# Applications of computational (co)homology. 

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## Who am I?

- Finishing PhD Krakow, Poland.
- Working on the edge between disciplines (Mathematics, Computer Science, Engineering).
- Believe in topological nature of the Universe.
- Looking for some nice postdoc position and opportunities to work with nice peoples.


## Where do I want to go today?

- Topology and Maxwell's equation.
- Distributed homology computations.


## Topology and Maxwell's equations.

With Ruben Specogna and Francesco Trevisan.

## Discrete Geometric Approach to Maxwell's equations.

- Formulation of physical laws of electromagnetism by using tools from algebraic topology on a mesh of a circuit.
- Mesh - topologically trivial, consist of conducting and insulating region.
- Idea - Build discrete theory on geometric elements of mesh and construct discrete counterparts of Maxwell's laws.
- Linear system instead of PDE's.
- Unknowns - values of discrete potential.
- Some Maxwell's law hold implicitly, some need to be enforced.
- By Enzo Tonti (1974).


## Discrete potential, idea.

- As in continuous case - not possible to define continuous potential (coboundary) on homologically nontrivial region.
- Cuts - places where potential is discontinuous need to be found.
- Edge-based elements, discontinuity on edges.
- Let's see the inconsistency based on Ampere's law when there are no cuts!


## Local Ampere's law.

- I - electric current 2-cochain.
- F - magneto motive force 1-cochain.
- Local Ampere's law says: $\langle\mathbf{F}, \partial f\rangle=\langle\mathbf{I}, f\rangle$ for every face $f$ in the mesh.
- Non-local Ampere's law says: $\langle\mathbf{F}, \partial c\rangle=\langle\mathbf{I}, c\rangle$ for every 2-chain in the mesh.
- OK for $c$ being boundary, problem for homologically nontrivial c.


## Non-local Ampere's law.



Ampere's law enforce zero on this cycle (fine, no current flow in air).

## Non-local Ampere's law.



Ampere's law enforce zero on this cycle (wrong, the 2-cycle having red cycle as boundary have to cross conductor!).

This is inconsistency on Ampere's law.

## Correction.



- Place some nonzero value $\epsilon$ on $H^{1}$ generator.
- Ampere's law will enforce $\epsilon$ current through conductor.

Panoramic view.


## Summary.

- Suppose we want to impose Ampere's law on cycles in (a).
- In general the value of a current is nonzero there (b).
- We introduce a concept of independent current being a generator of $\mathrm{H}_{2}$ (conductor, $\partial$ conductor) (c).
- The user (engineer / designer) needs to choose the value for independent currents.
- They are extra degrees of freedom in the problem.


## Backwards.

- We need to enforce Ampere's law on cycles in [ $H_{1}$ (insulator)] (d).
- To enforce Ampere's law on $H_{1}$ (insulator) basis we use a dual $H^{1}$ (insulator) basis elements (multiply the cochains by the value of independent current).
- In this way we impose in parts of conductor the current we want.
- In practice we do it backwards - start from $H^{1}$ (insulator) basis, ending in independent currents.


## Why we only care about discrete Ampere's law?

- What about:
- Discrete current continuity law,
- Discrete magnetic Gauss's law,
- Discrete Faraday's law?
- They are all imposed once discrete Ampere's law is imposed.
- Long and technical discussion can be find in: P. D., R. Specogna, Cohomology in electromagnetic modeling, M3AS, under review.


## Technicalities.

- Cohomology generators are provided as an input for EM solvers.
- They are used to fix the current through some parts of circuit.
- Heuristic methods to meet engineers requirements of generators with minimal support are being developed (P.D, R. Specogna).


## How to compute cohomology gens?

- Easy! Simply use the esisting code for homology computations, but "transpose" the incidence index.
- This would clearly work for SNF ( $\partial^{T}=\delta$ ).
- However computing SNF for real-world complexes is not the best idea.


## Shavings.

- Shaving is a kind of reduction that preserves generators.
- Elementary (Whitehead) reduction is a shaving for homology.



## Shavings.

- Clearly Whitehead's reductions are not shaving for cohomology
- Removing acyclic subspace is!



## Perspectives.

- Very good combination of EM and cohomology code.
- Planning to use it in modeling plasma inside ITER fusion device (finally, after 4 years we have its mesh!).
- Code for (co)homology computations for hybrid meshes (hexahera, tetrahedra, pyramids,...) - in fact we can handle any regular CW-complex (Thomas Wanner was to talk about this...)
- Cohomology - useful in many other fields - from texture matching in graphics to obstacle avoidance in robotics.
- Look for others nice applications of cohomology. We already have code and some experience. Everyone's invited!


## Distributed computations of (co)homology over field. <br> (work in progress)

## Beginning

- P.D. M. Mrozek and H. Wagner - make a few people in Google interested in application of topology for text mining.
- Problem we have faced - how to compute homology for huge point clouds?
- Working on highly efficient $\mathrm{C}++$ implementation of Flag complexes.
- Use Discrete Morse Theory to save as much memory during complex construction as possible.
- Still - size of RAM memory is our limitation.
- Even with largest computers available we cannot handle the data of interest of Google.
- Way out - distribute computations - do far we have some experience from sensor networks.


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## Illustration



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## Morse complex.

- Theory by Robin Forman.
- Cells of Morse complex - critical cells of original one.
- By looking at gradient flow path $p$ we can see how orientation of a cell $A$ induces the indicated orientation on another cell $B$ - o( $p, A, B)$.
- Incidence between cells A and B in Morse complex: $\sum o(p, A, B)$ for every $p$ joining $A$ and $B$.
- Homology of Morse complex are homology of initial complex.
- Discrete Morse theory as presented by Robin Forman already used to compute homology (Thomas Leviner).


## Towards distributed computations, speculations.

- Observation - a single Morse pairing is very "local".
- Suppose we have a way of building Morse pairings in a distributed way...
- ...so that no closed V-paths appears.
- Then only hard to distribute part of the computations is computing incidence of cells in Morse Complex.
- What if we do the pairings in a way, that it is easy to get incidence?


## Towards distributed computations, fact.

- Suppose we iteratively compute Morse complexes so that at least one pair is created at each step,
- then after some number of iteration the process stabilizes,
- in this way we can obtain homology over a field.


## Cone contraction algorithm.

1. Boundaryless cell with nonempty coboundary - cone.
2. Let us have a set of cones in our complex lying at least 3 hops one from another.
3. Each process work on a single cone and simplices with all vertices lying no further than 2 from a single cone.
4. A Morse contraction among simplices incidental to cone is made.
5. Then the state of the complex is written back to hard disk.

6 . When there are no more cones, finish.

Simple graph example.


Simple graph example.


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Simple graph example.


Simple graph example.


Simple graph example.


Simple graph example.


## More complicated example.



## More complicated example.



## More complicated example.



## More complicated example.



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## Cone contraction algorithm.

- Pessimistic number of iteration - cubical.
- In flavor of distributed graph (MapReduce) algorithms (do not have shared memory).
- Easy to construct Flag / VR complex in distributed way.
- Experimental code for a single machine (whole complex still at RAM).
- Distributed implementation for a single machine and based on MPI in progress.
- MapReduce implementation in plans.


## The end.

Thank you for your attention!


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