

# III Coarse Cohomology

## 3.0. Reminder

A coarse structure on a set  $X$  is a family of binary relations  $E \subseteq \mathcal{P}(X \times X)$ , called entourages or controlled sets, which satisfies:

i)  $E_1 \subseteq E_2 \in \mathcal{E} \Rightarrow E_1 \in \mathcal{E}$ .

ii)  $E_1, E_2 \in \mathcal{E} \Rightarrow E_1 \cup E_2 \in \mathcal{E}$

iii)  $\Delta \in \mathcal{E}$ .

iv)  $E_1, E_2 \in \mathcal{E} \Rightarrow E_2 \circ E_1 \in \mathcal{E}$ .

v)  $E \in \mathcal{E} \Rightarrow E^{-1} \in \mathcal{E}$

} Ideal structure

} Groupoid structure.

$$X \times X$$

$$(y, z)(x, y) = (x, z)$$

Then  $(X, \mathcal{E})$  is a coarse space.

Examples:

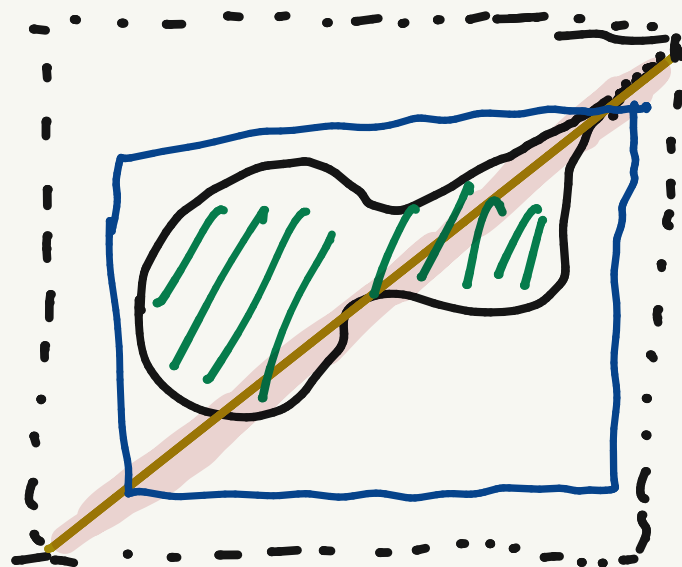
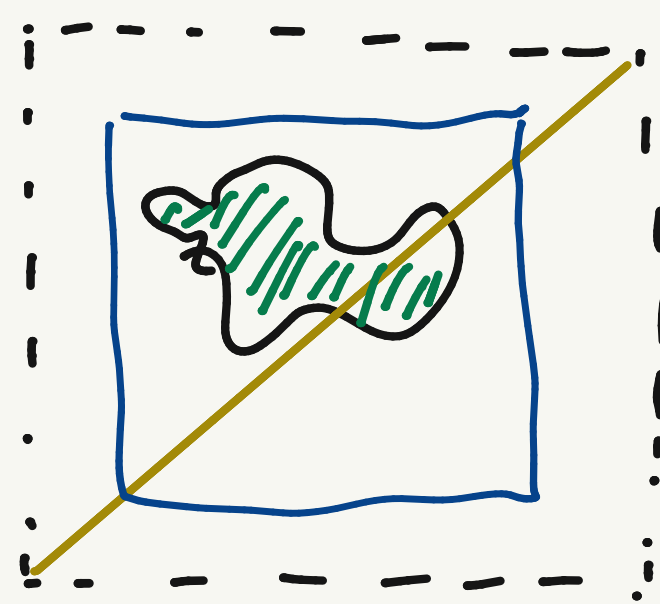
i)  $(X, d)$  metric space  $\leadsto \mathcal{E}_d = \{E \subseteq X \times X \mid \sup_{(x_1, x_2) \in E} d(x_1, x_2) < \infty\}$   
(Bdeed) metric coarse structure

ii)  $(X, d)$  metric space:

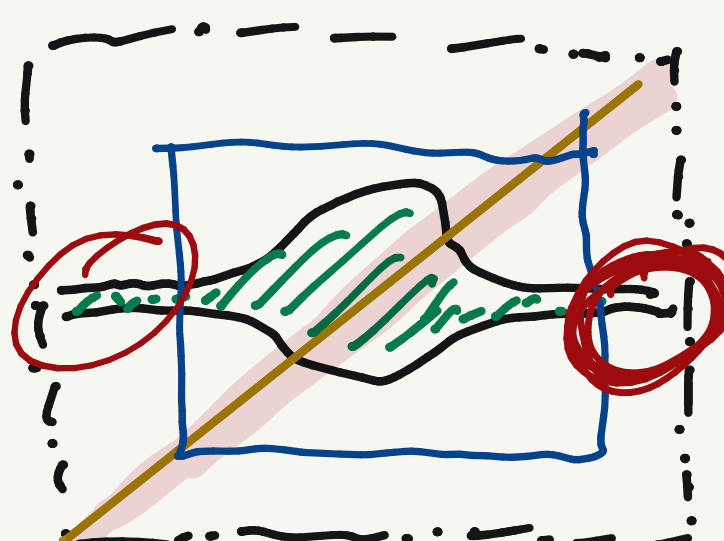
$$\leadsto \mathcal{E}_{co} = \{E \subseteq X \times X \mid \forall \varepsilon > 0 \exists K \subseteq X \text{ cpt s.t. } d|_{E-K \times K} < \varepsilon\}$$

$\mathcal{E}_{co}$  coarse structure

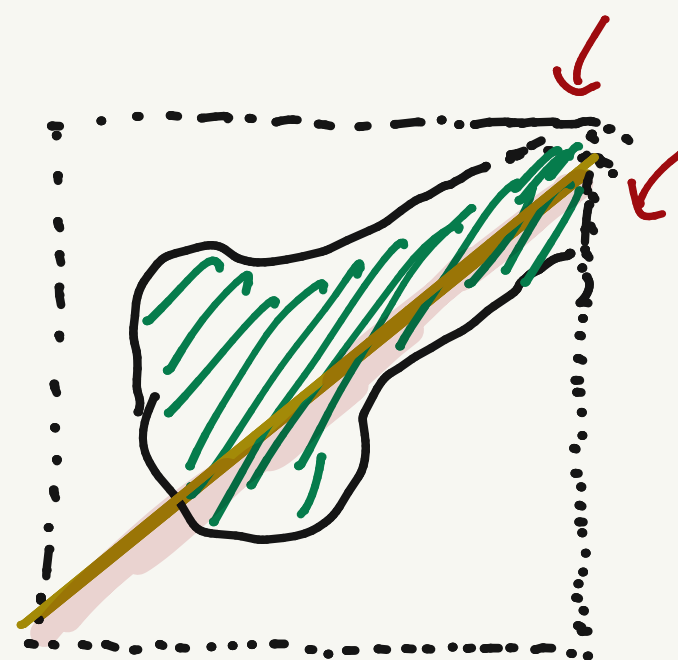
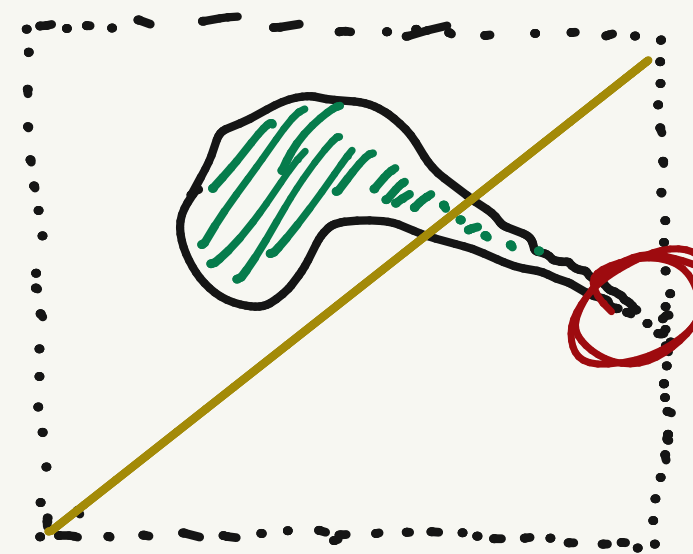
Example in  $X = (0, 1)$ :



Controlled  $E \subseteq X^2$   
 $\Delta = \{(x, x) \mid x \in \mathbb{R}\}$

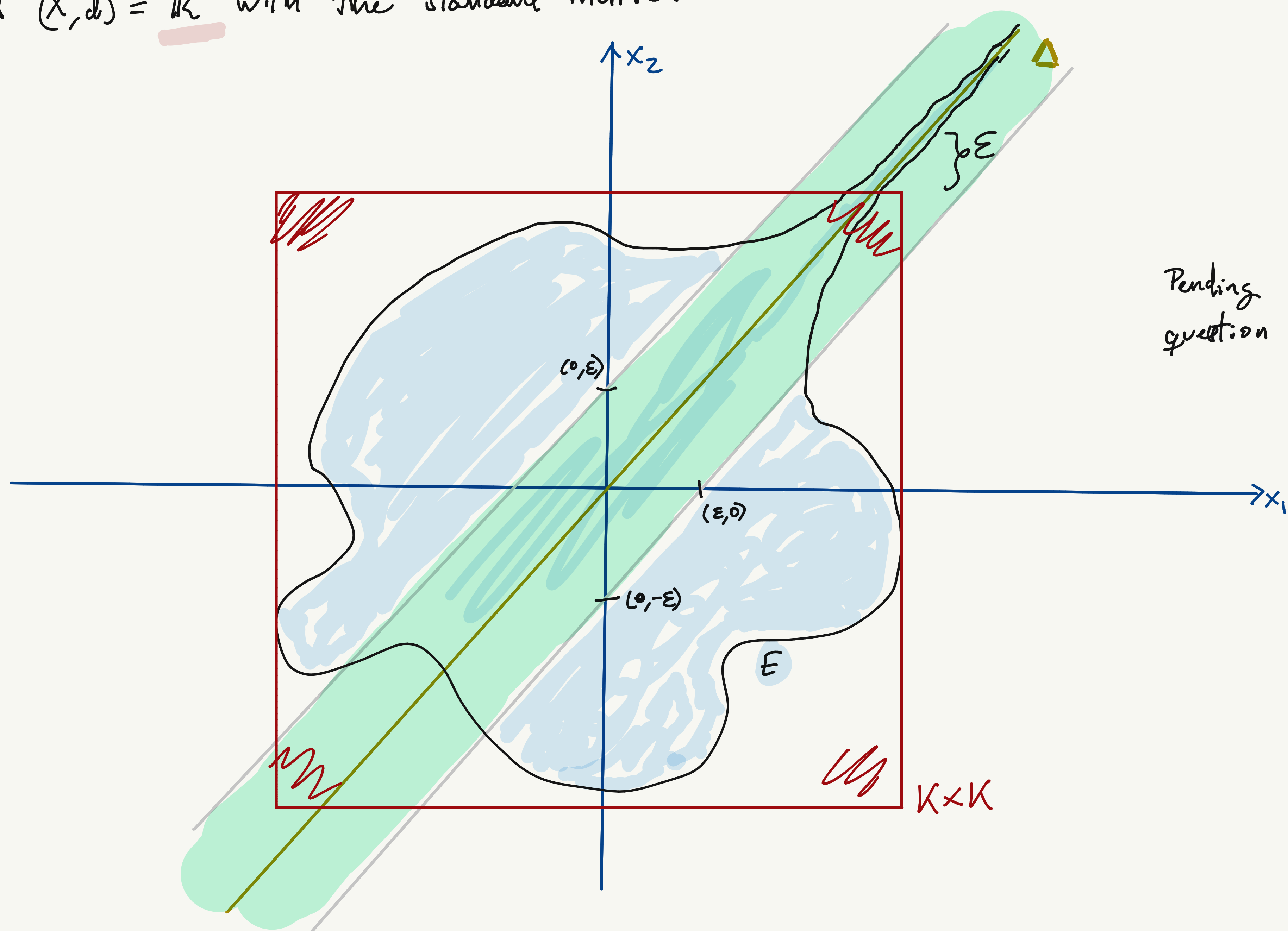


Not controlled



Here  $(0, 1)^2$  is metrically bounded, but not every  $E \subseteq X \times X$  is  $\mathcal{E}_{co}$ -controlled.

-3  $(X, d) = \mathbb{R}$  with the standard metric.



$$T_\epsilon = \{(x_1, x_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid d(x_1, x_2) < \epsilon\} = \{x_1 - \epsilon < x_2 < x_1 + \epsilon\}$$

$E$  is controlled but not bdd.

iii)  $i: X \hookrightarrow \bar{X}$  compactification of a paracompact locally compact Hausdorff space.

$\partial X = \bar{X} \setminus X$  "corona" of the compactification.

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{E}_c &= \{E \subseteq X \times X \mid \bar{E} \setminus X \times X \subseteq \Delta \partial X\} = \\ &= \{E \subseteq X \times X \mid \bar{E} \cap (\partial X \times \bar{X} \cup \bar{X} \times \partial X) \subseteq \Delta \partial X\} \end{aligned}$$

### 3.1. Coarse connectedness

Let  $(X, \mathcal{E})$  be a coarse space. For  $x, y \in X$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
 x \sim y &\stackrel{\text{def}}{\iff} \boxed{\exists E \in \mathcal{E} \text{ s.t. } (x, y) \in E} \\
 \text{"x and y are in the same coarsely connected component"} &\iff \boxed{\exists E \in \mathcal{E} \text{ s.t. } (x, y) \in E} \\
 &\iff \{ (x, y) \} \in \mathcal{E}
 \end{aligned}$$

$F = \{(x, y)\} \subseteq X \times X$ ;  
 $F \subseteq E \in \mathcal{E}$   
 $\Rightarrow F \in \mathcal{E}$

$\mathcal{E} := \{(x, y)\}$

$\sim$  is an equivalence relation.

The coarsely connected components of  $(X, \mathcal{E})$  are the equivalence classes under  $\sim$ .

$(X, \mathcal{E})$  is "coarsely connected" if there is at most one coarsely conn. component.

Example:

• An extended metric space  $(X, d; X \times X \rightarrow [0, +\infty])$  endowed w/ the bid metric coarse str., satisfies:

$$x \sim y \iff d(x, y) < \infty.$$

$$x \sim y \iff \{(x, y)\} \in \mathcal{E}$$

$(X, d)$  is coarsely conn. iff  $d(x, y) < \infty \forall x, y \in X$ , i.e.  $(X, d)$  is a metric space.

$(\overline{\mathbb{R}}, d; \overline{\mathbb{R}} \times \overline{\mathbb{R}} \rightarrow [0, \infty])$  has three coarsely connected components:

$$\underbrace{\{-\infty\}, \mathbb{R}, \{+\infty\}}_{\text{three components}}$$

$$\overline{\mathbb{R}} = [-\infty, +\infty]$$

$$d(-\infty, x) = \infty \quad \forall x \neq -\infty$$

$$d(+\infty, x) = \infty \quad \forall x \neq +\infty$$

• To a graph  $\Gamma = (V, E)$  it corresponds an extended metric space  $(V, d)$ , where

$$d(x, y) = \inf \{ \text{len}(\gamma) \mid \gamma \text{ path from } x \text{ to } y \} \text{ in } [0, \infty]$$

If  $x, y$  are not in the same conn. component of  $\Gamma$ , then

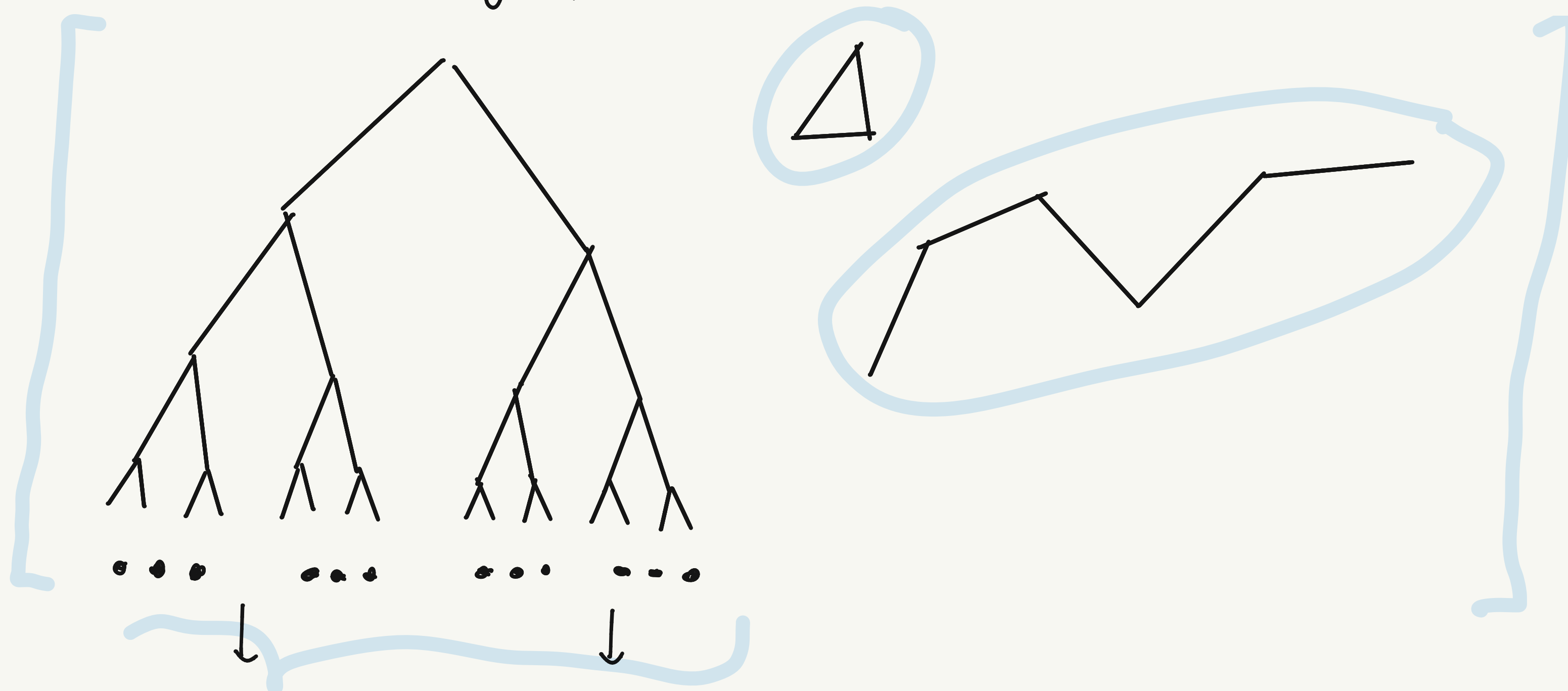
$$d(x, y) = \inf \emptyset = +\infty.$$

$(V, d)$  is coarsely connected  $\iff d$  being a metric

$$\iff \Gamma = (V, E) \text{ is connected.}$$

E.g.  
Consider the graph

$$\mathcal{T} = (V, E)$$



$\mathcal{T}$  has three coarsely conn. components, one is unibed and two bbed.

- One restrict attention to coarsely connected spaces and then argue independently on each component for non coarsely connected spaces.

### 3.2. Closeness of maps and bounded sets

▪ Def: Let  $X$  be any set and  $(Y, \mathcal{E})$  a coarse space. Two maps  $f, g: X \rightrightarrows Y$  are "close",  $f \approx g$ , iff  $\exists E \in \mathcal{E}_Y$  s.t.  $(f(x), g(x)) \in E \ \forall x \in X$ .

$$X \xrightleftharpoons[f]{f} Y; \quad f \times g: X \times X \rightarrow Y \times Y \\ (x_1, x_2) \mapsto (f(x_1), g(x_2))$$

Equivalently,

$$f \approx g \iff (f \times g)(\Delta_X) = \{(f(x), g(x)) \mid x \in X\} \text{ is controlled } (\in \mathcal{E}_Y)$$

▪ Example: Assume  $(Y, d)$  is a metric space and endow it with the bdd metric coarse structure

$$\mathcal{E}_d = \{E \subseteq Y \times Y \mid \exists r > 0 \text{ s.t. } d(x_1, x_2) \leq r \ \forall (x_1, x_2) \in E\}$$

$$X \xrightleftharpoons[f]{f} (Y, d); \quad f \approx g \iff \exists r > 0 \text{ s.t. } d(f(x), g(x)) \leq r \ \forall x \in X.$$

▪  $\approx$  closeness of maps is an equivalence relation on the set of maps  $X \rightarrow Y$ .

▪ Remark: If  $(X, d)$  is a metric space and  $\mathcal{E}_d$  its bdd metric coarse structure, then, for  $B \subseteq X$ ,

$$B \text{ is bdd} \iff \text{diam } B < \infty \quad ; \quad \iff B \times B \in \mathcal{E}_d.$$

$$\text{diam } B = \sup_{(x_1, x_2) \in B \times B} d(x_1, x_2) < \infty$$

▪ Def: Let  $(X, \mathcal{E})$  be a coarse space.  $B \subseteq X$  is said to be "bounded" if it satisfies one of the following equivalent conditions:

- i)  $B \times B \in \mathcal{E}$  ( $B \times B$  is controlled)
- ii)  $\exists x \in X$  s.t.  $\widetilde{B \times \{x\}}$  is controlled  $\left( \begin{array}{l} \text{For } \mathcal{E}_d \text{ if } (X, d) \text{ is a metric sp.} \\ \exists r > 0 \text{ s.t. } d(y, x) \leq r \ \forall y \in B; \\ B \subseteq \overline{B}(x, r) \end{array} \right)$
- iii)  $\exists E \in \mathcal{E}$  and  $x \in X$  s.t.  $B = E[x] = \{y \in X \mid (x, y) \in E\}$
- iv)  $i: B \hookrightarrow X$  is close to a constant map.

▪ Examples:

i)  $(X, d)$  bld metric structure  $\mathcal{E}_d$ .

$B \subseteq X$  bld wrt.  $\mathcal{E}_d \iff B$  is  $d$ -bounded

ii)  $(X, d)$  metric space.  $\rightarrow \mathcal{E}_{C_0}$  coarse structure;

$$\mathcal{E}_{C_0} = \left\{ E \subseteq X \times X \mid \forall \varepsilon > 0 \ \exists K \subseteq X \text{ cpt s.t. } d|_{E \setminus K \times K} < \varepsilon \right\}$$

Let  $B \subseteq X$ .

[Bnd. cpt  $\xRightarrow{(a)}$   $B$  is bld wrt.  $\mathcal{E}_{C_0}$   $\xRightarrow{(b)}$   $d$ -bounded]

(a)  $\forall \varepsilon > 0$ , choose  $K = \overline{B}$ ;  $\underbrace{B \times B}_{\text{cpt}} \setminus K \times K = \emptyset$

$B \times B$  controlled  $\rightarrow B$  bld wrt.  $\mathcal{E}_{C_0}$ .

(b) Choose  $\varepsilon > 0$ . Since  $B \times B \in \mathcal{E}_{C_0}$ ,  $\exists K \subseteq X$  cpt. s.t.

$$d|_{B \times B \setminus K \times K} < \varepsilon.$$

$$B \times B \setminus K \times K = (B \setminus K) \times B \cup B \times (B \setminus K)$$

If  $B \setminus K = \emptyset$ ,  $B \subseteq K$  and  $K$  is cpt, then  $B$  is bld.

otherwise, choose  $x \in B \setminus K$ , and then for  $y \in B$ ,

$$(x, y) \in (B \setminus K) \times B, \quad d(x, y) < \varepsilon; \quad B \subseteq \overline{B}(x, \varepsilon), \quad B \text{ } d\text{-bld}$$

Conclusion: If  $(X, d)$  is a proper metric space,

$$B \text{ bld wrt. } \mathcal{E}_{C_0} \iff B \text{ } d\text{-bld} \iff B \text{ rel. cpt.}$$

iii)  $i: X \hookrightarrow \bar{X}$  compactification.  $\partial X = \bar{X} - X$   
 "corona"

$$E_i = \left\{ E \subseteq X \times X \mid \begin{array}{c} \bar{E} - X \times X \\ \uparrow \\ \bar{X} \times \bar{X} \end{array} = \Delta_{\partial X} \right\}$$

Let  $B \subseteq X$ . Then

$$B \text{ bdd} \Leftrightarrow B \times B \in E_i \Leftrightarrow \overbrace{(B \times B) \cap (\partial X \times \bar{X} \cup \bar{X} \times \partial X)}^{\bar{B} \times \bar{B}} = \Delta_{\partial X}$$

$$(\bar{B} \cap \partial X) \times \bar{B} \cup (\bar{B} \times \bar{B} \cap \partial X) = \Delta_{\partial X}$$

If  $\bar{B} \cap \partial X = \emptyset$ , then the condition is satisfied.

so  $B$  is bdd.

If  $\bar{B} \cap \partial X \neq \emptyset$ , in particular  $\bar{B} \neq \emptyset$ , and so  $B \neq \emptyset$ .

We choose  $w \in \bar{B} \cap \partial X$  and  $y \in B$ . Then

$$(w, y) \in (\bar{B} \cap \partial X) \times \bar{B} \setminus \Delta_{\partial X}$$

so  $B$  is not bdd.

Then:

$$B \text{ is bdd} \Leftrightarrow \boxed{\bar{B} \cap \partial X = \emptyset} \Leftrightarrow \bar{B}^{\bar{X}} \subseteq X$$

### 3.3. Maps between coarse spaces

• Def: Let  $f: (X, \mathcal{E}_X) \rightarrow (Y, \mathcal{E}_Y)$  be a map between coarse spaces.

→  $f$  is "controlled" if  $\forall E \in \mathcal{E}_X, \underbrace{(f \times f)(E)}_{\{(f(x_1), f(x_2)) \mid (x_1, x_2) \in E\}} \in \mathcal{E}_Y$ .

$$\{(f(x_1), f(x_2)) \mid (x_1, x_2) \in E\}$$

$f$  is "controlled" if  $\forall E \in \mathcal{E}_X \exists F \in \mathcal{E}_Y$  s.t.

$$(x_1, x_2) \in E \Rightarrow (f(x_1), f(x_2)) \in F.$$

→  $f$  is "proper" if  $\forall B \subseteq Y$  bdd,  $f^{-1}(B) \subseteq X$  is bdd.

→  $f$  is a "coarse map" if it is controlled and proper.

The category "Coarse" has:

→ Objects: Coarse spaces  $(X, \mathcal{E}_X)$

→  $\text{Coarse}(X, Y) = \{ \text{coarse maps } X \rightarrow Y \}$

Composition of coarse maps is coarse.

Coarse  
(X, E)  
(X, E) → (Y, E)  
• Weak equivalences (coarse equivalence)  
Category w/ weak equivalences  
• Fib, Cofib?

Top  
(X, C)  
(X, C) → (Y, C)  
X  $\xrightarrow[f]{f}$  Y ;  $f \simeq g$ .  
• Weak eq.  
• Fib.  
• Cofib.

Coarse /  $\simeq$

$$f_1 \simeq f_2, g_1 \simeq g_2 \Rightarrow g_1 f_1 \simeq g_2 f_2$$

Ob:  $(X, \mathcal{E})$  coarse spaces

$$\text{hom}(X, Y) = \{ [f] \mid f: X \rightarrow Y \text{ coarse} \}$$

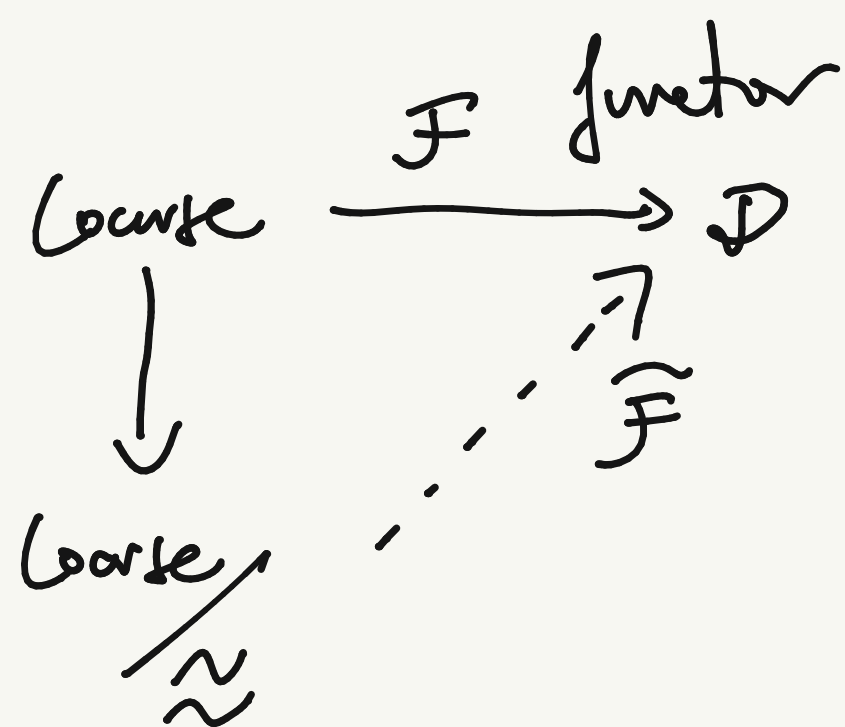
↑  
eq. class up to closeness.

Top /  $\simeq$

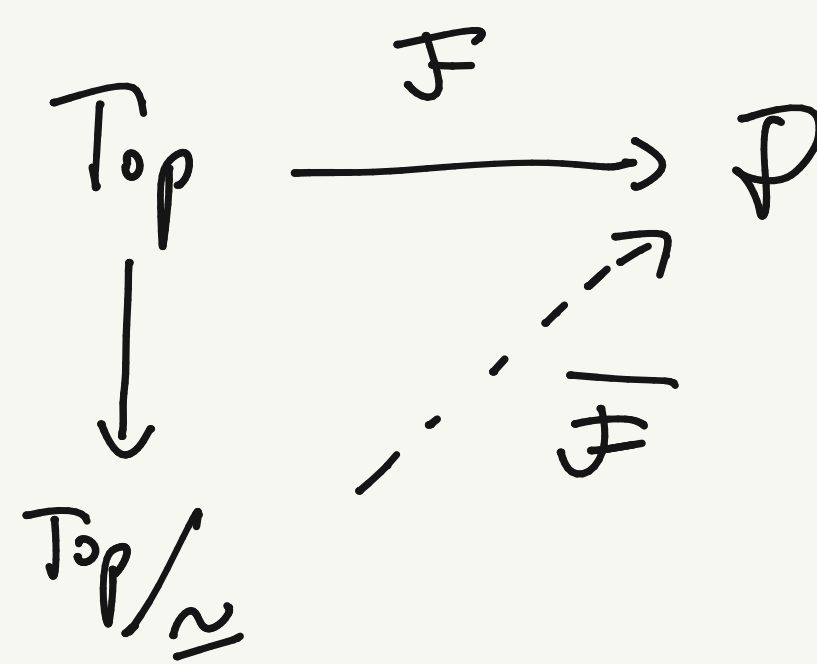
ob:  $(X, \mathcal{C})$  top. spaces

$$\text{hom}(X, Y) = \{ [f] \mid f: X \rightarrow Y \text{ continuous} \}$$

↑  
eq. class under  $\simeq$



Coarse invariants



Homotopy invariants

If  $\mathcal{F}; \text{Coarse} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$  is a coarse invariant, then

$$X \overset{\sim}{\simeq} Y \implies \mathcal{F}(X) \cong \mathcal{F}(Y).$$

(isomorphisms in  
 $\text{Coarse}/\overset{\sim}{\simeq}$ )

•  $f: (X, \varepsilon) \longrightarrow (Y, \overset{\text{maximal coarse structure}}{\widetilde{\mathcal{P}(Y \times Y)}})$

$f$  is controlled  $\forall \varepsilon$  coarse str. on  $X$

$f$  is proper iff  $(X, \varepsilon)$  is bdd, iff  $\varepsilon = \mathcal{P}(X \times X)$ .

Control: Obj:  $(X, \varepsilon)$  coarse spaces

hom: controlled maps.

$$\left( f_i: X \overset{\downarrow}{\text{set}} \longrightarrow (Y_i, \varepsilon_i) \right)_{i \in I} \text{ u-source;}$$

$\varepsilon_{\text{ini}}$  coarse structure on  $X$ ; the largest coarse structure on  $X$   
 such that  $f_i$  is controlled  $\forall i \in I$

$(X, d) \rightarrow$  Bdd metric structure  $\nearrow \mathcal{E}_d$

i.  $\rightarrow$  Connectedness

ii.  $\rightarrow$  Bddness

$B \subseteq X$  is bounded w.r.t.  $\mathcal{E}_d \Leftrightarrow B \times B \in \mathcal{E}_d \Leftrightarrow \exists r > 0$  st.

$d(x_1, x_2) \leq r \quad \forall (x_1, x_2) \in B \times B \Leftrightarrow 2r / \text{diam } B \leq r \Leftrightarrow B$  d-bdd

i) Coarse connectedness vs path-conn. vs connectedness.

$(X, d)$  is coarsely connected iff  $d(x, y) < \infty \quad \forall x, y \in X$

Path-connected  $\Rightarrow$  coarsely conn. (Heine-Cantor Theorem).

$\Leftarrow$  e.g.  $G$  f.g. groups:

$(\mathbb{Z}, d)$  is coarsely conn but it is not path-conn.

$\text{Cay}(G, S) \rightarrow (G, d_S)$  not path-conn., but coarsely equivalent to the geometric realization of  $\text{Cay}(G, S)$ , which is path-conn.

$\Rightarrow$  Question: Given a metric space  $X$  (which is then coarsely conn.), is there a path-conn. metric space  $Y$  st.  $X \simeq_c Y$ ?

$X = \{\mathbb{Z}^n \mid n \in \mathbb{N}\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  w/ the inherited metric,

$X$  is not coarsely equivalent to a path-conn. metric space.

because  $X$  is not  $r$ -connected for any  $r > 0$ .

( $Y$  is " $r$ -connected" if  $\forall x, y \in Y \exists x_0 = x, x_1, \dots, x_n = y \in Y$  such that  $d(x_i, x_{i+1}) \leq r \quad \forall i = 0, \dots, n-1$ )

