

MovingSofas: A companion *Mathematica* package to the paper “Differential equations and exact solutions in the moving sofa problem”

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See the end of the notebook for a log of changes from earlier versions

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I. Introduction

The moving sofa problem asks for the planar shape of maximal area that can be moved around a right-angled corner in a hallway of unit width. The history and mathematical background to the problem is described in my paper “Differential equations and exact solutions in the moving sofa problem”, which also contains new results on the problem. This *Mathematica* package includes code and computations that give a way of verifying some of the claims I make in my paper. The package also includes interactive visualizations that make it possible to acquire a good understanding of the moving sofa problem, Hammersley’s sofa, Gerver’s sofa conjectured to be the solution of the moving sofa problem, and the new shape Σ I construct in my paper and that may be a solution to a version of the problem called the “ambidextrous moving sofa problem,” where the class of shapes over which we try to maximize the areas are shapes that can be moved around right-angled corners both to the right and to the left.

Here’s how to use the package: first, evaluate the initialization code in Section 2 below to load various function and variable definitions. There is a lot of code and the initialization involves some algebraic simplifications, so it may take *Mathematica* a few seconds. Once this is done, open any of the sections and evaluate the code there, reading the explanations of what the code is doing and how the computation relates to the claims made in the paper.

Section 14 is not related to specific claims from the paper but includes interactive graphical visualizations that illustrate the process of moving different sofa shapes around a corner.

Section 15 includes some documentation of the code (in case you want to modify or extend it, although it is not necessary to look at the code to read and understand the notebook). Section 16 lists a log of the changes since the initial version release.

Enjoy!

2. Initialization code

3. Formulas for the contact paths in Gerver’s sofa

The definition of Gerver’s sofa involves the so-called rotation path $x(t)$, defined in equation (25) in the paper as a path in the plane gluing together the solutions $x_1(t)$, $x_2(t)$, $x_3(t)$, $x_4(t)$, $x_5(t)$ to five of the six basic ordinary differential equations described in Theorems 2 and 3 of the paper, and the additional contact paths $A(t)$, $B(t)$, $C(t)$, $D(t)$, that are computed from $x(t)$ by the formulas (9)-(12) in Theorem 1. The code below illustrates how *Mathematica* can simplify the results of the computation to provide clean, simple formulas for the rotation path and contact paths. Try evaluating the next five commands.

Gervertx[t] // TraditionalForm

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{ll}
\left\{ \kappa_{1,1} - \sin(t) \left(a_1 \sin(t) - a_2 \cos(t) - \frac{1}{2} \right) + \cos(t) \left(a_2 \sin(t) + a_1 \cos(t) - 1 \right), & 0 \leq t < \phi \\
\kappa_{1,2} + \cos(t) \left(a_1 \sin(t) - a_2 \cos(t) - \frac{1}{2} \right) + \sin(t) \left(a_2 \sin(t) + a_1 \cos(t) - 1 \right) \right\} & \\
\left\{ \kappa_{2,1} + \left(b_1 t + b_2 - \frac{t^2}{4} \right) \cos(t) + \left(-b_1 + \frac{t}{2} - 1 \right) (-\sin(t)), & \phi \leq t < \theta \\
\kappa_{2,2} + \left(b_1 t + b_2 - \frac{t^2}{4} \right) \sin(t) + \left(-b_1 + \frac{t}{2} - 1 \right) \cos(t) \right\} & \\
\left\{ \kappa_{3,1} - (c_2 + t) \sin(t) + (c_1 - t) \cos(t), \kappa_{3,2} + (c_1 - t) \sin(t) + (c_2 + t) \cos(t) \right\} & \theta \leq t < \frac{\pi}{2} - \theta \\
\left\{ \kappa_{4,1} - \left(d_1 t + d_2 - \frac{t^2}{4} \right) \sin(t) + \left(d_1 - \frac{t}{2} - 1 \right) \cos(t), \kappa_{4,2} + \left(d_1 t + d_2 - \frac{t^2}{4} \right) \cos(t) + \left(d_1 - \frac{t}{2} - 1 \right) \sin(t) \right\} & \frac{\pi}{2} - \theta \leq t < \frac{\pi}{2} - \phi \\
\left\{ \kappa_{5,1} - \sin(t) \left(e_1 \sin(t) - e_2 \cos(t) - 1 \right) + \cos(t) \left(e_2 \sin(t) + e_1 \cos(t) - \frac{1}{2} \right), & \frac{\pi}{2} - \phi \leq t \leq \frac{\pi}{2} \\
\kappa_{5,2} + \cos(t) \left(e_1 \sin(t) - e_2 \cos(t) - 1 \right) + \sin(t) \left(e_2 \sin(t) + e_1 \cos(t) - \frac{1}{2} \right) \right\} &
\end{array} \right.$$

GervertA[t] // TraditionalForm

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{ll}
\left\{ \kappa_{1,1} + a_1, \kappa_{1,2} + a_2 \right\} & 0 \leq t < \phi \\
\left\{ \kappa_{2,1} + \left(b_1 t + b_2 - \frac{t^2}{4} + 1 \right) \cos(t) + \left(\frac{t}{2} - b_1 \right) \sin(t), \kappa_{2,2} + \left(b_1 t + b_2 - \frac{t^2}{4} + 1 \right) \sin(t) + \left(b_1 - \frac{t}{2} \right) \cos(t) \right\} & \phi \leq t < \theta \\
\left\{ \kappa_{3,1} + (c_1 - t + 1) \cos(t) + \sin(t), \kappa_{3,2} + (c_1 - t + 1) \sin(t) - \cos(t) \right\} & \theta \leq t < \frac{\pi}{2} - \theta \\
\left\{ \kappa_{4,1} + \left(d_1 - \frac{t}{2} \right) \cos(t) + \frac{\sin(t)}{2}, \kappa_{4,2} + \left(d_1 - \frac{t}{2} \right) \sin(t) - \frac{\cos(t)}{2} \right\} & \frac{\pi}{2} - \theta \leq t < \frac{\pi}{2} - \phi \\
\left\{ \kappa_{5,1} + e_1 + \frac{\cos(t)}{2}, \kappa_{5,2} + e_2 + \frac{\sin(t)}{2} \right\} & \frac{\pi}{2} - \phi \leq t \leq \frac{\pi}{2}
\end{array} \right.$$

GervertB[t] // TraditionalForm

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{ll}
\left\{ \kappa_{1,1} + a_1 - \cos(t), \kappa_{1,2} + a_2 - \sin(t) \right\} & 0 \leq t < \phi \\
\left\{ \kappa_{2,1} + \left(b_1 t + b_2 - \frac{t^2}{4} \right) \cos(t) + \left(\frac{t}{2} - b_1 \right) \sin(t), \kappa_{2,2} + \left(b_1 t + b_2 - \frac{t^2}{4} \right) \sin(t) + \left(b_1 - \frac{t}{2} \right) \cos(t) \right\} & \phi \leq t < \theta \\
\left\{ \kappa_{3,1} + (c_1 - t) \cos(t) + \sin(t), \kappa_{3,2} + (c_1 - t) \sin(t) - \cos(t) \right\} & \theta \leq t < \frac{\pi}{2} - \theta \\
\left\{ \kappa_{4,1} + \left(d_1 - \frac{t}{2} - 1 \right) \cos(t) + \frac{\sin(t)}{2}, \kappa_{4,2} + \left(d_1 - \frac{t}{2} - 1 \right) \sin(t) - \frac{\cos(t)}{2} \right\} & \frac{\pi}{2} - \theta \leq t < \frac{\pi}{2} - \phi \\
\left\{ \kappa_{5,1} + e_1 - \frac{\cos(t)}{2}, \kappa_{5,2} + e_2 - \frac{\sin(t)}{2} \right\} & \frac{\pi}{2} - \phi \leq t \leq \frac{\pi}{2}
\end{array} \right.$$

GervertC[t] // TraditionalForm

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{ll}
\left\{ \kappa_{1,1} - a_1 - \frac{\sin(t)}{2}, \kappa_{1,2} - a_2 + \frac{\cos(t)}{2} \right\} & 0 \leq t < \phi \\
\left\{ \kappa_{2,1} + \left(b_1 - \frac{t}{2} \right) \sin(t) - \frac{\cos(t)}{2}, \kappa_{2,2} + \left(\frac{t-2}{2} - b_1 \right) \cos(t) - \frac{\sin(t)}{2} \right\} & \phi \leq t < \theta \\
\left\{ \kappa_{3,1} + (-c_2 - t - 1) \sin(t) - \cos(t), \kappa_{3,2} + (c_2 + t + 1) \cos(t) - \sin(t) \right\} & \theta \leq t < \frac{\pi}{2} - \theta \\
\left\{ \kappa_{4,1} + \left(-d_1 t - d_2 + \frac{t^2}{4} - 1 \right) \sin(t) + \left(\frac{t}{2} - d_1 \right) \cos(t), \kappa_{4,2} + \left(d_1 t + d_2 - \frac{t^2}{4} + 1 \right) \cos(t) + \left(\frac{t}{2} - d_1 \right) \sin(t) \right\} & \frac{\pi}{2} - \theta \leq t < \frac{\pi}{2} - \phi \\
\left\{ \kappa_{5,1} - e_1, \kappa_{5,2} - e_2 \right\} & \frac{\pi}{2} - \phi \leq t \leq \frac{\pi}{2}
\end{array} \right.$$

GervertD[t] // TraditionalForm

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{ll}
\left\{ \kappa_{1,1} - a_1 + \frac{\sin(t)}{2}, \kappa_{1,2} - a_2 - \frac{\cos(t)}{2} \right\} & 0 \leq t < \phi \\
\left\{ \kappa_{2,1} + \left(b_1 - \frac{t}{2} + 1 \right) \sin(t) - \frac{\cos(t)}{2}, \kappa_{2,2} + \left(\frac{t-2}{2} - b_1 \right) \cos(t) - \frac{\sin(t)}{2} \right\} & \phi \leq t < \theta \\
\left\{ \kappa_{3,1} + (-c_2 - t) \sin(t) - \cos(t), \kappa_{3,2} + (c_2 + t) \cos(t) - \sin(t) \right\} & \theta \leq t < \frac{\pi}{2} - \theta \\
\left\{ \kappa_{4,1} + \left(-d_1 t - d_2 + \frac{t^2}{4} \right) \sin(t) + \left(\frac{t}{2} - d_1 \right) \cos(t), \kappa_{4,2} + \left(d_1 t + d_2 - \frac{t^2}{4} \right) \cos(t) + \left(\frac{t}{2} - d_1 \right) \sin(t) \right\} & \frac{\pi}{2} - \theta \leq t < \frac{\pi}{2} - \phi \\
\left\{ \kappa_{5,1} - e_1 + \sin(t), \kappa_{5,2} - e_2 - \cos(t) \right\} & \frac{\pi}{2} - \phi \leq t \leq \frac{\pi}{2}
\end{array} \right.$$

The functions above were presented in symbolic form involving the 22 numerical parameters associated with Gervert's sofa. The functions GervertNumerical[t], GervertANumerical[t], GervertBNumerical[t], GervertCNumerical[t], GervertDNumerical[t] give the same functions after the precomputed approximate

numerical values of the parameters have been substituted in. This is useful when you want to do numerical computations or draw graphical figures related to the sofa. For example, try evaluating the command below.

GerverxNumerical[t]

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} -0.21032242207268875141618571849 + \text{Cos}[t] \\ \left(-1 + 1.2103224220726887514161857185 \right. \\ \quad \left. \text{Cos}[t] - \frac{\text{Sin}[t]}{4} \right) - \\ \text{Sin}[t] \left(-\frac{1}{2} + \frac{\text{Cos}[t]}{4} + \right. \\ \quad \left. 1.2103224220726887514161857185 \right. \\ \quad \left. \text{Sin}[t] \right), \\ \frac{1}{4} + \left(-1 + 1.2103224220726887514161857185 \right. \\ \quad \left. \text{Cos}[t] - \frac{\text{Sin}[t]}{4} \right) \\ \text{Sin}[t] + \text{Cos}[t] \left(-\frac{1}{2} + \frac{\text{Cos}[t]}{4} + \right. \\ \quad \left. 1.2103224220726887514161857185 \right. \\ \quad \left. \text{Sin}[t] \right) \} \end{array} \quad 0 \leq t < 0.0391773647900836418632178752424$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} -0.91917929277159332227469610289 + \\ \left(0.92025838516063762289370579501 - \right. \\ \quad \left. 0.52762459802678462416050380937 t - \right. \\ \quad \left. \frac{t^2}{4} \right) \text{Cos}[t] - \\ \left(-0.472375401973215375839496190627 + \right. \\ \quad \left. \frac{t}{2} \right) \text{Sin}[t], \\ 0.472406619750805465181760762512 + \\ \left(-0.472375401973215375839496190627 + \right. \\ \quad \left. \frac{t}{2} \right) \text{Cos}[t] + \\ \left(0.92025838516063762289370579501 - \right. \\ \quad \left. 0.52762459802678462416050380937 t - \right. \\ \quad \left. \frac{t^2}{4} \right) \text{Sin}[t] \} \end{array} \quad 0.0391773647900836418632178752424 \leq \\ t < 0.68130150938272489447385575708$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} -0.61376322943025166855491429132 + \\ \left(0.626045522848465867552329310386 - t \right) \\ \text{Cos}[t] - \\ \left(-0.94475080394643075167899238125 + t \right) \\ \text{Sin}[t], \\ 0.88962647900322186072704305005 + \\ \left(-0.94475080394643075167899238125 + t \right) \\ \text{Cos}[t] + \\ \left(0.626045522848465867552329310386 - t \right) \\ \text{Sin}[t] \} \end{array} \quad 0.68130150938272489447385575708 \leq \\ t < 0.88949481741217172475746593456$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} -0.30834716608891001483513247974 + \\ \left(0.3130227614242329337761646552 - \frac{t}{2} \right) \\ \text{Cos}[t] - \\ \left(-0.525382670414554437202836294305 + \right. \\ \quad \left. 1.3130227614242329337761646552 t - \right. \\ \quad \left. \frac{t^2}{4} \right) \text{Sin}[t], \\ 0.472406619750805465181760762512 + \\ \left(-0.525382670414554437202836294305 + \right. \\ \quad \left. 1.3130227614242329337761646552 t - \right. \\ \quad \left. \frac{t^2}{4} \right) \text{Sin}[t] \} \end{array} \quad 0.88949481741217172475746593456 \leq t < \\ 1.531618962004812977368103816397$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l}
\left(\frac{t^2}{4} \right) \text{Cos}[t] + \\
\left(0.3130227614242329337761646552 - \frac{t}{2} \right) \\
\text{Sin}[t] \} \\
\left\{ -1.01720403678781458569364286415 + \quad 1.531618962004812977368103816397 \leq t \leq \frac{\pi}{2} \right. \\
\text{Cos}[t] \\
\left(-\frac{1}{2} + 1.2103224220726887514161857185 \right. \\
\left. \text{Cos}[t] + \frac{\text{Sin}[t]}{4} \right) - \text{Sin}[t] \left(-1 - \frac{\text{Cos}[t]}{4} + \right. \\
1.2103224220726887514161857185 \\
\left. \text{Sin}[t] \right), \frac{1}{4} + \\
\left(-\frac{1}{2} + 1.2103224220726887514161857185 \right. \\
\left. \text{Cos}[t] + \frac{\text{Sin}[t]}{4} \right) \\
\left. \text{Sin}[t] + \text{Cos}[t] \left(-1 - \frac{\text{Cos}[t]}{4} + \right. \right. \\
1.2103224220726887514161857185 \\
\left. \left. \text{Sin}[t] \right) \} \right. \\
0 \qquad \qquad \qquad \text{True}
\end{array} \right.$$

4. Formulas for the contact paths in the shape Σ

The shape Σ constructed in the paper is defined in terms of its own rotation path, defined in equation (47) in the paper, and the associated contact paths $A(t)$, $B(t)$, $C(t)$, $D(t)$. Again the commands below display formulas for these functions, written in symbolic form involving the 13 numerical parameters associated with Σ .

Ambix[t] // TraditionalForm

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l}
\left\{ \kappa_{1,1} - \sin(t) \left(a_1 \sin(t) - a_2 \cos(t) - \frac{1}{2} \right) + \cos(t) \left(a_2 \sin(t) + a_1 \cos(t) - 1 \right), \quad 0 \leq t < \beta \right. \\
\left. \kappa_{1,2} + \cos(t) \left(a_1 \sin(t) - a_2 \cos(t) - \frac{1}{2} \right) + \sin(t) \left(a_2 \sin(t) + a_1 \cos(t) - 1 \right) \right\} \\
\left\{ \kappa_{6,1} - \sin(t) \left(f_1 \sin\left(\frac{t}{2}\right) - f_2 \cos\left(\frac{t}{2}\right) - 1 \right) + \cos(t) \left(f_2 \sin\left(\frac{t}{2}\right) + f_1 \cos\left(\frac{t}{2}\right) - 1 \right), \quad \beta \leq t < \frac{\pi}{2} - \beta \right. \\
\left. \kappa_{6,2} + \cos(t) \left(f_1 \sin\left(\frac{t}{2}\right) - f_2 \cos\left(\frac{t}{2}\right) - 1 \right) + \sin(t) \left(f_2 \sin\left(\frac{t}{2}\right) + f_1 \cos\left(\frac{t}{2}\right) - 1 \right) \right\} \\
\left\{ \kappa_{5,1} - \sin(t) \left(e_1 \sin(t) - e_2 \cos(t) - 1 \right) + \cos(t) \left(e_2 \sin(t) + e_1 \cos(t) - \frac{1}{2} \right), \quad \frac{\pi}{2} - \beta \leq t \leq \frac{\pi}{2} \right. \\
\left. \kappa_{5,2} + \cos(t) \left(e_1 \sin(t) - e_2 \cos(t) - 1 \right) + \sin(t) \left(e_2 \sin(t) + e_1 \cos(t) - \frac{1}{2} \right) \right\}
\end{array} \right.$$

AmbiA[t] // TraditionalForm

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l}
\left\{ \kappa_{1,1} + a_1, \kappa_{1,2} + a_2 \right\} \quad 0 \leq t < \beta \\
\left\{ \kappa_{6,1} - f_2 \sin^3\left(\frac{t}{2}\right) + f_1 \cos^3\left(\frac{t}{2}\right), \frac{1}{4} \left(4 \kappa_{6,2} + f_1 \left(3 \sin\left(\frac{t}{2}\right) + \sin\left(\frac{3t}{2}\right) \right) - f_2 \left(\cos\left(\frac{3t}{2}\right) - 3 \cos\left(\frac{t}{2}\right) \right) \right) \right\} \quad \beta \leq t < \frac{\pi}{2} - \beta \\
\left\{ \kappa_{5,1} + e_1 + \frac{\cos(t)}{2}, \kappa_{5,2} + e_2 + \frac{\sin(t)}{2} \right\} \quad \frac{\pi}{2} - \beta \leq t \leq \frac{\pi}{2}
\end{array} \right.$$

AmbiB[t] // TraditionalForm

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l}
\left\{ \kappa_{1,1} + a_1 - \cos(t), \kappa_{1,2} + a_2 - \sin(t) \right\} \quad 0 \leq t < \beta \\
\left\{ \kappa_{6,1} - f_2 \sin^3\left(\frac{t}{2}\right) + f_1 \cos^3\left(\frac{t}{2}\right) - \cos(t), \frac{1}{4} \left(4 \kappa_{6,2} + f_1 \left(3 \sin\left(\frac{t}{2}\right) + \sin\left(\frac{3t}{2}\right) \right) - f_2 \left(\cos\left(\frac{3t}{2}\right) - 3 \cos\left(\frac{t}{2}\right) \right) \right) - \sin(t) \right\} \quad \beta \leq t < \frac{\pi}{2} - \beta \\
\left\{ \kappa_{5,1} + e_1 - \frac{\cos(t)}{2}, \kappa_{5,2} + e_2 - \frac{\sin(t)}{2} \right\} \quad \frac{\pi}{2} - \beta \leq t \leq \frac{\pi}{2}
\end{array} \right.$$

AmbiC[t] // TraditionalForm

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \left\{ \kappa_{1,1} - a_1 - \frac{\sin(t)}{2}, \kappa_{1,2} - a_2 + \frac{\cos(t)}{2} \right\} \\ \left\{ \frac{1}{4} (4 \kappa_{6,1} + f_2 (3 \sin(\frac{t}{2}) + \sin(\frac{3t}{2})) + f_1 (\cos(\frac{3t}{2}) - 3 \cos(\frac{t}{2}))), \kappa_{6,2} - f_1 \sin^3(\frac{t}{2}) - f_2 \cos^3(\frac{t}{2}) \right\} \\ \left\{ \kappa_{5,1} - e_1, \kappa_{5,2} - e_2 \right\} \end{array} \right. \begin{array}{l} 0 \leq t < \beta \\ \beta \leq t \leq \frac{\pi}{2} - \beta \\ \frac{\pi}{2} - \beta \leq t \leq \frac{\pi}{2} \end{array}$$

AmbiD[t] // TraditionalForm

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \left\{ \kappa_{1,1} - a_1 + \frac{\sin(t)}{2}, \kappa_{1,2} - a_2 - \frac{\cos(t)}{2} \right\} \\ \left\{ \frac{1}{4} (4 \kappa_{6,1} + f_2 (3 \sin(\frac{t}{2}) + \sin(\frac{3t}{2})) + f_1 (\cos(\frac{3t}{2}) - 3 \cos(\frac{t}{2}))) + \sin(t), \kappa_{6,2} - f_1 \sin^3(\frac{t}{2}) - f_2 \cos^3(\frac{t}{2}) - \cos(t) \right\} \\ \left\{ \kappa_{5,1} - e_1 + \sin(t), \kappa_{5,2} - e_2 - \cos(t) \right\} \end{array} \right. \begin{array}{l} 0 \leq t < \beta \\ \beta \leq t < \frac{\pi}{2} - \beta \\ \frac{\pi}{2} - \beta \leq t \leq \frac{\pi}{2} \end{array}$$

The functions `AmbixNumerical[t]`, `AmbiANumerical[t]`, `AmbiBNumerical[t]`, `AmbiCNumerical[t]`, `AmbiDNumerical[t]` give the same functions after the precomputed approximate numerical values of the parameters have been substituted in. Try the next two commands.

AmbiANumerical[t]

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \left\{ 1.00000000000000000000000000000000, \frac{1}{2} \right\} \\ \left\{ -0.16704981655030965501342344626 + \right. \\ \quad 1.2029389081569113890702228003 \\ \quad \left. \cos\left[\frac{t}{2}\right]^3 + \right. \\ \quad 0.49827361046487567202939785908 \\ \quad \left. \sin\left[\frac{t}{2}\right]^3, \right. \\ \quad \left. \frac{1}{4} \left(2 + 0.49827361046487567202939785908 \right. \right. \\ \quad \quad \left. \left. \left(-3 \cos\left[\frac{t}{2}\right] + \cos\left[\frac{3t}{2}\right] \right) + \right. \right. \\ \quad \quad \left. \left. 1.2029389081569113890702228003 \right. \right. \\ \quad \quad \left. \left. \left(3 \sin\left[\frac{t}{2}\right] + \sin\left[\frac{3t}{2}\right] \right) \right) \right\} \\ \left\{ 0.41647509172484517249328827687 + \right. \\ \quad \left. \frac{\cos[t]}{2}, \frac{1}{2} + \frac{\sin[t]}{2} \right\} \\ 0 \end{array} \right. \begin{array}{l} 0 \leq t < 0.289653820817320941743521611736 \\ 0.289653820817320941743521611736 \leq \\ \quad t < 1.28114250597757567748780007990 \\ \\ \\ \\ 1.28114250597757567748780007990 \leq t \leq \frac{\pi}{2} \\ \text{True} \end{array}$$

AmbiBNumerical[π / 2]

$$\{0.41647509172484517249328827687, 0\}$$

5. Verifying the ODE general form solutions

This code below verifies that the functions $x_j(t)$ ($j = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6$) satisfy the six ODEs listed in Theorem 2 in the paper. First, evaluate the next command to define expressions for the right-hand sides of the six ODEs.

```

SofaODE1[t_] := RotationMatrix[t].
  ({-1, -1/2} + {{2 Sin[t], -2 Cos[t]}, {2 Cos[t], 2 Sin[t]}}.x1'[t]);
SofaODE2[t_] := RotationMatrix[t].
  ({-1, -1/2} + {{Sin[t], -Cos[t]}, {3/2 Cos[t], 3/2 Sin[t]}}.x2'[t]);
SofaODE3[t_] := RotationMatrix[t].
  ({-1, -1} + {{Sin[t], -Cos[t]}, {Cos[t], Sin[t]}}.x3'[t]);
SofaODE4[t_] := RotationMatrix[t].
  ({-1/2, -1} + {{3/2 Sin[t], -3/2 Cos[t]}, {Cos[t], Sin[t]}}.x4'[t]);
SofaODE5[t_] := RotationMatrix[t].
  ({-1/2, -1} + {{2 Sin[t], -2 Cos[t]}, {2 Cos[t], 2 Sin[t]}}.x5'[t]);
SofaODE6[t_] := RotationMatrix[t].
  ({-1/2, -1/2} + {{3/2 Sin[t], -3/2 Cos[t]}, {3/2 Cos[t], 3/2 Sin[t]}}.x6'[t]);

```

Now evaluate the next line to check that the ODEs are satisfied. You should get a list of six boolean values, all equal to True.

```

Table[Simplify[SofaODEj[t] == xj'[t]], {j, 1, 6}]
{True, True, True, True, True, True}

```

6. Solving the equations for Gerver's sofa (quick and easy, purely numerical method)

Here we show how the system of equations for the parameters involved in the definition of Gerver's sofa (equations (26)-(43) in the paper) can be solved numerically using *Mathematica*'s FindRoot[...] command. We have 28 equations in 22 unknowns, but, as explained in the paper, 6 of the equations are linearly dependent on the remaining 22. To use FindRoot only the linearly independent set of equations should be used.

Evaluate the next line. This solves the equations and stores the results in the variable GerverNumericalSolutions.

```

GerverNumericalSolutions = FindRoot[
  GerverEquations[
    {1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 21, 22, 25, 26}]]
, {φ, 0.05}, {θ, 0.6}, {κ1,1, 0}, {κ1,2, 0}, {κ2,1, 0}, {κ2,2, 0}, {κ3,1, 0},
{κ3,2, 0}, {κ4,1, 0}, {κ4,2, 0}, {κ5,1, 0}, {κ5,2, 0}, {a1, 0}, {a2, 0}, {b1, 0},
{b2, 0}, {c1, 0}, {c2, 0}, {d1, 0}, {d2, 0}, {e1, 0}, {e2, 0}, AccuracyGoal → 22,
PrecisionGoal → 22, MaxIterations → 200, WorkingPrecision → 30];

```

Evaluate the next line to format the solutions nicely in a table and display the results.

```

GergerNumericalSolutionsFormatted =
NumberForm[MatrixForm[Transpose[{{ $\phi$ ,  $\theta$ ,  $\kappa_{1,1}$ ,  $\kappa_{1,2}$ ,  $\kappa_{2,1}$ ,  $\kappa_{2,2}$ ,
 $\kappa_{3,1}$ ,  $\kappa_{3,2}$ ,  $\kappa_{4,1}$ ,  $\kappa_{4,2}$ ,  $\kappa_{5,1}$ ,  $\kappa_{5,2}$ ,  $a_1$ ,  $a_2$ ,  $b_1$ ,  $b_2$ ,  $c_1$ ,  $c_2$ ,  $d_1$ ,  $d_2$ ,  $e_1$ ,  $e_2$ },
{ $\phi$ ,  $\theta$ ,  $\kappa_{1,1}$ ,  $\kappa_{1,2}$ ,  $\kappa_{2,1}$ ,  $\kappa_{2,2}$ ,  $\kappa_{3,1}$ ,  $\kappa_{3,2}$ ,  $\kappa_{4,1}$ ,  $\kappa_{4,2}$ ,  $\kappa_{5,1}$ ,  $\kappa_{5,2}$ ,  $a_1$ ,  $a_2$ ,  $b_1$ ,  $b_2$ ,
 $c_1$ ,  $c_2$ ,  $d_1$ ,  $d_2$ ,  $e_1$ ,  $e_2$ } /. GergerNumericalSolutions}]], 22, DigitBlock  $\rightarrow$  3]

```

ϕ	0.039	177	364	790	083	641	863	22
θ	0.681	301	509	382	724	894	473	9
$\kappa_{1,1}$	-0.210	322	422	072	688	751	416	2
$\kappa_{1,2}$	0.250	000	000	000	000	000	000	0
$\kappa_{2,1}$	-0.919	179	292	771	593	322	274	7
$\kappa_{2,2}$	0.472	406	619	750	805	465	181	8
$\kappa_{3,1}$	-0.613	763	229	430	251	668	554	9
$\kappa_{3,2}$	0.889	626	479	003	221	860	727	0
$\kappa_{4,1}$	-0.308	347	166	088	910	014	835	1
$\kappa_{4,2}$	0.472	406	619	750	805	465	181	8
$\kappa_{5,1}$	-1.017	204	036	787	814	585	694	
$\kappa_{5,2}$	0.250	000	000	000	000	000	000	0
a_1	1.210	322	422	072	688	751	416	
a_2	-0.250	000	000	000	000	000	000	0
b_1	-0.527	624	598	026	784	624	160	5
b_2	0.920	258	385	160	637	622	893	7
c_1	0.626	045	522	848	465	867	552	3
c_2	-0.944	750	803	946	430	751	679	0
d_1	1.313	022	761	424	232	933	776	
d_2	-0.525	382	670	414	554	437	202	8
e_1	1.210	322	422	072	688	751	416	
e_2	0.250	000	000	000	000	000	000	0

7. Solving the equations for Gerger's sofa (second, more algebraic method)

This section illustrates a second approach to solving the equations for the values of the parameters in Gerger's sofa. In this approach we treat the system as a linear system in the 20 variables

$\kappa_{1,1}, \kappa_{1,2}, \kappa_{2,1}, \kappa_{2,2}, \kappa_{3,1}, \kappa_{3,2}, \kappa_{4,1}, \kappa_{4,2}, \kappa_{5,1}, \kappa_{5,2}, a_1, a_2, b_1, b_2, c_1, c_2, d_1, d_2, e_1, e_2$, with coefficients that are functions of ϕ and θ .

This system can be solved symbolically if we focus our attention temporarily on only 20 out of the set of 22 equations that was used in the completely numerical solution method described above. This symbolic solution gives expressions for all the parameters in terms of ϕ and θ . Substituting these expressions back into the remaining two equations gives two nonlinear equations in the two variables ϕ and θ . Finally, the two nonlinear equations are solved numerically.

Evaluate the next line to solve the 20 linear equations symbolically.

```

GergerSymbolicSolutions = Solve[
GergerEquations[[
{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 21, 22}]],
{ $\kappa_{1,1}$ ,  $\kappa_{1,2}$ ,  $\kappa_{2,1}$ ,  $\kappa_{2,2}$ ,  $\kappa_{3,1}$ ,  $\kappa_{3,2}$ ,  $\kappa_{4,1}$ ,  $\kappa_{4,2}$ ,  $\kappa_{5,1}$ ,  $\kappa_{5,2}$ ,
 $a_1$ ,  $a_2$ ,  $b_1$ ,  $b_2$ ,  $c_1$ ,  $c_2$ ,  $d_1$ ,  $d_2$ ,  $e_1$ ,  $e_2$ }
][[
1]];

```

Now evaluate the next commands to substitute the solutions back into the remaining two equations and get two nonlinear equations in ϕ and θ , which are stored in the variable GergerThetaPhiNumericalSolutions.


```

GergerPhiThetaEquations =
  Simplify[GergerEquations[{{25, 26}}] /. GergerSymbolicSolutions];
GergerThetaPhiNumericalSolutions =
  FindRoot[GergerPhiThetaEquations, { $\phi$ , 0.05}, { $\theta$ , 0.6}, AccuracyGoal  $\rightarrow$  22,
    PrecisionGoal  $\rightarrow$  22, MaxIterations  $\rightarrow$  200, WorkingPrecision  $\rightarrow$  30];

```

Evaluate the next line to inspect the result to see that we got something interesting:

```
GergerThetaPhiNumericalSolutions
```

```
{ $\phi \rightarrow$  0.0391773647900836418632178752424,  $\theta \rightarrow$  0.681301509382724894473855757083}
```

Now that we got the numerical values of ϕ and θ , with the next command we recover the numerical values for the remaining parameters and display them in a formatted table.

```
GergerNumericalSolutionsSecondMethodFormatted =
```

```

NumberForm[MatrixForm[Transpose[{{ $\phi$ ,  $\theta$ ,  $\kappa_{1,1}$ ,  $\kappa_{1,2}$ ,  $\kappa_{2,1}$ ,  $\kappa_{2,2}$ ,
   $\kappa_{3,1}$ ,  $\kappa_{3,2}$ ,  $\kappa_{4,1}$ ,  $\kappa_{4,2}$ ,  $\kappa_{5,1}$ ,  $\kappa_{5,2}$ ,  $a_1$ ,  $a_2$ ,  $b_1$ ,  $b_2$ ,  $c_1$ ,  $c_2$ ,  $d_1$ ,  $d_2$ ,  $e_1$ ,  $e_2$ },
  { $\phi$ ,  $\theta$ ,  $\kappa_{1,1}$ ,  $\kappa_{1,2}$ ,  $\kappa_{2,1}$ ,  $\kappa_{2,2}$ ,  $\kappa_{3,1}$ ,  $\kappa_{3,2}$ ,  $\kappa_{4,1}$ ,  $\kappa_{4,2}$ ,  $\kappa_{5,1}$ ,  $\kappa_{5,2}$ ,  $a_1$ ,  $a_2$ ,
   $b_1$ ,  $b_2$ ,  $c_1$ ,  $c_2$ ,  $d_1$ ,  $d_2$ ,  $e_1$ ,  $e_2$ } /. GergerSymbolicSolutions /.
  GergerThetaPhiNumericalSolutions}]], 22, DigitBlock  $\rightarrow$  3]

```

ϕ	0.039	177	364	790	083	641	863	22
θ	0.681	301	509	382	724	894	473	9
$\kappa_{1,1}$	-0.210	322	422	072	688	751	416	2
$\kappa_{1,2}$				$\frac{1}{4}$				
$\kappa_{2,1}$	-0.919	179	292	771	593	322	274	7
$\kappa_{2,2}$	0.472	406	619	750	805	465	181	8
$\kappa_{3,1}$	-0.613	763	229	430	251	668	554	9
$\kappa_{3,2}$	0.889	626	479	003	221	860	727	0
$\kappa_{4,1}$	-0.308	347	166	088	910	014	835	1
$\kappa_{4,2}$	0.472	406	619	750	805	465	181	8
$\kappa_{5,1}$	-1.017	204	036	787	814	585	694	
$\kappa_{5,2}$				$\frac{1}{4}$				
a_1	1.210	322	422	072	688	751	416	
a_2				$-\frac{1}{4}$				
b_1	-0.527	624	598	026	784	624	160	5
b_2	0.920	258	385	160	637	622	893	7
c_1	0.626	045	522	848	465	867	552	3
c_2	-0.944	750	803	946	430	751	679	0
d_1	1.313	022	761	424	232	933	776	
d_2	-0.525	382	670	414	554	437	202	8
e_1	1.210	322	422	072	688	751	416	
e_2				$\frac{1}{4}$				

8. Computing the area of Gerger's sofa

After using the algebraic method to find the parameters for Gerger's sofa described in Section 7 above, we have the values of the 20 linear parameters stored in the variables GergerSymbolicSolutions as functions of ϕ and θ , and the numerical values of ϕ and θ stored in GergerThetaPhiNumericalSolutions. The code below computes several integrals of the functions appearing in the definition of Gerger's sofa, and substitutes in the symbolic expressions and numerical parameter values to evaluate the area of Gerger's sofa. Evaluate it - this may take *Mathematica* a minute or two. The area of the shape will be displayed when the computation is done.

```

GerverSofaAreaIntegral1Symbolic =
  - Integrate[(1 - x2[t][[2]]) x2'[t][[1]], {t, φ, θ}];
GerverSofaAreaIntegral2Symbolic =
  - Integrate[(1 - x3[t][[2]]) x3'[t][[1]], {t, θ, π/4}];
GerverSofaAreaIntegral3Symbolic =
  Integrate[(1 - B4[t][[2]]) B4'[t][[1]], {t, π/2 - θ, π/2 - φ}];
GerverSofaAreaIntegral4Symbolic =
  Integrate[(1 - B5[t][[2]]) B5'[t][[1]], {t, π/2 - φ, π/2}];
GerverSofaAreaIntegral5Symbolic = - Integrate[A2[t][[2]] A2'[t][[1]], {t, φ, θ}];
GerverSofaAreaIntegral6Symbolic =
  - Integrate[A3[t][[2]] A3'[t][[1]], {t, θ, π/2 - θ}];
GerverSofaAreaIntegral7Symbolic =
  - Integrate[A4[t][[2]] A4'[t][[1]], {t, π/2 - θ, π/2 - φ}];
GerverSofaAreaIntegral8Symbolic =
  - Integrate[A5[t][[2]] A5'[t][[1]], {t, π/2 - φ, π/2}];

GerverSofaAreaTotalSymbolic =
  2 (GerverSofaAreaIntegral1Symbolic + GerverSofaAreaIntegral2Symbolic +
    GerverSofaAreaIntegral3Symbolic + GerverSofaAreaIntegral4Symbolic +
    GerverSofaAreaIntegral5Symbolic + GerverSofaAreaIntegral6Symbolic +
    GerverSofaAreaIntegral7Symbolic + GerverSofaAreaIntegral8Symbolic);

GerverSofaAreaNumerical = GerverSofaAreaTotalSymbolic /. GerverSymbolicSolutions /.
  GerverThetaPhiNumericalSolutions
2.2195316688719674255462841008

```

9. Solving the equations for the shape Σ (quick and easy numerical method)

We can repeat the equation-solving procedure shown above for Gerver's sofa in the case of the system of 19 equations for the ambidextrous sofa, involving the 13 variables

$\beta, \kappa_{1,1}, \kappa_{1,2}, \kappa_{5,1}, \kappa_{5,2}, \kappa_{6,1}, \kappa_{6,2}, a_1, a_2, e_1, e_2, f_1, f_2$. After removing six redundant equations we call FindRoot[...], and *Mathematica* gives the numerical values.

Evaluate the next block of code. It computes the solutions, formats them in a table and displays the results.

```

AmbidextrousNumericalSolutions = FindRoot[
  AmbidextrousEquations[{{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 15}}],
  {{β, 0.3}, {κ1,1, 0}, {κ1,2, 0}, {κ6,1, 0}, {κ6,2, 0}, {κ5,1, 0}, {κ5,2, 0},
  {a1, 0}, {a2, 0}, {f1, 0}, {f2, 0}, {e1, 0}, {e2, 0}, AccuracyGoal → 22,
  PrecisionGoal → 22, MaxIterations → 200, WorkingPrecision → 30];

AmbidextrousNumericalSolutionsFormatted = NumberForm[
  MatrixForm[Transpose[{{β, κ1,1, κ1,2, κ6,1, κ6,2, κ5,1, κ5,2, a1, a2, f1, f2, e1, e2},
    {β, κ1,1, κ1,2, κ6,1, κ6,2, κ5,1, κ5,2, a1, a2, f1, f2, e1, e2} /.
    AmbidextrousNumericalSolutions}}], 22, DigitBlock → 3];

```

```
AmbidextrousNumericalSolutionsFormatted
```

$$\begin{pmatrix}
 \beta & 0.289 & 653 & 820 & 817 & 320 & 941 & 743 & 5 \\
 \kappa_{1,1} & 0.124 & 712 & 637 & 587 & 267 & 758 & 739 & 9 \\
 \kappa_{1,2} & 0.500 & 000 & 000 & 000 & 000 & 000 & 000 & 0 \\
 \kappa_{6,1} & -0.167 & 049 & 816 & 550 & 309 & 655 & 013 & 4 \\
 \kappa_{6,2} & 0.500 & 000 & 000 & 000 & 000 & 000 & 000 & 0 \\
 \kappa_{5,1} & -0.458 & 812 & 270 & 687 & 887 & 068 & 766 & 8 \\
 \kappa_{5,2} & 0.500 & 000 & 000 & 000 & 000 & 000 & 000 & 0 \\
 a_1 & 0.875 & 287 & 362 & 412 & 732 & 241 & 260 & 1 \\
 a_2 & & & & & & & & 0 \\
 f_1 & 1.202 & 938 & 908 & 156 & 911 & 389 & 070 & \\
 f_2 & -0.498 & 273 & 610 & 464 & 875 & 672 & 029 & 4 \\
 e_1 & 0.875 & 287 & 362 & 412 & 732 & 241 & 260 & 1 \\
 e_2 & & & & & & & & 0
 \end{pmatrix}$$

10. Solving the equations for the shape Σ (algebraic, closed form solutions)

In this section we show how the equations for the shape Σ can be solved in closed form in terms of radicals -- the process described in the proof of Theorem 4 in the paper. The idea is similar to the algebraic method for solving the equations for Gerber's sofa described in section 7 above: solve 12 of the 13 independent equations for the 13 parameters to express all the "linear" parameters as functions of the angle β , and then substitute those solutions into the 13th equation to get a single nonlinear equation for β . That equation turns out to be algebraic in $e^{i\beta}$.

Evaluate the next command to solve the 12 linear equations symbolically in terms of β :

```

AmbidextrousSymbolicSolutions = Solve[
  AmbidextrousEquations[{{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12}}],
  {κ1,1, κ1,2, κ6,1, κ6,2, κ5,1, κ5,2, a1, a2, f1, f2, e1, e2}
][[1]];

```

Evaluate the next command to substitute the solutions back into the remaining equation to get a single nonlinear equation for β , and display the result so we can see what it looks like.

```
AmbidextrousBetaEquation =
```

```

Simplify[AmbidextrousEquations[[19]] /. AmbidextrousSymbolicSolutions]

```

$$\frac{\csc\left[\frac{\beta}{2}\right]^2 \sec\left[\frac{\beta}{2}\right] \left(-3(-1 + \sqrt{2}) \cos\left[\frac{\beta}{2}\right] + (-1 + \sqrt{2}) \cos\left[\frac{3\beta}{2}\right] + 3 \sin\left[\frac{\beta}{2}\right] + \sin\left[\frac{3\beta}{2}\right]\right)}{(-1 + \sqrt{2}) \csc\left[\frac{\beta}{2}\right]^2 - 2 \csc[\beta]} = 0$$

Note that this is an algebraic equation in $W = \cos\left[\frac{\beta}{2}\right]$ and $\sin\left[\frac{\beta}{2}\right] = \sqrt{1 - W^2}$, so it can be solved alge-

braically without much effort:

AmbidextrousBetaEquationAlgebraic =

$$\text{TrigExpand}[\text{AmbidextrousBetaEquation}] /. \left\{ \text{Cos}\left[\frac{\beta}{2}\right] \rightarrow W, \text{Sin}\left[\frac{\beta}{2}\right] \rightarrow \sqrt{1-W^2} \right\} // \text{Simplify}$$

$$\frac{-3(-1+\sqrt{2})W+2(-1+\sqrt{2})W^3+\sqrt{1-W^2}+2W^2\sqrt{1-W^2}}{W-\sqrt{2}W+\sqrt{1-W^2}} == 0$$

AmbidextrousZSolutions = (W /. Solve[AmbidextrousBetaEquationAlgebraic, W])

$$\left\{ \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{2-\sqrt{2} + \left(2(-4+3\sqrt{2})\right)^{1/3} + \left(2(4+3\sqrt{2})\right)^{1/3}}, \right.$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\left(\frac{1}{2}(4-2\sqrt{2} - \left(2(-4+3\sqrt{2})\right)^{1/3} + i\sqrt{3}\left(2(-4+3\sqrt{2})\right)^{1/3} - \right.$$

$$\left.\left. \left(2(4+3\sqrt{2})\right)^{1/3} - i\sqrt{3}\left(2(4+3\sqrt{2})\right)^{1/3}\right)\right)},$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\left(\frac{1}{2}(4-2\sqrt{2} - \left(2(-4+3\sqrt{2})\right)^{1/3} - i\sqrt{3}\left(2(-4+3\sqrt{2})\right)^{1/3} - \right.$$

$$\left.\left. \left(2(4+3\sqrt{2})\right)^{1/3} + i\sqrt{3}\left(2(4+3\sqrt{2})\right)^{1/3}\right)\right)\right\}$$

We are interested in solutions that are real and in (0,1):

Select[Select[AmbidextrousZSolutions, Element[#, Reals] &], 0 < # < 1 &]

$$\left\{ \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{2-\sqrt{2} + \left(2(-4+3\sqrt{2})\right)^{1/3} + \left(2(4+3\sqrt{2})\right)^{1/3}} \right\}$$

Success! We've found that $W = \text{Cos}\left[\frac{\beta}{2}\right] = \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{2-\sqrt{2} + \left(2(-4+3\sqrt{2})\right)^{1/3} + \left(2(4+3\sqrt{2})\right)^{1/3}}$. It turns out that $\text{Tan}[\beta]$ has an even simpler formula, which results in the simplest way we found to express β .

To verify this, first check that $\text{Sin}\left[\frac{\beta}{2}\right] = \sqrt{1-W^2} = \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{2+\sqrt{2} - \left(2(-4+3\sqrt{2})\right)^{1/3} - \left(2(4+3\sqrt{2})\right)^{1/3}}$,

by evaluating the next block of code computing the difference of those two quantities, which should evaluate to 0.

AmbidextrousSymbolicCosineBetaOverTwo =

$$\frac{1}{2} \sqrt{2-\sqrt{2} + \left(2(-4+3\sqrt{2})\right)^{1/3} + \left(2(4+3\sqrt{2})\right)^{1/3}};$$

AmbidextrousSymbolicSineBetaOverTwo =

$$\frac{1}{2} \sqrt{2+\sqrt{2} - \left(2(-4+3\sqrt{2})\right)^{1/3} - \left(2(4+3\sqrt{2})\right)^{1/3}};$$

AmbidextrousSymbolicSineBetaOverTwo - $\sqrt{1 - \text{AmbidextrousSymbolicCosineBetaOverTwo}^2}$ // Simplify (* This should evaluate to 0, which shows that our formula for $\text{Sin}\left[\frac{\beta}{2}\right]$ is correct *)

0

Since $\text{Tan}[\beta] = \frac{\text{Sin}[\beta/2]}{\text{Cos}[\beta/2]} = \frac{2\text{Sin}[\beta/2]\text{Cos}[\beta/2]}{\text{Cos}[\beta/2]^2 - \text{Sin}[\beta/2]^2}$, the next command verifies that $\text{Tan}[\beta]$ is given by the expres-

sion $\frac{1}{2} \left((\sqrt{2} + 1)^{1/3} - (\sqrt{2} - 1)^{1/3} \right)$. Evaluating the difference and applying the FullSimplify command should give 0:

```
(2 AmbidextrousSymbolicSineBetaOverTwo × AmbidextrousSymbolicCosineBetaOverTwo) /
  (AmbidextrousSymbolicCosineBetaOverTwo2 - AmbidextrousSymbolicSineBetaOverTwo2) -
  1/2 ((√2 + 1)1/3 - (√2 - 1)1/3) // FullSimplify
0
```

It is also interesting to compute the minimal polynomials of $\text{Cos}[\frac{\beta}{2}]$, $\text{Sin}[\frac{\beta}{2}]$, $\text{Tan}[\frac{\beta}{2}]$, $\text{Cos}[\beta]$, $\text{Sin}[\beta]$, and $\text{Tan}[\beta]$. (There are more minimal polynomial computations in Section 12 below.) Try evaluating the next few commands.

```
(* The minimal polynomial of Cos[β/2] *)
MinimalPolynomial[AmbidextrousSymbolicCosineBetaOverTwo, x] // TraditionalForm
128 x12 - 384 x10 + 336 x8 - 32 x6 - 48 x2 + 1
```

$\text{Cos}[\frac{\beta}{2}]$ and $\text{Sin}[\frac{\beta}{2}]$ have the same minimal polynomial:

```
(* The minimal polynomial of Sin[β/2] *)
MinimalPolynomial[√(1 - AmbidextrousSymbolicCosineBetaOverTwo2), x] //
  TraditionalForm
128 x12 - 384 x10 + 336 x8 - 32 x6 - 48 x2 + 1
```

The minimal polynomial of $\text{Tan}[\frac{\beta}{2}]$ is a bit simpler than the ones for the sine and cosine:

```
(* The minimal polynomial of Tan[β/2] *)
MinimalPolynomial[√(1 - AmbidextrousSymbolicCosineBetaOverTwo2) /
  AmbidextrousSymbolicCosineBetaOverTwo, x] // TraditionalForm
x6 + 6 x5 - 3 x4 + 20 x3 + 3 x2 + 6 x - 1
```

```
(* The minimal polynomial of Cos[β] *)
MinimalPolynomial[AmbidextrousSymbolicCosineBetaOverTwo2 -
  AmbidextrousSymbolicSineBetaOverTwo2, x] // TraditionalForm
2 x6 - 9 x4 + 24 x2 - 16
```

```
(* The minimal polynomial of Sin[β] *)
MinimalPolynomial[2 AmbidextrousSymbolicSineBetaOverTwo ×
  AmbidextrousSymbolicCosineBetaOverTwo, x] // TraditionalForm
2 x6 + 3 x4 + 12 x2 - 1
```

```
(* The minimal polynomial of Tan[β] - the simplest one so far *)
MinimalPolynomial[1/2 ((√2 + 1)1/3 - (√2 - 1)1/3), x] // TraditionalForm
4 x3 + 3 x - 1
```

Next, we derive closed form expressions for the remaining parameters. Start with a_1 . The evaluation is done in several steps: first, we take the symbolic formula for a_1 in terms of β , apply the TrigExpand[...]

Mathematica function to it to bring it to a convenient form as a polynomial in $\text{Cos}[\frac{\beta}{2}]$ and $\text{Sin}[\frac{\beta}{2}]$. Then we substitute in the explicit algebraic values we found for $\text{Cos}[\frac{\beta}{2}]$ and $\text{Sin}[\frac{\beta}{2}]$.

```
alsymbolicexpression = TrigExpand[a1 /. AmbidextrousSymbolicSolutions] // Simplify
```

$$\frac{\text{Cos}\left[\frac{\beta}{2}\right] - (-1 + \sqrt{2}) \text{Sin}\left[\frac{\beta}{2}\right]}{4(-1 + \sqrt{2}) \text{Cos}\left[\frac{\beta}{2}\right] - 4 \text{Sin}\left[\frac{\beta}{2}\right]}$$

The second step, in the next command is to substitute in the explicit algebraic values we found for $\text{Cos}[\frac{\beta}{2}]$ and $\text{Sin}[\frac{\beta}{2}]$, and then apply the `FullSimplify[...]` command to invoke *Mathematica*'s powerful algebraic simplification machinery. The result expresses a_1 as the root of a certain polynomial.

```
alsymbolicexpressionsimplified =
```

```
alsymbolicexpression /. {Cos[β/2] -> AmbidextrousSymbolicCosineBetaOverTwo,
```

```
Sin[β/2] -> √(1 - AmbidextrousSymbolicCosineBetaOverTwo²)} // FullSimplify
```

```
Root[-1 - 24 #1² - 1536 #1⁴ + 2048 #1⁶ &, 2]
```

Finally, applying the `ToRadicals[...]` command converts the number into an expression in radicals. Try the next command.

```
ToRadicals[alsymbolicexpressionsimplified]
```

$$\frac{1}{4} \sqrt{4 + (71 - 8\sqrt{2})^{1/3} + (71 + 8\sqrt{2})^{1/3}}$$

Another success -- we have shown that $a_1 = \frac{1}{4} \sqrt{4 + (71 - 8\sqrt{2})^{1/3} + (71 + 8\sqrt{2})^{1/3}}$.

Next, the parameters $\kappa_{1,1}$, $\kappa_{6,1}$, $\kappa_{5,1}$ are related to a_1 through simple relations, which are easy to verify:

```
(κ₁,₁ + a₁ /. AmbidextrousSymbolicSolutions) // Simplify
```

```
(* This should evaluate to 1, showing that κ₁,₁ = 1 - a₁ *)
```

```
1
```

For the verification of the claim about $\kappa_{6,1}$, we need to work a bit harder. First, define a variable encoding the linear combination $\kappa_{6,1} + \frac{4}{3} a_1 - 1$, which we want to verify is equal to 0. Applying `TrigExpand[...]` does some initial simplification.

```
KappaSixOneLinearCombination =
```

```
TrigExpand[κ₆,₁ + 4/3 a₁ - 1 /. AmbidextrousSymbolicSolutions] // Simplify
```

$$\frac{\text{Sin}[\beta] \left(-3(-1 + \sqrt{2}) \text{Cos}\left[\frac{\beta}{2}\right] + (-1 + \sqrt{2}) \text{Cos}\left[\frac{3\beta}{2}\right] + 3 \text{Sin}\left[\frac{\beta}{2}\right] + \text{Sin}\left[\frac{3\beta}{2}\right] \right)}{12 \left((-1 + \sqrt{2}) \text{Cos}\left[\frac{\beta}{2}\right] - \text{Sin}\left[\frac{\beta}{2}\right] \right)}$$

It turns out the expression involves factors like $\text{Cos}[\frac{3\beta}{2}]$. The following command does some simple substitutions to express all such factors as polynomials in $\text{Cos}[\frac{\beta}{2}]$ and $\text{Sin}[\frac{\beta}{2}]$.

KappaSixOneLinearCombinationExpanded = KappaSixOneLinearCombination /.

$$\left\{ \text{Cos}\left[\frac{3\beta}{2}\right] \rightarrow \text{TrigExpand}\left[\text{Cos}\left[\frac{3\beta}{2}\right]\right], \text{Sin}\left[\frac{3\beta}{2}\right] \rightarrow \text{TrigExpand}\left[\text{Sin}\left[\frac{3\beta}{2}\right]\right], \right. \\ \left. \text{Cos}\left[\frac{5\beta}{2}\right] \rightarrow \text{TrigExpand}\left[\text{Cos}\left[\frac{5\beta}{2}\right]\right], \text{Sin}\left[\frac{5\beta}{2}\right] \rightarrow \text{TrigExpand}\left[\text{Sin}\left[\frac{5\beta}{2}\right]\right] \right\} \\ \left(\left(-3(-1 + \sqrt{2}) \text{Cos}\left[\frac{\beta}{2}\right] + 3 \text{Sin}\left[\frac{\beta}{2}\right] + \right. \right. \\ \left. \left. 3 \text{Cos}\left[\frac{\beta}{2}\right]^2 \text{Sin}\left[\frac{\beta}{2}\right] - \text{Sin}\left[\frac{\beta}{2}\right]^3 + (-1 + \sqrt{2}) \left(\text{Cos}\left[\frac{\beta}{2}\right]^3 - 3 \text{Cos}\left[\frac{\beta}{2}\right] \text{Sin}\left[\frac{\beta}{2}\right]^2 \right) \right) \right. \\ \left. \text{Sin}[\beta] \right) / \left(12 \left((-1 + \sqrt{2}) \text{Cos}\left[\frac{\beta}{2}\right] - \text{Sin}\left[\frac{\beta}{2}\right] \right) \right)$$

Finally, run the next command to substitute in the two explicit algebraic numbers $\text{Cos}\left[\frac{\beta}{2}\right]$ and $\text{Sin}\left[\frac{\beta}{2}\right]$ and invoke `FullSimplify[...]`. If the expression evaluates to 0, this proves our formula for $\kappa_{6,1}$.

(* If this next command evaluates to 0, this shows that $\kappa_{6,1} = 1 - \frac{4}{3}a_1$ *)

KappaSixOneLinearCombinationExpanded /.

$$\left\{ \text{Cos}\left[\frac{\beta}{2}\right] \rightarrow \text{AmbidextrousSymbolicCosineBetaOverTwo}, \right. \\ \left. \text{Sin}\left[\frac{\beta}{2}\right] \rightarrow \sqrt{1 - \text{AmbidextrousSymbolicCosineBetaOverTwo}^2} \right\} // \text{FullSimplify} \\ 0$$

We repeat the same method for $\kappa_{5,1}$ to prove the formula $\kappa_{5,1} = 1 - \frac{5}{3}a_1$. Evaluate the next three code blocks. The last one should give 0.

KappaFiveOneLinearCombination =

$$\text{TrigExpand}\left[\kappa_{5,1} + \frac{5}{3}a_1 - 1 /. \text{AmbidextrousSymbolicSolutions}\right] // \text{Simplify} \\ \frac{\text{Cos}\left[\frac{\beta}{2}\right] \left(-3(-1 + \sqrt{2}) \text{Cos}\left[\frac{\beta}{2}\right] + (-1 + \sqrt{2}) \text{Cos}\left[\frac{3\beta}{2}\right] + 3 \text{Sin}\left[\frac{\beta}{2}\right] + \text{Sin}\left[\frac{3\beta}{2}\right] \right)}{-3 + 3(-1 + \sqrt{2}) \text{Cot}\left[\frac{\beta}{2}\right]}$$

KappaFiveOneLinearCombinationExpanded = KappaFiveOneLinearCombination /.

$$\left\{ \text{Cos}\left[\frac{3\beta}{2}\right] \rightarrow \text{TrigExpand}\left[\text{Cos}\left[\frac{3\beta}{2}\right]\right], \text{Sin}\left[\frac{3\beta}{2}\right] \rightarrow \text{TrigExpand}\left[\text{Sin}\left[\frac{3\beta}{2}\right]\right], \right. \\ \left. \text{Cos}\left[\frac{5\beta}{2}\right] \rightarrow \text{TrigExpand}\left[\text{Cos}\left[\frac{5\beta}{2}\right]\right], \text{Sin}\left[\frac{5\beta}{2}\right] \rightarrow \text{TrigExpand}\left[\text{Sin}\left[\frac{5\beta}{2}\right]\right] \right\} \\ \left(\text{Cos}\left[\frac{\beta}{2}\right] \left(-3(-1 + \sqrt{2}) \text{Cos}\left[\frac{\beta}{2}\right] + 3 \text{Sin}\left[\frac{\beta}{2}\right] + 3 \text{Cos}\left[\frac{\beta}{2}\right]^2 \text{Sin}\left[\frac{\beta}{2}\right] - \text{Sin}\left[\frac{\beta}{2}\right]^3 + \right. \right. \\ \left. \left. (-1 + \sqrt{2}) \left(\text{Cos}\left[\frac{\beta}{2}\right]^3 - 3 \text{Cos}\left[\frac{\beta}{2}\right] \text{Sin}\left[\frac{\beta}{2}\right]^2 \right) \right) \right) / \left(-3 + 3(-1 + \sqrt{2}) \text{Cot}\left[\frac{\beta}{2}\right] \right)$$

(* If this next command outputs 0, this shows that $\kappa_{5,1} = 1 - \frac{5}{3}a_1$ *)

KappaFiveOneLinearCombinationExpanded /.

{Cos $\left[\frac{\beta}{2}\right]$ **->** **AmbidextrousSymbolicCosineBetaOverTwo,**

Sin $\left[\frac{\beta}{2}\right]$ **->** $\sqrt{1 - \text{AmbidextrousSymbolicCosineBetaOverTwo}^2}$ **} // FullSimplify**

0

Next, we calculate f_1 , which also gives $f_2 = (1 - \sqrt{2})f_1$. Start by running the next command to represent f_1 symbolically in terms of β , after some initial TrigExpand[...] substitution and simplification.

f1SymbolicAsFunctionOfBeta =

TrigExpand[**f1 /. AmbidextrousSymbolicSolutions**] **// Simplify**

$$\frac{\text{Cos}[\beta]}{3(-1 + \sqrt{2}) \text{Cos}\left[\frac{\beta}{2}\right] - 3 \text{Sin}\left[\frac{\beta}{2}\right]}$$

Since $\text{Cos}[\beta] = 2 \text{Cos}\left[\frac{\beta}{2}\right]^2 - 1$, this can be written explicitly as

$$\frac{-\sqrt{2} + (2(-4 + 3\sqrt{2}))^{1/3} + (2(4 + 3\sqrt{2}))^{1/3}}{-3\sqrt{2 + \sqrt{2}} - (2(-4 + 3\sqrt{2}))^{1/3} - (2(4 + 3\sqrt{2}))^{1/3} + 3(-1 + \sqrt{2})\sqrt{2 - \sqrt{2}} + (2(-4 + 3\sqrt{2}))^{1/3} + (2(4 + 3\sqrt{2}))^{1/3}}$$
, or as

$$\frac{1}{3} \frac{2 \text{AmbidextrousSymbolicCosineBetaOverTwo}^2 - 1}{(\sqrt{2} - 1) \text{AmbidextrousSymbolicCosineBetaOverTwo} - \text{AmbidextrousSymbolicSineBetaOverTwo}}$$
. This can be brought to the simpler form $\frac{1}{3\sqrt{2(2 - \sqrt{2})}} \left(83 + (420619 + 15104\sqrt{2})^{1/3} + (420619 - 15104\sqrt{2})^{1/3}\right)^{1/4}$.

To verify this, run the next command, which should evaluate to 1, proving equation (68) in the paper.

(* This should return 1 *)
$$\left(\frac{1}{3} \left((2 \text{AmbidextrousSymbolicCosineBetaOverTwo}^2 - 1) / \left((\sqrt{2} - 1) \text{AmbidextrousSymbolicCosineBetaOverTwo} - \text{AmbidextrousSymbolicSineBetaOverTwo} \right) \right) \right) /$$

$$\left(\frac{1}{3\sqrt{2(2 - \sqrt{2})}} \left(83 + (420619 + 15104\sqrt{2})^{1/3} + (420619 - 15104\sqrt{2})^{1/3}\right)^{1/4} \right) //$$

FullSimplify

1

Two remaining identities to verify are $\kappa_{5,2} = 1/2$ and $\kappa_{6,2} = 1/2$. Evaluate the next two commands to verify these claims.

$\kappa_{5,2} /. \text{AmbidextrousSymbolicSolutions} // \text{Simplify}$

(* This should evaluate to 1/2 *)

$$\frac{1}{2}$$


```
(x6,2 /. AmbidextrousSymbolicSolutions // TrigExpand) /.
{Cos[ $\frac{\beta}{2}$ ] -> AmbidextrousSymbolicCosineBetaOverTwo,
 Sin[ $\frac{\beta}{2}$ ] ->  $\sqrt{1 - \text{AmbidextrousSymbolicCosineBetaOverTwo}^2}$ } // FullSimplify
(* This should evaluate to 1/2 *)
 $\frac{1}{2}$ 
```

II. Closed form evaluation of the area of the shape Σ

The goal of this section is to prove:

Theorem. The area of the ambidextrous shape is $\beta + (3 - 2\sqrt{2})^{1/3} + (3 + 2\sqrt{2})^{1/3} - 1$

(This is the computational part of Theorem 5 in the paper.)

First, we express the area of the shape as a sum of several integrals, making use of the left-right and up-down symmetries. Evaluate the next block of code. (**Note: this requires running the code in Section 10 first.**) This may take a minute or two.

```
AmbidextrousAreaPart1 = Integrate[-(A6[t][[2]] - 1/2) A6'[t][[1]], {t,  $\beta$ ,  $\pi/2 - \beta$ };
AmbidextrousAreaPart2 =
  Integrate[-(A5[t][[2]] - 1/2) A5'[t][[1]], {t,  $\pi/2 - \beta$ ,  $\pi/2$ };
AmbidextrousAreaPart3 = Integrate[(1/2 - B6[t][[2]]) B6'[t][[1]], {t,  $\beta$ ,  $\pi/2 - \beta$ };
AmbidextrousAreaPart4 = Integrate[(1/2 - B5[t][[2]]) B5'[t][[1]], {t,  $\pi/2 - \beta$ ,  $\pi/2$ };
AmbidextrousAreaPart5 = Integrate[-(1/2 - x6[t][[2]]) x6'[t][[1]], {t,  $\beta$ ,  $\pi/4$ };

AmbidextrousAreaTotal =
  4 (AmbidextrousAreaPart1 + AmbidextrousAreaPart2 + AmbidextrousAreaPart3 +
    AmbidextrousAreaPart4 + AmbidextrousAreaPart5);

AmbidextrousAreaTotalNumerical =
  AmbidextrousAreaTotal /. AmbidextrousSymbolicSolutions /.
  AmbidextrousPrecomputedNumericalConstants;
```

As a sanity check to see that we got something reasonable, evaluate the next line to get the numerical value of the area:

```
AmbidextrousAreaTotalNumerical
1.644955218425440851668809348
```

We are more interested however in the area as a symbolic expression in the critical angle β . Run the next command to get such an expression. We make the substitution $\beta=2\eta$ to get a less messy formula.

ambiareasymbolic =

$$\left((\mathbf{AmbidextrousAreaTotal} /. \mathbf{AmbidextrousSymbolicSolutions} // \mathbf{Simplify}) /. \{\beta \rightarrow 2\eta\} \right)$$

$$\begin{aligned} & (-72 + 36\sqrt{2} + 576\eta - 288\sqrt{2}\eta - 48(-1 + \sqrt{2})(-7 + 6\eta)\cos[2\eta] + \\ & 288(-2 + \sqrt{2})\cos[4\eta] - 12(-1)^{1/8}\cos[5\eta] + (6 + 6i)(-1)^{5/8}\cos[5\eta] + \\ & (18 + 6i)(-1)^{7/8}\cos[5\eta] + (3 + 3i)(-1)^{1/8}\sqrt{2}\cos[5\eta] - \\ & (9 + 9i)(-1)^{5/8}\sqrt{2}\cos[5\eta] - (12 + 6i)(-1)^{7/8}\sqrt{2}\cos[5\eta] - 150\cos[6\eta] - \\ & (14 + 14i)(-1)^{3/4}\cos[6\eta] + 136\sqrt{2}\cos[6\eta] + 4(-1)^{1/8}\cos[7\eta] - \\ & (2 + 2i)(-1)^{5/8}\cos[7\eta] - (6 + 2i)(-1)^{7/8}\cos[7\eta] - (1 + i)(-1)^{1/8}\sqrt{2}\cos[7\eta] + \\ & (3 + 3i)(-1)^{5/8}\sqrt{2}\cos[7\eta] + (4 + 2i)(-1)^{7/8}\sqrt{2}\cos[7\eta] + 72\cos[8\eta] - \\ & 36\sqrt{2}\cos[8\eta] + 4\cos[10\eta] + (2 + 2i)(-1)^{3/4}\cos[10\eta] - 4\sqrt{2}\cos[10\eta] - \\ & (1 + i)(-1)^{3/4}\sqrt{2}\cos[10\eta] - (298 - 10i)(-1)^{1/8}\sin[\eta] + (298 + 10i)(-1)^{7/8}\sin[\eta] + \\ & (154 - 144i)(-1)^{1/8}\sqrt{2}\sin[\eta] - (154 + 144i)(-1)^{7/8}\sqrt{2}\sin[\eta] + 168\sin[2\eta] - \\ & 168\sqrt{2}\sin[2\eta] + 288\eta\sin[2\eta] - 288\sqrt{2}\eta\sin[2\eta] + (290 - 2i)(-1)^{1/8}\sin[3\eta] - \\ & (290 + 2i)(-1)^{7/8}\sin[3\eta] - (146 - 144i)(-1)^{1/8}\sqrt{2}\sin[3\eta] + \\ & (146 + 144i)(-1)^{7/8}\sqrt{2}\sin[3\eta] + (9 + 9i)(-1)^{3/8}\sin[5\eta] + (6 + 6i)(-1)^{5/8}\sin[5\eta] - \\ & (3 - 15i)(-1)^{7/8}\sin[5\eta] + (3 + 3i)(-1)^{1/8}\sqrt{2}\sin[5\eta] - (9 + 9i)(-1)^{3/8}\sqrt{2}\sin[5\eta] - \\ & (3 + 3i)(-1)^{5/8}\sqrt{2}\sin[5\eta] + (3 - 9i)(-1)^{7/8}\sqrt{2}\sin[5\eta] - 114\sin[6\eta] + \\ & (22 + 22i)(-1)^{3/4}\sin[6\eta] + 136\sqrt{2}\sin[6\eta] + (3 + 3i)(-1)^{3/8}\sin[7\eta] + \\ & (2 + 2i)(-1)^{5/8}\sin[7\eta] - (1 - 5i)(-1)^{7/8}\sin[7\eta] + (1 + i)(-1)^{1/8}\sqrt{2}\sin[7\eta] - \\ & (3 + 3i)(-1)^{3/8}\sqrt{2}\sin[7\eta] - (1 + i)(-1)^{5/8}\sqrt{2}\sin[7\eta] + \\ & (1 - 3i)(-1)^{7/8}\sqrt{2}\sin[7\eta] - 72\sin[8\eta] + (12 + 12i)(-1)^{3/4}\sin[8\eta] + \\ & 48\sqrt{2}\sin[8\eta] + 4\sin[10\eta] + (2 + 2i)(-1)^{3/4}\sin[10\eta] - 4\sqrt{2}\sin[10\eta] - \\ & (1 + i)(-1)^{3/4}\sqrt{2}\sin[10\eta] \Big/ \left(144 \left(-(-1 + \sqrt{2})\cos[\eta] + \sin[\eta] \right)^2 \right) \end{aligned}$$

On inspecting the formula, we see that it is of the form $P(\eta)\eta + Q(\eta)$, where $P(\eta)$ and $Q(\eta)$ are each rational functions in $\cos(\eta)$ and $\sin(\eta)$ and are therefore algebraic numbers. Our goal is to find them, and we can achieve it using a bit of automated symbolic math wizardry. First, run the next command to separate $P(\eta)$ and $Q(\eta)$, replace any appearance of η inside a cosine or sine with a different variable, v , then collect over powers of η :

ambiareasymbolicmodified = Collect[ambiareasymbolic /.

{Cos[η] → Cos[ν], Sin[η] → Sin[ν], Cos[k_η] → Cos[k ν], Sin[k_η] → Sin[k ν]}, η]

$$\frac{\eta \left(576 - 288 \sqrt{2} - 288 (-1 + \sqrt{2}) \cos[2 \nu] + 288 \sin[2 \nu] - 288 \sqrt{2} \sin[2 \nu] \right)}{144 \left(-(-1 + \sqrt{2}) \cos[\nu] + \sin[\nu] \right)^2} +$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \left(-72 + 36 \sqrt{2} + 336 (-1 + \sqrt{2}) \cos[2 \nu] + 288 (-2 + \sqrt{2}) \cos[4 \nu] - 12 (-1)^{1/8} \cos[5 \nu] + \right. \\ & (6 + 6 i) (-1)^{5/8} \cos[5 \nu] + (18 + 6 i) (-1)^{7/8} \cos[5 \nu] + (3 + 3 i) (-1)^{1/8} \sqrt{2} \cos[5 \nu] - \\ & (9 + 9 i) (-1)^{5/8} \sqrt{2} \cos[5 \nu] - (12 + 6 i) (-1)^{7/8} \sqrt{2} \cos[5 \nu] - 150 \cos[6 \nu] - \\ & (14 + 14 i) (-1)^{3/4} \cos[6 \nu] + 136 \sqrt{2} \cos[6 \nu] + 4 (-1)^{1/8} \cos[7 \nu] - \\ & (2 + 2 i) (-1)^{5/8} \cos[7 \nu] - (6 + 2 i) (-1)^{7/8} \cos[7 \nu] - (1 + i) (-1)^{1/8} \sqrt{2} \cos[7 \nu] + \\ & (3 + 3 i) (-1)^{5/8} \sqrt{2} \cos[7 \nu] + (4 + 2 i) (-1)^{7/8} \sqrt{2} \cos[7 \nu] + 72 \cos[8 \nu] - \\ & 36 \sqrt{2} \cos[8 \nu] + 4 \cos[10 \nu] + (2 + 2 i) (-1)^{3/4} \cos[10 \nu] - 4 \sqrt{2} \cos[10 \nu] - \\ & (1 + i) (-1)^{3/4} \sqrt{2} \cos[10 \nu] - (298 - 10 i) (-1)^{1/8} \sin[\nu] + (298 + 10 i) (-1)^{7/8} \sin[\nu] + \\ & (154 - 144 i) (-1)^{1/8} \sqrt{2} \sin[\nu] - (154 + 144 i) (-1)^{7/8} \sqrt{2} \sin[\nu] + 168 \sin[2 \nu] - \\ & 168 \sqrt{2} \sin[2 \nu] + (290 - 2 i) (-1)^{1/8} \sin[3 \nu] - (290 + 2 i) (-1)^{7/8} \sin[3 \nu] - \\ & (146 - 144 i) (-1)^{1/8} \sqrt{2} \sin[3 \nu] + (146 + 144 i) (-1)^{7/8} \sqrt{2} \sin[3 \nu] + \\ & (9 + 9 i) (-1)^{3/8} \sin[5 \nu] + (6 + 6 i) (-1)^{5/8} \sin[5 \nu] - (3 - 15 i) (-1)^{7/8} \sin[5 \nu] + \\ & (3 + 3 i) (-1)^{1/8} \sqrt{2} \sin[5 \nu] - (9 + 9 i) (-1)^{3/8} \sqrt{2} \sin[5 \nu] - \\ & (3 + 3 i) (-1)^{5/8} \sqrt{2} \sin[5 \nu] + (3 - 9 i) (-1)^{7/8} \sqrt{2} \sin[5 \nu] - 114 \sin[6 \nu] + \\ & (22 + 22 i) (-1)^{3/4} \sin[6 \nu] + 136 \sqrt{2} \sin[6 \nu] + (3 + 3 i) (-1)^{3/8} \sin[7 \nu] + \\ & (2 + 2 i) (-1)^{5/8} \sin[7 \nu] - (1 - 5 i) (-1)^{7/8} \sin[7 \nu] + (1 + i) (-1)^{1/8} \sqrt{2} \sin[7 \nu] - \\ & (3 + 3 i) (-1)^{3/8} \sqrt{2} \sin[7 \nu] - (1 + i) (-1)^{5/8} \sqrt{2} \sin[7 \nu] + \\ & (1 - 3 i) (-1)^{7/8} \sqrt{2} \sin[7 \nu] - 72 \sin[8 \nu] + (12 + 12 i) (-1)^{3/4} \sin[8 \nu] + \\ & 48 \sqrt{2} \sin[8 \nu] + 4 \sin[10 \nu] + (2 + 2 i) (-1)^{3/4} \sin[10 \nu] - 4 \sqrt{2} \sin[10 \nu] - \\ & \left. (1 + i) (-1)^{3/4} \sqrt{2} \sin[10 \nu] \right) / \left(144 \left(-(-1 + \sqrt{2}) \cos[\nu] + \sin[\nu] \right)^2 \right) \end{aligned}$$

We can now isolate the P and Q coefficients, expressing them in terms of the original variable β . Evaluate the next block of code to do this.

Pcoefficient = CoefficientList[ambiareasymbolicmodified, η][[2]] /. { $\nu \rightarrow \beta / 2$ };
Qcoefficient = CoefficientList[ambiareasymbolicmodified, η][[1]] /. { $\nu \rightarrow \beta / 2$ };

(* Look to see what we got *)

{Pcoefficient, Qcoefficient}

$$\left\{ \frac{576 - 288\sqrt{2} - 288(-1 + \sqrt{2})\cos[\beta] + 288\sin[\beta] - 288\sqrt{2}\sin[\beta]}{144\left(-(-1 + \sqrt{2})\cos\left[\frac{\beta}{2}\right] + \sin\left[\frac{\beta}{2}\right]\right)^2}, \right.$$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} & \left(-72 + 36\sqrt{2} + 336(-1 + \sqrt{2})\cos[\beta] + 288(-2 + \sqrt{2})\cos[2\beta] - 12(-1)^{1/8}\cos\left[\frac{5\beta}{2}\right] + \right. \\ & (6 + 6i)(-1)^{5/8}\cos\left[\frac{5\beta}{2}\right] + (18 + 6i)(-1)^{7/8}\cos\left[\frac{5\beta}{2}\right] + (3 + 3i)(-1)^{1/8}\sqrt{2}\cos\left[\frac{5\beta}{2}\right] - \\ & (9 + 9i)(-1)^{5/8}\sqrt{2}\cos\left[\frac{5\beta}{2}\right] - (12 + 6i)(-1)^{7/8}\sqrt{2}\cos\left[\frac{5\beta}{2}\right] - 150\cos[3\beta] - \\ & (14 + 14i)(-1)^{3/4}\cos[3\beta] + 136\sqrt{2}\cos[3\beta] + 4(-1)^{1/8}\cos\left[\frac{7\beta}{2}\right] - \\ & (2 + 2i)(-1)^{5/8}\cos\left[\frac{7\beta}{2}\right] - (6 + 2i)(-1)^{7/8}\cos\left[\frac{7\beta}{2}\right] - (1 + i)(-1)^{1/8}\sqrt{2}\cos\left[\frac{7\beta}{2}\right] + \\ & (3 + 3i)(-1)^{5/8}\sqrt{2}\cos\left[\frac{7\beta}{2}\right] + (4 + 2i)(-1)^{7/8}\sqrt{2}\cos\left[\frac{7\beta}{2}\right] + 72\cos[4\beta] - \\ & 36\sqrt{2}\cos[4\beta] + 4\cos[5\beta] + (2 + 2i)(-1)^{3/4}\cos[5\beta] - 4\sqrt{2}\cos[5\beta] - \\ & (1 + i)(-1)^{3/4}\sqrt{2}\cos[5\beta] - (298 - 10i)(-1)^{1/8}\sin\left[\frac{\beta}{2}\right] + (298 + 10i)(-1)^{7/8}\sin\left[\frac{\beta}{2}\right] + \\ & (154 - 144i)(-1)^{1/8}\sqrt{2}\sin\left[\frac{\beta}{2}\right] - (154 + 144i)(-1)^{7/8}\sqrt{2}\sin\left[\frac{\beta}{2}\right] + 168\sin[\beta] - \\ & 168\sqrt{2}\sin[\beta] + (290 - 2i)(-1)^{1/8}\sin\left[\frac{3\beta}{2}\right] - (290 + 2i)(-1)^{7/8}\sin\left[\frac{3\beta}{2}\right] - \\ & (146 - 144i)(-1)^{1/8}\sqrt{2}\sin\left[\frac{3\beta}{2}\right] + (146 + 144i)(-1)^{7/8}\sqrt{2}\sin\left[\frac{3\beta}{2}\right] + \\ & (9 + 9i)(-1)^{3/8}\sin\left[\frac{5\beta}{2}\right] + (6 + 6i)(-1)^{5/8}\sin\left[\frac{5\beta}{2}\right] - (3 - 15i)(-1)^{7/8}\sin\left[\frac{5\beta}{2}\right] + \\ & (3 + 3i)(-1)^{1/8}\sqrt{2}\sin\left[\frac{5\beta}{2}\right] - (9 + 9i)(-1)^{3/8}\sqrt{2}\sin\left[\frac{5\beta}{2}\right] - \\ & (3 + 3i)(-1)^{5/8}\sqrt{2}\sin\left[\frac{5\beta}{2}\right] + (3 - 9i)(-1)^{7/8}\sqrt{2}\sin\left[\frac{5\beta}{2}\right] - 114\sin[3\beta] + \\ & (22 + 22i)(-1)^{3/4}\sin[3\beta] + 136\sqrt{2}\sin[3\beta] + (3 + 3i)(-1)^{3/8}\sin\left[\frac{7\beta}{2}\right] + \\ & (2 + 2i)(-1)^{5/8}\sin\left[\frac{7\beta}{2}\right] - (1 - 5i)(-1)^{7/8}\sin\left[\frac{7\beta}{2}\right] + (1 + i)(-1)^{1/8}\sqrt{2}\sin\left[\frac{7\beta}{2}\right] - \\ & (3 + 3i)(-1)^{3/8}\sqrt{2}\sin\left[\frac{7\beta}{2}\right] - (1 + i)(-1)^{5/8}\sqrt{2}\sin\left[\frac{7\beta}{2}\right] + \\ & (1 - 3i)(-1)^{7/8}\sqrt{2}\sin\left[\frac{7\beta}{2}\right] - 72\sin[4\beta] + (12 + 12i)(-1)^{3/4}\sin[4\beta] + \\ & 48\sqrt{2}\sin[4\beta] + 4\sin[5\beta] + (2 + 2i)(-1)^{3/4}\sin[5\beta] - 4\sqrt{2}\sin[5\beta] - \\ & (1 + i)(-1)^{3/4}\sqrt{2}\sin[5\beta] \Big/ \left(144\left(-(-1 + \sqrt{2})\cos\left[\frac{\beta}{2}\right] + \sin\left[\frac{\beta}{2}\right]\right)^2\right) \end{aligned} \right\}$$

As always, it helps to look at numerical values for error-checking and to keep our algebraic intuition grounded in reality. Try this line:

Qcoefficientalgebraic

$$144 \left(-\frac{1}{2} (-1 + \sqrt{2}) \sqrt{2 - \sqrt{2} + (2 \dots 1 \dots)^{1/3} + (2 (4 + \dots 1 \dots))^{1/3} + \sqrt{1 + \frac{1}{4} \dots 1 \dots}} \right)^2$$

large output | show less | show more | show all | set size limit...

Mathematica however is unfazed by such complexity. The number is algebraic, and by calling the `FullSimplify[...]` command we tell *Mathematica* to express the number as a root of a polynomial (or some other simple form if one exists). To see this in action, run the next command, and go make yourself a cup of tea (the computation takes a few minutes...). When you return, the answer will be waiting.

Qcoefficientalgebraicsimplified = Qcoefficientalgebraic // FullSimplify

Root[-8 + 3 #1² + #1³ &, 1]

We have obtained our Q coefficient as the root of a cubic equation. Finally, by running the next line and checking that it evaluates to 0, we can verify that it is indeed given by the value

$(3 - 2\sqrt{2})^{1/3} + (3 + 2\sqrt{2})^{1/3} - 1$ claimed in the theorem.

FullSimplify[Qcoefficientalgebraicsimplified - ((3 - 2√2)^{1/3} + (3 + 2√2)^{1/3} - 1)]

0

The proof is complete.

12. Computation of the minimal polynomials of the parameters of the shape Σ

In the previous two sections we found formulas for all the parameters and for the area of the shape in terms of radicals. Here we compute the associated minimal polynomials that are listed in Table 2 of the paper.

First, repeat some definitions (also contained in the initialization code) to remind ourselves of the formulas we are working with, and define an array containing the names and values of the quantities to display them in a formatted table. Run the next block of code to display the resulting table (just for reference - no minimal polynomials are computed yet).

$$\mathbf{AmbidextrousSymbolicTanBeta} = \frac{1}{2} \left((\sqrt{2} + 1)^{1/3} - (\sqrt{2} - 1)^{1/3} \right);$$

$$\mathbf{AmbidextrousSymbolicCosineBeta} = \frac{1}{2} \left(-\sqrt{2} + \left(2(-4 + 3\sqrt{2}) \right)^{1/3} + \left(2(4 + 3\sqrt{2}) \right)^{1/3} \right);$$

$$\mathbf{AmbidextrousSymbolicSineBeta} = \sqrt{1 - \mathbf{AmbidextrousSymbolicCosineBeta}^2};$$

$$\mathbf{AmbidextrousSymbolicCosineBetaOverTwo} =$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \sqrt{2 - \sqrt{2} + \left(2(-4 + 3\sqrt{2}) \right)^{1/3} + \left(2(4 + 3\sqrt{2}) \right)^{1/3}};$$

$$\mathbf{AmbidextrousSymbolicSineBetaOverTwo} =$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \sqrt{2 + \sqrt{2} - \left(2(-4 + 3\sqrt{2})\right)^{1/3} - \left(2(4 + 3\sqrt{2})\right)^{1/3}};$$

$$\text{AmbidextrousSymbolicaOne} = \frac{1}{4} \sqrt{4 + \left(71 + 8\sqrt{2}\right)^{1/3} + \left(71 - 8\sqrt{2}\right)^{1/3}};$$

$$\text{AmbidextrousSymbolicKappaOneOne} = 1 - \text{AmbidextrousSymbolicaOne};$$

$$\text{AmbidextrousSymbolicKappaSixOne} = 1 - \frac{4}{3} \text{AmbidextrousSymbolicaOne};$$

$$\text{AmbidextrousSymbolicKappaFiveOne} = 1 - \frac{5}{3} \text{AmbidextrousSymbolicaOne};$$

$$\text{AmbidextrousSymbolicfOne} =$$

$$\frac{1}{3 \sqrt{2(2 - \sqrt{2})}} \left(83 + \left(420619 + 15104\sqrt{2}\right)^{1/3} + \left(420619 - 15104\sqrt{2}\right)^{1/3}\right)^{1/4};$$

$$\text{AmbidextrousSymbolicfTwo} = -\frac{\sqrt{2 - \sqrt{2}}}{6}$$

$$\left(83 + \left(420619 + 15104\sqrt{2}\right)^{1/3} + \left(420619 - 15104\sqrt{2}\right)^{1/3}\right)^{1/4};$$

$$\text{AmbidextrousSymbolicAreaMinusBeta} = \left(3 + 2\sqrt{2}\right)^{1/3} + \left(3 - 2\sqrt{2}\right)^{1/3} - 1;$$

$$\text{AmbidextrousSymbolicaSofaLength} = \frac{2}{3} \sqrt{4 + \left(71 + 8\sqrt{2}\right)^{1/3} + \left(71 - 8\sqrt{2}\right)^{1/3}};$$

```
AmbidextrousSofaAlgebraicParameters = {
  {"Tan (β)", AmbidextrousSymbolicTanBeta},
  {"Cos (β)", AmbidextrousSymbolicCosineBeta},
  {"Sin (β)", AmbidextrousSymbolicSineBeta},
  {"Tan (β/2)",
    AmbidextrousSymbolicSineBetaOverTwo / AmbidextrousSymbolicCosineBetaOverTwo},
  {"Cos (β/2)", AmbidextrousSymbolicCosineBetaOverTwo},
  {"Sin (β/2)", AmbidextrousSymbolicSineBetaOverTwo},
  {"a1", AmbidextrousSymbolicaOne},
  {"f1", AmbidextrousSymbolicfOne},
  {"f2", AmbidextrousSymbolicfTwo},
  {"κ1,1", AmbidextrousSymbolicKappaOneOne},
  {"κ6,1", AmbidextrousSymbolicKappaSixOne},
  {"κ5,1", AmbidextrousSymbolicKappaFiveOne},
  {"Λ-β", AmbidextrousSymbolicAreaMinusBeta},
  {"length", AmbidextrousSymbolicaSofaLength}
};
```

```
AmbidextrousSofaAlgebraicParameters // MatrixForm
```

$$\left(\begin{array}{l}
 \text{Tan}(\beta) \\
 \text{Cos}(\beta) \\
 \text{Sin}(\beta) \\
 \text{Tan}(\beta/2) \\
 \text{Cos}(\beta/2) \\
 \text{Sin}(\beta/2) \\
 a_1 \\
 f_1 \\
 f_2 \\
 \kappa_{1,1} \\
 \kappa_{6,1} \\
 \kappa_{5,1} \\
 \Delta-\beta \\
 \text{length}
 \end{array} \right.
 \begin{array}{l}
 \frac{1}{2} \left(-(-1 + \sqrt{2})^{1/3} + (1 + \sqrt{2})^{1/3} \right) \\
 \frac{1}{2} \left(-\sqrt{2} + \left(2(-4 + 3\sqrt{2}) \right)^{1/3} + \left(2(4 + 3\sqrt{2}) \right)^{1/3} \right) \\
 \sqrt{1 - \frac{1}{4} \left(-\sqrt{2} + \left(2(-4 + 3\sqrt{2}) \right)^{1/3} + \left(2(4 + 3\sqrt{2}) \right)^{1/3} \right)^2} \\
 \sqrt{\frac{2 + \sqrt{2} - \left(2(-4 + 3\sqrt{2}) \right)^{1/3} - \left(2(4 + 3\sqrt{2}) \right)^{1/3}}{2 - \sqrt{2} + \left(2(-4 + 3\sqrt{2}) \right)^{1/3} + \left(2(4 + 3\sqrt{2}) \right)^{1/3}}} \\
 \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{2 - \sqrt{2} + \left(2(-4 + 3\sqrt{2}) \right)^{1/3} + \left(2(4 + 3\sqrt{2}) \right)^{1/3}} \\
 \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{2 + \sqrt{2} - \left(2(-4 + 3\sqrt{2}) \right)^{1/3} - \left(2(4 + 3\sqrt{2}) \right)^{1/3}} \\
 \frac{1}{4} \sqrt{4 + \left(71 - 8\sqrt{2} \right)^{1/3} + \left(71 + 8\sqrt{2} \right)^{1/3}} \\
 \frac{\left(83 + \left(420619 - 15104\sqrt{2} \right)^{1/3} + \left(420619 + 15104\sqrt{2} \right)^{1/3} \right)^{1/4}}{3 \sqrt[3]{2(2 - \sqrt{2})}} \\
 -\frac{1}{6} \sqrt{2 - \sqrt{2}} \left(83 + \left(420619 - 15104\sqrt{2} \right)^{1/3} + \left(420619 + 15104\sqrt{2} \right)^{1/3} \right)^{1/4} \\
 1 - \frac{1}{4} \sqrt{4 + \left(71 - 8\sqrt{2} \right)^{1/3} + \left(71 + 8\sqrt{2} \right)^{1/3}} \\
 1 - \frac{1}{3} \sqrt{4 + \left(71 - 8\sqrt{2} \right)^{1/3} + \left(71 + 8\sqrt{2} \right)^{1/3}} \\
 1 - \frac{5}{12} \sqrt{4 + \left(71 - 8\sqrt{2} \right)^{1/3} + \left(71 + 8\sqrt{2} \right)^{1/3}} \\
 -1 + \left(3 - 2\sqrt{2} \right)^{1/3} + \left(3 + 2\sqrt{2} \right)^{1/3} \\
 \frac{2}{3} \sqrt{4 + \left(71 - 8\sqrt{2} \right)^{1/3} + \left(71 + 8\sqrt{2} \right)^{1/3}}
 \end{array}
 \right)$$

The next command will now compute the associated minimal polynomial for each of the quantities and again display the results in a table.


```

Map[#[[1]], MinimalPolynomial[#[[2]][x]] &,
  AmbidextrousSofaAlgebraicParameters] // MatrixForm // TraditionalForm

```

$$\begin{pmatrix}
\tan(\beta) & 4x^3 + 3x - 1 \\
\cos(\beta) & 2x^6 - 9x^4 + 24x^2 - 16 \\
\sin(\beta) & 2x^6 + 3x^4 + 12x^2 - 1 \\
\tan(\beta/2) & x^6 + 6x^5 - 3x^4 + 20x^3 + 3x^2 + 6x - 1 \\
\cos(\beta/2) & 128x^{12} - 384x^{10} + 336x^8 - 32x^6 - 48x^2 + 1 \\
\sin(\beta/2) & 128x^{12} - 384x^{10} + 336x^8 - 32x^6 - 48x^2 + 1 \\
a_1 & 2048x^6 - 1536x^4 - 24x^2 - 1 \\
f_1 & 4251528x^{12} - 9920232x^{10} + 6672537x^8 - 1936224x^6 + 256608x^4 - 13824x^2 + 256 \\
f_2 & 4251528x^{12} - 9920232x^{10} + 6672537x^8 - 1936224x^6 + 256608x^4 - 13824x^2 + 256 \\
\kappa_{1,1} & 2048x^6 - 12288x^5 + 29184x^4 - 34816x^3 + 21480x^2 - 6096x + 487 \\
\kappa_{6,1} & 729x^6 - 4374x^5 + 9963x^4 - 10692x^3 + 5076x^2 - 432x - 272 \\
\kappa_{5,1} & 1492992x^6 - 8957952x^5 + 19284480x^4 - 17418240x^3 + 3597480x^2 + 3753648x - 1768033 \\
\Lambda - \beta & x^3 + 3x^2 - 8 \\
\text{length} & 729x^6 - 3888x^4 - 432x^2 - 128
\end{pmatrix}$$

13. Verification of the algebraic curve formulas for boundary segments of Σ

In this section we verify the claims made in Section 6 in the paper that the boundary segments σ_{18} , σ_4 and σ_9 lie on specific algebraic curves of degree 6.

13.1 Definitions of various algebraic constants

Start by redefining the algebraic constant f_1 associated with Σ , and defining the numerical parameters $\gamma_1, \gamma_2, \gamma_3, \gamma_4, \gamma_5, \alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3, \alpha_4$, all of which are cubic algebraic numbers. Evaluate the next command to load the definitions.

AmbidextrousSymbolicfOne =

$$\frac{1}{3 \sqrt[3]{2(2-\sqrt{2})}} \left(83 + \left(420619 + 15104\sqrt{2} \right)^{1/3} + \left(420619 - 15104\sqrt{2} \right)^{1/3} \right)^{1/4};$$

$$Z = \left(4 - 2\sqrt{2} \right)^{1/3} + \left(4 + 2\sqrt{2} \right)^{1/3};$$

(* Z is the real root of the cubic polynomial x^3-6x-8 *)

(* Calling RootReduce in the definitions of α_j , γ_j reduces the time it takes Mathematica to verify the algebraic identities below *)

$\gamma_1 = -3Z + 14$ // RootReduce;

$\gamma_2 = -Z + 4$ // RootReduce;

$\gamma_3 = -27Z^2 + 156Z - 190$ // RootReduce;

$\gamma_4 = 8Z^2 - 26Z + 8$ // RootReduce;

$\gamma_5 = 9Z - 20$ // RootReduce;

$\alpha_1 = -3Z + 16$ // RootReduce;

$\alpha_2 = 27Z^2 - 240Z + 592$ // RootReduce;

$\alpha_3 = 12Z^2 - 54Z + 56$ // RootReduce;

$\alpha_4 = -9Z + 28$ // RootReduce;

Evaluate the next two commands to see the numerical values of the parameters and their minimal polynomials.

{ $\gamma_1, \gamma_2, \gamma_3, \gamma_4, \gamma_5, \alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3, \alpha_4$ } // N

{5.14588, 1.04863, 35.2279, 0.949123, 6.56236, 7.14588, 118.857, 1.15309, 1.43764}

{ $\gamma_1, \gamma_2, \gamma_3, \gamma_4, \gamma_5, \alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3, \alpha_4$ } // MinimalPolynomial[#, x] & // Column // TraditionalForm

$$x^3 - 42x^2 + 534x - 1772$$

$$x^3 - 12x^2 + 42x - 32$$

$$x^3 + 894x^2 + 212736x - 8647424$$

$$x^3 - 120x^2 + 4968x - 4608$$

$$x^3 + 60x^2 + 714x - 7552$$

$$x^3 - 48x^2 + 714x - 3016$$

$$x^3 - 2100x^2 + 1271172x - 123099904$$

$$x^3 - 312x^2 + 28776x - 32768$$

$$x^3 - 84x^2 + 1866x - 2512$$

13.2 Definitions of the bivariate polynomials

Evaluate the next command to load the definitions of the polynomials $P[X,Y]$, $Q[X,Y]$, $R[X,Y]$. For each of the algebraic equations $P[X,Y]=0$, $Q[X,Y]=0$, $R[X,Y]=0$ we want to show that a boundary segment of the shape Σ lies on the curve.

$$P[X_, Y_] := (X^2 + Y^2 - 8)^3 - 216(Y - X)^2;$$

$$Q[X_, Y_] := (X^2 + Y^2)^3 - 12\gamma_1(X^2 + Y^2)^2 -$$

$$216\sqrt{\gamma_2}(X^2 + Y^2)(Y - X) - 12\gamma_3(X^2 + Y^2) - 432\sqrt{\gamma_4}(Y - X) + 432XY - 32\gamma_5;$$

$$R[X_, Y_] := (X^2 + Y^2)^3 - 24\alpha_1(X^2 + Y^2)^2 + 48\alpha_2(X^2 + Y^2) + 13824\sqrt{\alpha_3}Y + 4096\alpha_4;$$

I.3 Definitions of the functions associated with the boundary segments σ_{18} , σ_4 and σ_5 of the shape Σ

The next command defines functions associated with the boundary segments σ_{18} , σ_4 and σ_5 , by taking the generic formula for the rotation path $x_6[t]$ (the solution of the ODE associated with Case 6 in Theorem 2) and the associated contact paths $A_6[t]$, $B_6[t]$ and making the substitution $f_2 \rightarrow (1 - \sqrt{2})f_1$.

AmbidextrousBoundarySegment18 = $A_6[t]$ /. $\{f_2 \rightarrow (1 - \sqrt{2})f_1\}$;

AmbidextrousBoundarySegment4 = $B_6[t]$ /. $\{f_2 \rightarrow (1 - \sqrt{2})f_1\}$;

AmbidextrousBoundarySegment5 = $x_6[t]$ /. $\{f_2 \rightarrow (1 - \sqrt{2})f_1\}$;

Evaluate the next commands to inspect the functions.

AmbidextrousBoundarySegment18

$$\left\{ \begin{aligned} & \left(\cos\left[\frac{t}{2}\right]^3 f_1 - (1 - \sqrt{2}) \sin\left[\frac{t}{2}\right]^3 f_1 + \kappa_{6,1}, \right. \\ & \left. \frac{1}{4} \left(- (1 - \sqrt{2}) \left(-3 \cos\left[\frac{t}{2}\right] + \cos\left[\frac{3t}{2}\right] \right) f_1 + \left(3 \sin\left[\frac{t}{2}\right] + \sin\left[\frac{3t}{2}\right] \right) f_1 + 4 \kappa_{6,2} \right) \right\} \end{aligned}$$

AmbidextrousBoundarySegment4

$$\left\{ \begin{aligned} & \left(-\cos[t] + \cos\left[\frac{t}{2}\right]^3 f_1 - (1 - \sqrt{2}) \sin\left[\frac{t}{2}\right]^3 f_1 + \kappa_{6,1}, \right. \\ & \left. -\sin[t] + \frac{1}{4} \left(- (1 - \sqrt{2}) \left(-3 \cos\left[\frac{t}{2}\right] + \cos\left[\frac{3t}{2}\right] \right) f_1 + \left(3 \sin\left[\frac{t}{2}\right] + \sin\left[\frac{3t}{2}\right] \right) f_1 + 4 \kappa_{6,2} \right) \right\} \end{aligned}$$

AmbidextrousBoundarySegment5

$$\left\{ \begin{aligned} & \left(-\sin[t] \left(-1 - (1 - \sqrt{2}) \cos\left[\frac{t}{2}\right] f_1 + \sin\left[\frac{t}{2}\right] f_1 \right) + \right. \\ & \quad \left. \cos[t] \left(-1 + \cos\left[\frac{t}{2}\right] f_1 + (1 - \sqrt{2}) \sin\left[\frac{t}{2}\right] f_1 \right) + \kappa_{6,1}, \right. \\ & \quad \left. \cos[t] \left(-1 - (1 - \sqrt{2}) \cos\left[\frac{t}{2}\right] f_1 + \sin\left[\frac{t}{2}\right] f_1 \right) + \right. \\ & \quad \left. \sin[t] \left(-1 + \cos\left[\frac{t}{2}\right] f_1 + (1 - \sqrt{2}) \sin\left[\frac{t}{2}\right] f_1 \right) + \kappa_{6,2} \right\} \end{aligned}$$

I.3.4 The boundary segment σ_{18}

The next line verifies the algebraic equation $P[X,Y]=0$ for the boundary segment σ_{18} of the shape Σ , by plugging in the x and y components of **AmbidextrousBoundarySegment18**, after the appropriate affine change of variables., and simplifying the result. Run the command - it should evaluate to 0.

```

P[
$$\frac{\text{AmbidextrousBoundarySegment18}[[1]] - \kappa_{6,1}}{f_1 \frac{\sqrt{2-\sqrt{2}}}{4}},$$


$$\frac{\text{AmbidextrousBoundarySegment18}[[2]] - \kappa_{6,2}}{f_1 \frac{\sqrt{2-\sqrt{2}}}{4}}] // \text{Simplify}$$

0

```

13.5 The boundary segment σ_4

Next, we try to verify the algebraic relation for the boundary segment σ_4 of the shape Σ . The command below substitutes the functions for the parametric representation of the boundary segment σ_4 into $Q[X,Y]$ after making the affine change of variables. The resulting expression should be identically 0, but it's quite a complicated expression involving a polynomial in various algebraic numbers and trigonometric functions. In order to get *Mathematica* to verify that it simplifies to 0 using a FullSimplify command, it's beneficial to first do a bit of symbolic math manipulation to represent the expression as a polynomial in $\text{Cos}[t/2]$ and $\text{Sin}[t/2] = \sqrt{1 - \text{Cos}[t/2]^2}$ and then simplify each of the coefficients of the polynomial separately.

To do this, evaluate the next two code blocks. If the second evaluation returns an array of zeroes, that means the expression simplified to 0, which proves that the AmbidextrousBoundarySegment4 function lies on the algebraic curve $Q[X,Y]=0$ (with the appropriate affine change of variables).

```

ExpressionThatShouldBeZero = 
$$\left( \begin{array}{l} Q\left[\text{Simplify}\left[\frac{\text{AmbidextrousBoundarySegment4}[[1]] - \kappa_{6,1}}{f_1 \frac{\sqrt{2-\sqrt{2}}}{4}}\right], \right. \\ \left. \text{Simplify}\left[\frac{\text{AmbidextrousBoundarySegment4}[[2]] - \kappa_{6,2}}{f_1 \frac{\sqrt{2-\sqrt{2}}}{4}}\right] \right] /. \\ \left. \left\{ f_1 \rightarrow \text{AmbidextrousSymbolicfOne}, f_1^k \rightarrow \text{AmbidextrousSymbolicfOne}^k, t \rightarrow 2s \right\} \right);$$


```

```

ExpressionThatShouldBeZeroCoefficientsAfterSubstitutions =
CoefficientList[Collect[
$$\left( (\text{ExpressionThatShouldBeZero} // \text{TrigExpand}) /. \right.$$


$$\left. \left\{ \text{Cos}[s] \rightarrow u, \text{Sin}[s] \rightarrow \sqrt{1-u^2} \right\}, \sqrt{1-u^2} \right] /. \left\{ \sqrt{1-u^2} \rightarrow v, \{u, v\} \right\};$$


```

The next command should evaluate to an array of zeroes. The computation takes a couple of minutes.

```

ExpressionThatShouldBeZeroCoefficientsAfterSubstitutions // RootReduce
{{0, 0}, {0, 0}, {0, 0}, {0, 0}, {0, 0}, {0, 0}, {0, 0}}

```

13.6 The boundary segment σ_5

Next, we verify the algebraic relation $Q[X,Y]=0$ for the boundary segment σ_5 of the shape Σ , following a similar approach as the one used above for the boundary segment σ_4 . Again, evaluate the next two blocks of code. The second block should give an array of zeroes.

```

AnotherExpressionThatShouldBeZero =

```

$$\left(\begin{array}{l}
 \mathbf{R} \left[\text{Simplify} \left[\frac{\text{AmbidextrousBoundarySegment5}[[1]] - \kappa_{6,1}}{f_1 \sqrt{2 - \sqrt{2}} / 4} \right], \right. \\
 \left. \text{Simplify} \left[\frac{\text{AmbidextrousBoundarySegment5}[[2]] - \kappa_{6,2}}{f_1 \sqrt{2 - \sqrt{2}} / 4} \right] \right] /. \\
 \left. \left\{ f_1 \rightarrow \text{AmbidextrousSymbolicfOne}, f_1^k \rightarrow \text{AmbidextrousSymbolicfOne}^k, t \rightarrow 2s \right\} \right);$$

```

AnotherExpressionThatShouldBeZeroCoefficientsAfterSubstitutions =

```

$$\text{CoefficientList} \left[\text{Collect} \left[\left(\text{AnotherExpressionThatShouldBeZero // TrigExpand} \right) /. \left\{ \sqrt{1 - u^2} \rightarrow v \right\}, \{u, v\} \right];$$

The next command should evaluate to an array of zeroes. The computation takes a couple of minutes.

```

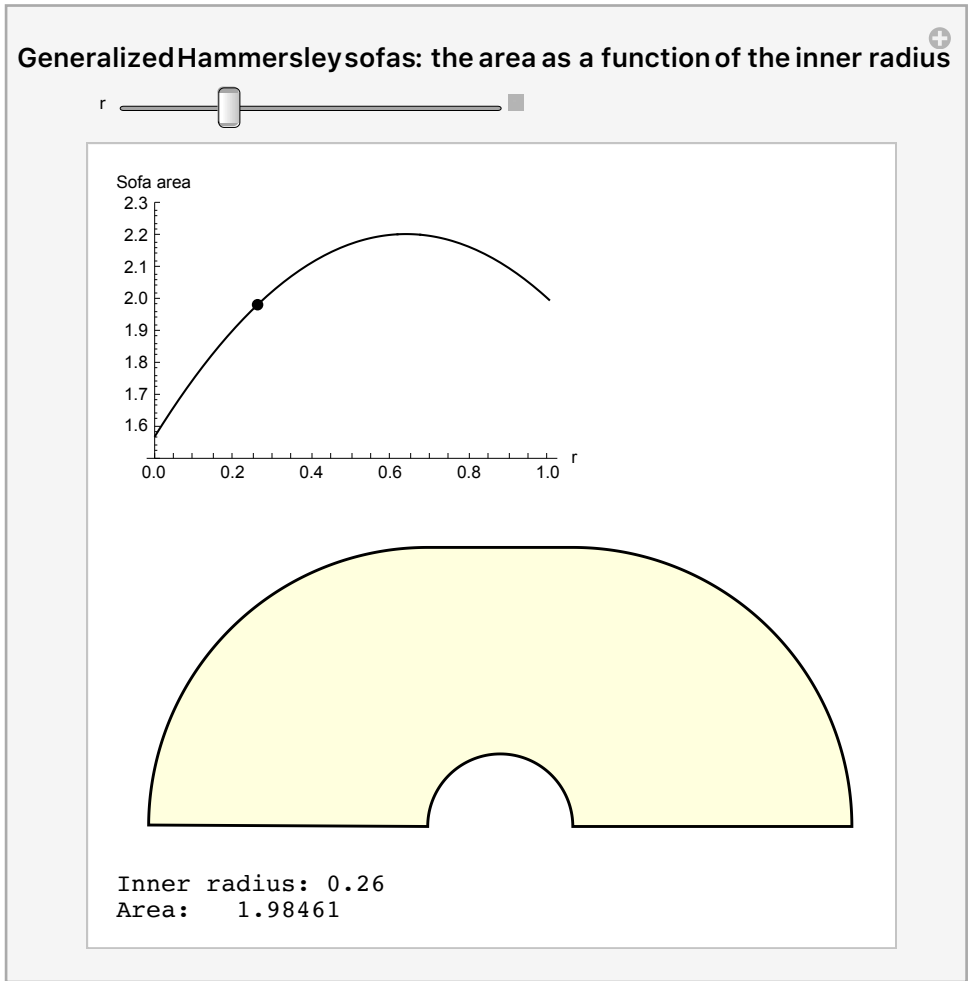
AnotherExpressionThatShouldBeZeroCoefficientsAfterSubstitutions // RootReduce
{{0, 0}, {0, 0}, {0, 0}, {0, 0}}

```

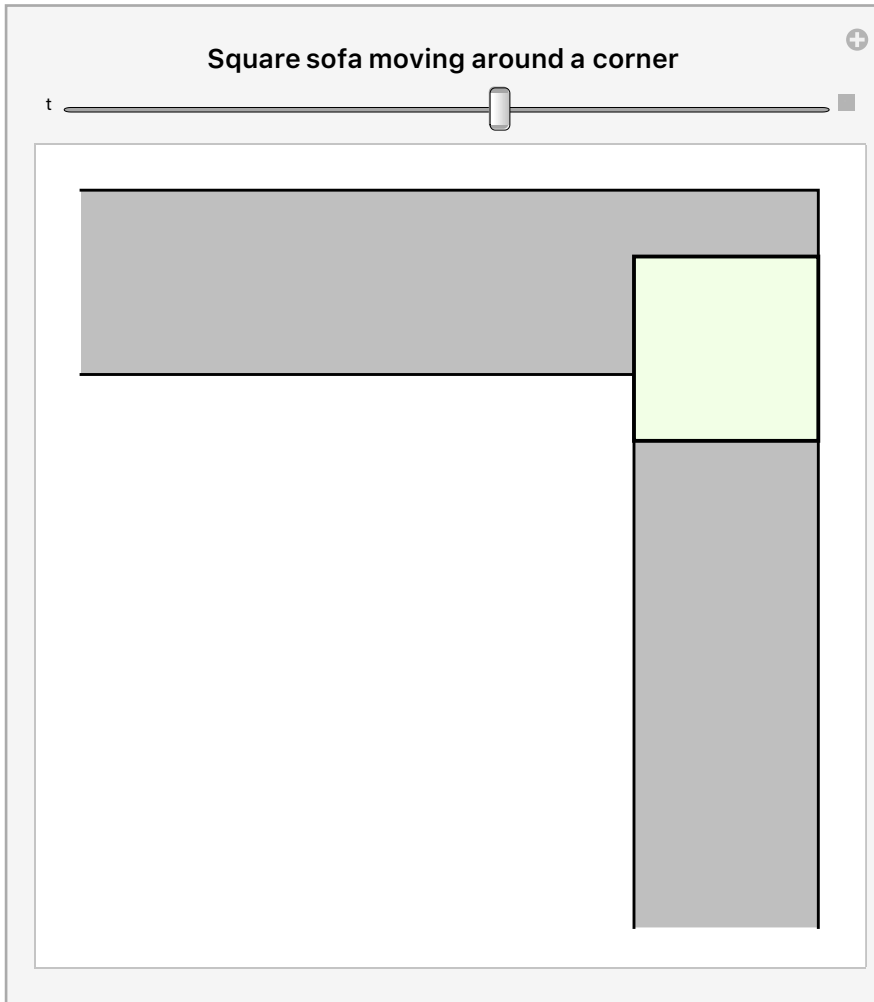
14. Some fun interactive visualizations

The understanding of the moving sofa problem can be greatly enhanced by the ability to easily visualize the different shapes appearing in the study of the problem, and the process of moving a shape around a corner. Here you can experiment with several interactive visualizations that help develop your intuition. Try running the commands below and experimenting with the sliders and other interactive controls.

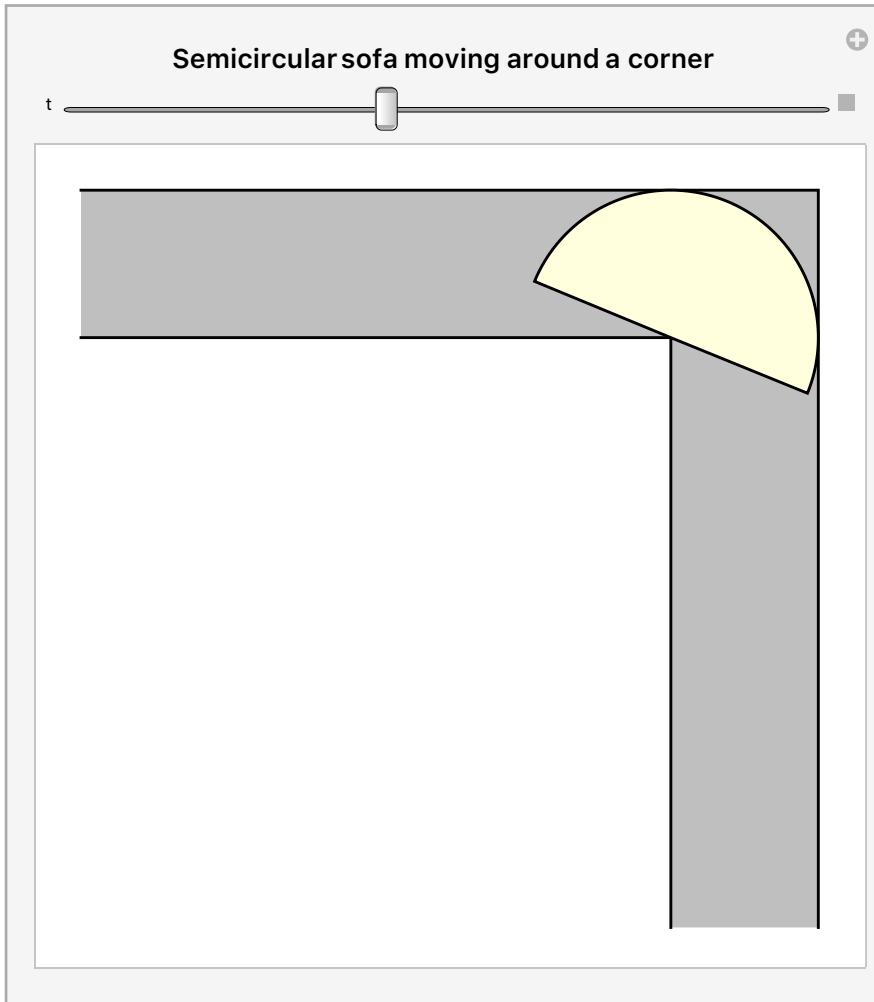
SofaVisualizationGeneralizedHammersleySofasAreas



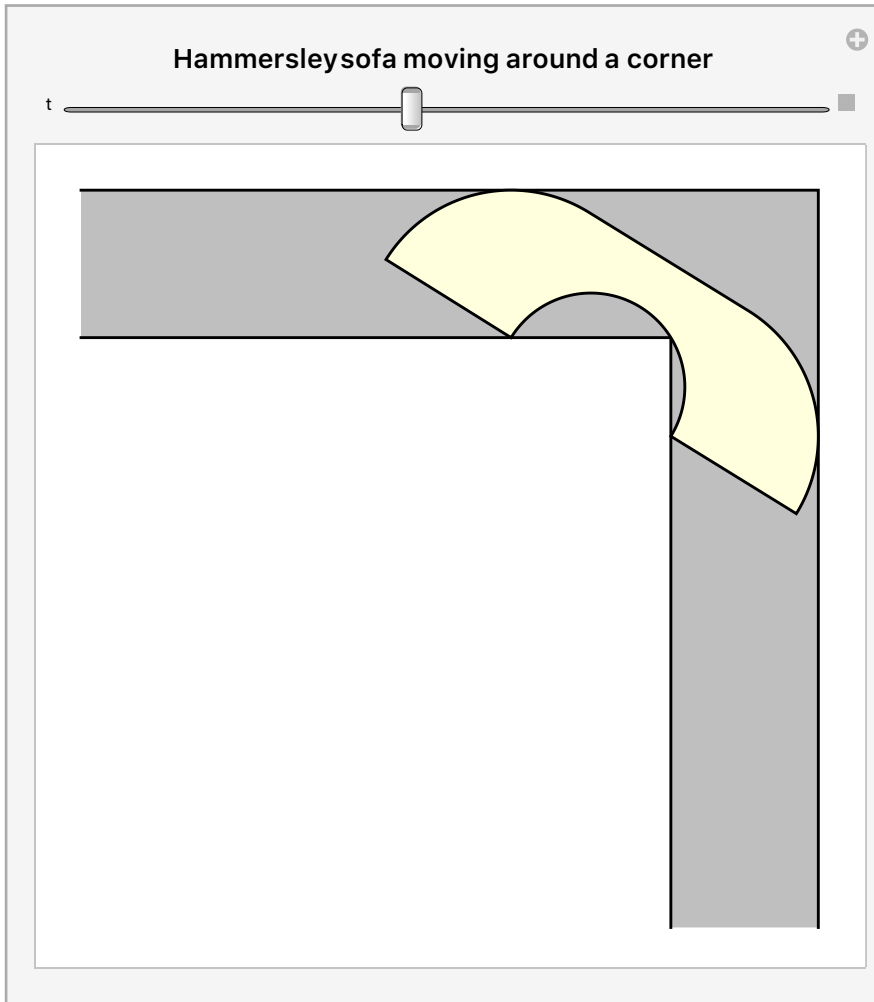
SofaVisualizationSquareSofaInHallway



SofaVisualizationSemicircularSofaInHallway



SofaVisualizationHammersleySofaInHallway



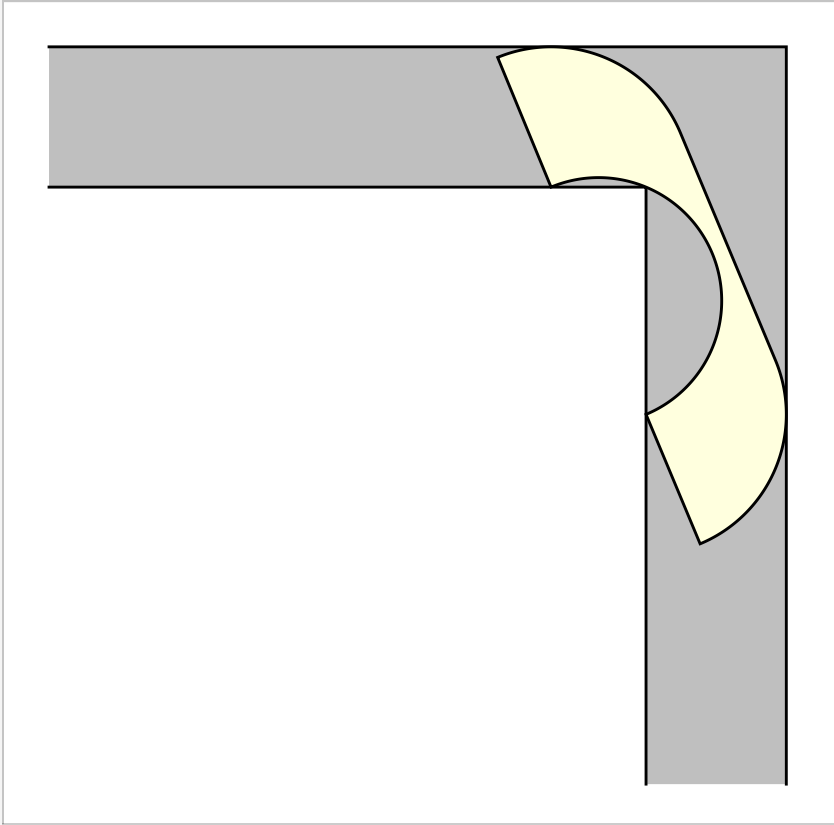
SofaVisualizationGeneralizedHammersleySofasInHallway

GeneralizedHammersleysofas moving around a corner +

r

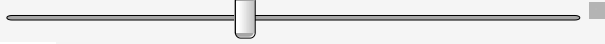
0.878 - ▶ + ⌵ ⌶ →

t



SofaVisualizationGerverSofaInHallway

Gerver's sofa moving around a corner +

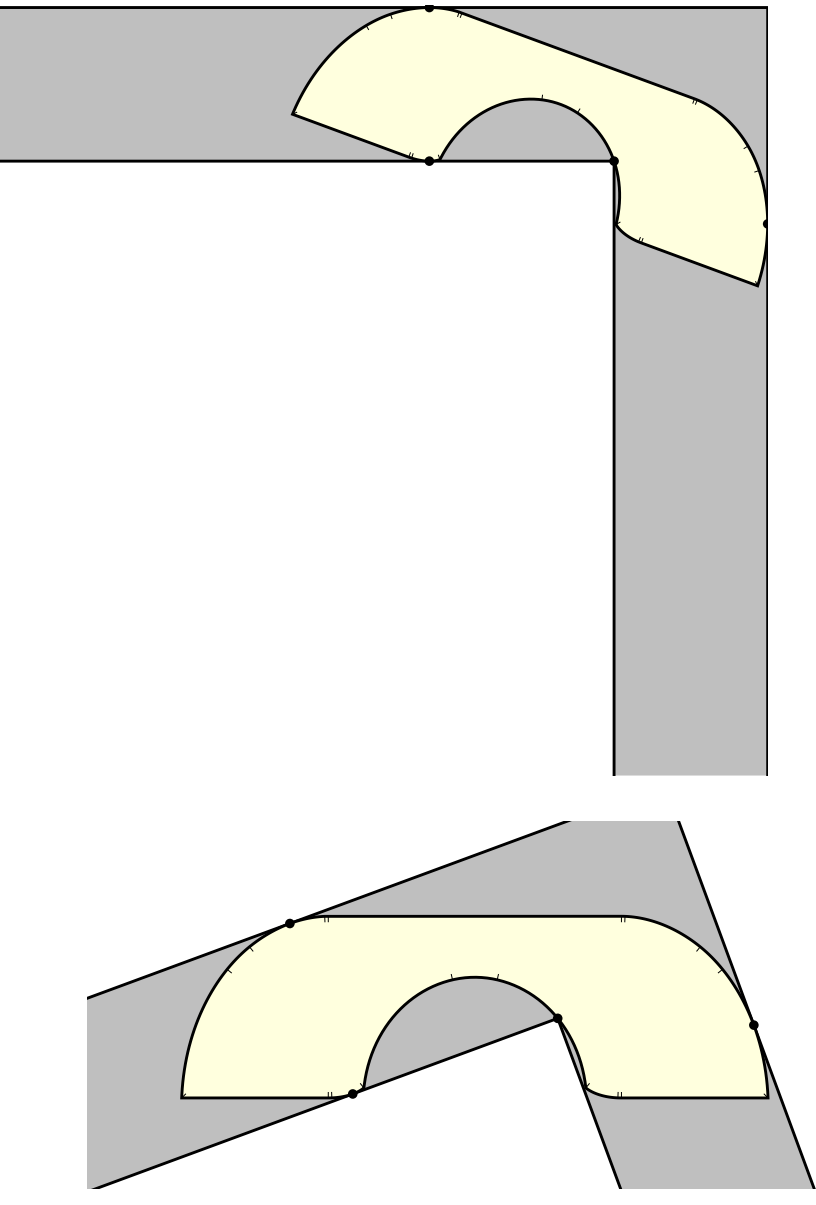
t 

Show contactpoints

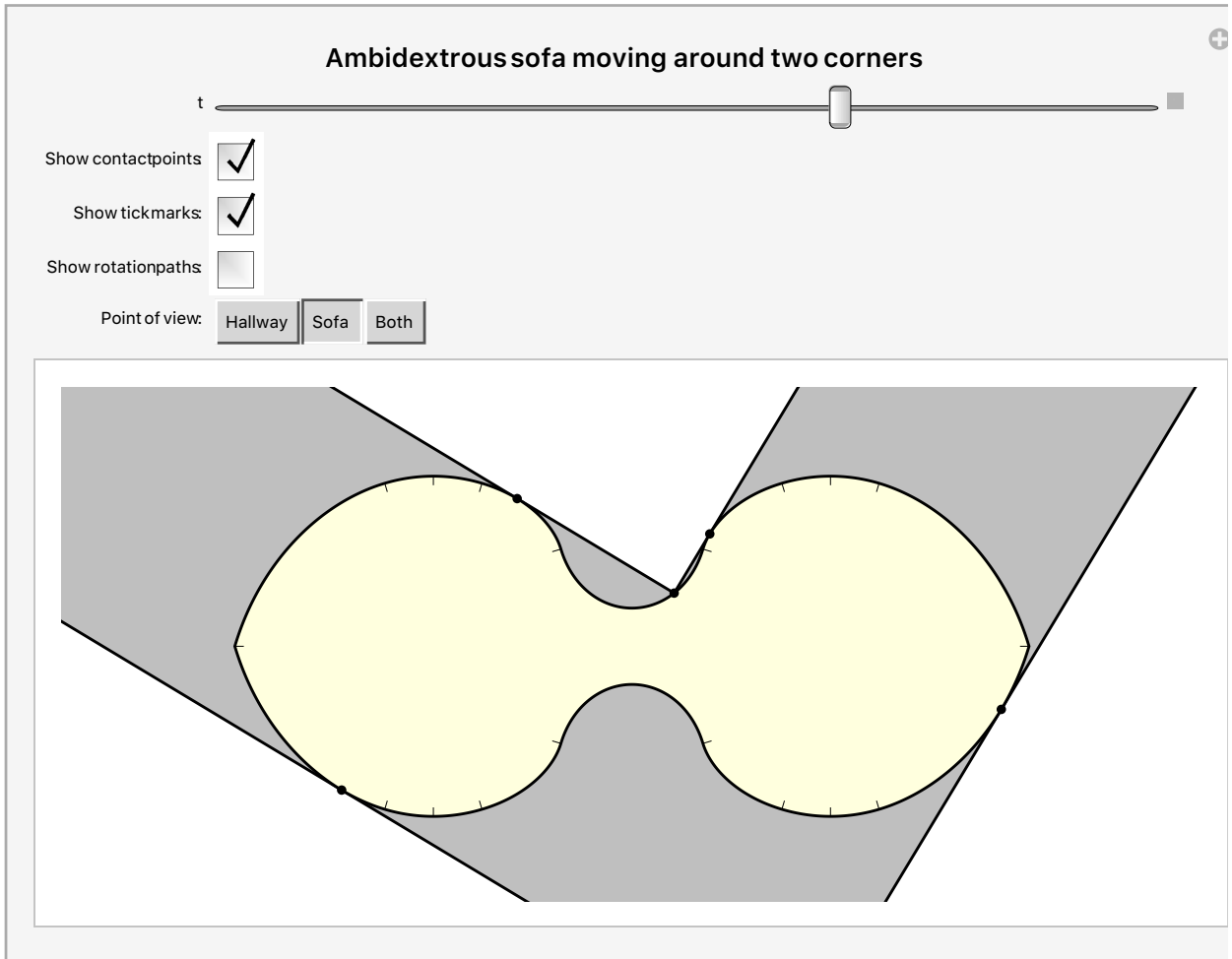
Show tickmarks

Show rotationpath

Point of view: Hallway Sofa Both



SofaVisualizationAmbidextrousSofaInHallway



If you haven't had enough, here is a single visualization combining the above visualizations of moving the various sofas around a corner:

SofaVisualizationsCombined

15. Package documentation

The initialization code in this package is functional and correct as far as I know, but has not been thoroughly polished and may violate some coding best practices (especially the last section with the figures and interactive visualizations) -- sorry. Here is a documentation of some of the main functions and symbols the package defines and how you can use them (of course, the main intended use is just running the code in Sections 2-13, which does not require understanding the initialization code definitions). Feel to modify, extend, or otherwise experiment with the code - for example, if you are writing a blog or paper about the moving sofa problem, you can use the code for my figures, change the colors, add or remove some graphic elements, etc., to generate your own figures and animations. (If you create such material, I'd love to see it, so feel free to email me about it! And if you are a student using my code or figures for an assignment or project, remember that you *must* cite this package as a source; not doing so constitutes plagiarism and is very likely to get you into trouble.)

$x_1[t_]$, $x_2[t_]$, $x_3[t_]$, $x_4[t_]$, $x_5[t_]$, $x_6[t_]$

The functions defined in Theorem 3 of the paper.

Try evaluating: $x_1[t]$

$\mu[t_]$, $\nu[t_]$

The basis vectors of a rotating orthonormal frame defined just before Theorem 1 in the paper.

Try evaluating: $\mu[t]$

$A_j[t_]$, $B_j[t_]$, $C_j[t_]$, $D_j[t_]$

The contact paths $A[t]$, $B[t]$, $C[t]$, $D[t]$, computed from the respective rotation path $x_j[t]$, i.e., $A_1[t]$ is calculated from $x_1[t]$ according to equation (9) in the paper.

Try evaluating: $C_4[t]$

$Gerverx[t_]$, $GerverA[t_]$, $GerverB[t_]$, $GerverC[t_]$, $GerverD[t_]$

$Gerverx[t]$ is the rotation path $x(t)$ associated with Gerver's sofa, defined in equation (25) in the paper. The remaining four functions are the contact paths associated with the same rotation path, obtained from it by substituting $Gerverx[t]$ into the right-hand side of equations (9)-(12).

Try evaluating: $GerverD[0]$ to get the coordinates of one of the interesting points on the boundary of the sofa.

$Ambix[t_]$, $AmbiA[t_]$, $AmbiB[t_]$, $AmbiC[t_]$, $AmbiD[t_]$

$Ambix[t]$ is the rotation path $x(t)$ associated with Gerver's sofa, defined in equation (47) in the paper. The remaining four functions are the contact paths associated with the same rotation path, obtained from it by substituting $Ambix[t]$ into the right-hand side of equations (9)-(12).

Try evaluating: $AmbiC[\pi/2]$ to get the coordinates of the left endpoint of the shape Σ .

GerverEquations

Equations (27)-(44) from the paper, the system of equations that need to be solved to get the numerical values of the parameters associated with Gerver's sofa. This definition is used in Sections 6-7 of this notebook.

AmbidextrousEquations

Equations (48)-(60) from the paper, the system of equations that need to be solved to get the numerical

values of the parameters associated with Gerver's sofa. This definition is used in Sections 9-10 of this notebook.

GerverAngle ϕ

GerverAngle θ

GerverPrecomputedNumericalArea

GerverPrecomputedNumericalConstants

These variables contain precomputed numerical values for the critical angles ϕ and θ and the remaining parameters associated with Gerver's sofa. Useful for doing numerical computations, creating graphics of the sofa, etc.

AmbidextrousAngle β

AmbidextrousPrecomputedNumericalConstants

These variables contain precomputed numerical values for the critical angle β and the remaining parameters associated with the ambidextrous sofa shape Σ .

AmbidextrousSymbolicBeta

AmbidextrousSymbolicBetaAlternative

AmbidextrousSymbolicTanBeta

AmbidextrousSymbolicCosineBeta

AmbidextrousSymbolicCosineBetaOverTwo

AmbidextrousSymbolicSineBetaOverTwo

AmbidextrousSymbolicaOne

AmbidextrousSymbolicKappaOneOne

AmbidextrousSymbolicKappaSixOne

AmbidextrousSymbolicKappaFiveOne

AmbidextrousSymbolicfOne

AmbidextrousSymbolicfTwo

AmbidextrousSymbolicAreaMinusBeta

AmbidextrousSymbolicArea

AmbidextrousSymbolicaSofaLength

These variables contain closed form algebraic formulas the parameters associated with the ambidextrous sofa shape Σ .

GerverxNumerical[t_]

GerverANumerical[t_]

GerverBNumerical[t_]

GerverCNumerical[t_]

GerverDNumerical[t_]

These functions are like *Gerverx*[t], *GerverA*[t], etc., except that the symbolic references to the parameters of Gerver's sofa are substituted with their numerically computed values. Again useful for computations and graphics.

AmbixNumerical[t_]

AmbiANumerical[t_]

AmbiBNumerical[t_]

AmbiCNumerical[t_]

AmbiDNumerical[t_]

These functions are like `Ambix[t]`, `AmbiA[t]`, etc., except that the symbolic references to the parameters of the shape Σ are substituted with their numerically computed values.

SofaDefaultNumSubdivisionPoints
SofaDefaultFillingColor
SofaHallwayDefaultFillingColor
SquareSofaDefaultFillingColor
SemicircleSofaDefaultFillingColor
HammersleySofaDefaultFillingColor
GerverSofaDefaultFillingColor
AmbidextrousSofaDefaultFillingColor

Definitions related to plotting graphics of various sofa shapes. For example, change the definition of `SofaDefaultFillingColor` (globally, or locally through a `ReplaceAll[...]` substitution) to create figures where the sofa interior is a different color.

SofaHallway[armlength_]
SofaHallwayTwoCorners[armlength_]

These functions return graphics primitives for plotting a hallway with either one or two right-angled corners.

Try evaluating: `Graphics[SofaHallway[3]]`

SquareSofa
SemicircleSofa
SemicircleSofaRotationPath
HammersleyGeneralizedSofa[innerradius_]
HammersleySofa
GerverSofa
AmbidextrousSofa

OneSidedAmbidextrousSofa
OneSidedAmbidextrousSofaWithReflection

These variables contain graphics primitives for plotting the different kinds of sofa shapes described in the paper.

Try evaluating:

`Graphics[SemicircleSofa]`
`Graphics[{HammersleyGeneralizedSofa[0.3], SofaHallway[3]]}`

etc.

GerverSofaRotationPathDashedSegments
GerverSofaNormalTickMarks
AmbidextrousSofaRotationPathDashedSegments
AmbidextrousSofaNormalTickMarks

Variables that contain graphics primitives for interesting features associated with Gerver's sofa and the shape Σ .

Try evaluating: `Graphics[{AmbidextrousSofa, AmbidextrousSofaNormalTickMarks}]`

SofaPaperFigureSquareSemicircle
SofaPaperFigureGerverSofaWithTicks
SofaPaperFigureAmbidextrousSofaWithTicks

SofaPaperFigureOneSidedAmbidextrousSofaWithReflection
SofaPaperContactPathsFigure
SofaPaperRotationPathFigure
SofaPaperFigureHammersleySofa
 Figures I created for the paper.

SofaVisualizationGeneralizedHammersleySofasAreas
SofaVisualizationSquareSofaInHallway
SofaVisualizationSemicircularSofaInHallway
SofaVisualizationHammersleySofaInHallway
SofaVisualizationGeneralizedHammersleySofasInHallway
SofaVisualizationGerverSofaInHallway
SofaVisualizationAmbidextrousSofaInHallway
SofaVisualizationsCombined
 The interactive visualizations (see Section 14).

16. Change log

- Version 1.0: released June 26, 2016
 - Initial version
- Version 1.1: released June 28, 2016
 - Added code in Section 10 to verify that $\kappa_{5,2} = \kappa_{6,2} = 0$
- Version 1.2: released July 6, 2016
 - Added new interactive graphics visualizations *SofaVisualizationSquareSofaInHallway*, *SofaVisualizationSemicircularSofaInHallway*, *SofaVisualizationHammersleySofaInHallway*, and an “ultimate” visualization *SofaVisualizationsCombined* that combines the various different visualizations of sofas moving around a corner.
 - Added a new section, Section 13, in which an automated verification is given for the new claims that were added in the updated version of the paper about segments of the boundary of the shape Σ lying on algebraic curves of degree 6.
- Version 1.3: released July 10, 2016
 - Simplified the definitions of the constants $\gamma_1, \gamma_2, \gamma_3, \gamma_4, \gamma_5, \alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3, \alpha_4$ and the polynomials $P[X,Y], Q[X,Y], R[X,Y]$ in Section 13.