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# Lecture 13 - Higher-order networks

## 13a - (structure)

April 16, 2024

Based on: (see Canvas)

Paper 1: Siam Review 63, 3, pp. 435-485 (2021)

Paper 2: Physics Reports 874, pp. 1-92 (2020)

Paper 3: Siam Review 65, 3, pp. 686-731 (2023)

4: Siam Review 62, 2, pp. 353-391 (2020)

5: Physics Today 76, 1 pp. 36-42 (2023)

Plan:

↳ (higher-order) "configuration models"

Opener - Slides!

Board - "boundary map", "homology"

Closing - Slides

{ the topology of data ( pretty pictures! )

examples in neuroscience, material science, etc.

genetics, city planning, deep learning

( basically, search for "topological data analysis" )

on Twitter, you'll see lots of examples.)

13b: dynamics

⇒ Hodge decomposition ( think PCA )

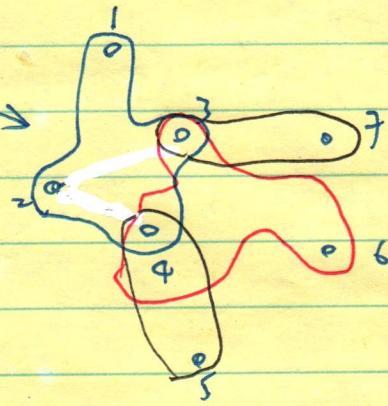
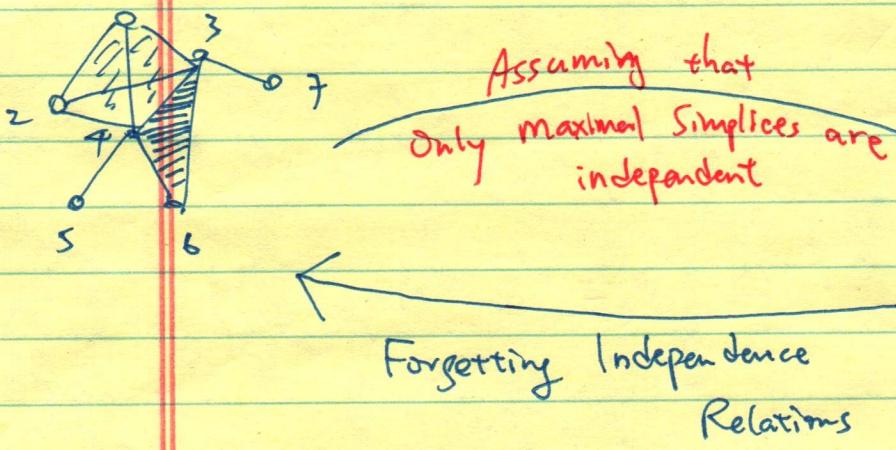
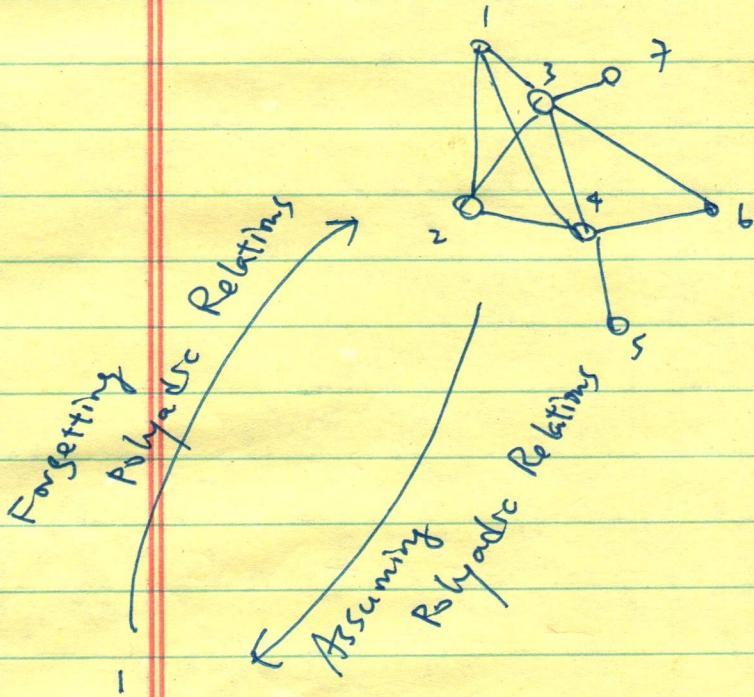
⇒ misc topics

1) what we missed in Lecture 11b.

2) reconstructing a network from dynamics

no time for these ...

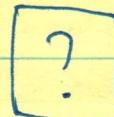
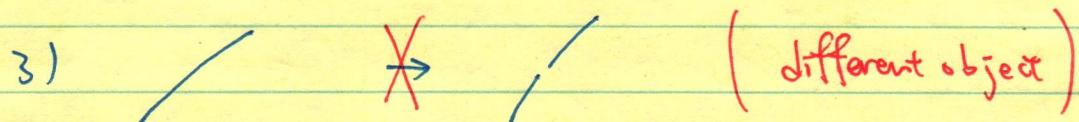
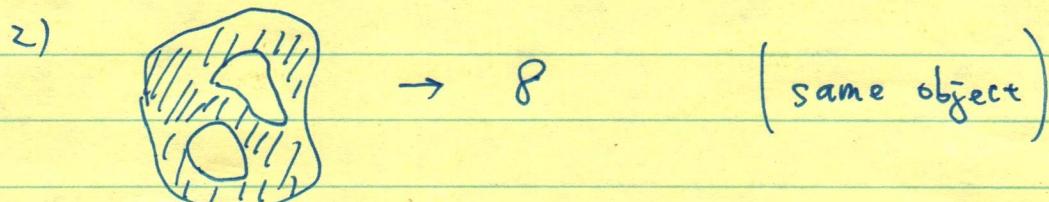
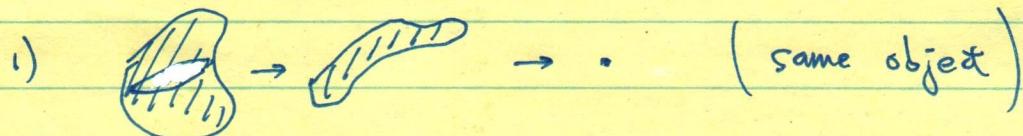
(2)



most general !

(3)

How do we formalize the idea that



We define the notion of "k-cycles"

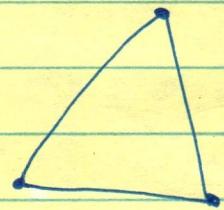
$k=3$	...	} which stores the topological information we seek.
$k=2$	cavity	
$k=1$	loop	
$k=0$	discrete nodes	

Question : When are two ( $k$ -) cycles the same ?

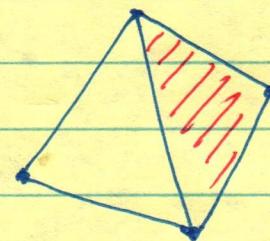
Answer :  $\Rightarrow$  When we can deform one cycle into the other.

$\Rightarrow$  i.e., they differ by a "filled-in cycle", which we call the boundary of a higher-order object.

key-words : Applied topology, homological algebra,  
algebraic topology f.t. "computational"



## 1-cyde



Another 1-cycle

They are the same b/c they differ by  
A 1-boundary.

» This leads to the notion of the  $k^{\text{th}}$ -homology group, which is a vector space where each basis element is a non-trivial equivalence class of  $k$ -cycles.

i.e.,

$$H_k := \frac{\text{cycles}}{\text{boundaries}} = \frac{\ker \partial_k}{\text{im } \partial_{k+1}}$$

We can mathematically formalize the idea using a ...

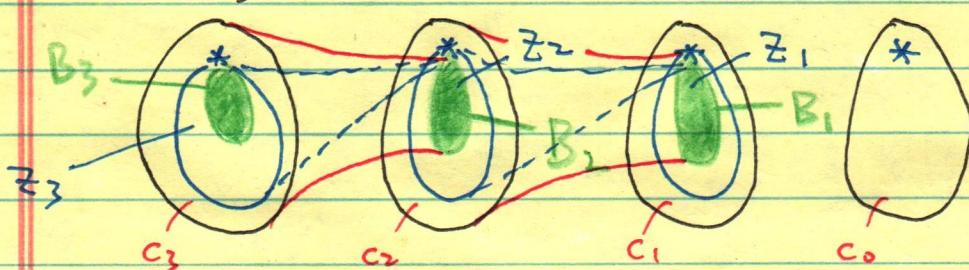
"chain complex"  $\equiv (C_*, \partial_*)$

$$\partial_k : C_k \rightarrow C_{k-1}$$

$$\ker(\partial_k) = Z_k$$

$$\text{im } (\partial_k) = B_{k-1}$$

$$\cdots \rightarrow C_3 \xrightarrow{\delta_3} C_2 \xrightarrow{\delta_2} C_1 \xrightarrow{\delta_1} C_0 \rightarrow 0$$



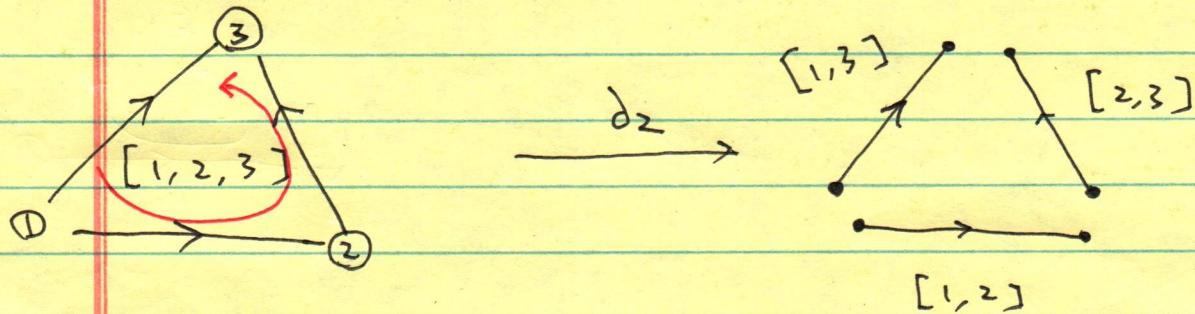
(5)

Paper 4.

Scan Review 62, 2  
pp. 353-391

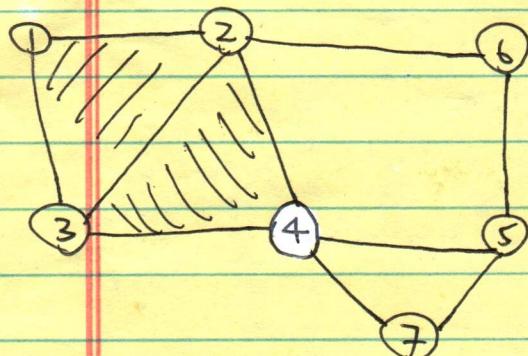
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Help! This is way too abstract!



$$[1, 2, 3] \xrightarrow{\delta_2} [2, 3] - [1, 3] + [1, 2]$$

} Steps to create boundary maps.



1) Identify the basis elements

0-chain : node id's

1-chain :  $[1, 2]$  $[1, 3]$  When doing so, $[2, 3]$  we also fix the

; orientation.

$$|C_2| = 2$$

$$[5, 7]$$

$$|C_1| = 6$$

$$2\text{-chain} : [1, 2, 3]$$

again, "orientation"

$$|C_0| = 7$$

$$[2, 3, 4]$$

is fixed.

orientation = increasing indices.

(6)

2) We can write down the boundary map, according to

$$\partial_k [i_0, i_1, \dots, i_k] = \sum_{j=0}^k (-1)^j [i_0, \dots, i_{j-1}, i_{j+1}, \dots, i_k]$$

	$[1, 2]$	$[1, 3]$	$[2, 3]$	$[2, 4]$	$\dots$
1	-1	-1	0	0	
2	1	0	-1	-1	
3	0	1	1	0	
4	0	0	0	1	
5	0	0	0	0	
6	0	0	0	0	
7	0	0	0	0	

$B_1 \Rightarrow 7\text{-by-}10 \text{ matrix}$   
 $B_2 \Rightarrow 10\text{-by-}2 \text{ matrix}$

check that

	$[1, 2, 3]$	$[2, 3, 4]$	$B_1 \cdot B_2 = 0$
$[1, 2]$	1	0	
$[1, 3]$	-1	0	
$[2, 3]$	1	1	
$[2, 4]$	0	-1	
$[2, 6]$	0	0	
$[3, 4]$	0	1	
:	:	:	
1	1	1	

See Paper 4, p. 361

(7)

"minimal homology basis" (see e.g. Scientific Reports, 11, 5355 (2021))

↳ related problem

Betti number: The dimension of the  $k$ -th homology group tells us the **number** of topological cavities.

i.e.,  $\dim(H_k) = \dim(Z_k) - \dim(B_k) = \beta_k$

Where can we obtain  $\beta_k$ ? Ans: In the matrix expression of  $\partial_k \oplus \partial_{k+1}$ !

$\partial_k$  or  $B_k$  in "Smith's normal form"

$$\begin{array}{c|c|c} & \leftarrow \text{rank } Z_k \rightarrow & \\ \text{rank } B_{k-1} \downarrow & \left[ \begin{array}{cccc|c} 1 & & & & & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & \ddots & & & 0 \\ & 0 & \ddots & 1 & & 0 \\ & & & 0 & & 0 \end{array} \right] & \text{rank } C_{k-1} \downarrow \\ \hline & \leftarrow \text{rank } C_k \rightarrow & \end{array}$$

$$\beta_k = \text{rank}(Z_k) - \text{rank}(B_k)$$

Summary

"filtration"

- 1)  $\{\partial_k\}$  or  $\{B_k\}$  contain key topological information!
- 2)  $\{B_k^+\}$  defines an idea of "persistent homology"  
(see slides!)

"persistent homology"  $\in \{\text{toolbox of topological data analysis}\}$

- Next Lecture!
- 3)  $\{B_k\}$  allow us to define "combinatorial Hodge Laplacian"
    - 3.1) Generalization of the graph Laplacian.
    - 3.2) Through "Hodge decomposition" — A powerful tool in (topological) signal processing.

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or  
 13 b - dynamics (Signal processing on graphs and high-order networks)

Apr 18, 2024

Today's lecture adds three more papers to the reference.

Paper 6 : Proceedings of the IEEE, 106, 5, pp. 808-828 (2018)

7 : Signal Processing, 187, 108149 (2021)

8 : J. Royal Society Interface 19: 20220043 (2022)

Review :

Tue. we introduced "boundary maps," they are useful for

- » computing the Betti numbers
- » computing the "persistent homology"
- » computing the ( $k$ -th) combinatorial Hodge Laplacian.

Today, we will

- » walk thru the (unfinished) example from Tues.
- » define <sup>the</sup> Hodge Laplacians / learn their properties.
- » slides (from Papers 4, 5, 6, 7)

}  $k$ -th combinatorial Hodge Laplacian

Primer : graph Laplacian

Given simple graph  $G = (V, E)$ , where  $|V| = n$ , its Laplacian matrix  $L_{n \times n}$  is defined element-wise as

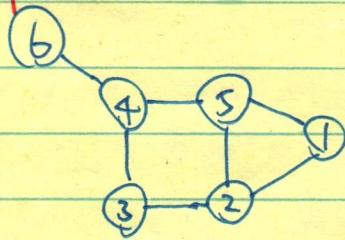
$$L_{ij} = \begin{cases} \deg(v_i) & \text{if } i=j \\ -1 & \text{if } i \neq j \text{ and } (v_i, v_j) \in E \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

OR,  $L = D - A$

adjacency matrix  
degree matrix

(2)

example :



$$L = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 & & -1 \\ -1 & 3 & -1 & -1 \\ & -1 & 2 & -1 \\ & & -1 & 3 & -1 & -1 \\ -1 & -1 & & -1 & 3 \\ -1 & & & & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Properties of the Laplacian matrix  $L$ 

» Because  $V = (1, 1, \dots, 1)$  satisfies  $L V = 0$ ,

"zero" is one of the eigenvalues of  $L$ .

» Actually, if we order  $L$ 's all eigenvalues,  $\lambda_0 \leq \lambda_1 \leq \dots \leq \lambda_{n-1}$   
 $\lambda_0 = 0$

» Orthogonal fact.,  $L$  is "positive-semidefinite". (PSD)

Def 1:  $\lambda_i \geq 0$

2:  $x^T L x \geq 0, \forall x \in \mathbb{R}^n$

Let's prove this by:

FACT 1:  $L$  can be written as  $L = B B^T$ ,  
 where  $B$  is the incidence matrix of a digraph

$$\rightarrow B_{im} \left\{ \begin{array}{ll} 1 & \text{if edge } e_m \text{ enters vertex } v_i \\ -1 & \text{if edge } e_m \text{ leaves vertex } v_i \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{array} \right.$$

dimension =  $|V| \times |E|$

Assuming  $i \rightarrow j$  if  
 $ID(i) < ID(j)$   
 So... edge  $(1,2)$ , you'll have  $① \rightarrow ②$

(3)

$$(BB^T)_{ij} = \sum_{m=1}^{|E|} B_{im} B_{jm}$$

↑  
of dimension  $|V| \times |V|$  now (hence the dummy  $\bar{j}$ )

$$B_{im} B_{jm} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } i = \bar{j} \\ -1 & \text{if } i \neq \bar{j} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad \begin{array}{l} -(x-1) = 1 \\ b/c \quad 1 \times 1 = 1 \\ -(1 \times 1) = -1 \\ b/c \quad 1 \times -1 = -1 \end{array}$$

$|V|$

$$(BB^T)_{ij} = \begin{cases} D_{ii} = d_i & \text{increment by 1 whenever} \\ -1 & \text{there's an edge incident on } i \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Therefore  $BB^T = D - A = L$ .

Now, we rewrite  $x^T L x = x^T (BB^T) x$

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 $B = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 & -1 \\ 3 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$   
 $(1,2) \quad (2,3)$

see example

$$= (x^T B)(B^T x)$$

$$= (B^T x)^T (B^T x)$$

$$= \sum_{i < j} (x_j - x_i)^2 \geq 0$$

QED.

$$B^T x = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -x_1 + x_2 \\ -x_2 + x_3 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow (B^T x)^T (B^T x)$$

$$= (x_2 - x_1)^2 + (x_3 - x_2)^2$$

dimension  $2 \times 3$

$3 \times 1$

$2 \times 1$

4

Cont'd : Properties of the graph Laplacian,  $L$

» The second smallest eigenvalue is called the algebraic connectivity of  $G$ .

Furthermore,

① its eigenvector approximates the sparsest cut (an NP-hard problem) of  $G$ .

② The number of zero eigenvalues tells you the number of connected components.

$$x^T L x = \lambda \quad \text{if } x \in \mathbb{R}^n \text{ is a normalized eigenvector.}$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} x^T x = 1 \\ \end{array} \right.$$

The  $(x_j - x_i)^2$  terms measure some "strain" along the edges connecting the nodes  $i, j$ .

» fewer strain  $\Rightarrow$  smaller  $\lambda$

» Implications in "graph signal processing"  
 "graph filters" signal processing on graphs  
 (analogy in PCA, Fourier transform, etc.)

"frequency of the graph signal" "graph Fourier transform"

\*\*

See Figs 3 & 4 of Paper 6  
 1-3 of Paper 7.

(5)

{ Finally, Hodge Laplacian

We are carrying the intuitions about  
smoothness

projection (into useful subspaces)

into higher-dimensional counterparts of the Laplacian,  
called Hodge Laplacian.

Definition

$k^{\text{th}}$  combinatorial Hodge Laplacian

$$L_k = B_k^T B_k + B_{k+1}^T B_{k+1}$$

Remark

because  $B_0 = \mathbb{0}$ ,  $L_0 = B_1 B_1^T$ ; that's the (combinatorial) graph Laplacian, or Hodge 0-Laplacian.

They allow you to analyze signals on the nodes!

$L_1$ , or 1-Laplacian, allow you to analyze signals on the edges!

"Hodge decomposition"

We can decompose  $C_k \simeq \mathbb{R}^{n_k} = \underbrace{\text{im}(B_{k+1})}_{\text{useful}} \oplus \underbrace{\text{im}(B_k^T)}_{\text{useful}} \oplus \ker(L_k)$

example:

when  $k=1 \Rightarrow$  "one-dim chains"

$n_k = |E|$ ,  $C_k = \text{Set of edges}$

(6)

We focus on  $k=1$ .

$$C_1 = \text{im}(\mathbf{B}_2) \oplus \text{im}(\mathbf{B}_1^T) \oplus \ker(L_1)$$

curl flow      harmonic flow.

edge flow      gradient flow

Examples, see Figs. 4.1 of Paper 4

5.2

5.3

things that, after the action of  $L_1$ ,  
become zero.

in our previous lecture



is an eigenvector of  $L_0$ .

therefore,  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \in \ker(L_0)$

\*\* We did not use figures in Papers 1, 2, 3, and 8.

BUT, they are great review papers!