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Grünbaum incidence calculus

One of the key problems in the theory of configurations is the question whether a given combinatorial configuration has a geometric realization. In the last decade Branko Grünbaum systematically investigated a more tractable variant of this problem, namely for which types (v_r, b_k) do there exist geometric configurations. In a series of papers he developed a large number of interesting constructions that produce large configurations from small ones, thereby giving positive answer in majority of cases. In this talk we present some of his methods as a theory under the name of *Grünbaum incidence calculus*.