



Marie Skłodowska-Curie  
Actions



UiO :



**SINTEF**

# CAD reverse engineering based on clustering and approximate implicitization

ESR 9

---

Andrea Raffo

April 30, 2018

SINTEF Digital, Oslo, Norway

## Education

- **Bachelor's** and **Master's** degree in Mathematics (2012-2016, University of Genova, Italy).  
Master Thesis: "*Compartmental Analysis of 4D MRI Data: Application to Renal Physiology*" (2016) developed during a 7-months Erasmus programme in Bergen (Norway).

Now:

- **PhD candidate** in Mathematics (SINTEF and University of Oslo, Norway)  
Start date: 1 November, 2016

# Background

Past background:

# Background

## Past background:

- Numerical linear algebra

# Background

## Past background:

- Numerical linear algebra
- Geometry for applications

# Background

## Past background:

- Numerical linear algebra
- Geometry for applications
- Inverse problems and applications

# Background

## Past background:

- Numerical linear algebra
- Geometry for applications
- Inverse problems and applications
- Image processing

## Past background:

- Numerical linear algebra
- Geometry for applications
- Inverse problems and applications
- Image processing
- Applications of mathematics to medicine

## Past background:

- Numerical linear algebra
- Geometry for applications
- Inverse problems and applications
- Image processing
- Applications of mathematics to medicine
- ...

# Background

## Past background:

- Numerical linear algebra
- Geometry for applications
- Inverse problems and applications
- Image processing
- Applications of mathematics to medicine
- ...

**enriched with courses at UiO:**

# Background

## **Past background:**

- Numerical linear algebra
- Geometry for applications
- Inverse problems and applications
- Image processing
- Applications of mathematics to medicine
- ...

## **enriched with courses at UiO:**

- Spline methods

# Background

## Past background:

- Numerical linear algebra
- Geometry for applications
- Inverse problems and applications
- Image processing
- Applications of mathematics to medicine
- ...

## enriched with courses at UiO:

- Spline methods
- Algebraic Topology I

# Background

## **Past background:**

- Numerical linear algebra
- Geometry for applications
- Inverse problems and applications
- Image processing
- Applications of mathematics to medicine
- ...

## **enriched with courses at UiO:**

- Spline methods
- Algebraic Topology I
- Statistical Learning: Advanced Regression and Classification

## **Past background:**

- Numerical linear algebra
- Geometry for applications
- Inverse problems and applications
- Image processing
- Applications of mathematics to medicine
- ...

## **enriched with courses at UiO:**

- Spline methods
- Algebraic Topology I
- Statistical Learning: Advanced Regression and Classification
- Science, Ethics and Society

## **Past background:**

- Numerical linear algebra
- Geometry for applications
- Inverse problems and applications
- Image processing
- Applications of mathematics to medicine
- ...

## **enriched with courses at UiO:**

- Spline methods
- Algebraic Topology I
- Statistical Learning: Advanced Regression and Classification
- Science, Ethics and Society
- ...

In modern CAD systems, it is possible to identify two main representations of curves and surfaces: **implicit** and **parametric**.

In modern CAD systems, it is possible to identify two main representations of curves and surfaces: **implicit** and **parametric**. Having both representations makes it possible to answer to a wide range of questions (e.g. intersection problems).

In modern CAD systems, it is possible to identify two main representations of curves and surfaces: **implicit** and **parametric**. Having both representations makes it possible to answer to a wide range of questions (e.g. intersection problems). Classical approaches to implicitization are affected by computational and geometrical problems: (e.g. numerical instability, unwanted branches...).

In modern CAD systems, it is possible to identify two main representations of curves and surfaces: **implicit** and **parametric**. Having both representations makes it possible to answer to a wide range of questions (e.g. intersection problems). Classical approaches to implicitization are affected by computational and geometrical problems: (e.g. numerical instability, unwanted branches...).

**Purpose:** Study of **approximate implicitization** and applications, considering possible improvements to existing methods (e.g. use of truly refinable geometric tools like **LR B-splines**).

In modern CAD systems, it is possible to identify two main representations of curves and surfaces: **implicit** and **parametric**. Having both representations makes it possible to answer to a wide range of questions (e.g. intersection problems). Classical approaches to implicitization are affected by computational and geometrical problems: (e.g. numerical instability, unwanted branches...).

**Purpose:** Study of **approximate implicitization** and applications, considering possible improvements to existing methods (e.g. use of truly refinable geometric tools like **LR B-splines**).

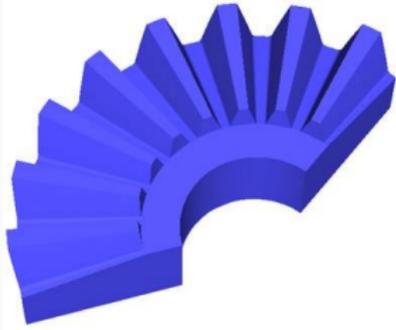
## Secondments:

- ATHENA (Athens, Greece, May 2018).
- RISC-Software (Linz, Austria, October 2018).

# **A problem of reverse engineering**

---

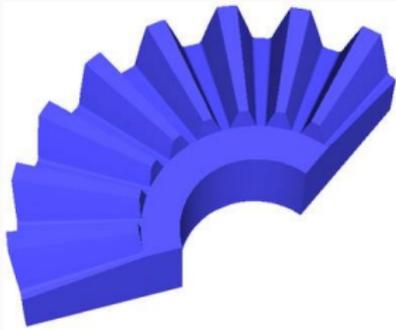
# A problem of reverse engineering



Part of a NUGEAR developed by Stam S.r.l., Genova, Italy.

In industrial applications like **computer aided design**, geometric models are often represented numerically as **polynomial splines** or **NURBS**, even when they originate from primitive geometry.

# A problem of reverse engineering



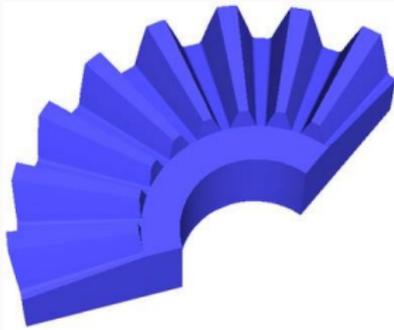
Part of a NUGEAR developed by Stam S.r.l., Genova, Italy.

In industrial applications like **computer aided design**, geometric models are often represented numerically as **polynomial splines** or **NURBS**, even when they originate from primitive geometry.

## Problem

Extraction of information about the underlying geometry through reverse engineering.

# A problem of reverse engineering



Part of a NUGEAR developed by Stam S.r.l., Genova, Italy.

In industrial applications like **computer aided design**, geometric models are often represented numerically as **polynomial splines** or **NURBS**, even when they originate from primitive geometry.

## Problem

Extraction of information about the underlying geometry through reverse engineering.

## Proposed approach

Combination of **clustering methods** with **approximate implicitization** to determine these primitive shapes and extract their features.

# Clustering and Discrete Approximate Implicitization

**What is clustering?** An unsupervised statistical learning technique, aiming at partitioning a set  $X = \{\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_N\} \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  such that all elements of a cluster share the same or closely related properties.

# Clustering and Discrete Approximate Implicitization

**What is clustering?** An unsupervised statistical learning technique, aiming at partitioning a set  $X = \{\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_N\} \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  such that all elements of a cluster share the same or closely related properties.

The grouping is performed by defining a notion of **dissimilarity** between data points. A *dissimilarity* on a set  $X$  is a function  $d : X \times X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  such that for all  $x, y \in X$ :

1.  $d(x, y) = d(y, x)$  (symmetry);
2.  $d(x, y) \geq 0$  (positive definiteness);
3.  $d(x, y) = 0$  iff  $x = y$  (identity of indiscernibles).

# Clustering and Discrete Approximate Implicitization

**What is clustering?** An unsupervised statistical learning technique, aiming at partitioning a set  $X = \{\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_N\} \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  such that all elements of a cluster share the same or closely related properties.

The grouping is performed by defining a notion of **dissimilarity** between data points. A *dissimilarity* on a set  $X$  is a function  $d : X \times X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  such that for all  $x, y \in X$ :

1.  $d(x, y) = d(y, x)$  (symmetry);
2.  $d(x, y) \geq 0$  (positive definiteness);
3.  $d(x, y) = 0$  iff  $x = y$  (identity of indiscernibles).

Once the dissimilarity (or distance)  $d$  between points of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  has been chosen, it is necessary to define a generalization of  $d$  to compare clusters.

# Clustering and Discrete Approximate Implicitization

**What is clustering?** An unsupervised statistical learning technique, aiming at partitioning a set  $X = \{\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_N\} \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  such that all elements of a cluster share the same or closely related properties.

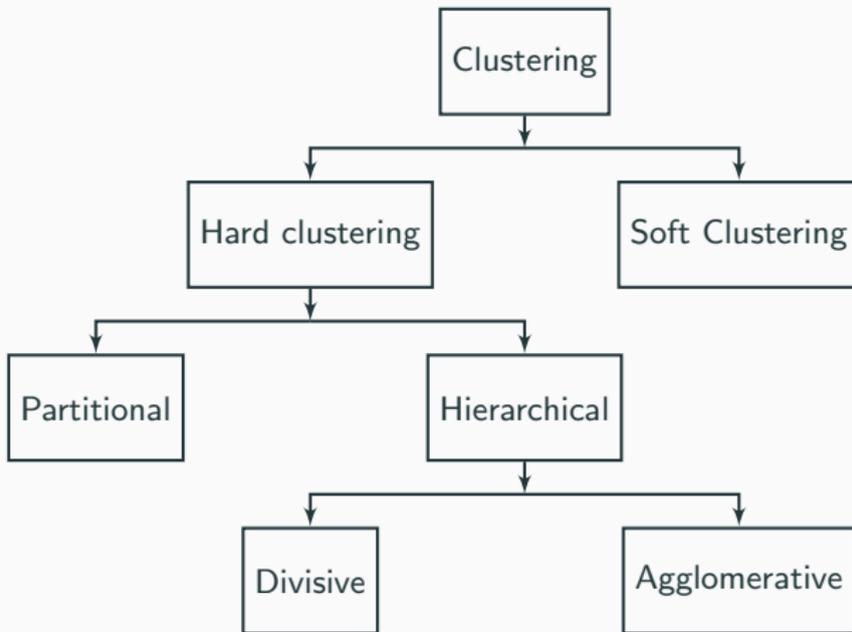
The grouping is performed by defining a notion of **dissimilarity** between data points. A *dissimilarity* on a set  $X$  is a function  $d : X \times X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  such that for all  $x, y \in X$ :

1.  $d(x, y) = d(y, x)$  (symmetry);
2.  $d(x, y) \geq 0$  (positive definiteness);
3.  $d(x, y) = 0$  iff  $x = y$  (identity of indiscernibles).

Once the dissimilarity (or distance)  $d$  between points of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  has been chosen, it is necessary to define a generalization of  $d$  to compare clusters. Finally, an algorithm for grouping the data is designed via the defined  $d$  so as to reach a faithful clustering after a finite number of steps.

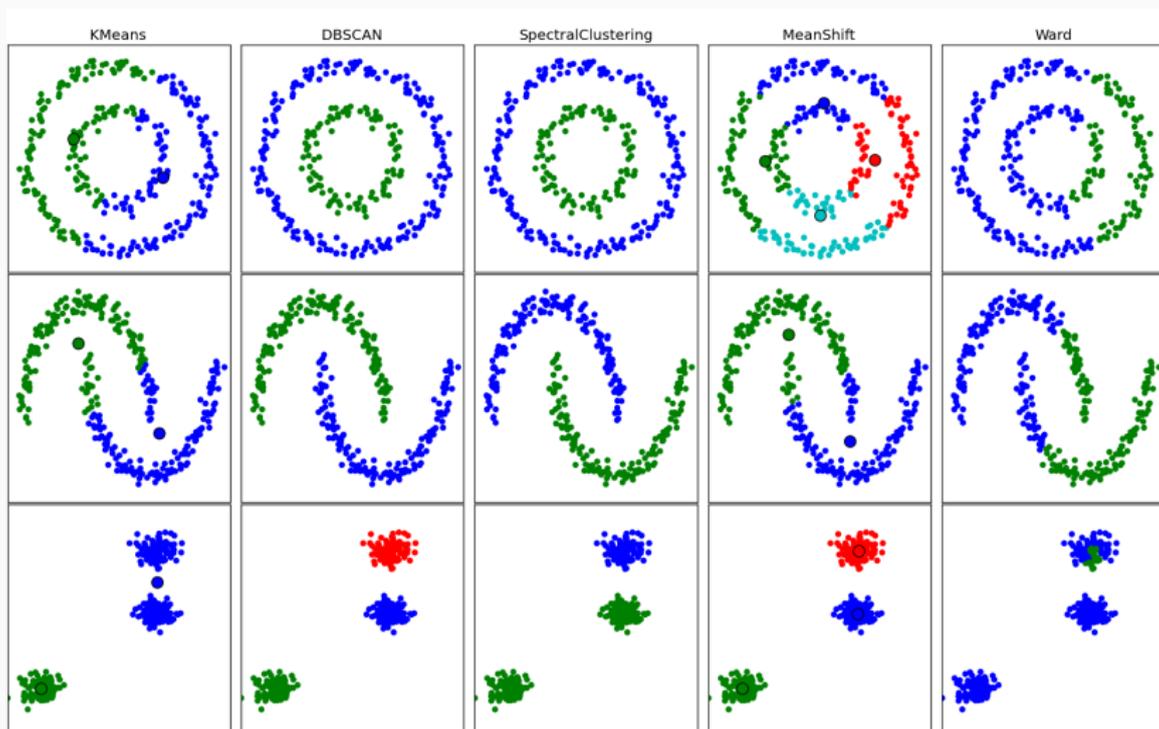
# Clustering and Discrete Approximate Implicitization

Wide number of approaches in clustering theory...



# Clustering and Discrete Approximate Implicitization

...and different solutions.

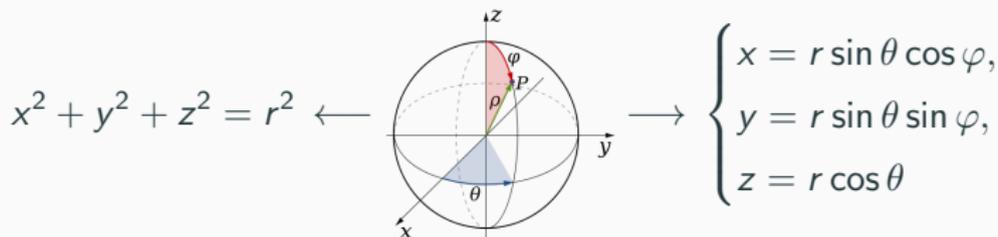


# Clustering and Discrete Approximate Implicitization

## Definition (Exact implicitization of a parametric hypersurface)

Let  $\mathbf{p} : \Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^{n-1} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  be a hypersurface in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . An exact implicitization of  $\mathbf{p}$  is a  $n$ -variate polynomial  $q$  such that:

$$q(\mathbf{p}(\mathbf{s})) = 0, \quad \forall \mathbf{s} \in \Omega.$$



# Clustering and Discrete Approximate Implicitization

Assume that:

- $q(\mathbf{x}) = 0$  is an algebraic hypersurface of degree  $m$ ;
- $\mathbf{p} = \mathbf{p}(\mathbf{s})$  is a polynomial or rational parametrization of (multi)degree  $\mathbf{n}$  expressed in a given basis.

Then it follows that  $q(\mathbf{p}(\mathbf{s}))$  can be expressed in a basis  $\alpha(\mathbf{s})$  for the polynomials of (multi)degree at most  $m\mathbf{n}$ . Explicitly,

$$q(\mathbf{p}(\mathbf{s})) = \alpha(\mathbf{s})^T \mathbf{D}\mathbf{b},$$

where  $\mathbf{b}$  is a column vector containing the unknown coefficients of the approximate implicit form.

# Clustering and Discrete Approximate Implicitization

Now, we have

$$\min_{\|\mathbf{b}\|_2=1} \max_{\mathbf{s} \in \Omega} |q(\mathbf{p}(\mathbf{s}))| \leq \max_{\mathbf{s} \in \Omega} \|\alpha(\mathbf{s})\|_2 \sigma_{min},$$

where  $\sigma_{min}$  is the smallest singular value of  $\mathbf{D}$ .

# Clustering and Discrete Approximate Implicitization

Now, we have

$$\min_{\|\mathbf{b}\|_2=1} \max_{\mathbf{s} \in \Omega} |q(\mathbf{p}(\mathbf{s}))| \leq \max_{\mathbf{s} \in \Omega} \|\boldsymbol{\alpha}(\mathbf{s})\|_2 \sigma_{min},$$

where  $\sigma_{min}$  is the smallest singular value of  $\mathbf{D}$ .

Then:

- We consider the SVD decomposition  $\mathbf{D} = \mathbf{U}\boldsymbol{\Sigma}\mathbf{U}^T$ .
- The singular vector  $\mathbf{v}_{min}$  corresponding to the smallest singular value offers the coefficients of the approximate implicit form in the chosen basis.

# Clustering and Discrete Approximate Implicitization

One of the fastest and simplest implementations of approximate implicitization is based on the computation of the matrix  $\mathbf{D}$ :

$$D_{i,j} = \pi_j(\mathbf{p}(\mathbf{s}_i)), \quad j = 1, \dots, m \text{ and } i = 1, \dots, N, \quad (1)$$

where:

- $\{\mathbf{s}_i\}_{i=1}^N \subset \Omega$  are  $N$  given parameters in general position.
- $\{\pi_j\}_j$  is the basis of the set of  $n$ -variate polynomials of total degree at most  $m$ .

$$\mathbf{D} = \begin{matrix} & \begin{matrix} 1 & x & y & \dots \end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix} \mathbf{p}(\mathbf{s}_1) \\ \mathbf{p}(\mathbf{s}_2) \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{p}(\mathbf{s}_N) \end{matrix} & \begin{bmatrix} 1 & x(\mathbf{s}_1) & y(\mathbf{s}_1) & \dots \\ 1 & x(\mathbf{s}_2) & y(\mathbf{s}_2) & \dots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 1 & x(\mathbf{s}_N) & y(\mathbf{s}_N) & \dots \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix}$$

It follows that

$$\min_{\|\mathbf{b}\|_2=1} \max_{\mathbf{s} \in \Omega} |q(\mathbf{p}(\mathbf{s}))| \leq \max_{\mathbf{s} \in \Omega} \Lambda(\boldsymbol{\alpha}) \sigma_{\min},$$

where  $\Lambda(\boldsymbol{\alpha})$  is the Lebesgue constant from interpolation theory defined by  $\Lambda(\boldsymbol{\alpha}) := \max_{t \in \Omega} \|\boldsymbol{\alpha}(\mathbf{s})\|_1$ .

It follows that

$$\min_{\|\mathbf{b}\|_2=1} \max_{\mathbf{s} \in \Omega} |q(\mathbf{p}(\mathbf{s}))| \leq \max_{\mathbf{s} \in \Omega} \Lambda(\boldsymbol{\alpha}) \sigma_{min},$$

where  $\Lambda(\boldsymbol{\alpha})$  is the Lebesgue constant from interpolation theory defined by  $\Lambda(\boldsymbol{\alpha}) := \max_{t \in \Omega} \|\boldsymbol{\alpha}(\mathbf{s})\|_1$ .

Then:

- We consider the SVD decomposition  $\mathbf{D} = \mathbf{U}\boldsymbol{\Sigma}\mathbf{U}^T$ .
- The singular vector  $\mathbf{v}_{min}$  corresponding to the smallest singular value offers the coefficients of the discrete approximate implicit form in the chosen basis.

# The algorithm

---

# Input and output

## Input

A set of segments  $X$  in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  (patches in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $n > 2$ ).

## Output

A partition of  $X$  such as segments in the same cluster comes from the same primitive shape (e.g. straight line, conic in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , quadric in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ , ...)

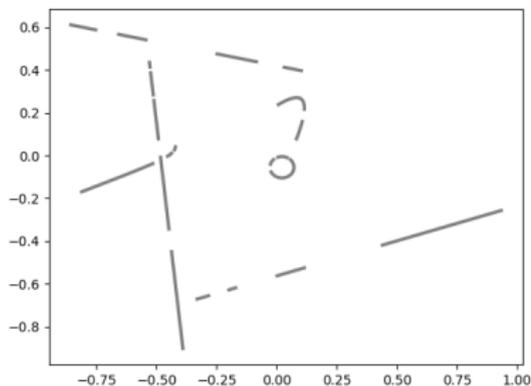


Figure 1: Initial dataset.

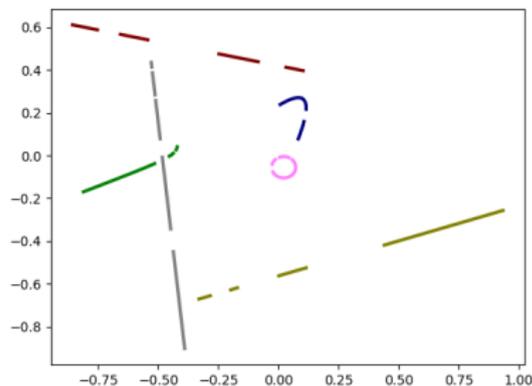


Figure 2: Classified dataset.

## Step 1. Preprocessing step and calibration

### Remark

*Given a polynomial or rational patch  $\tau$  of implicit degree  $d$ :*

- Discrete approximate implicitization of degree  $\bar{d} < d$  provides the coefficients of an approximate implicit form, together with the smallest singular value  $\sigma_{\min}(\tau) > 0$  that measures the accuracy of the approximation.*
- Discrete approximate implicitization of degree  $\bar{d} = d$  provides the coefficients of the exact implicit form, together with a null smallest singular value ( $\sigma_{\min}(\tau) = 0$ ).*

*Therefore,  $\tau$  has implicit degree  $d$  if and only if  $\sigma_{\min}(\tau) = 0$ .*

## Step 1. Preprocessing step and calibration

### Remark

*Given a polynomial or rational patch  $\tau$  of implicit degree  $d$ :*

- *Discrete approximate implicitization of degree  $\bar{d} < d$  provides the coefficients of an approximate implicit form, together with the smallest singular value  $\sigma_{\min}(\tau) > 0$  that measures the accuracy of the approximation.*
- *Discrete approximate implicitization of degree  $\bar{d} = d$  provides the coefficients of the exact implicit form, together with a null smallest singular value ( $\sigma_{\min}(\tau) = 0$ ).*

*Therefore,  $\tau$  has implicit degree  $d$  if and only if  $\sigma_{\min}(\tau) = 0$ .*

Weaker criterion in floating-point arithmetic:

$$\sigma_{\min}(\tau) < \xi := \xi(d),$$

where the parameter  $\xi$  is computed on a training set.

## Step 1. Preprocessing step and calibration

At the end of step 1, the set  $X$  is partitioned into  $X = \cup_i X_i$ , where  $X_i$  denotes the set of segments (or patches) of implicit degree  $i$ .

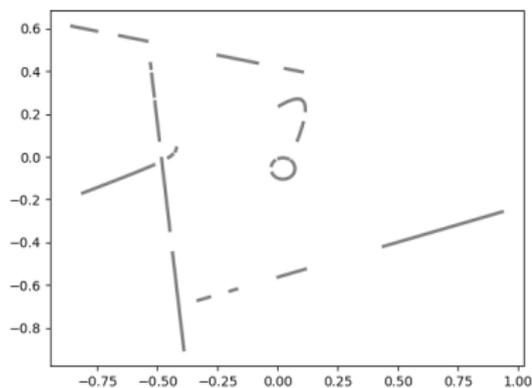


Figure 3: Initial dataset.

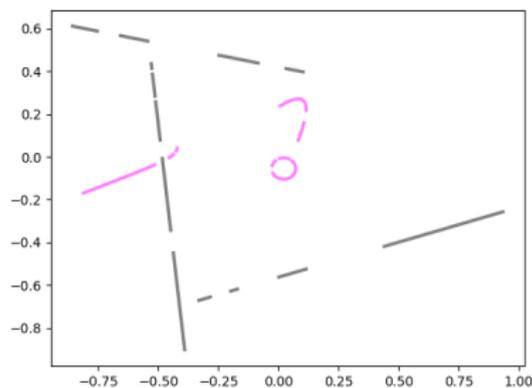


Figure 4: First clustering step.

## Step 2. Definition of the candidate dissimilarity

We start defining the candidate dissimilarity  $d$ . We will apply an agglomerative approach separately to each  $X_i$ .

## Step 2. Definition of the candidate dissimilarity

We start defining the candidate dissimilarity  $d$ . We will apply an agglomerative approach separately to each  $X_i$ .

We define the map  $d : X \times X \rightarrow [0, +\infty)$  as follows:

## Step 2. Definition of the candidate dissimilarity

We start defining the candidate dissimilarity  $d$ . We will apply an agglomerative approach separately to each  $X_i$ .

We define the map  $d : X \times X \rightarrow [0, +\infty)$  as follows:

1. For each patch  $\tau \in X$ ,  $d(\tau, \tau) := 0$ .

## Step 2. Definition of the candidate dissimilarity

We start defining the candidate dissimilarity  $d$ . We will apply an agglomerative approach separately to each  $X_i$ .

We define the map  $d : X \times X \rightarrow [0, +\infty)$  as follows:

1. For each patch  $\tau \in X$ ,  $d(\tau, \tau) := 0$ .
2. For each pair of patches  $\tau_1$  and  $\tau_2$ ,  $d(\tau_1, \tau_2)$  is defined as the smallest singular value computed by applying discrete approximate implicitization to a set of points uniformly sampled from each of the two patches.

## Step 2. Definition of the candidate dissimilarity

We start defining the candidate dissimilarity  $d$ . We will apply an agglomerative approach separately to each  $X_i$ .

We define the map  $d : X \times X \rightarrow [0, +\infty)$  as follows:

1. For each patch  $\tau \in X$ ,  $d(\tau, \tau) := 0$ .
2. For each pair of patches  $\tau_1$  and  $\tau_2$ ,  $d(\tau_1, \tau_2)$  is defined as the smallest singular value computed by applying discrete approximate implicitization to a set of points uniformly sampled from each of the two patches.
3. For each pair of clusters  $C_A$  and  $C_B$ ,  $d(C_A, C_B)$  is defined in terms of a complete-linkage approach:

$$D(C_A, C_B) = \max_{\tau_i \in C_A} \max_{\tau_j \in C_B} d(\tau_i, \tau_j).$$

## Step 2. Definition of the candidate dissimilarity

It straightforward that:

- $d$  depends on the points that are sampled on each patch.
- $d$  is not a dissimilarity, because if  $\tau_1 \neq \tau_2$  lies on the same primitive shape, then  $d(\tau_1, \tau_2) = 0$ .

## Step 2. Definition of the candidate dissimilarity

It straightforward that:

- $d$  depends on the points that are sampled on each patch.
- $d$  is not a dissimilarity, because if  $\tau_1 \neq \tau_2$  lies on the same primitive shape, then  $d(\tau_1, \tau_2) = 0$ .

but:

- it is not restrictive for our purposes to consider a map depending on some points that are a-priori sampled on each segment (patch).
- It is an advantage for our scope to have that  $d(\tau_1, \tau_2) = 0$  if  $\tau_1$  and  $\tau_2$  lie on the same primitive shape.

## Step 3. Agglomerative process

Starting from each patch in a separate cluster, at each step the two clusters with smallest value of  $d$  are merged.

The merging continues until the correct number of primitive shapes is detected.

## Step 3. Agglomerative process

Starting from each patch in a separate cluster, at each step the two clusters with smallest value of  $d$  are merged.

The merging continues until the correct number of primitive shapes is detected.

### How to estimate the number of clusters?

- At each iteration  $k$  we compute, for each cluster, the maximum value of  $d$  for pairs of patches. From a numerical viewpoint, it corresponds to an empirical estimation of the maximum error in the approximate implicitization of the patches.
- We consider then the maximum of the maxima and denote it as  $e^{(k)}$ .

## Step 3. Agglomerative process

We observe that, if  $K$  is the effective number of clusters, then:

- In exact arithmetic,  $e^{(k)} = 0$  for  $k = 0, \dots, N - K$  and  $e^{(k)} > 0$  for  $k = N - K + 1, \dots, N - 1$ . Therefore the number of iterations can be defined as:

$$\bar{k} := \arg \max_k \{k | e^{(k)} = 0\},$$

that is the maximum index  $\bar{k}$  such that  $e^{(\bar{k})} = 0$ .

- In floating-point arithmetic, we can either define a new stopping tolerance  $\eta$  or define an alternative criterion. We propose to estimate the number of clusters  $\bar{k}$  using the following approach:
  - Set  $e^{(-1)} := e^{(0)}$ .
  - Compute through backward differences the finite sequence  $\delta^{(k)} := e^{(k)} - e^{(k-1)}$ .
  - Compute the number of clusters  $\bar{x} = \arg \max_k \delta^{(k)}$ .

## Example 1: random segments of degree 1 and 2

## Example 2: two-dimensional gear

Let  $X$  be the set of segments of the two-dimensional gear in Figure 5. The gear is built as follows:

- Three circles are approximated by means of Bézier curves.
- Line segments are used to connect inner and outer arcs to form the teeth.

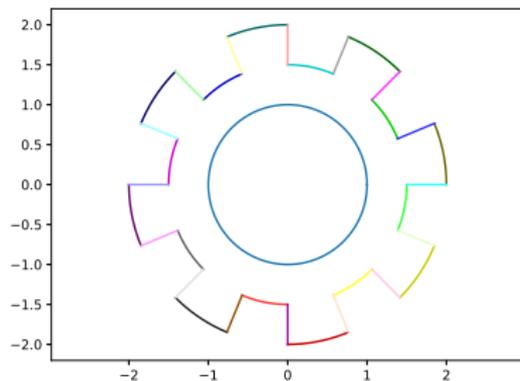


Figure 5: Initial gear.

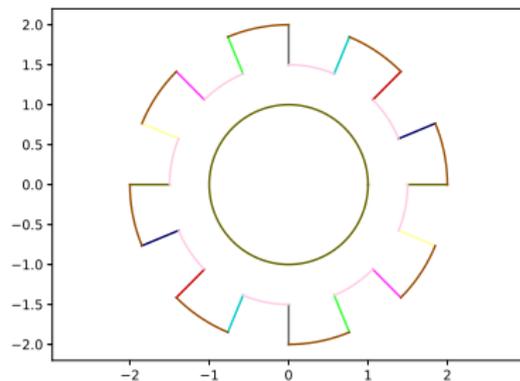


Figure 6: Classified gear.



Takk for meg!

