

COL781: Computer Graphics

# 32. Mass-Spring Systems

# Assignment 4 notes

Late days increased to 6

Starter code provided to support deforming meshes (for cloth simulation):  
<https://git.iitd.ac.in/col781-2302/a4>

# Time integration recap

$$\frac{d}{dt} y(t) = \phi(y(t), t)$$

Forward Euler:

$$y_{n+1} = y_n + \phi(y_n, t_n) \Delta t$$

Backward Euler:

$$y_{n+1} \approx y_n + \phi(y_{n+1}, t_{n+1}) \Delta t$$

For finite  $\Delta t$ , these obviously have some approximation error. How much?

Taylor series:

$$y(t) = y(0) + y'(0) t + \frac{1}{2} y''(0) t^2 + \dots$$

In forward Euler, we approximate  $y(\Delta t) \approx y(0) + y'(0) \Delta t$ .

- Error per time step: **local truncation error** =  $O(\Delta t^2)$

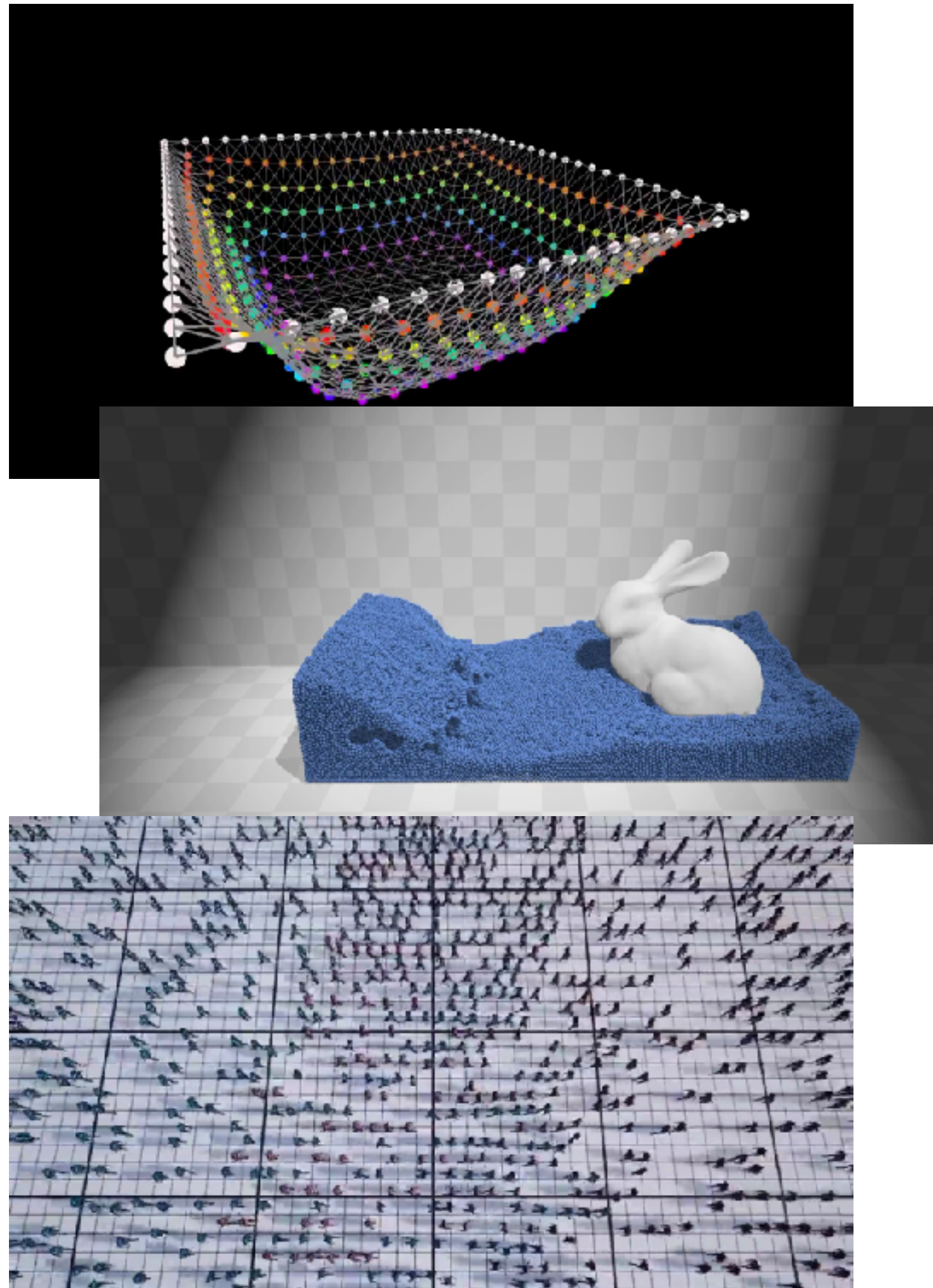
To reach time  $t$ , we will need  $t/\Delta t$  steps

- Total error in  $y(t)$ : **global truncation error**  $\approx t/\Delta t O(\Delta t^2) = O(\Delta t)$

So we say forward Euler is **first-order accurate**. Same is true for backward Euler!

Schemes with higher-order accuracy: trapezoid, midpoint (2nd order), RK4 (4th order), ...

How to apply all this to systems of interacting particles?



Forward and semi-implicit Euler are easy:

- For each particle  $i$ , compute total force  $\mathbf{f}_i^n$
- For each particle  $i$ , compute new state

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{v}_i^{n+1} &= \mathbf{v}_i^n + m_i^{-1} \mathbf{f}_i^n \Delta t \\ \mathbf{x}_i^{n+1} &= \mathbf{x}_i^n + \mathbf{v}_i^n \Delta t\end{aligned}$$

A bit inconvenient to analyze mathematically:  
Each  $\mathbf{f}_i$  could depend on  $\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{x}_2, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots$

Not clear how to do backward Euler!

Simpler with generalized coordinates:

$$\mathbf{q} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_1 \\ \mathbf{x}_2 \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{x}_n \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{v} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{v}_1 \\ \mathbf{v}_2 \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{v}_n \end{bmatrix}$$

Then

$$\frac{d^2\mathbf{q}(t)}{dt^2} = \begin{bmatrix} m_1^{-1}\mathbf{f}_1(t, \mathbf{q}, \mathbf{v}) \\ m_2^{-1}\mathbf{f}_2(t, \mathbf{q}, \mathbf{v}) \\ \vdots \\ m_n^{-1}\mathbf{f}_n(t, \mathbf{q}, \mathbf{v}) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} m_1\mathbf{I} & & & \\ & m_2\mathbf{I} & & \\ & & \ddots & \\ & & & m_n\mathbf{I} \end{bmatrix}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{f}_1(t, \mathbf{q}, \mathbf{v}) \\ \mathbf{f}_2(t, \mathbf{q}, \mathbf{v}) \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{f}_n(t, \mathbf{q}, \mathbf{v}) \end{bmatrix}$$

Now we're solving for the evolution of a **single** (though  $3n$ -dimensional!) vector

# Example: A small mass-spring system

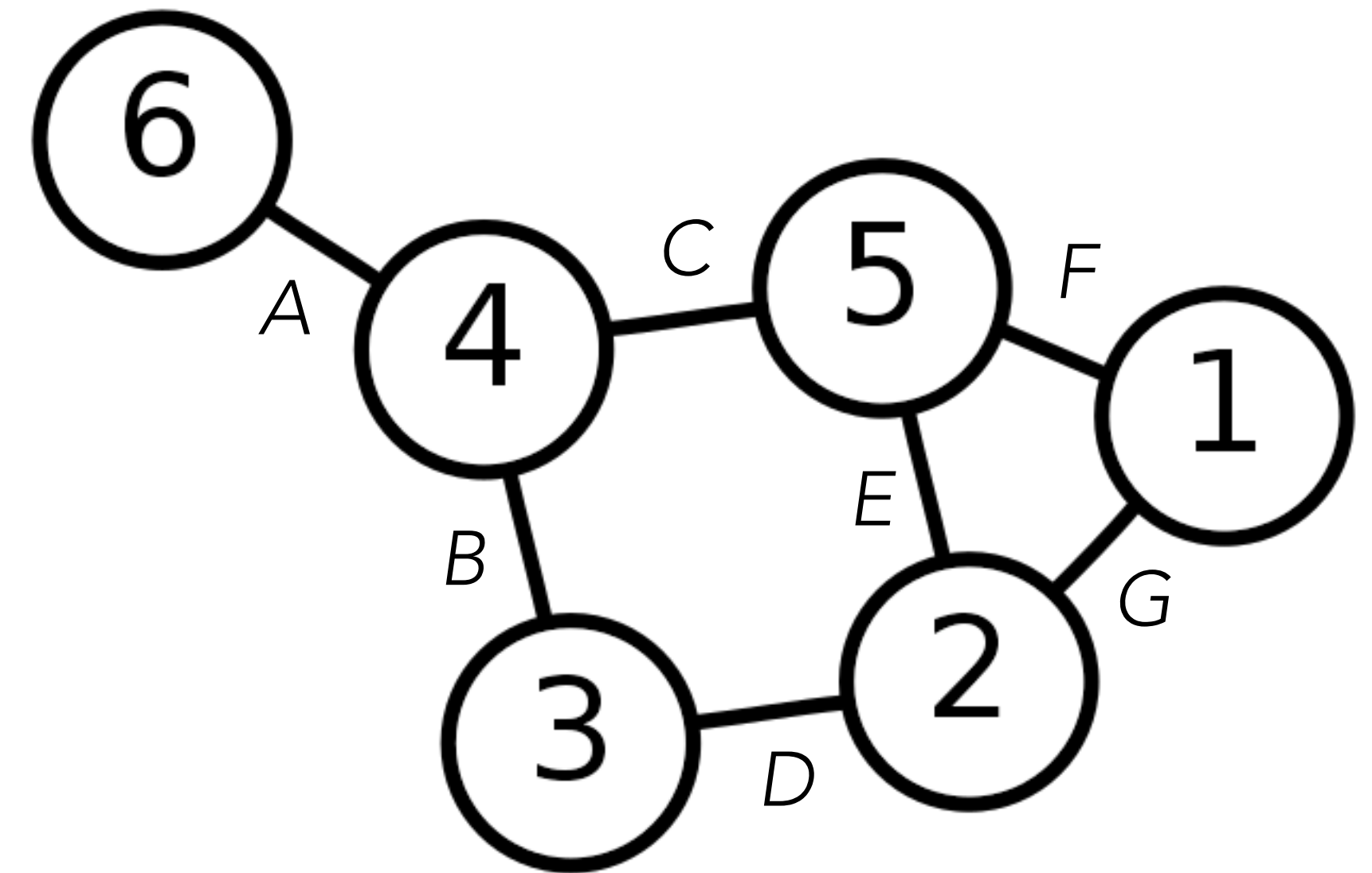
$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{f}_1(t, \mathbf{q}, \mathbf{v}) \\ \mathbf{f}_2(t, \mathbf{q}, \mathbf{v}) \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{f}_6(t, \mathbf{q}, \mathbf{v}) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{f}_{1F} + \mathbf{f}_{1G} \\ \mathbf{f}_{2D} + \mathbf{f}_{2E} + \mathbf{f}_{2G} \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{f}_{6A} \end{bmatrix}$$

Force due to spring  $D$ :

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \mathbf{f}_{2D} \\ \mathbf{f}_{3D} \\ 0 \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix}$$

(of course,  $\mathbf{f}_{2D} = -\mathbf{f}_{3D}$ )

Total force on system =  $\sum$  force due to each spring



Per-particle formulation:

$$\frac{d^2 \mathbf{x}_i(t)}{dt^2} = m_i^{-1} \mathbf{f}_i(t, \dots) \quad \forall i = 1, 2, \dots$$

↓

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{v}_i^{n+1} &= \mathbf{v}_i^n + m_i^{-1} \mathbf{f}_i(t, \dots) \Delta t \quad \forall i = 1, 2, \dots \\ \mathbf{x}_i^{n+1} &= \mathbf{x}_i^n + \mathbf{v}_i^n \Delta t \quad \forall i = 1, 2, \dots \end{aligned}$$

Careful not to update  $\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{v}_1$  before computing  $\mathbf{f}_2$ , in case it depends on them

Generalized coordinates:

$$\frac{d^2 \mathbf{q}(t)}{dt^2} = \mathbf{M}^{-1} \mathbf{f}(t, \mathbf{q}, \mathbf{v})$$

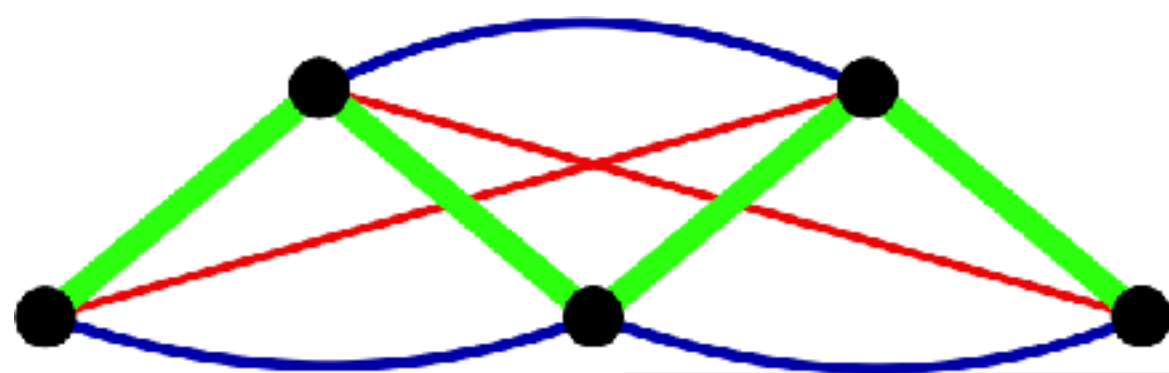
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$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{v}^{n+1} &= \mathbf{v}^n + \mathbf{M}^{-1} \mathbf{f}(t, \mathbf{q}, \mathbf{v}) \Delta t \\ \mathbf{q}^{n+1} &= \mathbf{q}^n + \mathbf{v}^n \Delta t \end{aligned}$$

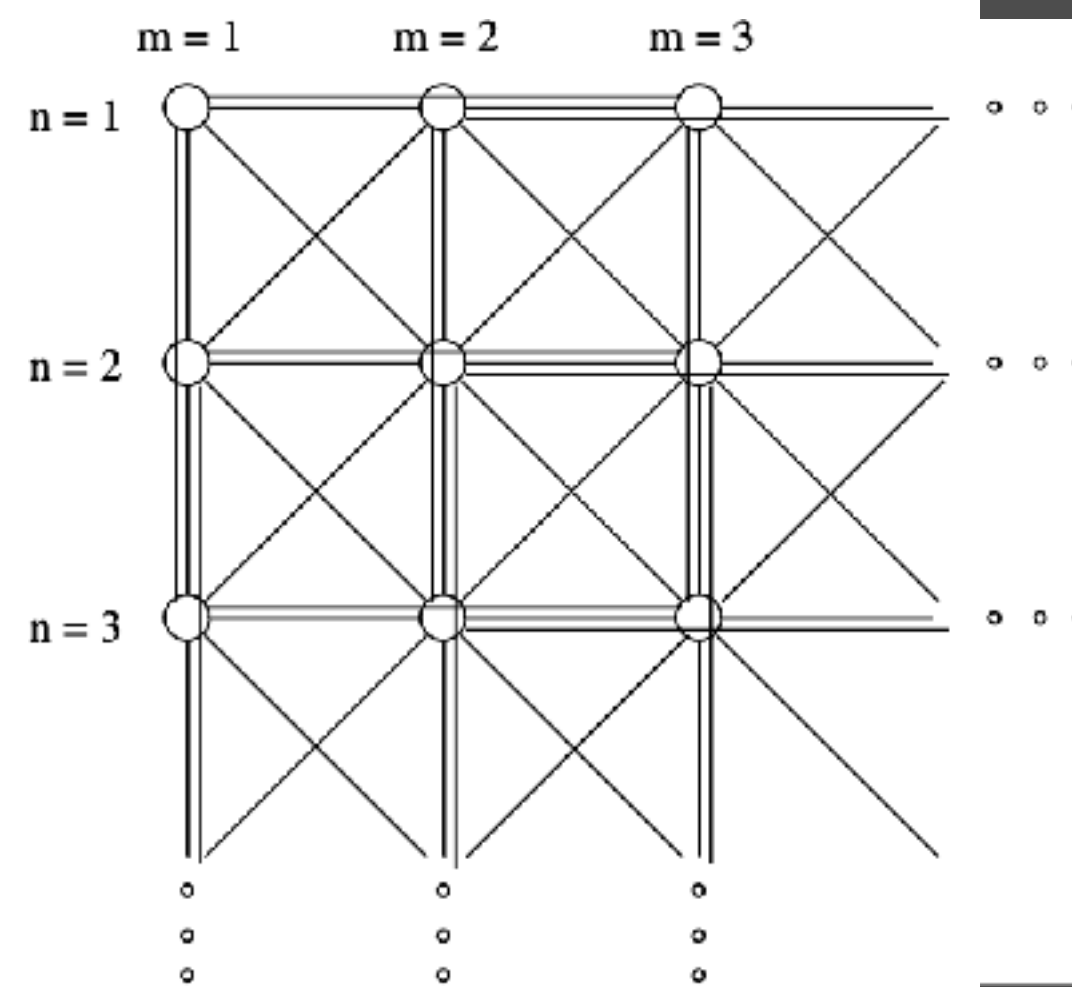
Simple! And generalizes to other things (e.g. rigid bodies) with few changes



# Mass-spring systems



Selle et al. 2008



Choi & Ko 2002

Recall springs in 1 dimension from physics classes.

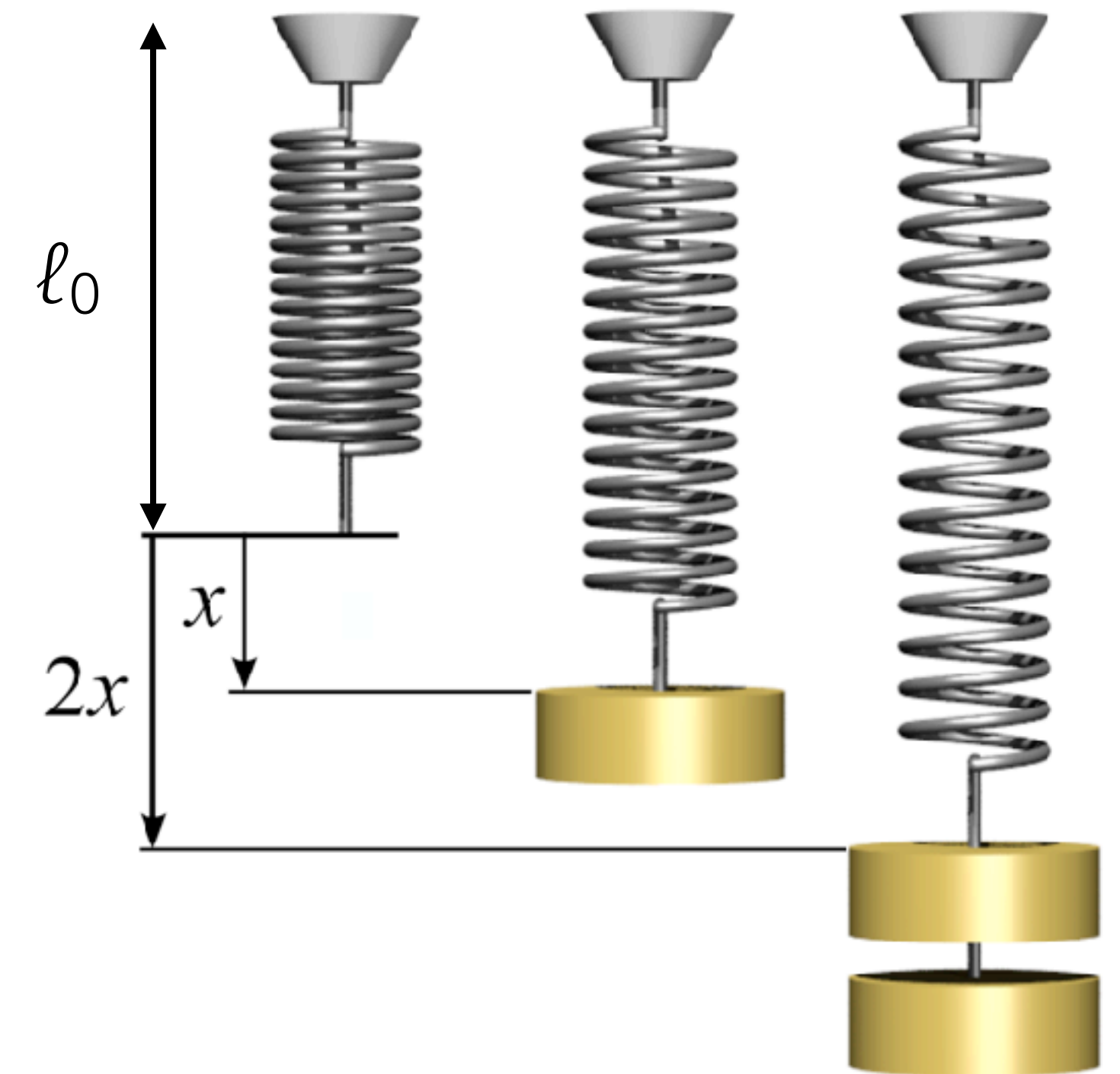
**Hooke's law:** force is proportional to displacement

$$F = -k x = -k (\ell - \ell_0)$$

Potential energy:

$$U = \frac{1}{2} k (\ell - \ell_0)^2$$

In fact  $F = -dU/d\ell$



In 3D, suppose a spring connects particles  $i$  and  $j$ . What should be the force  $\mathbf{f}_{ij}$  on  $i$  due to  $j$ ?

Let's first define the potential:

$$U = \frac{1}{2} k (\|\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_j\| - \ell_0)^2$$



Then  $\mathbf{f}_{ij} = -\partial U / \partial \mathbf{x}_i \Rightarrow$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{f}_{ij} &= -k (\|\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_j\| - \ell_0) \frac{\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_j}{\|\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_j\|} \\ &= -k (\|\mathbf{x}_{ij}\| - \ell_0) \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{ij} \end{aligned}$$

Similarly  $\mathbf{f}_{ji} = -\partial U / \partial \mathbf{x}_j$  (but it's also just  $-\mathbf{f}_{ij}$ )

**Exercise:** Derive this expression from  $-\partial U / \partial \mathbf{x}_i$ . Optional: Look up multivariable calculus identities, chain rule, etc. so you don't have to differentiate componentwise.

Problem: Real springs dissipate energy and don't keep oscillating forever!

**Bad idea:** Just add a force that opposes all velocities

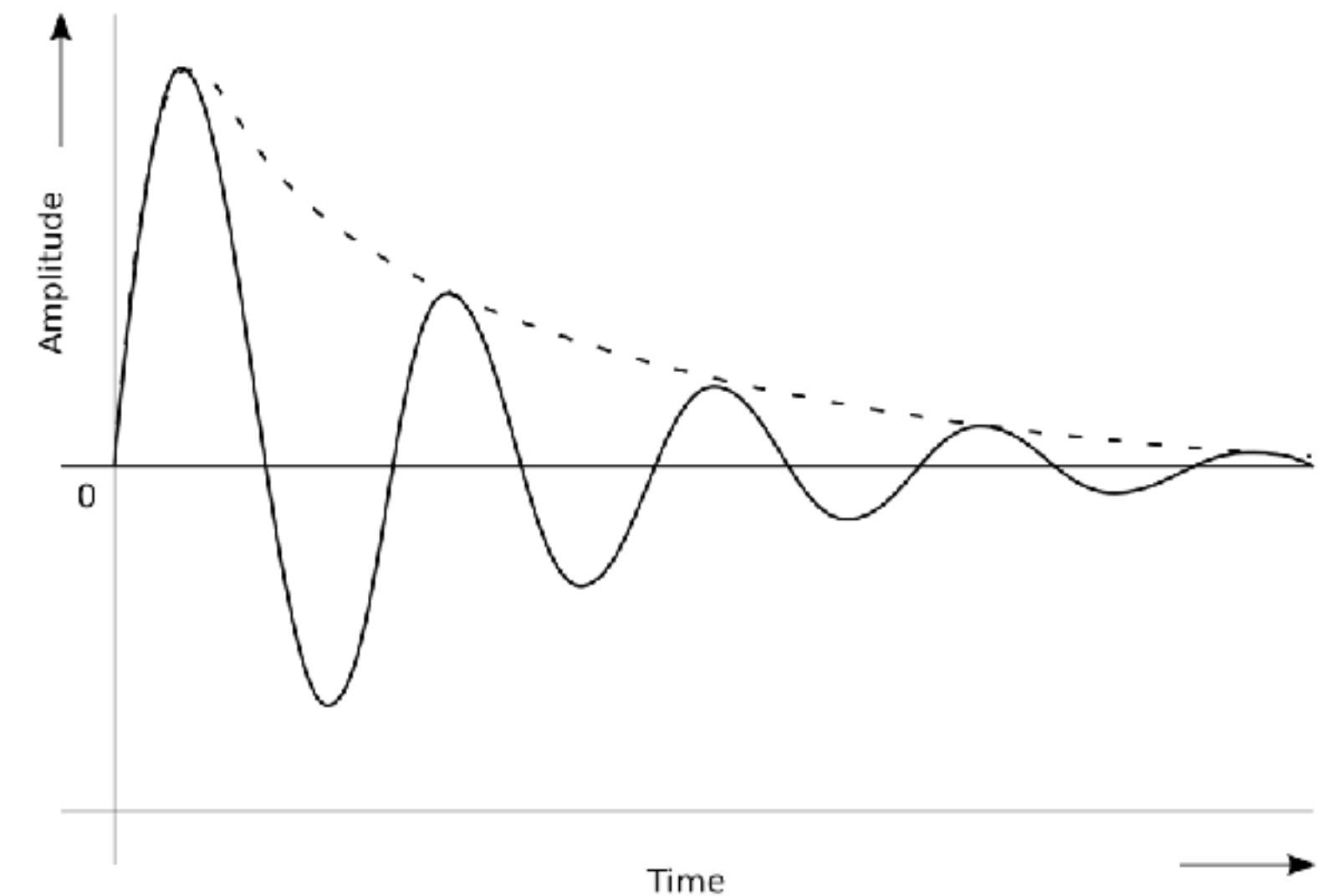
$$\mathbf{f}_i = -k_d \mathbf{v}_i$$

Sometimes called “**ether drag**”

- Particles look like they're suspended in a viscous medium
- Should a rusty spring fall slower than a clean spring?

**Good idea:** Only oppose **relative** velocities **along** the spring

$$\mathbf{f}_{ij} = -k_d (\mathbf{v}_{ij} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{ij}) \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{ij}$$



Force due to a spring, finally:

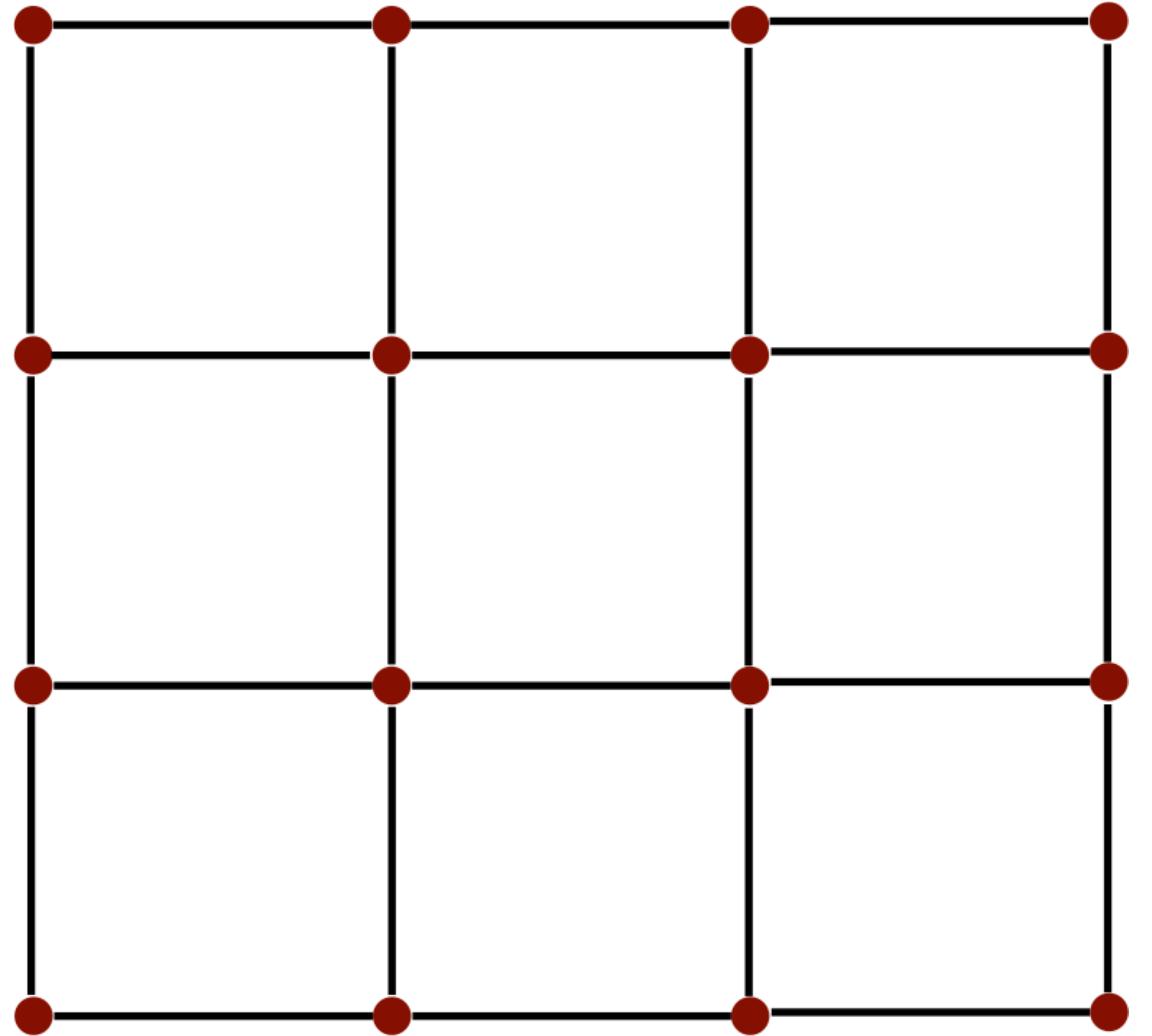
$$\mathbf{f}_{ij} = -k_s (\|\mathbf{x}_{ij}\| - \ell_0) \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{ij} - k_d (\mathbf{v}_{ij} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{ij}) \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{ij}$$

where

- Spring constant  $k_s \geq 0$
- Damping constant  $k_d \geq 0$

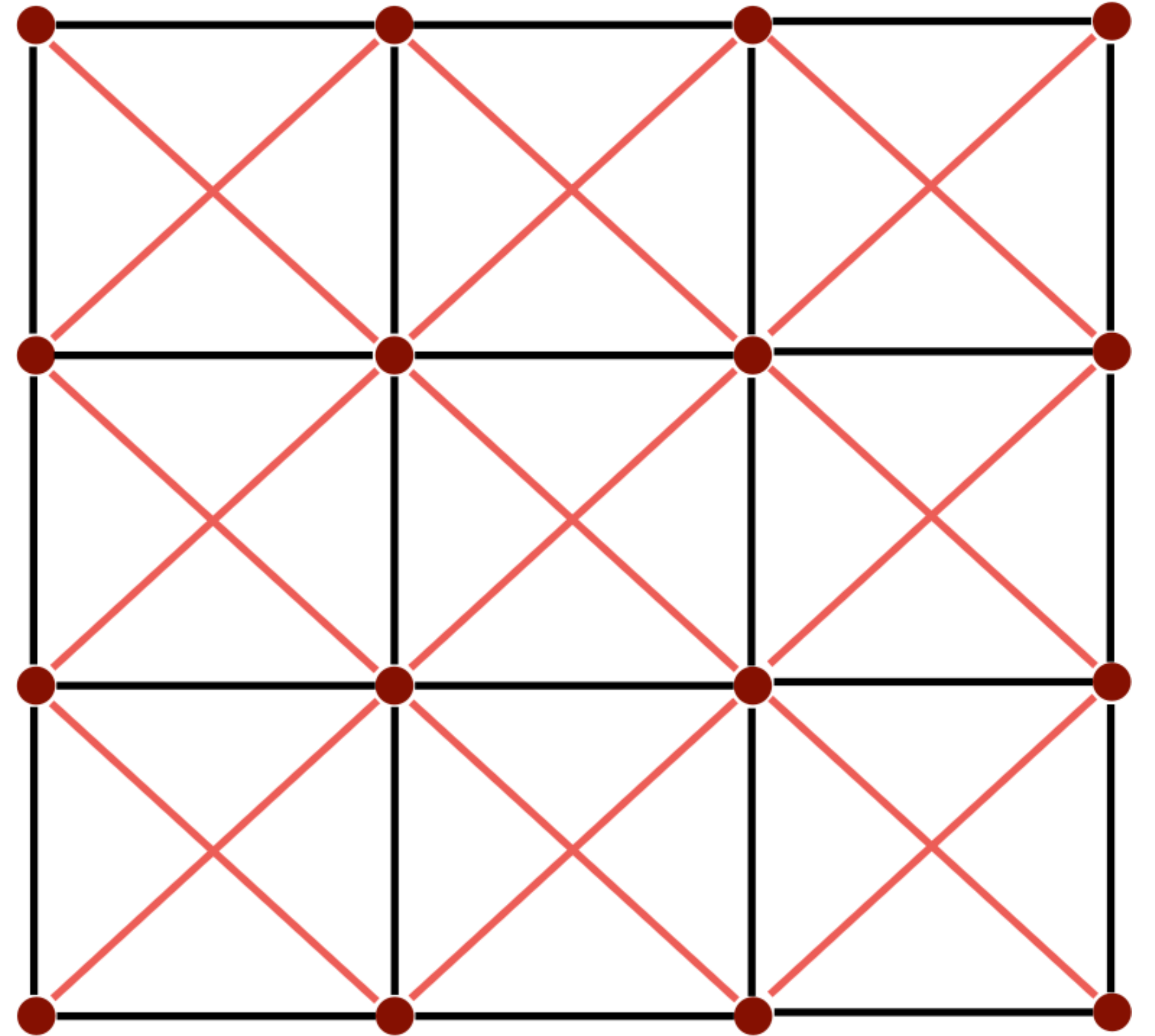
How to model a rectangular sheet of cloth?

- Structural springs



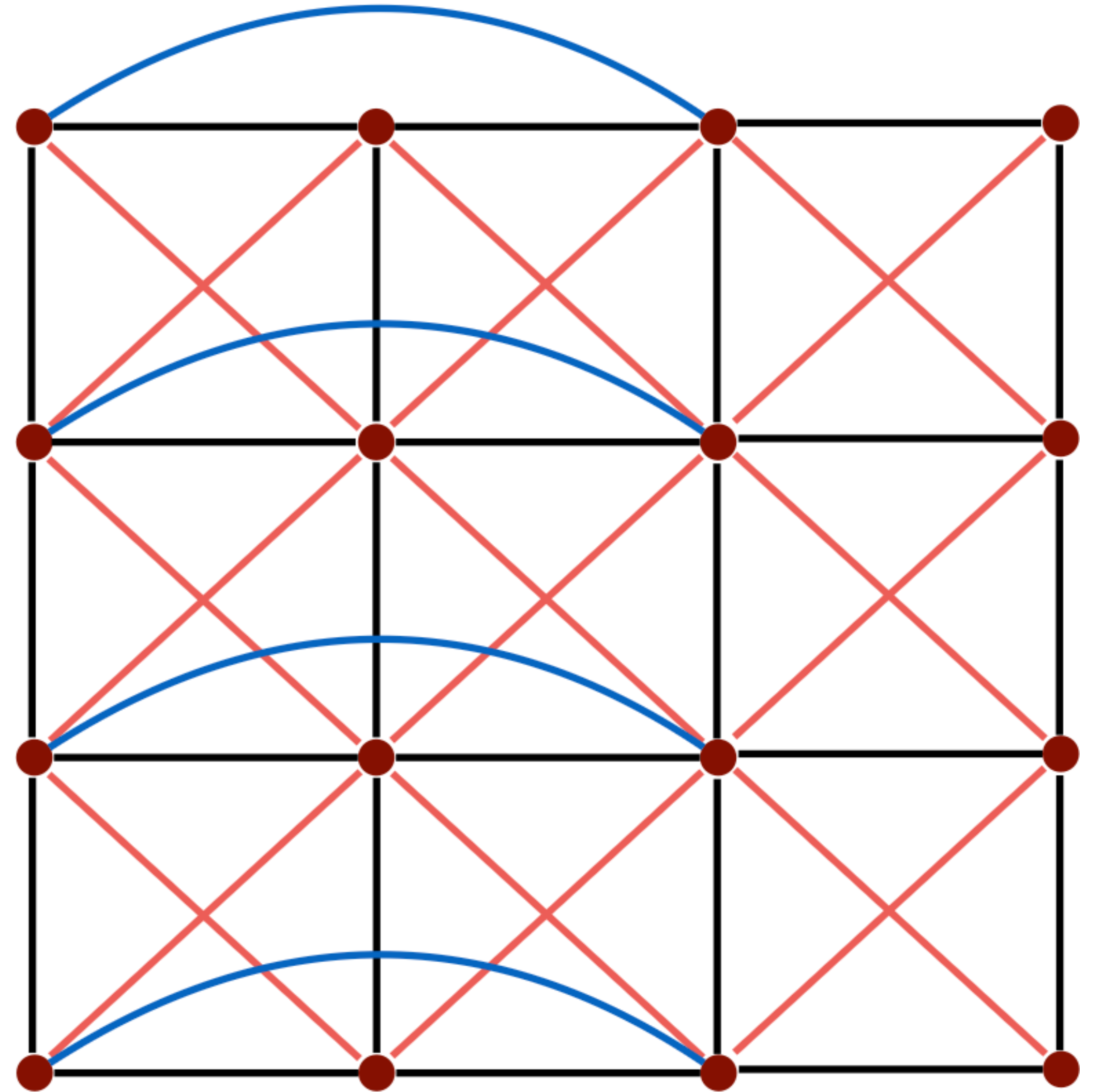
How to model a rectangular sheet of cloth?

- Structural springs
- Shear springs



How to model a rectangular sheet of cloth?

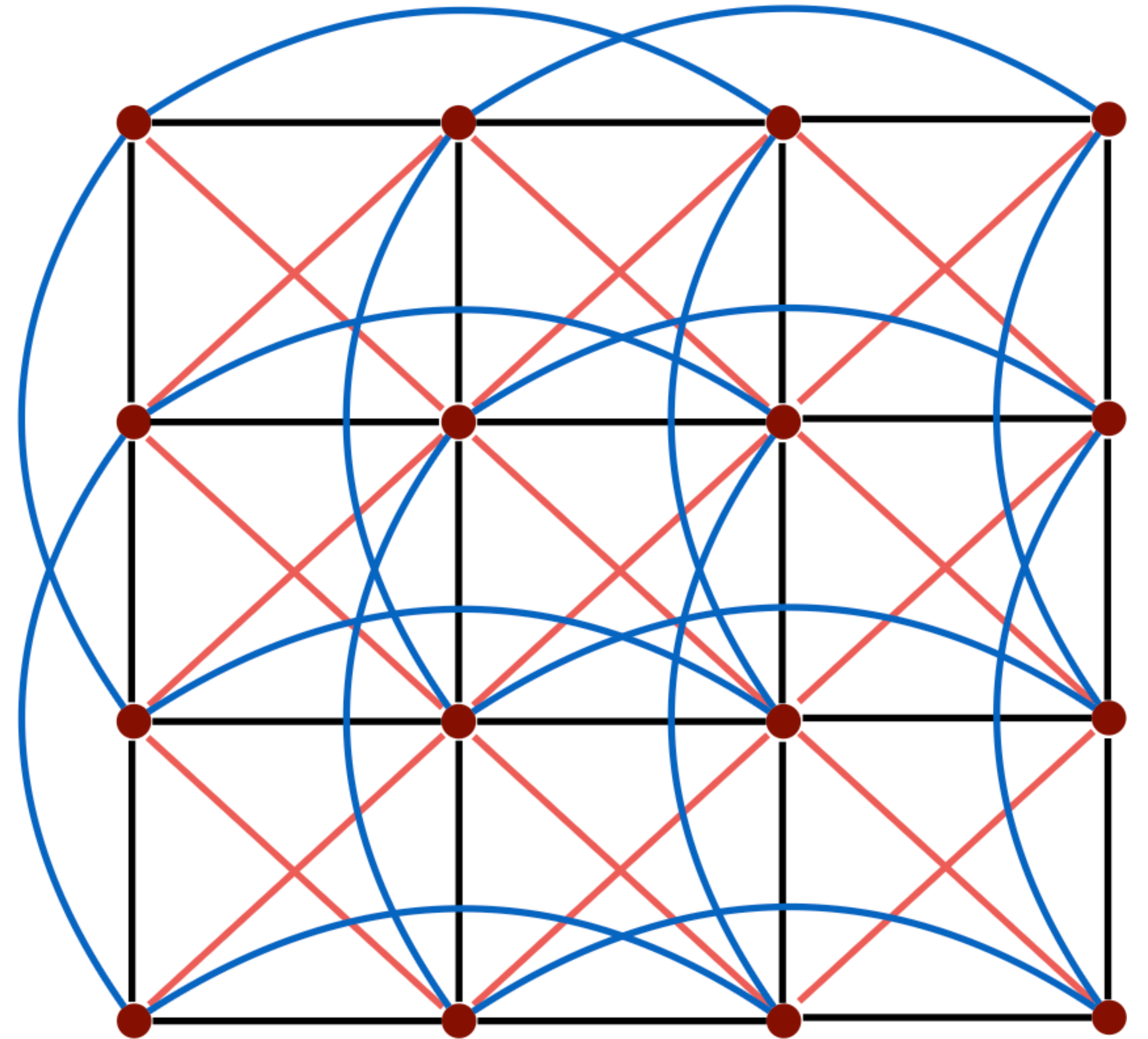
- Structural springs
- Shear springs
- Bending springs





How to model a rectangular sheet of cloth?

- Structural springs
- Shear springs
- Bending springs



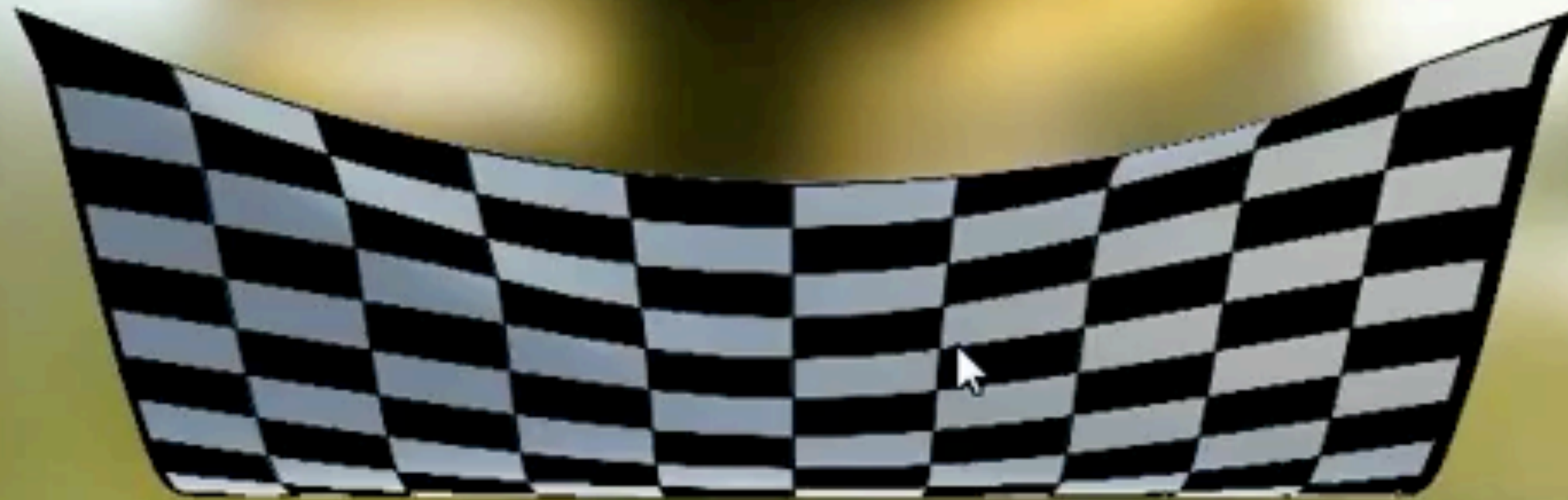
# CLOTH



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L4oFuXovsrM>

**NEGATIVE EXAMPLE: NO SHEAR AND BEND SPRINGS**

# CLOTH



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RMqgajfZSvY>

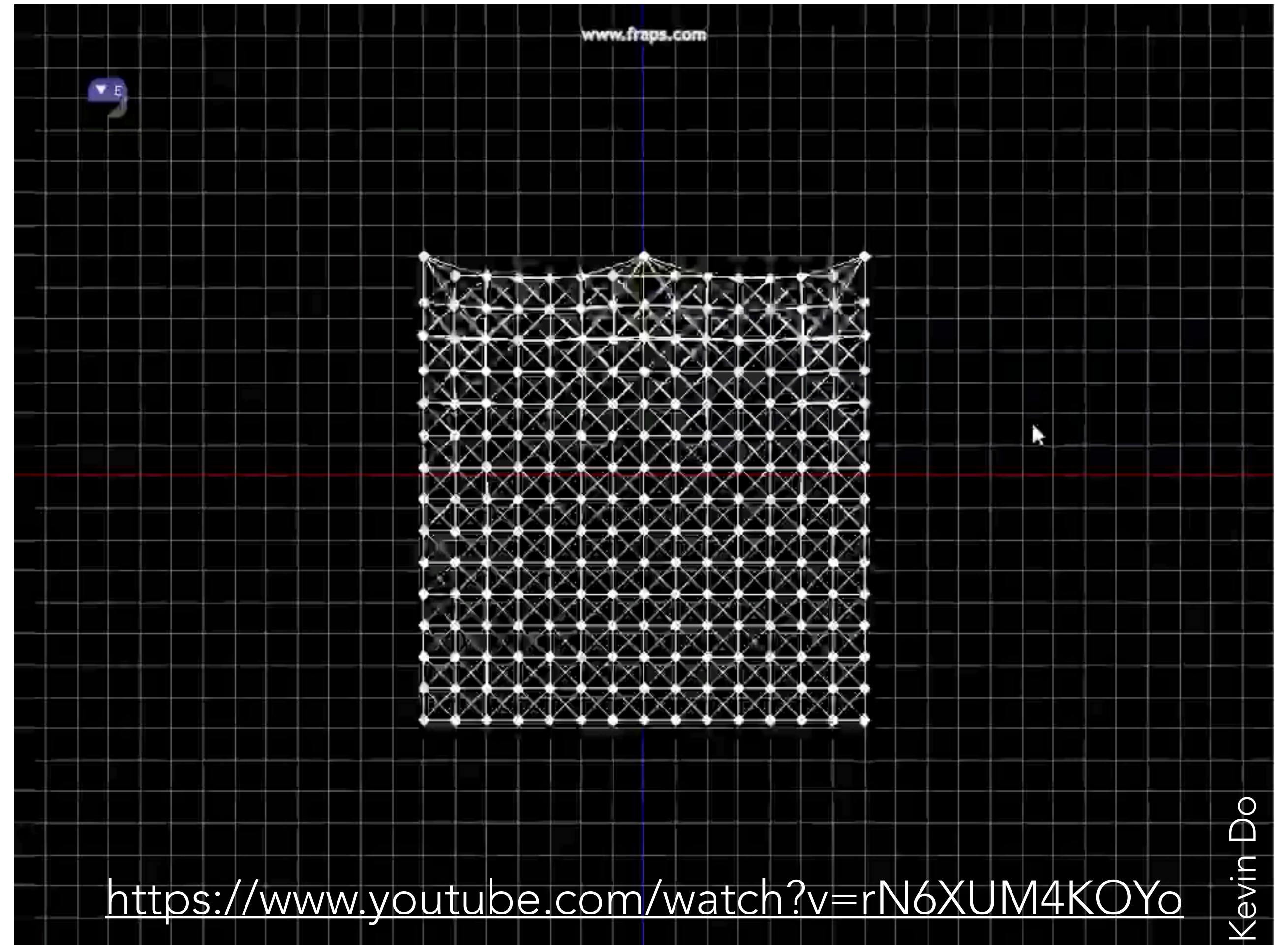
**NEGATIVE EXAMPLE: NO BEND SPRINGS**

# CLOTH



Here's what instability looks like for a mass-spring system:

To avoid this, let's talk about how to do backward Euler time stepping.



Recall: backward Euler gives us a system of equations in the unknown next state  $(\mathbf{q}_{n+1}, \mathbf{v}_{n+1})$

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{q}_{n+1} &= \mathbf{q}_n + \mathbf{v}_{n+1} \Delta t \\ \mathbf{v}_{n+1} &= \mathbf{v}_n + \mathbf{M}^{-1} \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{q}_{n+1}, \mathbf{v}_{n+1}) \Delta t\end{aligned}$$

How do we solve this system of equations? Newton's method!

Pick a guess  $(\tilde{\mathbf{q}}, \tilde{\mathbf{v}})$ . A natural choice is to start with  $\tilde{\mathbf{q}} = \mathbf{q}_n, \tilde{\mathbf{v}} = \mathbf{v}_n$ .

1. Linearize the problem:

$$(\tilde{\mathbf{q}} + \Delta \mathbf{q}) = \mathbf{q}_n + (\tilde{\mathbf{v}} + \Delta \mathbf{v}) \Delta t$$

$$(\tilde{\mathbf{v}} + \Delta \mathbf{v}) = \mathbf{v}_n + \mathbf{M}^{-1} \mathbf{f}(\tilde{\mathbf{q}} + \Delta \mathbf{q}, \tilde{\mathbf{v}} + \Delta \mathbf{v}) \Delta t$$

$$\approx \mathbf{v}_n + \mathbf{M}^{-1} (\mathbf{f}(\tilde{\mathbf{q}}, \tilde{\mathbf{v}}) + \frac{\partial \mathbf{f}}{\partial \mathbf{q}}(\tilde{\mathbf{q}}, \tilde{\mathbf{v}}) \Delta \mathbf{q} + \frac{\partial \mathbf{f}}{\partial \mathbf{v}}(\tilde{\mathbf{q}}, \tilde{\mathbf{v}}) \Delta \mathbf{v}) \Delta t$$

Here we need the **force Jacobians**  $\frac{\partial \mathbf{f}}{\partial \mathbf{q}}$  and  $\frac{\partial \mathbf{f}}{\partial \mathbf{v}}$ : how does  $\mathbf{f}$  change with  $\mathbf{q}$  and  $\mathbf{v}$ ?

1. Linearize the problem:

$$(\tilde{\mathbf{q}} + \Delta \mathbf{q}) = \mathbf{q}_n + (\tilde{\mathbf{v}} + \Delta \mathbf{v}) \Delta t$$

$$(\tilde{\mathbf{v}} + \Delta \mathbf{v}) = \mathbf{v}_n + \mathbf{M}^{-1} (\mathbf{f}(\tilde{\mathbf{q}}, \tilde{\mathbf{v}}) + \mathbf{J}_q(\tilde{\mathbf{q}}, \tilde{\mathbf{v}}) \Delta \mathbf{q} + \mathbf{J}_v(\tilde{\mathbf{q}}, \tilde{\mathbf{v}}) \Delta \mathbf{v}) \Delta t$$

2. Now the system is linear in  $(\Delta \mathbf{q}, \Delta \mathbf{v})$ . Plug into any linear solver.

Faster solves: substitute  $\Delta \mathbf{q}$  in terms of  $\Delta \mathbf{v}$ , then rearrange to get something of the form

$$(\mathbf{M} - \mathbf{J}_v \Delta t - \mathbf{J}_q \Delta t^2) \Delta \mathbf{v} = \dots$$

Left-hand side is almost always symmetric, often positive definite

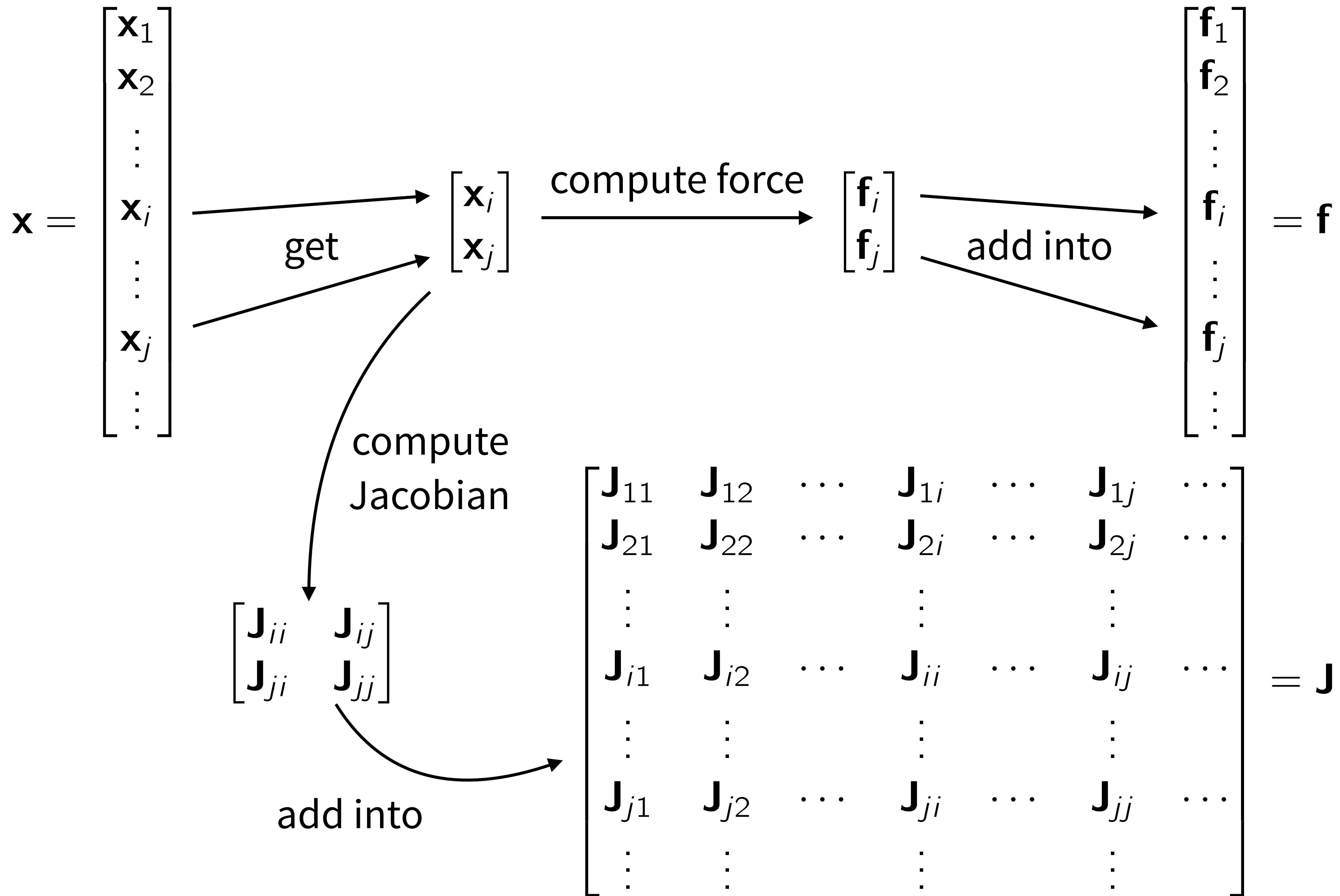
Example: force Jacobians for springs

$$\mathbf{f}_{ij} = -k_s (\|\mathbf{x}_{ij}\| - \ell_0) \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{ij} - k_d (\mathbf{v}_{ij} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{ij}) \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{ij}$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{f}_{ij}}{\partial \mathbf{x}_i} = ?$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{f}_{ij}}{\partial \mathbf{v}_i} = ?$$





# Homework problem

Suppose you try to implement backward Euler:

$$(\mathbf{M} - \mathbf{J}_v \Delta t - \mathbf{J}_q \Delta t^2) \Delta \mathbf{v} = \dots$$

But you're too lazy to derive the force Jacobians, and you replace them with zeroes instead.

What kind of time integration scheme do you get? Does it reduce to a known one?