College of Staten Island

Introduction to Topological Data Analysis

Mikael Vejdemo-Johansson

Outline

- Data has shape
- Homology: linear algebra measures shape
- Persistence: squinting with mathematics
- Cohomology
- Applications



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Note: if the path z is a cycle, endpoints coincide, so $\partial z=0$



Definitions

- A chain is a linear combination of simplices
- A cycle is an element of ker ∂
 Something that looks like a closed path
- A boundary is an element of img ∂
 Something that should look like a closed path
- Homology is the quotient vector space ker ∂ / img ∂
 Essential (non-obvious) cycles



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3x intersection



3x intersection



3x intersection



















What parameter to pick?





Persistent homology

- Look at **all** parameters at once
- Scale-independent
- Compressed data summary

- As the parameter grows, complexes include Inclusions create linear maps on homology
- Track homology classes as the parameter grows Homology is born, lives, and dies.



Persistent homology

• Category theory: Homology is a **functor**. Sequence of spaces $X_1 \rightarrow X_2 \rightarrow X_3 \rightarrow X_4$.

Maps to sequence of vector spaces with induced linear maps:

 $H_kX_1 \rightarrow H_kX_2 \rightarrow H_kX_3 \rightarrow H_kX_4.$

 Module theory (over k[t] or over an A_n quiver or...): Sequence of vector spaces and linear maps decomposes into direct sum of interval modules. These are defined by birth index and death index.



Persistent barcodes Persistent diagrams





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Cohomology: dualize everything

- Instead of chains C_n , use cochains C^n =Hom(C_n , \Bbbk)
- Instead of boundary ∂ use coboundary $\delta = \partial^T$

- Cocycles: follow a generalized path invariance:
 f(x,y) + f(y,z) = f(x,z) for any paths x→y, x→z, y→z
- Coboundaries: path invariance follows from a generalized potential function construction:
 f = g(y)-g(x)

1-Cohomology is Circle-valued functions

• Fun fact:

H¹(X; \mathbb{Z}) is bijective with homotopy equivalence classes of functions X \rightarrow S¹

- Construction for $[f] \in H^1(X; \mathbb{Z})$:
 - Send vertices to 0
 - Use f(e) as a wrapping number: wrap e around the circle f(e) times
 - All higher simplices work out bc path invariance

1-Cohomology is Circle-valued functions

• Construction adapts to data:

Pretend [f] is instead from $H^1(X; \mathbb{R})$.

```
arg min<sub>g</sub> | f - \delta g |<sub>2</sub> mod 1.0
is a smooth function C<sub>0</sub> \rightarrow S<sup>1</sup>.
```

 Can compute intrinsic phase variables from geometry of time series



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