

# Computation of Persistent homology

2018

## Set up

The usual pipeline of  
TDA

Review of Persistence  
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Persistence module  
Main Problem

## Basic idea and a review of computation of homology

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## What's more?

# Outline

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# Pipeline

1. Build the filtered simplicial complex from a point cloud.
2. Compute the persistent homology from the filtered simplicial complex.
3. Statistics and interpretation.

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# Persistence complex

## Definition (Zomorodian and Carlsson 2004)

A **persistence complex**  $C$  is a family of chain complexes  $\{C_*^i\}_{i \geq 0}$  over a field  $\mathbb{F}$ , together with chain maps  $f^i : C_*^i \rightarrow C_*^{i+1}$ .

$$C_*^0 \xrightarrow{f^0} C_*^1 \xrightarrow{f^1} C_*^2 \xrightarrow{f^2} \dots \quad (1)$$

## Example

Various filtered simplicial complexes.

For example: Vietoris-Rips complex  $VR_\epsilon(S)$  of a point cloud  $S$  with chosen parameters  $\epsilon_0 < \epsilon_1 < \dots$ .

$$VR_{\epsilon_0}(S) \hookrightarrow VR_{\epsilon_1}(S) \hookrightarrow VR_{\epsilon_2}(S) \hookrightarrow \dots \quad (2)$$

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### What's more?

## Definition (Zomorodian and Carlsson 2004)

A **persistence module**  $M$  is a family of  $\mathbb{F}$ -vector spaces  $\{M^i\}_{i \geq 0}$  together with linear maps  $\phi^i : M^i \rightarrow M^{i+1}$ .

$$M^0 \xrightarrow{\phi^0} M^1 \xrightarrow{\phi^1} M^2 \rightarrow \dots \quad (3)$$

## Example

For any  $n$ ,  $n$ th homology of a persistence complex

$$H_n(C^0) \rightarrow H_n(C^1) \rightarrow H_n(C^2) \rightarrow \dots \quad (4)$$

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# Finite type

## Definition

A persistence complex or a persistence module is of **finite type** if each component is a finite dimensional  $\mathbb{F}$ -vector space and the maps stabilizes, that is, the maps become isomorphisms after finite steps.

$$M^0 \rightarrow M^1 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow M^N = M^{N+1} = M^{N+2} = \dots \quad (5)$$

## Example

A filtered simplicial complex associated to a point cloud with finitely many stages is a persistence complex of finite type. Taking homology we get persistence module of finite type.

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# Correspondence

Given a persistence module  $M = \{M^i, \phi^i\}_{i \geq 0}$  over field  $\mathbb{F}$ , we associate a graded  $\mathbb{F}[t]$ -module

$$M^0 \xrightarrow{\phi^0} M^1 \xrightarrow{\phi^1} M^2 \xrightarrow{\phi^2} \dots \quad (6)$$

$$\alpha(M) = \bigoplus_{i=0}^{\infty} M^i \quad (7)$$

The variable  $t$  is a shifting operator

$$t \cdot (m^0, m^1, m^2, \dots) = (0, \phi^0(m^0), \phi^1(m^1), \phi^2(m^2), \dots). \quad (8)$$

## Theorem (Zomorodian and Carlsson 2004)

*The correspondence  $\alpha$  defines an equivalence of categories between the category of persistence module of finite type over  $\mathbb{F}$  and the category of finite generated graded (graded by  $\mathbb{N}$ ) modules over  $\mathbb{F}[t]$ .*

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### What's more?

# Standard structure theorem

Every finitely generated graded module  $M$  over  $\mathbb{F}[t]$  (in general, graded PID) decomposes uniquely into the form

$$\left( \bigoplus_{i=1}^n \Sigma^{\alpha_i} \mathbb{F}[t] \right) \oplus \left( \bigoplus_{j=1}^m \Sigma^{\gamma_j} \mathbb{F}[t] / t^{d_j} \mathbb{F}[t] \right) \quad (9)$$

for some  $n, m, \alpha_i, \gamma_j, d_j$  where  $d_j \in \mathbb{N}$  ( $t^{d_j}$  homogeneous) and  $d_j \leq d_{j+1}$  ( $t^{d_j} | t^{d_{j+1}}$ ).  $\Sigma^d$  is to shift upward by a degree  $d$ .

## Example

The homology of a persistence complex has such a structure under the correspondence. How to interpret it?

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# Standard Structure of persistent homology

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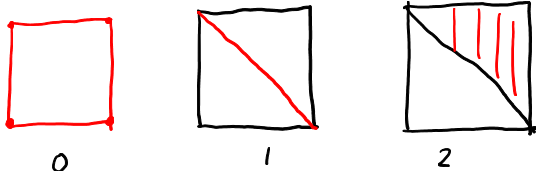
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What's more?

1. Free part corresponding to  $\Sigma \alpha_i \mathbb{F}[t]$  are homology classes that are born at stage  $\alpha_i$  and persist till the end.
2. Torsion part corresponding to  $\Sigma \gamma_j \mathbb{F}[t]/t^{d_j} \mathbb{F}[t]$  are homology classes that are born at stage  $\gamma_j$  and killed at stage  $\gamma_j + d_j$ .

## Example

simple example and barcode.



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### What's more?

## What's more?

# Problem and thoughts

Given a persistence complex and taking homology, how do we compute  $m, n, \alpha_i, \gamma_j, d_j$ ?

$$\left( \bigoplus_{i=1}^n \Sigma^{\alpha_i} \mathbb{F}[t] \right) \oplus \left( \bigoplus_{j=1}^m \Sigma^{\gamma_j} \mathbb{F}[t] / t^{d_j} \mathbb{F}[t] \right) \quad (10)$$

In other words, how can we find basis that corresponds to basis of the free and torsion parts?

1. Some naive thoughts: find homology basis at each stage and try to connect them up. Why this is not working?
2. Some good idea: find a "consistent" homology basis that can work at every stage.

## Example

simple example.

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## What's more?

## What's more?

## Basic idea

Want to find a "consistent" homology basis?

Consider the whole persistence complex!

Given a persistence complex  $\{C^i, f^i\}_{i \geq 0}$  of finite type, consider the *total persistence complex* as a graded chain complex over  $\mathbb{F}[t]$ . Boundary maps are termwise boundary maps.

$$C_n := \bigoplus_{i=0}^{\infty} C_n^i \quad (11)$$

$$\cdots \rightarrow C_n \xrightarrow{\partial_n} C_{n-1} \xrightarrow{\partial_{n-1}} C_{n-2} \rightarrow \cdots \quad (12)$$

## Good news

1.  $\mathbb{F}[t]$  is a PID, even Euclidean domain.
2. We have algorithm to compute ordinary homology over PID.

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### What's more?



## Chain, cycle and boundary

Given a finite simplicial complex, we can construct a chain complex over  $\mathbb{Z}$ . Every component is a free abelian group.

$$\cdots \rightarrow C_n \xrightarrow{\partial_n} C_{n-1} \xrightarrow{\partial_{n-1}} C_{n-2} \rightarrow \cdots \quad (13)$$

Cycle group  $Z_k := \ker \partial_k \subseteq C_k$

Boundary group  $B_k := \text{im } \partial_{k+1} \subseteq C_k$

Figure: chain, circle and boundary

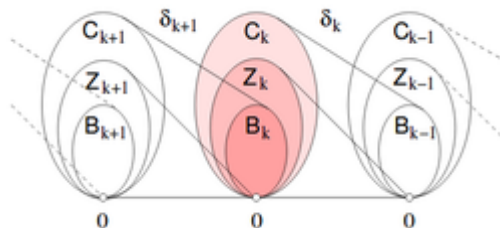


image source: [Zomorodian and Carlsson 2004]

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### What's more?

# Smith normal form

Start with a matrix representation  $M_k$  of  $\partial_k : C_k \rightarrow Z_{k-1}$  under some free basis of  $C_k$  and  $Z_{k-1}$ .

Perform elementary row operations and column operations (change of basis in  $Z_{k-1}$  and  $C_k$ ) on  $M_k$  to get the Smith normal form with  $b_i > 0$  and  $b_i | b_{i+1}$

$$\tilde{M}_k = \begin{array}{c} \hat{e}_1 \\ \vdots \\ \hat{e}_{l_k} \\ \hat{e}_{l_k+1} \\ \vdots \\ \hat{e}_{n_k} \end{array} \begin{array}{c} e_1 \quad \cdots \quad e_{l_k} \quad e_{l_k+1} \quad \cdots \quad e_{m_k} \\ \left[ \begin{array}{ccc|ccc} b_1 & & 0 & & & \\ & \ddots & & & & 0 \\ 0 & & b_{l_k} & & & \\ \hline & & & & & \\ & & 0 & & & 0 \end{array} \right] \end{array}$$

$C_k$

$Z_{k-1}$

$\{e_j\}$  is a new basis of  $C_k$ .  $\{\hat{e}_j\}$  is a new basis of  $Z_{k-1}$ .

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## What's more?

# Row and column operations

Starting with a matrix  $M$  under basis  $\{e_i\}$  of the domain and  $\{\hat{e}_j\}$  of the codomain.

1. Three column operations
  - a. exchange column  $i$  and  $j \leftrightarrow$  exchange  $e_i$  and  $e_j$
  - b. multiply column  $i$  by  $-1 \leftrightarrow e_i \rightarrow -e_i$
  - c. add a multiple  $q$  of column  $j$  onto column  $i \leftrightarrow$  add  $q \cdot e_j$  onto  $e_i$
2. Three row operations
  - a. exchange row  $i$  and  $j \leftrightarrow$  exchange  $\hat{e}_i$  and  $\hat{e}_j$
  - b. multiply row  $i$  by  $-1 \leftrightarrow \hat{e}_i \rightarrow -\hat{e}_i$
  - c. add a multiple  $q$  of row  $j$  onto row  $i \leftrightarrow$  add  $-q \cdot \hat{e}_j$  onto  $\hat{e}_i$

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## What's more?

## Read $H_{k-1}$ from Smith normal form

Now the boundary map  $\partial_k : C_k \rightarrow Z_{k-1}$  under new basis of  $C_k$  and  $Z_{k-1}$  has the following form.

$$\tilde{M}_k = \begin{array}{c} \hat{e}_1 \\ \vdots \\ \hat{e}_{l_k} \\ \hat{e}_{l_k+1} \\ \vdots \\ \hat{e}_{m_k} \end{array} \left[ \begin{array}{ccc|ccc} e_1 & \cdots & e_{l_k} & e_{l_k+1} & \cdots & e_{m_k} \\ b_1 & & 0 & & & \\ & \ddots & & & & 0 \\ 0 & & b_{l_k} & & & \\ \hline & & & 0 & & 0 \end{array} \right] \begin{array}{l} C_k \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ Z_{k-1} \end{array}$$

- $H_{k-1}(C_*) \simeq \left( \bigoplus_{i=l_k+1}^{m_k} \mathbb{Z} \right) \oplus \left( \bigoplus_{1 \leq i \leq l_k, b_i > 1} \mathbb{Z}/(b_i) \right)$
- $\{e_i \mid l_k + 1 \leq i \leq m_k\}$  is a basis for  $Z_k$ .
- represent  $\partial_{k+1}$  in terms of basis of  $C_{k+1}$  and  $Z_k$  and do the next step.

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### What's more?

# Generalization

1. For general PID, we can get the Smith form mod an algorithm to find gcd.
2. In graded case, we should start with homogeneous basis of  $C_k$  and  $Z_{k-1}$ .
3. For Euclidean domain, we have Euclidean algorithm to find gcd. So we have complete algorithm to find Smith normal form.
4. If we work over field, we are happier.

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## What's more?

# Computation complexity

1. Arithmetic operation:  $O(m^3)$  in the worst case,  $m$  is the number of simplices in the simplicial complex. But...
2. Naive implementation takes exponential bit operations in the worst case. Entries in the intermediate matrix can explode.

## Example

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 1 & 2 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 2 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & \cdots & 2 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & & & & \\ & 1 & & & \\ & & 1 & & \\ & & & \ddots & \\ & & & & \dots & \\ & & & & & & 2^n \end{bmatrix}$$

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# Example

Let's go through the following example and see the key trick used in the computation.

Figure: filtered simplicial complex

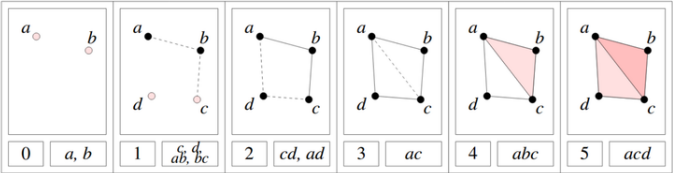


image source: [Zomorodian and Carlsson 2004]

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What's more?



# Total persistence complex

$a$	$b$	$c$	$d$	$ab$	$bc$	$cd$	$ad$	$ac$	$abc$	$acd$
0	0	1	1	1	1	2	2	3	4	5

image source: [Zomorodian and Carlsson 2004]

Recall that we consider the total persistence complex over  $\mathbb{F}[t]$ .

$$\begin{aligned} C_0 &= \overbrace{\mathbb{F}[t]a \oplus \mathbb{F}[t]b}^{\text{degree 0}} \oplus \overbrace{\mathbb{F}[t]c \oplus \mathbb{F}[t]d}^{\text{degree 1}} \\ C_1 &= \overbrace{\mathbb{F}[t]ab \oplus \mathbb{F}[t]bc}^{\text{degree 1}} \oplus \overbrace{\mathbb{F}[t]cd \oplus \mathbb{F}[t]ad}^{\text{degree 2}} \oplus \overbrace{\mathbb{F}[t]ac}^{\text{degree 3}} \\ C_2 &= \overbrace{\mathbb{F}[t]abc}^{\text{degree 4}} \oplus \overbrace{\mathbb{F}[t]acd}^{\text{degree 5}} \end{aligned}$$

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# Boundary maps

$$\partial_1 : C_1 \rightarrow C_0 = Z_0$$

$$M_1 = \begin{array}{c} \\ a \\ b \\ c \\ d \end{array} \begin{array}{ccccc} ab & bc & cd & ad & ac \\ \left[ \begin{array}{ccccc} -t & 0 & 0 & -t^2 & -t^3 \\ t & -t & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -t & 0 & t^2 \\ 0 & 0 & t & t & 0 \end{array} \right] \end{array}$$

$$\partial_2 : C_2 \rightarrow C_1$$

$$M_2 = \begin{array}{c} \\ abc & acd \\ ab \\ bc \\ cd \\ ad \\ ac \end{array} \begin{array}{cc} \left[ \begin{array}{cc} t^3 & 0 \\ t^3 & 0 \\ 0 & t^3 \\ 0 & -t^3 \\ -t & t^2 \end{array} \right] \end{array}$$

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## The most important trick

Order homogeneous basis of  $Z_0 = C_0$  in reverse degrees.

Order homogeneous basis of  $C_1$  in increasing degrees.

$$M_1 = \begin{matrix} & ab & bc & cd & ad & ac \\ \begin{matrix} d \\ c \\ b \\ a \end{matrix} & \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & t & t & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -t & 0 & t^2 \\ t & -t & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -t & 0 & 0 & -t^2 & -t^3 \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix}$$

Only do column reduction to get column echelon form, one column after another

$$\tilde{M}_1 = \begin{matrix} & cd + t(bc + ab) & bc + ab & ab & z_1 & z_2 \\ \begin{matrix} d \\ c \\ b \\ a \end{matrix} & \begin{bmatrix} t & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & t & 0 \\ -t^2 & -t & -t & 0 \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix}$$

$$z_1 = ad - cd - t(bc + ab), \quad z_2 = ac - t^2(bc + ab)$$

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## What's more?

# Black magic of TDA

1. There is no need to do row reduction. Just read torsion coefficients from the diagonal. Free part are those non-pivotal rows. Shift of degrees corresponds to degree of the corresponding row

$$\tilde{M}_1 = \begin{matrix} & cd + t(bc + ab) & bc + ab & ab & z_1 & z_2 \\ \begin{matrix} d \\ c \\ b \\ a \end{matrix} & \left[ \begin{array}{ccccc} t & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & t & 0 & 0 \\ -t^2 & -t & -t & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right] \end{matrix}$$

$$H_0 \simeq \mathbb{F}[t]/(t) \oplus \Sigma^1 \mathbb{F}[t]/(t) \oplus \mathbb{F}[t]$$

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2. Next step: represent  $\partial_2$  in terms of homogeneous basis of  $C_2$  and  $Z_1$ .

Homogeneous basis for  $Z_1$ :

$$z_1 = ad - cd - t(cd + ab)$$

$$z_2 = ac - t^2(bc + ab)$$

To find matrix representation of the next boundary map  $\partial_2 : C_2 \rightarrow Z_1$ , we only have to delete the corresponding rows. Why is that?

$$M_2 = \begin{array}{c} \\ ab \\ bc \\ cd \\ ad \\ ac \end{array} \begin{array}{cc} abc & acd \\ \left[ \begin{array}{cc} t^3 & 0 \\ t^3 & 0 \\ 0 & t^3 \\ 0 & -t^3 \\ -t & t^2 \end{array} \right] \end{array} \rightarrow \begin{array}{c} z_1 \\ z_2 \end{array} \begin{array}{cc} abc & acd \\ \left[ \begin{array}{cc} 0 & -t^3 \\ -t & t^2 \end{array} \right] \end{array}$$

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# Black magic of TDA

Change of basis in domain and codomain have different effects on matrix.

Assume matrix under basis  $\{e_i\}$  of the domain and  $\{\hat{e}_j\}$  of the codomain is  $M$ .

- $e_i \rightarrow e_i + q \cdot e_j \Leftrightarrow$  replace  $col\ i$  by  $col\ i + q \cdot col\ j$
- $\hat{e}_j \rightarrow \hat{e}_j + q \cdot \hat{e}_i \Leftrightarrow$  replace  $row\ j$  by  $row\ j - q \cdot row\ i$ .

Leaving row  $i$  unchanged.

$Z_1$  Basis:  $z_1 = ad - cd - t(cd + ab)$ ,  $z_2 = ac - t^2(bc + ab)$

$$M_2 = \begin{matrix} & abc & acd \\ ab & t^3 & 0 \\ bc & t^3 & 0 \\ cd & 0 & t^3 \\ ad & 0 & -t^3 \\ ac & -t & t^2 \end{matrix} \text{ and } M_1 \circ M_2 = 0$$

## Set up

The usual pipeline of TDA

Review of Persistence complex and Persistence module  
Main Problem

## Basic idea and a review of computation of homology

Basic idea  
Review of Computation of homology over  $\mathbb{Z}$   
Computation of persistent homology

## What's more?

1. Put a total order on all simplices first by dimension and then by degree.
2. Order homogeneous basis of  $Z_{k-1}$  in reverse degree, do column reduction on  $M_k$ , read  $H_{k-1}$  and get a basis of  $Z_k$
3. Delete corresponding columns in  $M_{k+1}$ . Go to step 2.

## remark

As long as we keep track of the degree of the basis, there is no need to work over  $\mathbb{F}[t]$ . We can just work over  $\mathbb{F}$ .

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persistent homology

### What's more?

# Computation complexity

1. In the worst case it's bounded by  $O(m^3)$  field operations where  $m$  is the number of simplices. It's more like computing homology over  $\mathbb{F}$  than over  $\mathbb{F}[t]$ .
2. This bound is sharp by an example in Morozov 2005.
3. In practice, people see linear behavior because of sparsity of the matrix.

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## What's more?



# Improve efficiency

1. Reduce size of input complexes while preserving persistent homology: simplicial collapses.
2. Improve the standard algorithm to compute persistent homology. Best known:  $O(M(m) + m^2 \log^2 m)$  in [Milosavljević, Morozov, and Skraba 2011] where  $M(m)$  is the complexity of multiplying two  $m \times m$  matrices. The best upper bound of  $M(m)$  is  $m^{\log 7} \approx m^{2.8}$  by Strassen 1969.

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## What's more?

# What else?

## Set up

The usual pipeline of  
TDA

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## What's more?

1. Zigzag persistence. [Carlsson and De Silva 2010]  
 $C_i \rightarrow C_{i+1}$  and  $C_i \leftarrow C_{i+1}$ .
2. Multidimensional filtration. [Carlsson and Zomorodian 2009]

Carlsson, Gunnar and Vin De Silva (2010). “Zigzag persistence”. In: *Foundations of computational mathematics* 10.4, pp. 367–405.

Carlsson, Gunnar and Afra Zomorodian (2009). “The theory of multidimensional persistence”. In: *Discrete & Computational Geometry* 42.1, pp. 71–93.

Milosavljević, Nikola, Dmitriy Morozov, and Primoz Skraba (2011). “Zigzag persistent homology in matrix multiplication time”. In: *Proceedings of the twenty-seventh annual symposium on Computational geometry*. ACM, pp. 216–225.

Morozov, Dmitriy (2005). “Persistence algorithm takes cubic time in worst case”. In:

Strassen, Volker (1969). “Gaussian elimination is not optimal”. In: *Numerische mathematik* 13.4, pp. 354–356.

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