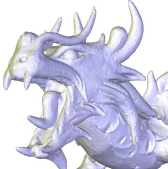


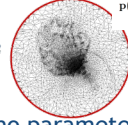
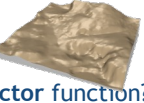
Lyon 1
Mesh and Computational Geometry
 Raphaëlle Chaîne
 Université Claude Bernard Lyon 1
 M2 ID3D
 Image, Développement et Technologie 3D et 3A Centrale
 2024-25



1

Local surface variations

- How to study and characterize surface variations?
 - When defined as a height function over a plane?
 $z=f(x,y)$
 Multivariate scalar function
 - When parameterized as a 3D **vector** function?

$\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^2$

 \xrightarrow{P}

 \xleftarrow{U}
 - When no parameterization is provided?

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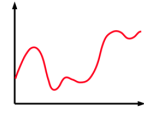
Interest

- Local surface variations
 - Used to compute geometric information such as normal vectors, curvature, and higher order information ...
- Useful for :
 - Surface analysis
 - Surface rendering
 - Surface texturing
 - Constructing a better parameterization with less distortion

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Differential operators

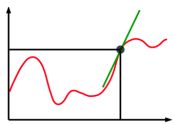
- Reminder :
 - Given a univariate function $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$



The derivative of f is another function $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}$ that describes the growing speed of f

$f' : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

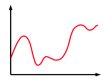
$f'(x) = \lim_{a \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+a) - f(x)}{a}$



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Differential operators

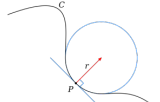
- Reminder :
 - The Laplacian (second derivative) of a function $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is a measure of the difference between the value of f at any point P and the average value of f in the vicinity of P



It is linked to the curvature of the curve (inverse of the osculating circle radius)

$$\kappa(x) = \frac{|f''(x)|}{(1 + (f'(x))^2)^{3/2}}$$

Since the curve is oriented, the norm | | can be removed to get a signed curvature

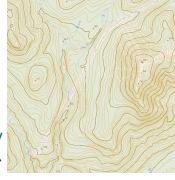


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Differential operators

- Derivatives of a multivariate functions :
 - Gradient of a scalar function f(u,v)

$$grad(f) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\delta f}{\delta u} \\ \frac{\delta f}{\delta v} \end{bmatrix}$$
 - Orthogonal to iso-lines
 - Scalar product with a direction U,V gives the derivative in direction U,V


 - Laplacian of a scalar function f(u,v)

$$\Delta(f) = \frac{\delta^2 f}{\delta u^2} + \frac{\delta^2 f}{\delta v^2}$$

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Differential operators

- Laplace equation

$$f : U \subset \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

$$\Delta f = 0$$

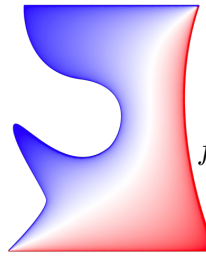
- Solutions of Laplace equation :
 - Harmonic functions = kernel of the Laplacian operator
 - No local maxima or minima in U
 - Minimizing the Dirichlet energy that measures the smoothness of a function

$$E(f) = \int_U \langle \nabla f, \nabla f \rangle dA$$

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Differential operators

- Solutions of Laplace equation :
 - Used for interpolation



[K. Crane]

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta f(x) &= 0 & x \in U \\ f(x) &= f_0(x) & x \in \delta U \end{aligned}$$

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Differential operators

- Solutions of Laplace equation :
 - Used for interpolation



$$\begin{aligned} \Delta f(x) &= 0 & x \in U \\ f(x) &= f_0(x) & x \in \delta U_D \text{ (Dirichlet boundary)} \\ \nabla f \cdot n &= g_0(x) & x \in \delta U_N \text{ (Neumann boundary)} \end{aligned}$$

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Differential operators

- Harmonic functions not to be misunderstood with the eigenvectors and eigen values of the Laplacian operator

$$\Delta f = \lambda f$$

When $U = \mathbb{R}$ eigenvectors are the sines and cosines functions that are used within Fourier framework

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Differential operators

- In a multivariate context, differential operators are often used in differential equations
- Generally expressed in \mathbb{R}^k
- Spatial notation "nabla" :
Think of it as a vector of partial derivative operators!
 - Gradient operator of a **scalar** function f : ∇f
 - Divergence operator of a **vector** function \mathbf{V} : $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{V}$
 - Laplacian operator of a **scalar** function f : $\Delta f = \nabla \cdot \nabla f$
 - Curl (rotational) operator of a **vector** function \mathbf{V} : $\nabla \times \mathbf{V}$
- Expression of nabla depending on the coordinate system of the input domain

$$\nabla = \begin{bmatrix} \delta_u \\ \delta_v \end{bmatrix}$$

Cartesian coordinates u, v

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Gradients, divergence et rotationnels

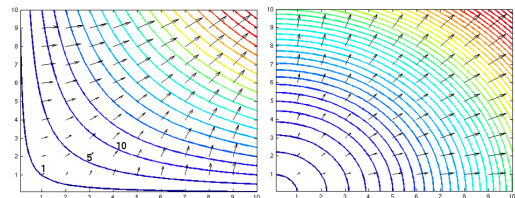


FIGURE 1 – Exemples de champs scalaires (couleur, valeurs élevées en rouge) et de leur gradient (flèches). À gauche : $f(x, y) = xy$, à droite $f(x, y) = x^2 + y^2$.

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Gradients, divergence et rotationnels

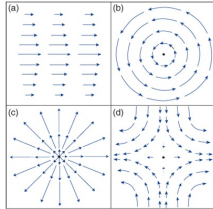


FIGURE 2 – Exemples de champs de vecteurs bidimensionnels : (a,b) champs rotationnels : cisaillement pur (a) et rotation solide (b) (imaginer la rotation d'une petite roue à aubes insérée dans l'écoulement); (c) champ central divergent; (d) champ avec déformation, mais à divergence et rotationnel nuls (compression dans une direction, dilatation dans l'autre à surface constante).

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Expression of nabla on different coordinates systems

Opération	Coordonnées cartésiennes (x, y, z)	Coordonnées cylindriques (r, θ, z)	Coordonnées sphériques (r, θ, φ)
Définition des coordonnées		$\begin{cases} x = r \cos \theta \\ y = r \sin \theta \\ z = z \end{cases}$	$\begin{cases} x = r \sin \theta \cos \varphi \\ y = r \sin \theta \sin \varphi \\ z = r \cos \theta \end{cases}$
\vec{A}	$A_x \vec{u}_x + A_y \vec{u}_y + A_z \vec{u}_z$	$A_r \vec{u}_r + A_\theta \vec{u}_\theta + A_z \vec{u}_z$	$A_r \vec{u}_r + A_\theta \vec{u}_\theta + A_\varphi \vec{u}_\varphi$
$\vec{\nabla}$	$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \vec{u}_x + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \vec{u}_y + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \vec{u}_z$	$\frac{\partial}{\partial r} \vec{u}_r + \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \vec{u}_\theta + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \vec{u}_z$	$\frac{\partial}{\partial r} \vec{u}_r + \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \vec{u}_\theta + \frac{1}{r \sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \varphi} \vec{u}_\varphi$

[Wikipedia]

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Differential operator

- A few reminders :
 - Gradient** : direction (u_{\max}, v_{\max}) of maximal slope
 - Divergence** : flow traversing a unit element around (u, v)
 - Laplacian** : measures the difference between the function and its mean value in a small neighborhood
 - Useful for several geometry processing tasks (interpolation by heat diffusion, spectral analysis, mean-curvature, smoothing)
 - Curl** (Rotational) : does the vector field locally turn around one vector?
- Questions :
 - How could you define the "gradient" of a vector field? Jacobian matrix
 - How could you define the "laplacian" of a vector field? Vector with the Laplacian of each component

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Other use of Nabla

- Nabla transpose
 $x \delta$: Derivative of the scalar field on the left
 $\nabla^t = [x \delta, y \delta, z \delta]$
- Jacobian matrix of a vector field \mathbf{V}

$$\mathbb{J}_{\mathbf{V}} = \mathbf{V} \nabla^t = \begin{bmatrix} \delta_x v_x & \delta_y v_x & \delta_z v_x \\ \delta_x v_y & \delta_y v_y & \delta_z v_y \\ \delta_x v_z & \delta_y v_z & \delta_z v_z \end{bmatrix}$$

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Differential operator

- Functions defining a curve
 $\mathbf{x} : [0, L] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ de classe C^3
 Tangent, normal and binormal vectors?

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Vecteur tangent : } \mathbf{t}(s) &= \frac{\mathbf{x}'(s)}{\|\mathbf{x}'(s)\|} & \mathbf{t}(t) &= \frac{\mathbf{x}'(t)}{\|\mathbf{x}'(t)\|} \\ \text{Vecteur normal : } \mathbf{m}(s) &= \frac{\mathbf{x}''(s)}{\|\mathbf{x}''(s)\|} & \mathbf{m}(t) &= \frac{\mathbf{x}''(t)}{\|\mathbf{x}''(t)\|} \\ \text{Vecteur binormal : } \mathbf{b}(s) &= \mathbf{t}(s) \times \mathbf{m}(s) & \mathbf{b}(t) &= \mathbf{t}(t) \times \mathbf{m}(t) \\ \text{Repère de Serret-Frénet : } & (\mathbf{x}(s); \mathbf{t}(s), \mathbf{m}(s), \mathbf{b}(s)) & & (\mathbf{x}(t); \mathbf{t}(t), \mathbf{m}(t), \mathbf{b}(t)) \end{aligned}$$

Ici on n'a pas encore parlé de s, abscisse curviligne, d'où le correctif du slide qui était ambigu

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Differential operator

- Let s be the curvilinear abscissa
 - s : length of curve between 0 and t

$$s(t) = \int_0^t \|\mathbf{x}'(t)\| dt$$
 - parameterize the curve wrt s
 - $\mathbf{t}(s) = \mathbf{x}'(s)$ is a unit vector
- Courbure** : $\kappa(s) = \|\mathbf{x}''(s)\|$
 - Mesure la déviation par rapport à une droite
- Torsion** : $\tau(s) = \frac{\det[\mathbf{x}'(s), \mathbf{x}''(s), \mathbf{x}'''(s)]}{\kappa^2(s)}$
 - Mesure le défaut de planarité

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Differential operator

- Functions defining a surface

$\mathbf{X} : \Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ de classe C^r

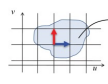
Analogues vecteurs tangent/normal/binormal ?

On note $\mathbf{X}_u = \frac{\partial \mathbf{X}}{\partial u}$ et $\mathbf{X}_v = \frac{\partial \mathbf{X}}{\partial v}$

Plan tangent en p : $T_p \mathbf{X} =$ plan passant par p et engendré par les vecteurs $\mathbf{X}_u(p)$ et $\mathbf{X}_v(p)$

Vecteur normal : $\mathbf{n}(p) = \frac{\mathbf{X}_u(p) \times \mathbf{X}_v(p)}{\|\mathbf{X}_u(p) \times \mathbf{X}_v(p)\|}$

$(\mathbf{X}(p); \mathbf{X}_u(p), \mathbf{X}_v(p), \mathbf{n}(p))$ forme aussi un repère local $\{z(u, v)\}$



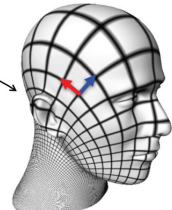
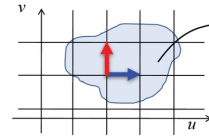
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Differential operator

- Functions defining a surface
- How do unitary vectors are transformed by the parameterization?
 - Length and angles distortion?

$\mathbf{X} : \Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ de classe C^r



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Differential operator

- Functions defining a surface?

On note de manière analogue $\mathbf{X}_{uu} = \frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{X}}{\partial u^2}$, etc.

Première forme fondamentale :

$$\mathbf{I} = \begin{bmatrix} E & F \\ F & G \end{bmatrix} := \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_u^T \mathbf{x}_u & \mathbf{x}_u^T \mathbf{x}_v \\ \mathbf{x}_v^T \mathbf{x}_u & \mathbf{x}_v^T \mathbf{x}_v \end{bmatrix}$$

Angle change

Seconde forme fondamentale :

$$\mathbf{II} = \begin{bmatrix} e & f \\ f & g \end{bmatrix} := \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_{uu}^T \mathbf{n} & \mathbf{x}_{uv}^T \mathbf{n} \\ \mathbf{x}_{uv}^T \mathbf{n} & \mathbf{x}_{vv}^T \mathbf{n} \end{bmatrix}$$

Length change

Opérateur de forme/Application de Weingarten :

$$\mathbf{W} := \frac{1}{EG - F^2} \begin{bmatrix} eG - fF & fG - gF \\ fE - eF & gE - fF \end{bmatrix} = (D_u n \ D_v n)$$

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\mathbf{I} = outil géométrique (**tenseur métrique**)

- ▶ Permet de mesurer aires locales, longueurs de courbes sur la surface, angles, ...

$$dA = \sqrt{EG - F^2} du dv$$

- ▶ Exemple : anisotropie locale de la surface : décomposition spectrale de \mathbf{I}

Propriétés différentielles ne dépendant que de \mathbf{I} sont dites **intrinsèques**

- ▶ Ne dépendent pas de la paramétrisation
- ▶ Ne dépendent pas de l'espace 3D

Eigenvalues of \mathbf{I} : maximal/minimal stretching of a tangent vector

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\mathbf{II} = propriétés **extrinsèques** de la surface

- ▶ Dépendent du plongement dans l'espace ambiant \mathbb{R}^3

\mathbf{W} détermine les directions de courbure locale de la surface

- ▶ Valeurs propres = courbures principales
- ▶ Vecteurs propres = directions principales de courbure

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Courbures principales et directions principales de courbure :

$$\mathbf{W} = \begin{bmatrix} \bar{\mathbf{t}}_1 & \bar{\mathbf{t}}_2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \kappa_1 & 0 \\ 0 & \kappa_2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \bar{\mathbf{t}}_1 & \bar{\mathbf{t}}_2 \end{bmatrix}^{-1}$$

Courbure moyenne : $H = \frac{\kappa_1 + \kappa_2}{2} = \frac{1}{2} \text{trace}(\mathbf{W})$

Courbure de Gauss : $K = \kappa_1 \cdot \kappa_2 = \det(\mathbf{W})$

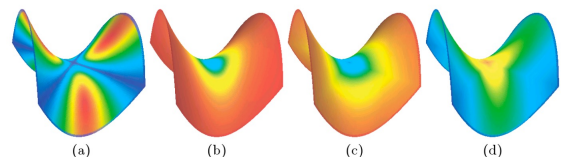


Fig. 5. Curvature plots of a triangulated saddle using pseudo-colors: (a) Mean, (b) Gaussian, (c) Minimum, (d) Maximum.

[Meyer et al. 2003]

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Implicit surfaces

2.1.2. Differential Operators for implicit Surfaces
Assume that

$$\Gamma_c := \{x = [x_1, x_2, x_3]^T \in \mathbb{R}^3 : \phi(x) = c\}$$

where $\phi(x)$ is a properly smooth function defined on \mathbb{R}^3 , c is an arbitrarily given constant. Suppose that $\|\nabla\phi\|$ on Γ_c , thus, according to the implicit function theorem, the level-set surface could be locally parameterized. For each point on the surface, we can obtain the unit normal vector

$$n = \frac{\nabla\phi}{\|\nabla\phi\|}.$$

The mean curvature H for the level-set surface can be deduced as

$$H = -\frac{1}{2} \operatorname{div} \left(\frac{\nabla\phi}{\|\nabla\phi\|} \right) \quad (3)$$

where ∇ and div denote the classical gradient and divergence operators, respectively.

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Differential operators

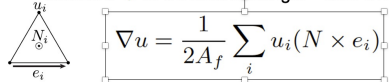
- Functions defined on a surface
 - Let u be a scalar function defined on a surface
 - We would like to express local variations of u
- Let consider the discrete case of a surface being approximated by a simplicial mesh
 - Function u discretized on vertices
 - Gradient of u discretized on triangles
 - Divergence of a vector (defined on triangles) discretized on vertices
- Bibliography : Keenan Crane

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Differential operators

- Gradient d'une fonction définie sur les sommets d'un triangle
 - Gradient de l'interpolation linéaire de la fonction sur le triangle

– Gradient ∇ of u inside a triangle = sum over the 3 vertices



$$\nabla u = \frac{1}{2A_f} \sum_i u_i (N_i \times e_i)$$

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Differential operators

- Laplacien en un sommet d'une fonction définie sur les sommets
 - Différence entre la moyenne des valeurs sur les voisins et la valeur au sommet
 - Quels coefficients choisir pour faire la moyenne?
 - Choisir des coefficients cohérents avec le fait que le laplacien de la fonction de position des points sur une surface doit être liée à la courbure moyenne et à la normale à la surface (et correspond au gradient de l'aire locale de la surface quand la position du point varie).

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Differential geometry

- How to generalize normal, curvatures?
- Consider u corresponding to each coordinate function in turn
 - $u = {}^t(x, y, z)$

$$\Delta_x u = -2Hn$$

H : mean curvature


n : normal vector

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Differential operators

- Laplacien en un sommet d'une fonction définie sur les sommets
 - Différence entre la moyenne des valeurs sur les voisins et la valeur au sommet
 - Quels coefficients choisir pour faire la moyenne?

– Laplacian Δ of u at vertex i = sum over neighbor vertices j



$$(Lu)_i = \frac{1}{2A_i} \sum_j (\cot \alpha_{ij} + \cot \beta_{ij})(u_j - u_i)$$

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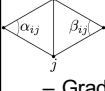
Differential operators


- Fait au tableau
 - Gradient de la fonction qui donne l'aire d'un triangle quand son sommet s_0 varie
- Sur la surface regardons la fonction qui a un point associe ses coordonnées (x,y,z)
 Laplacien de la position (x,y,z) en un point P
 = gradient de l'aire locale de surface autour du point P quand P varie.

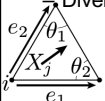
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Differential operators

- Simplicial meshes
 - Laplacian Δ of u at vertex i = sum over neighbor vertices j

$$(Lu)_i = \frac{1}{2A_i} \sum_j (\cot \alpha_{ij} + \cot \beta_{ij})(u_j - u_i)$$

 - Gradient ∇ of u inside a triangle = sum over the 3 vertices l

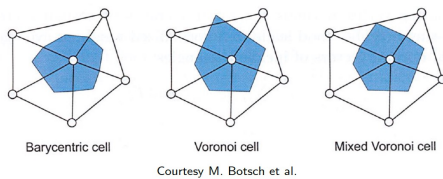
$$\nabla u = \frac{1}{2A_f} \sum_i u_i (N \times e_i)$$

 - Divergence at vertex i of a vector X defined on faces = sum over incident faces j

$$2A_f \nabla \cdot X = \frac{1}{2} \sum_j \cot \theta_1 (e_1 \cdot X_j) + \cot \theta_2 (e_2 \cdot X_j)$$


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Area A_i

- Computed by duality to a vertex



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Signals being studied in Computer Graphics

- Signals defined on \mathbb{R}^2
 - Scalar signals :
 - height value (terrain)
 - density of some fluid flowing in the plane
 - Vector fields
 - Surface parameterization $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$
 - Displacement field of some fluid flowing in the plane
- Signals defined in \mathbb{R}^3
 - Density of a volume material (scalar)
 - Displacement field of some fluid (vector)

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Signals being studied in Computer Graphics

- Signals defined on a surface \mathbb{S}
 - Scalar values :
 - Temperature, grey color ...
 - Position coordinates $(x, y \text{ or } z)$
 - Vector fields
 - Normal vector
 - Maximal/minimal curvature direction
 - Displacement field
 - ...

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