Computer Animation

Feature-length films:

Games:

Desktop Animations:

Computer Animation motion control

Keyframing: "hand-crafted" animation

Digitized motion: Motion Capture (mocap)

Procedural animation: algorithms to control movement



Keyframing

- Digital equivalent to traditional, hand-drawn animation
- Animator designs 'keys'
- Selects interpolation technique and sets timing
- System does what traditionally was done by low-paid trainees - automatically computes inbetween frames





Keyframe...anything

- Transformations: scale, rotate, translate
- Shape: squash and stretch
- Color: e.g. of a flame
- Image (morphing)
- Any attribute or parameter

Principles of Animation



Interpolation

- Linear or cubic (e.g. Hermite, Bezier, etc.)
- Interpolation of orientation (rotation) takes special care: quaternions
- Need to estimate arc-length
- Control acceleration/deceleration: ease-in, ease-out



Several technologies: optical, mechanical, magnetic

Research on 'markerless' mocap

Hard to 'retarget' to new figure or imaginary creature





Procedural Animation

- Set initial conditions run simulation
- Control is an issue
- Computational cost (e.g. real-time) is an issue

Kinematics of articulated figures

- Forward kinematics
- Inverse kinematics
- Pseudo-inverse of the Jacobian
- Cyclic Coordinate Descent
- others...

Kinematics of articulated figures



Physically based simulation

- Kinematics v. Dynamics
- Forces & mass -> acceleration -> velocity -> position
- Point mass, particle system
- Rigid body dynamics: add rotational dynamics: inertia tensor & torques
- Flexible body animation: elastic collisions

Forces

- Gravity $f = G \frac{m_1 m_2}{d^2}$
- Spring
- Viscosity: damping
- Friction: static & kinetic
- Wind field
- Impulse force of contact
- Fictional forces

 $f = k_s(length - restLength)$

 $f = k_d \partial (length - restLength)$

 $f = k_{sf} f_n$

$$f = k_{kf} f_n$$



Update

 $v(t+1) = v(t) + a\Delta t$

Integration

$$p(t+1) = p(t) + v\Delta t$$

- Numerical integration
- Runge-Kutta, Implicit Euler, etc.

Spring-damper-mass system

 Collection of point masses connected by springs and dampers

Model cloth, flexible body dynamics

Tricky to set constants and connections



Spring-damper-mass system



Spring-damper-mass system





- Collection of point masses
- No interaction between point masses
- Interact with environment













- Inertia tensor
- Conservation of momentum
- Coefficient of restitution
- Impulse force of collision





Forward dynamics of articulated linkage

Featherstone equations

Traverse linkage forming inertia tensor

Human figure animation

- Kinematics of walking, reaching, sitting, standing
- Motion capture
- Modeling muscles appearance, dynamics
- Dynamics of grasping, handling, lifting

Human figure animation







Facial animation

Expressions

- Lip-sync animation
- Emotion





Behavioral animation

- Flocking
- Prey-preditor model
- Crowds
- Emotion
- Personality





