

2017 ASIAN CONTROL CONFERENCE WORKSHOP

ADVANCES IN DISTRIBUTED CONTROL AND FORMATION CONTROL SYSTEMS

FORMATIONS OVER DIRECTED GRAPHS AND LOCAL COORDINATE FRAMES

Daniel Zelazo

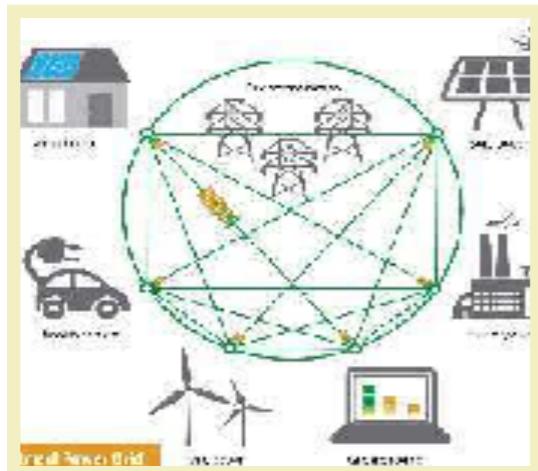
Faculty of Aerospace Engineering



Cooperative Networks
and Controls Lab



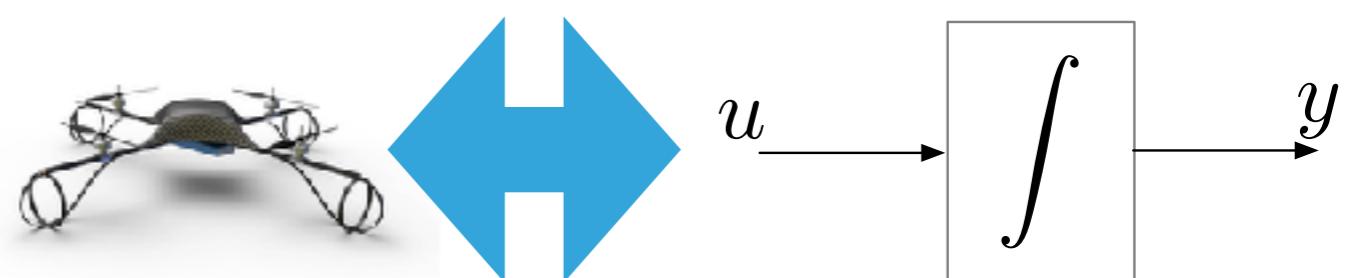
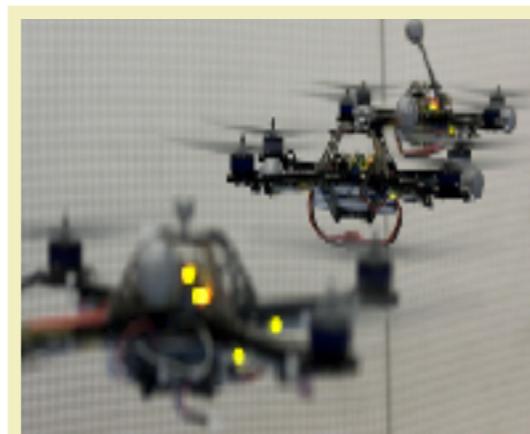
SIMPLIFY, SIMPLIFY, SIMPLIFY!



THE SYSTEMS WE WISH TO DESIGN, ANALYZE, AND CONTROL ARE COMPLEX!

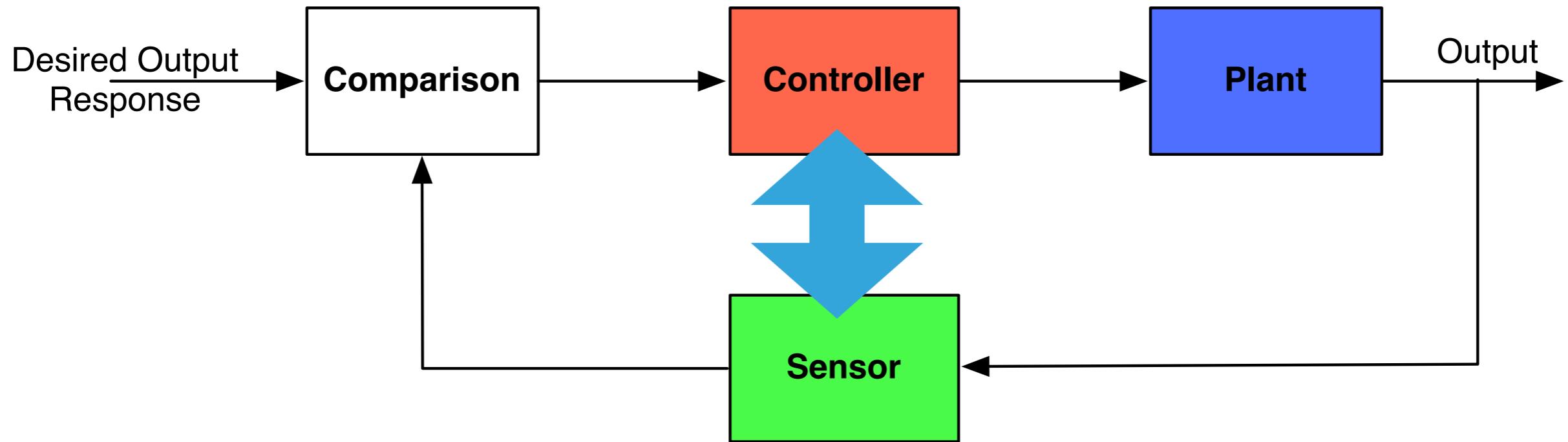


CONTROL THEORY PROVIDES US WITH AN ANALYTICAL JUSTIFICATION FOR USING **SIMPLE MODELS!**



LET'S MAKE EVERYTHING AN INTEGRATOR!

WHAT ABOUT SENSING?



THE “DYNAMICS” OF THE SENSOR IN A CONTROL SYSTEM IS LESS IMPORTANT THAN THE **QUANTITY** IT IS MEASURING



Courtesy of P. Robuffo Giordano and A. Franchi

Solutions to coordination problems in multi-robot systems are highly dependent on the sensing and communication mediums available!



Sensing

- GPS
- Relative Position Sensing
- Range Sensing
- Bearing Sensing

Communication

- Internet
- Radio
- Sonar
- MANet



TurtleBot II

EXAMPLE: FORMATION CONTROL

“robots” – modeled as kinematic point mass

$$\dot{x}_i = u_i$$

Assumptions

- GLOBAL COORDINATE FRAME
- RELATIVE POSITION MEASUREMENTS
- DISTANCE MEASUREMENTS
- NO SENSING CONSTRAINTS (360°)
- SENSING

Formation

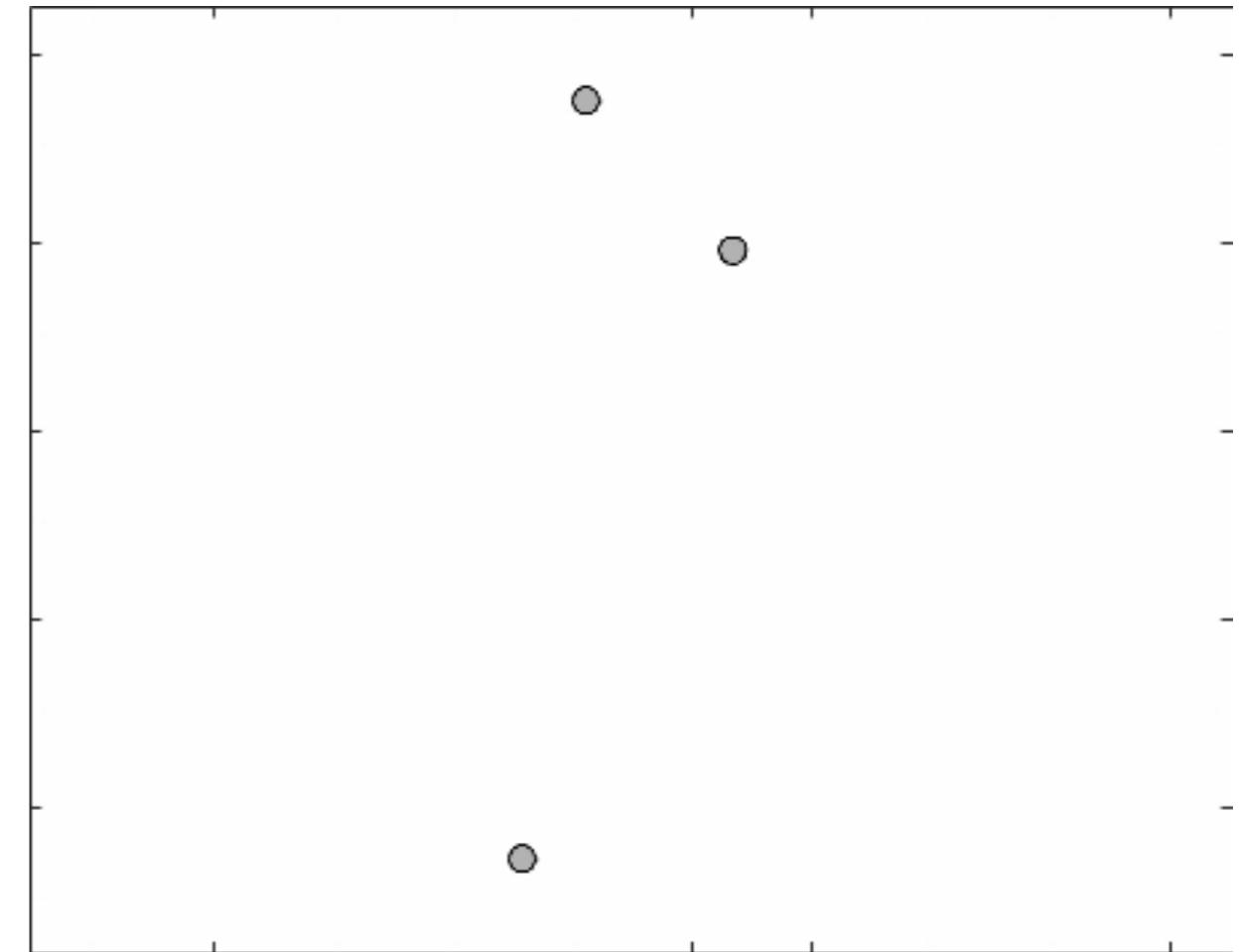
- SPECIFIED BY DISTANCES BETWEEN PAIRS OF ROBOTS

$$d_{ij} \in \mathbb{R}$$

Control

$$u_i = \sum_{i \sim j} (\|x_i - x_j\|^2 - d_{ij}^2)(x_j - x_i)$$

[Krick2009]



THE “DISTANCE CONSTRAINED”
FORMATION CONTROL PROBLEM

EXAMPLE: FORMATION CONTROL

DISTANCE CONSTRAINED

Formation

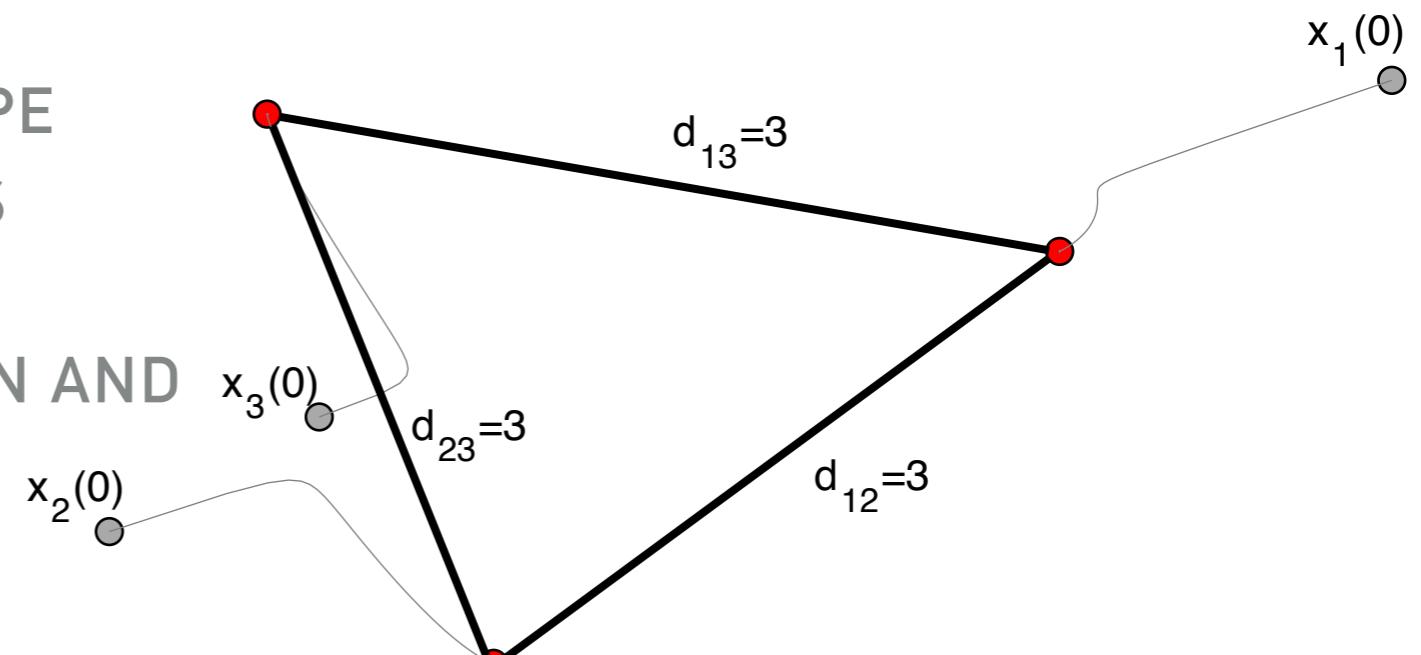
- SPECIFIED BY DISTANCES BETWEEN PAIRS OF ROBOTS

$$d_{ij} \in \mathbb{R}$$

Control

$$u_i = \sum_{i \sim j} (\|x_i - x_j\|^2 - d_{ij}^2)(x_j - x_i)$$

- FINAL FORMATION WILL BE A TRANSLATION OR ROTATION OF SHAPE SATISFYING DISTANCE CONSTRAINTS
- AGENTS REQUIRE RELATIVE POSITION AND DISTANCES



NEGLECTS RANGE CONSTRAINT OF RELATIVE POSITION SENSORS

EXAMPLE: FORMATION CONTROL

“robots” – modeled as kinematic point mass

$$\dot{x}_i = u_i$$

Assumptions

- GLOBAL COORDINATE FRAME
- BEARING MEASUREMENTS
- NO SENSING CONSTRAINTS (360°)
- SENSING

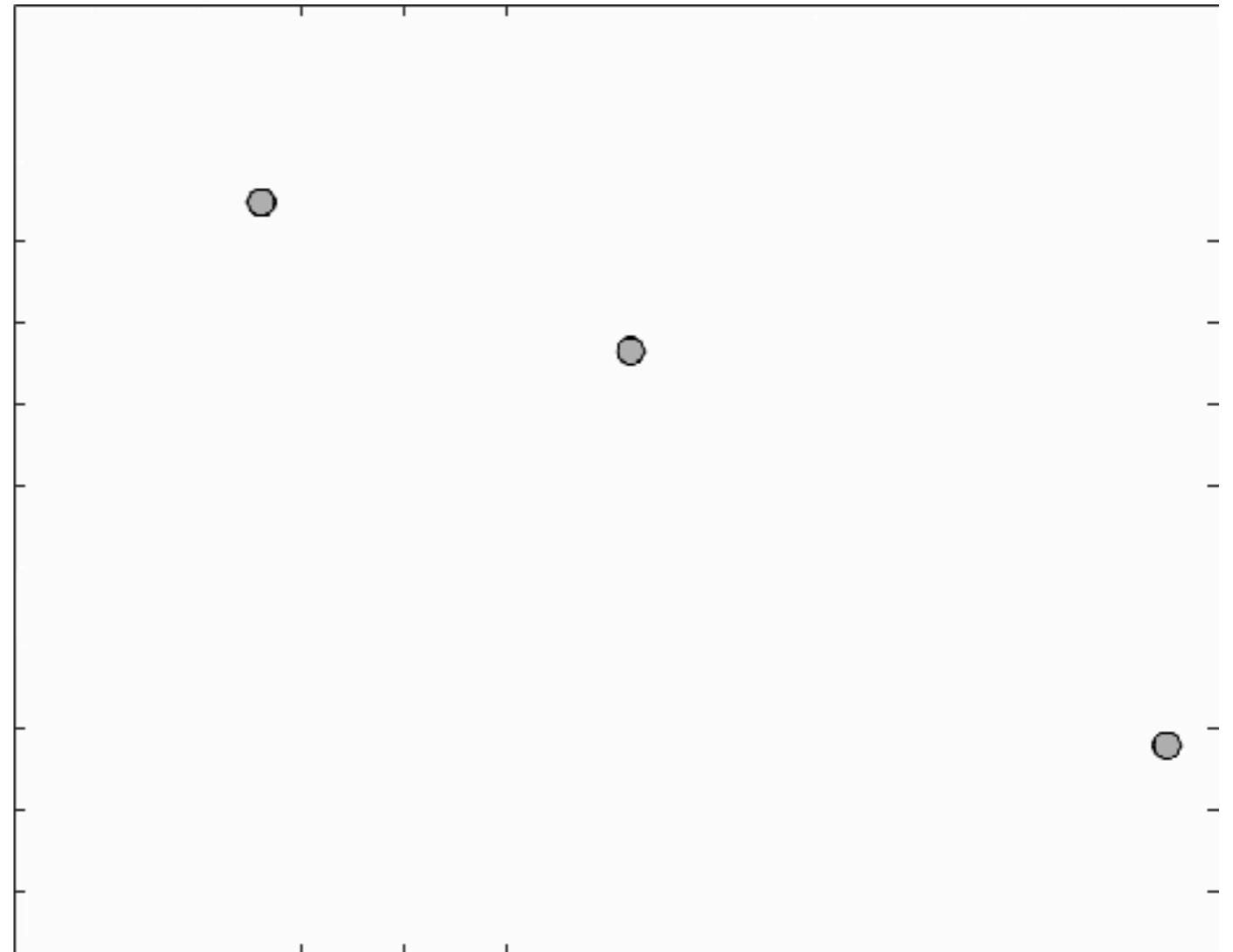
Formation

- SPECIFIED BY BEARING VECTORS

$$g_{ij}^* \in \mathbb{R}^2, \|g_{ij}^*\| = 1$$

Control

$$u_i = - \sum_{i \sim j} (I - g_{ij} g_{ij}^T) g_{ij}^*$$



THE “BEARING ONLY”
FORMATION CONTROL PROBLEM

EXAMPLE: FORMATION CONTROL

BEARING ONLY

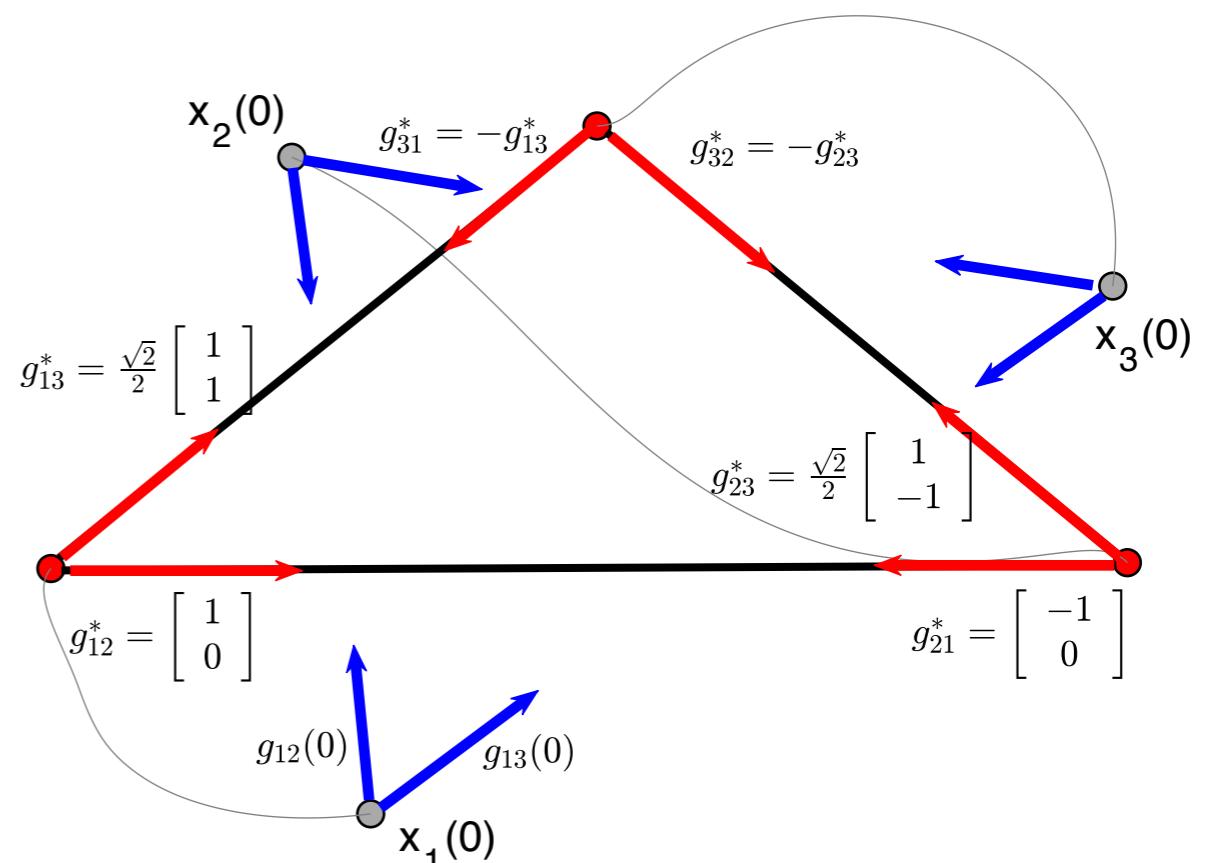
Formation

- SPECIFIED BY BEARING VECTORS
 $g_{ij}^* \in \mathbb{R}^2, \|g_{ij}^*\| = 1$

- FINAL FORMATION WILL BE A TRANSLATION OR SCALING OF SHAPE SATISFYING BEARING CONSTRAINTS
- AGENTS REQUIRE BEARING MEASUREMENTS

Control

$$u_i = - \sum (I - g_{ij} g_{ij}^T) g_{ij}^*$$



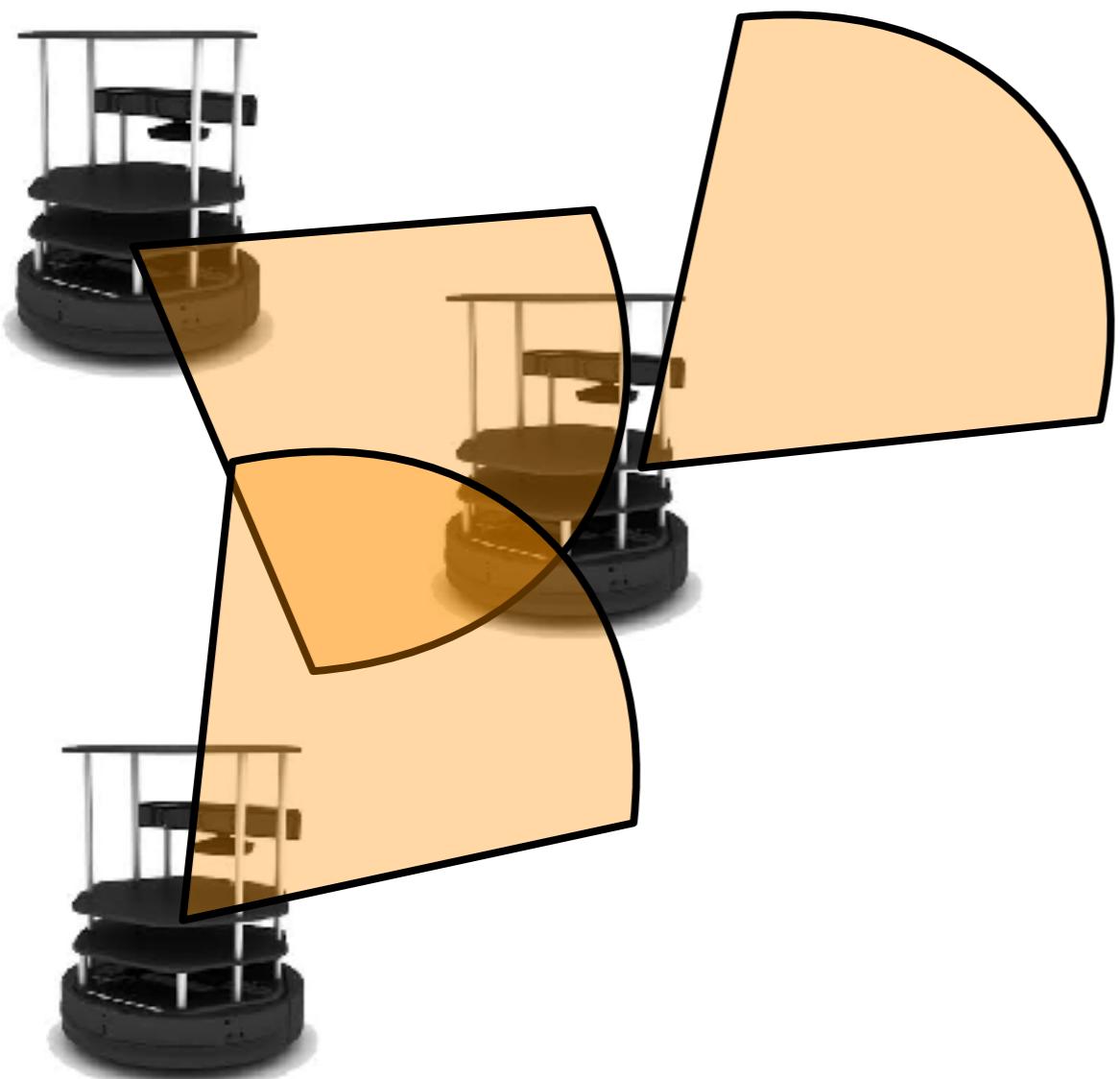
NEGLECTS FIELD-OF-VIEWS CONSTRAINT OF RELATIVE BEARING SENSORS



GRASP Lab

Motion capture systems allow us to “simulate” ideal sensors and test our control strategies

REAL SENSORS, REAL CHALLENGES



- sensing is typically *physically attached to the body frame of the robot*
- sensing is inherently directed
- knowledge of common inertial frame is *not* a realistic assumption
- sensing is inherently limited

FIELD-OF-VIEW CONSTRAINTS

$$\dot{p}_i = - \sum_{j \sim i} \left(I - \frac{(p_j - p_i)(p_j - p_i)^T}{\|p_j - p_i\|^2} \right) g_{ij}^*$$

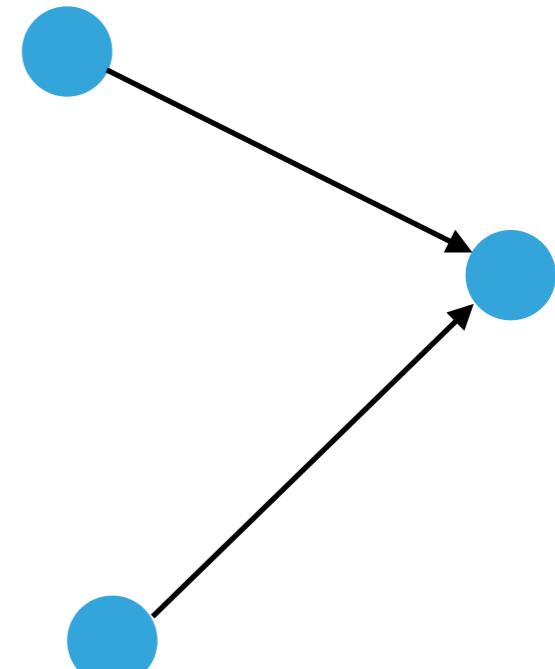
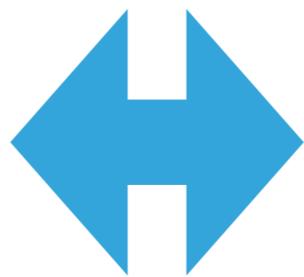
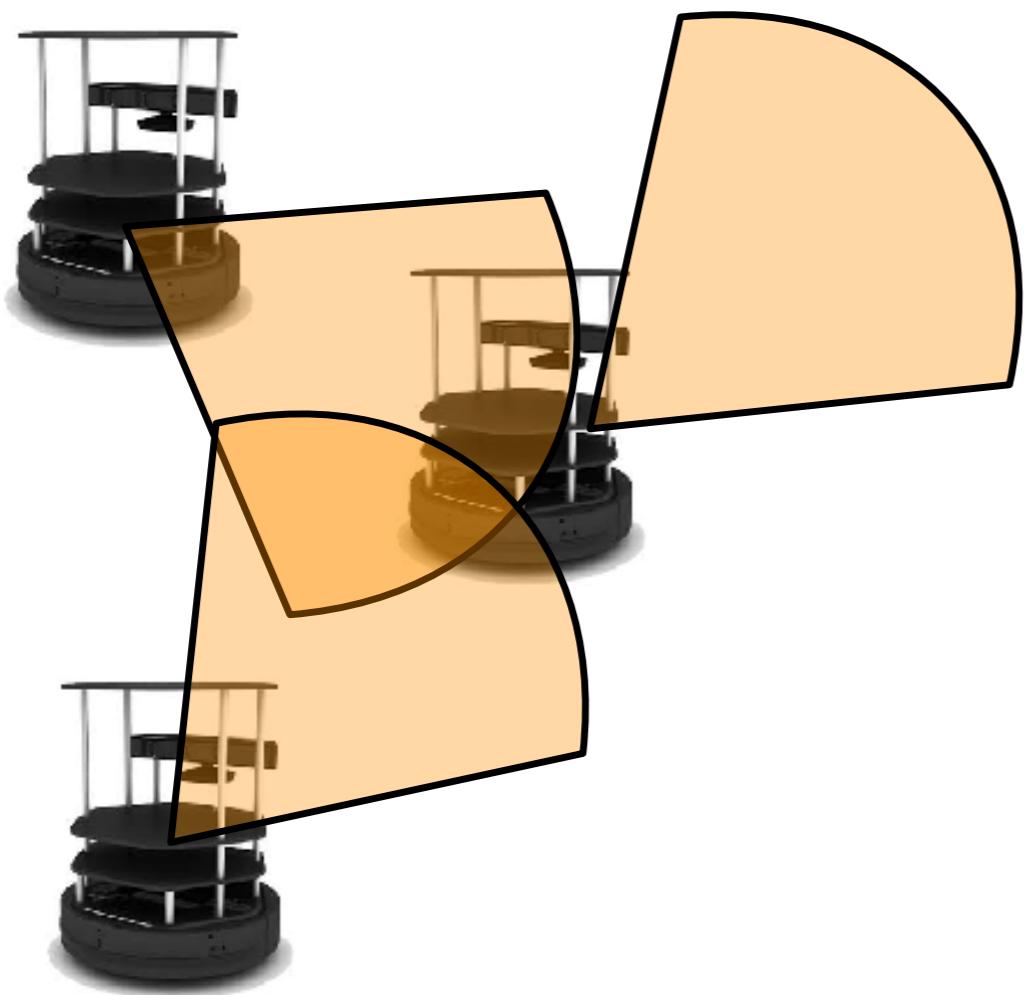
- bearing measurement only available when neighbor is in field-of-view of camera



Bearing only control law with limited view constraint

- 1) agents faces in direction of motion

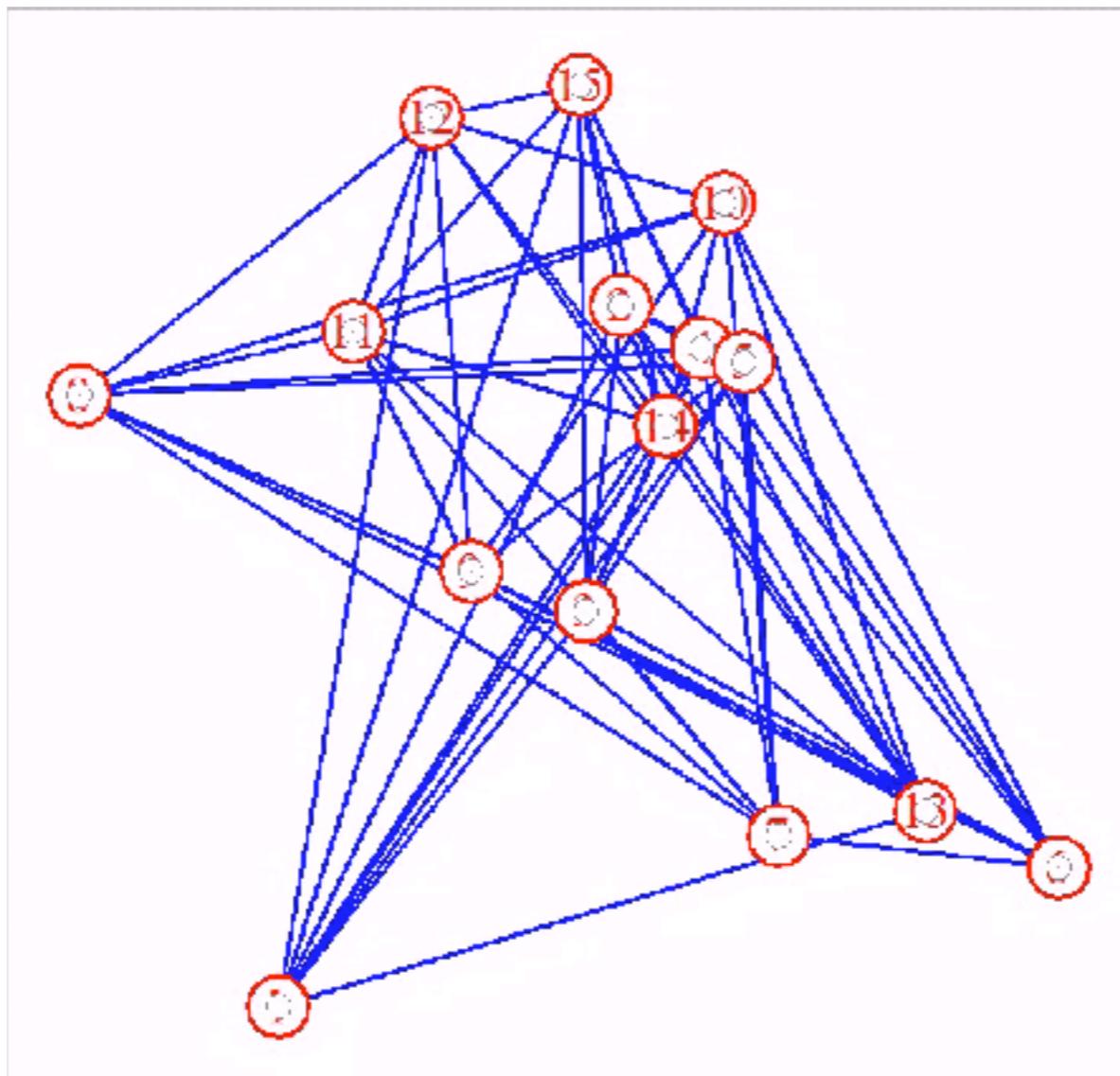
REAL SENSING MEANS DIRECTED INFORMATION



HOW DO WE ADAPT OUR EXISTING THEORY TO HANDLE
REAL SENSING?

FORMATION CONTROL

Given a team of robots endowed with the ability to sense/communicate with neighboring robots, design a control for each robot using only *local information* that moves the team into a desired formation shape.



Rigidity Theory

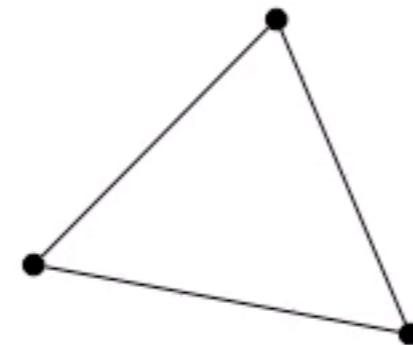
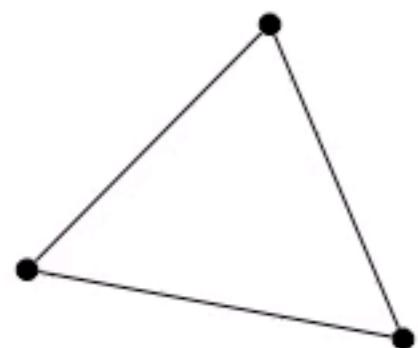
Rigidity is a combinatorial theory for characterizing the “stiffness” or “flexibility” of structures formed by rigid bodies connected by flexible linkages or hinges.

Distance Rigidity

- maintain distance pairs
- rigid body rotations and translations

Bearing Rigidity

- maintain angles (shape)
- rigid body translations and dilations

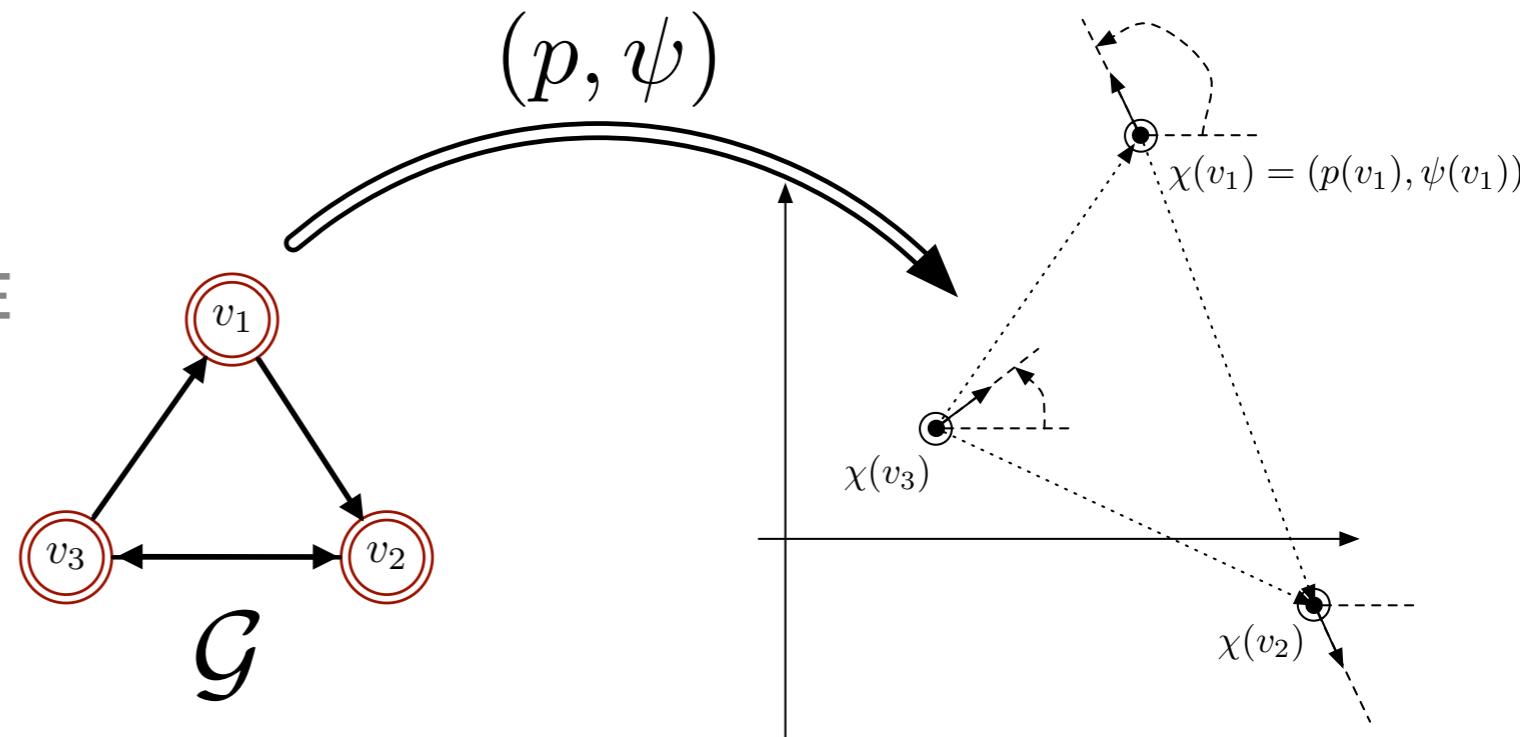


SE(2) RIGIDITY THEORY

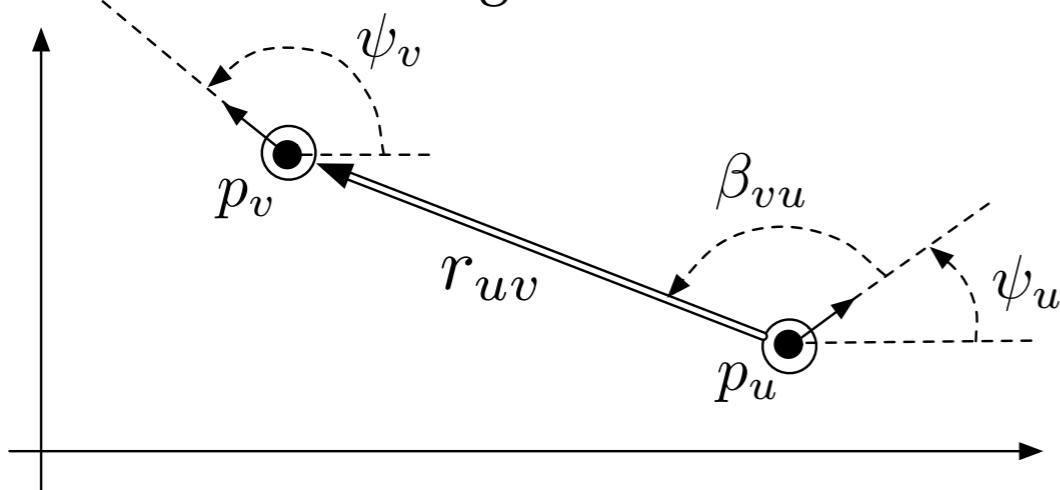
A framework

- A **DIRECTED GRAPH**
- A MAPPING TO A METRIC SPACE

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{G} &= (\mathcal{V}, \mathcal{E}) \\ p &: \mathcal{V} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2 \\ \psi &: \mathcal{V} \rightarrow \mathcal{S}^1\end{aligned}$$



a directed edge indicates availability
of relative bearing measurement

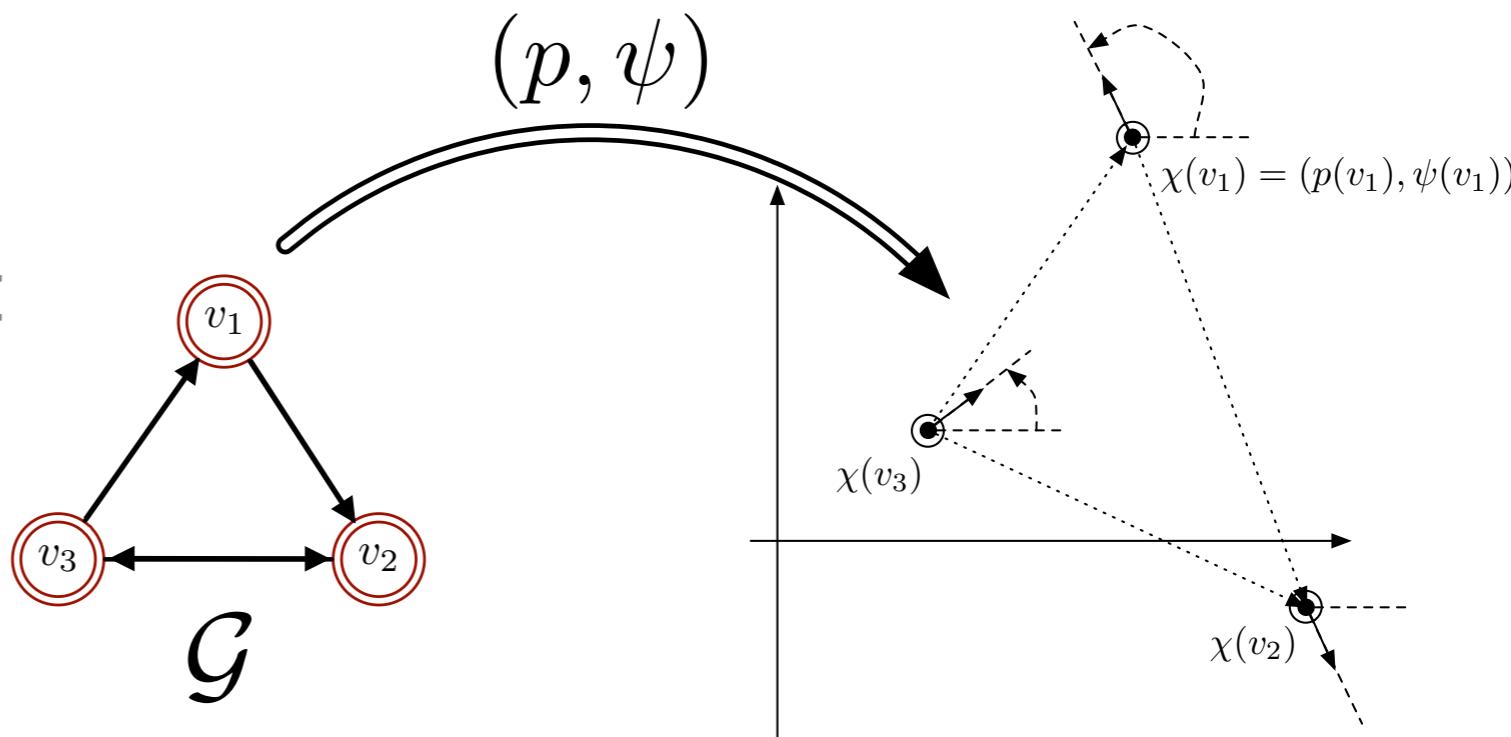


SE(2) RIGIDITY THEORY

A framework

- A **DIRECTED GRAPH**
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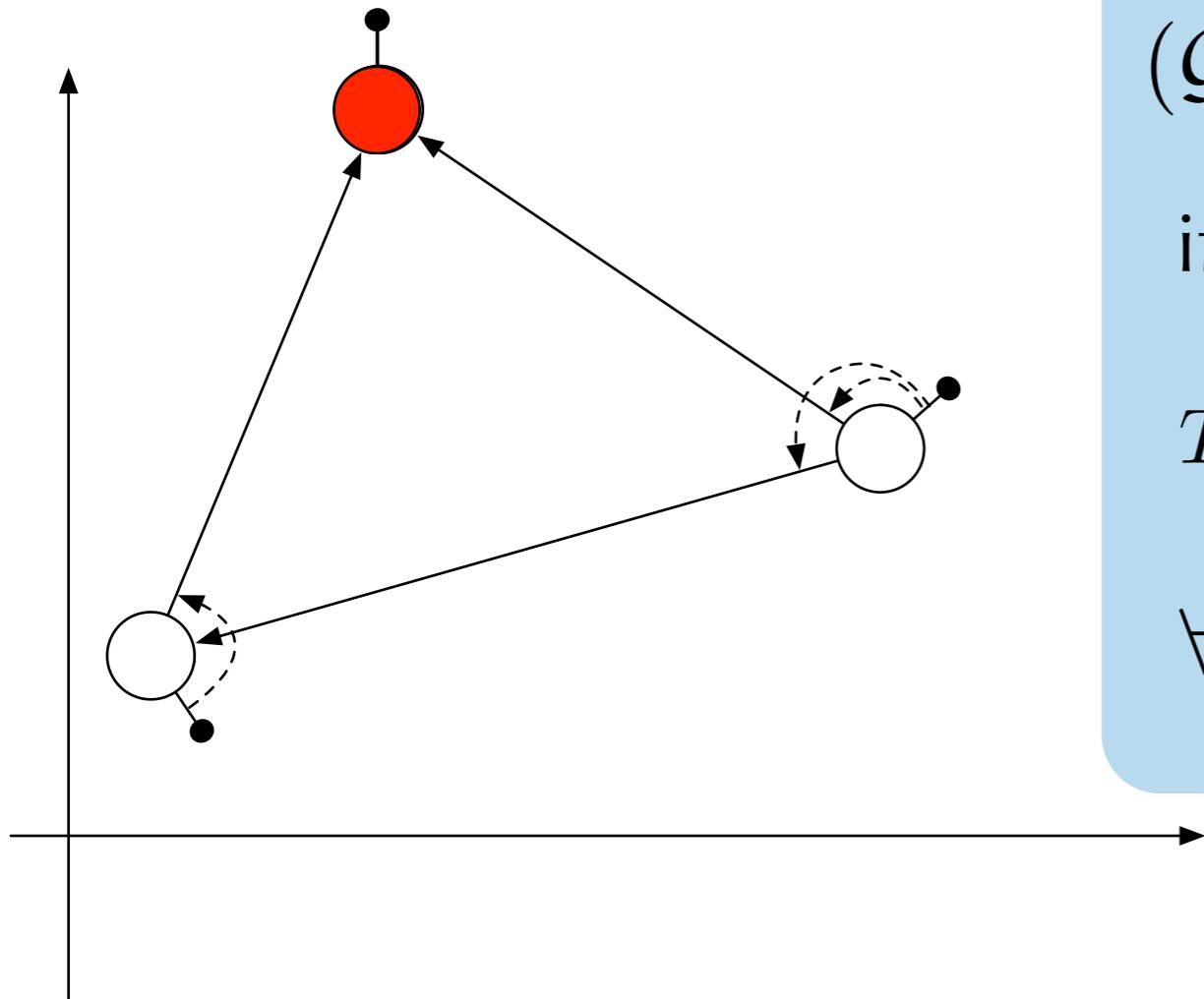


$$r_{uv} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \cos(\psi_u) & \sin(\psi_u) \\ -\sin(\psi_u) & \cos(\psi_u) \end{bmatrix}}_{T(\psi_u)^T} \frac{p_v - p_u}{\|p_v - p_u\|} \quad - \text{ bearings are expressed in the } \textcolor{red}{\text{body frame}} \text{ of a point}$$

directed bearing rigidity function

$$F_{SE(2)}(p, \psi) = \frac{1}{2} \left[\begin{array}{cccc} r_{e_1}^T & \cdots & r_{e_{|\mathcal{E}|}}^T \end{array} \right]^T$$

EQUIVALENCE AND CONGRUENCE



(\mathcal{G}, p, ψ) is equivalent to

if

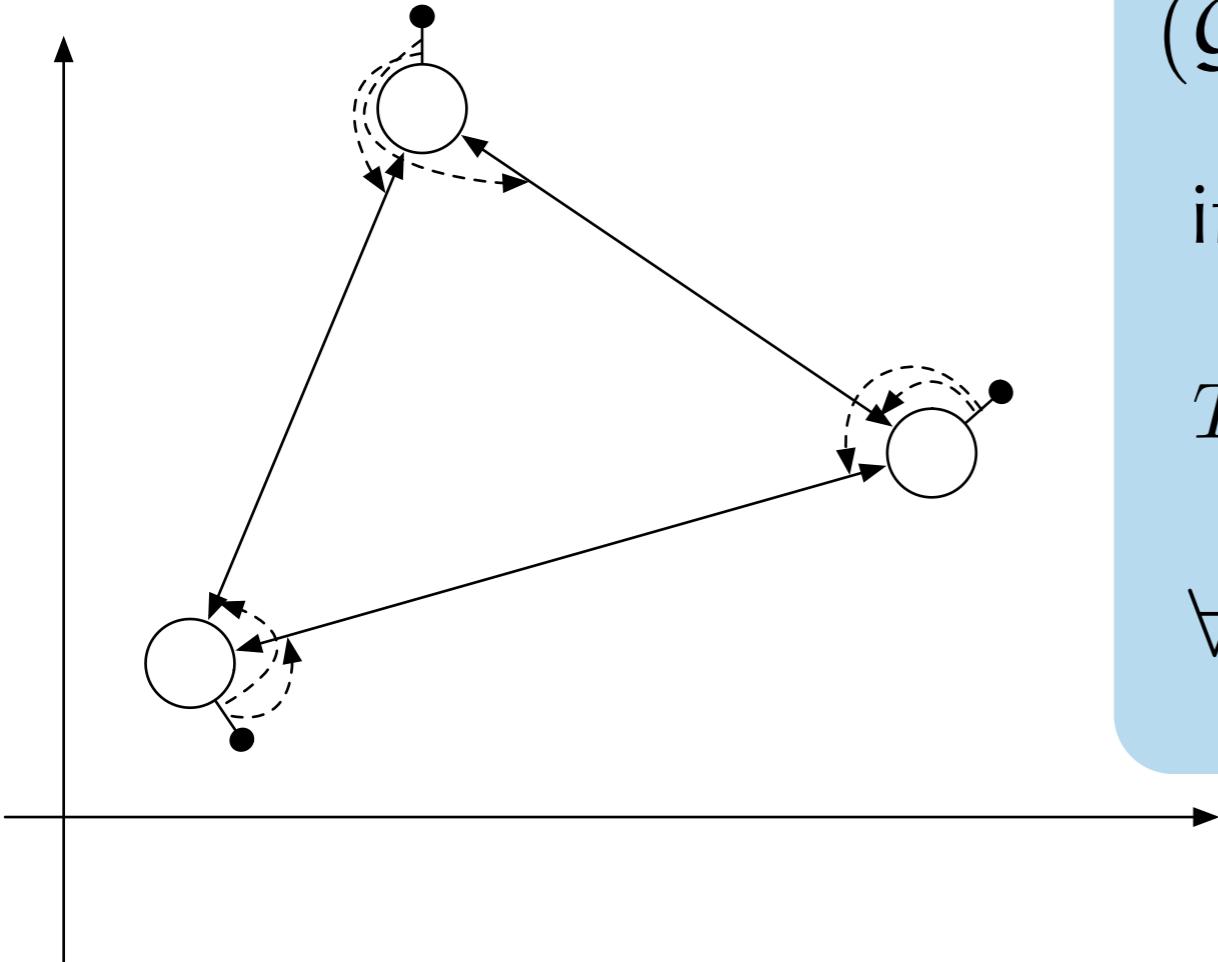
$$T(\psi_u)^T \frac{p_v - p_u}{\|p_u - p_v\|} = T(\phi_u)^T \frac{q_v - q_u}{\|q_u - q_v\|}$$

$$\forall (u, v) \in \mathcal{E}$$

$$|\mathcal{E}| = 3$$

- (local) bearings determined by the edge-set should be the same

EQUIVALENCE AND CONGRUENCE



$$|\mathcal{E}| = 6$$

- all (local) bearings pairs should be the same

(\mathcal{G}, p, ψ) is congruent to (\mathcal{G}, q, ϕ)

if

$$T(\psi_u)^T \frac{p_v - p_u}{\|p_u - p_v\|} = T(\phi_u)^T \frac{q_v - q_u}{\|q_u - q_v\|}$$

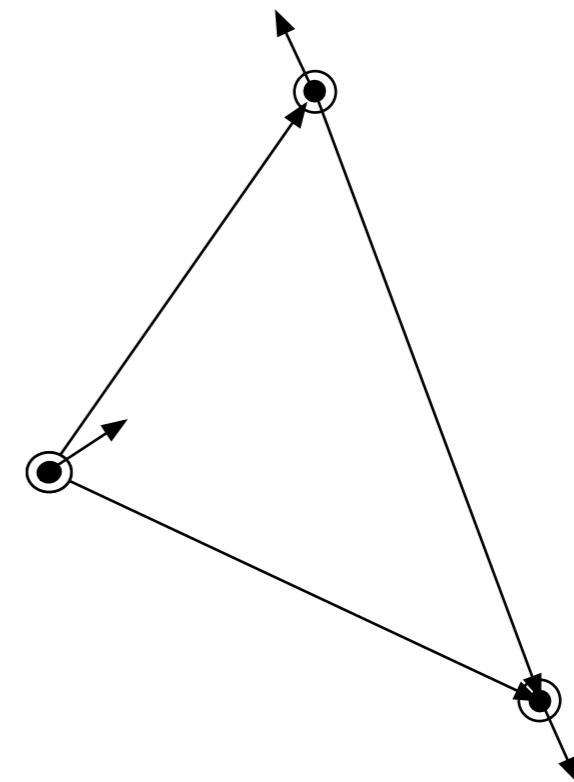
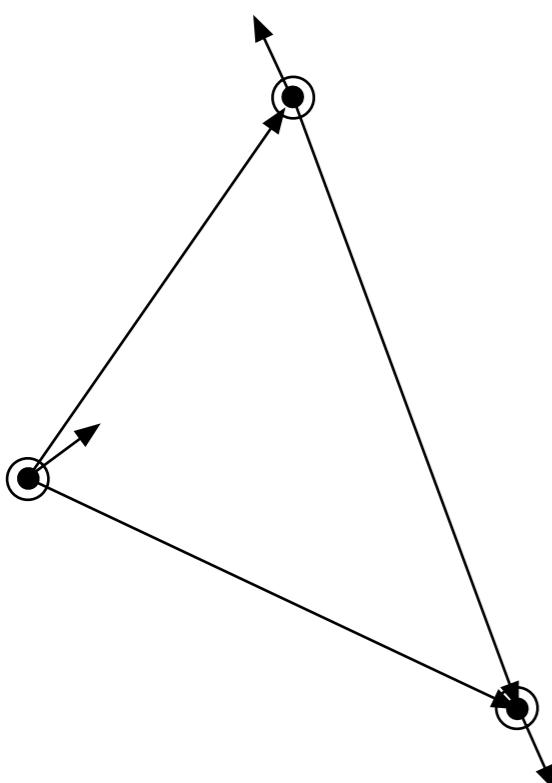
$$\forall u, v \in \mathcal{V}$$

INFINITESIMAL MOTIONS IN SE(2)

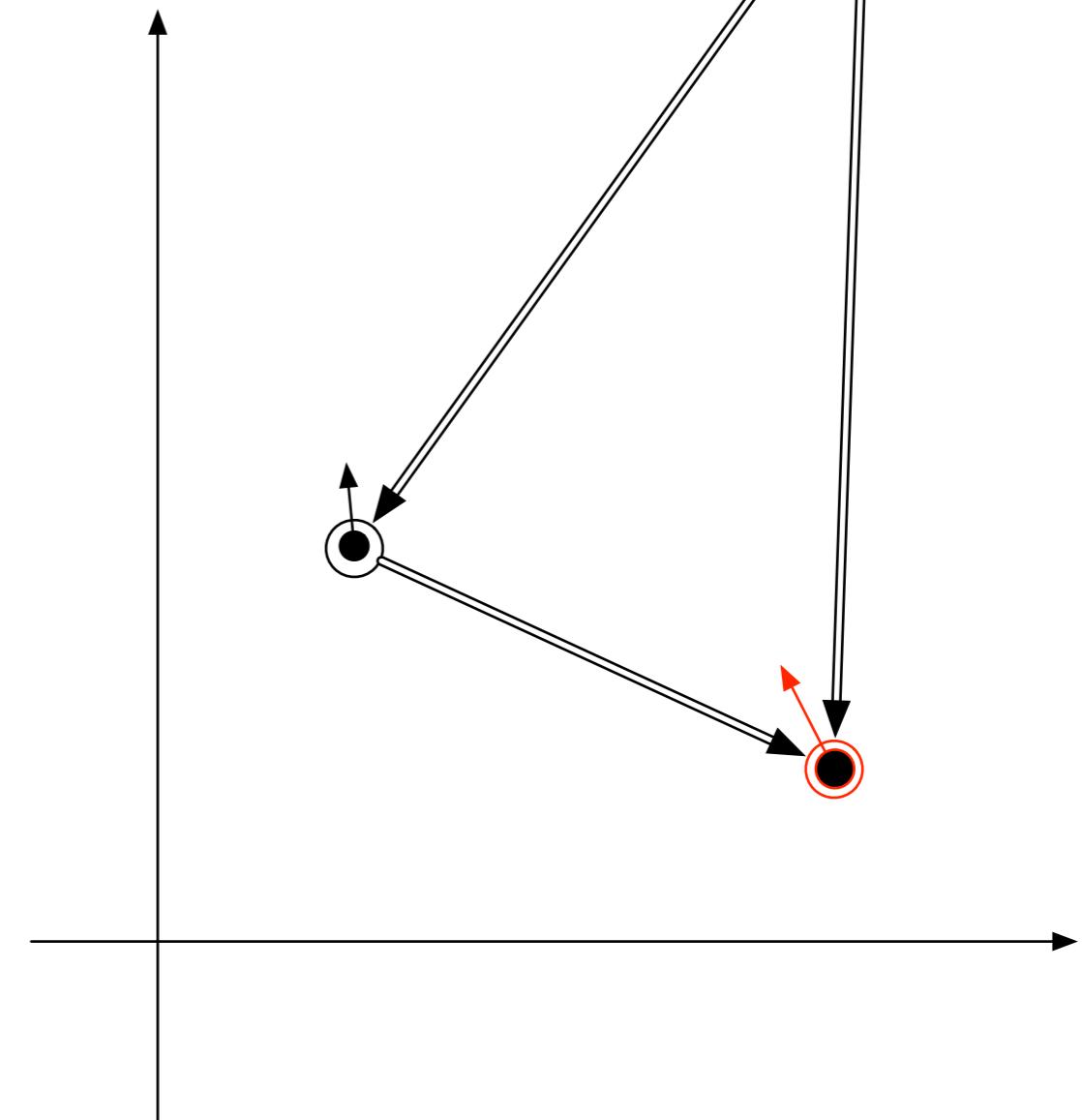
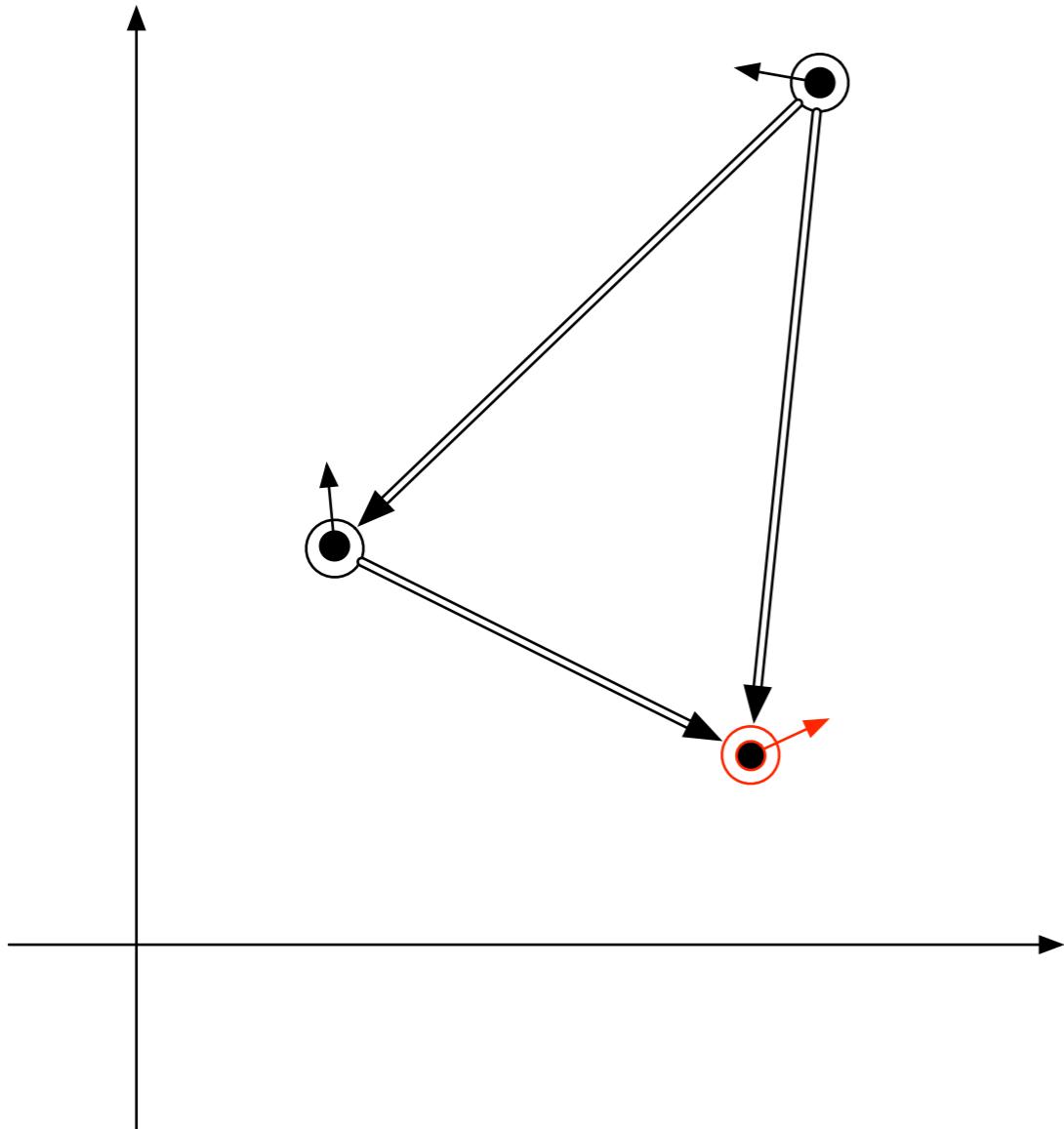
Infinitesimal motions are bearing preserving (in local frame) motions of the framework.

SE(2) Rigidity

- maintain bearings in local frame
- rigid body rotations and scaling + coordinated rotations

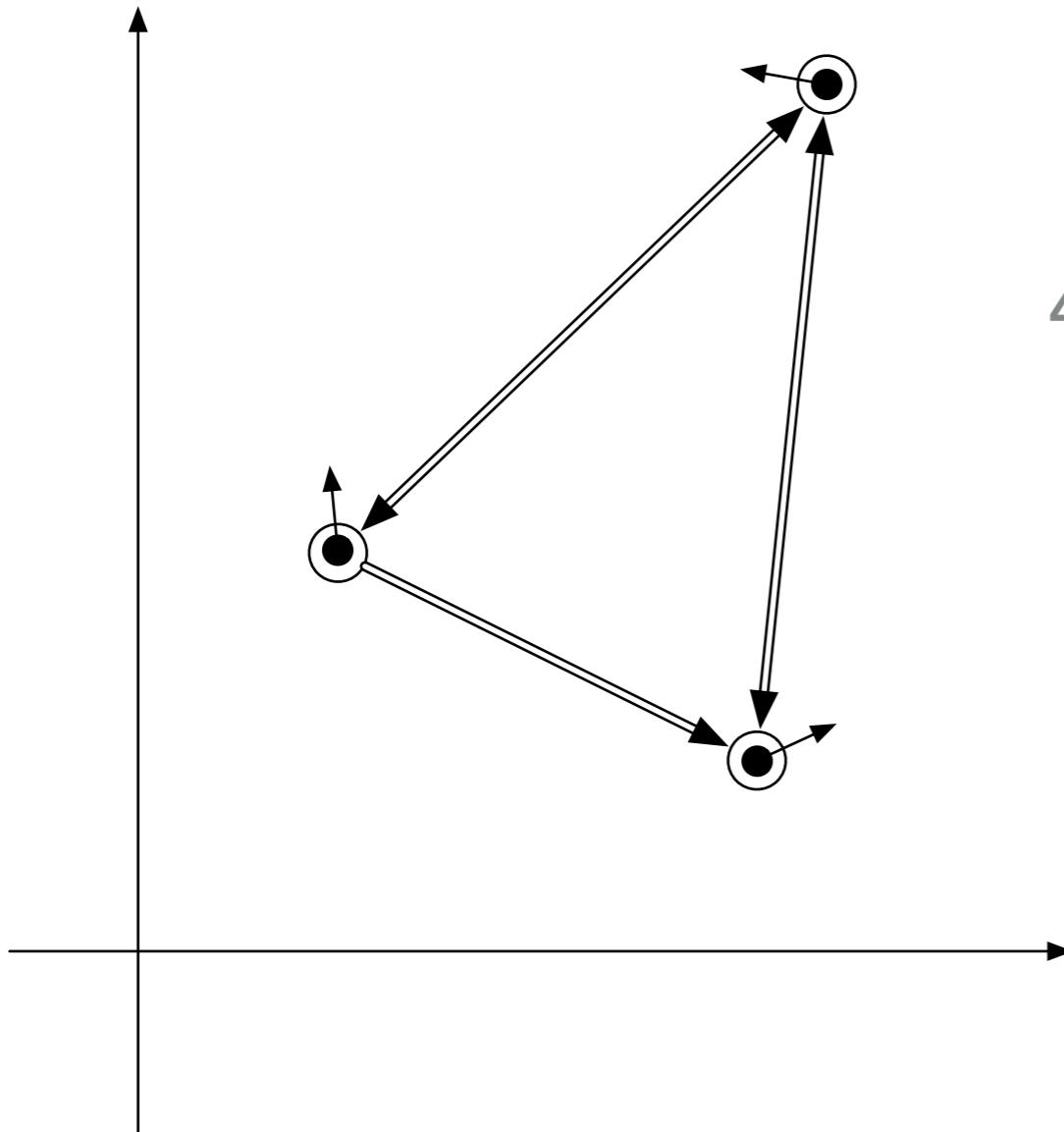


AN EXAMPLE: THE TRIANGLE



equivalent but not congruent

AN EXAMPLE: THE TRIANGLE



4 SE(2) preserving infinitesimal motions

we need 5 edges for triangle!

INFINITESIMAL RIGIDITY

A framework is *infinitesimally rigid* if every infinitesimal motion is *trivial*

Distance Function

$$F_D(p) = \frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} & \vdots \\ \|p(v_i) - p(v_j)\|^2 \\ & \vdots \end{bmatrix}$$

Distance Rigidity Matrix

$$R_D(p) = \frac{\partial F_D(p)}{\partial p}$$

Bearing Function

$$F_B(p) = \begin{bmatrix} & \vdots \\ \frac{p(v_j) - p(v_i)}{\|p(v_i) - p(v_j)\|} \\ & \vdots \end{bmatrix}$$

Bearing Rigidity Matrix

$$R_B(p) = \frac{\partial F_B(p)}{\partial p}$$

infinitesimal motions are precisely the motions that satisfy

$$R(p)\delta_p = \frac{\partial F(p)}{\partial p}\delta_p = 0$$

INFINITESIMAL RIGIDITY

Distance Function

$$F_D(p) = \frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} & \vdots \\ \|p(v_i) - p(v_j)\|^2 \\ & \vdots \end{bmatrix}$$

Distance Rigidity Matrix

$$R_D(p) = \frac{\partial F_D(p)}{\partial p}$$

Bearing Function

$$F_B(p) = \begin{bmatrix} & \vdots \\ \frac{p(v_j) - p(v_i)}{\|p(v_i) - p(v_j)\|} \\ & \vdots \end{bmatrix}$$

Bearing Rigidity Matrix

$$R_B(p) = \frac{\partial F_B(p)}{\partial p}$$

THEOREM

A framework is infinitesimally (distance, bearing) rigid if and only if the rank of the rigidity matrix is $2n-3$.

3 trivial motions in the plane

INFINITESIMAL RIGIDITY

Directed Bearing Function

$$F_{SE(2)}(p, \psi) = \frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} \vdots \\ T(\psi_u)g_{uv} \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix}$$

SE(2) Bearing Rigidity Matrix

$$R_{SE(2)}(p, \psi) = \frac{\partial F_{SE(2)}(p, \psi)}{\partial(p, \psi)}$$

THEOREM

A framework is infinitesimally SE(2) rigid if and only if the rank of the rigidity matrix is $3n-4$.

SE(2) FORMATION CONTROL

The **SE(2) bearing-based formation control** problem is to design a (distributed) control law that drives the agents to a desired spatial configuration determined by interagent bearings measured in the local body frame of each agent.

A gradient controller

$$\Phi(p, \psi) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{E}} \|r_{ij} - r_{ij}^*\|^2$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{p} \\ \dot{\psi} \end{bmatrix} = -\nabla_{(p,\psi)} \Phi(p, \psi) = R_{SE(2)}(p, \psi)^T b_{\mathcal{G}}^*$$

$$u_i = T(\psi_i)^T \dot{p}_i \quad \text{control expressed in local frame}$$

SE(2) FORMATION CONTROL

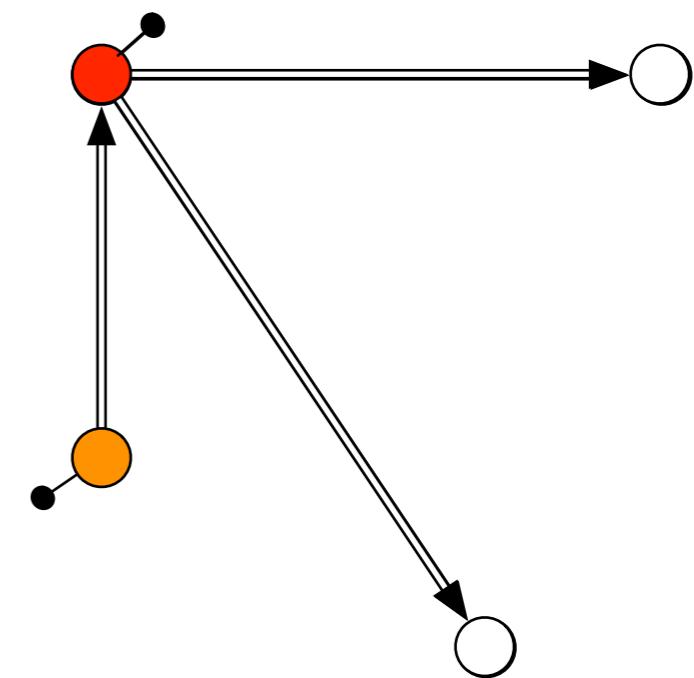
The **SE(2) bearing-based formation control** problem is to design a (distributed) control law that drives the agents to a desired spatial configuration determined by interagent bearings measured in the local body frame of each agent.

A gradient controller

$$\dot{p}_i = \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{E}} \frac{P_{r_{ij}}}{\|p_j - p_i\|} r_{ij}^d + \sum_{(j,i) \in \mathcal{E}} T(\psi_j - \psi_i) \frac{P_{r_{ji}}}{\|p_i - p_j\|} r_{ji}^d$$

$$\dot{\psi}_i = - \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{E}} (r_{ij}^\perp)^T r_{ij}^d$$

- x requires distances
- x requires communication
- x requires relative orientation



SE(2) FORMATION CONTROL

a scale-free SE(2) formation control

$$T(\psi_i)^T \dot{p}_i = - \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{E}} P_{r_{ij}} r_{ij}^d + \sum_{(j,i) \in \mathcal{E}} T(\psi_i - \psi_j)^T P_{r_{ji}} r_{ji}^d$$
$$\dot{\psi}_i = - \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{E}} (r_{ij}^\perp)^T r_{ij}^d,$$

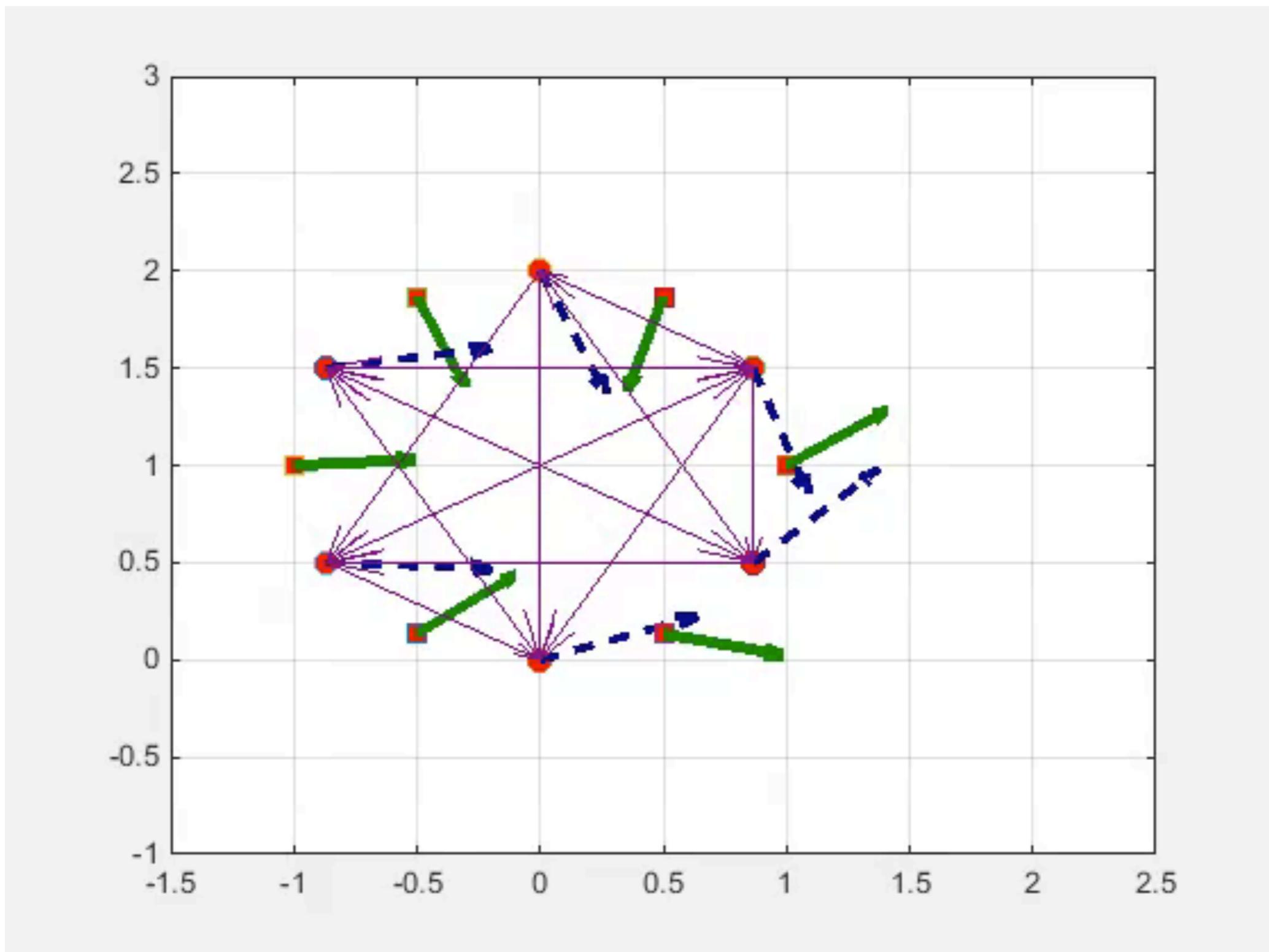
proof

$$\delta = F_{SE(2)}(p, \psi) - b_{\mathcal{G}}^*$$
$$\dot{\delta} = -R_{SE(2)}^T \underbrace{\hat{R}_{SE(2)}}_{\text{scale-free rigidity}} \delta$$

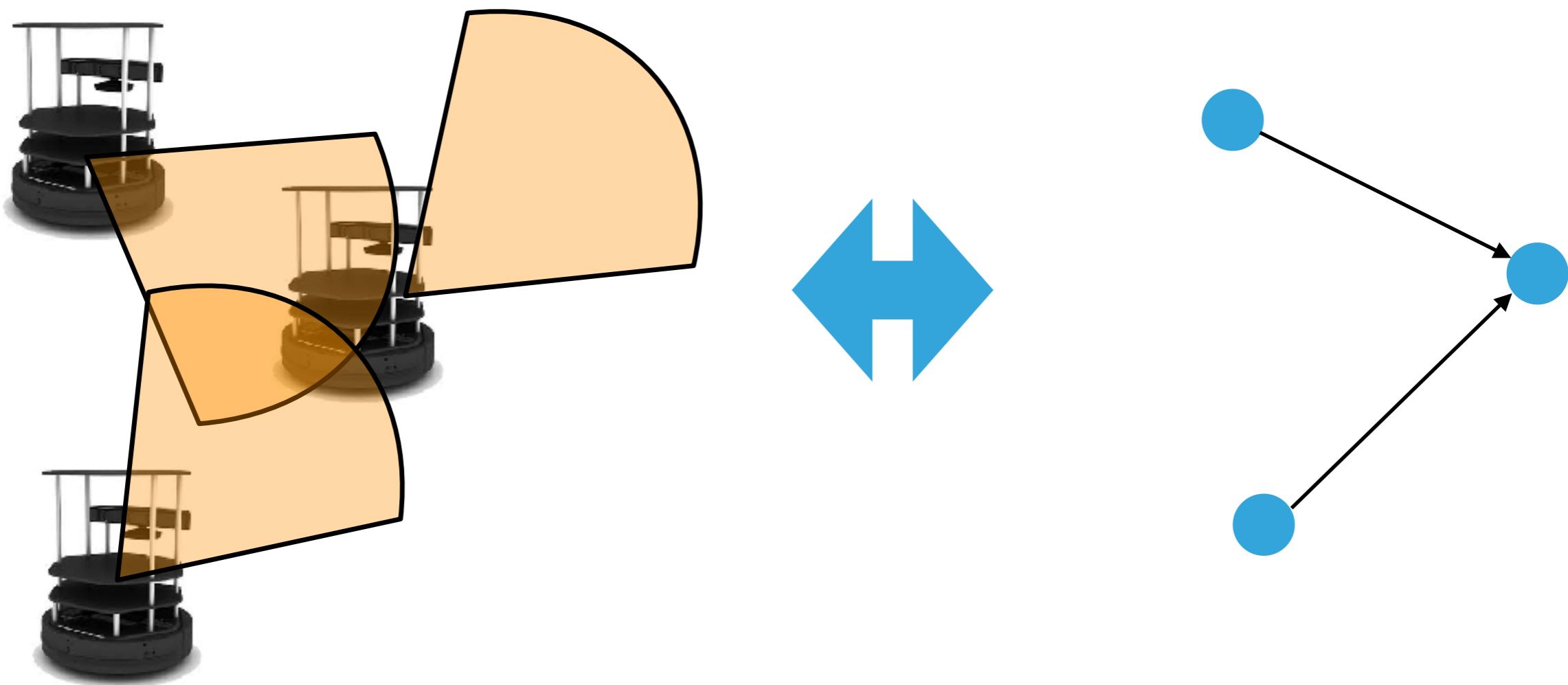
stability analysis depends
on the **SE(2) bearing
rigidity** of the formation!

D-semistability, Lyapunov, LaSalle

SE(2) FORMATION CONTROL



REAL SENSING MEANS DIRECTED INFORMATION



HOW DO WE ADAPT OUR EXISTING THEORY TO HANDLE
REAL SENSING?

SE(2) FORMATION CONTROL

A Rigidity-Based Decentralized Bearing Formation Controller for Groups of Quadrotor UAVs

F. Schiano, A. Franchi, D. Zelazo and P. Robuffo Giordano



FIELD-OF-VIEW CONSTRAINTS

Bearing only control law with limited view constraint

- 1) agents faces in direction of motion
- 2) agent faces the middle of its neighbours

$$w_i = \frac{1}{|\mathcal{N}_i(p(t))|} \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i(p(t))} \gamma_{ij}(p(t))$$

FIELD-OF-VIEW CONSTRAINTS

“robots” – modeled as kinematic point
mass with heading

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{p} \\ \dot{\psi} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} u \\ \omega \end{bmatrix}$$

Assumptions

- GLOBAL COORDINATE FRAME
- BEARING MEASUREMENTS
- FIELD OF VIEW CONSTRAINTS
- SENSING

Formation

- SPECIFIED BY BEARING VECTORS

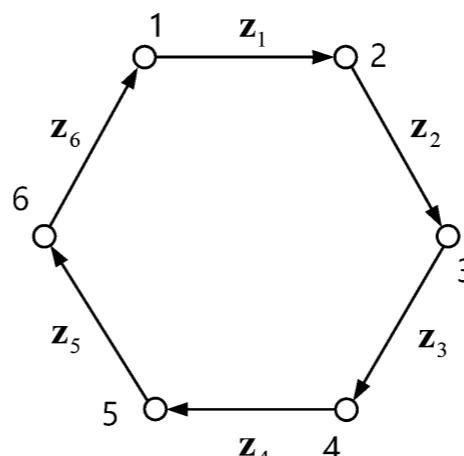
$$g_{ij}^* \in \mathbb{R}^2, \|g_{ij}^*\| = 1$$

Control

$$u_i = - \sum_{i \sim j} (I - g_{ij} g_{ij}^T) g_{ij}^*$$

$$\omega_i = \frac{1}{|\mathcal{N}_i(p(t))|} \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i(p(t))} \gamma_{ij}(p(t))$$

- ALWAYS FACE IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NEIGHBORS YOU ARE SENSING



**STABILITY?
CONVERGENCE?**

Formations on directed cycles with bearing-only measurements

OUTLOOKS



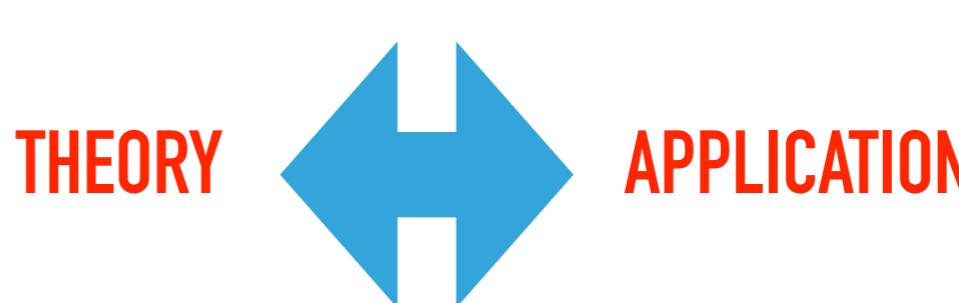
Do we need to develop rigidity theory extensions for every kind of sensor?



G. Stacey and R. Mahony, "*The Role of Symmetry in Rigidity Analysis: A Tool for Network Localisation and Formation Control*," in *IEEE Transactions on Automatic Control*, vol. PP, no. 99, pp. 1-1.



Extensions for directed sensing network control and estimation algorithms



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



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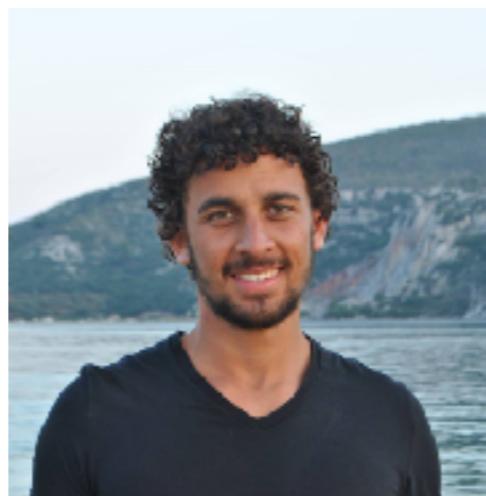
Gwangju Institute of
Science and Technology



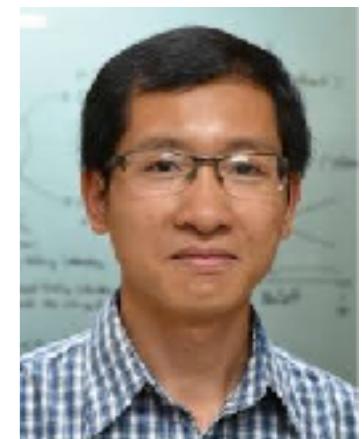
Prof. Hyo-Sung Ahn



Daniel Frank



Fabrizio Schiano



Minh Hoang Trinh



The 2nd International Symposium on Formation Control and Multi-Agent Systems

Date: June 9-10, 2018

Venue: University of Sheffield, UK



General Chair:

Hyo-Sung Ahn, Korea

Daniel Zelazo, Israel

Shiyu Zhao, UK

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The 2nd International Symposium on Formation Control and Multi-Agent Systems will be held at the University of Sheffield, UK on June 8-9, 2018. This symposium aims to create a forum for scientists and engineers throughout the world to present their latest research findings and encourage discussions on formation control and multi-agent systems.

Topic of the Year:

20 Years of Multi-Agent Formation Control —— The Future of Formation Control

<http://formationcontrol.group.shef.ac.uk>