

## COMBINATORIAL RICCI CURVATURE ON CELL-COMPLEX AND GAUSS-BONNET THEOREM

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**Abstract.** In this paper, we introduce a new definition of the Ricci curvature on cell-complexes and prove the Gauss-Bonnet type theorem for graphs and 2-complexes that decompose closed surfaces. The differential forms on a cell complex are defined as linear maps on the chain complex, and the Laplacian operates this differential forms. Our Ricci curvature is defined by the combinatorial Bochner-Weitzenböck formula. We prove some propositionerties of combinatorial vector fields on a cell complex.

**1. Introduction.** In this paper, we introduce a new definition of the Ricci curvature on cell-complexes and prove the Gauss-Bonnet type theorem for graphs and 2-complexes that decompose closed surfaces. In the Riemannian geometry, the curvature plays an important role, and there are many results on the curvature on smooth manifolds. Especially the Gauss-Bonnet theorem is known as a fundamental property of a smooth closed manifold. The curvature on a cell complex was studied in many ways. R. Forman defined the Ricci curvature on a cell complex with the Bochner-Weitzenböck formula on the cochain. With this curvature he also showed Bochner's theorem, Myers' theorem and so on. For the curvature defined by angles, M<sup>c</sup>Cormick Paul [7] established the Gauss-Bonnet theorem, but in Forman's way the Gauss-Bonnet theorem does not hold.

R. Forman established the discrete Morse theory in [5]. He studied the function on a cell complex and the relation between critical cells and the homology of the cell complex. He also extended this theory to the discrete Novikov-Morse theory, and in this theory he defined a differential form on the cell complex. This differential form is not the cochain of the cell complex but a linear map on the chain of the cell complex. In this paper we use these differential forms to define the Ricci curvature. We introduce the  $L^2$  inner product on the space of combinatorial differential forms, and this inner product determines the Laplacian on combinatorial differential forms. Then the Ricci curvature is defined with the combinatorial Bochner-Weitzenböck formula for the combinatorial differential forms.

For the construction of the Bochner-Weitzenböck formula, we need the covariant of a 1-form. For this definition we present the 0- and 2-neighbor vector. These vectors are roughly regarded as "the parallel vectors". We define the covariant of a 1-form as the difference between the components of parallel vectors. Then for the cell complex with constant weights, the Ricci curvature is calculated as combinatorial computation,

$$\text{Ric}(\omega)(\tau > \sigma) = (2 - \#\{0\text{-neighbor vector of } (\tau > \sigma)\})(\omega_\sigma^\tau)^2.$$

This formula means that the Ricci curvature on the cell complex at the cell  $\sigma$  is determined by the structure around  $\sigma$ . For a graph or a 2-dimensional complex that decomposes a closed surface, the Ricci curvature for a unit vector at a vertex (resp. at a face  $f$ ) is independent of the choice of the unit vector, and we define this value as the Gauss curvature  $g_v$  (resp.  $g_f$ ) at the vertex  $v$  (resp. the face  $f$ ). We have the following Gauss-Bonnet type theorems.

**THEOREM 1.1.** *Let  $G$  be a finite simple graph. Then we have*

$$(1.1) \quad \sum_v g_v = 2\chi(G),$$

where the sum is taken over all vertexes  $v$  and  $\chi(G)$  is the Euler number of  $G$ .

**THEOREM 1.2.** *Let  $M$  be a 2-dimensional quasiconvex cell complex that decomposes a 2-dimensional closed smooth surface. Then we have*

$$(1.2) \quad \sum_v g_v + \sum_f g_f = 4\chi(M),$$

where the sums are taken over all vertexes  $v$  and all faces  $f$  respectively, and  $\chi(M)$  is the Euler number of  $M$ .

We also present the vector field on a cell complex. This is defined as a dual of a combinatorial differential 1-form and we prove some properties of this vector field.

**2. Combinatorial differential Forms.**

**2.1. Definition of Combinatorial differential Forms.** In this section, we present a differential form on a cell-complex introduced in [3]. Let  $M$  be a regular cell complex of dimension  $n$ , and

$$0 \longrightarrow C_n(M) \xrightarrow{\partial} C_{n-1}(M) \xrightarrow{\partial} \cdots \xrightarrow{\partial} C_0(M) \longrightarrow 0$$

be the real cellular chain complex of  $M$ . We set

$$(2.1) \quad C_*(M) = \bigoplus_p C_p(M).$$

A linear map  $\omega : C_*(M) \rightarrow C_*(M)$  is said to be of *degree  $d$*  if for all  $p = 1, \dots, n$ ,

$$(2.2) \quad \omega(C_p(M)) \subset C_{p-d}(M).$$

We say that a linear map  $\omega$  of degree  $d$  is *local* if, for each  $p$  and each oriented  $p$ -cell  $\alpha$ ,  $\omega(\alpha)$  is a linear combination of oriented  $(p - d)$ -cells that are faces of  $\alpha$ .

**DEFINITION 2.1.** For  $d \geq 0$ , we say that a local linear map  $\omega : C_*(M) \rightarrow C_*(M)$  of degree  $d$  is a *combinatorial differential  $d$ -form*, and we denote the space of combinatorial differential  $d$ -forms by  $\Omega^d(M)$ .

We define the *differential of combinatorial differential forms*

$$(2.3) \quad d : \Omega^d(M) \rightarrow \Omega^{d+1}(M)$$

as follows. For any  $\omega \in \Omega^d(M)$  and any  $p$ -chain  $c$ , we define  $(d\omega)(c) \in C_{p-(d+1)}(M)$  by

$$(2.4) \quad (d\omega)(c) = \partial(\omega(c)) - (-1)^d \omega(\partial c).$$

That is,

$$(2.5) \quad d\omega = \partial \circ \omega - (-1)^d \omega \circ \partial.$$

LEMMA 2.2 ([3]). *The differential for combinatorial differential forms satisfies the following propositionerties.*

- $d(\Omega^d(M)) \subseteq \Omega^{(d+1)}(M)$ .
- $d^2 = 0$ .

This lemma determines the differential complex

$$\Omega^*(M) : 0 \longrightarrow \Omega^0(M) \xrightarrow{d} \Omega^1(M) \xrightarrow{d} \dots \xrightarrow{d} \Omega^n(M) \longrightarrow 0.$$

THEOREM 2.3 ([3]). *The cohomology of this complex is isomorphic to the singular cohomology of  $M$ . That is,*

$$(2.6) \quad H^*(\Omega^*(M)) \cong H^*(M).$$

**2.2. Laplacian for Combinatorial differential Forms.** Let us define an inner product on  $C_*(M)$ . For any two  $p$ -cells  $\sigma, \sigma'$ , we set an inner product as

$$(2.7) \quad \langle \sigma, \sigma' \rangle = \delta_{\sigma, \sigma'} w_\sigma,$$

where  $\delta_{\sigma, \sigma'}$  is the Kronecker's delta, that is,  $\delta_{\sigma, \sigma'} = 1$  for  $\sigma = \sigma'$  and the others are 0, and  $w_\sigma > 0$  is a weight of a cell  $\sigma$ . We define the  $L^2$  inner product for combinatorial differential forms. For two  $d$ -forms  $u, v$ , we set

$$(2.8) \quad \langle u, v \rangle = \sum_{\sigma} \frac{1}{w_\sigma} \langle u(\sigma), v(\sigma) \rangle,$$

where the sum is taken over all cells  $\sigma$  in  $M$ .

Let us consider the adjoint operator of differential with respect to the inner product,

$$(2.9) \quad d^* : \Omega^d(M) \rightarrow \Omega^{d-1}(M).$$

That is, for a  $d$ -form  $u$  and a  $(d - 1)$ -form  $v$  we have

$$(2.10) \quad \langle d^*u, v \rangle = \langle u, dv \rangle.$$

The space of combinatorial differential  $d$ -forms  $\Omega^d(M)$  is a sub vector space of the space of linear maps of degree  $d$  on the chain  $C_*(M)$ . Then we set  $p$  as the projection on the space of linear maps of degree  $d$  on the chain  $C_*(M)$  to the space of combinatorial differential  $d$ -forms  $\Omega^d(M)$ .

LEMMA 2.4. *For any  $d$ -form  $\omega$ , we have*

$$(2.11) \quad d^* = p \circ (\partial^* \circ \omega - (-1)^{(d-1)} \omega \circ \partial^*).$$

PROOF. For a  $p$ -dimensional cell  $\tau$  and a  $(p-d)$ -dimensional cell  $\sigma$  which is a face of  $\tau$ , we put a  $d$ -form  $e_\sigma^\tau$  such that

$$(2.12) \quad e_\sigma^\tau(\tau) = \sigma,$$

and the value is 0 for other cells. They form a basis of  $d$ -forms as a real vector space.

Let  $\tau, \sigma, \alpha, \beta$  be cells, and assume that  $e_\sigma^\tau$  is a  $d$ -form and  $e_\beta^\alpha$  is a  $(d-1)$ -form. Then we have

$$(2.13) \quad \begin{aligned} \langle d^* e_\sigma^\tau, e_\beta^\alpha \rangle &= \langle e_\sigma^\tau, d e_\beta^\alpha \rangle \\ &= \langle e_\sigma^\tau, \partial \circ e_\beta^\alpha \rangle - (-1)^{(d-1)} \langle e_\sigma^\tau, e_\beta^\alpha \circ \partial \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

We put  $A$  as the right-hand side of equation (2.11), and have

$$(2.14) \quad \langle A e_\sigma^\tau, e_\beta^\alpha \rangle = \langle e_\sigma^\tau, \partial e_\beta^\alpha \rangle - (-1)^{(d-1)} \langle e_\sigma^\tau \circ \partial^*, e_\beta^\alpha \rangle.$$

Now we calculate the last term of equation (2.13),

$$(2.15) \quad \begin{aligned} \langle e_\sigma^\tau, e_\beta^\alpha \circ \partial \rangle &= \sum_{c:\text{cell}} \frac{1}{w_c} \langle e_\sigma^\tau(c), e_\beta^\alpha(\partial c) \rangle \\ &= \frac{1}{w_c} \langle \sigma, e_\beta^\alpha(\partial \tau) \rangle \\ &= \begin{cases} \frac{w_\sigma}{w_\tau} (-1)^{\tau > \alpha} & \text{for } \tau > \alpha, \sigma = \beta \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

We calculate the last term of equation (2.14),

$$(2.16) \quad \begin{aligned} \langle e_\sigma^\tau \circ \partial^*, e_\beta^\alpha \rangle &= \sum_{c:\text{cell}} \frac{1}{w_c} \langle e_\sigma^\tau(\partial^* c), e_\beta^\alpha(c) \rangle \\ &= \frac{1}{w_\alpha} \langle e_\sigma^\tau(\partial^* \alpha), \beta \rangle \\ &= \begin{cases} \frac{w_\sigma}{w_\tau} (-1)^{\tau > \alpha} & \text{for } \tau > \alpha, \sigma = \beta \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

Then we have

$$(2.17) \quad d^* e_\sigma^\tau = A e_\sigma^\tau.$$

□

DEFINITION 2.5. We define the Laplacian for combinatorial differential forms by

$$(2.18) \quad \Delta = dd^* + d^*d.$$

THEOREM 2.6. Let  $M$  be a finite regular cell-complex. Then we have

$$(2.19) \quad \text{Ker}(\Delta) \cong H^*(\Omega^*(M)) \cong H^*(M).$$

PROOF. The Laplacian is a self-adjoint operator on the finite dimensional vector space  $\Omega^*(M)$  and we have  $\text{Ker}(\Delta) = \text{Ker}(d) \cap \text{Ker}(d^*)$ . We consider a map

$$(2.20) \quad \begin{aligned} \text{Ker}(\Delta) &\rightarrow H^*(\Omega^*(M)) \\ u &\mapsto [u]. \end{aligned}$$

This map is well-defined and injective. Next we prove that this map is surjective. The Laplacian has an eigen decomposition, and we denote the eigenvalues of the Laplacian by  $\lambda_0, \dots, \lambda_k$  are eigenvalues. Let  $u$  be a closed form. Then we have an eigen decomposition for the Laplacian

$$(2.21) \quad \Delta u = \sum_{i=1, \dots, k} \lambda_i u_i,$$

where  $u_i$  are eigen vectors for  $\lambda_i$  respectively such that  $u = \sum_{i=0, \dots, k} u_i$ . Then putting

$$(2.22) \quad u' = \sum_{i=1, \dots, k} \frac{d^* u_i}{\lambda_i},$$

we have

$$(2.23) \quad u = u_0 + du'.$$

We conclude that the map (2.20) is an isomorphism. □

**2.3. Combinatorial function on cell-complex.** We realize a combinatorial 0-form as a function. We set  $f \in \Omega^0(M)$ , that is,

$$(2.24) \quad f : C^*(M) \rightarrow C^*(M).$$

For any cell  $\sigma$ , we have

$$(2.25) \quad f(\sigma) = f_\sigma \sigma,$$

and we realize  $f_\sigma \in \mathbf{R}$  as the value of the function  $f$ . For a  $p$ -dimensional cell  $\tau$ , the derivative of  $f$  is

$$(2.26) \quad df(\tau) = \sum_{\sigma: \tau > \sigma} (f(\tau) - f(\sigma))(-1)^{\tau > \sigma} \sigma,$$

where the sum is taken over all  $(p - 1)$ -dimensional cells  $\sigma$  that are faces of  $\tau$ , and  $(-1)^{\tau > \sigma}$  is the incidence number between  $\tau$  and  $\sigma$ .

LEMMA 2.7. *Let  $M$  be a regular cell-complex and  $f$  a function on  $M$ , where we identify  $M$  with the set of cells of  $M$ .  $f$  is locally constant if and only if  $df = 0$ .*

**2.4. Combinatorial 1-form on cell-complex.** Let  $\omega \in \Omega^1(M)$  be a combinatorial 1-form. For a  $p$ -dimensional cell  $\tau$ , we set

$$(2.27) \quad \omega(\tau) = \sum_{\sigma: \tau > \sigma} \omega_\sigma^\tau (-1)^{\tau > \sigma} \sigma,$$

where the sum is taken over all  $(p - 1)$ -dimensional cells  $\sigma$  that are faces of  $\tau$ , and  $(-1)^{\tau > \sigma}$  is the incidence number between  $\tau$  and  $\sigma$ . We call the pair  $(\tau > \sigma)$  a vector provided that a

$p$ -dimensional cell  $\sigma$  is a face of  $(p + 1)$ -dimensional cell  $\tau$ . We say that  $\omega$  has the value  $\omega_\sigma^\tau$  at the vector  $(\tau > \sigma)$ . For a  $p$ -dimensional cell  $\mu$ , the derivative of  $\omega$  is

$$(2.28) \quad d\omega(\mu) = \sum_{(\mu > \tau, \tau' > \sigma)} (\omega_\tau^\mu + \omega_\sigma^\tau - \omega_{\tau'}^\mu - \omega_\sigma^{\tau'}) (-1)^{\mu > \tau} (-1)^{\tau > \sigma} \sigma,$$

where the sum is taken over all two  $(p - 1)$ -dimensional cells  $\tau, \tau'$  and  $(p - 2)$ -dimensional cells  $\sigma$  such that

$$(2.29) \quad \mu > \tau > \sigma, \mu > \tau' > \sigma, \tau \neq \tau'.$$

PROPOSITION 2.8. *For a combinatorial 1-form  $\omega$ , we have  $d\omega = 0$  if and only if*

$$(2.30) \quad \omega_\tau^\mu + \omega_\sigma^\tau = \omega_{\tau'}^\mu + \omega_\sigma^{\tau'}$$

for any  $p$ -dimensional cell  $\mu$ , any two  $(p - 1)$  dimensional cells  $\tau, \tau'$  and any  $(p - 2)$ -dimensional cell  $\sigma$  such that

$$(2.31) \quad \mu > \tau > \sigma, \mu > \tau' > \sigma, \tau \neq \tau'.$$

For any cell  $\sigma$ , the dual derivative of  $\omega$  is

$$(2.32) \quad d^*\omega(\sigma) = \left( - \sum_{\tau: \tau > \sigma} \frac{w_\sigma}{w_\tau} \omega_\sigma^\tau + \sum_{\rho: \rho < \sigma} \frac{w_\sigma}{w_\rho} \omega_\rho^\sigma \right) \sigma,$$

where the first sum is taken over all  $(p + 1)$ -dimensional cells  $\tau$  that have  $\sigma$  as a face, and the second sum is over all  $(p - 1)$ -dimensional cells  $\rho$  that are the faces of  $\sigma$ .

### 3. Combinatorial Vector field on cell-complex.

DEFINITION 3.1. We call a linear map  $X : C_*(M) \rightarrow C_{(*+1)}(M)$  a *combinatorial vector field* on a cell-complex  $M$  provided that for any cell  $\sigma$  any component of  $X(\sigma)$  has  $\sigma$  as a face.

In the same manner as a 1-form, for a  $p$ -dimensional cell  $\sigma$  we set

$$(3.1) \quad X(\sigma) = \sum_{\tau: \tau > \sigma} X_\sigma^\tau (-1)^{\tau > \sigma} \tau,$$

where the sum is taken over all  $(p - 1)$ -dimensional cells  $\tau$  that have  $\sigma$  as a face, and  $(-1)^{\tau > \sigma}$  is the incidence number between  $\tau$  and  $\sigma$ .

For a 1-form  $\omega$  and a vector field  $X$  on  $M$ , we define the *pairing*

$$(3.2) \quad \omega(X)(\sigma) = \sum_{\tau: \tau > \sigma} \omega_\sigma^\tau X_\sigma^\tau.$$

Then for a function  $f$  on  $M$ , we define

$$(3.3) \quad X(f)(\sigma) = df(X)(\sigma) = \sum_{\tau: \tau > \sigma} X_\sigma^\tau (f(\tau) - f(\sigma)).$$

DEFINITION 3.2. Let  $f$  be a function on  $M$ . We define *the gradient vector field*  $\text{grad}(f)$  of  $f$  by

$$(3.4) \quad \text{grad}(f)_\sigma^\tau = \frac{w_\sigma}{w_\tau} (f(\tau) - f(\sigma)).$$

Let  $X$  be a vector field on  $M$ . We also define *the divergence*  $\text{div}(X)$  of  $f$  by

$$(3.5) \quad \text{div}(X)(\sigma) = - \sum_{\tau^{(p+1)}:\tau>\sigma} X_\sigma^\tau + \sum_{\rho^{(p-1)}:\rho>\sigma} X_\rho^\sigma.$$

We define the inner product for vector fields in the same manner as combinatorial differential forms, i.e. for two vector fields  $X, Y$

$$(3.6) \quad \langle X, Y \rangle(\sigma) = \frac{1}{w_\sigma} \langle X(\sigma), Y(\sigma) \rangle = \sum_{\tau:\tau>\sigma} \frac{w_\tau}{w_\sigma} X_\sigma^\tau Y_\sigma^\tau.$$

Then we have

$$(3.7) \quad df(X) = \langle X, \text{grad}(f) \rangle.$$

DEFINITION 3.3. For a function  $f$  on  $M$ , we define *the integral of  $f$  over  $M$*  by

$$(3.8) \quad \int_M f = \sum_\sigma f(\sigma),$$

where the sum is taken over all cells of  $M$ .

THEOREM 3.4. We assume that  $M$  is a finite regular cell-complex. Let  $f$  be a function on  $M$  and  $X$  a vector field on  $M$ . Then we have

$$(3.9) \quad \int_M \langle \text{grad}(f), X \rangle = \int_M f \text{div}(X).$$

PROOF. For a cell  $\sigma$ , we have

$$(3.10) \quad \begin{aligned} \sum_\sigma \langle \text{grad}(f), X \rangle(\sigma) &= \sum_\sigma \sum_{\tau:\tau>\sigma} \frac{w_\tau}{w_\sigma} X_\sigma^\tau \cdot \frac{w_\sigma}{w_\tau} (f(\tau) - f(\sigma)) \\ &= \sum_{(\tau>\sigma)} X_\sigma^\tau (f(\tau) - f(\sigma)) \\ &= \sum_\sigma f(\sigma) \left( - \sum_{\tau^{(p+1)}:\tau>\sigma} X_\sigma^\tau + \sum_{\rho^{(p-1)}:\rho>\sigma} X_\rho^\sigma \right) \\ &= \int_M f \text{div}(X). \end{aligned}$$

□

COROLLARY 3.5. For any vector field  $X$  on  $M$  we have

$$(3.11) \quad \int_M \operatorname{div}(X) = 0.$$

PROOF. For a constant function  $f$ , the gradient of  $f$  vanishes. Then we take a constant function  $f$  as

$$(3.12) \quad f(\sigma) = 1$$

for any cell  $\sigma$ . Then we have the corollary from Theorem 3.4.  $\square$

COROLLARY 3.6. For any function  $f$  on  $M$  we have

$$(3.13) \quad \int_M \Delta f = 0.$$

PROOF. For any cell  $\sigma$ ,

$$(3.14) \quad \Delta f(\sigma) = \left( - \sum_{\tau^{(p+1)}: \tau > \sigma} (f(\tau) - f(\sigma)) + \sum_{\rho^{(p-1)}: \rho > \sigma} (f(\sigma) - f(\rho)) \right) \\ = \operatorname{div}(\operatorname{grad}(f))(\sigma).$$

Then we have the corollary from the previous corollary.  $\square$

#### 4. Combinatorial Ricci curvature.

##### 4.1. Combinatorial Ricci curvature.

DEFINITION 4.1. Let  $M$  be a regular cell complex. We say that  $M$  is *quasiconvex* if for every two distinct  $(p+1)$ -cells  $\tau_1$  and  $\tau_2$  of  $M$ , if  $\bar{\tau}_1 \cap \bar{\tau}_2$  contains a  $p$ -cell  $\sigma$ , then  $\bar{\tau}_1 \cap \bar{\tau}_2 = \bar{\sigma}$ . In particular this implies that  $\bar{\tau}_1 \cap \bar{\tau}_2$  contains at most one  $p$ -cell.

Let  $M$  be a regular quasiconvex cell complex.

DEFINITION 4.2. Let  $\tau, \sigma$  be two cells of  $M$  such that the dimension is  $(p+1)$  and  $p$  respectively and  $\sigma$  is a face of  $\tau$ .

We define a *0-neighbor vector* of  $(\tau > \sigma)$  as the following.

- The vectors  $(\tau' > \sigma)$  for  $(p+1)$ -cells  $\tau' \neq \tau$  such that there are no  $(p+2)$ -cell  $\mu$  such that  $\mu > \tau, \tau'$ .
- The vectors  $(\tau > \sigma')$  for  $p$ -cells  $\sigma' \neq \sigma$  such that there are no  $(p-1)$ -cell  $\rho$  such that  $\sigma, \sigma' > \rho$ .

We define a *2-neighbor vector* of  $(\tau > \sigma)$  as the following.

- The vectors  $(\mu > \tau')$  for  $(p+1), (p+2)$ -cells  $\tau'$  and  $\mu$  such that  $\mu > \tau > \sigma$ ,  $\mu > \tau' > \sigma$  and  $\tau \neq \tau'$ .



- The vectors  $(\sigma' > \rho)$  for  $(p - 1), p$ -cells  $\rho$  and  $\sigma'$  such that  $\tau > \sigma > \rho, \tau > \sigma' > \rho$  and  $\sigma \neq \sigma'$ .

DEFINITION 4.3. For a combinatorial 1-form  $\omega$  on  $M$ , we define *the combinatorial covariant derivative* as

$$\begin{aligned} |\nabla\omega|^2(\tau > \sigma) = & \sum_{(\mu>\tau');2\text{-neighbor}} \frac{w_\sigma}{w_\mu} (\omega_\sigma^\tau - \omega_{\tau'}^\mu)^2 + \sum_{(\sigma'>\rho);2\text{-neighbor}} \frac{w_\rho}{w_\tau} (\omega_\sigma^\tau - \omega_\rho^{\sigma'})^2 \\ & + \sum_{(\tau'>\sigma);0\text{-neighbor}} \frac{(w_\sigma)^2}{w_\tau w_{\tau'}} (\omega_\sigma^\tau + \omega_{\tau'}^\tau)^2 + \sum_{(\tau>\sigma');0\text{-neighbor}} \frac{w_\sigma w_{\sigma'}}{(w_\tau)^2} (\omega_\sigma^\tau + \omega_{\sigma'}^\tau)^2, \end{aligned}$$

where the sums are taken over all 2-neighbor vectors and 0-neighbor vectors for  $(\tau > \sigma)$  respectively.

DEFINITION 4.4. For a combinatorial 1-form  $\omega$  on  $M$ , we define *the Laplacian of  $|\omega|^2$*  as

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta^b|\omega|^2(\tau > \sigma) = & \sum_{(\mu>\tau');2\text{-neighbor}} \frac{w_\sigma}{w_\mu} ((\omega_\sigma^\tau)^2 - (\omega_{\tau'}^\mu)^2) + \sum_{(\sigma'>\rho);2\text{-neighbor}} \frac{w_\rho}{w_\tau} ((\omega_\sigma^\tau)^2 - (\omega_\rho^{\sigma'})^2) \\ & + \sum_{(\tau'>\sigma);0\text{-neighbor}} \frac{(w_\sigma)^2}{w_\tau w_{\tau'}} ((\omega_\sigma^\tau)^2 + (\omega_{\tau'}^\tau)^2) + \sum_{(\tau>\sigma');0\text{-neighbor}} \frac{w_\sigma w_{\sigma'}}{(w_\tau)^2} ((\omega_\sigma^\tau)^2 + (\omega_{\sigma'}^\tau)^2), \end{aligned}$$

where the sums are taken over all 2-neighbor vectors and 0-neighbor vectors for  $(\tau > \sigma)$  respectively.

This Laplacian is symmetric for vectors, hence we have

$$(4.1) \quad \sum_{(\tau>\sigma)} \Delta^b|\omega|^2(\tau > \sigma) = 0,$$

where the sum is taken over all vectors.

DEFINITION 4.5. For a combinatorial 1-form  $\omega$ , we define *the Ricci curvature on a vector  $(\tau > \sigma)$*  as

$$\text{Ric}(\omega)(\tau > \sigma) = \langle \Delta\omega, \omega \rangle(\tau > \sigma) - \frac{1}{2}|\nabla\omega|^2(\tau > \sigma) + \frac{1}{2}\Delta^b|\omega|^2(\tau > \sigma).$$

LEMMA 4.6. For any combinatorial 1-form  $\omega$  on  $M$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \Delta\omega, \omega \rangle(\tau > \sigma) = & - \sum_{(\mu>\tau');2\text{-neighbor}} \frac{w_\sigma}{w_\mu} \omega_\sigma^\tau \omega_{\tau'}^\mu - \sum_{(\sigma'>\rho);2\text{-neighbor}} \frac{w_\rho}{w_\tau} \omega_\sigma^\tau \omega_\rho^{\sigma'} \\ & + \sum_{(\tau'>\sigma);0\text{-neighbor}} \frac{(w_\sigma)^2}{w_\tau w_{\tau'}} \omega_\sigma^\tau \omega_{\tau'}^\tau + \sum_{(\tau>\sigma');0\text{-neighbor}} \frac{w_\sigma w_{\sigma'}}{(w_\tau)^2} \omega_\sigma^\tau \omega_{\sigma'}^\tau \\ & + \sum_{(\mu>\tau');2\text{-neighbor}} \left( \frac{(w_\sigma)^2}{w_\tau w_{\tau'}} - \frac{w_\sigma}{w_\mu} \right) \omega_\sigma^\tau \omega_{\tau'}^\tau + \sum_{(\sigma'>\rho);2\text{-neighbor}} \left( \frac{w_\sigma w_{\sigma'}}{(w_\tau)^2} - \frac{w_\rho}{w_\tau} \right) \omega_\sigma^\tau \omega_{\sigma'}^\tau \end{aligned}$$

$$+(\#\{2\text{-neighbor vector}\} + 2) \left(\frac{w_\sigma}{w_\tau}\right)^2 (\omega_\sigma^\tau)^2.$$

PROOF. For a 1-form  $\omega$ , we have

$$(4.2) \quad \begin{aligned} (d^*d\omega)_\sigma^\tau &= \sum_{(\mu>\tau');2\text{-neighbor}} \frac{w_\mu}{w_\tau} (\omega_\tau^\mu + \omega_\sigma^\tau - \omega_{\tau'}^\mu - \omega_{\sigma'}^\tau) \\ &\quad + \sum_{(\sigma'>\rho);2\text{-neighbor}} \frac{w_\sigma}{w_\rho} (\omega_\sigma^\tau + \omega_\rho^\sigma - \omega_{\sigma'}^\tau - \omega_{\rho'}^\sigma) \\ (dd^*\omega)_\sigma^\tau &= - \sum_{\mu>\tau} \frac{w_\mu}{w_\tau} \omega_\tau^\mu + \sum_{\tau>\sigma'} \frac{w_\tau}{w_{\sigma'}} \omega_{\sigma'}^\tau + \sum_{\tau'>\sigma} \frac{w_{\tau'}}{w_\sigma} \omega_\sigma^{\tau'} - \sum_{\sigma>\rho} \frac{\sigma}{\rho} \omega_\rho^\sigma. \end{aligned}$$

Then the Laplacian of  $\omega$  is

$$\begin{aligned} (\Delta\omega)_\sigma^\tau &= - \sum_{(\mu>\tau');2\text{-neighbor}} \frac{w_\mu}{w_\tau} \omega_{\tau'}^\mu - \sum_{(\sigma'>\rho);2\text{-neighbor}} \frac{w_\sigma}{w_\rho} \omega_\rho^{\sigma'} \\ &\quad + \sum_{(\tau'>\sigma);0\text{-neighbor}} \frac{w_{\tau'}}{w_\sigma} \omega_{\sigma'}^{\tau'} + \sum_{(\tau>\sigma');0\text{-neighbor}} \frac{w_\tau}{w_{\sigma'}} \omega_{\sigma'}^\tau \\ &\quad + \sum_{(\mu>\tau');2\text{-neighbor}} \left(\frac{w_\sigma}{w_{\tau'}} - \frac{w_\tau}{w_\mu}\right) \omega_{\sigma'}^{\tau'} + \sum_{(\sigma'>\rho);2\text{-neighbor}} \left(\frac{w_{\sigma'}}{w_\tau} - \frac{w_\rho}{w_{\sigma'}}\right) \omega_\rho^{\sigma'} \\ &\quad + (\#\{2\text{-neighbor vector}\} + 2) \frac{w_\sigma}{w_\tau} (\omega_\sigma^\tau). \end{aligned}$$

Taking the inner product of  $\omega$  and  $\Delta\omega$ , we have the lemma.  $\square$

**THEOREM 4.7.** *Let  $M$  be a regular quasiconvex cell-complex, and  $(\tau > \sigma)$  a vector on  $M$ . For a combinatorial 1-form  $\omega$  on  $M$ , the Ricci curvature  $\text{Ric}(\omega)$  is represented by*

$$(4.3) \quad \begin{aligned} \text{Ric}(\omega)(\tau > \sigma) &= (2 - \#\{0\text{-neighbor vector of } (\tau > \sigma)\}) \left(\frac{w_\sigma}{w_\tau}\right)^2 (\omega_\sigma^\tau)^2 \\ &\quad + \sum_{(\mu>\tau');2\text{-neighbor}} \left(\frac{(w_\sigma)^2}{w_\tau w_{\tau'}} - \frac{w_\sigma}{w_\mu}\right) \omega_\sigma^\tau \omega_{\sigma'}^{\tau'} + \sum_{(\sigma'>\rho);2\text{-neighbor}} \left(\frac{w_\sigma w_{\sigma'}}{(w_\tau)^2} - \frac{w_\rho}{w_\tau}\right) \omega_\sigma^\tau \omega_{\sigma'}^\tau. \end{aligned}$$

In particular, with the assumption that the weight of each cell is constant, we have

$$\text{Ric}(\omega)(\tau > \sigma) = (2 - \#\{0\text{-neighbor vector of } (\tau > \sigma)\}) \left(\frac{w_\sigma}{w_\tau}\right)^2 (\omega_\sigma^\tau)^2.$$

PROOF. With the above lemma, we have

$$\begin{aligned} &2\langle \Delta\omega, \omega \rangle(\tau > \sigma) \\ &= - \sum_{(\mu>\tau');2\text{-neighbor}} \frac{w_\sigma}{w_\mu} ((\omega_\sigma^\tau - \omega_{\tau'}^\mu)^2 - ((\omega_\sigma^\tau)^2 - (\omega_{\tau'}^\mu)^2) - 2(\omega_\sigma^\tau)^2) \\ &\quad - \sum_{(\sigma'>\rho);2\text{-neighbor}} \frac{w_\rho}{w_\tau} ((\omega_\sigma^\tau - \omega_{\rho'}^\sigma)^2 - ((\omega_\sigma^\tau)^2 - (\omega_{\rho'}^\sigma)^2) - 2(\omega_\sigma^\tau)^2) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &+ \sum_{(\tau' > \sigma); 0\text{-neighbor}} \frac{(w_\sigma)^2}{w_\tau w_{\tau'}} ((\omega_\sigma^\tau + \omega_{\sigma'}^{\tau'})^2 - ((\omega_\sigma^\tau)^2 + (\omega_{\sigma'}^{\tau'})^2) - 2(\omega_\sigma^\tau)^2) \\
 &+ \sum_{(\tau > \sigma'); 0\text{-neighbor}} \frac{w_\sigma w_{\sigma'}}{(w_\tau)^2} ((\omega_\sigma^\tau + \omega_{\sigma'}^\tau)^2 - ((\omega_\sigma^\tau)^2 + (\omega_{\sigma'}^\tau)^2) - (\omega_\sigma^\tau)^2) \\
 &+ 2(\#\{2\text{-neighbor vector}\} + 2)(\omega_\sigma^\tau)^2 \\
 &+ 2 \sum_{(\mu > \tau'); 2\text{-neighbor}} \left( \frac{(w_\sigma)^2}{w_\tau w_{\tau'}} - \frac{w_\sigma}{w_\mu} \right) \omega_\sigma^\tau \omega_{\sigma'}^{\tau'} + 2 \sum_{(\sigma' > \rho); 2\text{-neighbor}} \left( \frac{w_\sigma w_{\sigma'}}{(w_\tau)^2} - \frac{w_\rho}{w_\tau} \right) \omega_\sigma^\tau \omega_{\sigma'}^\tau, \\
 = &|\nabla \omega|^2(\tau > \sigma) - \Delta^b |\omega|^2(\tau > \sigma) + 2(2 - \#\{0\text{-neighbor vector}\})(\omega_\sigma^\tau)^2. \\
 &+ 2 \sum_{(\mu > \tau'); 2\text{-neighbor}} \left( \frac{(w_\sigma)^2}{w_\tau w_{\tau'}} - \frac{w_\sigma}{w_\mu} \right) \omega_\sigma^\tau \omega_{\sigma'}^{\tau'} + 2 \sum_{(\sigma' > \rho); 2\text{-neighbor}} \left( \frac{w_\sigma w_{\sigma'}}{(w_\tau)^2} - \frac{w_\rho}{w_\tau} \right) \omega_\sigma^\tau \omega_{\sigma'}^\tau.
 \end{aligned}$$

Then we have the equation (4.3). □

**5. Combinatorial Gauss-Bonnet Theorem.**

**5.1. Gauss-Bonnet Theorem for graph.** Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a finite simple graph, where  $V$  is the set of vertexes and  $E$  the set of edges. We realize  $G$  as 1-dimensional cell complex, i.e. vertexes are 0-cells and edges are 1-cells.

LEMMA 5.1. *Let  $v$  and  $e$  be a vertex and an edge of  $G$  respectively such that  $e > v$ . We take a combinatorial 1-form  $\omega$  on  $G$ . Then we have*

$$(5.1) \quad \text{Ric}(\omega)(e > v) = (2 - \text{deg}(v)) \left( \frac{w_v}{w_e} \right)^2 (\omega_v^e)^2,$$

where  $\text{deg}(v)$  is the degree of  $v$ .

PROOF. Let  $v$  and  $e$  be a vertex and an edge of  $G$  respectively such that  $e > v$ . For the definition of 0-neighbor vector, we find two vectors  $(e' > v)$  and  $(e > v')$  such that there are no 2-cell  $f$  such that  $f > e, e'$ , and there are no  $(-1)$ -cell  $\rho$  such that  $v, v' > \rho$  respectively.

Since there are no 2-cells in  $G$ , the vector  $(e' > v)$  is a 0-neighbor vector for any  $e'$  which has the vertex  $v$  except for the edge  $e$ . Hence there are exactly  $\text{deg}(v) - 1$  edges that satisfy the above condition. Since there are no  $(-1)$ -cells, there is only one vertex  $v'$  such that  $(e > v')$  is a 0-neighbor vector for  $(e > v)$ . Then the number of 0-neighbor vectors for  $(e > v)$  is  $\text{deg}(v)$ .

With the definition of a 2-neighbor vector, there are not 2-neighbor vectors for the vector  $(e > v)$ . We have the lemma from the equation (4.3). □

With this lemma, we immediately have the following lemma.

LEMMA 5.2. *We take a combinatorial 1-form  $\omega$  on  $G$  such that for any vertex  $v$*

$$(5.2) \quad \sum_{e; e > v} \left( \frac{w_v}{w_e} \right)^2 (\omega_v^e)^2 = 1,$$

where the sum is taken over all edges  $e$  such that  $e > v$ . Then for any vertex  $v$  we have

$$(5.3) \quad \sum_{e:e>v} \text{Ric}(\omega)(e > v) = 2 - \text{deg}(v).$$

For a smooth surface the Gauss curvature at a point  $p$  equal to the Ricci curvature for a unit vector at  $p$ . The following definition is an analogue to this fact.

DEFINITION 5.3. We define the Gauss curvature for a vertex  $v$  by

$$(5.4) \quad g_v = 2 - \text{deg}(v).$$

PROOF OF THEOREM 1.1. From the definition of the Gauss curvature, we have

$$(5.5) \quad \begin{aligned} \sum_v g_v &= \sum_v (2 - \text{deg}(v)) \\ &= 2\#V - \sum_v \text{deg}(v) \\ &= 2\#V - 2\#E \\ &= 2\chi(G). \end{aligned}$$

□

**5.2. Gauss-Bonnet Theorem for 2-complex.** Let  $M$  be a 2-dimensional quasiconvex cell complex that decomposes a 2-dimensional closed smooth surface.

LEMMA 5.4. Let  $v$  and  $e$  be a vertex and an edge on  $M$  respectively such that  $e > v$ . We take a combinatorial 1-form  $\omega$  on  $M$ . Then we have

$$\text{Ric}(\omega)(e > v) = (4 - \text{deg}(v)) \left(\frac{w_v}{w_e}\right)^2 (\omega_v^e)^2 + \sum_{(f>e'); 2\text{-neighbor}} \left(\frac{(w_v)^2}{w_e w_{e'}} - \frac{w_v}{w_f}\right) \omega_v^e \omega_v^{e'},$$

where  $\text{deg}(v)$  is the degree of  $v$  and the sum is taken over all 2-neighbor vectors of the vector  $(e > v)$ .

PROOF. Let  $v$  and  $e$  be a vertex and an edge on  $M$  respectively such that  $e > v$ . For the definition of a 0-neighbor vector, we find the vectors  $(e' > v)$  and  $(e > v')$  such that there are no 2-cell  $f$  such that  $f > e, e'$  and there are no  $(-1)$ -cell  $\rho$  such that  $v, v' > \rho$  respectively.

For the edge  $e$  there are exactly two faces that have the edge  $e$ . For exactly two edges  $e'$  the vectors  $(e' > v)$  are not 0-neighbor vectors of  $(e > v)$ . The number of 0-neighbor vectors of  $(e > v)$  is  $\text{deg}(v) - 3$ . Since there are no  $(-1)$ -cells in  $M$ , there is only one vertex  $v'$  such that  $(e > v')$  is a 0-neighbor vector for  $(e > v)$ . Then the number of 0-neighbor vectors for  $(e > v)$  is  $\text{deg}(v) - 2$ . We have the lemma from the equation (4.3). □

For a vertex  $v$  we consider the sum

$$(5.6) \quad \text{Ric}(\omega)(v) := \sum_{e:e>v} \text{Ric}(\omega)(e > v),$$

where the sum is taken over all edges  $e$  that have the vertex  $v$ . This is a quadratic form for real bases  $\{\frac{w_v}{w_e} \omega_v^e\}_{e>v}$ . The trace with this bases is  $\text{deg}(v)(4 - \text{deg}(v))$ . For a smooth manifold the

scalar curvature is a trace of the Ricci curvature. The next definition is an analogue to this fact.

DEFINITION 5.5. We define the scalar curvature  $S(v)$  at a vertex  $v$  as

$$(5.7) \quad S(v) = \text{trace Ric}(\omega)(v) = \text{deg}(v)(4 - \text{deg}(v)).$$

For a smooth surface the scalar curvature is the twice of the Gauss curvature. The next definition is analogue to this fact.

DEFINITION 5.6. We define the Gauss curvature at a vertex  $v$  as

$$(5.8) \quad g_v = \frac{S(v)}{\text{deg}(v)} = 4 - \text{deg}(v).$$

LEMMA 5.7. Let  $e$  and  $f$  be an edge and a face of  $M$  respectively such that  $f > e$ . We take a combinatorial 1-form  $\omega$  on  $M$ . Then we have

$$\text{Ric}(\omega)(f > e) = (4 - \text{deg}(f)) \left(\frac{w_e}{w_f}\right)^2 (\omega_e^f)^2 + \sum_{(e' > v); 2\text{-neighbor}} \left(\frac{w_e w_{e'}}{(w_f)^2} - \frac{w_v}{w_f}\right) \omega_e^f \omega_{e'}^f,$$

where  $\text{deg}(f)$  is the degree of  $f$ , that is, the number of edges of  $f$  and the sum is taken over the all 2-neighbor vector of the vector  $(f > e)$ .

PROOF. Let  $e$  and  $f$  be an edge and a face of  $M$  respectively such that  $f > e$ . For the definition of a 0-neighbor vector, we find two vectors  $(f' > e)$  and  $(f > e')$  such that there are no 3-cell  $\sigma$  such that  $\sigma > f, f'$  and there are no 0-cell  $v$  such that  $e, e' > v$  respectively.

For the edge  $e$  there are exactly two faces that have  $e$  as an edge. Then for only one face  $f'$  the vector  $(f' > e)$  is a 0-neighbor vector of  $(f > e)$ . For edges of the face  $f$ , exactly two edges  $e_1, e_2$  intersect with the edge  $e$ , then the two vectors  $(f > e_1)$  and  $(f > e_2)$  are not 0-neighbor vectors of  $(f > e)$ . For the other edges  $e'$  of the face  $f$ , the vector  $(f > e')$  is a 0-neighbor vector of  $(f > e)$ . Then the number of 0-neighbor vectors for  $(e > v)$  is  $\text{deg}(f) - 2$ . We have the lemma from the equation (4.4).  $\square$

For a face  $f$  we consider the next sum,

$$(5.9) \quad \text{Ric}(\omega)(f) := \sum_{e: f > e} \text{Ric}(\omega)(f > e),$$

where the sum is taken over the all edges  $e$  contained in the boundary of the face  $f$ .

DEFINITION 5.8. We define the scalar curvature  $S(f)$  at a face  $f$  as

$$(5.10) \quad S(f) = \text{trace Ric}(\omega)(f) = \text{deg}(f)(4 - \text{deg}(f)).$$

We define the Gauss curvature at a face  $f$  as

$$(5.11) \quad g_f = \frac{S(f)}{\text{deg}(f)} = 4 - \text{deg}(f).$$

If all weights of cells of  $M$  are constants, we conclude the following lemma that is an analogue to the smooth surface.

LEMMA 5.9. *Let  $M$  be a 2-dimensional quasiconvex cell complex that decomposes a 2-dimensional closed smooth surface. We assume that all weights of cells of  $M$  are constants.*

(1) *Let  $v$  be a vertex of  $M$ . We take a combinatorial 1-form  $\omega$  on  $M$  such that*

$$(5.12) \quad \sum_{e:e>v} (\omega_v^e)^2 = 1,$$

*where the sum is taken over all edges  $e$  such that  $e > v$ . Then we have*

$$(5.13) \quad \sum_{e:e>v} \text{Ric}(\omega)(e > v) = 4 - \deg(v) = g_v.$$

(2) *Let  $f$  be a face of  $M$ . We take a combinatorial 1-form  $\omega$  on  $M$  such that*

$$(5.14) \quad \sum_{e:f>e} (\omega_e^f)^2 = 1,$$

*where the sum is taken over all edges  $e$  such that  $f > e$ . Then we have*

$$(5.15) \quad \sum_{e:f>e} \text{Ric}(\omega)(f > e) = 4 - \deg(f) = g_f.$$

PROOF OF THEOREM 1.2. We denote  $V, E$  and  $F$  by the numbers of vertexes, edges and faces in  $M$  respectively.

From the definition of the Gauss curvature, we have

$$(5.16) \quad \begin{aligned} \sum_v g_v + \sum_f g_f &= \sum_v (4 - \deg(v)) + \sum_f (4 - \deg(f)) \\ &= 4V - \sum_v \deg(v) + 4F - \sum_f \deg(f) \\ &= 4V - 2E + 4F - 2E \\ &= 4(V - E + F) \\ &= 4\chi(M). \end{aligned}$$

□

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