



*The Waisman Laboratory  
for Brain Imaging and Behavior*



University of Wisconsin  
**SCHOOL OF MEDICINE  
AND PUBLIC HEALTH**

# Lecture 1 Simplicial homology and persistent homology

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<https://github.com/laplcebeltrami/ISBI2023TDA>

# Acknowledgement

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## *References*

Gunnar Carlsson 2009, A User's Guide to Topological Data Analysis

Herbert Edelsbrunner and John L. Harer  
Computational Topology: An Introduction 2010,  
American Mathematical Society

Chung et al. 2020 Review: Toplogical distance and losses in brain networks arXiv:2102.08623

# Matlab toolbox

## PH-STAT

Statistical Inference on Persistent Homology

<https://github.com/laplcebeltrami/PH-STAT>

Most computation & data visualization in the tutorial is done through PH-STAT. Corresponding functions are color coded.

WS\_cluster.m

PH\_hodge\_betti.m

# Topological Data Analysis

- Branch of data science that uses topology
- Study properties of data that remain invariant under continuous transformations
- Identify underlying patterns using topology

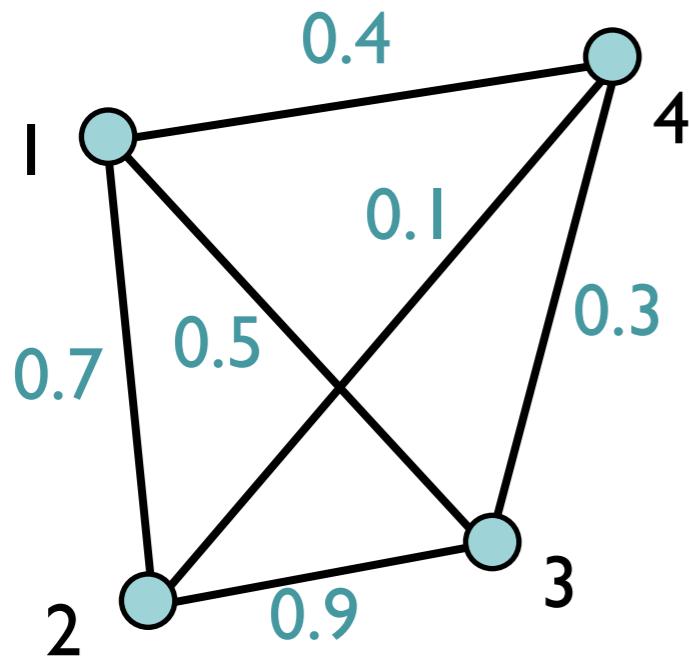
# Persistent Homology

- Captures the topological features of data across different scales
- More persistent topological features → signal
- Less persistent topological features → noise
- Multiscale approach

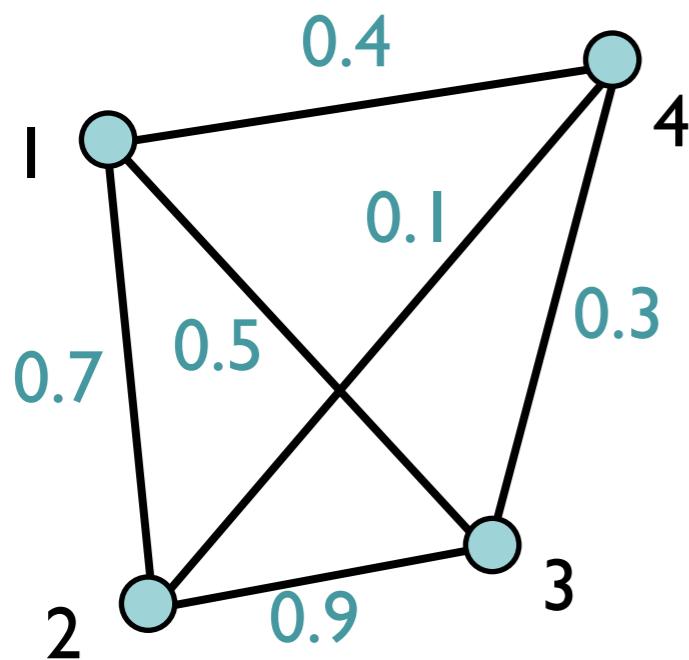
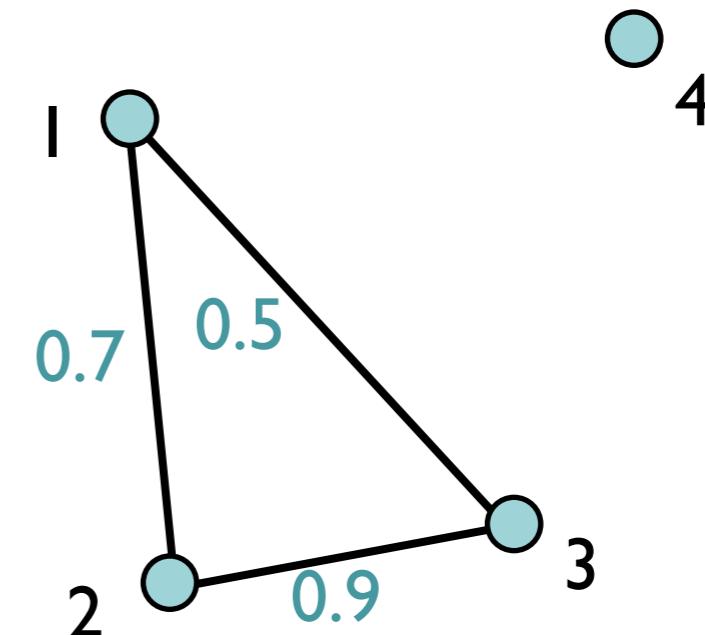
# What is wrong with standard brain network analysis?

Edge weight  $\rho_{ij}$  between node  $i$  and  $j$

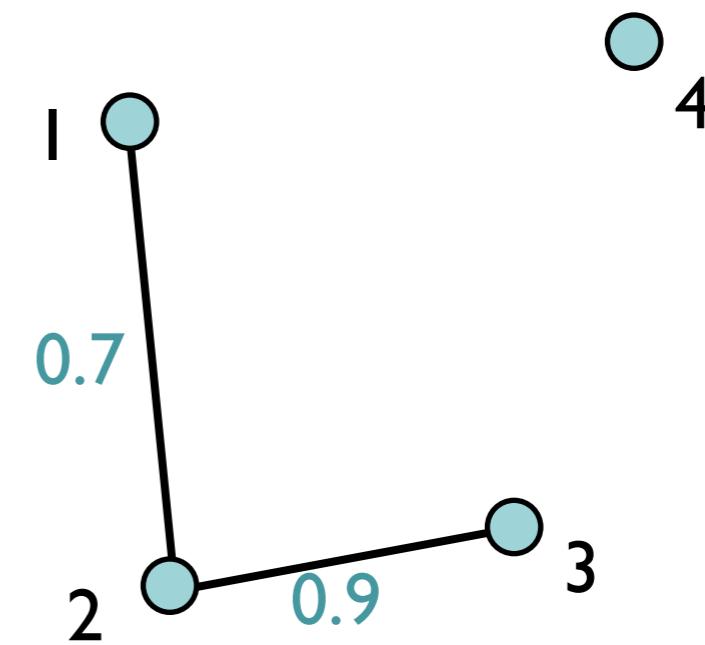
→ Connectivity matrix  $\rho = (\rho_{ij})$



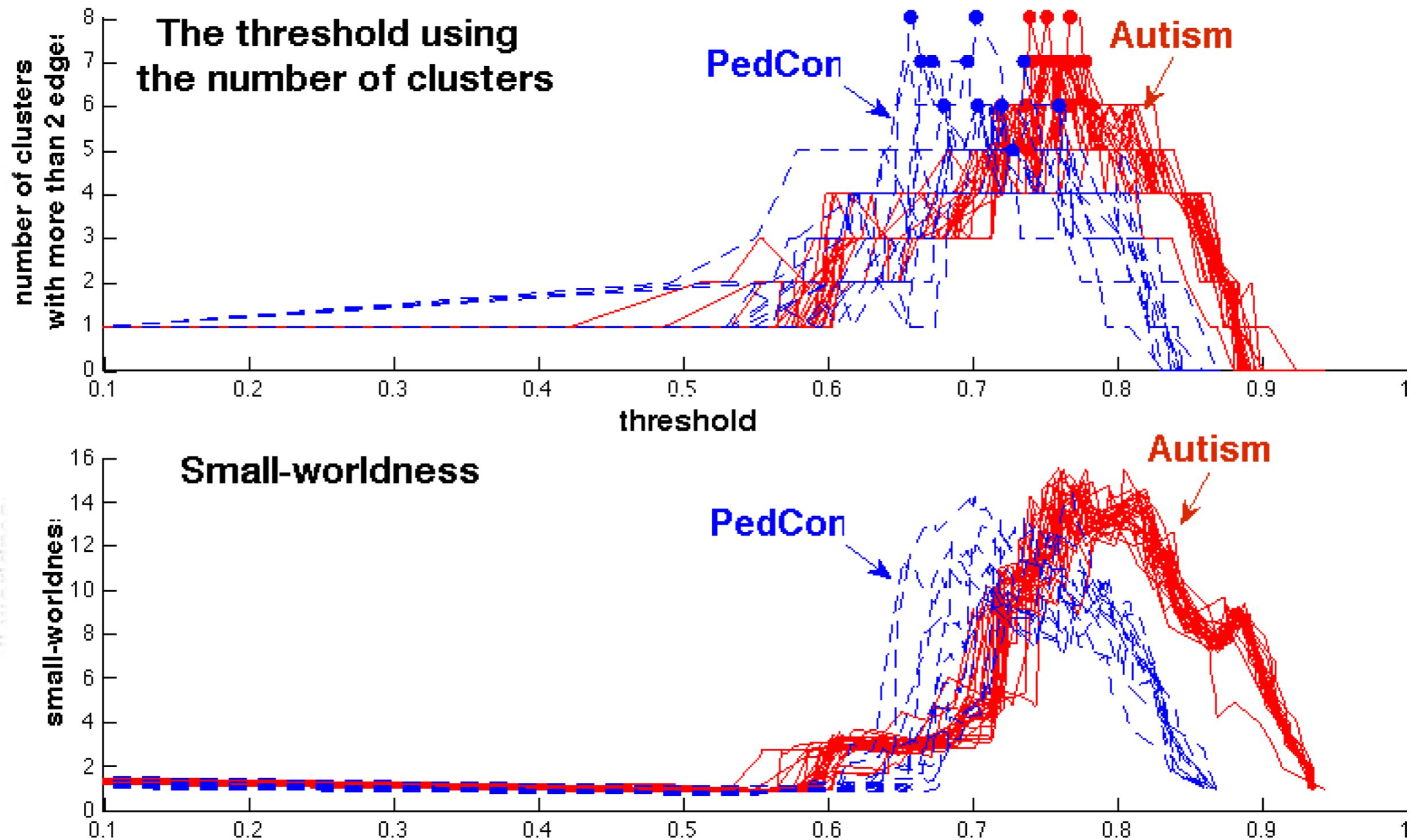
Threshold at 0.5



Threshold at 0.7

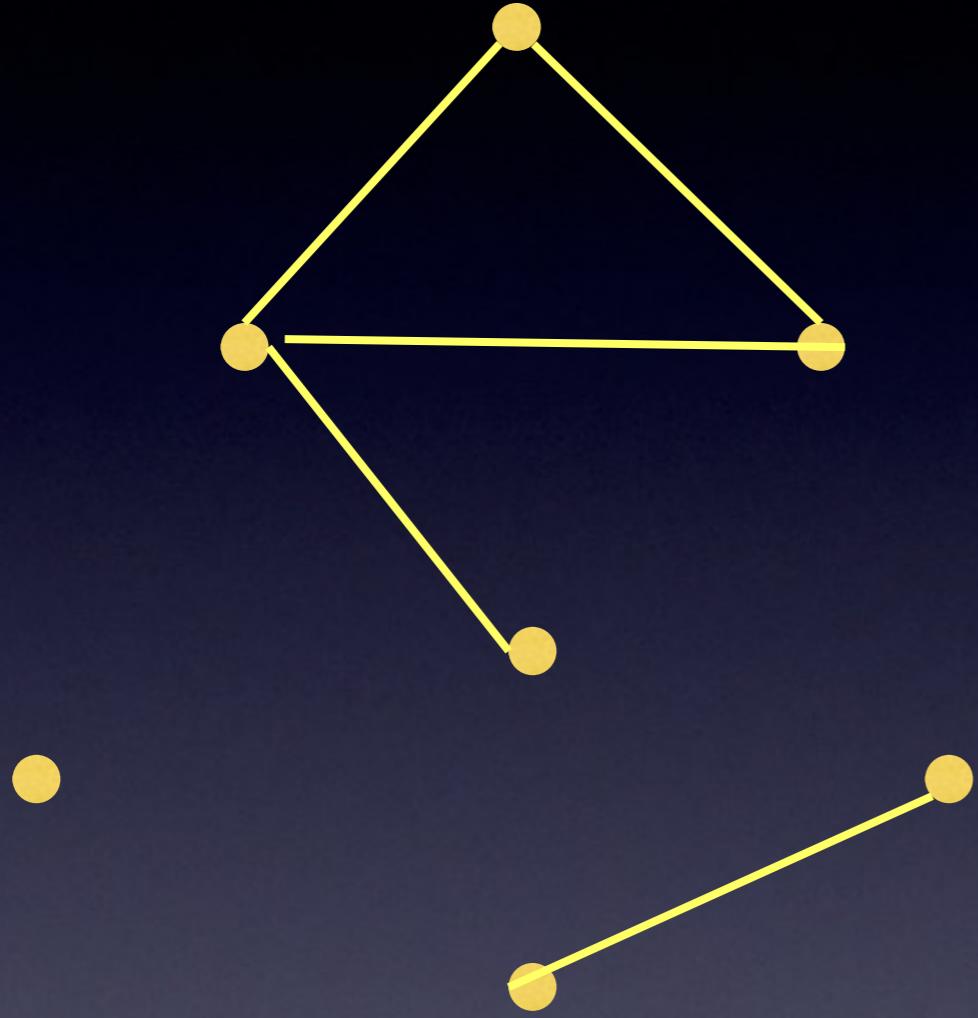


*Single threshold often suboptimal → multiple thresholds*



Betti numbers  $\beta_i$

# of i-dimensional  
holes/loops

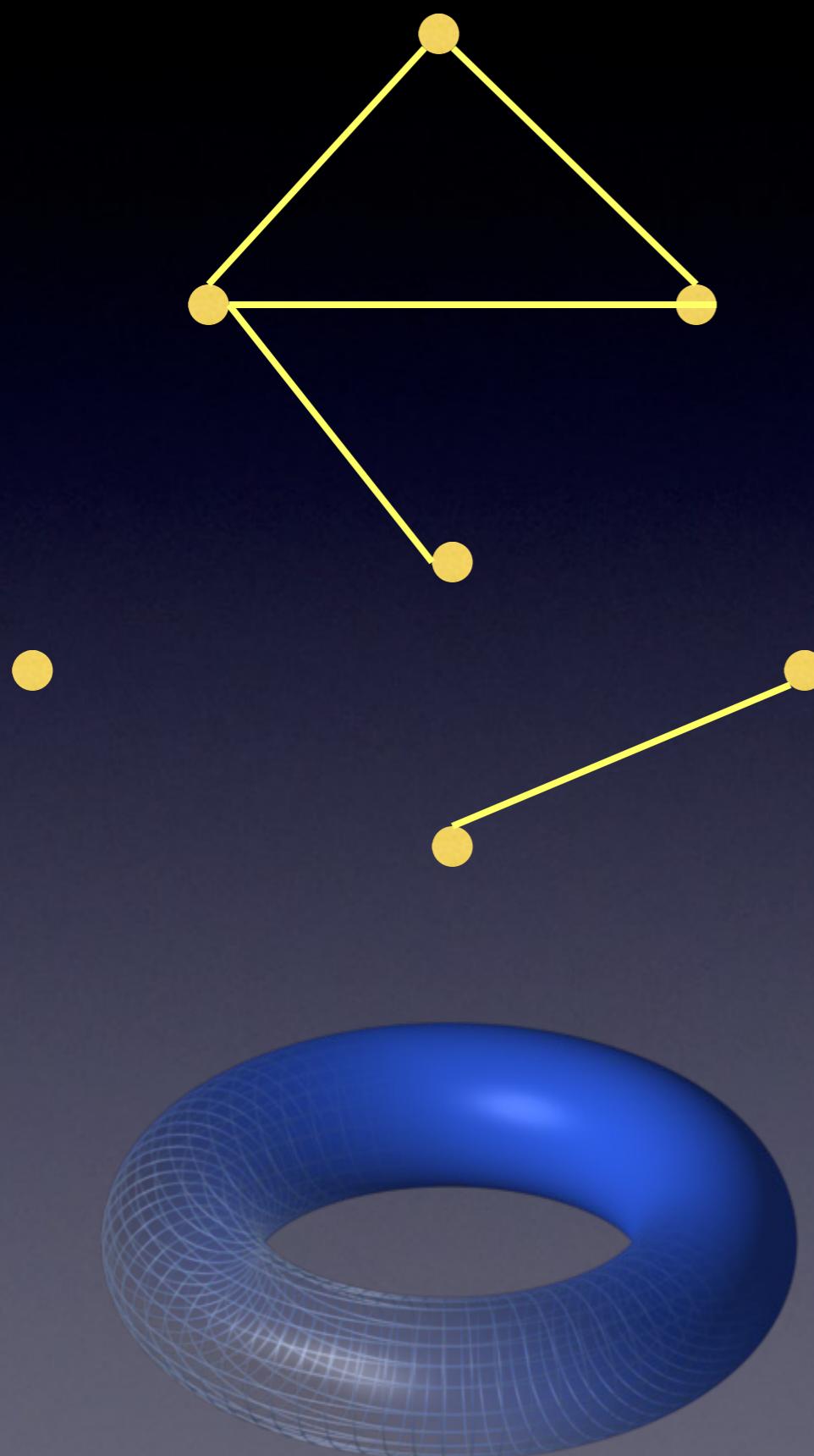


$\beta_0 = \# \text{ of}$   
connected  
components = 3

$\beta_1 = \# \text{ of cycles}$   
= 1

Euler characteristic:  $\chi = 3 - 1 = 2$

Betti numbers  $\beta_i$  # of i-dimensional holes/loops



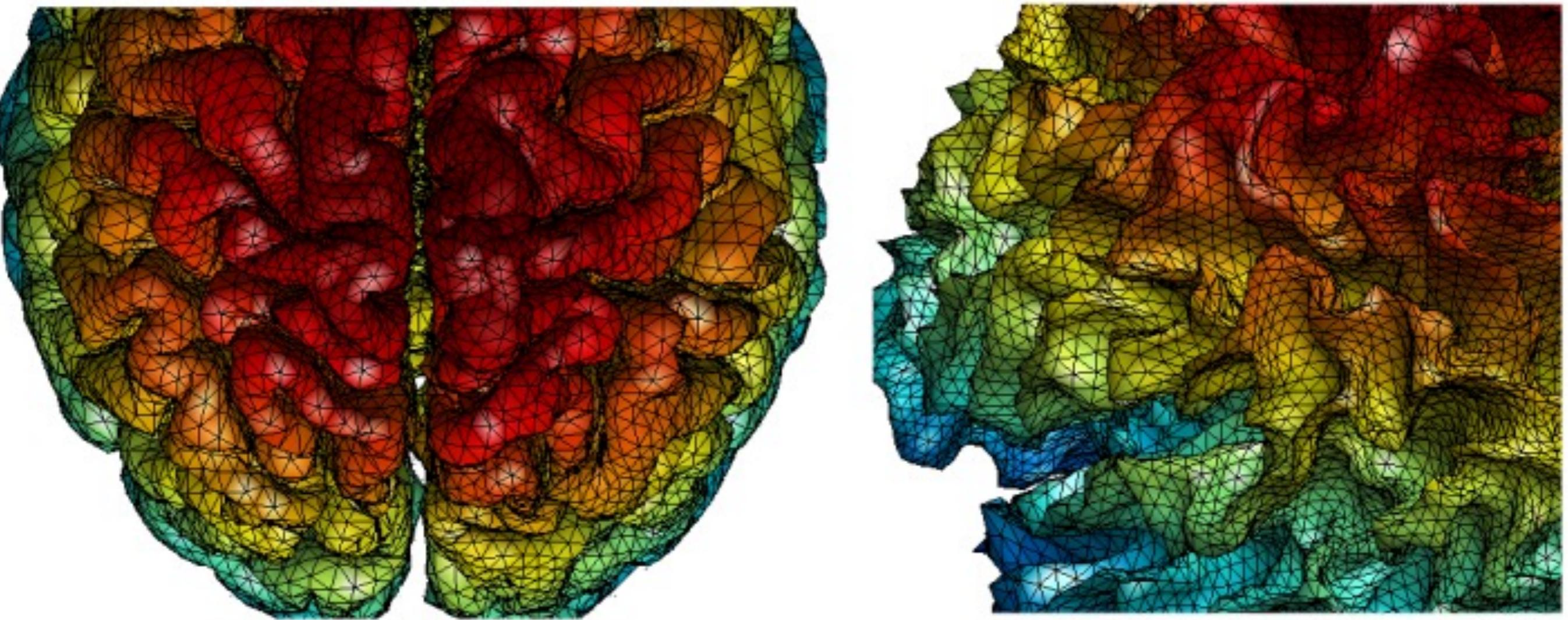
$\beta_0 = \# \text{ of connected components} = 3$   
 $\beta_1 = \# \text{ of 1D holes} = 1$   
 $\beta_2 = \# \text{ of 2D cavities} = 0$

Betti-number representation:  
 $(3, 1, 0, 0, \dots)$

Euler characteristic:

$$\chi = \beta_0 - \beta_1 = 2$$

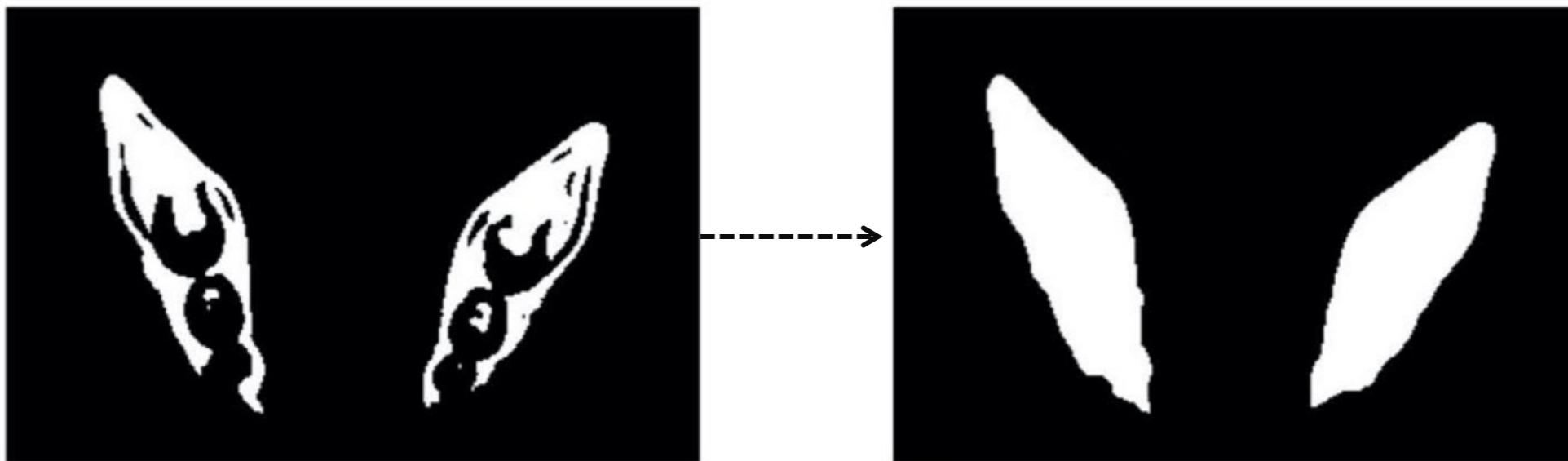
$\beta_0 = 1, \beta_1 = 2, \beta_2 = 1$   
 $(1, 2, 1, 0, 0, \dots)$



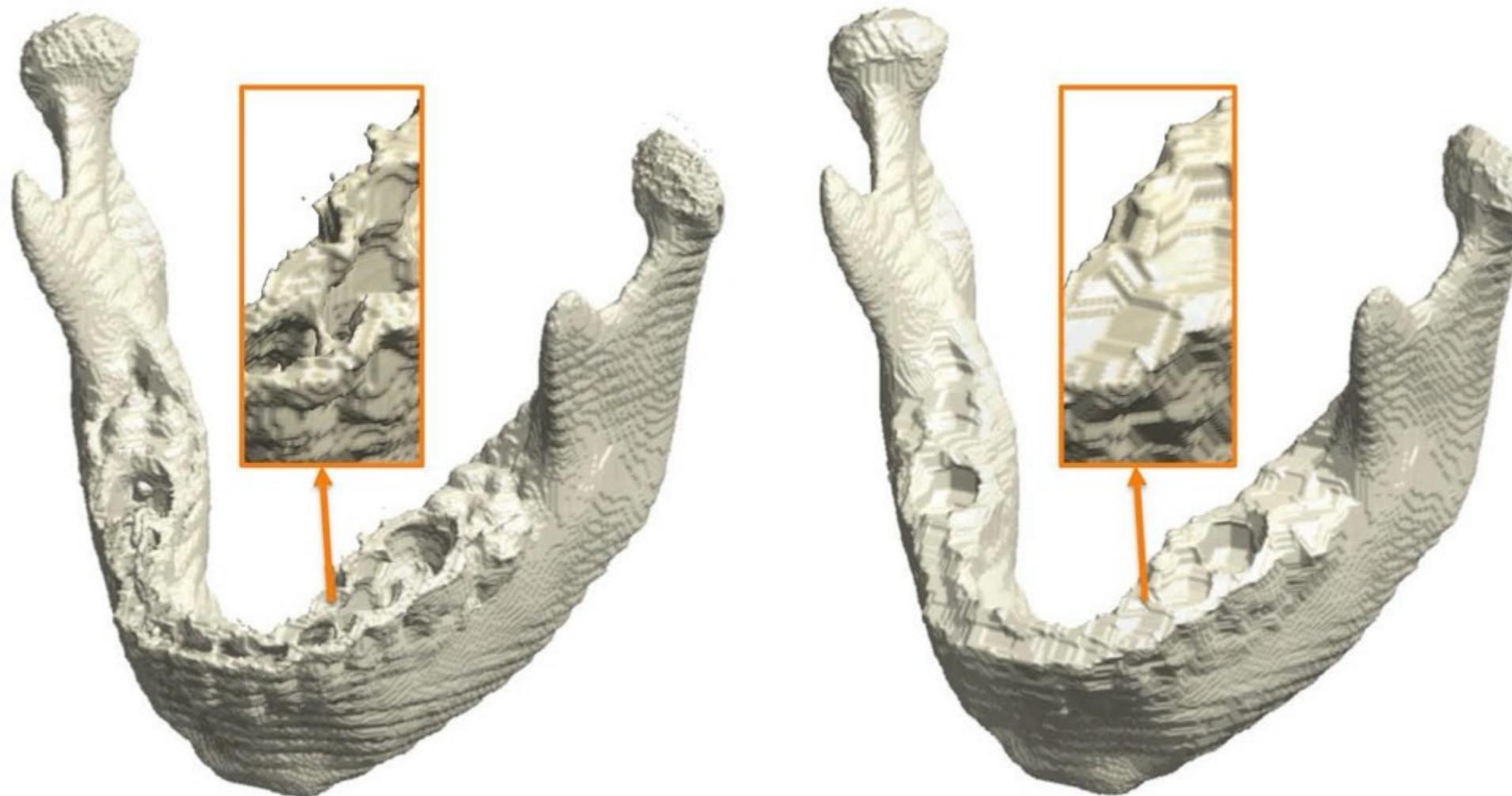
## Euler characteristic of a surface mesh from SurfStat

$N - E + F = 2$  for a surface topologically equivalent to a sphere. For each triangle, there are three edges. Since two adjacent triangles share the same edge, the total number of edges is  $E = 3F/2$ . Hence, we have  $F=2N - 4$  for a closed surface.

# Topology correction in CT segmentation



Hole & handles  
corrected using  
Euler characteristic



# Keith Worsley's random field theory

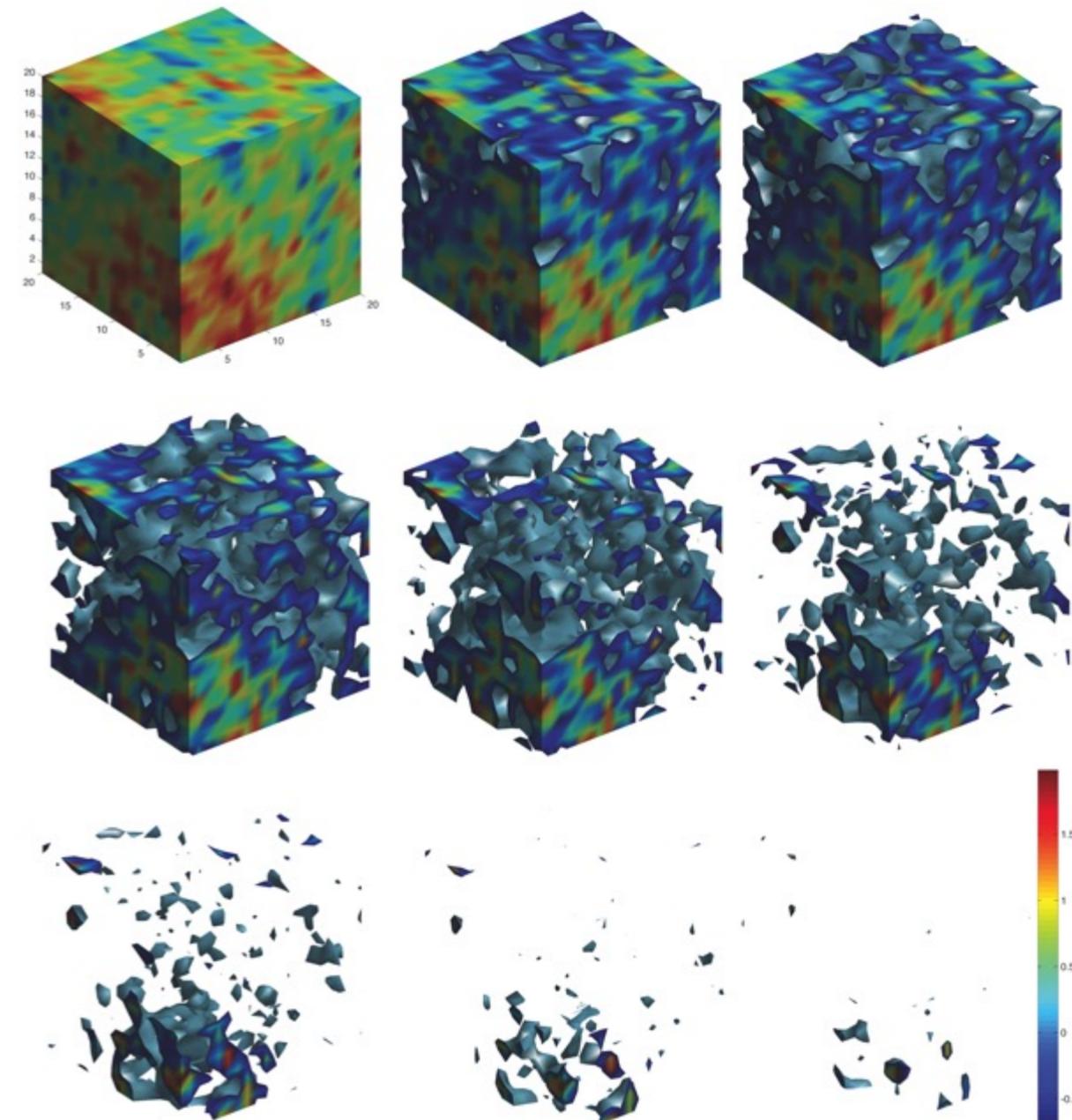
Random field

$$P\left(\sup_{x \in \mathbb{M}} T(x) > h\right)$$

$$A_h = \{x \in \mathbb{M} : T(x) > h\}$$

$$P\left(\sup_{x \in \mathbb{M}} T(x) > h\right) = \mathbb{E}\chi(A_h)$$

$$\chi(A_h) = \sum_j (-1)^j \beta_j(A_h)$$



Milnor 1963 Morse theory

Adler, 1994 The geometry of random fields

Worsley et al., 1996 Human Brain Mapping

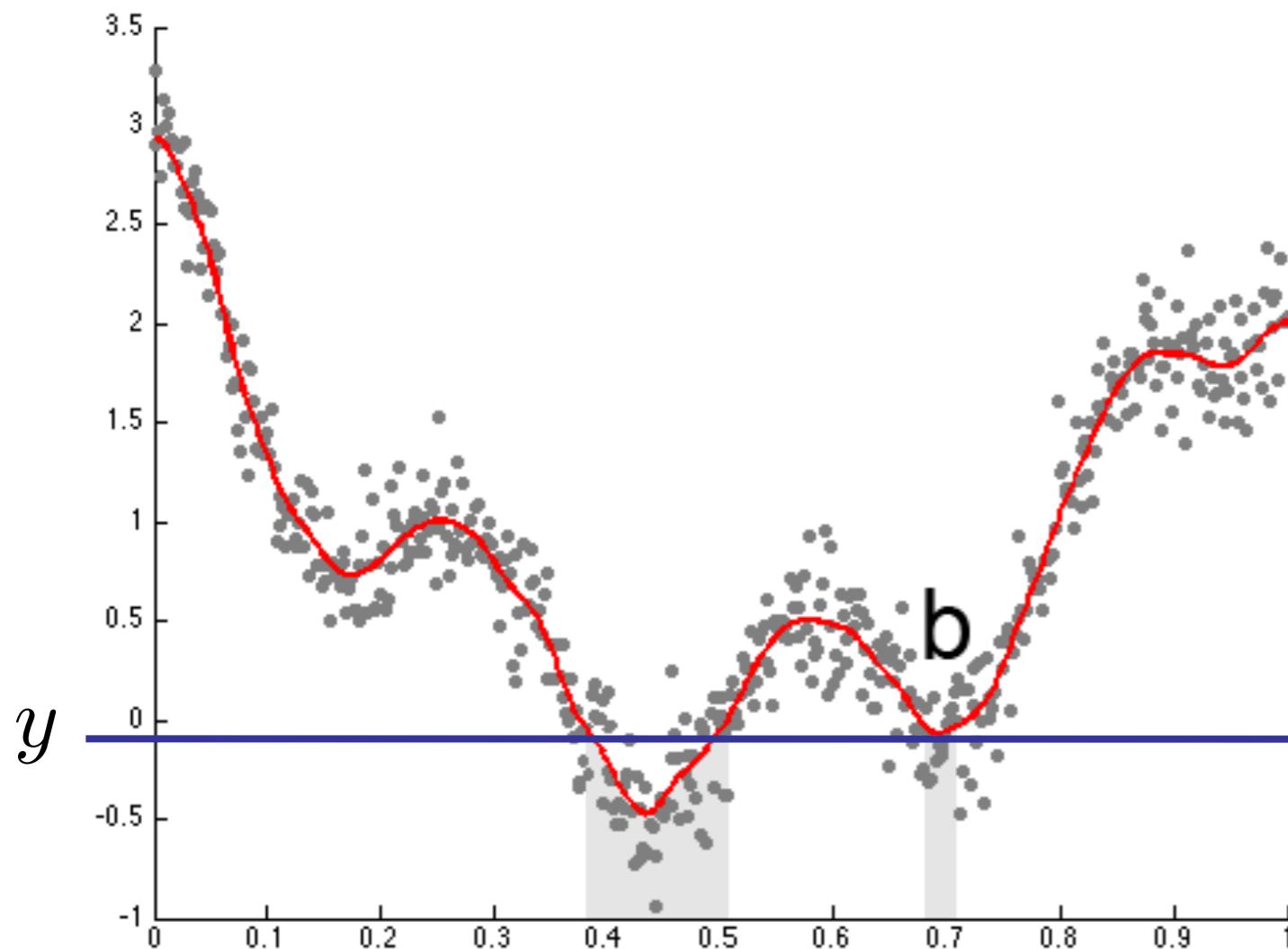
# Morse Filtration

Chung et al., 2009 *Information Processing  
in Medical Imaging (IPMI)* 5636:386-397.

# Morse theory for functional data

$$Y(t) = \mu(t) + \epsilon(t)$$

Unknown signal  $\mu$  is assumed to be a Morse function: all critical values are unique.



Sublevel set

$$R_y = \{t : \mu(t) \leq y\}$$

The topology of sublevel set is characterized by Betti-0 number only

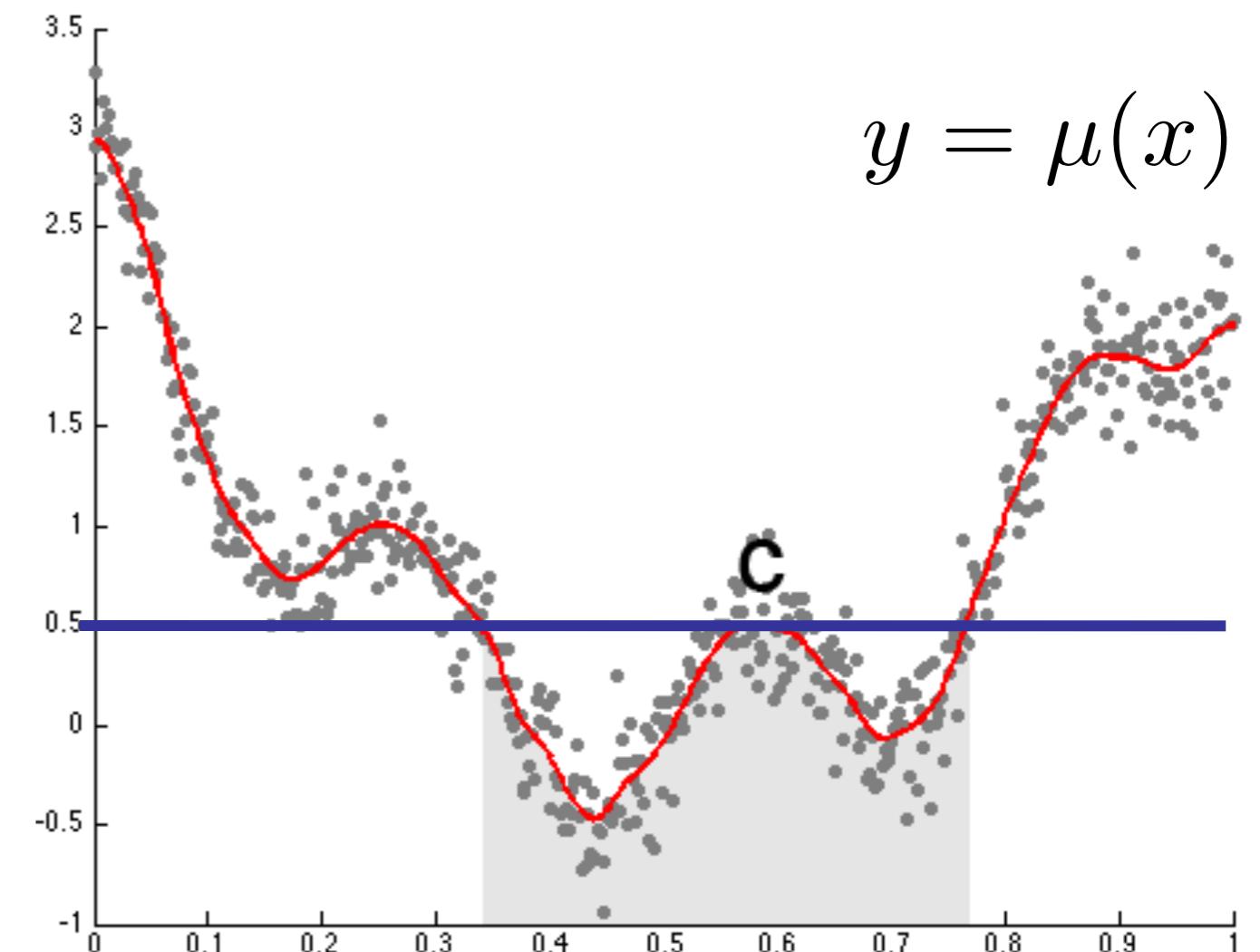
# Morse filtration

Sublevel set

$$R_y = \{t : \mu(t) \leq y\}$$

Morse filtration

$$R_b \subset R_c$$



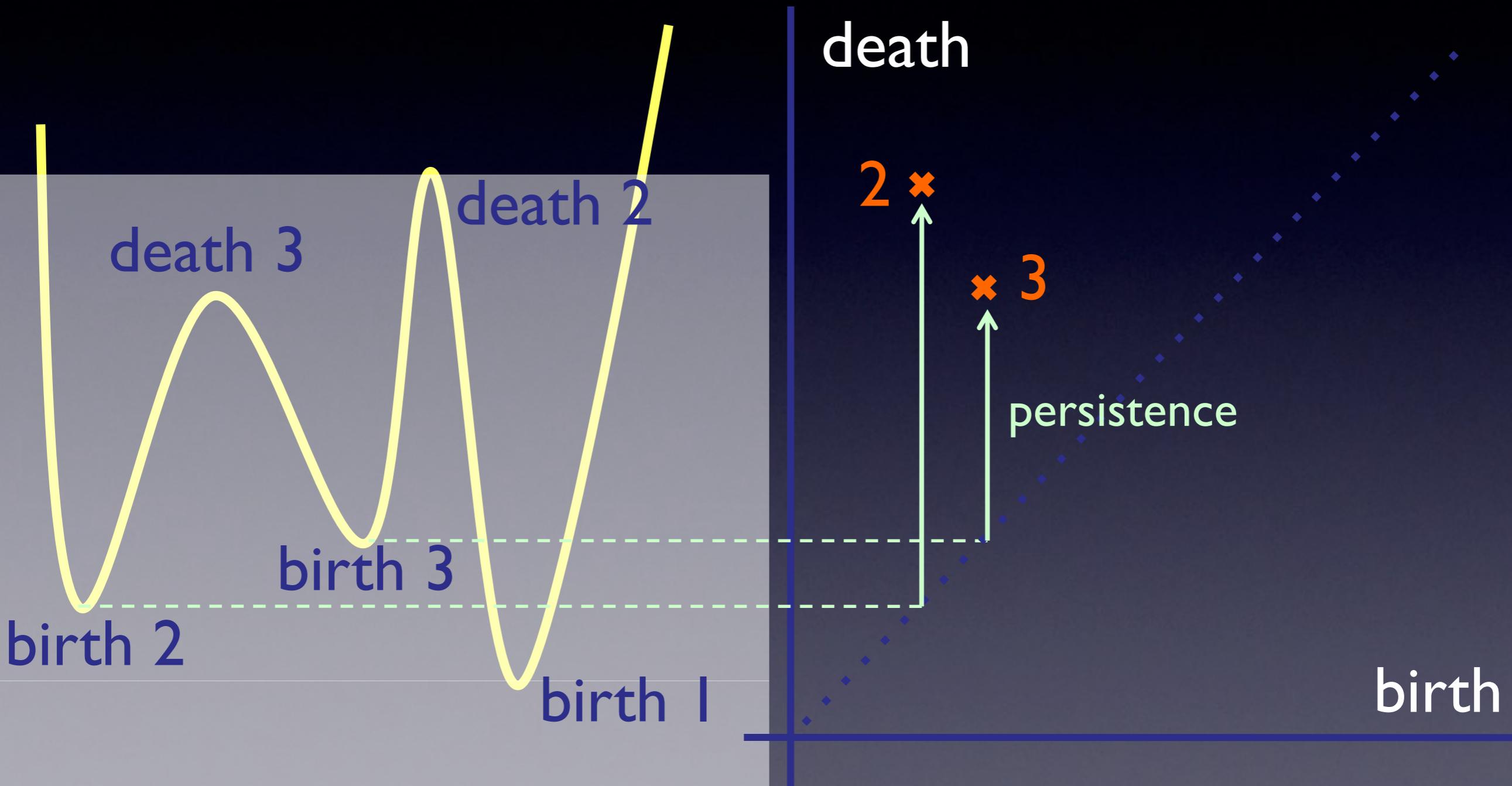
Component dies at c

$$\beta_0(R_c) = \beta_0(R_b) - 1$$

PH\_morse1D.m

# Persistence Diagram (PD)

$O(n \log n)$



*Elder's rule:*

Pair the time of death with the time of the closest earlier birth.

Chung et al., 2009  
Information Processing  
in Medical Imaging  
(IPMI) 5636:386-397.

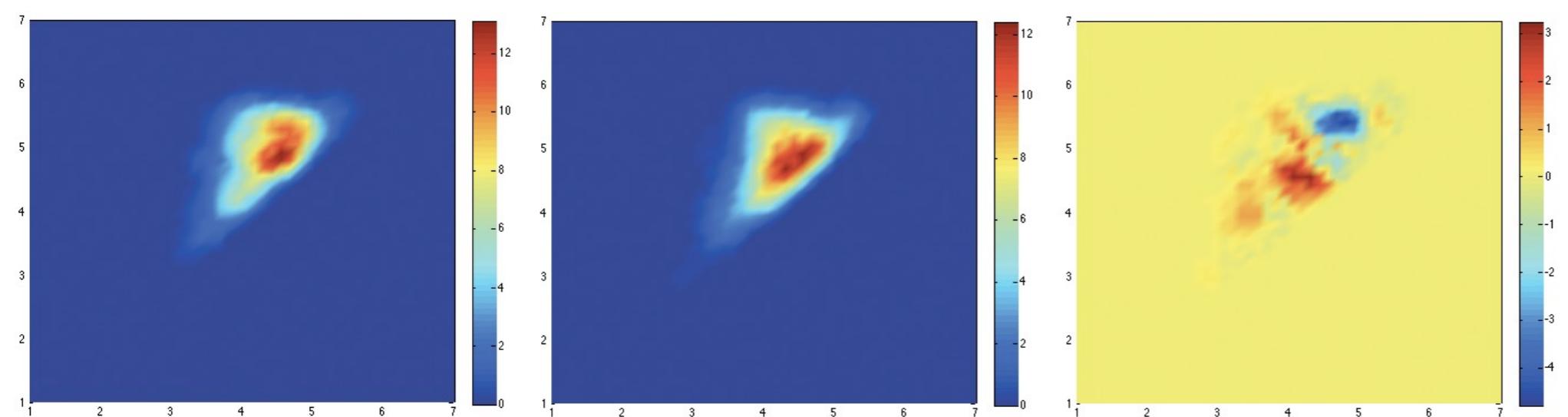
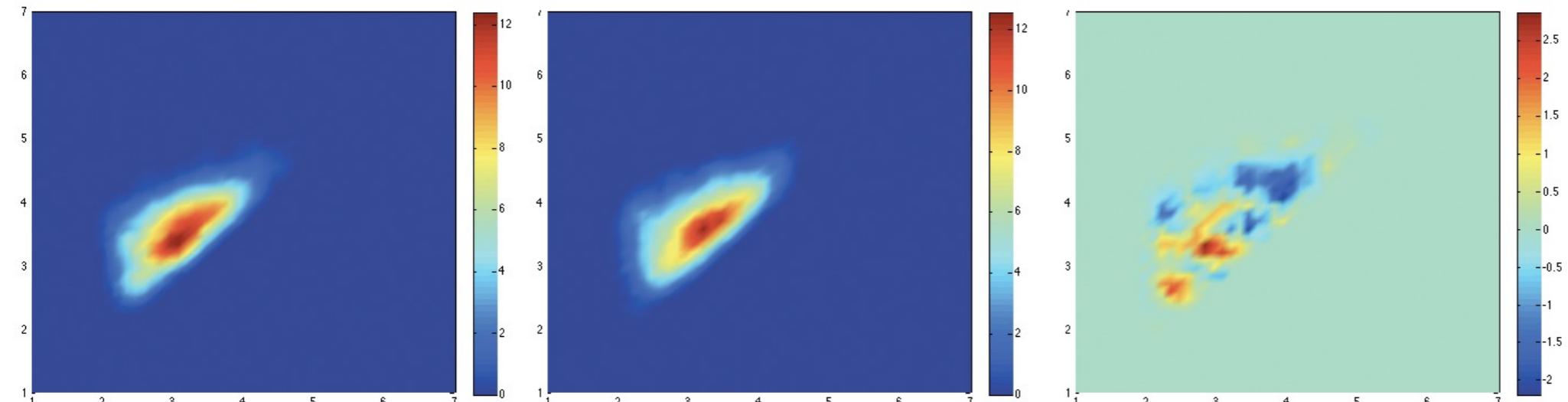
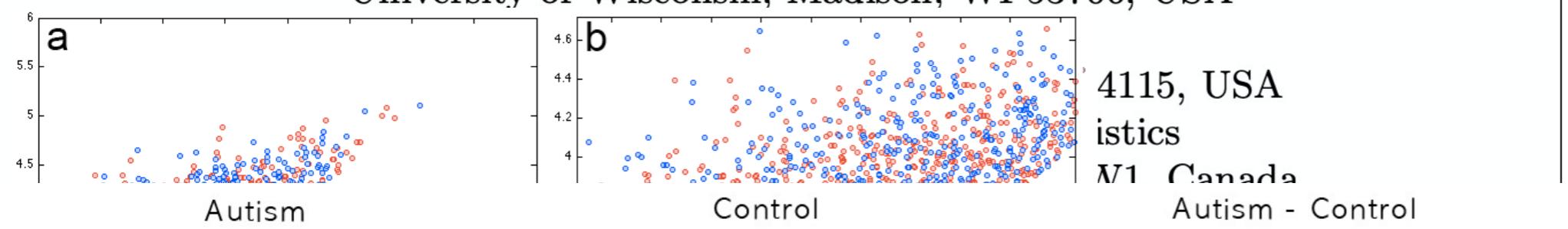
## Surface Data

L. Kim<sup>4</sup>

natics  
behavior  
JSA

4115, USA  
istics  
M1 Canada

Autism - Control



First TDA paper in  
medical imaging

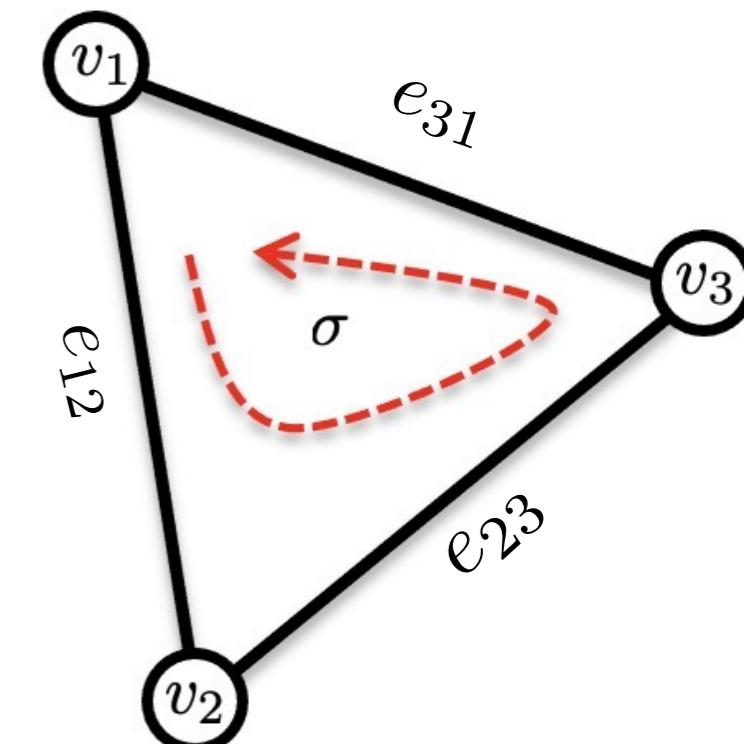
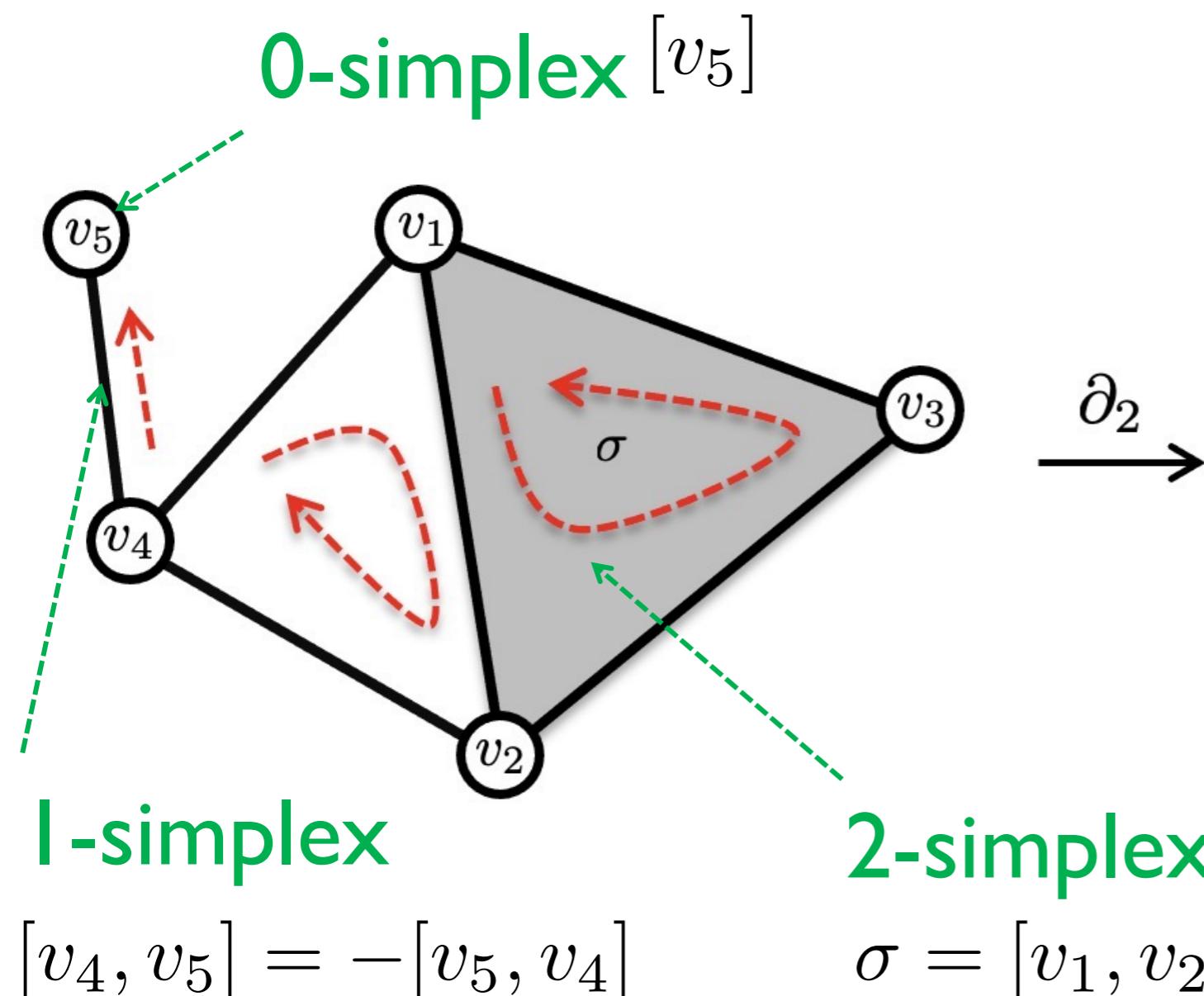
# Boundary matrix

# $n$ -simplex

The basic building block of persistent homology

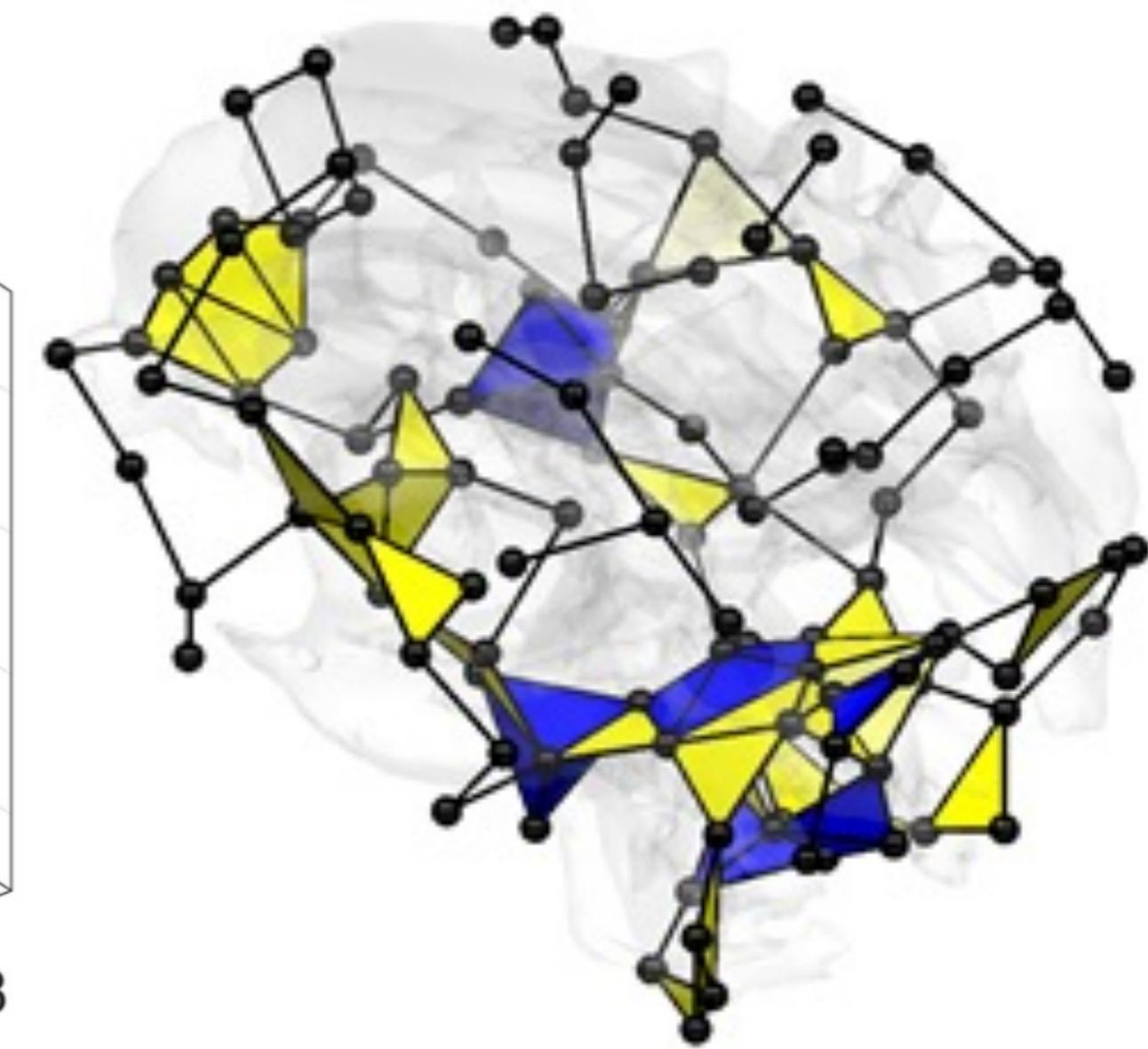
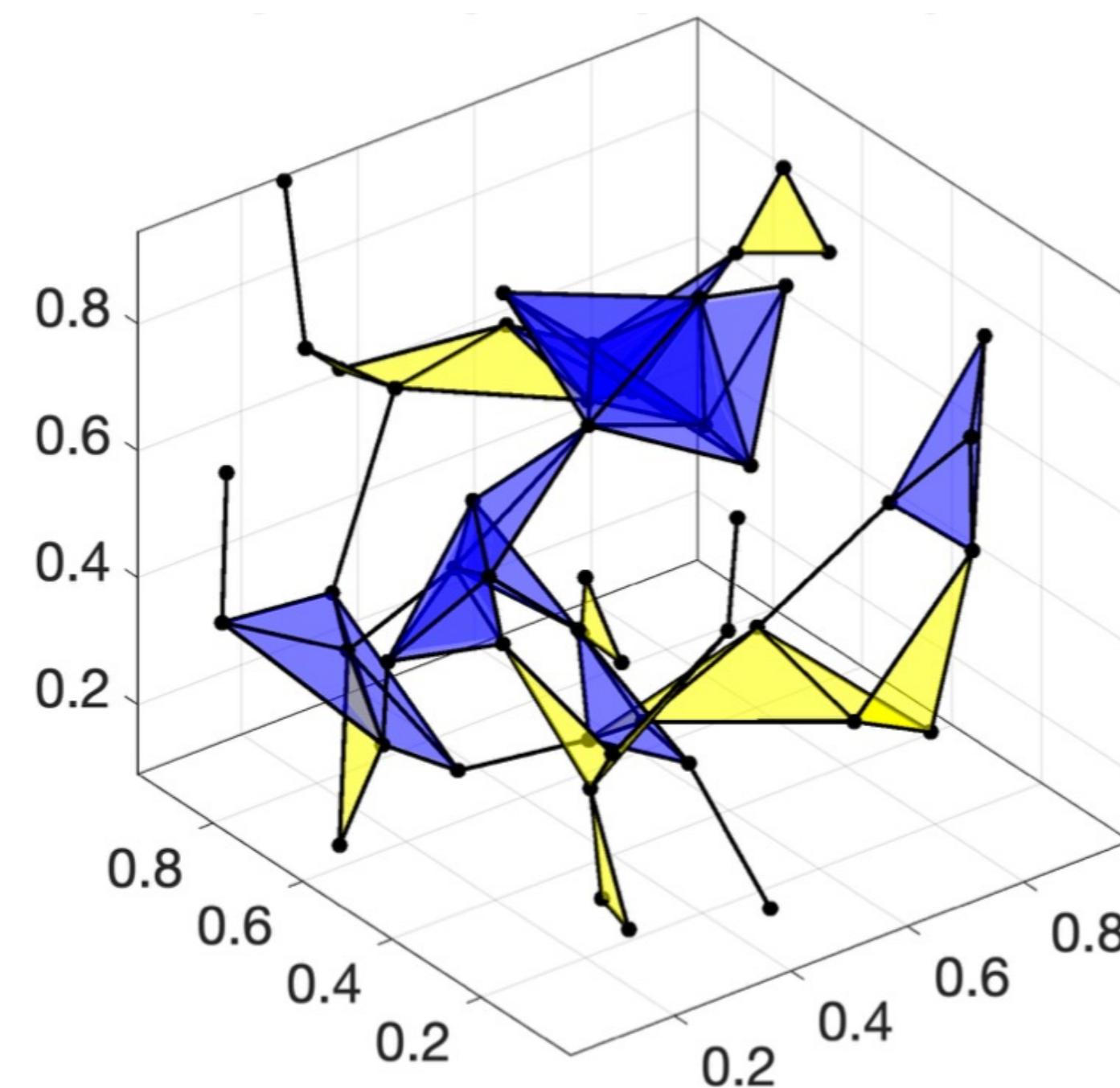
The smallest convex set containing  $n+1$  points

$$\sum_{i=0}^n x_i = 1, x_i \geq 0$$



# Simplicial complex

A simplicial complex is a set composed of points, line segments, triangles, and their n-dimensional counterparts.

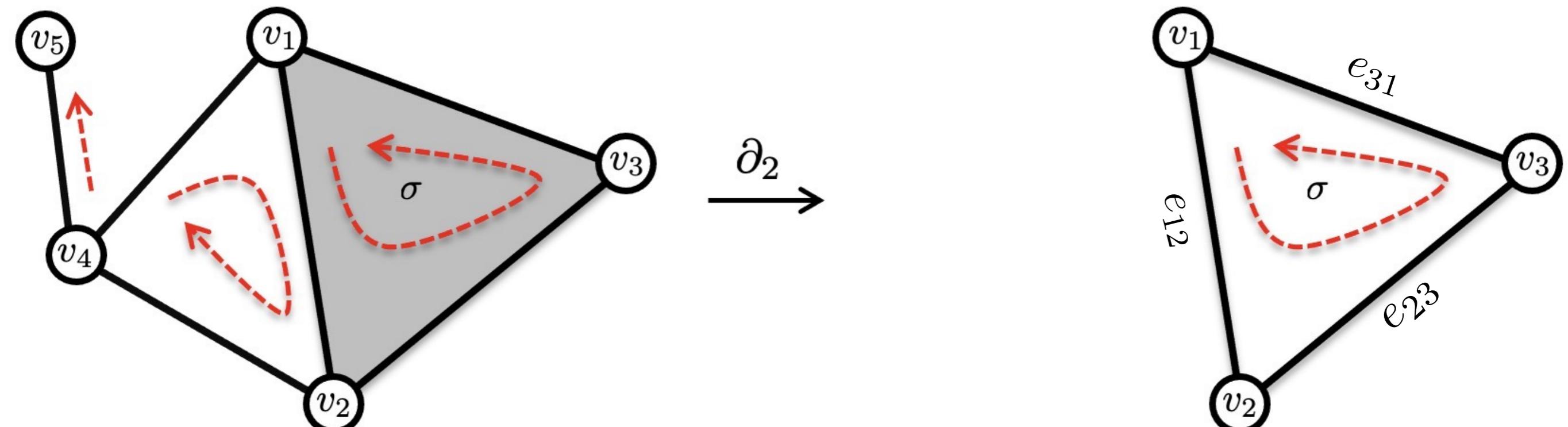


PH\_rips.m

# Boundary operators $\partial_k$

$\partial_k$  Removes the filled-in interior of  $k$ -simplexes

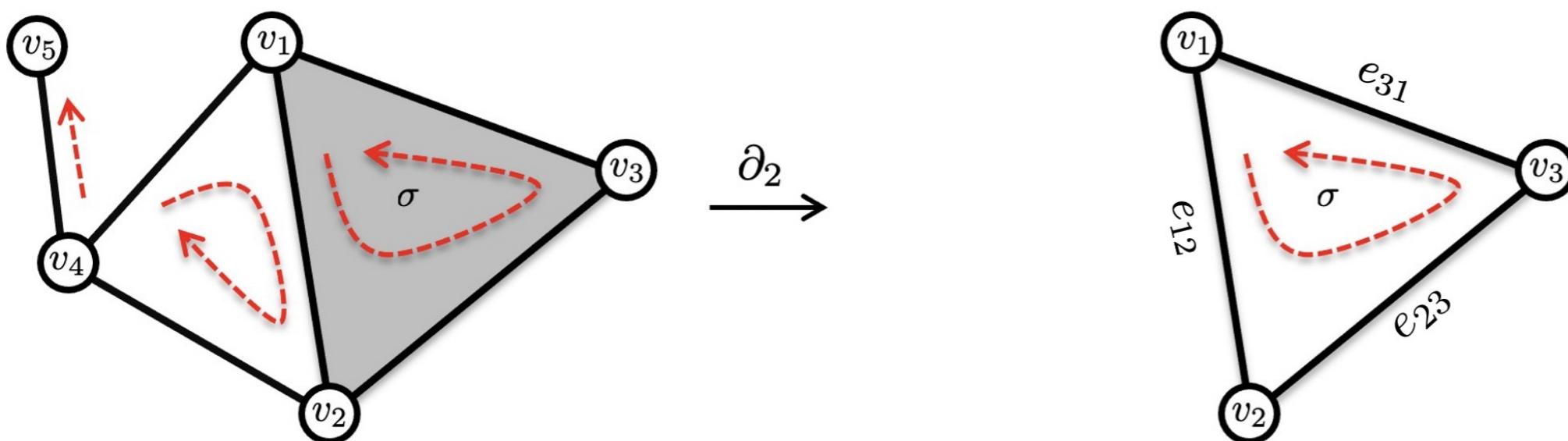
$$\partial_k : C_k \rightarrow C_{k-1}$$



$$\partial_2 \sigma = [v_1, v_2] + [v_2, v_3] + [v_3, v_1]$$

$$\partial_1 \partial_2 \sigma = v_2 - v_1 + v_3 - v_2 + v_1 - v_3 = 0$$

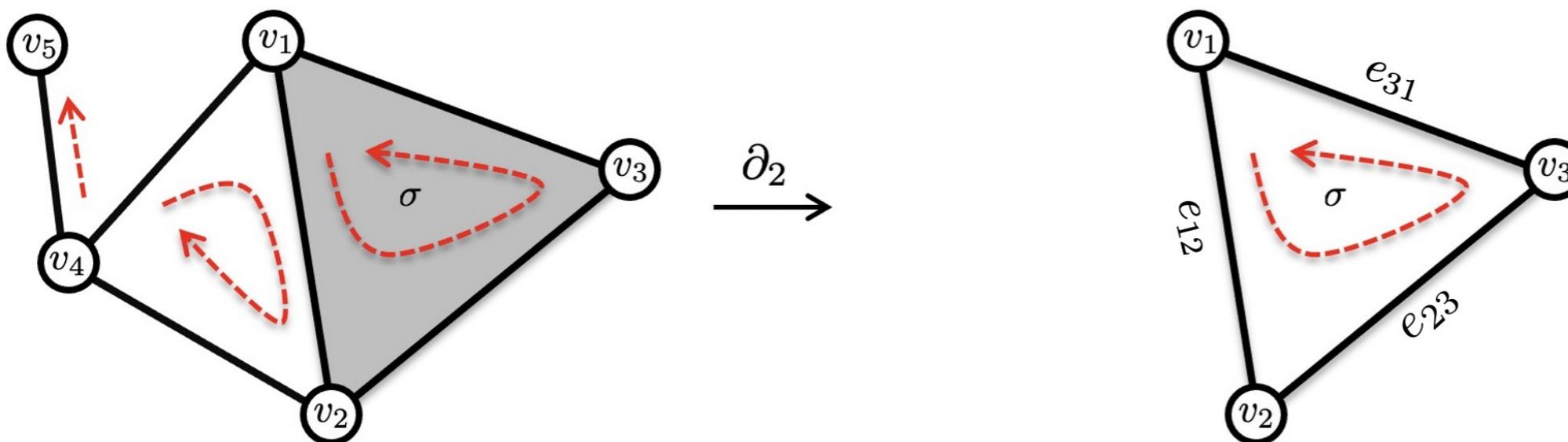
# Boundary matrix $\partial_0$



$$\partial_0 = \begin{pmatrix} v_1 & v_2 & v_3 & v_4 & v_5 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

# Boundary matrix

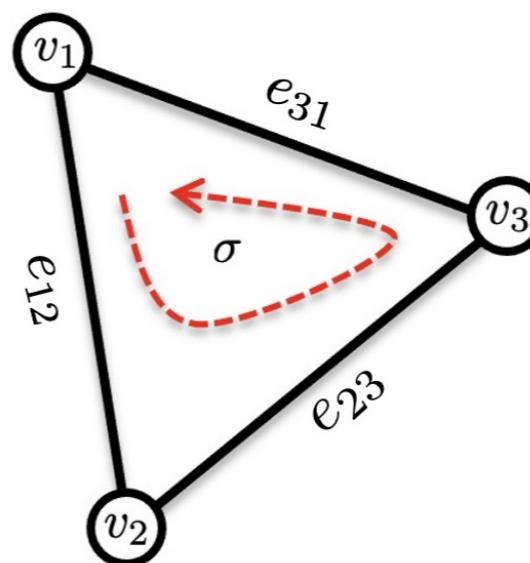
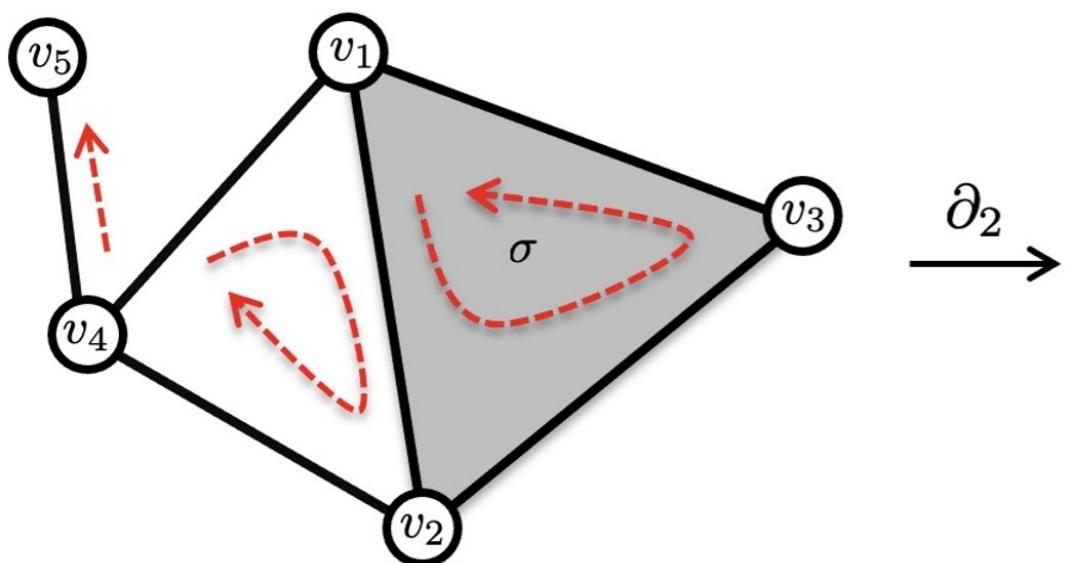
$\partial_1$



$$\partial_1 \partial_2 \sigma = v_2 - v_1 + v_3 - v_2 + v_1 - v_3 = 0$$

$$\partial_1 = \begin{pmatrix} v_1 & v_2 & v_3 & v_4 & v_5 \end{pmatrix} \left( \begin{array}{ccccc|c} & & & & & \sigma \\ \hline e_{12} & e_{23} & e_{31} & & & \\ -1 & 0 & 1 & & & \\ 1 & -1 & 0 & & & \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & & & \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & -1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{array} \right)$$

# Boundary matrix $\partial_2$



$$\partial_2 \sigma = [v_1, v_2] + [v_2, v_3] + [v_3, v_1]$$

$$\partial_2 = \begin{pmatrix} \sigma & e_{12} & e_{23} & e_{31} & e_{24} & e_{41} & e_{45} \\ & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

# Boundary matrix $\partial_k$

$(i,j)$ -th entry = 1 if  $\tau_i \subset \sigma_j$

Sign depends on the orientation of  $\tau_i$

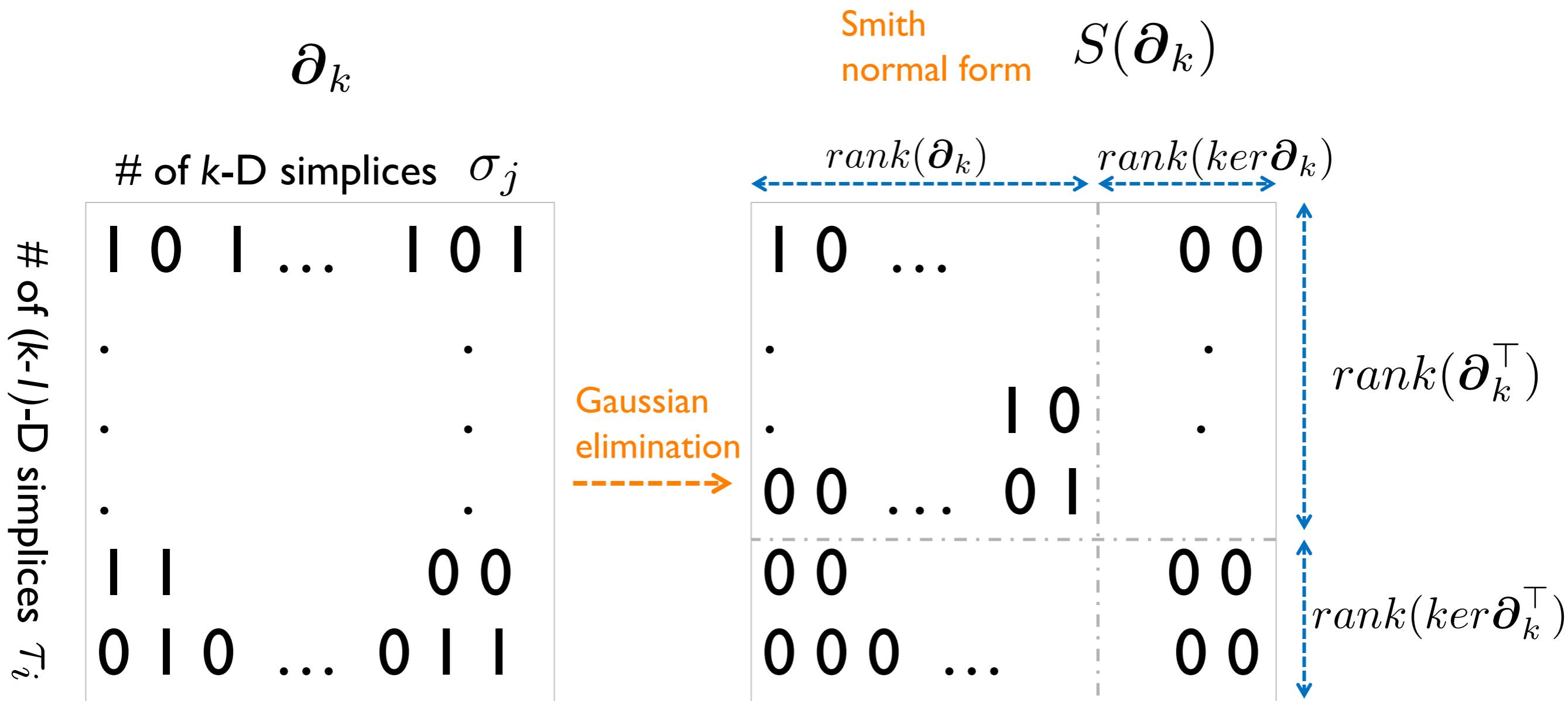
# of  $(k-l)$ -dimensional simplices  $\tau_i$

# of  $k$ -dimensional simplices  $\sigma_j$

	1	0	1	...	1	0	1
.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
	1	1			0	0	
0	1	0	...	0	1	-1	

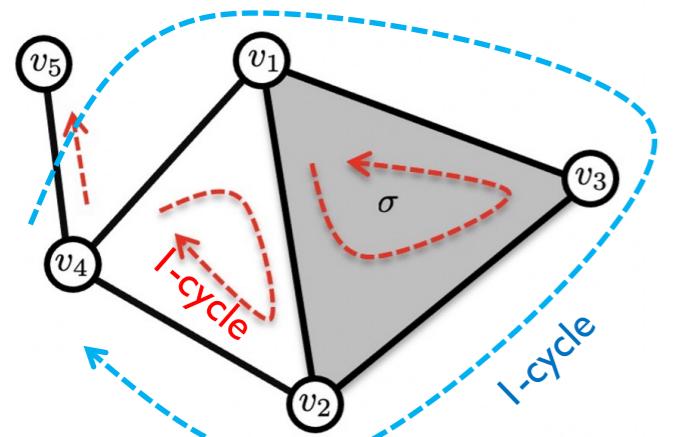
$\partial_k$

# Rank nullity theorem for boundary matrix



$$\beta_k = rank(ker \partial_k) - rank(\partial_{k+1})$$

# Computing Betti numbers through boundary matrices



$$S(\partial_1) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad S(\partial_2) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\beta_0 = \text{rank}(\ker \partial_0) - \text{rank}(\partial_1) = 5-4$$

$$\beta_1 = \text{rank}(\ker \partial_1) - \text{rank}(\partial_2) = 2-1$$

# k-th Hodge Laplacian

PH\_hodge.m

$$\Delta_k = \partial_{k+1} \partial_{k+1}^\top + \partial_k^\top \partial_k$$

0<sup>th</sup> Hodge Laplacian  
Graph Laplacian

$$\Delta_0 = \partial_1 \partial_1^\top$$

# of nodes

# of nodes

1<sup>st</sup> Hodge Laplacian

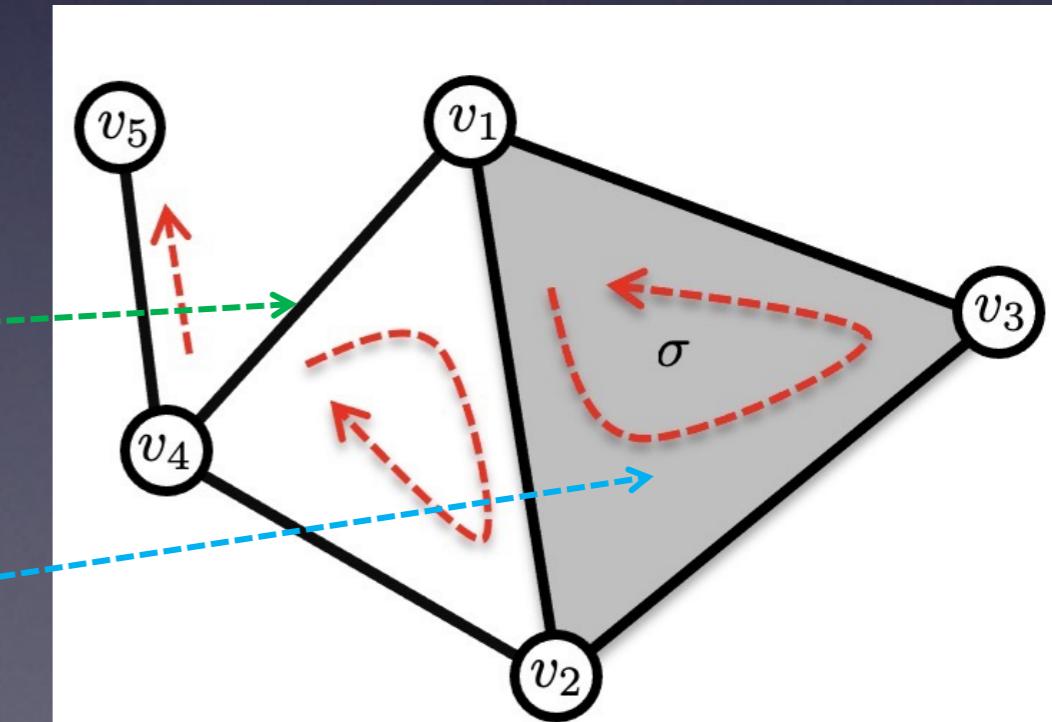
$$\Delta_1 = \partial_2 \partial_2^\top + \partial_1^\top \partial_1$$

# of edges

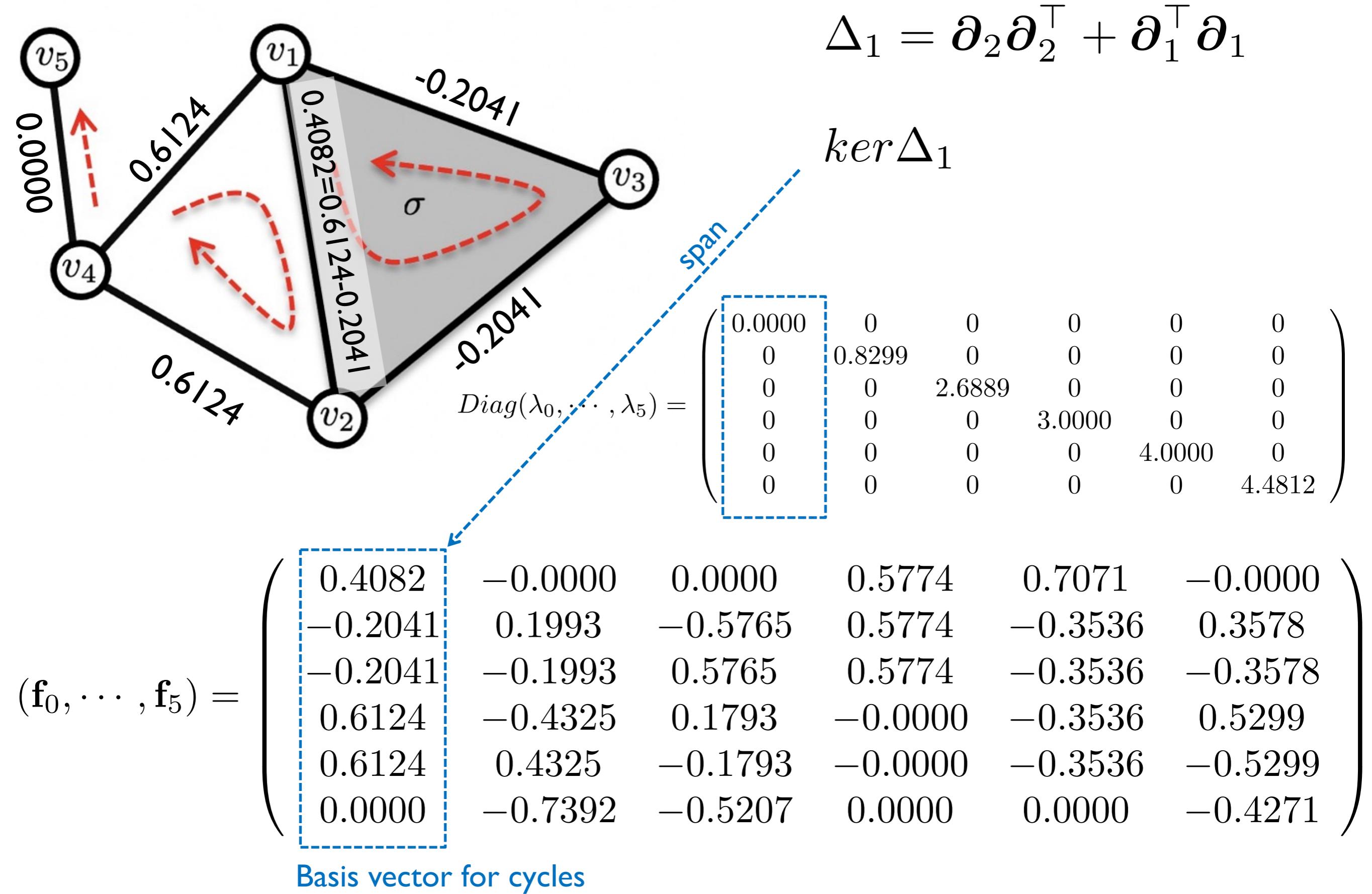
# of edges

# of edges

# of edges

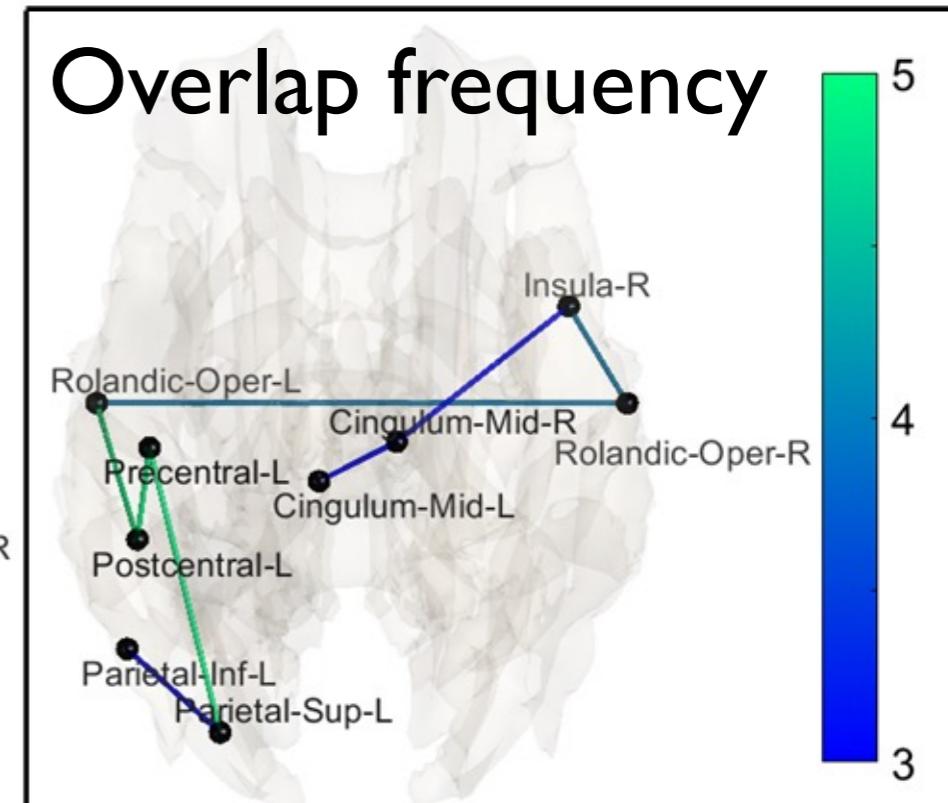
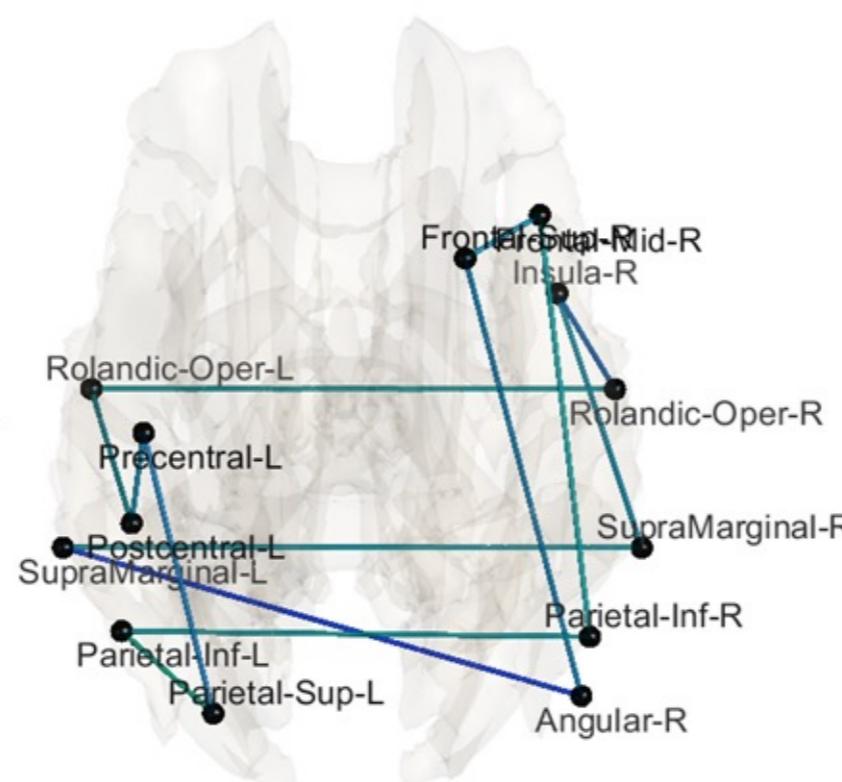
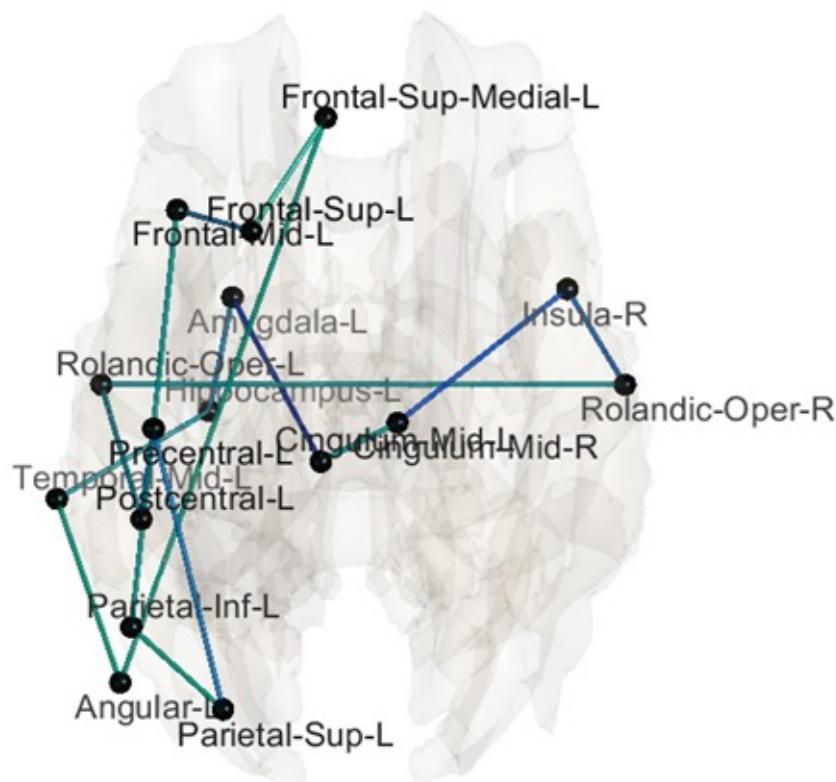
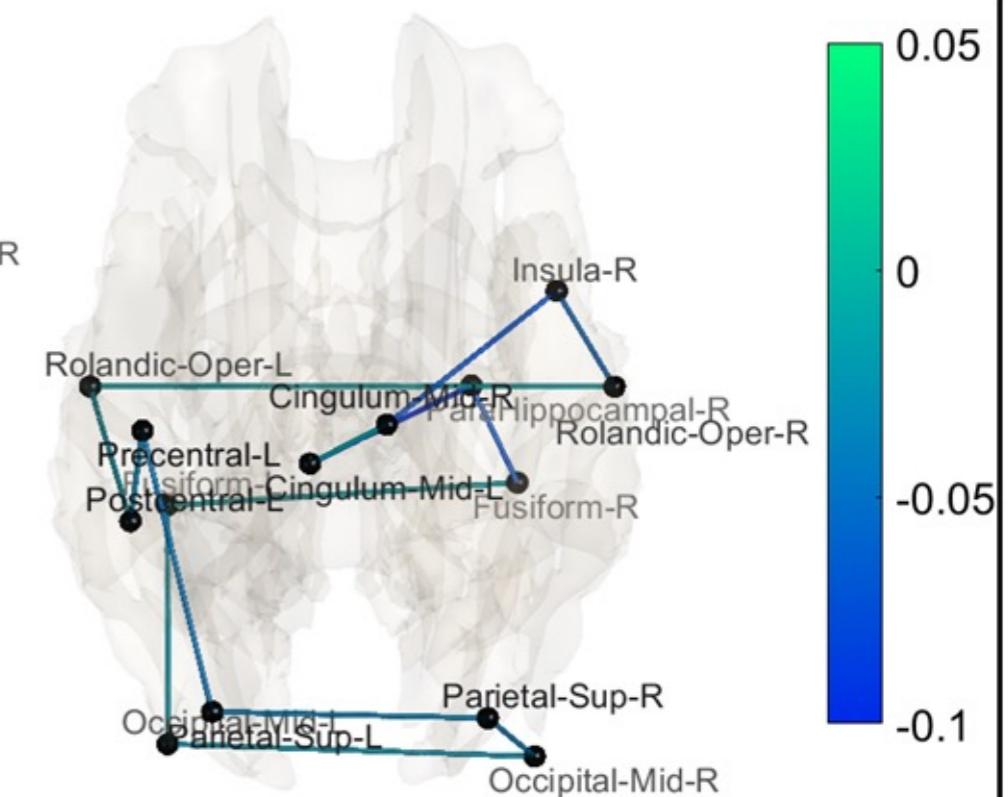
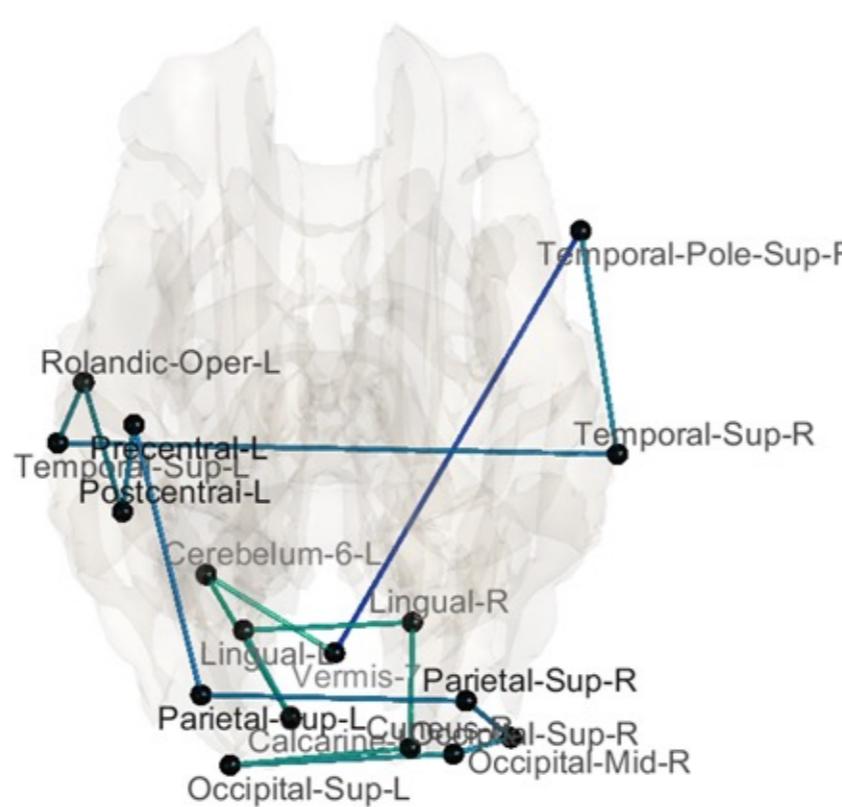
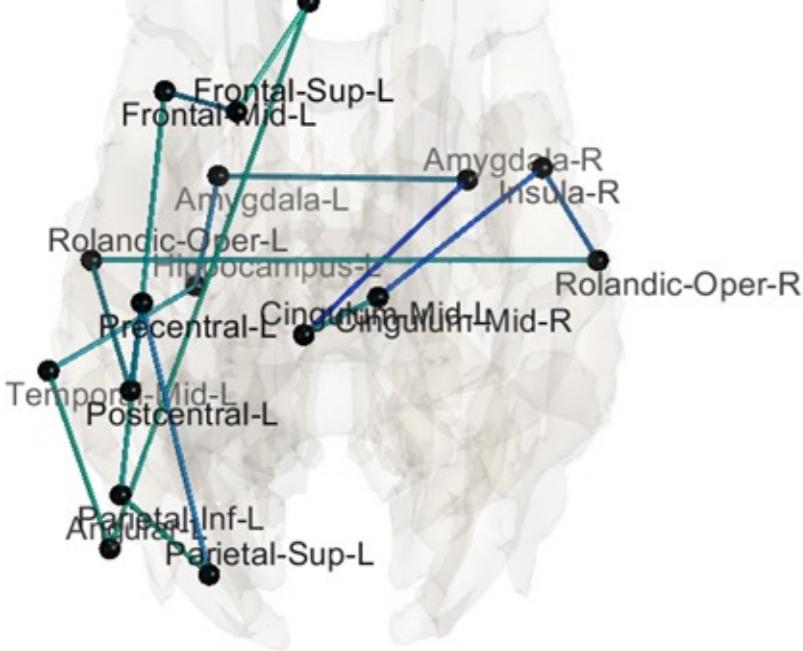


# Eigenvectors of Hodge Laplacian



# Five biggest cycle differences (male – female) in HCP

p-value = 0.03



# Rips filtrations

# Rips filtration

Metric space

$$\mathcal{X} = (V, w) \quad w = (w_{ij})$$

Node set

Metric

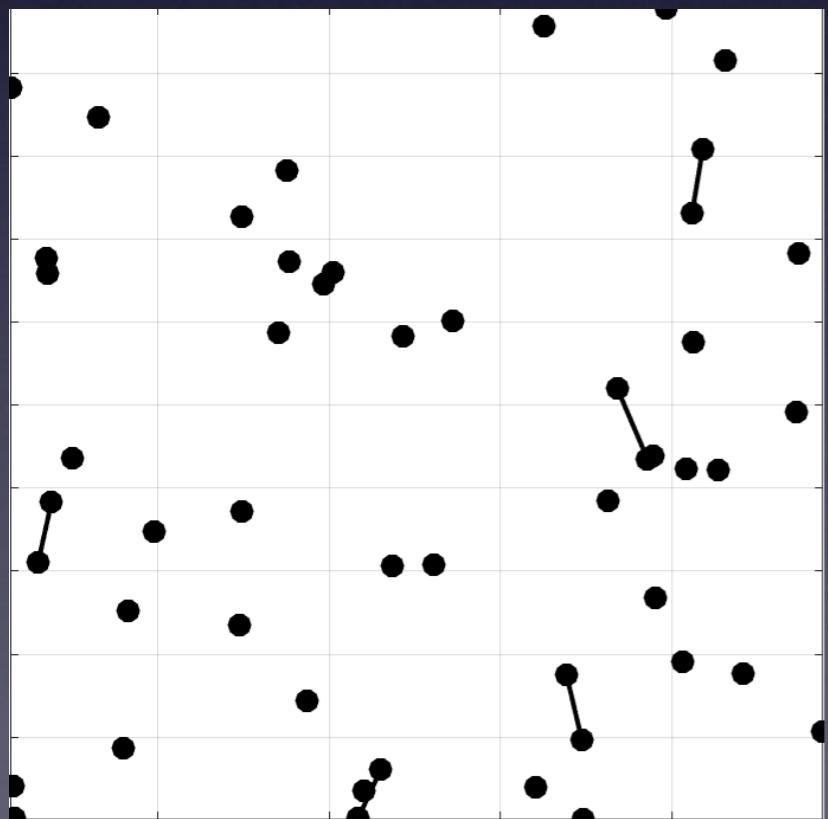
$$w_{ik} < w_{ij} + w_{jk}$$

Rips filtration

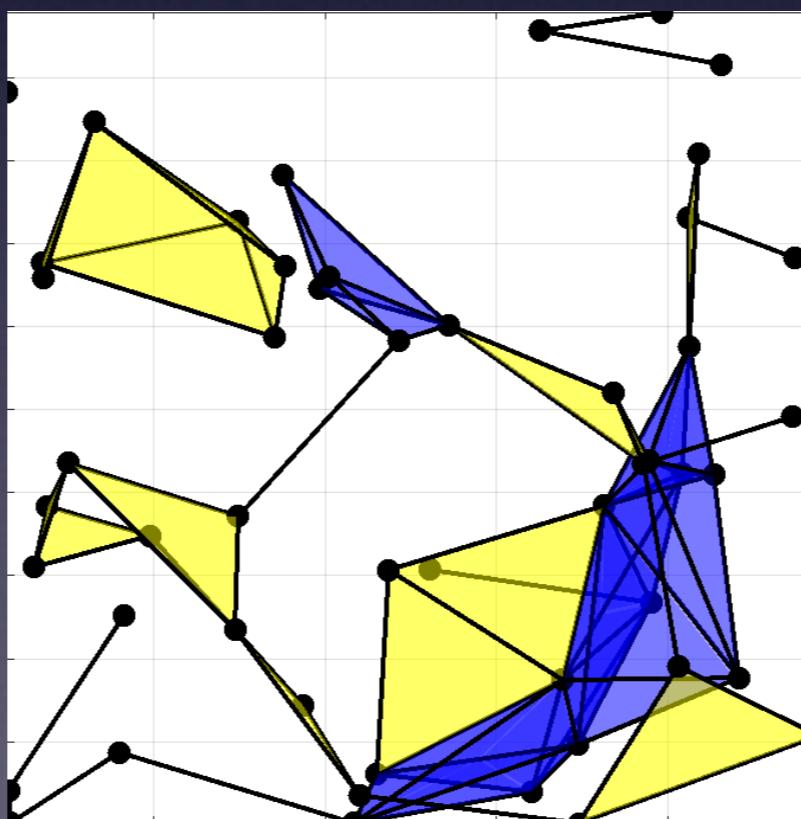
$$\mathcal{X}_{\epsilon_0} \subset \mathcal{X}_{\epsilon_1} \subset \mathcal{X}_{\epsilon_2} \subset \dots$$

for filtration values

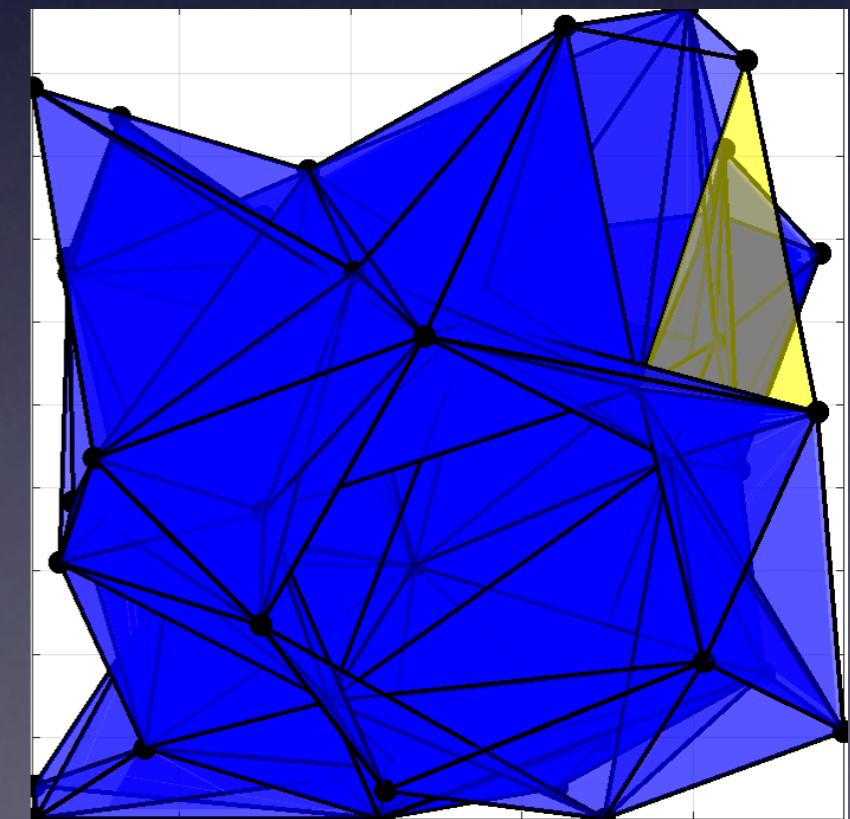
$$\epsilon_0 < \epsilon_1 < \epsilon_2 < \dots$$



$$\epsilon = 0.1$$



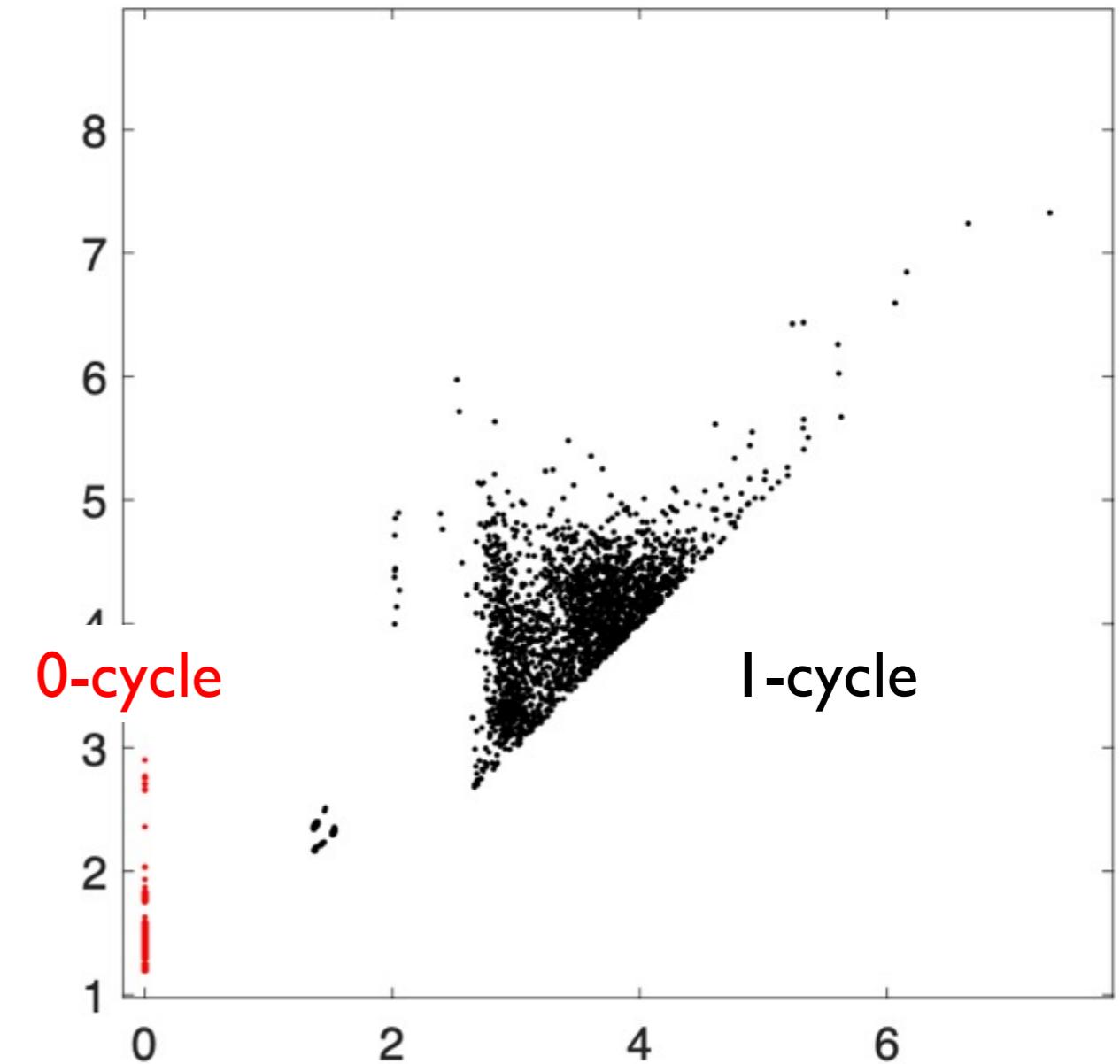
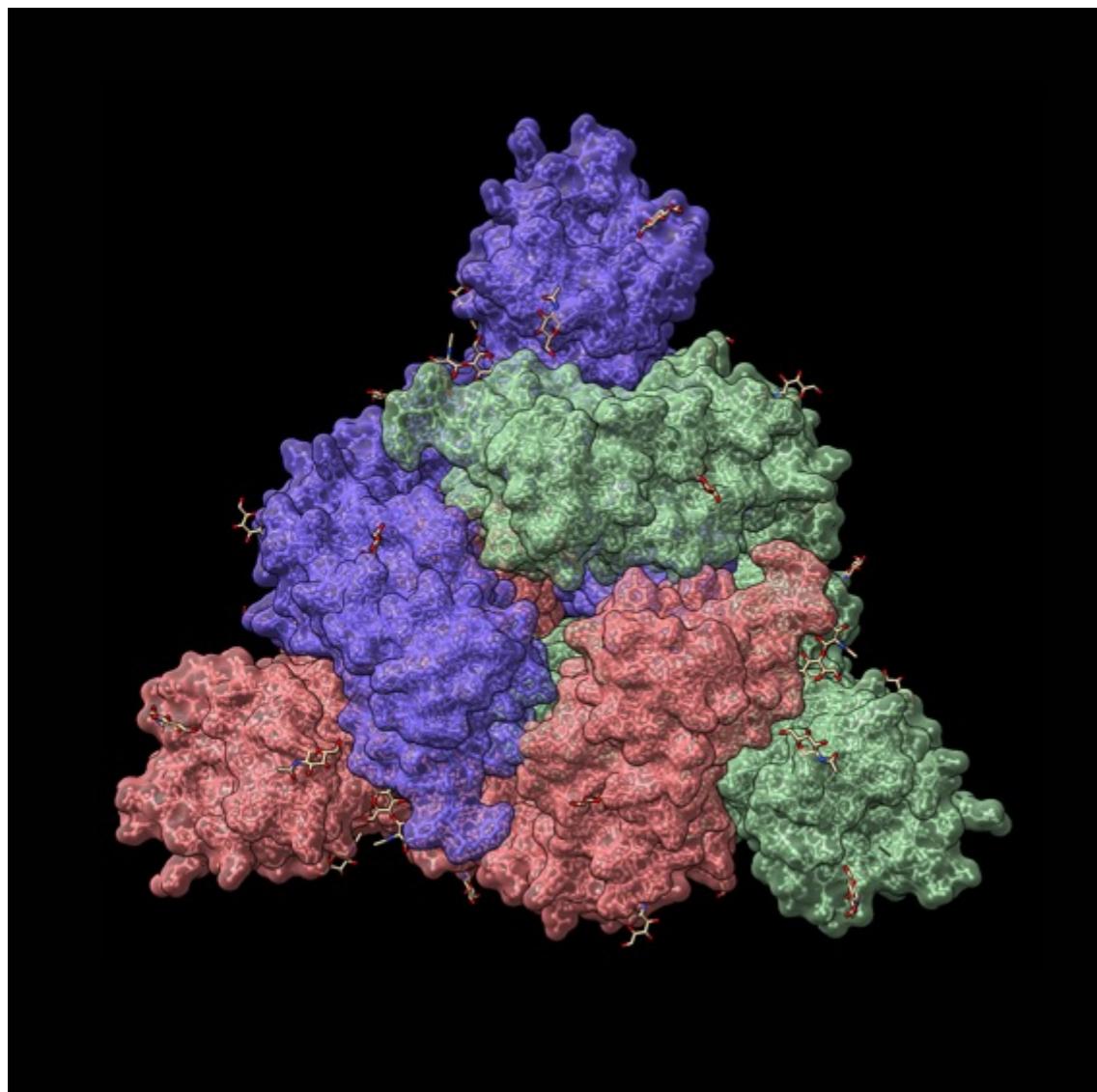
$$\epsilon = 0.3$$



$$\epsilon = 0.5$$

# Persistence Diagram (PD) of a protein molecule

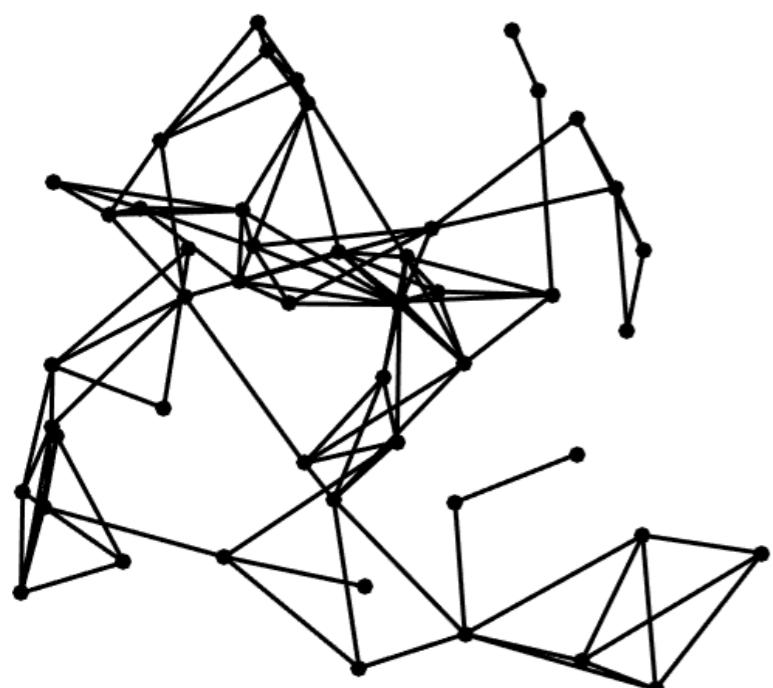
Rips filtration on distance between 8000 atoms



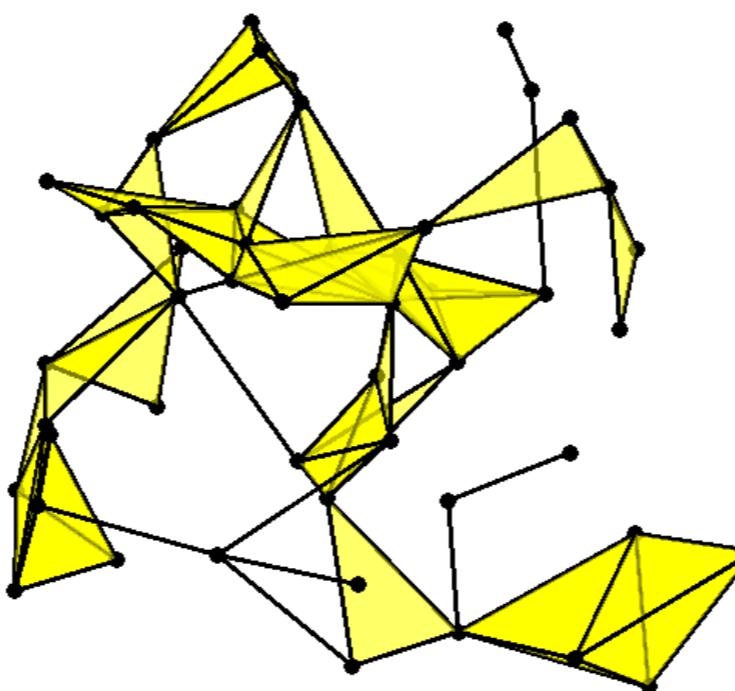
Extremely slow computation → Simply use graph filtration

## $k$ -skeleton

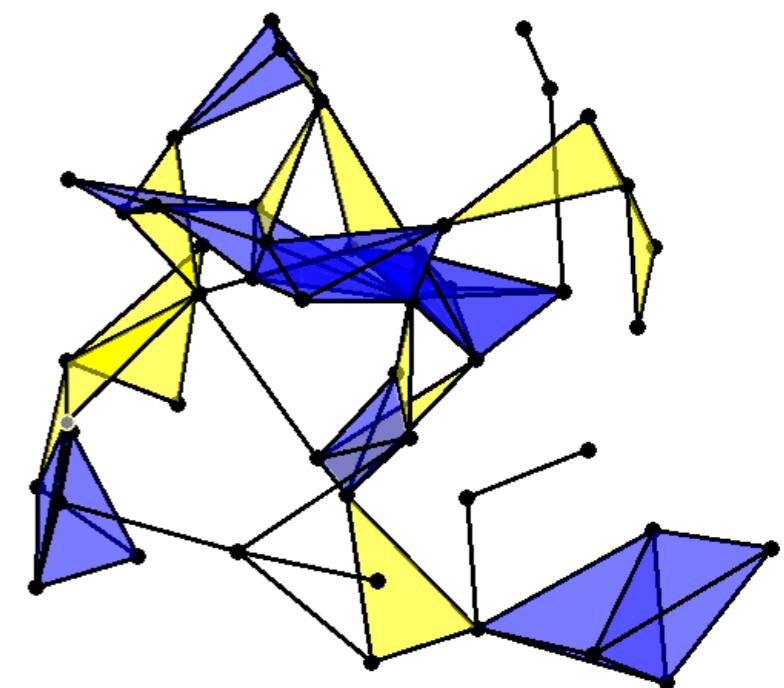
A simplicial complex consisting of up to  $k$ -simplices



1-skeleton



2-skeleton



3-skeleton

# Graph filtrations

Baseline filtration for brain networks introduced in

[Lee et al. 2011 ISBI](#)

[Lee et al. 2011 MICCAI 302-309](#)

[Lee et al. 2012 IEEE Transactions on Medical Imaging 31:2267-2277](#)

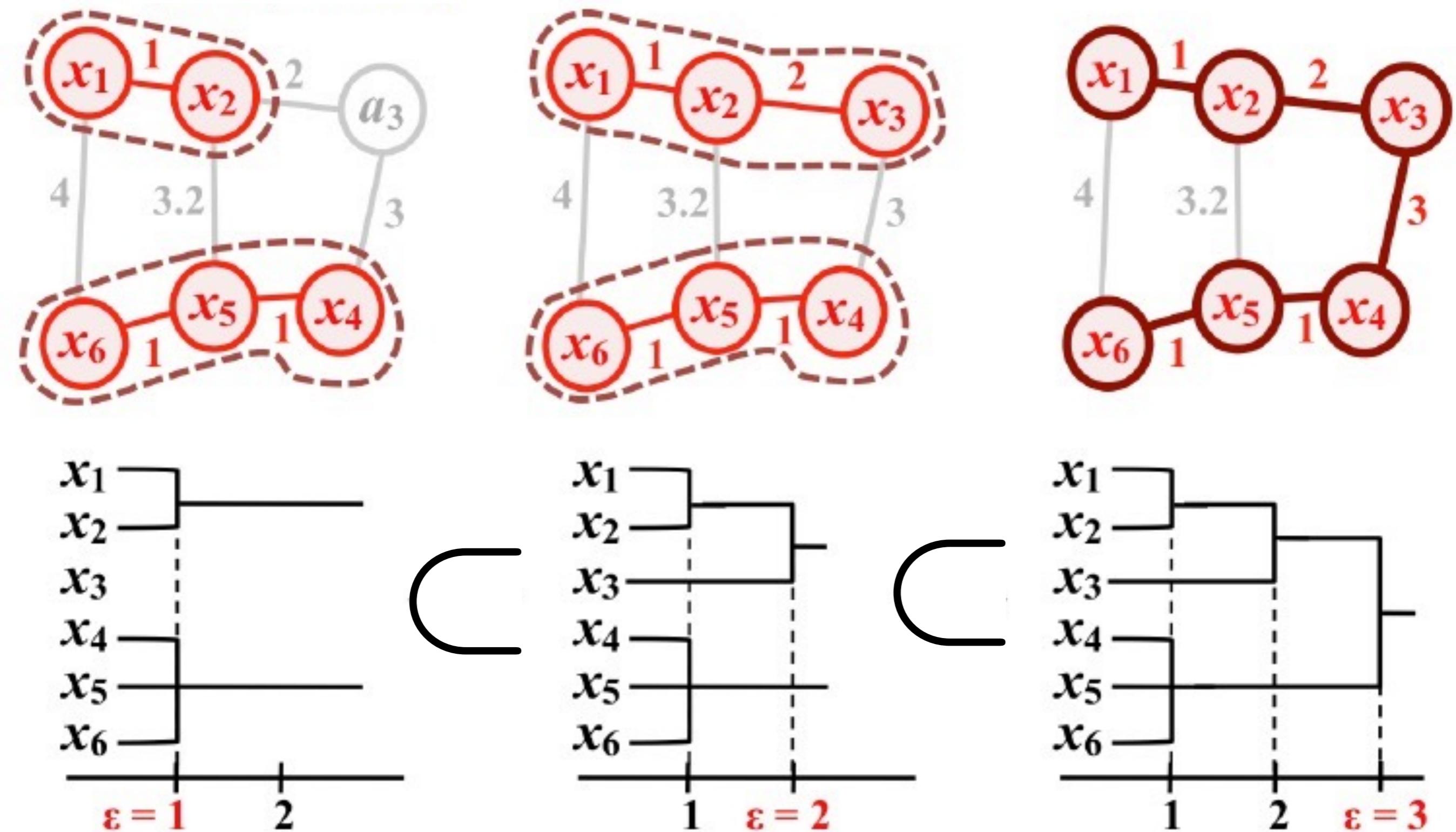
# Graph filtration (filtration on 1-skeleton)

Rips filtration is computationally expensive:

For  $n$ -nodes,  $O(n^{3k+3})$  for the  $k$ -th Betti number.

For 1-skeleton, graph filtration is  $O(n \log n)$  for both 0-th and 1-st Betti number.

# Graph filtration=single linkage clustering



# Rips filtration

vs.

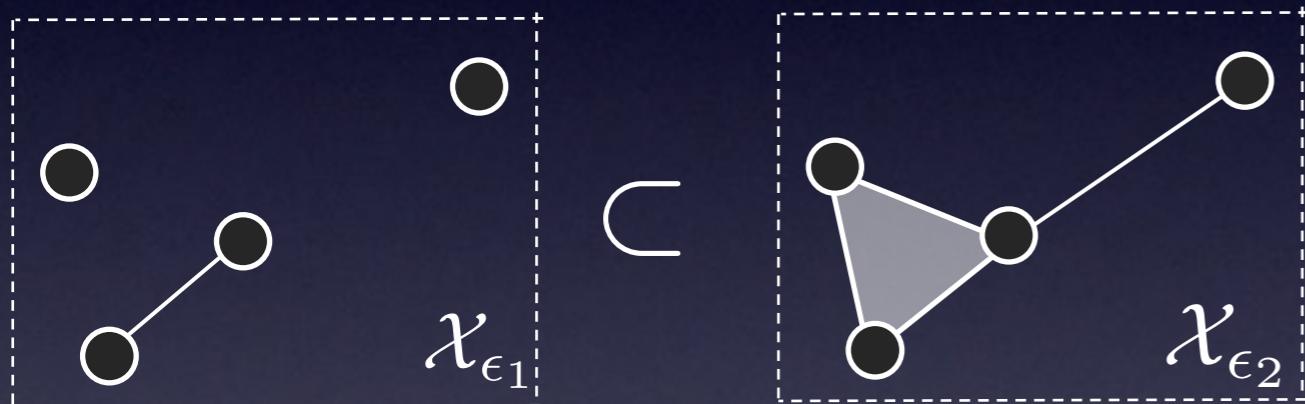
# graph filtration

Metric space

$$\mathcal{X} = (V, w) \quad w = (w_{ij})$$

Node set      Metric

Rips complex = Simplicial complex



Rips filtration

$$\mathcal{X}_{\epsilon_0} \subset \mathcal{X}_{\epsilon_1} \subset \mathcal{X}_{\epsilon_2} \subset \dots$$

for increased radius

$$\epsilon_0 < \epsilon_1 < \epsilon_2 < \dots$$

PH\_rips.m

Weighted graph

$$\mathcal{X} = (V, w) \quad w = (w_{ij})$$

Node set      Edge weight

Binary graph: 1-skeleton



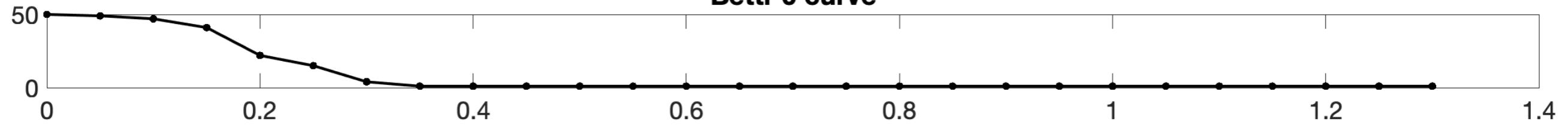
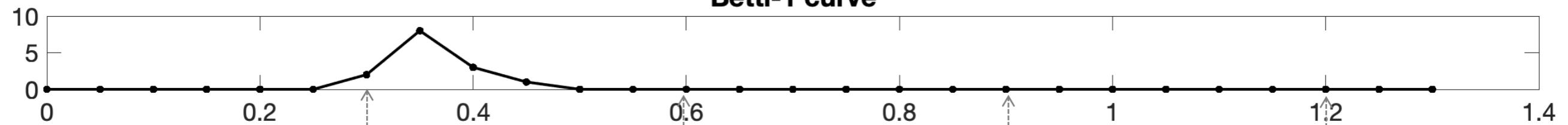
Graph filtration

$$\mathcal{X}_{\epsilon_0} \supset \mathcal{X}_{\epsilon_1} \supset \mathcal{X}_{\epsilon_2} \supset \dots$$

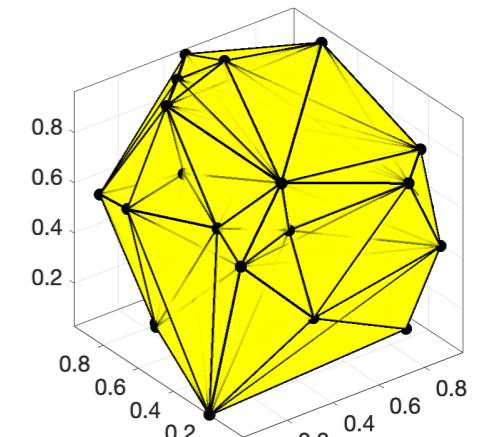
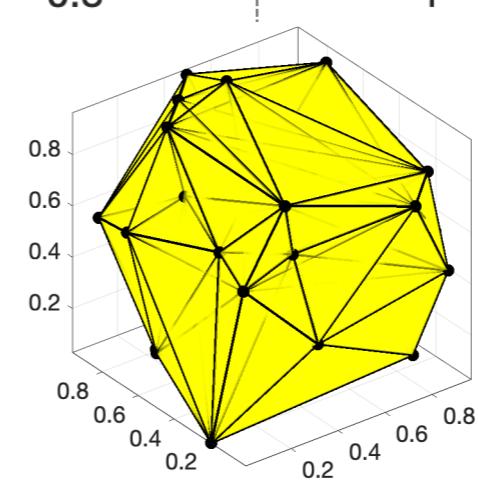
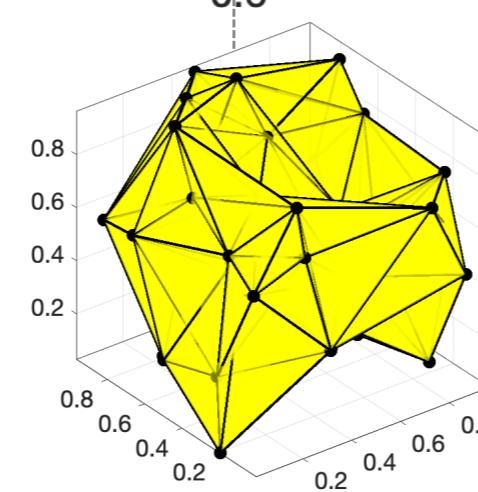
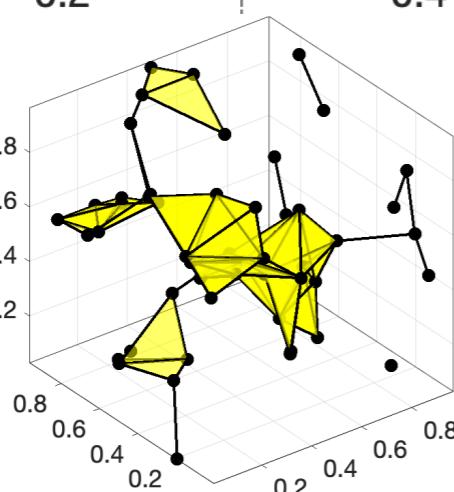
for increased edge weights

$$\epsilon_0 < \epsilon_1 < \epsilon_2 < \dots$$

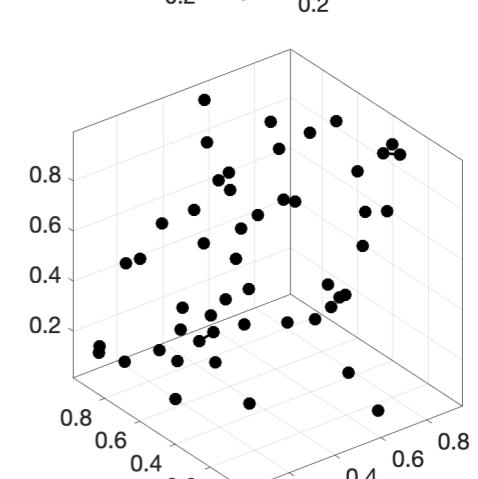
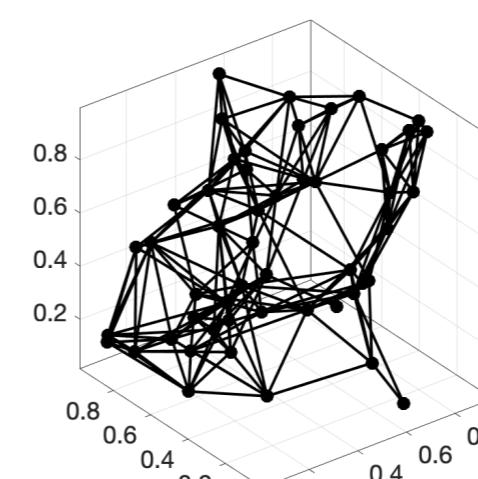
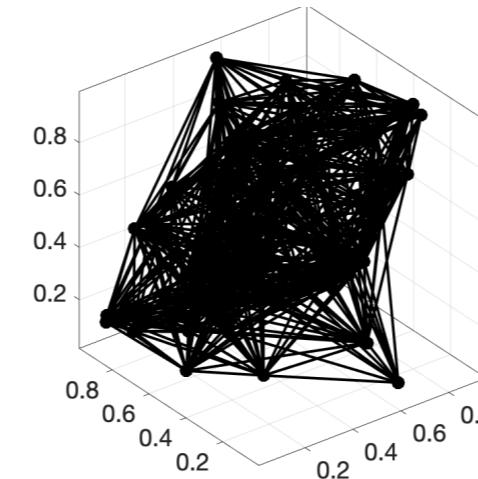
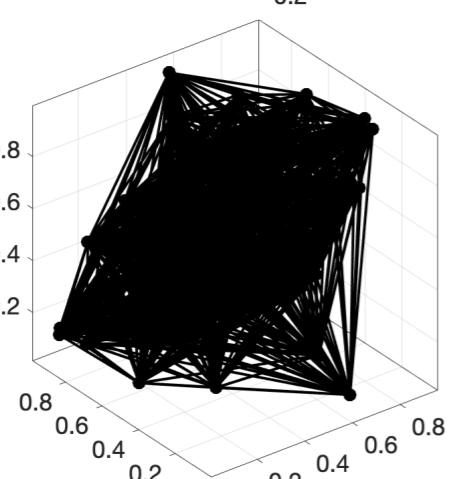
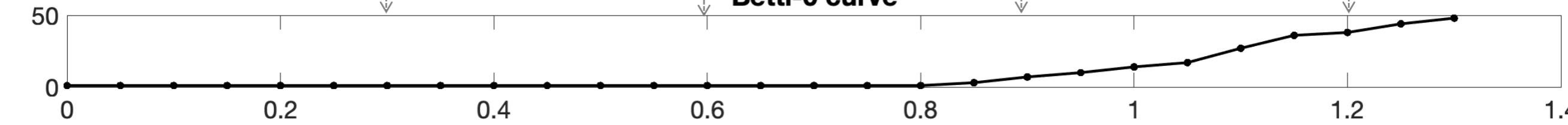
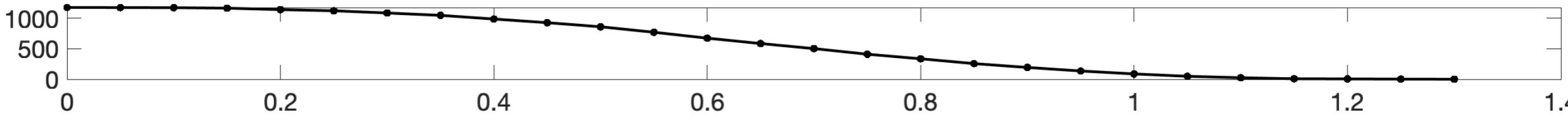
PH\_graph.m

**Betti-0 curve****Betti-1 curve**

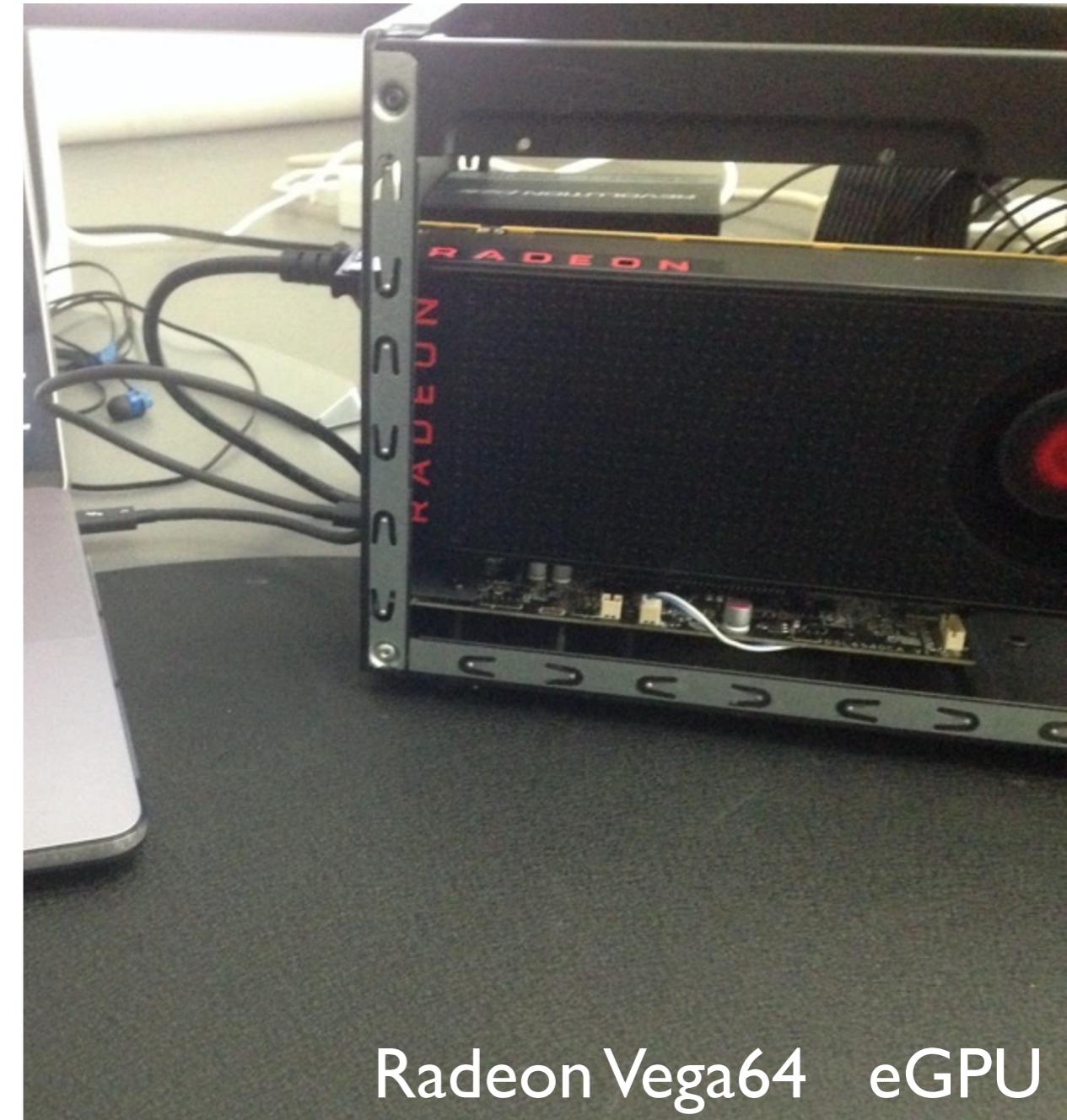
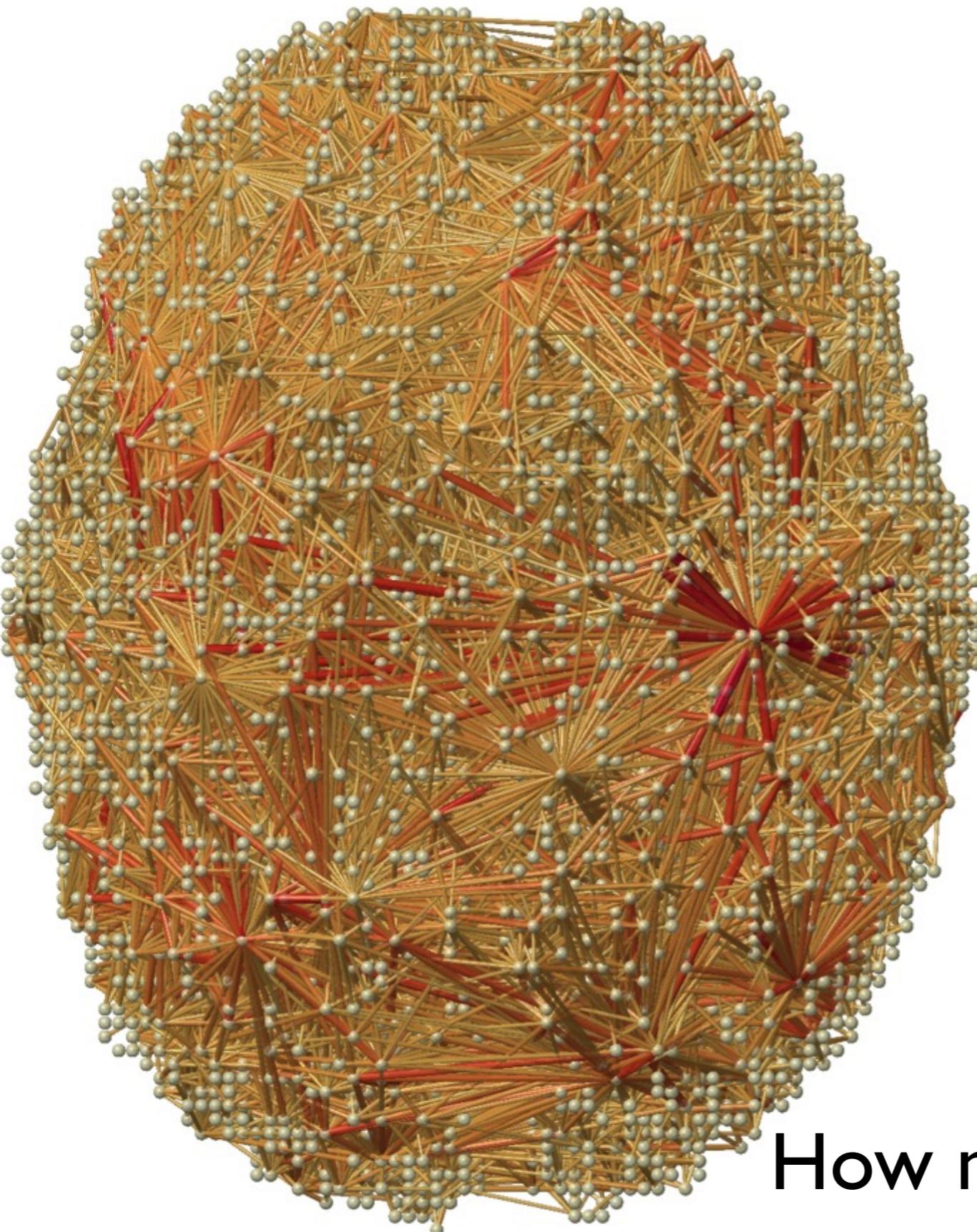
Rips  
filtration



Graph  
filtration

**Betti-0 curve****Betti-1 curve**

# How to compute the number of cycles in big network data?



Radeon Vega64 eGPU

How many cycles in the network?

# Fast computation of Betti curves

Computation of  $\beta_0$ : Many existing algorithms. Can use a built-in function in MATLAB.

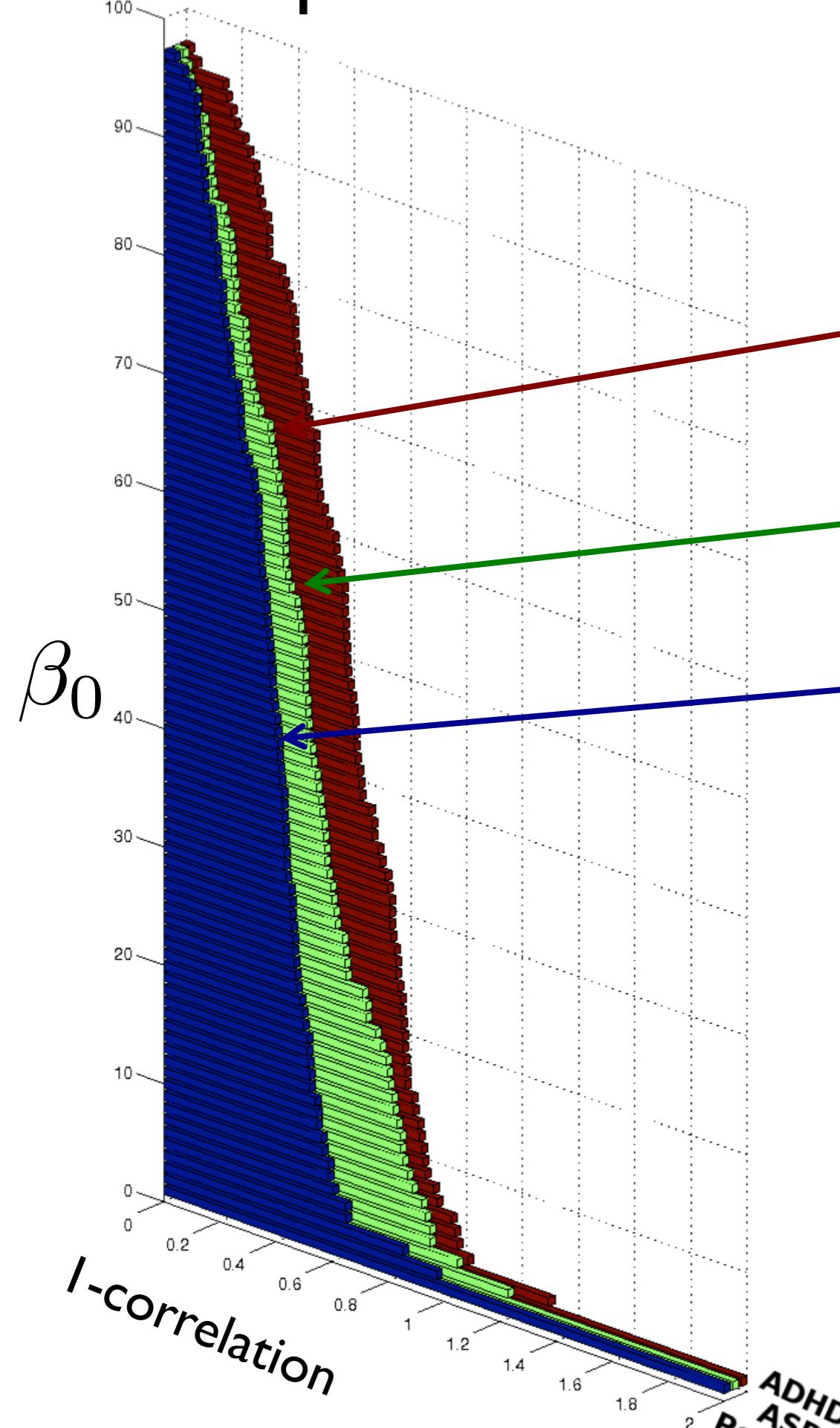
```
[beta_0, S] = graphconncomp(adj)
```

Computation of  $\beta_1$ : As a function of  $\beta_0$

$$\beta_1 = \beta_0 - p + q$$

```
q=sum(sum(adj))/2;  
beta_1 = beta_0 - p + q;
```

# 0-th Betti plot on PET correlation network

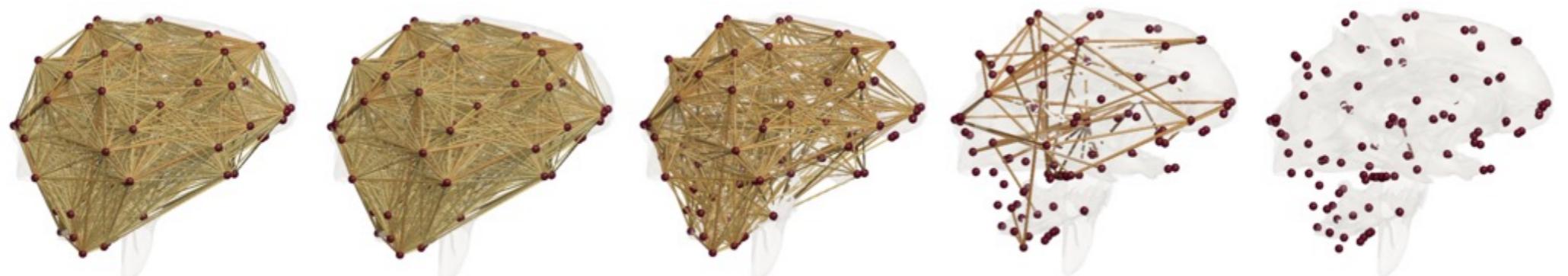


24 attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) children  
26 autism spectrum disorder (ASD) children  
11 pediatric control subjects

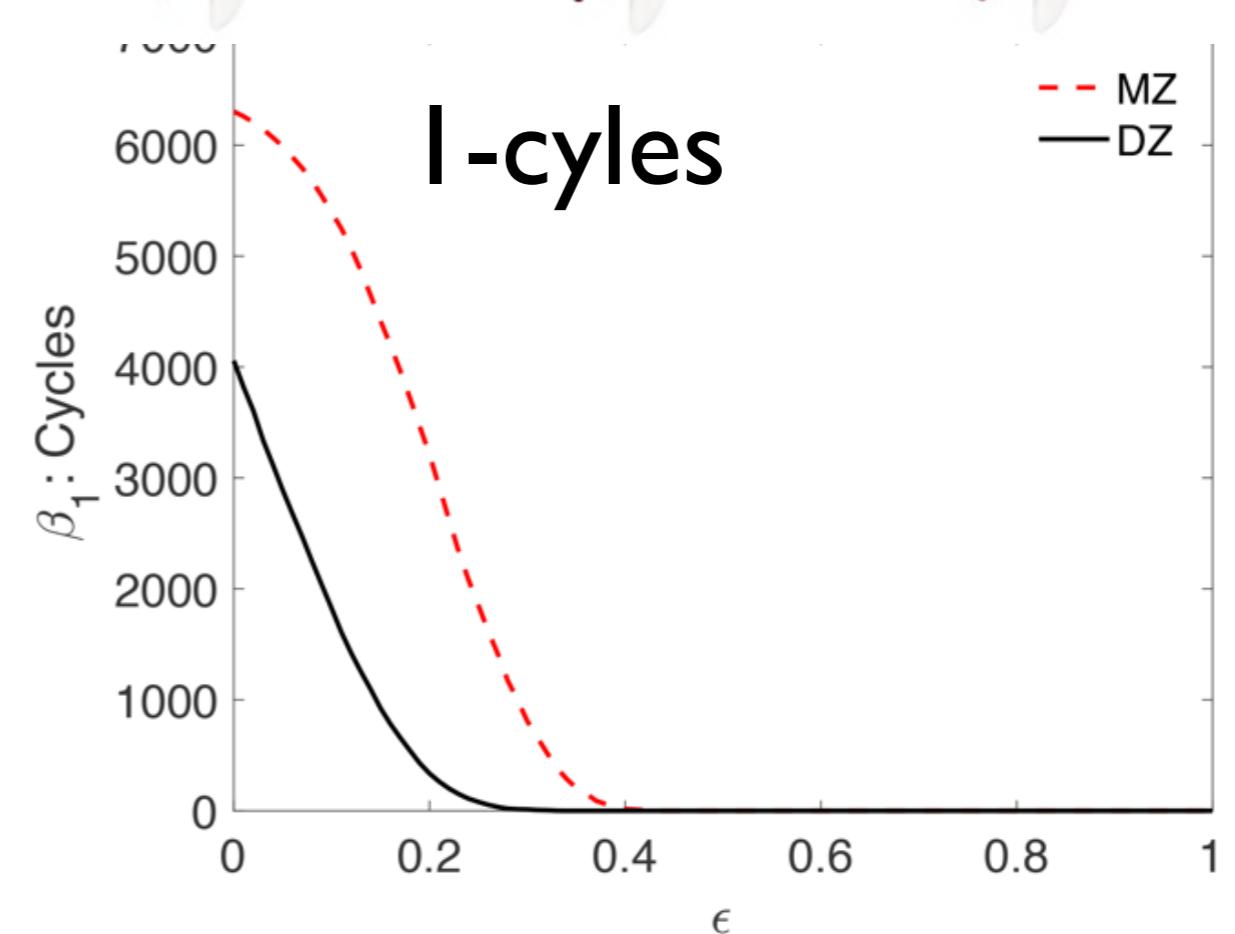
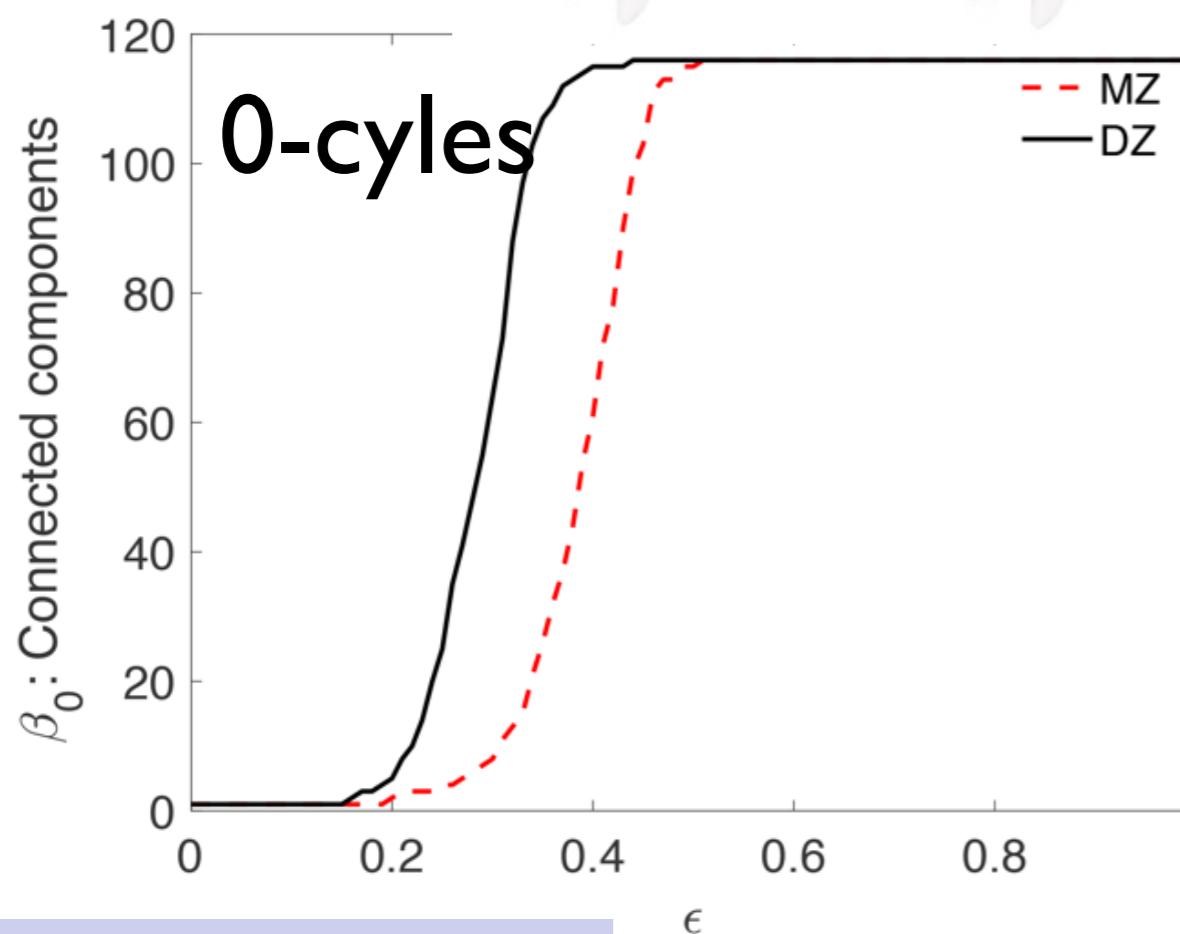
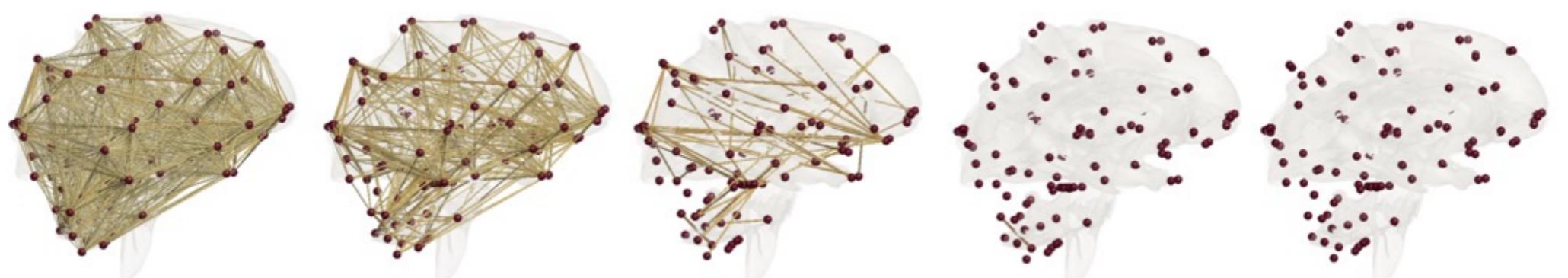
PH\_betti.m

# Genetic effect on Betti curves of rs-fMRI network

MZ-twins



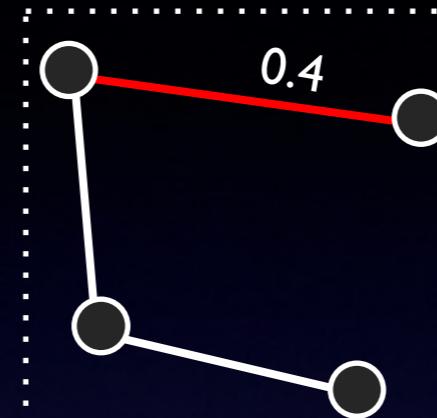
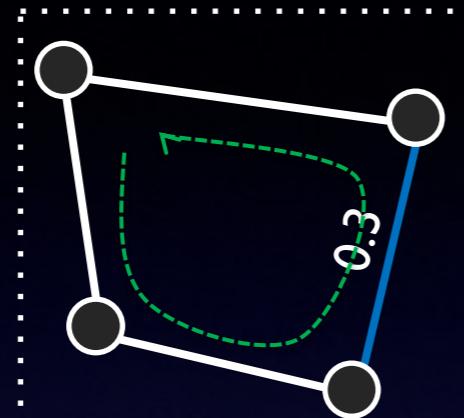
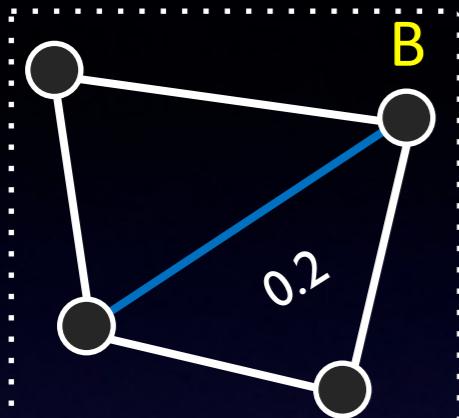
DZ-twins



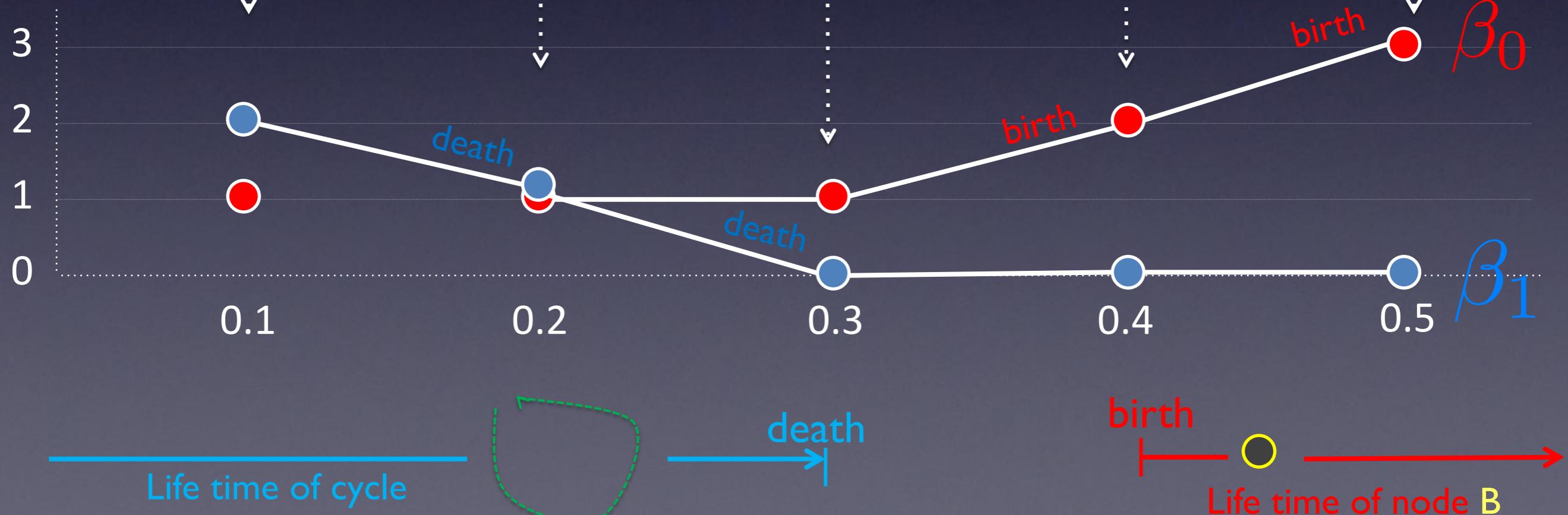
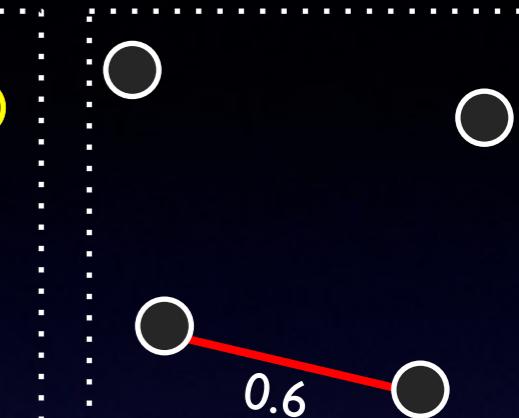
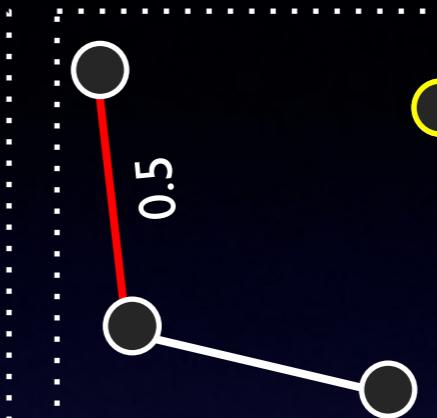
**Birth and death  
decomposition**

Persistence = Life time (death – birth) of a feature

Edges destroy cycles

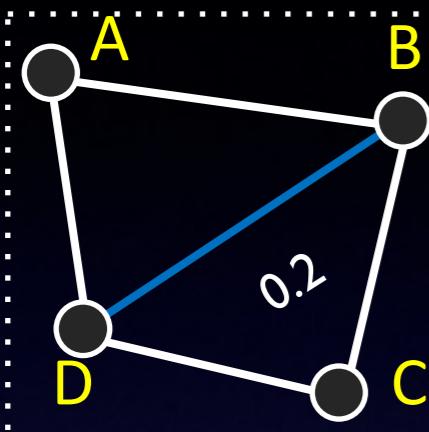


Edges create components

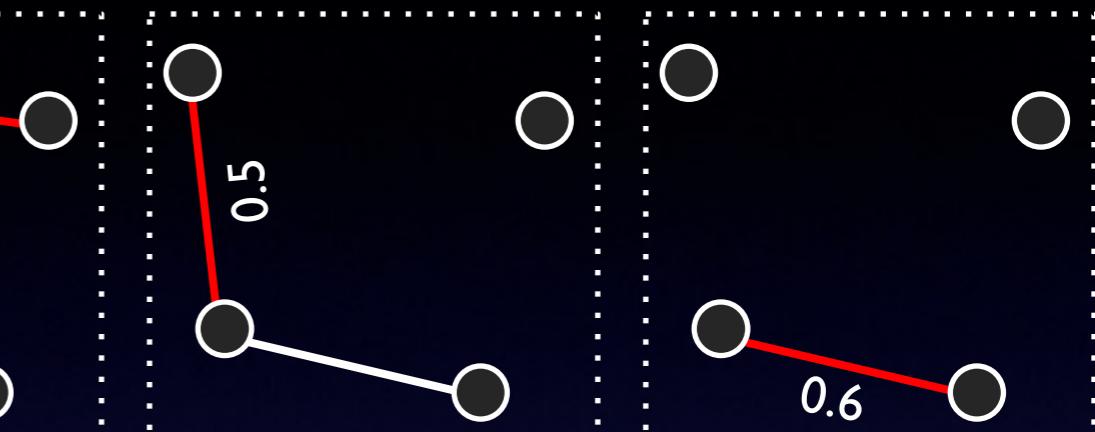
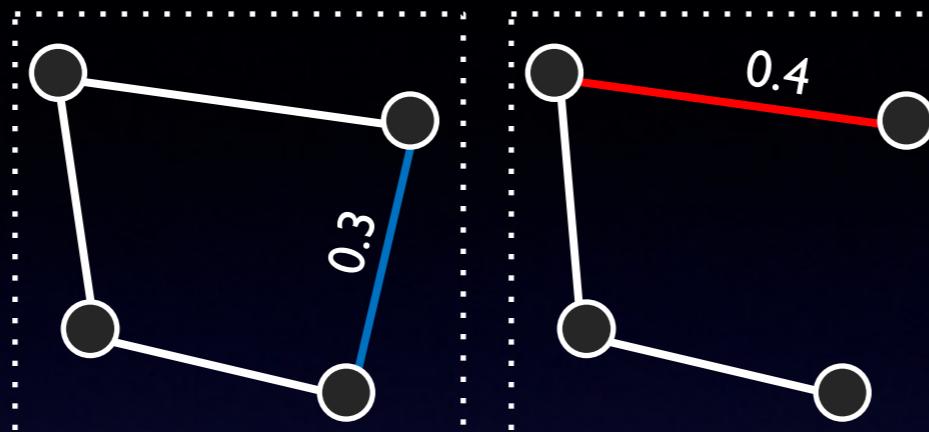


# Theorem Birth & death sets partition the edge set

$E_1$  Edges destroy cycles



$E_0$  Edges create components



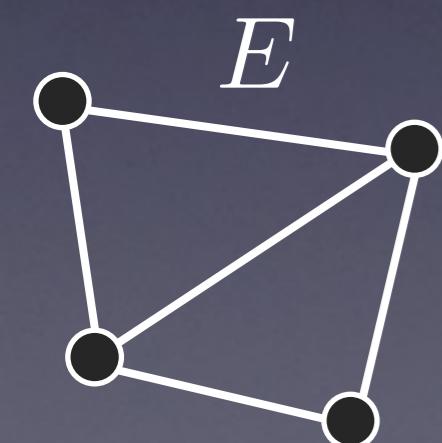
$$\#(E_1) = 1 + \frac{|V|(|V| - 3)}{2}$$

$$\#(E) = \frac{|V|(|V| - 1)}{2}$$

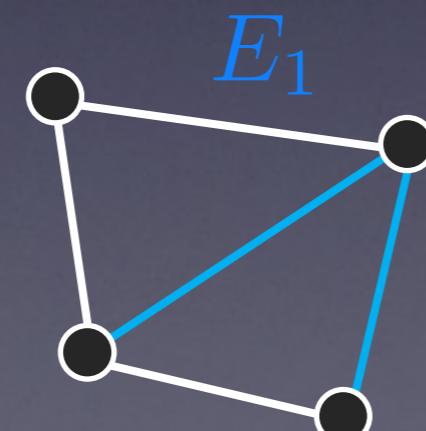
$$\#(E_0) = |V| - 1$$

Maximum  
spanning  
tree

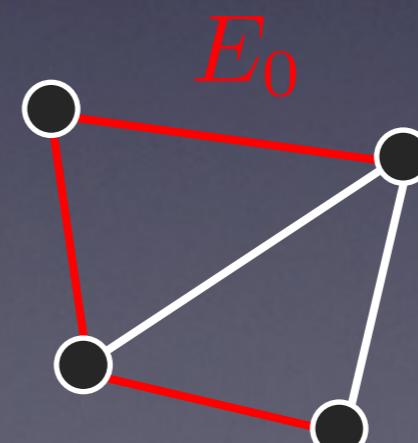
$O(|E| \log |V|)$

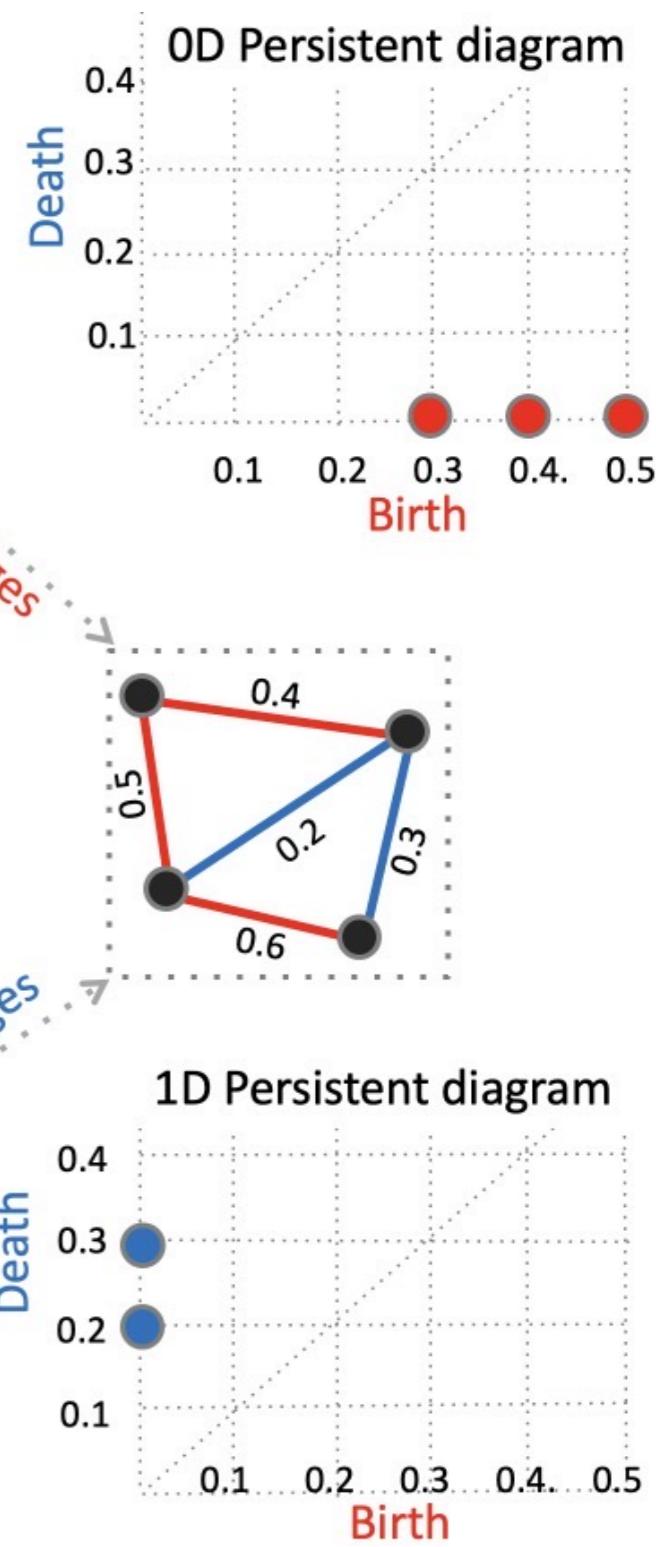
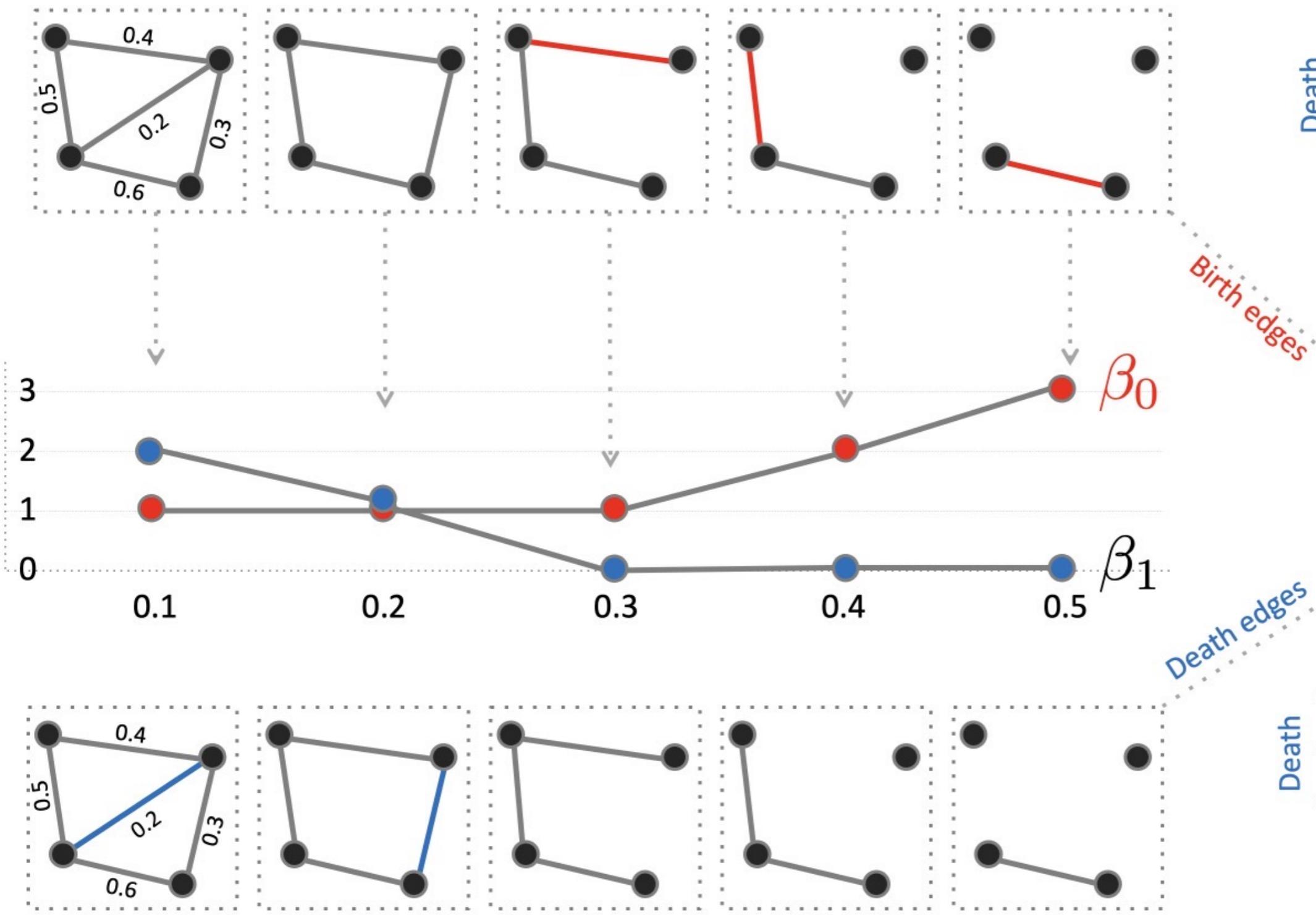


=

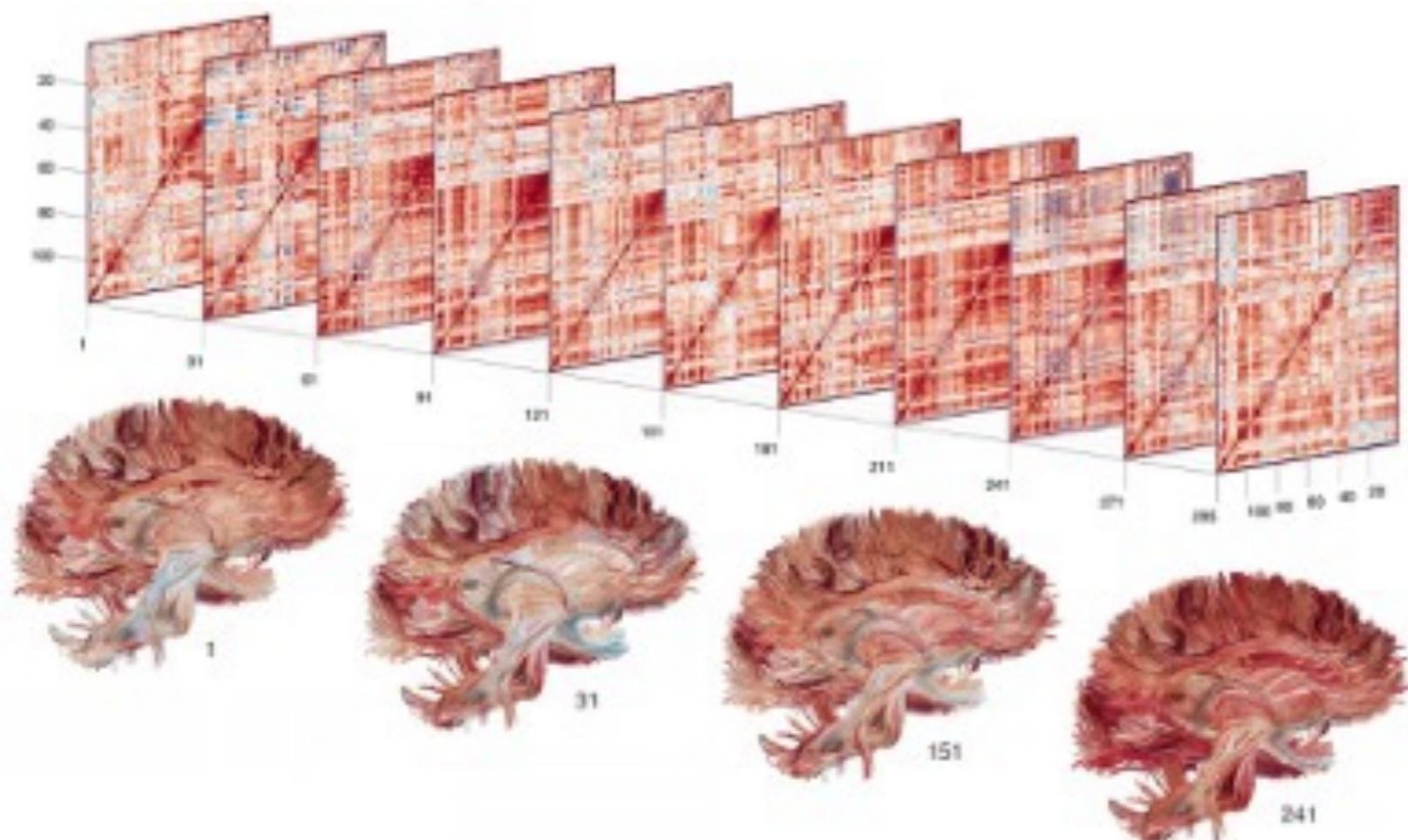


U

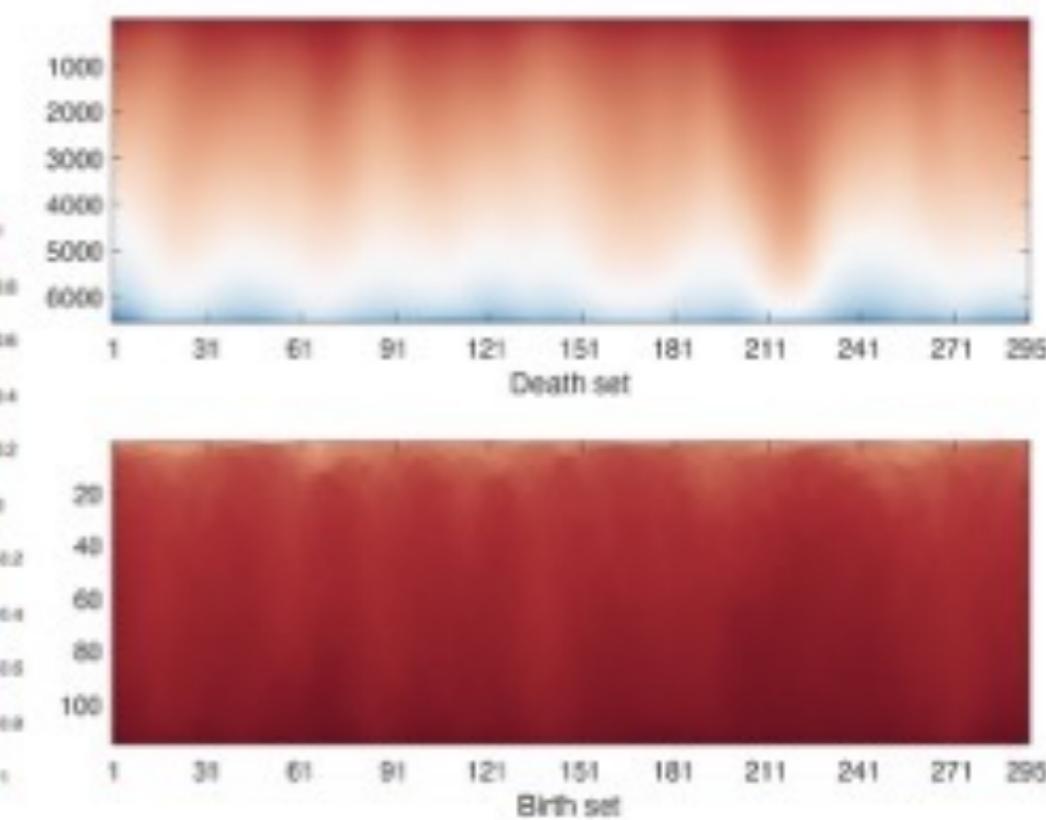




## Dynamically changing correlation network from rs-fMRI



## Dynamically changing birth-death sets



WS\_decompose.m

# Topological inference

# 2-Wasserstein distance between persistent diagrams

Random variables:

$$X \sim f_1 \quad Y \sim f_2$$

2-Wasserstein distance:

$$\mathcal{D}(X, Y) = \left( \inf \mathbb{E} \|X - Y\|^2 \right)^{1/2}$$

Persistent diagrams

$$P_1 = \{x_1, \dots, x_q\} \subset \mathbb{R}^2$$

$$P_2 = \{y_1, \dots, y_q\} \in \mathbb{R}^2$$

Empirical distributions

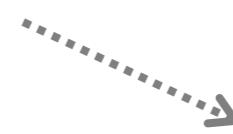
$$f_1(x) = \frac{1}{q} \sum_{i=1}^q \delta(x - x_i)$$

$$f_2(y) = \frac{1}{q} \sum_{i=1}^q \delta(y - y_i)$$

$$\mathcal{D}(P_1, P_2) = \inf_{\psi: P_1 \rightarrow P_2} \left( \sum_{x \in P_1} \|x - \psi(x)\|^2 \right)^{1/2}$$

Assignment problem: Hungarian algorithm

$$\mathcal{O}(q^3)$$



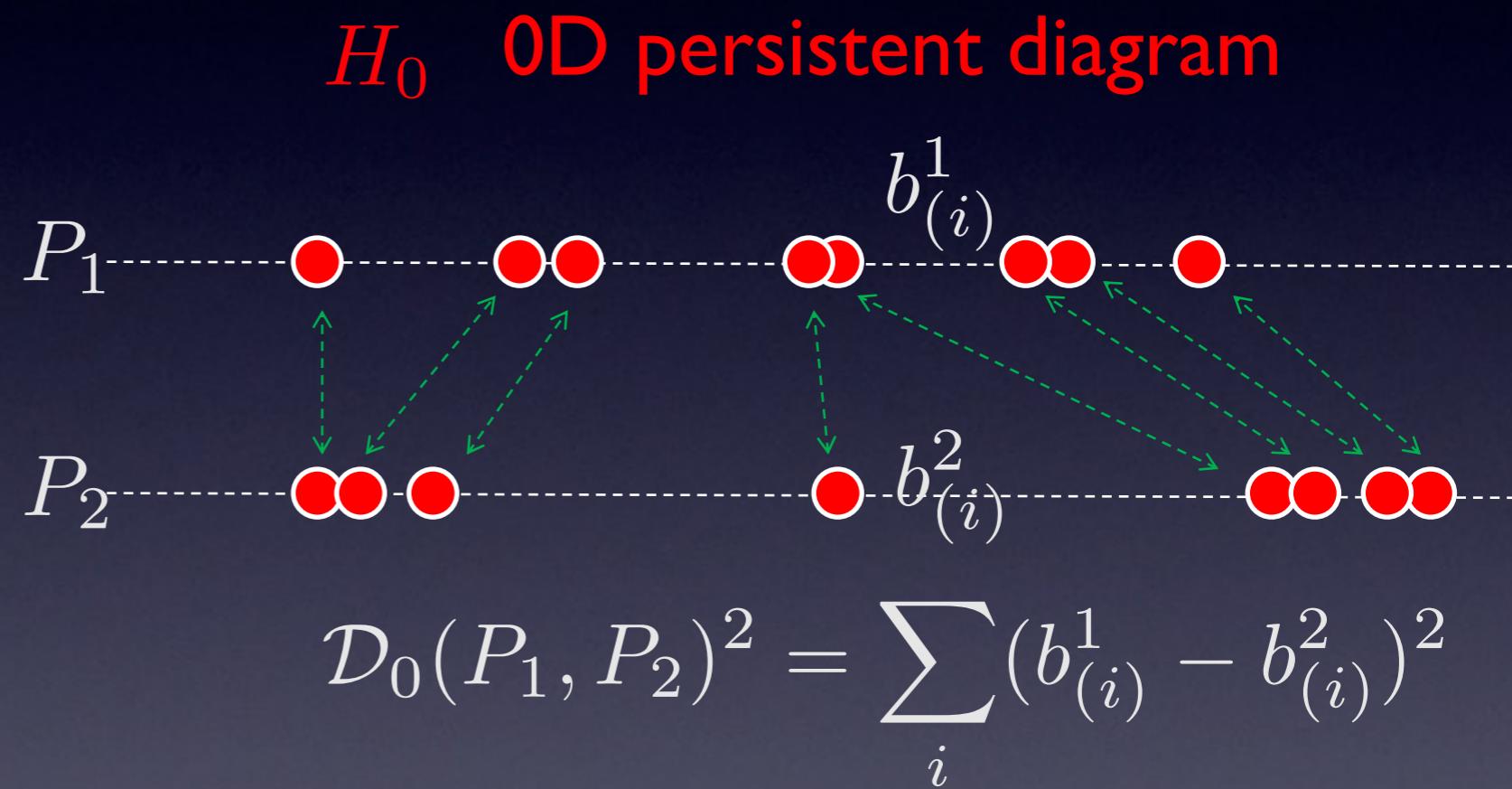
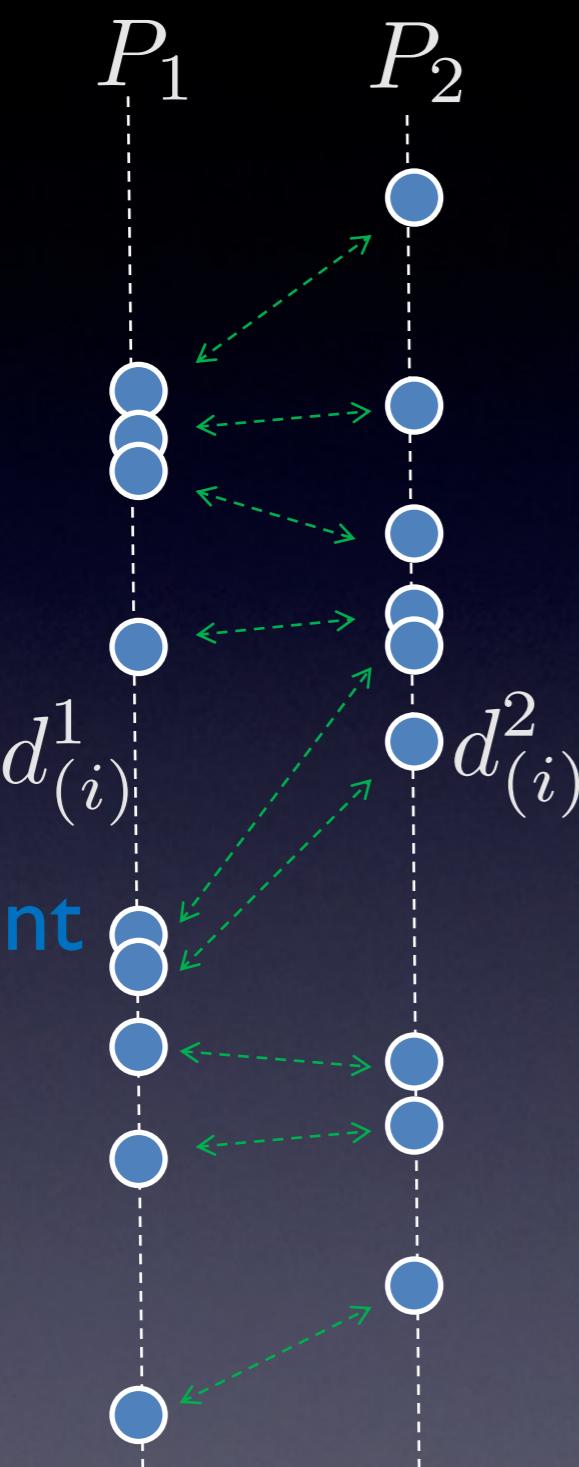
Graph filtration

$$\mathcal{O}(q \log q)$$

# Wasserstein distance for graph filtrations

WS\_pdist2.m

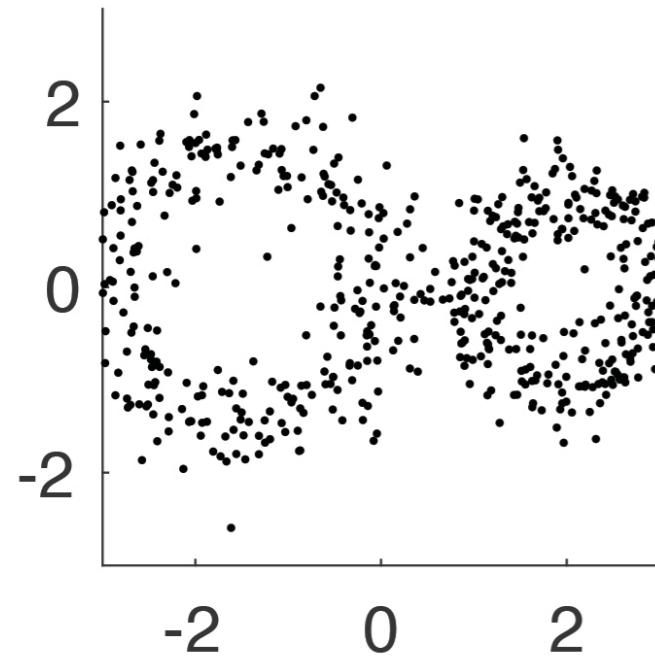
ID persistent diagram



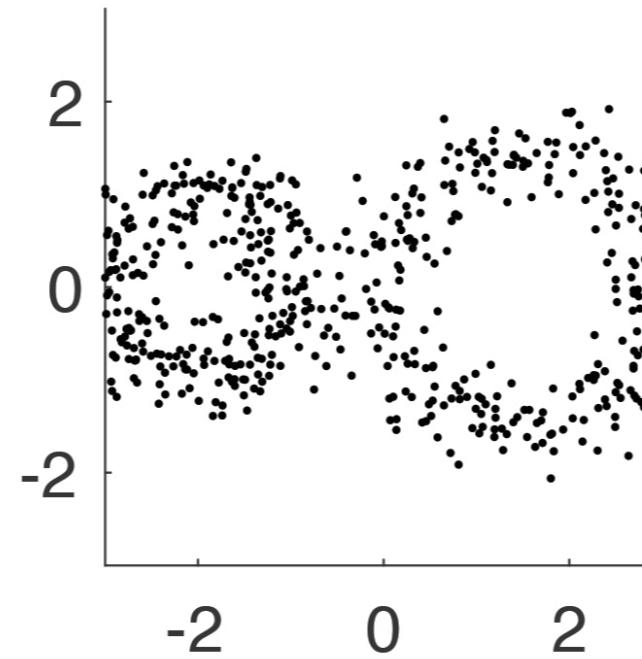
$$\mathcal{D}_1(P_1, P_2)^2 = \sum_i (d_{(i)}^1 - d_{(i)}^2)^2$$

# Topologically invariant patterns

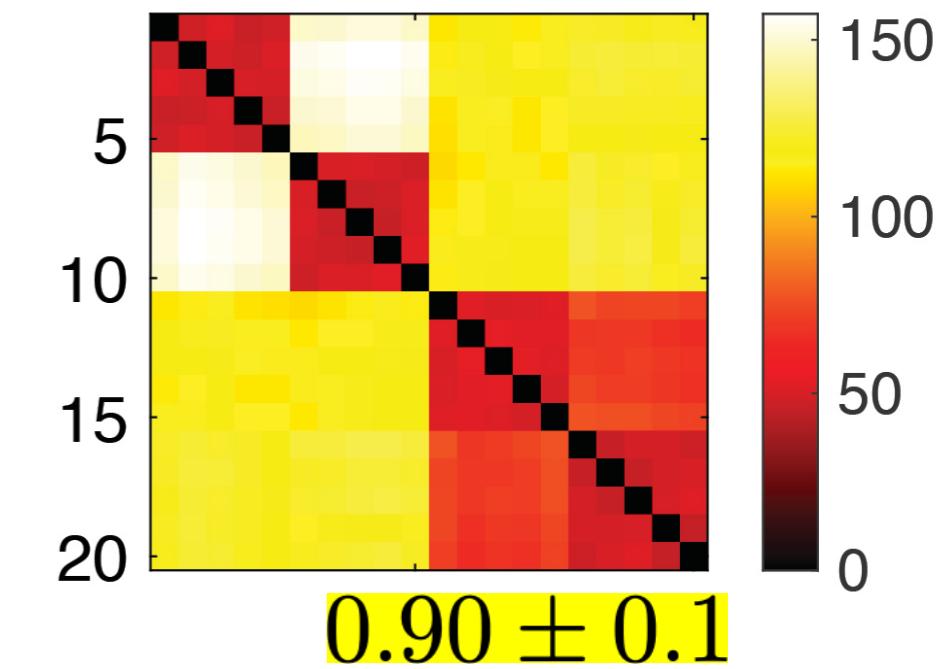
**Group 1**



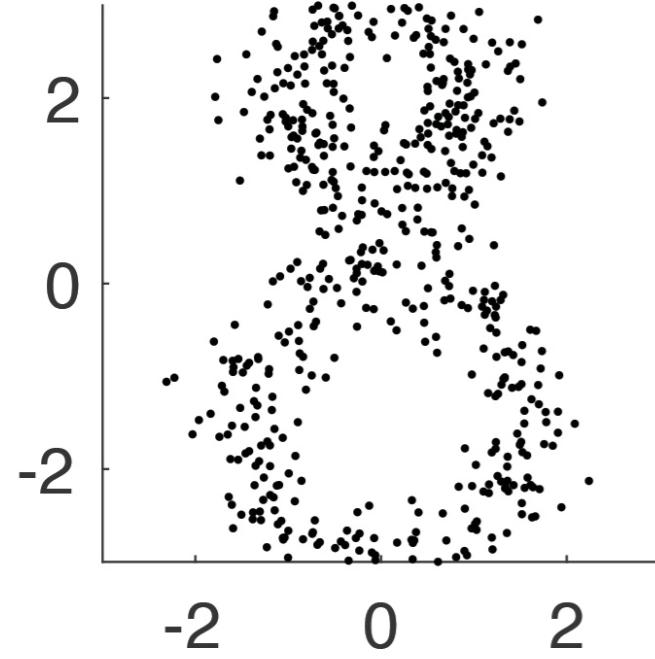
**Group 2**



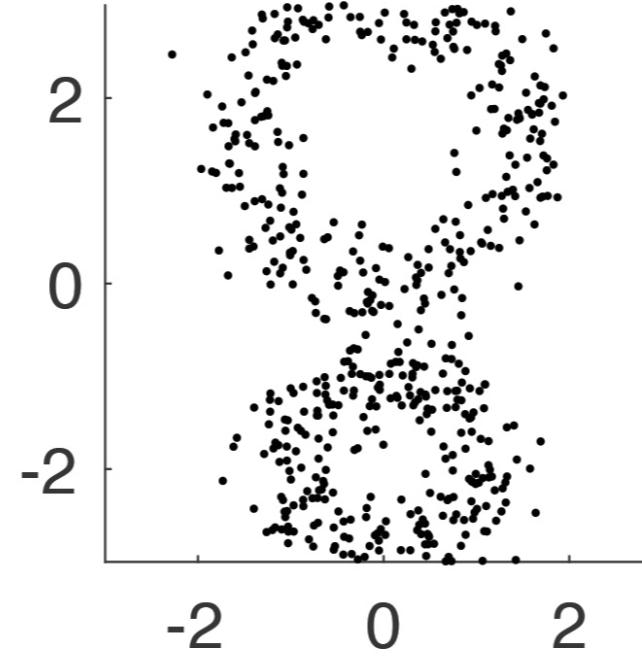
**L2-norm**



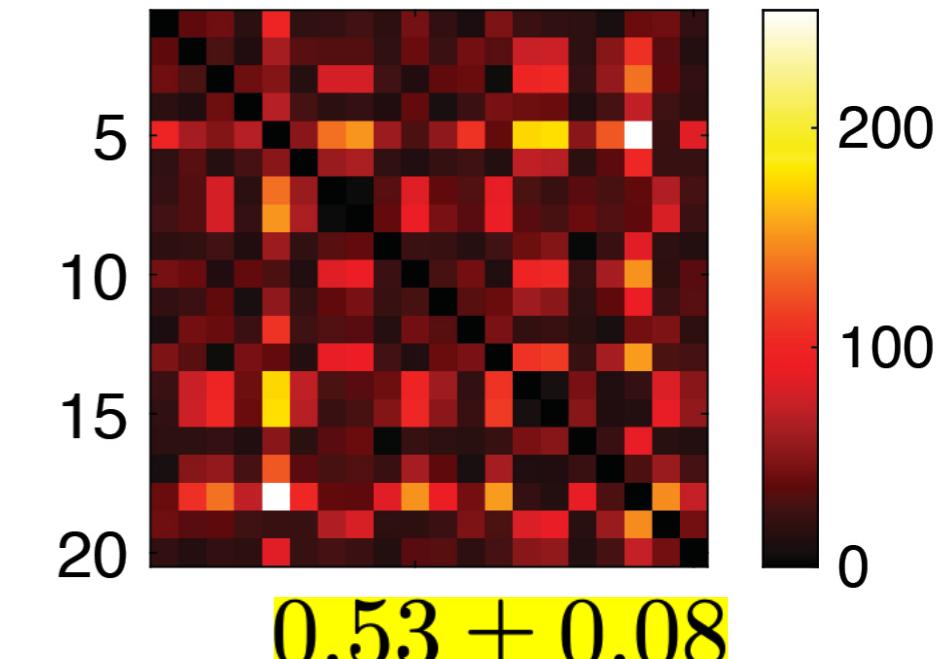
**Group 3**



**Group 4**



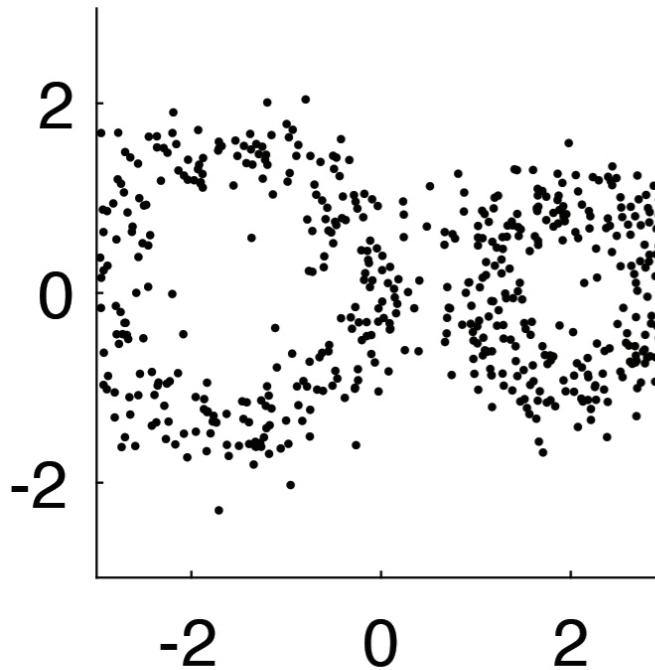
**Wasserstein**



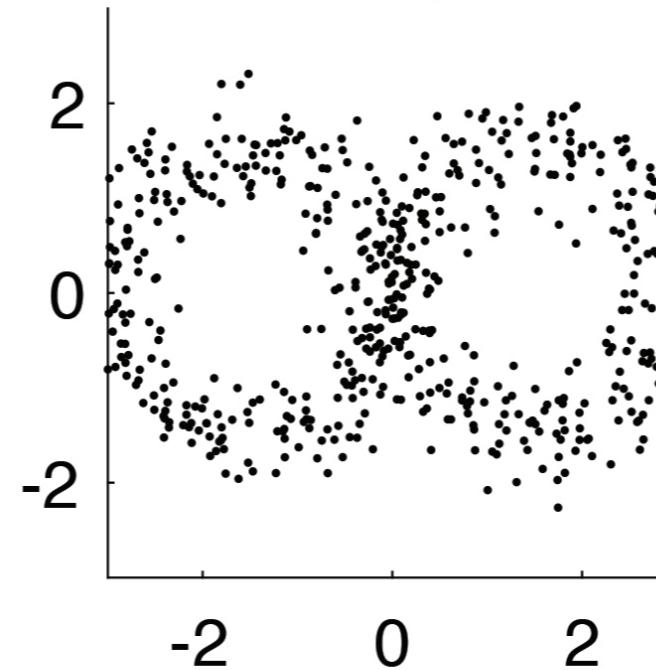
Clustering accuracy

# Topologically different patterns

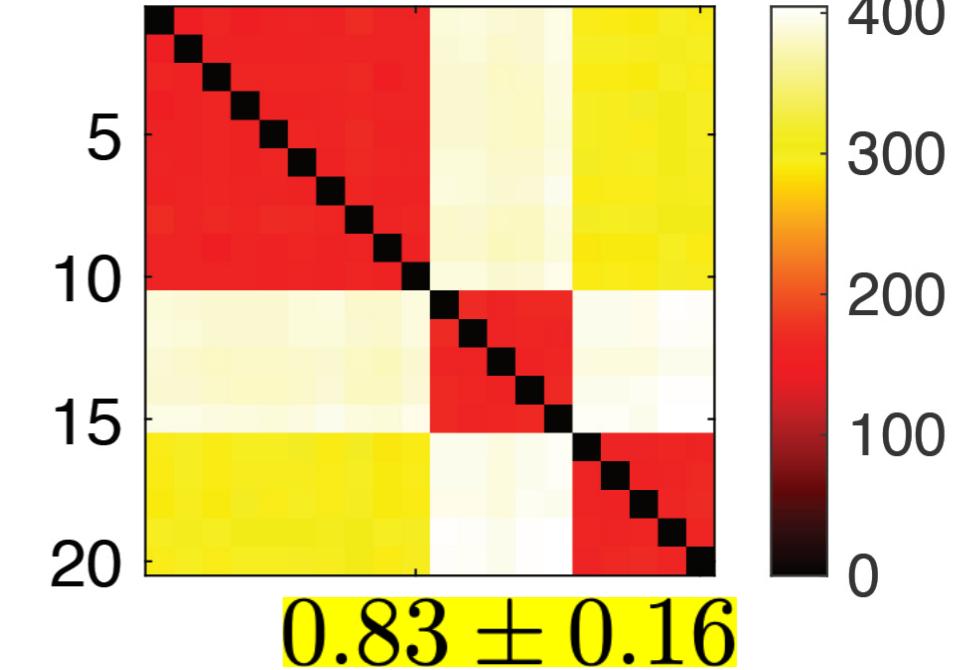
**Group 1**



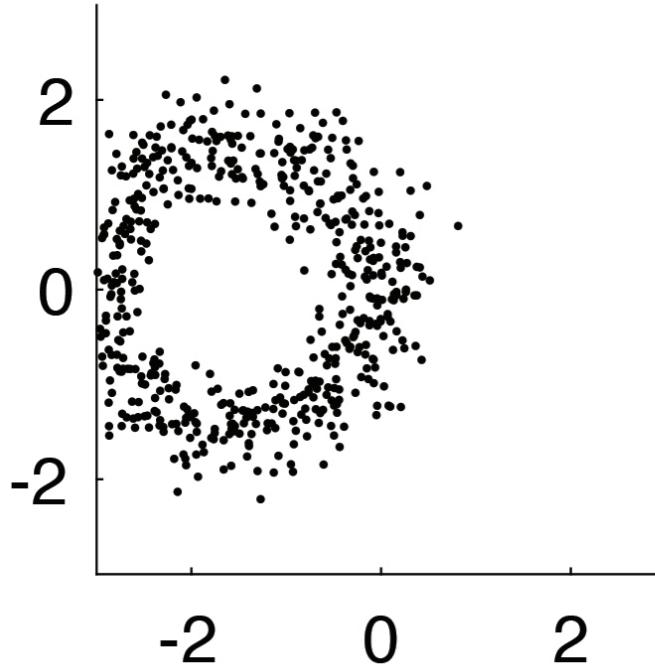
**Group 2**



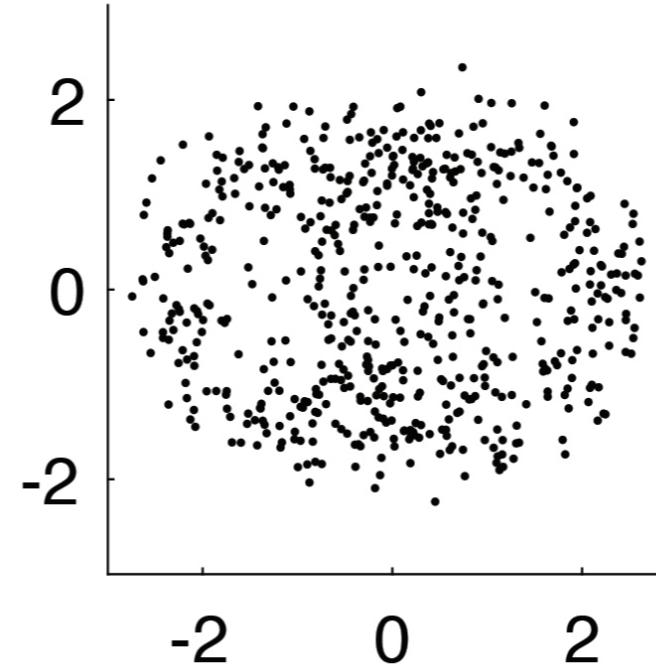
**L2-norm**



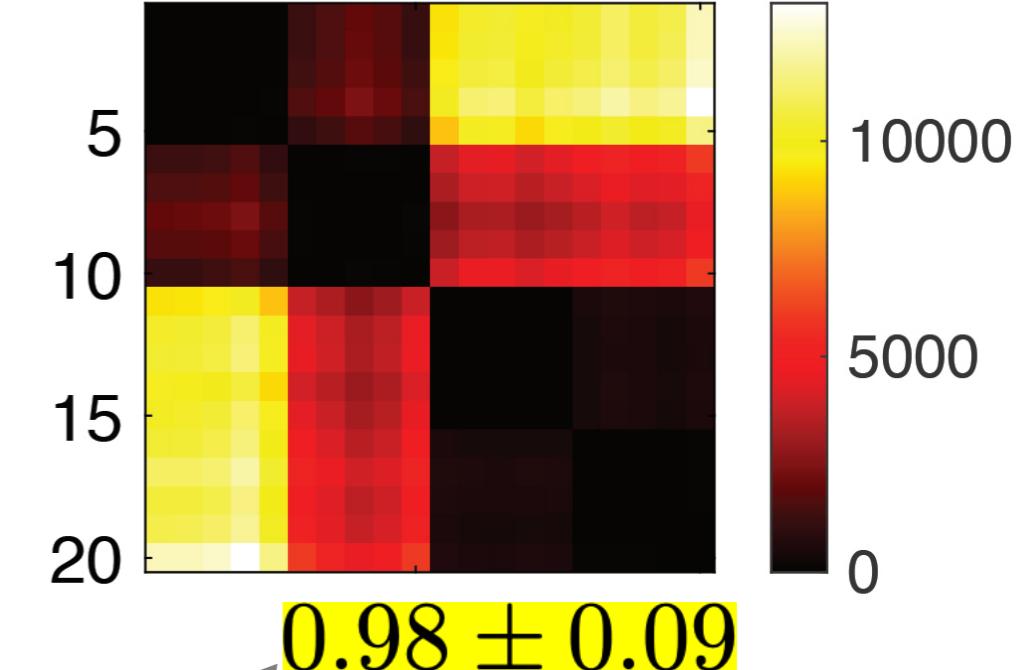
**Group 3**



**Group 4**

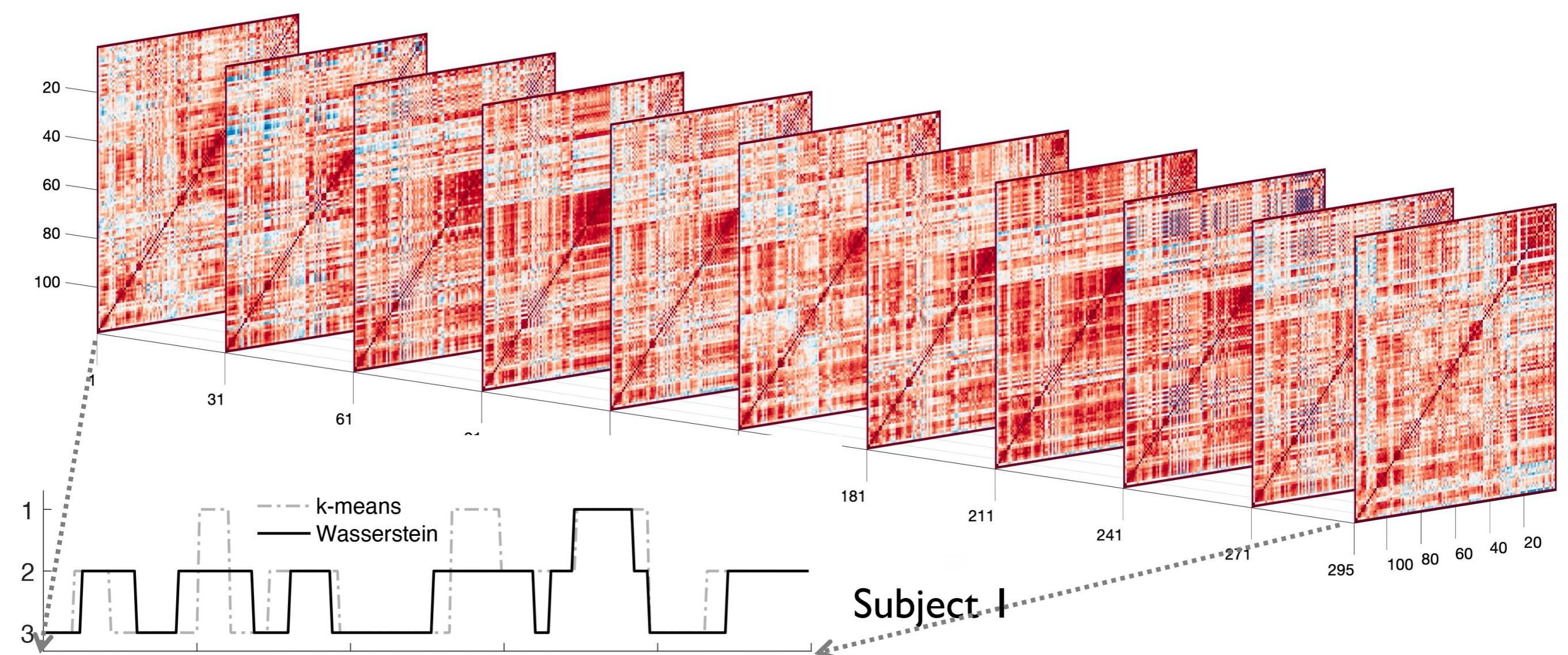


**Wasserstein**

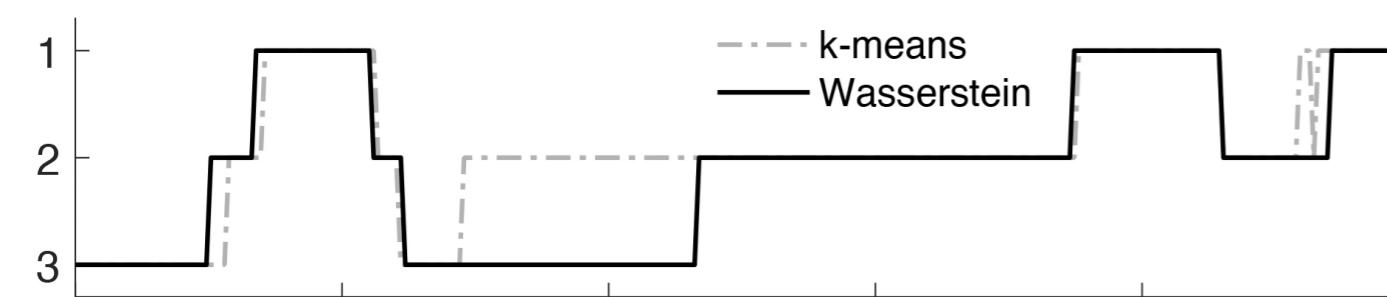


WS\_cluster.m

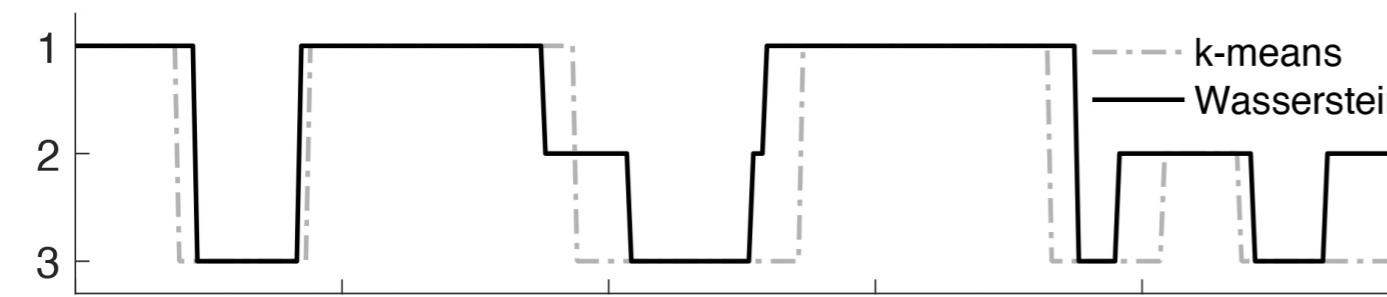
Clustering accuracy



Clustering on  
479 subjects

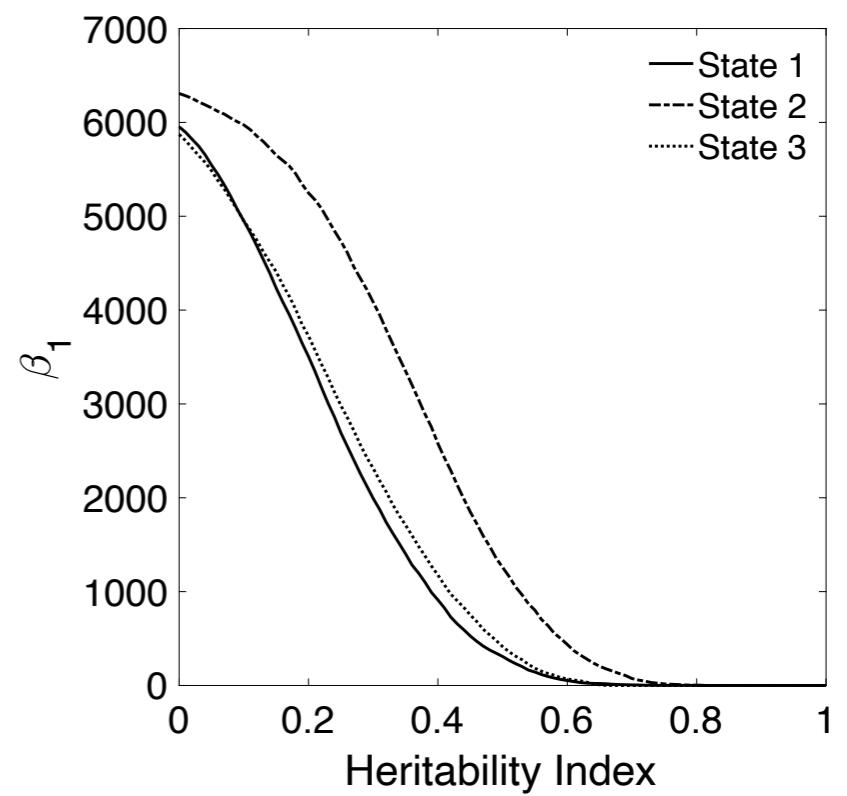
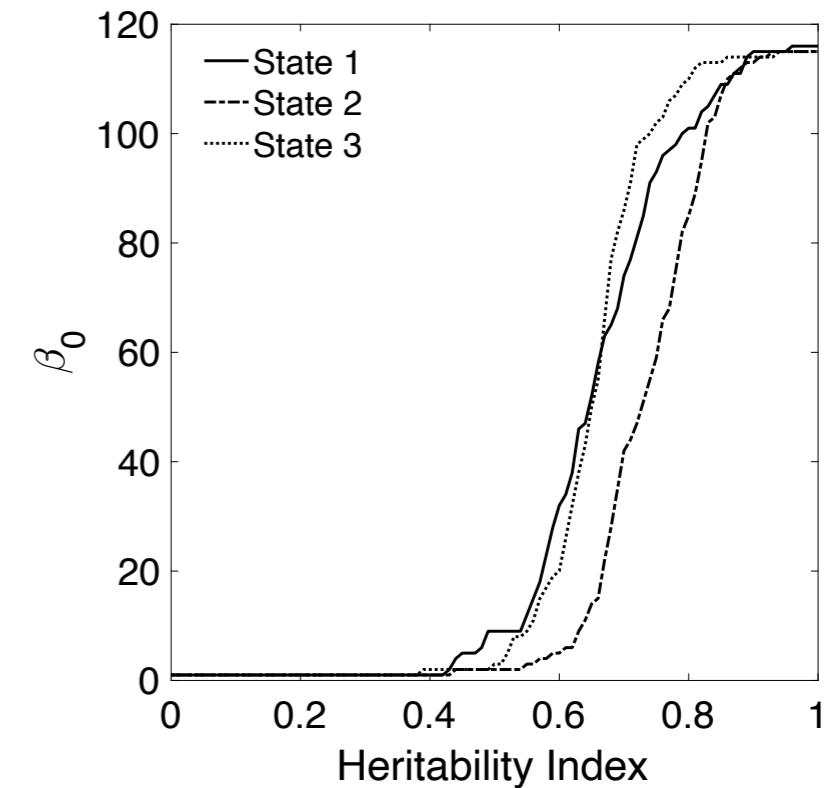
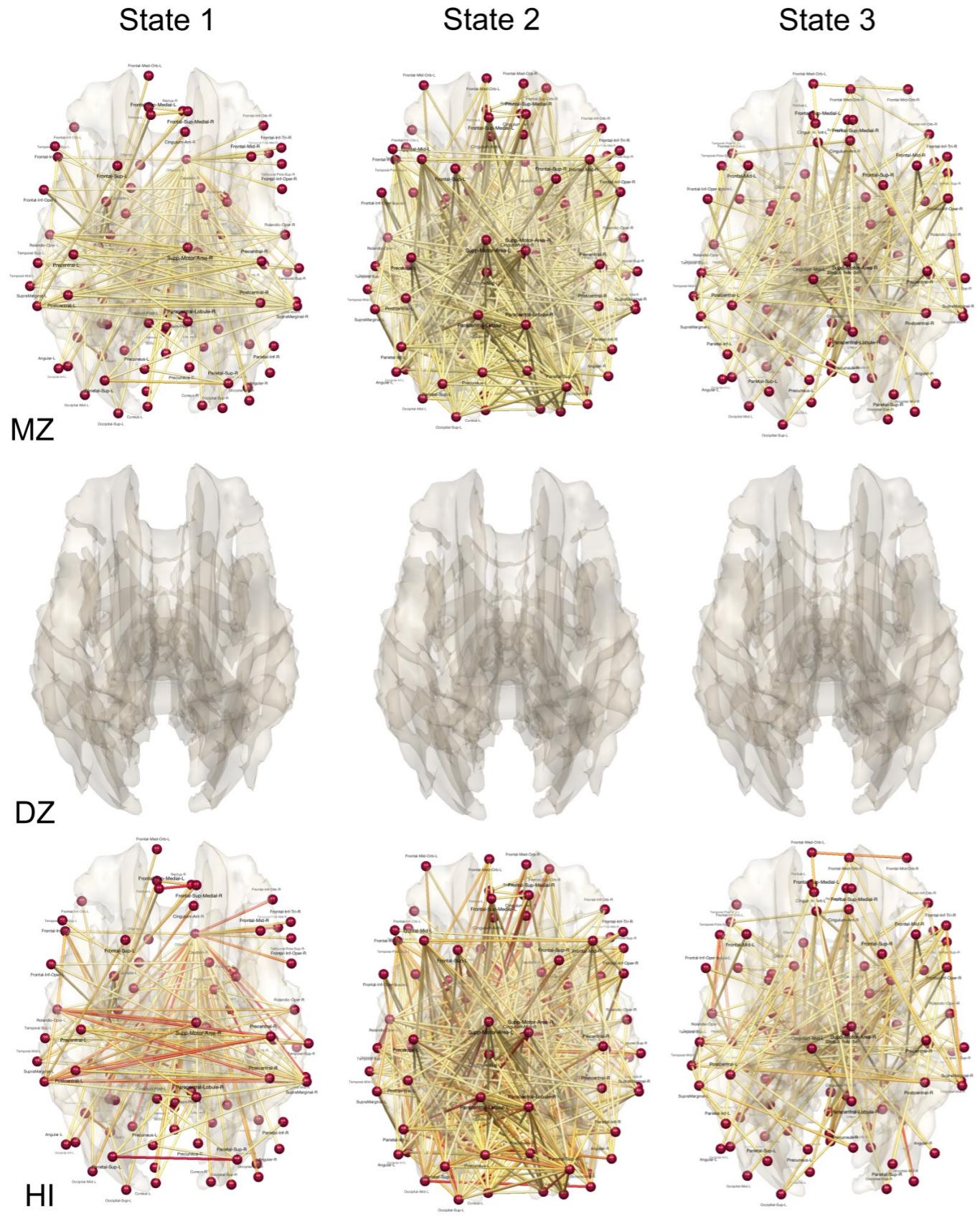


Subject 2



Subject 3

# Heritability of state-space of rs-fMRI brain network



# ISBI 2023 April 18-21 2023

## Catagena de Indias, Colombia

Invited Session: Wasserstein Distance in Biomedical Imaging

