

# Extracting bar lengths from multiparameter persistent homology

Ezra Miller



Duke University, Department of Mathematics  
and Department of Statistical Science

[ezra@math.duke.edu](mailto:ezra@math.duke.edu)

Conference on Geometry and Statistics

Center of Mathematical Sciences and Applications  
Cambridge, MA

19 November 2025

# Outline

1. Persistent homology
2. Ordinary persistence: one parameter
3. Multiple parameters: fruit fly wings
4. Statistical analysis
5. Interval decomposition
6. Lifetime filtration
7. Tameness
8. Interleaving, matching, and bottleneck distances
9. Future directions

# Persistent homology

**Input.** Topological space  $X$  filtered by set  $Q$  of subspaces:  $X_q \subseteq X$  for  $q \in Q$   
 $\Rightarrow Q$  is a partially ordered set:  $X_q \subseteq X_{q'} \Leftrightarrow q \preceq q'$

**Def.**  $\{X_q\}_{q \in Q}$  has persistent homology  $\{H_q = H(X_q; \mathbb{k})\}_{q \in Q}$ .

**Def.**  $Q$ -module over the poset  $Q$ :

- family  $H = \{H_q\}_{q \in Q}$  of vector spaces over the field  $\mathbb{k}$  with
- homomorphism  $H_q \rightarrow H_{q'}$  whenever  $q \prec q'$  in  $Q$  such that
- $H_q \rightarrow H_{q''}$  equals the composite  $H_q \rightarrow H_{q'} \rightarrow H_{q''}$  whenever  $q \prec q' \prec q''$

## Examples

- points in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ :  $Q = \{0, \dots, m\}$  or  $\mathbb{R}$  1-parameter (“ordinary”) persistence
- brain arteries:  $Q = \{0, \dots, m\}$  or  $\mathbb{R}$  1-parameter (“ordinary”) persistence
- wing veins:  $Q = \mathbb{Z}^2$  or  $\mathbb{R}^2$  2 discrete or continuous parameters
- probability distributions:  $Q = \mathbb{R}^2$  2 continuous parameters
- $Q = \mathbb{Z}^n \Leftrightarrow H = \mathbb{Z}^n$ -graded  $\mathbb{k}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ -module
- $Q = \mathbb{R}^n \Leftrightarrow H = \mathbb{R}^n$ -graded  $\mathbb{k}[\mathbb{R}_+^n]$ -module

# Persistent homology

**Input.** Topological space  $X$  filtered by set  $Q$  of subspaces:  $X_q \subseteq X$  for  $q \in Q$   
 $\Rightarrow Q$  is a partially ordered set:  $X_q \subseteq X_{q'} \Leftrightarrow q \preceq q'$

**Def.**  $\{X_q\}_{q \in Q}$  has persistent homology  $\{H_q = H(X_q; \mathbb{k})\}_{q \in Q}$ .

**Def.**  $Q$ -module over the poset  $Q$ :

- family  $H = \{H_q\}_{q \in Q}$  of vector spaces over the field  $\mathbb{k}$  with
- homomorphism  $H_q \rightarrow H_{q'}$  whenever  $q \prec q'$  in  $Q$  such that
- $H_q \rightarrow H_{q''}$  equals the composite  $H_q \rightarrow H_{q'} \rightarrow H_{q''}$  whenever  $q \prec q' \prec q''$

## Examples

- points in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ :  $Q = \{0, \dots, m\}$  or  $\mathbb{R}$  1-parameter (“ordinary”) persistence
- brain arteries:  $Q = \{0, \dots, m\}$  or  $\mathbb{R}$  1-parameter (“ordinary”) persistence
- wing veins:  $Q = \mathbb{Z}^2$  or  $\mathbb{R}^2$  2 discrete or continuous parameters
- probability distributions:  $Q = \mathbb{R}^2$  2 continuous parameters
- $Q = \mathbb{Z}^n \Leftrightarrow H = \mathbb{Z}^n$ -graded  $\mathbb{k}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ -module
- $Q = \mathbb{R}^n \Leftrightarrow H = \mathbb{R}^n$ -graded  $\mathbb{k}[\mathbb{R}_+^n]$ -module

# Persistent homology

**Input.** Topological space  $X$  filtered by set  $Q$  of subspaces:  $X_q \subseteq X$  for  $q \in Q$   
 $\Rightarrow Q$  is a partially ordered set:  $X_q \subseteq X_{q'} \Leftrightarrow q \preceq q'$

**Def.**  $\{X_q\}_{q \in Q}$  has **persistent homology**  $\{H_q = H(X_q; \mathbb{k})\}_{q \in Q}$ .

**Def.**  $Q$ -module over the poset  $Q$ :

- family  $H = \{H_q\}_{q \in Q}$  of vector spaces over the field  $\mathbb{k}$  with
- homomorphism  $H_q \rightarrow H_{q'}$  whenever  $q \prec q'$  in  $Q$  such that
- $H_q \rightarrow H_{q''}$  equals the composite  $H_q \rightarrow H_{q'} \rightarrow H_{q''}$  whenever  $q \prec q' \prec q''$

## Examples

- points in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ :  $Q = \{0, \dots, m\}$  or  $\mathbb{R}$  1-parameter (“ordinary”) persistence
- brain arteries:  $Q = \{0, \dots, m\}$  or  $\mathbb{R}$  1-parameter (“ordinary”) persistence
- wing veins:  $Q = \mathbb{Z}^2$  or  $\mathbb{R}^2$  2 discrete or continuous parameters
- probability distributions:  $Q = \mathbb{R}^2$  2 continuous parameters
- $Q = \mathbb{Z}^n \Leftrightarrow H = \mathbb{Z}^n$ -graded  $\mathbb{k}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ -module
- $Q = \mathbb{R}^n \Leftrightarrow H = \mathbb{R}^n$ -graded  $\mathbb{k}[\mathbb{R}_+^n]$ -module

# Persistent homology

**Input.** Topological space  $X$  filtered by set  $Q$  of subspaces:  $X_q \subseteq X$  for  $q \in Q$   
 $\Rightarrow Q$  is a partially ordered set:  $X_q \subseteq X_{q'} \Leftrightarrow q \preceq q'$

**Def.**  $\{X_q\}_{q \in Q}$  has **persistent homology**  $\{H_q = H(X_q; \mathbb{k})\}_{q \in Q}$ . This is a

**Def.**  **$Q$ -module** over the poset  $Q$ :

- family  $H = \{H_q\}_{q \in Q}$  of vector spaces over the field  $\mathbb{k}$  with
- homomorphism  $H_q \rightarrow H_{q'}$  whenever  $q \prec q'$  in  $Q$  such that
- $H_q \rightarrow H_{q''}$  equals the composite  $H_q \rightarrow H_{q'} \rightarrow H_{q''}$  whenever  $q \prec q' \prec q''$

## Examples

- points in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ :  $Q = \{0, \dots, m\}$  or  $\mathbb{R}$  1-parameter (“ordinary”) persistence
- brain arteries:  $Q = \{0, \dots, m\}$  or  $\mathbb{R}$  1-parameter (“ordinary”) persistence
- wing veins:  $Q = \mathbb{Z}^2$  or  $\mathbb{R}^2$  2 discrete or continuous parameters
- probability distributions:  $Q = \mathbb{R}^2$  2 continuous parameters
- $Q = \mathbb{Z}^n \Leftrightarrow H = \mathbb{Z}^n$ -graded  $\mathbb{k}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ -module
- $Q = \mathbb{R}^n \Leftrightarrow H = \mathbb{R}^n$ -graded  $\mathbb{k}[\mathbb{R}_+^n]$ -module

# Persistent homology

**Input.** Topological space  $X$  filtered by set  $Q$  of subspaces:  $X_q \subseteq X$  for  $q \in Q$   
 $\Rightarrow Q$  is a partially ordered set:  $X_q \subseteq X_{q'} \Leftrightarrow q \preceq q'$

**Def.**  $\{X_q\}_{q \in Q}$  has **persistent homology**  $\{H_q = H(X_q; \mathbb{k})\}_{q \in Q}$ . This is a

**Def.**  **$Q$ -module** over the poset  $Q$ :

- family  $H = \{H_q\}_{q \in Q}$  of vector spaces over the field  $\mathbb{k}$  with
- homomorphism  $H_q \rightarrow H_{q'}$  whenever  $q \prec q'$  in  $Q$  such that
- $H_q \rightarrow H_{q''}$  equals the composite  $H_q \rightarrow H_{q'} \rightarrow H_{q''}$  whenever  $q \prec q' \prec q''$

## Examples

- points in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ :  $Q = \{0, \dots, m\}$  or  $\mathbb{R}$  1-parameter (“ordinary”) persistence
- brain arteries:  $Q = \{0, \dots, m\}$  or  $\mathbb{R}$  1-parameter (“ordinary”) persistence
- wing veins:  $Q = \mathbb{Z}^2$  or  $\mathbb{R}^2$  2 discrete or continuous parameters
- probability distributions:  $Q = \mathbb{R}^2$  2 continuous parameters
- $Q = \mathbb{Z}^n \Leftrightarrow H = \mathbb{Z}^n$ -graded  $\mathbb{k}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ -module
- $Q = \mathbb{R}^n \Leftrightarrow H = \mathbb{R}^n$ -graded  $\mathbb{k}[\mathbb{R}_+^n]$ -module

# Persistent homology

**Input.** Topological space  $X$  filtered by set  $Q$  of subspaces:  $X_q \subseteq X$  for  $q \in Q$   
 $\Rightarrow Q$  is a partially ordered set:  $X_q \subseteq X_{q'} \Leftrightarrow q \preceq q'$

**Def.**  $\{X_q\}_{q \in Q}$  has **persistent homology**  $\{H_q = H(X_q; \mathbb{k})\}_{q \in Q}$ . This is a

**Def.**  **$Q$ -module** over the poset  $Q$ :

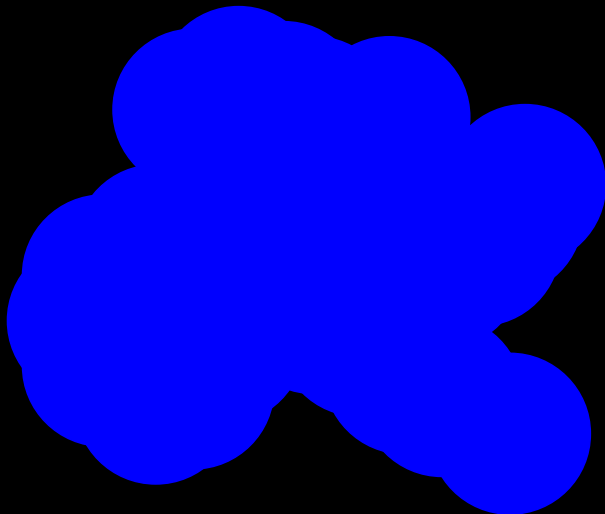
- family  $H = \{H_q\}_{q \in Q}$  of vector spaces over the field  $\mathbb{k}$  with
- homomorphism  $H_q \rightarrow H_{q'}$  whenever  $q \prec q'$  in  $Q$  such that
- $H_q \rightarrow H_{q''}$  equals the composite  $H_q \rightarrow H_{q'} \rightarrow H_{q''}$  whenever  $q \prec q' \prec q''$

## Examples

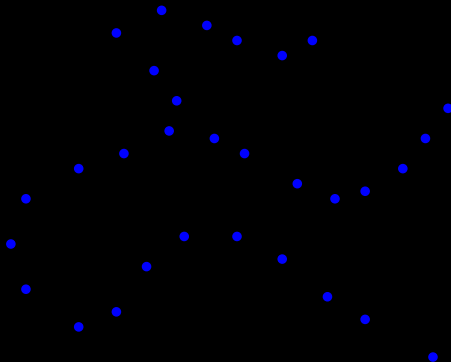
- points in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ :  $Q = \{0, \dots, m\}$  or  $\mathbb{R}$  1-parameter (“ordinary”) persistence
- brain arteries:  $Q = \{0, \dots, m\}$  or  $\mathbb{R}$  1-parameter (“ordinary”) persistence
- wing veins:  $Q = \mathbb{Z}^2$  or  $\mathbb{R}^2$  2 discrete or continuous parameters
- probability distributions:  $Q = \mathbb{R}^2$  2 continuous parameters
- $Q = \mathbb{Z}^n \Leftrightarrow H = \mathbb{Z}^n$ -graded  $\mathbb{k}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ -module
- $Q = \mathbb{R}^n \Leftrightarrow H = \mathbb{R}^n$ -graded  $\mathbb{k}[\mathbb{R}_+^n]$ -module



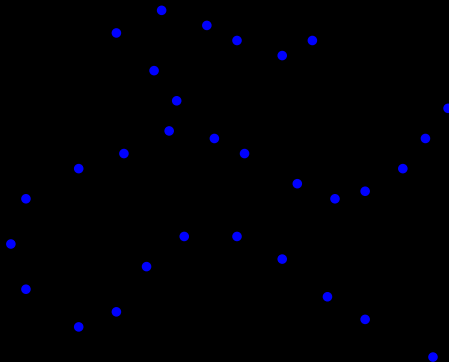
## Example: expanding balls



## Example: expanding balls

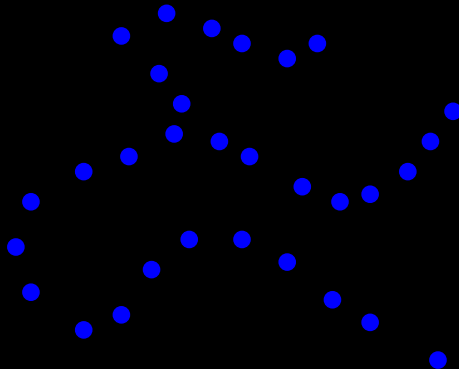


# Example: expanding balls



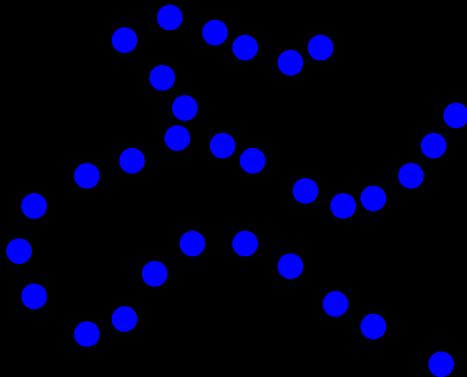
$$\dim(H_0) = 31$$

# Example: expanding balls



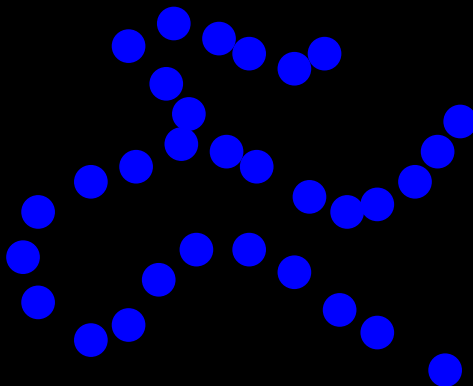
$$\dim(H_0) = 31$$

# Example: expanding balls



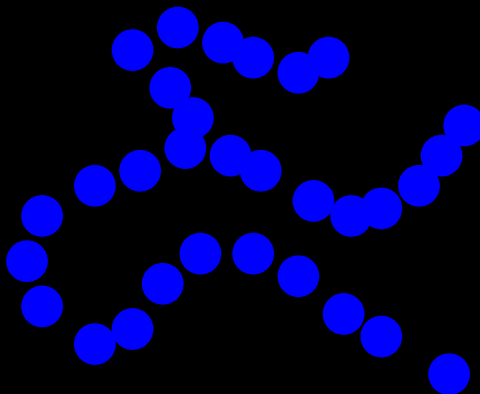
$$\dim(H_0) = 31$$

## Example: expanding balls



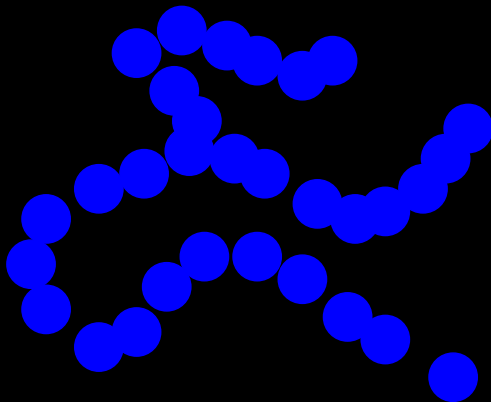
$$\dim(H_0) = 26$$

## Example: expanding balls



$$\dim(H_0) = 21$$

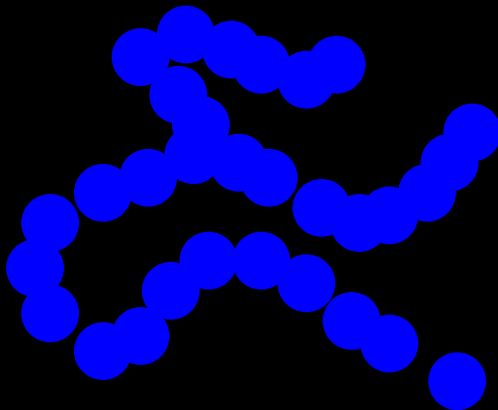
## Example: expanding balls



$$\dim(H_0) = 12$$

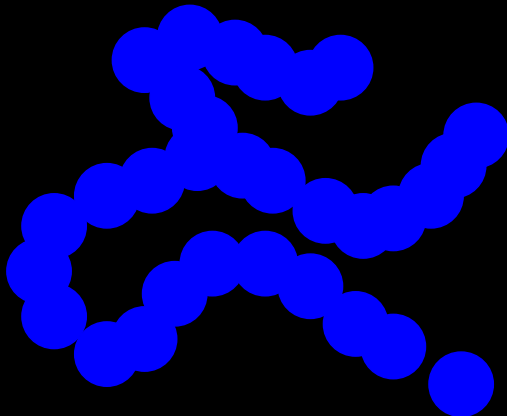


## Example: expanding balls



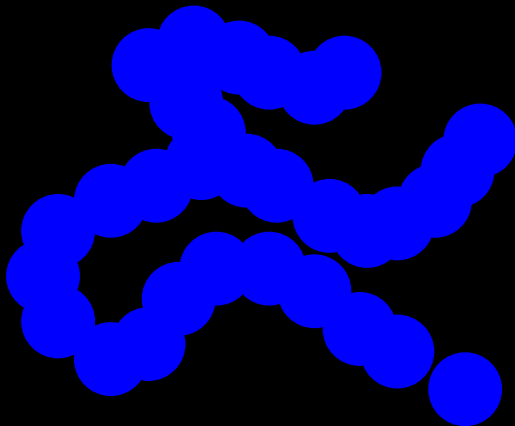
$$\dim(H_0) = 6$$

## Example: expanding balls



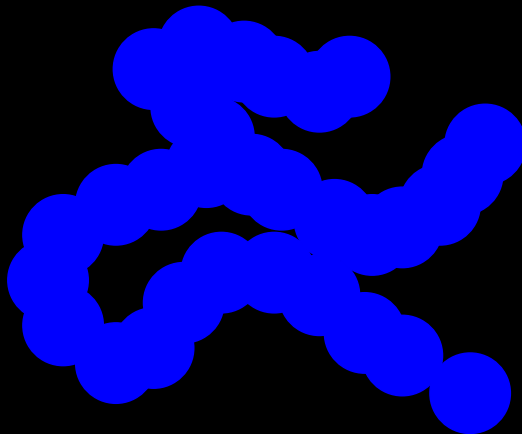
$$\dim(H_0) = 2$$

## Example: expanding balls



$$\dim(H_0) = 2$$

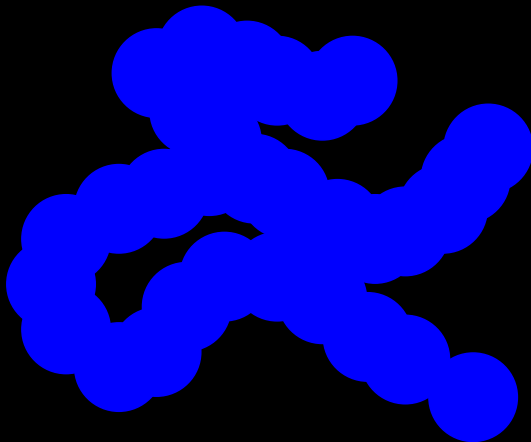
## Example: expanding balls



$$\dim(H_0) = 1$$

$$\dim(H_1) = 2$$

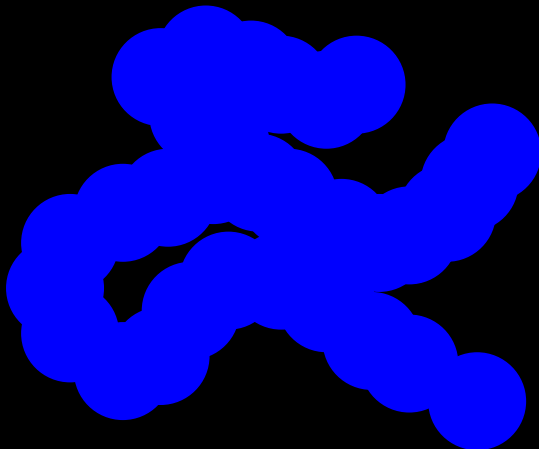
## Example: expanding balls



$$\dim(H_0) = 1$$

$$\dim(H_1) = 1$$

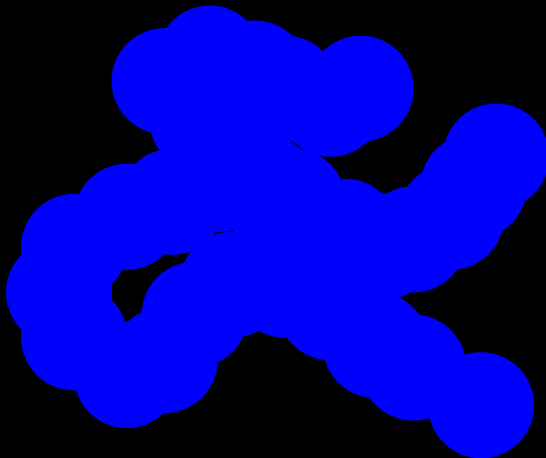
## Example: expanding balls



$$\dim(H_0) = 1$$

$$\dim(H_1) = 1$$

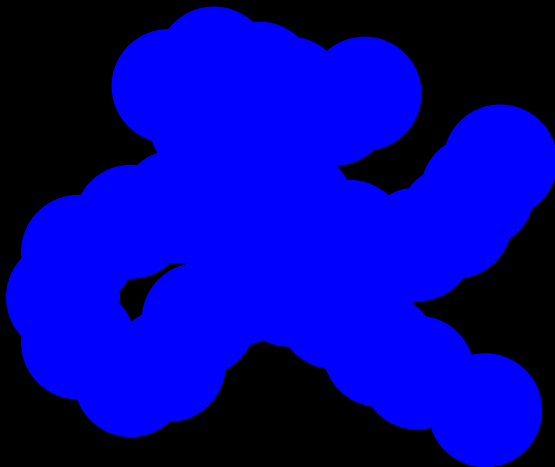
## Example: expanding balls



$$\dim(H_0) = 1$$

$$\dim(H_1) = 3$$

## Example: expanding balls

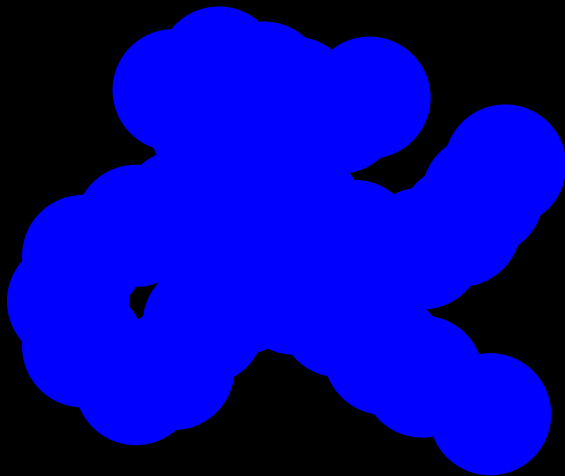


$$\dim(H_0) = 1$$

$$\dim(H_1) = 1$$



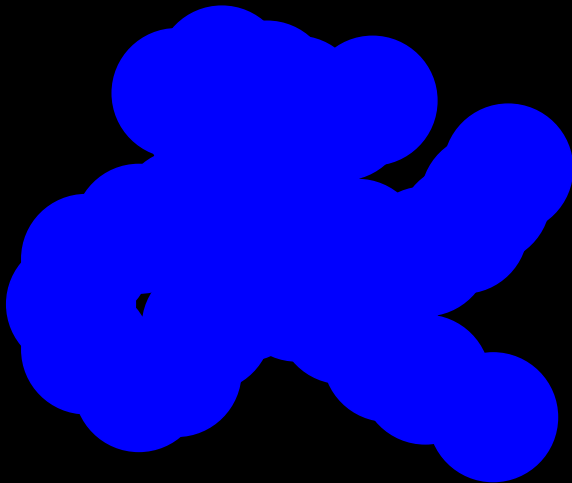
## Example: expanding balls



$$\dim(H_0) = 1$$

$$\dim(H_1) = 1$$

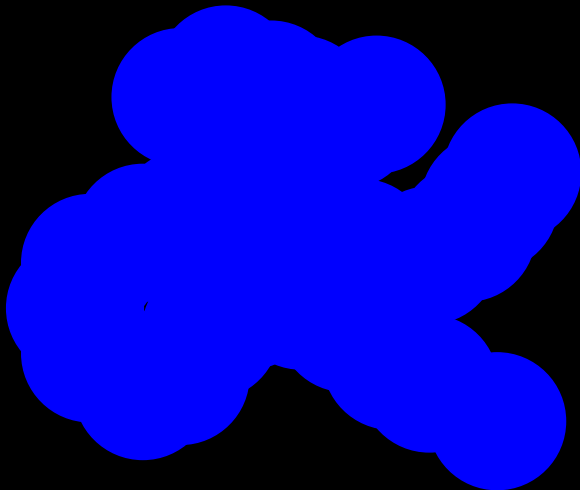
## Example: expanding balls



$$\dim(H_0) = 1$$

$$\dim(H_1) = 1$$

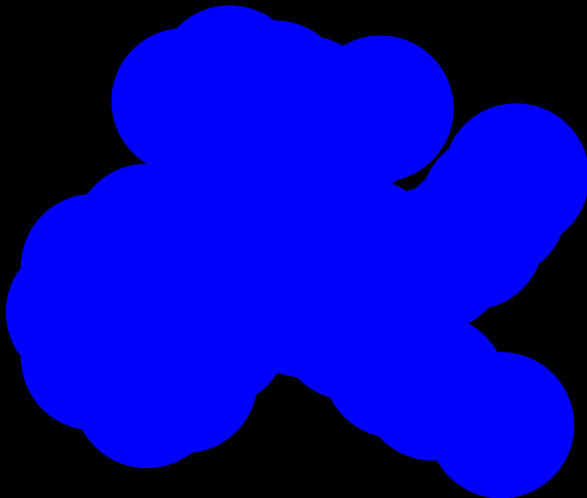
## Example: expanding balls



$$\dim(H_0) = 1$$

$$\dim(H_1) = 1$$

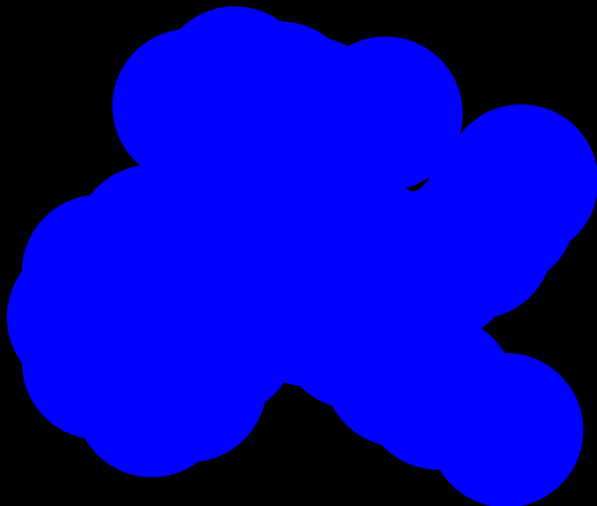
## Example: expanding balls



$$\dim(H_0) = 1$$

$$\dim(H_1) = 0$$

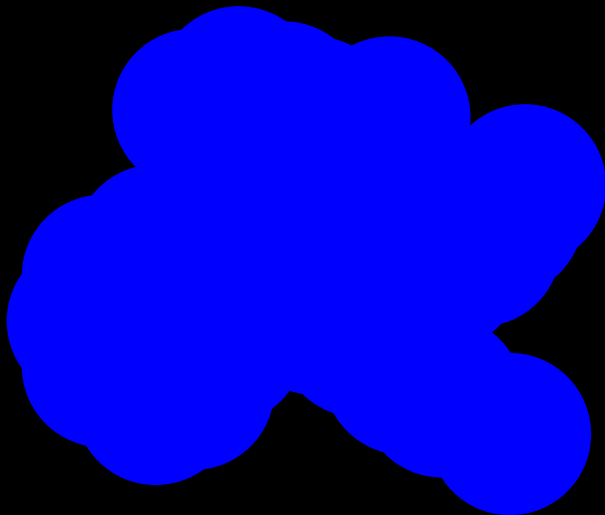
## Example: expanding balls



$$\dim(H_0) = 1$$

$$\dim(H_1) = 1$$

## Example: expanding balls



$$\dim(H_0) = 1$$

$$\dim(H_1) = 0$$

# Persistent homology

**Input.** Topological space  $X$  filtered by set  $Q$  of subspaces:  $X_q \subseteq X$  for  $q \in Q$   
 $\Rightarrow Q$  is a partially ordered set:  $X_q \subseteq X_{q'} \Leftrightarrow q \preceq q'$

**Def.**  $\{X_q\}_{q \in Q}$  has **persistent homology**  $\{H_q = H(X_q; \mathbb{k})\}_{q \in Q}$ . This is a

**Def.**  **$Q$ -module** over the poset  $Q$ :

- family  $H = \{H_q\}_{q \in Q}$  of vector spaces over the field  $\mathbb{k}$  with
- homomorphism  $H_q \rightarrow H_{q'}$  whenever  $q \prec q'$  in  $Q$  such that
- $H_q \rightarrow H_{q''}$  equals the composite  $H_q \rightarrow H_{q'} \rightarrow H_{q''}$  whenever  $q \prec q' \prec q''$

## Examples

- points in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ :  $Q = \{0, \dots, m\}$  or  $\mathbb{R}$  1-parameter (“ordinary”) persistence
- brain arteries:  $Q = \{0, \dots, m\}$  or  $\mathbb{R}$  1-parameter (“ordinary”) persistence
- wing veins:  $Q = \mathbb{Z}^2$  or  $\mathbb{R}^2$  2 discrete or continuous parameters
- probability distributions:  $Q = \mathbb{R}^2$  2 continuous parameters
- $Q = \mathbb{Z}^n \Leftrightarrow H = \mathbb{Z}^n$ -graded  $\mathbb{k}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ -module
- $Q = \mathbb{R}^n \Leftrightarrow H = \mathbb{R}^n$ -graded  $\mathbb{k}[\mathbb{R}_+^n]$ -module

# Persistent homology

**Input.** Topological space  $X$  filtered by set  $Q$  of subspaces:  $X_q \subseteq X$  for  $q \in Q$   
 $\Rightarrow Q$  is a partially ordered set:  $X_q \subseteq X_{q'} \Leftrightarrow q \preceq q'$

**Def.**  $\{X_q\}_{q \in Q}$  has **persistent homology**  $\{H_q = H(X_q; \mathbb{k})\}_{q \in Q}$ . This is a

**Def.**  **$Q$ -module** over the poset  $Q$ :

- family  $H = \{H_q\}_{q \in Q}$  of vector spaces over the field  $\mathbb{k}$  with
- homomorphism  $H_q \rightarrow H_{q'}$  whenever  $q \prec q'$  in  $Q$  such that
- $H_q \rightarrow H_{q''}$  equals the composite  $H_q \rightarrow H_{q'} \rightarrow H_{q''}$  whenever  $q \prec q' \prec q''$

## Examples

- points in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ :  $Q = \{0, \dots, m\}$  or  $\mathbb{R}$  1-parameter (“ordinary”) persistence
- brain arteries:  $Q = \{0, \dots, m\}$  or  $\mathbb{R}$  1-parameter (“ordinary”) persistence
- wing veins:  $Q = \mathbb{Z}^2$  or  $\mathbb{R}^2$  2 discrete or continuous parameters
- probability distributions:  $Q = \mathbb{R}^2$  2 continuous parameters
- $Q = \mathbb{Z}^n \Leftrightarrow H = \mathbb{Z}^n$ -graded  $\mathbb{k}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ -module
- $Q = \mathbb{R}^n \Leftrightarrow H = \mathbb{R}^n$ -graded  $\mathbb{k}[\mathbb{R}_+^n]$ -module

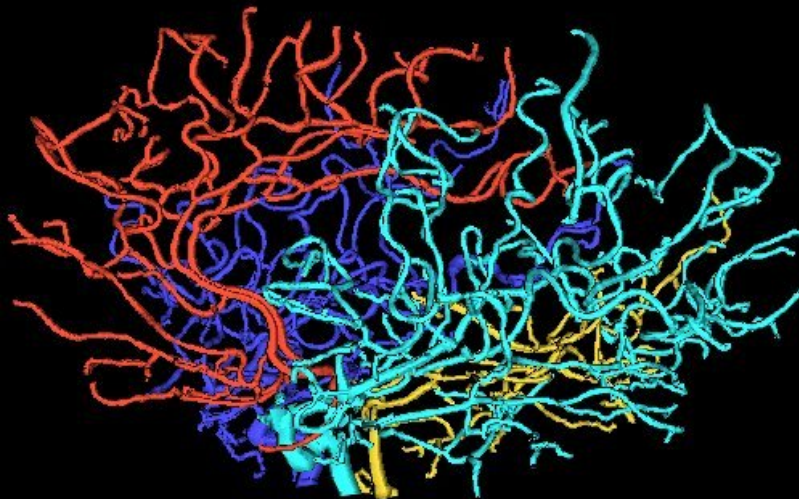


## Brain arteries



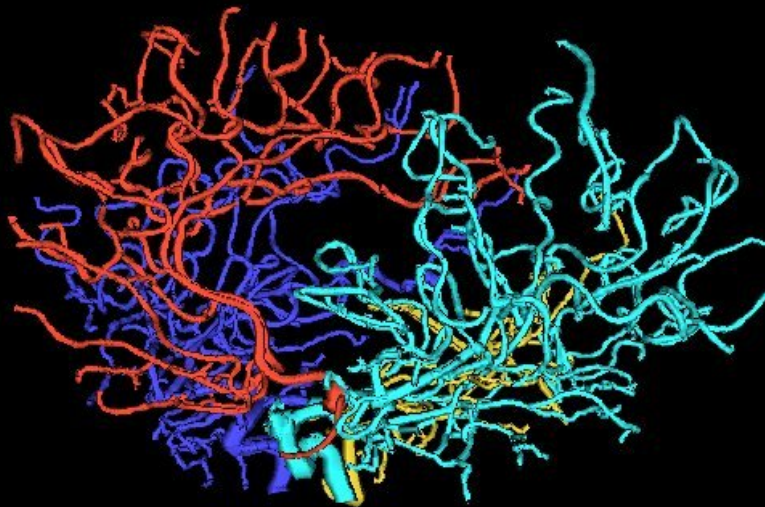
[Bullitt and Aylward, 2002]

## Brain arteries



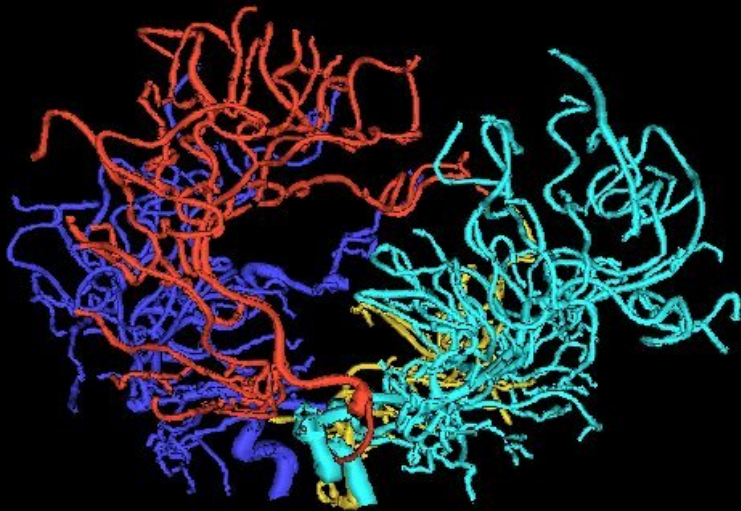
[Bullitt and Aylward, 2002]

## Brain arteries



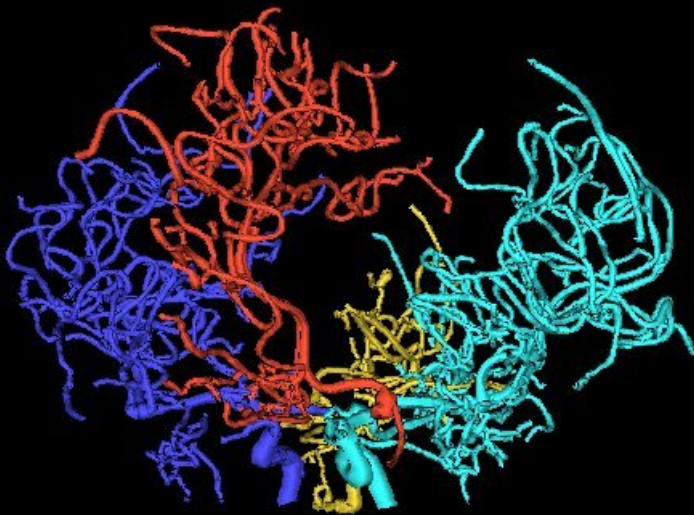
[Bullitt and Aylward, 2002]

## Brain arteries



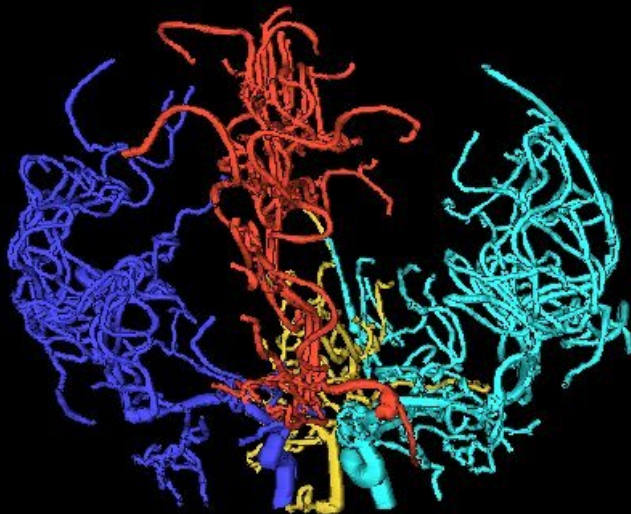
[Bullitt and Aylward, 2002]

## Brain arteries



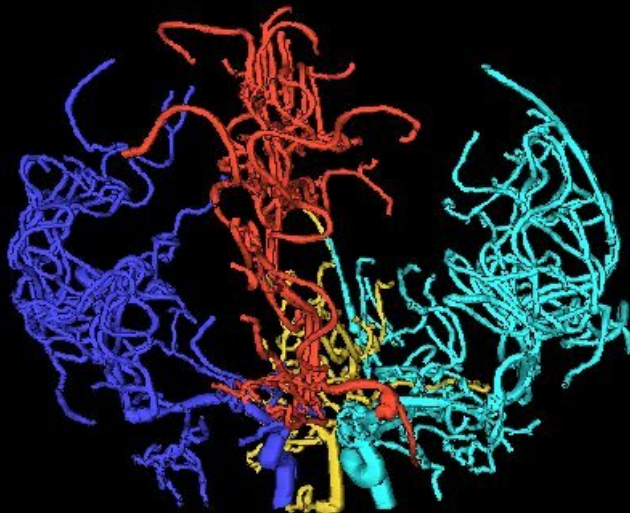
[Bullitt and Aylward, 2002]

## Brain arteries



[Bullitt and Aylward, 2002]

## Brain arteries

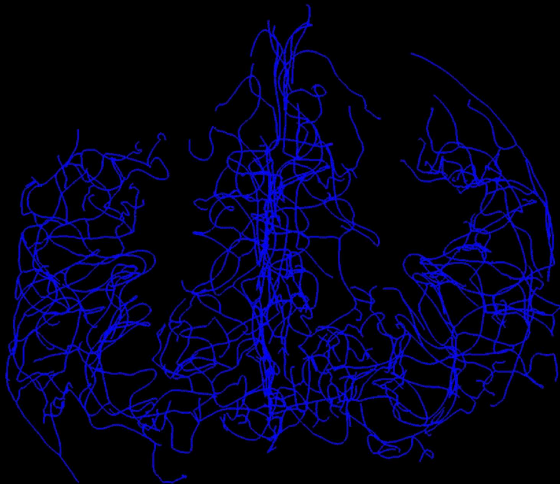


Goal: summary and statistical analysis

[Bullitt and Aylward, 2002]

## Example: filling brains [Bendich–Marron–M.–Pieloch–Skwerer 2014]

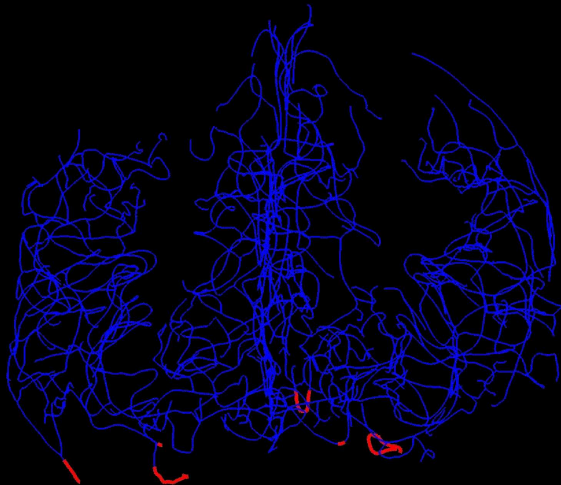
---





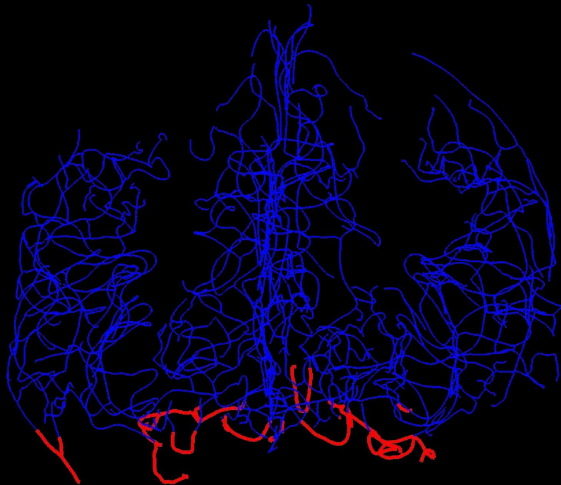
## Example: filling brains [Bendich–Marron–M.–Pieloch–Skwerer 2014]

---



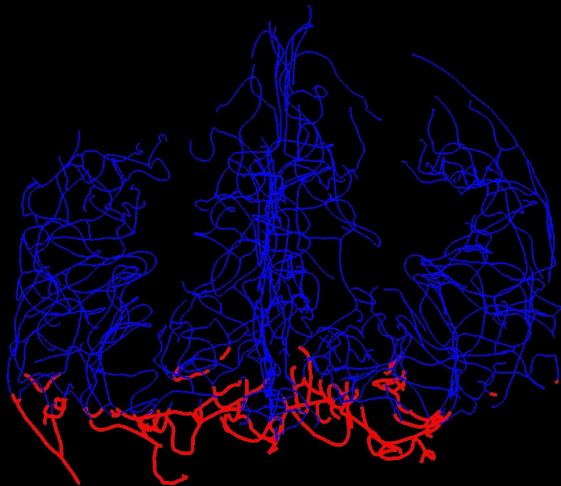
## Example: filling brains [Bendich–Marron–M.–Pieloch–Skwerer 2014]

---



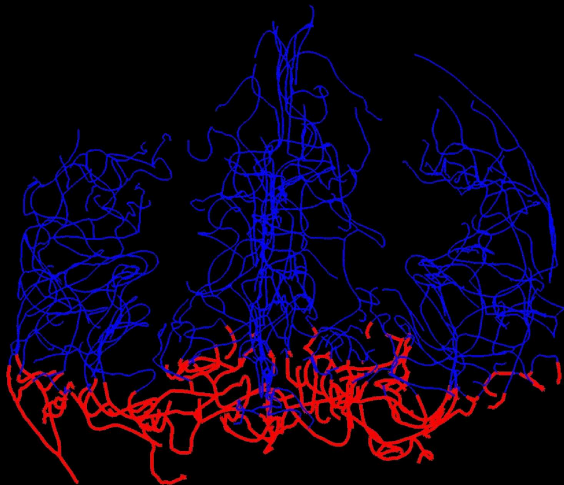
## Example: filling brains [Bendich–Marron–M.–Pieloch–Skwerer 2014]

---



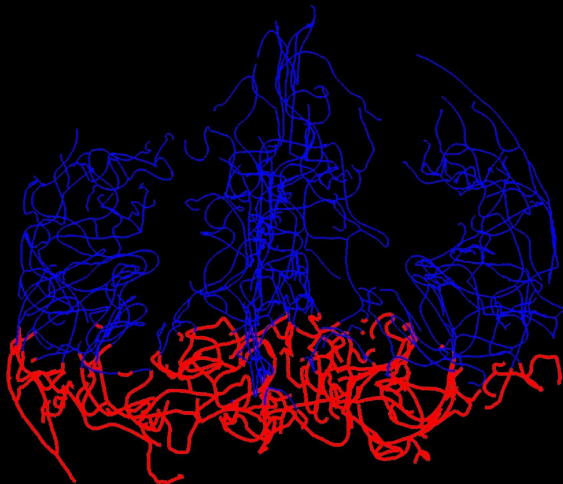
## Example: filling brains [Bendich–Marron–M.–Pieloch–Skwerer 2014]

---



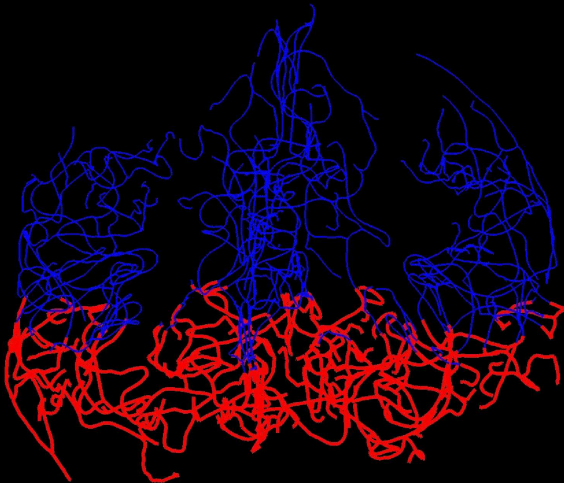
## Example: filling brains [Bendich–Marron–M.–Pieloch–Skwerer 2014]

---



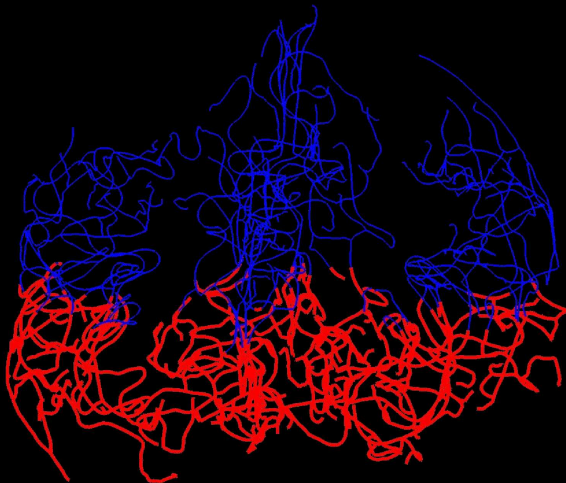
## Example: filling brains [Bendich–Marron–M.–Pieloch–Skwerer 2014]

---



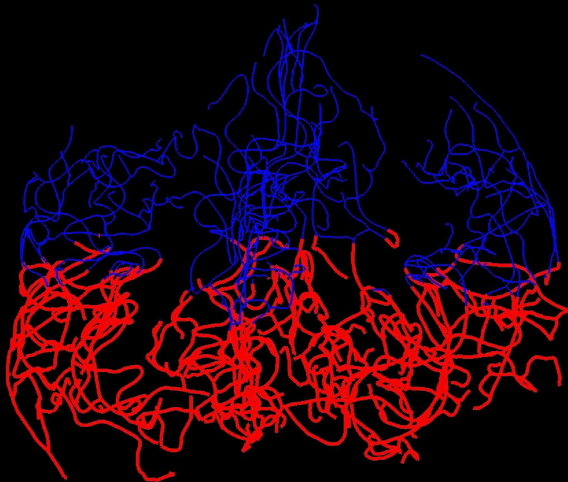
## Example: filling brains [Bendich–Marron–M.–Pieloch–Skwerer 2014]

---



## Example: filling brains [Bendich–Marron–M.–Pieloch–Skwerer 2014]

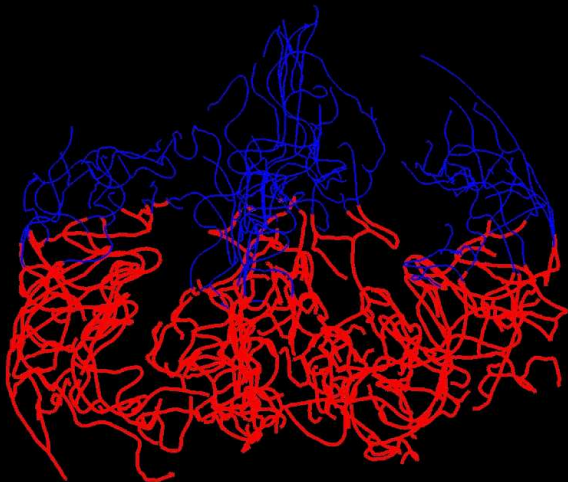
---





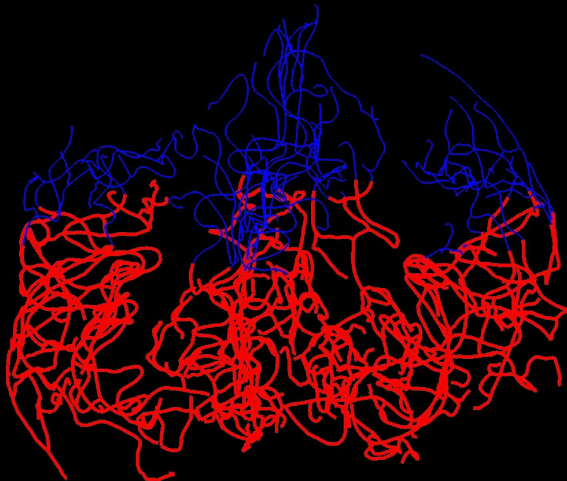
## Example: filling brains [Bendich–Marron–M.–Pieloch–Skwerer 2014]

---



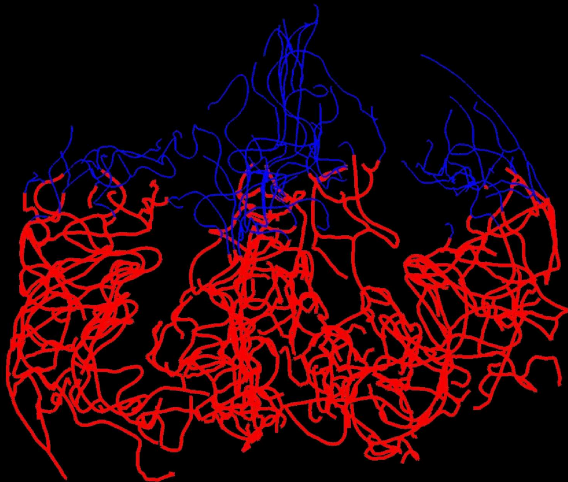
## Example: filling brains [Bendich–Marron–M.–Pieloch–Skwerer 2014]

---



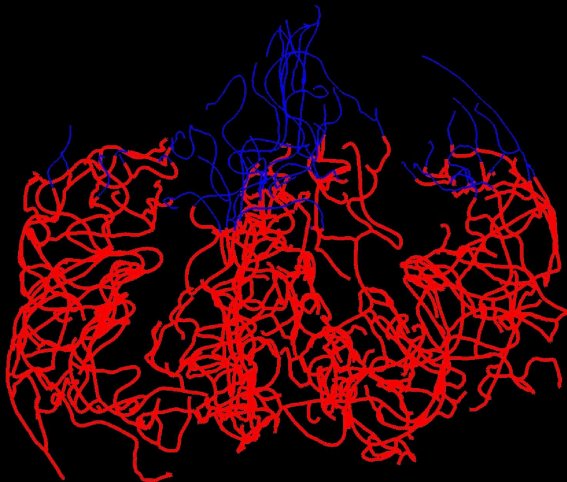
## Example: filling brains [Bendich–Marron–M.–Pieloch–Skwerer 2014]

---



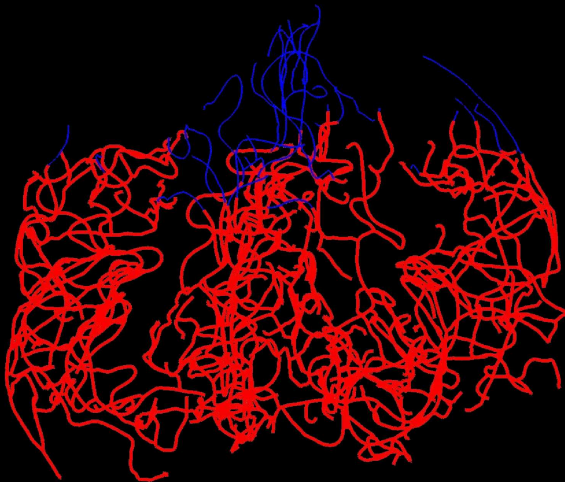
## Example: filling brains [Bendich–Marron–M.–Pieloch–Skwerer 2014]

---



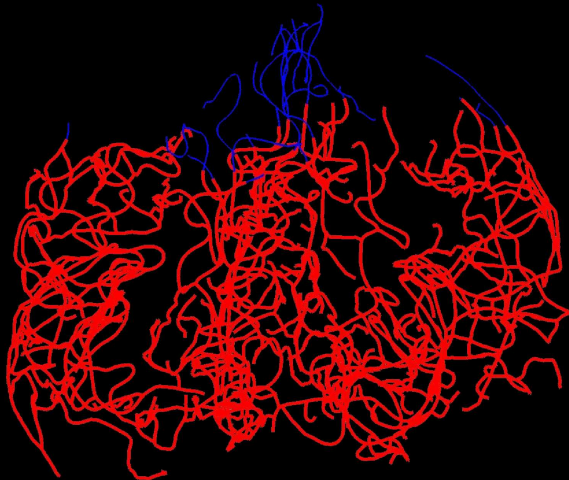
## Example: filling brains [Bendich–Marron–M.–Pieloch–Skwerer 2014]

---



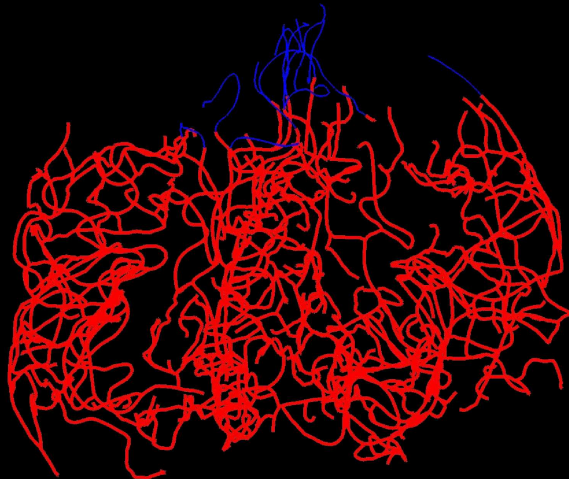
## Example: filling brains [Bendich–Marron–M.–Pieloch–Skwerer 2014]

---



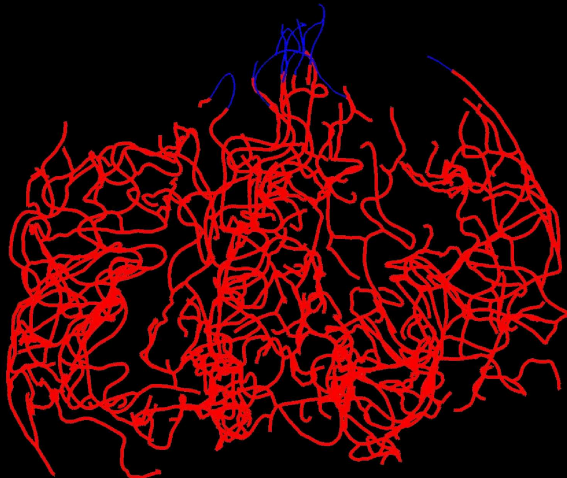
## Example: filling brains [Bendich–Marron–M.–Pieloch–Skwerer 2014]

---



## Example: filling brains [Bendich–Marron–M.–Pieloch–Skwerer 2014]

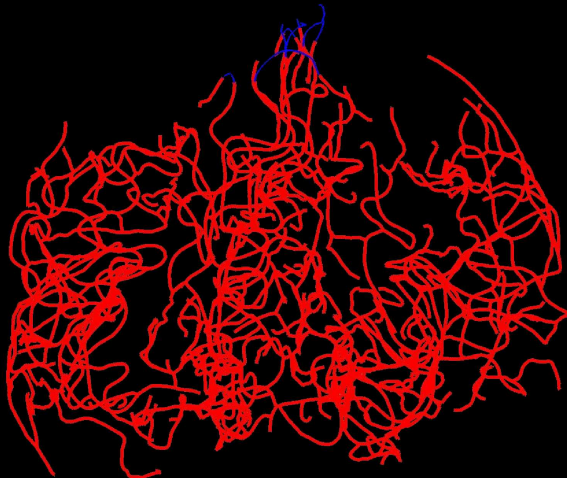
---





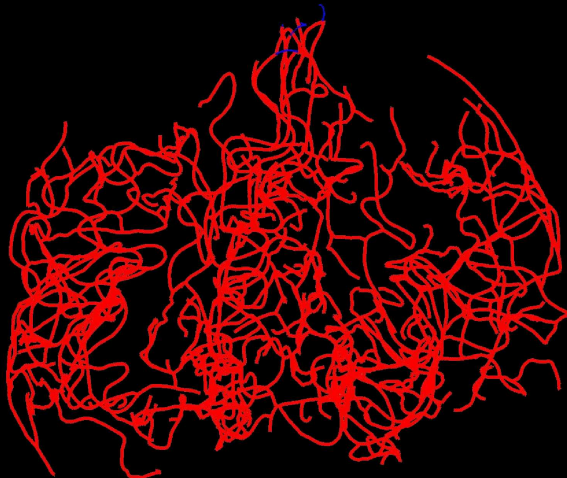
## Example: filling brains [Bendich–Marron–M.–Pieloch–Skwerer 2014]

---



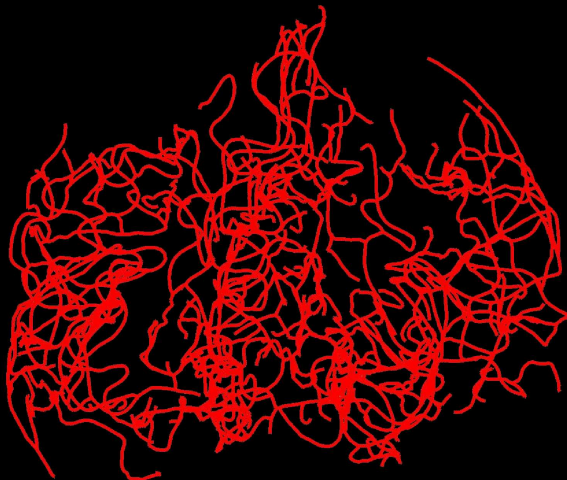
## Example: filling brains [Bendich–Marron–M.–Pieloch–Skwerer 2014]

---



## Example: filling brains [Bendich–Marron–M.–Pieloch–Skwerer 2014]

---



# Method

## Sweep filtration

Filter brain arteries by sweeping across with a plane:

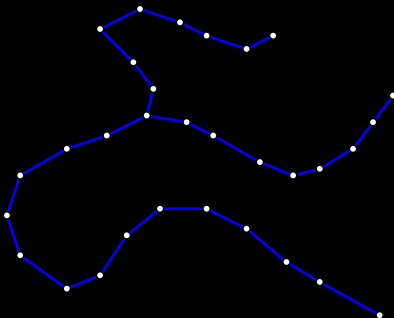
Record:

- birth time of each new component
- death of each component (when it joins to an older component)

# Method

## Sweep filtration

Filter brain arteries by sweeping across with a plane:



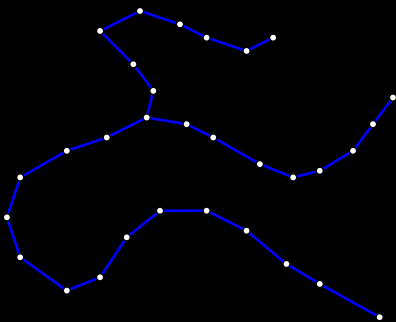
Record:

- birth time of each new component
- death of each component (when it joins to an older component)

# Method

## Sweep filtration

Filter brain arteries by sweeping across with a plane:



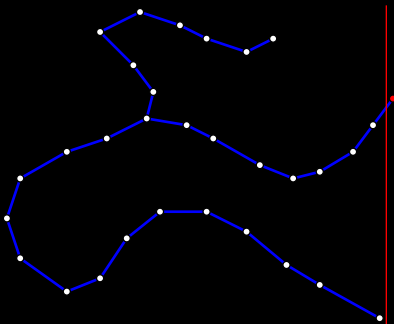
Record:

- birth time of each new component
- death of each component (when it joins to an older component)

# Method

## Sweep filtration

Filter brain arteries by sweeping across with a plane:



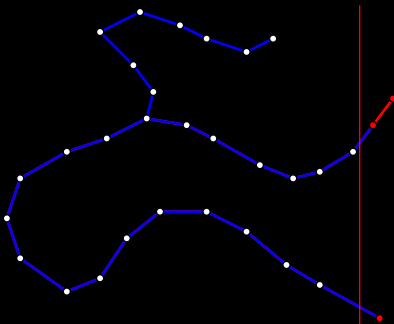
Record:

- birth time of each new component
- death of each component (when it joins to an older component)

# Method

## Sweep filtration

Filter brain arteries by sweeping across with a plane:



Record:

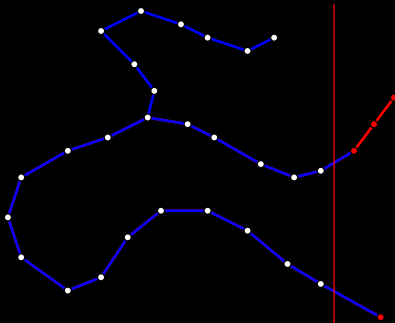
- birth time of each new component
- death of each component (when it joins to an older component)



# Method

## Sweep filtration

Filter brain arteries by sweeping across with a plane:



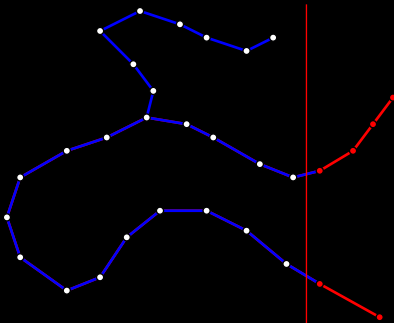
Record:

- birth time of each new component
- death of each component (when it joins to an older component)

# Method

## Sweep filtration

Filter brain arteries by sweeping across with a plane:



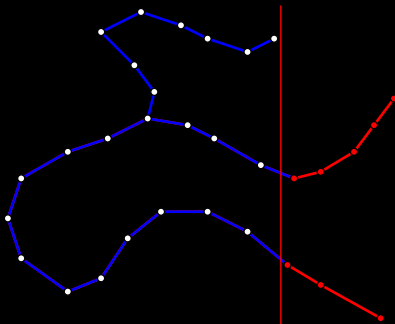
Record:

- birth time of each new component
- death of each component (when it joins to an older component)

# Method

## Sweep filtration

Filter brain arteries by sweeping across with a plane:



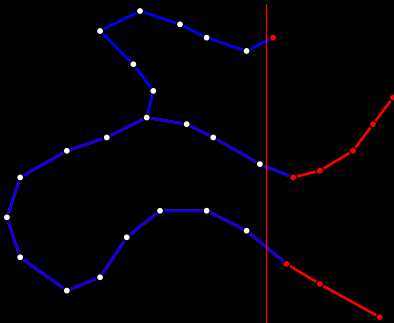
Record:

- birth time of each new component
- death of each component (when it joins to an older component)

# Method

## Sweep filtration

Filter brain arteries by sweeping across with a plane:



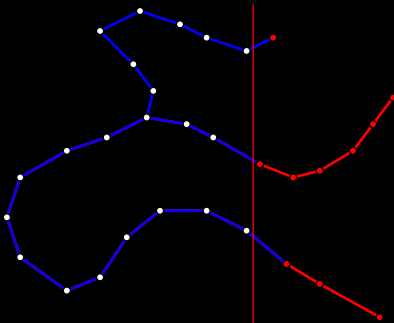
Record:

- birth time of each new component
- death of each component (when it joins to an older component)

# Method

## Sweep filtration

Filter brain arteries by sweeping across with a plane:



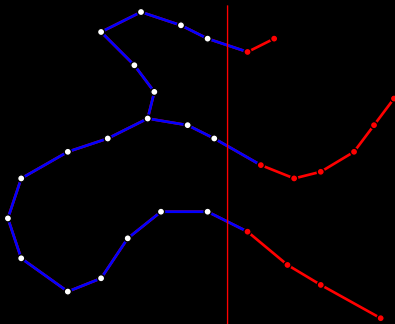
Record:

- birth time of each new component
- death of each component (when it joins to an older component)

# Method

## Sweep filtration

Filter brain arteries by sweeping across with a plane:



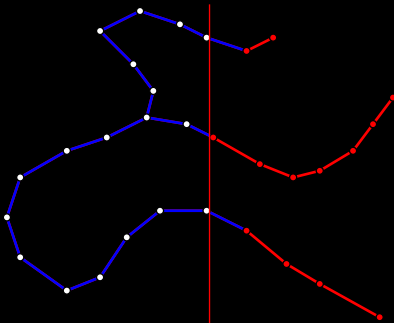
Record:

- birth time of each new component
- death of each component (when it joins to an older component)

# Method

## Sweep filtration

Filter brain arteries by sweeping across with a plane:



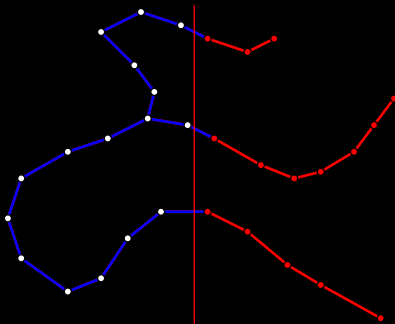
Record:

- birth time of each new component
- death of each component (when it joins to an older component)

# Method

## Sweep filtration

Filter brain arteries by sweeping across with a plane:



Record:

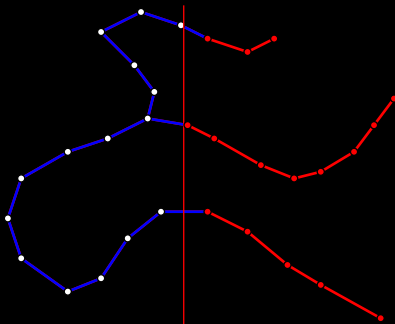
- birth time of each new component
- death of each component (when it joins to an older component)



# Method

## Sweep filtration

Filter brain arteries by sweeping across with a plane:



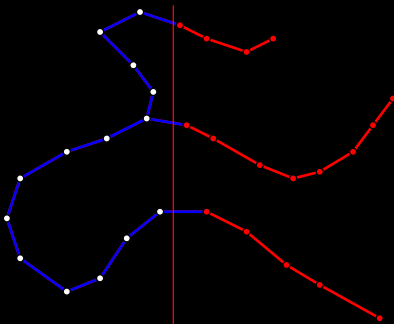
Record:

- birth time of each new component
- death of each component (when it joins to an older component)

# Method

## Sweep filtration

Filter brain arteries by sweeping across with a plane:



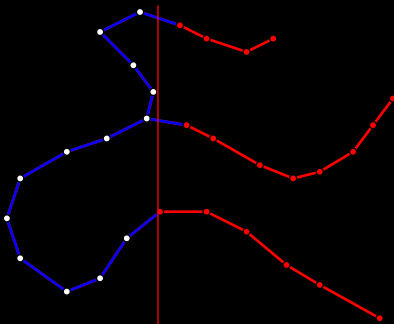
Record:

- birth time of each new component
- death of each component (when it joins to an older component)

# Method

## Sweep filtration

Filter brain arteries by sweeping across with a plane:



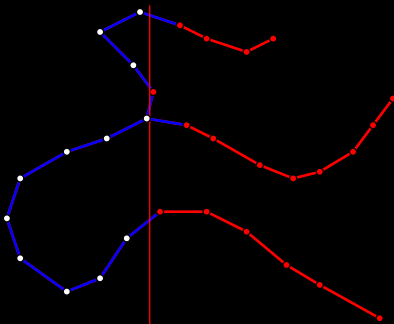
Record:

- birth time of each new component
- death of each component (when it joins to an older component)

# Method

## Sweep filtration

Filter brain arteries by sweeping across with a plane:



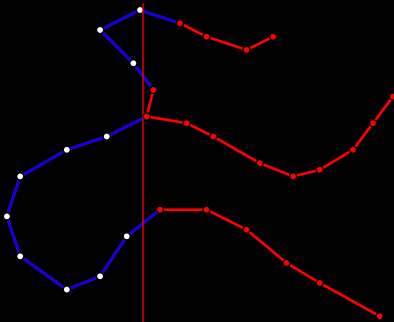
Record:

- birth time of each new component
- death of each component (when it joins to an older component)

# Method

## Sweep filtration

Filter brain arteries by sweeping across with a plane:



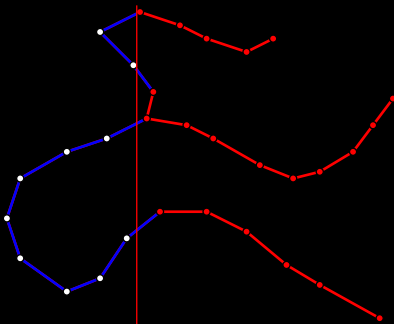
Record:

- birth time of each new component
- death of each component (when it joins to an older component)

# Method

## Sweep filtration

Filter brain arteries by sweeping across with a plane:



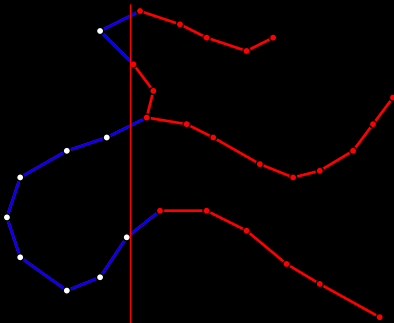
Record:

- birth time of each new component
- death of each component (when it joins to an older component)

# Method

## Sweep filtration

Filter brain arteries by sweeping across with a plane:



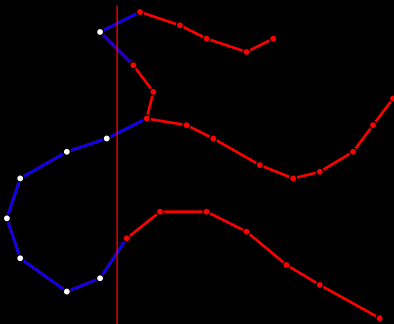
Record:

- birth time of each new component
- death of each component (when it joins to an older component)

# Method

## Sweep filtration

Filter brain arteries by sweeping across with a plane:



Record:

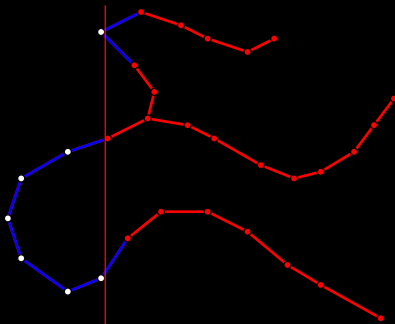
- birth time of each new component
- death of each component (when it joins to an older component)



# Method

## Sweep filtration

Filter brain arteries by sweeping across with a plane:



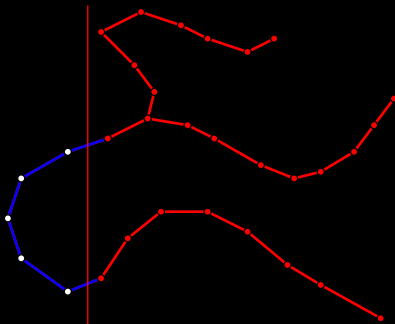
Record:

- birth time of each new component
- death of each component (when it joins to an older component)

# Method

## Sweep filtration

Filter brain arteries by sweeping across with a plane:



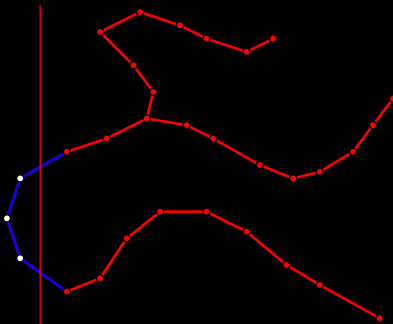
Record:

- birth time of each new component
- death of each component (when it joins to an older component)

# Method

## Sweep filtration

Filter brain arteries by sweeping across with a plane:



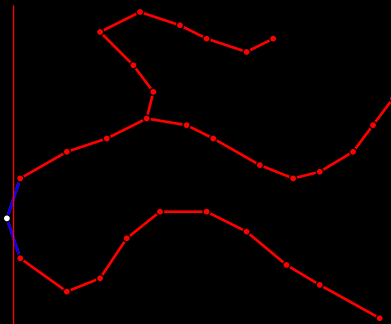
Record:

- birth time of each new component
- death of each component (when it joins to an older component)

# Method

## Sweep filtration

Filter brain arteries by sweeping across with a plane:



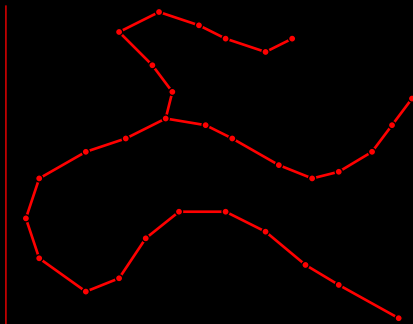
Record:

- birth time of each new component
- death of each component (when it joins to an older component)

# Method

## Sweep filtration

Filter brain arteries by sweeping across with a plane:



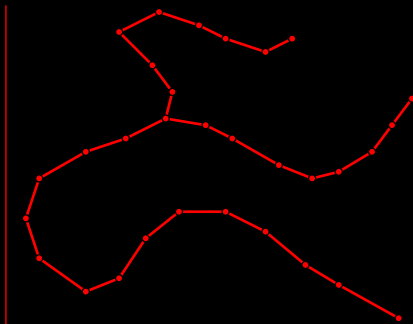
Record:

- birth time of each new component
- death of each component (when it joins to an older component)

# Method

## Sweep filtration

Filter brain arteries by sweeping across with a plane:



Record:

- birth time of each new component
- death of each component (when it joins to an older component)

# Method

## Sweep filtration

Filter brain arteries by sweeping across with a plane:

Record:

- birth time of each new component
- death of each component (when it joins to an older component)

# Method

## Sweep filtration

Filter brain arteries by sweeping across with a plane:



Record:

- birth time of each new component
- death of each component (when it joins to an older component)



# Method

## Sweep filtration

Filter brain arteries by sweeping across with a plane:



Record:

- birth time of each new component
- death of each component (when it joins to an older component)

# Method

## Sweep filtration

Filter brain arteries by sweeping across with a plane:



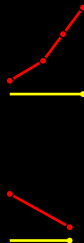
Record:

- birth time of each new component
- death of each component (when it joins to an older component)

# Method

## Sweep filtration

Filter brain arteries by sweeping across with a plane:



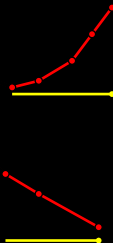
Record:

- birth time of each new component
- death of each component (when it joins to an older component)

# Method

## Sweep filtration

Filter brain arteries by sweeping across with a plane:



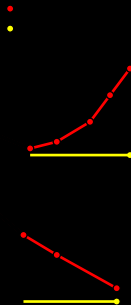
Record:

- birth time of each new component
- death of each component (when it joins to an older component)

# Method

## Sweep filtration

Filter brain arteries by sweeping across with a plane:



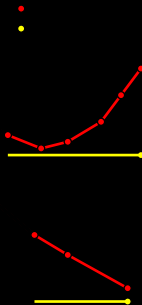
Record:

- birth time of each new component
- death of each component (when it joins to an older component)

# Method

## Sweep filtration

Filter brain arteries by sweeping across with a plane:



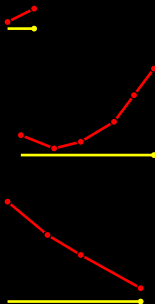
Record:

- birth time of each new component
- death of each component (when it joins to an older component)

# Method

## Sweep filtration

Filter brain arteries by sweeping across with a plane:



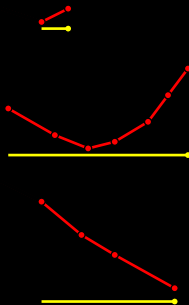
Record:

- birth time of each new component
- death of each component (when it joins to an older component)

# Method

## Sweep filtration

Filter brain arteries by sweeping across with a plane:



Record:

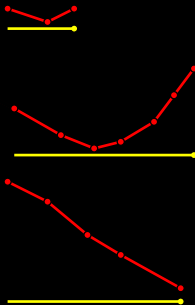
- birth time of each new component
- death of each component (when it joins to an older component)



# Method

## Sweep filtration

Filter brain arteries by sweeping across with a plane:



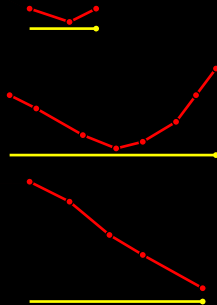
Record:

- birth time of each new component
- death of each component (when it joins to an older component)

# Method

## Sweep filtration

Filter brain arteries by sweeping across with a plane:



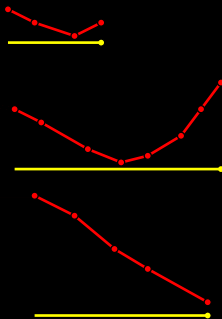
Record:

- birth time of each new component
- death of each component (when it joins to an older component)

# Method

## Sweep filtration

Filter brain arteries by sweeping across with a plane:



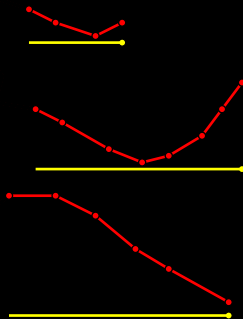
Record:

- birth time of each new component
- death of each component (when it joins to an older component)

# Method

## Sweep filtration

Filter brain arteries by sweeping across with a plane:



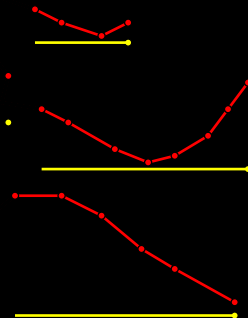
Record:

- birth time of each new component
- death of each component (when it joins to an older component)

# Method

## Sweep filtration

Filter brain arteries by sweeping across with a plane:



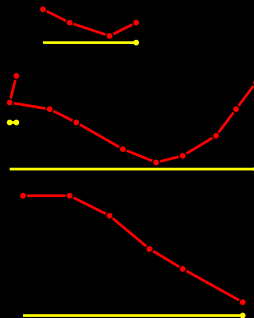
Record:

- birth time of each new component
- death of each component (when it joins to an older component)

# Method

## Sweep filtration

Filter brain arteries by sweeping across with a plane:



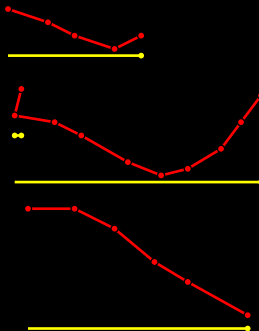
Record:

- birth time of each new component
- death of each component (when it joins to an older component)

# Method

## Sweep filtration

Filter brain arteries by sweeping across with a plane:



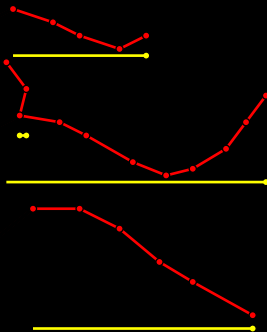
Record:

- birth time of each new component
- death of each component (when it joins to an older component)

# Method

## Sweep filtration

Filter brain arteries by sweeping across with a plane:



Record:

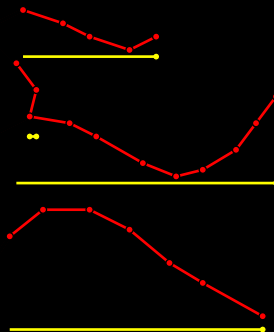
- birth time of each new component
- death of each component (when it joins to an older component)



# Method

## Sweep filtration

Filter brain arteries by sweeping across with a plane:



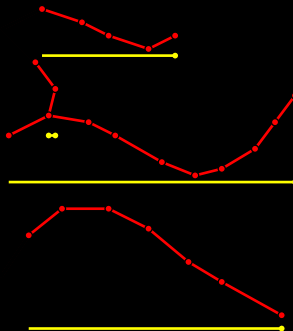
Record:

- birth time of each new component
- death of each component (when it joins to an older component)

# Method

## Sweep filtration

Filter brain arteries by sweeping across with a plane:



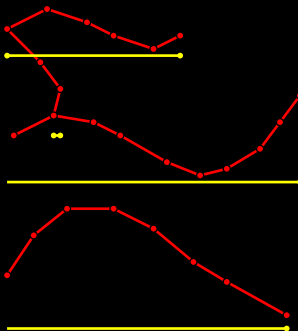
Record:

- birth time of each new component
- death of each component (when it joins to an older component)

# Method

## Sweep filtration

Filter brain arteries by sweeping across with a plane:



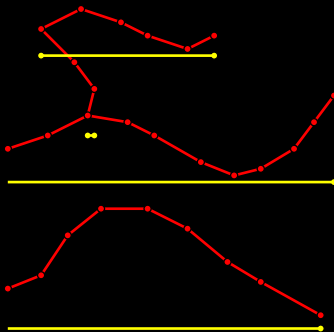
Record:

- birth time of each new component
- death of each component (when it joins to an older component)

# Method

## Sweep filtration

Filter brain arteries by sweeping across with a plane:



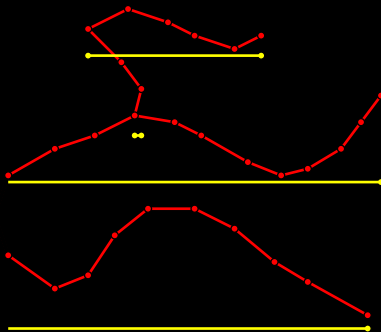
Record:

- birth time of each new component
- death of each component (when it joins to an older component)

# Method

## Sweep filtration

Filter brain arteries by sweeping across with a plane:



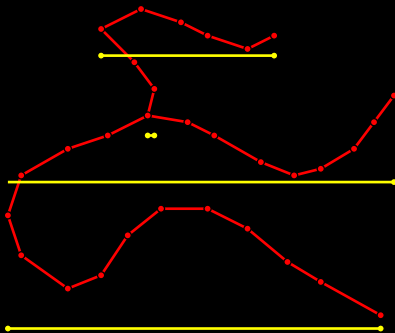
Record:

- birth time of each new component
- death of each component (when it joins to an older component)

# Method

## Sweep filtration

Filter brain arteries by sweeping across with a plane:



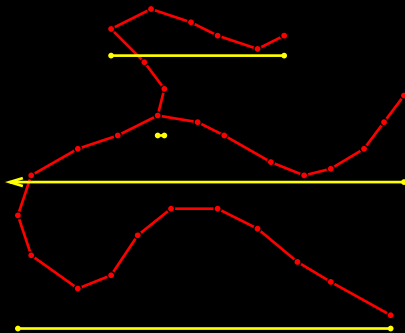
Record:

- birth time of each new component
- death of each component (when it joins to an older component)

# Method

## Sweep filtration

Filter brain arteries by sweeping across with a plane:

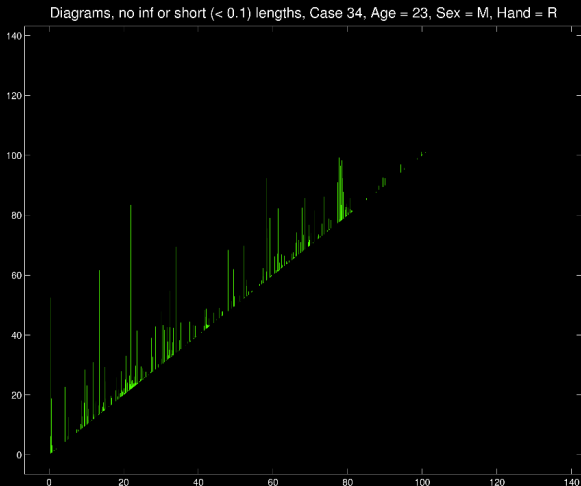


Record:

- birth time of each new component
- death of each component (when it joins to an older component)

## Bar codes

Data structure: 3D tree  $\rightsquigarrow$  bar code / lace array / persistence diagram:

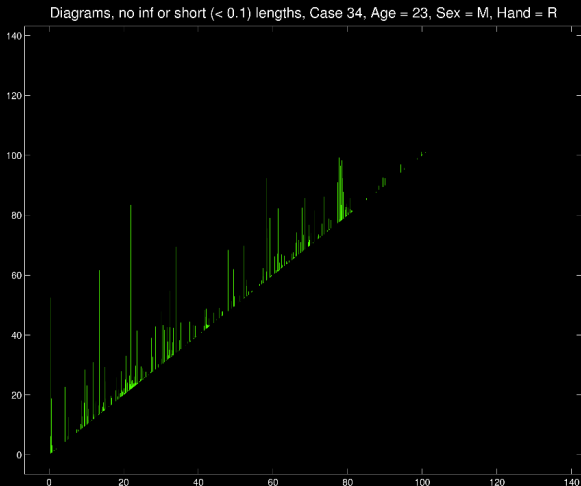


- multiset of (vertical) line segments  $[t, t']$  (plotted at  $x$ -coordinate  $t$ )
- one for each class with birth time  $t$  and death time  $t'$ .



## Bar codes

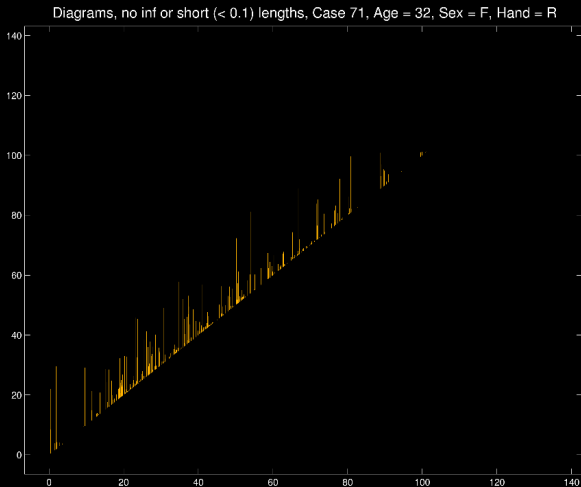
Data structure: 3D tree  $\rightsquigarrow$  bar code / lace array / persistence diagram:



- multiset of (vertical) line segments  $[t, t']$  (plotted at  $x$ -coordinate  $t$ )
- one for each class with birth time  $t$  and death time  $t'$ .

## Bar codes

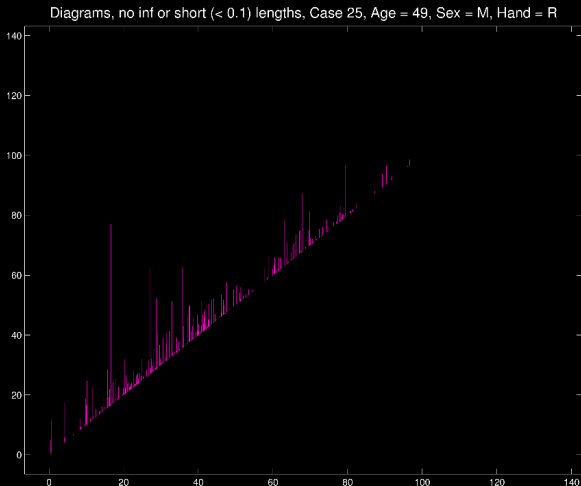
Data structure: 3D tree  $\rightsquigarrow$  bar code / lace array / persistence diagram:



- multiset of (vertical) line segments  $[t, t']$  (plotted at  $x$ -coordinate  $t$ )
- one for each class with birth time  $t$  and death time  $t'$ .

## Bar codes

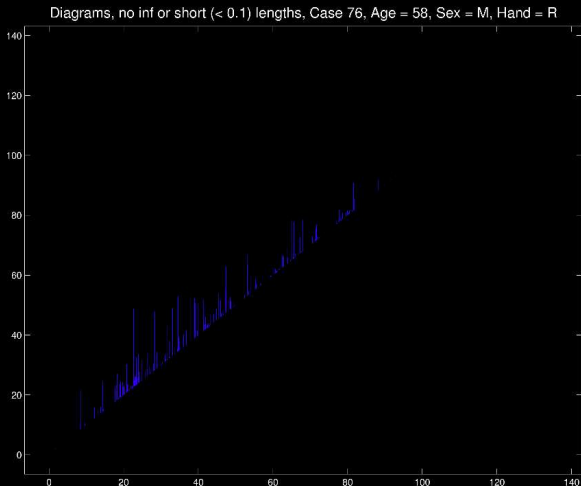
Data structure: 3D tree  $\rightsquigarrow$  **bar code** / **lace array** / **persistence diagram**:



- multiset of (vertical) line segments  $[t, t']$  (plotted at  $x$ -coordinate  $t$ )
- one for each class with birth time  $t$  and death time  $t'$ .

## Bar codes

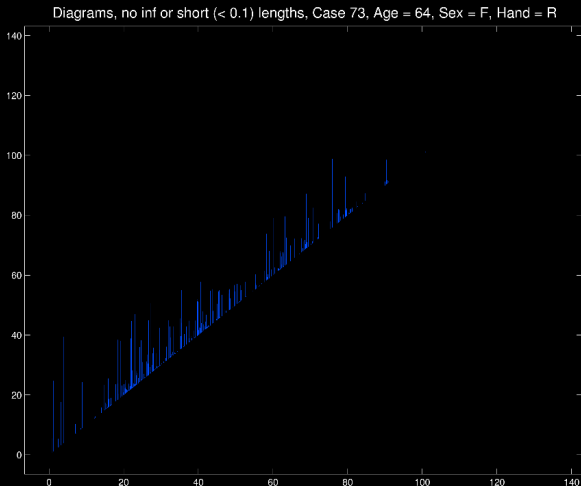
Data structure: 3D tree  $\rightsquigarrow$  bar code / lace array / persistence diagram:



- multiset of (vertical) line segments  $[t, t']$  (plotted at  $x$ -coordinate  $t$ )
- one for each class with birth time  $t$  and death time  $t'$ .

## Bar codes

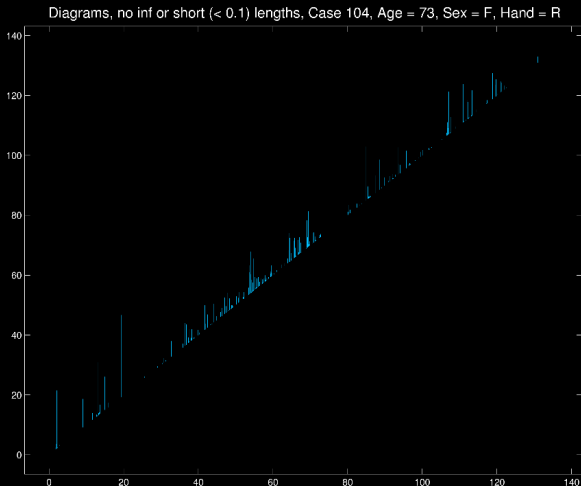
Data structure: 3D tree  $\rightsquigarrow$  bar code / lace array / persistence diagram:



- multiset of (vertical) line segments  $[t, t']$  (plotted at  $x$ -coordinate  $t$ )
- one for each class with birth time  $t$  and death time  $t'$ .

## Bar codes

Data structure: 3D tree  $\rightsquigarrow$  **bar code** / **lace array** / **persistence diagram**:



- multiset of (vertical) line segments  $[t, t']$  (plotted at  $x$ -coordinate  $t$ )
- one for each class with birth time  $t$  and death time  $t'$ .

# Persistent homology

**Input.** Topological space  $X$  filtered by set  $Q$  of subspaces:  $X_q \subseteq X$  for  $q \in Q$   
 $\Rightarrow Q$  is a partially ordered set:  $X_q \subseteq X_{q'} \Leftrightarrow q \preceq q'$

**Def.**  $\{X_q\}_{q \in Q}$  has **persistent homology**  $\{H_q = H(X_q; \mathbb{k})\}_{q \in Q}$ . This is a

**Def.**  **$Q$ -module** over the poset  $Q$ :

- family  $H = \{H_q\}_{q \in Q}$  of vector spaces over the field  $\mathbb{k}$  with
- homomorphism  $H_q \rightarrow H_{q'}$  whenever  $q \prec q'$  in  $Q$  such that
- $H_q \rightarrow H_{q''}$  equals the composite  $H_q \rightarrow H_{q'} \rightarrow H_{q''}$  whenever  $q \prec q' \prec q''$

## Examples

- points in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ :  $Q = \{0, \dots, m\}$  or  $\mathbb{R}$  1-parameter (“ordinary”) persistence
- brain arteries:  $Q = \{0, \dots, m\}$  or  $\mathbb{R}$  1-parameter (“ordinary”) persistence
- wing veins:  $Q = \mathbb{Z}^2$  or  $\mathbb{R}^2$  2 discrete or continuous parameters
- probability distributions:  $Q = \mathbb{R}^2$  2 continuous parameters
- $Q = \mathbb{Z}^n \Leftrightarrow H = \mathbb{Z}^n$ -graded  $\mathbb{k}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ -module
- $Q = \mathbb{R}^n \Leftrightarrow H = \mathbb{R}^n$ -graded  $\mathbb{k}[\mathbb{R}_+^n]$ -module

# Persistent homology

**Input.** Topological space  $X$  filtered by set  $Q$  of subspaces:  $X_q \subseteq X$  for  $q \in Q$   
 $\Rightarrow Q$  is a partially ordered set:  $X_q \subseteq X_{q'} \Leftrightarrow q \preceq q'$

**Def.**  $\{X_q\}_{q \in Q}$  has **persistent homology**  $\{H_q = H(X_q; \mathbb{k})\}_{q \in Q}$ . This is a

**Def.**  **$Q$ -module** over the poset  $Q$ :

- family  $H = \{H_q\}_{q \in Q}$  of vector spaces over the field  $\mathbb{k}$  with
- homomorphism  $H_q \rightarrow H_{q'}$  whenever  $q \prec q'$  in  $Q$  such that
- $H_q \rightarrow H_{q''}$  equals the composite  $H_q \rightarrow H_{q'} \rightarrow H_{q''}$  whenever  $q \prec q' \prec q''$

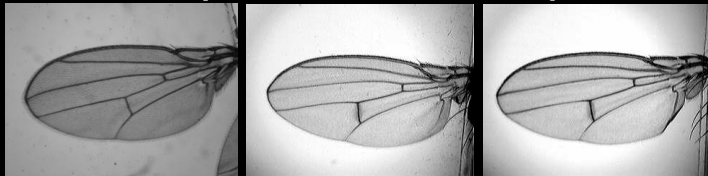
## Examples

- points in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ :  $Q = \{0, \dots, m\}$  or  $\mathbb{R}$  1-parameter (“ordinary”) persistence
- brain arteries:  $Q = \{0, \dots, m\}$  or  $\mathbb{R}$  1-parameter (“ordinary”) persistence
- wing veins:  $Q = \mathbb{Z}^2$  or  $\mathbb{R}^2$  2 discrete or continuous parameters
- probability distributions:  $Q = \mathbb{R}^2$  2 continuous parameters
- $Q = \mathbb{Z}^n \Leftrightarrow H = \mathbb{Z}^n$ -graded  $\mathbb{k}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ -module
- $Q = \mathbb{R}^n \Leftrightarrow H = \mathbb{R}^n$ -graded  $\mathbb{k}[\mathbb{R}_+^n]$ -module



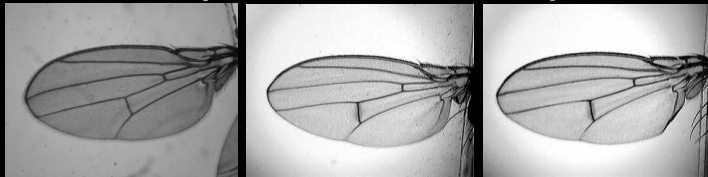
## Fruit fly wings

Normal fly wings [images from David Houle's lab]:

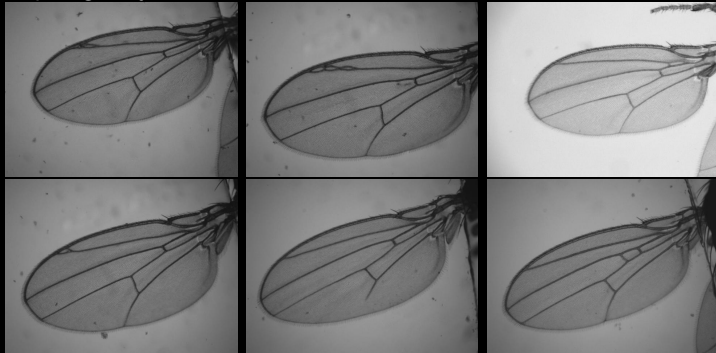


## Fruit fly wings

Normal fly wings [images from David Houle's lab]:

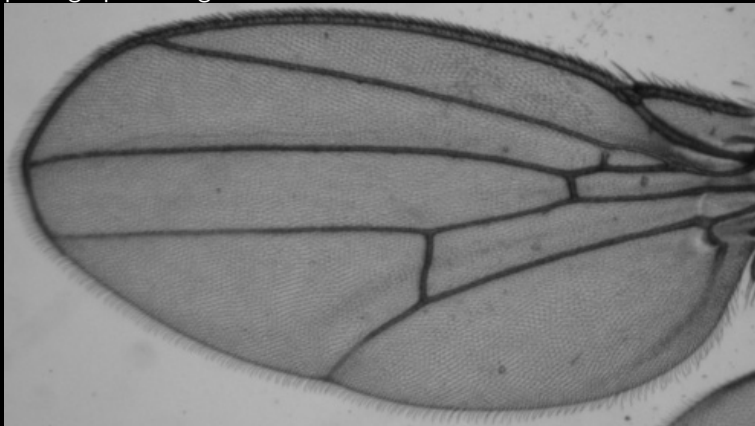


Topologically abnormal veins:



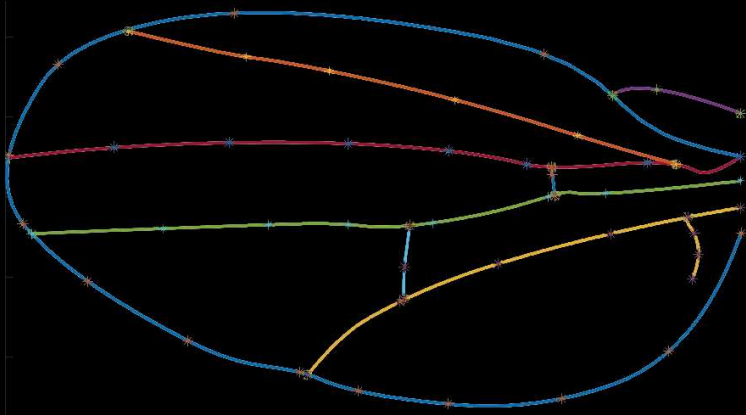
# Fruit fly wings

photographic image



# Fruit fly wings

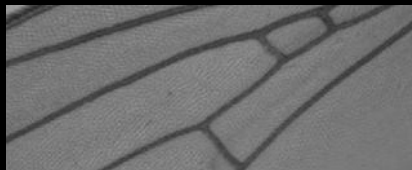
spline



# Wing vein persistence [w/Houle, et al., ongoing]

**Example.** Encode fruit fly wing with 2-parameter persistence

- 1st parameter: distance from vertex set
- 2nd parameter: distance from edge set

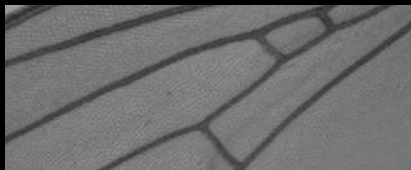


Sublevel set  $W_{r,s}$  is near edges but far from vertices  $\Rightarrow H_{r,s} = H_i(W_{r,s})$

# Wing vein persistence [w/Houle, et al., ongoing]

**Example.** Encode fruit fly wing with 2-parameter persistence

- 1st parameter: distance from vertex set given as points in  $\mathbb{R}^2$
- 2nd parameter: distance from edge set

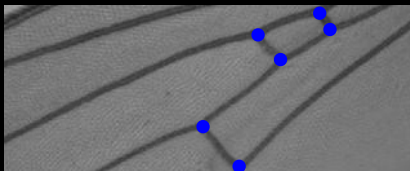


Sublevel set  $W_{r,s}$  is near edges but far from vertices  $\Rightarrow H_{r,s} = H_i(W_{r,s})$

# Wing vein persistence [w/Houle, et al., ongoing]

**Example.** Encode fruit fly wing with 2-parameter persistence

- 1st parameter: distance from vertex set given as points in  $\mathbb{R}^2$
- 2nd parameter: distance from edge set

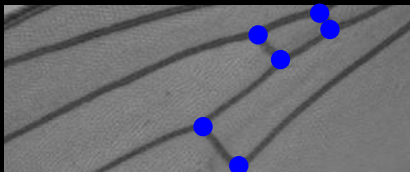


Sublevel set  $W_{r,s}$  is near edges but far from vertices  $\Rightarrow H_{r,s} = H_i(W_{r,s})$

# Wing vein persistence [w/Houle, et al., ongoing]

**Example.** Encode fruit fly wing with 2-parameter persistence

- 1st parameter: distance from vertex set given as points in  $\mathbb{R}^2$
- 2nd parameter: distance from edge set



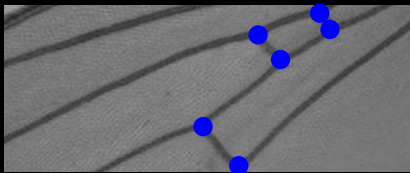
Sublevel set  $W_{r,s}$  is near edges but far from vertices  $\Rightarrow H_{r,s} = H_i(W_{r,s})$



# Wing vein persistence [w/Houle, et al., ongoing]

**Example.** Encode fruit fly wing with 2-parameter persistence

- **1st parameter:** distance from vertex set given as points in  $\mathbb{R}^2$
- **2nd parameter:** distance from edge set given as Bézier curves

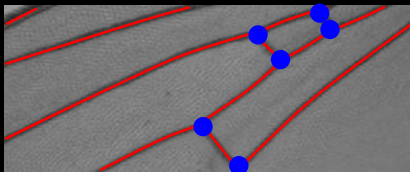


Sublevel set  $W_{r,s}$  is **near edges** but **far from vertices**  $\Rightarrow H_{r,s} = H_i(W_{r,s})$

# Wing vein persistence [w/Houle, et al., ongoing]

**Example.** Encode fruit fly wing with 2-parameter persistence

- **1st parameter:** distance from vertex set given as points in  $\mathbb{R}^2$
- **2nd parameter:** distance from edge set given as Bézier curves

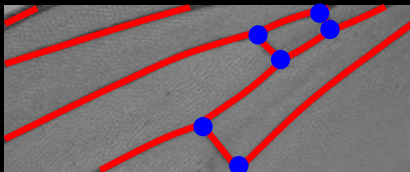


Sublevel set  $W_{r,s}$  is near edges but far from vertices  $\Rightarrow H_{r,s} = H_i(W_{r,s})$

# Wing vein persistence [w/Houle, et al., ongoing]

**Example.** Encode fruit fly wing with 2-parameter persistence

- 1st parameter: distance from vertex set given as points in  $\mathbb{R}^2$
- 2nd parameter: distance from edge set given as Bézier curves

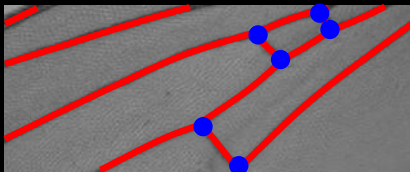


Sublevel set  $W_{r,s}$  is near edges but far from vertices  $\Rightarrow H_{r,s} = H_i(W_{r,s})$

# Wing vein persistence [w/Houle, et al., ongoing]

**Example.** Encode fruit fly wing with 2-parameter persistence

- 1st parameter: distance from vertex set (require distance  $\geq -r$ )
- 2nd parameter: distance from edge set given as Bézier curves

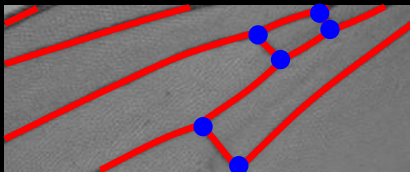


Sublevel set  $W_{r,s}$  is near edges but far from vertices  $\Rightarrow H_{r,s} = H_i(W_{r,s})$

# Wing vein persistence [w/Houle, et al., ongoing]

**Example.** Encode fruit fly wing with 2-parameter persistence

- 1st parameter: distance from vertex set (require distance  $\geq -r$ )
- 2nd parameter: distance from edge set (require distance  $\leq s$ )

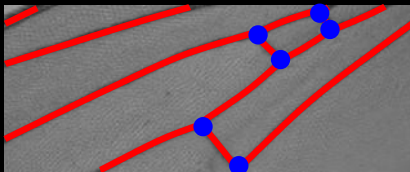


Sublevel set  $W_{r,s}$  is near edges but far from vertices  $\Rightarrow H_{r,s} = H_i(W_{r,s})$

# Wing vein persistence [w/Houle, et al., ongoing]

**Example.** Encode fruit fly wing with 2-parameter persistence

- 1st parameter: distance from vertex set (require distance  $\geq -r$ )
- 2nd parameter: distance from edge set (require distance  $\leq s$ )

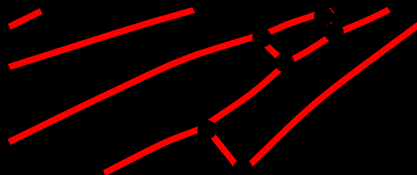


Sublevel set  $W_{r,s}$  is near edges but far from vertices  $\Rightarrow H_{r,s} = H_i(W_{r,s})$

# Wing vein persistence [w/Houle, et al., ongoing]

**Example.** Encode fruit fly wing with 2-parameter persistence

- 1st parameter: distance from vertex set (require distance  $\geq -r$ )
- 2nd parameter: distance from edge set (require distance  $\leq s$ )

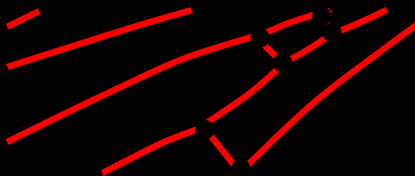


Sublevel set  $W_{r,s}$  is near edges but far from vertices  $\Rightarrow H_{r,s} = H_i(W_{r,s})$

# Wing vein persistence [w/Houle, et al., ongoing]

**Example.** Encode fruit fly wing with 2-parameter persistence

- 1st parameter: distance from vertex set (require distance  $\geq -r$ )
- 2nd parameter: distance from edge set (require distance  $\leq s$ )



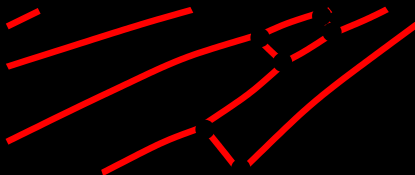
Sublevel set  $W_{r,s}$  is near edges but far from vertices  $\Rightarrow H_{r,s} = H_i(W_{r,s})$



# Wing vein persistence [w/Houle, et al., ongoing]

**Example.** Encode fruit fly wing with 2-parameter persistence

- 1st parameter: distance from vertex set (require distance  $\geq -r$ )
- 2nd parameter: distance from edge set (require distance  $\leq s$ )



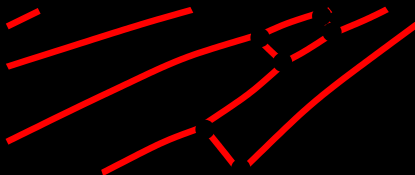
Sublevel set  $W_{r,s}$  is near edges but far from vertices  $\Rightarrow H_{r,s} = H_i(W_{r,s})$

Multiscale summary

# Wing vein persistence [w/Houle, et al., ongoing]

**Example.** Encode fruit fly wing with 2-parameter persistence

- 1st parameter: distance from vertex set (require distance  $\geq -r$ )
- 2nd parameter: distance from edge set (require distance  $\leq s$ )



Sublevel set  $W_{r,s}$  is near edges but far from vertices  $\Rightarrow H_{r,s} = H_i(W_{r,s})$

## Multiscale summary

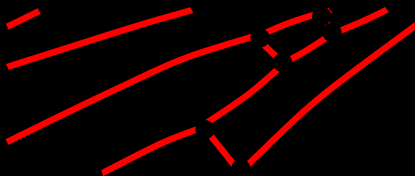
$\mathbb{Z}^2$ -module:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 & \uparrow & & \uparrow & & \uparrow & \\
 \rightarrow & H_{r-\varepsilon, s+\delta} & \rightarrow & H_{r, s+\delta} & \rightarrow & H_{r+\varepsilon, s+\delta} & \rightarrow \\
 & \uparrow & & \uparrow & & \uparrow & \\
 \rightarrow & H_{r-\varepsilon, s} & \rightarrow & H_{r, s} & \rightarrow & H_{r+\varepsilon, s} & \rightarrow \\
 & \uparrow & & \uparrow & & \uparrow & \\
 \rightarrow & H_{r-\varepsilon, s-\delta} & \rightarrow & H_{r, s-\delta} & \rightarrow & H_{r+\varepsilon, s-\delta} & \rightarrow \\
 & \uparrow & & \uparrow & & \uparrow & 
 \end{array}$$

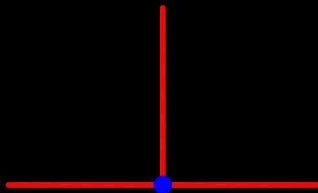
# Wing vein persistence [w/Houle, et al., ongoing]

**Example.** Encode fruit fly wing with 2-parameter persistence

- 1st parameter: distance from vertex set (require distance  $\geq -r$ )
- 2nd parameter: distance from edge set (require distance  $\leq s$ )

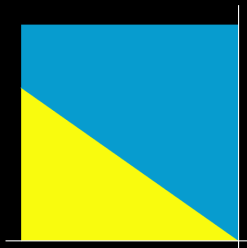


Sublevel set  $W_{r,s}$  is near edges but far from vertices  $\Rightarrow H_{r,s} = H_i(W_{r,s})$



A piece of fly wing vein

$\rightsquigarrow$

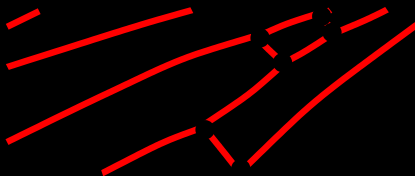


The  $(r,s)$ -plane  $\mathbb{R}^2$

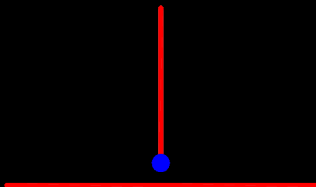
# Wing vein persistence [w/Houle, et al., ongoing]

**Example.** Encode fruit fly wing with 2-parameter persistence

- 1st parameter: distance from vertex set (require distance  $\geq -r$ )
- 2nd parameter: distance from edge set (require distance  $\leq s$ )

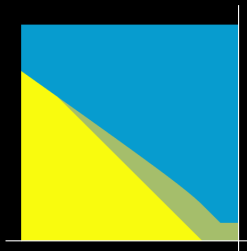


Sublevel set  $W_{r,s}$  is near edges but far from vertices  $\Rightarrow H_{r,s} = H_i(W_{r,s})$



A piece of fly wing vein

$\rightsquigarrow$

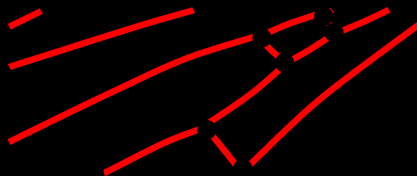


The  $(r, s)$ -plane  $\mathbb{R}^2$

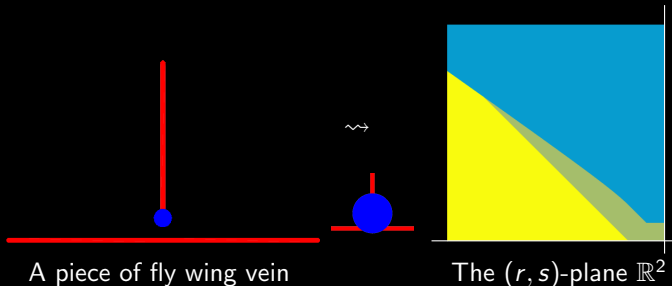
# Wing vein persistence [w/Houle, et al., ongoing]

**Example.** Encode fruit fly wing with 2-parameter persistence

- 1st parameter: distance from vertex set (require distance  $\geq -r$ )
- 2nd parameter: distance from edge set (require distance  $\leq s$ )



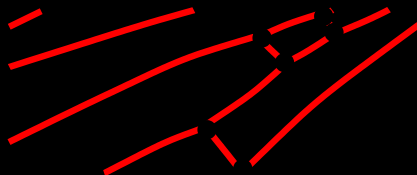
Sublevel set  $W_{r,s}$  is near edges but far from vertices  $\Rightarrow H_{r,s} = H_i(W_{r,s})$



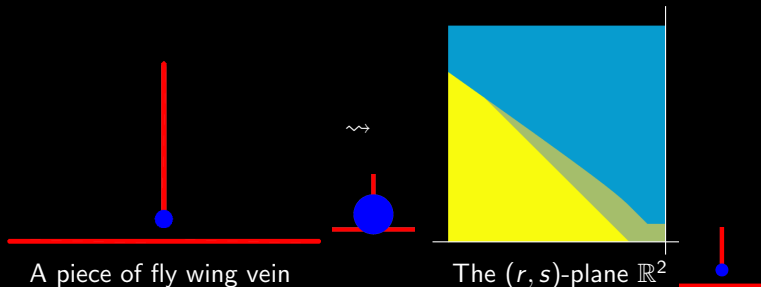
# Wing vein persistence [w/Houle, et al., ongoing]

**Example.** Encode fruit fly wing with 2-parameter persistence

- 1st parameter: distance from vertex set (require distance  $\geq -r$ )
- 2nd parameter: distance from edge set (require distance  $\leq s$ )



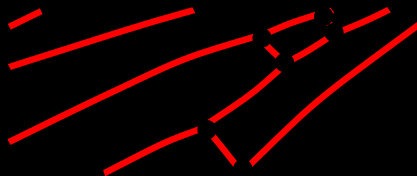
Sublevel set  $W_{r,s}$  is near edges but far from vertices  $\Rightarrow H_{r,s} = H_i(W_{r,s})$



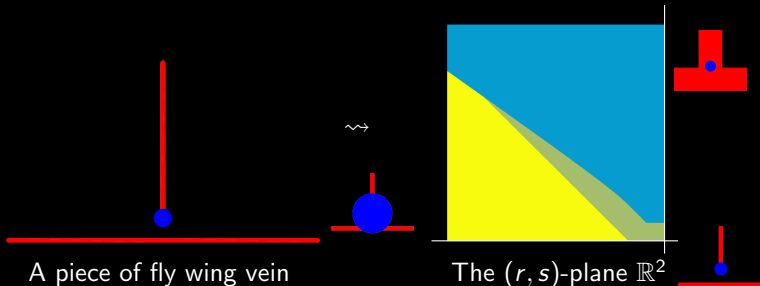
# Wing vein persistence [w/Houle, et al., ongoing]

**Example.** Encode fruit fly wing with 2-parameter persistence

- 1st parameter: distance from vertex set (require distance  $\geq -r$ )
- 2nd parameter: distance from edge set (require distance  $\leq s$ )



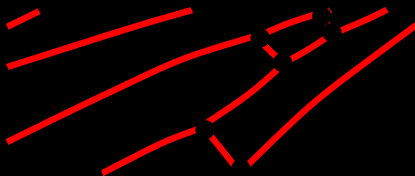
Sublevel set  $W_{r,s}$  is near edges but far from vertices  $\Rightarrow H_{r,s} = H_i(W_{r,s})$



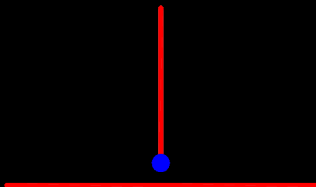
# Wing vein persistence [w/Houle, et al., ongoing]

**Example.** Encode fruit fly wing with 2-parameter persistence

- 1st parameter: distance from vertex set (require distance  $\geq -r$ )
- 2nd parameter: distance from edge set (require distance  $\leq s$ )

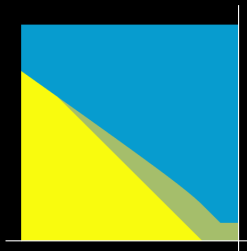


Sublevel set  $W_{r,s}$  is near edges but far from vertices  $\Rightarrow H_{r,s} = H_i(W_{r,s})$



A piece of fly wing vein

$\rightsquigarrow$



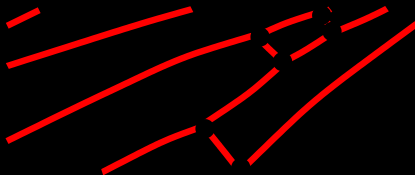
The  $(r, s)$ -plane  $\mathbb{R}^2$



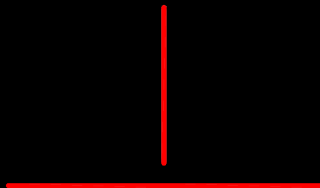
# Wing vein persistence [w/Houle, et al., ongoing]

**Example.** Encode fruit fly wing with 2-parameter persistence

- 1st parameter: distance from vertex set (require distance  $\geq -r$ )
- 2nd parameter: distance from edge set (require distance  $\leq s$ )

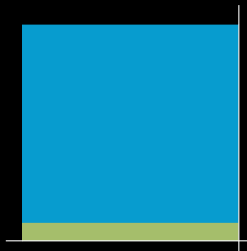


Sublevel set  $W_{r,s}$  is near edges but far from vertices  $\Rightarrow H_{r,s} = H_i(W_{r,s})$



A piece of fly wing vein

$\rightsquigarrow$

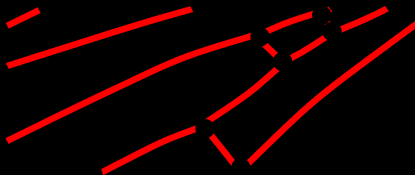


The  $(r,s)$ -plane  $\mathbb{R}^2$

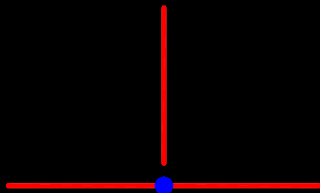
# Wing vein persistence [w/Houle, et al., ongoing]

**Example.** Encode fruit fly wing with 2-parameter persistence

- 1st parameter: distance from vertex set (require distance  $\geq -r$ )
- 2nd parameter: distance from edge set (require distance  $\leq s$ )

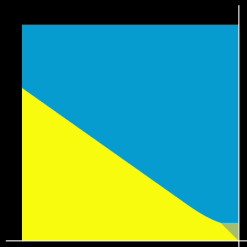


Sublevel set  $W_{r,s}$  is near edges but far from vertices  $\Rightarrow H_{r,s} = H_i(W_{r,s})$



A piece of fly wing vein

$\rightsquigarrow$

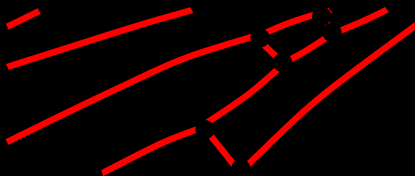


The  $(r,s)$ -plane  $\mathbb{R}^2$

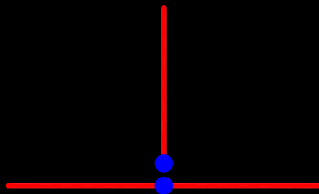
# Wing vein persistence [w/Houle, et al., ongoing]

**Example.** Encode fruit fly wing with 2-parameter persistence

- 1st parameter: distance from vertex set (require distance  $\geq -r$ )
- 2nd parameter: distance from edge set (require distance  $\leq s$ )

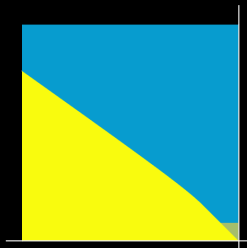


Sublevel set  $W_{r,s}$  is near edges but far from vertices  $\Rightarrow H_{r,s} = H_i(W_{r,s})$



A piece of fly wing vein

$\rightsquigarrow$

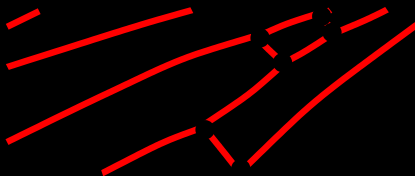


The  $(r,s)$ -plane  $\mathbb{R}^2$

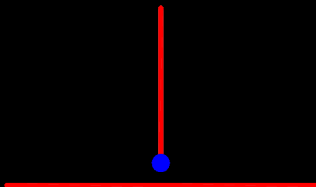
# Wing vein persistence [w/Houle, et al., ongoing]

**Example.** Encode fruit fly wing with 2-parameter persistence

- 1st parameter: distance from vertex set (require distance  $\geq -r$ )
- 2nd parameter: distance from edge set (require distance  $\leq s$ )

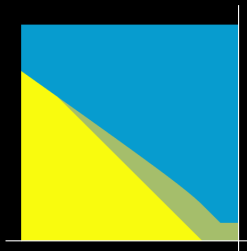


Sublevel set  $W_{r,s}$  is near edges but far from vertices  $\Rightarrow H_{r,s} = H_i(W_{r,s})$



A piece of fly wing vein

$\rightsquigarrow$



The  $(r,s)$ -plane  $\mathbb{R}^2$

# Persistent homology

**Input.** Topological space  $X$  filtered by set  $Q$  of subspaces:  $X_q \subseteq X$  for  $q \in Q$   
 $\Rightarrow Q$  is a partially ordered set:  $X_q \subseteq X_{q'} \Leftrightarrow q \preceq q'$

**Def.**  $\{X_q\}_{q \in Q}$  has **persistent homology**  $\{H_q = H(X_q; \mathbb{k})\}_{q \in Q}$ . This is a

**Def.**  **$Q$ -module** over the poset  $Q$ :

- family  $H = \{H_q\}_{q \in Q}$  of vector spaces over the field  $\mathbb{k}$  with
- homomorphism  $H_q \rightarrow H_{q'}$  whenever  $q \prec q'$  in  $Q$  such that
- $H_q \rightarrow H_{q''}$  equals the composite  $H_q \rightarrow H_{q'} \rightarrow H_{q''}$  whenever  $q \prec q' \prec q''$

## Examples

- points in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ :  $Q = \{0, \dots, m\}$  or  $\mathbb{R}$  1-parameter (“ordinary”) persistence
- brain arteries:  $Q = \{0, \dots, m\}$  or  $\mathbb{R}$  1-parameter (“ordinary”) persistence
- wing veins:  $Q = \mathbb{Z}^2$  or  $\mathbb{R}^2$  2 discrete or continuous parameters
- probability distributions:  $Q = \mathbb{R}^2$  2 continuous parameters
- $Q = \mathbb{Z}^n \Leftrightarrow H = \mathbb{Z}^n$ -graded  $\mathbb{k}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ -module
- $Q = \mathbb{R}^n \Leftrightarrow H = \mathbb{R}^n$ -graded  $\mathbb{k}[\mathbb{R}_+^n]$ -module

# Persistent homology

**Input.** Topological space  $X$  filtered by set  $Q$  of subspaces:  $X_q \subseteq X$  for  $q \in Q$   
 $\Rightarrow Q$  is a partially ordered set:  $X_q \subseteq X_{q'} \Leftrightarrow q \preceq q'$

**Def.**  $\{X_q\}_{q \in Q}$  has **persistent homology**  $\{H_q = H(X_q; \mathbb{k})\}_{q \in Q}$ . This is a

**Def.**  **$Q$ -module** over the poset  $Q$ :

- family  $H = \{H_q\}_{q \in Q}$  of vector spaces over the field  $\mathbb{k}$  with
- homomorphism  $H_q \rightarrow H_{q'}$  whenever  $q \prec q'$  in  $Q$  such that
- $H_q \rightarrow H_{q''}$  equals the composite  $H_q \rightarrow H_{q'} \rightarrow H_{q''}$  whenever  $q \prec q' \prec q''$

## Examples

- points in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ :  $Q = \{0, \dots, m\}$  or  $\mathbb{R}$  1-parameter (“ordinary”) persistence
- brain arteries:  $Q = \{0, \dots, m\}$  or  $\mathbb{R}$  1-parameter (“ordinary”) persistence
- wing veins:  $Q = \mathbb{Z}^2$  or  $\mathbb{R}^2$  2 discrete or continuous parameters
- probability distributions:  $Q = \mathbb{R}^2$  2 continuous parameters
- $Q = \mathbb{Z}^n \Leftrightarrow H = \mathbb{Z}^n$ -graded  $\mathbb{k}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ -module
- $Q = \mathbb{R}^n \Leftrightarrow H = \mathbb{R}^n$ -graded  $\mathbb{k}[\mathbb{R}_+^n]$ -module

## Example: topology of probability distributions

Given probability measure  $\mu$  on a space  $M$  and kernel function of bandwidth  $r$  e.g.

- $K_r =$  Gaussian (normal distribution) of variance  $r$  on  $\mathbb{R}^d$
- $K_r =$  uniform measure on ball of radius  $r$  on  $\mathbb{R}^d$

Def. Convolution with kernel  $K_r$  yields bandwidth  $r$  expansion  $B_r(\mu) = K_r * \mu$ .

Example.

- $B_r(\mu_n) \sim B_r(\mu)$  if  $\mu_n$  is uniform on an  $n$ -sample from  $\mu$
- $\mu = F(x)dx \Rightarrow B_r(\mu)$  has density  $K_r * F(x) = \int_M K_r(y - x)d\mu(y)$

Def.  $\nu$  with density function  $F$  has support at sensitivity  $s$ :

$$\nu_s = \{x \in M \mid F(x) \geq 1/s\}.$$

Def. The expansion of  $\mu$  to bandwidth  $r$  and sensitivity  $s$  is  $B_r(\mu)_{r^d s} \subseteq M$ .

Prop.  $\{B_r(\mu)_{r^d s} \mid r \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0} \text{ and } s \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 1}\} \subseteq M$  nested as  $r$  and  $s$  increase.

Persistent homology:  $B_r(\mu)_{r^d s} \rightsquigarrow$  homology  $H_*(B_r(\mu)_{r^d s})$

Def.  $\mu$  has  $i^{\text{th}}$  bipersistent homology  $H_i^{rs}(\mu) = H_i(B_r(\mu)_{r^d s})$ , an invariant of  $\mu$  algebra, geometry, combinatorics of  $H_*^{rs}(\nu) \leftrightarrow$  statistics of  $\nu$

## Example: topology of probability distributions

Given probability measure  $\mu$  on a space  $M$  and kernel function of bandwidth  $r$  e.g.

- $K_r =$  Gaussian (normal distribution) of variance  $r$  on  $\mathbb{R}^d$
- $K_r =$  uniform measure on ball of radius  $r$  on  $\mathbb{R}^d$

Def. Convolution with kernel  $K_r$  yields bandwidth  $r$  expansion  $B_r(\mu) = K_r * \mu$ .

Example.

- $B_r(\mu_n) \sim B_r(\mu)$  if  $\mu_n$  is uniform on an  $n$ -sample from  $\mu$
- $\mu = F(x)dx \Rightarrow B_r(\mu)$  has density  $K_r * F(x) = \int_M K_r(y - x)d\mu(y)$

Def.  $\nu$  with density function  $F$  has support at sensitivity  $s$ :

$$\nu_s = \{x \in M \mid F(x) \geq 1/s\}.$$

Def. The expansion of  $\mu$  to bandwidth  $r$  and sensitivity  $s$  is  $B_r(\mu)_{r^d s} \subseteq M$ .

Prop.  $\{B_r(\mu)_{r^d s} \mid r \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0} \text{ and } s \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 1}\} \subseteq M$  nested as  $r$  and  $s$  increase.

Persistent homology:  $B_r(\mu)_{r^d s} \rightsquigarrow$  homology  $H_*(B_r(\mu)_{r^d s})$

Def.  $\mu$  has  $i^{\text{th}}$  bipersistent homology  $H_i^{rs}(\mu) = H_i(B_r(\mu)_{r^d s})$ , an invariant of  $\mu$  algebra, geometry, combinatorics of  $H_*^{rs}(\nu) \leftrightarrow$  statistics of  $\nu$



## Example: topology of probability distributions

Given probability measure  $\mu$  on a space  $M$  and kernel function of bandwidth  $r$  e.g.

- $K_r =$  Gaussian (normal distribution) of variance  $r$  on  $\mathbb{R}^d$
- $K_r =$  uniform measure on ball of radius  $r$  on  $\mathbb{R}^d$

Def. Convolution with kernel  $K_r$  yields bandwidth  $r$  expansion  $B_r(\mu) = K_r * \mu$ .

Example.

- $B_r(\mu_n) \sim B_r(\mu)$  if  $\mu_n$  is uniform on an  $n$ -sample from  $\mu$
- $\mu = F(x)dx \Rightarrow B_r(\mu)$  has density  $K_r * F(x) = \int_M K_r(y - x)d\mu(y)$

Def.  $\nu$  with density function  $F$  has support at sensitivity  $s$ :

$$\nu_s = \{x \in M \mid F(x) \geq 1/s\}.$$

Def. The expansion of  $\mu$  to bandwidth  $r$  and sensitivity  $s$  is  $B_r(\mu)_{r^d s} \subseteq M$ .

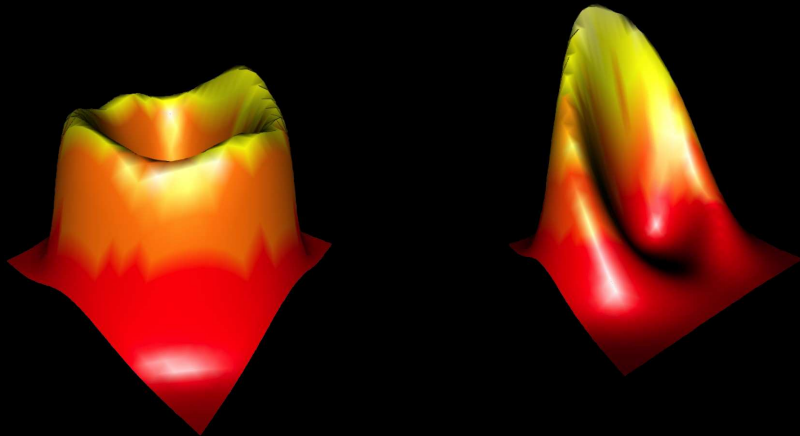
Prop.  $\{B_r(\mu)_{r^d s} \mid r \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0} \text{ and } s \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 1}\} \subseteq M$  nested as  $r$  and  $s$  increase.

Persistent homology:  $B_r(\mu)_{r^d s} \rightsquigarrow$  homology  $H_*(B_r(\mu)_{r^d s})$

Def.  $\mu$  has  $i^{\text{th}}$  bipersistent homology  $H_i^{rs}(\mu) = H_i(B_r(\mu)_{r^d s})$ , an invariant of  $\mu$  algebra, geometry, combinatorics of  $H_*^{rs}(\nu) \leftrightarrow$  statistics of  $\nu$

# Topology of probability distributions

---



images from *Confidence sets for persistence diagrams*,  
by Fasy, Lecci, Rinaldo, Wasserman, Balakrishnan, Singh,  
*Annals of Statistics* **42** (2014), no. 6, 2301–2339.

## Example: topology of probability distributions

Given probability measure  $\mu$  on a space  $M$  and kernel function of bandwidth  $r$  e.g.

- $K_r =$  Gaussian (normal distribution) of variance  $r$  on  $\mathbb{R}^d$
- $K_r =$  uniform measure on ball of radius  $r$  on  $\mathbb{R}^d$

Def. Convolution with kernel  $K_r$  yields bandwidth  $r$  expansion  $B_r(\mu) = K_r * \mu$ .

Example.

- $B_r(\mu_n) \sim B_r(\mu)$  if  $\mu_n$  is uniform on an  $n$ -sample from  $\mu$
- $\mu = F(x)dx \Rightarrow B_r(\mu)$  has density  $K_r * F(x) = \int_M K_r(y - x)d\mu(y)$

Def.  $\nu$  with density function  $F$  has support at sensitivity  $s$ :

$$\nu_s = \{x \in M \mid F(x) \geq 1/s\}.$$

Def. The expansion of  $\mu$  to bandwidth  $r$  and sensitivity  $s$  is  $B_r(\mu)_{r^d s} \subseteq M$ .

Prop.  $\{B_r(\mu)_{r^d s} \mid r \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0} \text{ and } s \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 1}\} \subseteq M$  nested as  $r$  and  $s$  increase.

Persistent homology:  $B_r(\mu)_{r^d s} \rightsquigarrow$  homology  $H_*(B_r(\mu)_{r^d s})$

Def.  $\mu$  has  $i^{\text{th}}$  bipersistent homology  $H_i^{rs}(\mu) = H_i(B_r(\mu)_{r^d s})$ , an invariant of  $\mu$  algebra, geometry, combinatorics of  $H_*^{rs}(\nu) \leftrightarrow$  statistics of  $\nu$

## Example: topology of probability distributions

Given probability measure  $\mu$  on a space  $M$  and kernel function of bandwidth  $r$  e.g.

- $K_r =$  Gaussian (normal distribution) of variance  $r$  on  $\mathbb{R}^d$
- $K_r =$  uniform measure on ball of radius  $r$  on  $\mathbb{R}^d$

Def. Convolution with kernel  $K_r$  yields bandwidth  $r$  expansion  $B_r(\mu) = K_r * \mu$ .

Example.

- $B_r(\mu_n) \sim B_r(\mu)$  if  $\mu_n$  is uniform on an  $n$ -sample from  $\mu$
- $\mu = F(x)dx \Rightarrow B_r(\mu)$  has density  $K_r * F(x) = \int_M K_r(y - x)d\mu(y)$

Def.  $\nu$  with density function  $F$  has support at sensitivity  $s$ :

$$\nu_s = \{x \in M \mid F(x) \geq 1/s\}.$$

Def. The expansion of  $\mu$  to bandwidth  $r$  and sensitivity  $s$  is  $B_r(\mu)_{r^d s} \subseteq M$ .

Prop.  $\{B_r(\mu)_{r^d s} \mid r \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0} \text{ and } s \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 1}\} \subseteq M$  nested as  $r$  and  $s$  increase.

Persistent homology:  $B_r(\mu)_{r^d s} \rightsquigarrow$  homology  $H_*(B_r(\mu)_{r^d s})$

Def.  $\mu$  has  $i^{\text{th}}$  bipersistent homology  $H_i^{rs}(\mu) = H_i(B_r(\mu)_{r^d s})$ , an invariant of  $\mu$  algebra, geometry, combinatorics of  $H_*^{rs}(\nu) \leftrightarrow$  statistics of  $\nu$

## Example: topology of probability distributions

Given probability measure  $\mu$  on a space  $M$  and kernel function of bandwidth  $r$   
 e.g. •  $K_r$  = Gaussian (normal distribution) of variance  $r$  on  $\mathbb{R}^d$   
 •  $K_r$  = uniform measure on ball of radius  $r$  on  $\mathbb{R}^d$

Def. Convolution with kernel  $K_r$  yields bandwidth  $r$  expansion  $B_r(\mu) = K_r * \mu$ .

Example. •  $B_r(\mu_n) \sim B_r(\mu)$  if  $\mu_n$  is uniform on an  $n$ -sample from  $\mu$   
 •  $\mu = F(x)dx \Rightarrow B_r(\mu)$  has density  $K_r * F(x) = \int_M K_r(y - x)d\mu(y)$

Def.  $\nu$  with density function  $F$  has support at sensitivity  $s$ :

$$\nu_s = \{x \in M \mid F(x) \geq 1/s\}.$$

Def. The expansion of  $\mu$  to bandwidth  $r$  and sensitivity  $s$  is  $B_r(\mu)_{r^d s} \subseteq M$ .

Prop.  $\{B_r(\mu)_{r^d s} \mid r \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0} \text{ and } s \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 1}\} \subseteq M$  nested as  $r$  and  $s$  increase.

Persistent homology:  $B_r(\mu)_{r^d s} \rightsquigarrow$  homology  $H_*(B_r(\mu)_{r^d s})$

Def.  $\mu$  has  $i^{\text{th}}$  bipersistent homology  $H_i^{rs}(\mu) = H_i(B_r(\mu)_{r^d s})$ , an invariant of  $\mu$   
 algebra, geometry, combinatorics of  $H_*^{rs}(\nu) \leftrightarrow$  statistics of  $\nu$

## Example: topology of probability distributions

Given probability measure  $\mu$  on a space  $M$  and kernel function of bandwidth  $r$  e.g.

- $K_r$  = Gaussian (normal distribution) of variance  $r$  on  $\mathbb{R}^d$
- $K_r$  = uniform measure on ball of radius  $r$  on  $\mathbb{R}^d$

Def. Convolution with kernel  $K_r$  yields bandwidth  $r$  expansion  $B_r(\mu) = K_r * \mu$ .

Example.

- $B_r(\mu_n) \sim B_r(\mu)$  if  $\mu_n$  is uniform on an  $n$ -sample from  $\mu$
- $\mu = F(x)dx \Rightarrow B_r(\mu)$  has density  $K_r * F(x) = \int_M K_r(y - x)d\mu(y)$

Def.  $\nu$  with density function  $F$  has support at sensitivity  $s$ :

$$\nu_s = \{x \in M \mid F(x) \geq 1/s\}.$$

Def. The expansion of  $\mu$  to bandwidth  $r$  and sensitivity  $s$  is  $B_r(\mu)_{r^d s} \subseteq M$ .

Prop.  $\{B_r(\mu)_{r^d s} \mid r \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0} \text{ and } s \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 1}\} \subseteq M$  nested as  $r$  and  $s$  increase.

Persistent homology:  $B_r(\mu)_{r^d s} \rightsquigarrow$  homology  $H_*(B_r(\mu)_{r^d s})$

Def.  $\mu$  has  $i^{\text{th}}$  bipersistent homology  $H_i^{rs}(\mu) = H_i(B_r(\mu)_{r^d s})$ , an invariant of  $\mu$  algebra, geometry, combinatorics of  $H_*^{rs}(\nu) \leftrightarrow$  statistics of  $\nu$

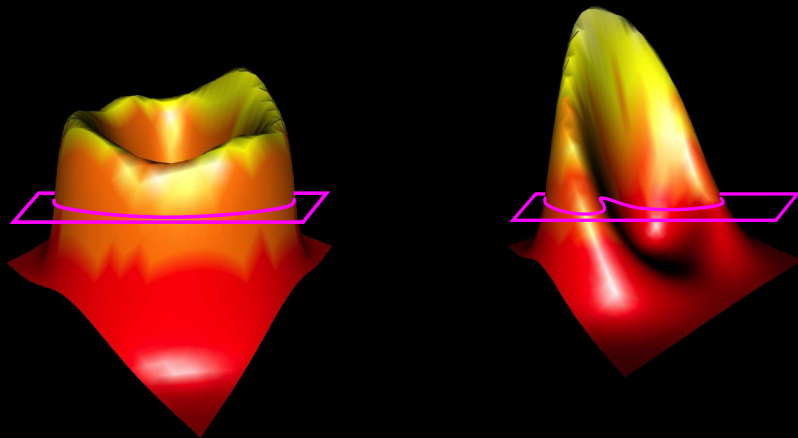
# Topology of probability distributions

---



[surface images from *Confidence sets for persistence diagrams*,  
by Fasy, Lecci, Rinaldo, Wasserman, Balakrishnan, Singh,  
*Annals of Statistics* 42 (2014), no. 6, 2301–2339.]

# Topology of probability distributions



[surface images from *Confidence sets for persistence diagrams*,  
by Fasy, Lecci, Rinaldo, Wasserman, Balakrishnan, Singh,  
*Annals of Statistics* 42 (2014), no. 6, 2301–2339.]



## Example: topology of probability distributions

Given probability measure  $\mu$  on a space  $M$  and kernel function of bandwidth  $r$  e.g.

- $K_r =$  Gaussian (normal distribution) of variance  $r$  on  $\mathbb{R}^d$
- $K_r =$  uniform measure on ball of radius  $r$  on  $\mathbb{R}^d$

Def. Convolution with kernel  $K_r$  yields bandwidth  $r$  expansion  $B_r(\mu) = K_r * \mu$ .

Example.

- $B_r(\mu_n) \sim B_r(\mu)$  if  $\mu_n$  is uniform on an  $n$ -sample from  $\mu$
- $\mu = F(x)dx \Rightarrow B_r(\mu)$  has density  $K_r * F(x) = \int_M K_r(y - x)d\mu(y)$

Def.  $\nu$  with density function  $F$  has support at sensitivity  $s$ :

$$\nu_s = \{x \in M \mid F(x) \geq 1/s\}.$$

Def. The expansion of  $\mu$  to bandwidth  $r$  and sensitivity  $s$  is  $B_r(\mu)_{r^d s} \subseteq M$ .

Prop.  $\{B_r(\mu)_{r^d s} \mid r \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0} \text{ and } s \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 1}\} \subseteq M$  nested as  $r$  and  $s$  increase.

Persistent homology:  $B_r(\mu)_{r^d s} \rightsquigarrow$  homology  $H_*(B_r(\mu)_{r^d s})$

Def.  $\mu$  has  $i^{\text{th}}$  bipersistent homology  $H_i^{rs}(\mu) = H_i(B_r(\mu)_{r^d s})$ , an invariant of  $\mu$  algebra, geometry, combinatorics of  $H_*^{rs}(\nu) \leftrightarrow$  statistics of  $\nu$

## Example: topology of probability distributions

Given probability measure  $\mu$  on a space  $M$  and kernel function of bandwidth  $r$  e.g.

- $K_r =$  Gaussian (normal distribution) of variance  $r$  on  $\mathbb{R}^d$
- $K_r =$  uniform measure on ball of radius  $r$  on  $\mathbb{R}^d$

Def. Convolution with kernel  $K_r$  yields bandwidth  $r$  expansion  $B_r(\mu) = K_r * \mu$ .

Example.

- $B_r(\mu_n) \sim B_r(\mu)$  if  $\mu_n$  is uniform on an  $n$ -sample from  $\mu$
- $\mu = F(x)dx \Rightarrow B_r(\mu)$  has density  $K_r * F(x) = \int_M K_r(y - x)d\mu(y)$

Def.  $\nu$  with density function  $F$  has support at sensitivity  $s$ :

$$\nu_s = \{x \in M \mid F(x) \geq 1/s\}.$$

Def. The expansion of  $\mu$  to bandwidth  $r$  and sensitivity  $s$  is  $B_r(\mu)_{r^d s} \subseteq M$ .

Prop.  $\{B_r(\mu)_{r^d s} \mid r \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0} \text{ and } s \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 1}\} \subseteq M$  nested as  $r$  and  $s$  increase.

Persistent homology:  $B_r(\mu)_{r^d s} \rightsquigarrow$  homology  $H_*(B_r(\mu)_{r^d s})$

Def.  $\mu$  has  $i^{\text{th}}$  bipersistent homology  $H_i^{rs}(\mu) = H_i(B_r(\mu)_{r^d s})$ , an invariant of  $\mu$  algebra, geometry, combinatorics of  $H_*^{rs}(\nu) \leftrightarrow$  statistics of  $\nu$

## Example: topology of probability distributions

Given probability measure  $\mu$  on a space  $M$  and kernel function of bandwidth  $r$   
 e.g. •  $K_r$  = Gaussian (normal distribution) of variance  $r$  on  $\mathbb{R}^d$   
 •  $K_r$  = uniform measure on ball of radius  $r$  on  $\mathbb{R}^d$

Def. Convolution with kernel  $K_r$  yields bandwidth  $r$  expansion  $B_r(\mu) = K_r * \mu$ .

Example. •  $B_r(\mu_n) \sim B_r(\mu)$  if  $\mu_n$  is uniform on an  $n$ -sample from  $\mu$   
 •  $\mu = F(x)dx \Rightarrow B_r(\mu)$  has density  $K_r * F(x) = \int_M K_r(y - x)d\mu(y)$

Def.  $\nu$  with density function  $F$  has support at sensitivity  $s$ :

$$\nu_s = \{x \in M \mid F(x) \geq 1/s\}.$$

Def. The expansion of  $\mu$  to bandwidth  $r$  and sensitivity  $s$  is  $B_r(\mu)_{r^d s} \subseteq M$ .

Prop.  $\{B_r(\mu)_{r^d s} \mid r \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0} \text{ and } s \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 1}\} \subseteq M$  nested as  $r$  and  $s$  increase.

Persistent homology:  $B_r(\mu)_{r^d s} \rightsquigarrow$  homology  $H_*(B_r(\mu)_{r^d s})$

Def.  $\mu$  has  $i^{\text{th}}$  bipersistent homology  $H_i^{rs}(\mu) = H_i(B_r(\mu)_{r^d s})$ , an invariant of  $\mu$   
 algebra, geometry, combinatorics of  $H_*^{rs}(\nu) \leftrightarrow$  statistics of  $\nu$

## Example: topology of probability distributions

Given probability measure  $\mu$  on a space  $M$  and kernel function of bandwidth  $r$  e.g.

- $K_r$  = Gaussian (normal distribution) of variance  $r$  on  $\mathbb{R}^d$
- $K_r$  = uniform measure on ball of radius  $r$  on  $\mathbb{R}^d$

Def. Convolution with kernel  $K_r$  yields bandwidth  $r$  expansion  $B_r(\mu) = K_r * \mu$ .

Example.

- $B_r(\mu_n) \sim B_r(\mu)$  if  $\mu_n$  is uniform on an  $n$ -sample from  $\mu$
- $\mu = F(x)dx \Rightarrow B_r(\mu)$  has density  $K_r * F(x) = \int_M K_r(y - x)d\mu(y)$

Def.  $\nu$  with density function  $F$  has support at sensitivity  $s$ :

$$\nu_s = \{x \in M \mid F(x) \geq 1/s\}.$$

Def. The expansion of  $\mu$  to bandwidth  $r$  and sensitivity  $s$  is  $B_r(\mu)_{r^d s} \subseteq M$ .

Prop.  $\{B_r(\mu)_{r^d s} \mid r \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0} \text{ and } s \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 1}\} \subseteq M$  nested as  $r$  and  $s$  increase.

Persistent homology:  $B_r(\mu)_{r^d s} \rightsquigarrow$  homology  $H_*(B_r(\mu)_{r^d s})$

Def.  $\mu$  has  $i^{\text{th}}$  bipersistent homology  $H_i^{rs}(\mu) = H_i(B_r(\mu)_{r^d s})$ , an invariant of  $\mu$  algebra, geometry, combinatorics of  $H_*^{rs}(\nu) \leftrightarrow$  statistics of  $\nu$

# Persistent homology

**Input.** Topological space  $X$  filtered by set  $Q$  of subspaces:  $X_q \subseteq X$  for  $q \in Q$   
 $\Rightarrow Q$  is a partially ordered set:  $X_q \subseteq X_{q'} \Leftrightarrow q \preceq q'$

**Def.**  $\{X_q\}_{q \in Q}$  has **persistent homology**  $\{H_q = H(X_q; \mathbb{k})\}_{q \in Q}$ . This is a

**Def.**  **$Q$ -module** over the poset  $Q$ :

- family  $H = \{H_q\}_{q \in Q}$  of vector spaces over the field  $\mathbb{k}$  with
- homomorphism  $H_q \rightarrow H_{q'}$  whenever  $q \prec q'$  in  $Q$  such that
- $H_q \rightarrow H_{q''}$  equals the composite  $H_q \rightarrow H_{q'} \rightarrow H_{q''}$  whenever  $q \prec q' \prec q''$

## Examples

- points in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ :  $Q = \{0, \dots, m\}$  or  $\mathbb{R}$  1-parameter (“ordinary”) persistence
- brain arteries:  $Q = \{0, \dots, m\}$  or  $\mathbb{R}$  1-parameter (“ordinary”) persistence
- wing veins:  $Q = \mathbb{Z}^2$  or  $\mathbb{R}^2$  2 discrete or continuous parameters
- probability distributions:  $Q = \mathbb{R}^2$  2 continuous parameters
- $Q = \mathbb{Z}^n \Leftrightarrow H = \mathbb{Z}^n$ -graded  $\mathbb{k}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ -module
- $Q = \mathbb{R}^n \Leftrightarrow H = \mathbb{R}^n$ -graded  $\mathbb{k}[\mathbb{R}_+^n]$ -module

# Persistent homology

**Input.** Topological space  $X$  filtered by set  $Q$  of subspaces:  $X_q \subseteq X$  for  $q \in Q$   
 $\Rightarrow Q$  is a partially ordered set:  $X_q \subseteq X_{q'} \Leftrightarrow q \preceq q'$

**Def.**  $\{X_q\}_{q \in Q}$  has **persistent homology**  $\{H_q = H(X_q; \mathbb{k})\}_{q \in Q}$ . This is a

**Def.**  **$Q$ -module** over the poset  $Q$ :

- family  $H = \{H_q\}_{q \in Q}$  of vector spaces over the field  $\mathbb{k}$  with
- homomorphism  $H_q \rightarrow H_{q'}$  whenever  $q \prec q'$  in  $Q$  such that
- $H_q \rightarrow H_{q''}$  equals the composite  $H_q \rightarrow H_{q'} \rightarrow H_{q''}$  whenever  $q \prec q' \prec q''$

## Examples

- points in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ :  $Q = \{0, \dots, m\}$  or  $\mathbb{R}$  1-parameter (“ordinary”) persistence
- brain arteries:  $Q = \{0, \dots, m\}$  or  $\mathbb{R}$  1-parameter (“ordinary”) persistence
- wing veins:  $Q = \mathbb{Z}^2$  or  $\mathbb{R}^2$  2 discrete or continuous parameters
- probability distributions:  $Q = \mathbb{R}^2$  2 continuous parameters
- $Q = \mathbb{Z}^n \Leftrightarrow H = \mathbb{Z}^n$ -graded  $\mathbb{k}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ -module
- $Q = \mathbb{R}^n \Leftrightarrow H = \mathbb{R}^n$ -graded  $\mathbb{k}[\mathbb{R}_+^n]$ -module

# Persistent homology

**Input.** Topological space  $X$  filtered by set  $Q$  of subspaces:  $X_q \subseteq X$  for  $q \in Q$   
 $\Rightarrow Q$  is a partially ordered set:  $X_q \subseteq X_{q'} \Leftrightarrow q \preceq q'$

**Def.**  $\{X_q\}_{q \in Q}$  has **persistent homology**  $\{H_q = H(X_q; \mathbb{k})\}_{q \in Q}$ . This is a

**Def.**  **$Q$ -module** over the poset  $Q$ :

- family  $H = \{H_q\}_{q \in Q}$  of vector spaces over the field  $\mathbb{k}$  with
- homomorphism  $H_q \rightarrow H_{q'}$  whenever  $q \prec q'$  in  $Q$  such that
- $H_q \rightarrow H_{q''}$  equals the composite  $H_q \rightarrow H_{q'} \rightarrow H_{q''}$  whenever  $q \prec q' \prec q''$

## Examples

- points in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ :  $Q = \{0, \dots, m\}$  or  $\mathbb{R}$  1-parameter (“ordinary”) persistence
- brain arteries:  $Q = \{0, \dots, m\}$  or  $\mathbb{R}$  1-parameter (“ordinary”) persistence
- wing veins:  $Q = \mathbb{Z}^2$  or  $\mathbb{R}^2$  2 discrete or continuous parameters
- probability distributions:  $Q = \mathbb{R}^2$  2 continuous parameters
- $Q = \mathbb{Z}^n \Leftrightarrow H = \mathbb{Z}^n$ -graded  $\mathbb{k}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ -module (standard commutative alg.)
- $Q = \mathbb{R}^n \Leftrightarrow H = \mathbb{R}^n$ -graded  $\mathbb{k}[\mathbb{R}_+^n]$ -module

# Persistent homology

**Input.** Topological space  $X$  filtered by set  $Q$  of subspaces:  $X_q \subseteq X$  for  $q \in Q$   
 $\Rightarrow Q$  is a partially ordered set:  $X_q \subseteq X_{q'} \Leftrightarrow q \preceq q'$

**Def.**  $\{X_q\}_{q \in Q}$  has **persistent homology**  $\{H_q = H(X_q; \mathbb{k})\}_{q \in Q}$ . This is a

**Def.**  **$Q$ -module** over the poset  $Q$ :

- family  $H = \{H_q\}_{q \in Q}$  of vector spaces over the field  $\mathbb{k}$  with
- homomorphism  $H_q \rightarrow H_{q'}$  whenever  $q \prec q'$  in  $Q$  such that
- $H_q \rightarrow H_{q''}$  equals the composite  $H_q \rightarrow H_{q'} \rightarrow H_{q''}$  whenever  $q \prec q' \prec q''$

## Examples

- points in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ :  $Q = \{0, \dots, m\}$  or  $\mathbb{R}$  1-parameter (“ordinary”) persistence
- brain arteries:  $Q = \{0, \dots, m\}$  or  $\mathbb{R}$  1-parameter (“ordinary”) persistence
- wing veins:  $Q = \mathbb{Z}^2$  or  $\mathbb{R}^2$  2 discrete or continuous parameters
- probability distributions:  $Q = \mathbb{R}^2$  2 continuous parameters
- $Q = \mathbb{Z}^n \Leftrightarrow H = \mathbb{Z}^n$ -graded  $\mathbb{k}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ -module (standard commutative alg.)
- $Q = \mathbb{R}^n \Leftrightarrow H = \mathbb{R}^n$ -graded  $\mathbb{k}[\mathbb{R}_+^n]$ -module



# Persistent homology

**Input.** Topological space  $X$  filtered by set  $Q$  of subspaces:  $X_q \subseteq X$  for  $q \in Q$   
 $\Rightarrow Q$  is a partially ordered set:  $X_q \subseteq X_{q'} \Leftrightarrow q \preceq q'$

**Def.**  $\{X_q\}_{q \in Q}$  has **persistent homology**  $\{H_q = H(X_q; \mathbb{k})\}_{q \in Q}$ . This is a

**Def.**  **$Q$ -module** over the poset  $Q$ :

- family  $H = \{H_q\}_{q \in Q}$  of vector spaces over the field  $\mathbb{k}$  with
- homomorphism  $H_q \rightarrow H_{q'}$  whenever  $q \prec q'$  in  $Q$  such that
- $H_q \rightarrow H_{q''}$  equals the composite  $H_q \rightarrow H_{q'} \rightarrow H_{q''}$  whenever  $q \prec q' \prec q''$

## Examples

- points in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ :  $Q = \{0, \dots, m\}$  or  $\mathbb{R}$  1-parameter (“ordinary”) persistence
- brain arteries:  $Q = \{0, \dots, m\}$  or  $\mathbb{R}$  1-parameter (“ordinary”) persistence
- wing veins:  $Q = \mathbb{Z}^2$  or  $\mathbb{R}^2$  2 discrete or continuous parameters
- probability distributions:  $Q = \mathbb{R}^2$  2 continuous parameters
- $Q = \mathbb{Z}^n \Leftrightarrow H = \mathbb{Z}^n$ -graded  $\mathbb{k}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ -module (standard commutative alg.)
- $Q = \mathbb{R}^n \Leftrightarrow H = \mathbb{R}^n$ -graded  $\mathbb{k}[\mathbb{R}_+^n]$ -module (real-exponent polynomials)

## Statistical analysis [Bendich–Marron–M.–Pieloch–Skwerer 2014]

**Reduce to linear methods.** 3D tree  $\rightsquigarrow$  bar code  $\rightsquigarrow$  vector in  $\mathbb{R}^{100}$ :

- top 100 bar lengths, in decreasing order, log scale
- correlate first principal component score vs. age

### Conclusions

Longest bars in older brains tend to be shorter and later.

- Pearson correlation 0.52663
- $p$ -value  $3.0127 \times 10^{-8}$  strongly significant

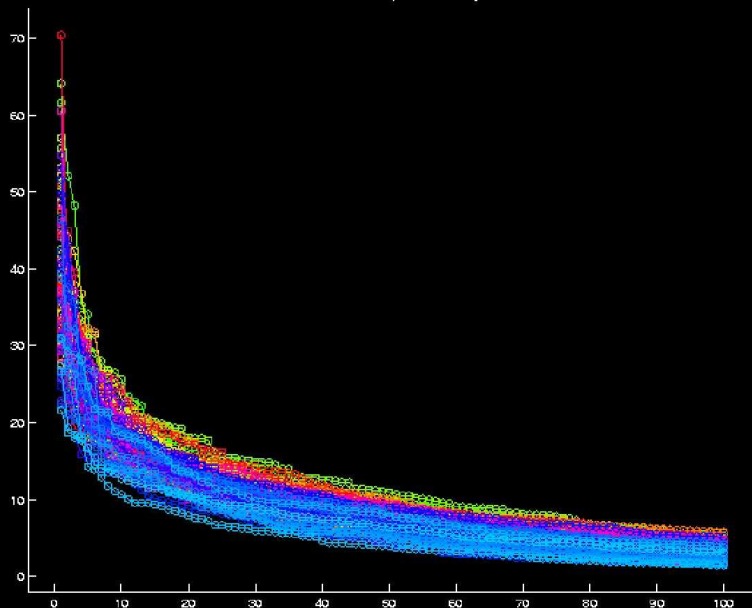
**Remarks.** Results essentially unchanged after

- rescaling to account for natural variation in overall brain size (force standard deviation of the set of bar lengths to equal 1)
- rescaling to account for known correlation of age vs. total vessel length  $L$  [Bullitt, et al. 2010] (divide by  $L$ ,  $\sqrt{L}$ , or  $\sqrt[3]{L}$ )
- repeating the analysis with residuals from regression between feature vector and total length.

**Moral.** Persistent homology can topologically detect statistically significant geometric motifs

# Top 100 bars

Run7: Quantiles, top 100 Data Objects



## Statistical analysis [Bendich–Marron–M.–Pieloch–Skwerer 2014]

**Reduce to linear methods.** 3D tree  $\rightsquigarrow$  bar code  $\rightsquigarrow$  vector in  $\mathbb{R}^{100}$ :

- top 100 bar lengths, in decreasing order, log scale
- correlate first principal component score vs. age

## Conclusions

Longest bars in older brains tend to be shorter and later.

- Pearson correlation 0.52663
- $p$ -value  $3.0127 \times 10^{-8}$  strongly significant

**Remarks.** Results essentially unchanged after

- rescaling to account for natural variation in overall brain size (force standard deviation of the set of bar lengths to equal 1)
- rescaling to account for known correlation of age vs. total vessel length  $L$  [Bullitt, et al. 2010] (divide by  $L$ ,  $\sqrt{L}$ , or  $\sqrt[3]{L}$ )
- repeating the analysis with residuals from regression between feature vector and total length.

**Moral.** Persistent homology can topologically detect statistically significant geometric motifs

## Statistical analysis [Bendich–Marron–M.–Pieloch–Skwerer 2014]

**Reduce to linear methods.** 3D tree  $\rightsquigarrow$  bar code  $\rightsquigarrow$  vector in  $\mathbb{R}^{100}$ :

- top 100 bar lengths, in decreasing order, log scale
- correlate first principal component score vs. age

## Conclusions

Longest bars in older brains tend to be shorter and later.

- Pearson correlation 0.52663
- $p$ -value  $3.0127 \times 10^{-8}$  strongly significant

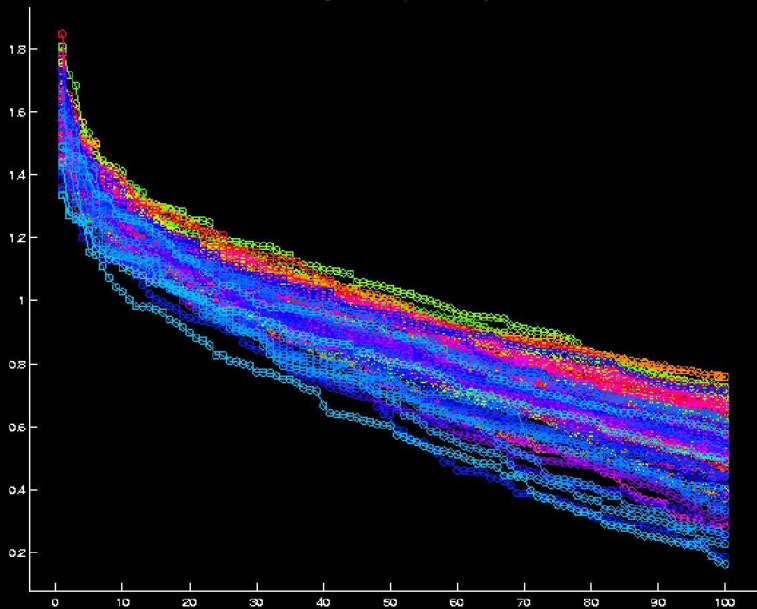
**Remarks.** Results essentially unchanged after

- rescaling to account for natural variation in overall brain size (force standard deviation of the set of bar lengths to equal 1)
- rescaling to account for known correlation of age vs. total vessel length  $L$  [Bullitt, et al. 2010] (divide by  $L$ ,  $\sqrt{L}$ , or  $\sqrt[3]{L}$ )
- repeating the analysis with residuals from regression between feature vector and total length.

**Moral.** Persistent homology can topologically detect statistically significant geometric motifs

# Top 100 bars: log scale

Run7: logQuantiles, top 100 Data Objects



## Statistical analysis [Bendich–Marron–M.–Pieloch–Skwerer 2014]

**Reduce to linear methods.** 3D tree  $\rightsquigarrow$  bar code  $\rightsquigarrow$  vector in  $\mathbb{R}^{100}$ :

- top 100 bar lengths, in decreasing order, log scale
- correlate first principal component score vs. age

## Conclusions

Longest bars in older brains tend to be shorter and later.

- Pearson correlation 0.52663
- $p$ -value  $3.0127 \times 10^{-8}$  strongly significant

**Remarks.** Results essentially unchanged after

- rescaling to account for natural variation in overall brain size (force standard deviation of the set of bar lengths to equal 1)
- rescaling to account for known correlation of age vs. total vessel length  $L$  [Bullitt, et al. 2010] (divide by  $L$ ,  $\sqrt{L}$ , or  $\sqrt[3]{L}$ )
- repeating the analysis with residuals from regression between feature vector and total length.

**Moral.** Persistent homology can topologically detect statistically significant geometric motifs

## Statistical analysis [Bendich–Marron–M.–Pieloch–Skwerer 2014]

**Reduce to linear methods.** 3D tree  $\rightsquigarrow$  bar code  $\rightsquigarrow$  vector in  $\mathbb{R}^{100}$ :

- top 100 bar lengths, in decreasing order, log scale
- correlate first principal component score vs. age

### Conclusions

Longest bars in older brains tend to be shorter and later.

- Pearson correlation 0.52663
- $p$ -value  $3.0127 \times 10^{-8}$  strongly significant

**Remarks.** Results essentially unchanged after

- rescaling to account for natural variation in overall brain size (force standard deviation of the set of bar lengths to equal 1)
- rescaling to account for known correlation of age vs. total vessel length  $L$  [Bullitt, et al. 2010] (divide by  $L$ ,  $\sqrt{L}$ , or  $\sqrt[3]{L}$ )
- repeating the analysis with residuals from regression between feature vector and total length.

**Moral.** Persistent homology can topologically detect statistically significant geometric motifs



## Statistical analysis [Bendich–Marron–M.–Pieloch–Skwerer 2014]

Reduce to linear methods. 3D tree  $\rightsquigarrow$  bar code  $\rightsquigarrow$  vector in  $\mathbb{R}^{100}$ :

- top 100 bar lengths, in decreasing order, log scale
- correlate first principal component score vs. age

## Conclusions

Longest bars in older brains tend to be shorter and later.

- Pearson correlation 0.52663
- $p$ -value  $3.0127 \times 10^{-8}$  strongly significant

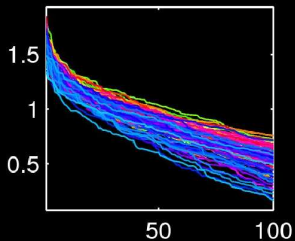
Remarks. Results essentially unchanged after

- rescaling to account for natural variation in overall brain size (force standard deviation of the set of bar lengths to equal 1)
- rescaling to account for known correlation of age vs. total vessel length  $L$  [Bullitt, et al. 2010] (divide by  $L$ ,  $\sqrt{L}$ , or  $\sqrt[3]{L}$ )
- repeating the analysis with residuals from regression between feature vector and total length.

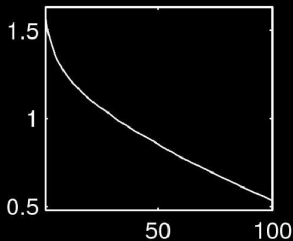
**Moral.** Persistent homology can topologically detect statistically significant geometric motifs

# Age vs. PC1

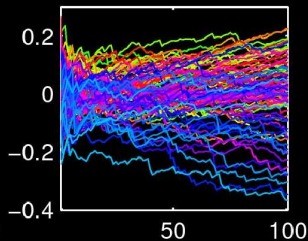
Raw Data



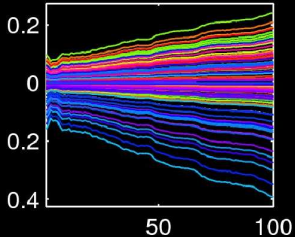
Mean



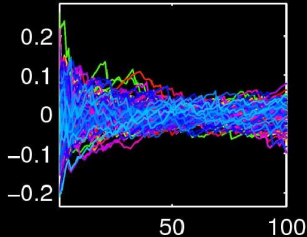
Center Resid.



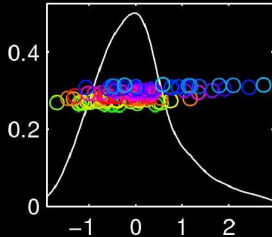
PC1 Proj.



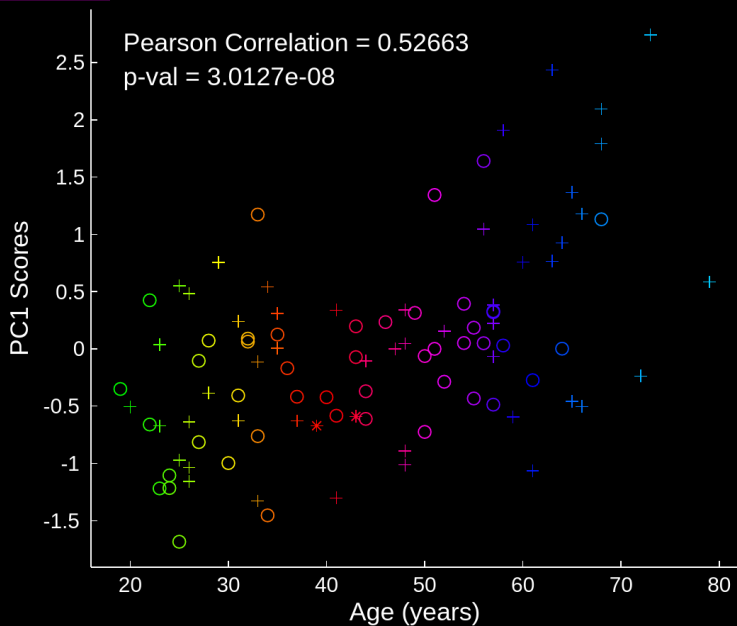
PC1 Resid.



PC1 Scores



# Age vs. PC1



## Statistical analysis [Bendich–Marron–M.–Pieloch–Skwerer 2014]

**Reduce to linear methods.** 3D tree  $\rightsquigarrow$  bar code  $\rightsquigarrow$  vector in  $\mathbb{R}^{100}$ :

- top 100 bar lengths, in decreasing order, log scale
- correlate first principal component score vs. age

## Conclusions

Longest bars in older brains tend to be shorter and later.

- Pearson correlation 0.52663
- $p$ -value  $3.0127 \times 10^{-8}$  strongly significant

**Remarks.** Results essentially unchanged after

- rescaling to account for natural variation in overall brain size (force standard deviation of the set of bar lengths to equal 1)
- rescaling to account for known correlation of age vs. total vessel length  $L$  [Bullitt, et al. 2010] (divide by  $L$ ,  $\sqrt{L}$ , or  $\sqrt[3]{L}$ )
- repeating the analysis with residuals from regression between feature vector and total length

**Moral.** Persistent homology can topologically detect statistically significant geometric motifs

## Statistical analysis [Bendich–Marron–M.–Pieloch–Skwerer 2014]

Reduce to linear methods. 3D tree  $\rightsquigarrow$  bar code  $\rightsquigarrow$  vector in  $\mathbb{R}^{100}$ :

- top 100 bar lengths, in decreasing order, log scale
- correlate first principal component score vs. age

## Conclusions

Longest bars in older brains tend to be shorter and later.

- Pearson correlation 0.52663
- $p$ -value  $3.0127 \times 10^{-8}$  strongly significant

Remarks. Results essentially unchanged after

- rescaling to account for natural variation in overall brain size (force standard deviation of the set of bar lengths to equal 1)
- rescaling to account for known correlation of age vs. total vessel length  $L$  [Bullitt, et al. 2010] (divide by  $L$ ,  $\sqrt{L}$ , or  $\sqrt[3]{L}$ )
- repeating the analysis with residuals from regression between feature vector and total length

Moral. Persistent homology can topologically detect statistically significant geometric motifs

## Statistical analysis [Bendich–Marron–M.–Pieloch–Skwerer 2014]

Reduce to linear methods. 3D tree  $\rightsquigarrow$  bar code  $\rightsquigarrow$  vector in  $\mathbb{R}^{100}$ :

- top 100 bar lengths, in decreasing order, log scale
- correlate first principal component score vs. age

## Conclusions

Longest bars in older brains tend to be shorter and later.

- Pearson correlation 0.52663
- $p$ -value  $3.0127 \times 10^{-8}$  strongly significant

Remarks. Results essentially unchanged after

- rescaling to account for natural variation in overall brain size (force standard deviation of the set of bar lengths to equal 1)
- rescaling to account for known correlation of age vs. total vessel length  $L$  [Bullitt, et al. 2010] (divide by  $L$ ,  $\sqrt{L}$ , or  $\sqrt[3]{L}$ )
- repeating the analysis with residuals from regression between feature vector and total length

Moral. Persistent homology can topologically detect statistically significant geometric motifs

## Statistical analysis [Bendich–Marron–M.–Pieloch–Skwerer 2014]

**Reduce to linear methods.** 3D tree  $\rightsquigarrow$  bar code  $\rightsquigarrow$  vector in  $\mathbb{R}^{100}$ :

- top 100 bar lengths, in decreasing order, log scale
- correlate first principal component score vs. age

## Conclusions

Longest bars in older brains tend to be shorter and later.

- **Pearson correlation 0.52663**
- **$p$ -value  $3.0127 \times 10^{-8}$**  strongly significant

**Remarks.** Results essentially unchanged after

- rescaling to account for natural variation in overall brain size (force standard deviation of the set of bar lengths to equal 1)
- rescaling to account for known correlation of age vs. total vessel length  $L$  [Bullitt, et al. 2010] (divide by  $L$ ,  $\sqrt{L}$ , or  $\sqrt[3]{L}$ )
- repeating the analysis with residuals from regression between feature vector and total length

**Moral.** Persistent homology can topologically detect statistically significant geometric motifs

## Statistical analysis [Bendich–Marron–M.–Pieloch–Skwerer 2014]

Reduce to linear methods. 3D tree  $\rightsquigarrow$  bar code  $\rightsquigarrow$  vector in  $\mathbb{R}^{100}$ :

- top 100 bar lengths, in decreasing order, log scale
- correlate first principal component score vs. age

### Conclusions

Longest bars in older brains tend to be shorter and later.

- Pearson correlation 0.52663
- $p$ -value  $3.0127 \times 10^{-8}$  strongly significant

Remarks. Results essentially unchanged after

- rescaling to account for natural variation in overall brain size (force standard deviation of the set of bar lengths to equal 1)
- rescaling to account for known correlation of age vs. total vessel length  $L$  [Bullitt, et al. 2010] (divide by  $L$ ,  $\sqrt{L}$ , or  $\sqrt[3]{L}$ )
- repeating the analysis with residuals from regression between feature vector and total length

Moral. Persistent homology can topologically detect statistically significant geometric motifs



## Statistical analysis [Bendich–Marron–M.–Pieloch–Skwerer 2014]

Reduce to linear methods. 3D tree  $\rightsquigarrow$  bar code  $\rightsquigarrow$  vector in  $\mathbb{R}^{100}$ :

- top 100 bar lengths, in decreasing order, log scale
- correlate first principal component score vs. age

## Conclusions

Longest bars in older brains tend to be shorter and later.

- Pearson correlation 0.52663
- $p$ -value  $3.0127 \times 10^{-8}$  strongly significant

Remarks. Results essentially unchanged after

- rescaling to account for natural variation in overall brain size (force standard deviation of the set of bar lengths to equal 1)
- rescaling to account for known correlation of age vs. total vessel length  $L$  [Bullitt, et al. 2010] (divide by  $L$ ,  $\sqrt{L}$ , or  $\sqrt[3]{L}$ )
- repeating the analysis with residuals from regression between feature vector and total length

Moral. Persistent homology can topologically detect statistically significant geometric motifs

# Interval decomposition

**Thm** [Crawley-Boevey 2015].  $\mathbb{R}$ -module  $M \Rightarrow M \cong \bigoplus_{I \in \mathcal{I}} \mathbb{k}\{I\}$  with  $\mathcal{I}$  a set of intervals

**Consequence** over  $\mathbb{R}$ :  $M \rightsquigarrow$  bar code / lace array / persistence diagram

- reinvented a number of times
- earliest: algebraic geometry of representation theory [Abeasis–Del Fra 1980]
  - explicitly drawn bars
  - Möbius inversion formulas

**Def.** An interval  $I$  in a poset  $Q$  is a convex connected subset:  $a, b \in I \Rightarrow$

- $q \in I$  whenever  $a \preceq q \preceq b$  and
- there is a (zigzag) chain in  $I$  of comparable elements from  $a$  to  $b$ .

For any subset  $S \subseteq Q$ , let  $\mathbb{k}\{S\} = \bigoplus_{s \in S} \mathbb{k}_s$  be its indicator module.

**Examples.** In  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , intervals can look like

**Def.**  $Q$ -module has interval decomposition  $M \cong \bigoplus_{I \in \mathcal{I}} \mathbb{k}\{I\}$  with  $\mathcal{I}$  a set of intervals

# Interval decomposition

**Thm** [Crawley-Boevey 2015].  $\mathbb{R}$ -module  $M \Rightarrow M \cong \bigoplus_{I \in \mathcal{I}} \mathbb{k}\{I\}$  with  $\mathcal{I}$  a set of intervals

**Consequence** over  $\mathbb{R}$ :  $M \rightsquigarrow$  bar code / lace array / persistence diagram

- reinvented a number of times
- earliest: algebraic geometry of representation theory [Abeasis–Del Fra 1980]
  - explicitly drawn bars
  - Möbius inversion formulas

**Def.** An interval  $I$  in a poset  $Q$  is a convex connected subset:  $a, b \in I \Rightarrow$

- $q \in I$  whenever  $a \preceq q \preceq b$  and
- there is a (zigzag) chain in  $I$  of comparable elements from  $a$  to  $b$ .

For any subset  $S \subseteq Q$ , let  $\mathbb{k}\{S\} = \bigoplus_{s \in S} \mathbb{k}_s$  be its indicator module.

**Examples.** In  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , intervals can look like

**Def.**  $Q$ -module has interval decomposition  $M \cong \bigoplus_{I \in \mathcal{I}} \mathbb{k}\{I\}$  with  $\mathcal{I}$  a set of intervals

## Old bar codes

It is convenient to represent  $\lambda^A$  as a “*diagram of boxes*”, each row starting at  $i$  and ending at  $j$  stands for one indecomposable factor of type  $E_{(i,j)}$ .

E.g. the following diagram represents  $\lambda^A$  for  $A$  isomorphic to

$$E_{(1,6)} \oplus E_{(1,3)} \oplus E_{(3,6)} \oplus E_{(3,4)} \oplus E_{(3,4)} \oplus E_{(5,6)} \oplus E_{(5,5)}:$$



**2.4.** Conversely any indexed set  $\lambda = (\lambda_{(i,j)})_{1 \leq i \leq j \leq m}$  of natural numbers determines an orbit in  $L(V_1, V_2, \dots, V_m)$  provided  $\dim V_i = \hat{\lambda}_i := \sum_{r \leq i \leq s} \lambda_{(r,s)}$  ( $= \#$  boxes in the  $i^{\text{th}}$  column of  $\lambda$ ). We will shortly call such an indexed set a *diagram*, define [...]

Let us introduce now the set of non-negative integers  $n^A = \{n_{rs}^A\}_{1 \leq r \leq s \leq m}$  associated to  $A$  and defined by

$$(2.3) \quad n_{rs}^A := \sum_{p \leq r \leq s \leq q} e_{pq}^A.$$

$n_{rs}^A$  is the number of the segments of the diagram of  $|A|$  which contain the integers  $r, s$ . It follows that we have

$$(2.4) \quad e_{pq}^A = n_{pq}^A - n_{p-1,q}^A - n_{p,q+1}^A + n_{p-1,q+1}^A$$

where we set  $n_{rs}^A = 0$  if  $r < 0$  or  $s > m + 1$ .

# Old bar codes

*Example 1.5.* Consider the rank array  $\mathbf{r} = (r_{ij})$ , its lace array  $\mathbf{s} = (s_{ij})$ , and its rectangle array  $\mathbf{R} = (R_{ij})$ , which we depict as follows.

$$\mathbf{r} = \begin{array}{c|c} \begin{array}{cccc} 3 & 2 & 1 & 0 \end{array} & i/j \\ \hline & 2 & & \\ & & 3 & 2 \\ & & 4 & 2 & 1 \\ 3 & 2 & 1 & 0 \end{array} \quad \mathbf{s} = \begin{array}{c|c} \begin{array}{cccc} 3 & 2 & 1 & 0 \end{array} & i/j \\ \hline & & & 0 \\ & & 0 & 1 \\ & & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \end{array} \quad \mathbf{R} = \begin{array}{c|c} \begin{array}{ccc} 2 & 1 & 0 \end{array} & i/j \\ \hline & & & 1 \\ & & \square & 2 \\ \square & & \square & 3 \end{array}$$

The relation (1.2) says that an entry of  $\mathbf{r}$  is the sum of the entries in  $\mathbf{s}$  that are weakly southeast of the corresponding location. The height of  $R_{ij}$  is obtained by subtracting the entry  $r_{ij}$  from the one above it, while the width of  $R_{ij}$  is obtained by subtracting the entry  $r_{ij}$  from the one to its left.

It follows from the definition of  $R_{ij}$  that

$$(1.3) \quad \sum_{k \geq j} \text{height}(R_{ik}) = r_{i,j-1} - r_{i,n} \leq r_{i,j-1} \quad \text{for all } i$$

$$(1.4) \quad \sum_{\ell \leq i} \text{width}(R_{\ell j}) = r_{i+1,j} - r_{0,j} \leq r_{i+1,j} \quad \text{for all } j.$$

(This will be applied in Proposition 8.12.) The relation (1.2) can be inverted to obtain

$$(1.5) \quad s_{ij} = r_{ij} - r_{i-1,j} - r_{i,j+1} + r_{i-1,j+1}$$

[Knutson–M.–Shimozono 2005]

# Interval decomposition

Thm [Crawley-Boevey 2015].  $\mathbb{R}$ -module  $M \Rightarrow M \cong \bigoplus_{I \in \mathcal{I}} \mathbb{k}\{I\}$  with  $\mathcal{I}$  a set of intervals

Consequence over  $\mathbb{R}$ :  $M \rightsquigarrow$  bar code / lace array / persistence diagram

- reinvented a number of times
- earliest: algebraic geometry of representation theory [Abeasis–Del Fra 1980]
  - explicitly drawn bars
  - Möbius inversion formulas

Def. An interval  $I$  in a poset  $Q$  is a convex connected subset:  $a, b \in I \Rightarrow$

- $q \in I$  whenever  $a \preceq q \preceq b$  and
- there is a (zigzag) chain in  $I$  of comparable elements from  $a$  to  $b$ .

For any subset  $S \subseteq Q$ , let  $\mathbb{k}\{S\} = \bigoplus_{s \in S} \mathbb{k}_s$  be its indicator module.

Examples. In  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , intervals can look like

Def.  $Q$ -module has interval decomposition  $M \cong \bigoplus_{I \in \mathcal{I}} \mathbb{k}\{I\}$  with  $\mathcal{I}$  a set of intervals

# Interval decomposition

Thm [Crawley-Boevey 2015].  $\mathbb{R}$ -module  $M \Rightarrow M \cong \bigoplus_{I \in \mathcal{I}} \mathbb{k}\{I\}$  with  $\mathcal{I}$  a set of intervals

Consequence over  $\mathbb{R}$ :  $M \rightsquigarrow$  bar code / lace array / persistence diagram

- reinvented a number of times
- earliest: algebraic geometry of representation theory [Abeasis–Del Fra 1980]
  - explicitly drawn bars
  - Möbius inversion formulas

Def. An interval  $I$  in a poset  $Q$  is a convex connected subset:  $a, b \in I \Rightarrow$

- $q \in I$  whenever  $a \preceq q \preceq b$  and
- there is a (zigzag) chain in  $I$  of comparable elements from  $a$  to  $b$ .

For any subset  $S \subseteq Q$ , let  $\mathbb{k}\{S\} = \bigoplus_{s \in S} \mathbb{k}_s$  be its indicator module.

Examples. In  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , intervals can look like

Def.  $Q$ -module has interval decomposition  $M \cong \bigoplus_{I \in \mathcal{I}} \mathbb{k}\{I\}$  with  $\mathcal{I}$  a set of intervals

# Interval decomposition

**Thm** [Crawley-Boevey 2015].  $\mathbb{R}$ -module  $M \Rightarrow M \cong \bigoplus_{I \in \mathcal{I}} \mathbb{k}\{I\}$  with  $\mathcal{I}$  a set of intervals

**Consequence** over  $\mathbb{R}$ :  $M \rightsquigarrow$  bar code / lace array / persistence diagram

- reinvented a number of times
- earliest: algebraic geometry of representation theory [Abeasis–Del Fra 1980]
  - explicitly drawn bars
  - Möbius inversion formulas

**Def.** An **interval**  $I$  in a poset  $Q$  is a **convex connected** subset:  $a, b \in I \Rightarrow$

- $q \in I$  whenever  $a \preceq q \preceq b$  and
- there is a (zigzag) chain in  $I$  of comparable elements from  $a$  to  $b$ .

For any subset  $S \subseteq Q$ , let  $\mathbb{k}\{S\} = \bigoplus_{s \in S} \mathbb{k}_s$  be its **indicator module**.

**Examples.** In  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , intervals can look like

**Def.**  $Q$ -module has interval decomposition  $M \cong \bigoplus_{I \in \mathcal{I}} \mathbb{k}\{I\}$  with  $\mathcal{I}$  a set of intervals



# Interval decomposition

**Thm** [Crawley-Boevey 2015].  $\mathbb{R}$ -module  $M \Rightarrow M \cong \bigoplus_{I \in \mathcal{I}} \mathbb{k}\{I\}$  with  $\mathcal{I}$  a set of intervals

**Consequence** over  $\mathbb{R}$ :  $M \rightsquigarrow$  bar code / lace array / persistence diagram

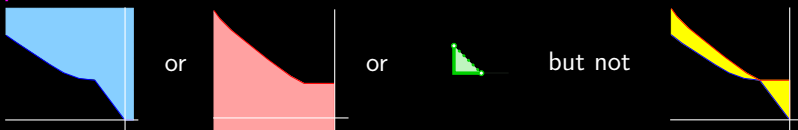
- reinvented a number of times
- earliest: algebraic geometry of representation theory [Abeasis–Del Fra 1980]
  - explicitly drawn bars
  - Möbius inversion formulas

**Def.** An **interval**  $I$  in a poset  $Q$  is a **convex connected** subset:  $a, b \in I \Rightarrow$

- $q \in I$  whenever  $a \preceq q \preceq b$  and
- there is a (zigzag) chain in  $I$  of comparable elements from  $a$  to  $b$ .

For any subset  $S \subseteq Q$ , let  $\mathbb{k}\{S\} = \bigoplus_{s \in S} \mathbb{k}_s$  be its **indicator module**.

**Examples.** In  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , intervals can look like



**Def.**  $Q$ -module has interval decomposition  $M \cong \bigoplus_{I \in \mathcal{I}} \mathbb{k}\{I\}$  with  $\mathcal{I}$  a set of intervals

# Interval decomposition

Thm [Crawley-Boevey 2015].  $\mathbb{R}$ -module  $M \Rightarrow M \cong \bigoplus_{I \in \mathcal{I}} \mathbb{k}\{I\}$  with  $\mathcal{I}$  a set of intervals

Consequence over  $\mathbb{R}$ :  $M \rightsquigarrow$  bar code / lace array / persistence diagram

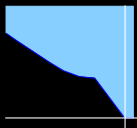
- reinvented a number of times
- earliest: algebraic geometry of representation theory [Abeasis–Del Fra 1980]
  - explicitly drawn bars
  - Möbius inversion formulas

Def. An interval  $I$  in a poset  $Q$  is a convex connected subset:  $a, b \in I \Rightarrow$

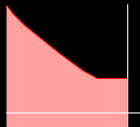
- $q \in I$  whenever  $a \preceq q \preceq b$  and
- there is a (zigzag) chain in  $I$  of comparable elements from  $a$  to  $b$ .

For any subset  $S \subseteq Q$ , let  $\mathbb{k}\{S\} = \bigoplus_{s \in S} \mathbb{k}_s$  be its indicator module.

Examples. In  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , intervals can look like



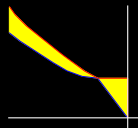
or



or



but not



Def.  $Q$ -module has interval decomposition  $M \cong \bigoplus_{I \in \mathcal{I}} \mathbb{k}\{I\}$  with  $\mathcal{I}$  a set of intervals

# Interval decomposition

Thm [Crawley-Boevey 2015].  $\mathbb{R}$ -module  $M \Rightarrow M \cong \bigoplus_{I \in \mathcal{I}} \mathbb{k}\{I\}$  with  $\mathcal{I}$  a set of intervals

Consequence over  $\mathbb{R}$ :  $M \rightsquigarrow$  bar code / lace array / persistence diagram

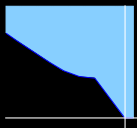
- reinvented a number of times
- earliest: algebraic geometry of representation theory [Abeasis–Del Fra 1980]
  - explicitly drawn bars
  - Möbius inversion formulas

Def. An interval  $I$  in a poset  $Q$  is a convex connected subset:  $a, b \in I \Rightarrow$

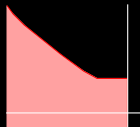
- $q \in I$  whenever  $a \preceq q \preceq b$  and
- there is a (zigzag) chain in  $I$  of comparable elements from  $a$  to  $b$ .

For any subset  $S \subseteq Q$ , let  $\mathbb{k}\{S\} = \bigoplus_{s \in S} \mathbb{k}_s$  be its indicator module.

Examples. In  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , intervals can look like



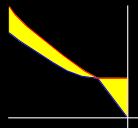
or



or



but not



Def.  $Q$ -module has interval decomposition  $M \cong \bigoplus_{I \in \mathcal{I}} \mathbb{k}\{I\}$  with  $\mathcal{I}$  a set of intervals (but  $M$  need not have such a decomposition!)

# Arbitrary posets

**Thm** [Botnan–Crawley-Boevey 2020], cf. [Gabriel–Rořter 1992]. Over arbitrary poset  $Q$ ,  $M$  has **indecomposable decomposition**:  $M \cong \bigoplus_{\alpha \in A} M_{\alpha}$  with  $M_{\alpha}$  indecomposable.

Essentially unique: multiset  $\{M_{\alpha}\}_{\alpha \in A}$  of isomorphism classes is invariant.

**Thm** [Buchet–Escobar 2020], [Moore 2022]. General indecomposable  $\mathbb{Z}^n$ -modules are big, far from being interval modules (vector space dimensions  $\gg 1$ ).

**Thm** [Bauer–Scoccola 2022].  $\mathbb{Z}^n$ -indecomposables are dense in interleaving distance. The set of modules  $\cong (\varepsilon$ -trivial  $\oplus$  indecomposable) is interleaving-open.

**Positivity.**  $M = \bigoplus_{\alpha \in A} M_{\alpha}$  expresses  $M$  positively in term of the  $M_{\alpha}$ . Choose:

1. retain positivity or
2. retain description in terms of intervals.

**Question.** Can both be achieved?

**Proposal.** Pipeline:

data  $\rightsquigarrow$  filtered topological spaces  $\rightsquigarrow$  algebraic objects



“nice” algebraic objects  $\rightsquigarrow$  invariants  $\rightsquigarrow$  statistics

# Arbitrary posets

**Thm** [Botnan–Crawley-Boevey 2020], cf. [Gabriel–Rořter 1992]. Over arbitrary poset  $Q$ ,  $M$  has **indecomposable decomposition**:  $M \cong \bigoplus_{\alpha \in A} M_{\alpha}$  with  $M_{\alpha}$  indecomposable.

Essentially unique: multiset  $\{M_{\alpha}\}_{\alpha \in A}$  of isomorphism classes is invariant.

**Thm** [Buchet–Escobar 2020], [Moore 2022]. General indecomposable  $\mathbb{Z}^n$ -modules are big, far from being interval modules (vector space dimensions  $\gg 1$ ).

**Thm** [Bauer–Scoccola 2022].  $\mathbb{Z}^n$ -indecomposables are dense in interleaving distance. The set of modules  $\cong (\varepsilon$ -trivial  $\oplus$  indecomposable) is interleaving-open.

**Positivity.**  $M = \bigoplus_{\alpha \in A} M_{\alpha}$  expresses  $M$  positively in term of the  $M_{\alpha}$ . Choose:

1. retain positivity or
2. retain description in terms of intervals.

**Question.** Can both be achieved?

**Proposal.** Pipeline:

data  $\rightsquigarrow$  filtered topological spaces  $\rightsquigarrow$  algebraic objects



“nice” algebraic objects  $\rightsquigarrow$  invariants  $\rightsquigarrow$  statistics

# Arbitrary posets

**Thm** [Botnan–Crawley-Boevey 2020], cf. [Gabriel–Rořter 1992]. Over arbitrary poset  $Q$ ,  $M$  has **indecomposable decomposition**:  $M \cong \bigoplus_{\alpha \in A} M_{\alpha}$  with  $M_{\alpha}$  indecomposable.

Essentially unique: multiset  $\{M_{\alpha}\}_{\alpha \in A}$  of isomorphism classes is invariant.

**Thm** [Buchet–Escobar 2020], [Moore 2022]. General indecomposable  $\mathbb{Z}^n$ -modules are big, far from being interval modules (vector space dimensions  $\gg 1$ ).

**Thm** [Bauer–Scoccola 2022].  $\mathbb{Z}^n$ -indecomposables are dense in interleaving distance. The set of modules  $\cong (\varepsilon$ -trivial  $\oplus$  indecomposable) is interleaving-open.

**Positivity.**  $M = \bigoplus_{\alpha \in A} M_{\alpha}$  expresses  $M$  positively in term of the  $M_{\alpha}$ . Choose:

1. retain positivity or
2. retain description in terms of intervals.

**Question.** Can both be achieved?

**Proposal.** Pipeline:

data  $\rightsquigarrow$  filtered topological spaces  $\rightsquigarrow$  algebraic objects



“nice” algebraic objects  $\rightsquigarrow$  invariants  $\rightsquigarrow$  statistics

# Arbitrary posets

**Thm** [Botnan–Crawley-Boevey 2020], cf. [Gabriel–Rořter 1992]. Over arbitrary poset  $Q$ ,  $M$  has **indecomposable decomposition**:  $M \cong \bigoplus_{\alpha \in A} M_{\alpha}$  with  $M_{\alpha}$  indecomposable.

Essentially unique: multiset  $\{M_{\alpha}\}_{\alpha \in A}$  of isomorphism classes is invariant.

**Thm** [Buchet–Escobar 2020], [Moore 2022]. General indecomposable  $\mathbb{Z}^n$ -modules are big, far from being interval modules (vector space dimensions  $\gg 1$ ).

**Thm** [Bauer–Scoccola 2022].  $\mathbb{Z}^n$ -indecomposables are dense in interleaving distance. The set of modules  $\cong (\varepsilon$ -trivial  $\oplus$  indecomposable) is interleaving-open.

**Positivity.**  $M = \bigoplus_{\alpha \in A} M_{\alpha}$  expresses  $M$  positively in term of the  $M_{\alpha}$ . Choose:

1. retain positivity or
2. retain description in terms of intervals.

**Question.** Can both be achieved?

**Proposal.** Pipeline:

data  $\rightsquigarrow$  filtered topological spaces  $\rightsquigarrow$  algebraic objects



“nice” algebraic objects  $\rightsquigarrow$  invariants  $\rightsquigarrow$  statistics

# Arbitrary posets

**Thm** [Botnan–Crawley-Boevey 2020], cf. [Gabriel–Rořter 1992]. Over arbitrary poset  $Q$ ,  $M$  has **indecomposable decomposition**:  $M \cong \bigoplus_{\alpha \in A} M_{\alpha}$  with  $M_{\alpha}$  indecomposable.

Essentially unique: multiset  $\{M_{\alpha}\}_{\alpha \in A}$  of isomorphism classes is invariant.

**Thm** [Buchet–Escobar 2020], [Moore 2022]. General indecomposable  $\mathbb{Z}^n$ -modules are big, far from being interval modules (vector space dimensions  $\gg 1$ ).

**Thm** [Bauer–Scoccola 2022].  $\mathbb{Z}^n$ -indecomposables are dense in interleaving distance. The set of modules  $\cong (\varepsilon$ -trivial  $\oplus$  indecomposable) is interleaving-open.

**Positivity.**  $M = \bigoplus_{\alpha \in A} M_{\alpha}$  expresses  $M$  positively in term of the  $M_{\alpha}$ . Choose:

1. retain positivity or
2. retain description in terms of intervals.

**Question.** Can both be achieved?

**Proposal.** Pipeline:

data  $\rightsquigarrow$  filtered topological spaces  $\rightsquigarrow$  algebraic objects



“nice” algebraic objects  $\rightsquigarrow$  invariants  $\rightsquigarrow$  statistics



# Arbitrary posets

**Thm** [Botnan–Crawley-Boevey 2020], cf. [Gabriel–Rořter 1992]. Over arbitrary poset  $Q$ ,  $M$  has **indecomposable decomposition**:  $M \cong \bigoplus_{\alpha \in A} M_{\alpha}$  with  $M_{\alpha}$  indecomposable.

Essentially unique: multiset  $\{M_{\alpha}\}_{\alpha \in A}$  of isomorphism classes is invariant.

**Thm** [Buchet–Escobar 2020], [Moore 2022]. General indecomposable  $\mathbb{Z}^n$ -modules are big, far from being interval modules (vector space dimensions  $\gg 1$ ).

**Thm** [Bauer–Scoccola 2022].  $\mathbb{Z}^n$ -indecomposables are dense in interleaving distance. The set of modules  $\cong (\varepsilon$ -trivial  $\oplus$  indecomposable) is interleaving-open.

**Positivity.**  $M = \bigoplus_{\alpha \in A} M_{\alpha}$  expresses  $M$  positively in term of the  $M_{\alpha}$ . Choose:

1. retain positivity or
2. retain description in terms of intervals.

**Question.** Can both be achieved?

**Proposal.** Pipeline:

data  $\rightsquigarrow$  filtered topological spaces  $\rightsquigarrow$  algebraic objects

$\Downarrow$  **old: decompose**

“nice” algebraic objects  $\rightsquigarrow$  invariants  $\rightsquigarrow$  statistics

# Arbitrary posets

**Thm** [Botnan–Crawley-Boevey 2020], cf. [Gabriel–Rořter 1992]. Over arbitrary poset  $Q$ ,  $M$  has **indecomposable decomposition**:  $M \cong \bigoplus_{\alpha \in A} M_{\alpha}$  with  $M_{\alpha}$  indecomposable.

Essentially unique: multiset  $\{M_{\alpha}\}_{\alpha \in A}$  of isomorphism classes is invariant.

**Thm** [Buchet–Escobar 2020], [Moore 2022]. General indecomposable  $\mathbb{Z}^n$ -modules are big, far from being interval modules (vector space dimensions  $\gg 1$ ).

**Thm** [Bauer–Scoccola 2022].  $\mathbb{Z}^n$ -indecomposables are dense in interleaving distance. The set of modules  $\cong (\varepsilon$ -trivial  $\oplus$  indecomposable) is interleaving-open.

**Positivity.**  $M = \bigoplus_{\alpha \in A} M_{\alpha}$  expresses  $M$  positively in term of the  $M_{\alpha}$ . Choose:

1. retain positivity or
2. retain description in terms of intervals.

**Question.** Can both be achieved?

**Proposal.** Pipeline:

data  $\rightsquigarrow$  filtered topological spaces  $\rightsquigarrow$  algebraic objects

$\Downarrow$  **new: filter**

“nice” algebraic objects  $\rightsquigarrow$  invariants  $\rightsquigarrow$  statistics

# Lifetime filtration

**Idea** [Cunha–M.–Zhang 2024–2025]. Filter with indicator modules  $\mathbb{k}\{S\}$ :

- find a “maximally persistent” element  $x \in M$
- $L = \text{lifetime}$  of  $x \Rightarrow \text{lifetime submodule } \mathbb{k}\{L\} \subseteq M$
- $\mathbb{k}\{L\} \cong \mathbb{k}\{U \cap D\}$  for **upset**  $U$  and **downset**  $D$
- replace  $M$  with  $M/\mathbb{k}\{L\}$
- iterate: view  $M$  as “stack of lifetimes”

**Motivation.** What could “top 100 bar lengths” mean in multipersistence?

**Input.**  $Q$ -module  $M$  for arbitrary poset  $Q$

**Output.** (noncanonical) filtration

- $F_\bullet : M = M_\ell \supseteq M_{\ell-1} \supseteq \cdots \supseteq M_1 \supseteq M_0 = 0$
- with all  $\text{gr}_i M = M_i/M_{i-1}$  lifetime modules, so the associated graded module is interval-decomposable:

$$\text{gr} M = \bigoplus_{i=1}^{\ell} M_i/M_{i-1}$$

**Thm** [Cunha–M.–Zhang 2024–2025]. Lifetime filtrations  $\rightsquigarrow$  interleaving-stable lifetime displacement  $\Delta_{\mathcal{L}}$ : tame  $M$  and  $N$  admit lifetime filtrations verifying

$$\Delta_{\mathcal{L}}(M, N) \leq \mathbf{d}_{\mathcal{I}}(M, N).$$

# Lifetime filtration

**Idea** [Cunha–M.–Zhang 2024–2025]. Filter with indicator modules  $\mathbb{k}\{S\}$ :

- find a “maximally persistent” element  $x \in M$
- $L = \text{lifetime}$  of  $x \Rightarrow \text{lifetime submodule } \mathbb{k}\{L\} \subseteq M$
- $\mathbb{k}\{L\} \cong \mathbb{k}\{U \cap D\}$  for **upset**  $U$  and **downset**  $D$
- replace  $M$  with  $M/\mathbb{k}\{L\}$
- iterate: view  $M$  as “stack of lifetimes”



**Motivation.** What could “top 100 bar lengths” mean in multipersistence?

**Input.**  $Q$ -module  $M$  for arbitrary poset  $Q$

**Output.** (noncanonical) filtration

- $F_\bullet : M = M_\ell \supseteq M_{\ell-1} \supseteq \cdots \supseteq M_1 \supseteq M_0 = 0$
- with all  $\text{gr}_i M = M_i/M_{i-1}$  lifetime modules, so the associated graded module is interval-decomposable:

$$\text{gr} M = \bigoplus_{i=1}^{\ell} M_i/M_{i-1}$$

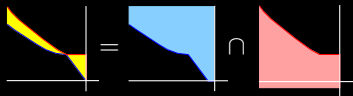
**Thm** [Cunha–M.–Zhang 2024–2025]. Lifetime filtrations  $\rightsquigarrow$  interleaving-stable lifetime displacement  $\Delta_{\mathcal{L}}$ : tame  $M$  and  $N$  admit lifetime filtrations verifying

$$\Delta_{\mathcal{L}}(M, N) \leq \mathbf{d}_{\mathcal{I}}(M, N).$$

# Lifetime filtration

**Idea** [Cunha–M.–Zhang 2024–2025]. Filter with indicator modules  $\mathbb{k}\{S\}$ :

- find a “maximally persistent” element  $x \in M$
- $L = \text{lifetime}$  of  $x \Rightarrow \text{lifetime submodule } \mathbb{k}\{L\} \subseteq M$
- $\mathbb{k}\{L\} \cong \mathbb{k}\{U \cap D\}$  for upset  $U$  and downset  $D$
- replace  $M$  with  $M/\mathbb{k}\{L\}$
- iterate: view  $M$  as “stack of lifetimes”



**Motivation.** What could “top 100 bar lengths” mean in multipersistence?

**Input.**  $Q$ -module  $M$  for arbitrary poset  $Q$

**Output.** (noncanonical) filtration

- $F_\bullet : M = M_\ell \supseteq M_{\ell-1} \supseteq \cdots \supseteq M_1 \supseteq M_0 = 0$
- with all  $\text{gr}_i M = M_i/M_{i-1}$  lifetime modules, so the associated graded module is interval-decomposable:

$$\text{gr} M = \bigoplus_{i=1}^{\ell} M_i/M_{i-1}$$

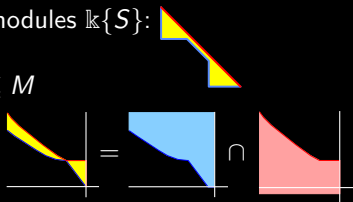
**Thm** [Cunha–M.–Zhang 2024–2025]. Lifetime filtrations  $\rightsquigarrow$  interleaving-stable lifetime displacement  $\Delta_{\mathcal{L}}$ : tame  $M$  and  $N$  admit lifetime filtrations verifying

$$\Delta_{\mathcal{L}}(M, N) \leq \mathbf{d}_{\mathcal{I}}(M, N).$$

# Lifetime filtration

**Idea** [Cunha–M.–Zhang 2024–2025]. Filter with indicator modules  $\mathbb{k}\{S\}$ :

- find a “maximally persistent” element  $x \in M$
- $L = \text{lifetime}$  of  $x \Rightarrow \text{lifetime submodule } \mathbb{k}\{L\} \subseteq M$
- $\mathbb{k}\{L\} \cong \mathbb{k}\{U \cap D\}$  for upset  $U$  and downset  $D$
- replace  $M$  with  $M/\mathbb{k}\{L\}$
- iterate: view  $M$  as “stack of lifetimes”



**Motivation.** What could “top 100 bar lengths” mean in multipersistence?

**Input.**  $Q$ -module  $M$  for arbitrary poset  $Q$

**Output.** (noncanonical) filtration

- $F_\bullet : M = M_\ell \supseteq M_{\ell-1} \supseteq \cdots \supseteq M_1 \supseteq M_0 = 0$
- with all  $\text{gr}_i M = M_i/M_{i-1}$  lifetime modules, so the associated graded module is interval-decomposable:

$$\text{gr} M = \bigoplus_{i=1}^{\ell} M_i/M_{i-1}$$

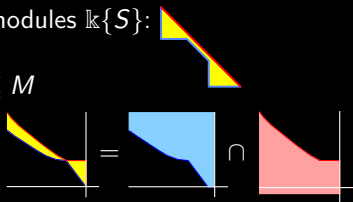
**Thm** [Cunha–M.–Zhang 2024–2025]. Lifetime filtrations  $\rightsquigarrow$  interleaving-stable lifetime displacement  $\Delta_{\mathcal{L}}$ : tame  $M$  and  $N$  admit lifetime filtrations verifying

$$\Delta_{\mathcal{L}}(M, N) \leq \mathbf{d}_{\mathcal{I}}(M, N).$$

# Lifetime filtration

**Idea** [Cunha–M.–Zhang 2024–2025]. Filter with indicator modules  $\mathbb{k}\{S\}$ :

- find a “maximally persistent” element  $x \in M$
- $L = \text{lifetime of } x \Rightarrow \text{lifetime submodule } \mathbb{k}\{L\} \subseteq M$
- $\mathbb{k}\{L\} \cong \mathbb{k}\{U \cap D\}$  for upset  $U$  and downset  $D$
- replace  $M$  with  $M/\mathbb{k}\{L\}$
- iterate: view  $M$  as “stack of lifetimes”



**Motivation.** What could “top 100 bar lengths” mean in multipersistence?

**Input.**  $Q$ -module  $M$  for arbitrary poset  $Q$

**Output.** (noncanonical) filtration

- $F_\bullet : M = M_\ell \supseteq M_{\ell-1} \supseteq \cdots \supseteq M_1 \supseteq M_0 = 0$
- with all  $\text{gr}_i M = M_i/M_{i-1}$  lifetime modules, so the associated graded module is interval-decomposable:

$$\text{gr} M = \bigoplus_{i=1}^{\ell} M_i/M_{i-1}$$

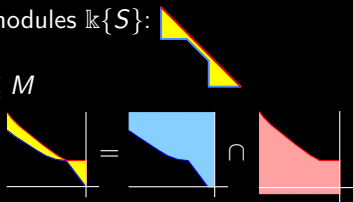
**Thm** [Cunha–M.–Zhang 2024–2025]. Lifetime filtrations  $\rightsquigarrow$  interleaving-stable lifetime displacement  $\Delta_{\mathcal{L}}$ : tame  $M$  and  $N$  admit lifetime filtrations verifying

$$\Delta_{\mathcal{L}}(M, N) \leq \mathbf{d}_{\mathcal{I}}(M, N).$$

# Lifetime filtration

**Idea** [Cunha–M.–Zhang 2024–2025]. Filter with indicator modules  $\mathbb{k}\{S\}$ :

- find a “maximally persistent” element  $x \in M$
- $L = \text{lifetime of } x \Rightarrow \text{lifetime submodule } \mathbb{k}\{L\} \subseteq M$
- $\mathbb{k}\{L\} \cong \mathbb{k}\{U \cap D\}$  for upset  $U$  and downset  $D$
- replace  $M$  with  $M/\mathbb{k}\{L\}$
- iterate: view  $M$  as “stack of lifetimes”



**Motivation.** What could “top 100 bar lengths” mean in multipersistence?

**Input.**  $Q$ -module  $M$  for arbitrary poset  $Q$

**Output.** (noncanonical) filtration

- $F_\bullet : M = M_\ell \supseteq M_{\ell-1} \supseteq \cdots \supseteq M_1 \supseteq M_0 = 0$
- with all  $\text{gr}_i M = M_i/M_{i-1}$  lifetime modules, so the associated graded module is interval-decomposable:

$$\text{gr} M = \bigoplus_{i=1}^{\ell} M_i/M_{i-1}$$

**Thm** [Cunha–M.–Zhang 2024–2025]. Lifetime filtrations  $\rightsquigarrow$  interleaving-stable lifetime displacement  $\Delta_{\mathcal{L}}$ : tame  $M$  and  $N$  admit lifetime filtrations verifying

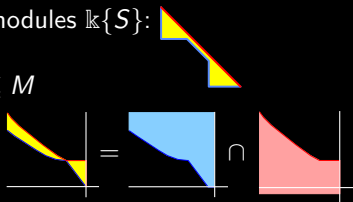
$$\Delta_{\mathcal{L}}(M, N) \leq \mathbf{d}_{\mathcal{I}}(M, N).$$



# Lifetime filtration

**Idea** [Cunha–M.–Zhang 2024–2025]. Filter with indicator modules  $\mathbb{k}\{S\}$ :

- find a “maximally persistent” element  $x \in M$
- $L = \text{lifetime of } x \Rightarrow \text{lifetime submodule } \mathbb{k}\{L\} \subseteq M$
- $\mathbb{k}\{L\} \cong \mathbb{k}\{U \cap D\}$  for upset  $U$  and downset  $D$
- replace  $M$  with  $M/\mathbb{k}\{L\}$
- iterate: view  $M$  as “stack of lifetimes”



**Motivation.** What could “top 100 bar lengths” mean in multipersistence?

**Input.**  $Q$ -module  $M$  for arbitrary poset  $Q$

**Output.** (noncanonical) filtration

- $F_\bullet : M = M_\ell \supseteq M_{\ell-1} \supseteq \cdots \supseteq M_1 \supseteq M_0 = 0$
- with all  $\text{gr}_i M = M_i/M_{i-1}$  lifetime modules, so the associated graded module is interval-decomposable:

$$\text{gr} M = \bigoplus_{i=1}^{\ell} M_i/M_{i-1}$$

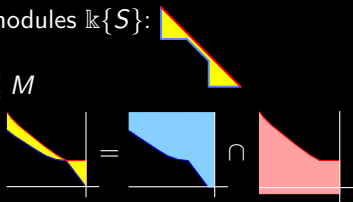
**Thm** [Cunha–M.–Zhang 2024–2025]. Lifetime filtrations  $\rightsquigarrow$  interleaving-stable lifetime displacement  $\Delta_{\mathcal{L}}$ : tame  $M$  and  $N$  admit lifetime filtrations verifying

$$\Delta_{\mathcal{L}}(M, N) \leq \mathbf{d}_{\mathcal{I}}(M, N).$$

# Lifetime filtration

**Idea** [Cunha–M.–Zhang 2024–2025]. Filter with indicator modules  $\mathbb{k}\{S\}$ :

- find a “maximally persistent” element  $x \in M$
- $L = \text{lifetime of } x \Rightarrow \text{lifetime submodule } \mathbb{k}\{L\} \subseteq M$
- $\mathbb{k}\{L\} \cong \mathbb{k}\{U \cap D\}$  for upset  $U$  and downset  $D$
- replace  $M$  with  $M/\mathbb{k}\{L\}$
- iterate: view  $M$  as “stack of lifetimes”



**Motivation.** What could “top 100 bar lengths” mean in multipersistence?

**Input.**  $Q$ -module  $M$  for arbitrary poset  $Q$

**Output.** (noncanonical) filtration

- $F_\bullet : M = M_\ell \supseteq M_{\ell-1} \supseteq \cdots \supseteq M_1 \supseteq M_0 = 0$
- with all  $\text{gr}_i M = M_i/M_{i-1}$  lifetime modules, so the associated graded module is interval-decomposable:

$$\text{gr} M = \bigoplus_{i=1}^{\ell} M_i/M_{i-1}$$

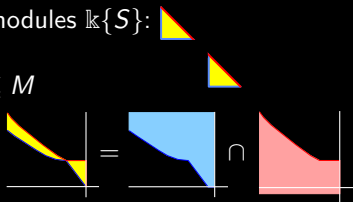
**Thm** [Cunha–M.–Zhang 2024–2025]. Lifetime filtrations  $\rightsquigarrow$  interleaving-stable lifetime displacement  $\Delta_{\mathcal{L}}$ : tame  $M$  and  $N$  admit lifetime filtrations verifying

$$\Delta_{\mathcal{L}}(M, N) \leq \mathbf{d}_{\mathcal{I}}(M, N).$$

# Lifetime filtration

**Idea** [Cunha–M.–Zhang 2024–2025]. Filter with indicator modules  $\mathbb{k}\{S\}$ :

- find a “maximally persistent” element  $x \in M$
- $L = \text{lifetime}$  of  $x \Rightarrow \text{lifetime submodule } \mathbb{k}\{L\} \subseteq M$
- $\mathbb{k}\{L\} \cong \mathbb{k}\{U \cap D\}$  for upset  $U$  and downset  $D$
- replace  $M$  with  $M/\mathbb{k}\{L\}$
- iterate: view  $M$  as “stack of lifetimes”



**Motivation.** What could “top 100 bar lengths” mean in multipersistence?

**Input.**  $Q$ -module  $M$  for arbitrary poset  $Q$

**Output.** (noncanonical) filtration

- $F_\bullet : M = M_\ell \supseteq M_{\ell-1} \supseteq \cdots \supseteq M_1 \supseteq M_0 = 0$
- with all  $\text{gr}_i M = M_i/M_{i-1}$  lifetime modules, so the associated graded module is interval-decomposable:

$$\text{gr} M = \bigoplus_{i=1}^{\ell} M_i/M_{i-1}$$

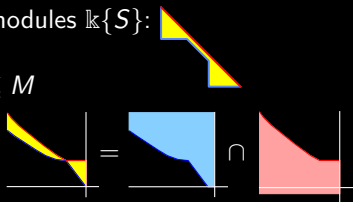
**Thm** [Cunha–M.–Zhang 2024–2025]. Lifetime filtrations  $\rightsquigarrow$  interleaving-stable lifetime displacement  $\Delta_{\mathcal{L}}$ : tame  $M$  and  $N$  admit lifetime filtrations verifying

$$\Delta_{\mathcal{L}}(M, N) \leq \mathbf{d}_{\mathcal{I}}(M, N).$$

# Lifetime filtration

**Idea** [Cunha–M.–Zhang 2024–2025]. Filter with indicator modules  $\mathbb{k}\{S\}$ :

- find a “maximally persistent” element  $x \in M$
- $L = \text{lifetime of } x \Rightarrow \text{lifetime submodule } \mathbb{k}\{L\} \subseteq M$
- $\mathbb{k}\{L\} \cong \mathbb{k}\{U \cap D\}$  for upset  $U$  and downset  $D$
- replace  $M$  with  $M/\mathbb{k}\{L\}$
- iterate: view  $M$  as “stack of lifetimes”



**Motivation.** What could “top 100 bar lengths” mean in multipersistence?

**Input.**  $Q$ -module  $M$  for arbitrary poset  $Q$

**Output.** (noncanonical) filtration

- $F_\bullet : M = M_\ell \supseteq M_{\ell-1} \supseteq \cdots \supseteq M_1 \supseteq M_0 = 0$
- with all  $\text{gr}_i M = M_i/M_{i-1}$  lifetime modules, so the associated graded module is interval-decomposable:

$$\text{gr} M = \bigoplus_{i=1}^{\ell} M_i/M_{i-1}$$

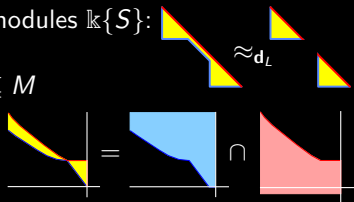
**Thm** [Cunha–M.–Zhang 2024–2025]. Lifetime filtrations  $\rightsquigarrow$  interleaving-stable lifetime displacement  $\Delta_{\mathcal{L}}$ : tame  $M$  and  $N$  admit lifetime filtrations verifying

$$\Delta_{\mathcal{L}}(M, N) \leq \mathbf{d}_{\mathcal{I}}(M, N).$$

# Lifetime filtration

**Idea** [Cunha–M.–Zhang 2024–2025]. Filter with indicator modules  $\mathbb{k}\{S\}$ :

- find a “maximally persistent” element  $x \in M$
- $L = \text{lifetime}$  of  $x \Rightarrow$  **lifetime submodule**  $\mathbb{k}\{L\} \subseteq M$
- $\mathbb{k}\{L\} \cong \mathbb{k}\{U \cap D\}$  for **upset**  $U$  and **downset**  $D$
- replace  $M$  with  $M/\mathbb{k}\{L\}$
- iterate: view  $M$  as “stack of lifetimes”



**Motivation.** What could “top 100 bar lengths” mean in multipersistence?

**Input.**  $Q$ -module  $M$  for arbitrary poset  $Q$

**Output.** (noncanonical) filtration

- $F_\bullet : M = M_\ell \supseteq M_{\ell-1} \supseteq \cdots \supseteq M_1 \supseteq M_0 = 0$
- with all  $\text{gr}_i M = M_i/M_{i-1}$  lifetime modules, so the **associated graded module** is interval-decomposable:

$$\text{gr} M = \bigoplus_{i=1}^{\ell} M_i/M_{i-1}$$

**Thm** [Cunha–M.–Zhang 2024–2025]. Lifetime filtrations  $\rightsquigarrow$  interleaving-stable lifetime displacement  $\Delta_{\mathcal{L}}$ : tame  $M$  and  $N$  admit lifetime filtrations verifying

$$\Delta_{\mathcal{L}}(M, N) \leq \mathbf{d}_{\mathcal{I}}(M, N).$$

# Tameness

How to write down multipersistence modules in general? Need finiteness....

**Def** [M.– 2017, see [arXiv:math.AT/2008.00063](https://arxiv.org/abs/math/2008.00063)]. A module  $M$  over an arbitrary poset  $Q$  admits a **constant subdivision** if  $Q$  is partitioned into

- **constant regions**  $A$ , each with vector space  $M_A \xrightarrow{\sim} M_{\mathbf{a}}$  for all  $\mathbf{a} \in A$ , having
- **no monodromy**: all comparable pairs  $\mathbf{a} \preceq \mathbf{b}$  with  $\mathbf{a} \in A$  and  $\mathbf{b} \in B$  induce the same composite  $M_A \rightarrow M_{\mathbf{a}} \rightarrow M_{\mathbf{b}} \rightarrow M_B$ .

$M$  is tame if it admits a finite constant subdivision and  $\dim_{\mathbb{k}} M_q < \infty$  for all  $q$ .

**Example.**  $\mathbb{k}_0 \oplus \mathbb{k}[\mathbb{R}^2]$  admits constant regions  $\{\mathbf{0}\}$  and  $\mathbb{R}^2 \setminus \{\mathbf{0}\}$

# Tameness

How to write down multipersistence modules in general? Need finiteness....

**Def** [M.– 2017, see [arXiv:math.AT/2008.00063](https://arxiv.org/abs/math/2008.00063)]. A module  $M$  over an arbitrary poset  $Q$  admits a **constant subdivision** if  $Q$  is partitioned into

- **constant regions**  $A$ , each with vector space  $M_A \xrightarrow{\sim} M_{\mathbf{a}}$  for all  $\mathbf{a} \in A$ , having
- **no monodromy**: all comparable pairs  $\mathbf{a} \preceq \mathbf{b}$  with  $\mathbf{a} \in A$  and  $\mathbf{b} \in B$  induce the same composite  $M_A \rightarrow M_{\mathbf{a}} \rightarrow M_{\mathbf{b}} \rightarrow M_B$ .

$M$  is tame if it admits a finite constant subdivision and  $\dim_{\mathbb{k}} M_q < \infty$  for all  $q$ .

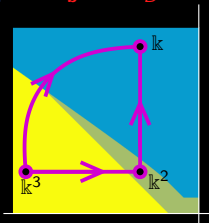
**Example.**  $\mathbb{k}_0 \oplus \mathbb{k}[\mathbb{R}^2]$  admits constant regions  $\{\mathbf{0}\}$  and  $\mathbb{R}^2 \setminus \{\mathbf{0}\}$

# Tameness

How to write down multipersistence modules in general? Need finiteness....

**Def** [M.– 2017, see [arXiv:math.AT/2008.00063](https://arxiv.org/abs/math/2008.00063)]. A module  $M$  over an arbitrary poset  $Q$  admits a **constant subdivision** if  $Q$  is partitioned into

- **constant regions**  $A$ , each with vector space  $M_A \xrightarrow{\sim} M_a$  for all  $a \in A$ , having
- **no monodromy**: all comparable pairs  $a \preceq b$  with  $a \in A$  and  $b \in B$  induce the same composite  $M_A \rightarrow M_a \rightarrow M_b \rightarrow M_B$ .



$M$  is tame if it admits a finite constant subdivision and  $\dim_{\mathbb{k}} M_q < \infty$  for all  $q$ .

**Example.**  $\mathbb{k}_0 \oplus \mathbb{k}[\mathbb{R}^2]$  admits constant regions  $\{0\}$  and  $\mathbb{R}^2 \setminus \{0\}$

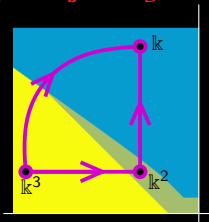


# Tameness

How to write down multipersistence modules in general? Need finiteness....

**Def** [M.– 2017, see [arXiv:math.AT/2008.00063](https://arxiv.org/abs/math/2008.00063)]. A module  $M$  over an arbitrary poset  $Q$  admits a **constant subdivision** if  $Q$  is partitioned into

- **constant regions**  $A$ , each with vector space  $M_A \xrightarrow{\sim} M_a$  for all  $a \in A$ , having
- **no monodromy**: all comparable pairs  $a \preceq b$  with  $a \in A$  and  $b \in B$  induce the same composite  $M_A \rightarrow M_a \rightarrow M_b \rightarrow M_B$ .



$M$  is **tame** if it admits a finite constant subdivision and  $\dim_{\mathbb{k}} M_q < \infty$  for all  $q$ .

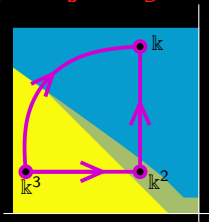
**Example.**  $\mathbb{k}_0 \oplus \mathbb{k}[\mathbb{R}^2]$  admits constant regions  $\{0\}$  and  $\mathbb{R}^2 \setminus \{0\}$

# Tameness

How to write down multipersistence modules in general? Need finiteness....

**Def** [M.– 2017, see [arXiv:math.AT/2008.00063](https://arxiv.org/abs/math/2008.00063)]. A module  $M$  over an arbitrary poset  $Q$  admits a **constant subdivision** if  $Q$  is partitioned into

- **constant regions**  $A$ , each with vector space  $M_A \xrightarrow{\sim} M_a$  for all  $a \in A$ , having
- **no monodromy**: all comparable pairs  $a \preceq b$  with  $a \in A$  and  $b \in B$  induce the same composite  $M_A \rightarrow M_a \rightarrow M_b \rightarrow M_B$ .



$M$  is **tame** if it admits a finite constant subdivision and  $\dim_{\mathbb{k}} M_q < \infty$  for all  $q$ .

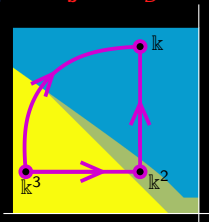
**Example.**  $\mathbb{k}_0 \oplus \mathbb{k}[\mathbb{R}^2]$  admits constant regions  $\{0\}$  and  $\mathbb{R}^2 \setminus \{0\}$

# Tameness

How to write down multipersistence modules in general? Need finiteness....

**Def** [M.– 2017, see [arXiv:math.AT/2008.00063](https://arxiv.org/abs/math/2008.00063)]. A module  $M$  over an arbitrary poset  $Q$  admits a **constant subdivision** if  $Q$  is partitioned into

- **constant regions**  $A$ , each with vector space  $M_A \xrightarrow{\sim} M_a$  for all  $a \in A$ , having
- **no monodromy**: all comparable pairs  $a \preceq b$  with  $a \in A$  and  $b \in B$  induce the same composite  $M_A \rightarrow M_a \rightarrow M_b \rightarrow M_B$ .



$M$  is **tame** if it admits a finite constant subdivision and  $\dim_{\mathbb{k}} M_q < \infty$  for all  $q$ .

**Example.**  $\mathbb{k}_0 \oplus \mathbb{k}[\mathbb{R}^2]$  admits constant regions  $\{0\}$  and  $\mathbb{R}^2 \setminus \{0\}$



=



∪



# Distances

**Def** [Lesnick 2015]. Lifetime modules  $K, L$  are  $\varepsilon$ -interleaved if “ $K$  fits  $\varepsilon$ -almost in  $L$ ” and vice versa. Similar for any modules  $M$  and  $N$ . The interleaving distance is

$$\mathbf{d}_{\mathcal{I}}(M, N) = \inf\{\varepsilon \mid M \text{ and } N \text{ are } \varepsilon\text{-interleaved}\}$$

**Def.**  $\bigoplus_{\alpha \in A} M_{\alpha}$  and  $\bigoplus_{\alpha \in A} N_{\alpha}$  are  $\varepsilon$ -matched if  $M_{\alpha}$  and  $N_{\alpha}$  are  $\varepsilon$ -interleaved  $\forall \alpha \in A$ .

**Def.** Let  $\mathcal{D} : Q\text{-mods} \rightarrow$  families of finitely decomposed  $Q$ -modules with ordered summands, so each element of  $\mathcal{D}(N)$  is a direct sum  $L = L_1 \oplus \cdots \oplus L_{\ell}$ .

Assume  $K = K_1 \oplus \cdots \oplus K_k$ . The bottleneck distance determined by  $\mathcal{D}$  is

$$\mathbf{d}_{\mathcal{D}}(K, N) = \inf\{\varepsilon \mid K \text{ is } \varepsilon\text{-matched with some } L \in \mathcal{D}(N)\}.$$

**Examples.** various distances from different choices of  $\mathcal{D}$ :

1. bottleneck distance  $\mathbf{d}_B$  from  $\mathcal{D}(N) = \{\text{indecomposable decompositions of } N\}$  if  $K = K_1 \oplus \cdots \oplus K_k$  is a direct sum of indecomposables
2. lifetime matching distance  $\mathbf{d}_{\mathcal{L}}$  from  $\mathcal{D}(N) = \{\text{gr} F_{\bullet} N \text{ for lifetime filtration } F_{\bullet}\}$  if  $K = K_1 \oplus \cdots \oplus K_k$  is lifetime decomposed

**Def** [Cunha–M.–Zhang 2024–2025]. The lifetime displacement from  $M$  to  $N$  is

$$\Delta_{\mathcal{L}}(M, N) = \sup_{K \in \mathcal{D}(M)} \mathbf{d}_{\mathcal{L}}(K, N).$$

## Distances

**Def** [Lesnick 2015]. Lifetime modules  $K, L$  are  $\varepsilon$ -interleaved if “ $K$  fits  $\varepsilon$ -almost in  $L$ ” and vice versa. Similar for any modules  $M$  and  $N$ . The interleaving distance is

$$\mathbf{d}_{\mathcal{I}}(M, N) = \inf\{\varepsilon \mid M \text{ and } N \text{ are } \varepsilon\text{-interleaved}\}$$

**Def.**  $\bigoplus_{\alpha \in A} M_{\alpha}$  and  $\bigoplus_{\alpha \in A} N_{\alpha}$  are  $\varepsilon$ -matched if  $M_{\alpha}$  and  $N_{\alpha}$  are  $\varepsilon$ -interleaved  $\forall \alpha \in A$ .

**Def.** Let  $\mathcal{D} : Q\text{-mods} \rightarrow$  families of finitely decomposed  $Q$ -modules with ordered summands, so each element of  $\mathcal{D}(N)$  is a direct sum  $L = L_1 \oplus \cdots \oplus L_{\ell}$ .

Assume  $K = K_1 \oplus \cdots \oplus K_k$ . The bottleneck distance determined by  $\mathcal{D}$  is

$$\mathbf{d}_{\mathcal{D}}(K, N) = \inf\{\varepsilon \mid K \text{ is } \varepsilon\text{-matched with some } L \in \mathcal{D}(N)\}.$$

**Examples.** various distances from different choices of  $\mathcal{D}$ :

1. bottleneck distance  $\mathbf{d}_B$  from  $\mathcal{D}(N) = \{\text{indecomposable decompositions of } N\}$  if  $K = K_1 \oplus \cdots \oplus K_k$  is a direct sum of indecomposables
2. lifetime matching distance  $\mathbf{d}_{\mathcal{L}}$  from  $\mathcal{D}(N) = \{\text{gr} F_{\bullet} N \text{ for lifetime filtration } F_{\bullet}\}$  if  $K = K_1 \oplus \cdots \oplus K_k$  is lifetime decomposed

**Def** [Cunha–M.–Zhang 2024–2025]. The lifetime displacement from  $M$  to  $N$  is

$$\Delta_{\mathcal{L}}(M, N) = \sup_{K \in \mathcal{D}(M)} \mathbf{d}_{\mathcal{L}}(K, N).$$

# Distances

**Def** [Lesnick 2015]. Lifetime modules  $K, L$  are  $\varepsilon$ -interleaved if “ $K$  fits  $\varepsilon$ -almost in  $L$ ” and vice versa. Similar for any modules  $M$  and  $N$ . The interleaving distance is

$$\mathbf{d}_{\mathcal{I}}(M, N) = \inf\{\varepsilon \mid M \text{ and } N \text{ are } \varepsilon\text{-interleaved}\}$$

**Def.**  $\bigoplus_{\alpha \in A} M_{\alpha}$  and  $\bigoplus_{\alpha \in A} N_{\alpha}$  are  $\varepsilon$ -matched if  $M_{\alpha}$  and  $N_{\alpha}$  are  $\varepsilon$ -interleaved  $\forall \alpha \in A$ .

**Def.** Let  $\mathcal{D} : Q\text{-mods} \rightarrow$  families of finitely decomposed  $Q$ -modules with ordered summands, so each element of  $\mathcal{D}(N)$  is a direct sum  $L = L_1 \oplus \cdots \oplus L_{\ell}$ .

Assume  $K = K_1 \oplus \cdots \oplus K_k$ . The bottleneck distance determined by  $\mathcal{D}$  is

$$\mathbf{d}_{\mathcal{D}}(K, N) = \inf\{\varepsilon \mid K \text{ is } \varepsilon\text{-matched with some } L \in \mathcal{D}(N)\}.$$

**Examples.** various distances from different choices of  $\mathcal{D}$ :

1. bottleneck distance  $\mathbf{d}_B$  from  $\mathcal{D}(N) = \{\text{indecomposable decompositions of } N\}$  if  $K = K_1 \oplus \cdots \oplus K_k$  is a direct sum of indecomposables
2. lifetime matching distance  $\mathbf{d}_{\mathcal{L}}$  from  $\mathcal{D}(N) = \{\text{gr} F_{\bullet} N \text{ for lifetime filtration } F_{\bullet}\}$  if  $K = K_1 \oplus \cdots \oplus K_k$  is lifetime decomposed

**Def** [Cunha–M.–Zhang 2024–2025]. The lifetime displacement from  $M$  to  $N$  is

$$\Delta_{\mathcal{L}}(M, N) = \sup_{K \in \mathcal{D}(M)} \mathbf{d}_{\mathcal{L}}(K, N).$$

## Distances

**Def** [Lesnick 2015]. Lifetime modules  $K, L$  are  $\varepsilon$ -interleaved if “ $K$  fits  $\varepsilon$ -almost in  $L$ ” and vice versa. Similar for any modules  $M$  and  $N$ . The interleaving distance is

$$\mathbf{d}_{\mathcal{I}}(M, N) = \inf\{\varepsilon \mid M \text{ and } N \text{ are } \varepsilon\text{-interleaved}\}$$

**Def.**  $\bigoplus_{\alpha \in A} M_{\alpha}$  and  $\bigoplus_{\alpha \in A} N_{\alpha}$  are  $\varepsilon$ -matched if  $M_{\alpha}$  and  $N_{\alpha}$  are  $\varepsilon$ -interleaved  $\forall \alpha \in A$ .

**Def.** Let  $\mathcal{D} : Q\text{-mods} \rightarrow$  families of finitely decomposed  $Q$ -modules with ordered summands, so each element of  $\mathcal{D}(N)$  is a direct sum  $L = L_1 \oplus \cdots \oplus L_{\ell}$ .

Assume  $K = K_1 \oplus \cdots \oplus K_k$ . The bottleneck distance determined by  $\mathcal{D}$  is

$$\mathbf{d}_{\mathcal{D}}(K, N) = \inf\{\varepsilon \mid K \text{ is } \varepsilon\text{-matched with some } L \in \mathcal{D}(N)\}.$$

**Examples.** various distances from different choices of  $\mathcal{D}$ :

1. bottleneck distance  $\mathbf{d}_B$  from  $\mathcal{D}(N) = \{\text{indecomposable decompositions of } N\}$  if  $K = K_1 \oplus \cdots \oplus K_k$  is a direct sum of indecomposables
2. lifetime matching distance  $\mathbf{d}_{\mathcal{L}}$  from  $\mathcal{D}(N) = \{\text{gr} F_{\bullet} N \text{ for lifetime filtration } F_{\bullet}\}$  if  $K = K_1 \oplus \cdots \oplus K_k$  is lifetime decomposed

**Def** [Cunha–M.–Zhang 2024–2025]. The lifetime displacement from  $M$  to  $N$  is

$$\Delta_{\mathcal{L}}(M, N) = \sup_{K \in \mathcal{D}(M)} \mathbf{d}_{\mathcal{L}}(K, N).$$

## Distances

**Def** [Lesnick 2015]. Lifetime modules  $K, L$  are  $\varepsilon$ -interleaved if “ $K$  fits  $\varepsilon$ -almost in  $L$ ” and vice versa. Similar for any modules  $M$  and  $N$ . The **interleaving distance** is

$$\mathbf{d}_{\mathcal{I}}(M, N) = \inf\{\varepsilon \mid M \text{ and } N \text{ are } \varepsilon\text{-interleaved}\}$$

**Def.**  $\bigoplus_{\alpha \in A} M_{\alpha}$  and  $\bigoplus_{\alpha \in A} N_{\alpha}$  are  $\varepsilon$ -matched if  $M_{\alpha}$  and  $N_{\alpha}$  are  $\varepsilon$ -interleaved  $\forall \alpha \in A$ .

**Def.** Let  $\mathcal{D} : Q\text{-mods} \rightarrow$  families of finitely decomposed  $Q$ -modules with ordered summands, so each element of  $\mathcal{D}(N)$  is a direct sum  $L = L_1 \oplus \cdots \oplus L_{\ell}$ .

Assume  $K = K_1 \oplus \cdots \oplus K_k$ . The **bottleneck distance** determined by  $\mathcal{D}$  is

$$\mathbf{d}_{\mathcal{D}}(K, N) = \inf\{\varepsilon \mid K \text{ is } \varepsilon\text{-matched with some } L \in \mathcal{D}(N)\}.$$

**Examples.** various distances from different choices of  $\mathcal{D}$ :

1. **bottleneck distance**  $\mathbf{d}_{\mathcal{B}}$  from  $\mathcal{D}(N) = \{\text{indecomposable decompositions of } N\}$  if  $K = K_1 \oplus \cdots \oplus K_k$  is a direct sum of indecomposables
2. lifetime matching distance  $\mathbf{d}_{\mathcal{L}}$  from  $\mathcal{D}(N) = \{\text{gr} F_{\bullet} N \text{ for lifetime filtration } F_{\bullet}\}$  if  $K = K_1 \oplus \cdots \oplus K_k$  is lifetime decomposed

**Def** [Cunha–M.–Zhang 2024–2025]. The lifetime displacement from  $M$  to  $N$  is

$$\Delta_{\mathcal{L}}(M, N) = \sup_{K \in \mathcal{D}(M)} \mathbf{d}_{\mathcal{L}}(K, N).$$



# Distances

**Def** [Lesnick 2015]. Lifetime modules  $K, L$  are  $\varepsilon$ -interleaved if “ $K$  fits  $\varepsilon$ -almost in  $L$ ” and vice versa. Similar for any modules  $M$  and  $N$ . The **interleaving distance** is

$$\mathbf{d}_{\mathcal{I}}(M, N) = \inf\{\varepsilon \mid M \text{ and } N \text{ are } \varepsilon\text{-interleaved}\}$$

**Def.**  $\bigoplus_{\alpha \in A} M_{\alpha}$  and  $\bigoplus_{\alpha \in A} N_{\alpha}$  are  $\varepsilon$ -matched if  $M_{\alpha}$  and  $N_{\alpha}$  are  $\varepsilon$ -interleaved  $\forall \alpha \in A$ .

**Def.** Let  $\mathcal{D} : Q\text{-mods} \rightarrow$  families of finitely decomposed  $Q$ -modules with ordered summands, so each element of  $\mathcal{D}(N)$  is a direct sum  $L = L_1 \oplus \cdots \oplus L_{\ell}$ .

Assume  $K = K_1 \oplus \cdots \oplus K_k$ . The **bottleneck distance** determined by  $\mathcal{D}$  is

$$\mathbf{d}_{\mathcal{D}}(K, N) = \inf\{\varepsilon \mid K \text{ is } \varepsilon\text{-matched with some } L \in \mathcal{D}(N)\}.$$

**Examples.** various distances from different choices of  $\mathcal{D}$ :

1. **bottleneck distance**  $\mathbf{d}_{\mathcal{B}}$  from  $\mathcal{D}(N) = \{\text{indecomposable decompositions of } N\}$  if  $K = K_1 \oplus \cdots \oplus K_k$  is a direct sum of indecomposables
2. **lifetime matching distance**  $\mathbf{d}_{\mathcal{L}}$  from  $\mathcal{D}(N) = \{\text{gr} F_{\bullet} N \text{ for lifetime filtration } F_{\bullet}\}$  if  $K = K_1 \oplus \cdots \oplus K_k$  is lifetime decomposed

**Def** [Cunha–M.–Zhang 2024–2025]. The lifetime displacement from  $M$  to  $N$  is

$$\Delta_{\mathcal{L}}(M, N) = \sup_{K \in \mathcal{D}(M)} \mathbf{d}_{\mathcal{L}}(K, N).$$

# Distances

**Def** [Lesnick 2015]. Lifetime modules  $K, L$  are  $\varepsilon$ -interleaved if “ $K$  fits  $\varepsilon$ -almost in  $L$ ” and vice versa. Similar for any modules  $M$  and  $N$ . The **interleaving distance** is

$$\mathbf{d}_{\mathcal{I}}(M, N) = \inf\{\varepsilon \mid M \text{ and } N \text{ are } \varepsilon\text{-interleaved}\}$$

**Def.**  $\bigoplus_{\alpha \in A} M_{\alpha}$  and  $\bigoplus_{\alpha \in A} N_{\alpha}$  are  $\varepsilon$ -matched if  $M_{\alpha}$  and  $N_{\alpha}$  are  $\varepsilon$ -interleaved  $\forall \alpha \in A$ .

**Def.** Let  $\mathcal{D} : Q\text{-mods} \rightarrow$  families of finitely decomposed  $Q$ -modules with ordered summands, so each element of  $\mathcal{D}(N)$  is a direct sum  $L = L_1 \oplus \cdots \oplus L_{\ell}$ .

Assume  $K = K_1 \oplus \cdots \oplus K_k$ . The **bottleneck distance** determined by  $\mathcal{D}$  is

$$\mathbf{d}_{\mathcal{D}}(K, N) = \inf\{\varepsilon \mid K \text{ is } \varepsilon\text{-matched with some } L \in \mathcal{D}(N)\}.$$

**Examples.** various distances from different choices of  $\mathcal{D}$ :

1. **bottleneck distance**  $\mathbf{d}_{\mathcal{B}}$  from  $\mathcal{D}(N) = \{\text{indecomposable decompositions of } N\}$  if  $K = K_1 \oplus \cdots \oplus K_k$  is a direct sum of indecomposables
2. **lifetime matching distance**  $\mathbf{d}_{\mathcal{L}}$  from  $\mathcal{D}(N) = \{\text{gr } F_{\bullet} N \text{ for lifetime filtration } F_{\bullet}\}$  if  $K = K_1 \oplus \cdots \oplus K_k$  is lifetime decomposed

**Def** [Cunha–M.–Zhang 2024–2025]. The **lifetime displacement** from  $M$  to  $N$  is

$$\Delta_{\mathcal{L}}(M, N) = \sup_{K \in \mathcal{D}(M)} \mathbf{d}_{\mathcal{L}}(K, N).$$

# Looking forward

**Question.** What could “top 100 bar lengths” mean in multipersistence?

- Locate “maximally persistent” elements
- What is meant by “maximally persistent”?
  - length, width, area, volume
  - “size” is crucial when parameters have incomparable scientific meanings
  - primary distances: separate classes according to birth and death types
  - note: primary decomposition is really another filtration!

**Compare** Bjerkevik’s pruning distance stability/Lipschitz conjecture [Bjerkevik 2023]

- Must an indecomposable possess a big individual element?
- Is every indecomposable close to interval decomposing? If not, how likely is it?
- How likely is  $M$  to break into interpretable small pieces by perturbation?

## Implementation

- Locate maximally persistent elements algorithmically
- Certify lower bounds for approximating  $\Delta_{\mathcal{L}}$

# Looking forward

**Question.** What could “top 100 bar lengths” mean in multipersistence?

- Locate “maximally persistent” elements
- What is meant by “maximally persistent”?
  - length, width, area, volume
  - “size” is crucial when parameters have incomparable scientific meanings
  - primary distances: separate classes according to birth and death types
  - note: primary decomposition is really another filtration!

**Compare** Bjerkevik’s pruning distance stability/Lipschitz conjecture [Bjerkevik 2023]

- Must an indecomposable possess a big individual element?
- Is every indecomposable close to interval decomposing? If not, how likely is it?
- How likely is  $M$  to break into interpretable small pieces by perturbation?

## Implementation

- Locate maximally persistent elements algorithmically
- Certify lower bounds for approximating  $\Delta_{\mathcal{L}}$

# Looking forward

**Question.** What could “top 100 bar lengths” mean in multipersistence?

- Locate “maximally persistent” elements
- What is meant by “maximally persistent”?
  - length, width, area, volume
  - “size” is crucial when parameters have incomparable scientific meanings
  - primary distances: separate classes according to birth and death types
  - note: primary decomposition is really another filtration!

**Compare** Bjerkevik’s pruning distance stability/Lipschitz conjecture [Bjerkevik 2023]

- Must an indecomposable possess a big individual element?
- Is every indecomposable close to interval decomposing? If not, how likely is it?
- How likely is  $M$  to break into interpretable small pieces by perturbation?

## Implementation

- Locate maximally persistent elements algorithmically
- Certify lower bounds for approximating  $\Delta_{\mathcal{L}}$

# Looking forward

**Question.** What could “top 100 bar lengths” mean in multipersistence?

- Locate “maximally persistent” elements
- What is meant by “maximally persistent”?
  - length, width, area, volume
  - “size” is crucial when parameters have incomparable scientific meanings
  - primary distances: separate classes according to birth and death types
  - note: primary decomposition is really another filtration!

**Compare** Bjerkevik’s pruning distance stability/Lipschitz conjecture [\[Bjerkevik 2023\]](#)

- Must an indecomposable possess a big individual element?
- Is every indecomposable close to interval decomposing? If not, how likely is it?
- How likely is  $M$  to break into interpretable small pieces by perturbation?

## Implementation

- Locate maximally persistent elements algorithmically
- Certify lower bounds for approximating  $\Delta_{\mathcal{L}}$

# Looking forward

**Question.** What could “top 100 bar lengths” mean in multipersistence?

- Locate “maximally persistent” elements
- What is meant by “maximally persistent”?
  - length, width, area, volume
  - “size” is crucial when parameters have incomparable scientific meanings
  - primary distances: separate classes according to birth and death types
  - note: primary decomposition is really another filtration!

**Compare** Bjerkevik’s pruning distance stability/Lipschitz conjecture [Bjerkevik 2023]

- Must an indecomposable possess a big individual element?
- Is every indecomposable close to interval decomposing? If not, how likely is it?
- How likely is  $M$  to break into interpretable small pieces by perturbation?

## Implementation

- Locate maximally persistent elements algorithmically
- Certify lower bounds for approximating  $\Delta_{\mathcal{L}}$

# References

1. Silvana Abeasis and Alberto Del Fra, *Degenerations for the representations of an equioriented quiver of type  $A_m$* , Boll. Un. Mat. Ital. Suppl. **2** (1980), 157–171.
2. Silvana Abeasis, Alberto Del Fra, and Hanspeter Kraft, *The geometry of representations of  $A_m$* , Math. Ann. **256** (1981), no. 3, 401–418.
3. Stephen Aylward and Elizabeth Bullitt, *Initialization, noise, singularities, and scale in height ridge traversal for tubular object centerline extraction*, IEEE Trans. on Medical Imaging **21**, no. 2 (2002), 61–75.
4. Ulrich Bauer and Luis Scoccola, *Generic multi-parameter persistence modules are nearly indecomposable*, preprint, 2022. [arXiv:math.RT/2211.15306](#)
5. Paul Bendich, Steve Marron, Ezra Miller, Alex Pieloch, and Sean Skwerer, *Persistent homology analysis of brain artery trees*, Ann. Appl. Stat. **10** (2016), #1, 198–218.
6. Håvard Bjerkevik, *Stabilizing decomposition of multiparameter persistence modules*, preprint, 2023. [arXiv:math.RT/2305.15550](#)
7. Magnus Botnan and William Crawley-Boevey, *Decomposition of persistence modules*, Proc. Amer. Math. Soc. **148** (2020), 4581–4596.
8. Mickaël Buchet, Emerson Escolar, *Every 1D persistence module is a restriction of some 2D indecomposable*, J. Appl. Comput. Top. **4** (2020), no. 3, 387–424.
9. Gunnar Carlsson and Afra Zomorodian, *The theory of multidimensional persistence*, Discrete and Comput. Geom. **42** (2009), 71–93.
10. William Crawley-Boevey, *Decomposition of pointwise finite-dimensional persistence modules*, J. Algebra Appl. **14** (2015), no. 5, 1550066, 8 pp.
11. Ricardo Prado Cunha, Ezra Miller, and Jiaxi (Jesse) Zhang, *Lifetime filtration of multiparameter persistence modules*, draft, 2025.
12. Allen Knutson, Ezra Miller, and Mark Shimozono, *Four positive formulae for type A quiver polynomials*, Invent. Math. **166** (2006), no. 2, 229–325.
13. Michael Lesnick, *The theory of the interleaving distance on multidimensional persistence modules*, Found. Comput. Math. **15** (2015), 613–650.
14. Ezra Miller, *Data structures for real multiparameter persistence modules*, 107 pages. [arXiv:math.AT/1709.08155](#)
15. Ezra Miller, *Homological algebra of modules over posets*, 42 pages, SIAM J. Appl. Algebra and Geom., 2025.
16. Ezra Miller and Bernd Sturmfels, *Combinatorial commutative algebra*, Graduate Texts in Mathematics, vol. 227, Springer-Verlag, New York, 2005.



# References

1. Silvana Abeasis and Alberto Del Fra, *Degenerations for the representations of an equioriented quiver of type  $A_m$* , Boll. Un. Mat. Ital. Suppl. **2** (1980), 157–171.
2. Silvana Abeasis, Alberto Del Fra, and Hanspeter Kraft, *The geometry of representations of  $A_m$* , Math. Ann. **256** (1981), no. 3, 401–418.
3. Stephen Aylward and Elizabeth Bullitt, *Initialization, noise, singularities, and scale in height ridge traversal for tubular object centerline extraction*, IEEE Trans. on Medical Imaging **21**, no. 2 (2002), 61–75.
4. Ulrich Bauer and Luis Scoccola, *Generic multi-parameter persistence modules are nearly indecomposable*, preprint, 2022. [arXiv:math.RT/2211.15306](#)
5. Paul Bendich, Steve Marron, Ezra Miller, Alex Pieloch, and Sean Skwerer, *Persistent homology analysis of brain artery trees*, Ann. Appl. Stat. **10** (2016), #1, 198–218.
6. Håvard Bjerkevik, *Stabilizing decomposition of multiparameter persistence modules*, preprint, 2023. [arXiv:math.RT/2305.15550](#)
7. Magnus Botnan and William Crawley-Boevey, *Decomposition of persistence modules*, Proc. Amer. Math. Soc. **148** (2020), 4581–4596.
8. Mickaël Buchet, Emerson Escolar, *Every 1D persistence module is a restriction of some 2D indecomposable*, J. Appl. Comput. Top. **4** (2020), no. 3, 387–424.
9. Gunnar Carlsson and Afra Zomorodian, *The theory of multidimensional persistence*, Discrete and Comput. Geom. **42** (2009), 71–93.
10. William Crawley-Boevey, *Decomposition of pointwise finite-dimensional persistence modules*, J. Algebra Appl. **14** (2015), no. 5, 1550066, 8 pp.
11. Ricardo Prado Cunha, Ezra Miller, and Jiaxi (Jesse) Zhang, *Lifetime filtration of multiparameter persistence modules*, draft, 2025.
12. Allen Knutson, Ezra Miller, and Mark Shimozono, *Four positive formulae for type A quiver polynomials*, Invent. Math. **166** (2006), no. 2, 229–325.
13. Michael Lesnick, *The theory of the interleaving distance on multidimensional persistence modules*, Found. Comput. Math. **15** (2015), 613–650.
14. Ezra Miller, *Data structures for real multiparameter persistence modules*, 107 pages. [arXiv:math.AT/1709.08155](#)
15. Ezra Miller, *Homological algebra of modules over posets*, 42 pages, SIAM J. Appl. Algebra and Geom., 2025.
16. Ezra Miller and Bernd Sturmfels, *Combinatorial commutative algebra*, Graduate Texts in Mathematics, vol. 227, Springer-Verlag, New York, 2005.

Thank You