

Representing Surfaces

Justin Solomon

MIT, Spring 2017

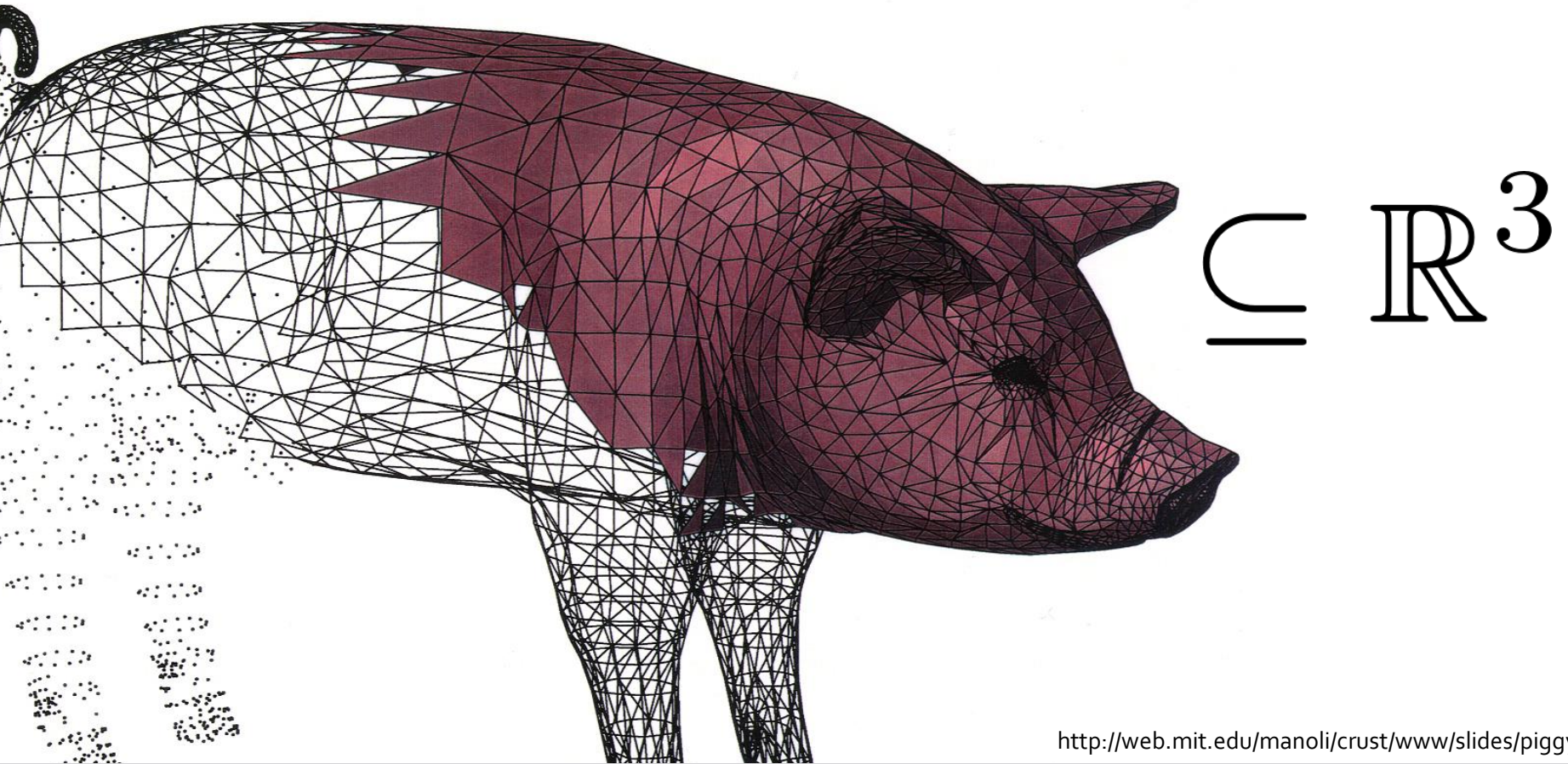


Today's Plan

Step up
one dimension
from curves to surfaces.

- Theoretical definition
- Discrete representations
- Higher dimensionality

Our Focus



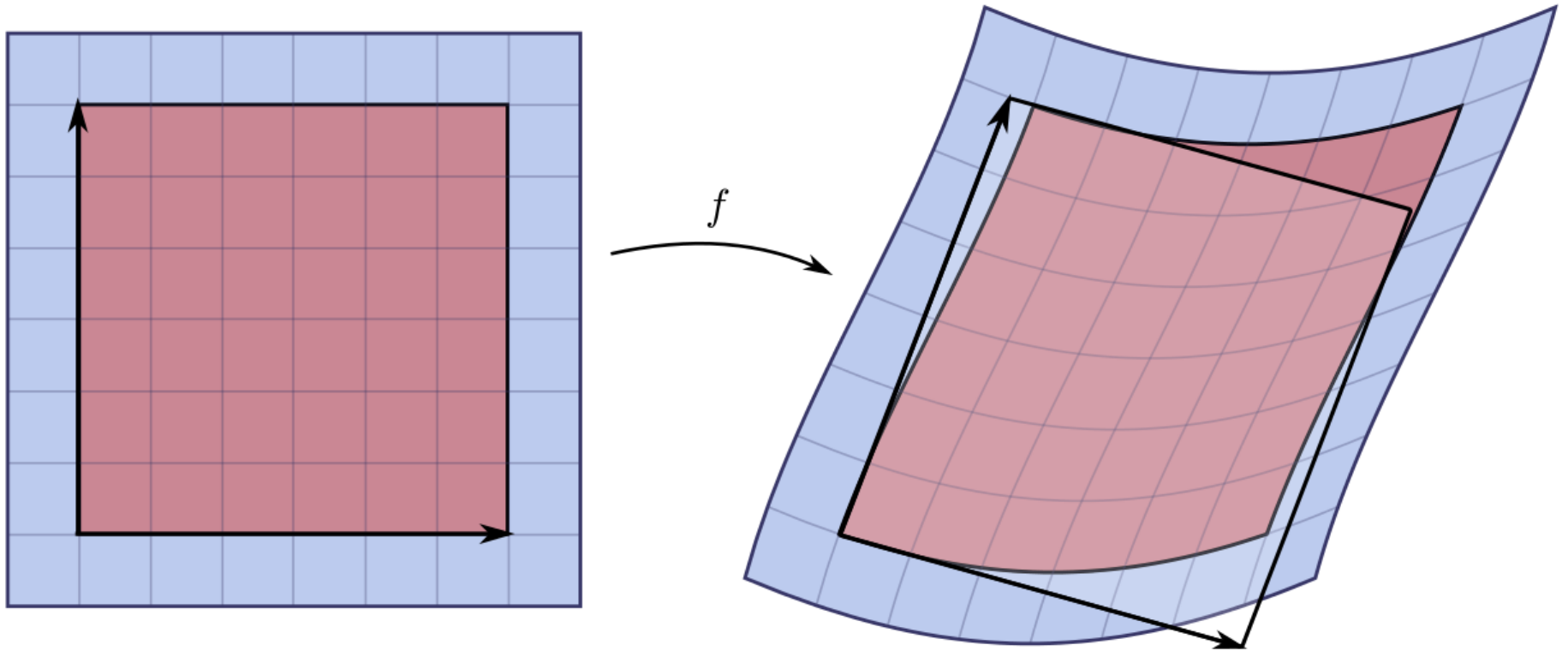
<http://web.mit.edu/manoli/crust/www/slides/piggy.jpg>

Embedded geometry



What is an
embedded surface?

Parametric Surface



Differential of a Function

$$f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$$

Matrix:

$$Df = \left(\frac{\partial f_i}{\partial x_j} \right) \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$$

Linear operator:

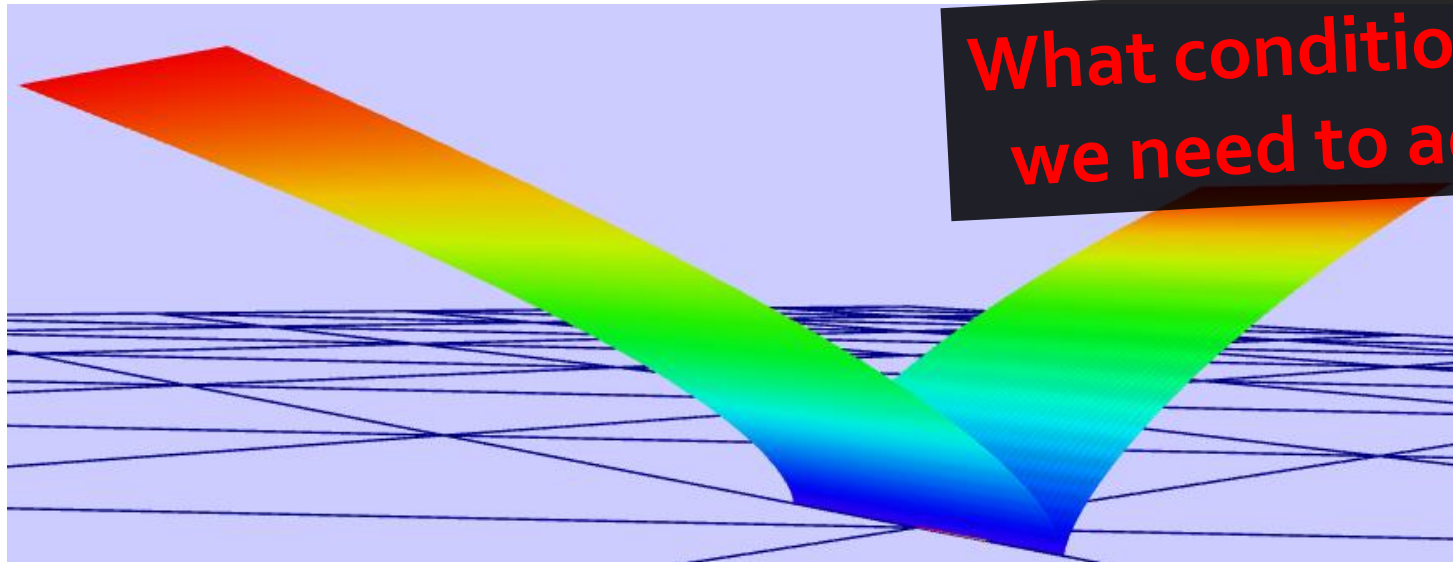
$$Df_p : T_p \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow T_{f(p)} \mathbb{R}^m$$

Pathological Cases

$$f(u, v) = (u, u^2, \cos u)$$

$$f(u, v) = (0, 0, 0)$$

$$f(u, v) = (u, v^3, v^2)$$



What condition do we need to add?

Injective/Regular/One-to-One

$$f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$$

Matrix:

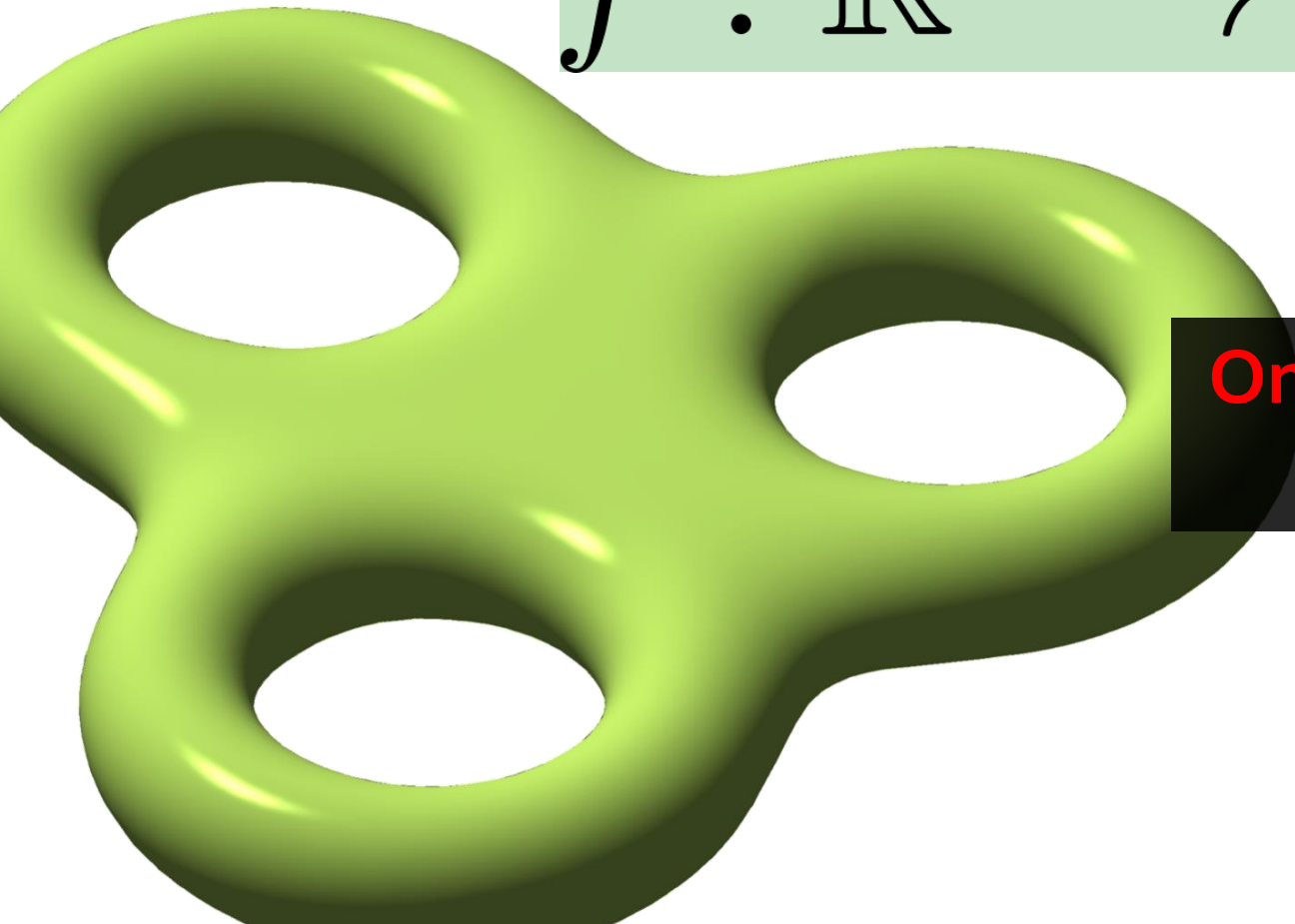
$$Df \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n} \text{ full rank}$$

Linear operator:

$$Df_p : T_p \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow T_{f(p)} \mathbb{R}^m \text{ full rank}$$

Next Issue

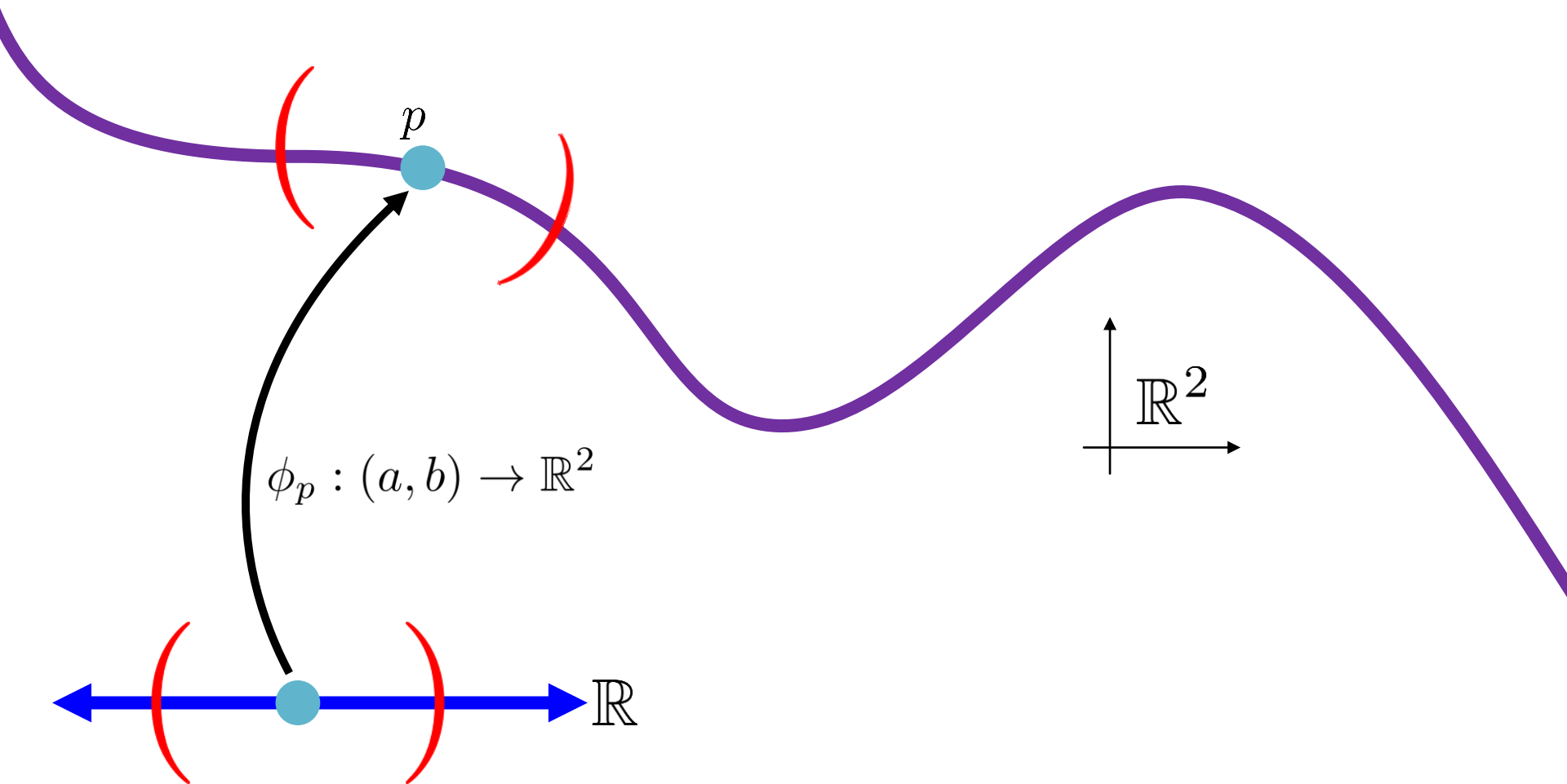
$$f : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3 \dots ?$$



**One function isn't
enough!**

Recall:

Differential Geometry Definition

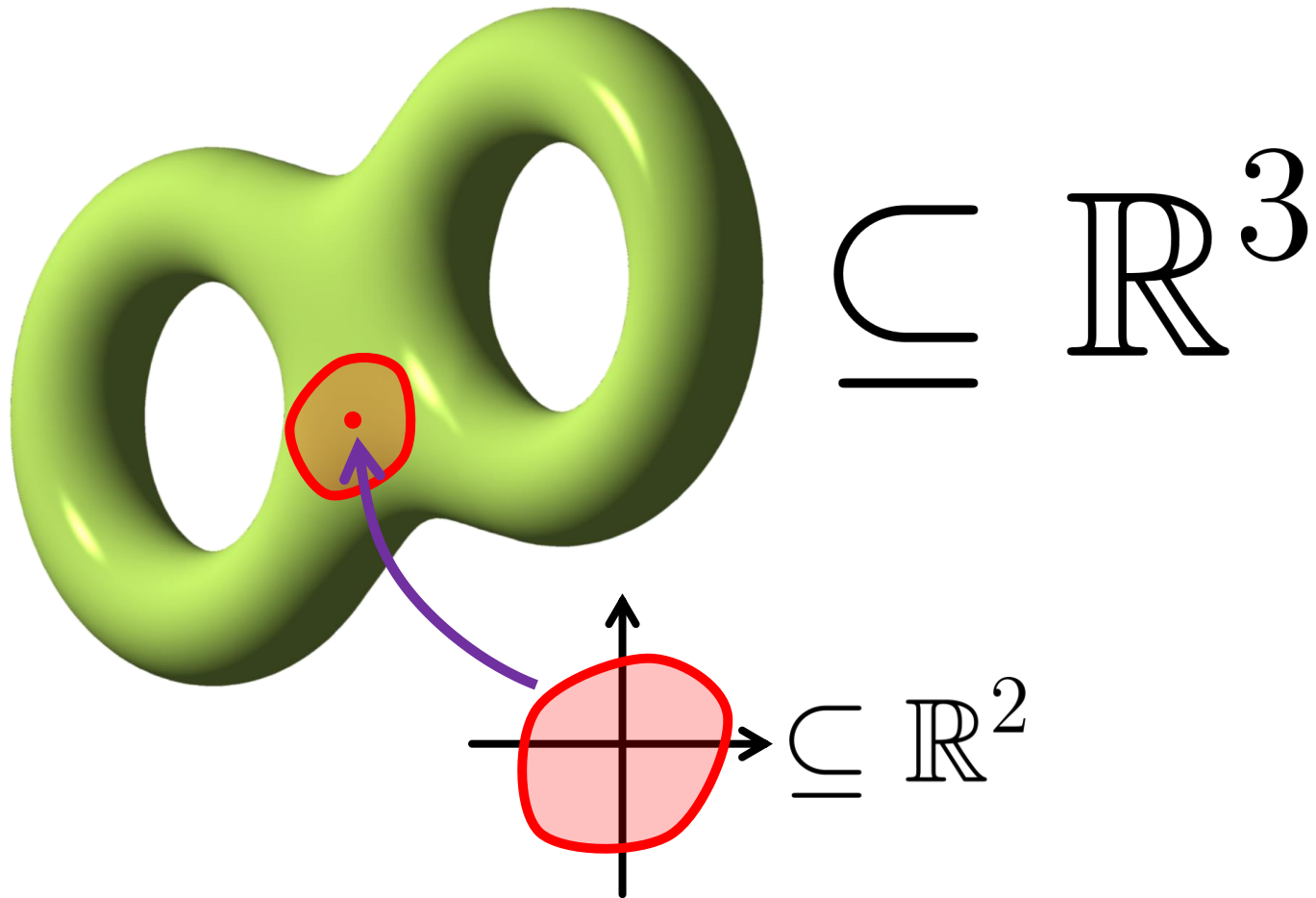


Just Like Curves

A surface is a
set of points
with certain properties.

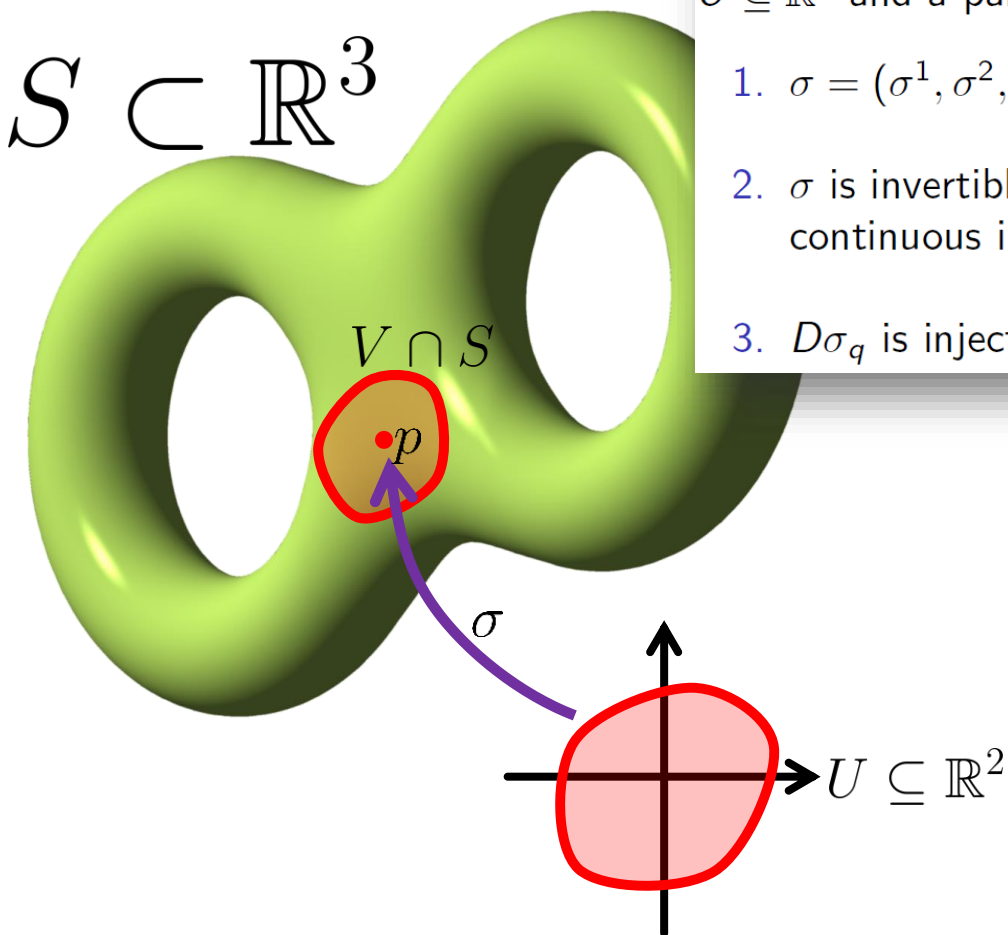
It is not a function.

Theoretical Definition of Surface



Theoretical Definition of Surface

$$S \subset \mathbb{R}^3$$



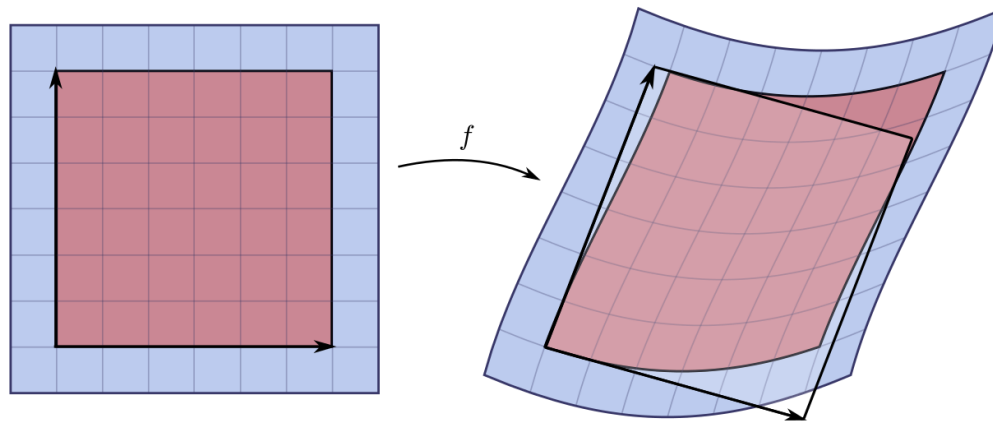
A set $S \subset \mathbb{R}^3$ is a *regular surface* if for each $p \in S$ there exists an open neighbourhood $V \subseteq \mathbb{R}^3$ containing p , an open neighbourhood $U \subseteq \mathbb{R}^2$ and a parametrization $\sigma : U \rightarrow V \cap S$ such that:

1. $\sigma = (\sigma^1, \sigma^2, \sigma^3)$.
2. σ is invertible as a map from U onto $V \cap S$ and has a continuous inverse.
3. $D\sigma_q$ is injective $\forall q$. (If and only if $\det((D\sigma_q)^\top D\sigma_q) \neq 0$.)

Text from Stanford CS 468 lecture 5 (2013), A. Butscher

Differential Geometer's Mantra

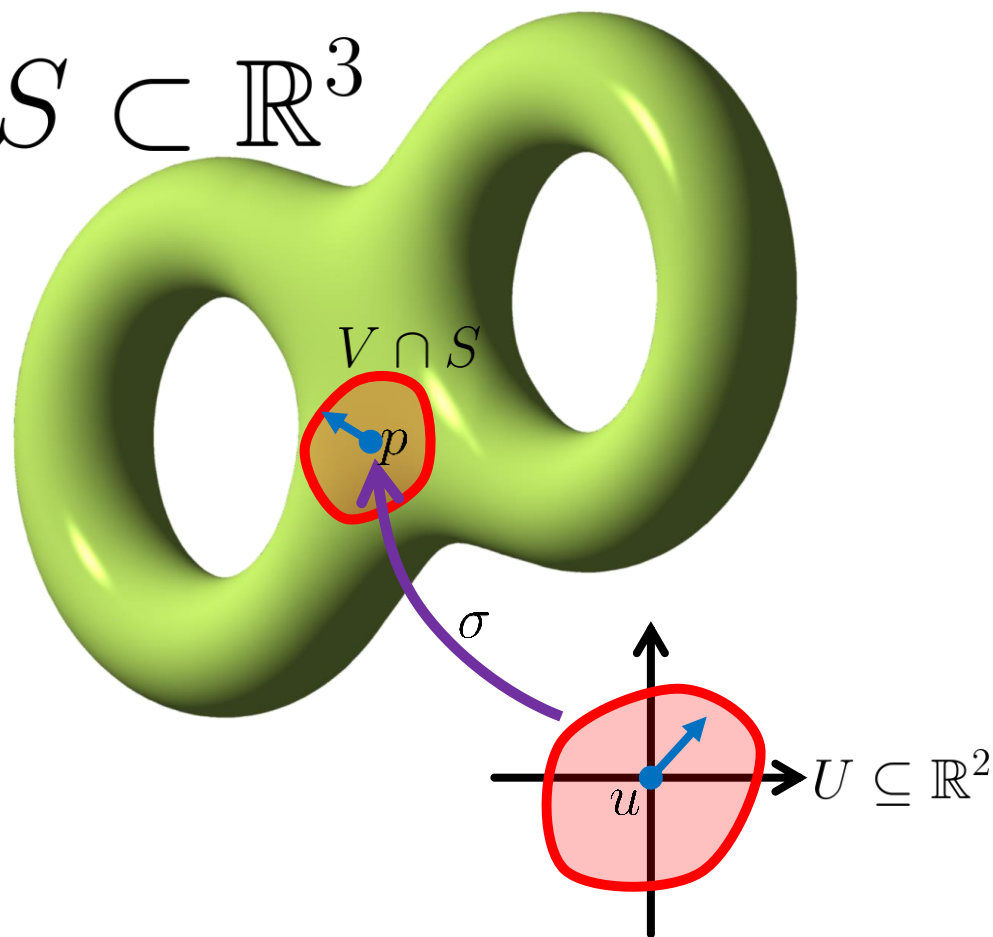
A surface is
locally planar.



Tangent Space

$$T_p S := \text{Image}(D\sigma_u)$$

$$S \subset \mathbb{R}^3$$

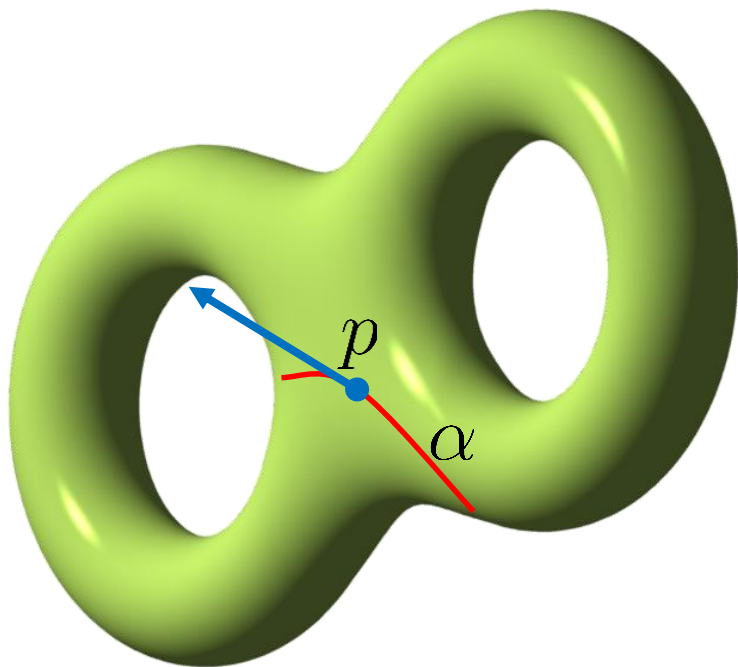


Tangent Space: Coordinate-Free

$$v \in T_p S \iff$$

there exists curve $\alpha : (-\varepsilon, \varepsilon) \rightarrow S$

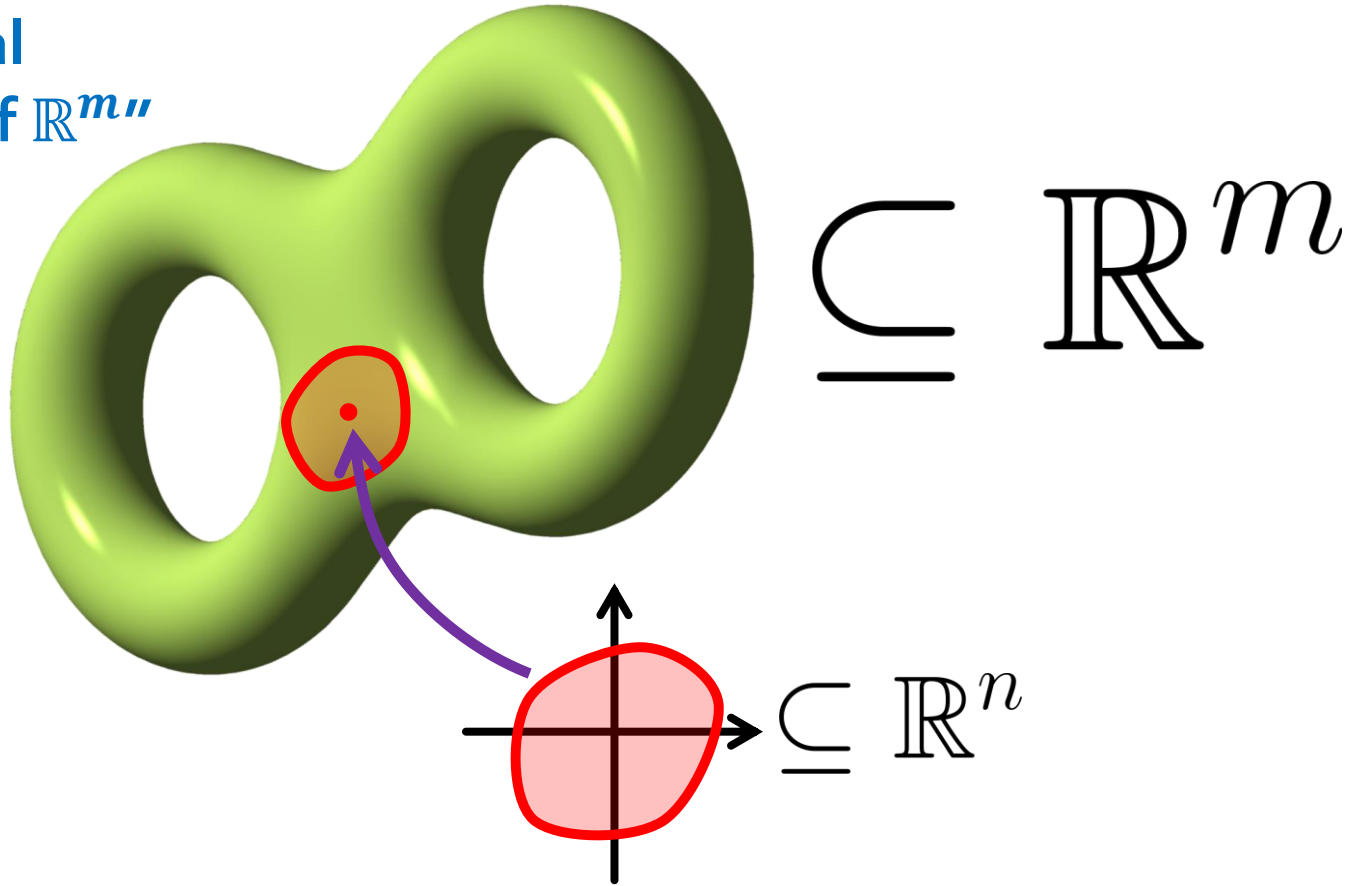
with $\alpha(0) = p, \alpha'(0) = v$



Extension:

n -D Embedded Manifold

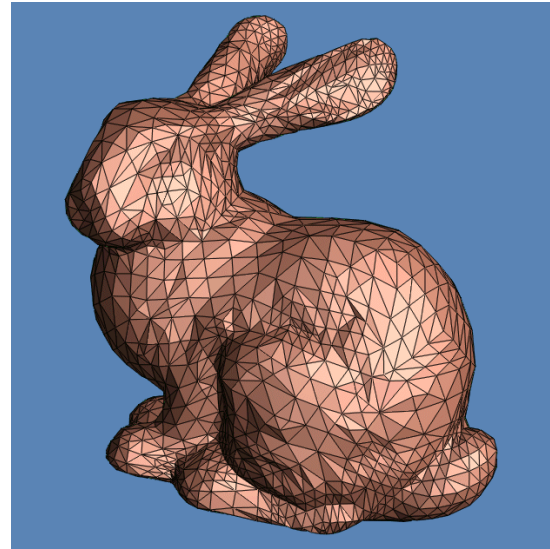
" n -dimensional
submanifold of \mathbb{R}^m "



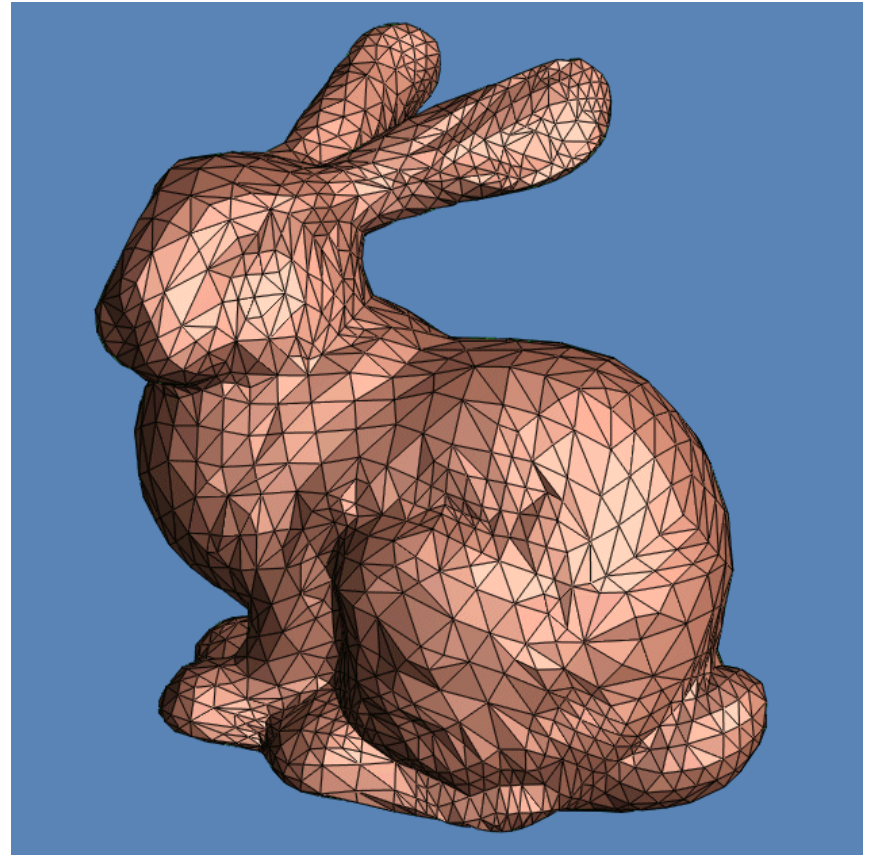
Includes curves,
surfaces, 3-manifolds, ...

Discrete Problem

What is a discrete surface?
How do you store it?



Common Representation



<http://graphics.stanford.edu/data/3Dscanrep/stanford-bunny-cebal-ssh.jpg>
<http://www.stat.washington.edu/wxs/images/BUNMID.gif>

Triangle mesh

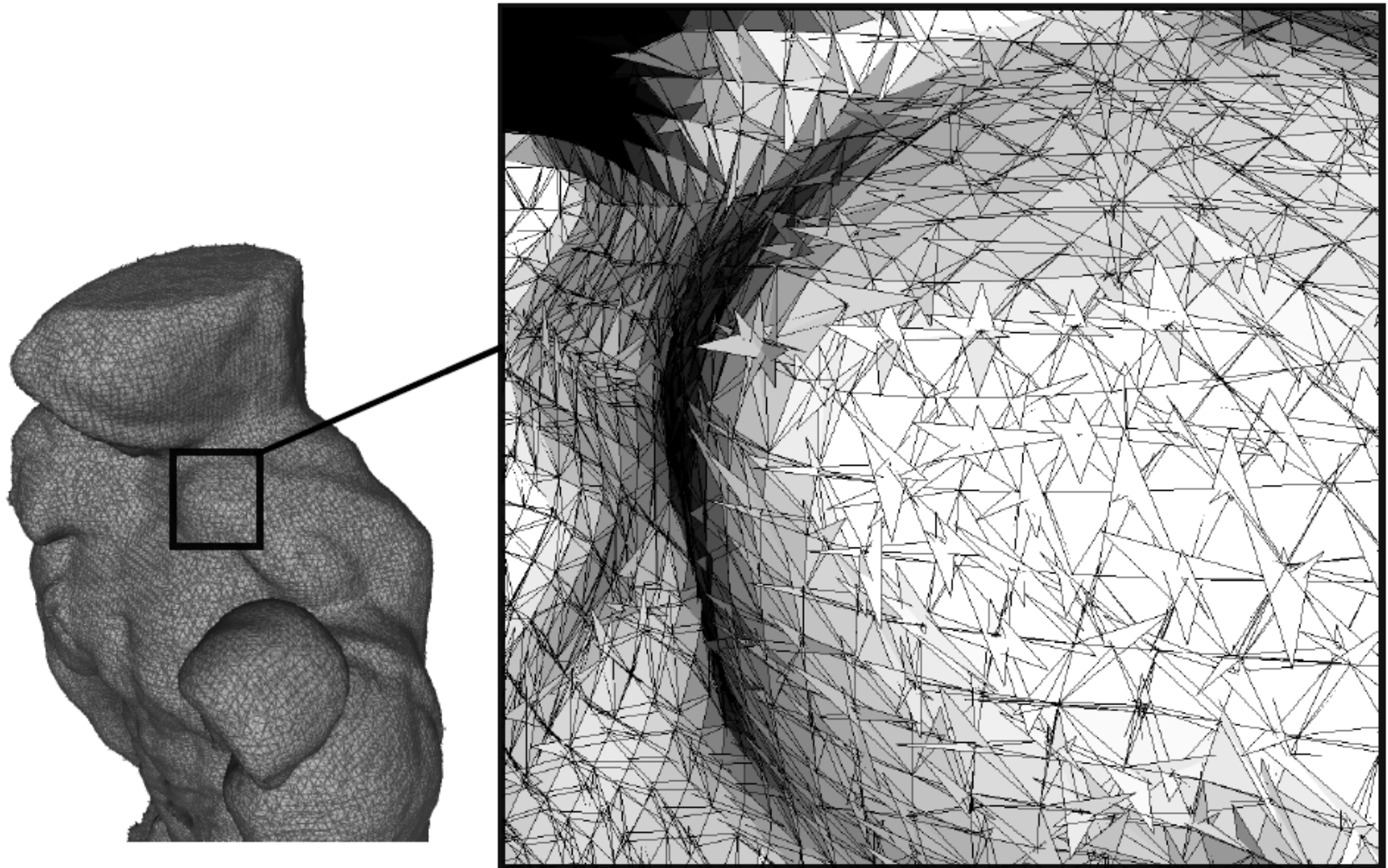
After Some Cleaning

$$M = (V, T)$$

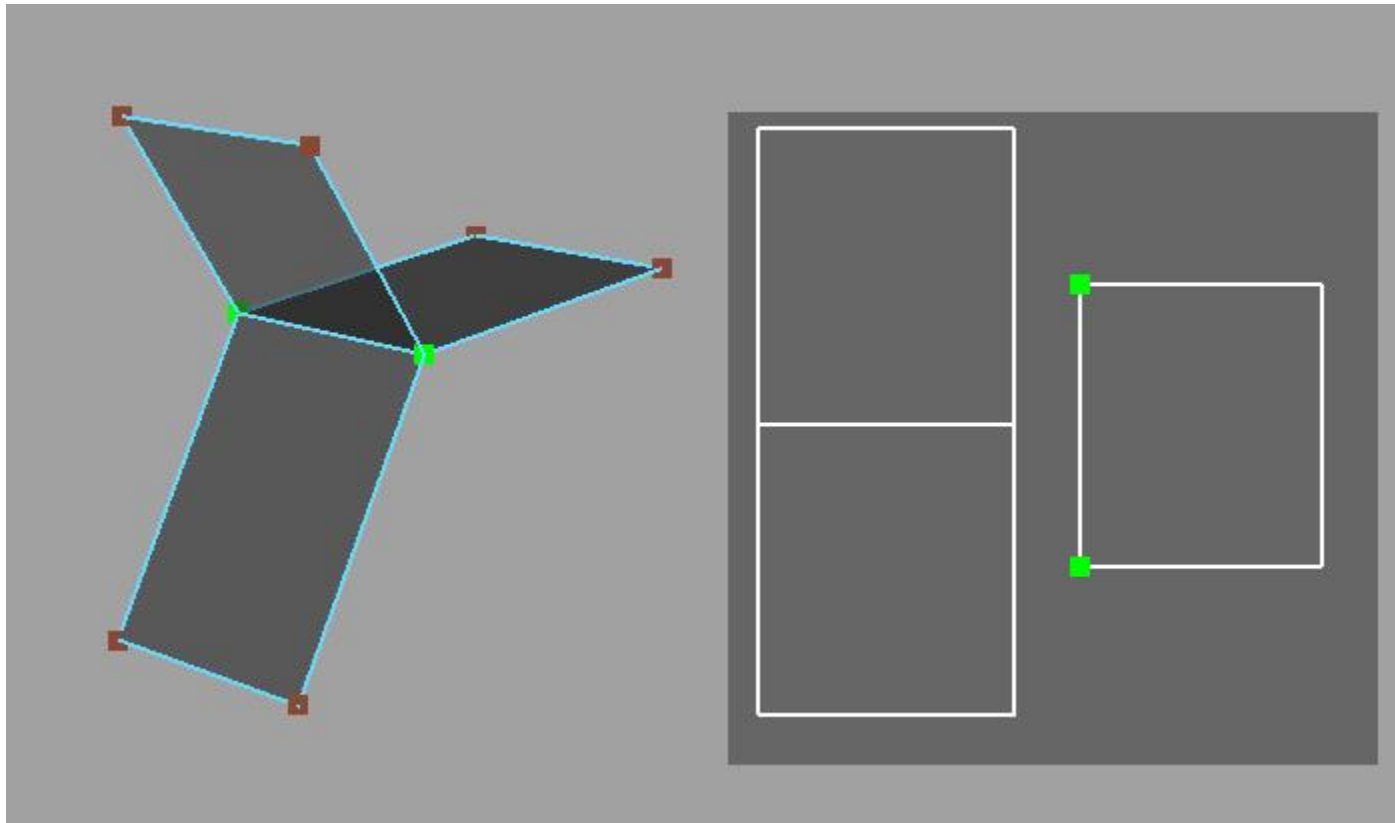
What conditions are needed?

Triangle mesh

What is a Discrete Surface?

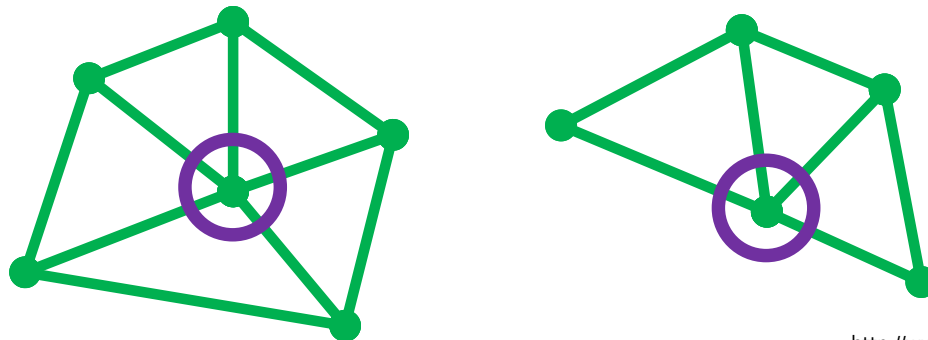


Nonmanifold Edge



Manifold Mesh

1. Each **edge** is incident to one or two faces
2. **Faces** incident to a vertex form a closed or open fan



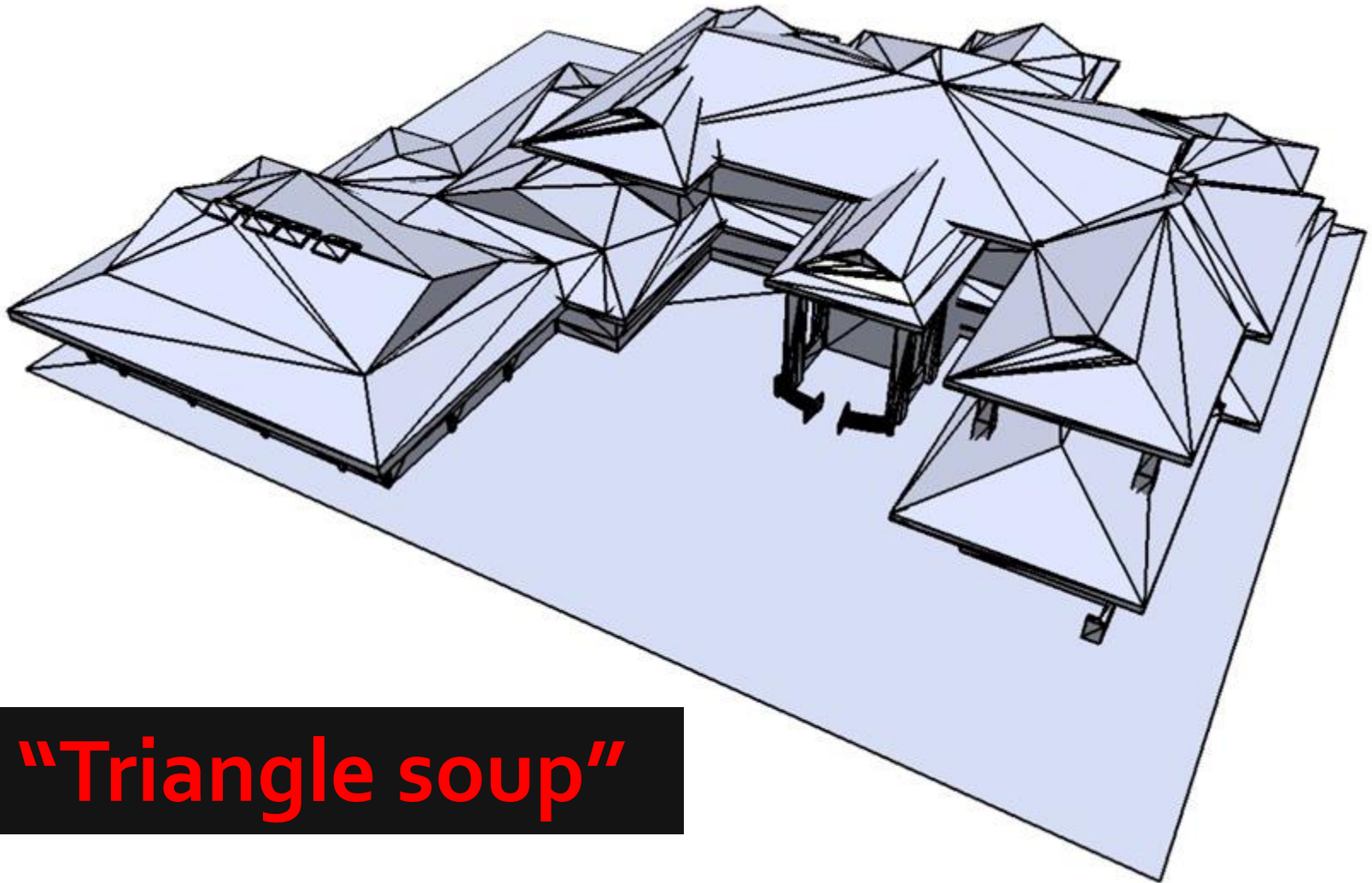
Manifold Mesh

1. Each **edge** is incident to one or two faces
2. **Faces** incident to a vertex form a closed or open fan

Assume meshes are manifold
(for now)

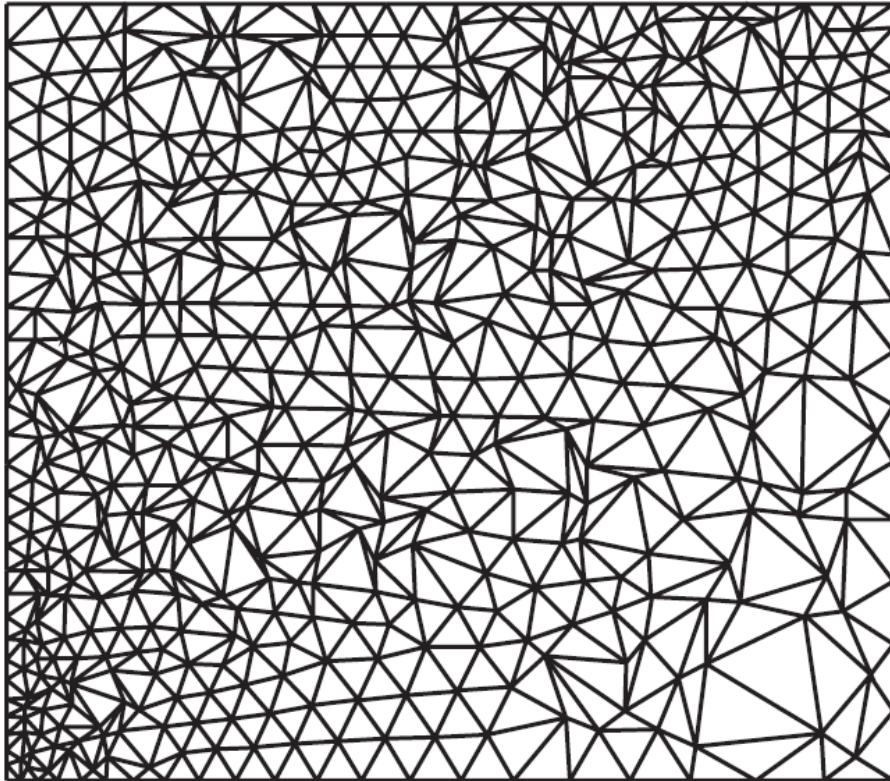


Easy-to-Violate Assumption

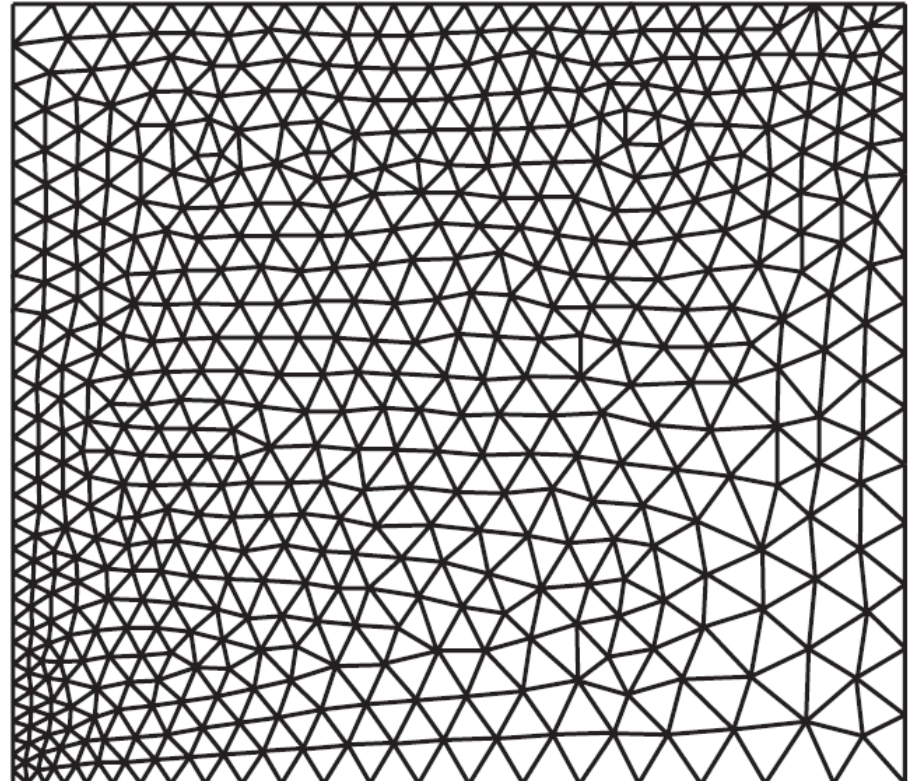


“Triangle soup”

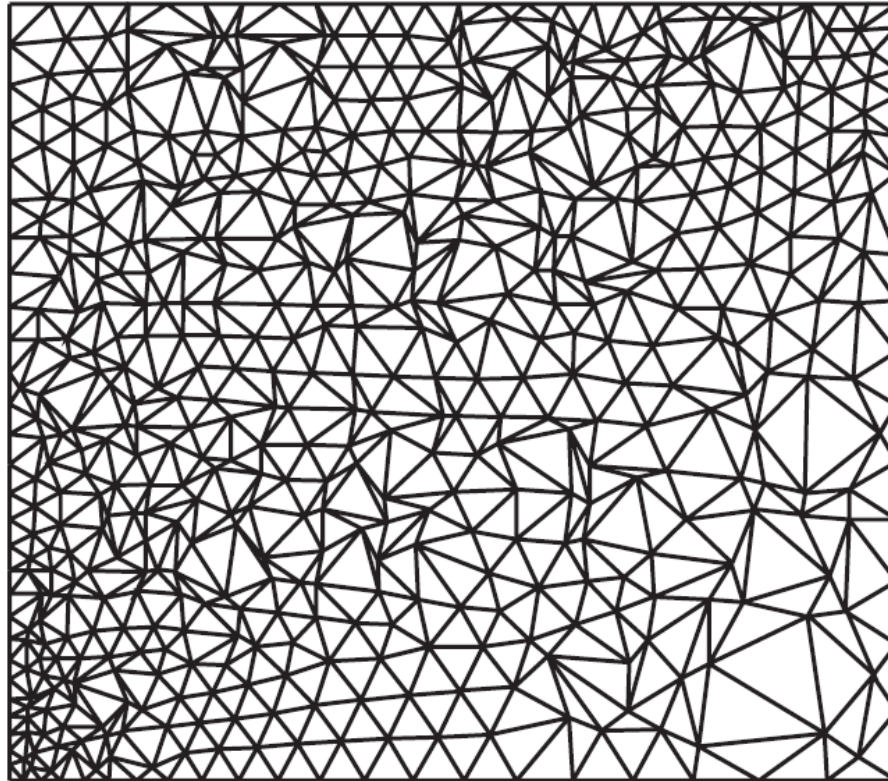
Invalid Meshes vs. Bad Meshes



Nonuniform
areas and angles

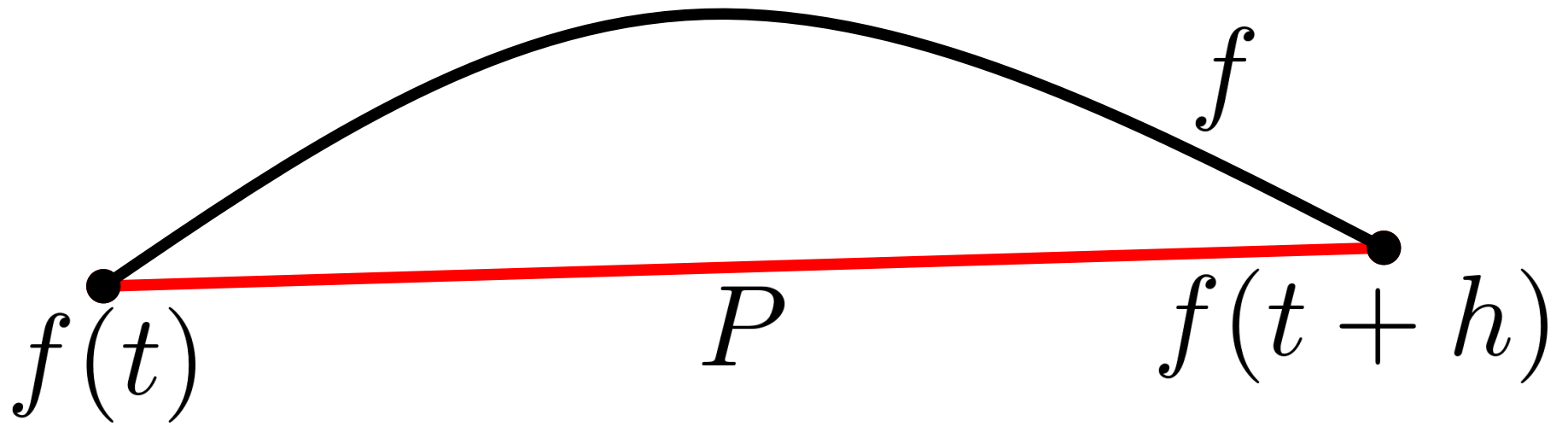


Why is Meshing an Issue?



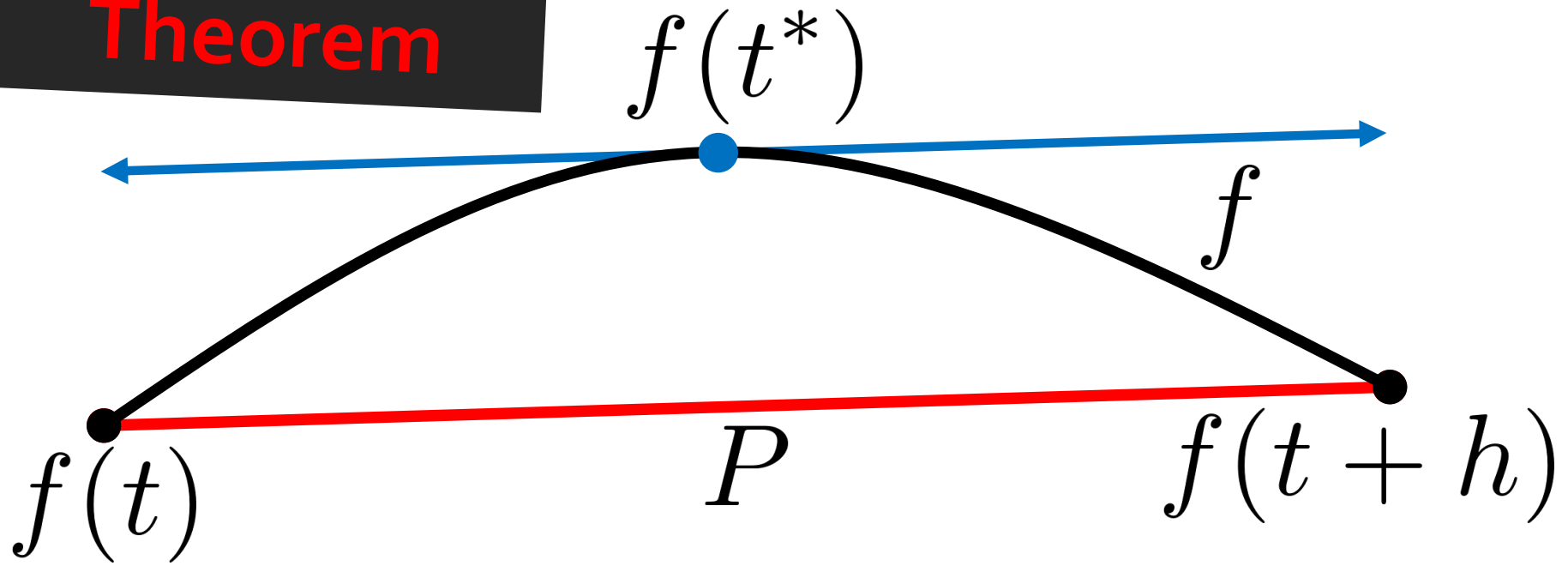
How to you interpret
one value per vertex?

Approximation Properties

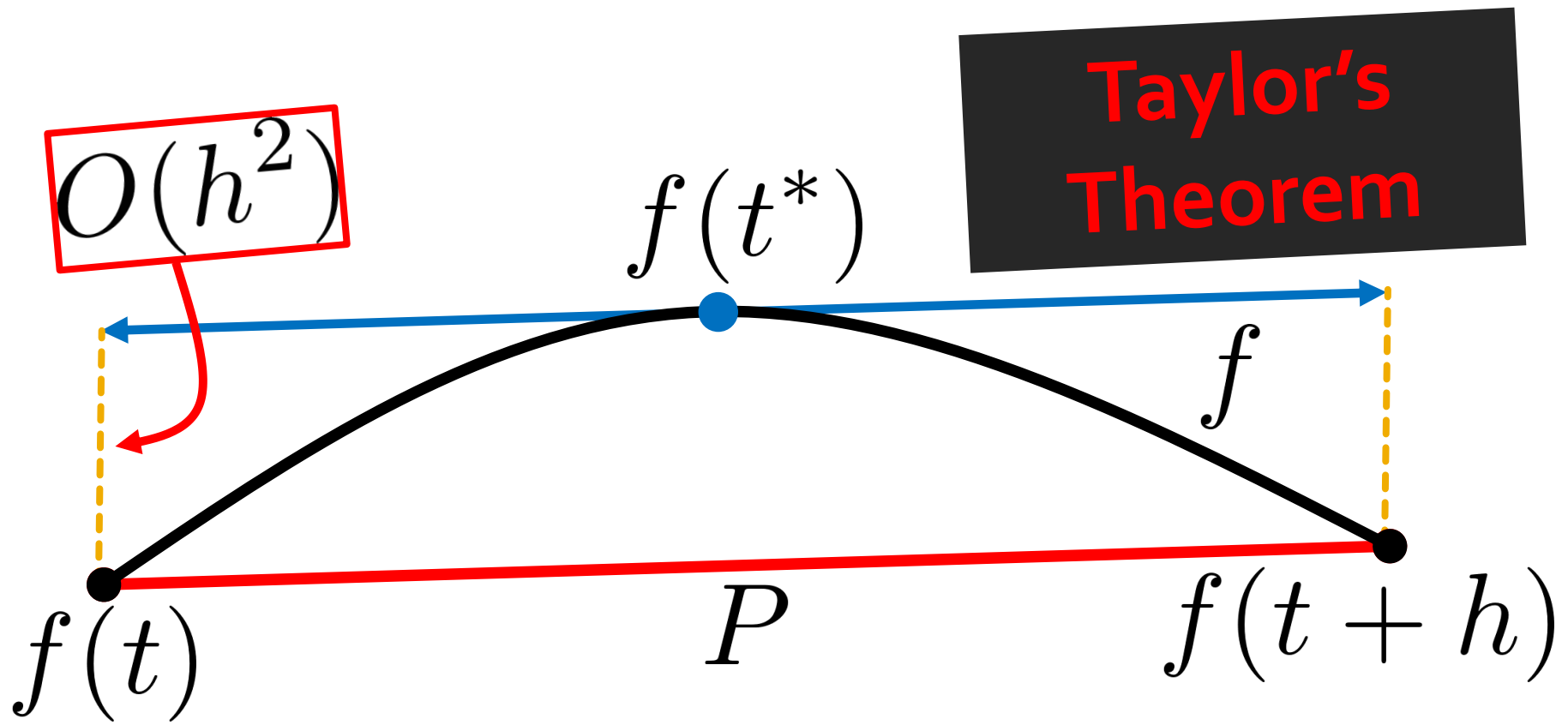


Approximation Properties

Mean Value
Theorem



Approximation Properties



Conclusion

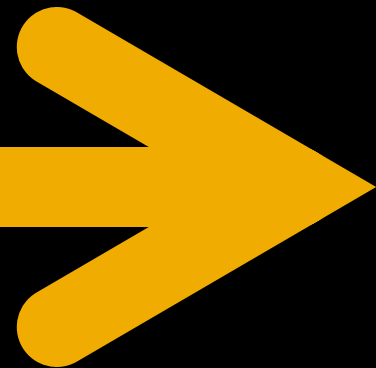
Piecewise linear faces are
reasonable building blocks.

Additional Advantages

- Simple to render
- Arbitrary topology possible
- Basis for subdivision, refinement

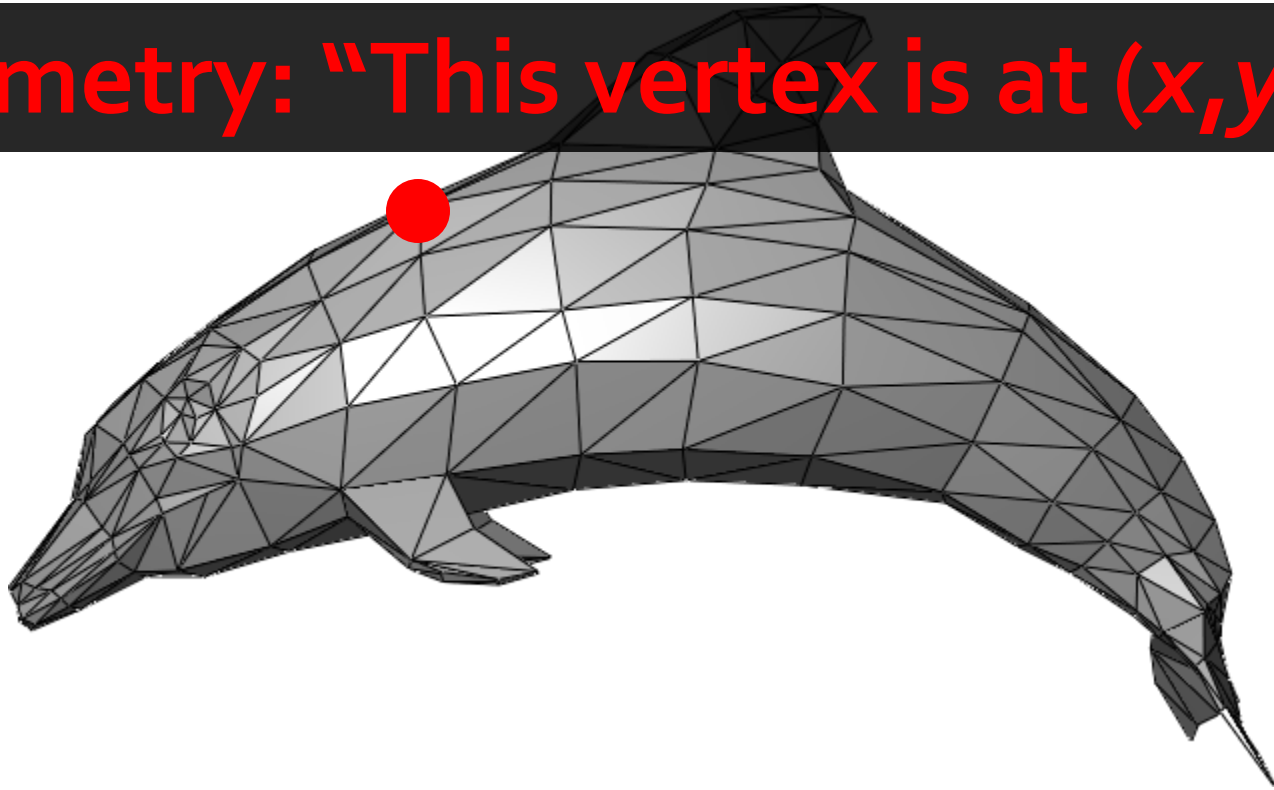
Topology [*tuh-pol-uh-jee*]:

The study of geometric properties that remain invariant under certain transformations



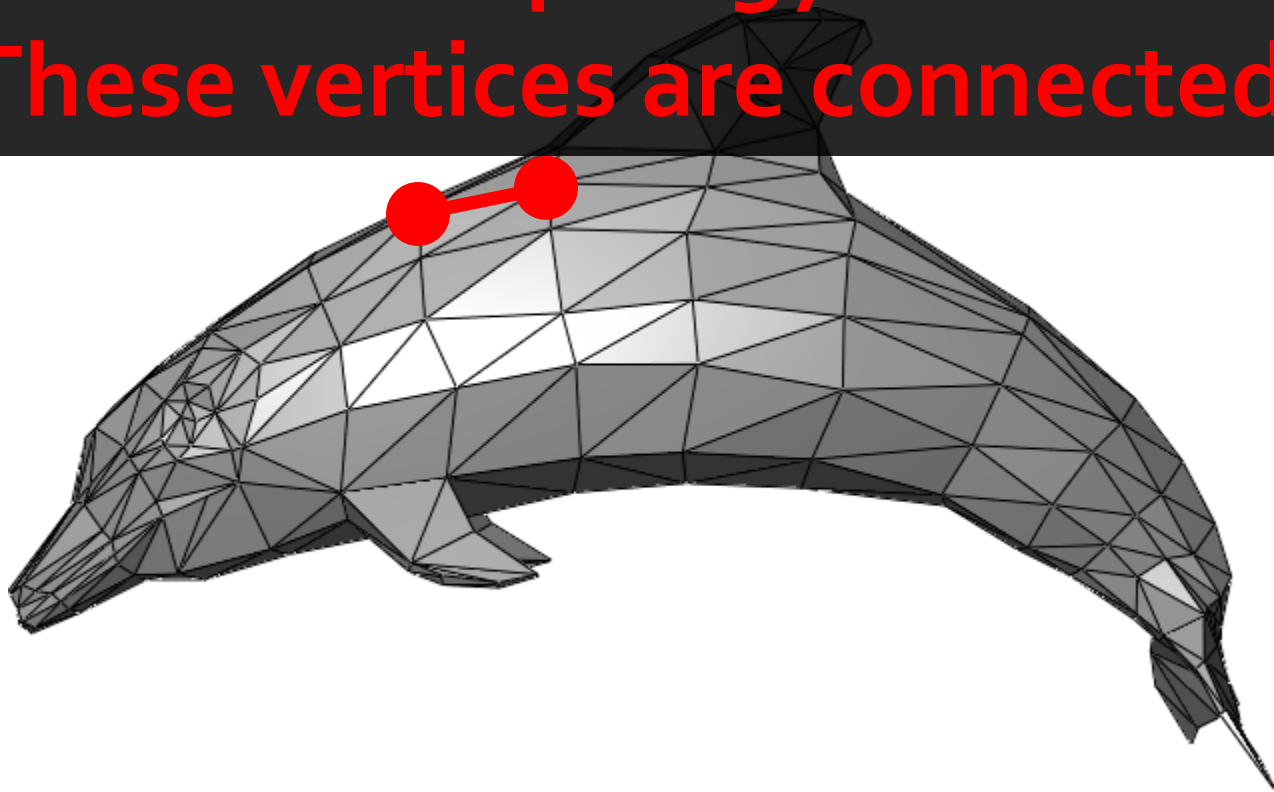
Mesh Topology vs. Geometry

Geometry: "This vertex is at (x,y,z) ."



Mesh Topology vs. Geometry

Topology:
“These vertices are connected.”



Triangle Mesh

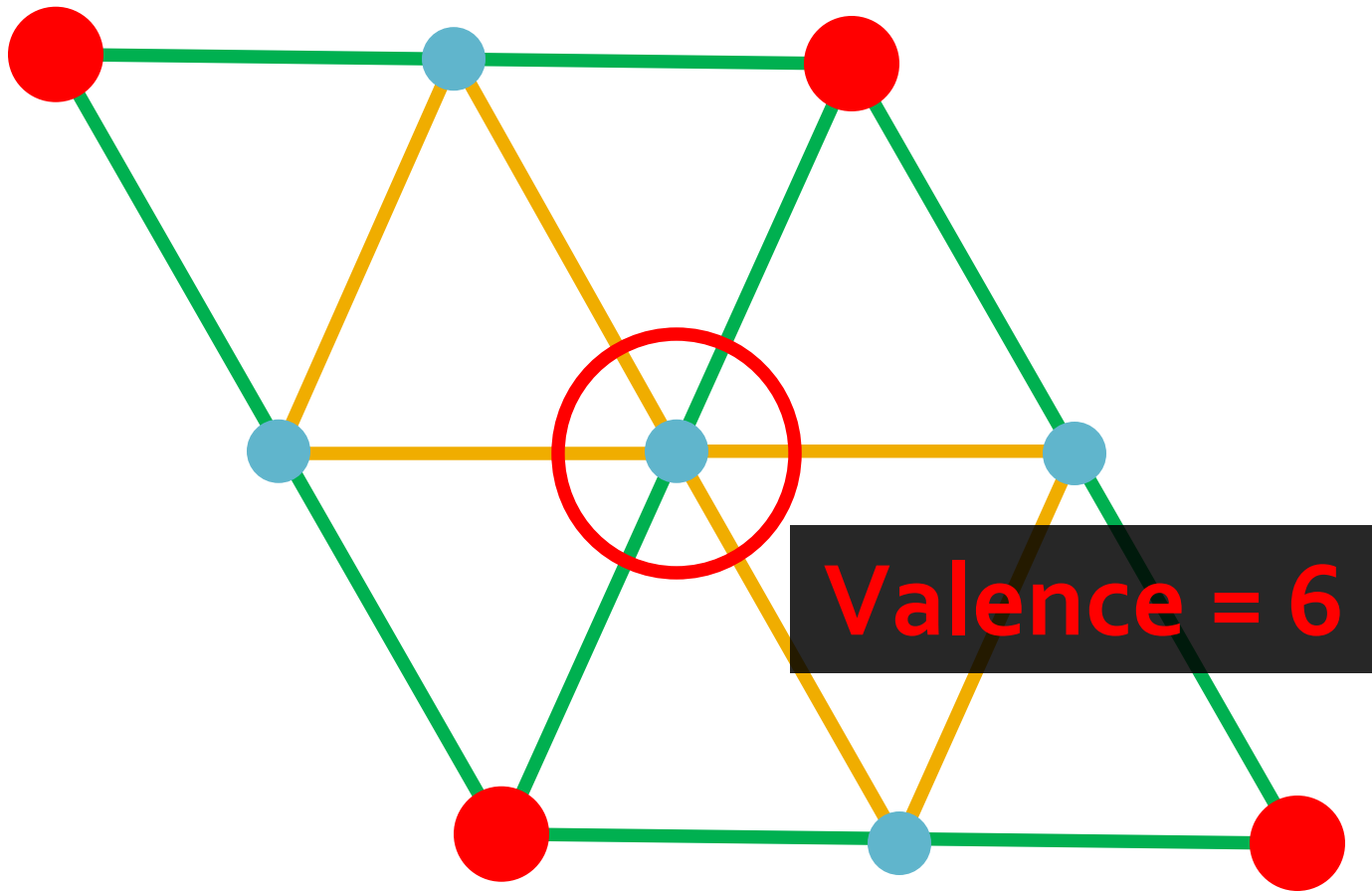
$$V = (v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n) \subset \mathbb{R}^n$$

$$E = (e_1, e_2, \dots, e_k) \subseteq V \times V$$

$$F = (f_1, f_2, \dots, f_m) \subseteq V \times V \times V$$

Plus manifold conditions

Valence



Euler Characteristic

$$V - E + F := \chi$$

$$\chi = 2 - 2g$$

Defer proof



$$g = 0$$



$$g = 1$$

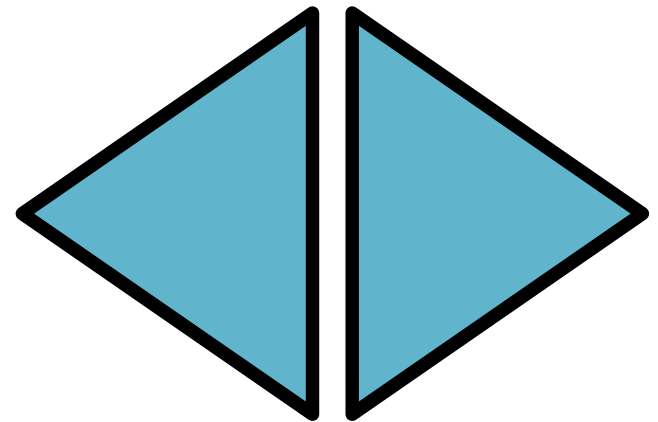


$$g = 2$$

Consequences for Triangle Meshes

$$V - E + F := \chi$$

“Each edge is adjacent to two faces. Each face has three edges.”



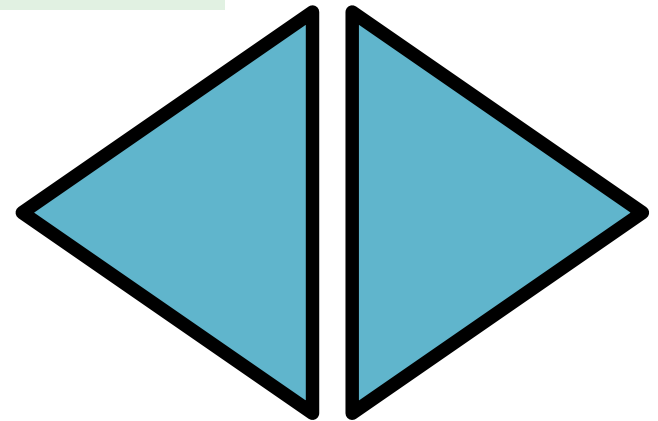
$$2E = 3F$$

Closed mesh: Easy estimates!

Consequences for Triangle Meshes

$$V - \frac{1}{2}F := \chi$$

“Each edge is adjacent to two faces. Each face has three edges.”



$$2E = 3F$$

Closed mesh: Easy estimates!

Consequences for Triangle Meshes

**Big
number**

$$V - \frac{1}{2}F := \chi$$

**Small
number**



$$F \approx 2V$$

Closed mesh: Easy estimates!

Consequences for Triangle Meshes

$$E \approx 3V$$

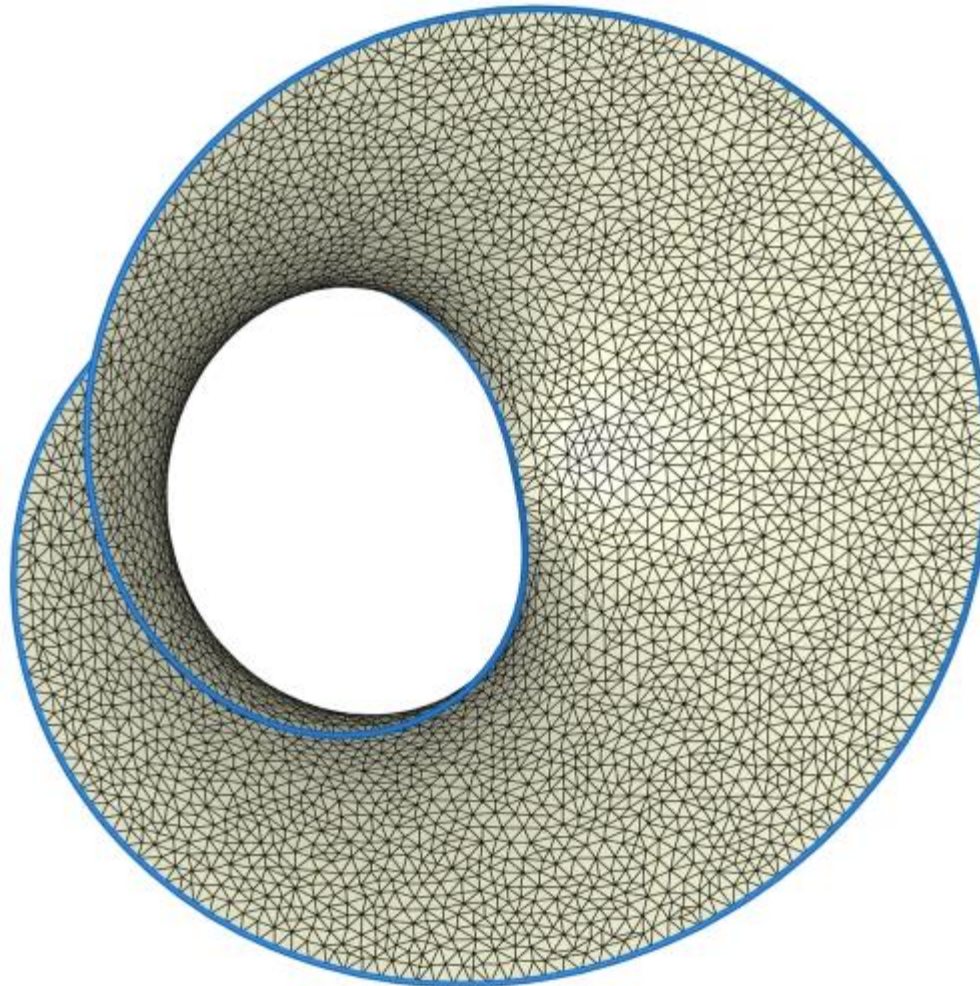
$$F \approx 2V$$

average valence ≈ 6

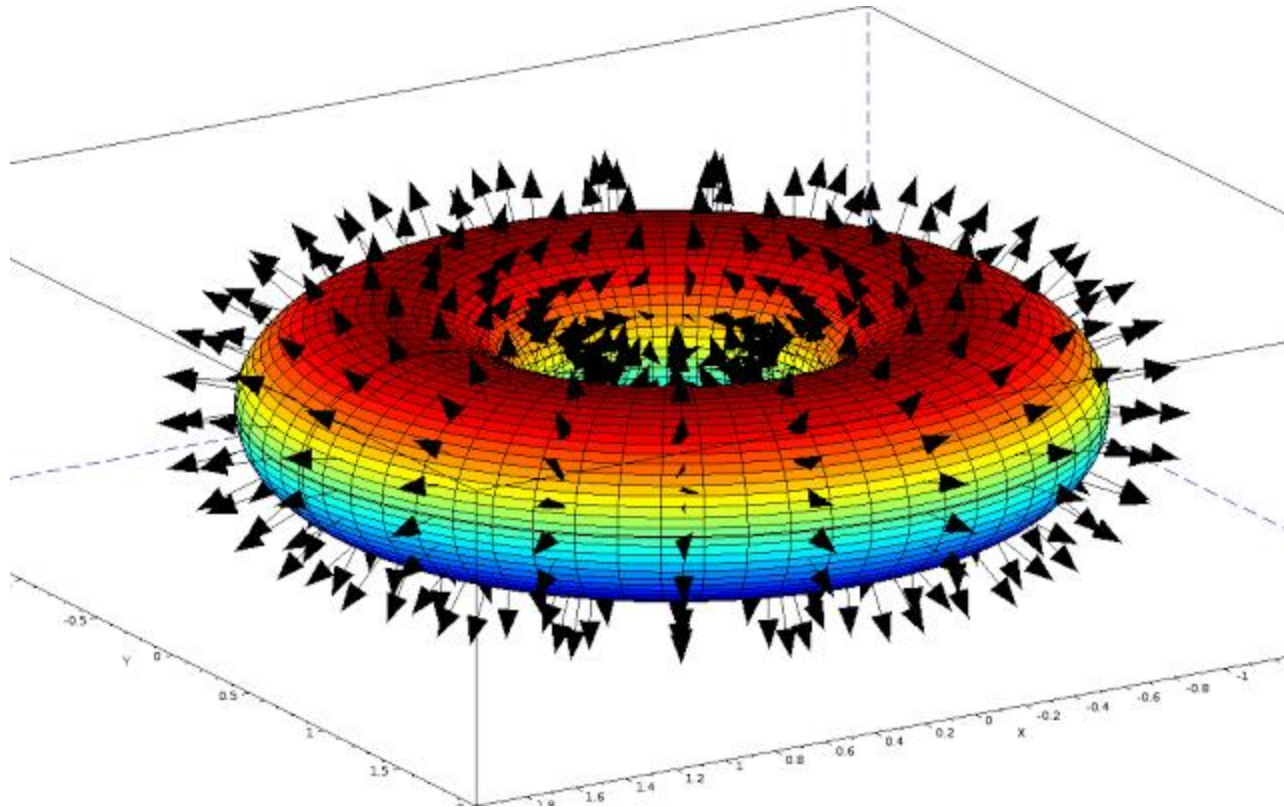
Why?!

General estimates

Orientability



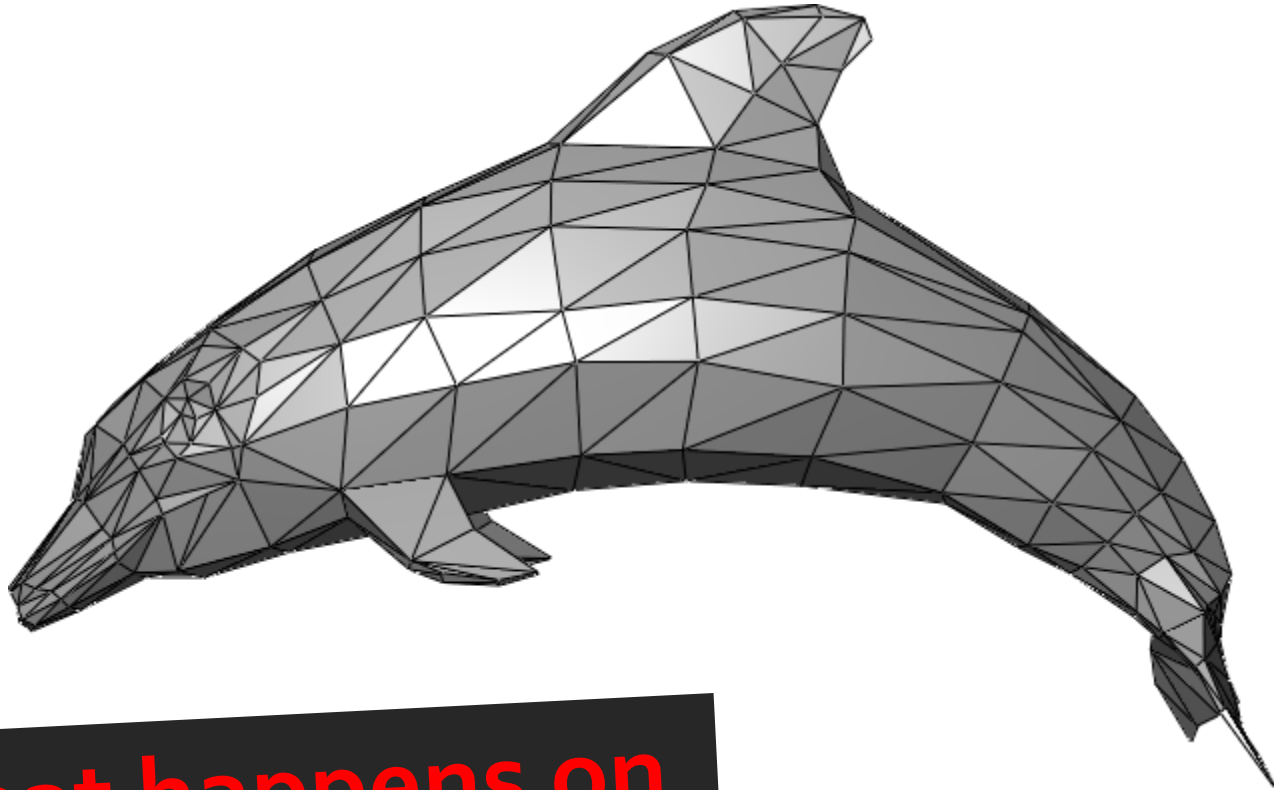
Smooth Surface Definition



https://lh3.googleusercontent.com/-njXPH7NSX5c/VV4PXu54ngI/AAAAAAAAAJM/m6TGg3ZVKGGE/w640-h400-p-k/normal_tore.png

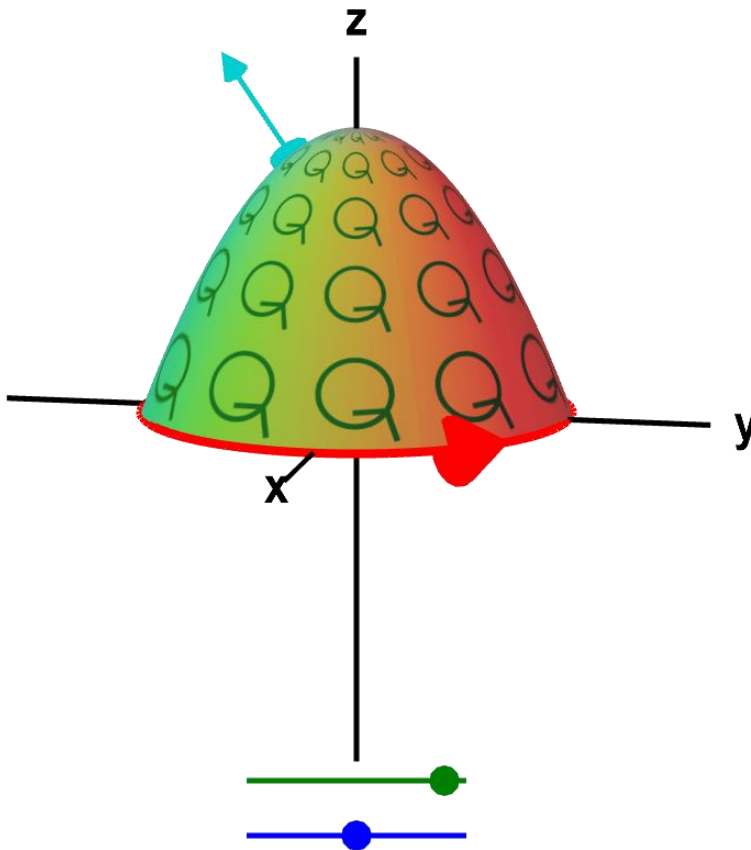
Continuous field of normal vectors

Issue on Triangle Mesh

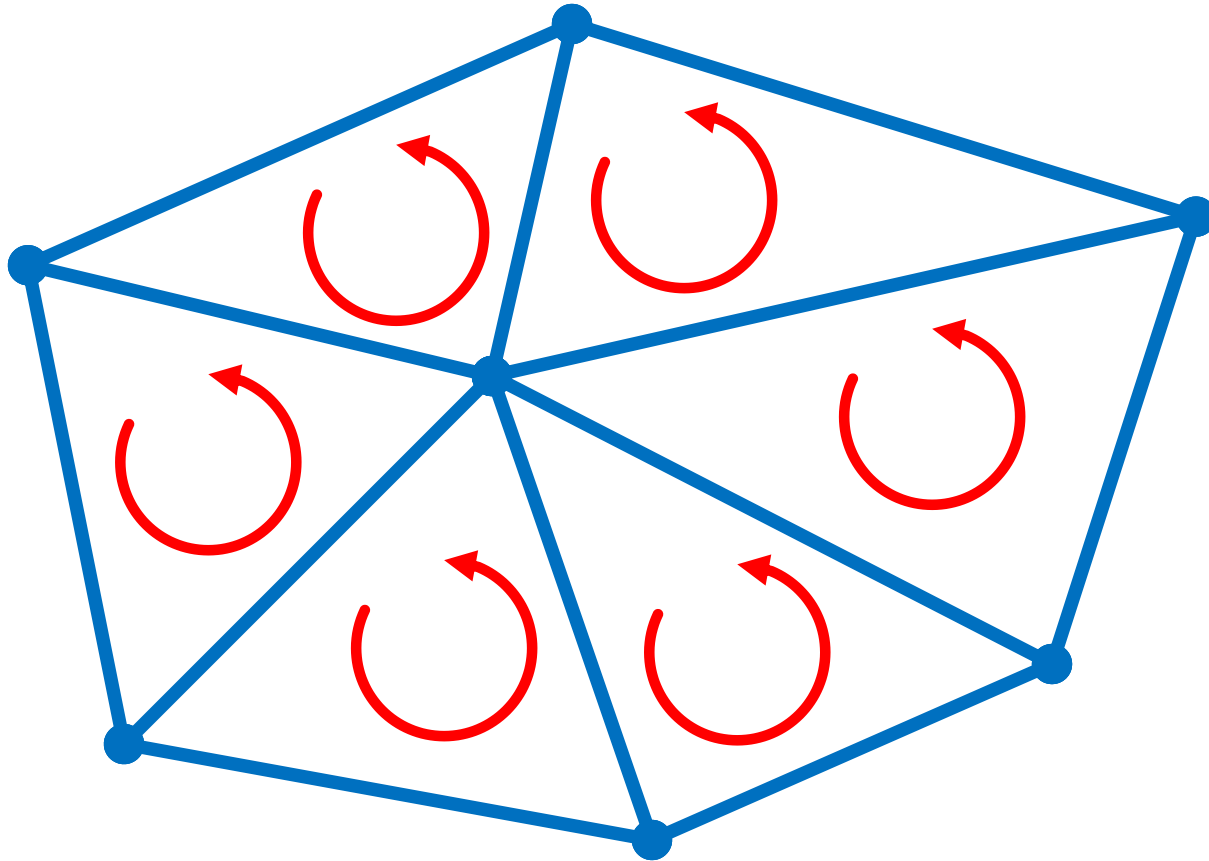


**What happens on
edges/vertices?**

Right-Hand Rule



Discrete Orientability



Normal field isn't continuous

Data Structures for Surfaces

**Must represent geometry
and topology.**

Simplest Format

```
x1 y1 z1 / x2 y2 z2 / x3 y3 z3
x1 y1 z1 / x2 y2 z2 / x3 y3 z3
x1 y1 z1 / x2 y2 z2 / x3 y3 z3
x1 y1 z1 / x2 y2 z2 / x3 y3 z3
x1 y1 z1 / x2 y2 z2 / x3 y3 z3
```

No topology!

Triangle soup

Simplest Format

```
x1 y1 z1 / x2 y2 z2 / x3 y3 z3  
x1 y1 z1 / x2 y2 z2 / x3 y3 z3  
x1 y1 z1 / x2 y2 z2 / x3 y3 z3  
x1 y1 z1 / x2 y2 z2 / x3 y3 z3  
x1 y1 z1 / x2 y2 z2 / x3 y3 z3
```

No topology!

```
glBegin(GL_TRIANGLES)
```

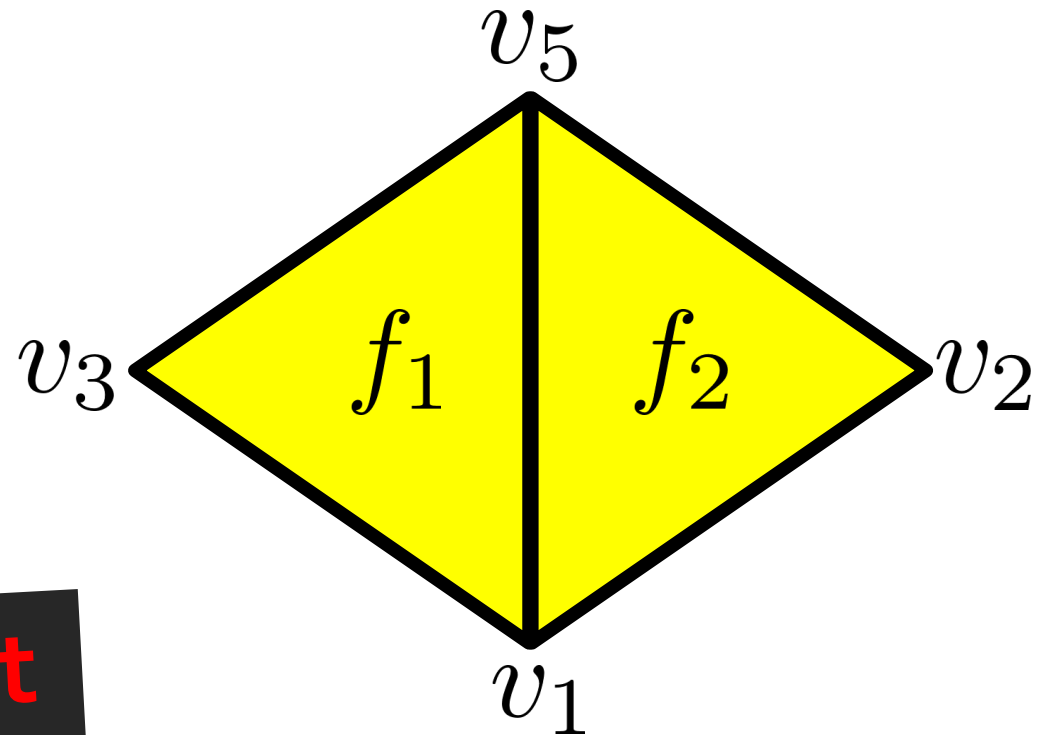
CS 468 2011 (M. Ben-Chen), other slides

Triangle soup

Factor Out Vertices

```
f 1 5 3
f 5 1 2
...
v 0.2 1.5 3.2
v 5.2 4.1 8.9
...
```

.obj format



Shared vertex structure

Simple Mesh Smoothing

```
for i=1 to n
  for each vertex v
    v = .5*v +
      .5*(average of neighbors) ;
```

Typical Queries

- Neighboring vertices to a vertex
- Neighboring faces to an edge
- Edges adjacent to a face
- Edges adjacent to a vertex
- ...

Mostly localized

Typical Queries

- **Neighboring** vertices to a vertex
- **Neighboring** faces to an edge
- Edges **adjacent** to a face
- Edges **adjacent** to a vertex
- ...

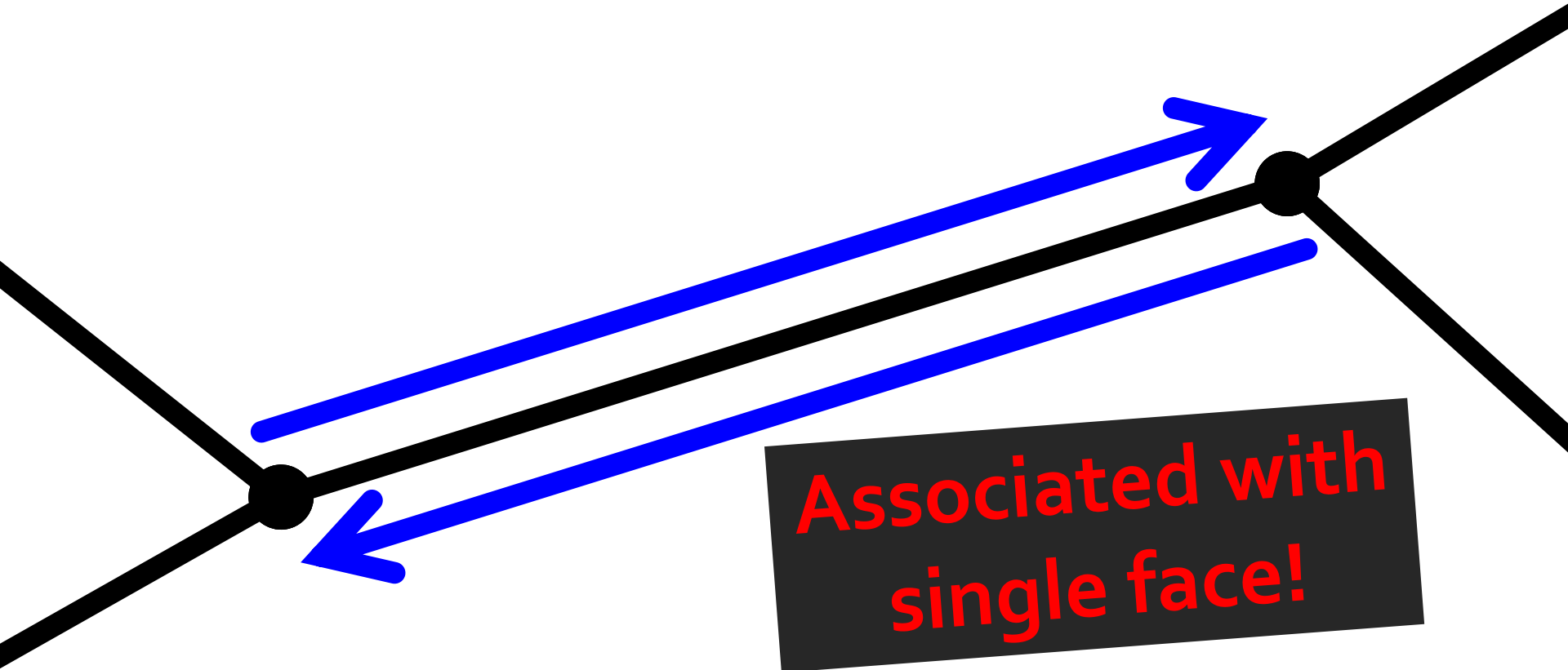
Mostly localized

Pieces of Halfedge Data Structure

- Vertices
- Faces
- Half-edges

Structure tuned for meshes

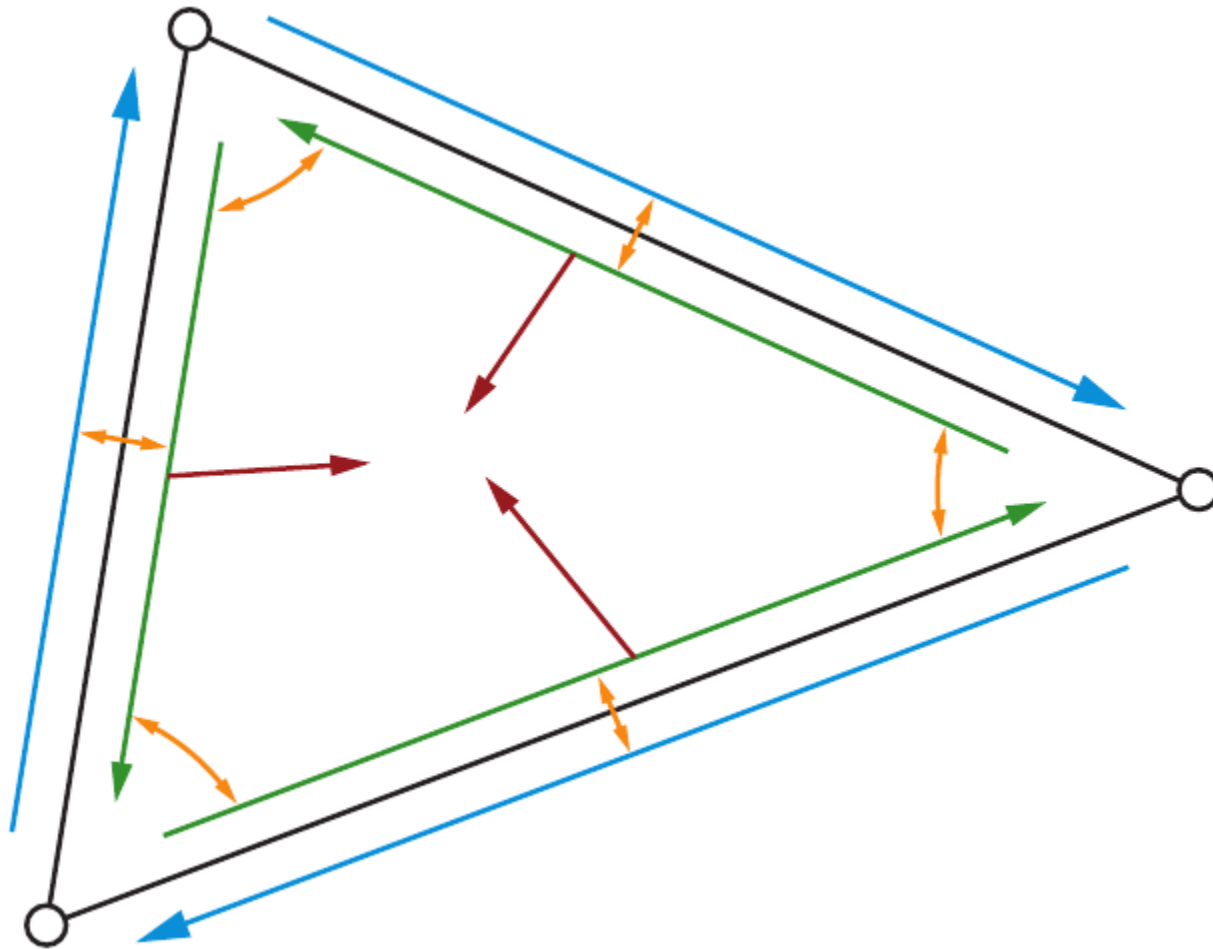
Halfedge?



Associated with
single face!

Oriented edge

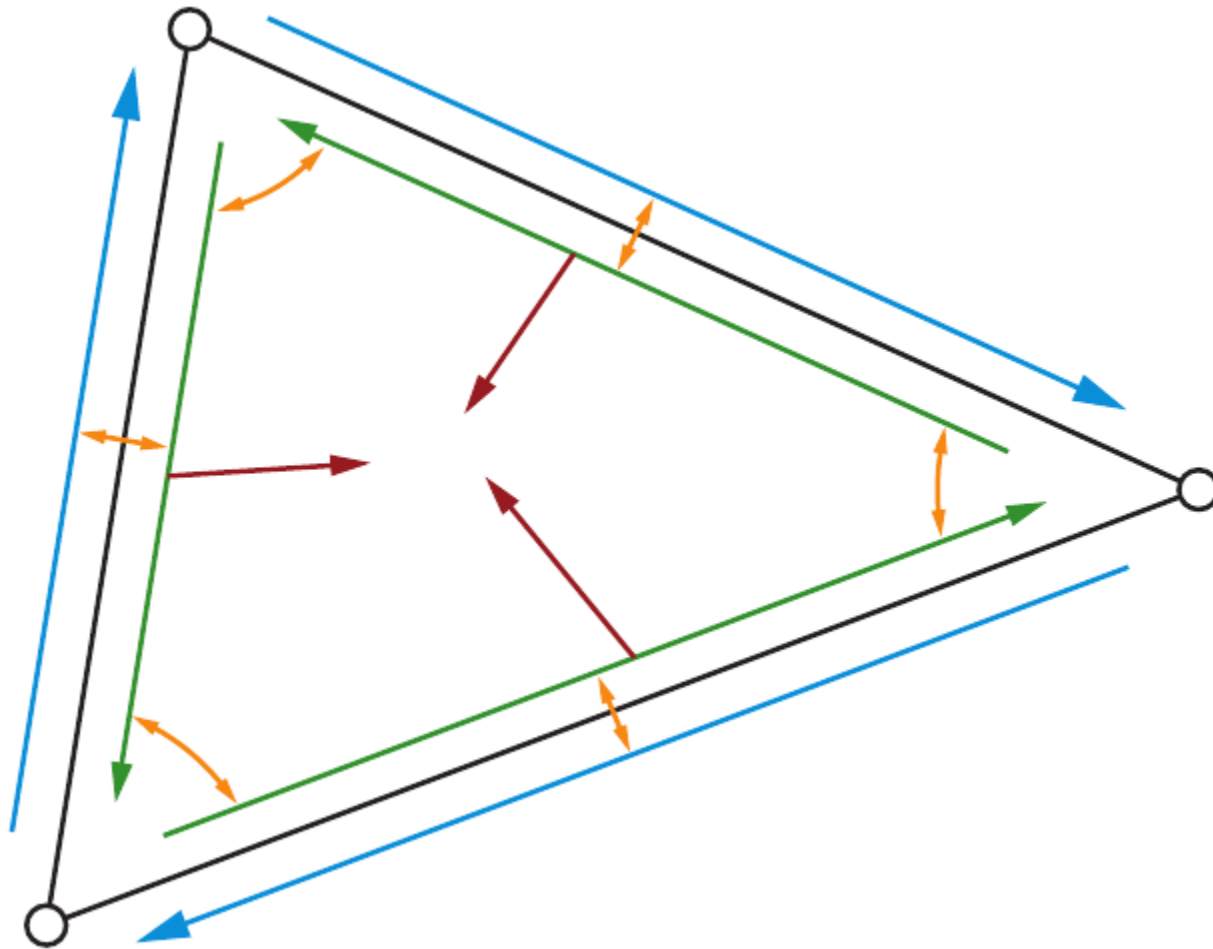
Halfedge Data Types



Vertex stores:

- Arbitrary outgoing halfedge

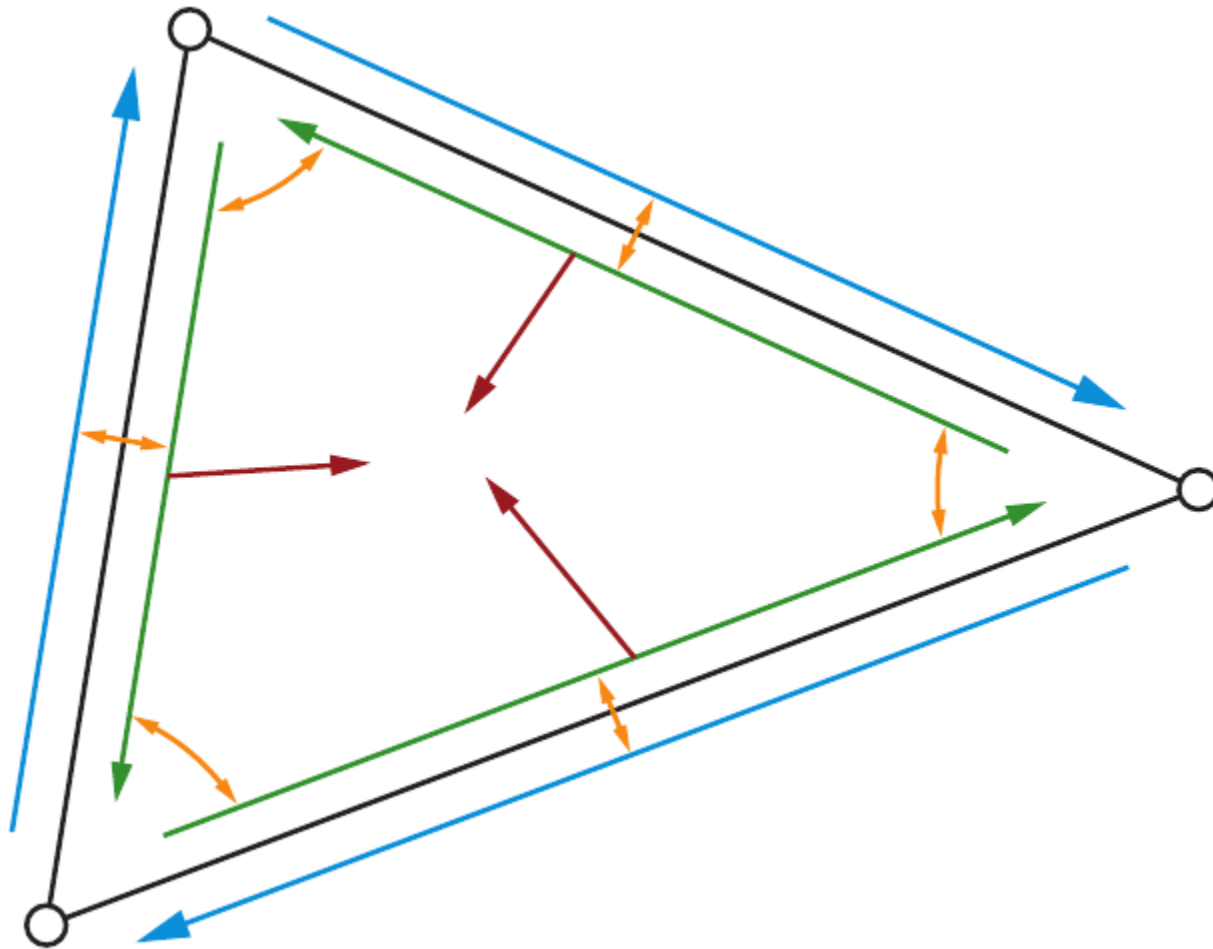
Halfedge Data Types



Face stores:

- Arbitrary adjacent halfedge

Halfedge Data Types

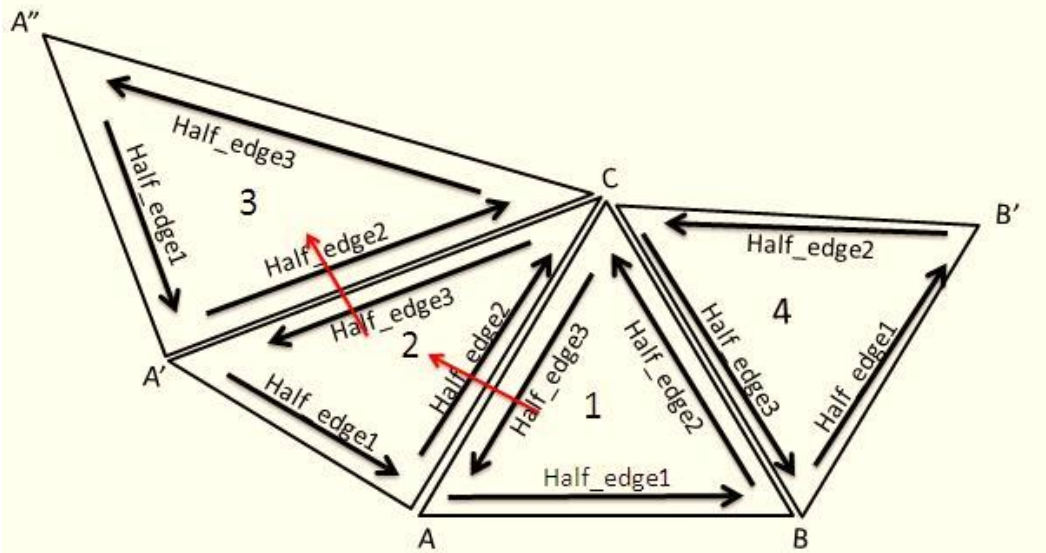


Halfedge

stores:

- Flip
- Next
- Face
- Vertex

Iterating Over Vertex Neighbors



```
Iterate(v) :  
  startEdge = v.out;  
  e = startEdge;  
  do  
    process(e.flip.from)  
    e = e.flip.next  
  while e != startEdge
```


Only Scratching the Surface

Eurographics Symposium on Geometry Processing (2005)

M. Desbrun, H. Pottmann (Editors)

Streaming Compression of Triangle Meshes

Martin Isenburg^{1†}

Peter Lindstrom²

Jack Snoeyink¹

¹ University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

² Lawrence Livermore National Labs

EUROGRAPHICS 2011 / M. Chen and O. Deussen
(Guest Editors)

Volume 30 (2011), Number 2

SQuad: Compact Representation for Triangle Meshes

Topraj Gurung¹, Daniel Laney², Peter Lindstrom², Jarek Rossignac¹

¹Georgia Institute of Technology

²Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory

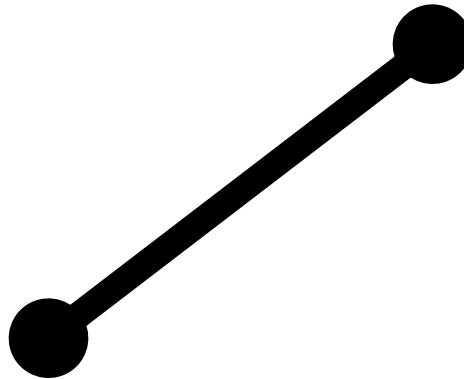
Dimensionality Structure

**Simplicial
complex**



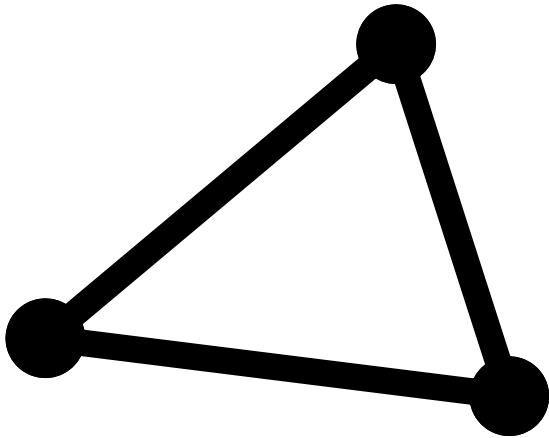
Vertex

Dimension 0



Edge

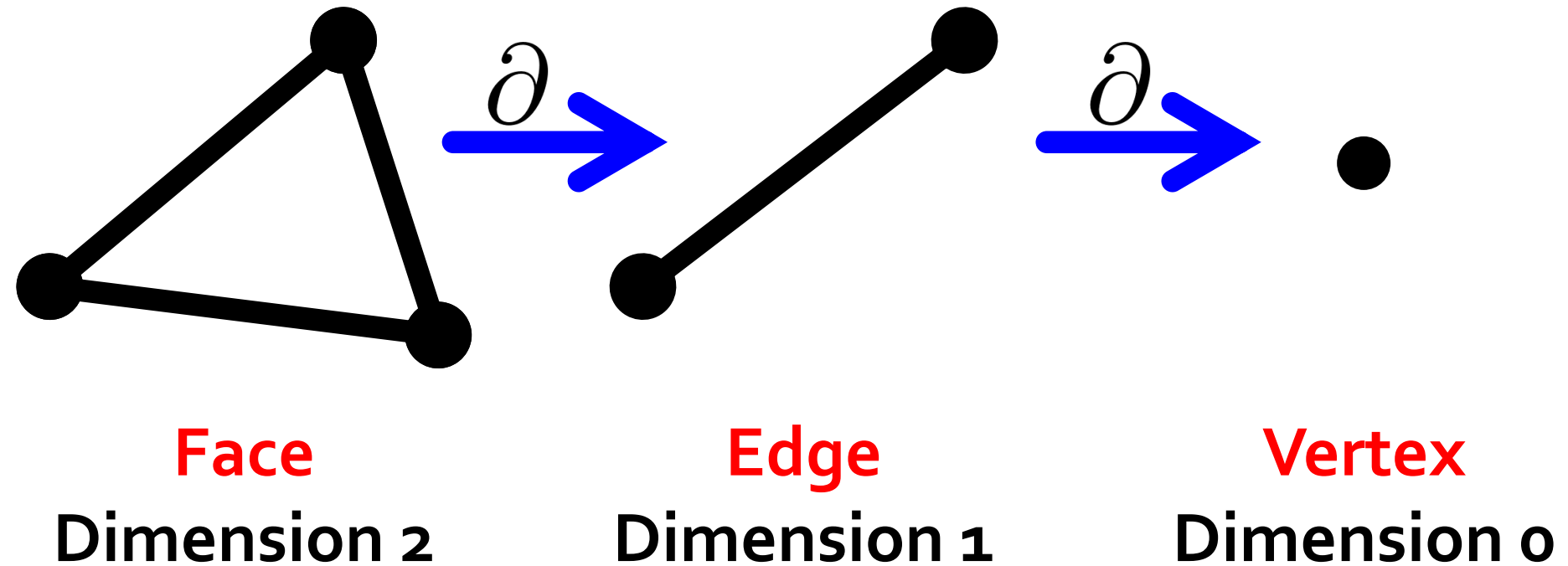
Dimension 1



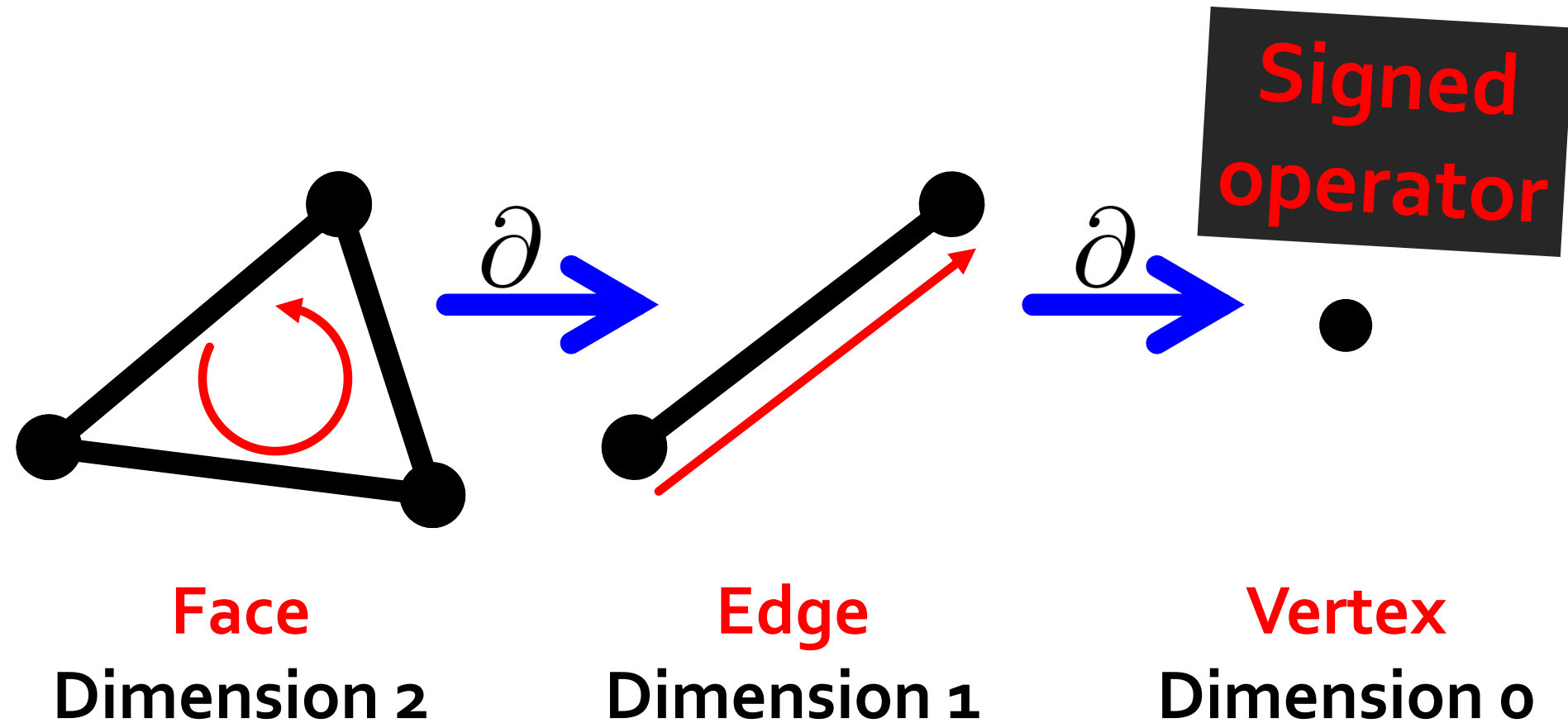
Face

Dimension 2

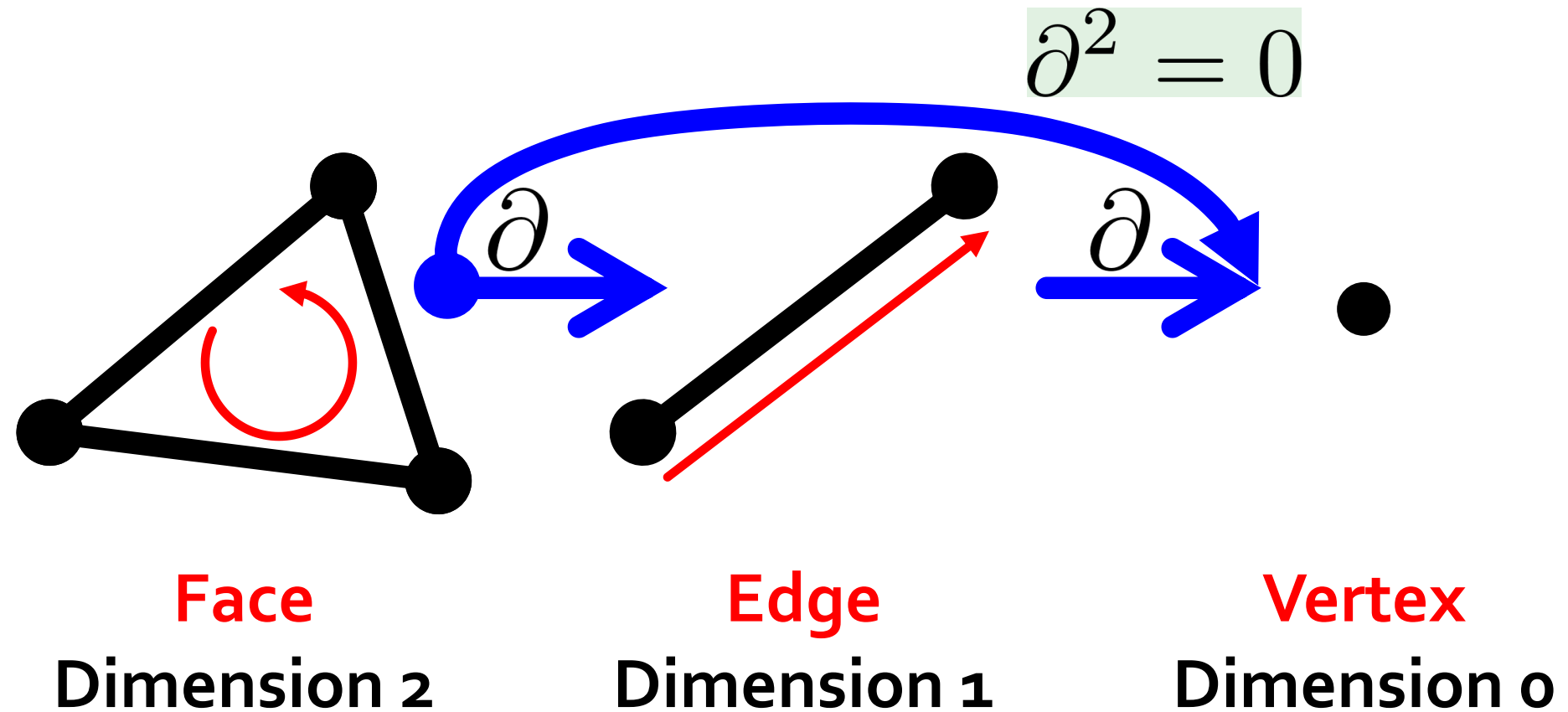
Preview: Boundary Operator



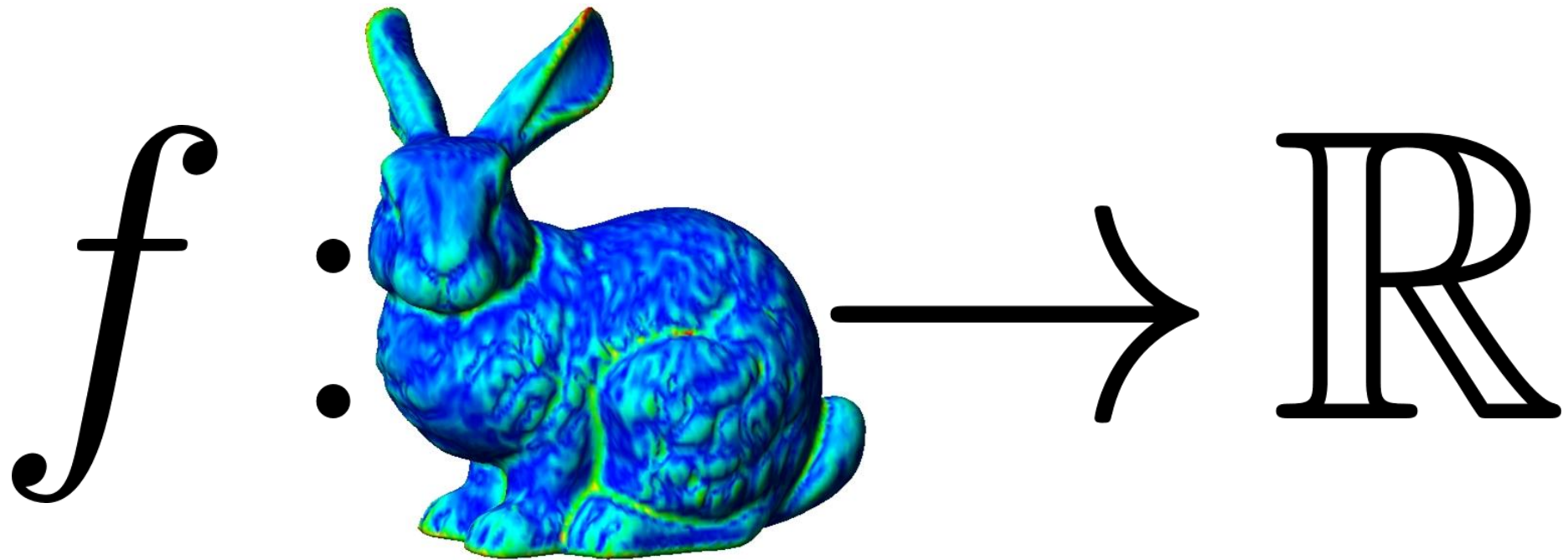
Preview: Boundary Operator



Preview: Boundary Operator



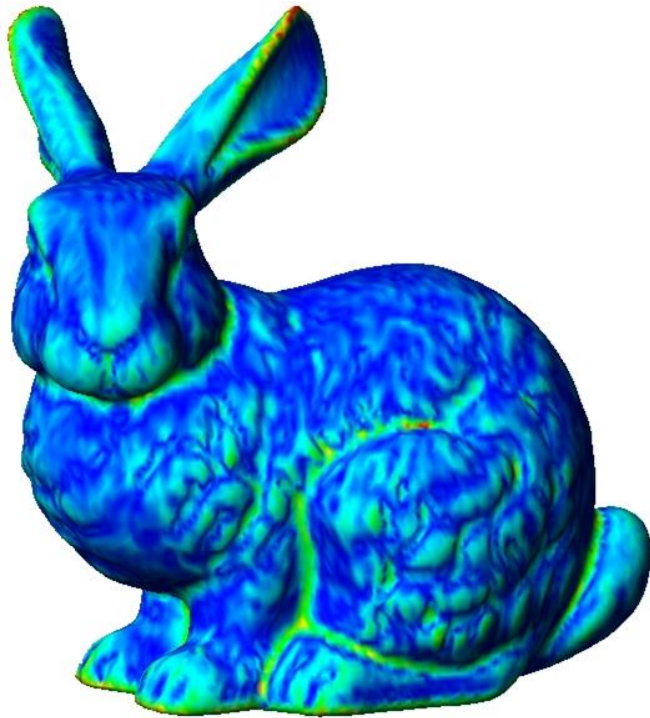
Scalar Functions



http://www.ieeta.pt/polymeco/Screenshots/PolyMeCo_OneView.jpg

Map points to real numbers

Discrete Scalar Functions



$$f \in \mathbb{R}^{|V|}$$

http://www.ieeta.pt/polymeco/Screenshots/PolyMeCo_OneView.jpg

Map vertices to real numbers

Question

What is the integral of f ?

$$\int_M f \, dA$$

Finite Elements Approach

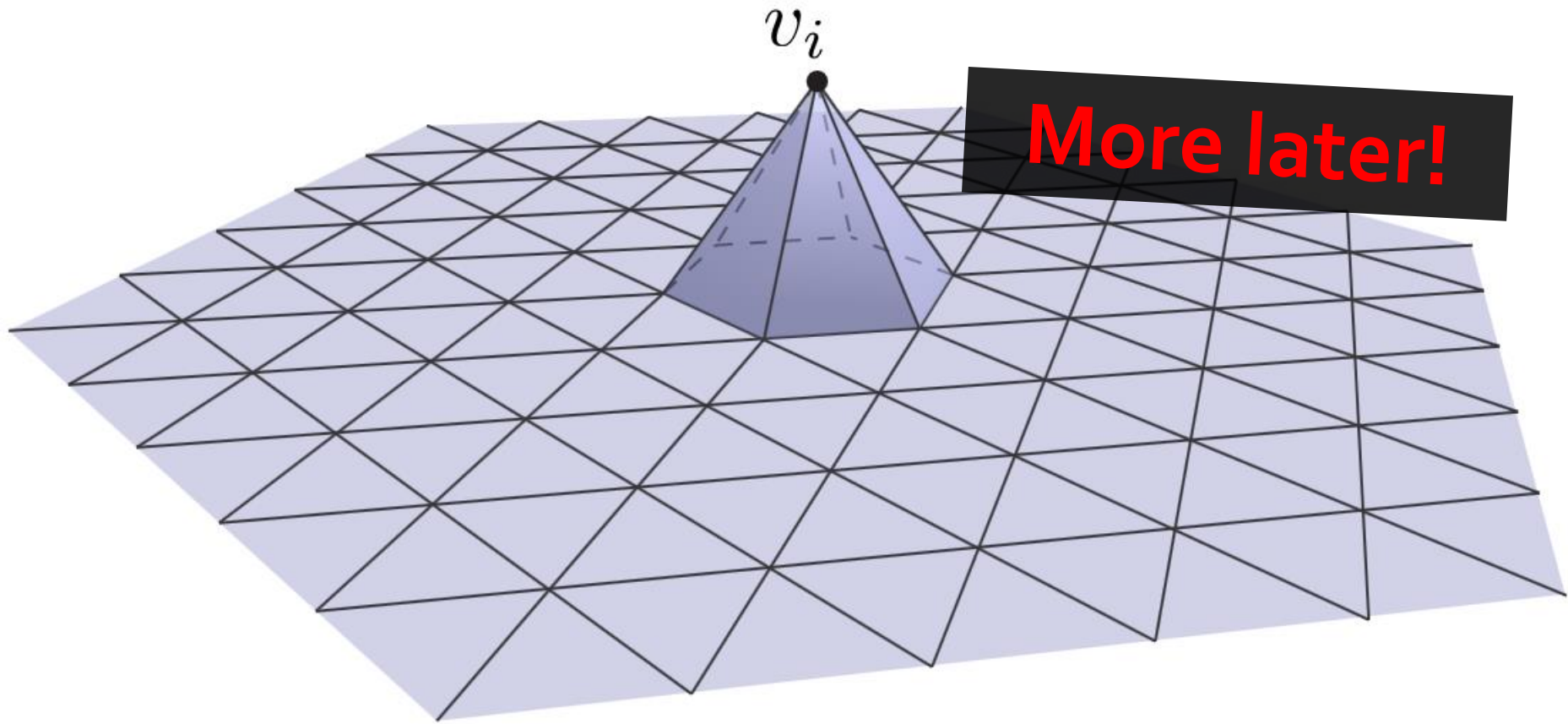
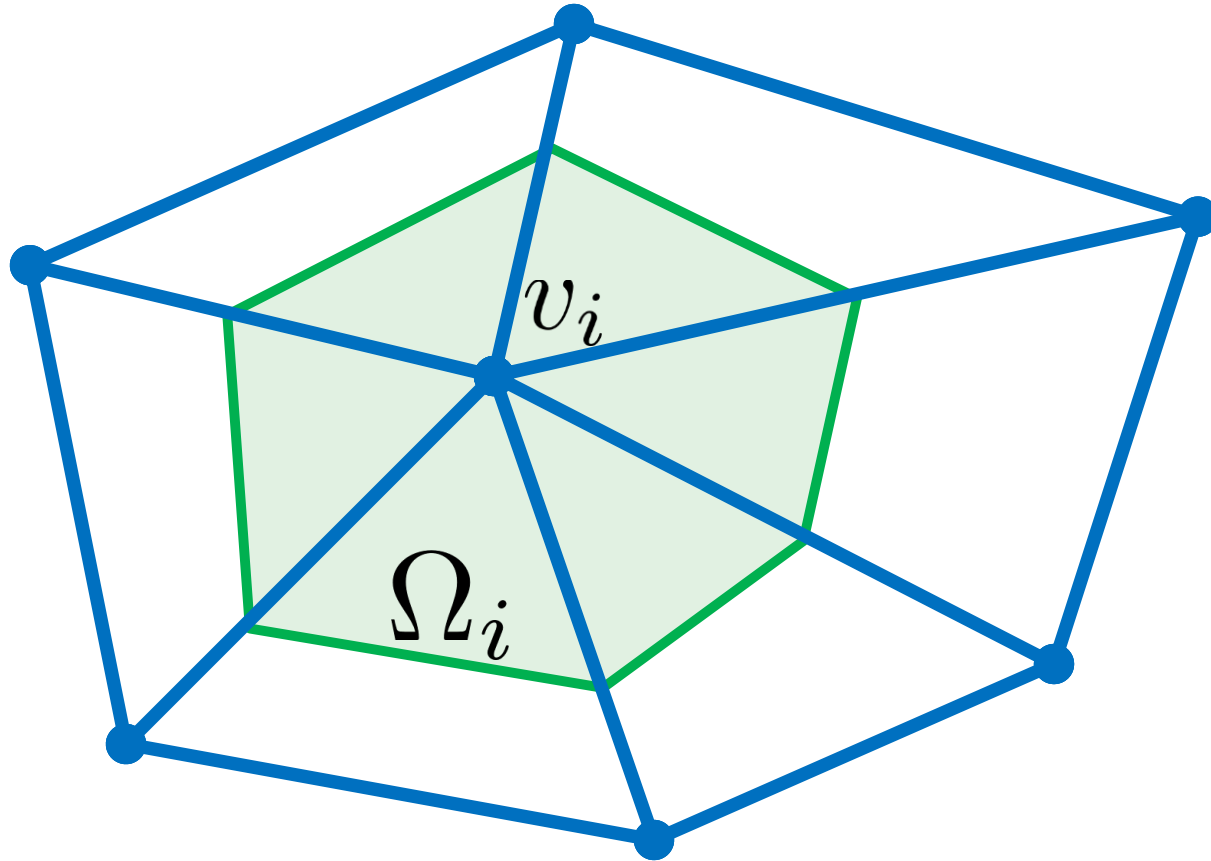


Image courtesy K. Crane

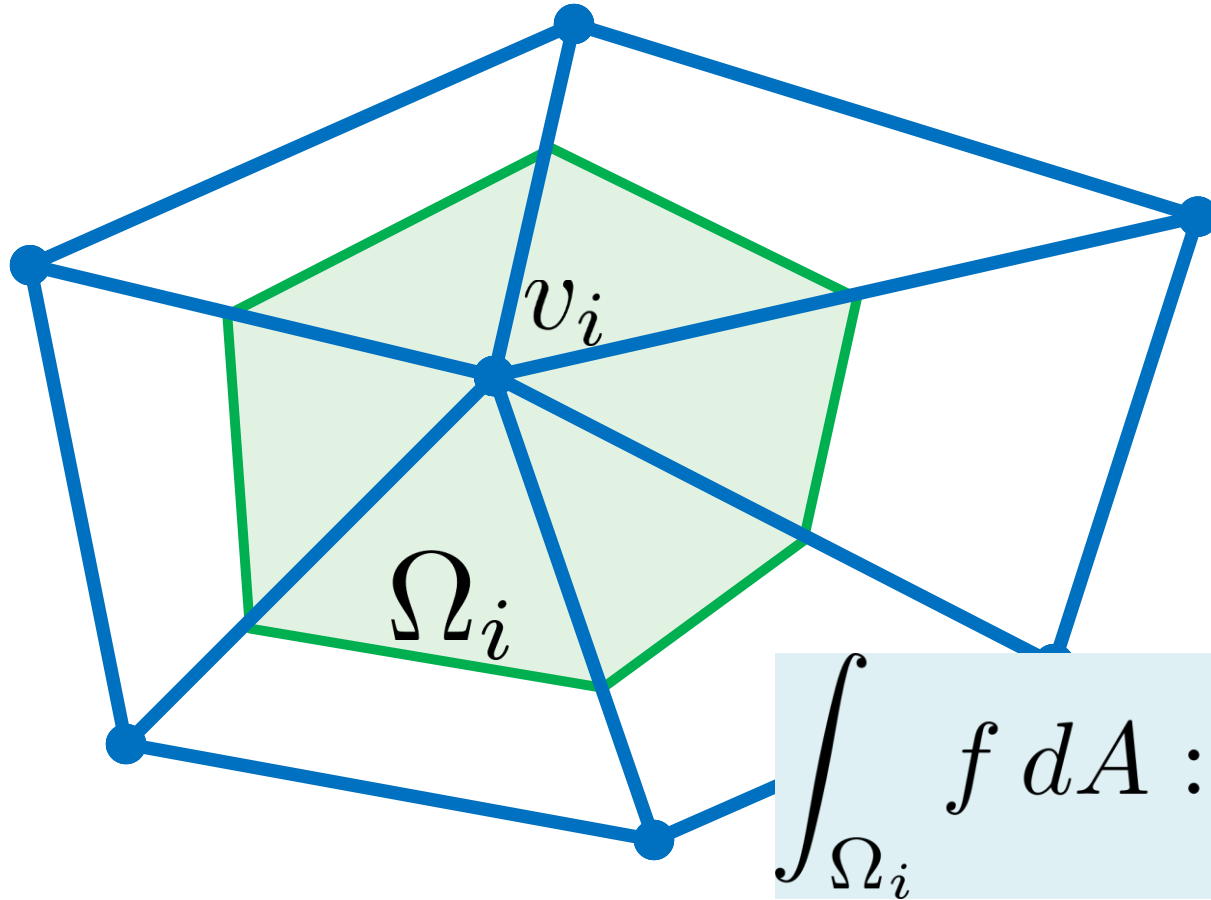
Use hat functions to interpolate

Dual Cell



Discrete version of dA

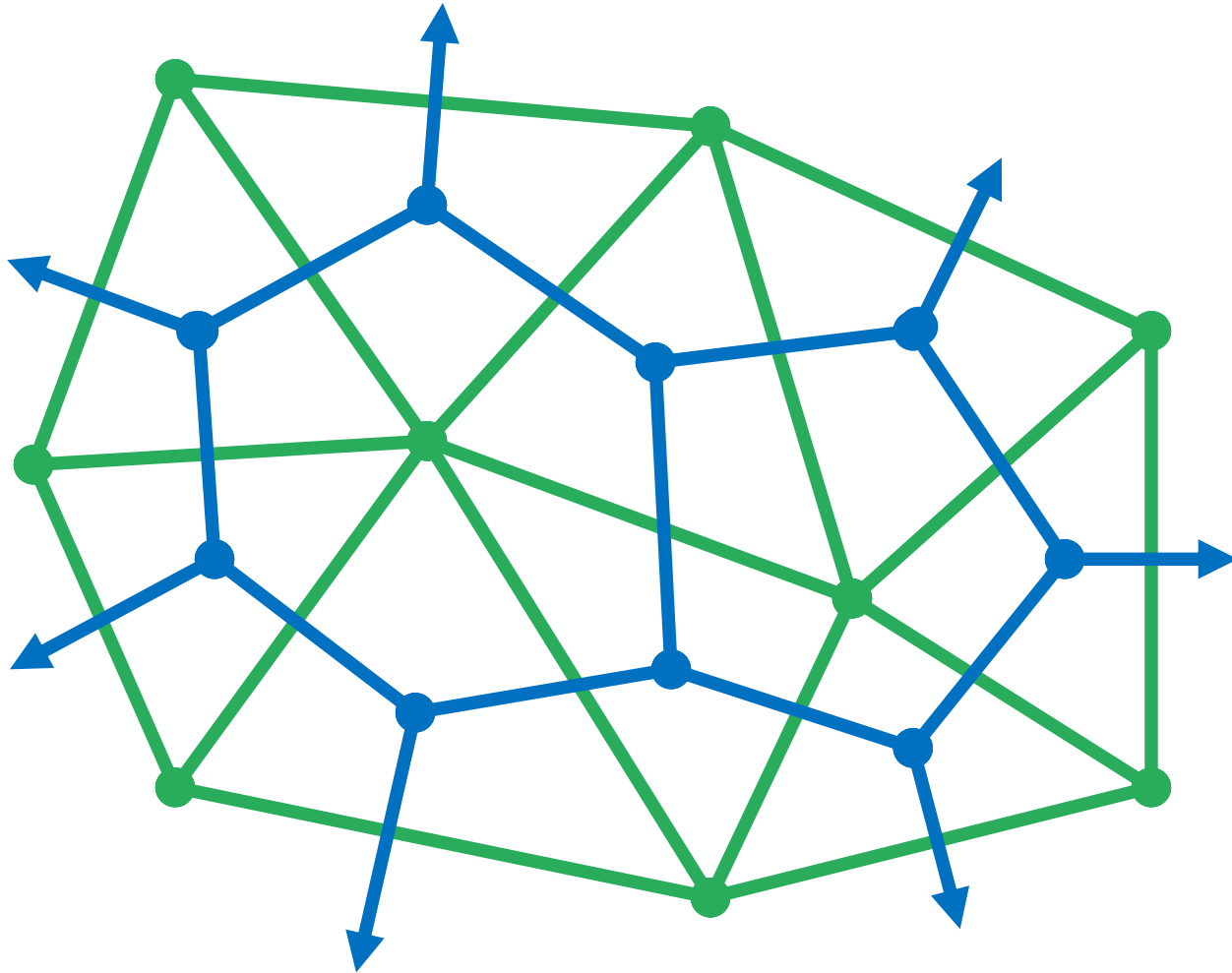
Dual Cell



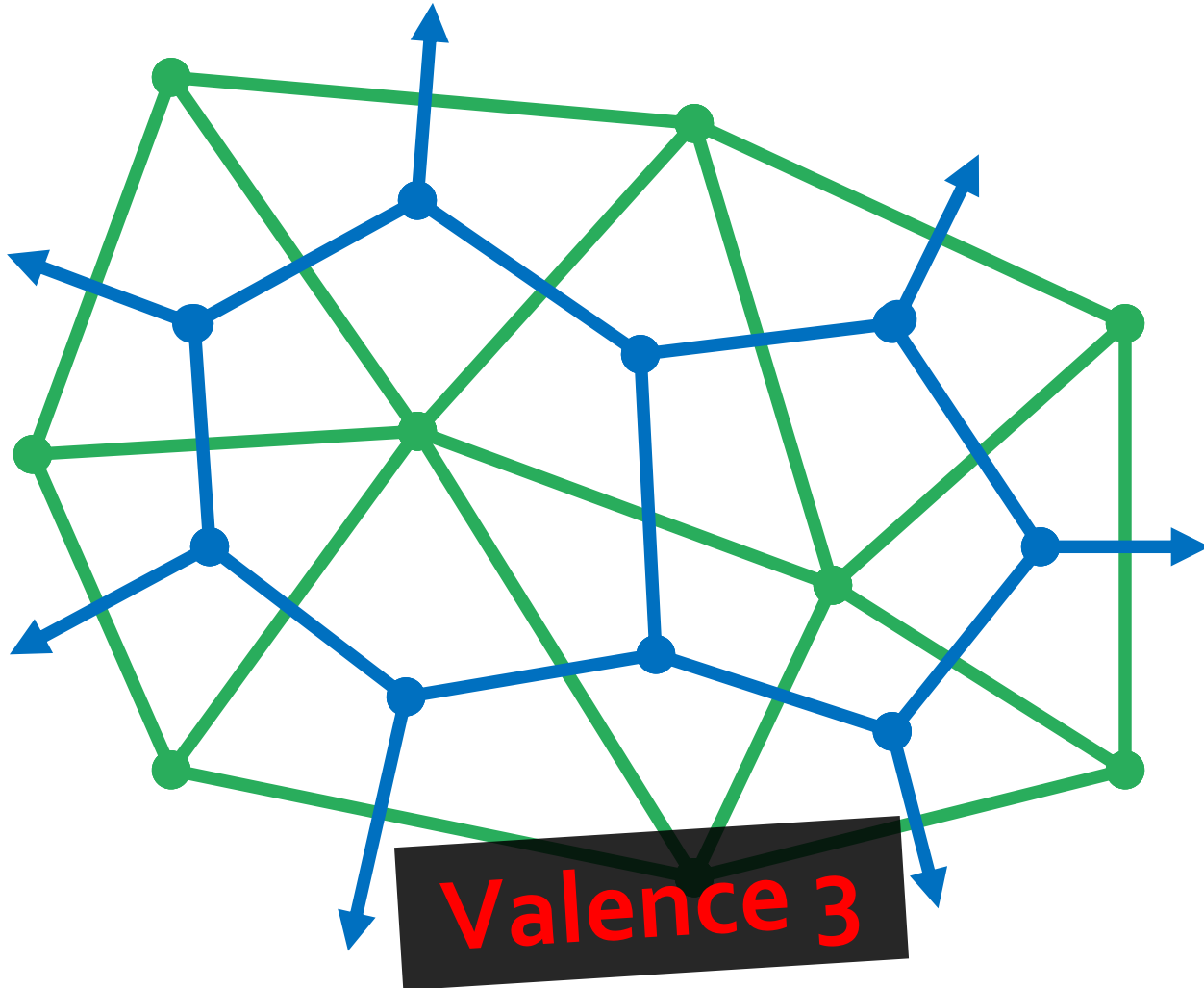
$$\int_{\Omega_i} f \, dA := f_i |\Omega_i|$$

Discrete version of dA

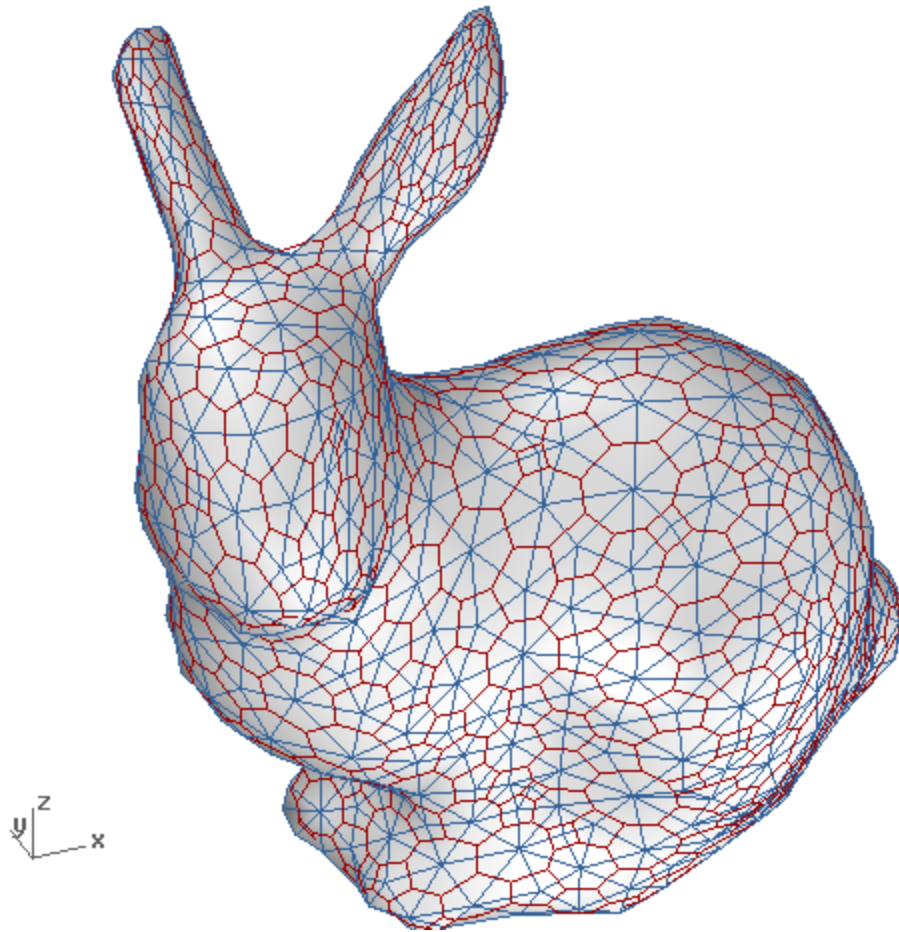
Dual Complex



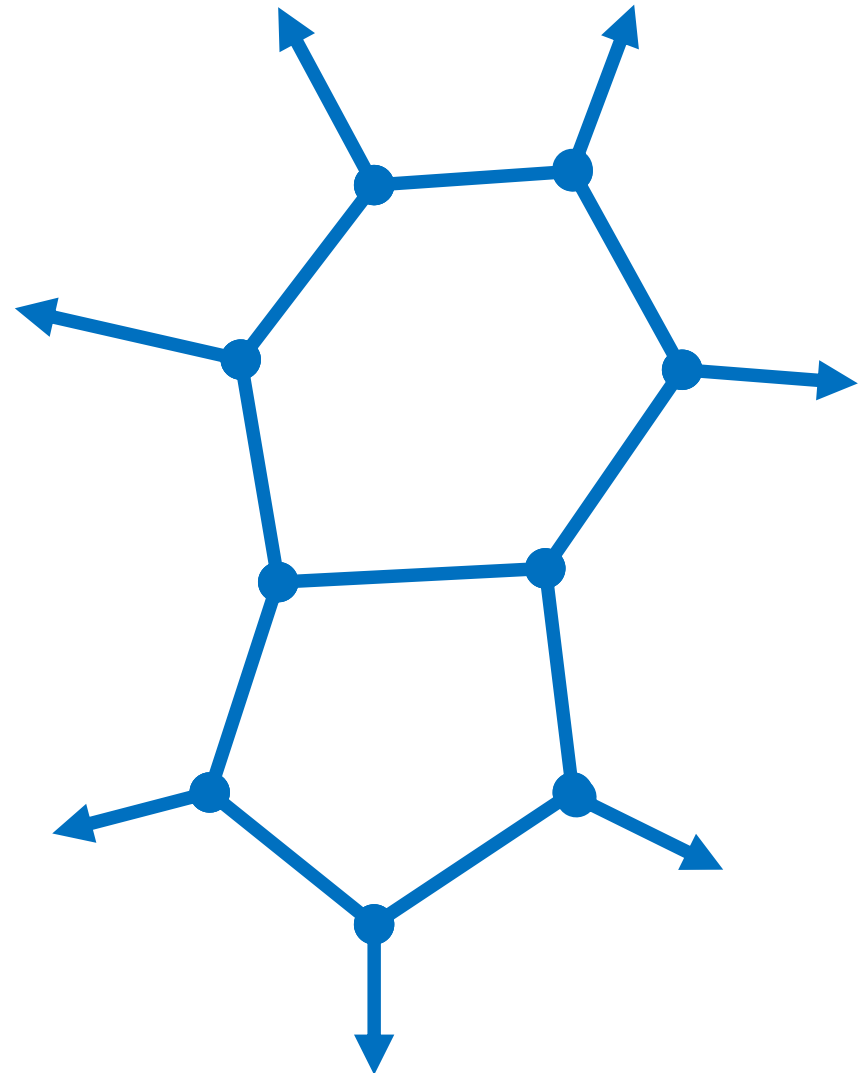
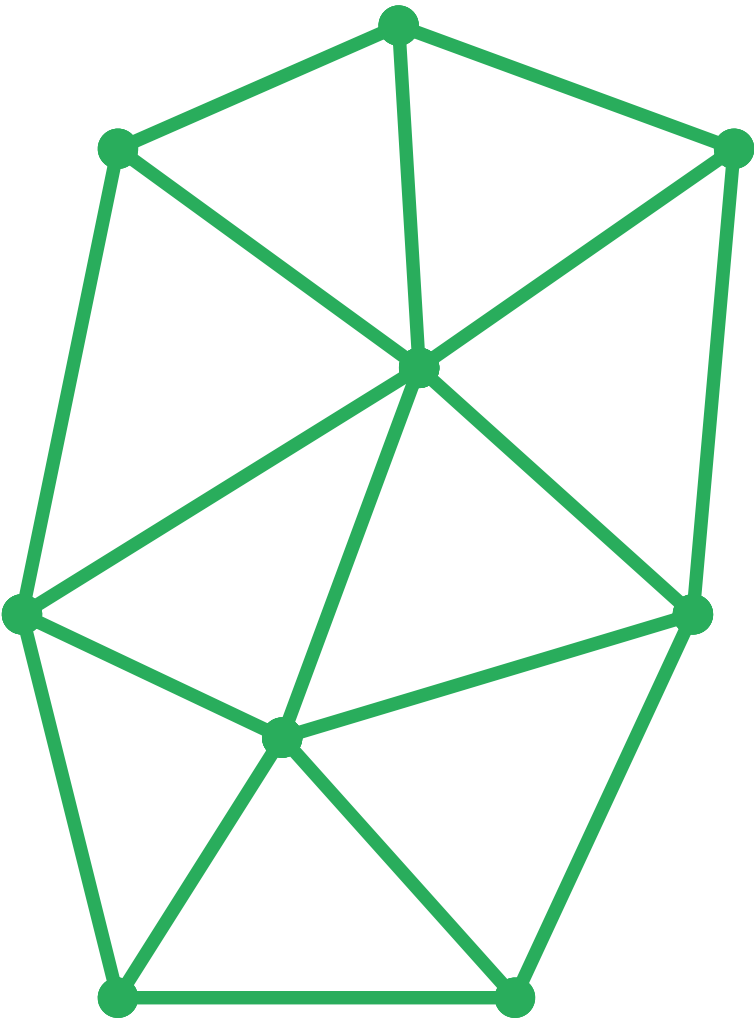
Dual Complex



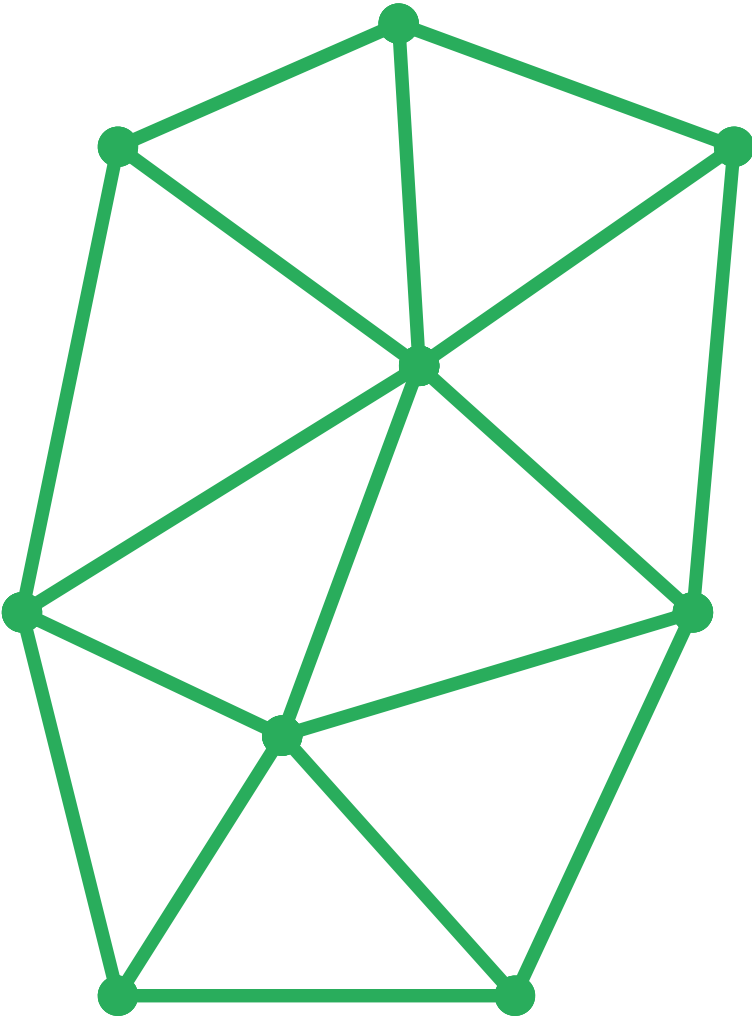
One Surface, Two Meshes



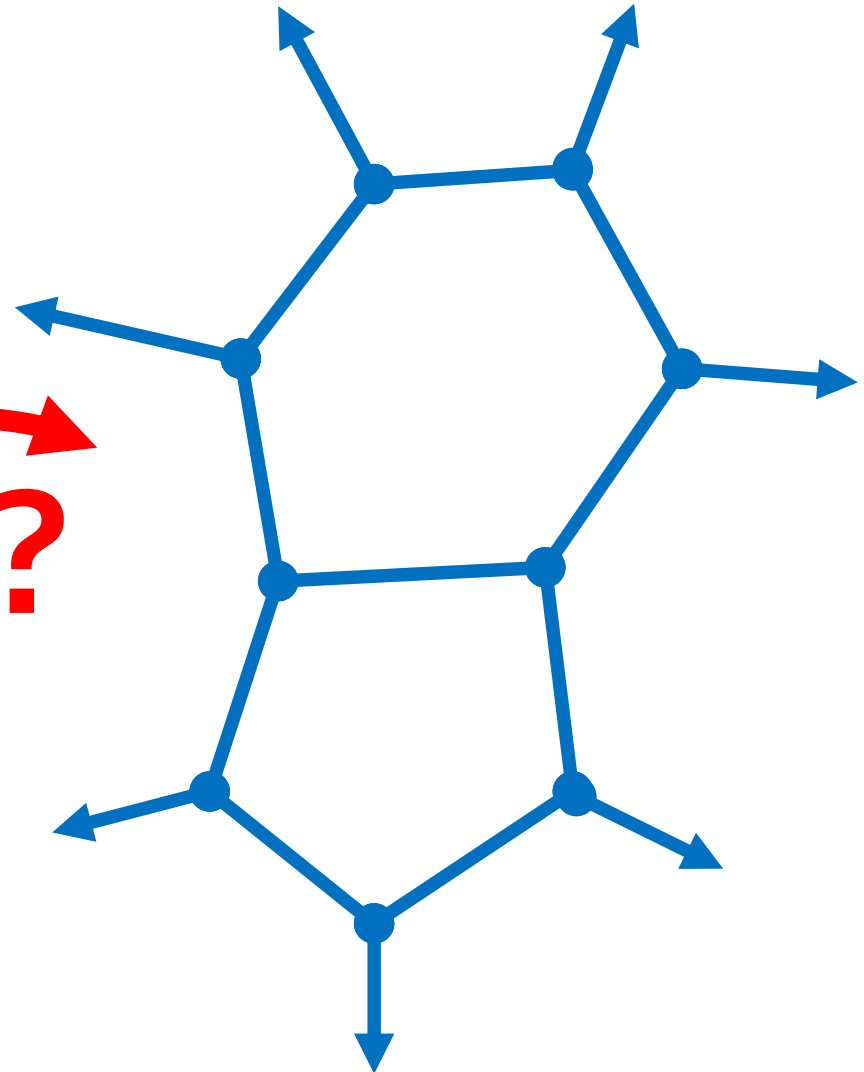
One Surface, Two Halfedges



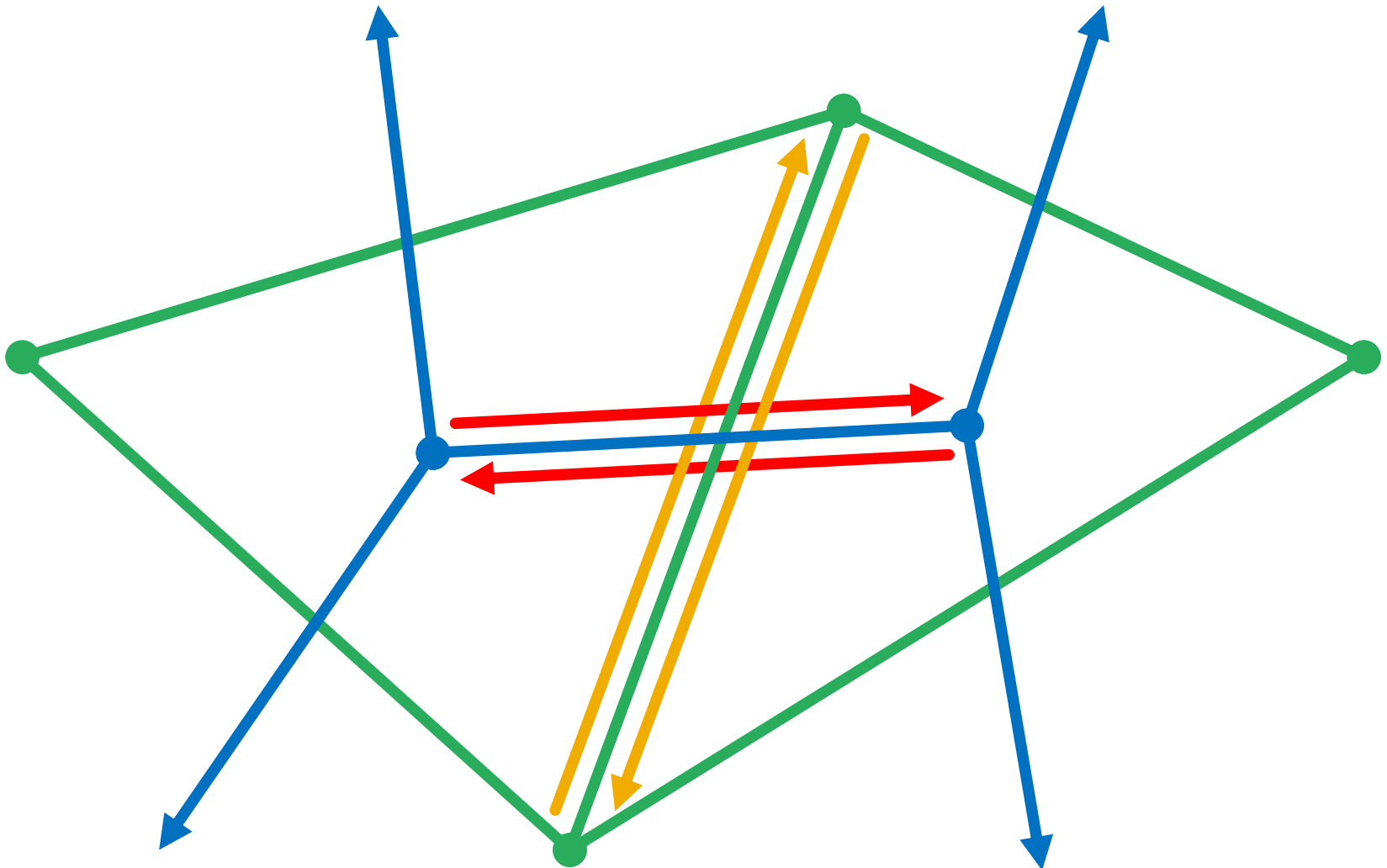
Missing Operation



★
???

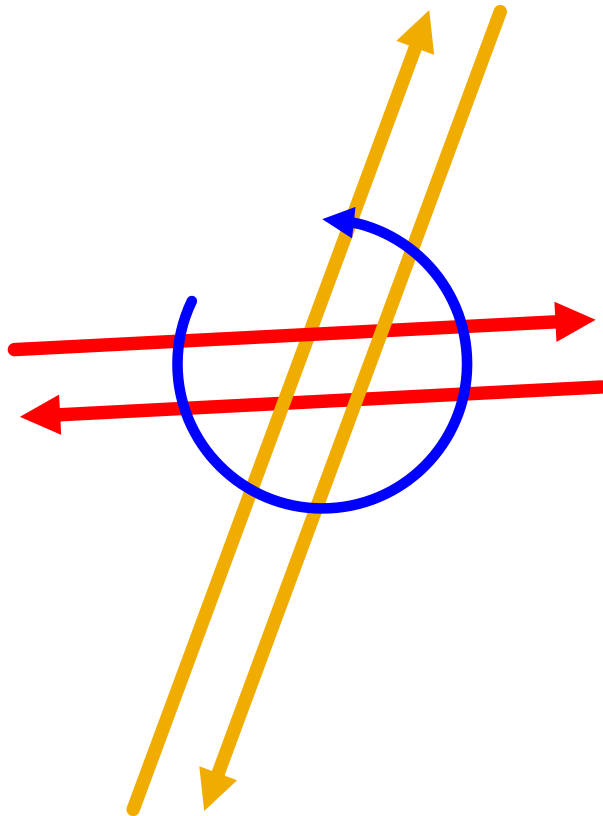


Quad Edge



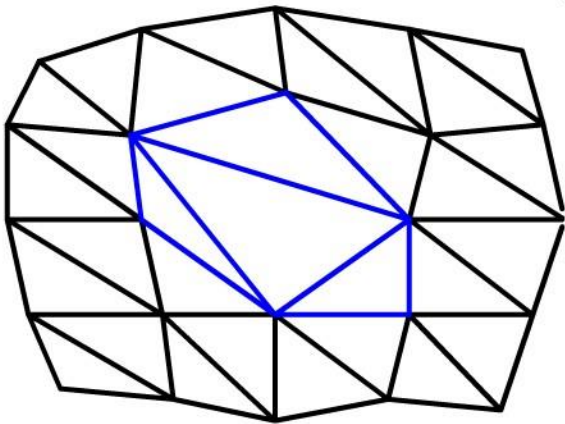
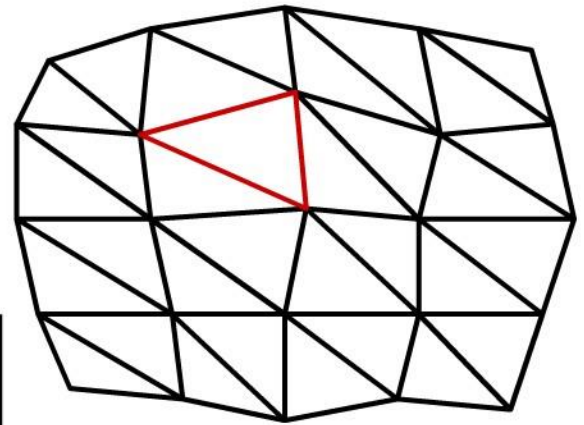
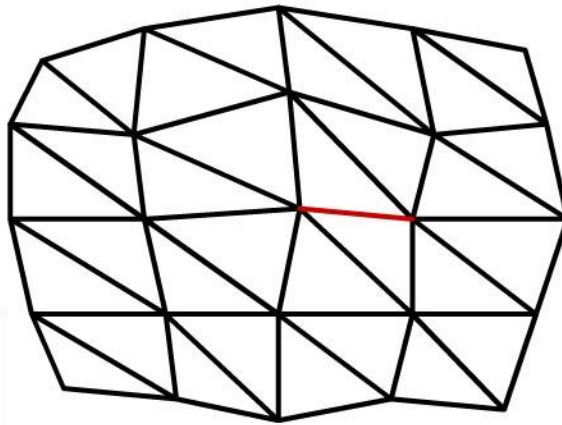
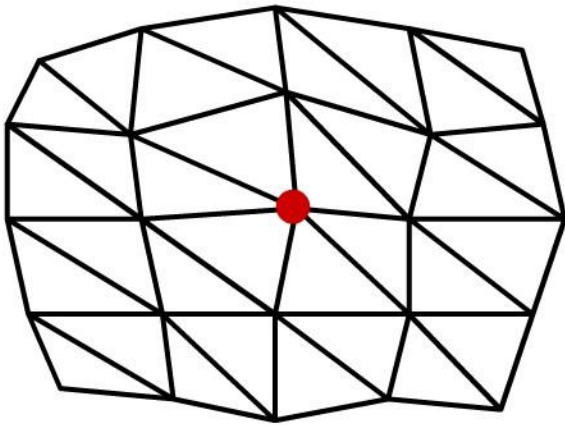
Rotation Operation

$e \rightarrow \text{Rot} \rightarrow \text{Rot} = e \rightarrow \text{Flip}$

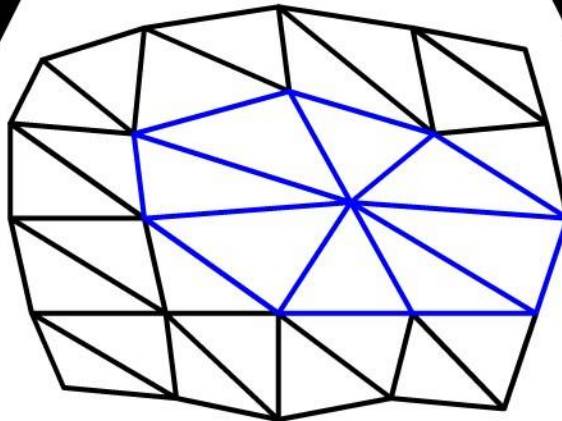


Topological Operations

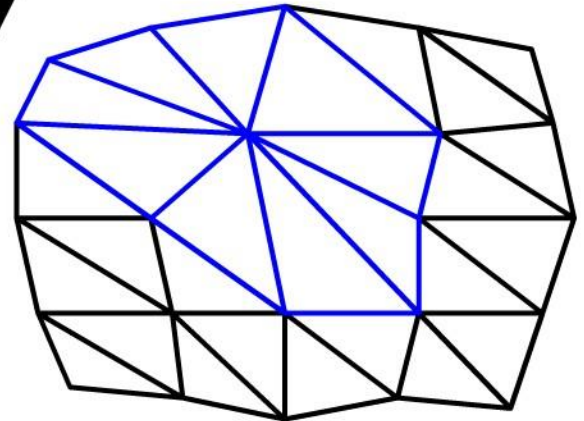
Original Mesh Segment



Vertex Removal



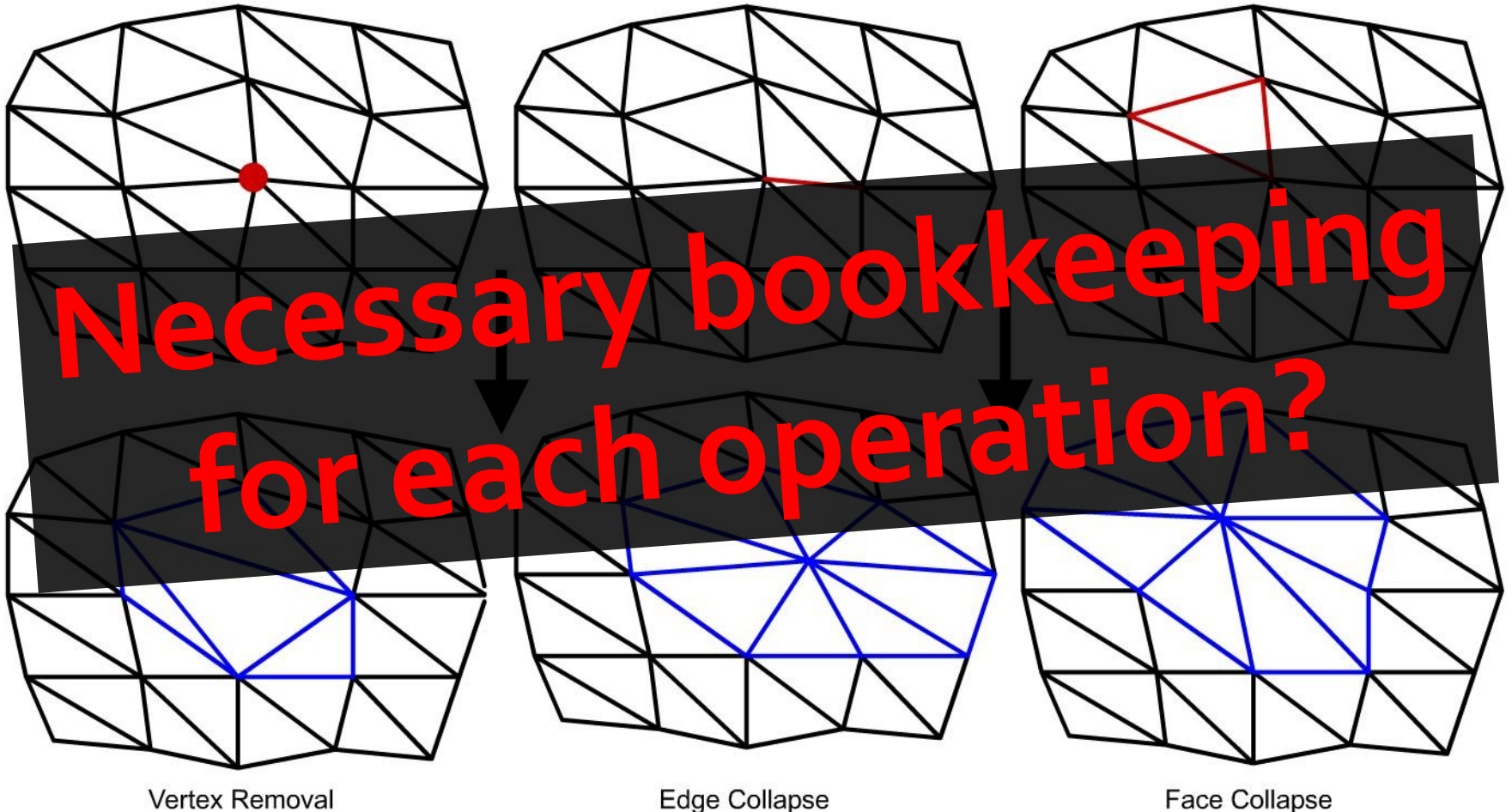
Edge Collapse



Face Collapse

Topological Operations

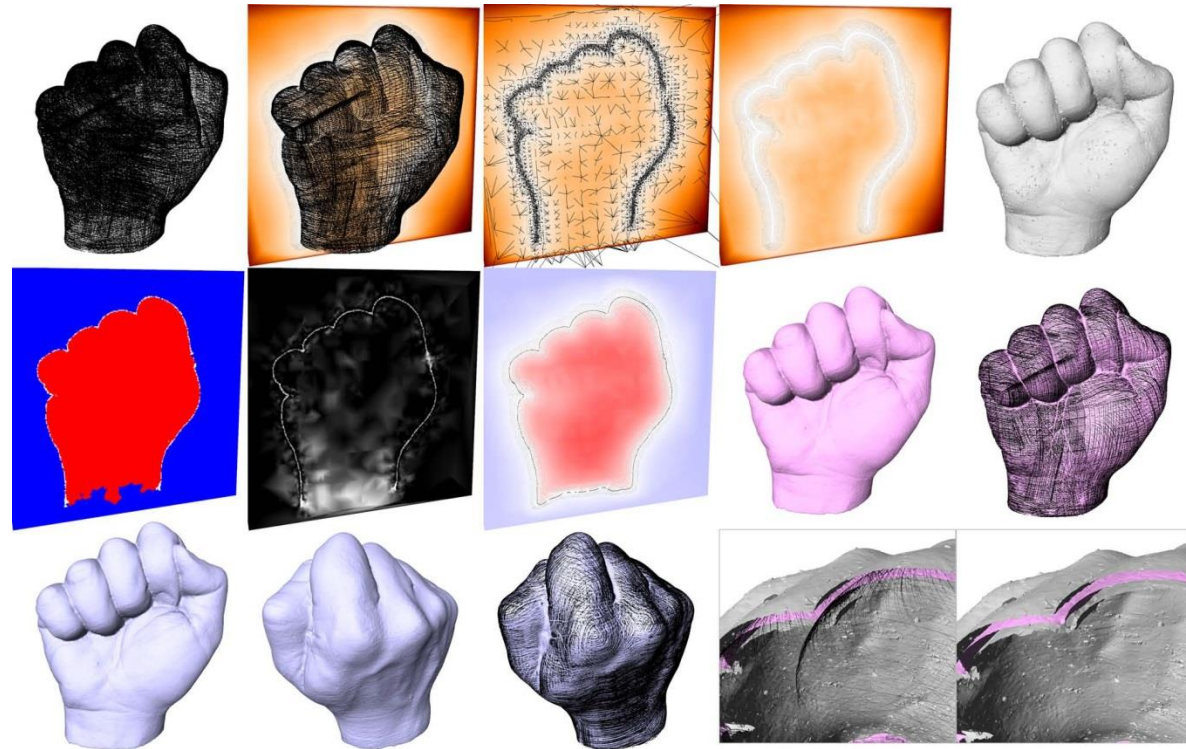
Original Mesh Segment



Take-Away

Complex data structures
enable simpler traversal at
cost of more bookkeeping.

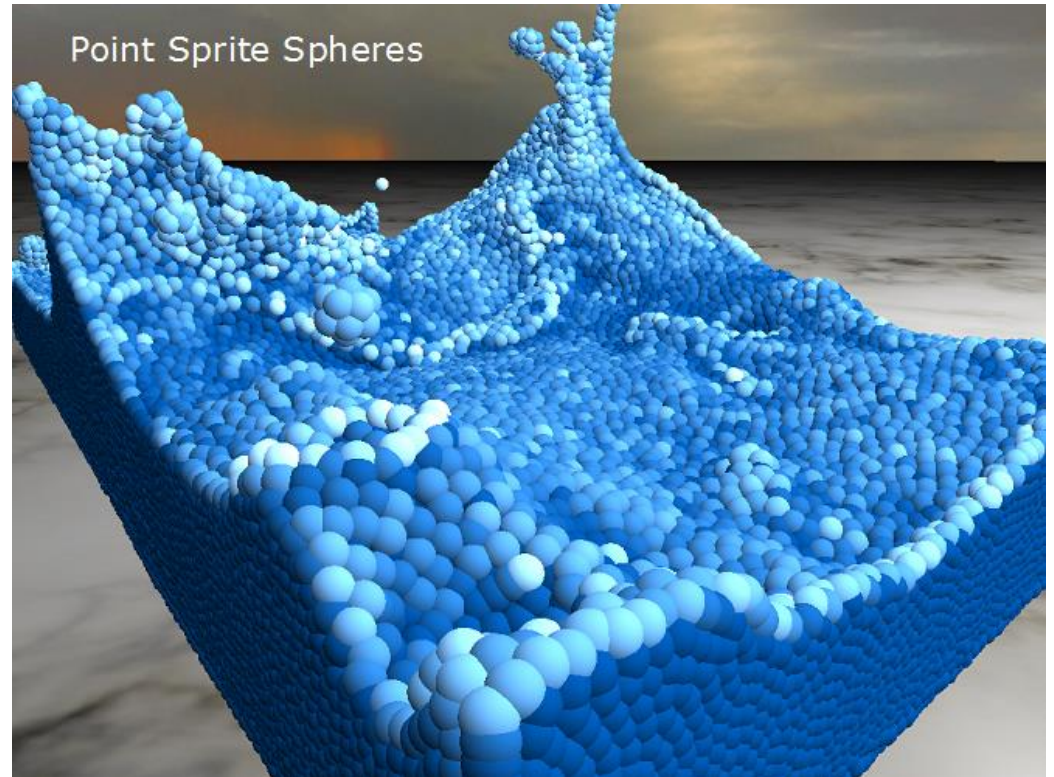
Not the Only Model



http://www.cs.umd.edu/class/spring2005/cmsc828v/papers/mpu_implicit.pdf <ftp://ftp-sop.inria.fr/geometrica/alliez/signing.pdf>

Implicit surfaces

Not the Only Model



<http://www.itsartmag.com/features/cgfluids/>
<https://developer.nvidia.com/content/fluid-simulation-alice-madness-returns>

Smoothed-particle hydrodynamics

Not the Only Model

AN IMPLICIT SURFACE TENSION MODEL

J. I. Hochstein* and T. L. Williams**

The University of Memphis
Memphis, Tennessee

ABSTRACT

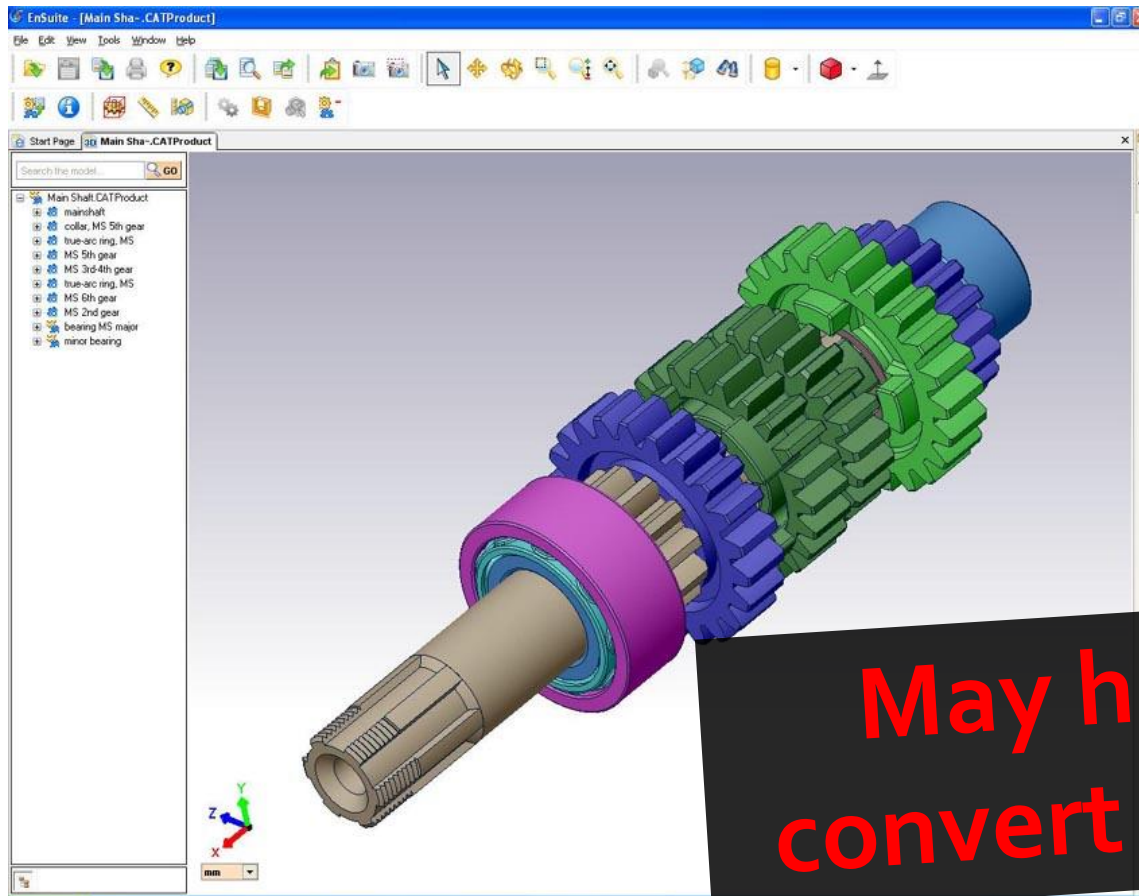
A new implicit model for surface tension at a two-fluid interface is proposed for use in computational models of flows with free surfaces and its performance is compared to an existing explicit model. The new model is based on an evolution equation for surface curvature that includes the influence of advection as well as surface tension. A detailed development of the new model is presented as are the details of the computational implementation. The performance of the new model is compared to an existing explicit model by using both models to predict the surface dynamics of several two-dimensional configurations. It is concluded that the new implicit surface tension model does perform better for configurations with a large surface tension coefficient. It is shown that, for several cases, the time step size is no longer limited by surface tension stability considerations (as it was using the explicit model), but rather by other limitations inherent in the existing volume advection algorithm.

INTRODUCTION

Incompressible flows with a free-surface exist in many industrial applications. Some examples include fuel atomization in internal combustion engines, droplet size control in ink-jet printers, formation of lead shot, control of liquid spacecraft propellant in low gravity, and the spinning of synthetic fibers. The technology for some of these applications has been developed by heavily relying on experimental study of the specific process involved. For others, such as spacecraft propellant management, experimental studies are prohibitively expensive and the ability to computationally model these process is essential for their development.

The modeling of flows with a free surface presents challenges unlike other types of flow problems in that a boundary condition must be applied at the free surface which is often in a transient state and irregularly shaped. This problem is exacerbated when the force due to surface tension

Obtaining Geometry

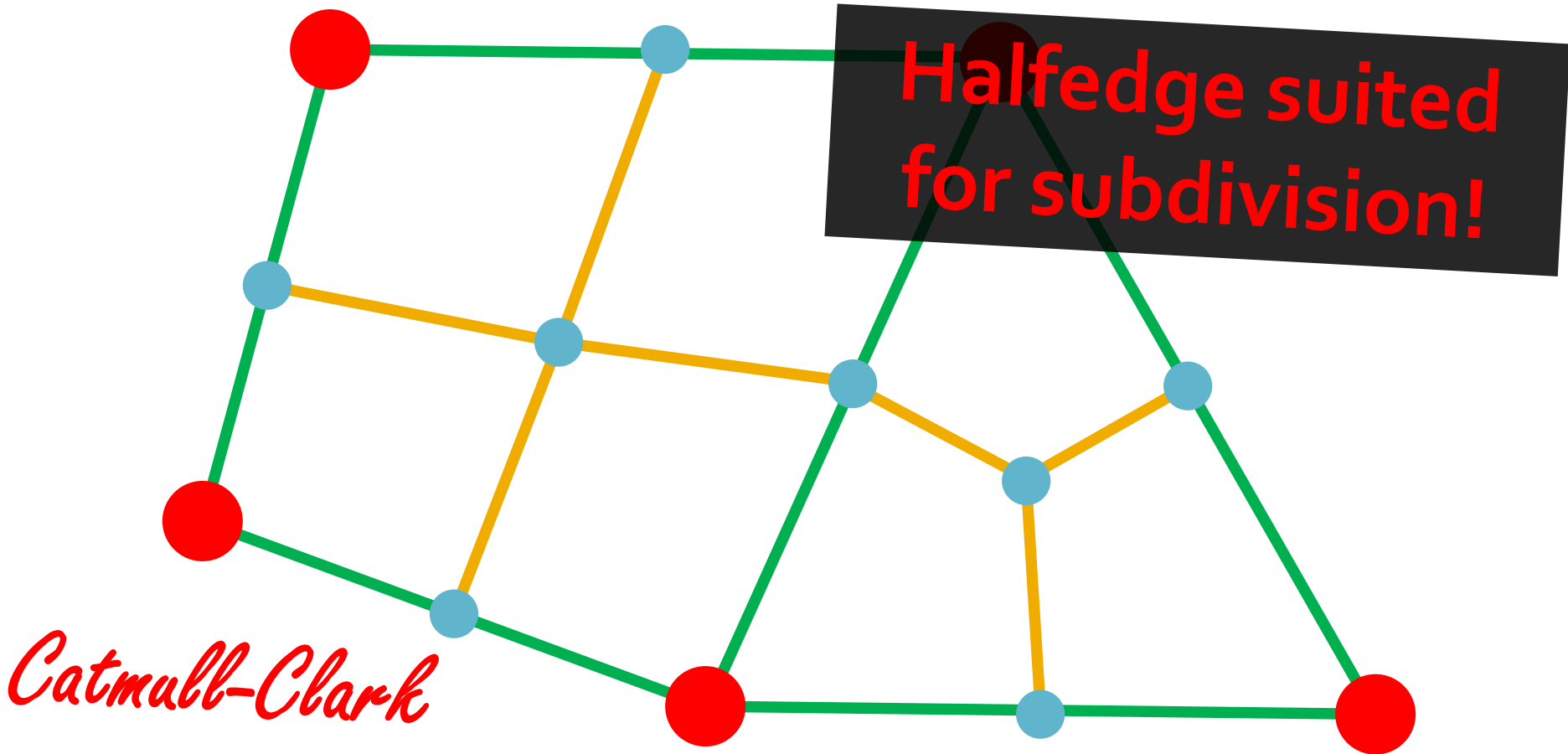


**May have to
convert to mesh**

<http://www.cad-sourcing.com/wp-content/uploads/2011/12/free-cad-software.jpg>

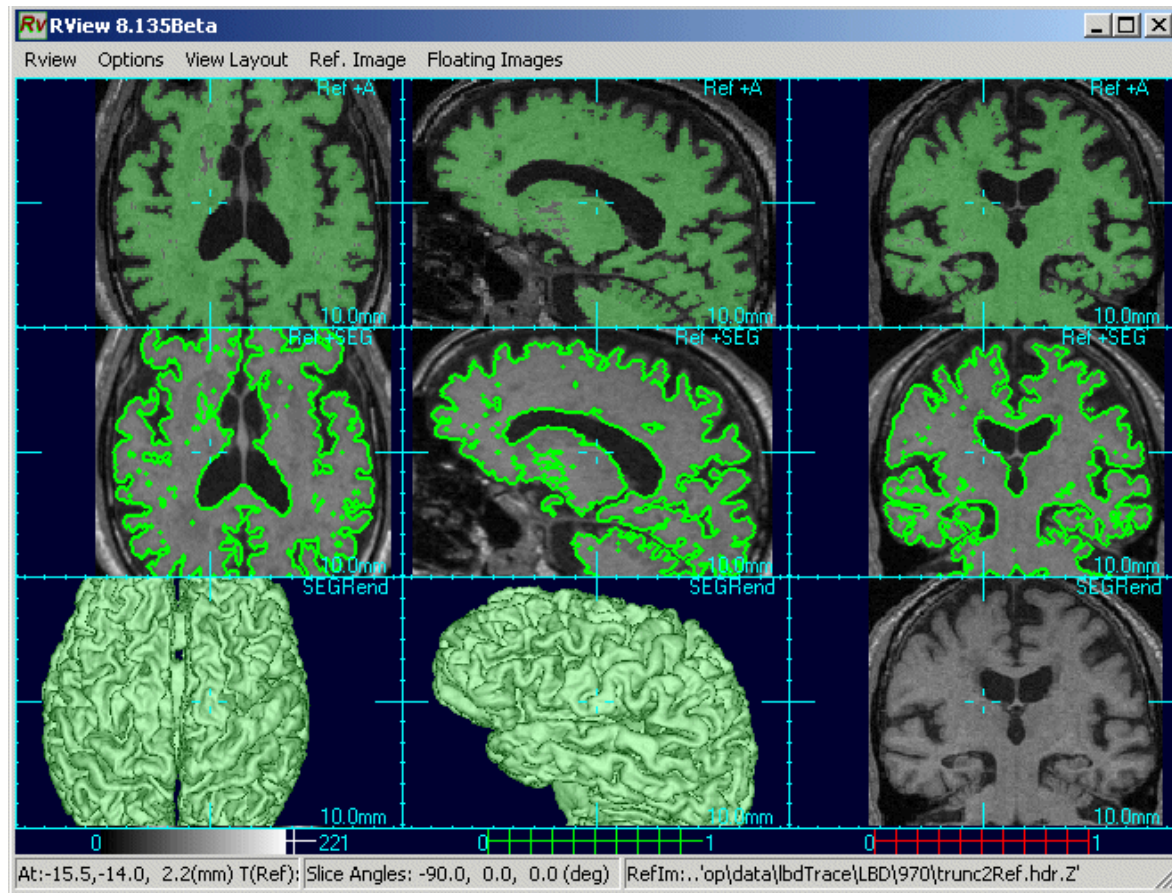
Cleanest: Design software

Obtaining Geometry



Cleanest: Design software

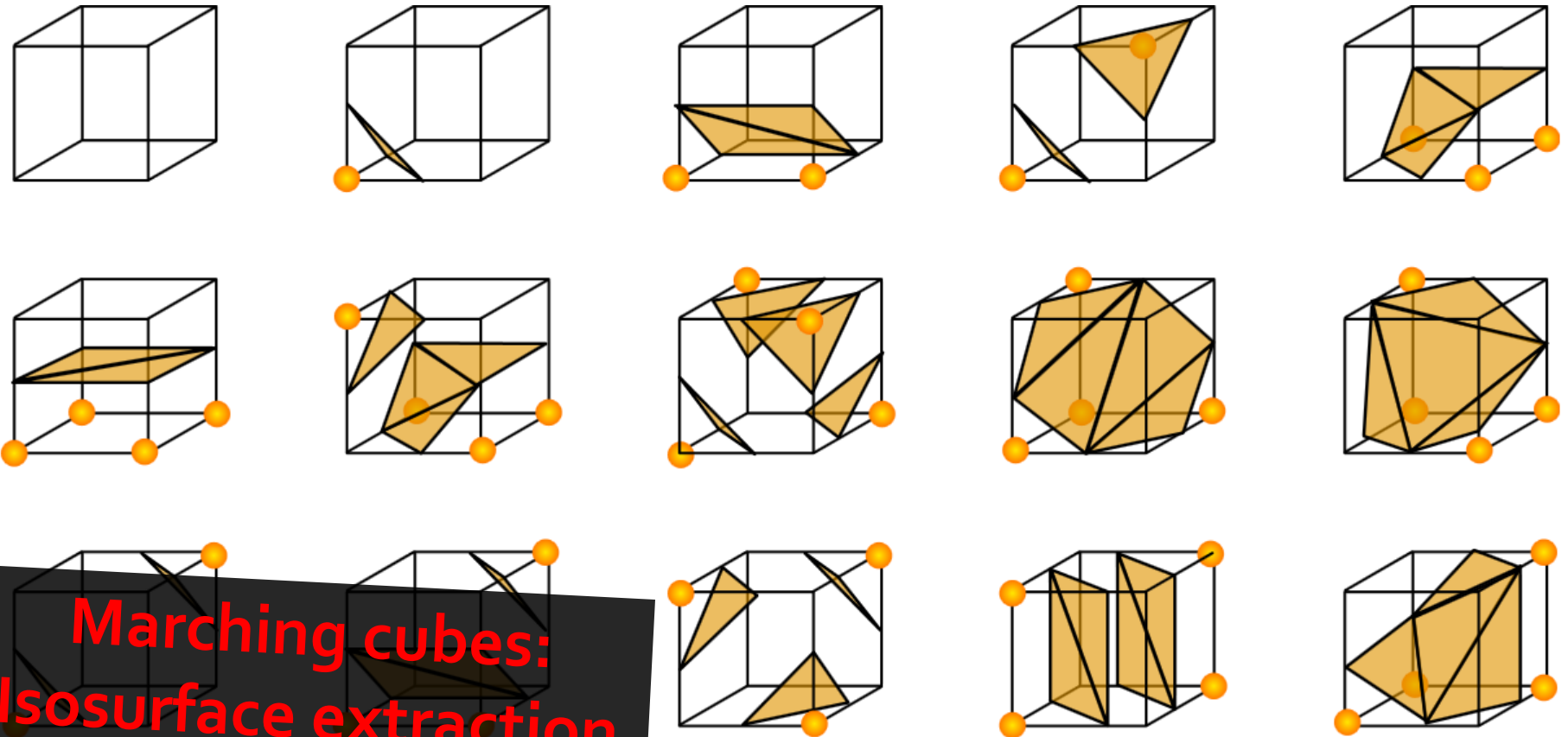
Obtaining Geometry



<http://www.colin-studholme.net/software/rview/rvmanual/morphtool5.gif>

Volumetric extraction

Obtaining Geometry

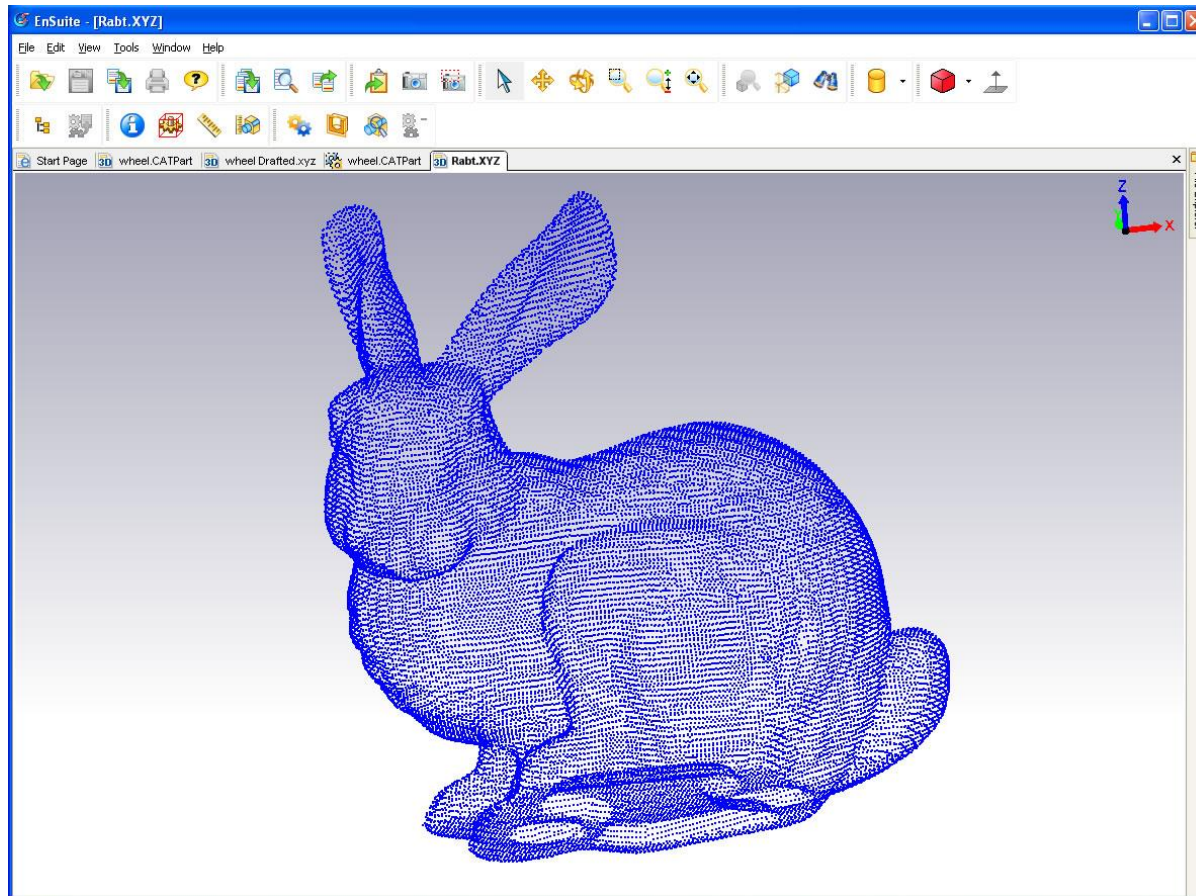


Marching cubes:
Isosurface extraction

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marching_cubes

Volumetric extraction

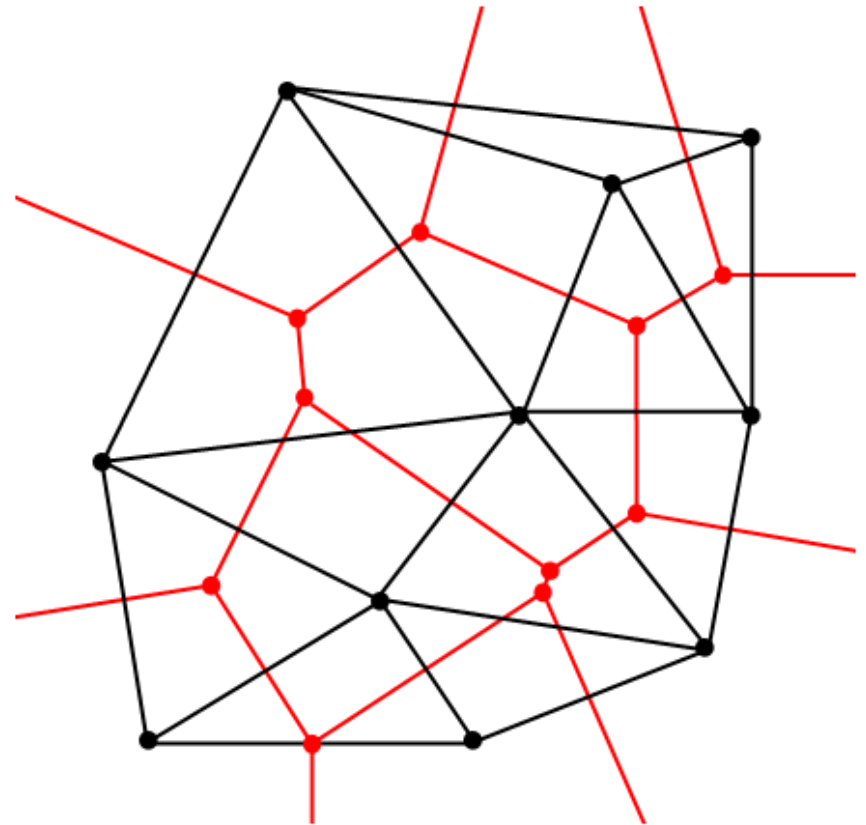
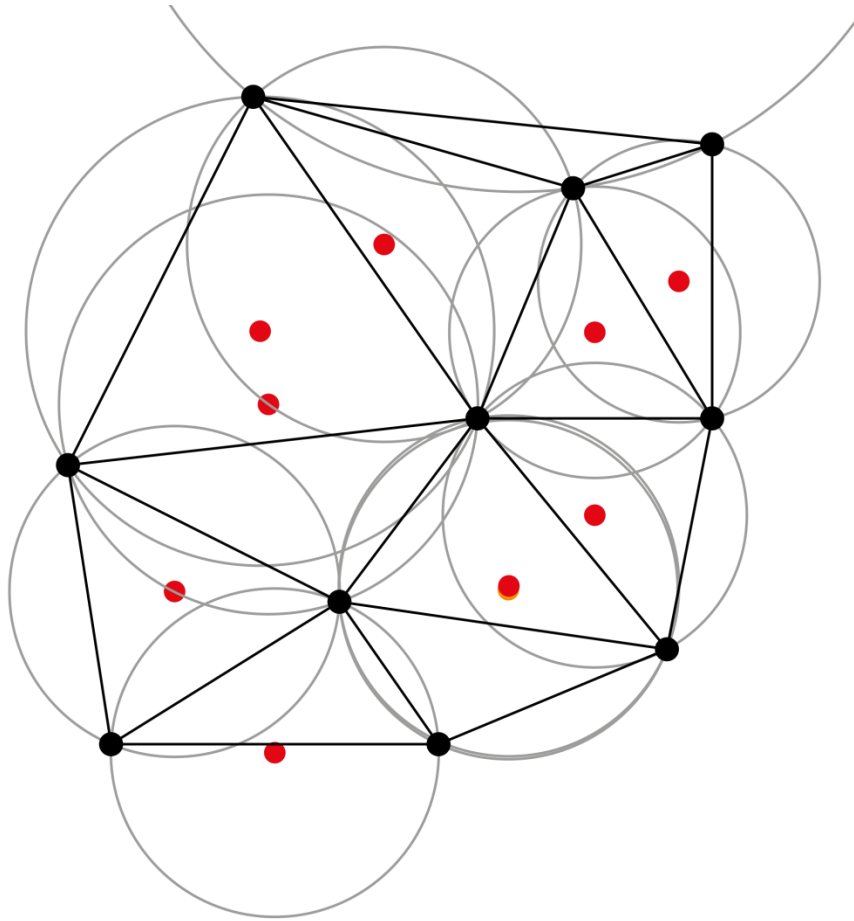
Obtaining Geometry



<http://www.engineeringspecifier.com/public/primages/pr1200.jpg>

Point clouds

Delaunay Triangulation



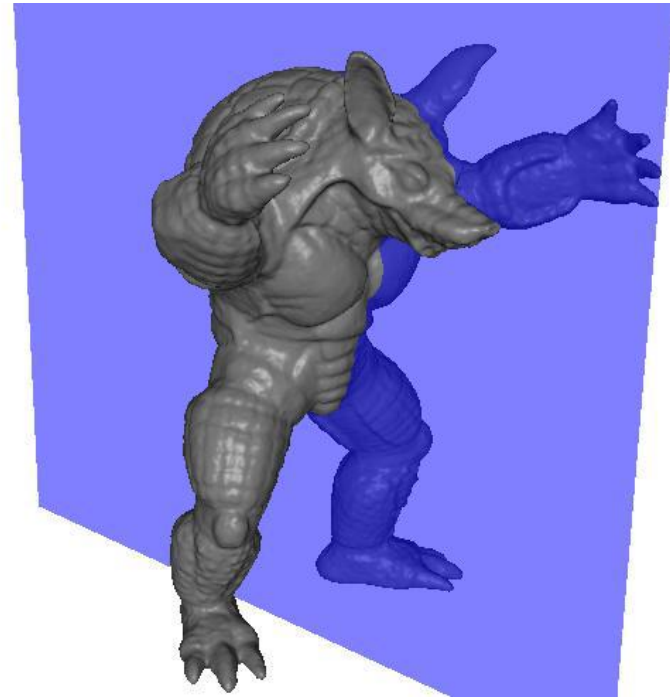
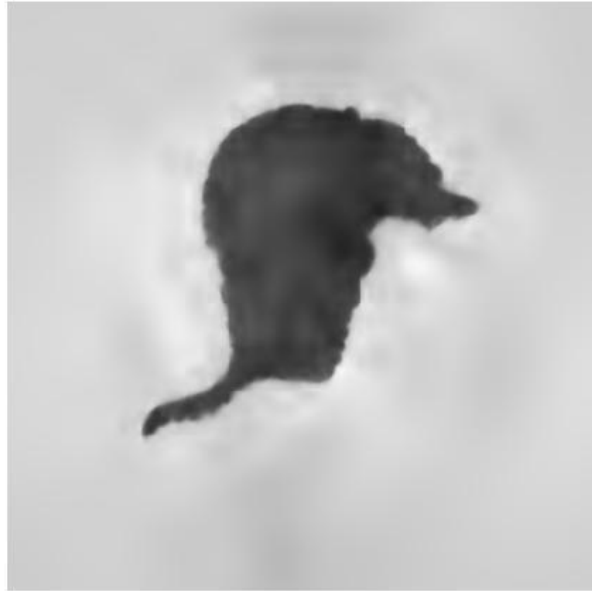
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Delaunay_triangulation

Well-behaved dual mesh

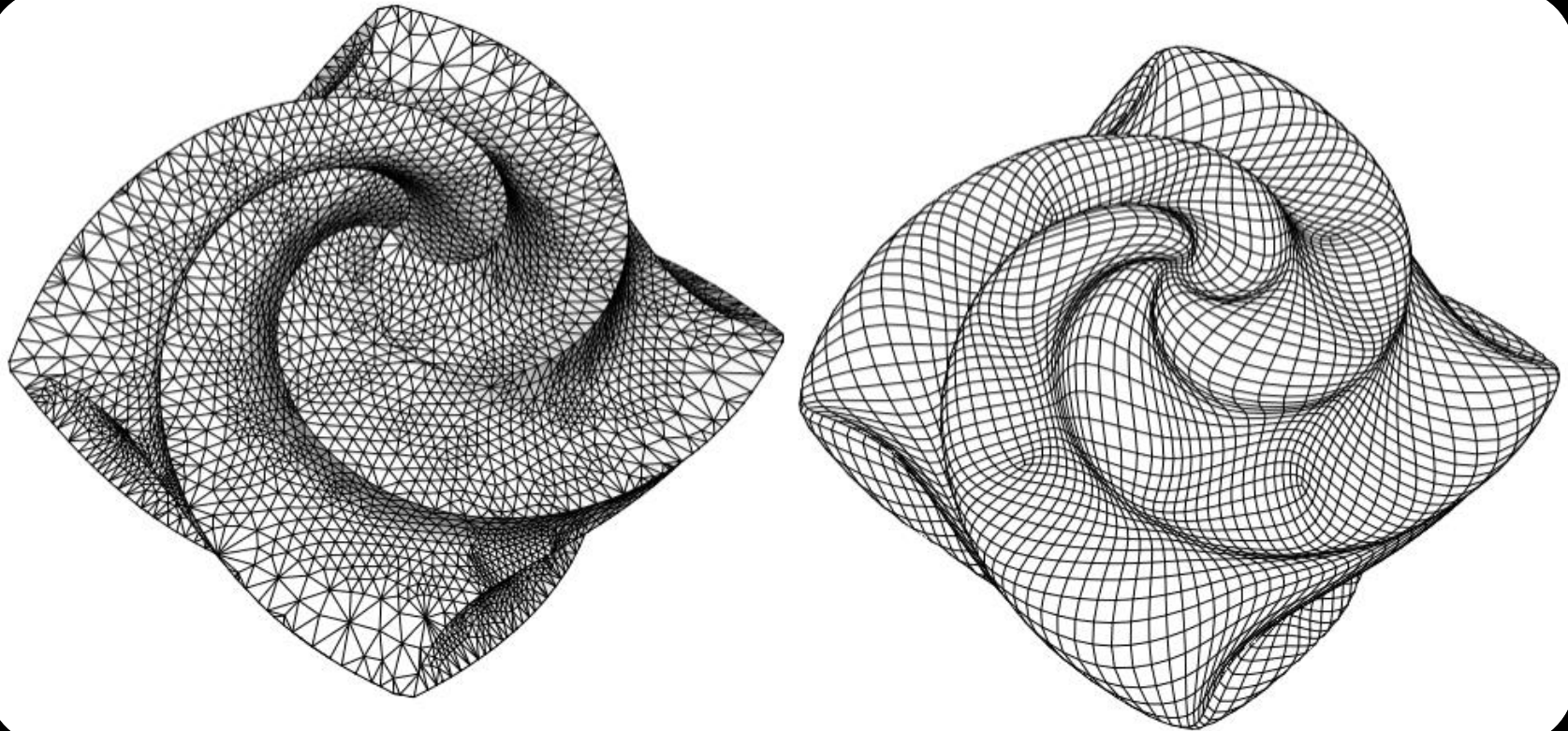
Strategies for Surface Delaunay

- **Tangent plane**
Derive local triangulation from tangent projection
- **Restricted Delaunay**
Usual Delaunay strategy but in smaller part of R^3
- **Inside/outside labeling**
Find inside/outside labels for tetrahedra
- **Empty balls**
Require existence of sphere around triangle with no other point

Poisson Reconstruction



Poisson Surface Reconstruction
Kazhdan, Bolitho and Hoppe (SGP 2006)



Representing Surfaces

Justin Solomon

MIT, Spring 2017

