

# Homotopies to solve Multilinear Systems

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# Outline

## 1 Assembling a Seven-Bar Mechanism

- an application from mechanism design
- solving a multilinear system
- numerical representation of a space curve

## 2 Local Intrinsic Coordinates

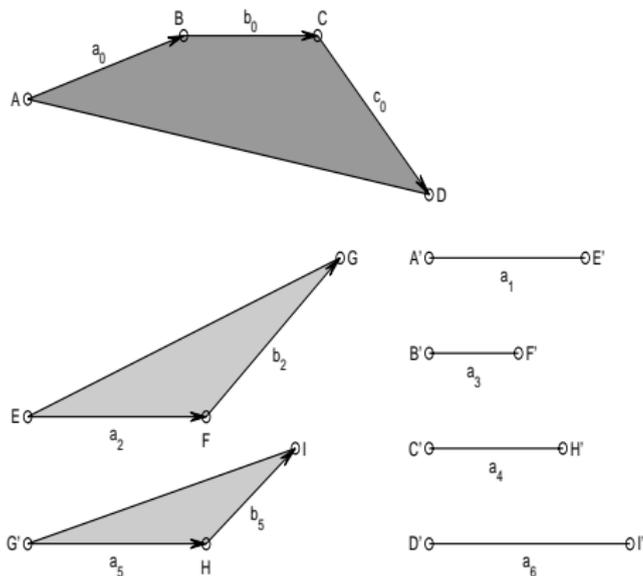
- conditioning of generic points
- sampling in intrinsic coordinates
- improving the numerical conditioning

## 3 A Rescaling Algorithm and the Numerical Stability

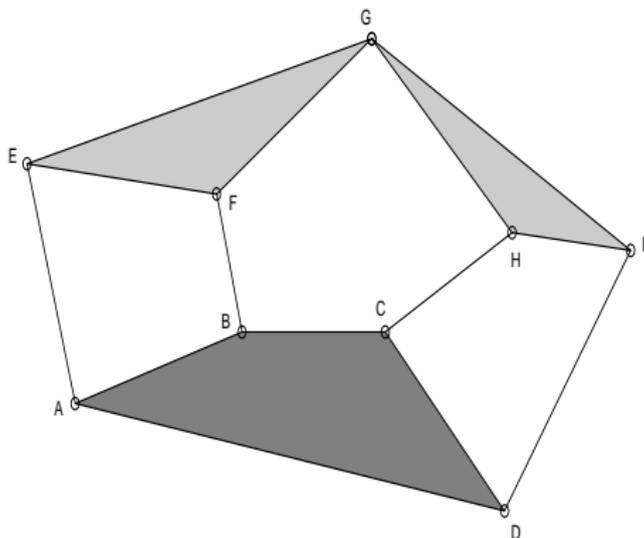
- sampling in local intrinsic coordinates
- computational results on benchmark systems

# Assembling a Seven-Bar Mechanism

an application



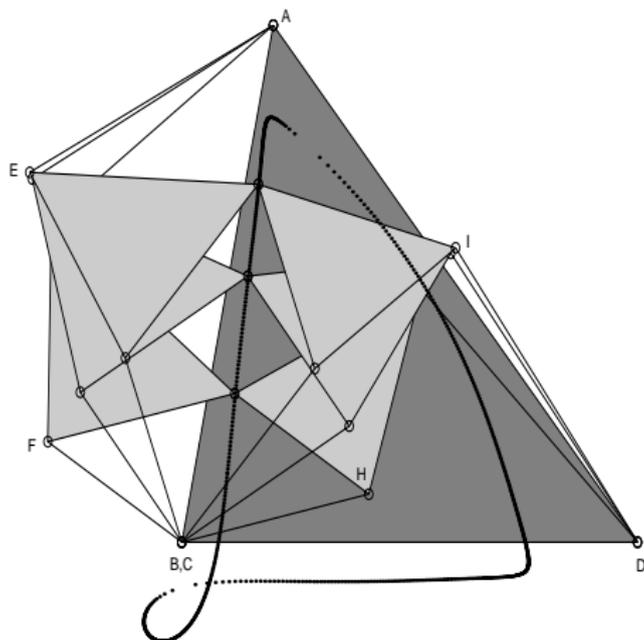
**Problem:** Find all possible assemblies of these pieces.



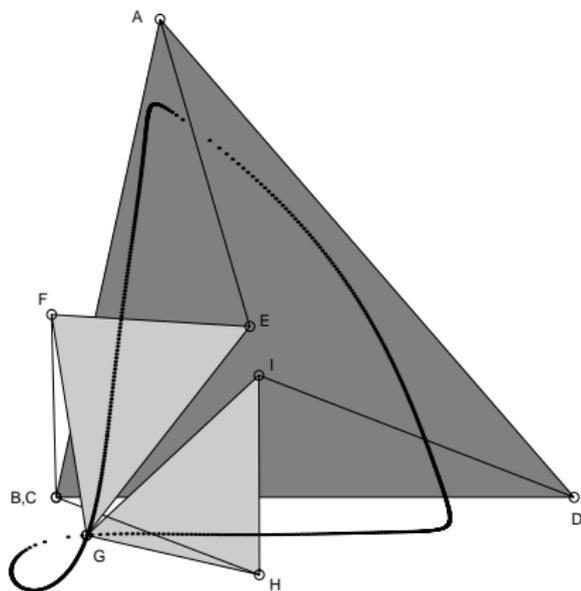
One possible assembly

- Generally, 18 solutions. (This example, 8 real, 10 complex.)
- Intersection of two four-bar coupler curves.

# A Moving Seven-Bar Mechanism



Roberts cognate 7-bar moves on a degree-6 curve (coupler curve)  
AND ...



AND ... has six isolated solutions

- two at each double point of coupler curve
- here, only 1 of 3 double points is real

# A Multilinear System

$$t1*T1 - 1; t2*T2 - 1; t3*T3 - 1;$$

$$t4*T4 - 1; t5*T5 - 1; t6*T6 - 1;$$

$$0.71035834160605*t1 + 0.46*t2 - 0.41*t3 \\ + 0.24076130055512 + 1.07248215701824*i;$$

$$(-0.11+0.49*i)*t2 + 0.41*t3 \\ - 0.50219518117959*t4 + 0.41*t5;$$

$$0.50219518117959*t4 + (-0.09804347826087 \\ + 0.43673913043478*i)*t5 - 0.77551855666366*t6 - 1.2;$$

$$0.71035834160605*T1 + 0.46*T2 - 0.41*T3 \\ + 0.24076130055512 - 1.07248215701824*i;$$

$$(-0.11-0.49*i)*T2 + 0.41*T3 \\ - 0.50219518117959*T4 + 0.41*T5;$$

$$0.50219518117959*T4 + (-0.09804347826087 \\ - 0.43673913043478*i)*T5 - 0.77551855666366*T6 - 1.2;$$

# What does solving mean?

On input is a system of 12 equations in 12 unknowns.

We expect a curve of solutions . . .

. . . because there is an assembly that moves.

We also have rigid assemblies: isolated solutions.

Solutions to this system:

- 1 a curve of degree 6; and
- 2 6 isolated solutions.

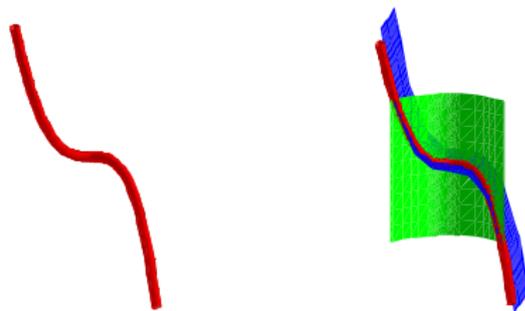
A.J. Sommese, J. Verschelde, and C.W. Wampler: **Numerical decomposition of the solution sets of polynomial systems into irreducible components.** *SIAM J. Numer. Anal.*, 38(6):2022–2046, 2001.

A.J. Sommese and C.W. Wampler. **The Numerical solution of systems of polynomials arising in engineering and science.** World Scientific, 2005.

# Representing a Space Curve

Consider the twisted cubic:

$$\begin{cases} y - x^2 = 0 \\ z - x^3 = 0 \end{cases}$$



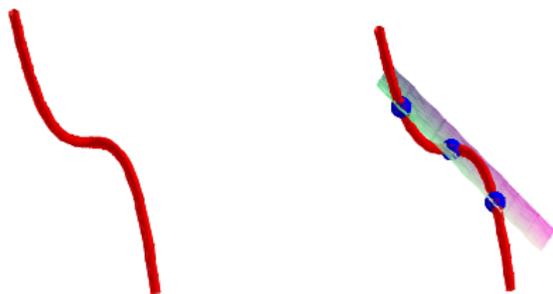
Important attributes are dimension and degree:

- dimension: cut with one random plane,
- degree: #points on the curve and in the plane.

# Witness Set for a Space Curve

Consider the twisted cubic:

$$\begin{cases} y - x^2 = 0 \\ z - x^3 = 0 \end{cases} \quad \begin{cases} y - x^2 = 0 \\ z - x^3 = 0 \\ c_0 + c_1x + c_2y + c_3z = 0 \end{cases}$$



Intersect with a random plane  $c_0 + c_1x + c_2y + c_3z = 0$   
→ find three generic points on the curve.

# Generic Points on Algebraic Sets

A polynomial system  $f(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{0}$  defines an algebraic set  $f^{-1}(\mathbf{0}) \subset \mathbb{C}^n$ .

We assume

- 1  $f^{-1}(\mathbf{0})$  is pure dimensional,  $k$  is codimension; and moreover
- 2  $f(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{0}$  is a complete intersection,  $k = \#\text{polynomials in } f$ .

For example, consider all adjacent minors of a general 2-by-3 matrix:

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_{11} & x_{12} & x_{13} \\ x_{21} & x_{22} & x_{23} \end{bmatrix} \quad f(\mathbf{x}) = \begin{cases} x_{11}x_{22} - x_{21}x_{12} = 0 \\ x_{12}x_{23} - x_{22}x_{13} = 0 \end{cases}$$

$n = 6, k = 2: \dim(f^{-1}(\mathbf{0})) = n - k = 4$ .

To compute  $\deg(f^{-1}(\mathbf{0}))$ , add  $n - k$  general linear equations  $L(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{0}$  to  $f(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{0}$  and solve  $\{f(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{0}, L(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{0}\}$ .

→ 4 generic points for all adjacent minors of a general 2-by-3 matrix.

## Intrinsic Coordinates save Work

Generic points for all adjacent minors of a general 2-by-3 matrix satisfy (for random coefficients  $c_{ij} \in \mathbb{C}$ ):

$$\left. \begin{aligned} & x_{11}x_{22} - x_{21}x_{12} = 0 \\ & x_{12}x_{23} - x_{22}x_{13} = 0 \\ c_{10} + c_{11}x_{11} + c_{12}x_{12} + c_{13}x_{13} + c_{14}x_{21} + c_{15}x_{22} + c_{16}x_{23} &= 0 \\ c_{20} + c_{21}x_{11} + c_{22}x_{12} + c_{23}x_{13} + c_{24}x_{21} + c_{25}x_{22} + c_{26}x_{23} &= 0 \\ c_{30} + c_{31}x_{11} + c_{32}x_{12} + c_{33}x_{13} + c_{34}x_{21} + c_{35}x_{22} + c_{36}x_{23} &= 0 \\ c_{40} + c_{41}x_{11} + c_{42}x_{12} + c_{43}x_{13} + c_{44}x_{21} + c_{45}x_{22} + c_{46}x_{23} &= 0 \end{aligned} \right\}$$

$L^{-1}(\mathbf{0})$  is a 2-plane in  $\mathbb{C}^6$ , spanned by

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_{11} \\ x_{12} \\ x_{13} \\ x_{21} \\ x_{22} \\ x_{23} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ b_3 \\ b_4 \\ b_5 \\ b_6 \end{bmatrix} + \xi_1 \begin{bmatrix} v_{11} \\ v_{12} \\ v_{13} \\ v_{14} \\ v_{15} \\ v_{16} \end{bmatrix} + \xi_2 \begin{bmatrix} v_{21} \\ v_{22} \\ v_{23} \\ v_{24} \\ v_{25} \\ v_{26} \end{bmatrix}$$

$\mathbf{b}$  is offset point  
 $\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2$  orthonormal basis

$(\xi_1, \xi_2)$  intrinsic  
coordinates

# A Commutative Diagram

- $f(\mathbf{x}) = 0$  a system of  $k$  polynomials in  $n$  variables  $\mathbf{x}$ ,
- $L(\mathbf{x}) = 0$  a system of  $n - k$  general linear equations in  $\mathbf{x}$ ,
- $\mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{C}^n$  is offset point,  $V = [\mathbf{v}_1 \ \mathbf{v}_2 \ \cdots \ \mathbf{v}_k]$ ,  $V^* V = I_k$ .

Intrinsic coordinates  $\xi = (\xi_1, \xi_2, \dots, \xi_k)$  for  $\mathbf{x}$ :

$$\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b} + \xi_1 \mathbf{v}_1 + \xi_2 \mathbf{v}_2 + \cdots + \xi_k \mathbf{v}_k = \mathbf{b} + V\xi.$$

Use  $f(\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b} + V\xi) = \mathbf{0}$  to compute generic points:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} L & \xrightarrow{K_E} & \mathbf{x} \\ \downarrow & & \uparrow \\ (\mathbf{b}, V) & \xrightarrow{K_I} & \xi \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l} \frac{\|\Delta \mathbf{x}\|}{\|\mathbf{x}\|} \leq K_E \frac{\|\Delta L\|}{\|L\|} \\ \frac{\|\Delta \xi\|}{\|\xi\|} \leq K_I \frac{\|\Delta(\mathbf{b}, V)\|}{\|(\mathbf{b}, V)\|} \end{array}$$

We observe worsening of the numerical conditioning:  $K_I \gg K_E$ .

## Sampling in Intrinsic Coordinates

Represent  $L$  via  $(\mathbf{b}, V)$  and use intrinsic coordinates  $\xi \in \mathbb{C}^k$ .

Moving from  $(\mathbf{b}, V)$  to  $(\mathbf{c}, W)$ , as  $t$  goes from 0 to 1, homotopy:

$$f \left( \begin{array}{l} \mathbf{x} = (1-t)\mathbf{b} + t\mathbf{c} \\ \text{moving offset point} \end{array} + \begin{array}{l} ((1-t)V + tW) \\ \text{moving basis vectors} \end{array} \xi \right) = \mathbf{0}.$$

Track paths  $\xi(t)$  via predictor-corrector methods.

Binomial expansion destroys sparse monomial structure of  $f$ .

For example, evaluate  $x_1^{a_1} x_2^{a_2}$  at  $x_1 = b_1 + \xi_1 v_1$  and  $x_2 = b_2 + \xi_2 v_2$ :

$$\left( \sum_{i=0}^{a_1} \binom{a_1}{i} b_1^i (\xi_1 v_1)^{a_1-i} \right) \left( \sum_{j=0}^{a_2} \binom{a_2}{j} b_2^j (\xi_2 v_2)^{a_2-j} \right).$$

In general:  $f(\mathbf{b} + V(\xi + \Delta\xi)) = f(\mathbf{b} + V\xi) + \Delta f$ , with very large  $\|\Delta f\|$ .

# Local Intrinsic Coordinates

What if we could keep  $\|\xi\|$  small?

$$\begin{aligned} & (b_1 + \xi_1 v_1)^{a_1} (b_2 + \xi_2 v_2)^{a_2} \\ &= \left( b_1^{a_1} + a_1 b_1^{a_1-1} \xi_1 v_1 + O(\xi_1^2) \right) \left( b_2^{a_2} + a_2 b_2^{a_2-1} \xi_2 v_2 + O(\xi_2^2) \right) \\ &= b_1^{a_1} b_2^{a_2} + a_1 b_1^{a_1-1} b_2^{a_2} \xi_1 v_1 + a_2 b_1^{a_1} b_2^{a_2-1} \xi_2 v_2 + O(\xi_1^2, \xi_1 \xi_2, \xi_2^2) \end{aligned}$$

Now we have:  $f(\mathbf{b} + V\xi) = f(\mathbf{b}) + \Delta f$ ,

where  $\|\Delta f\|$  is  $O(\|V\xi\|) = O(\|\xi\|)$  as  $V$  is orthonormal basis.

Use extrinsic coordinates of generic point as offset point for  $k$ -plane:  
for  $d = \deg(f^{-1}(\mathbf{0}))$  and  $d$  generic points  $\{\mathbf{z}_1, \mathbf{z}_1, \dots, \mathbf{z}_d\}$ :

$$\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{z}_\ell + V\xi, \quad \ell = 1, 2, \dots, d.$$

The local intrinsic coordinates are defined by  $(\{\mathbf{z}_1, \mathbf{z}_1, \dots, \mathbf{z}_d\}, V)$ .

## Improved Numerical Conditioning

Condition number  $K_E$  of zero  $\mathbf{z}$  of  $F(\mathbf{x}) = \begin{cases} f(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{0} \\ L(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{0} \end{cases}$  :

$$\underbrace{F'(\mathbf{z})}_{=A} \Delta \mathbf{z} = -f(\mathbf{z}), \quad K_E = \kappa(A),$$

where  $\kappa(A)$  is the condition number of the Jacobian matrix  $A$  of  $F$  at  $\mathbf{z}$ .

In local intrinsic coordinates,  $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{z} + V\xi$ :

$$\underbrace{f'(\xi)}_{=B} \Delta \xi = -f(\xi), \quad K_{LI} = \kappa(B),$$

where  $\kappa(A)$  is the condition number of the Jacobian matrix  $B$  of  $f$  at  $\xi$  and  $K_{LI}$  is the condition number for the local intrinsic coordinates.

$$\xi = \mathbf{0} \leftrightarrow \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{z} \text{ and } f' \subset F' \Rightarrow K_{LI} \leq K_E$$

# Sampling in Local Intrinsic Coordinates

Generic points  $\{\mathbf{z}_1, \mathbf{z}_1, \dots, \mathbf{z}_d\}$  are offset points for  $k$ -plane  $L$  with directions in the orthonormal matrix  $V$ .

Moving from  $(\mathbf{z}_\ell, V)$  to  $(\mathbf{b}, W)$ , as  $t$  goes from 0 to 1, homotopy:

$$f(\mathbf{x} = (1 - t)\mathbf{z}_\ell + t\mathbf{b} + W\xi) = \mathbf{0}$$

$\rightarrow$  *only the offset point moves!*

Instead of moving to  $\mathbf{b}$ , let  $\mathbf{c}$  be the orthogonal projection of  $\mathbf{z}_\ell$  onto the  $k$ -plane  $L$ .

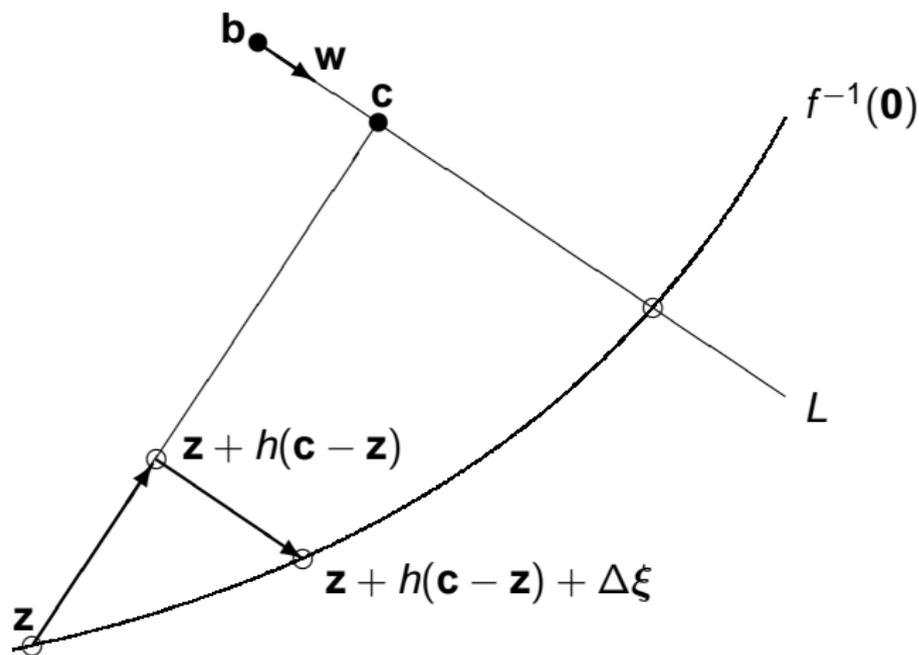
For some step size  $h$ , consider:

$$f(\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{z}_\ell + h(\mathbf{c} - \mathbf{z}_\ell) + W\xi) = \mathbf{0}$$

and apply Newton's method to find the correction  $\Delta\xi$ .

# Schematic of the new Sampling Algorithm

one predictor-corrector step



## pseudocode for one predictor-corrector step

Input:  $\mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{C}^n$ ,  $W = [\mathbf{w}_1 \ \mathbf{w}_2 \ \cdots \ \mathbf{w}_k] \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times k}$ ,  $W^*W = I_k$   
 $\mathbf{z} \in \mathbb{C}^n$ ,  $f(\mathbf{z}) = \mathbf{0}$ ,  $K(\mathbf{z}) = \mathbf{0}$ ,  $h > 0$ ,  $\epsilon > 0$ , some  $L$ .

Output:  $\hat{\mathbf{z}}$ ,  $f(\hat{\mathbf{z}}) = \mathbf{0}$ :  $\hat{\mathbf{z}}$  closer to  $L$ .

$$\mathbf{v} := \mathbf{z} - \mathbf{b}; \quad \mathbf{v} := \mathbf{v} - \sum_{i=1}^k (\overline{\mathbf{w}_i}^T \mathbf{v}) \mathbf{w}_i; \quad \mathbf{v} := \mathbf{v} / \|\mathbf{v}\|;$$

$$\tilde{\mathbf{z}} := \mathbf{z} + h \mathbf{v}; \quad \hat{\mathbf{z}} := \tilde{\mathbf{z}}; \quad \xi := \mathbf{0};$$

while  $\|f(\hat{\mathbf{z}} + W\xi)\| > \epsilon$  do

$$\Delta\xi := f(\hat{\mathbf{z}} + W\xi) / f'(\hat{\mathbf{z}} + W\xi);$$

$$\xi := \xi + \Delta\xi.$$

# Numerical Stability

For some step size  $h$ , we evaluate

$$f(\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{z}_\ell + h(\mathbf{c} - \mathbf{z}_\ell)) = f(\mathbf{z}_\ell) + O(h) = O(h).$$

If step size  $h$  is too large, then Newton is unlikely to converge.

If step size  $h$  is too large, then  $f(\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{z}_\ell + h(\mathbf{c} - \mathbf{z}_\ell)) \gg h$ .

If  $f(\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{z}_\ell + h(\mathbf{c} - \mathbf{z}_\ell)) \gg h$ , then reduce  $h$  immediately.

Do not wait for (costly) Newton corrector to fail.

*We can control size of residual  $\|f(\xi)\|$  to be always  $O(h)$ .*

# Implementation and Benchmark Systems

Available since version 2.3.53 of PHCpack

Algorithm 795: PHCpack: A general-purpose solver for polynomial systems by homotopy continuation. *ACM Trans. Math. Softw.*, 25(2):251–276, 1999.

<http://www.math.uic.edu/~jan/download.html>

Three classes, families of systems:

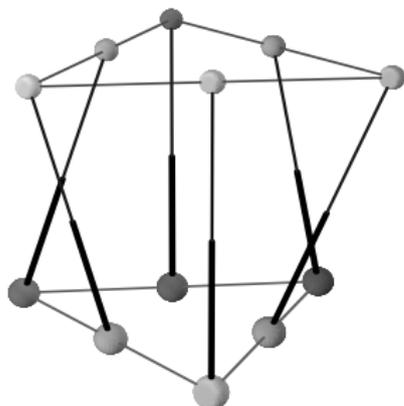
- 1 all adjacent minors of a general 2-by- $n$  matrix,  $n = 3, 4, \dots, 13$
- 2 cyclic  $n$ -roots,  $n = 4, 8, 9$  (an academic benchmark)
- 3 Griffis-Duffy platforms and other systems from mechanical design

Computational experimental setup:

- given one set of generic points, generate another random  $k$ -plane
- move the given set of generic points to the new random  $k$ -plane
- check results for accuracy, #predictor-corrector steps, timings

# Architecturally Singular Platforms Move

M. Griffis and J. Duffy: **Method and apparatus for controlling geometrically simple parallel mechanisms with distinctive connections.**  
US Patent 5,179,525, 1993.



end plate, the platform

is connected by legs to

a stationary base

- Base and endplate are equilateral triangles.
- Legs connect vertices to midpoints.

# Computational Results

Characteristics of three families of polynomial systems:

	polynomial system	$n$	$n - k$	$d$
1	Griffis-Duffy platform	8	1	40
2	cyclic 8-roots system	8	1	144
3	all adjacent minors of 2-by-11 matrix	22	12	1,024

$n$ : number of variables,  $k$ : codimension,  $d$ : degree

Sampling in global intrinsic/local intrinsic coordinates:

system	#iterations	timings
1	207/164	550/535 $\mu$ sec
2	319/174	5.3/3.2 sec
3	285/219	44.6/40.3 sec

Done on a Mac OS X 3.2 Ghz Intel Xeon, using 1 core.

# Conclusions

Advantages of using local intrinsic coordinates:

- only offset point moves during sampling
- keep sparse structure of the polynomials
- control step size by evaluation

Applications to numerical algebraic geometry:

- implicitization via interpolation
- monodromy breakup algorithm
- diagonal homotopies to intersect solution sets