

# Topological Data Analysis

End Sem Examination\*

Duration: 180 Minutes (Maximum - 35 Points)

December 28, 2023

1. For a simplicial complex, the Betti numbers  $b_i$  are the dimensions of the homology groups,  $H_i = \ker(\partial_i) / \text{img}(\partial_{i+1})$  of the chain complex

$$\cdots \rightarrow C_{i+1} \xrightarrow{\partial_{i+1}} C_i \xrightarrow{\partial_i} C_{i-1} \rightarrow \cdots \rightarrow C_{-1} = 0 \quad (1)$$

where,  $C_i$  is the space of formal  $\mathbb{R}$ -linear sums (free vector space over  $\mathbb{R}$ ) of oriented  $i$ -dimensional faces, i.e. oriented subsets of the abstract simplicial complex of size  $i+1$ ,  $\partial_i$  is the boundary map. Endowing each  $C_i$  with an inner-product, we get maps  $\partial_i^* : C_{i-1} \rightarrow C_i$  (i.e. the transpose of  $\partial_i$ ), and thus a Laplacian,  $\Delta_i : C_i \rightarrow C_i$ , for each  $i$ , defined by  $\Delta_i = \partial_{i+1}\partial_{i+1}^* + \partial_i^*\partial_i$ .

For each  $i$  we define the set of harmonic  $i$ -forms to be

$$\mathcal{H}_i := \{c \in C_i \mid \Delta_i c = 0\}. \quad (2)$$

[C1] Claim: (Hodge theory) For each  $i$ ,  $\mathcal{H}_i \cong H_i$ . The Betti numbers are the dimensions of the  $\mathcal{H}_i$ .

- (a) For the simplicial complex shown in Figure 1, find out  $b_1$  using standard algorithm discussed in class.

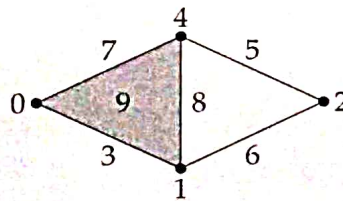


Figure 1: A simplicial complex

- (b) Using [C1] calculate  $b_1$ .  
(c) Argue about correctness of claim [C1]. [Hint: Elementary linear algebra]

[10 Points]

\*This is an open book/ notes examination.

$$1 \rightarrow 0 + 2 - 1 + 4 \rightarrow 2$$

$$1 \rightarrow 0 - 4 + 1 \rightarrow 0$$

$$1 \rightarrow 0 - 4 + 1 \rightarrow 0$$

$$1 \rightarrow 0 + 2 - 1 + 4 \rightarrow 2$$

40

2 > 4

2. A filtered simplicial complex consists of a nested sequence of simplicial complexes:  $K_0 \subset K_1 \subset \dots \subset K_n$ . Applying homology, we obtain a sequence of vector spaces and linear maps called a *persistence module*:

$$H_k(K_0) \rightarrow H_k(K_1) \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow H_k(K_n). \quad (3)$$

The images of these maps and compositions of these maps are called persistent homology vector spaces. Given a persistence module

$$M_0 \rightarrow M_1 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow M_n, \quad (4)$$

the *rank function* assigns each pair  $(i, j)$  with  $1 \leq i < j \leq n$  the rank of the linear map  $M_i \rightarrow M_j$  given by composition of maps. If  $i = j$  then this is the rank of the identity map on  $M_i$  which equals the dimension of  $M_i$ . Assume that the filtration on the simplicial complex of Figure 1 is defined with respect to the lexicographic ordering on the numbers assigned to the simplices, i.e.

$$X_0 \hookrightarrow X_1 \hookrightarrow X_2 \hookrightarrow \dots \hookrightarrow X_9 \quad (5)$$

where  $X_k = \{i^{\text{th}} \text{ simplex} | i \leq k\}$ .

- Write down boundary matrices for  $\partial_1$  and  $\partial_2$ , ordering the simplices using the order in which they appear in the filtration (5).
- Apply the persistence algorithm to reduce these matrices using column operations.
- Give the birth-death pairs for  $H_0$  and  $H_1$ .
- Plot the corresponding barcodes and persistence diagrams.
- Determine the rank functions for  $H_0$  and  $H_1$ .

[20 Points]

3. Landscapes For  $b < d$ , let  $f_{(b,d)} : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be the piecewise-linear "tent" function given by

$$f_{(b,d)}(t) = \begin{cases} t - b & \text{if } b \leq t \leq \frac{b+d}{2} \\ d - t & \text{if } \frac{b+d}{2} \leq t \leq d \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases} \quad (6)$$

Consider a persistence module with persistence diagram  $D = \{(b_1, d_1), \dots, (b_m, d_m)\}$ . For  $k = 1, 2, \dots$  the  $k$ -th *persistence landscape function*,  $\lambda_k : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , is given by letting  $\lambda_k(t)$  be equal to the  $k$ -th largest value of  $\{f_{(b_1, d_1)}(t), \dots, f_{(b_m, d_m)}(t)\}$ . The sequence of these functions is called the *persistence landscape*. The persistence landscape may also be viewed as the function  $\lambda : \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  given by  $\lambda(k, t) = \lambda_k(t)$ . Graph the persistence landscapes for  $H_0$  and  $H_1$  corresponding to the persistence diagrams found in previous exercise. [5 Points]

4. Let  $F$  denote a finite collection of closed, convex sets in  $\mathbb{R}^d$ . Prove that if the intersection of any  $d + 1$  sets of  $F$  is non-empty, then the whole collection has non-empty intersection. [5 Points]