## CSCI 621: Digital Geometry Processing



### 7.2 Surface Reconstruction

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## Surface Reconstruction


physical model

captured point cloud

reconstructed model

## Input Data

## Set of irregular sample points

- with or without normals
- examples: multi-view stereo, union of range scan vertices



## Set of range scans

- each scan is a regular quad or trimesh
- normal vectors can be obtained through local connectivity



## Problem

Given a set of points $\mathcal{P}=\left\{\mathbf{p}_{1}, \ldots, \mathbf{p}_{n}\right\}$ with $\mathbf{p}_{i} \in \mathbb{R}^{3}$


## Problem

Find a manifold surface $\mathcal{S} \subset \mathbb{R}^{3}$ which approximates $\mathcal{P}$


## Two Approaches

## Explicit

## Implicit

## Local surface

connectivity estimation

Point interpolation

Signed distance function estimation

Mesh approximation

## Two Approaches

## Explicit

## Implicit

- Ball pivoting algorithm
- Delaunay triangulation
- Alpha shapes
- Zippering...
- Image space triangulation


## Explicit Reconstruction

- Connect sample points by triangles
- Exact interpolation of sample points
- Bad for noisy or misaligned data
- Can lead to holes or non-manifold situations



## Implicit Reconstruction

Given a set of points $\mathcal{P}=\left\{\mathbf{p}_{1}, \ldots, \mathbf{p}_{n}\right\}$ with $\mathbf{p}_{i} \in \mathbb{R}^{3}$
Find a manifold surface $\mathcal{S} \subset \mathbb{R}^{3}$ which approximates $\mathcal{P}$
where $\mathcal{S}=\{\mathbf{x} \mid d(\mathbf{x})=0\}$ with $d(\mathbf{x})$ a signed distance function


## Data Flow

## Point cloud

## Signed distance function estimation

$$
d(\mathbf{x}) \downarrow
$$

Evaluation of distances on uniform grid

$$
d(\mathbf{i}), \mathbf{i}=[i, j, k] \in \mathbb{Z}^{3} \downarrow
$$

Mesh extraction via marching cubes

Mesh

## Implicit Surface Reconstruction Methods

Mainly differ in their signed distance function

## Implicit Reconstruction

- Estimate signed distance function (SDF)
- Extract Zero isosurface by Marching Cubes
- Approximation of input points
- Result is closed two-manifold surface



## Outline

- Explicit Reconstruction
- Zippering range scans
- Implicit Reconstruction
- SDF from point clouds
- SDF from range scans
- Poisson surface reconstruction


## Explicit Reconstruction

"Zipper" several scans to one single model


## Explicit Reconstruction

"Zipper" several scans to one single model


Project \& insert boundary vertices

## Explicit Reconstruction

"Zipper" several scans to one single model


Intersect boundary edges

## Explicit Reconstruction

"Zipper" several scans to one single model


Discard overlap region

## Explicit Reconstruction

"Zipper" several scans to one single model


Locally optimize triangulation

## Explicit Reconstruction

"Zipper" several scans to one single model
Problems for intricate geometries...


## Mesh Zippering Summary

## Pros:

- Preserves regular structure of each scan
- No additional data structures


## Cons:

- Zippering can be numerically difficult
- Problems with complex, noisy, incomplete data


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## Implicit Reconstruction

- Estimate signed distance function (SDF)
- Extract Zero isosurface by Marching Cubes
- Approximation of input points
- Watertight manifold by construction



## Signed Distance Function

## Construct SDF from point samples

- Distance to points is not enough
- Need inside/outside information
- Requires normal vectors



## Normal Estimation

## Find normal $\mathbf{n}_{i}$ for each sample point $\mathbf{p}_{i}$

- Examine local neighborhood for each point
- Set of $k$ nearest neighbors
- Compute best approximating tangent plane
- Covariance analysis
- Determine normal orientation
- Minimal Spanning Tree propagation



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## Normal Estimation

## Find closest point of a query point

- Find closest point of a query point
- Brute force: $O(n)$ complexity


## Use Hierarchical BSP tree

- Binary space partitioning tree (general version of kD-tree)
- Recursively partition 3D space by planes
- Tree should be balanced, put plane at median
- $\log (n)$ tree levels, complexity $\log (n)$


## Normal Estimation

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## Plane Fitting

Fit a plane with center $\mathbf{c}$ and normal $\mathbf{n}$ to a set of points $\left\{\mathbf{p}_{1}, \ldots, \mathbf{p}_{m}\right\}$

Minimize least squares error

$$
E(\mathbf{c}, \mathbf{n})=\sum_{i=1}^{m}\left(\mathbf{n}^{T}\left(\mathbf{p}_{i}-\mathbf{c}\right)\right)^{2}
$$

Subject to non-linear constraint

$$
\|\mathbf{n}\|=1
$$

## Plane Fitting

## Reformulate error function

$$
\begin{aligned}
E(\mathbf{c}, \mathbf{n}) & =\sum_{i=1}^{m}\left(\mathbf{n}^{T}\left(\mathbf{p}_{i}-\mathbf{c}\right)\right)^{2} \\
& =\sum_{i=1}^{m}\left(\mathbf{n}^{T} \hat{\mathbf{p}}_{i}\right)^{2} \quad\left(\text { with } \hat{\mathbf{p}}_{i}:=\mathbf{p}_{i}-\mathbf{c}\right) \\
& =\sum_{i=1}^{m} \hat{\mathbf{p}}_{i}^{T} \mathbf{n} \mathbf{n}^{T} \hat{\mathbf{p}}_{i} \quad(\text { version } 1) \\
& =\sum_{i=1}^{m} \mathbf{n}^{T} \hat{\mathbf{p}}_{i} \hat{\mathbf{p}}_{i}^{T} \mathbf{n} \quad(\text { version } 2)
\end{aligned}
$$

## Determine c from version 1

Derivative of $E(\mathbf{c}, \mathbf{n})$ w.r.t. $\mathbf{c}$ has to vanish

$$
\frac{\partial E(\mathbf{c}, \mathbf{n})}{\partial \mathbf{c}}=\sum_{i=1}^{m}-2 \mathbf{n n}^{T} \hat{\mathbf{p}}_{i}=-2 \mathbf{n n}^{T} \sum_{i=1}^{m} \hat{\mathbf{p}}_{i} \stackrel{!}{=} 0
$$

This is only possible for

$$
\sum_{i=1}^{m} \hat{\mathbf{p}}_{i}=0 \Rightarrow \mathbf{c}=\frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^{m} \mathbf{p}_{i}
$$

Plane center is barycenter of points $\mathbf{p}_{i}$

## Determine n from version 2

Represent $\mathbf{n}$ in basis $\mathbf{e}_{1}, \mathbf{e}_{2}, \mathbf{e}_{3}$

$$
\mathbf{n}=\alpha_{1} \mathbf{e}_{1}+\alpha_{2} \mathbf{e}_{2}+\alpha_{3} \mathbf{e}_{3}
$$

Since $\mathbf{n}$ has unit length we get

$$
1=\mathbf{n}^{\top} \mathbf{n}=\alpha_{1}^{2}+\alpha_{2}^{2}+\alpha_{3}^{2}
$$

Insert into energy formulation

$$
\mathbf{n}^{T} \mathbf{C n}=\alpha_{1}^{2} \lambda_{1}+\alpha_{2}^{2} \lambda_{2}+\alpha_{3}^{2} \lambda_{3} \geq \alpha_{1}^{2} \lambda_{3}+\alpha_{2}^{2} \lambda_{3}+\alpha_{3}^{2} \lambda_{3}=\lambda_{3}
$$

Minimum is achieved for $\alpha_{1}=\alpha_{2}=0, \alpha_{3}=1 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \mathbf{n}=\mathbf{e}_{3}$

## Principal Component Analysis

Plane center is barycenter of points

$$
\mathbf{c}=\frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^{m} \mathbf{p}_{i}
$$

Normal is eigenvector w.r.t. smallest eigenvalue of covariance matrix

$$
\mathbf{C}=\sum_{i=1}^{m}\left(\mathbf{p}_{i}-\mathbf{c}\right)\left(\mathbf{p}_{i}-\mathbf{c}\right)^{T}
$$

## Normal Estimation

## Find normal $\mathbf{n}_{i}$ for each sample point $\mathbf{p}_{i}$

- Examine local neighborhood for each point
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- Minimal Spanning Tree propagation


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## Normal Orientation

## Riemannian graph connects neighboring points

- Edge ( $i j$ ) exists if $\mathbf{p}_{i} \in k \mathrm{NN}\left(\mathbf{p}_{j}\right)$ or $\mathbf{p}_{j} \in k \mathrm{NN}\left(\mathbf{p}_{i}\right)$


## Propagate normal orientation through graph

- For neighbors $\mathbf{p}_{i}, \mathbf{p}_{j}$ Flip $\mathbf{n}_{j}$ if $\mathbf{n}_{i}^{\top} \mathbf{n}_{j}<0$
- Fails at sharp edges/corners

Propagate along "save" paths (parallel normals)

- Minimum spanning tree with angle-based edge weights

$$
w_{i j}=1-\left|\mathbf{n}_{i}^{\top} \mathbf{n}_{j}\right|
$$

## Normal Estimation

## Find normal $\mathbf{n}_{i}$ for each sample point $\mathbf{p}_{i}$

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## Normal Estimation

## Distance from tangent planes [Hoppe 92]

- Points + normals determine local tangent planes
- Use distance from closest point's tangent plane
- Linear approximation in Voronoi cell
- Simple and efficient, but SDF is only $\mathcal{C}^{-1}$



## Hoppe '92 Reconstruction



150 samples

reconstruction on $50^{3}$ grid

## Smooth SDF Approximation

## Scattered data interpolation problem

- On-surface constraints
- Avoid trivial solution $\operatorname{dist}\left(\mathbf{p}_{i}\right)=0$
- Off-surface constraints dist $\equiv 0$ $\operatorname{dist}\left(\mathbf{p}_{i}+\mathbf{n}_{i}\right)=1$


## Radial basis functions (RBFs)

- Well suited for smooth interpolation
- Sum of shifted, weighted kernel functions

$$
\operatorname{dist}(\mathbf{x})=\sum_{i} w_{i} \cdot \varphi\left(\left\|\mathbf{x}-\mathbf{c}_{i}\right\|\right)
$$

## RBF Interpolation

Interpolate on- and off-surface constraints

$$
\operatorname{dist}\left(\mathbf{x}_{j}\right)=\sum_{i=1}^{n} w_{i} \cdot \varphi\left(\left\|\mathbf{x}_{j}-\mathbf{c}_{i}\right\|\right) \stackrel{!}{=} d_{j}, \quad j=1, \ldots, n
$$

Choose centers $\mathbf{c}_{i}$ as constrained points $\mathbf{x}_{i}$

Solve symmetric linear system for weights $w_{i}$

$$
\left(\begin{array}{ccc}
\varphi\left(\left\|\mathbf{x}_{\mathbf{1}}-\mathbf{x}_{1}\right\|\right) & \cdots & \varphi\left(\left\|\mathbf{x}_{\mathbf{1}}-\mathbf{x}_{n}\right\|\right) \\
\vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\
\varphi\left(\left\|\mathbf{x}_{\mathbf{n}}-\mathbf{x}_{1}\right\|\right) & \cdots & \varphi\left(\left\|\mathbf{x}_{\mathbf{n}}-\mathbf{x}_{n}\right\|\right)
\end{array}\right)\left(\begin{array}{c}
w_{1} \\
\vdots \\
w_{n}
\end{array}\right)=\left(\begin{array}{c}
d_{1} \\
\vdots \\
d_{n}
\end{array}\right)
$$

## RBF Interpolation

## Wendland basis functions

$$
\varphi(r)=\left(1-\frac{r}{\sigma}\right)_{+}^{4}\left(4 \frac{r}{\sigma}+1\right)
$$

- Compactly supported in $[0, \sigma]$
- Leads to sparse, symm. pos. def. linear system
- Resulting SDF is $\mathcal{C}^{2}$ smooth
- But surface is not necessarily fair
- Not suited for highly irregular sampling


## Comparison



Hoppe '92
Compact RBF Wendland C2

## RBF Basis Functions

## Triharmonic basis functions

$$
\phi(r)=r^{3}
$$

- Globally supported function
- Leads to dense linear system
- SDF is $\mathcal{C}^{2}$ smooth
- Provably optimal fairness (see smoothing lecture)

$$
\int_{\mathbb{R}^{3}}\left(\frac{\partial^{3} \text { dist }}{\partial x \partial x \partial x}\right)^{2}+\left(\frac{\partial^{3} \text { dist }}{\partial x \partial x \partial y}\right)^{2}+\cdots+\left(\frac{\partial^{3} \text { dist }}{\partial z \partial z \partial z}\right)^{2} \mathrm{~d} x \mathrm{~d} y \mathrm{~d} z \rightarrow \min
$$

- Works well for irregular sampling


## Comparison



Hoppe '92


Compact RBF Wendland C²


Global RBF Triharmonic

## Complexity Considerations

## Solve the linear system for RBF weights

- Hard to solve for large number of samples


## Compactly supported RBFs

- Sparse linear system
- Efficient CG or sparse Cholesky solver (later...)


## Greedy RBF fitting [Carr01]

- Start with a few RBFs only
- Add more RBFs in region of large error


## SDF From Points

## Pros:

- Result is a closed 2-manifold surface
- Suitable for noisy input data


## Cons:

- Solve linear system of RBF weights
- Result is uniformly over-tessellated $\rightarrow$ mesh decimation
- Can contain poorly shaped triangles $\rightarrow$ remeshing


## Outline

- Explicit Reconstruction
- Zippering range scans
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## Weighted Average of SDFs

## Individual SDFs of each scan: $d_{i}(\mathbf{x})$

- Distance along scanner's line of sight

Respective weighting functions: $w_{i}(\mathbf{x})$

- Take scanning angle into account

Global SDF as weighted average


$$
D(\mathbf{x})=\frac{\sum_{i} w_{i}(\mathbf{x}) d_{i}(\mathbf{x})}{\sum_{i} w_{i}(\mathbf{x})}
$$

## Weighted Average of SDFs


[Curless,Levoy96]

## Automatic Hole Filling

## Classify grid voxel into three states

- Empty:

Between scanner and surface (space carving)

- Unseen: Behind surface
- Near surface: Close to scanned surface


## Marching Cubes automatically fill holes


[Curless,Levoy96]

## Volumetric Reconstruction

Happy Buddha: from original to hardcopy


## Digital Michelangelo Project



1G sample points $\rightarrow 8 \mathrm{M}$ triangles


4G sample points $\rightarrow 8 \mathrm{M}$ triangles

## SDF From Range Scans

## Pros:

- Result is a closed 2-manifold surface
- Can take scanning information into account


## Cons:

- Result is uniformly over-tesselated $\rightarrow$ mesh decimation
- Can contain poorly shaped triangles $\rightarrow$ remeshing


## References

## Reconstruction from point sets

- Hoppe et al.: Surface Reconstruction from Unorganized Points, SIGGRAPH 1992
- Carr etl a.: Reconstruction and representation of 3D objects with radial basis functions, SIGGRAPH 2001


## Reconstruction of range scans

- Curless, Levoy: A Volumetric Method for Building Complex Models from Range Images, SIGGRAPH 1996.
- Levoy et al.: Digital Michalangelo Project: 3D Scanning of Large Statues, SIGGRAPH 2000.


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## Poisson Surface Reconstruction

- Michael Kazhdan, M. Bolitho, and H. Hoppe, SGP 2006
- Source Code available at:
- http://www.cs.jhu.edu/~misha/
- Implementation included in Meshlab



## Poisson Surface Reconstruction

## Indicator Function

- reconstruct the surface by solving for the indicator function of the shape

$$
\chi_{M}(p)= \begin{cases}1 & \text { if } p \in M \\ 0 & \text { if } p \notin M\end{cases}
$$



## Challenge

## How to construct the indicator function?



Oriented points


Indicator function $\chi_{M}$

## Gradient Relationship

There is a relationship between the normal field and gradient of indicator function


Oriented points


Indicator gradient $\nabla \chi_{M}$

## Integration

Represent the points by a vector field $\vec{V}$

Find the function $\chi$ whose gradient best approximates $\vec{V}$

$$
\min _{\chi}\|\nabla \chi-\vec{V}\|
$$

## Integration as a Poisson Problem

Represent the points by a vector field $\vec{V}$

Find the function $\chi$ whose gradient best approximates $\vec{V}$

$$
\min _{\chi}\|\nabla \chi-\vec{V}\|
$$

Applying the divergence operator, we can transform this into a Poisson problem:

$$
\nabla \times(\nabla \chi)=\nabla \times \vec{V} \Leftrightarrow \Delta \chi=\nabla \times \vec{V}
$$

## Implementation: Adaptive Octree

## Given the Points:

- Set Octree
- Compute vector field
- Compute indicator function
- Extract iso-surface



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## Implementation: Vector Field

## Given the Points:

- Set Octree
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## Implementation: Indicator Function

## Given the Points:

- Set Octree
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- Compute divergence
- Solve Poisson Equation
- Extract iso-surface



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## Implementation: Indicator Function

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## Implementation: Iso-Surface

## Given the Points:

- Set Octree
- Compute vector field
- Compute indicator function
- Extract iso-surface



## Summary



Oriented points
Indicator gradient Indicator function $\vec{V}$

$$
\nabla \chi_{M}
$$

$$
\chi_{M}
$$

Surface $\partial M$

## Michelangelo's David

- 215 million data points from 1000 scans
- 22 million triangle reconstruction
- Compute Time: 2.1 hours
- Peak Memory: 6600MB


## David - Chisel marks



## David - Drill marks



## David - Drill marks



## Scalability - Buddha Model



Stanford Bunny


## VRIP Comparison



Poisson Reconstruction

## Next Time



Surface Smoothing

## http://cs621.hao-li.com

## Thanks!



