

Corner-Exit Slivers for Calibrated Sheet Constructions: Deterministic Face Incidence and Uniform Boundary Control

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Abstract

We introduce corner-exit slivers: local calibrated template pieces inside a cube whose footprint is a uniformly fat simplex meeting only a prescribed set of boundary faces. The corner-exit geometry provides deterministic control of where sheet boundaries can occur, a key requirement in mesh-based gluing of many small calibrated pieces.

In Euclidean \mathbb{C}^n , we construct a $(2p - 1)$ -parameter translation family of complex $(n - p)$ -plane templates whose intersection with a cube has identical corner-exit footprint geometry. We prove two robust properties: (i) face incidence is stable under sufficiently small C^1 graph perturbations, so a realized sheet intersects a cube face if and only if that face is designated by the template; (ii) the boundary mass on each designated face is comparable to a fixed scale $v^{(k-1)/k}$, where v is the interior k -volume of the sliver.

Combining this geometry with Bergman-scale holomorphic manufacturing yields holomorphic corner-exit slivers in projective Kähler manifolds with an L^1 -type interface estimate controlling the total boundary-face mass by $O(v^{(k-1)/k})$. We further build robust corner-exit template families for finite nets of calibrated directions, providing a uniform dictionary of geometric building blocks for later global coherence and gluing arguments.

1 Introduction

When one assembles many local sheet pieces on a cubical mesh, the only place the assembled object can fail to be closed is along mesh interfaces: codimension-one faces of cubes. If the sheet pieces are arbitrary, their boundary traces on cube faces can be geometrically complicated and hard to match. Corner-exit slivers are designed to remove that difficulty.

A corner-exit sliver is built from a local *template* whose footprint inside a cube is a uniformly fat simplex placed near a chosen cube vertex. The defining inequalities force the footprint to touch only a prescribed set of “near” faces (those incident to that vertex) and to stay a definite distance from all other faces. This has two consequences:

(G1) Deterministic face incidence. Any sufficiently small C^1 graph perturbation of the template intersects exactly the same set of cube faces.

(G2) Uniform boundary control. Each designated face slice has $(k-1)$ -mass comparable to the k -volume of the footprint to the power $(k-1)/k$.

These two outputs are exactly what one needs later for global matching and gluing: (G1) makes the boundary *combinatorial*, and (G2) makes it *quantitatively summable*.

Remark 1 (Recognition Geometry framing (optional)). Let \mathcal{C} be a configuration space of templates (for example, translation parameters t in a fixed admissible box), and let \mathcal{E} be the finite event space of face-incidence patterns (subsets of cube faces). The map

$$R : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{E}, \quad R(t) = \{\text{faces hit by the footprint } E(t)\}$$

is a recognizer in the sense of Recognition Geometry. A corner-exit construction produces a large region of \mathcal{C} on which R is constant (one resolution cell), and the stability theorem below says that small C^1 perturbations remain in the same cell. In short: corner-exit slivers turn “which faces are hit” into a robust finite-resolution observable.

2 Corner-exit templates and slivers in cubes

We begin in Euclidean space. Let $d \geq 2$ and let

$$Q = [0, h]^d \subset \mathbb{R}^d$$

be the standard cube of side length $h > 0$. A *codimension-one face* of Q is any set of the form $\{x_i = 0\} \cap Q$ or $\{x_i = h\} \cap Q$.

Definition 1 (Corner-exit simplex footprint). Fix an integer $1 \leq k < d$ and a vertex v of Q . Let $P \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ be an affine k -plane and set

$$E := P \cap Q.$$

We say that E is a *corner-exit simplex footprint at v* if:

1. E is a (nondegenerate) k -simplex with one vertex at v ;
2. there exist *distinct* codimension-one faces F_0, \dots, F_k of Q , each incident to v , such that the $k+1$ facets of E are exactly the sets $E \cap F_i$ ($i = 0, \dots, k$);
3. E meets no other codimension-one faces of Q .

The faces F_0, \dots, F_k are called the *designated exit faces*.

Definition 2 (Quantitative fatness for simplices). Let $E \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ be a k -simplex, and let $\Pi = \text{aff}(E)$ be its affine span. Fix $\Lambda \geq 1$. We say E is Λ -fat if there exists an affine isomorphism $A : \Pi \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^k$ such that

$$\|DA\| \leq \Lambda, \quad \|(DA)^{-1}\| \leq \Lambda,$$

and $A(E)$ is a standard k -simplex of some scale $s > 0$.

Definition 3 (Corner-exit sliver (geometric form)). Let $E = P \cap Q$ be a corner-exit simplex footprint with designated exit faces F_0, \dots, F_k and gap

$$\delta := \min\{\text{dist}(E, F) : F \text{ a codimension-one face of } Q, F \notin \{F_0, \dots, F_k\}\}.$$

A smooth oriented k -submanifold $Y \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ is a *corner-exit sliver over E in Q* if $Y \cap Q$ is the image of a C^1 embedding $\Phi : E \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$ such that:

1. (*small slope*) Φ is a C^1 graph over E with slope $\leq \varepsilon$, meaning $\|D\Phi - \text{Id}\|_{C^0(E)} \leq C\varepsilon$ in the coordinates of P ;
2. (*small displacement*) $\sup_{x \in E} |\Phi(x) - x| < \delta/2$.

The purpose of these definitions is that they isolate what later gluing arguments actually use: the face incidence pattern and the size of boundary traces.

3 An explicit complex corner-exit translation template in \mathbb{C}^n

We now give an explicit construction of corner-exit templates in \mathbb{C}^n with a $(2p-1)$ -parameter translation family and identical footprints.

Fix integers $n \geq 1$ and $1 \leq p \leq n$, and set

$$k := 2(n-p), \quad d := 2n.$$

Identify $\mathbb{C}^n \cong \mathbb{R}^{2n}$ and write $\mathbb{C}^n = \mathbb{C}^{n-p} \times \mathbb{C}^p$ with coordinates $z = (u, w)$, where $u = (u_1, \dots, u_{n-p})$ and $w = (w_1, \dots, w_p)$.

Lemma 1 (A concrete complex corner-exit translation template in a cube). *Let $Q = [0, h]^{2n} \subset \mathbb{R}^{2n} \cong \mathbb{C}^n$ be the coordinate cube with vertex 0. Fix a constant $0 < c_0 < 1$ and choose a scale $s > 0$ with $s \leq c_0 h/100$.*

Define a complex $(n-p)$ -plane $P \subset \mathbb{C}^n$ as the graph of the complex-linear map $A : \mathbb{C}^{n-p} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^p$ given by

$$w_1 = -(1-i) \sum_{j=1}^{n-p} u_j, \quad w_2 = \dots = w_p = 0.$$

For translation parameters $t = (t_1, \dots, t_p) \in \mathbb{C}^p$, write

$$P_t := \{(u, Au + t) : u \in \mathbb{C}^{n-p}\}.$$

Assume t satisfies the interior-margin bounds

$$\Re t_1 = s, \quad 2s \leq \Im t_1 \leq 3s, \quad 2s \leq \Re t_j, \Im t_j \leq 3s \quad (2 \leq j \leq p).$$

Then $E(t) := P_t \cap Q$ has the following properties:

1. (Corner-exit simplex footprint) $E(t)$ is a k -simplex contained in the ball $B(0, c_0 h)$.
2. (Fixed designated exit faces) The $k+1$ facets of $E(t)$ lie on the $k+1$ coordinate faces

$$F_{\Re u_j=0}, \quad F_{\Im u_j=0} \quad (1 \leq j \leq n-p), \quad \text{and} \quad F_{\Re w_1=0},$$

and $E(t)$ meets no other codimension-one faces of Q .

3. (Uniform fatness and equal footprint geometry) *Throughout the admissible parameter box (with fixed $\Re t_1 = s$), the footprints are identical up to translation in transverse directions. In particular, $\mathcal{H}^k(E(t))$ and each facet measure $\mathcal{H}^{k-1}(E(t) \cap F)$ are independent of t . Moreover, $E(t)$ is Λ -fat for a constant Λ depending only on (n, p) .*

Finally, the admissible parameter box has real dimension $2p - 1$, so for any separation scale $\eta > 0$ one can choose an ordered η -separated list $(t_a)_{a \geq 1}$ in that box. All footprints $E(t_a)$ then have exactly equal k -volume and exactly equal facet measures.

Proof. Write $u_j = x_j + iy_j$ with $x_j = \Re u_j$ and $y_j = \Im u_j$. On P_t one computes

$$\Re w_1 = \Re t_1 + \Re \left(-(1-i) \sum_{j=1}^{n-p} u_j \right) = s - \sum_{j=1}^{n-p} (x_j + y_j),$$

and

$$\Im w_1 = \Im t_1 + \Im \left(-(1-i) \sum_{j=1}^{n-p} u_j \right) = \Im t_1 + \sum_{j=1}^{n-p} (x_j - y_j).$$

The cube constraints on w_2, \dots, w_p are automatic because $w_j \equiv t_j$ and the margin assumptions place each t_j strictly inside $(0, h) + i(0, h)$.

Consider the region cut out by $x_j \geq 0$, $y_j \geq 0$, and $\sum_j (x_j + y_j) \leq s$. On this region one has $|\sum_j (x_j - y_j)| \leq \sum_j (x_j + y_j) \leq s$, hence

$$\Im w_1 \in [\Im t_1 - s, \Im t_1 + s] \subset [s, 4s] \subset (0, h),$$

so the faces $\{\Im w_1 = 0\}$ and $\{\Im w_1 = h\}$ are avoided. Also $\Re w_1 \in [0, s] \subset (0, h)$ avoids the face $\{\Re w_1 = h\}$. Finally $x_j, y_j \leq s \ll h$ avoids the far faces $\{\Re u_j = h\}$ and $\{\Im u_j = h\}$.

Consequently, $E(t) = P_t \cap Q$ is cut out on P_t exactly by the inequalities

$$x_j \geq 0, \quad y_j \geq 0 \quad (1 \leq j \leq n-p), \quad \text{and} \quad \Re w_1 \geq 0,$$

which is equivalent (on P_t) to $\sum_j (x_j + y_j) \leq s$ together with the nonnegativity of the $k = 2(n-p)$ real coordinates $(x_1, y_1, \dots, x_{n-p}, y_{n-p})$. This is the standard k -simplex of scale s embedded affinely in \mathbb{R}^{2n} , so $E(t)$ is a k -simplex and its facets lie exactly on the faces listed, proving (1) and (2). Since $s \leq c_0 h / 100$, the whole simplex lies in a ball $B(0, c_0 h)$.

The defining inequalities on (x_j, y_j) do not depend on t once $\Re t_1 = s$ is fixed, so $\mathcal{H}^k(E(t))$ and all facet measures are independent of t . Fatness follows because $E(t)$ is the image of the standard simplex under the fixed affine embedding $u \mapsto (u, Au + t)$; the distortion is controlled by the condition number of the fixed linear map $(, A)$, hence by a constant depending only on (n, p) .

The dimension count is immediate: $\Re t_1$ is fixed, $\Im t_1$ varies in an interval (1 real parameter), and for each $j = 2, \dots, p$ both $\Re t_j$ and $\Im t_j$ vary (2 real parameters each), giving $1 + 2(p-1) = 2p-1$. \square

4 Two quantitative lemmas: graph distortion and simplex facet scaling

We now isolate two quantitative facts used repeatedly.

Lemma 2 (Small-slope graph distortion for volumes and facet measures). *Let $k \geq 1$ and let $E \subset \mathbb{R}^k$ be measurable. Let $G : E \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^q$ be C^1 with*

$$\|DG\|_{L^\infty(E)} \leq \varepsilon, \quad 0 < \varepsilon \leq 1.$$

Define the graph map $\Gamma : E \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{k+q}$ by $\Gamma(x) = (x, G(x))$. Then

$$1 \leq J_k \Gamma(x) = \sqrt{\det(I_k + (DG(x))^T DG(x))} \leq (1 + \varepsilon^2)^{k/2} \leq 1 + k\varepsilon^2,$$

and consequently

$$\mathcal{H}^k(E) \leq \mathcal{H}^k(\Gamma(E)) \leq (1 + k\varepsilon^2) \mathcal{H}^k(E).$$

Moreover, if $F \subset E$ is contained in a C^1 hypersurface in \mathbb{R}^k , then the same estimate holds in dimension $(k - 1)$:

$$\mathcal{H}^{k-1}(F) \leq \mathcal{H}^{k-1}(\Gamma(F)) \leq (1 + (k - 1)\varepsilon^2) \mathcal{H}^{k-1}(F).$$

Proof. The matrix $A := (DG)^T DG$ is positive semidefinite and every eigenvalue of A is at most $\|DG\|^2 \leq \varepsilon^2$. Hence $\det(I_k + A) \leq (1 + \varepsilon^2)^k$ and so $J_k \Gamma \leq (1 + \varepsilon^2)^{k/2}$. The inequality $(1 + \varepsilon^2)^{k/2} \leq 1 + k\varepsilon^2$ holds for $0 \leq \varepsilon \leq 1$ by convexity of $t \mapsto (1 + t)^{k/2}$. The volume inequalities follow from integrating the Jacobian over E .

For the $(k - 1)$ -dimensional bound, restrict Γ to a $(k - 1)$ -dimensional tangent subspace: the corresponding Jacobian is controlled by the same eigenvalue bound, with k replaced by $k - 1$. \square

Lemma 3 (Facet mass comparable to $v^{(k-1)/k}$ for fat simplices). *Fix $d \geq 2$, $1 \leq k < d$, and $\Lambda \geq 1$. Let $E \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ be a Λ -fat k -simplex and write $v_E := \mathcal{H}^k(E)$. Let $\sigma_0, \dots, \sigma_k$ be the $(k - 1)$ -facets of E , and set $a_i := \mathcal{H}^{k-1}(\sigma_i)$. Then there exist constants $0 < c_\star \leq C_\star < \infty$ depending only on (k, Λ) such that for every $i = 0, \dots, k$,*

$$c_\star v_E^{(k-1)/k} \leq a_i \leq C_\star v_E^{(k-1)/k}.$$

Proof. By Λ -fatness there is an affine isomorphism $A : \text{aff}(E) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^k$ with operator norms of DA and $(DA)^{-1}$ bounded by Λ , mapping E to a standard

simplex Δ_s of some scale $s > 0$. Since A is affine, its k -Jacobian and $(k-1)$ -Jacobian are constant on $\text{aff}(E)$ and are bounded above and below by constants depending only on (k, Λ) . Therefore

$$v_E = \mathcal{H}^k(E) \simeq_{k, \Lambda} \mathcal{H}^k(\Delta_s) \simeq_k s^k, \quad a_i = \mathcal{H}^{k-1}(\sigma_i) \simeq_{k, \Lambda} \mathcal{H}^{k-1}(\text{facet of } \Delta_s) \simeq_k s^{k-1}.$$

Eliminating s yields $a_i \simeq_{k, \Lambda} v_E^{(k-1)/k}$ uniformly in i . \square

5 Stability under C^1 perturbations: deterministic face incidence and boundary control

We now prove the two main outputs (G1)–(G2) in a general Euclidean form.

Proposition 1 (Corner-exit footprint geometry for small-slope graphs). *Fix $d \geq 2$ and $1 \leq k < d$. Let $Q = [0, h]^d \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ and let $E = P \cap Q$ be a corner-exit simplex footprint with designated exit faces F_0, \dots, F_k and gap $\delta > 0$ to all non-designated faces. Assume E is Λ -fat.*

Let $Y \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ be a smooth oriented k -submanifold such that $Y \cap Q = \Phi(E)$ where $\Phi : E \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$ is a C^1 graph over E with slope at most ε and displacement $\sup_{x \in E} |\Phi(x) - x| < \delta/2$.

Then:

(G1) (Face incidence is deterministic.) *For any codimension-one face F of Q ,*

$$Y \cap F \neq \emptyset \iff F \in \{F_0, \dots, F_k\}.$$

(G2) (Per-face boundary mass is uniformly controlled.) *For each $i = 0, \dots, k$, the intersection $Y \cap F_i$ is a smooth oriented $(k-1)$ -submanifold and*

$$\mathcal{H}^{k-1}(Y \cap F_i) = (1 + O_k(\varepsilon^2)) \mathcal{H}^{k-1}(E \cap F_i) \simeq_{k, \Lambda} v_E^{(k-1)/k},$$

where $v_E = \mathcal{H}^k(E)$ and the implied constants depend only on (k, Λ) .

Proof. (G1) Let F be any codimension-one face not in $\{F_0, \dots, F_k\}$. By definition of δ , $\text{dist}(E, F) \geq \delta$. If $y \in Y \cap F$, then $y = \Phi(x)$ for some $x \in E$, hence

$$\delta \leq \text{dist}(x, F) \leq |x - \Phi(x)| < \delta/2,$$

a contradiction. Therefore $Y \cap F = \emptyset$ for all non-designated faces.

Conversely, if $F = F_i$ is designated, then $E \cap F_i$ is a nonempty facet of E . Because Φ is C^1 -close to the identity on E and maps E into Q , the image of this facet must meet F_i . (Geometrically: the facet is the locus

where a defining inequality of E becomes equality; a small C^1 perturbation preserves that boundary contact.) Thus $Y \cap F_i \neq \emptyset$.

(G2) The intersection $Y \cap F_i$ is a small-slope graph over the facet $E \cap F_i$, so the $(k-1)$ -dimensional graph distortion lemma gives

$$\mathcal{H}^{k-1}(Y \cap F_i) = (1 + O_k(\varepsilon^2)) \mathcal{H}^{k-1}(E \cap F_i).$$

Since E is Λ -fat, the facet scaling lemma yields $\mathcal{H}^{k-1}(E \cap F_i) \simeq_{k,\Lambda} v_E^{(k-1)/k}$, giving the final bound. \square

Remark 2 (Currents language (what later gluing uses)). If Y is a smooth oriented k -manifold without boundary, the integration current $[Y]$ satisfies $\partial([Y] \llcorner Q) = [Y] \llcorner \partial Q$. In that case, $\text{Mass}(\partial([Y] \llcorner Q) \llcorner F_i) = \mathcal{H}^{k-1}(Y \cap F_i)$. Thus (G2) can be read as a quantitative per-face boundary mass estimate for the restricted current $[Y] \llcorner Q$.

6 Boundary-face L^1 interface control

We now package (G2) into an L^1 -type estimate that is robust under taking many slivers.

Proposition 2 (L^1 interface mass control on boundary faces). *Fix $d \geq 2$ and $1 \leq k < d$. Let $Q = [0, h]^d$ and let $Y^{(1)}, \dots, Y^{(N)} \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ be smooth oriented k -submanifolds such that for each a the piece $Y^{(a)} \cap Q$ is a corner-exit sliver over a Λ -fat corner-exit simplex footprint E_a (with some designated exit faces depending on a), with slope at most $\varepsilon \leq 1$.*

Write $v_a := \mathcal{H}^k(E_a)$. Then there exists a constant $C = C(k, \Lambda)$ such that

$$\sum_{a=1}^N \sum_{F \subset \partial Q} \sum_{\text{codim}=1} \mathcal{H}^{k-1}(Y^{(a)} \cap F) \leq C (1 + O_k(\varepsilon^2)) \sum_{a=1}^N v_a^{(k-1)/k}.$$

In particular, if one measures boundary by the mass of $\partial([Y^{(a)}] \llcorner Q)$, then

$$\sum_{a=1}^N \text{Mass}(\partial([Y^{(a)}] \llcorner Q)) \leq C (1 + O_k(\varepsilon^2)) \sum_{a=1}^N v_a^{(k-1)/k}.$$

Proof. Each footprint E_a has exactly $k+1$ designated exit faces, and meets no other codimension-one faces. By (G2), on each designated face the $(k-1)$ -measure of the boundary slice is $\simeq_{k,\Lambda} v_a^{(k-1)/k}$ up to the common $1 +$

$O_k(\varepsilon^2)$ factor coming from the graph distortion. Summing the $k + 1$ face contributions per sliver and then summing over a yields the stated bound. \square

Corollary 1 (No-heavy-tail uniformity for the explicit complex template family). *In the explicit \mathbb{C}^n construction of the corner-exit translation template, all footprints $E(t)$ in the admissible parameter box have identical k -volume and identical facet measures. Therefore an ordered separated list (t_a) produces a family of corner-exit templates with exactly equal per-piece boundary scales (no heavy tails along the order). If a realized family $(Y^{(a)})$ consists of small-slope graphs over these footprints with a common slope bound ε , then all per-piece boundary masses differ only by a common $(1 + O(\varepsilon^2))$ factor.*

7 Uniform corner-exit template dictionaries for direction nets

For later global constructions, one often fixes a finite net of calibrated directions and wants a uniform corner-exit template family associated to each direction label.

Proposition 3 (Uniform corner-exit templates for a finite calibrated direction net). *Fix (n, p) and work locally in holomorphic charts in a Kähler manifold so that cubes are defined in holomorphic normal coordinates. Let $\{\Pi_1, \dots, \Pi_M\}$ be a finite set of complex $(n - p)$ -planes in \mathbb{C}^n (a finite direction net). Then there exist constants $c_0 \in (0, 1)$ and $\Lambda \geq 1$, depending only on (n, p) , with the following property:*

For each $j \in \{1, \dots, M\}$ there exists a choice of unitary holomorphic coordinates in which Π_j is represented as a fixed reference plane, and in those coordinates the explicit complex corner-exit translation template produces a $(2p - 1)$ -parameter family of calibrated planes whose cube intersections are Λ -fat corner-exit simplex footprints with the same designated-face pattern and the same footprint scale. All constants (Λ , the slope-to-face-incidence tolerance, and the per-face mass comparability constants) are uniform in j .

Proof. All complex $(n - p)$ -planes in \mathbb{C}^n are related by unitary transformations, and unitary transformations preserve calibration, Euclidean norms, and the quantitative fatness constants of simplices. Because the net is finite, one may choose for each Π_j a unitary coordinate frame adapted to it, and then apply the explicit template construction in that frame with

the same fixed linear map A . Uniformity of the constants follows because the explicit template constants depend only on (n, p) and the chosen scale separation $s \ll h$, not on j . \square

8 Interface with Bergman-scale holomorphic manufacturing

The Euclidean results above are purely geometric. To obtain *holomorphic* corner-exit slivers in a projective Kähler manifold, one needs a separate analytic input: a local manufacturing result guaranteeing that, on a Bergman-scale cube, a holomorphic complete intersection can be made into a small-slope graph over a prescribed affine complex plane template.

We record the interface as a clean corollary: if holomorphic manufacturing produces a small-slope graph over a corner-exit footprint, then the corner-exit conclusions follow automatically from the geometry already proved.

Corollary 2 (Holomorphic corner-exit slivers inherit deterministic face incidence and boundary control). *Let X be a smooth complex projective manifold with Kähler form ω arising as the curvature of an ample line bundle. Fix p and let $k = 2(n - p)$.*

Fix a holomorphic chart identifying a neighborhood with a cube $Q = [0, h]^{2n} \subset \mathbb{C}^n$. Let P_t be any plane in the explicit complex corner-exit translation template family (with footprint scale $s \ll h$) and let $E(t) = P_t \cap Q$ be the corresponding corner-exit simplex footprint.

Suppose a holomorphic complete intersection $Y \subset X$ (cut out by p holomorphic sections of a large tensor power) satisfies that $Y \cap Q$ is a single C^1 graph over $E(t)$ with slope at most ε and displacement $< \delta/2$, where δ is the gap from $E(t)$ to all non-designated cube faces.

Then $Y \cap Q$ is a corner-exit sliver and satisfies (G1)–(G2) from the stability proposition: it intersects a cube face if and only if that face is designated by the template, and each designated face slice has boundary mass $\simeq v^{(k-1)/k}$ where $v = \mathcal{H}^k(E(t))$. Consequently, any finite family of such holomorphic corner-exit slivers in Q satisfies the L^1 interface estimate of the previous section.

Proof. The hypotheses are exactly those of the stability proposition (with $d = 2n$). Holomorphicity is used only to ensure smoothness of Y and the absence of boundary inside Q ; the face-incidence and boundary-mass con-

clusions are geometric consequences of being a small-slope graph over a corner-exit footprint. \square

9 Discussion

Corner-exit slivers are structurally stronger than generic “graph over a plane” pieces for one specific reason: they promote boundary behavior from geometry to combinatorics. A corner-exit footprint comes with a *finite* face-incidence pattern that is stable under perturbations, and with a uniform boundary scale that depends only on the footprint volume. This makes it possible to run later matching and gluing arguments on a mesh without needing to solve a geometric boundary-tracing problem anew in every cell.