Computational Tools for Image and Shape Analysis

by Günay Doğan

Applied & Computational Math Division National Institute of Standards and Technology

Image segmentation

Task: To identify regions & boundaries in given images.











Segmentation of Microstructures



Segmentation of Cell Populations

Detection & evaluation of cells and colonies, e.g. stem cell research





Segmentation for Shoeprint Forensics

Detect patterns and individualizing marks/features in shoeprints



Multiphase Image Segmentation

Goal: Detect regions, boundaries, average values in regions.



Finding the Right Boundary Curves

Q: How do we decide which are the right curves?



Energy Minimization Formulation

Shape reconstruction usually formulated as energy minimization:

$$J(\Gamma) = Data(\Gamma, I(x)) + Prior(\Gamma) + Regular(\Gamma)$$

 $\begin{array}{ll} Data(\Gamma,I(x)) &: \mbox{data fidelity term based on image data} \\ Prior(\Gamma) &: \mbox{prior knowledge on the shape} \\ Regular(\Gamma) &: \mbox{regularization term for the shape} \end{array}$

Motivation for Geometric Regularization

$$Regular(\Gamma) = \gamma \int_{\Gamma} dS$$



(length penalty)





Shape Optimization

Given shape energy $J(\Gamma)$ for given shape Γ



Compute a sequence $\Gamma_0, \Gamma_1, \dots, \Gamma_\infty$ such that $J(\Gamma_0) \ge \dots \ge J(\Gamma_\infty)$

Example of Segmentation Process



Meshes from Segmentation



phase 1:14178 elements

original image has 2850000 pixels

phase 2 : 15276 elements

Segmentation of Microstructures





Meshes from Segmentation



phase 1:9118 elements

phase 2:8946 elements

original image has 1048576 pixels

Multiphase Segmentation



k=0, 2 phases, J=-0.166



k=1, 3 phases, J=-0.171



k=3, 5 phases, J=-0.174



k=6, 4 phases, J=-0.180





k=11, 3 phases, J=-0.198 k=56, 5 phases, J=-0.215

Effective Iterative Solution?

- Efficient representation for the problem and geometry
- (Choose a good starting configuration)
- Reduce number of iterations:
 - Stable gradient descent for larger steps
 - Aggressive energy decrease at each iteration
 - Practical stopping criterion
- Reduce cost of each iteration:
 - Economical adaptive representation for regions and boundaries
 - Velocity computation in linear time

Faster Convergence with Shape Newton



Faster Convergence with Shape Newton



	rectangle				$\operatorname{concave}$	multiple		
	Γ_{in}	Γ_{out}	Γ_{part}	Γ_{in}	Γ_{out}	Γ_{part}	Γ_{out}	Γ_{part}
L^2 (m)	35(16)	47 (23!)	33(19!)	35(18)	99(58)	40 (19)	54(35)	54(26!)
L^2 (n)	46 (20!)	46 (24)	40 (19)	51 (31)	83 (51!)	45 (20!)	59 (33!)	56(27!)
Nwt (m)	26 (19!)	23(17)	23(17)	40 (19!)	38(32)	26(17)	43 (36)	32(22)
Nwt (n)	22 (20)	25(19)	28(21)	27 (19)	37(34)	27 (18)	40 (33)	28(22)

	fungus				bacteria		galaxy		
	Γ_{in}	Γ_{out}	Γ_{part}	Γ_{in}	Γ_{out}	Γ_{part}	Γ_{in}	Γ_{out}	Γ_{part}
L^2 (m)	44 (21)	63 (34!X)	49 (24!)	74 (40)	117 (60!X)	86 (47)	46 (26)	33 (20!X)	60(38)
L^2 (n)	52 (29!)	54 (31!X)	35 (21!)	64 (35)	MAX!	64 (35)	54 (29!)	83 (46!)	56 (36)
Nwt (m)	17(14)	22(21)	36(15!)	27 (25)	33 (28)	12(11)	26(18)	32(25!)	26(22)
Nwt (n)	$ 17\ (14)$	22 (21)	60 (58)	$ 27\ (25)$	33 (28)	12 (11)	34(26)	29(28)	37(34)

Tables of energy evaluations (and iterations)

Topology Optim. for Statistical Energy

Statistical region energy for labeling pixels

$$J(\{\Omega_i\}_{i=1}^k) = -\sum_{i=1}^k \int_{\Omega_i} \log p(I(x)|\theta_i) + \nu \sum_{i\neq j}^k \int_{\Omega_i} \int_{\Omega_j} w(x,y),$$

This has a statistical term & nonlocal region regularization.

Example of parametric probability distributions:

$$p(I(x)|\theta_i) = \frac{1}{2\sigma_i} e^{-\frac{|I(x)-\mu_i|}{\sigma_i}}, \quad \theta_i = (\mu_i, \sigma_i)$$

TP: Pwconst Segmentation















assigned colors

original image

TP: Statistical Region Models



original image



pw. const image model



Gaussian distribution of pixels



Laplacian distribution of pixels

TP: Statistical Region Models



original image

pw.const. model

graph cuts

Laplacian distr.

TP: Statistical Region Models



original image

pw.const. model

graph cuts

Laplacian distr.

Part II - The Need for Shape Analysis

Real objects have shapes.

Analysis and inference on objects in data often relies on shapes of the objects (rather than plain numbers, vectors or matrices).

With shapes, we can ask questions such as:

- Does this object look like this other one?
- What is a typical object like in this data?

We need to quantify and compare shapes from data for many applications.

Many Applications

Many other areas and applications, in which objects in data are analyzed and evaluated based on shape:

- Security, surveillance,
- Biometry,

. . . .

- Machine vision,
- Analysis of spectra, functional data
- Medical diagnostics,
- Cell biology, molecular biology

Example: Clustering with Shapes



Pairwise distance matrix for MPEG7 shape data set

Example: Cell Populations

Classifying cell populations:



Example: Cell Populations

Grouping cell populations by shape to investigate cell function



Dissimilarity of Closed Curves in 2d

How to define shape dissimilarity or distance for 2d curves? Need representation invariant w.r.t. *scaling, translation, rotation.*



Moreover, we want a fast algorithm, because

- Complex curves can have a large number of nodes,
- Large-scale statistical shape analysis computes distance many many times.

Elastic Shape Distances

We want *elastic* shape comparisons.

	d(∕ /\)	$d(M, \Lambda)$
simple difference	small	large
elastic distance	large	small

Key trade-off:

- Simple formulations do not capture natural variability of shapes.
- Effective formulations are computationally expensive.

Minimization for Shape Distance

We write a more practical version of the minimization problem. We need to find <u>global minimizer</u> $(t_0, \theta, \gamma(t))$ of

$$E(t_0, \theta, \gamma) = \int_0^1 \|q_1(t) - \sqrt{\dot{\gamma}(t)}R(\theta)q_2(t_0 + \gamma(t))\|^2 dt$$

so that we can compute shape distance of β_1, β_2 by

$$d([q_1], [q_2]) = d(q_1, \sqrt{\dot{\gamma}}R(\theta)q_2(t_0 + \gamma))$$

(we need to ensure $\gamma(0)=0, \gamma(1)=1, \dot{\gamma}>0$)

Tools for Image and Shape Analysis

- Efficient algorithms for image segmentation and geometry detection.
- Efficient algorithms for elastic shape analysis.
- Rigorous algorithms to advance measurement science.
- Impact on a various project in material science, biology, forensics.