



Figure 3.3: A sequence of simplicial chains that converges in the flat norm (i.e., $P_n \rightarrow T$) need not have convergent simplicial flat norm values (i.e., $\mathbb{F}_{K_n}(P_n) \rightarrow \mathbb{F}(T)$ need not hold). The current T is the segment from A to B , the complex K_n is the arrangement of $2n$ equilateral triangles of appropriate size stretching from A to B and P_n is the top chain from A to B on K_n . Clearly, $\mathbb{F}(T - P_n) \rightarrow 0$ but $\mathbb{F}_{K_n}(P_n) = \frac{2}{\sqrt{3}}\mathbb{F}(T) \not\rightarrow \mathbb{F}(T)$.

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 & \text{Polyhedral} & \\
 & \text{approximation} & \\
 & T \longrightarrow P_\delta & \\
 \text{Optimal} & \parallel & \\
 \text{flat norm} & & \\
 \text{decomposition} & & \\
 X + \partial S & \xrightarrow[\text{Polyhedral approximation}]{\begin{smallmatrix} X \rightarrow X_\delta \\ S \rightarrow S_\delta \end{smallmatrix}} & X_\delta + \partial S_\delta
 \end{array}$$

Figure 3.4: Various approximations and decompositions used in our results.

flat norm of an integral chain in codimension 1 has an optimal integral current decomposition; by the compactness theorem from geometric measure theory, the limit of these decompositions is also integral.

In order to show that an integral current T has integral flat norm decomposition, we therefore find suitable simplicial approximations to T and take the limit of their simplicial flat norm decompositions to obtain an integral decomposition for T .

We must also show that this decomposition achieves the flat norm value for T (that is, express T using integral currents in such a way that it remains an optimal flat norm decomposition). This is immediate if our simplicial approximations to T have simplicial flat norm values that converge to the flat norm of T but this is not necessary (see