

## Dispersed Points and Geometric Embedding of Complete Bipartite Graphs

Hiroshi Maehara

College of Education, Ryukyu University, Okinawa, Japan

**Abstract.** The minimum dimension needed to represent  $K(m, n)$  as a “unit neighborhood graph” in Euclidean space is considered. Some upper and lower bounds on this dimension are given, and the exact values of the dimension are calculated for  $m \leq 3$ ,  $n \leq 10$ .

### 1. Introduction

Let  $X$  be a nonempty subset of Euclidean  $n$ -space  $E^n$ . Then the graph having vertex set  $X$  and edge set

$$\{xy: |x - y| \leq 1, x, y \in X, x \neq y\}$$

(where  $|\cdot|$  denotes the Euclidean norm) is called the *unit neighborhood graph* on  $X$ . For a (finite simple) graph  $G$ , the *sphericity* of  $G$ ,  $\text{sph } G$ , is the minimum dimension  $n$  such that  $G$  is isomorphic to a unit neighborhood graph in  $E^n$ . Concerning sphericity and some other geometric graph dimensions, see, e.g., [1]-[4] and [6]-[12]. In this paper we give some bounds on the sphericity of the complete bipartite graph  $K(m, n)$  and derive exact values of  $\text{sph } K(m, n)$ ,  $m \leq 3$ ,  $n \leq 10$ . Since sphericity is a hereditary property (that is, if  $H$  is an induced subgraph of  $G$ , then  $\text{sph } H \leq \text{sph } G$ ), these results will be useful to estimate  $\text{sph } G$  for other graphs  $G$ .

A nonempty subset  $X$  of a Euclidean space is said to be *dispersed* if the unit neighborhood graph on  $X$  is an edgeless graph, that is,  $|x - y| > 1$  for any two distinct points  $x, y$  of  $X$ . The maximum cardinality of a dispersed subset of a set  $Y$  is called the *dispersed point number* of  $Y$  and denoted by  $\text{dpn } Y$ . For example, the dispersed point number of a unit circle is 5. Let us denote by  $S^k(r)$  a hypersphere of radius  $r$  in  $k$ -space  $E^k$ , and put

$$N(k, m) = \text{dpn } S^k(s(m)),$$

where  $s(m) = \sqrt{(m+1)/(2m)}$ .

**Theorem 1.**  $\text{sph } K(m, N(k, m)) \leq m - 1 + k.$

Since the “equator” of the sphere  $S^{k+1}(s(m))$  contains  $N(k, m)$  dispersed points, by adding the two “poles,” we see that  $N(k + 1, m) \geq N(k, m) + 2.$  And since  $N(1, m) = 2,$  we have

$$N(k, m) \geq 2k.$$

Hence the next corollary follows.

**Corollary 1** [6].  $\text{sph } K(m, 2n) \leq m - 1 + n.$

Let us define

$$d(m, n) = m - 1 + \min\{k: N(k, m) \geq n\}.$$

Then Theorem 1 is written as

$$\text{sph } K(m, n) \leq d(m, n).$$

We conjecture that, for  $m \leq n,$   $\text{sph } K(m, n) = d(m, n).$  In fact, this is true for infinitely many  $m, n$  (see Corollary 3 and Theorem 4 below).

Using the results of Schütte and Van der Waerden [13], the values of  $d(m, n)$  for  $m \leq 4, n \leq 10,$  are calculated in [8], which are given in Table 1.

**Theorem 2.** For  $n \geq 3,$   $\text{sph } K(n, n) > n.$

This and Theorem 1 give

$$\text{sph } K(4, 4) = 5.$$

Let  $R(m, n)$  denote the “Ramsey number.”

**Theorem 3.** Suppose that

$$m + k \geq \max\{n, R(m - 1, n)\} + 1, \quad M \geq \max\{m + k, N(k, m) - n + m + k\}.$$

**Table 1.** The values of  $d(m, n)$  for  $m \leq 4, n \leq 10.$

$m$	$n$								
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	1	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	3
2	2	3	3	3	4	4	4	5	5
3	3	4	4	5	5	5	6	6	6
4	4	5	5	6	6	7	7	7	7

Then  $\text{sph } K(m, M) \geq m + k$ . For  $m = 5$ , we can replace  $R(m - 1, n)$  by  $R(3, n)$  in the condition.

Letting  $n = 2$ ,  $M = N(k, m) + m + k - 2$ ,  $k \geq 1$ , we have Corollary 2.

**Corollary 2.**  $\text{sph } K(m, N(k, m) + m + k - 2) \geq m + k$  for  $k \geq 1$ .

For  $m \leq 3$ ,  $k \geq m - 1$ , then letting  $n = m + k - 1$  and  $M = N(k, m) + 1$ , the conditions of Theorem 3 are satisfied (because  $R(2, n) = n$ , and  $N(k, m) \geq 2k$ ). Hence  $\text{sph } K(m, N(k, m) + 1) \geq m + k$ . Combining this result with Theorem 1, we have the following.

**Corollary 3.** If  $m \leq 3$ , then  $\text{sph } K(m, n) = d(m, n)$ .

Furthermore,

**Theorem 4.** For any fixed integer  $m > 1$ ,  $\text{sph } K(m, n) = d(m, n)$  holds for infinitely many  $n$ .

Since  $R(3, 3) = 6$  and  $N(2, m) = 4$ ,  $N(3, m) = 6$  for  $m \geq 4$ , letting  $n = 2$ ,  $m = 4$ , and  $k = 2$  in Theorem 3, we have  $\text{sph } K(4, 8) \geq 6$ . Similarly, by letting  $n = 3$ ,  $m = 4$ ,  $k = 3$ ;  $n = 3$ ,  $m = 5$ ,  $k = 2$ ; and  $n = 3$ ,  $m = 5$ ,  $k = 3$ , we have  $\text{sph } K(4, 10) \geq 7$ ,  $\text{sph } K(5, 8) \geq 7$ , and  $\text{sph } K(5, 11) \geq 8$ , respectively. Combining these results with the upper bounds obtained from Corollary 1 and Table 1, we have

$$6 \leq \text{sph } K(4, 8) \leq 7 \leq \text{sph } K(5, 8) \leq 8 \leq \text{sph } K(5, 11),$$

and another exact value

$$\text{sph } K(4, 10) = 7.$$

If a graph  $G$  is isomorphic to a unit neighborhood graph in which any adjacent points are closer than a prescribed distance  $\delta < 1$ , then  $G$  is said to be  $\delta$ -embeddable. Then there arises a question: is there a  $\delta < 1$  such that every finite simple graph is  $\delta$ -embeddable? The answer is NO.

**Theorem 5.** If  $0 < \delta < 1$  and  $n > 1/(1 - \delta^2)$ , then  $K(n, n)$  is not  $\delta$ -embeddable.

## 2. Dispersed Set

In this section we recall some results on dispersed sets and then prove Theorem 5 first. The *circumsphere* ( $c$ -sphere) of a nonempty compact set  $X$  in Euclidean  $n$ -space  $E^n$  is the sphere of minimum radius that encloses  $X$ ; its radius, denoted by  $c(X)$ , is called the  $c$ -radius of  $X$ ; its center is the  $c$ -center of  $X$ . If  $X$  is the vertex set of a regular  $(m - 1)$ -dimensional simplex of unit side length, then the  $c$ -radius of  $X$ ,  $c(X)$ , is denoted by  $c(m)$ . Then it is not difficult to see

$$c(m) = \sqrt{(m - 1)/(2m)}.$$

Recall the definition of  $s(m)$ :

$$s(m) = \sqrt{(m+1)/(2m)}.$$

Thus we have  $c(m)^2 + s(m)^2 = 1$ . Similarly, for any nonempty compact set  $X$  with  $c(X) < 1$ , we define  $s(X) > 0$  by

$$c(X)^2 + s(X)^2 = 1.$$

The following two theorems are proved in [8].

**Theorem A.** *If  $X$  is a dispersed set of size  $m$ , then  $c(X) > c(m)$ .*

A point set  $X$  is said to be *c-spherical* if all points of  $X$  lie on the  $c$ -sphere of the set  $X$ . For example, the vertex set of a regular simplex is  $c$ -spherical, but the vertex set of an obtuse triangle is not  $c$ -spherical. A point set  $X$  is said to be *affinely independent* if  $X$  is the vertex set of nondegenerate simplex.

**Theorem B.** *If  $X$  is a dispersed set with  $c(X) \leq \sqrt{\frac{1}{2}}$ , then  $X$  is affinely independent and  $c$ -spherical.*

Now we proceed to the proof of Theorem 4. First we prepare a lemma. For two nonempty finite sets  $X$  and  $Y$  in a Euclidean space, we define

$$\text{dis}(X, Y) = \max\{|x - y| : x \in X, y \in Y\}.$$

**Lemma 1.**  $c(X)^2 + c(Y)^2 \leq \text{dis}(X, Y)^2$ .

*Proof.* We may assume that the  $c$ -center of  $X$  is at the origin  $O$ . Let  $\{x_1, \dots, x_m\} = \{x \in X : |x| = c(X)\}$ . Then the origin  $O$  belongs to the convex hull of  $\{x_1, \dots, x_m\}$ , as is easily seen. Hence  $O$  is expressed as a *convex combination* of  $x_1, \dots, x_m$ :

$$O = a_1 x_1 + \dots + a_m x_m \quad (a_1 + \dots + a_m = 1, a_i \geq 0).$$

For any  $y$  of  $Y$ ,

$$\text{dis}(X, Y)^2 \geq |x_i - y|^2 = |y|^2 + c(X)^2 - 2\langle y, x_i \rangle,$$

where  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$  denotes the inner product. Multiplying both sides by  $a_i$  and summing on  $i$ , we have

$$\text{dis}(X, Y)^2 \geq |y|^2 + c(X)^2.$$

Hence  $\text{dis}(X, Y)^2 \geq \max_y |y|^2 + c(X)^2 \geq c(X)^2 + c(Y)^2$ . □

*Proof of Theorem 5.* Suppose that  $K(n, n)$  is  $\delta$ -embeddable in a Euclidean space. Then there exist two dispersed sets  $X, Y$  each of size  $n$ , such that  $\text{dis}(X, Y) < \delta$ . By Lemma 1, we have  $c(X)^2 + c(Y)^2 \leq \text{dis}(X, Y)^2 < \delta^2$ . Hence we may assume  $c(X)^2 < \delta^2/2$ . Since  $c(X) > c(n)$  by Theorem A, we have  $c(n)^2 = (n-1)/(2n) < \delta^2/2$ , i.e.,  $n < 1/(1-\delta^2)$ . Therefore, if  $n > 1/(1-\delta^2)$ , then  $K(n, n)$  is not  $\delta$ -embeddable. □

### 3. Focal Set

Let  $X$  be a nonempty set in  $E^k$ . A point  $y$  of  $E^k$  is called a *focal point* of  $X$  if  $|y - x| \leq 1$  for all points  $x$  of  $X$ . The set of all focal points of  $X$  is called the *focal set* of  $X$  and it is denoted by  $F(X)$ . Thus, by definition,

$$F(X) = \{y \in E^k : |y - x| \leq 1 \text{ for all } x \text{ of } X\} = \bigcap_{x \in X} B(x, 1),$$

where  $B(x, 1)$  denotes the unit (closed) ball centered at  $x \in E^k$ . Note that  $F(X) = \emptyset$  if the  $c$ -radius  $c(X)$  is  $> 1$ .

The operation  $F$  is interesting in its own right. For example, if  $X$  is a set of  $c$ -radius  $\leq 1$ , then the set

$$\frac{1}{2}[F(X) + F(F(X))]$$

is a set of constant width 1 containing  $X$ , where  $+$  denotes the vector sum of two sets, see [5] for detail.

The following lemma will be clear.

**Lemma 2.** *There exists a dispersed set  $X$  of size  $m$  in  $E^k$  such that  $\text{dpn } F(X) \geq n$  if and only if  $\text{sph } K(m, n) \leq k$ .*

**Example.** For two points  $x, y$  ( $x \neq y$ ) in  $E^2$ , the set  $F(\{x, y\})$  is the intersection of the two unit disks with centers  $x, y$ . It is easy to see that if  $|x - y| > 1$ , then  $\text{dpn } F(\{x, y\}) \leq 2$ . Hence  $\text{sph } K(2, 3) > 2$ .

By the *dimension* of a set  $X$  in a Euclidean space, we mean the dimension of the flat (=affine subspace) spanned by  $X$ . In the rest of this section we assume the following:

$X$  is a  $c$ -spherical set in  $E^k$  of dimension  $j < k$  with  $c$ -center at the origin  $O$  and  $c$ -radius  $c(X) < 1$ .

The subspace spanned by  $X$  is called the *tangent space* of  $X$ , and is denoted by  $T(X)$ . Clearly,  $T(X)$  contains the origin  $O$  and  $\dim T(X) = j$ . The orthogonal complement of  $T(X)$  in  $E^k$  is called the *normal space* of  $X$ , which is denoted by  $N(X)$ . Then the intersection of the normal space  $N(X)$  and the focal set  $F(X)$  is a  $(k - j)$ -dimensional disk of radius  $s(X) = (1 - c(X)^2)^{1/2}$ , because  $|x| = c(X)$  for all  $x$  of  $X$ . This disk is called the *normal disk* and its boundary is called the *normal sphere* of  $X$ . For example, if  $X = \{(-\frac{1}{2}, 0, 0), (\frac{1}{2}, 0, 0)\}$  in  $E^3$ , then the normal sphere of  $X$  is  $\{(0, s, t) : s^2 + t^2 = \frac{3}{4}\}$ . Note that the normal sphere of  $X$  is the intersection of all unit hyperspheres  $S(x, 1)$  with center  $x \in X$ .

*Proof of Theorem 1.* Let  $X$  be the vertex set of an  $(m-1)$ -dimensional regular simplex of side-length  $1+\varepsilon$  in  $E^{m-1+k}$ . Then the  $c$ -radius of  $X$  is  $c(X) = (1+\varepsilon)c(m)$ , and the normal sphere of  $X$  is a  $k$ -dimensional sphere with radius  $s(X) = (1-c(X)^2)^{1/2}$ . By the definition of  $N(k, m)$ , a  $k$ -dimensional sphere of radius  $s(m)$  contains a dispersed set of size  $N(k, m)$ . Hence, if  $\varepsilon > 0$  is sufficiently small, the normal sphere of  $X$  also contains a dispersed set of size  $N(k, m)$ . Hence  $\text{dpn } F(X) \geq N(k, m)$ . Then by Lemma 2, we have  $\text{sph } K(m, N(k, m)) \leq m+k-1$ .  $\square$

Let

$$p: E^k \rightarrow T(X),$$

$$q: E^k \rightarrow N(X),$$

be the orthogonal projections. Then for any point  $z$  of  $E^k$ ,

$$z = p(z) + q(z).$$

Any noncollinear three points  $x, y, z$  determine a circle. By the circular arc  $xyz$ , we mean the arc  $xyz$  of the circle determined by  $x, y, z$ . The boundary of  $F(X)$  is denoted by  $\partial F(X)$ .

**Lemma 3.** *Let  $z$  be a point on the boundary  $\partial F(X)$  such that  $p(z) \neq 0, q(z) \neq 0$ . Let  $z^+, z^-$  be the two points where the line  $Op(z)$  meets the normal sphere of  $X$ . Then the circular arc  $M(z) = z^+zz^-$  lies entirely on  $\partial F(X)$ .*

The arc  $M(z)$  is called the *meridian* of  $\partial F(X)$  passing through the point  $z$ . Note that  $z^- = -z^+$ .

*Proof.* Since  $z$  is a boundary point of  $F(X)$ ,  $z$  lies on some sphere  $S(x_i, 1)$ . And since  $z^+, z^-$  are two points of the normal sphere of  $X$ ,  $z^+$  and  $z^-$  lie on  $S(x_j, 1)$  for all  $j=1, \dots, m$ . Here we note the following fact: if a circle and a sphere have more than two points in common, then the circle lies entirely on the sphere. Therefore, if  $z \in S(x_j, 1)$ , then  $M(z) \subset S(x_j, 1)$ , while if  $z \notin S(x_j, 1)$ , then, since  $z \in B(x_j, 1)$ , all points of  $M(z)$  other than the two endpoints are interior points of  $B(x_j, 1)$ . Therefore  $M(z) \subset F(X)$  and  $M(z) \subset S(x_i, 1)$ . Thus  $M(z) \subset \partial F(X)$ .  $\square$

#### 4. Dispersed Points in a Focal Set

In this section we prove some lemmas that are useful in the computation of the dispersed point number of a focal set. Throughout this section, we assume that

$X = \{x_1, \dots, x_m\} \subset E^k$  ( $m \leq k$ ) is a dispersed set with  $c$ -center  $O$  (origin) and  $c$ -radius  $c(X) \leq \sqrt{\frac{1}{2}}$ .

Then by Theorem B,  $X$  is affinely independent and  $c$ -spherical; the tangent space  $T(X)$  of  $X$  is an  $(m-1)$ -dimensional subspace of  $E^k$ , and the normal space  $N(X)$  (the orthogonal complement of  $T(X)$  in  $E^k$ ) is  $(k-m+1)$ -dimensional. The projections  $E^k \rightarrow T(X)$ ,  $E^k \rightarrow N(X)$  are denoted by  $p$  and  $q$ , respectively. Further, we denote by

$$f: E^k - \{O\} \rightarrow \partial F(X)$$

the central projection from the origin, i.e., for any  $z \neq O$ ,  $f(z)$  is the point where the ray  $\overline{Oz}$  meets the boundary  $\partial F(X)$ . (Note that  $F(X)$  is a convex body containing  $O$  inside.)

**Lemma 4.** For any dispersed pair  $x, y$  in  $F(X)$ ,

$$y \neq O \quad \text{and} \quad |x - f(y)| \geq |x - y|.$$

*Proof.* Since  $|x| < 1$  (because  $|x - x_i| \leq 1$  for  $i = 1, \dots, m$ , and  $O$  is contained in the convex hull of  $X$ ) and  $|y| < 1$ , it follows that  $x \neq O$ ,  $y \neq O$ , and that the angle at  $O$  is the largest angle in the triangle  $Oxy$ . Then the angle  $\angle Oyx$  is acute, and hence it follows that  $|x - f(y)| \geq |x - y|$ .  $\square$

Let us denote by  $\Delta(X)$  the simplex spanned by  $X$ .

**Lemma 5.** Let  $z$  be a point of  $F(X)$ . If  $|z| \geq c(X)$ , then  $p(z) \in \Delta(X)$ .

*Proof.* We prove the contraposition. Suppose that  $z' = p(z)$  lies outside  $\Delta(X)$ . Then, for some  $0 < t < 1$ ,  $tz'$  lies on a face of  $\Delta(X)$ , say on the face opposite to the point  $x_1$ . Then  $tz'$  is expressed as a convex combination of  $x_2, \dots, x_m$ :

$$tz' = a_2x_2 + \dots + a_mx_m.$$

Since  $1 < |x_1 - x_i|^2 = 2c(X)^2 - 2\langle x_1, x_i \rangle$  for  $i \geq 2$ , we have  $2\langle x_1, x_i \rangle < 2c(X)^2 - 1$ , and

$$\begin{aligned} 2\langle x_1, tz' \rangle &= 2\langle x_1, a_2x_2 + \dots + a_mx_m \rangle \\ &< (a_2 + \dots + a_m)(2c(X)^2 - 1) = 2c(X)^2 - 1 < 0. \end{aligned}$$

So  $2\langle x_1, z' \rangle < 2c(X)^2 - 1$ . Since  $\langle x_1, z \rangle = \langle x_1, z' \rangle$ ,

$$1 \geq |x_1 - z|^2 = c(X)^2 + |z|^2 - 2\langle x_1, z \rangle > c(X)^2 + |z|^2 - 2c(X)^2 + 1.$$

Therefore  $|z| < c(X)$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 6.**  $c(F(X) \cap T(X)) < c(X)$ .

*Proof.* First note that  $x_i \notin F(X)$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, m$ , for  $X$  is dispersed. Let  $z \in F(X) \cap T(X)$ . Then  $z = p(z)$ . If  $z \in \Delta(X)$ , then since  $z \neq x_i$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, m$ ,  $|z| < c(X)$ . If  $z \notin \Delta(X)$ , then, by Lemma 5,  $|z| < c(X)$ .  $\square$

For a point  $z$  of  $F(X)$ , let us define

$$z^\circ = \begin{cases} f(p(z)) & \text{if } p(z) \neq O, \\ O & \text{if } p(z) = O, \end{cases} \quad z^+ = \begin{cases} f(q(z)) & \text{if } q(z) \neq O, \\ O & \text{if } q(z) = O. \end{cases}$$

If  $p(z) \neq O$  and  $q(z) \neq O$ , then the circular arc  $z^+z^\circ(-z^+)$  is the meridian  $M(f(z))$  passing through the point  $f(z)$  (cf. Lemma 3). In this case,  $z^\circ$  bisects the meridian  $M(f(z))$ , and  $z$  lies on the angular region  $\angle z^\circ Oz^+$ . Note also that if  $z \neq O$ , then  $z^+ = f(z)^+$  and  $z^\circ = f(z)^\circ$ .

**Lemma 7.** *Let  $x, y$  be a dispersed pair on  $\partial F(X)$  such that  $\langle x, q(y) \rangle \geq 0$ . If  $|y| < c(X)$ , then  $|x - y^\circ| \geq |x - y|$ , while if  $|y| \geq c(X)$ , then  $|x - y^+| \geq |x - y|$ .*

*Proof.* If  $p(y) = O$ , then  $|y| = |y^+| = s(X) > c(X)$ , and  $|x - y^+| = |x - y|$ . If  $q(y) = O$ , then  $|y| = |y^\circ| < c(X)$ , and  $|x - y^\circ| = |x - y|$ . Assume  $p(y) \neq O$  and  $q(y) \neq O$ . Let  $M(y)$  be the meridian of  $\partial F(X)$  passing through  $y$ , and let  $P$  be the plane determined by  $M(y)$  (i.e.,  $P$  is determined by  $O, p(y), q(y)$ ). Let  $w$  be the center of the circle  $C$  determined by  $M(y)$ . Then since the circle  $C$  passes through  $y^+$  and  $y^- := -y^+$ , the center  $w$  must lie on the line  $Oy^\circ$ . Since  $|y^\circ| < c(X) < s(X) = |y^+|$ , the origin lies between  $w$  and  $y^\circ$ , and hence there is a unique point  $z$  on the subarc  $y^+y^\circ$  of  $M(y)$  such that  $|z| = c(X)$ . The point  $y$  lies on the arc  $y^+z$  or on the arc  $zy^\circ$  of  $M(y)$  accordingly as  $|y| \geq c(X)$  or  $|y| < c(X)$ . Let  $x'$  be the projection of the point  $x$  on the plane  $P$  determined by  $C$ .

Suppose first  $|y| < c(X)$ . Since  $\langle x, q(y) \rangle \geq 0$ , the points  $x'$  and  $y^+$  lie on the same side of the line  $Oy^\circ$  in the plane  $P$ . In this case one of the angles  $\angle x'wz, \angle x'wy^\circ$  is greater than  $\angle x'wy$ . And hence one of  $|x' - z|, |x' - y^\circ|$  is greater than  $|x' - y|$ , from which we can deduce that one of  $|x - z|, |x - y^\circ|$  is greater than  $|x - y|$ . Thus if we prove  $|x - z| \leq 1$ , then we have  $|x - y^\circ| \geq |x - y|$ . Since  $|z| = c(X)$ ,  $p(z)$  is contained in  $\Delta(X)$  by Lemma 5. Hence  $p(z)$  is expressed as a convex combination of  $x_1, \dots, x_m$ :

$$p(z) = a_1x_1 + \dots + a_mx_m \quad (a_1 + \dots + a_m = 1, a_i \geq 0).$$

For each  $x_i$ ,

$$1 \geq |x - x_i|^2 = |x|^2 + |x_i|^2 - 2\langle x, x_i \rangle.$$

Multiplying both sides by  $a_i$  and summing on  $i = 1, \dots, m$ , we have

$$1 \geq |x|^2 + c(X)^2 - 2\langle x, p(z) \rangle = |x|^2 + |z|^2 - 2\langle x, p(z) \rangle.$$

But since  $\langle x, z \rangle = \langle x, p(z) \rangle + \langle x, q(z) \rangle$ , we have

$$|x - z|^2 = |x|^2 + |z|^2 - 2\langle x, p(z) \rangle - 2\langle x, q(z) \rangle \leq 1 - 2\langle x, q(z) \rangle \leq 1.$$

Thus  $|x - z| \leq 1$ .

Similarly, if  $|y| \geq c(X)$ , then we have  $|x - y^+| \geq |x - y|$ . □



**Lemma 8.** *Let  $x, y$  be a dispersed pair in  $F(X)$ . Then  $|x^+ - y^+| > 1$  or  $|x^\circ - y^\circ| > 1$  holds. If  $|y| \geq c(X)$ , then  $|x^+ - y^+|$  is always greater than 1.*

*Proof.* We may assume that  $x, y$  lie on the boundary  $\partial F(X)$  (otherwise, by Lemma 4, we can replace  $x, y$  by  $f(x), f(y)$ ). If  $\langle x, q(y) \rangle < 0$ , then  $\langle x^+, y^+ \rangle < 0$ , and hence  $|x^+ - y^+|^2 > |x^+|^2 + |y^+|^2 = 2s(X)^2 > 1$ . Suppose now  $\langle x, q(y) \rangle \geq 0$ . Then, by the above lemma,  $|x - y^+| > 1$  or  $|x - y^\circ| > 1$  accordingly as  $|y| \geq c(X)$  or  $|y| < c(X)$ . Since  $\langle y^\circ, q(x) \rangle = 0$  and  $\langle y^+, q(x) \rangle \geq 0$ , applying Lemma 7 again, and noting that  $|x^\circ - y^+|, |x^+ - y^\circ| \leq 1$ , we have  $|x^\circ - y^\circ| > 1$  or  $|x^+ - y^+| > 1$ . If  $|y| \geq c(X)$ , then  $|x^+ - y^+|$  is always greater than 1.  $\square$

### 5. Proof of Theorems 2–4

*Proof of Theorem 2.* Suppose that  $\text{sph } K(n, n) \leq n$  for some  $n \geq 3$ . Then there exist two dispersed sets  $X, Y$ , each of size  $n$  in  $E^n$  such that  $\text{dis}(X, Y) \leq 1$ . We may assume  $c(X) \leq c(Y)$  and the  $c$ -center of  $X$  is at the origin  $O$ . Then, by Lemma 1,  $c(X) \leq \sqrt{\frac{1}{2}}$ , and hence the tangent space  $T(X)$  of  $X$  is  $(n-1)$ -dimensional by Theorem B. Hence the normal space of  $X$  is one-dimensional, and the normal sphere of  $X$  consists of only two points. Since  $c(X) \leq c(Y)$ , there is at least one point  $y$  in  $Y$  such that  $|y| \geq c(X)$ . Then, since  $Y$  is a dispersed set in  $F(X)$ , applying Lemma 8, we have  $|y^+ - w^+| > 1$  for all  $w$  of  $Y - \{y\}$ . Hence, all points  $w^+$  must coincide with each other. Then, again by Lemma 8, we must have  $|v^\circ - w^\circ| > 1$  for  $v, w \in Y - \{y\}$ . This implies that  $X$  and  $\{w^\circ: w \in Y, w \neq y\}$  together induce a unit neighborhood graph isomorphic to  $K(n, n-1)$ , and hence  $\text{sph } K(n, n-1) \leq n-1$ . Thus  $\text{sph } K(n-1, n-1) \leq n-1$ . Repeating the same argument, we finally reach  $\text{sph } K(2, 3) \leq 2$ , which is a contradiction (see the example after Lemma 2).  $\square$

*Proof of Theorem 3.* Suppose that  $\text{sph } K(m, M) \leq m-1+k$ . Then there exist two dispersed sets  $X, Y$  of size  $m$  and  $M$  in  $E^{m-1+k}$  such that  $F(X) \supset Y$ . If  $c(Y) < c(X)$ , then  $c(Y) < \sqrt{\frac{1}{2}}$  by Lemma 1, and  $Y$  is affinely independent and  $c$ -spherical by Theorem B. In this case,  $Y$  spans  $E^{m-1+k}$ , and since  $X \subset F(Y)$ , we must have  $c(X) < c(F(Y)) < c(Y)$  by Lemma 6, which is a contradiction. Hence  $c(X) \leq c(Y)$ . Therefore  $X$  is affinely independent and  $c$ -spherical. We may assume that the  $c$ -center of  $X$  is at the origin  $O$ . Let

$$W = \{w \in Y: |w| < c(X)\}.$$

Then  $|W| \leq m+k$ . However,  $|W| = m+k$  is impossible, because if  $|W| = m+k$ , then  $W$  spans  $E^{m-1+k}$ , and since  $X \subset F(W)$ , we must have  $c(X) < c(W) < c(X)$ , a contradiction. Thus  $|W| \leq m-1+k$ . Therefore, there are at least

$$N(k, m) - n + 1$$

points  $y_i, i = 1, \dots, N(k, m) - n + 1$ , in  $Y$  such that  $|y_i| \geq c(X)$ . Let

$$U = Y - \{y_i: i = 1, \dots, N(k, m) - n + 1\}.$$

Let  $G^\circ$  be the graph with vertex set  $U$  and edge set

$$\{uv: u, v \in U \text{ and } |u^\circ - v^\circ| \leq 1\}.$$

Then since  $|U| \geq m - 1 + k \geq \max\{n, R(m - 1, n)\}$  and since  $n = R(2, n)$ , the graph  $G^\circ$  contains either an independent set of size  $\max\{2, m - 1\}$  or a clique of size  $n$ . We show that  $G^\circ$  must contain a clique of size  $n$ . If  $m \leq 3$ , then since

$$\text{sph } K(1, 2) = 1, \quad \text{sph } K(2, 2) = 2, \quad \text{and} \quad \text{sph } K(3, 2) > 2,$$

$F(X) \cap T(X)$  cannot contain two dispersed points, and hence  $G^\circ$  is a complete graph. Suppose that for  $m > 3$ ,  $G^\circ$  contains an independent set of size  $m - 1$ . Then the set  $\{u_i^\circ: u_i \in U\}$  contains  $m - 1$  dispersed points, and hence  $T(X)$  contains a unit neighborhood graph isomorphic to  $K(m, m - 1)$ . But since

$$\text{sph } K(m - 1, m) > m - 1$$

by Theorem 2, this is impossible. Thus, in either case,  $G^\circ$  must contain a clique of size  $n$ . Let  $\{u_i: i = 1, \dots, n\}$  be a clique of  $G^\circ$ . Then, by Lemma 8, the set

$$\{u_i^+: i = 1, \dots, n\} \cup \{y_i^+: i = 1, \dots, N(k, m) - n + 1\}$$

is a dispersed set of size  $N(k, m) + 1$  on the normal sphere of  $X$ . However, since the normal sphere of  $X$  is a  $k$ -dimensional sphere of radius  $s(X) < s(m)$ , it cannot contain more than  $N(k, m)$  dispersed points. Thus we have a contradiction. Therefore,  $\text{sph } K(m, M) \geq m + k$ .

Now assume  $m = 5$ . By Corollary 3, and Table 1, we have  $\text{sph } K(3, 5) = 5$  (note that to derive Corollary 3, we used only the case  $m \leq 3$  of Theorem 3). Hence we have  $\text{dpn } (F(X) \cap T(X)) \leq 2$ . Therefore we may replace  $R(m - 1, n)$  by  $R(3, n)$  in the condition of the theorem  $\square$

*Proof of Theorem 4.* We proved in Theorem 3 of [3] that, for any fixed  $m > 0$ ,  $N(k, m)$  is exponentially large in  $k$ , that is,

$$N(k, m) > (k - 2)/(k - 1)^{1/2} \exp\{(k - 2)\beta^2/2\},$$

where  $\beta = \sin^{-1}\{1/(m + 1)\}$ . Hence, for infinitely many  $k$ ,  $N(k + 1, m) - N(k, m) > k + m$  holds (for otherwise,  $N(k, m) < k^2/2 + O(k)$ , which is not exponentially large). Then, by Corollary 2 and Theorem 1,

$$m + k \leq \text{sph } K(m, N(k, m) + m + k - 2) \leq \text{sph } K(m, N(k + 1, m)) \leq m + k$$

holds for infinitely many  $k$ . For each of such  $k$ , let  $n = n(k) = N(k + 1, m)$ . Then  $d(m, n) = m + k$  and  $\text{sph } K(m, n) = d(m, n)$ .  $\square$

## References

1. P. C. Fishburn, On the sphericity and cubicity of graphs, *J. Combin. Theory Ser. B* **35** (1983), 309–318.
2. P. Frankl and H. Maehara, Embedding the  $n$ -cube in lower dimensions, *European J. Combin.* **7** (1986), 221–225.
3. P. Frankl and H. Maehara, On the contact dimension of graphs, *Discrete Comput. Geom.* **3** (1988), 89–96.
4. L. C. Freeman, Spheres, cubes, and boxes: graph dimensionality and network structure, *Social Network* **5** (1983), 139–156.
5. H. Maehara, Convex bodies forming pairs of constant width, *J. Geom.* **22** (1984), 101–107.
6. H. Maehara, Space graphs and sphericity, *Discrete Appl. Math.* **7** (1984), 55–64.
7. H. Maehara, On the sphericity for the join of many graphs, *Discrete Math.* **49** (1984), 311–313.
8. H. Maehara, Contact patterns of equal nonoverlapping spheres, *Graphs Combin.* **1** (1985), 271–282.
9. H. Maehara, Sphericity exceeds cubicity for almost all complete bipartite graphs, *J. Combin. Theory Ser. B* **40** (1986), 231–235.
10. H. Maehara, On the sphericity of the graphs of semi-regular polyhedra, *Discrete Math.* **58** (1986), 311–315.
11. H. Maehara, J. Reiterman, V. Rödl, and E. Šiňajova, Embedding trees in Euclidean spaces, *Graphs Combin.* **4** (1988), 43–47.
12. J. Reiterman, V. Rödl, and E. Šiňajova, Geometrical embedding of graphs, *Discrete Math.*, to appear.
13. K. Schütte and B. L. Van der Waerden, Auf welcher kugel haben 5, 6, 7, 8, order 9 punkte mit Mindestabstand Ein Platz?, *Math. Ann.* **123** (1951), 96–124.

Received December 17, 1987, and in revised form September 7, 1988.