

# Topological Complexity of Configuration Spaces of Trees

Steve Scheirer

September 19, 2016

The topological complexity of a space  $X$ , denoted  $TC(X)$ , is a positive integer which is related to the problem of motion planning within  $X$ . It can be thought of as the minimum number of continuous rules needed to describe how to move between any two points of  $X$ . The space  $X$  can often be interpreted as a configuration space in some real-life system. We will mention some of the tools for computing  $TC(X)$  and then discuss the topological complexity of the configuration space of  $n$  points on a tree.