

1

Jan. 23

R. Connelly

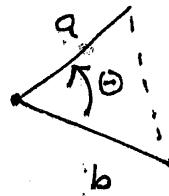
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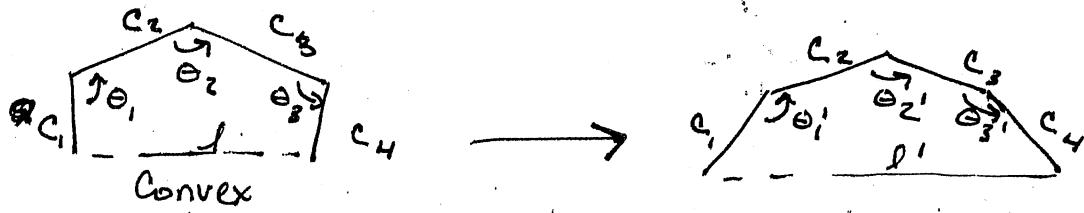
Tensegrity

History:



Greek geometry

Arm Lemma:

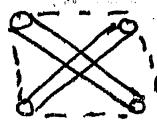


Assume $\theta_1' \geq \theta_1, \theta_2' \geq \theta_2, \dots, \theta_3' \geq \theta_3$

$\Rightarrow l' \geq l$

1948: Ken Snelson: constructed something with cables + struts
B. Fuller - came up with name tensegrity

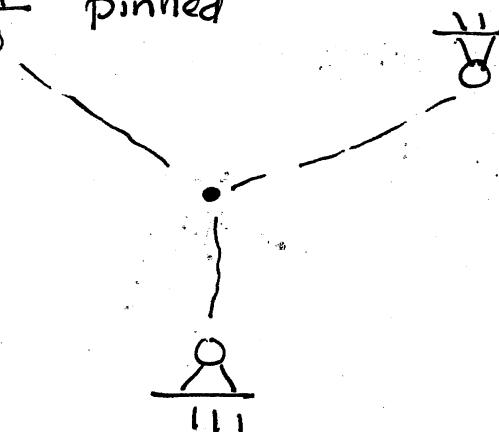
Iogenson - came up with tensegrities before Snelson



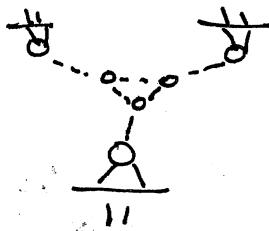
Question: Why do these things stand up?

Spider webs are an example of a tensegrity
pin some vertices

symbol  pinned



or



Engineering

What is the "theory" good for?

-applications

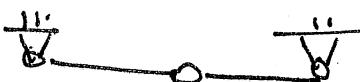
-understanding geometry

1. Structural Engineering

- Algorithms for computing "rigidity" } 1st order
- Bar and Joint framework } theory

→ combinatorial
questions

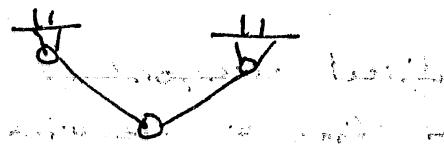
(2)



Is this rigid?

mathematician - yes
engineer - no

To engineer, the following is rigid because forces can be resolved



(still under applications & Structural Engineering)

- Static rigidity \Leftrightarrow Infinitesimal rigidity } Prestress
forces } elasticity } stability

2. Computational biology

Molecule problem:

determine a configuration of atoms (=points) from distance constraints

uniqueness of a configuration with distance constraints.

3. Discrete geometry

- packings and coverings $|p_i - p_j| \geq d_{ij}$



- polyhedra

Steinitz

Every 3-connected planar graph comes from a 3-dimensional polytope.

Maxwell-Crammer - relates polytopes to stresses in a planar graph

- distance geometry

Electrical Networks



all points lie on line

direct correspondence between spiderwebs on a line + electrical networks

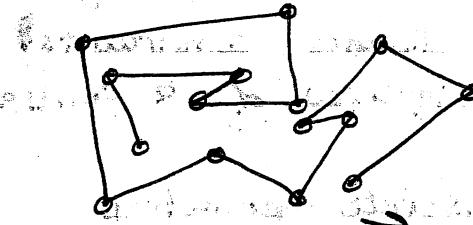
-Algebraic graph theory

$G = \text{graph} \leftrightarrow \text{Adjacency matrix}$

Laplacian \leftrightarrow Stress matrices \leftrightarrow M matrix
result of Lovasz has to do with
Colin de Verdiere graph invariants

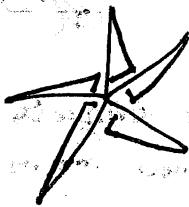
4. Robotics

Robot arms



arm in plane
not convex

Computational geometry



"locked"

can you get an arm that is locked?

turns out it ^{or arm can} ~~can~~ be opened up.

What about a cycle? Can it always be made convex?

Role can have movement only allowing increasing distances

5. Mechanisms : Rigidity conjecture

Is it possible to have embedded triangulated surface that moves?

Cauchy - if convex, then it is rigid

1977 June 3pm found counterexample

1896 R. Bricard

Bellows Conjecture Flexible surface flexed with constant volume

1995 - proved true by I. Sabitov

6. Tension percolation in probability

Jan. 25

homework due Feb. 1

Background

1. linear algebra

- symmetric matrices
- quadratic forms

2. inverse function theorem

3. basic topology

(4.) representation theory for finite groups

Spectral Theorem

Let $A_{n \times n}$ be an $n \times n$ real symmetric matrix.

Then there is a real orthogonal matrix P

$$(P^T P = I_{n \times n})$$

such that $A = P D P^{-1}$ where

$$D = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & \lambda_n \end{bmatrix}$$

Definition: A is positive definite if all $\lambda_i > 0$.

A is positive semi-definite if all $\lambda_i \geq 0$.

A is indefinite if some $\lambda_i > 0$ and another $\lambda_j < 0$.

Quadratic form associated to A symmetric is

$Q : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that $Q(\mathbf{v}) = \mathbf{v}^T A \mathbf{v}$.

$$= \sum_{i,j} a_{ij} x_i x_j \text{ where } \mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix}$$

Factoid: $\nabla Q(\mathbf{v}) = 2A\mathbf{v}$

meaning A is positive semi-definite.

Factoid: If $Q \geq 0$ and $Q(\mathbf{v}) = 0$ then $A\mathbf{v} = 0$.

What we will do:

1. Basic theory of tensegrity frameworks,
stress matrices.

relevant to Snelson-like tensegrities and others.

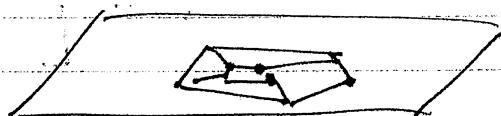
2. Static rigidity = infinitesimal rigidity \Leftrightarrow velocity of vertices
resolution
of external
forces

3. 3D Theory

- Cauchy's theorem: 3D polyhedra are "rigid"
 \rightarrow Dohr \rightarrow AD Alexandrov \rightarrow W. Whiteley
 \rightarrow Connelly

4. Prestress stability

5. Maxwell-Crowns correspondence



Is there 3D polytope corresponding to polytope in plane?

6. Flexible surfaces - embedded surface which flexes
 - Bellows conjecture

7. Lovasz' Theory of Colin de Verdiere number of graph
 \leftrightarrow stress matrices

8. Symmetric tensegrities
 - many examples
 - representation theory

Notation:

finite

Configuration = (P_1, \dots, P_n)

$$P_i \in \mathbb{E}^d$$

$$P_i = \begin{bmatrix} x_{1i} \\ x_{2i} \\ \vdots \\ x_{ni} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$P_1$$

$$P_2$$

$$P_3$$

$$P_4$$

2 types of points:

pinned

unpinned

G = graph finite, undirected without loops or multiple edges each vertex here corresponds to a point in configuration

3 types of edges

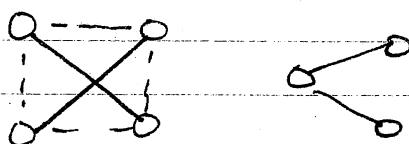
cable certain length or less

bar certain length

strut certain length or more

Tensegrity framework

$G(p)$



Bar framework - all members are bars

Spider Web - all members are cables

Spider webs only interesting if there are pinned vertices

Circle - sphere packing is an example of all struts

Fix a tensegrity graph G , and let p, q be two

configurations for G . We say $G(p)$ dominates $G(q)$ if

write

$$G(p) \geq G(q) \quad |P_i - p_j| \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \geq \\ = \\ \leq \end{array} \right\} |q_i - q_j| \text{ for } (ij) \in \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{cable} \\ \text{bar} \\ \text{strut} \end{array} \right\}$$

Example $G = K_n$ = complete ber framework.

~~If $K_n(p) \geq K_n(q)$ then we say~~
def of congruence. p and q are congruent configurations.
(meaning all pairwise distances the same). Write $p \sim q$.

We say $G(p)$ is globally rigid, if:
 $G(p) \supseteq G(q) \Rightarrow p \sim q$, i.e. p is congruent to q .
(p, q configurations in E^d .)

Jan. 30

<http://www.math.cornell.edu/~connelly/762.html>
links to notes, texts, problems (Latex)

do first set of exercises - end of 2.8
Due Thurs. next week - Feb. 8

due this Thurs. Feb 1 - exercises on quadratic forms

Tools:

Stress $G(p) = \text{tensegrity}$

Def: A stress for G is an assignment of scalars $w_{ij} = w_{ji}$ to each member $\{i, j\}$ $\in \mathcal{X}$

real number

When appropriate, we will say $w_{ij} = w_{ji} = 0$ when $\{i, j\}$ is not a member of G .

We think of $w = (\dots w_{ij} \dots) = \text{row vector in } \mathbb{R}^e$
where $e = \# \text{ members of } G$

We say w is a proper stress if
 $w_{ij} = w_{ji}$ is ≥ 0 for $\{i, j\} = \text{cable}$
 ≤ 0 strut

There is no condition for $\{i, j\} = \text{bar}$.

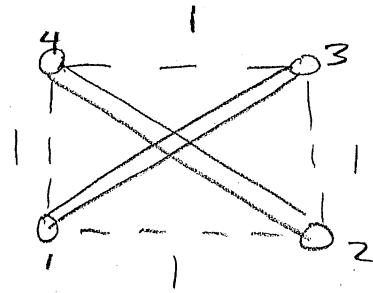
We say that a stress for $G(p)$ is an equilibrium stress (or a self-stress) if for vectors each non-pinned vertex i , of G , $\sum_j w_{ij}(p_j - p_i) = 0$.

Examples:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1 & 0 & -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Exercise: calculate a non-zero equilibrium stress for a cycle in E , where $P_i \neq P_{i+1}$

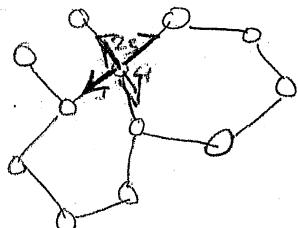
Calculate $w_{i,i+1}$?



$$\text{then } w_{31} = -1$$

$$\text{since } w_{21}\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + w_{41}\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + w_{31}\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Graphical Statics



closes in on itself

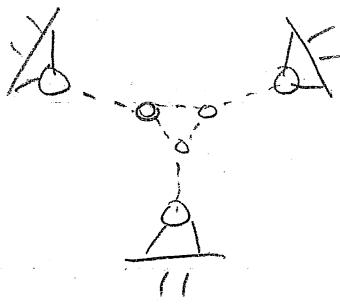
create the polygons for each vertex - fit together as tiling

Why equilibrium stresses?

Special case: all $w_{ij} > 0$

Call this a spider web.

want there to be pinned vertices in order for it to be interesting.



Important idea:

Energy: Start with any stress for graph G .

Define stress-energy for any configuration

$$\boldsymbol{q} = (q_1, \dots, q_n), q_i \in \mathbb{E}^d$$

by $\sum_{i < j} w_{ij} |q_i - q_j|^2 = E_w(\boldsymbol{q})$

↑
Constants Variables pinned vertices or
 constants

E_w is a quadratic function

(if no pinned vertices, it is a quadratic form)

$$E_w: \mathbb{E}^k \rightarrow \mathbb{E}^l \quad k = \# \text{ of variable vertices}$$

What are critical points of E_w ?

Lemma: A configuration, p , is a critical point for E_w if and only if p is in equilibrium with respect to the stress w .

Proof: Let p be a critical point for E_w .

Let p' be any direction, $p'_i = 0$ for pinned vertices. We calculate

$$E_w(p + t p') = \sum_{i < j} w_{ij} (p_i - p_j + t(p'_i - p'_j))^2$$

$$= \sum_{i < j} w_{ij} (p_i - p_j)^2 + 2t \sum_{i < j} w_{ij} (p_i - p_j)(p'_i - p'_j) + t^2 \sum_{i < j} (p'_i - p'_j)^2 w_{ij}$$

$$\text{At } t=0 \quad \frac{dE_w}{dt} = 2 \sum w_{ij} (p_i - p_j) \cdot (p_i' - p_j') = 0.$$

Let p' be 0 except in one non-pinned coordinate.

$$2 \sum_j (w_{ij} (x_i - x_j)) = 0 \quad \text{for the } x\text{-coordinate}$$

Doing this for all unpinned vertices we get the equilibrium condition.

Conversely, these p' 's are a basis for all possible p' 's and so the equilibrium condition implies a critical point. 

Spider webs $w_{ij} > 0$

The Spiderweb Theorem: Let G be a spiderweb graph where each nonpinned vertex is connected by a chain of cables to a pinned vertex.

Suppose $G(p)$ is in equilibrium with respect to a ^{nonzero} proper equilibrium stress. Then $G(p)$ is globally rigid.

Proof: Use the principle of least work. First we show that p is a global minimum point for E_w . Before that we show there must be at least one global min point for E_w .

Call this point q_{\min}, g_{\min} is also critical point.

$$E_w(q + tq') = E_w(q) + 0 + t^2 E_w(q') > E_w(q)$$

So q is unique global minimum unless $q' = 0$.

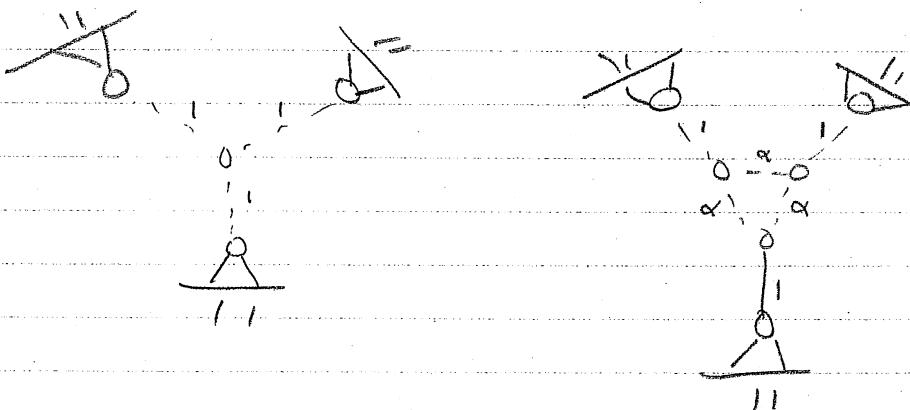
Similarly p is the unique global min. So $p = q$.

6

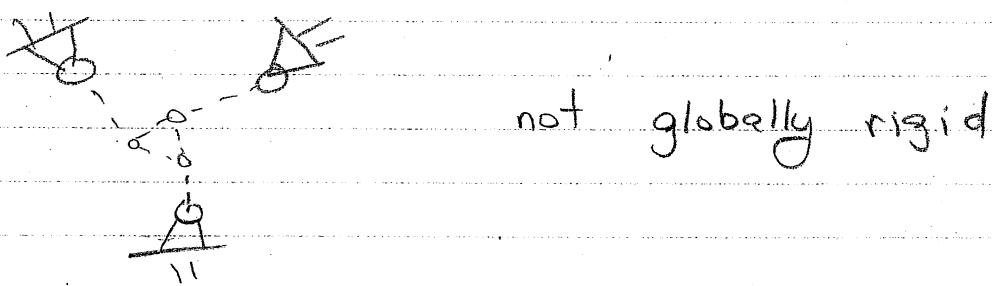
Suppose $G(q) \leq G(p)$

$$\text{Then } E_w(q) = \sum_{i < j} w_{ij} \overset{\text{positive}}{(q_i - q_j)^2} \leq \sum_{i < j} w_{ij} (p_i - p_j)^2 \\ = E_w(p)$$

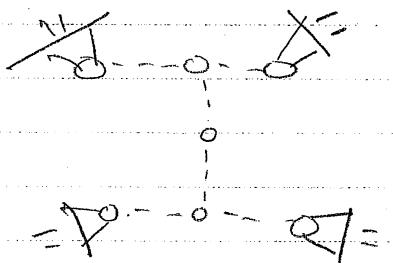
But p is the global min of E_w so $p = q$.
So $G(p)$ is globally rigid. ☺



both are
globally
rigid



not globally rigid



does not have a proper
(nonzero) non-zero equilibrium
stress but it is
globally rigid

Q

Feb. 1

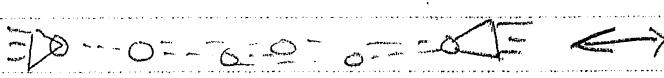
We were discussing spider webs

Ex: dream catchers

Spider web on a line

at each non-pinned vertex

$$\sum w_{ij} (p_j - p_i) = 0$$



network of registers

pinned vertices \rightarrow voltage/potential

Applied

cable with stress \leftrightarrow conductance

$$= \frac{1}{\text{resistance}}$$

Equilibrium condition \Leftrightarrow

Kirker's law of
current \cdot current
out

Lemma: Let $G(p)$ be any tensegrity framework with an equilibrium stress w . Let q be an affine image of the configuration p ; i.e. there is a $A_{n \times n}$ matrix, $b \in \mathbb{E}^n$, $q_i = Ap_i + b$. Then $G(q)$ is also in equilibrium with respect to w .

Proof: Check equilibrium equation.

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_j w_{ij} (q_j - q_i) &= \sum_j w_{ij} (Ap_j + b - Ap_i - b) \\ &= \sum_j w_{ij} (A(p_j - p_i)) \\ &= A \left(\sum_j w_{ij} (p_j - p_i) \right) = 0. \quad \square \end{aligned}$$

Homogeneous stresses

(no pinned vertices)

G = any tensegrity graph

w = (proper) stress for G

Define an energy (potential) function as before

$$F(w) = \sum_i w_i (q_i - g_i)^2$$

E_w is a quadratic form (no linear or constant term).
 What is the matrix of E_w with respect to a standard basis of \mathbb{E}^{1d} .

Note

$$[x_i \ x_j] \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_i \\ x_j \end{bmatrix} = (x_i - x_j)^2$$

$$\underbrace{[x_i - x_j \ -x_i + x_j]}_{x_i(x_i - x_j) + x_j(x_j - x_i)} \begin{bmatrix} x_i \\ x_j \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= (x_i - x_j)(x_i - x_j) = (x_i - x_j)^2$$

Define: $R_{ij} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

positive
semi-definite

Note $[x_1 \dots x_n] R_{ij} \begin{bmatrix} x_i \\ x_j \end{bmatrix} = (x_i - x_j)^2$

Note: $R_{ii} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$

Also, R_{ij} is symmetric

Define $R = \sum_{i < j} w_{ij} R_{ij}$ = stress matrix
 associated to the stress w

$$(x_1, \dots, x_n) \cdot Q \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix} = \sum_{i,j} w_{ij} (x_i - x_j)^2$$

Note: $Q[i][j] = 0 \Leftrightarrow$ row + columns of Q are 0
 (diagonal) entries determined by
66-diagonal

ij^{th} entry of Q is $-w_{ij}$
 ij^{th} entry of Q is 0 for non-members of G

The Kronecker product of 2 matrices A, B is
 (or tensor product)

$$A \otimes B = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11}B & a_{12}B & \dots \\ a_{21}B & & & \\ \vdots & & & a_{mn}B \end{bmatrix}$$

Claim: The matrix of E_w is $Q \otimes I^d$.

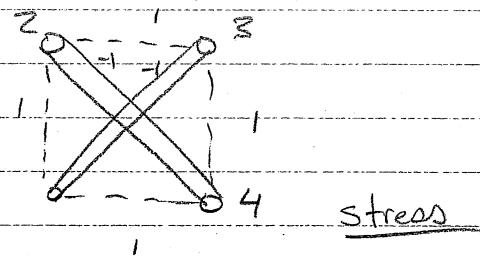
$E_w \geq 0$ iff $Q \geq 0$.

positive
semi-definite

Let $P = [p_1, \dots, p_n]_{d \times m}$ = configuration matrix

$$\hat{P} = \begin{bmatrix} p_1 & \dots & p_n \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\hat{P} \cdot Q = \left[\dots, -\sum_j w_{ij} (p_j - p_i), \dots \right] = 0 \text{ iff } P \text{ is in equilibrium with respect to } w.$$



stress

$$1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 1 & -1 \\ -1 & 1 & -1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 & 1 & -1 \\ -1 & 1 & -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{R} \geq \mathbf{C}$$

positive
semi-definite

If $G(p)$ is in equilibrium with respect to a stress ω , what are all other configurations q that are also in equilibrium with respect to ω ?

Any q that is an affine image of p will have the same equilibrium stress. Are there any others?

We say a configuration is universal with respect to an equilibrium configuration if any other configuration q in equilibrium with respect to ω is an affine image of P .

Feb. 6

Jae

Jim Saxe: Global rigidity problem is strongly
NP-complete
partition problem

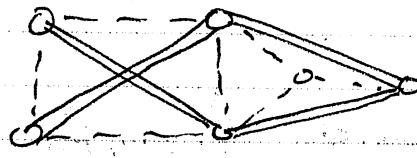
~~QUESTION~~

Principle of least work:

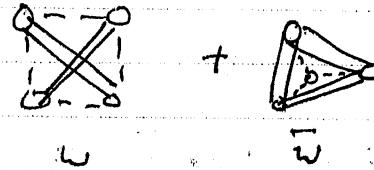
If E_w is at a minimum for configuration p , then
any other configuration q with $G(q) \leq G(p)$ is such that
 $E_w(q) = E_w(p)$ and all members of $G(p)$ and
 $G(q)$ have same length.

$$E_w(q) = \sum_{i < j} w_{ij} (q_i - q_j)^2$$

We say $G(p)$ is unyielding if when $G(q) \leq G(p)$
then $|q_i - q_j| = |p_i - p_j|$ for all members $\{q_i, q_j\}$ of G .



'unyielding'
not globally rigid
and not universal with respect
to the proper stress $w + \bar{w}$



Let w be a stress. Does there exist a universal
configuration for w ?

Affine geometry:

$$\hat{P} = \begin{bmatrix} p_1 & \dots & p_n \\ 1 & \dots & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$p_i \in \mathbb{E}^d$

augmented configuration matrix

Fact: dimension of affine

The affine span of p_1, \dots, p_n is

$$\langle p_1, \dots, p_n \rangle = \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i p_i \mid \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i = 1 \right\}$$

$$P_1 \quad \langle P_1, P_2 \rangle \quad P_2$$

Factoid: $=$ linear space + constant vector

$$\text{linspan} \left\{ \langle p_1, \dots, p_n \rangle + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\} = \text{linear span of } [p_1], \dots, [p_n]$$

dimension of linear span of $\hat{p}_1, \dots, \hat{p}_n$ = column rank of P

$$[p_1] \dots [p_n]$$

Fact: $\text{rank } \hat{P} = \dim \{\text{affine span of } p_1, \dots, p_n\} + 1$

Recall that if $p = (p_1, \dots, p_n)$ is in equilibrium with respect to a stress w , then

$$\hat{P} \Omega = 0.$$

$$\hat{P} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 & x_2 & \dots & x_n \\ y_1 & & \dots & y_n \\ 1 & \dots & & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$[x_1, \dots, x_n] \cdot R = 0$$

$$[1, \dots, 1] \cdot R = 0$$

So we can add rows to \hat{P} to be sure that rows of \hat{P} span kernel of R .

If the rows of \hat{P} do span the kernel of R then we claim that $(p_1, \dots, p_n) = p$ is universal.

corresponding configuration

Suppose \bar{p} is in equilibrium with respect to w .
So $\bar{p} \cdot R = 0$

$$\hat{\bar{P}} = \begin{bmatrix} \bar{x}_1 & \dots & \bar{x}_n \\ \bar{y}_1 & \dots & \bar{y}_n \\ 1 & \dots & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$[\bar{x}_1, \dots, \bar{x}_n] = a_{11}[x_1, \dots, x_n] + a_{12}[y_1, \dots, y_n] + \dots + b[1 \dots 1]$$

$$[\bar{y}_1, \dots, \bar{y}_n] = a_{21}[x_1, \dots, x_n] + a_{22}[y_1, \dots, y_n] + b_2[1 \dots 1]$$

$$[1 \dots 1] = 0 [\quad] + \dots + 1 [1 \dots 1]$$

Define A by

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \dots & b_1 \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & & b_2 \\ 0 & \dots & & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} A & b \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{So } \hat{\vec{P}} &= \begin{bmatrix} A & b \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \hat{P} \\
 &= \begin{bmatrix} A_{d \times d} & b_{d \times 1} \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} p_1 & \dots & p_n \end{bmatrix} \\
 &= \begin{bmatrix} Ap_1 + b & \dots & Ap_n + b \end{bmatrix} \\
 &= \begin{bmatrix} \bar{p}_1 & \dots & \bar{p}_n \end{bmatrix}
 \end{aligned}$$

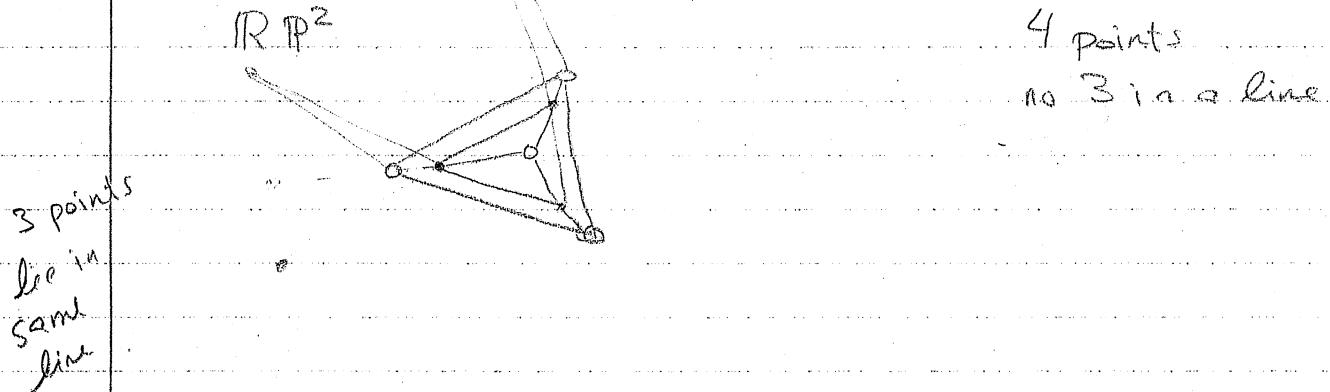
$$\text{So } \bar{p}_i = Ap_i + b$$

So the configuration \bar{p} is an affine image of p . So p is universal if $\dim \langle p_1, \dots, p_n \rangle$ is maximal.

Feb. 8

~~Projective geometry and homogeneous coordinates~~

Desargues Theorem?



\mathbb{F} = Field $\rightsquigarrow \mathbb{F}P^n$ = projective plane
homogeneous coordinates

We'll do this for $\mathbb{F} = \mathbb{R}$ - but you could do this for any field.

$\mathbb{R} \rightsquigarrow \mathbb{R}P^d$ = d-dimensional projective space

Start in \mathbb{R}^{d+1}

A "point" in $\mathbb{R}P^d$ is a line through the origin in \mathbb{R}^{d+1}

$w, v \in \mathbb{R}^{d+1}$, $v \sim w$ if there is a scalar c s.t. $cv = w$.

A "line" in $\mathbb{R}P^d \leftrightarrow$ plane through origin

$\begin{bmatrix} v \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ "point" $\begin{bmatrix} l \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ line if line through v is in the plane

$\begin{bmatrix} l \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{d+1}$ homogeneous

$$\text{Let's look at } \mathbb{R}P^2 = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{bmatrix} cx \\ cy \\ cz \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{If } z \neq 0, \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{bmatrix} x/z \\ y/z \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{If } z=0 \quad \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \leftrightarrow \text{points at } \infty$$

Conics in \mathbb{RP}^2

in affine coordinate in \mathbb{P}^2

Equation for conic is

$$Ax^2 + Bxy + Cy^2 + Dx + Ey + F = 0$$

so conics determined by 6 constants up to a multiple.

In homogeneous coordinates this becomes,

$$Ax^2 + Bxy + Cy^2 + Dxz + Eyz + Ez^2 = 0, z=1.$$

Think quadratic forms

$$\begin{bmatrix} x & y & z \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} A & B/2 & D/2 \\ B/2 & C & E/2 \\ D/2 & E/2 & F \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = 0$$

$$v^T X v = 0$$

X = symmetric matrix

eigenvalues: at least one negative

interesting X 's are those that are indefinite

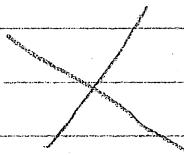
↙ + one positive

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Circle at $z=1$

semi-definite \leftrightarrow lines

\nwarrow
(positive) or
(negative)



$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \text{ is a point}$$

What determines a conic in \mathbb{RP}^2 ? \mathbb{RP}^1 ?

In \mathbb{RP}^1

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow x^2 - 1 = 0 \\ x = \pm 1 \quad \text{two points}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad x=0 \quad \text{one point}$$

also whole space + empty space

So 2 points determine conic in \mathbb{RP}^1 (not counting whole space)

In \mathbb{RP}^2

Suppose p_1, \dots, p_5 are 5 points in \mathbb{RP}^2 . Is there a proper conic through these 5 points?

We can solve

$$p_i^T X p_i = 0 \quad \text{for the coefficients of } X.$$

Unknowns are the entries of X .

These are 5 linear equations in 6 unknowns.

There always is a ^{nonzero} solution.

If the 5 points are such that they are all distinct, no 3 lie on a line, then there is a unique X up to scaling that solves $p_i^T X p_i = 0$.

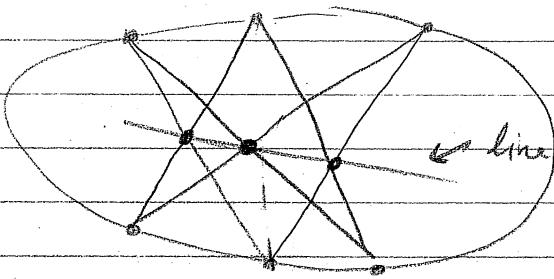


6 r



Pascal's

Theorem



Tensegrities:

Let $p = (p_1, \dots, p_n)$ be a configuration in \mathbb{E}^d . What are those configurations $q = (q_1, \dots, q_n)$ such that q is an affine image of p and $G(q) \cong G(p)$. (i.e. member lengths of $G(p) + G(q)$ are the same.) for $i, j \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ member of G , $|p_i - p_j| = |q_i - q_j|$)

$$q_i = Ap_i + b \quad A \text{ is } d \times d$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{So } |p_i - p_j| &= |Ap_i + b - Ap_j + b| \\ &= |A(p_i - p_j)| \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{So } (p_i - p_j)^2 = [A(p_i - p_j)]^2 \quad (\text{dot product})$$

$$\begin{aligned} (p_i - p_j)^T (p_i - p_j) &= [A(p_i - p_j)]^T A(p_i - p_j) \\ &= (p_i - p_j)^T A^T A (p_i - p_j) \end{aligned}$$

$$(p_i - p_j)^T [I - A^T A] (p_i - p_j) = 0$$

quadratic form

So these "directions" $\{(p_i - p_j)\}$

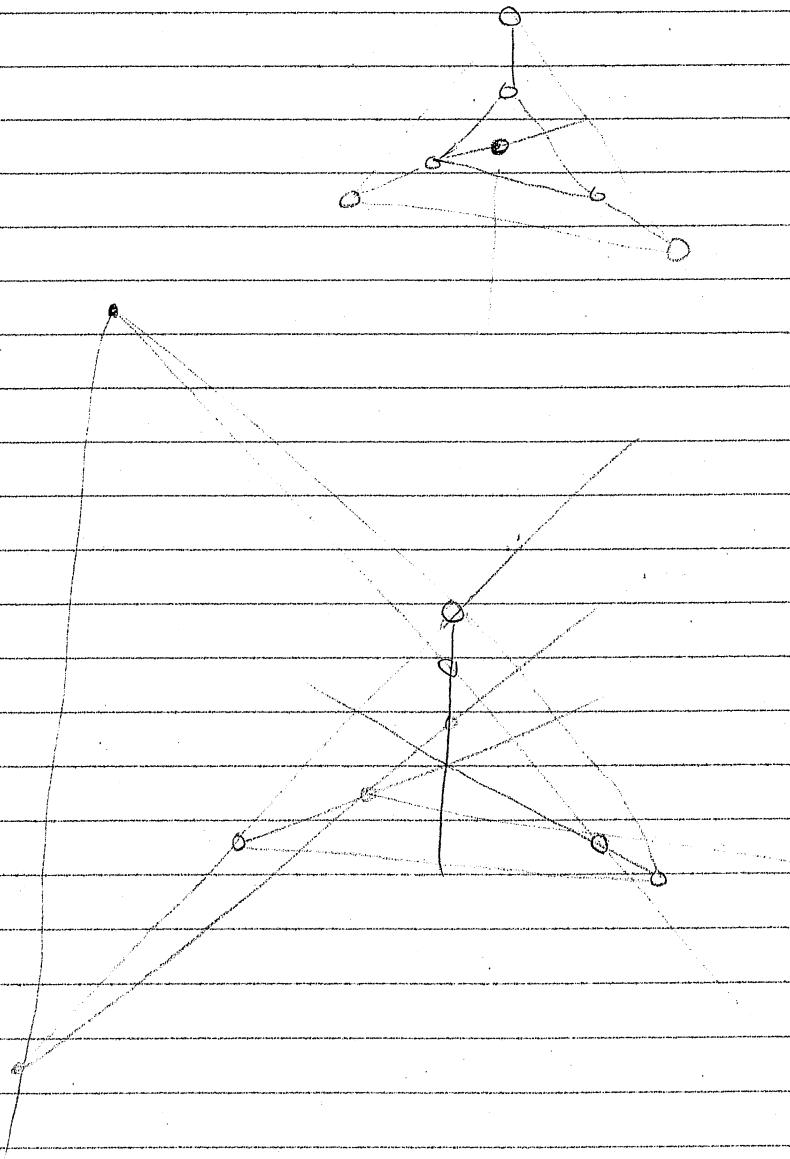
lie on a conic $X = I - A^T A$

Conversely, if they lie on conic X , then $(p_i - p_j)^T X (p_i - p_j) = 0$.

Look at

$I - \varepsilon X$. For ε small enough, $I - \varepsilon I^{-1} X$ is positive definite. (follows from exercise.)

To take square root of positive definite matrix, diagonalize + take square roots.



$$\begin{array}{c}
 \text{Diagram showing points } p_1, p_2, p_3, p_4, p_5, p_6 \text{ in } \mathbb{E}^d. \\
 \text{A horizontal line segment connects } p_1, p_2, p_3, p_4, p_5, p_6. \\
 \text{A vertical line segment connects } p_1, p_2, p_3, p_4, p_5, p_6. \\
 \text{A diagonal line segment connects } p_1, p_2, p_3, p_4, p_5, p_6. \\
 \text{The segments are labeled: } p_1, p_2, p_3, p_4, p_5, p_6. \\
 \text{The total length of the segments is } a + b = c + d. \\
 \text{The distance between } p_1 \text{ and } p_5 \text{ is } a - c + b - d = 0.
 \end{array}$$

2021 Feb 13

Let $v_1, \dots, v_k \in \mathbb{E}^d$ all nonzero. We say they lie on a cone at α if there is a symmetric nonzero matrix X such that $v_i^T X v_i = 0$ for $i=1, \dots, k$.

($[v_i]$ are homogeneous coordinates for points in $\mathbb{R}\mathbb{P}^{d-1}$.)

Lemma: There is an affine map $p \mapsto A_p$, $p \in \mathbb{E}^d$ such that $|Av_i| = |A v_i|$ iff v_1, \dots, v_k lie on a cone at α .

Proof: If such an A = linear map \sim matrix exists, then

$X = I - A^T A$ provides the cone. Suppose $v_i^T X v_i = 0$,

$X \neq 0$, symmetric. Then there is an $\epsilon > 0$ such that $I - \epsilon X$ is positive definite.

By the spectral theorem, there is an orthogonal matrix

P such that $P^T (I - \epsilon X) P = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & & \\ & \ddots & 0 \\ 0 & & \lambda_d \end{bmatrix}$, $\lambda_i > 0$

Define $A = \begin{bmatrix} \sqrt{\lambda_1} & & 0 \\ & \sqrt{\lambda_2} & & \\ 0 & & \ddots & \sqrt{\lambda_d} \end{bmatrix} P$

Then $A^T A = P^T \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & & \\ & \ddots & 0 \\ 0 & & \lambda_d \end{bmatrix} P = I - \epsilon X$

So $|Av_i|^2 = v_i^T A^T A v_i = v_i^T v_i = |v_i|^2$ □

Fundamental Theorem of Stressed Tensegrities:

Let $G(p)$ be a tensegrity in \mathbb{E}^d with a (non-zero) proper equilibrium stress w (no pinned vertices).

Suppose

- (i) The configuration p is universal with respect to w ($\text{rank } \Omega = n-d+1$, $\Omega = \text{stress matrix}$)

If satisfies conditions
of theorem: super stable.

(ii) The stress matrix Ω is positive semidefinite.

(iii) The "stressed" matrix directions do not lie at a
cone at ∞ .

Then $G(p)$ is globally rigid in any $E^d \supset E^d$.

(say $G(p)$ is universally globally rigid)

Proof:

Suppose $G(q) \subseteq G(p)$.

(i) and the principle of least work implies that every
stress member ξ_i, j (i.e. $w_{ij} \neq 0$) is such that

$$|q_i - q_j| = |p_i - p_j| \text{, and}$$

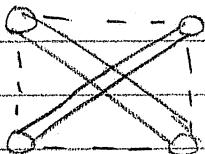
$$E_w(q) = E_w(p) = 0.$$

Then $G(q)$ is also in equilibrium with respect to w .

But by (i) p is universal, so q is an affine image of p .

By (ii) that affine image is a congruence, i.e. $p \sim q$. \square

Example:



$\Omega_{4 \times 4}$ has 3-dim kernel

$$\sim \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

So we need $\lambda \geq 0$
for matrix to
be positive semi-definite

key here is we have $d+2$ vertices

Example Cauchy polygons

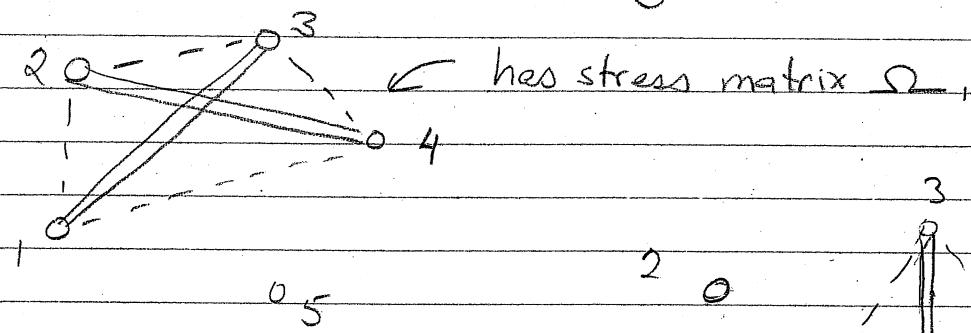
Definition: A Cauchy polygon $C_n(p_1, \dots, p_n)$ is a tensegrity where p_1, \dots, p_n are vertices of a (strictly) convex planar polygon in order, and $\{e_{i,i+1} : i=1, \dots, n \pmod n\}$ are cables in C_n and $\{e_{i,i+2} : i=1, \dots, n-2\}$ are the struts.

Proposition Cauchy polygons are super stable.

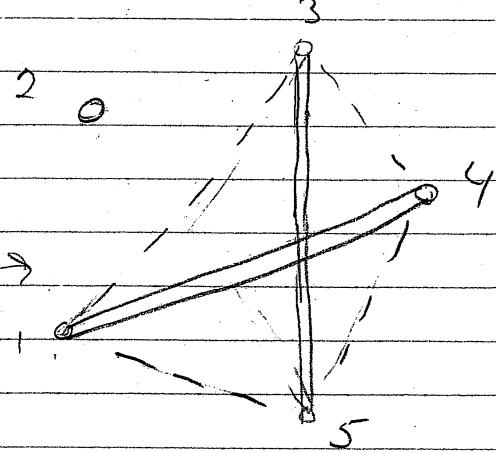
Proof: Assume the base case $n=4$.
(Finish this in a bit)

Use induction on n .

Show the idea for $n=5$ assuming $n=4$.



has stress
matrix S_1



$$\text{So in } S = S_1 + S_2, w_{14} = 0$$

What is sign of w_{13} in S

In order to have equilibrium

$$\underline{\sigma} = \underline{\sigma}_1 + \underline{\sigma}_2$$

$$\underline{\sigma}_1 \geq 0 \quad \underline{\sigma}_2 \geq 0$$

* Need to show: $\underline{\sigma} \geq 0$ sum of 2 positive-semi-definite
so $\underline{\sigma} \geq 0$.

* Need to show: $w \hookrightarrow \underline{\sigma}_2$ is universal, i.e.
 $\text{rank } \Omega = 5 - (2+1) = 2$.

Suppose q is universal for w .

$$(\underline{\sigma}_1 \otimes I^d) q = 0 \Leftrightarrow q^T (\underline{\sigma}_1 \otimes I^d) q = 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow q^T (\underline{\sigma}_2 \otimes I^d) q = 0 = q^T (\underline{\sigma}_2 \otimes I^d) q$$

so q is in equilibrium with respect to $\underline{\sigma}_1 + \underline{\sigma}_2$

so $\dim \langle q_1, \dots, q_4 \rangle = 2 = \dim \langle q_2, q_3, q_4, q_5 \rangle$
A affinedim

The spans overlap in q_1, q_2, q_3, q_4

So the whole span must be 2-dimensional.

So q is universal

So dim of the span of q is 2, so p must also be universal.

The number of stressed cable + strut directions is $\geq 3 > 2$.

So $C_5(p)$ is supersettable

→ same argument for $C_n(p)$ from $C_{n-1}(p)$.

Invariance:

Let $\underline{\sigma}$ be a stress matrix for an equilibrium stress for a tensegrity $G(p)$.

A projective transformation of \mathbb{RP}^d is given by

$$\begin{bmatrix} p_i \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow A \begin{bmatrix} p_i \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} q_i \\ \lambda_i \end{bmatrix} \text{ in homogeneous coordinates for } \mathbb{RP}^d.$$

In affine coordinates $p_i \mapsto q_i/\lambda_i \quad (\lambda_i \neq 0)$.

(18)

$$\text{Equilibrium: } \hat{\mathbf{P}} - \Omega = \begin{bmatrix} p_1 & \dots & p_n \end{bmatrix} \Omega$$

$A = (d+1) \times (d+1)$ matrix

$$A\hat{\mathbf{P}} = [A[p_1], \dots, A[p_n]] = \begin{bmatrix} q_1 & \dots & q_n \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\hat{\mathbf{Q}} = \begin{bmatrix} q_1/\lambda_1 & \dots & q_n/\lambda_n \end{bmatrix}$$

Let $D_{nn} = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & \lambda_n \end{bmatrix} = n \times n$ diagonal matrix

$$A\hat{\mathbf{P}} D^{-1} D \Omega D = A\hat{\mathbf{P}} \underbrace{\Omega D}_{=0} D = 0$$

Call $\Omega' = D \Omega D = \text{new stress matrix}$

$$A\hat{\mathbf{P}} D' = \hat{\mathbf{Q}} = \text{new configuration}$$

signature of Ω' is the same as Ω
 \pm 's and $-$'s and 0's

$$\lambda_i \neq 0$$

The i,j entry of Ω' is $\lambda_i \lambda_j (-w_{ij})$
 where $(-w_{ij})$ is i,j entry of Ω .

So the sign of the new stress is \pm sign of w_{ij} depending
 on sign of $\lambda_i \lambda_j$

Feb. 20

homework:

problem 3:

$$|p_i - p_{i+1}| = |p_{i+1} - p_1| \quad \forall i$$

indices taken mod 5

From last
week's
homework
problem:

	flexible	rigid	flexible
	rigid	flexible	rigid
2a	flexible	rigid	flexible

boundaries are
rigid except
for vertices
which are rigid

Fact: Let $\lambda_1(\Omega) \leq \lambda_2(\Omega) \leq \dots \lambda_n(\Omega)$
 Ω be the real eigenvalues of a symmetric $n \times n$ matrix Ω .
 Then each λ_i is a continuous function of the entries of Ω .

Proof outline #1:

$$\lambda_i = \min_{L^i} \max_{v \in S^{i-1}} \left\{ \frac{v^T \Omega v}{v^T v} \mid v \in L^i \right\}$$

 L^i = i -dim

linear subspace

$$\{v^T \Omega v \mid v \in S^{i-1}\}$$

unit sphere

Proof outline #2:

The complex roots of a polynomial

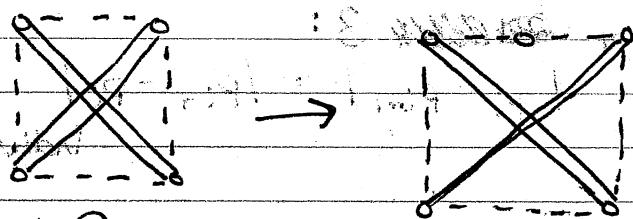
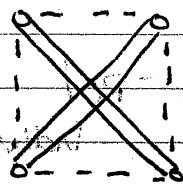
 $p(z) = z^n + a_{n-1}z^{n-1} + \dots + a_0$ counted with multiplicities vary continuously with a_{n-1}, \dots, a_0 so this to

Apply

characteristic

• \int_C $\# \text{roots in } C = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_C \frac{p'(z)}{p(z)} dz$ polynomial of Ω .

Application



$$0 \leq \Omega$$

$\Omega_{4 \times 4}$ has one positive eigenvalue 4.

Ω positive

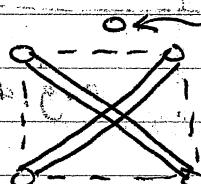
semi-definite

$$\Omega_{5 \times 5}$$

want to know $\Omega_{5 \times 5} \geq 0$

since $\Omega_{4 \times 4} \geq 0$.

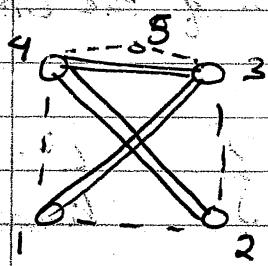
$$\Omega \approx \begin{bmatrix} \Omega_{4 \times 4} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$



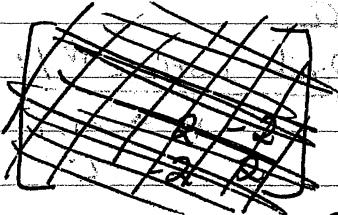
this vertex

sits in \mathbb{R}^5

$$\Omega \approx \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$



$$\begin{bmatrix} \Omega_{4 \times 4} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$



$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & -2 & -2 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

The rank 1

$$\text{Call } \begin{bmatrix} \Omega_{4 \times 4} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \Omega_1$$

Sum ≥ 0 since it is sum of 2 positive semi-definite matrices.

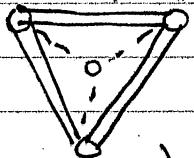
$$\text{rank}(\Omega_1 + t\Omega_2) = 2 \text{ for } 0 \leq t \leq 1$$

$$3 = \dim \ker(\Omega_1 + t\Omega_2) = \dim \ker \Omega_1$$

let's say that at $t = 0$ we have cancellation

Example:

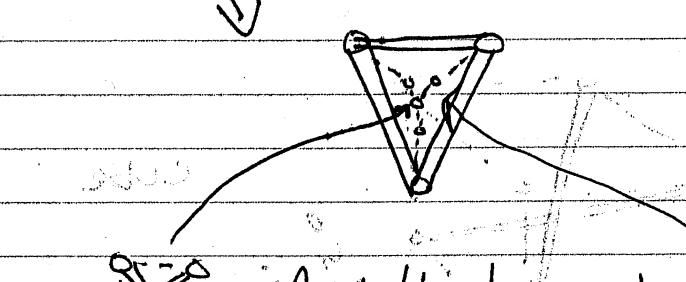
start at $t=0$:



$$\Omega \geq 0$$

$$\text{rank } \Omega = 1$$

$$\dim \ker \Omega = 3$$



$$\Omega \geq 0$$

$$\dim \ker \Omega = 3$$

by same argument
as in last example

Add this tensegrity
in there

$$\text{rank } \Omega' = 1$$

not positive semi-definite!

instead negative semi-definite

$$\Omega' \leq 0$$

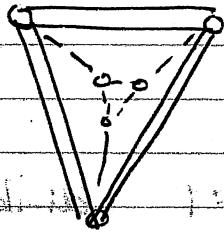
look at $-\Omega + t\Omega'$

has 3 eigenvalues
eigenvalues = 0.

(Anything with
affine span plane
must have at
least 3
eigenvalues)

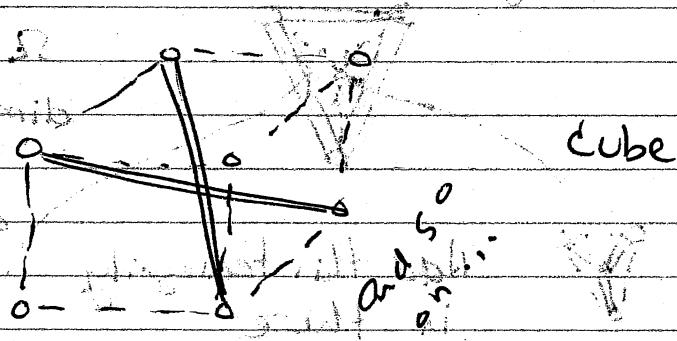
At $t=t_0$ the stresses cancel, because the three vectors have only the one dependency.

$\dim \ker(\Omega + t\Omega')$ stays constant until $t=t_0$. Then the central vertex ~~is not~~ is not connected to any of the other vertices and the universal configuration is 3-dimensional. The dimension of $\ker(\Omega + t\Omega')$ is 4.



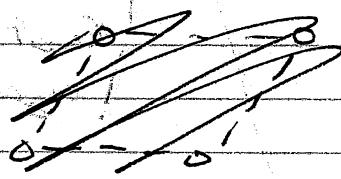
is super-stable

Example:



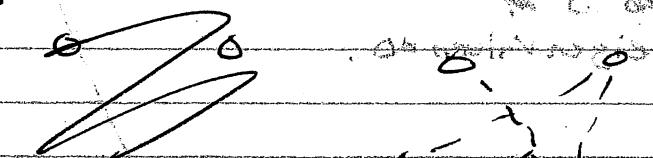
struts are
long diagonals

stress matrix is positive semi-definite
rank = $8 - 4 = 4$



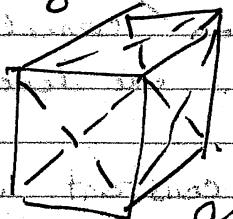
cube
same struts

cables are short diagonals



and so on...

better
drawing!



and so

(lines are not actually there)

interesting: cables are not connected minimally

Claim: \mathcal{R} , must have a negative eigenvalue.

this is, because if we could take the 2 non-connected sets of cable + make them far apart.

So it is not globally rigid.

This is because cable subgraph is not connected.
(whole graph is connected through struts + cables)

So if cable subgraph is not connected then there is a negative eigenvalue.

So $(1-t)\Omega_1 + t\Omega_2$ for small t must have a negative eigenvalue.

$$(1-t)\Omega_1 + t\Omega_2 = \Omega_t$$

for $t=0$ Ω_t has negative eigenvalue

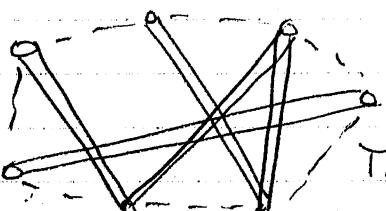
for $t=1$ it is positive semi-definite.

So there must be a critical t_0 where $\Omega_{t_0} \geq 0$ b.st
 $\dim \ker \Omega_{t_0} = 5$. (universal configuration at least 4 dimensions).

Problem: Find t_0 . Describe configuration.
for next week.

Grünbaum 1970's Lectures in Lost Mathematics

Convex polygon



cables
struts on edges

struts on inside.

There is a proper, non-zero stress.

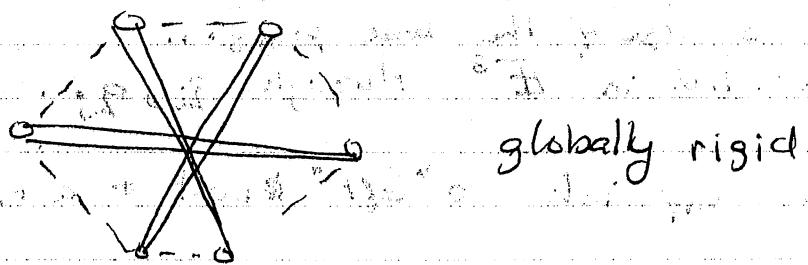
Theorem: These cable-strut (c-s) polygons are all super-stable.

next time: brief proof

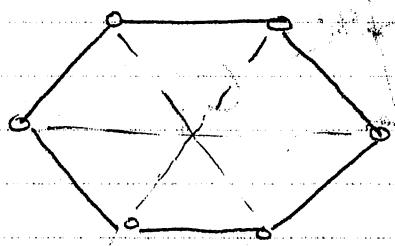
Feb 22

Def: A tensegrity $G(p)$ is a c-s (cable-strut) polygon if the vertices of $p = (p_1, \dots, p_n)$ form a strictly convex polygon in a plane, and the edges are cables, and the struts are the only other member.

Ex: Cauchy polygon.



regular b-c polygon



not globally rigid
(not over rigid)
see homework problem

Lemma: Let $G(p)$ be a c-s polygonal tensegrity with a proper non-zero equilibrium stress w . Then p is universal for the stress w . (i.e. \mathcal{L} has kernel whose dimension is exactly 3).

Proof:

Let $q = (q_1, \dots, q_n)$ be any configuration in \mathbb{R}^3 that projects onto p and has w as an equilibrium stress. Want to show $\dim \langle q_1, \dots, q_n \rangle = 2$.

Let $Q = \text{Convex hull of } q_1, \dots, q_n$.

Let $Q_T =$ top part of $Q =$ facets of Q visible from $z = +\infty$
 $($ and $Q_B =$ bottom " " " " " " " " " " $- \infty$)

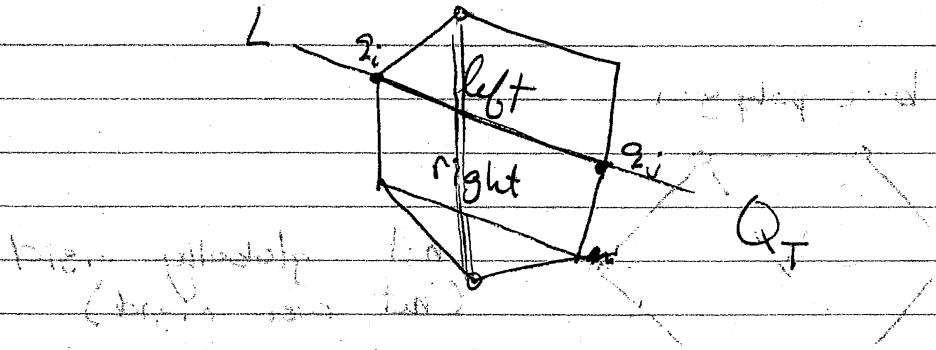
④ $Q_T \cap Q_B =$ left of boundary of polygon

If $\dim \langle q_1, \dots, q_n \rangle = 3$ we will find a contradiction to
 q being in equilibrium with respect to w .

So there must be an edge $\langle q_i, q_j \rangle$ on Q_T , ~~not~~
 q_i, q_j not an edge of the base polygon.

Let L be a line in \mathbb{E}^3 through q_i, q_j :

L separates Q_T into a "left" part + a right part.



Let R_θ be a rotation by θ (radians) about the line L in \mathbb{E}^3 .

Define $g_i(\theta) = \begin{cases} q_i & \text{if } i \text{ is part of left half} \\ R_\theta(q_i) & \text{if } i \text{ is part of right half} \end{cases}$

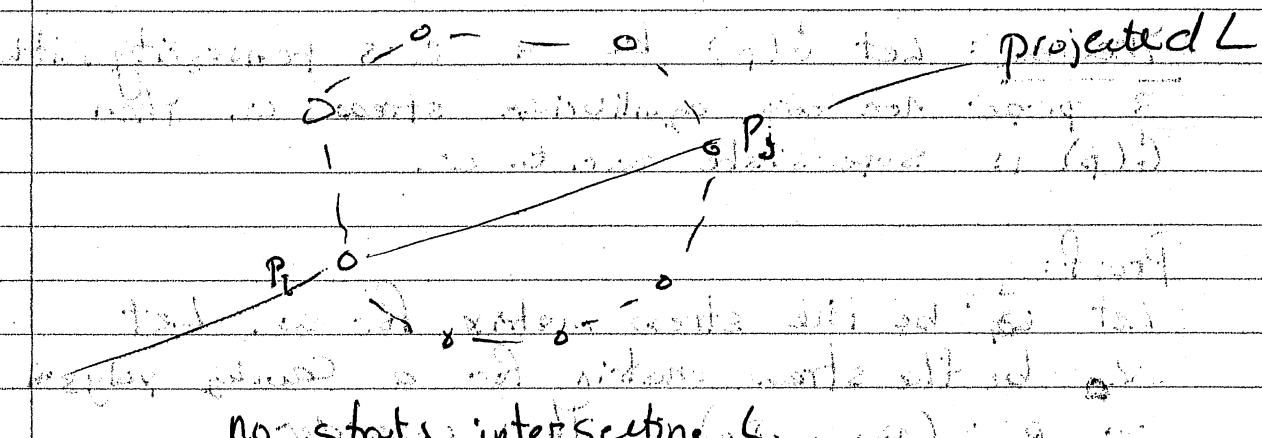
So $|g_i(\theta) - g_j(\theta)|^2$ is constant if i, j are in the same half. But $\frac{d}{d\theta} |g_i - g_j(\theta)|^2 > 0$ if i, j are in separate halves at $\theta = 0$.

④ So if i, j is a strut i, j in different parts, and $w_{ij} < 0$, then $\frac{d}{d\theta} E_w(g(\theta)) < 0$.

So this contradicts that q is a critical point for E_w and that q is in equilibrium with respect to \mathcal{E}_w .

But what if there is no struts going from one side to the other? ~~or otherwise could just fold it over~~

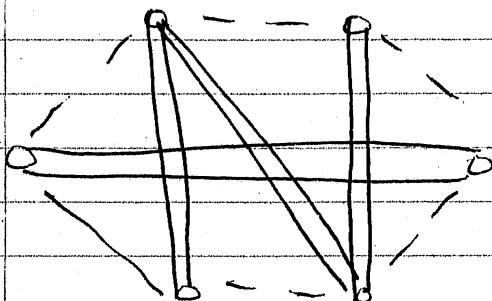
So we are left with the case where there are no struts crossing from the left to the right.

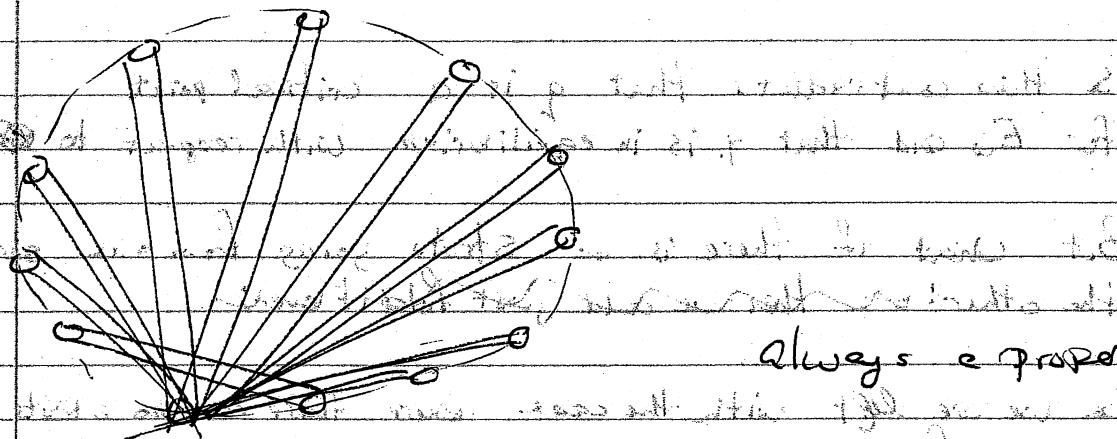


Even in \mathbb{E}^2 , this cannot be in equilibrium.

not even rigid!

Find a motion that spans each part in as "arms," fixing all cable lengths and increasing all strut lengths in their first derivatives again $d/E_w(p(t)) < 0$.





always a proper stress

Grunbaum

\rightarrow Theorem: Let $G(p)$ be a c-s tensegrity with a proper non-zero equilibrium stress ω . Then $G(p)$ is superstable w.r.t. ω .

Proof:

Let Σ_1 be the stress matrix for ω . Let Σ_0 be the stress matrix for a Cauchy polygon on $p = (p_1, \dots, p_n)$. Then consider

$$\Sigma_t = t \Sigma_1 + (1-t) \Sigma_0.$$

By the lemma, the ~~kerne~~ dimension of the kernel of Σ_t is 3, a constant. But Σ_0 is positive-semi-definite. $\dim \ker \Sigma_0 = 3$. By continuity of eigenvalues, Σ_1 has the same dimension of the kernel of $\Sigma_0 = 3$.

So there are exactly 3 stressed directions

$$\Rightarrow G(p) \text{ is superstable.}$$