

Supplementary reading II:
Simplicial complex, Euler characteristic, (orientation)

Simplicial complex (单纯复形)

Def Given points A_0, \dots, A_n in \mathbb{E}^N , if they satisfy

$$x_0 + \dots + x_n = 0 \text{ and } x_0 A_0 + \dots + x_n A_n = 0 \iff x_0 = \dots = x_n = 0$$

then we say that A_0, \dots, A_n are in generic position.

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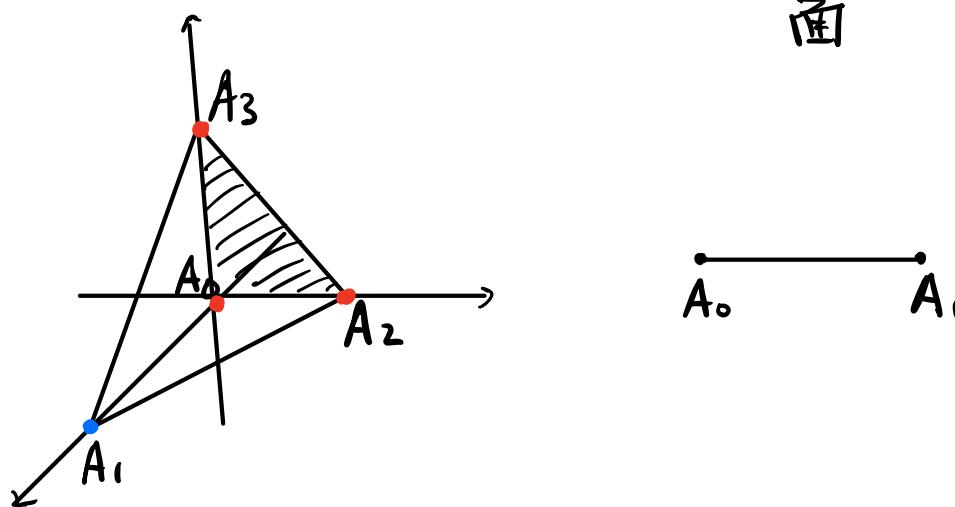
Note This is equivalent to the requirement that the n vectors $A_1 - A_0, \dots, A_n - A_0$ are linearly independent.

Def When A_0, \dots, A_n are in generic position, the closed convex polytope $\{x_0 A_0 + \dots + x_n A_n \mid x_0 + \dots + x_n = 1\}$,

$x_0, \dots, x_n \in [0, 1]\}$ is called an n -simplex (n 維單形).

The points A_0, \dots, A_n are called the vertices of this simplex.

If the vertices of a simplex t are all vertices of a simplex s , we call t a face of s .



Note The condition that the vertices are in general position guarantee that each point in the simplex has a unique tuple of coordinates (x_0, \dots, x_n) .

Def A set K of simplices in \mathbb{E}^N is called a simplicial complex (单纯複形) if

- (1) $s \in K \Rightarrow$ each face of $s \in K$
- (2) $s, t \in K, s \cap t \neq \emptyset \Rightarrow s \cap t \in K$

The highest dimension of a simplex in K is called
the dimension of K .

$|K| := \bigcup_{s \in K} s$ is called the polytope of K .

$\sum_{s \in K} s$
/ geometric realization

(1895-1965, Hungarian)

Rado's lemma Every closed surface is homeomorphic to
1920s (not Radon-Nikodym)

the polytope of a finite 2-dimensional simplicial complex.

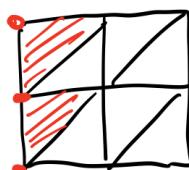
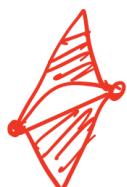
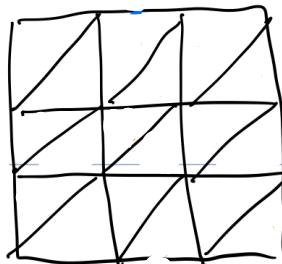
3-manifolds: Moise, Bing 1950s (Munkres, Smale, J.H.C. Whitehead admitting unique smooth structure)

4-manifolds; E_8 -manifold is not triangulable. Freedman 1982 (not admitting a smooth structure)
some others admit infinitely many non-equivalent smooth structures)

≥ 5 -manifolds: existing non-triangulable manifolds in each dimension. Munteanu 2016
Wang, Xu 2017 S^{61} admits a unique smooth structure

TOP, DIFF, PL

Ex torus

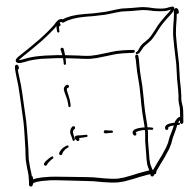
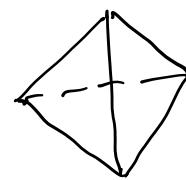


not satisfying
(2) in definition
of simplicial
complexes

Ex projective plane?

Euler characteristic given a convex polytope, # vertices -

edges +
faces = 2)



$$4-6+4$$

$$8-12+6$$

Define

$\chi(K) := \# \text{even-dimensional simplices}$
- $\#\text{odd-dimensional simplices}$

characteristic

Prop When $|K| \cong gT^2$, $\chi(K) = 2 - 2g$.

When $|K| \cong kP^2$, $\chi(K) = 2 - k$.

Note ① $\chi(K)$ is a topological invariant, called
the Euler characteristic of $|K|$

奇数個 (偶数個) 頂点

② In fact, when $|K|$ is homeomorphic to a compact, connected surface with boundary,
 $\chi(K)$ is also determined by the homeomorphism
class of $|K|$. For example, if $|K|$ is
homeomorphic to a disc, $\chi(K) = 1$.

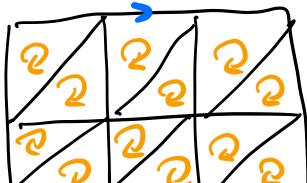


③ The proof uses homology. ($\# m\text{-"holes"} =$
 $|H_m(K)|$ the rank of
 $H_m(K)$ as a
free abelian group).

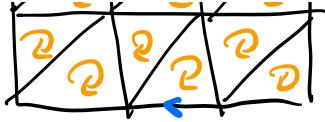
Ex

torus

可伸展的

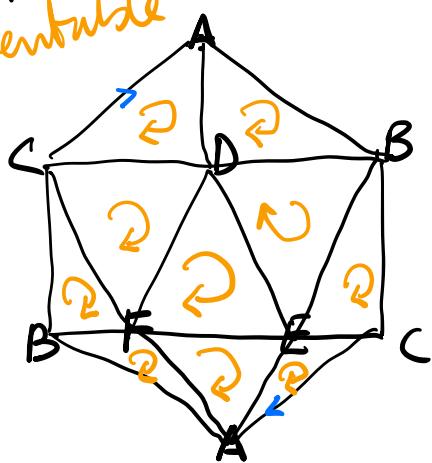


$$9-27+18=0$$



Ex projective plane

unorientable



"Orientation"

$$\underline{\text{Ex}} \quad \chi(M_1 \# M_2) = \chi(M_1) + \chi(M_2) - 2$$



$$-3 + 3 - 2$$

Recognition of topological types of closed surfaces

Given 2-dimensional complexes K_1 and K_2 , suppose their polytopes are closed surfaces. Then

$|K_1| \cong |K_2| \iff$ their Euler characteristics
and orientability agree

$$H_n(M) = \begin{cases} \mathbb{Z} & \text{orientable} \\ 0 & \text{nonorientable} \end{cases}$$

Note ① The Euler characteristics of odd-dimensional manifolds equal zero.

② 4-dimensional simply-connected closed manifolds

$$M \cong N$$

$$\Leftrightarrow Q_M \cong Q_N \quad \text{intersection form}$$

$$k_S(M) = k_S(N) \quad H^2(M; \mathbb{Z}) \times H^2(M; \mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$$

Kirby-Siebenmann invariant

$$k_S(M) \in H^4(M; \mathbb{Z}/2) = \mathbb{Z}/2$$

Q even: $(Q, \frac{\text{sign}(Q)}{8} \bmod 2)$ can be realized

not even: $(Q, \mathbb{Z}/2)$ can be realized

③ Computational topology, Edelsbrunner-Harer
e.g. orientability

Summary

$$\begin{array}{l} 2-2g \\ 2-k \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{Yes} \\ \text{No} \end{array}$$

• Euler characteristic and orientability as complete topological invariants for 2-manifolds.
(connected, closed)

Mentioned $(Q_M, k_S(M))$ as those for 4-manifolds
(simply connected)

and realization problem: Q even, $(Q, \frac{\text{sign}(Q)}{8} \bmod 2)$
 Q not even, $(Q, 0 \text{ or } 1)$
are realizable by some 4-mfd.