# Schnyder woods for higher genus triangulated surfaces

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Eric Fusy Simon Fraizer University, Vancouver

Thomas Lewiner PUC University, Rio de Janeiro Motivation and applications Schnyder woods (or Schnyder trees or realizers) edge orientation and coloration for triangulations

- Combinatorics of maps
  - enumeration problems
  - Graph drawing





- draw a planar graph, with vertices having integer coordinates (using as few as possible coordinates)
- Compression and succinct encoding
  - Reduce the amount of (memory) space used by the connectivity of a graph.
  - Supporting efficient navigation, using small space Example: adjacency queries between vertices





A nice characterization of planar graphs: Schnyder woods Edge orientations, tree decompositions and dimension of a graph

**Theorem** (Schnyder, Felsner, Trotter) A graph G is planar if and only if its dimension is at most 3

**Theorem (Schnyder '90)** A graph G is planar if and only if the dimension of its incidence poset is at most 3



The definition in the planar (triangulated) case

#### A nice characterization of planar graphs

(Schnyder '90)

Let T be a triangulation having outer face  $\{x_0, x_1, x_{n-1}\}$ . with n nodes



#### A nice characterization of planar graphs

A Schnyder wood of a triangulation is

a partition  $T_0$ ,  $T_1$ ,  $T_2$  of the internal edges of T s.t. :



i) edge are colored and oriented in such a way that each inner node has exactly one outgoing edge of each color

(Schnyder '90)

## A nice characterization of planar graphs

(Schnyder '90)

A partition  $T_0$ ,  $T_1$ ,  $T_2$  of the internal edges of T s.t. :

 $\mathcal{X}_1$ 



i) edge are colored and oriented in such a way that each inner nodes has exaclty one outgoing edge of each color

ii) colors and orientations around each inner node must respect the local Schnyder condition



Important facts about Schnyder woods

## A first fundamental fact: 3 tree decomposition (Schnyder '90)

 $T_0$ ,  $T_1$ ,  $T_2$  are spanning trees of (the inner nodes of) T:



## Second fact: dimension of a graph

 $L_0$ ,  $L_1$ ,  $L_2$  are three orders on the vertices of T:





 $L_0: v_1 < v_2 < v_3 < v_4 < v_5 < v_6$  $L_1: v_2 < v_3 < v_6 < v_4 < v_5 < v_1$  $L_2: v_2 < v_3 < v_6 < v_1 < v_3 < v_2$ 

#### The first motivation: barycentric drawing Combinatorial interpretation

How to use Schnyder woods:

Let P<sub>i</sub>(v) be the path from v to x<sub>i</sub> in T<sub>i</sub>.
Let R<sub>i</sub>(v) be the region defined by P<sub>i+1</sub>(v), P<sub>i+2</sub>(v) and (x<sub>i+1</sub>, x<sub>i+2</sub>).

The combinatorial equivalent of the area is given by the number of triangles enclosed in each region  $R_i$ :

$$v_i = \frac{|R_i(v)|}{|T|}$$



#### Theorem

For a triangulation  $\mathcal{T}$  having n vertices, we can draw it on a grid of size  $(2n-5) \times (2n-5)$ , by setting  $x_1 = (2n-5,0)$ ,  $x_2 = (0,0)$  and  $x_3 = (0, 2n-5)$ .

Application: graph compression and succinct encoding Optimal compression (Poulalhon-Schaeffer, Icalp '03)



Succinct encoding (Chuang-Garg-He-Kao-Lu Icalp '98) (Barbay-Castelli Aleardi-He-Munro Isaac'07)



Tree decompositions in higher genus

## Related works: tree decompositions of toroidal graphs



the "tambourine" solution (Bonichon, Gavoille, Labourel, ICGT '05) Main idea of this approach: Compute a pair of adjacent non contractible cycles



Result:  $T_0$ ,  $T_1$ ,  $T_2$  vertex spanning trees

Inconvenients:

- valid only for toroidal triangulation (genus 1)
- potentially large number of vertices not satisfying the local condition

Our main contribution a generalized higher genus definition Schnyder Woods: the higher genus case Given a rooted triangulated surface of genus g



Schnyder Woods: the higher genus case

i) a small set  $\mathcal{E}^s$  of *special* edges, doubly oriented and colored

 $|\mathcal{E}^s| = 2g$ 



Schnyder Woods: the higher genus case

i) a small set  $\mathcal{E}^s$  of *special* edges, (u, v, w)doubly oriented and colored at most  $2 \cdot 2g$  multiple vertices (incident to special edges)

 $\mathcal{E}^s = \{e_1, e_2\}$ 

ii) a new local condition for edges in a sector incident to a multiple vertex



Computing Schnyder Woods (in the plane)

## Incremental vertex conquest (Brehm's approach)

 $v_{n-1}$ 

The traversal starts from the root face

In our example, the root face coincides with the exterior (infinite) face





Incremental vertex conquest

 $\operatorname{conquer}(v_{n-3}) +$  $\operatorname{colororient}(v_{n-3})$ 













Computing *g*-Schnyder Woods

#### New handle operators: split and merge

chordal edge (u, w)





## (u,w) chordal edge



(u,w) defines a non-trivial cycle



New handle operators: split and merge (u,w) chordal edge defining a non-trivial cycle

(u,w) split edge

split a boundary into 2 boundary components



(u,w) merge edge

merge two differents boundary components



Starts the traversal from the root face (green edge)



 $\mathcal{S}$ 



















**Example of execution of our algorithm** (toroidal case) After a maximal sequence of vertex conquest operations . . . no more free vertices... the (planar) traversal gets stuck



Example of execution of our algorithm (toroidal case) Let us perform a split(u, w) operation W  $e_s$  $\setminus \ (u,w)$  is a  $\mathcal{S}^{out}$ face connected map U of genus 1 with two boundary components



Example of execution of our algorithm (toroidal case) Let us perform a merge(w, v) operation  ${\it W}$ merge operations de $e_m$ crease of 1 the num $e_s$ ber of boundary components  $\mathcal{U}$  $\mathcal{S}^{out} \setminus (w, v)$  is a face connected topological disk

Example of execution of our algorithm (toroidal case) Let us see in a better way...



Example of execution of our algorithm (toroidal case) Let us see in a better way...



Example of execution of our algorithm (toroidal case) Let us see in a better way...

















## Correctness and termination

## Existence of split and merge edges



vertex spanning tree of the primal graph, containing the boundary (blue) edges

 $T^*$  is a 1 face map containing 2g non-trivial cycles

 $T^*$  contains g split and merge edges

Correctness and termination

## A fundamental lemma about chordal edges (the planar case)

## Lemma There always exists at least one boundary vertex, not incident to chordal edges Proof: by induction on the size of the boundary $x_2$ $x_3$

**Theorem** Each planar triangulation admits a *canonical ordering* on the vertices Correctness and termination

(higher genus)

## Properties of chordal edges in genus $\boldsymbol{g}$





impossible case no loops, no multiple edges allowed



### Our main result

**Theorem** (Castelli Aleardi, Fusy and Lewiner, 2008) Given a (simple) rooted triangulation  $\mathcal{T}$  of genus g and size n, we can compute in O(n) time a g-Schnyder wood of  $\mathcal{T}$ .

The local Schnyder condition is true almost everywhere in the graph at the exception of multiple vertices





From plane trees to genus g maps

#### A new characterization in term of g-maps

**Theorem** (Castelli Aleardi, Fusy and Lewiner, 2008) The three sets of edges  $T_0$  and  $T_1$  (red and blue edges), as well as the set  $T_2 \cup \mathcal{E}$  (black edges and special edges) are maps of genus gsatisfying:

- $T_0, T_1$  are maps with at most 1 + 2g faces;
- $T_2 \cup \mathcal{E}$  is a 1 face map



## A new encoding application

Encoding g-maps via multiple parentheses words

#### Corollary

A triangulation of genu g having n vertices can be encoded with  $4n + O(g \log n)$  bits



Futur works and open questions optimal encoding in higher genus lattice structure for the set of Schnyder woods extension to the 3-connected case (polygonal meshes)



Optimal coding and sampling (planar case) Theorem. (Tutte 62) The number of planar triangulation with n+2 vertices is

$$\frac{2(4n-3)!}{(3n-1)!n!} \asymp \left(\frac{256}{27}\right)^n$$

Théorème. (Poulalhon–Schaeffer Icalp 03)

Il existe une bijection entre la classe des arbres de taille n ayant deux bourgeons par noeud, et la classe des triangulations planaires enracinées à n+2 sommets.



a new nice interpretation of Tutte's formula:  $|\mathcal{T}_n| = \frac{2}{2n} \cdot |\mathcal{A}_n^{(2)}|.$ 

## Optimal coding (genus g)



triangulated graph of genus g

one face map of genu  $\boldsymbol{g}$ 

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