

Coarse embeddings  
and  
homological filling functions

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# Def (Filling function)



Let  $X$  be a simply connected simp. ex.

Let  $\sigma: S^1 \rightarrow X^{(1)}$ .  $\exists$  a simp. map  $f: D^2 \rightarrow X$

s.t.  $f|_{\partial D^2} = \sigma$ . Define  $|f| =$  # 2-cells in the triangulation

Define  $\text{Area}(\sigma) = \min \{|f| \mid f: D^2 \rightarrow X, f|_{\partial D^2} = \sigma\}$

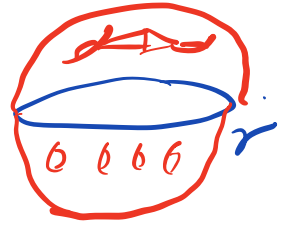
$\text{Fill}_X: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$

$\text{Fill}_X(n) = \sup \{ \text{Area}(\sigma) \mid l(\sigma) \leq n \}$



Def (Homological filling function)

Let  $X$  be a simplex with  $H_1(X) = 0$ .



Let  $\gamma: S^1 \rightarrow X^{(1)}$ . Then  $\exists$  a simplicial map of a surface  $\Sigma$  with 1  $\partial$  comp to  $X$   $f: \Sigma \rightarrow X$  s.t.  $f|_{\partial\Sigma} = \gamma$   $|f| = \#$  2-cells in triangulation

$HArea(\gamma) = \min \{ f: \Sigma \rightarrow X \text{ as above} \}$

$HFill_X(n) = \sup \{ HArea(\gamma) \mid l(\gamma) \leq n \}$

*homotopy type is not fixed*

Rmk  $HFill_X \leq Fill_X$

## Relation to gps and equivalence

Suppose  $G$  acts properly cocompactly on a simply connected space  $X$

$$\text{Define } \text{Fill}_G := \text{Fill}_X$$

$$\text{HFill}_G := \text{HFill}_X$$

This is well defined up to equivalence given by the partial ordering  $f \preceq g$   $f, g: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$   
if  $\exists C > 0$  s.t.  $f(n) \leq Cg(Cn+C) + Cn + C$   
 $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}$

$$\text{Ex. } a_1 x^k + \dots + a_n x + a_0 \sim x^k$$
$$a^n \sim b^n \quad \forall a, b \in \mathbb{N}$$

Thm (Gersten, Bowditch)

A finitely presented gp  $G$  is hyperbolic iff

$H\text{Fill}_G \sim n$  iff  $\text{Fill}_G \sim n$

Thm (Abrams-Brady-Davis-Young)

$\exists$  gps  $G$  with  $\text{Fill}_G \not\sim H\text{Fill}_G$

$\nearrow$   
exp

$\nwarrow$  polynomial

Thm (Brady-K-Soroko)

$\exists$  gps with unsolvable word problem

but  $H\text{Fill} \sim n^4$

Passing to subgps. Given  $H \leq G$  can one describe

Ex.  $H\text{Fill}_H$  in terms of  $H\text{Fill}_G$   
 $\text{Fill}_H$   $\text{Fill}_G$

Subgps of RAAGs  $\tau_{\text{CAT}(0)}$   $\text{Fill}_{\sim n^2}$  or products of hypgps  $\text{Fill}_{\sim n^2}$   
with exp. filling function:

Def  $G$  has **geometric dimension** ( $gd$ )  $\leq n$  if

$G = \pi_1(X)$   $X$  is an aspherical  $n$ -dim ~~simp.~~  $\text{CW}$  ex.  
 $\tilde{X} \simeq *$

Thm. (Gersten)

Let  $G$  be a fin. pres. gp  $H < G$  fin. pres.

Suppose  $gd\ G \leq 2$ . Then

$$H\text{Fill}_H \cong H\text{Fill}_G$$

Cor. If  $H$  is a fin. pres. subgroup of a  $C(\frac{1}{6})$  gp  
then  $H$  is hyp.

Idea of Pf.



Def Coarse embedding  $(H \hookrightarrow_{c.e.} G)$

$\psi: H \rightarrow G$  is a Coarse embedding if  $\exists \rho, \rho_+ : \mathbb{R}_+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$

s.t.  $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \rho_-(t) = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \rho_+(t) = \infty$  and

$$\rho_-(d(h_1, h_2)) \leq d(\psi(h_1), \psi(h_2)) \leq \rho_+(d(h_1, h_2))$$

Ex.  $H \subset G$  then the inclusion is a coarse embedding

Coarse embedding is much wilder than  
Subgps.

Ex.  $\mathbb{Z} \hookrightarrow_{\text{c.e.}}$  Any infinite gp

$\mathbb{Z}^n \hookrightarrow_{\text{c.e.}} \pi_1(M^{n+1})$   $M^{n+1}$  closed hyp  
 $n+1$  manifold

## Thm (K-Pengitore)

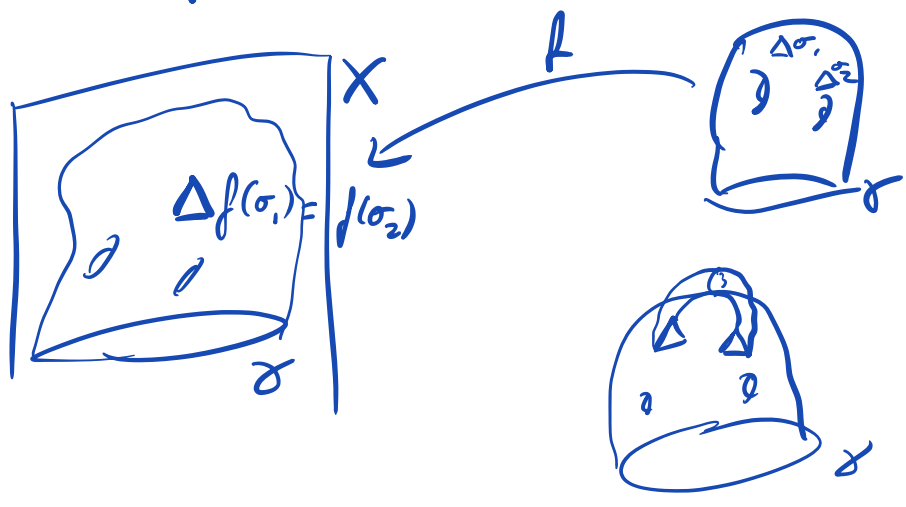
Let  $G, H$  be fin. pres.  $g.p.s$  suppose  
 $gd\ G \leq 2$  and  $H \hookrightarrow c.e.\ G$  then  
 $F\text{Fill}_H \leq H\text{Fill}_G$

Cor.

If  $G$  is an inf pres.  $C'(\frac{1}{\delta})$  gp  $H \hookrightarrow G$   
a fin pres. subgp then  $H$  is hyp.

# Ideas from the proof.

① Given a surface filling can replace with a surface filling with no cancellations



② In the case that  $G$  has  $g \geq 2$   
surface fillings with no cancellations are unique.



③ adjust the space  $X$  for  $G$  s.t.

we get a subspace  $Y$  which is q.i. to  $H$

Think of mapping cylinder.