

HOW WILD IS THE HOMOLOGICAL CLUSTERING PROBLEM?

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WORKSHOP ALGEBRAIC GEOMETRY IN TDA

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joint work with:

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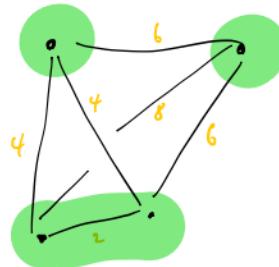


CLUSTERING FUNCTIONS

X : finite set

Clustering function φ :

maps a metric $d : X \times X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ (distance matrix)
to a partition of X .

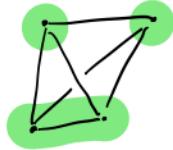
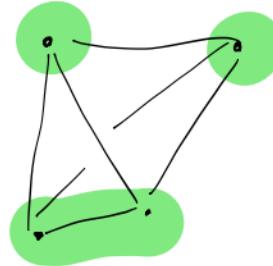


KLEINBERG's AXIOMS

Desirable properties

- scale invariance :

$$\varphi(d) = \varphi(1 \cdot d).$$



- richness :

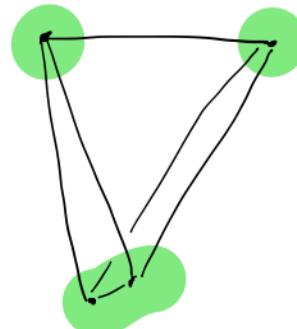
every partition is obtained from some d .

- consistency :

decreasing d within clusters /

increasing d across clusters

does not change the result.



KLEINBERG'S IMPOSSIBILITY THEOREM

Thm [Kleinberg 2002] No clustering function satisfies

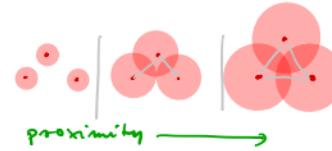
- scale-invariant,
- richness , and
- consistency .

Motivates the use of a scale parameter
⇒ hierarchical clustering

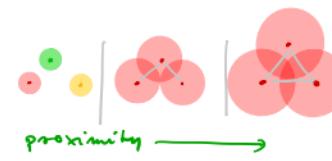
CLUSTERING FROM CONNECTED COMPONENTS

proximity graph

- filter edges by proximity



π_0 (connected components)



single-linkage
clustering

H_0 (homology in deg. 0 with coeffs in K)

$$H_0 = F \circ \pi_0$$

$$K^3 \xrightarrow{\text{proximity}} K \xrightarrow{\quad} K$$

persistent homology

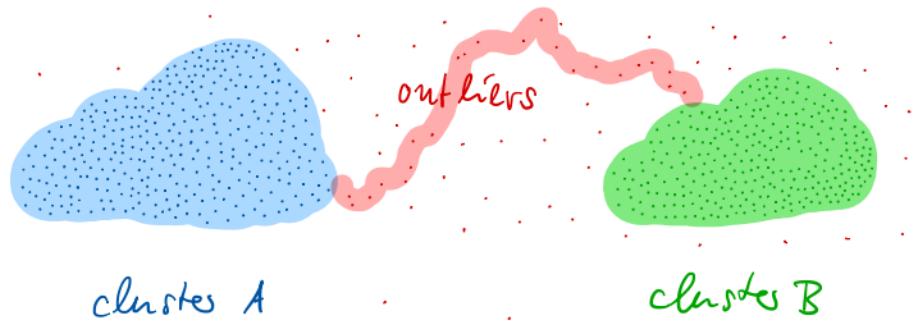
HIERARCHICAL CLUSTERING : EXISTENCE & UNIQUENESS

Then [Carlsson, Memoli 2010] single-linkage clustering is the
unique hierarchical clustering method satisfying
[... certain axioms similar to Kleinberg's].

But ...

CHAINING EFFECT

Single-linkage clustering is sensitive to outliers

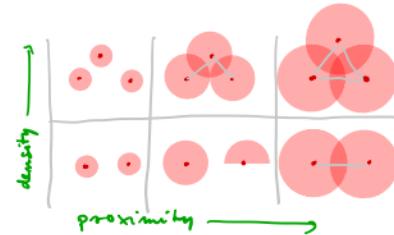


→ not used much in practice!

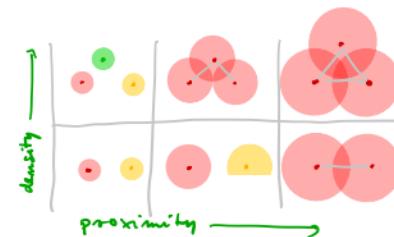
2 - PARAMETER CLUSTERING

density - proximity graph

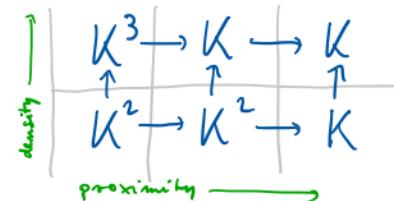
- filters points by density
- filters edges by proximity



Π_0 (connected components)



H_0 (homology in deg. 0
with coeffs in K)



DECOMPOSING DIAGRAMS OF VECTOR SPACES

$$V \xrightarrow{f} W$$

||?

$$\ker f \longrightarrow 0$$

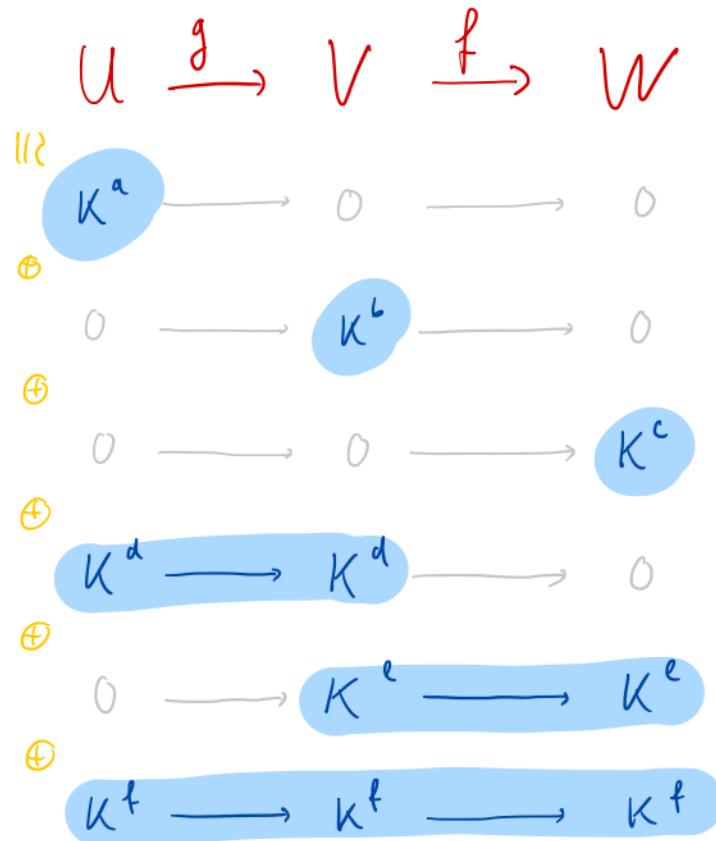
⊕

$$\text{im } f \longrightarrow \text{im } f$$

⊕

$$0 \longrightarrow \text{coker } f$$

TWO MAPS



SEQUENCES OF MAPS

$$V: V_0 \rightarrow V_1 \rightarrow V_2 \rightarrow \cdots \rightarrow V_n$$

decomposes into summands of the form

$$\cdots \rightarrow 0 \rightarrow K \rightarrow \cdots \rightarrow K \rightarrow 0 \rightarrow \cdots$$



$V \cong$ "collection of intervals"

→ persistence barcode.

DROZD'S TRICHOTOMY

Given a finite indexing poset P . (K : algebra. closed)

What are the indecomposable diagrams with shape P ?

3 cases (representation types):

(a) A finite list.

finite type

(b) A finite list (of 1-param. families).

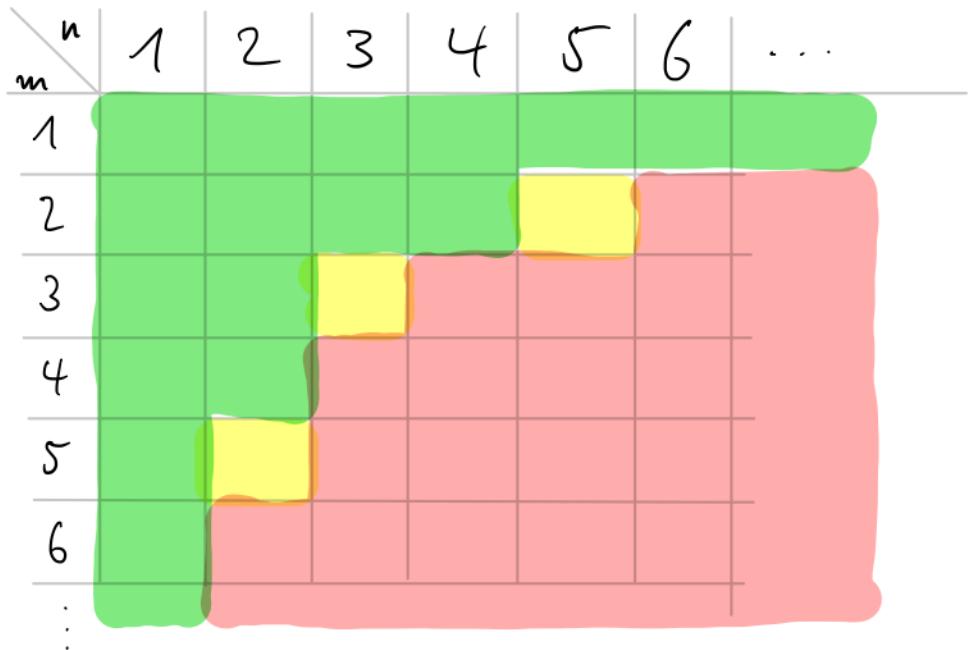
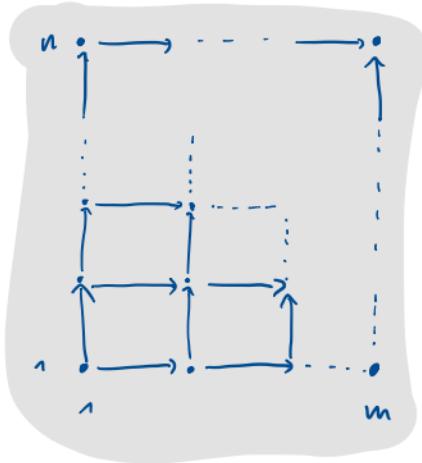
tame

(c) It's complicated.

wild

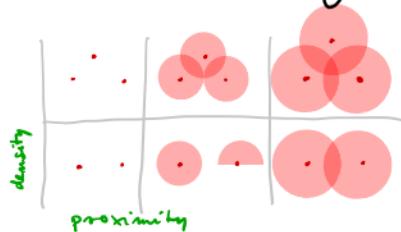
(as complicated as modules over any finite-dim. algebra;
including undecidable problems)

REPRESENTATION TYPES OF COMMUTATIVE GRIDS

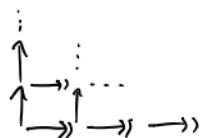


GRID DIAGRAMS FROM CLUSTERING

Consider again 2-parameter clustering (proximity / density)



This yields diagrams of the form



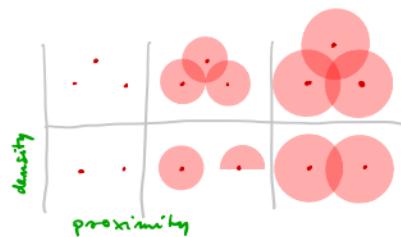
Horizontal maps are surjective!

Does this simplify the picture?

EPIMORPHISMS

- $\text{Rep}(m, n)$: all commutative dgms over $m \times n$ grid
- $\text{Rep}^{\rightarrow}(m, n)$: epis in horizontal direction
- $\text{Rep}^{\leftrightarrow}(m, n)$: epis in both directions.

Lemma $\text{Rep}^{\rightarrow}(m, 2)$ is finite type.



$$\sim \begin{pmatrix} H_0 \\ \vdots \end{pmatrix} \begin{array}{c} K^3 \xrightarrow{(1,1,1)} K \xrightarrow{\quad} K \\ \uparrow \quad \uparrow^{(1,1)} \quad \uparrow \\ K^2 \xrightarrow{\quad} K^2 \xrightarrow{(1,1)} K \end{array}$$

$$\cong \begin{array}{c} K \xrightarrow{\quad} K \xrightarrow{\quad} K \\ \uparrow \quad \uparrow \quad \uparrow \\ K \xrightarrow{\quad} K \xrightarrow{\quad} K \end{array} \oplus \begin{array}{c} K \xrightarrow{\quad} 0 \xrightarrow{\quad} 0 \\ \uparrow \quad \uparrow \quad \uparrow \\ K \xrightarrow{\quad} K \xrightarrow{\quad} 0 \end{array} \oplus \begin{array}{c} K \xrightarrow{\quad} 0 \xrightarrow{\quad} 0 \\ \uparrow \quad \uparrow \quad \uparrow \\ 0 \xrightarrow{\quad} 0 \xrightarrow{\quad} 0 \end{array}$$

EPIC GRIDS & WILD THINGS

Thun [B, Botman, Oppermann, Stein 79]

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Rep}^{\xrightarrow{\text{f}}} (m, n) &\sim \text{Rep}^{\xrightarrow{\text{f}}} (m, n-1) \\ \} & \qquad \qquad \qquad \} \text{ same representation type} \\ \text{Rep}^{\xrightarrow{\text{g}}} (m-1, n) &\sim \text{Rep} (m-1, n-1) \end{aligned}$$

Corollary $\text{Rep}^{\rightarrow}(m, n)$ is

- **finite type** for $n \leq 2$ and $(n = 3, m \leq 4)$
 - **tame** for $(n = 3, m = 5)$ and $(n = 4, m = 3)$
 - **wild** otherwise.

TORSION PAIRS

Example : Abelian groups (fin. generated)

$$G = \underbrace{\mathbb{Z}}_{F \text{ (free)}} \oplus \underbrace{\mathbb{Z}_{q_1}^{b_1} \oplus \cdots \oplus \mathbb{Z}_{q_n}^{b_n}}_{T \text{ (torsion)}}$$

- canonically : $T \hookrightarrow G \rightarrow F$ (short exact sequence)
- The only homomorphism $\phi : T \rightarrow F$ is $x \mapsto 0$.

Category: 15. Subcategories : \mathcal{T} (torsion groups) \mathcal{F} (free Abelian groups)

Then $(\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{F})$ is a torsion pair :

- $\text{Hom}(\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{F}) = 0$
- For any $G: \text{Ab}$, there is a short ex. seq $\mathcal{T} \hookrightarrow G \twoheadrightarrow \mathcal{F}$ ($\mathcal{T}: \mathcal{T}$, $\mathcal{F}: \mathcal{F}$)

COTORSION PAIRS

\mathcal{A} : Abelian category

\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{D} : subcategories (closed under direct summands)

$(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{D})$ is cotorsion pair if

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{D} & \mathcal{A} & \mathcal{C} \\ \Downarrow & \Downarrow & \Downarrow \end{array}$$

- $\text{Ext}^1(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{D}) = 0$ (any short exact $\mathcal{D} \hookrightarrow E \twoheadrightarrow \mathcal{C}$ split), and
- For any $A: \mathcal{A}$, there are short exact sequences
 $\mathcal{D} \hookrightarrow \mathcal{C} \twoheadrightarrow A$ and $A \hookrightarrow \tilde{\mathcal{D}} \twoheadrightarrow \tilde{\mathcal{C}}$ ($\mathcal{D}, \tilde{\mathcal{D}}: \mathcal{D}$; $\mathcal{C}, \tilde{\mathcal{C}}: \mathcal{C}$).

TORSION COTORSION TRIPLES

Theorem [BBOS 19; Belligiannis ~05, unpublished]

$(\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{F})$ torsion pair, $(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{D})$ cotorsion pair.

Then \mathcal{T} is equivalent to $\frac{\mathcal{D}}{\mathcal{T} \cap \mathcal{D}}$

(we call $(\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{F}, \mathcal{D})$ a **torsion cotorsion triple**.)

'cotilting subcategory';
already determines $(\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{F}, \mathcal{D})$

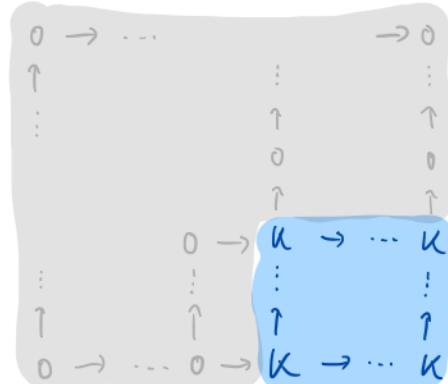
APPLICATION TO GRID REPRESENTATIONS

Corollary [BBos 19]

$$\frac{\text{Rep}^{\rightarrow}(m, n)}{\text{Rep}^{\uparrow\rightarrow}(m, n)} \xleftarrow{\mathcal{D}} \simeq \text{Rep}(m, n-1)$$

$$\text{Rep}^{\uparrow}(m, n) = \mathcal{F} \circ \mathcal{D}$$

indecomposables are of the form



\Rightarrow finite type

THE EQUIVALENCE, MADE EXPLICIT

$$\begin{array}{c} \boxed{V_{n_1} \rightarrow \cdots \rightarrow V_{n_m}} = \\ \vdots \quad \vdots \quad \vdots \\ \boxed{V_{2_1} \rightarrow \cdots \rightarrow V_{2_m}} = \\ \uparrow \quad \uparrow \quad \uparrow \\ \boxed{V_{1_1} \rightarrow \cdots \rightarrow V_{1_m}} \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} I_n \\ f_{n-1} \uparrow \\ I_{n-1} \\ \vdots \\ I_2 \\ f_2 \uparrow \\ I_1 \end{array}$$

~~~~~

$\begin{matrix} \text{ker } (f_{n-1}) \\ \text{ker } (f_{n-1} \circ \cdots \circ f_2) \\ \text{ker } (f_{n-1} \circ \cdots \circ f_2 \circ f_1) \end{matrix}$

## REALIZATIONS

Thm [Carlsson, Zomorodian] any  $\text{Rep}(m, n)$  ( $m \times n$  diagram of  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -vector spaces) can be realized as  $p$ th-homology ( $H_p$  of an  $m \times n$  diagram of top. spaces), for any  $p > 0$ .

What about  $H_0$ ?

Thm [BB05]

Not every  $\overset{\uparrow}{\text{Rep}}(m, n)$  can be realized as  $\overset{\sim}{H}_0$  (counterexample), not even as a summand.

## INDECOMPOSABLES VS CLUSTERS

- Indecomposables of  $H_0$  from density/proximity do **not** correspond directly to clusters
- Rather: "linear combinations of components"
- Topological features, help to survey parameter space
- Typical example:



two "significant" many "small"

## CHALLENGES

- COMPUTATION (OF INDECOMPOSABLES)
- CLASSIFICATION (OF REPS ARISING FROM CLUSTERING)
- INFERENCE (OF COMPONENTS IN THE PRESENCE OF NOISE)

## FURTHER READING

U. Bauer, M. Botnan, S. Oppermann, J. Steen

Cotorsion Torsion Triples and the Representation Theory  
of Filtered Hierarchical Clustering

arXiv 1904.07322

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