

# Kron Reduction of Graphs with Applications to Electrical Networks

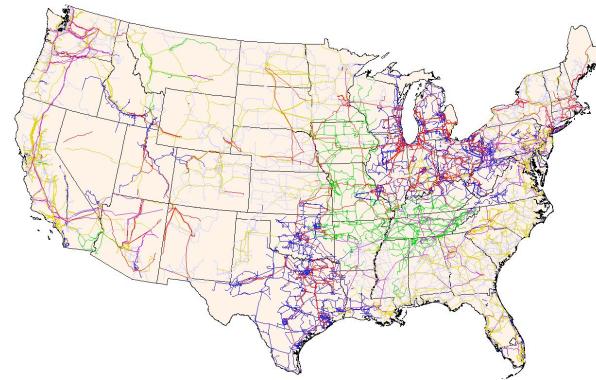
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Center for Nonlinear Studies  
Los Alamos National Labs, New Mexico, June 8, 2011  
Article available online at: <http://arxiv.org/abs/1102.2950>

Motivation: the current power grid is ...



“...the greatest engineering achievement of the 20th century.”

[National Academy of Engineering '10]

“...the largest and most complex machine engineered by humankind.”

[P. Kundur '94, V. Vittal '03, ...]

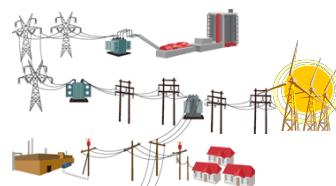
Motivation: the envisioned power grid



Energy is one of the top three national priorities

Expected developments in “smart grid”:

- ① large number of distributed power sources
- ② increasing adoption of renewables
- ③ sophisticated cyber-coordination layer



😊 challenges: increasingly complex networks & stochastic disturbances

😊 opportunity: some smart grid keywords:  
*control/sensing/optimization* ⊕ *distributed/coordinated/decentralized*

Today: “reducing the complexity by means of circuit and graph theory”

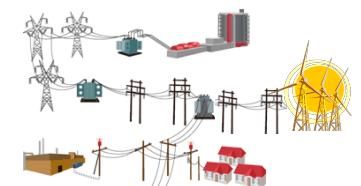
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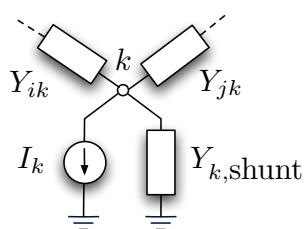
Today: “reducing the complexity by means of circuit and graph theory”

## Kron reduction of a resistive circuit

- ① Nodal analysis by Kirchhoff's and Ohm's laws:

$$I = Y \cdot V$$

$I \in \mathbb{C}^n$  nodal current injections  
 $V \in \mathbb{C}^n$  nodal voltages/potentials  
 $Y \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$  nodal conductance matrix



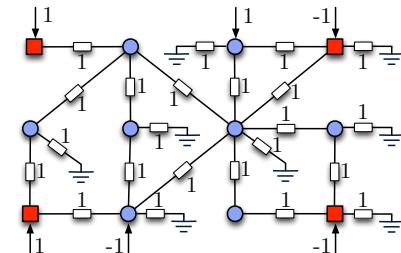
$$Y = Y^T = \begin{bmatrix} \vdots & \ddots & & \vdots & & \vdots \\ -Y_{i1} & \dots & \sum_{k=1, k \neq i}^n Y_{ik} + Y_{k,shunt} & \dots & -Y_{in} \\ \vdots & \ddots & & \vdots & & \vdots \end{bmatrix}$$

= { weighted Laplacian matrix } + diag( $Y_{k,shunt}$ ) = "loopy Laplacian"

## Kron reduction of a resistive circuit

- ② Partition circuit equations via **boundary nodes** & **interior nodes**:

$$\frac{I_{\text{boundary}}}{I_{\text{interior}}} = \begin{bmatrix} Y_{\text{boundary}} & Y_{\text{bound-int}} \\ Y_{\text{bound-int}}^T & Y_{\text{interior}} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} V_{\text{boundary}} \\ V_{\text{interior}} \end{bmatrix}$$

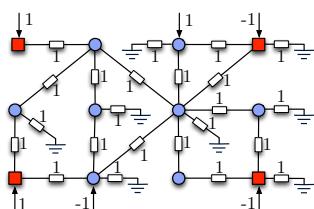


Boundary nodes ■ arise as natural terminals in applications.

## Kron reduction of a resistive circuit

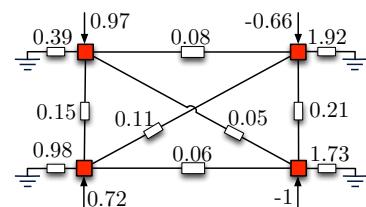
- ③ **Kron reduction**: eliminate interior nodes ● via Schur complement:

$$Y_{\text{red}} = Y / Y_{\text{interior}} = Y_{\text{boundary}} - Y_{\text{bound-int}} \cdot Y_{\text{interior}}^{-1} \cdot Y_{\text{bound-int}}^T$$



original circuit

$$I = Y \cdot V$$



"equivalent" reduced circuit

$$I_{\text{red}} = Y_{\text{red}} \cdot V_{\text{boundary}}$$

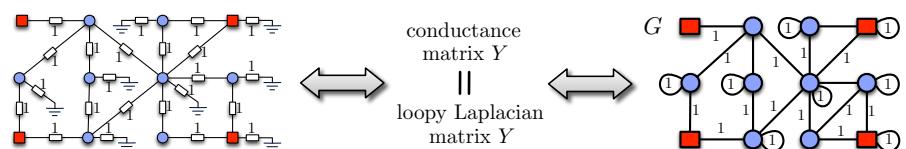


G. Kron, "Tensor Analysis of Networks," Wiley, 1939.

## Kron reduction of graphs

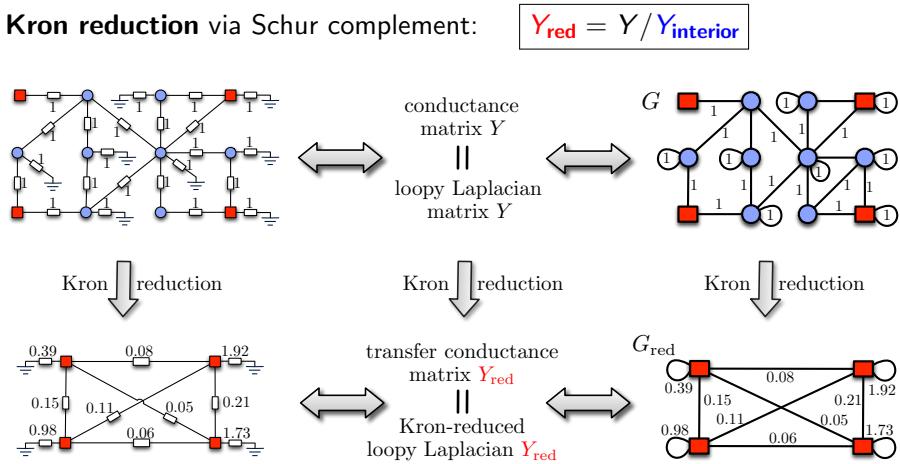
Consider either of the following three equivalent setups:

- ① a connected electrical network with conductance matrix  $Y$ , terminals ■, interior nodes ●, & possibly shunt conductances
- ② a symmetric and irreducible loopy Laplacian matrix  $Y$  with partition (■, ●), & possibly diagonally dominance
- ③ an undirected, connected, & weighted graph with boundary nodes ■, interior nodes ●, & possibly self-loops



## Kron reduction of graphs

**Kron reduction** via Schur complement:



## Kron reduction of graphs

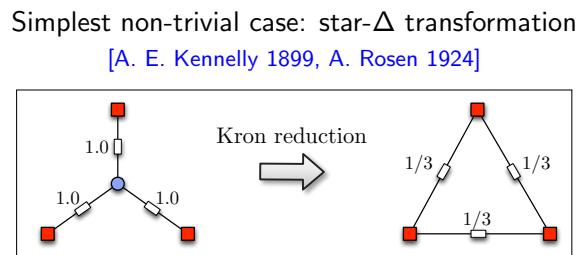
**Kron reduction** via Schur complement:

$$Y_{\text{red}} = Y / Y_{\text{interior}}$$

- Relation of spectrum and algebraic properties of  $Q$  and  $Q_{\text{red}}$ ?
- How about the graph topologies and the effective resistances?
- What is the effect of a perturbation in the original graph on the reduced graph, its spectrum, and its effective resistance?
- Finally, why is this graph reduction process of practical importance and in which application areas?

## Kron reduction of graphs: applications

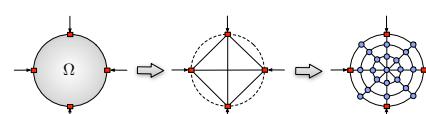
**Purpose:** construct low-dimensional equivalent circuits / graphs / models



- **Engineering applications:** smart grid monitoring, circuit theory, model reduction for power and water networks, power electronics, large-scale integration chips, electrical impedance tomography, data-mining, ...
- **Mathematics applications:** sparse matrix algorithms, finite-element methods, sparse multi-grid solvers, Markov chain reduction, stochastic complementation, applied linear algebra & matrix analysis, Dirichlet-to-Neumann map, ...
- **Physics applications:** knot theory, Yang-Baxter equations and applications, high-energy physics, statistical mechanics, vortices in fluids, entanglement of polymers & DNA, ... [F. Dörfler & F. Bullo '11, J.H.H. Perk & H. Au-Yang '06]

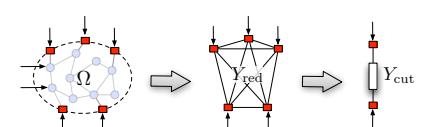
## Kron reduction of graphs: applications

**Electrical impedance tomography**



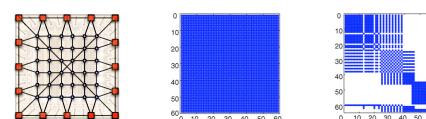
to reconstruct spatial conductivity  
[E. Curtis and J. Morrow '94 & '00]

**Smart grid monitoring**



through cut-set variables  
[I. Dobson '11]

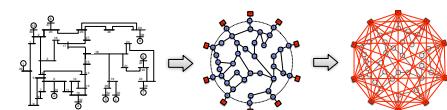
**Representation of integration chips**



for sparse computation

[J. Rommes and W. H. A. Schilders '09]

**Reduced power network modeling**



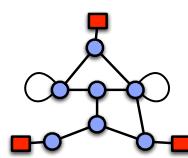
for stability analysis and control

[F. Dörfler and F. Bullo '09]

## Kron reduction of graphs: properties

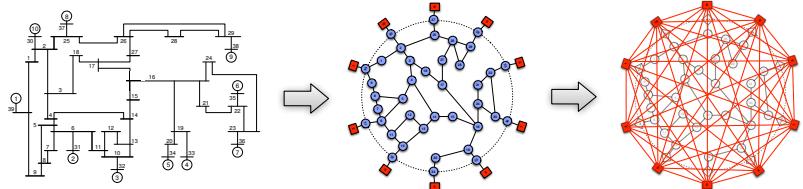
**Kron reduction** of a graph with

- boundary ■, interior ●, non-neg self-loops ○
- loopy Laplacian matrix  $Y$
- Schur complement:  $Y_{\text{red}} = Y / Y_{\text{interior}}$



Properties of Kron reduction:

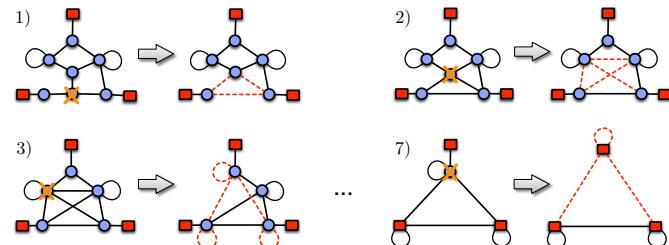
- ① **Well-posedness:** set of loopy Laplacian matrices is closed



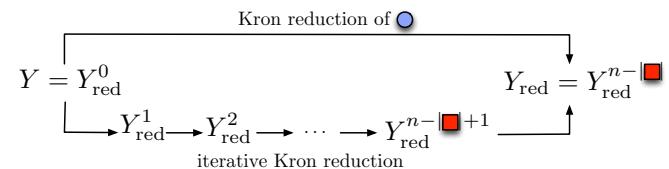
## Kron reduction of graphs: properties

- ② **Iterative 1-dim Kron reduction:**  $Y_{\text{red}}^{k+1} = Y_{\text{red}}^k / \bullet$

⇒ topological evolution of the corresponding graph

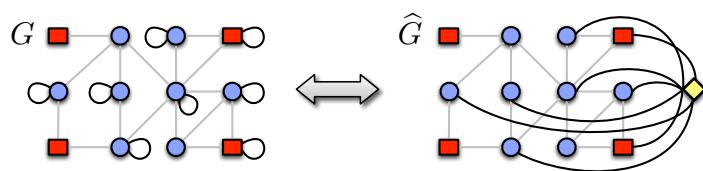


⇒ **Equivalence:** the following diagram commutes:

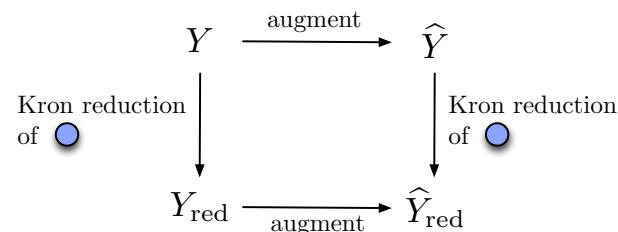


## Kron reduction of graphs: properties

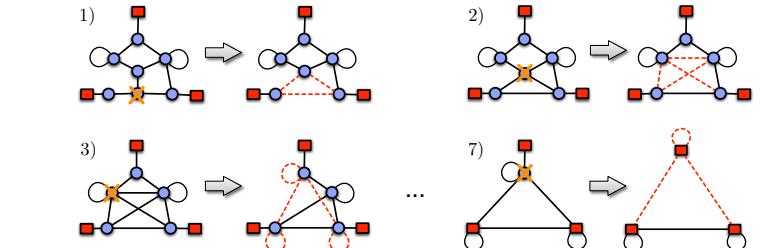
- ③ **Augmentation:** replace self-loops ○ by edge to grounded node ◆



⇒ **Equivalence:** the following diagram commutes:



## Kron reduction of graphs: properties



- ④ **Topological properties:**

- **interior network** connected ⇒ **reduced network** complete
- at least one node in **interior network** features a self-loop ○  
⇒ all nodes in **reduced network** feature self-loops ○

- ⑤ **Algebraic properties:** self-loops in **interior network**

- decrease mutual coupling in **reduced network**
- increase self-loops in **reduced network**

## Kron reduction of graphs: properties

### ⑥ Spectral properties:

- interlacing property:  $\lambda_i(Y) \leq \lambda_i(Y_{\text{red}}) \leq \lambda_{i+n-|\square|}(Y)$

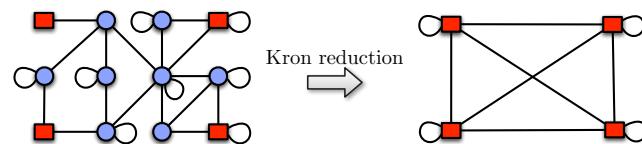
$\Rightarrow$  algebraic connectivity  $\lambda_2$  is non-decreasing

- effect of self-loops  $\odot$  on loop-less Laplacian matrices:

$$\lambda_2(L_{\text{red}}) + \max\{\odot\} \geq \lambda_2(L) + \min\{\odot\}$$

$\Rightarrow$  self-loops weaken the algebraic connectivity  $\lambda_2$

**Example:** all mutual edges have unit weight

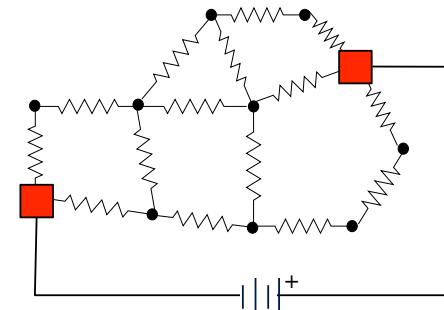


without self-loops:  $\lambda_2(L) = 0.39 \leq 0.69 = \lambda_2(L_{\text{red}})$

with unit self-loops:  $\lambda_2(L) = 0.39 \geq 0.29 = \lambda_2(L_{\text{red}})$

## Kron reduction of graphs: properties

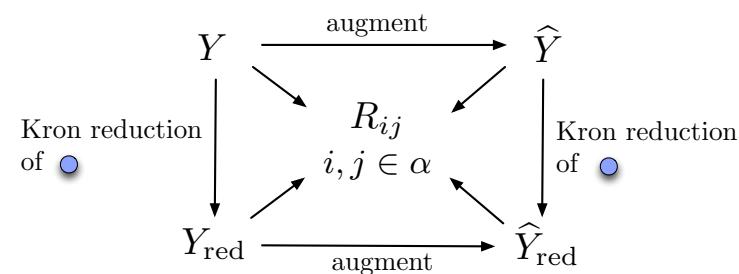
### ⑦ Effective resistance $R_{ij}$ :



## Kron reduction of graphs: properties

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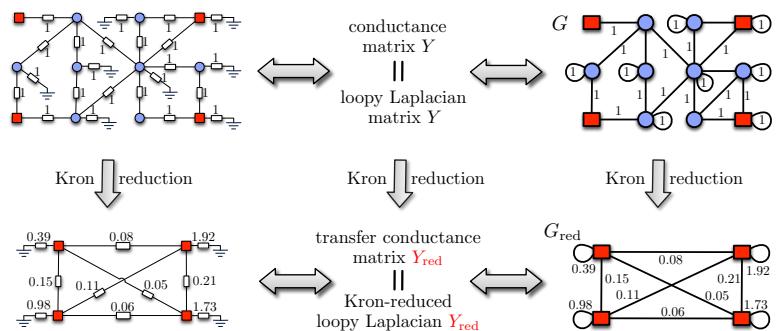
- **Equivalence and invariance** of  $R_{ij}$  among  $\blacksquare$  nodes:



- no self-loops:  $R_{ij}$  among  $\blacksquare$  uniform  $\Leftrightarrow \frac{1}{R_{ij}} = \frac{1}{2} |Y_{\text{red}}(i,j)|$

- self-loops:  $R_{ij}$  among  $\blacksquare$  &  $\diamond$  uniform  $\Leftrightarrow \frac{1}{R_{ij}} = \frac{1}{2} |Y_{\text{red}}(i,j)| + \max\{\odot\}$

## Conclusions



- Kron reduction is important in various applications
- Analysis of Kron reduction via algebraic graph theory
- Open problem: directed & complex-weighted graphs