Evasion paths in mobile sensor networks



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Abstract

Suppose disk-shaped sensors wander in a planar domain. A sensor doesn't know its location but does know which sensors it overlaps. We say that an evasion path exists in this sensor network if a moving evader can avoid detection. Vin de Silva and Robert Ghrist give a necessary condition, depending only on the time-varying connectivity graph of the sensors, for an evasion path to exist. Can we sharpen this result? We'll consider an example where the existence of an evasion path depends not only on the network's connectivity data but also on its embedding.

- Sensors move in a bounded, simply-connected domain $\mathcal{D} \subset \mathbb{R}^2$ over time interval I.
- Fixed sensors cover $\partial \mathcal{D}$.
- Sensors measure only local connectivity.



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- $X \to I$ and $X^c \to I$ are fibrewise spaces.



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• Zigzag modules are classified by barcodes.



• Theorem (Gabriel)

Quiver Q has a finite number of indecomposables \Leftrightarrow it's a union of certain Dynkin diagrams.



G. Carlsson and V. de Silva, Zigzag Persistence, Found. Comput. Math. 10 (2010), 367-405.

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- Hypothesis: there is an evasion path \Leftrightarrow there is a long bar.
- \Rightarrow is true, but \Leftarrow is false.

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Dependence on embedding $X \hookrightarrow \mathcal{D} \times I$

• These two networks X are fibrewise homotopy equivalent but their complements X^c are not.

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- What minimal sensing capabilities might we add?
- A fat graph structure specifies the cyclic ordering of edges adjacent to each vertex.
- Equivalent to a set of boundary cycles.
- Determines at most one embedding in S^2 up to isotopy.

- Suppose sensor network is connected at each time. If given the alpha complex (less coordinate-free than Čech) and fat graph structure at each time, one can determine sharply if an evasion path exists.
- Question: are the Čech complex and fat graph structure at each time sufficient?

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- Simple example: zigzag H^0 of X^c with cup products determines zigzag π_0 .
- Stable and unstable Adams spectral sequence for fibrewise spaces or diagrams of spaces?

$$E_2^{s,t} \cong \operatorname{Ext}_{\mathcal{A}(p)}^{s,t}(H^*(Z), H^*(Y)) \Rightarrow \{Y, Z\}_p$$

Thank you

