



# Graphs in Machine Learning

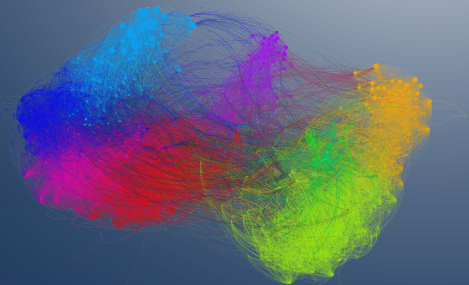
## Resistive Networks

Physics and Effective Resistance

Michal Valko

*Inria & ENS Paris-Saclay, MVA*

Partially based on material by: Ulrike von Luxburg,  
Gary Miller, Doyle & Schnell, Daniel Spielman



# Laplacians and Resistive Networks

How to compute the  $\text{score}(v, m)$ ?

Idea<sub>4</sub>: view edges as conductors

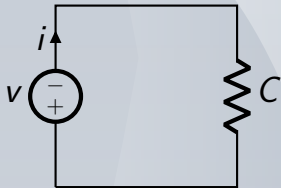
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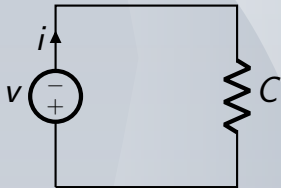
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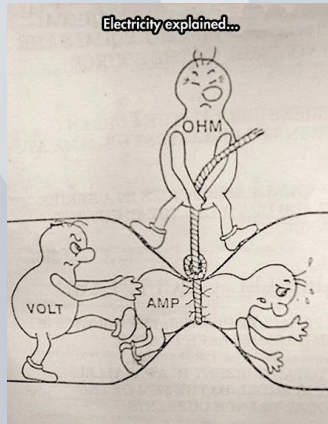
$R \equiv \text{resistance}$

$i \equiv \text{current}$

$V \equiv \text{voltage}$

$$C = \frac{1}{R} \quad i = CV = \frac{V}{R}$$

# Resistive Networks: Some high-school physics



Source: Illustration commonly attributed to Vagonum

# Resistive Networks

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resistors **in series**

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## Effective Resistance on a graph

Take two nodes:  $a \neq b$ . Let  $V_{ab}$  be the voltage between them and  $i_{ab}$  the current between them. Define  $R_{ab} = \frac{V_{ab}}{i_{ab}}$  and  $C_{ab} = \frac{1}{R_{ab}}$ .

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We treat the entire graph as a resistor!

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The effective resistance is a distance!



# Michal Valko

`michal.valko@inria.fr`

Inria & ENS Paris-Saclay, MVA

`https://misovalko.github.io/mva-ml-graphs.html`

