# Interactive Furniture Layout Using Interior Design Guidelines 

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## Interactive Furniture Layout



Given Layout


Interactive Tool


Suggested Layout

## The Challenge

- Most homeowners have no training in interior design
- Rooms "simply don't look or feel right" [Ward, 1999]
- Difficult to pinpoint the problem



## Interior Design Help

- Interior Design Literature
- Talbott 1999, Ward 1999, Sharp 2008
- Commercial Products


Paper Kits


Autodesk Homestyler


## Related Work



Object Associations
Bukowski and Séquin, 1995


Agent-Based Arrangement Germer and Schwarz, 2009


Constraint-Based Placement Xu et al., 2002


Make It Home
Yu et al., 2011

## Furniture Arrangement Comparison



Our Method

- Assisting homeowners
- Interactive \& quick: user refines the suggestions
- Different cost function
- Use design guidelines
- Different evaluation


Yu et al. 2011

- Content for virtual environments
- Fully automatic
- Different cost function
- Based on examples
- Stacking


## Overview



# Interior Design Guidelines 

## Guideline Overview

- Functional Criteria
- Clearance
- Circulation
- Conversation
- Pairwise
- Visual Criteria
- Alignment
- Balance
- Emphasis


## Functional Criteria

- Clearance
- Kitchen tables need space around them
- Sofas need space in front of them
- Test for object intersection



## Circulation

- A person needs about a 1.5 ft radius of circulation space
- Check if any part of the room becomes unreachable



## Conversation

- Common mistake: Seats too far apart
- Within a conversation group:
- Seats should be about $4-8 \mathrm{ft}$ apart
- Seats should face each other



## Other Pairwise Relationships



Coffee Table - Seat



End Table - Seat

Nightstand

- Bed

User can author new constraints

## Visual Criteria

- Objects are aligned...
- to each other
- to the nearest wall
- Balance



## Emphasis

- Pick a focal point
- Prominent architecture feature
- Fireplace, windows



## Emphasis

- Seats should face the focal point
- Similar objects should be placed symmetrically



## Effect of each term



Clearance \&
Circulation
Excluded


Alignment Excluded


Emphasis Excluded


Conversation \& Pairwise
Excluded


All Terms Included
$\otimes \ominus \ominus$ Interactive Furniture Arrangement
File Edit Help


## Suggestion Generator

- $\mathcal{F}$ is the current furniture layout
- Guidelines are used in a cost function

$$
\begin{aligned}
c(\mathcal{F}) & =w_{c v} m_{c v}(\mathcal{F})+w_{c i} m_{c i}(\mathcal{F})+w_{p w} m_{p w}(\mathcal{F})+w_{c n} m_{c n}(\mathcal{F}) \\
& +w_{v b} m_{v b}(\mathcal{F})+w_{a l} m_{a l}(\mathcal{F})+w_{e m} m_{e m}(\mathcal{F})
\end{aligned}
$$

- Suggestions are samples from a probability distribution

$$
p(\mathcal{F})=\frac{1}{Z} \exp (-\beta c(\mathcal{F})) \quad \beta, Z \text { Constants }
$$

## Metropolis-Hastings Algorithm

- Each iteration, propose a new layout $\mathcal{F}^{\star}$
- Accept with probability

$$
\alpha\left(\mathcal{F} \rightarrow \mathcal{F}^{\star}\right)=\min \left(1, \frac{p\left(\mathcal{F}^{\star}\right)}{p(\mathcal{F})}\right)
$$

## Proposed Move

- Change one item's position
- Change one item's orientation
- Swap the positions and orientations of two items



## Implementation

- Metropolis-Hastings algorithm is slow
- Parallel implementation in graphics hardware
- Parallel tempering
- Set of independent Markov chains
- Different temperature constants

- Swap samples between the chains


## Computation Time

- Hardware-accelerated implementation is over two orders of magnitude faster
- 36 suggestions generated in about one second



## Suggestions

- User can look at dozens of suggestions
- The suggestions are ranked
- Diversify the list using the Maximal Marginal Relevance criterion


## Evaluation

 \& Results
## User Study

- Users arrange furniture in several rooms
- Assisted mode
- Unassisted mode

(e) Living and Dining


## User Study Results

Layouts produced without suggestions



## User Study Results



## User Study Results

- Participants produced 40 unassisted layouts,

(b) 40 assisted layouts

- Layouts evaluated by interior designers
- Randomized pairwise comparison


## Future Directions

- Non-residential spaces
- Suggest furniture items to add or remove
- Much more to interior design
- Color and material
- Art and accessories
- Lighting


## Conclusion

- Operationalized a set of design guidelines
- Created an interactive system based on these guidelines



## Other Pairwise Relationships



