

# Project overviews

- Powers of higher nerves **3 students**
  - *Fast* computer code
  - Computational evidence for a conjecture on graph algorithms (Evasiveness Conjecture)
- Topology of matching complexes **2 students**
  - Behavior of graphs under iterated matching operation
  - Classification of matching complexes with certain topology



# Simplicial complexes

$X = \text{simplicial complex}$

$$\{a, b, c\} \in X \Rightarrow \{a, c\} \in X \Rightarrow \{c\} \in X$$

**Combinatorial:** Collection of sets closed under taking subsets



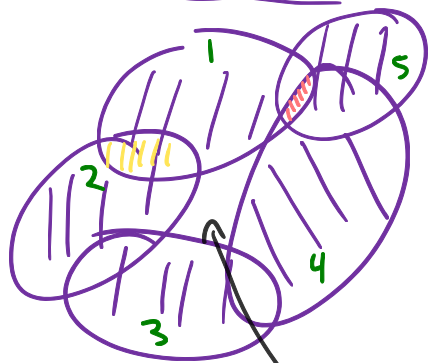
**Topological:** Object in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  made by gluing **simplices** together



**Algebraic:** Face ring  $\leftarrow$  like the integers  $\leftarrow$  imo most difficult

Q: How do these props interact?

# Powers of higher nerves - Example 1

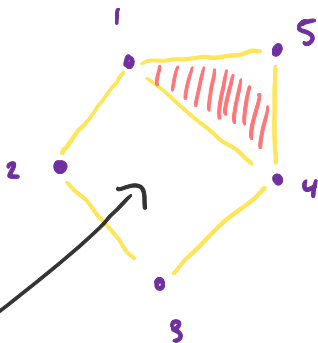


$U$

↑ very complicated

hole!

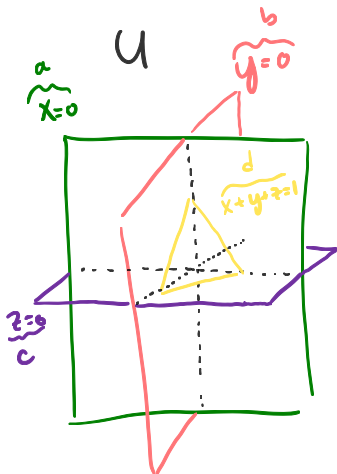
Simplicial complex



$N(U)$

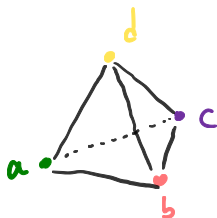
↑ nice & easy!

## Powers of higher nerves - Example 2



Planes in  $\mathbb{R}^3$

$N(u)$



Hollow tetrahedron

# Powers of higher nerves

**Known:** If  $U$  is “good,” then  $N(U)$  has the “same topology” as  $U$ .

## Our project:

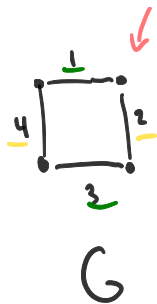
- Higher nerves – finer intersection data
- Computer code for higher nerves
- Computational evidence related to the Evasiveness Conjecture

↑ graph algorithms

# Matching complexes

**Graph:** Vertices and edges. Each pair of vertices either has an edge connecting them or not.

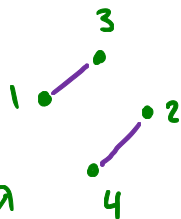
**Matching:** Set of edges such that no two share an endpoint.



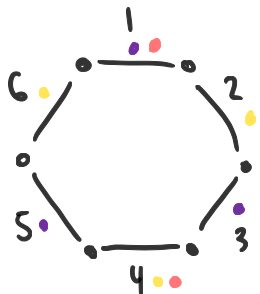
Simplicial complex!

$$\{ \underline{24}, \underline{13}, \underline{1}, \underline{2}, \underline{3}, \underline{4}, \emptyset \}$$

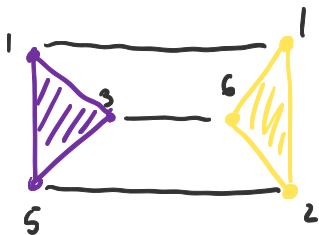
$M(G)$



# Matching complexes – another example



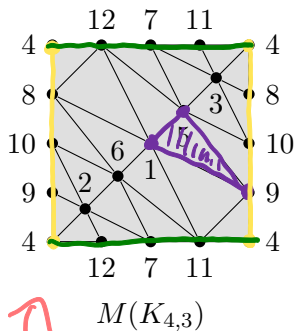
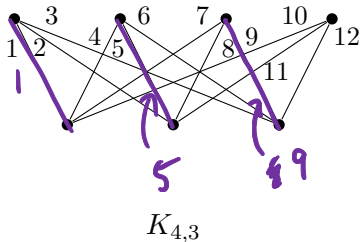
$G$



$M(G)$

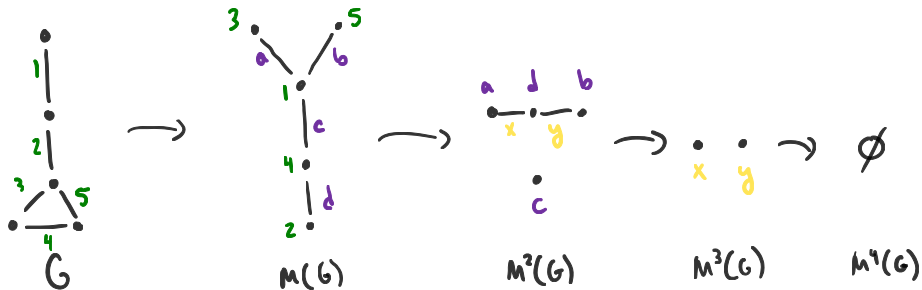
Example:  $C_7$  ??

# Matching complexes – one more

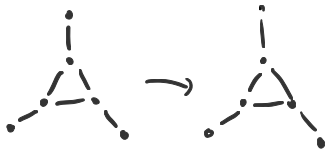




# Iterated matching graphs



Two special graphs:



• A handful of others dissipate like  $G$  above

• ALL OTHERS EXPLODE!

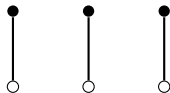
# Two-dimensional Buchsbaum matching complexes

Every maximal  
matching has  
three edges

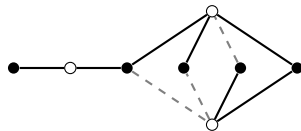
Complicated  
algebraic  
notion

One  
example : Torus is 2-dim & Buchsbaum!  
↑ matching complex of  $K_{9,3}$

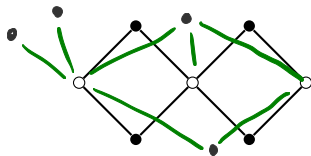
# Two-dimensional Buchsbaum matching complexes



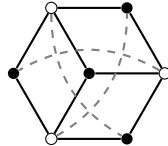
(a)  $\mathcal{B}_1$



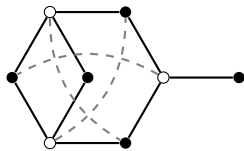
(b)  $\mathcal{B}_2$



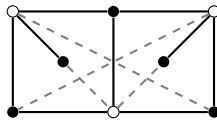
(c)  $\mathcal{B}_3$



(d)  $\mathcal{B}_4$

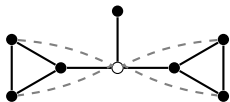


(e)  $\mathcal{B}_5$

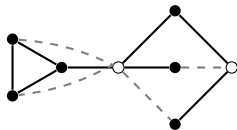


(f)  $\mathcal{B}_6$

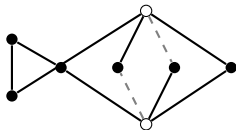
# Two-dimensional Buchsbaum matching complexes



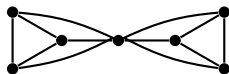
(a)  $B_7$



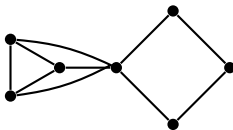
(b)  $B_8$



(c)  $B_9$



(d) Exceptional graph  $E_1$

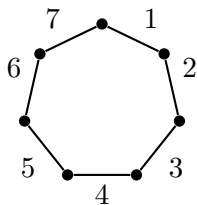


(e) Exceptional graph  $E_2$

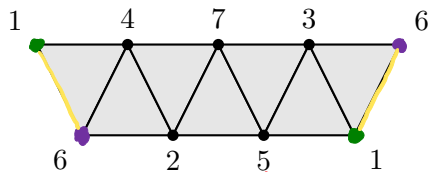
Some graphs whose matching complexes are two-dimensional and Buchsbaum.  
*A few other families too!*

The end

Thanks for your attention!



$C_7$



$M_7$

Möbius strip!