Manifold Homotopy via the Flow Complex

Bardia Sadri Duke University



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 \sum

155.3.)

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An adaptive ε -sample of Σ has a point within $\varepsilon \cdot \operatorname{lfs}(x)$ of every $x \in \Sigma$. A uniform ε -sample of Σ has a point within $\varepsilon \cdot \operatorname{reach}(\Sigma)$ of every $x \in \Sigma$.

reach

1553

M

Σ

(Squared) Distance Functions





P is a discrete set of points The squared distance function induced by P is $h(x) := \min_{p \in P} \|x - p\|^2$















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Integrating v



Moving at point x with speed v(x) results a flow map $\phi : \mathbb{R}^+ \times \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}^n$. $\phi(t, x) = y$ means "starting at x and going for time t we reach y".

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The index of c is the dimension of D(c).

Stable manifold of a critical point c is the set of all points that flow to c.

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The flow complex is the collection

 $\{\mathsf{Sm}(c): c \text{ is critical}\}\$

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For a point set $P \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ and $r \in \mathbb{R}$: union of balls $B^r(P) := \bigcup_{p \in P} B(p, r)$ alpha shape $K^r(P) := \operatorname{Nrv} \bigcup_{p \in P} (B(p, r) \cap V_p)$ flow shape $F^r(P) := \bigcup_{h(c) \leq r} \operatorname{Sm}(c)$ $B^r(P)$

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Theorem. If P is a uniform ε -sample, then for a shallow c, dist $(c, P) < \sqrt{5/3}\varepsilon\tau$ and for a deep c, dist $(c, P) > (1 - 2\varepsilon^2)\tau$.



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Theorem. [NSW'06] If P is a uniform ε -sample of Σ then $B^{(r)}(P)$ is homotopy equivalent to Σ (when r and ε are in the right range).

Unstable manifold of c is intersection of flows all neighborhoods of c.

$$\mathsf{Um}(c) = \bigcap_{\varepsilon > 0} \phi(B(x,\varepsilon)) = \phi(V(c)).$$


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Lemma [Lieutier'04]. If $Y \subset X$ are bounded and

- 1. $\phi(X) = X$ and $\phi(Y) = Y$, and
- 2. $||v(x)|| \ge c > 0$ for $x \in X \setminus Y$,

then X and Y are homotopy equivalent.



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So, we "push X into Y" at speed > 0.



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Idea to Lower Bound the Speed

If $V(x) \cap D(x) = \emptyset$ then

 $\begin{aligned} \|v(x)\| &= 2 \cdot \|x - d(x)\| \\ &\geq 2 \cdot \mathsf{dist}(V(x), D(x)). \end{aligned}$

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If $V(x) \cap D(x) = \{c\}$ then $x \in Um(c)$.

So, if $Um(c) \subset Y$ we are fine!

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Putting Everything Together

Theorem.

Let $P \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ and h be the induced distance function. If $h(c_1) < \cdots < h(c_k)$ are critical points of h, then for any submanifold Σ of \mathbb{R}^n densely sampled by P, there is a 1 < j < k, such that:

$$\bigcup_{i=1}^{j} \operatorname{Sm}(c_i) \simeq \Sigma \qquad \text{and} \qquad \bigcup_{i=j-1}^{k}$$



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Thank You!