

# Using Lipschitz Constants

For Rendering Implicit Surfaces

By

Brian Wyvill

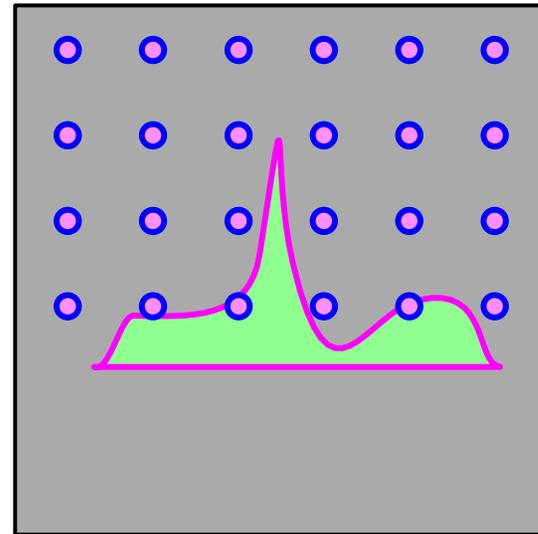
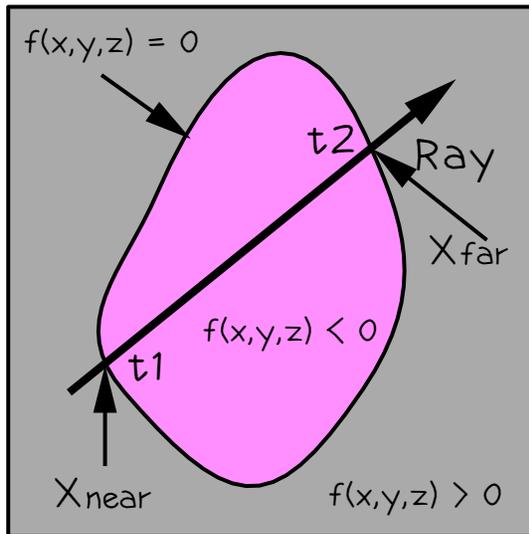
University of Calgary, Dept. of Computer Science

Graphics Jungle Laboratory

# Lipschitz Constants and Ray Tracing Implicit Surfaces

Reference: Siggraph 89. Kalra and Barr, pp 297-306

Guaranteed Ray Intersections with Implicit Surfaces



"It is impossible to create an algorithm solely based on evaluation of the implicit function which is guaranteed to correctly intersect a ray with an implicit surface."

## Sampling Algorithms

It is possible to miss spikes on the surface falling between sampled points. Note problem in animation.



# LG-Surfaces

1. Guarantees that smallest features of the surface are sampled.
2. Obtains the nearest intersection of a ray from the origin of the ray with the implicit surface  $S$  represented by  $f(\mathbf{x})$ .

Implicit Surface:

$$f(x,y,z) = 0 \quad \text{or in vector notation}$$

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = 0$$

Ray Definition:

$$\mathbf{x} = \alpha t + \beta, \quad t \geq 0$$

substitute into  $f(\mathbf{x}) = 0$

gives:  $F(t) = f(\alpha t + \beta)$

$L$  - limits the net rate of change of  $f(x,y,z)$

$G$  - limits the net rate of change of the gradient



# Directional Derivative

$$F(t) = f(\alpha t + \beta)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Define } g(t) &= \frac{dF}{dt} \\ &= \alpha \cdot \nabla f(\mathbf{x})|_{\alpha t + \beta} \end{aligned}$$

$\alpha$  is the direction of the ray origin  $\beta$

$g(t)$  is the directional derivative of  $f(\mathbf{x})$  along the ray direction  $\alpha$   
thus 'g' for gradient.



# Lipschitz Constant

A (+)ve real number  $L$  is called a Lipschitz constant on a function  $f(\mathbf{x})$  in a region  $R$ , if given any two points  $\mathbf{x}_1$  and  $\mathbf{x}_2$  in  $R$ , the following condition holds:

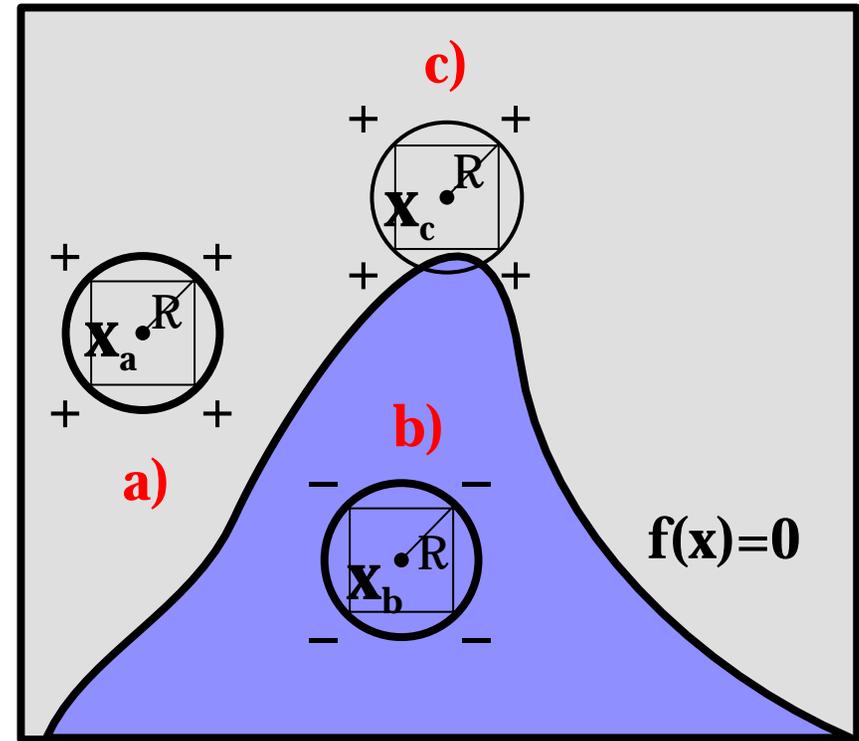
$$\|f(\mathbf{x}_1) - f(\mathbf{x}_2)\| < L \|\mathbf{x}_1 - \mathbf{x}_2\|$$

where  $\|\text{vector norm}\|$

$f(\mathbf{x})$  could be an  $n$  dimensional function  
 $n=1$  in this case.

Given a point  $\mathbf{x}_0$ ,  $r = f(\mathbf{x}_0) / L$  is the radius of the sphere,  $S$  around  $\mathbf{x}_0$  such that  $f(\mathbf{x})$  does not change sign in  $S$ .

$L$  is a measure of the maximum rate of change of a function in a region over which the function is defined.



Spheres a) and b) are guaranteed not to intersect the surface since

$$\text{Lipschitz radii } r_a = f(\mathbf{x}_a) / L_a < R$$

$$\text{and } r_b = f(\mathbf{x}_b) / L_b < R$$

However  $r_c > R$  and  $S_c$  may intersect.



# LG Surfaces (continued)

An LG surface is defined to be an implicit function  $f(x,y,z)$  which has bounds on the net rate of change of the function and its directional derivatives (these are called  $L$  and  $G$  they are Lipschitz constants).

Definition: Let  $L$  be the Lipschitz constant for the function  $f(\mathbf{x})$  in a 3D region  $R$  and  $G$  be the Lipschitz constant for the corresponding function  $g(t)$  in a closed interval  $T = [t_1, t_2]$

$$\|f(\mathbf{x}_1) - f(\mathbf{x}_2)\| < L \|\mathbf{x}_1 - \mathbf{x}_2\|$$

$$\|g(\mathbf{t}_a) - g(\mathbf{t}_b)\| < G \|\mathbf{t}_a - \mathbf{t}_b\|$$

For any  $\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2 \in R$  and any  $\mathbf{t}_a, \mathbf{t}_b \in T$ .

$L$  and  $G$  must exist and be computable for an implicit surface to be an LG surface.



# How To Compute $L$ and $G$

A Lipschitz constant is a measure of the maximum rate of change of a function in a region over which the function is defined.

$$\|f(\mathbf{x}_1) - f(\mathbf{x}_2)\| < L \|\mathbf{x}_1 - \mathbf{x}_2\|$$

divide through by :  $\|\mathbf{x}_1 - \mathbf{x}_2\|$  gives  $\frac{\|f(\mathbf{x}_1) - f(\mathbf{x}_2)\|}{\|\mathbf{x}_1 - \mathbf{x}_2\|} \rightarrow \frac{df}{dx} < L$   
limit  $\mathbf{x}_1 \rightarrow \mathbf{x}_2$

$$L \geq \max_R |\nabla f(\mathbf{x})|$$

$L$  is greater than or equal to max rate of change of  $f(\mathbf{x})$  in 3D region  $R$ .

$$G \geq \max_T \left| \frac{dg}{dt} \right|$$

$G$  is greater than or equal to max rate of change of  $g(t)$  in the 1D interval  $T = [t_1, t_2]$ .



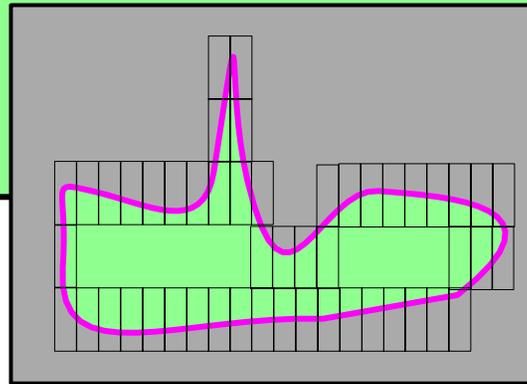
# Ray LG Surface Intersection

A) Space Pruning (For efficiency only)

Take away parts of space not containing the surface.  
Leave volume  $V$  that could contain the surface.

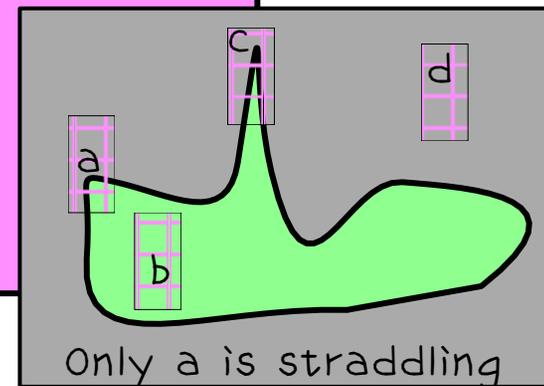
B) Intersection Test

Search  $V$  for intersections.



A) We obtain a volume  $V$  of non-overlapping boxes which straddle the surface.

At least one vertex inside and one outside.



# Space Pruning

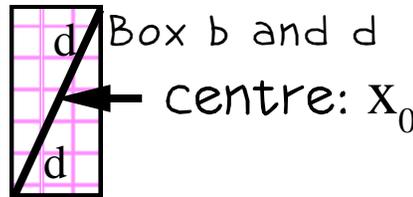
continued

Start with a bounding box then sub-divide to level  $n$ . Discard all boxes that do not contain a part of the surface.

Is a box acceptable?

Box  $a$  can be accepted immediately by checking vertices. All of the others may contain part of the surface.

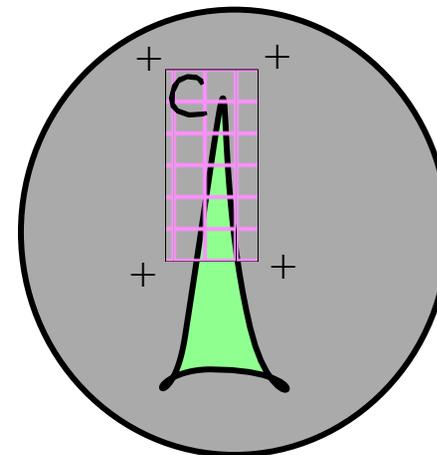
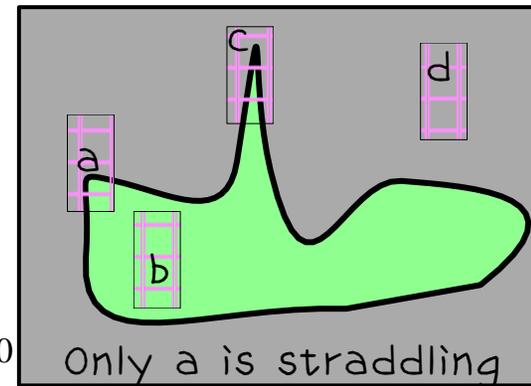
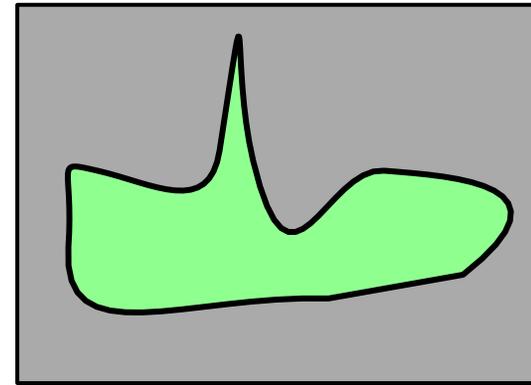
$L$  tells us if the box could contain part of the surface.



Max rate of change is  $L$

Max distance to any point in the box from  $x_0$  is  $d$ , the maximum change in the value of  $f(\mathbf{x})$  in the box from  $f(\mathbf{x}_0)$  is  $Ld$ .

box  $b$ :  $|f(\mathbf{x}_0)| > Ld$  then  $f(\mathbf{x})$  stays the same sign otherwise subdivide the box as in  $C$



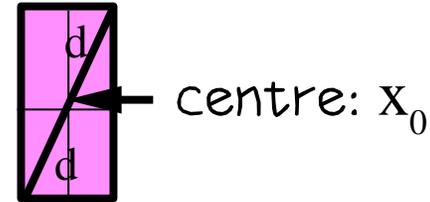
# Sub-Division Termination

if  $|f(\mathbf{x}_0)| > Ld$  then  $f(\mathbf{x})$  is guaranteed to stay the same sign that it has at  $\mathbf{x}_0$  so box can be discarded else subdivide into 8.

If any vertex of the box lies exactly on the surface then the algorithm won't terminate.

i.e.  $|f(\mathbf{x}_0)| = Ld$

Algorithm must stop at certain box size i.e. numerical precision limit met - does not happen in practice.



# Finding Ray Intersections

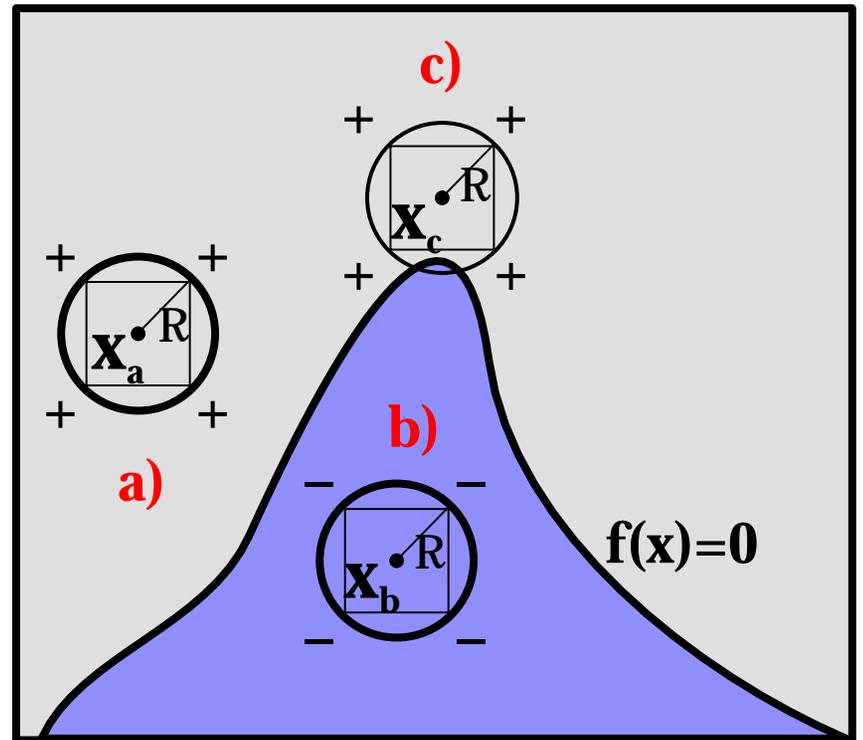
We have a set of boxes  $V$  containing straddling vertices (and ray intersections). We need to find intersection nearest to origin of the ray with the surface in the box.

- Find box in  $V$  nearest to origin of ray
- compute intersection in the box, if none get next nearest box.

Either ensure no intersection or find the nearest intersection.  $F(t)$  represents the behaviour of  $f(x)$  along the ray.

$$g(t) = \frac{dF}{dt} \quad F(t) = 0 \text{ at the intersection,}$$
$$= \alpha \cdot \nabla f(\mathbf{x})|_{\alpha t + \beta}$$

we wish to compute the intersections along the ray at  $\alpha t + \beta$  we need to determine if  $g(t)$  becomes zero in an interval.

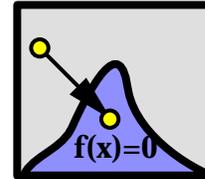


$$\text{Ray } F(t) = f(\alpha t + \beta)$$

$$\text{Define } g(t) = \frac{dF}{dt}$$



1. if  $F(t_1)$  and  $F(t_2)$  are opposite signs  $t_1 < t_2$   
at least one intersection between  $t_1$  and  $t_2$ .



2. if  $F(t_1)$  and  $F(t_2)$  have the same sign at  $t_1$  and  $t_2$   $t_1 < t_2$  and  $g(t) = df/dt$  is not zero  
between  $t_1$  and  $t_2$  there is no intersection.

$G$  is the Lipschitz constant for  $g(t)$  in  $[t_1, t_2]$

$$t_m = (t_1 + t_2)/2 \quad d = (t_2 - t_1)/2$$

if  $|g(t_m)| > Gd$

in  $[t_1, t_2]$  then  $g(t)$  never becomes zero in the  
interval - one intersection.

$G \geq$  max rate of change of  $g(t)$  and  $d$  is the  
max dist. along the ray from  $t_m$ .

$Gd$  is the max possible change in  $g(t)$  from  $g(t_m)$

$$\text{Ray } F(t) = f(\alpha t + \beta)$$

$$\text{Define } g(t) = \frac{dF}{dt}$$



# Mean Value Theorem

If a continuous function attains two consecutive zero values at  $t_1$  and  $t_2$ , there exists at least one point between  $t_1$  and  $t_2$  where  $df/dt = 0$ .

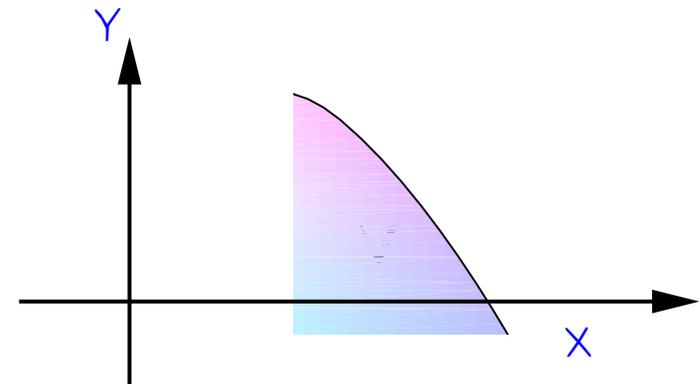
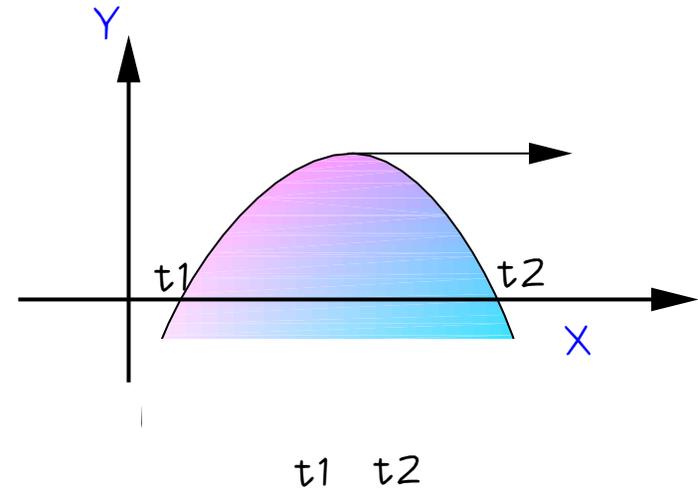
If  $g(t)$  does not become zero there is exactly one intersection between the ray and the surface

1. if  $F(t_1)$  and  $F(t_2)$  are opposite signs  $t_1 < t_2$  at least one intersection between  $t_1$  and  $t_2$ .  
Compute Regula Falsi.

2. if  $F(t_1)$  and  $F(t_2)$  have the same sign at  $t_1$  and  $t_2$   $t_1 < t_2$  and  $\|g(t)\| > G_d$  between  $t_1$  and  $t_2$  there is no intersection.

Consider the next box along the ray, no more boxes then ray rejected.

if  $\|g(t)\| < G_d$  subdivide the ray interval.



# Ray Intersection Algorithm

We are looking for the interval  $[t_1, t_2]$  nearest to the origin of the ray with exactly one intersection.

Given a box  $B$  ray intersects at  $p_1, p_2$  ( $t_1, t_2$ ).  
 $t_m$  is the midpoint:

$$t_m = (t_1 + t_2) / 2 \quad d = (t_2 - t_1) / 2$$

