Filtrations and Induced Maps Lecture 8 - CMSE 890

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Thurs, Sep 18, 2025

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Goals

Goals for today:

- Filtrations
- Betti curves
- Induced Maps

Section 1

Filtrations



Simplicial Complex Filtration

Definition

A filtration $\mathcal{F} = \mathcal{F}(K)$ of a simplicial complex K is a nested sequence of its subcomplexes

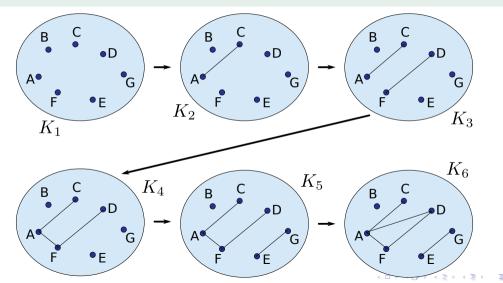
$$\mathcal{F}:\emptyset=K_0\subseteq K_1\subseteq K_2\subseteq\cdots\subseteq K_n=K.$$

 \mathcal{F} is called *simplex-wise* if $K_i \setminus K_{i-1}$ is empty or a single simplex.

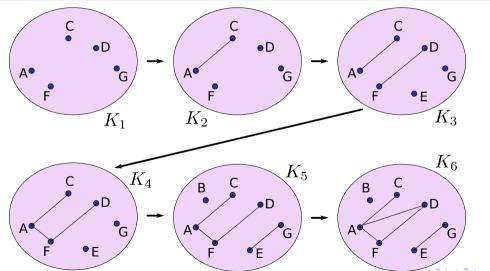


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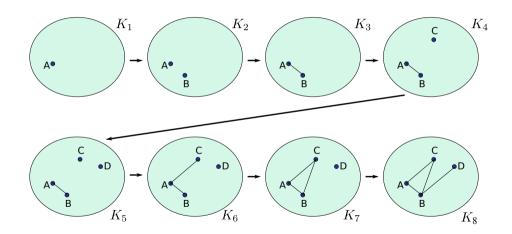
Example 1



Example 3



Example 3



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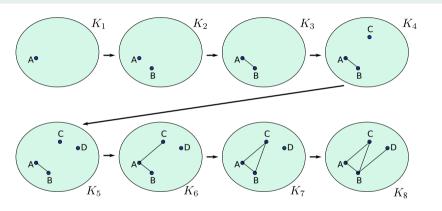
Simplex-wise monotone function

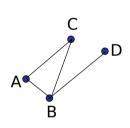
A simplex-wise function $f: K \to \mathbb{R}$ is called monotone if for every $\tau \le \sigma$, $f(\tau) \le f(\sigma)$. Fix values $a_0 \le a_1 \le \cdots a_n$. Let $K_i = f^{-1}(-\infty, a_i]$. The sublevelset filtration induced by this function is defined to be

$$\emptyset = K_0 \subseteq K_1 \subseteq K_2 \subseteq \cdots \subseteq K_n = K.$$



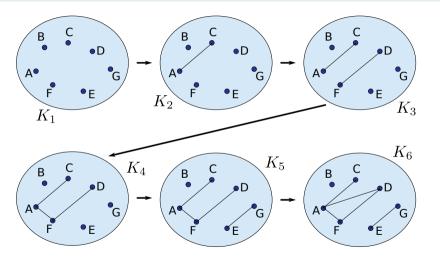
Example: Function inducing filtration

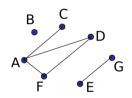




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Tryit: Function inducing filtration

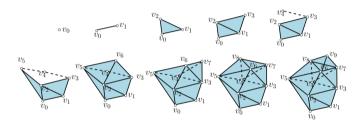




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Everything comes from a function

Vertex valued function (lower star filtration)



- Given $f: V \to \mathbb{R}$ defined on vertices of K.
- Extend to simplices by $f(\sigma) = \max_{v \in \sigma} f(v)$.

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Everything comes from a function

Rips complex filtration















Section 2

What to do with a filtration: Betti Curves

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Betti curve

The p-th Betti curve is a function

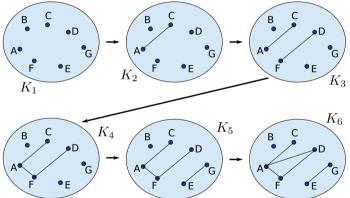
$$\beta_p(\mathcal{F}): \mathbb{Z} \to \mathbb{Z}$$

$$i \mapsto \beta_p(K_i) = \operatorname{rk}(H_p(K_i))$$

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Example: Betti curves

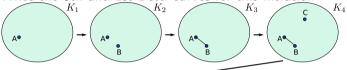
Write the 0th and 1st Betti curves for this filtration

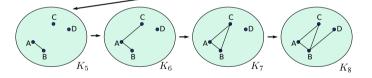


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Tryit: Betti curves

Write the 0th and 1st Betti curves for this filtration





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Section 3

Induced maps

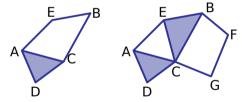


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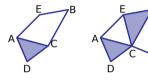
Simplicial maps

A simplicial map between abstract simplicial complexes $f: K \to L$ is induced by a map on the vertices $f: V(K) \to V(L)$.

(In this class, we care about inclusions....)



Big diagrams of vector spaces, $f_{\#}$

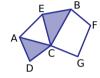


$$\cdots \longrightarrow \textit{C}_{2}(\textit{K}) \stackrel{\partial_{2}^{\textit{K}}}{\longrightarrow} \textit{C}_{1}(\textit{K}) \stackrel{\partial_{1}^{\textit{K}}}{\longrightarrow} \textit{C}_{0}(\textit{K}) \stackrel{\partial_{0}^{\textit{K}}}{\longrightarrow} 0$$

$$\cdots \longrightarrow C_2(L) \stackrel{\partial_2^L}{\longrightarrow} C_1(L) \stackrel{\partial_1^L}{\longrightarrow} C_0(L) \stackrel{\partial_0^K}{\longrightarrow} 0$$

Induced map





Given a simplicial map $f: K \to L$, the induced map on homology is defined by

$$f_*: H_p(K) \rightarrow H_p(L)$$

 $[\alpha] \mapsto [f_\#(\alpha)]$

Commutative diagram

A diagram commutes if any path of functions are equal.





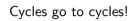
Claim:
$$f_{\#} \circ \partial^{K} = \partial^{L} \circ f_{\#}$$
.

$$\cdots \longrightarrow C_{2}(K) \xrightarrow{\partial_{2}^{K}} C_{1}(K) \xrightarrow{\partial_{1}^{K}} C_{0}(K) \xrightarrow{\partial_{0}^{K}} 0$$

$$\downarrow^{f_{\#}} \qquad \downarrow^{f_{\#}} \qquad \downarrow^{f_{\#}}$$

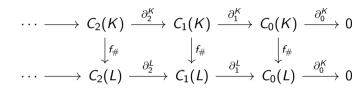
$$\cdots \longrightarrow C_{2}(L) \xrightarrow{\partial_{2}^{L}} C_{1}(L) \xrightarrow{\partial_{1}^{L}} C_{0}(L) \xrightarrow{\partial_{0}^{K}} 0$$

Effect on cycles

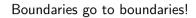






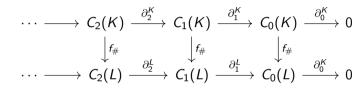


Effect on boundaries









Repeat: Induced map





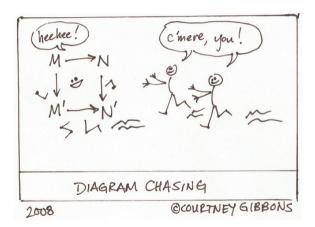
Given a simplicial map $f: K \to L$, the induced map on homology

is defined by

$$f_*: H_p(K) \rightarrow H_p(L)$$

 $[\alpha] \mapsto [f_\#(\alpha)]$

Diagram Chasing





Try it:

If $H_1(K)$ generated by

$$[\alpha_1] = [AC + CD + AD]$$

$$[\alpha_2] = [BE + EL + CL + CB]$$

$$[\alpha_3] = [EF + FG + GL + EL]$$

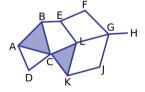
$$[\alpha_4] = [GL + GJ + JK + LK]$$

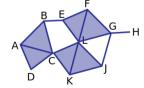
and $H_1(L)$ generated by

$$[\beta_1] = [BE + EL + CL + CB]$$

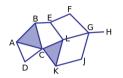
$$[\beta_2] = [GL + GJ + LJ]$$

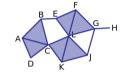
write the matrix representing $f_*: H_1(K) \to H_1(L)$ induced by inclusion.





More spare paper





$$\cdots \longrightarrow C_{2}(K) \xrightarrow{\partial_{2}^{K}} C_{1}(K) \xrightarrow{\partial_{1}^{K}} C_{0}(K) \xrightarrow{\partial_{0}^{K}} C_{0}(K) \xrightarrow{\partial_{0}$$

Next time: Persistence module

Given a filtration \mathcal{F} , the p-dimensional persistence module is

$$H_p(\mathcal{F}): 0 = H_p(K_0) \rightarrow H_p(K_1) \rightarrow H_p(K_2) \cdots \rightarrow H_p(K_n) = H_p(K)$$

with maps induced by inclusion.



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For next time

- No class 9/23 or 9/25
- Everyone homework:
 - Find the AATRN youtube channel
 - Find one of the Tutorial-a-thon playlists
 - ▶ Watch one video (or more, they're largely less than 15 minutes long). Write a few sentences about what you learned and any questions you have and post it with a link to the video on our slack channel.
 - Comment on at least one other person's post.



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