

Thank you Florence for the introduction and thank you all for coming. I'm Yuanming from MIT.

# The Material Point Method (MPM)















When talking about MPM, everybody mentions particles and grids. However, there is another important concept usually missing in people's discussion on MPM. [Click] That is the continuous field approximated by discrete particles and nodes. In fact, the continuous field is where all physics happen. Essentially, MPM is a discretisation method that projects the continuous quantities to discrete particles and nodes.



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## Contributions

### + Part I: Moving Least Squares Discretization (MLS-MPM)

- Unifying Affine Particle-In-Cell and MPM force discretization
- Weak-form consistent
- Faster and Easier

### + Part II: Compatible Particle-in-Cell (CPIC)

- Velocity field discontinuity
- Enables cutting and rigid body coupling

I will talk about two contributions in our work, namely the moving least squares discretisation and the compatible particle in cell method.

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The first part introduces MLS-MPM.



Let's start with some high-school math. Given several data points, we want to to reconstruct a smooth curve to fit them.



Apparently this is a under constraint problem and there are many possible solutions. One guess may look like this...



Another guess may look like this.



So lets regularise it a bit. Maybe it is good to constraint our choice in only constant functions, like f(x)=b.

Of course you want to pick one constant function [click] that minimise certain error metric. We use the least squares reconstruction error here [click], which is defined as the total squares distance from the data points to the projected points on the curve.

 $f=\text{arg}\min_{\hat{f}\in\mathcal{F}} \sum_i \(\hat{f}(x_i)-y_i)^2$ 



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Apparently this function is not a good choice. Let's move it higher so that the distance gets minimized. If we consider the green dots to be the velocity values on the grid, this is exactly what happens during traditional particle-in-cell methods [click], when the particle is at the origin. Estimating the particle velocity is done by finding such function.



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And during particle to grid transfer, the grid velocity will be overwritten by the reconstructed values. This is why we want to minimise the reconstruction distance: smaller distance means better conversation of energy and less dissipation.



It's clear that just using a constant function is usually not sufficient. Let's include linear functions as well.



We can scale it [click] to make it match the slope of these points.



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If we super-impose the constant and linear functions, we can get a much better reconstruction. This is what APIC does. Instead of storing a constant velocity field on particles, APIC additionally stores information about the velocity field gradient, or the slope.



Of course we can introduce more basis, as in PolyPIC.



In 2D things get a bit more complex, but the idea is the same: use basis function to get least squares reconstructions.



Traditional PIC uses only constant basis.



APIC uses linear basis



PolyPIC further introduces bilinear and quadratic basis functions, leading to lossless grid-particle transfer. The more basis we use, the less dissipation we have.



Actually, there is another way to reconstruct the continuous function, which is spline interpolation.



Instead of using polynomials, we can use small splines at each node position. This is actually the "shape function" approach we use in FEM and MPM.



By adding these splines together, we get something like this. The reconstructed function looks smooth and it has been the classical way to discrete PDEs in weak-form based methods such as FEM and MPM.

Which one to	o use?	
	APIC/PolyPIC	MPM Discretization
Moving Least Squares Interpolation	$\checkmark$	?
<b>B-Spline Interpolation</b>	?	$\checkmark$

So we have talked about two ways of reconstructing a continuous field out of discrete samples. It seems that for some reason we have been using MLS interpolation for APIC, but B-Spline interpolation for MPM discretization.

One natural question here is, can we only use one single interpolation method for both? If we can do so, maybe we can simplify and optimise our algorithm.

Which one to use?				
	APIC/PolyPIC	MPM Discretization		
Moving Least Squares Interpolation	$\checkmark$	?		
<b>B-Spline Interpolation</b>	?	$\checkmark$		

So let's try using B-Splines for APIC.
/hich one to	o use?	
	APIC/PolyPIC	MPM Discretization
Moving Least Squares Interpolation	$\checkmark$	Ş
<b>B-Spline Interpolation</b>	No Angular Momentum Conservation	$\checkmark$

But after some attempts it turns out that doing so doesn't bring much advantage. In fact, it is not only hard to compute but also leads to no angular momentum conservation

Vhich one to	o use?	
	APIC/PolyPIC	MPM Discretization
Moving Least Squares Interpolation	$\checkmark$	Ş
<b>B-Spline Interpolation</b>	No Angular Momentum Conservation	$\checkmark$

So the only hope we have is to MLS interpolation for MPM discretizaiton.

Vhich one to	o use?	
	APIC/PolyPIC	MPM Discretization
Moving Least Squares Interpolation	$\checkmark$	MLS-MPM!
<b>B-Spline Interpolation</b>	No Angular Momentum Conservation	$\checkmark$

Fortuantely, it works well! This leads to MLS-MPM.

erial Point Method	
ine Particle-in-Cell	
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Material Point Method			
Affine Particle-in-Cell			
Moving Least Squares			







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Shape/Test function	B-spline	MLS Shape function weighted by B-spline
Lumped mass matrix	$m_i^n = \sum_p m_p \omega_{ip}$	$m_i^n = \sum_p m_p \omega_{ip}$
APIC P2G Momentum Contribution	$m_p \mathbf{C}_p^n (\mathbf{x_i} - \mathbf{x_p}) \omega_{ip}$	$m_p \mathbf{C}_p^n (\mathbf{x_i} - \mathbf{x_p}) \omega_{ip}$
Stress Momentum Contribution	$\Delta t V_p^0 \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial \mathbf{F}} (\mathbf{F}_p^n) \mathbf{F}_p^{nT} \nabla \omega_{ip}$	$\frac{4}{\Delta x^2} \Delta t V_p^0 \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial \mathbf{F}} (\mathbf{F}_p^n) \mathbf{F}_p^{nT} (\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_p) \omega_{ip}$
APIC G2P Affine Velocity Reconstruction	$\mathbf{C}_p^{n+1} = \frac{4}{\Delta x^2} \sum_i v_i (\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_p) \omega_{ip}$	$\mathbf{C}_p^{n+1} = \frac{4}{\Delta x^2} \sum_i v_i (\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_p) \omega_{ip}$
Velocity Gradient Evaluation	$\nabla \boldsymbol{v}_p^{n+1} = \sum_{i} \boldsymbol{v}_i^{n+1} (\nabla w_{ip}^n)^T$	$\nabla \boldsymbol{v}_p^{n+1} = \mathbf{C}_p^{n+1}$
Deformation Gradient Update	$\mathbf{F}_p^{n+1} = \left(\mathbf{I} + \Delta t  \frac{\partial \hat{\mathbf{v}}^{n+1}}{\partial \mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{x}_p^n)\right) \mathbf{F}_p^n$	$\mathbf{F}_p^{n+1} = \left(\mathbf{I} + \Delta t \frac{\partial \hat{\mathbf{v}}^{n+1}}{\partial \mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{x}_p^n)\right) \mathbf{F}_p^n$

Here I summarize elements of traditional MPM and MLS-MPM. This table does look a bit scary, but I promise that I will only spend one minute on it, and fortunately most entries are actually the same for MPM and MLS-MPM.

Fre	om <b>MPM</b> t	o MLS-MPM
Shape/Test function	B-spline	MLS Shape function weighted by B-spline
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In fact, the only difference is the stress momentum contribution and the evaluation of velocity gradient. [click] MLS-MPM reuses the APIC affine velocity field, which makes G2P faster.

 $\t t = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1}} \\ \t t = \frac{4}{\sqrt{2}} \\ \t t = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1}} \\ \t t$ 

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Since the B-spline gradient is replaced by the simple MLS shape function gradient, MLS-MPM avoids the costly B-spline kernel gradients.

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It is interesting to see how these two gradient kernels look like. In fact, they are very close to each other and are both at least first-order accurate.



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MLS-MPM fuses the computation of APIC and stress momentum contribution into a single matrix-vector multiplication, this halves the required FLOPs.

Timing (ms)	Reference	Ours (MPM)	Ours <sup>*</sup> (MPM)	Ours <sup>*</sup> (MLS-MPM)
P2G (1 thread)   P2G (4 threads)	4760 (1×) 1220 (1×)	5744 (0.83×) 1525 (0.80×)	2685 (1.77×) 688 (1.77×)	1283 (3.71×) 328 (3.72×)
G2P (1 thread) G2P (4 threads)	8255 (1×) 2070 (1×)	7476 (1.10×) 2011 (1.03×)	1144 (7.21×) 313 (6.61×)	589 (14.01×) 163 (12.70×)
	1			
Multi-si	<b>Referenc</b>	e: Tampubolo	on et al. 2017. S sand and wate	er mixtures

We benchmarked our solver against a reliable implementation from Tampubolon et al.



Our unoptimized implementation has a comparable performance to theirs.

Perform	ance			
Timing (ms)	Reference	Ours (MPM)	Ours* (MPM)	Ours* (MLS-MPM)
P2G (1 thread) P2G (4 threads)	4760 (1×) 1220 (1×)	5744 (0.83×) 1525 (0.80×)	2685 (1.77×) 688 (1.77×)	1283 (3.71×) 328 (3.72×)
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		<b>Optir</b> (Low-leve	<b>nized Tradition</b> I performance e	al MPM engineering)

Then we do some low-level performance engineering on traditional MPM. This makes P2G 1.6x faster and G2P 7x faster.

Perform	ance			
Timing (ms)	Reference	Ours (MPM)	Ours* (MPM)	Ours* (MLS-MPM)
P2G (1 thread) P2G (4 threads)	4760 (1×) 1220 (1×)	5744 (0.83×) 1525 (0.80×)	2685 (1.77×) 688 (1.77×)	1283 (3.71×) 328 (3.72×)
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				1
				Optimized MLS-MP
			(al	gorithmic improveme

Finally, we implement MLS-MPM.

ertorm	ance	2.10x fa 1.94x fa	2.10x faster P2G 1.94x faster G2P		
iming (ms)	Reference   Ours (MPM	) Ours* (MPM)	Ours* (MLS-MPM)		
2G (1 thread) 2G (4 threads)	4760 (1×) 5744 (0.83× 1220 (1×) 1525 (0.80×	) 2685 (1.77×) 688 (1.77×)	1283 (3.71×) 328 (3.72×)		
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			Optimized MIS-/		

This algorithmic improvement gives us 2x further speed-up.

## Contributions

## + Part I: Moving Least Squares Discretization (MLS-MPM)

- Unifying Affine Particle-In-Cell and MPM force discretization
- Weak-form consistent
- Faster and easier

#### + Part II: Compatible Particle-in-Cell

- Velocity field discontinuit
- Enables cutting and rigid body coupling

So that's the first part, where we unified APIC and MPM force discretization. The result is elegant and efficient, and more importantly, easier to implement. Ladies and gentlemen, it's not one thousand lines of code, not one hundred lines of code, not even ten lines of code. [click] It's negative 100 lines of code. At the same time, it is mathematically sound and runs faster. The more you use, the less code you write, and the faster your code runs. There is literally no reason not to use it.



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# Contributions

- Part I: Moving Least Squares Discretization (MLS-MPM)
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  - Weak-form consistent
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## + Part II: Compatible Particle-in-Cell

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Hopefully I have waken people up. Let's move on to the second part, the compatible particle-in-cell method.



Suppose you get an armadillo. As a simulation guy you can't wait to do something bad on it. [click] For example, you may want to cut it. However, this turns out to be very hard to MPM.



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Let's ask ourselves what is cutting. Clearly the desired behaviour is material separation after cutting. Suppose we are cutting the material at the origin, we want the left part moving to the left while the right part moving to the right.



This means we want the reconstructed velocity field to look like this: a sharp discontinuity as the cut point.



Unfortunately this is not supported by PIC, APIC and even PolyPIC. They only have continuous basis functions.



If we use APIC, we will get this.



In traditional MPM we cannot actually simulate cutting. [click]

A moving thin level set of any boundary conditions will either be treated as a collider or completely ignored by the material.

Putting the level set directly inside also doesn't work, since the interpolated velocity field is still continuous.

Other common approaches include particle deletion and softening. However, due to the fuzzy nature of PIC kernels, a significant amount of particles must be deleted for separation. [Wait] Softening creates unpleasant artifacts.



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During resample, because the relative motion on grid is smoothed out by the kernel, the particles will gather almost a rigid velocity field. In other words, a collision happens.



Unfortunately there is no existing way that can avoid such smoothing. We propose a method to solve this issue. This is achieved by assigning colours to both particles and grids, and particle only interact with nodes with the same color.



By doing this, no smoothing happens at the boundary.


We introduce the coloured distance field, which generalises the traditional signed distance field to represent self-intersecting and open boundary. We start with a boundary mesh [wait], then rasterise the distance to mesh to grid nodes [wait]. Then we rasterise the color of meshes to classify the grid nodes. [wait] On particles, we can reconstruct the distance and normal, again, using moving least squares.



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[click] With all these included, our MPM world becomes much sharper. We can incrementally cut a piece a jelly [wait], or cut it instantly. [wait] We can even do more than one cuts.



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The remaining problem is, how can we assign a colours to particles? Particles gain corresponding color when it moves close to the boundary. [DO not wait]

note that the color will be persevered even if it moves across the boundary.



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Now we are ready to cut a bunny.



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and some cheese



and some cheese



Cutting actually cover more natural phenomena. For example, blending.



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If we enable interaction between the boundary mesh and the particles, we can simply implement two-way rigid body coupling.



Here's one coupling exmaple.



Here's one coupling exmaple.



A 3D version.



A 3D version.







We can even simulate crawling robots entirely in MPM now, and study the motion of the robot.



We can even simulate crawling robots entirely in MPM now, and study the motion of the robot.



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There is actually a science paper claiming that the bottom motion will be faster.



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# Contributions

- Part I: Moving Least Squares Discretization (MLS-MPM)
  - Unifying Affine Particle-In-Cell and MPM force discretization
  - Weak-form consistent
  - Faster and Easier

#### + Part II: Compatible Particle-in-Cell

- Velocity field discontinuity
- Enables cutting and rigid body coupling

So that's it. CPIC allows velocity field discontinuity to exist in the reconstructed velocity field, and easily enables cutting and rigid body coupling.

# Contributions

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So we have introduced MLS-MPM and CPIC. Both of them are simple ideas and are easy to implement.



Reproducible every demo with a python script: *git clone https://github.com/yuanming-hu/taichi\_mpm* 

Apart from the 88-line version of MLS-MPM in 2D, we have also released code and data for the fully functioning high-performance 3D version based on taichi and you are welcome to try it.

[click] If you already have taichi installed on Linux, you can just do 'ti install mpm', and it will automatically deploy our MPM solver. We hope that this can low the barrier for everybody to start playing MPM.

[click] I would like to thank everyone who made this project possible, and thank you all for listening! That concludes my talk and I'm happy to take some questions.



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From MPM to MLS-MPM		
Shape/Test function	B-spline	MLS Shape function weighted by B-spline
Lumped mass matrix	trix $m_i^n = \sum_p m_p \omega_{ip}$	
APIC P2G Momentum Contribution	$m_p$ <b>(</b>	$C_p^n(\mathbf{x_i} - \mathbf{x_p})\omega_{ip}$
Stress Momentum Contribution	$\Delta t V_p^0 \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial \mathbf{F}} (\mathbf{F}_p^n) \mathbf{F}_p^{nT} \nabla$	$7\omega_{ip}\left(\frac{4}{\Delta x^2}\Delta t V_p^0 \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial \mathbf{F}}(\mathbf{F}_p^n) \mathbf{F}_p^{nT}(\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_p)\omega_{ip}\right)$
APIC G2P Affine Velocity Reconstruction	$\mathbf{C}_p^{n+1} = \frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{4}{\Delta x^2} \sum_{i} v_i (\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_p) \omega_{ip}$
Velocity Gradient Evaluation	$\nabla \mathbf{v}_p^{n+1} = \sum_i v_i^{n+1} (\nabla w_i)^{n+1}$	$\begin{bmatrix} n\\ ip \end{bmatrix}^T  \nabla \mathbf{v}_p^{n+1} = \mathbf{C}_p^{n+1}$
Deformation Gradient Update	$\mathbf{F}_{p}^{n+1} = 0$	$\left(\mathbf{F} + \Delta t \nabla \mathbf{v}_p^{n+1}\right) \mathbf{F}_p^n$

Since the B-spline gradient is replaced by the simple MLS shape function gradient, MLS-MPM avoids the costly B-spline kernel gradients.

 $\t t e \{F\}_p^{n+1} = \left\{F\} + De ta t e \{v\}_p^{n+1} \right\} (\t e \{F\}_p^{n+1} \in \mathbb{R}^n)$