

Shape Grammar Interpreter for Twisted Wire Jewelry

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ABSTRACT

This work presents a Shape Grammar Interpreter to produce Indian traditional twisted wire jewelry designs implementing shape grammar approach. This formalism comprises a vocabulary of shapes and a set of shape rules that allows users to create, modify and generate twisted wire jewelry designs. The developed tool allows the designers to participate in design process through the parameter values. This framework can support the designers to create newer style of jewelry items easily and in faster way. The shape grammar approach is embedded in CAD technology to indeed help the designers in their creative jewelry designing process. This work is implemented in SOLIDWORKS using Visual Basic for Application (VBA).

Keywords

Shape Grammar, Twisted Wire Jewelry, CAD.

1. INTRODUCTION

Twisted wire jewelry is popular in Orissa and Andhra Pradesh in India. It is made using a technique of twisting, bending, wrapping and braiding plain precious metal wire (gold and silver) to create a lace-like effect of pierced jewelry. Standard forms of jewelry produced in this class are earrings, bracelets, brooches, pendants, chains, necklace and buttons as shown in figure 1.



Figure 1: Twisted Wire Jewelry

This work is towards the generation of traditional class of twisted wire jewelry designs using shape grammar formalism that functions as a construction system to produce shape arrangements by employing shape rules with the aim to represent jewelry designs with variations. In fact, this work presents a Shape Grammar Interpreter (SGI) comprising a vocabulary of shapes and a set of shape rules that allows users to create, modify and generate twisted wire jewelry designs. The motivation of the work is to automate this style of jewelry for the preservation of traditional values of the craftwork. Although introducing automation into craft work will lose its charm and beauty, but it is necessary because the upcoming generations are not interested in the traditional craft work as it requires much skill and time.

2. SHAPE GRAMMAR INTERPRETER

Shape Grammar Interpreter represents a formalism that has captured the essence of traditional twisted wire jewelry and encoded it into a series of jewelry generations of this style. It comprises of a vocabulary of shapes and a set of shape rules analogous to traditional craftwork of twisted wire jewelry. The basic geometric shapes of motifs in traditional twisted wire jewelry are explored, developed and collected as a vocabulary (Figure 2). Further, shape rules are classified into two levels: 1) Low-level Rules and 2) High-level Rules (Figure 3). The low-level shape rules are defined as transformations like mirror, translation, copy, rotation, scaling, shear and bend (table 1). High-level rules have been developed in combination of two or more low-level rules. High-level rules represent the desired transformation as per the requirement for the generation of complex twisted wire jewelry designs. In fact graphically, high-level rules are created by concatenation of low-level transformation rules. As concatenation of transformation is non-commutative, so low-level rules could be applied only in a particular order to get the desired result. For example, RH is the high-level transformation created from rotation, translation, copy and bending taken in order. These rules are user defined and set of high level rules is an open ended to which new definitions can be added.

Mathematically

$$J_n \leftarrow R_H M_i$$

$$R_H \leftarrow R_c R_t R_c R_b$$

J_n = Jewelry Generations

M_i = Shape Vocabulary

R_H = High Level Rule

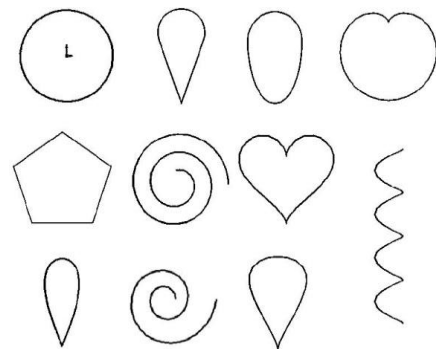


Figure 2: Vocabulary of shapes

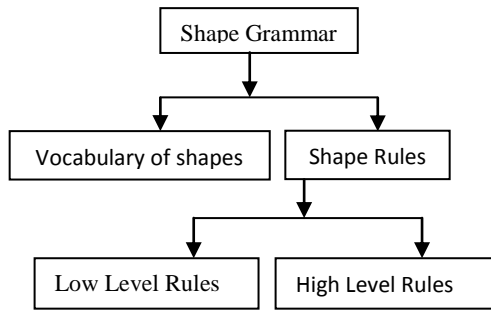


Figure 3: Shape Grammar Formalism

Table 1: Low Level Rules

Sr. No.	Trasformations/ Rules	Symbolic Representation
1.	Translation	R_t
2.	Mirror	R_m
3.	Rotation	R_r
4.	Scaling	R_s
5.	Copy	R_c
6.	Shear	R_{sr}
7.	Bend	R_b

3. RELATED WORK

Yufei Wang [1] presents a framework for the generation and fabrication of architectural massing designs. The framework consists of a computer program, which generates designs based on shape grammars, and rapid prototyping technologies. Lestyn Jowers [2] presented the implementation of curved shape grammars. This reflects developments of the shape grammar formalism which has traditionally been defined according to straight lines. The algorithms are implemented in a shape grammar interpreter that enables the application of shape grammars on shapes composed of quadratic Bezier curves. Seth Orsborn [3] describes how the rules for a shape grammar can be derived automatically. A statistical analysis of the design language produces fundamental shape chunks which are based on shape grammar rules. Cui Jia [4] proposes generative shape grammar approach to creating embroidery patterns. Designing process is based on a generative system with a shape grammar representation into dimensional space and representation can support human designer to create newer styles of embroidery easily, faster and visually. Trescak [5] introduced the general shape grammar interpreter for intelligent designs generations. The developed shape grammar framework allows designers to obtain automatically generated designs and to participate in the design process. Somlak Wannarumon [6] proposes a framework of generative design system for an automatic shape generation tool, which is to be used to support designers in exploring design concepts. The transformations of curved outlines are explained through shape grammar and shape rules. Xuekun Guo [7] presents an inspiration-oriented procedural approach to help artists create with abnormal structures, while preserving the semantics of biological forms.

4. CONCEPTUALIZATION OF TWISTED WIRE JEWELRY

The traditional piece of craftwork shown in (Figure 4) has been generated in SGI and depicted in this work as a case study. The motif in this jewelry bangle comprises of two basic

geometric shapes: 1) Teardrop and 2) Spiral. The modeling parameters defining twisted wire strand, motif and jewelry type (bangle) may include size of wire, extent of twisting of wire, size of motif, size of bangle etc.

4.1 Teardrop Geometry

The teardrop is created by connecting a circular arc with two line segments originating from a point D and being tangent to the circular arc at the endpoints P_1 and P_2 , as shown in Figure 5. The parametric form of point P_1 and P_2 derived as:

$$P(x, y) = \left[\frac{r^2}{d}, \quad \frac{r}{d} \sqrt{d^2 - r^2} \right]$$

where

r = radius of arc,

d = distance between center of arc and point D

The size of teardrop has been defined by a circumscribed rectangle of width w and length l . The parameters r and d have been conceptualized as $w/2$ and $(l-w/2)$.

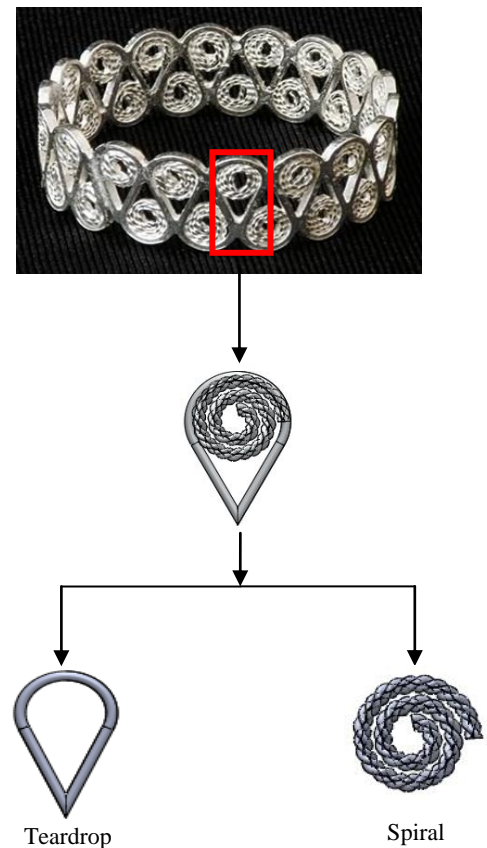


Figure 4: Traditional Piece of Twisted Wire Jewelry

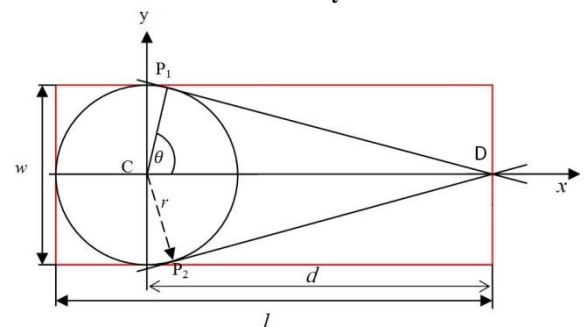


Figure 5: Teardrop Geometry

4.2 Spiral Geometry

Spiral is locus of a point moving in a circle with constant speed. It starts in the origin and makes a curve with un-winded arms. The equation of the Archimedean spiral in parametric form:

$$(x, y) = [rt \cos(2\pi nt), rt \sin(2\pi nt)]$$

where

r = radius of spiral,

n = no. of turns in spiral,

t = varies from 0 to 1

Affecting parameters in geometry of spiral are r , n and d . The no. of turns n are lies inside a circle of radius r . The distance between the two adjacent turns is equal to r/n . As twisted wire strand is constructed by sweeping a circle along the curve having diameter equal to thickness of the wire, so in order to avoid the intersection between two turns, the diameter of the wire should be less than distance d .

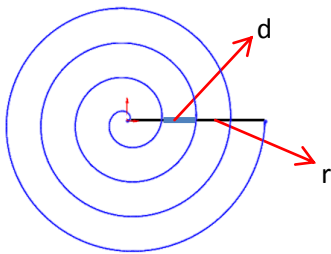


Figure 6: Spiral Geometry

4.3 Modeling Parameters

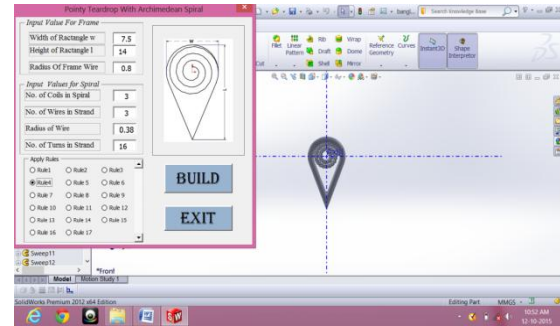
- Radius of wire (R_w): It is radius of wire which is mainly used to make twisted wire.
- Number of wires (c): It represents the no. of wire in twisted wire geometry.
- Number of twists in wire (T): It describes the number of twist in the wire strands of motif to form the twisted wire jewelry.
- Size of motif: It is length (l) and width (w) of rectangle in which the shapes are inscribed such as teardrop.
- Spiral size and turns: It depends upon geometry of spiral and defined as r , n in above equation.
- Size of bangle (s): It is defined with the number of copies of motifs (N) and equals to $Nw/2\pi$.
- Distance (N_d): It represents the distance between numbers of copies.

4.4 Rule Description

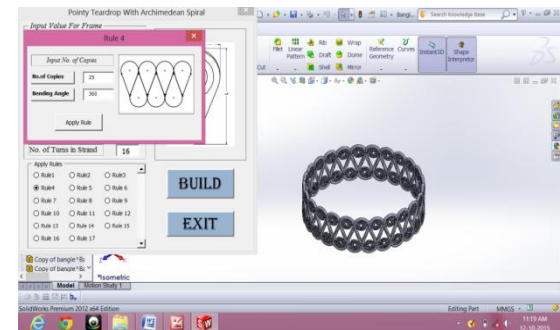
$$\begin{aligned} J_n &\leftarrow R_H M_i \leftarrow \{R_c R_t R_c R_b M_i\} \\ M_i &\leftarrow \{S_1, S_2\} \\ S_1 &= \text{Teardrop} \\ S_2 &= \text{Spiral} \end{aligned}$$

5. MODELLING APPROACH

The modeling process includes selection of the motif shape from the library and the shape rule from the set of shape rules followed by definition of parameters through an interface created for twisted wire jewelry for the selected motif and rule. Then, modeling process starts automatically according to the modeling steps programmed to create the jewelry bangle.



(a)



(b)

Figure 7: (a) Selection and definition of Parameters for Teardrop motif (b) Generated model of Twisted Wire Bangle



Figure 8: Rendered Image of Twisted Wire Bangle

6. IMPLEMENTATION

This shape grammar interpreter is implemented under the ActiveX and Visual Basic Application (VBA) programming environment using SOLIDWORKS system. The combination of the powerful ActiveX Automation object model in solidworks and VBA presents a compiling framework for customizing the software program. The design algorithm begins with mathematical description of the different geometric shapes and set of shape rules in two levels one is low level and other is high level. Then, CAD programming interfaces are used to turn the mathematical descriptions of geometric shapes and set of shape rules into computer program. These programs render the different jewelry designs on the computer screen and further the CAD data is converted into stereo lithography (STL) format, and then the STL model is ready to be submitted to a rapid prototyping machine for manufacturing. Rapid prototyping model of twisted wire bangle is shown in the (Figure 9).



Figure 9: Rapid Prototyping Model of Twisted Wire Bangle

7. CONCLUDING REMARKS

This work has created a generative production system using shape grammar methodology for emergent jewelry shapes to support the designers in a creative and intuitive manner. By extracting appropriate features (parameters), a large number of design solutions with new styles have been generated. To enhance the communication between designer and Interpreter, a three-dimensional evolutionary modeling approach has been developed for the exploration of new designs. The CAD technology, embedding shape grammar as the formal approach, would indeed help the designers in their creative design process. The future work can be extended to parameterize more of the different type of jewelry designs generally used in jewelry sector.

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