

Algebraic and combinatorial bounds on the embedding number of distance graphs

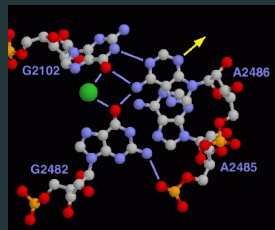
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"Athena" Research Center, and U. Athens

40th EuroCG, Ioannina, 15 March 2024



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Outline

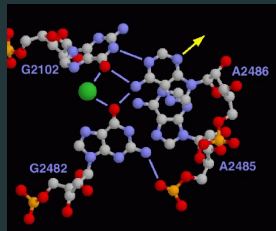
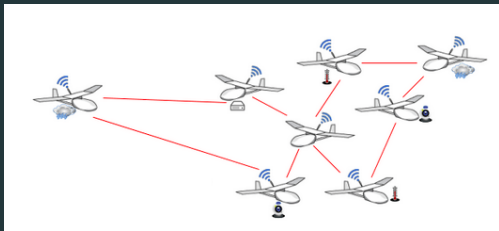
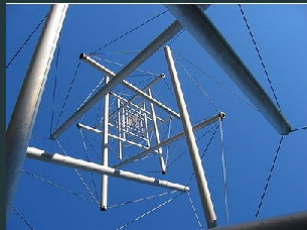
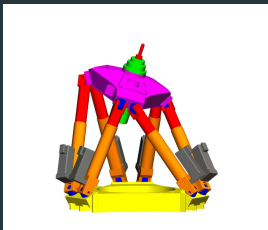
Definitions

Algebraic interlude

Graph orientations

Extensions

Distance graphs



NMR yields distances, hence 3D structure, in solution
[Wüthrich, Chemistry Nobel'02]

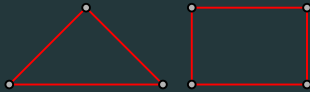
Definitions

Minimally generically rigid graphs

Study simple undirected weighted graphs G : weights are distances.

- A **Euclidean embedding** $\rho: V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$ of graph $G = (V, E, \lambda)$ respects edge lengths $\lambda_{u,v} = \|\rho(u) - \rho(v)\|$, $(u, v) \in E$.
- **Complex embedding** $\rho: V \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^d$:
 $\lambda_{u,v} = \|\rho(u) - \rho(v)\|$, $(u, v) \in E$.
- G is (generically) **rigid** if the number of embeddings (for generic lengths) is finite modulo rigid transforms.
- G is *minimally* rigid if $G \setminus \{e\}$, $\forall e \in E$, is not rigid (flexible).

Rigid vs flexible graphs



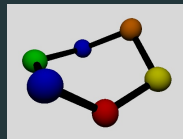
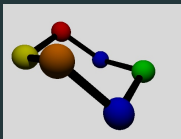
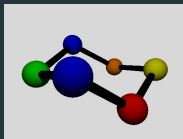
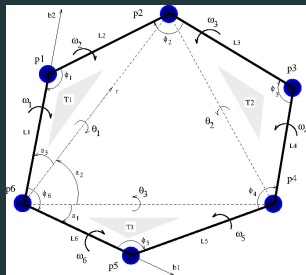
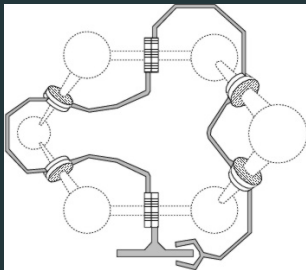
Construction of minimally rigid graphs



$K_{3,3}$

Desargues

Cyclohexane



Given 6 distances and angles, or 12 distances (Laman count).

Algebraic bound = 16: tight in \mathbb{R}^3 .

4 conformations in nature [E,Mourrain'99:Algorithmica]

Edge count

Theorem (Maxwell:1864)

If $G = (V, E)$ is *generically minimally rigid*, and $|V| = n$, then

- $|E| = d \cdot n - \binom{d+1}{2}$, and
- $|E'| \leq d \cdot |V'| - \binom{d+1}{2}$, \forall vertex-induced subgraph (V', E') .

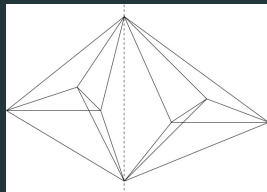
[Pollaczek-Geiringer] [Laman'70]

Equivalence in $d = 2$, and

$d = 3$ for simplicial polytopes [Gluck'75]

No equivalence generally in $d = 3$:

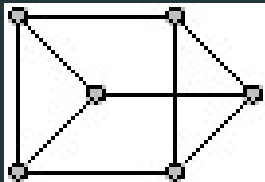
Double banana, $n = 8, |E| = 18$.



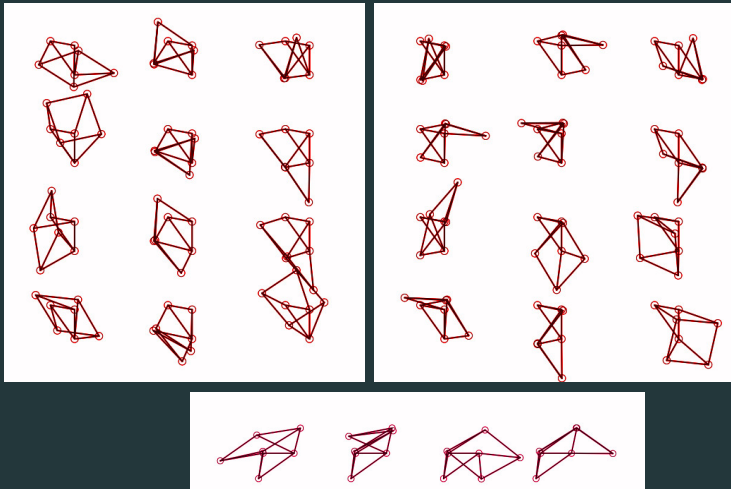
Further question: count / enumerate the embeddings.

Small cases in \mathbb{R}^2

- The triangle has 2 embeddings (reflections).
- $n = 6$: two "nontrivial" (H_2) graphs:
 - $K_{3,3}$ has 16 embeddings [Walter-Husty'07]
 - Desargues' graph has 24 (3-prism, planar parallel robot) [Hunt'83] [Gosselin,Sefrioui,Richard'91] [Borcea,Streinu'04]



$n = 7$: 56 conformations in \mathbb{R}^2 [E,Moroz'11]



Algebraic formulation

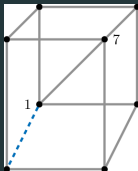
#embeddings = #solutions of a **polynomial system** expressing edge lengths, and $\binom{d+1}{2} + 1$ constraints to fix the graph, remove scaling

$$\text{in } \mathbb{R}^2 : \begin{cases} x_1 = y_1 = 0, \\ x_2 = 1, y_2 = 0, \\ (x_i - x_j)^2 + (y_i - y_j)^2 = \lambda_{ij}^2, \quad (i, j) \in E. \end{cases}$$

$$\text{in } \mathbb{R}^3 : \begin{cases} x_1 = y_1 = z_1 = 0, \\ x_2 = 1, y_2 = z_2 = 0, \\ z_3 = 0, \\ (x_i - x_j)^2 + (y_i - y_j)^2 + (z_i - z_j)^2 = \lambda_{ij}^2, \quad (i, j) \in E. \end{cases}$$

Enumeration problem

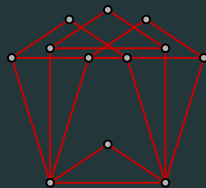
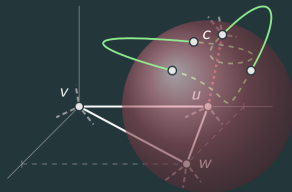
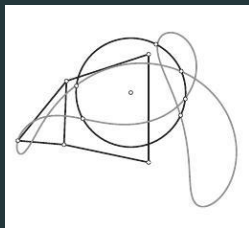
- #complex embeddings bounds #Euclidean embeddings.
Usually equal, exception is the Jackson-Owen graph



- Bézout's (trivial) bound on quadratic system implies $O(2^{dn})$.

Enumeration: lower bounds

- ... on real embedding numbers: $\Omega(2.381^n)$ for \mathbb{R}^2 ,
 $\Omega(2.639^n)$ for \mathbb{R}^3 [Bartzos,E,Legersky,Tsigaridas'21]
- ... on complex embedding numbers: $\Omega(2.507^n)$ for \mathbb{C}^2 ,
 $\Omega(3.067^n)$ for \mathbb{C}^3 [Grasegger et al.'20].



Enumeration: upper bounds

- Determinantal varieties [Harris, Tu'84]
- Determinantal variety on distance matrices [Borcea, Streinu'04]
- Mixed volume of Newton polytopes
[Steffens, Theopald'10] ignores roots at (toric) infinity:
$$X_{i1}^2 + X_{i2}^2 = s_i, \quad s_i + s_j - 2X_{i1}X_{j1} - 2X_{i2}X_{j2} = \lambda_{ij}^2.$$

No asymptotic improvement on Bézout's.
- First improvement for $d \geq 5$ [Bartzos, E, Schicho'20] using multi-homogeneous Bézout and permanents.
- **State of art:** First improvement for all d by graph orientations [Bartzos, E, Vidunas'21-22]; namely $O(3.77^n)$ for $d = 2$.

Decision problem

- Given *complete* set of exact distances: $\text{Embed-}\mathbb{R}^d \in \text{P}$.
- Given *incomplete* set of exact distances [Saxe'79]:
 $\text{Embed-}\mathbb{R} \in \text{NP-hard}$. Reduction of set-partition.
 $\text{Embed-}\mathbb{R}^d \in \text{NP-hard}$, for $d \geq 2$, even if lengths $\in \{1, 2\}$.
- $\text{Embed-}\mathbb{R}^2 \in \text{NP-hard}$ for planar graphs with all lengths = 1
[Cabello, Demaine, Rote'03]
- Given distances $\pm\epsilon$, $\text{approximate-Embed-}\mathbb{R}^d \in \text{NP-hard}$
[Moré, Wu'96]

Algebraic interlude

Multihomogeneous Bézout bound

Given a square system of m polynomials let A_1, \dots, A_n be a partition of the variables, $m_j = |A_j|$, $m = m_1 + \dots + m_n$.

The i -th polynomial is homogeneous of degree d_{ij} in A_j .

Let y_1, \dots, y_n be symbolic parameters.

Then, the number of isolated roots in $\mathbb{P}^{m_1} \times \dots \times \mathbb{P}^{m_n}$ is bounded by the coefficient of $y_1^{m_1} \dots y_n^{m_n}$ in

$$\prod_{i=1}^m (d_{i1} \cdot y_1 + \dots + d_{in} \cdot y_n).$$

$$a_1^2 - a_2 + 1, \quad a_1 a_2 - 2: \quad (2y_1 + y_2) \cdot (y_1 + y_2) = 2y_1^2 + 3y_1 y_2 + y_2^2.$$

Multihomogeneous system

Embedding coordinates $X_v \in \mathbb{C}^d$, $v \in V$:

$$\sum_{i=1}^d X_{vi}^2 = s_v, \quad v \in V; \quad s_u + s_v - 2\langle X_u, X_v \rangle = \lambda_{uv}^2, \quad (u, v) \in E.$$

n variable subsets $\{X_v, s_v\}$, symbolic parameter y_v .

Fix K_d (d vertices) thus defining (V', E') .

Then:

$$\prod_{i=1}^{n-d} 2y_i \cdot \prod_{k=1}^{|E'|} (y_{k_1} + y_{k_2}) = 2^{n-d} \prod_{i=1}^{n-d} y_i \cdot \prod_{k=1}^{|E'|} (y_{k_1} + y_{k_2}),$$

m-Bézout = coefficient of $y_1^d \cdots y_{n-d}^d$ in product of sums $\times 2^{n-d}$.

Permanent method

Given $m \times m$ matrix A , $\text{per}(A) = \sum_{\sigma \in S_m} \prod_{i=1}^m A_{i,\sigma(i)}$.

Theorem

Let A contain degrees d_{ij} . The m -Bézout bound equals

$$\text{per}(A) / (m_1! \cdots m_n!).$$

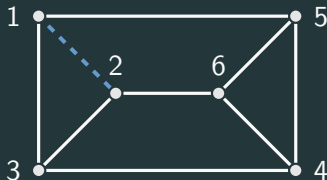
For rigid graphs this becomes $2^{n-d} \cdot \text{per}(A) / d!^{n-d}$.

Using permanent bounds [Brègman-Minc'63,'73], m -Bézout improves Bézout's bound for $d \geq 5$ [Bartzos,E,Schicho]

Desargues

per $(A) = 32$, actual embeddings $c_2(G) = 24$, $c_{S^2}(G) = 32$

	(1, 3)	(2, 3)	(1, 5)	(2, 6)	(3, 4)	(4, 5)	(4, 6)	(5, 6)
x_3	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
y_3	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
x_4	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0
y_4	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0
x_5	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1
y_5	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1
x_6	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1
y_6	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1



Graph orientations

Orientations and m-Bézout

Observation [Bartzos,E,Schicho'20]

For rigid $G(V, E)$, fixed $K_d = (v_1, \dots, v_d)$, let $G' = (V, E \setminus E(K_d))$.

Set $B = \#$ orientations of G' , constrained so that:

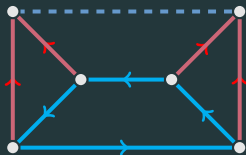
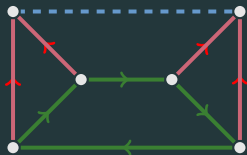
- the outdegree of v_1, \dots, v_d is 0,
- the outdegree of every $v_i \in V \setminus V(K_d)$ is d .

Then, B equals the coefficient of $y_1^d \cdots y_{n-d}^d$ in

$$\prod_{k=1}^{|E'|} (y_{k_1} + y_{k_2}).$$

Corollary. The embedding number of G in \mathbb{C}^d is bounded by $2^{n-d} B$

Desargues

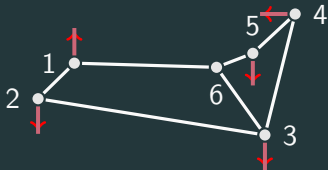


$d = 2$, fixed K_2 is the dashed edge,
 $B = 2$ orientations $\Rightarrow 2 \cdot 2^{6-2} = 32$ bound,
actually 24 real/complex embeddings [Hunt'83].

Pseudographs

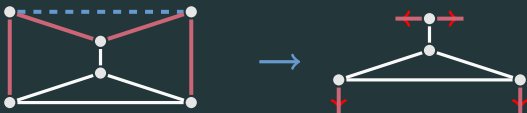
A **pseudograph** $L(U, F, H)$ is a collection s.t.

- U is the set of vertices
- F is a set of (normal) edges (u, v)
- H is a set of *hanging (half) edges* (u)



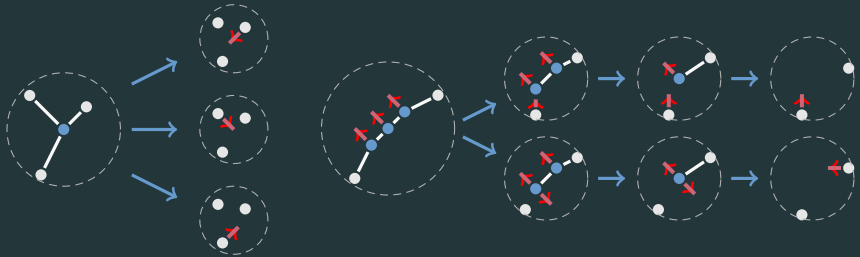
The normal subgraph $G'(U, F)$ is connected.

Example: Fixed $e^* = (v_1, v_2) \in E$. $U = V \setminus \{v_1, v_2\}$,
 $F = \{e \in E : v_1, v_2 \notin e^*\}$, $H = \{e \in E : v_1 \text{ xor } v_2 \in e^*\}$



Count constrained orientations

- **Elimination step** removes $\ell \geq 1$ vertices, and 2ℓ adjacent edges, keeping the pseudograph connected.
- Deleted/Hanging edges directed towards removed vertex.
- Cost = #pseudographs generated per step
- The product of costs bounds $B = \#\text{constrained orientations}$.
- Vertex and Path elimination steps:



Bound on orientations

Theorem (Bartzos,E,Vidunas'20)

For pseudographs of n vertices, k hanging edges, $B \leq \alpha_d^n \cdot \beta_d^{k-1}$:

$$\alpha_d = \max_{p \geq d} \left(2^{p-d} \binom{p}{d}^{2d-3} \right)^{1/(2p-3)}, \quad \beta_d = \left(2 / \binom{p}{d}^2 \right)^{1/(2p-3)}$$

for p maximizing α_d ; note $\beta_d < 1$.

Corollary For Laman graphs, #complex embeddings $\leq \left(4 \cdot (3/4)^{1/5} \right)^{n-2} = O(3.776^n)$.

Asymptotic bounds

Complex embedding number = $O(b^n)$, where b is as follows:

$d =$	2	3	4	5	6
[Bartzos,E,Vidunas'21]	3.776	6.840	12.69	23.90	45.53
[Bartzos,E,Schicho'20]	4.899	8.944	16.73	31.75	60.79
Bézout	4	8	16	32	64

Same results for spherical embeddings.

Extensions

Distance matrix

Square matrix M , with real entries, $M_{ii} = 0$, $M_{ij} = M_{ji} \geq 0$.

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

Theorem (Cayley'41, Menger'28)

M embeds in \mathbb{R}^d for min d , iff Cayley-Menger (border) matrix has

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

and, for any $(k + 1) \times (k + 1)$ border minor D :

$$(-1)^k D \geq 0, \quad k = 2, \dots, d + 1.$$

The latter are strict inequalities iff d is minimum.

Approximate input

Model noisy distances by intervals.

Improve upper/lower bounds by triangular/tetragonal inequalities.
Use graph algorithms (e.g. All-min-paths) [Havel]

Structure-preserving matrix perturbations.

Theorem. [Wicks,Decarlo'95] Given matrix and specific entries allowed to change, we can compute a continuous, locally differentiable function minimizing σ_n .

Method applied for $\sigma_n, \sigma_{n-1}, \dots, \sigma_{n-5}$ [Nikitopoulos,E'02]

Incomplete data

Embedding is equivalent to **completing** an incomplete matrix so as to get a PSD Gram (or distance) matrix: expressed as **feasibility** of a PSD program.

Complexity:

- Solving PSD programs with arbitrary precision $\in P_{\mathbb{R}}$ (interior-point or ellipsoid algorithms).
- Recall: interior-point, ellipsoid algorithms for LP are in P_{bit} .
- Open whether LP in $P_{\mathbb{R}}$ (strong polytime).

Chordal Graphs

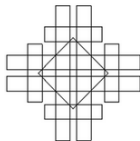
- A graph is **chordal** if it contains NO empty cycle of length ≥ 4 .
- **Thm** [Grone,Sa,Johnson,Wolkowitz'84] [Bakonyi,Johnson'95]
Every partial distance matrix with graph G has valid completion iff G is chordal.
[\Leftarrow] poly-time algorithm [Laurent'98]
- **Thm** [Laurent] If $\#edges$ needed to make G chordal is $O(1)$, then distance-matrix completion $\in P_{bit}$.
- Generally, minimizing $\#edges$ to make G chordal is NP-hard.

- First nontrivial upper bounds on embedding number.
- Closed formula of upper bound on graph orientations.
- m-Bézout bound better than by permanent
- Tensegrity: edge weight correspond to intervals
- Specific counts, Global rigidity (unique embedding)
- Polynomial-time cases of permanent

Thank you!



SoCG
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11-14 June
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See you in Athens for SoCG / CG-Week 2024