Topological Data Analysis Part I: Persistent homology

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Persistent homology



































Persistent homology is the homology of a filtration.

• A filtration is a certain diagram $K : \mathbf{R} \rightarrow \mathbf{Top}$.

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- **R** is the poset category of (\mathbb{R}, \leq)

The pipeline of topological data analysis



Simplification & Reconstruction

Problem (Homology inference)

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• approximate the shape by a thickening $B_{\delta}(P)$ covering Ω

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It is sometimes possible to recover the homology of Ω this way, but the assumptions are guite strong:

Theorem (Niyogi, Smale, Weinberger 2006)

Let *M* be a submanifold of \mathbb{R}^d . Let $P \subset M$ be such that $M \subseteq P^{\delta}$ for some $\delta < \sqrt{3/20} \operatorname{reach}(M)$. Then

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- The isomorphism is induced by the inclusion $M \hookrightarrow P^{2\delta}$.







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Theorem (Cohen-Steiner, Edelsbrunner, Harer 2005) Let $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^d$. Let $P \subset \Omega$ be such that

- $\Omega \subseteq P_{\delta}$ for some $\delta > 0$ and
- both $H_*(\Omega \hookrightarrow \Omega_{\delta})$ and $H_*(\Omega_{\delta} \hookrightarrow \Omega_{2\delta})$ are isomorphisms.

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Homology inference using persistent homology

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- The image im $H_*(P_{\delta} \hookrightarrow P_{2\delta})$ is called a *persistent homology* group.



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We say that *P* is a *homological* (δ, ϵ) -sample of Ω .















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- Provides homological reconstruction under much weaker assumptions
- Even though the pair $P_{\delta} \subseteq P_{2\delta}$ has the reconstruction Ω_{δ} , the pair $\text{Del}_{\delta}(P) \subseteq \text{Del}_{2\delta}(P)$ might not have a reconstruction

Computation

Persistent homology of sublevel sets



Persistent homology of sublevel sets



For simplicity:

Finite simplicial complex

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- Filtration simplex by simplex

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Example: filtration and boundary matrix


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Pivot of column *m_i*:

largest index with nonzero entry



- while there are i < j with pivot m_i = pivot m_j
 - add m_i to m_j



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Column m_i is reduced:

 pivot of col m_j minimal under left-to-right column additions



Matrix *M* is reduced:

all columns are reduced (equivalently: pivots are unique)



Matrix *M* is reduced at index (i, j):

• submatrix with rows $\geq i$ and cols $\leq j$ (lower left) is reduced



- $i = \text{pivot } m_j \text{ and } M \text{ is reduced at index } (i, j) \Rightarrow$
 - column m_j is reduced
 - (*i*, *j*) is a *persistence pair*:
 homology is created at step *i* and killed at step *j*



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Then the persistence barcode of $H_*(C_n)$ consists of

 $\{[i,j): i = \text{pivot } r_j\} \cup \{[i,\infty): r_i = 0, i \neq \text{pivot } r_j \text{ for any } j\},\$

where r_j is the *j*th column of *R*.

Let v_i denote the *i*th column of V and r_j the *j*th column of R. For each k:

▶ Basis for cycles of C_k : $b_Z = \{v_i : r_i = 0, i \le k\}$

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 $\tilde{b}_Z = \{r_j \neq 0 : \text{pivot } r_j \leq k\} \cup \{v_i : r_i = 0, i \leq k, i \neq \text{pivot } r_j \text{ for all } j\}$

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The additional cycles generate a basis for homology:

$$b_H = \tilde{b}_Z \setminus b_B = \{r_j \neq 0 : i \le k < j, i = \text{pivot } r_j\} \cup \{v_i : r_i = 0, i \le k, i \neq \text{pivot } r_j \text{ for all } j\}$$

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