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Application of discrete Legendre polynomials for geometrical measurements of additive manufacturing parts using computed tomography

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Abstract

Determining the roughness of additive manufacturing objects is widely acknowledged as a complex task. This paper therefore presents a practical application of discrete Legendre polynomials in extracting geometrical measurements from Laser sintered material using X-Ray Computed Tomography (XCT).

X-Ray Computed Tomography (XCT) is first utilized to export the surface of an additive manufacturing (AM) object into voxel data. Subsequently, a segmentation process employing deep learning techniques is performed to accurately extract the XYZ coordinates of the AM shape. These coordinates are then treated as a standard roundness form by filtering out higher-frequency noise and standardizing them based on undulation per revolution (UPR). This approach allows us to effectively extract the profile of the surface for in-depth analysis.

To mitigate the effects of tilt, decentering, and cylindrical form in the surface analysis of additive manufacturing (AM) objects, we apply the Legendre-Fourier transform. This enables us to perform a precise 'roughness' filtering specifically tailored to the CT slices corresponding to a single layer of the AM object. The method moreover allows to overcome the inherent challenges associated with assessing AM object roughness, such as undercuts.