

DEFOXEL: A NEW TOOL FOR VIRTUAL AESTHETIC SHAPING

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<p>Abstract:</p> <p>Based on the theory of solid mechanics, a group of “<i>defoxels</i>” have been defined and used to create three dimensional virtual shapes. A <i>defoxel</i> can be viewed as a force (or a source) which is capable to deform objects or meshes accordingly in a nature way. The <i>defoxel</i> acts as an abstract notation for distortion in space and a collection of <i>defoxels</i> are capable of creating complex deformation patterns, presenting rich variation in terms of curvature and distortion of shapes. The beauty of using this notation is the capability of generating a collection of shaping effects instantly with the same setting of <i>defoxels</i> when feeding different shapes to deform. Furthermore, we have implemented an Autodesk Maya plug-in to assist artists to create art pieces with <i>defoxels</i> interactively, leading to the desired demonstrations. With a few examples, the paper envisages the potential of <i>defoxels</i> as a shaping tool to reflect tensions and deformations in space.</p>
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