#### **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.



The presented version is easy to understand and implement.

But it wastes time by recomputing W from scratch each time step.

In practice, we use an improved version:

- ▶ We start with the arrays  $L_{\alpha}$ ,  $\alpha \in \{x, y, z\}$ , and W from the **previous frame**.
- ▶ We incrementally update each  $L_{\alpha}$  and W for each relocated object A.

for each 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 Insert  $\{A, Y\}$  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  $\exists \alpha_X^Y$  right after  $\alpha^A$  in  $L_\alpha$  s.t.  $\alpha^A > \alpha_X^Y$  do: Moving  $\alpha^A$ Swap  $\alpha^A$  with  $\alpha_X^Y$  in  $L_{\alpha}$ . "to the right" if Y is None then **Insert**  $\{A, X\}$  to W. while  $\exists \alpha_X^Y$  right after  $\alpha_A$  in  $L_{\alpha}$  s.t.  $\alpha_A > \alpha_X^Y$  do: Moving  $\alpha_A$ Swap  $\alpha_A$  with  $\alpha_X^Y$  in  $L_{\alpha}$ . "to the right" 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: Moving  $\alpha^A$ Swap  $\alpha^A$  with  $\alpha_X^Y$  in  $L_{\alpha}$ . "to the left" if Y is None then **Erase**  $\{A, X\}$  from W.

▶ 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<sub>α</sub>, α ∈ {0,1,2} (i.e., {x, y, z}), then we can convert it to a pointer to AABB using the pointer arithmetic:
 (AABB\*)(p - (α + 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  $L_x$ ,  $L_y$ ,  $L_z$ .

▶ 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

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 Stack of (to 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  $\mathcal{H}$ .

#### 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 ∈ A ∧ b ∈ B}.
How to draw Minkowski sum?
Choose some points â ∈ A ∧ b ∈ B.
Then, ∀a ∈ A ∃a' s.t. a = â + a'.
Therefore, for each a ∈ A ∧ b ∈ B a + b = â + b + a' + b'
So, we draw A + B around â + b:
Draw B around â + b.
Draw A around B's perimeter.
A + B is the convex hull.



#### GJK: Minkowski difference

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

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

• **Consequence**: Shapes  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{B}$  collide if and only if  $\mathcal{A} - \mathcal{B}$  contains the origin.



#### GJK: Minkowski difference

- **Lemma**: If shapes  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{B}$  are convex, then  $\mathcal{A} \mathcal{B}$  is also convex. **Proof**: For each  $u, v \in \mathcal{A} - \mathcal{B}$  there exist  $a_{\mu}, a_{\nu} \in \mathcal{A}$  and  $b_{\mu}, b_{\nu} \in \mathcal{B}$  s.t.  $\boldsymbol{u} = \boldsymbol{a}_{\mu} - \boldsymbol{b}_{\mu}$  and  $\boldsymbol{v} = \boldsymbol{a}_{\nu} - \boldsymbol{b}_{\nu}$ . Then, for  $t \in \langle 0, 1 \rangle$ , we get  $u + t(v - u) = (a_u - b_u) + t((a_v - b_v) - (a_u - b_u)) =$  $\underline{a}_{\mu} - \underline{b}_{\mu} + t \underline{a}_{\nu} - t \underline{b}_{\nu} - t \underline{a}_{\mu} + t \underline{b}_{\mu} =$  $a_{\mu} + t(a_{\nu} - a_{\mu}) - (b_{\mu} + t(b_{\nu} - b_{\mu})).$  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{B}$  are convex =>  $a_{\mu} + t(a_{\nu} - a_{\mu}) \in \mathcal{A}$ ,  $b_{\mu} + t(b_{\nu} - b_{\mu}) \in \mathcal{B}$  =>  $a_u + t(a_v - a_u) - (b_u + t(b_v - b_u)) \in \mathcal{A} - \mathcal{B} \Longrightarrow \mathcal{A} - \mathcal{B}$  is convex.
- ▶ **Consequence**: If the origin lies in the convex hull of points  $a_1, ..., a_n \in \mathcal{A} \mathcal{B}$ , then convex shapes  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{B}$  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  $\mathcal{A}$  and a non-zero vector d, a **support function**  $S_{\mathcal{A}}$  returns a point  $S_{\mathcal{A}}(d) \in \mathcal{A}$  s.t.  $S_{\mathcal{A}}(d) \cdot d = \max\{x \cdot d; x \in \mathcal{A}\}.$ 



> A shape  $\mathcal{A}$  can be defined in a local system – **body/model space**.



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

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

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

#### GJK: Support function examples

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

•  $\mathcal{A}$  is an **axis aligned bounding box** (AABB) at the origin with sizes  $2s_x, 2s_y, 2s_z$  along corresponding coordinate axes:  $S_{\mathcal{A}}(d) = (\operatorname{sgn}(d_x) s_x, \operatorname{sgn}(d_y) s_y, \operatorname{sgn}(d_z) s_z)^{\mathsf{T}}$ where  $\operatorname{sgn}(a) = \begin{cases} -1 & \text{if } a < 0 \\ 1 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$ 

## 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:

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

where  $\sigma = \sqrt{d_x^2 + d_y^2}$ , and sgn(a) was defined earlier.

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

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

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

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



 $s_0, s_0$  – closest points from the previous round (or random)  $S = \{\mathbf{s}_0, \mathbf{s}_1, \mathbf{s}_2\}$  $s_0 = s_0 - s_0$  $\overline{\mathbf{s}_1} = \overline{S_{\mathcal{A}-\mathcal{B}}(\boldsymbol{d}_1)} = \overline{S_{\mathcal{A}}(\boldsymbol{d}_1) - \overline{S_{\mathcal{B}}(-\boldsymbol{d}_1)} = \mathbf{s}_1 - \mathbf{s}_1}$  $\mathbf{s}_1 \cdot \boldsymbol{d}_1 \geq 0 \Rightarrow$  continue  $\mathbf{s}_2 = S_{\mathcal{A}-\mathcal{B}}(\mathbf{d}_2) = S_{\mathcal{A}}(\mathbf{d}_2) - S_{\mathcal{B}}(-\mathbf{d}_2) = \mathbf{s}_2 - \mathbf{s}_2$  $\mathbf{s}_2 \cdot \mathbf{d}_2 \ge 0 \Rightarrow \text{continue}$  $S_3 = S_{A-B}(d_3) = S_A(d_3) - S_B(-d_3) = S_3 - S_3$  $\mathbf{s}_3 \cdot \mathbf{d}_3 < 0 \Rightarrow$  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  $S = \{\mathbf{s}_1, \mathbf{s}_2\}$  to the origin. That is  $X = \mathbf{s}_1 + t(\mathbf{s}_2 - \mathbf{s}_1)$  for some  $t \in \langle 0, 1 \rangle$  s.t.  $|X - 0|^2 = |\mathbf{s}_1 + t(\mathbf{s}_2 - \mathbf{s}_1)|^2$  is minimal. So, solve the equation:

$$\frac{d}{dt}|\mathbf{s}_{1} + t(\mathbf{s}_{2} - \mathbf{s}_{1})|^{2} = 0$$

$$\frac{d}{dt}(\mathbf{s}_{1} \cdot \mathbf{s}_{1} + t2\mathbf{s}_{1} \cdot (\mathbf{s}_{2} - \mathbf{s}_{1}) + t^{2}(\mathbf{s}_{2} - \mathbf{s}_{1})^{2}) = 0$$

$$2\mathbf{s}_{1} \cdot (\mathbf{s}_{2} - \mathbf{s}_{1}) + 2t(\mathbf{s}_{2} - \mathbf{s}_{1})^{2} = 0$$

$$t = -\frac{\mathbf{s}_{1} \cdot (\mathbf{s}_{2} - \mathbf{s}_{1})}{(\mathbf{s}_{2} - \mathbf{s}_{1})^{2}} \quad \text{Also clip } t \text{ to } \langle 0, 1 \rangle.$$

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

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

$$\mathbf{s}_{1} + t(\mathbf{s}_{2} - \mathbf{s}_{1}) = (\mathbf{s}_{1} - \mathbf{s}_{1}) + t((\mathbf{s}_{2} - \mathbf{s}_{2}) - (\mathbf{s}_{1} - \mathbf{s}_{1}))$$
$$= \mathbf{s}_{1} + t(\mathbf{s}_{2} - \mathbf{s}_{1}) - (\mathbf{s}_{1} + t(\mathbf{s}_{2} - \mathbf{s}_{1}))$$
$$\in \mathcal{A} \qquad \in \mathcal{B}$$

### GJK: The algorithm

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

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

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

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

How to match collisions computed in different frames?

► There 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),  $a \rightarrow ?, ? \rightarrow d$ 

Imprecise.

**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;// The index of  $\mathcal{R}_i$ : iGTYPE feature\_type\_1;// The type of colliding geometry in  $\mathcal{R}_i$ int feature\_index\_1;// Index of the colliding geometry in  $\mathcal{R}_i$ int body\_index\_2;// The index of  $\mathcal{R}_j$ : jGTYPE feature\_type\_2;// The type of colliding geometry in  $\mathcal{R}_i$ int feature\_index\_2;// 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

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

And how to use the cache?

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

- For each computed collision c and the corresponding element  $\lambda_i^0$ :
  - ▶ 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.
  - ► Otherwise, set  $\lambda_i^0$  to 0.
- > Once new solution  $\lambda$  is computed updated the cache as follows:
  - Clear the cache.
  - For each collision c and the corresponding computed value  $\lambda$ :
    - ▶ Build the CollisionID instance id from c.
    - ▶ Insert the mapping  $id \rightarrow \lambda$  to the cache.

# Computing collision time

## Tunnelling and penetration







#### Penetration

# Dealing with tunnelling and penetration

- The simplest approach is to subdivide the game time step Δt of into several small internal time steps.
- ► For broad phase:
  - Approximate collision shapes of bodies

by "moving spheres":





We move all bodies in 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.