# Generalized Flow-Cut Dualities

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# MAX FLOW = MIN CUT

The setting is a weighted digraph G with distinguished start and end points a,b.



# MAX FLOW = MIN CUT

Flows = integral 1-cycles whose coefficients are non-negative and obey constraints.



# MAX FLOW = MIN CUT

Cuts = edge sets whose removal interrupts flows; cut-values = sums of edge weights.



### cut minimization



minimum energy partition of picture into two pieces

# ZERO SEMIMODULES

#### **zero semimodule** = commutative monoid w/ **algebraic zero** $\infty: \infty + x = \infty$ for all x

 $\begin{bmatrix} 0,5 \end{bmatrix} \qquad \begin{bmatrix} 0,5+\delta \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{R}^+ / (5,\infty)$  $x \oplus y = \min(x+y,5) \qquad [x] + [y] = [x+y]$ 

[a,b] $a \oplus b = \max(a,b)$ 

#### logical propositions under $\Lambda$

T = unit F = algebraic zero

#### (CO)SHEAF OF SEMIMODULES



**cellular sheaf** (on a digraph) = function F assigning zero semimodules to vertices and edges and zero homomorphism from F(v) to F(e) for each inclusion of vertex v into edge e.

**cellular cosheaf** (on a digraph) = Function  $F \dots$  from F(e) to  $F(v) \dots$ 

survey of cellular (co)sheaves by Justin Curry



#### **ORDINARY FLOWS**





$$\mathcal{F}(\bigcirc) = \mathcal{F}(\bigcirc) = \mathcal{F}(\bigcirc) = \mathcal{F}(\bigcirc) = \mathcal{F}(\bigcirc) = [0,\infty]$$

#### **ORDINARY FLOWS**





### CUT CHARACTERIZATION



O: local directed homology (orientation) sheaf

## **CUT CHARACTERIZATION**



A minimal cut-set U is a minimal subset of edges such that there exists a unique natural map making the diagram commute.

[set of local flows at U] = set of feasible values of such local flows is a quotient determined by the dotted map

## WEAK DUALITY



$$H^{p}(X; \mathcal{F} \otimes \mathcal{O}) \cong H_{n-p}(X; \mathcal{F})$$
$$\mathscr{O}(X) \longrightarrow \mathscr{O}(U)$$
$$\bigvee_{\forall}$$
$$\mathscr{O}_{\star},$$

#### DUALITY GAP





**feasible flow-values** = 0 **feasible** 

**feasible cut-capacities** = <c>

(illustrated is the cosheaf associated to a sheaf)



#### Abelian sheaf (co)homology [Bredon]

\* N[sing -] should actually be replaced by its localization at its (n-1)-skeleton.

POINCARE DUALITY  

$$H^{p}(X; \mathcal{F} \otimes \mathcal{O}) \cong H_{n-p}(X; \mathcal{F})$$
generalized local directed n-homology  
spacetimes sheaf  

$$H_{n}(X; \mathcal{F}) = \pi_{0} \Gamma_{c} \left( \Omega^{n} \left( \mathbb{N}[singX] / \mathbb{N}[sing(X \setminus -)] \right) \otimes \mathcal{F} \right)^{*}$$

$$H^{n}(X; \mathcal{F}) = \pi_{0} \Gamma_{c} \left( hom(\mathbb{N}[sing -], K(\mathbb{N}, n)) \otimes \mathcal{F} \right)$$
directed cycle sheaf

\* N[sing -] should actually be replaced by its localization at its (n-1)-skeleton.

#### EXAMPLE





 $M = \langle a, b, c | a + b = c \rangle$ 

failure for revised definition of homology to capture all flows (illustrated is the cosheaf associated to a sheaf)

# FLOW-CUT DUALITY

**THM:** For all sheaves F on digraphs G,  $\lim_{U} [H^0(U; \mathcal{F} \otimes \mathcal{O})] \cong [H_1(G; \mathcal{F})]$ where the limit is taken over cut-sets U<sup>\*</sup>



\*abstracting the proof for an algebraic MFMC in Frieze, *Algebraic Flows* 

#### EXAMPLE

H<sub>1</sub>=H<sup>o</sup>=0 because there are neither local nor global loops



(illustrated is the cosheaf associated to a sheaf)

#### EXAMPLE



**feasible flow-values** = <a>

**feasible cut-capacities** = <a>

(illustrated is the cosheaf associated to a sheaf)

# FUTURE DIRECTIONS

smooth setting

algorithms for generalized max flows

lp duality as higher mfmc

network coding, multi-commodities, stochastic capacities

de Rham formulations of directed cohomology for smooth manifolds with distinguished vector fields

finding flat and soft resolutions and then adapting classical algorithms (e.g. Ford-Fulkerson)

reformulating general primal problems as higher homology (= higher flows)

ongoing, joint with Rob Ghrist, Greg Henselmen