

*A Heuristic for Truss Topology Optimization  
under Constraint on Number of Nodes*

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# number of nodes in truss topology optim.

- #node  $\leftrightarrow$  fabrication cost of a truss
  - cost of nodes
  - $\# \text{member} \sim \# \text{nodes}$

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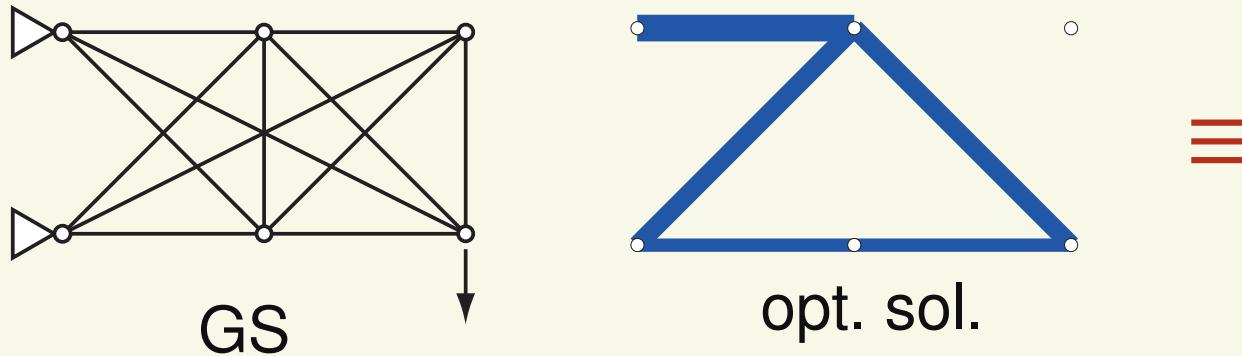
- #node  $\leftrightarrow$  fabrication cost of a truss
  - cost of nodes
  - #member  $\sim$  #nodes
- optimization incorporating fabrication cost
  - min. weighted sum of struct. vol. & fabn. cost
    - fabn. cost  $\sim$  #member [Asadpoure, Guest, & Valdevit '15]
    - fabn. cost  $\sim$  #node [Torii, Lopez, & Miguel '16]

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- motivation
  - explicit control of #node—**combinatorial constraint**
  - min. compliance
  - algorithm: alternating direction method of multipliers (ADMM)

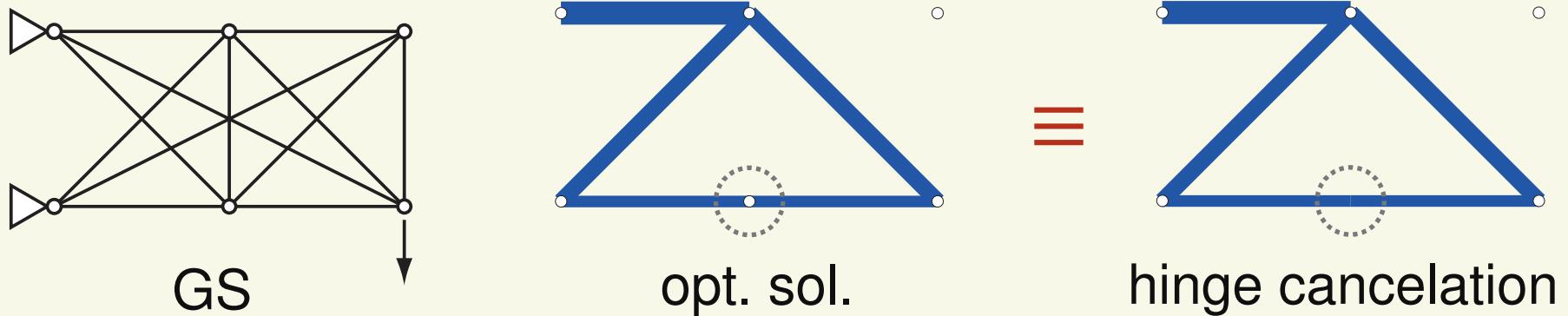
# revisiting ground structure

- conventional compliance min.:
  - Overlapping bars in GS are omitted *a priori*.



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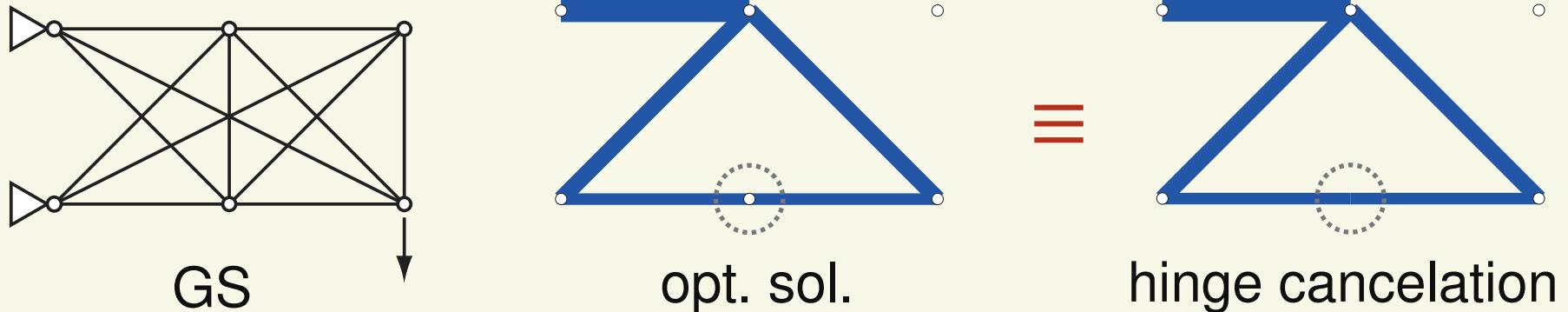
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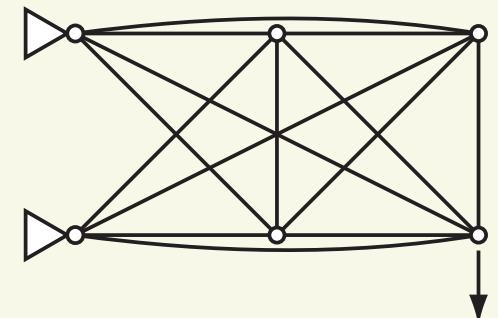
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  - can be replaced with a single longer bar

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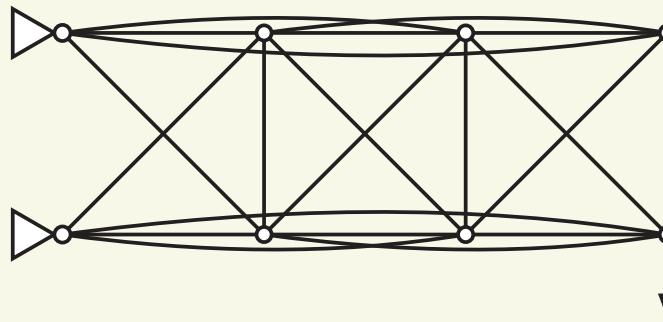


- chain (a set of sequential parallel bars)
  - can be replaced with a single longer bar
- #nodes:
  - “left” = 5    “right” = 4
  - “hinge cancelation” → a different solution
  - Overlapping bars in GS are not redundant.

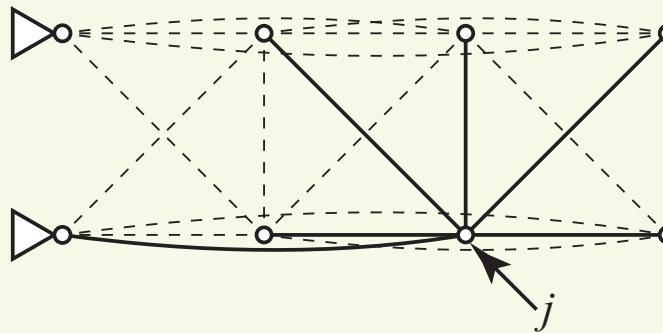


# #node constraint

- GS w/ overlapping bars

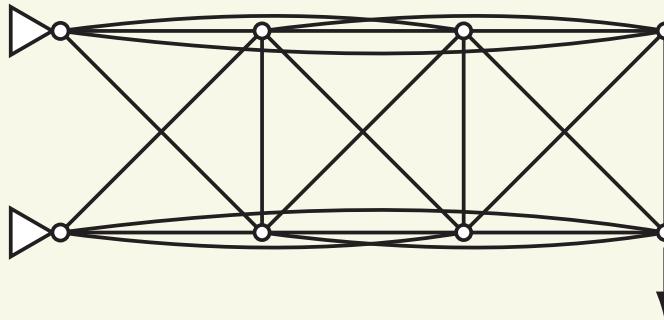


- $z_j$  : sum of c-s areas of bars connecting to node  $j$

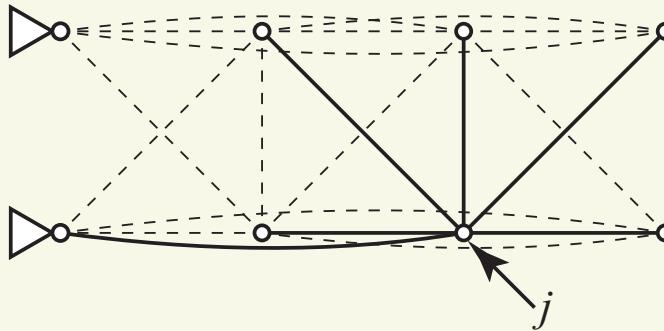


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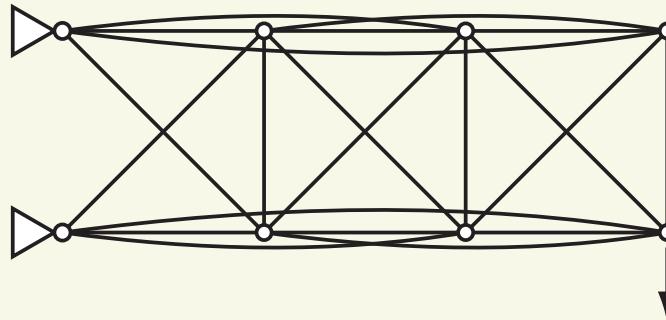


- $n = \text{upr. bnd.}, z = (z_1, \dots, z_l)^\top$

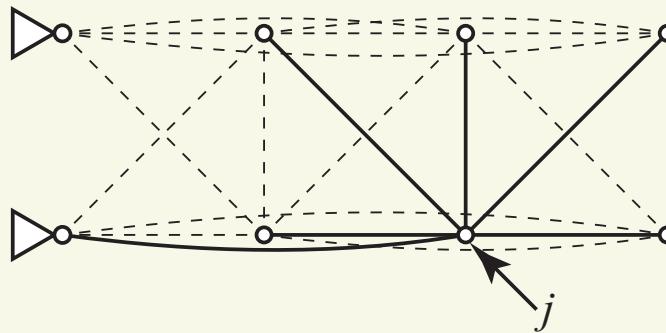
$$\|z\|_0 \leq n \quad (\ell_0\text{-norm} = \#\text{nonzero components})$$

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- difficult (combinatorial) cstr.  $\rightarrow$  a heuristic (based on ADMM)

**ADMM = alternating direction method of multipliers**

# ADMM = alternating direction method of multipliers

- an algorithm for the convex optimization:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Min. } & f(\boldsymbol{x}) + g(\boldsymbol{z}) \\ \text{s. t. } & A\boldsymbol{x} + B\boldsymbol{z} = \boldsymbol{c} \end{aligned}$$

- $f, g$  : convex       $\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{z}$  : design variables

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- classical algorithm      [Glowinski & Marrocco '75], [Gabay & Mercier '76]
  - application in distributed optimization
  - a precursor: method of multipliers

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  - application in distributed optimization
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- recent attention
  - heuristic for nonconvex problems
    - sparse learning      [Chartrand '07], [Chartrand & Wohlberg '13]
    - learning on the Stiefel manifold      [Kanamori & Takeda '14]
    - mixed-integer program      [Takapoui, Moehle, Boyd, & Bemporad '17]

# iteration of ADMM

- problem to be solved ( $f, g$  : convex):

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Min. } & f(\mathbf{x}) + g(\mathbf{z}) \\ \text{s. t. } & A\mathbf{x} + B\mathbf{z} = \mathbf{c} \end{aligned}$$

- augmented Lagrangian:

$$\begin{aligned} L_\rho(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}; \mathbf{y}) = & f(\mathbf{x}) + g(\mathbf{z}) \\ & + \mathbf{y}^\top (A\mathbf{x} + B\mathbf{z} - \mathbf{c}) + \frac{\rho}{2} \|A\mathbf{x} + B\mathbf{z} - \mathbf{c}\|^2 \end{aligned}$$

- $\mathbf{y}$  : Lagrange multiplier       $\rho > 0$  : penalty parameter
- ADMM—alternating minimization w.r.t. primal variables:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{x}^{k+1} &:= \text{minimizer of } L_\rho(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}^k; \mathbf{y}^k) \\ \mathbf{z}^{k+1} &:= \text{minimizer of } L_\rho(\mathbf{x}^{k+1}, \mathbf{z}; \mathbf{y}^k) \\ \mathbf{y}^{k+1} &:= \mathbf{y}^k + \rho(A\mathbf{x}^{k+1} + B\mathbf{z}^{k+1} - \mathbf{c}) \end{aligned}$$

# formulation & augmented Lagrangian

- truss topology optimization w/ node constraint:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Min. } \pi(\mathbf{x}) &&& \text{(compliance)} \\ \text{s. t. } \mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{0}, \mathbf{c}^\top \mathbf{x} \leq V &&& \text{(nonnegative \& volume cstr.)} \\ \mathbf{z} = S\mathbf{x} &&& \text{(def. of } z) \\ \|\mathbf{z}\|_0 \leq n &&& (\ell_0\text{-norm cstr.}) \end{aligned}$$

- augmented Lagrangian:

$$\begin{aligned} L_\rho(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}; \mathbf{y}) &= \pi(\mathbf{x}) + \mathbf{y}^\top (S\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{z}) + \frac{\rho}{2} \|S\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{z}\|^2 \\ \text{s. t. (ineq. cstr.)} \end{aligned}$$

- $\mathbf{y}$  : Lagrange multiplier       $\rho > 0$  : penalty parameter
- scaling of variable  $\mathbf{v} := \mathbf{y}/\rho$  [Boyd, Parikh, Chu, Peleato, & Eckstein '10]

$$L_\rho(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}; \mathbf{v}) = \pi(\mathbf{x}) + \frac{\rho}{2} \|S\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{z} + \mathbf{v}\|^2 - \frac{\rho}{2} \|\mathbf{v}\|^2$$

- → scaled form of ADMM (shorter formula)

# applying ADMM

- augmented Lagrangian (scaled):

$$L_\rho(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}; \boldsymbol{\nu}) = \pi(\mathbf{x}) + \frac{\rho}{2} \|\mathbf{S}\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{z} + \boldsymbol{\nu}\|^2 - \frac{\rho}{2} \|\boldsymbol{\nu}\|^2$$
$$\text{s. t. } \mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{0}, \ \mathbf{c}^\top \mathbf{x} \leq V, \ \|\mathbf{z}\|_0 \leq n$$

- update of  $\mathbf{z}$  :

$$\text{Min. } \frac{\rho}{2} \|(\mathbf{S}\mathbf{x}^k + \boldsymbol{\nu}^k) - \mathbf{z}\|^2$$
$$\text{s. t. } \|\mathbf{z}\|_0 \leq n$$

- nonconvex, but easily computable
  - projection of point  $\mathbf{S}\mathbf{x}^k + \boldsymbol{\nu}^k$  onto set  $\{\mathbf{z} \mid \|\mathbf{z}\|_0 \leq n\}$ 
    - keeping  $n$  largest magnitude components;
    - zeroing out the other components.

[Boyd, Parikh, Chu, Peleato, & Eckstein '10]

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- conventional compliance min. + “quadratic penalty”
  - can be solved easily via convex optimization.

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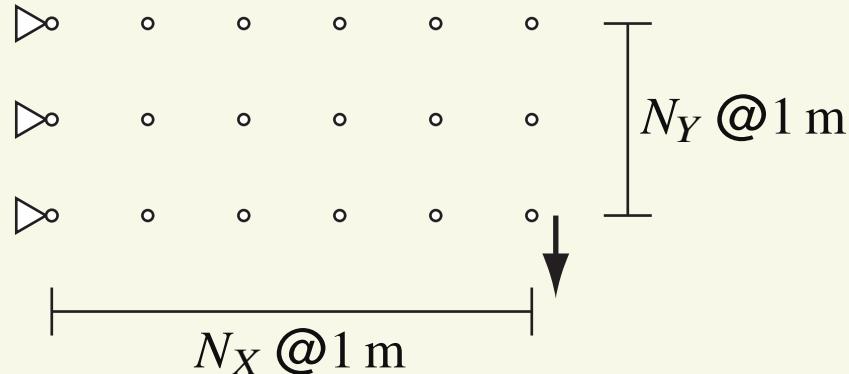
- update of  $\mathbf{x}$  :

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- conventional compliance min. + “quadratic penalty”
  - can be solved easily via convex optimization.
- In ADMM,  $\ell_0$ -norm cstr. is handled separately from the others.
  - Update of  $\mathbf{z}$  (s. t.  $\ell_0$ -norm cstr.) becomes very easy.
  - For fixed  $\mathbf{z}$ , problem becomes as easy as the conventional compliance min.

## num. ex. (small scale)

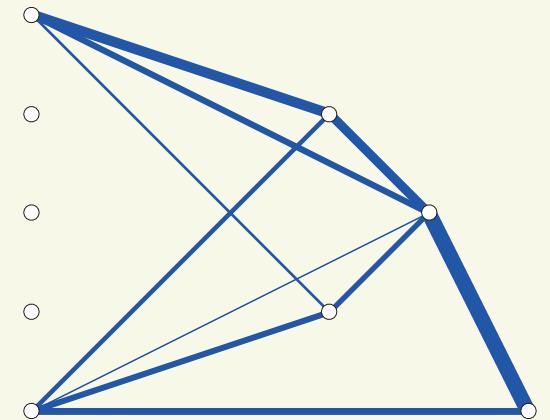
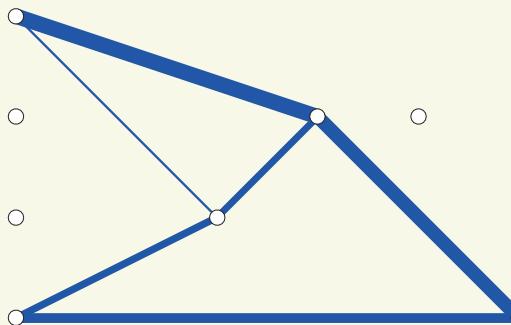
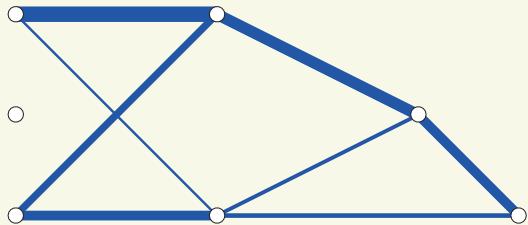
- problem setting



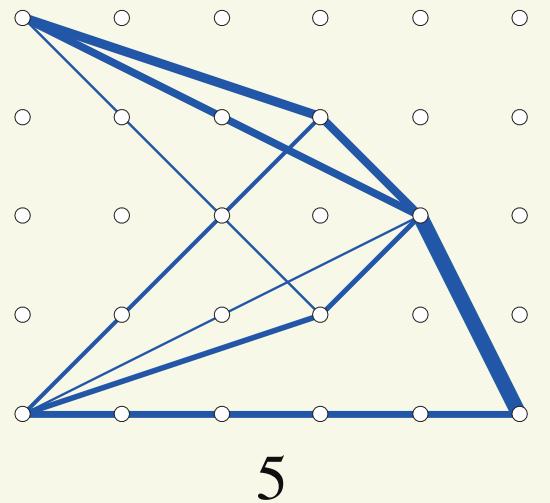
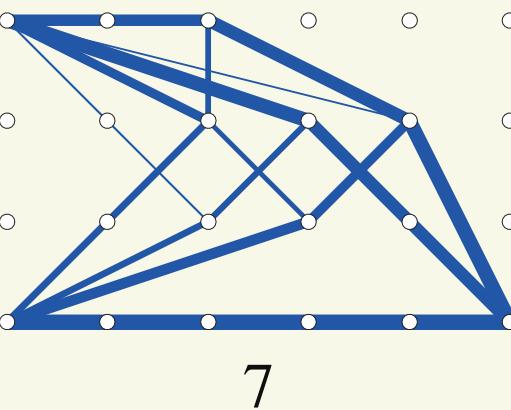
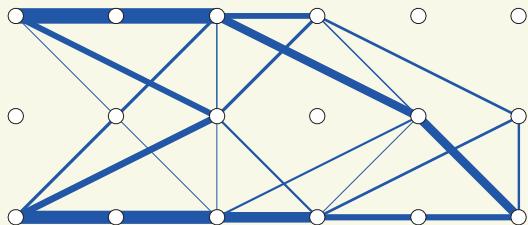
- $(N_X, N_Y) = (5, 2), (5, 3), (5, 4)$
- #bars = #0-1 variables = 147, 264, 411

## num. ex. (small scale)

- solutions obtained by the proposed ADMM (“#free nodes”  $\leq 4$ )

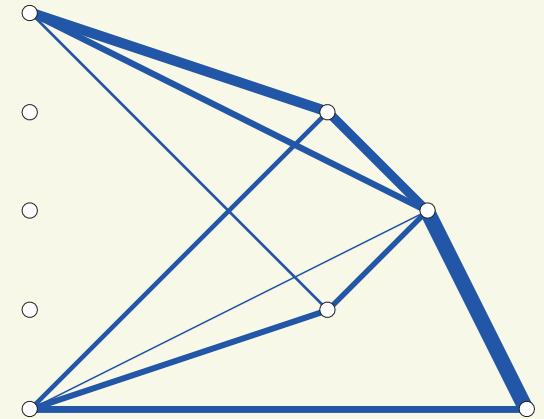
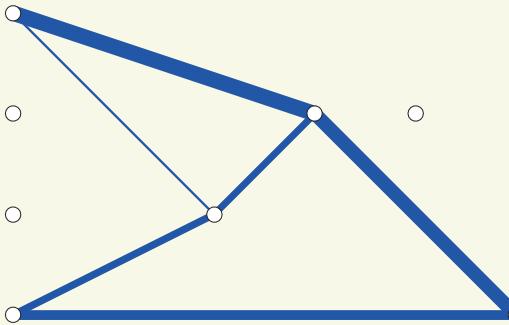
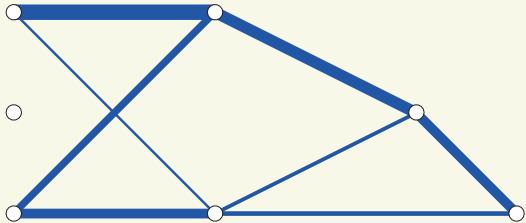


- #iter  $\leq 5$
- opt. sol. w/o node constraint



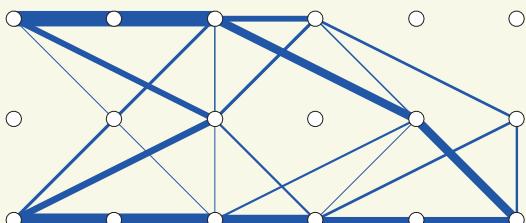
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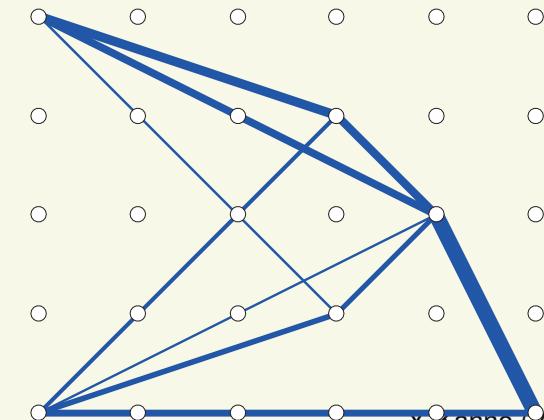
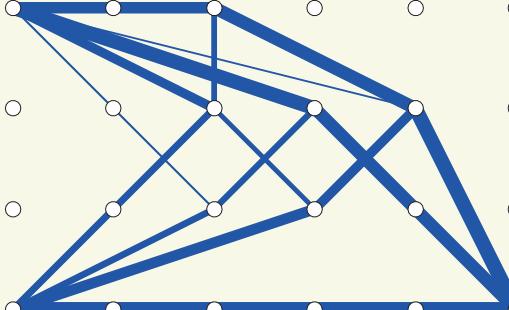


- confirmed to be **globally optimal**  
(same *obj* as the solutions below)
  - multiple opt. sol.

- opt. sol. w/o node constraint

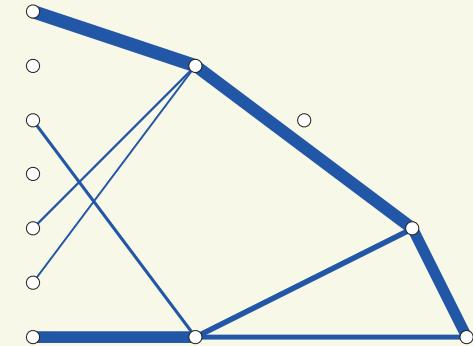
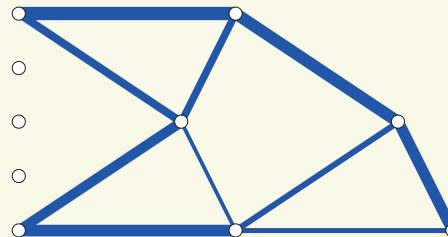
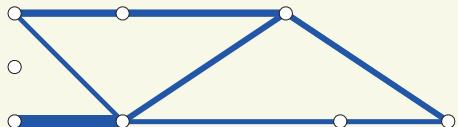


“#free nodes” = 9

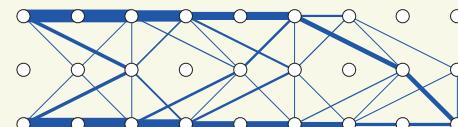


## num. ex. (moderate scale, 1/2)

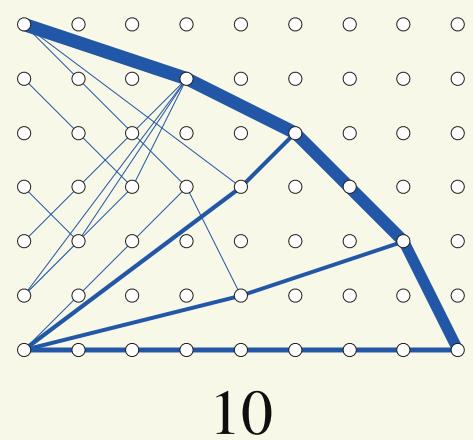
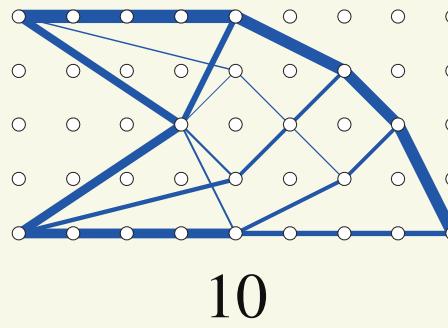
- solutions by the proposed ADMM (“#free nodes”  $\leq 5$ )



- #bars in GS = 273, 750, 1296
- #iter  $\leq 10$
- opt. sol. w/o node constraint

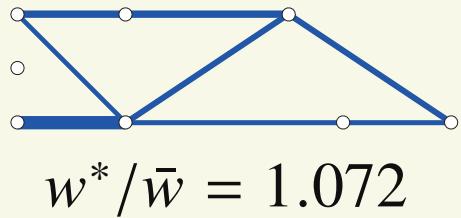


“#free nodes” = 15

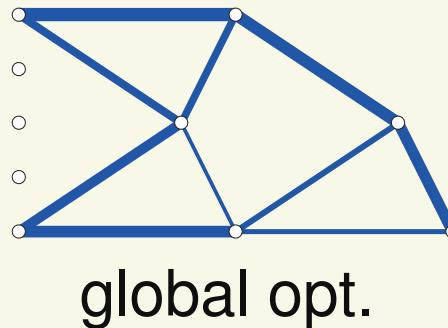


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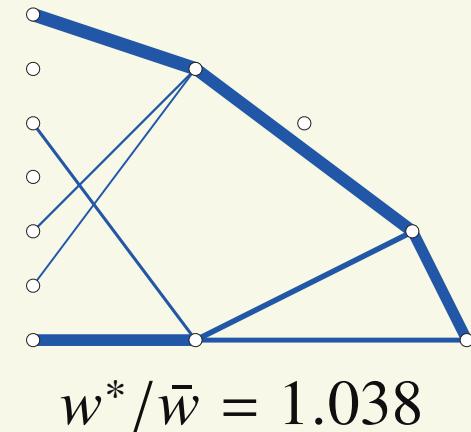
- solutions by the proposed ADMM  $w^*$  :



$$w^*/\bar{w} = 1.072$$

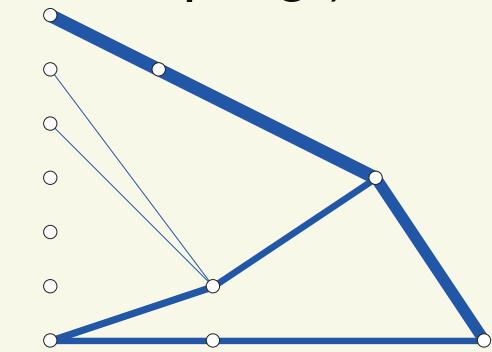
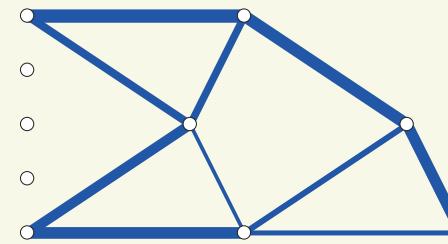
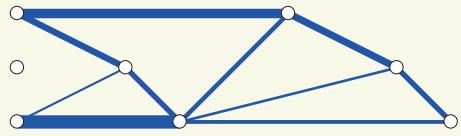


global opt.



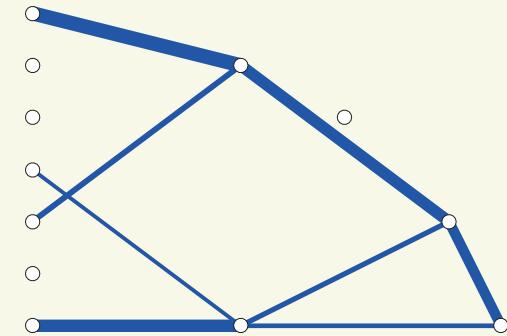
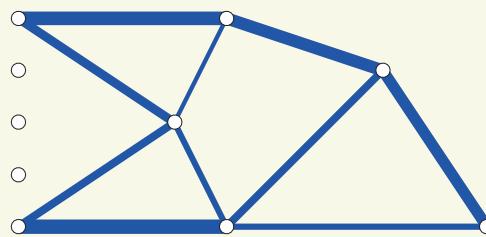
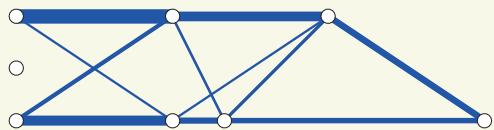
$$w^*/\bar{w} = 1.038$$

- global opt. sol.  $\bar{w}$  (via mixed-integer 2nd-order cone prog.)

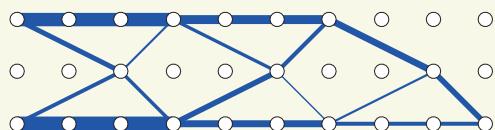


## num. ex. (moderate scale, 2/2)

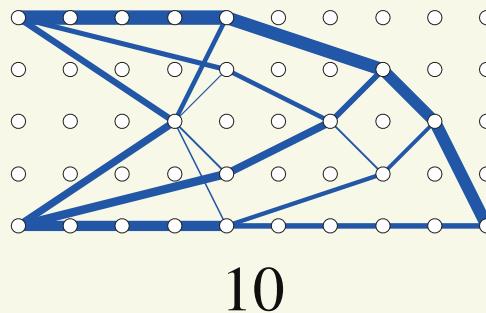
- solutions by the proposed ADMM (“#free nodes”  $\leq 5$ )



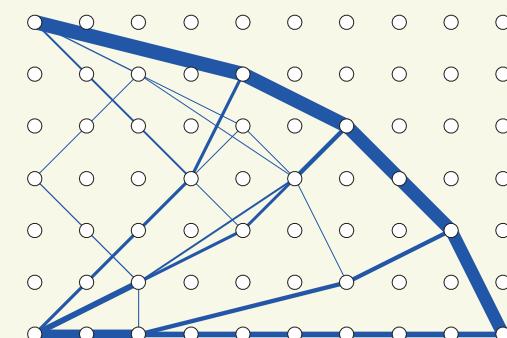
- #bars in GS = 315, 863, 1489
- #iter  $\leq 10$
- no thin bars
- opt. sol. w/o node constraint



“#free nodes” = 8



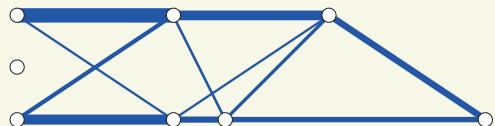
10



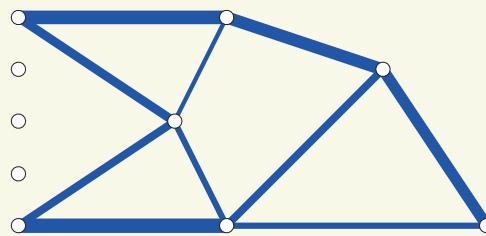
12

## num. ex. (moderate scale, 2/2)

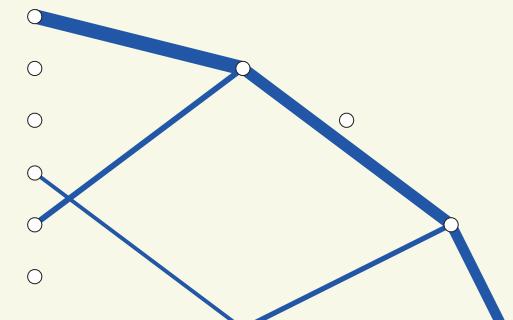
- solutions by the proposed ADMM  $w^*$  :



$$w^*/\bar{w} = 1.070$$

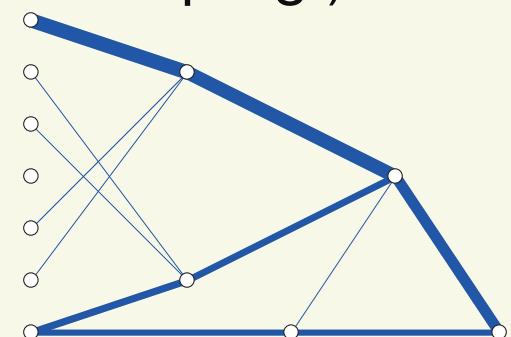
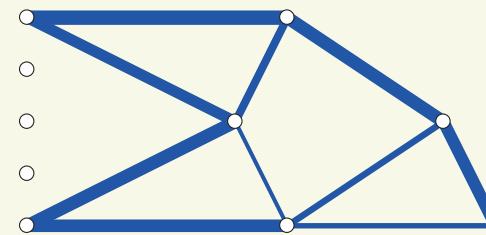
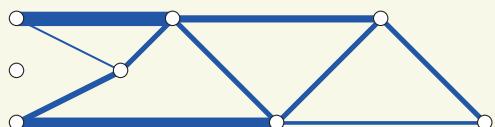


global opt.



$$w^*/\bar{w} = 1.060$$

- global opt. sol.  $\bar{w}$  (via mixed-integer 2nd-order cone prog.)



- some thin bars

# summary

- truss topology optimization w/ constraint on number of nodes
  - combinatorial feature
    - selection of nodes among candidates in a ground structure
    - $\ell_0$ -norm constraint
    - mixed-integer second-order cone programming
- ADMM (alternating direction method of multipliers)
  - heuristic for nonconvex optimization problems
    - simple algorithm
    - often shows fast convergence to a solution w/ high quality
    - depends on initial point & penalty parameter