

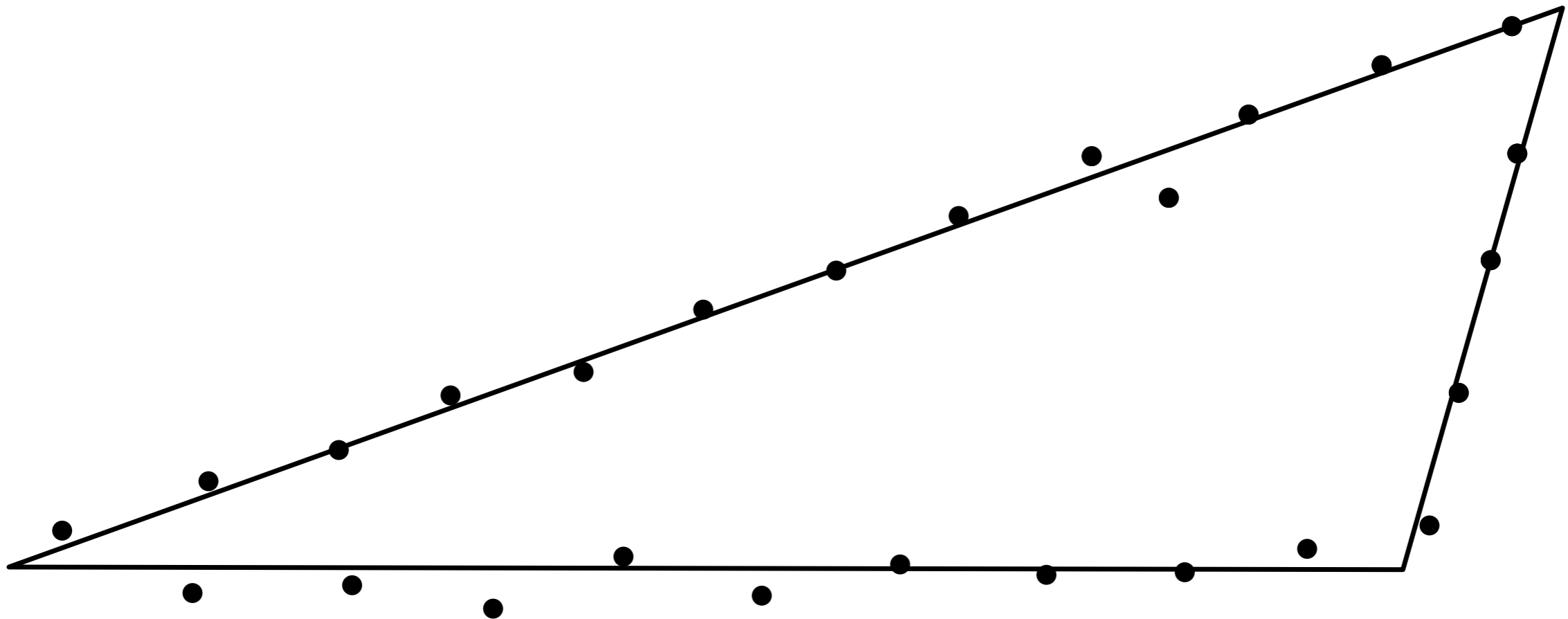
Sophia-Antipolis - January 2017

Homology and homology inference

F. Chazal
DataShape Group
INRIA Saclay

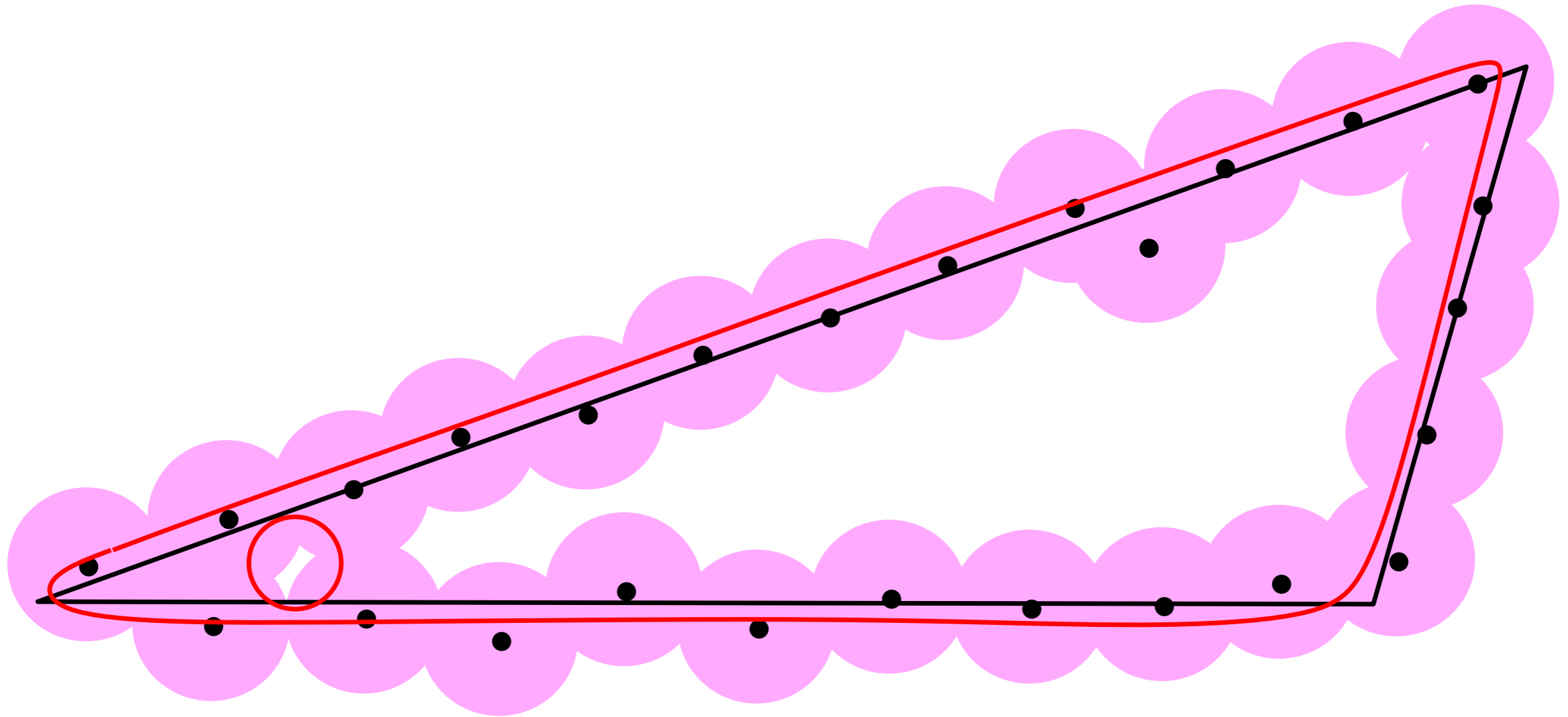


Motivation: getting topological information
without reconstructing



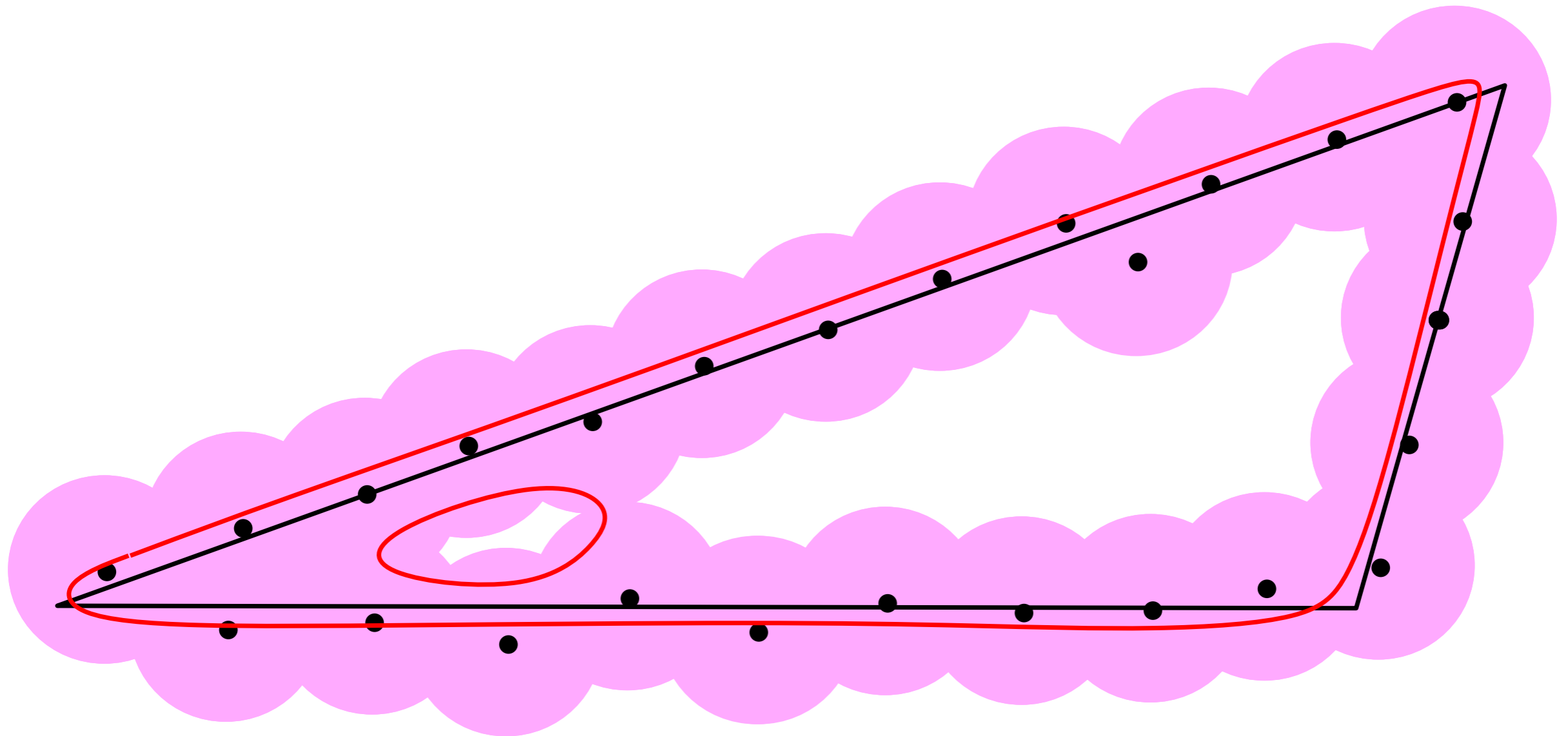
How to determine the number of “cycles” of the underlying shape from the point cloud approximation?

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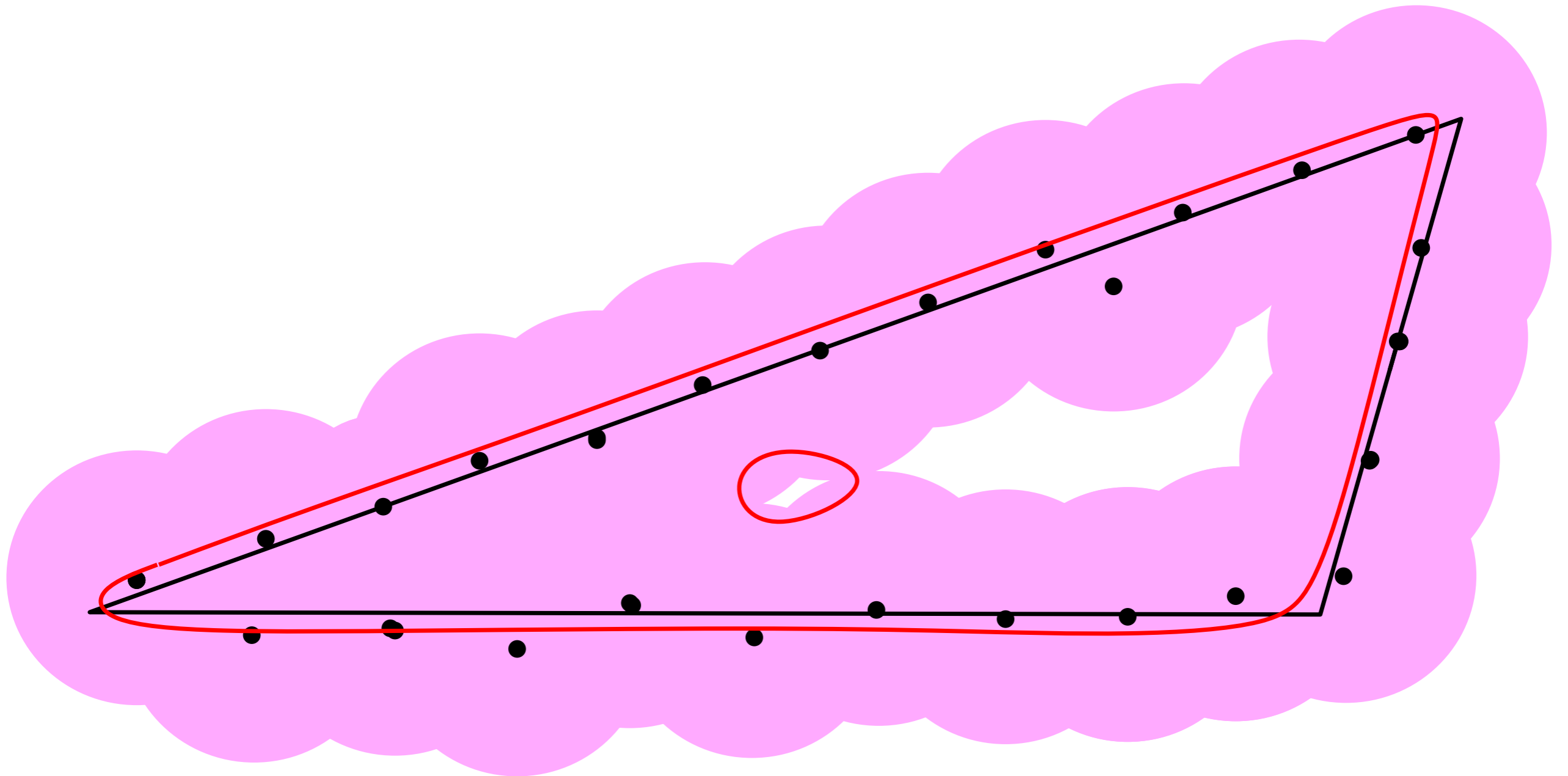
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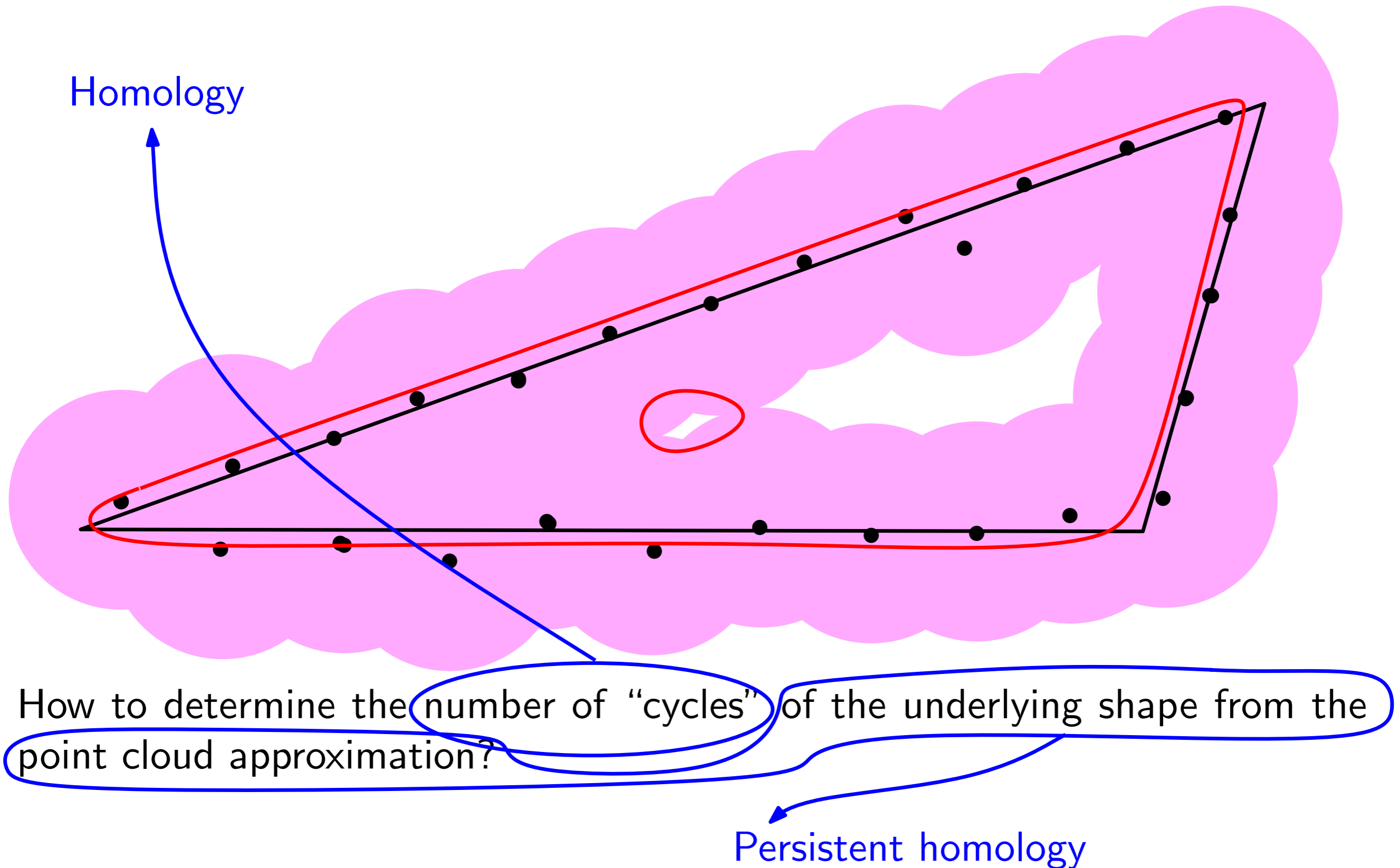
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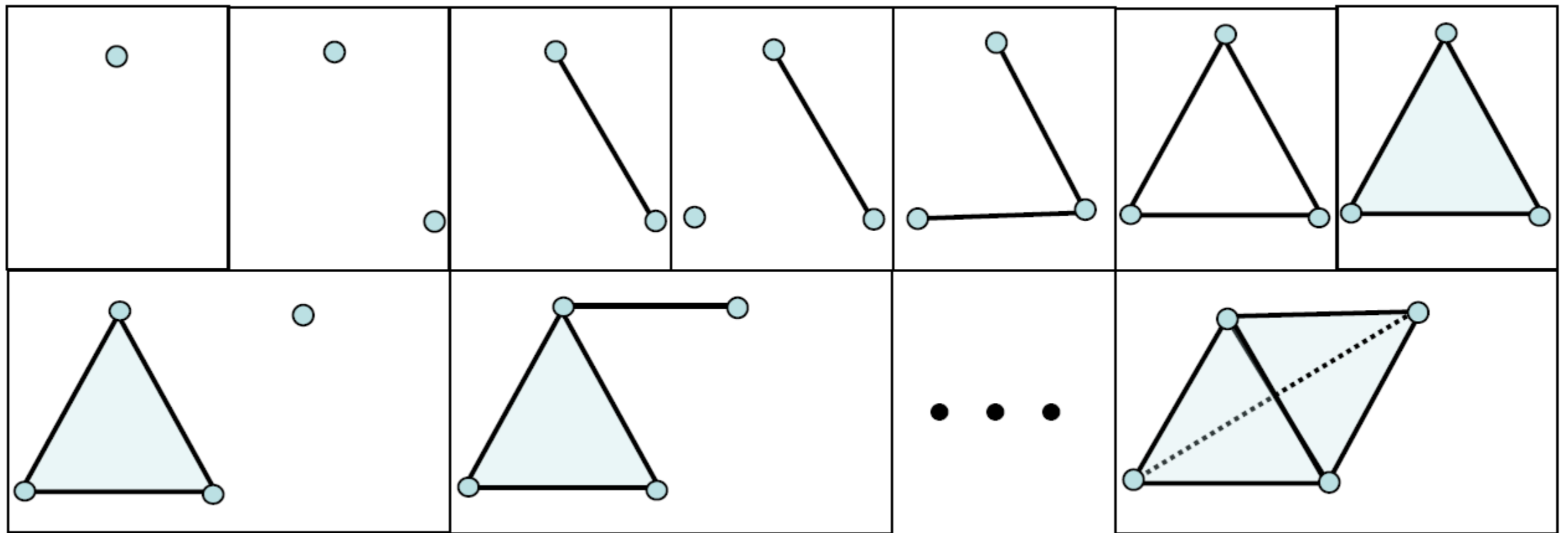


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Filtrations of simplicial complexes



A **filtration** of a (finite) simplicial complex K is a sequence of subcomplexes such that

i) $\emptyset = K^0 \subset K^1 \subset \dots \subset K^m = K,$

ii) $K^{i+1} = K^i \cup \sigma^{i+1}$ where σ^{i+1} is a simplex of K .

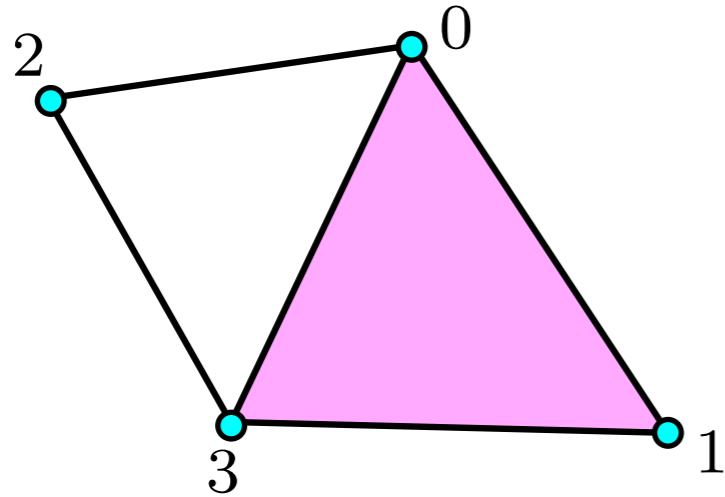
Example: filtration associated to a function

- f a real valued function defined on the vertices of K
- For $\sigma = [v_0, \dots, v_k] \in K$, $f(\sigma) = \max_{i=0, \dots, k} f(v_i)$
- The simplices of K are ordered according increasing f values (and dimension in case of equal values on different simplices).

\Rightarrow The sublevel sets **filtration**.

Exercise: show that this is a filtration.

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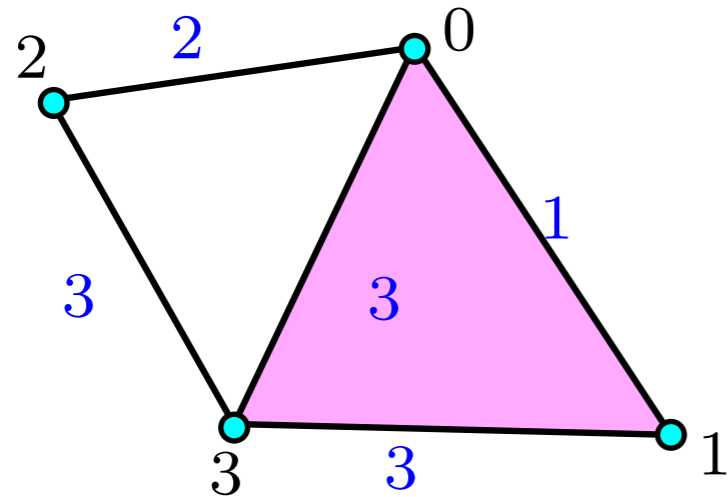


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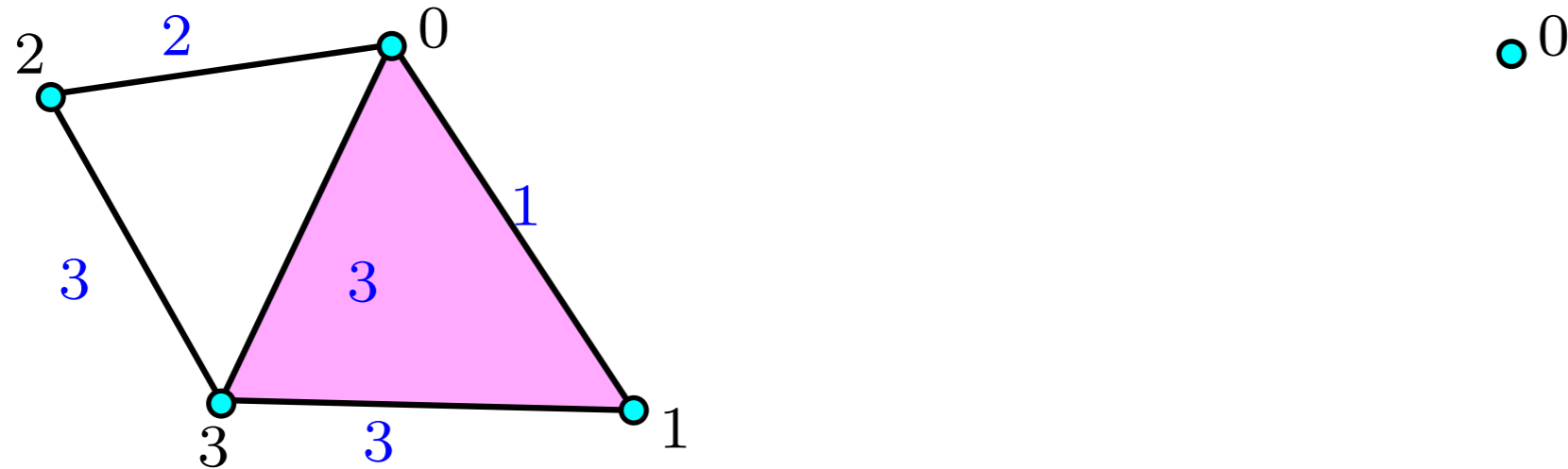


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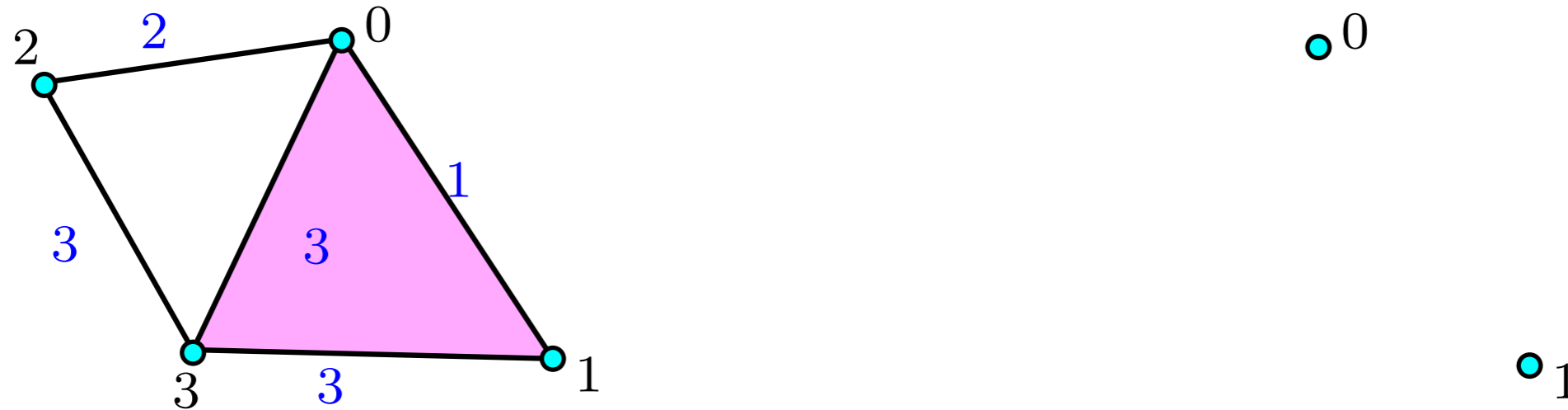


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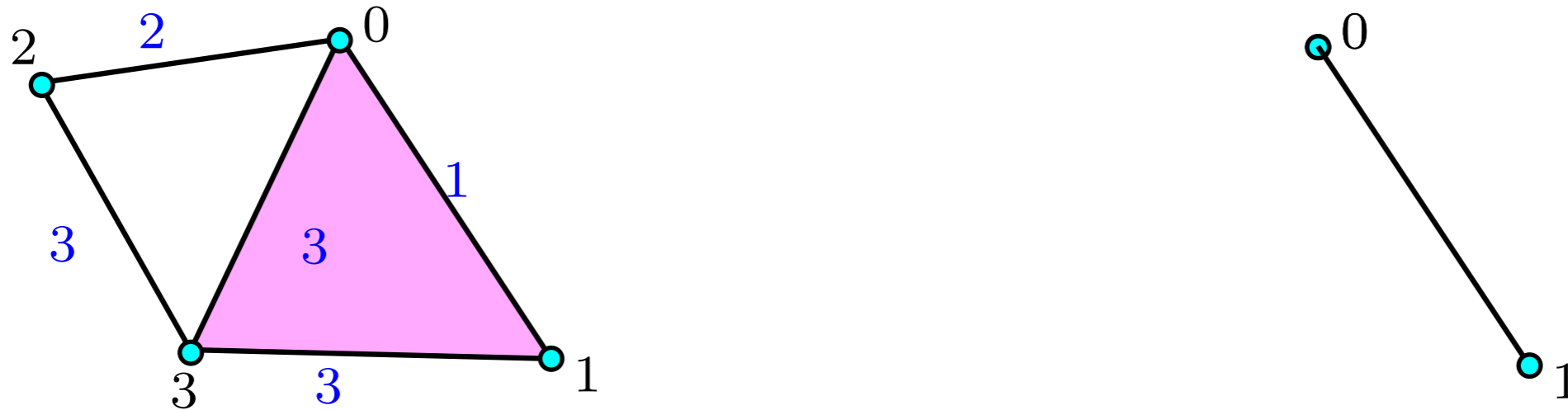


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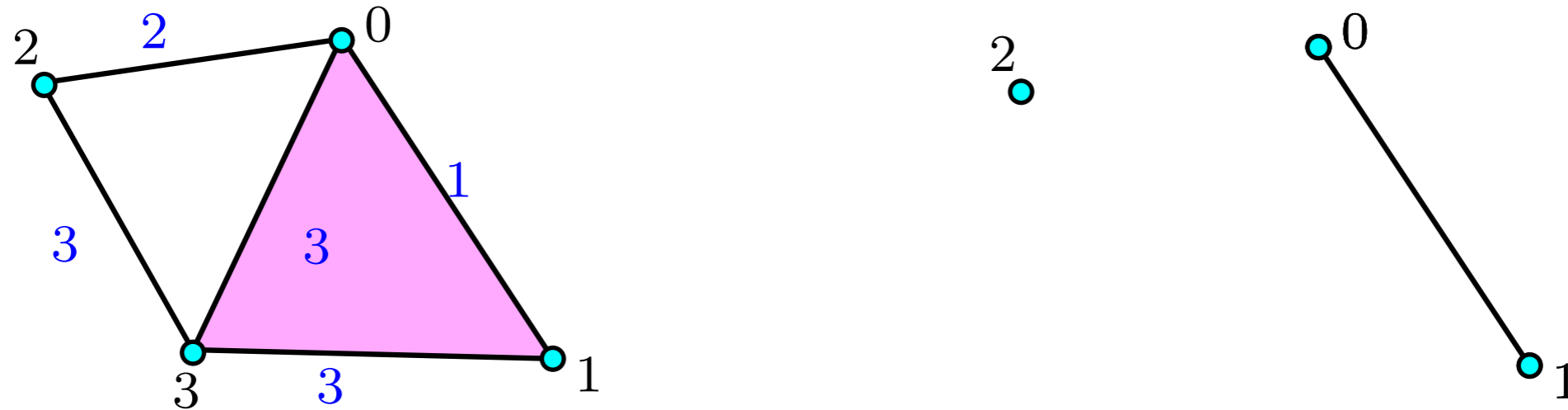


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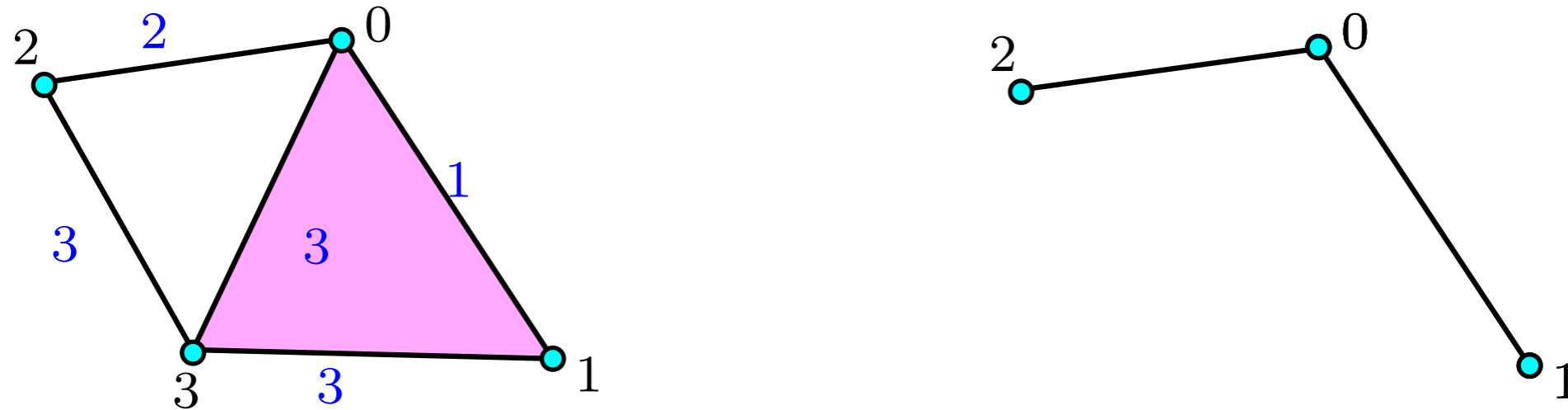


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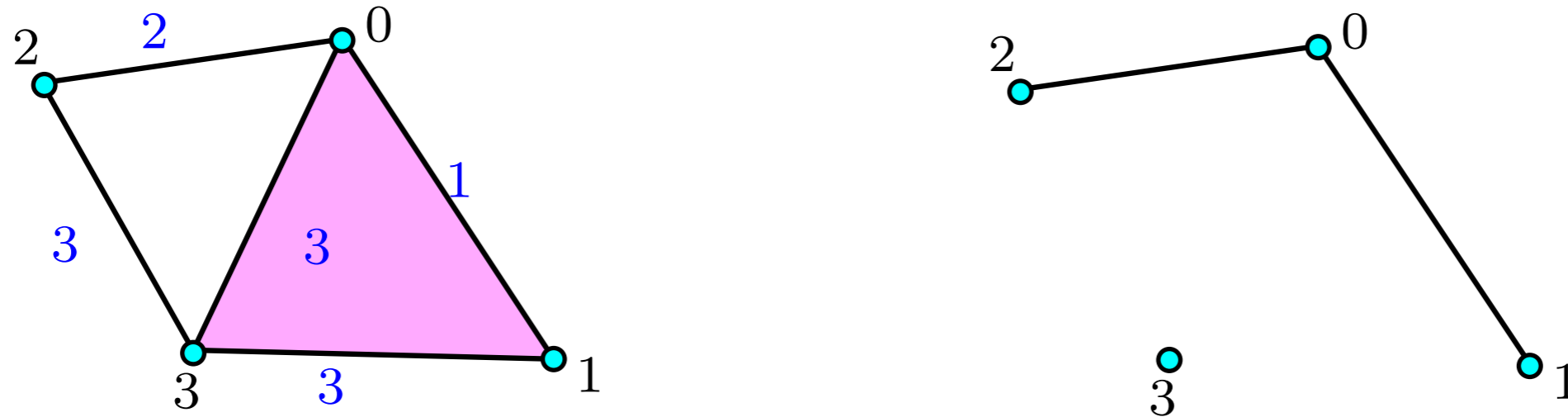


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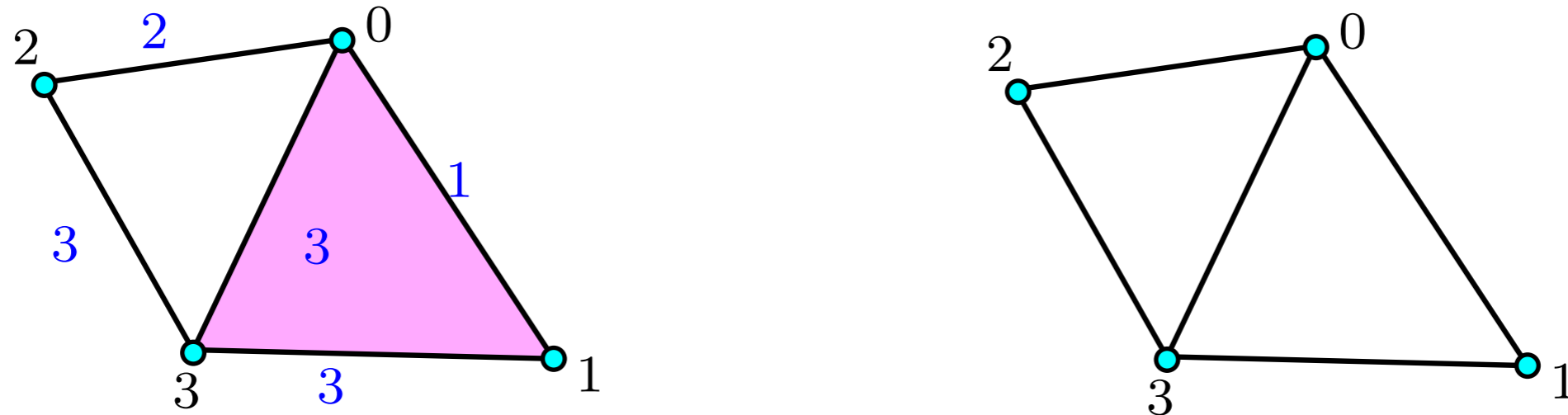


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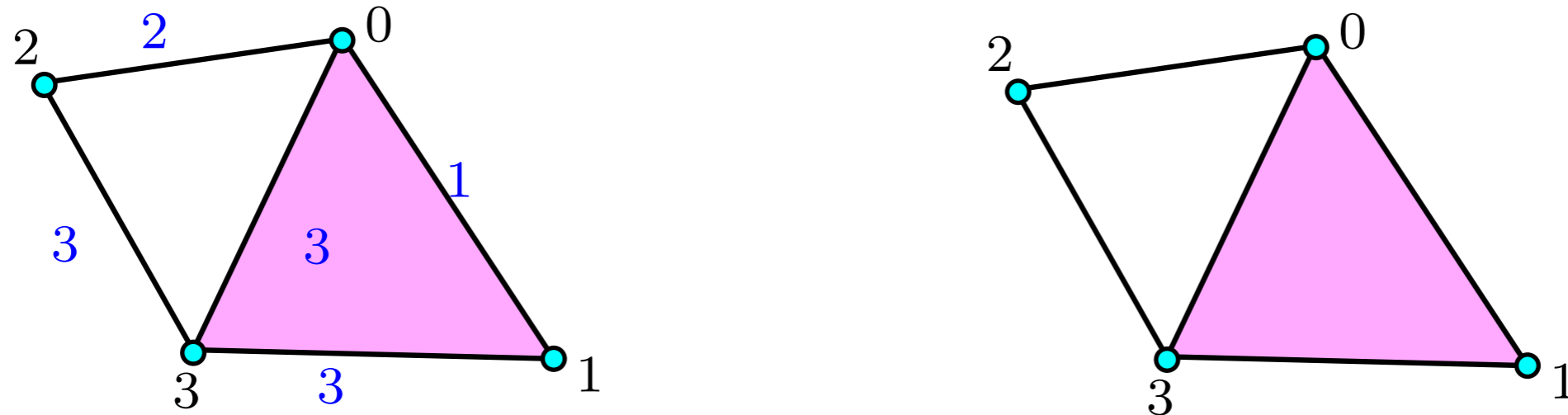


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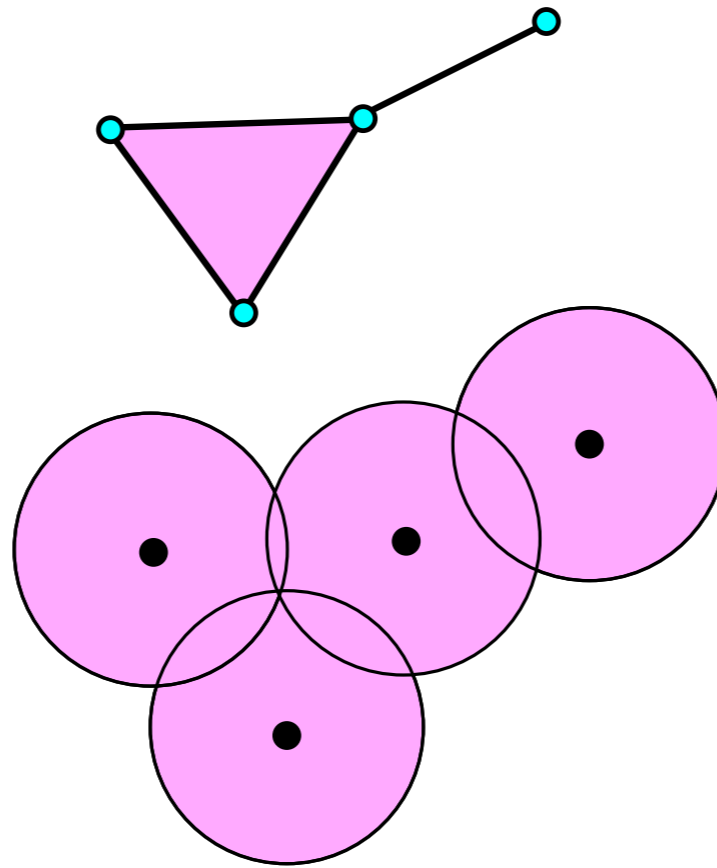


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Example: The Čech filtration

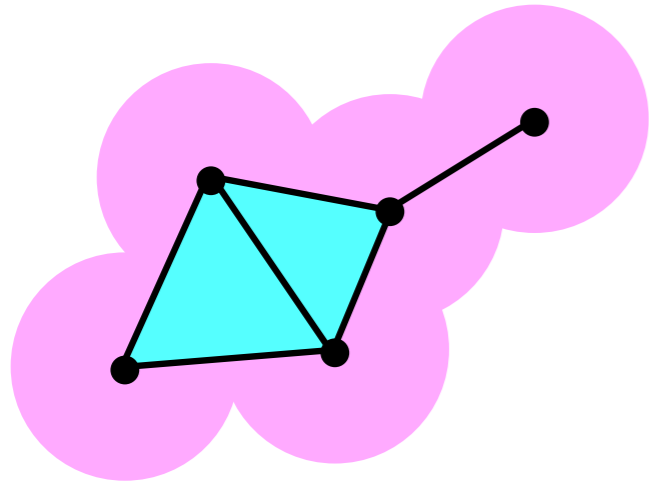


Let $P = \{p_0, \dots, p_n\}$ be a (finite) point cloud (in a metric space).

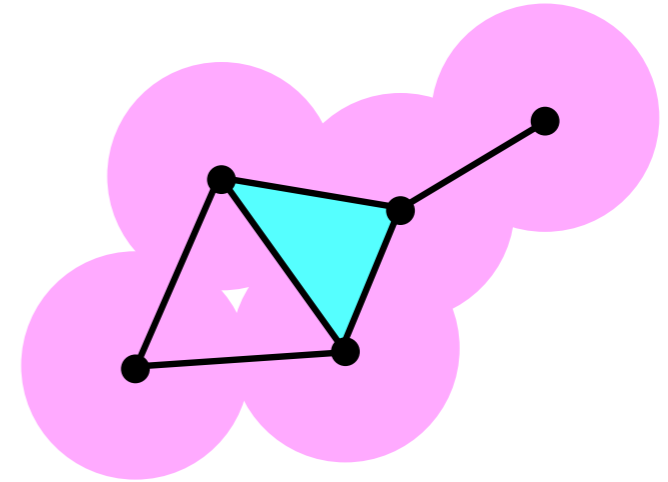
The Čech complex $\mathcal{C}^\alpha(P)$: for $p_0, \dots, p_k \in P$,

$$\sigma = [p_0 p_1 \cdots p_k] \in \mathcal{C}^\alpha(P) \quad \text{iff} \quad \bigcap_{i=0}^k B(p_i, \alpha) \neq \emptyset$$

Example: the Rips complex



Rips vs Čech



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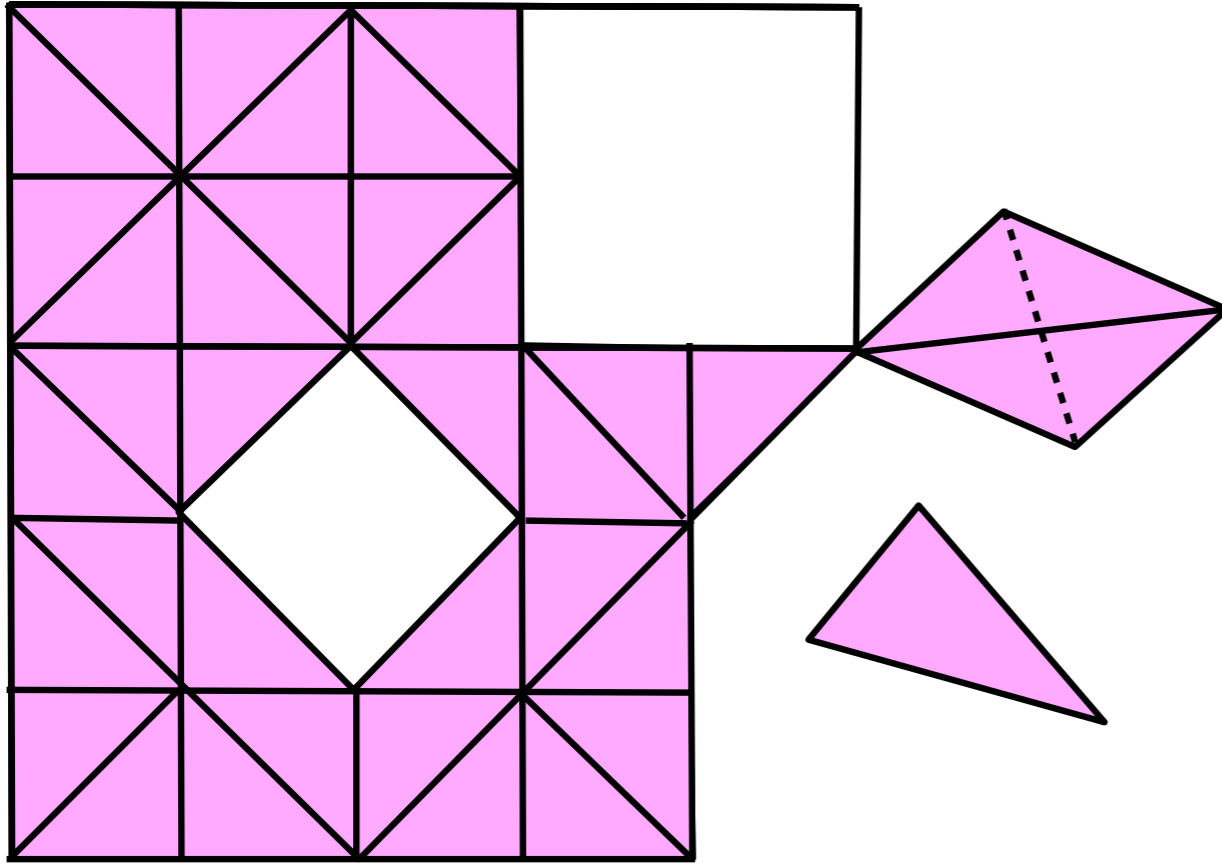
The **Rips complex** $\mathcal{R}^\alpha(P)$: for $p_0, \dots, p_k \in P$,

$$\sigma = [p_0 p_1 \dots p_k] \in \mathcal{R}^\alpha(P) \text{ iff } \forall i, j \in \{0, \dots, k\}, d(p_i, p_j) \leq \alpha$$

- Easy to compute and fully determined by its 1-skeleton
- Rips-Čech interleaving: for any $\alpha > 0$,

$$\mathcal{C}^{\frac{\alpha}{2}}(P) \subseteq \mathcal{R}^\alpha(P) \subseteq \mathcal{C}^\alpha(P) \subseteq \mathcal{R}^{2\alpha}(P) \subseteq \dots$$

Homology of simplicial complexes



- 2 connected components
- Intuitively: 2 cycles

Topological invariants:

- Number of connected components
- Number of cycles: how to define a cycle?
- Number of voids: how to define a void?
- ...

(Simplicial) homology and
Betti numbers

In the following: homology with coefficient in $\mathbb{Z}/2$

Refs: J.R. Munkres, *Elements of Algebraic Topology*, Addison-Wesley, 1984.
A. Hatcher, *Algebraic Topology*, Cambridge University Press 2002.

The space of k -chains

Let K be a d -dimensional simplicial complex. Let $k \in \{0, 1, \dots, d\}$ and $\{\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_p\}$ be the set of k -simplices of K .

k -chain:

$$c = \sum_{i=1}^p \varepsilon_i \sigma_i \quad \text{with} \quad \varepsilon_i \in \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} = \{0, 1\}$$

Sum of k -chains:

$$c + c' = \sum_{i=1}^p (\varepsilon_i + \varepsilon'_i) \sigma_i \quad \text{and} \quad \lambda.c = \sum_{i=1}^p (\lambda \varepsilon'_i) \sigma_i$$

where the sums $\varepsilon_i + \varepsilon'_i$ and the products $\lambda \varepsilon_i$ are modulo 2.

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The space $\mathcal{C}_k(K)$ of k -chains is a $\mathbb{Z}/2$ -vector space

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Geometric interpretation:

k -chain = union of k -simplices

sum $c + c' =$ symmetric difference

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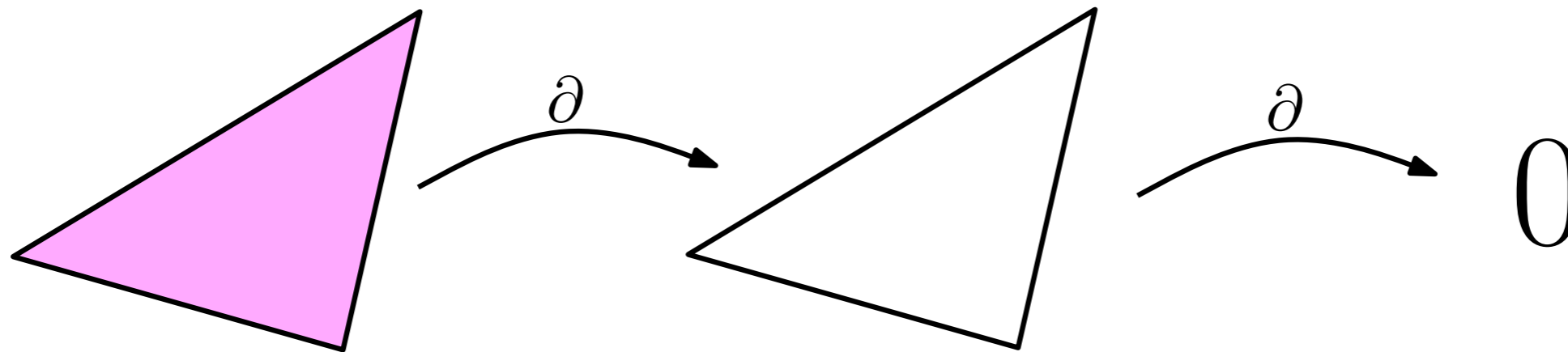
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The boundary operator



The **boundary** $\partial\sigma$ of a k -simplex σ is the sum of its $(k - 1)$ -faces. This is a $(k - 1)$ -chain.

$$\text{If } \sigma = [v_0, \dots, v_k] \text{ then } \partial\sigma = \sum_{i=0}^k [v_0 \cdots \hat{v}_i \cdots v_k]$$

The boundary operator is the linear map defined by

$(-1)^i$ if not with
coeff in $\mathbb{Z}/2!$

$$\begin{aligned} \partial : \mathcal{C}_k(K) &\rightarrow \mathcal{C}_{k-1}(K) \\ c &\rightarrow \partial c = \sum_{\sigma \in c} \partial\sigma \end{aligned}$$

Fundamental property of the boundary operator

$$\partial\partial := \partial \circ \partial = 0$$

Proof: by linearity it is just necessary to prove it for a simplex.

$$\begin{aligned}\partial\partial\sigma &= \partial \left(\sum_{i=0}^k [v_0 \cdots \hat{v}_i \cdots v_k] \right) \\ &= \sum_{i=0}^k \partial[v_0 \cdots \hat{v}_i \cdots v_k] \\ &= \sum_{j < i} [v_0 \cdots \hat{v}_j \cdots \hat{v}_i \cdots v_k] + \sum_{j > i} [v_0 \cdots \hat{v}_i \cdots \hat{v}_j \cdots v_k] \\ &= 0\end{aligned}$$

Cycles and boundaries

The **chain complex** associated to a complex K of dimension d

$$\emptyset \rightarrow \mathcal{C}_d(K) \xrightarrow{\partial} \mathcal{C}_{d-1}(K) \xrightarrow{\partial} \cdots \mathcal{C}_{k+1}(K) \xrightarrow{\partial} \mathcal{C}_k(K) \xrightarrow{\partial} \cdots \mathcal{C}_1(K) \xrightarrow{\partial} \mathcal{C}_0(K) \xrightarrow{\partial} \emptyset$$

k -cycles:

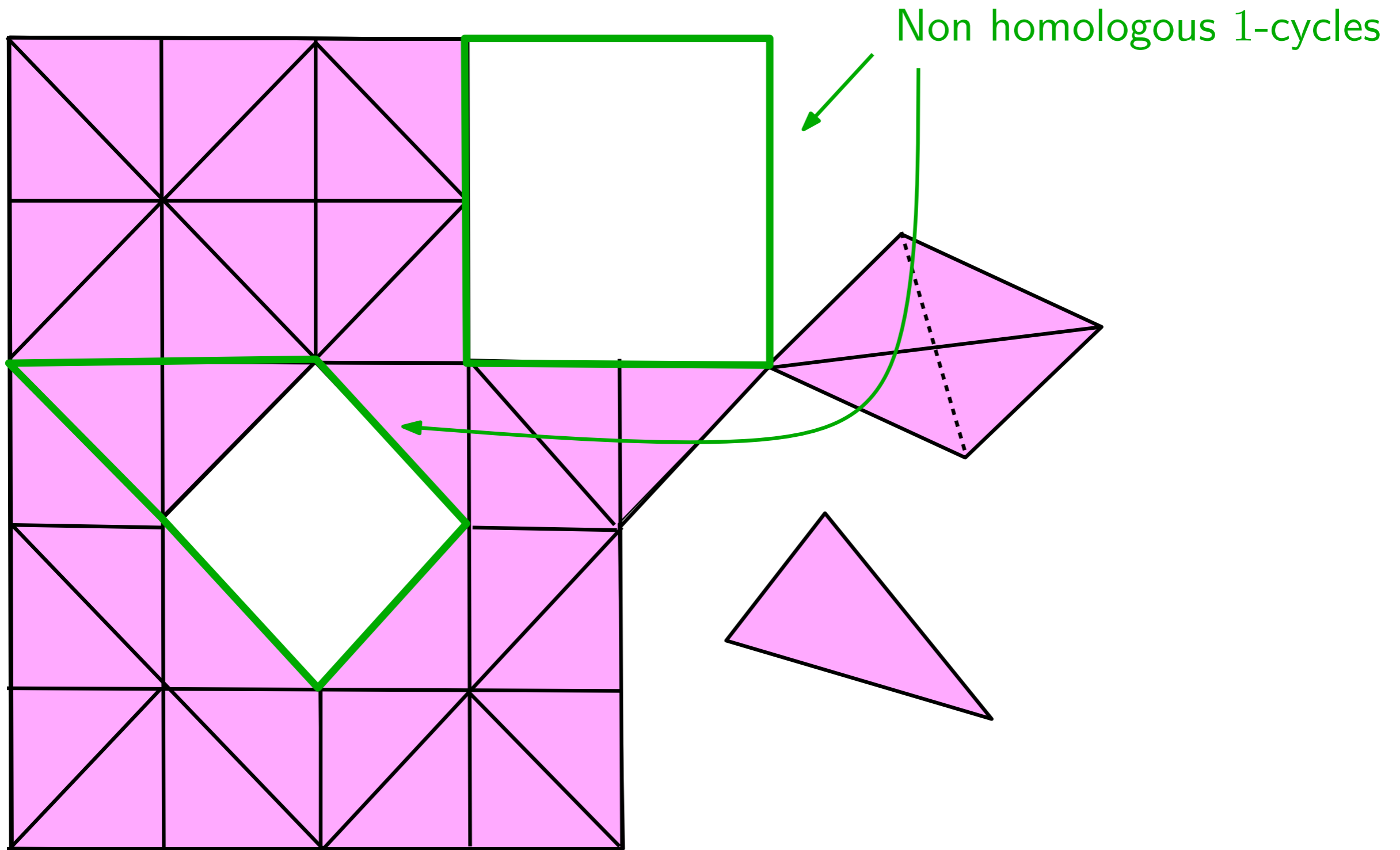
$$Z_k(K) := \ker(\partial : \mathcal{C}_k \rightarrow \mathcal{C}_{k-1}) = \{c \in \mathcal{C}_k : \partial c = \emptyset\}$$

k -boundaries:

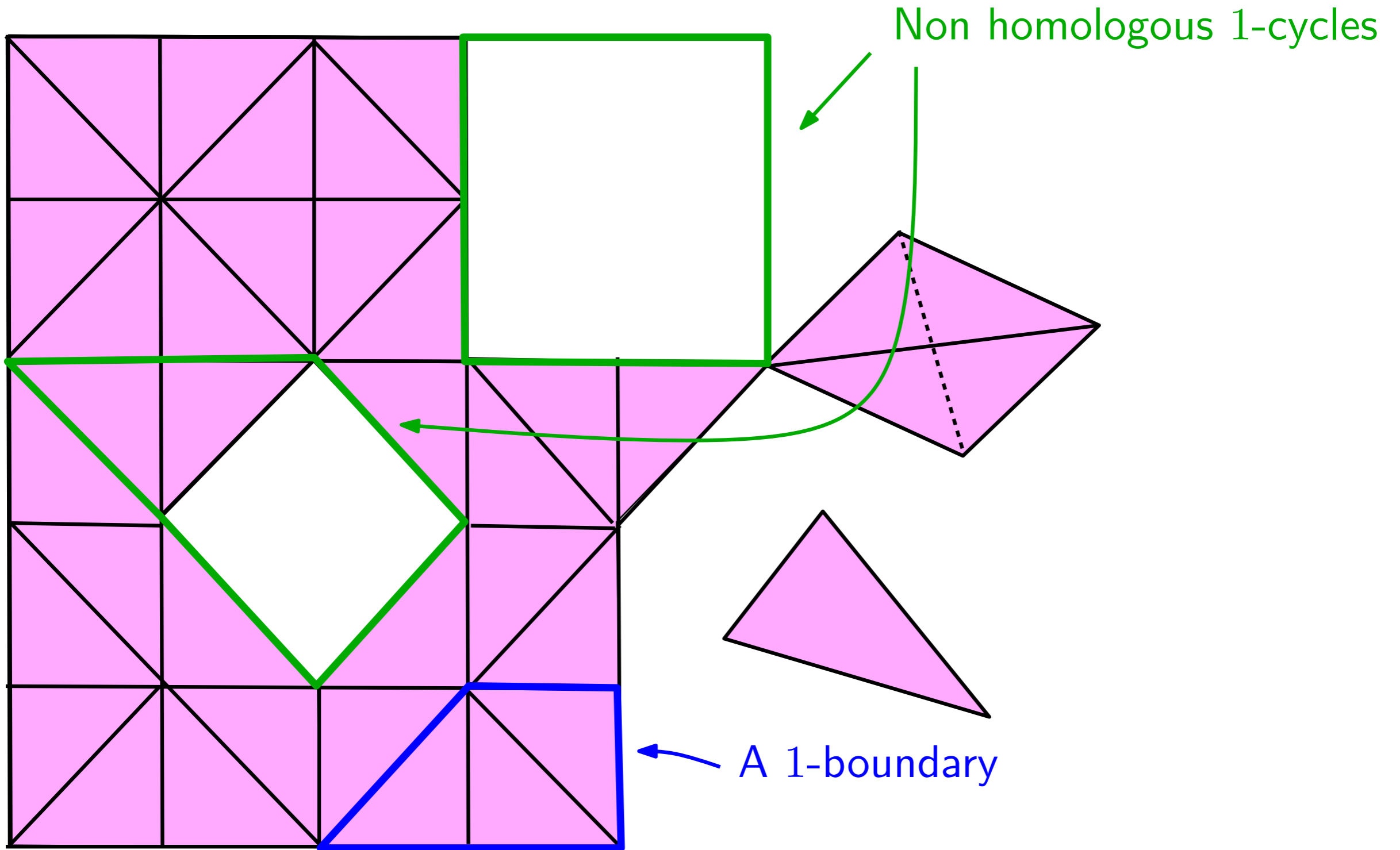
$$B_k(K) := \text{im}(\partial : \mathcal{C}_{k+1} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}_k) = \{c \in \mathcal{C}_k : \exists c' \in \mathcal{C}_{k+1}, c = \partial c'\}$$

$$B_k(K) \subset Z_k(K) \subset \mathcal{C}_k(K)$$

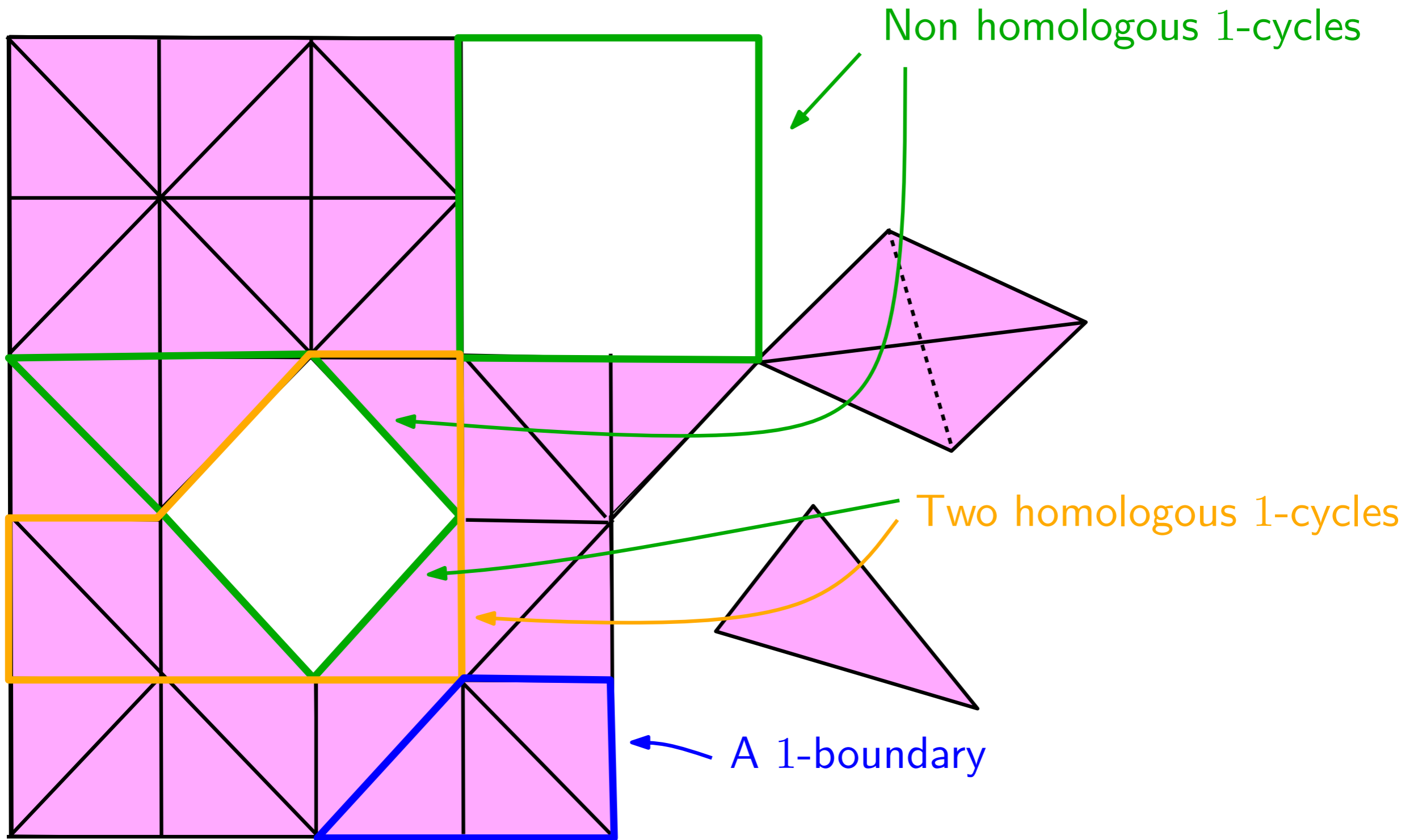
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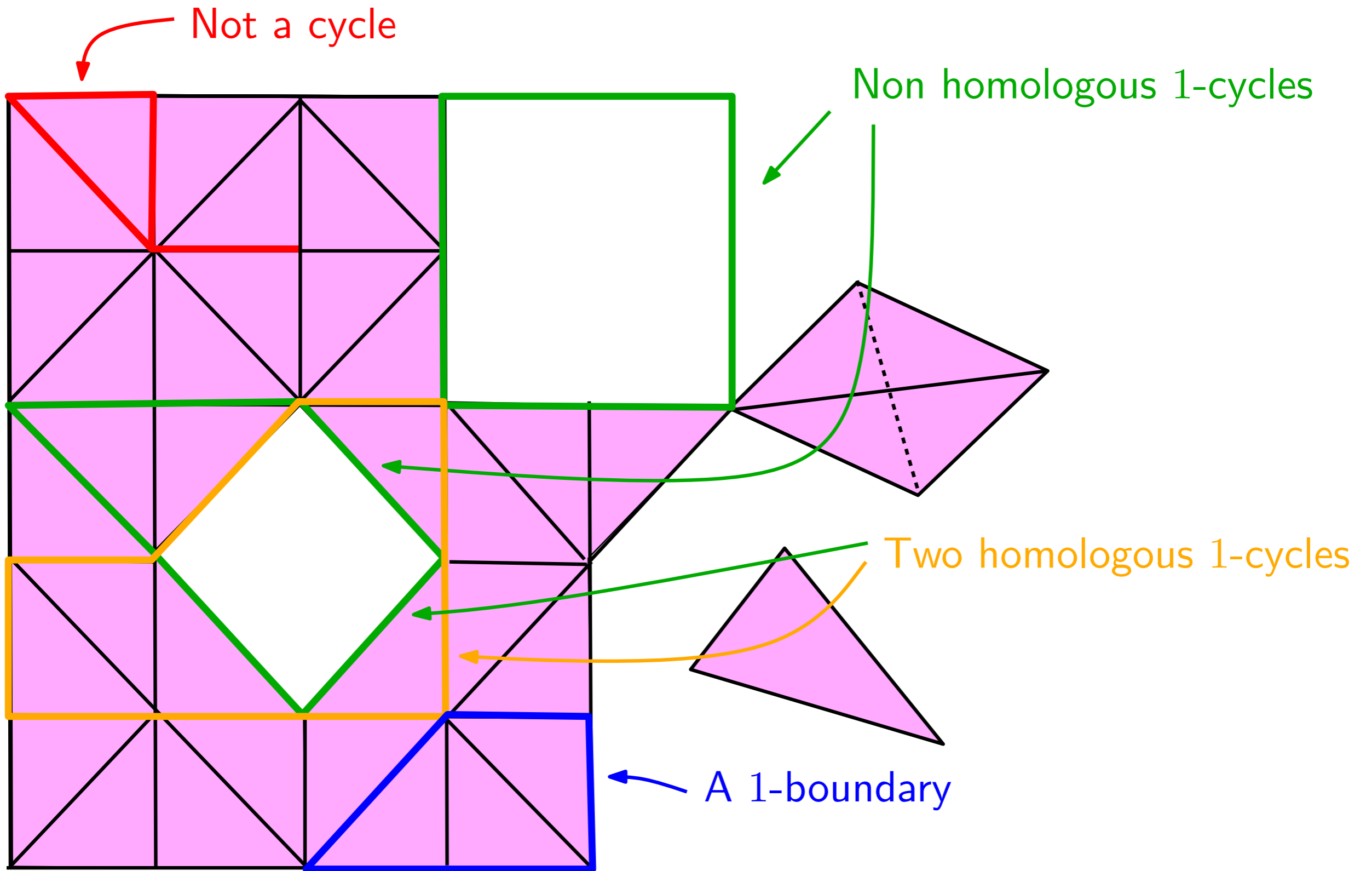
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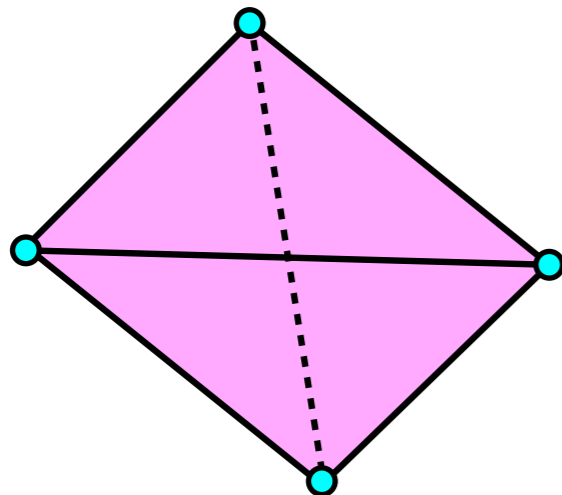
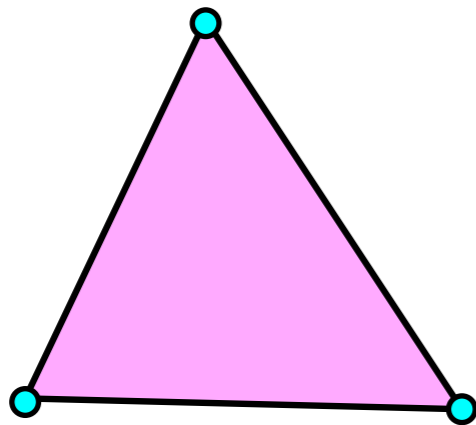
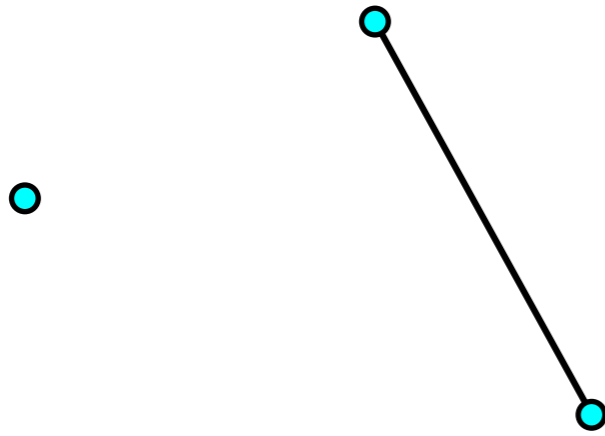
Homology groups and Betti numbers

$$B_k(K) \subset Z_k(K) \subset \mathcal{C}_k(K)$$

- The k^{th} **homology group** of K : $H_k(K) = Z_k/B_k$
- Tout each cycle $c \in Z_k(K)$ corresponds its **homology class** $c + B_k(K) = \{c + b : b \in B_k(K)\}$.
- Two cycles c, c' are **homologous** if they are in the same homology class: $\exists b \in B_k(K)$ s. t. $b = c' - c (= c' + c)$.
- The k^{th} **Betti number** of K : $\beta_k(K) = \dim(H_k(K))$.

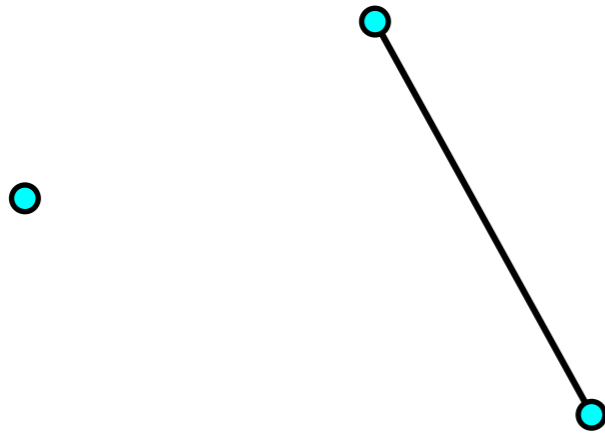
Elementary examples

Remark: $\beta_0 =$ number of connected components of K



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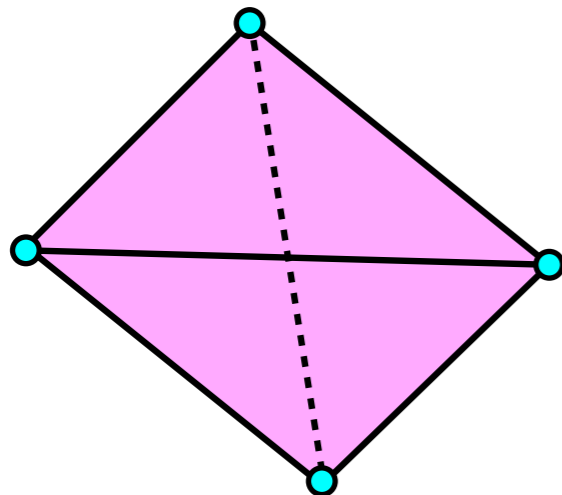
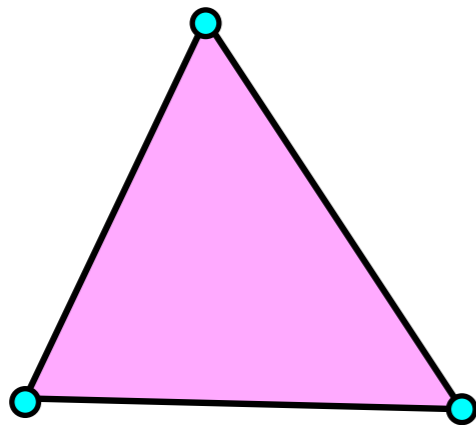
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$$\beta_0 = 2$$

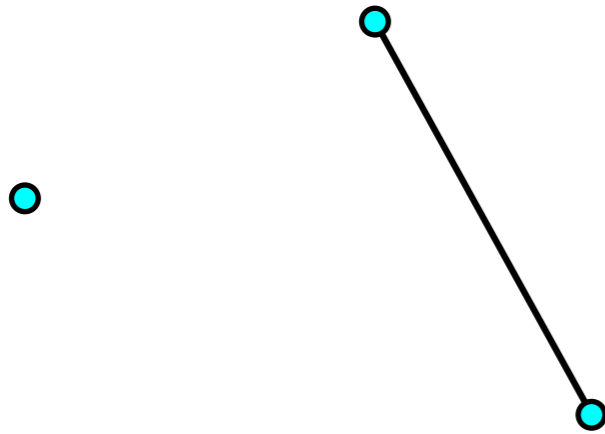
$$\beta_1 = 0$$

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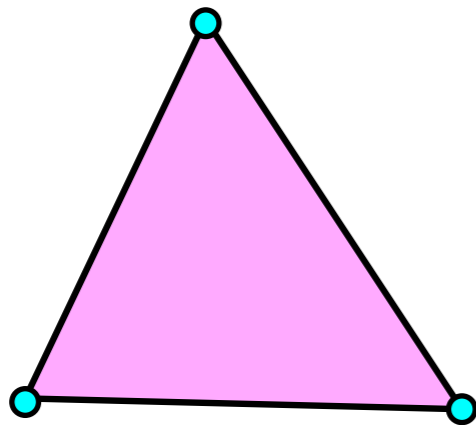
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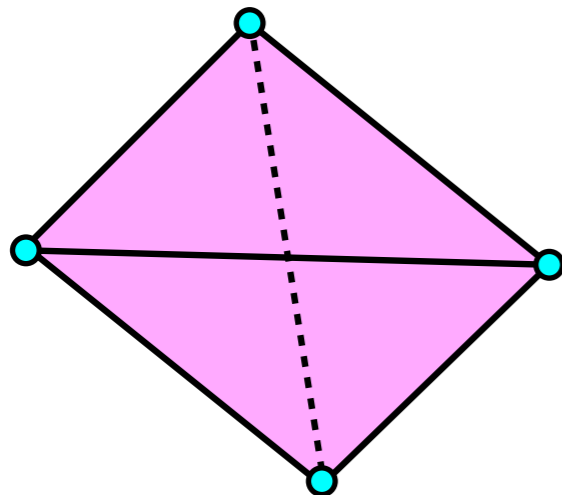
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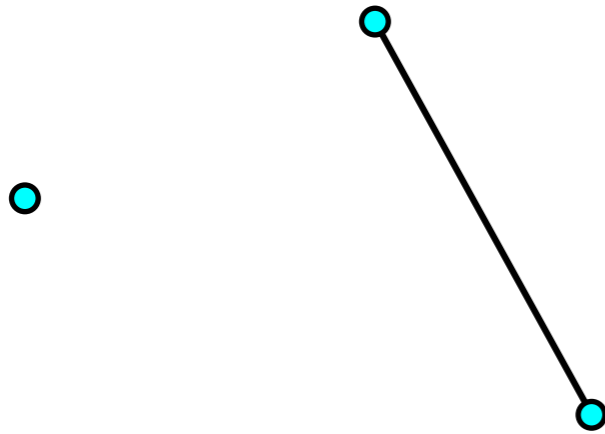
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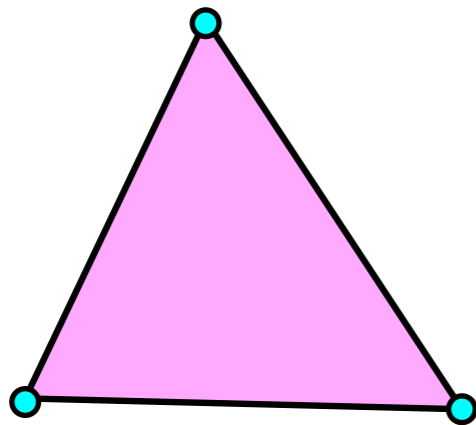
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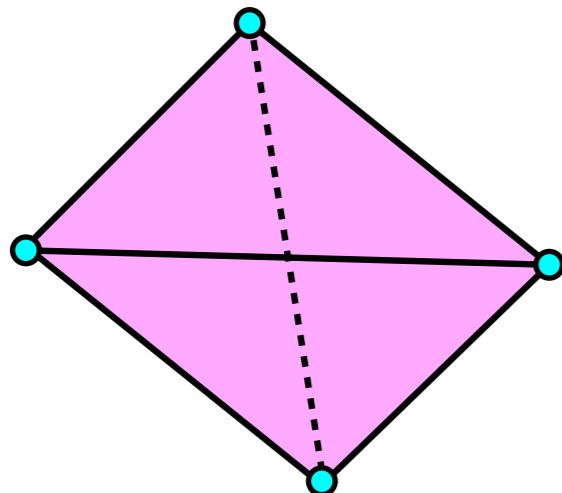
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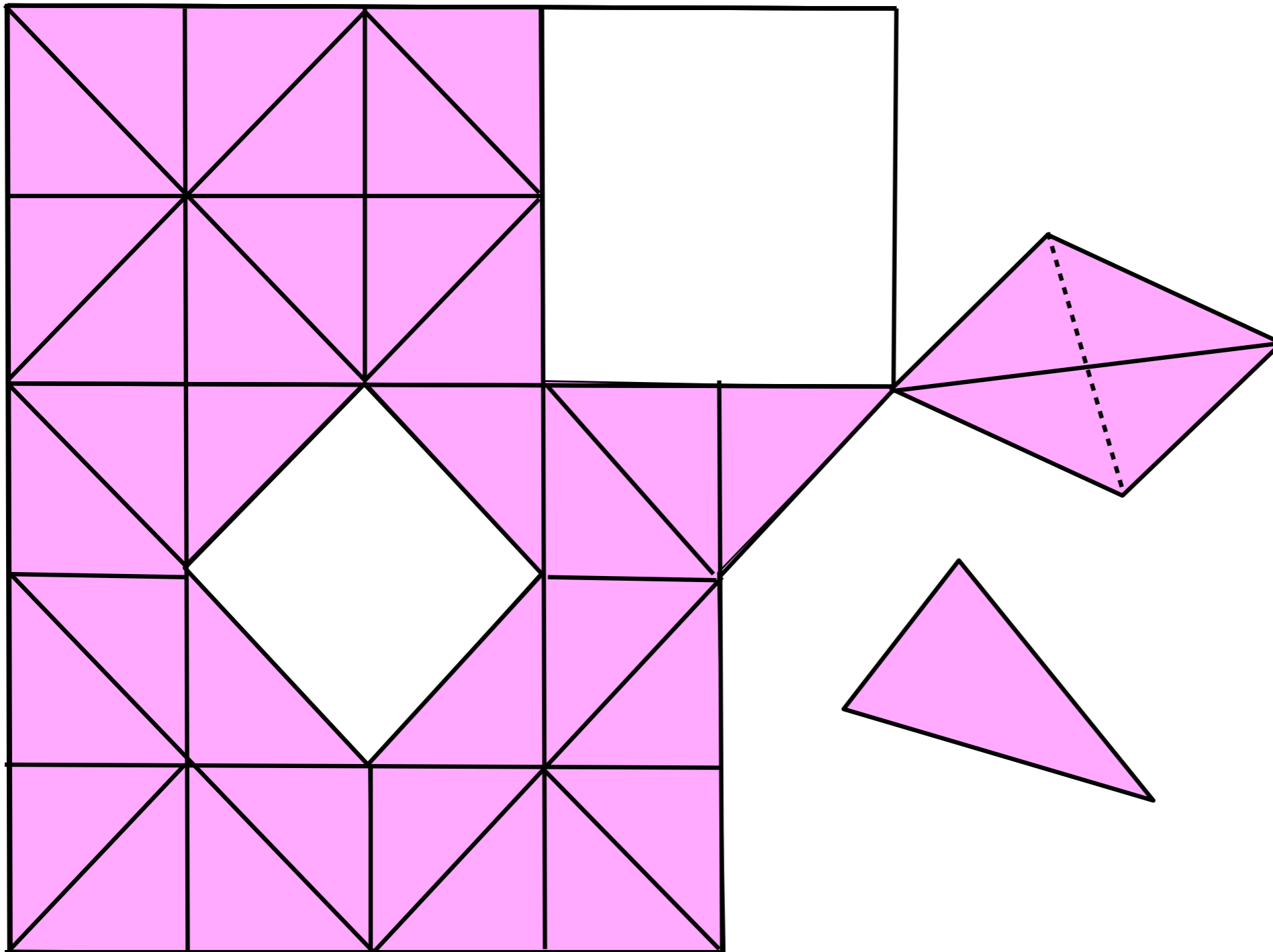
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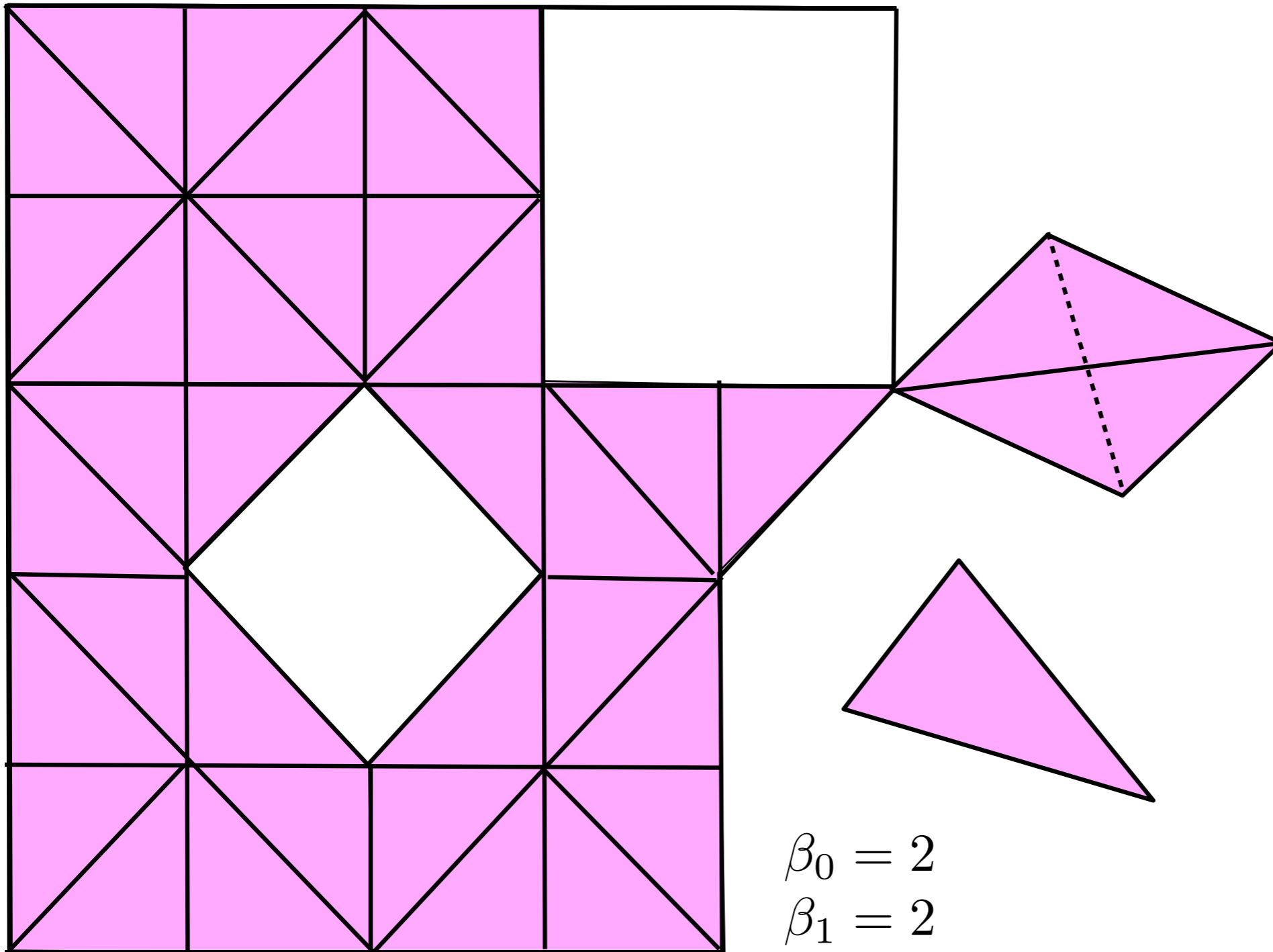
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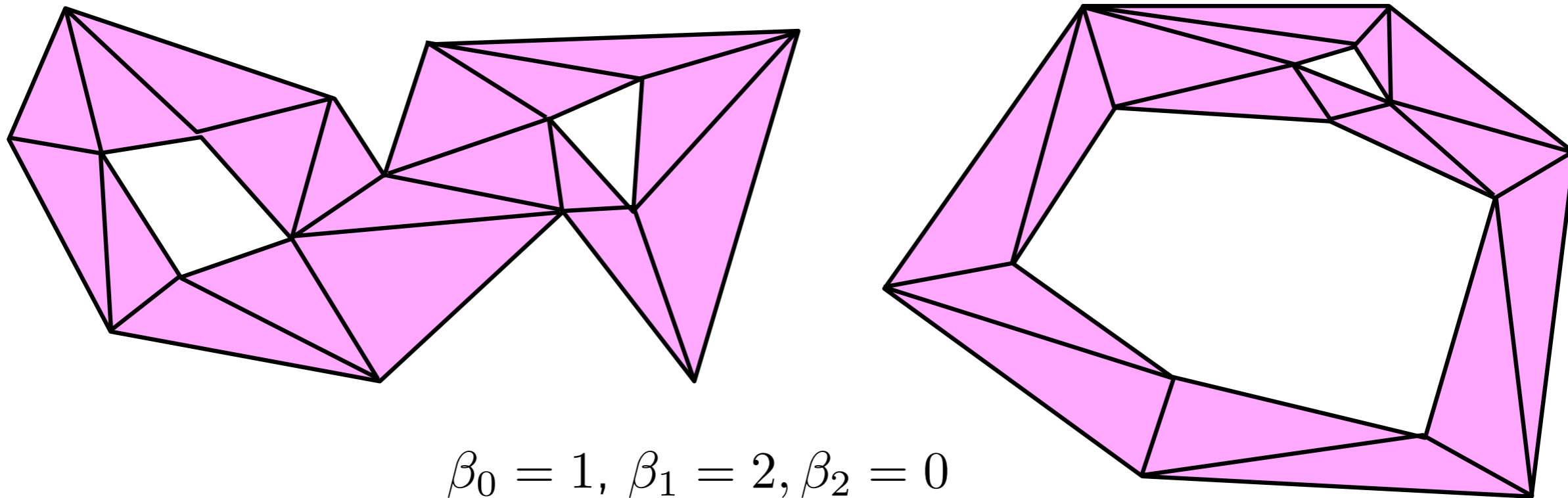
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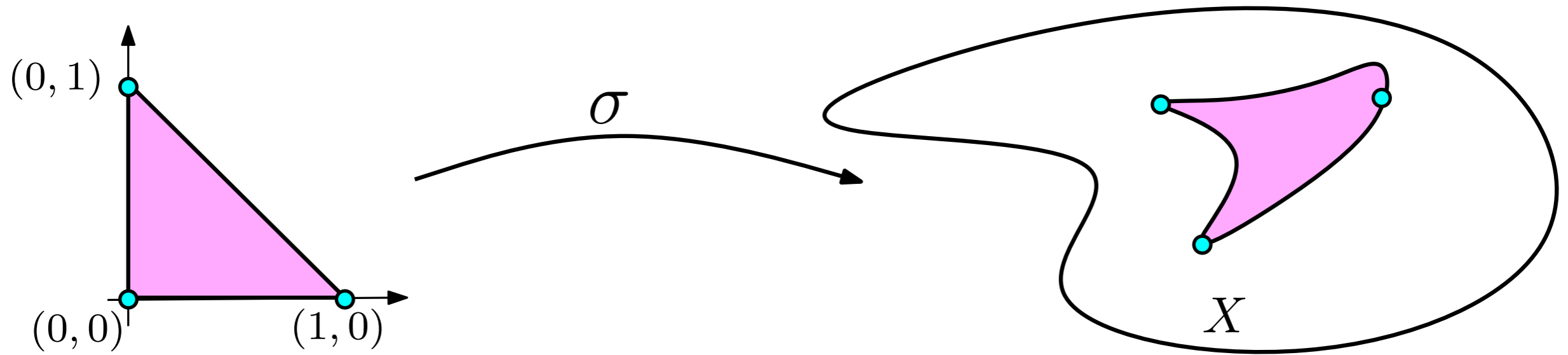
Topological invariance and singular homology



Theorem: If K and K' are two simplicial complexes such that $|K|$ and $|K'|$ are homeomorphic, then their homology groups are isomorphic and their Betti numbers are equal.

- This is a classical result in algebraic topology but the proof is not obvious.
- Rely on the notion of singular homology \rightarrow defined for any topological space.

Topological invariance and singular homology



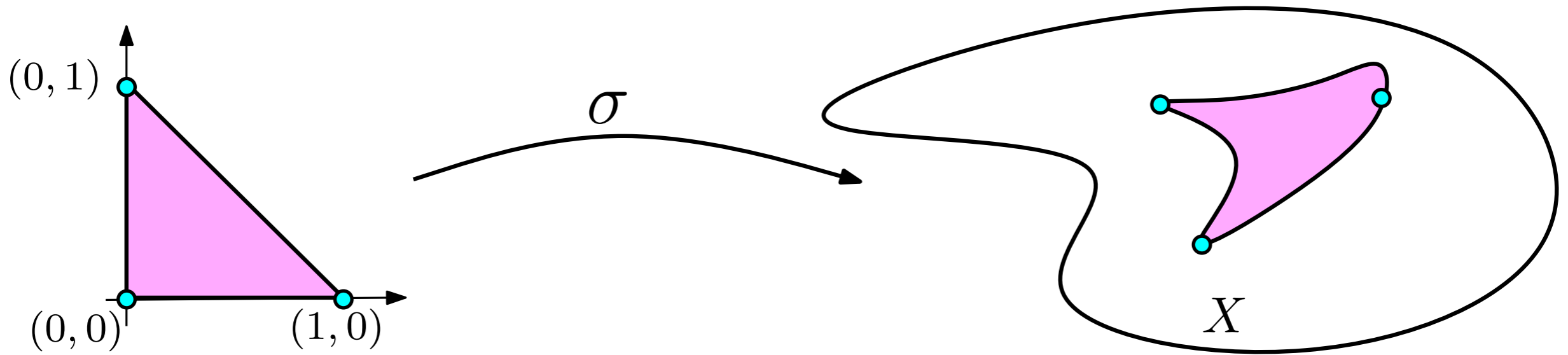
Let Δ_k be the standard simplex in \mathbb{R}^k . A singular k -simplex in a topological space X is a continuous map $\sigma : \Delta_k \rightarrow X$.

The same construction as for simplicial homology can be done with singular complexes \rightarrow [Singular homology](#)

Important properties:

- Singular homology is defined for any topological space X .
- If X is homotopy equivalent to the support of a simplicial complex, then the singular and simplicial homology coincide!

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Homology and continuous maps:

- if $f : X \rightarrow Y$ is a continuous map and $\sigma : \Delta_k \rightarrow X$ a simplex in X , then $f \circ \sigma : \Delta_k \rightarrow Y$ is a simplex in $Y \Rightarrow f$ induces a linear maps between homology groups:

$$f_{\#} : H_k(X) \rightarrow H_k(Y)$$

- if $f : X \rightarrow Y$ is an homeomorphism or an homotopy equivalence then $f_{\#}$ is an isomorphism.

An algorithm for geometric inference

- $X \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ be a compact set such that $\text{wfs}(X) > 0$.
- $L \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ be a finite set such that $d_H(X, L) < \varepsilon$ for some $\varepsilon > 0$.

An algorithm for geometric inference

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- $L \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ be a finite set such that $d_H(X, L) < \varepsilon$ for some $\varepsilon > 0$.

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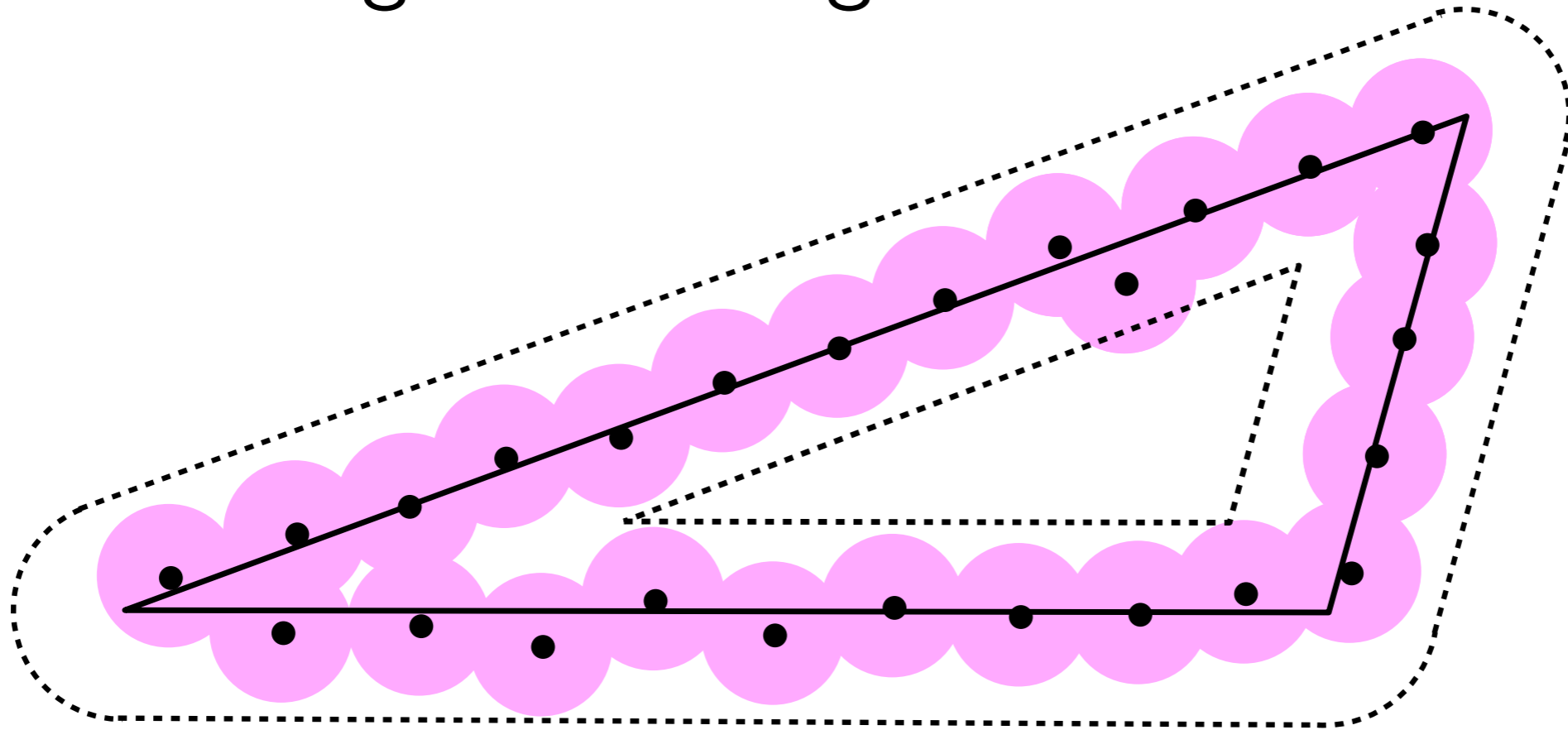
Theorem: [CL'05 - CSEH'05]

Assume that $\text{wfs}(X) > 4\varepsilon$. For $\alpha > 0$ s.t. $\alpha + 4\varepsilon < \text{wfs}(X)$, let $i : L^{\alpha+\varepsilon} \hookrightarrow L^{\alpha+3\varepsilon}$ be the canonical inclusion. For any $0 < r < \text{wfs}(X)$,

$$H_k(X^r) \cong \text{im} (i_* : H_k(L^{\alpha+\varepsilon}) \rightarrow H_k(L^{\alpha+3\varepsilon}))$$

An algorithm for geometric inference

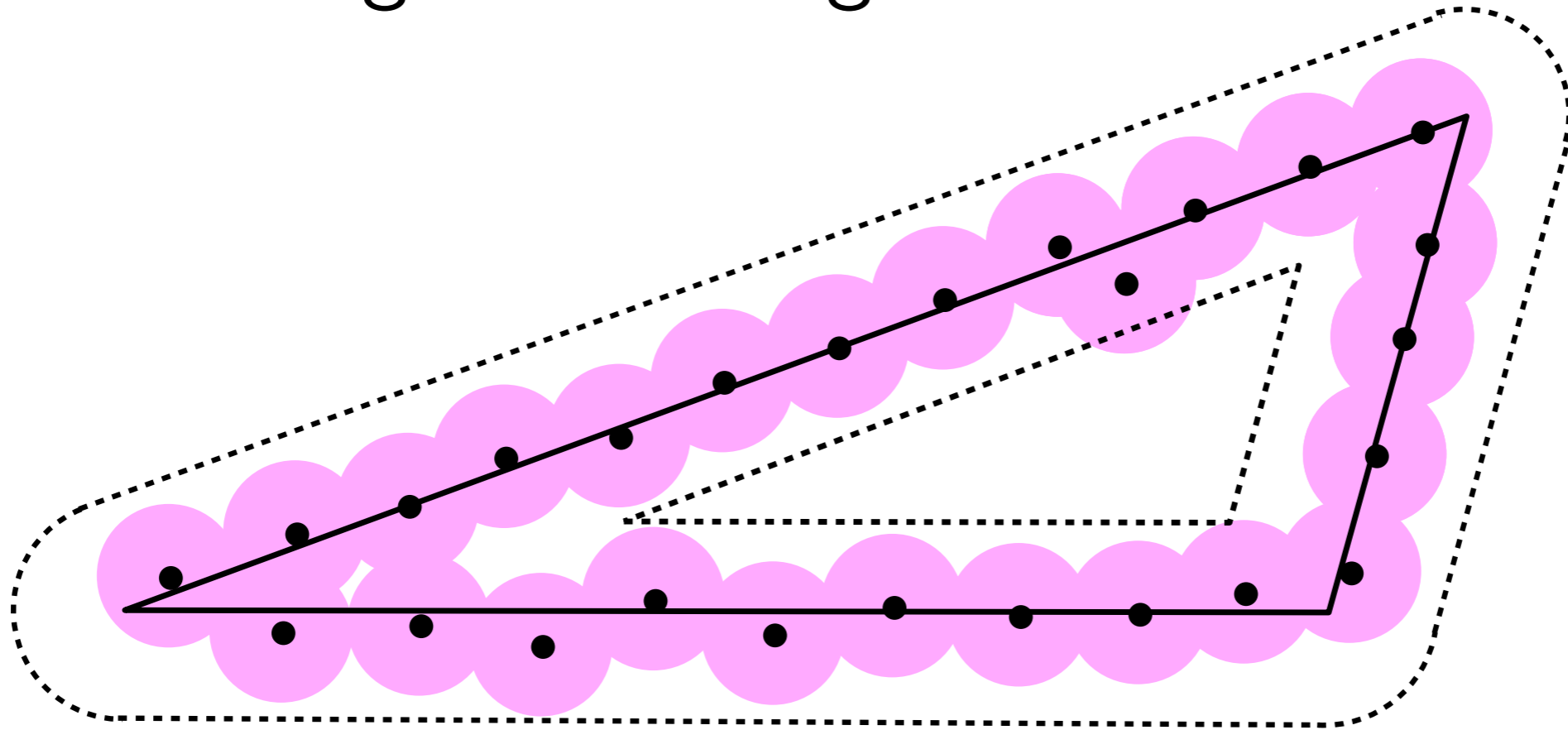
Proof:



For any $\alpha > 0$, $X^\alpha \subseteq L^{\alpha+\varepsilon} \subseteq X^{\alpha+2\varepsilon} \subseteq L^{\alpha+3\varepsilon} \subseteq X^{\alpha+4\varepsilon} \subseteq \dots$

An algorithm for geometric inference

Proof:



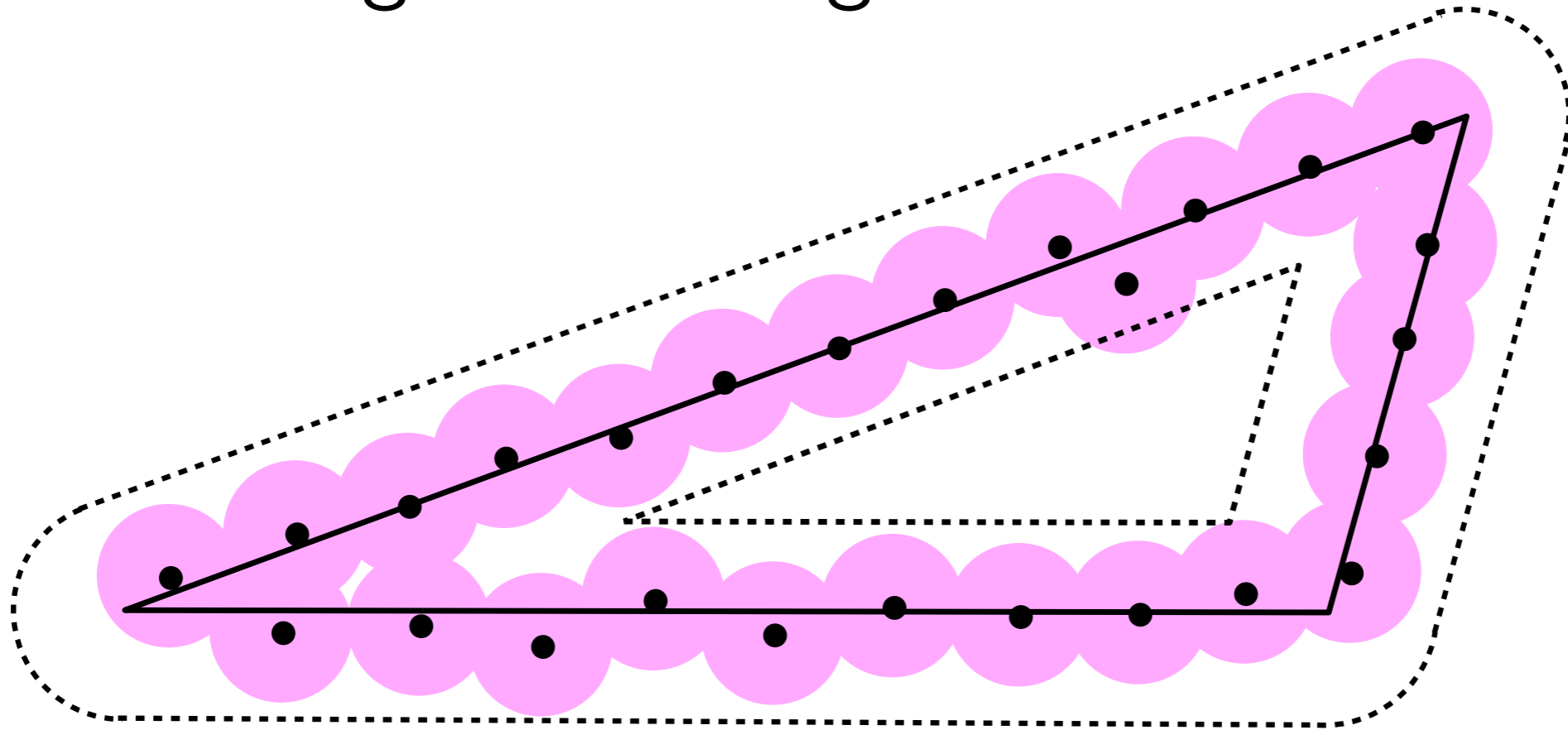
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At homology level:

$$H_k(X^\alpha) \rightarrow H_k(L^{\alpha+\varepsilon}) \rightarrow H_k(X^{\alpha+2\varepsilon}) \rightarrow H_k(L^{\alpha+3\varepsilon}) \rightarrow H_k(X^{\alpha+4\varepsilon}) \rightarrow \dots$$

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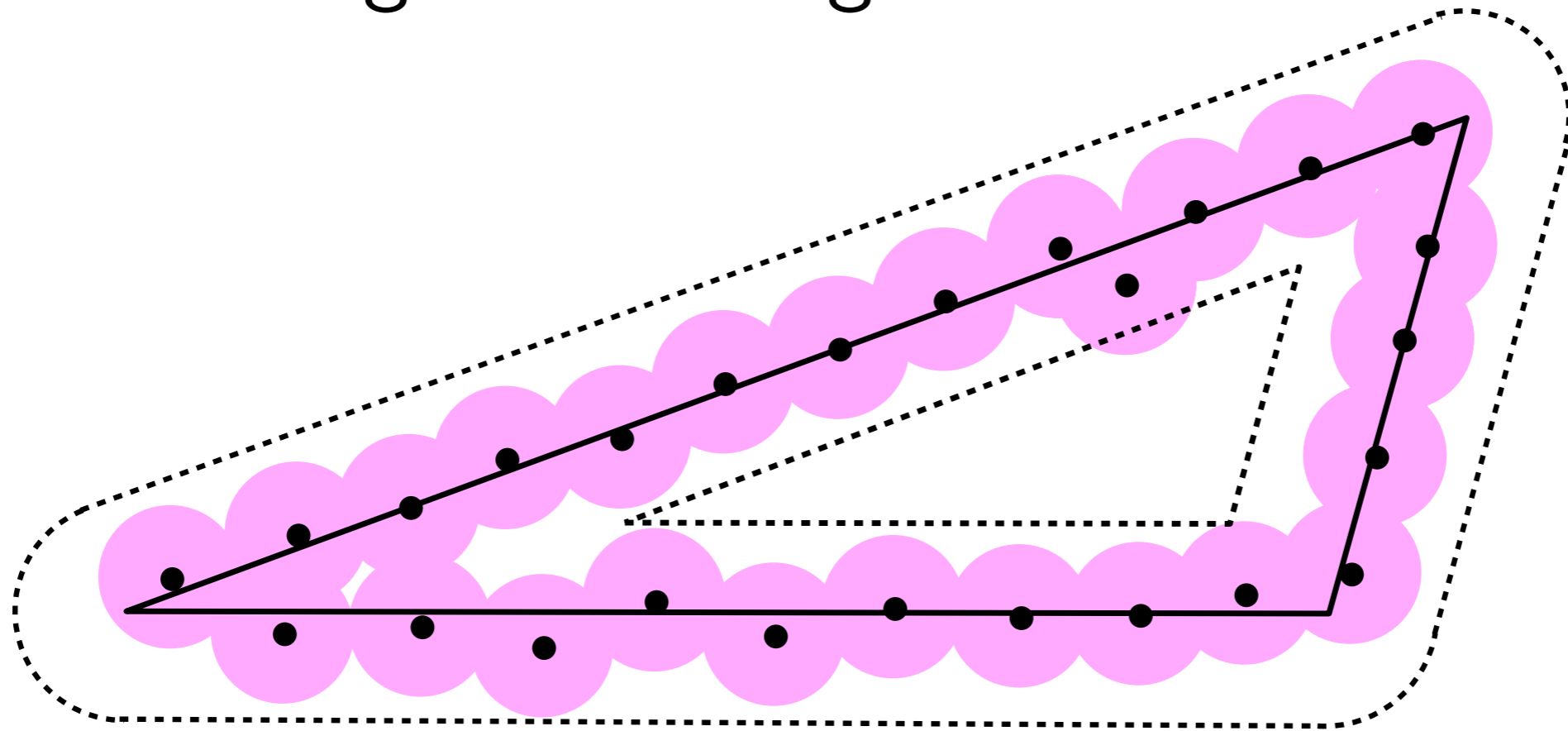
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At homology level:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} & & \text{rank} = \dim H_k(X^\alpha) & & & & \\ & & \curvearrowright & & \curvearrowright & & \\ H_k(X^\alpha) & \rightarrow & H_k(L^{\alpha+\varepsilon}) & \rightarrow & H_k(X^{\alpha+2\varepsilon}) & \rightarrow & H_k(L^{\alpha+3\varepsilon}) \rightarrow H_k(X^{\alpha+4\varepsilon}) \rightarrow \dots \\ & \curvearrowleft & \text{isomorphism} & & \text{isomorphism} & & \end{array}$$

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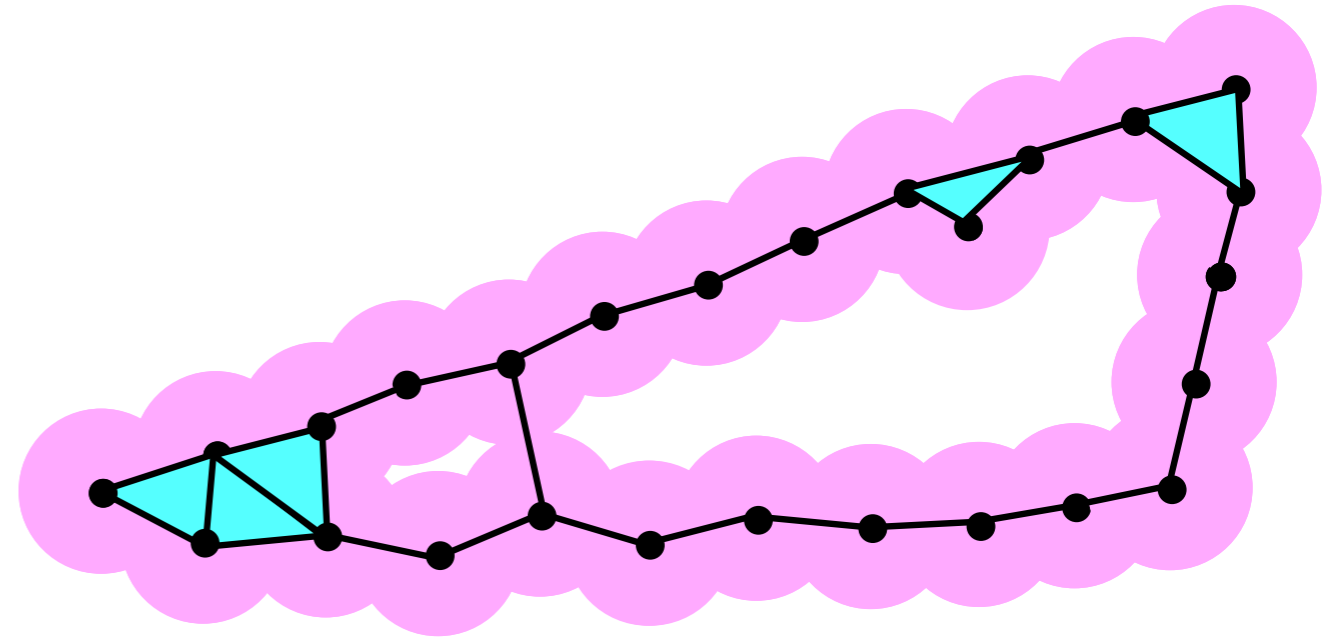
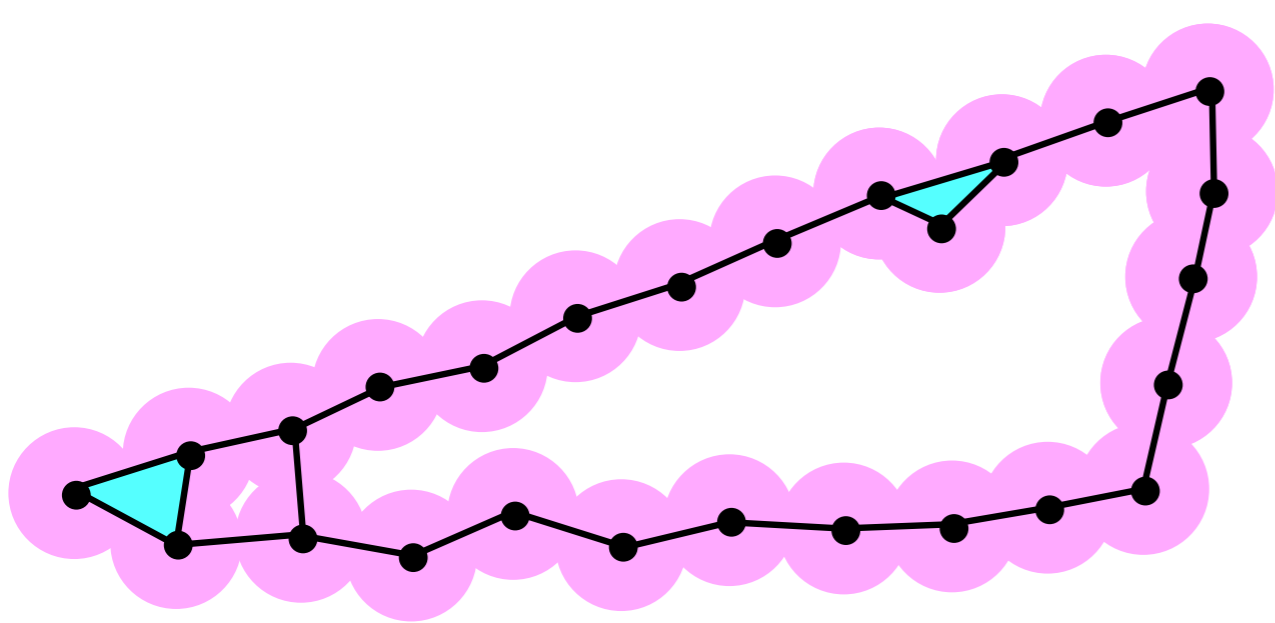
Cannot be directly computed!

$$H_k(X^\alpha) \rightarrow H_k(L^{\alpha+\varepsilon}) \rightarrow H_k(X^{\alpha+2\varepsilon}) \rightarrow H_k(L^{\alpha+3\varepsilon}) \rightarrow H_k(X^{\alpha+4\varepsilon}) \rightarrow \dots$$

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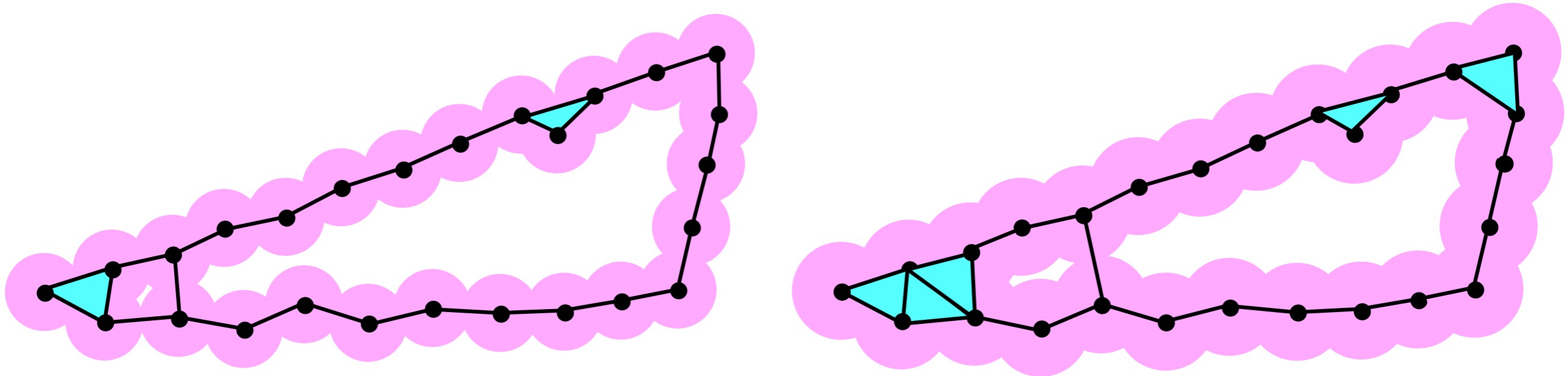
Using the Čech complex



The Čech complex $\mathcal{C}^\alpha(L)$:

for $p_0, \dots, p_k \in L$, $\sigma = [p_0 p_1 \dots p_k] \in \mathcal{C}^\alpha(L)$ iff $\bigcap_{i=0}^k B(p_i, \alpha) \neq \emptyset$

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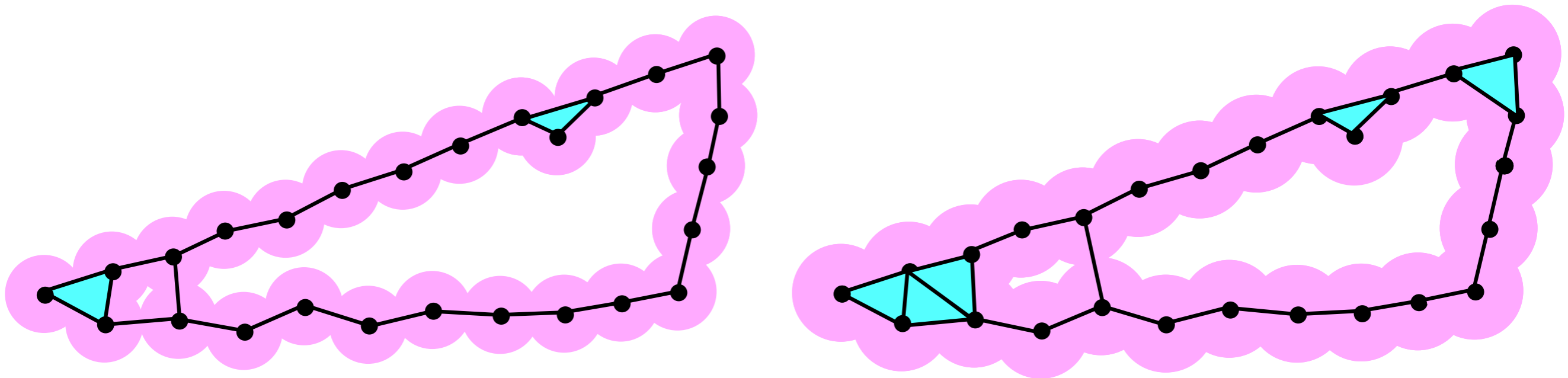


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Nerve theorem: For any $\alpha > 0$, L^α and $\mathcal{C}^\alpha(L)$ are homotopy equivalent and the homotopy equivalences can be chosen to commute with inclusions.

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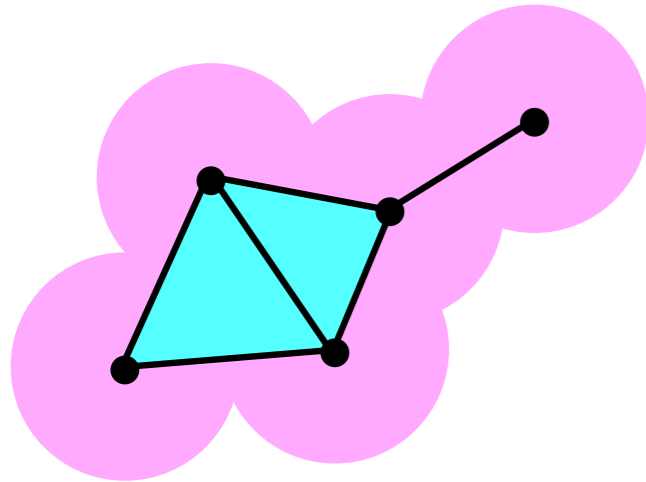
$$\text{for } p_0, \dots, p_k \in L, \quad \sigma = [p_0 p_1 \dots p_k] \in \mathcal{C}^\alpha(L) \quad \text{iff} \quad \bigcap_{i=0}^k B(p_i, \alpha) \neq \emptyset$$

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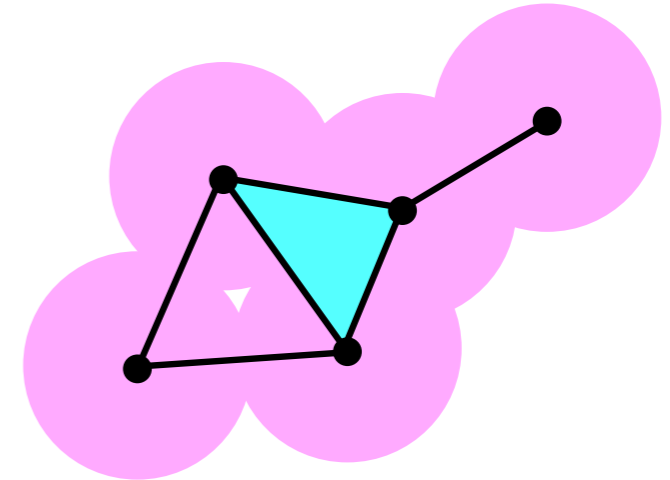
$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} \dots & \rightarrow & H_k(L^{\alpha+\varepsilon}) & \rightarrow & H_k(L^{\alpha+3\varepsilon}) & \rightarrow & \dots \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\ \dots & \rightarrow & H_k(\mathcal{C}^{\alpha+\varepsilon}(L)) & \rightarrow & H_k(\mathcal{C}^{\alpha+3\varepsilon}(L)) & \rightarrow & \dots \end{array}$$

Allow to work with simplicial complexes but... still too difficult to compute

Using the Rips complex



Rips vs Čech



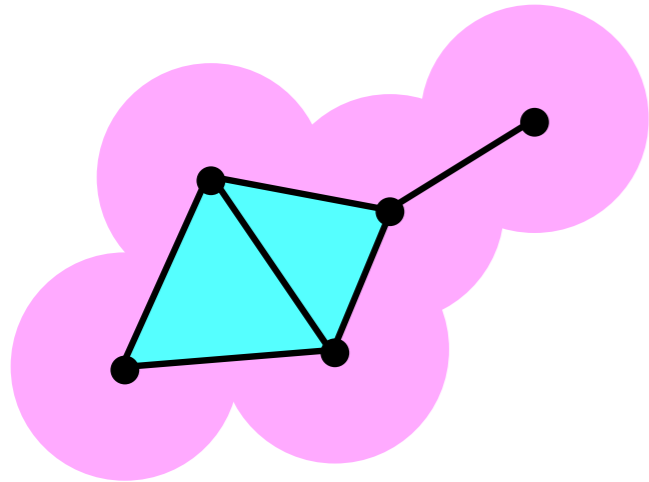
The Rips complex $\mathcal{R}^\alpha(L)$: for $p_0, \dots, p_k \in L$,

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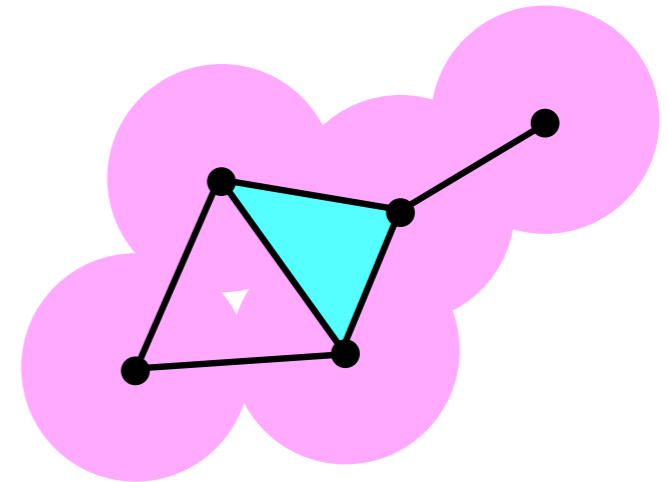
- Easy to compute and fully determined by its 1-skeleton
- Rips-Čech interleaving: for any $\alpha > 0$,

$$\mathcal{C}^{\frac{\alpha}{2}}(L) \subseteq \mathcal{R}^\alpha(L) \subseteq \mathcal{C}^\alpha(L) \subseteq \mathcal{R}^{2\alpha}(L) \subseteq \dots$$

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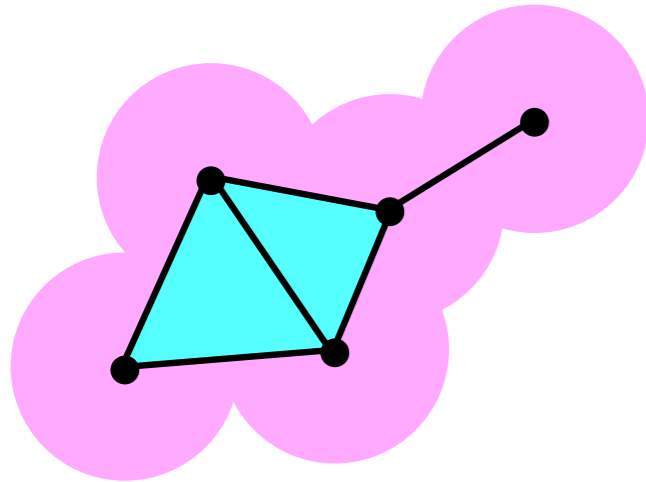
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Theorem: [C-Oudot'08]

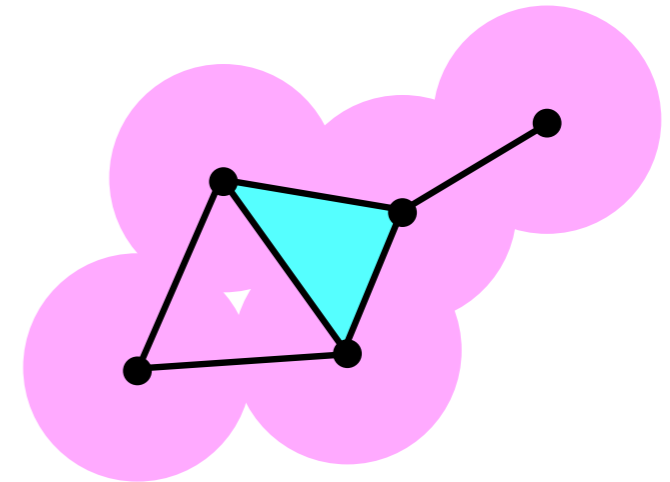
Let $X \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ be a compact set and $L \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ a finite set such that $d_H(X, L) < \varepsilon$ for some $\varepsilon < \frac{1}{9} \text{wfs}(X)$. Then for all $\alpha \in [2\varepsilon, \frac{1}{4}(\text{wfs}(X) - \varepsilon)]$ and all $\lambda \in (0, \text{wfs}(X))$, one has: $\forall k \in \mathbb{N}$

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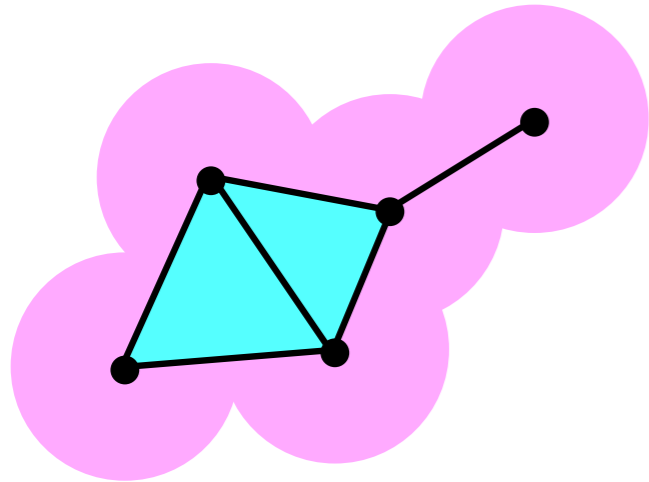
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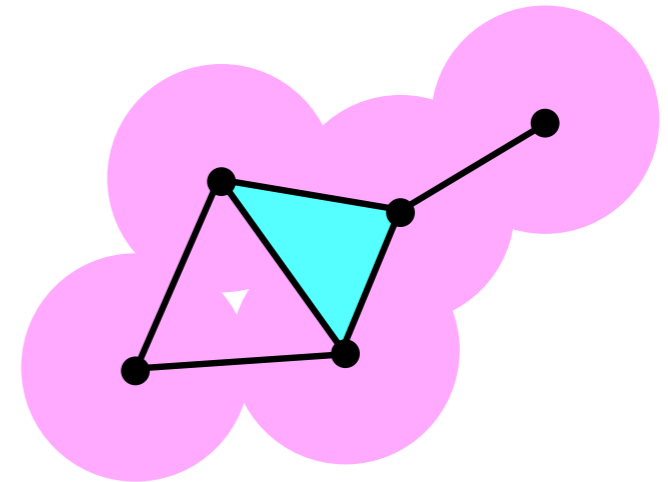
$$\beta_k(X^\lambda) = \dim(H_k(X^\lambda)) = \text{rk}(\mathcal{R}^\alpha(L) \rightarrow \mathcal{R}^{4\alpha}(L))$$

Easy to compute using persistence algo.

Using the Rips complex



Rips vs Čech



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Choice of α when $\text{wfs}(X)$ is unknown: see [C-Oudot 2008]

An algorithm to compute Betti numbers

Input: A filtration of a simplicial complex $\emptyset = K^0 \subset K^1 \subset \dots \subset K^m = K$,
s. t. $K^{i+1} = K^i \cup \sigma^{i+1}$ where σ^{i+1} is a simplex of K .

Output: The Betti numbers $\beta_0, \beta_1, \dots, \beta_d$ of K .

$\beta_0 = \beta_1 = \dots = \beta_d = 0;$

for $i = 1$ to m

$k = \dim \sigma^i - 1;$

 if σ^i is contained in a $(k + 1)$ -cycle in K^i

 then $\beta_{k+1} = \beta_{k+1} + 1;$

 else $\beta_k = \beta_k - 1;$

 end if;

end for;

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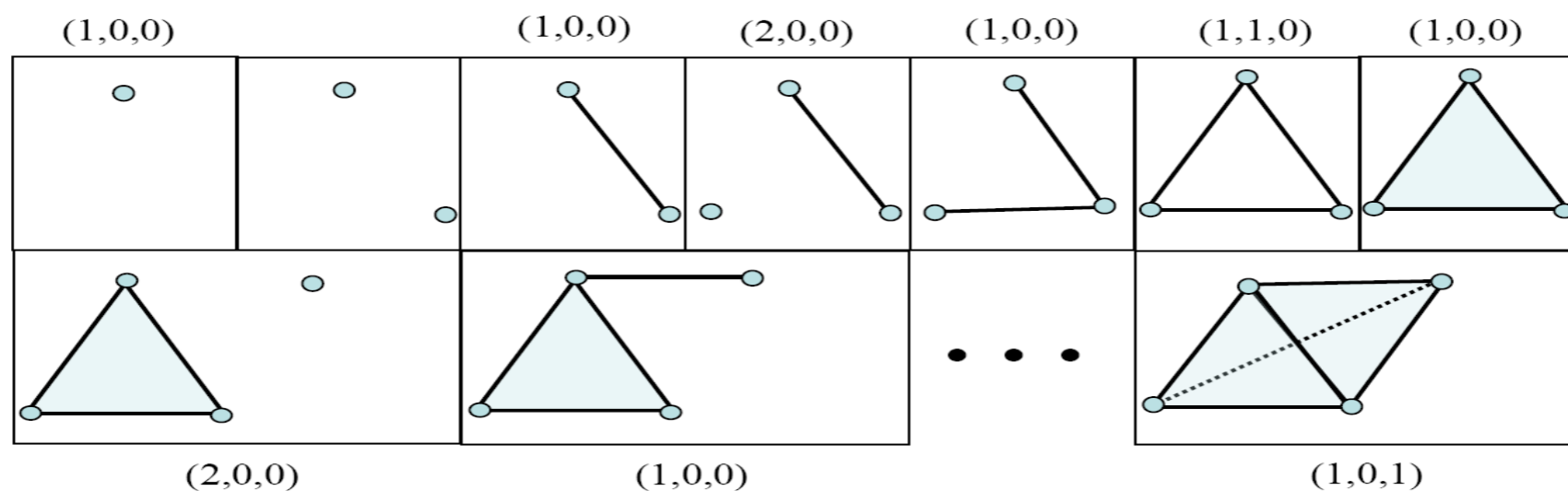
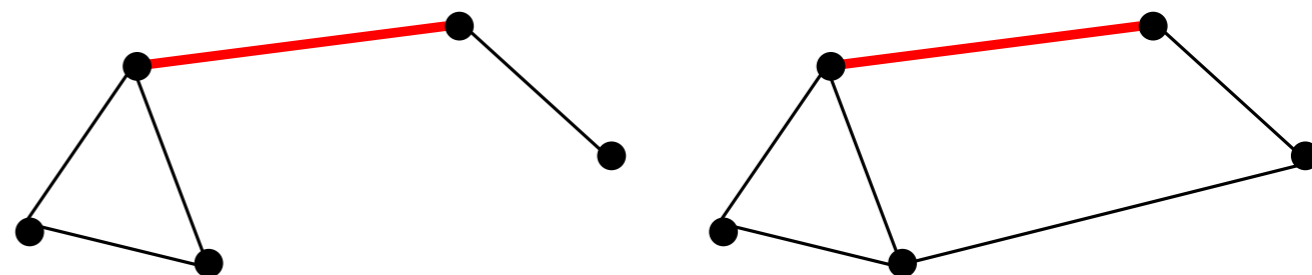
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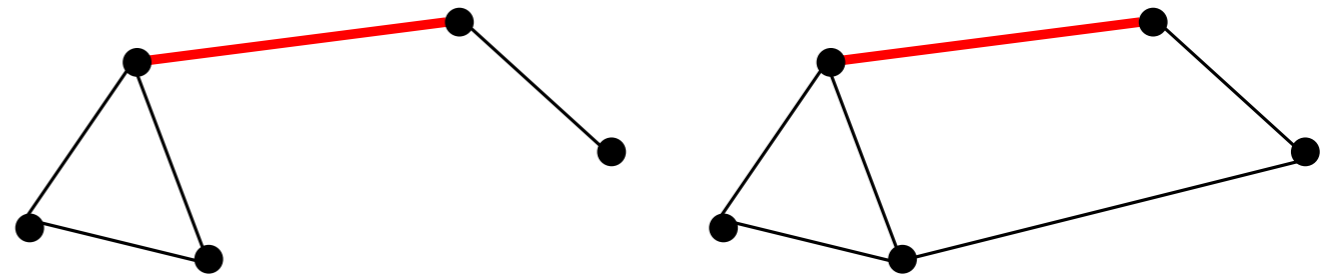
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output $(\beta_0, \beta_1, \dots, \beta_d)$;



Remark: At the i^{th} step of the algorithm, the vector $(\beta_0, \dots, \beta_d)$ stores the Betti numbers of K^i .

Proof

- If σ^i is contained in a $(k+1)$ -cycle in K^i , this cycle is not a boundary in K^i .
- If σ^i is contained in a $(k+1)$ -cycle c in K^i , then c cannot be homologous to a cycle in K^{i-1}

$$\Rightarrow \beta_{k+1}(K^i) \geq \beta_{k+1}(K^{i-1}) + 1$$

- If σ^i is not contained in a $(k+1)$ -cycle c in K^i , then $\partial\sigma^i$ is not a boundary in K^{i-1}

$$\Rightarrow \beta_k(K^i) \leq \beta_k(K^{i-1}) - 1$$

- the previous inequalities are equalities.

Getting more information

Definition: A $(k+1)$ -simplex σ^i is **positive** if it is contained in a $(k+1)$ -cycle in K^i . It is **negative** otherwise.

Destroy a k -cycle in K^i

Create a new $(k+1)$ -cycle in K^i

$$\beta_k(K) = \#(\text{positive simplices}) - \#(\text{negative simplices})$$

- How to keep track of the evolution of the homology all along the filtration?
- What are the created/destroyed cycles?
- What is the lifetime of a cycle?
- How to compute $\text{rank}(H_k(K^i) \rightarrow H_k(K^j))$?

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This is where topological persistence comes into play!

Multiscale inference

Input: A point cloud W and its pairwise distances $\{d(w, w')\}_{w, w' \in W}$.
→ Maintain a nested pair $\mathcal{R}^{4\varepsilon}(L) \hookrightarrow \mathcal{R}^{16\varepsilon}(L)$ where $L = L(\varepsilon)$.

Init.: $L = \emptyset$; $\varepsilon = +\infty$

WHILE $L \subset W$

insert $p = \operatorname{argmax}_{w \in W} d(w, L)$ in L

update $\varepsilon = \max_{w \in W} d(w, L)$

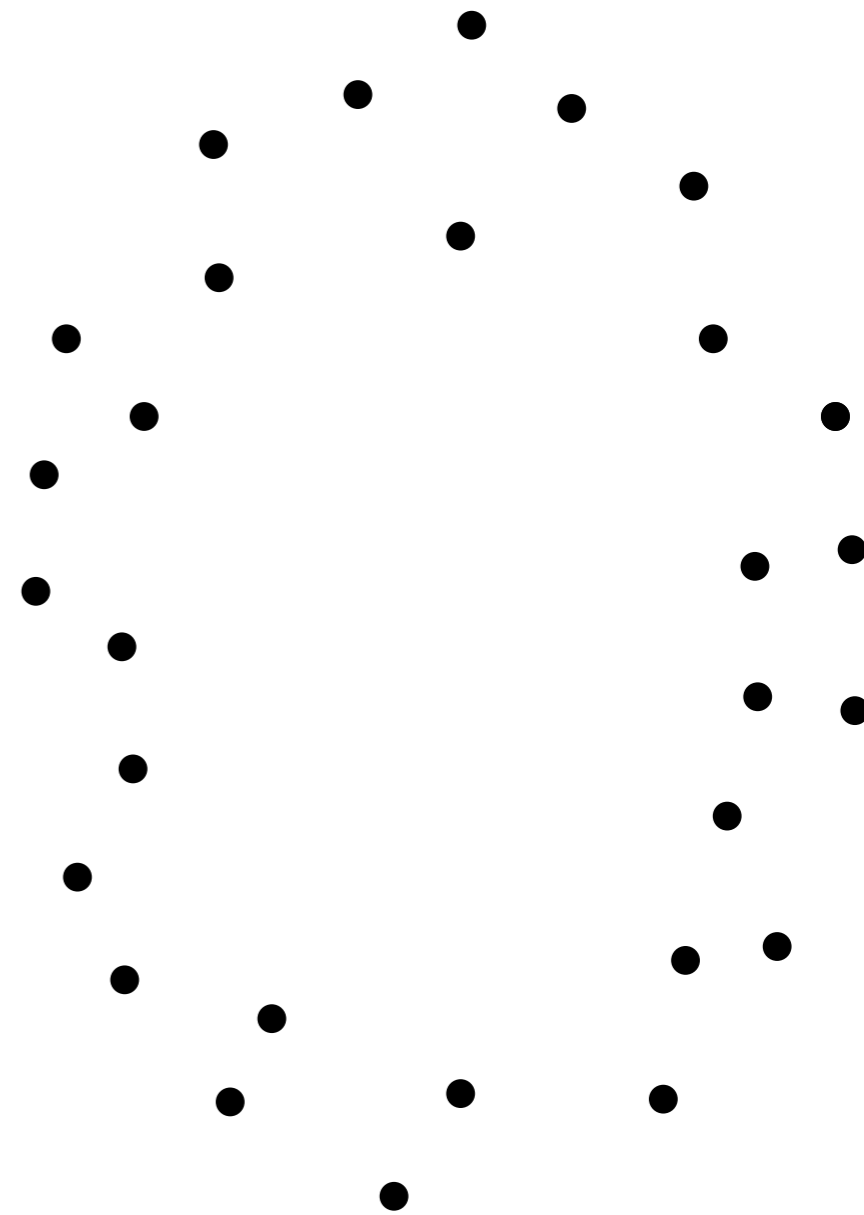
update $\mathcal{R}^{4\varepsilon}(L)$ and $\mathcal{R}^{16\varepsilon}(L)$

Persistence($\mathcal{R}^{4\varepsilon}(L) \hookrightarrow \mathcal{R}^{16\varepsilon}(L)$)

END_WHILE

Output: Sequence of persistent Betti numbers
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Rank of the map induced at homology level



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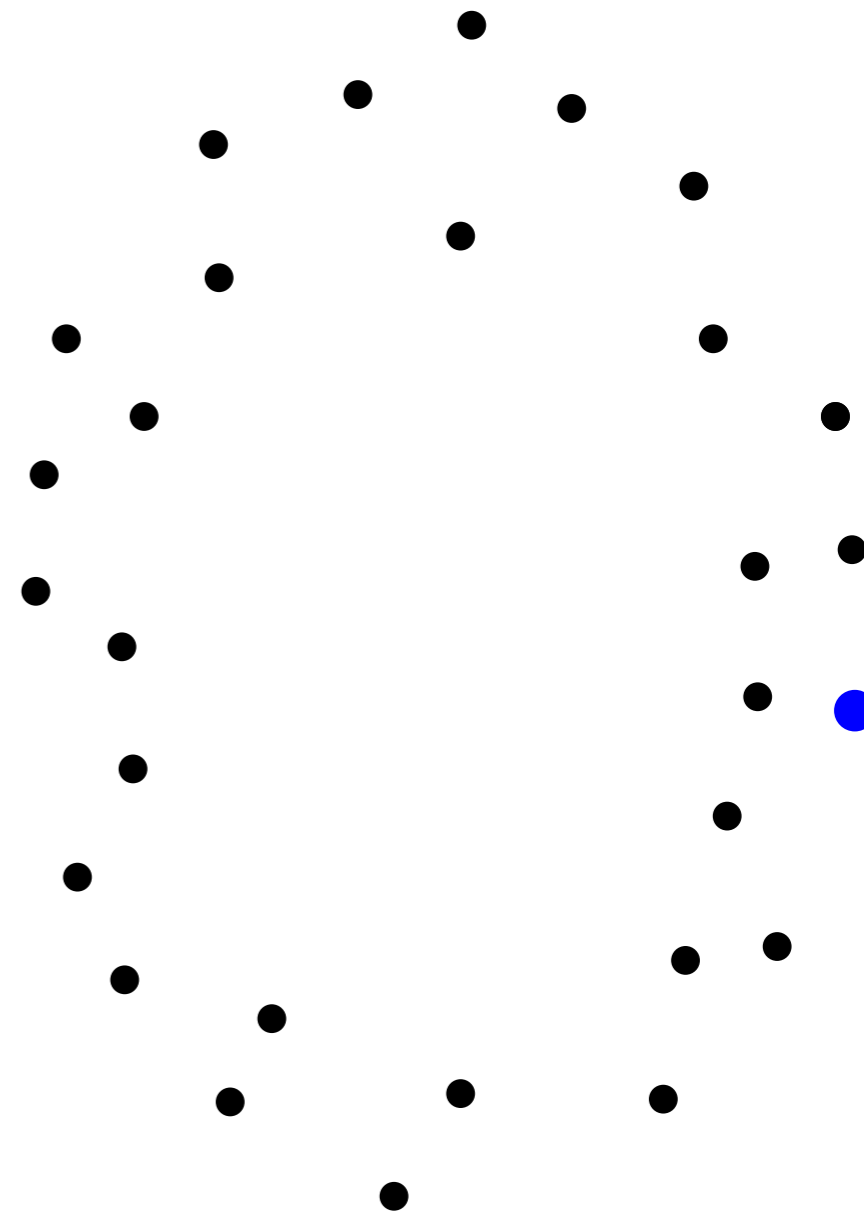
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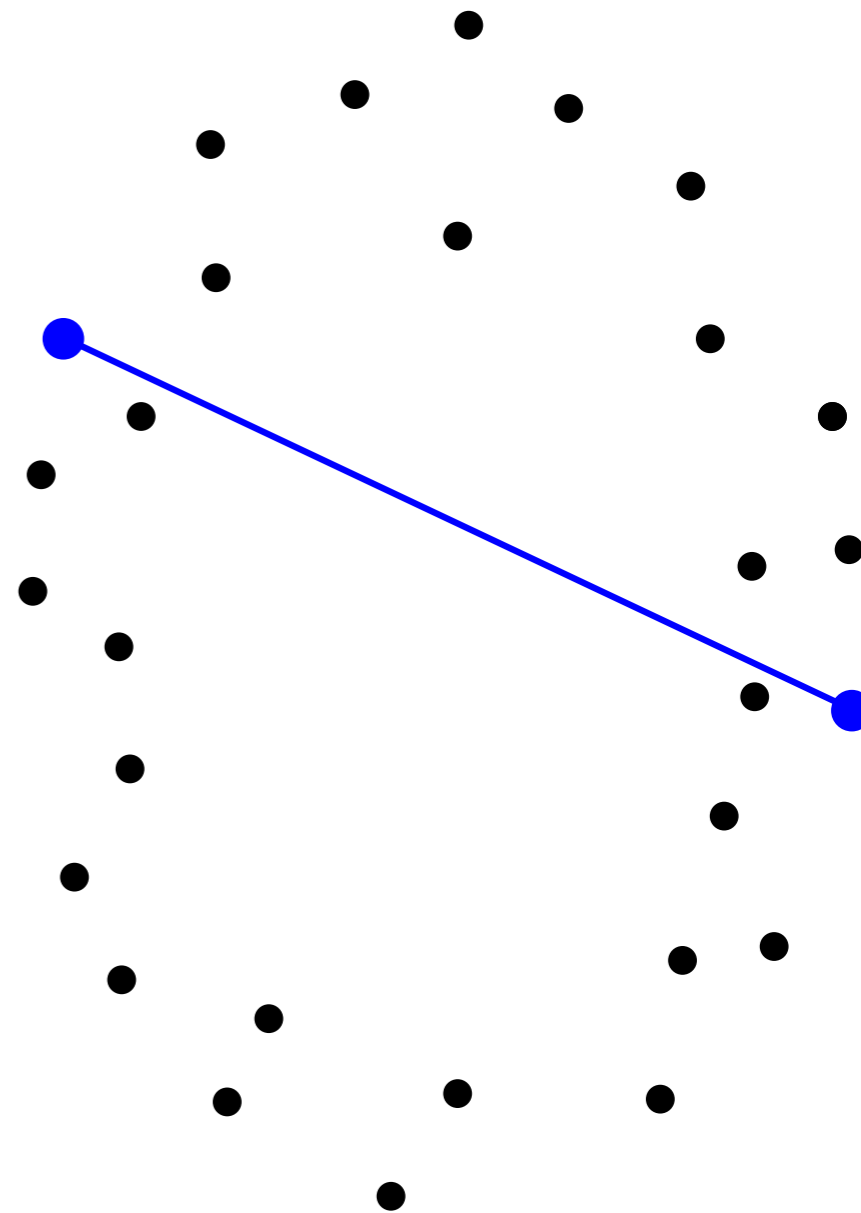
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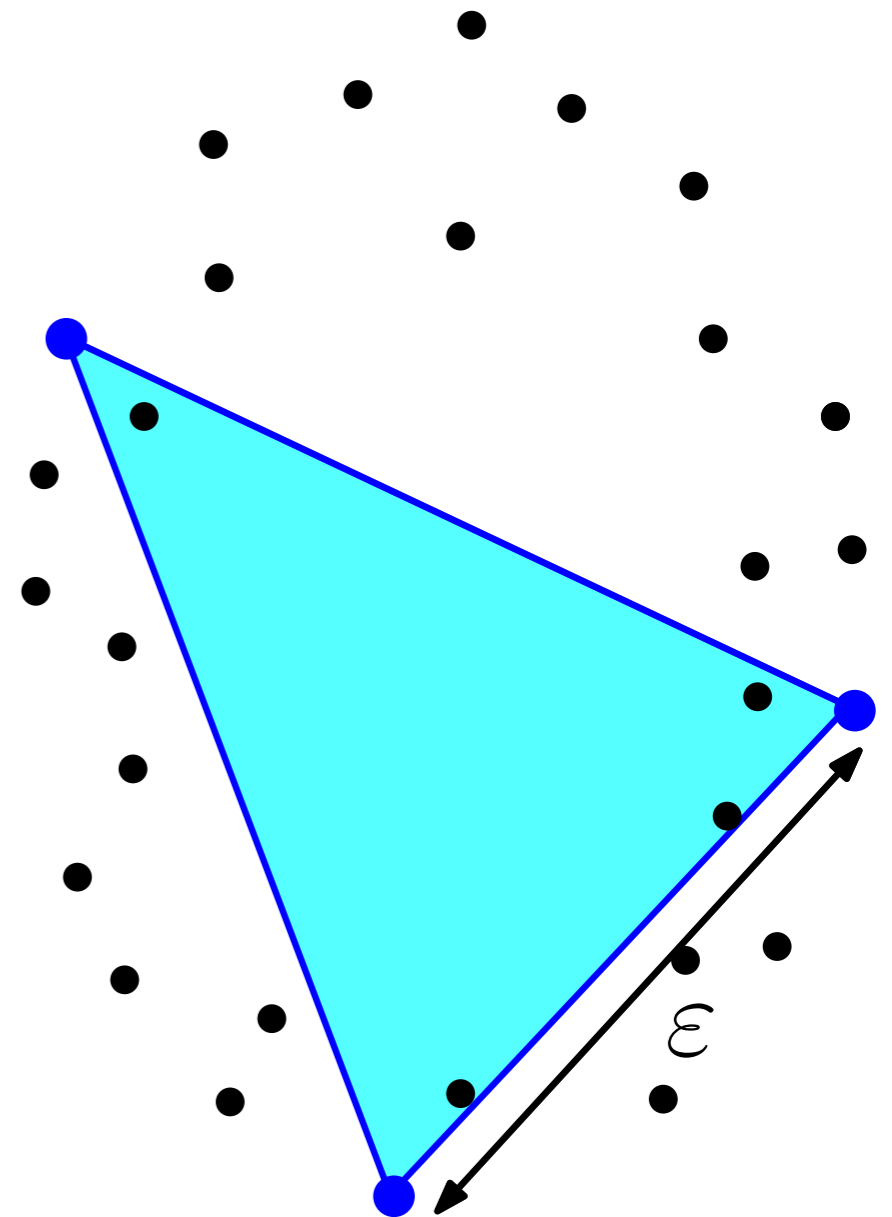
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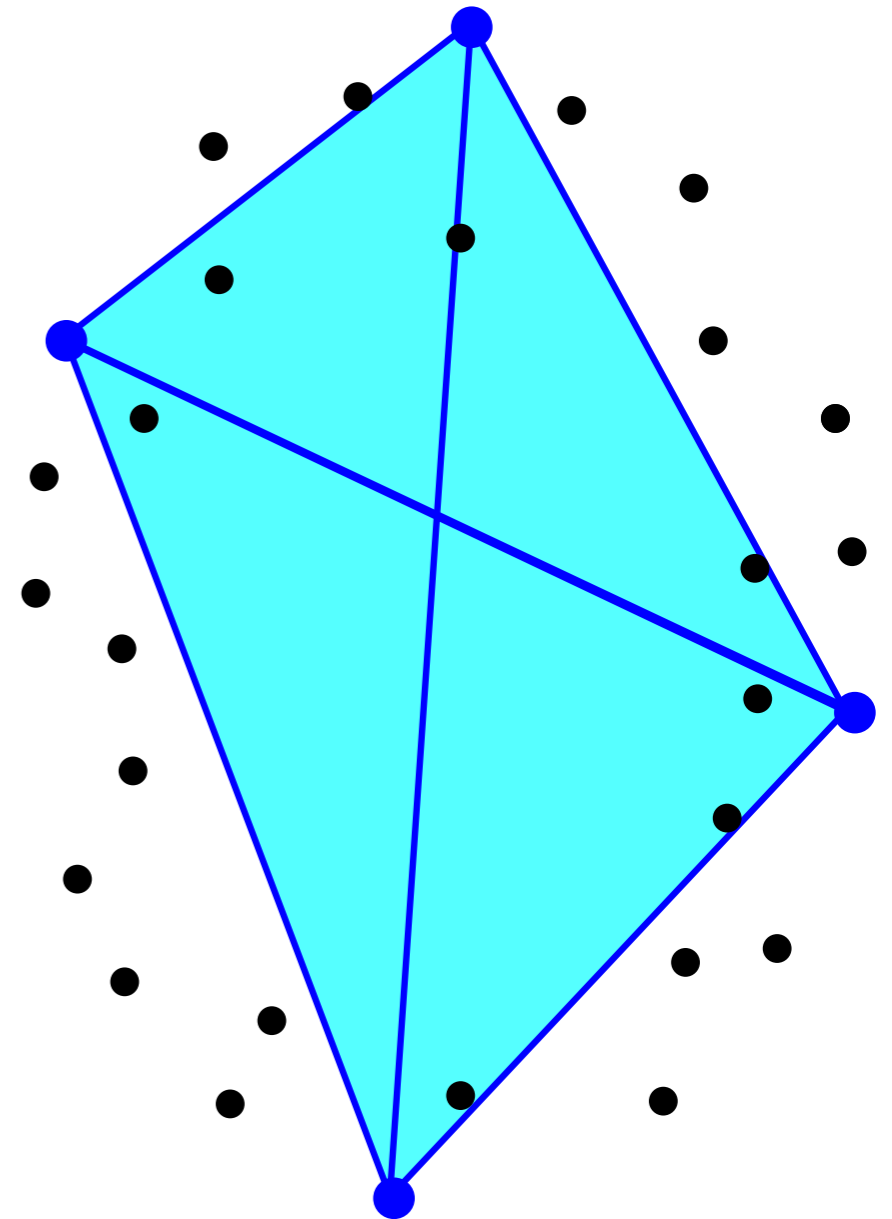
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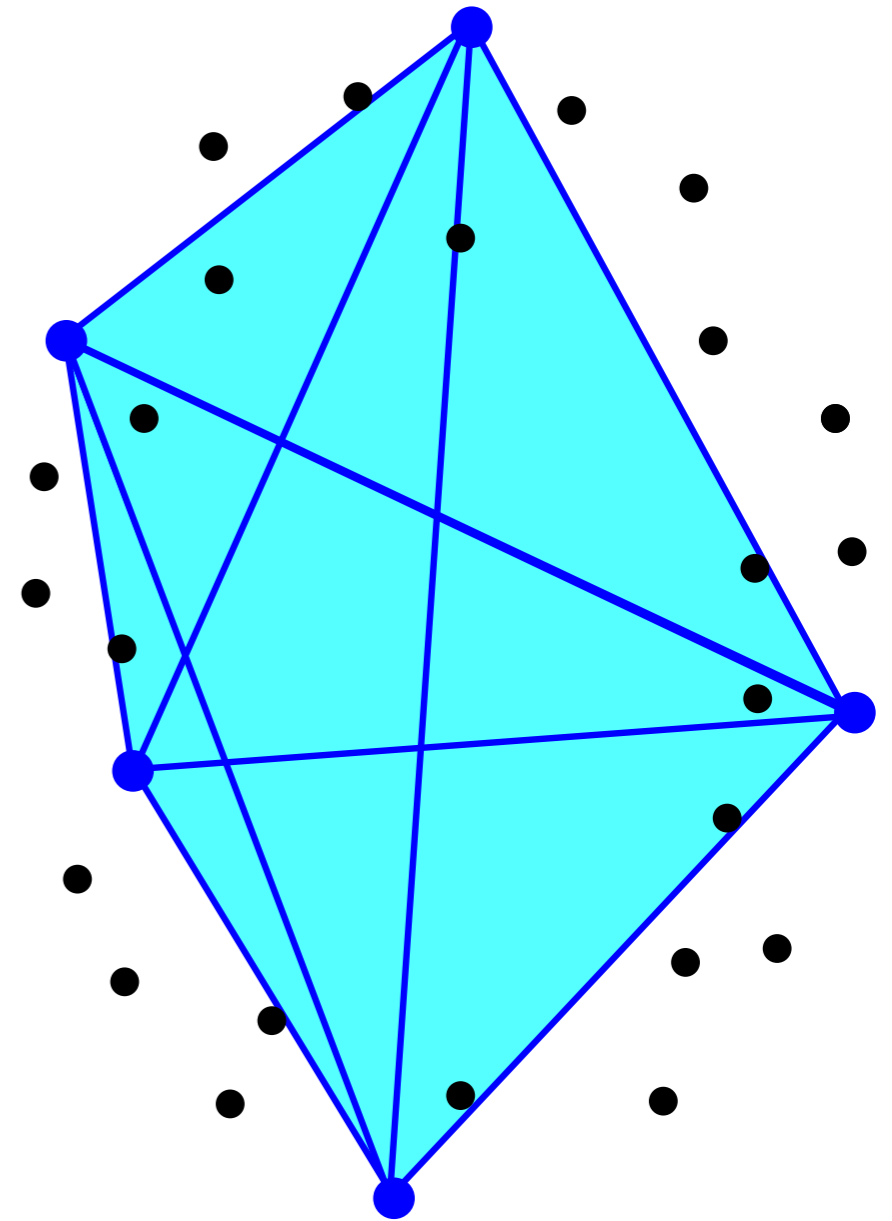
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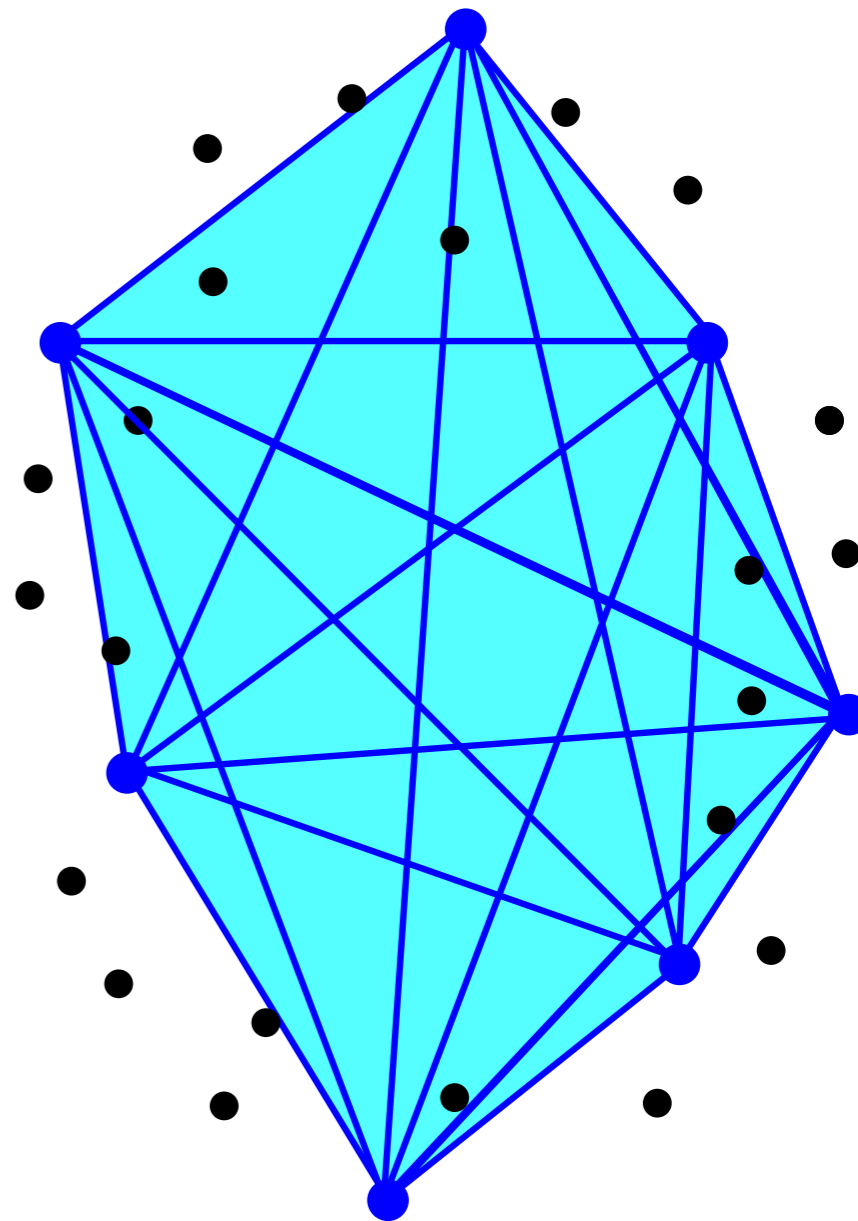
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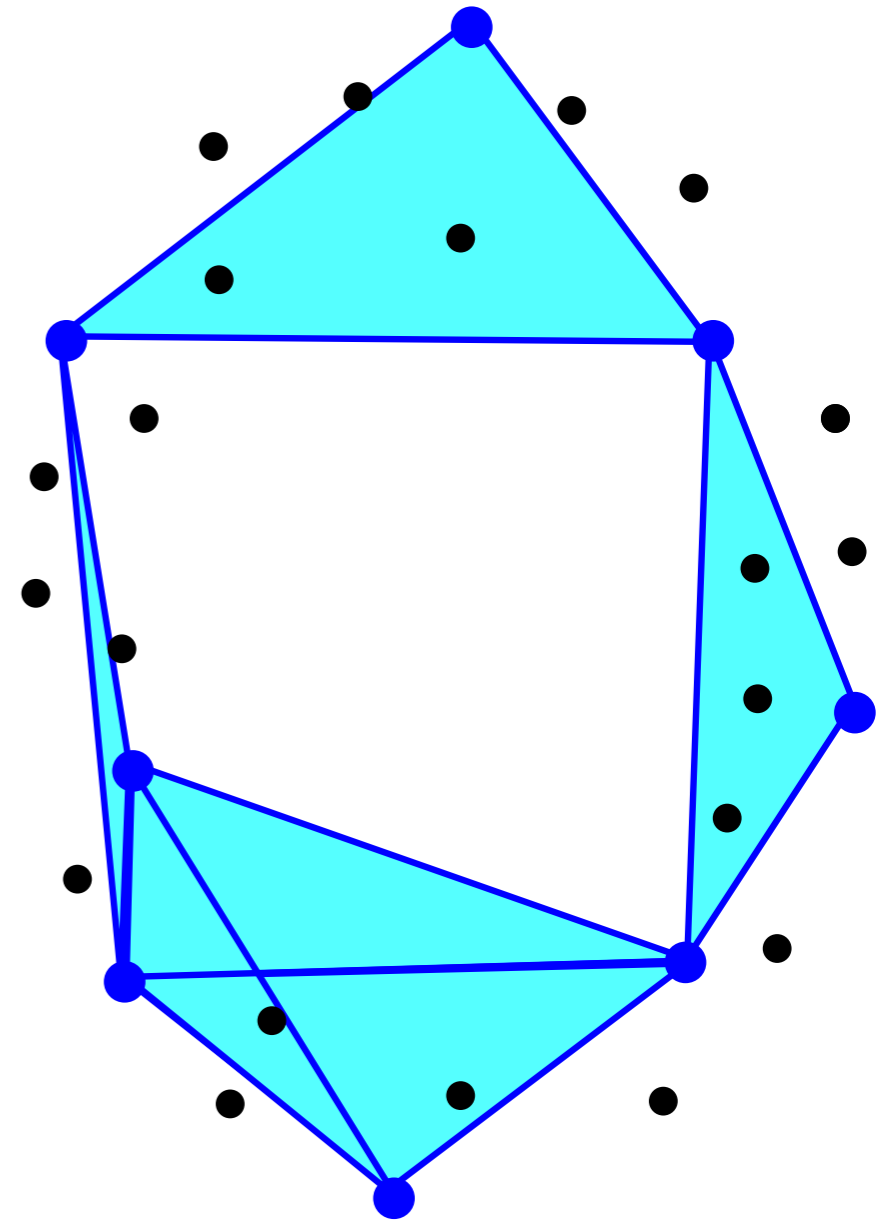
update $\mathcal{R}^{4\varepsilon}(L)$ and $\mathcal{R}^{16\varepsilon}(L)$

Persistence($\mathcal{R}^{4\varepsilon}(L) \hookrightarrow \mathcal{R}^{16\varepsilon}(L)$)

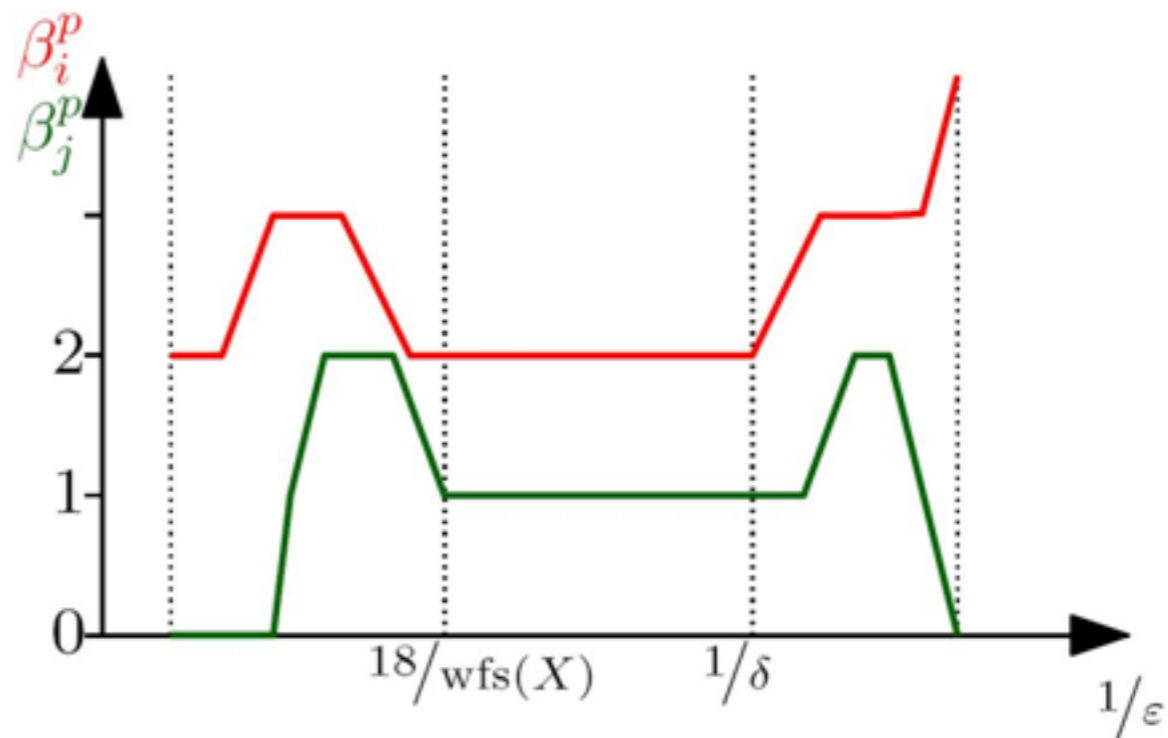
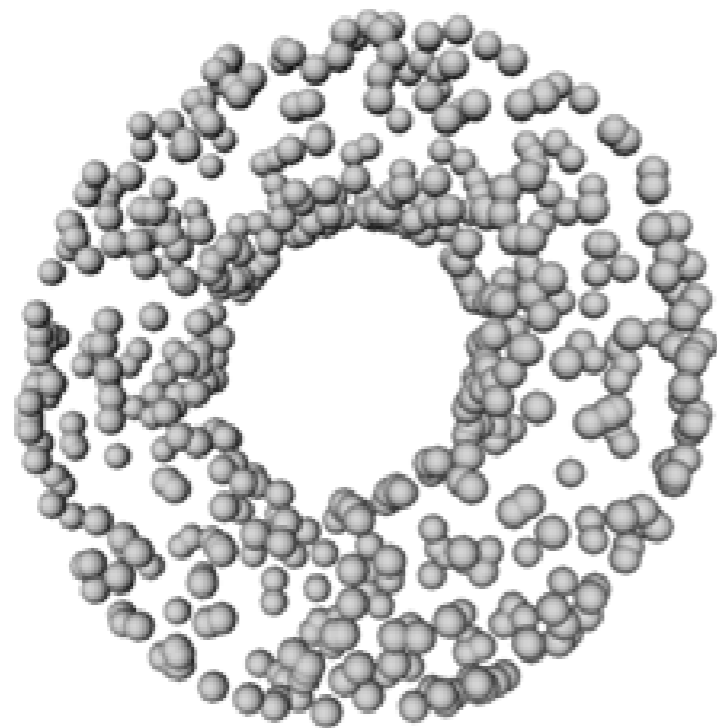
END_WHILE

Output: Sequence of persistent Betti numbers
of $\mathcal{R}^{4\varepsilon}(L) \hookrightarrow \mathcal{R}^{16\varepsilon}(L)$

Rank of the map induced at homology level



Multiscale inference



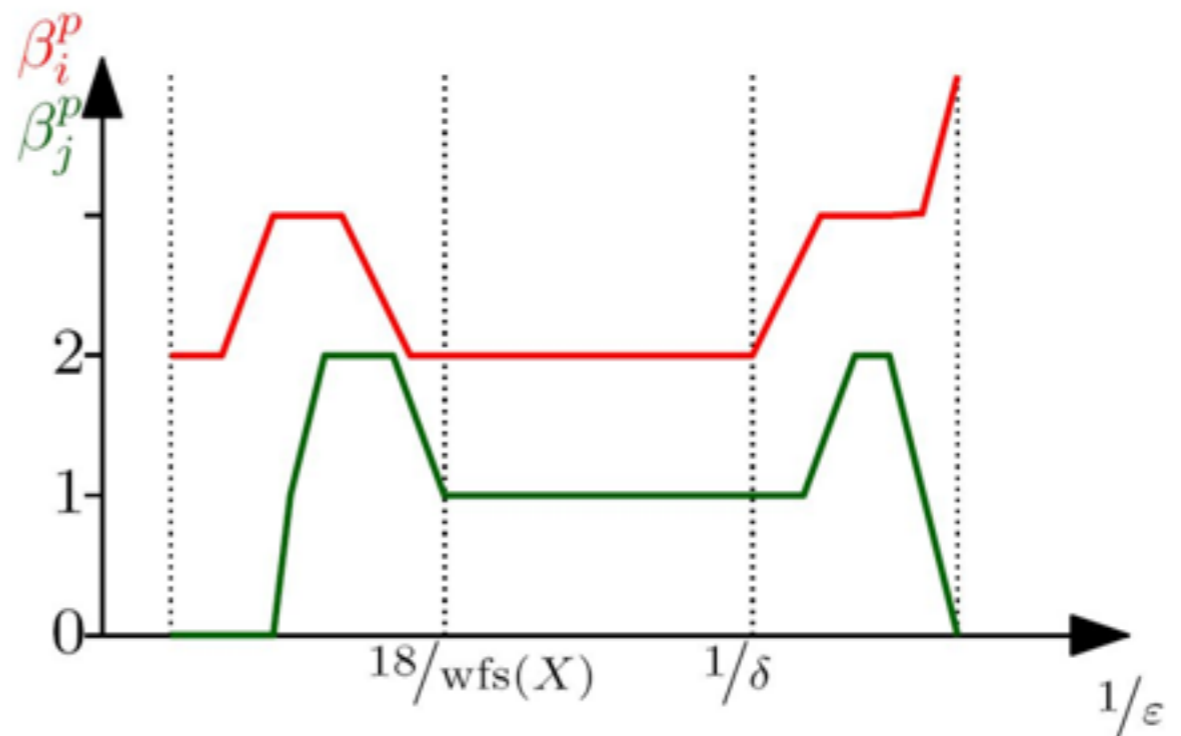
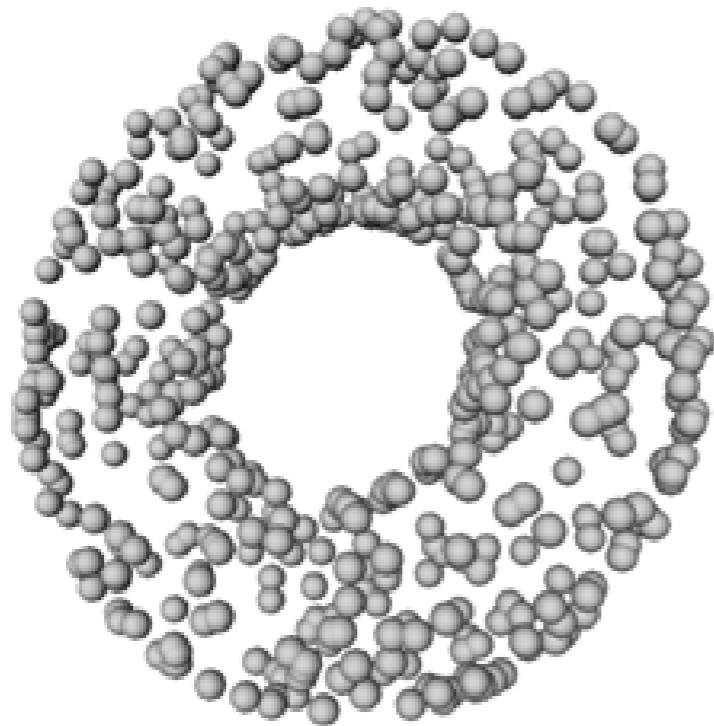
Theorem: [C-Oudot'08]

If $d_H(W, X) < \delta$ for $\delta < \frac{1}{18} \text{wfs}(X)$, then at every iteration of the algorithm such that $\delta < \varepsilon < \frac{1}{18} \text{wfs}(X)$,

$$\beta_k(X^\lambda) = \dim H_k(X^\lambda) = rk(H_k(\mathcal{R}^{4\varepsilon}(L)) \rightarrow H_k(\mathcal{R}^{4\varepsilon}(L)))$$

for any $\lambda \in (0, \text{wfs}(X))$ and any $k \in \mathbb{N}$.

Multiscale inference



Complexity of the algorithm:

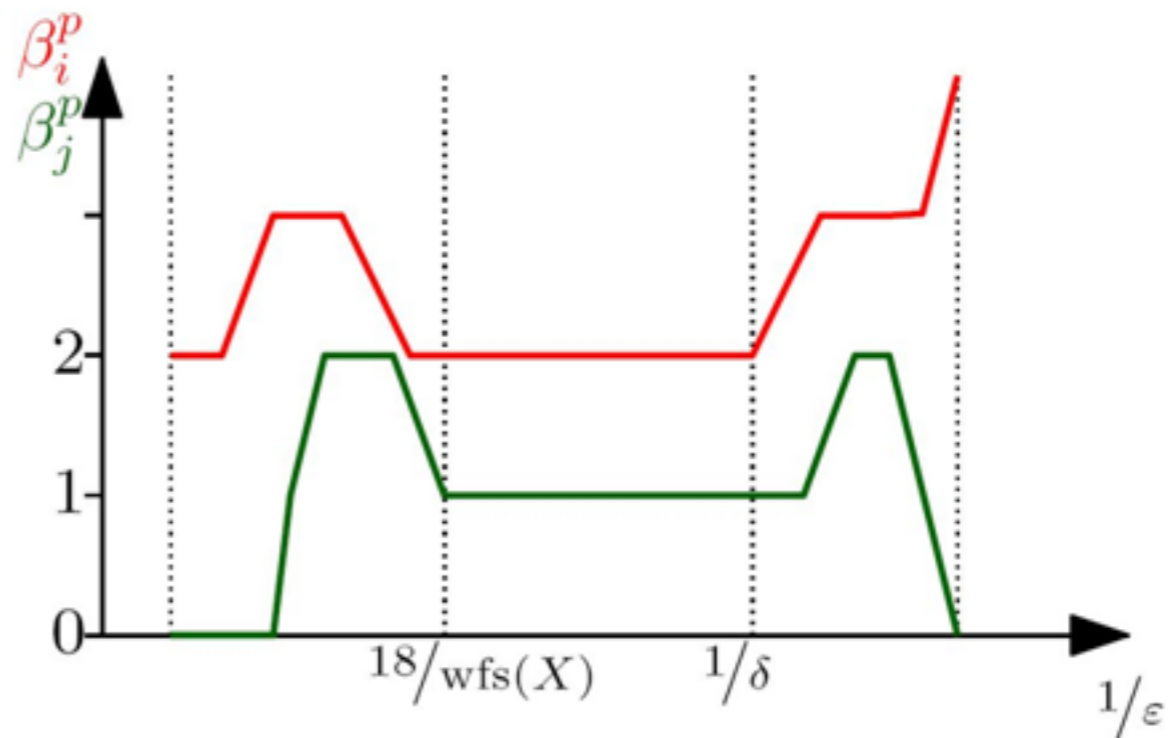
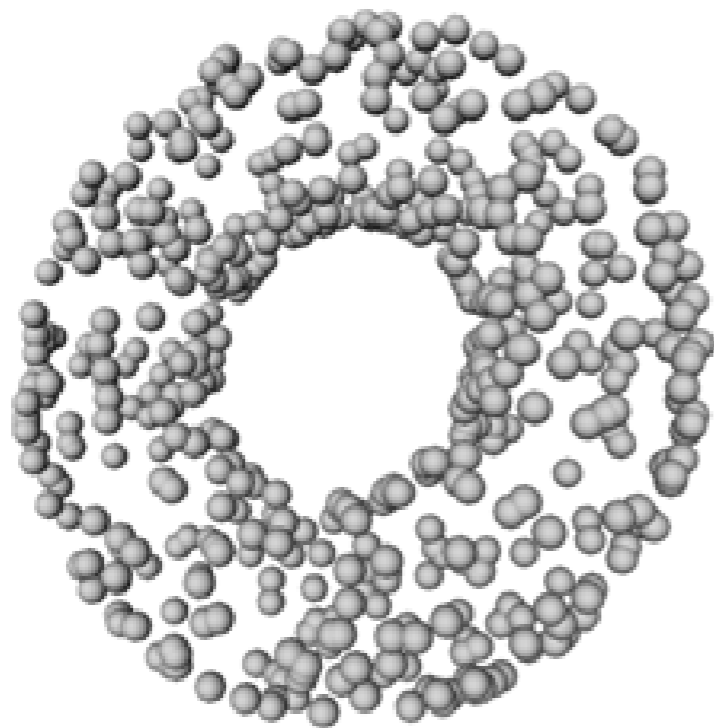
- If $X \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ is non smooth the running time of the algorithm is

$$O(8^{33^d} |W|^5)$$

- If X is a smooth submanifold of \mathbb{R}^d dimension m the running time is

$$O(8^{35^m} |W|)$$

Multiscale inference



Complexity of the algorithm:

- If $X \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ is non smooth the running time of the algorithm is

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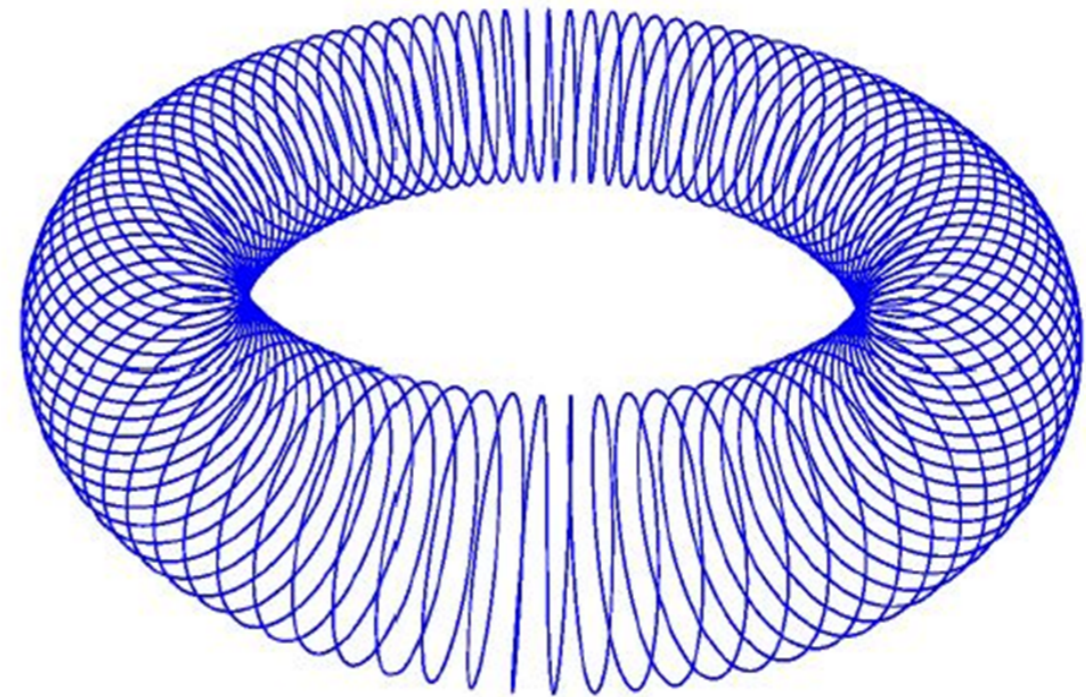
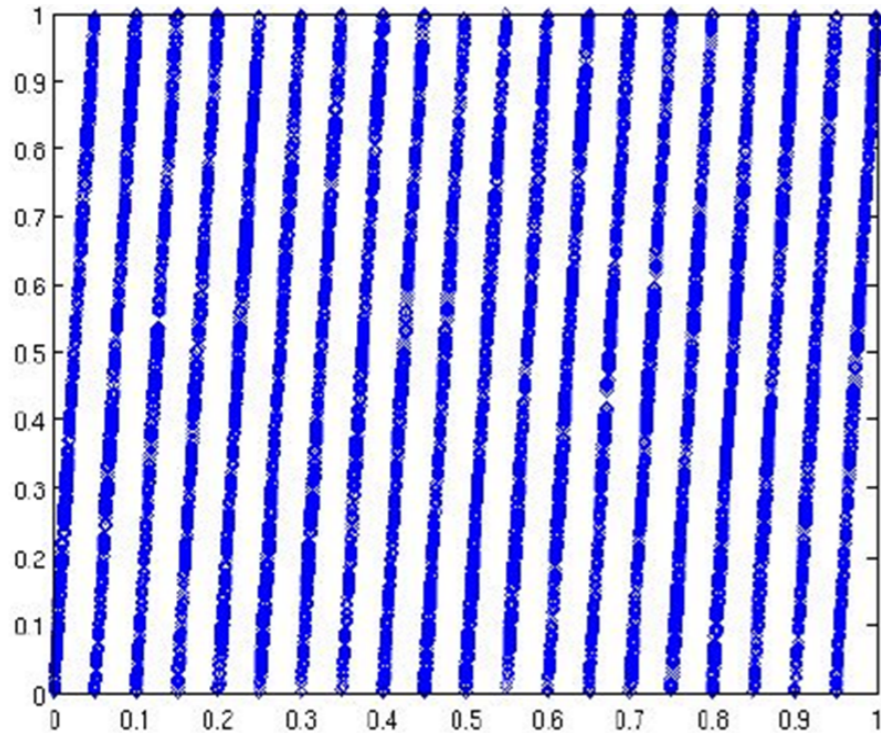
$$O(8^{35^m} |W|)$$

Depend on the intrinsic dimension of X

A synthetic example

$[0, 1] \times [0, 1]$

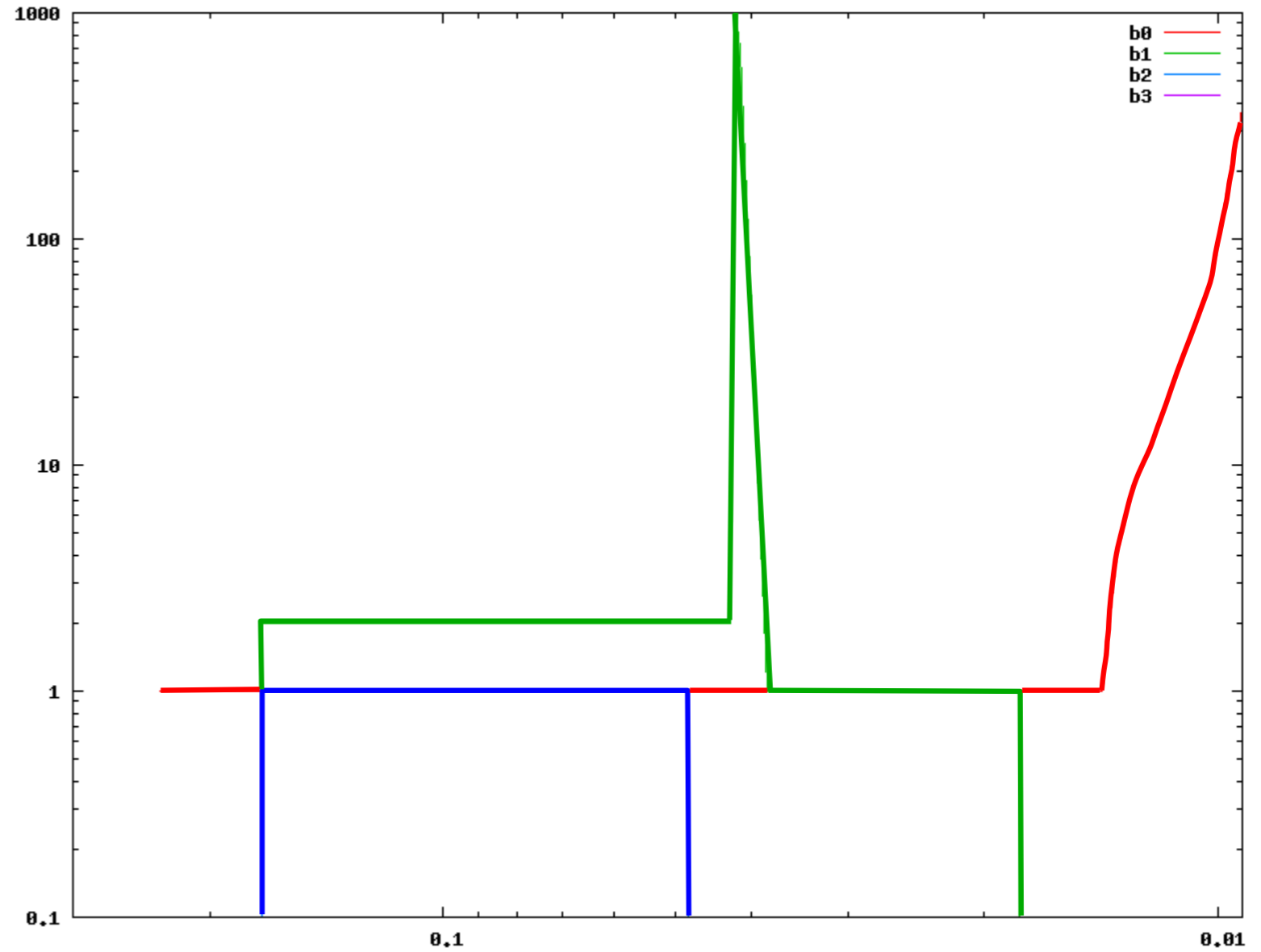
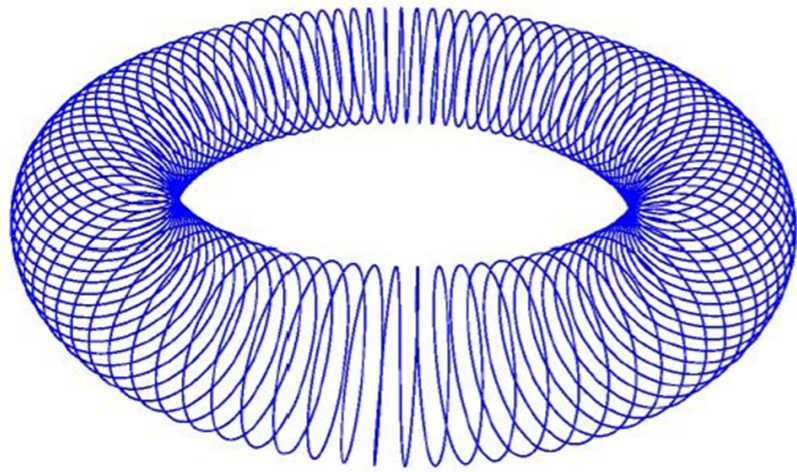
\mathbb{R}^{1000}



Non-linear embedding of $S^1 \times S^1$ in \mathbb{R}^{1000}

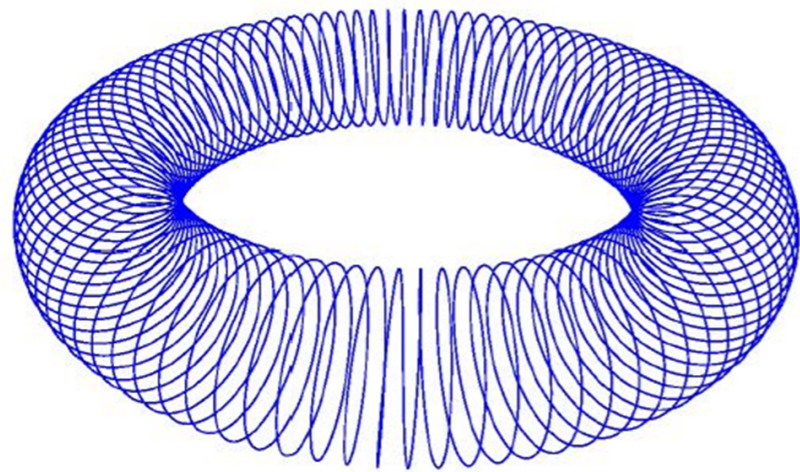
50,000 points sampled uniformly at random from a curve drawn on the 2-torus $S^1 \times S^1$.

A synthetic example



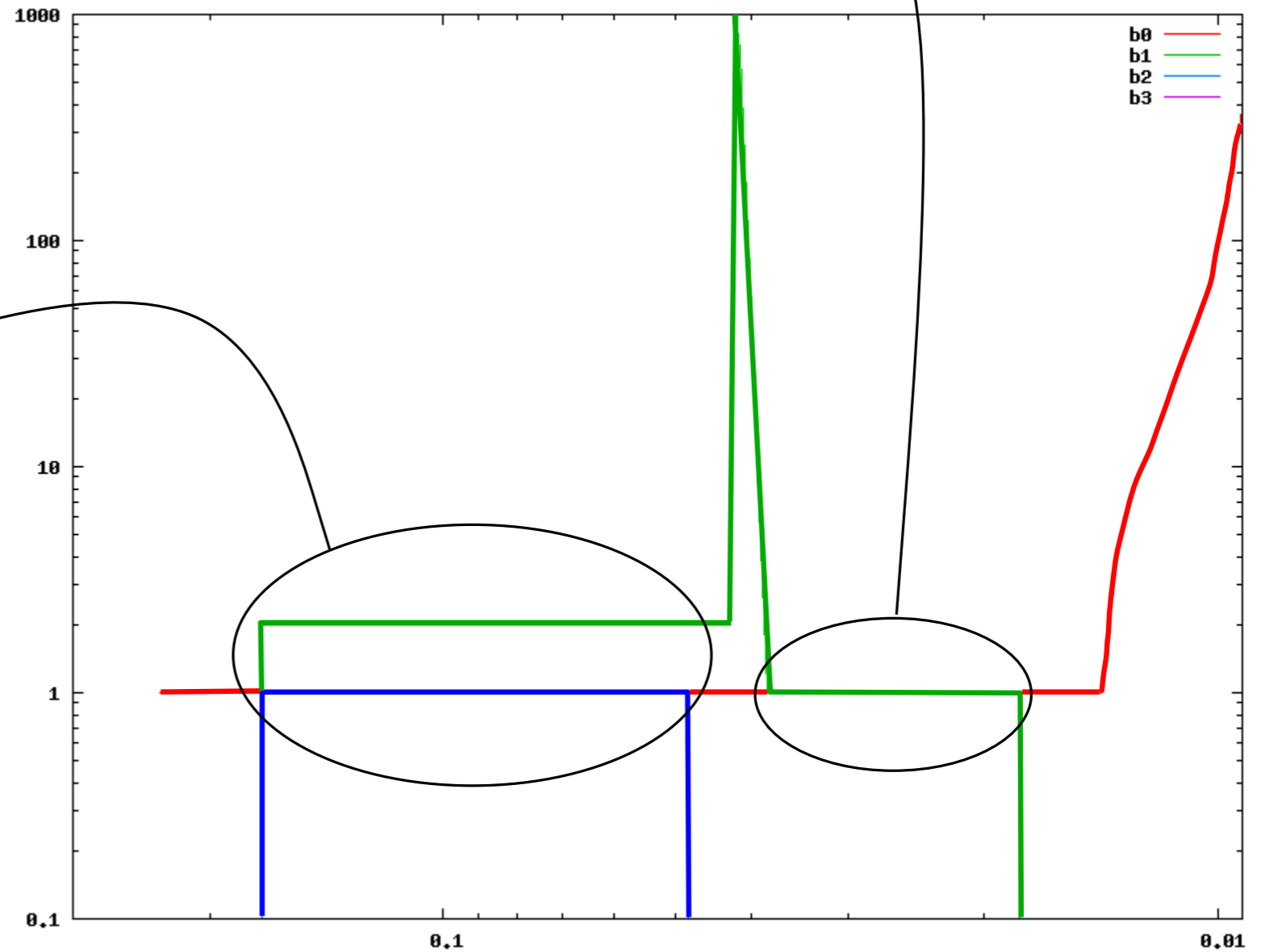
Output: sequence of Betti numbers on a log-log scale

A synthetic example



Torus

Circle



Output: sequence of Betti numbers on a log-log scale