

# Comparison of Persistent Homologies for Vector Functions: from continuous to discrete

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# Motivation

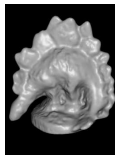
Real object



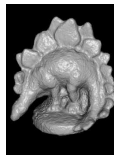
Reconstruction



Reconstruction



Reconstruction



$$D\left(\begin{array}{c} \text{Dinosaur} \\ \text{Building} \end{array}, \begin{array}{c} \text{Dinosaur} \\ \text{Building} \end{array}\right) \approx D\left(\begin{array}{c} \text{Dinosaur} \\ \text{Building} \end{array}, \begin{array}{c} \text{Dinosaur} \\ \text{Building} \end{array}\right)?$$

# Outline

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- Multidimensional persistence of a filtration
  - sub-level set filtrations
  - simplicial complex filtrations
- From discrete to continuous filtrations: topological aliasing
- Homological critical values
- Comparison of multidimensional persistence: from continuous to discrete

## Persistence of a filtration

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Given a space  $X$ , a *filtration* is a (finite or infinite) family of nested subspaces:

$$\emptyset = X_0 \subseteq X_1 \subseteq \dots \subseteq X_{n-1} \subseteq X_n = X.$$

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Apply the homology functor:

$$H_*(X_0) \rightarrow H_*(X_1) \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow H_*(X_{n-1}) \rightarrow H_*(X_n).$$

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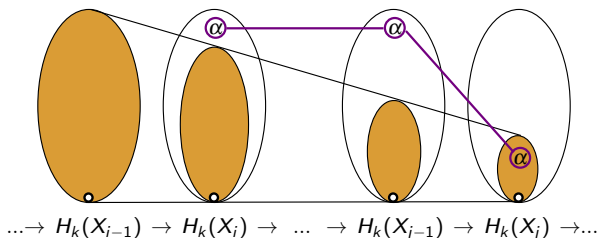
Given a space  $X$ , a *filtration* is a (finite or infinite) family of nested subspaces:

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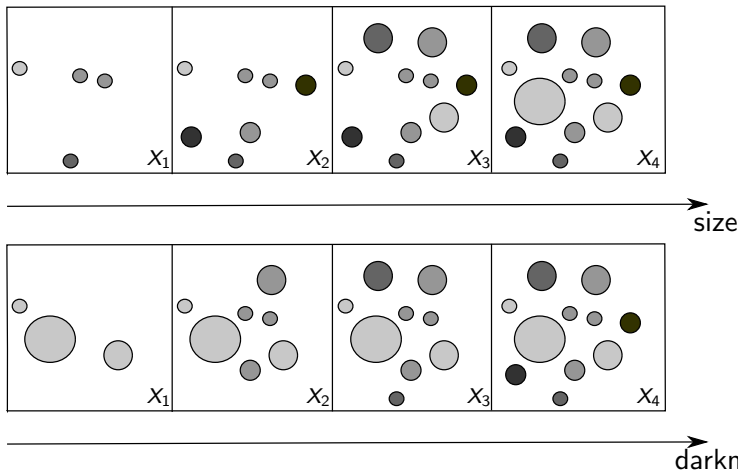
$$H_*(X_0) \rightarrow H_*(X_1) \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow H_*(X_{n-1}) \rightarrow H_*(X_n).$$

Analyse  $X$  by studying the *lifetime* of homology classes



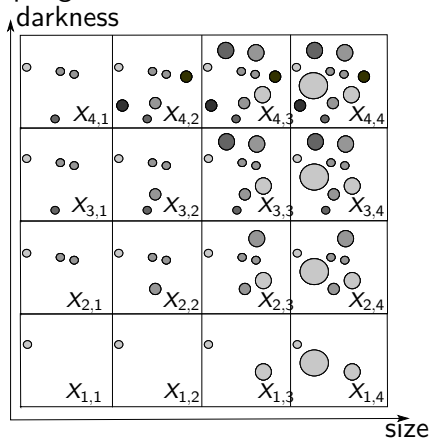
## 1-D vs. multi-D Persistence

1-D persistence captures the topology of a one-parameter filtration.



## 1-D vs. multi-D Persistence

*Multi-D* persistence captures the topology of a family of spaces filtered along multiple geometric dimensions.





## Sublevelset filtrations

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Any continuous function  $f = (f_1, \dots, f_k) : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^k$  induces sub-level sets:

$$X_\alpha = \bigcap_{i=1}^k f_i^{-1}((-\infty, \alpha_i]), \quad \alpha = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_k) \in \mathbb{R}^k.$$

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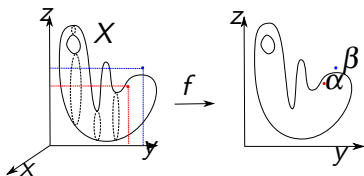
$$X_\alpha = \bigcap_{i=1}^k f_i^{-1}((-\infty, \alpha_i]), \quad \alpha = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_k) \in \mathbb{R}^k.$$

Setting

$$\alpha = (\alpha_i) \preceq \beta = (\beta_i) \text{ iff } \alpha_i \leq \beta_i \text{ for every } i$$

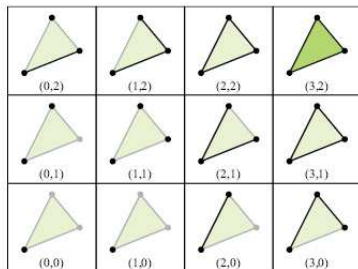
we get a  $k$ -parameter filtration of  $X$  by sub-level sets:

$$\alpha \preceq \beta \text{ implies } X_\alpha \subseteq X_\beta.$$



## Discrete filtrations

Let  $\mathcal{K}$  be a simplicial complex and  $K = |\mathcal{K}|$  its carrier.  
Any family  $\{\mathcal{K}_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in \mathbb{R}^k}$  of simplicial sub-complexes of  $\mathcal{K}$  with  $\mathcal{K}_\alpha \leq \mathcal{K}_\beta$ , for  $\alpha \preceq \beta$ , yields a filtration of  $K$ .

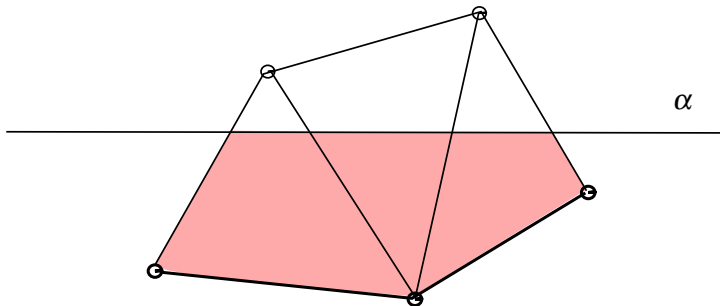


(from [Carlsson and Zomorodian, 2009])

## Discrete filtrations

Given a simplicial complex  $\mathcal{K}$  and a function  $\varphi : \mathcal{V}(K) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^k$ , let

$$\mathcal{K}_\alpha = \{\sigma \in \mathcal{K} \mid \varphi(v) \preceq \alpha \text{ for all vertices } v \leq \sigma\}.$$



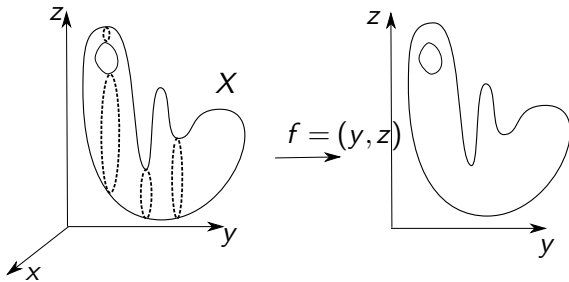
## Rank invariant

It is a function that encodes the changes in persistent Betti numbers along the filtration.

For a filtration  $\mathcal{F} = \{X_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in \mathbb{R}^k}$ ,

$$\rho_{\mathcal{F}} : \{(\alpha, \beta) \in \mathbb{R}^k \times \mathbb{R}^k \mid \alpha \prec \beta\} \rightarrow \mathbb{N} \cup \{\infty\},$$

$$\rho_{\mathcal{F}}(\alpha, \beta) = \dim \operatorname{im} H_*(X_\alpha \hookrightarrow X_\beta).$$



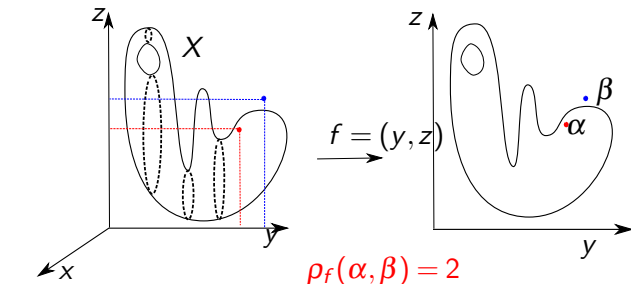
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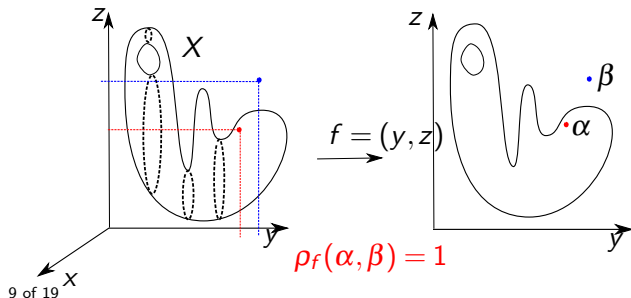
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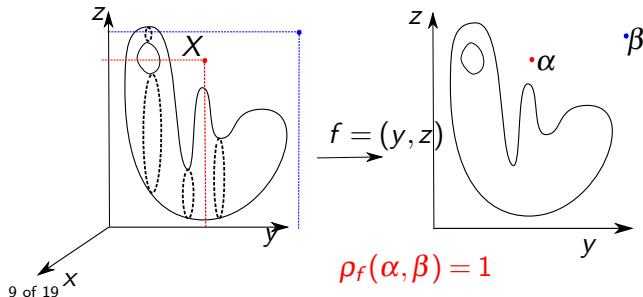
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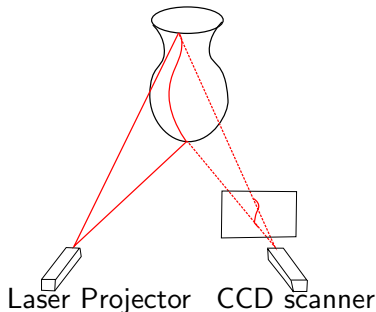
## Continuous vs discrete setting

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- Sub-level set filtrations are those for which **stability results** hold:  
 $\forall f, f' : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^k$  continuous functions,  $D(\rho_f, \rho_{f'}) \leq \|f - f'\|_\infty$ .

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- Discrete filtrations are those actually used in computations:



Stable comparison of rank invariants obtained from discrete data??

## From discrete to continuous filtrations

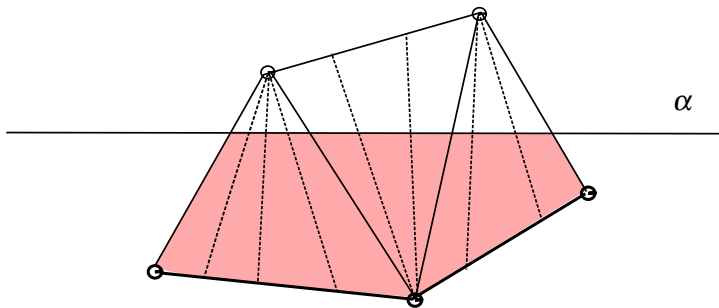
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**Question:** How to extend  $\varphi : \mathcal{V}(K) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^k$  to a continuous function  $K \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^k$  so that its sub-level set filtration coincides with  $\{K_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in \mathbb{R}^k}$ ?

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**Answer:** 😊 1-D persistence: use linear interpolation [Morozov, 2008]

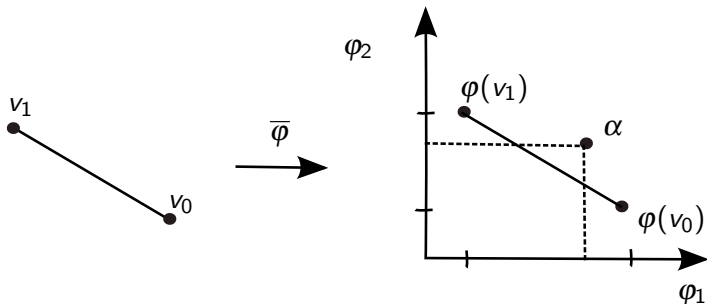


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**Answer:** ☹ Multi-D persistence: linear interpolation yields

topological aliasing



## From discrete to continuous filtrations

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**Answer:** ☺ Multi-D persistence: **axis-wise interpolation** does the job

- Given any  $\sigma \in \mathcal{K}$ ,

$$\mu(\sigma) = \text{least upper bound of } \{\varphi(v) \mid v \text{ is a vertex of } \sigma\}.$$

- Use induction to define  $\varphi^\top : K \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^k$  on  $\sigma$  and a point  $w_\sigma \in \sigma$  s.t.
  - For all  $x \in \sigma$ ,  $\varphi^\top(x) \preceq \varphi^\top(w_\sigma) = \mu(\sigma)$  ;
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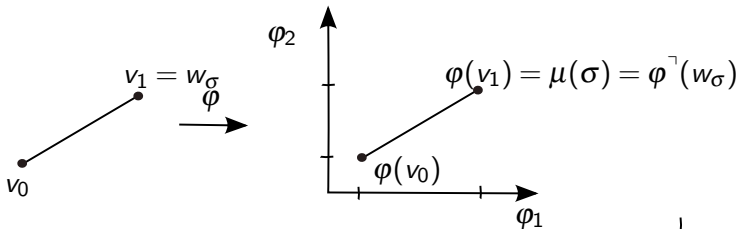
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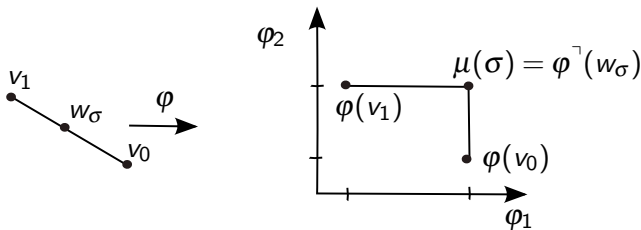
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### Theorem

For any  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}^k$ ,  $K_\alpha$  is a strong deformation retract of  $K_{\varphi^\top \preceq \alpha}$ .

## Topological Aliasing

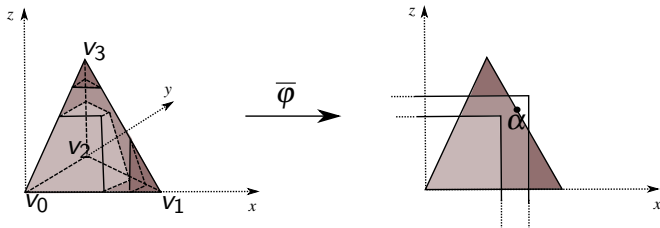
 vs. 					
	Nonsub	Linear	Axis-wise	Diff	% Diff
$H_1$	0.031129	0.031129	0.031129	<i>0.000000</i>	<i>0.000000</i>
	0.039497	0.039497	0.039497	<i>0.000000</i>	<i>0.000000</i>
	<b>0.046150</b>	<b>0.040576</b>	<b>0.046150</b>	<b>-0.005574</b>	<b>-13.737185</b>
$H_0$	0.118165	0.118165	0.118165	<i>0.000000</i>	<i>0.000000</i>
	0.032043	0.032043	0.032043	<i>0.000000</i>	<i>0.000000</i>
	<b>0.225394</b>	<b>0.207266</b>	<b>0.225394</b>	<b>-0.018128</b>	<b>-8.746249</b>

# Homological critical values

## Definition

Let  $\tilde{\varphi} : K \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^k$  be a continuous vector function. A value  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}^k$  is a *homological critical value* of  $\tilde{\varphi}$  if  $q$  exists s.t., for all sufficiently small real values  $\varepsilon > 0$ , two values  $\alpha', \alpha'' \in \mathbb{R}^k$  can be found with  $\alpha' \preceq \alpha \preceq \alpha''$ ,  $\|\alpha' - \alpha\| < \varepsilon$ ,  $\|\alpha'' - \alpha\| < \varepsilon$ , such that the map  $H_q(K_{\tilde{\varphi} \preceq \alpha'} \hookrightarrow K_{\tilde{\varphi} \preceq \alpha''})$  is not an isomorphism.

Case  $\tilde{\varphi} = \overline{\varphi}$ :



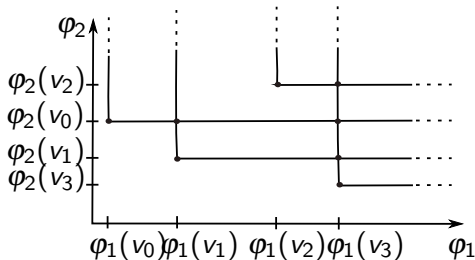
## Homological critical values

Case  $\tilde{\varphi} = \varphi^\top$ :

### Theorem

The set of homological critical values of  $\varphi^\top$  is contained in a finite union of cones  $C = \bigcup_{j,v} C_j(v)$ ,  $v \in \mathcal{V}(\mathcal{K})$ ,  $j = 1, 2, \dots, k$ , where

$$C_j(v) := \{\alpha \in \mathbb{R}^k \mid \alpha_j = \varphi_j^\top(v) \text{ and } \alpha_i \geq \varphi_i^\top(v) \text{ for all } i = 1, 2, \dots, k\}.$$



# Homological critical values

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## Corollary

*The set of homological critical values of  $\varphi^\top$  is a nowhere dense set in  $\mathbb{R}^k$ . Moreover its  $k$ -dimensional Lebesgue measure is zero.*

## Proposition

*For any  $\alpha \in C = \bigcup_{j,v} C_j(v)$ , there exists  $\lambda$  in*

$$\Lambda = \{\lambda \in C \mid \forall j = 1, 2, \dots, k, \exists v \in \mathcal{V}(\mathcal{K}) : \lambda_j = \varphi_j(v)\}$$

*such that  $K_\alpha = K_\lambda$ .*

## From continuous to discrete filtrations: the stability problem

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- $X$  and  $Y$  homeomorphic triangulable spaces (real objects);
- $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^k, g : Y \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^k$  continuous functions (real measurements);
- $\mathcal{K}'$  and  $\mathcal{L}'$  simplicial complexes with  $|\mathcal{K}'| = K, |\mathcal{L}'| = L$  (approximated object);
- $\tilde{\varphi} : K \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^k, \tilde{\psi} : L \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^k$  continuous functions (approximated measurements);

**Theorem:** If two homeomorphisms  $\xi : K \rightarrow X, \zeta : L \rightarrow Y$  exist s.t.

$$\|\tilde{\varphi} - f \circ \xi\|_{\infty} \leq \varepsilon/4, \quad \|\tilde{\psi} - g \circ \zeta\|_{\infty} \leq \varepsilon/4$$

then, for any sufficiently fine subdivision  $\mathcal{K}$  of  $\mathcal{K}'$  and  $\mathcal{L}$  of  $\mathcal{L}'$ ,

$$|D(\rho_f, \rho_g) - D(\rho_{\varphi}, \rho_{\psi})| \leq \varepsilon,$$

$\varphi : \mathcal{V}(\mathcal{K}) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^k, \psi : \mathcal{V}(\mathcal{L}) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^k$  being restrictions of  $\tilde{\varphi}$  and  $\tilde{\psi}$ .

## Sketch of the proof

---

- $\exists \delta > 0$  s.t.  $\max\{\text{diam } \sigma \mid \sigma \in \mathcal{K} \text{ or } \sigma \in \mathcal{L}\} < \delta \implies$   
 $|D(\rho_{\tilde{\varphi}}, \rho_{\tilde{\psi}}) - D(\rho_{\varphi^\top}, \rho_{\psi^\top})| < \varepsilon/2.$



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- $\rho_\varphi = \rho_{\varphi^\intercal}, \rho_\psi = \rho_{\psi^\intercal}.$





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•

$$\begin{aligned} D(\rho_f, \rho_g) &\leq D(\rho_f, \rho_{f \circ \xi}) + D(\rho_{f \circ \xi}, \rho_{\tilde{\varphi}}) + D(\rho_{\tilde{\varphi}}, \rho_{\tilde{\psi}}) \\ &\quad + D(\rho_{\tilde{\psi}}, \rho_{g \circ \zeta}) + D(\rho_{g \circ \zeta}, \rho_g) \\ &\leq \varepsilon \end{aligned}$$



# Conclusions

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We have shown that in multidimensional persistence

- stability of rank invariants for continuous filtrations passes to stability for discrete filtrations
- two peculiar phenomena occur:
  - topological aliasing
  - homological critical values are non-discrete