

The Geometry of Last Passage Percolation

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Joint with Chris Janjigian and Timo Seppäläinen

Inviscid stochastic Burgers equation: $\partial_t u + u \partial_x u = \partial_x F$

random forcing \nearrow

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Hamilton-Jacobi-Bellman equation (HJB): $u = \partial_x \mathcal{U}$

$$\partial_t \mathcal{U} + \frac{1}{2} (\partial_x \mathcal{U})^2 = \mathcal{F}$$

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Viscosity solution with initial condition $\mathcal{U}(t_0, x) = \mathcal{U}_0(x)$:

Lax-Oleinik: $\mathcal{U}(t, x) = \inf$

abs. cont. \nearrow $\gamma: [t_0, t] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$
 $\gamma(t_0) = x$

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Hamilton-Jacobi-Bellman equation (HJB): $u = \partial_x U$

$$\partial_t U + \frac{1}{2} (\partial_x U)^2 = F$$

Viscosity solution with initial condition $U(t_0, x) = U_0(x)$:

$$\text{Lax-Oleinik: } U(t, x) = \inf \left\{ U_0(\gamma(t_0)) + \frac{1}{2} \int_{t_0}^t (\gamma'(s))^2 ds + \int_{t_0}^t F(s, \gamma(s)) ds \right\}$$

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action

Velocity of minimizing $\gamma \rightarrow u(t,x)$ (characteristics)

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Related to semi-infinite minimizing paths $\gamma: (-\infty, t] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ s.t. $\gamma(t) = x$

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Global (bi-infinite-time) solutions: $t_0 \rightarrow -\infty$

Related to semi-infinite minimizing paths $\gamma: (-\infty, t] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ s.t. $\gamma(t) = x$
(minimizes the action between $(t_0, \gamma(t_0))$ & (t, x) $\forall t_0 < t$)

Conserved quantity: asymptotic velocity $v = \lim_{|x| \rightarrow \infty} \frac{U(t,x)}{x}$

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also for certain F 's (kick forcing): Bakhtin, Cator, Khanin '14
Bakhtin '16

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We give a complete description for all v simultaneously

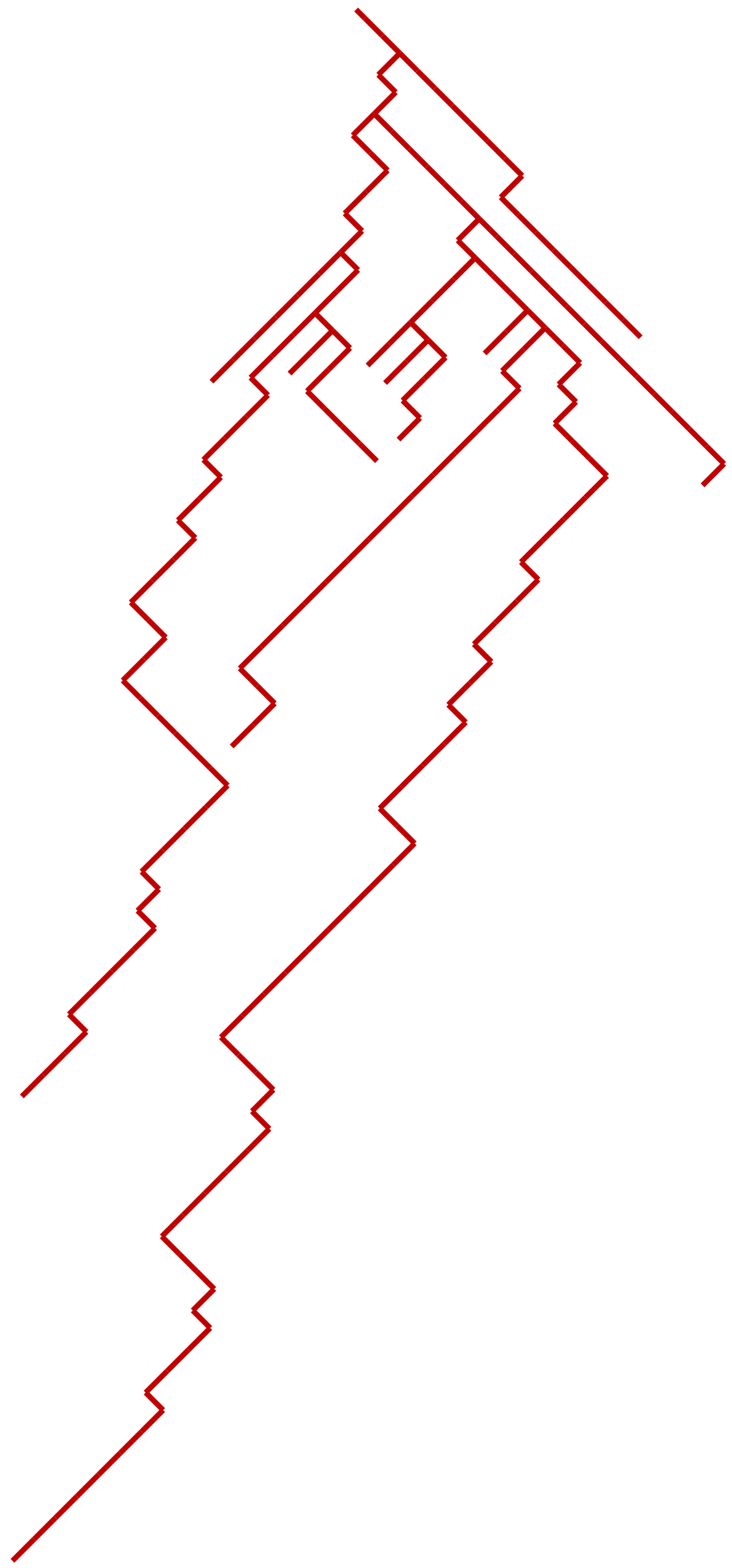
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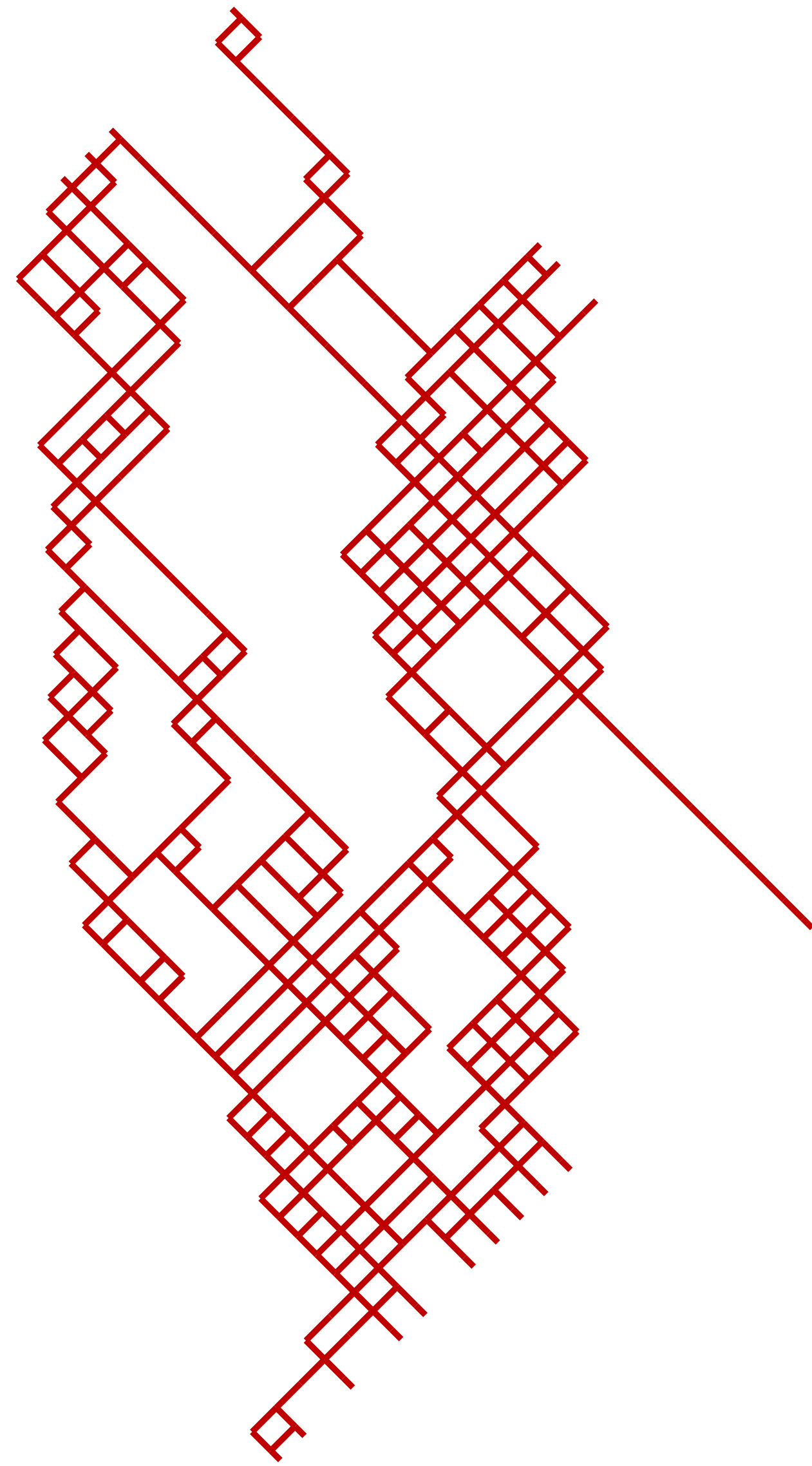
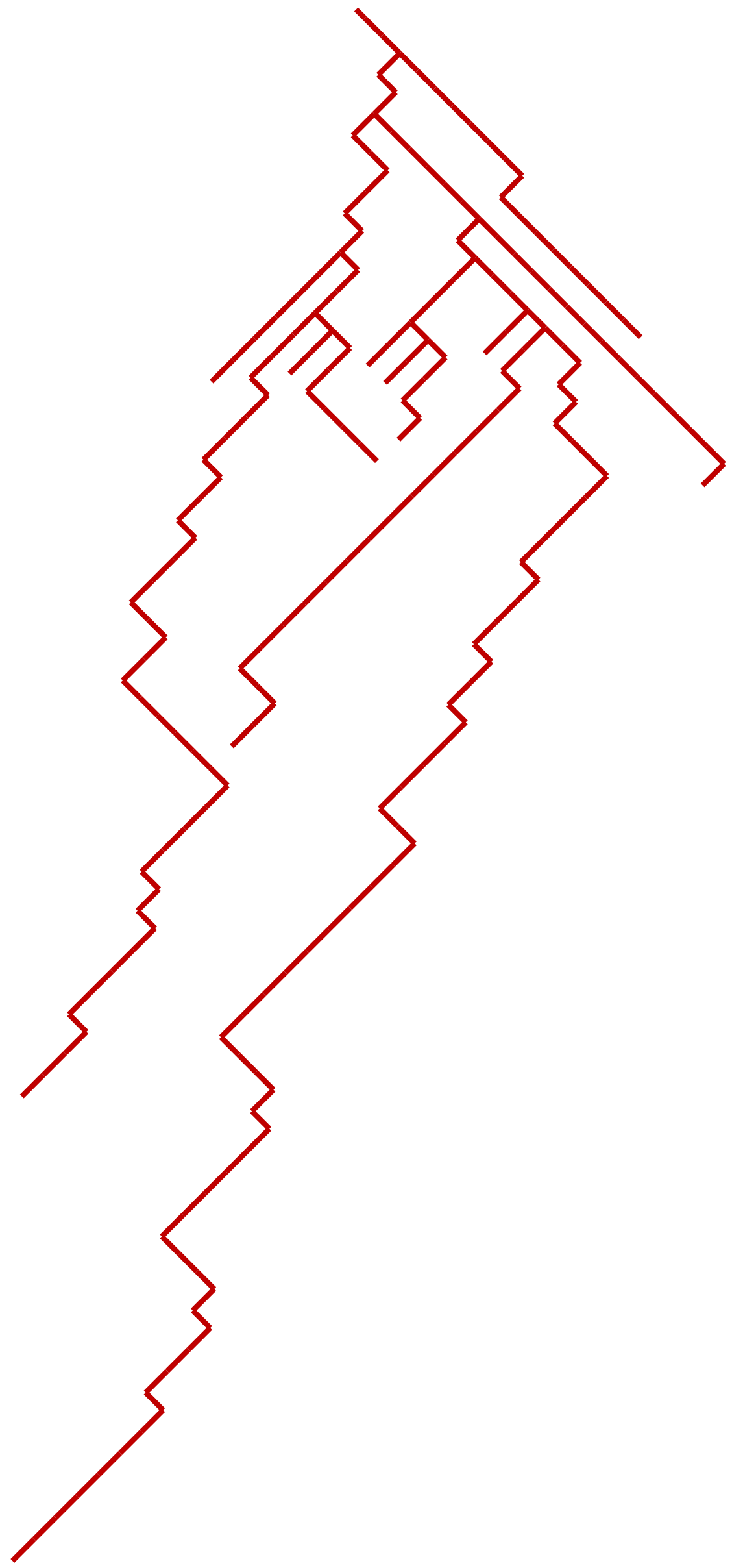
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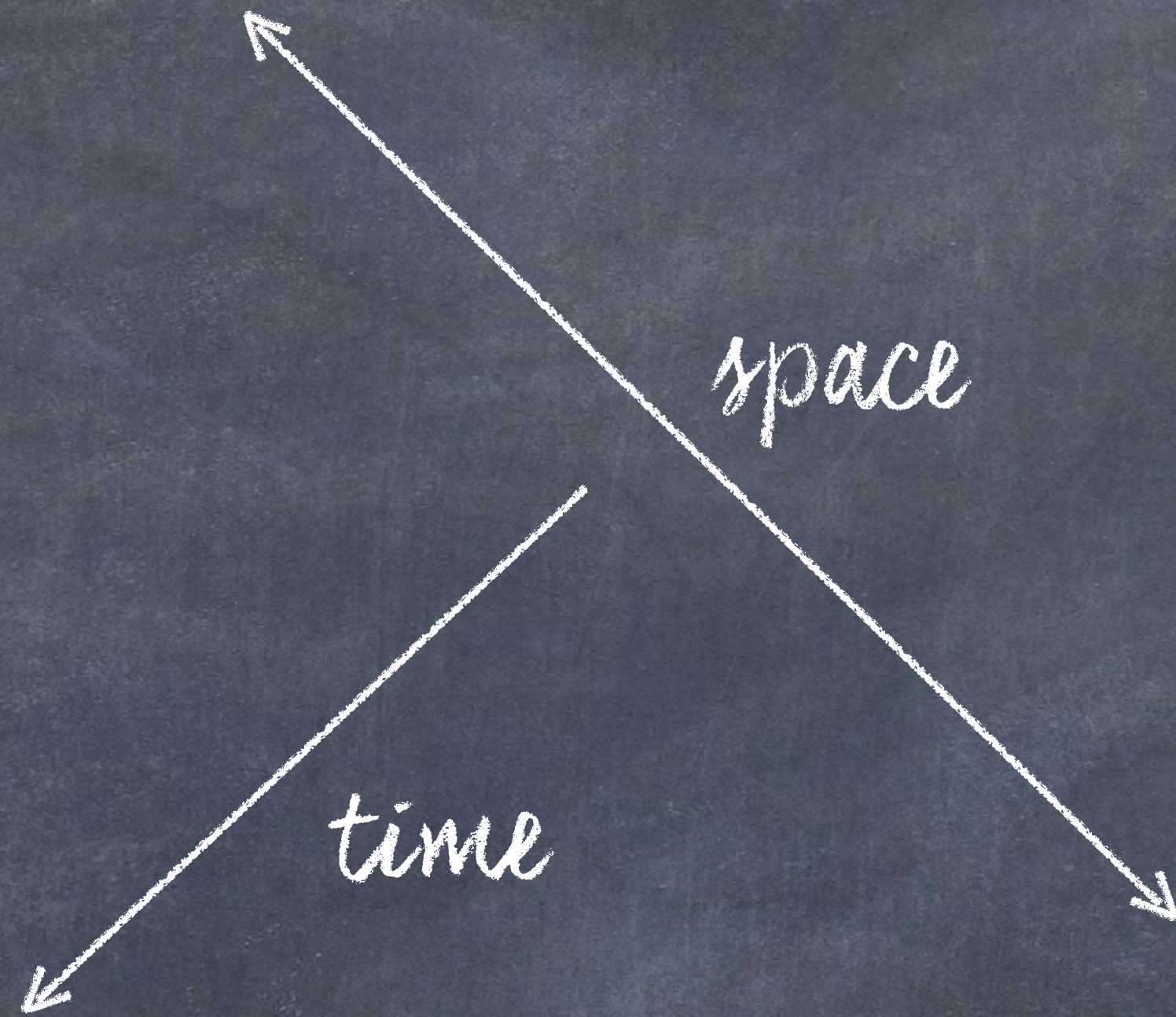
We study a space & time discrete version

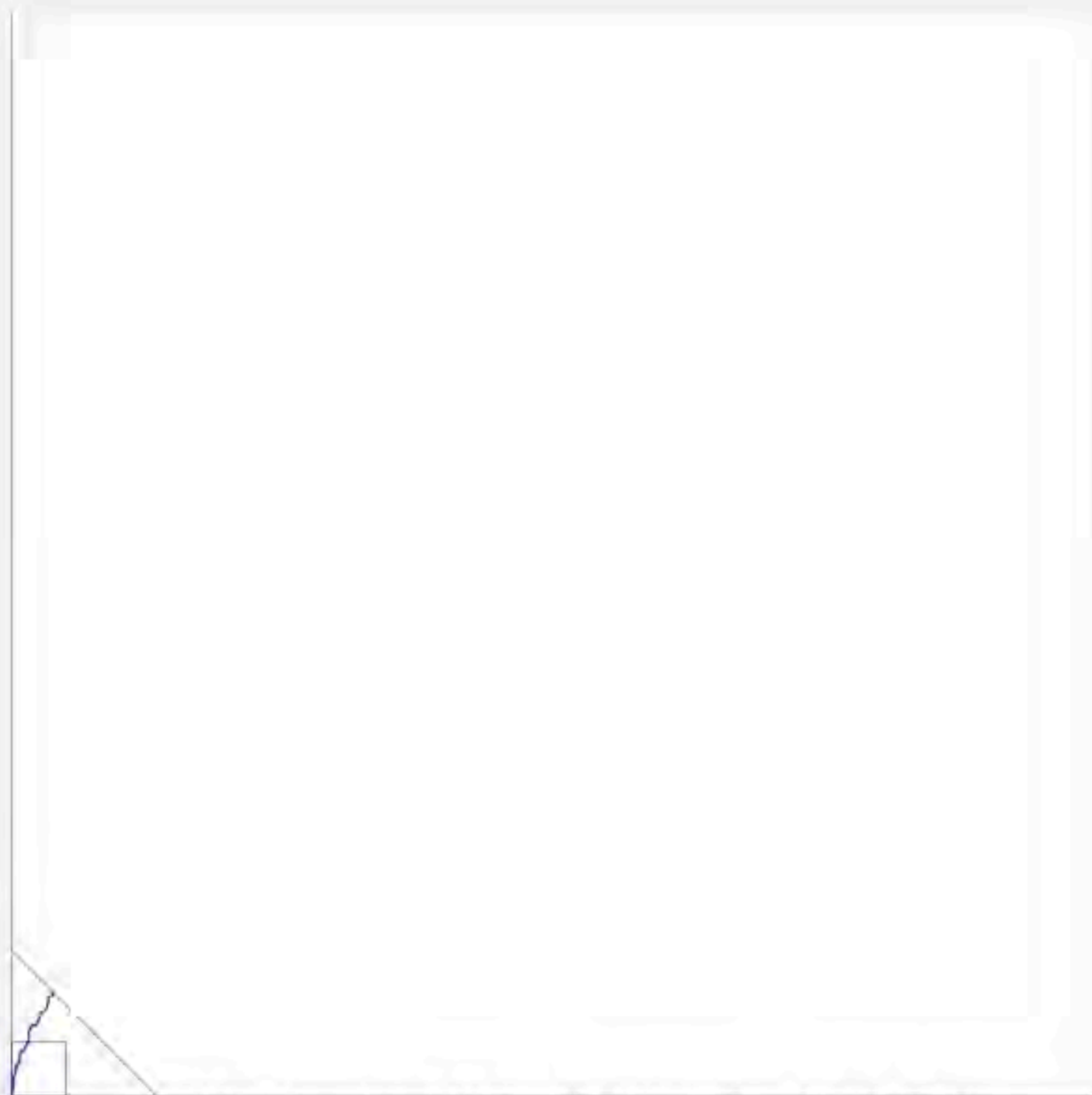
We give a complete description for all v simultaneously

We find new instability structures for certain random v

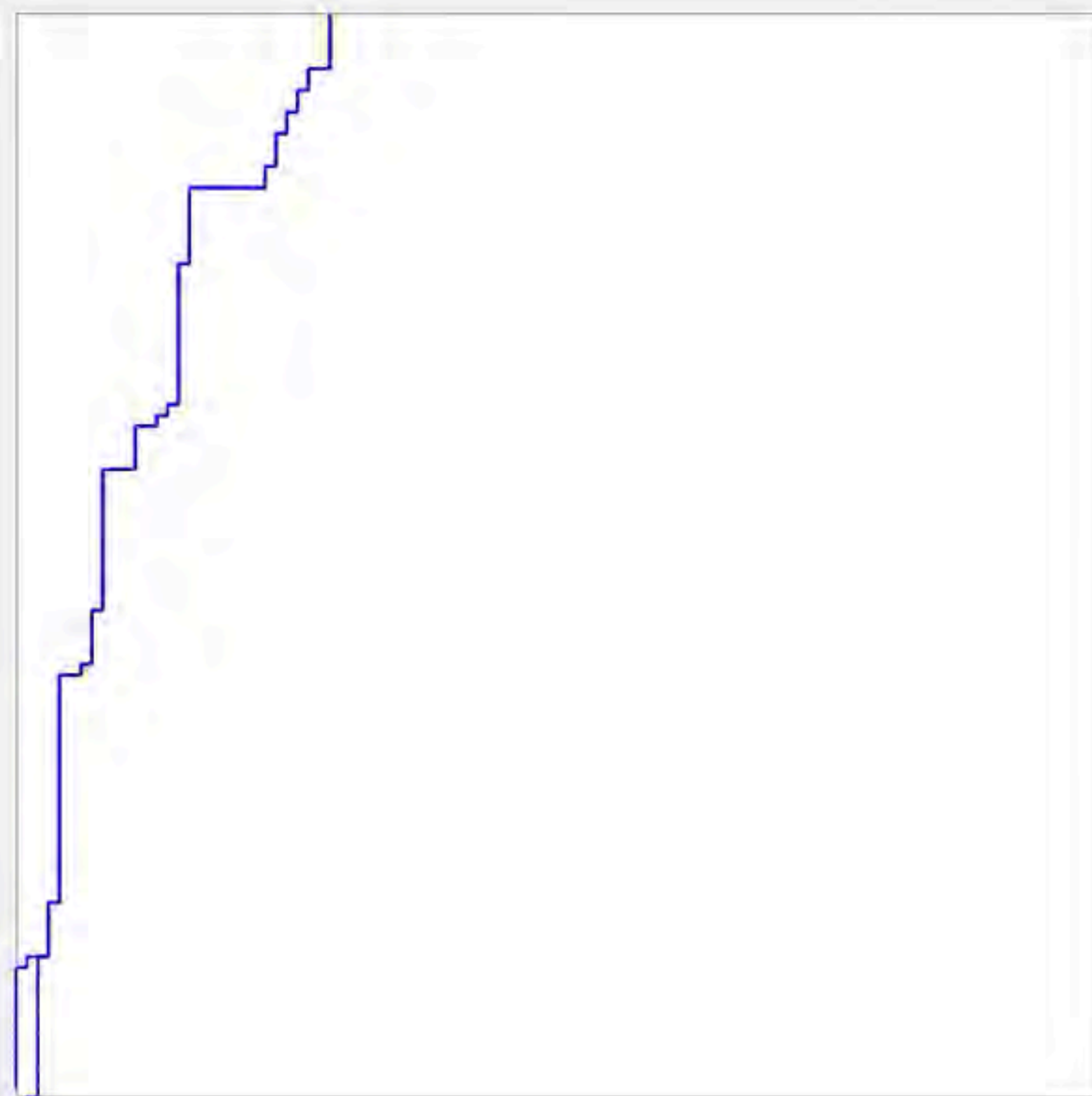


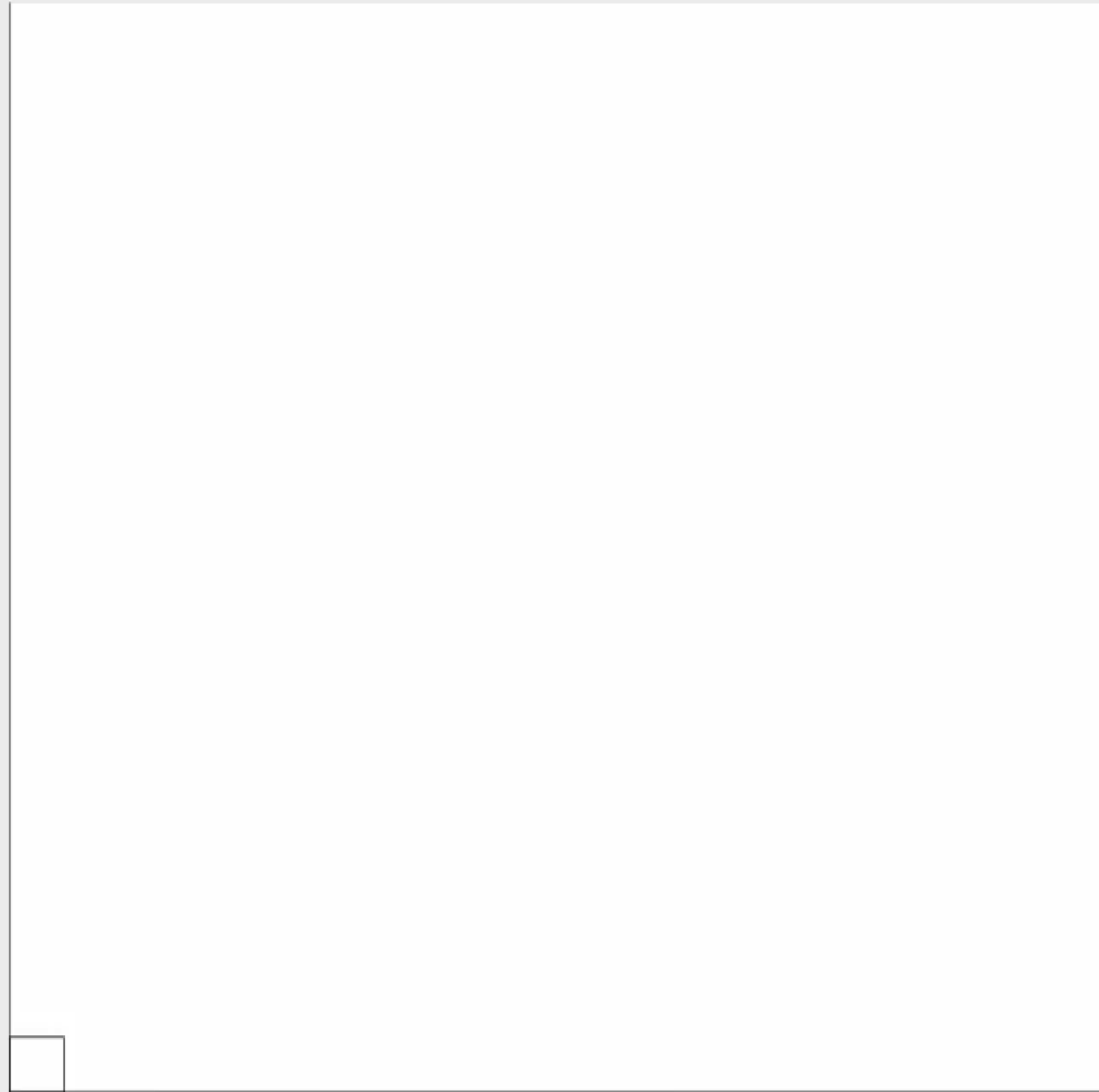




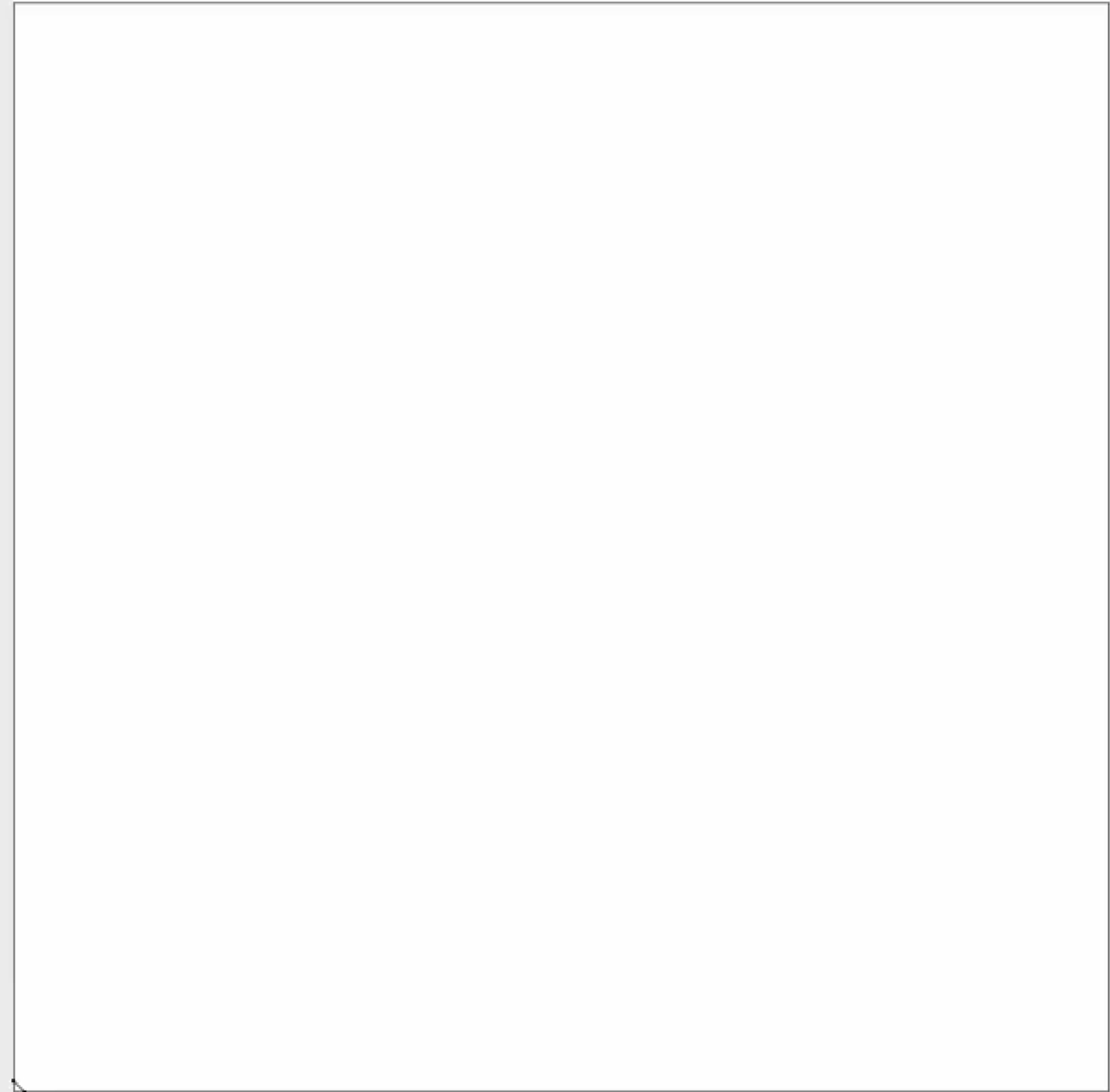


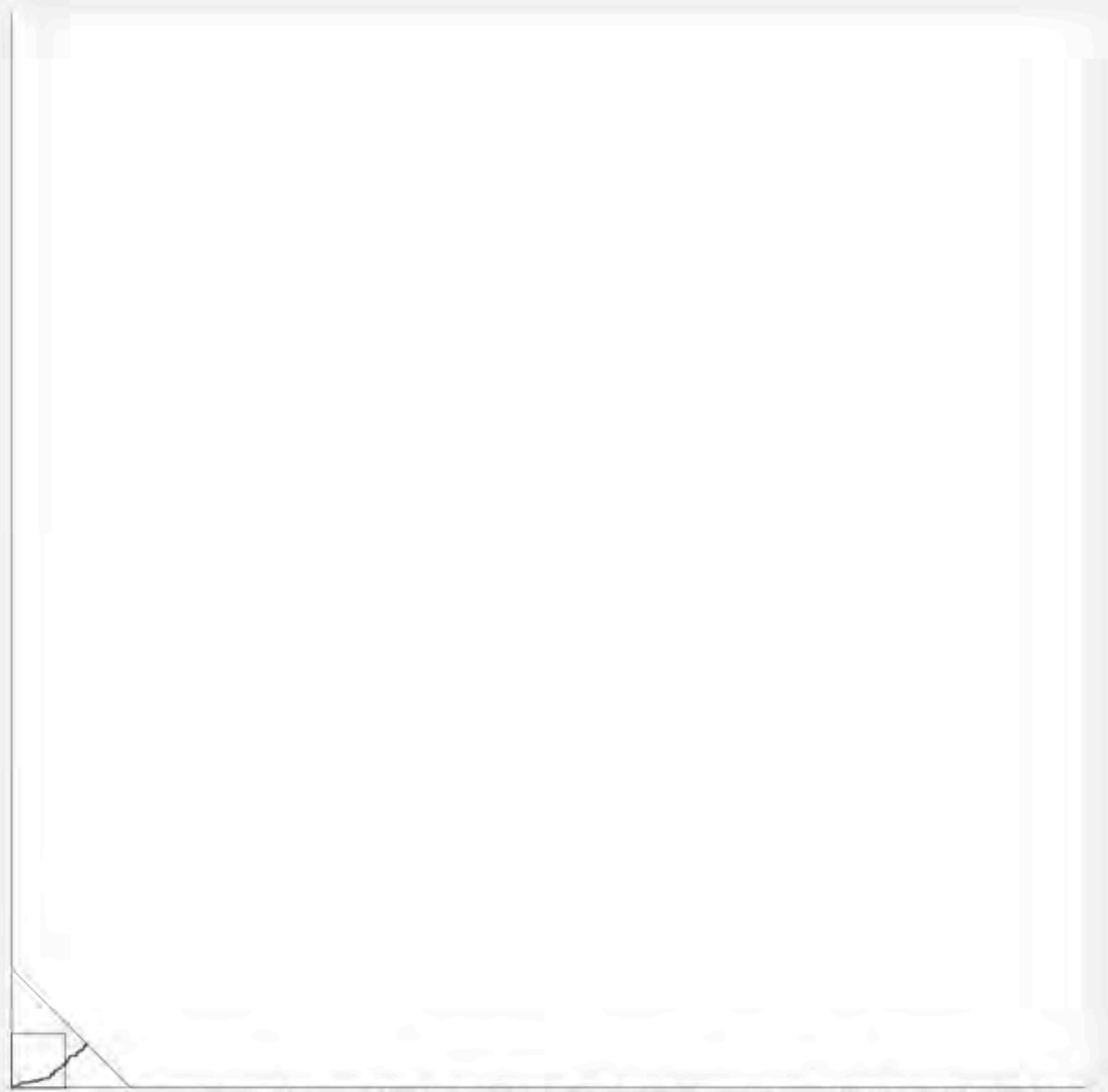
$\ell = 269, h = (-2.3628, -1.7338), \xi = (0.35, 0.65)$



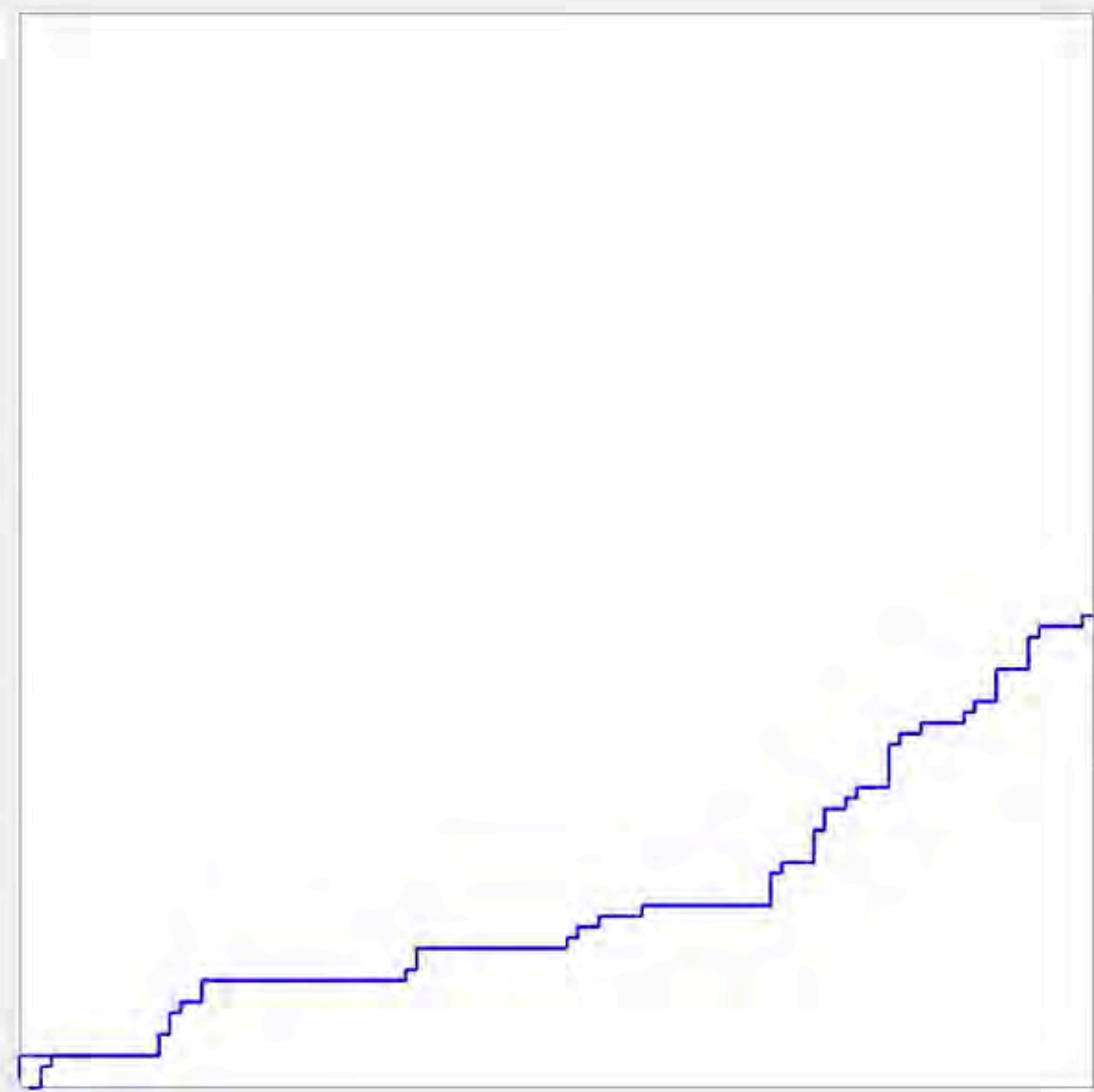


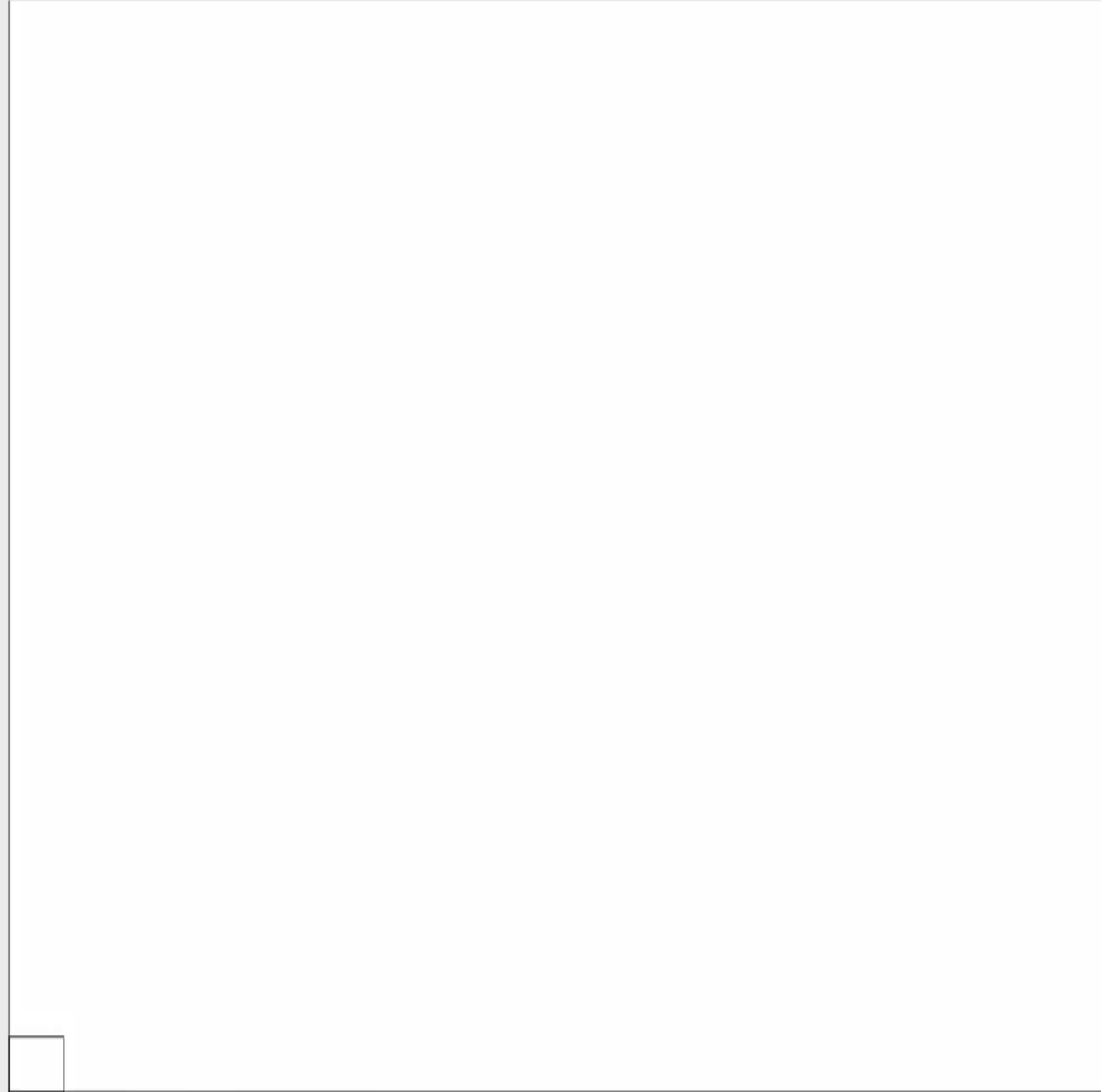
$\ell = 1, h = (-2.3628, -1.7338), \xi = (0.35, 0.65)$



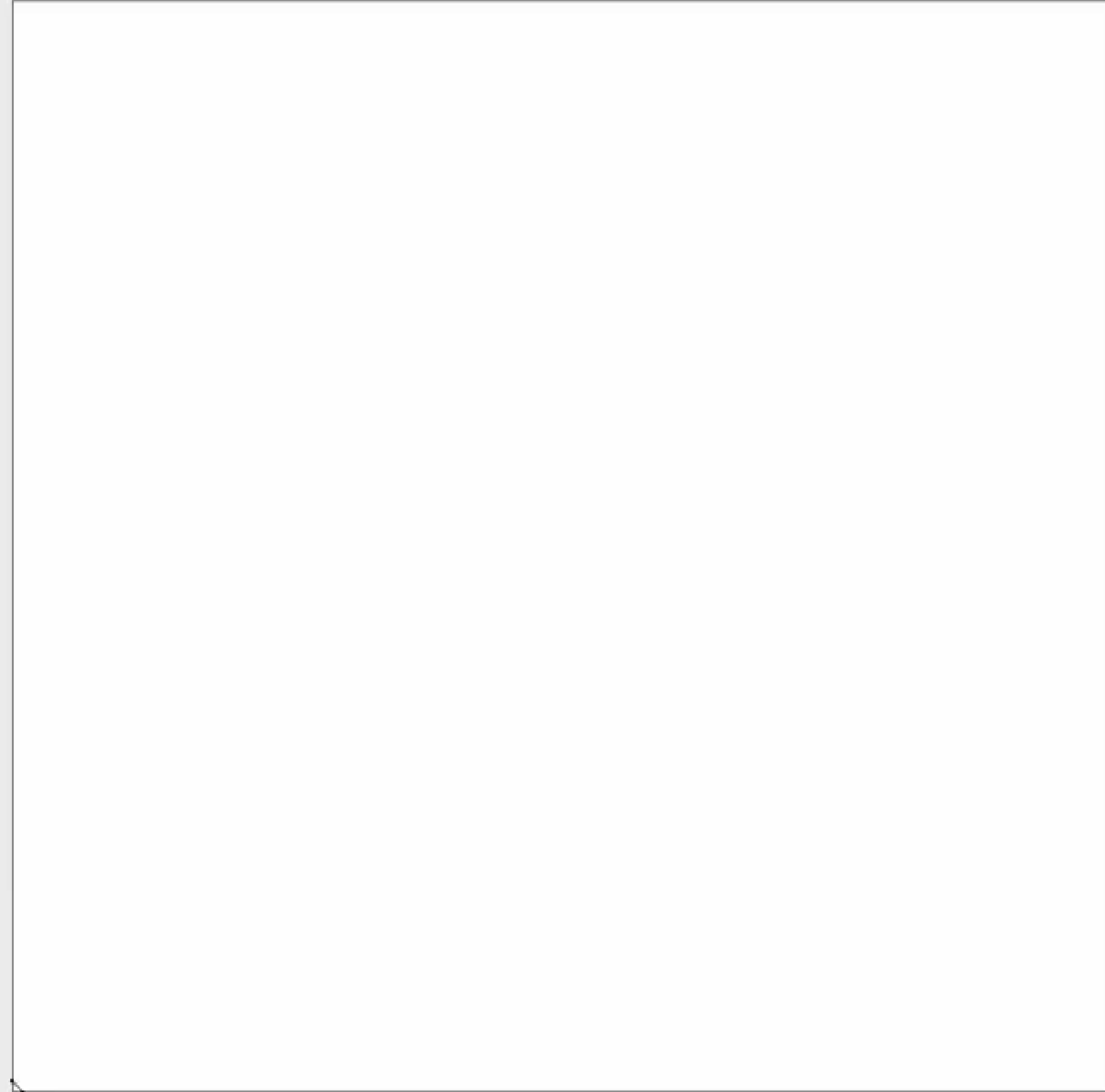


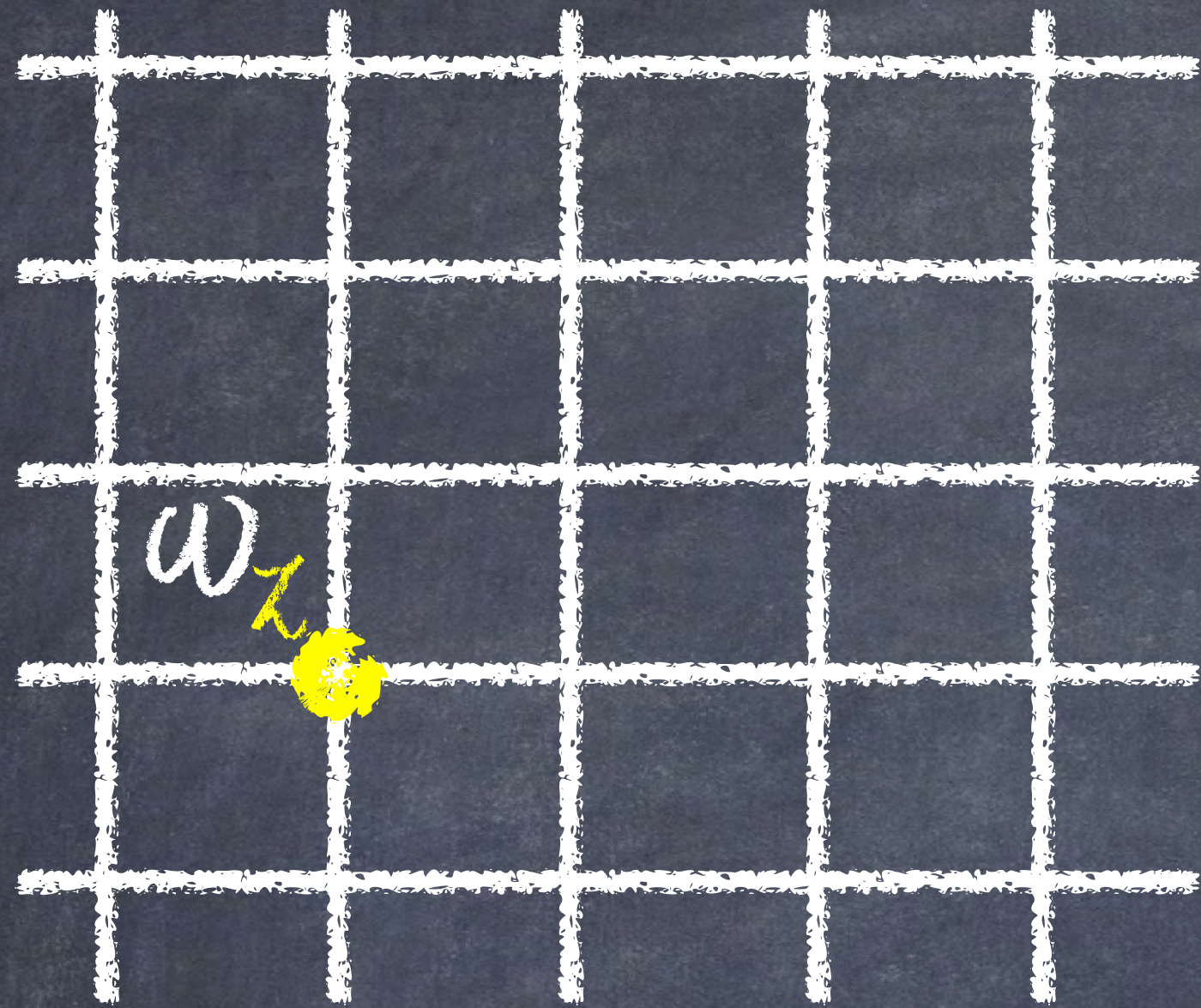
$l = 223, h^* = (-1.9174, -2.0901), \xi^* = (0.54302, 0.45698)$

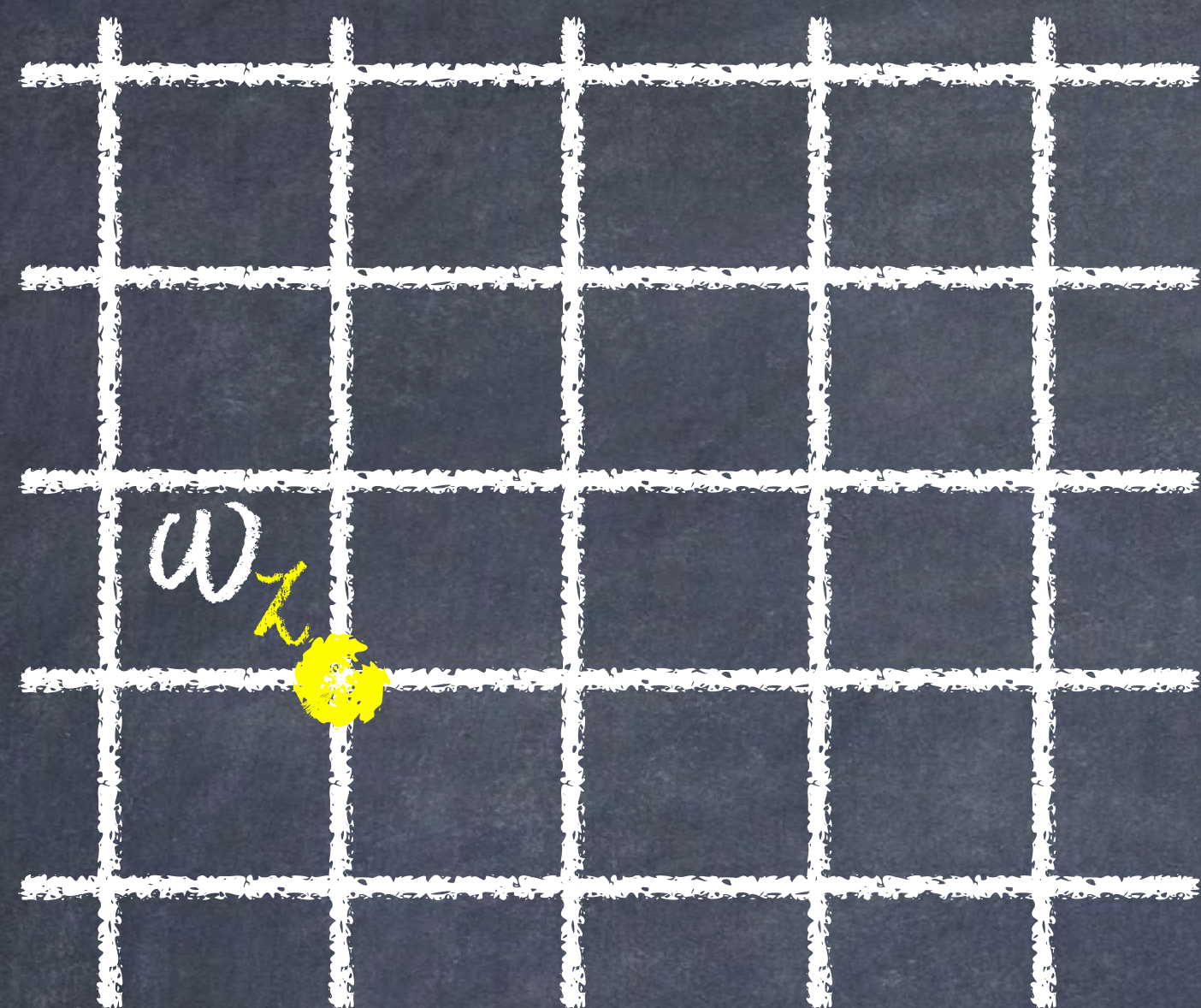




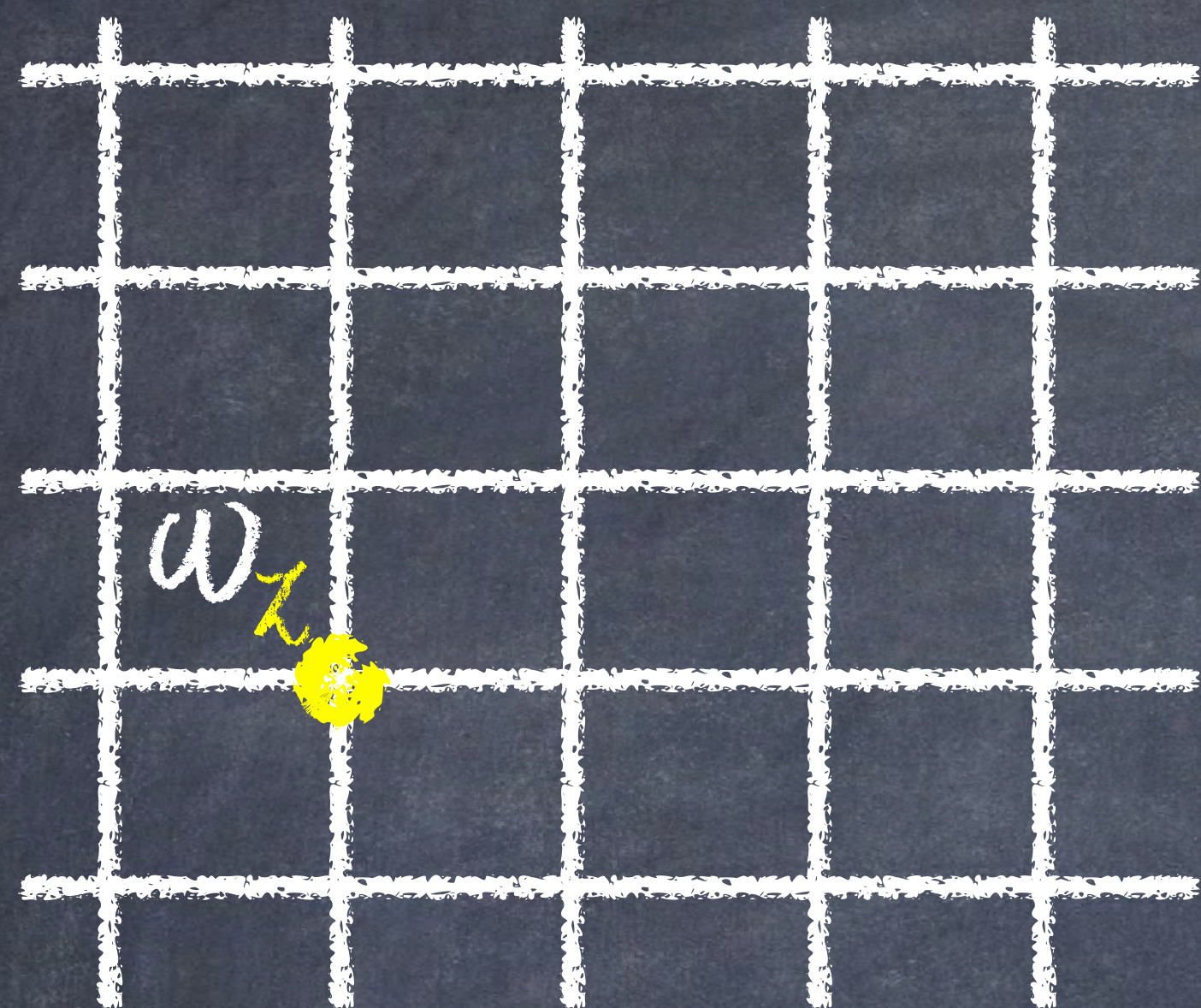
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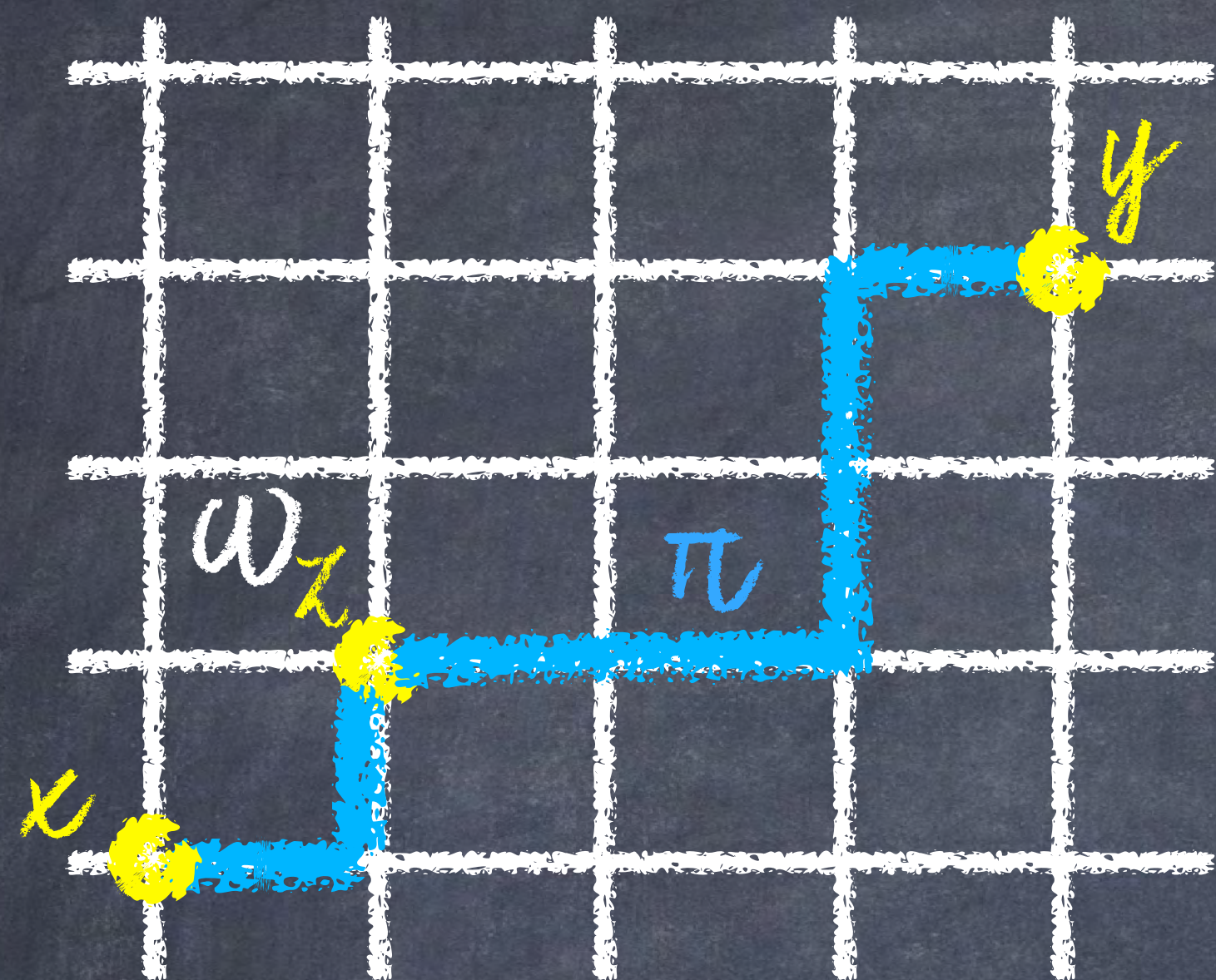


$d=2$, ω_z i.i.d., >2 moments



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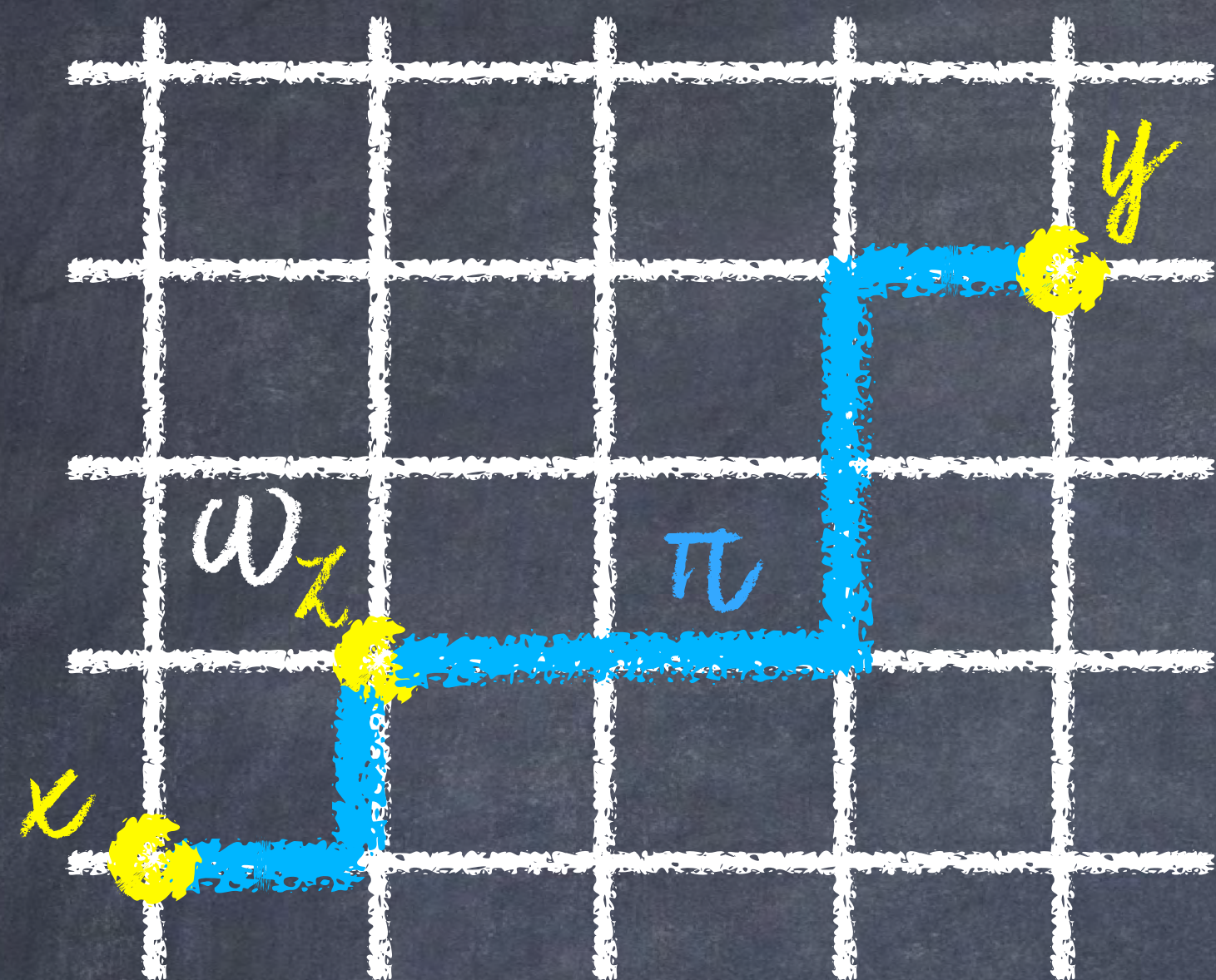
ω_z has a continuous CDF



$d=2$, ω_x i.i.d., >2 moments

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Passage Time:

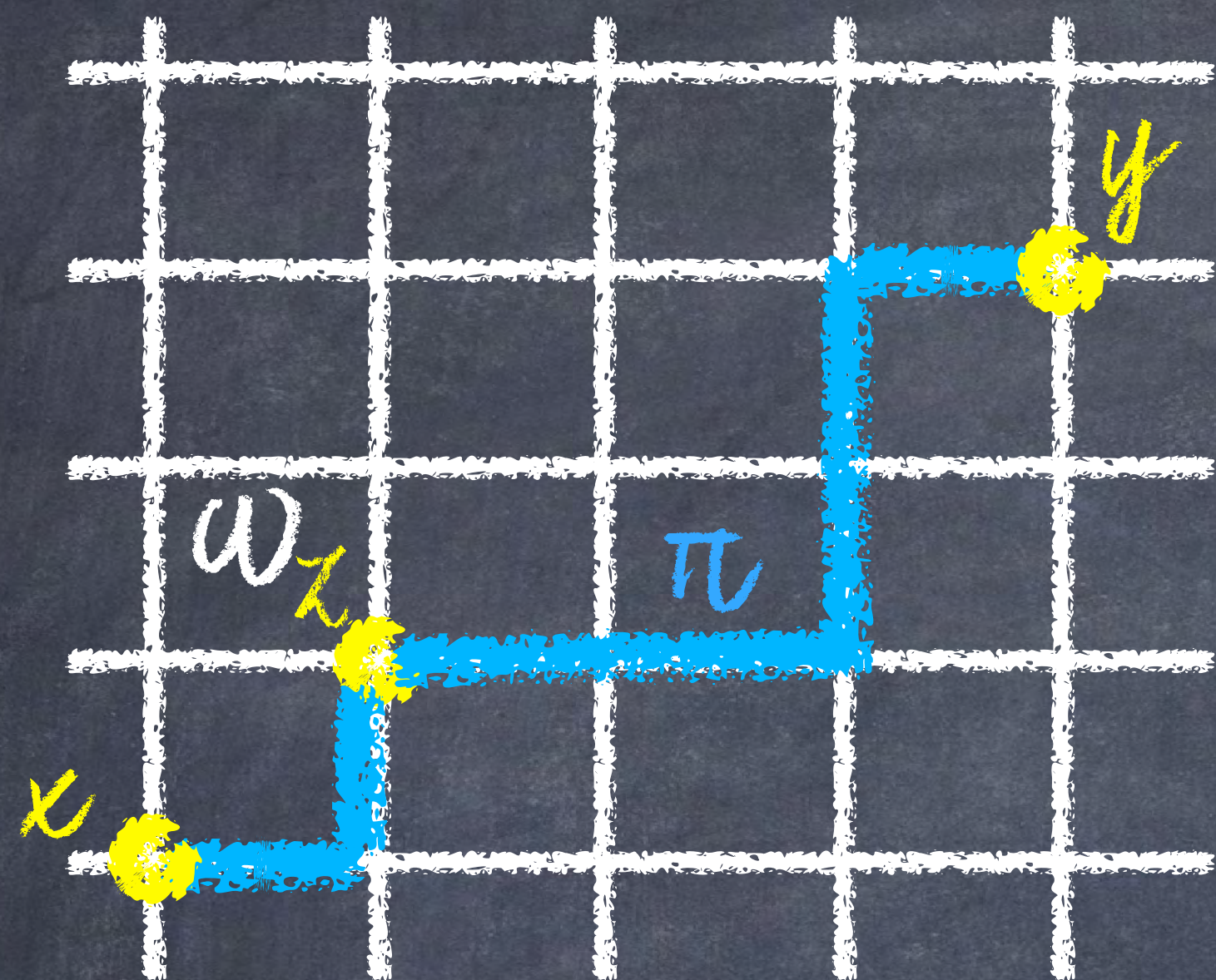


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Passage Time:

$$\sum_{z \in \pi} \omega_z$$

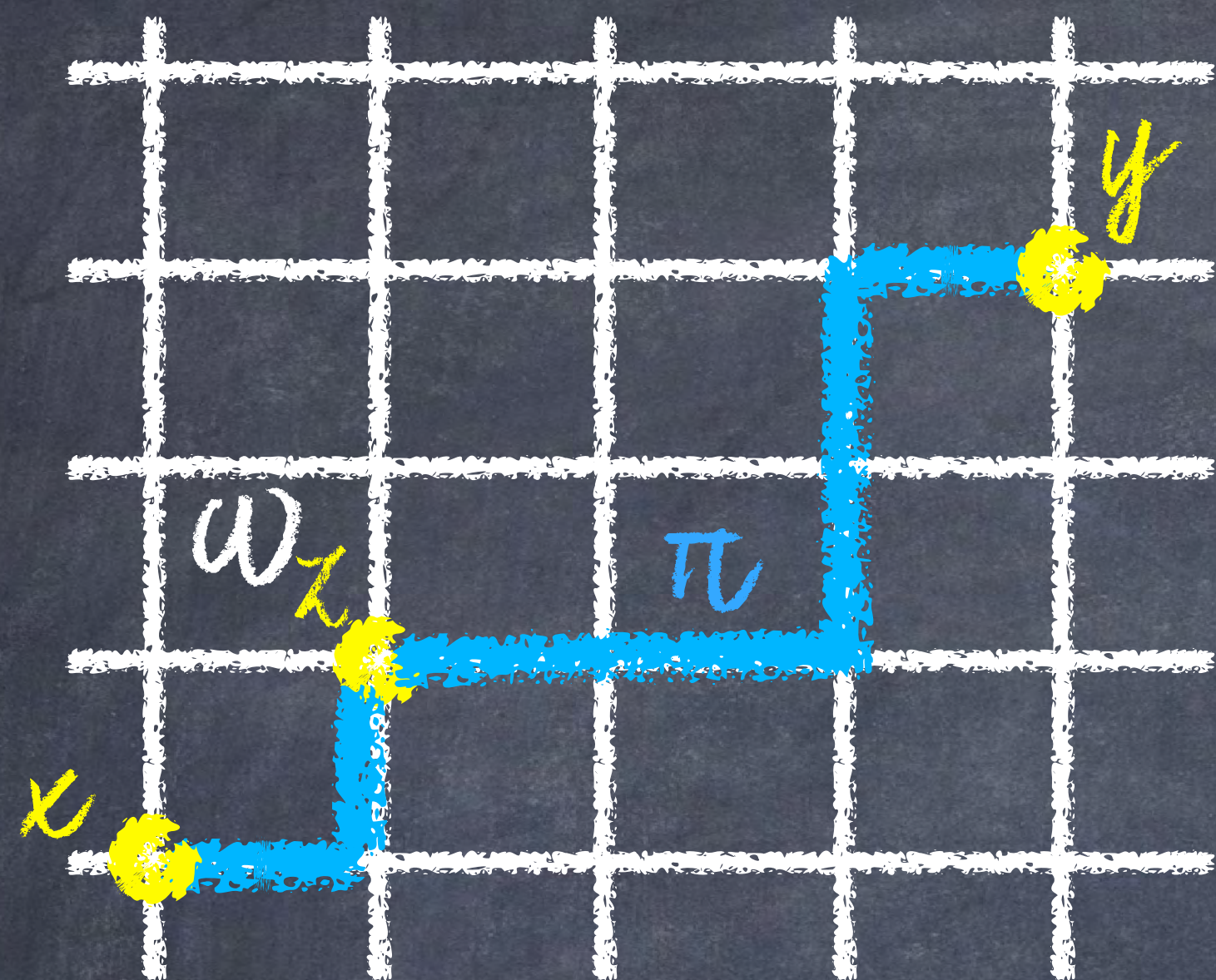


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Last Passage Time:

$$G_{xy} = \max_{\pi} \sum_{z \in \pi} \omega_z$$

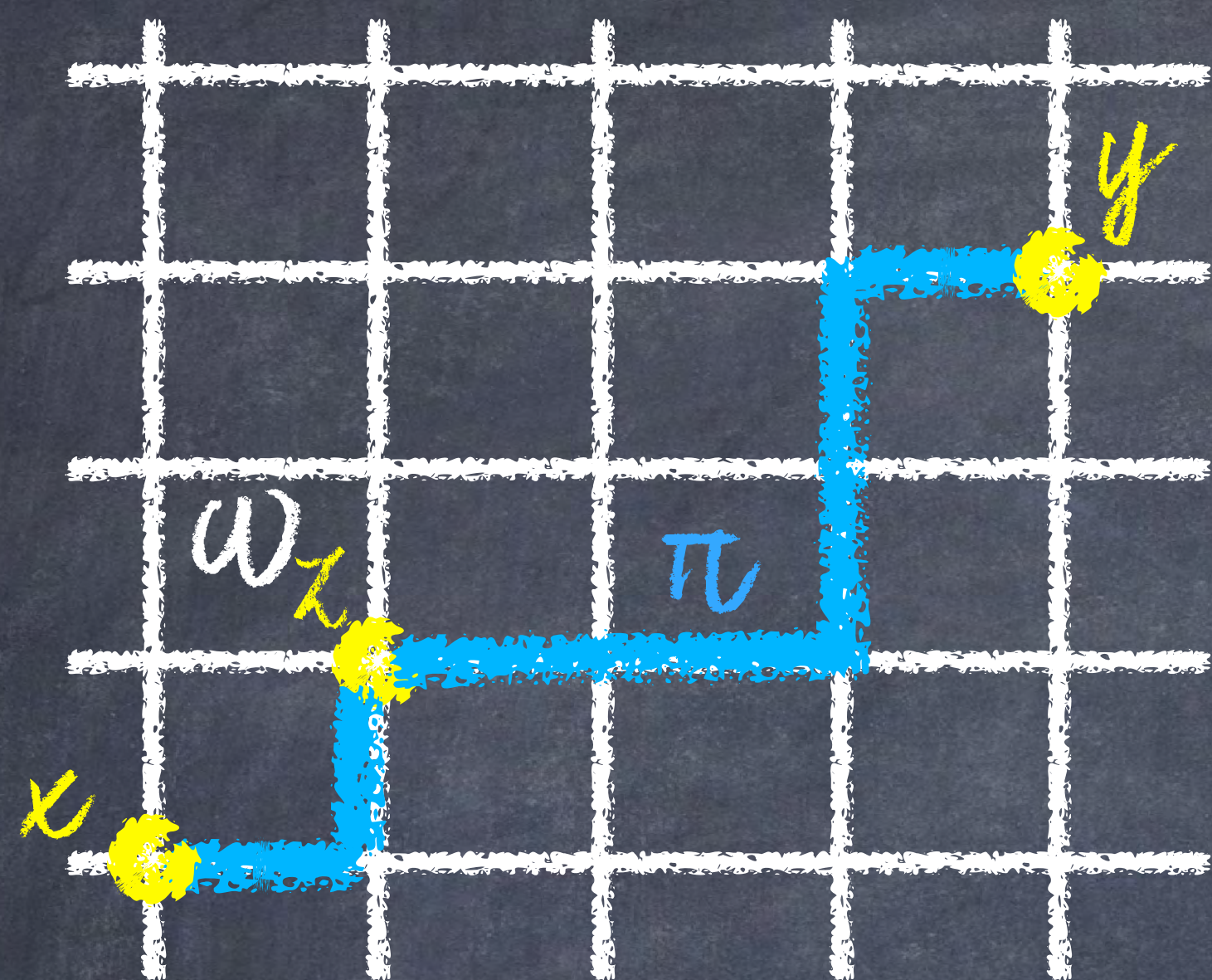


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Last Passage Time:

Point-to-point: $G_{xy} = \max_{\pi} \sum_{z \in \pi} \omega_z$



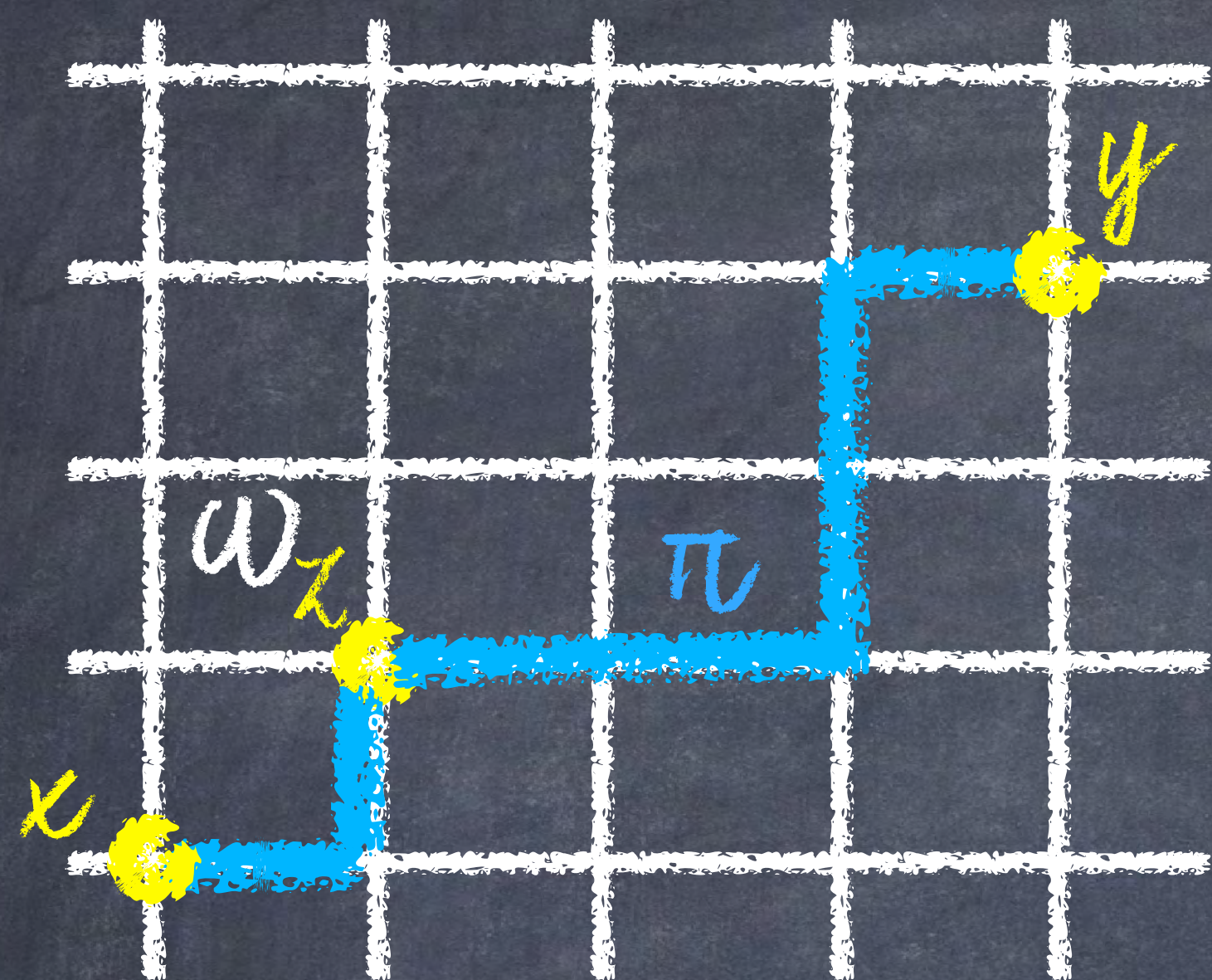
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Geodesic: Maximizing path (unique)



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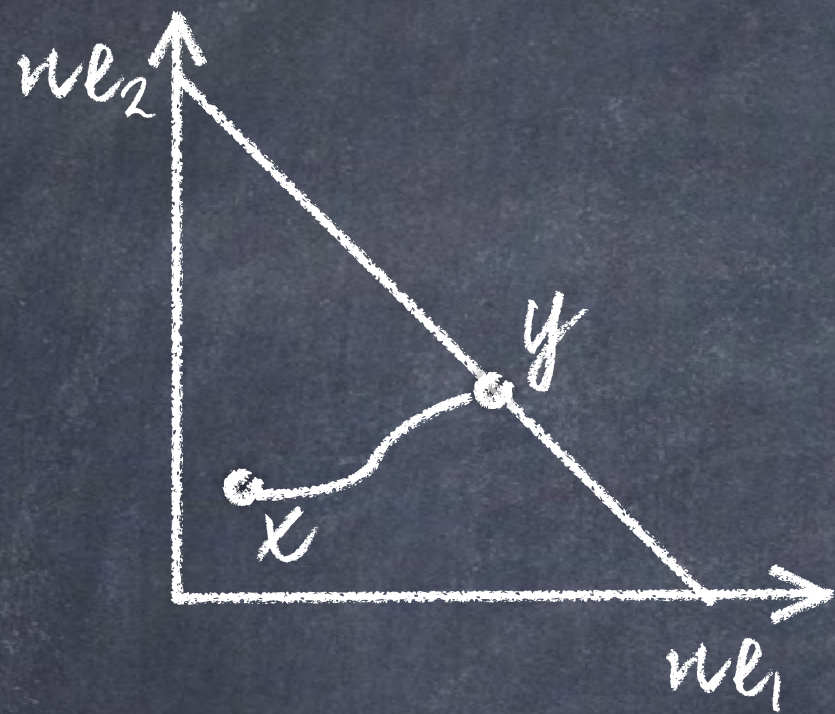
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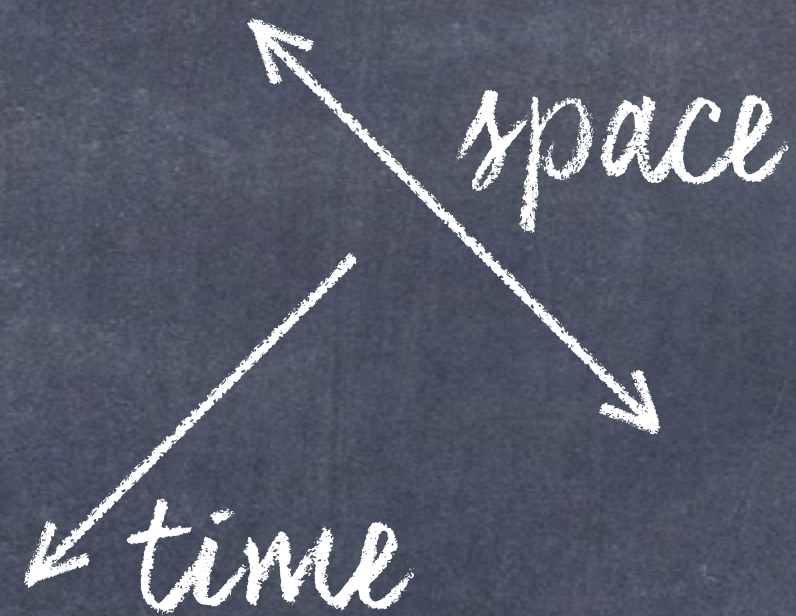
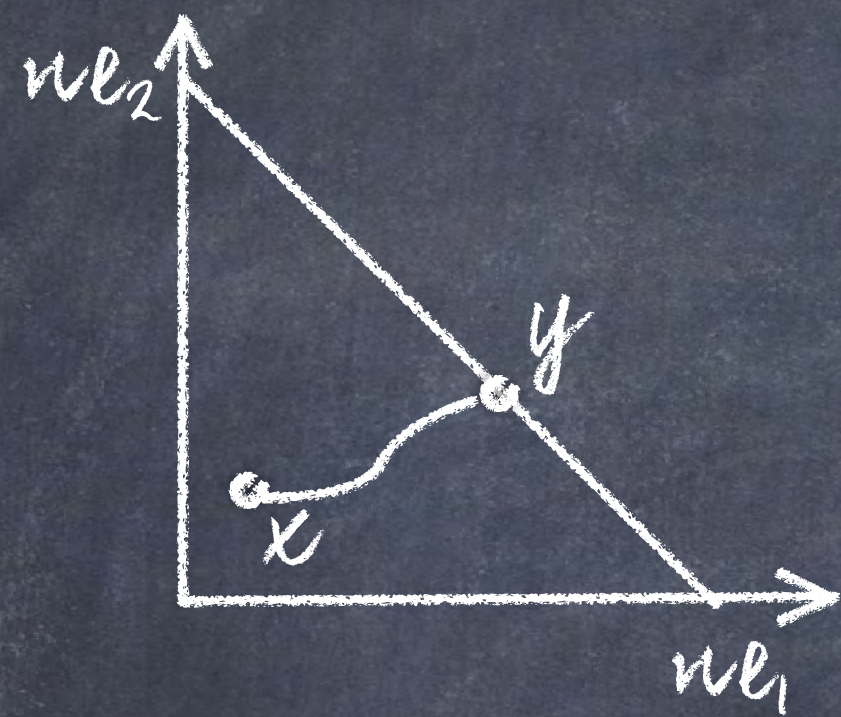


Semi-infinite geodesic: each finite piece is a geodesic

Point-to-line: $G_{x,(n)}(h) = \max_{\pi, y} \{ h \cdot (y - x) + \sum_{z \in \pi} \omega_z \}$

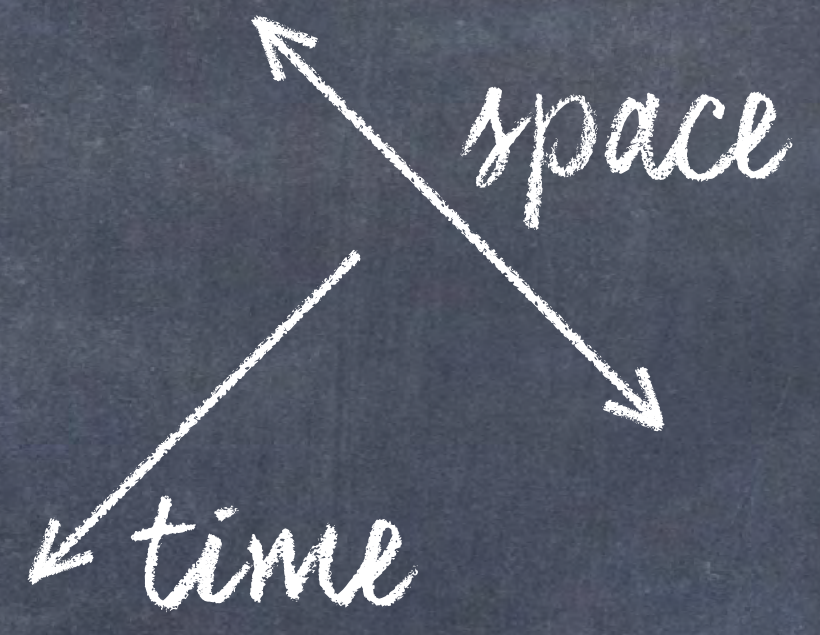
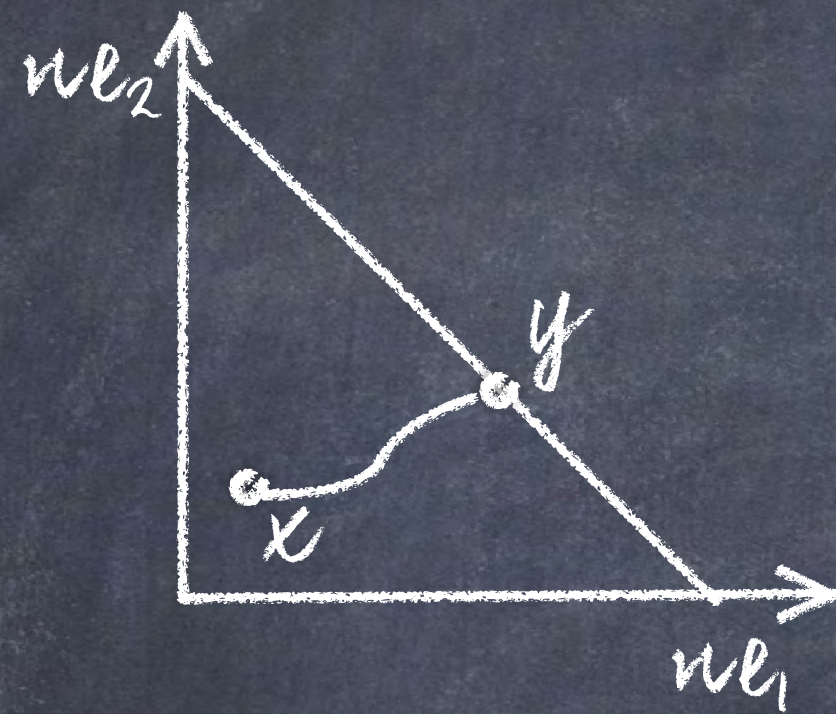


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linear initial condition

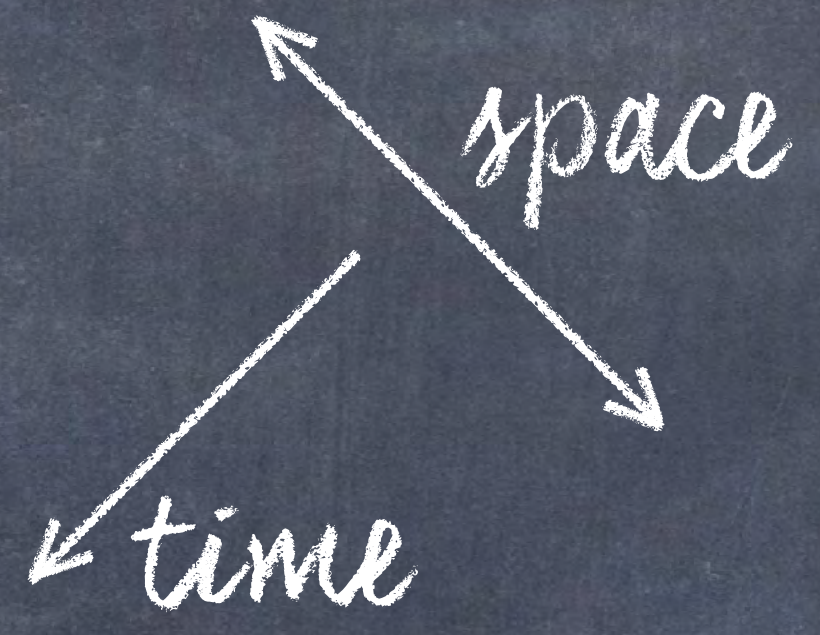
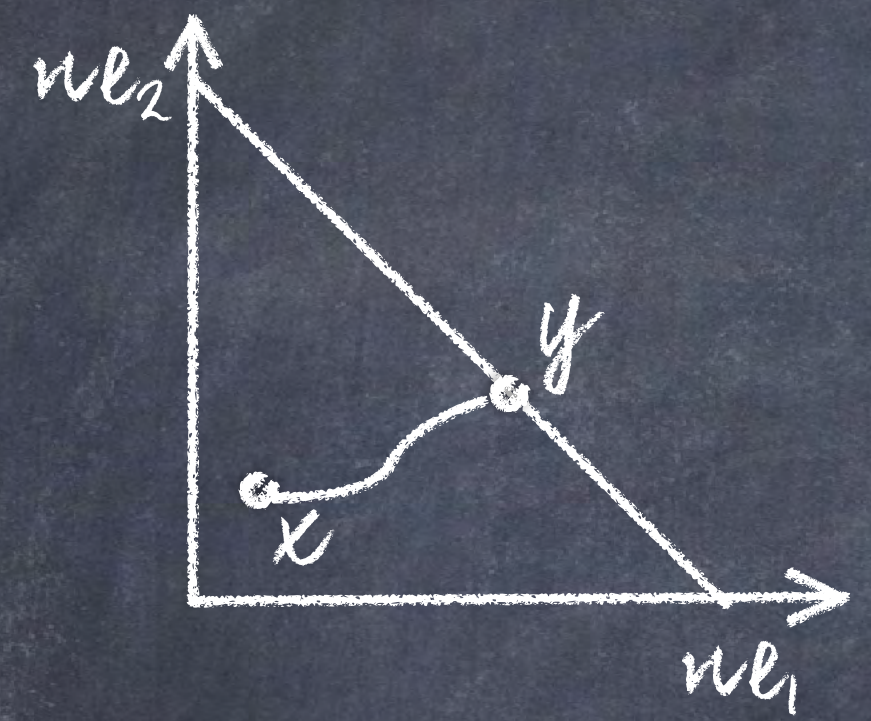
Point-to-line: $G_{x,(n)}(h) = \max_{\pi, y} \{ h \cdot (y-x) + \underbrace{\sum_{z \in \pi} \omega_z}_{\text{Action}} \}$



Lax-Oleinik linear initial condition

Point-to-line:

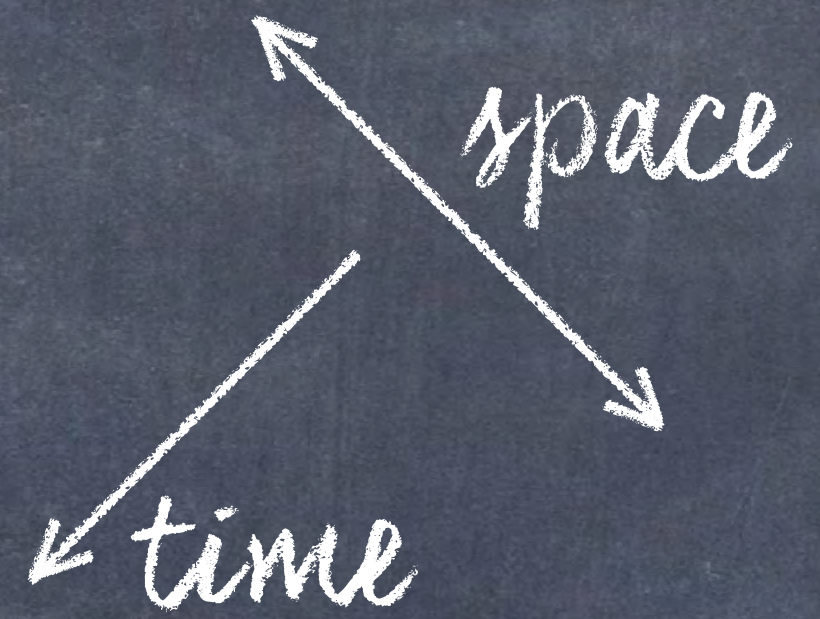
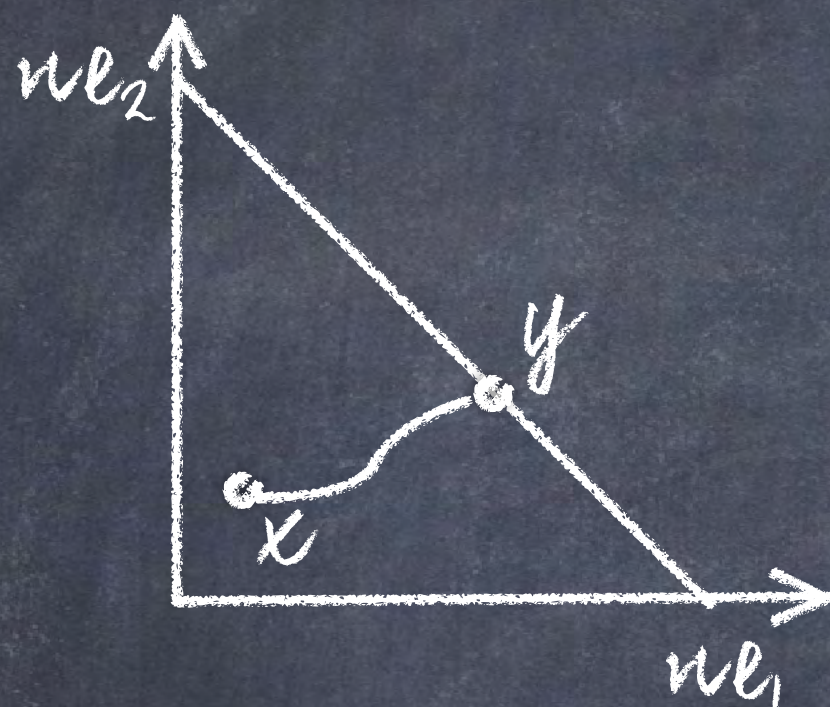
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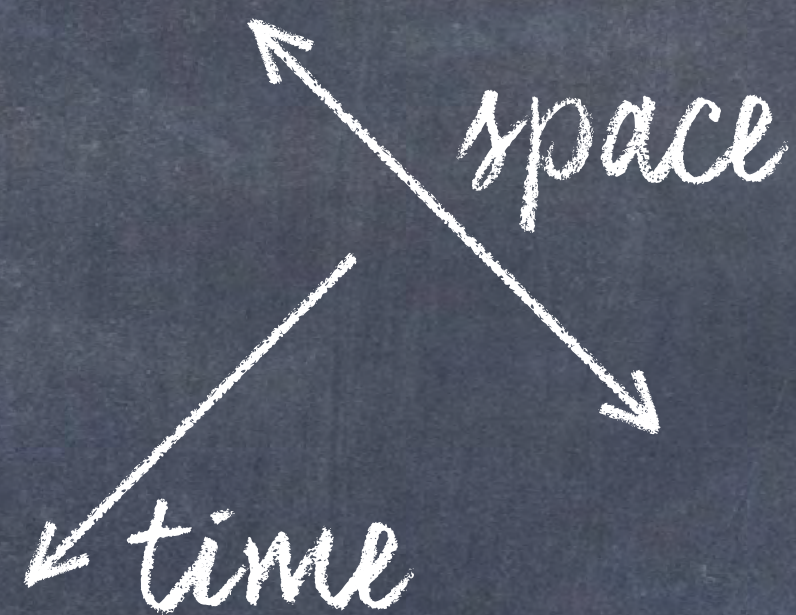
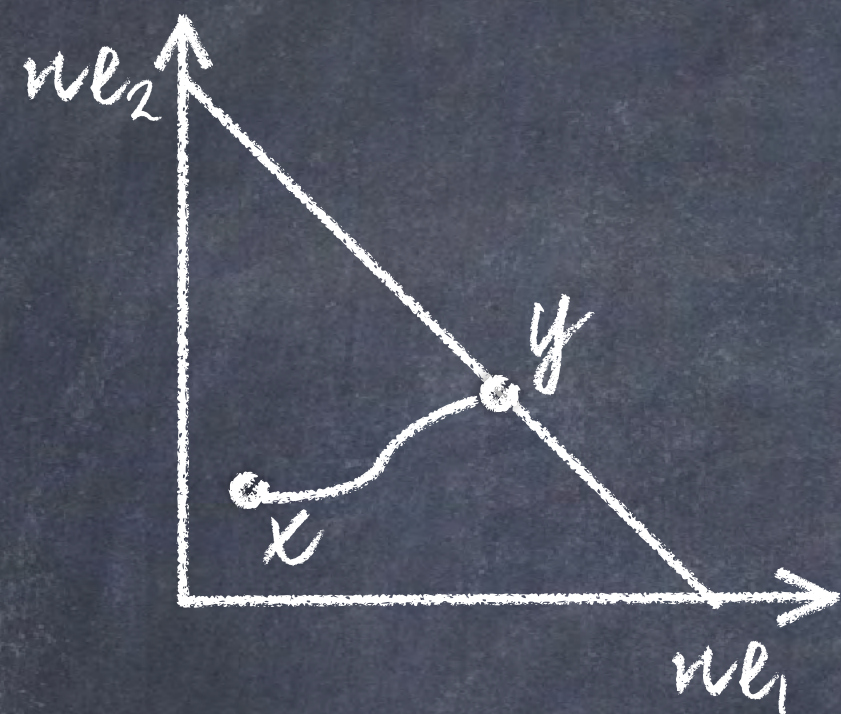
linear initial condition
 $h \cdot (y-x)$
Action

conserved quantity

Lax-Oleinik linear initial condition

Point-to-line:

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conserved quantity

Both $G(x) = G_{xy}$ and $G_{x,(n)}(h)$ satisfy

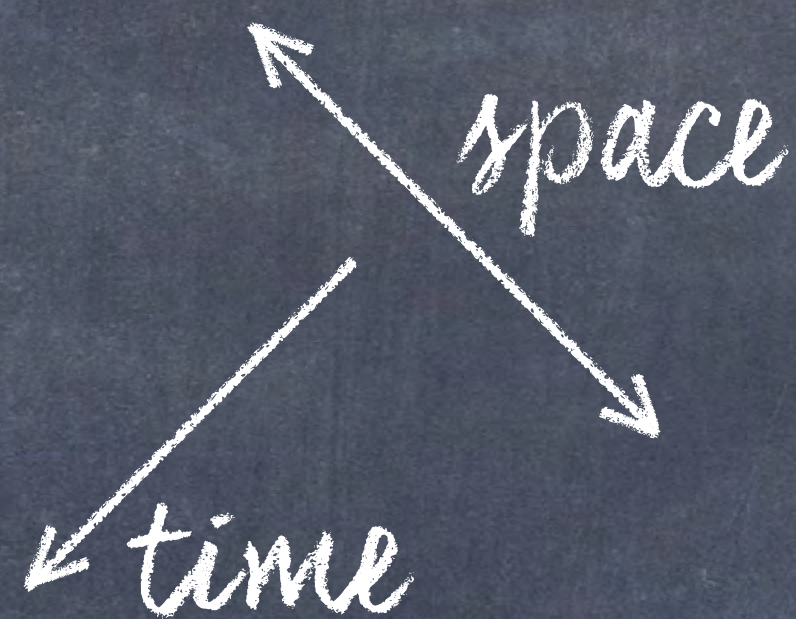
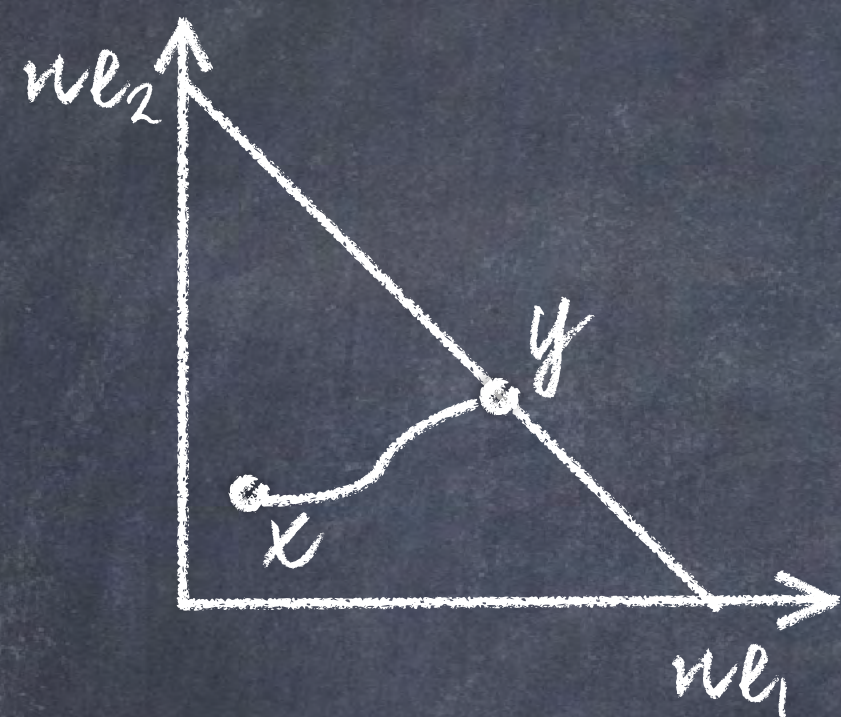
$$G(x) = \omega_x + G(x+l_1) \vee G(x+l_2)$$



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Probabilistic discretization of HJB



Shape Theorem:

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$\exists g: \mathbb{R}_+^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ deterministic, concave, homogenous

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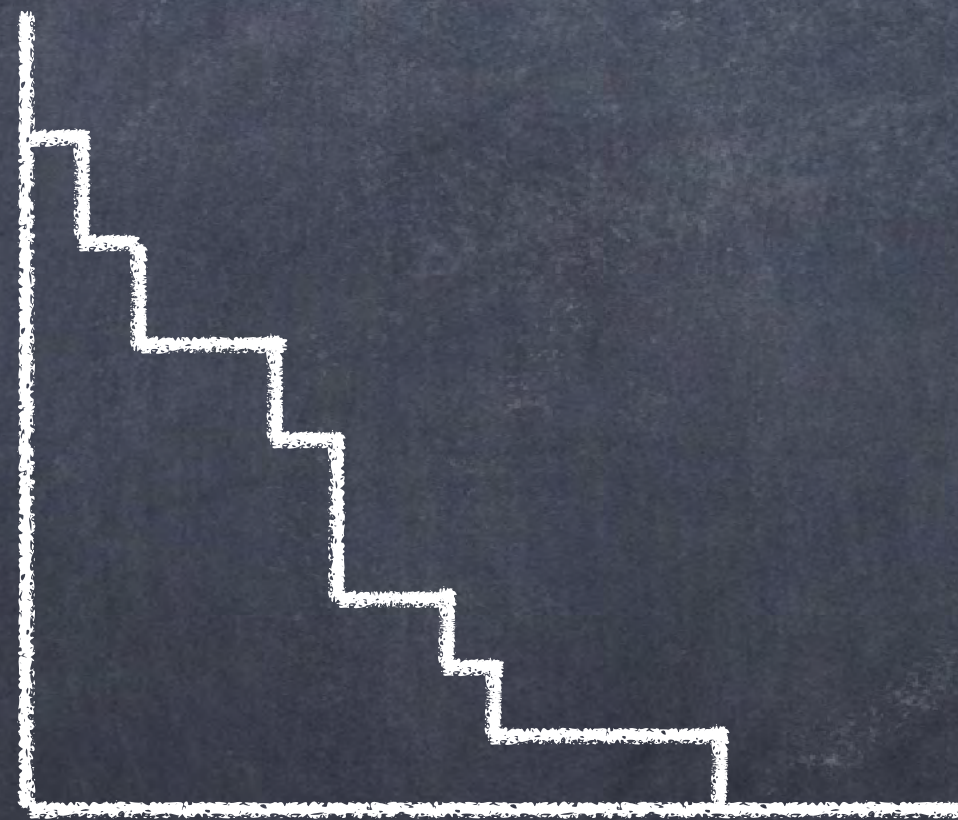
$\exists g: \mathbb{R}_+^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ deterministic, concave, homogenous

$$\limsup_{|x| \rightarrow \infty} \frac{|G_{0x} - g(x)|}{|x|} = 0 \quad \text{almost surely}$$

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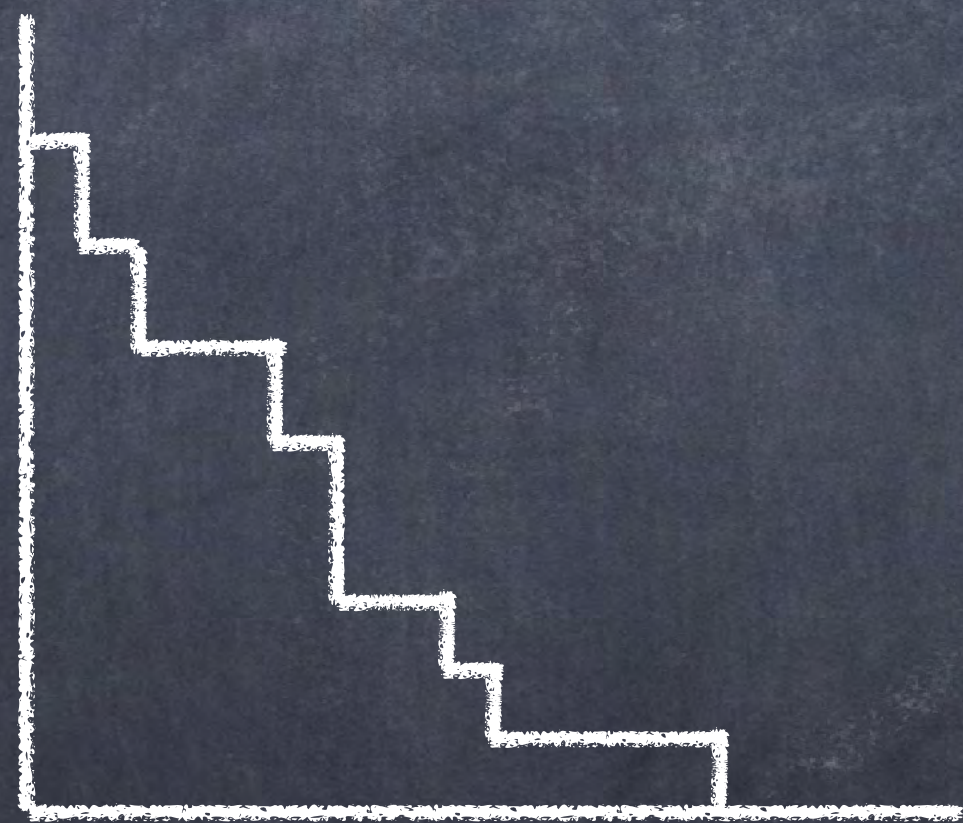


$$\{x: G_{0x} \leq t\}$$

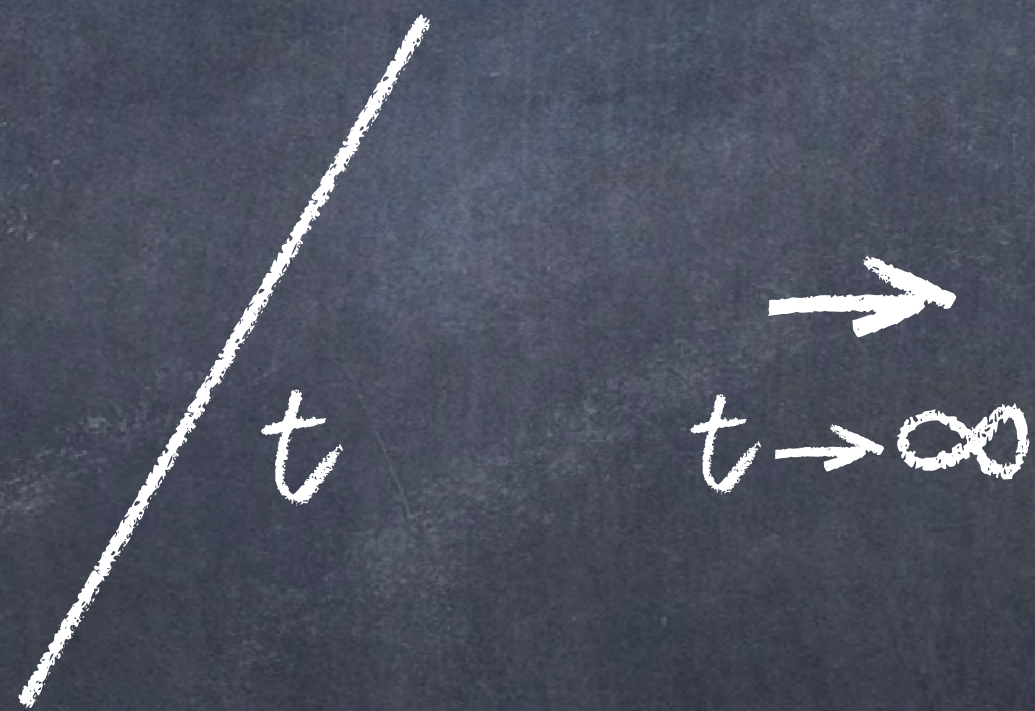
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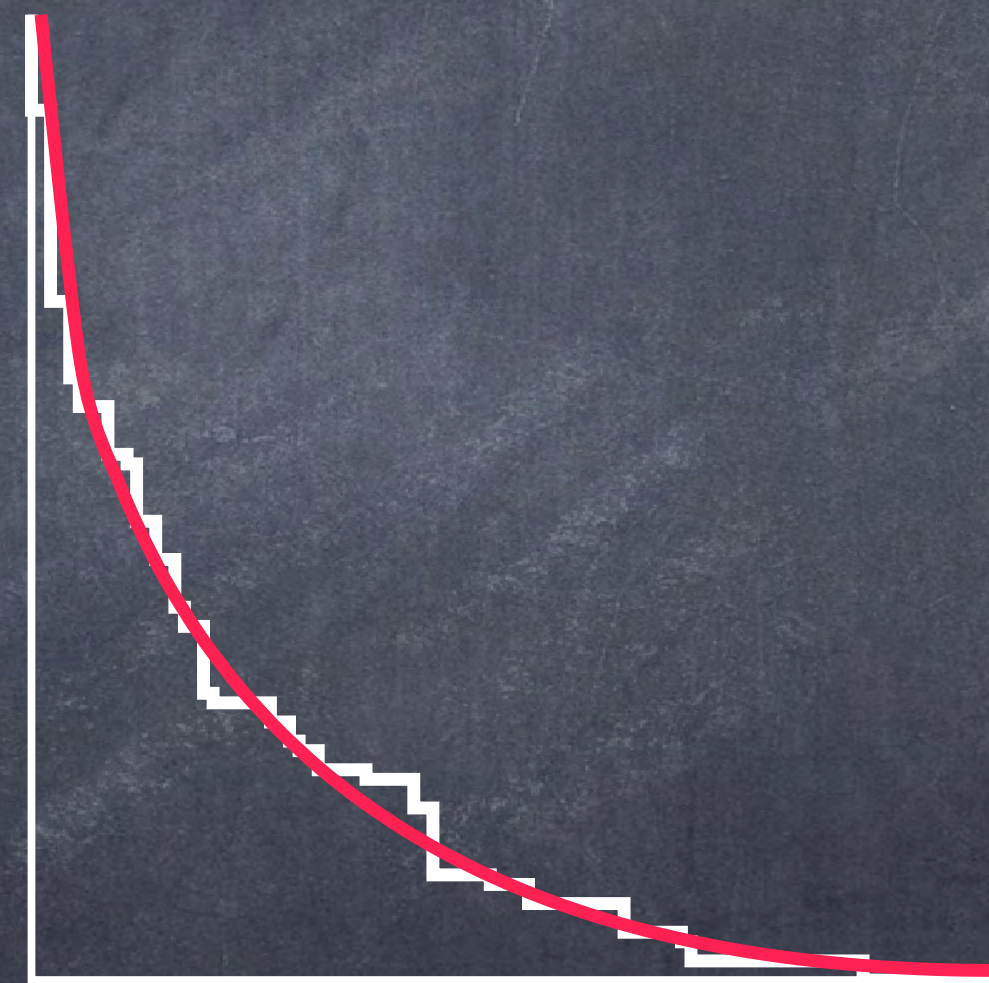
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$$\rightarrow \\ t \rightarrow \infty$$

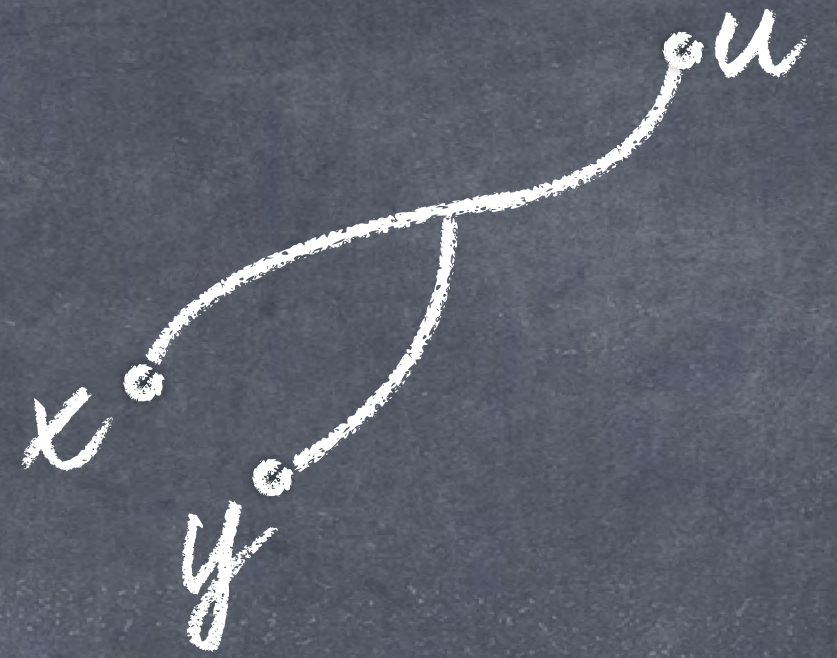


$$\{z: g(z) \leq 1\}$$

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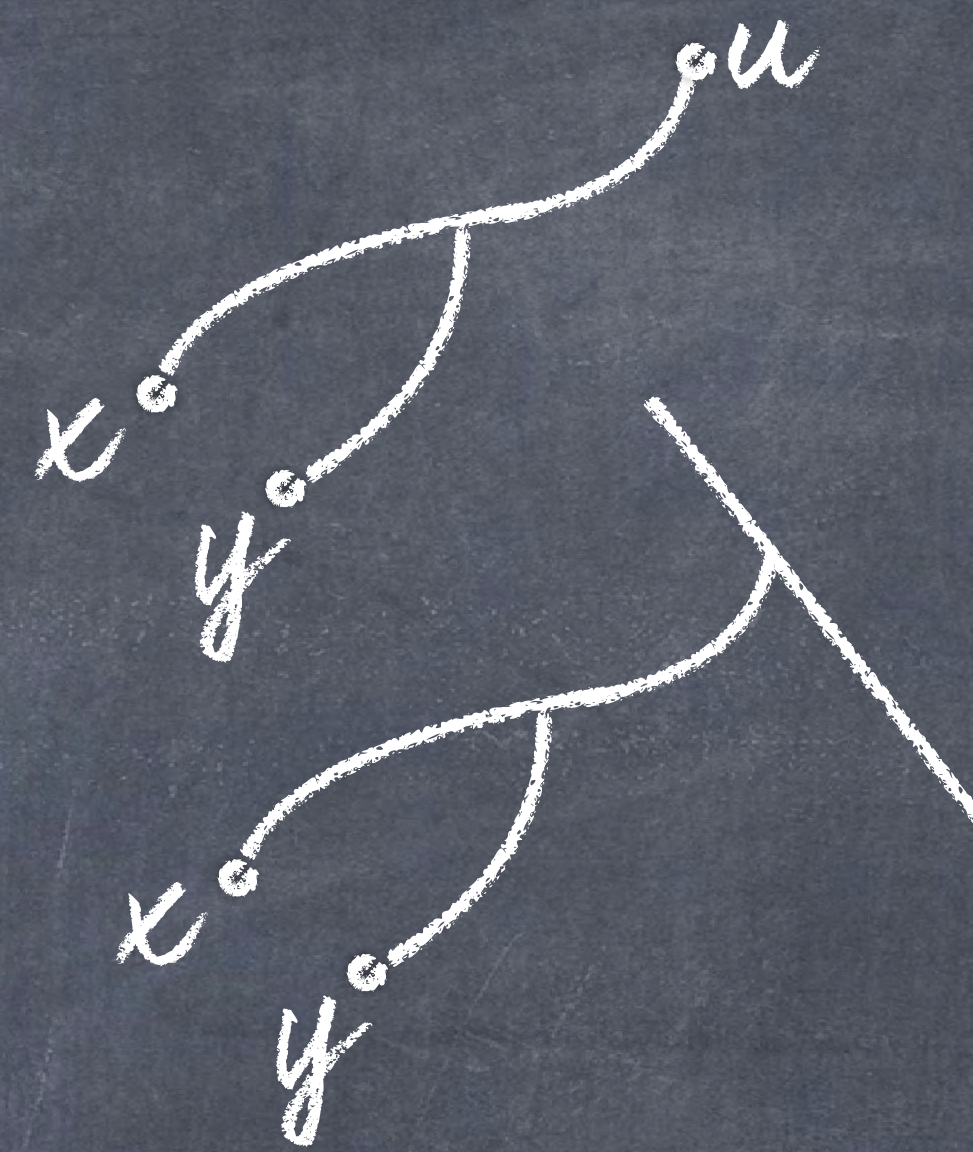
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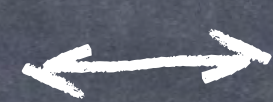
or $B_u^h(x, y) = G_{x(n)}(h) - G_{y(n)}(h)$



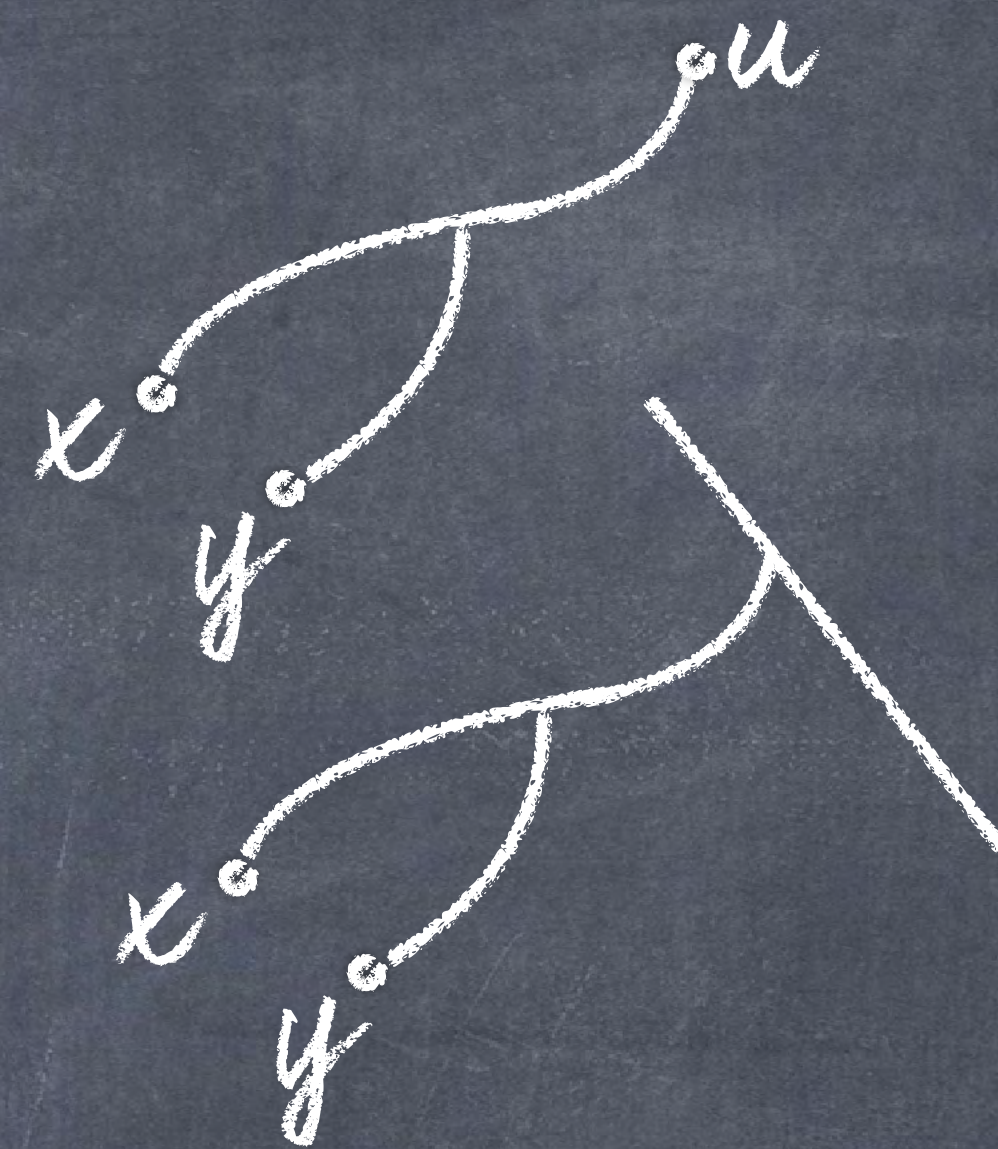
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Solution to
discrete Burgers



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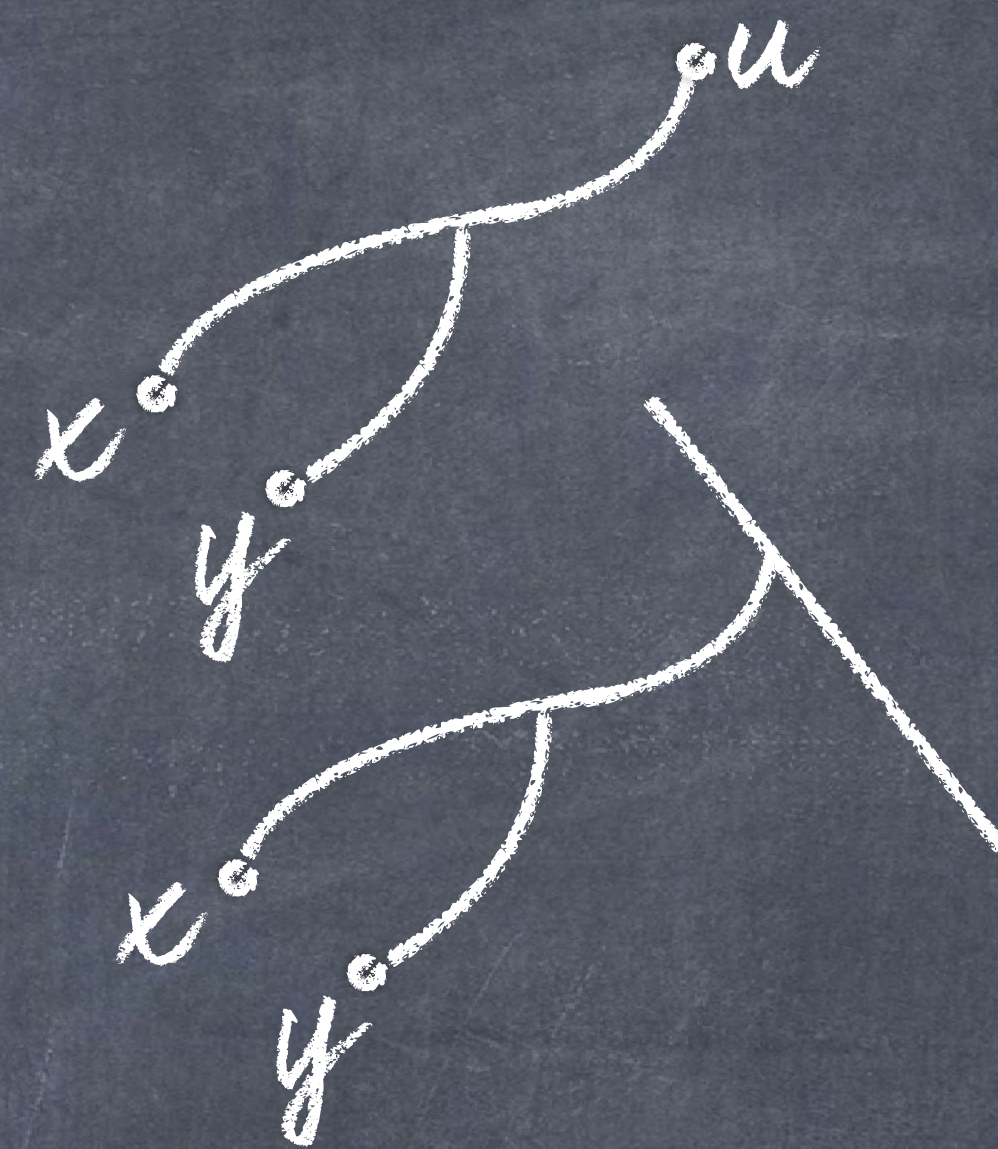


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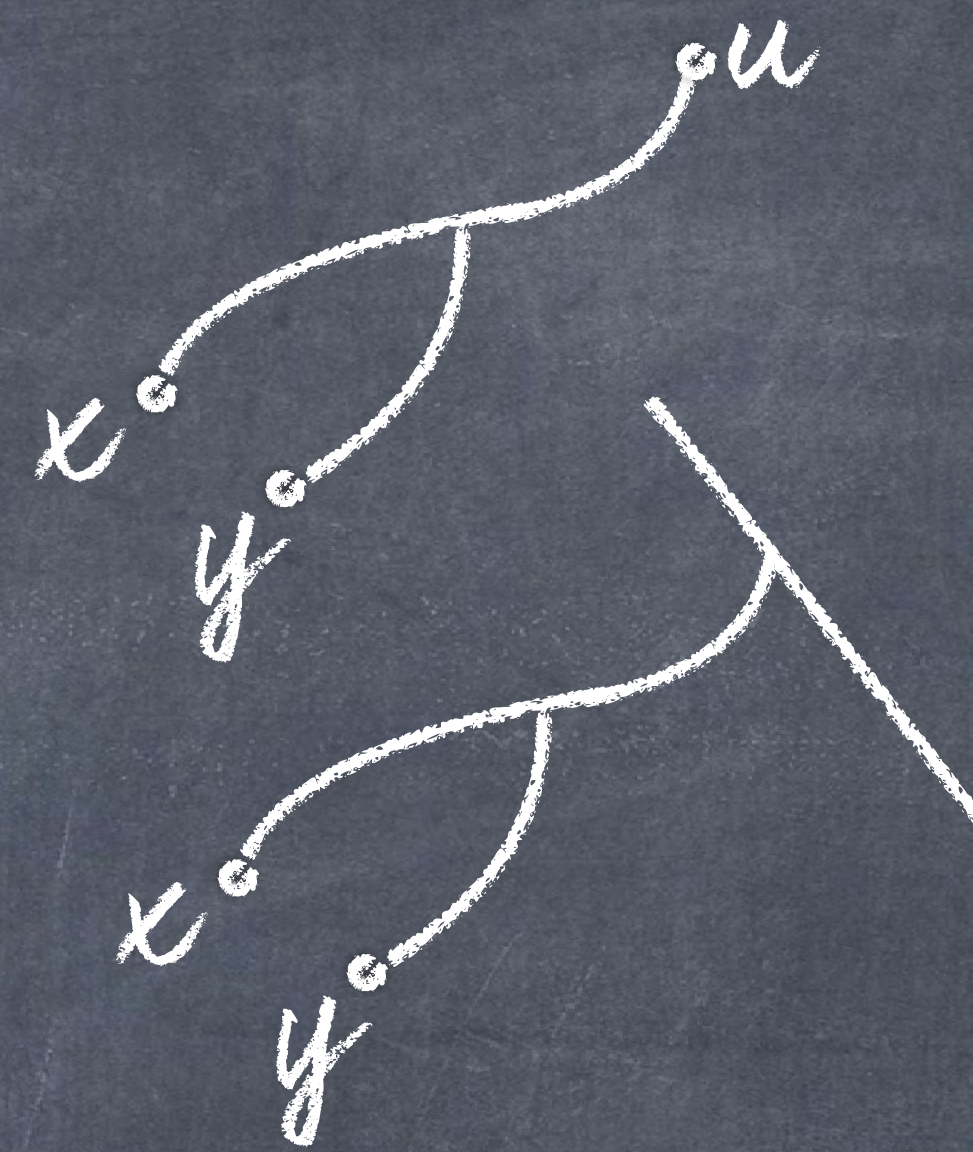
Cocycle: $B(x, y) + B(y, z) = B(x, z)$

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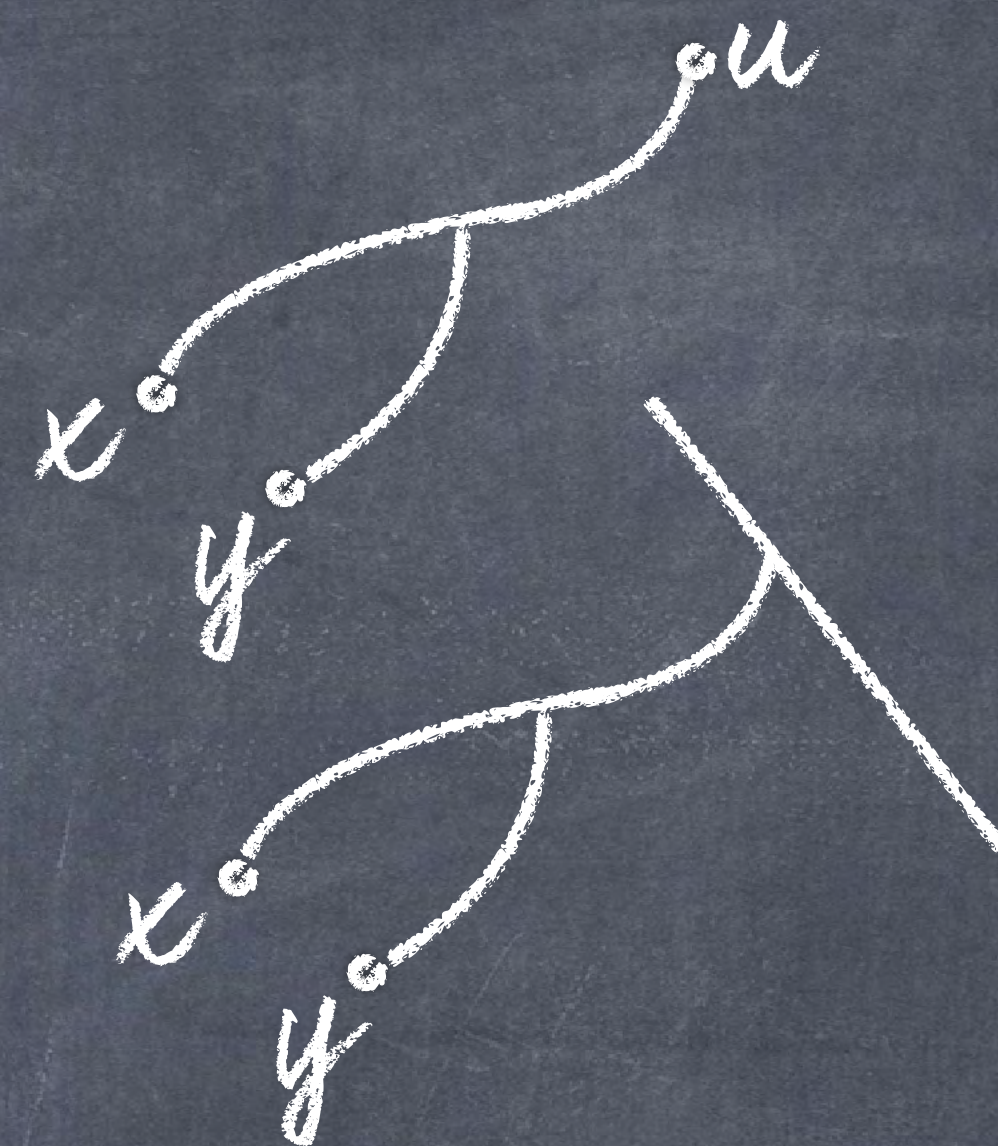
Recovery: $B(x, x+e_1) \wedge B(x, x+e_2) = \omega_x$

Busemann functions:

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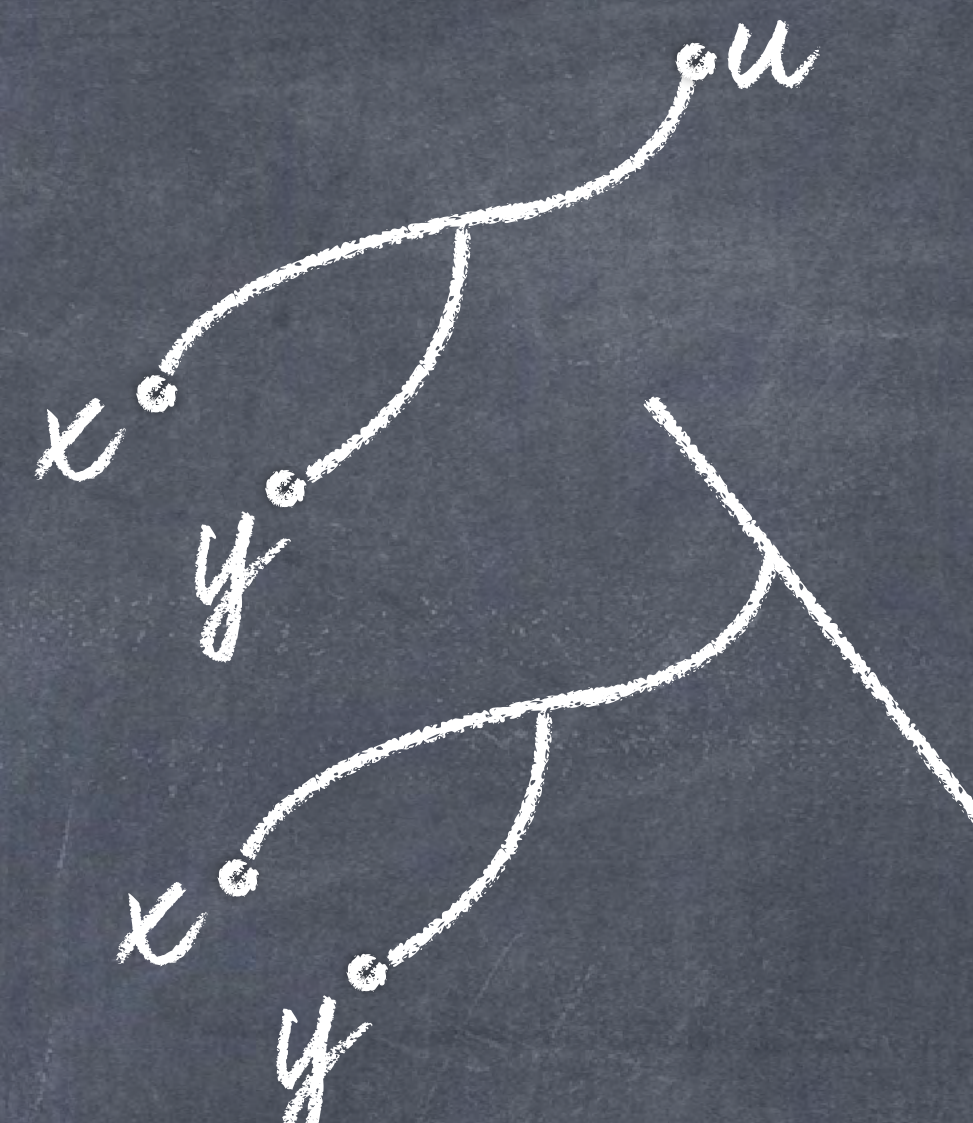
$$G(x) = \omega_x + G(x+e_1) \vee G(x+e_2)$$

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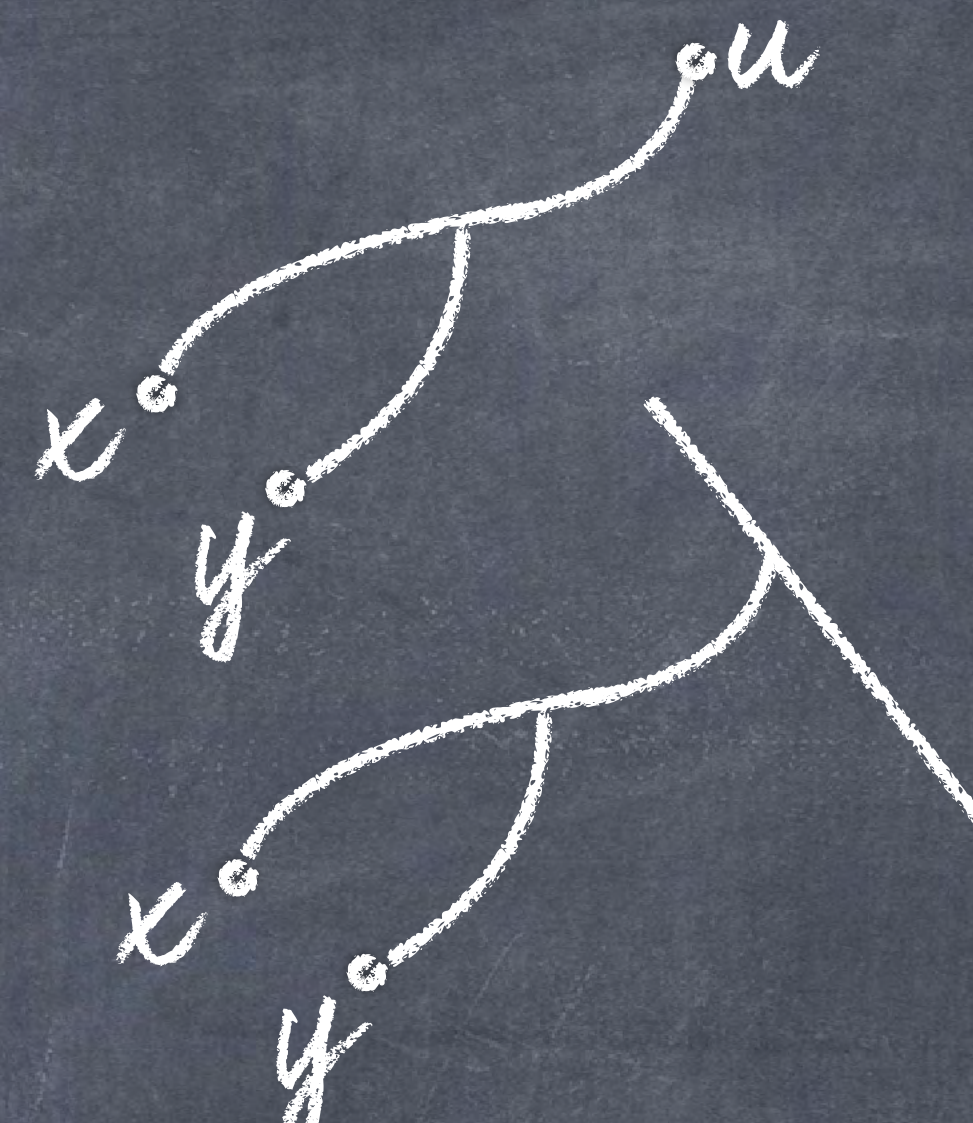


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geodesic follows
smallest increment

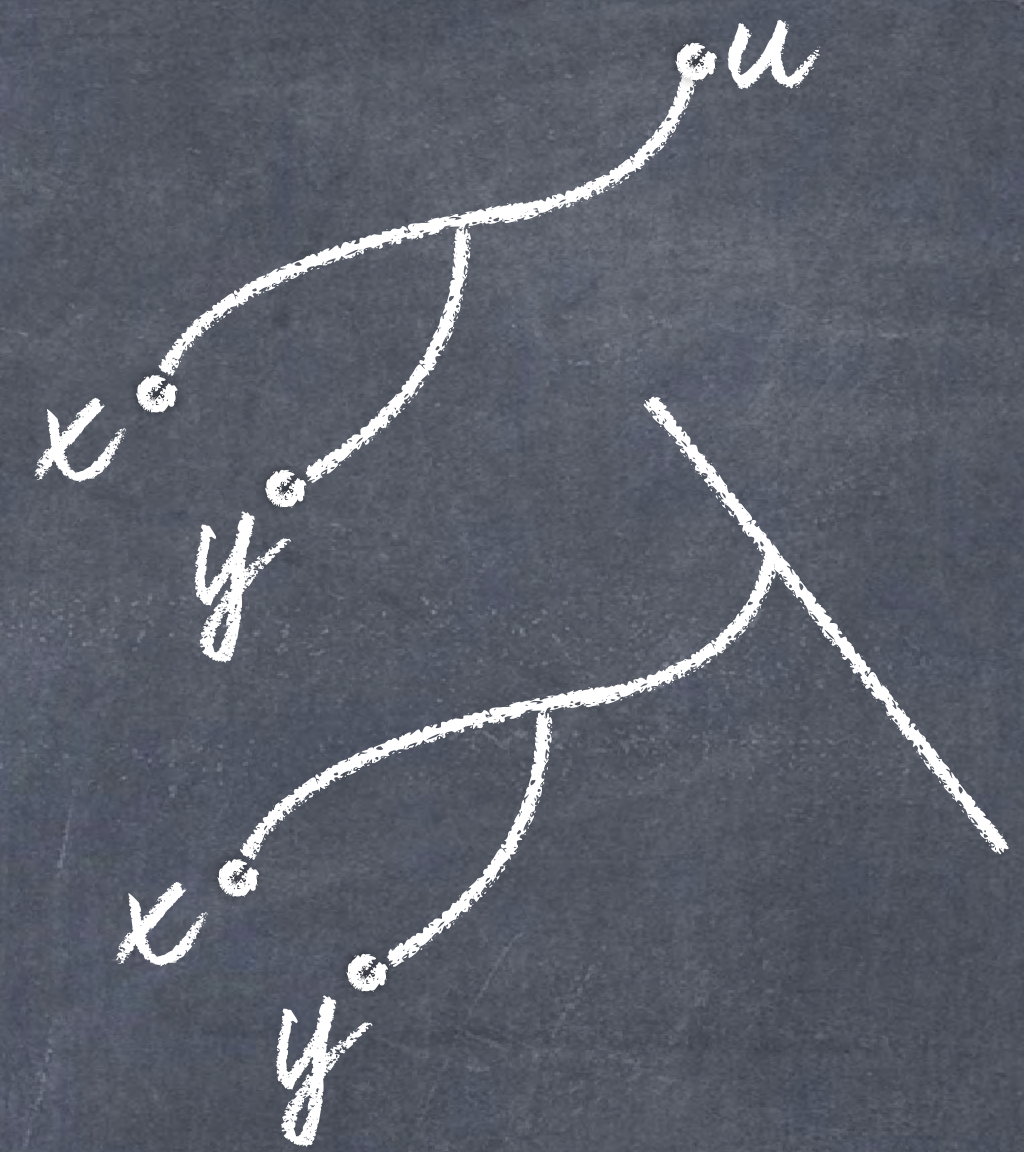
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$$B_u(x, y) = G_{xu} - G_{yu}$$

Solution to discrete Burgers

$$\longleftrightarrow \text{or } B_u^h(x, y) = G_{x(u)}(h) - G_{y(u)}(h)$$



Cocycle: $B(x, y) + B(y, z) = B(x, z)$

Recovery: $B(x, x+e_1) \wedge B(x, x+e_2) = \omega_x$

geodesic follows smallest increment

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Monotonicity:

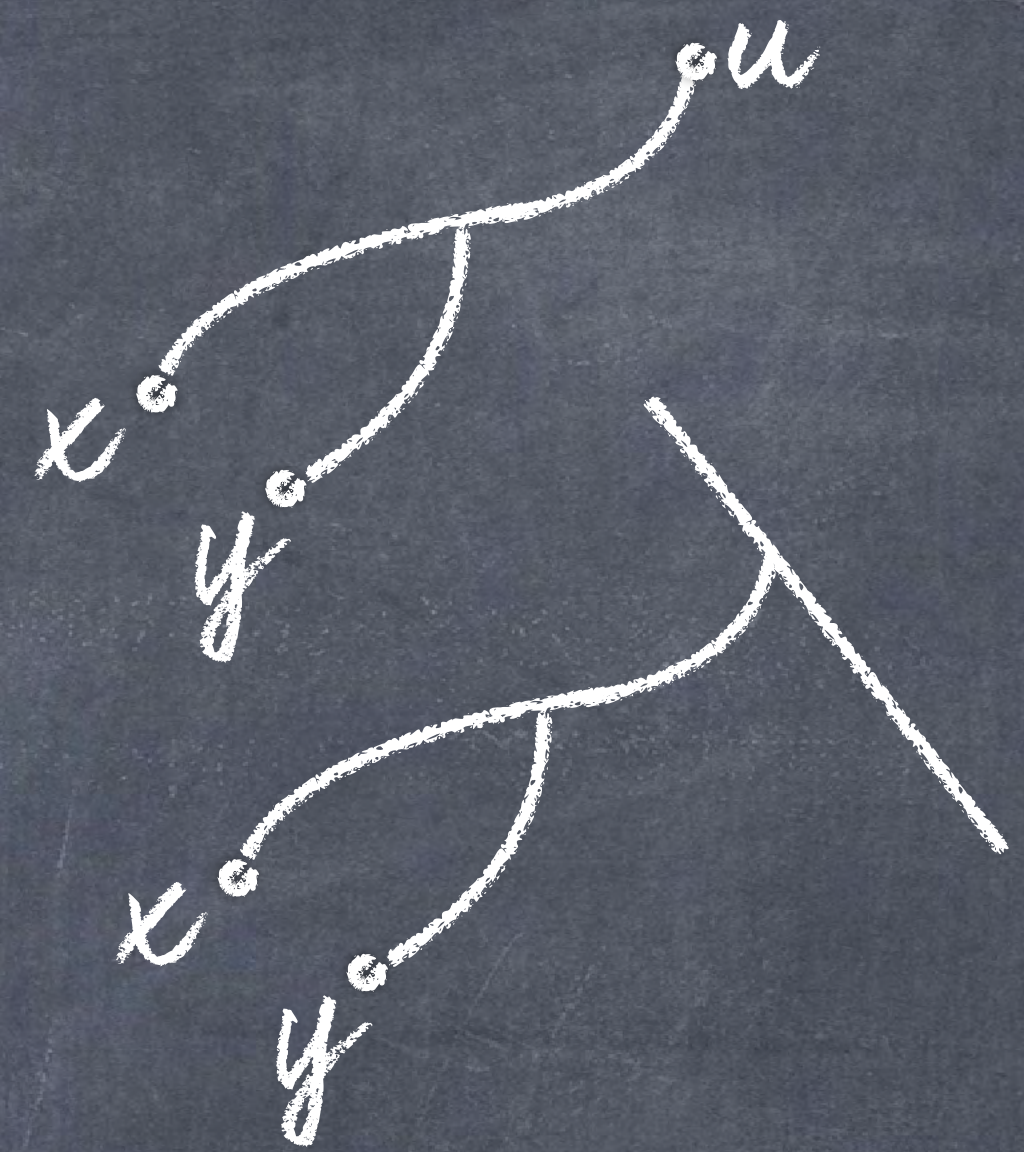


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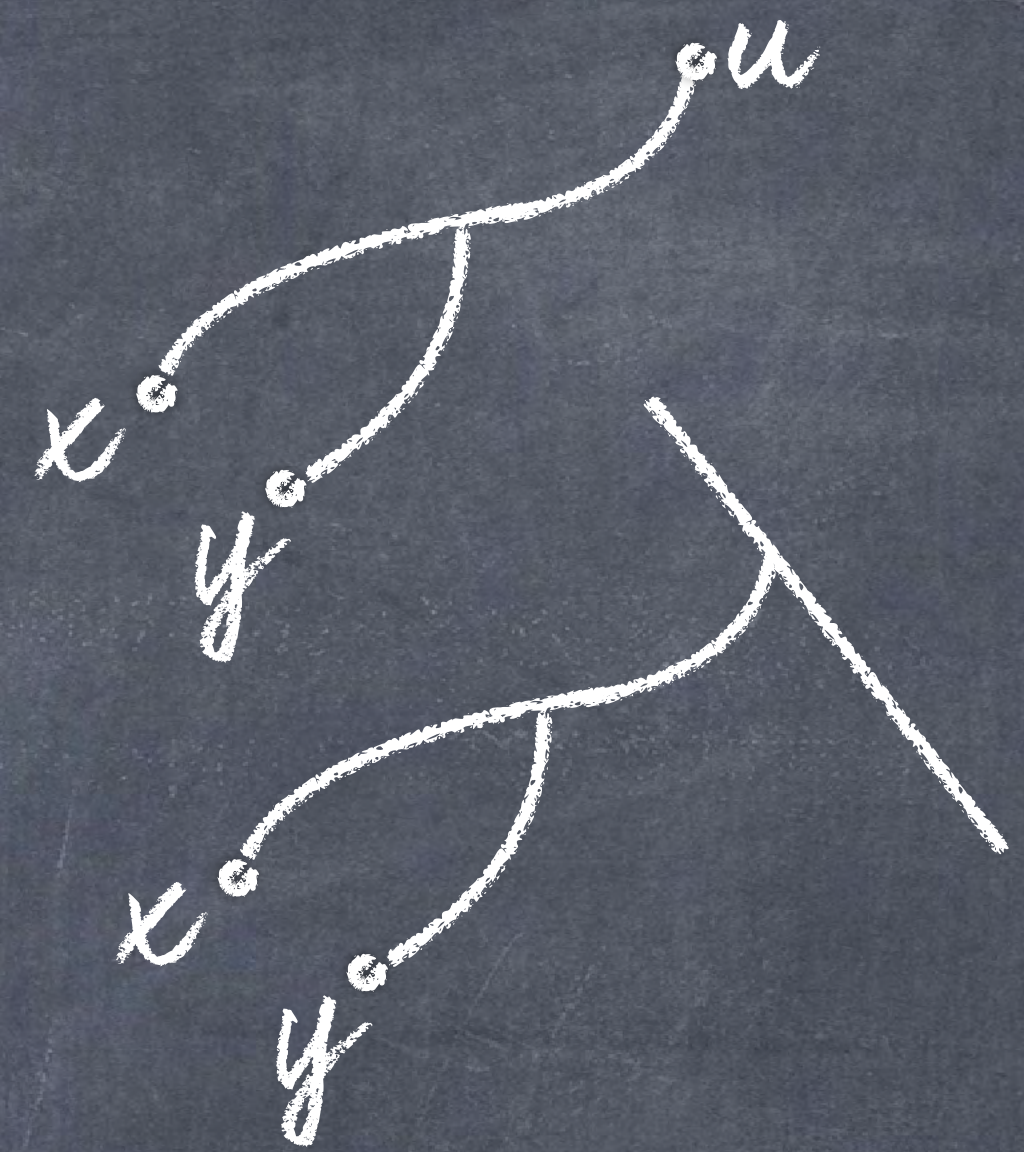
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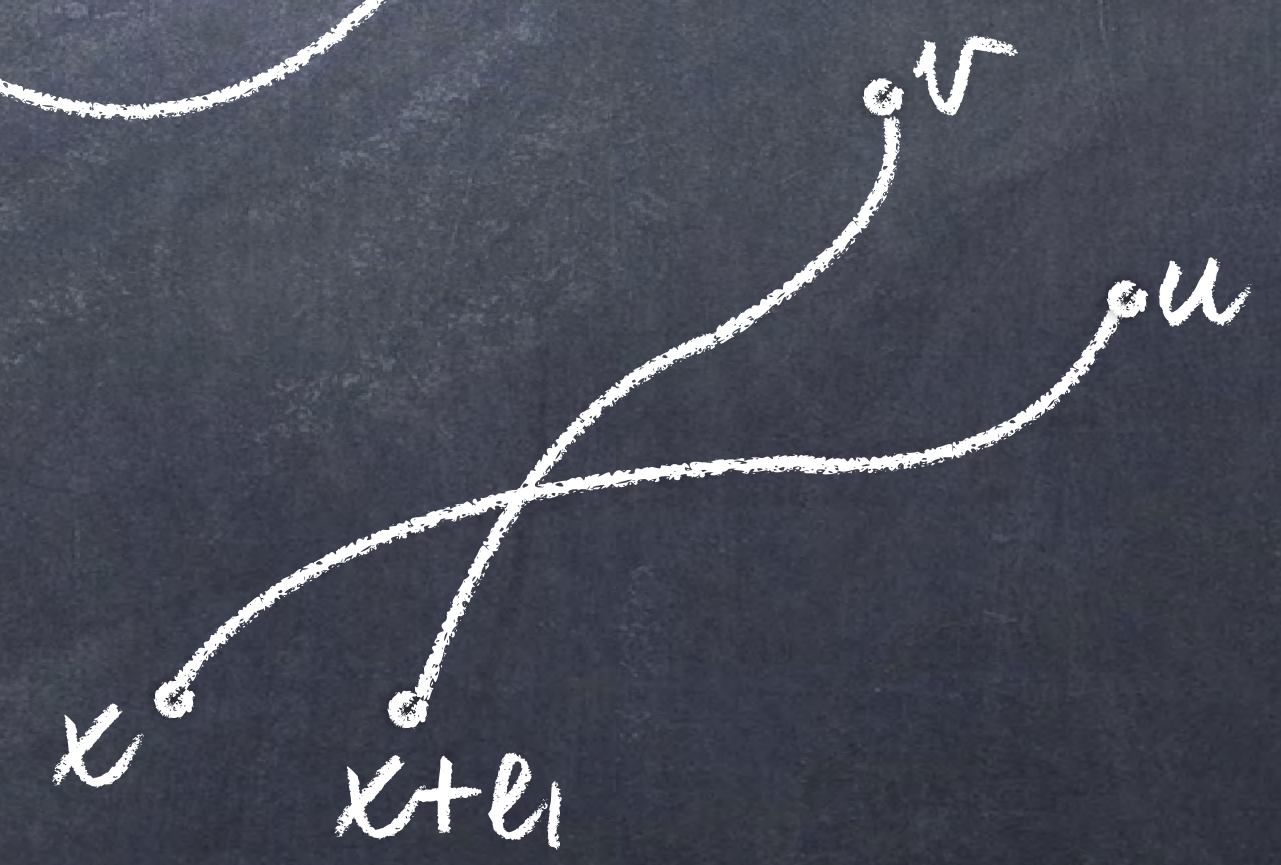


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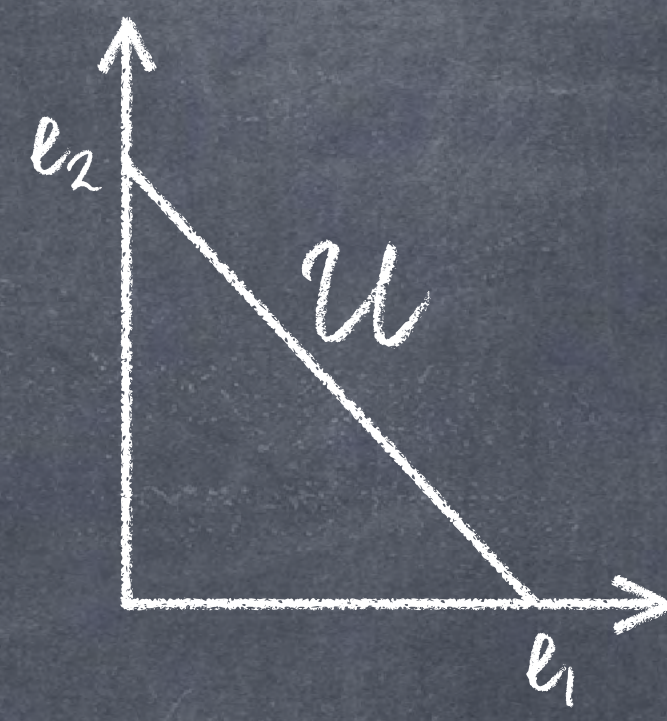
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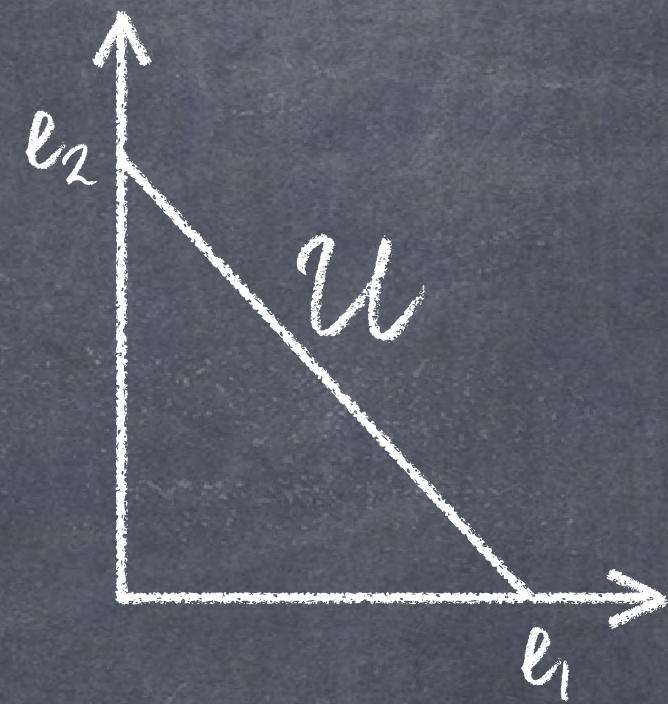


Monotonicity: $B_u(x, x+e_1) \leq B_v(x, x+e_1)$

$$B_u(x, x+e_2) \geq B_v(x, x+e_2)$$

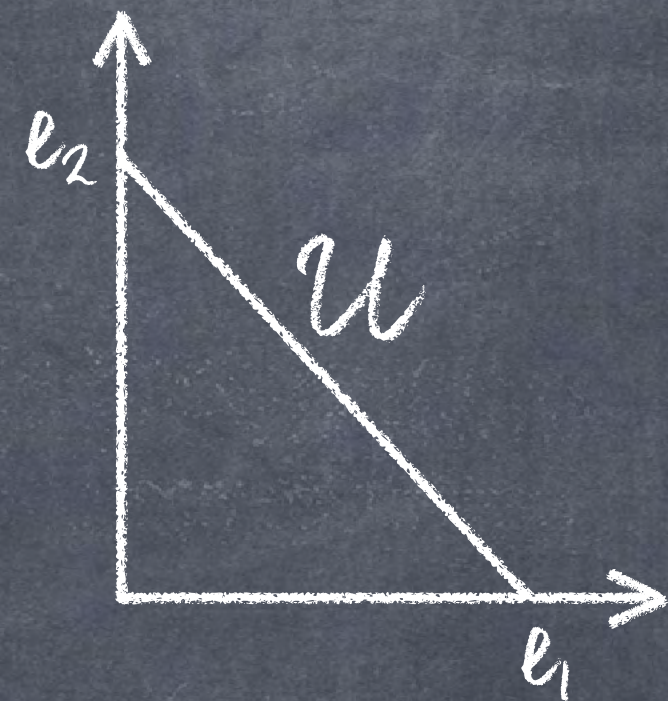


Th. Fix "nice" $\zeta \in U$. Then a.s. $B_{x_n}(x, y) \rightarrow B^{\zeta}(x, y)$ as $\frac{x_n}{n} \rightarrow \zeta$



Th. Fix "nice" $\bar{z} \in U$. Then a.s. $B_{x_n}(x, y) \rightarrow B^{\bar{z}}(x, y)$ as $\frac{x_n}{n} \rightarrow \bar{z}$

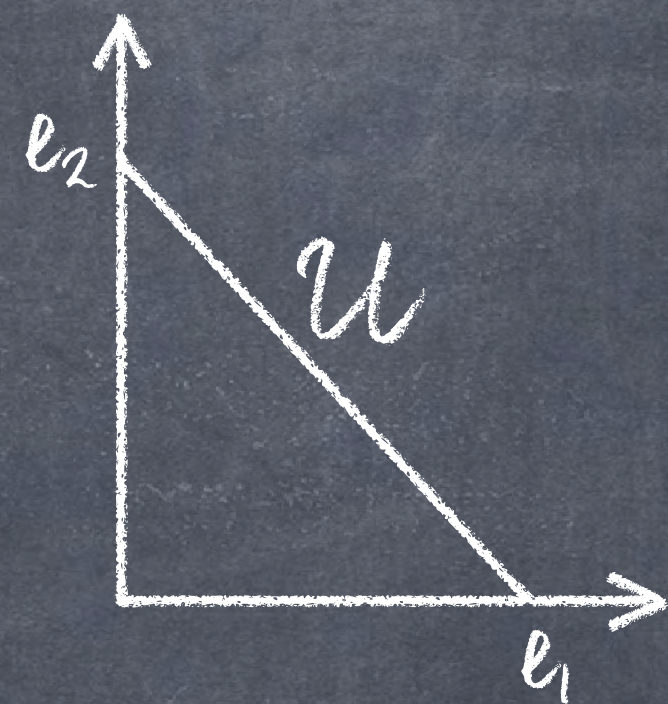
$$h = -\nabla g(\bar{z}) \quad (\text{dual})$$



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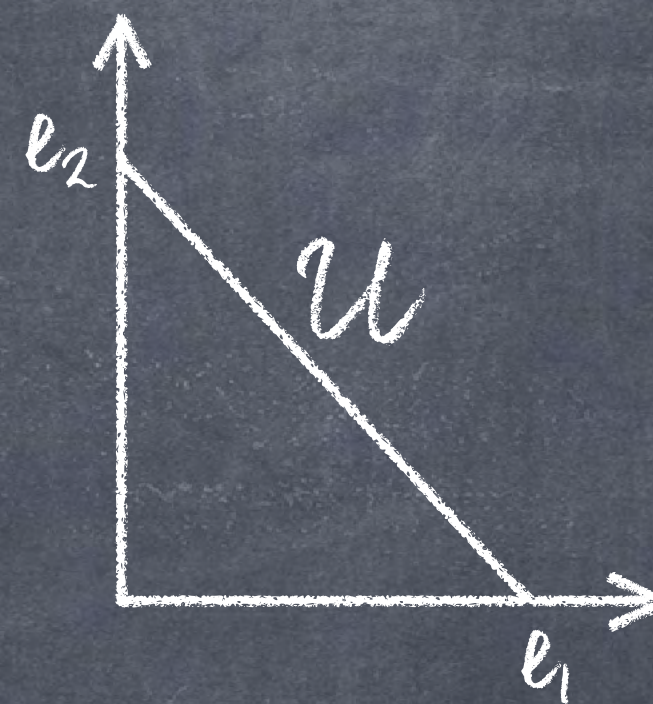
$$B_n^h(x, y) \nearrow$$



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$B_n^h(x, y)$ \nearrow $B^{\bar{z}}(x, y)$ \nwarrow global solutions

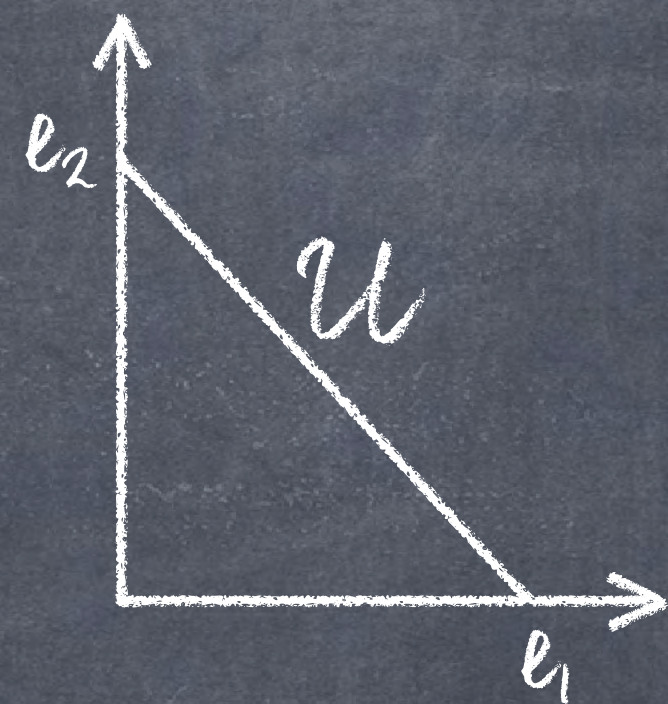


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global solutions

Licea-Newman '96: for standard FPP



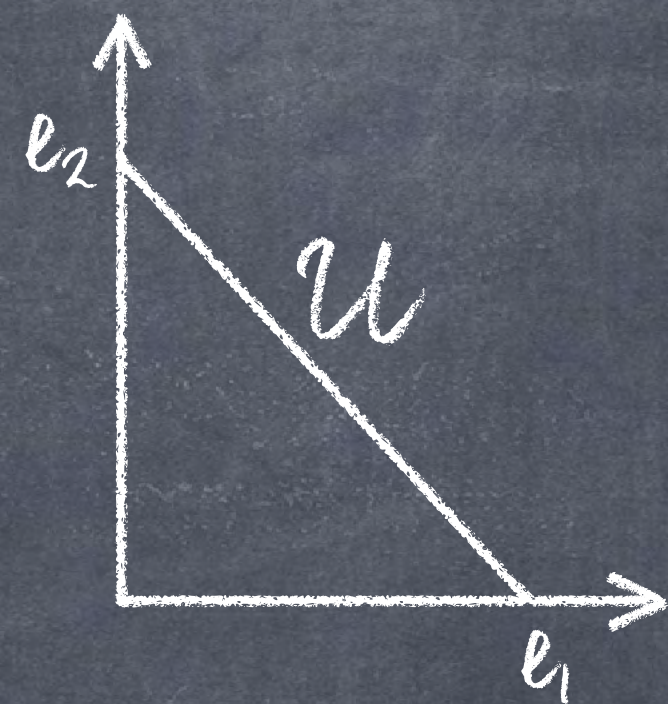
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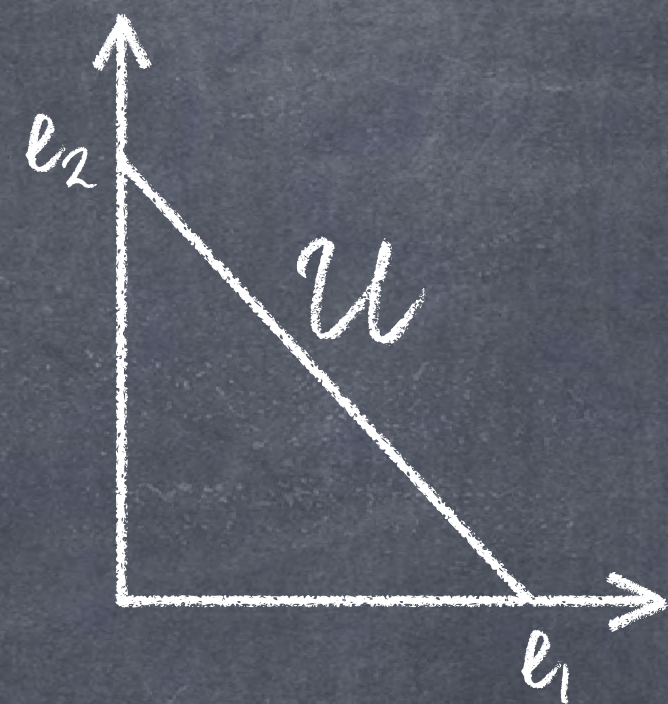
Strong curvature assumption on g



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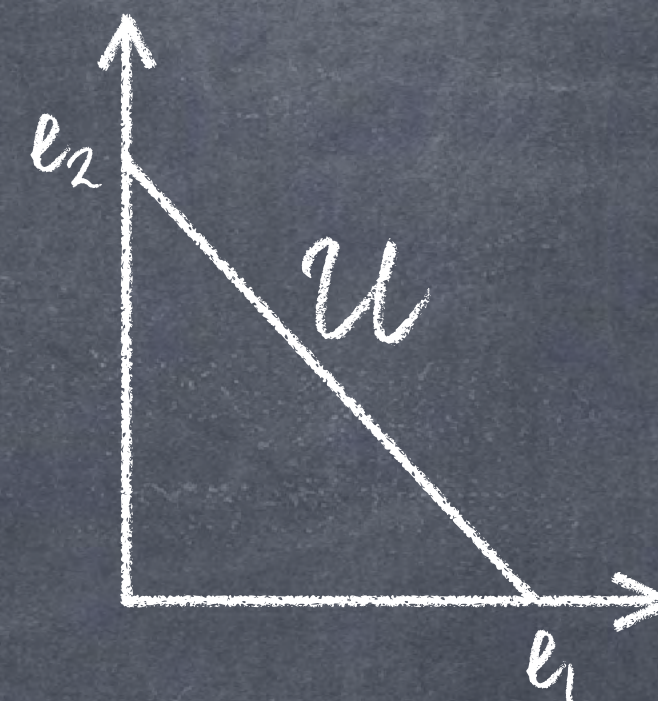
Strong curvature assumption on g

Existence, uniqueness, coalescence of \bar{z} -directed semi-inf. geo.: $\frac{x_n}{|x_n|} \rightarrow \bar{z}$

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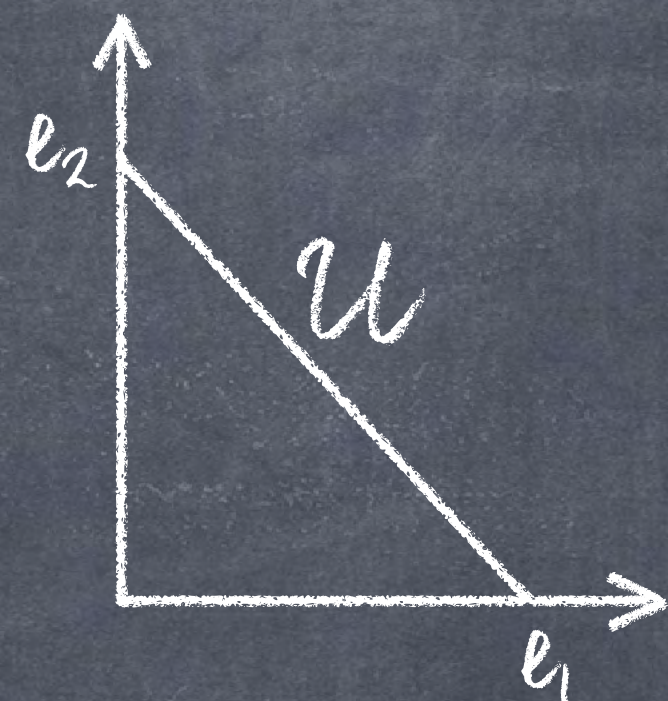
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Licea-Newman '96: for standard FPP

Strong curvature assumption on g

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Coalescence implies $B_{x_n}(x, y) \rightarrow B^{\bar{z}}(x, y)$

Conjecture: g differentiable, strictly concave,
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Burgers equation with kick forcing: Bakhtin-Cator-Khanin '14
Bakhtin '16

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Define B^3 through weak subsequential limits of B_n^h with $h = -\nabla\phi(\xi)$

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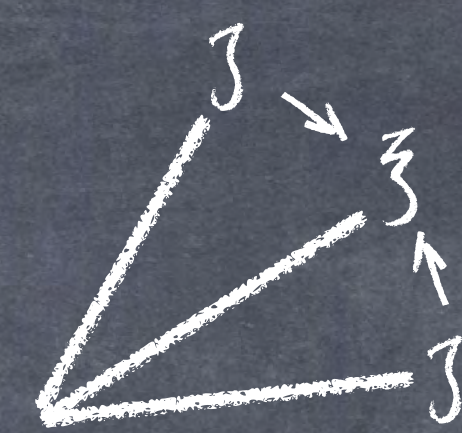
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Cocycle, recovery, monotonicity hold

Monotonicity implies $B^{\zeta^+}(x, x+e_i) = \lim_{D_0 \ni \zeta \rightarrow \zeta^+} B^\zeta(x, x+e_i)$



Monotonicity implies $B^{\mathbb{Z}^+}(x, x+e_i) = \lim_{D_0 \ni \mathbb{Z} \ni \mathbb{Z}} B^{\mathbb{Z}}(x, x+e_i)$

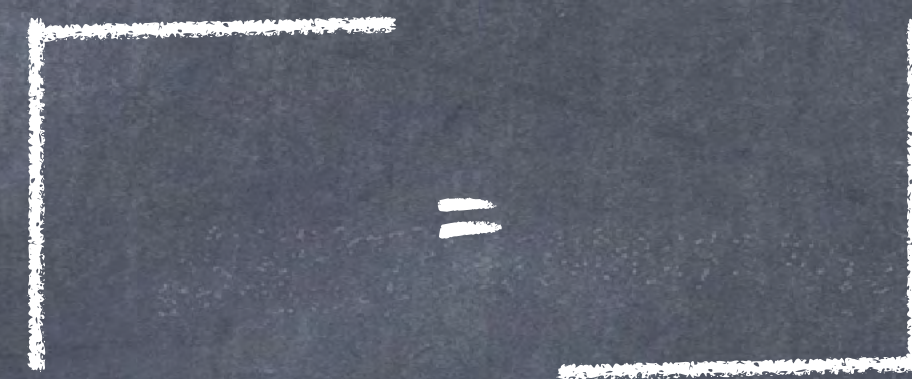


Cocycle property extends this to $B^{\mathbb{Z}^+}(x, y)$

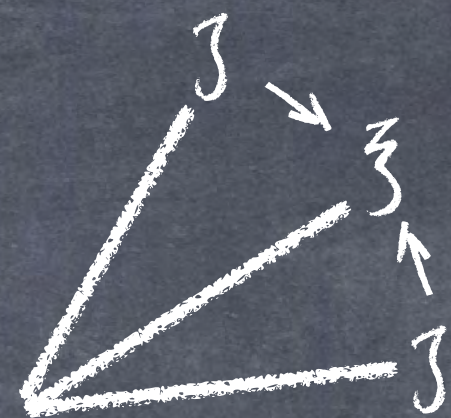
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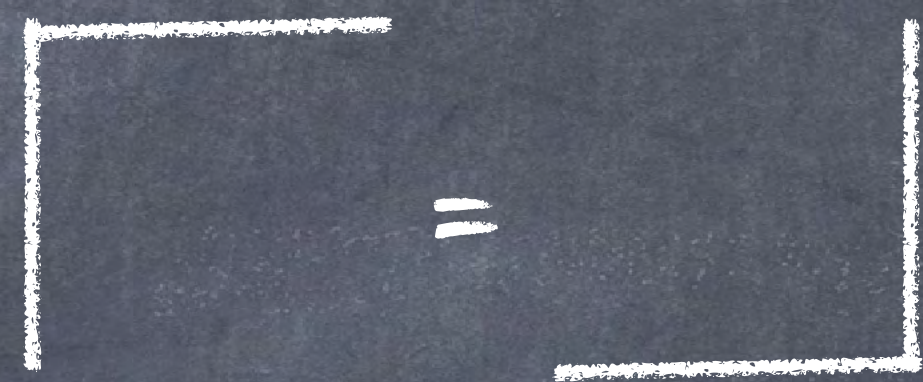
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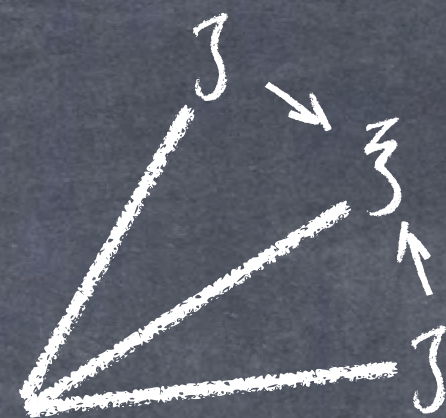
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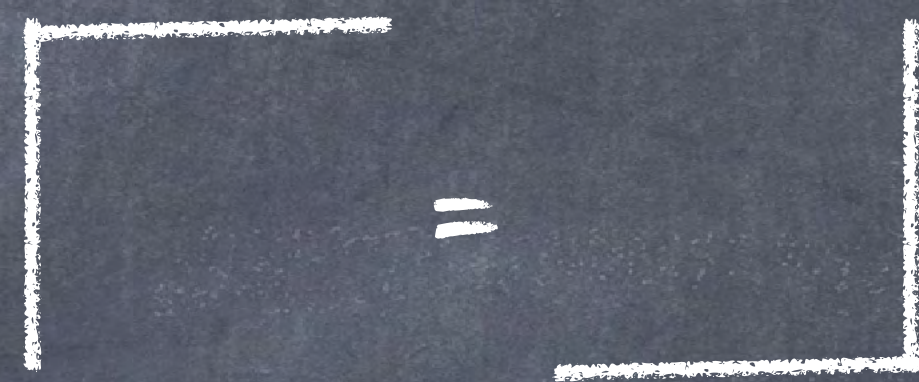
Cocycle property extends this to $B^{\mathbb{Z}^+}(x, y)$



Monotonicity implies $B^{\bar{\lambda}^+}(x, x+e_i) = \lim_{D_0 \ni \lambda \rightarrow \bar{\lambda}} B^\lambda(x, x+e_i)$



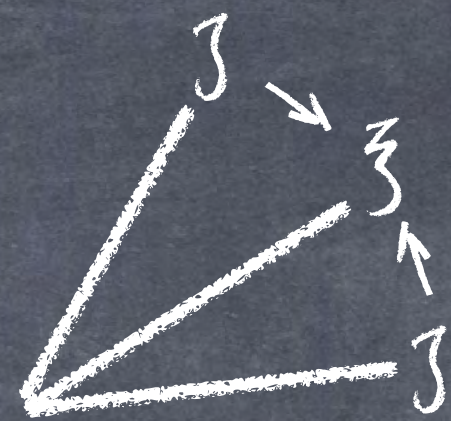
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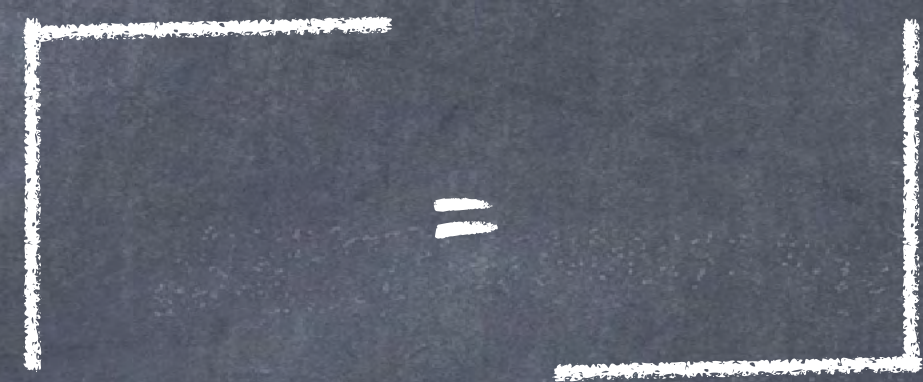
Cocycle, recovery, monotonicity still hold



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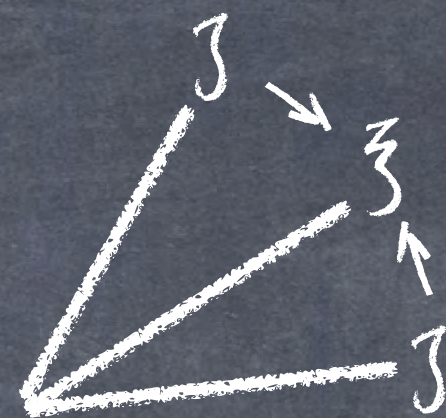


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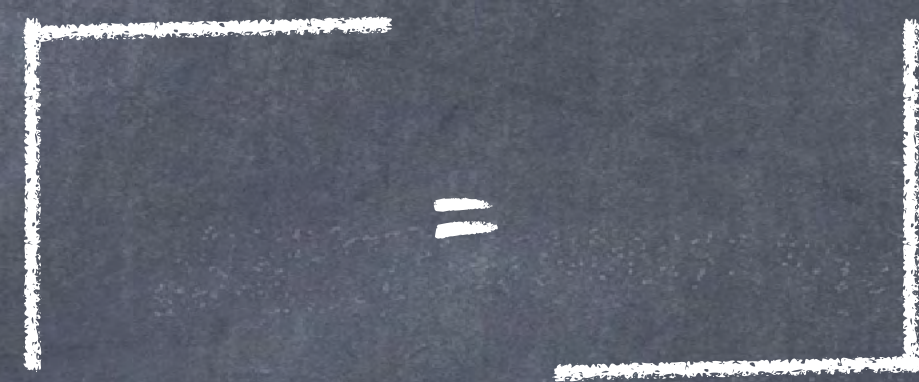


Consistency: $B^{\bar{z}^+} = B^{\bar{z}}$ when $\bar{z} \in D_0$

Monotonicity implies $B^{\bar{z}^+}(x, x+e_i) = \lim_{D_0 \ni \bar{z} \rightarrow \bar{z}^+} B^{\bar{z}}(x, x+e_i)$



Cocycle property extends this to $B^{\bar{z}^+}(x, y)$



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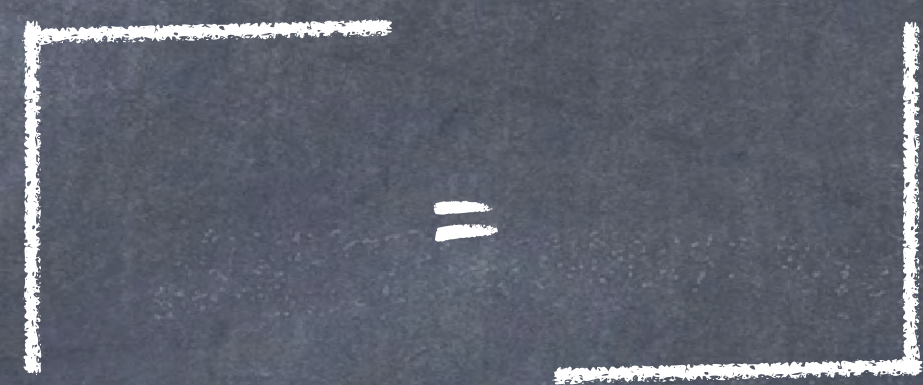
Monotonicity implies $G_{x, x_n} - G_{y, x_n} \rightarrow B^{\bar{z}^+}(x, y) = B^{\bar{z}^-}(x, y)$
 $G_{x(n)}(h) - G_{y(n)}(h) \nearrow$

a.s.

Monotonicity implies $B^{\zeta^+}(x, x+e_i) = \lim_{D_0 \ni \zeta \rightarrow \zeta^+} B^\zeta(x, x+e_i)$



Cocycle property extends this to $B^{\zeta^+}(x, y)$



Cocycle, recovery, monotonicity still hold

Consistency: $B^{\zeta^+} = B^\zeta$ when $\zeta \in D_0$



Monotonicity implies $G_{x, x_n} - G_{y, x_n} \rightarrow B^{\zeta^+}(x, y) = B^{\zeta^-}(x, y)$
 $G_{x(n)}(h) - G_{y(n)}(h)$

a.s.

(for example) holds for all ζ if g is everywhere differentiable

γ^{x, \bar{z}^\pm} : start at x and follow minimal $B^{\bar{z}^\pm}$ -increment

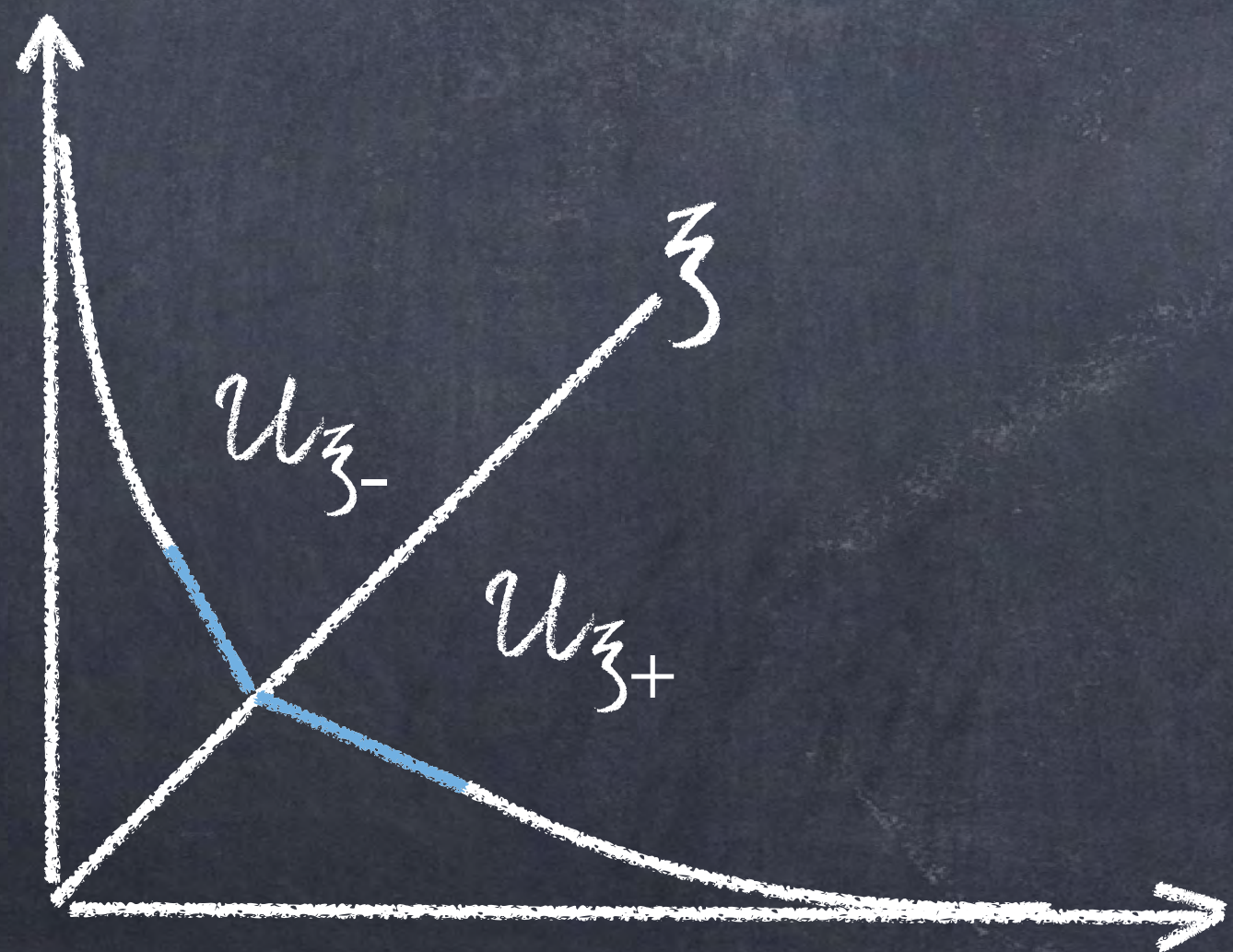
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cocycle+recovery imply that γ^{x, \bar{z}^\pm} are geodesics

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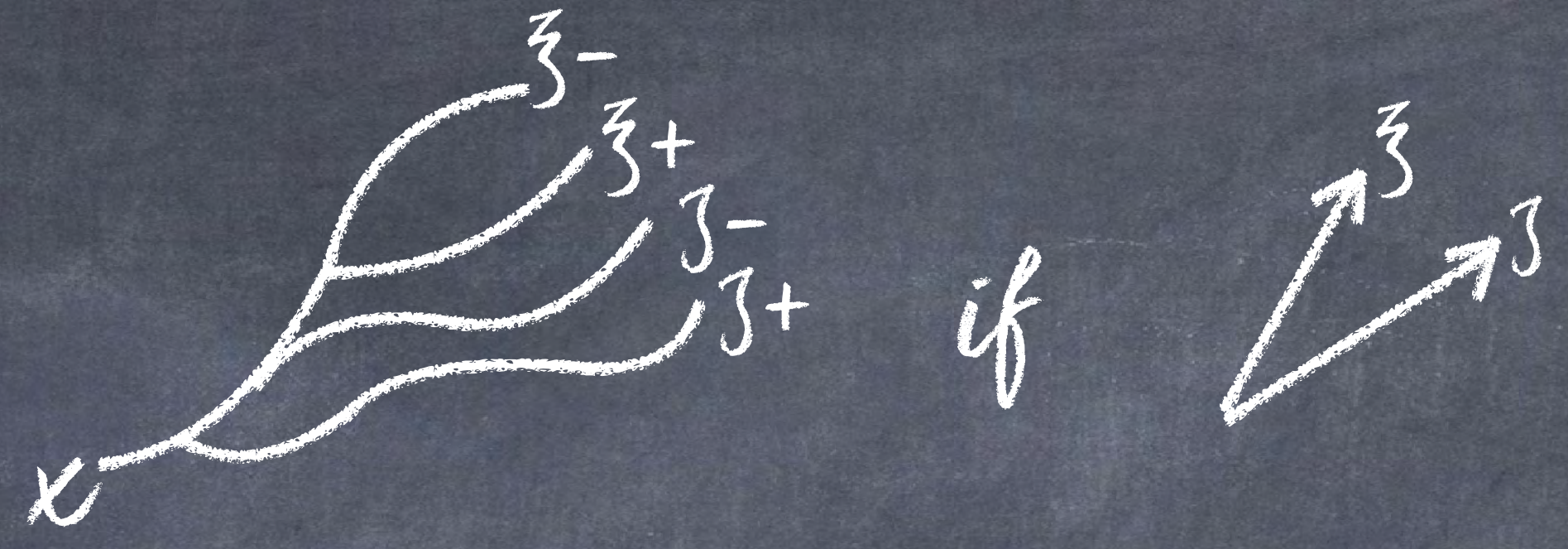
cocycle+recovery imply that γ^{x, \bar{z}^\pm} are geodesics

Theorem: a.s. $\forall x, \bar{z}, \square \in \{-, +\}$, $\gamma^{x, \bar{z}^\square}$ is directed into $\{\bar{z}: \nabla g(\bar{z}) = \nabla g(\bar{z}^\square)\}$

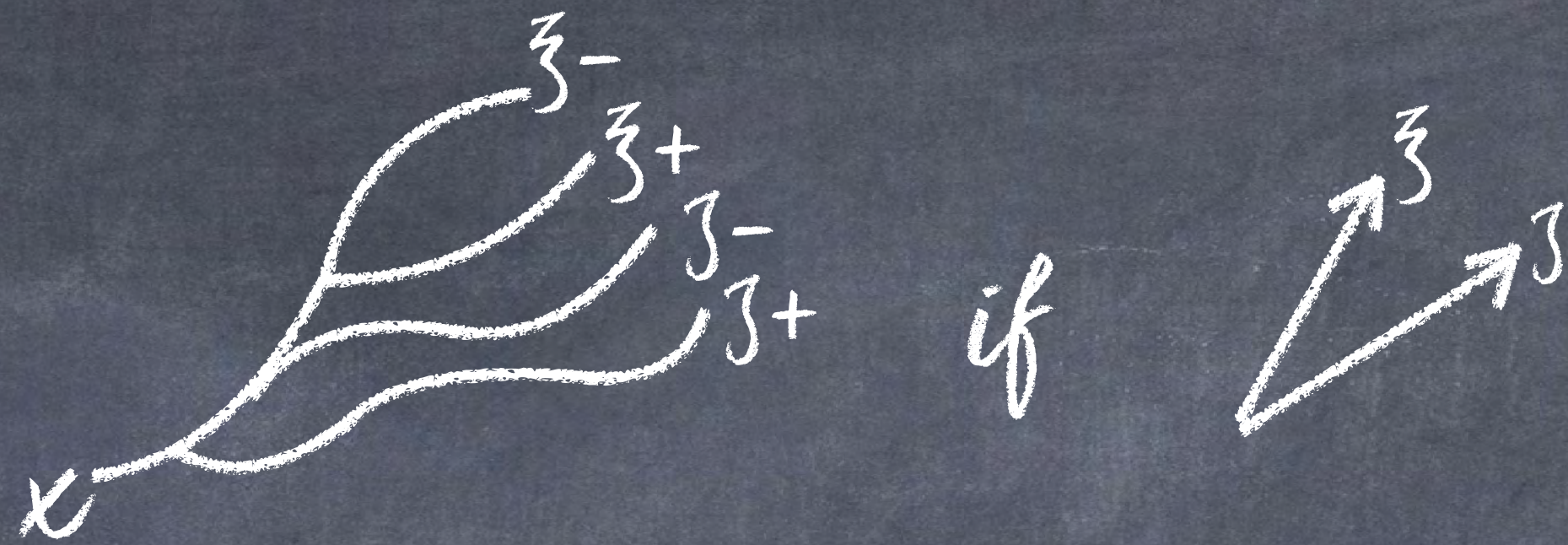


$\underbrace{\{\bar{z}: \nabla g(\bar{z}) = \nabla g(\bar{z}^\square)\}}_{U_{\bar{z}^\square}}$

Monotonicity implies

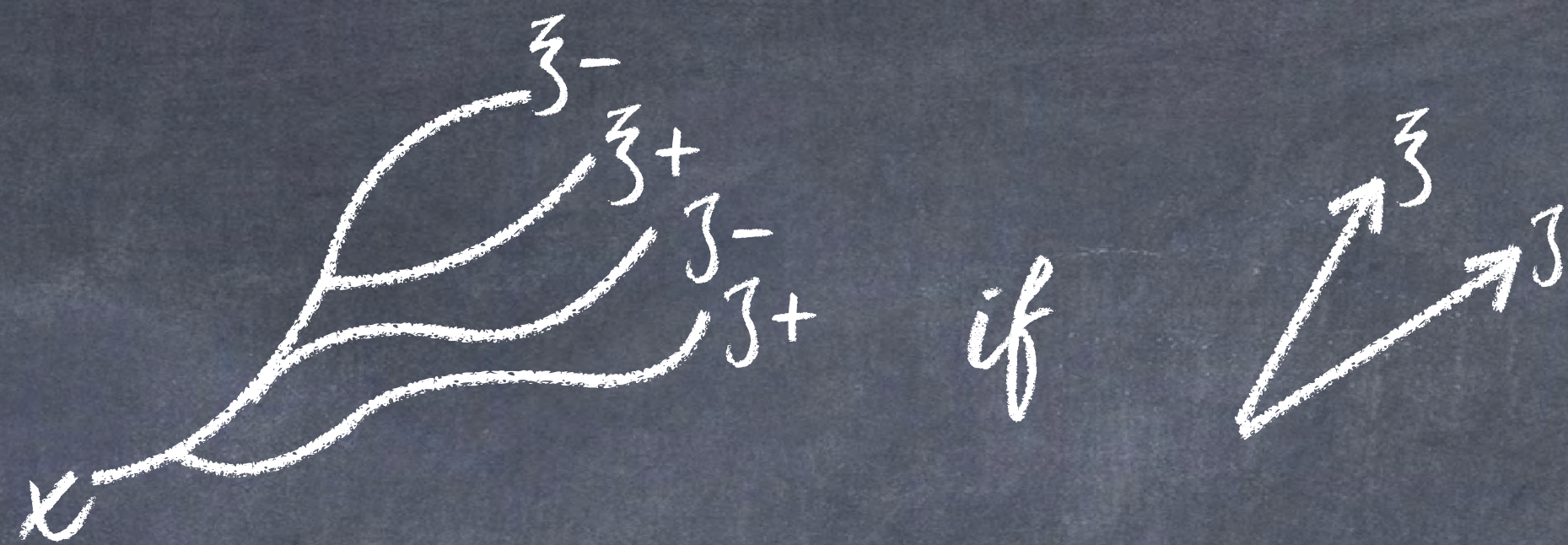


Monotonicity implies



Then we can trap any geodesic between γ^{x, \bar{z}_\pm} for some \bar{z}

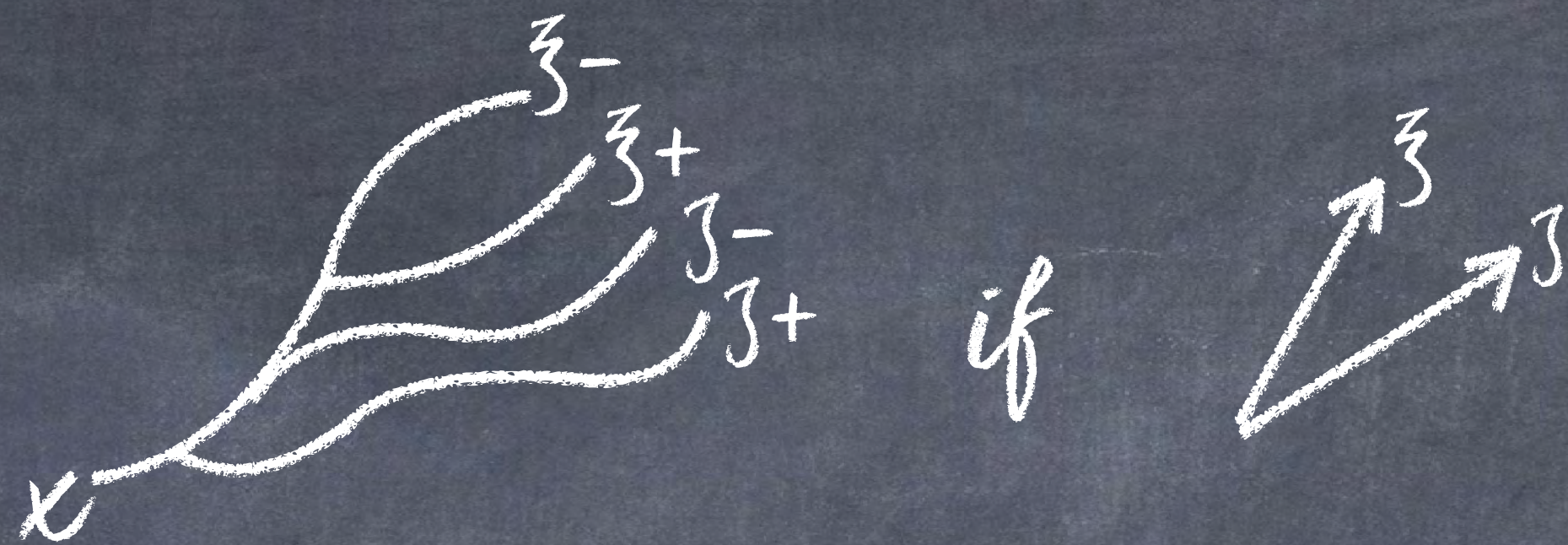
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Corollary: a.s. all geodesics are directed into $\mathcal{U}_{\bar{z}_-} \cup \mathcal{U}_{\bar{z}_+}$ for some \bar{z}

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Corollary: a.s. all geodesics are directed into $\mathcal{U}_{\bar{z}_-} \cup \mathcal{U}_{\bar{z}_+}$ for some \bar{z}

Corollary: If g is strictly concave then a.s. all geo. are \bar{z} -directed for some \bar{z}

Theorem: $\forall z, x, y, \square \in \{-, +\}$: $\gamma^{x, z, \square}$ and $\gamma^{y, z, \square}$ a.s. coalesce



Theorem: $\forall \xi, x, y, \square \in \{-, +\}$: $\gamma^{x, \xi \square}$ and $\gamma^{y, \xi \square}$ a.s. coalesce



Theorem: g differentiable implies $\forall \xi, x$: $\gamma^{x, \xi +} = \gamma^{x, \xi -}$ a.s.

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Corollary: g diff. implies $\forall \bar{z}, x$ a.s. $\exists!$ $\mathcal{U}_{\bar{z}}$ -directed geo. out of x

Theorem: $\forall \bar{z}, x, y, \square \in \{-, +\}$: $\gamma^{x, \bar{z} \square}$ and $\gamma^{y, \bar{z} \square}$ a.s. coalesce



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But null set depends on \bar{z}

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Uniqueness and coalescence for all ξ ?

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Uniqueness and coalescence for all ξ ?

I.e. want to switch " $\forall \xi$ for a.e. ω " to "for a.e. $\omega \forall \xi$ "

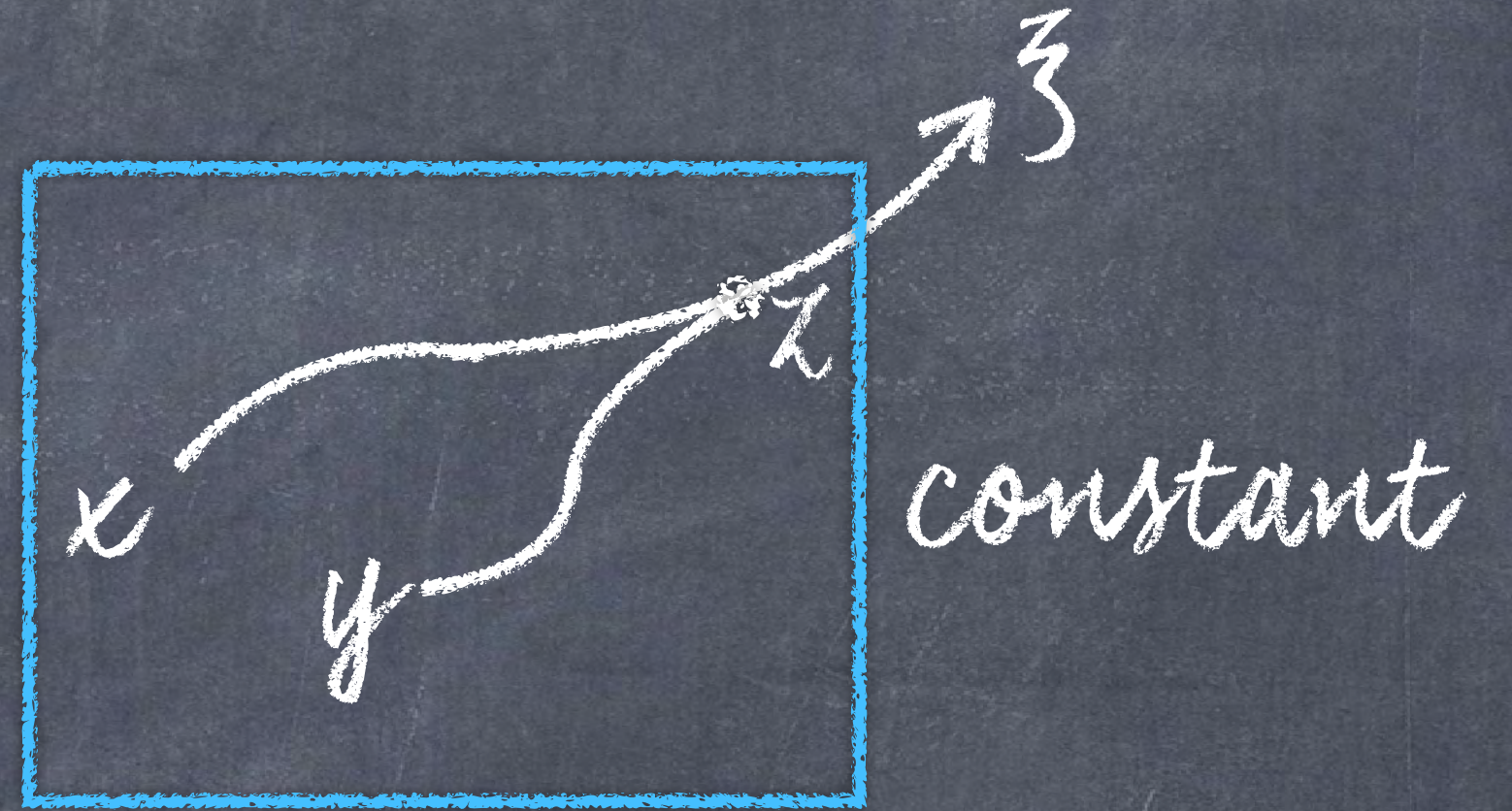


$$B^3(x, y) = G_{x, z} - G_{y, z}$$



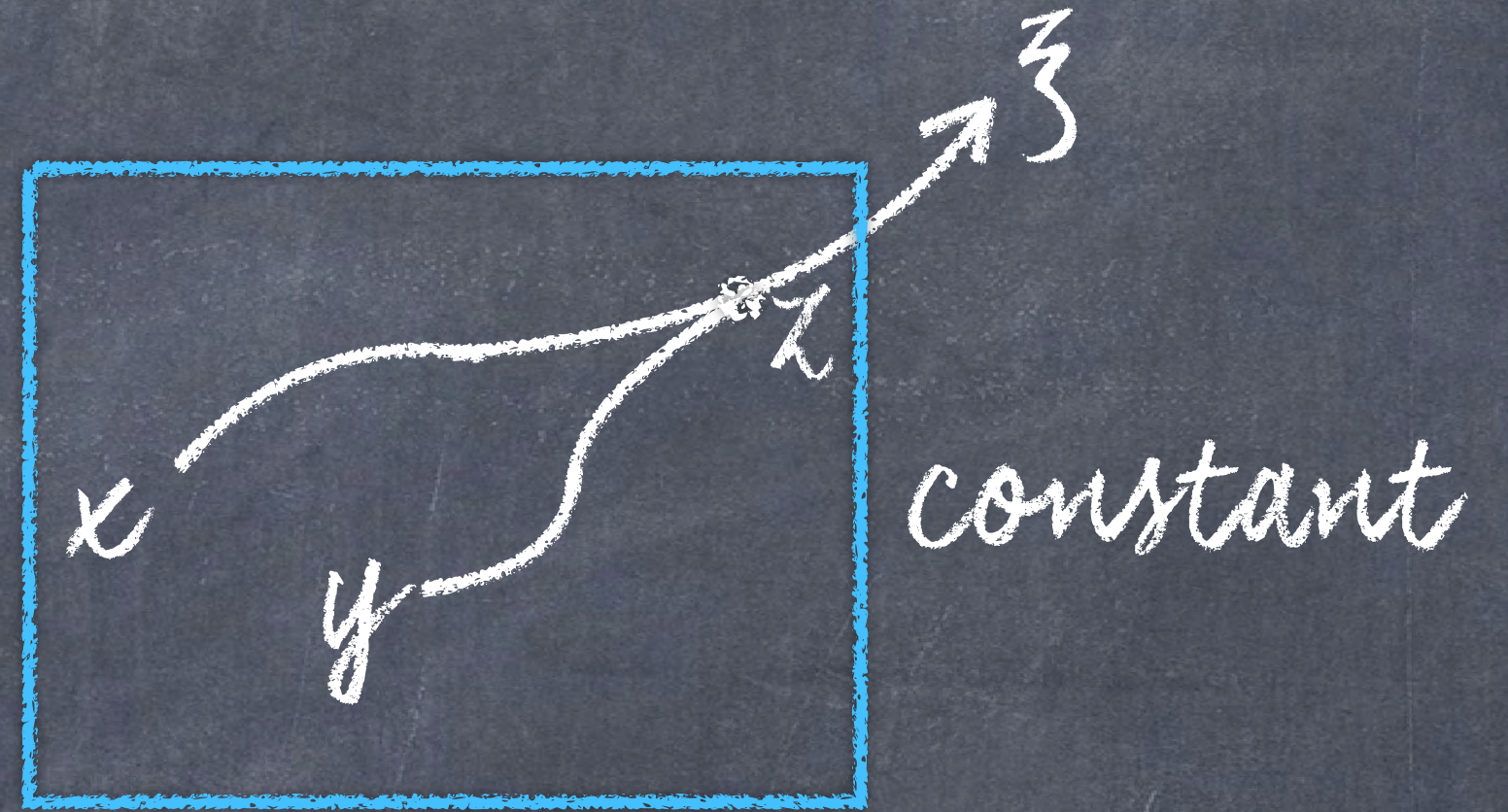
$$B^{\bar{z}}(x, y) = G_{x, \bar{z}} - G_{y, \bar{z}}$$

$B^{\bar{z}}(x, y)$ constant over an interval of \bar{z} 's implies



$$B^{\zeta}(x, y) = G_{x, \zeta} - G_{y, \zeta}$$

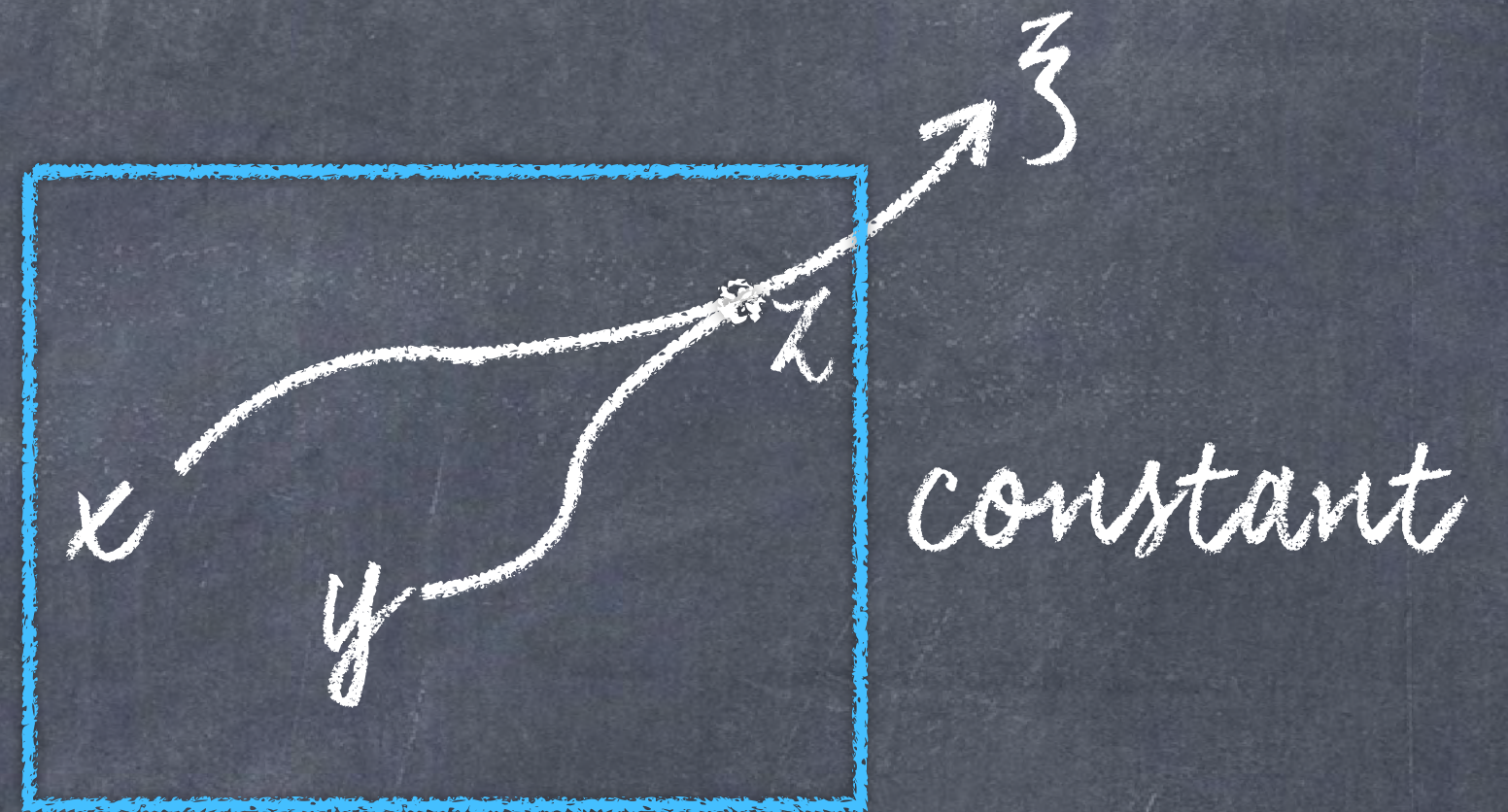
$B^{\zeta}(x, y)$ constant over an interval of ζ 's implies



$\mu_{x, y}$: Lebesgue-Stieltjes signed measure of $\zeta \rightarrow B^{\zeta}(x, y)$

$$B^{\zeta}(x, y) = G_{x, \zeta} - G_{y, \zeta}$$

$B^{\zeta}(x, y)$ constant over an interval of ζ 's implies

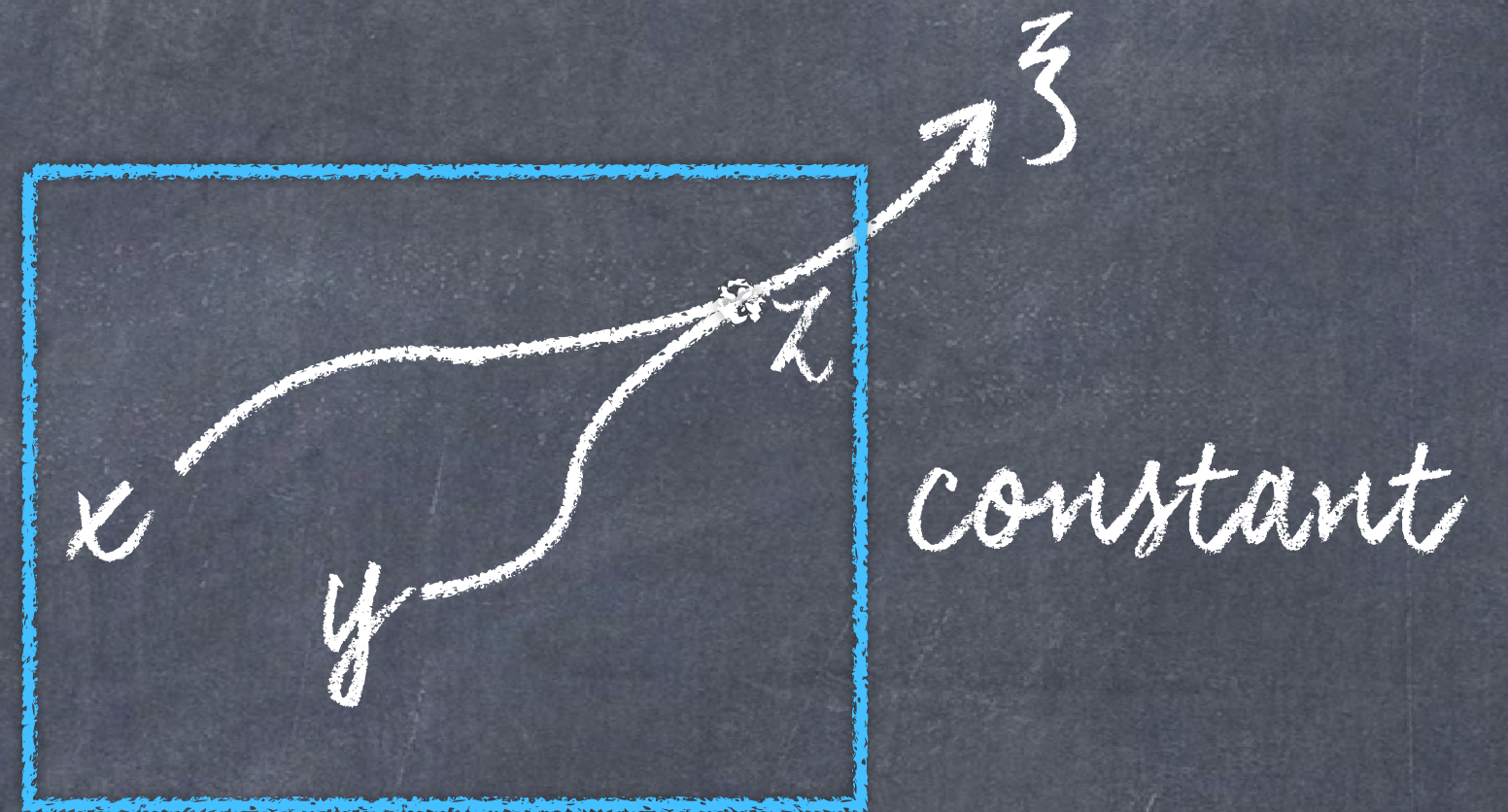


$\mu_{x, y}$: Lebesgue-Stieltjes signed measure of $\zeta \rightarrow B^{\zeta}(x, y)$

Set of exceptional directions $\mathcal{V}^{\omega} = \bigcup_{x, y} \text{supp } \mu_{x, y}$

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$\mu_{x, y}$: Lebesgue-Stieltjes signed measure of $\bar{z} \rightarrow B^{\bar{z}}(x, y)$

Set of exceptional directions $\mathcal{V}^{\omega} = \bigcup_{x, y} \text{supp } \mu_{x, y}$

Theorem: $\bar{z} \notin \mathcal{V}^{\omega} \iff \gamma^{x, \bar{z}+} = \gamma^{x, \bar{z}-} = \gamma^{x, \bar{z}}$, $\gamma^{x, \bar{z}}$ & $\gamma^{y, \bar{z}}$ coalesce

Nice case: g is differentiable at endpoints of linear segments
(e.g. differentiable or strictly concave)



(*)

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Theorem: Under (*), with probability one:

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Size of \mathcal{V}^ω

\mathcal{V}^ω is dense away from linear segments of g

Nice case: g is differentiable at endpoints of linear segments
(e.g. differentiable or strictly concave)



Theorem: Under (*), with probability one:

$\xi \in \mathcal{V}^\omega \iff$ uniqueness & coalescence of U_ξ -directed geodesics

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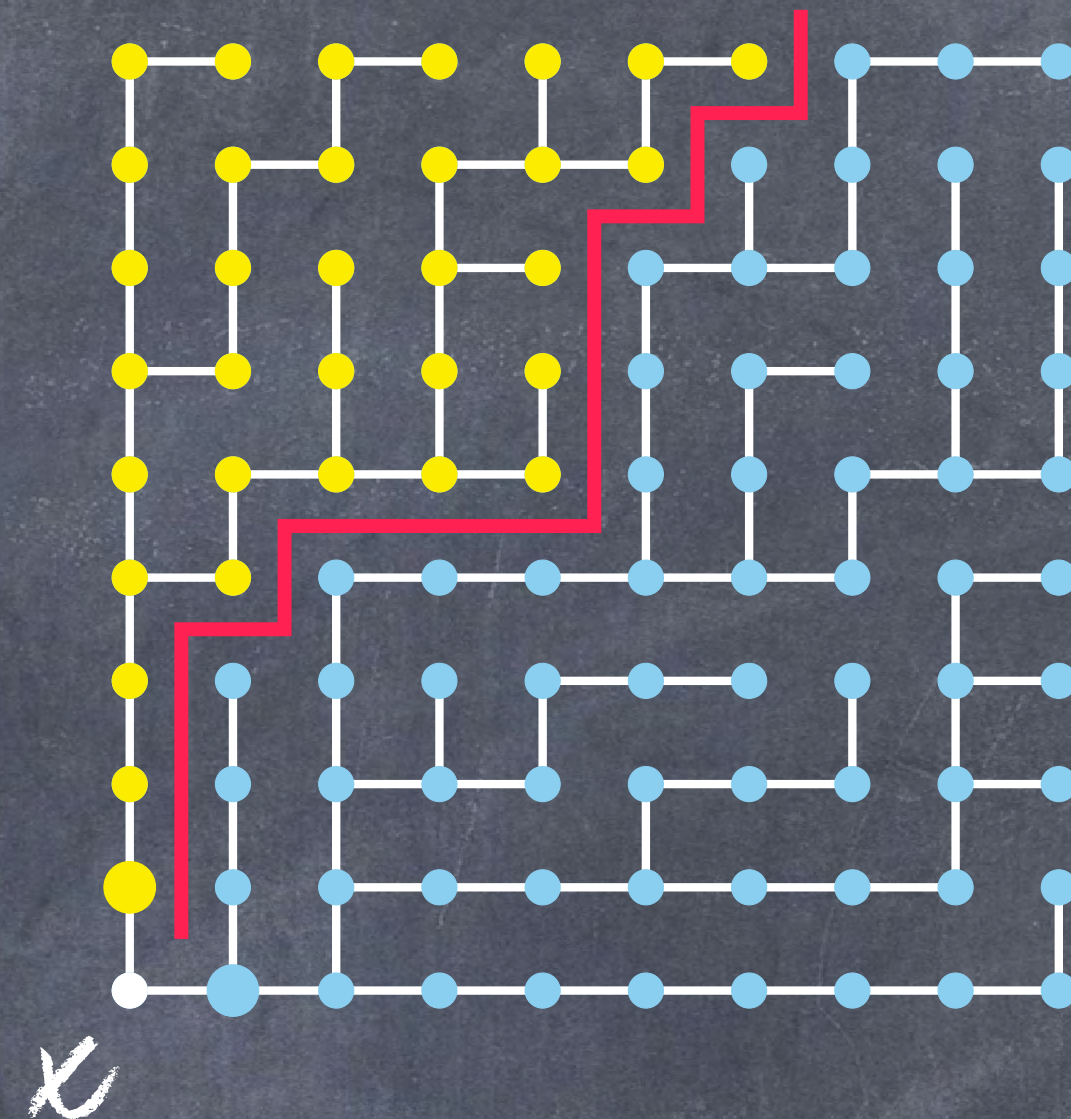
Complement is a countable intersection of dense open sets

Familiar members:

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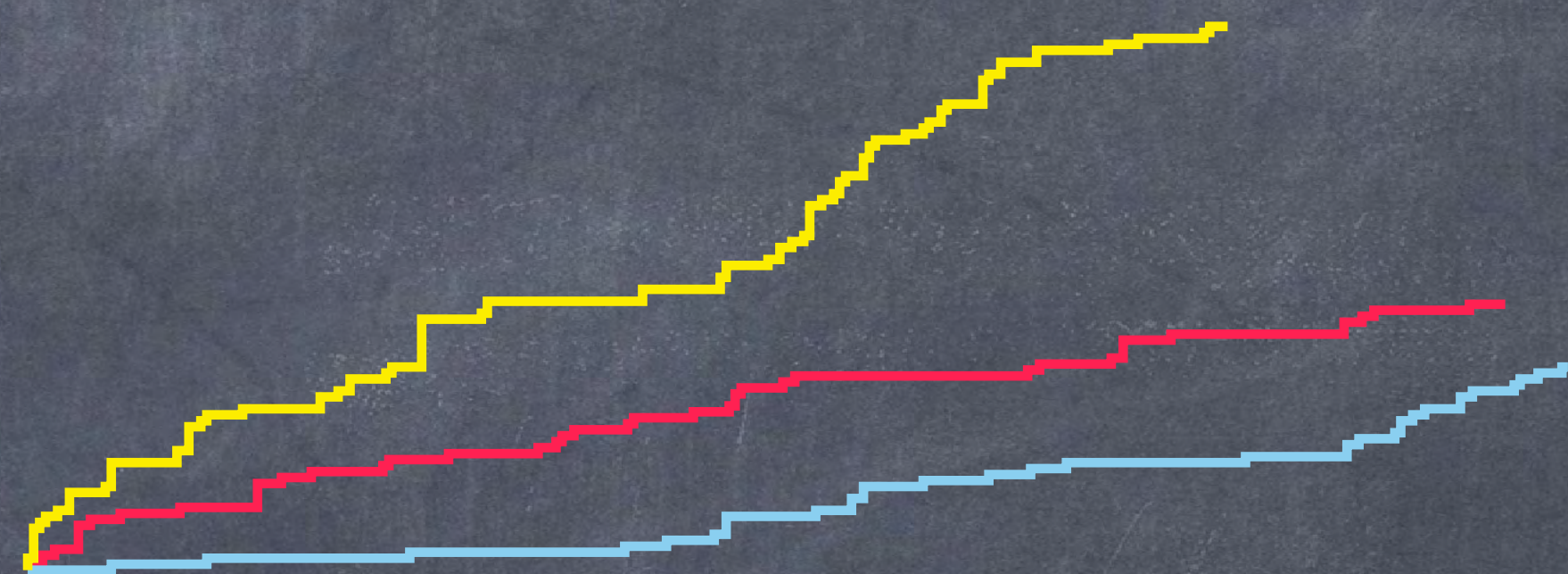
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between subtrees rooted at $x+e_1$ and $x+e_2$
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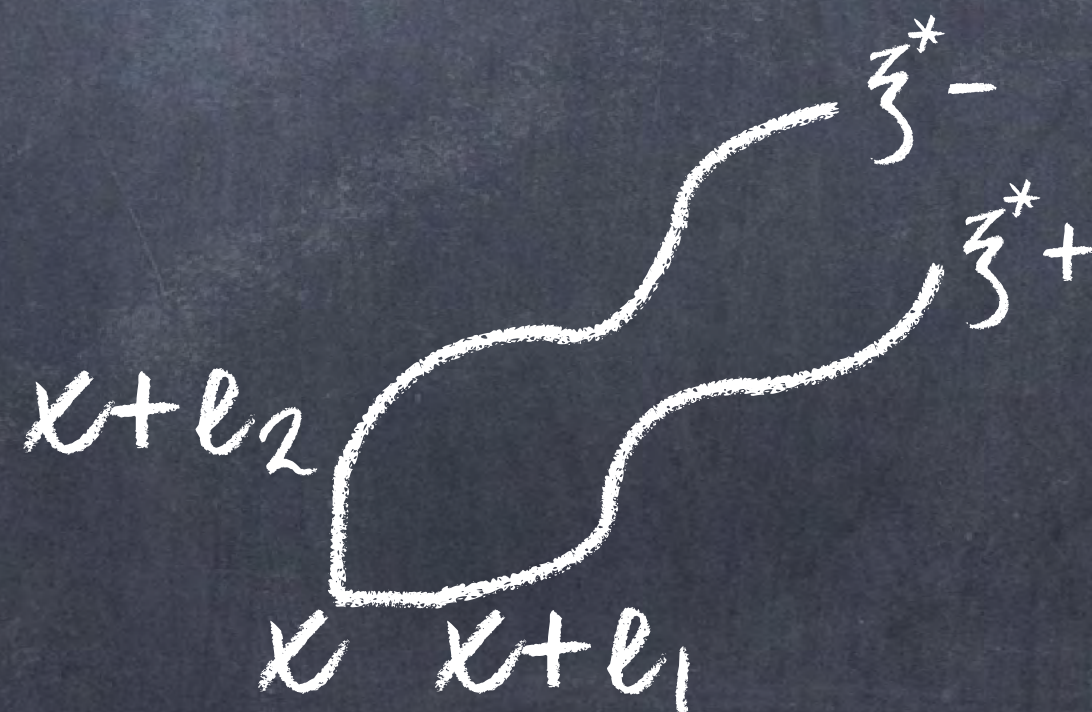


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Unique direction s.t.



Lemma: $\mathcal{V}^\omega = \{\xi^*(x) : x \in \mathbb{Z}^2\}$ (countable) if:

$\text{supp } \mu_{x,y} = \text{isolated points} = \text{jumps of } \xi \rightarrow \mathbb{B}^3(x,y)$

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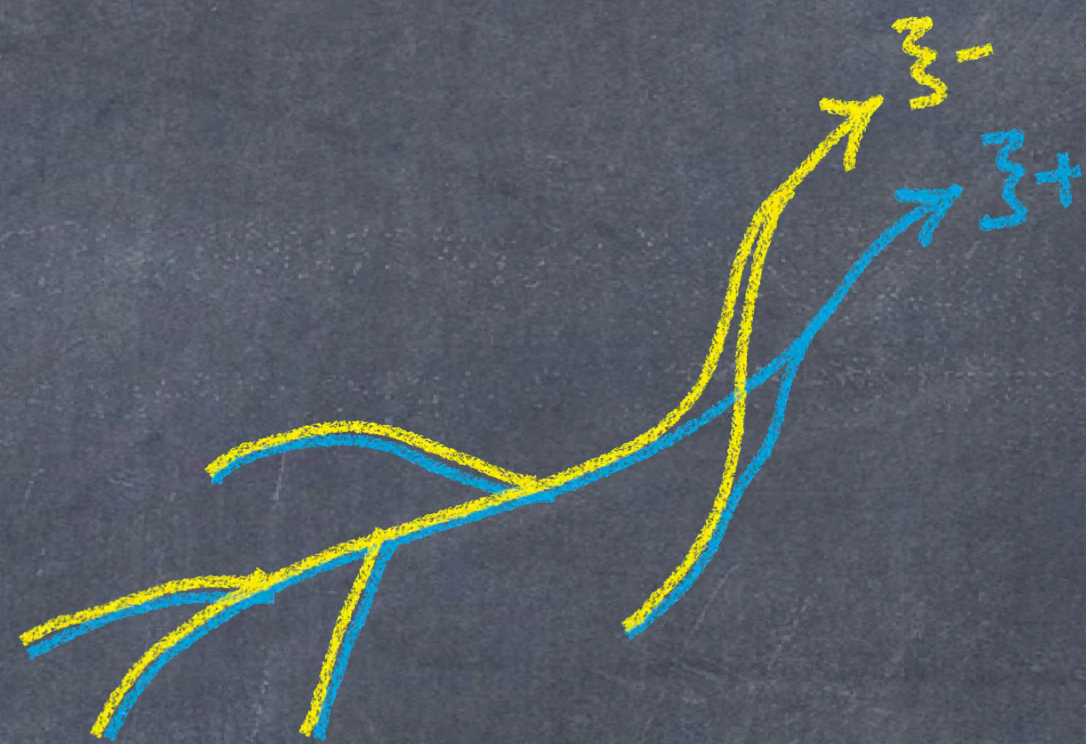
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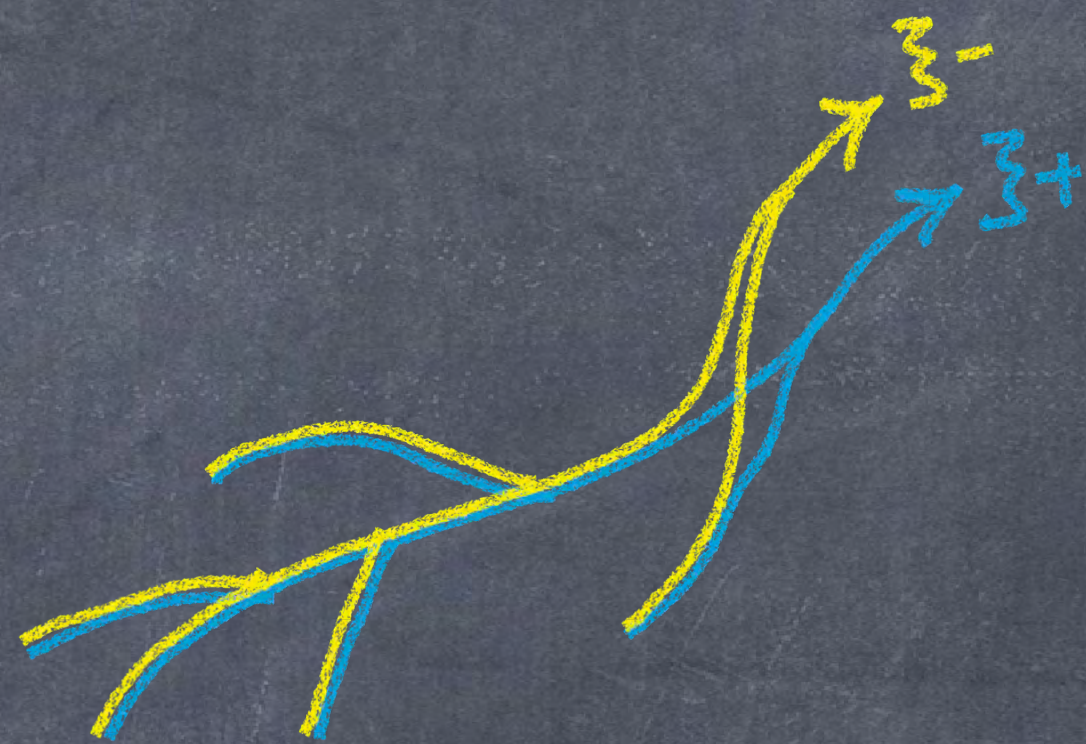


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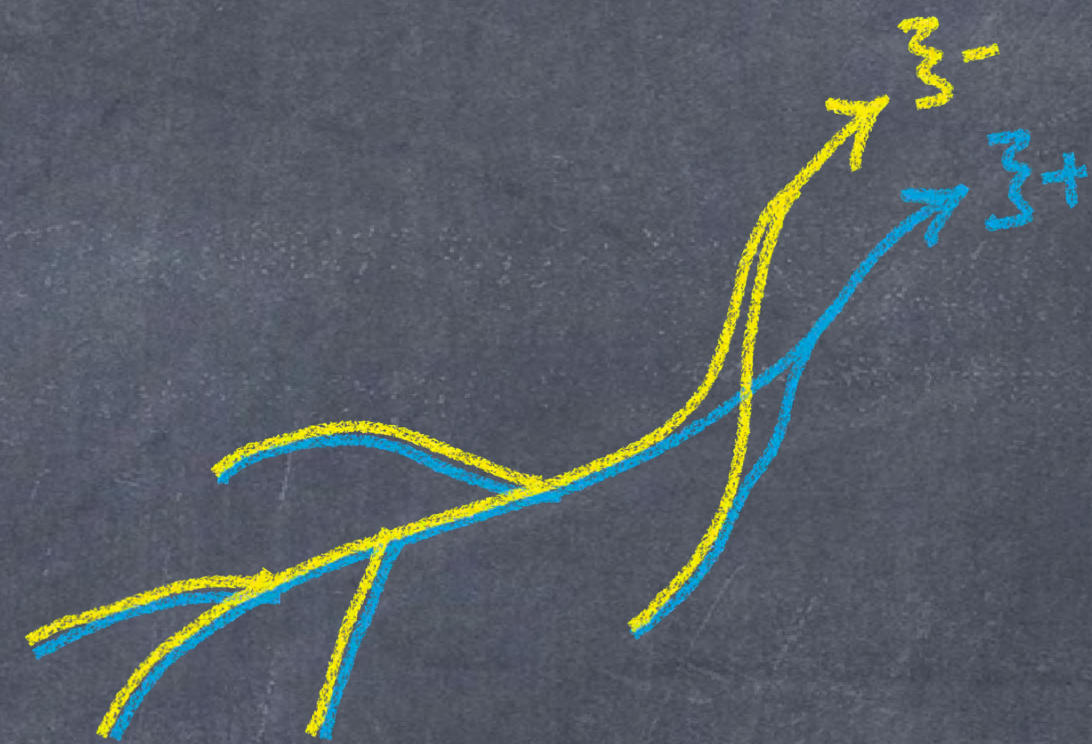
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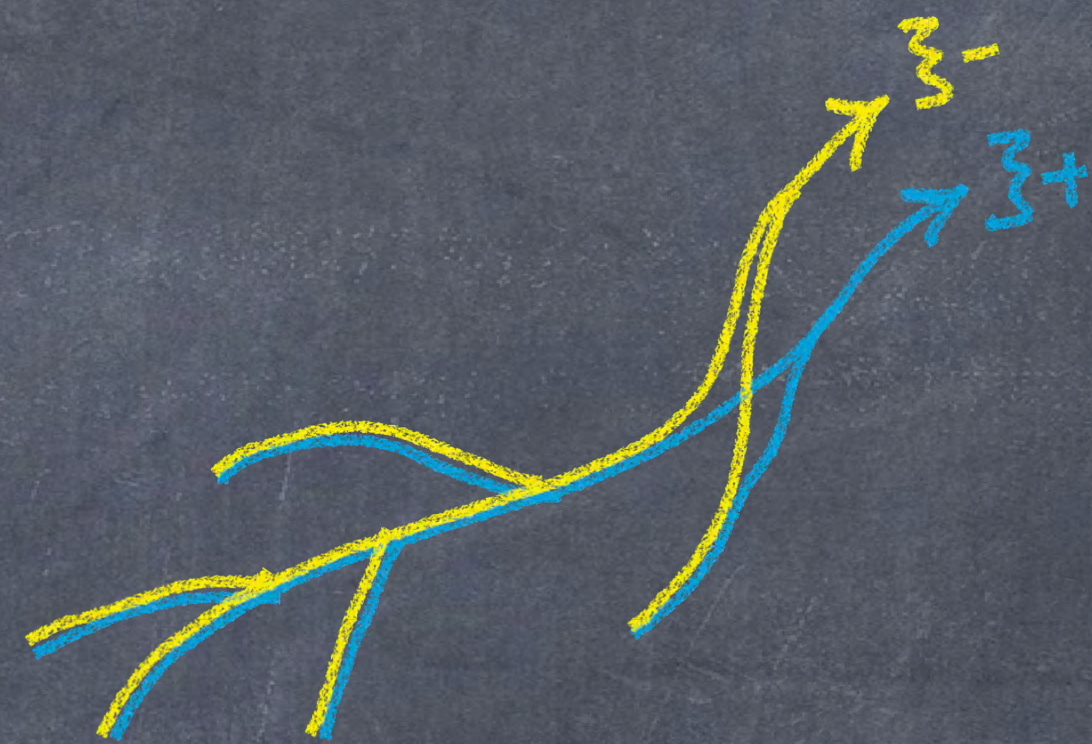
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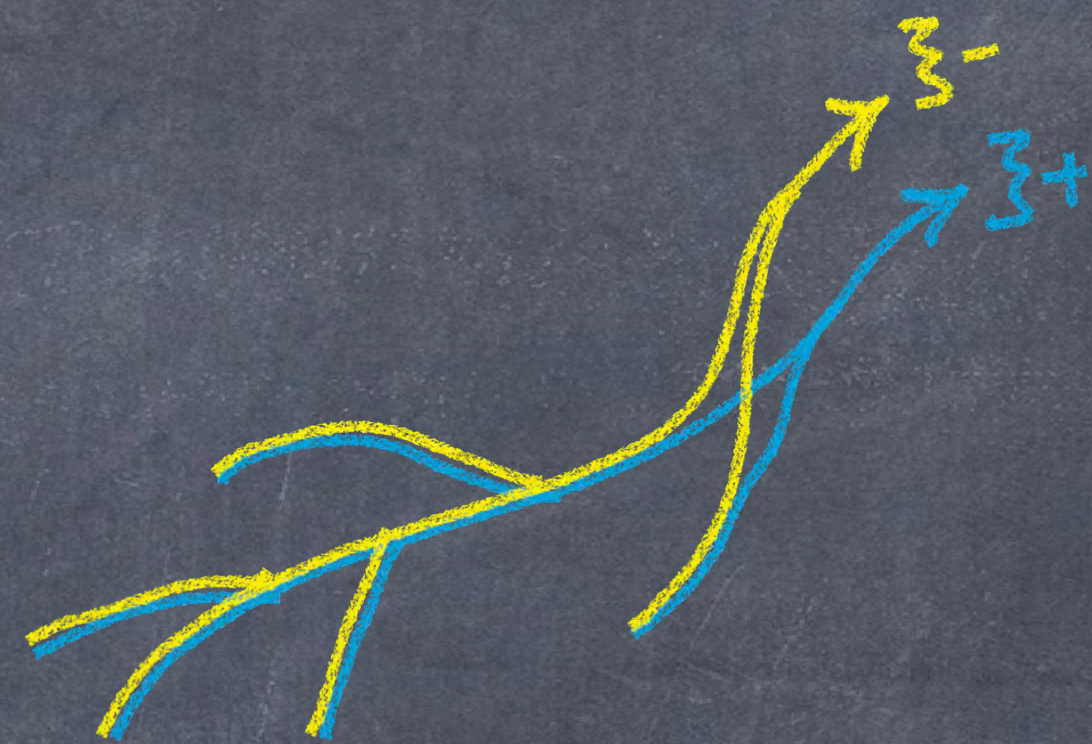
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Coupien '11: $\nexists \xi$ s.t.



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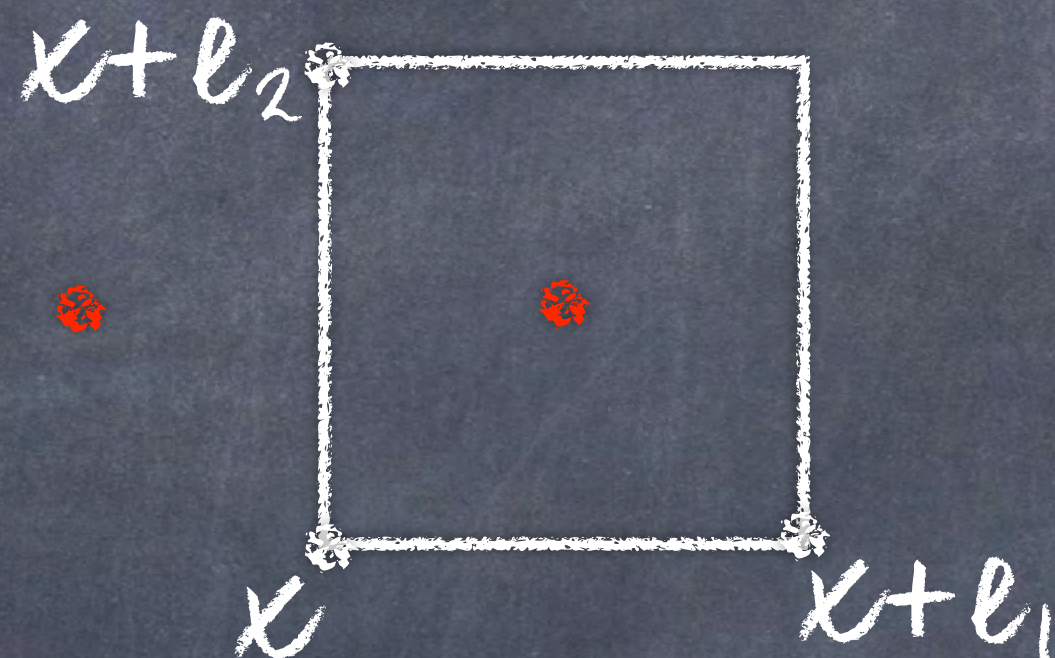
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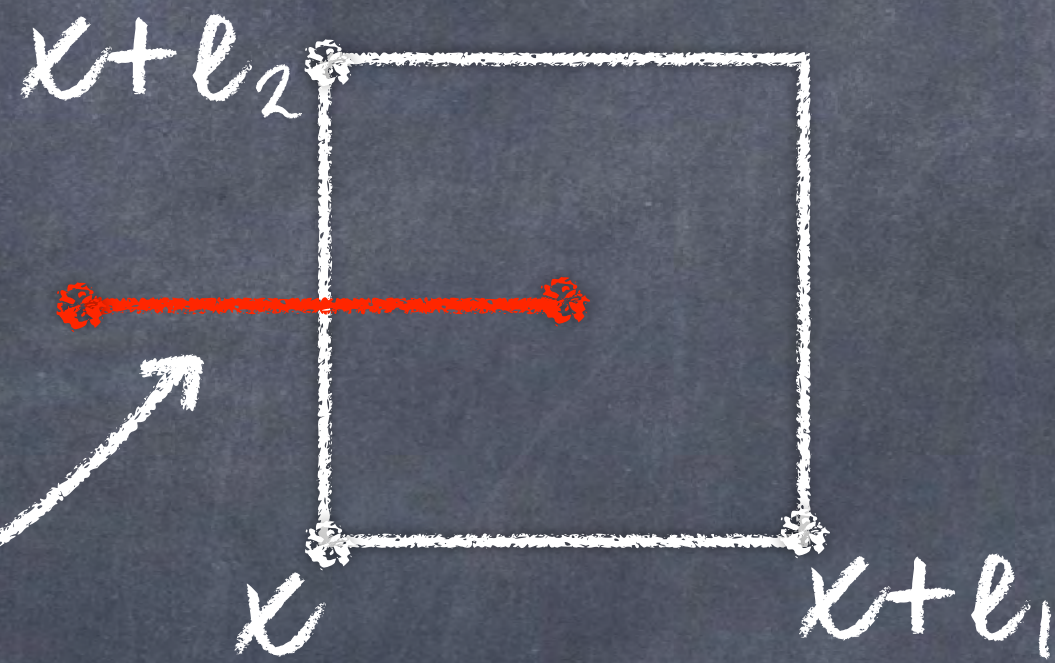
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- That's it! No other semi-infinite geodesics

Fix $\xi \in V^{\omega}$ and consider the following graph on dual lattice:

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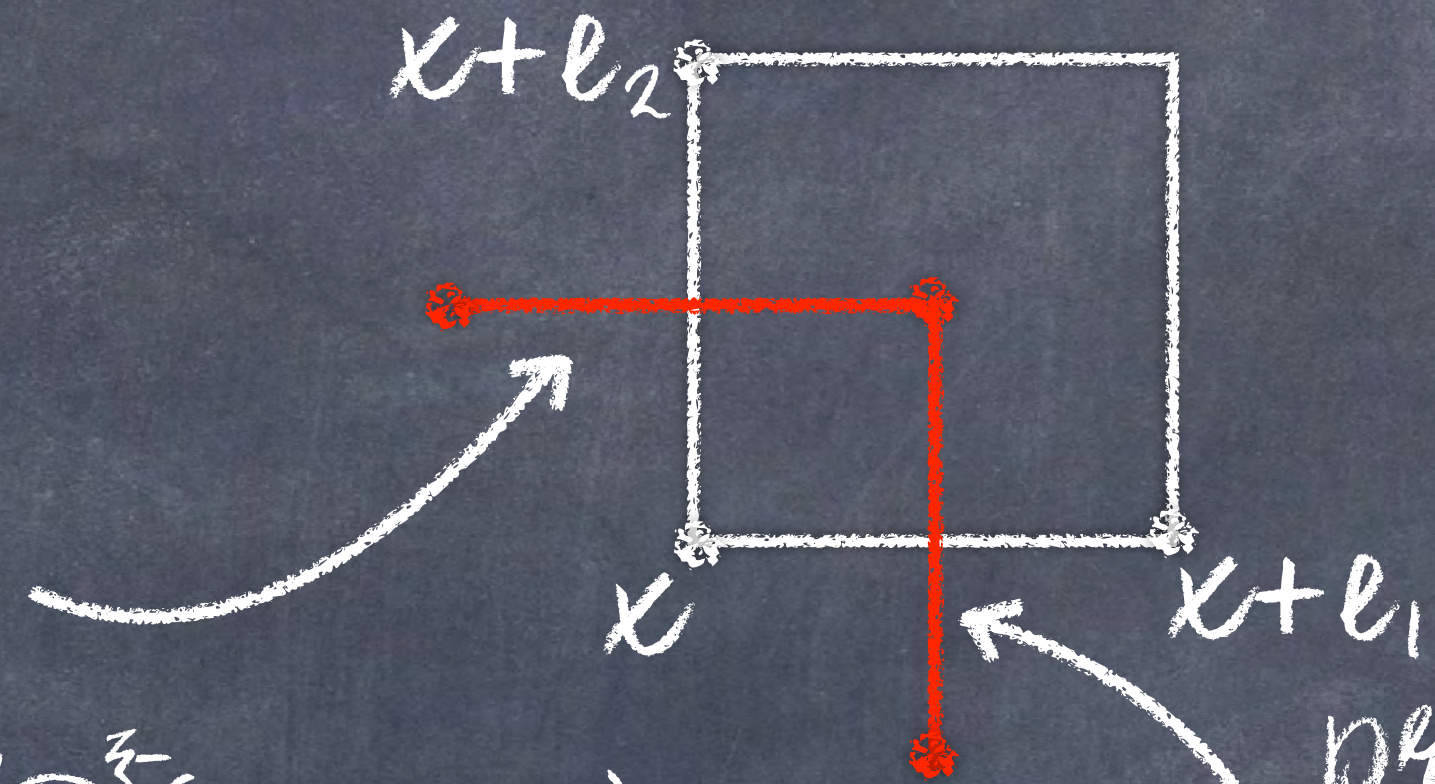


present if

$$\mathcal{B}^{\bar{z}^+}(x, x+l_2) \neq \mathcal{B}^{\bar{z}^-}(x, x+l_2):$$

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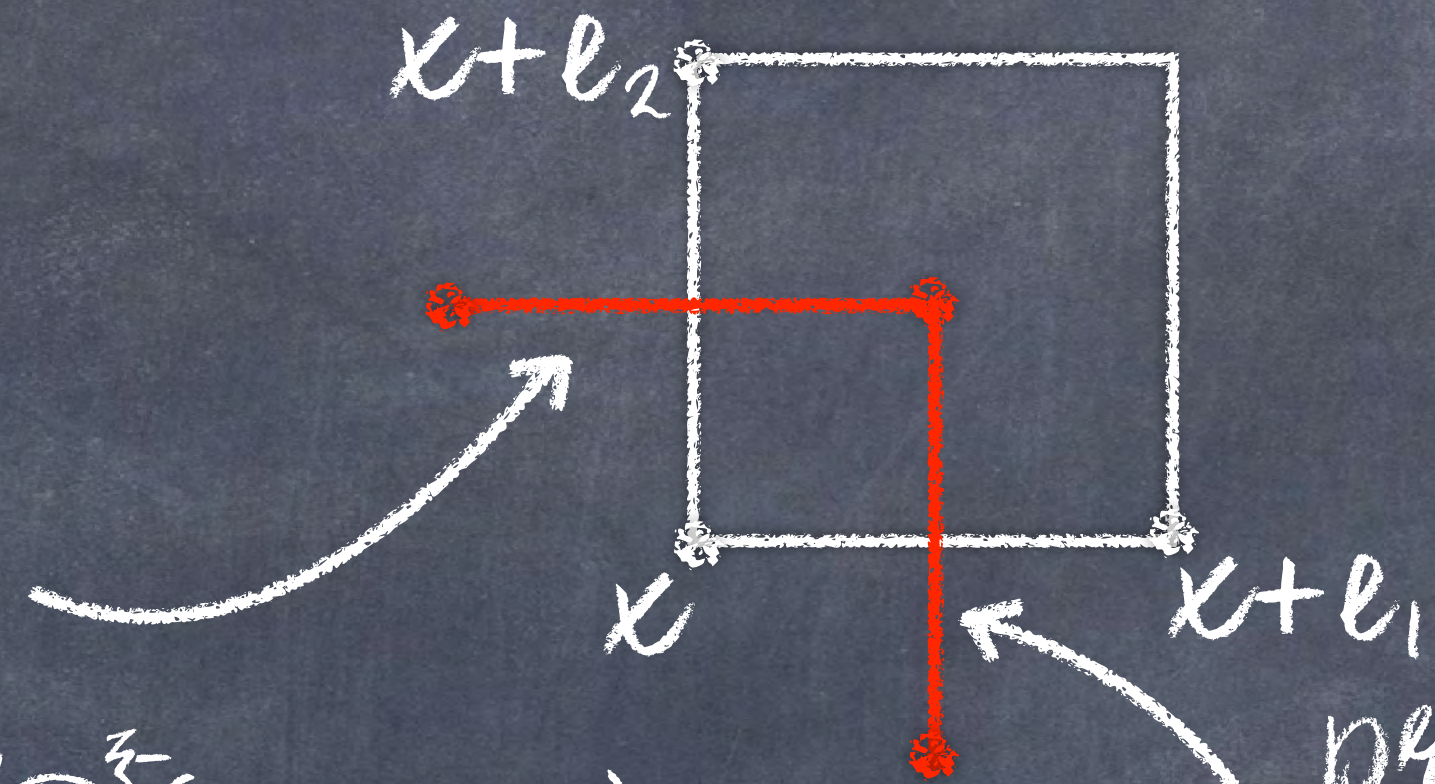
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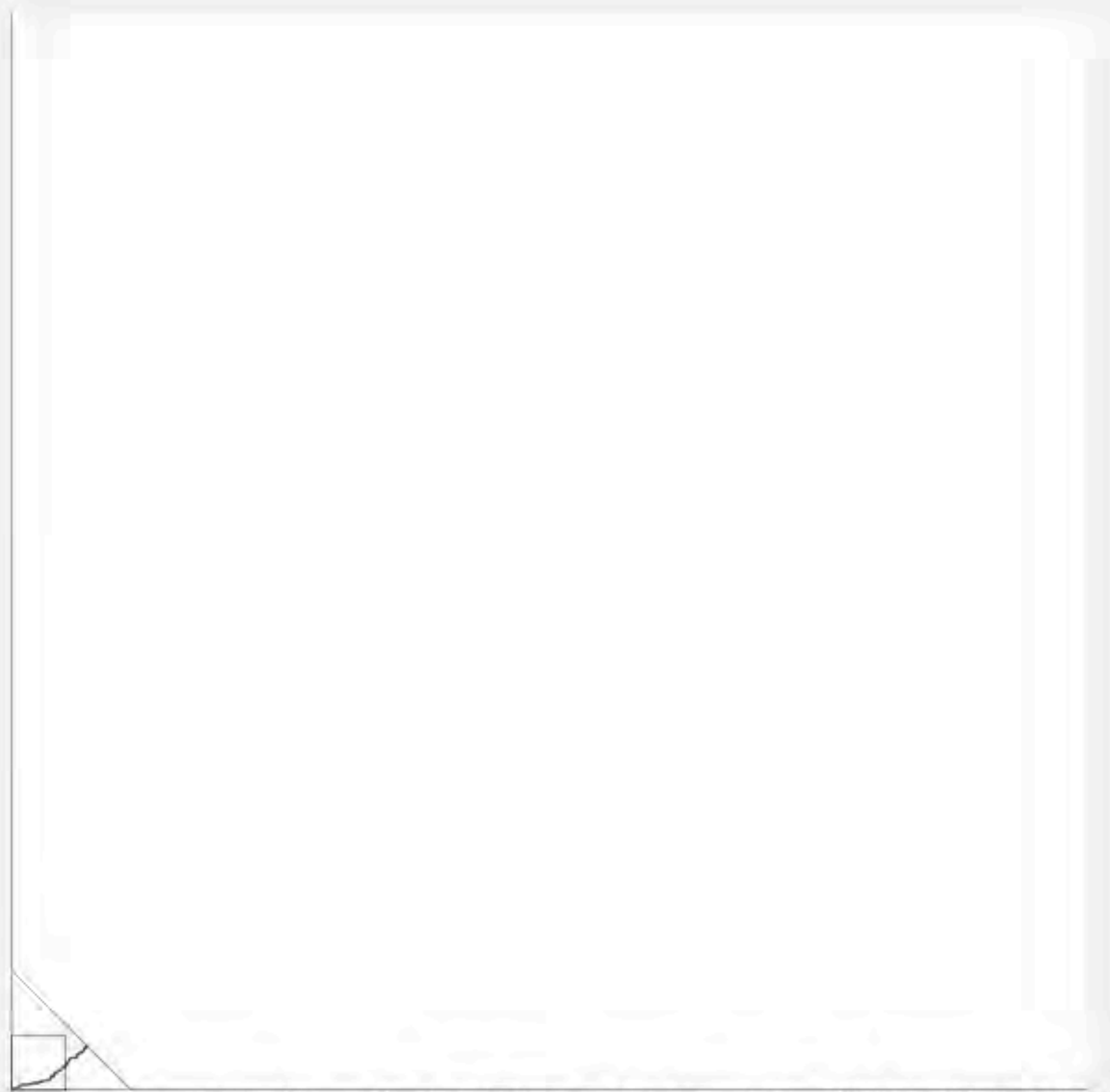
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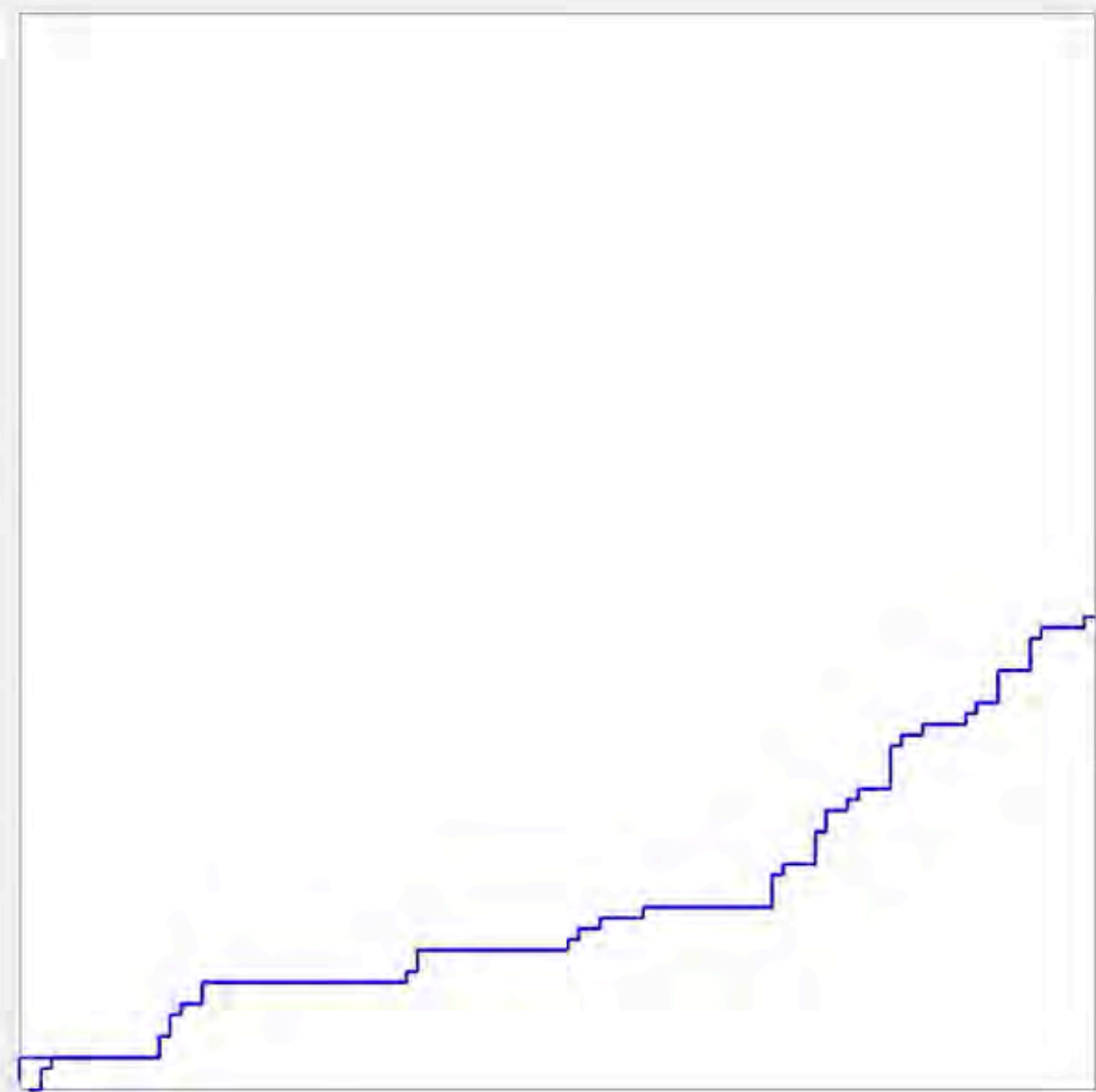
Instability

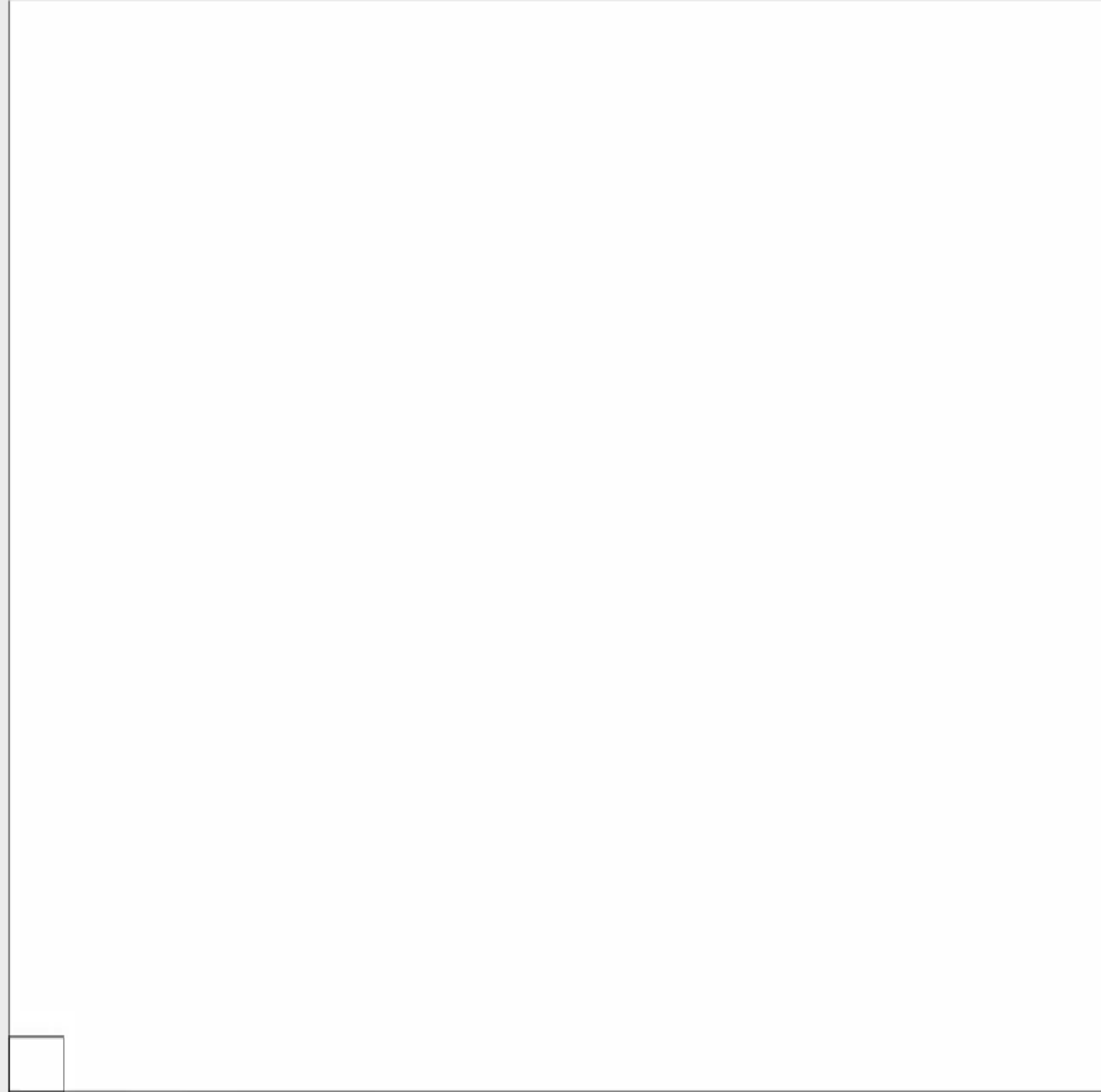
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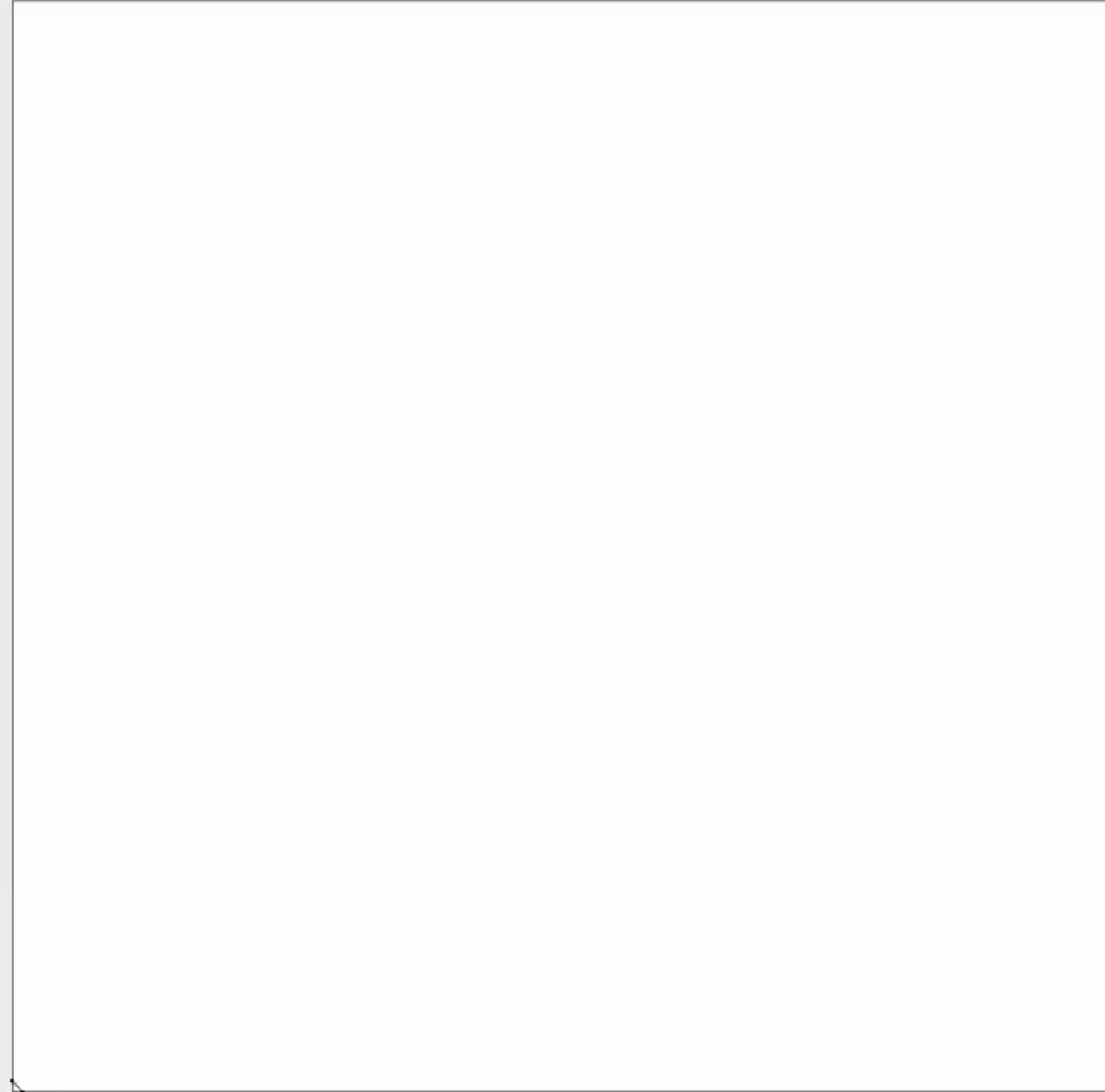


$l = 223, h^* = (-1.9174, -2.0901), \xi^* = (0.54302, 0.45698)$

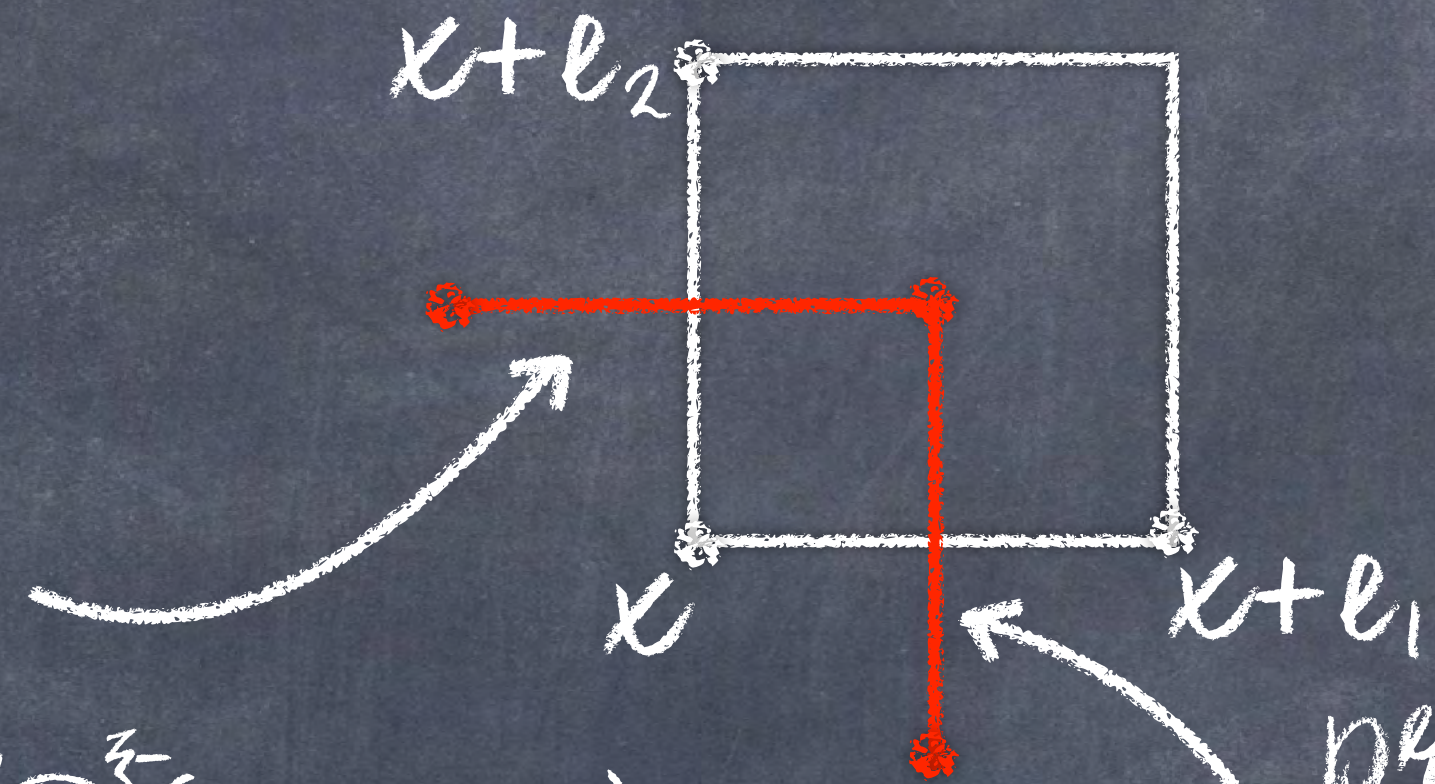




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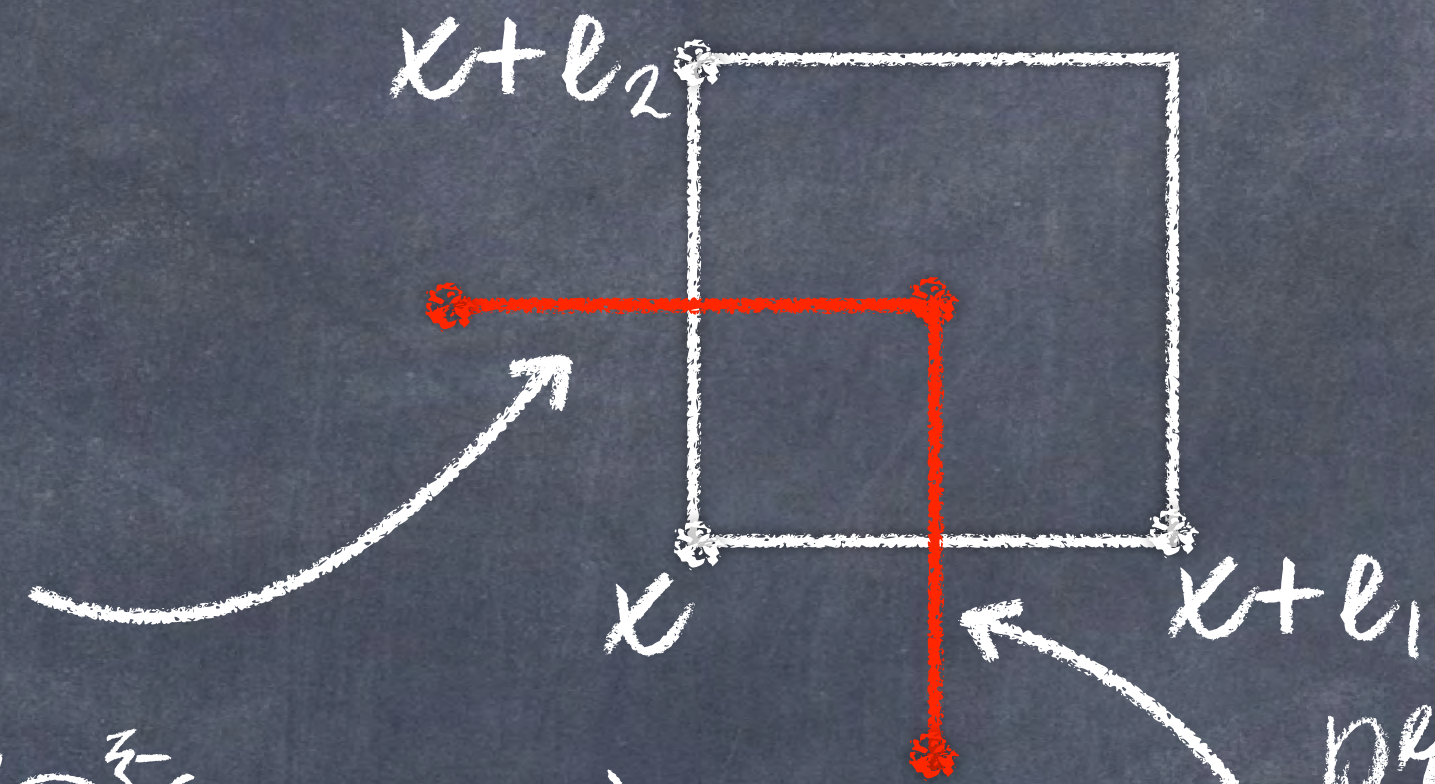


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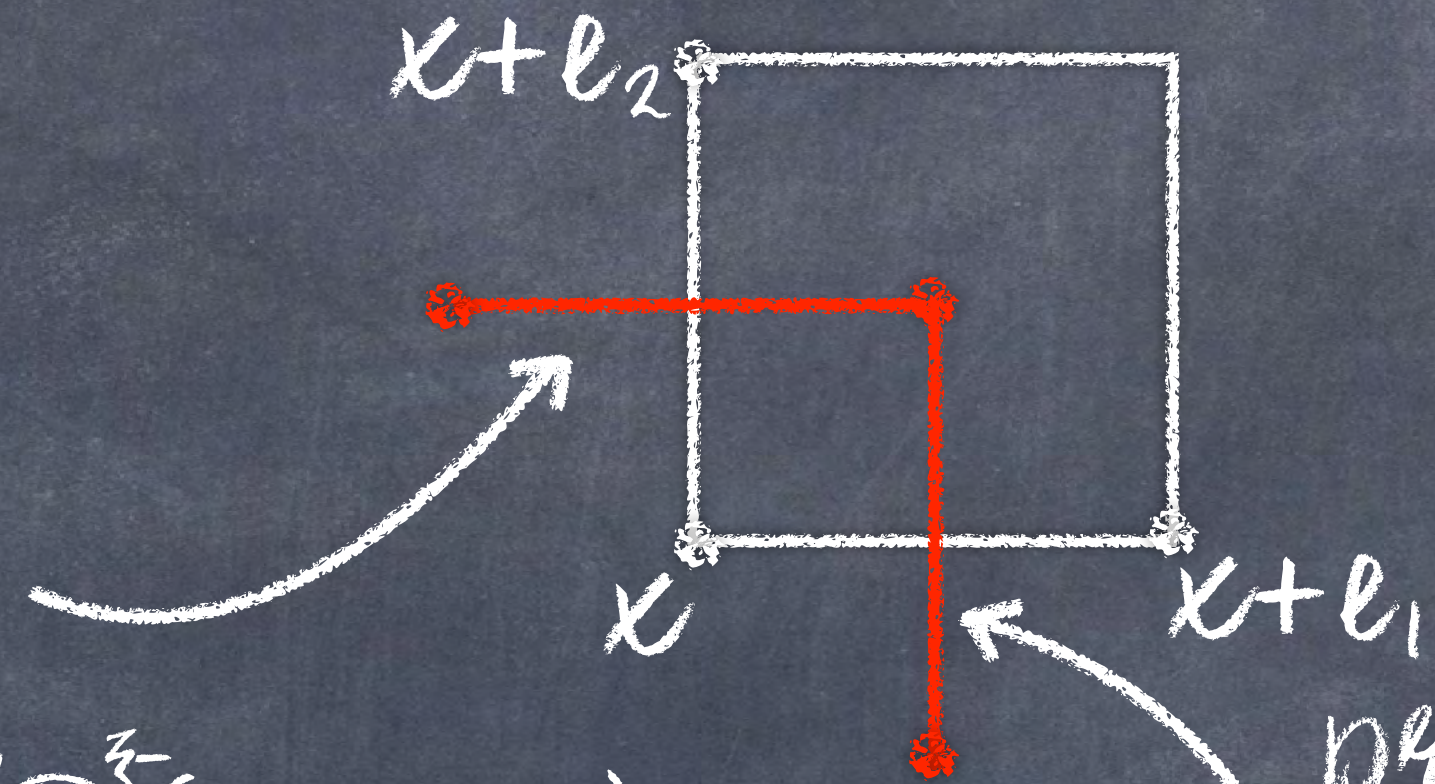
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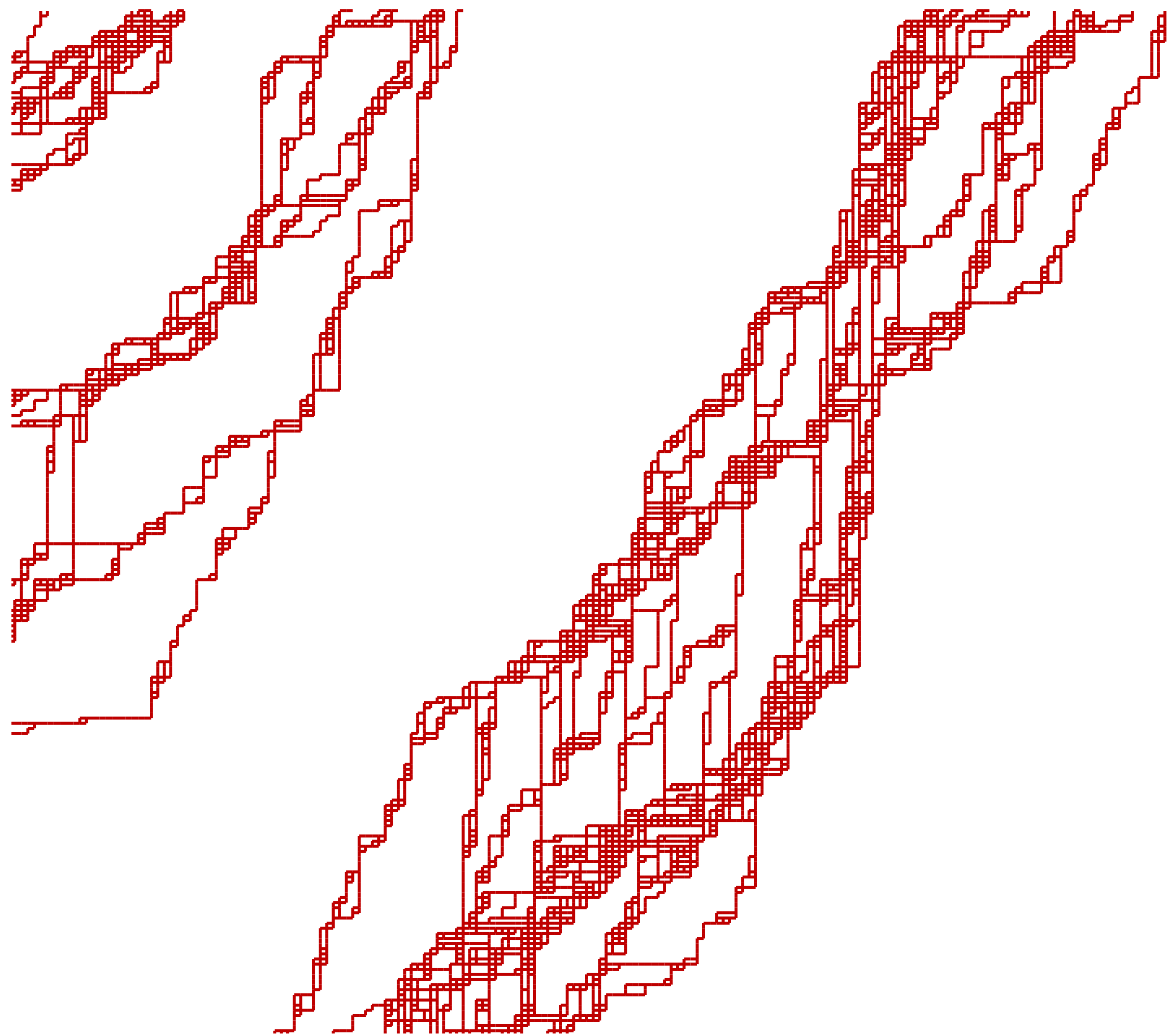
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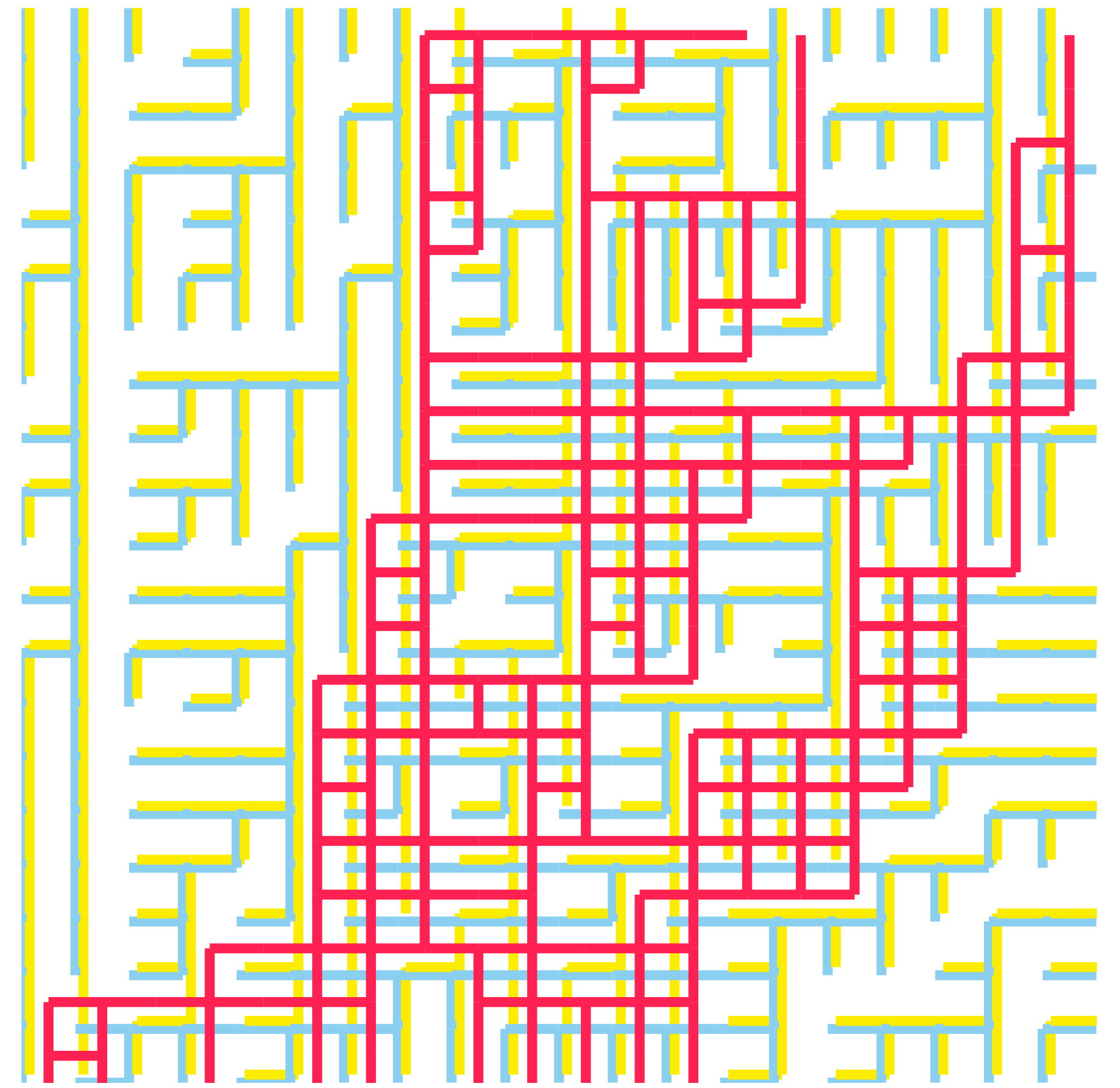
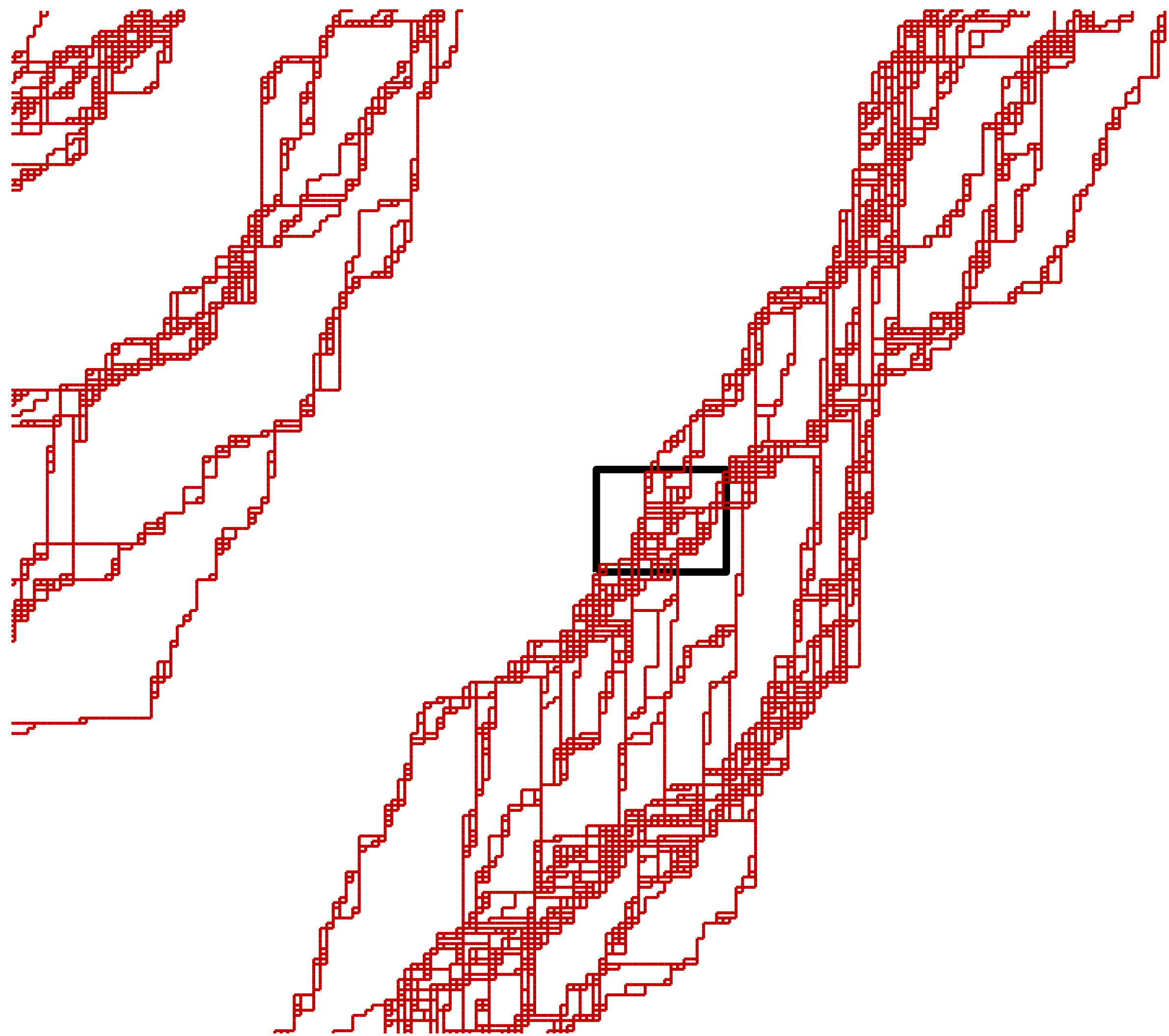
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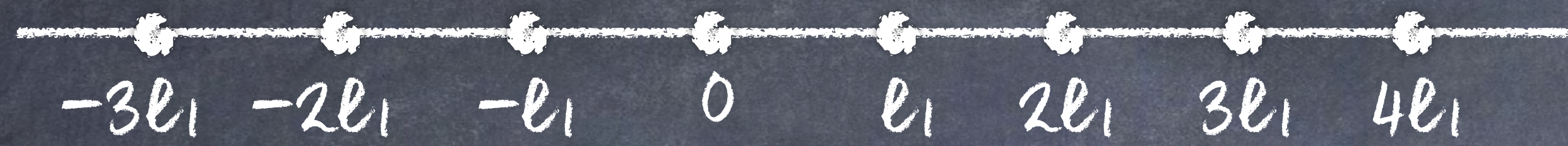
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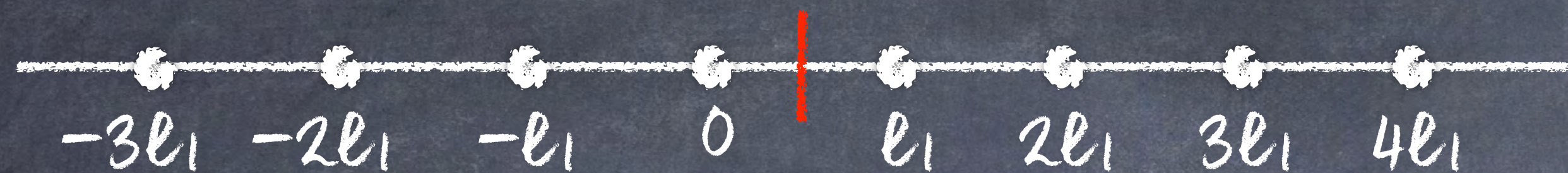
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bi-infinite paths, coalescing both \swarrow & \nearrow

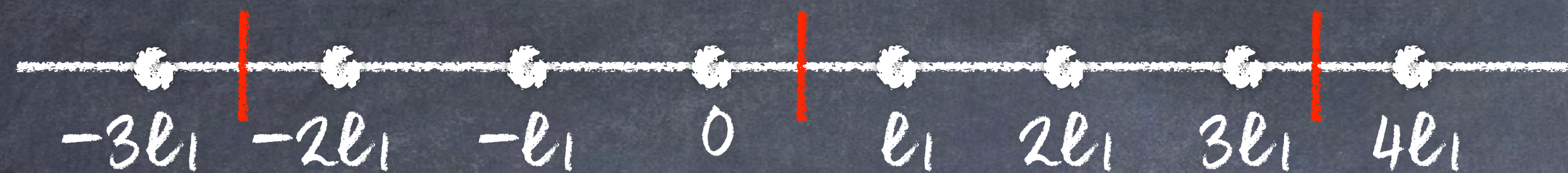








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the locations of the other jumps/crossings
are $\{k: S_{2k} = 0\}$ where S_n is a SSRW!

