Mid-structures of Shapes - A Brief Review

Blum 67

- "A Transformation For Extracting New Descriptors of Shape"
- Locus of points equidistant from contour
- Medial Axis
- Symmetric Axis
- Skeleton
- Shock Graph



- Dimensionality reduction
- Shape understanding



Image source: http://w3.impa.br/~paesleme/MedialAxis/MedialAxis.html

- Dimensionality reduction
- Shape understanding
- Shape matching



[Liu et al. 2011]

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[Sebastian 01]

- Dimensionality reduction
- Shape understanding
- Shape matching
- Solid modeling



[Xia and Tucker 2011]

- Dimensionality reduction
- ..
- Smoothing or sharpening of shape



Image source: http://www.agg.ethz.ch/research/medial_axis

- Dimensionality reduction
- ..
- Smoothing or sharpening of shape
- Skeleton-based animation



[Aguiar et al. EG2008]

Different Definitions

- Locus of points equidistant from contour
- Grass-fire, prairie-fire, wave-front collision
- Locus of centers of maximal circles
- Local maxima in distance transform
- Result of topological preserving thinning
- Ridges in envelope of cones (apexes on contour)

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Pictorial Definitions





Medial Axis Transform

- The medial axis of a planar region S consists of all centers of maximum disks in S.
- This transformation is invertible!



Distance Transform





Skeleton located at local maxima of the distance field

Exo-Distance/Skeleton





Classes of Points in Skeleton



3D Medial Axis



Image source: http://www.riken.jp/brict/Yoshizawa/Research/Skeleton.html



[Martin and Cohen CG10]



Discrete scale axis [Miklos et al. SIGGRAPH10]

Medial Axis is Sensitive to Noise!



Discrete scale axis [Miklos et al. SIGGRAPH10]

1D Skeleton

Either 1D or 2D structures require manual effort for down-stream applications Intrinsic to the object (no user interaction except for setting parameters) Often no consistent topology



Generalized Swept Mid-Structure (GSM)



Generalized Swept Mid-Structure (GSM)

- Consists of
 - 1D segments in tubular regions
 - 2D segments in general regions
- Generated iteratively
 - Allows to track topological changes
 - Sheet-by-sheet topology
- Not intrinsic
 - User has influence

GSM Pipeline

Show video

Applications of GSM



Acknowledge

- Part of the materials of this lecture is provided by
 - Diego Nehab
 - Tobias Martin