Persistence

Lecture 9 - CMSE 890

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Tues, Sep 30, 2025

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Goals

Goals for today:

Persistent homology

Need to do HW:

- Eugene
- Edem
- Jannik

Section 1

Last time



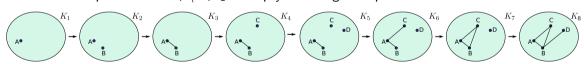
Last time: Simplicial Complex Filtration

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.



Betti curve

The p-th Betti curve is a function

$$eta_{
ho}(\mathcal{F}): \mathbf{Z}
ightarrow \mathbb{Z} \ i \mapsto eta_{
ho}(K_i) = \operatorname{rk}(H_{
ho}(K_i))$$

Induced map





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

by

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

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



Section 2

Persistence



Persistence module

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

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

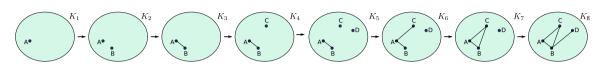
with maps $h_p^{i,j}: H_p(K_i) \to H_p(K_j)$ induced by inclusion.



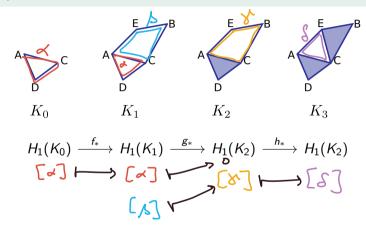
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What's going on algebraically?

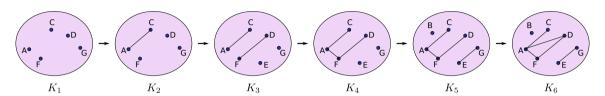


Another example





Tryit: Figure out where the generators go



$$H_{0}(K_{1}) \longrightarrow H_{0}(K_{2}) \longrightarrow H_{0}(K_{3}) \longrightarrow H_{0}(K_{4}) \longrightarrow H_{0}(K_{5}) \longrightarrow H_{0}(K_{6})$$

$$[A] \longmapsto [A] \longmapsto [A] \longmapsto [A] \longmapsto [A]$$

$$[CO] \longmapsto [CO] \mapsto [CO] \mapsto$$

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The pth persistent homology groups

$$H_p(K_0) \to H_p(K_1) \to H_p(K_2) \to \cdots \to H_p(K_i) \to \cdots \to H_p(K_j) \to \cdots \to H_p(K_n)$$

The pth persistent homology groups are the images induced by inclusion:

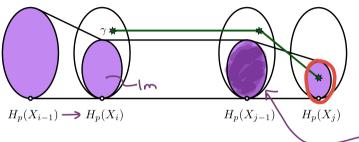
$$H_p^{i,j} = \operatorname{Im}(H_p(K_i) \to H_p(K_j)).$$

The pth persistent Betti numbers are the ranks

$$\beta_{p}^{i,j} = \operatorname{rank} H_{p}^{i,j}$$



Birth and Death



Birth [~]

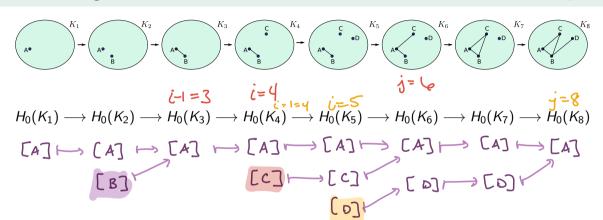
A class $\gamma \in H_p(K_i)$ is born at K_i if it is not in $H_p^{i-1,i}$

Death

That class γ dies entering K_j if merges with an older class.^a Specifically, if $h_p^{i,j-1}(\gamma) \not\in H_p^{i-1,j-1}$ but $h_p^{i,j}(\gamma) \in H_p^{i-1,j}$.

^aWarning: The book's definition is different

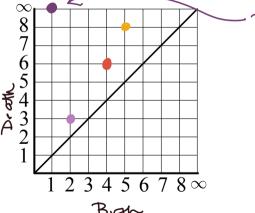
When are generators born and die?



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Elder rule and persistence diagram

When two classes merge, the younger is the one that "dies."



Born at I lives forever New dies, lives forever infinite class

4 D > 4 B > 4 B > 3 B 9 9 P

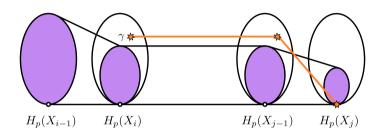
Section 3

Dey Wang version of persistence classes

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Birth and Death: Book version



Birth

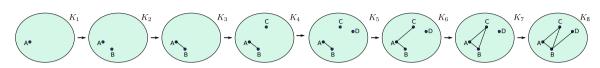
A class $\gamma \in H_p(K_i)$ is born at K_i if it is not in $H_p^{i-1,i}$

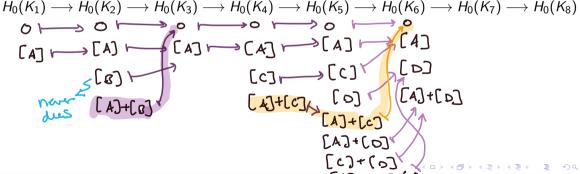
Death

A class γ dies entering K_j if $\gamma \in H_p(X_{j-1})$ is not trivial, but $H_p^{j-1,j}(\gamma) = 0$.

^aWarning: In this version, not all classes die!

Lets check where (lots of but maybe not all) elements go





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Choosing a different basis

$$H_{0}(K_{1}) \longrightarrow H_{0}(K_{2}) \longrightarrow H_{0}(K_{3}) \longrightarrow H_{0}(K_{4}) \longrightarrow H_{0}(K_{5}) \longrightarrow H_{0}(K_{6}) \longrightarrow H_{0}(K_{7}) \longrightarrow H_{0}(K_{8})$$

$$[A] \qquad [A] \qquad [A]$$

Book definition: which birth time pairs to the death time?

B waps to 0

Let [c] be a p-th homology class that dies entering X_i . Then, it is born at X_i if and only if there exists a sequence

$$i_1 \leq i_2 \leq \cdots \leq i_k = i$$

for some k > 1 so that

- There is a c_{i_ℓ} where $[c_{i_\ell}]$ is born at X_{i_ℓ} for every $\ell \in \{1, \cdots, k\}$. $[x] = h_p^{i_1, j-1}([c_{i_1}]) + \cdots + h_p^{i_k, j-1}([c_{i_{\iota}}])$
- $i_k = i$ is the smallest possible value among any sequences have the above two properties.

Counting classes

$$0 \to H_p(K_1) \to H_p(K_2) \to H_p(K_3) \to \cdots \to H_p(K_n) \to 0$$

- Attach 0 vector space at the end
- Associate n+1 to $a_{n+1}=\infty$
- $\beta_p^{i,j} = \text{rank} H_p^{i,j} = \text{rank}(\text{Im}(H_p(K_i) \to H_p(K_j)))$ counts classes born at or before i and dying after j

Same example again

$$H_0(K_1) \longrightarrow H_0(K_2) \longrightarrow H_0(K_3) \longrightarrow H_0(K_4) \longrightarrow H_0(K_5) \longrightarrow H_0(K_6) \longrightarrow H_0(K_7) \longrightarrow H_0(K_8)$$

$$[A] \longmapsto [A] \longmapsto [A]$$

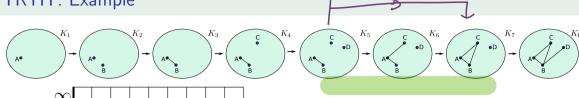
$$[A+B] \longmapsto 0 \qquad [A+C] \mapsto [A+C] \longmapsto 0$$

$$[A+D] \mapsto [A+D] \mapsto [A+D] \longmapsto 0$$

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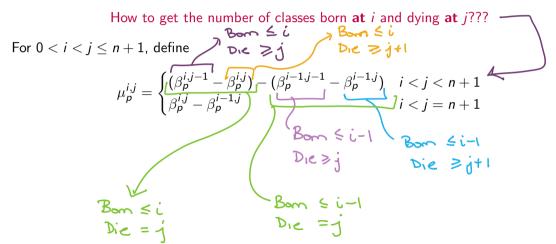
TRYIT: Example



∞									
8 7	1	1	1	1	1	1			
	7	2	1	1	2	2			
6	2	1	1	1	2	2			
5	1	1	2	2	3	X			
4	1	2	1	2	X	×			
4 3 2	1	1	1	X	X	X			
2	1	2	\times	X	X	×			
1	1	X	X	X	X	X			
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	∞

Determine $\beta_0^{i,j}$ for all pairs $i \leq j$ for this example

Persistence pairing function



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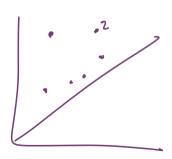
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Persistence of a class

For $\mu_p^{i,j} \neq 0$, the persistence Pers([c]) of a class [c] that is born at X_i and dies at X_j is defined as $Pers([c]) = a_j - a_i$. When j = n + 1 with $a_{n+1} = \infty$, $Pers([c]) = \infty$.

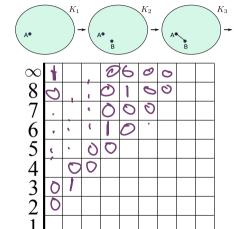
Persistence diagram

The persistence diagram $Dgm_p(\mathcal{F})$ (also written $Dgm_p(f)$) of a filtration induced by a function f is obtained by drawing a point (a_i, a_j) with non-zero multiplicity $\mu_p^{i,j}$ (i < j), on the extended plane where the points on the diagonal $\Delta = \{(x, x) \in \mathbb{R}^2\}$ are added with infinite multiplicity.

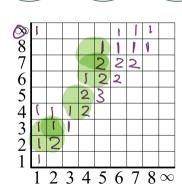


multiple things Can be born and die @ same true

TRYIT: Example



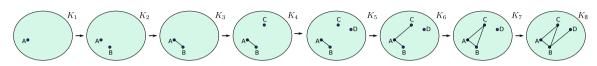
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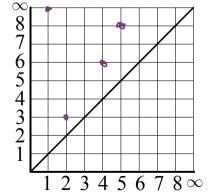


ij for this example

$$(1,j-1) - \beta_p^{i-1,j}$$
 $i < j < n+1$ $i < j = n+1$

TRYIT: Persistence diagram for this example



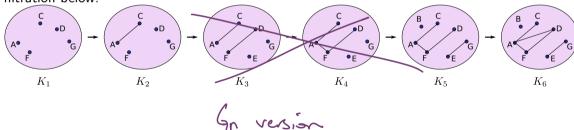


Plot the 0-dimensional persistence diagram

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Homework

Determine the $\beta_0^{i,j}$ table, the $\mu_0^{i,j}$ table, and the 0-dimensional persistence diagram for the filtration below.



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