Procedural Synthesis

Acknowledgment: Sylvain Lefebvre, Jeremie Dumas

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Inigo Quilez (https://www.shadertoy.com/view/4ttSWf)

Procedural Noise

We start with noise functions

- Goal: create realistic "textures" at inexpensive costs.

Procedural noise

F(noise)

colors,
normals,
roughness…

Procedural texture
[Perlin 1985]

What is a good noise function?

Randomly controlled primitive $F(p) \in \mathbb{R}$

- ✗ White noise (salt)
- ✗ Smooth function
- ✓ Smooth function + salt

Perlin noise [85]

Noise Requirements

- We want noise with controllable appearance
- Other desirable noise properties:

pact

nuou

peric

  - Fast
- Applied to 3D objects: map to surface or 3D function

Perlin Noise

- Based on a regular lattice, with a 2D random vector **v** defined on every corner
- Algorithm:
  - Given a point **p** in 2D find the 4 lattice corners $\mathbf{c_1}$, $\mathbf{c_2}$, $\mathbf{c_3}$, $\mathbf{c_4}$
  - Compute $\mathbf{v(c_i)} \cdot \mathbf{(p\text{-}c_i)}$ for every corner
  - Return the bilinear interpolation of the dot products evaluated at **p**

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```
// Function to linearly interpolate between a0 and a1
// Weight w should be in the range [0.0, 1.0]
float lerp(float a0, float a1, float w) {
    return (1.0 - w)*a0 + w*a1;

    // as an alternative, this slightly faster equivalent formula can be used:
    // return a0 + w*(a1 - a0);
}

// Computes the dot product of the distance and gradient vectors.
float dotGridGradient(int ix, int iy, float x, float y) {

    // Precomputed (or otherwise) gradient vectors at each grid node
    extern float Gradient[IYMAX][IXMAX][2];

    // Compute the distance vector
    float dx = x - (float)ix;
    float dy = y - (float)iy;

    // Compute the dot-product
    return (dx*Gradient[iy][ix][0] + dy*Gradient[iy][ix][1]);
}
```

```
// Compute Perlin noise at coordinates x, y
float perlin(float x, float y) {

    // Determine grid cell coordinates
    int x0 = int(x);
    int x1 = x0 + 1;
    int y0 = int(y);
    int y1 = y0 + 1;

    // Determine interpolation weights
    // Could also use higher order polynomial/s-curve here
    float sx = x - (float)x0;
    float sy = y - (float)y0;

    // Interpolate between grid point gradients
    float n0, n1, ix0, ix1, value;
    n0 = dotGridGradient(x0, y0, x, y);
    n1 = dotGridGradient(x1, y0, x, y);
    ix0 = lerp(n0, n1, sx);
    n0 = dotGridGradient(x0, y1, x, y);
    n1 = dotGridGradient(x1, y1, x, y);
    ix1 = lerp(n0, n1, sx);
    value = lerp(ix0, ix1, sy);

    return value;
}
```

Combine and add colors!

Color Maps

From: https://matplotlib.org/tutorials/colors/colormaps.html

Why are Procedural Textures Popular?

- No need to store them
  - Reduce GPU transfer for rasterization
  - Reduce scene size for raytracing
- They can be evaluated at any point
  - computation-bound instead of memory-bound
- Infinite resolution (similar to vector graphics)

Solid Textures and Hypertextures

Cellular Noise [Worley 1996]

Hypertextures [Perlin 1989]

Implicit Modeling

Acknowledgement: Marco Tarini

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$$S = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid f(x) = d\}$$

distance field

iso-surface

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distance field

iso-surface

composition operator

composition operator

composition operator

union
[Sabin 1968]

blend
[Blinn 1982]
[Ricci 1973]

contact & bulge
[Cani 1993]

$$max(a, b)$$

$$a + b$$

$$\sqrt{a^n + b^n}^{\frac{1}{n}}$$

$$\begin{cases} a - b + 1 & \text{if } b > 1 \\ a + h(a, b) & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

[Gourmel et al. 2013]

composition operator

[Gourmel et al. 2013]

composition operator

Implicit Skinning [Vaillant et al. 2013]

[Vaillant et al. 2014]

composition operator

[Vaillant et al. 2014]

composition operator

Implicit Model

- All points where f(p) =0

$$f : R^3 \rightarrow R$$

- It directly defines an inside and outside
  - f (p) < 0 <==> p inside
  - f (p) > 0 <==> p outside
  - f (p) = 0 <==> p on the surface

- By construction, it defines a closed, watertight model.

Sphere

$$f\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = x^2 + y^2 + z^2 - R^2$$

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Categories

- Algebraic surfaces: $f()$ is a polynomial
- Quadratic surfaces : $f()$ degree is 2,
  - aka «quadrics»
  - important class!
    - simple equations, good expressive power
    - e.g. perfect spheres
- Cubic surfaces: $f()$ degree is 3
- Higher-Order

Implicit Modeling: Pros and Cons?

Pros:

- Compact
- CSG! (see later)
- Good model for both fluids and solids
- Easy to render with ray marching

Cons:

- Difficult to render for rasterization-based pipelines

Implicit Solid Modeling

- Let A and B be two solid objects described implicitly by implicit functions f_A and f_B

- We can then define:
  - complement: $-f_A$
  - intersection: $\max(f_A, f_B)$
  - union: $\min(f_A, f_B)$
  - subtraction: $\max(f_A, -f_B)$

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Constructive Solid Geometry (CSG)

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Geometric Solid Modelling

Constructive Solid Geometry
CSG

Modeling Complex Scenes

http://iquilezles.org/www/articles/raymarchingdf/raymarchingdf.htm

SIGGRAPH ASIA 2017 BANGKOK

Sketch-Based Implicit Blending

Baptiste Angles[1,2], Marco Tarini[3], Brian Wyvill[1], Loïc Barthe[2], Andrea Tagliasacchi[1]

1. University of Victoria

2. Université de Toulouse, IRIT/CNRS

3. Università dell'Insubria, ISTI / CNR

4096 bytes

https://www.youtube.com/watch?list=PLVbS70ERPhCCGKc-MdKsH03R7o6TNbGoZ&time_continue=12&v=roZ-Cgxe9bU

Rendering Implicits
Ray Marching

Acknowledgement: Jamie Wong
http://jamie-wong.com/2016/07/15/ray-marching-signed-distance-functions/

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Ray Marching

- Similar to ray tracing
- Since the implicit function might not be quadratic, we cannot find the intersection explicitly as we did for triangles and spheres

Image from Wikipedia

Algorithm 1

- The simplest algorithm resembles gradient descent
  - You proceed on the ray by a fixed amount
  - You start to do bisection search if you get closer than a given distance to the surface

Image From: https://computergraphics.stackexchange.com/questions/161/what-is-ray-marching-is-sphere-tracing-the-same-thing

Algorithm 2: "Sphere Tracing"

- Instead of taking a constant step, you check the closest point on the surface, and you move by that amount
- Can be done exactly with a distance field
- It can be a conservative estimate for more general cases

Tutorials and Examples

- shadertoy.com
- http://jamie-wong.com/2016/07/15/ray-marching-signed-distance-functions/#the-raymarching-algorithm
- https://computergraphics.stackexchange.com/questions/161/what-is-ray-marching-is-sphere-tracing-the-same-thing

Rendering Implicits
Explicit Meshing

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Extracting the Surface

- Wish to compute a manifold mesh of the level set

Sample the SDF

Sample the SDF

Tessellation

- Want to approximate an implicit surface with a mesh
- Can't explicitly compute all the roots
  - Sampling the level set is difficult (root finding)
- Solution: find approximate roots by trapping the implicit surface in a grid (lattice)

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Marching Squares

- 16 different configurations in 2D
- 4 equivalence classes (up to rotational and reflection symmetry + complement)

Tessellation in 2D

- 4 equivalence classes (up to rotational and reflection symmetry + complement)

Tessellation in 2D

- Case 4 is ambiguous:

- Always pick consistently to avoid problems with the resulting mesh

3D: Marching Cubes

Marching Cubes

- Marching Cubes (Lorensen and Cline 1987)
  1. Load 4 layers of the grid into memory
  2. Create a cube whose vertices lie on the two middle layers
  3. Classify the vertices of the cube according to the implicit function (inside, outside or on the surface)

Marching Cubes

4. Compute case index. We have $2^8 = 256$ cases (0/1 for each of the eight vertices) – can store as 8 bit (1 byte) index.

index = | v_1 | v_2 | v_3 | v_4 | v_5 | v_6 | v_7 | v_8 |

index = | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | = 33

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Marching Cubes

- Unique cases (by rotation, reflection and complement)

Tessellation

3D – Marching Cubes

5. Using the case index, retrieve the connectivity in the look-up table

- Example: the entry for index 33 in the look-up table indicates that the cut edges are e_1; e_4; e_5; e_6; e_9 and e_{10} ; the output triangles are (e_1; e_9; e_4) and (e_5; e_{10}; e_6).

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Marching Cubes

6. Compute the position of the cut vertices by linear interpolation:

$$\mathbf{v}_s = t\mathbf{v}_a + (1-t)\mathbf{v}_b$$

$$t = \frac{F(\mathbf{v}_b)}{F(\mathbf{v}_b) - F(\mathbf{v}_a)}$$

7. Move to the next cube

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Marching Cubes – Problems

- Have to make consistent choices for neighboring cubes – otherwise get holes

Marching Cubes – Problems

- Resolving ambiguities

Ambiguity

No Ambiguity

Marching Cubes – Problems

- Grid not adaptive
- Many polygons required to represent small features

Images from: "Dual Marching Cubes: Primal Contouring of Dual Grids" by Schaeffer et al.

Marching Cubes – Problems

Implicit Modeling In Additive Manufacturing

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IceSL

http://shapeforge.loria.fr/icesl/

Element 1.19.0
GENERATE
ANALYSIS (BETA)
ANALYSIS
Analysis Objects
Studies
Lattice Size Optimization
Study Objects
Single-Surface Conformal Lattic
Selection Objects
sheet_876
Load Case
pressure 1
point constraint 1
Results
result
Iteration 51
Stress
Von Mises
Upper bound (MPa)
979.285
Lower bound (MPa)
277.282
Displacement
Scale factor
1.000
979.285156 MPa
628.283569 MPa
277.282043 MPa
Max: 979.285156 MPa
Min: 277.282043 MPa

Tilings

[Henry Segerman]

By-Example Texture Synthesis

Texture synthesis from example

Tiling Synthesis

Tiling Synthesis

Basic Idea

Example Image

Random Initial Guess

Final Result

Measuring Similarity

- Neighborhood Matching:

Exemplar

Texture being synthesized

What is a good exemplar?

✔ Stochastic Image

✘ Structured Image

Results

http://research.microsoft.com/projects/ParaTexSyn/

Surface Texture Synthesis

Exemplar

By-Example Solid Textures

Solid Texture Synthesis [Kopf07]

Lazy Solid Texture Synthesis [Dong08]

By-Example Solid Textures

Lazy Solid Texture Synthesis
[Dong et al. 2008]

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References

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Li-Yi Wei, Sylvain Lefebvre, Vivek Kwatra, Greg Turk
Eurographics 2009 - State of the Art Reports 2009

State of the Art in Procedural Noise Functions
Ares Lagae, Sylvain Lefebvre, Rob Cook, Tony DeRose, George Drettakis, D.S. Ebert, J.P. Lewis, Ken Perlin, Matthias Zwicker
Eurographics 2010 - State of the Art Reports 2010