Surface Reconstruction

Michael Kazhdan (601.457/657)

Motivation

3D Scanners are ubiquitous (and cheap)



[Images courtesy of Rusinkiewicz, Strecha, createdigitalmotion.com, and NextEngine]

Motivation

Merged scans typically consist of un/semistructured sets of points that need to be connected into a single (water-tight) model.



Related Work

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[1]

Related Work

Classification:

- Approach:
 - Computational Geometry
 - Implicit Surfaces
- Input:
 - Oriented vs. Unoriented Points
 - Structured vs. Unstructured Data
- Output:
 - Water-tight vs. Surface with Boundary

Related Work

<u>Classification</u>:

- Computational Geometry (Unoriented Points)
 - Use input to partition space
 - Use a subset of the partition to define the shape
- Implicit Surfaces (Oriented Points)
 - Fit implicit function to the input
 - Extract iso-surface

Outline

- Introduction
- Preliminaries
 - Convex Hulls
 - Delaunay Triangulations
 - Voronoi Diagrams
 - Medial Axes
- A sampling of methods
- Why is reconstruction hard?

Convex Hulls:

A set *S* is *convex* if for any two points $a, b \in S$, the line segment between aand b is also in S.



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<u>oa</u>

Convex Hulls:

A set S is convex if for any two points $a, b \in S$, the line segment between a and b is also in S.

The *convex hull* of a set of points is the smallest convex set containing *S*.



non-convex

dа

convex

[Notes courtesy of Alliez]

Triangulation:

A *triangulation* of a set of sites/points *S* a decomposition of the convex hull of the points into triangles, whose vertex set is the set of sites/points.

- There are many ways to triangulate the set S.
- Not all are equally "good"
 (e.g. can have skinny
 triangles with small angles)



Delaunay Triangulation:

A Delaunay Triangulation of a set of sites/points S is a triangulation with of S such that the circumscribing circle of any triangle contains no other site in S^* .

<u>Compactness Property</u>: This triangulation maximizes the minimum angle.





Voronoi Diagrams:

The Voronoi Diagram of S is a partition of space into regions VD(s) ($s \in S$) such that all points in VD(s) are closer to s than any other sites in S.

- Edges are equidistant from the two sites in the incident cells.
- For each edge point there is an empty circle, centered at the point, only touching the sites in the two incident cells.



[Notes courtesy of Alliez]

Voronoi Diagrams:

The Voronoi Diagram of S is a partition of space into regions VD(s) ($s \in S$) such that all points in VD(s) are closer to s than any other sites in S.

- Vertices are equidistant from three (or more) sites in the incident cells.
- For a vertex, we can draw an empty circle, centered at the vertex, that just touches the sites in the three (or more) incident cells.



[Notes courtesy of Alliez]

Voronoi Diagrams:

The Voronoi Diagram of S is a partition of space into regions VD(s) ($s \in S$) such that all points in VD(s) are closer to s than any other sites in S.

Duality:

Each Voronoi vertex is in one-to-one correspondence with a Delaunay triangle.



Medial Axis:

For a shape (curve/surface) a *Medial Ball* is a circle/sphere that only meets the shape tangentially, in at least two points.



Medial Axis:

For a shape (curve/surface) a *Medial Ball* is a circle/sphere that only meets the shape tangentially, in at least two points. The centers of all such balls make

up the *medial axis/skeleton*.

Observation in 2D*:

For a reasonable point sample, the medial axis is well-sampled by the Voronoi vertices.



*In 3D, this is only true for a subset of the Voronoi vertices – the *poles*.

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- Introduction
- Preliminaries
- A sampling of methods
 - Space Partitioning
 - Crust

Computational Geometry

- … from Unorganized Points
- Poisson Reconstruction

-Implicit Surfaces

• Why is reconstruction hard?

Space Partitioning

Given a set of points, we can construct the Delaunay triangulation.

If we could label each triangle as inside/outside, then the surface of interest is the set of edges that lie between inside and outside triangles.



Space Partitioning

- Q: How should we assign labels?
- A: Spectral Partitioning [Kolluri et al. 2004]
 - 1. Local: Assign a weight to each (interior) edge indicating if the two triangles should have the same label.
 - Global: Evenly partition the triangles minimizing the sum of the weights along partitioning edges.



Space Partitioning

Assigning Edge Weights:

- Q: When are triangles on opposite sides of an edge likely to have the same label?
- A: If the triangles are on the same side, their circumscribing circles intersect <u>deeply</u>.

Use the angle of intersection to set the weight.





Large Weight

Small Weight



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Crust [Amenta et al. 1998]

If we consider the Delaunay Triangulation of a point set sampling a curve, the curve should be (approximately) a subset of the Delaunay edges.

Q: How do we determine which edges to keep?

- A: Two types of edges:
 - 1. Those connecting adjacent points on the curve
 - 2. Those traversing.

Discard those that traverse.



Crust [Amenta et al. 1998]

Observation:

Edges that traverse cross the medial axis.

- Although we don't know the medial axis, we can sample it with the Voronoi vertices.
- Edges that traverse must be near the Voronoi vertices.
- We say an edge does not traverse if we can draw a circle through its endpoints empty of Voronoi vertices.



Crust [Amenta et al. 1998]

<u>Algorithm:</u>

- 1. Compute the Delaunay triangulation.
- 2. Compute the Voronoi vertices
- Keep all edges for which there is a circle that contains the edge but no Voronoi vertices.

Note:

As opposed to the previous approach, it is not obvious that this will generate a closed, manifold curve/surface.

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Implicit Surface Reconstruction

<u>Key Idea</u>:

- Use the point samples to define a function whose value at each sample positions is zero.
- Extract the zero level set. [Lorensen and Cline, 1987]





- Compute a local signed distance function by using the sample normals to define a local linear approximation to the function.
- Blend the linear approximations.
- Extract the zero level (where defined).



Q: How do we get the normals?



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- A1: Fit a line to the neighbors of each point.



Q: How do we get the normals?

A1: Fit a line to the neighbors of each point.

This doesn't guarantee a consistent orientation!

For the orientation to be consistent, neighboring points should point in the same direction.



- Q: How do we get the normals?
- A1: Fit a line to the neighbors of each point.
- A2: Build a (Euclidian) minimal spanning tree and propagate the orientation from a root.



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• Why is reconstruction hard?

Reconstruct the *indicator function* of the surface and then extract the boundary.

Q: How to fit the function to the samples?



Oriented points

Indicator function

Reconstruct the *indicator function* of the surface and then extract the boundary.

Q: How to fit the function to the samples?

A: Normals are samples of function's gradients.



Oriented points

Indicator gradient

To fit a scalar field F to the gradients \vec{V} solve: $\nabla F = \vec{V}$

* This is an over-constrained problem, so there is (usually) no solution.



Oriented points

Indicator gradient

To fit a scalar field F to the gradients \vec{V} solve: $\nabla F = \vec{V}$

- * This is an over-constrained problem, so there is (usually) no solution.
- ✓ Solve for the best (least-squares) solution: $\arg\min_{F} \|\nabla F - \vec{V}\|^2$
- $\Rightarrow \text{ Taking the divergence, this becomes:} \\ \nabla \cdot \left(\nabla F \vec{V} \right) = 0 \iff \Delta F = \nabla \cdot \vec{V}$

<u>Algorithm</u>:

- 1. Transform samples into a vector field.
- 2. Fit a scalar-field to the gradients.
- 3. Extract the isosurface.



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Why is Reconstruction Hard?

The point-set is often the result of:

- Scanning
- Registering
- Etc.



Why is Reconstruction Hard?

Susceptible to:

- Scanning
 - Nonuniform sampling
 - Grazing angles
 - Scanner noise
 - Imprecise estimates
- Registering
 - Misalignment
 - Non-linear camera model



(a) Uniform sampling

(b) Nonuniform sampling

(c) Noisy data

(d) Misaligned scans

[Image courtesy of Berger et al.]

Practical Concerns

- Performance in the presence of bad data
- Interpolating vs. approximating
- Efficiency of reconstruction
- Quality guarantees
- Manifold / water-tight
- Incorporation of prior knowledge