

# Ricci curvature on Graphs

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## Theory

We will first present the theoretical framework. Subsequently we will discuss about our implementation and design details and then the experimentation and its applications.

**Lemma 1 :** A temporally changing network can be thought of a discrete Riemannian manifold, equipped with a probability measure, dynamically changing w.r.t. time.

**Definition 2 :** Curvature of a geometric surface is defined as the deviation from being flat in this context whereas, intrinsic curvature, is defined at each point on a Riemannian manifold, independent on the embedding, i.e. how the manifold is realized in an ambient euclidean space.

For instance, for a surface  $M$  in  $R^3$ , a point  $p : p \in M$ , the plane containing the tangent vector  $T$  and surface normal  $N$ , cut out a curve of surface  $M$  through  $p$ . The normal curvature of  $M$  is defined to be the curvature of this curve. The principal curvature  $k_1$  and  $k_2$  are defined to be the maximum and minimum of the normal curvatures. The Gaussian curvature is defined to be  $k_1 k_2$ . It is positive for spheres, negative for one-sheet hyperboloid and zero for planes. It also has the character of being locally saddle (-ve) or locally convex (+ve).

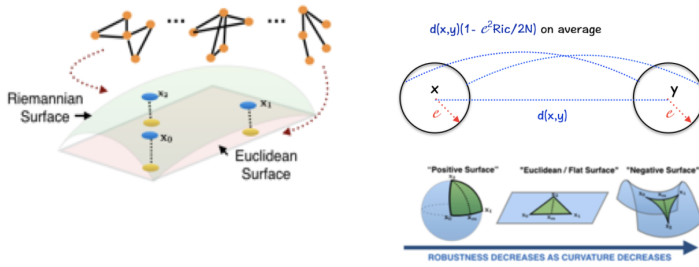


Figure 1: [Left] Visualisation of the manifold; [Top Right] Definition of curvature; [Bottom Right] Positive, zero and negative curvature

**Definition 3 :** Let  $M$  be a  $n$ -dimensional Riemannian manifold,  $x \in M$  and  $T_x M$  is the tangent space at  $x$  and  $u_1, u_2 \in T_x M$  are orthonormal vectors. For geodesics  $\gamma_i = \exp(t\mu_i) : i = 1, 2$ , sectional curvature, deviation of geodesics w.r.t. euclidean geometry,  $K(u_1, u_2)$  is defined as

$$d(\gamma_1(t), \gamma_2(t)) = \sqrt{2}t(1 - \frac{K(u_1, u_2)}{12}t^2 + O(t^4))$$

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The Ricci-curvature is defined to be the average sectional curvature. For a given unit vector  $u \in T_x M$ ,

$$Ric(u) = \frac{1}{n-1} \sum_2^n K(u, u_i)$$

**Corollary 4 :** As we mentioned, in the previous formal definition, if point  $x$  and  $y$  are on surface  $M$ , and  $v$  is a tangent vector from  $x$  to  $y$ , let's take another tangent vector  $w_x$  and transport it along  $v$  till  $y$ , to become a tangent vector  $w_y$ . if  $x'$  and  $y'$  are the other end points of  $w_x$  and  $w_y$ ,

the surface is flat  $\iff xx'y'y$  is a triangle

Otherwise,  $xx'y'y \neq |\bar{v}|$ , and this difference is used to define sectional curvature. Ricci curvature is the average sectional curvature over all directions of  $w$ , it only depends on  $v$ .

**Definition 5 :** Monge's Problem defined in 1781, where it is defined as: some mass has to be transferred from one space  $X$  with Borel probability measure  $\mu$  to another space  $Y$  equipped with  $\nu$ , where the cost of transporting a unit mass from  $x$  to  $y$  is  $c(x, y)$  where  $c : X \times Y \rightarrow R$ , where  $R \geq 0$  assuming the cost of transportation per unit distance is constant. The solution should look for an optimal transport plan  $T : X \rightarrow Y$  with  $\inf \int_X c(x, T(x)) d\mu(x) \mid T : \text{transportation}$

**Definition 6 :** Let  $X$  be a metric measure space equipped with distance  $d$  where  $\mu_1$  and  $\mu_2$  are two measures of same mass. Now,  $\mu : \mu_1 \rightarrow \mu_2$  is a  $X \times X$  coupling or a mass preserving transportation plan,  $\mu \in \Pi(\mu_1, \mu_2)$  such that,

$$\begin{aligned} \int_y d\mu(x, y) &= d\mu_1(x) \\ \int_x d\mu(x, y) &= d\mu_2(y) \end{aligned}$$

Wasserstein/ Earth Mover/ Kantorovich-Rubenstein distance between  $x$  and  $y$  is defined as

$$W_p(\mu_1, \mu_2) = \left[ \inf_{\mu \in \Pi(\mu_1, \mu_2)} \int \int d(x, y)^p d\mu(x, y) \right]^{1/p}$$

**Definition 7 :** According to analytical definition of convexity, if a function  $f : R^n \rightarrow R$  is  $C^2$ , the convexity can be characterized by  $\nabla^2 f(x) \geq 0$ . On the other hand, according to synthetic definition of convexity,  $f$  is convex if  $f((1-t)x + ty) \leq (1-t)f(x) + tf(y) \forall x, y \in R^n$  and  $t \in [0, 1]$

**Lemma 8 :** In a Riemannian manifold setting  $M$ , if  $P(M)$  is a probability measure equipped with a Wasserstein-2 distance metric, and  $\mu_t$  is the geodesic curve on  $P(M)$ ,

$$Ric \geq 0 \iff t \rightarrow \int \mu_t \log \mu_t \text{ curve is convex in } t$$

Hence, the lower bound of Ricci curvature is related to entropy.

**Definition 9 :** If  $(X, d, m)$  is a geodesic space, a probability measure  $P$  can be set as,

$$P(X, d, m) = \mu \geq 0 : \int_x \mu dm = 1$$

$$P^*(X, d, m) = \mu \in P(X, d, m) : \overline{\lim}_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0^+} \int_{\mu \geq \varepsilon} \mu \log \mu dm < \infty$$

Hence it can be defined,

$$H(\mu) = \overline{\lim}_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0^+} \int_{\mu \geq \varepsilon} \mu \log \mu dm, \forall \mu \in P^*(X, d, m)$$

It can be noted, that Boltzmann's Entropy  $S(\mu) = -H(\mu)$  and hence, if  $H(\mu)$  is convex,  $S(\mu)$  is concave.

**Theorem 10 :** If for the geodesic space,  $X$ 's ricci curvature is bounded from below by  $k \forall \mu_0, \mu_1 \in P(X) \exists$  a constant speed geodesic  $\mu_t$  w.r.t. Wasserstein metric connecting  $\mu_0$  and  $\mu_1$  such that,

$$S(\mu_t) \geq tS(\mu_0) + (1-t)S(\mu_1) + \frac{kt(1-t)}{2} W(\mu_0, \mu_1)^2 : 0 < t < 1$$

$$\implies \Delta S \times \Delta Ric \geq 0$$

**Theorem 11 :** The fluctuation theorem for networks consider random fluctuation of a given network that result in perturbation of some observed variable. If  $p_\varepsilon(t)$  is the probability that the mean of the observed variable deviates more than  $\varepsilon$  from the unperturbed value at time  $t$ . Hence,  $p_\varepsilon(t) \rightarrow 0$  at  $t \rightarrow \infty$ . The relative rate function is defined as  $R = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} (-\frac{1}{t} \log p_\varepsilon(t))$ . It is worth noting that  $R$  is negatively correlated with the amount of deviation. And,

$$\Delta S \times \Delta R \geq 0$$

**Corollary 12 :** From Theorem 6 and Theorem 7, it can be safely extended to claim  $\Delta R \times \Delta Ric \geq 0$ .

**Definition 13 :** Let's say  $(X, d)$  is a metric space equipped with a probability measure  $\mu_x : x \in X$ . Ollivier-Ricci curvature  $\kappa(x, y)$ , in a discrete setting such as a graph, along the geodesic connecting  $x$  and  $y$  is defined as

$$W_1(\mu_x, \mu_y) = (1 - \kappa(x, y))d(x, y)$$

where  $d$  is geodesic distance on the graph and it is measured as  $d_x = \sum_y w_{xy}$  and  $w_{xy}$  is the weight of the edge connecting  $x$  and  $y$ , (it is zero when there is no such edge), hence one step random walk from  $x$  in the graph is measured as  $\mu_x(y) = \frac{w_{xy}}{d_x}$ .

**Lemma 14 :** As have been suggested by past researchers, in a discrete graphical setting  $G$ , for a vertex  $X \in G$  with degree of freedom  $k = |\Gamma(x)|$ , let the neighbors be  $\Gamma(x) = x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k$ . The probability measure  $\mu_x$  is defined as.

$$\begin{aligned} \mu_x^\alpha &= \alpha : x_i = x \\ &= (1 - \alpha)/k : x_i \in \Gamma(x) \\ &= 0 : otherwise \end{aligned}$$

**Lemma 15 :** With linear programming (LP) model, the Wasserstein distance can be formulated between two nodes in a graph, only with the local knowledge. The LP model for  $W(\mu_x^\alpha, \mu_y^\alpha)$  is represented as a  $m \times n$  matrix, where  $\rho_{ij} \geq 0$  refers to the mass transported from vertex  $x_i$  to  $y_j$ .

We try to find:

$$W(\mu_x^\alpha, \mu_y^\alpha) = \inf \left[ \sum_j \sum_i d(x_i, y_j) \rho_{ij} \mu_x^\alpha(x_i) \right] : \sum_j \rho_{ij} = 1 \forall i, \rho_{ij} \in [0, 1] \forall i, j,$$

$$\sum_i \rho_{ij} \mu_x^\alpha(x_i) = \mu_y^\alpha(y_j) \forall j$$

**Definition 16 :** The discrete Ricci flow on a network is defined as an evolving process, where in each iteration, we update the edge weights by the following formula:

$$w_{xy}^{i+1} = d^i(x, y) - k_{xy}^i \times d^i(x, y)$$

**Definition 17 :** The scalar curvature in general is defined as  $S(x) = \sum_y \kappa(x, y)$ . So, in discrete setting it can be defined as  $\bar{S}(x) = \sum_y \kappa(x, y) \mu_x(y)$ . We keep on repeating this until  $|k_{xy}^i - k_{xy}^{i-1}| < \varepsilon$

**Definition 18 :** Entropy in a discrete setting is defined as  $\bar{S}_x = -\frac{1}{\log d_x} \sum_y \mu_x(y) \log \mu_x(y)$

## Implementation:

The algorithm to get Ricci curvature for the edges of a weighted undirected graph can be presented as follows. The complete implementation is available at <https://github.com/srkaysh/Graph-Ricci-Curvature.git>.

1. we take an adjacency matrix as an input
2.  $V$  = number of vertices, we ensure that number of edges,  $E \geq 0.8 \binom{V}{2}$ , so that the graph is connected
3. we get the all pairs shortest path using Dijkstra's algorithm
4. for each pair of adjacent nodes we do the following:

we calculate the neighbors of the source node and target node and keep them in two arrays, *source-neighbors* and *target-neighbors*, let's say their size is  $m$  and  $n$ .

$$d_x = \sum \text{weight}(\text{source-neighbors}) \text{ and } d_y = \sum \text{weight}(\text{target-neighbors})$$

$$\mu_x = \frac{\text{source-neighbors}}{d_x} \text{ and } \mu_y = \frac{\text{target-neighbors}}{d_y}$$

we define  $d_{m \times n}$ , such that  $d_{ij} = \text{weight-shortest-path}(\text{node } i, \text{node } j)$

we define  $\rho$ , a transportation plan, of the size  $n \times m$ .

$$\text{objective: } \min(\mu_x d_{m \times n} \rho_{n \times m})$$

constraints:  $\rho_{n \times m}(\mu_x)_{m \times 1} = (\mu_y)_{n \times 1}$  [mass preservation law],  $\sum \rho_{\text{row-wise}} = [1, 1, \dots m \text{ terms}]$   
and  $0 \leq \rho_{i,j} \leq 1 \forall i,j$

$$m \text{ being the solution, Ricci-curvature} = 1 - \frac{m}{\text{hop-distance}(\text{source}, \text{target})}$$

## Results:

The graph is shown in picture and the edge weights taken are as follows:

1. source node = 1, target node = 2, weight = 6
2. source node = 1, target node = 5, weight = 3
3. source node = 1, target node = 6, weight = 3
4. source node = 2, target node = 3, weight = 20
5. source node = 2, target node = 4, weight = 6

('number of nodes', 7)  
( 'number of edges', 9)

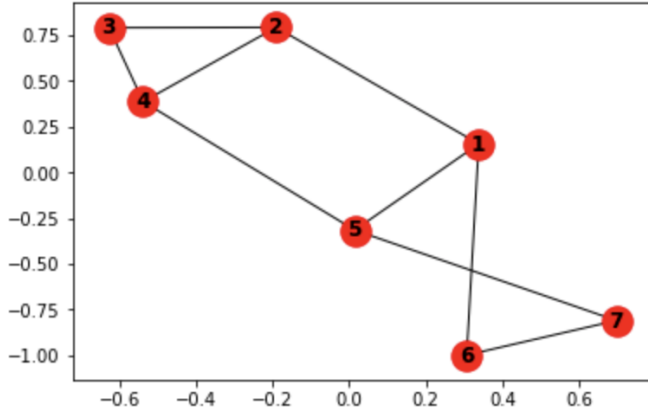


Figure 2: A synthetic graph to have the experiments

6. source node = 3, target node = 4, weight = 25
7. source node = 4, target node = 5, weight = 6
8. source node = 5, target node = 7, weight = 6
9. source node = 6, target node = 7, weight = 6

For all the pairs of nodes, the discrete Ricci curvatures are as follows.

1. source node = 1, target node = 2, 'Olivier-Ricci curvature: ', -1.5520833334097541
2. source node = 1, target node = 5, 'Olivier-Ricci curvature: ', -0.9000000000675072
3. source node = 1, target node = 6, 'Olivier-Ricci curvature: ', -1.5000000000529874
4. source node = 2, target node = 3, 'Olivier-Ricci curvature: ', 0.24548611091372918
5. source node = 2, target node = 4, 'Olivier-Ricci curvature: ', 0.5456081080504109
6. source node = 3, target node = 4, 'Olivier-Ricci curvature: ', 0.341861861836402
7. source node = 4, target node = 5, 'Olivier-Ricci curvature: ', -2.542342343262393
8. source node = 5, target node = 7, 'Olivier-Ricci curvature: ', 0.09999999996485249
9. source node = 6, target node = 7, 'Olivier-Ricci curvature: ', 0.16666666666666696

## Future Work:

We want to extend this work to calculate discrete Ricci flow on networks in a C++ implementation and apply it on different networks (like social network, internet, cancer network) to design an experimental framework for the mathematical advancement made in these genre.

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