

TNM084 Procedural images

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Lecture 7

L-systems with variations

Fractal Brownian Motion

Fractal terrains and other applications





Lab 3

Packaged with the lab material.

Theme: Fractals

3a: Procedural tree

3b: Procedural terrrain





make the tree.





3b: I give you a boring surface. You make a nice terrain.







Lecture questions

- 1. What is the connection between L-systems, turtle graphics and geometric fractals?
 - 2. How can you describe a Koch fractal with an L-system?
 - 3. What symbols are need for an L-system to describe a tree?
 - 4. How do you rescale noise between FBM levels?
- 5. What FBM method has the lowest computational complexity?
- 6. What is the computational advantage of gradient noise for FBM?



Last time: Fractals

Geometric generations of self-similar fractals

Fractal dimension

Statistically self-similar fractals

Self-squaring fractals in complex space









We also did procedure DrawKoch(p1, p2, depth) **Geometric self-similar fractals** if depth >= maxDepth then MoveTo(p1) LineTo(p2) return else p4 calculate p3, p4, p5 as the three points inside the generator DrawKoch(p1, p3, depth+1) DrawKoch(p3, p4, depth+1) DrawKoch(p4, p5, depth+1) рЗ DrawKoch(p5, p2, depth+1) **p1** main procedure: Choose three generator points, g1, g2, g3 DrawKoch(g1, g2, 0) DrawKoch(g2, g3, 0) DrawKoch(g3, g1, 0) g3





And I also demonstrated **Turtle graphics**

```
from turtle import *
color('red', 'yellow')
begin_fill()
while True:
    forward(200)
    left(170)
    if abs(pos()) < 1:
        break
end_fill()
done()</pre>
```



We will now combine these two!



L-systems

Developed by A Lindenmayer to model the development of plants

Based on parallel string-rewriting rules

Excellent for modelling organic objects and fractals

(Information mostly from the book and from a course presentation of lost origin)



L-systems basics

Begin with a set of "productions", replacement rules, and a "seed" axiom

Example:

Rules (productions): B -> ACA and A -> B

Axiom: AA

Produces the sequence AA, BB, ACAACA, BCBBCB, ACACACACACA...

Strings are converted to graphics representaions as turtle graphics commands



L-systems to turtle graphics

Turtle commands:

F: move forward while drawing f: move forward without drawing +: Turn left by angle ∂ -: Turn right by ∂







Koch curve from L-systems

 $F \rightarrow F + F - - F + F$

produces a Koch curve if

+ = turn left - = turn right







Koch (90 degree version)

Axiom: F-F-F-F

Production: F -> F-F+F+FF-F-F+F







Dragon curve

Axiom: FI

Productions: FI -> FI+Fr+ Fr -> FI-Fr-







Extensions to L-systems

- Productions dependent on neighboring symbols
 - Stack support (bracket symbols)
 - Stochastic: Choose productions randomly
 - Parametric: Variables can be passed between productions
 - Numerical arguments





Extended L-system by stack brackets: Simple tree

$F \rightarrow F [+ F] F [-F] F$

produces the simple branch using







Better tree

 $F \rightarrow F [\&F] [/F][\&F]$

with additional symbols for rotation.







Plants made by L-systems

Many plants can be produced, but finding the production rules is challenging







Road networks

Start with a single street
Branch and extend with parametric L-system
Parameters tweaked by custom values for goals and constraints
Constraints allow for parks, bridges etc







Road networks by graph-based L-systems

Checks for overlaps, rewrites the result to allow loops. (Thesis by Martin Jormedal.)





Generation of buildings and cities

Given the street map, generate buildings

Base the buildings on simple shapes given by the city blocks.





CGA (Computer Generated Architecture)

CGA is a shape grammar used to create procedural buildings. (Müller et al 2006). It works with operations such as splits and repetitions.



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CGA basic rules

CGA has four basic rules:

Basic split Scaling Repeat Component split

These are far from enough for buildings but can still describe complex shapes.





Mass modelling

The CGA method also includes a stage of "mass modelling", builling the basic shape from a set of components.

A box is the most fundamental shape, from which a set of basic shapes are formed:







CGA basic grammar

The simplest CGA grammar builds from 16 rules, including the "footprint", and on top of that rules about windows, doors, roofs and more. Even with that many components, only this simple buildings can be made:





- FINDONNE - CHUTTER

Information Coding / Computer Graphics, ISY, LiTH

My example

A few rules similar to CityEngine/CGA







CGA extended grammar

CGA was extended further to produce more complex models. It is clear that the grammar must be hand-tailored for each type of architectures, but the results are impressive.







CGA vs L-systems

Important difference between L-systems and CGA:

L-systems are for growth. True also for road networks. L-systems typically are very self-similar on different resolutions.

CGA is made for subdivision, and has very different rules on different levels. Thus, it is *not* a fractal!



Interior Procedural generation of interiors was studied by Andersson (2019). The problem includes: Splitting into rooms Placement of furniture The latter includes: Collision detection • Analysis of free space for acceptable paths



A space split into rooms







Analysis of free space by a grid







Buildings + road networks = city generator

Several algorithms for city generation exists

• Algorithmic, L-systems or similar

 Organic, build roads and buildings based on previous generation of the map



Grammars or code?

Should we use grammars or recursive code?

Grammar: Write grammar, insert in reusable evaluator specific for each variant of the grammar!

Recursive code: New program every time, but much more flexible.

When is either to prefer?



Every grammar can be rewitten as a program

Examples: Koch, dragon, etc

Example: Hilbert curve.

Grammar: Process the string by the productions rules N times. Then parse the string to do turtle graphics.

Code: Formulate the grammar as code. Each production rule is a function call.





Buildings?

May use a sequence of function calls

• Make basement, call:

-> Make floors

-> Make walls

-> Split walls to parts

Etc. Or do this as a grammar.





GLUGG City

Simple prototype, needs more work despite considerable freedom and many steps. Based on function calls.



MakeWallPanel MakeWallPanelExtruded MakeWindow MakeWallSection MakeWallTop MakeWallCorner MakeWall MakeStory MakeTopBox MakeFlatRoof MakeBadRoof MakeRoof MakeStories CreateBasement MakeBottom





Best method?

Taste?

Which method suits your problem?

Problem suited for recursion?

Code is easier to extend with new options. Grammars are easier to edit.

A grammar might be easier for non-programmers?