

A sofa can be seen as the intersection of rotating hallways (see the figure above). So by taking a finite number of hallways and taking the polygonal intersection  $S$ , we get an approximation of the sofa with a larger area. Let  $\Theta$  be a finite set of angles such that  $\{0, \pi/2\} \subseteq \Theta \subseteq [0, \pi/2]$ . That is,  $\Theta$  is a partition

$$0 = \theta_0 < \theta_1 < \theta_2 < \dots < \theta_n = \pi/2$$

of the interval  $[0, \pi/2]$ . `SofaDesigner` computes the set of all *monotone hallway intersections*  $S$  with the set of angles  $\Theta$  and an area at least  $2.2195\dots$ . Essentially,  $S$  is the polygonal intersection of the finite number of hallways of width 1 rotated by each angle of  $\Theta$ , approximating a sofa from above (see the figure below).

`SofaDesigner` produces computer-assisted proofs of mathematical facts about an arbitrary intersection  $S$ . It generates proofs in computer files, so that the files representing the proofs can be verified separately by a verifier independent from `SofaDesigner`. The purpose of this is to ensure that the correctness of the proof do not depend on the correctness of the specific implementation of `SofaDesigner` (which consists of thousand lines of C++), and to enable cross-validation by multiple independent parties.

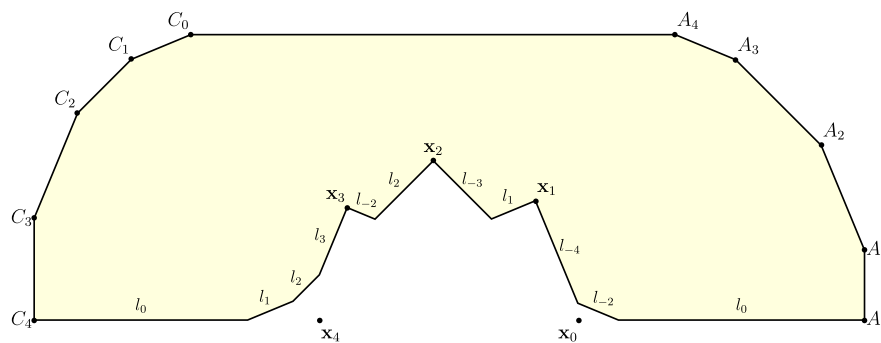
In particular, we have the following roles for `SofaDesigner` and its verifier.

- `SofaDesigner`
  1. Computes the set  $S$  of all monotone hallway intersections  $S$  with an area at least  $2.2195\dots$ , and stores it as a tree structure  $\mathcal{T}$  in a JSON format.

- 2. Given  $\mathcal{T}$  and an inequality  $I$  on an arbitrary intersection  $S$  in  $\mathcal{S}$ , produces a proof in a custom JSON format.
- The verifier
  - 1. Verifies that the JSON-formatted tree  $\mathcal{T}$  accurately represents the set  $\mathcal{S}$  of all monotone hallway intersections  $S$  with an area at least  $2.2195\dots$
  - 2. Verifies the proof that an inequality  $I$  on  $S$  from the JSON-formatted proof generated by `SofaDesigner`.

## Definition of Monotone Hallway Intersection $S$

**Figure [polygon-halfway-intersection].** An intersection  $S$  with five hallways ( $n = 4$ ) and edge order  $\mathbf{i}_K = [0, 1, 2, 3, -2, 2, -3, 1, -4, -2, 0]$ .



We first provide the precise definition and shape of a monotone hallway intersection  $S$  with angle set  $\Theta$ . All the details in this section is important to ensure that the verification process is correct.

$H = \mathbb{R} \times [0, 1]$  is the horizontal strip of height 1.  $L$  is the right-angled hallway of width 1, with inner corner at  $\mathbf{x} = (0, 0)$  and outer corner at  $\mathbf{y} = (1, 1)$ . Mathematically,  $L = (-\infty, 1] \times [0, 1] \cup [0, 1] \times (-\infty, 1]$ . Let  $a$  and  $b$  be the lines  $x = 1$  and  $y = 1$  passing through the outer corner  $\mathbf{y}$  representing the outer walls of  $L$ . Let  $c$  and  $d$  be the half-lines  $(-\infty, 0] \times \{0\}$  and  $\{0\} \times (-\infty, 0]$  emanating from the inner corner  $\mathbf{x}$  representing the inner walls of  $L$ .

For all  $0 \leq i \leq n$ , let  $u_i = (\cos \theta_i, \sin \theta_i)$  and  $v_i = (-\sin \theta_i, \cos \theta_i)$  so that the vectors  $u_i$  and  $v_i$  form a orthogonal basis. Also, let  $v_{i+n} = -u_i$  for all  $0 \leq i \leq n$  so that  $v_i$  is defined for all indices  $i$  from 0 to  $2n$ . For any  $0 \leq i \leq n$ , let  $L_i$  be a copy of the hallway  $L$  rotated counterclockwise by an angle of  $\theta_i$  and

translated so that the inner corner is positioned at  $\mathbf{x}_i$ . Here, the set  $S$  is the intersection of the horizontal strip  $H$  and the rotated hallways  $L_i$ . Let  $a_i, b_i, c_i$  and  $d_i$  be the sides of the hallway  $L_i$  corresponding to the sides  $a, b, c$ , and  $d$  of  $L$ .

For the intersection  $S = H \cap \bigcap_{i=0}^n L_i$  to be a monotone hallway intersection, we require the following conditions.

- (WLOG) Without loss of generality, by translating  $S$  horizontally we assume that  $L_0 = L$  so that  $\mathbf{x}_0 = (0, 0)$ . Also, we assume that  $\mathbf{x}_n$  has the  $y$ -coordinate equal to zero. Consequently, the sides  $a_n$  and  $c_0$  are equal to the line  $y = 1$ .
- (Monotonicity) The sides  $y = 0$  and  $y = 1$  of  $H$  and the outer walls  $a_i$  and  $c_i$  of  $L_i$  for any  $0 \leq i \leq n$  should determine all the sides of a convex polygon  $K$  called the *cap* of  $S$ . Although we allow some edges of  $K$  to degenerate and have zero length, all the lines  $a_0, a_1, \dots, a_{n-1}, a_n = c_0, c_1, \dots, c_n$ , and  $y = 0$  should form the edges of  $K$  in counterclockwise order.

Consequently, the sides  $a_n$  and  $c_0$  are equal to the line  $y = 1$  and determines the upper horizontal edge of  $K$ . The sides  $a_0, a_1, \dots, a_{n-1}$  forms the different edge of  $K$  on the right side in counterclockwise order, and the sides  $c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n$  forms the different edges of  $K$  on the right side in counterclockwise order.

For any  $0 < i \leq n$ , let  $A_i$  be the intersection of  $a_{i-1}$  and  $a_i$ . Also let  $A_0$  be the intersection of  $a_0$  and the line  $y = 0$ . Likewise, for any  $0 \leq i < n$ , let  $C_i$  be the intersection of  $c_i$  and  $c_{i+1}$ . Also let  $C_n$  be the intersection of  $a_0$  and the line  $y = 0$ . Then the points  $A_0, A_1, \dots, A_n$  forms the vertices of  $K$  on the right side, and the points  $C_0, C_1, \dots, C_n$  forms the vertices of  $K$  on the left side. For any  $0 \leq i \leq n$ , define  $A_{n+1+i} = A_i$  so that the list  $A_0, A_1, \dots, A_{2n+1}$  forms all the vertices of  $K$  in the counterclockwise order.

For any  $0 \leq i \leq n$ , define the support function values  $p_i = A_i \cdot u_i$  and  $q_i = C_i \cdot v_i$  of the cap  $K$ . Note that we also have  $p_i = \mathbf{x}_i \cdot u_i + 1$  and  $q_i = \mathbf{x}_i \cdot v_i + 1$ . Note that as the sides  $a_n$  and  $c_0$  are equal to the line  $y = 1$ , we have  $p_n = q_0 = 1$ .  $0 \leq i \leq n$ , define  $p_{n+i} = q_i$  so that the list  $p_0, p_1, \dots, p_{2n}$  is a

concatenation of  $p_0, p_1, \dots, p_n$  and  $q_0, q_1, \dots, q_n$ . For every  $0 \leq i \leq 2n$ , define the side lengths  $s_i = (A_{i+1} - A_i) \cdot v_i$  of  $K$ .

## Coordinate Systems of $S$

A monotone hallway intersection  $S$  is completely determined by its cap  $K$ . So the state of  $S$  can be described by any coordinate system representing the cap  $K$ . There are three coordinate systems we can use for  $K$ .

- For every  $0 \leq i \leq n$ , the inner corners  $\mathbf{x}_i = (x_i, y_i) \in \mathbb{R}^2$  of the hallways with  $\mathbf{x}_0 = (x_0, y_0) = (0, 0)$  and the  $y$ -coordinate  $y_n$  of  $\mathbf{x}_n$  equal to zero. With the constraints we have a total of  $2n - 1$  free coordinates  $x_1, \dots, x_n, y_1, \dots, y_{n-1}$  to determine.
- The support function values  $p_0, p_1, \dots, p_n$  and  $q_0, q_1, \dots, q_n$  of the right and left part of the cap, with constraints  $p_0 = p_n = q_0 = 1$ . In this coordinate, we have  $2n - 1$  free values  $p_1, \dots, p_{n-1}$  and  $q_1, \dots, q_n$  to determine.
- The edge lengths  $s_0, s_1, \dots, s_{2n}$  of cap  $K$ , with constraints  $\sum_{i=0}^n \cos(\theta_i) s_i = 1$  and  $\sum_{i=0}^n \sin(\theta_i) s_{n+i} = 1$  to ensure that the height of  $K$  is equal to 1. Using the two equalities, we can eliminate the variables  $s_0 = 1 - \sum_{i=1}^n \cos(\theta_i) s_i$  and  $s_{2n} = 1 - \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \sin(\theta_i) s_{n+i}$  and have  $2n - 1$  free variables  $s_1, s_2, \dots, s_{2n-1}$ .

All three coordinate systems are convertible to each other. For example, the coordinates of  $\mathbf{x}_i$  determine the values  $p_i = \mathbf{x}_i \cdot u_i + 1$  and so the lines  $a_i = \{z \in \mathbb{R}^2 : z \cdot u_i = p_i\}$  and the intersections  $A_i = a_{i-1} \cap a_i$ . The side lengths are then recoverable from the formula  $s_i = (A_{i+1} - A_i) \cdot v_i$ . In this way, we can express the edge lengths  $s_0, s_1, \dots, s_{2n}$  from the coordinates of  $\mathbf{x}_0, \mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n$ . We can also work the other way and get the coordinates of  $\mathbf{x}_i$  from the edge lengths  $s_0, s_1, \dots, s_{2n}$ . Start with  $A_0 = (0, 0)$ , and use the formula  $A_{i+1} = A_i + s_i v_i$  to retrieve all the vertices  $A_0, \dots, A_{2n}$  of  $K$ , the support function values  $p_i = A_i \cdot u_i$  and  $q_i = A_{i+n} \cdot v_n$ , and then  $\mathbf{x}_i = (p_i - 1)u_i + (q_i - 1)v_i$ . Note that all the conversions are affine-linear. So any of the three coordinate systems determine a cap  $K$ .

**SofaDesigner** chooses the system of support function values  $p_1, \dots, p_{n-1}$  and  $q_1, \dots, q_n$ . Let  $\mathbf{p} = (p_1, \dots, p_{n-1}, q_1, \dots, q_n)$  be the list of free variables in

the given order. We also require each side length  $s_i$  to be nonnegative in order for  $K$  to be a proper cap. For any  $0 \leq i \leq 2n$ , let  $E_i$  be the inequality  $s_i \geq 0$  where  $s_i$  is written in terms of  $\mathbf{p}$ . Define  $\mathcal{K}_\Theta$  as the domain of  $2n - 1$  free real variables  $\mathbf{p}$  in support function coordinates with the linear constraints  $E_i$  for all  $0 \leq i \leq n$ . Then  $\mathcal{K}_\Theta$  is the space of all caps of monotone hallway intersections with angle set  $\Theta$ . The goal of `SofaDesigner` is to understand the subset of  $\mathcal{K}_\Theta$  where the cap gives rise to the monotone hallway intersection  $S = H \cap \bigcap_{i=0}^n L_i$  of area at least 2.2195.

## Area of $S$ by its Niche $\mathcal{N}(K)$

Let  $\mathcal{A}(K)$  be the area of the monotone hallway intersection  $S$  with cap  $K \in \mathcal{K}_\Theta$ . The goal of `SofaDesigner` is to understand the area functional  $\mathcal{A} : \mathcal{K}_\Theta \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  completely. Define the *niche*  $\mathcal{N}(K)$  of the monotone hallway intersection  $S$  as the region bounded from below by the line  $y = 0$ , and bounded from above by the upper envelope of the line  $y = 0$  and the half-lines  $c_i$  and  $d_i$  for all  $0 \leq i \leq n$ . For any set  $X$ , denote its area as  $|X|$ . Then the area  $|S|$  of  $S$  is equal to  $\mathcal{A}(K) = |K| - \mathcal{N}(K)$  because  $S$  is the cap  $K$  subtracted by the union of inner corners  $\mathcal{N}(K)$ . Note that the area  $|K|$  of cap is a quadratic polynomial in terms of the coordinates of  $\mathcal{K}_\Theta$  (one can for example use the [shoelace formula](#)). However, the area of the niche  $\mathcal{N}(K)$  is much harder to understand.

If the order of edges appearing in the niche  $\mathcal{N}(K)$  is determined, we can understand the area  $|\mathcal{N}(K)|$  as a quadratic polynomial of the coordinates of  $K$ . For every  $0 \leq i \leq n$ , define the line  $l_i$  as the line extending the half-line  $d_i$ , and the line  $l_{-i}$  as the line extending the half-line  $b_{n-i}$  (note that  $l_0$  is equal to the line  $y = 0$  in both cases). Let  $\mathbf{i}_K$  be the list of all the indices  $i$  of the lines  $l_i$  appearing in the niche  $\mathcal{N}(K)$  from left to right. So  $\mathbf{i}_K$  is either a list of length one with only one zero, or a list with length at least two starting and ending with zero. If  $-n \leq i, j \leq n$  are different indices, define the point  $p_{i,j}$  as the intersection of the lines  $l_i$  and  $l_j$ . Then the coordinates of points  $p_{i,j}$  are affine-linear with respect to the coordinates  $\mathbf{p}$  of  $\mathcal{K}_\Theta$ . If  $\mathbf{i}_K$  is the list  $i_1, i_2, \dots, i_m$ , then the vertices of the niche are exactly  $p_{i_1, i_2}, p_{i_2, i_3}, \dots, p_{i_{m-1}, i_m}$  from left to right with the first and last vertex on the line  $y = 0$ . So by using the shoelace formula, we can express the area of the niche  $\mathcal{N}(K)$  in terms of the quadratic polynomials of the coordinates of  $p_{i,j}$ 's, and thus the coordinates  $\mathbf{p}$  of  $\mathcal{K}_\Theta$ .

# Branch-and-bound Tree $\mathcal{T}$

The difficulty with the niche  $\mathcal{N}(K)$  is that the order  $\mathbf{i}_K$  of the lines appearing in the niche can change drastically depending on the cap  $K$ . We need extra restrictions on the coordinates  $\mathbf{p}$  of  $K$  to ensure a niche with a fixed order  $\mathbf{i}_K$  of lines. To this end, `SofaDesigner` builds a custom branch-and-bound tree  $\mathcal{T}$  and stores it as a JSON-formatted file.

The tree  $\mathcal{T}$  is a complete binary tree representing the subset of  $\mathcal{K}_\Theta$  with  $\mathcal{A} \geq 2.2195$ . Each node  $N_i$  is equipped with a finite set  $I_i$  of affine-linear combinations of the coordinates  $\mathbf{p}$ . Each  $f \in I_i$  represents the inequality  $f \geq 0$ , so that the node  $N_i$  represents the subset  $\mathcal{K}_i \subseteq \mathcal{K}_\Theta$  where the value of  $f$  is non-negative for every  $f \in I_i$ . The root node  $N_1$  of the tree  $\mathcal{T}$  represents the whole  $\mathcal{K}_\Theta$  with the constraints  $I_1 = s_0, s_1, \dots, s_{2n}$ . Every non-leaf node  $N_i$  is split into two child nodes  $N_j$  and  $N_k$  by the inequalities  $g_i \geq 0$  and  $-g_i \geq 0$  for some affine-linear combination  $g_i$  of the coordinates  $\mathbf{p}$ . So, the constraints  $I_j$  of node  $N_j$  is  $I_j = I_i \cup \{g_i\}$ , and the constraints  $I_k$  of node  $N_k$  is  $I_k = I_i \cup \{-g_i\}$ . This ensures that the union of the sets  $\mathcal{K}_i$  represented by the leaf nodes  $N_i$  of  $\mathcal{T}$  is equal to the whole space  $\mathcal{K}_\Theta$ .

The first task of a verifier is to verify that the file representing  $\mathcal{T}$  indeed adheres to the aforementioned property above.

TODO: under construction from here