



EXPLORING THE FOUNDATIONS AND APPLICATIONS OF SINGULAR HOMOLOGY

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ABSTRACT:

Singular homology and its applications in algebraic topology are the focus of this research paper, with emphasis on its foundations. This was primarily an attempt to explain the theoretical underpinnings of singular homology and its practical applications in various fields (mathematics, physics and computer science). We examined the entire body of existing literature, focusing on classics from Eilenberg and MacLane (1945) to Hatcher (2002) more recently.

The employment of a single homology in the resolution of intricate topological issues was identified by virtue of employing analytical methods, which applied theoretical concepts together with pragmatic examples. Results concluded that the employment of singular homology as an effective technique to distinguish between topological spaces was achievable through computation of these homological groups with high accuracy. It demonstrated how these groups give crucial information regarding the topological structure of spaces, which makes manifolds classifiable, and facilitate identification of invariants. Additionally, the use of singular homology for data analysis was highlighted, showing that it can help close the gap between abstract mathematical ideas and data interpretation in reality using persistent homologists.

Lastly, it was concluded that singular homology not only constitutes an integral component of algebraic topology but also finds extensive use with applications extending beyond pure mathematics. According to this research, the marriage of singular homology and computational methods has the potential to bring enormous benefits to both theoretical comprehension and practical application.

Keywords: Singular Homology, Algebraic Topology, Homology Groups, Topological Data Analysis, Mathematical Applications

(I) Introduction:

The cohomology and homology group theory has evolved to become one of the pillars of algebraic topology, providing deep insights into the intrinsic structure of topological spaces. Of these, singular homology is used quite extensively with great effectiveness to distinguish among various types and understand their structures along the algebraic axes. This essay will investigate the basic axioms of singular homology, explain its theoretical framework and its diverse applications across mathematics.

At its core, singular homology is concerned with classification of topological spaces in terms of holes, or more precisely, boundaries and cycles. Its basic building blocks are single simplices, i.e., continuous maps from standard simplices to a topological space, and respective chain complexes that allow one to compute homology groups. These sets, embodied in $(H_n(X))$, contain important information regarding (n) -dimensional holes in a space (X) . The ability of boundaries to interact with cycles allows us to construct homology classes, which are equivalence classes of cycles modulo boundaries, and thus set up a stable system to investigate topological invariants.

The use of singular homology isn't just limited to basic classification; it also provides links between topological and algebraic properties. One such example bridging the gap between homology and cohomology is the Universal Coefficient Theorem, which illustrates how a space's algebraic structure is derived from its topological properties. This is then complemented with the bar resolution, which gives a free resolution of the integers and allows one to compute homology groups of different algebraic structures such as groups and modules.

Beyond theoretical uses, singular homology has numerous applications. From data science to algebraic varieties and topological data analysis, singular homology has been instrumental in the discipline. In algebraic geometry, for example, the calculation of homology groups could possibly inform us about varieties' geometry, and in data science, topological data analysis (TDA) uses homological methods to identify features in data of high dimension. The versatility of singular homology highlights its applicability to current mathematical work and the promise for future investigation.

In addition, the study of such sophisticated subjects as cohomology, module theory, and free groups enriches the discussion of singular homology further. The relationship between these areas not only illuminates the essence of homological algebra better but also provides potential directions for further study in the future. For example, the study of stem covers and central extensions clarifies the relationships between groups and their cohomological dimensions and thereby adds to the broader area of algebraic topology.

We can say that in this paper, it will be an attempt to give an overview of singular homology and identify the major concepts, achievements, theory, and utility. We strive to use integrated literature to build new outcomes to contribute to current debate in algebraic topology and encourage future research attempts. The search for singular homology theory not only enhances the knowledge of topological spaces but also reinstates the association between algebra and topology and creates new avenues for novel solutions to abstract mathematical problems.

(II) Previous Paper Review:

2.1 Overview of Homology Theory

Homology theory originated with Henri Poincaré, who was the first to give the idea of topological invariants. Later work by mathematicians like Émile Borel and John simplicial complexes formed the foundation for contemporary homology theory. The basic ideas of simplicial and singular homology have been well addressed in some texts like Munkres (2000)

and Hatcher (2002). These articles give a complete introduction to the simplices, simplicial complexes, and building of the homology group.

2.2 Key Theorems and Results

Some of the basic findings in homology theory have been established, e.g., the equality of simplicial and singular homology groups. One of the significant theorems is Theorem 4.3 (discussed later in section 4 below): The zero-dimensional homology group of a complex K over Z is isomorphic to $Z^p = \bigoplus_p Z$ where p is the number of connected components of K . In addition, the Excision Theorem and the long exact sequence in homology have been pivotal in understanding how the homology groups of spaces connect with subspaces of those spaces.

2.3 Applications of Singular Homology

The applications of singular homology also extend into non-mathematical areas like data analysis and computational topology. The work of Edelsbrunner and Harer (2008) on persistent homology is merely one instance of the strength of homological techniques in being capable of dismantling features from hard datasets. Data science and topology have formed a new field of study and application.

(III) Methodology:

3.1 Definitions and Constructs

Central to the study of singular homology is the concept of a singular n -simplex, which is formally defined as a continuous map $\Delta^n \rightarrow X$ from the standard n -simplex Δ^n to a topological space X . The collection of all such singular n -simplices forms the singular chain group $C_n(X)$, an abelian group under addition. The intricate structure of these chains is revealed through the boundary operator, $\delta_n: C_n(X) \rightarrow C_{n+1}(X)$, defined by the equation:

$$\delta_n(\sigma) = \sum_i (-1)^i \sigma|_{[v_0, \dots, v_{i-1}, v_{i+1}, \dots, v_n]},$$

where $\delta_i: \Delta^{n-1} \rightarrow \Delta^n$ denote the face maps. Subsequently, the singular homology groups $H_n(X)$ are constructed as the quotient group $\text{Ker}(\delta_n)/\text{Im}(\delta_{n+1})$, capturing essential information about the topological space X .

3.2 Chain Complexes and Exact Sequences

We can characterize chain complexes to be a series of abelian groups with boundary operators connecting them. The homology groups are derived from them, and chain maps from complexes result in homomorphism between the homology groups of them. Exact sequences, crucial in this context, are chain complexes characterized by the condition that the null space of each transformation coincides with the range of the preceding one.

3.3 Relative Homology Groups

Relative homology groups are established for a topological space X and its subspace A , designed to reflect the homology of the corresponding quotient space X/A (Hatcher, A., 2002), (Munkres, J. R., 1984). This framework is significantly enhanced by the long exact sequence in homology, which provides a critical connection between the homology groups of a space, its subspace, and their quotient, thereby illuminating their intrinsic topological relationships.

(IV) Theorems and Proofs

4.1 “Connectedness” for Simplicial Complexes:

The idea of connectedness is central in topology, explaining whether a space exists as one, continuous whole. In combinatorial structures, like simplicial complexes, the idea is well defined and is a key to understanding their topological nature.

4.2 Re-exploring the Definition of a Connected Complex:

In algebraic topology, especially when dealing with combinatorial objects, a "complex" (typically implicitly a simplicial complex, considering the mention of 1-simplices) is a central object. Any complex K can be defined as "connected" if it cannot be written as "a disjoint union of two or more non-empty subcomplexes". This definition gives a strict topological requirement for a space (or its combinatorial realization) to qualify as one piece, unbroken. "Simplicial complexes are built up from fundamental building blocks known as simplices, with 0-simplices being vertices, 1-simplices being edges, and higher-dimensional simplices being put together by gluing these basic building blocks".⁵ This combinatorial formulation enables a clean algebraic handling of topological spaces.

4.3 The Idea of Path-Connectedness within Geometric Complexes:

Parallel to the abstract concept of connectedness is the more concrete idea of path-connectedness. For a geometric complex, path-connectedness would mean that for any pair of vertices in the complex, there is a series of 1-simplices (edges) that constitute a path joining them together. It offers a straightforward, constructive way of perceiving connectivity, and it proves useful in visualizing the shape of a complex. Definition of a "path-connected subcomplex" is important to use in the subsequent proofs, enabling separation of components according to reachability.

4.4 Proving that path-connectedness and connectedness are equivalent:

Theorem 4.1: For a complex K , path-connectedness is the same as connectedness (Path-connected \Leftrightarrow connected). This is a ubiquitous and well-accepted fact in algebraic topology, commonly seen in survey texts like Hatcher's "Algebraic Topology" or Munkres's "Elements of Algebraic Topology" (Hatcher, A., 2002). This equivalence is especially useful for simplicial complexes because it permits the application of a more concrete, graph-theoretic notion (edge paths) to establish a more formal topological property (disjoint decomposition), making the topological study of discrete structures easier. This property is essential to the usability of algebraic topology over simplicial complexes, making possible the use of combinatorial reasoning to infer topological properties, which provides the basis for computability aspects of simplicial homology (Singh, H. K., 2020).

Proof: The proof has been established by showing that two conditional statements are true, effectively proving an equivalence between two statements. This highlights the bidirectional nature of the proof.

- 1.) **Forward Direction (Path-connected \Rightarrow connected):** let us assume, just for the intention of showing contradiction that K is a path-connected but not connected. In this case if K is not connected, it could be partitioned into two non-empty or say disjoint subcomplexes which are L and M , such that $K=L \cup M$. Since we have assumed K as path-connected therefore there must exist a path which connect any vertex $l_0 \in L$ to any vertex $m_0 \in M$. Considering such a path which start at l_0 and end at m_0 . Here, let l_k be the last vertex in that route which is present within L . Then, the next vertex in the path, l_{k+1} , must be in M . So, the 1-simplex (edge) connecting l_k to l_{k+1} is part of the path and thus also the part of K . But, for this 1-simplex to exist as the part of K , it must be entirely contained either within L or within M (because L and M form a disjoint partition of K). If yet, it were in L , then it implies that l_{k+1} would also be in L , which contradict the choice of l_k being the last vertex in L . On other hand, if it were in M , then in this case l_k would be in M , which again contradict the assumption that $l_k \in L$. This leads to a contradiction and thus demonstrate that a path-connected complex must necessarily be connected.

2.) **Reverse Direction (i.e. Connected \Rightarrow Path-connected):** Conversing to the above assumption, here, let us assume, that K is a connected but is not a path-connected. This means that, since K being not path-connected, there exist at least two vertices which let be denoted by l_0 and m_0 , in K which cannot be connected by any path which is composed of 1-simplices. Being that, let L be the maximal path-connected subcomplex of K which contain l_0 , and let M be the maximal path-connected subcomplex which contain m_0 . Here, if L and M do share any common vertex, say v_0 i.e. $v_0 \in L \cap M$, then there arises a path that could be formed from l_0 to v_0 (because, $v_0 \in L$) and from v_0 to m_0 (because, $v_0 \in M$). on combining these two paths, there results in a route from l_0 to m_0 which directly oppose the initial assumption that such a route does not exist. So therefore, $L \cap M = \emptyset$. Because, L and M are non-empty subcomplexes whose union constitutes K (because every vertex in K must belong to some path-connected component), and they are disjoint also, this implies that K is not connected. These again contradict the initial assumption that K is connected. Thus, a connected complex must necessarily be path-connected. This specific equivalence is the cornerstone for building homology theory on combinatorial structures, which bridge the gap between the discrete, combinatorial nature of simplicial complexes and the continuous, topological properties they are meant to model.

4.5 The Zeroth Homology Group

Zero-dimensional homology group which is normally denoted as $H_0(K; \mathbb{Z})$, tells us crucial information about the connected components of a topological space. Its nature is heavily connected with the notion of an index homomorphism and the 0-chain equivalence.

4.6 The Index Homomorphism and Homology

Proposition 4.2: If we consider K as a connected complex, then for any 0-chain which be denoted as x , the condition $I(x) = 0$ is equivalent to $x \sim 0$ (i.e., x is homologous to 0). Furthermore, the 0th homology group i.e. $H_0(K; \mathbb{Z})$ is isomorphic to \mathbb{Z} . This statement is a starting point for the comprehension of the structure of the lowest-dimensional homology group in connected spaces. The index homomorphism which be denoted as I , is a map from the group of 0-chains $C_0(K)$ to \mathbb{Z} (the integers). For a 0-chain $x = \sum_i g_i a_i$ (where a_i are vertices and $g_i \in \mathbb{Z}$ are coefficients), $I(x)$ is the sum of its coefficients, $\sum_i g_i$.

Proof of Equivalence: $I(x) = 0$ and $x \sim 0$ (Rotman, J. J., 1998):

To prove Proposition 4.2 we proceed in two parts:

Part 1: $x \sim 0 \Rightarrow I(x) = 0$ (Rotman, J. J., 1998): When a 0-chain ' x ' is homologous to 0, it means that x is a boundary. According to definition - a 0-boundary is the image of a 1-chain under the boundary operator ∂_1 . That implies, $x = \partial_1 y$ for some 1-chain $y \in C_1(K)$. Let's consider a single 1-simplex $A_1 = (a_0; a_1)$ with coefficient g . Its boundary is $\partial_1(gA_1) = ga_1 - ga_0$. Applying the index homomorphism (as mentioned above), $I(\partial_1(gA_1)) = I(ga_1 - ga_0) = g - g = 0$. Because I is a homomorphism (i.e., $I(x+y) = I(x) + I(y)$), it follows that for any normal 1-chain $y = \sum_i g_i A_{1,i}$, its boundary $\partial_1 y$ will have $I(\partial_1 y) = \sum_i I(\partial_1(g_i A_{1,i})) = \sum_i 0 = 0$.⁵ Therefore, any 0-chain that is a boundary (and hence homologous to 0) must have an index of zero.

Part 2: $I(x) = 0 \Rightarrow x \sim 0$ and $H_0(K; \mathbb{Z}) \cong \mathbb{Z}$ (Rotman, J. J., 1998): Converse to Part 1, assume $I(x) = 0$ (Rotman, J. J., 1998). The purpose is to show that $x \sim 0$. Given that K is connected, then as per Theorem 4.1, it is also path-connected. This implies that any two vertices, say v and w , in K could be connected by a path of 1-simplices. Let this path be represented by a 1-chain $y = \sum_i 0q - 1gA_{1,i}$, where $A_{1,i} = (a_i; a_{i+1})$, with $a_0 = v$ and $a_q = w$ (Rotman, J. J., 1998). The

boundary of this chain be $\partial_1 y = gaq - ga_0 = gw - gv$. The index of this boundary is $I(\partial_1 y) = g - g = 0$. because $\partial_1 y$ is a boundary, it is homologous to 0. This implies $gw - gv \sim 0$, or equivalently, $gw \sim gv$. This basic result shows that any two vertices in a connected complex are homologous. Let, consider an arbitrary 0-chain $x = \sum_i g_i a_i$. Since each vertex a_j is homologous to a fixed reference vertex v (i.e., $a_j \sim v$), it indicates that $x \sim \sum_i g_i i v = (\sum_i g_i i) v$ (Rotman, J. J., 1998). Recognizing that $\sum_i g_i = I(x)$, which could be written as $x \sim I(x)v$ (Rotman, J. J., 1998). Hence, when $I(x)=0$, then $x \sim 0v = 0$. This establishes the proof of the equivalence $I(x) = 0 \Leftrightarrow x \sim 0$ (Rotman, J. J., 1998).



4.7 Isomorphism to \mathbb{Z}

In singular homology, the 0^{th} homology group, denoted $H_0(K; \mathbb{Z})$, fundamentally defined as quotient of 0-cycles ($Z_0(K)$) by 0-boundaries ($B_0(K)$) (Rotman, J. J., 1998). For a connected complex K , this group is isomorphic to the integers \mathbb{Z} , a property as explored in Proposition 4.2. In singular homology, the boundary operator ∂_0 mapping from 0-chains to $C^{-1}(K)$ is conventionally defined as the zero map, implying that $C^{-1}(K)$ is trivial. Consequently, all 0-chains are considered 0-cycles, leading to the equivalence $Z_0(K) = C_0(K)$ (Frost, P., 2021). As demonstrated, the kernel of the index homomorphism I precisely corresponds to the set of 0-boundaries, $B_0(K)$, establishing the equivalence $x \sim 0 \Leftrightarrow I(x) = 0$. The homomorphism $I: C_0(K) \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$ is surjective, given that any integer $g \in \mathbb{Z}$ can be represented as the index of a 0-chain formed by g times a 0-simplex v (i.e., $I(gv) = g$). This surjectivity implies that $I(Z_0(K)) = \mathbb{Z}$. Therefore, by applying the First Isomorphism Theorem, the 0-dimensional homology group $H_0(K; \mathbb{Z})$ can be expressed as the quotient $Z_0(K)/\ker(I)$, which simplifies to $Z_0(K)/B_0(K)$, and is thus isomorphic to \mathbb{Z} (Rotman, J. J., 1998).

4.8 Homology and Connected Components

Theorem 4.3: For any complex K , its zero-dimensional homology group over the integers, $H_0(K; \mathbb{Z})$, is isomorphic to $\mathbb{Z}^p = \bigoplus_p \mathbb{Z}$, where p denotes the numbers of connected-components of K . This result logically follows from the equivalence of path-connectedness and connectedness established in Theorem 4.1, combined with Proposition 4.2, which details the structure of H_0 for a single connected component. Moreover, this result is widely recognized and forms a cornerstone of singular homology theory, often discussed in texts such as Hatcher's "Algebraic Topology" or Munkres's "Elements of Algebraic Topology" (Hatcher, A., 2002).

The calculation of $H_0(K; \mathbb{Z})$ as \mathbb{Z}^p for a complex K with p connected components reveals a profound topological invariant that directly quantifies the "number of pieces" of a space. The algebraic structure of $H_0(K; \mathbb{Z})$ directly mirrors the geometric concept of connected components. Consequently, each connected component of the space contributes an independent factor of \mathbb{Z} to the 0-dimensional homology group. This arises because, within each component, all 0-chains are homologous to an integer multiple of a designated vertex, and the distinct topological nature of these components results in the 0-dimensional homology group being the direct sum of \mathbb{Z} for every component. The 0-dimensional homology group, $H_0(K; \mathbb{Z})$, is formed as the direct sum of \mathbb{Z} for each connected component of the complex. This structure reflects that within each component, all 0-chains are homologous to an integer multiple of a chosen

vertex, and the components themselves are topologically distinct; (Mahima Ranjan Adhikari's "Basic Algebraic Topology and its Applications"). This property is often the first characteristic computed when analyzing a topological space. The consistency of this result across different theories of homology, such as simplicial versus singular homology (Bredon, G. E., 1993), underscores its robustness as a topological invariant. This fundamental result provides algebraic meaning to a very intuitive geometric concept, making homology groups a powerful tool for classifying and understanding the basic structure of topological spaces.

4.9 The Excision Theorem

In algebraic topology, the Excision Theorem serves as an effective instrument for simplifying the calculation of relative homology groups through allowing certain subspaces to be "cut out" or "excised" without altering the homology.

4.9.1 Statement of the Excision Theorem

Theorem 4.4 (Excision Theorem) (Eilenberg, S. et al., 1952): "Let X be a topological space, and let A and Y be subspaces of X such that $Y \subset A \subset X$. If the closure of Y (denoted \bar{Y}) is contained within the interior of A (denoted $\text{int}(A)$), then the inclusion map of the pair $(X \setminus Y, A \setminus Y)$ into (X, A) induces an isomorphism on their relative homology groups for all dimensions n . Formally, the induced homomorphism $H_n(X \setminus Y, A \setminus Y) \rightarrow H_n(X, A)$ is an isomorphism for all n ." (Rotman, J. J., 1998) A basic principle in algebraic topology, the Excision Theorem (Eilenberg, S. et al., 1952), which is also known as one of Eilenberg-Steenrod axioms for homology theories (Eilenberg, S. et al., 1952). This theorem is important as it enables the simplification of homology calculations by permitting the removal or 'excision' of specific subspaces without affecting the relative homology groups.

4.9.2 Intuitive Proof Sketch: Role of Barycentric Subdivision and Chain Homotopy

While there are technicalities involved in the detailed proof of the Excision Theorem, it's underlying geometric intuition is very clear (Rotman, J. J., 1998). The basic idea revolves around - modifying the given relative cycle in (X, A) to one that avoids the excised subspace Y , without changing its homology class.

The central strategy involves repeatedly subdividing the simplices that constitute a relative cycle in (X, A) . This is achieved through barycentric subdivision, a combinatorial process that replaces each simplex with a collection of smaller simplices (Eilenberg, S. et al., 1952). This subdivision is iterated until every simplex in the resulting chain is entirely contained within either the interior of A or the interior of $X \setminus Y$ (Rotman, J. J., 1998). This is feasible because the interiors of A and $X \setminus Y$ form an open cover of X , and singular simplices are compact, ensuring that such a subdivision can be achieved within a limited as well as predetermined numbers of steps (Rotman, J. J., 1998).

Critical aspect in this process is that barycentric subdivision does not alter the homology class of the original chain (Rotman, J. J., 1998). This is guaranteed by the existence of a specific relationship, defined by a sequence of homomorphisms, that exists between the operation of refining a space's structure (subdivision) and the action of a transformation that leaves homology classes unchanged (identity map) within the framework of homology theory (Rotman, J. J., 1998). A chain homotopy essentially provides a "path" between two chain maps, ensuring that when they are applied to a topological space, produce identical homomorphisms between the homology groups of the spaces involved. This property is fundamental to many proofs in homology theory, confirming that the refinement of simplices does not change the algebraic invariants. The Excision Theorem's proof relies on this powerful technique of barycentric subdivision and the concept of chain homotopy, which are central to establishing many fundamental results in algebraic topology beyond just excision. This highlights a broader methodological principle in the field. The ability to subdivide simplices arbitrarily finely allows for the "localization" of chains within specific open sets. This localization, combined with the homology invariance under subdivision, is the core mechanism

that enables the Excision Theorem. It allows for the effective "removal" of parts of the space (those contained in $\text{int}(Y)$) without altering the homology, because any cycles in that region are homologous to cycles outside it.

Once all simplices in the subdivided chain are localized to either $\text{int}(A)$ or $\text{int}(X \setminus Y)$, any terms (simplices) that lie entirely within $\text{int}(Y)$ can be effectively "excised" or removed from the relative cycle without altering its homology class in $H_n(X, A)$ (Rotman, J. J., 1998). This is because such simplices, being entirely within A , can be shown to be boundaries within A , and thus trivial in relative homology modulo A . The entire process demonstrates that every relative cycle in the pair (X, A) is homologous to a cycle, representing the same relative homology class, which completely avoids Y . This mathematical relationship ensures that when a specific portion (Y) is removed from a topological space (X) and its subspace (A), creating a modified region (X without Y , and A without Y), the way this modified region naturally fits within or is considered part of the original, complete space (X, A) leads to a profound structural equivalence concerning their fundamental "shapes" or "holes" (A Dictionary of Mathematics) (Ghrist, R., 2008), because it directly and perfectly matches the characteristic loops, voids, or higher-dimensional "holes"—known as cycles in topology—that exist within the smaller, altered region with equivalent loops or "holes" in the full, initial space, thereby maintaining the essential topological characteristics (Rotman, J. J., 1998). This methodological approach – transforming geometric problems into algebraic ones (via chain complexes) and then using algebraic tools (like chain homotopies) to prove topological invariants – is a recurring and powerful theme throughout algebraic topology. The Excision Theorem is a prime example of this interplay, demonstrating how local conditions ($Y \subset \text{int}(A)$) can lead to global homology isomorphisms.

For a detailed and rigorous treatment of the Excision Theorem and its proof, readers are suggested to consult advanced texts such as Allen Hatcher's "Algebraic Topology" (specifically page 119) or Joseph J. Rotman's "An Introduction to Algebraic Topology" (Eilenberg, S. et al., 1952). These texts provide the technical details of the chain homotopy (e.g., the "T operator" discussed in) (May, J. P., 1999) that makes the proof work.

(V) Findings:

The study of singular homology reveals several basic findings:

- (i) Topological Invariants: Homology groups are robust topological invariants, enabling the classification of spaces according to their intrinsic properties.
- (ii) Homotopy Invariance: Homotopy invariance of singular homology is that any space homotopic to another induces homologous homology groups, and thus homotopic spaces verify homologous.
- (iii) Data Analysis Applications: The methods obtained from singular homology, especially in persistent homology, have far-reaching applications in data analysis and computational topology.

(VI) Conclusion:

Singular homology is a pillar of algebraic topology, providing a robust tool for studying and classifying topological spaces. This algebraic tool offers a methodical way to comprehend the inductive properties of spaces based on algebraic invariants, which play a pivotal role in separating various topological structures. The fundamental theories of singular homology, such as singular simplices, chain complexes, and the boundary operator, are the foundation that most of contemporary topology is constructed upon.

In its fundamental form, singular homology is characterized by continuous functions from standard simplices to topological spaces so that singular chains can be constructed. With the chains and boundary operator, homology groups can be defined, which contain vital information regarding the topology of the space. The quotient form of homology groups, $H_n(X) = \text{Ker}(\delta_n)/\text{Im}(\delta_{n+1})$, beautifully relates cycles to boundaries and offers a direct route to insight into connectivity and holes in a space.

Their homology group properties, including the fact that they can be used as topological invariants, are especially significant. They enable mathematicians to put spaces into homeomorphism classes, i.e., spaces with the same homology groups will be topologically equivalent. This characteristic proves highly valuable across diverse mathematical disciplines, including algebraic geometry, differential topology, and mathematical physics, given that the topological attributes of spaces significantly influence physical system behavior.

Additionally, the interdependence between homology groups of connected components, as pointed out in the paper, serves to stress the applicability of singular homology in comprehending the structure of more sophisticated spaces. As an example, $H_0(X)$ tells us about the number of path-connected components in a space, and information about higher-dimensional holes is conveyed through the higher-dimensional homology groups. Such multi-aspect analysis of spaces makes singular homology a highly adaptable tool in both theoretical studies and real-world applications.

The article also explores the equivalence of singular homology and simplicial homology, showing that these two methods give identical algebraic invariants for simplicial complexes. This equivalence not only establishes the strength of homological techniques but also provides doors for importing technology from one field to another. With scientists continuing to study the relationships between various homology theories, the lessons learned will certainly make us better understand topological spaces.

Aside from its theoretic significance, singular homology has a number of practical applications across various fields. Singular homology is a fundamental tool in algebraic topology for proving results about the classification of manifolds and studying fiber bundles. Within applied mathematics, singular homology is utilized within the domain of 'data analysis', particularly in what is known as 'topological data analysis (TDA)', for identifying significant characteristics in complex, high-dimensional datasets. This capability of representing the shape and structure of data through homological techniques has enabled new machine learning and data science techniques, which in turn has brought back focus on singular homology under these circumstances.

With continuous developments in topology studies, the role of singular homology will definitely expand, paving the way for future discovery and breakthroughs. The creation of computational methods and software to calculate homology groups will bring these concepts to the masses, with more individuals having access to utilize and implement homological methods. Since interdisciplinary collaborations are on the rise, the integration of solo homology into other mathematical frameworks will definitely yield new means of solving complex problems.

In a broad sense, singular homology is more than an abstract area of mathematics; it is part of the mathematical universe that unifies many areas and deepens our comprehension of the world. Its roots, properties, and applications all highlight its significance in theoretical and applied mathematics. As we peer deeper into the rich tapestry of algebraic topology, singular homology will still be a key player, guiding researchers towards new frontiers and further enriching our comprehension of topological spaces' intricate interconnections.

(VII) Future Research:

Other areas of future research in singular homology are:

- a. Computational Techniques: Creating efficient algorithms for homology group calculation in complex spaces, particularly high-dimensional space.
- b. Interdisciplinary Applications: Exploring the applications of singular homology in machine learning, neuroscience, and materials science.
- c. Generalizations of Homology: Discuss generalizations of singular homology such as persistent homology and sheaf cohomology to capture more subtle topological features.

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