# High-quality weight functions via constrained optimization 

Alec Jacobson

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## Coordinate-based deformation is a special case of Linear Blend Skinning

$$
\mathbf{x}^{\prime}=\sum_{j \in H} w_{j}(\mathbf{x}) \mathbf{h}_{j}^{\prime}
$$

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## Coordinate-based deformation is a special case of Linear Blend Skinning

$$
\mathbf{x}^{\prime}=\sum_{j \in H} w_{j}(\mathbf{x}) \mathbf{h}_{j}^{\prime}
$$

linear precision (reproduction)

## $\mathbf{x}=$ <br>  <br> $w_{j}(\mathbf{x}) \mathbf{h}_{j}$ <br> $j \in H$

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## Coordinate-based deformation is a special case of Linear Blend Skinning


restricted to translation

## linear precision (reproduction) <br> $\mathbf{x}=\sum w_{j}(\mathbf{x}) \mathbf{h}_{j}$ <br> $j \in H$

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## Coordinate-based deformation is a special case of Linear Blend Skinning

$$
\mathbf{x}^{\prime}=\sum_{j \in H} w_{j}(\mathbf{x}) T_{/} j \mathbf{x}
$$



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## Coordinate-based deformation is a special case of Linear Blend Skinning

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$$




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## Bounded Biharmonic Weights for Real-Time Deformation SIGGRAPH 2011

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# Each handle type has a specific task, more than just different modeling metaphor 



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## Cages can often be tedious to build and control



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## Points can only provide crude scaling



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## Skeletons may be too rigid or too cumbersome



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We want to compute weights that unify points, skeletons and cages


Weights should be smooth, shape-aware, positive and intuitive


Weights should be smooth, shape-aware, positive and intuitive


Weights should be smooth, shape-aware, positive and intuitive


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Weights should be smooth, shape-aware, positive and intuitive


## Weights must be smooth everywhere, especially at handles



Our method


Extension of Harmonic Coordinates [Joshi et al. 2005]

## Weights must be smooth everywhere, especially at handles



## Weights must be smooth everywhere, especially at handles




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## Shape-awareness ensures respect of domain's features



Our method


Non-shape-aware methods
e.g. [Schaefer et al. 2006]

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## Shape-awareness ensures respect of domain's features



Our method


Non-shape-aware methods
e.g. [Schaefer et al. 2006]

## Non-negative weights are mandatory

Our method

Unconstrained biharmonic [Botsch and Kobbelt 2004]


## Non-negative weights are mandatory

Our method

Unconstrained biharmonic [Botsch and Kobbelt 2004]


## Weights must maintain other simple, but important properties

$$
\sum_{j \in H} w_{j}(\mathbf{x})=\left.1 \quad w_{j}\right|_{H_{k}}=\delta_{j k}
$$

$w_{j}$ is linear along cage faces
Partition of unity
Interpolation of handles

## Weights must maintain other simple, but important properties



Partition of unity
Interpolation of handles

## Previous methods only partially satisfactory

|  | Harmonic <br> Coordinates <br> [Joshi et al. 2005] | Unconstrained <br> biharmonic <br> [Botsch and Kobbelt 2004] | Shepard <br> interpolation <br> [Shepard 1968] | Natural <br> neighbors <br> [Sibson 1981] |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Smoothness | - | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | - |
| Non-negativity | $\checkmark$ | - | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ |
| Shape-aware | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | - | - |
| Locality, sparsity | - | - | - | $\checkmark$ |
| No local extrema | $\checkmark$ | - | - | $\checkmark$ |

$\Delta w_{j}=0$

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|  | Harmonic <br> Coordinates <br> [Joshi et al. 2005] | Unconstrained <br> biharmonic <br> [Borsch and Kobbelt 2004] | Shepard <br> interpolation <br> [Shepard 1968] | Natural <br> neighbors <br> [Sibson 1981] |
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$$
\Delta^{2} w_{j}=0
$$

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|  | Harmonic <br> Coordinates <br> [Joshi et al. 2005] | Unconstrained <br> biharmonic <br> [Botsch and Kobbelt 2004] | Shepard <br> interpolation <br> [Shepard 1968] | Natural <br> neighbors <br> [Sibson 1981] |
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| Locality, sparsity | - | - | - | $\checkmark$ |
| No local extrema | $\checkmark$ | - | - | $\checkmark$ |

Inverse distance, weighted least-squares

## Inverse distance methods

 inherently suffer from fall-off effect
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 inherently suffer from fall-off effect
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## Inverse distance methods

 inherently suffer from fall-off effect

# Inverse distance methods inherently suffer from fall-off effect 

Shepard


Our method


## Inverse distance methods inherently suffer from fall-off effect

Shepard


## Our method



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|  | Harmonic <br> Coordinates <br> [Joshi et al. 2005] | Unconstrained <br> biharmonic <br> [Botsch and Kobbelt 2004] | Shepard <br> interpolation <br> [Shepard 1968] | Natural <br> neighbors <br> [Sibson 1981] |
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| Locality, sparsity | - | - | - | $\checkmark$ |
| No local extrema | $\checkmark$ | - | - | $\checkmark$ |

Support bones and cages?
Shape-aware?

## Previous methods only partially satisfactory

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| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Smoothness | - | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | - |
| Non-negativity | $\checkmark$ | - | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ |
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| Locality, sparsity | - | - | - | $\checkmark$ |
| No local extrema | $\checkmark$ | - | - | $\checkmark$ |

$$
\Delta^{2} w_{j}=0
$$

## Bounded biharmonic weights enforce properties as constraints to minimization

$\begin{aligned} \underset{w_{j}}{\arg \min } & \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega}\left\|\Delta w_{j}\right\|^{2} d V \\ \left.w_{j}\right|_{H_{k}} & =\delta_{j k}\end{aligned}$
$W_{j}$ is linear along cage faces

## Bounded biharmonic weights enforce properties as constraints to minimization

$\underset{w_{j}}{\arg \min } \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega}\left\|\Delta w_{j}\right\|^{2} d V$
$\left.w_{j}\right|_{H_{k}}=\delta_{j k}$
$W_{j}$ is linear along cage faces

Constant inequality constraints
$0 \leq w_{j}(\mathbf{x}) \leq 1$
Partition of unity

$$
\sum_{j \in H} w_{j}(\mathbf{x})=1
$$

## Bounded biharmonic weights enforce properties as constraints to minimization

$\underset{w_{j}}{\arg \min } \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega}\left\|\Delta w_{j}\right\|^{2} d V$
Constant inequality constraints
$0 \leq w_{j}(\mathbf{x}) \leq 1$
Solve independently, normalize


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## Weights optimized as precomputation at bind-time

$\underset{w_{j}}{\arg \min } \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega}\left\|\Delta w_{j}\right\|^{2} d V$
$\left.w_{j}\right|_{H_{k}}=\delta_{j k}$
$w_{j}$ is linear along cage faces
$0 \leq w_{j}(\mathbf{x}) \leq 1$

FEM discretization
2D $\rightarrow$ Triangle mesh
3D $\rightarrow$ Tet mesh


## Weights optimized as precomputation at bind-time

$\underset{w_{j}}{\arg \min } \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega}\left\|\Delta w_{j}\right\|^{2} d V$
$\left.w_{j}\right|_{H_{k}}=\delta_{j k}$
$w_{j}$ is linear along cage faces
$0 \leq w_{j}(\mathbf{x}) \leq 1$

Sparse quadratic programming 2D ~O(milliseconds) per handle 3D ~0(seconds) per handle


## Weights in 3D also retain nice properties



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## Weights in 3D also retain nice properties



# Variational formulation allows additional, problem-specific constraints 



Variational formulation allows additional, problem-specific constraints


## Previous methods only partially satisfactory

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| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
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| Non-negativity | $\checkmark$ | - | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ |
| Shape-aware | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | - | - |
| Locality, sparsity | - | - | - | $\checkmark$ |
| No local extrema | $\checkmark$ | - | - | $\checkmark$ |

$$
\Delta^{2} w_{j}=0
$$

## Our weights obtain all properties...

|  | Harmonic <br> Coordinates <br> [Joshi et al. 2005] | Our Bounded <br> Biharmonic Weights <br> [Jacobson et al. 2011] | Shepard <br> interpolation <br> [Shepard 1968] | Natural <br> neighbors <br> [Sibson 1981] |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Smoothness | - | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | - |
| Non-negativity | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ (Explicitly) | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ |
| Shape-aware | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | - | - |
| Locality, sparsity | - | $\checkmark^{*}$ | - | $\checkmark$ |
| No local extrema | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark^{*}$ | - | $\checkmark$ |

*Empirically confirmed

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## ... or so we thought

|  | Harmonic <br> Coordinates <br> [Joshi et al. 2005] | Our Bounded <br> Biharmonic Weights <br> [Jacobson et al. 2011] | Shepard <br> interpolation <br> [Shepard 1968] | Natural <br> neighbors <br> [Sibson 1981] |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Smoothness | - | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | - |
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| Shape-aware | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | - | - |
| Locality, sparsity | - | $\checkmark^{*}$ | - | $\checkmark$ |
| No local extrema | $\checkmark$ | - | - | $\checkmark$ |

# Smooth Shape-Aware Functions with Controlled Extrema SGP 2012 

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## ${ }^{1}$ ETH Zurich

${ }^{2}$ MPI Saarbrücken

## Spurious extrema cause distracting artifacts

unconstrained $\Delta^{2}$
[Botsch \& Kobbelt 2004]

| O local max |
| :--- |
| O local min |

$$
\mathbf{x}_{i}^{\prime}=\sum_{j=1}^{H} f_{j}\left(\mathbf{x}_{i}\right) T_{j} \mathbf{x}_{i}
$$

## Spurious extrema cause distracting artifacts

unconstrained $\Delta^{2}$
[Botsch \& Kobbelt 2004]

| O local max |
| :--- |
| O local min |

$$
\mathbf{x}_{i}^{\prime}=\sum_{j=1}^{H} f_{j}\left(\mathbf{x}_{i}\right) T_{j} \mathbf{x}_{i}
$$

## Bounds help, but don't solve problem

bounded $\Delta^{2}$
[Jacobson et al. 2011]

| O local max |
| :--- |
| O local min |

$$
\mathbf{x}_{i}^{\prime}=\sum_{j=1}^{H} f_{j}\left(\mathbf{x}_{i}\right) T_{j} \mathbf{x}_{i}
$$



## We explicitly prohibit spurious extrema

$$
\mathbf{x}_{i}^{\prime}=\sum_{j=1}^{H} f_{j}\left(\mathbf{x}_{i}\right) T_{j} \mathbf{x}_{i}
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## We explicitly prohibit spurious extrema

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\mathbf{x}_{i}^{\prime}=\sum_{j=1}^{H} f_{j}\left(\mathbf{x}_{i}\right) T_{j} \mathbf{x}_{i}
$$



## Ideal discrete problem is intractable

## $\arg \min E(f)$ <br> $f$



## Ideal discrete problem is intractable

$$
\begin{array}{cl}
\underset{f}{\arg \min } & E(f) \\
\text { s.t. } & f_{\max }=\text { known } \\
& f_{\min }=\text { known }
\end{array}
$$



## Ideal discrete problem is intractable

$$
\begin{array}{cl}
\underset{f}{\arg \min } & E(f) \\
\text { s.t. } & f_{\max }=\text { known } \\
& f_{\min }=\text { known } \\
& f_{j}<f_{\max } \\
\text { linear } & f_{j}>f_{\min }
\end{array}
$$



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## Ideal discrete problem is intractable

| $\underset{f}{\arg \min }$ | $E(f)$ |
| ---: | :--- |
| s.t. | $f_{\text {max }}=$ known |
|  | $f_{\min }=$ known |
|  | $f_{j}<f_{\text {max }}$ |
|  | $f_{j}>f_{\min }$ |
|  | $f_{i}>\min _{j \in \mathcal{N}(i)} f_{j}$ |
| nonlinear |  |
|  | $f_{i}<\max _{j \in \mathcal{N}(i)} f_{j}$ |

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## Assume we have a feasible solution

$\arg \min E(f)$

$f_{\text {min }}=$ known
"Representative function" $U$

$$
\begin{aligned}
& u_{j}<u_{\max } \\
& u_{j}>u_{\min } \\
& u_{i}>\min _{j \in \mathcal{N}(i)} u_{j} \\
& u_{i}<\max _{j \in \mathcal{N}(i)} u_{j}
\end{aligned}
$$

## Copy "monotonicity" of representative

$$
\begin{array}{cl}
\underset{f}{\arg \min } & E(f) \\
\text { s.t. } & f_{\max }=k n o w n \\
& f_{\min }=k n o w n \\
& \left(f_{i}-f_{j}\right)\left(u_{i}-u_{j}\right)>0 \quad \text { linear } \quad \forall(i, j) \in \mathcal{E} \\
& \\
& \\
& \\
& \\
\text { At least one edge in either } \\
\text { direction per vertex }
\end{array}
$$

## Rewrite as conic optimization

## Conic



Optimize with MOSEK

## Harmonic functions obey maximum principle

|  | Harmonic <br> Coordinates <br> [Joshi et al. 2005] | Unconstrained <br> biharmonic <br> [Botsch and Kobbelt 2004] | Shepard <br> interpolation <br> [Shepard 1968] | Natural <br> neighbors <br> [Sibson 1981] |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Smoothness | - | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | - |
| Non-negativity | $\checkmark$ | - | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ |
| Shape-aware | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | - | - |
| Locality, sparsity | - | - | - | $\checkmark$ |
| No local extrema | $\checkmark$ | - | - | $\checkmark$ |

$\Delta u=0$

## Final algorithm is simple and efficient

- Harmonic representative
- Linear solve ~O(milliseconds)

Final algorithm is simple and efficient

- Harmonic representative
- Linear solve ~O(milliseconds)

Conic optimization

- 2D ~O(milliseconds), 3D ~O(seconds)


## Final algorithm is simple and efficient

- Harmonic representative
- Linear solve ~0(milliseconds)

Conic optimization

- 2D ~O(milliseconds), 3D ~0(seconds)


## Again, functions are precomputed

## Our weights attach appendages to body



## Extrema glue appendages to far-away handles


[Botsch \& Kobbelt 2004, Jacobson et al. 2011]

## Extrema glue appendages to far-away handles


[Botsch \& Kobbelt 2004, Jacobson et al. 2011]

## Our weights attach appendages to body



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## Extrema distort small features



## Extrema distort small features

Bounded $\Delta^{2}$ [Jacobson et al. 2011]

weight of middle point

## "Monotonicity" helps preserve small features

Bounded $\Delta^{2}$ [Jacobson et al. 2011]


Our $\Delta^{2}$


## Conclusion: variational framework allows explicit control over desired properties

- Shape-aware smoothness energy


# Conclusion: variational framework allows explicit control over desired properties 

- Shape-aware smoothness energy
- Explicit bounds
- Implicit locality, sparsity


# Conclusion: variational framework allows explicit control over desired properties 

- Shape-aware smoothness energy
- Explicit bounds
- Implicit locality, sparsity
- Explicit monotonicity


## Future work and discussion

Continuous formulation of monotonicity?

## Future work and discussion

- Continuous formulation of monotonicity? Explicit sparsity? Linear precision?


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## High-quality weight functions via constrained optimization

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MATLAB Demos and more:
http://igl.ethz.ch/projects/bbw/
http://igl.ethz.ch/projects/monotonic/

