



Collision detection

- Static interference tests
- Exact collision prediction
- Conservative tests and acceleration techniques

“Collision detection is one of the most challenging and most important problems in computer animation!”

Updated September 15, 2011

Types of animations

- Camera moves in static environment
 - Rigid motion: Objects are rigid, they only rotate and translate
 - Articulated bodies: Parameterized linkage of rigid bodies
 - A child's pose (forearm) is obtained from a parent's pose (upper-arm) by an arbitrary rotation (elbow angle) and a fixed translation (length of upper-arm).
 - Deformations: Each shape deforms with time
 - Deformation may be simulated using naïve physics or computed to interpolate between two shapes (3D morphing)
 - Reactive: Responds to user actions
 - Shape moves and deforms when approached or poked by the user
- All must detect collisions and adjust behavior

The collision detection problem

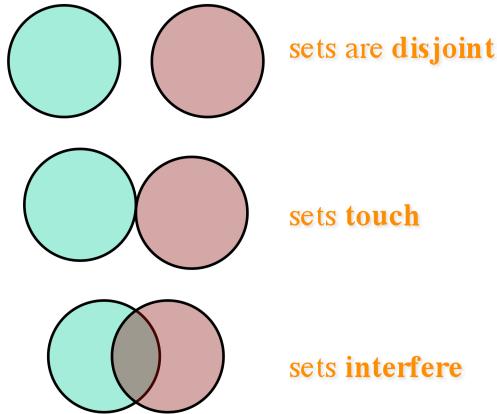
Shapes A and B evolve (move, deform) with time.

Notation for their instance at time $t > 0$: $A(t)$ and $B(t)$.

Find the smallest t such that $A(t) \cap B(t) \neq \emptyset$.

Interference

- A and B interfere when they share at least one common point.
- $A \cap B \neq \emptyset$

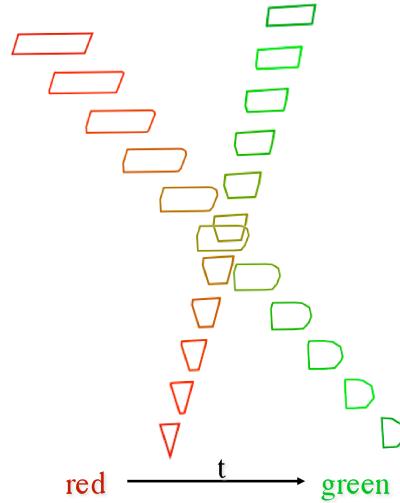


Static interference tests for collision

A and B evolve (move, deform) with time: A(t) and B(t).

Test and then assume $A(0) \cap B(0) = \emptyset$

```
t=0;  
repeat {  
    if ( $A(t+dt) \cap B(t+dt) \neq \emptyset$ ) {  
        repeat 5 times {  
            if ( $A(t+dt/2) \cap B(t+dt/2) \neq \emptyset$ ) dt=dt/2;  
            else t+=dt/2; };  
        return(t); };  
    }  
return(-1);} // no collision found
```



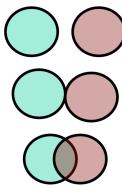
How to test for interference

- Often (not always) we are using the boundaries of shapes to test for interference.

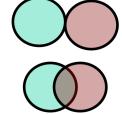


Testing boundaries

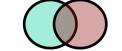
- A and B are disjoint if and only if their boundaries are disjoint
 - True or false?
 - If true, prove or justify
 - If false, provide a counterexample



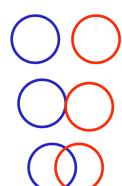
sets are disjoint



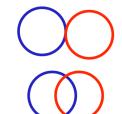
boundaries touch



sets interfere



boundaries are disjoint



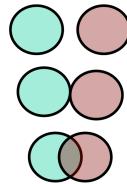
boundaries overlap



boundaries cross

Distinguish touch and interfere

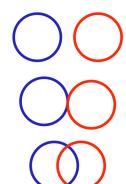
- How can you use tests on boundaries to distinguish
 - disjoint
 - touching
 - interfering



sets are disjoint

boundaries touch

sets interfere



boundaries are disjoint

boundaries overlap

boundaries cross

Detecting collisions between balls

- For simplicity, we assume that objects collide when their enclosing balls collide
 - Compute enclosing ball of center c and radius r as follows:
 - $c := ((x_{\min}+x_{\max})/2, (y_{\min}+y_{\max})/2, (z_{\min}+z_{\max})/2)$
 - $r := \max(\|cv\|)$ for all vertices v of the object
- Interference detection:
 - After each time step, check whether any pair of objects interfere
 - Ball(c_1, r_1) and Ball(c_2, r_2) interfere when $\|c_1 - c_2\| < r_1 + r_2$
 - Need very small steps not to miss a chock
- Collision prediction:
 - Express the relative motion of object 2 in the CS of object 1
 - For motions with fixed velocities, \underline{v}_1 and \underline{v}_2 , you get \underline{v}_1 and \underline{v}_2 , $\underline{v} = \underline{v}_2 - \underline{v}_1$.
 - Shrink object 2 to a point c_2 and expand object 1 to Ball(c_1, r_1+r_2)
 - Check whether curve swept by c_2 intersects Ball(c_1, r_1+r_2)
 - Constant velocity motion: find smallest time $t > 0$ when $(c_2 + t\underline{v})^2 = (r_1 + r_2)^2$

Collision between disks

Assume that disk $D_1 = \text{disk}(C_1, r_1)$ will travel with constant velocity V_1 . Similarly, disk $D_2 = \text{disk}(C_2, r_2)$ will travel with constant velocity V_2 . Assume that they are initially disjoint.

- How would you compute the **time t** when they will **collide**?

Solve $((C_2 + tV_2) - (C_1 + tV_1))^2 = (r_1 + r_2)^2$ for t

$$(C_1 C_2 + t(V_2 - V_1))^2 = (r_1 + r_2)^2$$

$$(V_2 - V_1)^2 t^2 + 2C_1 C_2 \cdot (V_2 - V_1) t + C_1 C_2^2 - (r_1 + r_2)^2 = 0$$

return the smallest positive value of t if one exists

We can reduce this problem to the one of *line/circle intersection*:

D_2 is stationary, D_1 moves by $V_1 - V_2$

D_2 has radius $r_1 + r_2$ (inflated by r_1), D_1 is a point (deflated by r_1)
when will D_1 (the point) hit the inflated D_2 ?

Elastic shock between two disks

Assume that disk $D_1 = \text{disk}(C_1, r)$ traveling with **constant velocity**

V_1 and disk $D_2 = \text{disk}(C_2, r)$ traveling with constant velocity V_2 have just collided. What should their velocities V_1' and V_2' be?

(We assume that they have the same mass.)

We must exchange their **normal velocities**

$N = U(C_1 C_2)$ (normal direction to both at contact point)

$U_1 = (V_1 \cdot N) N$ (normal components of velocities)

$U_2 = (V_2 \cdot N) N$

$V_1' = V_1 - U_1 + U_2$ (cancel U_1 and add U_2)

$V_2' = V_2 - U_2 + U_1$ (to exchange their normal velocities)

Elastic shock with a fixed disk

Assume that disk $D_1 = \text{disk}(C_1, r)$, traveling with **constant velocity** V , has just collided with a **static** disk $D_2 = \text{disk}(C_2, r)$. What should its velocity V' after the bounce?

(We assume that D_2 has infinite mass.)

We must negate (**reverse**) the **normal component** of V

$N = C_1 C_2 \cdot \text{unit}$ (normal direction to both at contact point)

$U = (V \cdot N) N$ (normal components of V)

$V' = V - 2U$ (swap direction of U)

Elastic collision between balls

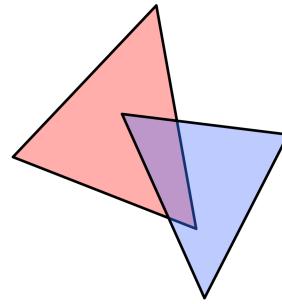
- Tangential velocities are maintained. Masses: a and b
- Velocities in the normal direction: s and t before and s' and t' after the shock
 - Conservation of momentum: $as+bt=as'+bt'$ (1)
 - Conservation of energy: $as^2+bt^2=as'^2+bt'^2$ (2)
 - Regrouping in (1): $a(s-s')=b(t'-t)$ (3)
 - Regrouping in (2) and using $x^2-y^2=(x+y)(x-y)$: $a(s-s')(s+s')=b(t'-t)(t'+t)$ (4)
 - Combining (3) and (4) : $s+s'=t+t'$ (5)
 - Substituting $t'=s+s'-t$ obtained from (5) in (1) yields: $as+bt=as'+bs+bs'-bt$ (6)
 - Reorganizing (6) : $(a+b)s'=(a-b)s+2bt$ (7)
 - Reorganizing and swapping (s,a) and (t,b):
 - $s'=s+2b(t-s)/(a+b)$ and $t'=t+2a(s-t)/(a+b)$ (8)
- Note that when $a=b$, then $s'=t$ and $t'=s$ (exchange of normal velocities)
- When $a \gg b$: $s'=s$ (not affected) and $t'=2s-t$ (reverse speed of b if a is static)



2D interference between triangles

- Two triangles interfere if a vertex of one lies inside the other
 - True or false?
 - Justify
 - or provide a counterexample
 - and a correct test

Modify your test to distinguish
disjoint, interfere, and touch



Test for polygon/polygon intersection in 2D?

- A and B are polygons
 - They are connected sets in 2D, but may have holes
- Write the high-level test for checking whether they interfere

For each connected **component** of A do, if the **first vertex** of that component is **in or on B**, return TRUE

For each connected component of B do, if the first vertex of that component is in or on A, return TRUE

For each **edge** Ea of A do, for each **edge** Eb of B do,
if Ea intersects Eb, return TRUE

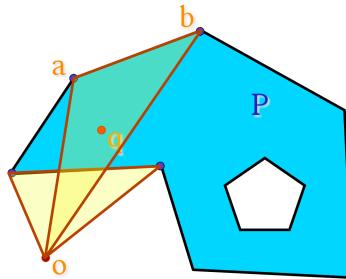
Otherwise return FALSE

Details

- Point-in-polygon
- Edge/edge intersection

Point-in-polygon test

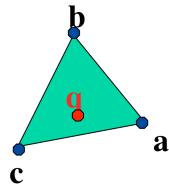
- Algorithm for testing whether point q is inside polygon P



```
inP:=false;  
for each edge (a,b) of P {if (inTriangle(q,a,b,o)) then inP := !inP;  
return(inP);
```

Point-in-triangle test in 2D

- Is point q in $\text{tri}(a,b,c)$?



$ab \times aq$

$bc \times bq$

$ca \times cq$

all have the same sign

Edge/edge intersection in 2D

- Write a geometric expression that returns TRUE when edges (a,b) and (c,d) intersect

$$((ab \times ac > 0) != (ab \times ad > 0))$$

&&

$$((cd \times ca > 0) != (cd \times cb > 0))$$

