



# Collision detection

- Static interference tests
- Exact collision prediction
- Conservative tests and acceleration techniques

“Collision detection is one of the most challenging and most important problems in computer animation!”

Updated November 9, 2012

# Types of animations

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- Camera moves in static environment
- Rigid motion: Objects are rigid, they only rotate and translate
- Articulated bodies: Parameterized linkage of rigid bodies
  - A child's pose (forearm) is obtained from a parent's pose (upper-arm) by an arbitrary rotation (elbow angle) and a fixed translation (length of upper-arm).
- Deformations: Each shape deforms with time
  - Deformation may be simulated using naïve physics or computed to interpolate between two shapes (3D morphing)
- Reactive: Responds to user actions
  - Shape moves and deforms when approached or poked by the user

All must detect collisions and adjust behavior

# The collision detection problem

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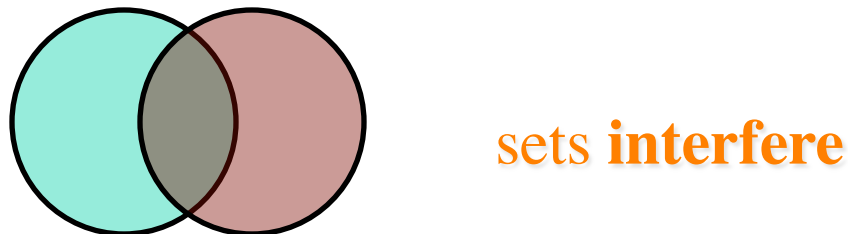
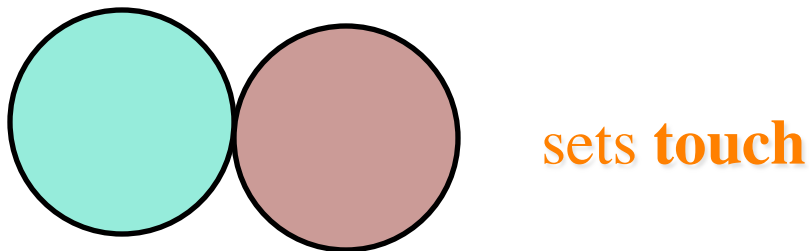
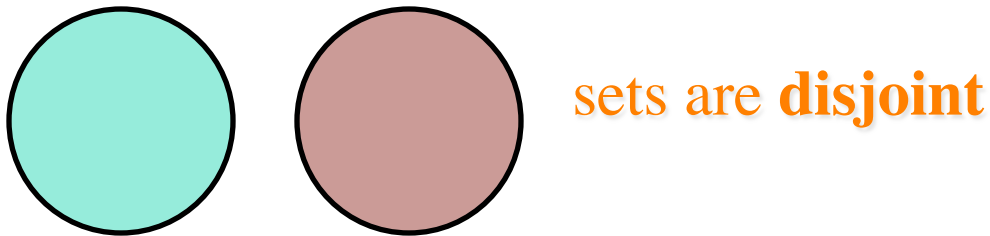
Shapes A and B evolve (move, deform) with time.

Notation for their instance at time  $t > 0$ :  $A(t)$  and  $B(t)$ .

**Find the smallest  $t$  such that  $A(t) \cap B(t) \neq \emptyset$ .**

# Interference

- A and B interfere when they share at least one common point.
- $A \cap B \neq \emptyset$

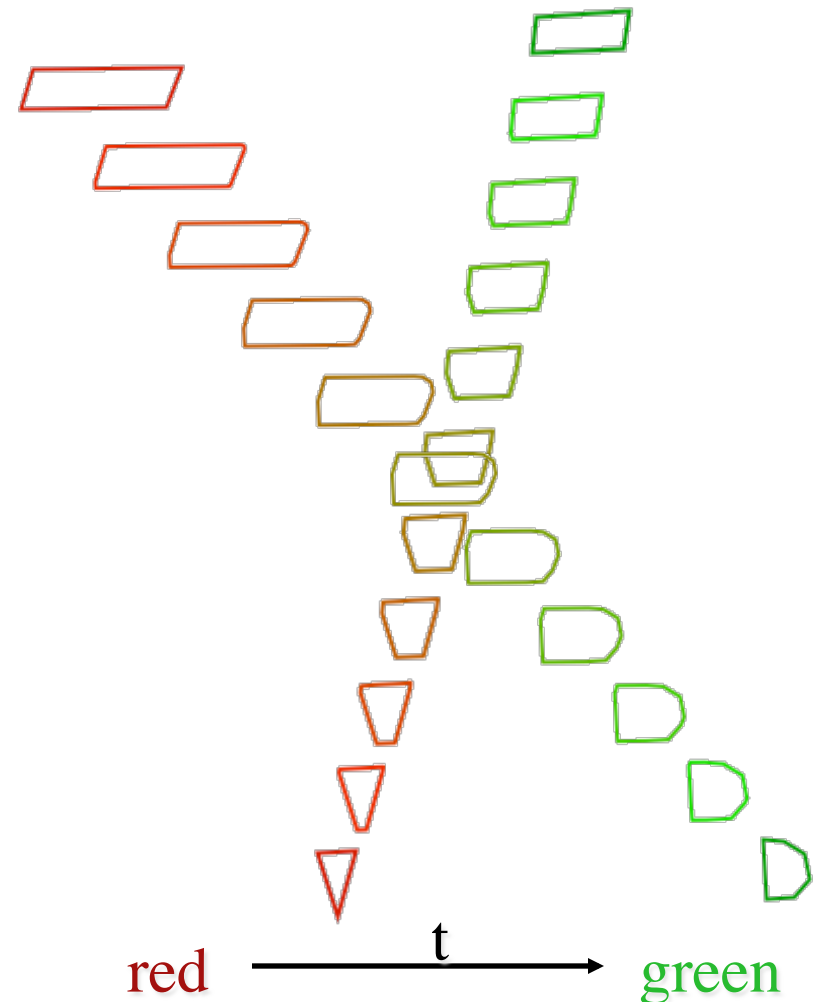


# Static interference tests for collision

A and B evolve (move, deform) with time:  $A(t)$  and  $B(t)$ .

Test and then assume  $A(0) \cap B(0) = \emptyset$

```
t=0;
repeat {
  if ( $A(t+dt) \cap B(t+dt) \neq \emptyset$ ) {
    repeat 5 times {
      if ( $A(t+dt/2) \cap B(t+dt/2) \neq \emptyset$ )  $dt=dt/2$ ;
      else  $t+=dt/2$ ; };
    return(t); };
}
return(-1); // no collision found
```



# How to test for interference

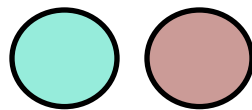
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- Often (not always) we are using the boundaries of shapes to test for interference.

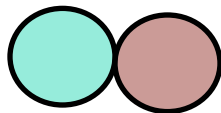


# Testing boundaries

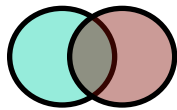
- A and B are disjoint if and only if their boundaries are disjoint
  - True or false?
  - If true, prove or justify
  - If false, provide a counterexample  
and propose a correct test using the boundaries:



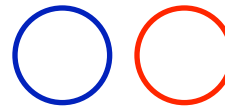
sets are disjoint



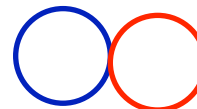
boundaries touch



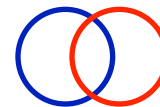
sets interfere



boundaries are disjoint



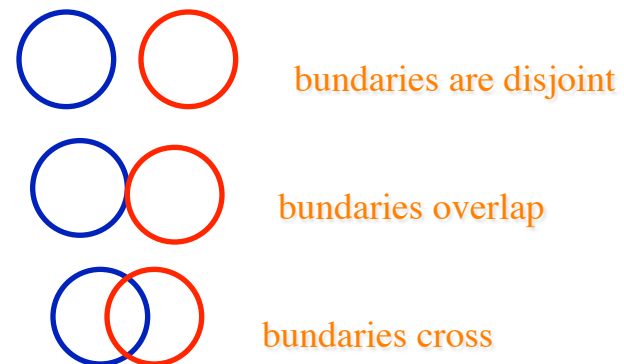
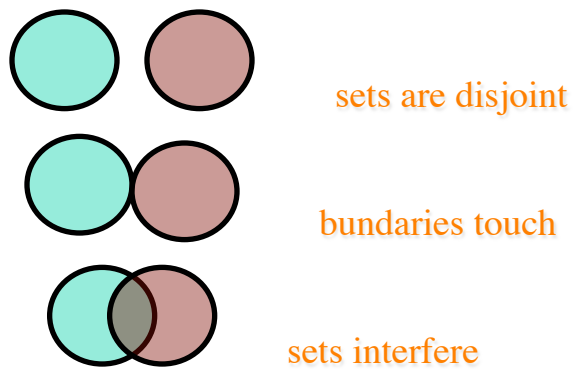
boundaries overlap



boundaries cross

# Distinguish touch and interfere

- How can you use tests on boundries to distinguish
  - disjoint
  - touching
  - interfering





# Detecting collisions between balls

- For simplicity, we assume that objects collide when their enclosing balls collide
  - Compute enclosing ball of center  $\mathbf{c}$  and radius  $r$  as follows:
    - $\mathbf{c} := ((x_{\min} + x_{\max})/2, (y_{\min} + y_{\max})/2, (z_{\min} + z_{\max})/2)$
    - $r := \max(\|\mathbf{c}\mathbf{v}\|)$  for all vertices  $\mathbf{v}$  of the object
- Interference detection:
  - After each time step, check whether any pair of objects interfere
  - $\text{Ball}(\mathbf{c}_1, r_1)$  and  $\text{Ball}(\mathbf{c}_2, r_2)$  interfere when
  - Need very small steps not to miss a chock  $\|\mathbf{c}_1\mathbf{c}_2\| < r_1 + r_2$
- Collision prediction:
  - Express the relative motion of object 2 in the CS of object 1
    - For motions with fixed velocities,  $\mathbf{v}_1$  and  $\mathbf{v}_2$ , you get  $\mathbf{v}_1$  and  $\mathbf{v}_2$ ,  $\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{v}_2 - \mathbf{v}_1$ .
  - Shrink object 2 to a point  $\mathbf{c}_2$  and expand object 1 to  $\text{Ball}(\mathbf{c}_1, r_1 + r_2)$
  - Check whether curve swept by  $\mathbf{c}_2$  intersects  $\text{Ball}(\mathbf{c}_1, r_1 + r_2)$ 
    - Constant velocity motion: find smallest time  $t > 0$  when  $(\mathbf{c}_2 + t\mathbf{v})^2 = (r_1 + r_2)^2$

# Collision between disks

Assume that disk  $D_1 = \text{disk}(C_1, r_1)$  will travel with constant velocity  $V_1$ . Similarly, disk  $D_2 = \text{disk}(C_2, r_2)$  will travel with constant velocity  $V_2$ . Assume that they are initially disjoint.

- How would you compute the **time t** when they will **collide**?

Solve  $((C_2 + tV_2) - (C_1 + tV_1))^2 = (r_1 + r_2)^2$  for t

$$(C_1 C_2 + t(V_2 - V_1))^2 = (r_1 + r_2)^2$$

$$(V_2 - V_1)^2 t^2 + 2C_1 C_2 \cdot (V_2 - V_1) t + C_1 C_2^2 - (r_1 + r_2)^2 = 0$$

return the smallest positive value of t if one exists

*We can reduce this problem to the one of line/circle intersection:*

*$D_2$  is stationary,  $D_1$  moves by  $V_1 - V_2$*

*$D_2$  has radius  $r_1 + r_2$  (inflated by  $r_1$ ),  $D_1$  is a point (deflated by  $r_1$ )  
when will  $D_1$  (the point) hit the inflated  $D_2$ ?*

# Elastic shock between two disks

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Assume that disk  $D_1 = \text{disk}(C_1, r)$  traveling with **constant velocity**  $V_1$  and disk  $D_2 = \text{disk}(C_2, r)$  traveling with constant velocity  $V_2$  have just collided. What should their velocities  $V_1'$  and  $V_2'$  be?

*(We assume that they have the same mass.)*

We must **exchange their normal velocities**

$N = U(C_1 C_2)$  (normal direction to both at contact point)

$U_1 = (V_1 \bullet N) N$  (normal components of velocities)

$U_2 = (V_2 \bullet N) N$

$V_1' = V_1 - U_1 + U_2$  (cancel  $U_1$  and add  $U_2$ )

$V_2' = V_2 - U_2 + U_1$  ( to exchange their normal velocities)

# Elastic shock with a fixed disk

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Assume that disk  $D_1 = \text{disk}(C_1, r)$ , traveling with **constant velocity**  $V$ , has just collided with a **static** disk  $D_2 = \text{disk}(C_2, r)$ . What should its velocity  $V'$  after the bounce?

*(We assume that  $D_2$  has infinite mass.)*

We must negate (**reverse**) the **normal component** of  $V$

$N = C_1 C_2.\text{unit}$  (normal direction to both at contact point)

$U = (V \bullet N) N$  (normal components of  $V$ )

$V' = V - 2U$  (swap direction of  $U$ )

# Elastic collision between balls

- Tangential velocities are maintained. Masses:  $a$  and  $b$
- Velocities in the normal direction:  $s$  and  $t$  before and  $s'$  and  $t'$  after the shock
  - Conservation of momentum:  $as+bt=as'+bt'$  (1)
  - Conservation of energy:  $as^2+bt^2=as'^2+bt'^2$  (2)
  - Regrouping in (1):  $a(s-s')=b(t'-t)$  (3)
  - Regrouping in (2) and using  $x^2-y^2=(x+y)(x-y)$ :  $a(s-s')(s+s')=b(t'-t)(t'+t)$  (4)
  - Combining (3) and (4) :  $s+s'=t+t'$  (5)
  - Substituting  $t'=s+s'-t$  obtained from (5) in (1) yields:  $as+bt=as'+bs+bs'-bt$  (6)
  - Reorganizing (6) :  $(a+b)s'=(a-b)s+2bt$  (7)
  - Reorganizing and swapping  $(s,a)$  and  $(t,b)$ :
    - $s'=s+2b(t-s)/(a+b)$  and  $t'=t+2a(s-t)/(a+b)$  (8)
- Note that when  $a=b$ , then  $s'=t$  and  $t'=s$  (exchange of normal velocities)
- When  $a \gg b$ :  $s'=s$  (not affected) and  $t'=2s-t$  (reverse speed of  $b$  if  $a$  is static)

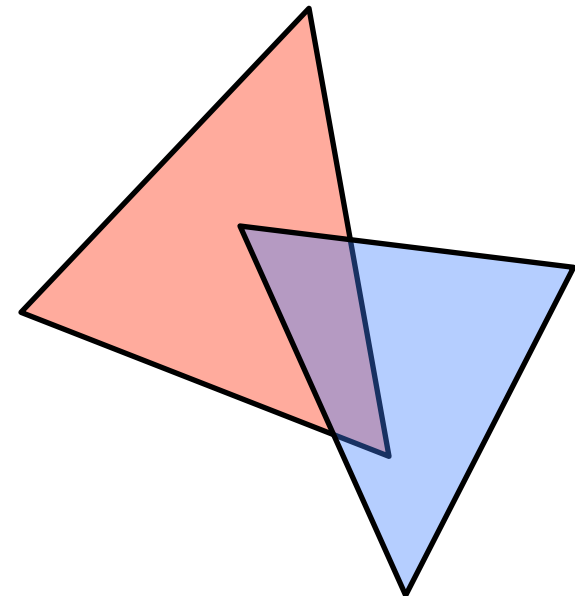


# 2D interference between triangles

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- Two triangles interfere if a vertex of one lies inside the other
  - True or false?
  - Justify
  - of provide a counterexample
  - and a correct test

Modify your test to distinguish disjoint, interfere, and touch



# Test for polygon/polygon intersection in 2D?

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- A and B are polygons
  - They are connected sets in 2D, but may have holes
- Write the high-level test for checking whether they interfere

For each connected **component** of **A** do, if the **first vertex** of that component is **in or on B**, return TRUE

For each connected component of **B** do, if the first vertex of that component is in or on **A**, return TRUE

For each **edge**  $E_a$  of **A** do, for each **edge**  $E_b$  of **B** do, if  $E_a$  intersects  $E_b$ , return TRUE

Otherwise return FALSE

# Details

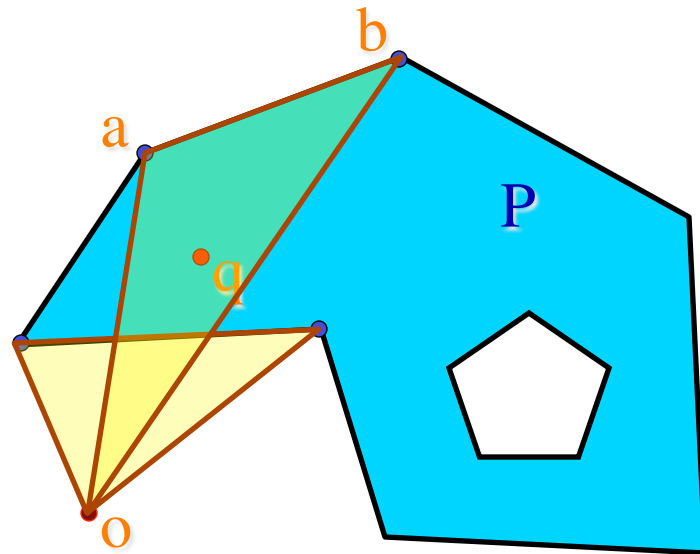
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- Point-in-polygon
- Edge/edge intersection



# Point-in-polygon test

- Algorithm for testing whether point  $q$  is inside polygon  $P$



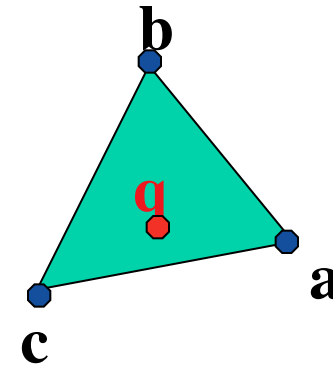
$\text{inP} := \text{false};$

for each edge  $(a,b)$  of  $P$  {if ( $\text{inTriangle}(q,a,b,o)$ ) then  $\text{inP} := !\text{inP};$

return( $\text{inP}$ );

# Point-in-triangle test in 2D

- Is point  $q$  in  $\text{tri}(a,b,c)$  ?



$ab \times aq$

$bc \times bq$

$ca \times cq$

all have the same sign

# Edge/edge intersection in 2D

- Write a geometric expression that returns TRUE when edges **(a,b)** and **(c,d)** intersect

$((ab \times ac > 0) \neq (ab \times ad > 0))$

$\&\&$

$((cd \times ca > 0) \neq (cd \times cb > 0))$

