Progressive Meshes

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## Progressive Meshes

- Motivations
- For Surfaces: Progressive Triangular Meshes
- Connectivity
- Geometry
- For Solids: Progressive Tetrahedral Meshes


## Complex Meshes



Challenges:

- Expensive to store, transmit, render, and edit


## Level of Detail

- Decreasing the complexity of a 3D object representation
- as it moves away from the viewer
- or based on other metrics (object importance, eyespace position...)
- Applied on geometry, texture, material...


69,451 faces


2,502 faces


251 polys


76 polys

## Level of Detail

- Distant objects use coarser LODs:



## Multiresolutional Modeling, Processing and Analysis

- Subdivision Surface, splines, wavelets...
- Image pyramid...
- Quad/oct tree, BSP tree...



## Motivations

- Applications of multiresolution techniques: Compression, Progressive transmission and display, Level-of-detail Control, Multiresolution editing...
- A mesh simplification procedure for general input meshes
- Preserve various properties (colors, normals, ...)
- Lossless
- Continuous-resolution
- Efficient (time and space)
- Directly applicable for Progressive transmission


## Level-of-detail (LOD)



## Mesh simplification procedure

- Idea: apply sequence of edge collapses:


Connectivity change can be easily implemented using Half-Edge Data Structure.

## Simplification process



## Inverse Direction: Reconstruction

Vertex split transformation:


## Reconstruction process


$\mathrm{vspl}_{0}$
$\ldots \operatorname{vspl}_{i} \ldots$
$v s p l_{n-1}$
progressive mesh (PM) representation

## Continuous-resolution LOD

From PM, extract $M^{i}$ of any desired complexity.


3,478 faces?


Property: Vertex correspondence


## Application: Smooth transitions

Correspondence is a surjection:
Video


## Morphing by Linear Interpolation

- Source mesh M1=\{V1, ..., Vn\}
- Target mesh M2=\{U1, ..., Un\}
- The linear interpolation:

$$
M(t)=\left\{V 1^{*}(1-t)+U 1^{*} t, \ldots, V n^{*}(1-t)+U n^{\star} t\right\}
$$

## Application: Progressive transmission

Transmit records progressively:


## Application: Selective refinement


(e.g. view frustum)

## Where to place the new vertex?

$\square$ A simple strategy: pick shortest edge + use the midpoint
**An locally optimal solution:
$>$ To measure the shape error due to the edge collapse: QEM ["Surface Simplification Using Quadric Error Metrics," Garland and Heckbert 97]
> After an edge collapse, the error of a new vertex is the sum of squared distances to originally associated planes

- Iteratively collapse the edge $(u, v)$ with the lowest $E(u, v)$ into the minimizer $P(u, v)$, update the minimizers and QEMs of the new edges (suitable data structure: heap)

An analogous example in 2D:


## A Quadratic Energy to Measure the

## Error

- Squared distance of point p to plane q :

$$
\begin{gathered}
p=(x, y, z, 1)^{T}, q=(a, b, c, d)^{T} \\
\operatorname{dist}(q, p)^{2}=\left(q^{T} p\right)^{2}=p^{T}\left(q q^{T}\right) p=: p^{T} Q_{q} p \\
Q_{q}=\left[\begin{array}{llll}
a^{2} & a b & a c & a d \\
a b & b^{2} & b c & b d \\
a c & b c & c^{2} & c d \\
a d & b d & c d & d^{2}
\end{array}\right]
\end{gathered}
$$

-     - Sum distances to planes of neighboring triangles:

$$
\sum_{i} \operatorname{dist}\left(q_{i}, p\right)^{2}=\sum_{i} p^{T} Q_{q_{i}} p=p^{T}\left(\sum_{i} Q_{q_{i}}\right) p=: p^{T} Q_{p} p
$$

## More Criteria to pick edges

- An energy to describe the deviation of appearance:
- geometric shape
- scalar fields (e.g. color)
- Feature (discontinuity) curves
- ...

- In general, greedy strategy to always collapse edge resulting in smallest $\Delta E$


## Summary

- With the half-edge data structure, can you implement this idea using the simplest strategy (pick shortest edge, use mid-point)
- Now consider the generalization of PM to 3D...


## Progressive Tetrahedral Meshes

## Edge Collapse



## Progressive Tetrahedral Meshes



## Progressive Tetrahedral Meshes

Is "Edge Collapse" the only way?


## Progressive Tetrahedral Meshes

Is "Edge Collapse" the only way?


## An application in Morphing

Course Project Candidate:
Inter-surface mapping and morphing


