

# 3D Metric Fields

## Optimizing Frame Fields in a new Metric

Florin Achermann

University of Berne

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# Presentation Overview

## ① Problem Statement

- Hexahedral Meshing
- Integer-Grid Maps
- Frame Fields

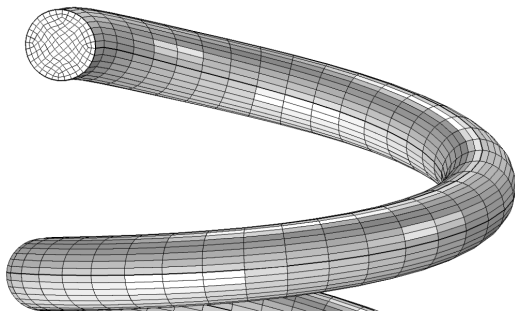
## ② Frame Field Control

- Metric Fields
- Measuring Smoothness in new Metric

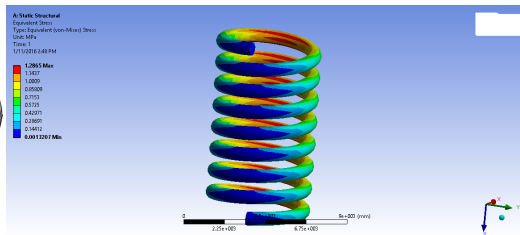
## ③ Discretization

# Representation of geometry

Geometry needs to be represented in computers for applications



(a) Hexahedral mesh of spring ©COMSOL



(b) Stress simulation on spring ©ANSYS

Meshes out of hexahedral elements are preferred in practice

# Integer-Grid Maps

Key Idea:

Search for map  $\phi : \mathcal{M} \subset \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  which maps the object to a 3D grid

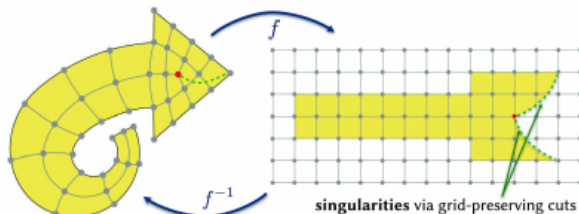


Figure: Integer-Grid map [Pietroni et al., 2022]

Direct search is infeasible  $\rightarrow$  hard mixed-integer non-convex optimization problem

# Search for Integer-Grid Maps

We want:

$$\phi : \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$$

Idea: Take the Jacobian

$$\nabla \phi : \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{3 \times 3}$$

and search for an approximation  $F \approx \nabla \phi$ . We call  $F : \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{3 \times 3}$  a **frame field**. A **frame** locally represents the deformed edges of a cube.

# Frame Fields

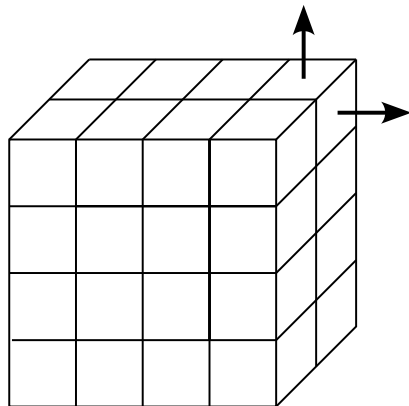
Think of  $F$  as three vector fields  $F_i : \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$

$$F = \begin{pmatrix} | & | & | \\ F_1 & F_2 & F_3 \\ | & | & | \end{pmatrix}$$

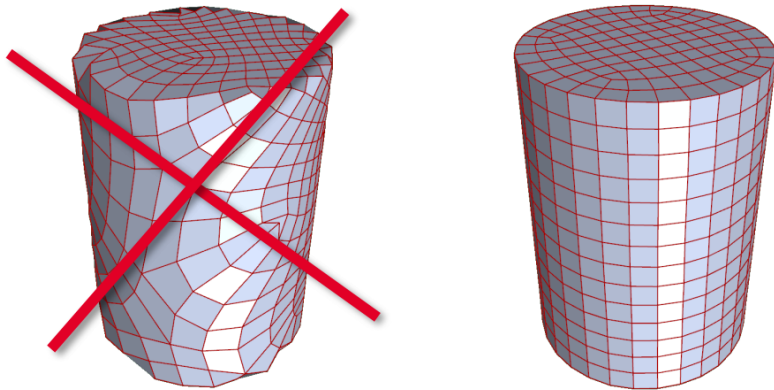
Goals for our frame field:

- Smoothness
- Boundary Alignment: One column should match with surface normal

Why?



# Frame Fields



**Figure:** Left: Missing Boundary Alignment, not smooth. Right: Smooth + Boundary Aligned  
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# Optimization Approach

- Goal: Smooth Frame Field + Boundary Aligned
- How to measure smoothness?

Dirichlet Energy

$$E(F) = \int_{\mathcal{M}} \|\nabla F\|^2 \quad (1)$$



# Controlling frames

- For orthonormal frame field  $F^T F = \text{Id}$ , extracted elements are unit cubes
- Add metric field  $g$  for control of frames
- $g$ -orthonormality  $F^T g F = \text{Id}$

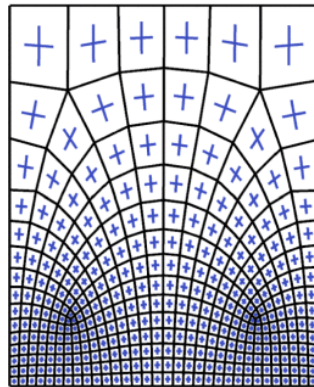


Figure: Under new metric  $g$ , lengths at the top are the same lengths as at the bottom [Fang et al., 2023]

# Space deformation

- Metric  $g$  measures deformation of space
- Cannot use euclidean smoothness measure
- $g$  defines infinitesimal rotation  $\omega$

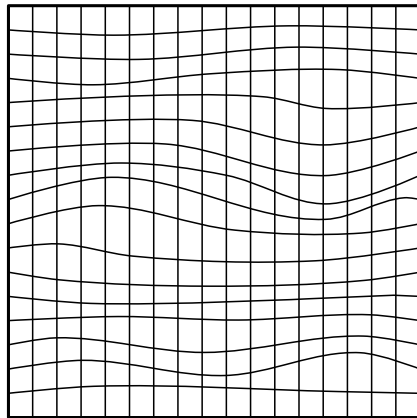
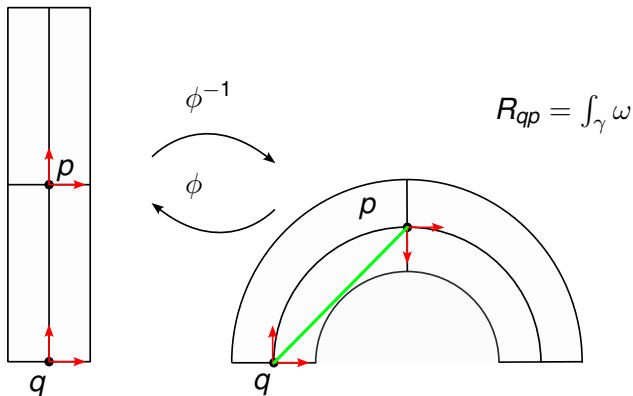


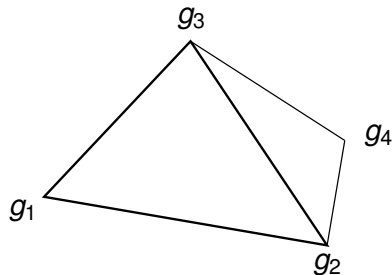
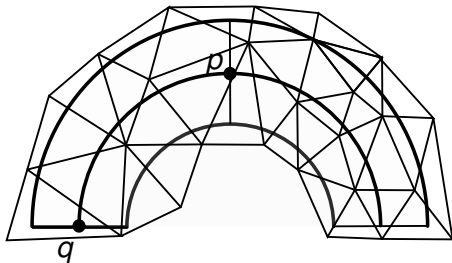
Figure: Metric  $g$  deforms the space, "straight" in  $g$  is not straight in euclidean metric

# Measuring Smoothness in new Metric



**Figure:** Under the metric induced by  $\phi$ , the frame at  $q$  is parallel to  $p$ . To compare them, we need to recover how  $p$  is rotated under  $\omega$ .

# Discretizing metric field



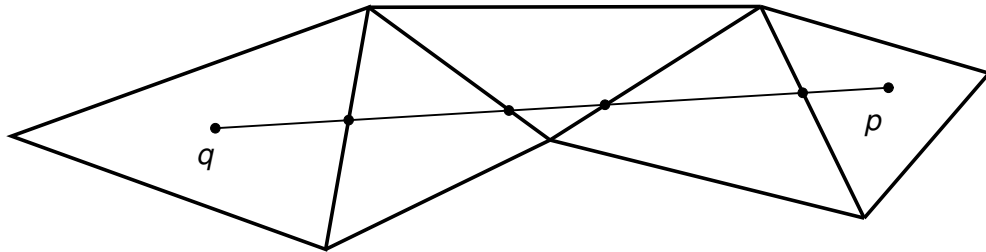
We cover the object with a tetrahedral mesh and store the metrics at the vertices. Within the tet, we linearly interpolate with barycentric coordinates.

$$g = \alpha g_1 + \beta g_2 + \gamma g_3 + \delta g_4$$

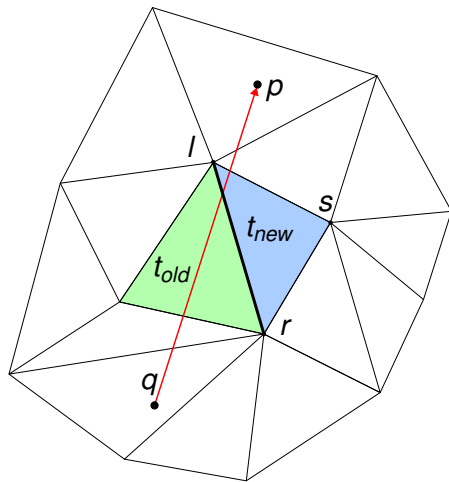
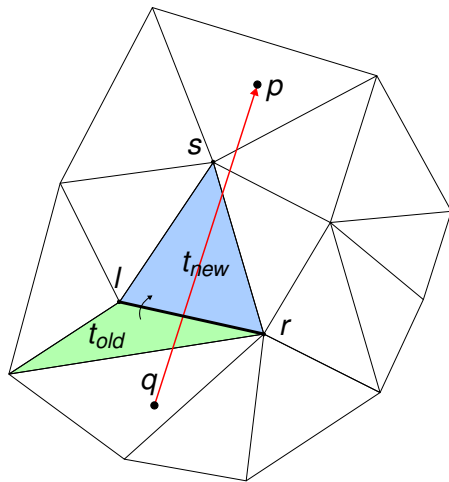
with  $\alpha + \beta + \gamma + \delta = 1$  and  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta \geq 0$

# Walking on a triangulation

- Problem: When integrating from  $q$  to  $p$ , need to use appropriate metric field.
- Need to find all tets that the line segment from  $q$  to  $p$  lies in to do integration in correct field



# Walking on a triangulation



# Putting all together

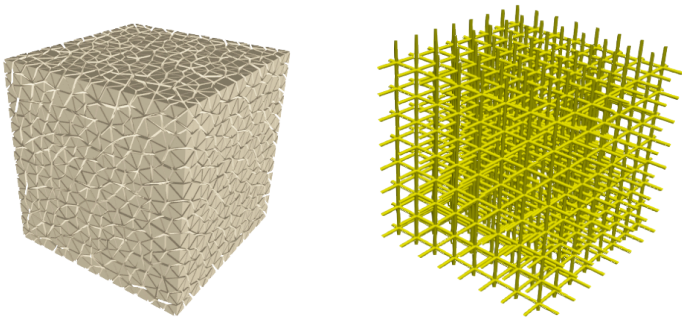
- 1 Store metric field at vertices
- 2 Minimize discretized Dirichlet energy with minimizer

$$E(F) = \int_{\mathcal{M}} \|\nabla F\|^2 \longrightarrow E(F) = \sum_{i,j} \|F_i - F_j\|^2 \quad (2)$$

- 3 modify with rotation coefficient to align in new metric

$$E(F) = \sum_{q,p} \|[R_{qp}]F_q - F_p\|^2 \quad (3)$$

$$g = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

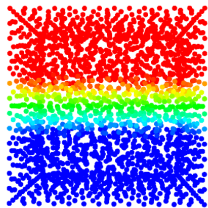


**Figure:** Constant metric everywhere, constant frame field

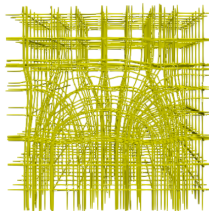


# Experiments

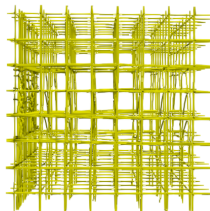
$$g(z) = \begin{cases} \text{diag}(1, 1, 1) & 0 < z < 1/3 \\ \text{diag}(27z - 8, 1, 27z - 8) & 1/3 < z < 2/3 \\ \text{diag}(10, 1, 10) & 2/3 < z < 1 \end{cases} \quad (4)$$



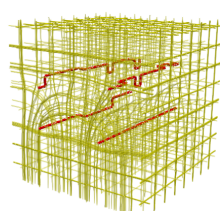
(a)



(b)



(c)




(d)

Figure: Constant-linear-constant metric



# References

 [Pietroni et al. \(2022\)](#)  
Hex-Mesh Generation and Processing: A Survey  
*ACM Transaction on Graphics*

 [Fang et al. \(2023\)](#)  
Metric-Driven 3D Frame Field Generation  
*IEEE Transactions on Visualization and Computer Graphics.*

# The End

Questions? Comments?