#### Collision detection

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## **Outline**

Broad phase Sweep and prune algorithm

**Narrow phase** Gilbert-Johnson-Keerthi (GJK) algorithm

Caching collisions

Computing collision time

## Broad phase

#### Broad phase

The goal is to quickly find **pairs** of **potentially colliding** rigid bodies.

- ▶ Used algorithm defines meaning of "potentially colliding". Examples:
	- When AABBs of the bodies are colliding.
	- When both bodies are in the same area of space.
- ▶ We can use space partitioning data structures we already know:
	- ▶ Octree, k-D tree, BSP
- Rigid bodies change their positions and orientations during simulation. => The data structure must be periodically updated.
	- Utilize time coherence of frames (positions of bodies do not change much between adjacent frames) to get an efficient update algorithm.

$$
V_{D} \n\begin{bmatrix}\ny^D \\
y^D \\
y^A \\
y^A \\
y^C\n\end{bmatrix}
$$
\nUse InsertSort\n
$$
\begin{bmatrix}\nL_x = [x_A, x_C, x^A, x_B, x^C, x^B, x_D, x^D] \\
L_y = [y_C, y_A, y^C, y_D, y_B, y^A, y^B, y^D] \\
V_x = \{(A, C), \{A, D\}, \{A, B\}, \{B, D\}\} \\
W_y = \{(A, C), \{A, D\}, \{A, B\}, \{B, D\}\} \\
W = W_x \cap W_y = \{\{A, C\}\}\n\end{bmatrix}
$$
\n
$$
W = W_x \cap W_y = \{\{A, C\}\}
$$

 $\bm{\cup}$ 

- The presented version is easy to understand and implement.
- But it **wastes time by recomputing from scratch** each time step.
- In practice, we use an improved version:
	- $\blacktriangleright$  We start with the arrays  $L_{\alpha}$ ,  $\alpha \in \{x, y, z\}$ , and W from the **previous frame**.
	- $\blacktriangleright$  We **incrementally update** each  $L_{\alpha}$  and W for each **relocated** object A.

```
foreach axis \alpha \in \{x, y, z\} do:
    Update \alpha_A in L_\alpha by the new lower bound of A along the axis \alpha.
     while \exists \alpha_X^Y right before \alpha_A in L_\alpha s.t. \alpha_X^Y > \alpha_A do:
         Swap \alpha_A with \alpha_X^Y in L_\alpha.
          if X is None then lnsert \{A, Y\} to W.
                                                                                Moving \alpha_A"to the left"
```
Update  $\alpha^A$  in  $L_\alpha$  by the new upper bound of A along the axis  $\alpha$ . while  $\exists \alpha^Y_X$  right after  $\alpha^A$  in  $L_\alpha$  s.t.  $\alpha^A > \alpha^Y_X$  do: Swap  $\alpha^A$  with  $\alpha^Y_X$  in  $L_\alpha$ . if  $Y$  is None then lnsert  $\{A, X\}$  to  $W$ . while  $\exists \alpha_X^Y$  right after  $\alpha_A$  in  $L_\alpha$  s.t.  $\alpha_A > \alpha_X^Y$  do: Swap  $\alpha_A$  with  $\alpha_X^Y$  in  $L_\alpha$ . if  $X$  is None then **Erase**  $\{A, Y\}$  from  $W$ . while  $\exists \alpha_X^Y$  right before  $\alpha^A$  in  $L_\alpha$  s.t.  $\alpha_X^Y > \alpha^A$  do: Swap  $\alpha^A$  with  $\alpha^Y_X$  in  $L_\alpha$ . if  $Y$  is None then **Erase**  $\{A, X\}$  from  $W$ . Moving  $\alpha^A$ "to the right" Moving  $\alpha_A$ "to the right" Moving  $\alpha^A$ "to the left"

Possible memory representation of the lists  $L_{\alpha}$ ,  $\alpha \in \{x, y, z\}$ :



If "p" is a pointer to a "Link" of the list  $L_{\alpha}$ ,  $\alpha \in \{0,1,2\}$  (i.e.,  $\{x, y, z\}$ ), then we can convert it to a pointer to AABB using the pointer arithmetic:  $(AABB^*)(p - (\alpha + 3 * (int)p.lohi) * sizeof(link))$ 

Represent the set  $W$  as a dictionary of pairs of object IDs. Sort the pair s.t. the lower ID comes first and the other the second.

 Initialize the data structure to contain a single auxiliary AABB s.t: ▶ Values in the links are:  $x_A = y_A = z_A = -\infty$  and  $x^A = y^A = z^A = +\infty$ . All 2\*3 links are properly interconnected in the lists  $L_x, L_y, L_z$ .  $\blacktriangleright$  This auxiliary AABB avoids the "nullptr" check in the algorithm (loops).

Performance of the algorithm is sensitive to alignment of objects along coordinate axes:



 A relocation of an object leads to a lot of swaps thought the "cluster" in the array.

#### Narrow phase

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#### Narrow phase

 $\blacktriangleright$  The goal is for each pair of potentially colliding shapes to: **Decide** whether the shapes **really collide or not**. **Compute a finite model** of the (infinite) set of  **all collision points**.

Stack of two boxes (top view)

 **Example**: Find finite and minimal number of points in  $H$  whose convex hull contains  $H$ .



 **Requirement**: The effect of collision forces computed at points of the model must be equal to collision forces computed at all points in  $H$ .

#### Gilbert-Johnson-Keerthi (GJK) algorithm

Decides whether two **convex** shapes have **empty intersection** or not.



 We can approximate a concave shape by a **set** of convex shapes. For the empty intersection we can obtain a pair of the **closest points**.

- We must first build a terminology:
	- Minkowski sum and difference
	- **Simplex**
	- Support function

#### GJK: Minkowski sum

**Minkowski sum:**  $A + B = \{a + b; a \in A \land b \in B\}.$  How to draw Minkowski sum? Choose some points  $\hat{a} \in \mathcal{A} \wedge \hat{b} \in \mathcal{B}$ . Then,  $\forall a \in \mathcal{A} \exists a' \text{ s.t. } a = \hat{a} + a'.$ Therefore, for each  $a \in \mathcal{A} \wedge b \in \mathcal{B}$  $a + b = \widehat{a} + \widehat{b} + a' + b'$ So, we draw  $A + B$  around  $\widehat{a} + \widehat{b}$ :  $\triangleright$  Draw B around  $\widehat{a} + \widehat{b}$ .  $\blacktriangleright$  Draw A around  $B$ 's perimeter.  $A + B$  is the convex hull.  $\mathcal{A}$  $\boldsymbol{a}$  $a'$ 



#### GJK: Minkowski difference

**Minkowski difference:**  $A - B = A + (-B)$ , where  $-B = \{-b; b \in \mathcal{B}\}\$ 

 **Lemma**: The shortest distance between  $A$  and  $B$  is equal to the distance of  $\mathcal{A}-\mathcal{B}$  to the origin. **Proof:** It is a length of the shortest  $\widehat{\boldsymbol{a}} - \widehat{\boldsymbol{b}}$  , s.t.  $\widehat{a} \in \mathcal{A} \wedge \widehat{b} \in \mathcal{B}$ . But  $\widehat{a} - \widehat{b} \in \mathcal{A} - \mathcal{B}$ .

**Consequence:** Shapes *A* and *B* collide if and only if  $A - B$  contains the origin.



#### GJK: Minkowski difference

- **Lemma**: If shapes A and B are convex, then  $A B$  is also convex. **Proof:** For each  $u, v \in \mathcal{A} - \mathcal{B}$  there exist  $a_u, a_v \in \mathcal{A}$  and  $b_u, b_v \in \mathcal{B}$  s.t.  $u = a_{\nu} - b_{\nu}$  and  $v = a_{\nu} - b_{\nu}$ . Then, for  $t \in (0,1)$ , we get  $u + t(v - u) = (a_u - b_u) + t((a_v - b_v) - (a_u - b_u)) =$  $a_{11} - b_{11} + t a_{12} - t b_{12} - t a_{11} + t b_{11} =$  $a_{11} + t(a_{12} - a_{11}) - (b_{11} + t(b_{12} - b_{11})).$ A and B are convex =>  $a_{ij}$  +  $t(a_{ij} - a_{ij}) \in A$ ,  $b_{ij}$  +  $t(b_{ij} - b_{ij}) \in B$  =>
	- $a_u + t(a_v a_u) (b_u + t(b_v b_u)) \in \mathcal{A} \mathcal{B} \Rightarrow \mathcal{A} \mathcal{B}$  is convex.
- **Consequence**: If the origin lies in the convex hull of points  $a_1, ..., a_n$   $\in$  $A - B$ , then convex shapes A and B have non-empty intersection.

# GJK: Simplex

A **simplex** is a convex hull of an affinely independent points.



GJK searches for a simplex s.t. origin lies inside or prove that no such simplex exists.

Note: In 2D case we only need point, line and triangle.

Given a shape  $A$  and a non-zero vector  $d$ , a support function  $S_{\mathcal{A}}$  returns a point  $S_{\mathcal{A}}(d) \in \mathcal{A}$  s.t.  $S_{\mathcal{A}}(\boldsymbol{d}) \cdot \boldsymbol{d} = \max\{\boldsymbol{x} \cdot \boldsymbol{d}; \boldsymbol{x} \in \mathcal{A}\}.$ 



A shape A can be defined in a local system – **body/model space**.



Therefore, this must be reflected in the computation of  $S_{\mathcal{A}}(d)$ .

- $\blacktriangleright$  When a convex shape A is defined in body space  $(R, x)$ , then we denote  $R-A + x$  the corresponding convex shape in the world space.  $\blacktriangleright$  More precisely:  $R\mathcal{A} + x = \{Rp' + x : p' \in \mathcal{A}\}.$
- **Lemma**:  $S_{R,A+x}(d) = RS_{A}(R^{T}d) + x$ , for each world-space vector  $d \neq 0$ . **Proof:** First, we show that  $\forall p' \in \mathcal{A}$  the following equality (\*) holds true  $Rp' + x) \cdot d = (Rp') \cdot d + x \cdot d$  $= d^{\top}(Rp') + x \cdot d$  $\mathbf{u} = (\mathbf{d}^\top R)\mathbf{p}' + \mathbf{x}\cdot\mathbf{d}$  $\mathbf{r} = (R^{\mathsf{T}}\boldsymbol{d})^{\mathsf{T}}\boldsymbol{p}' + \boldsymbol{x}\cdot\boldsymbol{d}$  $= p' \cdot (R^{\top}d) + x \cdot d.$

Now,  $S_{R,A+x}(d) \cdot d = \max\{p \cdot d; p \in R\mathcal{A} + x\}$  $\mathcal{L} = \max\{(Rp'+x)\cdot d; p'\in\mathcal{A}\}$  $= max\{p' \cdot (R^{\top}d) + x \cdot d; p' \in \mathcal{A}\}$  according to  $(*)$  $\boldsymbol{p} = \max \{ \boldsymbol{p}' \cdot (R^\top \boldsymbol{d}) \; ; \boldsymbol{p}' \in \mathcal{A} \} + \boldsymbol{x} \cdot \boldsymbol{d} \}$  $S_{\mathcal{A}}(R^{\mathsf{T}}\boldsymbol{d})\cdot R^{\mathsf{T}}\boldsymbol{d} + \boldsymbol{x}\cdot \boldsymbol{d}$  $= (RS_{\mathcal{A}}(R^{\mathsf{T}}d) + x) \cdot d$  $\alpha$  according to  $(*)$ Therefore,  $S_{R,A+x}(\boldsymbol{d}) = RS_{\mathcal{A}}(R^{\top}\boldsymbol{d}) + x$ .

#### GJK: Support function examples

 $\blacktriangleright$   $\mathcal A$  is a **sphere** at the origin with the radius  $r$ :  $S_{\mathcal{A}}(\boldsymbol{d})=r$  $\boldsymbol{d}$  $\boldsymbol{d}$ 

 is an **axis aligned bounding box** (AABB) at the origin with sizes  $2s_x$ ,  $2s_y$ ,  $2s_z$  along corresponding coordinate axes:  $S_{\mathcal{A}}(\boldsymbol{d})= \big(\text{sgn}(\boldsymbol{d}_\chi)\, s_\chi, \text{sgn}(\boldsymbol{d}_\chi)\, s_\chi, \text{sgn}(\boldsymbol{d}_\chi)\, s_\chi$ ⊤ where sgn(a) =  $\{$  $-1$  if  $a < 0$ 1 otherwise

## GJK: Support function examples

▶ *A* is a **cylinder** at the origin with the central axis aligned with the z coordinate axis, with the radius  $r$  and with the top and bottom base at z-coordinate h and -h, respectively:

$$
S_{\mathcal{A}}(\boldsymbol{d}) = \begin{cases} \left(\frac{r}{\sigma} \boldsymbol{d}_{x}, \frac{r}{\sigma} \boldsymbol{d}_{y}, \text{sgn}(\boldsymbol{d}_{z}) h\right)^{\top} & \text{if } \sigma > 0\\ (0, 0, \text{sgn}(\boldsymbol{d}_{z}) h)^{\top} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}
$$

where  $\sigma = \sqrt{\boldsymbol{d}_\mathcal{X}^2 + \boldsymbol{d}_\mathcal{Y}^2}$ , and sgn(a) was defined earlier.

▶ *A* is any convex **polytope** (e.g., point, line, triangle, convex polygon, tetrahedron, box, ...) with vertices  $V = \{v_1, ..., v_n\}$ :  $S_{\mathcal{A}}(\boldsymbol{d}) = \boldsymbol{v}_k$  s.t.  $\boldsymbol{v}_k \cdot \boldsymbol{d} = \max\{\boldsymbol{v}_i \cdot \boldsymbol{d} : \boldsymbol{v}_i \in V\}$ 

**Lemma**: 
$$
S_{A-B}(d) = S_{A}(d) - S_{B}(-d)
$$
.  
\n**Proof**:  $S_{A-B}(d) \cdot d = \max\{(a-b) \cdot d; a \in A \land b \in B\}$   
\n
$$
= \max\{a \cdot d; a \in A\} - \min\{b \cdot d; b \in B\}
$$
\n
$$
= S_{A}(d) \cdot d + \max\{b \cdot (-d); b \in B\}
$$
\n
$$
= S_{A}(d) \cdot d + S_{B}(-d) \cdot (-d)
$$
\n
$$
= (S_{A}(d) - S_{B}(-d)) \cdot d.
$$

 $\triangleright$  We therefore do **not** have to construct  $A - B$  and  $S_{A-B}$ . We work with the given shapes  $A$  and  $B$  and their support functions.

## GJK: The algorithm – intuition (2D case)



 $\mathcal{S=}\{\mathbf{s}_0,\mathbf{s}_1,\mathbf{s}_2\}$  $\mathbf{s}_1 = \mathbf{S}_{A-B}(\mathbf{d}_1) = \mathbf{S}_{A}(\mathbf{d}_1) - \mathbf{S}_{B}(-\mathbf{d}_1) = \mathbf{s}_1 - \mathbf{s}_1$  $s_0$ ,  $s_0$  – closest points from the previous round (or random)  $s_2 = S_{A-B}(d_2) = S_A(d_2) - S_B(-d_2) = s_2 - s_2$  $s_0 = s_0 - s_0$  $\mathbf{s}_1 \cdot \mathbf{d}_1 \geq 0 \Rightarrow$  continue  $s_3 = S_{A-B}(d_3) = S_A(d_3) - S_B(-d_3) = s_3 - s_3$  $s_2 \cdot d_2 \geq 0 \Rightarrow$  continue  $s_3 \cdot d_3 < 0 \Rightarrow$  NO INTERSECTION!

# GJK: The algorithm – intuition (2D case)

- Since  $A$  and  $B$  have empty intersection, we can compute a pair of closest points:
	- First, we find the closest point X of the simplex  $S = \{s_1, s_2\}$  to the origin. That is  $X = s_1 + t(s_2 - s_1)$  for some  $t \in (0,1)$  s.t.  $|X - 0|^2 = |s_1 + t(s_2 - s_1)|^2$  is minimal. So, solve the equation:  $\boldsymbol{d}$  $2=0$

$$
\frac{\partial}{\partial t} |\mathbf{s}_1 + t(\mathbf{s}_2 - \mathbf{s}_1)|^2 = 0
$$
\n
$$
\frac{d}{dt} (\mathbf{s}_1 \cdot \mathbf{s}_1 + t2\mathbf{s}_1 \cdot (\mathbf{s}_2 - \mathbf{s}_1) + t^2(\mathbf{s}_2 - \mathbf{s}_1)^2) = 0
$$
\n
$$
2\mathbf{s}_1 \cdot (\mathbf{s}_2 - \mathbf{s}_1) + 2t(\mathbf{s}_2 - \mathbf{s}_1)^2 = 0
$$
\n
$$
t = -\frac{\mathbf{s}_1 \cdot (\mathbf{s}_2 - \mathbf{s}_1)}{(\mathbf{s}_2 - \mathbf{s}_1)^2}
$$
\nAlso clip  $t$  to (0,1).

#### GJK: The algorithm – intuition (2D case)

 $\blacktriangleright$  Then, find the corresponding points in the shapes A and B.

$$
s_{1} + t(s_{2} - s_{1}) = (s_{1} - s_{1}) + t((s_{2} - s_{2}) - (s_{1} - s_{1}))
$$
  
=  $s_{1} + t(s_{2} - s_{1}) - (s_{1} + t(s_{2} - s_{1}))$   
 $\in \mathcal{A}$ 

### GJK: The algorithm

Choose some  $p \in A - B$ . // Usually, p comes from the previous frame.  $S = \emptyset$  // We start with the empty simplex.  $s = S_{A-R}(-p)$  // NOTE: Our direction vector **d** to the origin is just  $-p$ . while  $|\boldsymbol{p}|^2 - \boldsymbol{p} \cdot \boldsymbol{s} > \epsilon^2$  do: // Proving termination condition: see [4]. //  $p$  is still far from the closest point of  $A - B$  to the origin.  $\boldsymbol{p} =$  closest\_to\_origin (convex\_hull( $S \cup \{s\}$ ))  $S =$  smallest  $X \subseteq S \cup \{s\}$  s.t.  $p \in$  convex\_hull(X) // Reduce the simplex.  $\mathbf{s} = S_{\mathcal{A} - \mathcal{B}}(-\mathbf{p})$ return  $a \in \mathcal{A}, b \in \mathcal{B}$  s.t.  $p = a - b$ .  $|/|p|$  is the closest distance. Point, line, triangle, or tetrahedron. Can be computed quickly for shapes

**Efficiency of the PGS algorithm for a constraint system depends on** the initial value  $\lambda^0$ .

It is likely that  $\lambda$  computed for a collision constraint at current frame would be "almost valid" for the next frame (if the collision persists).

 $\blacktriangleright$  Therefore, caching  $\lambda$  values for collision (and other types of) constraints amongst frames can bring considerable speed boost.

How to **match** collisions computed in **different frames**?

Inere are several possibilities:

**Distance** between collision points in **world space**:



Correct mapping:  $a \rightarrow c, b \rightarrow d$ Word distance mapping:  $b \rightarrow c$  (wrong),  $a \rightarrow ?$ ,  $? \rightarrow d$ 

**Distance** between collision points in **body space**:



 Identify collisions by **geometrical properties** of collision shapes: **enum** GTYPE { VERTEX, EDGE, FACE };

**struct** CollisionID {

};

**int** body\_index\_1;  $\hspace{0.5cm}$ // The index of  $\mathcal{R}_i$ : *i* GTYPE feature\_type\_1; // The type of colliding geometry in  $R_i$ **int** feature\_index\_1;  $\qquad$  // Index of the colliding geometry in  $\mathcal{R}_i$ **int** body\_index\_2; // The index of  $\mathcal{R}_i$ : j GTYPE feature\_type\_2; // The type of colliding geometry in  $\mathcal{R}_{i,j}$ **int** feature\_index\_2;  $\blacksquare$  // Index of the colliding geometry in  $\mathcal{R}_i$ 

Define also **comparison** and **hashing** of CollisionID instances.



We get precise mapping:  $id(a) = id(c) \Rightarrow a \rightarrow c$  $id(b) = id(d) \Rightarrow b \rightarrow d$ 

Recommended approach

 $\blacktriangleright$  The cache should be a map from CollisionID instance to values  $\lambda$ : **using** collision\_cache = std::unordered\_map<CollisionID,**float**>;

And how to use the cache?

Before solving the constraint system initialize  $\lambda^0$  s.t.

- $\blacktriangleright$  For each computed collision  $c$  and the corresponding element  $\pmb{\lambda}^0_i$ :
	- $\blacktriangleright$  Build the CollisionID instance id from  $c$ .
	- If id is present in the cache, then set  $\lambda_i^0$  to the value  $\lambda$  in the cache.
	- $\blacktriangleright$  Otherwise, set  $\lambda_i^0$  to 0.
- $\triangleright$  Once new solution  $\lambda$  is computed updated the cache as follows:
	- Clear the cache.
	- For each collision  $c$  and the corresponding computed value  $\lambda$ :
		- $\blacktriangleright$  Build the CollisionID instance id from  $c$ .
		- Insert the mapping  $id \rightarrow \lambda$  to the cache.

# Computing collision time

## Tunnelling and penetration







# Dealing with tunnelling and penetration

- $\triangleright$  The simplest approach is to **subdivide** the **game time step**  $\Delta t$  of into several small **internal time steps**.
- For broad phase:
	- ▶ Approximate collision shapes of bodies by "moving spheres":





We move all bodies in  $\overrightarrow{\Delta t v}$  = each internal time step.

- Use the **adaptive time step**:
	- For each pair of potentially colliding shapes compute the nearest collision time.
	- Move the bodies only to the minimum of all nearest collision times.

# Computing collision time



▶ There are 4D collision algorithms – they consider translations and rotations of tested objects.

## References

**[1]** *Erin Catto;* Iterative Dynamics with Temporal Coherence; Crystal Dynamics, Menlo Park, California, 2005 **[2]** E. G. Gilbert, D. W. Johnson and S. S. Keerthi; A fast procedure for computing the distance between complex objects in threedimensional space; Journal on Robotics and Automation, vol. 4, no. 2, pp. 193-203, April 1988 **[3]** *G. Bergen*; A Fast and Robust GJK Implementation for Collision Detection of Convex Objects; Eindhoven University of Technology. 1999 **[4]** G.v.d. Bergen; Collision detection in interactive 3D environments; ISBN: 1-55860-801-X, Elsevier, 2004.