

Counting weighted simplicial spanning trees  
of shifted complexes

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# Counting weighted simplicial spanning trees of shifted complexes

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## MATRIX TREE THEOREM

$$\sum_{T \in \text{ST}(G)} \text{wt } T = |\det \hat{L}_r(G)|,$$

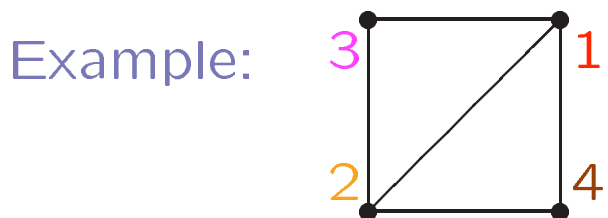
where

$$\text{wt } T = \prod_{e \in T} \text{wt } e = \prod_{e \in T} \left( \prod_{v \in e} x_v \right),$$

“Reduced”: remove rows/columns corresponding to any one vertex

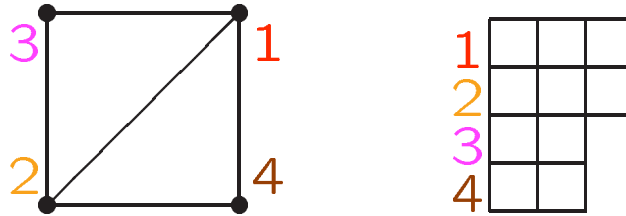
$\hat{L} = \partial \partial^T$ , (weighted) Laplacian

$\partial$ , weighted boundary (incidence) matrix;  
the  $(e, v)$  entry is  $\pm \sqrt{\text{wt } e}$



$$\partial^T = \begin{pmatrix} -\sqrt{12} & \sqrt{12} & 0 & 0 \\ -\sqrt{13} & 0 & \sqrt{13} & 0 \\ -\sqrt{14} & 0 & 0 & \sqrt{14} \\ 0 & -\sqrt{23} & \sqrt{23} & 0 \\ 0 & -\sqrt{24} & 0 & \sqrt{24} \end{pmatrix}$$

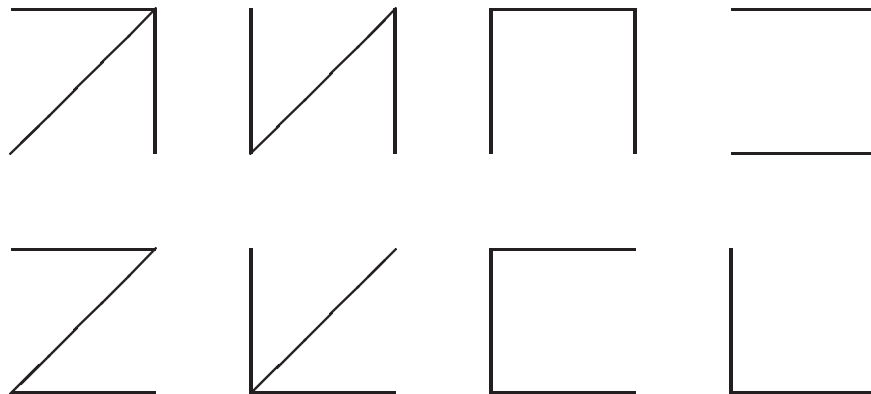
## EXAMPLE



$$\hat{L} = \begin{pmatrix} 1(2+3+4) & -12 & -13 & -14 \\ -12 & 2(1+3+4) & -23 & -24 \\ -13 & -23 & 3(1+2) & 0 \\ -14 & -24 & 0 & 4(1+2) \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\hat{L}_r = \begin{pmatrix} 2(1+3+4) & -23 & -24 \\ -23 & 3(1+2) & 0 \\ -24 & 0 & 4(1+2) \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\det \hat{L}_r = (1234)(1+2)(1+2+3+4)$$



## SIMPLICIAL SPANNING TREES of COMPLETE SIMPLICIAL COMPLEX (Kalai '83)

Defn: Simplicial spanning tree: (Assume dim  $k$ ;  $n$  vertices.) Set  $T$ , of  $k$ -dimensional faces, containing all  $(k - 1)$ -dimensional faces and:

1.  $|T| = \binom{n-1}{k}$
2.  $\tilde{H}_k(T) = 0$
3.  $\tilde{H}_{k-1}(T)$  is finite group

Note: Any two conditions imply the third.

How many are there?

Bolker ('76): should be  $n \binom{n-2}{k}$ , but isn't

Kalai ('83): proves

$$\sum_{T \in SST} |\tilde{H}_{k-1}(T)|^2 = n \binom{n-2}{k}$$

## WEIGHTING

$$\text{wt } T = \prod_{F \in T} \text{wt } F = \prod_{F \in T} \left( \prod_{v \in F} x_v \right)$$

Thm (Kalai '83):

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{T \in SST} |\tilde{H}_{k-1}(T)|^2 (\text{wt } T) \\ = (x_1 \cdots x_n)^{\binom{n-2}{k-1}} (x_1 + \cdots + x_n)^{\binom{n-2}{k}} \end{aligned}$$

Adin ('92) did something similar for complete  $r$ -partite complexes.

## KALAI'S THEOREM

Proof (unweighted; weighted is similar):

$$\begin{aligned}n \binom{n-2}{k} &= \det L_r(K_n^k) = \det \partial_r(K_n^k) \partial_r(K_n^k)^T \\ &= \sum_T (\det \partial_r(T))^2 \\ &= \sum_T |\tilde{H}_{k-1}(T)|^2\end{aligned}$$

by [Binet-Cauchy](#).

“[Reduced](#)” now means pick one vertex, and then remove rows/columns corresponding to all  $(k - 1)$ -dimensional faces containing that vertex.

$$L = \partial \partial^T$$

$\partial: \Delta_k \rightarrow \Delta_{k-1}$  boundary

$\partial^T: \Delta_{k-1} \rightarrow \Delta_k$  coboundary

## SIMPLICIAL MATRIX TREE THEOREM

Defn: Simplicial spanning tree of  $\Delta$ : (Assume  $\dim \Delta = k$ .)  $k$ -dimensional complex  $T$  containing all  $(k-1)$ -dimensional faces of  $\Delta$  ( $T^{(k-1)} = \Delta^{(k-1)}$ ) and:

1.  $f_k(T) = f_k(\Delta) - \beta_k(\Delta) + \beta_{k-1}(\Delta)$
2.  $\tilde{H}_k(T) = 0$
3.  $\tilde{H}_{k-1}(T)$  is finite group

Note: Any two conditions imply the third.

Thm (DKM):

$$\sum_{T \in SST(\Delta)} |\tilde{H}_{k-1}(T)|^2 \text{wt } T = \frac{|\tilde{H}_{k-2}(\Delta)|^2}{|\tilde{H}_{k-2}(\Delta_U)|^2} \det \hat{L}_r.$$

$U$  = set of facets of  $(k-1)$ -spanning tree of  $\Delta$

$\hat{L}_r$  is  $L$  reduced by all of  $U$

$$\Delta_U = U \cup \Delta^{(k-2)}$$



## SHIFTED SIMPLICIAL COMPLEXES

Defn:  $V = 1, \dots, n$

$F \in \Delta, i \notin F, j \in F, i < j \Rightarrow F \cup i - j \in \Delta$   
 (equivalently, the  $k$ -faces form an initial ideal in the componentwise partial order).

Ex: bipyramid = { 123, 124, 125, 134, 135, 234, 235 } (and subfaces)

$$\Delta = (\mathbf{1} * \mathbf{lk}_{\Delta} \mathbf{1}) \dot{\cup} B_{\Delta}$$

$$B_{\Delta} = \{F \in \Delta : \mathbf{1} \notin F, F \dot{\cup} \mathbf{1} \notin \Delta\}$$

$$\mathbf{lk}_{\Delta} \mathbf{1} = \{F - \mathbf{1} : \mathbf{1} \in F, F \in \Delta\}, \text{ shifted}$$

$$\mathbf{del}_{\Delta} \mathbf{1} = \{G : \mathbf{1} \notin G, G \in \Delta\}, \text{ shifted}$$

$$\beta_i(\Delta) = f_i(B_{\Delta})$$

$$\mathbf{del}_{\Delta} \mathbf{1} = \mathbf{lk}_{\Delta} \mathbf{1} \dot{\cup} B_{\Delta}$$

Example (bipyramid, continued):

$$B_{\Delta} = \{234, 235\}$$

$$\mathbf{lk}_{\Delta} \mathbf{1} = \{23, 24, 25, 34, 25; 2, 3, 4, 5; \emptyset\}$$

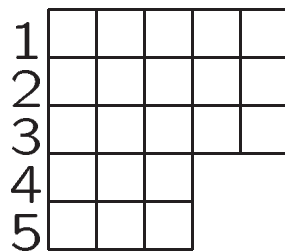
$$\mathbf{del}_{\Delta} \mathbf{1} = \mathbf{lk}_{\Delta} \mathbf{1} \dot{\cup} B_{\Delta}.$$

## EIGENVALUES

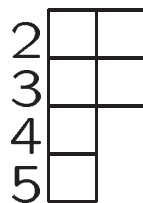
Thm (D-Reiner '02): Non-0 eigenvalues of top-dim'l Laplacian of shifted complex given by  $d^T$  where  $d$  is degree sequence,  $d_i = |\{\text{facets } F : i \in F\}|$ .

Example (bipyramid):

{123, 124, 125, 134, 135, 234, 235}



Example (del1): 234, 235



## COUNTING TREES OF SHIFTED COMPLEXES

Pick  $U$  to be ridges ( $(k-1)$ -dimensional faces) containing **1**, which is acyclic, and contains  $(k-2)$ -faces of  $\Delta$ , and so it is (the facets of) a simplicial spanning tree.

Also,  $\tilde{H}_{k-2}(\Delta_U) = 0$ , and if  $\Delta$  is pure and shifted, then  $\tilde{H}_{k-2}(\Delta) = 0$ , so we just have to compute  $\det \hat{L}_r$ .

Ex: bipyramid. Set of all ridges is all possible edges, except 45.  $U = \{\mathbf{12}, \mathbf{13}, \mathbf{14}, \mathbf{15}\}$ , so  $\hat{L}_r$  is indexed by  $\{\mathbf{23}, \mathbf{24}, \mathbf{25}, \mathbf{34}, \mathbf{35}\}$ .

$$\hat{L}_r =$$

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} 23(1+4+5) & -234 & -235 & 234 & 235 \\ -234 & 24(1+3) & 0 & -234 & 0 \\ -235 & 0 & 25(1+3) & 0 & -235 \\ 234 & 234 & 0 & (1+2)34 & 0 \\ 235 & 0 & -235 & 0 & (1+2)35 \end{array}$$

## SIMPLIFICATIONS

$$\det \hat{L}_r = (23)(24)(25)(34)(35) \det M$$

$$\det M = \begin{vmatrix} 1+4+5 & -\sqrt{34} & -\sqrt{35} & \sqrt{24} & \sqrt{25} \\ -\sqrt{34} & 1+3 & 0 & -\sqrt{23} & 0 \\ -\sqrt{35} & 0 & 1+3 & 0 & -\sqrt{23} \\ \sqrt{24} & -\sqrt{23} & 0 & 1+2 & 0 \\ \sqrt{25} & 0 & -\sqrt{23} & 0 & 1+2 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= |1I + N|$$

$$N = \begin{pmatrix} 4+5 & -\sqrt{34} & -\sqrt{35} & \sqrt{24} & \sqrt{25} \\ -\sqrt{34} & 3 & 0 & -\sqrt{23} & 0 \\ -\sqrt{35} & 0 & 3 & 0 & -\sqrt{23} \\ \sqrt{24} & -\sqrt{23} & 0 & 2 & 0 \\ \sqrt{25} & 0 & -\sqrt{23} & 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

Remarkably,  $N$  is a weighted Laplacian of  $\text{del}_\Delta \mathbf{1}$ ;  
 $N = \partial \partial^T$  with

$$\partial^T = \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{4} & -\sqrt{3} & 0 & \sqrt{2} & 0 \\ \sqrt{5} & 0 & -\sqrt{3} & 0 & \sqrt{2} \end{pmatrix}$$

The  $(F, G)$  entry of this matrix is  $\pm\sqrt{F-G}$ .

## FURTHER SIMPLIFICATIONS

This makes the eigenvalues of this  $N$  be  $0, 0, 0, 2 + 3, 2 + 3 + 4 + 5$ , and  $\det M = (1)^3(1 + 2 + 3)(1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 5)$ . Finally it makes the weighted tree enumerator of the bipyramid

$$(23)(24)(25)(34)(35) \times (1)^3(1 + 2 + 3)(1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 5).$$

More generally,

$$\left( \prod_{F \in R} x_F \right) \prod_{j=1}^{|R|} \sum_{i=1}^{1+(d^T)_j} x_i,$$

where  $R = \text{facets of } \mathbb{k}_{\Delta} \mathbf{1}$  and  $d$  is the degree sequence of  $\text{del}_{\Delta} \mathbf{1}$ .

