# Discrete differential geometry of tetrahedron tiles and local protein structure Plovdiv 2007, Aug.12 – 18, 2007 Naoto Morikawa

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This talk is about "discrete differential geometry of tetrahedron tiles and its application in local protein structure analysis."



Before the talk, let me make a brief summary on protein structure.

Protein is a sequence of  $\cdots$ , That is, one could identify proteins with broken lines in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ 

And its functional properties are ...

Shown below is an amino acid sequence and the native state of the sequence,

where each amino acid is represented by the one-letter code.

Note that …



And we will define ...

Since protein is ...

Shown below are examples of local protein structures: *alpha-helix* and *beta-sheet*,

where vertices correspond to amino acids.



This is the outline of the talk.

First, I'm going to make a brief introduction to ... Note that n-simplex is ...

Next, I'll talk about the 2-dim'l case ...

Then, I'll talk about the 3-dim'l case ...

Finally, I'll describe its application in ...



Now introduction to ...



Firstly, let me review previous works on DDG and protein structure analysis.

As for DDG of protein backbone, the pioneer work of Rackovsky and Scheraga in 1978 is known.

In their method, proteins are represented as spatial broken lines and they defined *curvature* and *torsion* at each vertex.

In particular, they defined tangent vector at vertex r<sub>i</sub> as shown on the right.

But, protein backbone structure is usually studied via classification and differential geometrical approach is not taken these days.

On the other hand, since proteins are a molecule, they have surface. And a bunch of works on DDG of surface are known.

To name a few, Forman proposed a discrete version of Morse theory.

And the BioGeometry project at Duke univ. and others studied geometry of protein in general.

In Germany, there is a MATHEON project on dis. surface parametrizations.

If you visit the homepage of the MSRI, you will find some video lectures on related topics.



This slide shows the basic ideas of my approach. Unlike previous works, n-cubes are used to construct DDG of (n-1)-simplices.

First, divide ...

As for the division, I will give the definition in a minute.

Shown in the left figure is the division on 3-cube. And each facet is divided into two triangles.

Next, pile ...

Shown in the middle figure is an example of 3-cubes, piled up from "+infinity" to "- infinity."

Note that the division of facets makes up a division of the surface of the obtained Ps&Vs.

Finally, project ...

Then, by projecting the division of the surface onto the hyperplane, we obtain a "flow" of ...

Shown in the right figure is the flow of 2-simplices obtained from the Ps&Vs.

As you see, the division of the surface of the Ps&Vs specifies trajectories of 2-simplices on the hyperplane.



Before giving the definition of the facet division, let me explain the notation used.

In this talk, we denote point ...

For example, vertices of the left square are written as shown on the right.

And we denote the triangle of ..., as shown on the left.

The mirror image  $a[x_2x_1]$  is also defined as shown on the right.



In the same way, we denote ...

In particular, ...

That is, the 3-cube shown on the left is divided into these six tetrahedrons shown on the right, where the dotted line gives the direction of diagonal.

In the next slide, we use the "division along diagonal" to define the division of facets.



Now we could define division of facets.

Facets of n-cube ..., where each component is given by a[ $x_i x_j ... x_k$ ] for some i, j, ... , k. Note that facets of  $\cdots$ 

Shown on the left is the division on 3-cube. As you see, a facet of 3-cube is 2-cube and it is divided into two triangles,  $a[x_1x_2]$  and  $a[x_2x_1]$ .

Shown on the right is the division on 4-cube. A facet of 4-cube is 3-cube and it is divided into six tetrahedrons  $a[x_1x_2x_3]$ , ...



Next, let me talk about the 2-dim'l case, that is DDG of triangles.



These are the basic ideas of the 2-dim'l case.

## First, divide ...

Shown in the left figure is the division on 3-cube. Since 3-cubes are to be projected onto a hyperplane, it is enough to consider the "upper" facets. And these three upper facets are divided into 6 triangles  $a[x_1x_2]$ , ....

## Next, pile ...

Then, as shown in the middle figure, we obtain "peaks and valleys" of 3cubes. Note that the division of facets makes up a division of the surface of the Ps&Vs.

Finally, project ...

Then, we obtain a "flow" of ... as shown in the middle figure. Note that the division of the surface <u>of the Ps&Vs</u> specifies trajectories For example, blue triangles in the middle figure form a closed trajectory of length 10.

Shown in the right figure is the projection of triangles. In the next slide, we use the projection pi to contsruct DDG of triangle tiles.



Slant tiles over ...

And here is the definition of gradient.

Gradient  $Da[x_ix_j]$  of ... is monomial  $x_ix_j$ .

In particular, tangent bundle TB over B is identified with the cartesian product of ...

Shown on the left is the fiber over a flat tile. And all of these slant tiles are projected on the same flat tile.

Each of the slant tiles assumes one of the three gradients shown on the right. For example, the gradient of  $a[x_1x_2]$  is  $x_1x_2$  and so on.



This slide shows the local flow defined by a slant tile.

Each "slant tile" defines ... And here is the definition.

Local flow defined by ... is the three consecutive flat tiles of { ... }.

Shown below are the local flows around a flat tile (colored white).

For example, if the gradient of the flat tile is  $x_1x_2$  as shown in the left figure, then the "blue" slant tile on this side of the "white" slant tile specifies the downward flat tile and the "bule" slant tile on the other side specifies the upward flat tile.

Similarly adjacent blue slant tiles specify the upward and downward flat tiles in the other cases.



Next, let's consider smoothness of local flow.

That is, each "flat tile" assumes ...

Shown below is an example of the condition.

Suppose that the gradient of the preceding flat tile is  $x_1x_2$  and the current flat tile is on the downward side as shown on the right.

Then, with each of the three gradient values, we could associate a slant tile over the current flat tile as shown on the left.

In the case of  $x_1x_2$ , the "blue" and "white" slant tiles are connected smoothly.

In the case of  $x_2x_3$ , the slant tiles are also connected smoothly.

But in the case of  $x_1x_3$ , the slant tiles are not connected smoothly. The smoothness condition means that the current flat tile assumes one of the first two values.



This is an example of vector field on flat tiles.

"Peaks and valleys" ..., where vector field V is a function from B to the set of gradients and flat tile  $pi(a[x_ix_j])$  assumes the gradient  $Da[x_ix_j]$  of the corresponding slant tile  $a[x_ix_i]$  on the surface.

Shown on the left is an example of vector field V defined by three peaks. The value of V on the closed trajectory of blue tiles is shown on the right.

Let's start from flat tile t[0] colored blue and move downward. t[0] is the image of the blue slant tile  $a[x_1x_2]$  by pi. And the value of V on t[0] is  $x_1x_2$  as shown in blue. Then, it specifies a local flow of t[9], t[0], and t[1].

Since we move downward, our next tile is t[1] and it is the image of slant tile  $ax_1[x_2x_1]$ . Thus, the value of V on t[1] is also  $x_1x_2$ .

Continueing the process, we obtain the closed trajectory of length 10. And it satisfies the smoothness condition as you see.



Next let's consider variation of gradient along trajectory.

Thanks for the smoothness ...

Derivative DV ... is a function from B to  $\{+1, -1\}$  and its value on t[i] is defined as follows. That is, if the gradient V(t[i]) of the curremt tile t[i] is equal to the gradient V(t[i-1]) of the previous tile t[i-1], then the value of DV on t[i] is equal to the value of DV on t[i-1]. Otherwise, the value is multiplied by -1.

In words, ...

Shown below is an example. The left figure shows the previous tile t[k-1] (colored blue) and the right figure shows the current tile t[k] (also colored blue). Because of the smoothness condition, the current tile t[k] could assume one of these two blue slant tiles.

Suppose that the value of DV on t[k-1] is -1. Then, in the left case, the gradient of the "blue" current slant tile is equal to the gradient of the "white" previous slant tile. And the value of DV on t[k] is -1.

On the other hand, in the right case, the gradient of the "blue" slant tile is not equal to the gradient of the "white" slant tile. Thus, the value of DV is changed from -1 to +1.



Let's choose the right case and continue the process.

The left figure shows the next tile t[k+1] (colored blue). Again, because of the smoothness condition, t[k+1] could assume one of the two blue slant tiles.

In the left case, the gradient of the "blue" next slant tile is not equal to the gradient of the "white" current slant tile. And the value of DV is changed from +1 to -1.

On the other hand, in the right case, the gradient of the "blue" slant tile is equal to the gradient of the "white" slant tile. Thus, the value of DV on t[k] is +1.

In either case, we obtain a binary valued sequence of length three, which describes variation of gradient along the trajectory.



As an example of variation of gradient, let's consider encoding of shapes.

Shape of a trajectory could ...

And the hexagon shown on the left is encoded into the binary sequence of length 10 on the right, using the trajectory shown below.

Shown below is the example we considered before: the closed trajectory defined by three peaks.

First, the gradient of the first two flat tiles t[0] and t[1] are given as shown in blue.

Suppose that the "2nd derivative" of t[0] is -1. Then, since the first two tiles have the same gradient, the "2nd derivative" of t[1] is also -1. When the gradient changes over t[3], the "2nd derivative" of t[3] becomes +1 accordingly.

Note that <u>there is a one-to-one correspondence between the "2nd</u> <u>derivative" and "up and down" along trajectory</u>.



Let's consider another example.

We may need ...

And the trajectory shown on the left is encoded into the binary sequence on the right, using the two sets of "peaks and valleys" shown below.

The first five flat tiles t[0], ..., t[4] of the trajectory are encoded using the left Ps&Vs. But the 6-th tile t[5] colored blue is buried under peak  $P_a$  as shown in the middle figure.

Thus we need another set of Ps&Vs shown on the right to encode the rest of the trajectory.



Before moving to the 3-dim'l case, let me show another view point of the "division of facets."

That is, "division along diagonal" ... Recall that facets of n-cube ...

Shown on the left is the standard lattce generated by  $x_1$ ,  $x_2$ , and  $x_3$ .

So far, we have used the standard lattice only. And "peaks and valleys" are a cone of the standard lattice generated by its peaks.

On the other hand, the conjugate lattice shown on the right is the lattice geneated by  $y_1$ ,  $y_2$ , and  $y_3$ , which are defined as shown below.

Here we used the monomial notation and  $y_1$ ,  $y_2$ , and  $y_3$  correspond to vector (0,1,1), (1,0,1), and (1,1,0) respectively.

Then, as shown in the middle figure, we could use a cone of the conjugate lattice to specify an ("affine") trajectory. In this case, the closed trajectory of blue tiles is specified by the gray cone.

Moreover, one could consider "algebra of closed affine trajectories." But it is not today's subject.



This is the summary of the 2-dim'l case.

## Firstly, DDG of triangles is proposed.

In the construction, base space B is given as the collection of all "flat tiles". And tangent bundle TB over B is identified with the cartesian product of monimials  $\{ ... \}$  and B.

Shown on the right is fiber of TB, where slant tiles are mapped on a flat tile by projection pi.

Secondly, as an application, encoding of 2-dim'l shapes is proposed.

In the method, the shape of a trajectory is encoded into a  $\{+1, -1\}$ -valued sequence. The encoding rule is, <u>change sign if the gradient changes</u>.

Shown below are examples. These two trajectories on the left are encoded into the binary sequence on the right respectively.



Next, let me talk about the 3-dim'l case, that is DDG of tetrahedrons.



These are the basic ideas of the 3-dim'l case.

## First, divide ...

Shown in the left figure is the division on 4-cube. Since 4-cubes are to be projected onto a hyperplane, it is enough to consider the "upper" facets. And these four upper facets are divided into 24 tetrahedrons  $a[x_1x_2x_3]$ , ....

Next, pile ... And we obtain "peaks and valleys" of 4-cubes.

## Finally, project ...

Then, we obtain a "flow" of ... as shown in the middle figure, which is the "flow" defined by three peaks x1x2x4, x2x3x4, and x1x3x4.

As you see, the division of the surface of the Ps&Vs specifies trajectories of tetrahedrons on the hyperplane. For example, the blue tiles form a closed trajectory of length six.

Shown in the right figure is the projection of tetrahedrons. In the next slide, we use the projection pi to contsruct DDG of tetrahedron tiles.



As in the case of 2-dim, slant tiles over  $\dots$ 

Gradient  $Da[x_ix_jx_k]$  of  $a[x_ix_jx_k]$  is monomial  $x_ix_jx_k$ .

In particular, tangent bundle TB over B is identified with the cartesian product of ...

Shown on the left is the fiber over a flat tile. And all of these slant tiles are projected on the same flat tile.

Each of the slant tiles assumes one of the four gradients shown on the right, where the arrow shows the direction of "down." For example, gradient of  $a/x_4[x_4x_1x_2]$  is  $x_1x_2x_4$  and so on.



This slide shows the local flow defined by a slant tile.

Each "slant tile" defines ... And here is the definition.

Local flow defined by ... is the three consecutive flat tiles of { ... }.

Shown below are the local flows around a flat tile (colored white).

For example, if the gradient of the flat tile is  $x_1x_2x_4$  as shown in the left figure, then the "blue" slant tile on this side of the "white" slant tile specifies the upward flat tile and the "bule" slant tile on the other side specifies the downward flat tile.

Similarly adjacent blue slant tiles specify the upward and downward flat tiles in the other cases.



Next, let's consider smoothness of local flow.

Each "flat tile" assumes ...

Shown below is an example of the condition. Suppose that the gradient of the preceding flat tile is  $x_1x_3x_4$  and the current flat tile is on the downward side as shown on the right.

Then, with each of the four gradient values, we could associate a slant tile over the current flat tile as shown on the left.

In the case of  $x_1x_3x_4$ , the "blue" and "white" slant tiles are connected smoothly. In the case of  $x_1x_2x_4$ , the slant tiles are also connected smoothly. But in the case of  $x_2x_3x_4$ , the slant tiles are not connected smoothly. In the case of  $x_1x_2x_3$ , the slant tiles are not connected smoothly neither.

The smoothness condition means that t<u>he current flat tile assumes one of the first two values</u>.

As you see, regardless of the dimension, there are only two possible values for each flat tile.



This is an example of vector field on flat tiles.

#### "Peaks and valleys" ...,

where vector field V is a function from B to the set of gradients and flat tile  $pi(a[x_ix_jx_k])$  assumes the gradient of the corresponding slant tile  $a[x_ix_ix_k]$  on the surface.

Shown on the left is an example of flow defined by three peaks. The value of V on the closed trajectory of blue tiles is shown on the right.

Let's start from flat tile t[0] colored blue and move downward. t[0] is the image of the blue slant tile  $a[x_3x_4x_1]$  by pi. And the value of V on t[0] is  $x_1x_3x_4$  as shown in blue. Then, it specifies a local flow of t[5], t[0], and t[1]. Since we move downward, our next tile is t[1] and it is the image of slant tile  $b[x_2x_4x_1]$ . Thus, the value of V on t[1] is also  $x_1x_2x_4$ .

Continueing the process, we obtain the closed trajectory of length six. And it satisfies the smoothness condition as you see.



Next let's consider variation of gradient along trajectory.

Thanks for the smoothness ...

Derivative DV ... is a function from B to  $\{+1, -1\}$  and its value on t[i] is defined as follows. That is, if the gradient V(t[i]) of the curremt tile t[i] is equal to the gradient V(t[i-1]) of the previous tile t[i-1], then the value of DV on t[i] is equal to the value of DV on t[i-1]. Otherwise, the value is multiplied by -1.

In words, ...

Shown below is an example. The left figure shows the previous tile t[k-1] (colored blue) and the right figure shows the current tile t[k] (also colored blue). Because of the smoothness condition, the current tile t[k] could assume one of these two blue slant tiles.

Suppose that the value of DV on t[k-1] is -1. Then, in the left case, the gradient of the "blue" current slant tile is equal to the gradient of the "white" previous slant tile. And the value of DV on t[k] is -1. On the other hand, in the right case, the gradient of the "blue" slant tile is not equal to the gradient of the "white" slant tile. Thus, the value of DV is changed from -1 to +1.



Let's choose the right case and continue the process.

The left figure shows the next tile t[k+1] (colored blue). Again, because of the smoothness condition, t[k+1] could assume one of the two blue slant tiles.

In the left case, the gradient of the "blue" next slant tile is not equal to the gradient of the "white" current slant tile. And the value of DV is changed from +1 to -1. On the other hand, in the right case, the gradient of the "blue" slant tile is equal to the gradient of the "white" slant tile. Thus, the value of DV on t[k+1] is +1.

In either case, we obtain a binary valued sequence of length three, which describes variation of gradient along the trajectory.



As an example of variation of gradient, let's consider encoding of shapes.

Shape of a trajectory could ...

And the shape shown above is encoded into the binary sequence of length six on the right, using the trajectory shown below.

Shown below is the example we considered before: the closed trajectory defined by three peaks.

First, the gradient of the first two flat tiles t[0] and t[1] are given as shown in blue.

Suppose that the "2nd derivative" of t[0] is -1. Then, since the first two tiles t[0] and t[1] assume different gradient values, the "2nd derivative" of t[1] becomes +1. The third tile t[2] assumes yet another gradient and the "2nd derivative" of t[2] becomes -1 accordingly.

Note that <u>there is a one-to-one correspondence between the "2nd</u> <u>derivative" and "up and down" along trajectory</u>.



Now let me talk more about the tetrahedron used.

Firstly, a rhombic dedecahedron is ...

As shown below, the tetrahedron has two long edges and four short edges, whose ratio of length is sqrt(3)/2.

Note that a 4-cube is ...

Secondly, encoding of ... is obtained as follows:

Shown on the left is a trajectory defined by three "peaks"  $x_1x_2$ ,  $x_2x_3$ , and  $x_3x_4$ . Starting from the blue flat tile, we obtain a binary sequence of length 24 along the trajectory, which is a code of rhombic dedecahedron. (The code is not unique.)



Finally, any trajectory of ...

As an example, let's consider rhombic dodecahedron again.

Shown on the left is the paper template used. "a" is the length of the shorter edge and "b" is that of the longer edge. (Don't forget tabs to put glue on!)

Folding the paper along the lines somehow, we obtain a sequence of 24 tetrahedrons. Successive tetrahedrons are connected via long edges and the sequence has a rotational freedom around the long edges.

Then, folding the sequence somehow again, we obtain a rhombic dodecahedron. (In this case, there are more than one pattern of sequence folding.)



This is the summary of the 3-dim'l case.

#### Firstly, DDG of tetrahedrons are proposed.

In the construction, base space B is given as the collection of all "flat tiles". And tangent bundle TB over B is identified with the cartesian product of monimials  $\{ ... \}$  and B.

Show on the right is fiber of TB, where slant tiles are mapped on a flat tile by projection pi.

Secondly, as an application, encoding of 3-dim'l shapes are proposed.

In the method, the shape of a trajectory is obtained by folding a tetrahedron sequence, and encoded into a  $\{+1, -1\}$ -valued sequence. The encoding rule is, <u>change sign if the gradient changes</u>.

Shown below are examples. These two trajectories are encoded into the binary sequence on the right respectively.



Finally, let me talk about application in local protein structure analysis.



Our objective is encoding of local protein structure.

And to encode the shape of ...

As an example, let's consider the alpha-helix of length 13 shown in the middle figure.

By simple folding, we obtain the red object of 85 tetrahedron tiles shown on the left. But the object is more complicated than the original alpha-helix.

On the other hand, if we permit translation and rotation, we would obtain the object of 13 tetrahedron tiles shown on the right. And it will turn out that we could capture the local features of proteins by the discontinuous tetrahedron sequence.

The following slides illustrate the coding algorithm briefly.



Let's encode ...

Shown on the left is the protein of length five. And we encode the protein using the five tetrahedrons shown on the right. We start encoding from the middle amino acid AA[0] (colored blue).



First, align tetrahedron t[0] with ... Then, "initial position" ...

The "blue" tetrahedron is aligned with AA[0] as shown on the left. And assign any values of gradient and 2nd derivative to the initial tile t[0] as shown on the right: in this example,  $x_1x_2x_4$  and "D".

The "white" tetrahedrons shown in the left figure are the adjacent tetrahedrons t[1] and t[-1]. They are moved to the position of AA[1] and AA[-1] respectively later.



Next, assign gradient to tetrahedron ...

Then, "initial position" ...

The "blue" tetrahedrons are assigned gradient (bold edge) as shown on the left. And their values are shown on the right. For example, t[1] is assigned gradient  $x_2x_3x_4$  and the 2nd derivative becomes "U" since the gradient value changes.

The "white" tetrahedrons at ends shown in the left figure are the adjacent tetrahedrons t[2] and t[-2]. They are moved to the position of AA[2] and AA[-2] respectively later.



Then, translate tetrahedron ...

Adjacent tetrahedrons ...

The "blue" tetrahedrons are now at the position of AA[1] and AA[-1] as shown on the left.

The "white" tetrahedrons at ends are also translated with the "blue" ones.



Next, rotate tetrahedron ...

Adjacent tetrahedrons ...

The "blue" tetrahedrons are rotated at the position of AA[1] and AA[-1] as shown on the left.

The "white" tetrahedrons at ends are also moved with the "blue" ones.



Next, assign gradient to tetrahedron ...

Note that there is no succeeding ...

The "blue" tetrahedrons are assigned gradient (, I.e. bold edge,) as shown on the left. And their values are shown on the right. For example, t[2] is assigned gradient  $x_1x_3x_4$  and the 2nd derivative becomes "D" since the gradient value changes.



Then, translate tetrahedron ...

The "blue" tetrahedrons are now at the position of AA[2] and AA[-2] as shown on the left.



And now we obtain ...

That is, the protein on the left is approximated by a folded tetrahedron sequence as shown in the middle. Then, the 2nd derivative of the tetrahedron sequence gives the binary sequence on the right.



In the same way, ...

The alpha-helix on the left is approximated by a folded tetrahedron sequence as shown in the middle. Then, the 2nd derivative of the tetrahedron sequence gives the binary sequence on the right.

Note that the <u>four letters at both ends are all D</u>. That is, what the sequence describe ... And it seems reasonable to compute short ...,

where maybe length five is enough, considering the above example.

• One lette (Step: (Step	Notat er representat 1) Compute the where D and 2) Assign nume	ion: 5-tile ion of {D, U}- e <u>binary num</u> l d U correspon erals if the ve	e code -valued seque ber of each nd to 0 and 1 alue is < 10,
	D/U- sequence	Binary number	One letter repre.
	DDDDD	00000	0
	DDDDU	00001	1
	DDDUD	00010	2
	DUDDU	01001	9
	DUDUD	01010	A
	DUDUU	01011	В
	UUDUU	11011	R
		•••	

Before computing {D, U}-valued sequence of length five around each amino acid, let me explain the notation used.

One letter representation of ... is defined as follows.

(Step 1) ...

For example, the sequence of all D corresponds to binary number 00000 and its value is 0. DDDDU corresponds to binary number 00001 and its value is 1. And so on.

## (Step 2) ...

For example, DUDDU corresponds to binary number 01001, whose value is 9. Thus numeral "9" is assigned. On the other hand, DUDUD corresponds to binary number 01010, whose value is 10. Then, alphabet "A" is assigned.



Now to describe ...

For example, the "5-tile code" of the alpha-helix considered before is computed as follows.

First of all, the two amino acids at both ends have no corresponding amino acid fragment. And "5-tile code" is computed for amino acids from AA[4] thorough AA[-4].

As shown on thr right, amino acid AA[4] corresponds to the fragment from AA[6] through AA[2] and its 5-tile code is DUDUD, which is denoted by "A". In the same way, amino acid AA[1] corresponds to the fragment from AA[3] through AA[-1] and its 5-tile code is also DUDUD, which is denoted by "A". And so on.

Finally, we obtain the sequence of straight "A" of length nine as 5-tile code of the alpha-helix, where hyphens stand for the two amino acids at both ends.



This slide shows an example of the "5-tile code" of an actual protein, transferase (1RKL).

Its amino acid sequence is given above and the 5-tile code is shown below.

The figure shows the structural features of the protein and spatial arrangement of the 5-tile codes, where small blue balls stand for 5-tile code "0", large yellow balls for "R", ...

As you see, "strand" corresponds to "0", "turn" corresponds to "R", ... That is, "5-tile code" could capture local features of the protein precisely.



This is the summary of application.

Firstly, 5-tile encoding is proposed. Local structure ...

For example, the spatial broken line shown on the left is approximated by a folded tetrahedron sequence as shown in the middle. And we obain the sequence of UDDUD as its code.

Secondly, as an application, 5-tile encoding of ... is proposed.

For example, the local structure of a protein is encoded as shown below. In particular, "5-tile code" could distinguish local features, such as strand, turn, ..., from each other.



Thank you for your attention.