



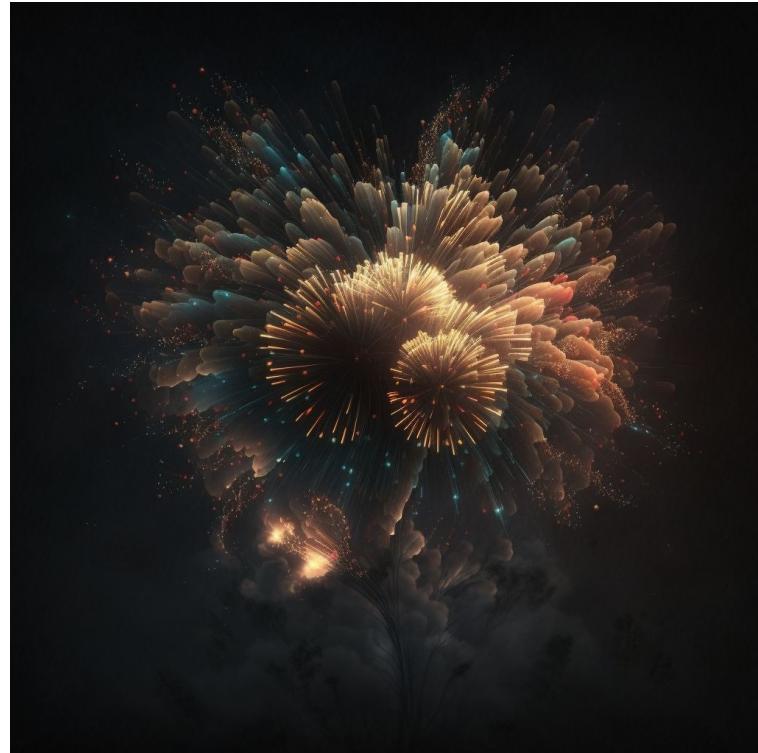
Physics Simulation

Dr Fangcheng Zhong

Outline

- Physically-based simulation
 - Particle system
 - Rigid-body dynamics
 - Mass-spring system
 - Fluid dynamics
- Numerical solvers for differential equations
 - Finite difference methods
 - Euler method, Runge-Kutta method, trapezoidal rule
 - truncation error, convergence, stability

Particle System



Particle System

initialisation

$$\mathbf{x}(0), \mathbf{x}'(0)$$

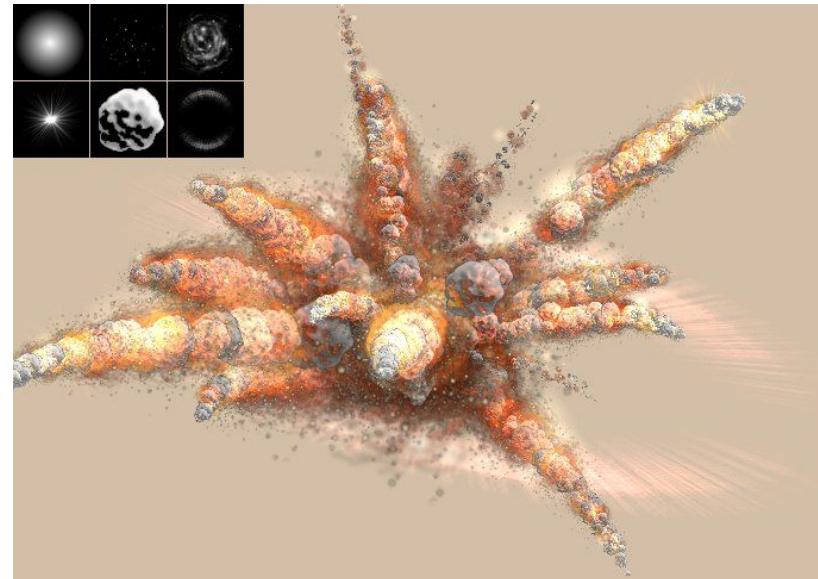
simulation

$$\mathbf{f} = m\mathbf{a} = m\mathbf{x}''$$

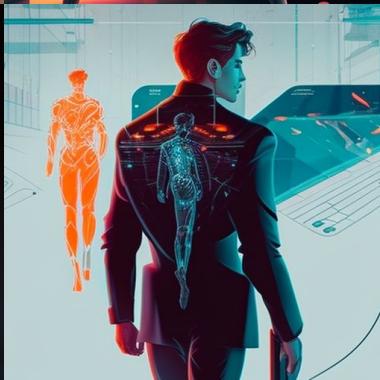
Shape	Drag Coefficient
Sphere	0.47
Half-sphere	0.42
Cone	0.50
Cube	1.05
Angled Cube	0.80
Long Cylinder	0.82
Short Cylinder	1.15
Streamlined Body	0.04
Streamlined Half-body	0.09

Measured Drag Coefficients

rendering



Rigid Body Dynamics



Rigid Body Dynamics

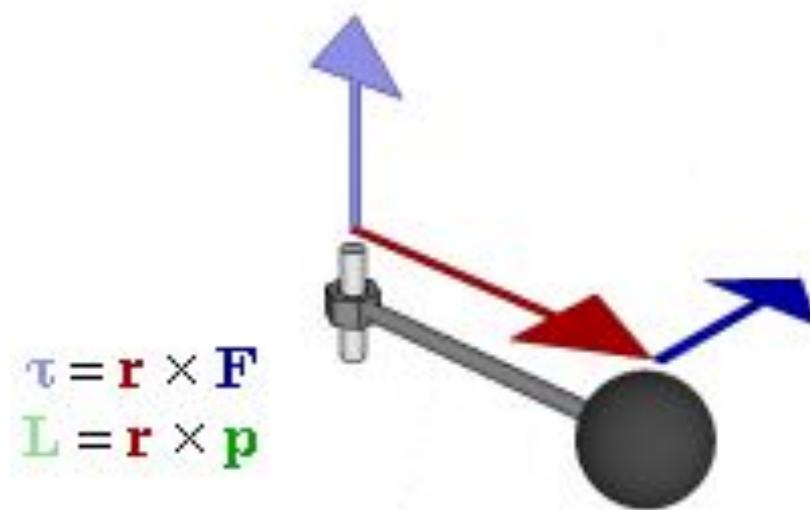
linear acceleration

$$\mathbf{f} = m\mathbf{a} = m\mathbf{x}''$$

angular acceleration

$$\tau = mr^2\alpha = mr^2\omega'$$

$$\begin{aligned}\tau &= \mathbf{r} \times \mathbf{F} \\ \mathbf{L} &= \mathbf{r} \times \mathbf{p}\end{aligned}$$



Deformation

elastic



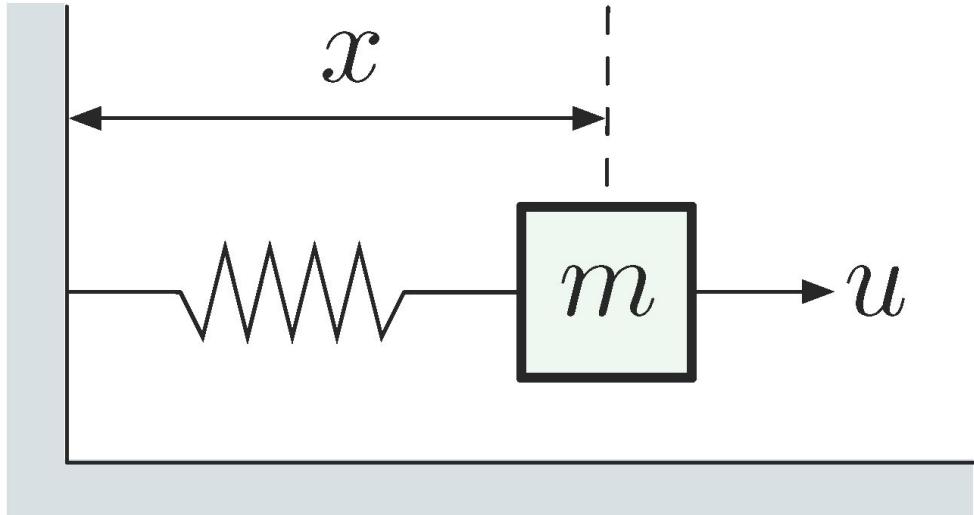
plastic



both



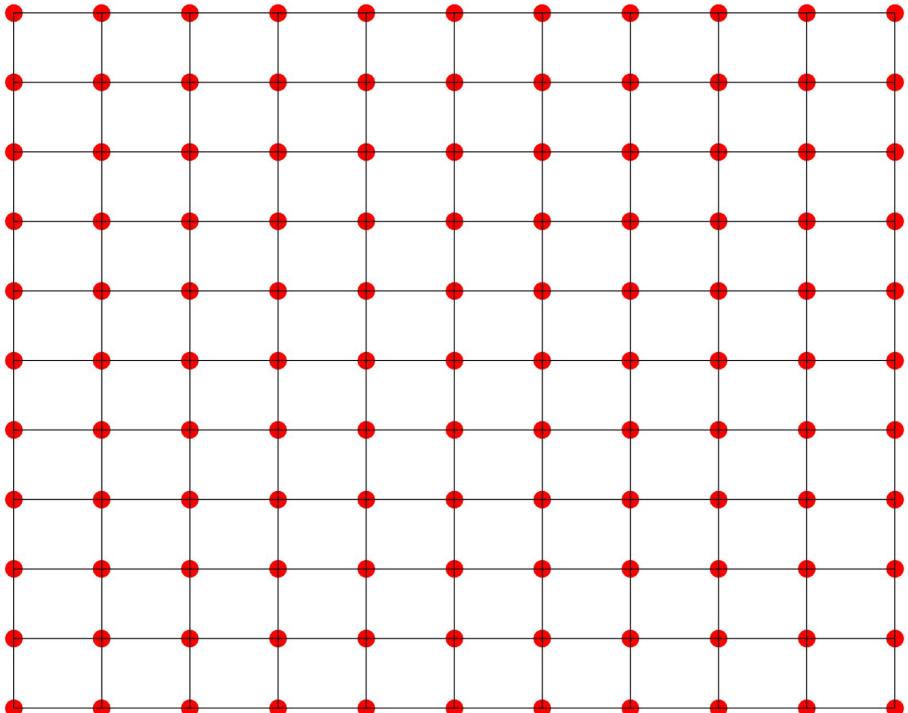
Mass-Spring System



Hooke's law

$$f = -k (\|x\| - l) = mx''$$

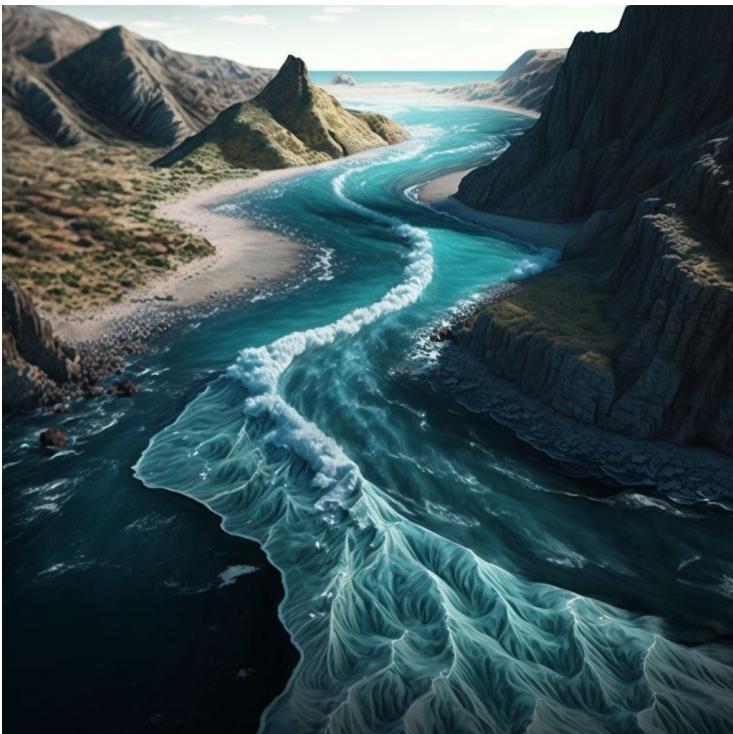
Mass-Spring System



cloth simulation

WebGL demo ([link1](#)) ([link2](#))

Fluid Dynamics



Lagrangian
vs
Eulerian
specification

Finite Difference Methods

- Approximate derivatives with finite differences to solve differential equations

$$F(t, x(t), x'(t), \dots, x^{(n)}(t)) = 0$$

general-form ordinary differential equation (ODE)

Truncation Error

Taylor expansion

$$f(x) = f(a) + f'(a)h + \frac{f''(a)}{2!}h^2 + \frac{f'''(a)}{3!}h^3 + \dots + \frac{f^{(n)}(a)}{n!}h^n + \dots$$

$$h = (x - a)$$

$$\underbrace{\frac{f(a+h) - f(a)}{h}}_{\text{1st order approximation}} = f'(a) + \underbrace{\frac{f''(a)}{2!}h + \frac{f'''(a)}{3!}h^2 + \dots + \frac{f^{(n)}(a)}{n!}h^{n-1}}_{\text{truncation error}} + \dots$$

Finite Difference Methods

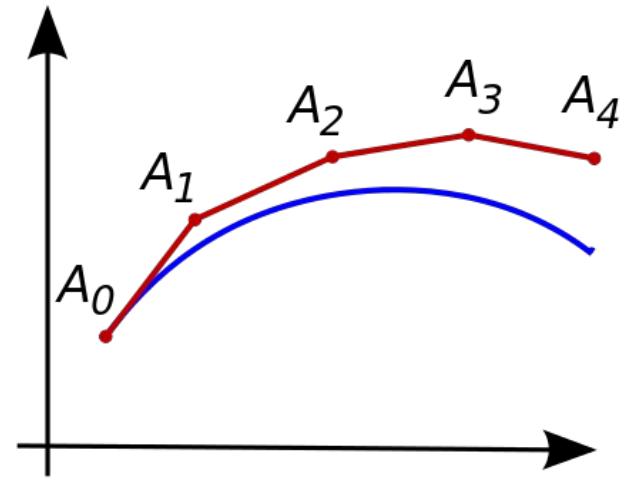
finite difference coefficients

Derivative	Accuracy	-4	-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3	4
1	2				-1/2	0	1/2			
	4			1/12	-2/3	0	2/3	-1/12		
	6		-1/60	3/20	-3/4	0	3/4	-3/20	1/60	
	8	1/280	-4/105	1/5	-4/5	0	4/5	-1/5	4/105	-1/280
2	2				1	-2	1			
	4			-1/12	4/3	-5/2	4/3	-1/12		
	6		1/90	-3/20	3/2	-49/18	3/2	-3/20	1/90	
	8	-1/560	8/315	-1/5	8/5	-205/72	8/5	-1/5	8/315	-1/560
3	2			-1/2	1	0	-1	1/2		
	4		1/8	-1	13/8	0	-13/8	1	-1/8	
	6	-7/240	3/10	-169/120	61/30	0	-61/30	169/120	-3/10	7/240
4	2			1	-4	6	-4	1		
	4		-1/6	2	-13/2	28/3	-13/2	2	-1/6	
	6	7/240	-2/5	169/60	-122/15	91/8	-122/15	169/60	-2/5	7/240

Euler Method

$$X'(t) = f(X(t), t)$$

$$X(t_{n+1}) = X(t_n) + \Delta t f(X(t_n), t_n)$$



- 1st order explicit method

Runge–Kutta methods

RK2

$$X(t_{n+1/2}) = X(t_n) + \frac{1}{2} \Delta t f(X(t_n), t_n)$$

$$X(t_{n+1}) = X(t_n) + \Delta t f(X(t_{n+1/2}), t_{n+1/2})$$

- 2nd order explicit method

Trapezoidal Rule

$$X(t_{n+1}) = X(t_n) + \Delta t \left(\frac{1}{2} f(X(t_n), t_n) + \frac{1}{2} f(X(t_{n+1}), t_{n+1}) \right)$$

- 2nd order implicit method

Finite Difference Methods

- convergence/accuracy
- stability
- computational efficiency
- memory efficiency

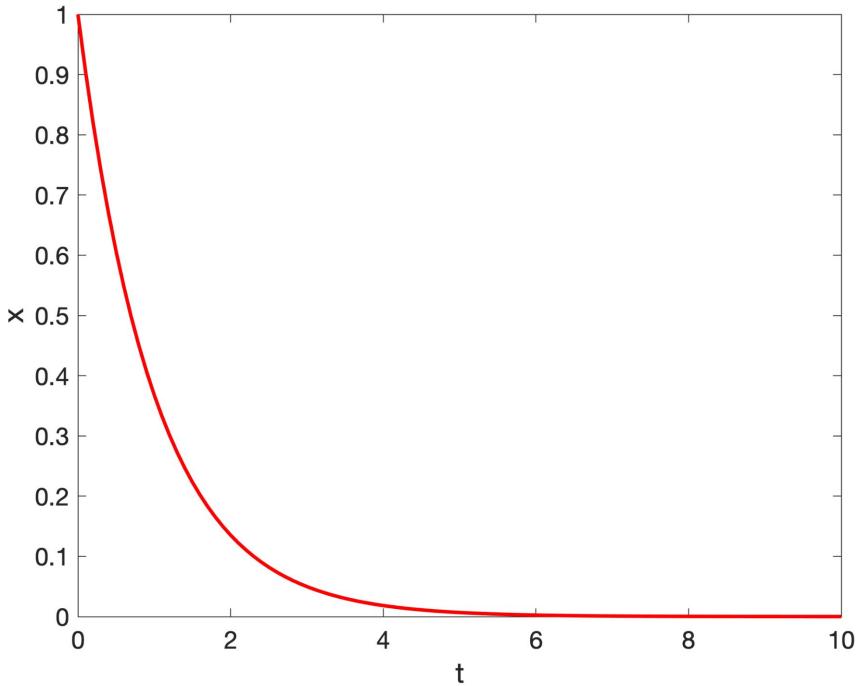
A-Stability

test equation

$$x' = kx$$

$$x = e^{kt}$$

$x \rightarrow 0$ as $t \rightarrow \infty$ if $\Re(k) < 0$



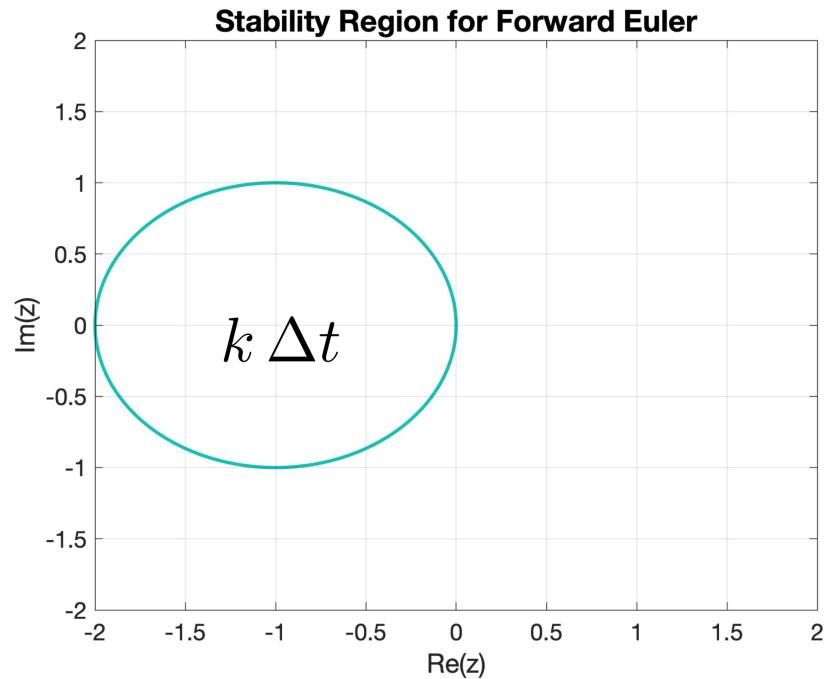
A-Stability

Forward Euler

$$x(t_{n+1}) = x(t_n) + k x(t_n) \Delta t$$

$$x(t_{n+1}) = (1 + k \Delta t) x(t_n)$$

$$x(t_n) = \underbrace{(1 + k \Delta t)^n}_{\text{stable when } < 1} x(t_0)$$



Higher Order ODEs

2nd order ODE $x''(t) = f(t, x(t), x'(t))$

reparameterization $x'(t) = v(t)$
 $v'(t) = f(t, x(t), v(t))$

Euler method $x(t_{n+1}) = x(t_n) + \Delta t v(t_n)$
 $v(t_{n+1}) = v(t_n) + \Delta t f(t_n, x(t_n), v(t_n))$