Time point

Curvilinear distance

The curvilinear distance approximately gives the total amount of change between two points.

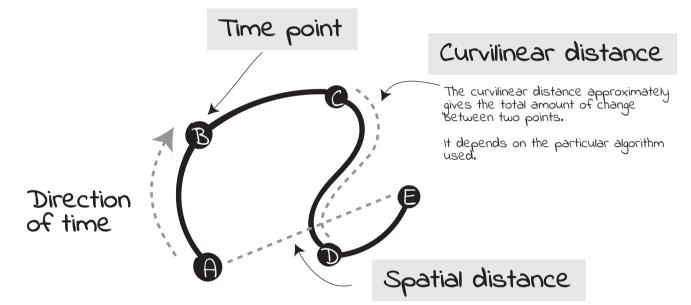It depends on the particular algorithm used.

Direction of time

Spatial distance

The spatial distance is what you get if you place a ruler between two time points and measure the distance.

It gives the difference between two time points as measured by the similarity metric.

https://visualizationcheatsheets.github.io