

Transfinite Barycentric Coordinates for Arbitrary Planar Domains

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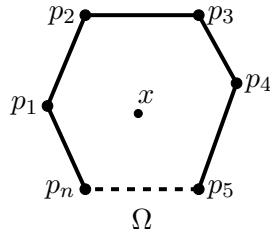
May 29, 2025 in St. Louis, USA

Generalized barycentric coordinates

Given a polygon Ω with n vertices $p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n$, and any $x \in \Omega$, find coordinates $\lambda(x) = [\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n]$ such that

$$x = \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i(x) p_i, \quad \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i(x) = 1, \quad \lambda_i(p_j) = \delta_{i,j} = \begin{cases} 1, & i=j \\ 0, & i \neq j \end{cases}$$

❖ λ are *generalized barycentric coordinates* of x w.r.t. Ω .



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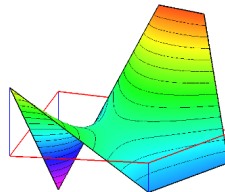
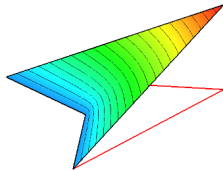
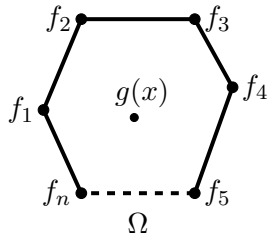
$$x = \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i(x) p_i, \quad \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i(x) = 1, \quad \lambda_i(v_j) = \delta_{i,j} = \begin{cases} 1, & i=j \\ 0, & i \neq j \end{cases}$$

❖ λ are *generalized barycentric coordinates* of x w.r.t. Ω .

Considering data $f_1, f_2, \dots, f_n$ corresponding to the vertices, we can interpolate the data at any point $x \in \Omega$ by

$$g(x) = \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i(x) f_i, \quad \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i(x) = 1$$

(*Generalized barycentric interpolation*)



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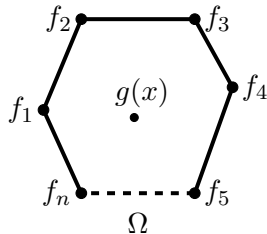
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- ❖ When $n > 3$, such λ are usually **not unique**.
- ❖ Looking forward to finding λ that satisfy some properties.

Applications

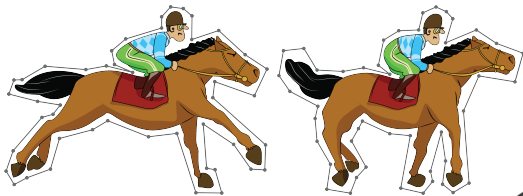
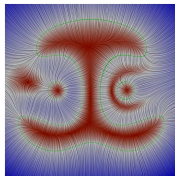
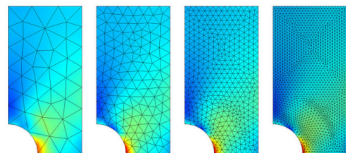
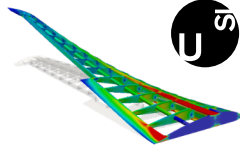


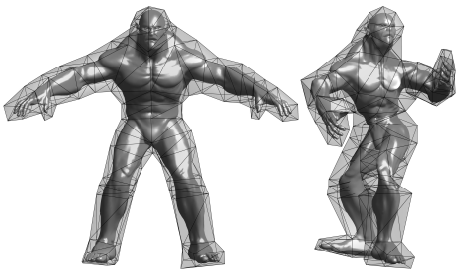
image warping



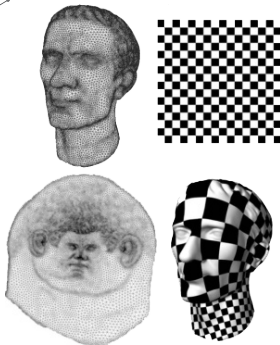
vector field interpolation



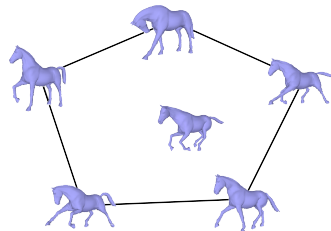
finite element method



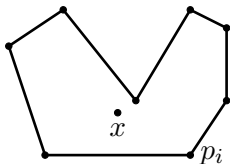
mesh deformation



mesh parameterization



mesh animation



Polygon: $\{p_i : i = 1, \dots, n\}$

generalized barycentric coordinates $\lambda_i(x)$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i(x) p_i = x$$

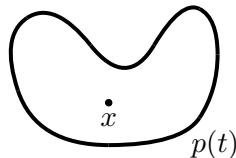
linear reproduction

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i(x) = 1$$

partition of unity

$$\lambda_i(p_j) = \delta_{i,j}$$

Lagrange property



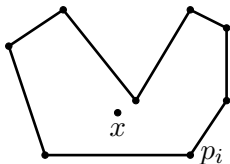
Curve: $\{p(t) : t \in [a, b]\}, p(a) = p(b)$

transfinite barycentric kernel $\lambda(x, t)$

$$\int_a^b \lambda(x, t) p(t) dt = x$$

$$\int_a^b \lambda(x, t) dt = 1$$

$$\lambda(p(s), t) = \delta(s - t)$$

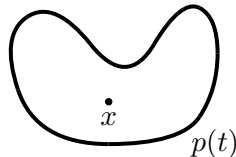


Polygon: $\{p_i : i = 1, \dots, n\}$

generalized barycentric coordinates $\lambda_i(x)$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \mu_i(x)(p_i - x) = 0$$

$$\lambda_i(x) = \mu_i(x) / \sum_{j=1}^n \mu_j(x)$$



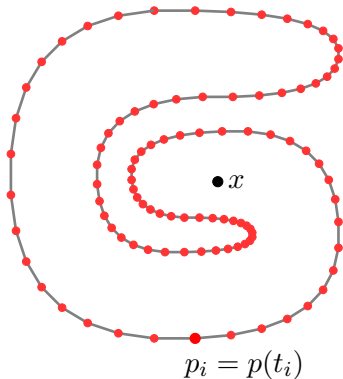
Curve: $\{p(t) : t \in [a, b]\}, p(a) = p(b)$

transfinite barycentric kernel $\lambda(x, t)$

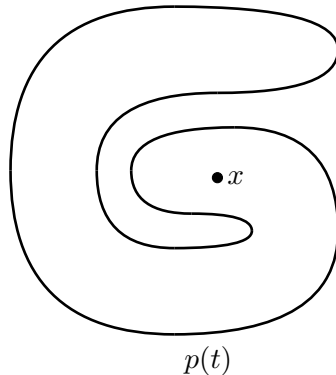
$$\int_a^b \mu(x, t)(p(t) - x) dt = 0$$

$$\lambda(x, t) = \mu(x, t) / \int_a^b \mu(x, s) ds$$

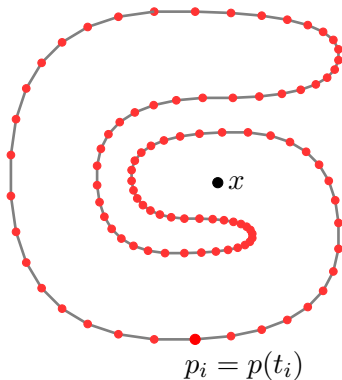
Discretize the continuous boundary



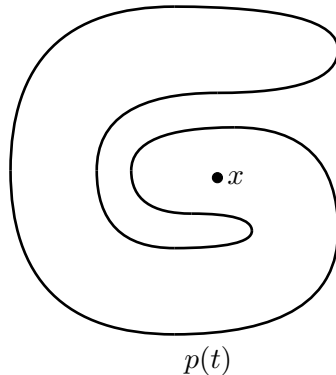
discretize



Discretize the continuous boundary



dense sampling
 $\mu_i(x) \rightarrow \mu(x, t)$



- ❖ Wachspress kernel [Warren et al., 2007]

$$\mu(x, t) = \frac{p'(t) \times p''(t)}{((p(t) - x) \times p'(t))^2}$$

- ❖ Mean value kernel [Dyken and Floater, 2009]

$$\mu(x, t) = \frac{(p(t) - x) \times p'(t)}{\|p(t) - x\|^3}$$

- ❖ Laplace kernel [Kosinka and Bartoň, 2016]

$$\mu(x, t) = \frac{2\|p'(t)\|^2(p(t) - x) \times p'(t) - \|p(t) - x\|^2 p'(t) \times p''(t)}{((p(t) - x) \times p'(t))^2}$$

- ❖ Wachspress kernel [Warren et al., 2007] *only for convex domains*

$$\mu(x, t) = \frac{p'(t) \times p''(t)}{((p(t) - x) \times p'(t))^2}$$

- ❖ Mean value kernel [Dyken and Floater, 2009] *can be negative*

$$\mu(x, t) = \frac{(p(t) - x) \times p'(t)}{\|p(t) - x\|^3}$$

- ❖ Laplace kernel [Kosinka and Bartoň, 2016] *only for convex domains*

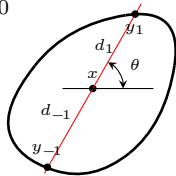
$$\mu(x, t) = \frac{2\|p'(t)\|^2(p(t) - x) \times p'(t) - \|p(t) - x\|^2 p'(t) \times p''(t)}{((p(t) - x) \times p'(t))^2}$$

- ❖ Gordon–Wixom interpolation [Gordon and Wixom, 1974]

$$g_{1,-1}(x, \theta) = \left(\frac{f(y_1)}{d_1} + \frac{f(y_{-1})}{d_{-1}} \right) / \left(\frac{1}{d_1} + \frac{1}{d_{-1}} \right), \quad g(x) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} g_{1,-1}(x, \theta) d\theta$$

- ❖ Weighted Gordon–Wixom interpolation [Belyaev, 2006]

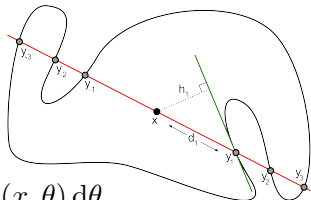
$$g(x) = \int_0^{2\pi} g_{1,-1}(x, \theta) \omega(x, \theta) d\theta / \int_0^{2\pi} \omega(x, \theta) d\theta$$

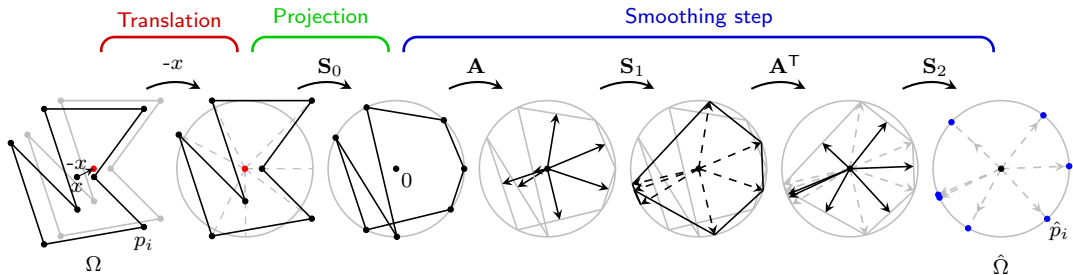


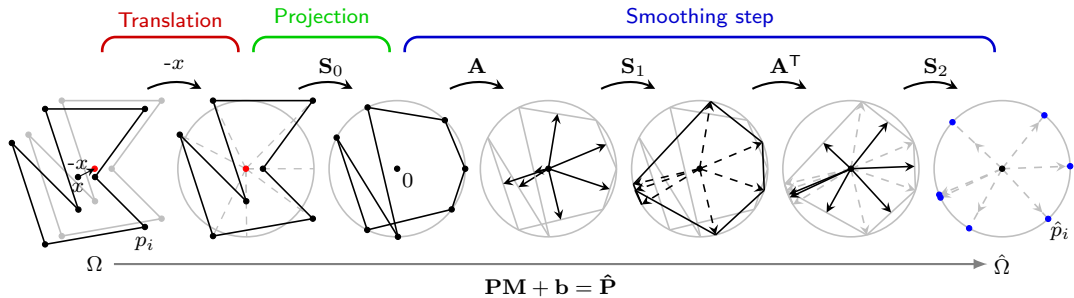
- ❖ Positive Gordon–Wixom kernel [Manson et al., 2011]

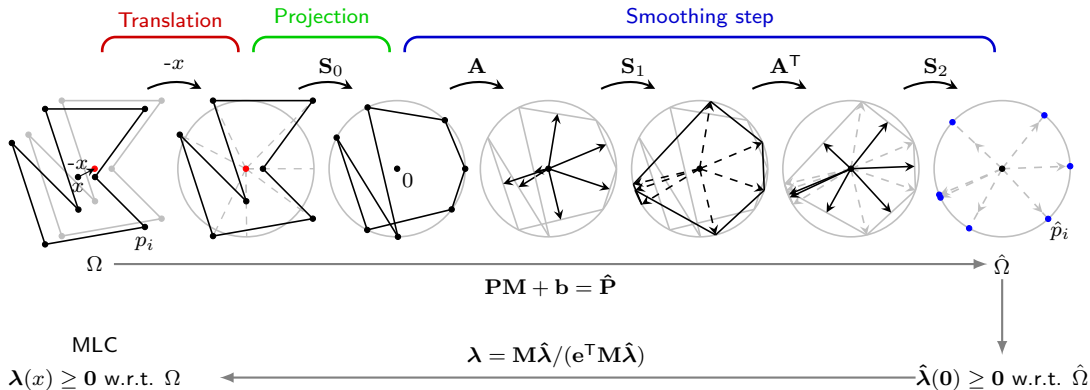
$$g_{i,j}(x, \theta) = \left(\frac{f(y_i)}{d_i} + \frac{f(y_{-j})}{d_{-j}} \right) / \left(\frac{1}{d_i} + \frac{1}{d_{-j}} \right)$$

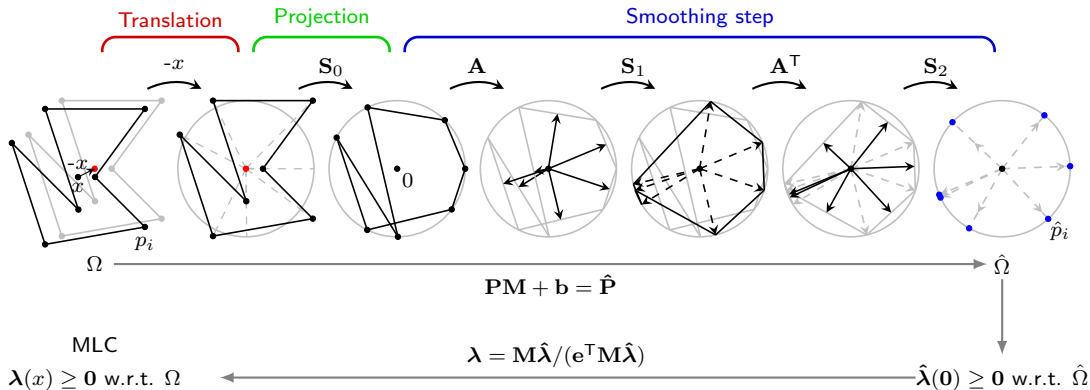
$$g(x) = \int_0^{2\pi} \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=-n}^{-1} g_{i,j}(x, \theta) \omega_{i,j}(x, \theta) d\theta / \int_0^{2\pi} \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=-n}^{-1} \omega_{i,j}(x, \theta) d\theta$$











$$\hat{\lambda} = \arg \max_{\hat{\lambda}} \sum_{i=1}^n \log \hat{\lambda}_i \quad \text{s.t.} \quad \sum_{i=1}^n \hat{\lambda}_i \hat{p}_i = 0, \quad \sum_{i=1}^n \hat{\lambda}_i = 1$$

Discrete maximum likelihood interpolation



$n = 12$



$n = 25$



$n = 50$



$n = 100$



$n = 200$



$n = 500$

- ❖ Translate and project the boundary onto the unit circle oriented at 0

$$\hat{p}(t) = \frac{p(t) - x}{r(x, t)}, \quad r(x, t) = \|p(t) - x\|$$

- ❖ Smooth the adjacent points (not needed)

- ❖ Compute $\hat{\lambda}(t)$ by maximizing the likelihood function

$$\ell[\hat{\lambda}] = \int_a^b \log \hat{\lambda}(t) dt \quad \text{s.t.} \quad \int_a^b \hat{\lambda}(t) \hat{p}(t) dt = \mathbf{0}, \quad \int_a^b \hat{\lambda}(t) dt = 1$$

- ❖ Compute the barycentric kernel $\lambda(x, t)$ over the original boundary

$$\lambda(x, t) = \frac{\hat{\lambda}(t)}{r(x, t)} \bigg/ \int_a^b \frac{\hat{\lambda}(s)}{r(x, s)} ds$$

Extension to continuous boundaries

- ❖ Translate and project the boundary onto the unit circle oriented at 0

$$\hat{p}(t) = \frac{p(t) - x}{r(x, t)}, \quad r(x, t) = \|p(t) - x\|$$

- ❖ Smooth the adjacent points (not needed)

- ❖ Compute $\hat{\lambda}(t)$ by maximizing the likelihood function

Positive weight function

$$\ell[\hat{\lambda}] = \int_a^b \log \hat{\lambda}(t) w(t) dt \quad \text{s.t.} \quad \int_a^b \hat{\lambda}(t) \hat{p}(t) w(t) dt = \mathbf{0}, \quad \int_a^b \hat{\lambda}(t) w(t) dt = 1$$

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👉 Problem.1: How to solve the optimization problem?

👉 Problem.2: How to choose the weight function?

❖ Compute $\hat{\lambda}(t)$ by maximizing the likelihood function

$$\ell[\hat{\lambda}] = \int_a^b \log \hat{\lambda}(t) w(t) dt \quad \text{s.t.} \quad \int_a^b \hat{\lambda}(t) \hat{p}(t) w(t) dt = \mathbf{0}, \quad \int_a^b \hat{\lambda}(t) w(t) dt = 1$$

❖ Compute the barycentric kernel $\lambda(x, t)$ over the original boundary

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Solving the optimization problem

With the *Lagrange multipliers method* and the *Euler-Lagrange equation*

$$\hat{\lambda}(t) = \frac{1}{\phi_0 + \phi^\top \hat{p}(t)}, \quad \phi_0 = \int_a^b w(t) dt$$

Solving the optimization problem

With the *Lagrange multipliers method* and the *Euler-Lagrange equation*

$$\hat{\lambda}(t) = \frac{1}{\phi_0 + \phi^\top \hat{p}(t)}, \quad \phi_0 = \int_a^b w(t) dt$$

The ϕ can be computed by minimizing the function

$$\phi = \arg \min_{\phi \in \Phi} F(\phi), \quad F(\phi) = - \int_a^b \log(\phi_0 + \phi^\top \hat{p}(t)) w(t) dt$$

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The domain of F is a **circle** with radius ϕ_0 centered at the origin

$$\Phi = \{\phi \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid \|\phi\| \leq \phi_0\}$$

Solving the optimization problem

With the *Lagrange multipliers method* and the *Euler-Lagrange equation*

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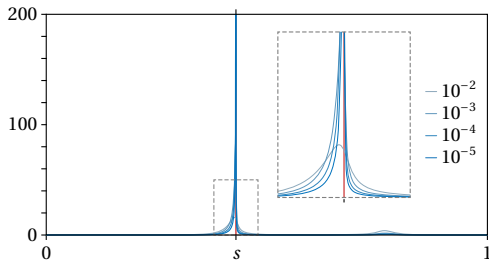
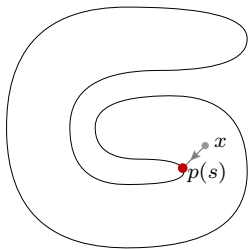
$$\Phi = \{\phi \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid \|\phi\| \leq \phi_0\}$$

$F(\phi)$: **strictly convex** function

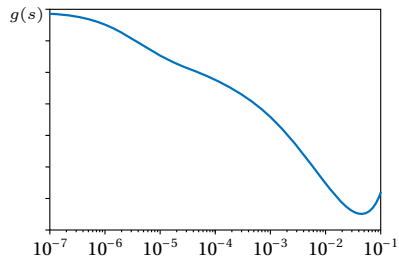
Newton method

❖ Constant weight function

$$w_x(t) = 1$$



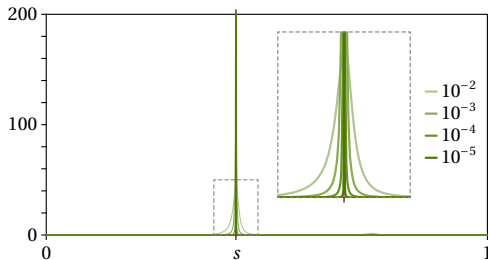
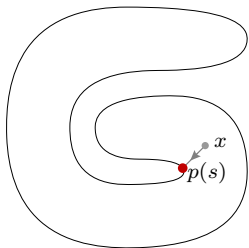
$\lambda(x, t)$ converges **slowly** to δ function



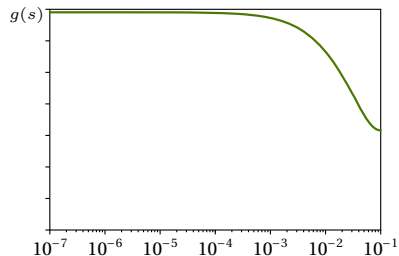
$g(x)$ converges **slowly** to $g(s)$

❖ Inverse distance weight function

$$w_x(t) = \frac{1}{r(x, t)}$$



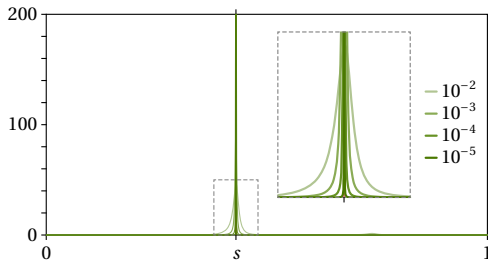
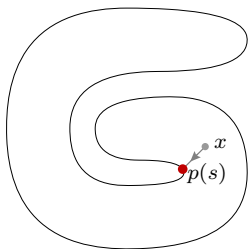
$\lambda(x, t)$ converges **quickly** to δ function



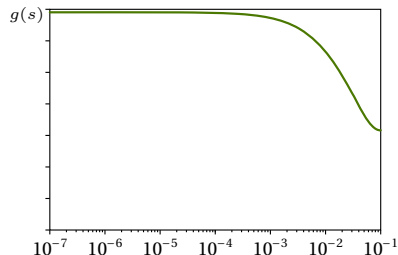
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❖ Inverse distance weight function

$$w_x(t) = \frac{1}{r(x, t)}$$



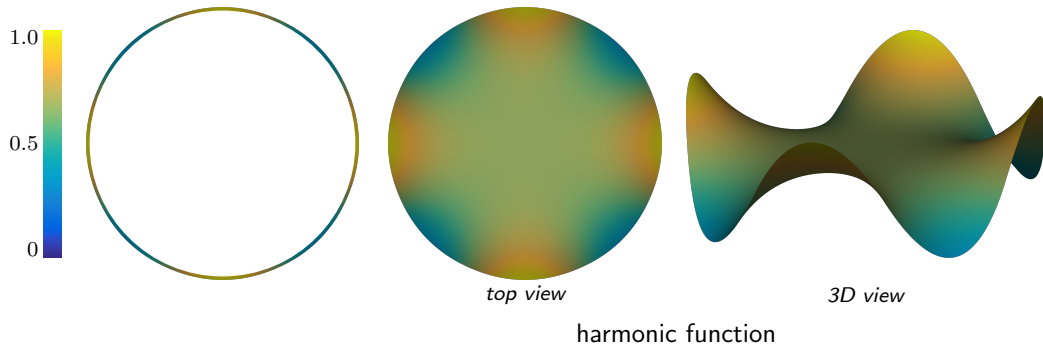
$\lambda(x, t)$ converges **quickly** to δ function



$g(x)$ converges **quickly** to $g(s)$

$\lambda(x, t)$ is a **pseudo-harmonic kernel**

❖ Inverse distance weight function



❖ k -th power of inverse distance weight function

$$w_x(t) = \frac{1}{r(x, t)^k}$$

❖ k -th power of inverse distance weight function

$$w_x(t) = \frac{1}{r(x, t)^k}$$

$k = 1$



$k = 2$



$k = 3$



$k = 4$

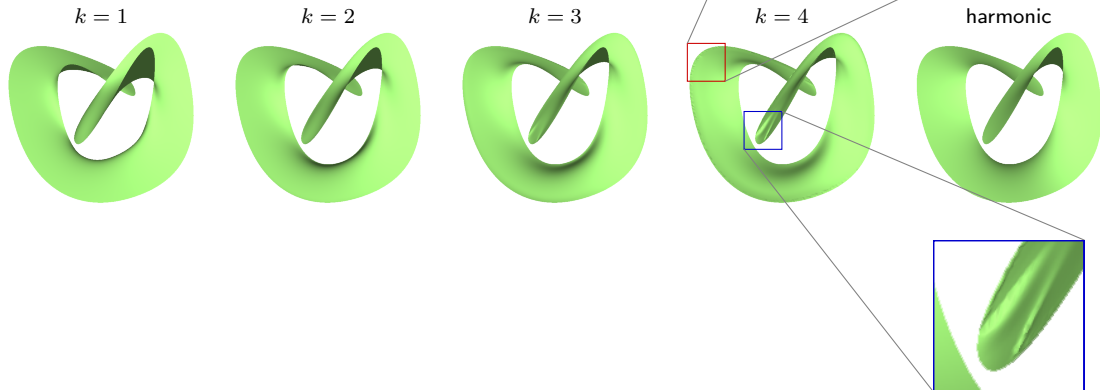


harmonic



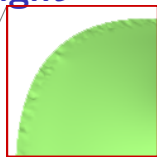
❖ k -th power of inverse distance weight function

$$w_x(t) = \frac{1}{r(x, t)^k}$$



❖ Modified k -th power of inverse distance weight

$$w_x(t) = \frac{1}{r(x, t)^k} + \int_a^b \frac{1}{r(x, s)^k} ds$$



$k = 1$



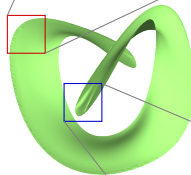
$k = 2$



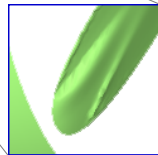
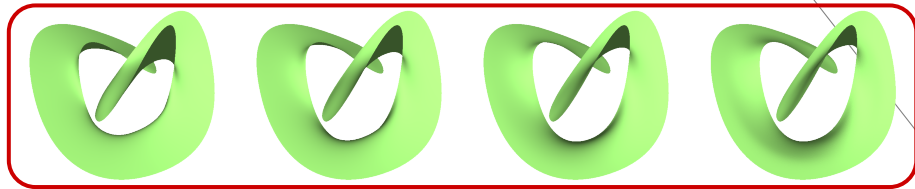
$k = 3$



$k = 4$

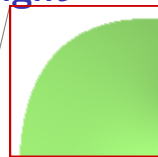


harmonic



❖ Modified k -th power of inverse distance weight

$$w_x(t) = \frac{1}{r(x, t)^k} + \int_a^b \frac{1}{r(x, s)^k} ds$$



$k = 1$



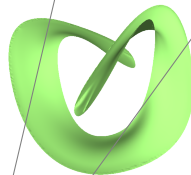
$k = 2$



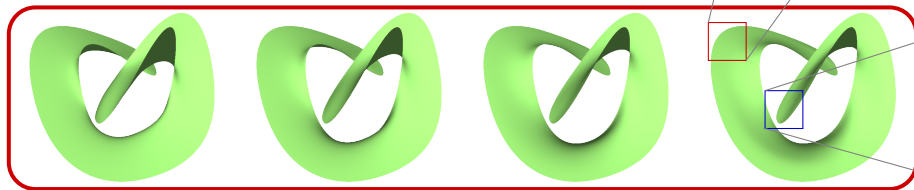
$k = 3$



$k = 4$



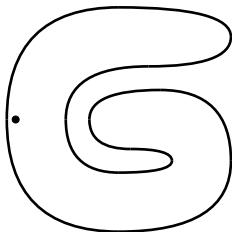
harmonic



Reason for improving stability

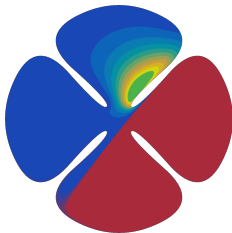
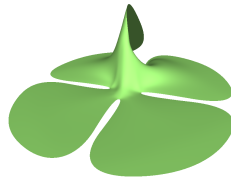
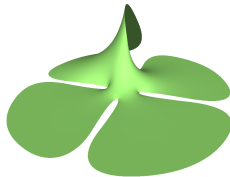
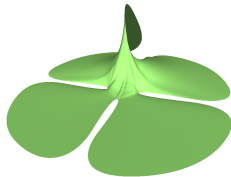
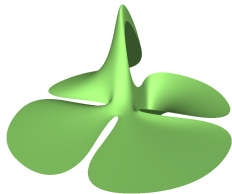
$$w_x(t) = \frac{1}{r(x, t)^4}$$

$$w_x(t) = \frac{1}{r(x, t)^4} + \int_a^b \frac{1}{r(x, s)^4} ds$$



$$F(\phi) = - \int_a^b \log(\phi_0 + \phi^\top \hat{p}_x(t)) w_x(t) dt$$

Experiments - Comparison of interpolation



mean value kernel

positive Gordon-Wixom

Poisson kernel

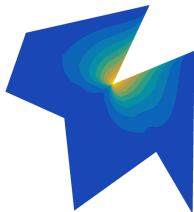
$$w_x(t) = \frac{1}{r^4} + \int_a^b \frac{1}{r^4} ds$$

Experiments - Interpolating polygonal boundary domain

generalized barycentric coordinates



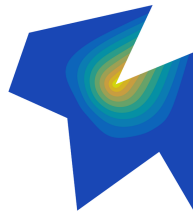
mean value kernel



positive Gordon-Wixom

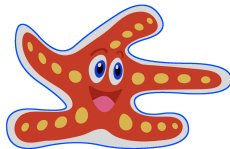
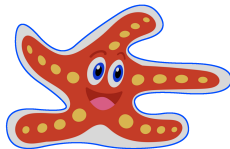
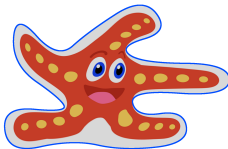
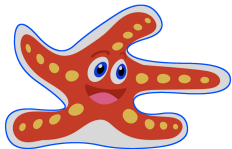


Poisson kernel



$$w_x(t) = \frac{1}{r^4} + \int_a^b \frac{1}{r^4} ds$$

Experiments - Comparison of image deformation



source

mean value kernel

positive Gordon–Wixom

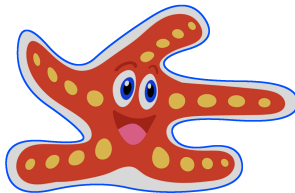
Poisson kernel

$$w_x(t) = \frac{1}{r^4} + \int_a^b \frac{1}{r^4} ds$$

- ❖ Extend maximum likelihood coordinates to arbitrary closed domains
 - ◆ Variational problem (*Lagrange multipliers method; Euler-Lagrange equation*)
- ❖ By introducing a weight function, we get different results
 - ◆ Constant weight function (*equivalent to the discrete maximum likelihood coordinates*)
(*convergence slowly to the δ function at the boundary.*)
 - ◆ Inverse distance weight (*pseudo-harmonic kernel*)
 - ◆ k -th power of inverse distance weight (*unstable optimization*)
 - ◆ Modified k -th power of inverse distance weight (*stable optimization*)
- ❖ Parameterization-dependent
 - ◆ The natural parameterization is good enough for most cases
 - ◆ More freedom for the users

Positive & Smooth

Thank you!



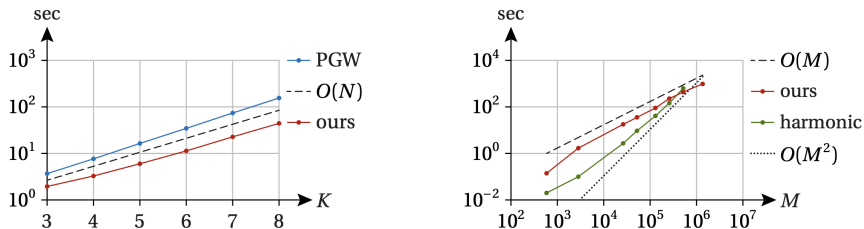


Figure 7: Running time in seconds for evaluating our interpolants and the PGW interpolant based on $N = 2^K 12$ boundary samples at 26000 domain points (left) and for computing the piecewise linear approximation of our interpolants and the harmonic interpolant over a domain triangulation with M vertices (right).

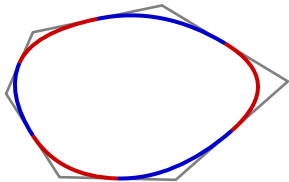
Experiments - Construct boundary and boundary data

Using quadratic B-splines for describing both the boundary and the boundary data

❖ Construct boundary

$$p(t) = \sum_{i=0}^{n+1} p_i B_i(t)$$

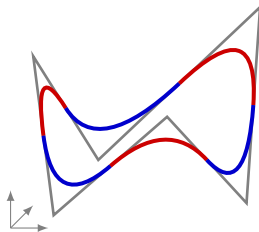
$$(p_0 := p_n, \quad p_{n+1} := p_1)$$



❖ Specific boundary data

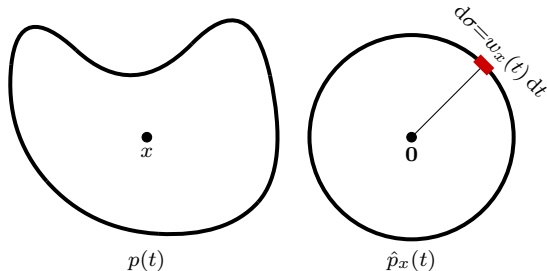
$$f(t) = \sum_{i=0}^{n+1} f_i B_i(t)$$

$$(f_0 := f_n, \quad f_{n+1} := f_1)$$



❖ Arc length differential weight function

$$w_x(t) = \|\hat{p}'_x(t)\|$$



$$\arg \max \ell[b_x] = \oint_{\hat{p}_x} \log k_x \, d\sigma$$

$$\text{s.t.} \quad \oint_{\hat{p}_x} k_x \, d\sigma = 1,$$

$$\oint_{\hat{p}_x} k_x \cdot \sigma \, d\sigma = 0.$$

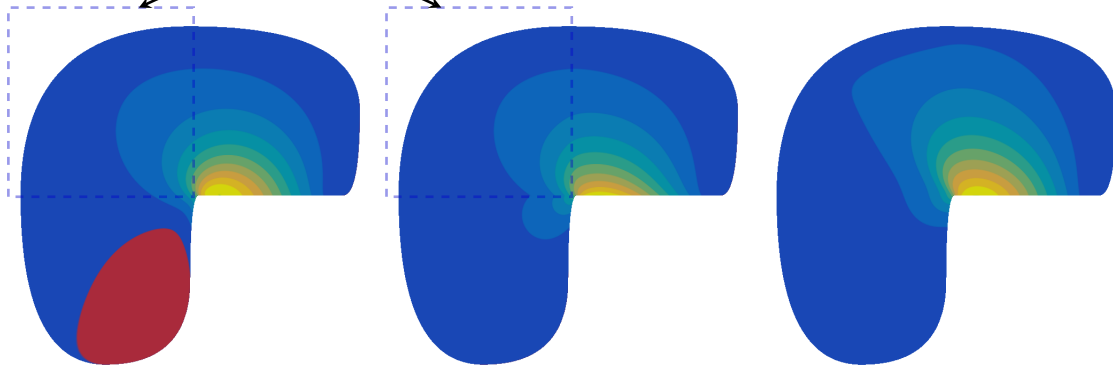
$$w_x(t) = \frac{|(p(t) - x) \times p'(t)|}{r(x, t)^2} = |\mu(x, t)| r(x, t)$$

$\mu(x, t)$ is **mean value kernel**

$\xrightarrow{C^0 \text{ continuity}}$

❖ Arc length differential weight function

identical

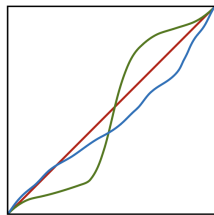


mean value kernel

$$w_x(t) = \|\hat{p}'_x(t)\|$$

$$w_x(t) = \|\hat{p}'_x(t)\|^2$$

How different parameterizations affect the results



(a)



(b)



(c)

Figure 12: Transfinite basis function for our kernel with ω_x in (20) using the natural (red) parameterization of the boundary spline curve (a), after applying a monotonic (green) reparameterization (b), which creates a significant local maximum in the bottom right part of the domain, and after applying the arc-length (blue) reparameterization (c), which has little effect on the result in this example.



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— The PGW source code is available at

http://josiahmanson.com/research/gordon_wixom_coords/.

 Warren, J., Schaefer, S., Hirani, A. N., and Desbrun, M. (2007).

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