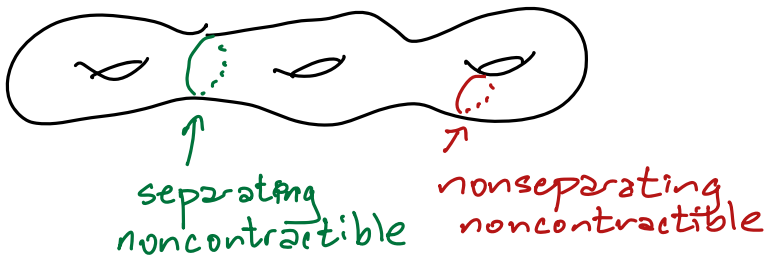


# Shortest Interesting Cycles

Spreadsheet to register projects

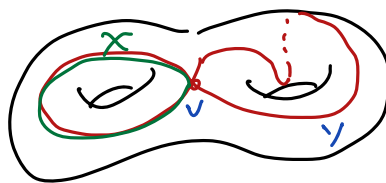


Given a surface map  $\Sigma$ , find shortest noncon/nonsep cycle,  
positively weighted edges

Lemma: Shortest noncon/nonsep closed walk is a simple cycle.

closed walk  $\leftarrow$  simple closed walk

Proof: Suppose not.



$W =$  shortest nontrivial closed walk  
Suppose  $w$  is not simple

$$W = X \circ Y$$

$X$  and  $Y$  shorter than  $w \Rightarrow$  both trivial.

Non-contractible  $\Rightarrow$   $w$  is contractible  $\times$

Non-separating  $\Rightarrow X = \partial A \quad Y = \partial B \quad w = \partial(A \oplus B)$   
 $w$  is separating  $\times$

## Surface Mesh Simplification

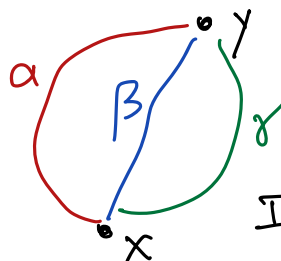
Triangulation  $100M \Delta s \longrightarrow 1000 \Delta s$  "same" geometry



reconstructed surfaces are noisy  
topological noise is bottleneck to simplification

Topological Data Analysis

Thomassen  $O(n^3)$   
3-path condition



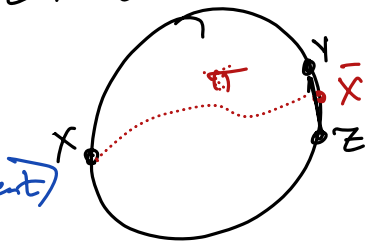
Three cycles:  
 $\alpha \cdot rev(\beta)$   
 $\beta \cdot rev(\gamma)$   
 $\alpha \cdot rev(\gamma)$

If two are trivial, so is third.

$\Rightarrow$  Let  $\sigma$  be shortest nontrivial cycle in  $\Sigma$   
 $x$  any pt in  $\sigma$        $\bar{x}$  antipodal point in  $\sigma$

Both paths from  $x$  to  $\bar{x}$  in  $\sigma$   
 are shortest paths in  $\Sigma$

(same exchange argument)



$\Rightarrow$  Any shortest path crosses  $\sigma$  at most once.

$O(n^3)$  time algorithm:

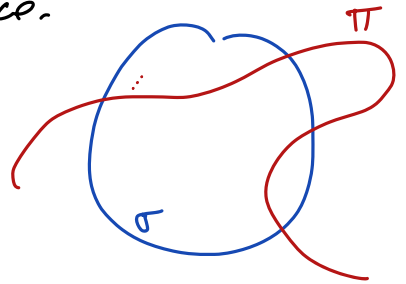
Let  $\text{loop}(x, yz) \stackrel{\text{shortest!}}{=} \text{path}(x \rightarrow y) \cdot yz \cdot \text{path}(z \rightarrow x)$

There are  $O(n^2)$  loops like this

Enumerate in  $O(n^2 \log n)$  time Dijkstra on

Is  $\text{loop}(x, yz)$  contractible?  $\rightarrow O(n)$  Dehn's algo.

separating?  $\rightarrow$  WFS in  $\Sigma^*$   $O(n)$



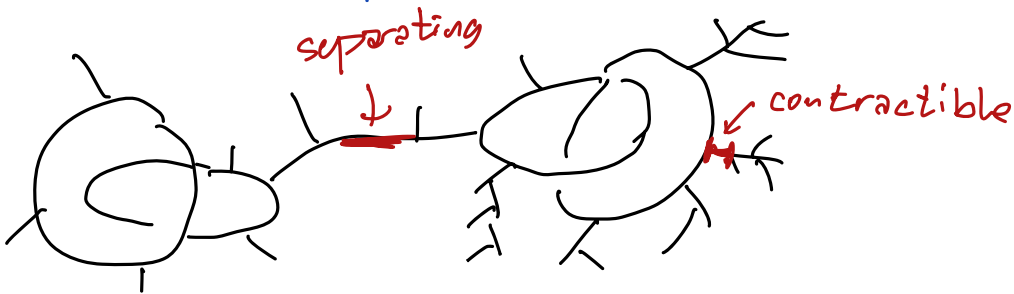
[E. Har-Peled]

shortest path tree @  $x$

Tree-cotree decomposition  $(T, L, C)$

Dual cut graph  $C^* \cup L^* = X$

Every  $\text{loop}(x, yz)$  crosses  $X$  once at  $yz$ .



$\text{loop}(x, yz)$  is separating iff  $(yz)^*$  is bridge of  $X$   
 contractible iff  $(yz)$  is not in reduced  $(X)$

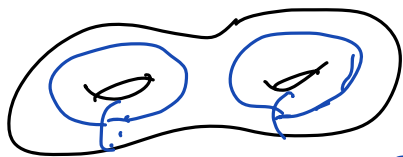
We can test all  $\text{loop}(x, yz)$  (for each  $x$ ) in  $O(n)$  time

$\Rightarrow O(n^2 \log n)$  time  $[O(n^2)]$

Cabello Chambers E

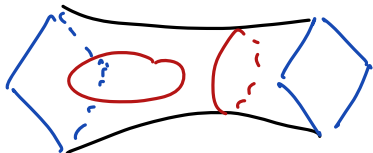
$O(g^2 n \log n)$  time

whp  
 $O(g^3 n \log n)$  or  $O(g^2 n \log^2 n)$



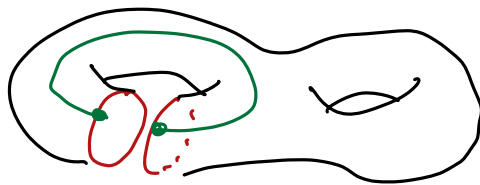
we can find collection  $C$  of cycles such that

① any non-sep cycle crosses at least one cycle in  $C$

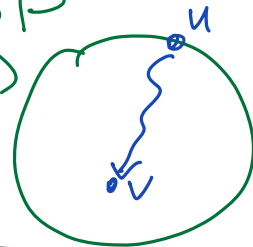


② shortest non-sep cycle  $\sigma$  crosses some cycle in  $C$  exactly once.

③



MSSP  
 $O(g^2 n \log n)$

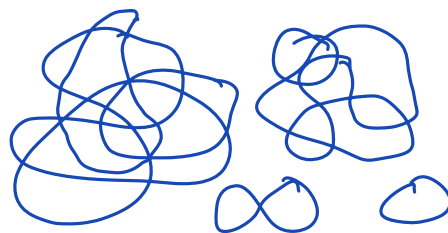


## Cycles + Boundaries

Surface map  $\Sigma$      $n$  vertices    Euler genus  $\bar{g}$      $(T, L, C)$

### Even subgraphs

= union of edge-disjoint cycles  
= sym. diff of cycles.



Cycle space  $\mathbb{Z}_1(\Sigma)$  generated by simple cycles,  $\oplus$

Fundamental cycles  $\{\text{cycle}_T(e) \mid e \notin T\}$

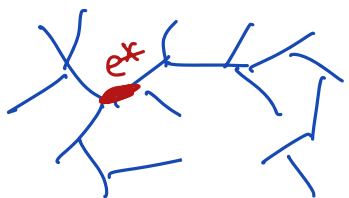
$$\mathbb{Z}_1(\Sigma) = \mathbb{Z}_2^{E - (V-1)}$$

$$H = \bigoplus_{e \in E \setminus T} \text{cycle}_T(e)$$

Boundary subgraph = boundary of partition of faces.

every bdrly is even

Boundary space  $B_1(\Sigma) \subseteq Z_1(\Sigma)$



Any edge  $e \in C$

splits  $C^*$  into two trees.

↳ partition of faces of  $\Sigma$

Fundamental.  $\text{bdry}_c(e) = \text{boundary of that partition}$

$$B = \bigoplus_{e \in B \cap C} \text{bdry}_c(e)$$

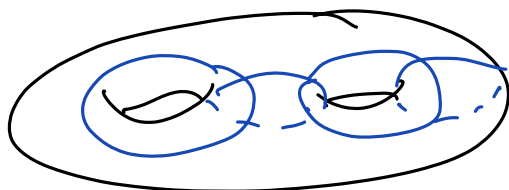
$$B_1(\Sigma) = \mathbb{Z}_2^{F-1}$$

Two even subgraphs  $H$  and  $H'$  are homologous if  $H \oplus H'$  is a boundary.

$$\begin{aligned} H_1(\Sigma) &= Z_1(\Sigma) / B_1(\Sigma) \\ &= \mathbb{Z}_2^{E-(V-1)} / \mathbb{Z}_2^{F-1} \\ &\cong \mathbb{Z}_2^{E-(V-1)-(F-1)} \\ &\cong \mathbb{Z}_2^{E-|T|-|C|} = \mathbb{Z}_2^{|L|} = \mathbb{Z}_2^g \end{aligned}$$

$$H = \bigoplus_{e \in H \cap C} \text{bdry}_c(e) \oplus \bigoplus_{i \in I} \text{cycle}_T(l_i)$$

$L = \{l_1, \dots, l_g\}$



These fundamental cycles form a homology basis