Introduction to Computational Topology

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Example.



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Two samples of sandstone



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Chemical dissolution of sandstone gives topological filtration.



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One-dimensional persistence diagrams (Dgm_1) of two samples under chemical dissolution of skeleton [Dmitriy Prokhorov, Vadim Lisitsa, Yaroslav Bazaikin. Digital image reduction for the analysis of topological changes in the pore space of rock matrix // Computers and Geotechnics. 2021. V. 136, 104171].



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Stability of persistence diagrams

In what extent will $Dgm_p(f)$ change, if we change function f? We can try at first represent change of f as sequence of small changes.

Let $f : K \to \mathbb{R}$ and $g :\to \mathbb{R}$ be two monotonic functions. Define straight-line homotopy $F : K \times [0,1] \to \mathbb{R}$ between f and g by

$$F(\sigma, t) = (1 - t)f(\sigma) + tg(\sigma), \sigma \in K.$$

Let denote $f_t(\sigma) = F(\sigma, t)$, then $f_0 = f$, $f_1 = g$. Let σ is a face of τ . Then $f(\sigma) \leq f(\tau)$, $g(\sigma) \leq g(\tau)$ and therefore $f_t(\sigma) \leq f_t(\tau)$.

Lemma. If f and g are monotonic then f_t is monotonic for all $t \in [0, 1]$

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Suppose that f and g are injective, that is for all simplexes $\sigma, \tau \in K$ we have $f(\sigma) \neq f(\tau)$ and $g(\sigma) \neq g(\tau)$. Then f_t is injective with the exception of some particular t, where two simplexes can have the same value.

If we consider ordering of K, compatible with f then there will be finite number of changing this ordering keeping compatibility with f_t , and every change is transposing two simplexes.



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How transposing two simplexes affects reducing procedure of boundary matrix ∂ ? And how this affects pairing i = low(j)?

Let ∂ is boundary matrix for some compatible ordering $\{\sigma_1, \ldots, \sigma_m\}$. We can represent matrix reducing as right multiplication:



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So we have $R = \partial V$ and if we take right inverse to V then

$$\partial = \partial V U = R U.$$

Recall that in this RU decomposition of boundary matrix ∂ , R is reduced upper triangular and U is upper triangular and invertible.

Consider transposition of two simplexes σ_i and σ_{i+1} . Then new boundary matrix ∂' has the form: $\partial' = P \partial P$, $P^2 = E$.



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$$\partial' = P\partial P = PRUP = (PRP)(PUP) = R'U'$$

We need additionally correct R and U to provide R'U' to be a correct RU decomposition.



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Second possibility (remark change of pairing!):



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Decomposition Lemma Transposition of two simplexes σ_i , σ_{i+1} can change pairing i = low(k) and i + 1 = low(l) only in case dim $\sigma_i = \dim \sigma_{i+1}$ and pairing after changing looks like i = low(l), i + 1 = low(k).

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How to measure the distance between two persistence diagrams X, Y? Let $x = (x_1, x_2) \in X$ and $y = (y_1, y_2) \in Y$.

$$||x - y||_{\infty} = \max\{|x_1 - y_1|, |x_2 - y_2|\}.$$

Let $\eta: X \to Y$ be some bijection (it always exists because X and Y contain infinite number of points!). Let

$$|\eta|_{\infty} = \sup_{x \in X} \|x - \eta(x)\|_{\infty}$$

We define *bottleneck distance* between persistence diagrams:

$$W_{\infty}(X,Y) = \inf_{\eta:X \to Y} |\eta|$$

(inf is considered over all bijection η).

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If $W_{\infty}(X, Y) = a$ then every point of X belongs to square with edge length 2a with a center in some point of Y.



Properties of W_{∞} :

$$1)W_{\infty}(X,Y) = 0 \Leftrightarrow X = Y,$$

$$2)W_{\infty}(X,Y) = W_{\infty}(Y,X),$$

$$3)W_{\infty}(X,Z) \le W_{\infty}(X,Y) + W_{\infty}(Y,Z).$$

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Let $f, g: K \to \mathbb{R}$ be two monotonic functions and define homotopy $f_t = (1 - t)f + tf$, $t \in [0, 1]$. We obtain a family of persistence diagrams in $\mathbb{R}^2 \rtimes [0, 1]$, every point non-diagonal point has the form $x(t) = (f_t(\sigma), f_t(\tau), t)$, $\sigma, \tau \in K$ (adding σ gives new cycle, adding τ kills this cycle).



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We can find finite set of values $0 = t_0$. $< t_1 < \ldots < t_{n+1}$ where pairing changes. This implies that on the interval (t_i, t_{i+1}) we have the same pairing and x(t) is a line segment which connects two points on planes $t = t_i$ and $t = t_{i+1}$.

In the moment t_{i+1} (if the point is off diagonal) we have only two possibilities: or continue previous segment in the same direction; or pairing changes and we continue with another segment.

Decompose all off-diagonal points x(t) into finite number of piecewise straight lines of the following three types:

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1) starting at off-diagonal point of $Dgm_p(f_0)$ and finishing at off-diagonal point of $Dgm_p(f_1)$;

2) starting at off-diagonal point of $Dgm_p(f_0)$ and finishing on diagonal for some t;

3) starting on diagonal for some t and finishing at off-diagonal point of $Dgm_p(f_1)$;

We can continue diagonal points at $t \in (0, 1)$ by constant vertical lines and obtain one-to one correspondence (bijection) η between $Dgm_p(f)$ and $Dgm_p(g)$.

The lines we obtain is called *vines* and collection of all vines is *vineyard*.

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Let estimate $|\eta|$ we construct.



The distance between endpoints of segment $[x(t_i)x(t_{i+1})]$ equals:

$$\|(f_{t_{i+1}}(\sigma), f_{t_{i+1}}(\tau)) - (f_{t_i}(\sigma), f_{t_i}(\tau))\|_{\infty} = (t_{i+1} - t_i) \max\{|f(\sigma) - g(\sigma)|, |f(\tau) - g(\tau)|\}$$

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Let $\nu \in K$ is a simplex with maximal value of $|f(\nu) - g(\nu)|$ which we can introduce as L_{∞} distance on the space of functions on K:

$$\|f-g\|_{\infty} = \max_{\sigma \in \mathcal{K}} |f(\sigma)-g(\sigma)| = |f(\nu)-g(\nu)|.$$

Then

$$\|(f_{t_{i+1}}(\sigma), f_{t_{i+1}}(\tau)) - (f_{t_i}(\sigma), f_{t_i}(\tau))\|_{\infty} \le (t_{i+1} - t_i)|f(\nu) - g(\nu)|.$$

Then distance between endpoints of vineyard can be estimated by

$$\|(f_0(\sigma), f_0(\tau)) - (f_1(\sigma), f_1(\tau))\|_{\infty} \le |f(\nu) - g(\nu)| = \|f - g\|_{\infty}.$$

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Stability Theorem. Let *K* be simplicial complex and $f, g: K \to \mathbb{R}$ two monotonic functions. For each dimensions following inequality holds:

$$W_{\infty}(Dgm_p(f), Dgm_p(g)) \leq \|f-g\|_{\infty}.$$

Illustration in more general situation:



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Bottleneck distance between barcodes corresponding different parameters of chemical dissolution of rock.



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Thank you for attention!

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