Work started at the Bertinoro Workshop on Graph Drawing, BWGD 2016

# Visibility Representations of Boxes in 2.5 Dimensions

Alessio Arleo<sup>1</sup>, Carla Binucci<sup>1</sup>, Emilio Di Giacomo<sup>1</sup>, William S. Evans<sup>2</sup>, Luca Grilli<sup>1</sup>, Giuseppe Liotta<sup>1</sup>, Henk Meijer<sup>3</sup>, Fabrizio Montecchiani<sup>1</sup>, Sue Whitesides<sup>4</sup>, Stephen Wismath<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Università degli Studi di Perugia, Italy
<sup>2</sup>University of British Columbia, Canada
<sup>3</sup>University College Roosevelt, the Netherlands
<sup>4</sup>University of Victoria, Canada
<sup>5</sup>University of Lethbridge, Canada

# Visibility Representations (VR)

A Visibility Representation (VR) of a graph G maps

- $\bullet$  the vertices of G to non-overlapping geometric objects
- the edges of G to segments that do not intersect any geometric object other than at their end-points (visibilities)





## Bar Visibility Representations (BVR)

In a Bar Visibility Representation (BVR)

- vertices → horizontal segments (*bars*)
- edges  $\rightarrow$  vertical segments



Every planar graph admits a (weak) BVR Graphs that admit a (strong) BVR have been characterized Duchet et al. 1983, Rosenstiehl & Tarjan 1986, Tamassia & Tollis 1991, Wismath 1985

## Rectangle Visibility Representations (RVR)

In a Rectangle Visibility Representation (RVR)

- $\bullet$  vertices  $\rightarrow$  axis-aligned rectangles
- $\bullet \ \text{edges} \rightarrow \text{horizontal}$  or vertical segments



At most 6n - 20 edges Hutchinson et al. 1999 Recognition is NP-hard in general Shermer 1996 and polynomial time solvable in some restricted cases Biedl et al. 2016, Streinu & Whitesides 2003

## Box Visibility Representations (BR)

In a *Box Visibility Representation (BR)* 

- $\bullet$  vertices  $\rightarrow$  axis-aligned 3D boxes
- edges  $\rightarrow$  segments parallel to the x-, y-, and z-axis



 $K_{56}$  admits a BR, while  $K_{184}$  does not Fekete & Meijer 1999

## 2.5D Box Visibility Representation (2.5D-BR)

#### 2.5D Box Visibility Representations (2.5D-BR):

- vertices  $\rightarrow$  axis-aligned 3D boxes whose bottom faces lie in the plane z = 0
- edges  $\rightarrow$  segments parallel to the x- and y-axis



## Our results 1/2

• Every complete bipartite graph admits a 2.5D-BR

## Our results 1/2

• Every complete bipartite graph admits a 2.5D-BR

• The complete graph  $K_n$  admits a 2.5D-BR if and only if  $n \leq 19$ .

## Our results 1/2

• Every complete bipartite graph admits a 2.5D-BR

- The complete graph  $K_n$  admits a 2.5D-BR if and only if  $n \leq 19$ .
- Every graph with pathwidth at most 7 admits a 2.5D-BR, which can be computed in linear time

## 2.5D Grid Box Representations (2.5D-GBR)

2.5D Grid Box Visibility Representations (2.5D-GBR)2.5D-BR such that the bottom face of each box is a unit square with corners at integer coordinates



## Our results 2/2

• An *n*-vertex graph that admits a 2.5D-GBR has at most  $4n - 6\sqrt{n}$  edges and that this bound is tight.

## Our results 2/2

- An *n*-vertex graph that admits a 2.5D-GBR has at most  $4n 6\sqrt{n}$  edges and that this bound is tight.
- Deciding whether a given graph G admits a 2.5D-GBR with a given footprint is NP-complete
  - The *footprint* of a 2.5D-BR  $\Gamma$  is the set of bottom faces of the boxes in  $\Gamma$ .

**Lemma 1** A complete graph admits a 2.5D-BR only if it has at most 19 vertices.

Given a 2.5D-BR  $\Gamma$  of  $K_n$ , we show that:

- There is one line  $\ell_h$  parallel to the x-axis and one line  $\ell_v$ parallel to the y-axis whose union intersect the footprints of all boxes
- $\ell_h$  and  $\ell_v$  intersect at most 10 boxes each  $\Rightarrow$  there can be at most 20 boxes in  $\Gamma$
- There is a box that is intersected by both  $\ell_h$  and  $\ell_v$  $\Rightarrow$  there can be at most 19 boxes in  $\Gamma$

#### Two observations

#### Let $\Gamma$ be a 2.5D-BR of $K_n$

#### Two observations

Let  $\Gamma$  be a 2.5D-BR of  $K_n$ 

- We can assume that every box in  $\Gamma$  has a distinct integer height in the range [1,n]

#### Two observations

Let  $\Gamma$  be a 2.5D-BR of  $K_n$ 

- We can assume that every box in  $\Gamma$  has a distinct integer height in the range [1,n]
- For any pair of rectangles in the footprint of  $\Gamma$  there exists a line that intersects both rectangles and that is parallel to the x- or to the y-axis





**Lemma 1** A complete graph admits a 2.5D-BR only if it has at most 19 vertices.

Given a 2.5D-BR  $\Gamma$  of  $K_n$ , we show that:

- There is one line line line line reaction intersect the parallel to the y-axis whose union intersect the footprints of all boxes
- $\ell_h$  and  $\ell_v$  intersect at most 10 boxes each  $\Rightarrow$  there can be at most 20 boxes in  $\Gamma$
- There is a box that is intersected by both  $\ell_h$  and  $\ell_v$  $\Rightarrow$  there can be at most 19 boxes in  $\Gamma$

Given a 2.5D-BR  $\Gamma$  of  $K_n$ , let  $\mathcal{R}$  be the set of rectangles in the footprint of  $\Gamma$ 

- Let  $\ell_h$  and  $\ell_v$  be a horizontal and a vertical line whose union intersects the maximum number of rectangles in  $\mathcal{R}$
- Suppose that a rectangle  $a \in \mathcal{R}$  is not instersected







- Let c be the rectangle that prevents  $\ell_v$  to move closer to a
- Let b be the rectangle that prevents  $\ell_h$  to move closer to a



- Let c be the rectangle that prevents  $\ell_v$  to move closer to a
- Let b be the rectangle that prevents  $\ell_h$  to move closer to a
- there must be either a horizontal or a vertical line that intersects both b and c



- Let c be the rectangle that prevents  $\ell_v$  to move closer to a
- Let b be the rectangle that prevents  $\ell_h$  to move closer to a
- there must be either a horizontal or a vertical line that intersects both b and c



• c is intersected by both  $\ell_v$  and  $\ell_h$ 

• b is intersected by both  $\ell_v$  and  $\ell_h$ 



• c is intersected by both  $\ell_v$  and  $\ell_h$  $\Rightarrow \ell_v$  can be moved closer to a • b is intersected by both  $\ell_v$  and  $\ell_h$  $\Rightarrow \ell_h$  can be moved closer to a



• c is intersected by both  $\ell_v$  and  $\ell_h$  $\Rightarrow \ell_v$  can be moved closer to a • b is intersected by both  $\ell_v$  and  $\ell_h$  $\Rightarrow \ell_h$  can be moved closer to a



• c is intersected by both  $\ell_v$  and  $\ell_h$  $\Rightarrow \ell_v$  can be moved closer to a**A contradiction**  • b is intersected by both  $\ell_v$  and  $\ell_h$  $\Rightarrow \ell_h$  can be moved closer to a**A contradiction** 



**Lemma 1** A complete graph admits a 2.5D-BR only if it has at most 19 vertices.

Given a 2.5D-BR  $\Gamma$  of  $K_n$ , we show that:

- There is one line ℓ<sub>h</sub> parallel to the x-axis and one line ℓ<sub>v</sub> parallel to the y-axis whose union intersect the footprints of all boxes ✓
- $\ell_h$  and  $\ell_v$  intersect at most 10 boxes each  $\Rightarrow$  there can be at most 20 boxes in  $\Gamma$
- There is a box that is intersected by both  $\ell_h$  and  $\ell_v$  $\Rightarrow$  there can be at most 19 boxes in  $\Gamma$

A sequence of distinct integers is *unimaximal* if no element of the sequence is smaller than both its predecessor and successor.



**Lemma 4** For all m > 1, in every sequence of  $\binom{m}{2} + 1$  distinct integers, there exists at least one unimaximal sequence of length m. Fekete et al. 1995

In a sequence of 11 distinct integers, there is a unimaximal sequence of length 5

Suppose that  $\ell_h$  (or  $\ell_v$ ) intersects 11 boxes

Suppose that  $\ell_h$  (or  $\ell_v$ ) intersects 11 boxes

The heights of these boxes form a sequence of distinct integers

Suppose that  $\ell_h$  (or  $\ell_v$ ) intersects 11 boxes

The heights of these boxes form a sequence of distinct integers

 $\Rightarrow$  There exist five boxes whose heights form a unimaximal sequence

Suppose that  $\ell_h$  (or  $\ell_v$ ) intersects 11 boxes

 $\Rightarrow$  There exist five boxes whose heights form a unimaximal sequence

Since the heights form a unimaximal sequence, no two boxes see each other "above" a third one.

Suppose that  $\ell_h$  (or  $\ell_v$ ) intersects 11 boxes

 $\Rightarrow$  There exist five boxes whose heights form a unimaximal sequence

Since the heights form a unimaximal sequence, no two boxes see each other "above" a third one.




Suppose that  $\ell_h$  (or  $\ell_v$ ) intersects 11 boxes

 $\Rightarrow$  There exist five boxes whose heights form a unimaximal sequence

Since the heights form a unimaximal sequence, no two boxes see each other "above" a third one.

 $\Rightarrow$  Boxes must see each other at level z = 0

Suppose that  $\ell_h$  (or  $\ell_v$ ) intersects 11 boxes

 $\Rightarrow$  There exist five boxes whose heights form a unimaximal sequence

 $\Rightarrow$  Boxes must see each other at level z = 0



Suppose that  $\ell_h$  (or  $\ell_v$ ) intersects 11 boxes

 $\Rightarrow$  There exist five boxes whose heights form a unimaximal sequence

 $\Rightarrow$  Boxes must see each other at level z = 0





Suppose that  $\ell_h$  (or  $\ell_v$ ) intersects 11 boxes

 $\Rightarrow$  There exist five boxes whose heights form a unimaximal sequence

- $\Rightarrow$  Boxes must see each other at level z = 0
- $\Rightarrow$  The five boxes and their visibilities form a BVR





Suppose that  $\ell_h$  (or  $\ell_v$ ) intersects 11 boxes

 $\Rightarrow$  There exist five boxes whose heights form a unimaximal sequence

- $\Rightarrow$  Boxes must see each other at level z = 0
- $\Rightarrow$  The five boxes and their visibilities form a BVR





Suppose that  $\ell_h$  (or  $\ell_v$ ) intersects 11 boxes

 $\Rightarrow$  There exist five boxes whose heights form a unimaximal sequence

- $\Rightarrow$  Boxes must see each other at level z = 0
- $\Rightarrow$  The five boxes and their visibilities form a BVR
- $\Rightarrow$  There is a BVR of  $K_5 A$  contradiction!

**Lemma 1** A complete graph admits a 2.5D-BR only if it has at most 19 vertices.

Given a 2.5D-BR  $\Gamma$  of  $K_n$ , we show that:

- There is one line ℓ<sub>h</sub> parallel to the x-axis and one line ℓ<sub>v</sub> parallel to the y-axis whose union intersect the footprints of all boxes ✓
- $\ell_h$  and  $\ell_v$  intersect at most 10 boxes each  $\Rightarrow$  there can be at most 20 boxes in  $\Gamma \checkmark$
- There is a box that is intersected by both  $\ell_h$  and  $\ell_v$  $\Rightarrow$  there can be at most 19 boxes in  $\Gamma$

Suppose that no box is intersected by both  $\ell_h$  and  $\ell_v$ 

Suppose that no box is intersected by both  $\ell_h$  and  $\ell_v$ 



Suppose that no box is intersected by both  $\ell_h$  and  $\ell_v$ 



Suppose that no box is intersected by both  $\ell_h$  and  $\ell_v$ 

Case 1.  $|L| \neq |R|$  and  $|B| \neq |T|$ Case 2.  $|L| \neq |R|$  and |B| = |T|Case 3. |L| = |R| and |B| = |T|

Suppose that no box is intersected by both  $\ell_h$  and  $\ell_v$ 

Case 1.  $|L| \neq |R|$  and  $|B| \neq |T|$ Case 2.  $|L| \neq |R|$  and |B| = |T|Case 3. |L| = |R| and |B| = |T|





#### **Case 3.** |L| = |R| and |B| = |T|

Two possible configurations for  $L \mbox{ and } B$ 

**Case 3.** |L| = |R| and |B| = |T|

Two possible configurations for L and B $l_1$  $b_1$  $\ell_L$ **Configuration A**: at least one box of B' to the right of  $\ell_L$ 

**Case 3.** |L| = |R| and |B| = |T|

Two possible configurations for L and B $l_1$  $b_1$  $\ell_L$ **Configuration A**: at least one box of B' to the right of  $\ell_L$ 

**Case 3.** |L| = |R| and |B| = |T|

Two possible configurations for L and B $l_1$  $b_1$  $\ell_L$ **Configuration A**: at L' has a least one box of B' to staircase the right of  $\ell_L$ layout (SL)

**Case 3.** |L| = |R| and |B| = |T|

Two possible configurations for  $L \mbox{ and } B$ 



#### Configuration A: at

least one box of B' to the right of  $\ell_L$ 

L' has a staircase layout (SL)

#### **Case 3.** |L| = |R| and |B| = |T|

Two possible configurations for  $L \mbox{ and } B$ 



#### **Case 3.** |L| = |R| and |B| = |T|

Two possible configurations for  $L \mbox{ and } B$ 



**Case 3.** |L| = |R| and |B| = |T|

Two possible configurations for  $L \mbox{ and } B$ 

*B'* has a *staircase layout (SL)* 

Configuration **B**: all boxes of B' to the left of  $\ell_L$ 





Two possible configurations for B and L:

- Configuration  $A \Rightarrow L'$  has a SL
- Configuration  $\mathsf{B} \Rightarrow B'$  has a  $\mathsf{SL}$

Two possible configurations for B and L:

- Configuration  $A \Rightarrow L'$  has a SL
- Configuration  $\mathsf{B} \Rightarrow B'$  has a  $\mathsf{SL}$

The same holds for L and T, for T and R, and for R and B

Two possible configurations for B and L:

- Configuration  $A \Rightarrow L'$  has a SL
- Configuration  $B \Rightarrow B'$  has a SL

The same holds for L and T, for T and R, and for R and B

	Conf. A	Conf. B
B and $L$	SL of $L'$	SL of $B'$
L and $T$	SL of $T'$	SL of $L'$
T and $R$	SL of $R'$	SL of $T'$
R and $B$	SL of $B'$	SL of $R'$

Two possible configurations for B and L:

- Configuration  $A \Rightarrow L'$  has a SL
- Configuration  $B \Rightarrow B'$  has a SL

The same holds for L and T, for T and R, and for R and B

	Conf. A	Conf. B
B and $L$	SL of $L'$	SL of $B'$
L and $T$	SL of $T'$	SL of $L'$
T and $R$	SL of $R'$	SL of $T'$
R and $B$	SL of $B'$	SL of $R'$

 $\Rightarrow B'$  and T' have both a SL or L' and R' have both a SL

Suppose that L' and R' have both a SL

#### Suppose that L' and R' have both a SL



#### Suppose that L' and R' have both a SL



**Lemma 1** A complete graph admits a 2.5D-BR only if it has at most 19 vertices.

Given a 2.5D-BR  $\Gamma$  of  $K_n$ , we show that:

- There is one line ℓ<sub>h</sub> parallel to the x-axis and one line ℓ<sub>v</sub> parallel to the y-axis whose union intersect the footprints of all boxes ✓
- $\ell_h$  and  $\ell_v$  intersect at most 10 boxes each  $\Rightarrow$  there can be at most 20 boxes in  $\Gamma \checkmark$
- There is a box that is intersected by both  $\ell_h$  and  $\ell_v$  $\Rightarrow$  there can be at most 19 boxes in  $\Gamma$

# A 2.5D-BR of $K_{19}$



2.5D-GBR with a given footprint: NP-hardness

**Theorem 1** Deciding whether a given graph G admits a 2.5D-GBR with a given footprint (2.5DGBR-WGF) is NP-complete, even if G is a path.

**Theorem 1** Deciding whether a given graph G admits a 2.5D-GBR with a given footprint (2.5DGBR-WGF) is NP-complete, even if G is a path.

- Reduction from HAMILTONIAN-PATH-FOR-CUBIC-GRAPHS (HPCG)
- Let  $G_H$  be an instance of HPCG
- We construct an instance  $\langle G,F\rangle$  of 2.5DGBR-WGF, where G is a path





Orthogonal drawing of  $G_H$  s.t. every edge has exactly 1 bend and no two vertices share the same x- or y-coordinate.

Bruckdorfer et al. 2014




This is the footprint F of the instance  $\langle G, F \rangle$ 



There are at most three squares in each row/column



 $G_H$  has a Hamiltonian path



# Footprint graph

Starting from F we define a graph  $F^*$  that:

- has a vertex for each square of F;
- has an edge between two squares if they are horizontally or vertically aligned





 $G_H$  has a Hamiltonian path



 $F^*$  has a Hamiltonian path

































 $G_H$  has a Hamiltonian path



 $\stackrel{\checkmark}{\Leftrightarrow} F^* \text{ has a Hamiltonian} \\ \text{path}$ 



 $F^{\ast}$  has a Hamiltonian path

# $\bigwedge$

Every graphs that has a 2.5D-GBR with footprint F is a spanning subgraph of  $F^*$ 

 $F^*$  has a Hamiltonian path

# $\bigwedge$

Every graphs that has a 2.5D-GBR with footprint F is a spanning subgraph of  $F^*$ 

 ${\boldsymbol{G}}$  is a path

 $F^*$  has a Hamiltonian path



Every graphs that has a 2.5D-GBR with footprint F is a spanning subgraph of  $F^*$ 

 ${\boldsymbol{G}}$  is a path

 $\Rightarrow G$  is a Hamiltonian path of  $F^*$ 

 $F^*$  has a Hamiltonian path



Suppose that  $F^*$  has a Hamiltonian path  $H^*$ 

 $F^*$  has a Hamiltonian path



Suppose that  $F^*$  has a Hamiltonian path  $H^*$ 

We have to choose the heights of the squares of F so that all the edges of  $H^*$  are realized as visibilities between the resulting boxes

Suppose that  $F^*$  has a Hamiltonian path  $H^*$ 

We have to choose the heights of the squares of F so that all the edges of  $H^*$  are realized as visibilities between the resulting boxes

path
V
G has a 2.5D-GBR with footprint $F$

If an edge of  $H^*$  connects consecutive squares on a row/column, any choice is fine

Suppose that  $F^*$  has a Hamiltonian path  $H^*$ 

We have to choose the heights of the squares of F so that all the edges of  $H^*$  are realized as visibilities between the resulting boxes

If an edge of  $H^*$  connects consecutive squares on a row/column, any choice is fine

If an edge of  $H^*$  connects non-consecutive squares on a row/column, their heights must be larger than the heights of the square in the middle

 $F^{\ast}$  has a Hamiltonian path

 $\bigvee$ 

We assigne the heights to one square per step following the path  $H^*$ 

 $F^*$  has a Hamiltonian path

# $\bigvee$

We assigne the heights to one square per step following the path  $H^*$ 

h T  $F^*$  has a Hamiltonian path



We assigne the heights to one square per step following the path  $H^*$ 

h+1

 $F^*$  has a Hamiltonian path

 $\bigvee$ 

We assigne the heights to one square per step following the path  $H^*$ 

h+1 h h+1

 $F^*$  has a Hamiltonian path


We assigne the heights to one square per step following the path  $H^*$ 

 $F^*$  has a Hamiltonian path



We assigne the heights to one square per step following the path  $H^*$ 

 $F^*$  has a Hamiltonian path



We assigne the heights to one square per step following the path  $H^*$ 

h h - 1 h

 $F^*$  has a Hamiltonian path



We assigne the heights to one square per step following the path  $H^*$ 

Assigning height n to the first square, all heights are guaranteed to be positive

 $F^*$  has a Hamiltonian path



 $G_H$  has a Hamiltonian path



 $\stackrel{\checkmark}{\Leftrightarrow} \begin{array}{c} F^* \text{ has a Hamiltonian} \\ path \end{array}$ 



# **Open Problems**

- Study the complexity of deciding if a given graph admits a 2.5D-BR.
  - Deciding if a graph admits an RVR is NP-hard
- Investigate other classes of graphs that admit a 2.5D-BR. For example, 1-planar graphs or partial 5-trees?
  - There are both 1-planar graphs and partial 5-trees not admitting an RVR
- Study the 2.5D-BRs under the strong visibility model
  All our results assume the weak visibility model

