
voxelmap

Release 3.4

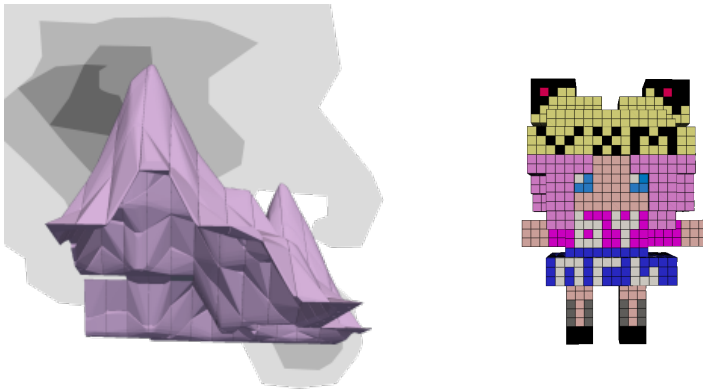
Andrew Garcia, Ph.D.

Mar 25, 2023

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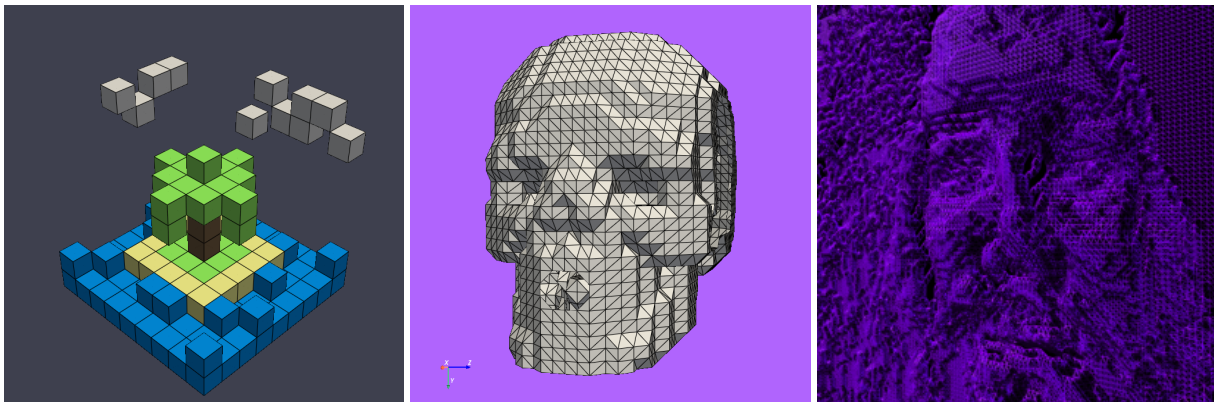
LET'S MAKE 3-D MODELS WITH PYTHON!



Ever wanted to make simple 3-D models from numpy arrays? Now you can do that with voxelmap ! **Voxelmap** is a Python library for making voxel and three-dimensional models from NumPy arrays. It was initially made to streamline 3-D voxel modeling by assigning each integer in an array to a voxel. Now, methods are being developed for mesh representations, voxel-to-mesh transformation and vice-versa.

1.1 Clickable examples

Click on the images below for their source code.



Check out the [Usage](#) section for further information, including how to [Installation](#) the project.

You may also click on the image below for a nice, interactive tutorial through a Colab notebook:



Note: This project is under active development.

CONTENTS

2.1 Usage

2.1.1 Installation

It is recommended you use voxelmap through a virtual environment. You may follow the below simple protocol to create the virtual environment, run it, and install the package there:

```
$ virtualenv venv
$ source venv/bin/activate
(.venv) $ pip install voxelmap
```

To exit the virtual environment, simply type `deactivate`. To access it at any other time again, enter with the above source command.

2.1.2 Draw voxels from an integer array

Voxelmap was originally made to handle third-order integer arrays of the form `np.array((int,int,int))` as blueprints to 3-D voxel models.

While “0” integers are used to represent empty space, the non-zero integer values are used to define a distinct voxel type and thus, they are used as keys for such voxel type to be mapped to a specific color and alpha transparency. These keys are stored in a map (also known as “dictionary”) internal to the `voxelmap.Model` class called `hashblocks`.

The voxel color and transparencies may be added or modified to the `hashblocks` map with the `hashblocksAdd` method.

```
import voxelmap as vxm
import numpy as np

#make a 3x3x3 integer array with random values between 0 and 9
array = np.random.randint(0,10,(3,3,3))
print(array)

#incorporate array to Model structure
model = vxm.Model(array)

#add voxel colors and alpha-transparency for integer values 0 - 9 (needed for `voxels`
↳coloring)
colors = ['#ffffff','black','#ffffff','k','yellow','#000000','white','k','#c745f8']
```

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```

for i in range(9):
    model.hashblocksAdd(i+1,colors[i])

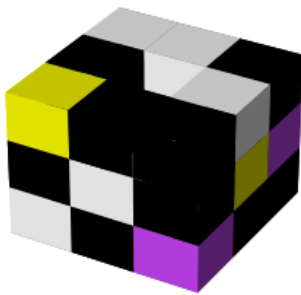
#draw array as a voxel model with `voxels` coloring scheme
model.draw_mpl('voxels')

```

```

>>> [Out]
[[[3 8 5]
  [0 2 6]
  [2 2 7]]
 [[8 3 6]
  [7 2 0]
  [2 2 1]]
 [[9 2 4]
  [8 5 7]
  [8 9 8]]]

```



2.1.3 Draw voxels from coordinate arrays

Voxelmap may also draw a voxel model from an array which defines the coordinates for each of the voxels to be drawn in x y and z space.

The internal variable `data.xyz` will thus take a third-order array where the rows are the number of voxels and the columns are the 3 coordinates for the x,y,z axis. Another internal input, `data.rgb`, can be used to define the colors for each of the voxels in the `data.xyz` object in 'xxxxxx' hex format (i.e. 'ffffff' for white).

The algorithm will also work for negative coordinates, as it is shown in the example below.

```

import voxelmap as vxm
import numpy as np

cubes = vxm.Model()
num_voxels = 30
cubes.XYZ = np.random.randint(-1,1,(num_voxels,3))+np.random.random((num_voxels,3))
# random x,y,z locs for 10 voxels
cubes.RGB = [ hex(np.random.randint(0.5e7,1.5e7))[2:] for i in range(num_voxels) ]
# define random colors for the 10 voxels
cubes.sparsity = 5

```

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```

# spaces out coordinates
cubes.load(coords=True)
cubes.hashblocks

for i in cubes.hashblocks:
    cubes.hashblocks[i][1] = 0.30    # update all voxel alphas (transparency) to 0.3

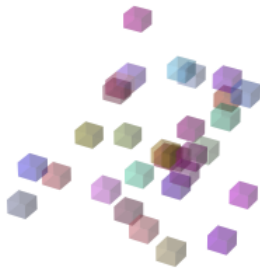
# print(cubes.XYZ)                    # print the xyz coordinate data
cubes.draw_mpl('voxels',figsize=(5,5))    # draw the model from
↳ that data

```

```

>>> [Out]
Color list built from file!
Model().hashblocks =
{1: ['#4db692', 1], 2: ['#564bfb', 1], 3: ['#5915c1', 1], 4: ['#6283df', 1], 5: ['#
↳ #6e5722', 1], 6: ['#6eebc3', 1], 7: ['#70cffa', 1], 8: ['#787ea7', 1], 9: ['#813c5b',
↳ 1], 10: ['#8906d7', 1], 11: ['#8a871d', 1], 12: ['#8ba24f', 1], 13: ['#930979', 1],
↳ 14: ['#932fde', 1], 15: ['#964c67', 1], 16: ['#9bafea', 1], 17: ['#9c248b', 1], 18: ['#
↳ 9e5fff', 1], 19: ['#a2183b', 1], 20: ['#a248a6', 1], 21: ['#a63265', 1], 22: ['#a6c6a1
↳ ', 1], 23: ['#aa381b', 1], 24: ['#ae9c6a', 1], 25: ['#b58c2c', 1], 26: ['#c114a1', 1],
↳ 27: ['#c618df', 1], 28: ['#d15d6e', 1], 29: ['#da6f7d', 1], 30: ['#e36ff6', 1]}

```



Increase sparsity

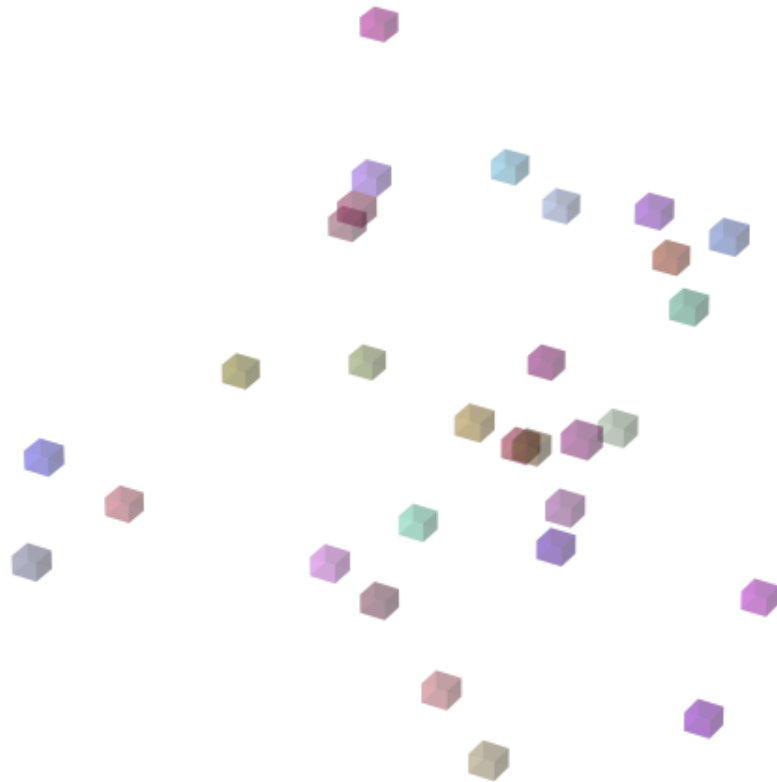
The *sparsity* variable will extend the distance from all voxels at the expense of increased memory.

```

cubes.sparsity = 12    # spaces out
↳ coordinates
cubes.load(coords=True)
for i in cubes.hashblocks:
    cubes.hashblocks[i][1] = 0.30    # update all voxel alphas (transparency) to 0.3

cubes.draw_mpl('voxels',figsize=(12,12))    # draw the model
↳ from that data

```



2.1.4 Get images for below examples

Click on the links below to save the images in the same directory you are running these examples:

[land.png](#) [dog.png](#) [argisle.png](#)

2.1.5 3-D Mapping of an Image

Here we map the synthetic topography image `land.png` we just downloaded to 3-D using the `map3d` method from the `voxelmap.Image` class.

```
#import packages
import cv2
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt

plt.imshow(cv2.imread('land.png'))      # display fake land topography .png file as plot
plt.axis('off')
plt.show()

#import packages
import numpy as np
from matplotlib import cm

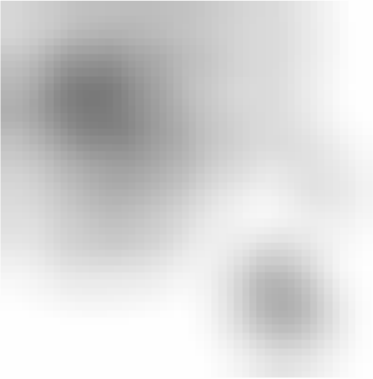
img = vxm.Image('land.png')             # incorporate fake land topography .png file to_
↳ voxelmap.Image class
print(img.array.shape)
```



The image is then resized for the voxel draw with the matplotlib method i.e. `Model().draw_mpl`. This is done with `cv2.resize`, resizing the image from 1060x1060 to 50x50. After resizing, we convolve the image to obtain a less sharp color shift between the different gray regions with the `cv2.blur` method:

```
img.array = cv2.resize(img.array, (50,50), interpolation = cv2.INTER_AREA)
print(img.array.shape)

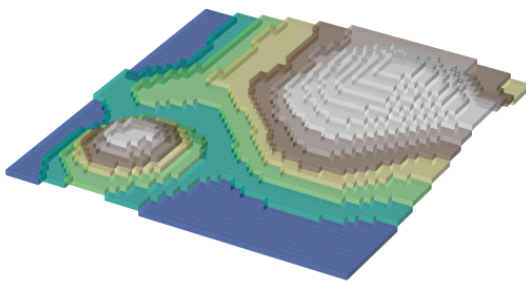
img.array = cv2.blur(img.array,(10,10))  # blur the image for realiztic topography_
↳ levels
plt.imshow(img.array)                    # display fake land topography .png file as plot
plt.axis('off')
plt.show()
```



After this treatment, the resized and blurred image is mapped to a 3-D voxel model using the *ImageMap* method from the *Image* class:

```
mapped_img = img.ImageMap(12)                # mapped to 3d with a depth of 12 voxels
print(mapped_img.shape)
model = vxm.Model(mapped_img)
model.array = np.flip(np.transpose(model.array))

model.colormap = cm.terrain
model.alphacm = 0.5
model.draw_mpl('linear', figsize=(15,12))
```



2.1.6 ImageMesh : 3-D Mesh Mapping from Image

This method creates a low-poly mesh model from an Image using an algorithm developed by Andrew Garcia where 3-D convex hull is performed on separate “cuts” or sectors from the image.

This can decrease the size of the 3-D model and the runtime to generate it significantly, making the runtime proportional to the number of sectors rather than the number of pixels. Sectors are quantified with the `L_sectors` kwarg, which is the length scale for the number of sectors in the grid.

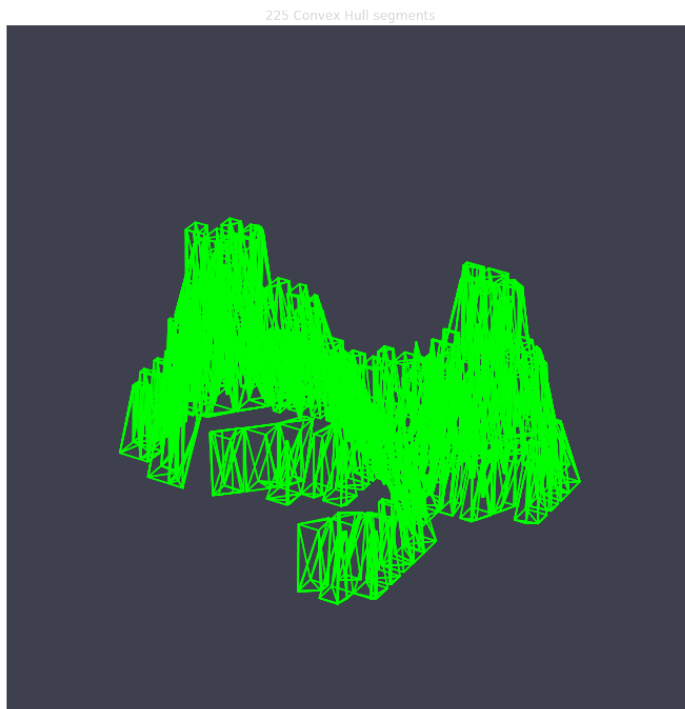
We can see that the mesh model can be calculated and drawn with matplotlib `plot=mpl` option even from a large image of 1060x1060 without resizing:

```
import voxelmap as vxm
import cv2

img = vxm.Image('land.png')    # incorporate fake land topography .png file

print(img.array.shape)

img.ImageMesh(out_file='model.obj', L_sectors = 15, trace_min=5, rel_depth = 20,
↳figsize=(15,12), plot='mpl')
```



This ImageMesh transformation is also tested with a blurred version of the image with `cv2.blur`. A more smooth low-poly 3-D mesh is generated with this additional treatment. The topography seems more realistic:

```
img.array = cv2.blur(img.array,(60,60))    # blur the image for realistic topography
↳levels
img.ImageMesh(out_file='model.obj', L_sectors = 15, trace_min=5, rel_depth = 20,
↳figsize=(15,12), plot='mpl')
```



For a more customizable OpenGL rendering, `img.MeshView()` may be used on the above image:

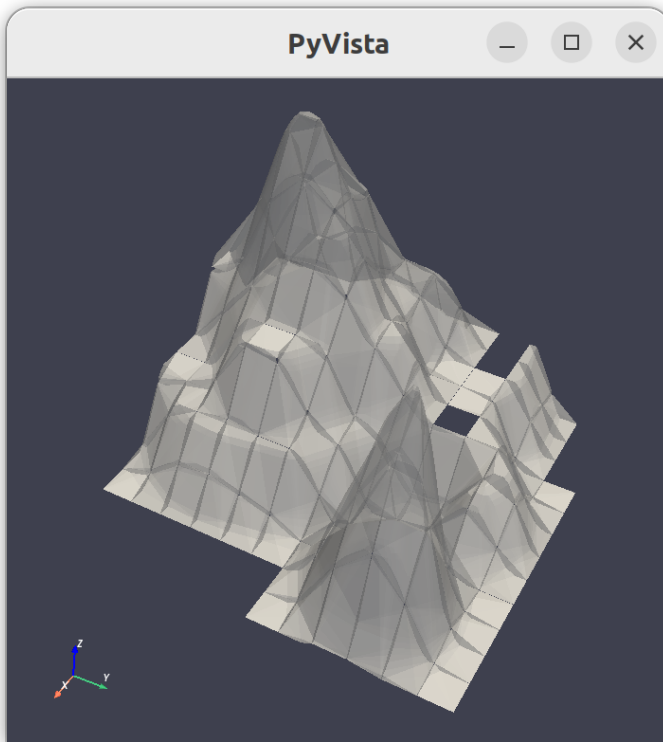
```
import voxelmap as vxm
import numpy as np
import cv2 as cv

img = vxm.Image('land.png')          # incorporate fake land topography .png file
img.array = cv.blur(img.array,(100,100)) # blur the image for realistic topography.
↳levels

img.make()                           # resized to 1.0x original size i.e. not.
↳resized (default)

img.ImageMesh('land.obj', 12, 14, 1, False, figsize=(10,10))

img.MeshView( alpha=0.7,background_color='#3e404e',color='white',viewport=(700, 700))
```



2.2 API

See the below classes.

class voxelmap.**Model**(array=[])

MarchingMesh(level=0, spacing=(1.0, 1.0, 1.0), gradient_direction='descent', step_size=1, allow_degenerate=True, method='lewiner', mask=None, plot=False, figsize=(4.8, 4.8))

Marching cubes on 3D-mapped image

2.2.1 Parameters

voxel_depth

[int] depth of 3-D mapped image on number of voxels

— FROM SKIMAGE.MEASURE.MARCHING_CUBES — level : float, optional

Contour value to search for isosurfaces in *volume*. If not given or None, the average of the min and max of vol is used.

spacing

[length-3 tuple of floats, optional] Voxel spacing in spatial dimensions corresponding to numpy array indexing dimensions (M, N, P) as in *volume*.

gradient_direction

[string, optional] Controls if the mesh was generated from an isosurface with gradient descent toward objects of interest (the default), or the opposite, considering the *left-hand* rule. The two options are:
 * descent : Object was greater than exterior * ascent : Exterior was greater than object

step_size

[int, optional] Step size in voxels. Default 1. Larger steps yield faster but coarser results. The result will always be topologically correct though.

allow_degenerate

[bool, optional] Whether to allow degenerate (i.e. zero-area) triangles in the end-result. Default True. If False, degenerate triangles are removed, at the cost of making the algorithm slower.

method: str, optional

One of 'lewiner', 'lorensen' or '_lorensen'. Specify which of Lewiner et al. or Lorensen et al. method will be used. The '_lorensen' flag correspond to an old implementation that will be deprecated in version 0.19.

mask

[(M, N, P) array, optional] Boolean array. The marching cube algorithm will be computed only on True elements. This will save computational time when interfaces are located within certain region of the volume M, N, P-e.g. the top half of the cube-and also allow to compute finite surfaces-i.e. open surfaces that do not end at the border of the cube.

plot: bool

plots a preliminary 3-D triangulated image if True

MeshView(*wireframe=False, color='pink', alpha=0.5, background_color='#333333', viewport=[1024, 768]*)

MeshView: triangulated mesh view with PyVista Parameters ——— objfile: string

.obj file to process with MeshView [in GLOBAL function only]

wireframe: bool

Represent mesh as wireframe instead of solid polyhedron if True (default: False).

color

[string / hexadecimal] mesh color. default: 'pink'

alpha

[float] opacity transparency range: 0 - 1.0. Default: 0.5

background_color

[string / hexadecimal] color of background. default: 'pink'

viewport

[(int,int)] viewport / screen (width, height) for display window (default: 80% your screen's width & height)

build()

Builds voxel model structure from python numpy array

draw(*coloring='none', scalars='', background_color='#cccccc', wireframe=False, window_size=[1024, 768]*)

Draws voxel model after building it with the provided *array* with PYVISTA

2.2.2 Parameters

coloring: string

voxel coloring scheme

‘voxels’ → colors voxel model based on the provided keys to its array integers, defined in the *hashblocks* variable from the *Model* class ‘none’ → no coloring ELSE: coloring == cmap (colormap) ‘cool’ cool colormap ‘fire’ fire colormap and so on...

scalars

[list] list of scalars for cmap coloring scheme

background_color

[string / hex] background color of pyvista plot

window_size

[(float,float)] defines plot window dimensions. Defaults to [1024, 768], unless set differently in the relevant theme’s window_size property [pyvista.Plotter]

draw_mpl(coloring='nuclear', edgecolors=None, figsize=(6.4, 4.8), axis3don=False)

DRAW MATPLOTLIB.VOXELS Draws voxel model after building it with the provided *array*.

2.2.3 Parameters

coloring: string

voxel coloring scheme

‘nuclear’ colors model radially, from center to exterior ‘linear’ colors voxel model vertically, top to bottom. ‘voxels’ colors voxel model based on the provided keys to its array integers, defined in the *hashblocks* variable from the *Model* class

edgecolors: string/hex

edge color of voxels (default: None)

figsize

[(float,float)] defines plot window dimensions. From matplotlib.pyplot.figure(figsize) kwarg.

axis3don: bool

defines presence of 3D axis in voxel model plot (Default: False)

hashblocksAdd(key, color, alpha=1)

Make your own 3-D colormap option. Adds to hashblocks dictionary.

2.2.4 Parameters

key

[int] array value to color as voxel

color

[str] color of voxel with corresponding *key* index (either in hexanumerical # format or default python color string)

alpha

[float, optional] transparency index (0 → transparent; 1 → opaque; default = 1.0)

```
load(filename='voxeldata.json', coords=False)
```

Load to Model object Data types:

.json -> voxel data represented as (DOK) JSON file
.txt -> voxel data represented as x,y,z,rgb matrix
in .txt file (see Goxel .txt imports)

2.2.5 Parameters

filename: string (.json or .txt extensions (see above))

name of file to be loaded (e.g. 'voxeldata.json')

coords: bool

loads and processes self.XYZ, self.RGB, and self.sparsity = 10.0 (see Model class desc above) to Model if True. This boolean overrides filename loader option.

```
save(filename='voxeldata.json')
```

Save sparse array + color assignments Model data as a dictionary of keys (DOK) JSON file

2.2.6 Parameters

filename: string

name of file (e.g. 'voxeldata.json')

```
class voxelmap.Image(file="")
```

```
ImageMap(depth=5)
```

Map image to 3-D array

2.2.7 Parameters

depth

[int] depth in number of voxels (default = 5 voxels)

```
ImageMesh(out_file='model.obj', L_sectors=4, rel_depth=0.5, trace_min=5, plot=True, figsize=(4.8, 4.8),  
            verbose=False)
```

3-D triangulation of 2-D images with a Convex Hull algorithm Andrew Garcia, 2022

2.2.8 Parameters

out_file

[str] name and/or path for Wavefront .obj file output. This is the common format for OpenGL 3-D model files (default: model.obj)

L_sectors: int

length scale of Convex Hull segments in sector grid, e.g. L_sectors = 4 makes a triangulation of 4 x 4 Convex Hull segments

rel_depth: float

relative depth of 3-D model with respect to the image's intensity magnitudes (default: 0.50)

trace_min: int

minimum number of points in different z-levels to triangulate per sector (default: 5)

plot: bool / str

plots a preliminary 3-D triangulated image if True [with PyVista (& with matplotlib if plot = 'img')]

MarchingMesh(*voxel_depth=12, level=0, spacing=(1.0, 1.0, 1.0), gradient_direction='descent', step_size=1, allow_degenerate=True, method='lewiner', mask=None, plot=False, figsize=(4.8, 4.8)*)

Marching cubes on 3D-mapped image

2.2.9 Parameters

voxel_depth

[int] depth of 3-D mapped image on number of voxels

— FROM SKIMAGE.MEASURE.MARCHING_CUBES — level : float, optional

Contour value to search for isosurfaces in *volume*. If not given or None, the average of the min and max of vol is used.

spacing

[length-3 tuple of floats, optional] Voxel spacing in spatial dimensions corresponding to numpy array indexing dimensions (M, N, P) as in *volume*.

gradient_direction

[string, optional] Controls if the mesh was generated from an isosurface with gradient descent toward objects of interest (the default), or the opposite, considering the *left-hand* rule. The two options are:
* descent : Object was greater than exterior * ascent : Exterior was greater than object

step_size

[int, optional] Step size in voxels. Default 1. Larger steps yield faster but coarser results. The result will always be topologically correct though.

allow_degenerate

[bool, optional] Whether to allow degenerate (i.e. zero-area) triangles in the end-result. Default True. If False, degenerate triangles are removed, at the cost of making the algorithm slower.

method: str, optional

One of 'lewiner', 'lorensen' or '_lorensen'. Specify which of Lewiner et al. or Lorensen et al. method will be used. The '_lorensen' flag correspond to an old implementation that will be deprecated in version 0.19.

mask

[(M, N, P) array, optional] Boolean array. The marching cube algorithm will be computed only on True elements. This will save computational time when interfaces are located within certain region of the volume M, N, P-e.g. the top half of the cube-and also allow to compute finite surfaces-i.e. open surfaces that do not end at the border of the cube.

plot: bool

plots a preliminary 3-D triangulated image if True

MeshView(*wireframe=False, color='pink', alpha=0.5, background_color='#333333', viewport=[1024, 768]*)

MeshView: triangulated mesh view with PyVista Parameters ——— objfile: string

.obj file to process with MeshView [in GLOBAL function only]

wireframe: bool

Represent mesh as wireframe instead of solid polyhedron if True (default: False).

color

[string / hexadecimal] mesh color. default: 'pink'

alpha

[float] opacity transparency range: 0 - 1.0. Default: 0.5

background_color

[string / hexadecimal] color of background. default: 'pink'

viewport

[(int,int)] viewport / screen (width, height) for display window (default: 80% your screen's width & height)

make()

Turn image into intensity matrix i.e. matrix with pixel intensities

resize(res=1.0, res_interp=3)

Resize the intensity matrix of the provided image.

2.2.10 Parameters

res

[float, optional] relative resizing percentage as x times the original (default 1.0 [1.0x original dimensions])

res_interp: object, optional

cv2 interpolation function for resizing (default cv2.INTER_AREA)

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