

Rectifiability, interior approximation and Absolute continuity of Harmonic Measure

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\mathcal{H}^n : n -dimensional Hausdorff measure in \mathbb{R}^m

Let $A \subset \mathbb{R}^m$, $0 \leq n < \infty$, $0 < \delta \leq \infty$.

$$\mathcal{H}_\delta^n(A) = \inf \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} (\text{diam}(E_i))^n; A \subset \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} E_i, \text{diam}(E_i) \leq \delta \right\}.$$

- $\mathcal{H}^n(A) = \lim_{\delta \rightarrow 0} \mathcal{H}_\delta^n(A) = \sup_{\delta > 0} \mathcal{H}_\delta^n(A).$

Properties of \mathcal{H}^n .

- 1 \mathcal{H}^n is a **Borel** measure.
- 2 **Translation invariant**: $\mathcal{H}^n(\lambda E) = \lambda^n \mathcal{H}^n(E)$ for all $\lambda > 0$.
- 3 $\mathcal{H}^s \equiv 0$ for $s > m$.
- 4 If $\alpha > \alpha'$ then $\mathcal{H}^\alpha(E) > 0 \rightarrow \mathcal{H}^{\alpha'}(E) = \infty$.
- 5 If $f : \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^s$ is a Lipschitz then $\mathcal{H}^n(f(E)) \leq \text{Lip}(f)^n \mathcal{H}^n(E)$.
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Rectifiability of a set

Let $\Sigma = f(\mathbb{R}^n)$ be a **Lipschitz** image of \mathbb{R}^n .

- $E \subset \mathbb{R}^m$ is **n -rectifiable**, $n \in \{1, \dots, m\}$, if there exists a family $\{\Sigma_i\}_i$ of Lipschitz images of \mathbb{R}^n such that

$$\mathcal{H}^n \left(E \setminus \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} \Sigma_i \right) = 0,$$

i.e.
$$E \subset \left(\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} \Sigma_i \right) \cup \Sigma_0 \quad \text{with } \mathcal{H}^n(\Sigma_0) = 0.$$

- $E \subset \mathbb{R}^m$ is **n -purely unrectifiable** if $0 < \mathcal{H}^n(E) < \infty$ and $\mathcal{H}^n(\pi_L(E)) = 0$ for almost every n -dimensional plane $L \subset \mathbb{R}^m$.
- *** $E \subset \mathbb{R}^m$ is **n -purely unrectifiable** if E contains **NO** n -rectifiable set F with $\mathcal{H}^n(F) > 0$.

Here π_L denotes the orthogonal projection of \mathbb{R}^m onto L .

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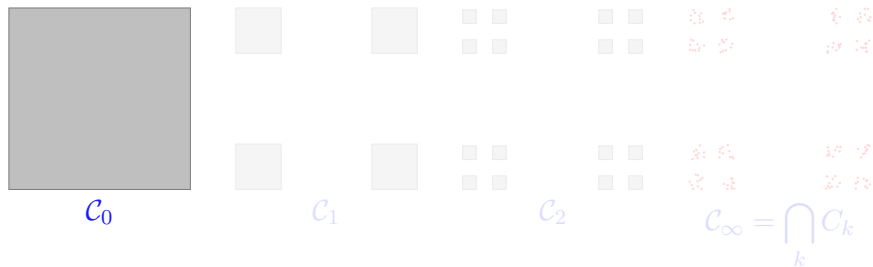
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An example of a purely unrectifiable set

The usual example is **4-corner Cantor set**.



- There exists $c > 1$ such that for each $z \in \mathcal{C}_\infty$ and $r \in (0, \sqrt{2})$

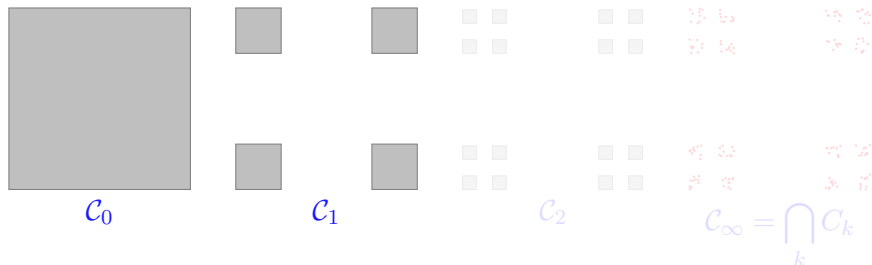
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- For almost every line L in \mathbb{R}^2 , $\mathcal{H}^1(\pi_L(\mathcal{C}_\infty)) = 0$.
- Hence \mathcal{C}_∞ is a **purely 1-unrectifiable**.

★ Every **rectifiable curve** intersects \mathcal{C}_∞ in a set of **zero \mathcal{H}^1 -measure**.

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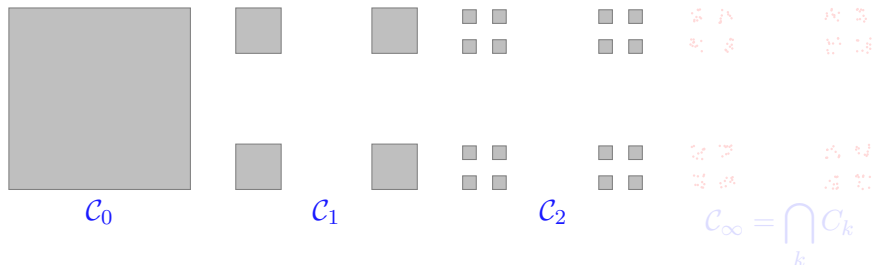
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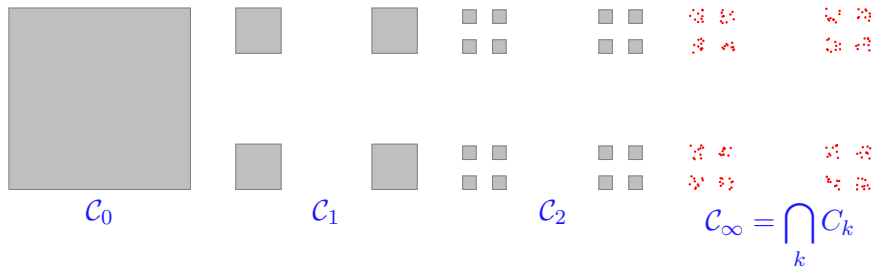
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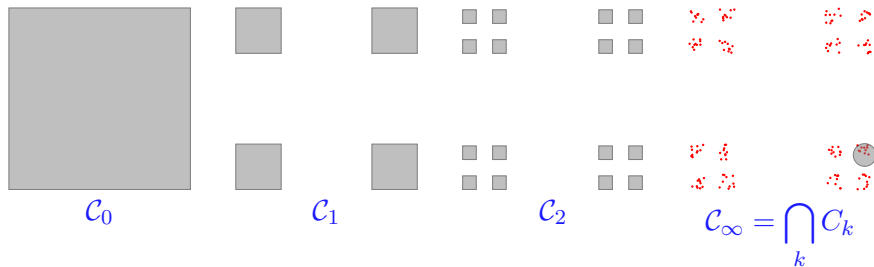
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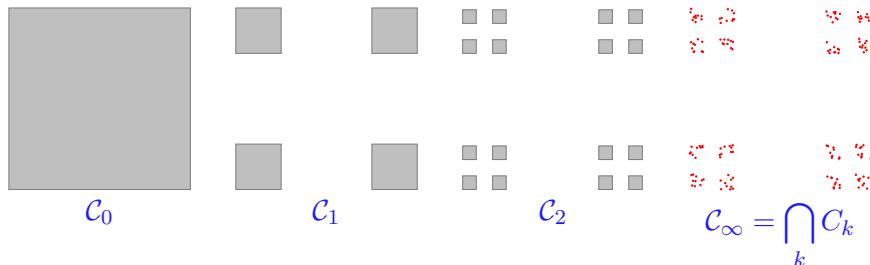
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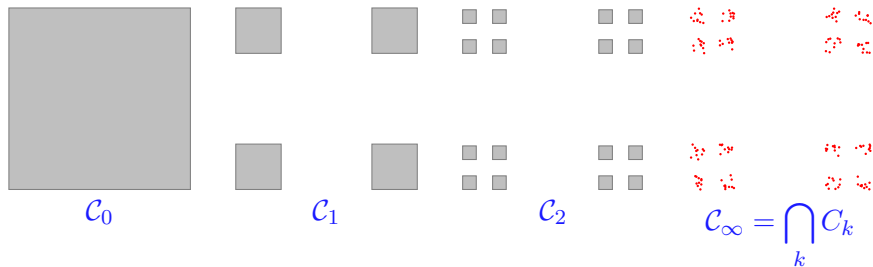
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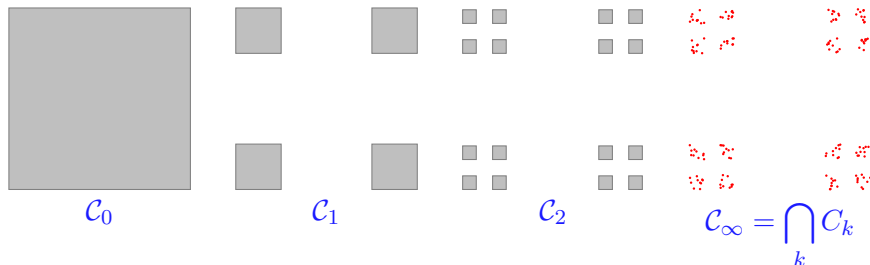
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Structure Theorem

Besicovitch (1929-1939)

Suppose $E \subset \mathbb{R}^2$ and $0 < \mathcal{H}^1(E) < \infty$. Then

$$E = R \cup P;$$

- R is 1-rectifiable.
- P is 1-purely unrectifiable.

Federer (1947)

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Characterizing rectifiable sets

One of the main objectives of geometric measure theory consists in characterizing rectifiable sets in terms of

- Ⓐ The existence of approximate tangent n -planes.
- Ⓑ The existence of densities.
- Ⓒ The size of projections.
- ⊛ Ⓐ + Ⓑ + Ⓒ are due to Besicovitch, Federer, Mattila, Preiss, ...
- Ⓓ Any other way? May be in terms of **absolute continuity of harmonic measure ω**

By using the FORCE of PDE theory?

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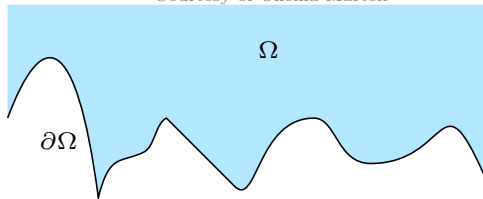
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Harmonic measure

- $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^{n+1}$, $n \geq 2$, **connected** and **open**.
- **Harmonic measure** $\{\omega^X\}_{X \in \Omega}$ family of probabilities on $\partial\Omega$ called harmonic measure of Ω with a pole at $X \in \Omega$ such that

$$u(X) = \int_{\partial\Omega} f(x) d\omega^X(x) \quad \text{solves} \quad (D) \quad \begin{cases} \mathcal{L}u = 0 \text{ in } \Omega \\ u|_{\partial\Omega} = f \in C_c(\partial\Omega). \end{cases}$$

Courtesy of Chema Martell



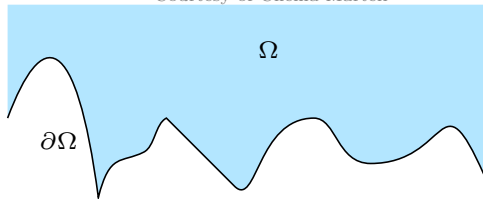
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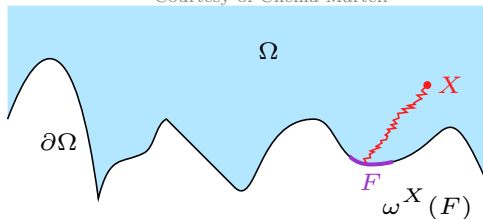
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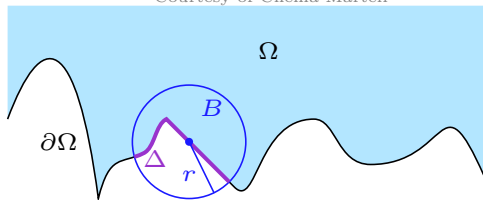
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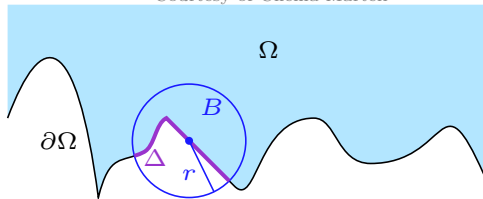
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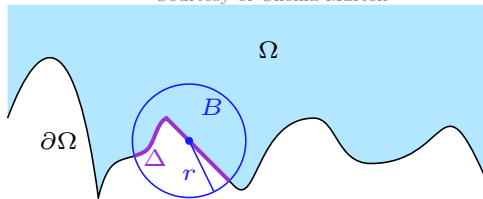
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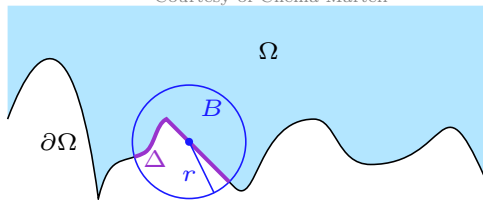
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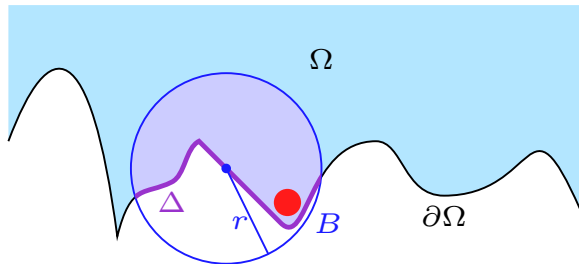
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Non-tangentially Accessible Domains (NTA)

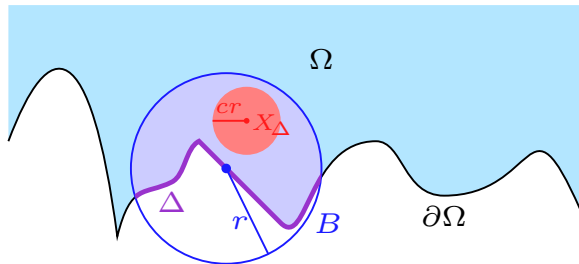
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Courtesy of Chema Martell

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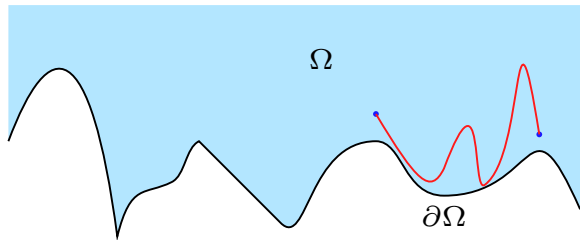
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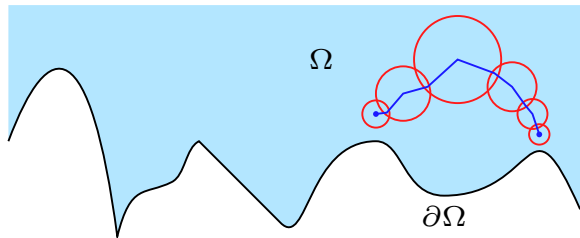
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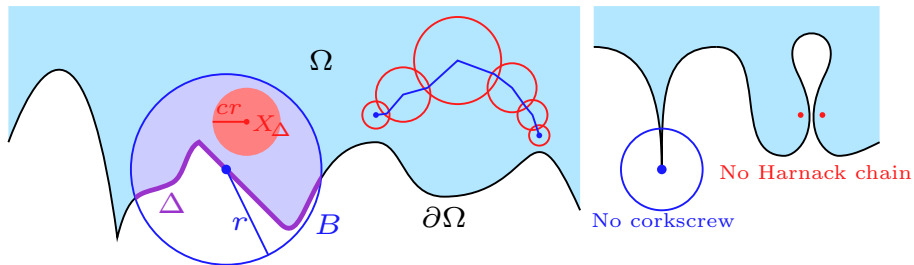
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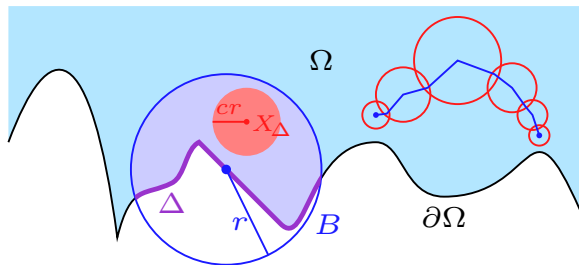
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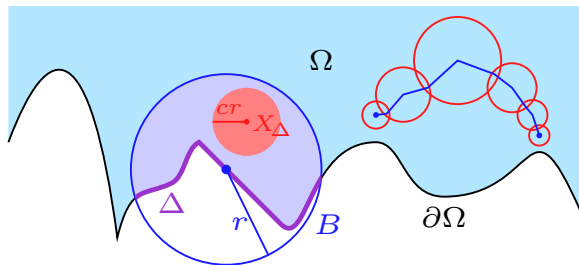


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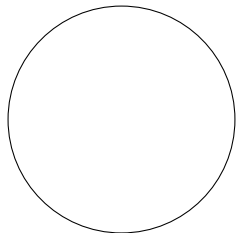


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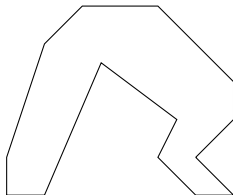
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Examples of such domains

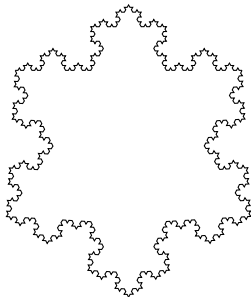
Smooth Domains



Lipschitz Domains



NTA Domains



★ NTA domains need not be graph domains or of finite perimeter.

A_∞ and A_∞^{weak} conditions

Let $E \subset \mathbb{R}^{n+1}$ be ADR set and let $\Delta_0 = E \cap B(z, r)$, $z \in E$.

A_∞ Condition

$\omega \in A_\infty(\Delta_0)$ with respect to \mathcal{H}^n if there exist C and θ such that for all $\Delta = B(x, r') \cap E$ where $x \in E$ and $B(x, r') \subset B(z, r)$ one has

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Global results in higher dimension

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If Ω is **NTA** and $\partial\Omega$ is **ADR** then $\omega \in A_\infty(\mathcal{H}^n|_{\partial\Omega})$.

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- **Portions of the boundary** should be contained in a **nice** set (like a graph or curve).
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Theorem

Let Ω be 1-sided NTA and $\partial\Omega$ ADR. TFAE

- ① $\partial\Omega$ is Uniformly Rectifiable [=ADR+Big Pieces of Lipschitz Images]
- ② Ω is NTA domain (and therefore it is chord-arc domain).
- ③ $w \in A_\infty(\mathcal{H}^n|_{\partial\Omega})$.
- ④ $w \in A_\infty^{\text{weak}}(\mathcal{H}^n|_{\partial\Omega})$.

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Theorem A (A., Badger, Hofmann, Martell)

Let Ω be *1-sided NTA* and $\partial\Omega$ be *ADR*. TFAE;

① $\partial\Omega$ is Rectifiable.

② *Weak Existence of Ext. Corkscrew*: for σ a.e. $x \in \partial\Omega$

$\Delta(x, r)$, $0 < r < r_x$, there exists $X_{\Delta(x, r)}^{ext}$ Ext. Corkscrew.

③ $\sigma \ll \omega$ on $\partial\Omega$.

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Sketch of the Proof

Theorem B (A., Badger, Hofmann, Martell)

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⑤ \implies ③ obvious.

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④ \implies ① as the boundary of any *chord arc* domain is rectifiable.

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Let Ω be *1-sided NTA* and $\partial\Omega$ be *ADR*. TFAE;

- 1 $\partial\Omega$ is Rectifiable.
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- 4 $\partial\Omega \stackrel{\text{a.e.}}{=} \bigcup_N F_N$ where $F_N = \partial\Omega_N \cap \partial\Omega$, $\Omega_N \subset \Omega$ is chord-arc.
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1 \implies 2 by existence of *approximate tangent planes*.

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② \implies ④ by constructing certain *sawtooth domains* which are bounded *chord-arc subdomains* of Ω .

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④ \implies ③ straightforward use of the *maximum principle*.

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③ \implies ④ by showing that some family of **bad cubes** (for which the exterior corkscrew condition fails) satisfies a **Carleson packing condition**. From there, we obtain that another suitable family of **sawtooth domains** are **chord-arc** domains.

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② \implies ⑤ by using a variant of the *Dahlberg-Jerison-Kenig sawtooth lemma* and a *certain projection operator*.

- $Lu(X) = \operatorname{div}(A\nabla u)(X)$, $X \in \Omega$.
- $A(X) = (a_{ij}(X))$ Real, Bounded, Symmetric, Uniformly Elliptic;

$$A(X)\xi \cdot \xi \geq \Lambda^{-1}|\xi|^2 \text{ and } |A(X)\xi \cdot \eta| \leq \Lambda|\xi||\eta|.$$

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- ∇A satisfies a natural qualitative Carleson condition;

$$\sup_{\Delta \subset \partial\Omega} \frac{1}{\sigma(\Delta)} \iint_{\Delta} \left(\sup_{Z \in B(X, \delta(X)/2)} |\nabla A(Z)| \right) dx < \infty.$$

- Let ω_L be the elliptic measure of Ω associated to L .

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Theorem C (A., Badger, Hofmann, Martell)

Let Ω be *1-sided NTA* and $\partial\Omega$ *ADR*. TFAE

① $\partial\Omega$ is Rectifiable.

② *Weak Existence of Ext. Corkscrew*: for σ_L a.e. $x \in \partial\Omega$

$\Delta(x, r)$, $0 < r < r_x$, there exists $X_{\Delta(x, r)}^{ext}$ Ext. Corkscrew.

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④ $\partial\Omega \stackrel{\text{a.e.}}{=} \bigcup_N F_N$ where $F_N = \partial\Omega_N \cap \partial\Omega$, $\Omega_N \subset \Omega$ is a chord-arc.

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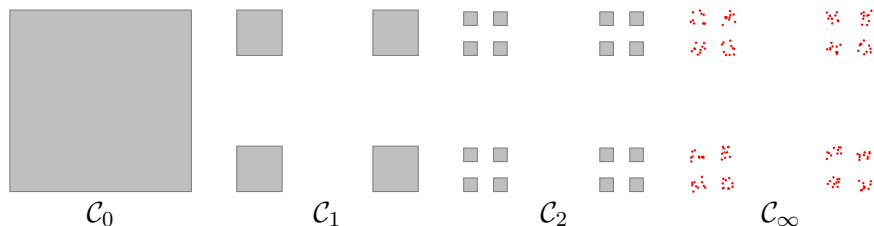
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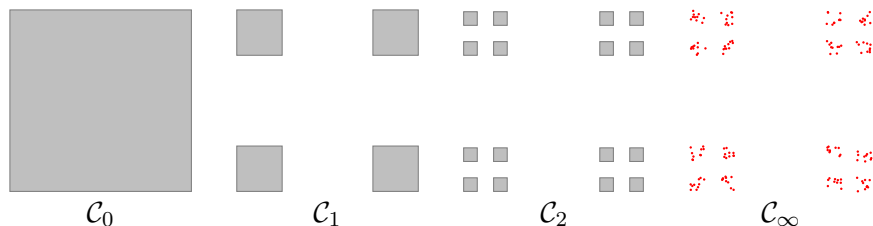
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- (A) $\mathbb{R}^2 \setminus \mathcal{C}_\infty$ is 1-sided NTA domain with 1-ADR boundary.
- (B) Let $\mathcal{C}^* = \mathcal{C}_\infty \times \mathbb{R}$ and $\Omega = \mathbb{R}^3 \setminus \mathcal{C}^*$.
- (C) Ω is a 1-sided NTA domain with 2-ADR boundary.
- (D) But $\partial\Omega$ is **NOT rectifiable** (\mathcal{C}_∞ is purely 1-unrectifiable).
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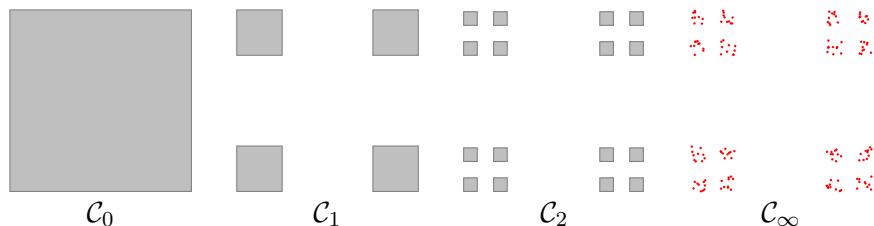
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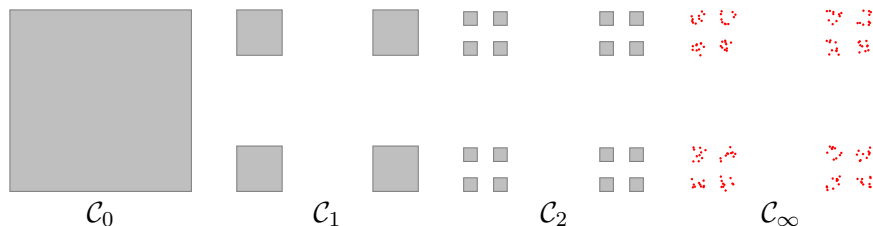
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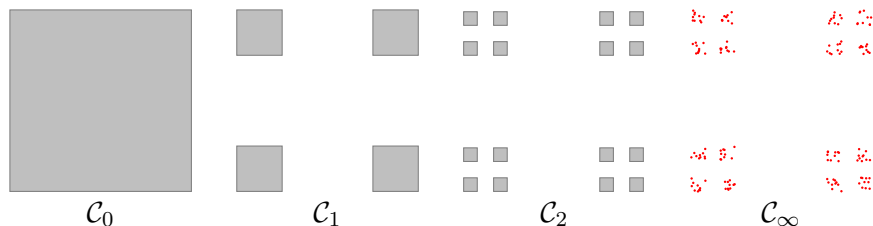
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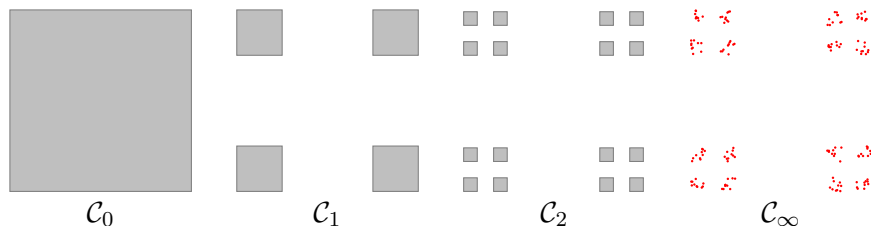
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All results requires some strong connectivity hypothesis;

① **Simply Connected** or ② **Harnack Chain** or ③ **Corkscrew**

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BPGHME= Big Pieces of Good Harmonic Measure Estimates:

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- $E \subset \mathbb{R}^{n+1}$, $n \geq 1$, closed set with locally finite \mathcal{H}^n -measure.

Let E_* be the relatively open set

$$E_* = \left\{ x \in E : \inf_{\substack{y \in B(x, \rho) \cap E \\ 0 < r < \rho}} \frac{\mathcal{H}^n(B(y, r) \cap E)}{r^n} > 0, \text{ for some } \rho > 0 \right\}.$$

i.e.: For $x \in E_*$ there exists a small ball B_x center at x and a constant c_x such that the lower ADR condition holds for all balls $B \subset B_x$ with constant c_x .

WLADR

$\mathcal{H}^n|_E$ satisfies the **Weak Lower Ahlfors-David regular condition (WLADR)** if

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Weakening the interior corkscrew condition

Let $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^{n+1}$ be a set, $n \geq 1$.

Interior Measure Theoretic Boundary

The Interior Measure Theoretic Boundary $\partial_+ \Omega$ is defined as

$$\partial_+ \Omega := \left\{ x \in \partial \Omega : \limsup_{r \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{|B(x, r) \cap \Omega|}{|B(x, r)|} > 0 \right\}.$$

⊛ If $x \in \partial \Omega$ satisfies interior corkscrew condition then $x \in \partial_+ \Omega$.

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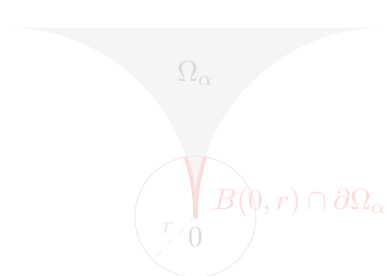
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An illustration

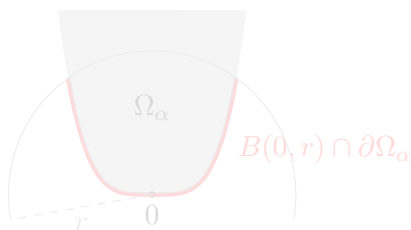
Let Ω_α be the domain above the graph of the function $|\cdot|^\alpha$,
 $\alpha \in (0, \infty) \setminus \{1\}$;

$$\Omega_\alpha := \{(x', x_{n+1}) \in \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}; x_{n+1} > |x|^\alpha, \alpha \in (0, \infty) \setminus \{1\}\}.$$



Ω_α when $\alpha < 1$ for r small

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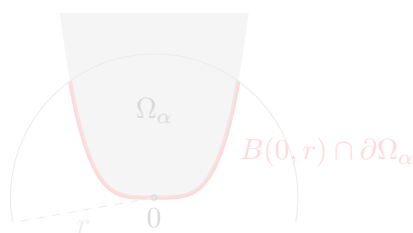
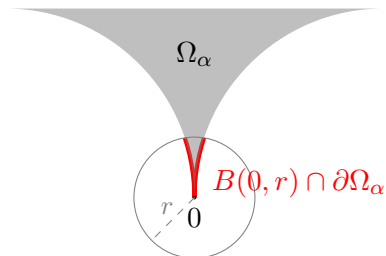
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Let Ω_α be the domain above the graph of the function $|\cdot|^\alpha$,
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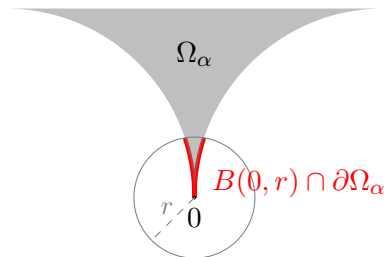
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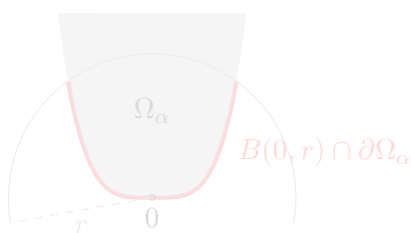
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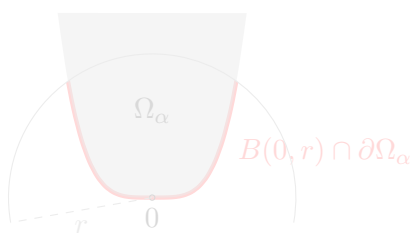
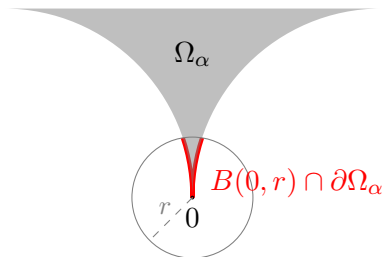
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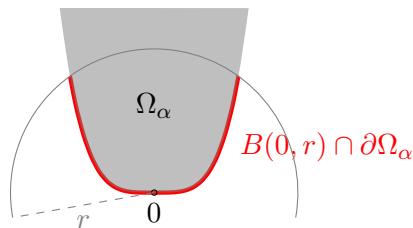
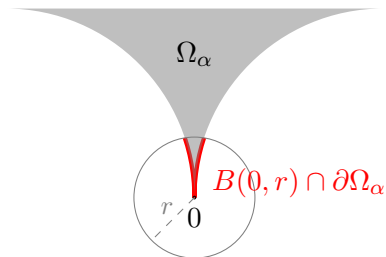
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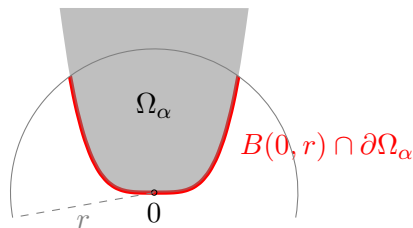
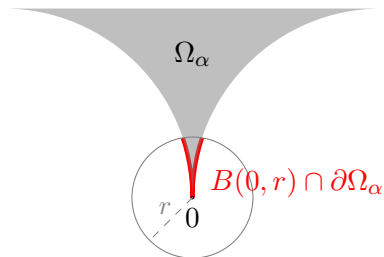
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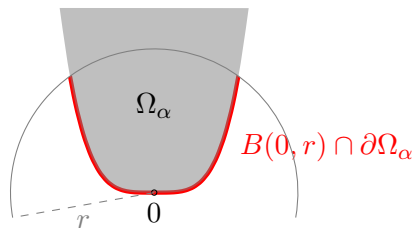
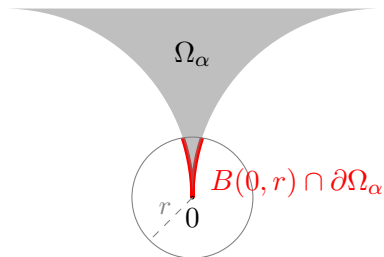
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A Theorem of McMillan in the plane

The **Truncated cone** $\Gamma_{h,\alpha}(z)$ is defined as

$$\Gamma_{h,\alpha}(z) := \{x : |z - x| < \alpha(1 - |x|) < \alpha h\}.$$

A point $z \in \partial\Omega$ is called a **Cone point** if there is a truncated open cone $\Gamma_{h,\alpha}(z)$ with vertex at z such that $\Gamma_{h,\alpha}(z) \subset \Omega$.

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Theorem[McMillan]

Let Ω be a bounded simply connected domain in the plane. Then

- K is a Borel set with σ -finite \mathcal{H}^1 measure,
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Covering of E with boundaries of bounded Lipschitz domains

Theorem D (A., Bortz, Hofmann, Martell)

- Let $E \subset \mathbb{R}^{n+1}$, $n \geq 1$, be a *closed* set,
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Then

$$E \text{ is } n\text{-rectifiable} \iff E \subset Z \cup \left(\bigcup_j \partial\Omega_j \right).$$

- Ⓐ $\{\Omega_j\}_j$ is a countable collection of bounded Lipschitz domains,
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★ Novelty here is the fact that the Lipschitz domains Ω_j are subdomains of $\mathbb{R}^{n+1} \setminus E$.

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Rectifiability implies absolute continuity

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Absolute continuity should be understood in the following sense;

$$\mathcal{H}^n|_E \ll \tilde{\omega} := \sum_{k \geq 1} 2^{-k} \omega_k,$$

- Ⓐ $\omega_k = \omega_{D_k}^{X_k}$ is the harmonic measure for the domain D_k , $X_k \in D_k$,
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Proof of Theorem ?? assuming Theorem ??

- Let $\{\Omega_i\}$ be the bounded Lipschitz domains by Theorem ?? for E .
- Let $F \subset E$ be such that $\mathcal{H}^n(F) > 0$. Need to show $\omega(F) > 0$.
- Then there exists Ω_j such that $\mathcal{H}^n(F \cap \partial\Omega_j) > 0$.
- Pick $X \in \Omega_j \subset \mathbb{R}^{n+1} \setminus E$; $\omega_{\Omega_j}^X$ be the harmonic measure for Ω_j .
- Let ω^X be the harmonic measure for $\mathbb{R}^{n+1} \setminus E$ with pole at X .
- By the maximum principle and Dahlberg's result it follows that

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Let $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^{n+1}$, $n \geq 1$, be an *open* and *connected* set. Let

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By combining the result from [AHM³TV];

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For $k \geq 1$, and $n \geq 1$, set

$$\Sigma_k = \{(x, t) \in \mathbb{R}_+^{n+1} : t = 2^{-k}, |x| \geq 2^{-k}\}.$$

Let

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- $\partial\Omega = (\mathbb{R}^n \times \{0\}) \cup (\bigcup_{k=1}^{\infty} \Sigma_k)$ is **n -rectifiable**.
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Proof of covering of E with boundaries of bounded Lipschitz domains

Step ①: Rectifiability implies linear approximability:

Theorem[Mattila]

Let $E \subset \mathbb{R}^{n+1}$ be a n -rectifiable set such that $\mathcal{H}^n|_E$ is locally finite. Then there exists $E_0 \subset E$ with $\mathcal{H}^n(E_0) = 0$ such that if $x \in E \setminus E_0$ the following holds:

For every $\eta > 0$ there exist positive numbers $r_x = r_x(\eta)$ and $\lambda_x = \lambda_x(\eta)$ and a n -dimensional affine subspace $\mathcal{P}_x = \mathcal{P}_x(\eta)$ such that for all $0 < r < r_x$

- ① $\mathcal{H}^n(E \cap B(y, \eta r)) \geq \lambda_x r^n$, for $y \in \mathcal{P}_x \cap B(x, r)$
- ② $\mathcal{H}^n((E \cap B(x, r)) \setminus P_x^{(\eta r)}) < \eta r^n$.

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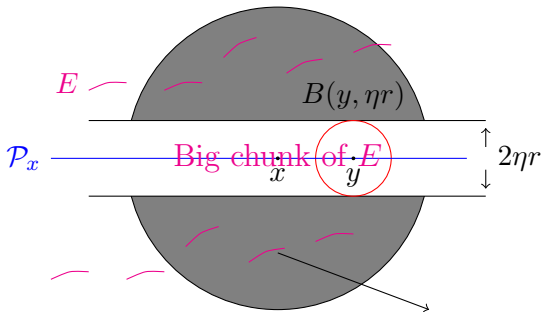
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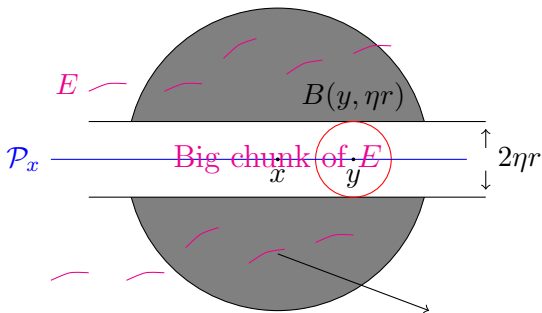
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① \rightsquigarrow There is **no big hole** in E near $\mathcal{P}_x \cap B(x, r)$.

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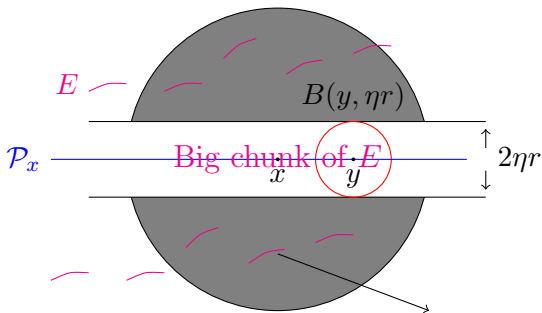
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Truncated Cones

Step ①: Existence of two sided Truncated Cones:

Let $x \in E \setminus E_0$ with constants $\lambda_x(\eta)$ and $r_x(\eta)$. For every $0 < \eta < \eta_0(\lambda_x) := \min\{2^{-4n}, \lambda_x^2\}$;

• there exists a **two sided truncated cone** $\Gamma_{h,\alpha}(x)$ with vertex at x with,

Ⓐ height $h(\eta) := \eta^{\frac{1}{4n}} \min\{r_x(\eta), r_x\}$,

Ⓑ aperture $\alpha(\eta) := 2 \arctan(\eta^{-\frac{1}{4n}}/2) > \pi/2$,

Ⓒ **DOES NOT** meet with E .

* $\alpha(\eta) \rightarrow \pi$ as $\eta \rightarrow 0^+$.

Truncated Cones

Step ①: Existence of two sided Truncated Cones:

Let $x \in E \setminus E_0$ with constants $\lambda_x(\eta)$ and $r_x(\eta)$. For every $0 < \eta < \eta_0(\lambda_x) := \min\{2^{-4n}, \lambda_x^2\}$;

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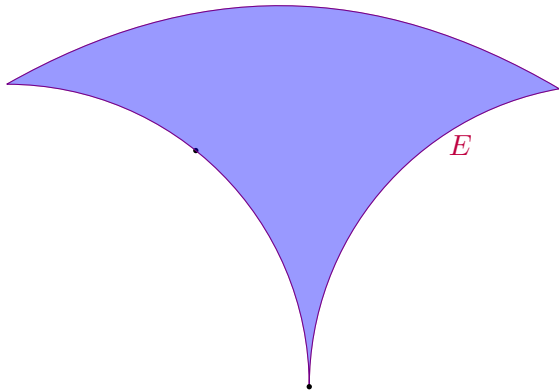
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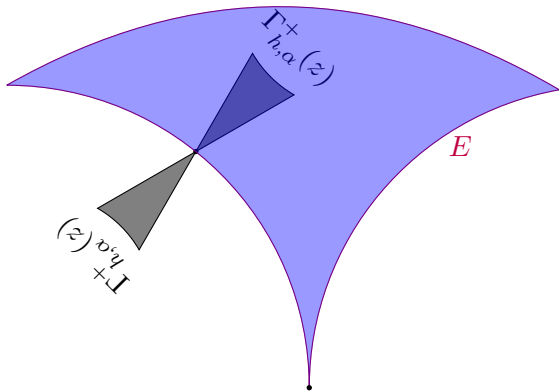
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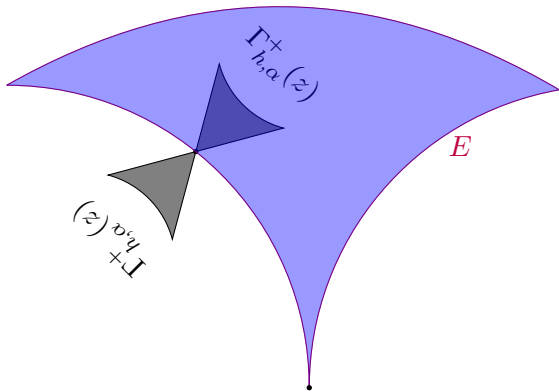
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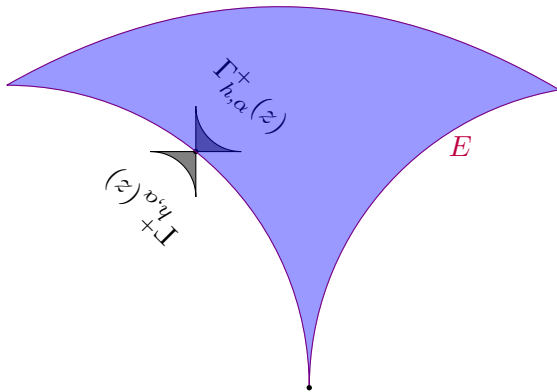
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Interior Truncated Cones

Step 2: One of the cone must be interior:

- Consider $\Omega = \mathbb{R}^{n+1} \setminus E$.
- Let $x \in \partial\Omega \setminus E_0 = E \setminus E_0$ with constants $\lambda_x(\eta)$ and $r_x(\eta)$ and for every $0 < \eta < \eta_0(\lambda_x) := \min\{2^{-4n}, \lambda_x^2\}$ there exist two sided truncated cone, $\Gamma_{h,\alpha}^+(x), \Gamma_{h,\alpha}^-(x)$
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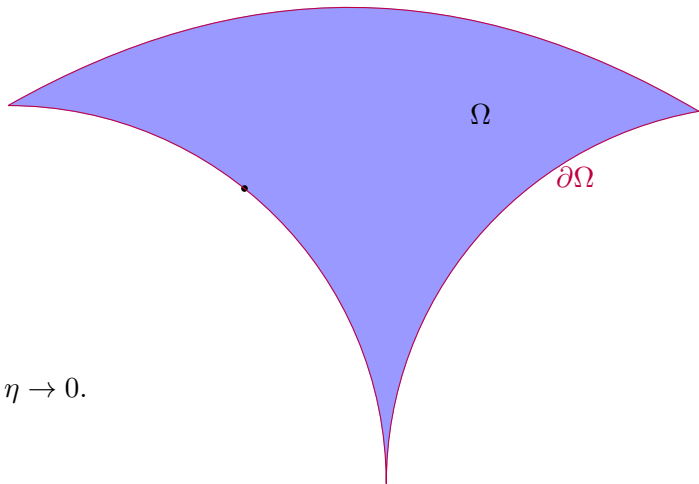
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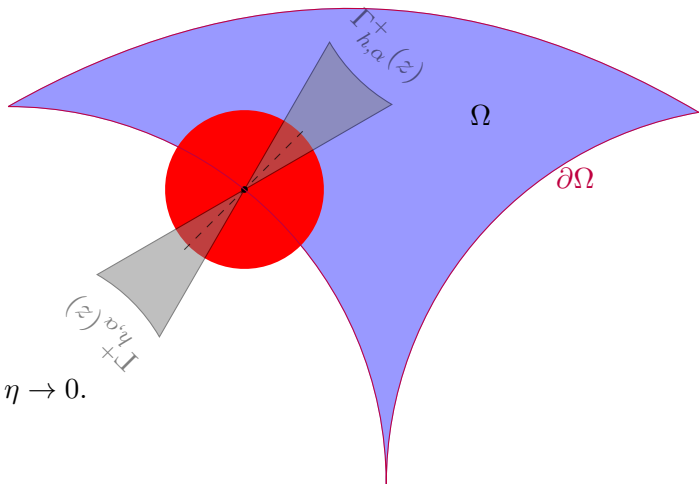
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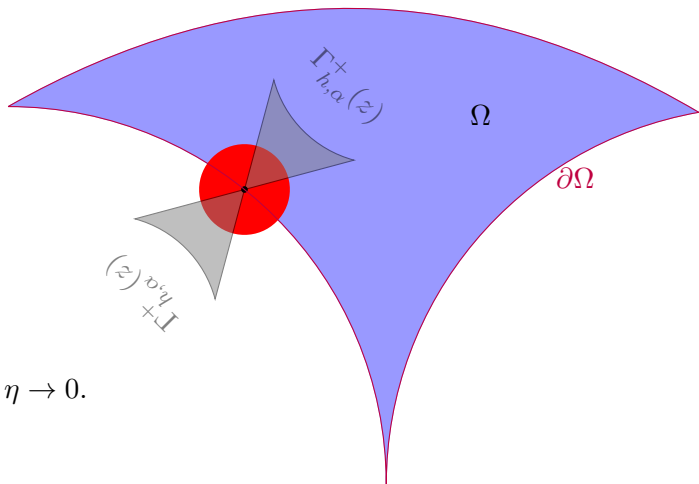
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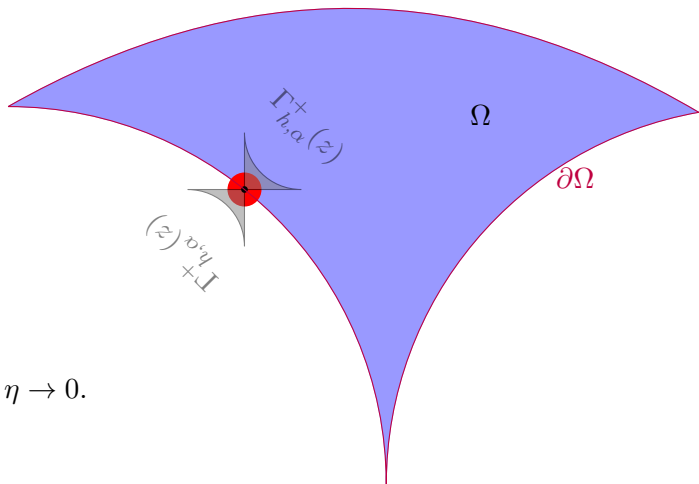
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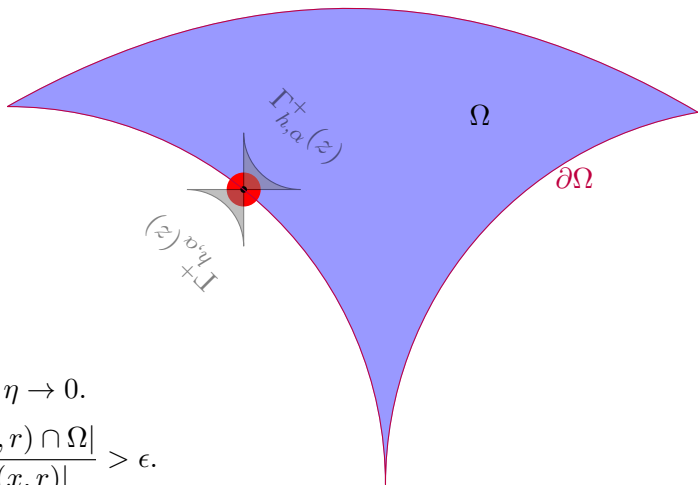
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Proof of Theorem ??

- Choose $\{\nu_m\}_{m=1}^M \subset \mathbb{S}^n$ (the unit sphere in \mathbb{R}^{n+1}) such that for every $\nu \in \mathbb{S}^n$ there exists ν_m , $1 \leq m \leq M$, such that $\text{angle}(\nu, \nu_m) < \pi/8$.

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- Notice that setting $Z = (E \setminus E_*) \cup E_0$ we have that $\mathcal{H}^n(Z) = 0$. Also,

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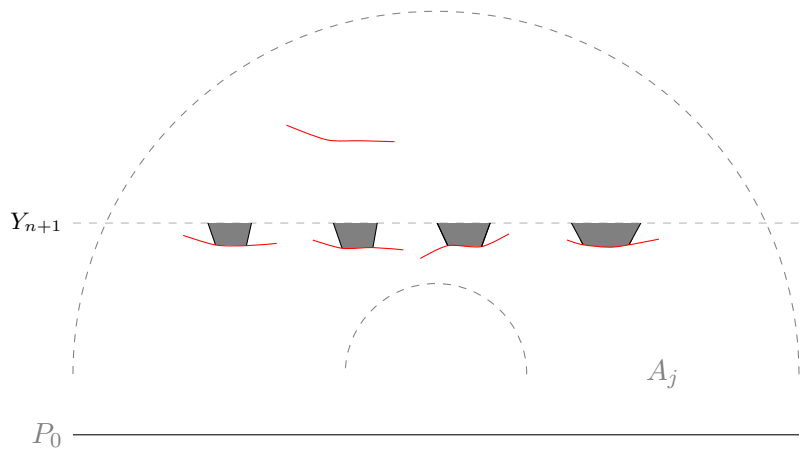
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THANKS!