



# Strict $C^p$ -triangulations of sets locally definable in o-minimal structures with an application to a $C^p$ -approximation problem

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## Abstract

We show how to derive triangulations of sets locally definable in o-minimal structures from triangulations of compact definable sets. We give it in particular for strict  $C^p$ -triangulations which has been recently studied by the author. This combined with a theorem of Fernando and Ghiloni implies that every continuous mapping defined on a locally compact subset  $B$  of  $\mathbb{R}^m$  with values in any locally definable and locally compact subset  $A$  of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  can be approximated by  $C^p$ -mappings defined on  $B$  with values in  $A$  for any positive integer  $p$ .

**Keywords** O-minimal structure · Locally definable subset ·  $C^p$ -triangulation · Strict  $C^p$ -triangulation

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## 1 Introduction

The present article gives some generalization of results of our recent paper [9], which is important for an application in approximation theory (cf. [3, 4]). We will be working with an arbitrary fixed o-minimal expansion of the ordered field of real numbers  $\mathbb{R}$ . We will deal with subsets of spaces  $\mathbb{R}^n$  ( $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ) and mappings  $f : A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ , where  $A \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ , which are *definable* in this structure (mapping  $f$  is called definable if its graph is a definable subset of  $\mathbb{R}^{n+m}$ ).

We adopt the following general definitions. If  $\mathcal{K}$  is any family of subsets of a set  $X$ , then by a *refinement* of  $\mathcal{K}$  we understand any family  $\mathcal{L}$  of subsets of  $X$  such that

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each  $L \in \mathcal{L}$  is contained in some  $K \in \mathcal{K}$  and each  $K \in \mathcal{K}$  is the union  $\bigcup \mathcal{L}'$  of some subfamily  $\mathcal{L}' \subset \mathcal{L}$ . If  $\mathcal{K}$  is any family of subsets of a set  $X$ , then we will denote by  $|\mathcal{K}|$  the union of all subsets  $K$  belonging to  $\mathcal{K}$ .

We adopt a standard definition of a *simplex of dimension  $k$*  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  as the convex hull of  $k + 1$  points  $a_0, \dots, a_k$  affinely independent in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ; i.e.

$$\Delta = [a_0, \dots, a_k] := \left\{ \sum_{i=0}^k \alpha_i a_i : \alpha_i \geq 0 \ (i \in \{0, \dots, k\}), \sum_{i=0}^k \alpha_i = 1 \right\}.$$

If  $0 \leq i_0 < i_1 < \dots < i_l \leq k$ , then the simplex  $[a_{i_0}, \dots, a_{i_l}]$  is called a *face* of  $\Delta$  of dimension  $l$ . The points  $a_0, \dots, a_k$  are called *vertices* of  $\Delta$ . The *boundary*  $\partial\Delta$  of a simplex  $\Delta$  of dimension  $k$  is the union of all faces of  $\Delta$  of dimension  $< k$ . Its *relative interior* is by definition

$$\begin{aligned} \overset{\circ}{\Delta} &:= \Delta \setminus \partial\Delta = (a_0, \dots, a_k) := \\ &\left\{ \sum_{i=0}^k \alpha_i a_i : \alpha_i > 0 \ (i \in \{0, \dots, k\}), \sum_{i=0}^k \alpha_i = 1 \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

Let  $p$  be a positive integer and let  $\Omega$  be any open (not necessarily definable) subset of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . We say that a subset  $E \subset \Omega$  is *locally definable in  $\Omega$*  if, for each point  $a \in \Omega$ , there exists a neighborhood  $U$  of  $a$  in  $\Omega$  such that  $E \cap U$  is definable. Similarly, we say that a *mapping  $f : E \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$*  is *locally definable* if for each point  $a \in \Omega$ , there exists a neighborhood  $U$  of  $a$  in  $\Omega$  such that  $f|U$  is definable. Moreover, if  $f : E \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$  is any locally definable mapping defined on a locally definable subset  $E \subset \Omega$  we say that  $f$  is of class  $C^p$  if it admits a locally definable extension  $\tilde{f} : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$  of class  $C^p$  defined on an open locally definable neighborhood  $U$  of  $E$  in  $\Omega$ .

By a *locally finite simplicial complex* in  $\Omega$  we understand a locally finite in  $\Omega$  family  $\mathcal{K}$  of simplexes in  $\Omega$  such that for each  $K \in \mathcal{K}$  all faces of  $K$  belong to  $\mathcal{K}$  and for each pair  $K_1, K_2 \in \mathcal{K}$ ,  $K_1 \cap K_2$  is empty or a common face of both  $K_1$  and  $K_2$ . Then the set  $|\mathcal{K}| := \bigcup \mathcal{K}$  is a locally definable subset of  $\Omega$ . If  $\mathcal{K}$  and  $\mathcal{L}$  are two locally finite simplicial complexes in  $\Omega$ , we say that  $\mathcal{L}$  is a *subcomplex* of  $\mathcal{K}$  if simply  $\mathcal{L} \subset \mathcal{K}$ .

Let  $A$  be any locally definable subset of  $\Omega$ . By a  $C^p$ -*triangulation* of  $A$  we understand a pair  $(\mathcal{T}, h)$ , where  $\mathcal{T}$  is a locally finite simplicial complex in  $\Omega$  and  $h$  is a locally definable homeomorphism of  $|\mathcal{T}|$  onto  $A$  such that for each simplex  $\Delta \in \mathcal{T}$  the restriction  $h|_{\overset{\circ}{\Delta}}$  is a  $C^p$ -embedding of  $\overset{\circ}{\Delta}$  into  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . If  $\mathcal{E}$  is any locally finite family of locally definable subsets of  $\Omega$  which are contained in  $A$  we say that a *triangulation  $(\mathcal{T}, h)$*  is *compatible with  $\mathcal{E}$*  if for each  $E \in \mathcal{E}$  the inverse image  $h^{-1}(E)$  is a union of a family of some  $\overset{\circ}{\Delta}$ , where  $\Delta \in \mathcal{T}$ .

A  $C^p$ -triangulation  $(\mathcal{T}, h)$  of  $A$  will be called a *strict  $C^p$ -triangulation* of  $A$  if the mapping  $h : |\mathcal{T}| \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  is of class  $C^p$  in the sense defined above.

We say that a  $C^p$ -triangulation  $(\mathcal{T}, h)$  of  $A$ , such that the restriction  $h|_{\Delta}$  to any simplex  $\Delta \in \mathcal{T}$  is of class  $C^p$ , is *orthogonally flat along simplexes* if for every pair of simplexes  $\Lambda, \Delta \in \mathcal{T}$  such that  $\Lambda$  is a proper face of  $\Delta$ ,  $\dim \Lambda = k$ ,  $\dim \Delta = k + l$ ,

and for vectors  $v_1, \dots, v_l \in \mathbb{S}^{n-1}$  pairwise orthogonal, parallel to  $\Delta$  and orthogonal to  $\Delta$

$$\frac{\partial^{|\alpha|}(h|\Delta)}{\partial v_1^{\alpha_1} \dots \partial v_l^{\alpha_l}} \equiv 0 \text{ on } \Delta,$$

for every  $\alpha \in \mathbb{N}^l$  such that  $1 \leq |\alpha| \leq p$ . The same definition of the orthogonality along simplexes applies to any locally definable mapping  $g : |\mathcal{T}| \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$  such that its restriction  $g|\Delta$  to any simplex  $\Delta \in \mathcal{T}$  is of class  $C^p$ .

From main results of [9] we will derive the following local versions of these results. Notice that Theorem 1.2 below is a development and an improvement of Theorem 1.1.

**Theorem 1.1** *Given any o-minimal structure expanding the ordered field of real numbers  $\mathbb{R}$  and any open subset  $\Omega$  of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , let  $f : A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$  be a locally definable and continuous mapping defined on a locally definable and closed subset  $A$  of  $\Omega$ . Let  $\mathcal{E}$  be a locally finite family of locally definable subsets of  $\Omega$  contained in  $A$ . Let  $p$  be any positive integer.*

*Then there exists a strict  $C^p$ -triangulation  $(\mathcal{T}, h)$  of  $A$  compatible with the family  $\mathcal{E}$  and such that  $f \circ h$  is of class  $C^p$ .*

**Theorem 1.2** *Under the assumptions of Theorem 1.1, if additionally  $\mathcal{K}$  is any locally finite simplicial complex in  $\Omega$  and  $g : |\mathcal{K}| \rightarrow A$  is any locally definable homeomorphism, then there exists a strict  $C^p$ -triangulation  $(\mathcal{T}, h)$  of  $|\mathcal{K}|$  such that  $\mathcal{T}$  is a refinement of  $\mathcal{K}$ ,  $h(\Gamma) = \Gamma$ , for each  $\Gamma \in \mathcal{K}$ ,  $(\mathcal{T}, g \circ h)$  is a strict  $C^p$ -triangulation of  $A$  compatible with the family  $\mathcal{E}$  and such that  $f \circ g \circ h$  is of class  $C^p$ .*

The both theorems were proved in [9] in the case where  $A$  is compact and all the involved simplicial complexes are finite. The main idea of the proof in [9] was inspired by the author's earlier paper [6] (common with B. Kocel-Cynk and A. Valette) on  $C^p$ -parametrizations of sets definable in o-minimal structures, where definable sets are parametrized by  $C^p$ -mappings defined on cubes and where injectivity of parametrization is not a point of interest. In [9] cubes are replaced by simplexes. The other important tools are: a variant of the Yomdin-Gromov Algebraic Lemma from [6](coming from Gromov [5] and Yomdin [13, 14]), special  $C^p$ -functions of choice (called detectors) and decompositions into cells without vertical line segments in their boundaries (called capsules). An essential difficulty is to get a  $C^p$ -triangulation  $(\mathcal{T}, h)$  such that for each simplex  $\Delta \in \mathcal{T}$  all partial derivatives of order  $\leq p$  of the restriction  $h|\Delta$  are bounded at the boundary  $\partial\Delta$  of  $\Delta$ . If this is attained the proof may be easily finished by substitution of a strict  $C^p$ -triangulation orthogonally flat along simplexes according to the following theorem.

**Theorem 1.3** *Let  $\mathcal{M}$  and  $\mathcal{N}$  be two finite simplicial complexes in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  such that  $|\mathcal{M}| = \text{int}|\mathcal{M}|$ ,  $|\mathcal{N}| = \text{int}|\mathcal{N}|$  and the union  $\mathcal{M} \cup \mathcal{N}$  is a simplicial complex.*

*Then there exists a (semialgebraic) strict  $C^p$ -triangulation  $(\mathcal{M} \cup \mathcal{N}, \Phi)$  such that  $\Phi(\Delta) = \Delta$ , for each  $\Delta \in \mathcal{M} \cup \mathcal{N}$ ,  $\Phi$  is orthogonally flat along simplexes from  $\mathcal{N}$  and  $\Phi|\Delta = \text{id}_\Delta$ , for each simplex  $\Delta \in \mathcal{M}$  such that  $\Delta \cap |\mathcal{N}| = \emptyset$ .*

**Proof** See [9, Section 6]. □

The importance of existence of triangulations orthogonally flat along simplexes consists in the following observation.

**Observation 1.4** *If  $(\mathcal{T}, h)$  is a  $C^p$ -triangulation of a compact definable subset  $A$  of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  such that  $\mathcal{T}$  is a finite simplicial complex in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $|\mathcal{T}| = \overline{\text{int}|\mathcal{T}|}$ , the restriction  $h|_{\Delta}$  to any simplex  $\Delta \in \mathcal{T}$  is of class  $C^p$  and  $h$  is orthogonally flat along simplexes, then  $(\mathcal{T}, h)$  is a strict  $C^p$ -triangulation of  $A$ ; i.e.  $h$  extends to a definable mapping to a definable neighborhood of  $|\mathcal{T}|$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  (see a definable version of Whitney's extension theorem in [7] and the main theorem in [11]). This applies also to other definable mappings  $g : |\mathcal{T}| \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$  orthogonally flat along simplexes and of class  $C^p$  on every simplex separately.*

Theorem 1.1 has interesting consequences in connection with the recent results of Fernando and Ghiloni concerning a  $C^p$ -approximation problem (cf. [3, 4]). To present them in full generality we first recall some important definitions adopted in [4]. To this end we have to leave the realm of tame topology to deal with more general sets and mappings. If  $A$  and  $B$  are any subsets of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  and of  $\mathbb{R}^m$  respectively, we say that a mapping  $f : B \rightarrow A$  is of class  $C^p$  (or a  $C^p$ -mapping) if it admits an extension  $F : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  defined on an open neighborhood  $U$  of  $B$  in  $\mathbb{R}^m$  and of class  $C^p$  in the usual sense. According to [4, Definition 1.5], a subset  $A$  of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is called *weakly  $C^p$ -triangulable* if there exist a locally finite simplicial complex  $\mathcal{T}$  in some space  $\mathbb{R}^q$  and a triangulating homeomorphism  $h : |\mathcal{T}| \rightarrow A$  such that the restriction of  $h$  to each simplex of  $\mathcal{T}$  is of class  $C^p$ . Following [4, Definition 1.5], a locally compact subset  $A$  of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is called a  *$C^p$ -approximation target space*, or a  *$C^p$ -ats* for short, if for any locally compact subset  $B$  of any space  $\mathbb{R}^m$ , every continuous mapping  $f : B \rightarrow A$  can be approximated by  $C^p$ -mappings  $g : B \rightarrow A$  with respect to the strong Whitney  $C^0$  topology.

**Theorem 1.5** ([4, Theorem 1.6]) *If  $p$  is a positive integer, then every weakly  $C^p$ -triangulable subset  $A$  of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is a  $C^p$ -ats.*

Combining Theorem 1.5 with Theorem 1.1 leads almost immediately to the following result.

**Theorem 1.6** *Let  $A$  be any locally compact subset of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  and let  $p$  be any positive integer. If there exists an o-minimal structure expanding the field of real numbers  $\mathbb{R}$  in which  $A$  is locally definable; i.e. each point  $a \in A$  admits a neighborhood  $V$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  such that  $A \cap V$  is definable, then  $A$  is a  $C^p$ -ats. In particular, every locally compact subanalytic set is a  $C^p$ -ats.*

**Proof** Obviously, there exists an open subset  $\Omega$  of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  in which  $A$  is closed and locally definable. By Theorem 1.1 there exists a strict  $C^p$ -triangulation  $(\mathcal{T}, h)$  of  $A$ . Here  $\mathcal{T}$  is a simplicial complex locally finite in  $\Omega$ , but it is known that it is  $PL$ -isomorphic to a simplicial complex locally finite in  $\mathbb{R}^{2n+1}$  (see [10, Chapter 3, Section 2.9]). □

**Remark 1.7** The case  $p = 1$  of Theorem 1.6 is due to Fernando and Ghiloni (see [4, Corollaries 1.11 and 1.13]), who used in his proof a result of Ohmoto and Shiota [8] (see [2] for a different proof).

A purely o-minimal variant of Theorem 1.6 is available (see [3] and [9, Section 9]).

## 2 Extension Lemma

In order to derive Theorem 1.1 and Theorem 1.2 from their compact versions we need some pasting procedure based on the following lemma.

**Lemma 2.1** *Let  $\mathcal{K}_1, \mathcal{K}_2$  be two finite simplicial complexes in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  such that  $\mathcal{K}_1$  is a subcomplex of  $\mathcal{K}_2$ . Let  $(\mathcal{L}_1, h_1)$  be a  $C^p$ -triangulation of  $|\mathcal{K}_1|$  such that  $\mathcal{L}_1$  is a refinement of  $\mathcal{K}_1$  and  $h_1(K_1) = K_1$ , for each  $K_1 \in \mathcal{K}_1$  and for each simplex  $L_1 \in \mathcal{L}_1$  the restriction  $h_1|_{L_1}$  is of class  $C^p$ .*

*Then there exists a  $C^p$ -triangulation  $(\mathcal{L}_2, h_2)$  of  $|\mathcal{K}_2|$  such that  $\mathcal{L}_1$  is a subcomplex of  $\mathcal{L}_2$ ,  $\mathcal{L}_2$  is a refinement of  $\mathcal{K}_2$ ,  $h_2(K_2) = K_2$ , for each  $K_2 \in \mathcal{K}_2$ ,  $h_2|_{|\mathcal{K}_1|} = h_1$  and if  $K_2 \in \mathcal{K}_2$  and  $K_2 \cap |\mathcal{K}_1| = \emptyset$ , then  $K_2 \in \mathcal{L}_2$  and  $h_2|_{K_2} = \text{id}_{K_2}$  and for each simplex  $L_2 \in \mathcal{L}_2$  the restriction  $h_2|_{L_2}$  is of class  $C^p$ .*

**Proof** By induction, without any loss in generality, we can assume that  $\mathcal{K}_2 = \mathcal{K}_1 \cup \{\Delta\}$ , where  $\Delta \notin \mathcal{K}_1$ . By an affine change of coordinates we can also assume that

$$\Delta \subset \mathbb{R}^k = \{(x_1, \dots, x_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n : x_{k+1} = \dots = x_n = 0\},$$

where  $k = \dim \Delta$  and that 0 is the center of mass of  $\Delta$ .

If  $\Delta \cap |\mathcal{K}_1| = \emptyset$ , then  $\Delta$  is a singleton and we put  $\mathcal{L}_2 = \mathcal{L}_1 \cup \{\Delta\}$ ,  $h_2|_{\Delta} = \text{id}_{\Delta}$  and  $h_2|_{|\mathcal{K}_1|} = h_1$ .

Assume now that  $\Delta \cap |\mathcal{K}_1| \neq \emptyset$ . Then, for every proper face  $\Lambda$  of  $\Delta$ ,  $\Lambda \in \mathcal{K}_1$ , so  $h_1$  is defined and of class  $C^p$  when restricted to each  $L_1 \in \mathcal{L}_1$  such that  $L_1 \subset \partial\Delta$ . Now we define  $h_2|_{\Delta}$  by the following formula

$$h_2(tu) := t^{p+1}h_1(u), \tag{2.1}$$

where  $u \in \partial\Delta$  and  $t \in [0, 1]$ , and  $\mathcal{L}_2$  by

$$\mathcal{L}_2 := \mathcal{L}_1 \cup \{L_1 \cdot [0, 1] : L_1 \in \mathcal{L}_1, L_1 \subset \partial\Delta\} \cup \{0\}$$

Obviously  $h_2|_{\Delta} : \Delta \rightarrow \Delta$  is a homeomorphism extending  $h_1|_{\partial\Delta}$ . Fix any  $L_1 \in \mathcal{L}_1$  such that  $L_1 \subset \partial\Delta$ ,  $\dim L_1 = k - 1$  and put  $L_2 := L_1 \cdot [0, 1]$ . It is clear that  $h_2|_{L_2}$  is of class  $C^p$  on  $L_2 \setminus \{0\}$ . To check that it is of class  $C^p$  at 0 it suffices to check that

$$\lim_{\xi \rightarrow 0} D^\alpha(h_2|_V)(\xi) = 0, \tag{2.2}$$

where  $V := L_2 \setminus \{0\}$ ,  $\xi = (x_1, \dots, x_k)$ ,  $\alpha \in \mathbb{N}^k$  and  $|\alpha| \leq p$ .

By a linear change of coordinates, we can assume that

$$L_1 \subset \{\xi = (x_1, \dots, x_k) \in \mathbb{R}^k : x_k = 1\}.$$

Then

$$h_2(\xi) = h_2(x_1, \dots, x_k) = x_k^{p+1}h_1\left(\frac{x_1}{x_k}, \dots, \frac{x_{k-1}}{x_k}, 1\right),$$

when checking of (2.2) is straightforward. □

**Remark 2.2** Notice that a variant of the Extension Lemma, where  $h_1 = \text{id}_{|\mathcal{K}_1|}$ , is true and then  $h_2 = \text{id}_{|\mathcal{K}_2|}$ .

### 3 Proofs of Theorems 1.1 and 1.2

Before starting the proof we make the following quite obvious observation.

**Proposition 3.1** *Let  $\Omega$  be any open subset of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  (not necessarily definable). Then there exists a locally finite simplicial complex  $\mathcal{L}$  in  $\Omega$  such that  $|\mathcal{L}| = \Omega$ .*

**Proof** Without any loss in generality, we can assume that  $\Omega$  is connected. First we represent  $\Omega$  as the union of a locally finite family of closed cubes

$$\Omega = \bigcup_{v=0}^{\infty} S_v,$$

where  $S_v = [a_{1v} - \varepsilon_v, a_{1v} + \varepsilon_v] \times \dots \times [a_{nv} - \varepsilon_v, a_{nv} + \varepsilon_v]$  ( $\varepsilon_v > 0$ )

$$(\text{int}S_v) \cap (\text{int}S_\mu) = \emptyset, \quad \text{if } v \neq \mu$$

and

$$(S_0 \cup \dots \cup S_v) \cap S_{v+1} \neq \emptyset, \quad \text{if } v \in \mathbb{N}.$$

Now we define by induction a sequence of finite simplicial complexes  $\{\mathcal{L}_v\}_{v \in \mathbb{N}}$  contained in  $\Omega$ . Let  $\mathcal{L}_0$  be any finite simplicial complex such that  $S_0 = |\mathcal{L}_0|$ . Assume  $\mathcal{L}_0, \dots, \mathcal{L}_v$  have already been defined such that  $S_0 \cup \dots \cup S_\mu = |\mathcal{L}_\mu|$ , for  $\mu \in \{0, \dots, v\}$ . Set

$$\mathcal{M} := \{S_\mu : \mu \leq v, S_\mu \cap S_{v+1} \neq \emptyset\}$$

Consider the polyhedron  $Q := S_{v+1} \cup |\mathcal{M}|$  and a finite simplicial complex  $\mathcal{P}$  such that  $|\mathcal{P}| = Q$  and  $\mathcal{P}$  is compatible with  $S_{v+1}$  and

$$\mathcal{P}' := \{P \in \mathcal{P} : P \subset |\mathcal{M}|\}$$

is a refinement of the complex  $\mathcal{N} := \{L \in \mathcal{L}_v : L \subset |\mathcal{M}|\}$ . By the Extension Lemma and Remark 2.2, there exists a refinement  $\mathcal{P}''$  of  $\mathcal{L}_v$  such that  $\mathcal{P}'$  is a subcomplex of  $\mathcal{P}''$ , and if  $L \in \mathcal{L}_v$  and  $L \cap |\mathcal{M}| = \emptyset$ , then  $L \in \mathcal{P}''$ . Hence  $\mathcal{L}_{v+1} := \mathcal{P}'' \cup \{P \in \mathcal{P} : P \subset S_{v+1}\}$  is a simplicial complex.

We check that the sequence  $\{\mathcal{L}_v\}_v$  locally stabilizes. To see this, fix one cube  $S_v$ . Then there exists  $\kappa > v$  such that  $S_\mu \cap S_v = \emptyset$ , when  $\mu \geq \kappa$ . Next there exists  $\lambda \geq \kappa$  such that  $S_\sigma \cap S_\mu = \emptyset$  for any  $\sigma \geq \lambda$  and any  $\mu \in \{0, \dots, \kappa\}$ . By the definitions above we have that

$$\{L \in \mathcal{L}_\rho : L \subset S_v\}$$

does not depend on  $\rho$ , provided that  $\rho > \lambda$ ; hence we can put

$$\mathcal{L} := \lim_{\rightarrow} \mathcal{L}_\nu$$

as a final locally finite simplicial complex partitioning  $\Omega$ . □

**Remark 3.2** Clearly, if  $\mathcal{K}$  is any locally finite simplicial complex in  $\Omega$ , then in Proposition 3.1 one can require that  $\mathcal{L}|\mathcal{K}| := \{L \in \mathcal{L} : L \subset |\mathcal{K}|\}$  is a refinement of  $\mathcal{K}$ .

In the proof of Theorems 1.1 and 1.2 it will be convenient to make use of a locally definable version of the Tietze extension theorem.

**Theorem 3.3** (*locally definable Tietze theorem*) *If  $\Omega$  is any open subset of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $A$  is a closed and locally definable subset of  $\Omega$  and  $f : A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a locally definable continuous function, then there exists a locally definable continuous function  $F : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  such that  $F|_A = f$ .*

**Proof** First consider a special case when  $\Omega = \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $f : A \rightarrow (1, 2)$ . Then we repeat after Aschenbrenner and Fischer [1, Lemma 6.6] the beautiful formula for  $F$  due to Riesz (1923):

$$F(x) := \begin{cases} \inf_{a \in A} f(a) \frac{d(x, a)}{d(x, A)} & , \text{ when } x \in \mathbb{R}^n \setminus A \\ f(x) & , \text{ when } x \in A \end{cases}$$

giving a continuous locally definable extension  $F : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow (1, 2)$  of  $f$ .

The case when  $\Omega = \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $f : A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is arbitrary locally definable continuous function reduces to the previous one by the Nash isomorphism  $\tau : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow (1, 2)$  defined by the formula

$$\tau(t) := \frac{3}{2} + \frac{t}{2\sqrt{1+t^2}}.$$

Finally, the case when  $\Omega$  is an arbitrary open subset is reduced to the case of  $A$  compact using gluing procedure by means of a partition of unity stated in a lemma below. □

**Lemma 3.4** *Let  $\Omega$  be any open subset of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  and let  $\{U_\nu\}_{\nu \in \mathbb{N}}$  be a locally finite covering of  $\Omega$  such that, for each  $\nu \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $U_\nu$  is open, definable with compact closure  $\overline{U_\nu}$ .*

*Then there exists a family  $\{\varphi_\nu\}_{\nu \in \mathbb{N}}$  of definable functions  $\varphi_\nu : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow [0, 1]$  such that, for each  $\nu \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $\text{supp}\varphi_\nu \subset U_\nu$  and*

$$\sum_{\nu=0}^{\infty} \varphi_\nu(x) = 1 \quad \text{for each } x \in \Omega.$$

**Proof** Standard (cf. [12, Chapter 6, Lemma 3.7]). □

**Proof of Theorem 1.1** Theorem 3.3 allows us to reduce the general case to that when  $A = \Omega$ , arbitrary  $A$  including as a member of  $\mathcal{E}$ . Of course, we can assume that  $\Omega$  is connected. By Proposition 3.1,  $\Omega = |\mathcal{K}|$ , where  $\mathcal{K}$  is a locally finite simplicial complex in  $\Omega$ . Let us arrange all simplexes in  $\mathcal{K}$  of dimension  $n$  in a sequence  $\{\Delta_\nu\}_{\nu \in \mathbb{N}}$  in such a way that  $(\Delta_0 \cup \dots \cup \Delta_\nu) \cap \Delta_{\nu+1} \neq \emptyset$ , for each  $\nu \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Consider the finite simplicial complexes

$$\mathcal{M}_\nu := \{K \in \mathcal{K} : K \subset \Delta_0 \cup \dots \cup \Delta_\nu\} \quad (\nu \in \mathbb{N}).$$

We now construct inductively, for each  $\nu \in \mathbb{N}$ , a strict  $\mathcal{C}^p$ -triangulation  $(\mathcal{T}_\nu, h_\nu)$  of the polyhedron  $|\mathcal{M}_\nu|$  orthogonally flat along simplexes in such a way that  $\mathcal{T}_\nu$  is a refinement of  $\mathcal{M}_\nu$ ,  $h_\nu(\Lambda) = \Lambda$ , for each  $\Lambda \in \mathcal{M}_\nu$ ,  $f \circ h_\nu$  is of class  $\mathcal{C}^p$  on  $|\mathcal{M}_\nu|$  orthogonally flat along simplexes from  $\mathcal{T}_\nu$  and finally  $(\mathcal{T}_\nu, h_\nu)$  is compatible with the family

$$\mathcal{E}_\nu := \{E \cap \Delta_\mu : E \in \mathcal{E}, \mu \in \{0, \dots, \nu\}\}.$$

A definition of  $(\mathcal{T}_0, h_0)$  comes obviously from the Main Theorem and the Strict  $\mathcal{C}^p$ -Refinement Theorem in [9] combined with Theorem 1.3. Suppose now that  $(\mathcal{T}_0, h_0), \dots, (\mathcal{T}_\nu, h_\nu)$  have already been defined. Put

$$\mathcal{N}_\nu := \{\Gamma \in \mathcal{T}_\nu : \Gamma \subset \Delta_{\nu+1}\}.$$

Then  $(\mathcal{N}_\nu, h_\nu|_{|\mathcal{M}_\nu| \cap \Delta_{\nu+1}})$  is a  $\mathcal{C}^p$ -triangulation of  $|\mathcal{M}_\nu| \cap \Delta_{\nu+1}$  which according to Lemma 2.1 can be extended to a  $\mathcal{C}^p$ -triangulation  $(\mathcal{L}_{\nu+1}, g_{\nu+1})$  of the simplex  $\Delta_{\nu+1}$  in such a way that  $\mathcal{L}_{\nu+1}$  is a refinement of the complex of all faces of  $\Delta_{\nu+1}$ ,  $\mathcal{N}_\nu$  is a subcomplex of  $\mathcal{L}_{\nu+1}$ ,  $g_{\nu+1}(K) = K$  for any face  $K \in \mathcal{K}$  of  $\Delta_{\nu+1}$  and  $g_{\nu+1}$  is of class  $\mathcal{C}^p$  when restricted to any simplex from  $\mathcal{L}_{\nu+1}$ .

Now by the Main Theorem and the Strict  $\mathcal{C}^p$ -Refinement Theorem in [9] there exists a strict  $\mathcal{C}^p$ -triangulation  $(\mathcal{L}'_{\nu+1}, g'_{\nu+1})$  of  $\Delta_{\nu+1}$  such that  $\mathcal{L}'_{\nu+1}$  is a refinement of  $\mathcal{L}_{\nu+1}$ ,  $g'_{\nu+1}(L) = L$ , for each  $L \in \mathcal{L}_{\nu+1}$ ,  $(\mathcal{L}'_{\nu+1}, g_{\nu+1} \circ g'_{\nu+1})$  is a strict  $\mathcal{C}^p$ -triangulation compatible with  $\{E \cap \Delta_{\nu+1} : E \in \mathcal{E}\}$  and finally  $f \circ g_{\nu+1} \circ g'_{\nu+1}$  is of class  $\mathcal{C}^p$ . By Lemma 2.1, there exists a  $\mathcal{C}^p$ -triangulation  $(\mathcal{T}_{\nu+1}, h'_{\nu+1})$  of  $|\mathcal{M}_\nu| \cup \Delta_{\nu+1} = \Delta_0 \cup \dots \cup \Delta_\nu \cup \Delta_{\nu+1}$  such that  $\mathcal{T}_{\nu+1}$  is a refinement of  $\mathcal{T}_\nu \cup \mathcal{L}_{\nu+1}$ ,  $\mathcal{L}'_{\nu+1}$  is a subcomplex of  $\mathcal{T}_{\nu+1}$ ,  $h'_{\nu+1}(\Lambda) = \Lambda$ , for  $\Lambda \in \mathcal{T}_\nu$ ,  $h'_{\nu+1}|_{\Delta_{\nu+1}} = g'_{\nu+1}$ , for each  $\Lambda \in \mathcal{T}_\nu$  such that  $\Lambda \cap \Delta_{\nu+1} = \emptyset$ ,  $\Lambda \in \mathcal{T}_{\nu+1}$  and  $h'_{\nu+1}|_\Lambda = \text{id}_\Lambda$ , and  $h_{\nu+1}$  is of class  $\mathcal{C}^p$  on every simplex from  $\mathcal{T}_{\nu+1}$ . To ensure orthogonality along simplexes we take a strict  $\mathcal{C}^p$ -triangulation  $(\mathcal{T}_{\nu+1}, \Phi)$  of  $|\mathcal{T}_{\nu+1}|$  orthogonally flat along simplexes following from Theorem 1.3 for the complex  $\mathcal{T}_{\nu+1} = \mathcal{T}_\nu \cup \{\Lambda \in \mathcal{T}_{\nu+1} : \Lambda \cap \Delta_{\nu+1} \neq \emptyset\}$ .

Finally we set

$$h_{\nu+1} = \begin{cases} h_\nu \circ h'_{\nu+1} \circ \Phi & , \text{ on } |\mathcal{M}_\nu| \\ g_{\nu+1} \circ h'_{\nu+1} \circ \Phi & , \text{ on } \Delta_{\nu+1} \end{cases}.$$

Since  $h_{\nu+1}|_K = h_\nu|_K$ , for any  $K \in \mathcal{K}$  such that  $K \cap \Delta_{\nu+1} = \emptyset$ , the sequence  $\{h_\nu\}_{\nu \in \mathbb{N}}$  locally stabilizes. For a similar reason  $\{\mathcal{T}_\nu\}_{\nu \in \mathbb{N}}$  stabilizes, which allows us to



define

$$\mathcal{T} := \lim_{\rightarrow} \mathcal{T}_\nu \quad \text{and} \quad h := \lim_{\rightarrow} h_\nu.$$

□

**Proof of Theorem 1.2** By Proposition 3.1 and Remark 3.2, there exists a locally finite simplicial complex  $\mathcal{L}$  in  $\Omega$  such that  $|\mathcal{L}| = \Omega$  and  $\mathcal{L}||\mathcal{K}$  is a refinement of  $\mathcal{K}$ . By Theorem 3.3,  $(g, f \circ g)$  can be extended to a locally definable and continuous mapping  $F : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n+d}$ . Now it suffices to repeat the argument the proof of Theorem 1.1, with  $\mathcal{L}$  playing the role of  $\mathcal{K}$  and  $F$  playing the role of  $f$ . □

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## Declarations

**Conflict of interest** The author has no relevant financial or non-financial interests to disclose.

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