



**SIGGRAPH ASIA**  
2023 SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA

# Digital 3D Smocking Design



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Interactive Geometry Lab (IGL)  
ETH Zurich

# Smocking ✂ not smoking!



<https://www.pinterest.ch/pin/690669292878820301/>



<https://www.pinterest.ch/pin/1002332460800168804/>



<https://www.pinterest.ch/pin/574560864973414366/>

# British garment “Smocc”



<https://collections.vam.ac.uk/item/0954665/harrowing-with-oxen-print-unknown/>



<https://collections.vam.ac.uk/item/057071/national-photographic-record-and-survey-photograph-stone-benjamin-sir/>

# From “Smocc” to Smocking



<https://collections.vam.ac.uk/item/0354402/smock-smock-unknown/>



<https://collections.mfa.org/objects/482317>



<https://collections.vam.ac.uk/item/0138699/vivienne-fashion-doll-latter-axton-ja/>

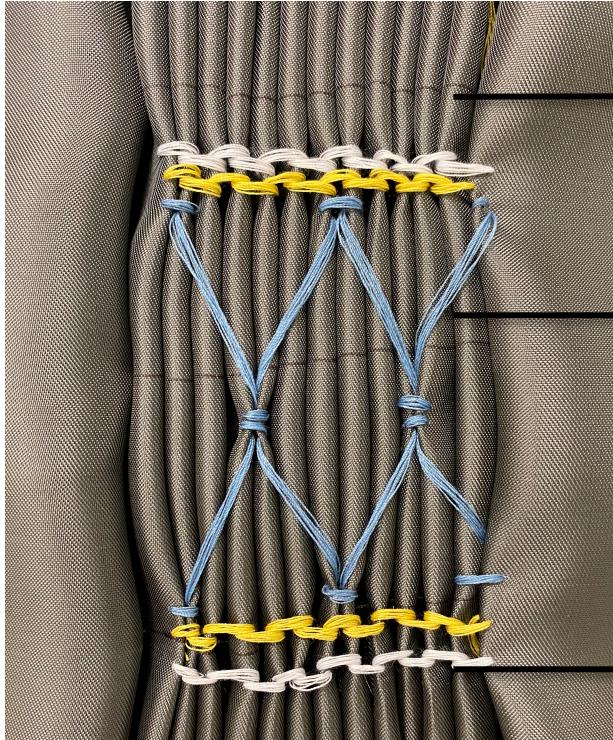
# English Smocking



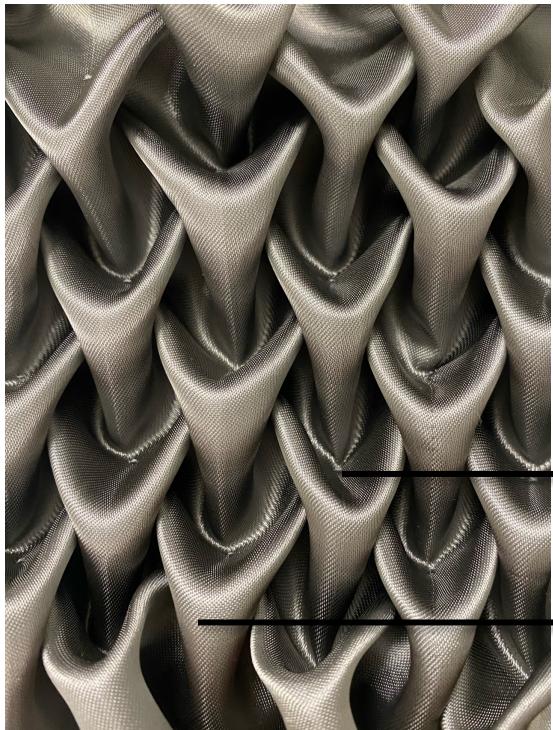
# Canadian Smocking



# English smocking



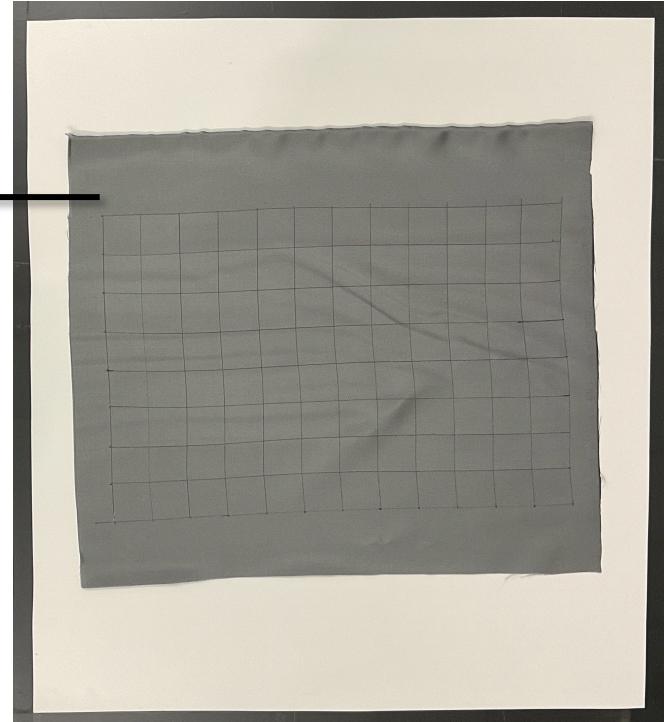
# Canadian smocking



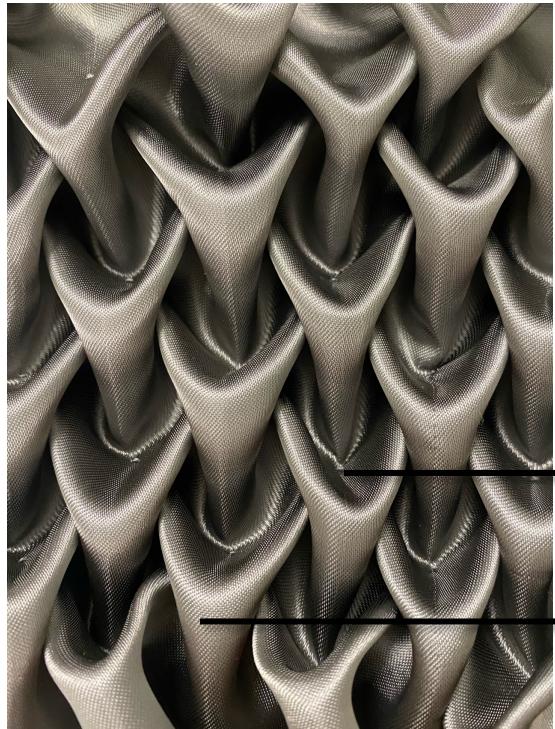
stitching lines  
annotated on the back

invisible stitches

geometric textures  
from folds



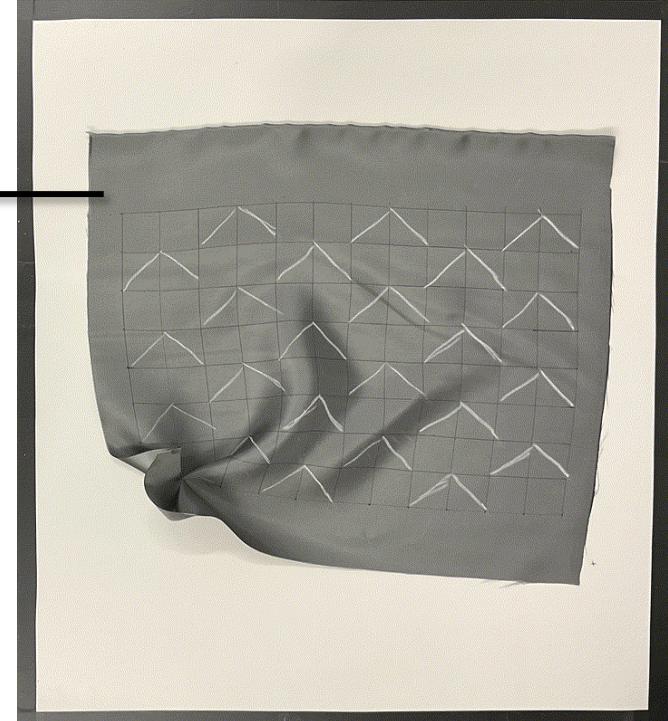
# Canadian smocking



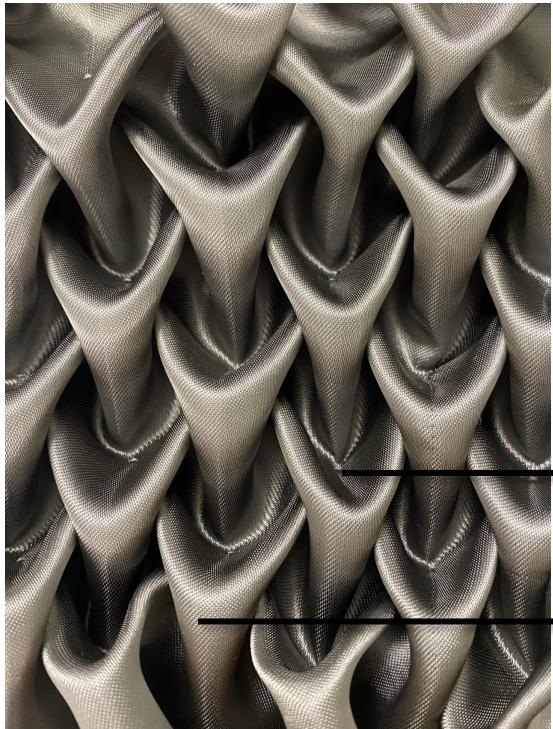
contracting stitches  
together

invisible stitches

geometric textures  
from folds



# Canadian smocking

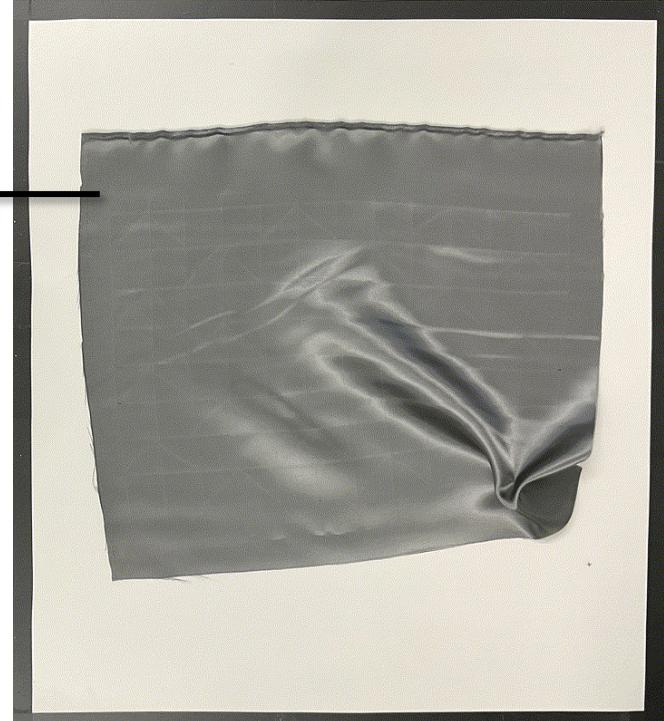


front view

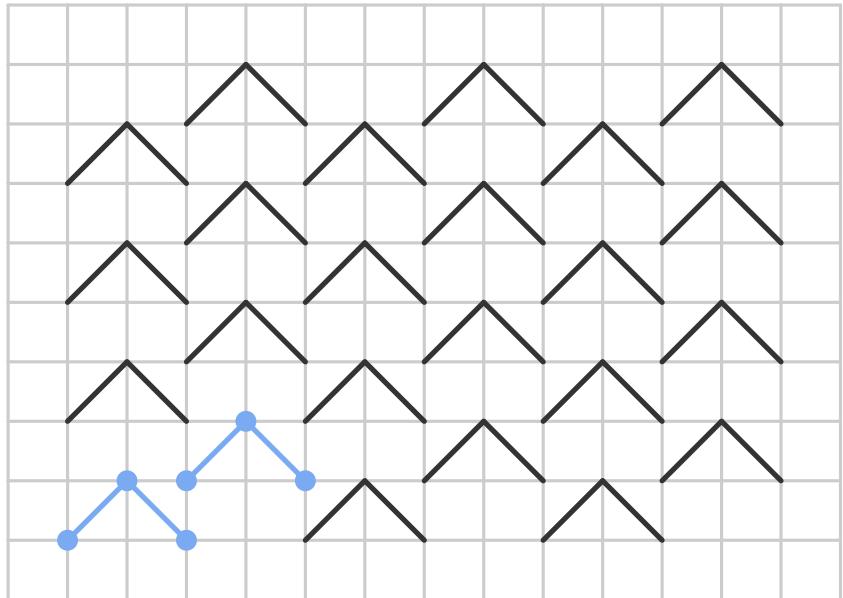
invisible stitches

geometric textures

from folds



# Our goal: smocking preview



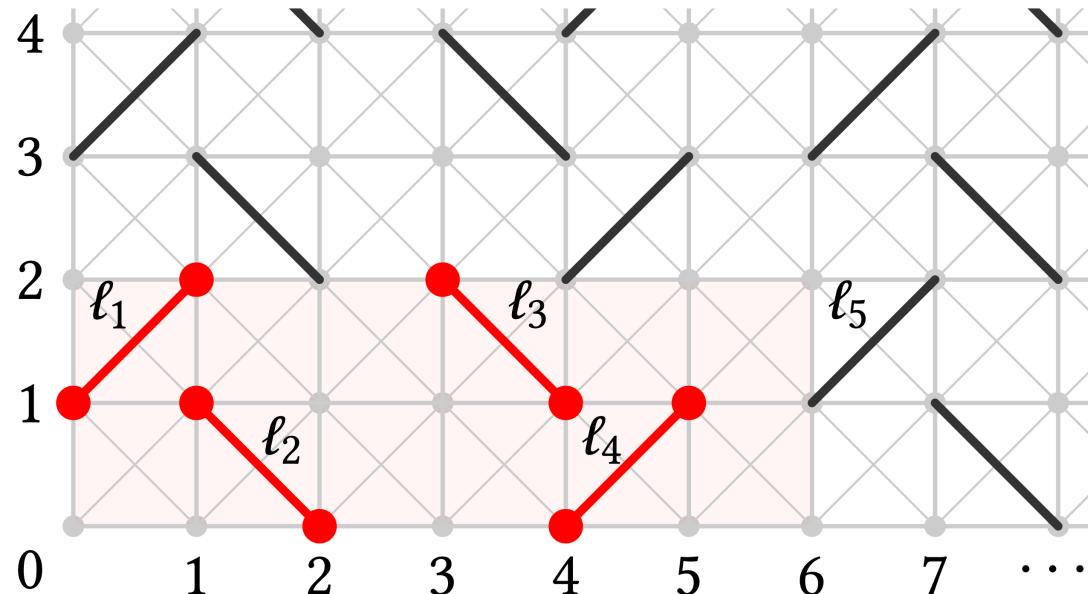
input smocking pattern

after  
stitching →



output smocked result

# Smocking: easy to formulate



Smocking pattern

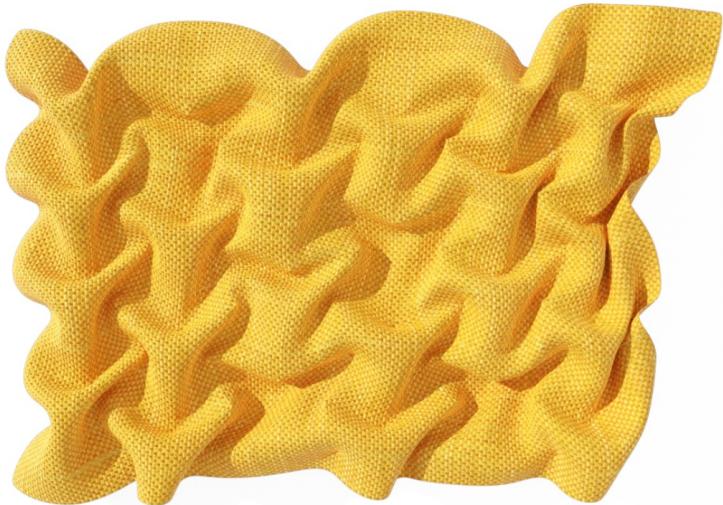
- ❖ graph  $\mathcal{G} = (\mathcal{V}, \mathcal{E})$
- ❖ stitching lines  $\mathcal{L} = \{\ell_i\}$

for example:

- ❖  $\ell_1 = (v_{0,1}, v_{1,2})$
- ❖  $\ell_2 = (v_{2,1}, v_{1,0})$
- ❖  $\ell_3 = (v_{4,1}, v_{3,0})$
- ❖ ...

# ... but not easy to solve

$$\bar{e}_{25} = 2.69 \text{ cm}$$



cloth simulation using [Blender](#)

$$\bar{e}_{50} = 1.26 \text{ cm}$$



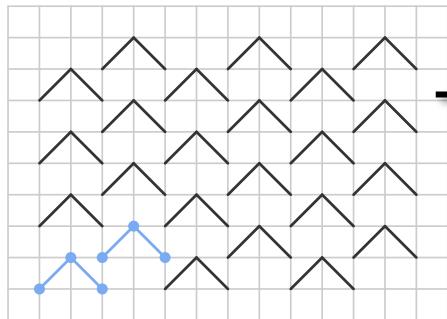
$$\bar{e}_{75} = 0.97 \text{ cm}$$



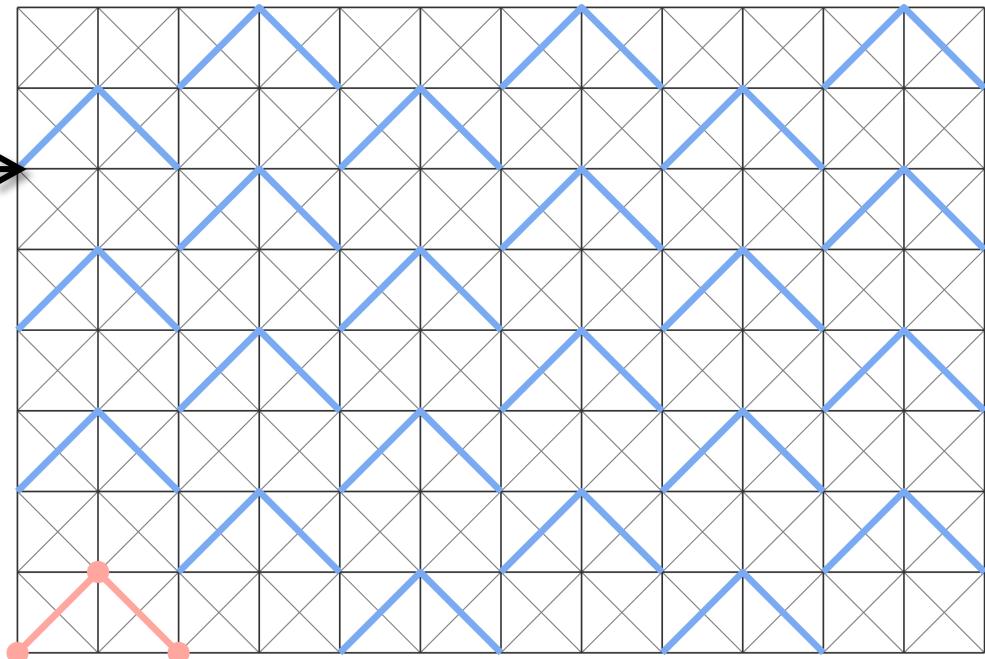
- ❖ geometry is [unknown](#) before smocking
- ❖ no geometry priors → [irregular](#) pleats

# How to extract geometric priors?

input smocking pattern

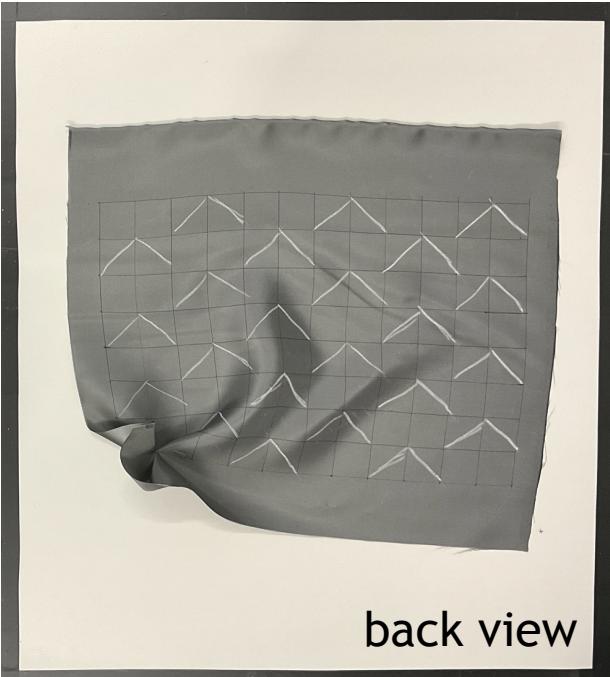


extracted smocked graph

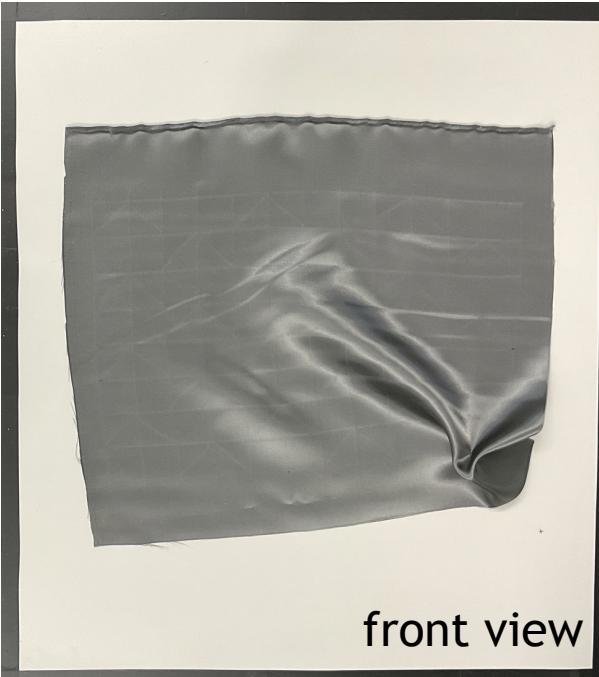


- ❖ merge each stitching line into a single node
- ❖ delete degenerated & redundant edges
- ✓ sewing constraints hard-coded

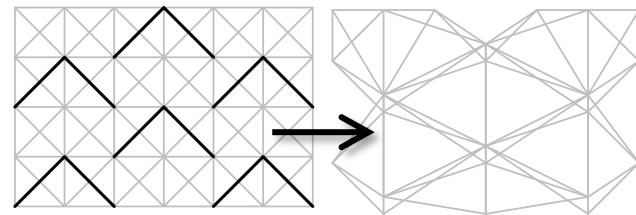
# ... capture modified geometry?



back view



front view

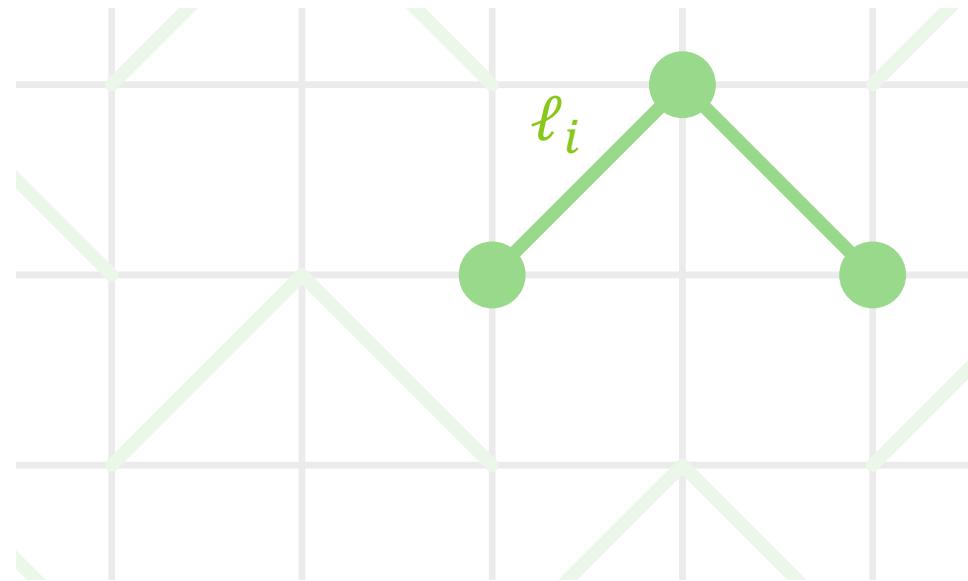


smocked graph

- ✓ sewing constraints
- hard-coded
- ✗ **modified geometry  
not considered!**

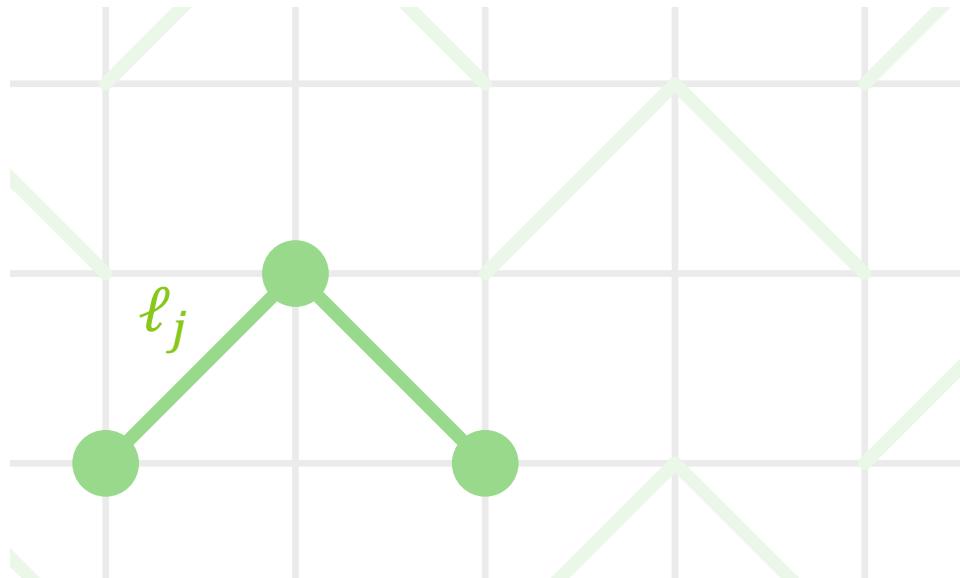
❖ fabric **shrinks** during the smocking process!

# Embedding distance constraint



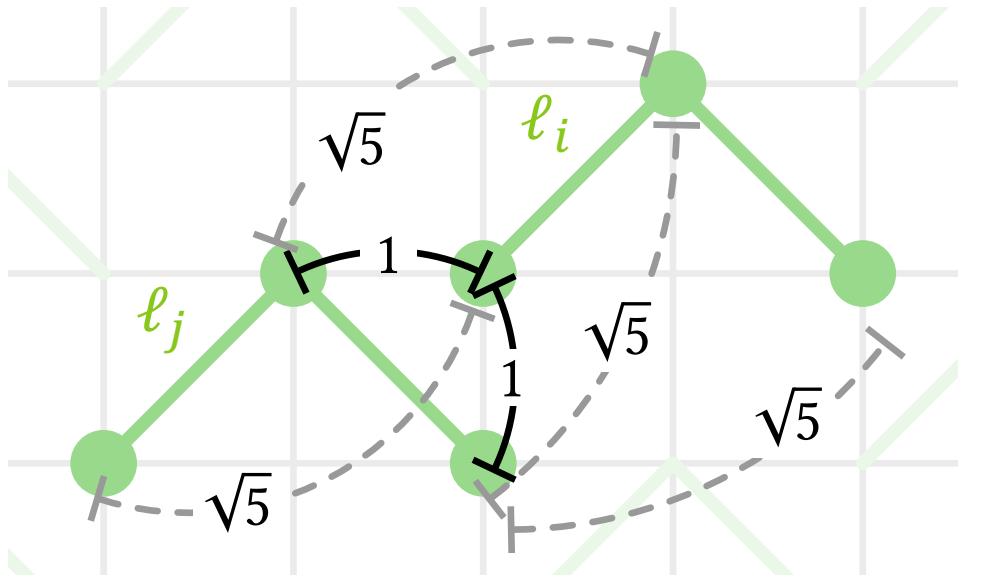
❖  $\ell_i$  is embedded at  $x_i \in \mathbb{R}^3$

# Embedding distance constraint



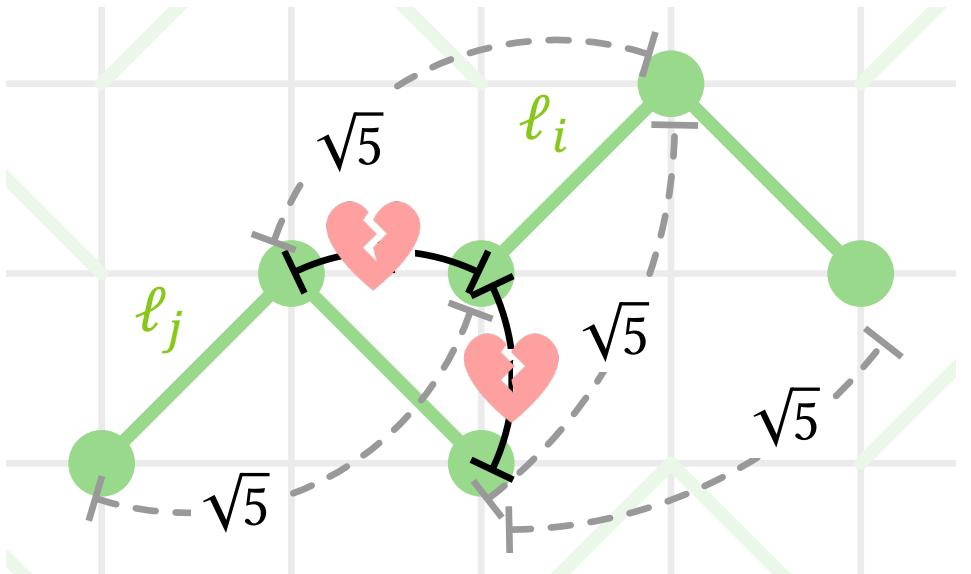
❖  $\ell_j$  is embedded at  $x_j \in \mathbb{R}^3$

# Embedding distance constraint



- ❖  $\ell_i$  is embedded at  $x_i \in \mathbb{R}^3$
- ❖  $\ell_j$  is embedded at  $x_j \in \mathbb{R}^3$

# Embedding distance constraint

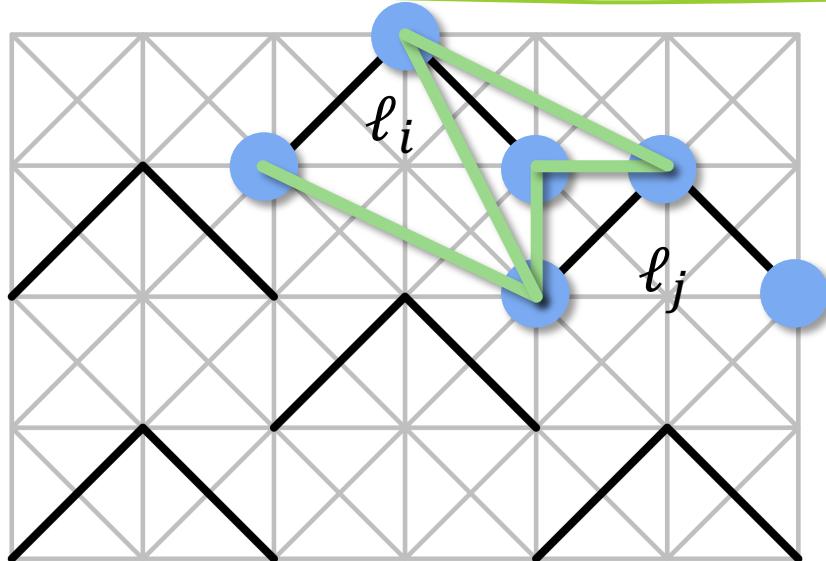


- ❖  $\ell_i$  is embedded at  $x_i \in \mathbb{R}^3$
- ❖  $\ell_j$  is embedded at  $x_j \in \mathbb{R}^3$

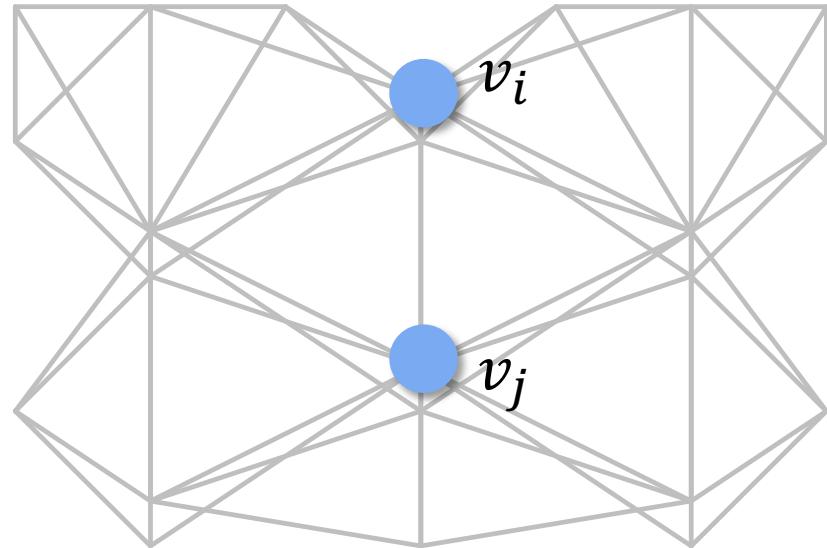
$\|x_i - x_j\| \leq 1$

- ❖ If  $\|x_i - x_j\| > 1$ , fabric would tear at

# Embedding distance constraint



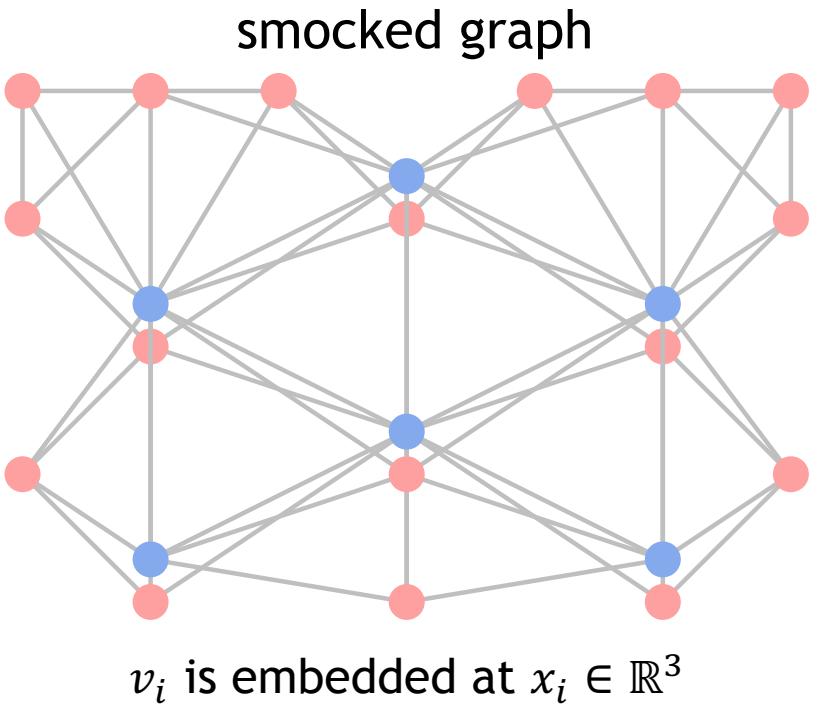
$d(\cdot, \cdot)$ : the distance in original fabric



$v_i$  is embedded at  $x_i \in \mathbb{R}^3$

$$\|x_i - x_j\| \leq d_{i,j} \text{ where } d_{i,j} = \min_{v_p \in \ell_i, v_q \in \ell_j} d(v_p, v_q)$$

# Embedding distance constraint



$$\|x_i - x_j\| \leq d_{i,j} \quad \forall i, j$$

- ❖  $d_{i,j}$  encodes the modified geometry
- ❖ guarantees that the fabric won't tear after stitching

**goal** find an embedding that satisfies all the constraints 😊

**problem** trivial solutions such as  $\forall i$   $x_i = (0,0,0)$  are feasible 😞

# Observations



valid but cluttered result



expected result

# Our formulation for smocking

$$\max_{x \in \mathbb{R}^3} \sum_{i \neq j} \|x_i - x_j\|$$

$$\text{s.t. } \|x_i - x_j\| \leq d_{i,j} \quad \forall i \neq j$$

**energy** avoids cluttered (trivial) solutions

**constraints** fabric doesn't tear after smocking

## challenges

- non-convex problem
- $n(n-1)/2$  constraints, too many!

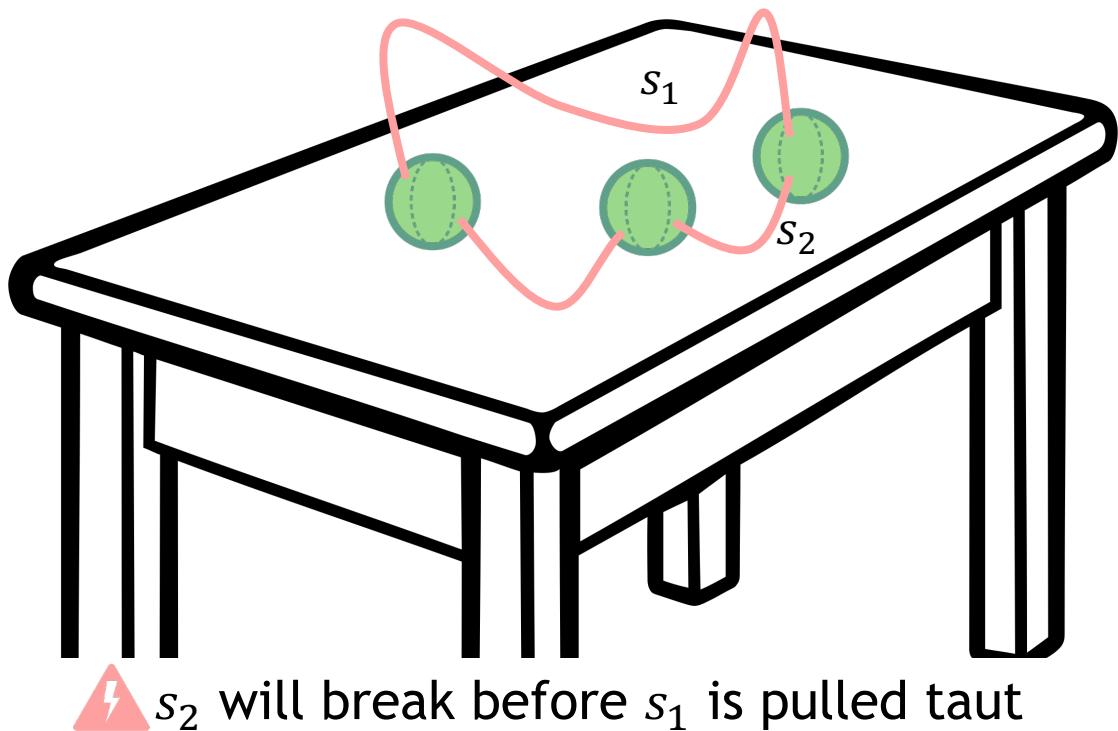
# ... are all constraints necessary?

$$\max_{X \in \mathbb{R}^3} \sum_{i \neq j} \|x_i - x_j\|$$

s.t.  $\|x_i - x_j\| \leq d_{i,j} \quad \forall i \neq j$

**equivalent setting**

- ❖ a set of balls can move around
- ❖ fragile string connecting balls with length  $d_{i,j}$



# Simplified formulation

$$\max_{x \in \mathbb{R}^3} \sum_{i \neq j} \|x_i - x_j\|$$

**energy** avoids cluttered (trivial) solutions

s.t.  $\|x_i - x_j\| \leq d_{i,j} \forall i \neq j$

**constraints** fabric doesn't tear after smocking

$$\|x_i - x_j\| \leq d_{i,j}$$

$$\forall (i, j) \in \mathcal{E}$$

Only check the vertices that are adjacent

# Unconstrained formulation

$$\max_{x \in \mathbb{R}^3} \sum_{i \neq j} \|x_i - x_j\|$$

s.t.  $\|x_i - x_j\| \leq d_{i,j} \quad \forall (i, j) \in \mathcal{E}$

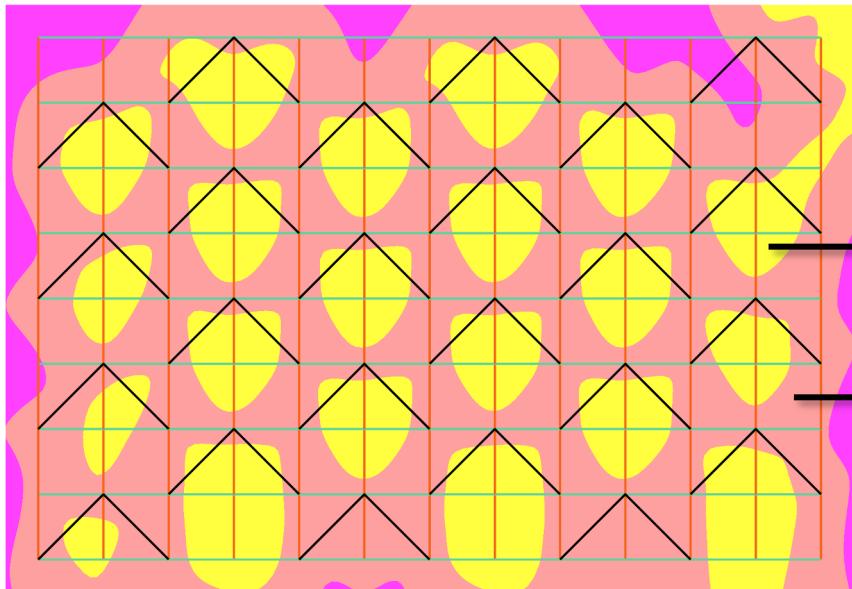
graph embedding problem

reformulate

$$\min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^3} \sum_{(i, j) \in \mathcal{E}} (\|x_i - x_j\| - d_{i,j})^2$$

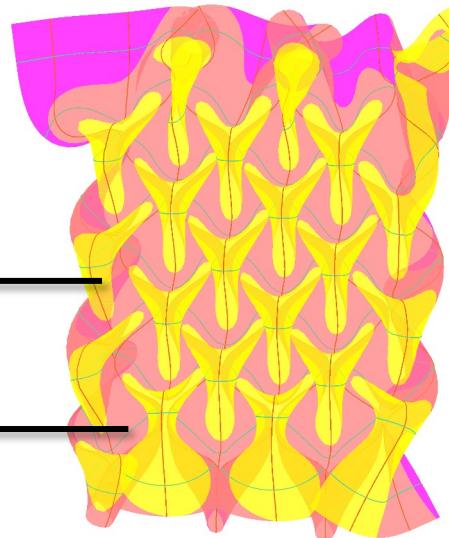
# Motivations

Smocked result = underlay + pleat



pleat region

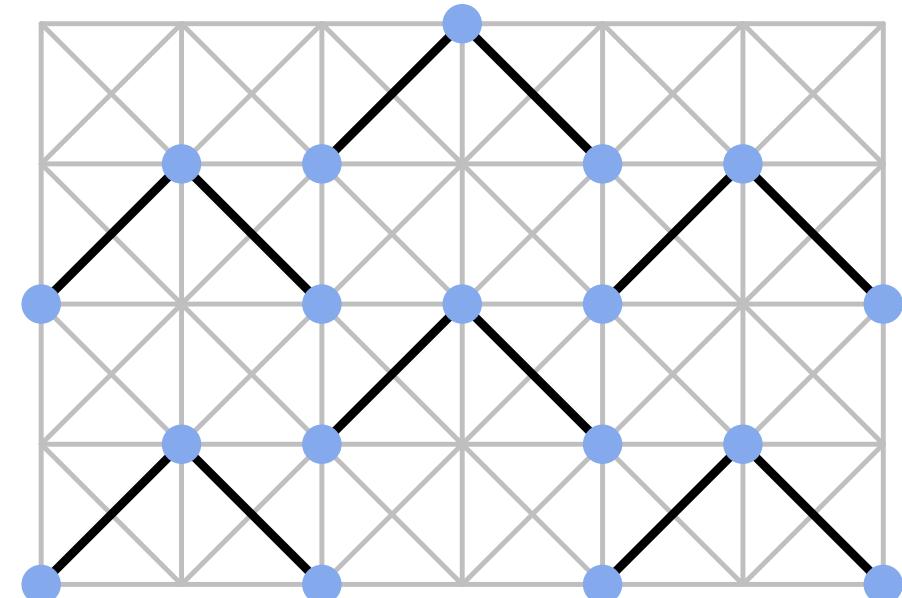
underlay region



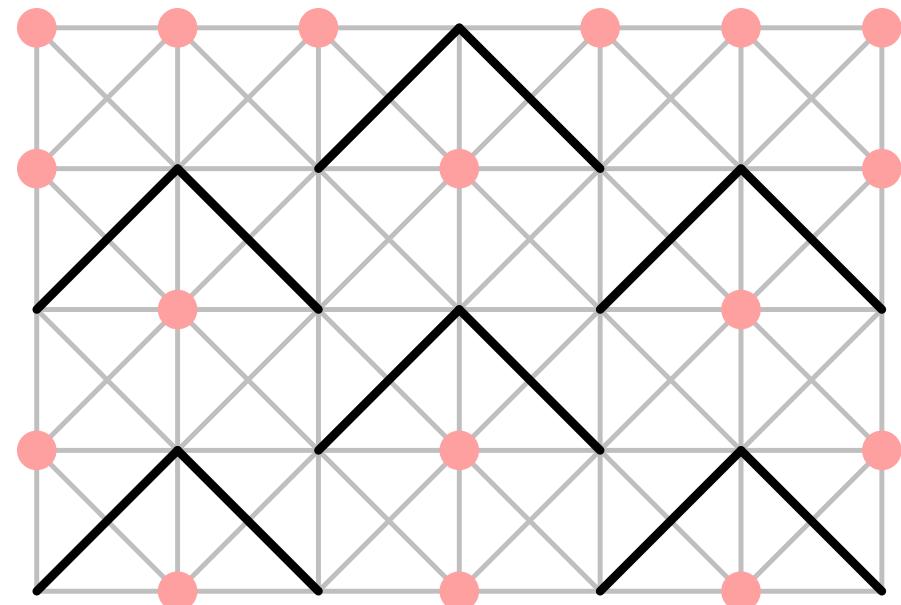
Height map visualization

# ... categorize vertices!

underlay vertex

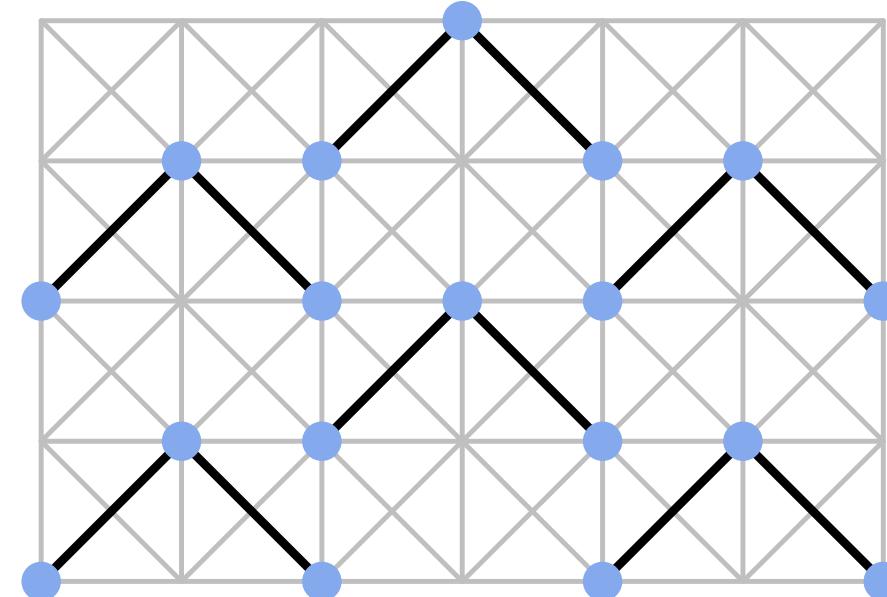


pleat vertex!

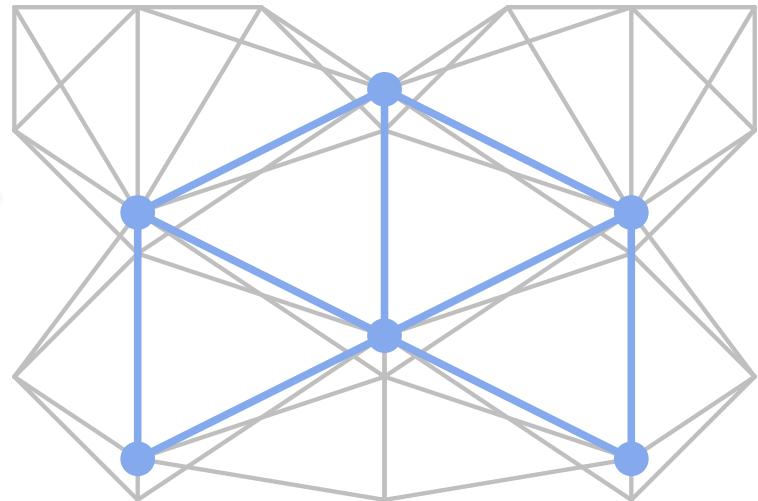


# Methodology : underlay graph

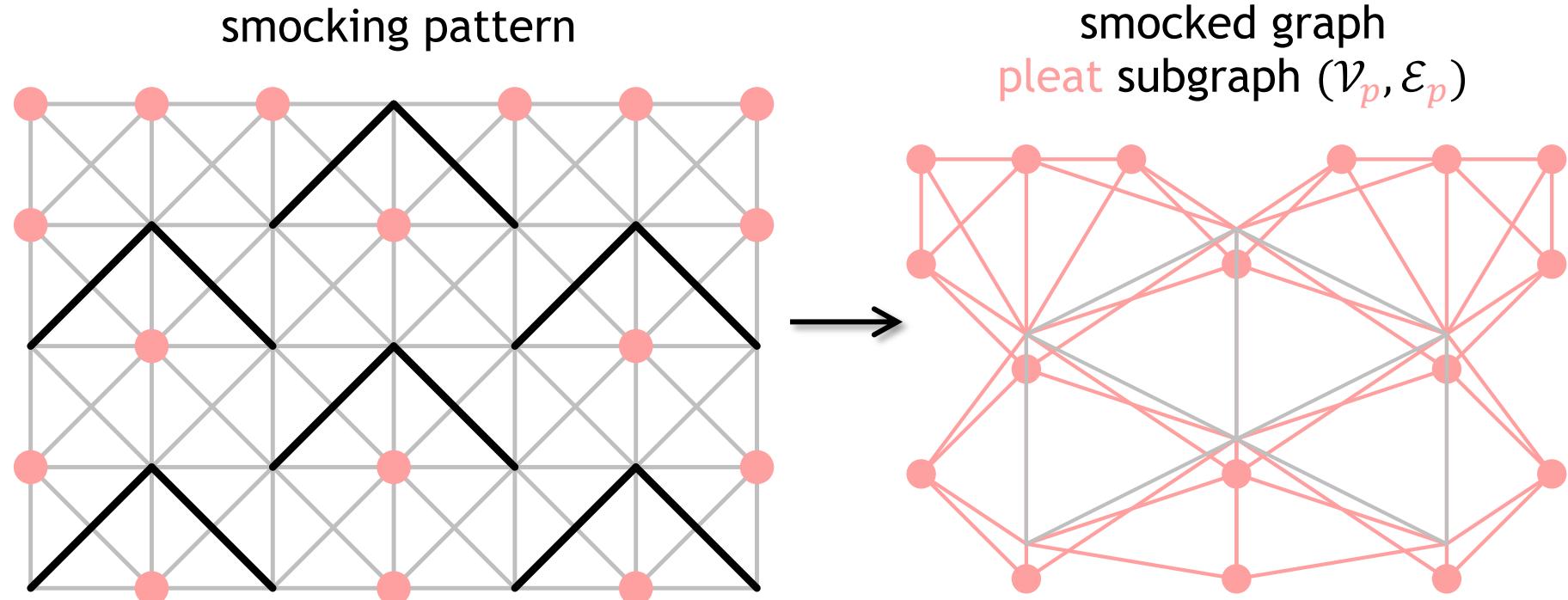
smocking pattern



smocked graph  
underlay subgraph  $(\mathcal{V}_u, \mathcal{E}_u)$

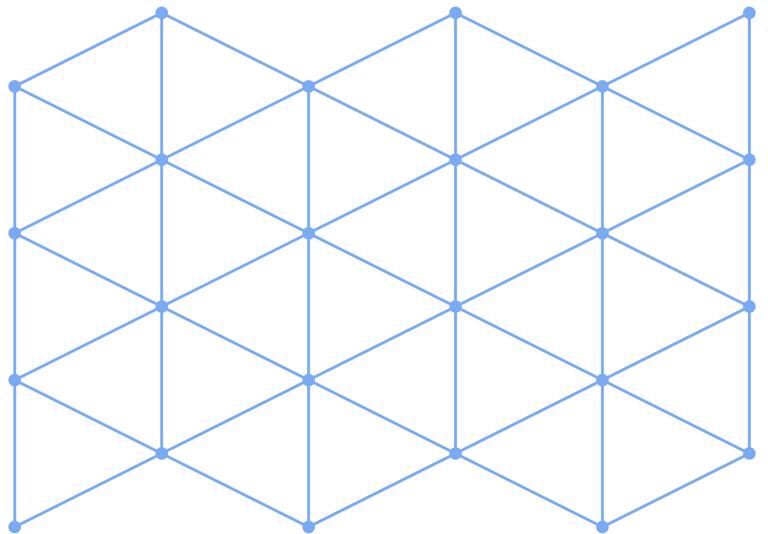


# Methodology : pleat graph



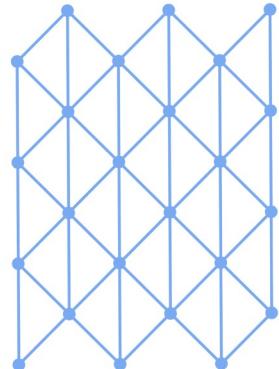
# Methodology : two-stage solver

$$\min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^2} \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{E}_{\mathcal{U}}} (\|x_i - x_j\| - d_{i,j})^2$$

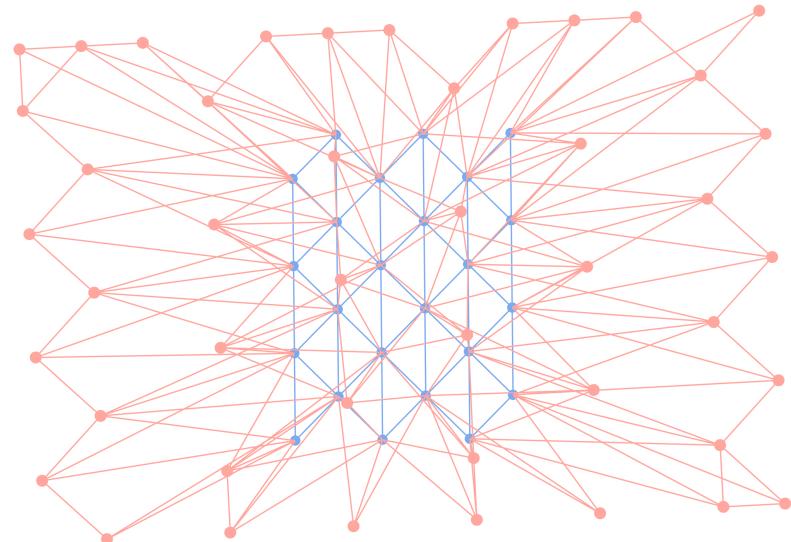


# Methodology : two-stage solver

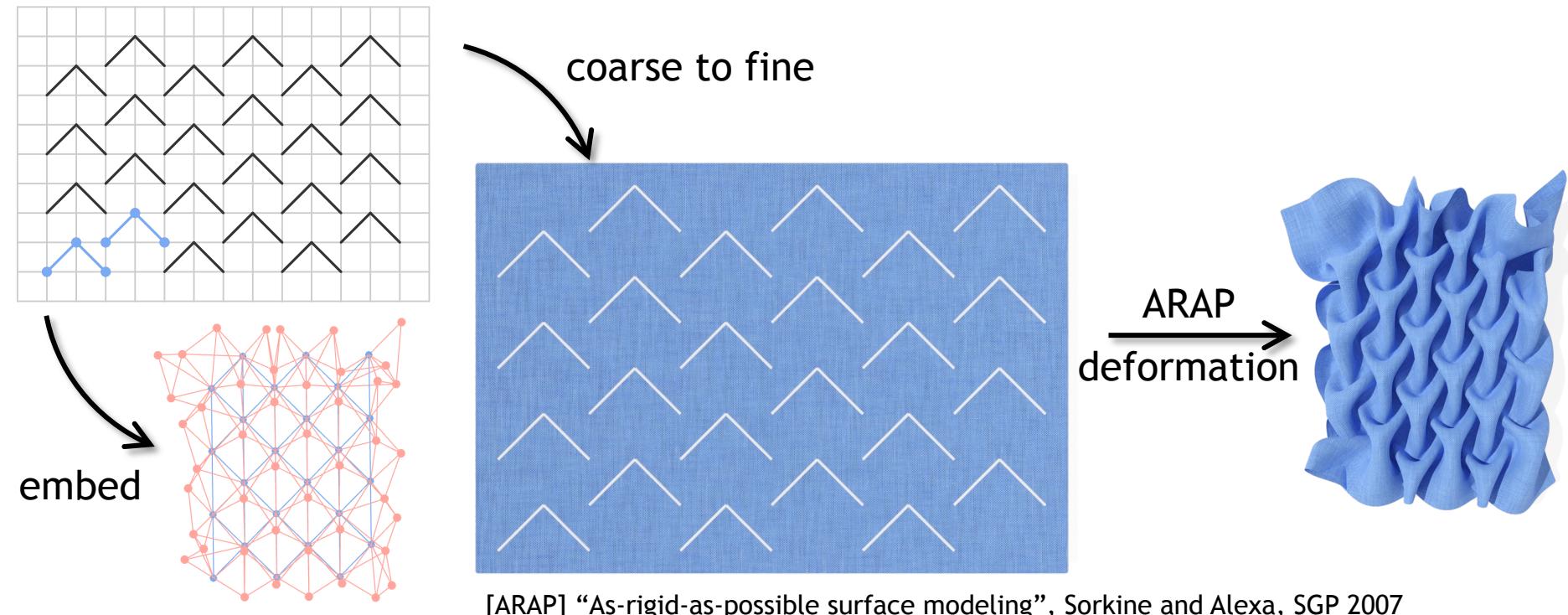
$$\min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^2} \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{E}_u} (\|x_i - x_j\| - d_{i,j})^2$$



$$\min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^3} \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{E}_p} (\|x_i - x_j\| - d_{i,j})^2$$

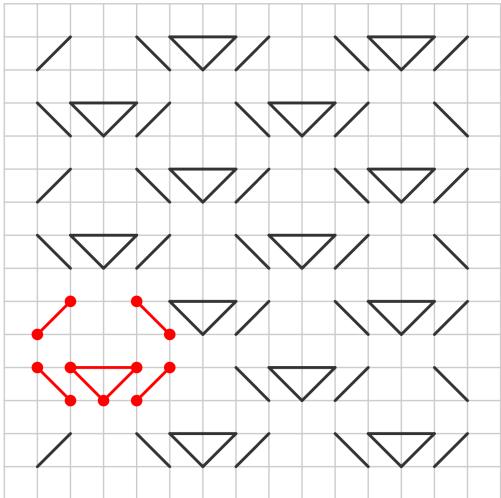


# Methodology : ARAP-deformation



# Our results vs. fabrications

smocking pattern



ours

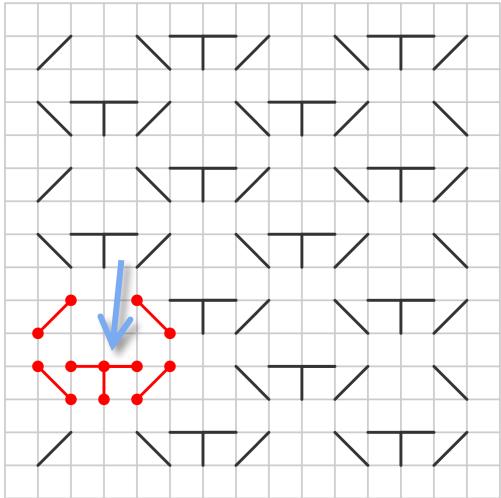


fabrication



# Our results vs. fabrications

smocking pattern



ours

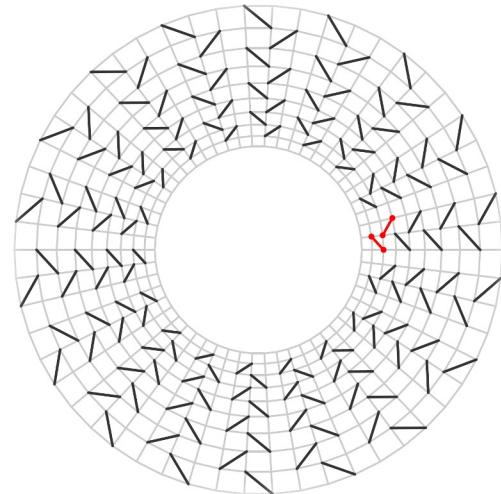


fabrication



# Our results : radial grid

smocking pattern



front

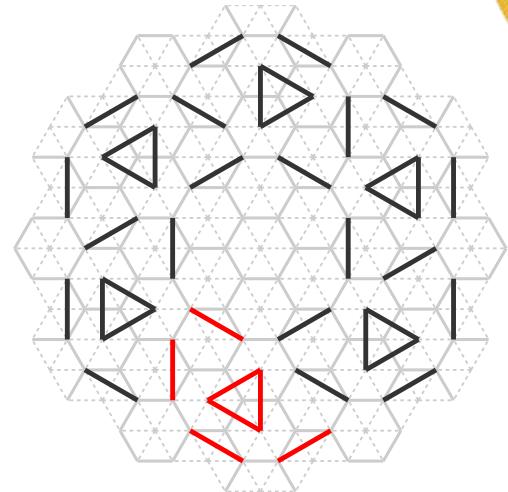


back



# Our results : hexagonal grid

smocking pattern



front



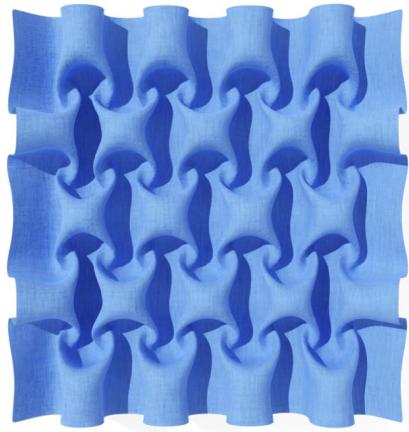
back



# Our results vs. Marvelous Designer



MD

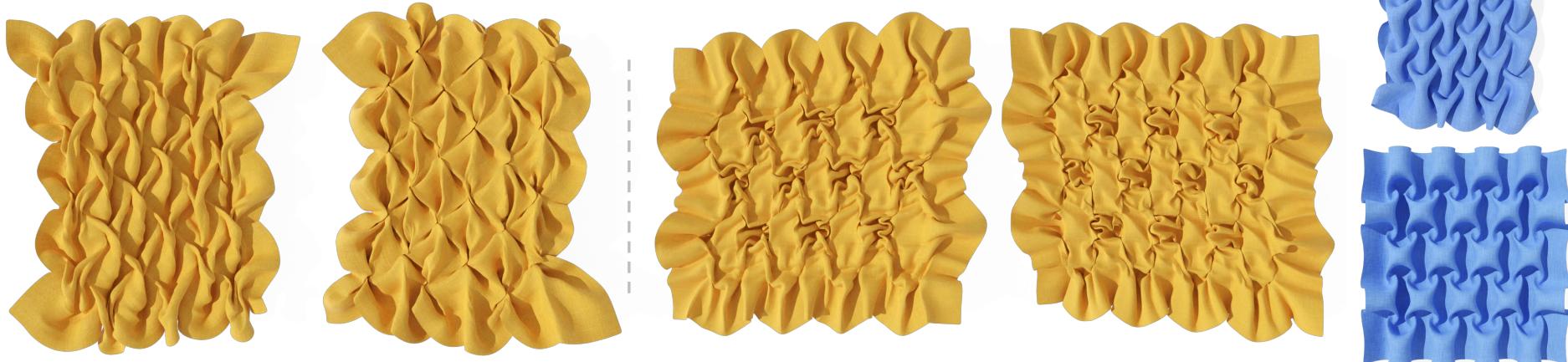


ours



# Our results vs. ArcSim

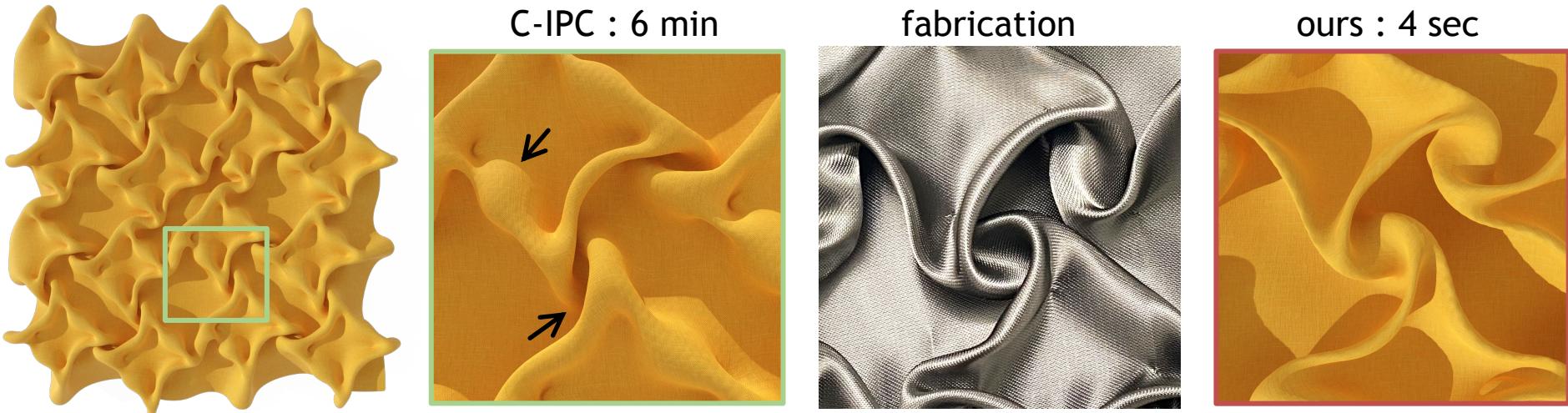
[ArcSim] “Adaptive anisotropic remeshing for cloth simulation”,  
Narain et al. ACM Transactions on Graphics (TOG), 2012



- ✓ correct aspect ratio after smocking
- ✗ non-realistic pleats

# Our results vs. C-IPC

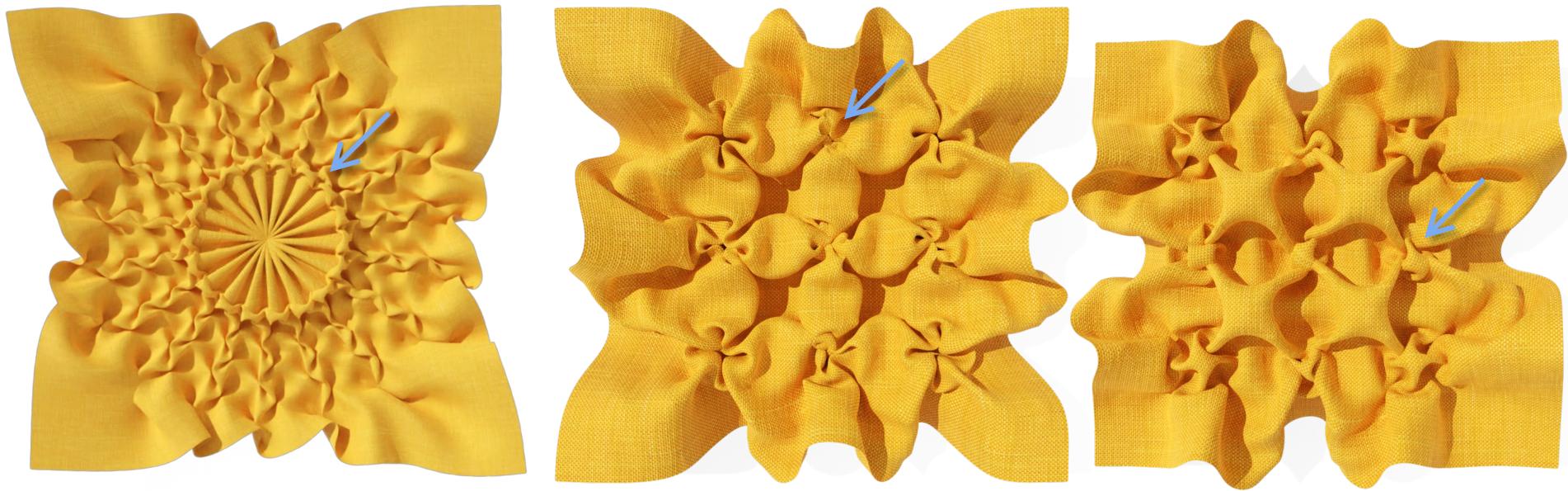
[C-IPC] “Codimensional Incremental Potential Contact”, Li et al. ACM Transactions on Graphics (TOG), 2021



- ✓ correct aspect ratio after smocking
- ✓ reasonable but not very accurate pleats
- ✗ computationally expensive
- ✗ non-trivial parameters tuning

# Limitations & future work

No collision handling: self-intersections



# Limitations & future work

Geometric features vs. material-dependent features



canvas



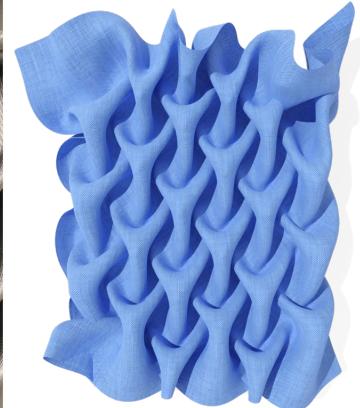
Polyester  
(crisp, thin)



Polyester  
(soft, thick)



satin



ours

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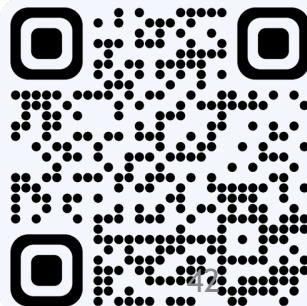
Thanks for your attention 😊

**Acknowledgement** The authors express gratitude to the anonymous reviewers for their valuable feedback. Special thanks to [Minchen Li](#) for his help with the comparison to C-IPC, [Georg Sperl](#) and [Rahul Narain](#) for their help with the comparison to ARCSim, and to [Libo Huang](#) and [Jiong Chen](#) for helpful discussions. Appreciation goes to [Danielle Luterbacher](#) and [Sigrid Carl](#) for their sewing advice. The authors also extend their thanks to [all IGL members](#) for their time and support. This work was supported in part by the ERC Consolidator Grant No. 101003104 (MYCLOTH).



INTERACTIVE GEOMETRY LAB

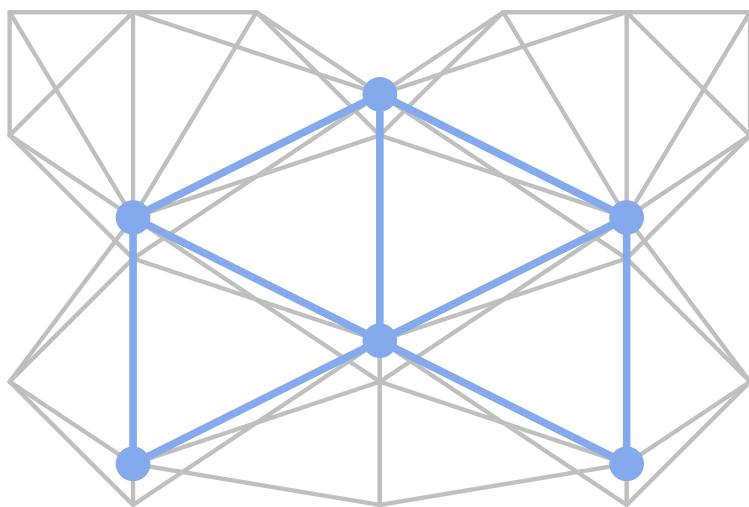
ETH zürich



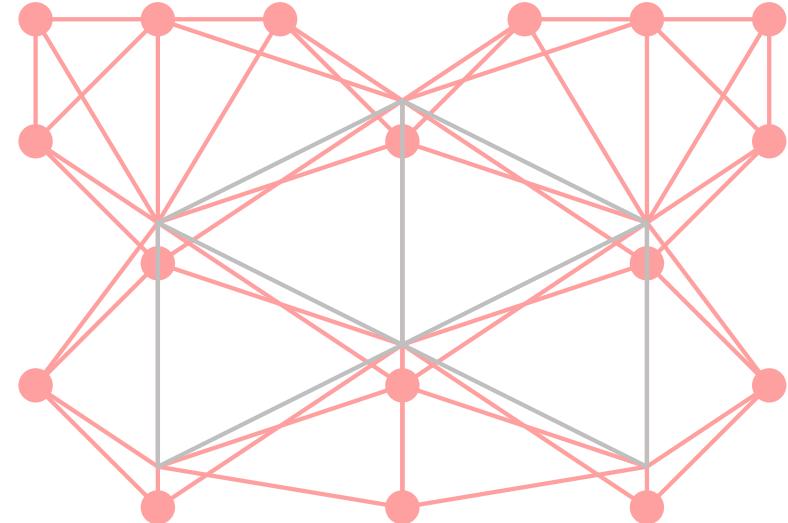
# Supplementary slides

# Methodology : two-stage solver

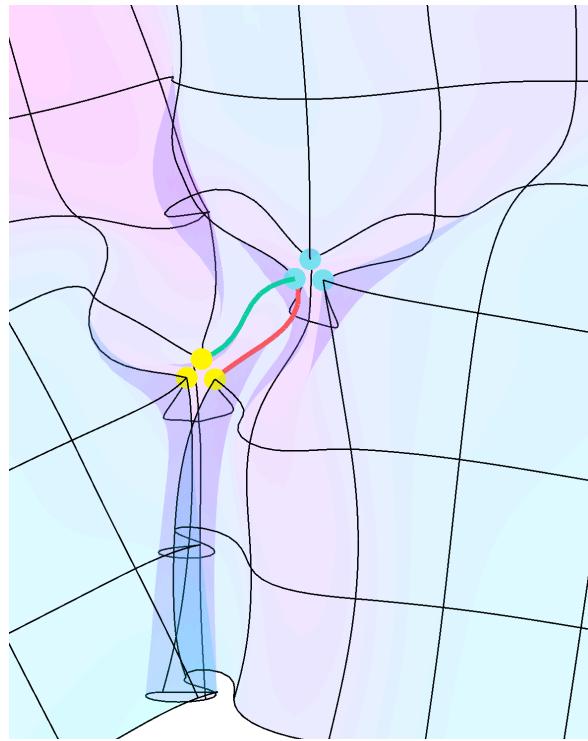
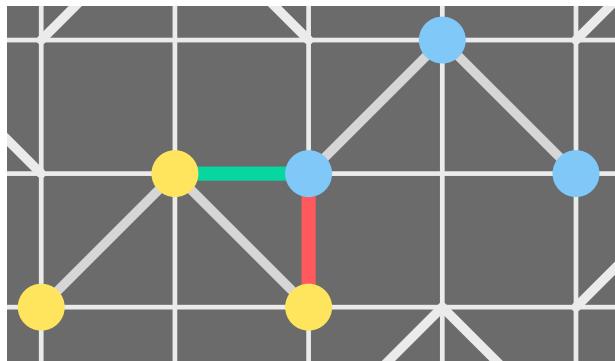
$$\min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^2} \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{E}_u} (\|x_i - x_j\| - d_{i,j})^2$$



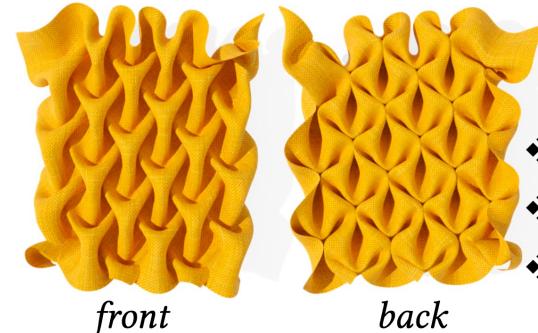
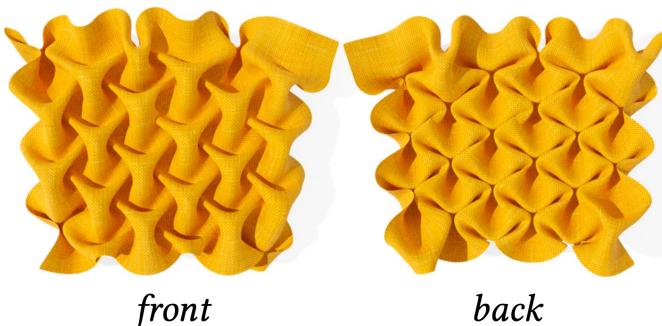
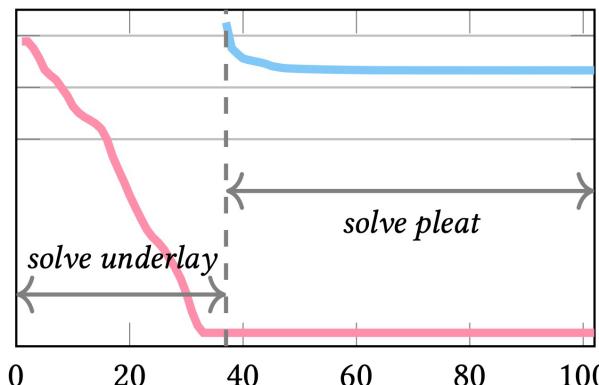
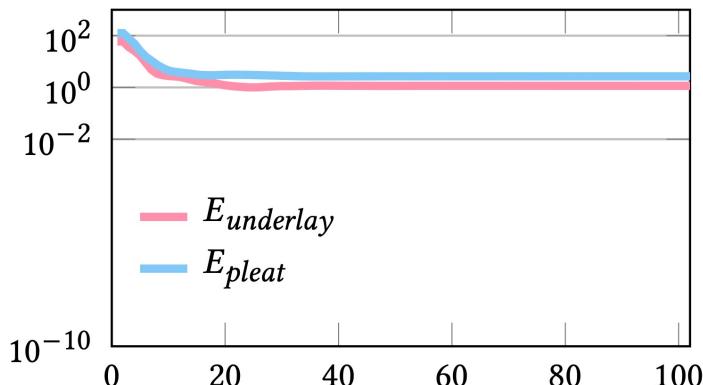
$$\min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^3} \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{E}_p} (\|x_i - x_j\| - d_{i,j})^2$$



# Embedding distance constraint



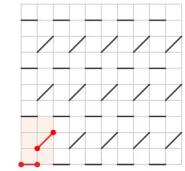
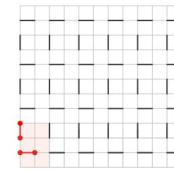
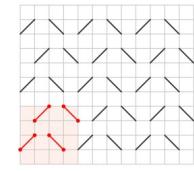
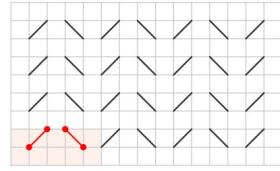
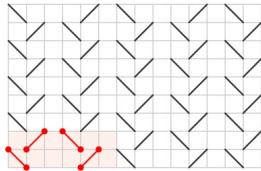
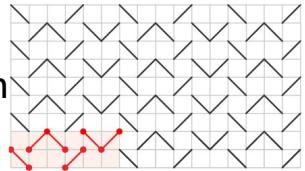
# Methodology : two-stage solver



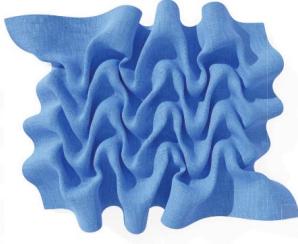
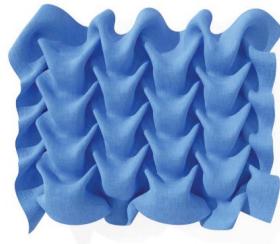
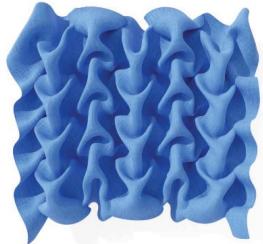
- ❖ Faster convergence
- ❖ Better local minima
- ❖ More realistic results

# Our results

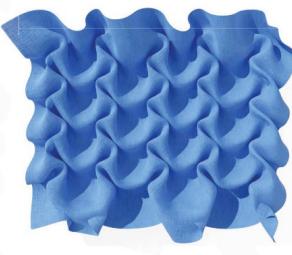
pattern



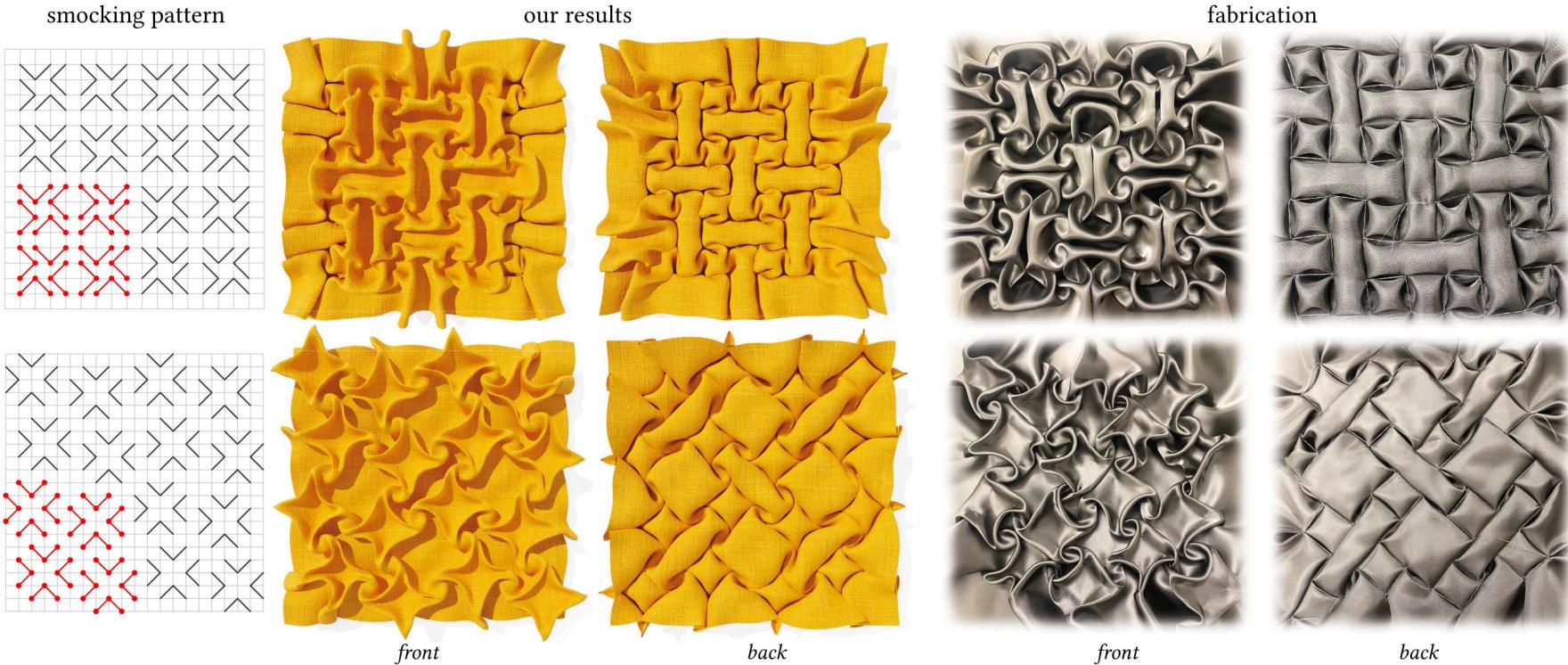
front



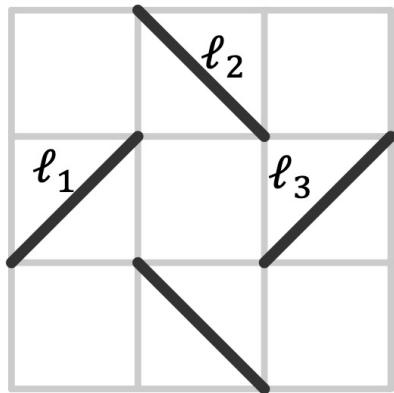
back



# Our results vs. fabrications



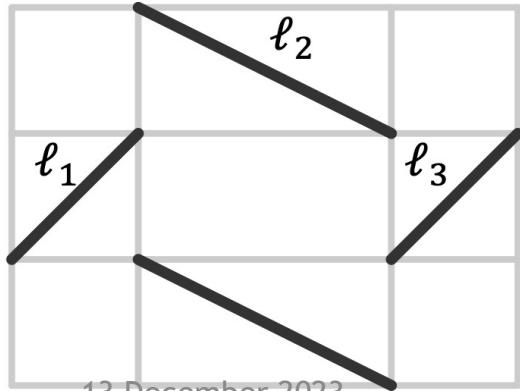
# Observations : Underconstrained Pattern



$$d_{1,2} = 1, d_{2,3} = 1, d_{1,3} = \sqrt{2}$$

We can embed  $\ell_i$  at  $x_i$  such that:

$$\|x_i - x_j\| = d_{i,j}$$



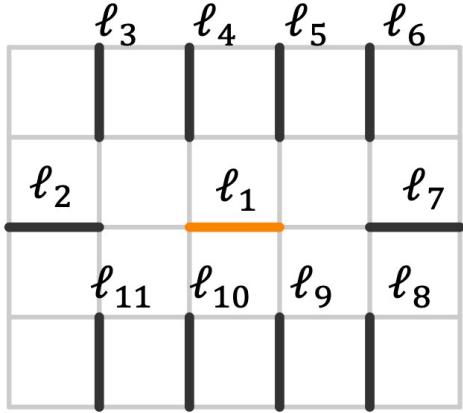
$$d_{1,2} = 1, d_{2,3} = 1, d_{1,3} = \sqrt{5}$$

We have:

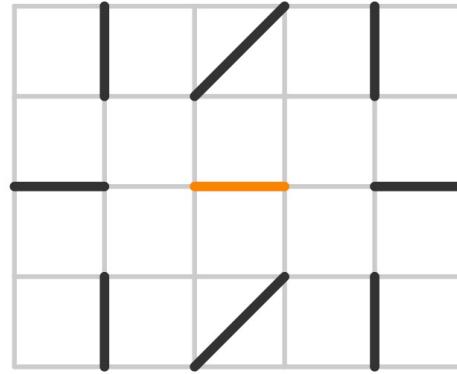
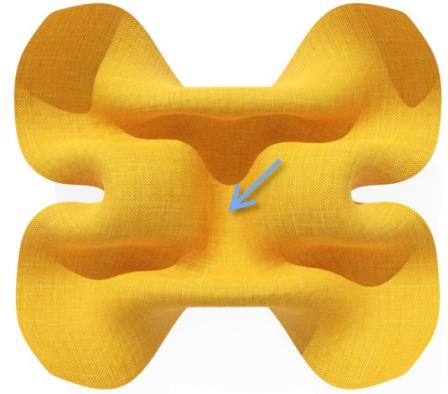
$$\begin{aligned}\|x_1 - x_3\| &\leq d_{1,2} + d_{2,3} = 2 \\ &< d_{1,3} = \sqrt{5}\end{aligned}$$



# Observations : Overconstrained Pattern



Impossible to embed  $\ell_i$  at  $x_i \in \mathbb{R}^2$  such that:  
 $\|x_i - x_j\| = d_{i,j}$



Well-constrained example

Jing Ren



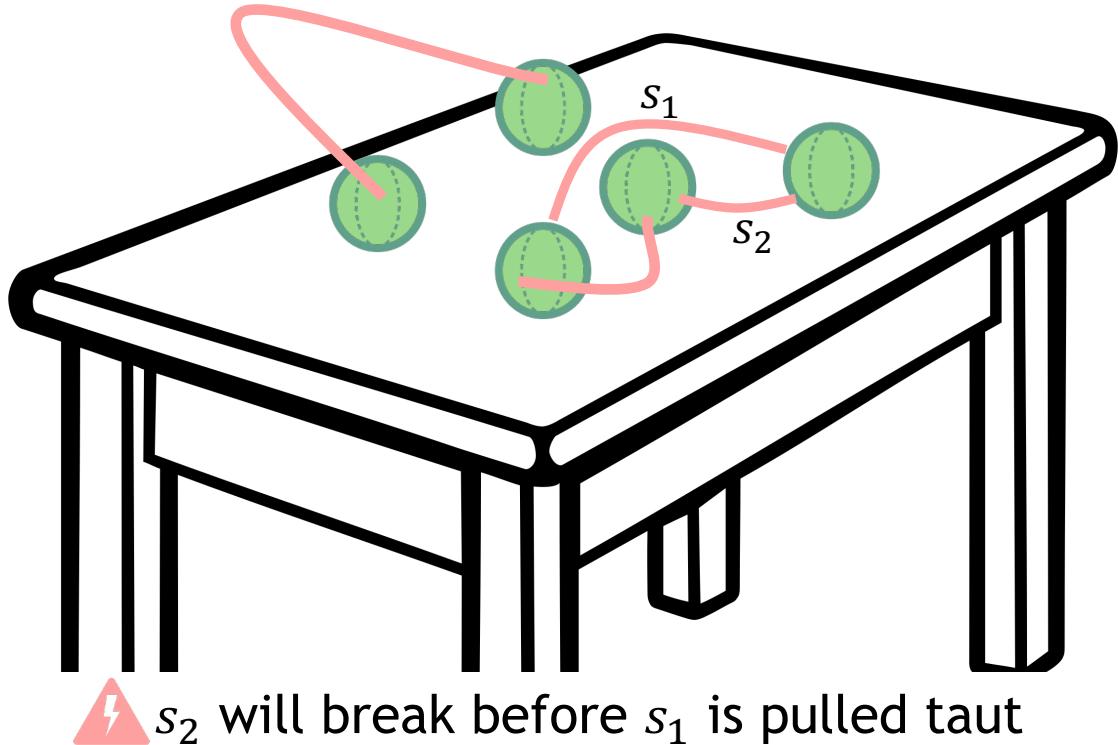
# ... are all constraints necessary?

$$\max_{X \in \mathbb{R}^3} \sum_{i \neq j} \|x_i - x_j\|$$

s.t.  $\|x_i - x_j\| \leq d_{i,j} \quad \forall i \neq j$

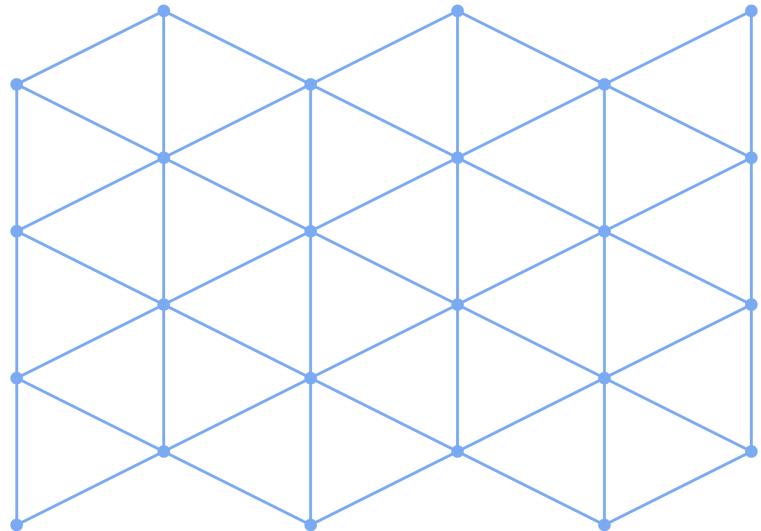
**equivalent setting**

- ❖ a set of balls can move around
- ❖ fragile string connecting balls with length  $d_{i,j}$



# Methodology : two-stage solver

$$\min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^2} \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{E}_u} (\|x_i - x_j\| - d_{i,j})^2$$



$$\min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^3} \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{E}_p} (\|x_i - x_j\| - d_{i,j})^2$$

