## Automatic Pipe Routing To Avoid Air Pockets

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## Outline

- Introduction

1. Approach
2. Air Pockets
3. Simulations

- Conclusion


## Motivations

## Oil or Chemical Plants



## Microchips



Ship Building


Design of Pipelines


## Motivations

## Design of Pipe-Line in Ship

- Positions of equipment (valves, etc. )
- Piping routes
- Estimation of safety


New
Aoproach


## Motivations

## Design of Pipe-Line in Ship

- Positions of equipment (valves, etc. )
- Piping routes
- Estimation of safety


New
Approach


Experience of Veterans


Design Complete!

- Veterans are decreasing.


## Motivations

## Design of Pipe-Line in Ship

- Positions of equipment (valves, etc. )
- Piping routes
- Estimation of safety


Design Complete!

- A lot of time to design.
- Veterans are decreasing.


## Purpose

- Automatic Pipe-Line Design System



## Purpose



## Outline

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## Approach of Routing System



- Routing of pipelines

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- Routing in a network



## Approach of Routing System



## $\sqrt{\square}$



## Approach of Routing System


irected and Weighted Graph


## Approach of Routing System



Dijkstra's Method

Directed and Weighted Graph


## Approach of Routing System



The Optimized Pipe Route


Directed and Weighted Graph

## Pipe Pieces and Items

## Pipe Pieces



Straight


Elbow


Bending Part

## Pipe Pieces and Items

## Pipe Pieces



## In the graph



Weight of the Edge $=($ Manhattan distance + Costs of the Pipe Piece $)$ x Diameter

## Pipe Pieces and Items

## Pipe Pieces



## In the graph



Weight of the Edge $=($ Manhattan distance + Costs of the Pipe Piece $)$ x Diameter

## Design Objectives

## The shortest path

 on the network

- Short
- Not winding

Avoid aisles

- Set on pipe racks


## Design Objectives

## The shortest path

 on the network

- Short
- Not winding


Change the weight of edges

## Design Objectives



- : Heavy weighted edge
( = Aisle )


## Design Objectives

- Minimize the total length of piping routes
- Minimize the number of elbows and bending parts
- Avoid aisles as much as possible
- Pass through pipe-rack areas as much as possible


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- Minimize the total length of piping routes
- Minimize the number of elbows and bending parts
- Avoid aisles as much as possible
- Pass through pipe-racks areas as much as possible
= The shortest path in the weighted graph


## Order of Routing

Order of routing in the system = From the largest to the smallest


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## Order of Routing

- From the largest diameter to the smallest diameter

- Random choice from pipes with same diameters



## Outline



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## What's "Pocket" ?

$\checkmark$ U-shaped pipe piece in a vertical direction

- Liquid or gas settle at "Pocket"



## What's "Pocket" ?

$\checkmark$ U-shaped pipe piece in a vertical direction
$\bullet$ Liquid or gas settle at "Pocket" $\longrightarrow$ Drain traps
$\downarrow$


## Undesirable pipe piece



## Algorithm to avoid "Pockets"

Loading of Start and Goal point


## Method1 (Restriction Method)



No pipe ronte

## Algorithm to avoid "Pockets"

Loading of Start and Goal point


Method1 (Restriction Method)

## $\xrightarrow{\text { Found! }}$ Route without pockets

$\downarrow$ Not Found... : At least one pocket in the route
Method2 (Penalty Method) $\xrightarrow{\text { Found! }}$ Route avoiding pockets as much as possible
$\downarrow$ Not Found...
No pipe route

Method1：Restriction Method

## Restriction Method

－Delete candidates making U－turn
－Reduce size of network

No pocket in the route


## Method1: Restriction Method





Candidates with the highest costs

## Method1: Restriction Method




Route without "Pockets" $\Leftarrow$

Remove from candidates

## Simulation of Restriction Method


(Without consideration of Pockets)

## Simulation of Restriction Method

## Other test case...



Complex route
( Route with at least one Pocket)



No solution by Restriction Method

## Algorithm to avoid "Pockets"

Loading of Start and Goal point

Method1 (Restriction Method)
Found!

## Route without pockets

$\downarrow$ Not Found... : At least one pocket in the route
Found!
Method2 (Penalty Method) $\xrightarrow{\text { Route avoiding pockets }}$ as much as possible
$\downarrow$ Not Found...
No pipe route

## Method2 : Penalty Method

## Penalty Method

- Add penalties on edges connecting vertically.
- Search horizontal candidates as priority.


Route involves "Pockets" as few as possible.


## Method2 : Penalty Method



Red arrows: With penalties
Blue arrows: Normal


Candidates with the highest costs

## Method2 : Penalty Method



Red arrows: With penalties Blue arrows: Normal


Candidates with the highest costs


Avoid moving vertically as much as possible


Route avoiding Pockets as much as possible

## Method2 : Penalty Method



Red arrows: With penalties Blue arrows: Normal


Candidates with the highest costs


- Avoid moving vertically as much as possible


Route avoiding Pockets as much as possible

## Simulation of Penalty Method



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## Simulations

## Purpose of simulations

Comparisons of old and new Systems, different mesh sizes, and orders of routing


## Simulations

## Purpose of simulations

Comparisons of old and new Systems, different mesh sizes, and orders of routing

## Test model

- Design Space : $6 \times 6 \times 6$ [m]
- Pipes : $\phi 0.8[\mathrm{~m}] \times 1, \phi 0.6[\mathrm{~m}] \times 2$, $\phi 0.4[\mathrm{~m}] \times 4, \phi 0.3[\mathrm{~m}] \times 6$
- Order : From the largest pipe
- Cost of Elbow : 0.1
- Cost of Bending : 0.3
- Penalty of vertical edge : x2



## Simulation1 (Comparison of Old and New Systems)



Old System
(Without consideration of Pockets)


New System
(With Method 1 and 2)

Succeeded to avoid making Pockets

Simulation2 ( Comparison of different orders )


Order of routing: Strong influence to the final design.

Simulation3 (Comparison of mesh sizes)


Mesh Size: Strong influence to the routes.

## New Mesh Dividing Method




Regular meshes only

## New Mesh Dividing Method



Regular meshes only


Regular and additional meshes
Around obstacles, pipes, aisles

- In pipe-racks
- On start and goal points


## New Mesh Dividing Method



Regular and additional meshes


Regular meshes only

In short time


In long time

Increase of items (ex. Obstacles) = Increase of additional meshes

## New Mesh Dividing Method



Regular Mesh System


Num. of Meshes in Regular Mesh << Num. of Meshes in Add. Mesh

## Outline

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## Conclusion

## New automatic pipe routing system



Minimize number of bending,
Pass through pipe-racks,
Avoid aisles,
Avoid making "Pockets"

## New automatic pipe routing system



Minimize number of bending，
Pass through pipe－racks，
Avoid aisles，
Avoid making＂Pockets＂
－Restriction Method（ Reduce the size of graph）
－Penalty Method（ Add penalties to the vertical edges ）

## Future Tasks

- Order of Routing
- Search Time
- More practical routes
- Equipment Placing System


This routing system will be opened for free at
http://sysplan.nams.kyushu-u.ac.jp/gen/index.html
Thank you!

