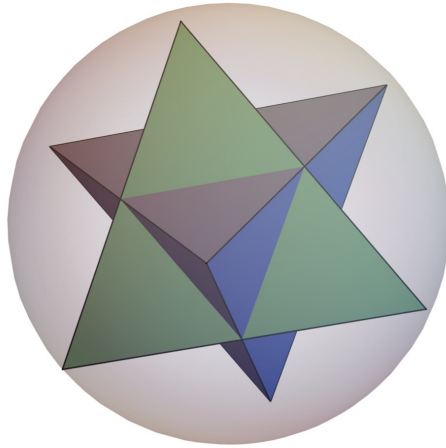


Vietoris-Rips complexes of manifolds



Henry Adams, University of Florida

THE GEOMETRIC REALIZATION OF AATR N

IMSI, CHICAGO, IL

AUG 18 - 22ND, 2025

IN CELEBRATION OF
THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF
AATR N

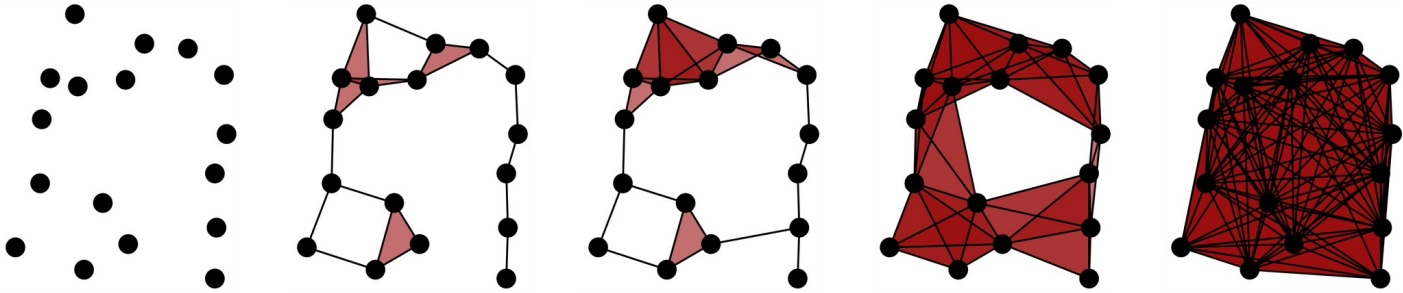


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Def X a metric space, $r \geq 0$. The Vietoris-Rips simplicial complex $VR(X; r)$ has

- vertex set X
- all simplices of diameter $< r$.



Stability (Chazal, de Silva, Oudot '14) $X \approx M \Rightarrow PH(VR(X; -)) \approx PH(VR(M; -))$.

For M a manifold, what can we say about $VR(M; r)$?

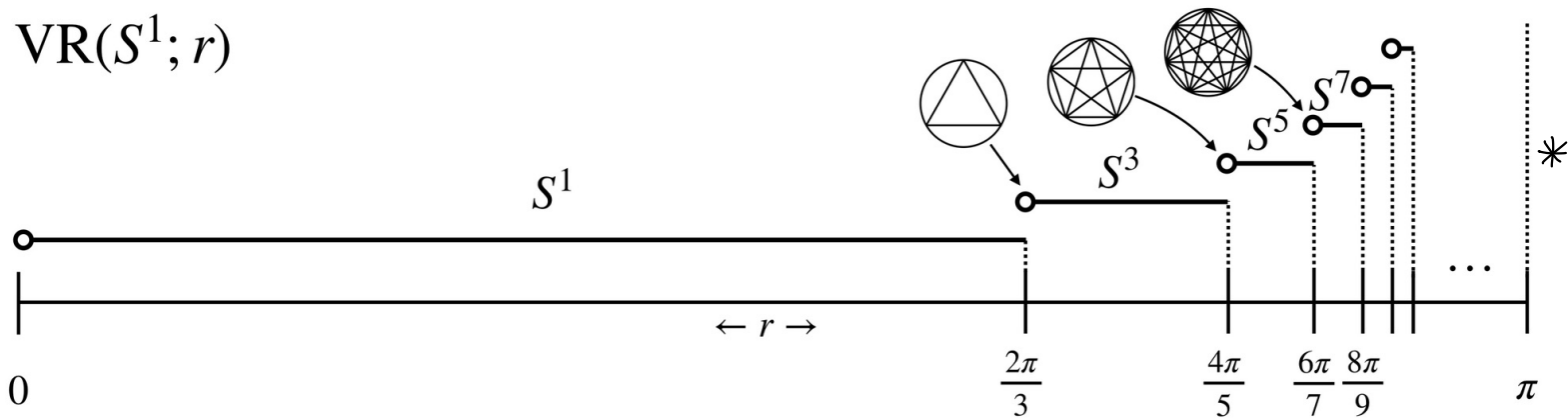
Hausmann '95 M compact Riemannian manifold $\Rightarrow VR(M; r) = M$ for all r sufficiently small.

The circle

Adamaszek, A. '17

$$VR(S^1; r) \approx \begin{cases} S^{2k+1} & \text{if } \frac{2\pi k}{2k+1} < r \leq \frac{2\pi(k+1)}{2k+3} \\ * & \text{if } r \geq \pi. \end{cases}$$

$VR(S^1; r)$



Moay '23

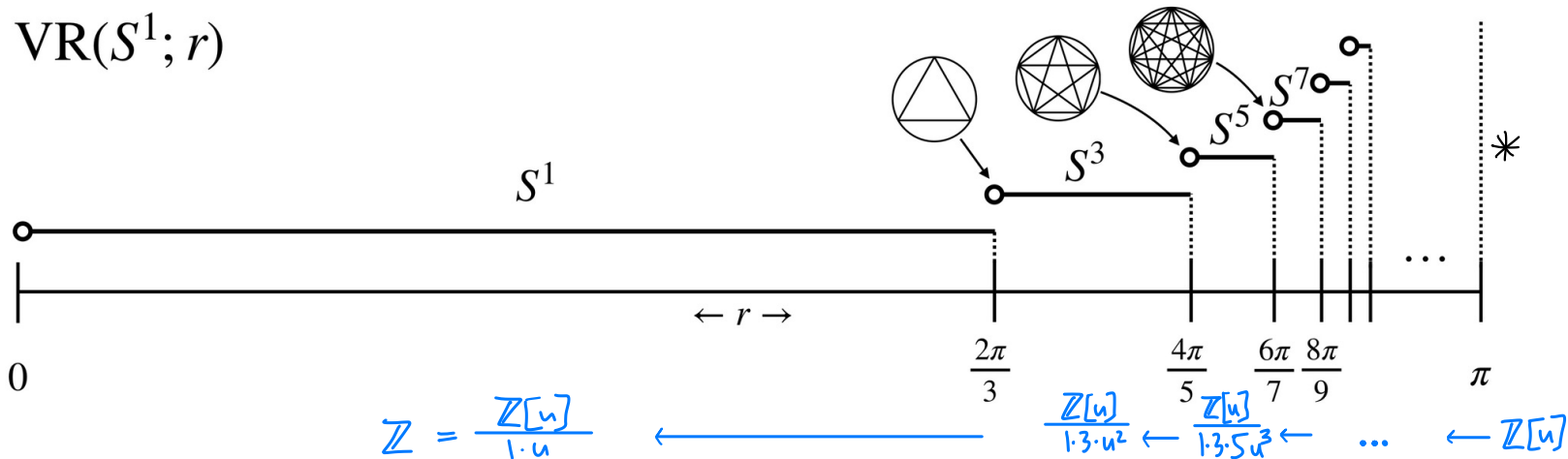
$VR_{\leq}^m(S^1; r)$

The circle

Adamaszek, A. '17

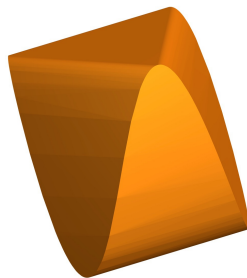
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$VR(S^1; r)$



A., Lagoda, Moy, Sadovek, de Saha '24

$$VR_{\mathbb{Z}}^m(S^1; r) \approx_{S^1} S^1 * S_3^1 * S_5^1 * \dots * S_{2k+1}^1$$



Stronger connections to Barvinok-Novik orbitope
Convex Hull $(\{e^{i\theta}, e^{i3\theta}, e^{i5\theta}, \dots, e^{i(2k+1)\theta}\} \in \mathbb{C}^{2k+2})$?

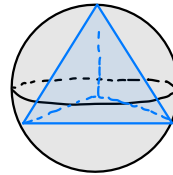
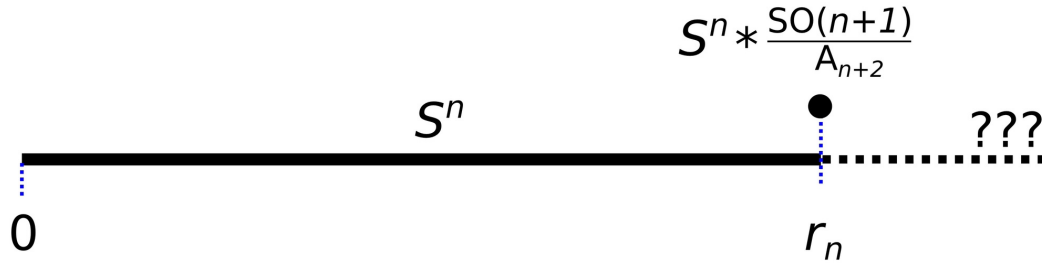
Barvinok, Novik '08

A., Bush, Frick '20

The n-sphere

Adamaszek, A., Frick '18

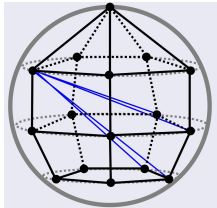
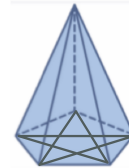
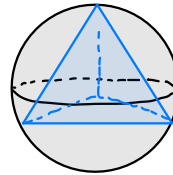
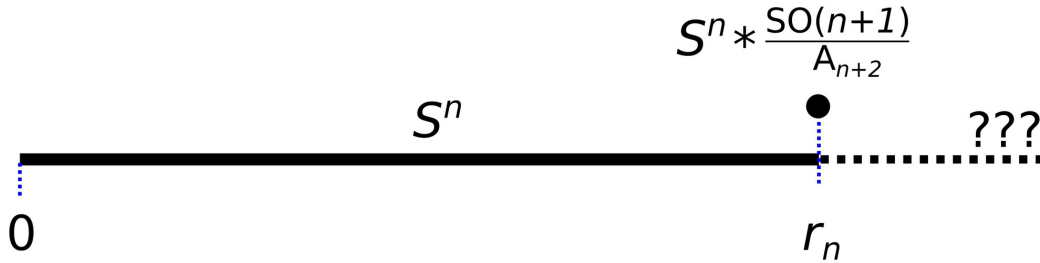
$$\text{VR}_\varepsilon^m(S^n; r) \simeq \begin{cases} S^n & \text{if } r < r_n = \arccos\left(\frac{-1}{n+1}\right) \\ S^n * \frac{SO(n+1)}{A_{n+2}} & \text{if } r = r_n. \end{cases}$$



The n-sphere

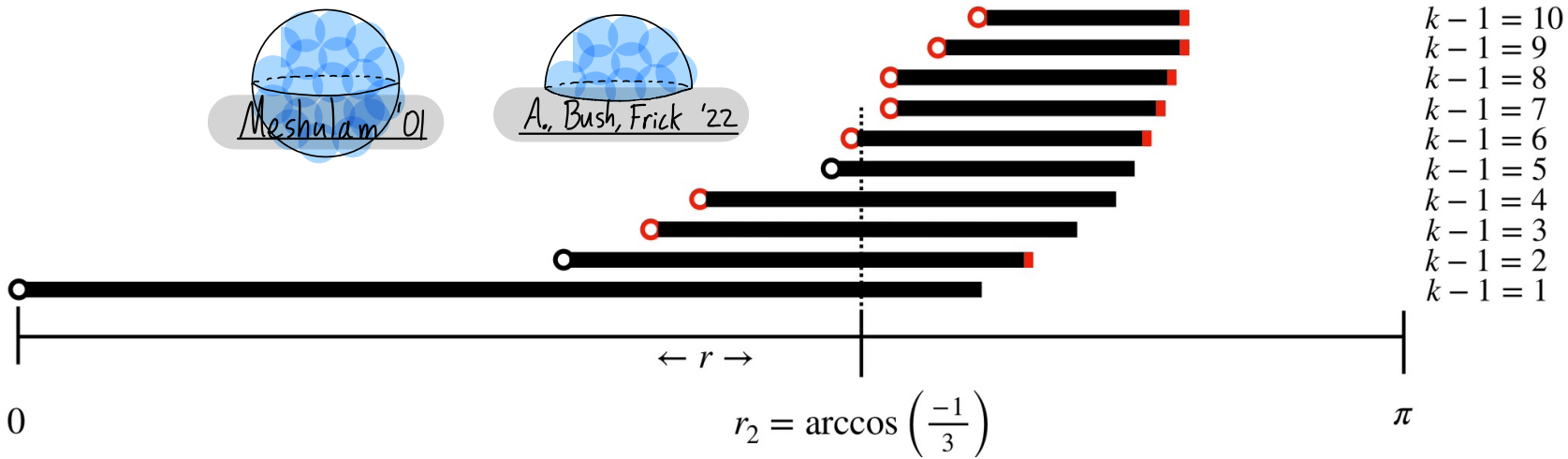
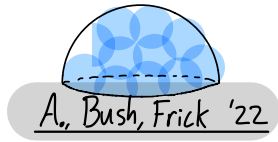
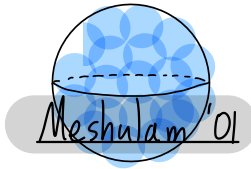
Adamaszek, A, Frick '18

$$VR_{\leq}^m(S^n; r) \approx \begin{cases} S^n & \text{if } r < r_n = \arccos\left(\frac{-1}{n+1}\right) \\ S^n * \frac{SO(n+1)}{A_{n+2}} & \text{if } r = r_n. \end{cases}$$



Conjecture Critical scales are diameters of strongly self-dual polytopes Lovász '83

A., Bush, Vick '24 If $\text{conn}(\text{VR}(S^n; \pi - \delta)) = k-1$,
 then $\text{cov}_{S^n}(2k+2) \leq \delta < 2 \cdot \text{cov}_{\mathbb{R}P^n}(k)$.



Corollary The homotopy type of $\text{VR}(S^n; r)$ changes infinitely many times.

Conjecture Only countably many times.

Conjecture $\text{conn}(\text{VR}(S^n; r))$ is nondecreasing in r .

Conjecture $\text{VR}(S^n; r) \simeq$ finite dim'l CW complex for all r .

Question Bounds on $h\text{-dim}(\text{VR}(S^n; r))$?

Proof sketch that $\delta \geq 2 \cdot \text{cov}_{\mathbb{R}P^n}(k) \Rightarrow \text{conn}(\text{VR}(S^n; \pi - \delta)) \leq k - 2$.

A., Bush, Frick '22

If the $\mathbb{Z}/2$ space $\text{VR}(S^n; \pi - \delta)$ were $(k-1)$ connected, we'd have $S^k \xrightarrow{\mathbb{Z}/2} \text{VR}(S^n; \pi - \delta)$.

This would contradict the Borsuk-Ulam theorem since if $\exists k$ closed balls $\{B(x_i; \delta/2)\}_{i=1}^k$ covering $\mathbb{R}P^n$, then $\exists \text{VR}(S^n; \pi - \delta) \xrightarrow{\mathbb{Z}/2} S^{k-1}$.

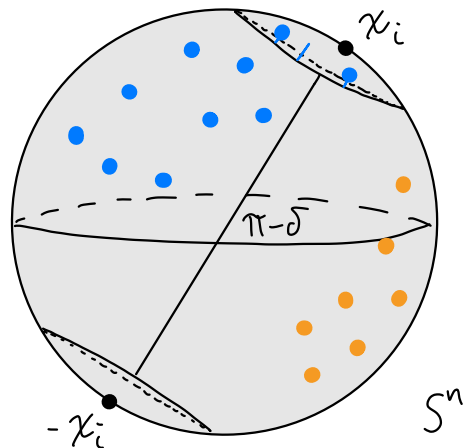
Indeed, no $\sum_j \lambda_j y_j \in |\text{VR}(S^n; \pi - \delta)|$ has vertex set intersecting both $B(x_i; \delta/2)$ and $B(-x_i; \delta/2)$.

Define $f_i: \text{VR}(S^n; \pi - \delta) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ by

$$f_i(\sum_j \lambda_j y_j) = \begin{cases} \sum_j \lambda_j d(y_j, S^n \setminus B(x_i; \delta/2)) & \text{if no } y_j \text{ in } B(-x_i; \delta/2) \\ -\sum_j \lambda_j d(y_j, S^n \setminus B(-x_i; \delta/2)) & \dots \quad B(x_i; \delta/2). \end{cases}$$

Hence $(f_1, \dots, f_k): \text{VR}(S^n; \pi - \delta) \xrightarrow{\mathbb{Z}/2} \mathbb{R}^k \setminus \{\vec{0}\}$.

Radially project to S^{k-1} .



Application Gromov-Hausdorff distances between spheres

$$2 \cdot d_{GH}(S^n, S^k)$$

	S^1	S^2	S^3	S^4	S^5	S^6	S^7
S^1	0	$\frac{2\pi}{3}$	$\frac{2\pi}{3} \geq \frac{4\pi}{5}$	$\geq \frac{4\pi}{5}$	$\geq \frac{6\pi}{7}$	$\geq \frac{6\pi}{7}$	
S^2		0	r_2				
S^3			0 $\geq r_3$				
S^4				0 $\geq r_4$			
S^5					0 $\geq r_5$		
S^6						0 $\geq r_6$	

Symmetric matrix
Nonzero entries in $(\frac{\pi}{2}, \pi)$

Lim, Memoli, Smith, 2021

A., Bush, Clause, Frick, Gómez,
Harrison, Jeffs, Lagoda, Lim,
Memoli, Moy, Sadovek, Superdock,
Vargas, Wang, Zhou 2023

Harrison, Jeffs 2024

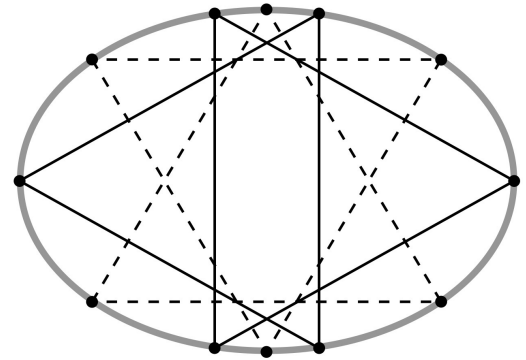
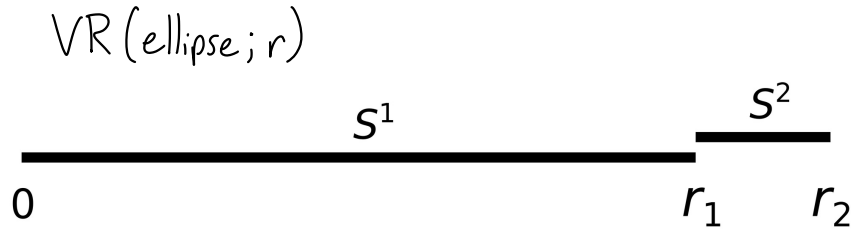
Main Theorem For $n < k$,

$$2 \cdot d_{GH}(S^n, S^k) \geq \inf \left\{ r \mid \exists \text{ cont. odd } S^k \rightarrow VR(S^n; r) \right\} \geq \pi - \text{COV}_{\mathbb{RP}^n}(k).$$

A., Bush, Frick, 2021

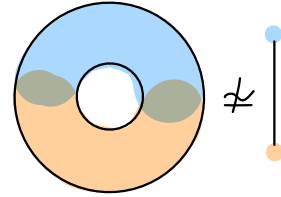
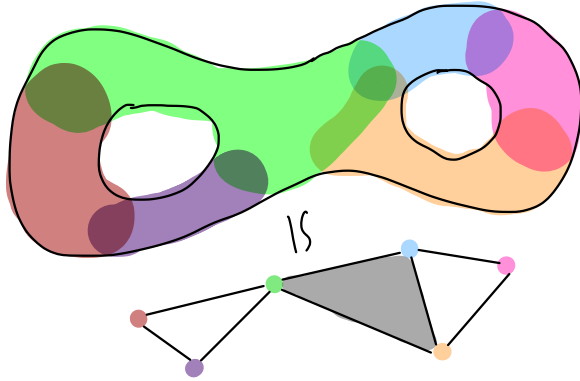
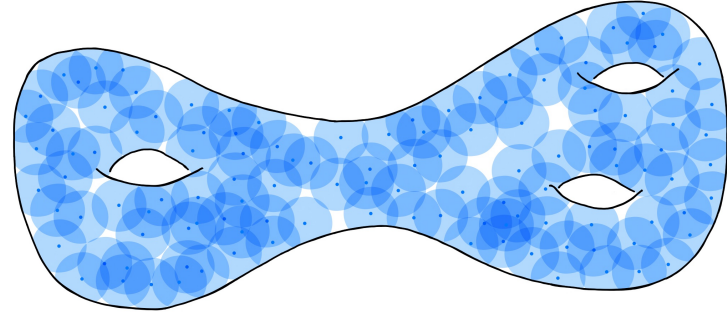
Open Questions

- $VR(M; r)$ for $M =$ spheres S^n , tori $(S^1)^n$, $\mathbb{C}P^n$, $\mathbb{R}P^n$, $Gr(n, k)$, Bolza surface $\mathbb{T}^2 \# \mathbb{T}^2$, ellipsoids?



- A Morse (or Morse-Bott) theory for $VR(M; r)$?
- (Intrinsic) Čech complexes of manifolds?

Def M a Riemannian manifold, $r \geq 0$. The (intrinsic) Čech simplicial complex $\check{C}(M; r)$ is the nerve of the balls $\{B(x; r)\}_{x \in M}$



For $r < \text{injectivity radius}$, the Nerve Lemma (Borsuk '48) implies $\check{C}(M; r) \approx M$.

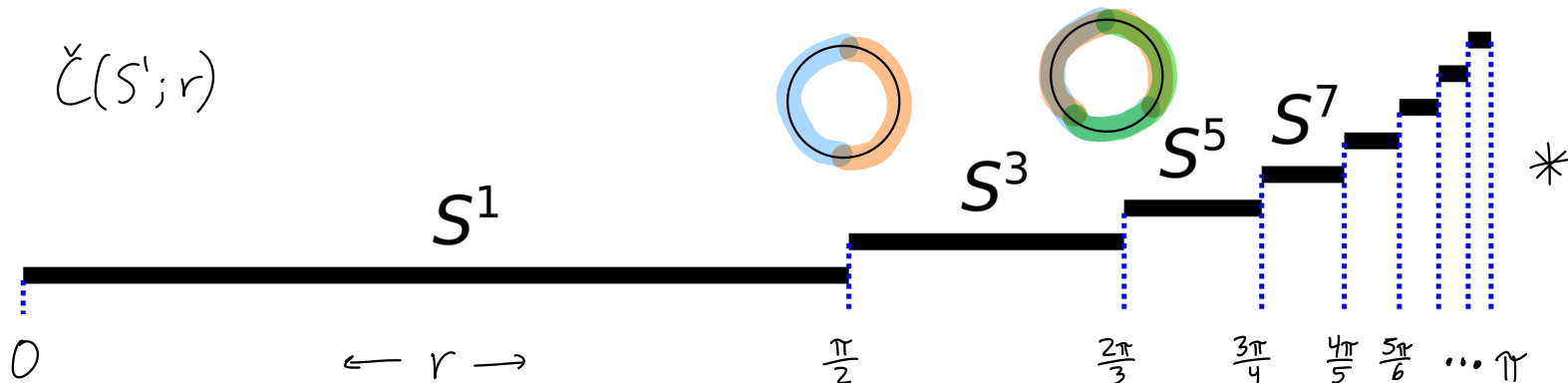
What about larger r ?

The circle

Adamaszek, A. 2017

$$\check{C}(S^1; r) \approx \begin{cases} S^{2k+1} & \text{if } \frac{k\pi}{k+1} < r \leq \frac{(k+1)\pi}{k+2} \\ * & \text{if } r \geq \pi. \end{cases}$$

$\check{C}(S^1; r)$



Conjecture $\check{C}(S^1; r) \approx_{S^1} S^1 * S^1_2 * S^1_3 * \dots * S^1_{k+1}$

Stronger connections to the Carathéodory orbitope
Convex Hull $(\{e^{i\theta}, e^{i2\theta}, e^{i3\theta}, \dots, e^{i(k+1)\theta}\} \in \mathbb{C}^{2k+2})$?

Carathéodory 1907

Adamaszek, A., Frick, Peterson, Previțe-Johnson 2018

Bush 2021

The n-sphere

$$\check{C}(S^n; r) \simeq \begin{cases} S^n & r \leq \frac{\pi}{2} \\ ? & \frac{\pi}{2} < r < \pi \\ * & r \geq \pi \end{cases}$$

$\check{C}(S^n; r)$

?

*

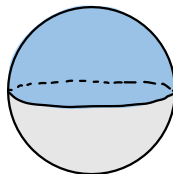


0

$\leftarrow r \rightarrow$

$\frac{\pi}{2}$

π

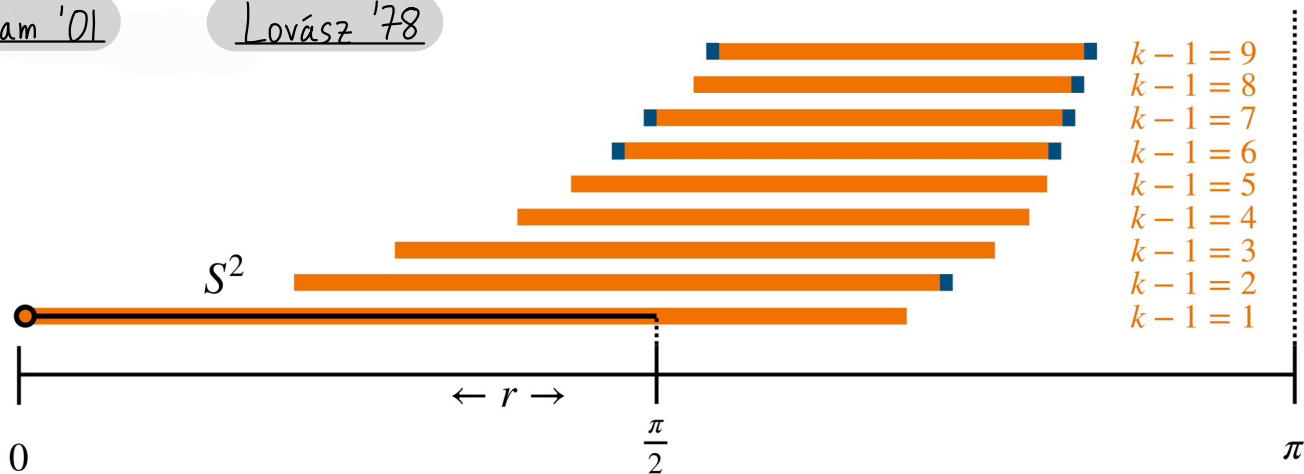


Is $\check{C}(S^n; \frac{\pi}{2} + \varepsilon)$ homotopy equivalent to a subset of $S^n * \mathbb{R}P^n$?

A., Jauhari, Mallick '25+ If $\text{conn}(\check{C}(S^n; \pi - \delta)) = k-1$,
 then $\text{cov}_{S^n}(2k+2) \leq \delta < 2 \cdot \text{cov}_{S^n}(k+1)$.

Meshulam '01

Lovász '78



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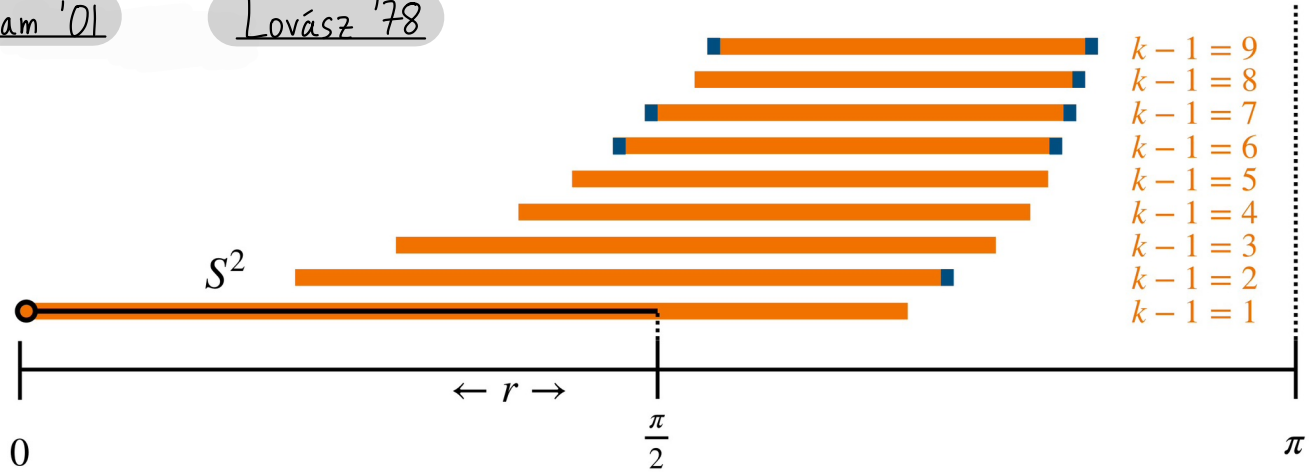
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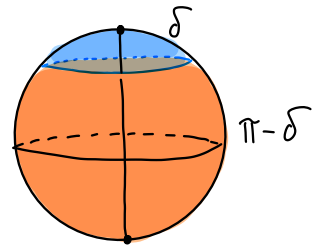
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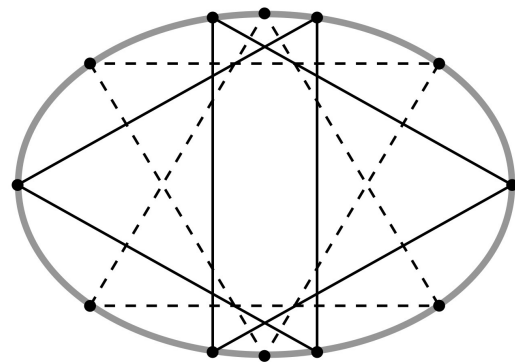
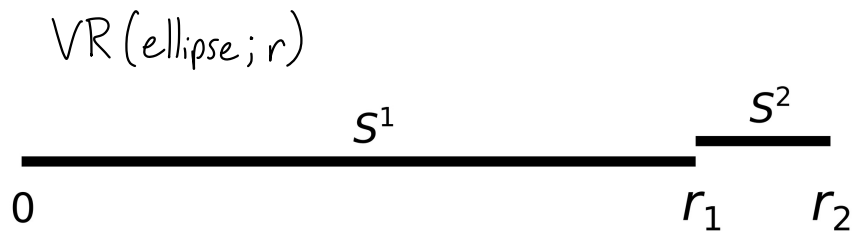
$$\chi(\text{Bor}(S^n; \delta)) \geq \text{conn}(\mathcal{N}(\text{Bor}(S^n; \delta))) + 3$$

$$= \text{conn}(\check{C}(S^n; \pi - \delta)) + 3.$$



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- A Morse (or Morse-Bott) theory for $VR(M; r)$ and $\check{C}(M; r)$?
- (Intrinsic) Čech complexes of manifolds? Spheres, tori, ...?
- Chromatic numbers of Borsuk graphs for scales $0 < \delta < \pi$.