

*Matematica Discreta e Applicazioni*

# *Topological Data Analysis*

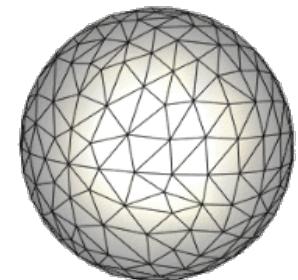
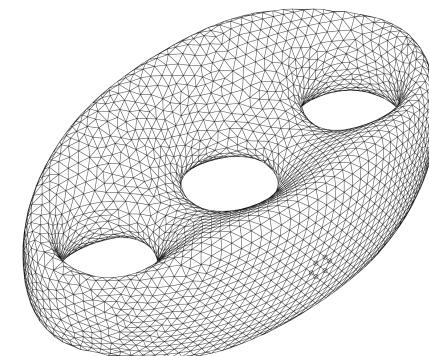
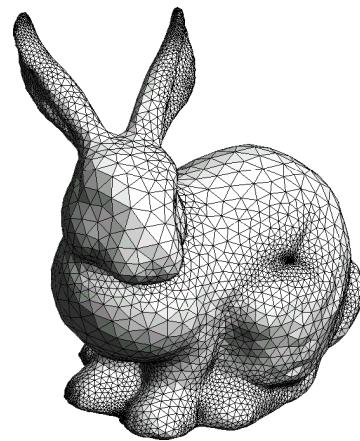
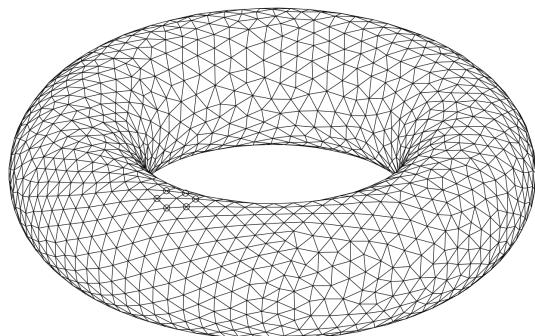
Ulderico Fugacci

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IMATI scientific projects education

# Topological Data Analysis

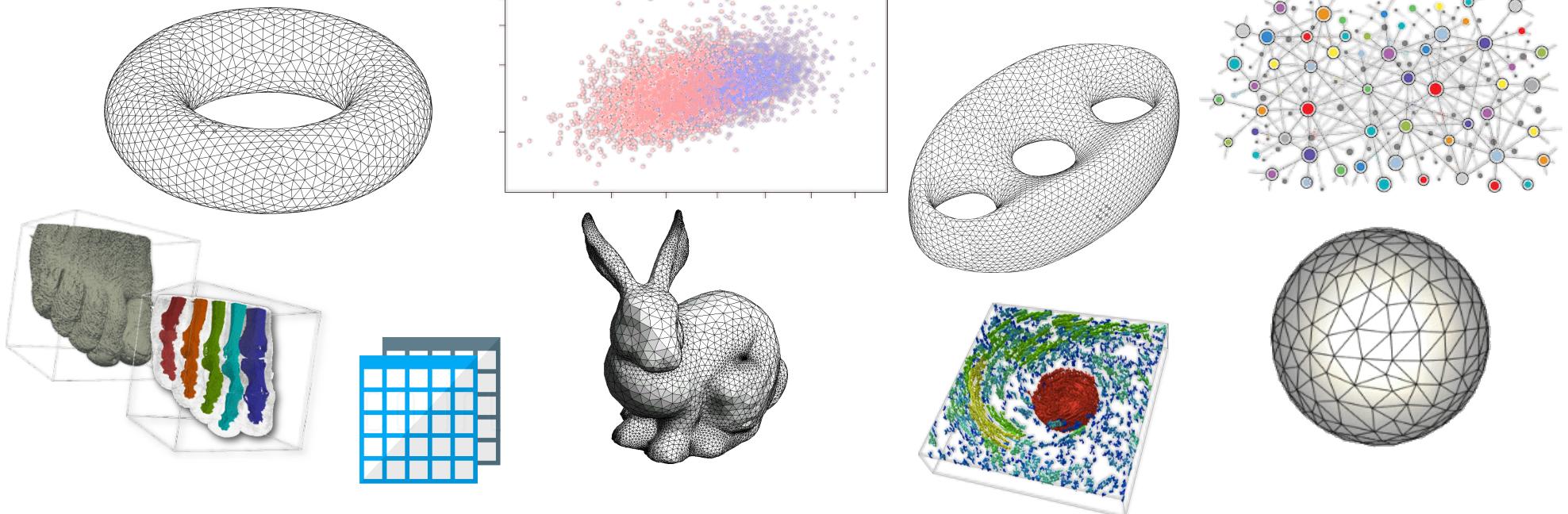
**Topology** describes, characterizes, and discriminates *shapes* by studying their properties that are preserved under *continuous deformations*, such as *stretching* and *bending*, but *not tearing* or *gluing*



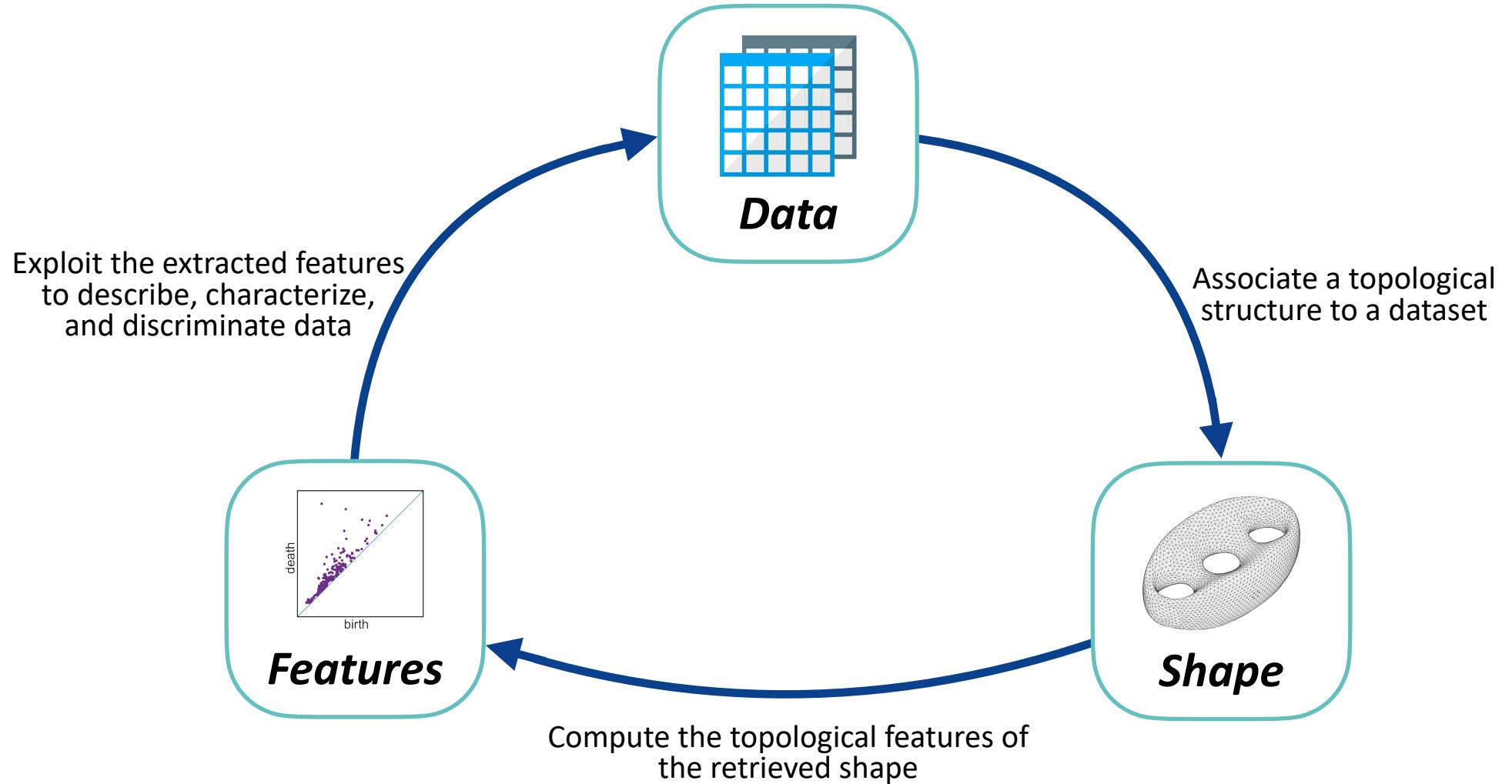
# Topological Data Analysis

**Assumption in TDA:** *Any data* can be endowed with a *shape*.

So, any data can be studied in terms of its *topological features*



# Topological Data Analysis



# Topological Data Analysis

## *Outline:*

*The Notion of Shape*

*Simplicial Complexes*

*Simplicial Homology*

*From Data to Complexes*

*Persistent Homology*

*Visualizing Persistence*

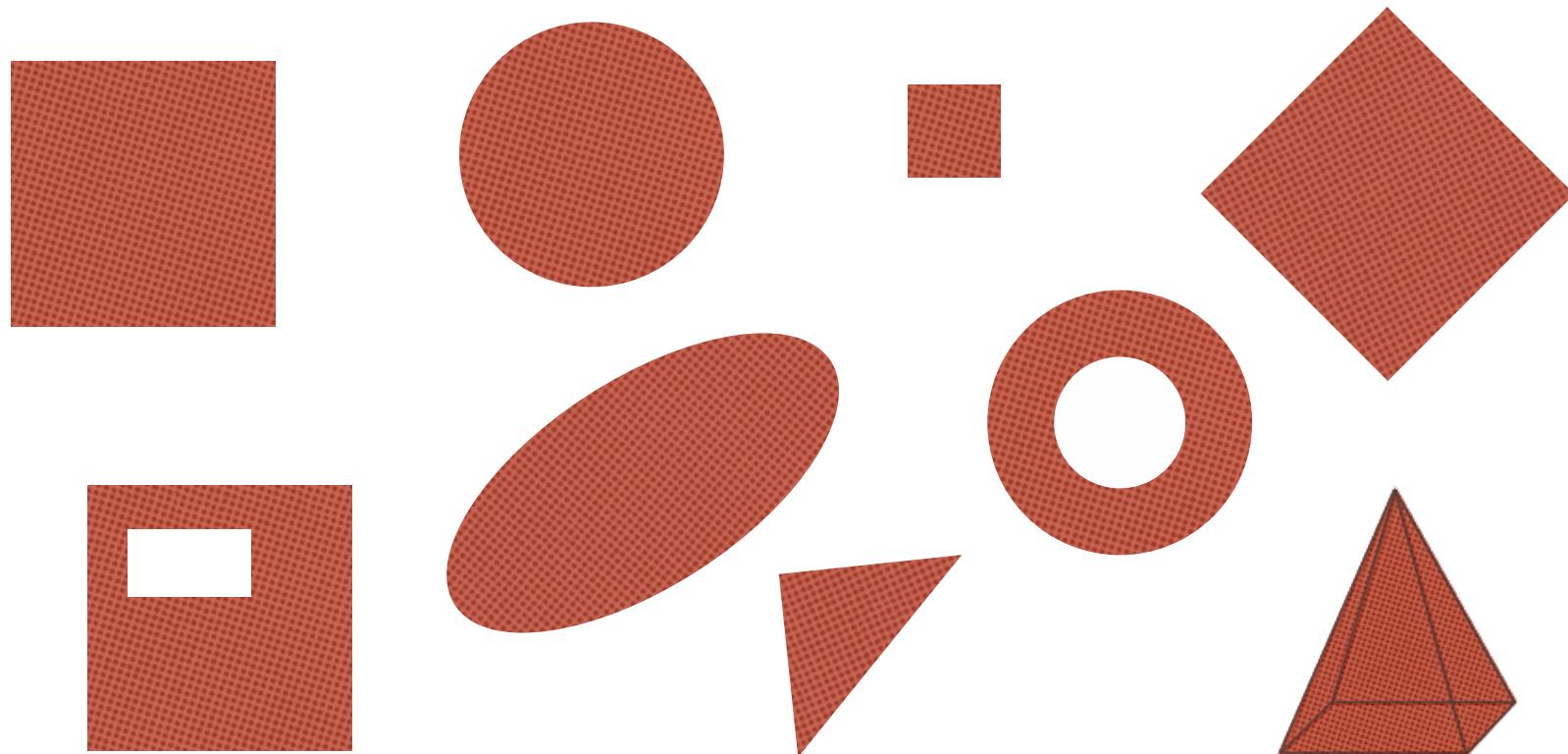
*Persistence & Stability*

*Computing Persistence*

# *The Notion of Shape*

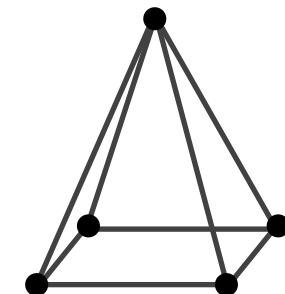
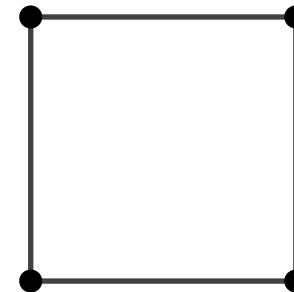
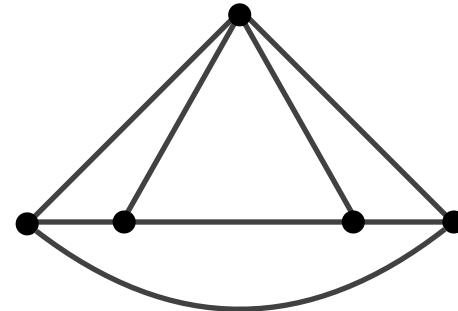
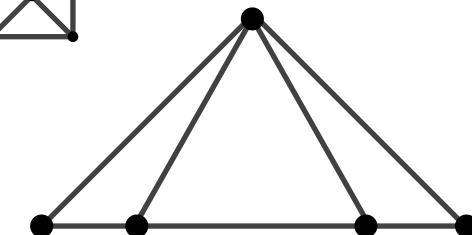
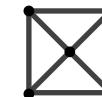
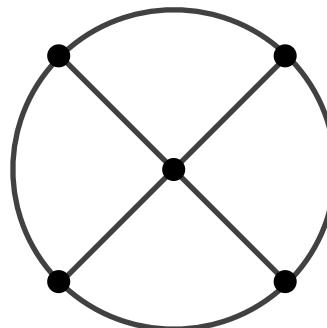
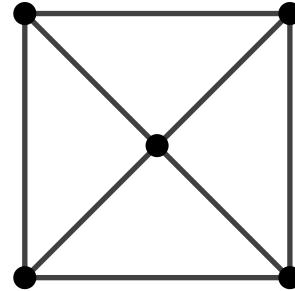
# Geometry or Topology?

Which of these domains look similar?



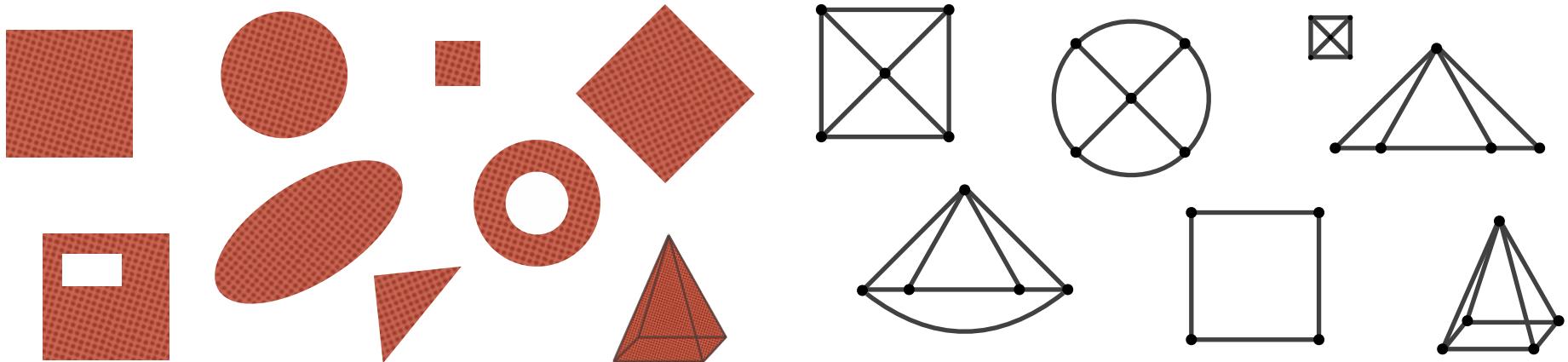
# Geometry or Topology?

And what about these ones?



# Geometry or Topology?

The answer depends on the *point of view* we adopt

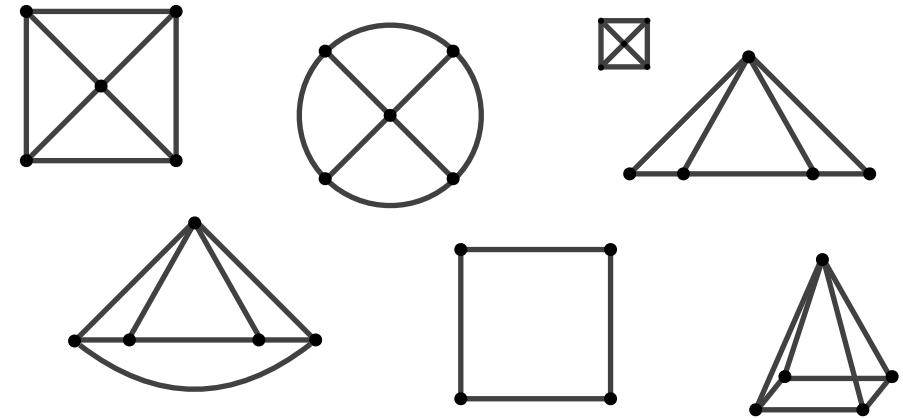
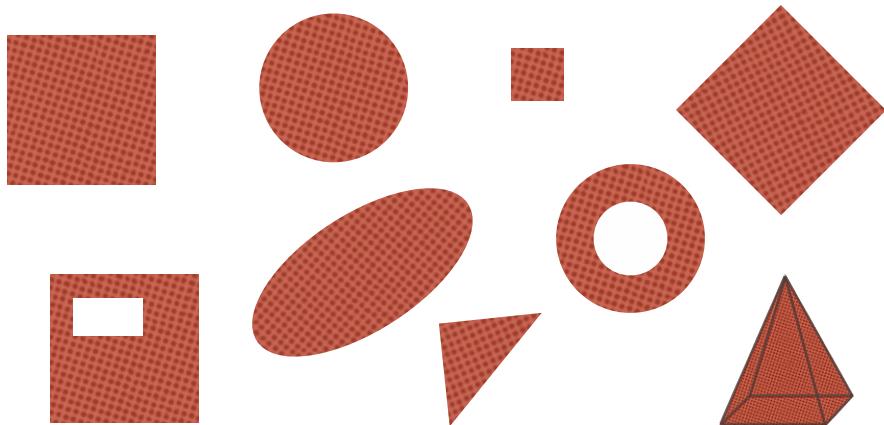


**Geometry** cares about those properties which **change**  
when an object is continuously **deformed**

E.g. length, area, volume, angles, curvature, ...

# Geometry or Topology?

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*Topology*

~~Geometry~~ cares about those properties which *change*  
when an object is continuously *deformed*

E.g. connectivity, orientation, manifoldness, ...

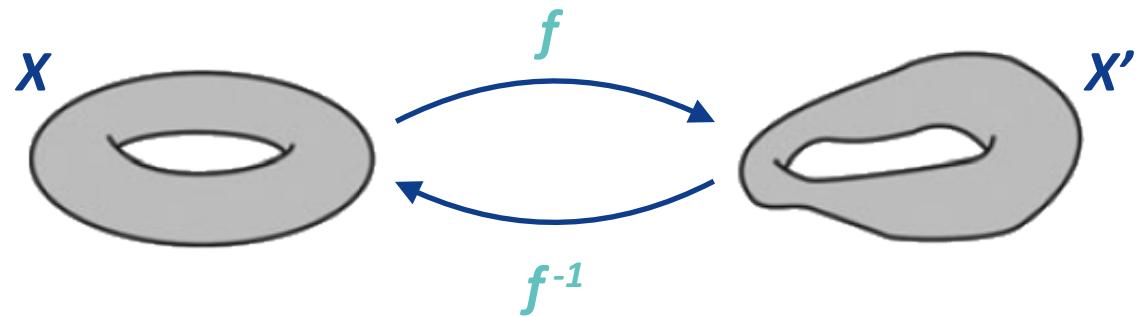
*do not*

# Homeomorphisms

## Definition:

Given two topological spaces  $(X, T)$  and  $(X', T')$ ,  
a function  $f: X \rightarrow X'$  is called **homeomorphism** if:

- ◆  $f$  is a **bijection**
- ◆  $f$  is **continuous**
- ◆  $f^{-1}$  is **continuous**

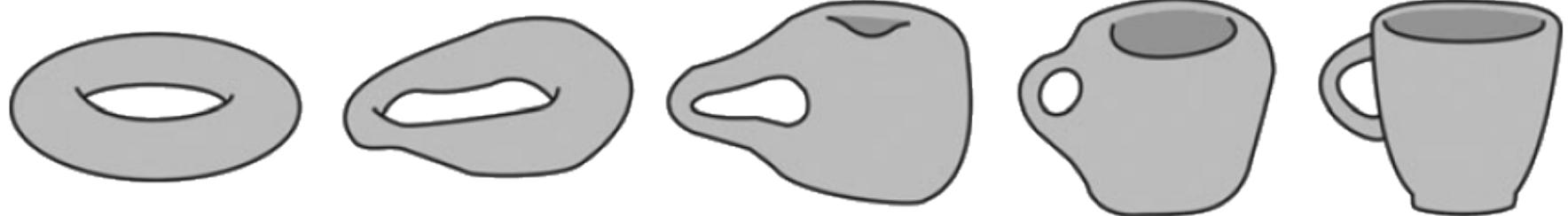


Two topological spaces  $(X, T)$  and  $(X', T')$  are **homeomorphic** and denoted  $X \cong X'$  if there exists a homeomorphism  $f: X \rightarrow X'$

Homeomorphisms induce an **equivalence relation** of topological spaces partitioning them into equivalence classes

# Homeomorphisms

*Intuitively:*



*The notion of homeomorphism captures the idea of continuous deformation*



$\cong$



# Homeomorphisms

*Intuitively:*

One can:

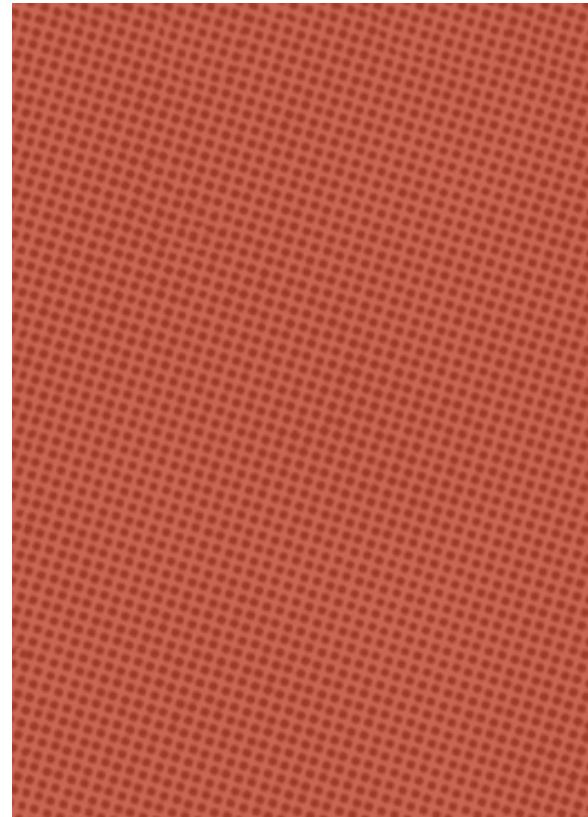
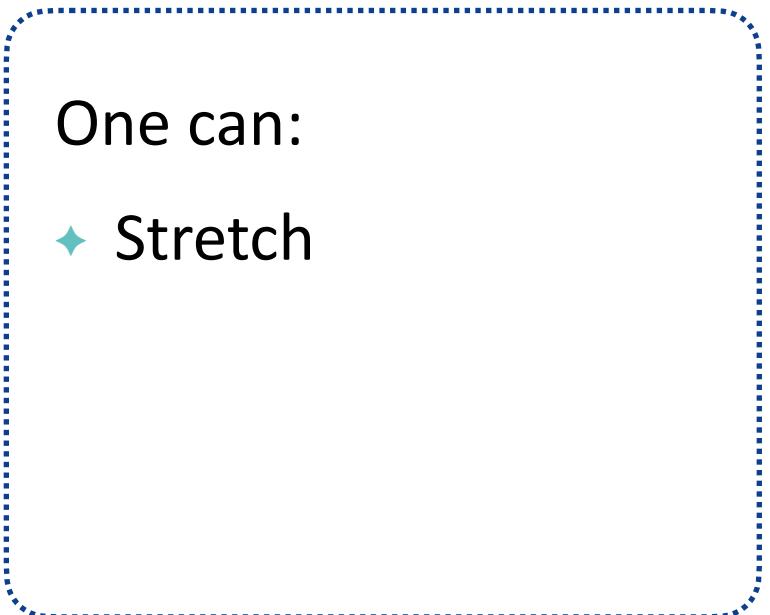


# Homeomorphisms

*Intuitively:*

One can:

- ◆ Stretch

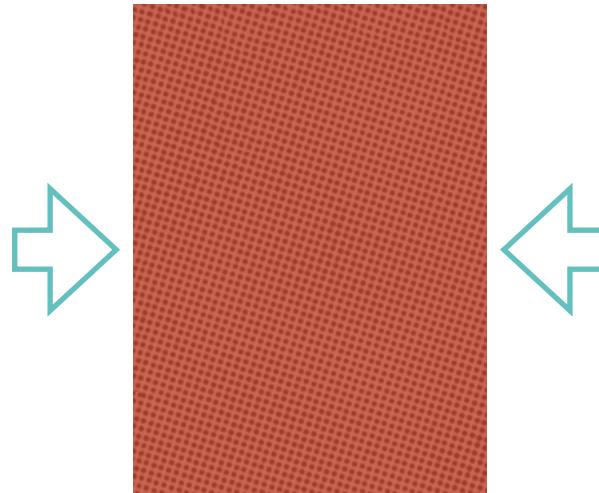


# Homeomorphisms

*Intuitively:*

One can:

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- ◆ Compress



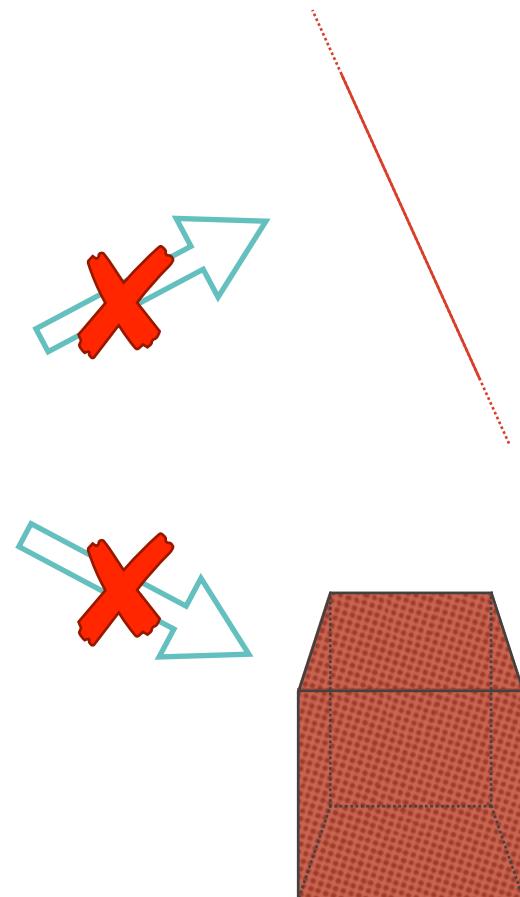
# Homeomorphisms

*Intuitively:*

One can:

- ◆ Stretch
- ◆ Compress

But not too much!



# Homeomorphisms

*Intuitively:*

Moreover:

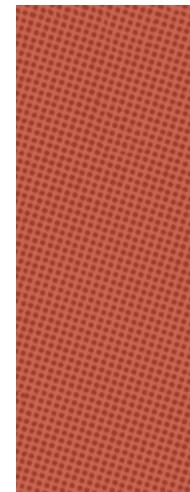
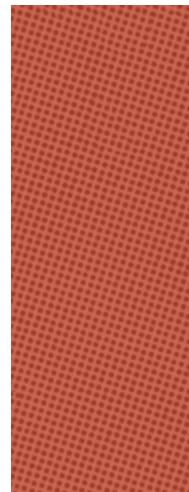
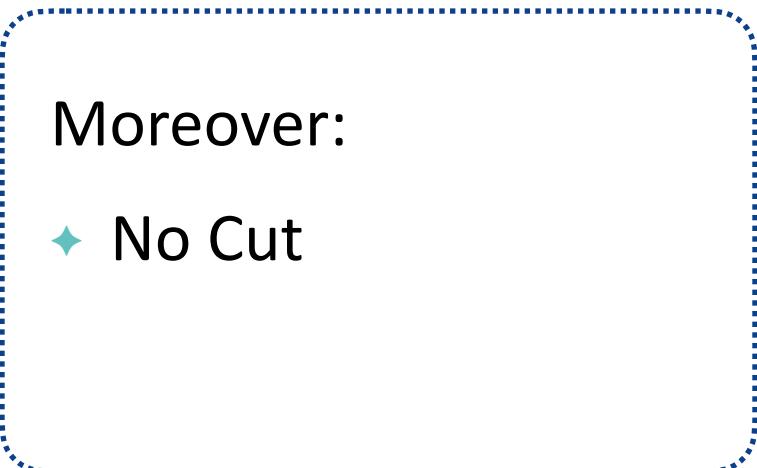


# Homeomorphisms

*Intuitively:*

Moreover:

- ◆ No Cut



# Homeomorphisms

*Intuitively:*

Moreover:

- ◆ No Cut
- ◆ No Glue

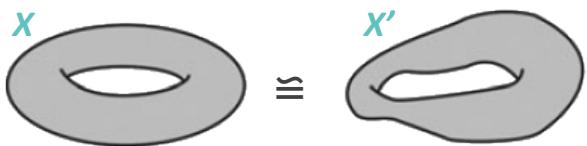


# Topological Invariants

## Definition:

$I$  is a **topological invariant** if, given two topological spaces  $(X, T)$  and  $(X', T')$ ,

$X$  is homeomorphic to  $X'$



$X$  and  $X'$  have the same  
topological invariant

$$I(X) = I(X')$$

Some classical topological invariants:

- ◆ *Connectedness*
- ◆ *Compactness*
- ◆ *Manifoldness*

- ◆ *Orientability*
- ◆ *Euler characteristic*
- ◆ *Homology*
- ◆ *Homotopy*

# Topological Invariants

**Question:**

*Is there a “perfect” topological invariant  $I$  such that*

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Let us **simplify the question** and let focus on:

- ◆ Considering a specific topological invariant  $I$  (e.g. the **homology**)
- ◆ Completely characterizing just the **spheres**  $S^n := \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : |x| = 1\}$

The above question turns into the following:

*If  $X$  and  $S^n$  have the same homology, then  $X \cong S^n$ ?*

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**NO**

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**Poincaré Conjecture (3rd Millennium Prize Problem):**

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*Proven by Grigori Perelman in 2003*

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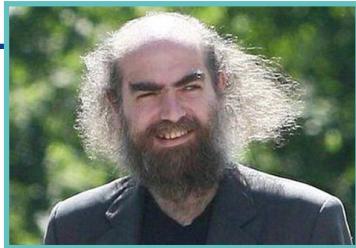
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**So:**

*Why we will mainly focus on homology rather than homotopy?*

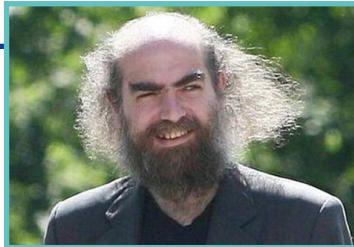
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**So:**

*Why we will mainly focus on homology rather than homotopy?*

*Because, in practice, computing homotopy groups is **nearly impossible**!*

# Bibliography

## Some References:

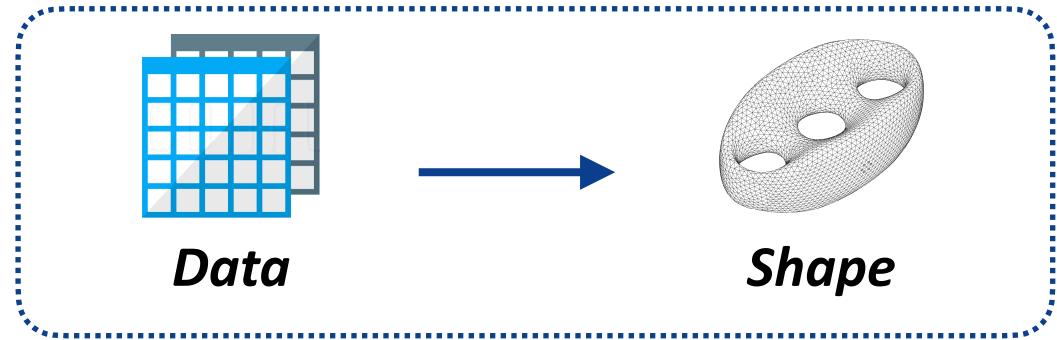
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  - ❖ R. W. Ghrist. *Elementary applied topology*. Seattle: Createspace, 2014.
- ◆ **Papers on TDA:**
  - ❖ G. Carlsson. *Topology and data*. Bulletin of the American Mathematical Society 46.2, pages 255-308, 2009.
- ◆ **Intro to (Algebraic) Topology:**
  - ❖ E. Sernesi. *Geometria 2*. Bollati Boringhieri, Torino, 1994.
  - ❖ A. Hatcher. *Algebraic topology*. Cambridge University Press, 2002.

# *Simplicial Complexes*

# Complexes & Data

## Goal:

We want to associate a topological structure to a given dataset

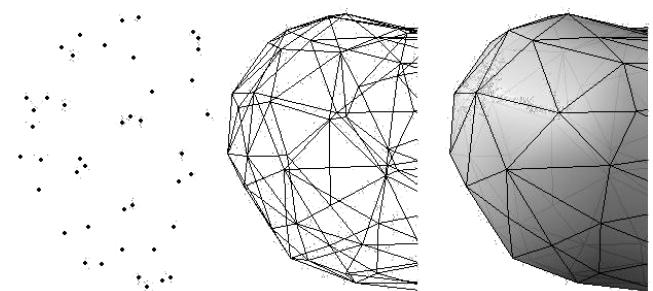


Due to the nature of data and to our computational ambitions, datasets will be represented by "**discrete**" structures

Among various possibilities, **simplicial complexes** represent the most suitable choice

In fact, simplicial complexes are able to deal with data:

- ◆ of **large size** (e.g. consisting of a huge number of samples)
- ◆ of **high dimension** (e.g. involving a large number of variables or parameters)
- ◆ **unorganized** (e.g. not arranged in a regular grid)



# Simplicial Complexes

## Definitions:

A set  $V := \{v_0, v_1, \dots, v_k\}$  of points in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is called

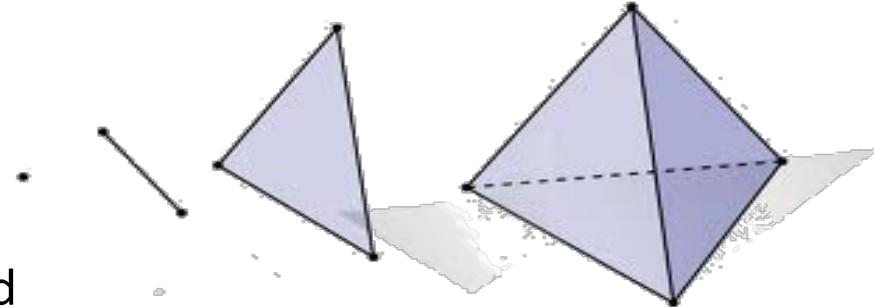
**geometrically independent** if vectors  $v_1 - v_0, \dots, v_k - v_0$  are **linearly independent** over  $\mathbb{R}$

E.g. two distinct points, three non-collinear points, four non-coplanar points

The  **$k$ -simplex**  $\sigma = v_0 v_1 \dots v_k$  spanned by a geometrically independent set  $V = \{v_0, v_1, \dots, v_k\}$  of in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is the **convex hull** of  $V$ , i.e. the set of all points  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$  such that

$$x = \sum_{i=0}^k t_i v_i \quad \text{where} \quad \sum_{i=0}^k t_i = 1 \quad \text{and } t_i \geq 0 \text{ for all } i$$

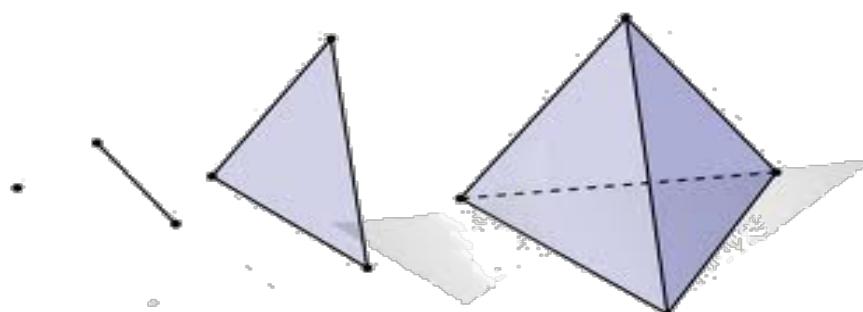
The numbers  $t_i$  are uniquely determined by  $x$  and are called **barycentric coordinates** of  $x$   
E.g. a 0-simplex is a vertex, a 1-simplex is an edge, a 2-simplex is a triangle, a 3-simplex is a tetrahedron



# Simplicial Complexes

## Definitions:

- ◆ The points  $v_0, v_1, \dots, v_k$  spanning a  $k$ -simplex  $\sigma$  are called the **vertices** of  $\sigma$
- ◆  $k$  is called the **dimension** of  $\sigma$  and denoted as  $\dim(\sigma)$
- ◆ Any simplex  $\tau$  spanned by a non-empty subset of  $V$  is called a **face** of  $\sigma$
- ◆ Conversely,  $\sigma$  is called a **coface** of  $\tau$

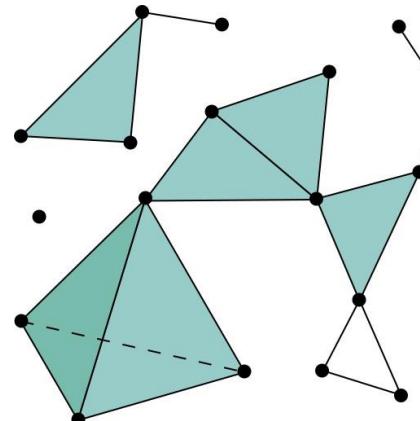


# Simplicial Complexes

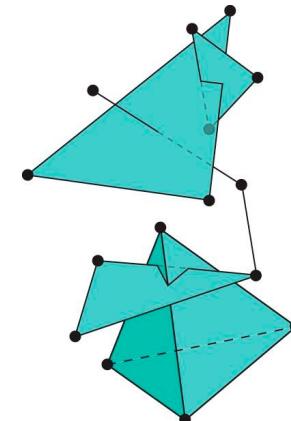
## Definition:

A **(geometric) simplicial complex**  $K$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is a collection of simplices in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  such that

- ◆ *Every face of a simplex of  $K$  is in  $K$*
- ◆ *The non-empty intersection of any two simplices of  $K$  is a face of each of them*



*simplicial complex*



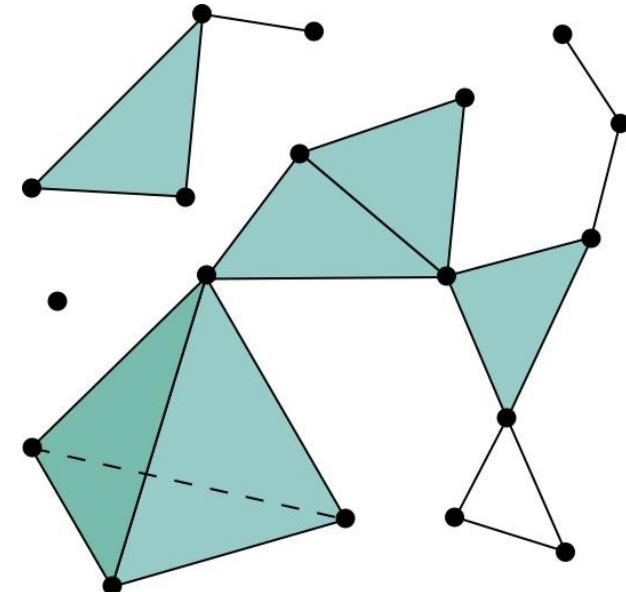
*non-simplicial complex*

# Simplicial Complexes

## Definitions:

Given a (geometric) simplicial complex  $K$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ,

- ◆ The **dimension** of a simplicial complex  $K$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , denoted as  $\dim(K)$ , is the supremum of the dimensions of the simplices of  $K$
- ◆ A simplex  $\sigma$  of  $K$  such that  $\dim(\sigma) = \dim(K)$  is called **maximal**
- ◆ A simplex  $\sigma$  of  $K$  which is not a proper face of any simplex of  $K$  is called **top**
- ◆ A subcollection of  $K$  that is itself a simplicial complex is called a **subcomplex** of  $K$

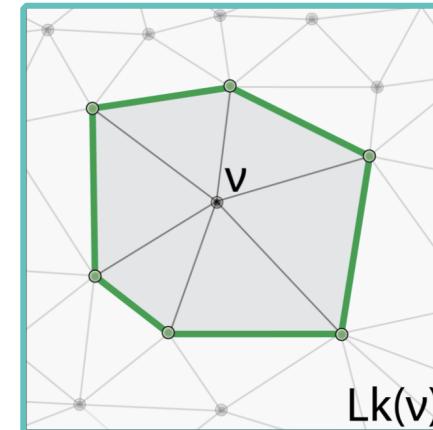
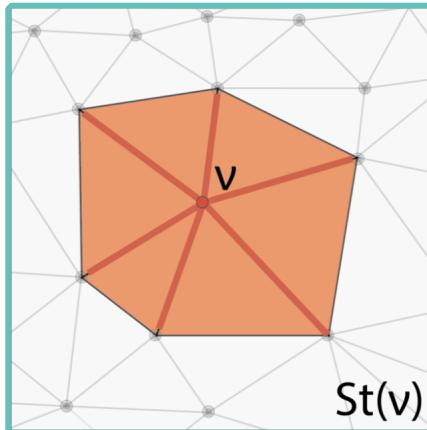


# Simplicial Complexes

## Definitions:

Given a simplex  $\sigma$  of a (geometric) simplicial complex  $K$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ,

- ◆ The **star** of  $\sigma$  is the set  $St(\sigma)$  of the cofaces of  $\sigma$
- ◆ The **link** of  $\sigma$  is the set  $Lk(\sigma)$  of the faces of the simplices in  $St(\sigma)$  such that do not intersect  $\sigma$

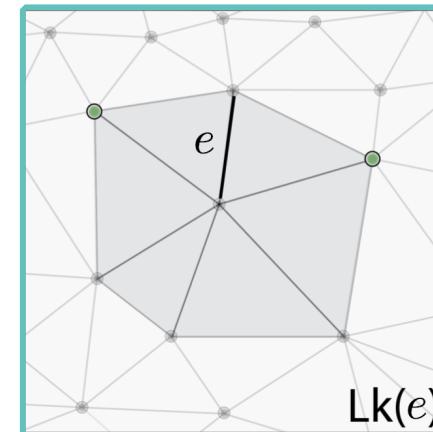
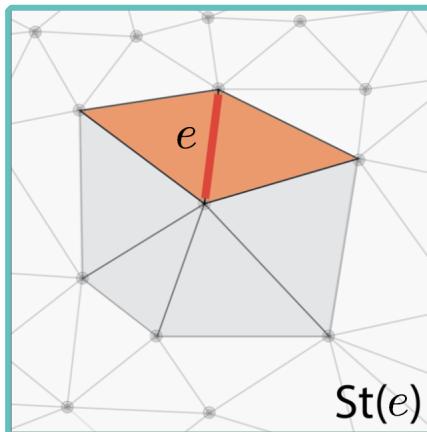


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# Simplicial Complexes

Given a (geometric) simplicial complex  $K$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ,

its **polytope**  $|K|$  is the subset of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  defined as the union of the simplices of  $K$

The polytope  $|K|$  can be endowed with **two possible topologies**  $T_1$  and  $T_2$ :

- ◆  **$T_1$** : A subset  $F$  of  $|K|$  is a closed set of  $(|K|, T_1)$  if and only if  $F \cap \sigma$  is a closed set of  $(\sigma, T_\sigma)$  for each  $\sigma$  in  $K$  where  $T_\sigma$  is the subspace topology induced on  $\sigma$  by  $\mathbb{E}^n$
- ◆  **$T_2$** : The subspace topology induced on  $|K|$  by  $\mathbb{E}^n$

In general, the two topologies  $T_1, T_2$  are **different**, but

**Proposition:**

If  $K$  is a **finite** simplicial complex,  $T_1 = T_2$

From now on, if not differently specified, we consider only **finite** simplicial complexes

# Simplicial Complexes

## Proposition:

Given a simplicial complex  $K$  and a topological space  $(X, T)$ , a function  $f$  from  $(|K|, T_1)$  to  $(X, T)$  is **continuous** if and only if  $f|_{\sigma}$  is continuous for each  $\sigma \in K$

## Definition:

Given two simplicial complexes  $K$  and  $K'$ ,

- ◆ A function  $f: K \rightarrow K'$  is called a **simplicial map** if for every simplex  $\sigma = v_0v_1 \dots v_k$  in  $K$ ,  $f(\sigma) = f(v_0)f(v_1)\dots f(v_k)$  is a simplex in  $K'$
- ◆ The restriction  $f_V$  of  $f$  to the set of vertices  $V$  of  $K$  is called the **vertex map** of  $f$

# Simplicial Complexes

## Definition:

An **abstract simplicial complex**  $K$  on a set  $V$  is a collection of finite non-empty subsets of  $V$ , called **simplices**, such that if  $\sigma \in K$  and  $\tau \subseteq \sigma$ , then  $\tau \in K$

Analogously to the case of a geometric simplicial complex,

- ◆ The elements of  $V$  are called **vertices** of  $K$
- ◆ The **dimension** of a simplex  $\sigma$  is one less than the number of its elements
- ◆ The supremum of the dimensions of the simplices in  $K$  is called **dimension** of  $K$
- ◆ Each non-empty subset  $\tau$  of a simplex  $\sigma \in K$  is called a **face** of  $\sigma$  and  $\sigma$  is called a **coface** of  $\tau$

**The notions of geometric simplicial complex and abstract simplicial complex are equivalent.** More properly, it is always possible,

- ◆ Given an abstract simplicial complex, to endow it with a **geometric realization**
- ◆ Given a geometric simplicial complex, to **forget its geometry** thus obtaining an abstract simplicial complex

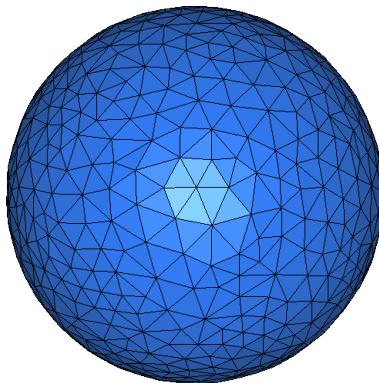
# Simplicial Complexes

**Definition:**

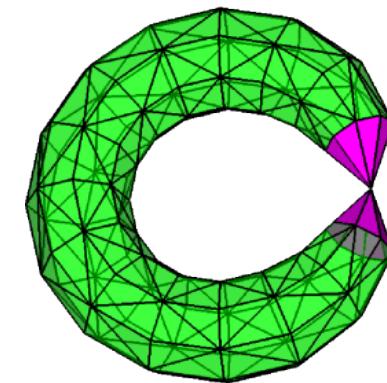
A simplicial complex  $K$  is called

- ◆ ***n-manifold [with boundary]*** if its polytope  $|K|$  is a (topological)  $n$ -manifold [with boundary]
- ◆ ***Combinatorial n-manifold [with boundary]*** if, for every vertex  $v$ , the link  $Lk(v)$  is homeomorphic to the  $(n - 1)$ -sphere  $S^{n-1}$  [or to the  $(n - 1)$ -disk  $D^{n-1} := \{x \in \mathbb{R}^{n-1} : |x| \leq 1\}$ ]

*combinatorial  
manifold*



*non-combinatorial  
manifold*



**Proposition:**

If  $K$  is a combinatorial  $n$ -manifold [with boundary], then  $K$  is a  $n$ -manifold [with boundary]

The converse is:

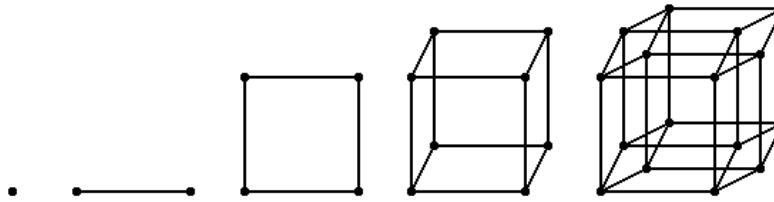
**True for  $n \leq 3$**

**Open for  $n = 4$**

**False for  $n > 4$**

# Regular Grids

## Hyper-Cube:

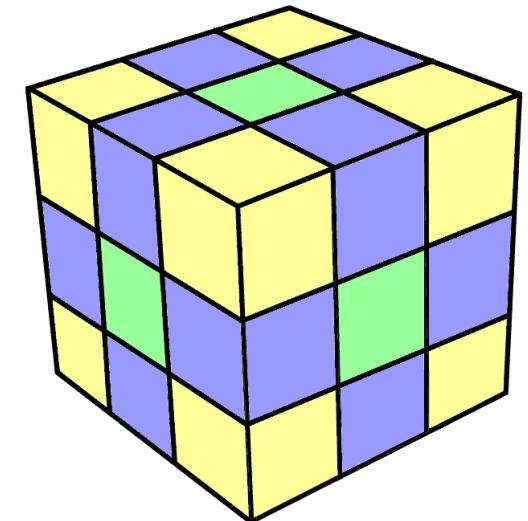


A  $k$ -hyper-cube  $\eta$  is the *Cartesian product of  $k$  closed intervals* of equal length

## Regular Grids:

A **regular grid  $H$**  is a (finite) collection of hyper-cubes such that:

- ◆ *Each face of a hyper-cube of  $H$  is in  $H$*
- ◆ *Each non-empty intersection of two hyper-cubes in  $H$  is a face of both*
- ◆ *The domain of  $H$  is a hyper-cube*

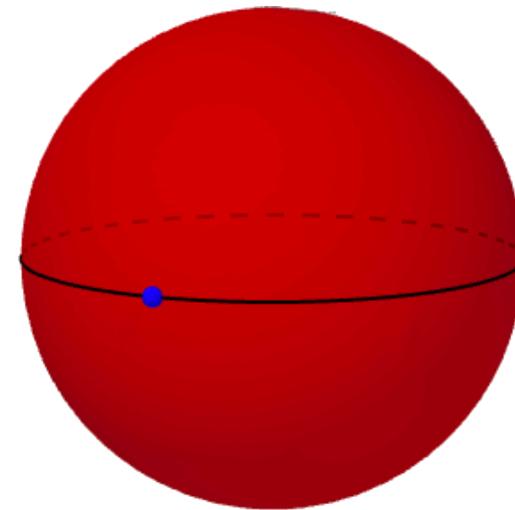
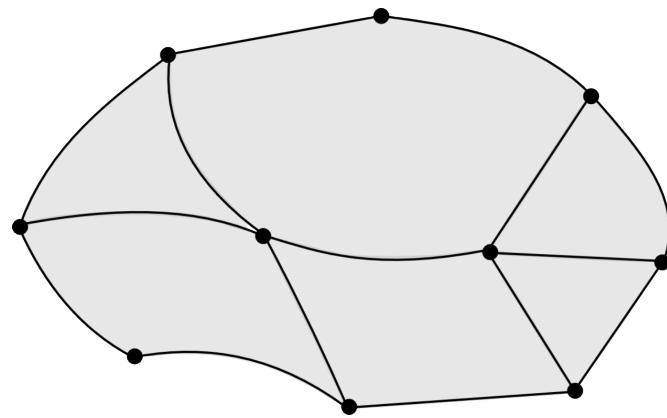


# Cell Complexes

**Intuitively:**

Similarly to simplicial complexes and regular grids,

A **cell complex**  $\Gamma$  is a collection of cells “*suitably glued together*”



Where a ***k*-cell** is a topological space homeomorphic to the ***k*-dimensional open disk  $i(D^k)$**

# Bibliography

## *Some References:*

- ◆ **Simplicial Complexes:**
  - ❖ J. R. Munkres. *Elements of algebraic topology*. CRC Press, 1984.

# *Simplicial Homology*

# Simplicial Homology

Given a topological space  $X$ , the *homology of  $X$*  is a *topological invariant*

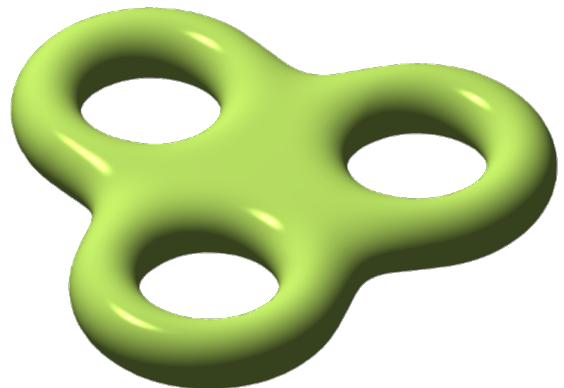
intuition ↑

*detecting the “holes” of  $X$*

*capturing the independent non-bounding cycles of  $X$*

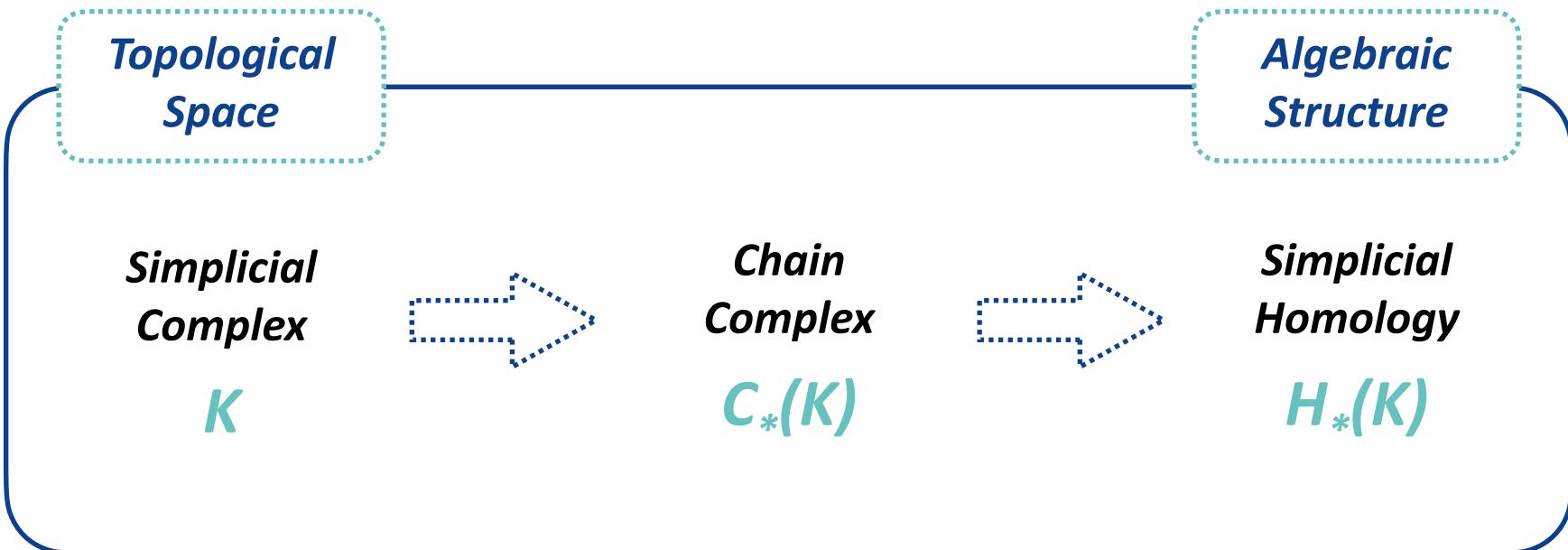
*measuring how far the chain complex associated with  $X$  is from being exact*

↓ formalism



$$\longrightarrow H_k(K) \cong \begin{cases} \mathbb{Z} & \text{for } k = 0 \\ \mathbb{Z}^6 & \text{for } k = 1 \\ \mathbb{Z} & \text{for } k = 2 \end{cases}$$

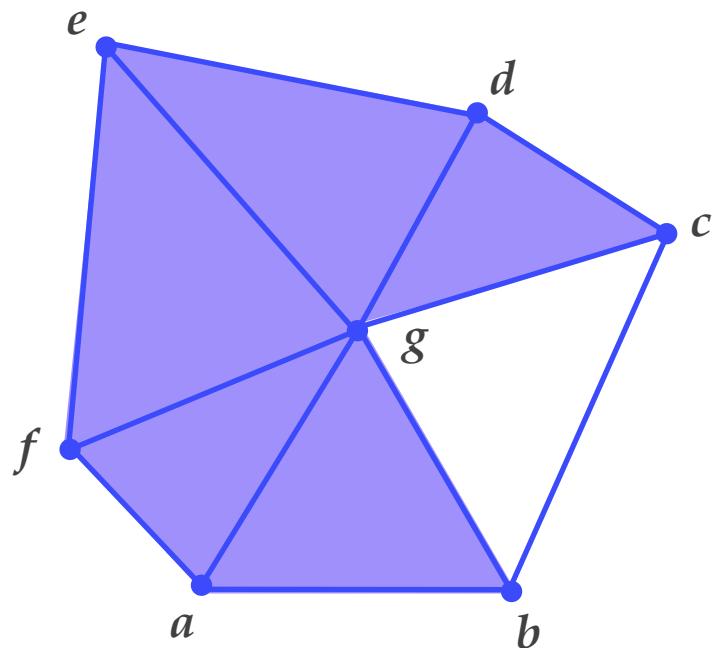
# Simplicial Homology



# Simplicial Homology

Given a simplicial complex  $K$ ,

- ◆ a ***k-chain*** is a formal sum (*with  $\mathbb{Z}_2$  coefficients*) of  $k$ -simplices of  $K$



## Examples:

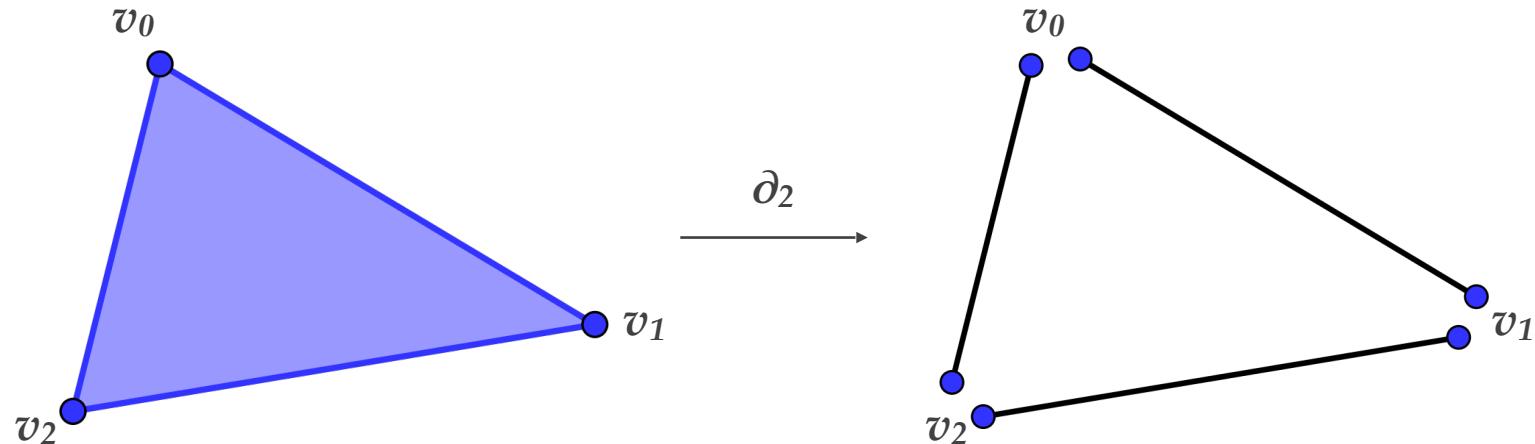
- ◆  $a + b + e$  is a 0-chain
- ◆  $fg + dg + de + eg$  is a 1-chain
- ◆  $abg + afg$  is a 2-chain

# Simplicial Homology

The **chain complex**  $C_*(K)$  associated with  $K$  consists of:

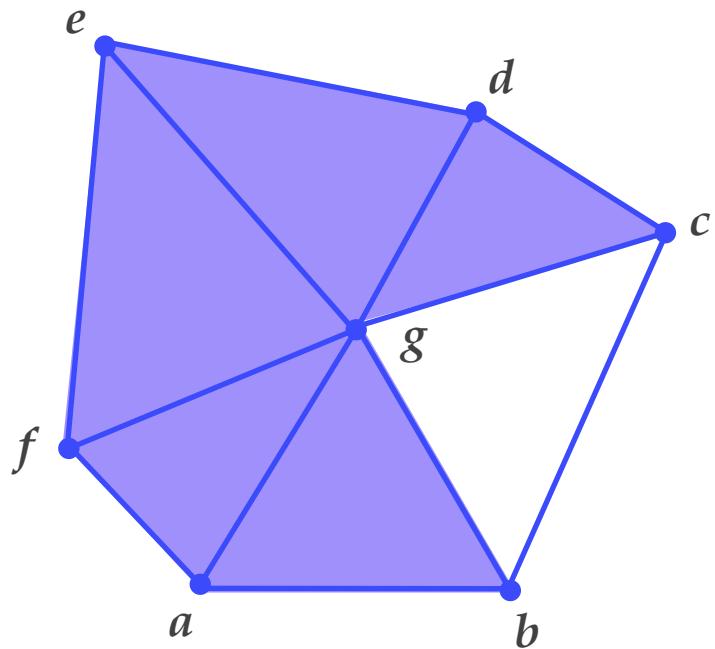
- ◆ a collection  $\{C_k(K)\}_{k \in \mathbb{Z}}$  of vector spaces where  $C_k(K)$  is the **group of the  $k$ -chains** of  $K$
- ◆ a collection  $\{\partial_k\}_{k \in \mathbb{Z}}$  of linear maps where the **boundary map**  $\partial_k : C_k(K) \rightarrow C_{k-1}(K)$  is defined by

$$\partial_k(v_0 \cdots v_k) := \sum_{i=0}^k v_0 \cdots \hat{v}_i \cdots v_k$$



# Simplicial Homology

## Examples:



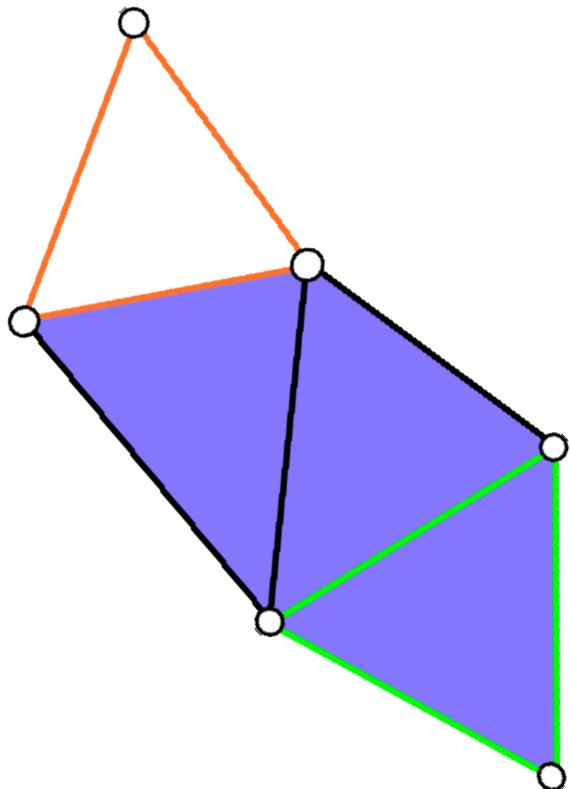
- ◆  $\partial_1( ab ) = a + b$
- ◆  $\partial_1( ab + bc ) = a + 2b + c = a + c$
- ◆  $\partial_2( afg + efg ) = af + ag + 2fg + ef + eg =$   
 $= af + ag + ef + eg$
- ◆  $\partial_1( af + ag + ef + eg ) =$   
 $= 2a + 2f + 2g + 2e = 0$

# Simplicial Homology

## Properties:

- ◆ For  $k < 0$  or  $k > \dim(K)$ ,  $C_k(K)$  is the **null group**
- ◆ For  $k \leq 0$  or  $k > \dim(K)$ ,  $\partial_k$  is the **null map**
- ◆ For any  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $\partial_k \circ \partial_{k+1} = 0$
- ◆ For any  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $Im(\partial_{k+1}) \subseteq Ker(\partial_k)$

# Simplicial Homology



**Definition:**

A  $k$ -chain  $c$  is called:

- ◆  **$k$ -cycle** if  $c \in \text{Ker}(\partial_k)$
- ◆  **$k$ -boundary** if  $c \in \text{Im}(\partial_{k+1})$

***Each  $k$ -boundary is a  $k$ -cycle***

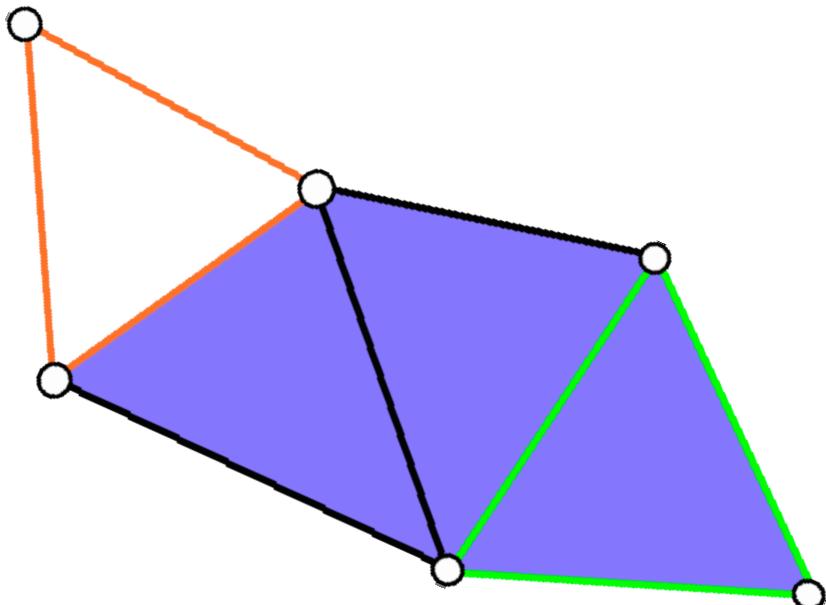
# Simplicial Homology

Given a simplicial complex  $K$ , the  **$k$ -homology group  $H_k(K)$**  of  $K$  is defined as

$$H_k(K) := Z_k(K)/B_k(K)$$

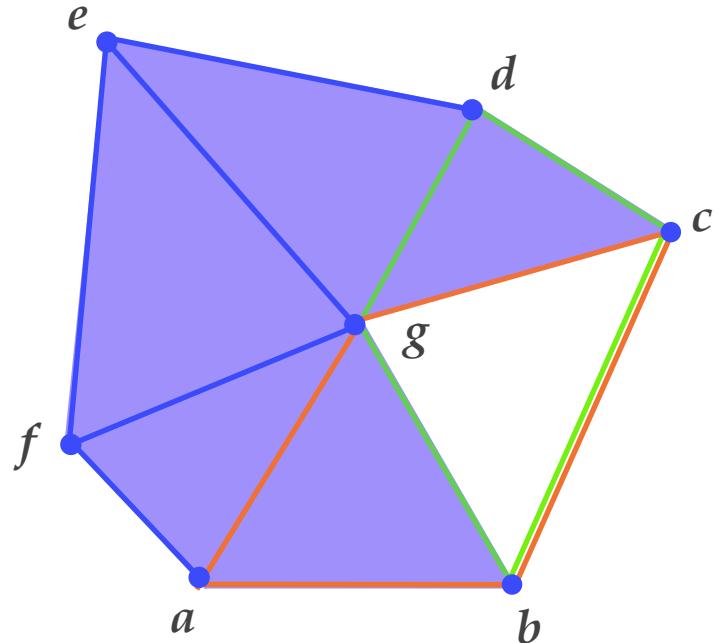
where:

- ◆  $Z_k(K)$  is the **group of  $k$ -cycles** of  $K$
- ◆  $B_k(K)$  is the **group of  $k$ -boundaries** of  $K$



# Simplicial Homology

$H_k(K)$  partitions the  $k$ -cycles into equivalence classes called *homology classes*



**Definition:**

Two  $k$ -cycles are said *homologous* if they belong to the same homology class or, equivalently, *if their difference is a  $k$ -boundary*

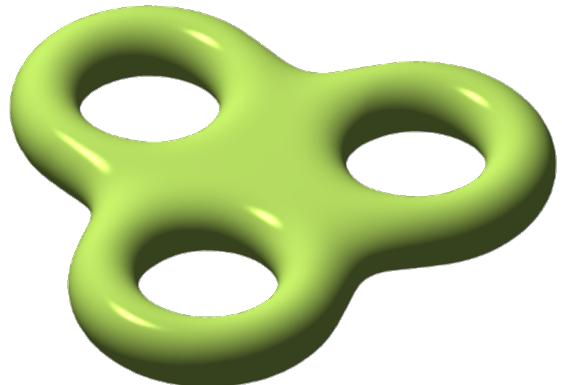
$ab+ag+bc+cg$  is homologous to  $bc+bg+cd+dg$

# Simplicial Homology

**Theorem:**

*Each homology group can be expressed as*

$$H_k(K) \cong (\mathbb{Z}_2)^{\beta_k}$$



$$H_k(K) \cong \begin{cases} \mathbb{Z}_2 & \text{for } k = 0 \\ (\mathbb{Z}_2)^6 & \text{for } k = 1 \\ \mathbb{Z}_2 & \text{for } k = 2 \end{cases}$$

$\beta_k$  is called the *k<sup>th</sup> Betti number* of K

# Simplicial Homology

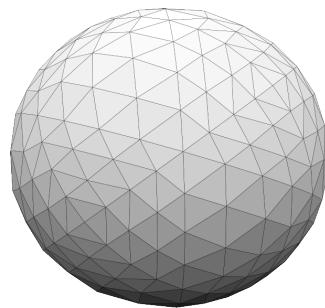
**Examples:**

- ◆ **point  $P$**



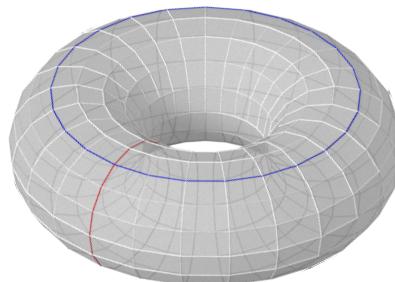
$$\beta_k(P) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{for } k = 0 \\ 0 & \text{for } k > 0 \end{cases}$$

- ◆  **$n$ -dimensional sphere  $S^n$**



$$\beta_k(S^n) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{for } k = 0 \\ 0 & \text{for } 0 < k < n \\ 1 & \text{for } k = n \\ 0 & \text{for } k > n \end{cases}$$

- ◆ **torus  $T$**



$$\beta_k(T) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{for } k = 0 \\ 2 & \text{for } k = 1 \\ 1 & \text{for } k = 2 \\ 0 & \text{for } k > 2 \end{cases}$$

# Simplicial Homology

Homology groups can be defined ***in a more general way*** by choosing coefficients in  $\mathbb{Z}$

**Theorem:**

*Each homology group can be expressed as*

$$H_k(K; \mathbb{Z}) \cong \mathbb{Z}^{\beta_k} \langle c_1, \dots, c_{\beta_k} \rangle \oplus \mathbb{Z}_{\lambda_1} \langle c'_1 \rangle \oplus \dots \oplus \mathbb{Z}_{\lambda_{p_k}} \langle c'_{p_k} \rangle$$

*with*  $\lambda_{i+1} \mid \lambda_i$

We call:

- ◆  $\beta_k$ , the ***k<sup>th</sup> Betti number*** of K
- ◆  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_{p_k}$ , the ***torsion coefficients*** of K
- ◆  $c_1, \dots, c_{\beta_k}, c'_1, \dots, c'_{p_k}$ , the ***homology generators*** of K

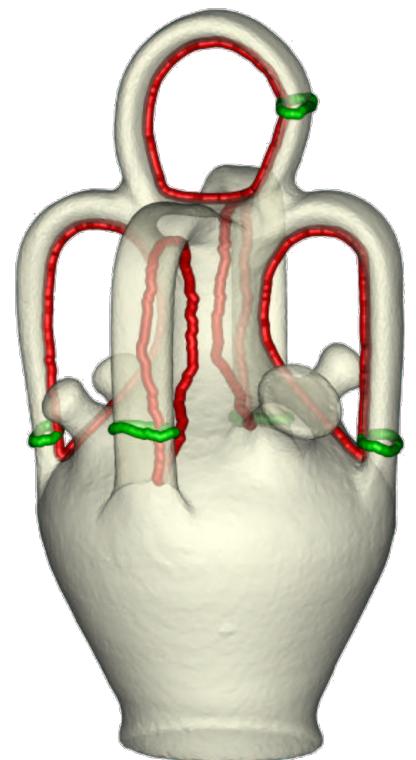


Image from [Dey et al. 2008]

# Simplicial Homology

***Working with coefficients in  $\mathbb{Z}$ :***

*Up to isomorphism, the **Betti numbers** and the **torsion coefficients** of  $K$  completely characterize the **homology groups** of  $K$*

***Working with coefficients in a field  $\mathbb{F}$ :***

*Up to isomorphism, the **Betti numbers** of  $K$  completely characterize the **homology groups** of  $K$*

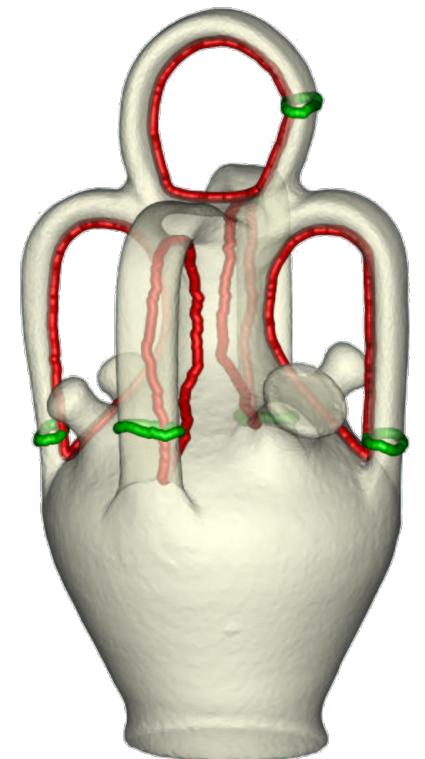
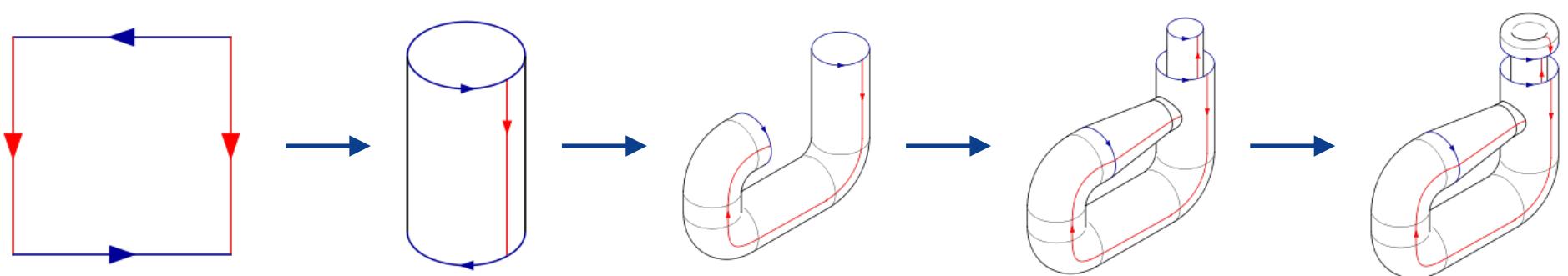
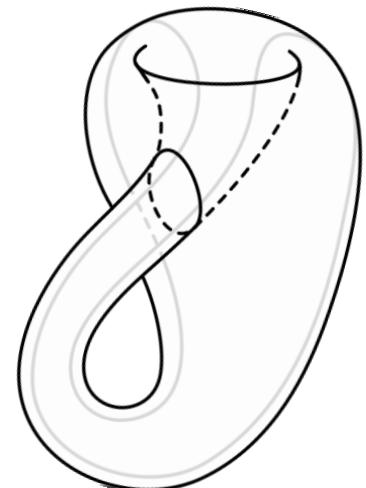


Image from [Dey et al. 2008]

# Simplicial Homology

**Example:**

The **Klein bottle  $K$**  is a non-orientable 2-dimensional manifold embeddable in  $\mathbb{R}^4$  which can be built from a unit square by the following construction



# Simplicial Homology

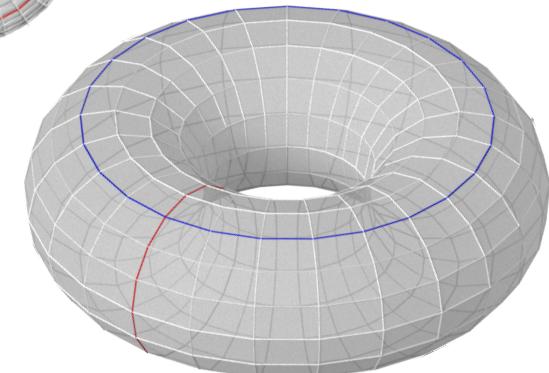
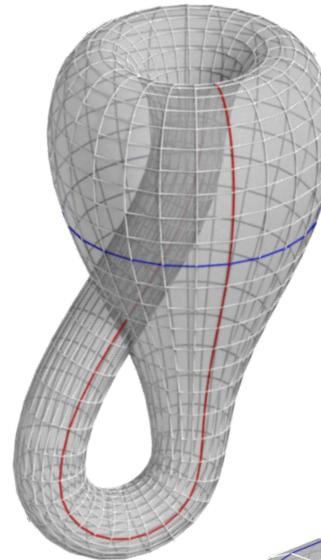
**Example:**

$K$  has the following homology groups

$$H_k(K; \mathbb{Z}) \cong \begin{cases} \mathbb{Z} & \text{for } k = 0 \\ \mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}_2 & \text{for } k = 1 \\ 0 & \text{for } k \geq 2 \end{cases}$$

So, it can be distinguished from a torus  $T$

$$H_k(T; \mathbb{Z}) \cong \begin{cases} \mathbb{Z} & \text{for } k = 0 \\ \mathbb{Z}^2 & \text{for } k = 1 \\ \mathbb{Z} & \text{for } k = 2 \\ 0 & \text{for } k > 2 \end{cases}$$

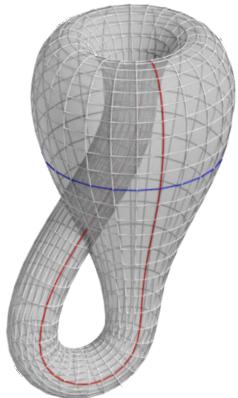


# Simplicial Homology

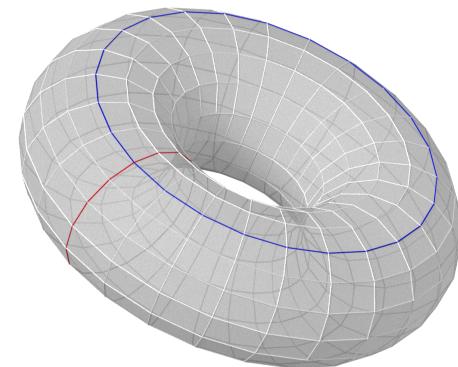
**Example:**

By considering  $\mathbb{Z}_2$  as coefficient group,

the Klein bottle K and the torus T have isomorphic homology groups



$$H_k(K; \mathbb{Z}_2) \cong \begin{cases} \mathbb{Z}_2 & \text{for } k = 0 \\ \mathbb{Z}_2 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_2 & \text{for } k = 1 \\ \mathbb{Z}_2 & \text{for } k = 2 \\ 0 & \text{for } k > 2 \end{cases} \cong H_k(T; \mathbb{Z}_2)$$



# Bibliography

## *Some References:*

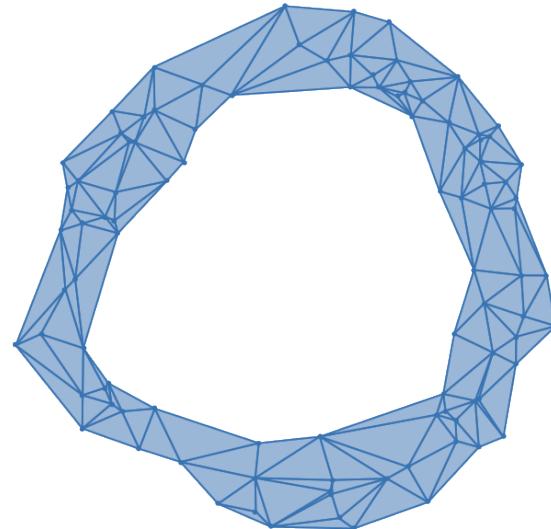
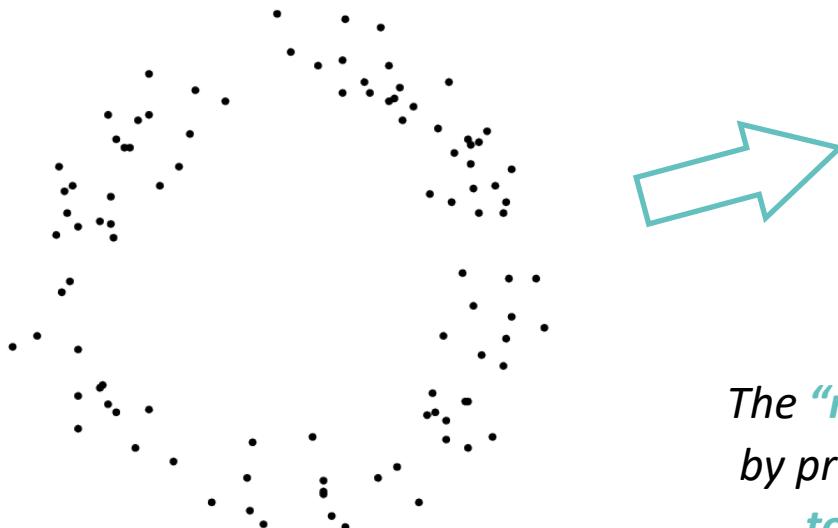
- ◆ **Simplicial Homology:**
  - ❖ J. R. Munkres. *Elements of algebraic topology*. CRC Press, 1984.

# *From Data to Complexes*

# From Data to Complexes

Let us consider a dataset represented by a *finite point cloud  $V$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$*

*Studying the shape of  $V$  just by considering the space consisting of its **points** does not provide any relevant topological information*



*The “real” shape of the dataset can be captured by properly constructing a **complex** connecting together close points through simplices*

# From Data to Complexes

## **Standard Constructions:**

A number of possible choices have been introduced in the literature:

- ◆ **Delaunay triangulations**
  - \* **Voronoi** diagrams
- ◆ **Čech complexes**
- ◆ **Vietoris-Rips complexes**
- ◆ **Alpha-shapes**
- ◆ **Witness complexes**

Most of the above constructions are based on the notion of **Nerve complex**

# From Data to Complexes

## A First Classification:

Given a finite point cloud  $V$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ,

	Output Complex	Dimension	Dependence on a Parameter
Delaunay triangulation	<i>Geometric</i>	$n$	
Čech complex	<i>Abstract</i>	<i>Arbitrary (up to <math> V  - 1</math>)</i>	
Vietoris-Rips complex	<i>Abstract</i>	<i>Arbitrary (up to <math> V  - 1</math>)</i>	
Alpha-shapes	<i>Geometric</i>	$n$	
Witness complexes	<i>Abstract</i>	<i>Arbitrary (up to <math> V  - 1</math>)</i>	

# Nerve Complexes

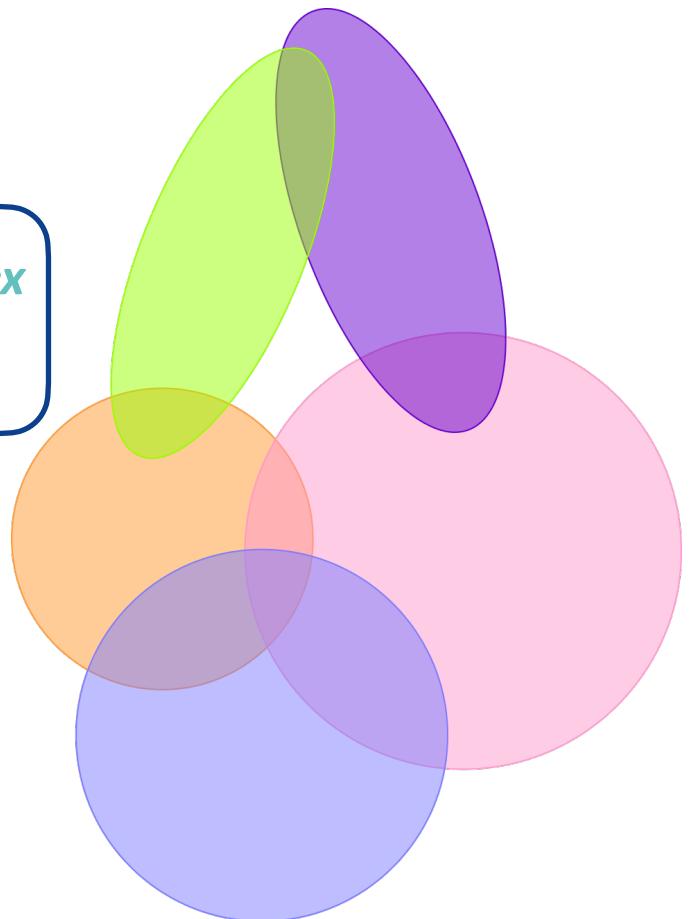
## Definition:

Given a finite collection  $S$  of sets in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ,

The **nerve  $Nrv(S)$**  of  $S$  is the **abstract simplicial complex** generated by the **non-empty common intersections**

Formally,

$$Nrv(S) := \{\sigma \subseteq S \mid \bigcap_{s \in \sigma} s \neq \emptyset\}$$



# Nerve Complexes

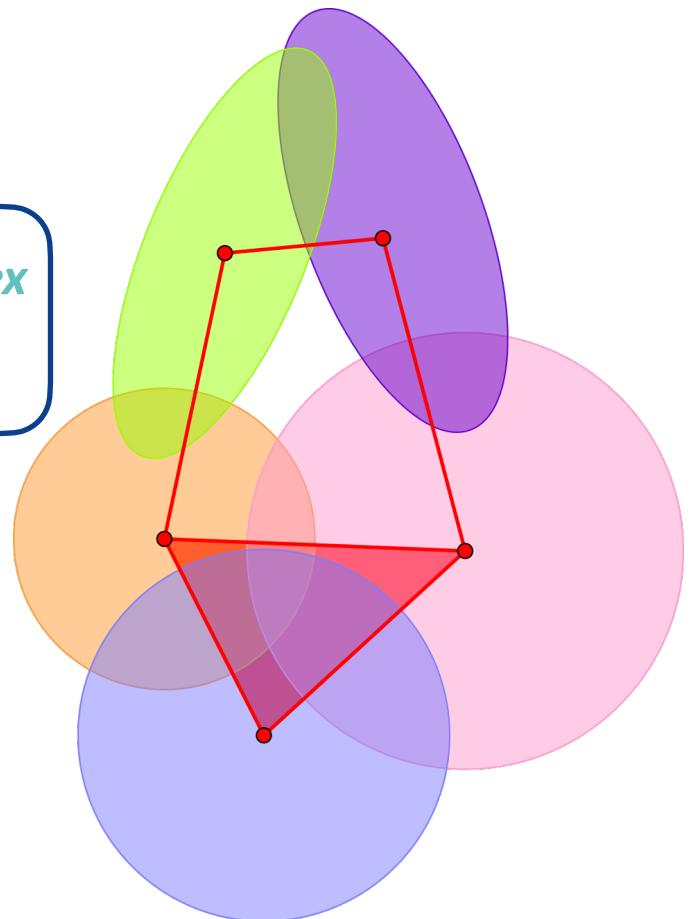
## Definition:

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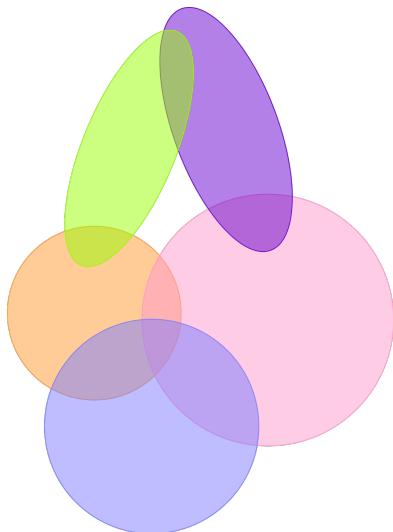
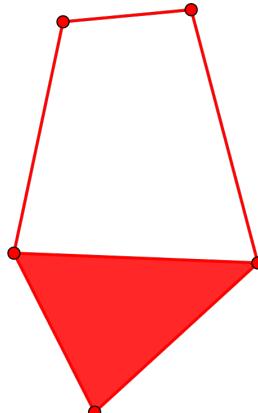
$$Nrv(S) := \{\sigma \subseteq S \mid \bigcap_{s \in \sigma} s \neq \emptyset\}$$



# Nerve Complexes

## **Nerve Theorem:**

If  $S$  is a finite collection of **convex** sets in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , then the **nerve of  $S$**  and the **union of the sets in  $S$**  are **homotopy equivalent** (and so they have the same homology)

 $\approx$ 

# Nerve Complexes

Nerve Theorem can be *generalized* by replacing the **convexity** of sets in  $S$  with the request that all non-empty common intersections are **contractible**  
*(i.e. that can be continuously shrunk to a point)*

**Original Nerve Theorem:**

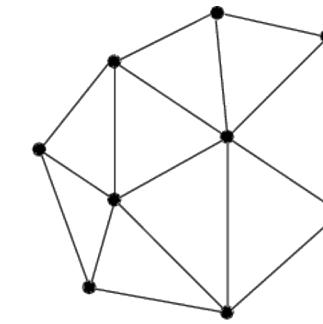
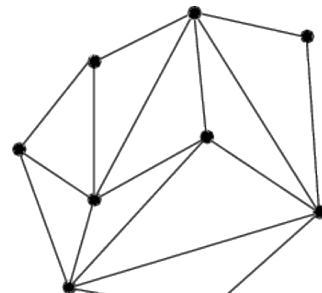
If  $S$  is an open cover of a (para)**compact** space  $X$  such that every non-empty intersection of finitely many sets in  $S$  is **contractible**, then  $X$  is **homotopy equivalent** to the nerve  $\text{Nrv}(S)$

# Delaunay Triangulations

Given a finite point cloud  $V$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ,

The **Delaunay triangulation** of  $V$  is a classic notion in Computational Geometry:

- ◆ Producing a “nice” triangulation of  $V$ 
  - ❖ free of long and skinny triangles
- ◆ Named after **Boris Delaunay** for his work on this topic from 1934
- ◆ Originally defined for sets of points in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  but generalizable to arbitrary dimensions



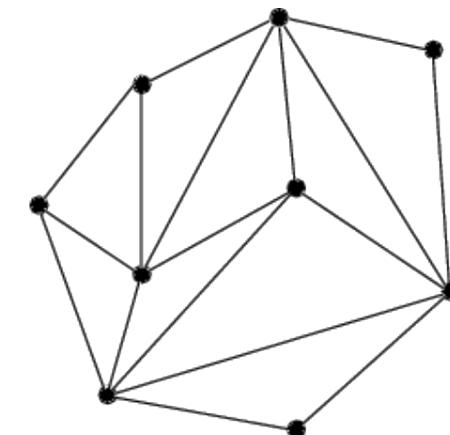
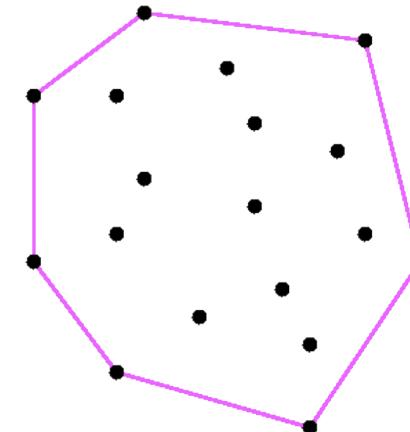
Images from [De Floriani 2003]

# Delaunay Triangulations

## Definitions:

Given a finite point cloud  $V$  in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ ,

- ◆ The **convex hull** of  $V$  is the **smallest convex** subset  $CH(V)$  of  $\mathbb{R}^2$  containing all the points of  $V$
- ◆ A **triangulation** of  $V$  is A **2-dimensional simplicial complex  $K$**  such that:
  - ❖ The domain of  $K$  is  $CH(V)$
  - ❖ The 0-simplices of  $K$  are the points in  $V$



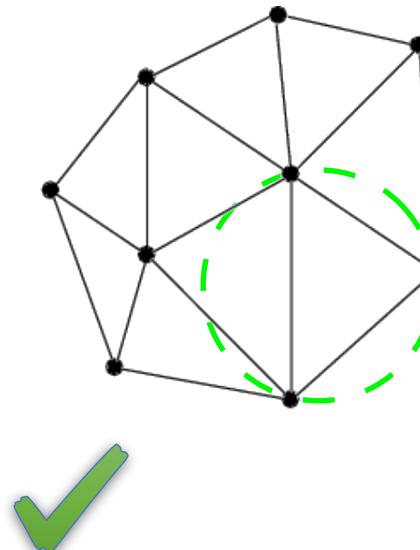
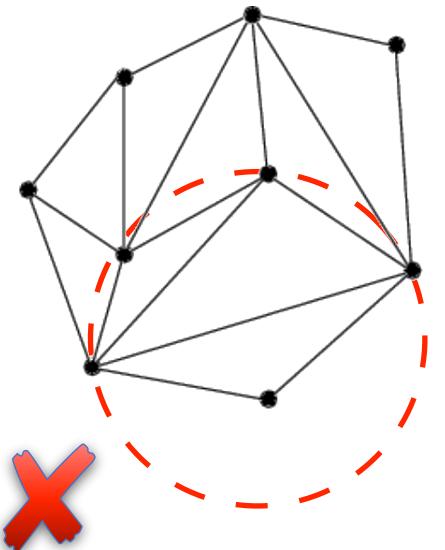
Images from [De Floriani 2003]

# Delaunay Triangulations

## Definition:

A **Delaunay triangulation** is a triangulation  $\text{Del}(V)$  of  $V$  such that:

the **circumcircle of any triangle** does **not contain any point** of  $V$  in its interior



# Delaunay Triangulations

## Definition:

A finite set of points  $V$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is *in general position* if no  $n + 2$  of the points lie on a common  $(n - 1)$ -sphere

E.g., for  $n = 2$ ,

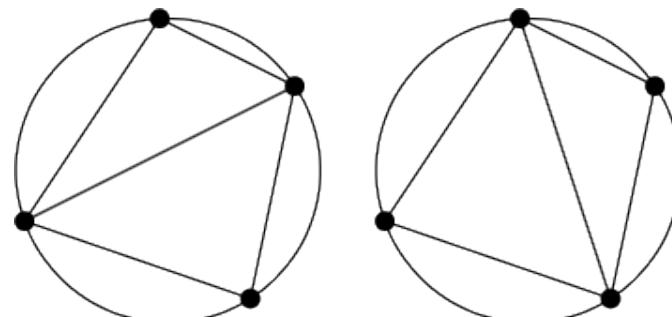
$V$  in general position



No four or more points are co-circular

## Theorem:

If  $V$  is in general position, then  $\text{Del}(V)$  is *unique*



Images from [De Floriani 2003]

# Delaunay Triangulations

## Definitions:

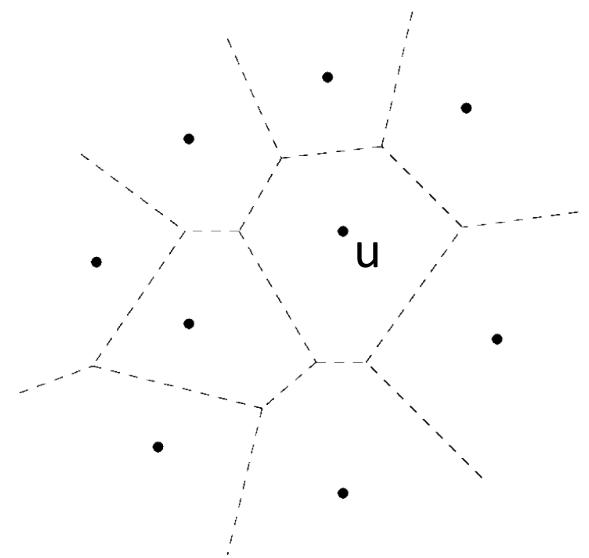
The **Voronoi region** of  $u$  in  $V$  is the set of points of  $\mathbb{R}^2$  for which  $u$  is the closest

$$R_V(u) := \{x \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid \forall v \in V, d(x, u) \leq d(x, v)\}$$

- ◆ Any Voronoi region is a **convex** closed subset of  $\mathbb{R}^2$
- ◆ A Voronoi region is **not necessarily bounded**

The **Voronoi diagram** is the collection  **$Vor(V)$**

of the Voronoi regions of the points of  $V$



Images from [De Floriani 2003]

# Delaunay Triangulations

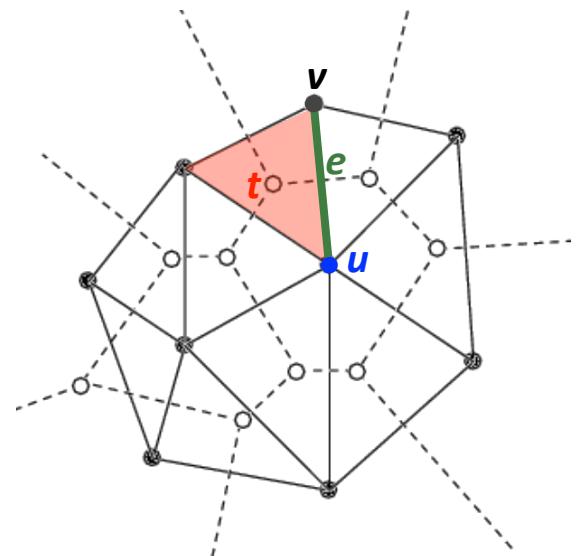
## Duality Property:

If  $V$  is in general position, then

the **Delaunay triangulation** coincides with the **nerve of the Voronoi diagram**

$$\text{Del}(V) = \{\sigma \subseteq V \mid \bigcap_{u \in \sigma} R_V(u) \neq \emptyset\}$$

- ◆ Each **point  $u$**  of  $V$  corresponds to a Voronoi region  $R_V(u)$
- ◆ Each **triangle  $t$**  of  $\text{Del}(V)$  corresponds to a vertex in  $\text{Vor}(V)$
- ◆ Each **edge  $e=(u,v)$**  in  $\text{Del}(V)$  corresponds to an edge shared by the two Voronoi regions  $R_V(u)$  and  $R_V(v)$



Images from [De Floriani 2003]

# Delaunay Triangulations

## Algorithms:

- ◆ **Two-step algorithms:**
  - ❖ Computation of an arbitrary triangulation  $K'$
  - ❖ Optimization of  $K'$  to produce a Delaunay triangulation
- ◆ **Incremental algorithms [Guibas, Stolfi 1983; Watson 1981]:**
  - ❖ Modification of an existing Delaunay triangulation while adding a new vertex at a time
- ◆ **Divide-and-conquer algorithms [Shamos 1978; Lee, Schacter 1980]:**
  - ❖ Recursive partition of the point set into two halves
  - ❖ Merging of the computed partial solutions
- ◆ **Sweep-line algorithms [Fortune 1989]:**
  - ❖ Step-wise construction of a Delaunay triangulation while moving a sweep-line in the plane

# Delaunay Triangulations

## **Watson's Algorithm:**

A Delaunay triangulation is computed by **incrementally adding a single point** to an existing Delaunay triangulation

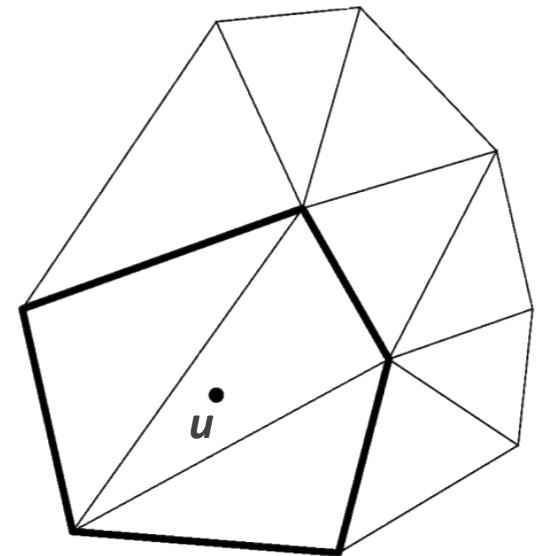
Let  $V_i$  be a subset of  $V$  and let  $u$  be a point in  $V \setminus V_i$ ,

### **Input:**

$\text{Del}(V_i)$ , a Delaunay triangulation of  $V_i$

### **Output:**

$\text{Del}(V_{i+1})$ , a Delaunay triangulation of  $V_{i+1} := V_i \cup \{u\}$



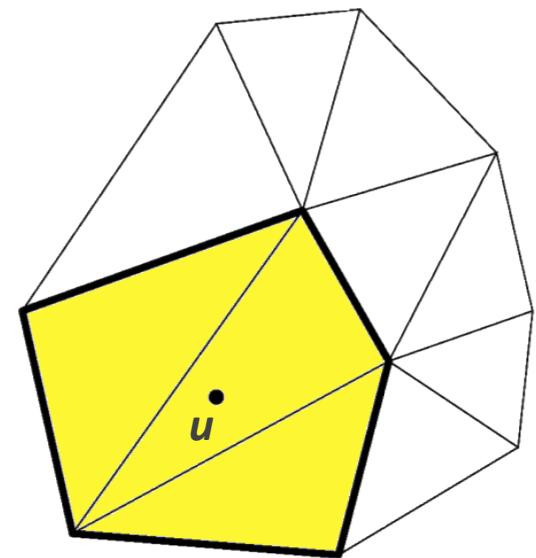
Images from [De Floriani 2003]

# Delaunay Triangulations

## Watson's Algorithm:

Given a Delaunay triangulation  $\text{Del}(V_i)$  of  $V_i$  and a point  $u$  in  $V \setminus V_i$ ,

- ◆ The **influence region  $R_u$**  of a point  $u$  is the region in the plane formed by the union of the triangles in  $\text{Del}(V_i)$  whose circumcircle contains  $u$  in its interior
- ◆ The **influence polygon  $P_u$**  of  $u$  is the polygon formed by the edges of the triangles of  $\text{Del}(V_i)$  which bound  $R_u$



# Delaunay Triangulations

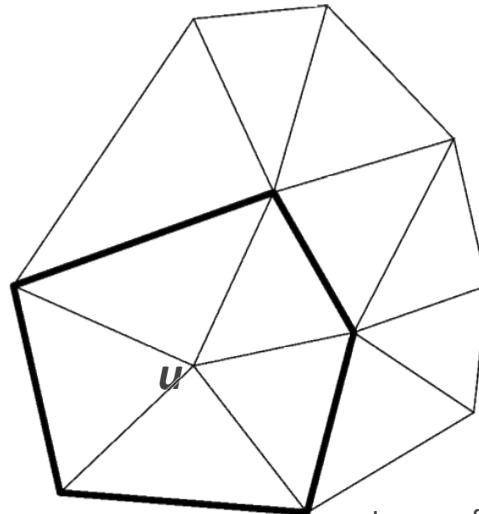
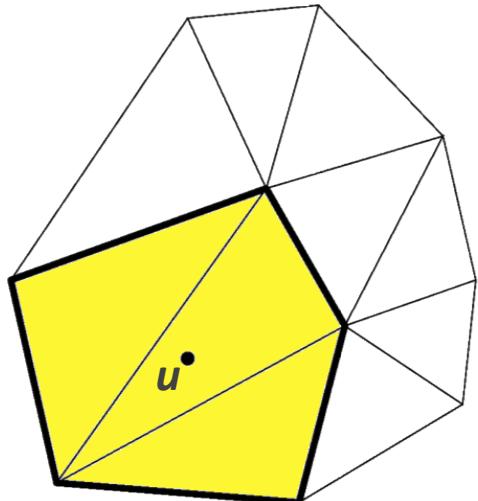
## Watson's Algorithm:

- ◆ Step 1:

Deletion of the triangles of  $\text{Del}(V_i)$  forming the *influence region*  $R_u$

- ◆ Step 2:

*Re-triangulation of  $R_u$*  by joining  $u$  to the vertices of the influence polygon  $P_u$



Images from [De Floriani 2003]

# Delaunay Triangulations

## Watson's Algorithm:

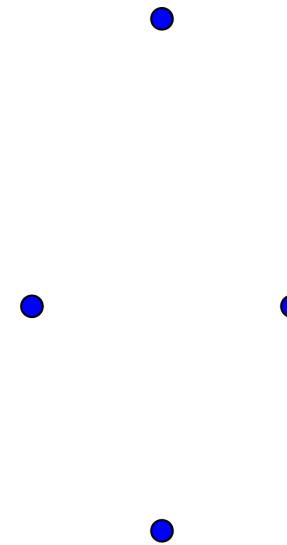
Let  $N_i = |V_i|$

- ◆ *Detection of a triangle of  $\text{Del}(V_i)$  containing the new point  $u$ :  $O(N_i)$  in the worst case*
  - ◆ *Detection of the triangles forming the region of influence through a breadth-first search:  $O(|R_u|)$*
  - ◆ *Re-triangulation of  $P_u$  is in  $O(|P_u|)$*
- 
- ◆ *Inserting a point  $u$  in a triangulation with  $N_i$  vertices:  $O(N_i)$  in the worst case*
  - ◆ *Inserting all points of  $V$ :  $O(N^2)$  in the worst case, where  $N = |V|$*

# Čech Complexes

## *Definition:*

Given a finite set of points  $V$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , let us consider:

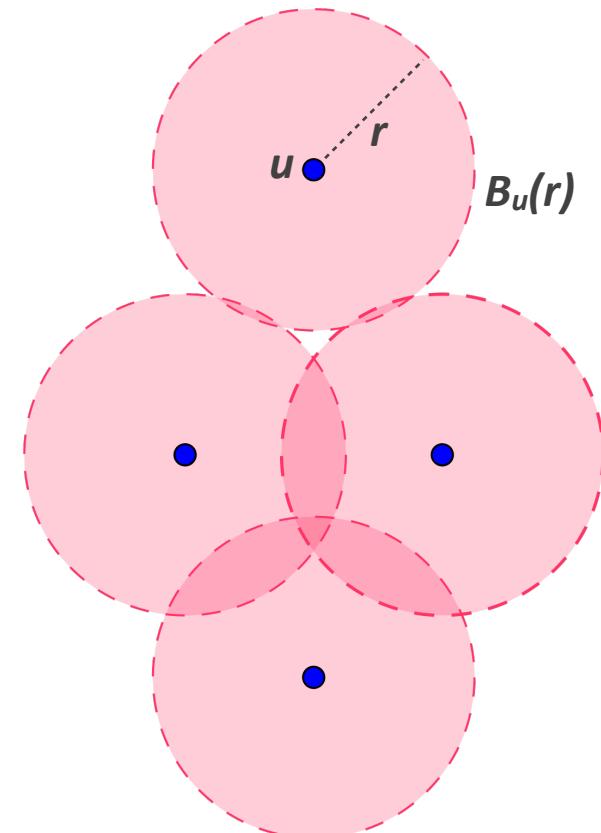


# Čech Complexes

## ***Definition:***

Given a finite set of points  $V$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , let us consider:

- ◆  $B_u(r)$ , the **closed ball** with **center  $u \in V$**  and **radius  $r$**
- ◆  $S$ , the collection of these balls



# Čech Complexes

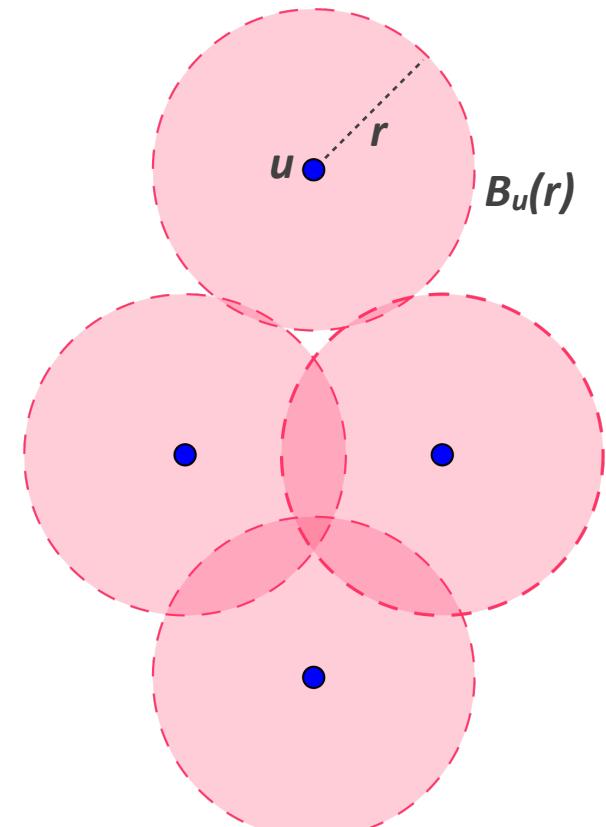
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- ◆  $B_u(r)$ , the **closed ball** with **center  $u \in V$**  and **radius  $r$**
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The **Čech complex**  $\check{C}ech(r)$  of  $V$   
of radius  $r$  is the **nerve of  $S$**

$$\check{C}ech(r) := \{\sigma \subseteq V \mid \bigcap_{u \in \sigma} B_u(r) \neq \emptyset\}$$



# Čech Complexes

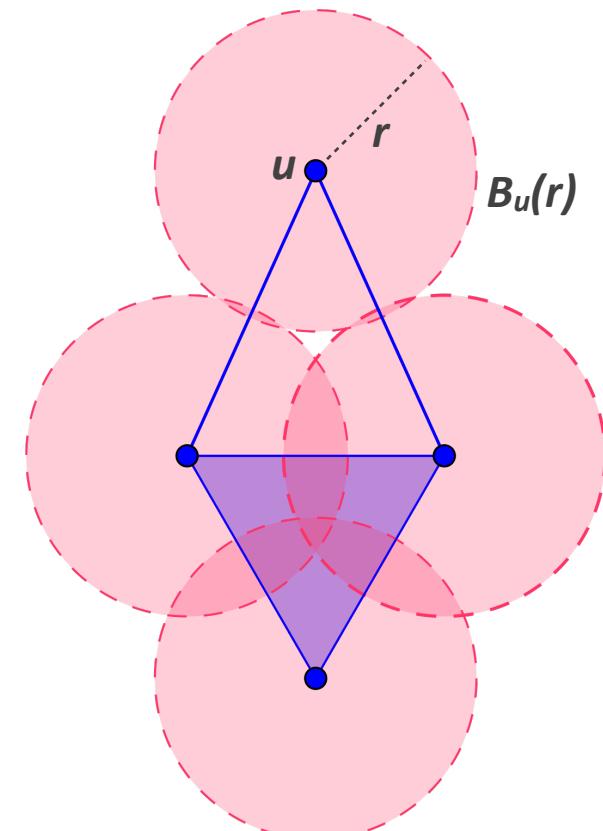
## Definition:

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# Čech Complexes

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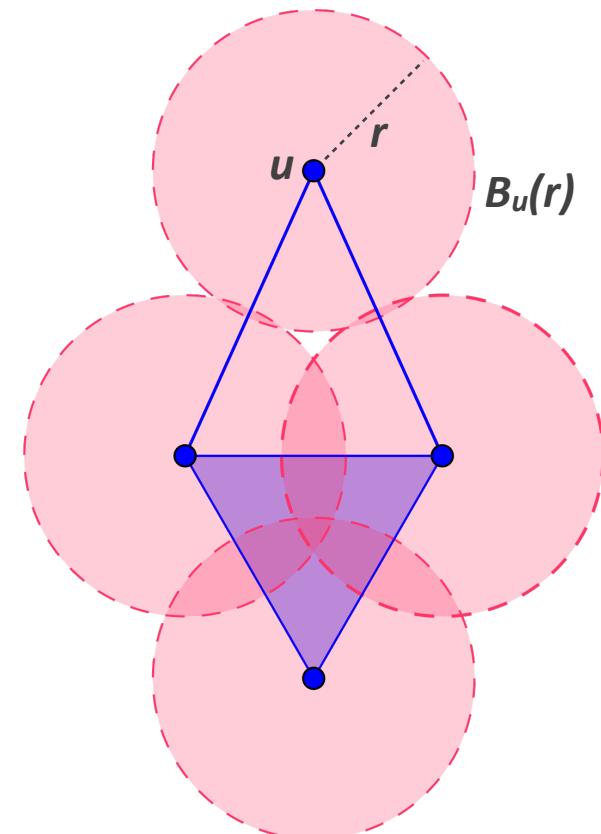
- ◆  $B_u(r)$ , the **closed ball** with **center  $u \in V$**  and **radius  $r$**
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In practice, **infeasible construction**



# Vietoris-Rips Complexes

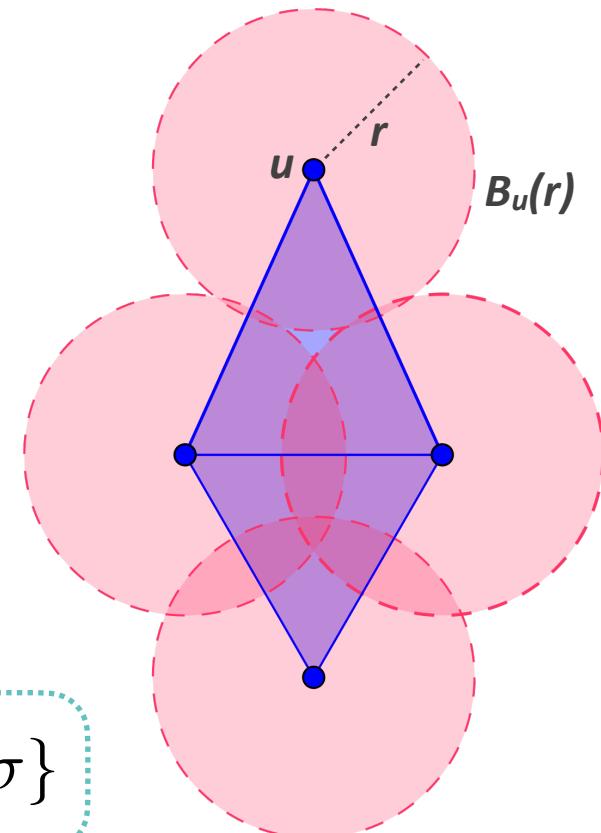
## Definition:

Given a finite set of points  $V$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ,

The **Vietoris-Rips complex**  $VR(r)$  of  $V$  and  $r$  is the **abstract simplicial complex** consisting of all **subsets of diameter at most  $2r$**

Formally,

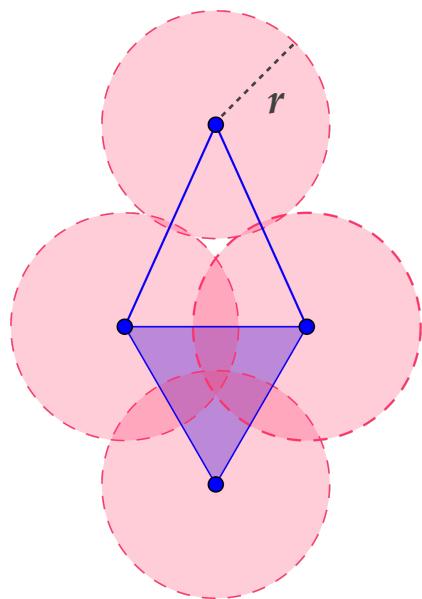
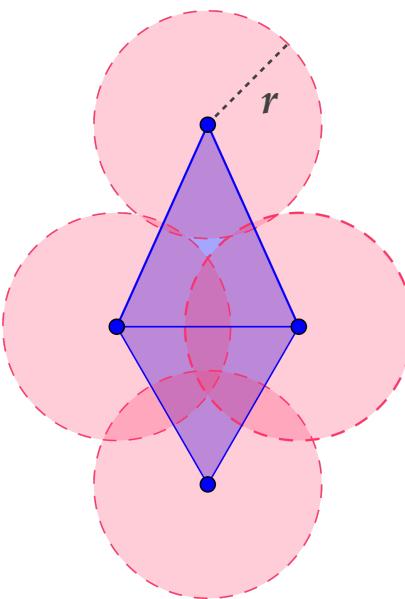
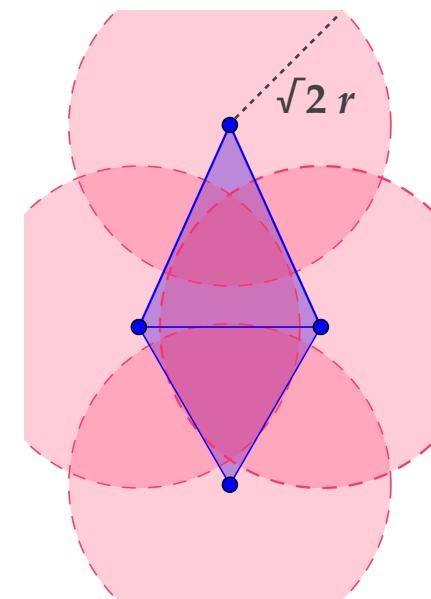
$$VR(r) := \{\sigma \subseteq V \mid d(u, v) \leq 2r, \forall u, v \in \sigma\}$$



# Vietoris-Rips Complexes

## Properties:

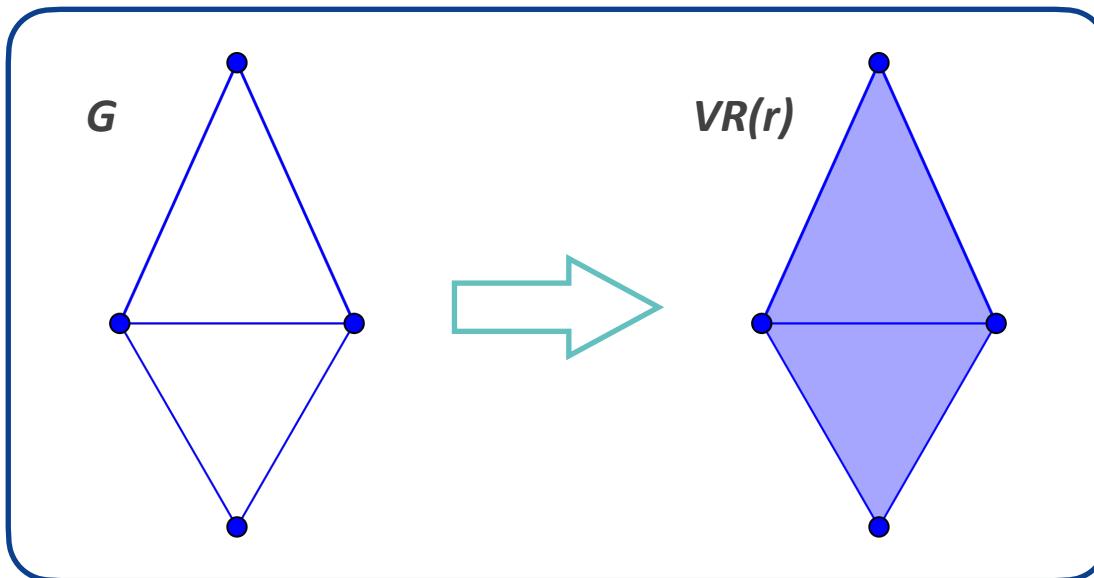
- $\check{\text{C}}\text{ech}(r) \subseteq VR(r) \subseteq \check{\text{C}}\text{ech}(\sqrt{2}r)$

 $\subseteq$  $\subseteq$ 

# Vietoris-Rips Complexes

## Properties:

- ◆  $\check{C}ech(r) \subseteq VR(r) \subseteq \check{C}ech(\sqrt{2}r)$
- ◆  **$VR(r)$**  is completely determined by its 1-skeleton
  - ❖ I.e. the graph  **$G$**  of its vertices and its edges



# Vietoris-Rips Complexes

## Algorithms:

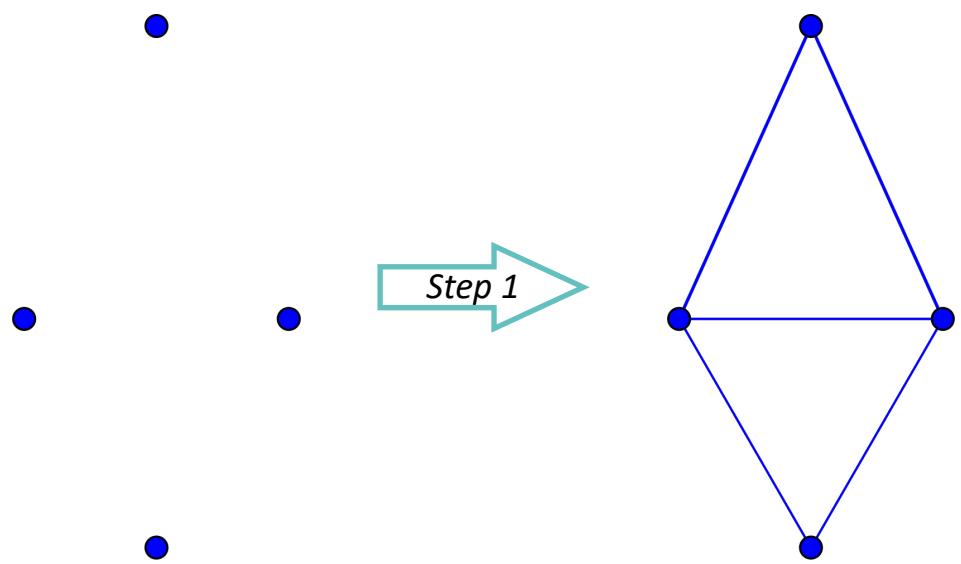
Input: A finite set of points  $V$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  and a real positive number  $r$

Output: The Vietoris-Rips complex  $VR(r)$

A **two-step** approach is typically adopted:

◆ ***Step 1 - Skeleton Computation:***

- ❖ *Exact (  $O(|V|^2)$  time complexity )*
- ❖ *Approximate*
- ❖ *Randomized*
- ❖ *Landmarking*



◆ ***Step 2 - Vietoris-Rips Expansion:***

- ❖ *Inductive*
- ❖ *Incremental*
- ❖ *Maximal*

# Vietoris-Rips Complexes

## Algorithms:

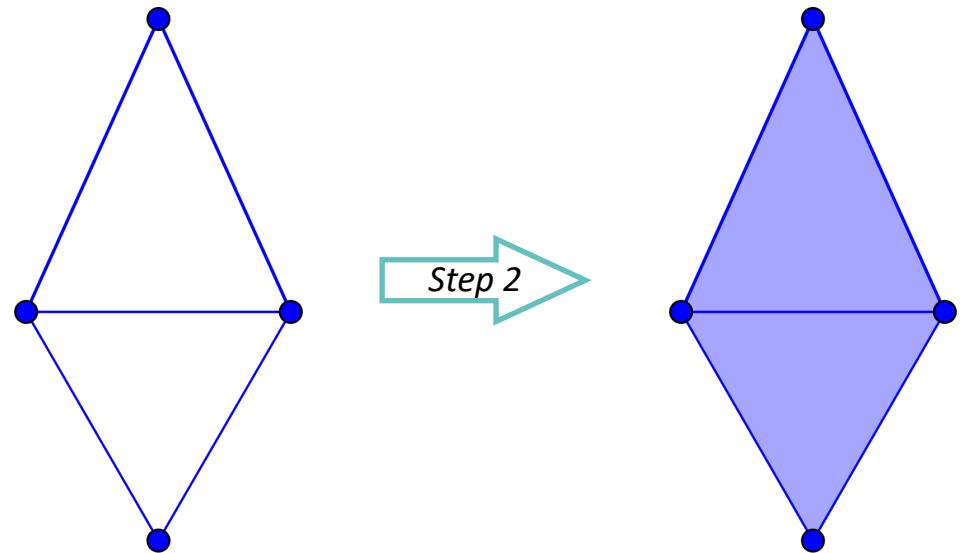
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◆ **Step 2 - Vietoris-Rips Expansion:**

- ❖ *Inductive*
- ❖ *Incremental*
- ❖ *Maximal*

# Vietoris-Rips Complexes

**Inductive VR expansion:**

Input: The 1-skeleton  $G = (V, E)$  of  $VR(r)$

Output: The  $k$ -skeleton  $K$  of the Vietoris-Rips complex  $VR(r)$

**INDUCTIVE-VR( $G, k$ )**

$K = V \cup E$

**for**  $i = 1$  **to**  $k$

**foreach**  $i$ -simplex  $\sigma \in K$

$N = \cap_{u \in \sigma} LOWER-NBRS(G, u)$

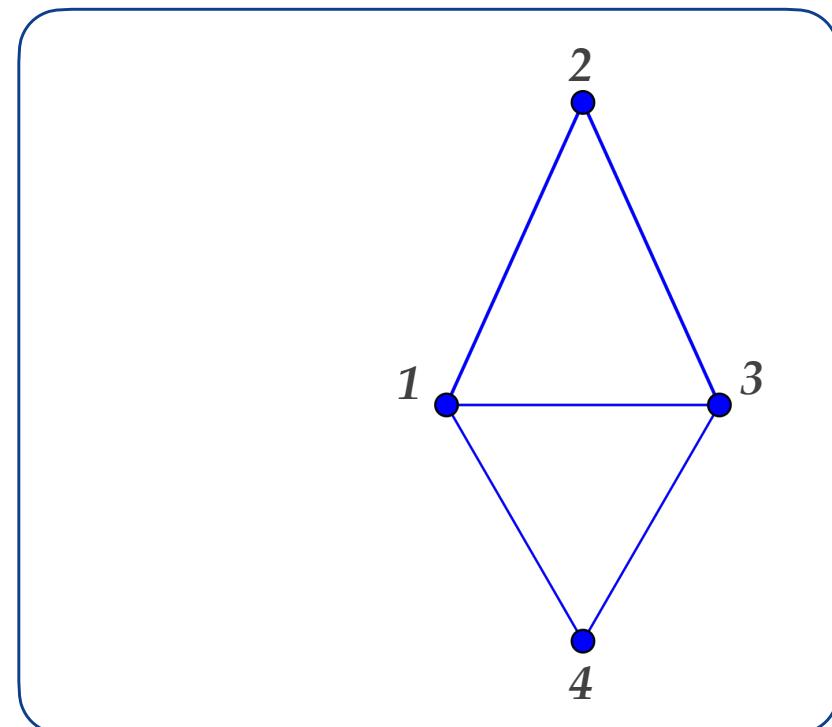
**foreach**  $v \in N$

$K = K \cup \{ \sigma \cup \{v\} \}$

**return**  $K$

**LOWER-NBRS( $G, u$ )**

**return**  $\{v \in V \mid v < u, (u, v) \in E\}$



# Vietoris-Rips Complexes

## **Inductive VR expansion:**

**Input:** The 1-skeleton  $G = (V, E)$  of  $\text{VR}(r)$

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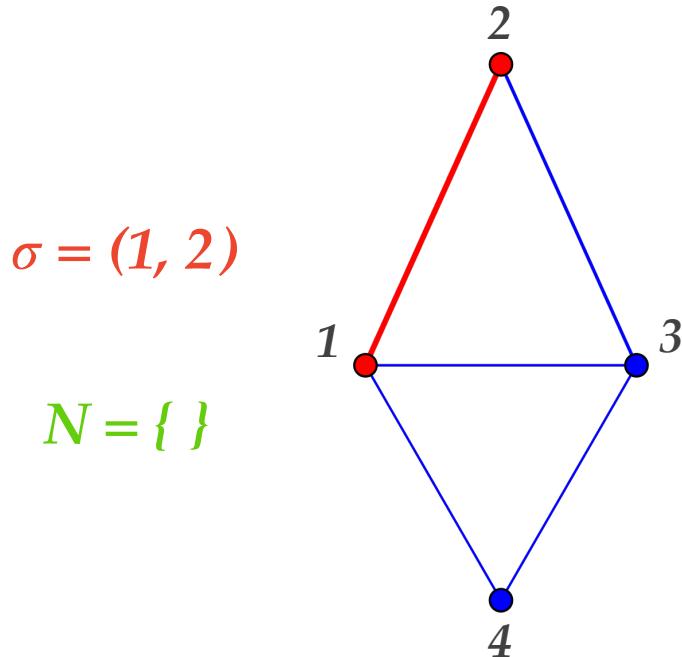
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# Vietoris-Rips Complexes

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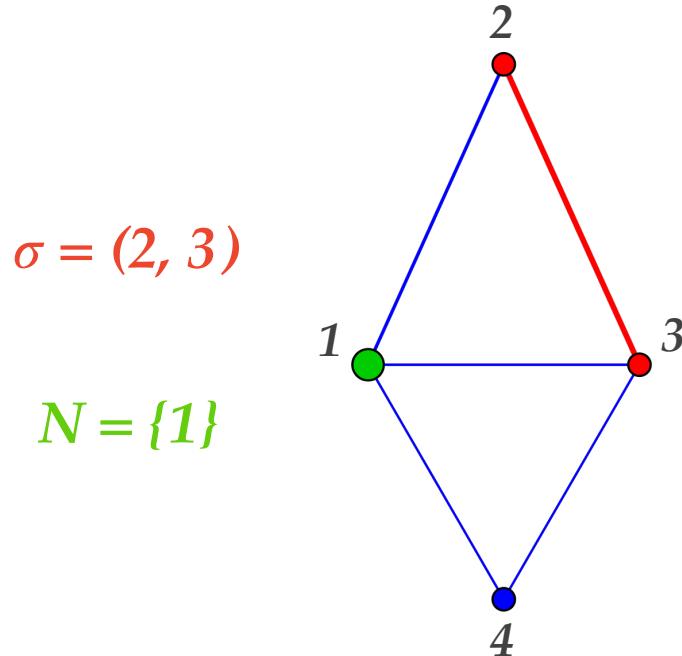
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# Vietoris-Rips Complexes

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Input: The 1-skeleton  $G = (V, E)$  of  $\text{VR}(r)$

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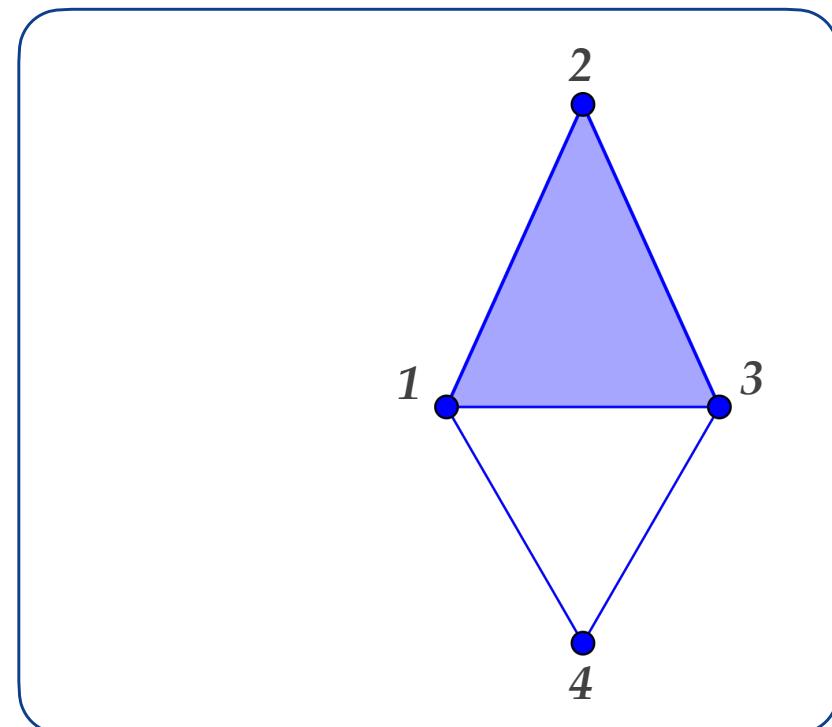
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# Vietoris-Rips Complexes

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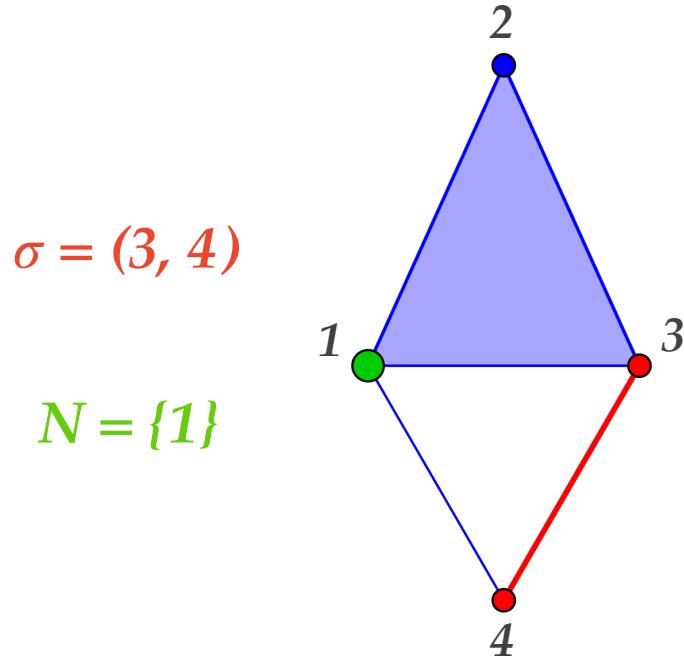
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**return**  $K$

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# Vietoris-Rips Complexes

**Inductive VR expansion:**

Input: The 1-skeleton  $G = (V, E)$  of  $VR(r)$

Output: The  $k$ -skeleton  $K$  of the Vietoris-Rips complex  $VR(r)$

**INDUCTIVE-VR( $G, k$ )**

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**for**  $i = 1$  **to**  $k$

**foreach**  $i$ -simplex  $\sigma \in K$

$N = \cap_{u \in \sigma} LOWER-NBRS(G, u)$

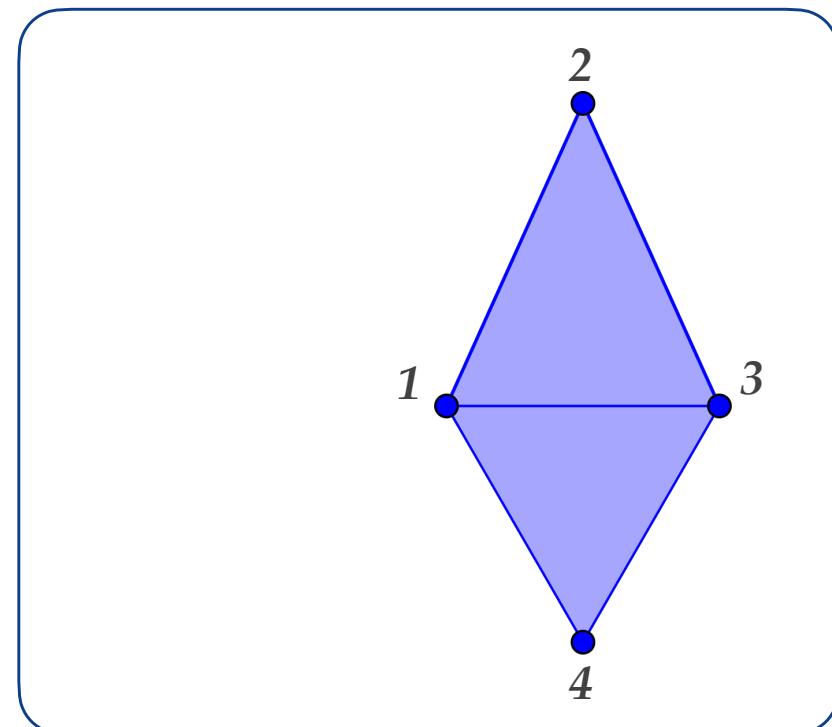
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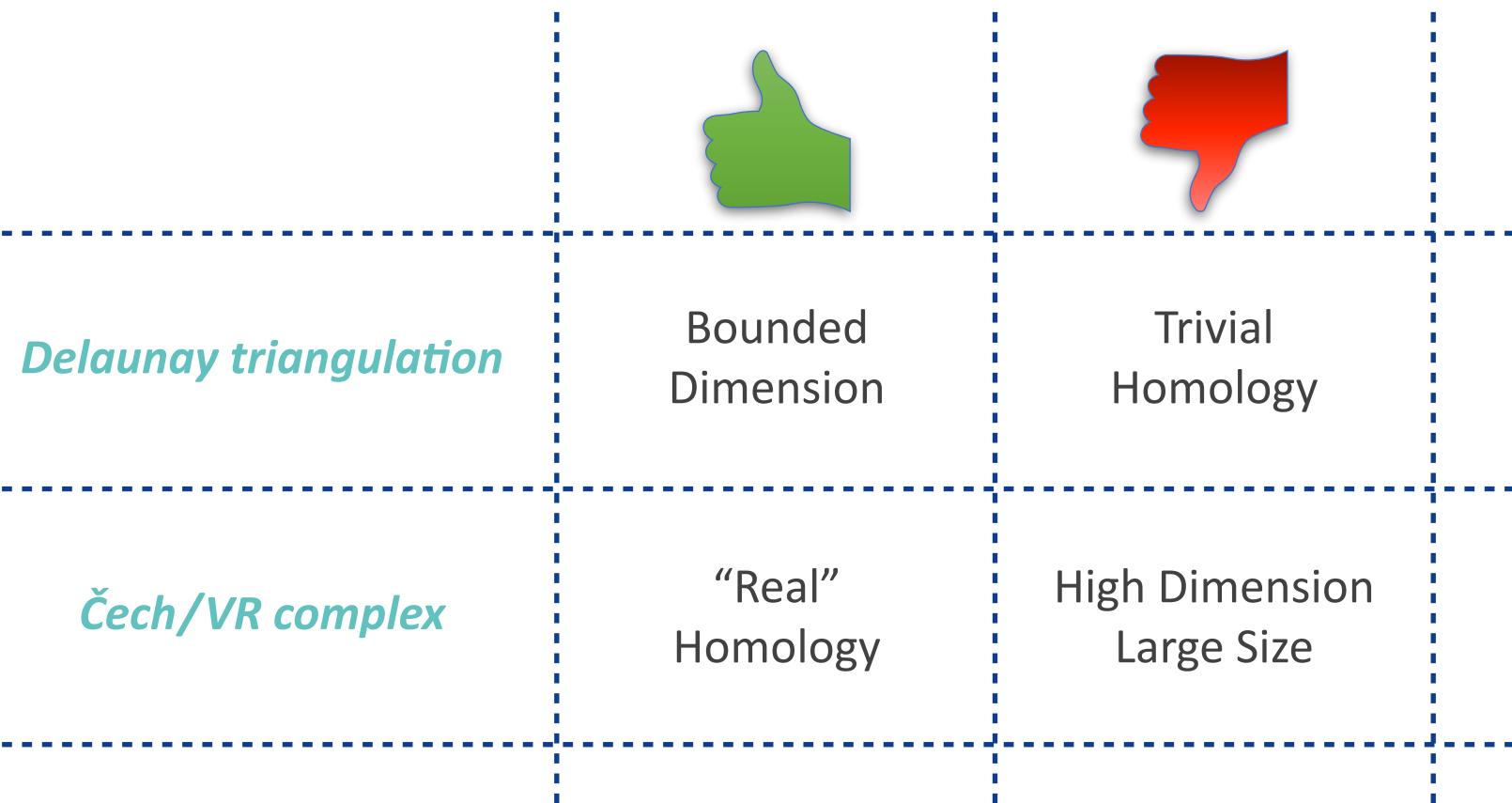
**return**  $K$

**LOWER-NBRS( $G, u$ )**

**return**  $\{v \in V \mid v < u, (u, v) \in E\}$



# From Data to Complexes



# Alpha-Shapes

## Definition:

Given a finite set of points  $V$  in general position of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , let us consider:

- ◆  $A_u(r) := B_u(r) \cap R_V(u)$ , the *intersection* of the *closed ball* with *center*  $u \in V$  and *radius*  $r$  and the *Voronoi region* of  $u$
- ◆  $S$ , the collection of these convex sets

The *alpha-shape Alpha(r)* of  $V$  of radius  $r$  is the *nerve of S*

Formally,

$$\text{Alpha}(r) := \{\sigma \subseteq V \mid \bigcap_{u \in \sigma} A_u(r) \neq \emptyset\}$$

$$A_u(r) \subseteq B_u(r) \quad \rightarrow \quad \text{Alpha}(r) \subseteq \check{\text{C}}ech(r)$$

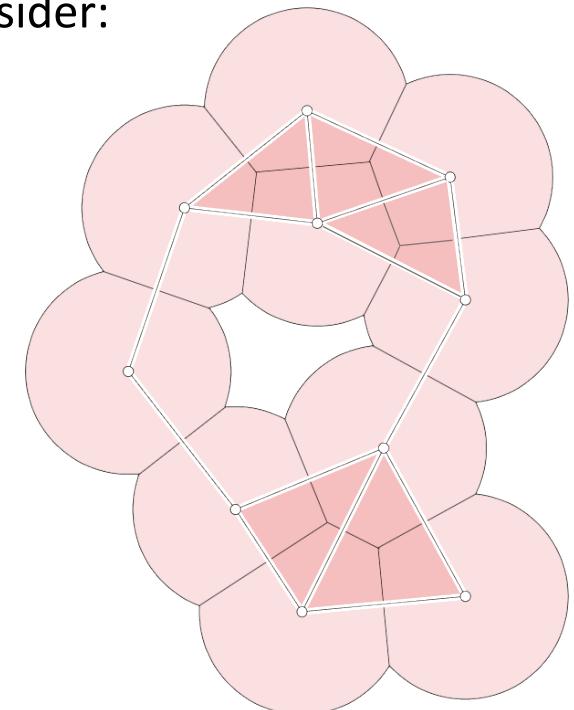


Image from [Edelsbrunner, Harer 2010]

# Witness Complexes

## Motivation:

The “shape” of a point cloud can be captured *without considering all the input points*

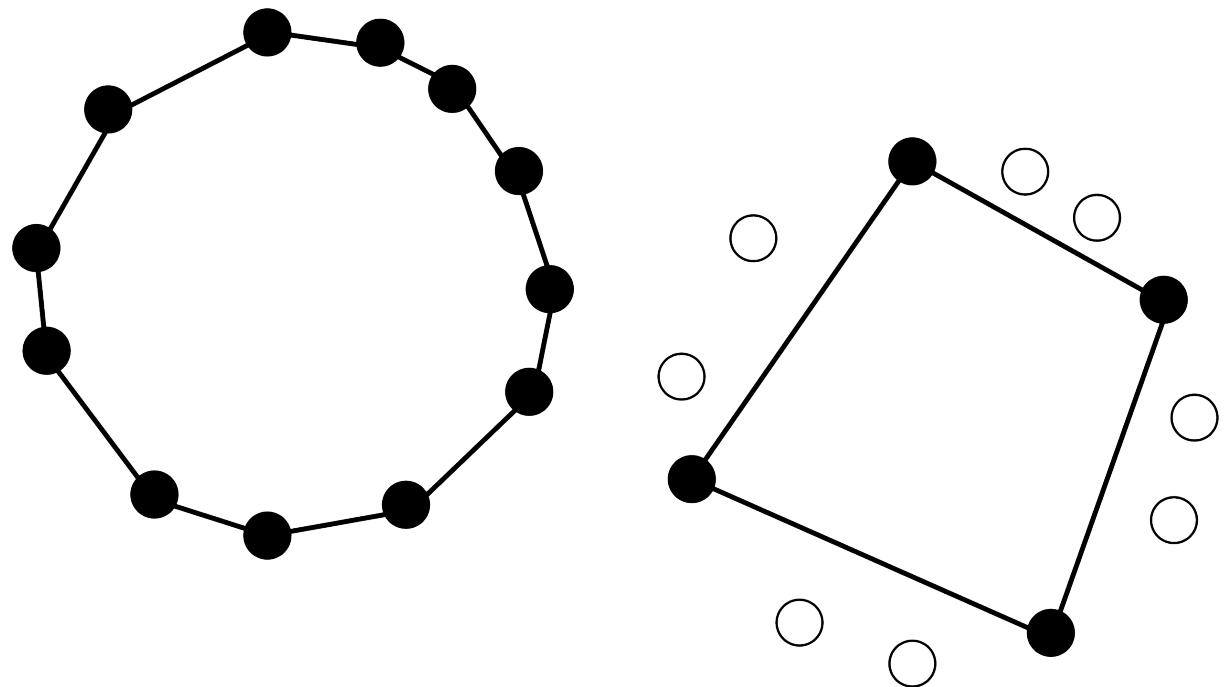
## Definitions:

### ◆ Landmarks:

*Selected points*

### ◆ Witnesses:

*Remaining points*



Images from [de Silva, Carlsson 2004]

# Witness Complexes

## Definition:

The **witness complex  $W(r)$**  of radius  $r$  is defined by:

- ◆  $u$  is in  $W(r)$  if  $u$  is a landmark
- ◆  $(u, v)$  is in  $W(r)$  if there exists a witness  $w$  such that

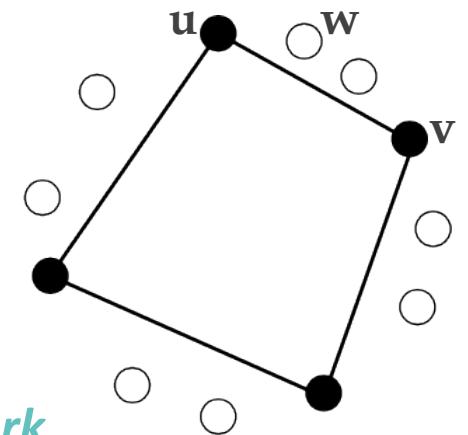
$$\max\{d(u, w), d(v, w)\} \leq m_w + r$$

where  $m_w :=$  the distance of  $w$  from the 2nd closest landmark

- ◆ the  $i$ -simplex  $\sigma$  is in  $W(r)$  if all its edges belong to  $W(r)$

$W_0(r)$  is defined by setting  $m_w = 0$  for any witness  $w$

$$W_0(r) \subseteq VR(r) \subseteq W_0(2r)$$



# From Data to Complexes

***Not Only Point Clouds in  $\mathbb{R}^n$***

Most of the presented constructions can be **generalized/adapted** to the case of

***a finite collection of elements endowed with a notion of proximity\****

enabling to cover a **wide plethora of datasets**

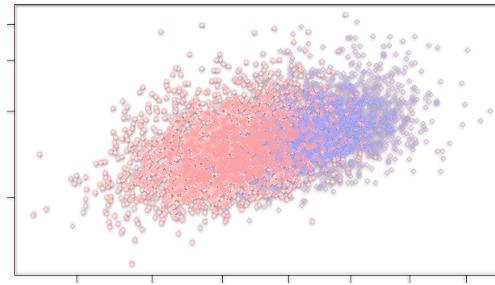
\*More properly, a **semi-metric**, i.e. a distance not necessarily satisfying the triangle inequality

# From Data to Complexes

***Not Only Point Clouds in  $\mathbb{R}^n$***

◆ ***Point Clouds:***

- ❖ *Delaunay triangulation*
- ❖ *Čech complexes*
- ❖ *Vietoris-Rips complexes*
- ❖ *Alpha-shapes*
- ❖ *Witness complexes*

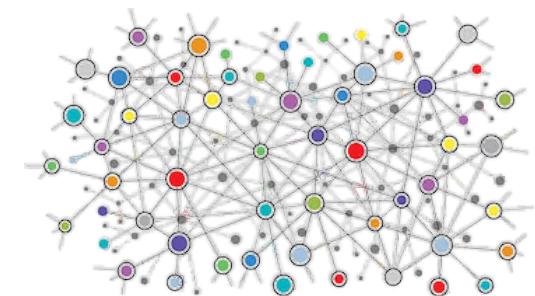
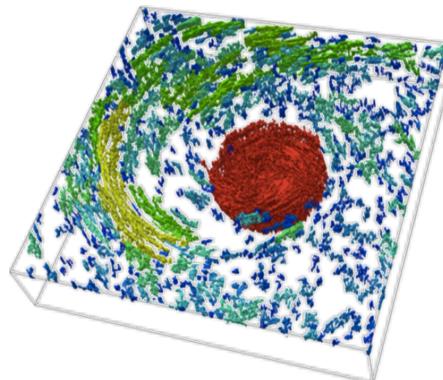


◆ ***Graphs and Complex Networks:***

- ❖ *Flag complexes*

◆ ***Functions:***

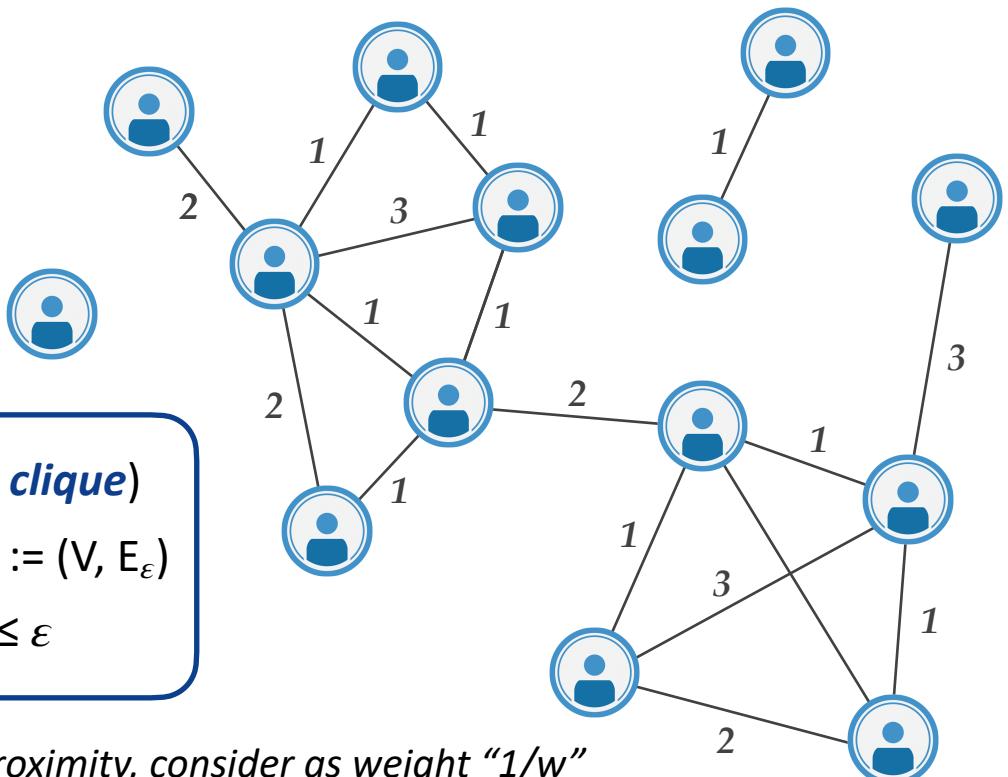
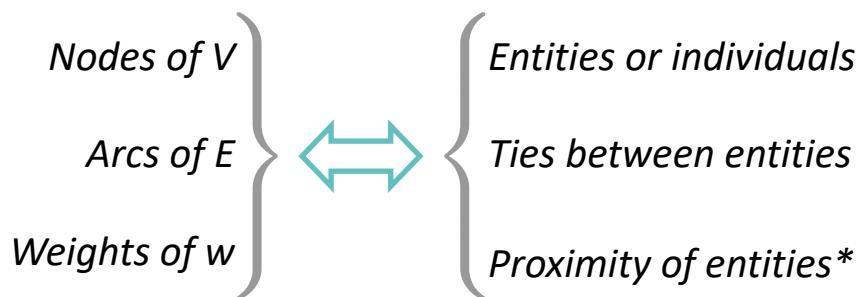
- ❖ *Sublevel sets*



# From Data to Complexes

## Flag Complex of a Weighted Network:

Let  $G := (V, E, w: E \rightarrow \mathbb{R})$  be a *weighted undirected graph* representing a *network*:

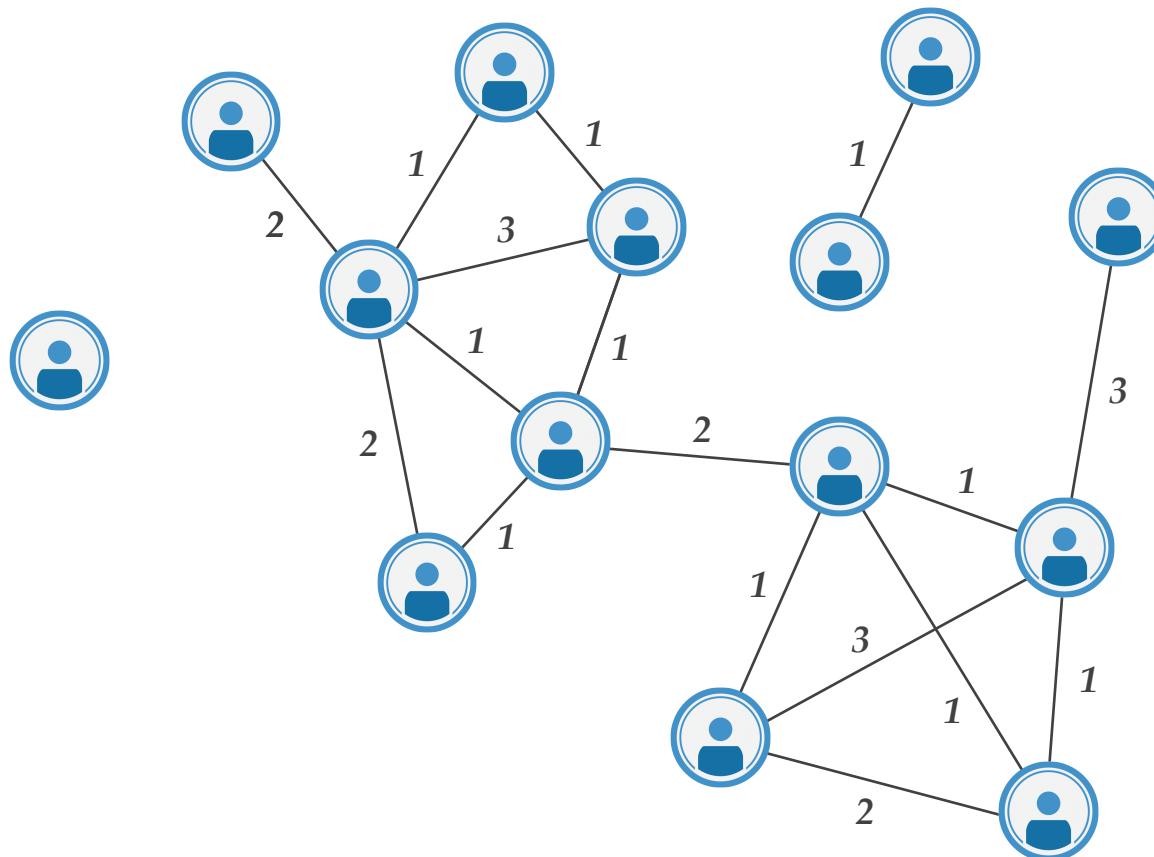


Fixed a *weight threshold*  $\varepsilon$ , the *flag* (or the *clique*) **complex** is the *VR expansion* of the graph  $G_\varepsilon := (V, E_\varepsilon)$  where  $E_\varepsilon$  are the arcs of  $E$  with weight  $\leq \varepsilon$

\*If  $w$  represents tie strengths rather than node proximity, consider as weight “ $1/w$ ”

# From Data to Complexes

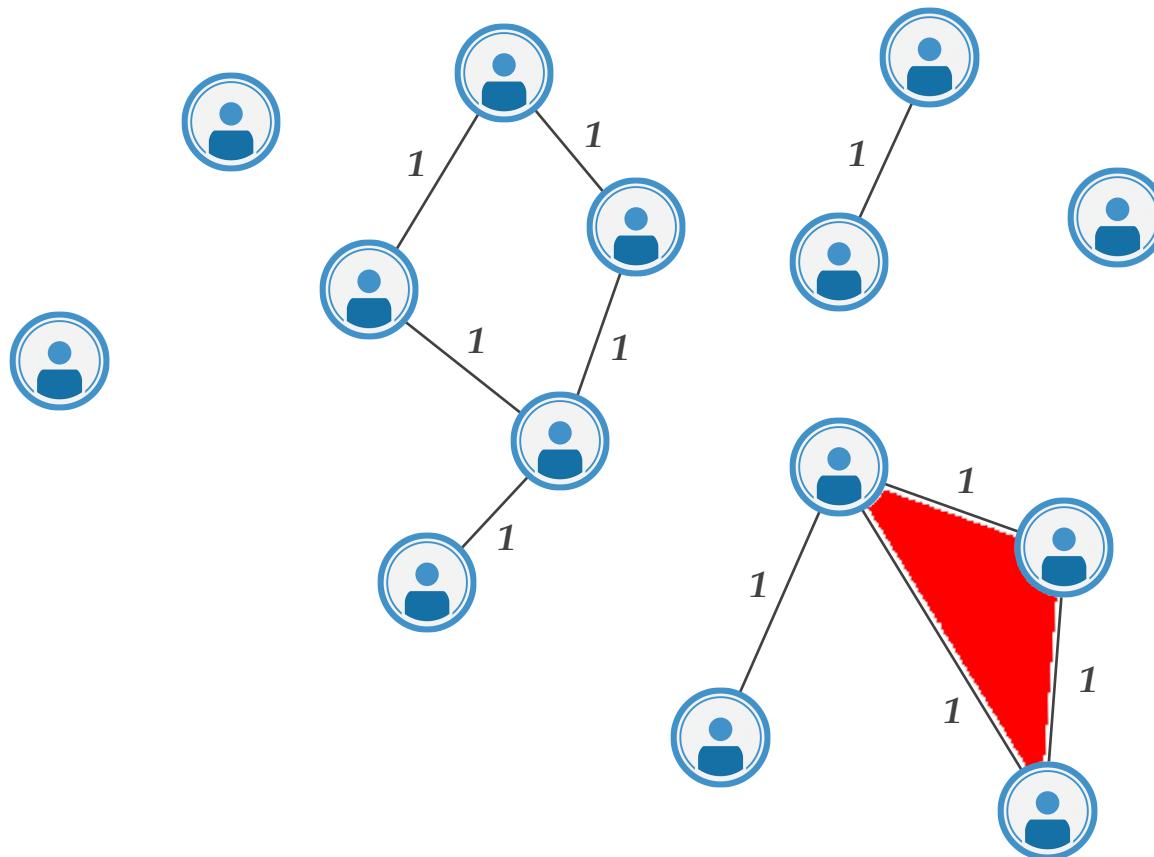
*Flag Complex of a Weighted Network:*



# From Data to Complexes

*Flag Complex of a Weighted Network:*

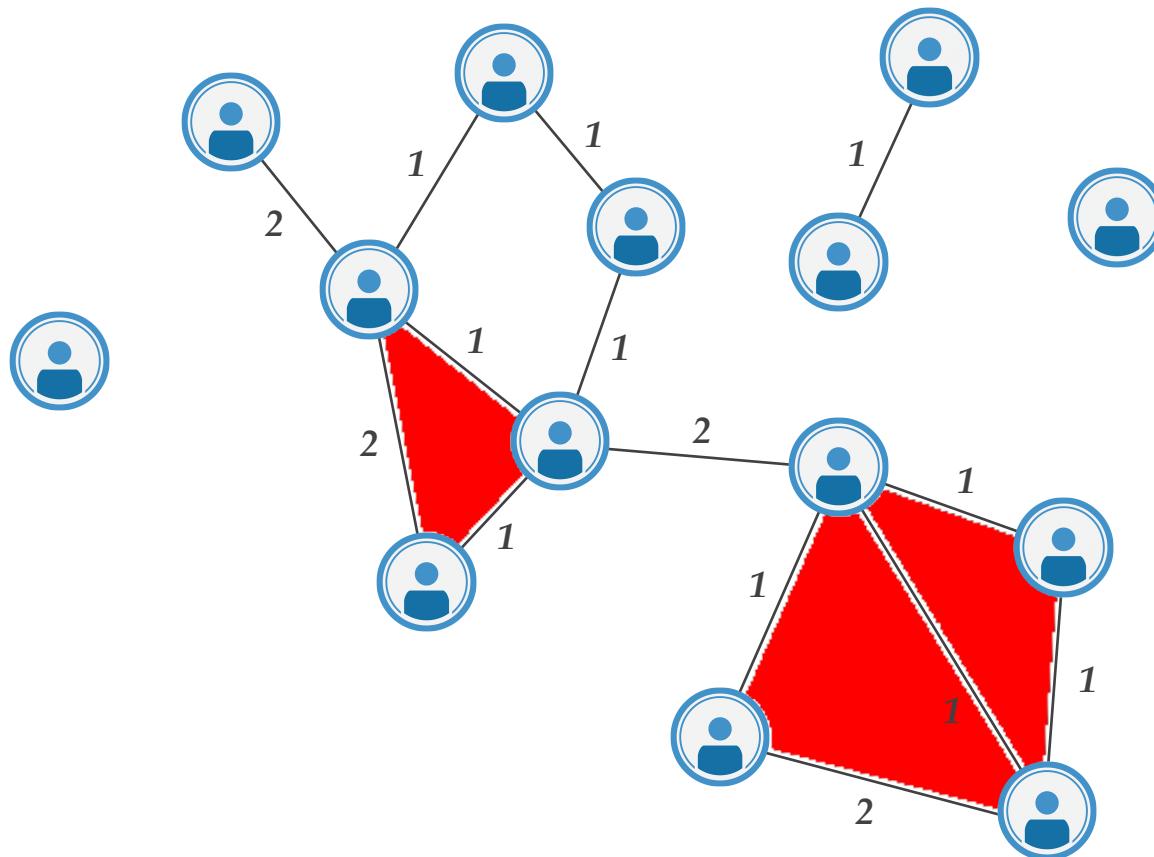
$$\varepsilon = 1$$



# From Data to Complexes

*Flag Complex of a Weighted Network:*

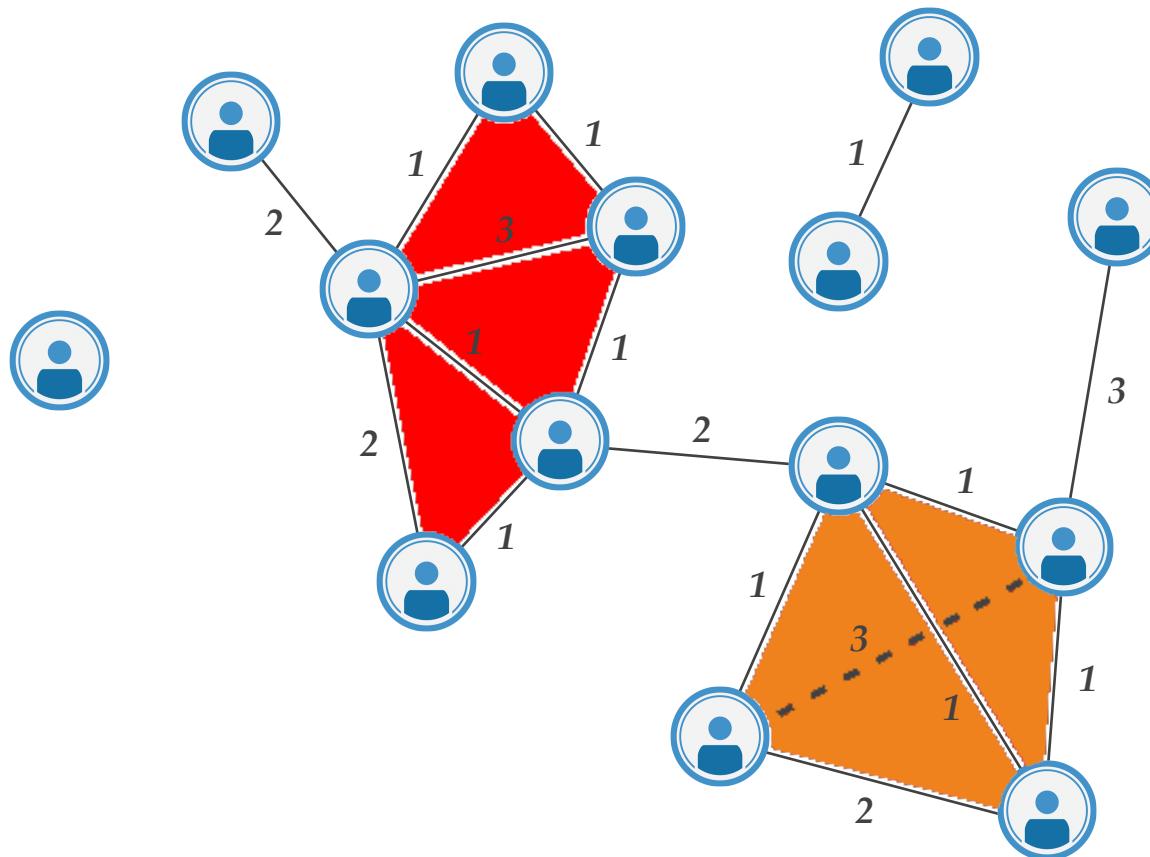
$$\varepsilon = 2$$



# From Data to Complexes

*Flag Complex of a Weighted Network:*

$$\varepsilon = 3$$



# From Data to Complexes

## *Sublevel Sets of Functions*

Given a **function**  $f: D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,

◆ **Step 1:**

Transform  $f: D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  into a function  $F: K \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  *defined on a simplicial complex K*

E.g. if  $D$  is a point cloud, construct from it a simplicial complex  $K$  and define  $F$  as

$$F(\sigma) := \max\{f(v) \mid v \text{ is a vertex of } \sigma\}$$

◆ **Step 2:**

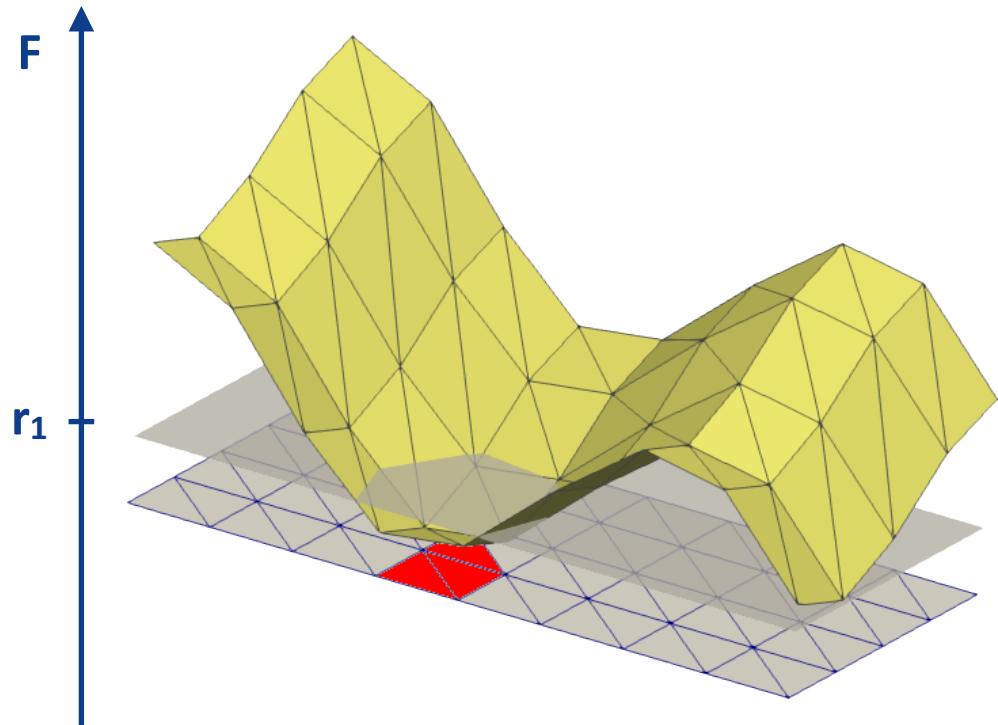
Build the collection  $\{K^r\}_{r \in \mathbb{R}}$  of the *sublevel sets of F* defined as

$$K^r := \{\sigma \in K \mid F(\sigma) \leq r\}$$

Notice that  $K^r$  is a simplicial complex whenever: if  $\tau$  is a face of  $\sigma$  then  $F(\tau) \leq F(\sigma)$

# From Data to Complexes

## *Sublevel Sets of Functions*

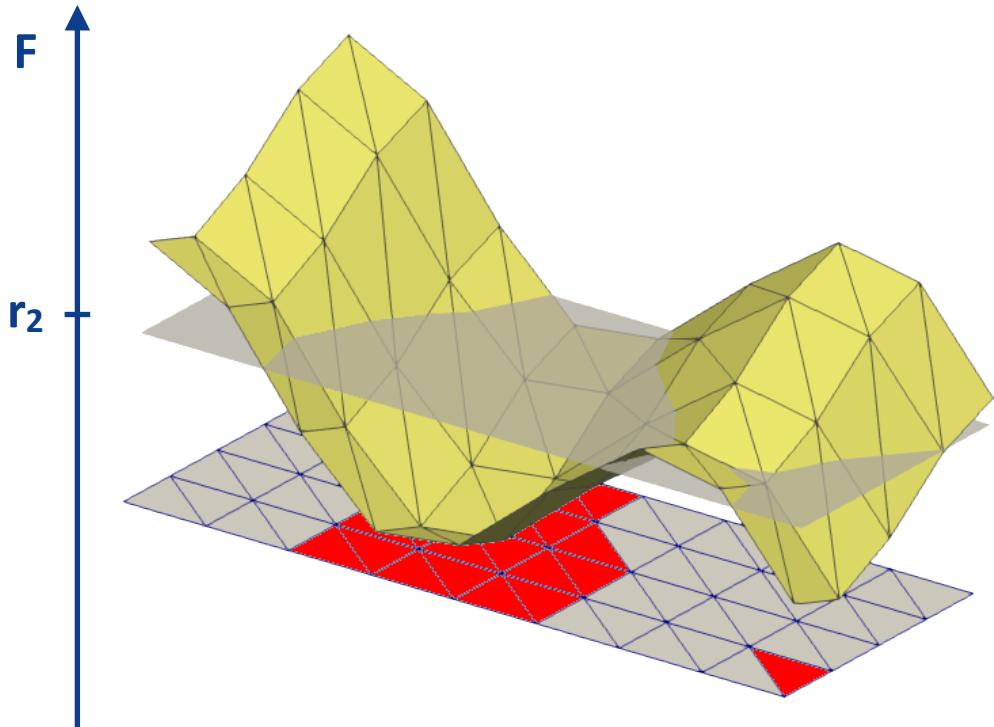


Given a function  $F: K \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,

$$K^r := \{\sigma \in K \mid F(\sigma) \leq r\}$$

# From Data to Complexes

*Sublevel Sets of Functions*

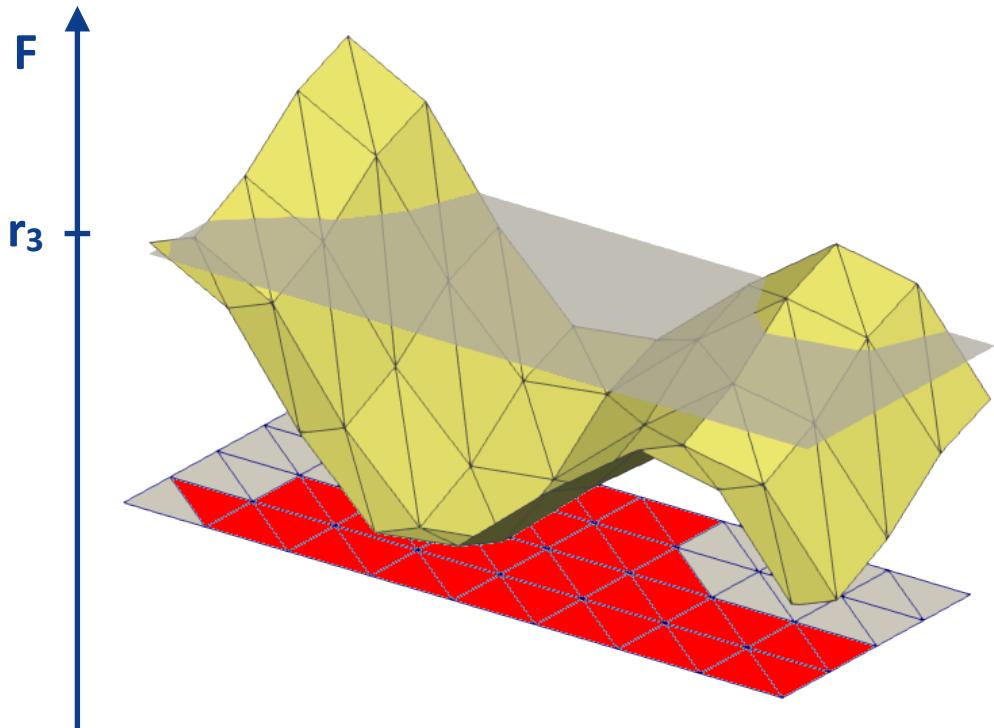


Given a function  $F: K \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,

$$K^r := \{\sigma \in K \mid F(\sigma) \leq r\}$$

# From Data to Complexes

## *Sublevel Sets of Functions*



Given a function  $F: K \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,

$$K^r := \{\sigma \in K \mid F(\sigma) \leq r\}$$

# Bibliography

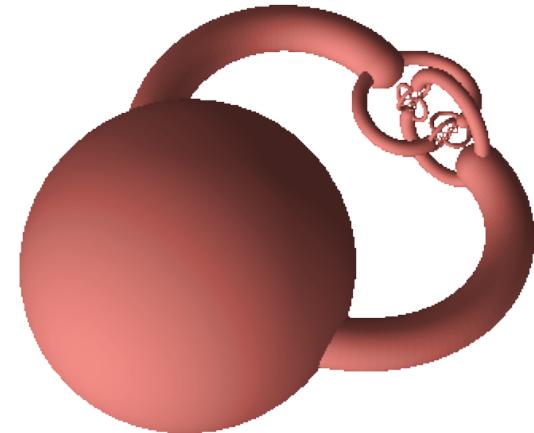
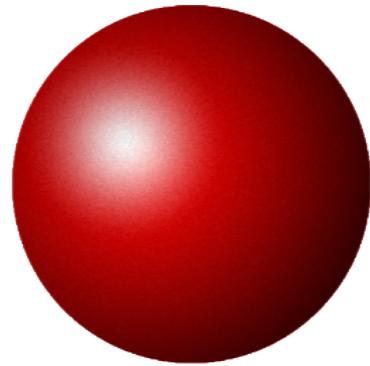
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- ◆ **From Data to Complexes:**
  - ❖ H. Edelsbrunner, **Geometry and Topology for Mesh Generation**. Cambridge University Press, 2001.
  - ❖ V. de Silva, G. Carlsson. **Topological estimation using witness complexes**. SPBG 4, pages 157-166, 2004.
  - ❖ A. Zomorodian, **Fast construction of the Vietoris-Rips complex**. Computers & Graphics 34.3, pages 263-271, 2010.
  - ❖ H. Edelsbrunner. **Algorithms in Combinatorial Geometry**. Springer Science & Business Media, 2012.

# *Persistent Homology*

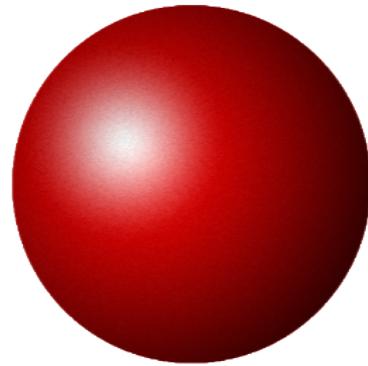
# Persistent Homology

◆ *Do they have the same shape?*

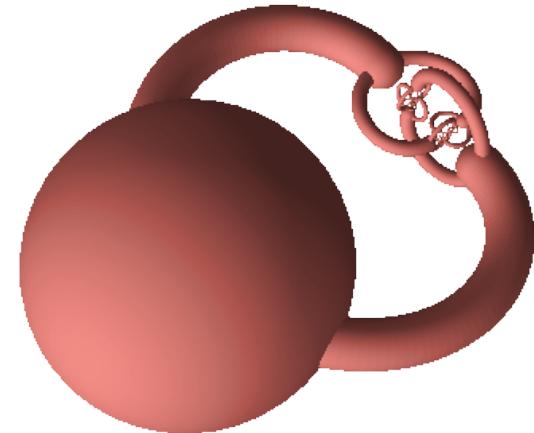


# Persistent Homology

◆ *Do they have the same shape?*



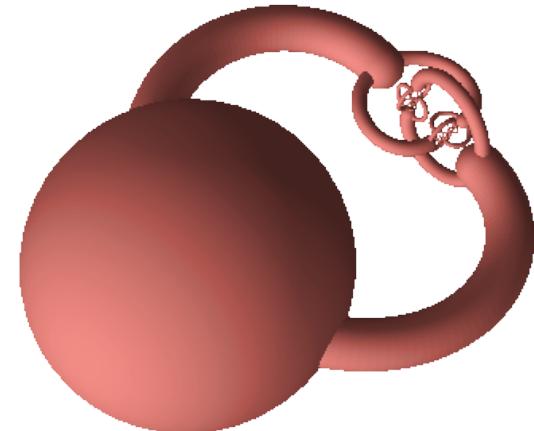
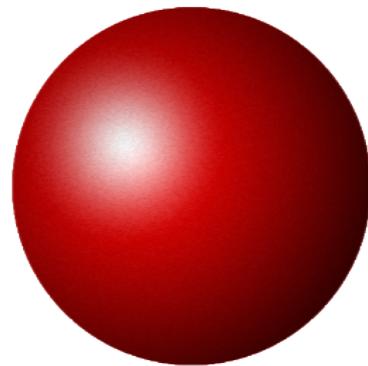
In Practice?



In Theory?

# Persistent Homology

◆ *Do they have the same shape?*



In Practice?



In Theory?



*They are **homeomorphic***

# Persistent Homology

◆ *Do they have the same shape?*



# Persistent Homology

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In Practice?

In Theory?

# Persistent Homology

◆ *Do they have the same shape?*



In Practice?



In Theory?

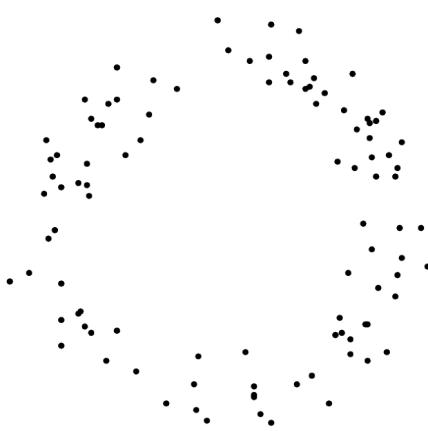


*They are not homeomorphic*

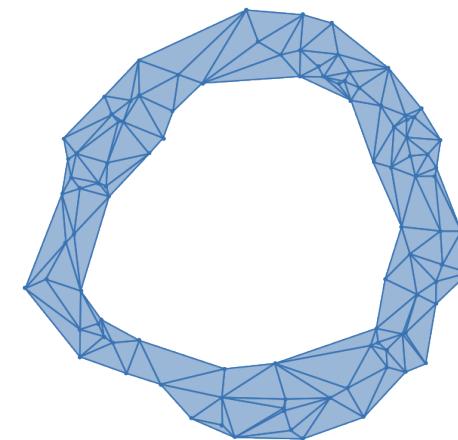
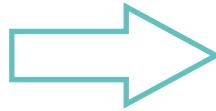
# Persistent Homology

- ◆ *Which is the shape of a given data?*

Persistent homology allows for the retrieval of the “*actual*” homological information of a data



*Point Cloud Dataset*



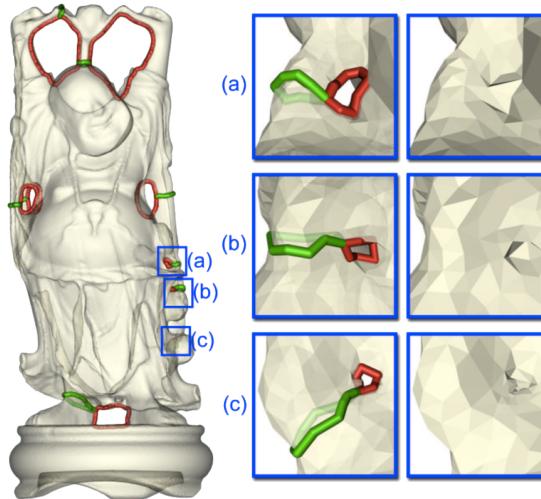
*Topological Nature of  
the “Underlying” Shape*

Image from [Bauer 2015]

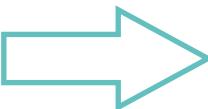
# Persistent Homology

◆ *Which is the shape of a given data?*

Persistent homology allows for the retrieval of the “*actual*” homological information of a data



*Noisy Dataset*



*Relevant Homological Information*

Image from [Dey et al. 2008]

# Persistent Homology

**In a Nutshell:**

Persistent homology allows for  
**describing the changes in the shape** of an evolving object

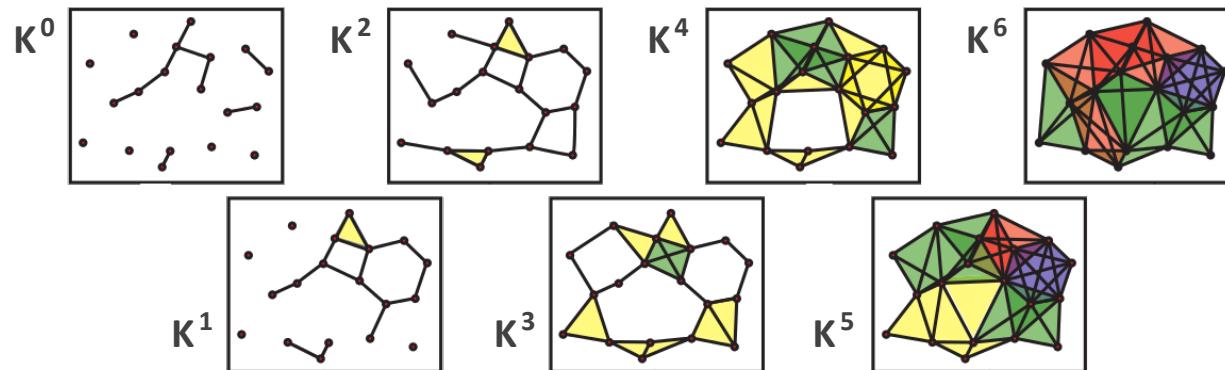


Image from [Ghrist 2008]

# Persistent Homology

**An Evolving Notion:**

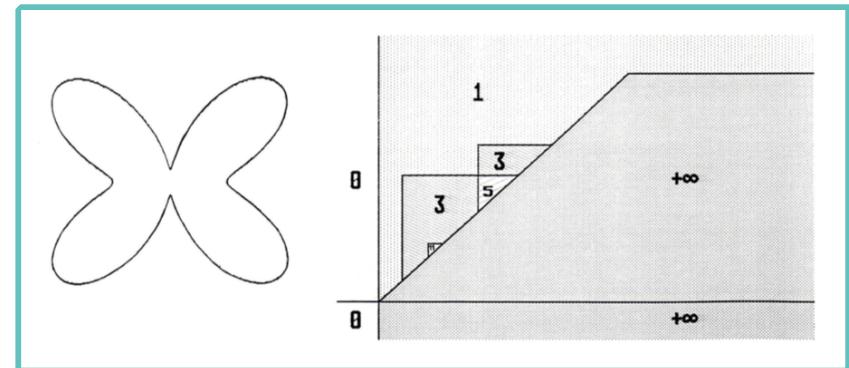
1990



Frosini

**Size Functions:**

- ◆ **Estimation of natural pseudo-distance** between shapes endowed with a function  $f$
- ◆ Tracking of the **connected components** of a shape along its evolution induced by  $f$



Actually, this coincides with ***persistent homology in degree 0***

Image from [Frosini 1992]

# Persistent Homology

*An Evolving Notion:*



*Incremental Algorithm for Betti Numbers:*

- ◆ Introduction of the notion of ***filtration***
- ◆ De facto computation of ***persistence pairs***

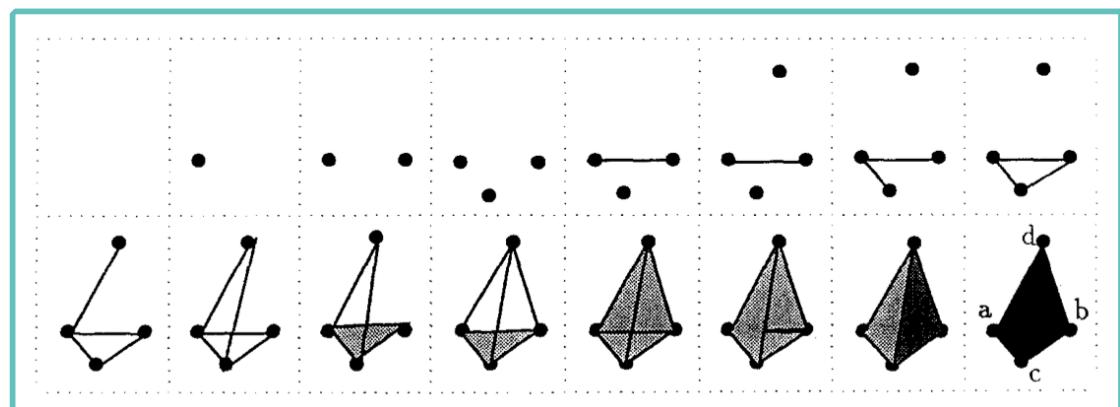


Image from [Delfinado, Edelsbrunner 1995]

# Persistent Homology

**An Evolving Notion:**



**Homology from Finite Approximations:**

- ◆ **Extrapolation of the homology** of a metric space from a **finite point-set approximation**
- ◆ Introduction of **persistent Betti numbers**

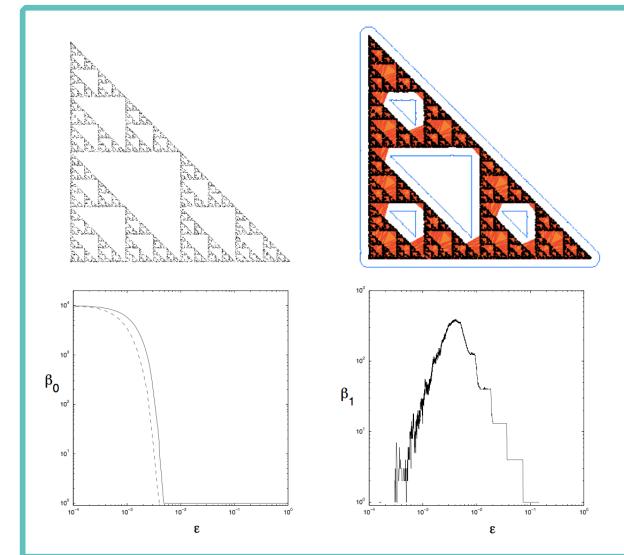


Image from [Robins 1999]

# Persistent Homology

## An Evolving Notion:



## Topological Persistence:

- ◆ Introduction and algebraic formulation of the notion of ***persistent homology***
- ◆ ***Description of an algorithm*** for computing persistent homology

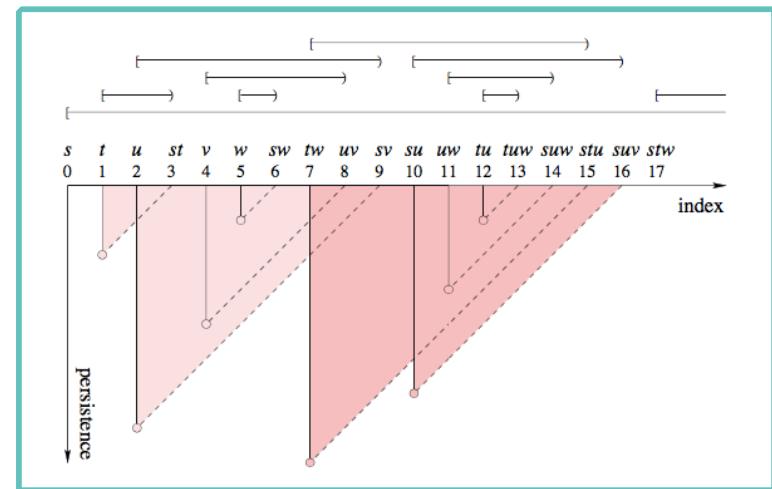
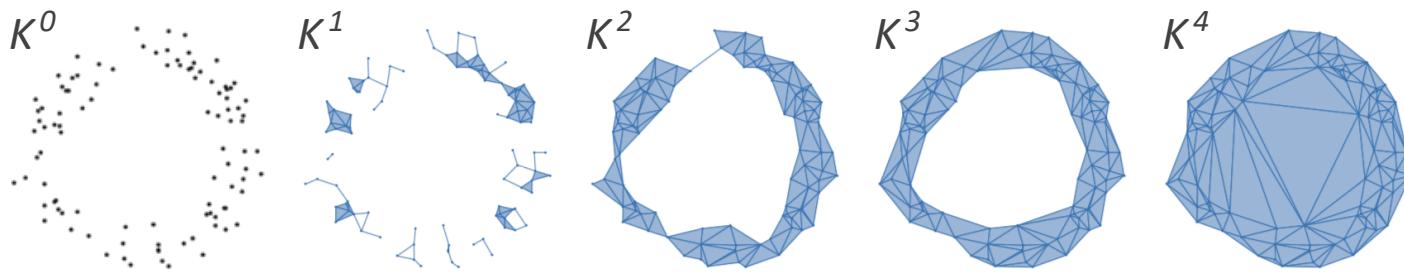


Image from [Edelsbrunner et al. 2002]

# Persistent Homology

## Definition:

Intuitively, a **filtration  $\mathcal{F}$**  is a finite “growing” sequence of simplicial complexes



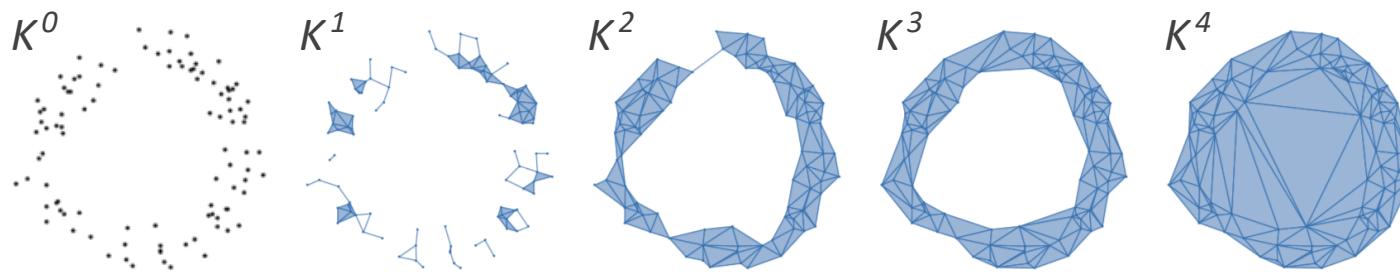
Formally, a **filtration  $\mathcal{F}$**  of a simplicial complex  $K$  is a collection of subcomplexes

$\{K^p\}_{p \in \mathbb{R}}$  of  $K$  for which, **given any  $p, q \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $p \leq q$ ,**

$$K^p \subseteq K^q$$

# Persistent Homology

*Most of the techniques transforming a dataset into a simplicial complex depending on the choice of a parameter actually produce a filtration  $\{K^p\}_{p \in \mathbb{R}}$*



**Working Assumption:**

*We can always pretend that parameter  $p$  varies over  $\mathbb{N}$*

# Persistent Homology

**Definition:**

Given a filtration  $\mathcal{F} := \{X^p\}_{p \in \mathbb{N}}$ , a value  $i \in \mathbb{N}$ , and a field  $\mathbb{F}$ , the  $i^{\text{th}}$  persistence module  $M$  of  $\mathcal{F}$  over  $\mathbb{F}$  is defined as the *finitely generated graded  $\mathbb{F}[x]$ -module*

$$M := \bigoplus_{p \in \mathbb{N}} M_p$$

where:

- ◆  $M_p := H_i(K^p; \mathbb{F})$ , the set of *homogeneous elements of grade p*
- ◆ The *action  $x^{q-p} h$  over an element  $h$  of grade  $p$*  is defined as  $\mu_{i,p,q}(h)$ , where:
  - ❖  $\mu_{i,p,q}(h) : H_i(K^p; \mathbb{F}) \rightarrow H_i(K^q; \mathbb{F})$  is the linear map induced by the inclusion  $K^p \subseteq K^q$

# Persistent Homology

**Theorem (structure for finitely generated graded modules over a PID):**

Any persistence module  $M$  can be expressed as

$$M \cong \bigoplus_{k=1}^n \mathbb{F}[x](-r_k) \oplus \bigoplus_{j=1}^m \left( \mathbb{F}[x]/(x^{q_j-p_j}) \right) (-p_j)$$

So,  $M$  is completely determined by the collection of values  $r_k$  and of pairs  $(p_j, q_j)$

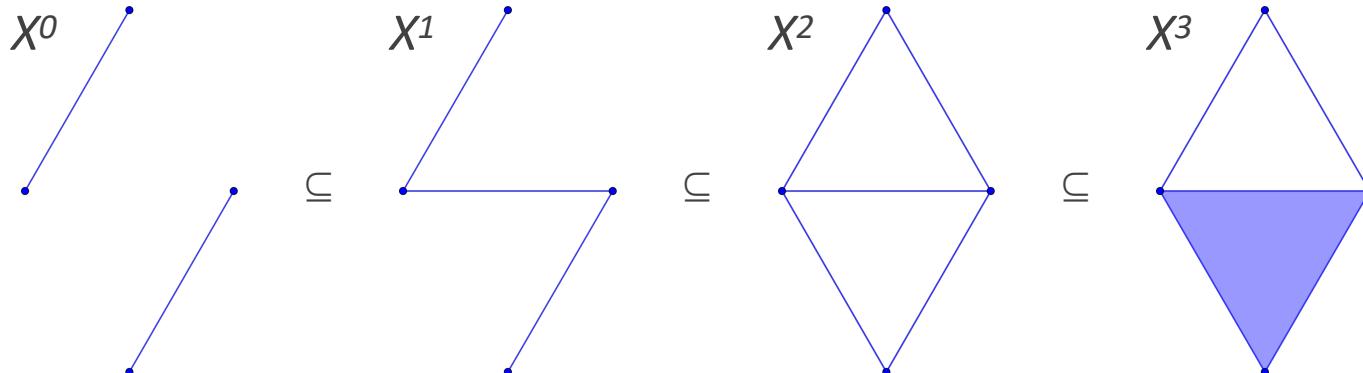
Such descriptors are typically expressed as pairs, called **persistence pairs** of  $M$ , of

the kind  $(r_k, \infty)$  and  $(p_j, q_j)$

# Persistent Homology

*Intuitively:*

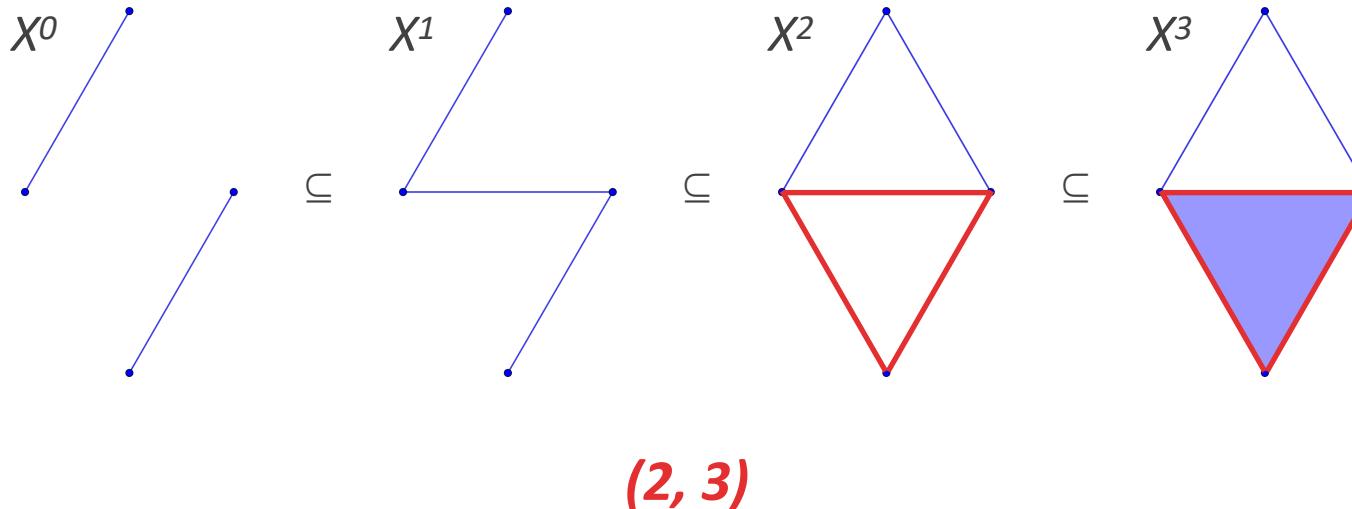
Given a filtration  $X' := \{X^p\}_{p \in \mathbb{N}}$ , a **persistence pair**  $(p, q) \in \mathbb{N} \times (\mathbb{N} \cup \{\infty\})$  with  $p < q$  represents a **homological class** that is **born at step p** and **dies at step q**



# Persistent Homology

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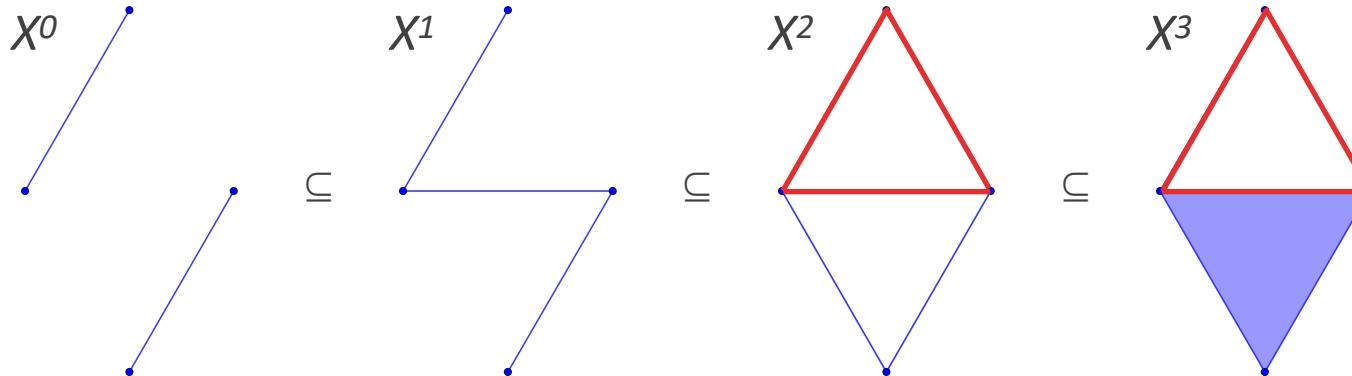
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# Persistent Homology

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**(2,  $\infty$ ) essential pair**

# Persistent Homology

*Differently from homology, persistent homology provides  
a notion of “shape” closer to our everyday perception*

It is possible to *compare two shapes* by comparing their *homology groups*

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PERSISTENCE PAIRS

# Persistent Homology

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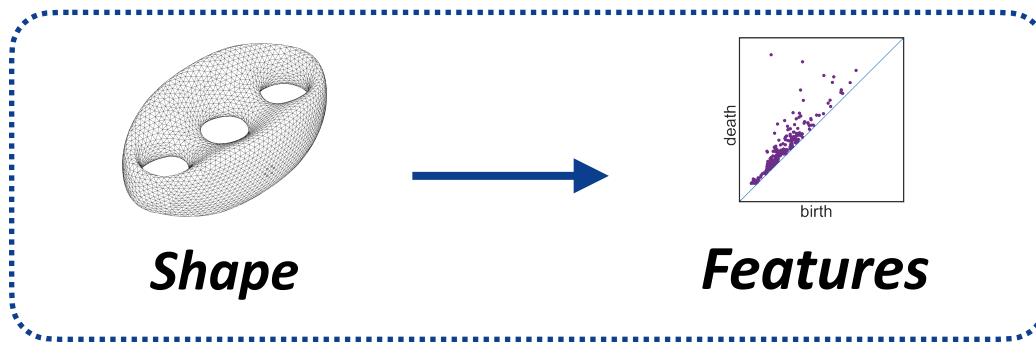
PERSISTENCE PAIRS

In order to better perform the above task, we need:

- ◆ *Visual* and *descriptive representations* for persistence pairs
- ◆ Notions of *distance* between sets of persistence pairs and *stability results*

# Persistent Homology

(Persistent) Homology allows for assigning to any (filtered) simplicial complex  
*topological information expressed in terms of algebraic structures*



**Goal:**

Today, we address two main questions:

- ◆ *Can this topological information be characterized in a simpler and “more visualizable” way?*
- ◆ *Is this information stable under small perturbations of the input data?*

# Bibliography

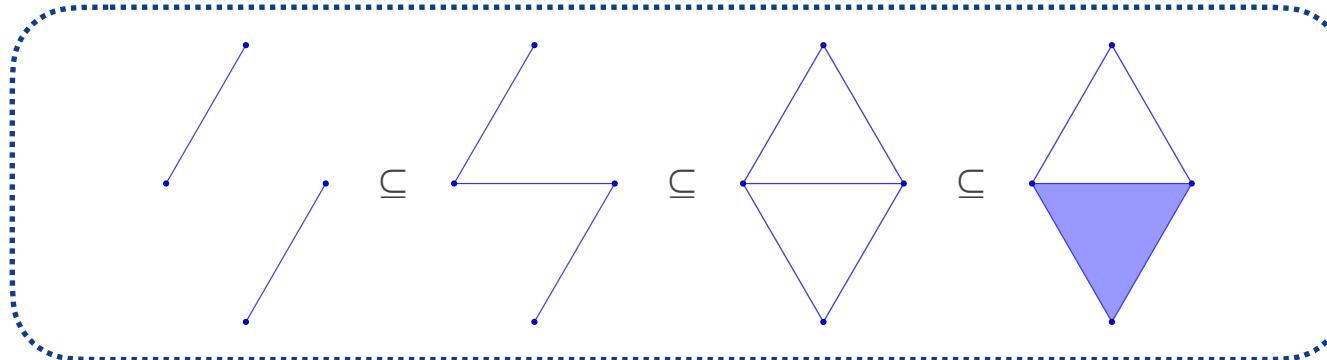
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# Visualizing Persistence

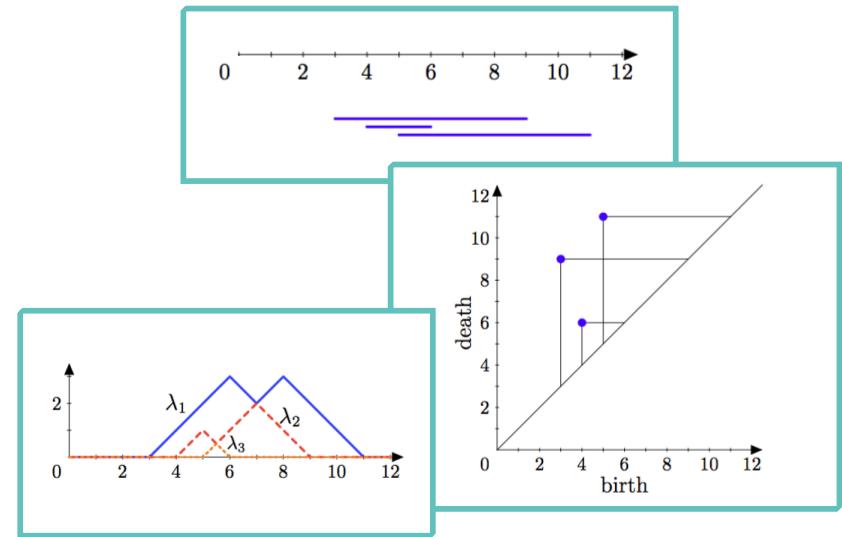
# Visualizing Persistence

Given a filtration  $\mathcal{F}$ ,



*Persistent pairs of  $\mathcal{F}$  can be visualized through:*

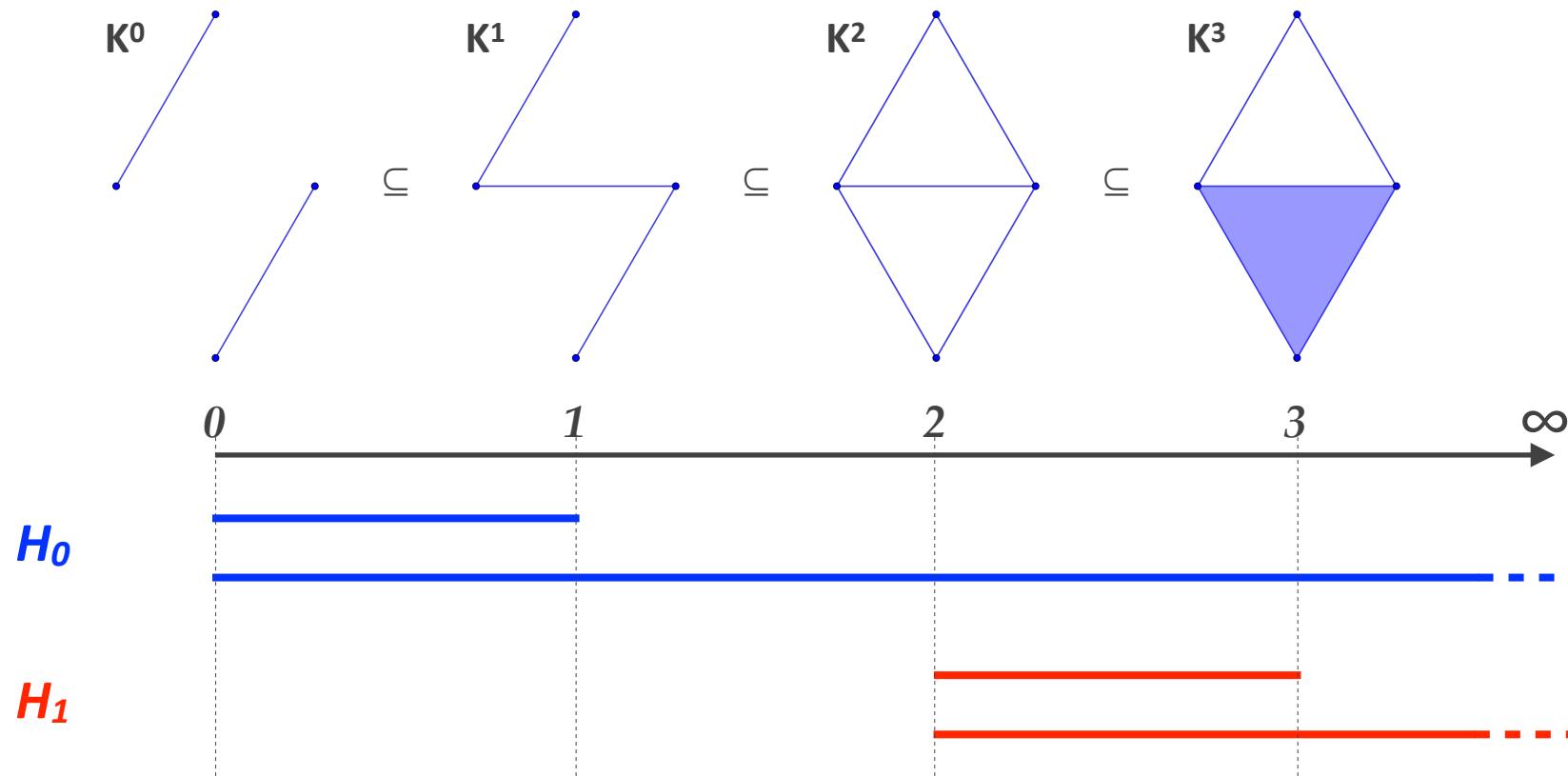
- ◆ **Barcodes** [Carlsson et al. 2005; Ghrist 2008]
- ◆ **Persistence diagrams** [Edelsbrunner, Harer 2008]
- ◆ **Persistence landscapes** [Bubenik 2015]
- ◆ **Corner points and lines** [Frosini, Landi 2001]
- ◆ **Half-open intervals** [Edelsbrunner et al. 2002]
- ◆  **$k$ -triangles** [Edelsbrunner et al. 2002]



# Visualizing Persistence

**Barcodes:**

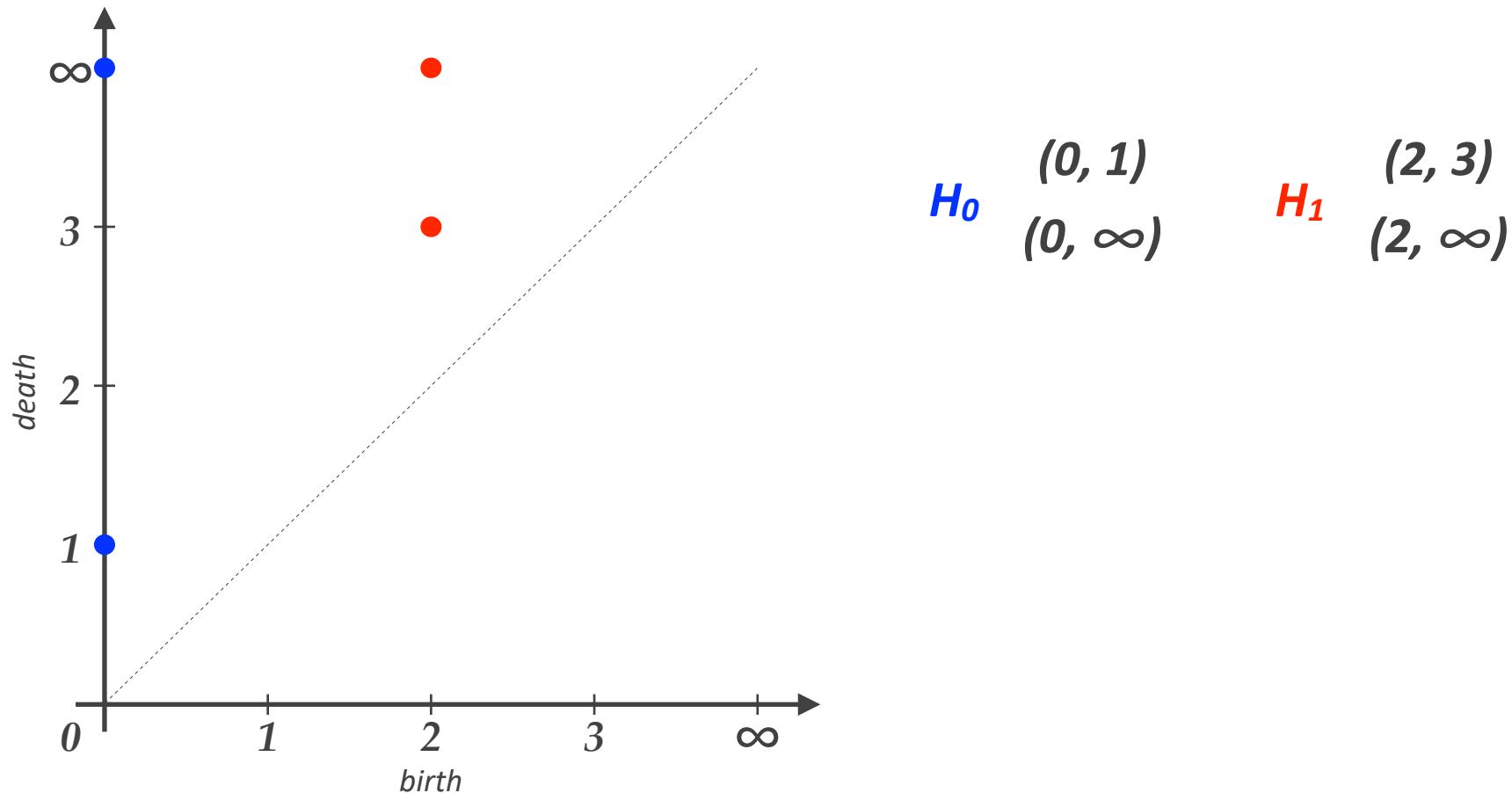
Persistence pairs are represented as **intervals in  $\mathbb{R}$**



# Visualizing Persistence

## Persistence Diagrams:

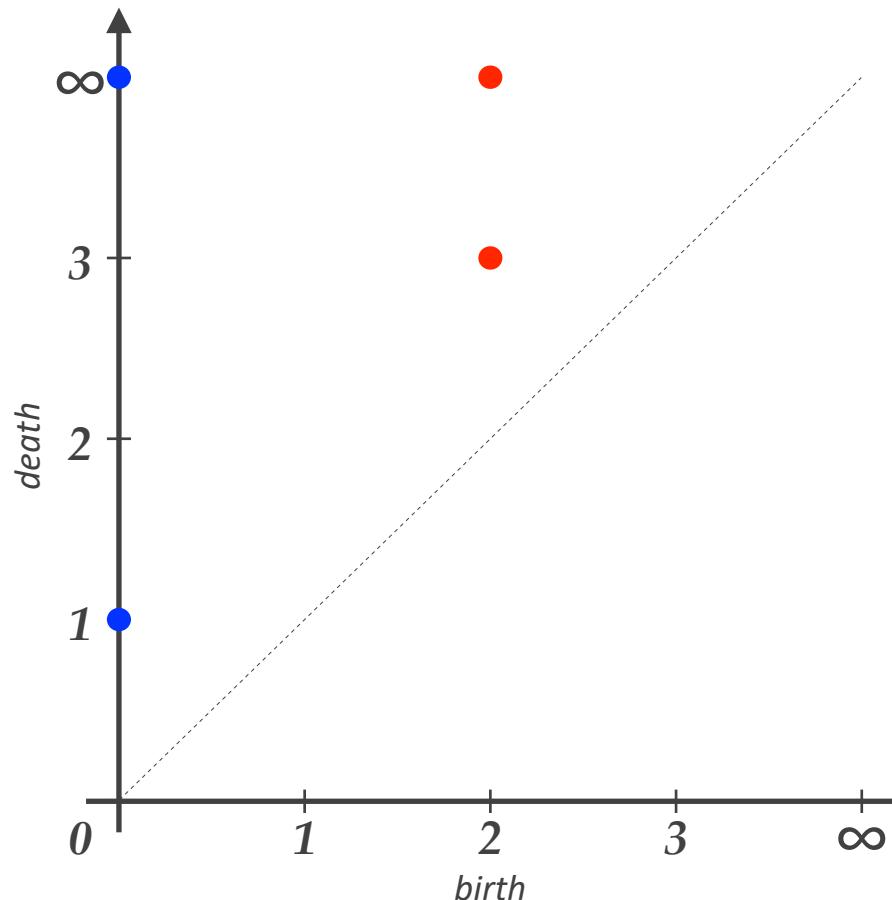
Persistence pairs are represented as *points* in  $\mathbb{R}^2$



# Visualizing Persistence

## Persistence Diagrams:

Persistence pairs are represented as **points in  $\mathbb{R} \times (\mathbb{R} \cup \{\infty\})$**



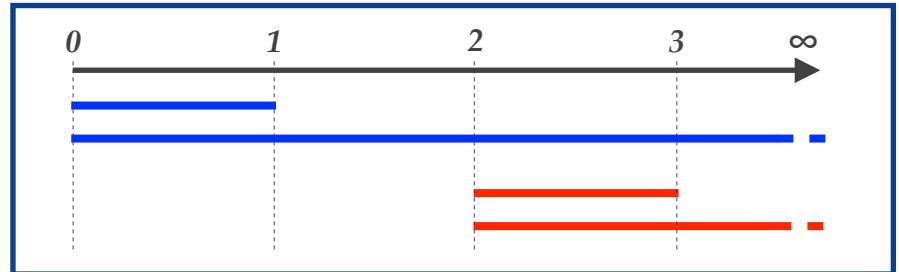
$H_0$      $(0, 1)$   
 $(0, \infty)$

$H_1$      $(2, 3)$   
 $(2, \infty)$

Formally, a persistence diagram is a **multiset**  
♦ Points are endowed with **multiplicity**

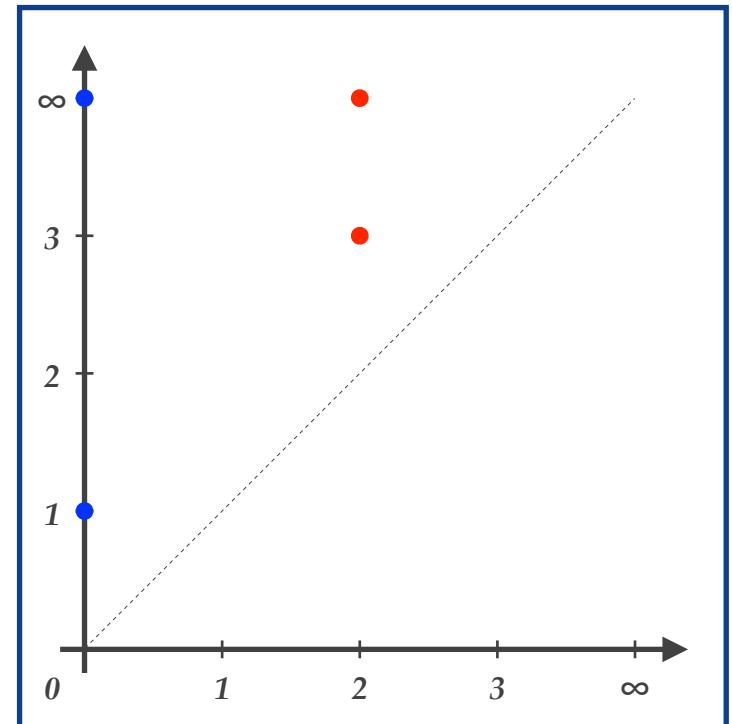
# Visualizing Persistence

Both tools **visually represent** the **lifespan** of the homology classes:



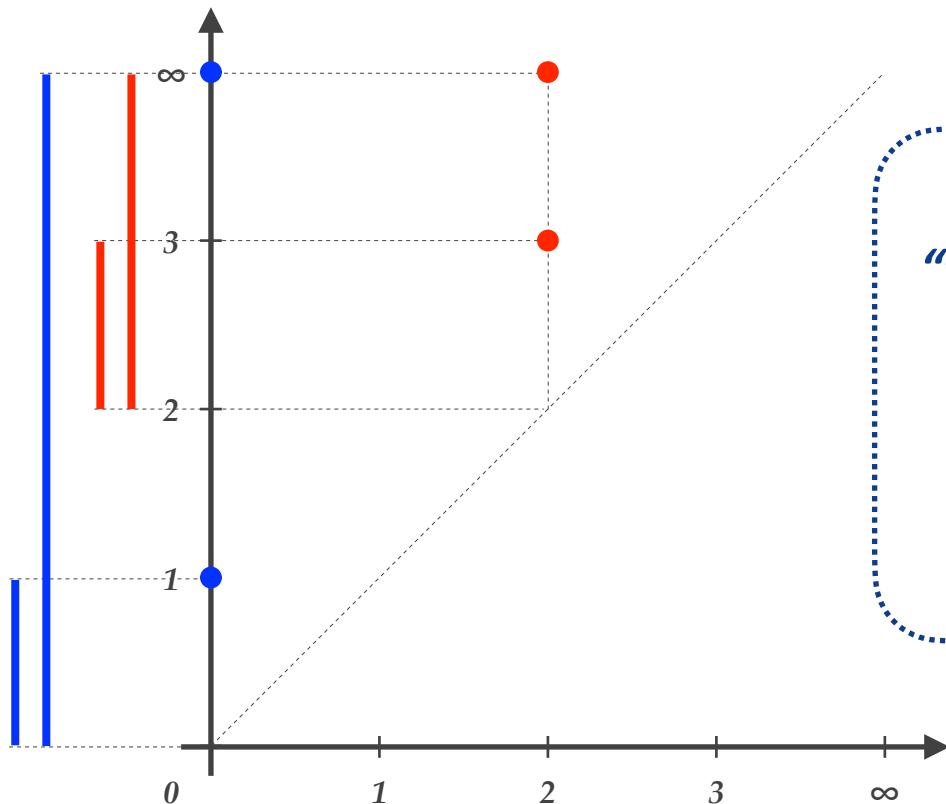
- ◆ Barcode: *length of the intervals*
- ◆ Persistence Diagram: *distance from the diagonal*

Barcodes and Persistence Diagrams  
encode equivalent information



# Visualizing Persistence

Barcodes and Persistence Diagrams *encode equivalent information*



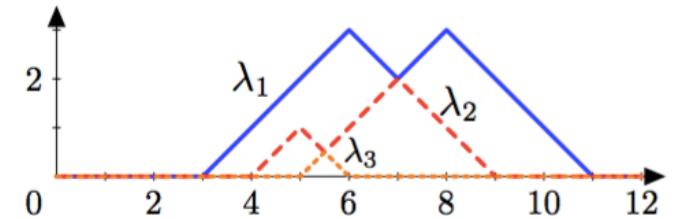
A visualization can be easily  
“*translated*” into the other one:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} [p, q] & \longleftrightarrow & (p, q) \\ [p, \infty) & \longleftrightarrow & (p, \infty) \end{array}$$

# Visualizing Persistence

## Persistence Landscapes:

*Persistence landscapes* are statistics-friendly representations of persistence pairs

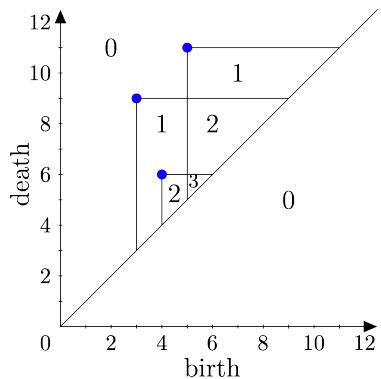


Given a persistence module  $M$ , persistence landscapes

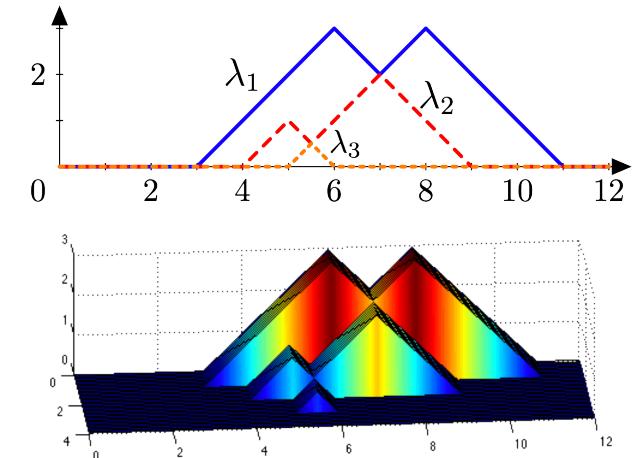
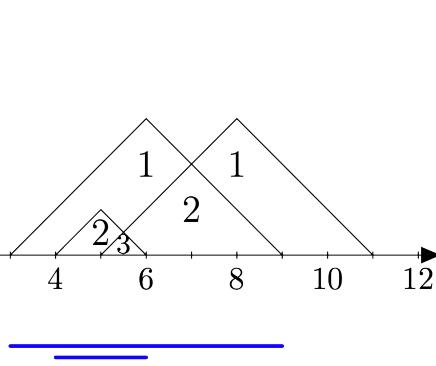
- ◆ Consist of a collection of **1-Lipschitz functions**
- ◆ Lie in a **vector space**
- ◆ Are **stable** (under small perturbations of the input filtration)

# Visualizing Persistence

## Persistence Landscapes:



Given a persistence module  $M$ ,



Formally,

Images from [Bubenik 2015]

$$\lambda_i(x) := \sup\{m \geq 0 \mid \beta^{x-m, x+m} \geq i\}$$

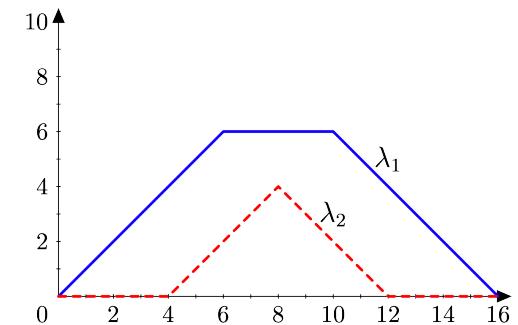
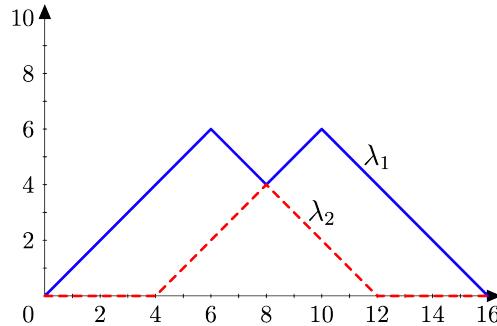
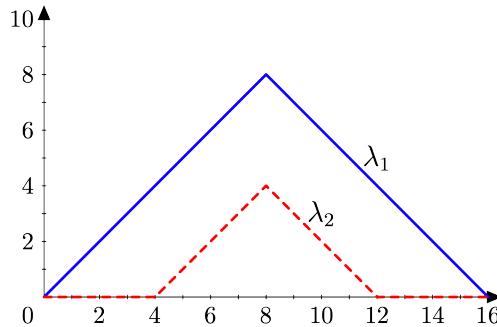
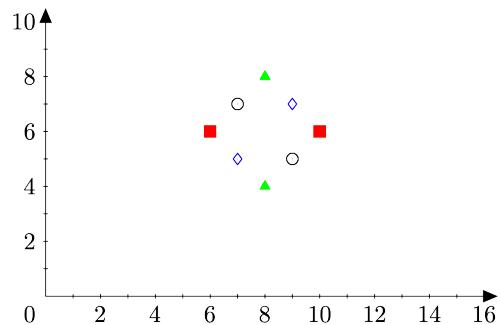
where  $\beta^{a,b} := \dim(\text{im}(\iota_{a,b} : M_a \rightarrow M_b))$

# Visualizing Persistence

**Persistence Landscapes:**

*Mean* of persistence diagrams is *not unique*, but ...

*Mean* of persistence landscapes is **well-defined**



Images from [Bubenik 2015]

# Bibliography

## *Some References:*

- ◆ **Persistent Homology:**
  - ❖ U. Fugacci, S. Scaramuccia, F. Iuricich, L. De Floriani. ***Persistent homology: a step-by-step introduction for newcomers.*** Eurographics Italian Chapter Conference, pages 1-10, 2016.

# *Persistence & Stability*

# Stability of Persistence

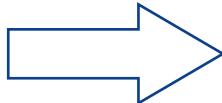
In order to be adopted in real applicative domains, it is crucial that

***persistent homology is not affected by noisy data and small perturbations***

## ***Stability Result:***

*By defining **distances**\* for both domains,*

***Similar Data***



***Similar  
Persistent Homology***

\*The term “distance” is intended in a broad sense, including pseudo-metrics and dissimilarity measures

# Stability of Persistence

## *Distances:*

- ◆ **For the Data in Input:**
  - ❖ *Natural pseudo-distance* of shapes
  - ❖  *$L_\infty$ -distance* of filtering functions
  - ❖ *Gromov-Hausdorff distance* of metric spaces/point clouds
- ◆ **For the Retrieved Persistent Homology Information:**
  - ❖ *Interleaving distance* of persistence modules
  - ❖ *Bottleneck (a.k.a. Matching) distance* of persistence diagrams
  - ❖ *Hausdorff distance* of persistence diagrams
  - ❖ *Wasserstein distances* of persistence diagrams

# Stability of Persistence

## *Distances for Input Data:*

Let  $(X, f)$  be a *pair* such that:

- ◆  $X$  is a *(triangulable) topological space*
- ◆  $f: X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a *continuous function*

A pair  $(X, f)$  induces a *filtration*:

- ◆  $X^t := f^{-1}((-\infty, t])$

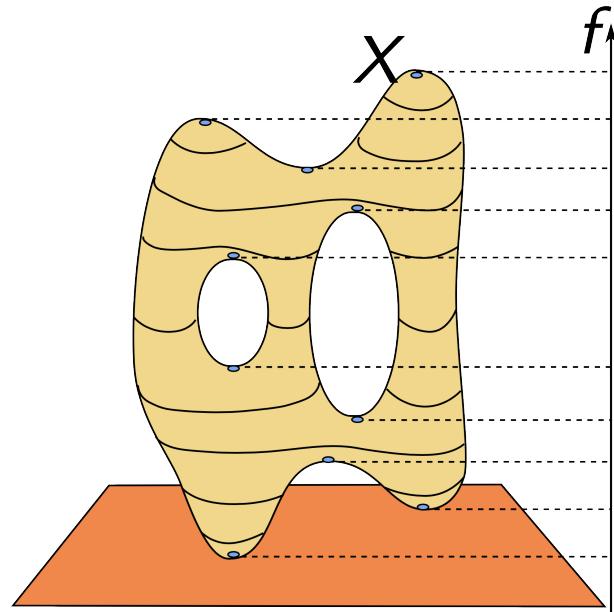


Image from [Ferri et al. 2015]

## *Definition:*

The function  $f$  is called *tame* if:

- ◆  $f$  has a *finite number of homological critical values* (i.e. the “time” steps in which homology changes)
- ◆ For any  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ , the *homology group  $H_k(X^t, \mathbb{F})$  has finite dimension*

# Stability of Persistence

***Distances for Input Data:***

***Definition:***

Given two pairs  $(X, f)$  and  $(Y, g)$ , their **natural pseudo-distance  $d_N$**  is defined as:

$$d_N((X, f), (Y, g)) := \begin{cases} \inf_{h \in H(X, Y)} \{\max_{x \in X} \{|f(x) - g \circ h(x)|\}\} & \\ +\infty & \text{if } H(X, Y) = \emptyset \end{cases}$$

where  **$H(X, Y)$**  is the set of all the **homeomorphisms between  $X$  and  $Y$**

# Stability of Persistence

## *Distances for Input Data:*

Working with two functions  $f, g: X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  defined on the same topological space  $X$ , one can simply consider the  $L_\infty$ -distance between  $f$  and  $g$

$$\|f - g\|_\infty := \sup_{x \in X} \{|f(x) - g(x)|\}$$

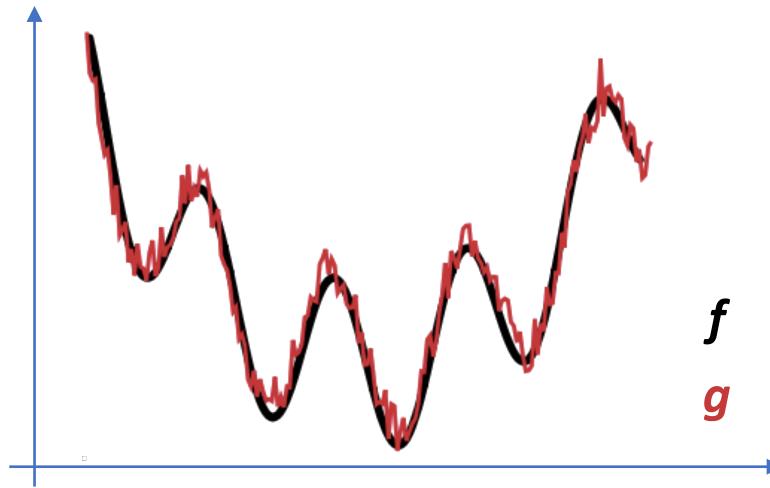


Image from [Rieck 2016]

# Stability of Persistence

## ***Distances for Input Data:***

Given two ***finite metric spaces***  $(X, d_X)$ ,  $(Y, d_Y)$  (e.g. two finite point clouds in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ),

## ***Definitions:***

A ***correspondence***  $C: X \rightrightarrows Y$  from  $X$  to  $Y$  is a subset of  $X \times Y$  such that  
 the ***canonical projections***  $\pi_X: C \rightarrow X$  and  $\pi_Y: C \rightarrow Y$  are both ***surjective***

The ***distortion dis(C)*** of a correspondence  $C: X \rightrightarrows Y$  is defined as:

$$dis(C) := \sup \left\{ |d_X(x, x') - d_Y(y, y')| : (x, y), (x', y') \in C \right\}$$

The ***Gromov-Hausdorff distance d<sub>GH</sub>*** between  $(X, d_X)$  and  $(Y, d_Y)$  is defined as:

$$d_{GH}(X, Y) := \frac{1}{2} \inf \{ dis(C) \mid C: X \rightrightarrows Y \text{ is a correspondence} \}$$

# Stability of Persistence

## *Distances for Persistent Homology Information:*

Two persistence modules  $M$  and  $N$  are called  $\varepsilon$ -interleaved with  $\varepsilon \geq 0$  if there exist  $f$  and  $g$  such that, for any  $p, q \in \mathbb{R}$  with  $p \leq q$ , the following **diagrams commute**

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 & M_p & \\
 g_{p-\varepsilon} \nearrow & \searrow f_p & \\
 N_{p-\varepsilon} & \xrightarrow{\quad} & N_{p+\varepsilon} \\
 & M_p \longrightarrow & M_q \\
 & \searrow f_p & \swarrow f_q \\
 & N_{p+\varepsilon} & \xrightarrow{\quad} N_{q+\varepsilon} \\
 \\ 
 M_{p-\varepsilon} & \longrightarrow & M_{p+\varepsilon} \\
 \searrow f_{p-\varepsilon} & & \nearrow g_p \\
 & N_p & \\
 & M_{p+\varepsilon} & \longrightarrow M_{q+\varepsilon} \\
 & \nearrow g_p & \swarrow g_q \\
 N_p & \xrightarrow{\quad} & N_q
 \end{array}$$

## *Definition:*

Given two persistence modules  $M$  and  $N$ , their **interleaving distance  $d_I$**  is defined as:

$$d_I(M, N) := \inf\{\varepsilon \geq 0 \mid M \text{ and } N \text{ are } \varepsilon\text{-interleaved}\}$$

# Stability of Persistence

**Distances for Persistent Homology Information:**

**Definitions:**

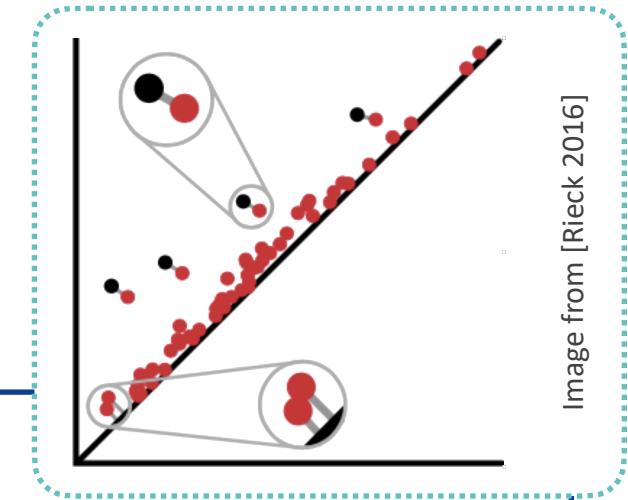
Given two persistence diagrams  $D_1$  and  $D_2$ ,

their **bottleneck distance**  $d_B$  and **Hausdorff distance**  $d_H$  are defined as:

$$d_B(D_1, D_2) := \inf_{\gamma} \left\{ \sup_{x \in D_1} \{ \|x - \gamma(x)\|_{\infty} \} \right\}$$

$$d_H(D_1, D_2) := \max \left\{ \sup_{x \in D_1} \left\{ \inf_{y \in D_2} \{ \|x - y\|_{\infty} \} \right\}, \sup_{y \in D_2} \left\{ \inf_{x \in D_1} \{ \|y - x\|_{\infty} \} \right\} \right\}$$

where  $\gamma$  ranges over all bijections from  $D_1$  to  $D_2$



# Stability of Persistence

**Distances for Persistent Homology Information:**

**Definitions:**

Given two persistence diagrams  $D_1$  and  $D_2$ ,

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where  $\gamma$  ranges over all bijections from  $D_1$  to  $D_2$

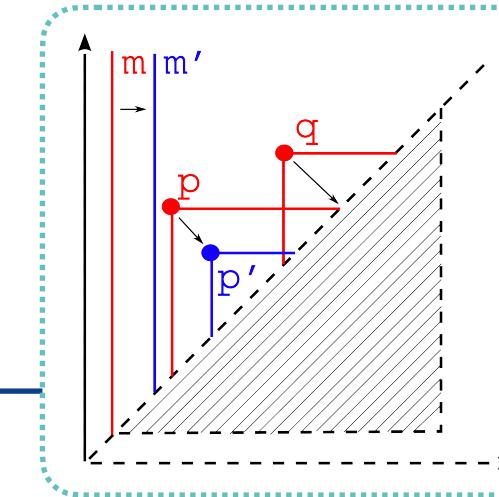


Image from [Ferri et al. 2015]

# Stability of Persistence

## Stability Results:

Given two pairs  $(X, f), (Y, g)$  of topological spaces and **tame** functions and  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ , let  $M, N$  be the induced  $k^{\text{th}}$  persistence modules and let  $D_1, D_2$  be the corresponding persistence diagrams

- ◆  $d_H(D_1, D_2) \leq d_B(D_1, D_2)$
- ◆  $d_I(M, N) = d_B(D_1, D_2)$

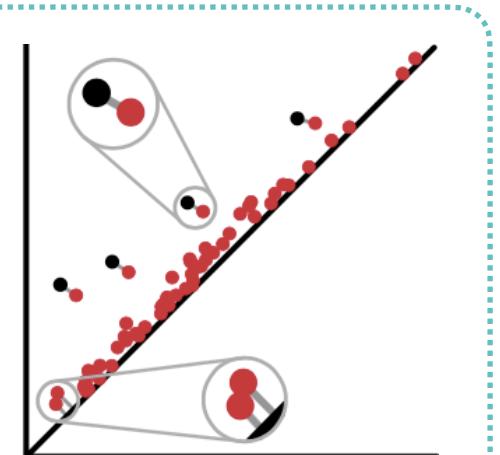
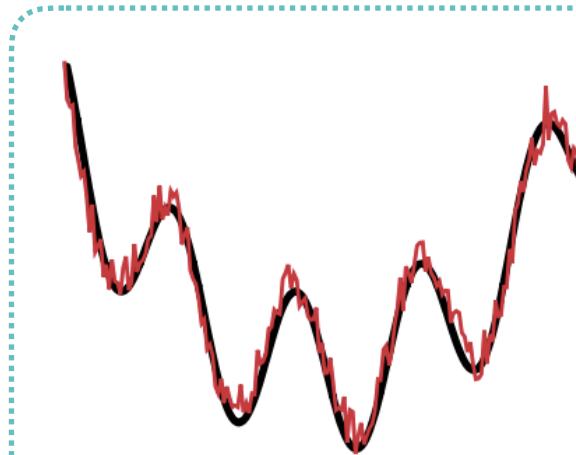
## Theorem:

Under the above hypothesis, the following **optimal lower bound** holds

$$d_I(M, N) \leq d_N((X, f), (Y, g))$$

# Stability of Persistence

## Stability Results:



## Theorem:

Given two **tame** continuous functions  $f, g: X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$   
on a topological space  $X$ ,  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ , and  $D_f, D_g$  the induced  $k^{\text{th}}$  persistence diagrams,

$$d_B(D_f, D_g) \leq \|f - g\|_\infty$$

# Stability of Persistence

## Stability Results:

### Theorem:

Given two finite metric spaces  $(X, d_X)$ ,  $(Y, d_Y)$ ,  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ , and  $D_X, D_Y$  the  $k^{\text{th}}$  persistence diagrams of the **filtrations of the Vietoris-Rips complexes generated by  $X$  and  $Y$** ,

$$d_B(D_X, D_Y) \leq d_{GH}(X, Y)$$

# Bibliography

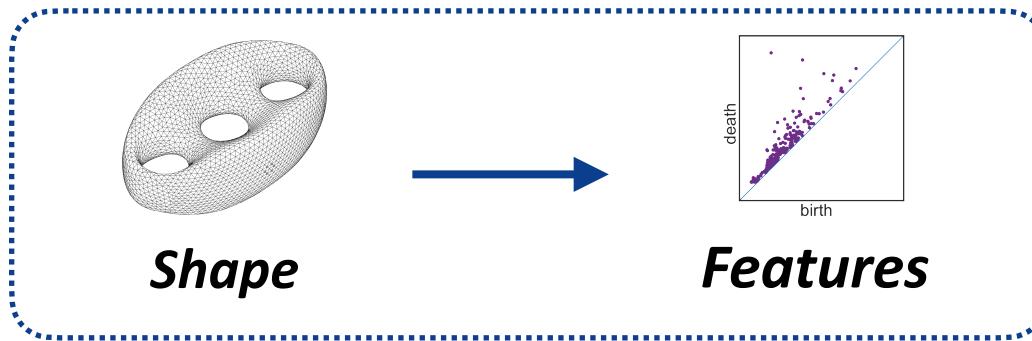
## Some References:

- ◆ **Stability Results:**
  - ❖ D. Cohen-Steiner, H. Edelsbrunner, J. Harer. **Stability of persistence diagrams.** Discrete & Computational Geometry 37.1, pages 103-120, 2007.
  - ❖ F. Chazal, D. Cohen-Steiner, M. Glisse, L. J. Guibas, S. Y. Oudot. **Proximity of persistence modules and their diagrams.** Proc. of the 35 annual symposium on Computational Geometry, pages 237-246, 2009.
  - ❖ F. Chazal, D. Cohen-Steiner, L. J. Guibas, F. Mémoli, S. Y. Oudot. **Gromov-Hausdorff stable signatures for shapes using persistence.** Computer Graphics Forum 28.5, pages 1393-1403, 2009.

# *Computing Persistence*

# Persistent Homology Computation

*Topological Data Analysis* allows for assigning to (almost) *any dataset* a collection of features representing a *topological summary* of the input data



*Goal:*

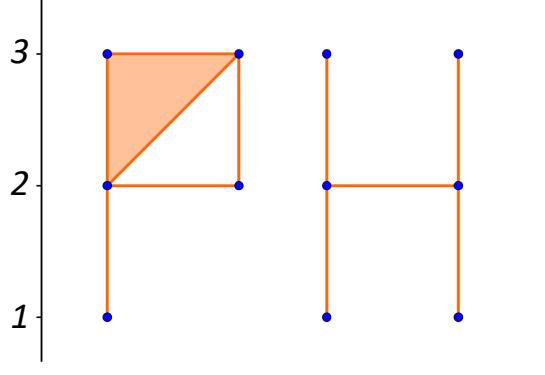
Today, we address two main questions:

- ◆ *How to efficiently compute (persistent) homology?*
- ◆ *How to compactly encode simplicial complexes of high dimension and large size?*

# Persistent Homology Computation

**Standard Algorithm:**

From:



[Zomorodian & Carlsson 2005]

To:

[1, 2]

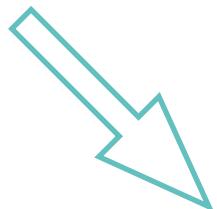
$H_0$

[1,  $\infty$ )

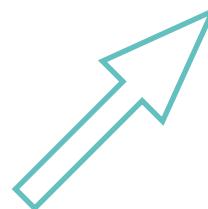
$H_1$

[3,  $\infty$ )

[1,  $\infty$ )



i\j	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
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23																							
low								4	6	7	5	3					13	14	15	16	22		



Compute a **reduced boundary matrix** for  $K^f$  from which easily read the persistence pairs

# Persistent Homology Computation

Given a filtered simplicial complex, let us consider its *filtering function*  $f$ :

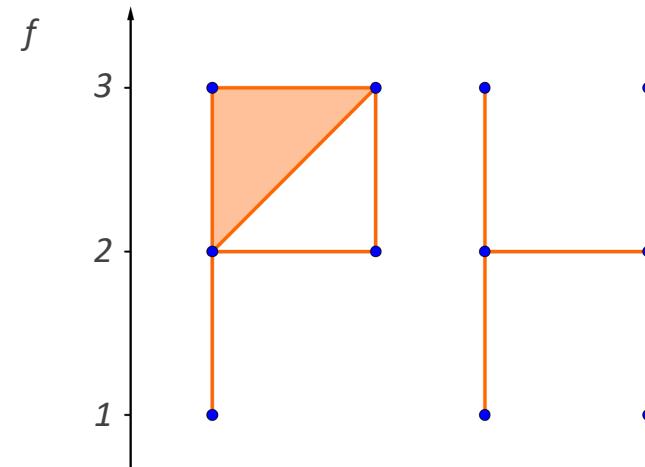
$$f(\sigma) := \min \{ p \mid \sigma \in K^p \}$$

Conversely,  $K^p := \{ \sigma \in K \mid f(\sigma) \leq p \}$

**Total Ordering on  $K^f$ :**

A sequence  $\sigma_1, \sigma_2, \dots, \sigma_n$  of the simplices of  $K^f$  such that:

- ◆ if  $f(\sigma_i) < f(\sigma_j)$ , then  $i < j$
- ◆ if  $\sigma_i$  is a proper face of  $\sigma_j$ , then  $i < j$



# Persistent Homology Computation

Given a filtered simplicial complex, let us consider its *filtering function*  $f$ :

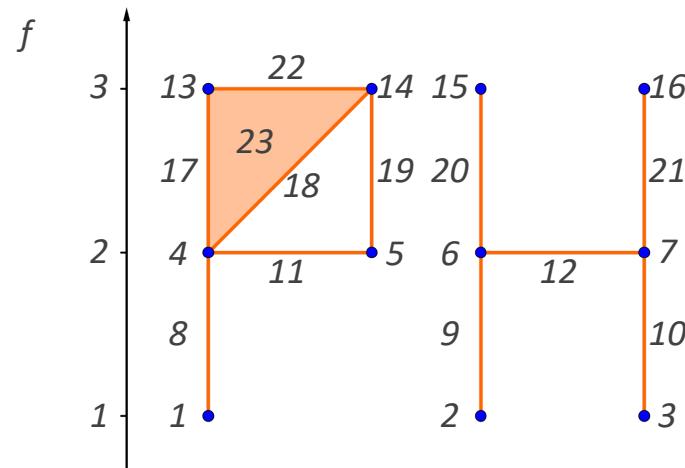
$$f(\sigma) := \min \{ p \mid \sigma \in K^p \}$$

Conversely,  $K^p := \{ \sigma \in K \mid f(\sigma) \leq p \}$

**A Possible Choice:**

Set  $\sigma < \sigma'$  if:

- ◆  $f(\sigma) < f(\sigma')$
- ◆  $f(\sigma) = f(\sigma')$  and  $\dim(\sigma) < \dim(\sigma')$
- ◆  $f(\sigma) = f(\sigma')$ ,  $\dim(\sigma) = \dim(\sigma')$ , and  $\sigma$  precedes  $\sigma'$  w.r.t. the *lexicographic order* of their vertices

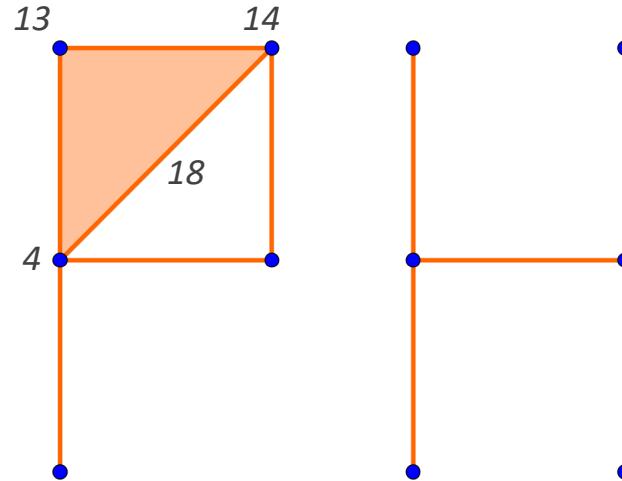


# Persistent Homology Computation

## Boundary Matrix:

A square matrix  $\mathbf{M}$  of size  $n \times n$  defined by

$$M_{i,j} := \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \sigma_i \text{ is a face of } \sigma_j \text{ s.t. } \dim(\sigma_i) = \dim(\sigma_j) - 1 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$



E.g.

- ◆  $M_{4,18} = 1$
- ◆  $M_{14,18} = 1$
- ◆  $M_{13,18} = 0$

# Persistent Homology Computation

## **Reduced Matrix:**

Given a non-null column  $j$  of a boundary matrix  $M$ ,

$$\text{low}(j) := \max \{ i \mid M_{i,j} \neq 0 \}$$

A matrix  $R$  is called **reduced** if, for each pair of non-null columns  $j_1, j_2$ ,

$$\text{low}(j_1) \neq \text{low}(j_2)$$

**Equivalently**, if low function is **injective** on its domain of definition

# Persistent Homology Computation

$i \setminus j$	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
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22																							1	
23																								
low								4	6	7	5	7						13	14	14	15	16	14	22

$low(10) = 7 = low(12)$



$M$  is not reduced

# Persistent Homology Computation

## Reduction Algorithm:

```
Matrix  $R = M$ 
for  $j = 1, \dots, n$  do
    while  $\exists j' < j$  with  $\text{low}(j') = \text{low}(j)$  do
         $R.\text{column}(j) = R.\text{column}(j) + R.\text{column}(j')$ 
    endwhile
endfor
return  $R$ 
```

## Time Complexity:

At most  $n^2$  column additions



$O(n^3)$  in the worst case

$i \setminus j$	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
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2									1															
3										1														
4							1				1							1	1					
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22																							1	
23																								
low								4	6	7	5	7						13	14	14	15	16	14	22

Initialize  $\mathbf{R}$  to  $\mathbf{M}$ , where

$\mathbf{M}$  is the **boundary matrix** of  $K^f$

expressed according with a **total ordering** of its simplices

$j < 12$ 

$i \setminus j$	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
1								1																
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22																							1	
23																								
low								4	6	7	5	7						13	14	14	15	16	14	22

For each  $j < 12$ ,

there is no  $j' < j$  such that  
 $low(j') = low(j)$

So, increase  $j$  by 1

$j'$

$j$

$i \setminus j$	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23		
1								1																	
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low								4	6	7	5	7							13	14	14	15	16	14	22

For  $j = 12$ ,  $\text{low}(12) = 7$

column  $j'=10$  is such that  $\text{low}(j') = \text{low}(j) = 7$

So, set

column 12 := column 12 + column 10

*j*

$i \setminus j$	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23		
1								1																	
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22																							1		
23																									
low								4	6	7	5	6							13	14	14	15	16	14	22

For  $j = 12$ ,  $\text{low}(12) = 7$

*column  $j'=10$  is such that  $\text{low}(j') = \text{low}(j) = 7$*

So, set

*column 12 := column 12 + column 10*  $\longrightarrow \text{low}(12) = 6$

$j'$        $j$

$i \setminus j$	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23			
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22																							1			
23																										
low									4	6	7	5	6							13	14	14	15	16	14	22

For  $j = 12$ ,  $\text{low}(12) = 6$

*column  $j' = 9$  is such that  $\text{low}(j') = \text{low}(j) = 6$*

So, set

*column 12 := column 12 + column 9*

*j*

$i \setminus j$	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
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22																							1	
23																								
low								4	6	7	5	3						13	14	14	15	16	14	22

For  $j = 12$ ,  $\text{low}(12) = 6$

*column  $j' = 9$  is such that  $\text{low}(j') = \text{low}(j) = 6$*

So, set

*column 12 := column 12 + column 9*  $\longrightarrow \text{low}(12) = 3$

*j*

$i \setminus j$	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
1								1																
2									1				1											
3										1			1											
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22																							1	
23																								
low								4	6	7	5	3						13	14	14	15	16	14	22

For each  $j = 12$ ,

there is no  $j' < j$  such that  
 $low(j') = low(j) = 3$

So, increase  $j$  by 1

$$12 < j < 19$$

$i \setminus j$	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23		
1									1																
2										1				1											
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4								1				1						1	1						
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22																							1		
23																									
low									4	6	7	5	3						13	14	14	15	16	14	22

For each  $12 < j < 19$ ,

there is no  $j' < j$  such that  
 $low(j') = low(j)$

So, increase  $j$  by 1

$j'$      $j$

$i \setminus j$	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
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low								4	6	7	5	3						13	14	14	15	16	14	22

For  $j = 19$ ,  $\text{low}(19) = 14$

column  $j' = 18$  is such that  $\text{low}(j') = \text{low}(j) = 14$

So, set

column 19 := column 19 + column 18

*j*

$i \setminus j$	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
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low								4	6	7	5	3						13	14	5	15	16	14	22

For  $j = 19$ ,  $\text{low}(19) = 14$

column  $j' = 18$  is such that  $\text{low}(j') = \text{low}(j) = 14$

So, set

column 19 := column 19 + column 18  $\longrightarrow \text{low}(19) = 5$

$j'$

$j$

$i \setminus j$	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23		
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21																									
22																							1		
23																									
low									4	6	7	5	3						13	14	5	15	16	14	22

For  $j = 19$ ,  $\text{low}(19) = 5$

column  $j' = 11$  is such that  $\text{low}(j') = \text{low}(j) = 5$

So, set

column 19 := column 19 + column 11

*j*

$i \setminus j$	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
1								1																
2									1				1											
3										1		1												
4								1			1							1	1					
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14																		1				1		
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16																				1				
17																						1		
18																						1		
19																								
20																								
21																								
22																							1	
23																								
low								4	6	7	5	3						13	14		15	16	14	22

For  $j = 19$ ,  $\text{low}(19) = 5$

column  $j' = 11$  is such that  $\text{low}(j') = \text{low}(j) = 5$

So, set

column 19 := column 19 + column 11  $\longrightarrow$  low(19) undefined

$j$

$i \setminus j$	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23		
1									1																
2										1				1											
3											1		1												
4								1			1							1	1						
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17																						1			
18																						1			
19																									
20																									
21																									
22																							1		
23																									
low									4	6	7	5	3						13	14		15	16	14	22

For each  $j = 19$ ,

there is no  $j' < j$  such that  
 $low(j') = low(j)$

So, increase  $j$  by 1

$$19 < j < 22$$

$i \setminus j$	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
1								1																
2									1				1											
3										1		1												
4							1				1							1	1					
5												1												
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14																		1					1	
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16																				1				
17																							1	
18																							1	
19																								
20																								
21																								
22																							1	
23																								
low								4	6	7	5	3						13	14		15	16	14	22

For each  $19 < j < 22$ ,

there is no  $j' < j$  such that  
 $low(j') = low(j)$

So, increase  $j$  by 1

$j'$

$j$

$i \setminus j$	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
1								1																
2									1				1											
3										1		1												
4								1			1							1	1					
5												1												
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16																				1				
17																						1		
18																						1		
19																								
20																								
21																								
22																						1		
23																								
low								4	6	7	5	3						13	14		15	16	14	22

For  $j = 22$ ,  $\text{low}(22) = 14$

column  $j' = 18$  is such that  $\text{low}(j') = \text{low}(j) = 14$

So, set

column 22 := column 22 + column 18

$i \setminus j$	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23		
1									1																
2										1				1											
3											1			1											
4											1			1									1		
5														1											
6												1											1		
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18																						1			
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20																									
21																									
22																							1		
23																									
low									4	6	7	5	3						13	14		15	16	13	22

For  $j = 22$ ,  $\text{low}(22) = 14$

column  $j' = 18$  is such that  $\text{low}(j') = \text{low}(j) = 14$

So, set

column 22 := column 22 + column 18  $\longrightarrow \text{low}(22) = 13$

$j'$

$j$

$i \setminus j$	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
1								1																
2									1			1												
3										1		1												
4								1			1						1	1				1		
5											1													
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17																						1		
18																						1		
19																								
20																								
21																								
22																							1	
23																								
low								4	6	7	5	3					13	14			15	16	13	22

For  $j = 22$ ,  $\text{low}(22) = 13$

column  $j' = 17$  is such that  $\text{low}(j') = \text{low}(j) = 13$

So, set

column 22 := column 22 + column 17

$i \setminus j$	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
1								1															
2									1				1										
3										1			1										
4								1				1						1	1				
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19																							
20																							
21																							
22																						1	
23																							
low								4	6	7	5	3						13	14		15	16	22

For  $j = 22$ ,  $\text{low}(22) = 13$

column  $j' = 17$  is such that  $\text{low}(j') = \text{low}(j) = 13$

So, set

column 22 := column 22 + column 17  $\longrightarrow$  low(22) undefined

$i \setminus j$	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
1									1															
2										1				1										
3											1			1										
4									1				1								1	1		
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18																						1		
19																								
20																								
21																								
22																							1	
23																								
low									4	6	7	5	3						13	14		15	16	22

For each  $j = 22$ ,

there is no  $j' < j$  such that  
 $low(j') = low(j)$

So, increase  $j$  by 1

$i \setminus j$	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
1									1															
2										1				1										
3											1			1										
4									1				1											
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6										1													1	
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16																				1				
17																							1	
18																							1	
19																								
20																								
21																								
22																							1	
23																								
low									4	6	7	5	3						13	14		15	16	22

For each  $j = 23$ ,

there is no  $j' < j$  such that  
 $low(j') = low(j) = 22$

So, matrix  $R$  is reduced

$i \setminus j$	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
1								1															
2									1				1										
3										1		1											
4							1				1							1	1				
5												1											
6									1												1		
7										1												1	
8																							
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17																					1		
18																						1	
19																							
20																							
21																							
22																							1
23																							
low								4	6	7	5	3						13	14		15	16	22

The algorithm returns the above **reduced matrix  $R$**

# Persistent Homology Computation

## Retrieving Persistence Pairs:

- ◆ For each  $i = 1, \dots, n$ ,  
if there exists  $j$  such that  $\text{low}(j) = i$    $[i, j]$  is a pair for  $R$
- ◆ Once every  $i$  has been parsed,  
if  $i$  is an **unpaired** value   $[i, \infty)$  is a pair for  $R$

From pairs of  $R$  to the “**actual**” persistence pairs of  $K^f$ :

$[i, j]$  corresponds to  $[f(\sigma_i), f(\sigma_j)]$

( homological degree =  $\dim(\sigma_i)$  )

$[i, \infty)$  corresponds to  $[f(\sigma_i), \infty)$

# Persistent Homology Computation

$H_0$

$[1, \infty)$

$[2, \infty)$

$[3, 12]$

$[4, 8]$

$[5, 11]$

$[6, 9]$

$[7, 10]$

$[13, 17]$

$[14, 18]$

$[15, 20]$

$[16, 21]$

$H_1$

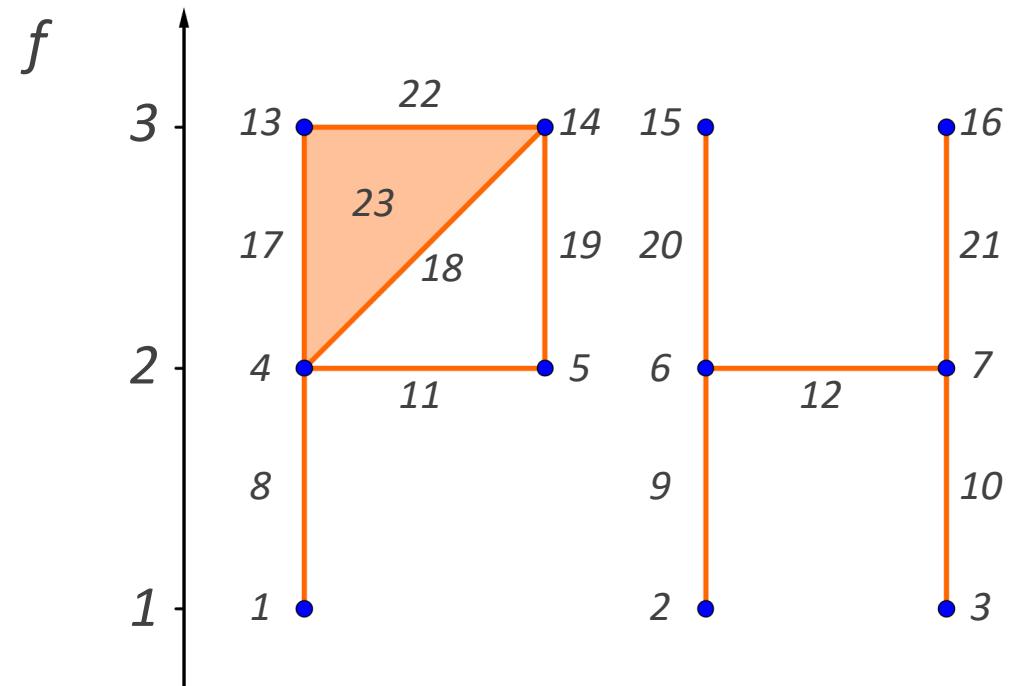
$[19, \infty)$

$[22, 23]$

$i \setminus j$	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
1								1															
2									1					1									
3										1				1									
4										1				1						1	1		
5											1												
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17																						1	
18																						1	
19																							
20																							
21																							
22																							1
23																							
low								4	6	7	5	3						13	14		15	16	22

# Persistent Homology Computation

	$H_0$
$[1, \infty)$	$[1, \infty)$
$[2, \infty)$	$[1, \infty)$
$[3, 12]$	$[1, 2]$
$[4, 8]$	$[2, 2]$
$[5, 11]$	$[2, 2]$
$[6, 9]$	$[2, 2]$
$[7, 10]$	$[2, 2]$
$[13, 17]$	$[3, 3]$
$[14, 18]$	$[3, 3]$
$[15, 20]$	$[3, 3]$
$[16, 21]$	$[3, 3]$



$H_1$      $[19, \infty)$      $[3, \infty)$   
 $[22, 23]$      $[3, 3]$

# Persistent Homology Computation

**Standard algorithm** to compute (persistent) homology [Zomorodian & Carlsson 2005]:

- ◆ Based on a **matrix reduction**
- ◆ **Linear complexity** in practical cases
- ◆ **Cubic complexity** in the worst case

## Several different strategies:

### Direct approaches:

- ◆ **Zigzag persistent homology** [Milosavljević et al. '05]
- ◆ **Computation with a twist** [Chen, Kerber '11]
- ◆ **Dual algorithm** [De Silvia et al. '11]
- ◆ **Output-sensitive algorithm** [Chen, Kerber '13]
- ◆ **Multi-field algorithm** [Boissonnat, Maria '14]
- ◆ **Annotation-based methods** [Boissonnat et al. '13; Dey et al. '14]

### Distributed approaches:

- ◆ **Spectral sequences** [Edelsbrunner, Harer '08; Lipsky et al. '11]
- ◆ **Constructive Mayer-Vietoris** [Boltcheva et al. '11]
- ◆ **Multicore coreductions** [Murty et al. '13]
- ◆ **Multicore homology** [Lewis, Zomorodian '14]
- ◆ **Persistent homology in chunks** [Bauer et al. '14a]
- ◆ **Distributed persistent computation** [Bauer et al. '14b]

### Coarsening approaches:

- ◆ **Topological operators and simplifications** [Mrozek, Wanner '10; Dłotko, Wagner '14]
- ◆ **Morse-based approaches** [Robins et al. '11; Harker et al. '14; Fugacci et al. '14]

# Persistent Homology Computation

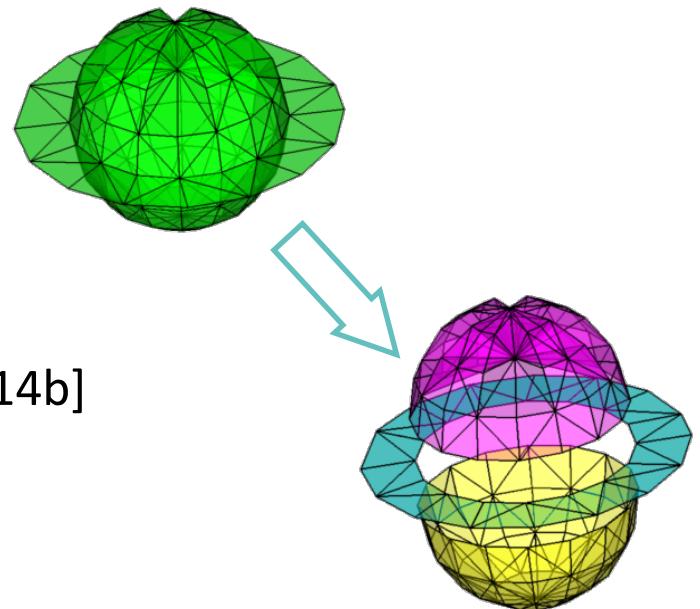
## *Direct Approaches:*

- ◆ **Zigzag persistent homology** [Milosavljević et al. '05]
- ◆ **Computation with a twist** [Chen, Kerber '11]
- ◆ **Dual algorithm** [De Silvia et al. '11]
- ◆ **Output-sensitive algorithm** [Chen, Kerber '13]
- ◆ **Multi-field algorithm** [Boissonnat, Maria '14]
- ◆ **Annotation-based methods** [Boissonnat et al. '13; Dey et al. '14]

# Persistent Homology Computation

## Distributed Approaches:

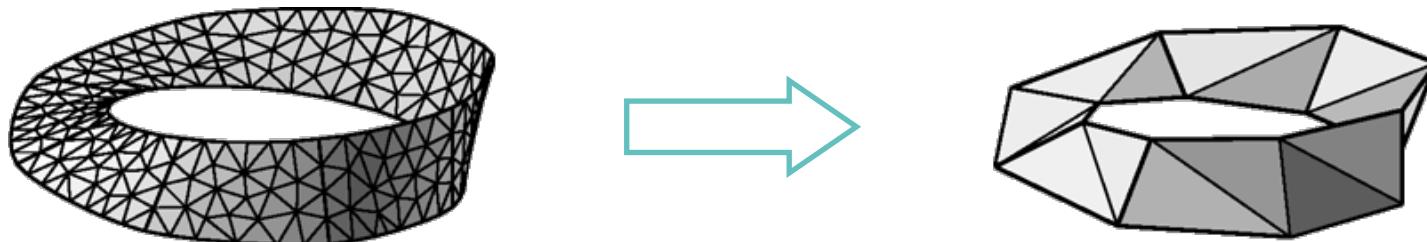
- ◆ **Spectral sequences** [Edelsbrunner, Harer '08; Lipsky et al. '11]
- ◆ **Constructive Mayer-Vietoris** [Boltcheva et al. '11]
- ◆ **Multicore coreductions** [Murty et al. '13]
- ◆ **Multicore homology** [Lewis, Zomorodian '14]
- ◆ **Persistent homology in chunks** [Bauer et al. '14a]
- ◆ **Distributed persistent computation** [Bauer et al. '14b]



# Persistent Homology Computation

## *Coarsening Approaches:*

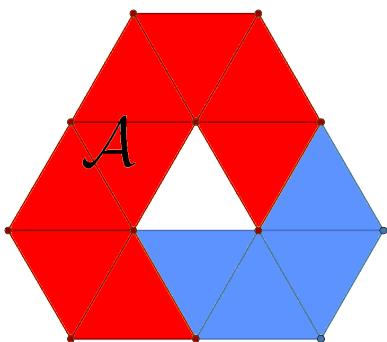
- ◆ ***Topological operators and simplifications*** [Dłotko, Wagner '14]
  - ❖ Acyclic subcomplexes [Mrozek et al. '08]
  - ❖ Reductions and coreductions [Mrozek et al. '10]
  - ❖ Edge contractions [Attali et al. '11]
- ◆ ***Morse-based approaches*** [Robins et al. '11; Harker et al. '14; Fugacci et al. '14]



# Persistent Homology Computation

## *Coarsening Approaches:*

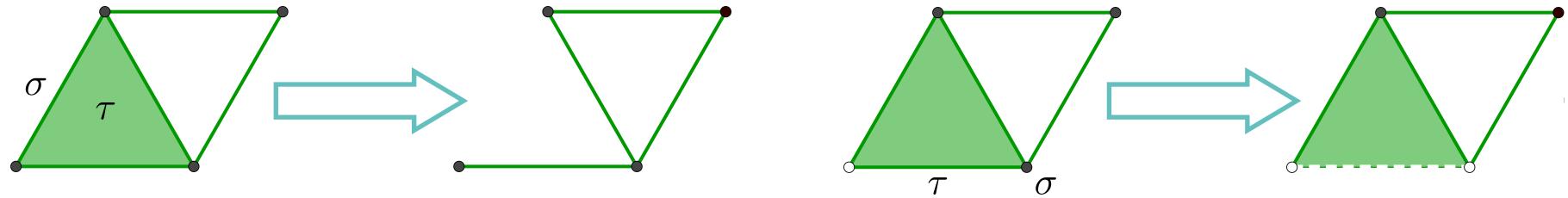
- ◆ ***Topological operators and simplifications*** [Dłotko, Wagner '14]
  - ❖ ***Acyclic subcomplexes*** [Mrozek et al. '08]
  - ❖ Reductions and coreductions [Mrozek et al. '10]
  - ❖ Edge contractions [Attali et al. '11]
- ◆ ***Morse-based approaches*** [Robins et al. '11; Harker et al. '14; Fugacci et al. '14]



# Persistent Homology Computation

## Coarsening Approaches:

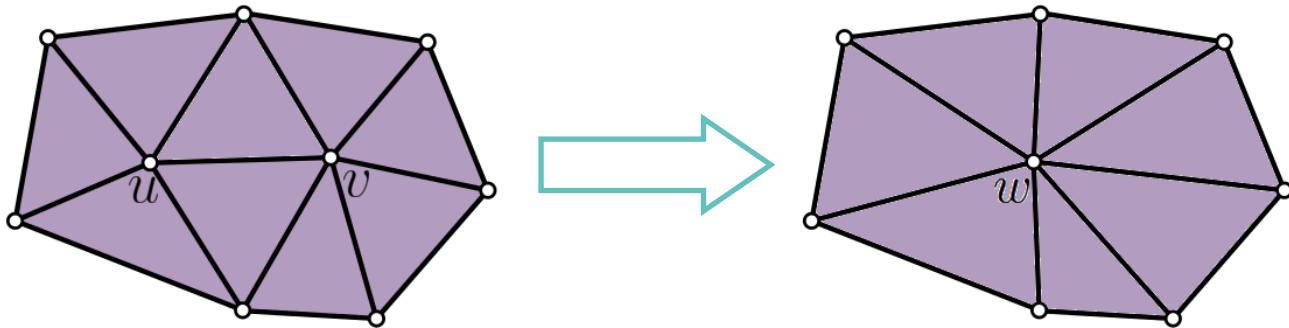
- ◆ **Topological operators and simplifications** [Dłotko, Wagner '14]
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  - ❖ Edge contractions [Attali et al. '11]
- ◆ **Morse-based approaches** [Robins et al. '11; Harker et al. '14; Fugacci et al. '14]



# Persistent Homology Computation

## Coarsening Approaches:

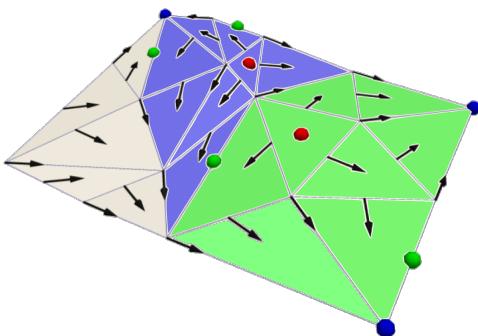
- ◆ **Topological operators and simplifications** [Dłotko, Wagner '14]
  - ❖ Acyclic subcomplexes [Mrozek et al. '08]
  - ❖ Reductions and coreductions [Mrozek et al. '10]
  - ❖ *Edge contractions* [Attali et al. '11]
- ◆ **Morse-based approaches** [Robins et al. '11; Harker et al. '14; Fugacci et al. '14]



# Persistent Homology Computation

## *Coarsening Approaches:*

- ◆ ***Topological operators and simplifications*** [Dłotko, Wagner '14]
  - ❖ Acyclic subcomplexes [Mrozek et al. '08]
  - ❖ Reductions and coreductions [Mrozek et al. '10]
  - ❖ Edge contractions [Attali et al. '11]
- ◆ ***Morse-based approaches*** [Robins et al. '11; Harker et al. '14; Fugacci et al. '14]



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## Some References:

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  - ❖ A. Zomorodian, G. Carlsson. **Computing persistent homology.** Discrete & Computational Geometry, 33.2, pages 249-274, 2005.
  - ❖ N. Otter, M.A. Porter, U. Tillmann, P. Grindrod, H.A. Harrington. **A roadmap for the computation of persistent homology.** EPJ Data Science, 6.1, 2017.