A standalone proof of the microstructure/gluing estimate ($\mathcal{F}(\partial T^{\mathrm{raw}}) = o(m)$)

December 16, 2025

1 What this note proves (and why)

In the main manuscript `hodge-SAVE-dec-12-handoff.tex`, the microstructure/gluing checkpoint is recorded as the quantitative estimate

$$\mathcal{F}\big(\partial T^{\mathrm{raw}}\big) \;=\; o(m),$$

for the raw current T^{raw} built by assembling many local calibrated holomorphic pieces across a mesh of size h. This is the input needed to produce a correction current U_ε with $\partial U_\varepsilon = \partial T^{\mathrm{raw}}$ and $\mathrm{Mass}(U_\varepsilon) \to 0$, which in turn isolates the global mass convergence

$$0 \le \mathrm{Mass}(T_\varepsilon) - \langle T_\varepsilon, \psi\rangle \to 0 \qquad (T_\varepsilon := T^{\mathrm{raw}} - U_\varepsilon).$$

The purpose of this note is to present the gluing bound as a single referee-facing argument: *face-level flat-norm control ⇒ global summation ⇒ scaling/parameter choice ⇒ $o(m)$.*

2 Set-up

Fix integers $n \ge 2$ and $1 \le p \le n$ and set

$$d := 2n, \qquad k := 2n - 2p \quad (1 \le k < d).$$

Let X be a compact smooth manifold equipped with a Riemannian metric; the argument below is local and may be carried out in coordinate charts.

Cells. Fix a mesh scale $h \in (0,1)$ and a partition of X into finitely many smooth *uniformly convex* cells $\{Q\}$ (“rounded cubes”) such that:

- each $Q \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ in local coordinates has diameter $\asymp h$;
- ∂Q is C^2 and its principal curvatures satisfy $\frac{c}{h} \le \kappa_i \le \frac{C}{h}$ for fixed constants $0 < c \le C$.

Pieces and the raw current. In each cell Q, we are given finitely many disjoint calibrated pieces $Y^{Q,a} \cap Q$ (coming from holomorphic complete intersections in the main paper), and define the integral current

$$S_Q \;:=\; \sum_{a \in \mathcal{S}(Q)} [Y^{Q,a}] \llcorner Q, \qquad T^{\mathrm{raw}} \;:=\; \sum_Q S_Q.$$

Each $[Y^{Q,a}]\llcorner Q$ has finite mass; write

$$m_{Q,a} \;:=\; \mathrm{Mass}\big([Y^{Q,a}]\llcorner Q\big), \qquad M_Q \;:=\; \sum_{a\in\mathcal{S}(Q)} m_{Q,a}.$$

The boundary $\partial T^{\mathrm{raw}}$ is supported on inter-cell interfaces. For an interior interface $F = Q\cap Q'$ we write the face mismatch current

$$B_F \;:=\; \big(\partial S_Q\big)\llcorner F \;-\; \big(\partial S_{Q'}\big)\llcorner F,$$

so that $\partial T^{\mathrm{raw}} = \sum_F B_F$ (sum over interior faces).

3 The three local lemmas

3.1 Flat norm stability under translation

Lemma 1 (Flat-norm stability under translation)**.** *Let S be an integral ℓ-cycle in $\mathbb{R}^d$ (so $\partial S = 0$) with finite mass. For any translation vector $v \in \mathbb{R}^d$, writing $\tau_v(x) := x + v$ and $(\tau_v)_\# S$ for pushforward, one has*

$$\mathcal{F}\big((\tau_v)_\# S - S\big) \;\le\; \|v\|\;\mathrm{Mass}(S).$$

Proof. Consider the homotopy $H : [0,1]\times\mathbb{R}^d \to \mathbb{R}^d$, $H(t,x) = x + tv$. Then $Q := H_\#([0,1]\times S)$ satisfies $\partial Q = (\tau_v)_\# S - S$ and $\mathrm{Mass}(Q) \le \|v\|\;\mathrm{Mass}(S)$. Taking $R = 0$ in the definition of $\mathcal{F}$ yields the claim. □

3.2 Weighted transport bound for a single face

Proposition 2 (Weighted transport ⇒ flat-norm face control)**.** *Work in a face chart for an interior interface $F = Q\cap Q'$. Assume each piece meeting F contributes an integral cycle slice current $\Sigma(u)$ on F depending on a transverse parameter $u \in \Omega_F \subset \mathbb{R}^{2p}$, and that $\Sigma(u)$ is obtained from $\Sigma(0)$ by translation in the face chart. Let the two adjacent cells induce two multisets of parameters $\{u_a\}_{a=1}^N$ and $\{u'_a\}_{a=1}^N$ (same cardinality) and define*

$$S_{Q\to F} := \sum_{a=1}^{N}\Sigma(u_a), \qquad S_{Q'\to F} := \sum_{a=1}^{N}\Sigma(u'_a), \qquad B_F := S_{Q\to F} - S_{Q'\to F}.$$

Then

$$\mathcal{F}(B_F) \;\le\; \inf_{\sigma\in S_N}\;\sum_{a=1}^{N}\|u_a - u'_{\sigma(a)}\|\;\mathrm{Mass}(\Sigma(u_a)).$$

In particular, if $\|u_a - u'_{\sigma(a)}\| \le \Delta_F$ for all a under some matching σ, then

$$\mathcal{F}(B_F) \;\le\; \Delta_F\sum_{a=1}^{N}\mathrm{Mass}(\Sigma(u_a)).$$

Proof. Fix a permutation σ. For each a, the difference $\Sigma(u_a) - \Sigma(u'_{\sigma(a)})$ is a translated-cycle difference. By Lemma 1, there exists an integral filling Q_a with $\partial Q_a = \Sigma(u_a) - \Sigma(u'_{\sigma(a)})$ and $\mathrm{Mass}(Q_a) \le \|u_a - u'_{\sigma(a)}\|\;\mathrm{Mass}(\Sigma(u_a))$. Summing $Q := \sum_a Q_a$ gives $\partial Q = B_F$ and $\mathrm{Mass}(Q) \le \sum_a \|u_a - u'_{\sigma(a)}\|\;\mathrm{Mass}(\Sigma(u_a))$. Taking the infimum over σ yields the first inequality; the second follows by the uniform bound $\|u_a - u'_{\sigma(a)}\| \le \Delta_F$. □

3.3 Slice boundary shrinkage in uniformly convex cells

Lemma 3 (Boundary shrinkage for plane slices)**.** *Let $Q \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ be a bounded C^2 uniformly convex domain of diameter $\asymp h$ whose principal curvatures satisfy $\frac{c}{h} \le \kappa_i \le \frac{C}{h}$ on ∂Q. Fix $1 \le k < d$ and a k-plane P. For each translate $P + t$ with nonempty intersection set*

$$v(t) := \mathcal{H}^k\big((P+t) \cap Q\big), \qquad a(t) := \mathcal{H}^{k-1}\big((P+t) \cap \partial Q\big).$$

Then there exists $C_* = C_*(d, k, c, C)$ such that

$$a(t) \ \le \ C_* \left(v(t)\right)^{\frac{k-1}{k}} \qquad \text{for all such } t.$$

Proof. The estimate is scale invariant; rescale so $h \asymp 1$. Write $K_t := (P+t) \cap Q \subset P+t \cong \mathbb{R}^k$ so that $v(t) = \mathcal{H}^k(K_t)$ and $a(t) = \mathcal{H}^{k-1}(\partial K_t)$. If $v(t) \ge v_0 > 0$, then K_t is a convex body contained in a fixed k-ball of radius $O(1)$, hence $a(t) \le A_0(d, k)$, and the bound follows after enlarging C_*. Assume $v(t) \le v_0$ with v_0 small. The curvature pinching implies an interior/exterior rolling-ball condition with radii $r_{\text{in}}, r_{\text{out}} \asymp 1$ at every boundary point. Let $\pi : \mathbb{R}^d \to P^\perp$ be orthogonal projection and set $D := \pi(Q) \subset P^\perp$. Choose $t_0 \in \partial D$ nearest to t and let $u \in P^\perp$ be an outward normal of a supporting hyperplane at t_0, writing $t = t_0 - su$. Let $x_0 \in \partial Q$ be the supporting point with outward normal u. Intersect the tangent balls at x_0 with $P + t$. Since $u \perp P$, these intersections are k-balls of radii $\rho_{\text{in}}(s) = \sqrt{2r_{\text{in}} s - s^2}$ and $\rho_{\text{out}}(s) = \sqrt{2r_{\text{out}} s - s^2}$. Thus

$$\omega_k\, \rho_{\text{in}}(s)^k \ \le \ v(t) \ \le \ \omega_k\, \rho_{\text{out}}(s)^k, \qquad a(t) \ \le \ \omega_{k-1}\, \rho_{\text{out}}(s)^{k-1}.$$

For s small one has $\rho_{\text{in}}(s) \gtrsim \sqrt{s}$ and $\rho_{\text{out}}(s) \lesssim \sqrt{s}$, so $v(t) \gtrsim s^{k/2}$ and $a(t) \lesssim s^{(k-1)/2}$, hence $s \lesssim v(t)^{2/k}$ and $a(t) \lesssim v(t)^{(k-1)/k}$. □

4 Global flat-norm bound and the scaling that yields $o(m)$

4.1 Global bound from face control

Corollary 4 (Global flat-norm bound from weighted face control)**.** *Assume that on each interior interface $F = Q \cap Q'$ the face mismatch current B_F fits the setting of Proposition 2, and that there exists a matching with a uniform displacement bound*

$$\|u_a - u'_{\sigma(a)}\| \ \le \ \Delta_F \qquad \text{for all } a.$$

Assume moreover that each slice $\Sigma_F(u_a)$ arises as the face boundary slice of a piece $Y^{Q,a} \cap Q$ of interior mass $m_{Q,a}$, and that the cell geometry is uniformly convex as above so that

$$\operatorname{Mass}(\Sigma_F(u_a)) \ \lesssim \ m_{Q,a}^{\frac{k-1}{k}}.$$

Then

$$\mathcal{F}\big(\partial T^{\text{raw}}\big) \ \lesssim \ \sum_F \Delta_F \sum_{a \in \mathcal{S}(F)} m_{Q,a}^{\frac{k-1}{k}}.$$

In particular, if $\Delta_F \lesssim h^2$ for all faces, then

$$\mathcal{F}\big(\partial T^{\text{raw}}\big) \ \lesssim \ h^2 \sum_Q \sum_{a \in \mathcal{S}(Q)} m_{Q,a}^{\frac{k-1}{k}}.$$

Proof. By Proposition 2, $\mathcal{F}(B_F) \le \Delta_F \sum_a \operatorname{Mass}(\Sigma_F(u_a))$. Summing over faces yields the first inequality. The second follows by inserting $\Delta_F \lesssim h^2$ and the uniform slice bound. □

4.2 Two elementary geometric bounds

Lemma 5 (Pointwise displacement bound under nearby face maps)**.** *Let $y_1, \dots, y_N \in \mathbb{R}^{2p}$ satisfy $\|y_a\| \le C_0 h$ and let $\Phi, \Phi' : \mathbb{R}^{2p} \to \mathbb{R}^{2p}$ be linear maps with $\|\Phi - \Phi'\|_{\mathrm{op}} \le C_1 h$. Define $u_a := \Phi y_a$ and $u'_a := \Phi' y_a$. Then the index-wise matching satisfies*

$$\|u_a - u'_a\| \ \le\ C_0 C_1\, h^2 \qquad \text{for all } a.$$

Proof. $\|u_a - u'_a\| = \|(\Phi - \Phi')y_a\| \le \|\Phi - \Phi'\|_{\mathrm{op}} \|y_a\| \le (C_1 h)(C_0 h) = C_0 C_1 h^2$. □

Lemma 6 (Packing bound for disjoint sliver graphs)**.** *Let $Q \subset \mathbb{R}^{2n}$ be a bounded domain of diameter h and fix an affine $(2n-2p)$-plane P with transverse space $P^\perp \cong \mathbb{R}^{2p}$. Assume we have affine translates $P + t_1, \dots, P + t_N$ such that each $(P + t_a) \cap Q \neq \emptyset$ and*

$$\|t_a - t_b\| \ \ge\ 10\,\varepsilon\, h \qquad (a \neq b).$$

Then $N \le C(n, p)\, \varepsilon^{-2p}$.

Proof. Since $(P + t_a) \cap Q \neq \emptyset$ and $\mathrm{diam}(Q) = h$, the translation parameters t_a all lie in a transverse ball $B_{Ch}(0) \subset P^\perp$. The balls $B(t_a, 5\varepsilon h) \subset P^\perp$ are pairwise disjoint and contained in $B_{(C+5\varepsilon)h}(0)$. Comparing Euclidean volumes in $\mathbb{R}^{2p}$ gives $N\,(5\varepsilon h)^{2p} \lesssim (Ch)^{2p}$, hence $N \lesssim \varepsilon^{-2p}$. □

4.3 The gluing estimate $\mathcal{F}(\partial T^{\mathrm{raw}}) = o(m)$

Theorem 7 (Microstructure/gluing estimate (flat-norm form))**.** *Assume the hypotheses of Corollary 4, and suppose additionally:*

- (A) ***(Displacement)*** *On each interior face $F = Q \cap Q'$, the two face parameterizations arise from applying two linear face maps Φ, Φ' to the same transverse template $\{y_a\}$ with $\|\Phi - \Phi'\|_{\mathrm{op}} = O(h)$ and $\|y_a\| = O(h)$, so that $\Delta_F = O(h^2)$ by Lemma 5.*
- (B) ***(Piece count per cell)*** *For each direction family, disjointness of the pieces in each cell is achieved via transverse separation $\gtrsim \varepsilon h$ and therefore $|\mathcal{S}(Q)| \lesssim \varepsilon^{-2p}$ by Lemma 6.*
- (C) ***(Total mass scale)*** *The total mass per cell satisfies $M_Q \asymp m\, h^{2n}$ (uniformly up to bounded factors), so the total mass is $\sum_Q M_Q \asymp m$.*

Then there exists a function $\varepsilon_{\mathrm{glue}} = \varepsilon_{\mathrm{glue}}(m, h, \varepsilon)$ with $\varepsilon_{\mathrm{glue}} \to 0$ in the regime $m \to \infty$, $h \sim m^{-1/2}$, and $\varepsilon = \varepsilon(m) \to 0$ sufficiently slowly, such that

$$\mathcal{F}\big(\partial T^{\mathrm{raw}}\big) \ \le\ \varepsilon_{\mathrm{glue}}\, m.$$

In particular, one may take $h = m^{-1/2}$ and $\varepsilon(m) := (\log m)^{-1}$, in which case $\mathcal{F}(\partial T^{\mathrm{raw}}) = o(m)$ whenever $k = 2n - 2p > n - 1$ (equivalently $p < \frac{n+1}{2}$).

Proof. By Corollary 4 and (A),

$$\mathcal{F}(\partial T^{\mathrm{raw}}) \ \lesssim\ h^2 \sum_Q \sum_{a \in \mathcal{S}(Q)} m_{Q,a}^{\frac{k-1}{k}}.$$

For each cell Q, Hölder/concavity gives

$$\sum_{a \in \mathcal{S}(Q)} m_{Q,a}^{\frac{k-1}{k}} \ \le\ M_Q^{\frac{k-1}{k}}\ |\mathcal{S}(Q)|^{\frac{1}{k}}.$$

Using (B), $|\mathcal{S}(Q)|^{1/k} \lesssim \varepsilon^{-2p/k}$, hence

$$\mathcal{F}(\partial T^{\mathrm{raw}}) \ \lesssim\ h^2\, \varepsilon^{-\frac{2p}{k}} \sum_Q M_Q^{\frac{k-1}{k}}.$$

Using (C), $M_Q \asymp m h^{2n}$ and the number of cells is $\asymp h^{-2n}$, we obtain the scaling

$$\sum_Q M_Q^{\frac{k-1}{k}} \ \asymp\ h^{-2n}\, (m h^{2n})^{\frac{k-1}{k}} \ =\ m^{\frac{k-1}{k}}\, h^{-\frac{2n}{k}}.$$

Therefore

$$\mathcal{F}(\partial T^{\mathrm{raw}}) \ \lesssim\ m^{\frac{k-1}{k}}\, h^{2-\frac{2n}{k}}\, \varepsilon^{-\frac{2p}{k}}.$$

At the Bergman cell size $h = m^{-1/2}$, this becomes

$$\frac{\mathcal{F}(\partial T^{\mathrm{raw}})}{m} \ \lesssim\ m^{-1+\frac{n-1}{k}}\, \varepsilon^{-\frac{2p}{k}}.$$

If $k > n-1$ (equivalently $p < \frac{n+1}{2}$) then the exponent $-1+\frac{n-1}{k}$ is negative. Taking $\varepsilon(m) = (\log m)^{-1}$ gives $\varepsilon^{-\frac{2p}{k}} = (\log m)^{2p/k}$, which is dominated by the decaying power of m, so $\mathcal{F}(\partial T^{\mathrm{raw}})/m \to 0$. □

5 From $\mathcal{F}(\partial T^{\mathrm{raw}}) = o(m)$ to a vanishing-mass correction

Corollary 8 (Existence of a small-mass gluing correction)**.** *Assume $\mathcal{F}(\partial T^{\mathrm{raw}}) = o(m)$ for the raw current above. Then there exist integral currents U with*

$$\partial U = \partial T^{\mathrm{raw}} \qquad \textit{and} \qquad \mathrm{Mass}(U) = o(m).$$

Proof sketch (standard flat-norm decomposition + isoperimetric filling). By definition of $\mathcal{F}$, there exist integral currents R, Q with $\partial T^{\mathrm{raw}} = R + \partial Q$ and $\mathrm{Mass}(R) + \mathrm{Mass}(Q) \le 2\mathcal{F}(\partial T^{\mathrm{raw}})$. Since $\partial(\partial T^{\mathrm{raw}}) = 0$ we have $\partial R = 0$, so R is a cycle. By the Federer–Fleming isoperimetric inequality in dimension $(k-1)$ there exists an integral filling Q_R with $\partial Q_R = R$ and $\mathrm{Mass}(Q_R) \le C\ \mathrm{Mass}(R)^{\frac{k}{k-1}}$. Set $U := -(Q + Q_R)$, so $\partial U = -\partial T^{\mathrm{raw}}$ and

$$\mathrm{Mass}(U) \ \le\ \mathrm{Mass}(Q) + \mathrm{Mass}(Q_R) \ \le\ 2\mathcal{F}(\partial T^{\mathrm{raw}}) \ +\ C\,(2\mathcal{F}(\partial T^{\mathrm{raw}}))^{\frac{k}{k-1}}.$$

If $\mathcal{F}(\partial T^{\mathrm{raw}}) = o(m)$ then the right-hand side is $o(m)$. □

6 Verification of assumptions (A)–(C) from the holomorphic corner-exit construction

This section records where the assumptions (A)–(C) in Theorem 7 are supplied in the main manuscript `hodge-SAVE-dec-12-handoff.tex`.

(A) Displacement $\Delta_F \lesssim h^2$. In the manuscript, this is exactly the content of the pointwise displacement lemma `lem:face-displacement`: if two neighboring cubes use the *same* ordered transverse template $\{y_a\} \subset B_{C_0 h}(0) \subset \mathbb{R}^{2p}$ and their face parameterizations differ by $O(h)$ in operator norm, then the induced parameters satisfy the index-wise bound $\|u_a - u'_a\| \le C\, h^2$. This is Lemma `lem:face-displacement` in `hodge-SAVE-dec-12-handoff.tex`. The fact that adjacent cubes use the *same* ordered template (so the matching is index-wise/prefix-wise) is part of the global prefix-template organization in `thm:sliver-mass-matching-on-template` and is packaged across all direction labels by `prop:global-coherence-all-labels` (see also `rem:vertex-star-coherence` for the vertex-star holomorphic realization that keeps one template coherent across all cubes incident to a vertex). Combined with the weighted face inequality `prop:transport-flat-glue-weighted` and `cor:global-flat-weighted`, it yields the uniform face displacement hypothesis used here.

(B) Piece count per cell: $|\mathcal{S}(Q)| \lesssim \varepsilon^{-2p}$. In the manuscript, disjointness of slivers in a fixed direction family is enforced by transverse separation $\gtrsim \varepsilon h$ (see the disjointness persistence statement `lem:sliver-stability(ii)`), and the resulting packing bound is recorded as `lem:sliver-packing` in `hodge-SAVE-dec-12-handoff.tex`, which gives $N_Q \le C(n,p)\,\varepsilon^{-2p}$ disjoint translates (hence sliver graphs) in a cell of diameter h. This is the source of the bound $|\mathcal{S}(Q)| \lesssim \varepsilon^{-2p}$ used in the global Hölder step.

(C) Total mass scale: $M_Q \asymp mh^{2n}$ and $\sum_Q M_Q \asymp m$. In the manuscript, the local sliver manufacturing + mass-budget matching is packaged as:

- `prop:holomorphic-corner-exit-L1` (local existence of holomorphic corner-exit slivers with controlled geometry),
- `prop:vertex-template-mass-matching` (cellwise mass-budget matching, i.e. $\sum_{a\le N_Q} \mathrm{Mass}([Y^{Q,a}]\llcorner Q) = M_Q + o(M_Q)$), and
- `thm:sliver-mass-matching-on-template` together with `prop:global-coherence-all-labels` (global organization across all direction labels and the prefix activation scheme).

The target mass budget M_Q is defined from the smooth density $m\,\beta\wedge\psi$ on each cell (so $M_Q \sim m\int_Q \beta\wedge\psi$), hence for a mesh of size h one has $M_Q \asymp mh^{2n}$ (up to $O(h)$ variation of the smooth density) and summing over all $\asymp h^{-2n}$ cells gives $\sum_Q M_Q \asymp m$. The construction of the raw cycle from these local budgets is the content of `thm:local-sheets` (local multi-sheet manufacturing) and `thm:global-cohom` (global cohomology quantization/gluing set-up). This is the mass-scaling input used in the final summation in Theorem 7.

End-to-end conclusion in the manuscript. With (A)–(C) verified as above, the manuscript's weighted summation estimate `cor:global-flat-weighted` plus the scaling computation `rem:weighted-scaling` yield $\mathcal{F}(\partial T^{\mathrm{raw}}) = o(m)$, which is exactly the microstructure/gluing bound recorded in `rem:glue-gap`.