

MULTIPLE 2D SELF ORGANISING MAP NETWORK FOR SURFACE RECONSTRUCTION OF 3D UNSTRUCTURED DATA

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MULTIPLE 2D SELF ORGANISING MAP NETWORK FOR SURFACE
RECONSTRUCTION OF 3D UNSTRUCTURED DATA

LIM SENG POH

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To my beloved mother, Ooi So Ngo, father, Lim Sam Huat,
dearest sister, Lim Shin Phey and dearest brother, Lim Seng Kaei,
cousin, Ooi Zane,
brother-in-law, Tan Guan How, nephew, Tan Yee Xuan,
and all my relatives,
thanks for their continuous support, love and care.

To all my friends,
thanks for their valuable guidances, understanding and encouragement.

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ABSTRACT

Surface reconstruction is a challenging task in reverse engineering because it must represent the surface which is similar to the original object based on the data obtained. The data obtained are mostly in unstructured type whereby there is not enough information and incorrect surface will be obtained. Therefore, the data should be reorganised by finding the correct topology with minimum surface error. Previous studies showed that Self Organising Map (SOM) model, the conventional surface approximation approach with Non Uniform Rational B-Splines (NURBS) surfaces, and optimisation methods such as Genetic Algorithm (GA), Differential Evolution (DE) and Particle Swarm Optimisation (PSO) methods are widely implemented in solving the surface reconstruction. However, the model, approach and optimisation methods are still suffer from the unstructured data and accuracy problems. Therefore, the aims of this research are to propose Cube SOM (CSOM) model with multiple 2D SOM network in organising the unstructured surface data, and to propose optimised surface approximation approach in generating the NURBS surfaces. GA, DE and PSO methods are implemented to minimise the surface error by adjusting the NURBS control points. In order to test and validate the proposed model and approach, four primitive objects data and one medical image data are used. As to evaluate the performance of the proposed model and approach, three performance measurements have been used: Average Quantisation Error (AQE) and Number Of Vertices (NOV) for the CSOM model while surface error for the proposed optimised surface approximation approach. The accuracy of AQE for CSOM model has been improved to 64% and 66% when compared to 2D and 3D SOM respectively. The NOV for CSOM model has been reduced from 8000 to 2168 as compared to 3D SOM. The accuracy of surface error for the optimised surface approximation approach has been improved to 7% compared to the conventional approach. The proposed CSOM model and optimised surface approximation approach have successfully reconstructed surface of all five data with better performance based on three performance measurements used in the evaluation.

ABSTRAK

Pembinaan semula permukaan adalah tugas yang mencabar dalam kejuruteraan kebelakang kerana ia mestilah mewakili permukaan yang sama dengan objek asal berdasarkan data yang diperolehi. Data yang diperolehi kebanyakannya adalah dalam jenis tidak berstruktur di mana tiada maklumat yang cukup dan permukaan yang tidak tepat akan diperolehi. Oleh itu, data perlu disusun semula dengan mencari topologi yang betul serta ralat permukaan yang minimum. Kajian terdahulu menunjukkan bahawa model Peta Swa-Organisasi (SOM), pendekatan penghampiran permukaan konvensional dengan permukaan Splin-B Nisbah Tak Seragam (NURBS), dan kaedah pengoptimuman seperti kaedah Algoritma Genetik (GA), Evolusi Pembezaan (DE) dan Pengoptimuman Partikel Berkelompok (PSO) dilaksanakan secara meluas dalam menyelesaikan pembinaan semula permukaan. Tetapi, model, pendekatan dan kaedah pengoptimuman masih mengalami masalah-masalah data tidak berstruktur dan ketepatan. Oleh itu, matlamat penyelidikan ini adalah untuk mencadangkan model Kubus SOM (CSOM) dengan rangkaian SOM 2D berganda untuk menyusun data permukaan yang tidak berstruktur, dan untuk mencadangkan pendekatan penghampiran permukaan optimum untuk menjana permukaan NURBS. Kaedah GA, DE dan PSO dilaksanakan bagi mengurangkan ralat permukaan dengan melaraskan titik kawalan NURBS. Bagi menguji dan mengesah model dan pendekatan yang dicadangkan, empat data objek primitif dan satu data imej perubatan digunakan. Bagi menilai pencapaian model dan pendekatan yang dicadangkan, tiga pengukuran pencapaian digunakan: Purata Ralat Pengkuantuman (AQE) dan Bilangan Bucu (NOV) untuk model CSOM manakala ralat permukaan untuk pendekatan penghampiran permukaan optimum yang dicadangkan. Ketepatan AQE bagi model CSOM telah meningkat kepada 64% dan 66% berbanding dengan model SOM 2D dan 3D. NOV bagi model CSOM telah dikurangkan daripada 8000 kepada 2168 berbanding dengan model SOM 3D. Ketepatan ralat permukaan bagi pendekatan penghampiran permukaan optimum telah meningkat kepada 7% berbanding dengan pendekatan konvensional. Model CSOM dan pendekatan penghampiran permukaan optimum yang dicadangkan telah berjaya membina semula permukaan untuk kelima-lima imej ujian dengan pencapaian yang lebih baik berdasarkan ketiga-tiga pengukuran pencapaian yang diguna dalam penilaian.

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Overview

Surface reconstruction towards data points has become the popular topic in the field of computer graphics and computational geometry (Studholme, 2001; Ni and Ma, 2010) in the recent years. In addition, surface reconstruction is a challenging task in the reverse engineering (Elmidany *et al.*, 2011; Gálvez *et al.*, 2012) because it will reconstruct the surface of the model based on the data obtained (Guo *et al.*, 2010; Zhou, 2011; DalleMole *et al.*, 2010). The studies of surface reconstruction has become the important aspects for different scientific areas and variety of applications, such as medical imaging, mechanical and virtual reality (Montes and Penedo, 2004; Forkan, 2009). It is very useful especially for those objects which are damaged and do not have any model that can be used to represent the original surface (Forkan, 2009). It can also be used to reproduce the spare part for the component that is no longer available and the design for that particular part can be modified or redesigned (Várady *et al.*, 1997).

Basically, surface reconstruction can be performed after the data have been collected. Data collection is very important in surface reconstruction because the methods and surface representation will be selected based on the data available. As stated by Goldenthal and Bercovier (2004), the initial data collected are not the exact surface of an object. It only roughly represents the shape of surface based on some measuring points. In addition, the data collected can be in the structured or

unstructured type. As stated by DalleMole *et al.* (2010), connectivity on the data is important in surface reconstruction because normally unstructured data are obtained. The shape of the surface can be affected by the data type. Hence, the organising process should be performed if the data obtained are in unstructured type.

Generally, surface representation can be categorised into three categories, which are explicit, implicit and parametric form. As stated by Iglesias and Gálvez (2014), parametric form such as Non Uniform Rational B-Spline (NURBS) is usually used as the mathematical entities in representing the curves and surfaces. This is also suggested by Farin (2002) and Gálvez *et al.* (2007) because the representation is flexible by simply modifying certain parameters (Iglesias and Gálvez, 2014) and better shape can be obtained.

In addition, the traditional reverse engineering procedures contain a lot of disadvantages due to complicated procedures are required with a large amount of time for the manual operations (Zhou, 2011). Therefore, the Artificial Intelligence (AI) methods which contain the heuristic characteristics have attracted the attention of researchers to implement in solving the surface reconstruction case studies (Forkan, 2009; Pandunata, 2011). This is because the AI methods are able to provide several results for the same case studies and the most optimised results can be obtained. The AI methods such as the Self Organising Map (SOM) model is used to organise the unstructured data in Do Rêgo and Araújo (2010) and Iglesias and Gálvez (2014) while Genetic Algorithm (GA), Differential Evolution (DE) and Particle Swarm Optimisation (PSO) methods are used to solve the fitting and optimisation problems in Safari *et al.* (2013), Gálvez *et al.* (2012), Dehmollaian (2011) and Gálvez *et al.* (2010).

This chapter demonstrates the introduction for this research. The problem background based on the previous works is discussed in the first section and the problem statement in the second section is derived based on the issues stated in the problem background. The topic of discussion is continued with the objectives and scopes for this research and the thesis organisation is elaborated in the last section.

1.2 Problem Background

There are two main issues in the surface reconstruction will be discussed in this research. The first issue is related to the unstructured data and the second issue is related to the accuracy of the results. Both of the issues are connected and should be noticed when the methods are implemented. Basically, unstructured data are frequently obtained after data collection has been performed (Kazhdan *et al.*, 2006; Iglesias and Gálvez, 2014) and there is no any connectivity information for the unstructured data (DalleMole *et al.*, 2010). So, surface reconstruction will be difficult to perform when it is implemented with this kind of data (Gálvez *et al.*, 2007) because it needs to find the correct connectivity for the data (Yu, 1999; Yan *et al.*, 2004; Boudjemaï *et al.*, 2003; DalleMole *et al.*, 2010). As stated by Knopf and Sangole (2004), the connectivity of the surface is very important and it must be established in the beginning in order to reconstruct and represent the surface correctly.

As stated by Zhou (2011), the traditional reverse engineering procedures are suffered from many disadvantages and required to handle a lot of complicated procedures. Hence, the AI methods such SOM model is usually used to handle the topological and connectivity of unstructured data in surface reconstruction case studies (Forkan, 2009; Pandunata, 2011). This is because SOM model is able to cluster the data accordingly based on the topological arrangement (Hoffmann, 1999; Iglesias and Gálvez, 2014; Jiang *et al.*, 2010; DalleMole *et al.*, 2010). However, the 2D SOM model is unable to cover the whole surface of the closed surface object (Boudjemaï *et al.*, 2003) and gaps are appeared on the results produced. Although the authors have proposed the spherical with triangle topology to represent the closed surface object, but the results can only be used for visualisation without providing any performance measurement on the approximation. In addition, the SOM model has been enhanced with the growing abilities (Montes and Penedo, 2004; Andreakis *et al.*, 2009; DalleMole *et al.*, 2010; DalleMole *et al.*, 2011; Holz and Behnke, 2013). However, extra processes are needed to handle the problem caused by the growing criteria. This is because if unnecessary vertices are removed, it will destroy the

connectivity of the polygon and overlapping triangle faces and gaps will be appeared. Hence, the proposed method leads to even complicated calculation and procedures.

In addition, dense dataset must be used by most of the existing methods in calculating the connectivity for the data in order to avoid gaps appeared that can cause the shape incomplete (Gálvez *et al.*, 2007; Júnior *et al.*, 2004; Júnior *et al.*, 2008). Furthermore, some of the current methods also contain topological problems (Gálvez *et al.*, 2008) which lead to produce incorrect surface and final results based on the data used. Hence, multiple curves and surfaces are used to avoid the gaps appeared as shown in Kumar *et al.* (2001), Tai *et al.* (2003), Yin (2004) and Chen and Wang (2010) in solving the surface reconstruction case studies. However, more procedures are required to handle the problems occurred in their proposed methods such as eliminating the unacceptable polygons, dividing the edges to avoid concavity, formation of triangulation and knot adjustment. The edges for the adjacent curves and surfaces must be connected (Soni *et al.*, 2009) in order to produce the correct surface. This concept is good to be applied and should be adapted with fewer procedures. Basically, the flow of organising unstructured data using SOM model which is used in Boudjema *et al.* (2003), Forkan (2009), and Pandunata (2011) with the conventional surface approximation approach based on NURBS that is used in Elmidany *et al.* (2011) and Pandunata and Shamsuddin (2013) can only be applied to reconstruct a single curve and surface. If multiple surfaces need to be reconstructed, this approach needs to perform the reconstruction of the surfaces separately, which leads the methods to be manually performed.

As stated by Gálvez *et al.* (2012), the parametric surface reconstruction is still a difficult problem because many data are unable to be properly reconstructed. This is due to higher accuracy is considered as the best result in surface reconstruction. Based on Elmidany *et al.* (2011), the NURBS surface error for the generated surface can be affected by the parameterisation and knot vector generation. As stated by Gálvez *et al.* (2008), AI methods show good results in handling the parameterisation problems. Basically, the initial parameters and knot vectors will be determined and optimisation-based method such as GA, DE and PSO can be used to improve the accuracy of the surface error (Owen, 1998; Elmidany *et al.*, 2011) through iteration

procedures. This can be shown in the work of Forkan and Shamsuddin (2008), Forkan (2009) and Pandunata and Shamsuddin (2013). The limitation of the authors works is comparison between the parameterisation methods are not discussed. As stated by Wulamu *et al.* (2005), parameterisation on the data points will affect the performance of the surface approximation. In addition, GA, DE and PSO methods are used in Safari *et al.* (2013) to determine the optimum number of a NURBS control points for airfoil profiles and the authors also proved that the methods are able to handle the case study. Hence, the GA, DE and PSO methods can be used to optimise the surface error for NURBS by adjusting the control points coordinates, as shown in Pandunata (2011) and Safari *et al.* (2013). However, the parameters used for all the population in AI methods as shown in their works are not the same. So, the results are unable to correctly prove the accuracy of each method.

Also, the recent research works in surface reconstruction are still focused in organising the unstructured data and minimising the surface error. This can be shown in Iglesias and Gálvez (2014), Kavita and Rajpal (2014) and Deng and Lin (2014). Their works are still focused in solving the approximation of curve and surface towards the data by minimising the error of curve and surface. Hence, the issues as discussed in this section should be solved in the suitable way using the models and methods.

1.3 Problem Statement

As stated in the previous section, basically the problem in surface reconstruction is related to the unstructured surface data and the accuracy of the surface. In order to produce the surface which is similar to the original object, hence the unstructured surface data should be reorganised in the appropriate way so that correct surface and connectivity of the data can be obtained. In addition, the accuracy of the surface should be concerned in order to represent the surface with minimum surface error. Therefore, the methods selected should be correctly

implemented in order to organise the unstructured surface data with minimum surface error.

1.4 Research Objectives

Based on the on the problem background and statement, the objectives for this research are as follows:

- i. To propose Cube Self Organising Map (CSOM) model in organising the unstructured surface data.
- ii. To propose surface approximation approach based on the CSOM model in generating and representing the NURBS surfaces.
- iii. To optimise the surface approximation approach by incorporating with Genetic Algorithm, Differential Evolution and Particle Swarm Optimisation methods.

1.5 Research Scopes

The scopes for this research are as follows:

- i. The dataset used for this research are four set of primitive objects (Cube, Oiltank, Sphere, Spindle).
- ii. For additional testing, one set of medical image data (Talus bone) is used.
- iii. This study only considers three parameterisation methods (Uniform, Centripetal, Chord Length) which will be used to determine the minimum surface error for each data.
- iv. This study only considers three optimisation methods (GA, DE, PSO) which will be used to optimise the surface error.
- v. Visualisation on the side view will be used for demonstration on the surface produced and validation purposes.

1.6 Thesis Organisation

This thesis is divided into seven chapters. Chapter 1 begins with the introduction by demonstrating the overview of this thesis. This chapter explains the problem background, problem statement, research objectives and scopes for this research. Chapter 2 discusses the literature review which includes the background study, theories and previous works that are related to surface reconstruction. The characteristics of the methods will be discussed in deep in this chapter. Research methodology is demonstrated in Chapter 3. In this chapter, a thorough discussion on the research framework in conducting the research work will be clearly presented.

Chapter 4 illustrates the framework for Cube SOM (CSOM) model in organising the unstructured surface data. This chapter explains the structure of CSOM model and equations involved in organising the unstructured surface data. Discussion on the result based on the average quantisation error and validation on the images will also be presented at the end of this chapter. Chapter 5 presents the proposed framework for surface approximation. This chapter demonstrates the flow of obtaining the control points, basis functions and NURBS surfaces in representing the surfaces using the proposed surface approximation approach. Discussion on the result based on the surface error and validation on the images will be demonstrated in this chapter.

Chapter 6 explains the framework in optimising the NURBS surfaces. The optimisation will be performed using Genetic Algorithm (GA), Differential Evolution (DE), and Particle Swarm Optimisation (PSO) methods. The details of each optimisation method in minimising the surface error of the proposed surface approximation approach for NURBS surfaces are presented in this chapter. Discussion on the result based on the surface error and validation on the images will be presented at the end of this chapter. Finally in Chapter 7, conclusion and future works are presented which briefly explains the overall results obtained and summarises the research works. In addition, contributions and limitation of the research will also be demonstrated in this chapter.

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