

## 5. Homework

Due **4/9/15** before class

**1. Clique Complex (8 = 5 + 3 points)**

A clique complex  $K$  corresponding to a graph  $G$  is the maximal abstract simplicial complex using  $G$  as the one-skeleton. That is, the vertices and edges of  $G$  are the vertices and edges of  $K$ . Higher dimensional simplices are created as follows: for each clique  $C$  in  $G$ , add a  $k$ -simplex to  $K$  consisting of the vertices in  $C$ .

- (a) Prove that a clique complex is an (abstract) simplicial complex.
- (b) Give an example of a simplicial complex that is not a clique complex.

**2. Connectivity (10 points)**

Let  $V = \{v_0, \dots, v_k\} \subset \mathbb{R}^2$ . Give an algorithm to compute the minimum radius  $r$  for which  $\mathbb{B} = \bigcup_{v \in V} B_r(v)$  is connected. Be sure to give the complexity of this algorithm.

**3. Minimum Enclosing Ball (4 points)**

Let  $P$  be a set of points in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  and  $r \in \mathbb{R}$ . Prove that  $\bigcap_{p \in P} B_r(p)$  is non-empty if and only if there exists  $s \in \mathbb{R}^2$  such that  $P \subset B_r(s)$ . [Note: An implication of this result is that we can use an algorithm to compute the radius of the smallest enclosing disk of a set of points to determine whether or not a simplex is in the Čech complex.]

**4. Graph Genus (10 = 5 + 5 points)**

Recall that an orientable (compact) two-manifold is either a sphere  $\mathbb{S}^2$ , the torus  $\mathbb{T}^2$ , or the connected sum of  $g$  tori:

$$\mathbb{T}^2 \# \underbrace{\mathbb{T}^2 \# \dots \# \mathbb{T}^2}_{g-1 \text{ times}}.$$

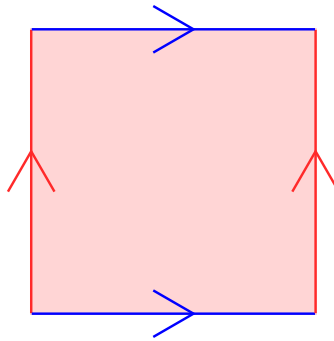
The number  $g$  is known as the genus of the orientable manifold (where, if  $g = 0$ , we have the sphere; see also the paragraph on handle-body decomposition in the notes). The genus of a graph is the smallest  $g$  such that the graph can be embedded on a compact orientable manifold of genus  $g$ .

- (a) What is the genus of the complete graph on five vertices,  $K_5$ ? Show or explain.
- (b) What is the genus of  $K_{3,3}$  (the complete bipartite graph between two sets of three vertices)? Show or explain.

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5. **Computing Invariants** ( $8 = 2 + 2 + 2 + 2$  points)

Consider the following fundamental polygon:



- (a) What is this (topological) space? [Hint: we have seen it in the lectures.]
- (b) Provide a valid simplicial complex that represents the same underlying space.
- (c) What is the Euler characteristic of it? (Be sure to show how you got your answer).
- (d) Is it orientable? Explain your answer.

6. **Different Norms** (graduate;  $10 = 5 + 5$  points)

Let  $V = \{v_0, \dots, v_n\}$  be a collection of  $n + 1$  points in  $\mathbb{R}^d$ . In lecture, we used Euclidean-balls to define Čech and Alpha complexes. Consider instead, the  $\ell_\infty$  balls. That is, we define the distance between a vertex  $v_i$  and a point  $x \in \mathbb{R}^d$  as follows:

$$d(v_i, x) = \|v_i - x\|_\infty = \max_{j=1 \dots d} |v_i(j) - x(j)|,$$

where  $v_i(j)$  and  $x(j)$  are the  $j$ -th coordinates of  $v_i$  and  $x$ , respectively. Prove that the Čech complex using this metric is a clique complex for some graph. Show (by counter-example) that this is not necessarily true when using Euclidean balls.

Note: If you would like to discuss any of these homework problems with Brittany Fasy, please email [bfasy@tulane.edu](mailto:bfasy@tulane.edu) to set up a time.