## **Surface Parameterization**



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## Summary

- What? What for?
- Preliminary background
- A simple algorithm
- Local parameterization
  - Least Squares Conformal Maps [Levy et al. 2002]
- Global parameterization
  - Curvature prescription, circle packing and metric optimization [Kharevych et al. 2006, Jin et al. 2008, Ben Chen et al. 2008]
- Perspectives
  - Quadrangulation, cross parameterization, volume parameterization

[Levy02]

#### What? What for?

- Construct a coordinate system on a surface S
- Find a bijective mapping to some reference domain D
  - $-\phi: \mathcal{S} \to \mathcal{D}$
  - $\mathcal{D}\subset \mathbb{R}^2, \mathcal{D}=\mathbb{S}^2$ , etc.
  - Reverse-engineering the manifold

[Sheffer01]

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  - Reverse-engineering the manifold
- Why?
  - Texture mapping ("historical")
  - Signal processing on surfaces (bump maps, transfer, etc.)
  - Recovers a structure on an unstructured representation
  - Surface quadrangulation (animation, simulation, etc.)

[Sheffer01]







#### **Raw Geometry**



**Texture packing** 





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  - Facilitate geometric modeling
  - Maintain a low memory footprint for the raw geometry
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  - Re-usability of the textures
- Mostly, interactive applications
- Typical target geometries
  - Trees
  - Buildings
  - Human faces
  - Etc.



#### In practice



- Projections are in general not appropriate (non convex embeddings)
- Geometry unfolding
- Texture processing in the planar domain
- Challenges
  - Only developable surfaces unfold without distortion
  - Compute an unfolding map that minimizes distortion
  - What distortion are we talking about?

## Preliminary background

• Unfolding stuff? We have a history!

- Cartography: most of parameterization vocabulary
- Orthographic projection (~2,000 BC)
- Stereographic projection (Hipparchus 120 BC)
- Cylindrical projection (Mercator 1594)
- Azimuthal projection (Lambert 1777)









[Floater05]

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- Azimuthal projection (Lambert 1777)
- Historical motivations
  - Facilitate navigation
  - Concerns about metric properties
    - Stereographic: preserves angles
    - Cylindrical: preserves angles + straight loxodromes
    - Azimuthal: preserves areas (national atlases)







[Floater05]

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  - Topological space such that every open set of it is homeomorphic to an open set of  $\mathbb{R}^d$



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    - Inner product, metrics
    - Distances, angles, areas
    - Gradient, Laplace-Beltrami operator, etc.



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- Isometric maps
  - Conformal maps with zero area distortion
  - Preserve lengths

Harmonic

Conformal

Isometric

- Simplicial complex  ${\cal K}$ 
  - d-simplex: convex hull of (d+1) affinely independent points in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  with  $0 \le d \le n$
  - Vertex (0), edge (1), triangle (2)
  - Face of a d-simplex: simplex defined by a non empty subset of its d+1 points
    - $\mathcal{K}$ : Collection of simplices, such that every face of a simplex is in  $\mathcal{K}$  and any two simplices intersect in a common face or not at all.



• Triangulation of a manifold  $\mathcal{M}$ –  $\mathcal{K}$ , such that the union of its simplices is homeomorphic to  $\mathcal{M}$ 



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      - For any point of  $\mathcal{K}$ , barycentric coordinates
      - Gradient of a scalar field: piecewise constant vector field

$$-\nabla f = \frac{1}{2A} \sum_{i} f_i (n \times (v_{(i+2)\%3} - v_{(i+1)\%3}))$$

#### **Discretization of the Laplace operator**

- Discrete Laplace operators
  - Simple interpretation with differential coordinates [Sorkine 2005]

$$\sum_{i=1}^{n} v_{i} = \delta_{i} + \frac{1}{d_{i}} \sum_{j=1}^{n} v_{j} \qquad \delta_{i} = v_{i} - \frac{1}{d_{i}} \sum_{j=1}^{n} v_{j} = \frac{1}{d_{i}} \sum_{j=1}^{n} (v_{i} - v_{j})$$

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- Matrix form
  - $L = I D^{-1}A, \quad D_{ii} = d_i$ , symmetric version  $L_s$ :

• 
$$(L_s)_{ij} = d_i \ (i = j), \quad (L_s)_{ij} = -1 \ (i, j) \in E, \quad (L_s)_{ij} = 0$$

- $-L_s$  : graph Laplacian
- [Pinkall and Polthier 1993]

• 
$$\delta_i = \frac{1}{\Omega_i} \sum_j \frac{1}{2} (\cot \alpha_{ij} + \cot \beta_{ij}) (v_i - v_j)$$
  
... no free lunch : ([Wardetzky et al. 2007]

### Solving a Laplace equation

- Compute the scalar field f, such that:
  - $-\Delta f = 0$

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- Constraint handling [Xu et al. 2009]
  - Many techniques exist (direct elimination, substitution)

 $c_i$ 

Penalty method

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$$f^* = argmin(||Lf||^2 + \alpha \sum |f(v_{c_i} - f_{c_i})|)$$

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=  $argmin(||(L + P)f - PC||^2)$ 

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 $= argmin(||(L+P)f - PC||^2)$ 

- $P_{ij} = \alpha \quad (i = j), i \in C_i$
- Least square problem  $||Ax b||^2$  with A = L + P, b = PC
- Unique solution  $f^* = (A^T A)^{-1} A^T b$
- CHOLMOD library (support for fast updates)

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    - $\phi$  maps homeomorphically  $\partial S$  to  $\partial D$ and D is a convex region of  $\mathbb{R}^2$
- Uniformization theorem
  - Any simply connected surface can be mapped conformally to its canonical domain (Mobius)
  - There exist harmonic maps being conformal
  - Good heuristic
    - Boundary arc length parameterization
    - Low distortion boundary mapping





$$\Delta u = 0$$















Simple and fast implementation (~ 200k triangles per second)



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- Decent conformal approximation (for low distortion boundary mappings)
  - Orthogonality ( $\nabla u \cdot \nabla v = 0$ )
  - Local isotropy ( $||\nabla u|| = ||\nabla v||$ )
- Geometric interpretation: extreme smoothing



















Plausible Planck









- Fast algorithm, easy to implement, decent results with a good boundary
- You're now able to write your own geometry texturing program

## Mission accomplished?

- Well...
  - Constraints on the boundary's shape
  - Convexity of the planar domain





## Mission accomplished?

- Well...
  - Constraints on the boundary's shape
  - Convexity of the planar domain
  - Induces important area distortion
  - Significant waste of texture space
- Need for truly conformal parameterizations
- Need for boundary-free algorithms





## Boundary free algorithms

- Before Least Squares Conformal Maps
  - MIPS [Hormann and Greiner 2000]
  - ABF [Sheffer and de Sturler 2001]
  - Arbitrary cuts, no convexity requirement
  - Iterative solvers (slow convergence)



# Boundary free algorithms

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  - Arbitrary cuts, no convexity requirement
  - Iterative solvers (slow convergence)
- Least Squares Conformal Maps [Levy et al. 2002]:
  - First linear method
  - Unique solution
  - Few triangle flips in practice
- Set the bar higher :)



- A complete texturing framework
  - Automatic "atlas" generation
  - Fast boundary free conformal parameterization (Blender, Silo)
  - Texture packing (UVatlas of DirectX)



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[Levy02]
- Key idea
  - Penalize the violation of the Cauchy Riemann eq. (Least Squares sense)



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    - $\frac{\partial x}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial y}{\partial y}$   $\frac{\partial x}{\partial y} = -\frac{\partial y}{\partial x}$



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  - $\begin{array}{l} \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = -\frac{\partial v}{\partial x} \\ \text{ In other terms } \nabla v = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \nabla u \\ \text{ Let } \nabla u = M(u_0, u_1, u_2)^T \end{array}$



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• Minimizing the violation of Cauchy Riemann equations

$$- E(\phi) = \sum_{t \in T} A_t ||M(v_0 v_1 v_2)^T - \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} M(u_0 u_1 u_2)^T ||^2$$

– Gradient formulation!

# **Complex formulation**

Concise Cauchy Riemann equation

$$- \begin{array}{l} X = x + iy, \quad U = u + iv \\ - \frac{\partial X}{\partial u} - i\frac{\partial X}{\partial v} = 0 \\ - \begin{array}{l} \text{Implies:} & \frac{\partial U}{\partial x} + i\frac{\partial U}{\partial y} = 0 \end{array}$$

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Complex gradient

 $-\frac{\partial U}{\partial x} + i\frac{\partial U}{\partial y} = \frac{i}{2A_t}(W_0W_1W_2)(U_0U_1U_2)^T$  $-W_j = (x_{(j+2)\%3} - x_{(j+1)\%3}) + i(y_{(j+2)\%3} - y_{(j+1)\%3})$ 

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• Conformal energy  $-E(U) = \sum_{t} \frac{1}{2A_{t}} |(W_{0}W_{1}W_{2})(U_{0}U_{1}U_{2})^{T}|^{2}$ 

# Minimizing the conformal energy

- Matrix form
  - $E(U) = U^* C U$
  - $U^*$ : Hermitian complex conjugate

• 
$$U_{i,j}^* = \overline{U_{j,i}}$$



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  - $C = M^*M$ 
    - M : n'xn matrix (n: vertices, n': triangles)
    - C : nxn matrix
    - $M_{ij} = \frac{(W_{j,t_i})}{\sqrt{2A_{t_i}}}$
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    - If the vertex j belongs to triangle i, 0 otherwise
- $E(U) = U^* M^* M U = ||MU||^2$
- Issues with trivial solutions



# Locking degrees of freedom in a least squares problem

- Avoiding trivial solutions
  - Pinning 2 vertices is enough!
  - Geodesic diameter



# Locking degrees of freedom in a least squares problem

- Avoiding trivial solutions
  - Pinning 2 vertices is enough!
  - Geodesic diameter
- Locking variables
  - $E(U) = ||MU||^2$
  - $E(U) = ||M_F U_F + M_L U_L||^2 = ||Ax b||^2$
  - $M_F$ : n'x(n p) matrix,  $M_L$ : n'xp,  $U_F$ (n-p) vector,  $U_L$  p vector

$$x = (A^T A)^{-1} A^T b$$

$$- A = \begin{pmatrix} M_F^{Re} & -M_F^{Im} \\ M_F^{Im} & M_F^{Re} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$- b = \begin{pmatrix} M_L^{Re} & -M_L^{Im} \\ M_L^{Im} & M_L^{Re} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} U_L^{Re} \\ U_L^{Im} \end{pmatrix}$$

Levy02]

# A few results

- Theoretical results
  - The matrix A has full rank with  $p \ge 2$
  - The solution is indeed unique
  - Solution independent of the quality of the input triangulation
- Practical results
  - Solver: conjugate gradient
  - At the time, dozens of seconds (P3 CPU)
  - Very low angular distortion









#### Automatic atlas generation

- Hold on...
  - The input surface has to be homeomorphic to a disc...
  - Let's partition it into disc segments (usually done manually)
  - Hide discontinuities in concave configurations (normals)
  - Geodesic distance from the feature lines: seed extraction
  - Chart merging if the contact point is too early
  - No guarantee on the induced distortion, see [Wang 2008]



### **Texture packing**



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  - Maximize the filling of the texture space with non convex polygons
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- Making a good usage of the texture memory
  - Maximize the filling of the texture space with non convex polygons
  - Known as the packing problem (NP-complete)
- A Tetris game
  - Rescale each unfolded chart to its original 3D area
  - Maximum diameter oriented vertically + sorting in decreasing order
  - Horizon computation
  - Minimize the lost space for each chart

#### Can we do better?



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Technical limitations (~minor)

•

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## Can we do better?



- Technical limitations (~minor)
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  - Overlapping can occur (not really a problem)
- More fundamental limitation
  - Important discontinuity across chart boundaries
- Problematic for applications
  - Texturing, just alright: visual artifacts are often hidden by shading
  - What about other signals? (bumps)
- Towards global parameterization



# **Global Parameterization**

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- Notion of surface quadrangulation
  - Contouring of global parameterizations
  - Quadrilaterals in place of triangles
  - Reverse-engineer the geometric structure
  - More on this later



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  - More on this later
- Many (sophisticated) attempts
  - Integrating direction fields
  - [Ray et al. 2006] [Kalberer et al. 2007]
  - Prone to numerical instabilities
  - Why are those solutions sophisticated?



#### From local to global parameterization

"Any problem which is non-linear in character, which involves more than one coordinate system (...) is likely to require considerations of topology and group theory for its solution.

In the solution of such problems, classical analysis will frequently appear as an instrument in the small, integrated over the whole problem with the aid of topology or group theory."

Marston Morse, 1934









































































































































 $4\pi$ 

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- This phenomenon continues when adding more quads
  - Corner of less than 4 quads: positive deficit
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  - Same reasoning if the atlas is cut open (  $2\pi$ )
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- What's going on?
  - Gauss Bonnet theorem, for closed surfaces
    - $\int K dA = 2\pi \chi(\mathcal{S})$
  - Constraints for optimization problems



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- Btw, how did the others do?



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  - $\int K dA = 2\pi \chi(\mathcal{S})$
- Constraints for optimization problems
- Btw, how did the others do?
  - Vector fields, Poincare-Hopf theorem

• 
$$\sum index(x_i) = \chi(\mathcal{S})$$

 $4\pi$ 

- This phenomenon continues when adding more quads
  - Corner of less than 4 quads: positive deficit
  - Corner of more than 4 quads: negative deficit
  - Same reasoning if the atlas is cut open (  $2\pi$ )
- What's going on?
  - Gauss Bonnet theorem, for closed surfaces
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  - Constraints for optimization problems
- Btw, how did the others do?
  - Vector fields, Poincare-Hopf theorem
    - $\sum index(x_i) = \chi(\mathcal{S})$
  - Scålar fields, Morse-Euler relation
    - $\sum_{i} \mu_i (-1)^i = \chi(\mathcal{S})$







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#### Uniformization theorem revisited





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#### Uniformization theorem revisited





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  - But still, the integral is related to the Euler characteristic
- Given 3 fixed points, there is a unique representative of conformal maps which induces constant Gaussian curvature
  - Optimization with constrained curvature (good transitions)

# **Optimizing metrics**

- The uniformization theorem stands originally for metrics
  - Original metric: ambient induced by the embedding in R<sup>3</sup>
  - $-l: E \to \mathbb{R}^+$
  - Optimized metric: in the target domain (induces the unfolding)
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  - After metric modification, we want circles to unfold to circles
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  - Notion of circle packing metric
- Optimization process
  - Conformally optimize the abstract metric until constant curvature
  - Unfold the mesh triangle by triangle, according to the final metric



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, [Jin08]

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 $\gamma_3$ 

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θ

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- Circle packing metrics
  - $(\Gamma, \theta)$
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- ... if it preserves angles
- Optimization: radii become the variables

[Jin08]

#### Ricci flow for metric scaling

- Quick recap
  - Variables: radial component of the metric at each vertex
    - Constraints (Gauss Bonnet theorem)
      - 0 for all vertices (flat mesh)
      - Prescribed Gaussian curvature at selected vertices
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- Iterative conformal metric scaling (smooth setting) •
  - $-g(t) = e^{2u(t)}g(0)$ , with  $u(t): \mathcal{S} \to \mathbb{R}$

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  - Notion of Ricci flow:  $\frac{dg(t)}{dt} = -2K(t)g(t)$
  - Flow that scales the metric according to the current curvature -  $\frac{du(t)}{dt} = -2K(t)$
- Ricci flow and uniformization theorem [Hamilton 1988] [Chow 1991]
  - The Ricci flow converges to a metric yielding constant curvature

#### **Discrete Ricci flow**



- In short
  - Applying the Ricci flow on a circle packing metric will iteratively transform it such that it eventually yields constant curvature (0)
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- Playing with the radial component of the metric *l* 
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  - Inserting curvature constraints  $K'_i$  in the discrete Ricci flow •  $\frac{du_i(t)}{dt} = 2(K'_i - K_i(t))$
- Uniqueness of the solution [Chow and Luo 2003]
  - The discrete Ricci flow is the gradient of a convex energy



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- Repeat until the curvature is close to the constraint value (threshold)
- Pin one triangle in the plane, iteratively pin neighbors (from the metric) •

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- Pin one triangle in the plane, iteratively pin neighbors (from the metric)
- Simple, right?

# Chronology and enhancements

- Three different techniques appeared ~ simultaneously
  - Different formulations
  - In essence, exactly the same process
  - [Kharevych et al. 2006]
  - [Jin et al. 2008]
    - Connection to Ricci flow
    - Euclidean, spherical and hyperbolic targets
    - Gradient descent and Newton's method
  - [Ben Chen et al. 2008]
    - Non iterative approach
    - Automatic singularity layout



[Kharevych06]

#### Are we done now?!

- There is still room for enhancements
  - Generation of the initial atlas layout?
  - Control on the singularities
  - Control on the alignment and orientation
- Towards artistic quadrangulation
- How about 3-manifolds?





- Given a global parameterization
  - Iso-contouring of the (u, v) fields
  - Yields a surface discretization made of quadrilaterals



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    - Pin one quad and continue (instant unfolding)
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    - Numerical stability (animation, simulation, etc.)

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- From a reverse engineering point of view (jpg → svg)
  - Artists generate surfaces made of quads
  - Quadrangulating a surface makes it ready for the geometric modeling pipeline
## **Initial altas layout**

- Defines the extraordinary vertices of the mesh
- Defines the orientation and alignment of the edges
- Fully manual
  - Singularity graph [Tong et al. 2006]
  - Polycube maps [Tarini et al. 2004]
- Fully automatic
  - Based on the Morse-Smale complex [Dong et al. 2006]
- Semi-automatic
  - Driven by sparse directional constraints
  - [Huang et al. 2008], [Bommes et al. 2009]
- Then, you could use any global parameterization technique (in theory)





## **Towards artistic quadrangulation**



- Automatic techniques?
  - Artists say "no way!"
    - Semantic of the surface (not necessarily related to its geometry)
    - Need for control
- User driven techniques
  - Still require a lot of intervention (plus advanced skills)
- More general problem of cross parameterization
  - $-\psi:\mathcal{S}_1\to\mathcal{S}_2$
  - Applications in shape registration, recognition, etc.

## What about volumes?

- For the same reasons, interesting to reverse engineer too
  - Harmonic maps with prescribed singularities
  - [Martin et al. 2009], [Martin et al. 2010]
  - [Xia et al. 2010]
- Discrete Ricci flow on PL 3-manifolds?
- Still a lot to do :)

[Martin10]

## A few useful references

- "Surface Parameterization : A tutorial and a survey", Floater M. and Hormann K., Advances in Multiresolution for Geometric Modelling, pp. 157-186, 2005.
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