

Möbius Model for Graph Signal Processing on Weighted DAGs



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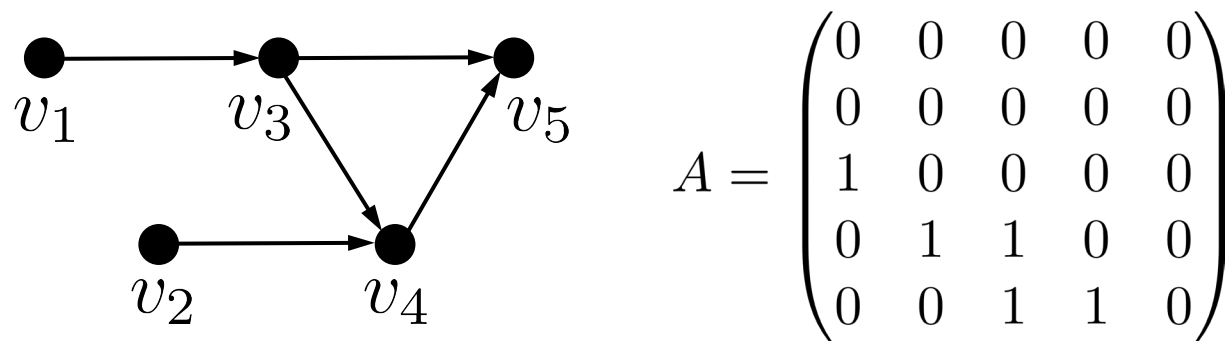
GSP Workshop 2026

Directed acyclic graphs (DAGs)

All eigenvalues of A are zero.

Fourier basis is undefined.

Graph signal processing is ill-defined for DAGs.



Goal: define a GSP model for DAGs

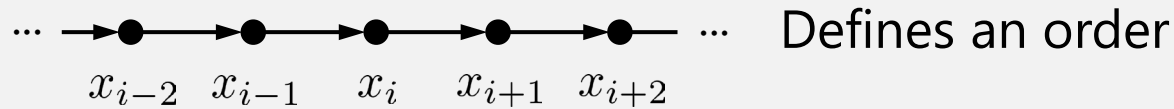


Our contribution

- Novel orthogonal Fourier transform for weighted DAGs
- Generalizes the prior Möbius model for unweighted DAGs
- Application: denoising of DAG signals

Background: Möbius model for unweighted DAGs

Discrete-time (is a DAG)



Total variation:

$$\text{TV}(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_i |x_i - x_{i-1}| = \|\Delta \mathbf{x}\|_1$$

Difference operator:

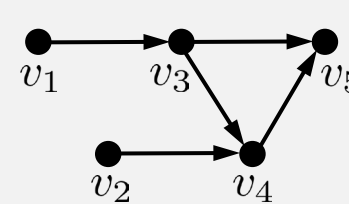
$$(\Delta \mathbf{x})_i = x_i - x_{i-1}$$

sums over all predecessors

Integration operator:

$$(\Sigma \mathbf{x})_i = (\Delta^{-1} \mathbf{x})_i = \sum_{j \leq i} x_j$$

Directed acyclic graphs



Defines a partial order

$$v_1 \preceq v_3, v_4, v_5$$

$$v_2 \preceq v_4, v_5$$

$$v_3 \preceq v_4, v_5$$

$$v_4 \preceq v_5$$

$$\text{TV}(\mathbf{x}) = \|\mathbf{M}\mathbf{x}\|_p^p$$

Möbius TV

$$\Delta = Z^{-1} = M$$

Möbius difference operator

$$(Z \mathbf{x})_i = \sum_{v_j \preceq v_i} x_j$$

Zeta integration operator

Background: Möbius model for unweighted DAGs

Möbius Fourier basis

Eigenbasis of $M^\top M$ (or ZZ^\top)

Orthogonal

Iteratively minimizes Möbius TV

integration operator

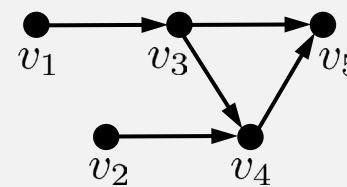


difference operator



Fourier basis

Directed acyclic graphs



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Eigenbasis of $M^T M$ (or $Z Z^T$)

Orthogonal

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integration operator

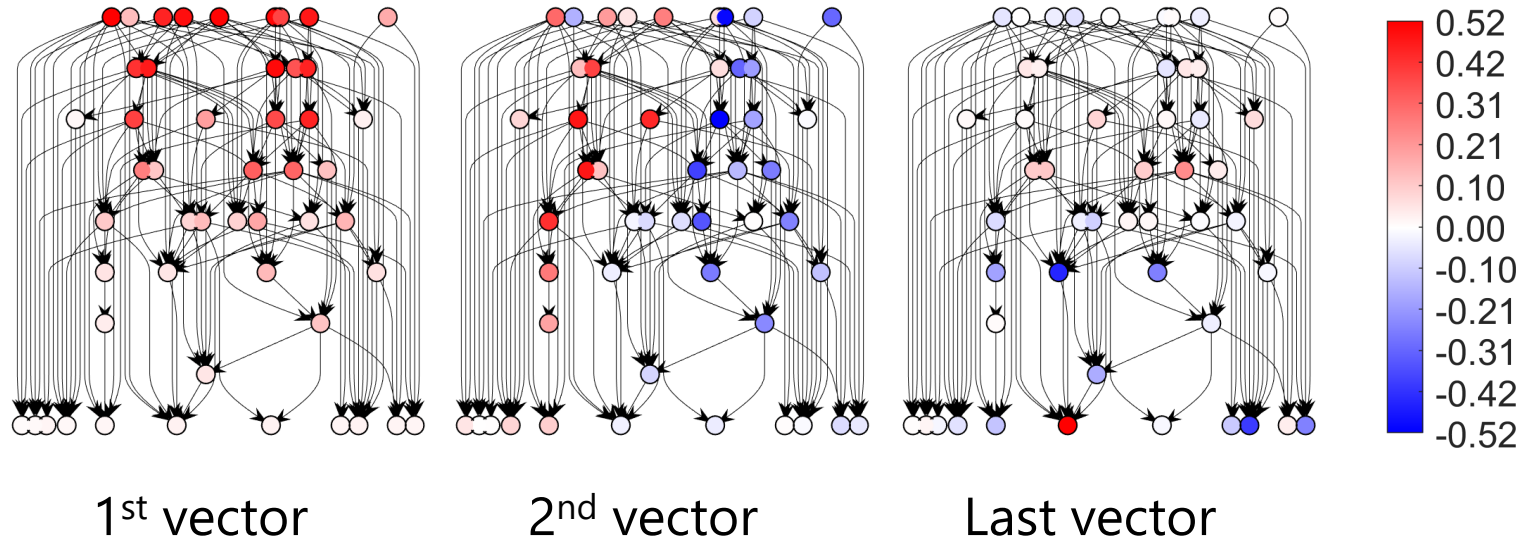


difference operator



Fourier basis

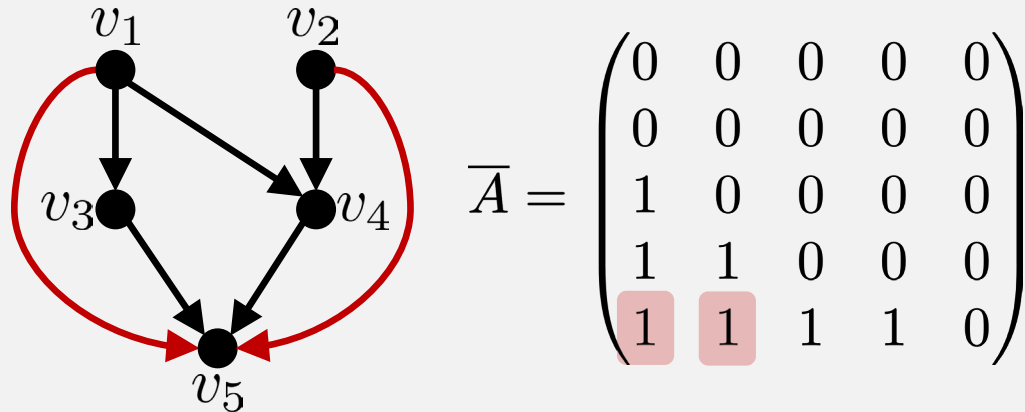
Example



Basis vectors capture a special notion of smoothness.

Generalization to weighted DAGs

Transitive closure



transitive-reflexive closure \equiv integration operator

Key idea: generalize transitive-reflexive closure to weighted DAGs

Boolean semiring

Adjacency matrix of an unweighted DAG is a matrix over the *Boolean semiring*.

$$a \oplus b = a \text{ OR } b$$
$$a \odot b = a \text{ AND } b \quad a, b \in \{0, 1\}$$

Transitive closure computed with the Floyd-Warshall algorithm:

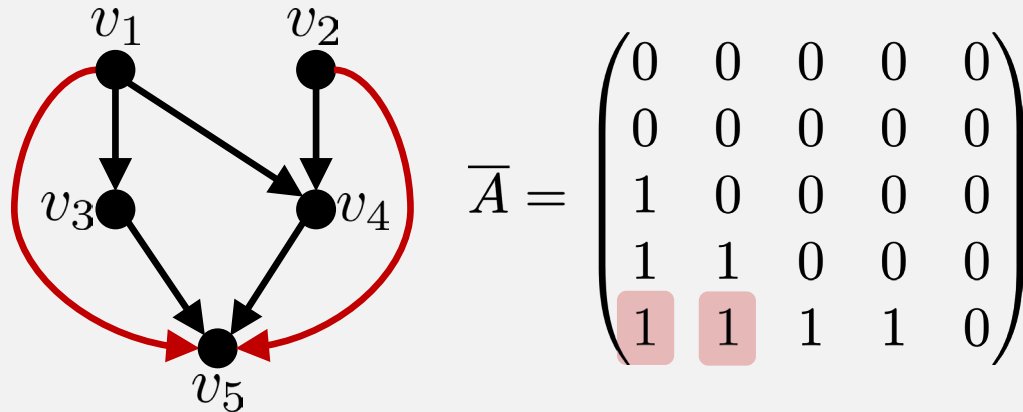
Input: Adjacency matrix A of a DAG on n vertices

Output: Transitive closure \bar{A}

- 1: $A^{(0)} \leftarrow A$
- 2: **for** $k = 1$ to n **do**
- 3: **for** $i = 1$ to n **do**
- 4: **for** $j = 1$ to n **do**
- 5: $A_{i,j}^{(k)} \leftarrow A_{i,j}^{(k-1)} \oplus (A_{i,k}^{(k-1)} \odot A_{k,j}^{(k-1)})$
- 6: **return** $\bar{A} \leftarrow A^{(n)}$

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Generalize the Boolean semiring

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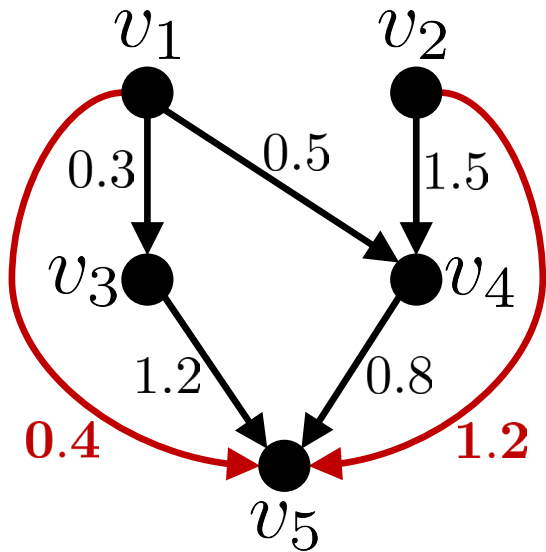
Matrices over semirings

Max-times semiring generalizes the Boolean semiring because
 $\max(a, b) = a \text{ OR } b$, $a \cdot b = a \text{ AND } b$ for $a, b \in \{0, 1\}$

Semiring	Domain S	$a \oplus b$	$a \odot b$	0_S	1_S
Boolean	$\{0, 1\}$	$a \text{ OR } b$	$a \text{ AND } b$	0	1
Max-times	$\mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$	$\max(a, b)$	$a \cdot b$	0	1
Max-min	$\mathbb{R} \cup \{\pm\infty\}$	$\max(a, b)$	$\min(a, b)$	$-\infty$	∞
Min-plus	$\mathbb{R} \cup \{\pm\infty\}$	$\min(a, b)$	$a + b$	∞	0
Max-plus	$\mathbb{R} \cup \{\pm\infty\}$	$\max(a, b)$	$a + b$	$-\infty$	0
Arithmetic	$\mathbb{R} \cup \{\infty\}$	$a + b$	$a \cdot b$	0	1

Möbius model for weighted DAGs

Max-times semiring generalizes the Boolean semiring because
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$$\bar{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0.3 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0.5 & 1.5 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0.4 & 1.02 & 1.2 & 0.8 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$0.4 = \max(0.3 \cdot 1.2, 0.5 \cdot 0.8)$$

$$Z = \bar{A} + I$$

integration operator

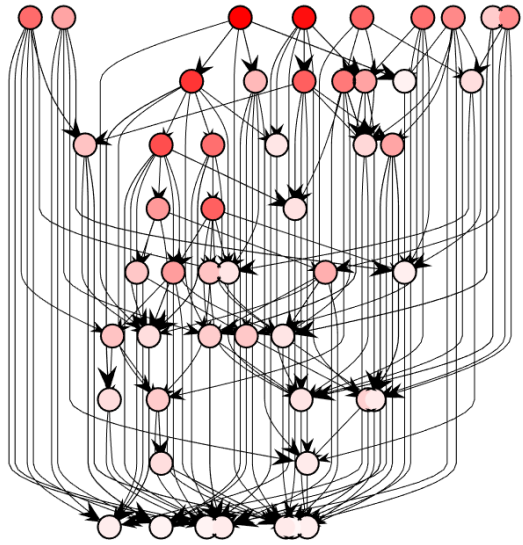
$$M = Z^{-1}$$

difference operator

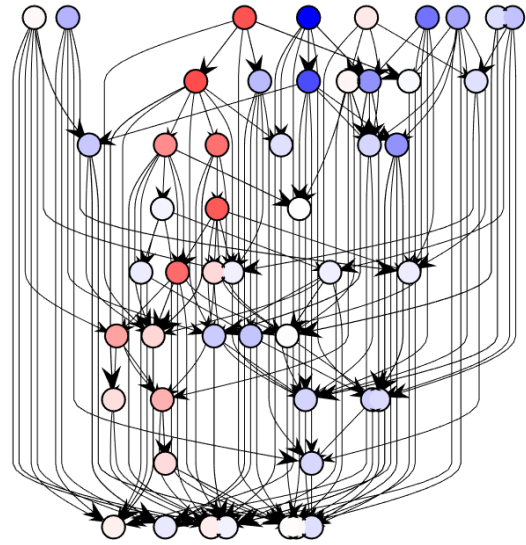
transitive-reflexive closure \equiv integration operator

integration operator \rightarrow difference operator \rightarrow Fourier basis (eigenbasis of $M^T M$)

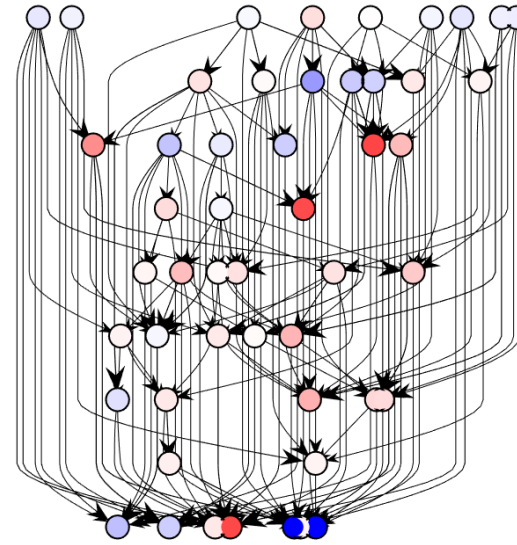
Example



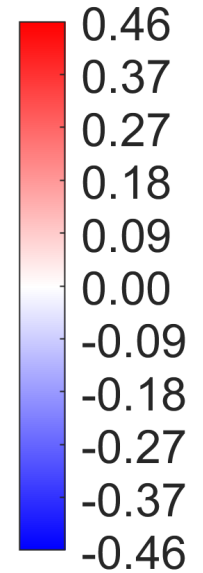
1st vector



2nd vector



Last vector



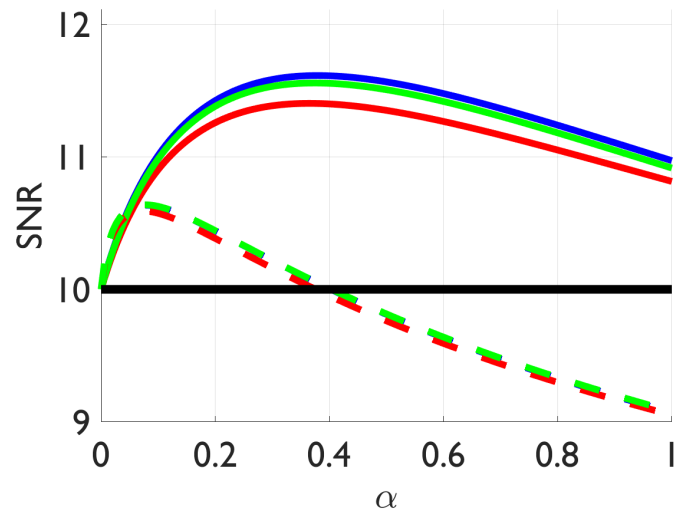
Möbius model variants

Sourceless Möbius operator: $\widehat{M} = \text{diag}(\mathbf{1} - \mathbf{1}_S) \cdot M$

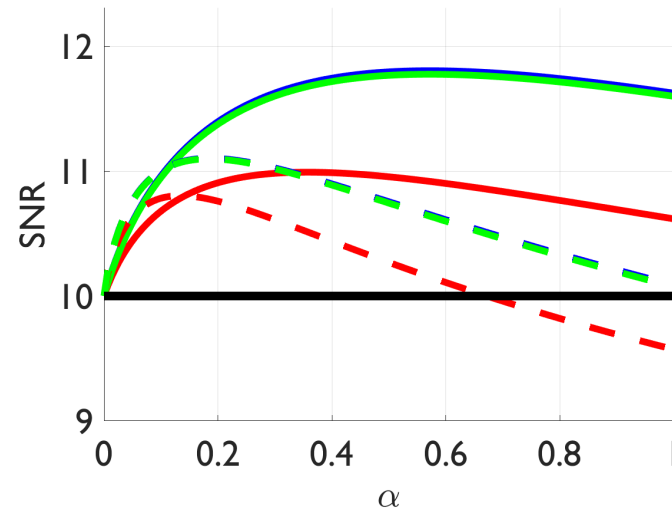
Balanced Möbius operator: $\widetilde{M} = M \cdot \left(I - \frac{\mathbf{1}\mathbf{1}^\top}{|S|} \right)$

Results

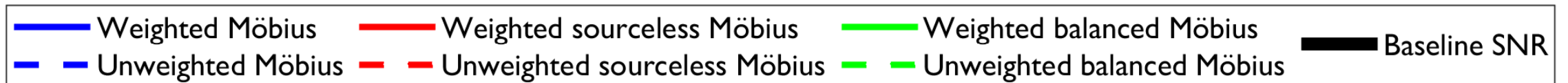
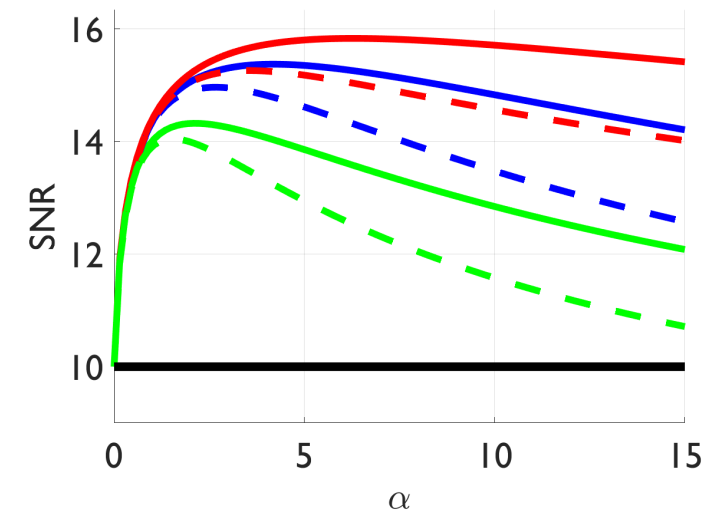
Erdős–Rényi graphs



Barabási-Albert graphs



Thames river network



Weighted Möbius models outperform the **unweighted** Möbius models.

Summary

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