Balanced Schnyder woods for planar triangulations: an experimental study with applications to graph drawing and graph separators



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#### Planar graphs are ubiquitous (from computational geometry to computer graphics, geometric processing, ...)



Delaunay triangulation



GIS Technology

geometric modeling





3D reconstruction

David statue (Stanford's Digital Michelangelo Project, 2000)

Real-world graphs are very regular and far from random or pathological cases

regularity measure: we use  $d_6$ , the proportion of degree 6 vertices



#### **Some facts about planar graphs** ("As I have known them")

Kuratowski theorem (1930) (cfr Wagner's theorem, 1937)

• G contains neither  $K_5$  nor  $K_{3,3}$  as minors



Thm (Tutte barycentric method, 1963) Every 3-connected planar graph G admits a convex representation in  $R^2$ .



Thm (Colin de Verdière, 1990) Colin de Verdiere invariant (multiplicity of  $\lambda_2$  eigenvalue of a generalized laplacian) •  $\mu(G) \leq 3$ 



Schnyder woods ('89)

- $\bullet$  planarity criterion via dimension of partial orders:  $dim(G) \leq 3$
- $\bullet$  linear-time grid drawing, with  $O(n) \times O(n)$  resolution



Thm (Koebe-Andreev-Thurston) Every planar graph with n vertices is isomorphic to the intersection graph of ndisks in the plane.



## Schnyder woods (quick overview)

Planar triangulations [Schnyder '90]



3-connected planar graphs [Felsner '01]



toroidal triangulations [Goncalves Lévêque, '14] genus g triangulations [Castelli Aleardi Fusy Lewiner, '08]







# Looking for "nice" Schnyder woods

**Counting Schnyder woods:** (there are an exponential number)

[Bonichon '05] # Schnyder woods of triangulations of size n:  $\approx 16^n$ # planar triangulations of size n:  $|\mathcal{T}_n| \approx 2^{3.2451}$ 

[Felsner Zickfeld '08]

$$2.37^n \le \max_{T \in \mathcal{T}_n} |SW(T)| \le 3.56^n$$

(count of Schnyder woods of a fixed triangulation)  $T \in \mathcal{T}_n$  $\mathcal{T}_n := \text{class of planar triangulations of size } n$ 

SW(T) := set of all Schnyder woods of the triangulation T



**Egalitarian orientations:** (only for unconstrained orientations)

[Borradaile et al. '17] "find an orientation s. t. no vertex is unfairly hit with too many arcs directed into it" Goal: find an edge orientation that minimizes the lexicographic order of indegrees (or minimize maximum indegree)



#### A Schnyder wood is **balanced** if most vertices have a small **defect**



## **Computing balanced Schnyder woods**



## Layout quality for Schnyder drawings



(Fowler and Kobourov, 2012) average percent deviation of edge length  $\mathfrak{el} := 1 - \left(\frac{1}{|E|} \sum_{e \in E} \frac{|l(e) - l_{avg}|}{\max(l_{avg}, l_{max} - l_{avg})}\right)$ l(e) := edge length of e





### From Schnyder woods to cycle separators

(Fox-Epstein et al. 2016, Holzer et al. 2009) Def (small balanced cycle separators)

- A partition (A, B, S) of V(G) such that:
- $\bullet$  S defines a simple cycle
- A and B are balanced:  $|A| \leq \frac{2}{3}n$ ,  $|B| \leq \frac{2}{3}n$
- the separator is small:  $|S| \le \sqrt{8m}$







n = number of vertices m = number of edges

Boundary size

Separator balance

(tests are repated with 200 random choices of the initial seed, the root face)



#### From Schnyder woods to cycle separators How the separator quality depends on the balance



#### **Evaluation of timing costs**



• Our performances (pure Java, on a core i7-5600 U, 2.60GHz, 1GB Ram): We can process  $\approx 1.43M - 1.92M$  vertices/seconds

• Metis can process  $\approx 0.7M$  vertices/seconds (C, on a Intel core i7-5600 2.60GHz)

• Previous works can process  $\approx 0.54M - 0.62M$  vertices/seconds (Fox-Epstein et al. 2016, Holzer et al. 2009) (C/C++, on a Xeon X5650 2.67GHz)



# Thanks

#### Improving the balance (returning oriented cycles)

