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Pattern design on 3D triangular garment surfaces*

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Abstract: This paper focuses on a pattern design method for a 3D triangular garment surface. Firstly, some definitions of 3D style lines are proposed for designing the boundaries of patterns as drawing straight lines or splines on the triangular surface. Additionally some commonly used style lines are automatically generated to enhance design efficiency. Secondly, after style lines are preprocessed, a searching method is presented for quickly obtaining the boundaries and patches of a pattern on the 3D triangular surface. Finally a new pattern design reuse method is introduced by encoding/decoding the style line information. After style lines are encoded, the pattern design information can be saved in a pattern template and when decoding this template on a new garment surface, it automates the pattern generation for made-to-measure apparel products.

Key words: Pattern design, Style lines, 3D patch searching, Encoding/decoding, Design reuse **doi:**10.1631/jzus.2007.A1642 **Document code:** A **CLC number:** TP391.72

INTRODUCTION

Garment design presently is mostly based on 2D CAD technique, which gradually turns to bottleneck in the apparel industry. 2D grading techniques in commercial apparel CAD systems (www.lectra.com; www.gerbertechnology.com) are mostly implemented by grading the pattern boundary curves. Such solution is not 3D intuition, and is hard to make the garment fit to the body.

Cloth simulation techniques (Volino *et al.*, 1995; Zhang and Yuen, 2001; Bridson *et al.*, 2003; Liu *et al.*, 2003; www.padsystem.com) provide a way for testing patterns by assembling 2D patterns in a computer system and draping them on a virtual human body. However, apparel simulation cannot provide valid methods for editing the 3D apparel surface to quickly make the apparel fit. Recently, an online made-to-

Currently, more and more studies focus on designing a 3D garment directly on a 3D scanned body and then generating 2D patterns via flattening 3D patterns. In Hinds and McCartney's work (Hinds and McCartney, 1990; McCartney et al., 2000), the garment is represented as a collection of panels offsetting from the body surface, and the garment panels are designed around the static mannequin body. Based on the human features, Wang et al.(2003a; 2003b) generated a 3D garment by piecewise construction and mesh subdivision technique. However, these studies focused on constructing the garment surface, and could only generate simple 3D patterns. Turquin et al.(2004) and Decaudin et al.(2006) drew garment

measure system was presented by Cordier *et al.*(2003). Their system allows interactive adjustment of the 3D mannequin according to the shopper's body measurements, online resizing of the garment to fit the mannequin, and real-time cloth simulation of the garment corresponding to body motion. However, their approach is also based on 2D pattern design and draping simulation, and their major purpose is for visualization and animation, not for design.

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contours and seamlines of the garment directly on a virtual mannequin at the front and back views, and then converted the sketch into an initial 3D surface using an existing method based on a precomputed distance field around the mannequin. The method designs the 3D garment patterns during construction of a 3D garment surface. However, a 2D input point is hard to acquire its precise 3D coordinate if it is not mapped onto a referenced 3D surface, so their method can only design the patterns from the front and back views, with its design process being a 2D method.

Actually, the process of 3D garment design includes 3D garment surface design and 3D garment pattern design. Hinds, McCartney and Wang only focused on the surface construction, while Turquin *et al.*(2004) and Decaudin *et al.*(2006) designed the patterns combined with constructing a garment surface which is hard to achieve freely in 3D garment design.

In this paper, we provide a solution for designing 3D patterns on a 3D garment surface generated by an interactive sketch technique (Li *et al.*, 2005) on 3D scanned bodies. Our main contributions are listed as follows:

- (1) Providing some proper definition and drawing methods for interactive design or automatically generating pattern style boundaries on a 3D triangular garment surface;
- (2) Providing an intelligent method for searching the boundaries and patches of a pattern on a 3D triangular surface, with several preprocessings of the style lines related with apparel design being handled;
- (3) Providing an encoding/decoding method of the style lines on a triangular surface for garment design reuse or 3D pattern grading.

BOUNDARIES DESIGN OF PATTERN ON 3D TRIANGULAR SURFACE

A triangular surface $S_v=(P, E, T)$ is represented by a set of vertices $P=\{P_i\}$, triangles $T=\{T_j\}$ and edges $E=\{E_k\}$. The topology linkage information is also defined: $P_i=\{\{AE_i\}, \{AT_i\}\}, T_j=\{(P_{j0}, P_{j1}, P_{j2}),$ $(E_{j0}, E_{j1}, E_{j2}), \{AT_j\}\}, E_k=\{(P_{k0}, P_{k1}), \{AE_k\}, \{AT_k\}\}\}.$ Where $\{AE_i\}, \{AE_k\}$ are the adjacent edge sets of P_i and E_k , respectively; $\{AT_i\}, \{AT_j\}, \{AT_k\}$ are the adjacent triangle sets of P_i , T_j Define a 3D Pattern $Ptn=(\{SL_i\}, S_v)$. $\{SL_i\}$ is a series of style lines composed of the boundaries of a pattern and S_v denotes the triangular patch of a pattern, as shown in Fig.1.

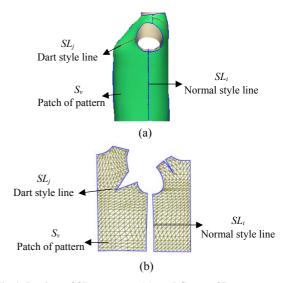


Fig.1 Design of 3D patterns (a) and flatten 2D patterns (b)

3D pattern boundaries design by drawing straight style lines interactively

Define a style line generated by drawing straight lines on S_v be $CL=(C_p, C_f, E_g, I_p, I_f, ID, IDA)$, where the meanings of C_p , C_f , E_g , I_p , I_f , ID, $\{IDA_i\}$ are listed in Table 1 and shown in Fig.2.

Table 1 Parameters used to represent CL style lines

Parameters	Meanings
$C_p = \{C_{p0}, C_{p1}\}$	The endpoints of <i>CL</i>
$C_f = \{C_{f0}, C_{f1}\}$	ID of the triangles where C_p is located
$E_g = \{E_{gi}\}$	Edges sets that CL goes through
$I_p = \{I_{pi}\}$	Intersection points of CL and E_g
$I_f = \{I_{fi}\}$	ID of the triangles that I_p locates
ID	ID of <i>CL</i>
$IDA = \{IDA_i\}$	ID sets of the style lines linking with CL

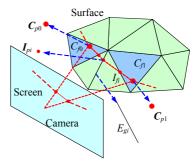


Fig.2 Definition of CL style lines

Two control points and triangles are needed to create a CL style line, and they can be acquired from interactively drawing process on S_{ν} by the following steps:

- (1) Utilize the method mentioned in (Wang et al., 2004) to pick out the triangles ID f_i after a 2D point p(x, y) input on the initialized OpenGL scene.
- (2) Convert the 2D point p=(x, y) to a 3D point vt=(x, y, z) in the OpenGL scene. Let the OpenGL model-view matrix be M, projection matrix be P. s), we can convert **p** to **vt** by the following equations:

$$V=VW$$
, (1)

$$V_x = (p_x - w/2)V_w(w/2)^{-1},$$
 (2)

$$V_y = (p_y - h/2)V_w(h/2)^{-1},$$
 (3)
 $V = VW^{-1},$ (4)

$$V = VW^{-1}, \tag{4}$$

$$vt = (V_x, V_y, V_z), \tag{5}$$

where s is a scale coefficient described by OpenGL, and its default value is 1.0. V_x , V_y , V_z , V_w are the x, y, z, w coordinate of V, respectively; p_x , p_y are the x, y coordinate of p, respectively; w and h are respectively the width and height of the OpenGL scene region. $(p_x-w/2)$ and $(p_y-h/2)$ mean that the original OpenGL point of the world coordinate system is on the center of the rendering scene.

- (3) Project vt onto S_v . Convert 2D point p to two 3D points vt_1 , vt_2 by taking two different depth points $v_{4,1}=(0, 0, 0, w)$ and $v_{4,2}=(0, 0, 1, w)$ in local system as reference, and then we can get a project direction $vt_{Dir} = vt_2 - vt_1$ along the z-axis direction of the global coordinate system. The projection point on S_{ν} of vtcan be regarded as the intersection point pt of triangle f_i and vt_{Dir} .
- (4) Get the projection triangle ID C_{f1} , C_{f2} and project points C_{p1} and C_{p2} of CL by twice mouse clicking on the surface as input.

Taking the average normal of C_{f1} , C_{f2} as the projection direction, the information of E_g , I_p , I_f that CL goes through is obtained and thus a CL is generated.

3D pattern boundaries Design by drawing spline style lines interactively

To design the boundaries of a pattern more freely and create more complex shapes, we generate them by drawing splines on S_{ν} , and call them FSPL style lines, as shown in Fig.3.

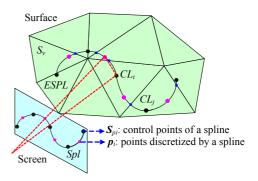


Fig.3 Definition of FSPL style line

 $FSPL=(Spl, \{S_{fi}\}, \{CL_{i}\}, ID, IDA)$, where Spl is a cubic spline containing a series of control points $\{S_{ni}\}$. $\{S_{fi}\}\$ are the IDs of the triangles where $\{S_{pi}\}\$ are located. $\{CL_i\}$ is the CL sets which are made up of FSPL. An FSPL can be generated by the following steps:

- (1) Obtain a series of 3D points $\{P_i\}$ discretized by Spl as the input points for $\{CL_i\}$.
- (2) Map $\{P_i\}$ onto S_v to get a series of points and triangles IDs of these points located as $\{C_{pi}\}$ and $\{C_{fi}\}$ of $\{CL_i\}$.
- (3) Generate a series of CL as presented in Section 2.1 and convert them into $\{CL_i\}$ of FSPL.

Note that $\{CL_i\}$ is the actual element for an FSPL that is handled in obtaining, trimming and flattening a pattern patch.

Generating feature style lines automatically

Some style lines that pass through feature positions of the garment are used frequently in pattern design, and these style lines are called feature style lines, as shown in Fig.4. We generate them as draw splines for freely designing or modification on S_{ν} . Note that, only $\{S_{pi}\}$, $\{S_{fi}\}$ are needed for generating an FSPL style line. So they can be automatically generated by the following steps:

- (1) Utilize the method presented in (Yan et al., 2005) to recognize some necessary feature points and obtain the IDs of the triangles where they are located.
- (2) Generate some FSPL by taking the recognized feature points and triangles' IDs as input for $\{S_{pi}\}, \{S_{fi}\} \text{ of } FSPL.$

Preprocessing of style lines

The following preprocessing of style lines has to be handled for obtaining the boundaries and patches of a pattern on 3D garment surface.



Fig.4 Feature style lines

(1) Break the intersection style lines and record their linkage information. If a style line intersects with other style lines, such as L_1 or L_2 shown in Fig.5a, it should be broken into two new style lines on the intersection, L_1 , L_2 or L_3 , L_4 as shown in Fig.5b, and the linkage information of the new style lines must be recorded. The new style lines are actually elements for obtaining and trimming a pattern.

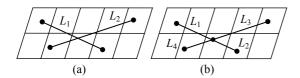


Fig.5 Breaking style lines at the intersection points (a) Before breaking; (b) After breaking

- (2) Label the bridge style line. A bridge style line is used to merge two closed style line loops into one, as the style line P_0P_1 shown in Fig.6. According to the definition of a bridge style line, it will be searched twice in the process of searching a closed style line loop. So we can regard it as two parallel style lines with identical position when creating the patch boundaries, trimming and flattening a patch, as P_0P_1 and $P_0'P_1'$ shown in Fig.6b. However, it is not used for checking whether a vertex is inside or outside during the process of labelling inside vertices of a pattern.
- (3) Label the dart style line. Darts are triangular elements of a pattern that enables a flat piece to take the shape of a curved surface once sewn. When a surface has a large deformation after being fitted to the 3D space, usually, appropriate darts should be inserted into the surface, as V_0V_1 shown in Fig.6. A dart style line cannot be used to make up patch boundaries or be taken as reference for checking whether a vertex is inside or outside the patch. While in trimming and flattening a patch, it is regarded as

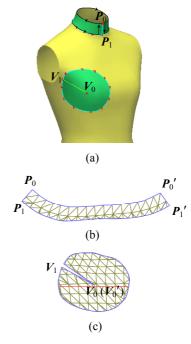


Fig.6 Pattern boundaries with bridge or dart style lines. (a) 3D pattern; (b) 2D pattern with bridge style lines; (c) 2D pattern with dart style lines

two parallel style lines with identical position, as V_0V_1 and $V_0'V_1'$ shown in Fig.6.

- (4) Process the boundaries of S_{ν} . If S_{ν} has boundaries, we should utilize the information of vertices, edges and faces on the boundaries to generate some style lines.
- (5) Adjust the style lines position. If a style line passes through a vertex of a triangle on S_{ν} , we should move it into the triangle a little. So all the vertices of S_{ν} are on different sides of a style line, and we can easily label whether a vertex is inside or outside a patch with its closed boundaries as reference.

OBTAINING 3D PATTERNS FROM STYLE LINES

The process of obtaining a 3D pattern after a start point is input by one mouse click and can be listed as follows:

(1) Search a closed loop of style lines as pattern boundaries which have the nearest style line to the input point. Record the edges intersecting with the loop and the number of intersection points of each intersection edge.

- (2) Label all inside vertices of the targeted pattern patch enclosed by the closed loop of style lines.
- (3) Extract the triangles partially or wholly inside the pattern boundaries to construct a mesh of the pattern patch.

Searching the boundaries for a 3D pattern

To obtain the closed style line loops as boundaries of a pattern patch, firstly we should utilize the following steps to obtain a style line on the loop, which is called a start style line, *SL* for short.

- (1) Get the triangle T_0 containing the input point P_0 .
- (2) If there are style lines passing through T_0 , SL is the nearest one to P_0 .
- (3) If there is no style line intersecting with T_0 , get a vertex on T_0 as the starting point. Utilize the breadth-first search method to search out an edge intersecting with some style lines in the linkage edges of T_0 . Suppose the edge is E_i , and the corresponding vertex is P_j , SL is the one whose intersection is the nearest to P_i .

Let a style line on the closed loop be BL, which is composed of boundaries of the pattern patch, and let the being processed style line be CurL. Starting from SL, the pattern patch boundaries can be searched as follows:

- (1) Set a CurL to be a BL.
- (2) Check whether a *CurL* links with other style lines. If "yes", go to (3), otherwise go to (5).
- (3) Calculate all the angles of CurL and its linked style lines, and sort its linked style lines by the angles in an increasing order, such as $\{AL_1, AL_2, ..., AL_i, ..., AL_n\}$.
- (4) Set the linked style line AL_i to be CurL in turn. If CurL is identical to SL, it means a closed loop is obtained and can be returned with "true"; otherwise, go to (1) and repeats the process until CurL is identical to SL.
 - (5) Set *CurL* not to be a *BL* and return false.

As shown in Fig.7, when the input P_0 is M, its corresponding SL is L_1 , and the pattern patch boundaries are $\{L_1, L_4, L_5, L_6\}$ after previous processing steps being implemented.

Note that, the bridge style line should be regarded as two parallel style lines with identical position and the dart style lines should be ignored in the process presented in this section.

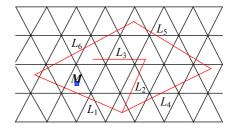


Fig.7 Searching the boundaries of a 3D pattern

Label inside vertices of a pattern patch

To label the inside vertices of the pattern patch, firstly we should obtain a start inside vertex, SP for short. SP can be obtained by the following steps:

- (1) Get the triangle T_0 which contains the input point P_0 .
- (2) If there are no style lines passing through T_0 , then SP is the vertex on T_0 which is the nearest to P_0 . As shown in Fig.8, P_1 is SP corresponding to the input point M_1 .

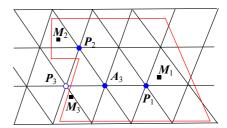


Fig.8 Obtaining a start inside the vertex

(3) If there are style lines passing through T_0 , we try to find out all the vertices $\{P_i\}$ in T_0 that has no intersection between P_0P_i and the style line loop, and set the one nearest to P_0 to be SP, such as P_2 is SP corresponding to the input point M_2 , as shown in Fig.8. If we cannot find such a vertex, it means all the vertices in T_0 are outside vertices. We take a vertex P_i in triangle T_0 which is the nearest to P_0 , and suppose the linked vertices of P_i are $\{A_i\}$. Try to find a linked vertex of P_i that has an odd intersection number between A_iP_i and the style line loop, and set such vertex A_i as SP. As shown in Fig.8, P_3 is an outside vertex and A_3 is SP corresponding to M_3 .

Starting from SP, we use the "breadth-first search" method to search out all the inside vertices of the targeted pattern patch. Let the inside vertex be IP, and its linked edges be $\{E_i\}$, another vertex on E_i is

 E_{iAP} . Similarly let the outside vertex be **OP**. Labelling process of inside vertices can be listed as follows:

Push SP into a stack, and do the following operations while the stack is not null.

- (1) Pop out the vertex on the stack top and label it as *IP*.
- (2) Search $\{E_i\}$ of IP, if there is zero or even BL passing through E_i and E_{iAP} has not been labelled as IP or OP, push E_{iAP} into the stack. If there is odd BL passing through E_i , we label E_{iAP} as OP.
- (3) If there are unsearched style lines passing through E_i , utilize the method as mentioned in Section 3.1 to check whether there is another closed loop inside the previous searched loop. If a new closed loop exists, label the style lines on the new loop as BL and go to (2) to continue the inside vertex labelling process.

Fig.9a shows the *IP* and *OP* searched out after first step of labelling. During labelling, a new loop $V_1V_2V_3V_4$ is checked. Only the first layer loops inside $P_1P_2P_3P_4$ need to be considered, such as $V_1V_2V_3V_4$. Other layer loops inside the first layer can be ignored, such as $D_1D_2D_3$, since they are outside the targeted pattern patch actually. Fig.9b shows all the inside vertices that are labelled after previous labelling steps, where the solid dot is *IP* and hollow dot is *OP*.

Note that, a style line has recorded all the edges ID that it goes through. So no special calculation is needed during the inside vertex labelling, high efficiency is achieved. The bridge style lines and dart style lines are ignored in the process presented in this subsection.

Constructing the mesh of a pattern patch

The mesh of a pattern patch is composed of its boundaries and the triangles partially or wholly inside the patch on the original surface. Following are the steps to construct a new mesh of the pattern patch.

- (1) Get the intersecting points of *BL* and triangles partially inside the patch to create one or several polygons. Vertices in the polygon should be stored in anti-clockwise order which is identical to that saved in the triangles of the original garment mesh.
- (2) Utilize the polygons to triangulate the triangles partially inside the patch.
- (3) Remove the triangles from the original apparel mesh and insert the newly triangulated triangles. Build the topologic relationship between the triangles

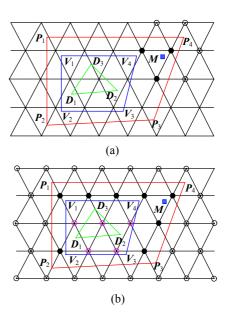


Fig.9 Pattern patch inside vertices labelling process (a) After first labelling; (b) When the labelling is finished

inside the target pattern patch and a final patch mesh is obtained.

(4) Flatten a mesh of 3D pattern patch using the method presented in (Li *et al.*, 2005), and a corresponding 2D mesh can be obtained as shown in Fig.10.

From Fig.10, we can learn that the feature style lines generated automatically can really enhance efficiency in 3D pattern design.

3D PATTERN DESIGN REUSE BASED ON ENCODING/DECODING OF STYLE LINES

The style line contains the pattern design information. After encoding the style lines, the designed pattern can be stored as a pattern style template by decoding the style lines, the pattern style can be mapped onto a new surface, and new pattern patches can be duplicated after searching the boundaries and inside vertices again. So the encoding/decoding process of style lines is essential for a pattern design reuse.

Encoding/decoding style lines based on barycentric mapping

Note that, the basic element of the style lines is $CL=(C_p, C_f, E_g, I_p, I_f, ID, IDA)$. The topologic relation

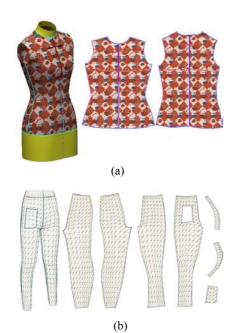


Fig.10 3D and 2D pattern generation after trimming. (a) 3D and 2D jacket pattern with boundaries composed by feature style lines only; (b) 3D and 2D trousers pattern with boundaires composed by feature style lines and freely designed style lines

of C_p , I_p and C_f , I_f is fixed if the topology of S_v keeps unchanged. So we can encode C_p , I_p with C_f , I_f through barycentric mapping. Let Q_i be a point of C_p or I_p and I_i its corresponding triangle. $I_i = \{P_{i0}, P_{i1}, P_{i2}\}$, and then Q_i can be encoded by the area ratio of triangle $\{Q_i, P_{i1}, P_{i2}\}$, $\{Q_i, P_{i0}, P_{i1}\}$, $\{Q_i, P_{i0}, P_{i2}\}$ and I_i , as shown in Fig.11 and Eqs.(6)~(8).

$$Q_{i} = f(T_{i}, u_{0}, v_{0}, w_{0}), \qquad (6)$$

$$u_{0} = \frac{u}{u + v + w}, \quad v_{0} = \frac{v}{u + v + w}, \quad w_{0} = \frac{w}{u + v + w}, \quad (7)$$

$$\begin{cases}
u = \frac{\|Q_{i}P_{i1} \times P_{i2}P_{i1}\|}{\|P_{i0}P_{i1} \times P_{i2}P_{i0}\|}, \\
v = \frac{\|Q_{i}P_{i0} \times P_{i2}P_{i0}\|}{\|P_{i1}P_{i0} \times P_{i2}P_{i0}\|}, \\
w = \frac{\|Q_{i}P_{i0} \times P_{i1}P_{i0}\|}{\|P_{i2}P_{i0} \times P_{i1}P_{i0}\|},
\end{cases}$$
(8)

where u_0 , v_0 , w_0 are the encoding of \mathbf{Q}_i with T_i being taken as the reference, and its corresponding decoding is expressed as:

$$\mathbf{Q}_{i} = u_{0} \mathbf{P}_{i0} + v_{0} \mathbf{P}_{i1} + w_{0} \mathbf{P}_{i2}. \tag{9}$$

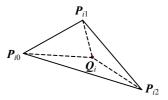


Fig.11 Encoding/decoding via barycentric mapping

If $(\mathbf{Q}_i \mathbf{P}_{i1} \times \mathbf{P}_{i2} \mathbf{P}_{i1}) \cdot (\mathbf{P}_{i0} \mathbf{P}_{i1} \times \mathbf{P}_{i2} \mathbf{P}_{i1}) < 0$, it means \mathbf{Q}_i and \mathbf{P}_{i0} are on the different sides of $\mathbf{P}_{i2} \mathbf{P}_{i1}$, and set u=-u. Similarly

if
$$(Q_i P_{i0} \times P_{i2} P_{i0}) \cdot (P_{i1} P_{i0} \times P_{i2} P_{i0}) < 0$$
, set $v = -v$; if $(Q_i P_{i0} \times P_{i1} P_{i0}) \cdot (P_{i2} P_{i0} \times P_{i1} P_{i0}) < 0$, set $w = -w$.

Total or partial encoding/decoding of style lines

Total encoding/decoding of the style lines means encoding or decoding all the information that needs to be saved, such as C_p and I_p for a CL style line, and Spl, $\{CL_i\}$ for an FSPL style line. This method can keep the topology correlations of style lines well during mapping of the template of style lines. However, it will bring on unexpected distortion if the garment surface has larger deformation. As shown in Fig.12a, L is an original CL style line, and it is distorted after being mapped onto a newly deformed surface as shown in Fig.12b.

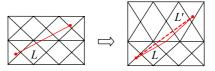


Fig.12 Shape distortion of the style lines after decoding totally. (a) Initial shape of L; (b) Shape of L after mapping

In order to make the style lines smooth after template mapping, we adopt a partial encoding/decoding method, which encodes C_p only for a CL style line and generates it after C_p is decoded on the new surface. For an FSPL style line, it encodes Spl only and generates a new one by having its Spl decoded. This method can make CL nearly straight and FSPL nearly smooth after being decoded.

Fig.13 shows a pattern template mapping onto a tight garment surface and a designed garment surface.



Fig.13 Pattern style template mapping on different surfaces. (a) Mapping on a jacket surface; (b) Mapping on a one-piece dress surface

CONCLUSION AND DISCUSSION

Our paper presents a basic solution for pattern design on triangular surface including generating the style line, obtaining 3D pattern patch, and mapping pattern template.

The boundaries of a 3D pattern patch are designed as drawing straight lines or splines on the triangular mesh, and complex shape of the pattern patch can be freely obtained. The 3D pattern patch can be conveniently obtained with one mouse click as the input after some preprocessing of style lines. The style of the pattern patch is easily saved and mapped onto a new garment surface by using the totally or partially encoding/decoding method of style lines.

Additionally, some commonly used feature style lines are automatically generated by recognizing the human feature points. These feature style lines can compose the boundaries of 3D pattern patch directly or be taken as the reference for pattern design.

The style drawing mode, 3D pattern patch obtaining method and pattern template mapping method can also be applied to any 3D triangular design process, such as shoe design and toy design. However, there are still some work left in pattern template mapping, e.g., to keep the topologic correlations between style lines unchanged after they are partially encoded/decoded, and to satisfy the needs that the topology of the triangular surface can be changeable during mapping of the style lines template.

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