

A CHARACTERIZATION OF A SPHERICAL m -ARRANGEMENT

MICHAEL C. GEMIGNANI

In [1] a simplified definition of an open m -arrangement was presented. The purpose of this paper is to present a simpler characterization of a spherical m -arrangement than that presented in [2], a characterization which because of its similarity to the characterization of an open m -arrangement in [1] leads us to define a new type of structure, an (n, m) -arrangement, of which open m -arrangements and spherical m -arrangements are but special cases. The principal result to be proved in this paper in the following:

Theorem 1: Let X be a topological space with geometry G of length $m - 1 \geq 0$. Then X and G form a spherical m -arrangement if and only if the following conditions are satisfied:

- i) *Each 0-flat consists of precisely two points.*
- ii) *If f is a $k-1$ -flat and g is a k -flat with $f \subseteq g$, then f disconnects g into two non-empty convex components which are open in g , $0 \leq k \leq m$.*
- iii) *Each 1-flat is connected.*
- iv) *(If f is an $m-1$ -flat, then we call the components of $X-f$ half-spaces of X .) The collection of half-spaces of X forms a subbasis for the topology of X .*

Proof: We note first that i) and ii) are the same as 1) and 5) in the definition of a spherical m -arrangement given in [2]. We now show that i) through iv) also imply 2), 3), and 4) in the definition of a spherical m -arrangement. In the following propositions then we assume that we have a space X with geometry G of length $m-1$ which satisfies i) through iv).

Proposition 1: X is T_1 .

Proof: Each $m-1$ -flat is closed and any 0-flat $\{x, y\}$ is the intersection of finitely many $m-1$ -flats, and hence is closed. But by ii) $\{x, y\}$ is disconnected; hence it follows that $\{x\}$ and $\{y\}$ are both closed sets. Since any one point subset of X is contained in some 0-flat, X is T_1 .

Proposition 2: If f is any 1-flat and x is a point of f , then x is a non-cut point of f .