh(p'_0 p'_j / r) \cosh(p''_0 p'_i / r) \cosh(p''_0 p'_j / r) \\
 &\quad - \cosh(p'_i p'_j / r) \cosh(p''_i p''_j / r)] x_i x_j \\
 &= \sum_{i,j=1}^n [\cosh(p'_0 p'_i / r) \cosh(p'_0 p'_j / r) \cosh(p''_0 p'_i / r) \cosh(p''_0 p'_j / r) \\
 &\quad - \cosh(p''_0 p''_i / r) \cosh(p''_0 p''_j / r) \cosh(p'_i p'_j / r) \\
 &\quad + \cosh(p''_0 p''_i / r) \cosh(p''_0 p''_j / r) \cosh(p'_i p'_j / r) \\
 &\quad - \cosh(p'_i p'_j / r) \cosh(p''_i p''_j / r)] x_i x_j \\
 &= \sum_{i,j=1}^n [\cosh(p'_0 p'_i / r) \cosh(p'_0 p'_j / r) \\
 &\quad - \cosh(p'_i p'_j / r)] \cosh(p''_0 p''_i / r) \cosh(p''_0 p''_j / r) x_i x_j \\
 &\quad + \sum_{i,j=1}^n [\cosh(p''_0 p''_i / r) \cosh(p''_0 p''_j / r) \\
 &\quad - \cosh(p''_i p''_j / r)] \cosh(p'_i p'_j / r) x_i x_j.
 \end{aligned}$$

Each quadratic form is positive semidefinite, and hence their sum is also.

#### REFERENCES

1. L. M. Blumenthal, *Theory and applications of distance geometry*, Clarendon Press, Oxford, 1953. MR 14, 1009.
2. ———, *The geometry of a class of semimetric spaces*, Tôhoku Math. J. **43** (1937), 205–224.
3. L. M. Blumenthal and G. A. Garrett, *Characterization of spherical and pseudo-spherical sets of points*, Amer. J. Math. **53** (1931), 619–640.
4. H. S. M. Coxeter and J. A. Todd, *On points with arbitrarily assigned mutual distances*, Proc. Cambridge Philos. Soc. **30** (1934), 1–3.
5. K. Menger, *Bericht über metrische Geometrie*, Jber. Deutsch. Math.-Verein **40** (1931), 201–219.
6. ———, *New foundations of euclidean geometry*, Amer. J. Math. **53** (1931), 721–745.
7. I. J. Schoenberg, *Remarks to Maurice Fréchet's article "Sur la définition axiomatique d'une classe d'espaces distancés vectoriellement applicable sur l'espace de Hilbert"*, Ann. of Math. (2) **36** (1935), 724–732.
8. ———, *Metric spaces and positive definite functions*, Trans. Amer. Math. Soc. **44** (1938), 522–536.