

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

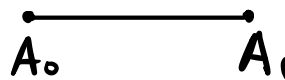
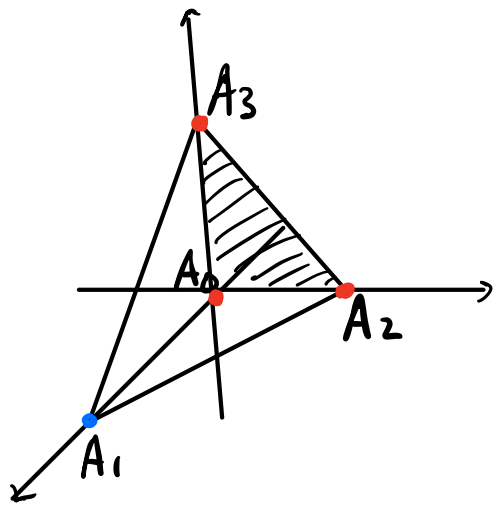
$$x_0 + \dots + x_n = 0 \text{ and } x_0 A_0 + \dots + x_n A_n = 0 \iff x_0 = \dots = x_n = 0$$

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

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 维单形). 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 guarantees 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 (n 维单形) 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 .
~~几何体~~
/ geometric realization

(1895-1965, Hungarian)

Radó's lemma Each closed surface is homeomorphic to the polytope of a finite 2-dimensional simplicial complex.
1920s (not Radon-Nikodym)

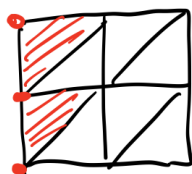
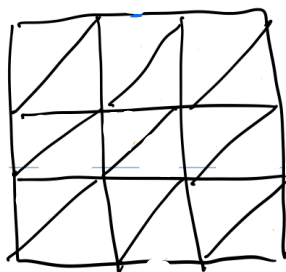
3-manifolds: Moise, Bing 1950s (Munkres, Smale, J.H.C. Whitehead admitting unique smooth structure)

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

≥ 5 -manifolds: existing non-triangulable manifolds in each dimension. Manolescu 2016
Wang, Xu 2017 S^6 admits a unique smooth structure

TOP, DIFF, PL

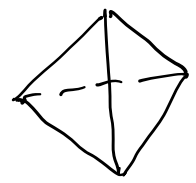
Ex torus



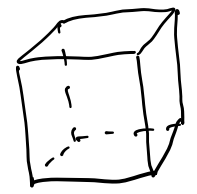
not satisfying
(2) in definition
of simplicial
complexes

Ex projective plane?

Euler characteristic (given a convex polytope, # vertices - # edges + # faces = 2)



4 - 6 + 4



8 - 12 + 6

Define $\chi(K) :=$ # even-dimensional simplices - # odd-dimensional simplices
characteristic

Prop When $|K| \cong \mathbb{R}T^2$, $\chi(K) = 2 - 2g$.
When $|K| \cong \mathbb{R}P^2$, $\chi(K) = 2 - k$.

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

オイラー(示性)数

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, $\chi(K) = 1$.

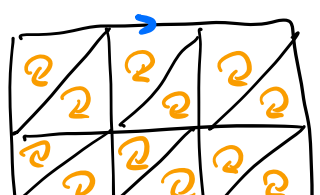


③ The proof uses homology. (# m -"holes" = $3 - 3 + 1$ the rank of $H_m(K)$ as a free ab group).

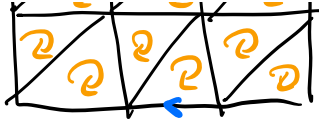
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Ex torus

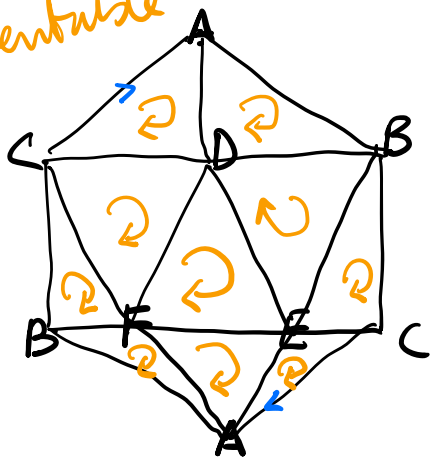
可表性



9 - 27 + 18 = 0



Ex projective plane
unorientable



"orientation"

Ex $\chi(M_1 \# M_2) = \chi(M_1) + \chi(M_2) - 2$



$$-3 + 3 - 2$$

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

$$M \cong N$$

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

$$ks(M) = ks(N)$$

$$H^2(M; \mathbb{Z}) \times H^2(M; \mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$$

Kirby-Siebenmann invariant

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

① even: $(Q, \frac{\text{sign}(Q)}{8} \text{ mod } 2)$ can be realized
8 divisible

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

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

Summary

2-2g
2-k

Yes
No

Euler characteristic and orientability as complete topological invariants for 2-manifolds.

(connected, closed)

Mentioned $(Q_M, ks(M))$ 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.