The Topology of Skeletons and Offsets

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Introduction

Input:

- Polygon with holes, P.
 - bd P ist set of disjoint closed polygonal curves.
 - bd P has faces (vertices & edges), a complex.



Skeletons and (their) offsets:

- Voronoi diagram
- Straight skeleton

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Introduction: Voronoi diagram

- ▶ Nearest-neighbor cell decomposition of *P*. Each face of bd *P* has a cell.
- ▶ Voronoi cell $C_V(f)$ contains the points closer to f than any other face.
- ▶ Voronoi diagram V(P) formed by boundaries of Voronoi cells.
 - Apex-splitting as in Held and Huber (2009)¹.



M. Held and S. Huber. "Topology-Oriented Incremental Computation of Voronoi Diagrams of Circular Arcs and Straight-Line Segments." In: Comp. Aided Design 41.5 (May 2009), pp. 327–338. DOI: 10.1016/j.cad.2008.08.004.

- bd P emanates wavefront towards interior.
- Wavefront edges collapse or get split.
- The traces of the wavefront vertices form straight skeleton S(P).
- The area swept out by the wavefront of f is called its straight-skeleton cell $C_S(f)$.



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Skeletons: Homotopy equivalence

We have:

- ▶ Some "line structure" on *P* inducing some cell-decomposition of *P*.
- ▶ Those "line structures" on *P* capture geometrical and topological features of *P*.
 - If P is simple then the "line structure" is a tree.
 - ▶ If we punch a hole into *P* we get a new (generator) cycle (in a group of cycles).



What makes a "line structures" a skeleton is homotopy equivalence to P.

A skeleton encodes the topology of P.

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Theorem

The homotopy equivalences $P \simeq S(P) \simeq V(P)$ hold.

Lemma

S(P) is a deformation retract of P, and hence $P \simeq S(P)$.

Lemma

V(P) is a deformation retract of P, and hence $P \simeq V(P)$.

Proof.

- $C_S(f)$ is a topological disk. $S(P, f) := S(P) \cap C_S(f)$.
- $C_S(f)$ can be deformation retracted to S(P, f) s.t. it stays constant on S(P, f).
- ▶ Plug together, get a def.ret. of $P = \bigcup_f C(f)$ to $\bigcup_f S(P, f) = S(P)$.



Works for positively-weighted straight skeletons, but not if negative weights are allowed.²

 ² T. Biedl, M. Held, S. Huber, D. Kaaser, and P. Palfrader. "Weighted Straight Skeletons In the Plane." In: Comp. Geom. Theory & Appl. 48.2 (Feb. 2015), pp. 120–133. DOI: 10.1016/j.comgeo.2014.08.006.

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Same proof technique as for S(P) applies.

Technical detail:

- Voronoi edges at reflex vertices f' are considered topologically disjoint.
- As in Held and Huber (2009). Algorithmically handy, topologically natural.
- Hence, V(P, f') is a topological line, not a circle.



Alternative:

- Use Lieutier $(2004)^3$: $M(P) \simeq P$, for medial axis M(P).
- Argue that $M(P) \simeq V(P)$, see details above.

³ A. Lieutier. "Any Open Bounded Subset of \mathbb{R}^n Has The Same Homotopy Type Than Its Medial Axis." In: Comp. Aided Design 36.11 (Sept. 2004), pp. 1029–1046. DOI: 10.1016/j.cad.2004.01.011.

- P, S(P), V(P) are homologous.
- ▶ Isomorphic fundamental group, i.e. "holes \simeq cycles".
- ▶ P, S(P), V(P) have same Euler characteristics: 2 2h.
 - h the number of holes of P.

Two types of offset curves

Minkowski-based offset curves



Mitered offset curves





Persistent homology investigates evolution homology groups:

- Offset filtration of polygons: $Q_*(r_0) \subset \cdots \subset Q_*(r_k)$ with $r_0 \geq \ldots \geq r_k = 0$.
- Components and holes in filtration are born and killed (merged).

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Raindrop property

Consider roof model $R_S(P) = \bigcup_{r>0} \operatorname{bd} Q_S(r) \times \{r\} \subset \mathbb{R}^3$; same for $R_V(P)$.



Lemma

 $R_S(P)$ and $R_V(P)$ do not possess local minima, except on bd $P \times \{0\}$.

Corollary

1-dimensional homology classes never die in the offset filtration.

Duality of skeletons and offset curves

Duality of skeleton and offset curves:

- Easy computation of offset curves from skeleton.
- Skeleton can be obtained from evolution of offset curves.



Lemma

 $S(Q_S(r)) = S(P) \cap Q_S(r)$, hence $Q_S(r) \simeq S(P) \cap Q_S(r)$. Same for Voronoi diagram.

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Insert vertices of skeleton in reversed offset order.

Two cases when inserting vertex v:

- **I** No neighbor was inserted yet. New component is born.
- **2** Neighbors u_1, \ldots, u_d were already inserted.
 - Every connected component with c vertices in neighbor set: c 1 cycles are closed.
 - All involved components are merged to the oldest one, including v.



After sorting, takes $O(n\alpha(n))$ for computing birth and death of homology classes.

Applications



Machine learning

- Persistence diagrams:
 - Multi-set of points.
 - Each point depicts a homology class.
- Kernel on persistence diagrams.⁴
- ▶ Kernel-based SVM, k-means, PCA.
- ightarrow ightarrow Classification of polygons



Maximum inscribed circle

- Quantification of significance of peaks.
- \blacktriangleright \rightarrow Polygon decomposition algorithms
- lacksim
 ightarrow High-speed spiral tool-path planing

https://www.cosy.sbg.ac.at/~held

⁴ R. Kwitt, U. Bauer, S. Huber, M. Niethammer, and W. Lin. "Statistical Topological Data Analysis – A Kernel Perspective." In: Proc. 29th Conf. Neural Inf. Proc. Sys. (NIPS '15). Montreal, Canada: Curran Associates, Dec. 2015 (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ > < (□ >



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Roof model

We define the straight-skeleton roof model

$$R_{S}(P) = \bigcup_{r \ge 0} \operatorname{bd} Q_{S}(r) \times \{r\} \subset \mathbb{R}^{3}$$

and accordingly for $R_V(P)$.



Could triangulate the onion layers between offset curves and apply boundary algorithm for persistence: $O(m^3)$ runtime, with $m \in O(n^2)$ being size of triangulation.