

## Laplace-Spectra as Fingerprints for Shape Matching

Martin Reuter, Franz-Erich Wolter, Niklas Peinecke  
University of Hannover Welfenlab - Division of CG

Robert Jacques

## Overview

- Shape Matching
- Laplace Spectrum
- Applications and Results
- Questions

## Shape Matching

- How similar are two shapes?
  - Many methods
    - Often require
      - Alignment
      - Specific representation, i.e. 3D polygonal meshes
    - But
      - Alignment is limited
        - Sensitive to data holes / missing parts
        - Rotation is approximate
      - Many different representations

## Watermarking

- Driven by the need to identify copyright
  - Particularly industrial applications
- Most methods are limited to meshes
  - NURBS watermarking is not robust
- Most methods mark the representation
  - Washed out by re-parameterization

## Desired Properties

- Isometry
- Similarity
- Efficiency
- Completeness
- Compression
- Physicality

## Spectrum of the Laplace eigenvalues

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Isometry</li> <li>✓ Similarity</li> <li>✓ Efficiency</li> <li>□ Completeness</li> <li>✓ Compression</li> <li>✓ Physicality</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Solids               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>□ Laplacian</li> </ul> </li> <li>■ Surfaces/Images               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>□ Laplace-Beltrami operator                   <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ The Laplacian on a Riemannian manifold</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>■ Scale invariance optional</li> </ul> |
|--|--|

## Laplace Spectrum

- **Ordered spectrum**  $0 \leq \lambda_1 \leq \lambda_2 \leq \dots \uparrow +\infty$ 
  - Solution to the Laplacian Eigenvalue problem  $\Delta f = -\lambda f$
  - For closed surfaces  $\lambda_1 = 0$
- **Invariance**
  - The gradient and divergence are only dependant on the Riemannian manifold
  - Scaling a surface by  $x$  scales the eigenvalue by  $1/x^2$
- **Similarity**
  - The spectrum depends continuously on the membrane shape and also on the Riemannian metric

## Laplace Spectrum

- **Completeness**
  - Some spectrum are unique
  - Counter examples exist
    - Are artificial, non-convex and have non-smooth boundaries
    - Only pairs have been found
- **Physically**
  - The spectrum contains many properties
    - Boundary length, area, Euler characteristic,...
    - "Can you hear the shape of a drum?"

## Scale Invariance

1. The first non-zero eigenvalue
  - Useful only for identical shapes
2. The slope of the fitting line
  - $\sim 4 \pi / \text{Area}$
3. The volume determined by the spectra
4. The volume determined externally

## Computation and Accuracy

- Convert to a variational problem
- Discretize using the Galerkin technique and Finite Element Method and solved.
- The FEM method is proven to converge
  - Other discrete methods don't
  - Accuracy increases with dense sampling
- Verified accuracy against theoretical values
  - Rectangle, circle, sphere, cube, ball, cylinder,...
- Verified geometric data
  - volume, boundary length, Euler characteristic

## Applications

- Identify shapes for copyright protection
- Database retrieval and matching
- Quality Assurance
- Representation conversion verification

## Shape Matching

- Spectrum truncation to 10-100 values
- Euclidean distance
- Database of 1000 random NURBS patches
  - 100% recovery of self + 'noise'
    - 1 order of magnitude safety margin

