

# Apparent pairs in computational topology

Ulrich Bauer

Technical University of Munich (TUM)

July 23, 2024

Computational Topology: Foundations, Algorithms, and Applications

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109

Discretization  
In Geometry  
and Dynamics

Technical  
University  
of Munich



mcmll  
Munich Center for Machine Learning

In memoriam

# Eliyahu Rips

December 12, 1948 – July 19, 2024

**Subject:** Re: First appearance of the "Rips complex" in your work

**Date:** Fri, 26 Feb 2021 16:15:00 +0200

**From:** Eliyahu Rips <eliyahu.rips@mail.huji.ac.il>

**To:** Fabian Roll <fabian.roll@tum.de>

Dear Prof' Roll,

The story is as follows: Prof. Gromov visited Israel, and I told him some non-published results. He published them (in my name) in his paper on hyperbolic groups. This is the origin of the so-called "Rips complex". In fact, such a complex was earlier discovered by Vietoris (in a somewhat different context).

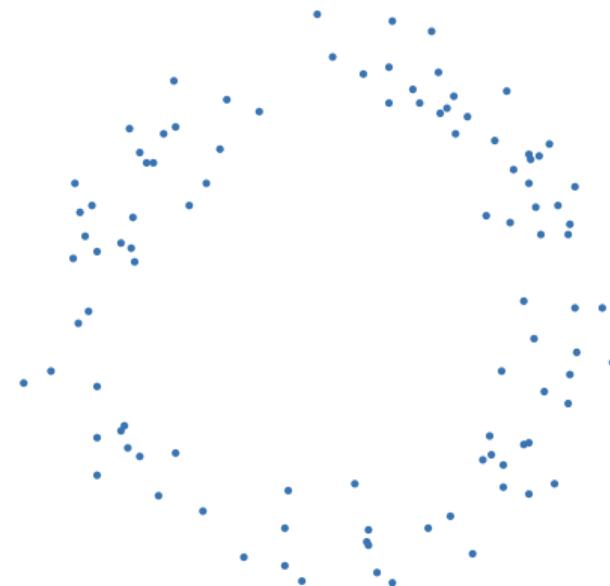
With my best regards,

Eliyahu Rips

## Vietoris–Rips complexes

For a metric space  $X$ , the *Vietoris–Rips complex* at  $t > 0$  is the simplicial complex

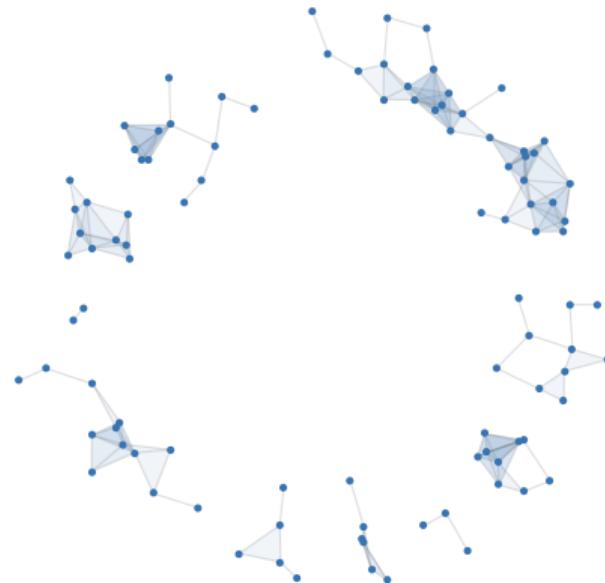
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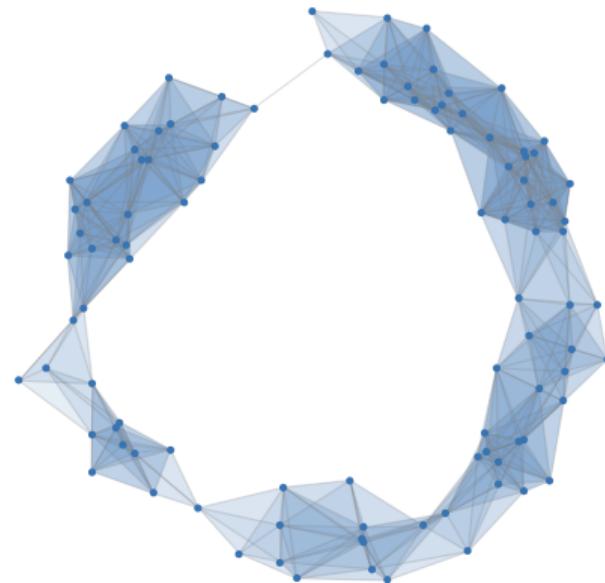
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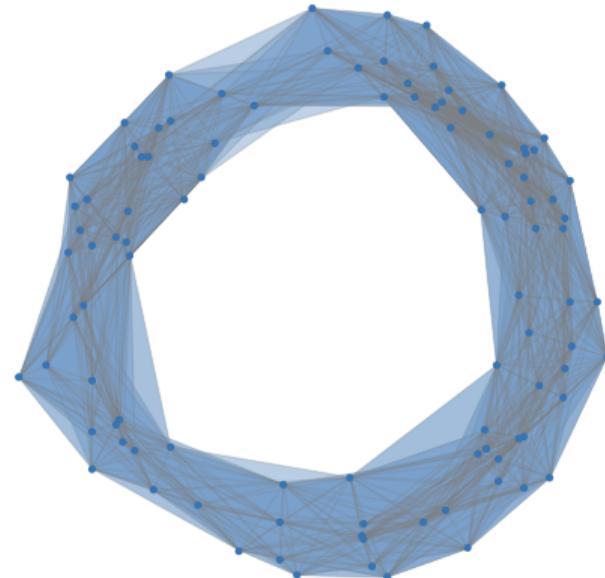
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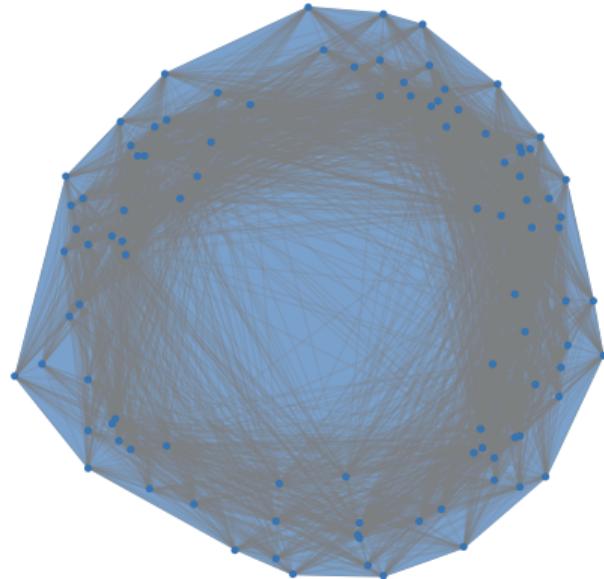
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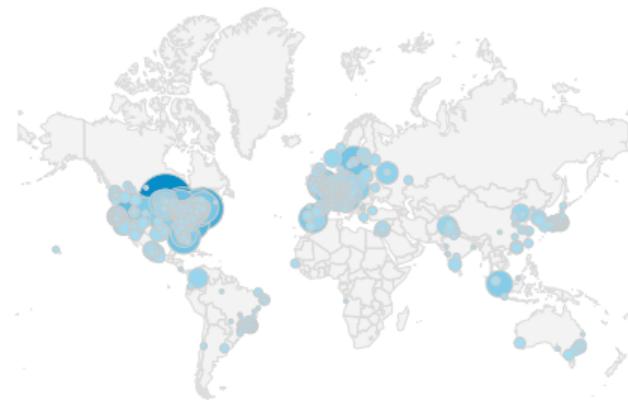
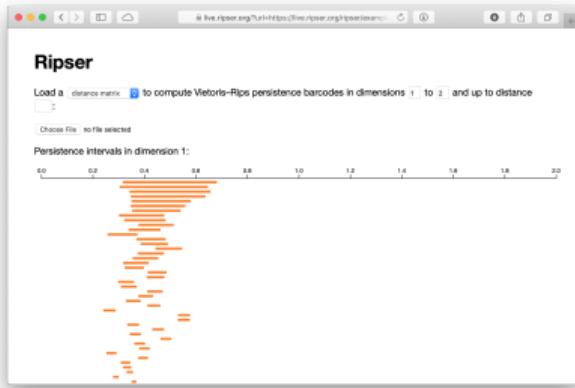
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# Ripser: software for computing Vietoris–Rips persistence barcodes

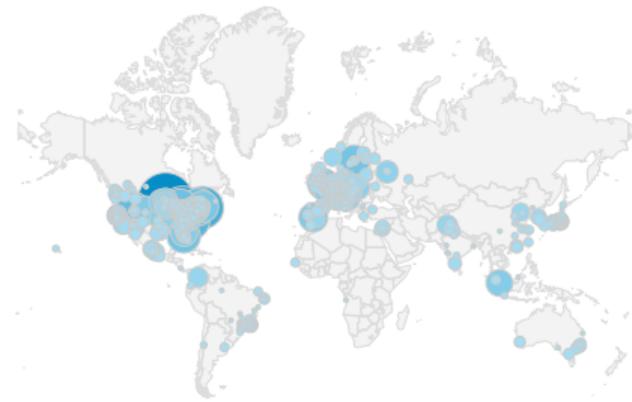
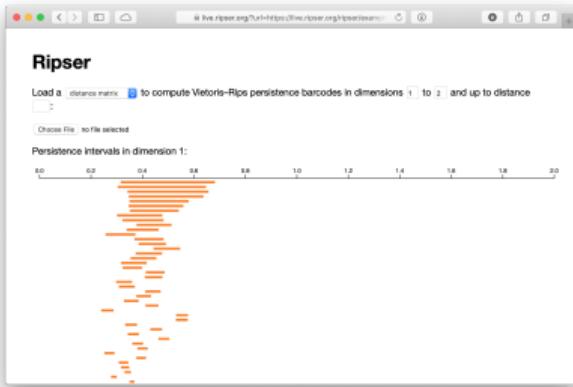
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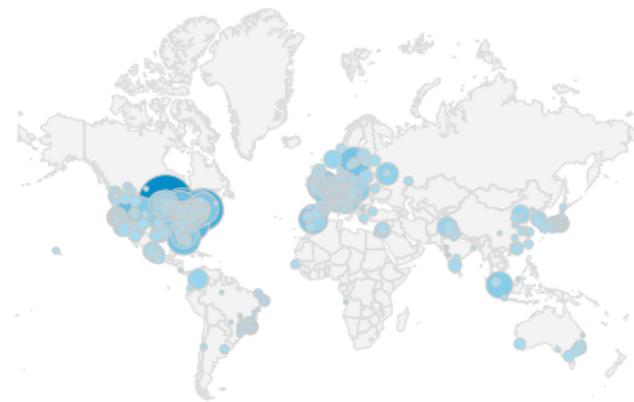
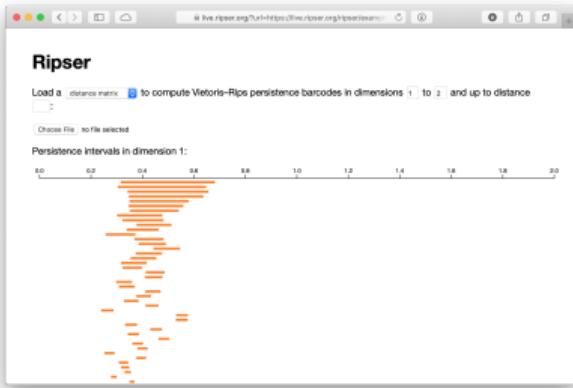
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Efficient matrix algorithm based on

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Computational improvements based on

- *implicit matrix representations*
- *apparent pairs*, connecting persistence to discrete Morse theory

## Apparent pairs

Ripser uses the following pairing of simplices (breaking ties in the filtration lexicographically):

### Definition (B 2016, 2021)

In a simplexwise filtration ( $K_i = \{\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_i\}_i$ ), two simplices  $(\sigma_i, \sigma_j)$  form an *apparent pair* if

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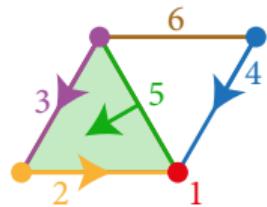
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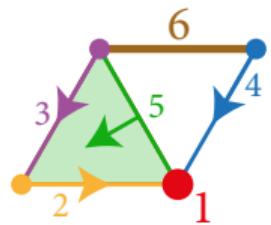
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# Discrete Morse theory



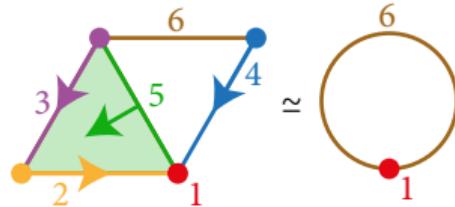
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## Theorem (Forman 1998)

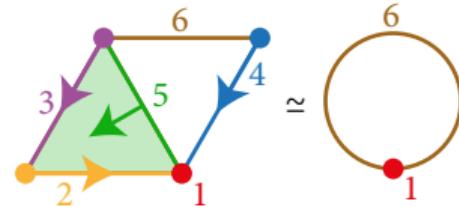
A simplicial complex with a discrete Morse function  $f$  is homotopy equivalent to a space (a CW complex) built from the critical simplices of  $f$ .



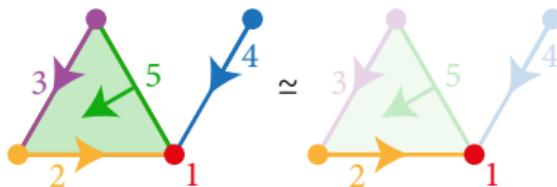
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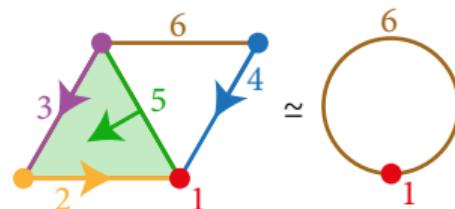
Discrete Morse functions – and their gradients – encode *collapses* of sublevel sets:



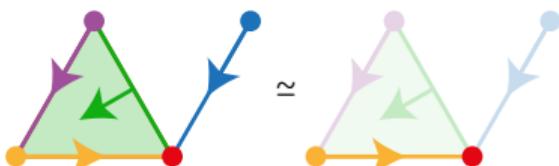
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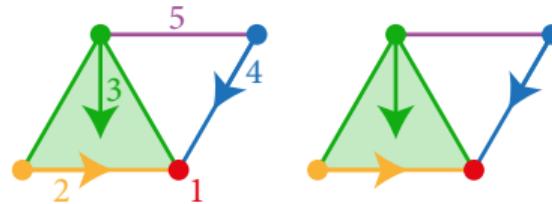


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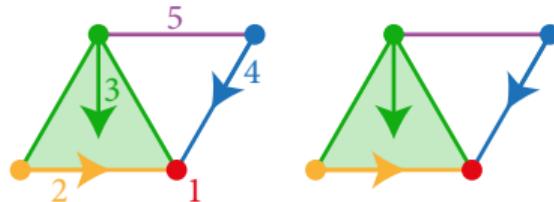
# Generalizing discrete Morse theory

*Generalized gradients* partition the face poset into intervals (instead of just facet pairs):

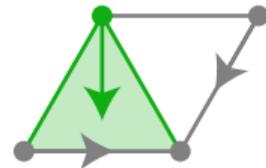


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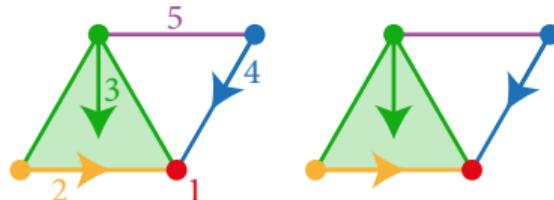


- A generalized vector field  $V$  can always be refined to a vector field.

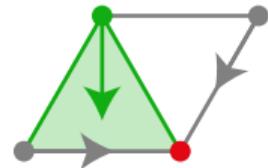


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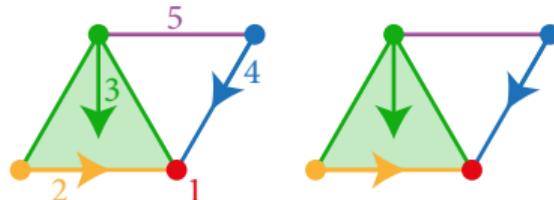


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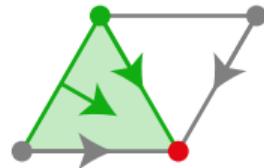


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## Lexicographically refined Morse filtrations

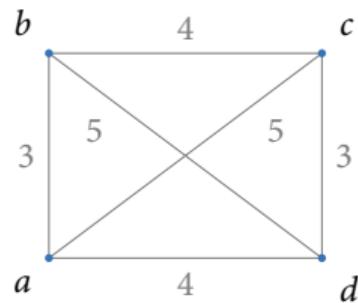
Any generalized discrete Morse function is refined by apparent pairs:

### Proposition (B, Roll 2022)

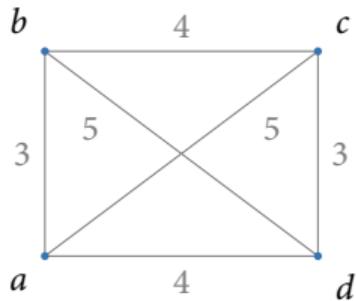
*Let  $f$  be a generalized discrete Morse function, and consider the simplexwise filtration by lexicographic refinement. Then the apparent pairs of zero persistence form a gradient that*

- refines the gradient of  $f$  and
- has the same critical simplices.

## Apparent pairs of the diameter-lexicographic filtration

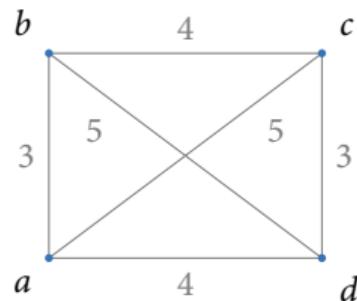


## Apparent pairs of the diameter-lexicographic filtration



$$\partial_1 = \begin{pmatrix} & (a,b):3 & (c,d):3 & (a,d):4 & (b,c):4 \\ 1 & & 1 & 1 & (a) \\ \textbf{1} & & 1 & 1 & (b) \\ & 1 & 1 & 1 & (c) \\ & \textbf{1} & 1 & & (d) \end{pmatrix}$$

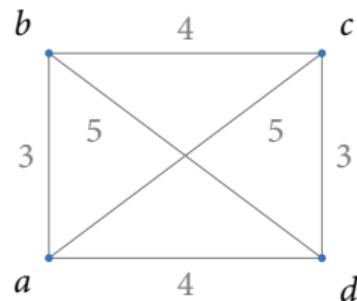
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$$\partial_1 = \begin{pmatrix} & (a,b):3 & (c,d):3 \\ 1 & & 1 & (a,d):4 \\ & 1 & & (b,c):4 \\ \textcolor{lightblue}{1} & & 1 & (a,c):5 \\ & 1 & & (b,d):5 \\ 1 & & 1 & \\ \textcolor{lightblue}{1} & 1 & & \end{pmatrix} \begin{matrix} (a) \\ (b) \\ (c) \\ (d) \end{matrix}$$

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## A shortcut for finding pivots

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Shortcut for finding the pivot (latest) facet of a simplex  $\tau$ :

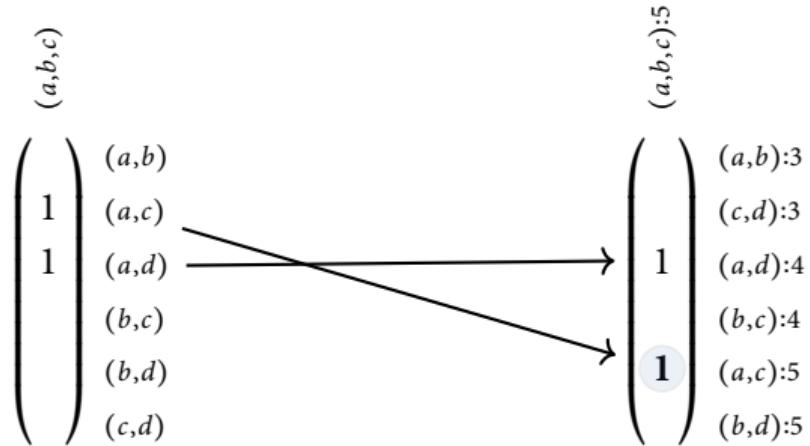
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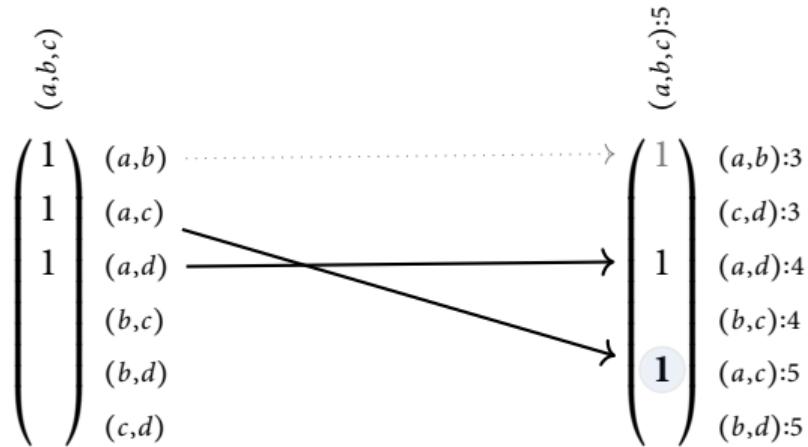
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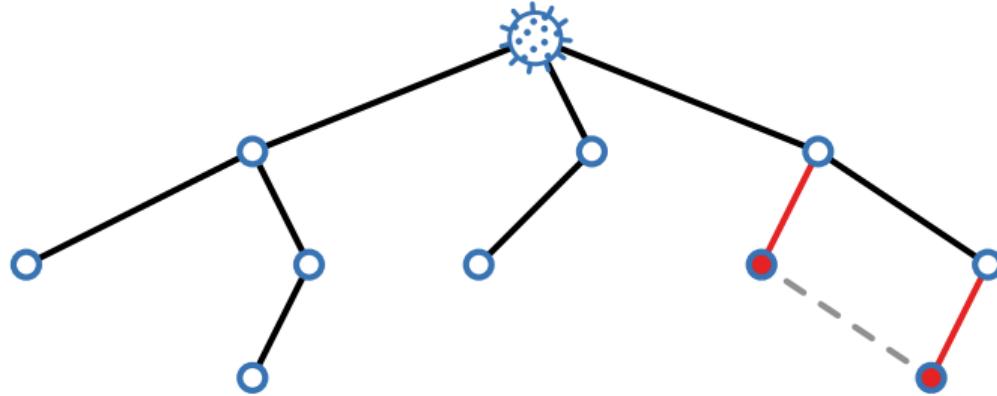
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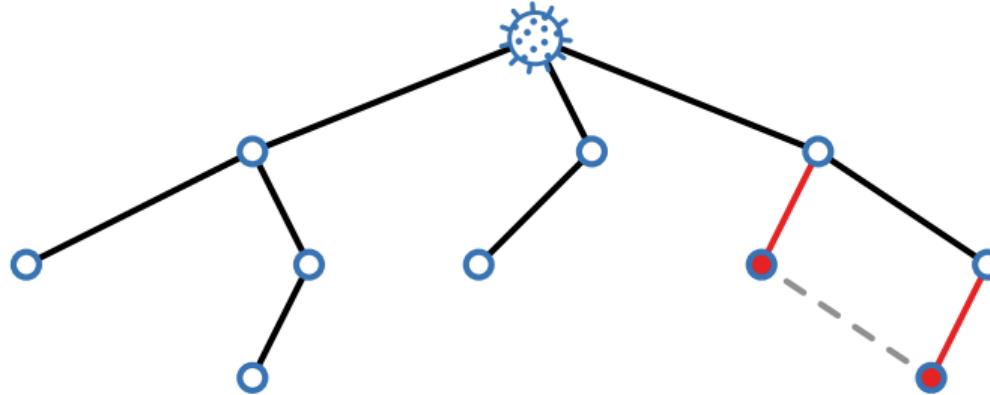
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# Topology of viral evolution



Joint work with: A. Ott, M. Bleher, L. Hahn (Heidelberg), R. Rabadañ, J. Patiño-Galindo (Columbia), M. Carrière (INRIA)

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Observation: Ripser runs unusually fast on genetic distance data

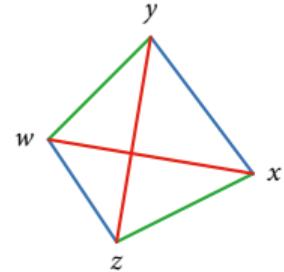
- SARS-CoV2 RNA sequences (spike protein)
- 25556 data points ( $2.8 \times 10^{12}$  simplices in 2-skeleton)
- 120 s computation time (with data points ordered appropriately)

# Gromov-hyperbolicity

## Definition (Gromov 1988)

A metric space  $X$  is  $\delta$ -hyperbolic (for  $\delta \geq 0$ ) if for all  $w, x, y, z \in X$  we have

$$d(w, x) + d(y, z) \leq \max\{d(w, y) + d(x, z), d(w, z) + d(x, y)\} + 2\delta.$$

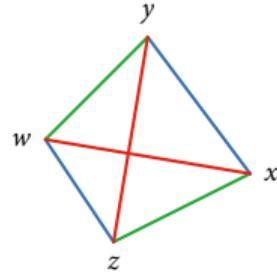


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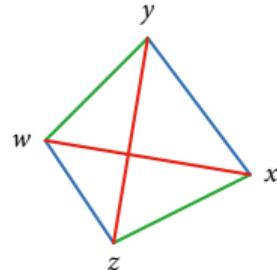


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- The 0-hyperbolic spaces are precisely the metric trees and their subspaces.



## Rips Contractibility

Theorem (Rips; Gromov 1988)

*Let  $X$  be a  $\delta$ -hyperbolic geodesic metric space. Then  $\text{Rips}_t(X)$  is contractible for all  $t \geq 4\delta$ .*

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- the filtration?
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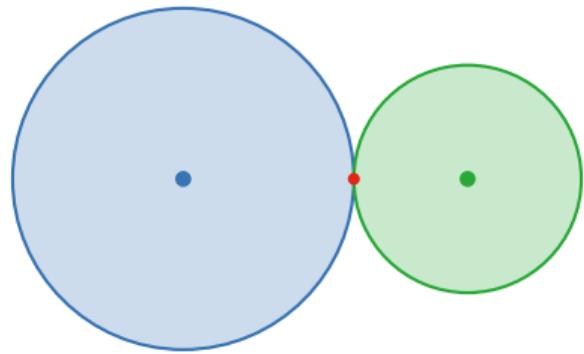
## Theorem (B, Roll 2022)

*Let  $X$  be a finite  $\delta$ -hyperbolic space. Then there is a single discrete gradient encoding the collapses*

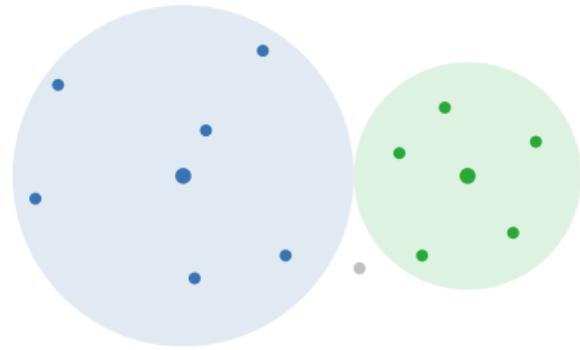
$$\text{Rips}_u(X) \searrow \text{Rips}_t(X) \searrow \{\ast\}$$

*for all  $u > t \geq 4\delta + 2\nu$ , where  $\nu$  is the geodesic defect of  $X$ .*

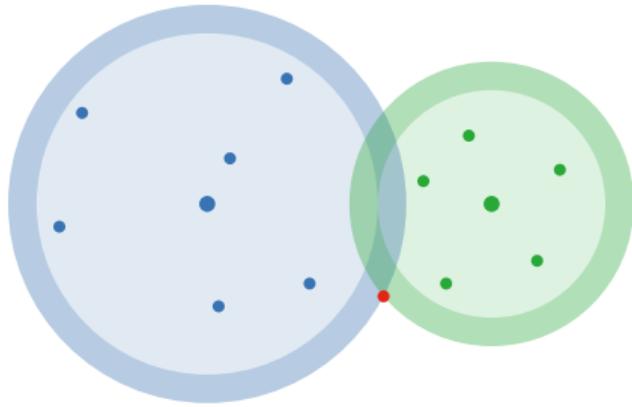
## Geodesic defect



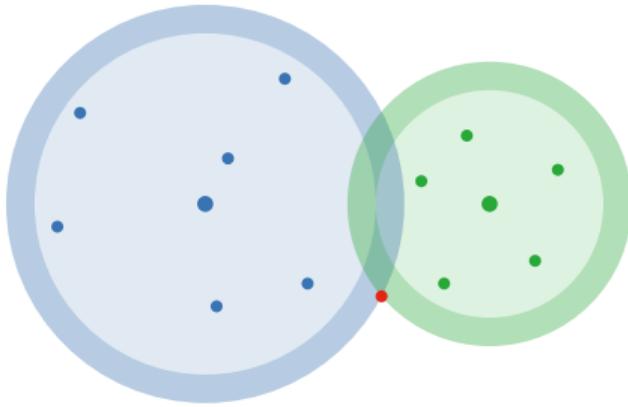
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Definition (Bonk, Schramm 2000)

A metric space  $X$  is  $\nu$ -geodesic if for all points  $x, y \in X$  and all  $r, s \geq 0$  with  $r + s = d(x, y)$  we have

$$B_{r+\nu}(x) \cap B_{s+\nu}(y) \neq \emptyset.$$

The infimum of all such  $\nu$  is the *geodesic defect* of  $X$ .

# The diameter function of generic trees

## Proposition (B, Roll 2022)

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In particular, the persistent homology is trivial in degrees  $> 0$ .

## Tree metrics beyond the generic case

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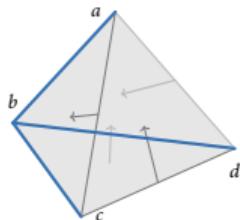
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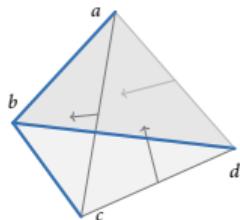
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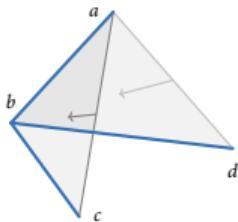
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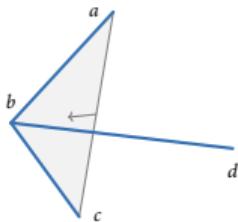
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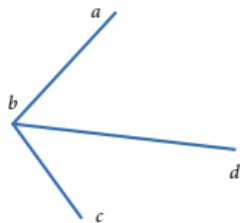
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## Morse theory for Čech and Delaunay complexes

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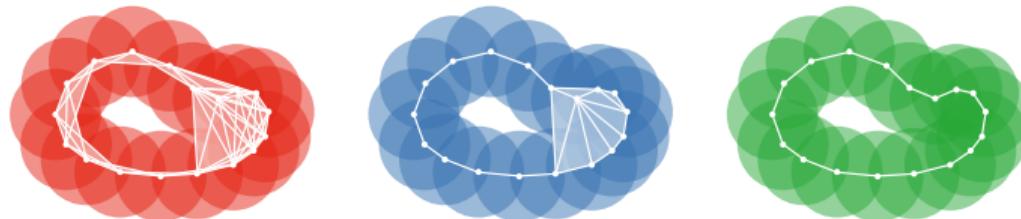
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## Theorem (B, Edelsbrunner 2017)

Čech, Delaunay, and Wrap complexes (at any scale  $r$ ) of a point set  $X \subset \mathbb{R}^d$  in general position are related by collapses encoded by a single discrete gradient field:

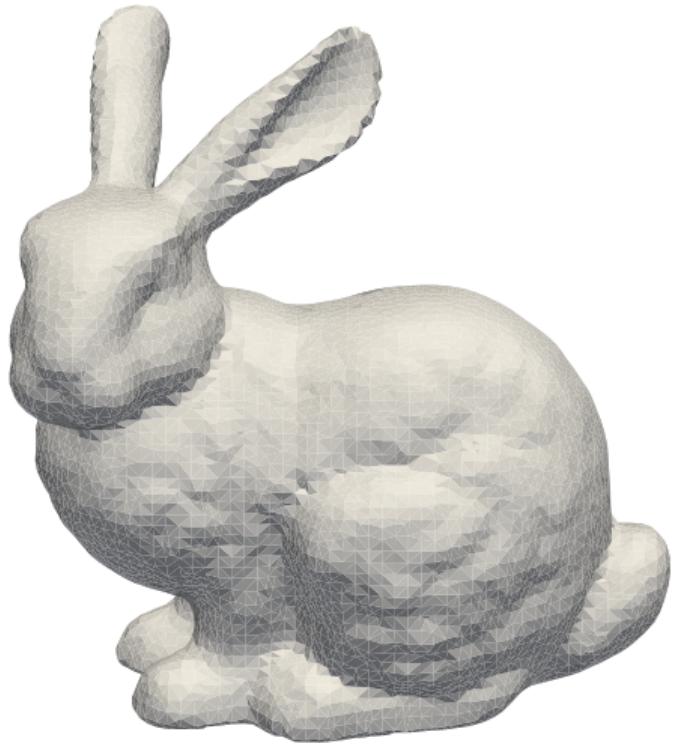
$$\text{Cech}_r X \searrow \text{Del}_r X \searrow \text{Wrap}_r X.$$



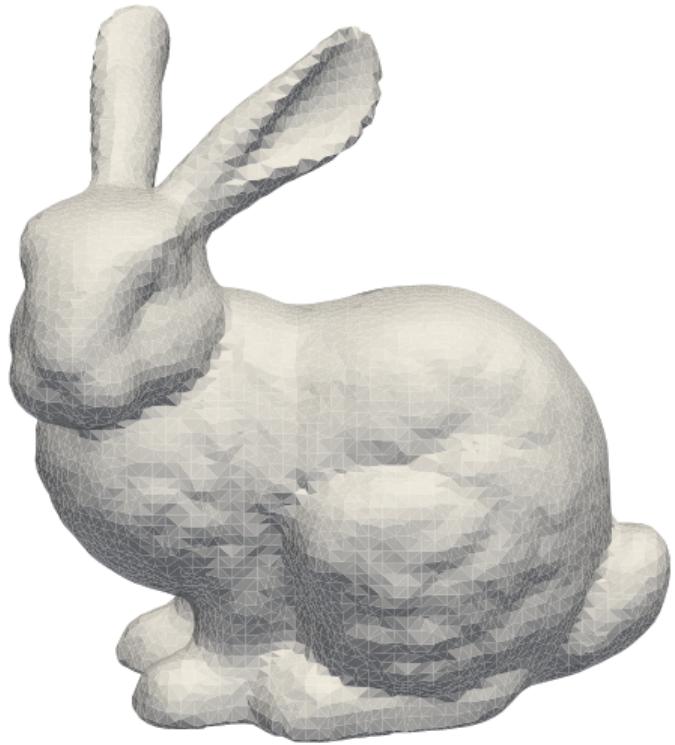
## From Delaunay to Wrap complexes



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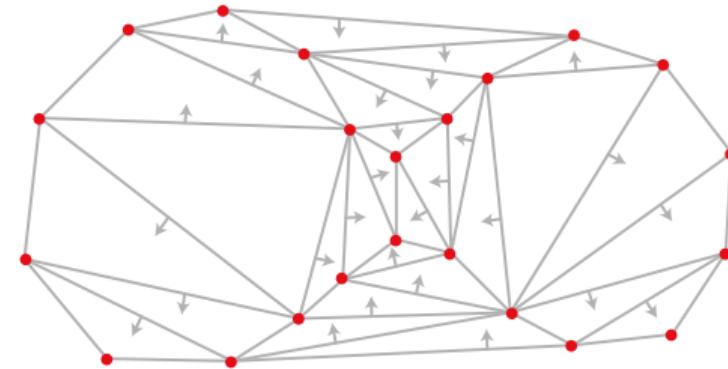
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Foundation of the surface reconstruction software *Wrap* (Edelsbrunner 1995, Geomagic)

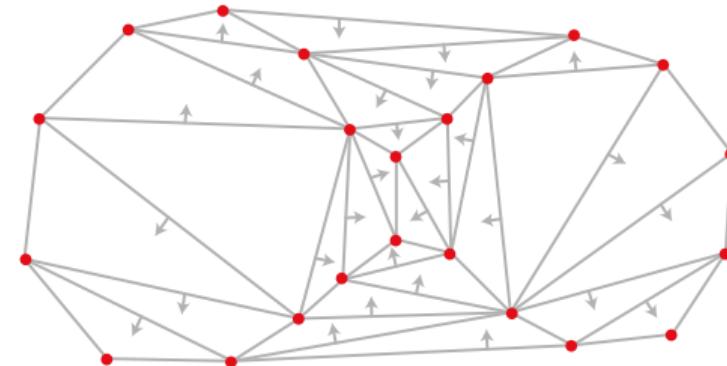
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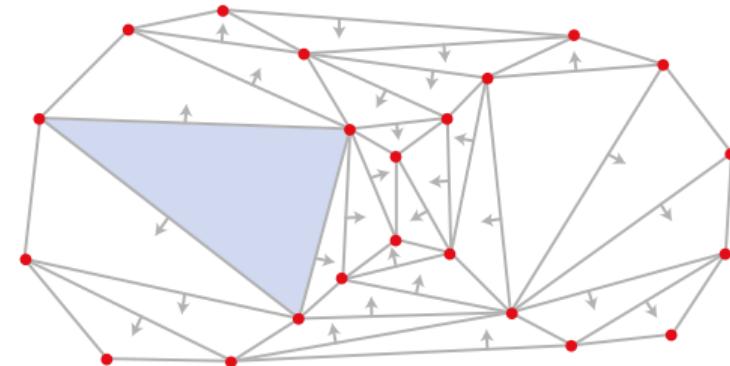
**Definition (Edelsbrunner 1995; B, Edelsbrunner 2017)**

$\text{Wrap}_r(X)$  is the *descending complex* of  $V$  on  $\text{Del}_r X$ :

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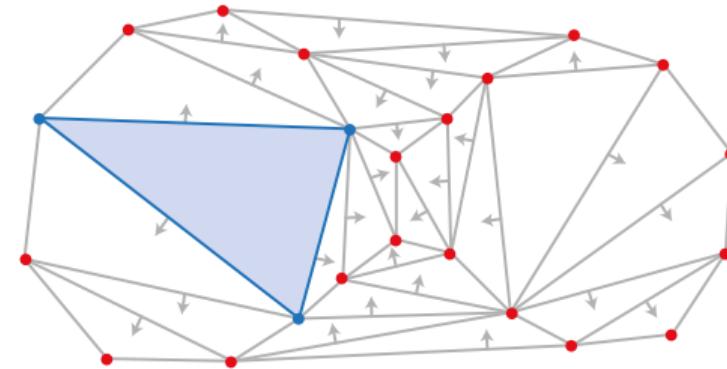
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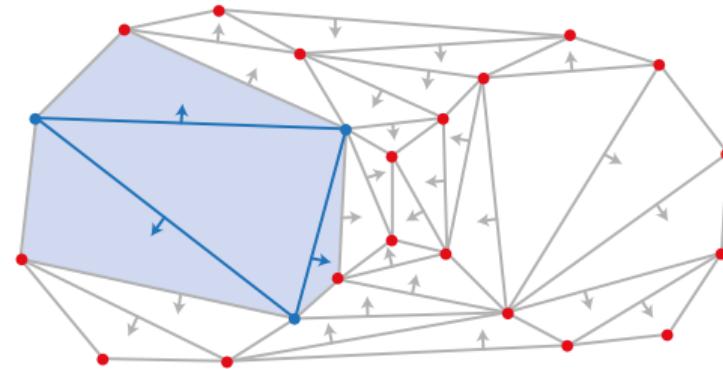
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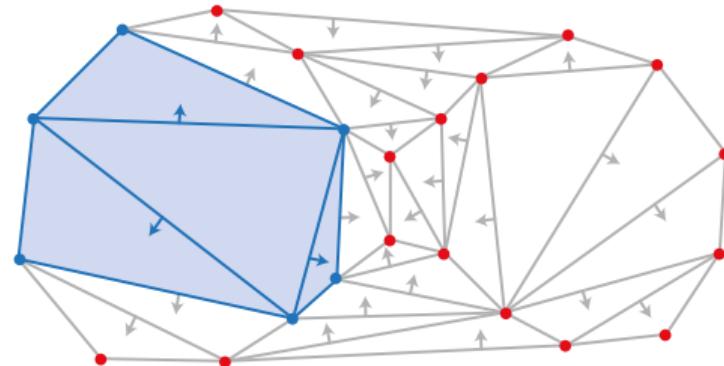
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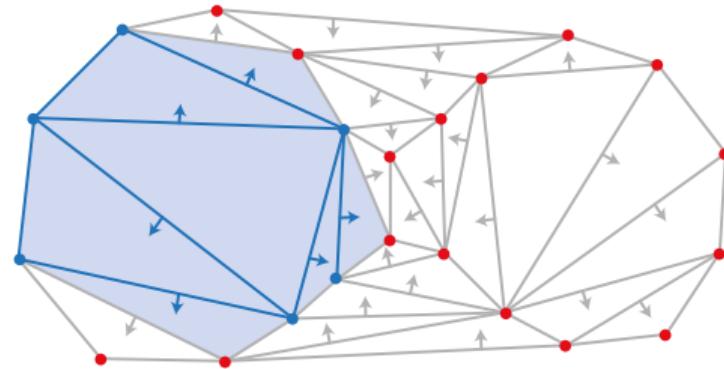
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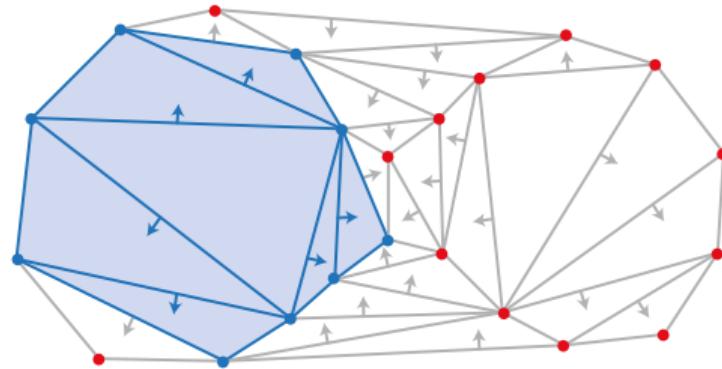
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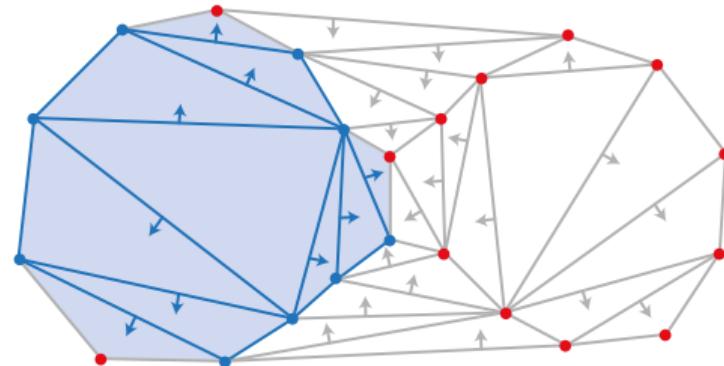
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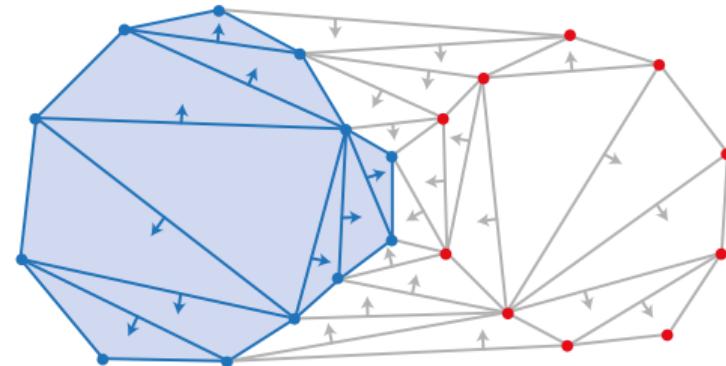
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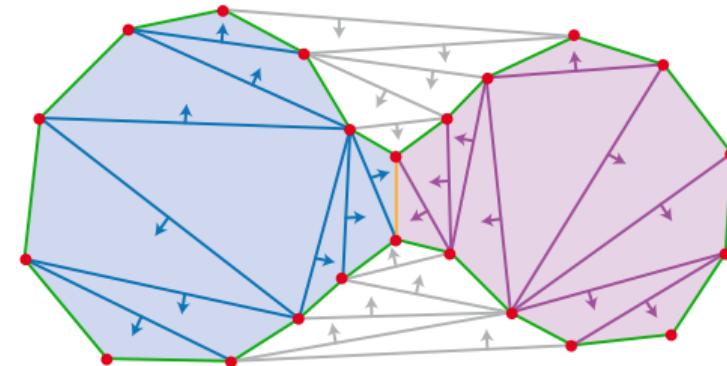
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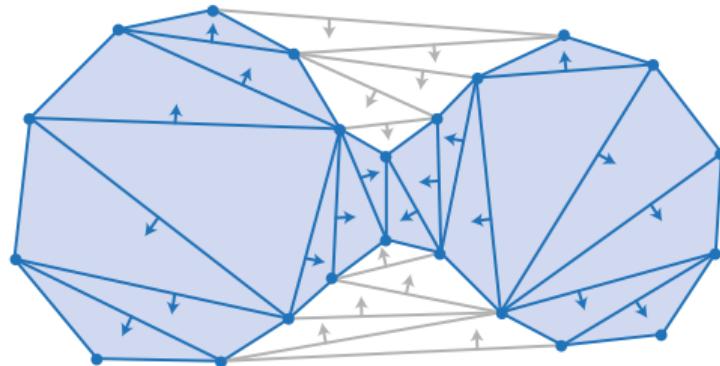
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# Computing persistent homology via matrix reduction

## Algorithm (matrix reduction; a variant of Gauss elimination)

**Require:**  $D$ :  $m \times n$  matrix

**Ensure:**  $V$  is full rank upper triangular,  $R = D \cdot V$  has unique column pivots

**function** Reduce( $D$ )

$$R = D$$

$$V = I(n)$$

**while** there exist  $i < j$  such that  $\text{pivot } R_i = \text{pivot } R_j$  **do**

add column  $R_i$  to column  $R_j$

▷ eliminate the nonzero entry in row pivot  $R_i$

add column  $V_i$  to column  $V_j$

**return**  $R, V$

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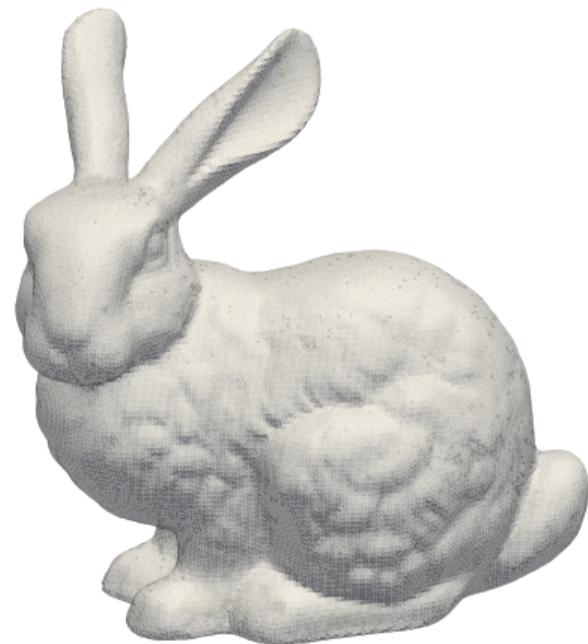
## Proposition

The resulting columns  $R_i$  are minimal (in a lexicographic order) within their homology class (in  $K_{j-1}$ ).

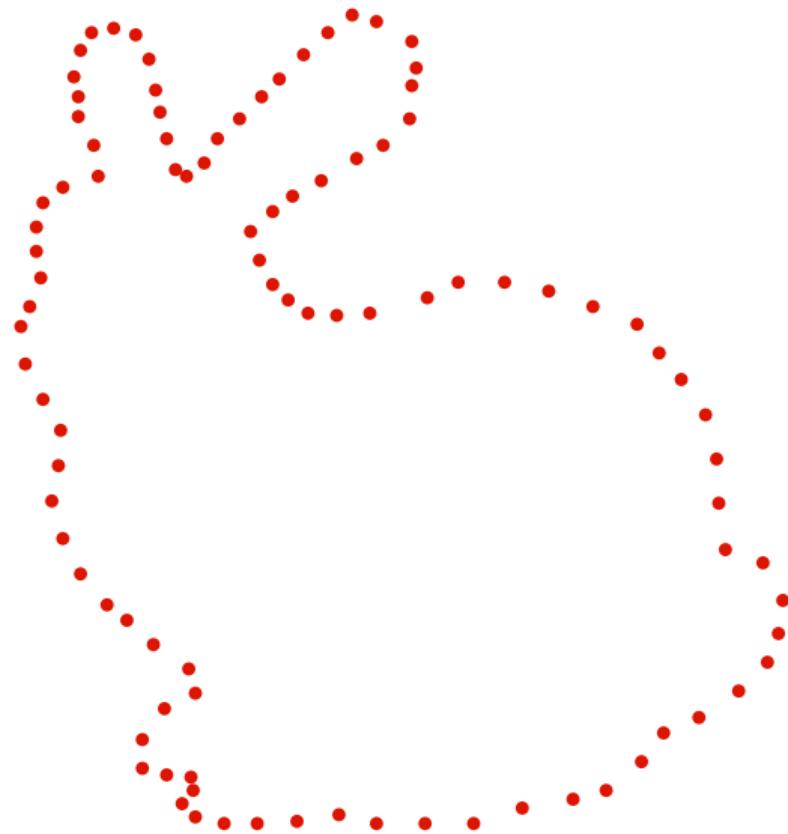
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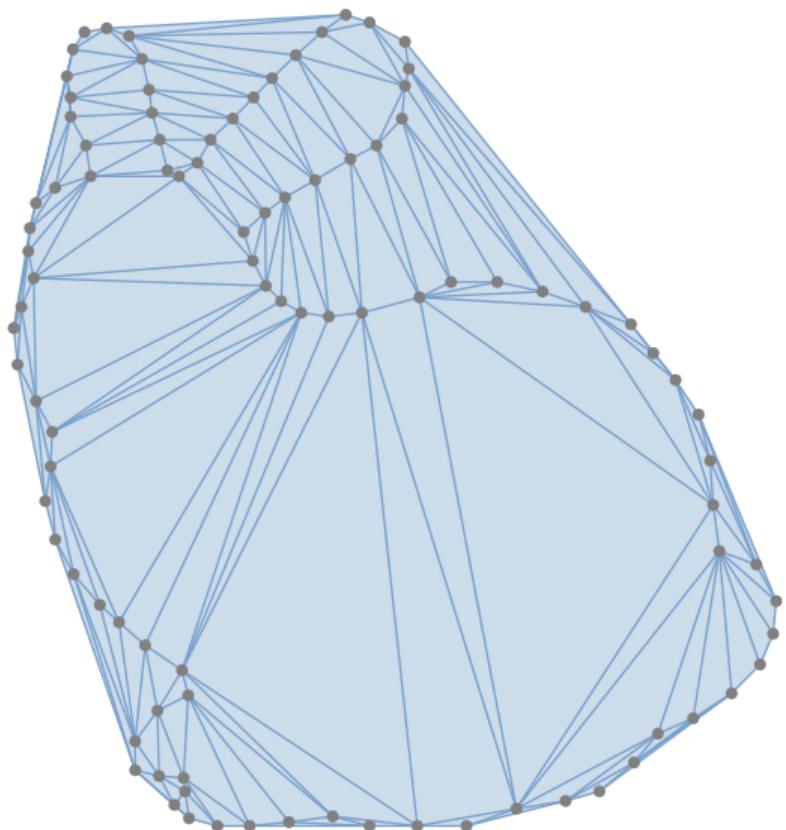
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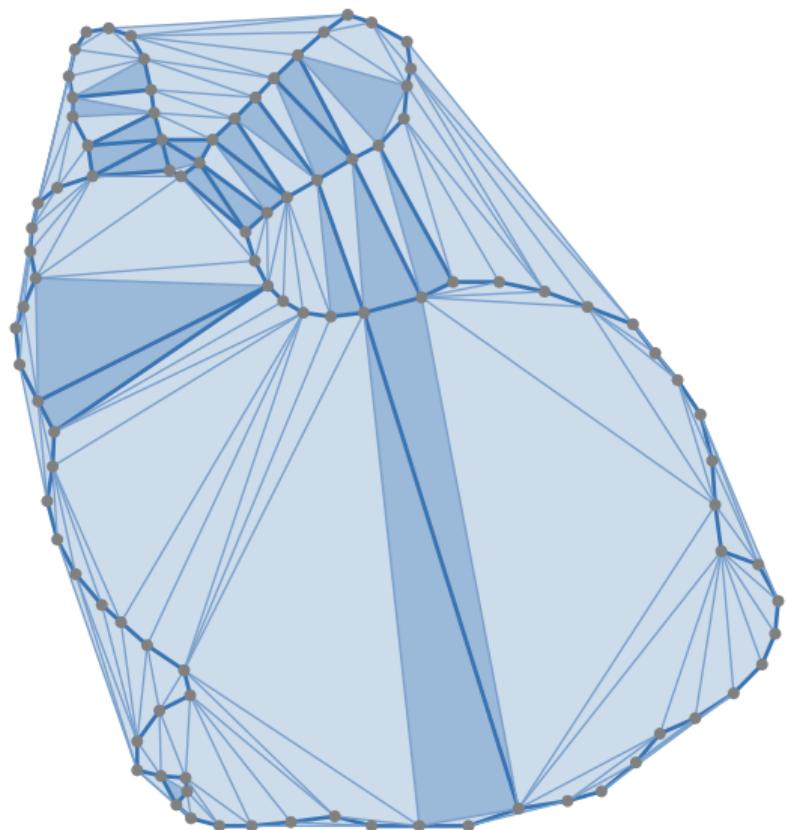
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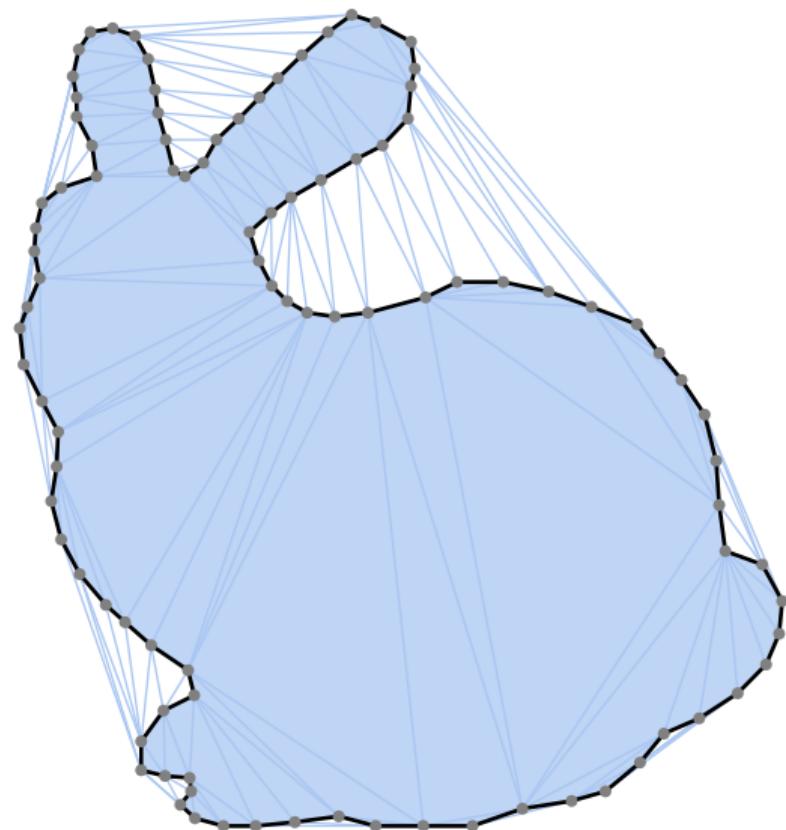
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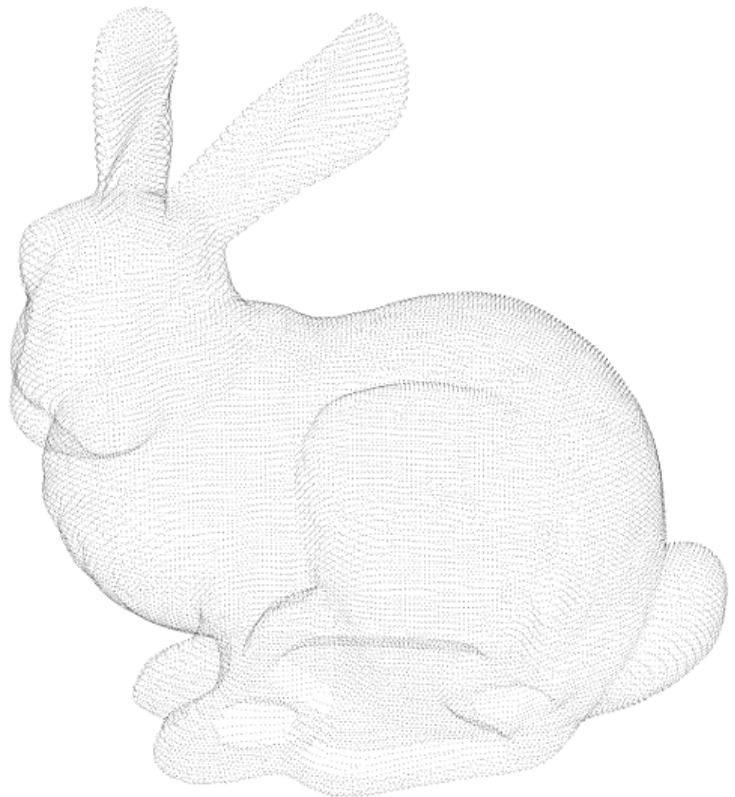
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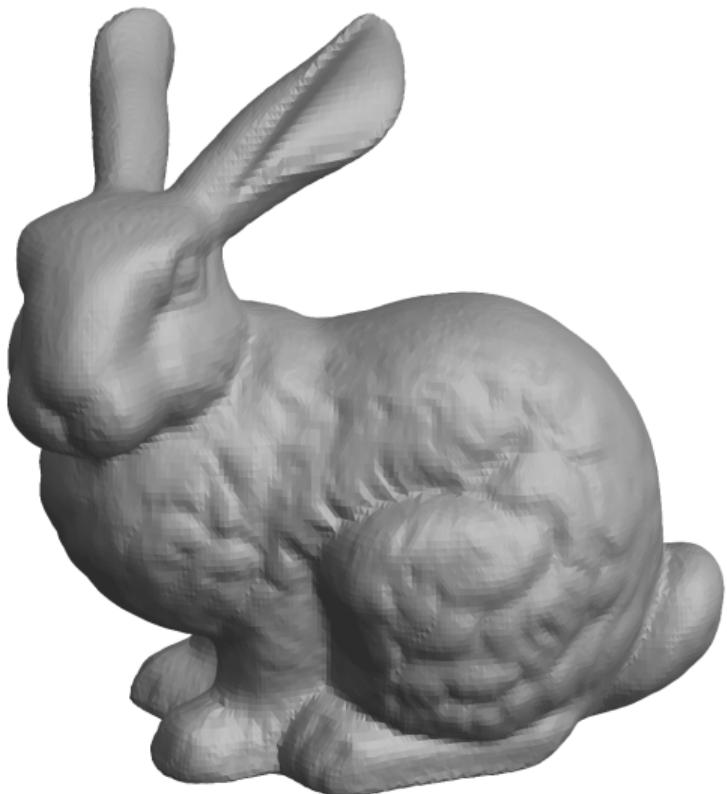
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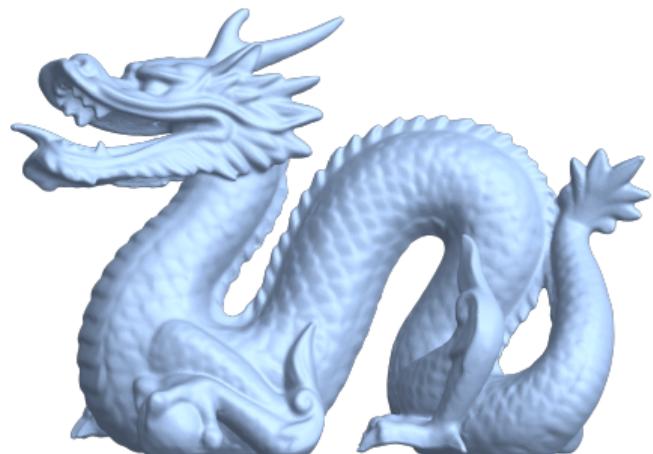
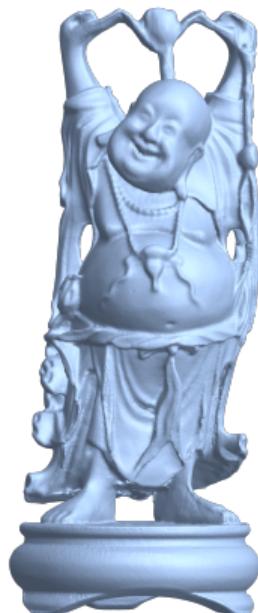
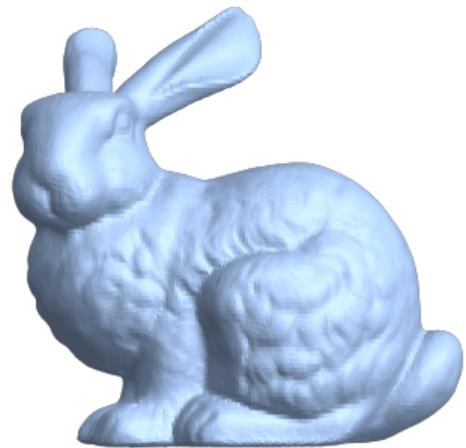
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## Point cloud reconstruction with minimal cycles

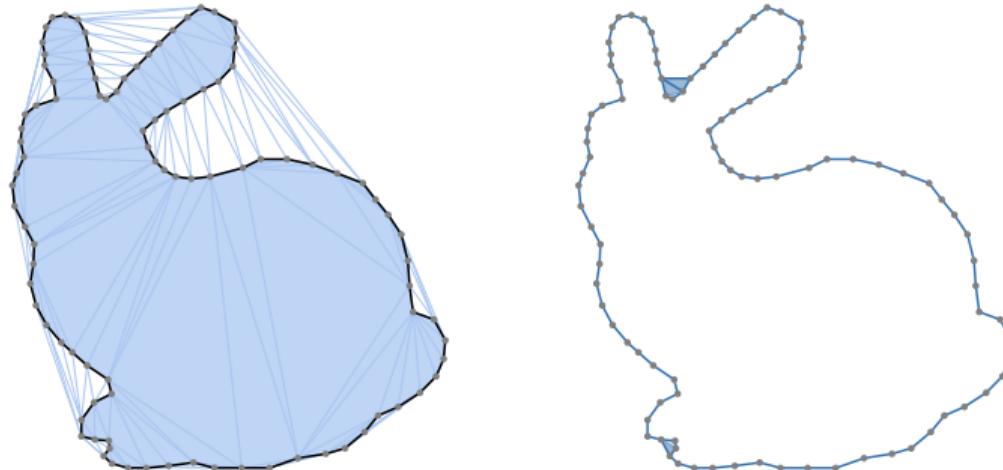


# Wrap complexes support minimal cycles

## Theorem (B, Roll 2024)

Let  $X \subset \mathbb{R}$  be a finite subset in general position and let  $r \in \mathbb{R}$ .

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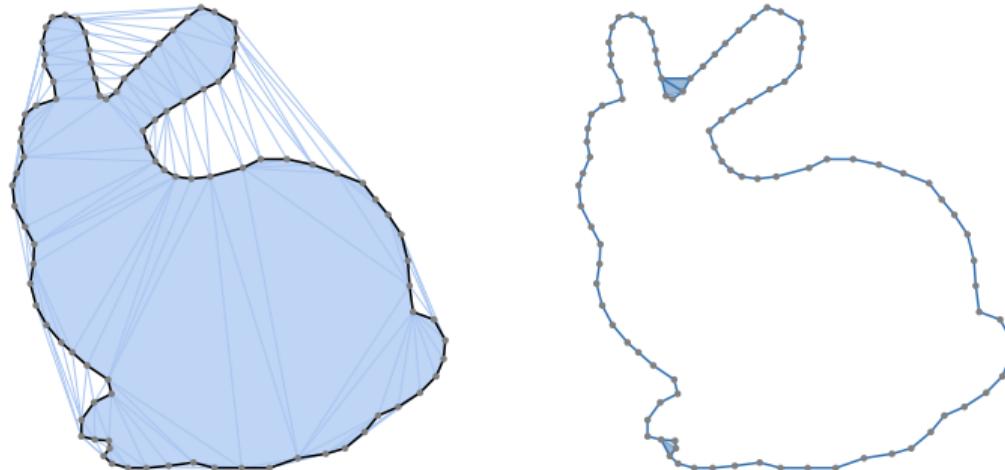


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Apparent pairs form the bridge between persistent homology and discrete Morse theory

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Gromov hyperbolicity, geodesic defect, and apparent pairs in Vietoris-Rips filtrations

*Symposium on Computational Geometry, 2022.* doi:10.4230/LIPIcs.SoCG.2022.15



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Wrapping Cycles in Delaunay Complexes: Bridging Persistent Homology and Discrete Morse Theory

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The Morse Theory of Čech and Delaunay Complexes

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Ripser: efficient computation of Vietoris–Rips persistence barcodes

*Journal of Applied and Computational Topology, 2021.* doi:10.1007/s41468-021-00071-5