Connectivity of random simplicial complexes

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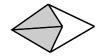
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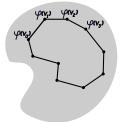


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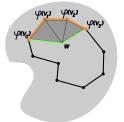
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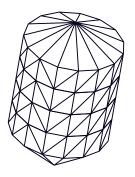
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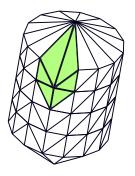
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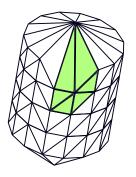
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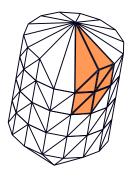


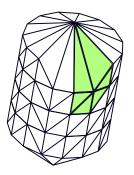




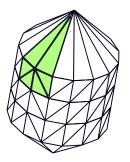










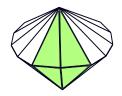














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However, there is a much simpler proof of this fact based on ideas by Meshulam and Kahle, using a version of the Nerve lemma.

Lemma: Let K be an r-conic simplicial complex. Let $t \le r$ and $v_1, v_2, \ldots, v_t \in K$. Then $S = \bigcap st(v_i) \le K$ is (r - t)-conic.

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Proof of lemma. Let $L \leqslant S$ be a subcomplex of at most r-t vertices. Then $\{v_1, v_2, \ldots, v_t\} \circledast L \leqslant K$ has at most r vertices and thus there exists $v \in K$ such that $\{v_1, v_2, \ldots, v_t\} \circledast L \in \operatorname{st}(v)$. This means that $v \circledast \{v_1, v_2, \ldots, v_t\} \circledast L \leqslant K$, so $v \circledast L \leqslant S$. Thus, $L \leqslant \operatorname{st}_S(v)$.

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Given $n \ge 0$ we construct a random simplicial complex in at most n vertices.

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Prop: For any $r \ge 0$ a random complex in the medial regime is r-connected asymptotically almost surely. Proof. It suffices to show that K is (2r + 2)-conic a.a.s.

$$P(L \leqslant \operatorname{st}(v)|L \leqslant K) = p_v \prod_{\sigma \in L} p_{v\sigma}$$

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If L is fixed but $v \notin L$ is not, then $P(L \nleq \operatorname{st}(v) \ \forall v \notin L | L \leqslant K) \leq (1 - a^{2^{2r+2}})^{n-2r-2}$.
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Proof. It suffices to show that K is (2r+2)-conic a.a.s. If L is a complex with vertex set $V_L \subseteq V$ of cardinality smaller than or equal to 2r+2, and $v \in V \setminus V_L$, the conditional probability

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 $cat(K) \le 2$ a.a.s. In particular $TC(K) \le 2cat(K) \le 4$ a.a.s.

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During the last months we have been working to improve this bounds.

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Thus $P(L \nleq \operatorname{st}(v)|L \leqslant K) \leq 1 - a^{2^{2r+2}} = 1 - a^{4^{r+1}}$. If L is fixed but $v \notin L$ is not, then

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$$\begin{split} &P\big(\text{K is not } (2r+2)\text{-conic}\big) \leq \sum\limits_{L} P\big(L \leqslant \text{K and $L \nleq \text{st}(v)$ $} \forall v \in V\big) \leq \\ &\binom{n}{2r+2} 2^{2^{2r+2}} (1-a^{4^{r+1}})^{n-2r-2} \to 0. \end{split}$$

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Def: A complex K is (-1)-narrow if it is nonempty. For $r \ge 0$, K is r-narrow if for every $2 \le t \le r+2$ and $v_1, v_2, \ldots, v_t \in K$, $S = \bigcap st(v_i) \le K$ is (r-t+1)-narrow.

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Thm: If a simplicial complex K is r-narrow, then it is r-connected. Proof. Let $\mathcal{U}=\{st(v)\}_{v\in K}$. The nerve $N(\mathcal{U})$ is r-connected because it has complete (r+1)-skeleton. Let $1\leq t\leq r+1$ and let $v_1,v_2,\ldots,v_t\in K$. We want to prove that $S=\bigcap \mathrm{st}(v_i)$ is (r-t+1)-connected. For t=1 it is obvious. For $1\leq t\leq r+1$, we have $1\leq t\leq r+1$ and by induction it suffices to check that $1\leq t\leq t\leq r+1$ by induction. This holds by definition.

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Coro: K is homotopy equivalent to a suspension a.a.s.