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Procedural Stylization

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Abstract

Your abstract goes here...

Acknowledgement

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to .. for his invaluable assistance and comments in reviewing this report... Good luck :)

Résumé

Your abstract in French goes here...

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Introduction

1.1 Background

1.2 Problem Statement

The main problem of stylizing a 3D object in an animation is the *temporal coherence*. The effect given by the stylization has to be kept if the object is moving, rotating and scaling. Many research has been done to solve this problem of *temporal coherence* [30, 7, 3]. we separate this problem is three sections inspired by previous work[24, 11, 5, 8]:

1.2.1 Flatness

The impression of drawing on a flat surface gives the *flatness*. The stylization has a good *flatness* if the image rendered has a good 2D appearance. In order to keep this effect, the size and the distribution of the marks of your stylization have to be independent of the distance between the stylized object and the camera.

1.2.2 Motion Coherence

Motion coherence is a correlation between the motion of marks and the motion of the 3D object. Bad *Motion coherence* will give the impression to see the scene through a semi-transparent layer of marks, this is called *shower door* effect [24], an example to illustrate what happens when there is a bad *Motion coherence* is the movie *Loving Vincent*[2]. The goal is to provide in 2D screen space a perceptual impression of motion as close as possible to the 3D displacement in object space.

1.2.3 Temporal continuity

Temporal continuity is the quality of minimizing changes from frame to frame to ensure fluid animations. In order to have good *temporal continuity*, the marks of the image have to fade slowly during the animation. Human perception is very sensitive to *temporal incoherence* according to some perceptual studies[31, 28].

The problem introduced in the works of Bénard et al.[8] is the difficulty to have a ideal solution, the one that has a good *flatness*, a good *motion coherence* and a good *temporal continuity*. These three goals are inherently contradictory, when you improve one you neglect one or maybe more. So researchers work to find solutions that make *trade-offs* between these three goals. Our solution is a *trade-offs* too.

1.3 Scientific approach

1.4 Contents of this report

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Previous Work

Image stylization has been around for years. Researchers first start to stylize images [22, 16, 29, 32, 19, 23, 22, 18] in order to have non-photorealistic images. Then they tried to stylize video[21, 22, 18, 4] some of them use the advantage to have the motion flow to improve the *temporal coherence*. In our approach, we want to stylize 3D objects. The advantages of it are that we have more information (like the position of each vertex, the normals, the distance from the camera, ...) about the scene than just an image or a video. In our approach, the goal is to make stylized rendering of 3D objects. There are two moments in a pipeline rendering when we can stylize an object, the first is when we manipulate the vertices and the color of each triangle it is the *object space*. The second is when we do the compositing with the textures that we have like shadow map, image filter, ... (manipulation of pixels of the screen) it is the *image space* and also called *screen space*

2.1 Object Space

Texture-based methods

One of the most used ways to colored object in 3D is the *texture mapping* [**?**]. It consists to add information to each vertex of the 3D object. These information many times are 2D coordinates that correspond to the position of a pixel in a 2D texture. This technique is very used in video games because it is easy to implement, it can be implemented for GPU and it needs low computation. Cel-shading, toon art mapping, gooch shading and others[8] are texture based rendering in object space[26, 17, 7, 6, 13] which are used to stylize scene. As said by Bénard et *al.* [7] textures naturally ensure *motion coherence* and *temporal continuity*. Indeed because each vertex has his color and so the color in moving with the object but gives a bad *flatness* because if the object gets bigger and bigger, pixelization will appear. In order to solve this problem, some[17, 7] tries to use mipmaps (combining multiple scales of textures) to improve *flatness*. Bénard et *al.*[6] use the same principle but with procedural textures. They create multiple noises with different frequency and combine them playing with transparency. Moreover, they overlap the noise to make an impression of infinite zoom effect (like in this example: ShaderToy). With this method patterns of the texture have an almost constant size regardless of the size of the object but it can create small problems of *temporal continuity*. In our method, we will use this technique of fractalization of a procedural noise.

Mark based methods

The natural way to stylize 3D objects is to as an artist apply paint strokes on the object. These paint strokes can be represented with smalls images also called splats. Daniels[12] and Schmid[27] propose to project splats composed of stroke and stored them on the geometry of the model but this technique is expensive in term of storage. Some works [24, 1, 10](more in the state of the art [8]) use point distribution in order to make anchor points for splats. These point distributions are often computed in image space and then are projected on the model. Anchor these splats to the model improve the *motion coherence* because each splat will follow the motion of the 3D model. These splats are rendered in the image space as a 2D sprites so preserved the *flatness*. The problem is how to have the point distribution and how can we control it in order to have a uniform, not too sparse and not too dense distribution. Moreover, these point distribution does not provide control over the *temporal continuity*. In our method, we use procedural noise to anchor the splats.

2.2 Image space

Texture-based methods

Many methods to stylize in image space used texture based approaches. It consists to apply the texture to the entire image [8] but in the case of stylizing animated scenes, the problem is how do we deform the texture to minimize the apparition of sliding artefacts. We can distinguish two families of approaches to solve this problem. The first family of approaches use an approximation of the 3D camera motion with 2D transformations of the texture[11]. This gives a nice trade-off between *motion coherence* and *flatness* but it is limited to static scenes and a set of few camera motions. Moreover, sliding artefacts still occur with strong parallax so Fung et al.[14] and Breslav et al.[5] improve the approximation of the scene motion in order to reduce sliding artefacts.

The second family of approaches use non-rigid deformations to animate the texture[4]. These deformations are computed from the optical flow of a video. This is an extension of the methods used in vector field visualization by Neyret[25]. These deformations can distort the texture and alter the original pattern. The method of Bousseau et al.[4] is very effective with stochastic textures as the fractalization process but creates artefacts with structured patterns.

Mark based methods

A method very used to stylize in image space consists to draw strokes/splats at some place of the image[3, 30, 9, 32, 15]. The question of these mark based method is where do we place the marks in order to have a stylized rendering without losing the meaning of the scene. A first approach is to extract lines that are relevant like the silhouettes, etc. [30, 15, 20] and then stylize the image with this information, like keeping only the extracted lines and change the shape of each line or apply strokes along these lines as Vergne et al.[30] did try to have a good *temporal coherence*. The problem of these techniques is the popping marks due to a bad *temporal continuity*. A second approach is to segment the image in order to have the different parts of the scene[32, 21]. Thanks to this segmentation, they apply different strokes for each part of the image with the corresponding colors. The work of Lin et al.[21] is about videos so they use the optical flow of the videos in order to have a good *temporal coherence*. These mark based methods have a good impression of *flatness* thanks to the splatting in image space, this is something that we will use in our approach.

	Motion coherence	**Flatness**	**Temporal continuity**	**Style variation**
Object space				
Texture-based methods	++	- -	++	- -
Mark based methods	++	+	-	+/-
Image space				
Texture-based methods	-	++	+	- -
Mark based methods	-	++	- -	+

Figure 2.1: Summary of trade-offs made in different approaches

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Realisation

3.1 Overview

As explains above in the state of the artand in the figure2.1 each approach has its advantages and its disadvantages.

3.2 Procedural noise and fractalization

3.3 Splatting

3.4 Stylization

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Practical implementation

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