# Modelling three-dimensional geoscientific datasets with the discrete Voronoi diagram 

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## Geoscientific datasets

- As found in meteorology and oceanography
- Continuous datasets (fields)
- Three-dimensional
- Samples have anistropic distro
- Rasters are usually used

■ voxels

- octree



## Alternative to raster: 3D Voronoi diagram

## Several advantages

- tessellation of space $=$ clear definition of neighbourhood
- adaptative to the spatial distribution
- continuity of field = VD-based interpolation
- locally modifiable


## But:



- requires specialised tools


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- One natural 'variant' of the VD
- Cells = groups of pixels with same ID
- Which properties are retained?


## D <br> iscrete VD in two dimensions

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## Discrete VD in two dimensions



## Discrete VD in two dimensions



## Discrete VD in three dimensions



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## Constructing a DVD

## Explicit methods



Implicit methods


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## Our approach: Implicit + Dilation



8-neighbours


4-neighbours

## Resolving Conflicts



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## Resolving Conflicts



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## CONFLICT!

## Resolving Conflicts



## Resolving Conflicts



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## Extra functions: deletion of points

- same operation as insert
- local reconstruction



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## Extra functions: natural neighbour interpolation

- based on insert-delete
- easy to implement: volume $=$ counting voxels



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## Prototype



## MayaVi for visualisation



Visualisation of vector 3D VD $=$ difficult

MayaVi for visualisation


## Spatial analysis with GRASS's map algebra



## Conclusions

- Simple but effective tool for modelling 3D continuous datasets
- Real alternative to rasters
- Algos less error-prone and simpler than exact 3D VD
- First step into construction of other VDs:
- 3D VD for lines/planes
- different metrics (e.g. Manhattan distance)
- higher-order VDs


## Thanks for your attention

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## Running times for construction: ramsbutt (150pts)



## Different neighbourhood sets (in 2D)



## Error in volume calculation



Graph showing the relation between error in volume calculation of a random chosen Voronoi Cell for a 3D discrete Voronoi diagram. The error is the absolute relative difference between the exact volume and discrete volume of the same Voronoi cell in percentages.

