## Contents

## Preface - V

Pattern recognition, infeasible systems of linear inequalities, and graphs - 1

1 Infeasible monotone systems of constraints - 7
1.1 Structural and combinatorial properties of infeasible monotone systems of constraints - 8
1.2

Abstract simplicial complexes and monotone Boolean functions - 12
Notes - 18

2 Complexes, (hyper)graphs, and inequality systems - 20
2.1 The graph of an independence system - 20
2.2 The hypergraph of an independence system - 31
2.3 The graph of maximal feasible subsystems of an infeasible system of linear inequalities - 33
2.4 The hypergraph of maximal feasible subsystems of an infeasible system of linear inequalities - 53
Notes - 56

3 Polytopes, positive bases, and inequality systems - 58
$3.1 \quad$ Faces and diagonals of convex polytopes - 58
3.2 Positive bases of linear spaces - 67
3.3 Polytopes and infeasible systems of inequalities - 75

Notes - 90

4 Monotone Boolean functions, complexes, graphs, and inequality systems - 93
4.1
4.2
4.3

Optimal inference of monotone Boolean functions - 93
An inference algorithm for monotone Boolean functions associated with graphs - 100

Notes - 112
5 Inequality systems, committees, (hyper)graphs, and alternative
covers - 115
5.1 The graph of MFSs of an infeasible system of linear inequalities and committees - 116
5.2 The hypergraph of MFSs of an infeasible system of linear inequalities and committees - 125
5.3 Alternative covers - $\mathbf{1 2 6}$

Notes - 130

Bibliography - 133
List of notation - 141

Index - 144

