EMAp Summer Course

# Topological Data Analysis with Persistent Homology

https://raphaeltinarrage.github.io/EMAp.html

## Lesson 3: Homotopies

Last update: January 28, 2021

#### Introduction



I - Homotopy equivalence between maps

II - Homotopy equivalence between topological spaces

III - Link with homeomorphic spaces

 $\operatorname{VI}$  - Invariants

4/16 (1/7)

**Definition:** Let  $(X, \mathcal{T})$  and  $(Y, \mathcal{U})$  be two topological spaces, and  $f, g: X \to Y$  two continuous maps. A *homotopy* between f and g is a map  $F: X \times [0, 1] \to Y$  such that:

- $F(\cdot,0)$  is equal to f,
- $F(\cdot,1)$  is equal to g,
- $F: X \times [0,1] \to Y$  is continuous.

If such a homotopy exists, we say that the maps f and g are *homotopic*.

For any  $t \in [0,1]$ , the notation  $F(\cdot,t)$  refers to the map

$$F(\cdot, t) \colon X \longrightarrow Y$$
$$x \longmapsto F(x, t)$$

4/16 (2/7)

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**Example**: Homotopy  $F \colon \mathbb{R} \times [0,1] \to \mathbb{R}$  between  $f \colon \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$  and  $g \colon \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$ .



4/16 (3/7)

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Example: Homotopy  $F \colon [0,1] \times [0,1] \to \mathbb{R}^2$  between  $f \colon [0,1] \to \mathbb{R}^2$  and  $g \colon [0,1] \to \mathbb{R}^2$ .



4/16 (4/7)

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- $F: X \times [0,1] \to Y$  is continuous.

Example: Let X = Y = [-1, 1] endowed with the Euclidean topology, and consider the maps  $f, g: X \to Y$  defined as

 $f \colon x \mapsto 0$  $g \colon x \mapsto x$ 

Let us prove that they are homotopic. Consider the map

$$F: X \times [0, 1] \longrightarrow Y$$
$$(x, t) \longmapsto tx$$

We see that  $F(\cdot, 0): x \mapsto 0$  is equal to f, and  $F(\cdot, 1): x \mapsto x$  is equal to g. Moreover, F is continuous. Hence, F is an homotopy between f and g. Thus these two maps are homotopic.



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Example: The map

$$F: S_1 \times [0, 1] \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$$
$$\theta \longmapsto (\cos(\theta) + t, \sin(\theta) + t)$$

is a homotopy between the maps  $f\colon\,\mathbb{S}^1\to\mathbb{R}^2$  and  $g\colon\,\mathbb{S}^1\to\mathbb{R}^2$  defined as

 $f: \theta \mapsto (\cos(\theta), \sin(\theta))$  and  $g: \theta \mapsto (\cos(\theta) + 1, \sin(\theta) + 1)$ 

(Notation:  $\mathbb{S}_1$  denotes the unit circle of  $\mathbb{R}^2$ .)



Non-example: Between  $S_1$  and  $\mathbb{R}^2 \setminus \{(0,0)\}$ , the plane without the origin, there is no homotopy between the maps

 $f: \theta \mapsto (\cos(\theta), \sin(\theta))$  and  $g: \theta \mapsto (\cos(\theta) + 1, \sin(\theta) + 1)$ 

The homotopy F would pass through the point (0,0) at some point, which is impossible.

(Notation:  $\mathbb{S}_1$  denotes the unit circle of  $\mathbb{R}^2$ .)

### Trivial maps

5/16 (1/2)

From a homotopic point a view, a *trivial map* is a map that is homotopic to a constant map.

Proposition: Let  $(X, \mathcal{T})$  be a topological space and  $f: X \to \mathbb{R}^n$  a continuous map. Then f is homotopic to a constant map.

**Proof:** Consider the continuous application

$$F: X \times [0, 1] \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$$
$$(x, t) \longmapsto tf(x)$$

We have that  $F(\cdot, 1) = f$ , and  $F(\cdot, 0) \colon x \mapsto 0$  is a constant map. Hence F is a homotopy between f and the constant map  $g \colon X \to \mathbb{R}^n$  $x \mapsto 0$ 

### Trivial maps

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Exercise: Let  $f \colon \mathbb{R}^n \to X$  be a continuous map. Then f is homotopic to a constant map.

I - Homotopy equivalence between maps

II - Homotopy equivalence between topological spaces

III - Link with homeomorphic spaces

VI - Invariants

7/16 (1/2)

Definition Let  $(X, \mathcal{T})$  and  $(Y, \mathcal{U})$  be two topological spaces. A homotopy equivalence between X and Y is a pair of continuous maps  $f: X \to Y$  and  $g: Y \to X$  such that:

- $g \circ f \colon X \to X$  is homotopic to the identity map  $\operatorname{id} \colon X \to X$ ,
- $f \circ g \colon Y \to Y$  is homotopic to the identity map id  $\colon Y \to Y$ .

If such a homotopy equivalence exists, we say that X and Y are homotopy equivalent.



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If such a homotopy equivalence exists, we say that X and Y are homotopy equivalent.



8/16 (1/4)

Determining whether two topological spaces are homotopy equivalent may be difficult. When one is a subset of the other, we have a handy tool:

Definition: Let  $(X, \mathcal{T})$  be a topological space and  $Y \subset X$  a subset, endowed with the subspace topology  $\mathcal{T}_{|Y}$ .

A retraction is a continuous map  $r: X \to X$  such that  $\forall x \in X, r(x) \in Y$  and  $\forall y \in Y, r(y) = y$ .

A deformation retraction is a homotopy  $F: X \times [0,1] \to Y$  between the identity map id:  $X \to X$  and a retraction  $r: X \to Y$ .



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Proposition: If a deformation retraction exists, then X and Y are homotopic equivalent.

**Proof**: Let  $r: X \to Y$  denote the retraction, and consider the inclusion map  $i: Y \to X$ . Let us prove that r, i is a homotopy equivalence.

First, let us prove that  $i \circ r \colon X \to X$  is homotopic to the identity map id:  $X \to X$ . This is clear because  $i \circ r = r$ , and r is homotopic to the identity by definition of a deformation retraction.

Second, let us prove that  $r \circ i \colon Y \to Y$  is homotopic to the identity map id:  $Y \to Y$ . This is obvious because  $r \circ i = id$  by definition of a retraction.

8/16 (3/4)

**Definition:** Let  $(X, \mathcal{T})$  be a topological space and  $Y \subset X$  a subset, endowed with the subspace topology  $\mathcal{T}_{|Y}$ . A *retraction* is a continuous map  $r: X \to Y$  such that  $\forall y \in Y, r(y) = y$ . A *deformation retraction* is a homotopy  $F: X \times [0, 1] \to Y$  between the identity map id:  $X \to X$  and a retraction  $r: X \to Y$ .

Example: For any  $n \ge 1$ , the Euclidean space  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is homotopy equivalent to the point  $\{0\} \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ . To prove this, consider the retraction

$$r \colon \mathbb{R}^n \longrightarrow \{0\}$$
$$x \longmapsto 0$$

It is homotopic to the identity id:  $\mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}^n$  via the deformation retraction

$$F \colon \mathbb{R}^n \times [0, 1] \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$$
$$(x, t) \longmapsto (1 - t)x$$

Indeed, we have  $F(\cdot, 0) = \text{id}$  and  $F(\cdot, 1) = r$ .



8/16 (4/4)

**Definition:** Let  $(X, \mathcal{T})$  be a topological space and  $Y \subset X$  a subset, endowed with the subspace topology  $\mathcal{T}_{|Y}$ . A *retraction* is a continuous map  $r: X \to Y$  such that  $\forall y \in Y, r(y) = y$ . A *deformation retraction* is a homotopy  $F: X \times [0, 1] \to Y$  between the identity map id:  $X \to X$  and a retraction  $r: X \to Y$ .

**Example**: For any  $n \ge 1$ , the Euclidean space without origin,  $\mathbb{R}^n \setminus \{0\}$ , is homotopy equivalent to the sphere  $\mathbb{S}(0,1) \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ . To prove this, consider the retraction

$$r \colon \mathbb{R}^n \setminus \{0\} \longrightarrow \mathbb{S}(0,1)$$
$$x \longmapsto \frac{x}{\|x\|}$$

It is homotopic to the identity id:  $\mathbb{R}^n \setminus \{0\} \to \mathbb{R}^n \setminus \{0\}$  via the deformation retraction

$$F: (\mathbb{R}^n \setminus \{0\}) \times [0, 1] \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^n \setminus \{0\}$$
$$(x, t) \longmapsto \left(1 - t + \frac{t}{\|x\|}\right) x$$

Indeed, we have  $F(\cdot, 0) = \text{id}$  and  $F(\cdot, 1) = r$ .

9/16 (1/4)

Let us denote  $X \approx Y$  if the two topological spaces X and Y are homotopic equivalent.

Being homotopic equivalent is an *equivalence relation*. That is:

- (Reflexivity)  $X \approx X$
- (Symmetry)  $X \approx Y \implies Y \approx X$ .
- (Transitivity)  $X \approx Y$  and  $Y \approx Z \implies X \approx Z$ .

We can classify topological spaces according to this relation, and obtain *classes of homotopy equivalence*:

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$$= \bigcirc = \bigcirc = \bigcirc = \bigcirc = \bigcirc = \bigcirc = \cdots$$

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We can classify topological spaces according to this relation, and obtain *classes of homotopy equivalence*:

the class of points

the class of spheres, the class of torii, the class of Klein bottles, ...

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### Homeomorphic implies homotopic 11/16 (1/4)

Proposition: Let X, Y be two topological spaces. If they are homeomorphic, then they are homotopic equivalent.

In other words:

 $X \simeq Y \implies X \approx Y.$ 

**Consequence:** In order to prove that two spaces are homotopy equivalent, it is enough to show that they are homeomorphic.

### Homeomorphic implies homotopic 11/16 (2/4)

Proposition: Let X, Y be two topological spaces. If they are homeomorphic, then they are homotopic equivalent.

In other words:

 $X \simeq Y \implies X \approx Y.$ 

**Consequence:** In order to prove that two spaces are homotopy equivalent, it is enough to show that they are homeomorphic.

**Proof**: Let  $h: X \to Y$  be a homeomorphism.

We have to build a homotopy equivalence  $f: X \to Y$ ,  $g: Y \to X$ .

Define f = h and  $g = h^{-1}$ . Let us show  $g \circ f$  is homotopic to id:  $X \to X$  and  $f \circ g$  is homotopic to id:  $Y \to Y$ .

We have  $g \circ f = h^{-1} \circ h = id$ . But  $id: X \to X$  is homotopic to  $id: X \to X$  (any map is homotopic to itsef.)

Similarly,  $f \circ g = h \circ h^{-1} = id$ , and  $id \colon Y \to Y$  is homotopic to  $id \colon Y \to Y$ .

Conclusion: f, g is a homotopy equivalence between X and Y, hence X and Y are homotopy equivalent.

### Homeomorphic implies homotopic 11/16 (3/4)

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In other words:

 $X \simeq Y \implies X \approx Y.$ 

**Consequence:** In order to prove that two spaces are homotopy equivalent, it is enough to show that they are homeomorphic.

**Example**: The letter L and the letter Z are homeomorphic:



Hence they are homotopy equivalent.

### Homeomorphic implies homotopic 11/16 (4/4)

Proposition: Let X, Y be two topological spaces. If they are homeomorphic, then they are homotopic equivalent.

In other words:

 $X \simeq Y \implies X \approx Y.$ 

**Consequence:** In order to prove that two spaces are homotopy equivalent, it is enough to show that they are homeomorphic.

This strategy does not always work: some spaces are homotopy equivalent but not homeomorphic!

This is the case for  $\mathbb{R}^n$  and  $\{0\}$  for instance.

#### Exercise

Consider the following letters of the alphabet, endowed with the subspace topology induced from  $\mathbb{R}^2$ :

## A B C D E F

Classify them into homotopy equivalence classes, then classify them into homeomorphism equivalence classes.

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Homotopy equivalence classes:

 $\rightarrow$  A  $\approx$  D  $\rightarrow$  B  $\rightarrow$  C  $\approx$  E  $\approx$  F



#### Exercise

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Homotopy equivalence classes:



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### Number of connected components 14/16(1/4)

Until here, we studied two quantities associated to topological spaces: *number of connected components* and *dimension*.

Proposition: Two homotopy equivalent topological spaces admit the same number of connected components.

**Proof**: Let X, Y be two topological spaces, and  $f: X \to Y, g: Y \to X$  a homotopy equivalence.

Let  $F: X \times [0,1] \to X$  be a homotopy between  $g \circ f$  and  $id: X \to X$ . Let  $x \in X$ , and O the connected component of x.

The space  $O \times [0,1]$  is connected. Hence its image  $F(O \times [0,1]) \subset X$  is connected too. Moreover,  $O = F(O \times \{1\}) \subset F(O \times [0,1])$ . Hence  $F(O \times [0,1])$  is a connected subset of X that contains O, and we deduce that  $O = F(O \times [0,1])$ .

Last, notice that

$$g \circ f(O) = F(O \times \{0\}) \subset F(O \times [0,1]) = O.$$

### Number of connected components 14/16(2/4)

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Proposition: Two homotopy equivalent topological spaces admit the same number of connected components.

**Proof**: Let X, Y be two topological spaces, and  $f: X \to Y, g: Y \to X$  a homotopy equivalence.

Let  $F: X \times [0,1] \to X$  be a homotopy between  $g \circ f$  and  $id: X \to X$ . Let  $x \in X$ , and O the connected component of x. We have  $g \circ f(O) \subset O$ .

Suppose that X admits n connected components  $O_1, ..., O_n$ , and that Y admits m of them.

By contradiction, suppose that m < n. This implies that we have two components  $O_i, O_j$  such that  $f(O_i)$  and  $f(O_j)$  are included in the same connected component O' of Y.

Hence  $g \circ f(O_i)$  and  $g \circ f(O_j)$  are included in a common connected component of X. This is absurd because  $g \circ f(O_i) \subset O_i$  and  $g \circ f(O_j) \subset O_j$ .

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**Proof**: Let X, Y be two topological spaces, and  $f: X \to Y, g: Y \to X$  a homotopy equivalence.

Suppose that X admits n connected components  $O_1, ..., O_n$ , and that Y admits m of them.

We have shown that  $m \ge n$ .

By exchanging the roles of X and Y in the whole reasonning, we obtain that  $m \le n$ . We deduce that m = n.

### Number of connected components $_{14/16}$ (4/4)

Until here, we studied two quantities associated to topological spaces: *number of connected components* and *dimension*.

Proposition: Two homotopy equivalent topological spaces admit the same number of connected components.

In other words, *number of connected components* is an invariant of homotopy equivalence.

This allows to show that two spaces are not equivalent.

**Example**: For any  $n, m \ge 0$  such that  $n \ne m$ , the subspaces  $\{1, ..., n\}$  and  $\{1, ..., m\}$  of  $\mathbb{R}$  are not homotopic equivalent.

Indeed, the first one admits  $\boldsymbol{n}$  connected components, and the second one  $\boldsymbol{m}$  components.

### Dimension

On the other hand, dimension is **not** an invariant of homotopy equivalence.

Indeed, some homotopic equivalent spaces have different dimensions.

This is the case, for instance, with all the Euclidean spaces  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $n \ge 0$ . They are all homotopic equivalent, but all with different dimensions.

#### Conclusion

We learnt to look at topological spaces from a homotopic-equivalence perspective.

This is a weaker notion than homeomorphism-equivalence.

Between the quantities, *number of connected components* and *dimension*, ony one is invariant for the homotopic-equivalence relation.

Homework for tomorrow: Exercises 12 and 16 Facultative exercise: Exercises 13 and 14

### Conclusion

We learnt to look at topological spaces from a homotopic-equivalence perspective.

This is a weaker notion than homeomorphism-equivalence.

Between the quantities, *number of connected components* and *dimension*, ony one is invariant for the homotopic-equivalence relation.

Homework for tomorrow: Exercises 12 and 16 Facultative exercise: Exercises 13 and 14

Obrigado!