# Euclidean Embedding of Rigid Graphs

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# Outline

#### 1 Motivation

#### 2 Rigidity

#### 3 Embeddings

- Planar embeddings
- Algebraic formulation
- Distance geometry
- Spatial embeddings

#### 4 Further questions

# **Bioinformatics**



- NMR spectroscopy yields (approximate) distances, hence 3d structure, in solution [K.Wüthrich, ETHZ, Chemistry Nobel'02]
- $\blacksquare$  X-ray crystallography: more accurate distances but in crystal state, which takes  $\sim 1$  year.
- Software for  $\geq 100$  atoms:

Dyana [Güntert,Mumenthaler,Wüthrich'97], Embed [Crippen,Havel'88], Disgeo [Havel,Wuthrich'98], Dgsol [Moré,Wu], Abbie [Hendrickson], etc

## Robotics







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# Engineering

Architecture, tensegrity





Topography (Surveyors)



## Problem definition

Embed- $\mathbb{R}^d$ : Find a function which maps vertices to points  $\in \mathbb{R}^d$  so as to preserve the given (Euclidean) distances,  $d \ge 1$ .

Counting: Given a rigid graph, determine max #embeddings in  $\mathbb{R}^d$  (modulo rigid motions), assuming generic edge lengths. Rigid motions: translation, rotation.

# Generic / Minimal Rigidity

- Graph G is generically rigid in ℝ<sup>d</sup> iff for generic edge lengths it has a finite number of embeddings in ℝ<sup>d</sup>, modulo rigid motions.
- Graph G is minimally rigid iff it becomes non-rigid (flexible) once an edge is removed.

We call generically minimally rigid graphs simply rigid.



Figure: A rigid vs a non-rigid (flexible) graph in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ .

# **Rigidity Condition**

# Theorem (Maxwell:1864,Laman'70) Graph G = (V, E) is rigid in $\mathbb{R}^2$ iff: • |E| = 2|V| - 3, and • $|E'| \le 2|V'| - 3$ , $\forall$ vertex-induced subgraph (V', E').

This is the (combinatorial) "Laman condition" for rigidity in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ .

## Henneberg steps

Adding a vertex while preserving rigidity:



Figure:  $H_1$  and  $H_2$  steps

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## Henneberg steps

Adding a vertex while preserving rigidity:



Figure:  $H_1$  and  $H_2$  steps



Figure: Examples for n = 6

### Planar construction

#### Definition

A  $H_1$  (resp.  $H_2$ ) construction is a succession of  $H_1$  (resp.  $H_1$  and  $H_2$ ) steps, which begins with a triangle.

#### Theorem (Henneberg, Whiteley-Tay)

Graph G is Laman iff it has a  $H_2$  construction.

# Rigidity in $\mathbb{R}^3$

Generalized condition: |E| = 3|V| - 6,  $|E'| \le 3|V'| - 6$ . Counterexample: Double Banana.

Theorem (Gluck,Aleksandrov) The 1-skeleta of simplicial (convex) polyhedra are rigid in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ . Notice they satisfy |E| = 3|V| - 6,  $|E'| \le 3|V'| - 6$ .

Open: Complete characterization; other classes.

# 3 Henneberg steps in $\mathbb{R}^3$

 $H_1, H_2, H_3$  steps replace k - 1 diagonals in (k + 2)-cycle, by new vertex and k + 2 edges, for k = 1, 2, 3:



# Henneberg construction in $\mathbb{R}^3$

# A $H_3$ construction is a succession of $H_1, H_2, H_3$ steps, starting at the 3-simplex (tetrahedron), or $K_4$ graph.

#### Theorem (Bowen-Fisk'67)

A graph is the 1-skeleton of a simplicial polyhedron in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  iff it admits a  $H_3$  construction.

# Embedding complete graphs

Consider (unknown) points  $p_0, \ldots, p_n \in \mathbb{R}^d$ , and given distances

$$d_{ij}^2 = |p_i - p_j|^2, \ d_{i0}^2 = |p_i|^2, \ \text{by setting } p_0 = 0.$$

Now define (Gram) matrix G as follows:

$$d_{ij}^2 = |p_i|^2 - 2p_i^T p_j + |p_j|^2 \iff p_i^T p_j = \frac{d_{i0}^2 - d_{ij}^2 + d_{j0}^2}{2} =: G_{ij},$$

hence  $G = [p_1, \ldots, p_n]^T \cdot [p_1, \ldots, p_n].$ 

The Singular Value Decomposition yields

$$G = V \Sigma V^T \Rightarrow P = \sqrt{\Sigma} \cdot V^T.$$

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# Decision problem

- Given complete set of exact distances: Embed- $\mathbb{R}^d \in \mathsf{P}$ .
- Given incomplete set of exact distances [Saxe'79].
  Embed-ℝ ∈ NP-hard. Reduction of set-partition.
  Embed-ℝ<sup>k</sup> ∈ NP-hard, for k ≥ 2, even if weights ∈ {1,2}.
- (Approximate) Embed-ℝ<sup>2</sup> ∈ NP-hard for planar rigid graphs with all weights = 1 [Cabello,Demaine,Rote'03]
- Given distances  $\pm \epsilon$ , approximate-Embed- $\mathbb{R}^d \in \mathsf{NP}$ -hard [Moré, Wu'96].
- Every graph with n vertices can be embedded in some Euclidean space (of any dimension) with distortion in O(log n) [Bourgain'93].

# Counting Planar Embeddings

Construct all non-isomorphic graphs:

<i>n</i> =	3	4	5	6
#graphs	1	1	3	
upper bound	2	4	8	24
lower bound	2	4	8	24
$H_1$ sequence	Δ	Δ1	Δ11	Δ111
$H_2$ sequence				Δ112





## Small cases

- The triangle  $(\Delta)$  has exactly 2 embeddings (reflections).
- H<sub>1</sub> exactly doubles the generic #embeddings (2 circles).
  Open: Does H<sub>2</sub> at most quadruple #embeddings?
- n = 6: H<sub>2</sub> graphs: K<sub>3,3</sub> has 16 embeddings [Walter-Husty'07] Desargues' graph has 24 [Hunt'83] [Gosselin,Sefrioui,Richard'91] (aka 3-prism, planar parallel robot)



#### Desargues graph: lower bound



[Borcea, Streinu'04]

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## Lower Bounds in $\mathbb{R}^2$

[Borcea, Streinu'04]

• Caterpillar Desargues has  $24^{n/4} \simeq 2.21^n$  embeddings.



Desargues fan has  $2 \cdot 12^{n/3-1} \simeq 2.29^n/6$  embeddings.



Smallest case is n = 9, yields 288.

## Algebraic upper bounds

#embeddings = #solutions  $\in \mathbb{R}^{nd}$  of a polynomial system, corresponding to edges *E* and  $\binom{d+1}{2}$  "pin-down" equations:

$$\text{in } \mathbb{R}^2 : \begin{cases} x_1 = y_1 = 0, \\ y_2 = 0, \\ (x_i - x_j)^2 + (y_i - y_j)^2 = l_{ij}^2, \quad (i, j) \in E. \end{cases} \\ \text{in } \mathbb{R}^3 : \begin{cases} x_1 = y_1 = z_1 = 0, \\ y_2 = z_2 = 0, \\ z_3 = 0, \\ (x_i - x_j)^2 + (y_i - y_j)^2 + (z_i - z_j)^2 = l_{ij}^2, \quad (i, j) \in E. \end{cases}$$

Use **bounds** in  $\mathbb{C}^{nd}$ :

- classical, Bézout (=  $\prod$  degrees),
- sparse, mixed volume (of exponents of nonzero terms).

#### Example

System  $c_{11} + c_{12}xy + c_{13}x^2y + c_{14}x$ ,  $c_{31} + c_{32}y + c_{33}xy + c_{34}x$ , with Newton polytopes:



has Mixed Volume =  $3 = V(P_1 + P_2) - V(P_1) - V(P_2)$ .

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## General Upper Bound

Bézout:  $\Theta(2^{nd})$ .

■ [Borcea-Streinu'04] by distance matrices:

$$\prod_{k=0}^{n-d-2} \frac{\binom{n-1+k}{n-d-1-k}}{\binom{2k+1}{k}} \approx 2^{nd},$$

$$\binom{2n-4}{n-2}\approx\frac{4^{n-2}}{\sqrt{\pi(n-2)}},\qquad d=2,$$

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# Planar Upper Bound

- Mixed volume =  $4^n$  [Steffens-Theobald'08]
- Sparseness A Laman graph, n ≥ 8, with k degree-2 vertices has [E-Tsigaridas-Varvitsiotis'09]

$$\leq 2^{k+1} 4^{n-k-5}$$
 embeddings.

#### Desargues graph: upper bound

[Collins'02]: Planar quaternion  $q = q(d, \theta) \in \mathbb{R}^4$ ,

transformation 
$$M = \begin{bmatrix} q_4^2 - q_3^2 & -2q_3q_4 & 2q_1q_4 - 2q_2q_3 \\ 2q_3q_4 & q_4^2 - q_3^2 & 2q_1q_3 + 2q_2q_4 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

- $q_3^2 + q_4^2 = 1$ ,  $|(Mv_i)^T v_j| d_{ij}^2 = \hom(q_i) c = 0$ :  $\mathsf{MV} = 12$ .
- Equivalent: hom $(q_i) = c(q_3^2 + q_4^2)$ , dehomogenize  $z_i = q_i/q_4$ .
- First equation is  $z_3^2 + 1 = z_0$ , system has MV=6.

## Small cases

n =	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
upper	2	4	8	24	56	128	512	2048
lower	2	4	8	24	48	96	288	576
$H_1$	Δ	Δ1	Δ11	Δ111	Δ1111	Δ11111	$\Delta 1^{6}$	
				Δ112	Δ1112	Δ11112	Δ1 <sup>5</sup> 2	
$H_2$							$\Delta 1^{4}21$	
							$\Delta 1^{4}22$	

- Classified all isomorphic graphs by SAGE, applied Mixed volume on distance equations [E-Tsigaridas-Varvitsiotis:GD'09].
- For n = 7: upper bound by distance matrices (was 64).
  ∃ graph with 56 complex roots; others with upper bound < 56</li>

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#### Distance matrix

A distance matrix M is square,  $M_{ii} = 0$ ,  $M_{ij} = M_{ji} \ge 0$ .

It is embeddable in (Euclidean)  $\mathbb{R}^d$  iff

$$\exists \text{ points } p_i \in \mathbb{R}^d : M_{ij} = \frac{1}{2} \operatorname{dist}(p_i, p_j)^2.$$

#### Distance geometry

### Theorem (Cayley'41,Menger'28,Schoenberg'35) M embeds in $\mathbb{R}^d$ , for min d, iff Cayley-Menger (border) matrix has

rank 
$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \cdots 1 \\ 1 & & \\ \vdots & M \\ 1 & & \end{bmatrix} = d+2,$$

and, for any minor D indexed by rows/columns  $0, i_1, \ldots, i_k$ ,

$$(-1)^k D(i_1,\ldots,i_k) \ge 0, \quad k=2,\ldots,d+1.$$

#### Corollary

• For 
$$k = 2$$
,  $D(i, j) = 2M_{ij} \ge 0$ ,

• for k = 3, 4, we get the triangular/tetrangular inequalities.

#### Corollary

Points  $p_i$  embed in  $\mathbb{R}^d$ , for min d, iff corresponding Gram matrix  $P^T P$  has rank d and is positive semidefinite (all eigenvalues  $\geq 0$ ).

# Cyclohexane

		$p_1$	<i>p</i> <sub>2</sub>	<i>p</i> 3	<i>p</i> 4	<i>p</i> 5	<i>P</i> 6	,
	Γ0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
$p_1$	1	0	и	с	<i>x</i> <sub>14</sub>	с	и	
<i>p</i> <sub>2</sub>	1	и	0	и	С	<i>x</i> 25	С	
<i>p</i> 3	1	С	и	0	и	С	<i>x</i> 36	
$p_4$	1	<i>x</i> <sub>14</sub>	С	и	0	и	С	
$p_5$	1	С	x <sub>25</sub>	С	и	0	и	
$p_6$	1	и	С	x <sub>36</sub>	С	и	0	

Known u = 1.526Å (adjacent),  $\phi \simeq 110.4^{\circ} \Rightarrow c \simeq 2.29$ Å (triangle) Rank = 5  $\Leftrightarrow$  vanishing of all 6  $\times$  6 minors: Yields a 3  $\times$  3 system with Mixed volume = 16.

# Embeddings in $\mathbb{R}^3$

- The 3-simplex (tetrahedron, *K*<sub>4</sub>) has exactly 2 embeddings: reflections about the plane.
- H<sub>1</sub> exactly doubles the generic #embeddings: 3 spheres intersect generically at 2 points.
  Open: do H<sub>2</sub>, H<sub>3</sub> multiply #embeddings by at most 4,8?
- Sparseness: Consider  $n \ge 6$ , k degree-3 vertices. Then, there exist at most  $2^{k+1}8^{n-k-5}$  embeddings [ETV'09].

### Small Cases

n = 5: Unique graph, 4 embeddings (tight):



n = 6: 2 non-isomorphic graphs; RHS with 16 embeddings (tight):



### Better mixed volumes

Mixed volume of distance equations in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  is loose in  $\mathbb{C}^*$ . Pf. Bernstein's 2nd Thm [1975]

Remove spurious solutions with new variables s<sub>i</sub>:

$$\begin{array}{ll} x_i = 0, & i = 1, 2, 3 \\ y_i = 0, & i = 1, 2 \\ z_i = 0, & i = 1 \\ s_i = x_i^2 + y_i^2 + z_i^2, & i = 1 \\ s_i + s_j - 2x_i x_j - 2y_i y_j - 2z_i z_j = l_{ij}^2, & (i, j) \in E \end{array}$$

#### The case n = 6

- Mixed Volume (of new system) = 16.
- The cyclohexane has 16 real embeddings [E-Mourrain'99]
- The "jigsaw" parallel robot has 16 real configurations.



4 cyclohexanes (chairs, and boats/crowns) given 6 fixed distances and angles, or 12 distances.

# Lower bound in $\mathbb{R}^3$

The Cyclohexane caterpillar has  $\approx 16^{n/3} \simeq (2.52)^n$  embeddings.

Proof. Copies of Cyclohexanes with common triangle. For  $n \ge 9$ .



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## Small cases

<i>n</i> =	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
upper	2	4	16	32	160	640	2560
lower	2	4	16	32	64	256	512
$H_1$	Δ	Δ1	Δ11	Δ111	$\Delta 1^4$	$\Delta 1^5$	$\Delta 1^6$
H <sub>2</sub>		_	Δ12	Δ1 <sup>2</sup> 2	$\begin{array}{c} \Delta 1^{3} 2 \\ \Delta 1^{2} 2^{2} \\ \Delta 1^{2} 21 \end{array}$	$ \begin{array}{c} \Delta 1^{4} 2 \\ \Delta 1^{3} 2^{2} \\ \Delta 1^{3} 21 \\ \Delta 1^{2} 2^{3} \end{array} $	$\begin{array}{c} \Delta 1^{5} 2 \\ \Delta 1^{4} 2^{2} \\ \Delta 1^{4} 21 \\ \Delta 1^{3} 2^{3} \\ \Delta 1^{3} 21^{2} \\ \Delta 1^{3} 212 \\ \Delta 1^{3} 2^{2} 1 \\ \Delta 1^{2} 2^{4} \end{array}$

Using SAGE, and Mixed volumes [E-Tsigaridas-Varvitsiotis:GD'09].

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# Matrix completion

Embedding is equivalent to completing a given incomplete matrix/graph so as to get a PSD Gram (or distance) matrix: It is expressed as feasibility of a PSD program.

Complexity:

- Solving PSD programs with arbitrary precision ∈ P<sub>R</sub> (interior-point or ellipsoid algorithms).
- Unknown whether PSD-program  $\in NP_{bit}$ .
- Unknown whether PSD-feasibility  $\in P_{bit}$  (weak poly-time).
- Recall: interior-point, ellipsoid algorithms for LP are in P<sub>bit</sub>.

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## Chordal Graphs

- A graph is chordal if it contains NO empty cycle of length  $\geq$  4.
- Thm [Grone,Sa,Johnson,Wolkowitz'84] [Bakonyi,Johnson'95] Every partial distance matrix M with graph G has a distance-matrix completion iff G is chordal.
   Proof: all principal submatrices embed ⇒ matrix embeds.
   [←] algorithm in P [Laurent'98].
- Thm [Laurent] If #edges added to make G chordal is O(1), then distance-matrix completion  $\in P_{bit}$ .
- Generally, minimizing #edges to make G chordal is NP-hard.

## Complete subgraphs

- Thm [Laurent]. Suppose G contains no clique  $K_4$ . Then, PSD-completion is in  $P_{\mathbb{R}}$ .
- Consider a clique missing edges incident to vertex v. Then, in poly-time, M is PSD-completed and its min embedding dimension (MED) computed [E-Fragoudakis-Markou], e.g:

$$\mathsf{MED}(\nu - G_1 \equiv G_2) = \mathsf{max}\{\mathsf{MED}(\nu - G_1), \mathsf{MED}(G_1 \equiv G_2)\}.$$

Same for star of cliques  $K_i$ : MED(star) = max<sub>i</sub>{MED( $K_i$ )}.

#### Generalizations

#### Body-and-bar structures

Define graph by mapping bodies to vertices, bars to edges. Structure is rigid in  $\mathbb{R}^d$  iff graph = edge-disjoint union of  $\binom{d+1}{2}$  spanning trees [Tay'84]

Body-and-hinge and body-and-bar/hinge structures Replace Hinge by  $\binom{d+1}{2} - 1$  edges. Same characterization of rigidity [Whiteley'88] [Tay'89]

#### Molecular Conjecture proven [Katoh-Tanigawa'09] A graph corresponds to a rigid Body-and-hinge structure in $\mathbb{R}^d$ iff it corresponds to a rigid Panel-and-hinge structure.

# Open

- Specific embedding numbers, better lower bounds.
- Combinatorial characterization in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .
- Count embeddings of body-and-bar, body-and-hinges structures.
- How about other distance norms?
- Tensegrity

# Thank you!

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