# Shape-from-operators: recovering shapes from intrinsic differential operators 

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## The challenges of non-rigidity

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[... However] nobody saw in his drawing more than a hat.

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"Once upon a time, a child imagined a fierce boa constrictor that swallowed an elephant, giving rise to a most peculiar shape.
[... However] nobody saw in his drawing more than a hat.

Then the child proceeded to draw an explanatory drawing showing the elephant inside the snake's expansible stomach..."
de Saint-Exupéry, The Little Prince



## Can one hear the shape of a drum?



## Spectral shape analysis



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## Shape-from-Operator inverse problem



Shape-from-Operator: find a shape whose Laplacian (or another intrinsic operator) satisfies some properties

## Shape-from-Operator inverse problem



Shape-from-Operator: find a shape whose Laplacian (or another intrinsic operator) satisfies some properties

- Embedding from angles ${ }^{1}$, curvature ${ }^{2}$, discrete fundamental forms ${ }^{3}, \ldots$
- Edge length from Laplacian ${ }^{4,5}$
- Closest commuting operators ${ }^{6}$
- Laplacian colormaps ${ }^{7}$
${ }^{1}$ Sheffer, de Sturler 2001; ${ }^{2}$ Ben-Chen et al. 2008; ${ }^{3}$ Wang et al. 2012; ${ }^{4}$ Zeng et al. 2012; ${ }^{5}$ de Goes
et al. 2014; ${ }^{6}$ B, Glashoff, Loring 2013; ${ }^{7}$ Eynard, Kovnatsky, B 2014


## From shapes to operators



- Laplacian is intrinsic $=$ expressible in terms of discrete metric (edge lengths)
- Embedding induces a discrete metric (and thus also a Laplacian)
- Not unique: many embeddings give rise to the same metric (isometries)


## Laplace-Beltrami discretization (intrinsic)

- Triangular mesh $(X, E, F)$



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- Triangular mesh ( $X, E, F$ )
- Discrete metric $\ell=\left(\ell_{i j},(i, j) \in E\right)$
- Intrinsic edge weights

$$
w_{i j}=\frac{-\ell_{i j}^{2}+\ell_{j k}^{2}+\ell_{i k}^{2}}{8 A_{i j k}}+\frac{-\ell_{i j}^{2}+\ell_{j h}^{2}+\ell_{i h}^{2}}{8 A_{i j h}}
$$

where by Heron's formula

$$
A_{i j k}=\sqrt{s\left(s-\ell_{i j}\right)\left(s-\ell_{j k}\right)\left(s-\ell_{i k}\right)}
$$


and $s$ is the semi-perimeter

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- Laplace-Beltrami operator $|X| \times|X|$ matrix

$$
\mathbf{L}=\mathbf{D}-\mathbf{W}
$$

where $\mathbf{D}=\operatorname{diag}\left(\sum_{i \neq j} w_{i j}\right)$

## Laplace-Beltrami discretization (extrinsic)

- Triangular mesh ( $X, E, F$ )
- Embedding of the mesh in $\mathbb{R}^{3}$ specifies the coordinates $\mathbf{X}=\left\{\mathbf{x}_{1}, \ldots, \mathbf{x}_{n}\right\}$
- Embedding $\mathbf{X}$ induces the metric

$$
\ell=\left(\left\|\mathbf{x}_{i}-\mathbf{x}_{j}\right\|,(i, j) \in E\right)
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$$

- Cotangent weights


$$
w_{i j}= \begin{cases}\frac{\cot \left(\alpha_{i j}\right)+\cot \left(\beta_{i j}\right)}{2}, & (i, j) \in E \\ 0, & \text { otherwise }\end{cases}
$$

## Functional maps



Point-wise maps $t: X \rightarrow Y$

## Functional maps



Functional maps $\mathbf{T}: \mathcal{F}(X) \rightarrow \mathcal{F}(Y)$

## Shape difference operators



Distortions induced by a map $=$ change of inner products of vectors

## Shape difference operators



Distortions induced by a map $=$ change of inner products of functions

## Shape difference operators



## Shape difference operators



Riesz theorem: there exists a unique self-adjoint linear operator $\mathbf{D}: \mathcal{F}(X) \rightarrow \mathcal{F}(X)$ such that

$$
\langle\mathbf{T f}, \mathbf{T} \mathbf{g}\rangle_{\mathcal{F}(Y)}=\langle\mathbf{f}, \mathbf{D} \mathbf{g}\rangle_{\mathcal{F}(X)}
$$

## Shape difference operators




Df



Dg


- Captures the difference in the geometry of the two shapes
- Depends on choice of inner product


## Shape difference discretization

- area-based,

$$
\begin{gathered}
\langle f, g\rangle_{L^{2}(X)}=\int_{X} f(x) g(x) d \mu(x) \\
\mathbf{D}=\mathbf{V}_{X, Y}=\mathbf{A}_{X}^{-1} \mathbf{T}^{\top} \mathbf{A}_{Y} \mathbf{T}
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- conformal-based,

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\end{gathered}
$$

- if $\mathbf{V}=\mathbf{I}$, the map preserves the areas
- conformal-based,

$$
\begin{gathered}
\langle f, g\rangle_{H^{1}(X)}=\int_{X} \nabla f(x) \nabla g(x) d \mu(x) \\
\mathbf{D}=\mathbf{R}_{X, Y}=\mathbf{W}_{X}^{\dagger} \mathbf{T}^{\top} \mathbf{W}_{Y} \mathbf{T}
\end{gathered}
$$

- if $\mathbf{R}=\mathbf{I}$, the map preserves the angles
- if $\mathbf{V}=\mathbf{R}=\mathbf{I}$, the map is an isometry


## From operators to shapes



Generic Shape-from-Operator (SfO) problem: given some intrinsic operator $\mathbf{O}_{0}$, find an embedding $\mathbf{X}$ by minimizing some cost function

$$
\min _{\mathbf{X}} \mathcal{E}\left(\mathbf{O}(\ell(\mathbf{X})), \mathbf{O}_{0}\right)
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$$

Note: $\mathbf{O}$ depends on $\mathbf{X}$ indirectly through the discrete metric $\ell(X)$, very hard for optimization!

## From operators to shapes



- Metric-from-Operator (MfO): $\min _{\ell} \mathcal{E}\left(\mathbf{O}(\ell), \mathbf{O}_{0}\right)$ s.t. triangle inequality
- Shape-from-Metric (SfM): $\min _{\mathrm{x}} \sum_{i j \in E}^{n}\left(\left\|\mathbf{x}_{i}-\mathbf{x}_{j}\right\|-\ell_{i j}\right)^{2}$,


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## Shape-from-metric

Special setting of MDS: given a metric $\ell$, find its Euclidean realization by minimizing the stress

$$
\min _{\mathbf{x}} \sum_{i, j=1}^{n} v_{i j}\left(\left\|\mathbf{x}_{i}-\mathbf{x}_{j}\right\|-\ell_{i j}\right)^{2}
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where

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v_{i j}= \begin{cases}1 & \text { if } i j \in E \\ 0 & \text { otherwise }\end{cases}
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SMACOF algorithm: fixed point iteration of the form

$$
\mathrm{X} \leftarrow \mathrm{Z}^{\dagger} \mathrm{B}(\mathrm{X}) \mathrm{X}
$$

where

$$
\mathbf{Z}=\left\{\begin{array}{ll}
-v_{i j} & \text { if } i \neq j, \\
\sum_{i \neq j} v_{i j} & \text { if } i=j
\end{array} \quad \mathbf{B}(\mathbf{X})= \begin{cases}-\frac{v_{i j} \ell_{i j}}{\left\|\mathbf{x}_{i}-\mathbf{x}_{j}\right\|} & \text { if } i \neq j \text { and } \mathbf{x}_{i} \neq \mathbf{x}_{j} \\
0 & \text { if } i \neq j \text { and } \mathbf{x}_{i}=\mathbf{x}_{j} \\
\sum_{i \neq j} b_{i j} & \text { if } i=j\end{cases}\right.
$$

## From operators to shapes



- Metric-from-Operator (MfO): $\min _{\ell} \mathcal{E}\left(\mathbf{O}(\ell), \mathbf{O}_{0}\right)$ s.t. triangle inequality
- Shape-from-Metric (SfM): $\min _{x} \sum_{i j \in E}^{n}\left(\left\|x_{i}-x_{j}\right\|-\ell_{i j}\right)^{2}$,


## Shape-from-Laplacian



Given a reference Laplacian operator $\mathbf{L}_{A}$, and a corresponding initial shape $X$, deform $X$ by minimizing

$$
\min _{\mathbf{X}}\left\|\mathbf{L}(\ell(\mathbf{X}))-\mathbf{L}_{A}\right\|
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## Shape-from-Laplacian



Given a reference Laplacian operator $\mathbf{L}_{A}$, and a initial shape $X$ related by functional correspondence $T$, deform $X$ by minimizing

$$
\min _{\mathbf{x}}\left\|\mathbf{T L}(\ell(\mathbf{X}))-\mathbf{L}_{A} \mathbf{T}\right\|
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## Shape-from-Laplacian convergence



Convergence of our method in the shape-from-Laplacian optimization problem.
Colors show vertex-wise MfO energy contribution

## Shape-from-Laplacian convergence



Convergence of our method in the shape-from-Laplacian optimization problem using different initializations.

## Style transfer by shape-from-Laplacian



Reference $Y$


Initialization $X$


Result
"Modify $X$ such that $\mathbf{L}_{X}$ becomes as similar as possible to reference Laplacian $\mathbf{L}_{Y}$ "

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## Sensitivity to map quality

Functional map approximated as a matrix $\mathbf{T} \approx \boldsymbol{\Psi} \mathbf{C}^{\top} \boldsymbol{\Phi}^{\top}$ of rank $k$ using the first functions in Fourier expansion (larger $k=$ better map)


Shape-from-Laplacian result for different quality of the map T (initial shape: sphere, reference Laplacian: bumped sphere)

## Shape-from-difference operator



Deform initial shape $X$ to make it different from $C$ same way as $B$ is different from $A$

$$
\min _{\mathbf{x}}\left\|\mathbf{D}_{C, X}(\ell(\mathbf{X})) \mathbf{T}_{A, C}-\mathbf{T}_{A, C} \mathbf{D}_{A, B}\right\|
$$

## Shape-from-difference operator



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Convergence of our method in the shape-from-difference optimization problem. Colors show vertex-wise MfO energy contribution

## Shape-from-difference convergence



Convergence of our method in the shape-from-difference optimization problem.

## Analogy synthesis by shape-from-difference


"Find $X$ such that the difference operator between $C, X$ is as similar as possible to the given difference operator between $A, B^{\prime \prime}$

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Analogy synthesis by shape-from-difference


A


C


B

"Find $X$ such that the difference operator between $C, X$ is as similar as possible to the given difference operator between $A, B^{\prime \prime}$

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## Shape exaggeration



Shape exaggeration obtained by applying the difference operator between $A, B$ to $B$ several times.

Shape-from-eigenvectors


Shape-from-eigenvectors


What is the shape whose Laplacian is diagonalized by the joint eigenvectors?

## Shape-from-eigenvectors



Given an orthonormal basis $\mathbf{U}=\left(\mathbf{u}_{1}, \ldots, \mathbf{u}_{r}\right)$ on $\mathcal{F}(X)$ and $\boldsymbol{\Lambda}=\operatorname{diag}\left(\lambda_{1}, \ldots, \lambda_{r}\right)$, deform shape $X$ such that $\mathbf{U}$ is an (approximate) eigenbasis of its Laplacian

$$
\min _{\mathbf{x}}\|\mathbf{W}(\ell(\mathbf{X})) \mathbf{U}-\mathbf{A}(\ell(\mathbf{X})) \mathbf{U} \boldsymbol{\Lambda}\|+\mu\left\|\ell-\ell_{0}\right\|
$$

## Shape-from-eigenvectors



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$$

## 'Intrinsic average shape' by shape-from-eigenvectors


"Modify initial shape such that its Laplacian is diagonalized by a given basis $\mathbf{U}$ "

## Conclusions

- New generic framework for shape-from-operator inverse problems
- Variety of applications in shape editing
- Other intrinsic operators
- Other shape representations
- Different solutions to shape-from-metric problem

