Chapter in Open Problems in Communication and Computation. Springer-Verlag, 1987. T. Cover and B. Gopinath, editors.

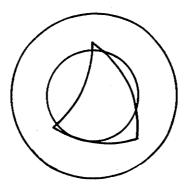
## 3.16 SIMPLEX CONJECTURE

Thomas M. Cover

Departments of Electrical Engineering and Statistics Stanford University Stanford, CA 94305

It may not be known that the famous simplex conjecture in communication theory can be reduced to the following geometrical problem.

Prove that the spherical simplex in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  of surface content  $\Omega$  that maximizes the content of intersection with a given spherical cap is indeed the regular spherical simplex centered at the center of the cap.



Note: A spherical cap is the intersection of a (translated) half-space with the surface of the (unit) n-sphere. A spherical simplex is the intersection of n half-spaces with the surface of the unit n-sphere.