

# Deformable modeling

Alan Liu

aliu@simcen.usuhs.mil

Surgical Simulation Laboratory  
National Capital Area Medical Simulation Center  
Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences  
<http://simcen.usuhs.mil/mmvr2002>

## Overview

- Motivation
  - Why deformable models
- Types of deformable models
  - Most commonly encountered
  - Variants
  - Examples in the literature
- Key research issues

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## Why deformable models?

- Human tissues are soft
- Need to model their appearance and mechanical properties in a realistic fashion
- Need to compute reaction forces for haptic feedback



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## An ideal deformable model

- Fast
  - » Visual update rate:  $\geq 10\text{Hz}$
  - » Haptic update rate:  $\geq 1000\text{Hz}$  (approximation/interpolation schemes can reduce this somewhat)
- Realistic
  - » Tissues are inhomogeneous
  - » Interaction with other organs, tools
- Facilitate cutting and suturing

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## Types of deformable models

- Non-physics based models
  - Splines, patches, snakes, free-form deformation
  - Parameters required to deform model may not be intuitive
  - May be sufficient for some simulations
  - Example
    - » [MOCCOZET97] used free-form deformation to model hand deformation



Images courtesy of Sarah Frisken  
Mitsubishi Electric Research Lab

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## Types of deformable models

- Physics-based models
  - Incorporates physical properties of model
    - » Pulling, cutting, tearing/breaking
  - More realistic deformations
    - » Model deforms intuitively according to applied force
  - Mass-springs, Finite-elements

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## Mass-Spring model

$$F = -k\Delta x$$

$$m\ddot{x} = -k\Delta x$$

$$m\ddot{x} = K \frac{(x_0 - x)}{|x_0|}$$

A simple mass-spring model



## Stress, strain and Young's modulus

Stress – force per unit area  $\sigma = \frac{F}{A}$

Strain – change in length/initial length  $\varepsilon = \frac{\Delta l}{l_0}$

Young's modulus  $K = \frac{\sigma}{\varepsilon}$

## Mass-Spring model

$$m\ddot{x} = K \frac{(x_0 - x)}{|x_0|}$$



A mass-spring

## Mass-Spring model

$$m\ddot{x} = K \frac{(x_0 - x)}{|x_0|} - \gamma\dot{x}$$



Mass-spring with damper

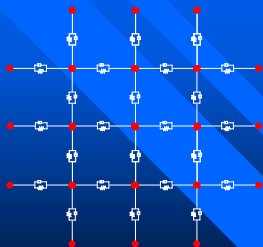
## Mass-Spring model

$$m\ddot{x}_i = -\gamma\dot{x}_i + \sum_{j \in N(i)} K_{i,j} \frac{(l_{i,j}^0 - |x_i - x_j|)x_i x_j}{l_{i,j}^0}$$

[DELINGETTE98]

$$m\ddot{x}_i = -\gamma\dot{x}_i + \sum_{j \in N(i)} K_{i,j} \frac{(l_{i,j}^0 - |x_i - x_j|)x_i x_j}{l_{i,j}^0} + f_i$$

$$M\ddot{x} + C\dot{x} + Kx = f$$



## Mass-Spring model

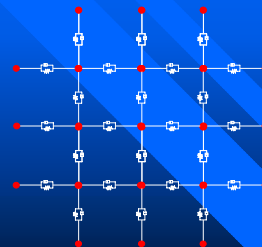
$$m\ddot{x}_i = -\gamma\dot{x}_i + \sum_{j \in N(i)} K_{i,j} \frac{(l_{i,j}^0 - |x_i - x_j|)x_i x_j}{l_{i,j}^0} + f_i$$

$$M\ddot{x} = C\dot{x} + Kx + f$$

$$\ddot{x} = M^{-1}(C\dot{x} + Kx + f)$$

$$\dot{v} = M^{-1}(Cv + Kx + f)$$

$(\dot{x} = v)$



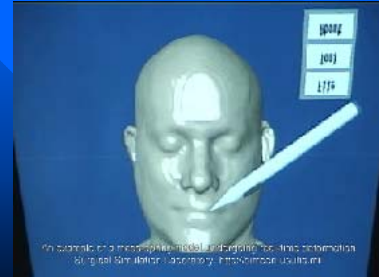
[GIBSON97]

## Strengths

- Fast, requires relatively little computation
- Simple to understand
- “Realistic” for small deformations
  - Less accurate for large deformations

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## Mass-spring models



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## Mass-spring models



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## Mass-spring models

- Other examples of mass-spring models
  - Abdominal Trauma Surgery [BRO-NIELSEN98]
  - Laparoscopic Cholecystectomy Simulation [TENDICK00]
  - Modeling of musculature [NEDEL98]
  - Facial modeling [TERZOPOLUOS90]
    - » Multiple tissue layers



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## Mass-spring models

$$M \frac{d^2 \mathbf{x}}{dt^2} + \Gamma \frac{d\mathbf{x}}{dt} + \mathbf{g}(t, \mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{f}(t)$$

$\mathbf{g}$  Vector of inner forces

$\mathbf{f}$  Vector of external forces



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## Weaknesses

- Need careful design of topology
  - e.g., modeling homogeneity
- Can be difficult to define spring parameters
  - What is a “realistic” amount of stiffness?
- Time step a function of spring stiffness [DELINGETTE98]

$$K_c \approx \frac{M}{n\pi^2(\Delta t)^2}$$

$$K_c = \text{critical stiffness}$$

- The stiffer the spring(s), the smaller the time step.
- Can be a problem when modeling hard objects like bone.

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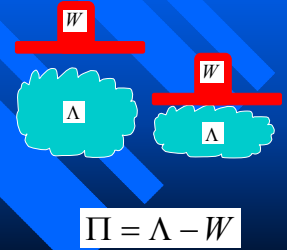
## Weaknesses

- Not an accurate physical model for tissue properties
  - Many tissues are not collections of springy tendons
- Becomes progressively less accurate for large deformations
- Need a framework that permits general physical principals to be represented

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## Deformation as energy

- “Shape” of tissue has potential energy
- Work done transfers energy to tissue
- Find the new tissue shape when energy is transferred to tissue.



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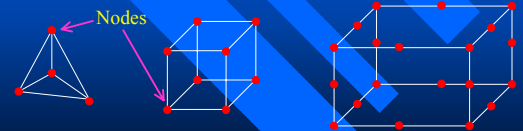
## Finite Element Models

- Relate potential energy to displacement of tissue from rest position.
  - Strain energy
- Relate work done as a function of tissue displacement.
- Compute tissue shape when  $\Pi$  is at minimum
  - Equilibrium
- Defined by
  - Shape elements, shape function, energy function

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## Finite Element Models

- Shape elements
  - Subdivide region of interest into discrete elements



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## Finite element models

- Shape function
  - Displacement of a point in the element is given as a function of displacement of the element’s associated nodes
  - Typically polynomial
  - Equivalent to expressing strain of a point as a function of strain in nodes

$$\varepsilon(\vec{x}) = \sum_i f_i(\vec{x}) \varepsilon_i$$

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## Strain energy

For linear elastic case,  $\mathcal{E}$  can be expressed in terms of displacement  $\vec{u}$  by the following differential equations

$$\begin{aligned} \varepsilon_x &= \frac{\partial \vec{u}}{\partial x} & \varepsilon_{xy} &= \frac{\partial \vec{u}}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial \vec{u}}{\partial y} \\ \varepsilon_y &= \frac{\partial \vec{u}}{\partial y} & \varepsilon_{xz} &= \frac{\partial \vec{u}}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial \vec{u}}{\partial z} \\ \varepsilon_z &= \frac{\partial \vec{u}}{\partial z} & \varepsilon_{yz} &= \frac{\partial \vec{u}}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial \vec{u}}{\partial z} \end{aligned}$$

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## Finite element models

- Consider the energy function of one element
  - Strain energy of finite element
  - Work done to element
- At equilibrium, their sum is at a minimum
- Express this sum in terms of displacement

## Strain energy

$$\Lambda = \frac{1}{2} \int_V \sigma^T \varepsilon \partial V = \frac{1}{2} \int_V \varepsilon^T D \varepsilon \partial V \quad [\text{GIBSON97}]$$

$D$  = matrix of stress/strain components

## Strain energy

$$\Lambda = \frac{1}{2} \int_V \sigma^T \varepsilon \partial V = \frac{1}{2} \int_V \varepsilon^T D \varepsilon \partial V \quad (\varepsilon = BU)$$

$$\Lambda = \frac{1}{2} U^T \left( \int_V B^T D B \partial V \right) U \quad [\text{GIBSON97}]$$

$D$  = matrix of stress/strain components

$U$  = composite vector of node displacements

$B$  = matrix of differential equations relating position to strain

## Work done

$$W = \int_V u \cdot f \partial v$$

$$W = U^T F$$

$U$  = composite vector of node displacements

$F$  = composite vector of forces integrated over the object volume

= composite vector of equivalent forces acting at node points

## At equilibrium

Computing the minimum of

$$\Pi = \frac{1}{2} U^T \left( \int_V B^T D B \partial V \right) U + U^T F$$

yields

$$KU = F$$

$K$  = stiffness matrix over the volume

- But!
  - Medical simulation is dynamic
  - Previous derivation is for static systems
- Extend to consider
  - Inertia
  - Damping
  - Similar to mesh-spring case

$$M\ddot{U} + C\dot{U} + KU = F$$

## Strengths

- Can model complex soft tissue deformations more accurately
- Equations for  $\mathbf{A}$  can be based on mechanical tissue models
- Capable of modeling non-linear tissue properties
  - Resultant deformations are more realistic

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## Weaknesses

- Straightforward implementation is S-L-O-W
- Considerably slower than mesh-spring approach
  - But see various speed-up methods
    - » Condensation
    - » Preprocessing
    - » Adaptive FEM
    - » Hybrid methods [COTIN00]

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## Condensation

[BRO-NIELSEN96]

- Idea
  - Internal nodes not visible/do not interact directly with observer
    - » Not interesting
  - Can we not compute their displacements?
- Recall for (one element) in static case

$$Ku = f$$

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## Condensation

- Rewrite linear system as a block matrix

$$\begin{bmatrix} K_{ss} & K_{si} \\ K_{is} & K_{ii} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u_s \\ u_i \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} f_s \\ f_i \end{bmatrix}$$

- We want new expression involving only surface nodes

$$K_{ss}^* \bar{u}_s = \bar{f}_s^*$$

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## Condensation

- From block matrix

$$K_{ss}^* = K_{ss} - K_{si} K_{ii}^{-1} K_{is}$$

$$\bar{f}_s^* = \bar{f}_s - K_{si} K_{ii}^{-1} \bar{f}_i$$

- If there are no forces applied to internal nodes, then

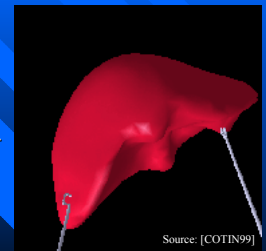
$$\bar{f}_s^* = \bar{f}_s$$

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## Preprocessing

[COTIN99]

- Preprocess “elementary deformations” for each free (movable) surface node.
- Apply combinations of linear deformations to achieve final deformation in real-time.



Source: [COTIN99]

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## Adaptive meshes

[WU01]

- Preprocess to get hierarchy of mesh resolutions and FEM matrices
- Adaptively refine based on threshold
  - Stress concentration
  - Displacement field
  - Optimized posterior error estimator
  - Stress gradient



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## Current research issues

- Accuracy
  - Fidelity to the ways tissues actually behave
    - » Non-linear models
    - » Inhomogeneous models
  - How do tissues actually behave?
- Speed
  - Haptic rendering, visual realism
    - » Preprocessing
- Change in topology
  - Cutting and suturing

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## What is the purpose of your simulation?

- Develop motor skills
  - Laparoscopy, bronchoscopy, etc.
- Learning to do a procedure
  - Diagnostic peritoneal lavage, pericardiocentesis, central line placement, chest tube insertion
  - Practice for minimally invasive surgery
- Not every simulation needs absolutely realistic deformation modeling

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