



TOPOLOGICAL DATA ANALYSIS

what I have learned so far

Res Proj
Rim FAROUDY
28/03/2025



PLAN

Motivation

Simplices and simplicial complexes

Nerves 

Homology

Persistent homology

I will skip

Basic definitions of

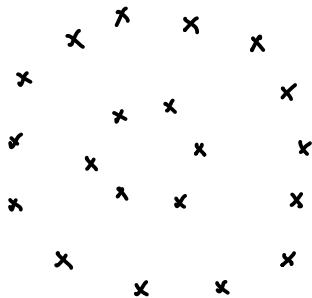
- distance
- metric space
- open / closed set
- cover
- convex set
- connected set

not new (saw them in prépa)

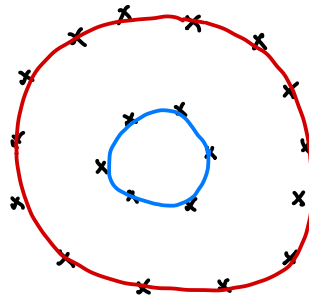
MOTIVATION

MOTIVATION

higher order structure



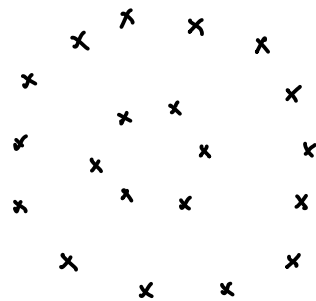
the data



what we want

MOTIVATION

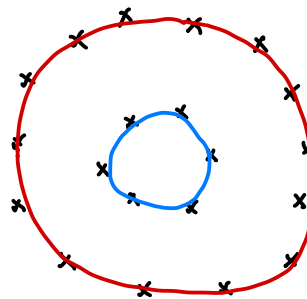
robustness to noise



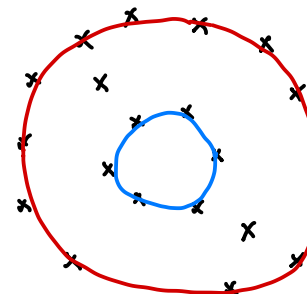
noise



persistent homology

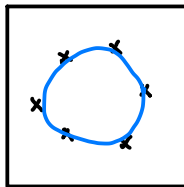
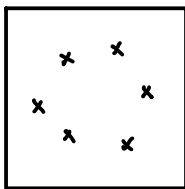


same topological features



MOTIVATION

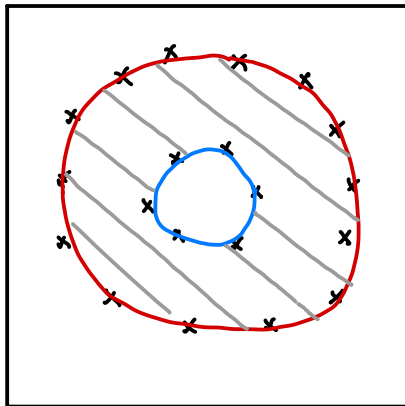
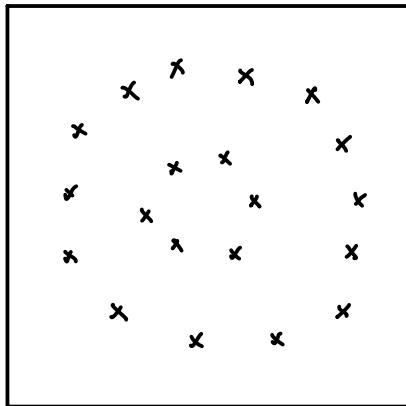
multi-scale analysis



a loop ?



scale out



actually a hole

SIMPLICES AND SIMPLICIAL COMPLEXES

SIMPLICES AND SIMPLICIAL COMPLEXES

definitions

geometric

- $X = \{ \underbrace{x_0, \dots, x_k}_{\text{affinely independent vertices}} \} \subset \mathbb{R}^d$
- $\sigma = [x_1, \dots, x_k]$: k -dimensional simplex spanned by X
- faces of σ : simplices spanned by subsets of X
- K is a geometric simplicial complex if :
 - i) every face of a simplex of K is a simplex of K
 - ii) the non-empty intersection of any two simplices is a face of both

abstract

- \tilde{K} is an abstract simplicial complex with vertex set V if it is a collection of finite subsets of V such that :
 - i) $\forall v \in V, v \in \tilde{K}$
 - ii) $\forall \sigma \in \tilde{K}, \forall \tau \subset \sigma, \tau \in \tilde{K}$

SIMPLICES AND SIMPLICIAL COMPLEXES properties

geometric

abstract

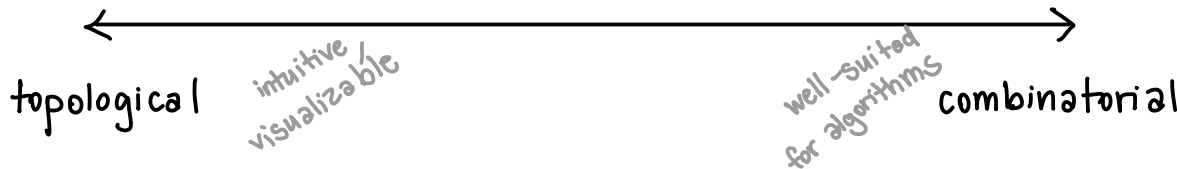
- K can be seen as a topological space through its underlying space

$$|K| = \bigcup_{\sigma \in S} \sigma$$

and inherits from the topology of \mathbb{R}^d

- we can associate a geometric realization

- if the vertices are known, K is defined combinatorially by a collection of simplices



SIMPLICES AND SIMPLICIAL COMPLEXES examples

Given a metric space (M, ρ) , $\sigma \in \mathbb{R}_+$, $X \subset M$

VIETORIS - RIPS

$$\text{Rips}_\alpha(X) = \left\{ [x_0, \dots, x_k] / d_X(x_i, x_j) \leq \alpha, \forall i, j \right\}$$

\triangle not always embedded in \mathbb{R}^d

used with noisy data

CECH

$$\text{Cech}_\alpha(X) = \left\{ [x_0, \dots, x_k] / \bigcap_{i=0}^k B(x_i, \alpha) \neq \emptyset \right\}$$

used for precision

$$\text{Rips}_\alpha(X) \subset \text{Cech}_\alpha(X) \subset \text{Rips}_{2\alpha}(X)$$

SIMPLICES AND SIMPLICIAL COMPLEXES

to look into



- DELAUNAY complex and VORONOI diagram
- Alpha complex
- more ?

NERVES

NERVES

definitions

- The maps $f_0, f_1 \in \mathcal{C}(X, Y)$ are homotopic ($f_0 \sim_h f_1$) if
$$\exists H \in \mathcal{C}(X \times [0, 1], Y) \mid \forall x \in X, H(x, 0) = f_0(x) \text{ and } H(x, 1) = f_1(x)$$
- The topological spaces X and Y are :
 - homeomorphic** if $\exists f \in \mathcal{C}(X, Y), g \in \mathcal{C}(Y, X)$ bijective and
$$\begin{cases} f \circ g = \text{id}_Y \\ g \circ f = \text{id}_X \end{cases}$$
 - \uparrow weaker than
 - homotopy equivalent** if $\exists f \in \mathcal{C}(X, Y), g \in \mathcal{C}(Y, X)$ and
$$\begin{cases} f \circ g \sim_h \text{id}_Y \\ g \circ f \sim_h \text{id}_X \end{cases}$$
- A space is **contractible** if it is homotopy equivalent to a point

NERVES

definition and nerve theorem

Let X be a topological space and $\mathcal{U} = (U_i)_{i \in I}$ a cover of X .

The nerve of \mathcal{U} is the abstract simplicial complex with vertex set \mathcal{U} and such that

$$\sigma = [U_{i_0}, \dots, U_{i_k}] \in C(\mathcal{U}) \iff \bigcap_{j=0}^k U_{i_j} \neq \emptyset$$

Nerve theorem

Let X be a topological space and $\mathcal{U} = (U_i)_{i \in I}$ a cover of X such that any subcollection $(U_i)_{i \in J \subset I}$ is either empty or contractible.

Then, X and $C(\mathcal{U})$ are homotopy equivalent.

Why is it useful? It allows us to translate a complex topological problem into a combinatorial one that is simpler to compute.

NERVES

the mapper algorithm



dataset X

metric or dissimilarity
measure

$f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$

cover \mathcal{U} of X

for each $U :$

decompose $f^{-1}(U)$ into clusters

$C_{U,1}, \dots, C_{U,k_U}$

compute the nerve of X

defined by $C_{U,1}, \dots, C_{U,k_U}$

$\mathcal{C}(\mathcal{U})$

vertices $v_{U,i}$

edges $(v_{U,i}, v_{U',j})$

iff $C_{U,i} \cap C_{U',j} \neq \emptyset$

input

algorithm

output

HOMOLOGY

HOMOLOGY


introduction and definition

- Homology is a way to associate algebraic structures (groups) to topological spaces to study their features.
- The **space of k -chains** on K $C_k(K)$ is the set of formal sums of k -simplices of K . i.e. if $\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_p$ are the k -simplices of K then :

$$C(K) = \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^p \varepsilon_i \sigma_i \mid \varepsilon_i \in \mathbb{Z} \right\} \text{ or any field}$$

- The **boundary** of a k -simplex $\sigma = [v_0, \dots, v_k]$ is the $(k-1)$ -chain

$$\partial_k(\sigma) = \sum_{i=0}^k (-1)^i [v_0, \dots, \hat{v}_i, \dots, v_k]$$

Property : $\partial_{k-1} \circ \partial_k \equiv 0$, $\forall k \geq 1$ 

HOMOLOGY

introduction and definition [cont.]

- The k^{th} homology group of K is the quotient vector space

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

\uparrow
 $\text{Ker}(\partial_k)$

\uparrow
 $\text{Im}(\partial_{k+1})$

 $\partial_k \circ \partial_{k+1} = 0 \Rightarrow \text{Im}(\partial_{k+1}) \subset \text{Ker}(\partial_k)$

- The k^{th} BETTI number of K is $\beta_k(K) = \dim(H_k(K))$

HOMOLOGY

to look into



- statistical aspects of homology inference
- reconstruction
- more ?

PERSISTENT HOMOLOGY

PERSISTENT HOMOLOGY

introduction and definitions

- The power of persistent homology lies in its ability to distinguish the real structure of data from noise (it allows to track homology groups)
- A **filtration** of a simplicial complex K (resp. a topological space M) is a nested family of subcomplexes $(K_r)_{r \in T}$ (subspaces $(M_r)_{r \in T}$) where $T \subset \mathbb{R}$ such that :
$$\left(\begin{array}{l} (\forall r, r' \in T, r \leq r' \Rightarrow K_r \subset K_{r'}) \text{ and } K = \bigcup_{r \in T} K_r \\ M_r \subset M_{r'} \qquad \qquad M = \bigcup_{r \in T} M_r \end{array} \right)$$

e.g. the families $(\text{Rips}_r(X))_{r \in \mathbb{R}}$ and $(\text{Cech}_r(X))_{r \in \mathbb{R}}$
 \uparrow resolution/granularity \uparrow

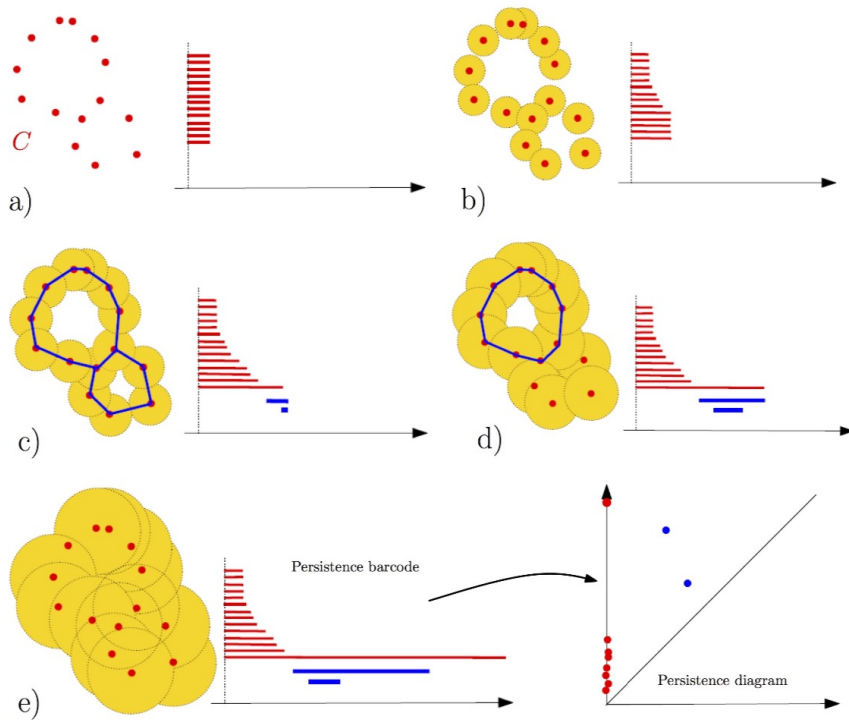
PERSISTENT HOMOLOGY

persistent modules and persistence diagrams

- With $(F_r)_{r \in T \subseteq \mathbb{R}}$ a filtration, the sequence of the vector spaces F_r and the linear maps connecting them is a **persistence module** (obtained by considering $H_k(F_r)$ and $F_r \subset F_{r'}, r \leq r'$)
- **Persistence diagrams** provide a geometric representation of the information contained in persistence modules.
→ stable wrt to perturbation in the data

PERSISTENT HOMOLOGY

persistent modules and persistence diagrams



PERSISTENT HOMOLOGY to look into

- statistical aspects of persistent homology
- a lot more

MAIN SOURCE

An introduction to Topological Data Analysis :
fundamental and practical aspects for data scientists

Frédéric CHAZAL and Bertrand MICHEL

& ChatGPT ♡

THANK YOU

