



## Real-Time Collision Detection for Dynamic Virtual Environments

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Tutorial:

## Real-Time Collision Detection for Dynamic Virtual Environments

### Bounding Volume Hierarchies

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### Outline



- Introduction
- Bounding Volume Types
- Hierarchy
  - Hierarchy Construction
  - Hierarchy Update
  - Hierarchy Traversal
- Comparison Rigid-Deformable Objects
- Examples and Conclusion



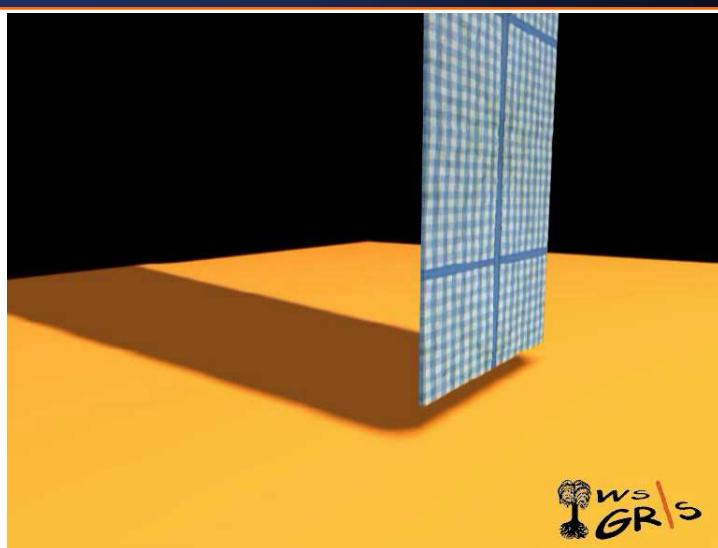
## Problem of Collision Detection:

Object representations in simulation environments do not consider impenetrability.

**Collision Detection: Detection of interpenetrating objects.**

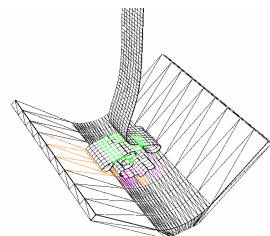
The problem is encountered in

- computer-aided design and machining (CAD/CAM),
- robotics,
- automation, manufacturing,
- computer graphics,
- animation and computer simulated environments.



**Definition of Bounding Volume Hierarchy (BVH):**

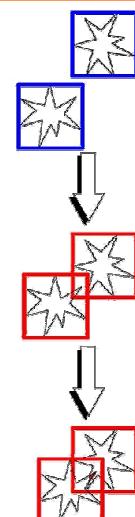
Each node of a tree is associated with a subset of primitives of the objects together with a bounding volume (BV) that encloses this subset with the smallest instance of some specified class of shape.



Use these BVs as simplified surface representation for fast approximate collision detection test:

**Examples of BVs:**

- Spheres
  - Discrete oriented polytopes (k-DOPs)
  - Axis-aligned bounding boxes (AABB)
  - Object-oriented bounding boxes (OBB)
- 
- Check bounding volumes to get the information whether bounded objects **could** interfere.
  - Avoid checking all object primitives against each other.
  - Assumption that collisions between objects are rare.

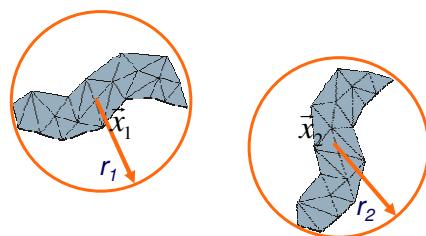




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Spheres are represented by center  $\vec{x}$  and radius  $r$ .



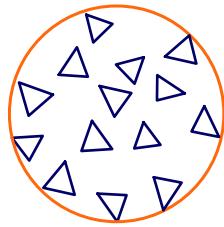
Two spheres do not overlap if  $(\vec{x}_1 - \vec{x}_2) \cdot (\vec{x}_1 - \vec{x}_2) > (r_1 + r_2)^2$



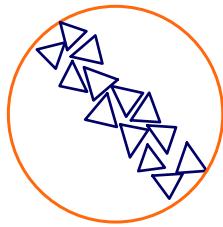
Sphere as bounding volume:



sphere



good choice



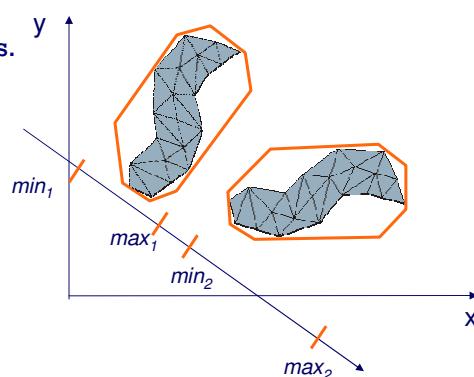
bad choice



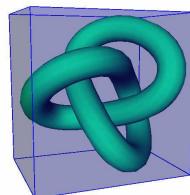
**Discrete oriented polytopes ( $k$ -DOP)** are a generalization of axis aligned bounding boxes (AABB) defined by  $k$  hyperplanes with normals in **discrete** directions ( $n_k: n_{k,j} \in \{0, \pm 1\}$ ).

$k$ -DOP is defined by  $k/2$  pairs of  $\min$ ,  $\max$  values in  $k$  directions.

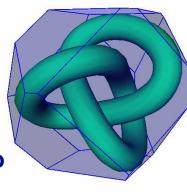
Two  $k$ -DOPs do not overlap, if the intervals in one direction do not overlap.



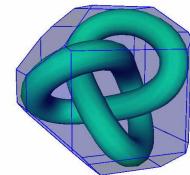
DOP

Different **k-DOPs**:6-DOP  
(AABB)

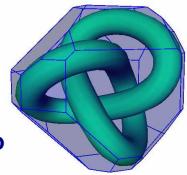
14-DOP



18-DOP



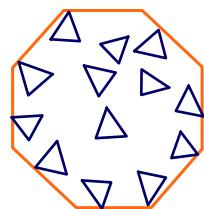
26-DOP



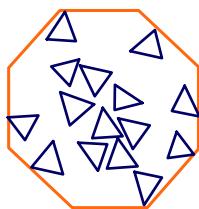
DOP



14-DOP as bounding volume:



optimal choice



also good choice



DOP

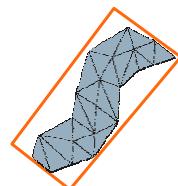


**Object oriented bounding boxes (OBB)** can be represented by the principal axes of a set of vertices. These axes have **no discrete orientation**. They move together with the object.

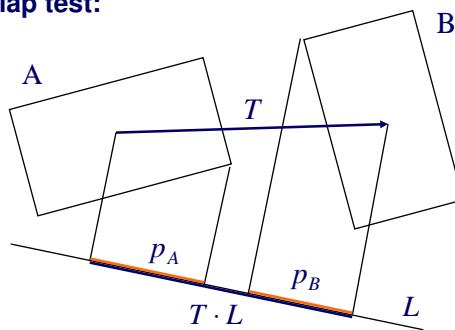
The axes are given by the Eigenvectors of the covariance matrix:

$$\text{Centre of vertices } \bar{x}_i : \bar{\mu} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \bar{x}_i$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Covariance matrix: } C_{jk} &= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \bar{x}_{ij} \bar{x}_{ik} & j, k = 1..3 \\ \bar{x}_i &= \bar{x}_i - \bar{\mu} \end{aligned}$$



#### OBB overlap test:



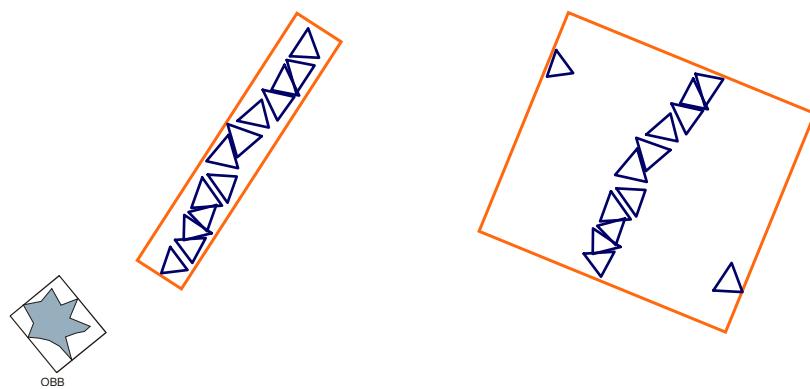
$A$  and  $B$  do not overlap if:  $|T \cdot L| > p_A + p_B$



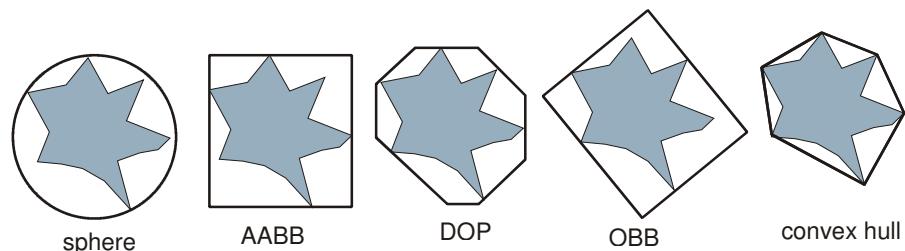
Problem: Find direction of  $L$



- Principal axes of an object are not always a good choice for the main axes of an OBB!
- Inhomogeneous vertex distribution can cause bad OBBs.



Better approximation,  
higher build and update costs



Smaller computational costs  
for overlap test

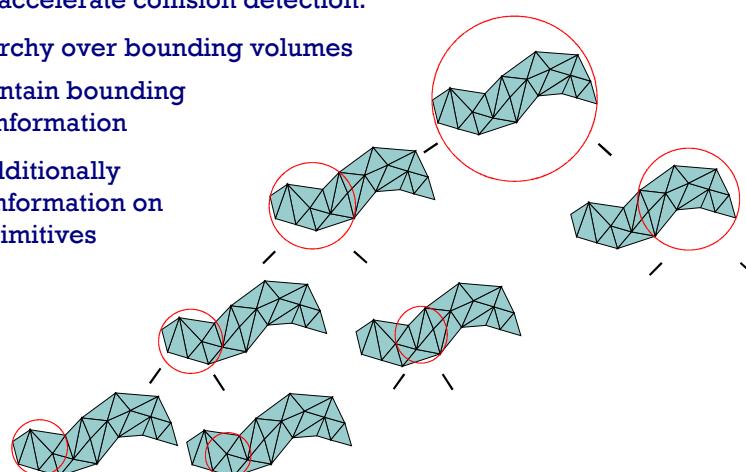


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To further accelerate collision detection:

- use hierarchy over bounding volumes
- nodes contain bounding volume information
- leaves additionally contain information on object primitives





### Parameters

- Bounding volume
- Type of tree (binary, 4-ary, k-d-tree, ...)
- Bottom-up/top-down
- Heuristic to subdivide/group object primitives or bounding volumes
- How many primitives in each leaf of the BV tree

### Goals

- Balanced tree
- Tight-fitting bounding volumes
- Minimal redundancy  
(primitives in more than one BV per level)

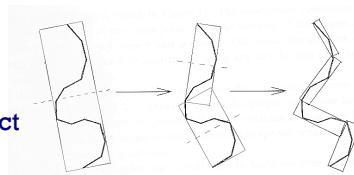


### Bottom-Up

- Start with object-representing primitives
- Fit a bounding volume to given number of primitives
- Group primitives and bounding volumes recursively
- Stop in case of a single bounding volume at a hierarchy level

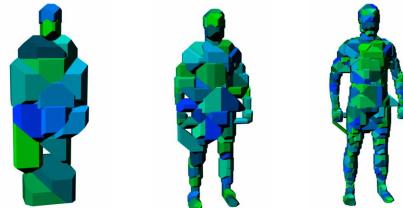
### Top-Down

- Start with object
- Fit a bounding volume to the object
- Split object and bounding volume recursively according to heuristic
- Stop, if all bounding volumes in a level contain less than  $n$  primitives



***Top-Down Node-split:***

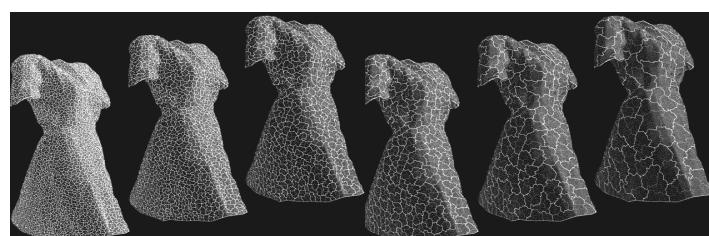
- Split k-DOP using heuristic:
  - Try to minimize volume of children (Zachmann VRST02).
  - Split along the longest side of the k-DOP (Mezger et al. WSCG03).



- The splitting continues until n single elements remain per leaf.

***Bottom-Up Node-grouping:***

- Group nodes using heuristic:
  - Try to get round-shaped patches by improving a shape factor for the area (Volino et al. CGF94).



- Group until all elements are grouped and the root node of the hierarchy is reached.



**Updating is necessary in each time step due to movement/deformation of simulated object.**

Difference between rigid and deformable objects:

- For rigid objects: transformations can be applied to complete object.
- For deformable objects: all BVs need to be updated separately.
  - Update is possible top-down or bottom-up.
  - To avoid a complete update of all nodes in each step, different update strategies have been proposed.



Some object transformations can be simply applied to all elements of the bounding-volume tree:

### Spheres

- Translation, rotation



### Discrete Orientation Polytopes

- Translation, no rotation  
(discrete orientations of  $k$  hyperplanes for all objects)



### Object-Oriented Bounding Boxes

- Translation, rotation  
(box orientations are not fixed)





Larsson and Akenine-Möller (EG 2001):

- If many deep nodes are reached, bottom-up update is faster.
- For only some deep nodes reached, top-down update is faster.

-> Update top half of hierarchy bottom-up

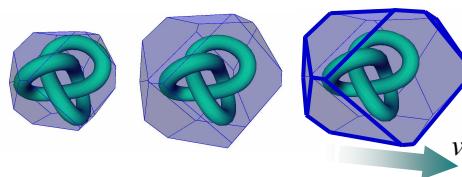
-> only if non-updated nodes are reached update them top-down.

- Reduction of unnecessarily updated nodes!
- Leaf information of vertices/faces has to be stored also in internal nodes -> higher memory requirements.



Mezger et al. (WSCG 2003):

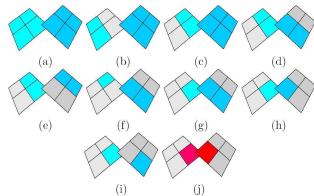
- Inflate bounding volumes by a certain distance depending on velocity.



Update is only necessary if enclosed objects moved farther than that distance.

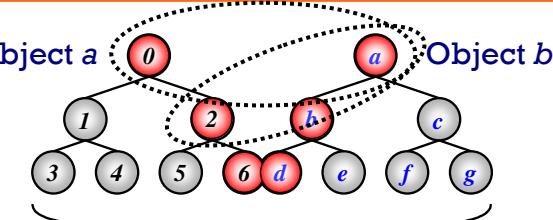
-> Fewer updates necessary.

-> More false positive collisions of BVs.

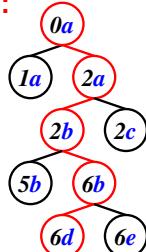
**Binary trees:**

Object a

Object b

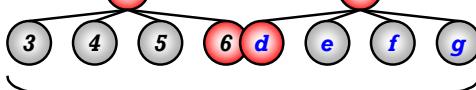
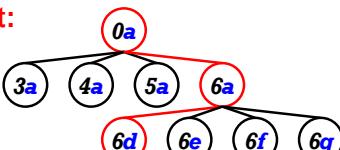
**Collision test:**Minimize probability of intersection  
as fast as possible:

- Test node with smaller volume  
against the children of the node  
with larger volume.

**4-ary Trees:**

Object a

Object b

**Collision test:****Higher order trees:**

- Fewer nodes
- Total update costs are lower
- Recursion depth during overlap tests is lower, therefore  
lower memory requirements on stack



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### Rigid Objects:

- use OBBs as they are usually tighter fitting and can be updated by applying translations and rotations.
- update complete BVH by applying transformations
- usually small number of collisions occur

### Deformable Object:

- use DOPs as update costs are lower than for OBBs
- update by refitting or rebuilding each BV separately (top-down, bottom-up)
- high number of collisions may occur
- Self-collisions need to be detected
- use higher order trees (4-ary, 8-ary)



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# Interactive Cutting and Sewing

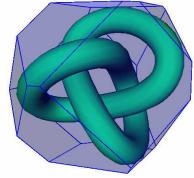
 Conclusions 

- BVHs are well-suited for animations or interactive applications, since updating can be done very efficiently.
- BVHs can be used to detect self-collisions of deformable objects while applying additional heuristics to accelerate this process.
- BVHs work with triangles or tetrahedrons which allow for a more sophisticated collision response compared to a pure vertex-based response.
- Optimal BVH and BV dependent on application (collision or proximity detection) and type of objects (rigid / deformable object)

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Thank you!



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