# If You Must Choose Among Your Children, Pick the Right One 

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## Smooth Morse Theory

The Torus



- Critical points
- Index of a critical point


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- Morse inequalities


## Discrete Morse Theory: Three Flavors

## Algebraically

A function $f: K \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that:
$|\{\beta \succ \sigma \mid f(\beta) \leq f(\sigma)\}| \leq 1$,
and
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## Problem

Simplicial complexes generated from point data have function values assigned to the vertices. How does one construct a discrete Morse function that:

- minimizes the number of critical simplicies
- agrees with the data?



## King, Knudson and Mramor

## Extract

- Input: simplicial complex $K$, injective function $f_{0}: K_{0} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$
- Output: A discrete Morse function $f: K \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, with $\left.f\right|_{K_{0}}=f_{0}$
- ExtractRaw and ExtractCancel
- Recursive call on $\operatorname{link}_{K}(v):=\overline{\operatorname{star}}_{K}(v) \backslash \operatorname{star}_{K}(v)$



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## Hasse Decoration

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- $\rho(\sigma)$, its rightmost child
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Analysis of ExtractRaw

- Runtime lower bounded by $\Omega\left(n^{2} \log n\right)$
- Space complexity unknown


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