

# Stochastic Methods

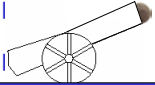
Gabriel Zachmann  
Universität Bonn




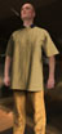
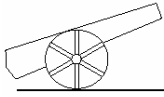

# Motivation

- Absolute exactness not always necessary
- Real-time more important

→ Approximate collision detection



- Whenever only qualitative result matters, e.g.,  
Set of „plausible paths“ for a cannonball.
- Games, virtual clothes prototyping, medical training, ...

Motivation      ADB-Trees      Stochastic Closest Features      Conclusions



## Overview

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1. ADB-Trees [Klein & Zachmann, 2003]
2. Stochastic Closest Features Tracking [Raghupathi et al., 2004; Debunne & Guy, 2004]

Motivation

ADB-Trees

Stochastic Closest Features

Conclusions



## ADB-Trees

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- ADB = "Average Distribution Trees"
- Average-case approach:
  - Estimate probability of intersection of 2 sets of polygons
- Applicable to almost any BV hierarchy
- Augment BVH by simple description of polygon distribution at inner nodes
- Probability-guided BVH traversal (p-queue)

Motivation

ADB-Trees

Stochastic Closest Features

Conclusions



## Probability-Guided BVH Traversal

```

 Traverse(A,B)
  q.insert(A,B,1)
  while q not empty
    A,B ← q.pop
    forall Ai, Bj
      p ← Pr[ collision in Ai, Bj ]
      if p ≥ pmin
        return "collision"
      if p ≥ 0
        q.insert(Ai, Bj, p)
  return "no collision"

```

Motivation

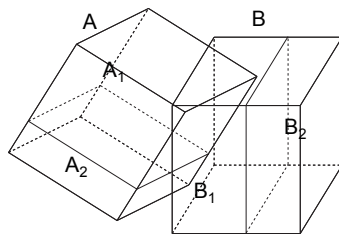
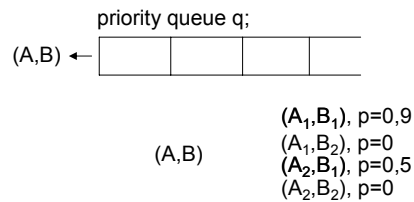
ADB-Trees

Stochastic Closest Features

Conclusions



## Probability-Guided BVH Traversal



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Motivation

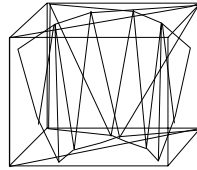
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## Well-filled Cells and Collision Cells



"well-filled" cell

Motivation

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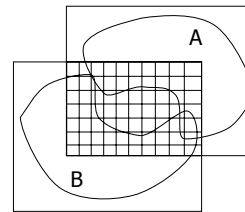
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Conclusions

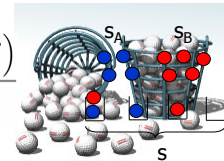


## Computing the Probability of Intersection

1. Partition  $A \cap B$  by grid with  $s$  cells
2. Determine number of "well-filled" cells from BV A:  $s_A$
3. Dito for B:  $s_B$
4. Compute probability that  $x$  cells are well-filled from A *and* from B:



$$Pr[c(A \cap B) \geq x] = 1 - \sum_{t=0}^{x-1} \frac{\binom{s_B}{t} \binom{s-s_B}{s_A-t}}{\binom{s}{s_A}}$$



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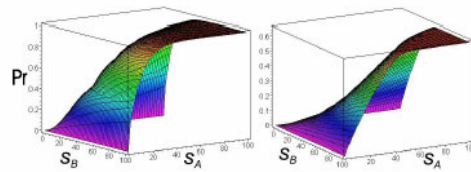
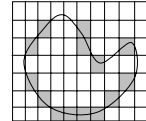
Conclusions



- Take curvature within cell into account:

$$\max_{x \leq \min\{s_A, s_B\}} \{Pr[c(A \cap B) \geq x] \cdot (1 - (1 - LB(A \cap B))^x)\}$$

- Preprocessing
- Estimate parameters
- Look-up-tables for probability functions:



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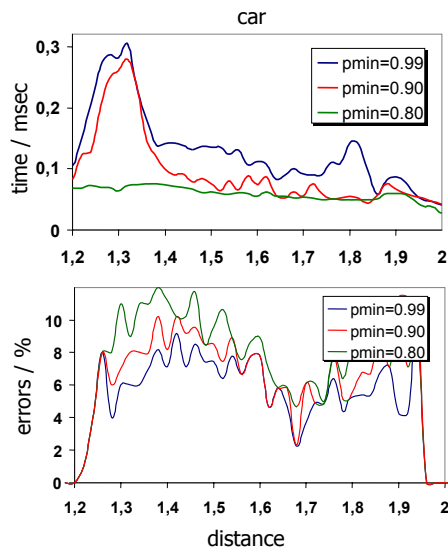
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## Result

- Time vs. error:



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## Stochastic Closest Features Tracking

- Based on Lin-Canny (only for convex objects)
  - Steepest descent for single pair of features
  - Accelerated by generalized Voronoi diagram
  - Temporal coherence
- Extension to non-convex, deformable objects:
  - Non-convex → multiple pairs of (locally) closest features
  - Deformable → feature pairs come and go
  - Voronoi diagram not really feasible
- Idea
  - Stochastically create pairs of features
  - Converge them to locally closest features

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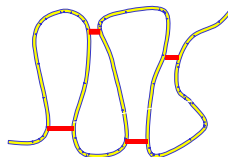
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## Details

- Algorithm:
  - Do animation step
  - Add random pairs to list of "active feature pairs"
  - For each feature-pair:
    - Update features by local search
    - Remove "unwanted" pairs
    - If collision:
      - apply response to local collision area




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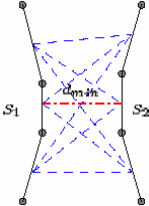
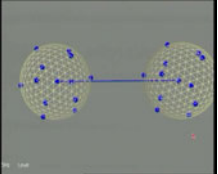
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Conclusions





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- Updating of feature pair:
  - No Voronoi diagram
  - Compute pairwise distance of all neighbor pairs
- Removal of feature pairs:
  - Distance too large (not likely closest feature)
  - Both features of two pairs too close (redundant)
- Creation of feature pairs:
  - Importance-driven (e.g., velocity-based)
  - Supported naturally by multires model

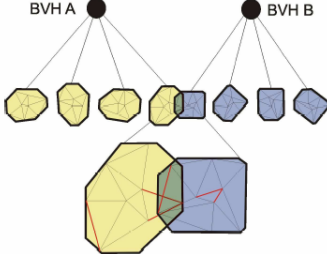
Motivation
ADB-Trees
Stochastic Closest Features
Conclusions

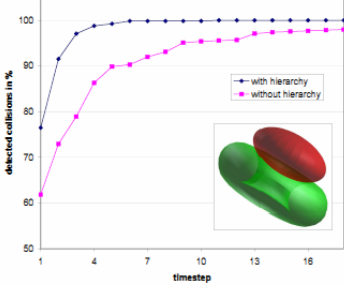


## Acceleration by BV Hierarchy

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- Use incomplete BVH to find "interesting" regions
- Stochastically sample those regions



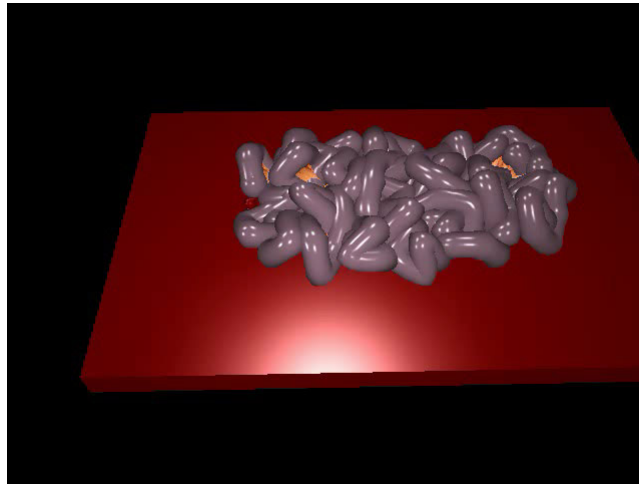


Timestep	with hierarchy (%)	without hierarchy (%)
1	85	65
4	98	85
7	100	95
10	100	98
15	100	99
16	100	100

Motivation
ADB-Trees
Stochastic Closest Features
Conclusions



## Example Application



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Conclusions



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Conclusions





## Conclusions

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- Stochastic methods are not always error-free
- Good for plausible & fast simulations
- Interesting alternative to BVHs in specific cases
- Naturally yield time-critical collision detection
- Future work:
  - Continuous stochastic methods
  - Precise error bounds

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Stochastic Closest Features

Conclusions



## Thank you for your attention ...

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... we continue with ...

Arnulph Fuhrmann  
presenting  
Distance Fields

Motivation

ADB-Trees

Stochastic Closest Features

Conclusions