

EROD

PHYSICS

ERod_1.1.0
Documentation

ERod

ERod is an open-source Grasshopper plugin for Rhino that enables designers and engineers to create and simulate X-shells [1], C-shells [2], and curved woven [3] structures. By employing the Discrete Elastic Rods model [4], ERod provides a physics-based modeling environment that accurately represents elastic beam behavior during deformation and deployment.

Key Features:

- **Physics-Based Simulation:** Simulate the behavior of elastic beams, facilitating the design of structures that rely on elastic deformation for form and stability.
- **Forward Design Tools:** Offers intuitive components for designing and modeling X-shells, C-shells, and curved woven structures within the Grasshopper environment, allowing for real-time exploration and iteration.
- **Integration with Inverse Design Optimization:** Prepares and exports necessary data for inverse design optimizations via Jupyter notebooks, enabling users to refine and optimize their designs based on specific performance criteria.
- **Seamless Workflow:** Ensures a smooth transition from conceptual design to simulation and optimization, streamlining the development process of complex elastic structures.

Erod runs on Apple Silicon Chips and Rhino 8 for Mac.

LICENSE

ERod is distributed under the terms of the GNU General Public License.

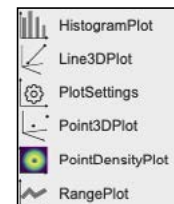
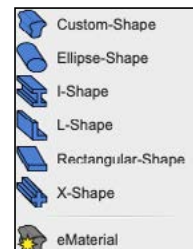
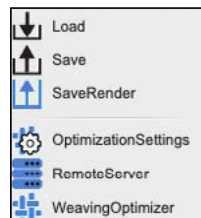
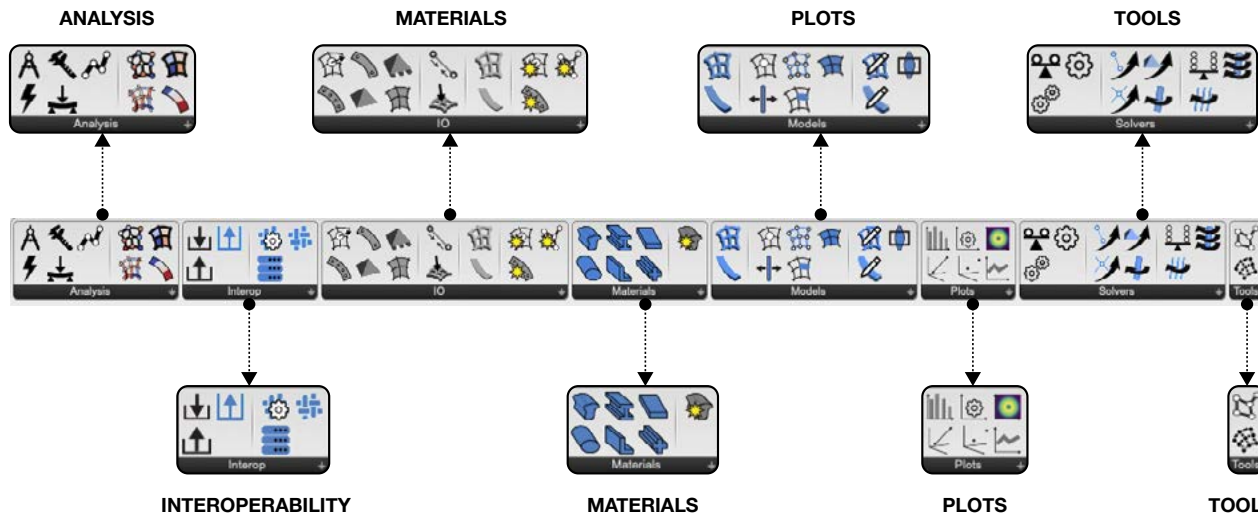
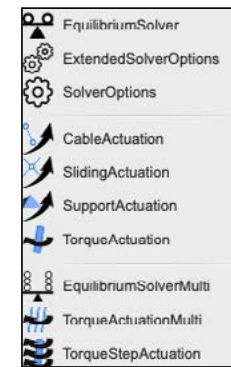
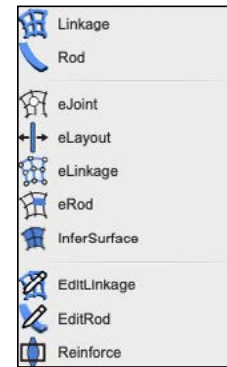
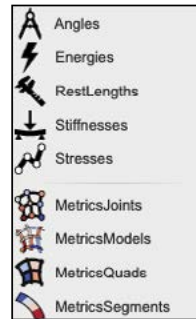
REFERENCES

[1] J. Panetta, M. Konaković-Luković, F. Isvoranu, E. Bouleau, and M. Pauly. 2019. X-Shells: a new class of deployable beam structures. *ACM Trans. Graph.* 38, 4, Article 83 (August 2019), 15 pages. <https://doi.org/10.1145/3306346.3323040>

[2] Quentin Becker, Seiichi Suzuki, Yingying Ren, Davide Pellis, Julian Panetta, and Mark Pauly. 2023. C-Shells: Deployable Gridshells with Curved Beams. *ACM Trans. Graph.* 42, 6, Article 173 (December 2023), 17 pages. <https://doi.org/10.1145/3618366>

[3] Yingying Ren, Julian Panetta, Tian Chen, Florin Isvoranu, Samuel Poincloux, Christopher Brandt, Alison Martin, and Mark Pauly. 2021. 3D weaving with curved ribbons. *ACM Trans. Graph.* 40, 4, Article 127 (August 2021), 15 pages. <https://doi.org/10.1145/3450626.3459788d>

[4] Miklós Bergou, Max Wardetzky, Stephen Robinson, Basile Audoly, and Eitan Grinspun. 2008. Discrete elastic rods. *ACM Trans. Graph.* 27, 3 (August 2008), 1–12. <https://doi.org/10.1145/1360612.1360662>



EROD COMPONENTS

Analysis (Mac)



1 **Angles**

Compute the minimum, maximum, and average joint angles of the linkage.



2 **Energies**

Computes the energies of an elastic rod or linkage.



3 **RestLengths**

Compute the minimum, maximum, average and total rest-lengths of the linkage.



4 **Stiffnesses**

Computes the stiffness of an elastic rod or linkage.



5 **Stresses**

Computes the stresses of an elastic rod or linkage.



6 **MetricsJoints**

Calculates and visualizes the joint metrics of a linkage using their angles.



7 **MetricsQuads**

Calculates and visualizes the quad metrics of a linkage using their areas.



8 **MetricsSegments**

Calculates and visualizes the segment metrics of a linkage using their rest quantities.



9 **MetricsModels**

Calculates and visualizes the metrics of an elastic model using their stresses.

Interoperability (Windows/Mac)



10 **Load**

Load a JSON file with input data to build an elastic model.



11 **Save**

Write a JSON file with input data to run a Jupyter notebook.



12 **SaveRender**

Write a JSON file with data for rendering.



13 **OptimizationSettings**

Transfinite constraints to explicitly defined a structured distribution of an n-number of vertices on a given curve.



14 **RemoteServer**

Set the credentials for connecting to a remote server for running optimization tasks. Ensure that the server has an instance of the optimization code already deployed.



15 **WeavingOptimizer**

Weaving optimizer running on a remote server.

IO (Windows/Mac)



16 **Normal**

Set a vector to be the normal of a joint.



17 **Ribbon**

Build a ribbon from a curve with parameters to define the joints.



18 **Segment**

Build a segment of a ribbon from a curve.



19 **Support**

Set support condition using a reference point.



20 **TargetSupport**

Set a target surface mesh to attract the linkage.



21 **TargetSurface**

Set a target surface from a mesh to attract the linkage.



22 **Cable**

Compute forces exerted by an elastic cable.



23 **Force**

Set a vector to act as an external force on the model.



24 **LinkageIO**

Assemble all input data to construct an elastic linkage.



25 **RodIO**

Assemble all input data to construct an elastic rod.



26 **eJointIO**

Deconstruct JointIO data.



27 eRodIO

Deconstruct an elastic rod or a rod segment from a linkage.



28 eTopology

Deconstruct the topology of a linkage.

Cross-Sections (Windows/Mac)



29 Custom-Shape

Build a cross-section using a custom profile.



30 Ellipse-Shape

Build a circular cross-Section.



31 I-Shape

Build a cross-section using an I profile.



32 L-Shape

Build a cross-section using an L profile.



33 Rectangular-Shape

Build a cross-section using a rectangular profile.



34 X-Shape

Build a cross-section using an X profile.



35 eMaterial

Analyze a cross-section

Model (Mac)



36 Linkage

Construct an elastic linkage.



37 Rod

Construct an elastic rod.



38 eJoint

Deconstruct a joint from a linkage.



39 eLayout

Extract the layout of ribbon families (if they exist) from an elastic linkage



40 eLinkage

Deconstruct an elastic linkage.



41 eRod

Deconstruct an elastic rod or a rod segment from a linkage.



42 InferSurface

Construct a surface that best fits the deployed geometry of an elastic linkage.



43 EditLinkage

Modify an elastic linkage.



44 EditRod

Modify an elastic rod.



45 Reinforce

Adjust the bending and twisting stiffness within specified regions.

Solvers (Mac)



46 EquilibriumSolver

Equilibrium solver.



47 ExtendedSolverOptions

Extended Newton solver options.



48 SolverOptions

Newton solver options.



49 CableActuation

Deployment via cable actuation (WIP).



50 SlidingActuation

Linkage deployment via sliding actuation at selected joints.



51 SupportActuation

Deployment via support actuation.



52 TorqueActuation

Linkage deployment via torque actuation.



53 EquilibriumSolverMulti

Equilibrium solver for multiple models.



54 TorqueActuationMulti

Deployment via torque actuation for multiple models.



55 TorqueStepActuation

Linkage deployment via torque actuation at joints. This solver generates a copy of the linkage at each deployment step.

Plots (Windows/Mac)



56 HistogramPlot

Creates a histogram chart .



57 Line3DPlot

Creates a line 3D plot.



58 PlotSettings

Graph plotter Settings.



59 Point3DPlot

Creates a three-dimensional point chart.



60 PointDensityPlot

Creates a point density plot which combines a scatter plot and a histogram with 2d contours.



61 RangePlot

Creates a chart to indicate some property of data that lies in a certain range around a central value.

Tools (Windows/Mac)



56 EdgeTopology

Build the topology of a collection of curves.



57 Split

Split curves by computing the intersection of multiple curves.

