

## Persistence and Triangulation

Octav Cornea

(talk IHP; joint with Paul Biran and Jun Zhang)

## A. Motivation.

Question 1. How to understand:

rigidity  $\longleftrightarrow$  flexibility

in symplectic topology?

Aim: Endow classes of objects (in our case Lagrangian submanifolds) with certain pseudo-metrics:

$$d^{\hat{\mathbb{Z}}}(-, -)$$

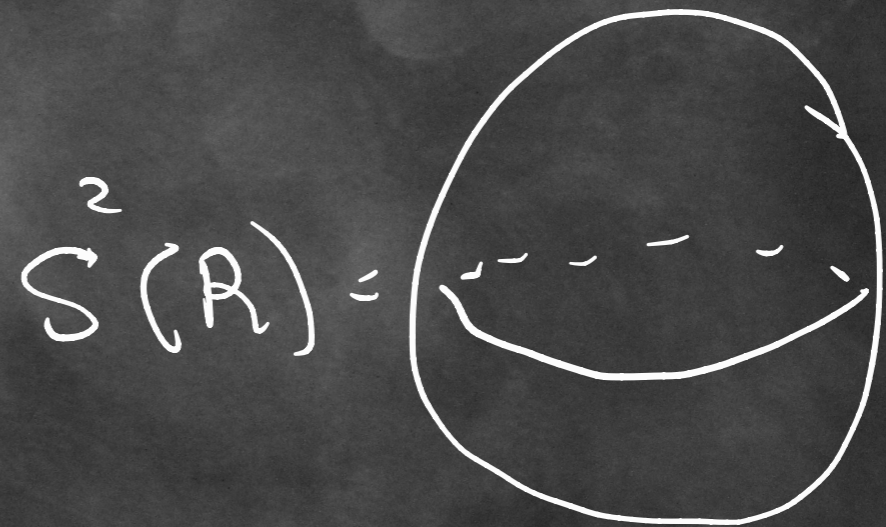
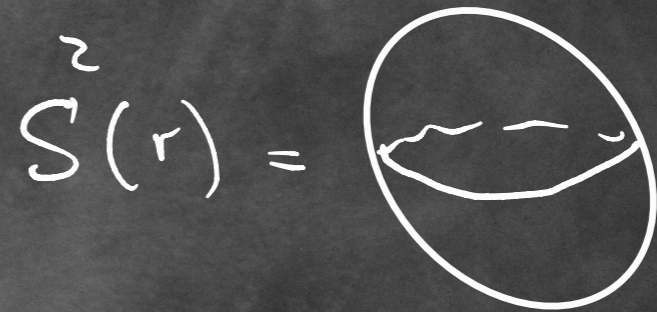
Study when these are non-degenerate/degenerate.

2. In a variety of contexts we compare objects by type and in many others by size.

Type (homotopy)

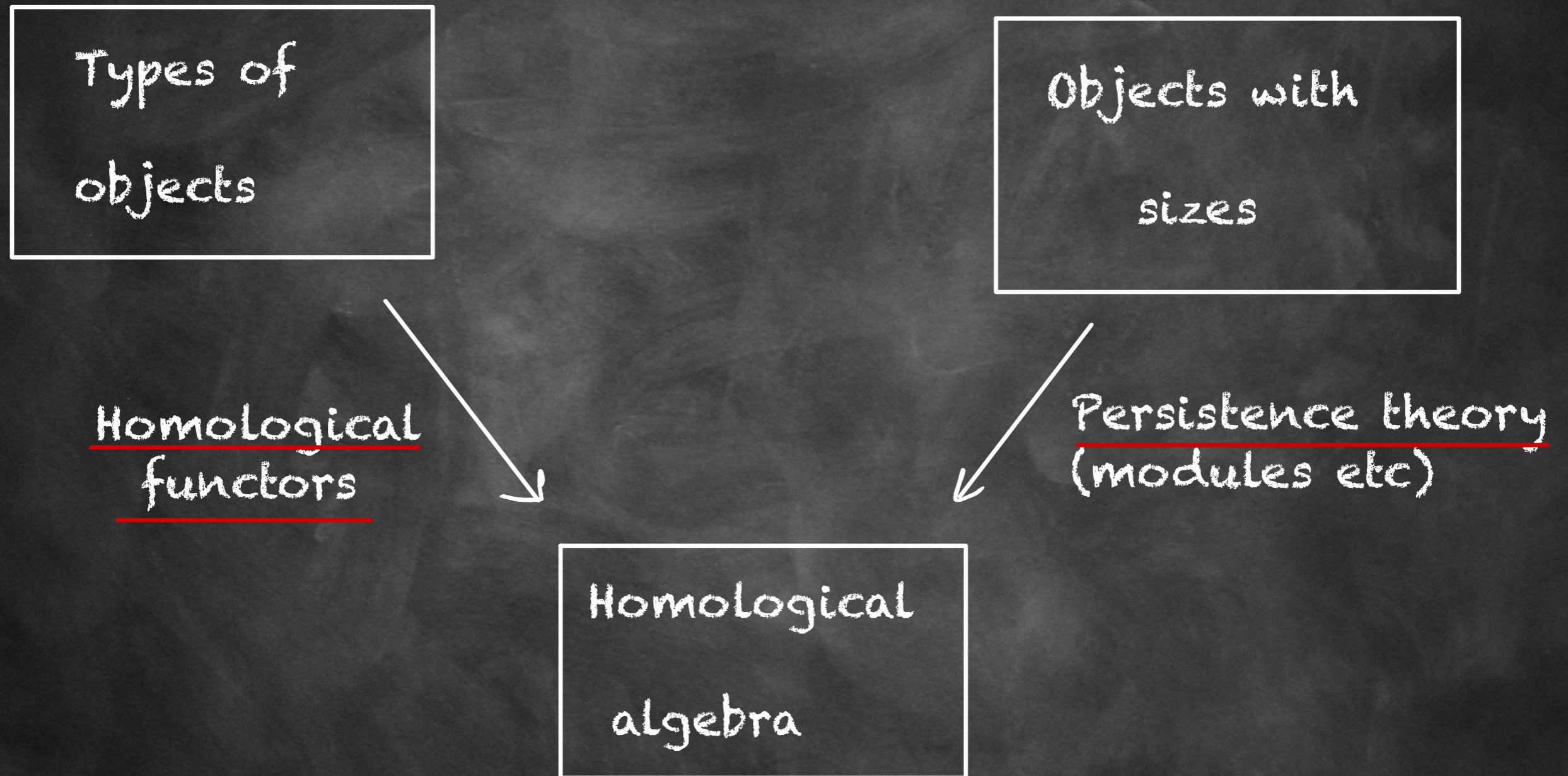


Size (volume)



Question 2: How to compare objects by taking into account the two points of view at the same time?

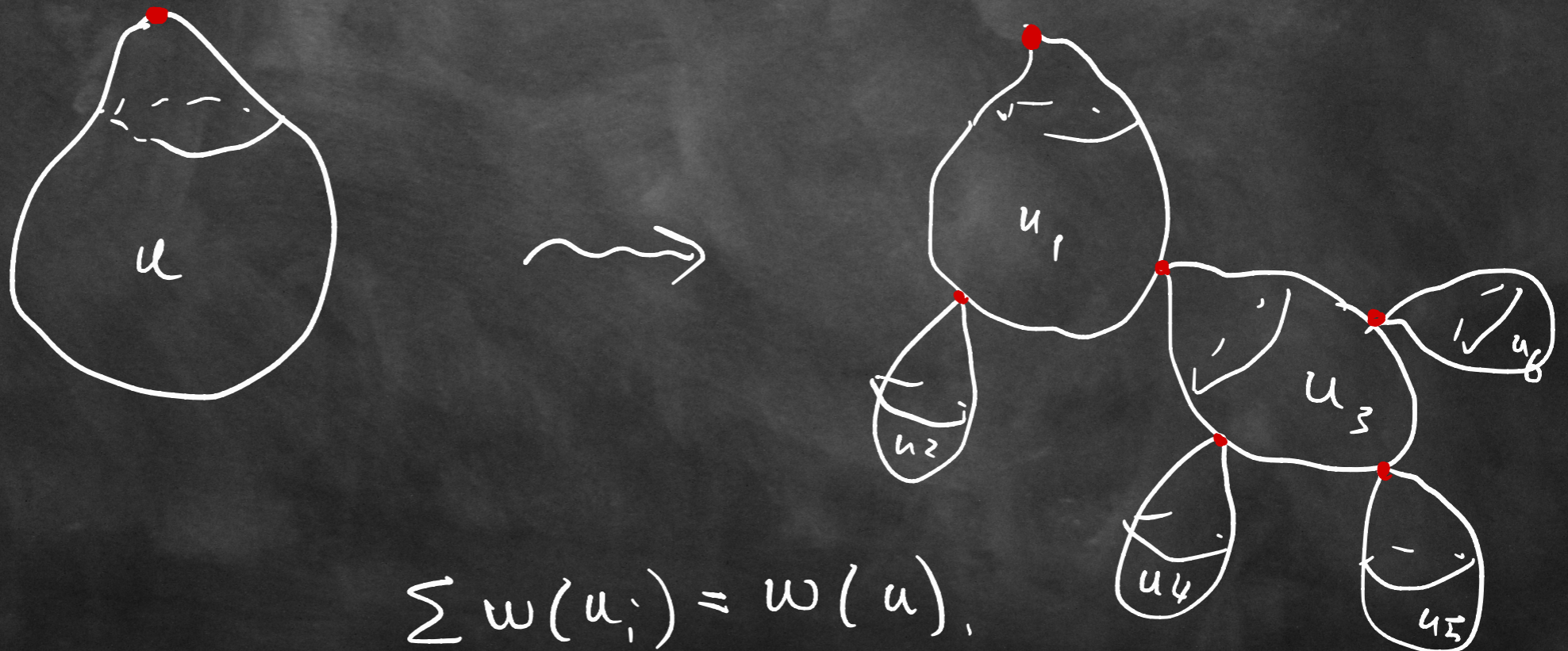
We will discuss a solution based on homological algebra.



Relevant notion: triangulated persistence category (TPC).

Remark. There is a fundamental reason why this is natural in symplectic topology:

Gromov compactness involves simultaneous, controlled changes in size (symplectic area) and of type (bubble trees).



## B. A brief introduction to TPCs

### 1. Triangular weights.

$\mathcal{C}$  = triangulated category (Verdier and Puppe early '60's).

$\mathcal{C} = (\mathcal{C}, T, \text{Tr})$ ,  $T =$  translation functor

$\text{Tr} =$  distinguished class of triangles

$$A \xrightarrow{f} B \longrightarrow C \longrightarrow TA$$

with functoriality properties similar to cone attachments in topology.

$$(C \sim \text{Cone}(f))$$

Remark: Triangulated categories are a bit "primitive" (more sophisticated notions: Quillen model categories; Waldhausen categories; stable categories).

In a triangulated category  $\mathcal{C}$  we will consider iterated distinguished triangles to build an object Y out of another X:

$$\eta = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \Delta_1: A_1 \longrightarrow \underline{X} \longrightarrow X_1 \longrightarrow TA_1 \\ \Delta_2: A_2 \longrightarrow X_1 \longrightarrow X_2 \longrightarrow TA_2 \\ \vdots \quad \vdots \quad \vdots \quad \vdots \quad \vdots \quad \vdots \\ \Delta_k: A_k \longrightarrow X_{k-1} \longrightarrow X_k \longrightarrow TA_k \\ \phantom{\Delta_k:} \phantom{A_k \longrightarrow} \phantom{X_{k-1} \longrightarrow} \phantom{X_k} = \underline{Y} \end{array} \right.$$

$\eta =$  iterated cone decomposition of  $Y$  from  $X$  with linearization  $\ell(\eta) = (A_1, A_2, \dots, A_k)$

Remark: Iterated cone decompositions are useful (and have been extensively used) to estimate "type" complexity.

Examples: Morse inequalities; Lusternik-Schnirelman inequality; Arnold conjecture inequality and more.

Method:

- choose a family of objects  $\mathcal{F}$
- define:

$$\varkappa^{\mathcal{F}}(X, 0) = \inf \left\{ \underline{k} \in \mathbb{N}^* \mid \exists \eta \text{ iterated cone decomposition of } X \text{ from } 0 \text{ with linearization } (A_1, A_2, \dots, A_{\underline{k}}) \text{ and } A_i \in \mathcal{F} \right\}$$



For instance:

- if  $\mathcal{L}$  is  $\Delta \text{Fuk}_{\text{ex}}(\mathbb{D}^*N)$  and  $\mathcal{F}$  is the module represented by one fiber  $F_x \subset \mathbb{D}^*N$ , then:

$$\# \text{Crit}(f: L \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \text{Max}) \sim \mathcal{F}^{\mathcal{F}}(L, 0) \geq \sum b_i(L)$$

Question ?

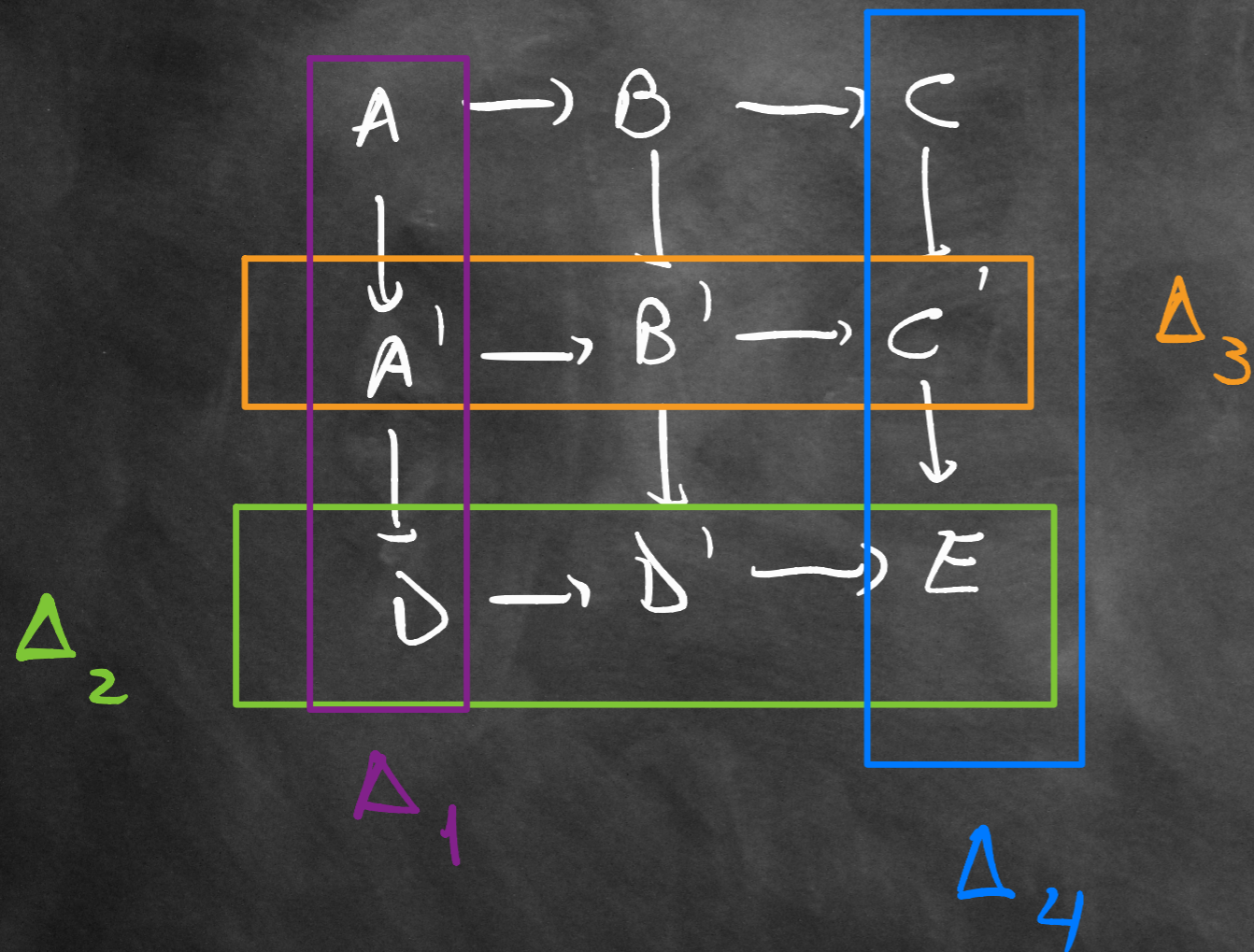
By the Arnold  
conj + FSS

Definition (triangular weight): A triangular weight  $w$  on a triangulated category  $\mathcal{C}$  is a function :

$$w: \text{Tr}(\mathcal{C}) \longrightarrow [\sigma, +\infty)$$

that satisfies

i) a weighted octahedral axiom,



$$\Delta_1, \Delta_2 \in \text{Tr}$$



$$\exists \Delta_3, \Delta_4 \in \text{Tr}$$

and

$$w(\Delta_3) + w(\Delta_4) \leq w(\Delta_1) + w(\Delta_2)$$

ii) a normalization axiom,

$$\exists w_0 \geq 0, w(\Delta) \geq w_0 \quad \forall \Delta \in T_r$$

and  $\forall X$   $w(\Delta_X) = w_0$

where  $\Delta_X : 0 \rightarrow X \xrightarrow{id} X \rightarrow 0$

Example: The flat weight -  $w_{fe}(\Delta) = 1, \forall \Delta \in T_r$

$$\delta_w^{\mathbb{Z}^2}(Y, X) = \inf \left\{ \sum_1^k w(\Delta_i) - w_0 \mid \eta = (\Delta_1, \Delta_2, \dots, \Delta_k) \right.$$

iterated cone decomposition of  $Y$  from  $0$

with  $l(\eta) = (F_1, \dots, T X_{1 \dots k}, F_k), F_i \in \mathbb{F}$

Weighted octahedral axiom  $\Rightarrow$

$$S^{\hat{F}}(X, Y) \leq S^F(X, Z) + S^F(Z, Y).$$

We can symmetrize:

$$d^{\hat{F}}(X, Y) = \max \left\{ S^F(X, Y), S^F(Y, X) \right\}$$

Thus  $d^{\hat{F}}(X, Y)$  is a pseudo-metric.

Crucial question: Are there non-trivial triangular weights?

## 2. Persistence categories.

Definition. A category  $\mathcal{C}$  is a persistence category if

for each two objects  $A, B \in \text{Ob}(\mathcal{C})$  the morphisms

$\text{Mor}(A, B)$  have the structure of persistence modules

$$\text{Mor}(A, B) = \left( \left\{ \text{Mor}^r(A, B) \right\}_{r \in \mathbb{R}}, \{i_{r, r'}\} \right)$$

$$i_{r, r'} : \text{Mor}^r(A, B) \longrightarrow \text{Mor}^{r'}(A, B), \forall r \leq r'$$

with the usual compatibility conditions and such that

persistence is compatible with composition:

$$\text{Mor}^r(A, B) \otimes \text{Mor}^s(B, C) \longrightarrow \text{Mor}^{r+s}(A, C)$$

Example: The elements of a filtered algebra  $A/\mathbb{Z}/2$  can be viewed as the morphisms of a persistence category with a single object.

Simple notions associated to a PC.

- r-equivalent morphisms  $f, g \in \text{Mor}^\alpha(A, B)$

$$f \simeq_r g \text{ if } i_{\alpha, \alpha+r}(f - g) = 0$$

- r-acyclic objects  $X \in \text{Ob}(\mathcal{C}), X \simeq_r 0$

$$\text{if } \text{id}_X \in \text{Mor}^0(X, X), i_{0, r}(\text{id}_X) = 0$$

- 0 and  $\infty$  slices. Categories  $\mathcal{C}_0, \mathcal{C}_\infty$  with the same objects as  $\mathcal{C}$  and with morphisms

$$\text{Mor}_{\mathcal{C}_0} = \text{Mor}_{\mathcal{C}}^0; \quad \text{Mor}_{\mathcal{C}_\infty} = \lim_{\alpha \rightarrow \infty} \text{Mor}_{\mathcal{C}}^\alpha$$

We will also need the notion of a shift functor.

$$\Sigma = \{ \Sigma^r \mid r \in \mathbb{R} \}$$

$\Sigma^r: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$  functor such that:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{M}_\alpha^s(A, B) &\cong \mathcal{M}_\alpha^{s-r}(\Sigma^r A, B) \cong \\ &\cong \mathcal{M}_\alpha^{s+r}(A, \Sigma^r B), \quad \forall r, s \end{aligned}$$

There are natural transformations  $\eta_r$  giving these isomorphisms and everything is compatible with the persistence structure.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \Sigma^r X & \xrightarrow{\Sigma^r f} & \Sigma^r Y \\ \eta_x^r \downarrow & & \downarrow \eta_y^r \\ X & \xrightarrow{f} & Y \end{array}, \quad \eta^r \in \mathcal{M}_\alpha^0$$

### 3. Triangulated persistence categories.

Definition. A TPC is a persistence category  $\mathcal{C}$  together with a shift functor  $\Sigma$  such that the 0-slice  $\mathcal{C}_0$  is triangulated, each  $\eta_X^r: \Sigma^r X \rightarrow X$  has an  $r$ -acyclic cone and the functors  $\Sigma^r$  are exact (+ compatibilities).

The most important property of a TPC is that we can define weighted triangles.



The definition is in two steps:

$\cong_r$

- a map  $A \xrightarrow{f} B$  is an r-isomorphism if it

embeds in an exact triangle in  $\mathcal{C}_0$

$$A \xrightarrow{f} B \longrightarrow C \longrightarrow TA$$

such that

$C$  is r-acyclic.

- a triangle  $A \longrightarrow B \longrightarrow C \longrightarrow T\Sigma^{-r}A$

is exact of weight r if there exists a distinguished

triangle in  $\mathcal{C}_0$  and a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} A & \longrightarrow & B & \longrightarrow & C' & \longrightarrow & TA \\ \parallel & & \parallel & & \downarrow \cong_r & & \\ A & \longrightarrow & B & \longrightarrow & C & \longrightarrow & T\Sigma^{-r}A \quad (+) \end{array}$$

Upshot: if  $\mathcal{L}$  is a TPC, then  $\mathcal{L}_\infty$  is triangulated  
and the weighted exact triangles as before induce a  
triangular weight on  $\mathcal{L}_\infty$ .

Thus, for a family of objects  $\mathcal{F}$

We have the associated pseudo-metrics:

$$d^{\mathcal{F}}(\cdot, \cdot)$$

on the objects of  $\mathcal{L}$

## C. Examples.

- metric spaces + Lipschitz maps \*
- topological spaces with additional structures \*  
inducing a filtration (such a real valued function)
- Tamarin categories
- homotopical category of filtered chain complexes  
(main algebraic example)
- homological category of a filtered, pre-triangulated dg-category

Remark: Some of these examples are not quite TPC's but naturally map to one ( $\mathcal{C}_0$  is not quite triangulated).

- DFuk(M)

$(M, \omega)$  exact symplectic manifold,  $\omega = d\lambda$

$\text{Ob}(\text{Fuk}(M)) = \left\{ (L, f) \mid \begin{array}{l} L \subset M \\ \text{Lagrangian, } f: L \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \\ d f = \lambda|_L \end{array} \right\}$

$\text{Fuk}(M) = \text{Filtered } A_\infty\text{-category}$

Not quite: it is only weakly filtered. Will neglect the distinction here.

$$\overline{Fuk}(M) \xrightarrow{\gamma} \text{Mod } \overline{Fuk}(M)$$

$\uparrow$   
 filtered modules /  $\overline{Fuk}(M)$

Complete  $\gamma(\overline{Fuk}(M))$  by cones :

$$\rightsquigarrow \overline{Fuk}(M)^\Delta$$

$$\Delta \overline{Fuk}(M) := H(\overline{Fuk}(M)^\Delta)$$

Corollary :  $\Delta \overline{Fuk}(M)$  is a TPC

Remark: The category  $(\mathcal{D} \text{Fuk}(M))_\infty$  coincides with the usual derived Fukaya category (forgetting filtrations)

Put  $\mathcal{C} = \mathcal{D} \text{Fuk}(M)$ . (finite)

Assume :

- $\mathcal{F} \subset \text{Ob}(\mathcal{C})$  generates  $\mathcal{C}_\infty$
- $\mathcal{F}'$  generic Hamiltonian perturbation of  $\mathcal{F}$

Theorem [BCS] :  $D = d^{\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{F}'}(-, -) = \max\{d^{\mathcal{F}}, d^{\mathcal{F}'}\}$

is non-degenerate.

$K(\mathcal{L}_0) =$  Grothendieck group of the 0-slice of  
 $\mathcal{L} = \Delta \text{Fuk}(M)$

- It is a huge abelian group

- It is endowed with a pseudo-metric  $\hat{\Delta}$  induced by  $\Delta$ .  
(translation invariant)

$$\hat{\Delta}(a, b) = \inf \{ \Delta(A, B) \mid [A] = a, [B] = b \}$$

Theorem (in progress) i)  $\hat{\Delta}$  is non-degenerate

ii)  $\text{Ham}(M) \xrightarrow{\Psi} GL(K(\mathcal{L}_0))$  induced by  
 $\phi(a) = [\phi(A)], [A] = a$  is injective.

iii) The representation  $\Psi$  induces a bi-invariant  
metric on  $\text{Ham}(M)$  that is bounded above by the  
Hofer norm.

Remark: There are examples when  $\hat{\Delta}$  is bounded and strictly smaller than the Hofer norm.

Thank You!

(and sorry not to be  
with you)