Mass-Spring Systems

Last Time?

- Subdivision Surfaces
 - Catmull Clark
 - Semi-sharp creases
 - Texture Interpolation
- · Interpolation vs. Approximation









Today

- Particle Systems
 - Equations of Motion (Physics)
 - Numerical Integration (Euler, Midpoint, etc.)
 - Forces: Gravity, Spatial, Damping
- Mass Spring System Examples
 - String, Hair, Cloth
- Stiffness
- Discretization

Types of Dynamics

• Point





• Rigid body

• Deformable body (include clothes, fluids, smoke, etc.)



What is a Particle System?

- Collection of many small simple particles that maintain *state* (position, velocity, color, etc.)
- Particle motion influenced by external force fields
- Integrate the laws of mechanics (ODE Solvers)
- · To model: sand, dust, smoke, sparks, flame, water, etc.



Particle Motion

- mass m, position x, velocity v
- equations of motion:

$$\frac{d}{dt}x(t) = v(t)$$

$$\frac{d}{dt}v(t) = \frac{1}{m}F(x, v, t)$$

- Analytic solutions can be found for some classes of differential equations, but most can't be solved analytically
- Instead, we will numerically approximate a solution to our *initial value problem*

Path Through a Field

- $f(\mathbf{X},t)$ is a vector field defined everywhere
 - E.g. a velocity field which may change over time



• X(t) is a path through the field

Higher Order ODEs

• Basic mechanics is a 2nd order ODE:

$$\frac{d^2}{dt^2} x = \frac{1}{m} F$$

• Express as 1st order ODE by defining v(t):

$$\frac{d}{dt}x(t) = v(t)$$

$$\frac{d}{dt}v(t) = \frac{1}{m}F(x, v, t)$$

$$\mathbf{X} = \begin{pmatrix} x \\ v \end{pmatrix} \quad f(X,t) = \begin{pmatrix} v \\ \frac{1}{m}F(x,v,t) \end{pmatrix}$$

For a Collection of 3D particles...

$$\mathbf{X} = \begin{pmatrix} p_x^{(1)} \\ p_y^{(1)} \\ p_y^{(1)} \\ p_z^{(1)} \\ v_y^{(1)} \\ v_y^{(1)} \\ v_y^{(2)} \\ p_y^{(2)} \\ p_y^{(2)} \\ p_z^{(2)} \\ p_z^{(2)} \\ v_y^{(2)} \\ v_z^{(2)} \\ v_z^{(2$$

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Euler's Method

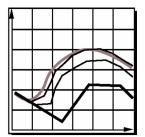
- Examine $f(\mathbf{X},t)$ at (or near) current state
- Take a step of size h to new value of X:

$$t_1 = t_0 + h$$
$$\mathbf{X}_1 = \mathbf{X}_0 + h f(\mathbf{X}_0, t_0)$$

• Piecewise-linear approximation to the curve

Effect of Step Size

- Step size controls accuracy
- Smaller steps more closely follow curve
- For animation, we may want to take many small steps per frame



Euler's Method: Inaccurate

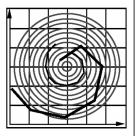
• Moves along tangent & can leave curve, e.g.:

$$f(\mathbf{X},t) = \begin{pmatrix} -y \\ x \end{pmatrix}$$

• Exact solution is circle:

$$\mathbf{X}(t) = \begin{pmatrix} r\cos(t+k) \\ r\sin(t+k) \end{pmatrix}$$

· Euler's spirals outward no matter how small h is



Euler's Method: Unstable

• Problem: f(x,t) = -kx

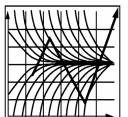
 $x(t) = x_0 e^{-kt}$ • Solution:

• Limited step size:

$$x_1 = x_0 (1 - hk)$$

$$\begin{cases} h \le 1/k & \text{ok} \\ h > 1/k & \text{oscillates } \pm \\ h > 2/k & \text{explodes} \end{cases}$$

• If k is big, h must be small



Analysis using Taylor Series

- Expand exact solution $\mathbf{X}(t)$
 - $\mathbf{X}(t_0 + h) = \mathbf{X}(t_0) + h\left(\frac{d}{dt}\mathbf{X}(t)\right)\Big|_{t} + \frac{h^2}{2!}\left(\frac{d^2}{dt^2}\mathbf{X}(t)\right)\Big|_{t} + \frac{h^3}{3!}\left(\cdots\right) + \cdots$

• Euler's method:

$$\mathbf{X}(t_0 + h) = \mathbf{X}_0 + h f(\mathbf{X}_0, t_0) \qquad \dots + O(h^2)$$
 error

 $h \to h/2 \implies error \to error/4 \text{ per step} \times \text{ twice as many steps}$ $\rightarrow error/2$

- First-order method: Accuracy varies with h
 - To get 100x better accuracy need 100x more steps

Can we do better than Euler's Method?

- Problem: f has varied along the step
- Idea: look at f at the arrival of the step and compensate for variation



2nd-Order Methods

- Midpoint:
 - ½ Euler step
 - evaluate f_m
 - full step using f_m
- · Trapezoid:
 - Euler step (a)
 - evaluate f_I
 - full step using f_1 (b)
 - average (a) and (b)
- Not exactly same result
- · Same order of accuracy

Comparison: Euler, Midpoint, Runge-Kutta

A 4th order method!

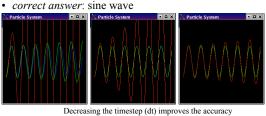
- initial position: (1,0,0)
- initial velocity: (0,5,0)
- force field: pulls particles to origin with magnitude proportional to distance from origin
- correct answer: circle



Euler will always diverge (even with small dt)

Comparison: Euler, Midpoint, Runge-Kutta

- initial position: (0,-2,0)
- initial velocity: (1,0,0)
- force field: pulls particles to line y=0 with magnitude proportional to distance from line
- · correct answer: sine wave



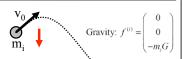
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Forces: Gravity

For smoke, flame: make gravity point up!

• Simple gravity: depends only on particle mass



- N-body problem: depends on all other particles
 - Magnitude inversely proportional to square distance
 - $-F_{ij}=G m_i m_i / r^2$



Forces: Spatial Fields

- Force on particle i depends only on position of i
 - wind
 - attractors
 - repulsers
 - vortices
- Can depend on time
- · Note: these add energy, may need damping too

Forces: Damping

$$f^{(i)} = -dv^{(i)}$$

- Force on particle i depends only on velocity of i
- Force opposes motion
- Removes energy, so system can settle
- Small amount of damping can stabilize solver
- Too much damping makes motion too glue-like

Questions?



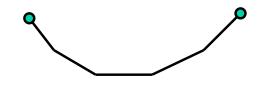
Baraff, Witkin, Kass

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How would you simulate a string?

- Each particle is linked to two particles
- Forces try to keep the distance between particles constant
- · What force?

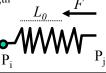


Spring Forces

- Force in the direction of the spring and proportional to difference with rest length L_{θ}

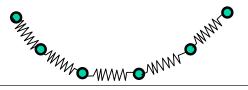
$$F(P_i, P_j) = K(L_0 - ||P_i \vec{P}_j||) \frac{P_i \vec{P}_j}{||P_i \vec{P}_j||}$$

- K is the stiffness of the spring
 - When K gets bigger, the spring really wants to keep its rest length



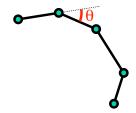
How would you simulate a string?

- Springs link the particles
- Springs try to keep their rest lengths and preserve the length of the string
- Problems?
 - Stretch, actual length will be greater than rest length
 - Numerical oscillation



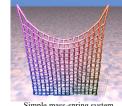
How would you simulate hair?

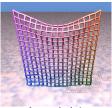
- Similar to string...
- Deformation forces proportional to the angle between segments



Reading for Today

 "Deformation Constraints in a Mass-Spring Model to Describe Rigid Cloth Behavior", Provot, 1995.



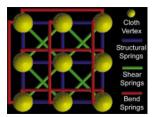


Simple mass-spring system

Improved solution

Cloth Modeled with Mass-Spring

- · Network of masses and springs
- Structural springs:
 - link (i, j) & (i+1, j) and (i, j) & (i, j+1)
- Shear springs
 - link (i, j) & (i+1, j+1) and (i+1, j) & (i, j+1)
- Flexion (Bend) springs
 - link (i, j) & (i+2, j) and (i, j) & (i, j+2)



From Lander

http://www.darwin3d.com/gamedev/articles/col0599.pdf

The Stiffness Issue

- What relative stiffness do we want for the different springs in the network?
- Cloth is barely elastic, shouldn't stretch so much!
- Inverse relationship between stiffness & Δt
- We really want a constraints (not springs)
- Many numerical solutions
 - reduce Δt
 - use constraints
 - implicit integration
 - **—** ...

The Discretization Problem

- What happens if we discretize our cloth more finely, or with a different mesh structure?
- Do we get the same behavior?
- Usually not! It takes a lot of effort to design a scheme that does not depend on the discretization.





Questions?





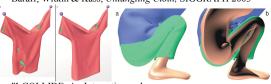




Interactive Animation of Structured Deformable Objects Desbrun, Schröder, & Barr 1999

Readings for Friday (2/19) pick one

• Baraff, Witkin & Kass, Untangling Cloth, SIGGRAPH 2003



- "I-COLLIDE: An Interactive and Exact Collision Detection System for Large-scaled Environments", Cohen, Lin, Manocha, & Ponamgi, 13D 1995
- Post a comment or question on the LMS discussion by 10am

