# Persistence of the Conley Index in Combinatorial Dynamical Systems 

Tamal K. Dey, Marian Mrozek, and Ryan Slechta

## Overview \& Outline

- Persistence
- Combinatorial Dynamical Systems \& Conley Index
- Capturing changes in Dynamical Systems via Persistence


## Persistent Homology

Summarizes changing homology of a filtration [ELZOO]

$$
K_{1} \subseteq K_{2} \subseteq \ldots \subseteq K_{n}=K
$$

## Persistence Example



## Persistence Example



Persistence Example


Persistence Example

$K_{0} \subset K_{1} \subset K_{2} \subset K_{3} \subset K_{4} \subset K_{5} \subset K_{6}$

$$
0 \leq 0 \geq 0
$$

## "Level Set" Persistence

## $-\square \geq 0 \subseteq 10 \geq 0$


[CDM09] [DW07]

Level Set Barcode


## Overview \& Outline

- Persistence
- Combinatorial Dynamical Systems \& the Conley Index
- Capturing changes in Dynamical Systems via Persistence


## Multivectors

Let $K$ denote a simplicial complex and $\leq$ denote the face relation. Definition: A multivector $V$ is a convex subset of $K$ with respect to $\leq$.

Definition: A multivector field $\mathcal{V}$ is a partition of $K$ into multivectors.


Multivector Fields


## Multivector Fields as a Dynamical System

Let $\sigma \in K$. Then $\operatorname{cl}(\sigma)=\{\tau \in K \mid \tau \leq \sigma\}$.
$[\sigma]_{\mathcal{V}}$ denotes the vector in $\mathcal{V}$ containing $\sigma$
Dynamics generator $F_{\mathcal{V}}: K \multimap K$ defined as:

$$
F_{\mathcal{V}}(\sigma)=[\sigma]_{\mathcal{V}} \cup \mathrm{cl}(\sigma)
$$

## Combinatorial Dynamical Systems



## Paths

Definition: A path is a finite sequence of simplices $\sigma_{1}, \sigma_{2}, \ldots, \sigma_{n}$ such that $\sigma_{i+1} \in F_{\mathcal{V}}\left(\sigma_{i}\right)$


## Solutions

Definition: A solution is a bi-infinite sequence of simplices
$\ldots, \sigma_{-1}, \sigma_{0}, \sigma_{1}, \sigma_{2}, \ldots$ such that $\sigma_{i+1} \in F_{\mathcal{V}}\left(\sigma_{i}\right)$


## Solutions

Definition: A solution is a bi-infinite sequence of simplices
$\ldots, \sigma_{-1}, \sigma_{0}, \sigma_{1}, \sigma_{2}, \ldots$ such that $\sigma_{i+1} \in F_{\mathcal{V}}\left(\sigma_{i}\right)$


But as $F_{\mathcal{V}}(\sigma)=[\sigma]_{\mathcal{V}} \cup \mathrm{Cl}(\sigma)$, every simplex gives a solution!

## Critical Multivectors

Definition: Let $A \subseteq K$. The mouth of A is defined as $\mathrm{mo}(A):=\mathrm{cl}(A) \backslash A$

Definition: A multivector $[\sigma]_{\mathcal{V}}$ is critical if there exists a k such that $H_{k}\left(\mathrm{cl}\left([\sigma]_{\mathcal{V}}\right), \operatorname{mo}\left([\sigma]_{\mathcal{V}}\right)\right)$ is nontrivial.

## Critical Multivectors

Critical:


Regular:


## Essential Solutions

Definition: Let ... $, \sigma_{-1}, \sigma_{0}, \sigma_{1}, \sigma_{2}, \ldots$ denote a solution. If for each $\sigma_{i}$ where $\left[\sigma_{i}\right]_{\mathcal{V}}$ is noncritical, there exists a $j>i$ and $j^{\prime}<i$ where $\left[\sigma_{i}\right]_{\mathcal{V}} \neq\left[\sigma_{j}\right]_{\mathcal{V}}$ and $\left[\sigma_{i}\right]_{\mathcal{V}} \neq\left[\sigma_{j^{\prime}}\right]_{\mathcal{V}}$, then $\ldots, \sigma_{-1}, \sigma_{0}, \sigma_{1}, \sigma_{2}, \ldots$ is an essential solution.


## Invariant Sets

Definition: Let $A \subseteq K$. The invariant part of $A$, denoted $\operatorname{lnv}(A)$, is the set of simplices in $A$ which appear in an essential solution in $A$.


If $A=\operatorname{lnv}(A)$, then $A$ is an invariant set.

## Invariant Sets

Definition: Let $A$ denote an invariant set. If $A$ is equal to a union of multivectors, then $A$ is $\mathcal{V}$-compatible.


From now on, assume that invariant sets are $\mathcal{V}$-compatible.

## Isolated Invariant Sets

Definition: Let $A \subseteq N \subseteq K$, where $A$ is an invariant set and $N$ is closed (i.e. $N=\overline{\mathrm{cl}}(N)$ ). If every path in $N$ with endpoints in $A$ is contained in $A$, then $A$ is an isolated invariant set, and $N$ is an isolating neighborhood for $A$.


## Isolated Invariant Sets

Note: We have already seen that the yellow invariant set is not isolated by the rectangle. But does a different neighborhood isolate it?


## Index Pairs

Definition: Let $A$ be an isolated invariant set, and $E$ and $P$ closed sets such that $E \subseteq P$. If:

1. $F_{\mathcal{V}}(E) \cap P \subset E$,
2. $F_{\mathcal{V}}(P \backslash E) \subseteq P$, and
3. $A=\operatorname{lnv}(P \backslash E)$

Then $(P, E)$ is an index pair for $A$.


## Conley Index

Theorem [LKMW2019]: Let $A$ denote an isolated invariant set. The pair $(\mathrm{cl}(A), \operatorname{mo}(A))$ is an index pair for $A$.


## Index Pairs are Not Unique



## Conley Index

Definition: Let $(P, E)$ be an index pair for $A$. Then the kdimensional Conley Index is given by $H_{k}(P, E)$.

Theorem [LKMW 2019]: The k-dimensional Conley Index for $A$ is well defined.

## Conley Indices



$$
H_{2}(R \cup Y, R)=\mathbb{Z}_{2}
$$

## Conley Indices?



## Overview \& Outline

- Persistence
- Combinatorial Dynamical Systems \& the Conley Index
- Capturing changes in Dynamical Systems via Persistence


## Overview

Persistence: capture changing homology of spaces


But what about dynamical systems?

Motivating Example: Hopf Bifurcation

$$
\begin{gathered}
x^{\prime}=-y+x\left(\lambda-x^{2}-y^{2}\right) \\
y^{\prime}=x+y\left(\lambda-x^{2}-y^{2}\right)
\end{gathered}
$$

## Motivating Example: Hopf Bifurcation



## Motivating Example: Hopf Bifurcation



## Motivating Example: Hopf Bifurcation



## Motivating Example: Hopf Bifurcation



## Motivating Example: Hopf Bifurcation



## Motivating Example: Hopf Bifurcation



## Motivating Example: Hopf Bifurcation



$$
\lambda=15
$$

## Motivating Example: Hopf Bifurcation



## Motivating Example: Hopf Bifurcation

Note: attractor from $\lambda=-\infty$ to $\lambda=16$

Can we use persistence to capture this, or a related feature?

## Motivating Example: Hopf Bifurcation

Note: attractor from $\lambda=-\infty$ to $\lambda=16$

Can we use persistence to capture this, or a related feature?

Yes, using a special type of index pair

## Motivating Example: Hopf Bifurcation



## Motivating Example: Hopf Bifurcation



## Motivating Example: Hopf Bifurcation



## Motivating Example: Hopf Bifurcation



## Motivating Example: Hopf Bifurcation



## Motivating Example: Hopf Bifurcation



## Motivating Example: Hopf Bifurcation



## Motivating Example: Hopf Bifurcation



## Motivating Example: Hopf Bifurcation



## Motivating Example: Hopf Bifurcation



## Motivating Example: Hopf Bifurcation

Note: attractor from $\lambda=-\infty$ to $\lambda=16$

Can we use persistence to capture this, or a related feature?

Yes, using a special type of index pair

## Conley Index Persistence

First attempt: for each $\mathcal{V}_{1}, \mathcal{V}_{2}, \ldots, \mathcal{V}_{n}$, compute an isolated invariant set, $A_{1}, A_{2}, \ldots, A_{n}$ and corresponding index pairs.

$$
\left(\mathrm{cl}\left(A_{1}\right), \operatorname{mo}\left(A_{1}\right)\right),\left(\mathrm{cl}\left(A_{2}\right), \operatorname{mo}\left(A_{2}\right)\right), \ldots,\left(\operatorname{cl}\left(A_{n}\right), \operatorname{mo}\left(A_{n}\right)\right)
$$

Gives a relative zigzag filtration:

$$
\ldots \subseteq\left(\operatorname{cl}\left(A_{i}\right), \operatorname{mo}\left(A_{i}\right)\right) \supseteq\left(\operatorname{cl}\left(A_{i}\right) \cap \mathrm{cl}\left(A_{i+1}\right), \operatorname{mo}\left(A_{i}\right) \cap \operatorname{mo}\left(A_{i+1}\right)\right) \subseteq\left(\operatorname{cl}\left(A_{i+1}\right), \operatorname{mo}\left(A_{i+1}\right)\right) \supseteq \ldots
$$

Problem: $\left(\operatorname{cl}\left(A_{i}\right) \cap \mathrm{cl}\left(A_{i+1}\right), \operatorname{mo}\left(A_{i}\right) \cap \operatorname{mo}\left(A_{i+1}\right)\right)$ generally not an index pair.

## Intersection Example



## Index Pairs in an Isolating Neighborhood

Let $E \subset P \subseteq N$ for closed $P, E, N$, and $A \subseteq N$. If:

1. $F_{\mathcal{V}}(P) \cap N \subseteq P$,
2. $F_{\mathcal{V}}(E) \cap N \subseteq E$,
3. $F_{\mathcal{V}}(P \backslash E) \subseteq N$, and
4. $A=\operatorname{lnv}(P \backslash E)$
then $(P, E)$ is an index pair in $N$.


## Push Forward

Let $A \subseteq K$ denote an arbitrary set in some closed $N$. Then the push forward of $A$ in $N$ is $A$ together with all simplices in $N$ which are reachable from paths originating in $A$ and contained in $N$.


## Finding Index Pairs in N

Theorem: The push forward in $N$ of an index pair is an index pair in $N$


## Index Pairs in an Isolating Neighborhood

Theorem: Index Pairs in $N$ are index pairs.

Definition: Let $\mathcal{V}_{1}, \mathcal{V}_{2}$ denote multivector fields over $K$. The intersection of multivector fields is given by

$$
\mathcal{V}_{1} \bar{\cap} \mathcal{V}_{2}=\left\{V_{1} \cap V_{2} \mid V_{1} \in \mathcal{V}_{1}, V_{2} \in \mathcal{V}_{2}\right\}
$$

Theorem: Let $\left(P_{1}, E_{1}\right),\left(P_{2}, E_{2}\right)$ denote index pairs in $N$ under $\mathcal{V}_{1}, \mathcal{V}_{2}$. The pair $\left(P_{1} \cap P_{2}, E_{1} \cap E_{2}\right)$ is an index pair in $N$ under $\mathcal{V}_{1} \bar{\cap} \mathcal{V}_{2}$ for $\operatorname{Inv}\left(\left(P_{1} \cap P_{2}\right) \backslash\left(E_{1} \cap E_{2}\right)\right)$.

## Intersection Example



All simplices in N , Yellow union
Red is $P$, and Red is $E$

## Conley Index Persistence: New Strategy

Fix $N$, and for each $\mathcal{V}_{1}, \mathcal{V}_{2}, \ldots, \mathcal{V}_{n}$, compute the maximal invariant set in $N$, denoted $A_{1}, A_{2}, \ldots, A_{n}$, and corresponding index pairs.

$$
\left(\mathrm{cl}\left(A_{1}\right), \operatorname{mo}\left(A_{1}\right)\right),\left(\operatorname{cl}\left(A_{2}\right), \operatorname{mo}\left(A_{2}\right)\right), \ldots,\left(\operatorname{cl}\left(A_{n}\right), \operatorname{mo}\left(A_{n}\right)\right)
$$

Gives a relative zigzag filtration:

```
(pf
```


## Conley Index Persistence



## Problem: Noise Resilience



All simplices in N , Yellow union
Red is $P$, and Red is E

## Solution: Make E Smaller



## Conley Index Persistence

Proposition: Let $(P, E)$ denote an index pair for $A$ in $N$. If $V \subseteq E$ is a regular multivector such that $E^{\prime}:=E \backslash V$ is closed, then $\left(P, E^{\prime}\right)$ is an index pair in $N$ for $A$.


## Conley Index Persistence

Proposition: Let $(P, E)$ denote an index pair for $A$ in $N$. If $V \subseteq E$ is a regular multivector such that $E^{\prime}:=E \backslash V$ is closed, then $\left(P, E^{\prime}\right)$ is an index pair in $N$ for $A$.


## Multivector Removal Strategy

Remove as many multivectors as possible, up to a fixed distance away from the isolated invariant set.


## Multivector Removal Strategy

Remove as many multivectors as possible, up to a fixed distance away from the isolated invariant set.


## Multivector Removal Strategy

Remove as many multivectors as possible, up to a fixed distance away from the isolated invariant set.


## Algorithm

MakeNoiseResilient( $\mathrm{P}, \mathrm{E}, \mathrm{A}, \delta$ ):
while there exists a regular multivector $V \subset E$ such that $E \backslash V$ is closed and $d(V, A) \leq \delta$ :
$E \leftarrow E \backslash V$


## Multivector Removal Strategy

Theorem: This algorithm outputs index pairs


## Conley Index Persistence: Variable N

Given a "seed" isolated invariant set and isolating neighborhood, can we modify N to track changes to the invariant set across multivector fields?

## Conley Index Persistence: Variable N

Given a "seed" isolated invariant set and isolating neighborhood, can we modify N to track changes to the invariant set across multivector fields?


Pitchfork Bifurcation

$$
\begin{gathered}
\frac{d x}{d t}=\lambda x-x^{3} \\
\frac{d y}{d t}=-y
\end{gathered}
$$

## Pitchfork Bifurcation



## Pitchfork Bifurcation



## Pitchfork Bifurcation



## Pitchfork Bifurcation



## Pitchfork Bifurcation



## Pitchfork Bifurcation



## Pitchfork Bifurcation



## Pitchfork Bifurcation



## Pitchfork Bifurcation



## Pitchfork Bifurcation



## Pitchfork Bifurcation - Previous Technique



## Pitchfork Bifurcation - Previous Technique



## Pitchfork Bifurcation - Previous Technique



## Pitchfork Bifurcation - Previous Technique



## Pitchfork Bifurcation - Previous Technique



## Pitchfork Bifurcation - Previous Technique



## Pitchfork Bifurcation - Previous Technique



## Pitchfork Bifurcation - Previous Technique



## Pitchfork Bifurcation - Previous Technique



## Conley Index Persistence



## Conley Index Persistence: Variable N

Have a sequence of isolated invariant sets $A_{1}, A_{2}, \ldots, A_{n}$ isolated by $N_{1}, N_{2}, \ldots, N_{n}\left(A_{i}\right.$ isolated by $N_{i}$ and $\left.N_{i-1}\right)$.

$$
\begin{aligned}
\left(\operatorname{pf}_{N_{i}}\left(\mathrm{cl}\left(A_{i}\right)\right), \operatorname{pf}_{N_{i}}\left(\operatorname{mo}\left(A_{i}\right)\right)\right) & \supseteq\left(\operatorname{pf}_{N_{i}}\left(\mathrm{cl}\left(A_{i}\right)\right) \cap \operatorname{pf}_{N_{i}}\left(\mathrm{cl}\left(A_{i+1}\right)\right), \operatorname{pf}_{N_{i}}\left(\operatorname{mo}\left(A_{i}\right)\right) \cap \operatorname{pf}_{N_{i}}\left(\operatorname{mo}\left(A_{i+1}\right)\right)\right) \\
& \subseteq\left(\operatorname{pf}_{N_{i}}\left(\mathrm{cl}\left(A_{i+1}\right)\right), \operatorname{pf}_{N_{i}}\left(\operatorname{mo}\left(A_{i+1}\right)\right)\right) \\
& \left(\operatorname{pf}_{N_{i+1}}\left(\mathrm{cl}\left(A_{i+1}\right)\right), \operatorname{pf}_{N_{i+1}}\left(\operatorname{mo}\left(A_{i+1}\right)\right)\right) \supseteq \\
\left(\operatorname{pf}_{N_{i+1}}\left(\mathrm{cl}\left(A_{i+1}\right)\right)\right. & \left.\cap \operatorname{pf}_{N_{i+1}}\left(\mathrm{cl}\left(A_{i+2}\right)\right), \operatorname{pf}_{N_{i+1}}\left(\operatorname{mo}\left(A_{i+1}\right)\right) \cap \operatorname{pf}_{N_{i+1}}\left(\operatorname{mo}\left(A_{i+2}\right)\right)\right) \\
& \subseteq\left(\operatorname{pf}_{N_{i+1}}\left(\mathrm{cl}\left(A_{i+2}\right)\right), \operatorname{pf}_{N_{i+1}}\left(\operatorname{mo}\left(A_{i+2}\right)\right)\right)
\end{aligned}
$$

## Conley Index Persistence: Variable N

How to connect the two index pairs?

$$
\begin{gathered}
\left(\operatorname{pf}_{N_{i}}\left(\mathrm{cl}\left(A_{i+1}\right)\right), \mathrm{pf}_{N_{i}}\left(\operatorname{mo}\left(A_{i+1}\right)\right)\right) \\
\left(\operatorname{pf}_{N_{i+1}}\left(\mathrm{cl}\left(A_{i+1}\right)\right), \mathrm{pf}_{N_{i+1}}\left(\operatorname{mo}\left(A_{i+1}\right)\right)\right)
\end{gathered}
$$

## Conley Index Persistence: Variable N

Theorem: If $\left(P_{1}, E_{1}\right),\left(P_{2}, E_{2}\right)$ are strong index pairs for $A$ in $N_{1}, N_{2}$, where $A$ is isolated by $N_{1}, N_{2}, N_{1} \cup N_{2}$, then $\left(\operatorname{pf}_{N_{1} \cup N_{2}}\left(P_{1} \cup P_{2}\right), \operatorname{pf}_{N_{1} \cup N_{2}}\left(E_{1} \cup E_{2}\right)\right)$ is an index pair for $A$ in $N_{1} \cup N_{2}$

## Conley Index Persistence: Variable N

Strategy replace

$$
\begin{gathered}
\left(\operatorname{pf}_{N_{i}}\left(\mathrm{cl}\left(A_{i+1}\right)\right), \operatorname{pf}_{N_{i}}\left(\operatorname{mo}\left(A_{i+1}\right)\right)\right) \\
\text { and } \\
\left(\operatorname{pf}_{N_{i+1}}\left(\mathrm{cl}\left(A_{i+1}\right)\right), \operatorname{pf}_{N_{i+1}}\left(\operatorname{mo}\left(A_{i+1}\right)\right)\right) \\
\text { with }
\end{gathered}
$$

$$
\left(\operatorname{pf}_{N_{i} \cup N_{i+1}}\left(\mathrm{cl}\left(A_{i+1}\right)\right), \operatorname{pf}_{N_{i} \cup N_{i+1}}\left(\operatorname{mo}\left(A_{i+1}\right)\right)\right)
$$

## Conley Index Persistence: Variable N

To summarize, given $A_{1}, A_{2}, \ldots, A_{n}$ isolated by $N_{1}, N_{2}, \ldots, N_{n}$, where each $A_{i}$ is isolated by $N_{i} \cup N_{i+1}$, we obtain a zigzag filtration.

But given $A_{1}$ and $N_{1}$, how to find $A_{2}, \ldots, A_{n}$ and $N_{2}, \ldots, N_{n}$ ?

## Finding R

Strategy: Given $N_{1}, A_{1}$, define a "collar" $C$ around $A_{1}$, then find set of simplices $R$ so that $A_{1}$ is isolated by $N_{1} \cup C \backslash R$.
$N_{2}:=C \backslash R$
Take $A_{2}$ to be the maximal invariant set in $N_{2}$

How to find $R$ ?

## Finding R

FindR(A, $\mathrm{N}, \delta)$ :
$A^{\prime}=\operatorname{pb}_{N}(A)=\left\{\sigma \in N \mid A \cap \operatorname{pf}_{N}(\{\sigma\}) \neq \emptyset\right\}$
$C^{\prime}$ denotes a $\delta$-collar of A
while there exists a path in $C^{\prime}$ from A to $\mathrm{A}^{\prime}$ :
Let $\sigma$ denote the last simplex not in $\mathrm{A}^{\prime}$ add all cofaces of $\sigma$ to R
return R

## Finding R

Theorem: The set $C^{\prime} \backslash R$ is closed.
Theorem: The invariant set $A$ is isolated by $N \cup\left(C^{\prime} \backslash R\right)$

## Pitchfork Bifurcation: Variable N



## Pitchfork Bifurcation: Variable N



## Pitchfork Bifurcation: Variable N



## Pitchfork Bifurcation: Variable N



## Pitchfork Bifurcation: Variable N



## Pitchfork Bifurcation: Variable N



## Pitchfork Bifurcation: Variable N



## Pitchfork Bifurcation: Variable N

|  |  |
| :---: | :---: |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |

## Pitchfork Bifurcation: Variable N

|  |  |
| :---: | :---: |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |

## Conclusion \& Future Work

- Stability?
- Inference?


## References

[CDM09] G. Carlsson, V. de Silva, D. Morozov. "Zigzag Persistent Homology and Real Valued Functions." SoCG "09
[DW07] T. Dey, R. Wenger. "Stability of Critical Points with Interval Persistence." Discret. Comput. Geom. Volume 33, Issue 3.
[ELZOO] H. Edelsbrunner, D. Letscher, A. Zomordian "Toplogical Persistence and Simplification." FOCS ‘00.
[LKMW19] M. Lipinski, J. Kubica, M. Mrozek, T. Wanner. "Conley-MorseForman theory for generalized combinatorial multivector fields on finite topological spaces." Preprint.
[Mr17] M. Mrozek. "Conley-Morse-Forman Theory for Combinatorial Multivector Fields." FOCM Volume 17, Issue 6.

