

*Topological Data Analysis*

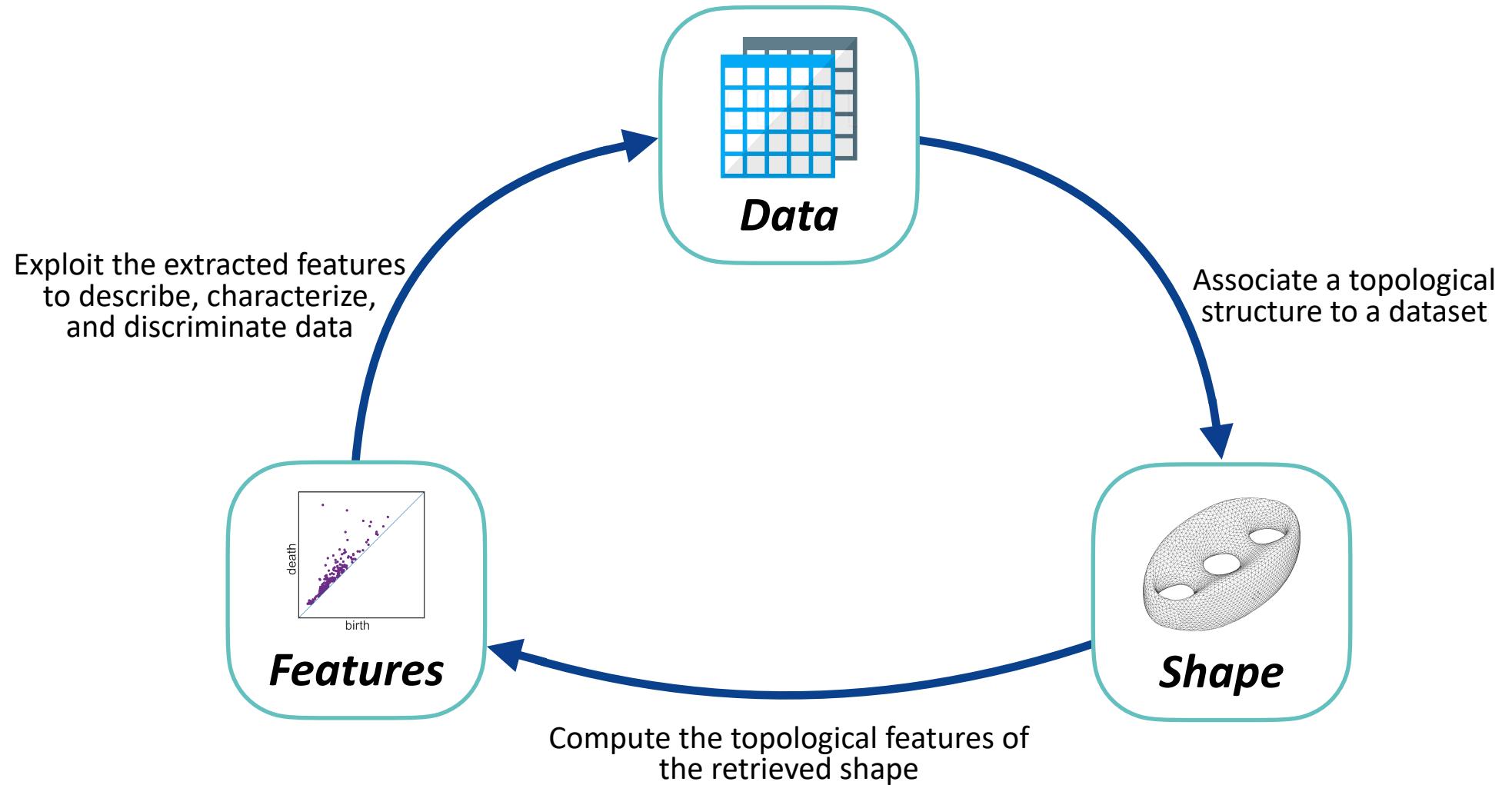
# *Persistence & Stability*

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CNR - IMATI

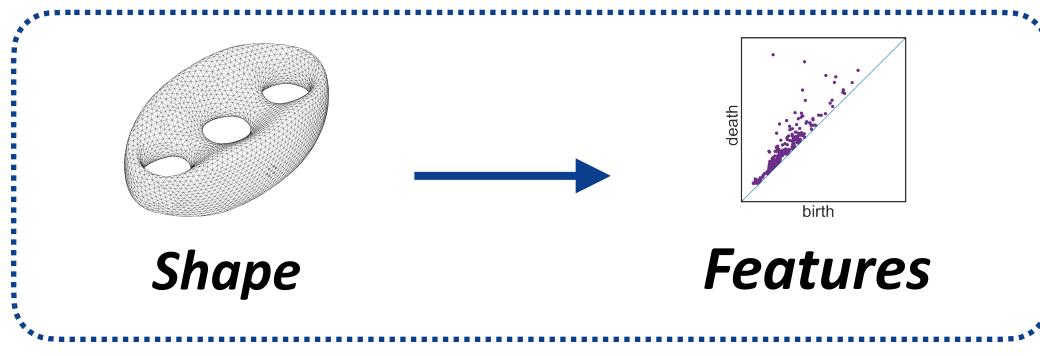
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# Topological Data Analysis



# Persistence & Stability

(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?*

# Persistence & Stability

Given a filtration  $\mathcal{F}$ :  $K^0 \subseteq K^1 \subseteq \dots \subseteq K^m$ ,  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ , and a field  $\mathbb{F}$ ,

its **persistence module**  $M := \bigoplus_{p \in \mathbb{N}} H_k(K^p; \mathbb{F})$  is a **finitely generated  $\mathbb{F}[x]$ -module**

The corresponding structure theorem ensures us that

**Theorem:**

*The persistence module  $M$  can be expressed as*

$$M \cong \bigoplus_{j=1}^N \mathbb{F}[x](-p'_j) \oplus \bigoplus_{i=1}^M \mathbb{F}[x](-p_i)/(x^{q_i})$$

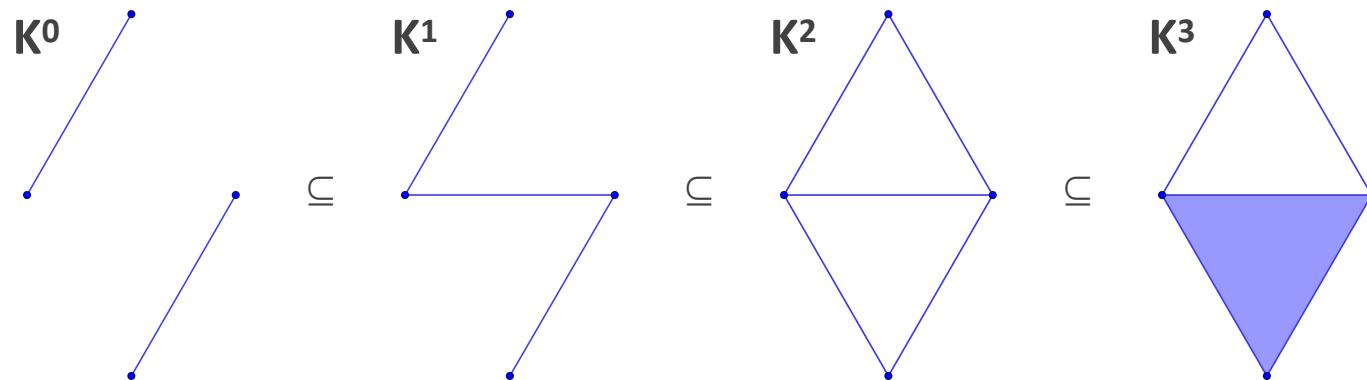
*So, the persistence module  $M$  is completely determined by its persistence pairs*

i.e., the collection of the pairs  $(p_i, q_i), (p'_j, \infty)$

# Persistence & Stability

The *core information* of persistent homology is given by the *persistence pairs*

Given a filtration  $\mathcal{F}$ :  $K^0 \subseteq K^1 \subseteq \dots \subseteq K^m$ ,

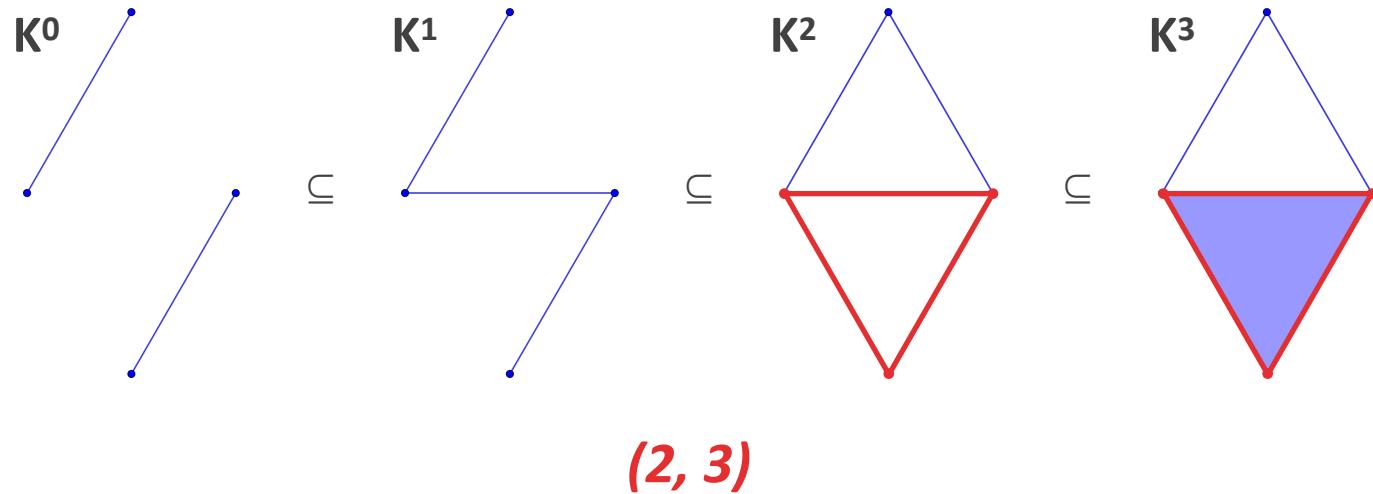


A *persistence pair*  $(p, q)$  is an element in  $\{0, \dots, m\} \times (\{0, \dots, m\} \cup \{\infty\})$  such that  $p < q$  representing a **homological class** that is **born at step  $p$**  and **dies at step  $q$**

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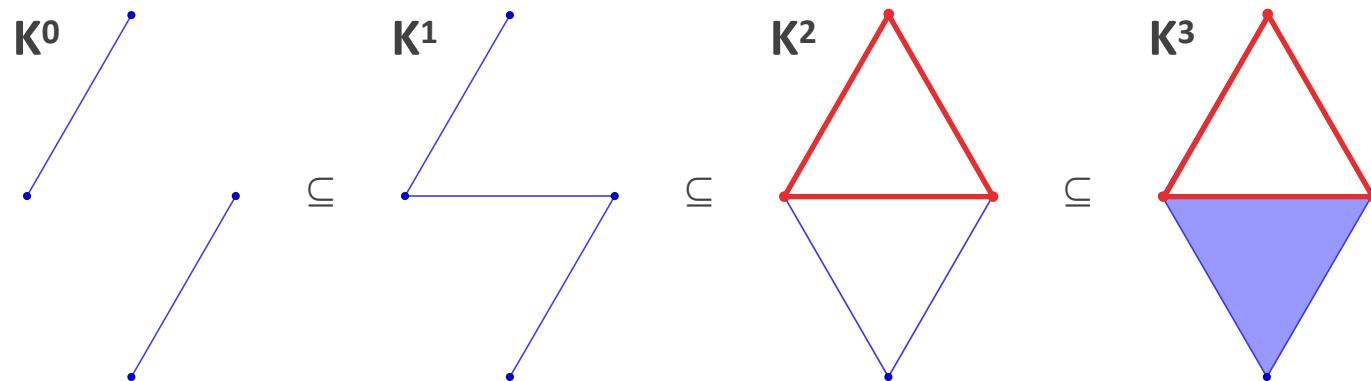


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**(2,  $\infty$ ) essential pair**

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# Persistence & Stability

*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

# Persistence & Stability

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



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*

# *Persistence & Stability*

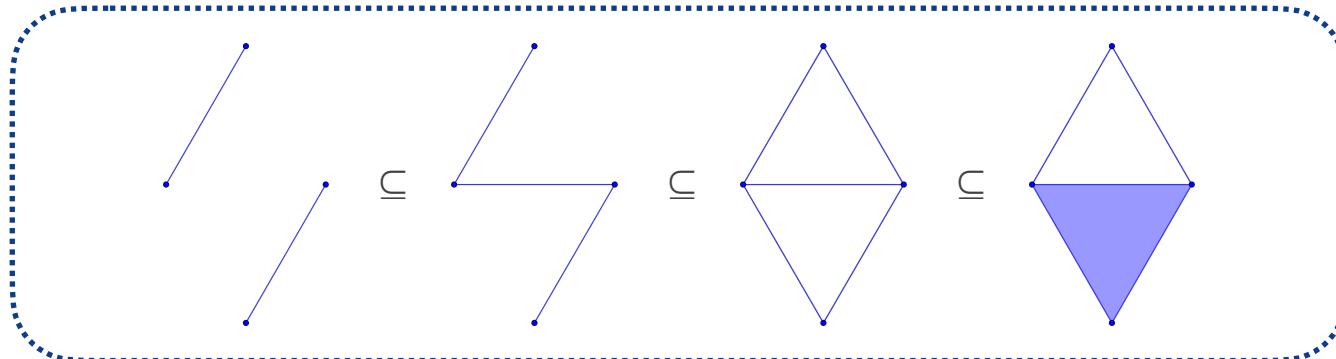
- ◆ *Persistence Pairs and their Visualization*
- ◆ *Stability Results for Persistent Homology*

# ***Persistence & Stability***

- ◆ ***Persistence Pairs and their Visualization***
- ◆ *Stability Results for Persistent Homology*

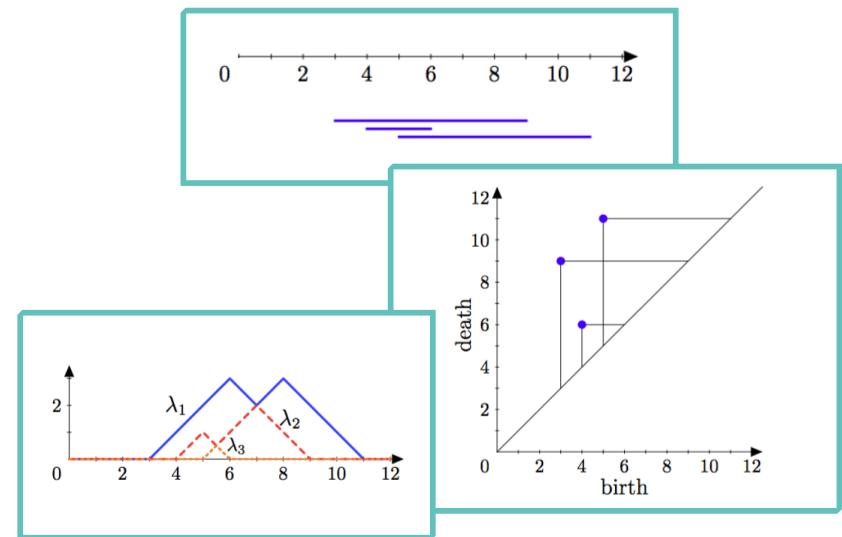
# Visualizing Persistence Pairs

Given a filtration  $\mathcal{F}$ ,



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

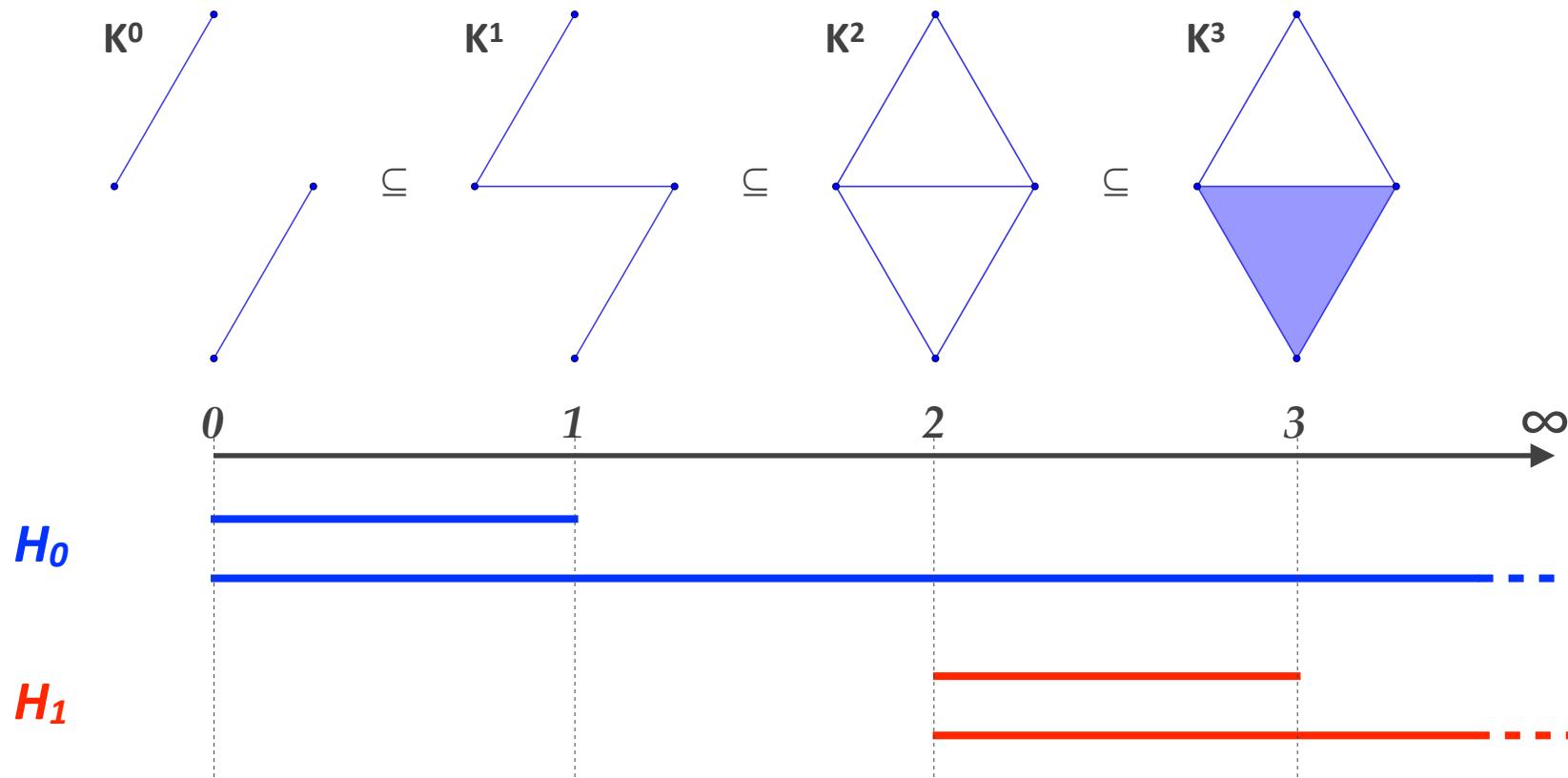
- ◆ **Barcodes** [Carlsson et al. 2005; Ghrist 2008]
- ◆ **Persistence diagrams** [Edelsbrunner, Harer 2008]
- ◆ **Persistence landscapes** [Bubenik 2015]
- ◆ **Corner points and lines** [Frosini, Landi 2001]
- ◆ **Half-open intervals** [Edelsbrunner et al. 2002]
- ◆  **$k$ -triangles** [Edelsbrunner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



# Visualizing Persistence Pairs

**Barcodes:**

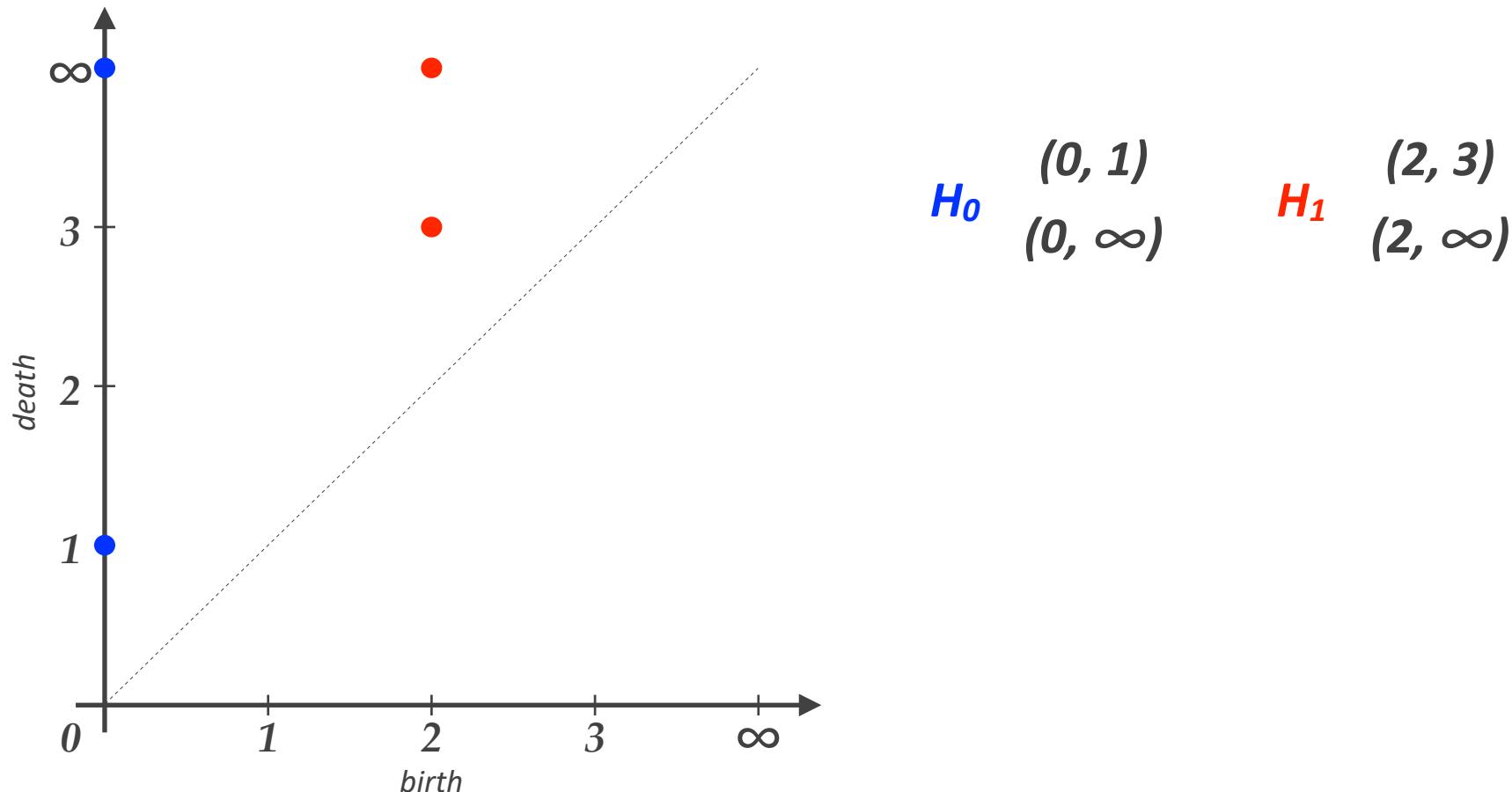
Persistence pairs are represented as **intervals in  $\mathbb{R}$**



# Visualizing Persistence Pairs

**Persistence Diagrams:**

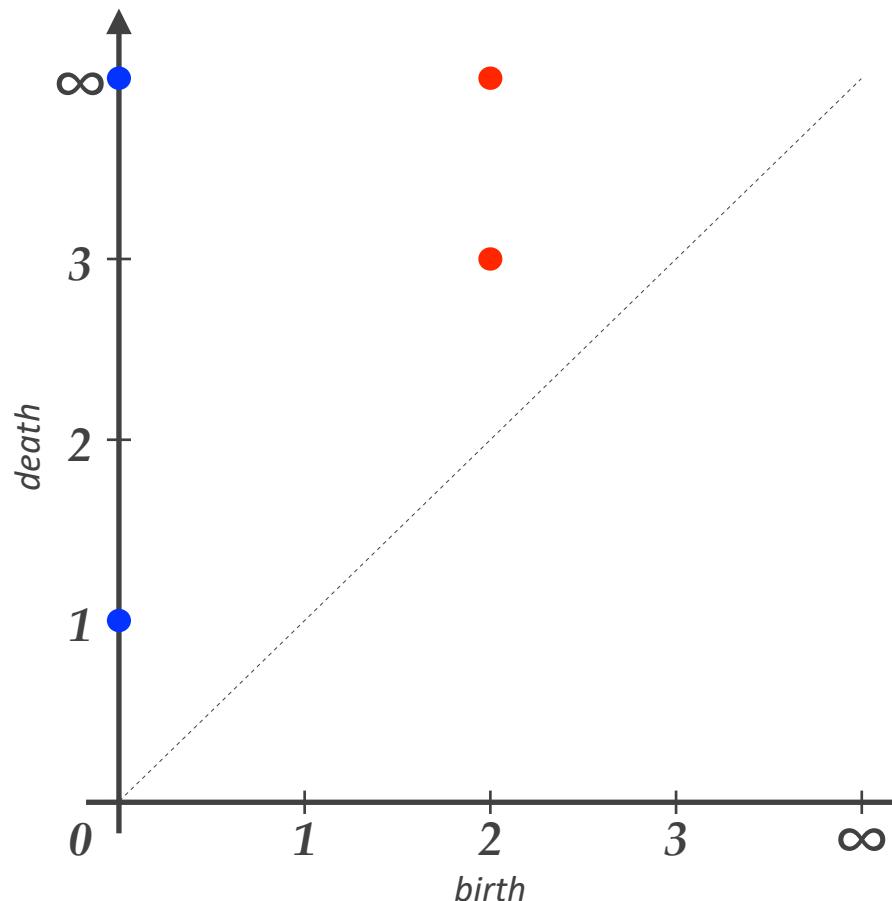
Persistence pairs are represented as *points* in  $\mathbb{R}^2$



# Visualizing Persistence Pairs

## Persistence Diagrams:

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

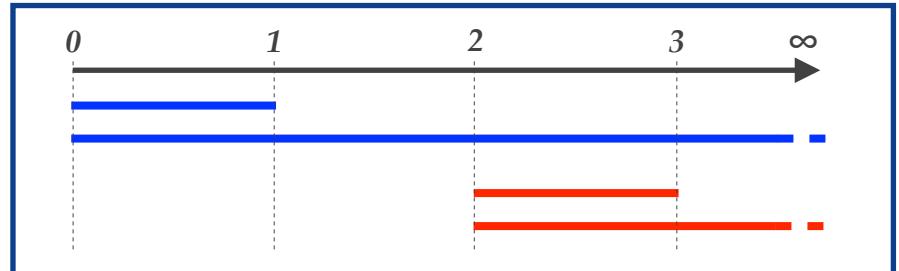


$H_0$	(0, 1)	$H_1$	(2, 3)
	(0, $\infty$ )		(2, $\infty$ )

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

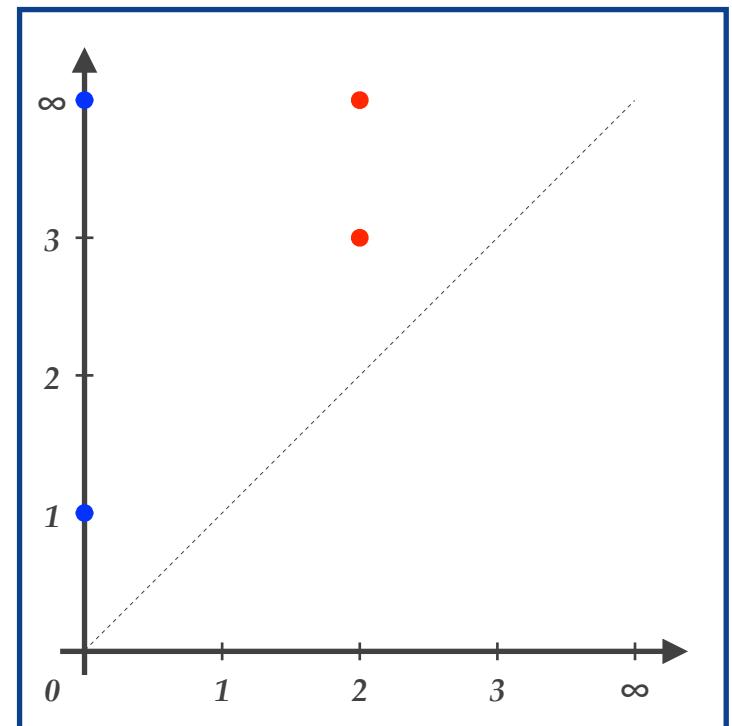
# Visualizing Persistence Pairs

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



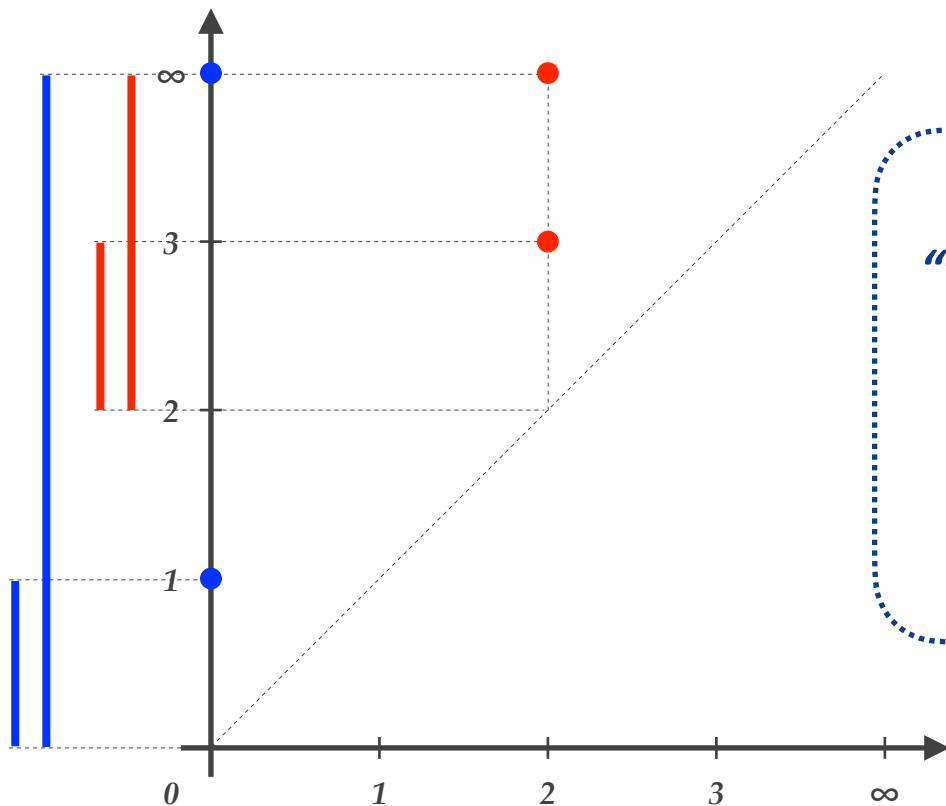
- ◆ Barcode: **length of the intervals**
- ◆ Persistence Diagram: **distance from the diagonal**

Barcodes and Persistence Diagrams  
encode equivalent information



# Visualizing Persistence Pairs

Barcodes and Persistence Diagrams *encode equivalent information*



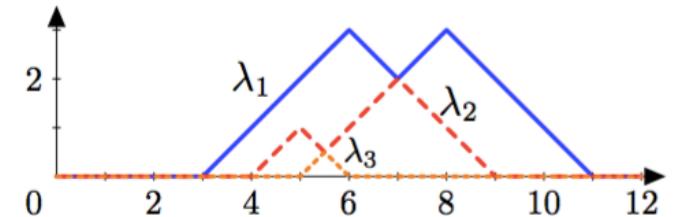
A visualization can be easily  
“*translated*” into the other one:

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

# Visualizing Persistence Pairs

## Persistence Landscapes:

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

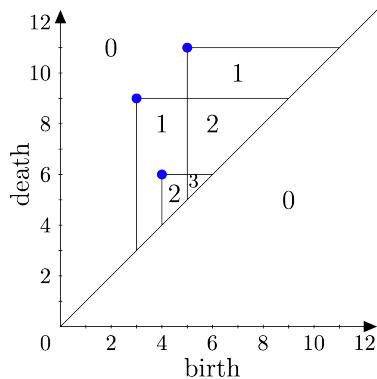


Given a persistence module  $M$ , persistence landscapes

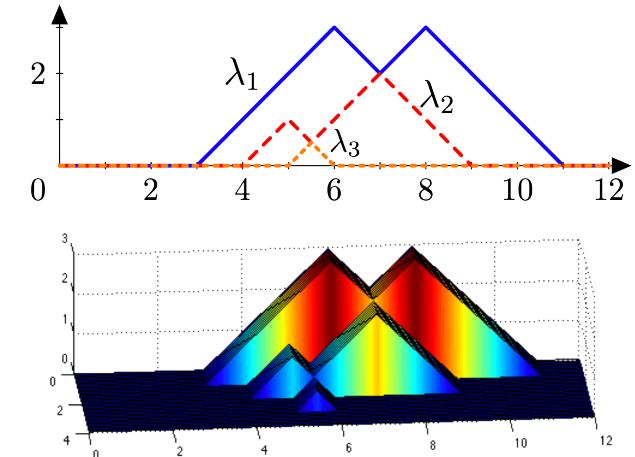
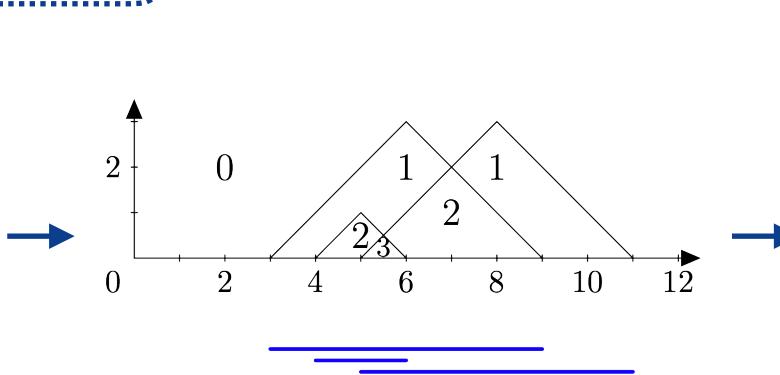
- ◆ Consist of a collection of **1-Lipschitz functions**
- ◆ Lie in a **vector space**
- ◆ Are **stable** (under small perturbations of the input filtration)

# Visualizing Persistence Pairs

## Persistence Landscapes:



Given a persistence module  $M$ ,



Formally,

Images from [Bubenik 2015]

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

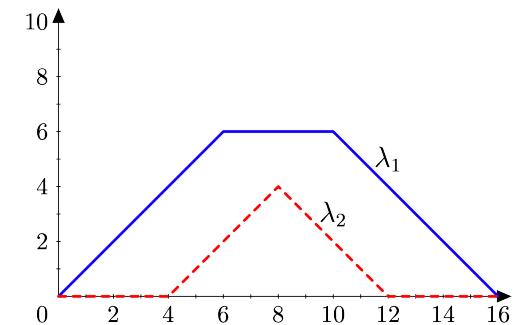
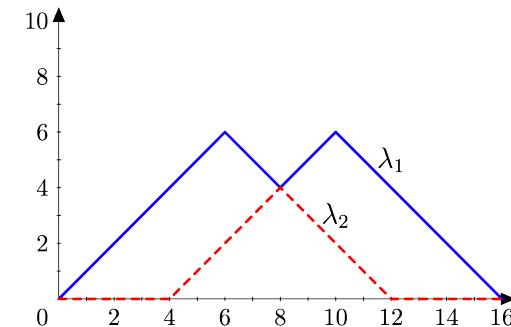
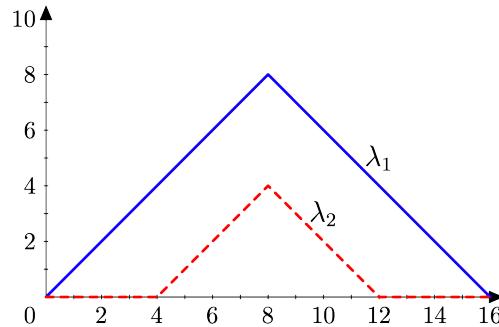
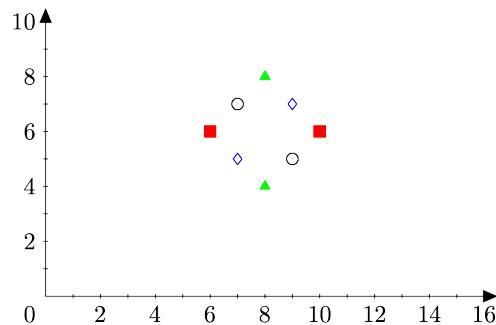
where  $\beta^{a,b} := \dim(\text{im}(\iota_{a,b} : M_a \rightarrow M_b))$

# Visualizing Persistence Pairs

**Persistence Landscapes:**

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

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



Images from [Bubenik 2015]

# **Persistence & Stability**

- ◆ *Persistence Pairs and their Visualization*
- ◆ ***Stability Results for Persistent Homology***

# Stability of Persistence Pairs

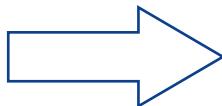
In order to be adopted in real applicative domains, it is crucial that

***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 Pairs

## *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 Pairs

## *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*:

- ◆  $X^t := f^{-1}((-\infty, t])$

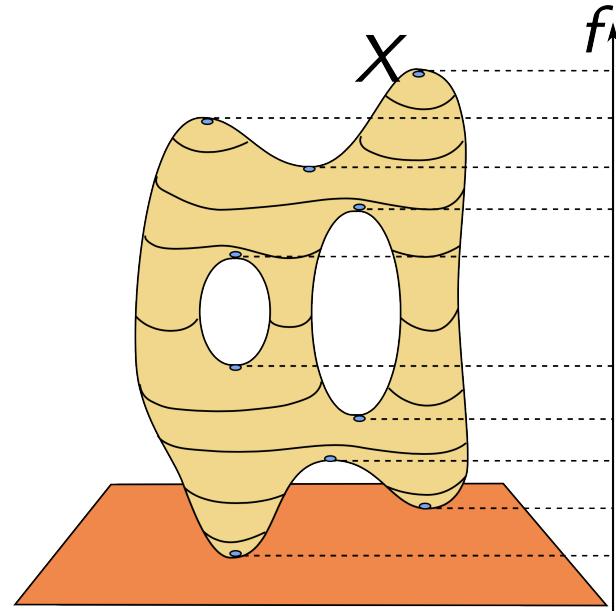


Image from [Ferri et al. 2015]

## *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 Pairs

***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 Pairs

## *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  $g$

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

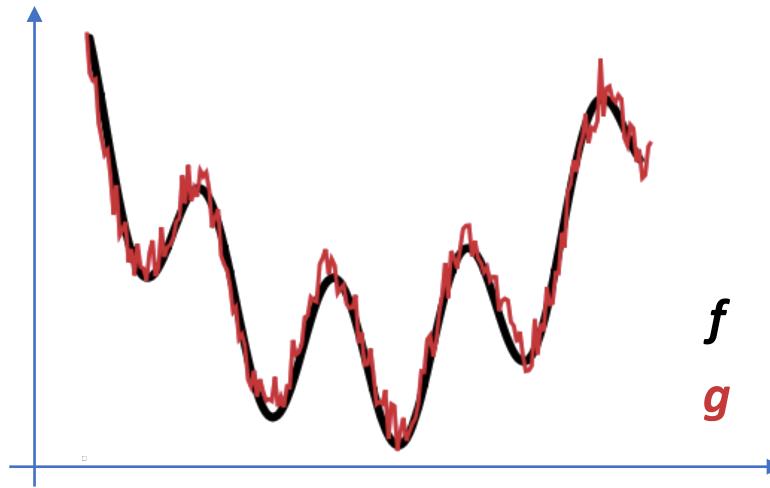


Image from [Rieck 2016]

# Stability of Persistence Pairs

## *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  $d_{GH}$**  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 Pairs

## *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 Pairs

**Distances for Persistent Homology Information:**

**Definitions:**

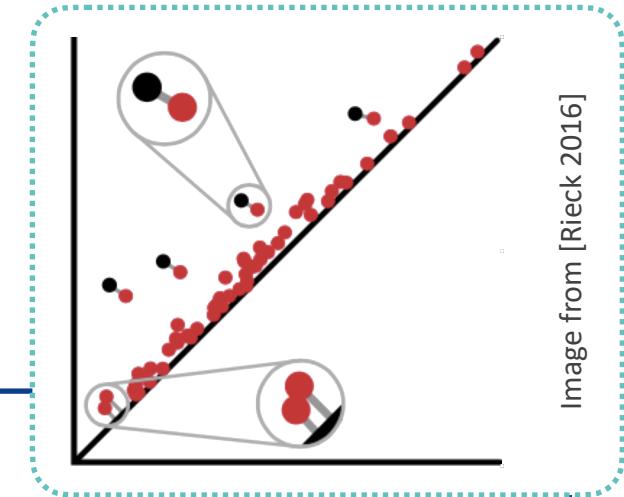
Given two persistence diagrams  $D_1$  and  $D_2$ ,

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 Pairs

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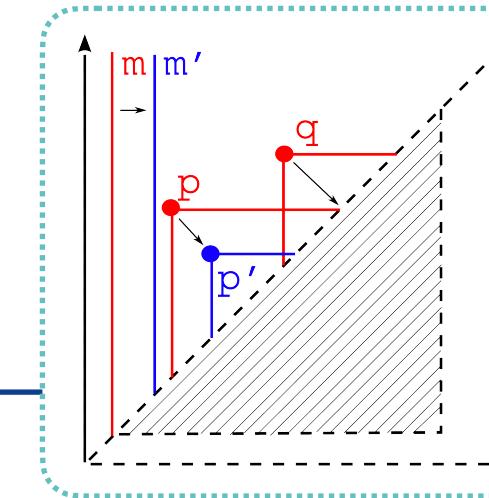


Image from [Ferri et al. 2015]

# Stability of Persistence Pairs

## 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

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

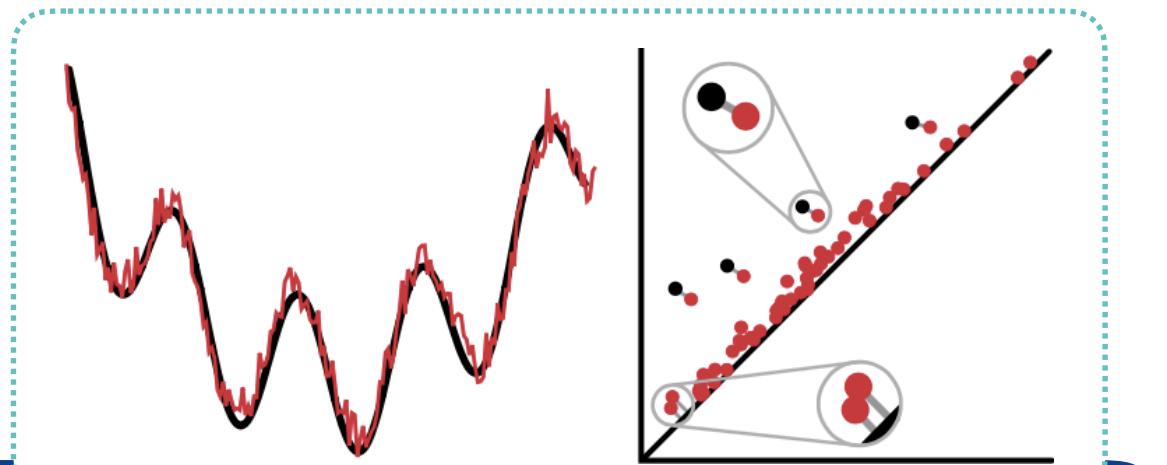
## Theorem:

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

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

# Stability of Persistence Pairs

## 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 Pairs

## **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

## General References:

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  - ❖ H. Edelsbrunner, J. Harer. *Computational topology: an introduction*. American Mathematical Society, 2010.
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