

# Persistence Landscapes and Iterated Function Systems

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## 1 Persistence Landscape Stability

Let  $X$  be a topological space. For any function  $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , we may define a persistence module  $M(f)$ , where  $M(f)(a) = H(f^{-1}((-\infty, a]))$  and  $M(f)(a \leq b)$  is induced by inclusion. A popular choice of  $f$  in practice is the minimum distance from a finite set of points,  $K \subset X$ . The persistence module in this case can be computed using the Čech complex or approximated by the simpler Rips complex, which is obtained by looking at the homology of spaces formed by the union of balls centered at the points with an increasing radius.

For  $a \leq b$ , we define the corresponding Betti number of  $M$  to be

$$\beta^{a,b} = \dim(\text{im}(M(a \leq b))). \quad (1)$$

Given a persistence module  $M$  we can then define the persistence landscape function  $\lambda : \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \overline{\mathbb{R}}$  by

$$\lambda(k, t) = \sup\{m \geq 0 \mid \beta^{t-m, t+m} \geq k\}.$$

There is an alternative definition given in Bubenik'19 that will be more useful for our purposes. If the persistence module  $M$  is represented as a persistence diagram  $D = \{(a_i, b_i)\}_{i \in I}$ , then we can define the simple functions

$$\tau_{(a,b)}(t) = \max(0, \min(a + t, b - t)).$$

and for all  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ ,

$$\lambda(k, t) = \text{kmax}\{\tau_{(a_i, b_i)}(t)\}_{i \in I}. \quad (2)$$

We use  $\text{kmax}$  to denote the  $k$ th largest element of a set. Note that  $D$  is a multiset, meaning certain birth death pairs  $(a_i, b_i)$  can appear more than once. Persistence landscape functions fit nicely in  $L^p(\mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{R})$ , where we use the product measure of the counting measure and the Lebesgue measure. Suppose  $f, g : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ . If  $\lambda$  is the persistence landscape obtained from  $M(f)$  and  $\lambda'$  is the persistence landscape obtained from  $M(g)$ , it is convenient to define

$$\Lambda_p(M(f), M(g)) := \|\lambda - \lambda'\|_\infty. \quad (3)$$

We will use the following theorem from Peter Bubenik 2015.

**Theorem 1.** *For all  $f, g : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,*

$$\Lambda_\infty(M(f), M(g)) \leq \|f - g\|_\infty.$$

## 2 The Persistence Landscape of the Cantor Set

In this section, our objective is to understand the persistence landscape obtained from the persistence module of the middle-one-third cantor set  $\mathcal{C}$ . Recall that

$$\mathcal{C} = \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} C_n,$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} C_1 &= [0, 1/3] \cup [2/3] \\ C_2 &= [0, 1/9] \cup [2/9, 1/3] \cup [2/3, 7/9] \cup [8/9, 1] \\ C_3 &= [0, 1/27] \cup [2/27, 1/9] \cup [2/9, 7/27] \cup [8/27, 1/3] \cup [2/3, 19/27] \cup \dots \cup [26/27, 1] \\ &\vdots \end{aligned}$$

We obtain the  $C_{n+1}$  from  $C_n$  by removing the open middle third of each of the  $2^n$  intervals that make  $C_n$ . We note that

$$C_1 \supset C_2 \supset C_3 \supset \dots \supset C_{n-1} \supset C_n \supset C_{n+1} \supset \dots$$

Another characterization of  $\mathcal{C}$  comes from an iterated function system. Consider the collection of contraction maps  $\Phi = \{\phi_0, \phi_2\}$ , where

$$\phi_0(x) = \frac{x}{3}, \quad \phi_2(x) = \frac{x}{3} + \frac{2}{3}.$$

From Hutchinson 1981, we have the following result:

**Theorem 2.** *Let  $X = (X, d)$  a complete metric space and  $\Psi = \{\psi_1, \dots, \psi_N\}$  a finite set of contraction maps on  $X$ . Then there exists a unique closed bounded set  $K$  such that*

$$K = \bigcup_{i=1}^N \psi_i(K).$$

Furthermore,  $K$  is compact and is the closure of the set of fixed points of finite compositions of members of  $\Psi$ . For arbitrary  $A \subset X$ , let

$$\Psi(A) = \bigcup_{i=1}^N \psi_i(A), \quad \Psi^p(A) = \Psi(\Psi^{p-1}(A)).$$

Then for a closed bounded  $A$ ,  $\Psi^p(A) \rightarrow K$  in the Hausdorff metric.

In the case that  $X = [0, 1]$  with the standard metric, it is known that for  $\Psi = \Phi$ ,  $K = \mathcal{C}$ . We define the Hausdorff metric between two non-empty, closed, bounded subsets  $A, B \subset X$  by

$$d_H(A, B) = \max \left\{ \sup_{x \in A} \inf_{y \in B} d(x, y), \sup_{y \in B} \inf_{x \in A} d(x, y) \right\}.$$

Define  $f_A, f_B : X \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  by

$$f_A(x) = \inf_{a \in A} d(x, a), \quad f_B(x) = \inf_{b \in B} d(x, b).$$

We can relate the Hausdorff metric to  $\|f_A - f_B\|_\infty$ . We claim that

$$\|f_A - f_B\|_\infty \leq d_H(A, B). \tag{4}$$

Indeed, for all  $x \in X$ ,

$$|f_A(x) - f_B(x)| = \left| \inf_{a \in A} d(x, a) - \inf_{b \in B} d(x, b) \right| \leq \max \left\{ \sup_{a \in A} \inf_{b \in B} [d(x, a) - d(x, b)], \sup_{b \in B} \inf_{a \in A} [d(x, b) - d(x, a)] \right\}.$$

for all  $x \in X, a \in A$ , and  $b \in B$ , we have

$$d(x, b) - d(x, a) \leq d(a, b).$$

This implies

$$\sup_{a \in A} \inf_{b \in B} [d(x, a) - d(x, b)] \leq \sup_{a \in A} \inf_{b \in B} d(a, b).$$

Another application of the triangle inequality tells us that

$$\sup_{b \in B} \inf_{a \in A} [d(x, b) - d(x, a)] \leq \sup_{b \in B} \inf_{a \in A} d(a, b).$$

Putting this all together, we conclude that

$$\|f_A - f_B\|_\infty \leq d_H(A, B). \quad (5)$$

Note that it seems likely  $\|f_A - f_B\|_\infty = d_H(A, B)$ . Using Hutchinson's notation let

$$S_1 = \Phi(\{0, 1\}) = \phi_0(\{0, 1\}) \cup \phi_2(\{0, 1\}) = \{0, 1/3, 2/3, 1\}, \quad S_n = \Phi(S_{n-1}).$$

Define  $f : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  by

$$f(x) = \inf_{y \in \mathcal{C}} |x - y|.$$

For  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , we define  $f_n := f_{S_n}$ . We have the following result:

**Theorem 3.** *The sequence of persistence landscapes generated from the sequence of point clouds of scales  $\{S_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$  converges to the persistence landscape from the persistence module  $M(f)$  in  $L^\infty(\mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{R})$ . In other words,*

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \Lambda_\infty(M(f_n), M(f)) = 0$$

*Proof.* We know that

$$\mathcal{C} = \phi_0(\mathcal{C}) \cup \phi_2(\mathcal{C}).$$

By the second part of Hutchinson's theorem,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} d_H(S_n, \mathcal{C}) = 0.$$

From above, we have for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $\|f_n - f\|_\infty \leq d_H(S_n, \mathcal{C})$ . If we apply Theorem 1, we obtain

$$\Lambda_\infty(M(f_n), M(f)) \leq d_H(S_n, \mathcal{C}).$$

Taking the limit as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , we obtain the result.  $\square$

Noting that the points in  $S_n$  are equal to the end points in the disjoint closed intervals that make up  $C_n$ , we can be more precise about the rate of convergence in Theorem 3. The length of each closed interval in  $C_n$  is  $1/3^n$ . Since  $\mathcal{C} \subset C_n$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , we find

$$\Lambda_\infty(M(f_n), M(f)) \leq d_H(S_n, \mathcal{C}) \leq d_H(S_n, C_n) \leq \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{3^n}.$$

### 3 Affine Operators

In theorem 3 we showed how there is a sequence of functions in  $L^2(\mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{R})$  that correspond to the sequence of sets  $\{S_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$  and this sequence of functions has a limit. Rather than viewing the sequence of functions in  $L^2(\mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{R})$  it will be more convenient to view them as a sequence of vectors in the hilbert space

$$\mathcal{H} = \left\{ \{g_n\}_{n=1}^\infty \subset L^2[0, 1] \left| \sum_{n=1}^\infty \|g_n\|_{L^2[0, 1]}^2 < \infty \right. \right\}.$$

We can see that  $\mathcal{H}$  is isomorphic to  $L^2(\mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{R})$ . Our goal is to identify the operator  $L : \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$  such that  $L\mathbf{f}_n = \mathbf{f}_{n+1}$ . One function that will be useful since we are discussing persistence landscape functions will be the simple function  $\tau : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  defined

$$\tau(x) = \begin{cases} x & \text{if } 0 \leq x \leq 1/2 \\ 1 - x & \text{if } 1/2 \leq x \leq 1 \end{cases}$$

We define  $L$  for each  $\mathbf{g} \in \mathcal{H}$  by  $L\mathbf{g} = \mathbf{h} = \{h_n\}_{n=0}^\infty$  where

$$\begin{aligned} h_0(x) &= \tau(x), \\ h_1(x) &= \frac{1}{3}g_0(3x) \\ h_{2k}(x) &= h_{2k+1}(x) = \frac{1}{3}g_k(3x) \end{aligned}$$

For reasons that will soon be clear, it will be easiest to adopt the convention that the maximum death time will be equal to the diameter of the minimum distance between two extreme points, which in the case of  $\mathcal{C}$  is 1. This when computing persistence landscapes using  $H_0$ , the first function in the sequence will always be  $\tau_{(0,1)}$ . Based in the definition, it looks like  $L$  is close to being linear. Define  $M : \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$  by  $M\mathbf{g} = \mathbf{h}$ , where

$$\begin{aligned} h_0(x) &= 0, \\ h_1(x) &= \frac{1}{3}g_0(3x) \\ h_{2k}(x) &= h_{2k+1}(x) = \frac{1}{3}g_k(3x). \end{aligned}$$

We can see that  $M : \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$  is linear with  $\|M\| = \sqrt{\frac{2}{27}}$ .

**Theorem 4.** For all  $n \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$ ,  $L\mathbf{f}_n = \mathbf{f}_{n+1}$ .

*Proof.* It easy to check for  $n = 0$  using direct computation. Since  $S_0 = \{0, 1\}$  and  $S_1 = \{0, 1/3, 2/3, 1\}$  we see that  $f_0^{(0)} = \tau_{(0,1)}$ , and  $f_0^{(k)} = 0$  for all  $k > 0$ . We can also see that

$$\mathbf{f}_1 = \{\tau_{(0,1)}, \tau_{(0,1/3)}, \tau_{(0,1/3)}, \tau_{(0,1/3)}, 0, 0, 0, \dots\}.$$

Notice that for all  $c > 0$ ,

$$\tau_{(0,1/c)}(t) = \frac{1}{c}\tau_{(0,1)}(ct).$$

Thus by the definition of  $L$ , we see that  $L\mathbf{f}_0 = \mathbf{f}_1$ . For convenience, let

$$L_n = \frac{1}{3}S_n, \quad R_n = \frac{1}{3}(S_n + 2).$$

For all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , we see that

$$S_{n+1} = L_n \cup R_n.$$

Since  $S_n \subset [0, 1]$ , we know that  $\frac{1}{3}S_n \cap \frac{1}{3}(S_n + 2) = \emptyset$ . Moreover,

$$\min_{x \in L_n, y \in R_n} |x - y| = \frac{1}{3}. \tag{6}$$

Let  $D_n = \{(0, d_k)\}_{k=0}^{2^{n+1}-1}$ . be the persistence diagram of  $S_n$ . Assume  $d_k \geq d_{k+1}$  for  $k \in \{1, \dots, 2^{n+1} - 1\}$ . This means  $d_0 = 1$  by our convention. Since  $L_n$  and  $R_n$  are disjoint scaled copies of  $S_n$ , we know that

$$\{(0, d_k/3)\}_{k=1}^{2^{n+1}-1} \cup \{(0, d_k/3)\}_{k=1}^{2^{n+1}-1} \subset D_{n+1}.$$

By (6) we also see that  $(0, 1/3) \in D_{n+1}$ . Since we are working with  $H_0$ , we also have  $(0, 1) \in D_{n+1}$  since one connected component will persist infinitely. This accounts for all  $2^{n+2}$  elements of  $D_{n+1}$ . Thus the persistence diagram for scale  $n + 1$  is

$$D_{n+1} = \{(0, 1), (0, 1/3), (0, d_2/3), (0, d_2/3), \dots, (0, d_{2^{n+1}}/3), (0, d_{2^{n+1}}/3)\}$$

Applying the definition in (2), we see that  $\mathbf{f}_n = \{f_k^{(n)}\}_{k=0}^\infty$ , is defined by

$$f_k^{(n)} = \tau_{(0, d_k)}, \text{ for } k \in \{0, 1, 2, \dots, 2^{n+1} - 1\}, \text{ and } f_k^{(n)} = 0 \text{ for } k \geq 2^{n+1}.$$

Since  $d_0 = 1$  and  $d_1 = 1/3$ , we easily check that  $\mathbf{f}_{n+1} = \{f_k^{(n+1)}\}_{k=0}^\infty$  satisfies

$$\begin{aligned} f_0^{(n+1)} &= \tau_{(0,1)}, \\ f_1^{(n+1)}(x) &= \tau_{(0,1/3)}(x) = \frac{1}{3}f_0^{(n)}(3x) \\ f_{2k}^{(n+1)}(x) &= f_{2k+1}^{(n+1)}(x) = \tau_{(0,d_k/3)}(x) = \frac{1}{3}f_k^{(n)}(3x) \text{ for } k \in \mathbb{N}. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore  $L\mathbf{f}_n = \mathbf{f}_{n+1}$ . □

Since  $L$  is Lipschitz with constant  $\|M\| = \sqrt{\frac{1}{27}}$ , we see that  $L$  has a unique fixed point, and that unique fixed point is  $\mathbf{f} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbf{f}_n$ , which is the persistence landscape function of  $\mathcal{C}$ .

## 4 Examples

We can present a series of other examples of iterated function systems and the corresponding operators on  $\mathcal{H}$ .

### 4.1 Right 1/3 Cantor Set

Consider the IFS  $\Phi = \{\phi_0, \phi_1\}$  where

$$\phi_0(x) = \frac{1}{3}x, \quad \phi_1(x) = \frac{1}{3}x + \frac{1}{3}.$$

In this case, we have  $S_0 = \{0, 1/2\}$ , which is the set of extreme points for the right 1/3 Cantor set. We define  $S_n = \Phi(S_{n-1})$  as before, and let  $\mathbf{f}_n \in \mathcal{H}$  be the persistence landscape from  $H_0$  of  $S_n$ . The map  $L : \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$  that satisfies  $L\mathbf{f}_{n+1} = \mathbf{f}_n$  is defined  $L\mathbf{g} = \mathbf{h}$ , where

$$h_0 = \tau_{(0,1/2)}, \quad h_1(x) = \frac{1}{3}g_0(3x), \text{ and } h_{2k}(x) = h_{2k+1}(x) = \frac{1}{3}g_k(3x) \text{ for } k \in \mathbb{N}.$$

### 4.2 1/5 Cantor Set

Consider the IFS  $\Phi = \{\phi_0, \phi_2, \phi_4\}$  where

$$\phi_0(x) = \frac{1}{5}x, \quad \phi_2(x) = \frac{1}{5}x + \frac{2}{5}, \quad \phi_4(x) = \frac{1}{5}x + \frac{4}{5}.$$

The set of extreme points is  $S_0 = \{0, 1\}$ . We define  $S_n = \Phi(S_{n-1})$  as before. We also denote the persistence landscape function for  $S_n$  by  $\mathbf{f}_n$ . The map  $L : \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$  that satisfies  $L\mathbf{f}_n = \mathbf{f}_{n+1}$  is defined by  $L\mathbf{g} = \mathbf{h}$  where

$$\begin{aligned} h_0 &= \tau_{(0,1)} \\ h_1(x) &= h_2(x) = \frac{1}{5}g_0(5x) \\ h_{3k}(x) &= h_{3k+1}(x) = h_{3k+2}(x) = \frac{1}{5}g_k(5x) \text{ for } k \in \mathbb{N}. \end{aligned}$$

### 4.3 Cantor Triangle

Consider the IFS on  $[0, 1]^2$ ,  $\Phi = \{\phi_{0,0}, \phi_{0,2}, \phi_{2,0}\}$ , where

$$\phi_{0,0}(x, y) = \frac{1}{3}I_2(x, y)^T, \quad \phi_{0,2}(x, y) = \frac{1}{3}I_2[(x, y) + (0, 2)]^T, \quad \phi_{2,0}(x, y) = \frac{1}{3}I_2[(x, y) + (2, 0)]^T.$$

The set of extreme points is  $S_0 = \{(0,0), (0,1), (1,0)\}$ . We define  $S_n = \Phi(S_{n-1})$  as before. We also denote the persistence landscape function for  $S_n$  by  $\mathbf{f}_n$ . The map  $L : \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$  that satisfies  $L\mathbf{f}_n = \mathbf{f}_{n+1}$  is defined by  $L\mathbf{g} = \mathbf{h}$  where

$$\begin{aligned} h_0 &= \tau_{(0,1)} \\ h_1(x) &= h_2(x) = \frac{1}{3}g_0(3x) \\ h_{3k}(x) &= h_{3k+1}(x) = h_{3k+2}(x) = \frac{1}{3}g_k(3x) \text{ for } k \in \mathbb{N}. \end{aligned}$$

#### 4.4 $\mathcal{C} \times \frac{1}{2}\mathcal{C}$

Consider a second IFS on  $\mathbb{R}^2$ ,  $\Phi = \{\phi_{0,0}, \phi_{2,0}, \phi_{0,1}, \phi_{2,1}\}$ , where

$$\phi_{i,j}(x) = \frac{1}{3}(x + (i,j)^T).$$

Note that  $\phi_{0,0}$  and  $\phi_{2,0}$  are defined exactly as they were in the previous example. The invariant set of  $\Phi$  turns out to be  $\mathcal{C} \times \frac{1}{2}\mathcal{C}$  where  $\mathcal{C}$  denotes the classical middle-third Cantor set. If we take  $S_n = \Phi(S_{n-1})$ , where  $S_0 = \{(0,0), (1,0), (0, \frac{1}{2}), (1, \frac{1}{2})\}$ , and let  $\mathbf{f}_n$  denote the persistence landscape function for  $S_n$ , then the map  $L : \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$  that satisfies  $L : \mathbf{f}_n = \mathbf{f}_{n+1}$  is defined by  $L\mathbf{g} = \mathbf{h}$  where

$$\begin{aligned} h_0 &= \tau_{(0,1)}, h_1 = \tau_{(0,1/3)} \\ h_2 &= h_3 = \tau_{(0,1/6)} \\ h_{4k}(x) &= h_{4k+1}(x) = h_{4k+2}(x) = h_{4k+3}(x) = \frac{1}{3}g_k(3x) \text{ for } k \in \mathbb{N}. \end{aligned}$$

#### 4.5 Remarks

We see a few patterns emerge. First, the size of the groups in the sequence  $\mathbf{h}$  is equal to  $m$ , the number of functions in  $\Phi$ . Second, the scaling coefficient  $q \in \mathbb{N}$  such that

$$h_{mk}(x) = h_{mk+1}(x) = \dots = h_{mk+m-1}(x) = \frac{1}{q}g_k(qx)$$

is equal to the Lipschitz constant of the maps  $\phi_k \in \Phi$ .

## 5 Preliminaries

**Definition 1.** For  $A \subset \mathbb{R}^d$  we define the convex hull of  $A$  as

$$\text{Conv}(A) = \bigcap_{A \subset K, K \text{ convex}} K.$$

**Definition 2.** For a convex set  $K \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ , we say  $x \in K$  is an extreme point if for any  $y, z \in K$ ,

$$x = ty + (1-t)z$$

for  $t \in [0, 1]$  implies  $t = 1$ .

We assume from now on that our metric space is  $\mathbb{R}^d$  with the standard metric. For invariant set  $A$ , we began our sequence of sets by taking the collection of extreme points of the convex hull of  $A$ , which we denote as  $E_A$ . If  $\Phi$  is a family of  $k$  contraction maps, then each  $\phi \in \Phi$  has a unique fixed point. Let  $F_A$  be the collection of at most  $k$  fixed points under  $\Phi$ . To be precise, we say that  $x \in F_A$  if there exists  $\phi \in \Phi$  such that  $\phi(x) = x$ . Theorem 2 guarantees that  $F_A \subset A$ . One question left to answer is  $E_A \subset F_A$ .

**Lemma 1.** Let  $X = \{x_j\}_{j=1}^n \subset \mathbb{R}^d$  and  $K = \{\sum_{j=1}^n t_j x_j \mid \sum_{j=1}^n t_j = 1\}$ . Then  $K = \text{Conv}(X)$

*Proof.* Clearly  $\text{Conv}(X) \subset K$  since  $K$  is convex set and contains  $X$ . To prove the other containment, suppose  $K_0$  is a convex set such that  $X \subset K_0$ . Since  $K_0$  is convex,  $\sum_{j=1}^n t_j x_j \in K_0$  whenever  $\sum_{j=1}^n t_j = 1$ . Therefore  $K \subset K_0$ . Since  $K_0$  was an arbitrary,  $K$  is contained in any convex set containing  $X$ , as well as the interesection of all such sets. Thus  $K \subset \text{Conv}(X)$ .  $\square$

To prove the next result, we will make use of a well known theorem from functional analysis.

**Theorem 5** (Krein-Milman). *If  $K$  is a convex, compact subset of a locally convex space then  $K = \text{Conv}(E_K)$ , where  $E_K$  denotes the extreme points of  $K$ .*

To simplify things, we will focus on contractions, that are also similitudes.  $\phi : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$  is a similitude if  $\|\phi(x) - \phi(y)\| = r\|x - y\|$  for all  $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^d$ . It is porven in proposition (1) of Hutchingson that all similitudes are given by affine transoformations with Lipschitz constant at most 1. To be precise, this means each similitude is of the form

$$\phi(\mathbf{x}) = r(Ux - \mathbf{b}).$$

**Lemma 2.** *Suppose  $A \subset \mathbb{R}^d$  is the invariant set for some IFS  $\Psi = \{\psi_j\}_{j=1}^N$  consisting of affine transformations of the form  $\phi_j(x) = r(x - b_j)$  where  $r \in (0, 1)$ ,  $b_j \in \mathbb{R}^d$ . Then  $E_A \subset F_A$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $K = \text{Conv}(A)$ .  $F_A \subset K$ . We assume that  $x_j = \phi_j(\mathbf{x}_j)$ . Assume  $F_A = \{\mathbf{x}_j\}_{j=1}^N$ . We first observe that for  $k \in \{1, \dots, N\}$ , since  $x_k = r(x_k - b_k)$ , we know that  $rb_k = (r - 1)x_k$ . This implies that for  $j \neq k$ ,

$$\psi_k(x_j) = r(x_j - b_k) = rx_j - rb_k = rx_j - (r - 1)x_k = rx_j + (1 - r)x_k \in \text{Conv}(F_A).$$

If  $y \in \text{Conv}(F_A)$ , then for some  $t_1, \dots, t_N \geq 0$ ,  $\sum_{j=1}^N t_j = 1$  we have

$$y = \sum_{j=1}^N t_j x_j,$$

and for any  $\psi_k \in \Psi$ ,

$$\psi_k(y) = r \left( \sum_{j=1}^N t_j x_j - b_k \right) = \sum_{j=1}^N r t_j x_j - r b_k = \sum_{j=1}^N r t_j x_j - \sum_{j=1}^N t_j r b_k = \sum_{j=1}^N t_j r (x_j - b_k) = \sum_{j=1}^N t_j \psi_k(x_j).$$

Since  $\psi_k(x_j) \in \text{Conv}(F_A)$  for all  $j \in \{1, \dots, N\}$ , this implies that  $\psi_k(y) \in \text{Conv}(F_A)$ . Since  $k$  was arbitrary, this implies that the union of these images,  $\Psi(\text{Conv}(F_A)) \subset \text{Conv}(F_A)$ . From Theorem 2, we have

$$A = \lim_{p \rightarrow \infty} \Psi^p(\text{Conv}(F_A)) \tag{7}$$

in the Hausdorf metric. We claim that  $A \subset \text{Conv}(F_A)$ . Indeed, choose  $x \in A$ . For all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , it follows from 7 that there exists  $p(n)$  such that for some  $y_n \in \Psi^{p(n)}(\text{Conv}(F_A))$ ,

$$|y_n - x| \leq \frac{1}{n}$$

Since  $\Psi^p(\text{Conv}(F_A)) \subset \text{Conv}(F_A)$  for all  $p \in \mathbb{N}$ , we have  $\{y_n\}_{n=1}^\infty \subset \text{Conv}(F_A)$ . Since  $\text{Conv}(F_A)$  is a closed set and  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} y_n = x$ , this implies  $x \in \text{Conv}(F_A)$ , which proves the claim. Thus we have the sequence of containments:

$$F_A \subset A \subset \text{Conv}(A) \subset \text{Conv}(F_A).$$

By definition, this implies,  $\text{Conv}(F_A) = \text{Conv}(A)$ . By the Krein Millman Theorem, it follows that

$$\text{Conv}(F_A) = \text{Conv}(A) = \text{Conv}(E_A).$$

For any  $y \in E_A$ ,  $y \in \text{Conv}(F_A)$  implies  $y = \sum_{j=1}^N t_j x_j$ , where  $\sum_{j=1}^N t_j = 1$ , but since  $y$  is an extreme point,  $t_j = 0$  for all but 1  $j \in \{1, 2, \dots, N\}$ . Thus  $y = x_k \in F_A$ . Therefore  $E_A \subset F_A$ .  $\square$

**Definition 3.** A collection of affine contractions  $\Psi = \{\psi_j\}_{j=1}^n$  is said to satisfy the **open set condition (OSC)** if there exists a nonempty open set  $E \subset \mathbb{R}^d$  such that

$$\bigcup_{j=1}^N \psi_j(E) \subset E, \text{ and } \psi_j(E) \cap \psi_k(E) = \emptyset \text{ for } j \neq k.$$

In Theorem 4 we had a set of contractions, whose invariant set was the classical cantor set. It was straightforward to find the operator  $L : \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$  such that  $L\mathbf{f}_n = \mathbf{f}_{n+1}$  because the images of the convex hull of the extreme points under  $\Psi$  did not overlap. This meant that  $S_{n+1}$  would always be two disjoint, scaled down copies of  $S_n$ . There is a more general class of affine contractions that behave this way, making it easier to find the operator corresponding to the 0-degree persistence landscape function associated with the invariant set. For an IFS  $\Psi = \{\psi_j\}_{j=1}^N$  with invariant set  $A$  we need a few definitions first. Let  $E_A$  be the set of extreme points of the convex hull of  $A$ . Since  $E_A \subset A$ , by the open set condition, for  $1 \leq j < k \leq N$ , we know that  $\psi_j(E_A)$  and  $\psi_k(E_A)$  are contained in disjoint open sets. For  $j \in \{1, \dots, N\}$  we can let

$$d_j = \min_{1 \leq k \leq N, j \neq k} d_H(\psi_j(E_A), \psi_k(E_A))$$

We can also let  $d_{\max}$  be the diameter of  $E_A$ . By reordering the  $\{\psi_j\}_{j=1}^N$  if necessary, we have that

$$0 < d_1 = d_2 \leq \dots \leq d_{N-1} \leq d_N \leq d_{\max}.$$

We also define  $r \in (0, 1)$  to be the Lipschitz constant for each  $\psi_j \in \Psi$ . Define the affine map  $L_\Psi : \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$  by  $L_\Psi \mathbf{g} = \mathbf{h} = \{h_n\}_{n=0}^\infty$  where

$$\begin{aligned} h_0(x) &= \tau_{d_{\max}}(x), h_1(x) = \tau_{d_N}(x), h_2(x) = \tau_{d_{N-1}}(x), \dots, h_{N-1}(x) = \tau_{d_2}(x) \\ h_N(x) &= h_{N+1}(x) = \dots = h_{2N-1}(x) = rg_0(r^{-1}x) \\ h_{Nk}(x) &= h_{Nk+1}(x) = h_{Nk+2}(x) = \dots = h_{(N+1)k-1}(x) = rg_k(r^{-1}x) \text{ for } k \in \mathbb{N} \end{aligned} \tag{8}$$

**Theorem 6.** Let  $\Psi = \{\psi_j\}_{j=1}^N$  be an IFS where each  $\psi_j : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$  has the form

$$\psi_j(x) = \frac{1}{m}(x + b_j),$$

with  $m \in \mathbb{N} \setminus \{1\}$ , and  $b_j \in \mathbb{Z}^d$  with

$$\max_{1 \leq j \leq k \leq N} |b_j - b_k| \leq C.$$

(Choose the appropriate  $C$ . Maybe ) Let  $A \subset \mathbb{R}^d$  be the invariant set of  $\Psi$  and  $E_A$  be the set of extreme points of  $\text{Conv}(A)$ . Define  $S_0 = E_A$  and for  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,

$$S_n = \Psi(S_{n-1}),$$

and  $\mathbf{f}_n \in \mathcal{H}$  to be the degree-0 persistence landscape of  $S_n$ . The operator  $L_\Psi$  defined in (8) satisfies

$$L_\Psi \mathbf{f}_n = \mathbf{f}_n.$$

*Proof.* We assume without loss of generality that  $b_j = \mathbf{0}$  for some  $j \in \{1, \dots, N\}$ . We note also that

$$\min_{1 \leq j \leq k \leq N} |b_j - b_k| \geq 1$$

since that is the minimum distance between two distinct points on the integer lattice. The form of our contractions implies that for each  $\psi_j$ , the corresponding fixed point is

$$x_j = \frac{b_j}{m-1}.$$

This implies that for any two distinct fixed points, we have  $|x_j - x_k| \geq (m-1)^{-1}$ .

- $d(x_j, \psi_j(E_A)) \leq \frac{C}{m(m-1)}$ .
- We should require  $d_H(\psi_j(E_A), \psi_k(E_A)) \geq \frac{1}{m}$  for  $j \neq k$ .

□

In example 4.1, how do we know that  $\phi_0(0, 1/2) \cap \phi_1(0, 1/2)$  will be disjoint intervals.