

# GEOMETRY OF CLOSED KINEMATIC CHAIN

Mathematics in Interface, Dislocation and Structure of Crystals  
29 Aug. 2017, Nishijin-plaza, Fukuoka

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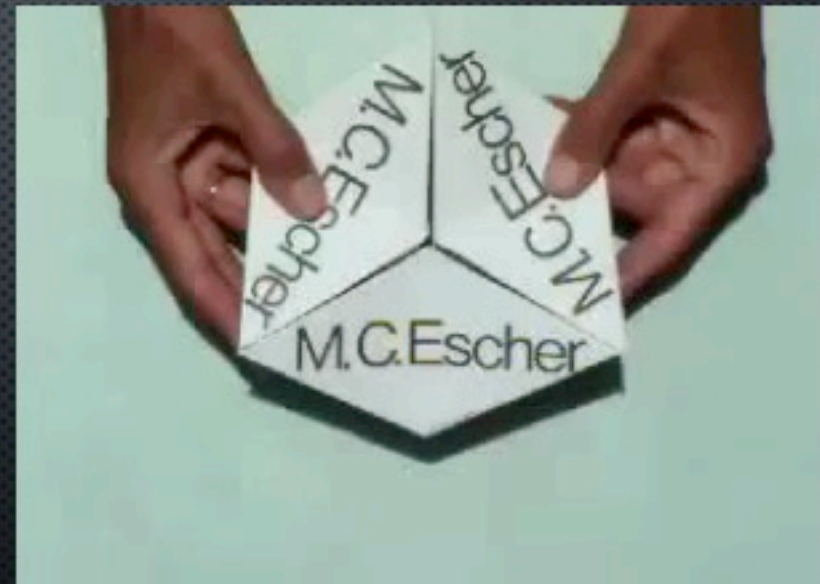
JOINT WITH

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# STANDARD KALEIDOCYCLE

- RECREATIONAL MATHS  
E.G., ROUSE BALL, W. W. 1939  
"MATHEMATICAL RECREATIONS AND ESSAYS"
- PURE MATHS  
A FLEXIBLE POLYHEDRAL OBJECT,  
WHICH CAN BE MADE FROM A SHEET OF PAPER  
(C.F. CAUCHY'S RIGIDITY THEOREM)
- KINEMATICS/ROBOTICS  
IT IS A BRICARD 6R LINKAGE, WHICH VIOLATES  
MAXWELL'S MOBILITY FORMULA



[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V\\_fdN3Hllsl](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V_fdN3Hllsl)

HOW IS KALEIDOCYCLE RELEVANT  
TO CRYSTAL DISLOCATION ?

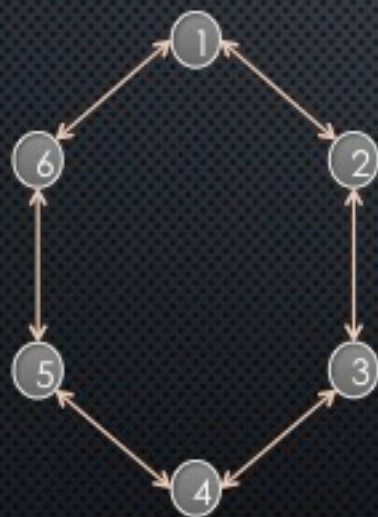


## COMMON KEYWORDS (EXCUSE)

- REPRESENTATION BY GRAPH OF LOCAL FRAMES
- MONODROMY ON GRAPH
- ENERGY EQUILIBRIUM
- CONFIGURATION SPACE  
(REAL ALGEBRAIC GEOMETRY)



## GRAPHICAL MODEL OF KALEIDOCYCLE



Underlying graph of 6-Kleidocycle  
Notice the directed  
(doubled headed) edges

We model Kaleidocycles using graphs:

- vertices: shared edges of tetrahedra ("hinge")
- directed edges: tetrahedra
- each edge labelled by an element of the group  $SE(3)$  of Euclidean motion in  $R^3$  (this accounts for the shape of the tetrahedron)

the change in local frame is recorded by  $A_{kj} \in SE(3)$

More generally, we call the pair of the graph  $G=(V,E)$  and the edge labelling  $E \rightarrow SE(3)$  a *kinematic chain*



## STATE SPACE OF A KINEMATIC CHAIN

Fix a kinematic chain:  $G=(V,E)$ ,  $A: E \rightarrow SE(3)$

A **STATE** IS A MAP  $\theta : V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  SATISFYING THE **CLOSING CONDITION**

$$A_{i_1 i_2} R_{\theta_{i_2}} A_{i_2 i_3} \cdots R_{\theta_{i_k}} A_{i_k i_1} \{p^\pm\} = \{p^\pm\}$$

for any cycle  $(i_1 i_2, i_2 i_3, \cdots, i_k i_1)$

where  $p^\pm = (0, 0, \pm\epsilon, 1)^T$  ( $\epsilon > 0$  small)

$R_\theta \in SE(3)$  is the rotation around z-axis by magnitude  $\theta$

We say the state is **oriented** when + always goes + in the closing condition



# BASIC QUESTIONS

- WHAT IS THE TOPOLOGY OF THE STATE SPACE?
  - WHEN DOES IT HAVE NON-TRIVIAL TOPOLOGY?
  - → KALEIDOCYCLES HAVE INTERESTING STATE SPACES
- WHAT STATES ARE STABLE WITH RESPECT TO A CERTAIN ENERGY?
  - → SOME KALEIDOCYCLES HAVE A CONSTANT ENERGY

# KEY OBSERVATION

The state space (the *configuration space*) is the space of the real solutions to a system of polynomials defined by the closing condition.



# AN INTERESTING FAMILY OF KINEMATIC CHAINS



## SETTING

FROM NOW ON, WE FOCUS ON THE CASE WHEN THE UNDERLYING GRAPH  $G=(V,E)$  IS A CYCLE:

$$V = \{1,2,3,\dots,N\}, \text{ WHERE WE REGARD } N+1=1$$

$$E = \{(i, i+1) \mid i = 1, 2, \dots, N\}$$

$$A_{i,i+1} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & \sin \phi \\ 0 & \cos \phi & -\sin \phi & 0 \\ 0 & \sin \phi & \cos \phi & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Edge label is same everywhere  
This means all tetrahedra are congruent

We call this type of kinematic chain and its states **Kaleidocycles** and denote it by **KN**



## DENAVIT-HARTENBERG FORMULATION

For this special system, there is a classical and a neat parametrisation

Let  $B_i \in S^2$  be hinge direction vectors.

We define the local frames similar to Frenet-Serret

$$A_i = \langle T_i, N_i, B_i \rangle, \quad T_i = \frac{B_i \times B_{i+1}}{|B_i \times B_{i+1}|}, \quad N_i = B_i \times T_i.$$
$$A_{i,i+1} = A_i^{-1} A_{i+1}$$

The congruency and the closing conditions are given by

★  $\langle B_i, B_{i+1} \rangle = \cos \phi, \quad \sum_{i=1}^n B_i \times B_{i+1} = 0$

we set  $B_{N+1} = \pm B_1$   
according to orientability



## BREAK: HANDICRAFT SESSION

Try gluing the ends in different ways by twisting



## EXTREME KALEIDOCYCLES

- THE SOLUTION TO THE POLYNOMIAL SYSTEM ★ PROJECTED ON THE  $\Phi$  AXIS GIVES A (UNION OF) INTERVALS
- BY NUMERICAL EXPERIMENTS, WE FOUND THEY ARE OF THE FOLLOWING FORM:
  - WHEN N:ODD
    - FOR ORIENTED SYSTEM:  $\Phi \text{ IN } [0, \pi - C_N]$
    - FOR NON-ORIENTED SYSTEM:  $\Phi \text{ IN } [C_N, \pi]$
  - WHEN N:EVEN
    - FOR ORIENTED SYSTEM:  $\Phi \text{ IN } [0, \pi]$
    - FOR NON-ORIENTED SYSTEM:  $\Phi \text{ IN } [C_N, \pi - C_N]$

- There is no solution for  $N < 6$
- $N C_N$  converges monotonously to a constant

Kaleidocycles with the non-trivial extreme twist angles exhibit interesting properties, which we call **extreme Kaleidocycles**



## HOW TO FIND?

### -- REAL ALGEBRAIC GEOMETRY --

- STUDY OF THE REAL SOLUTIONS OF A SYSTEM OF POLYNOMIAL EQUATIONS
- REAL SOLUTIONS ARE HARD: E.G.

$$x^2 + bx + c = 0 \text{ has a solution } \Leftrightarrow b^2 - 4c \geq 0$$

- APPLIED IN: ROBOTICS, COMPUTER VISION, CONFIGURATION SPACE
- MILNOR'S RESULT ON THE BETTI NUMBERS
- SOFTWARE
  - MAPLE, MATHEMATICA, MATLAB (NON LINEAR PROGRAMING)
  - BERTINI, PHCPACK (NUMERICAL)
  - REGULAR CHAINS, QEPCAD (EXACT)



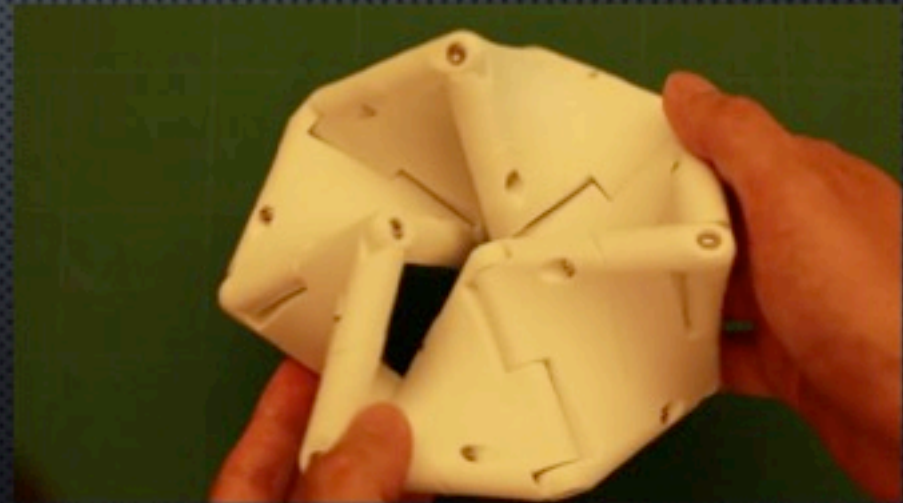
## INTERESTING PROPERTIES OF EXTREME KN

- SINGLE DOF
- CONSTANT TORSIONAL ENERGY (MINIMUM FOR K7)  
CONSTANT DIPOLE ENERGY (FOR ORIENTED KN)
- FALLING CAT MOTION
- MOBIUS STRIP
- DUALITY



## MOBILITY ANALYSIS

- Maxwell's law counts the number of constraints and freedom, giving a rough estimation of the dimension of the configuration space of the system (dimension counting)
- In our case,  
Each hinge has one DOF  
Closing condition kills five DOF  
So the system's DOF  $= (N-1) - 5$   
( -1 comes from global orientation )



Only numerically confirmed

The state space of any extreme Kaleidocycle is the circle (everting motion)  
thus violate Maxwell's law! (except for  $K=7$ )



# ENERGY EQUILIBRIUM

ONE OF THE MAIN TOPICS IN MATERIALS SCIENCE IS TO FIND EQUILIBRIUM STATES OF THE MODEL WITH RESPECT TO A CERTAIN ENERGY



*The shape of a Möbius strip, E. L. Starostin & G. H. M. van der Heijden, 2007*



## TORSIONAL ENERGY

- IMAGINE THAT EACH HINGE IS EQUIPPED WITH A WINDING SPRING
- THE ENERGY OF THE STATE IS DEFINED BY

$$E(\theta) = \sum_i \phi^2$$

Only numerically confirmed

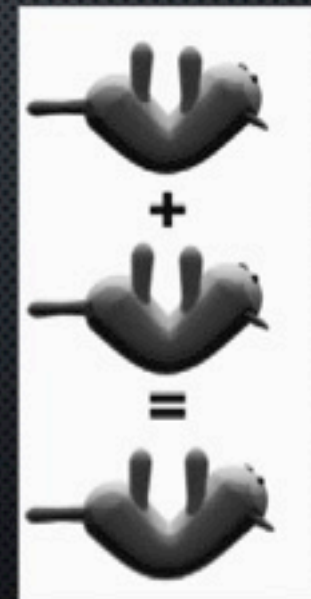
- Any extreme Kaleidocycle takes a constant energy for all state  $\theta$ .  
When  $N=7$ , the value is minimum among all K7.
- Also, any extreme oriented KN takes a (almost) constant dipole energy

$$\sum_{i < j} \frac{B_i B_j}{|O_i - O_j|^3} - 3 \frac{(B_i(O_i - O_j))(B_j(O_i - O_j))}{|O_i - O_j|^5}$$



# FALLING CAT

- NON-RIGID OBJECT CAN CHANGE ORIENTATION WHILE PRESERVING MOMENTUM
- THE EVERTING MOTION OF KN EXHIBITS THE PHENOMENON





# LINKING NUMBER AND MOBIUS STRIP

- WE ARE INTERESTED IN HOW MANY TIMES THE STRIP IS TWISTED
- THIS IS MADE PRECISE BY LOOKING AT THE *LINKING NUMBER* OF THE FOLLOWING POLYLINES]
  - ONE CONNECTING THE ORIGINS OF HINGES
  - THE OTHER CONNECTING THE HEAD OF HINGES

Calugareanu's theorem  
Total twisting =  $2(\text{Twist} + \text{Writhe})$

Twist =  $N\Phi/2\pi$  (so it depends only on the shape of the tetrahedron)  
Writhe depends only on the center curve (it is related to the *torsion*)

Observation: Extreme ones have Total Twisting = 3 or N-3

Question: What happens if we look at the components of the solution space consisting of KN's with a fixed TT?



## CONTINUOUS LIMIT

WE CAN CONSIDER THE CONTINUOUS LIMIT OF  
EXTREME  $KN$  ( $N \rightarrow \infty$ ).

WITH THE FRENET-SERRET FRAME, HINGE DIRECTION  
CORRESPONDS TO THE BINORMAL.

THE CORE CURVE SEEMS TO CONVERGE TO  
A ~~CONSTANT CURVATURE AND~~ CONSTANT TORSION  
CURVE.

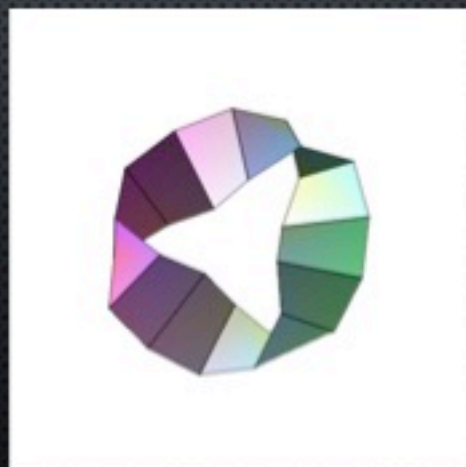
OPEN PROBLEM: WHAT IS THE LIMIT BAND?



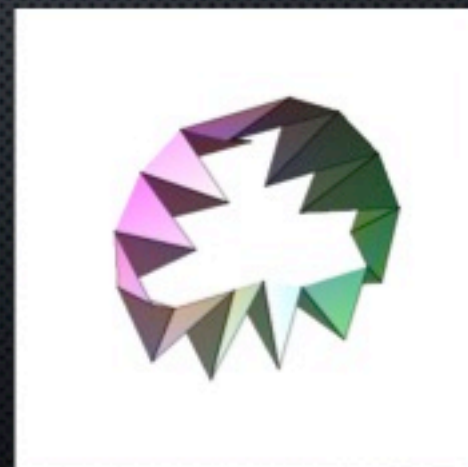


# DUALITY

- EXTREME KN'S HAVE AN ACTION OF  $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$  BY INVERTING THE DIRECTION OF EVERY OTHER HINGE
  - $\Phi \rightarrow \pi - \Phi$
  - TOTAL TWISTING  $\Leftrightarrow N - \text{TOTAL TWISTING}$
  - IN PARTICULAR  
ORIENTED  $\Leftrightarrow$  NON ORIENTED  
WHEN  $N$ : ODD



K13 with total twisting = 3

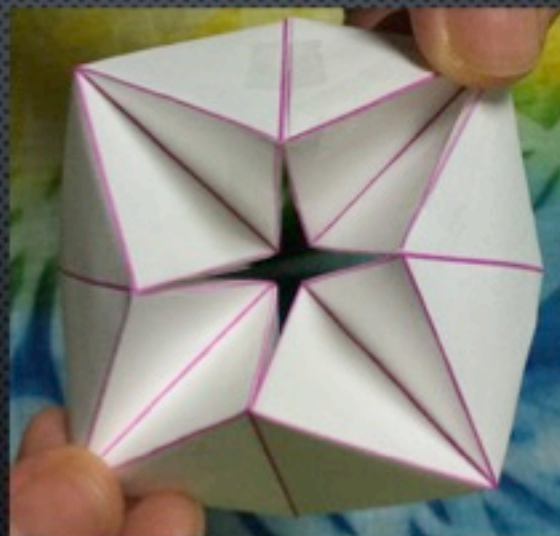
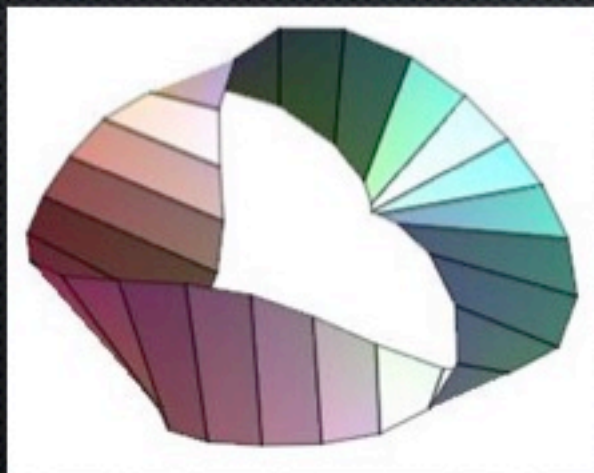


K13 with total twisting = 10



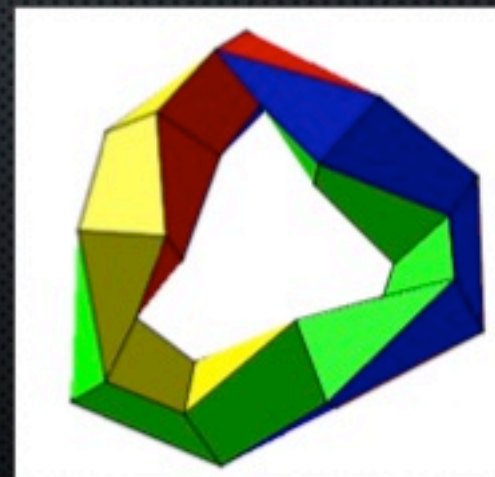
# THREE INCARNATIONS OF KN

Mobius strip



Ring of Tetrahedra

Twisted Torus





## POSSIBLE APPLICATIONS

- TOY, ORNAMENT: USE A MOTORED GIMBAL TO FIXTURE ONE HINGE AND HANG IT.  
PRINT INTERESTING THINGS ON THE SURFACE  
FOR EXAMPLE, MUSICBOX WITH TRANSCRIPTION PRINTED ON IT (C.F. BACH'S CRAB CANON)
- ESCHER-LIKE MAZE, WHERE CONNECTION OF PATHS CHANGES DURING THE EVERTING MOTION
- ``DEVELOPABLE" CHAIN/ARM/CURTAIN BY ALLOWING FREE SLIDES AT HINGES (C.F. FOLDING UMBRELLA)
- MUSICAL INSTRUMENT: HIT AND ROTATE TO MAKE SOUND WITH DOPPLER'S EFFECT (ROTARY SPEAKER)
- SCREW, MIXER, VALVE, PASTA MAKER (WHICH MAKES PATTERNS ON NOODLE AND DOUGH)
- ROBOT ARM, SNAKE-LIKE SELF-PROPULSION ROBOT (C.F. ORIGAMI ROTOR)
- CHEMISTRY: MICRO MOLECULE STRUCTURE (C.F. BOERDIJK-COXETER HELIX AND ALPHA HELIX)



## OPEN QUESTIONS

- THE CONTINUOUS LIMIT OF  $K_N$  ( $N \rightarrow \infty$ )
- EXTREME  $K_N$ 'S WITHIN A SPECIFIED TOTAL TWISTING
- PROVE PROPERTIES OF  $K_N$  RIGOROUSLY  
(CURRENTLY, EVERYTHING IS NUMERICAL)
- MORE GENERALLY, DEVELOP METHODS TO ANALYSE KINEMATIC CHAINS AND THEIR STATE SPACES
- FIND INTERESTING EXAMPLES AND APPLICATIONS