

FLAT NORM DECOMPOSITION OF INTEGRAL CURRENTS

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with

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Washington State University

preprint on arXiv



CURRENTS

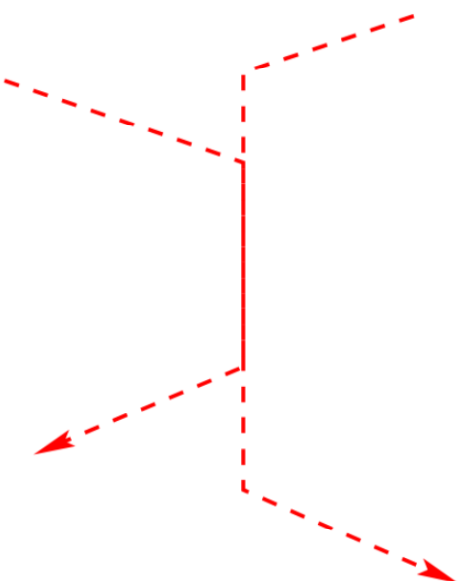
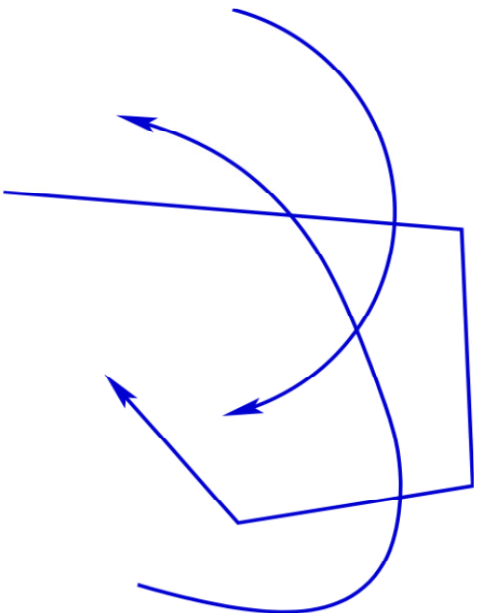
- * generalized surfaces with multiplicities & orientation
 - in GMT; isoperimetric problems, soap bubble conjectures

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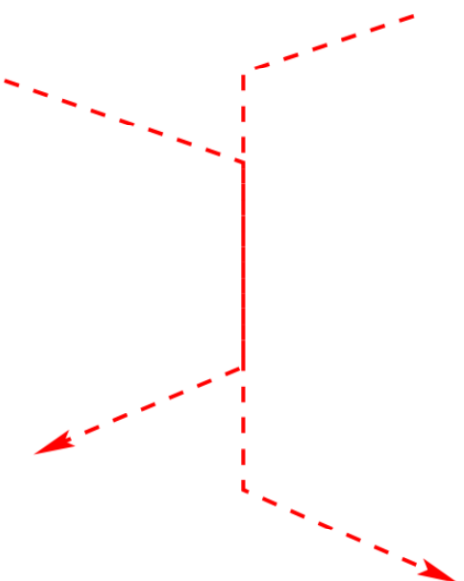
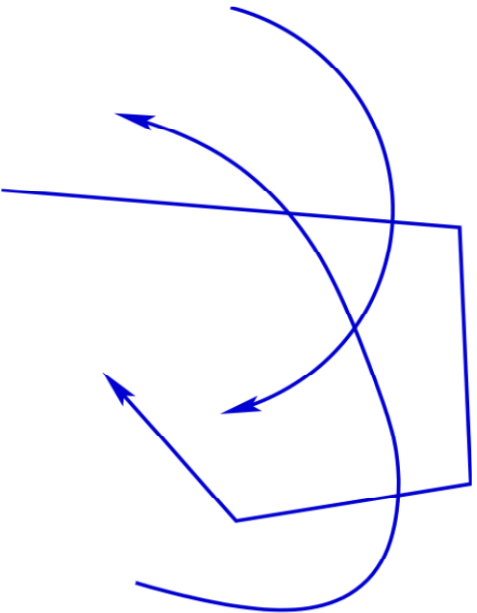
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- * generalized surfaces with multiplicities & orientation
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 - we consider integer multiplicities
- e.g., 1D-current: collection of oriented curves in \mathbb{R}^d



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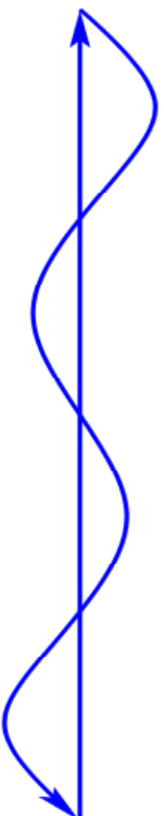
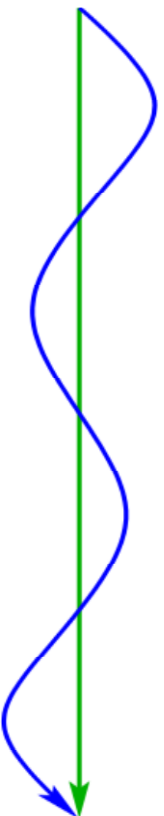
- * generalized surfaces with multiplicities & orientation
 - in GMT; isoperimetric problems, soap bubble conjectures
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- e.g., 1D-current: collection of oriented curves in \mathbb{R}^d



- * mass of d -current = its weighted d -volume
 - we assume finite mass

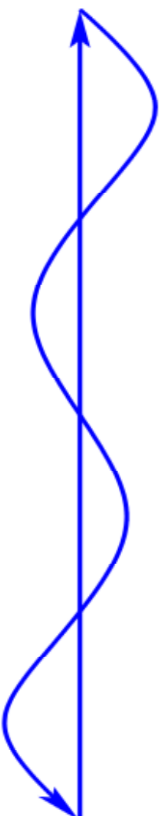
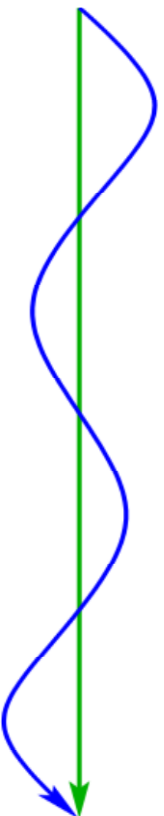
DISTANCE BETWEEN CURRENTS

* Hausdorff, Fréchet problematic



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- * mass of difference $M(T_1 - T_2)$?



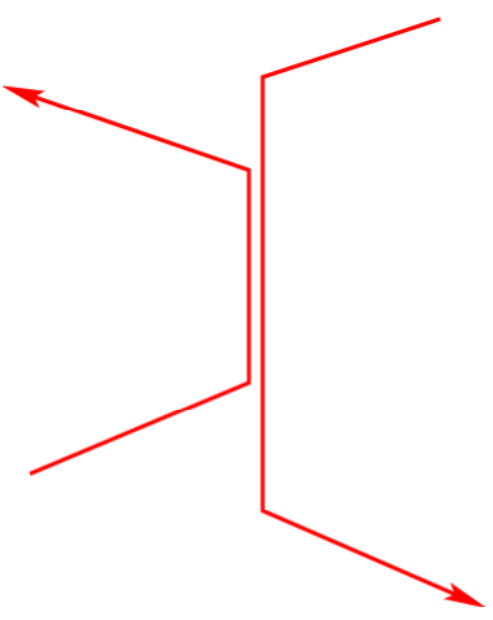
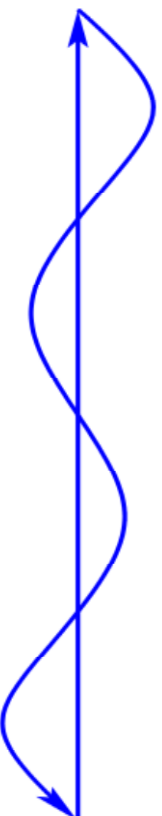
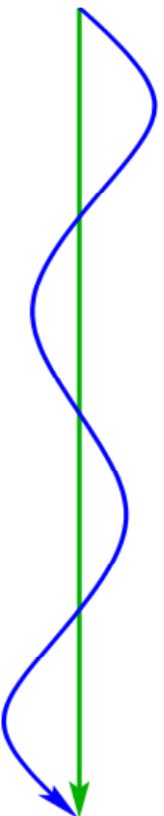
DISTANCE BETWEEN CURRENTS

* Hausdorff, Fréchet problematic

* mass of difference $M(T_1 - T_2)$?

— does not always fit intuition

— sensitive to small changes in T_1, T_2



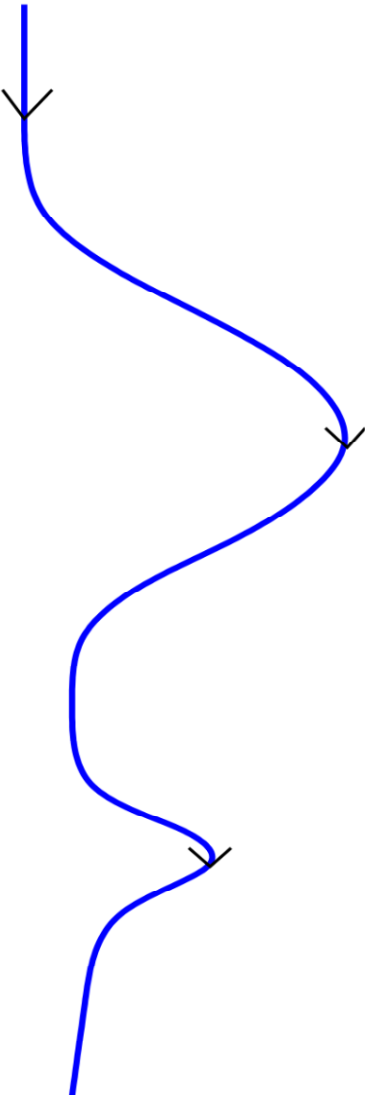
FLAT NORM

* $F(T) = \min_{\underline{S}} \{M_{\alpha}(T - \partial s) + M_{\alpha H}(s) \mid S \text{ is } (Q+H) - \text{current}\}$

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* $F(T) = \min_S \{M_d(T-ds) + M_{dH}(s) \mid S \text{ is } (dH) - \text{current}\}$

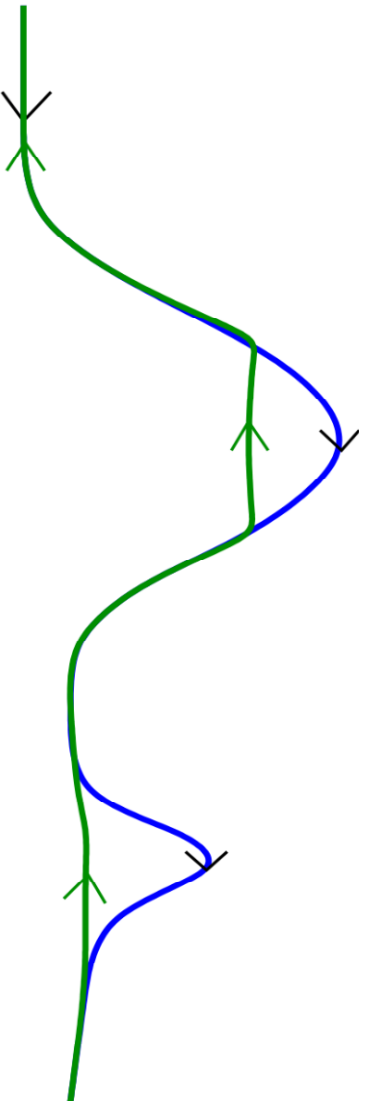
* Idea (LD): How to erase T at min cost?



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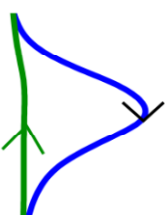
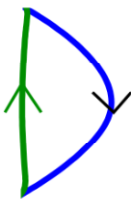
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Operations: Add 1-curve; cost = length



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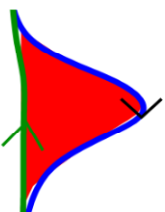
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Add 1-curve; cost = length

Operations: Trace boundary of 2D region; cost = area



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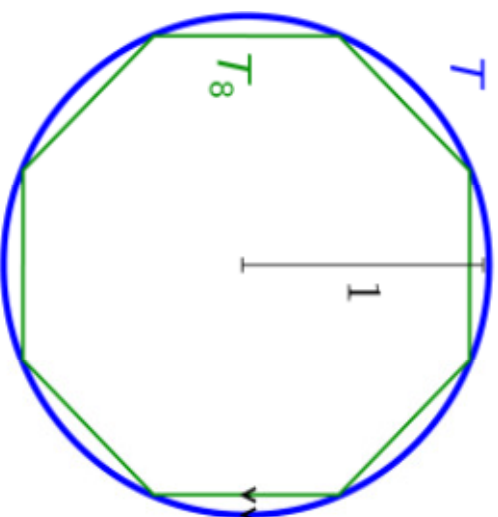
$F(T) = \text{minimum such total cost}$

EXAMPLE

* Flat distance between P, Q : $F(P, Q) = F(P - Q)$

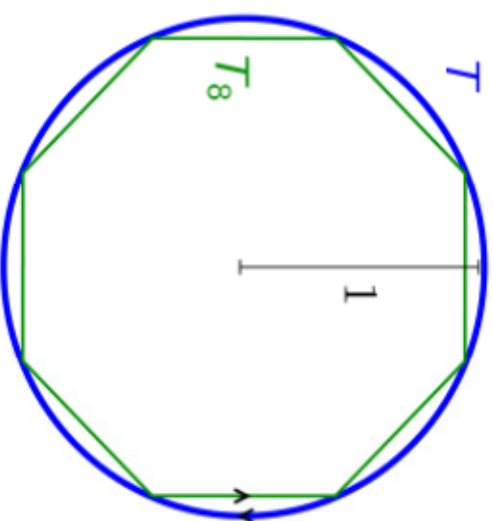
EXAMPLE

- * Flat distance between P, Q : $F(P, Q) = F(P-Q)$
- * T : unit circle (in \mathbb{R}^2), T_n : inscribed n -gon
both oriented clockwise



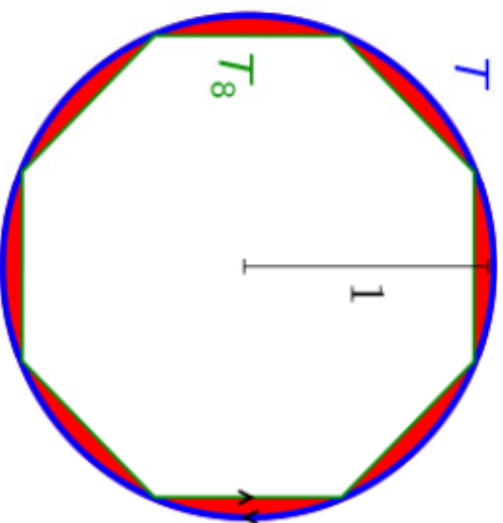
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- * as $n \rightarrow \infty$, $M(T, T_n) \rightarrow 4\pi$, but $F(T, T_n) \rightarrow 0$.

INTEGRAL CURRENTS

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- YES for codimension-1 boundaries
(LTV functional - Morgan & Vixie, 2007)

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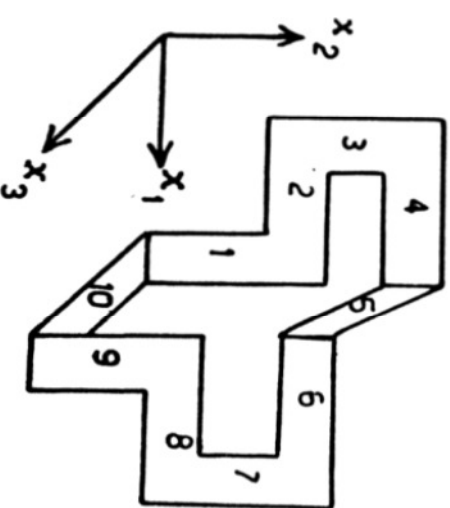
— YES for codimension-1 boundaries (LTV functional - Morgan & Vixie, 2007)

- ✓ analysis framework: simplicial to continuous
- YES for d-currents in \mathbb{R}^{d+1} if a triangulation result holds
 - YES in 2D

RELATED WORK

- * Area-minimizing fillings - cheaper by the dozen!
 - L. Young (1963), F. Morgan (1984), B. White (1984)
 - closed curves C in \mathbb{R}^4

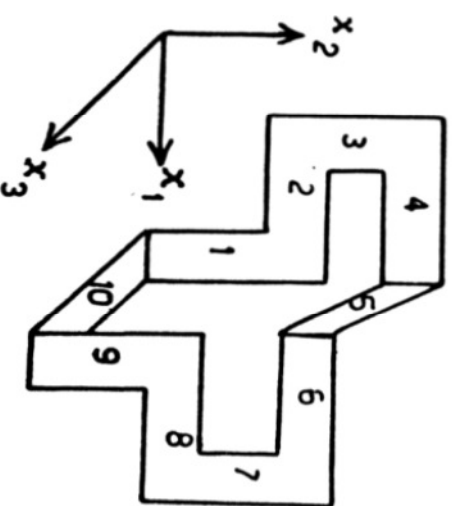
$$\text{Area Filling } \mathcal{A}C < 2(\text{Area Filling } C)$$



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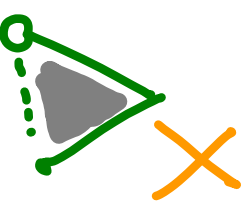
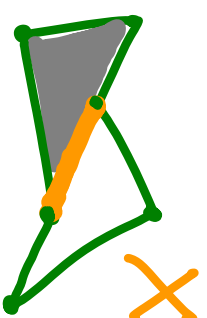
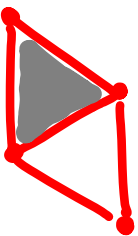
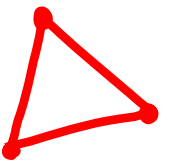


- * Open problem considered by F. Almgren (White 1998):
If αT_i is a sequence of integral flat chains that converge in integral flat topology, must T_i also converge?

SIMPLICIAL FLAT NORM

— Ibrahim, K, Vixie (2013)

- * discretize the problem on a simplicial complex
 - a collection of simplices that includes all faces, and intersections are faces

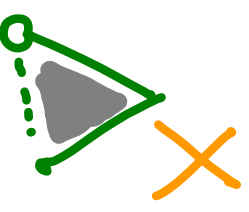
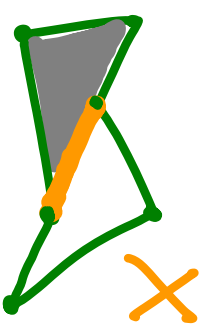
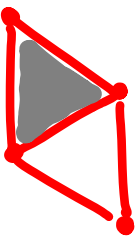
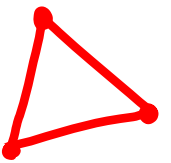


not simplicial complexes

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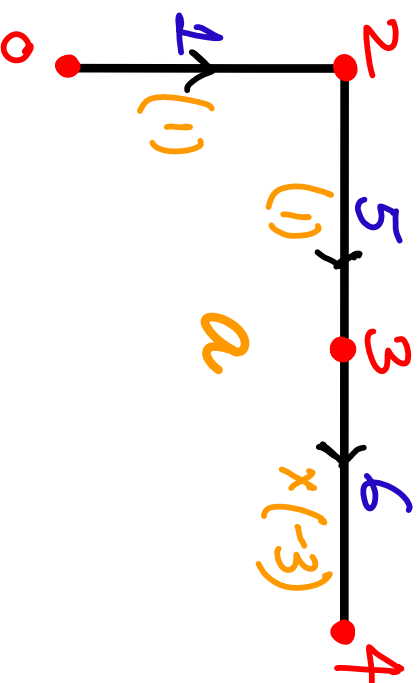
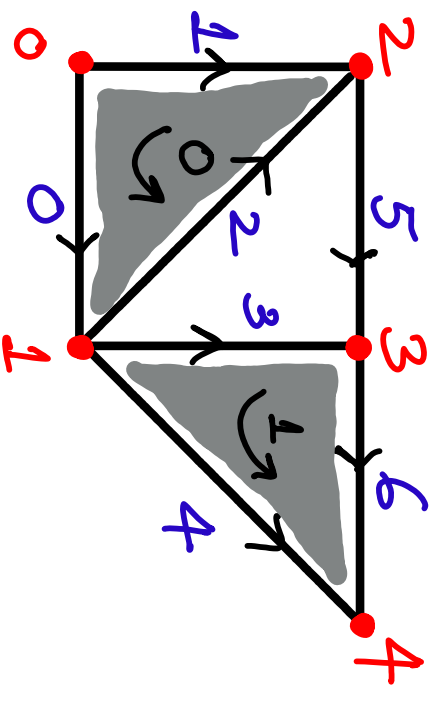
not simplicial complexes

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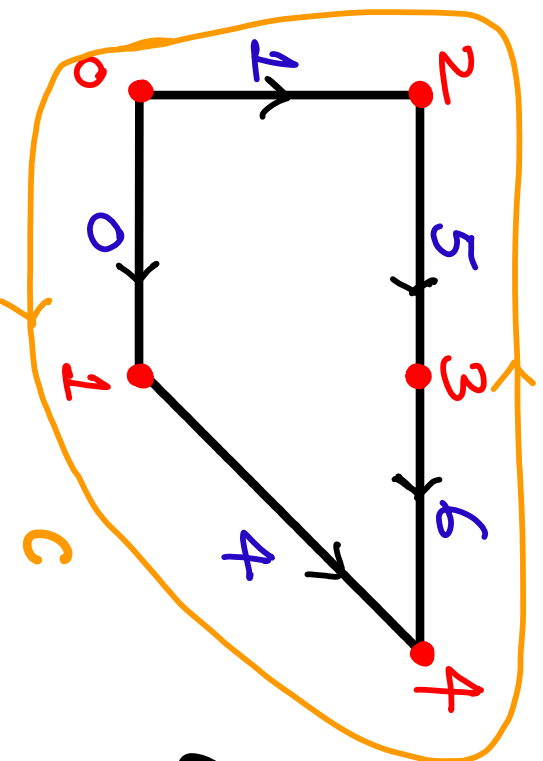
CHAINS

chains on a simplicial complex

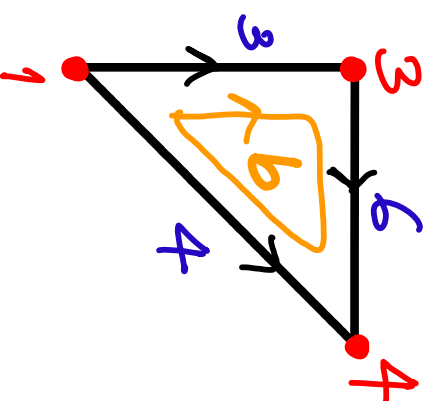
K



$$a = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}$$



$$c = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ -1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

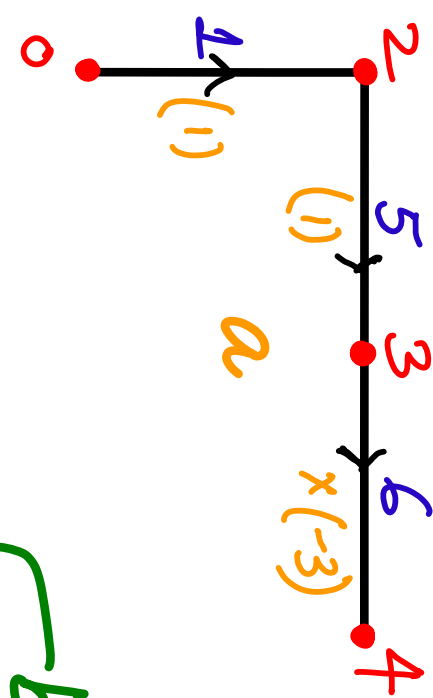
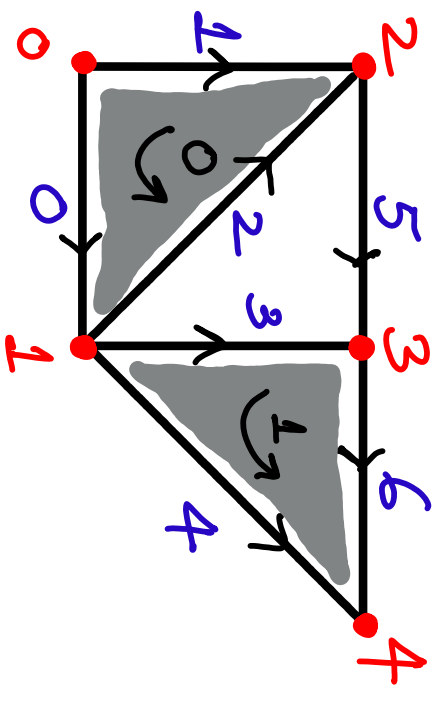


$$b = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

CHAINS

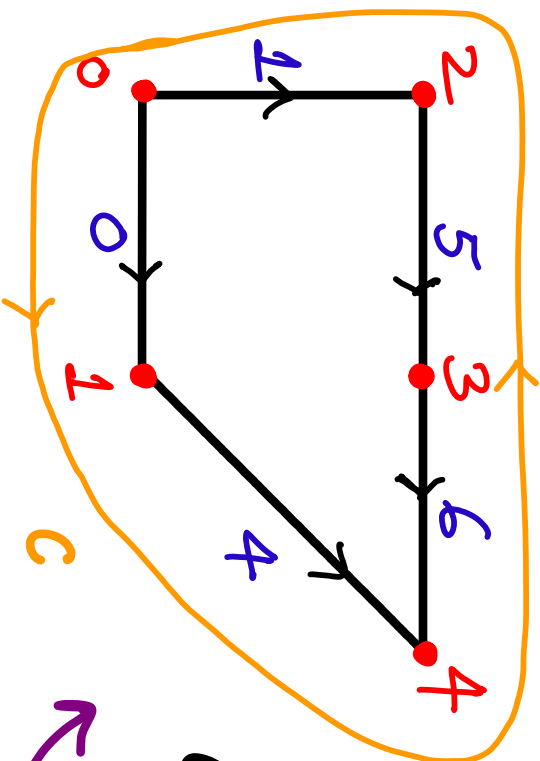
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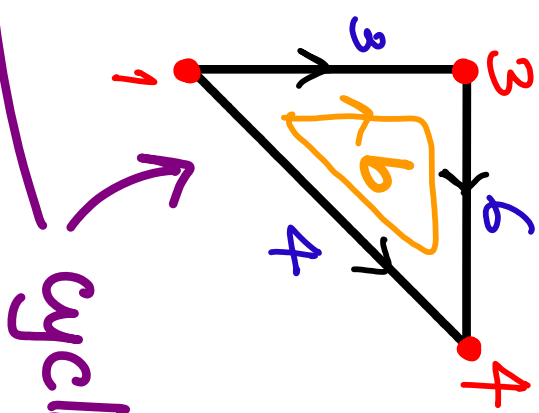


$$a = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \\ 4 \\ 5 \\ 6 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}$$

boundary



$$c = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \\ 4 \\ 5 \\ 6 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$$



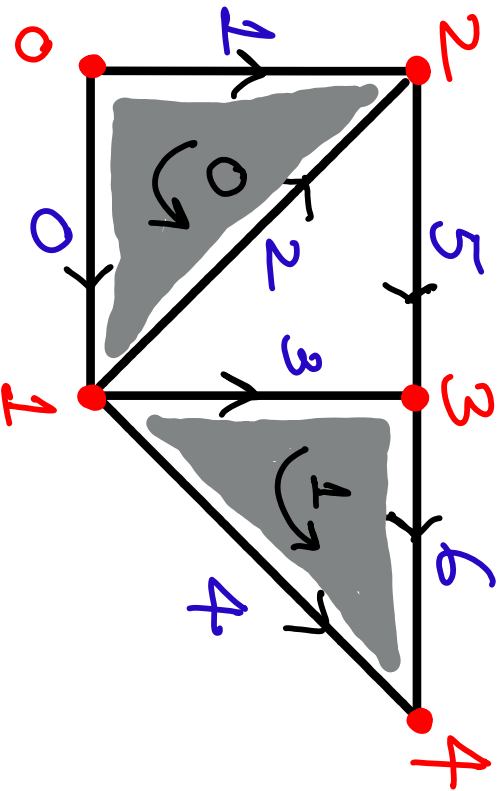
$$b = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \\ 4 \\ 5 \\ 6 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

cycles

BOUNDARY MATRIX $[a_{p+1}]$

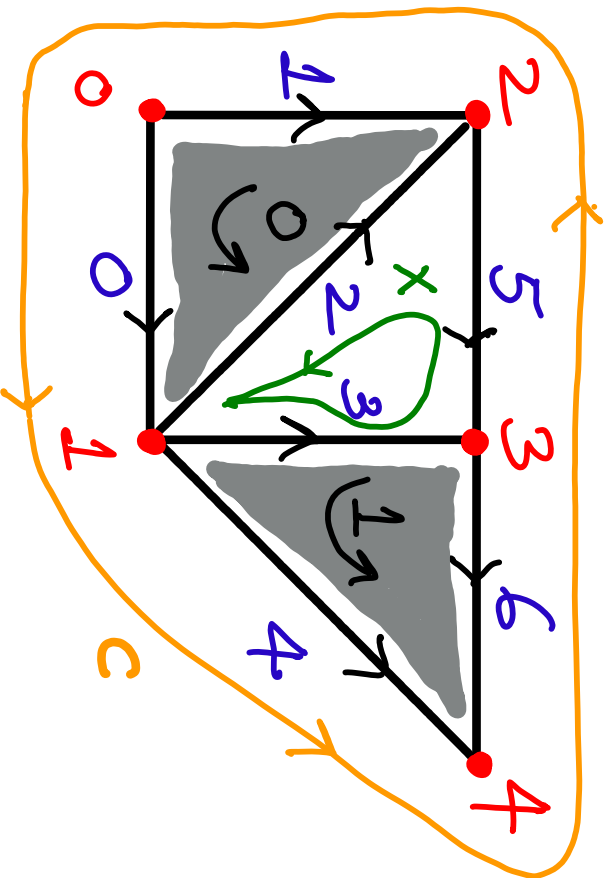
$$\partial_{p+1} : C_{p+1}(K) \rightarrow C_p(K)$$

With m p -simplices and n $(p+1)$ -simplices in K , $[\partial_{p+1}]$ is an $m \times n$ matrix with entries in $\{-1, 0, 1\}$.



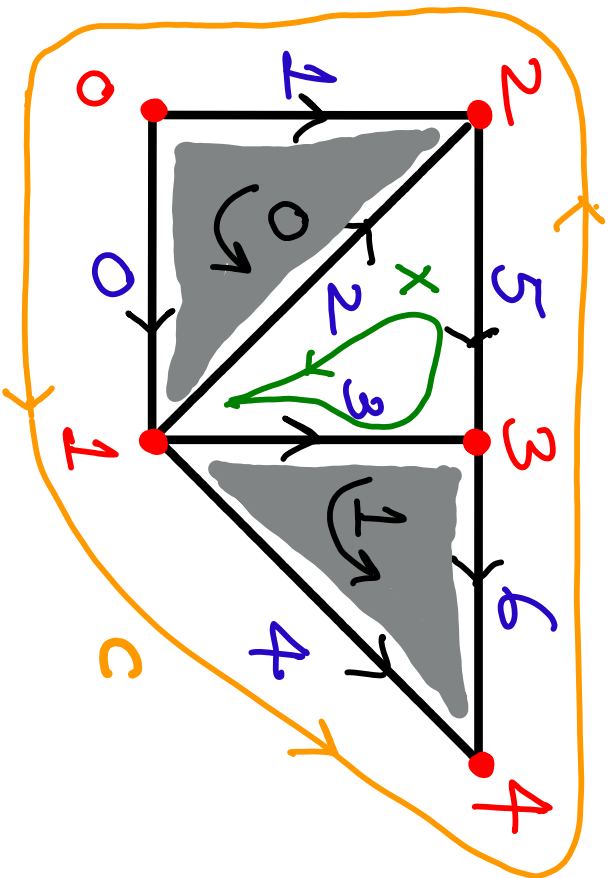
$$[a_2] = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

HOMOLOGOUS CHAINS



x is homologous to c
→ both go around
the same hole

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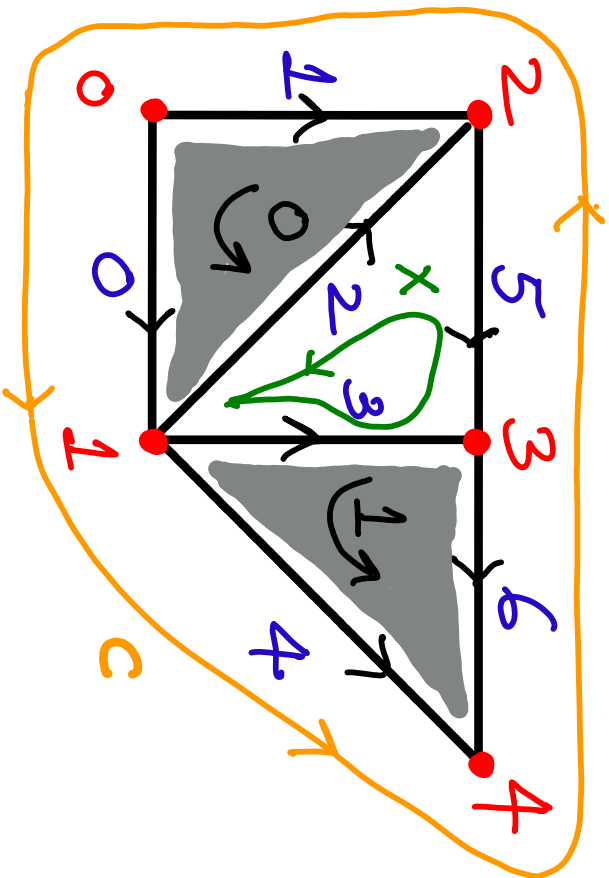
$$C = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \\ 4 \\ 5 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix}, X = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ -1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

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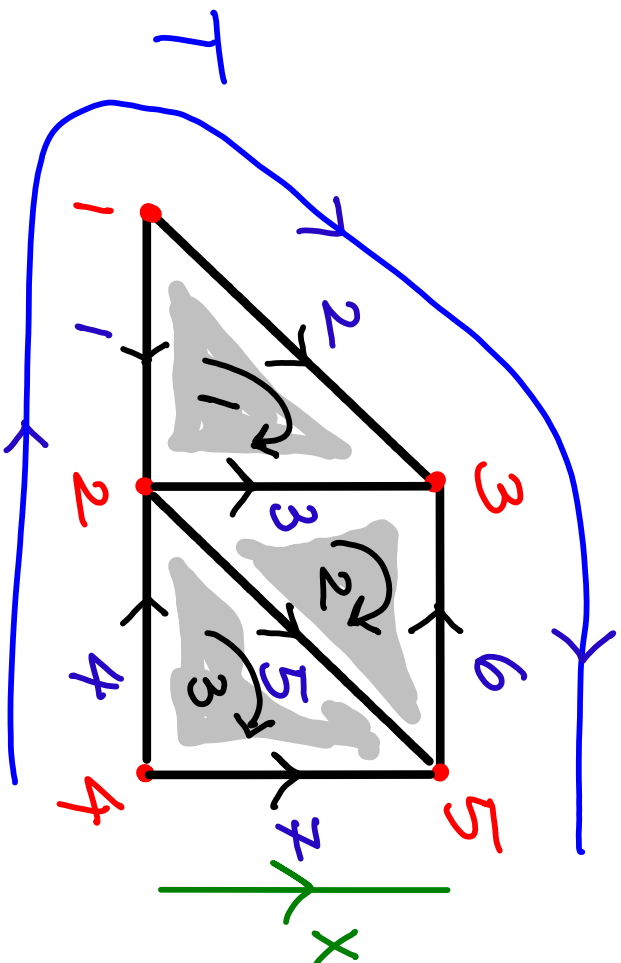
$$X = C - [a_2][1]$$

In general,

$$X = C - [a_{p+1}]Y$$

for $Y \in \mathbb{Z}^n$

FLAT NORM DECOMPOSITION



$$t = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ -1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$x = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

x is homologous to t : $x = t - [a_2]s$ for

$$s = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$[a_2] = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

SFN AS AN INTEGER PROGRAM

$$\min \sum_{i=1}^m w_i |x_i| + \sum_{j=1}^n v_j |g_j|$$

$$x = t - [\partial_{p+1}]s, \quad x \in \mathbb{Z}^m, \quad s \in \mathbb{Z}^n$$

SFN AS AN INTEGER PROGRAM

$$\min \sum_{i=1}^m w_i |x_i| + \sum_{j=1}^n v_j |g_j| \quad w_i, v_j \geq 0$$

← piecewise linear;

$$x = t - [a_{p+1}]s, \quad x \in \mathbb{Z}^m, \quad s \in \mathbb{Z}^n$$

$$\min \sum_{i=1}^m w_i (x_i^+ + x_i^-) + \sum_{j=1}^n v_j (s_j^+ + s_j^-) \quad (\text{IP})$$

$$\text{s.t.} \quad x^+ - x^- = t - [a_{p+1}](s^+ - s^-)$$

$$\begin{aligned} x^+, x^- &\geq 0 \\ s^+, s^- &\geq 0 \\ x^+, x^- &\in \mathbb{Z}^m, \quad s^+, s^- \in \mathbb{Z}^n \end{aligned}$$

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$$s^+, s^- \geq 0$$

$$x^+, x^- \in \mathbb{Z}^m, \quad s^+, s^- \in \mathbb{Z}^n$$

ignore to get LP relaxation ←

SFN AND TU OF $[\partial_{p_{H1}}]$

$$\min \sum_{i=1}^m w_i (x_i^+ + x_i^-) + \sum_{j=1}^n v_j (s_j^+ + s_j^-)$$

$$\text{s.t. } x^+ - x^- = t - [\partial_{p_{H1}}] (s^+ - s^-) \quad (\text{LP})$$
$$x^+, x^- \geq 0, s^+, s^- \geq 0$$

* The constraint matrix of above LP is TU iff $[\partial_{p_{H1}}]$ is TU.

SFN AND TU OF $[\partial_{p_H}]$

$$\min \sum_{i=1}^m \omega_i (x_i^+ + x_i^-) + \sum_{j=1}^n \nu_j (s_j^+ + s_j^-)$$

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* $[\partial_{p_H}]$ is TU for K in \mathbb{R}^{d_H} (Dey, Hirani, K, 2010)

SFN AND TU OF $[\partial_{p_H}]$

$$\min \sum_{i=1}^m \omega_i (x_i^+ + x_i^-) + \sum_{j=1}^A \nu_j (s_j^+ + s_j^-)$$

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✓ integral in = integral test for codimension-1 simplicial currents

INTEGRAL IN = INTEGRAL OUT ?

- * Can we use the simplicial result to obtain the continuous result ?

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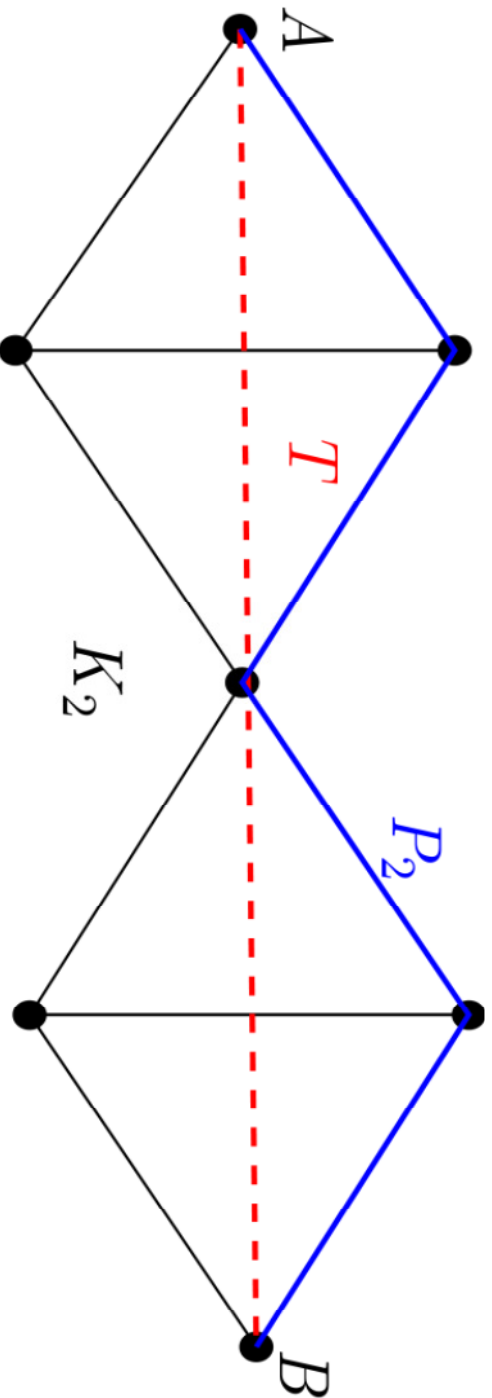
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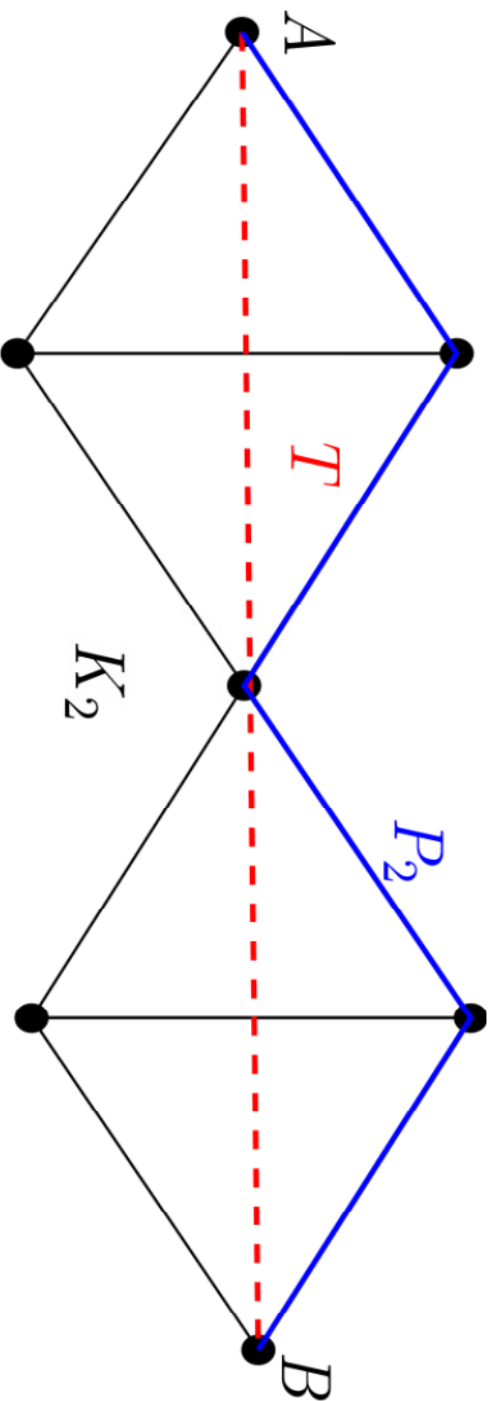
? Could we take simplicial approximations of T and somehow take the limit of its simplicial flat norm decompositions to get a continuous decomposition ?
not straightforward...

SFN \rightarrow FLAT NORM



K_n : $2n$ equilateral triangles

SFN \rightarrow FLAT NORM

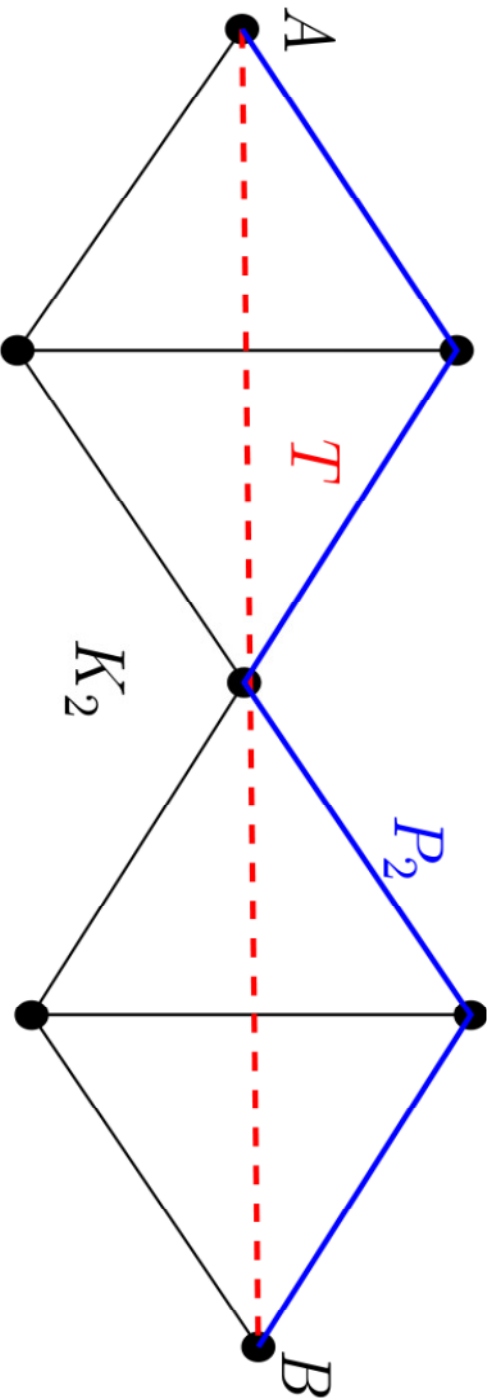


K_n : $2n$ equilateral triangles

$F(T-P_n) \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$, but

$$F_{K_n}(P_n) = \frac{2}{\sqrt{3}} F(T) \not\rightarrow F(T)$$

SFN \rightarrow FLAT NORM



K_n : $2n$ equilateral triangles

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$$F_{K_n}(P_n) = \frac{2}{\sqrt{3}} F(T) \not\rightarrow F(T)$$

* need more sophisticated tools ...

POLYHEDRAL APPROXIMATION

– Federer (1969) (4.2.21, 4.2.24)

* For normal current T in compact $K \subset \mathbb{R}^n$, and $\rho > 0$, \exists normal polyhedral chain P s.t.

$$M(P) < M(T) + \rho,$$

$$M(\partial P) < M(\partial T) + \rho, \text{ and}$$

$$F_{\rho}^{\llcorner}(T, P) < \rho.$$

POLYHEDRAL APPROXIMATION

– Federer (1969) (4.2.21, 4.2.24)

* For integral current T in compact $K \subset \mathbb{R}^n$,
and $\rho > \delta$, \exists integral polyhedral chain P s.t.

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– mass expansion $\rightarrow 0$ as $\rho \rightarrow 0$, but
 P need not be simplicial

SIMPLICIAL DEFORMATION

— Ibrahim, K, Vixie (2013)

* T can be deformed to chains $P, \partial P$ in a simplicial complex K s.t.

$$M(P) \leq c_1 M(T) + \Delta c_2 M(\partial T), \quad \Delta \rightarrow 0, \text{ but}$$

$$M(\partial P) \leq c_2 M(\partial T), \text{ and} \quad c_1, c_2, c_3 > 1$$

$$F(T, P) \leq \Delta c_1 [M(T) + c_3 M(\partial T)].$$

SIMPLICIAL DEFORMATION

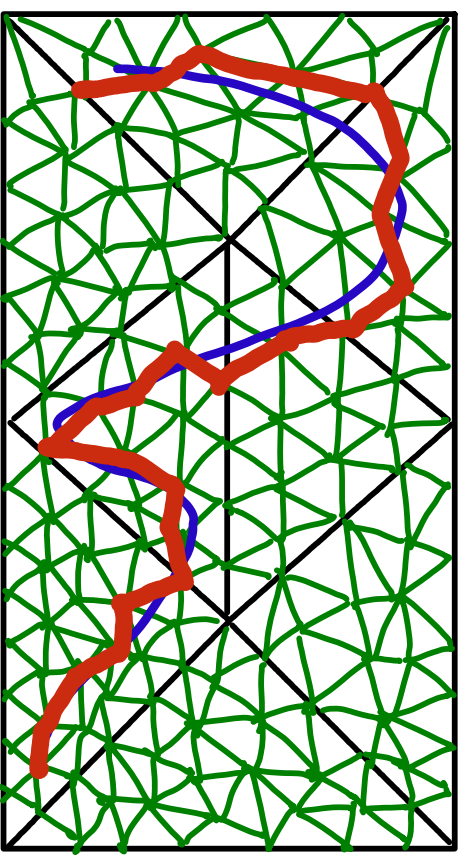
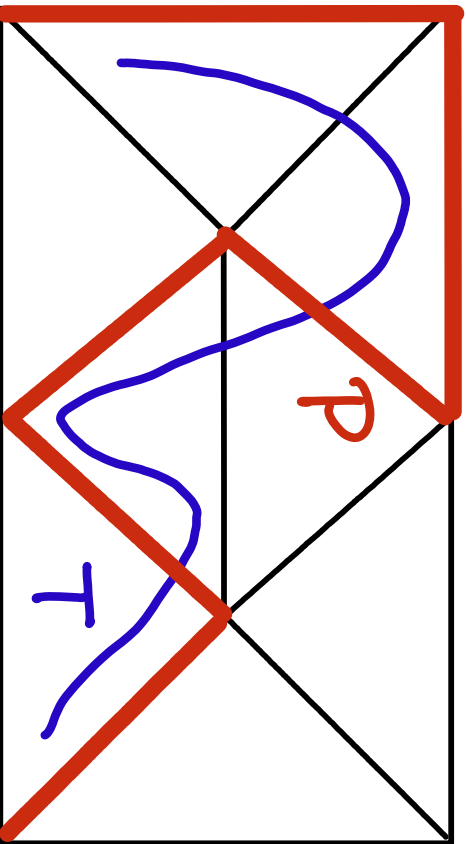
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* (new) multi-current simplicial deformation theorem

- simultaneously deform T_1, \dots, T_m and S_1, \dots, S_n onto K with similar bounds

MAIN RESULT: OVERVIEW

T

F ↓

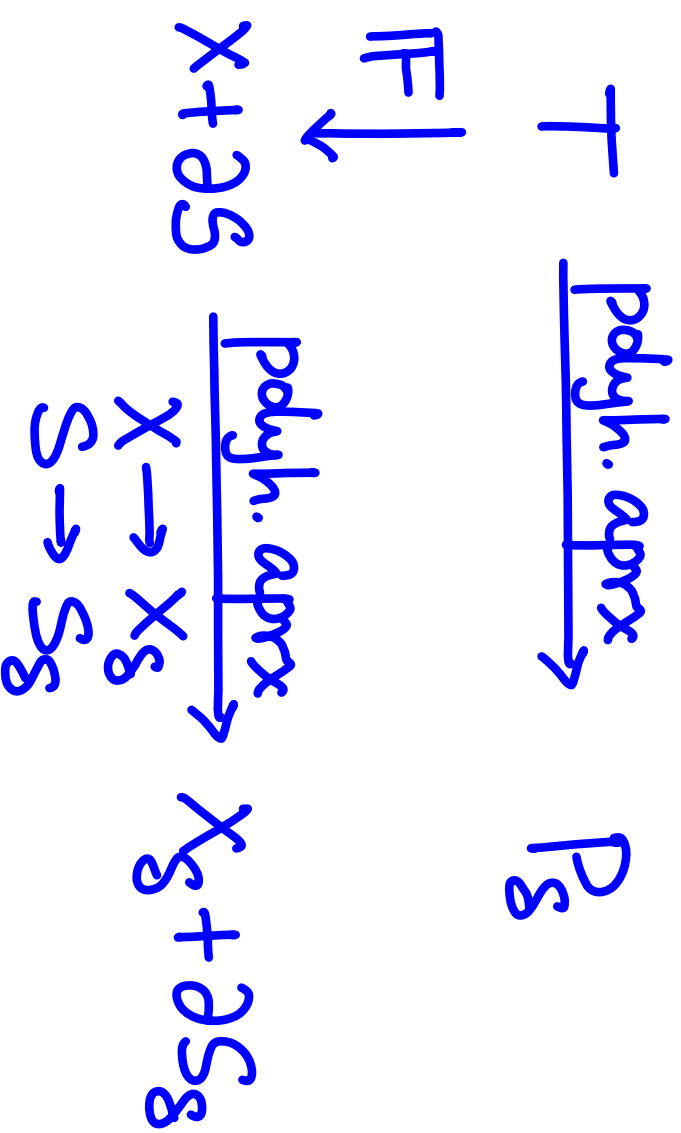
x+25

MAIN RESULT: OVERVIEW

$$T \xrightarrow{\text{polyh. aprx}} P_S$$

$$F \downarrow$$
$$X + \partial S \xrightarrow{\text{polyh. aprx}} X_S + \partial S_S$$
$$\begin{array}{l} X \rightarrow X_S \\ S \rightarrow S_S \end{array}$$

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$P_S \neq X_S + \partial S,$
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$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbb{F} \downarrow & & \\ X + \partial S & \xrightarrow{\text{polyh. aprx}} & X_S + \partial S \\ & \begin{array}{l} X \rightarrow X_S \\ S \rightarrow S_S \end{array} & \end{array}$$

- * find simplicial complex K_S triangulating P_S, X_S, S_S with mass expansion L indep. of S (in simplicial deformation theorem)

MAIN RESULT: OVERVIEW

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✓ true in 2D (Shevchuk 2002).

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- ? Other questions where discrete \Rightarrow continuous?