RELIABLE COMPUTATION OF ROOTS TO RENDER REAL POLYNOMIALS IN COMPLEX SPACE

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Abstract: Many geometric applications involve computation and manipulation of non-linear algebraic primitives. These basic primitives like points, curves and surfaces are represented using real numbers and polynomial equations. For example, ray tracing technique rendering three-dimensional realistic images, where each pixel need to find the minimum positive root of intersection point when a lineal ray hit a surface. However, the intersection between a ray and a polynomial equation has different roots, where each root can be a real number (without imaginary part) or a complex number (with real and imaginary part), so that, the number of roots is equal to degree of polynomial.

In this paper, we extend the traditional ray tracing technique to show roots in the complex space. We use an algorithm that analyse all verified roots of intersection point using interval arithmetic. This algorithm computes verified enclosures of the roots of a polynomial by enclosing the zeros in narrow bounds. The reliability of the algorithm depends on the accurate evaluation of these complex roots. Finally, we propose different solutions to render an image in the complex space, where the arguments of complex roots are used to choose the roots of intersection point in complex space, while the color of each pixel is computed by minimum modulus of complex roots chosen.

1 INTRODUCTION

Nowadays, there are several methods in computer graphic which allow to design realistic images. These images are composed of many different primitives, where it is very typical the use of polynomial forms. Usually these algorithms need to find real roots of polynomials. For example, ray tracing techniques need to find the minimum positive real root where a lineal ray hits a surface.

Nevertheless, many mathematician and physician work in the complex space, they usually plot the roots in the two-dimensional complex plane, like Nyquist diagram. The plane of complex number uses the x-axis as the real axis and y-axis as the imaginary axis. Every complex number is represented by an unique point in the complex plane. Historically, the geometric representation of a complex number as a point in the plane was important because it made the whole idea of a complex number more acceptable. In particular, this visualization helped “imaginary” and “complex” numbers become accepted in mainstream mathematics as a natural extension to negative numbers along the real line.

In this paper, we propose to extend the ray tracing technique from the real space to the complex space. This procedure leads to produce three-dimensional images where each pixel has information about complex roots of intersection point. We need reliable algorithms that work with complex numbers to find every roots (Georg, 1990; Gruner, 1987). After computing a first approximation of each root, its error is enclosed using interval arithmetic. If the diameter of the error interval is less than a desired accuracy, then a verified enclosure of the solution is given by the approximation of root and the enclosure of its error.

The rest of the paper is organized in the following manner. An overview of a root finder algorithm that can compute all the roots of a univariate polynomial with the desired accuracy is given in Section 2. This algorithm uses an iterative scheme that starts with an initial approximation of all the roots, refines them and...
updates the error bound. The procedure to extend the original ray tracing technique to the complex space is described in Section 3. This new technique allows us to build a three-dimensional animation of the evolution of the complex roots. In Section 4, several examples of the distribution of complex roots of polynomials are shown. We conclude in Section 5.

2 ALGORITHM TO FIND COMPLEX ROOTS OF POLYNOMIAL

A polynomial of degree \( n \) has \( n \) different zeros. These zeros can be real and/or imaginary roots. Finding these roots is a non trivial problem in numerical mathematics. Most algorithms only deliver approximations of the exact zeros without any or with only weak statements concerning the accuracy.

\[
p(z) = \sum_{i=0}^{n} p_i \cdot z^i, \quad p_i \in \mathbb{R}
\]  

In this paper, we use an algorithm, proposed by Hammer et al. in (Hammer et al., 1995), that computes verified enclosures of the roots of a polynomial by enclosing the zeros in narrow bounds. This algorithm is based on the fact that the roots of the polynomial of degree \( n \) match the eigenvalues of the companion matrix \( A \) since

\[
p(z) = (-1)^n \cdot p_n \cdot |A - z \cdot I|
\]

where \( I \) is the identity matrix of dimension \( n \) and

\[
A = \begin{pmatrix}
0 & \cdots & 0 & -p_n \\
1 & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots \\
& \ddots & \ddots & \ddots \\
& & 0 & -p_{n-1} \\
& & 1 & -p_0
\end{pmatrix}
\]

2.1 Eigenvalue Problem

Hence, the problem of finding a zero of the polynomial \( p \) is equivalent to find an eigenvalue \( z^* \) of the matrix \( A \). We solve the eigenvalue problem \( A \cdot q^* = z^* \cdot q^* \), that is \( f(x) = (A - z^* I) \cdot q^* = 0 \), where \( q^* \) is an eigenvector corresponding to the eigenvalue \( z^* \) consisting of the coefficients \( q_0^*, q_1^*, \ldots, q_{n-1}^* \) of deflated polynomial:

\[
q^*(z) = \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} q_i^* \cdot z^i = \frac{p(z)}{z - z^*}
\]

Additionally, the coefficients of the deflated polynomial can be determined recursively by Horner’s evaluation of the polynomial \( p \) at the point \( z^* \) (C. Sidney Burrus and S. Treitel., 2003):

\[
\begin{align*}
q_{n-1}^* &= p_n \\
q_{i-1}^* &= q_i^* \cdot z^* + p_i, \quad i = n - 1, \ldots, 1
\end{align*}
\]

We have a system of nonlinear equations in the \( n \) unknowns \( q_0^*, q_1^*, \ldots, q_{n-2}^* \) and \( z^* \). Let the vector \( q \) be the first \( n - 1 \) components of the desired eigenvector \( q = (q_0^*, q_1^*, \ldots, q_{n-2}^*)^T \). The eigenvalue \( z^* \) often is stored as the \( n^{th} \) component of a vector \((q, z)^T\).

2.2 Iterative Approach

Let \( f \) be a nonlinear and differentiable function. A well known strategy to solve a nonlinear system \( f(x) = 0 \) is the simplified Newton iteration using the fixed-point form of the problem. Let a starting approximation \( x(0) \) be given, let \( R = f'(x(0))^{-1} \), and iterate according to:

\[
g(x^{(k)}) = x^{(k+1)} = x^{(k)} - R \cdot f(x^{(k)}), \quad k = 0, 1, \ldots
\]

If \( x(0) \) is close to the fixed-point \( x^* \), the sequence of \( x^{(k)} \) for \( k \rightarrow \infty \) approaches the fixed-point \( x^* = g(x^*) \) with \( f(x^*) = 0 \).

For numerical stability reasons, it is better to perform a residual correction (\( \Delta \), so then \( x = x + \Delta x \). This means that the Newton iteration has the form \( x^{(k+1)} = x^{(k)} - \Delta x \cdot R \cdot f(x^{(k)}) \), that is:

\[
\Delta x^{(k+1)} = \Delta x^{(k)} - R \cdot f(x^{(k)})
\]

Hammer et al. applied the simplified Newton iteration to the eigenvalue problem, where \( x = (q, z)^T \), and solved the eigenvalue problem for the interval version of Newton’s iteration algorithm in (Hammer et al., 1995):

\[
g_I([\Delta x]) = -[R] \cdot [d] + [R] \cdot [\Delta x] \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 0 \cr \Delta q \cr 0 \end{pmatrix}
\]

where \( [R] = f'(x(0))^{-1} = [J]_I^{-1} \) is the inverse of the interval Jacobian matrix, and \([d] = ([A] - [z] \cdot [I]) \cdot [q]^T\).

2.3 The Approximate Iteration

We must determine good approximations of the exact eigenvector \( q^* \) and eigenvalue \( z^* \) to avoid inflation effects using the interval version of the Newton iteration. For this purpose, we first use a non-interval residual iteration algorithm starting with an arbitrary starting approximation \( \tilde{z} \) for a root of \( p(z) \). The initial eigenvector \( \tilde{q} \) corresponding to that eigenvalue \( \tilde{z} \)
is computed recursively by Horner’s evaluation of the polynomial \( p \) at the point \( \tilde{z} \), until the corresponding residual vector \( (\Delta_q, \Delta_x)^T \) achieves sufficient accuracy (C. Sidney Burrus and S. Treitel, 2003).

One of the critical steps for this iteration scheme to work is the choice of the initial approximations to the roots of the original polynomial.

### 2.4 Verification

This algorithm begins with an initial approximation \( \tilde{z} \) of a root of the polynomial \( p(z) \) and \( \tilde{q} \) of the coefficients of the deflated polynomial. It improves the approximation of a root and the coefficients of the corresponding deflated polynomial to avoid overestimation during the floating-point interval calculations.

The Schauder’s fixed-point theorem, which is a generalization of Brouwer’s fixed-point theorem, is used to get a verified enclosure of an eigenvalue of the companion matrix \( A \) and therefore of a zero of the polynomial (Jimenez-Melado and Morales, 2005; Granas and Dugundji, 2004).

**Schauder’s fixed-point theorem:** If we have the enclosure

\[
[\Delta_x]^{(k+1)} = g([\Delta_x]^{(k)}) \in [\Delta_x]^{(k)}
\]

where \( g([\Delta_x]^{(k)}) \) is contained in the interior of \( [\Delta_x]^{(k)} \), then there exists a (not necessarily unique) fixed-point of \( g \) and a solution \( x^* \in \tilde{x} + [\Delta_x]^{(k+1)} \) of the eigenvalue problem.

Subsequently, we start a new iteration step by evaluating the function \( g \) for a complex interval vector argument until we achieve an enclosure (9). For computational reasons, we start with a slightly inflated approximation. The Schauder fixed-point theorem guarantees that there exists a solution of the fixed-point problem (9) in \( ([\Delta_q]^{(k+1)}, [\Delta_x]^{(k+1)})^T \). That is, \( (\tilde{z} + [\Delta_z]) \) is a verified enclosure of an eigenvalue \( z^* \), which is a root of the complex polynomial \( p \), and \( (\tilde{q} + [\Delta_q]) \) is a verified enclosure of a corresponding eigenvector \( q^* \), the components of which are the coefficients of the deflated polynomial.

### 2.5 Finding All Complex Roots

This algorithm proposed by Hammer et al. only finds a root in the complex space. We have extended this algorithm, called \( AllCPolyZero \), to find all complex roots of the intersection point. By repeating the deflation of a verified zero from the reduced polynomial, the approximation of a new zero in the reduced polynomial and the verification of the new zero in the original polynomial, we get all complex zeros of the polynomial. This extended algorithm to find all roots has the following scheme:

**AllCPolyZero**

1. \( p_{deflated} \) = original polynomial;
2. \( z = \) arbitrary starting for a root
3. Repeat
   (a) Approximate to \( z \) a new zero of \( p_{deflated} \)
   (b) Verify the new zero for original polynomial
   (c) Deflate verified zero from \( p_{deflated} \)
4. Until \( n = \) degree of polynomial

### 2.6 Multiprecision Arithmetic

When this algorithm renders a surface, the intersection between a ray and surface can have two zeros so close together. This happened firstly near edge of surface. In this case, the original algorithm finds two zeros extremely close together how a single zero. Because, if two or more zeros of the polynomial are so close together that they are identical in their number representation up to the mantissa length and differ only in digits beyond the mantissa, they are called “a numerical multiple zero”. Such zeros cannot be verified with the program above described because they cannot be separated by the given number representation. The program handles them just like a zero and terminates.

If two or more zeros are extremely close together, i.e. they form a cluster, it is not possible to verify a zero of this cluster with the implementation given by Hammer, because the derivative \( (p') \) of the polynomial \( p \) is zero. Thus, the matrix \( J \) is singular and the inverse \( R \) cannot be enclosed because it does not exist. We may overcome this limit of the implementation by computing the inverse of the Jacobian matrix with higher accuracy. Finally, we have implemented the algorithm using a multiprecision floating-point and floating-point interval arithmetic with double mantissa length to find close zeros and clusters of zeros.

Once all the initial approximations are found, we are ready to perform each step of the iteration. As consecutive iterates are found, we need to compute the absolute error of each approximation. For this, we make use of a result from Smith (Smith, 1970) which is defined by the following theorem:

**THEOREM 5.** Let \( x_1^{(k)}, x_2^{(k)}, \ldots, x_n^{(k)} \) be distinct and let \( \sigma_1 = f(x_1^{(k)}) / g(x_1^{(k)}) \) for \( j = 1, \ldots, n \). Then

\[
\Gamma_i : |x - x_i^{(k)}| \leq n |\sigma_i|, i = 1, \ldots, n
\]

Then the union of the circles \( \Gamma_i \) contains all the roots of \( f(x) \). Any connected component of this consisting of \( m \) circles contains exactly \( m \) roots of \( f(x) \).
We use the above results to compute the absolute error in each iterate. The root finder algorithm proceeds as the following steps:

1. If all the circles \( \Gamma_i \) are isolated, we have achieved root isolation and if the radius of these circles is smaller than the precision limit, we are done.

2. However, if there are clustered roots, it is possible that some of the circles are connected. In this case we compute the worst case error

\[
\epsilon_i = \max(|x_i^{(k)} - x_j^{(k)}| + n \cdot |\sigma_j|),
\]

where \( j \) ranges over the set of indices for which \( x_j^{(k)} \) is part of the same connected component as \( x_i^{(k)} \)

(a) If \( \epsilon_i \) is smaller than the desired precision, we report a multiple root.

(b) Otherwise, we redistribute these approximations on a single circle with center at the centroid of the iterates and radius equal to

\[
\max_i (\epsilon_i + n \cdot |\sigma_i|),
\]

where \( i \) belongs to the iterate indices of the same connected component of the circles.

Since all the results of our computations have guaranteed error bounds, we can assure the root separation if the circles determined by the error bounds are not connected.

3 RENDERING COMPLEX SPACE

The previous section has described our general algorithm for computing every roots of a polynomial and all the arithmetic is done in the complex space. In this section, we will briefly describe the technique we use to compute the color of each pixel of an rendered image using a ray tracing technique. The traditional ray tracing uses the minimum positive root to assign a color of a pixel in real space. A complex number \( z = x + i \cdot y \) can be represented in complex space, like \( \rho \cdot e^{i \theta} \), the magnitude represents its modulus \( \rho \) and the angle \( \theta \) its complex argument (see Figure 1).

In our algorithm the selected root is that with the minimum magnitude and with its complex argument \( \theta \) in a selected range given by \( \sigma \leq \theta \leq \sigma + \delta \). The selected root will determine the final colour of a pixel. This means that the rendering process is guided not only by the magnitude of the roots but also it can play with their complex arguments. This algorithm will allow to sample the complex space, so that different images can be obtained by choosing the interval angle \( [\sigma, \sigma + \delta] \) (see Figure 1). For example, for rendering a scene in the real space, \( \sigma = 0 \) and \( \delta = 10^{-10} \) are appropriate values. However, for \( \sigma = 0.1 \) and \( \delta = \frac{\pi}{4} \), the selected roots belong to the complex space with angles between \( 0.1 \leq \theta \leq 0.1 + \frac{\pi}{4} \) and their complex conjugate \(-0.1 - \frac{\pi}{4} \leq \theta \leq -0.1 \). In this case, the real roots are not included in the search space.

Figure 1: Sampling complex space.

This procedure allows us to render three-dimensional complex algebraic surfaces in the complex space with an angle bounded. For rendering all complex space using ray tracing, we can sample all space with different values of \( \delta \) and \( \sigma \). Due to the symmetry of the conjugate complex roots, it is only necessary to sample the complex space determined by \( \sigma \geq 0 \) and \( \sigma + \delta \leq \pi \).

When we render a scene defined by complex algebraic surfaces, we can use a maximum \( \delta \) value equal to \( \pi \) (and \( \sigma = 0 \)). The result is that we obtain a large amount of roots associated to the same pixel because we are dealing with the full complex space. Our proposal consists of sampling the complex space with a narrow aperture angle; i.e. small values of \( \delta \). This method allows us to generate an animated sequence of images, each corresponding to a different value of \( \delta \). The animated sequence of images gives an interesting information about the distribution of roots in the complex space.

4 EXPERIMENTATION

We use the C-XSC library, a C++ class library for eXtended Scientific Computing, to implement the algorithm proposed. Its wide range of numerical data types, operators and functions for scientific computation makes C-XSC especially well suited as a specification language for programming with automatic result verification.

The automatic verification of numerical results is based on interval arithmetic. The easiest technique for computing verified numerical results is to replace any real or complex operation by its interval equivalent and then to perform the computations using interval arithmetic. This procedure leads to reliable and ver-
ified results. However, the diameter or the computed enclosures may be so wide as to be practically useless. We have applied to our algorithm the principle of iterative refinement. After computing a diameter of the error interval is less than a desired accuracy, then a verified enclosure of the solution is given by the approximation and the enclosure of its error.

In order to observe the performance of our algorithm, we used a set of polynomials with more than twenty different polynomials. However, we show only five interesting polynomials in this paper due to space limitations (see Table 1).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Surface</th>
<th>Coefficients of polynomial</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Whitney</td>
<td>$x^2 \cdot z + y$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plucker</td>
<td>$x^2 \cdot z - x \cdot y + y^2 \cdot z$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bicube</td>
<td>$x^4 + y^4 + z^4 - 1000$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mitchell</td>
<td>$4 \cdot (x^2 + (y^2 + z^2)^2) + 17 \cdot x^2 \cdot (y^2 + z^2) - 20 \cdot (y^2 + z^2)^2 + 17$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steiner</td>
<td>$x^2 \cdot y^2 + x^2 \cdot z^2 + x \cdot y \cdot z + y^2 \cdot z^2$</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure 2 shows an evolution of rendered Bicube surface in complex space for $\sigma = 0$ in every images and $\delta$ values from 0 (real surface in real space) to $\pi$. This sequence of images shows how complex roots cover the real object like packing paper. However, if the object is a Mitchell surface, we can see that complex roots begin covering over object. Although, the number of complex roots around horizontal-axis increase quicker than those around vertical-axis (see Figure 3).

The three following sequences of images for Steiner, Whitney and Plucker surfaces are very interesting. The complex roots of these surfaces not cover over object, but they are around imaginary axes of surfaces. For example, the Steiner surface shows the three axes which appear in complex space (see Figure 4) and Whitney surface has complex roots only around one imaginary axis (see Figure 5), like Plucker surface (see Figure 6). It is important to show that the number of complex root increase quicker for Steiner surface than Whitney surface.

Finally, we show a scene with a Whitney surface inside a translucent sphere (see Figure 7). In this case, we have chosen to render Whitney surface like a complex object and sphere like a real object. This let us see the evolution of complex object inside a real object for several $\delta$ values, with refraction and reflection effects.

5 CONCLUSIONS

We have designed and implemented a complex root finder algorithm to render polynomial surfaces in complex space. For this problem, it is not possible to use the Sturm sequences of a polynomial as a root finder algorithm, because we try to find complex roots. So we solve this problem as an eigenvalue problem, where we have used the polynomial root finding algorithm proposed by Hammer with some additional extras. On the other hand, we have extended this algorithm to find all complex roots in intersection point.

This algorithm also allows us to render algebraic surfaces defined as complex polynomial, where some of coefficients of polynomial are complex numbers. An additional possibility it is to redefine every rays with complex origin points and complex direction vectors.

Finally, we propose a new procedure to render image with traditional ray tracing technique in complex space. This technique allows to build a sequences of images where we can analyse the evolution of complex root of several polynomial surfaces in a three-dimensional space. These images can use reflection, refraction and transluscent effects like a realistic image.

REFERENCES


Figure 2: From up-left to down-right, Bicube surface are shown, obtained using the following $\delta$ values: 0, $\frac{\pi}{36}$, $\frac{\pi}{18}$, $\frac{\pi}{12}$ and $\frac{\pi}{9}$. All Bicube surfaces are rendering for $\sigma = 0$.

Figure 3: From up-left to down-right, Mitchell surface are shown, obtained using the following $\delta$ values: 0, $\frac{\pi}{36}$, $\frac{\pi}{18}$, $\frac{\pi}{12}$ and $\frac{\pi}{9}$. All Mitchell surfaces are rendering for $\sigma = 0$. 
Figure 4: From up-left to down-right, Steiner surface are shown, obtained using the following $\delta$ values: $0$, $\frac{\pi}{180}$, $\frac{\pi}{90}$, $\frac{\pi}{60}$, $\frac{\pi}{45}$ and $\frac{\pi}{36}$. All Steiner surfaces are rendering for $\sigma = 0$.

Figure 5: From up-left to down-right, Whitney surface are shown, obtained using the following $\delta$ values: $0$, $\frac{\pi}{36}$, $\frac{\pi}{18}$, $\frac{\pi}{12}$, $\frac{\pi}{9}$, $\frac{5\pi}{36}$, $\frac{\pi}{6}$, $\frac{7\pi}{36}$ and $\frac{\pi}{3}$. All Whitney surfaces are rendering for $\sigma = 0$. 
Figure 6: From up-left to down-right, Plucker surface are shown, obtained using the following $\delta$ values: 0, $\pi/36$, $\pi/18$, $\pi/12$ and $\pi/9$. All Plucker surfaces are rendering for $\sigma = 0$.

Figure 7: From up-left to down-right, Whitney surface inside a translucent sphere are shown, obtained using the following $\delta$ values: 0, $\pi/36$, $\pi/18$, $\pi/2$, $\pi/36$, $\pi/9$, $\pi/2$, $\pi/72$ and $\pi/9$. All images are rendering for $\sigma = 0$. 