



Computational Visualization

- 1. Sources, characteristics, representation
- 2. Mesh Processing
- 3. Contouring
- 4. Volume Rendering
- 5. Flow, Vector, Tensor Field Visualization
- 6. Application Case Studies











Computational Visualization: Contouring

Lecture 3

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Outline

- Primal vs Dual
- Topology Look Up Table
- Seed Sets
- Spectrum for Isovalue Selection
- Progressive
- Time Varying





The Isocontour Computation Problem

- Input:
 - Scalar Field F defined on a mesh
 - Multiple Isovalues *w* in unpredictable order
- Output (for each isovalue w): Contour $C(w) = \{x \mid F(x) = w\}$







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The Isocontour Computation Problem





Related Work

		Search Space	
		Geometric	Value
Contouring Strategy	Cell by Cell	Lorenson/Cline (Marching Cubes) Wilhelms/Van Gelder (octree)	Giles/Haimes (min-sorted ranges) Shen/Livnat/Johnson/Hansen (LxL lattice) Gallagher(span decomposed into backets) Shen/Johnson (hierachical min-max ranges) Cignoni/Montani/Puppo/Scopigno Livnat/Shen/Johnson (kd-tree)
	Mesh Propagation	Howie/Blake(propagation) Itoh/Koyamada (extrema graph) Itoh/Yamaguchi/Koyamada (volume thinnig)	van Kreveld Bajaj/Pascucci/Schikore van Kreveld /van Oostrum/Bajaj/ Pascucci/Schikore



Related Work

- Temporal Coherence
 Shen
- View Dependent
 Livnat/Hansen
- Adaptive
 Zhou/Chen/Kaufman
- Parallel (SIMD) Hansen/Hinker
- Parallel(cluster) Ellsiepen

- Out-of-core Chiang/Silva/Schroeder
- Parallel ray tracing
 Parker/Shirley/Livnat/
 Hansen/Sloan
- Parallel & Out-of-core

 Bajaj/Pascucci/Thompson/Zhang
 Zhang/Bajaj
 Zhang/Bajaj/Ramachandran
- Temporal-coherence Sutton/Hansen







The basic scheme



Isocontour query W

For each interval containing W Compute the portion of isocontour in the corresponding cell

 (f_{\min}, f_{\max})



The basic scheme



Isocontour query W

Complexity: *m* + log(*n*) Optimal but impractical because of the size of the interval-tree

 (f_{\min}, f_{\max})



Seed Set Optimization



For each connected component we need only one cell (and then propagate by adjacency in the mesh)

Seed Set: a set of cells intersecting every connected component of every isocontour

 (f_{\min}, f_{\max})







Seed Set Generation (k seeds from n cells)







































The number of seeds selected is the minimum plus the number of local minima.





Seed set of a 3D scalar field





 Consider a terrain of which you want to compute the length of each isocontour and the area contained inside each isocontour.





Graphical User Interface for Static Data



The horizontal axis spans the scalar values α.

Plot of a set of signatures (length, area, gradient ...) as functions of the scalar value α .

• Vertical axis spans normalized ranges of each signature.



Graphical User Interface for time varying data



The horizontal axis spans the scalar value dimension α The vertical axis spans the time dimension *t*



 $(\alpha, t) \rightarrow c$ The color *c* is mapped to the magnitude of a signature function of time *t* and isovalue α

high

magnitude



(MRI human torso)

- The isocontour that bounds the region of interest is obtained by selecting the maximum of the gradient signature.
- In real time the exact value of each signature is displayed.



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Time Quantitative Queries (agricultural yield data)

You can compute the area of an isosurface without computing the isosurface



size and position of the region with unsatisfactory production

size and position of the region where incorrect data acquisition occurred



Rule-based Contouring (CT scan of an engine)





(foot of the Visible Human)



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Spectral Analysis (a view inside the data)





Spectral Analysis (signature computation)



The length of each contour is a C⁰ spline function.

The area inside/outside each isocontour is a C^1 spline function.





- In general the size of each isocontour of a scalar field of dimension d is a spline function of d-2 continuity.
- The size of the region inside/outside is given by a spline function of d-1 continuity





We have an optimal isocontouring algorithm with minimal storage requirements

What more? A <u>Progressive</u> Algorithm

N.B. not just a progressive data-structure but a progressive <u>algorithm</u>


Bring on the coffee! Or Mineral Wasser !!









- Input:
 - hierarchical mesh (e.g. generated by edge bisection)
 - an isovalue
- Output:
 - a hierarchical representation of the required isosurface
 - the input mesh must be traversed from the coarse level to the fine level
 - as the input mesh is partially traversed the output contour hierarchy must be generated



Edge Bisection







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- Local refinement: only the cells incident to the split edge are refined.
- Adaptivity without "temporary" subdivision.





















































What more Contouring ?







Higher Order Contouring with A-patches





A-patches in BB-form

• Given tetrahedron vertices $p_i=(x_i, y_i, z_i)$, i=1,2,3,4, α is barycentric coordinates of p=(x,y,z):



• function f(p) of degree *n* can be expressed in Bernstein-Bezier form :

$$f(p) = \sum_{|\lambda|=n} b_{\lambda} B_{\lambda}^{n}(\alpha), \ \lambda \in \mathcal{Z}_{+}^{4} \quad B_{\lambda}^{n}(\alpha) = \frac{n!}{\lambda_{1}!\lambda_{2}!\lambda_{3}!\lambda_{4}!} \alpha_{1}^{\lambda_{1}}\alpha_{2}^{\lambda_{2}}\alpha_{3}^{\lambda_{3}}\alpha_{4}^{\lambda_{4}}$$

• Algebraic surface patch(A-patch) within the tet is defined as f(p)=0.



High Order Contouring using A-patches

• Implicit form of Isocontour : f(x,y,z) = w





Marching Cubes

- Piecewise linear approximation of an isosurface
- Visit and Triangulate Each Cells based on a Table
- Triangulation Table (256 →15 cases)





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Good Approximation

- Topological accuracy
 - Decided by saddle point values







31 Cases











4.1.1









1



2

6.2

10.1.1





7.3

11



7.4.1

12.1.1

4.1.2









9



10.1.2













8

13.1



13.3





10.2







13.5.1



- Better appoximation of trilinear interpolant
 - Adding a shoulder and inflection points







High Order Contouring with A-patches



- (a) Scattered points
- (b) Octree subdivision \rightarrow function interpolation
- (c) Piecewise polynomial approximation
- (d) Reconstructed scalar fields

No more Contouring !







Dual Contouring

Primal Contouring vs Dual Contouring



Primal contour





Dual Contouring

Polygons with better aspect ratio







Adaptive Dual Contouring

Feature preservation



Normal adaptive isocontouring





- Isosurface component tracking
 - traces and updates the movement and topology changes of an isosurface component in time-varying fields.



- Tracking smooth evolution of an isosurface
- Tracking isosurface topology changes over time
- Efficiency : I/O optimization , delta seedset.



- Temporal Propagation
 - Given an isosurface component Ct at time t,
 - Track the movement of Ct
 - Construct the isosurface component Ct' at time t'=t+ Δ t



• above isovalue O below isovalue



 Smooth animation of time dependent isosurfaces



Marching thru time









Visualization of time-dependent isosurfaces structur

- Connecting the centroid of each component
- topology change and the movement direction of the surface.



Isocontour Topology Tracking










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6. Application Case Studies





Further Reading

- Fast Isocontouring for Improved Interactivity Proceedings: ACM Siggraph/IEEE Symposium on Volume Visualization, ACM Press, (1996), San Francisco, CA
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- Z. Wood, M. Desbrun, P. Schröder and D.E. Breen, "Semi-Regular Mesh Extraction from Volumes", IEEE Visualization 2000



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