

# Protein Folding: Planar Configuration Spaces of Disc Arrangements and Hinged Polygons: *Protein Folding in Flatland*

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## Abstract

We look into the decidability of whether a hinged configuration locks.

## 1 Introduction

We look into the decidability of continuity on planar configuration space using regular, unitary hexagonal polygons. These polygons can also represent unit disk configurations [1]

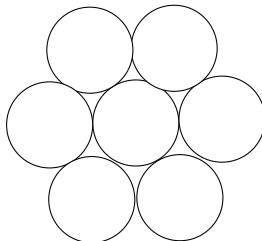


Figure 1: A locked 7 ball configuration

**Motivation** Protein folding, graphite, crystalline structures in metallurgy; disc packing; hexagonal configurations; Determine whether chemical structures are realizable.

**Outline** Section 2 covers the necessary mathematical concepts to understanding the problem. Section 3 explains the problem, Section 4 covers the results and findings about the problem. Section 5, the conclusion, offers final remarks on the problem.

## 2 Background

Here we review some of the necessary mathematics behind the problem. The definitions found in this chapter are those found in [?, 4, 3].

## 2.1 Linkages

**Definition 2.1** (Linkage). A collection of fixed-length 1D segments joined at their endpoints to form a graph.

**Definition 2.2** (Graph). An ordered pair  $G = (V, E)$  comprising a set  $V$  of vertices or nodes together with a set  $E$  of edges or lines

**Definition 2.3** (Cycle). A closed walk with no repetitions of vertices or edges allowed, other than the repetition of the starting and ending vertex

**Definition 2.4** (Configuration). A specification of the location of all the link endpoints, link orientations and joint angles.[2]

**Definition 2.5** (Configuration Space). The space of all configurations of a linkage.

A configurations space is said to be continuous if for any two configurations,  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{B}$  of a linkage  $L$ ,  $\mathcal{A}$  can be continuously reconfigured to  $\mathcal{B}$  such that, the reconfigurations reside in the configuration domain,  $L$  remains rigid throughout reconfiguration (i.e. all links' lengths are preserved), and no violations of linkage intersection conditions.

## 2.2 Circle Packing

**Definition 2.6** (Circle Packing).  $P$  of a planar graph  $G$  is a set of circles with disjoint interiors  $\{C_v\}_{v \in G}$  such that two circles are tangent if and only if the corresponding vertices form an edge. [?]

**Theorem 2.1** (Circle Packing Theorem). *For every connected simple planar graph  $G$  there is a circle packing in the plane whose intersection graph is (isomorphic to)  $G$ . [4]*

### 2.2.1 Circle Packings and Polygonal Linkages

Given a circle of radius  $r$ , we establish the isomorphism to a hexagon by circumscribing the vertices of the regular hexagon.

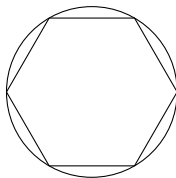


Figure 2: A circumscribed hexagon

### 2.2.2 Hinged Polygons

**Definition 2.7** (Polygonal Chain). A polygonal chain  $P = (v_0, v_1, \dots, v_{n-1})$  is a sequence of consecutively joined segments (or edges)  $e_i = v_i v_{i+1}$  of fixed lengths  $l_i = |e_i|$ , in a plane. [?]

A chain is said to be closed if  $v_{n-1} = v_1$ , otherwise it is said to be open. Hinged polygons have been researched for decades and related to linkage problems [?, ?].

Consider the locked configuration of figure 3. We can configure the hexagons to be locked by placing hing points as follows: To prove that it is a locked configuration:

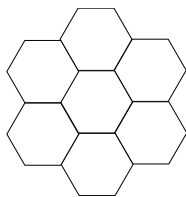


Figure 3: A locked 7 hexagonal configuration. (needs to modify picture by placing red points for hing points.)

- (i)
- (ii)
- (iii)
- (iv)
- (v)
- (vi)
- (vii)
- (viii)
- (ix)
- (x)

### 2.2.3 Hinged Hexagons

**Theorem 2.2.** *Any finite collection of polygons of equal area has a common hinged dissection. [?]*

**The Shapes** Figure 4 is a locking shape: Figure 4 shall reside in the boundary of a lattice and have

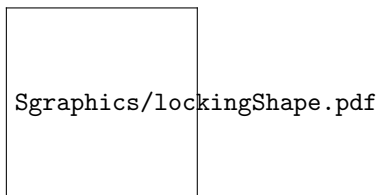


Figure 4: This is the shapte that resides in boundary of the lattice.

a hinge point at one vertex where the locking shape and boundary meet.

**Junctions** We define junctions to be the point three hexagons meet in a hexagonal lattice, e.g. Figure 6.

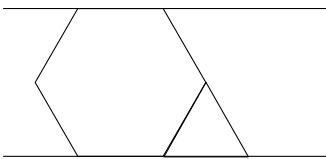


Figure 5: A locking shape in the lattice boundary's channel.

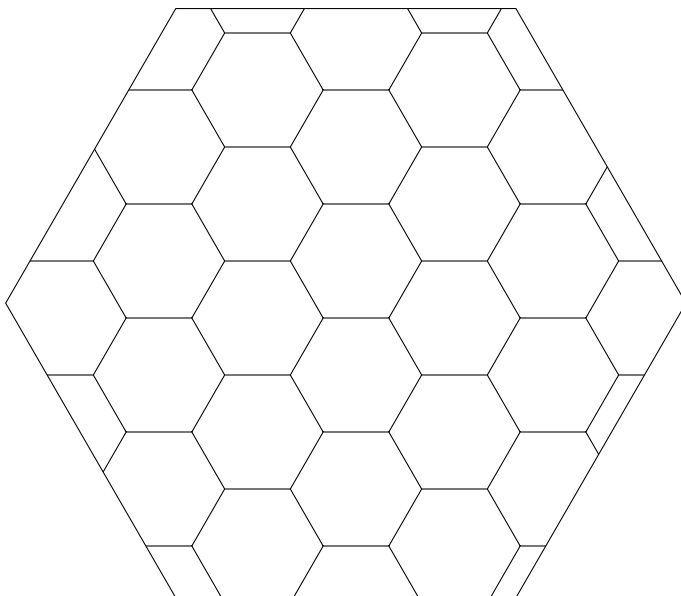


Figure 6: A portion of a hexagonal lattice.

## Central Scaling

**Junctions in Conjunctive Normal Form** Explain the configurations we're interested in.

## 3 Configuration Spaces of Polygonal Chains

### 3.0.4 Configurations and Locked Configurations

### 3.1 Dissections

*Problem 3.1* (Polygonal Dissection). Given two polygons of equal area,  $P_1$  and  $P_2$ , partition  $P_1$  into smaller pieces,  $\{P_{1,i}\}_{i=1}^n$ , rearrange the pieces to form  $P_2$ . [3]

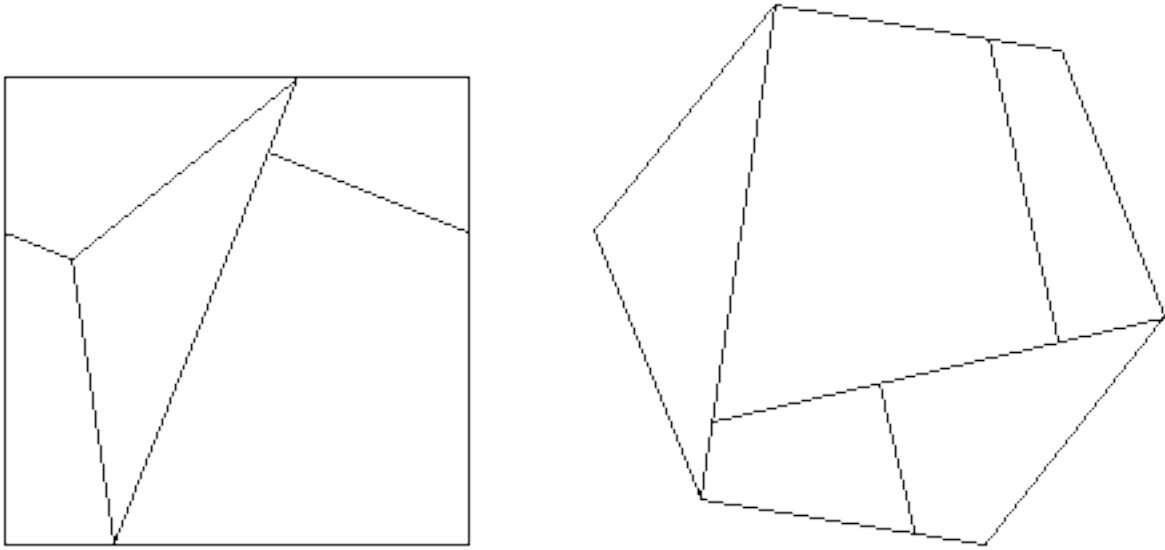


Figure 7: An example of two polygons of equal area that can be rearranged into the other by the given partition.[?]

## 3.2 SAT Problems

*Problem 3.2* (Satisfiability Problem). Let  $\{x_i\}_{i=1}^n$  be boolean variables, and  $t_i \in \{x_i\}_{i=1}^n \cup \{\bar{x}_i\}_{i=1}^n$ . A *clause* is said to be a disjunction of distinct terms:

$$t_1 \vee \dots \vee t_{j_k} = C_k$$

Then the *satisfiability problem* is the decidability of a conjunction of a set of clauses, i.e.:

$$\bigwedge_{i=1}^m C_i$$

[?]

### 3.2.1 3-SAT Problems

A 3-SAT problem is a SAT problem with all clauses having only three boolean variables.

## 4 Problem

### 4.1 Problem Statement

text

### 4.2 Decidability of Problem

test

### 4.3 Hexagonal Locked Configuration

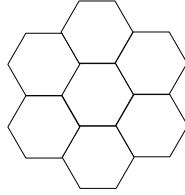


Figure 8: 7 hexagonal configuration

## 5 Conclusion

We conclude. . .

## References

- [1] Heinz Breu and David G. Kirkpatrick. Unit disk graph recognition is np-hard. *Computational Geometry*, 9(12):3 – 24, 1998. Special Issue on Geometric Representations of Graphs.
- [2] E.D. Demaine and J. O’Rourke. *Geometric Folding Algorithms: Linkages, Origami, Polyhedra*. Cambridge University Press, 2008.
- [3] G.N. Frederickson. *Dissections: Plane and Fancy*. Cambridge University Press, 1997.
- [4] K. Stephenson. *Introduction to Circle Packing: The Theory of Discrete Analytic Functions*. Cambridge University Press, 2005.