Algebraic Point Set Surface

Gael Guennebaud and Markus Gross
ETH Zurich

Introduction

- To address the instability of planar MLS
 - Low Sampling Rate
 - High Curvature
- MLS by fitting algebraic spheres (APSS)
- Contribution:
 - Improved Stability
 - Normal Estimation based on [Hoppe et al. 1992]

Geometric vs. Algebraic Fit

- Geometric Fit (Best-Fit) directly minimizes the sum of the squared distances to the given points
 - Slow (iteratively updating a parametric model)
 - Unstable for planar fit

- Algebraic Fit solves a algebraic equation F(x)=0 in least square sense
 - Not sure what we're minimizing...

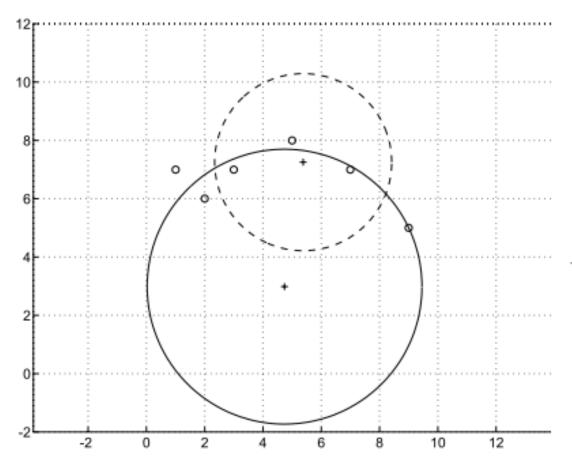


Figure 2.1: algebraic vs. best fit

$$-$$
 Best fit $-$ Algebraic fit

$$F(\mathbf{x}) = a\mathbf{x}^{\mathrm{T}}\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{b}^{\mathrm{T}}\mathbf{x} + c = 0,$$

Solve for $B\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{0}$ with

$$B = \begin{pmatrix} x_{11}^2 + x_{12}^2 & x_{11} & x_{12} & 1\\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots\\ x_{m1}^2 + x_{m2}^2 & x_{m1} & x_{m2} & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{u} = (a, b_1, b_2, c)^{\mathrm{T}}$$

Fitting Spheres without Normals

• General Setting: define the sphere as 0-set of $s_{\mathbf{u}} = [1, \mathbf{x}^T, \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{x}]$ with $\mathbf{u} = [\mathbf{u}_0, ..., \mathbf{u}_{d+1}] \in \mathbb{R}^{d+2}$

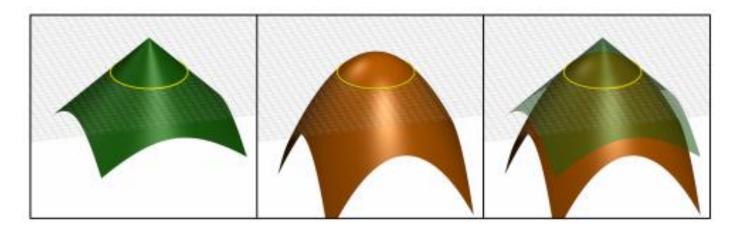
$$\mathbf{W}(\mathbf{x}) = \begin{bmatrix} w_0(\mathbf{x}) \\ \vdots \\ w_{n-1}(\mathbf{x}) \end{bmatrix}, \ \mathbf{D} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \mathbf{p}_0^T & \mathbf{p}_0^T \mathbf{p}_0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 1 & \mathbf{p}_{n-1}^T & \mathbf{p}_{n-1}^T \mathbf{p}_{n-1} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{u}(\mathbf{x}) = \underset{\mathbf{u}, \, \mathbf{u} \neq \mathbf{0}}{\operatorname{arg\,min}} \left\| \mathbf{W}^{\frac{1}{2}}(\mathbf{x}) \mathbf{D} \mathbf{u} \right\|^{2}$$

- Additional constraint to avoid u(x) = 0 and to make it as close to the geometric fit as possible
 - Set the norm of the gradient at the surface to 1

•
$$||u_1, ..., u_d||^2 - 4 u_0 u_{d+1}$$

Fitting Spheres without Normals



Lagrange's Multiplier + SVD:

$$\mathbf{D}^T \mathbf{W}(\mathbf{x}) \mathbf{D} \mathbf{u}(\mathbf{x}) = \lambda \mathbf{C} \mathbf{u}(\mathbf{x}), \text{ with } \mathbf{C} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & -2 \\ 0 & 1 & & & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & & \vdots \\ 0 & & & 1 & 0 \\ -2 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Fitting Spheres with Normals

• Constraining by $\nabla s_{\rm u}(p_i)=n_i$, resulting in (with β to control the importance of normal constraints

$$\mathbf{W}^{\frac{1}{2}}(\mathbf{x})\mathbf{D}\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{W}^{\frac{1}{2}}(\mathbf{x})\mathbf{b} \tag{7}$$

where

$$\mathbf{W}(\mathbf{x}) = \begin{bmatrix} \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ w_i(\mathbf{x}) & \mathbf{p}_i^T & \mathbf{p}_i^T \mathbf{p}_i \\ \beta w_i(\mathbf{x}) & \mathbf{p}_i^T & \mathbf{p}_i^T \mathbf{p}_i \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \beta w_i(\mathbf{x}) & \mathbf{p}_i^T & \mathbf{p}_i^T \mathbf{p}_i \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \beta w_i(\mathbf{x}) & \mathbf{p}_i^T & \mathbf{p}_i^T \mathbf{p}_i \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & \mathbf{e}_{d-1}^T & 2\mathbf{e}_{d-1}^T \mathbf{p}_i \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{b} = \begin{bmatrix} \vdots \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{e}_0^T \mathbf{n}_i \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{e}_{d-1}^T \mathbf{n}_i \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix}. (8)$$

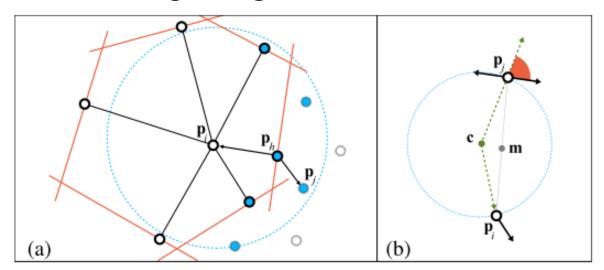
Normal Estimation

$$\mathbf{n}_i \approx \nabla s_{\mathbf{u}(\mathbf{p}_i)}(\mathbf{p}_i) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \mathbf{e}_0^T & 2\mathbf{e}_0^T \mathbf{p}_i \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & \mathbf{e}_{d-1}^T & 2\mathbf{e}_{d-1}^T \mathbf{p}_i \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{u}(\mathbf{p}_i).$$

- Precompute the "confidence" at each sample by the relative magnitude of the smallest eigenvalue
- Propagate the direction based on the idea of minimum spanning tree [Hoppe et. al 1992]

Normal Estimation

- Propagate the direction based on the idea of minimum spanning tree [Hoppe et. al 1992]
 - Different k-NN selection
 - Different edge weight function



• Different propagation: fitting a sphere at $m = \frac{(p_i + p_j)}{2}$ and check if $\nabla_{S_{\mathbf{u}(\mathbf{m})}}(\mathbf{p}_i)^T \mathbf{n}_i \cdot \nabla_{S_{\mathbf{u}(\mathbf{m})}}(\mathbf{p}_j)^T \mathbf{n}_j < 0$.