Discrete Curvature Flows For Surfaces and 3-Manifolds

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Thanks for the invitation!



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Curvature Flow

- A way to deform metric according to prescribed curvature;
- intrinsic curvature, conformal deformation;
- Solid results from *mathematics*, direct applications in engineering;
- smooth vs discrete.

Our Work

- Discrete Ricci flow and discrete Yamabe flow for surfaces
- Discrete curvature flow for 3-manifolds

Outline

- Curvature flow for surfaces
 - Theories
 - Discretization
 - Applications
- Curvature flow for 3-manifolds

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The Ricci Flow [Hamilton 1982, 1988]

The Riemannian metric \mathbf{g} is deformed proportional to the curvature K,

$$\frac{d\mathbf{g}}{dt} = -2K\mathbf{g}$$

such that the curvature K evolves like heat diffusion:

$$\frac{dK}{dt} = -\Delta_g K$$

Eventually, the curvature is constant everywhere.

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Impact

A powerful tool to design Riemannian metrics by prescribed curvatures.

- In mathematics, it has been applied for proving Poincaré conjecture and Thurston's geometrization conjecture.
- In engineering, it has been applied in shape matching, registration, analysis, classification and etc.

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Geometry

According to Klein, geometry studies the invariants under different transformation groups.

Surface Geometric Structures

- Topology : orientability, genus, boundaries, ...
- Conformal Geometry : measure angles between intersecting curves;
- Riemannian Geometry : measure lengths of curves;
- Second Euclidean Geometry : mean curvature $h: S \to \mathbb{R}$

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Conformal Mapping

- Angle preserving, locally shape preserving.
- Map infinitesimal circles to infinitesimal circles.
- Möbius transformation group.



Definition (Conformal Structure)

An atlas is conformal, if all its transition maps are conformal (i.e., *biholomorphic*). A conformal structure is the maximal conformal atlas.



Fact

All metric surfaces are Riemann surfaces.



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Connecting Conformal and Riemannian

Definition

Let Σ be a surface with a Riemannian metric $\mathbf{g} = \begin{pmatrix} g_{11} & g_{12} \\ g_{21} & g_{22} \end{pmatrix}$.

- Let $\lambda:\Sigma\to\mathbb{R}$ be a function defined on the surface. Then
 - $e^{2\lambda}$ **g** is another Riemannian metric conformal to **g**;
 - $e^{2\lambda}$ is called the conformal factor.



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Conformal Structure: Reinterpretation

Consider all the Riemannian metrics on a topological surface *S*. Two Riemannian metrics $\mathbf{g}_1, \mathbf{g}_2$ are conformally equivalent $\mathbf{g}_1 \sim \mathbf{g}_2$, if they differ by a scalar function (i.e. conformal factor), $\mathbf{g}_2 = e^{2u}\mathbf{g}_1, u: S \to \mathbb{R}$. Each conformal equivalence class of Riemannian metrics on *S* is a *conformal structure* of *S*.

Theorem (Poincaré Uniformization Theorem)

Let (S, \mathbf{g}) be a compact 2-dimensional Riemannian manifold. Then there is a metric $\tilde{\mathbf{g}} = e^{2u}\mathbf{g}$ conformal to \mathbf{g} which has constant Gauss curvature.

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Uniformization

- All surfaces admit one of three canonical geometries: Spherical, Euclidean or Hyperbolic geometry.
- For any case, Ricci flow can deform metric conformally to be with constant curvature everywhere!



Theorem (Hamilton 1988)

For a closed surface of non-positive Euler characteristic, if the total area of the surface is preserved during the flow, the Ricci flow will converge to a metric such that the Gaussian curvature is constant (equals to \bar{K}) every where.

Theorem (Chow 1991)

For a closed surface of positive Euler characteristic, if the total area of the surface is preserved during the flow, the Ricci flow will converge to a metric such that the Gaussian curvature is constant (equals to \bar{K}) every where.

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Yamabe Equation

Suppose $\bar{\mathbf{g}} = e^{2u} \mathbf{g}$ is a conformal metric on the surface, then the Gaussian curvature on interior points are

$$\bar{K} = e^{-2u}(-\Delta_{\mathbf{g}}u + K),$$

geodesic curvature on the boundary

$$\bar{k_g} = \mathrm{e}^{-u}(-\partial_n u + k_g).$$

Yamabe Flow

Lead to the solution to the Yamabe equation. Has essentially the same computational power as the Ricci flow for surfaces.

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Discrete Representation of Surfaces

- Surfaces are represented as triangular meshes.
- Discrete model can be acquired using 3D scanner in real time.



Discrete Metrics and Curvatures

- Discrete Metric: A function defined over edges,
 I : *E* = {edges} → ℝ⁺, satisfying triangular inequality.
- Discrete Curvature: A function defined over vertices, $K: V = \{vertices\} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^1,$

$$K(\mathbf{v}) = 2\pi - \sum_{i} \alpha_{i}, \mathbf{v} \notin \partial M; K(\mathbf{v}) = \pi - \sum_{i} \alpha_{i}, \mathbf{v} \in \partial M$$

satisfying the discrete Gauss-Bonnet theorem:

$$\sum_{v\notin\partial M} K(v) + \sum_{v\in\partial M} K(v) = 2\pi\chi(M).$$



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Discrete metric determines discrete curvature by cosine law:

$$\cos \alpha_i = \frac{l_j^2 + l_k^2 - l_i^2}{2l_j l_k}, l \neq j \neq k \neq i$$



Conformal metric deformation by curvature flow

$$\mathbf{g}
ightarrow e^{2u} \mathbf{g}, u : \mathbf{S}
ightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

- analytical approach: discrete Yamabe flow, using typical discrete notations (*I_{ii}* per edge, *u_i* per vertex).
- geometric approach: discrete Ricci flow, using so called circle packing metric (γ_i per vertex, Φ_{ii} per edge).

Discrete Yamabe Flow - Analytic Approach

Smooth Conformal Metric Deformation

$$\mathbf{g} \to e^{2u}\mathbf{g}, u: \mathbf{S} \to \mathbb{R}$$

Discrete Conformal Metric Deformation

$$\textit{I}_{ij} \rightarrow e^{\textit{u}_i} e^{\textit{u}_j}\textit{I}_{ij}, u: V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

Discrete Yamabe flow

$$\frac{du_i}{dt} = -u_i K_i$$

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Discrete Ricci Flow - Geometric Approach

Circle Packing Metric [Thurston 1978]

We associate each vertex v_i with a circle with radius γ_i . On edge e_{ij} , the two circles intersect at the angle of Φ_{ij} . The edge lengths are

$$I_{ij}^2 = \gamma_i^2 + \gamma_j^2 + 2\gamma_i\gamma_j\cos\Phi_{ij}$$



Discrete Ricci Flow - Geometric Approach

Discrete Ricci flow

$$\frac{d\gamma_i}{dt} = -\gamma_i K_i$$



Discrete Euclidean Ricci Flow

Definition

Let $u_i = ln\gamma_i$, the Entropy Energy is defined as

$$f(\mathbf{u}) = \int_{\mathbf{u}_0}^{\mathbf{u}} \sum_{i=1}^n (K_i - \bar{K}_i) du_i,$$

where
$$\mathbf{u} = (u_1, u_2, \cdots, u_n), \mathbf{u}_0 = (0, 0, \cdots, 0).$$

Theorem (Chow and Luo 2002)

Euclidean Ricci energy is Well defined and convex, namely, there exists a unique global minimum. And the discrete Euclidean Ricci flow converges to the global minimum.

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Gradient descent Method

Ricci flow is the gradient descent method for minimizing Ricci energy,

$$\nabla f = (K_1 - \bar{K}_1, K_2 - \bar{K}_2, \cdots, K_n - \bar{K}_n).$$

Newton's method

The Hessian matrix of Ricci energy is

$$\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial u_i \partial u_j} = \frac{\partial K_i}{\partial u_j}.$$

Newton's method can be applied directly.

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Euclidean Uniform Flat Metric



original surface



fundamental domair



universal cover

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Hyperbolic Uniformization Metric



Genus 0 surface with 3 boundaries. The double covered surface is of genus 2. The boundaries are mapped to hyperbolic lines.

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Many practical problems can be formulated as finding a special metric with certain curvature constraints.

- Parameterization finding a flat metric
- Polycube map a flat metric with curvatures concentrated on corners
- Vector Field Design a flat metric with cone singularities with special holonomy.
- Manifold Spline constructing affine atlas utilizing flat metrics
- Shape Matching register and compare two surfaces.

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Surface Parameterization





Polycube Map

Polycube Map



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Vector Field Design



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Manifold Spline

Manifold Spline



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Brain Mapping



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Colon Flattening

Virtual Colonoscopy



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Surface Matching



Surface Tracking



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Shape Signature

Conformal Invariants



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Teichmüller Shape Space

Genus 2 Shapes



Genus 3 Shapes



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Teichmüller Space

- In Teichmüller shape space, each point represents a conformal equivalent class of surfaces.
- In Teichmüller shape space, a curve connecting two points represents a deformation from one shape to the other.

Challenges

- Computing the coordinates of a shape in the Teichmüller space.
- Computing the geodesics (i.e. the extremal quasi-conformal map) in the space.

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Similar idea

Conformal deformation of metrics driven by intrinsic curvature.

Yet quite different ...

- For 2-manifolds, topology and conformal structure determine a metric; for 3-manifolds: topology determines a metric.
- Surface Ricci flow has no singularities, 3-Manifold Ricci flow has.

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Some Other Difference

- Primitive blocks: truncated tetrahedra (instead of triangles)
- Discrete curvature: edge curvature (instead of vertex curvature)

• Flow equation: $\frac{dx_{ij}}{dt} = -u_i K_{ij}$, x_{ij} edge length, K_{ij} edge curvature.



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3-Manifold Curvature Flow

Uniformization

- Thurston's geometrization conjectured all 3-manifolds admit one of eight canonical geometries.
- Poincaré conjecture considers one special case: closed, compact, simply connected 3-manifolds are 3-spheres; proved using the Ricci flow.

Our Work

- A discrete curvature flow [Luo 2005] for hyperbolic 3-manifolds with boundaries.
- Discrete algorithms [Yin et al 2008] to compute this flow and visualize the constant curvature metric.

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3-Manifold Curvature Flow

Discrete curvature flow for hyperbolic 3-manifolds



- Would help the study of 3-manifold geometry.
- Expect applications in volumetric parameterization.
- To be generalized to other types of 3-manifolds

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Conclusion

- Curvature flow is a fundamental tool to discover the intrinsic nature of geometry; it can be discretized properly to solve practical problems in engineering fields.
- For surfaces, the discrete curvature flow algorithms are available for all three geometries (spherical, Euclidean and hyperbolic).
- For 3-manifolds, the discrete curvature flow algorithm has been studied for certain class of 3-manifolds; much more to be explored.

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References

- More details in *Computational Conformal Geometry* and *Variational Principles of Discrete Surfaces*.
- All the data sets and source codes are available at http://www.cs.sunysb.edu/ gu.



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