- Previous Lecture:
 - Comparing different sorting algorithms
 - Recursion
- Today's Lecture:
 - Recursion review
 - Efficiency: dealing with "expensive" function evaluation
 - A model to quantify importance: Google "Page Rank"
- Announcement:
 - Discussion this week in the computer lab (UP B7)
 - P6 due Thursday at IIpm

Divide-and-conquer methods also show up in geometric situations

Chop a region up into triangles with smaller triangles in "areas of interest"



Recursive mesh generation

Mesh Generation



Step one in simulating flow around an airfoil is to generate a mesh and (say) estimate velocity at each mesh point.

Mesh Generation in 3D



Why is mesh generation a divide-&-conquer process?

Let's draw this graphic



Start with a triangle



A "level-I" partition of the triangle

(obtained by connecting the midpoints of the sides of the original triangle)



Now do the same partitioning (connecting midpts) on each corner (white) triangle to obtain the "level-2" partitioning

The "level-2" partition of the triangle



The "level-3" partition of the triangle



The "level-4" partition of the triangle



The "level-4" partition of the triangle



The basic operation at each level

if the triangle is small Don't subdivide and just color it yellow. else Subdivide: Connect the side midpoints; color the interior triangle magenta; apply same process to each outer triangle. end

Draw a level-4 partition of the triangle with these vertices

 \bigcirc

 \bigcirc

 \bigcirc

At the start...



 \bigcirc

Recur: apply the same process on the lower left triangle



Recur again



 \bigcirc

 \bigcirc





The next lower left corner triangle (white) is small—no more subdivision and just color it yellow.

Now lower left corner triangle of the "level-4" partition is done. Continue with another corner triangle



... and continue

 \bigcirc

 \bigcirc

Now the lower left corner triangle of the "level-3" partition is done. Continue with another corner triangle...



Ο



We're "climbing our way out" of the deepest level of partitioning



 \bigcirc







Lecture 27



Lecture 27







Eventually climb all the way out to get the final result



The basic operation at each level

if the triangle is small Don't subdivide and just color it yellow. else Subdivide: Connect the side midpoints; color the interior triangle magenta; Apply same process to each outer triangle. end

```
function MeshTriangle(x,y,L)
```

% x,y are 3-vectors that define the vertices of a triangle. % Draw level-L partitioning. Assume hold is on.

if L==0

% Recursion limit reached; no more subdivision required. fill(x,y,'y') % Color this triangle yellow

else

% Need to subdivide: determine the side midpoints; connect

% midpts to get "interior triangle"; color it magenta.

% Apply the process to the three "corner" triangles...

end

```
function MeshTriangle(x,y,L)
```

% x,y are 3-vectors that define the vertices of a triangle. % Draw level-L partitioning. Assume hold is on.

if L==0

% Recursion limit reached; no more subdivision required. fill(x,y,'y') % Color this triangle yellow

else

- % Need to subdivide: determine the side midpoints; connect
- % midpts to get "interior triangle"; color it magenta. a = [(x(1)+x(2))/2 (x(2)+x(3))/2 (x(3)+x(1))/2]; b = [(y(1)+y(2))/2 (y(2)+y(3))/2 (y(3)+y(1))/2]; fill(a,b,'m')

% Apply the process to the three "corner" triangles...

end

```
function MeshTriangle(x,y,L)
```

% x,y are 3-vectors that define the vertices of a triangle. % Draw level-L partitioning. Assume hold is on.

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- % Apply the process to the three "corner" triangles... MeshTriangle([x(1) a(1) a(3)],[y(1) b(1) b(3)],L-1) MeshTriangle([x(2) a(2) a(1)],[y(2) b(2) b(1)],L-1) MeshTriangle([x(3) a(3) a(2)],[y(3) b(3) b(2)],L-1) end

Expensive function evaluations

 Consider the execution of a program that is dominated by multiple calls to an expensive-to-evaluate function (e.g., climate simulation models)



 Can try to improve efficiency by dealing with the expensive function evaluations

Dealing with expensive function evaluations

- Can the function code be improved?
- Can we do fewer function evaluations?
- Can we pre-compute and store specific function values so that during the main program execution the program can just look up the values?
 - Consider function f(x). If there are many function calls and few distinct values of x, can get substantial speedup
 - Only speeds up main program execution—it still takes time to do the pre-computation



What are some issues and potential problems with the "table look-up" strategy?

| x | f(x) | | |
|---|------|--|--|
| 1 | 1.01 | | |
| 2 | 2.67 | | |
| 3 | 5.71 | | |
| 4 | 9.12 | | |
| 5 | 7.98 | | |
| : | : | | |
| | | | |

Pre-calculate and store these values (e.g., in a vector H)

- Accuracy—need a "dense grid" to get high accuracy
 → significant memory usage
- If an exact x-value is not found, need some kind of approximation
- Incur searching cost if the x-values are not simple indices
- Feasible in high dimensions (multiple dependent variables)?

To be continued in this week's lab.

Quantifying Importance

How do you rank web pages for importance given that you know the link structure of the Web, i.e., the in-links and out-links for each web page?

A related question:

How does a deleted or added link on a webpage affect its "rank"?

Background

Index all the pages on the Web from 1 to n. (n is around ten billion.)

The PageRank algorithm orders these pages from "most important" to "least important."

It does this by analyzing links, not content.

Key ideas

- There is a random web surfer—a special random walk
- The surfer has some random "surfing" behavior—a transition probability matrix
- The transition probability matrix comes from the link structure of the web—a connectivity matrix
- Applying the transition probability matrix →
 Page Rank

A 3-node network with specified transition probabilities



A special random walk

Suppose there are a 1000 people on each node.

At the sound of a whistle they hop to another node in accordance with the "outbound" probabilities.

> For now we assume we know these probabilities. Later we will see how to get them.









State Vector:

describes the state at each node at a specific time



After 100 iterations

| | T=99 | T=100 | |
|---------------------------------|---------|--------------|--|
| Node 1 | 1142.85 | 1142.85 | |
| Node 2 | 1357.14 | 1357.14 | |
| Node 3 | 500.00 | 500.00 | |
| Appears to reach a steady state | | | |
| Call this the stationary vector | | | |