
Subject: clip polyhedron mesh

Posted by [Guneshwar Thangjam](#) on Tue, 19 May 2015 17:51:46 GMT

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Dear all,

I have a 3-dimensional polyhedron mesh where two polyhedrons are overlapped. I want to clip the polyhedron to make new polyhedrons where one portion belong the overlapping region and other non-overlapping region. If somebody knows how to do this, please let me know.

2nd option: I saw IDL's 'mesh_clip' but it is a clip using a planar surface. I don't prefer to clip using a plane, but in case if I have to use it, how I can get the coordinates of the overlapping portion?

3rd option: I also saw some discussions like polygon union/intersection (

[https://groups.google.com/forum/#!searchin/comp.lang.idl-pvwave/polygon\\$20intersection/comp.lang.idl-pvwave/uVplUkvt-94/Sd3NwjH-BxEJ](https://groups.google.com/forum/#!searchin/comp.lang.idl-pvwave/polygon%20intersection/comp.lang.idl-pvwave/uVplUkvt-94/Sd3NwjH-BxEJ)) where Mati

Maeron suggested shape_overlap.pro. But I cannot find his library and the script. I checked in this link <http://www.astro.washington.edu/docs/idl/htmlhelp/slibrary23.html>. Does anyone know where I can get his library and script?

Anyway my script/polyhedron is something like this. Dick helped me to create polyhedrons, but here I used iplot, and ipolygon.

;;1st polyhedron

```
x=randomu(seed,4)
y=randomu(seed,4)
z=randomu(seed,4)
xyz=[transpose(x),transpose(y),transpose(z)]
iPLOT,xyz,LINestyle=6,AXIS_STYLE=2,identifier='1'
QHULL,xyz,Vert
conn=[REPLICATE(3,[1,N_ELEMENTS(Vert)/3]),Vert]
iPOLYGON,xyz,/DATA,CONNECTIVITY=conn,visualization='1',transparency=50,/FILL_BACKGROUND,FILL_COLOR='SKY BLUE'
```

;;2nd polyhedron

```
x=randomu(seed,12)
y=randomu(seed,12)
z=randomu(seed,12)
xyz=[transpose(x),transpose(y),transpose(z)]
iPLOT,xyz,LINestyle=6,/OVERPLOT,identifier='2'
QHULL,xyz,Vert
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```

Thanks,
Guni

Subject: Re: clip polyhedron mesh

Posted by [Dick Jackson](#) on Wed, 20 May 2015 18:39:17 GMT

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Hi Guni,

On Tuesday, 19 May 2015 10:51:48 UTC-7, guni wrote:

> Dear all,

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First, it's a much simpler problem if you know you're working with *convex* polyhedra.

A Google search on [intersection of convex polyhedra algorithm] shows that at least *somebody* knows how to do this. :-) For example:

"Finding the intersection of two convex polyhedra" from 1977:

<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/0304397578900518>

There are lengthy algorithms that might take a lot of work to implement. Some even give solutions for intersecting convex and non-convex polyhedra.

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Something like this came up some time ago, and it may be the easiest way to go (assuming convex polyhedra). If you use each polygon from mesh 1 as a clipping plane into mesh 2 (and keep the correct piece each time!), when you're done, you'll be left with the intersection. This link includes another link to a useful example:

https://groups.google.com/forum/#!searchin/comp.lang.idl-pvwave/intersection%20polyhedron/comp.lang.idl-pvwave/qAvnBjaws_oY/JaiOeUS3KpoJ

> 3rd option: I also saw some discussions like polygon union/intersection (

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I haven't tracked it down, but I'm guessing that those discussions are about polygons in 2-D, not polyhedra in 3-D.

I hope this helps!

Cheers,
-Dick

Dick Jackson Software Consulting Inc.
Victoria, BC, Canada --- <http://www.d-jackson.com>

P.S.: This was a nice example you gave:

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parency=50,/FILL_BACKGROUND,FILL_COLOR='SKY BLUE'
>
> ;;2nd polyhedron
> x=randomu(seed,12)
> y=randomu(seed,12)
> z=randomu(seed,12)
> xyz=[transpose(x),transpose(y),transpose(z)]
> iPLOT,xyz,LINETYPE=6,/OVERPLOT,identifier='2'
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>
> Thanks,
> Guni
```

Subject: Re: clip polyhedron mesh

Posted by [Guneshwar Thangjam](#) on Wed, 20 May 2015 21:48:44 GMT

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On Wednesday, 20 May 2015 20:39:19 UTC+2, Dick Jackson wrote:

```
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>
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>> QHULL,xyz,Vert

```

```

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```

ave/intersection\$20polyhedron/comp.lang.idl-pvwave/qAvnBjaws oY/JaiOeUS3KpoJ

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How can I derive these plane coefficients? "Plane--Input four element array describing the equation of the plane to be clipped to. The elements are the coefficients (a,b,c,d) of the equation $ax+by+cz+d=0$."

When I placed the mouse pointer in the plot (mesh), it shows x,y,z co-ordinates, Is it something related to the coefficients I am looking?

Thanks

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Subject: Re: clip polyhedron mesh

Posted by [Dick Jackson](#) on Thu, 21 May 2015 07:09:22 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

guni wrote on 2015-05-20 2:48pm:

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```


>>>

>>>

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> equation $ax+by+cz+d=0$." When I placed the mouse pointer in the plot (mesh),
> it shows x,y,z co-ordinates, Is it something related to the coefficients I am
> looking? Thanks Guni
>

Right, that's not trivial. I had found the magic at
<http://paulbourke.net/geometry/pointlineplane/>
... and a function implementing this (and more) is below.

For each triangle in the mesh, you can use this routine to get the coefficients:

```
abcd = PlaneCoeffs([[x0,y0,z0],[x1,y1,z1],[x2,y2,z2]])
```

You should double-check that the resulting value results in the correct side of the plane being used. If it's wrong, then do one of these:

- send points in reordered as [[x0,y0,z0],[x2,y2,z2],[x1,y1,z1]], or
- use -(abcd) instead of abcd

Let me know if that works out!

Cheers,
-Dick

Dick Jackson Software Consulting Inc. -- www.d-jackson.com

```
;-----
```

```
; PlaneCoeffs
```

```
;+
```

```
; :Description:
```

```
;   From the input data provided in one of several forms, return the  
;   coefficients that define the plane.
```

```
;:
```

```
; :Returns:
```

```
;   Floating-point vector [a,b,c,d] defining the plane  $*ax + by + cz + d = 0*$ 
```

```
;:
```

```
; :Keywords:
```

```

; Points : in, optional, type=numeric 1-D or 2-D array
;   Either:
;     - One point [x,y,z] on the desired plane, requiring one
;       of XYangle, XZangle, YZangle or NormalVector to be provided, or:
;     - Three points [[x0,y0,z0],[x1,y1,z1],[x2,y2,z2]] that
;       fully define the plane.
; XYangle : in, optional, type=numeric scalar
;   For a plane parallel to the Z axis, the angle between the Y=0 line and
;   the desired plane (in degrees, counter-clockwise)
; XZangle : in, optional, type=numeric scalar
;   For a plane parallel to the Y axis, the angle between the Z=0 line and
;   the desired plane (in degrees, counter-clockwise)
; YZangle : in, optional, type=numeric scalar
;   For a plane parallel to the X axis, the angle between the Y=0 line and
;   the desired plane (in degrees, counter-clockwise)
; NormalVector : in, optional, type=numeric 1-D array
;   A 3-element vector (x,y,z) describing the normal to the desired plane
;
;:Examples:
; Find the equation of the plane that passes through the points
;   [1,1,1], [-1,1,0], [2,0,3]
; IDL> Print, PlaneCoeffs(Points=[[1,1,1], [-1,1,0], [2,0,3]])
;   -1    3    2   -4
;   (or, -x + 3y - 2z - 4 = 0)
; IDL> Print, PlaneCoeffs(Points=[0,0,0], YZangle=30)
;   0.000000  0.500000 -0.866025 -0.000000
; IDL> Print, PlaneCoeffs(Points=[1,2,3], NormalVector=[4,5,6])
;   4    5    6  -32
;
;:Author:
;   Dick Jackson Software Consulting Inc. -- www.d-jackson.com
;
;:History:
; 2009-10-02 djackson
;   First revision, partly from former PlaneFrom3Points.pro
; 2009-10-05 djackson
;   New: Keyword NormalVector
;   Doc: Improved comments, changed to RST format
; 2015-05-20 djackson
;   Doc: Improved docs
;
;-----
; *****
;
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; ;

```

```

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; SUBSTITUTE GOODS OR SERVICES; LOSS OF USE, DATA, OR PROFITS; LOSS OF USE,
;
; DATA, OR PROFITS; OR BUSINESS INTERRUPTION) HOWEVER CAUSED AND ON ANY
;
; THEORY OF LIABILITY, WHETHER IN CONTRACT, STRICT LIABILITY, OR TORT ;
; (INCLUDING NEGLIGENCE OR OTHERWISE) ARISING IN ANY WAY OUT OF THE USE OF
;
; THIS SOFTWARE, EVEN IF ADVISED OF THE POSSIBILITY OF SUCH DAMAGE. ;
; *****.
;

```

```

FUNCTION PlaneCoeffs, Points=points, XYangle=xyAngle, XZangle=xzAngle, $
    YZangle=yzAngle, NormalVector=normalVector

```

COMPILE_OPT IDL2 ; Integers default to 32-bit and indexing requires use of []

CASE 1B OF

```
;; Three points
```

```

Array_Equal(Size(points, /Dimensions), [3, 3]) AND $
(N_Elements(xyAngle)+N_Elements(xzAngle)+N_Elements(yzAngle) ) EQ 0: $
BEGIN

```

```
;; Method from http://paulbourke.net/geometry/pointlineplane/
```

```

p1 = points[*, 0] & p2 = points[*, 1] & p3 = points[*, 2]
x1 = p1[0] & y1 = p1[1] & z1 = p1[2]
x2 = p2[0] & y2 = p2[1] & z2 = p2[2]

```

$x3 = p3[0] \ \& \ y3 = p3[1] \ \& \ z3 = p3[2]$

$a = y1*(z2 - z3) + y2*(z3 - z1) + y3*(z1 - z2)$

$b = z1*(x2 - x3) + z2*(x3 - x1) + z3*(x1 - x2)$

$c = x1*(y2 - y3) + x2*(y3 - y1) + x3*(y1 - y2)$

$d = -(x1*(y2*z3 - y3*z2) + x2*(y3*z1 - y1*z3) + x3*(y1*z2 - y2*z1))$

END ;; Three points case

;; One point and an angle (one of XYangle, XZangle or YZangle)

N_Elements(points) EQ 3 AND N_Elements(xyAngle) EQ 1: BEGIN

$a = \text{Cos}((\text{xyAngle}-90) * !\text{DtoR})$

$b = \text{Sin}((\text{xyAngle}-90) * !\text{DtoR})$

$c = 0$

$d = -(a*\text{points}[0]+b*\text{points}[1])$

END ;; One point and XYangle

N_Elements(points) EQ 3 AND N_Elements(xzAngle) EQ 1: BEGIN

$a = \text{Cos}((\text{xzAngle}-90) * !\text{DtoR})$

$c = \text{Sin}((\text{xzAngle}-90) * !\text{DtoR})$

$b = 0$

$d = -(a*\text{points}[0]+c*\text{points}[2])$

END ;; One point and XZangle

N_Elements(points) EQ 3 AND N_Elements(yzAngle) EQ 1: BEGIN

$b = \text{Cos}((\text{yzAngle}-90) * !\text{DtoR})$

$c = \text{Sin}((\text{yzAngle}-90) * !\text{DtoR})$

$a = 0$

$d = -(b*\text{points}[1]+c*\text{points}[2])$

END ;; One point and YZangle

N_Elements(points) EQ 3 AND N_Elements(normalVector) EQ 3: BEGIN

$a = \text{normalVector}[0]$

$b = \text{normalVector}[1]$

$c = \text{normalVector}[2]$

$d = -(a*\text{points}[0]+b*\text{points}[1]+c*\text{points}[2])$

END ;; One point and NormalVector

ENDCASE ;; of different input options

Return, [a, b, c, d]

END

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Cheers,
-Dick

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