

Geometrical modeling

The regions within a given geometrical model are defined by surfaces, which represent interfaces that a particle will traverse during its transport.

Geometrical modeling

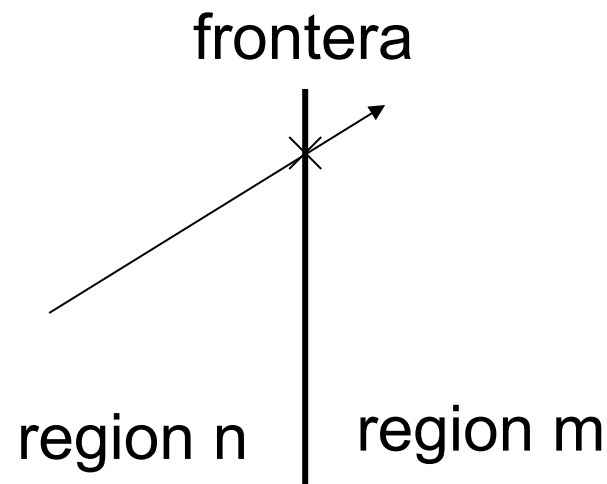
The geometrical problem in Monte Carlo simulations

- If a particle travels a distance s from position X_0 with direction μ , does it intersect any frontier?
- If the answer to the last question is positive, what is the distance to the point of intersection between the particle trajectory and the frontier?
- Furthermore, what is the new region which the particle enters in?

Geometrical modeling

Interface crossing

- Determination of the distance to the interface.
- Determination of the new region which the particle enters in.



Geometrical modeling

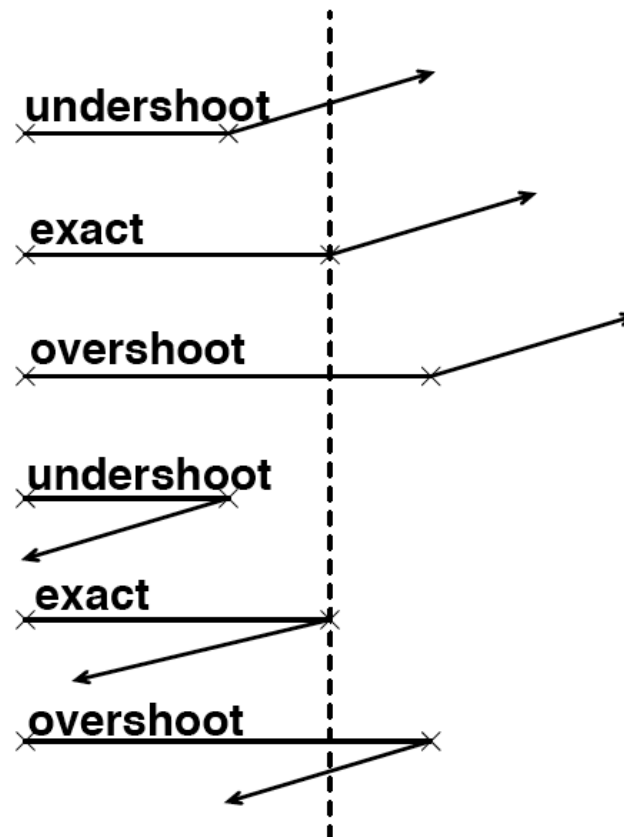
Precision problems

- It is important to use double precision floating point variables to represent all quantities associated to the geometrical problem (positions, directions, surface description, etc.).
- The precision is not infinitely small so it is possible that the particle falls before (undershoot) or after (overshoot) the surface when updating its position.

Geometrical modeling

Possible approaches to the surface

Region N_0 Region N



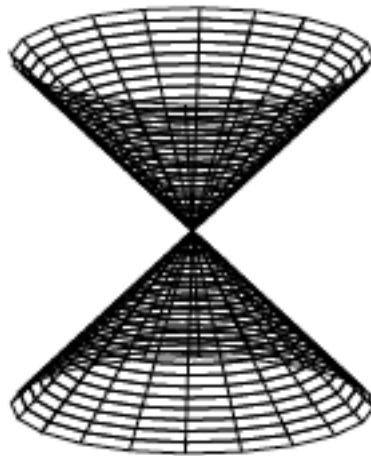
Geometrical modeling

Most common surfaces in Monte Carlo simulations

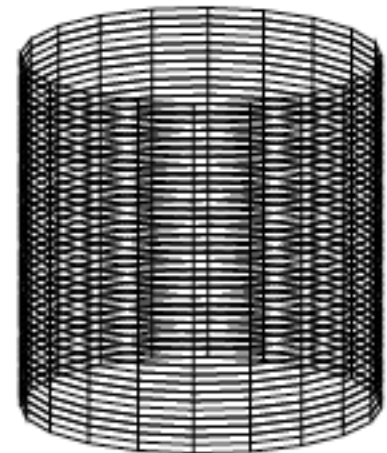
Sphere



Circular Cone



Circular Cylinder



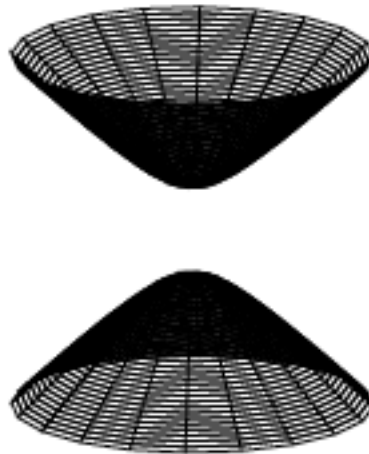
Geometrical modeling

Most common surfaces in Monte Carlo simulations

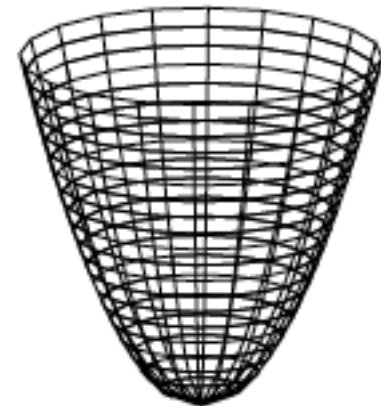
Circular Hyperboloid of One Sheet



Circular Hyperboloid of Two Sheets



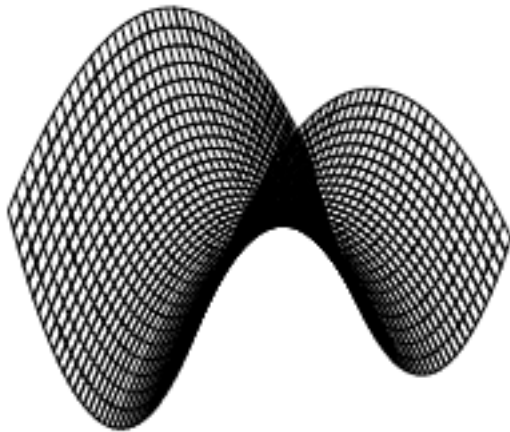
Circular Paraboloid



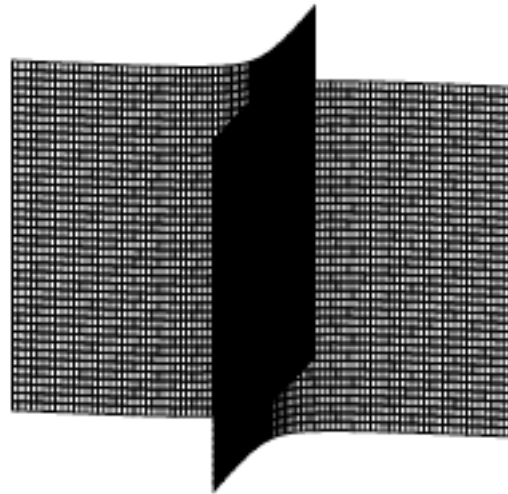
Geometrical modeling

Most common surfaces in Monte Carlo simulations

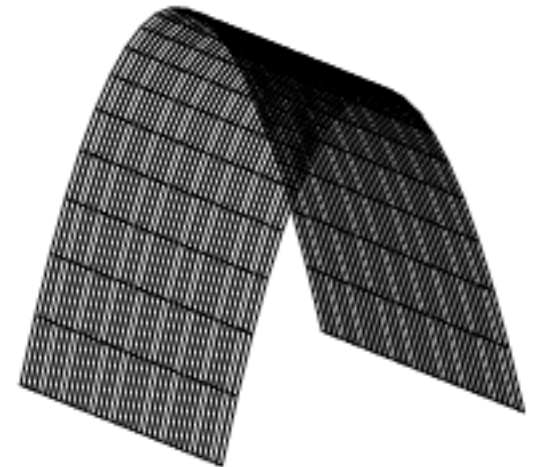
Hyperbolic Paraboloid



Hyperbolic Cylinder



Parabolic Cylinder



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Mathematical expressions for surface definition

1. ellipsoids: $a_1^2 x_1^2 + a_2^2 x_2^2 + a_3^2 x_3^2 - c^2 = 0$.
2. cones: $a_1^2 x_1^2 + a_2^2 x_2^2 - a_3^2 x_3^2 = 0$.
3. cylinders: $a_1^2 x_1^2 + a_2^2 x_2^2 - c^2 = 0$.
4. hyperboloids of one sheet: $a_1^2 x_1^2 + a_2^2 x_2^2 - a_3^2 x_3^2 - c^2 = 0$.
5. hyperboloids of two sheets: $a_1^2 x_1^2 + a_2^2 x_2^2 - a_3^2 x_3^2 + c^2 = 0$.

Geometrical modeling

Mathematical expressions for surface definition

6. elliptic paraboloids: $a_1^2 x_1^2 + a_2^2 x_2^2 + a_3 x_3 = 0$.
7. hyperbolic paraboloids: $a_1^2 x_1^2 - a_2^2 x_2^2 + a_3 x_3 = 0$.
8. hyperbolic cylinders: $a_1^2 x_1^2 - a_2^2 x_2^2 + c^2 = 0$.
9. parabolic cylinders: $a_1^2 x_1^2 + a_3 x_3 = 0$.
10. simple planes: $a_3 x_3 + c = 0$.

Geometrical modeling

Intersection between the particle trajectory and a surface

General quadratic equation for a surface

$$f(\vec{x}) = \sum_{i,j=0}^3 a_{ij} x_i x_j = 0.$$

Trajectory equation

$$\vec{x} = \vec{p} + \vec{\mu}s$$

Equation to be solved

$$s^2 \left(\sum_{i,j=0}^3 a_{ij} \mu_i \mu_j \right) + 2s \left(\sum_{i,j=0}^3 a_{ij} p_i \mu_j \right) + \left(\sum_{i,j=0}^3 a_{ij} p_i p_j \right) = 0.$$

Geometrical modeling

Intersection between the particle trajectory and a surface

Equation to be solved

$$A(\vec{\mu})s^2 + 2B(\vec{\mu}, \vec{p})s + C(\vec{p}) = 0$$

$$\begin{aligned}A(\vec{\mu}) &= \sum_{i,j=0}^3 a_{ij} \mu_i \mu_j \\B(\vec{\mu}, \vec{p}) &= \sum_{i,j=0}^3 a_{ij} p_i \mu_j \\C(\vec{p}) &= \sum_{i,j=0}^3 a_{ij} p_i p_j\end{aligned}$$

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Possible solutions

IF $B^2 - AC < 0$ Particle does not intersect the surface.

ELSEIF The particle thinks it is outside

IF $B \geq 0$

IF $A \geq 0$ No solution.

ELSE $s = -(B + \sqrt{B^2 - AC})/A$.

ELSE $s = \max(0, C/[\sqrt{B^2 - AC} - B])$.

ELSE The particle thinks it is inside

IF $B \leq 0$

IF $A > 0$ $s = (\sqrt{B^2 - AC} - B)/A$.

ELSE No solution.

ELSE $s = \max(0, -C/[\sqrt{B^2 - AC} + B])$.

Geometrical modeling

Sphere example

General sphere equation

$$(\vec{x} - \vec{X})^2 - R^2 = (x - X)^2 + (y - Y)^2 + (z - Z)^2 - R^2 = 0$$

Equation to be solved $As^2 + 2Bs + C = 0$

$$A = 1$$

$$\begin{aligned} B &= \vec{\mu} \cdot (\vec{x}_0 - \vec{X}) \\ &= u(x_0 - X) + v(y_0 - Y) + w(z_0 - Z) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} C &= (\vec{x}_0 - \vec{X})^2 - R^2 \\ &= (x_0 - X)^2 + (y_0 - Y)^2 + (z_0 - Z)^2 - R^2 \end{aligned}$$