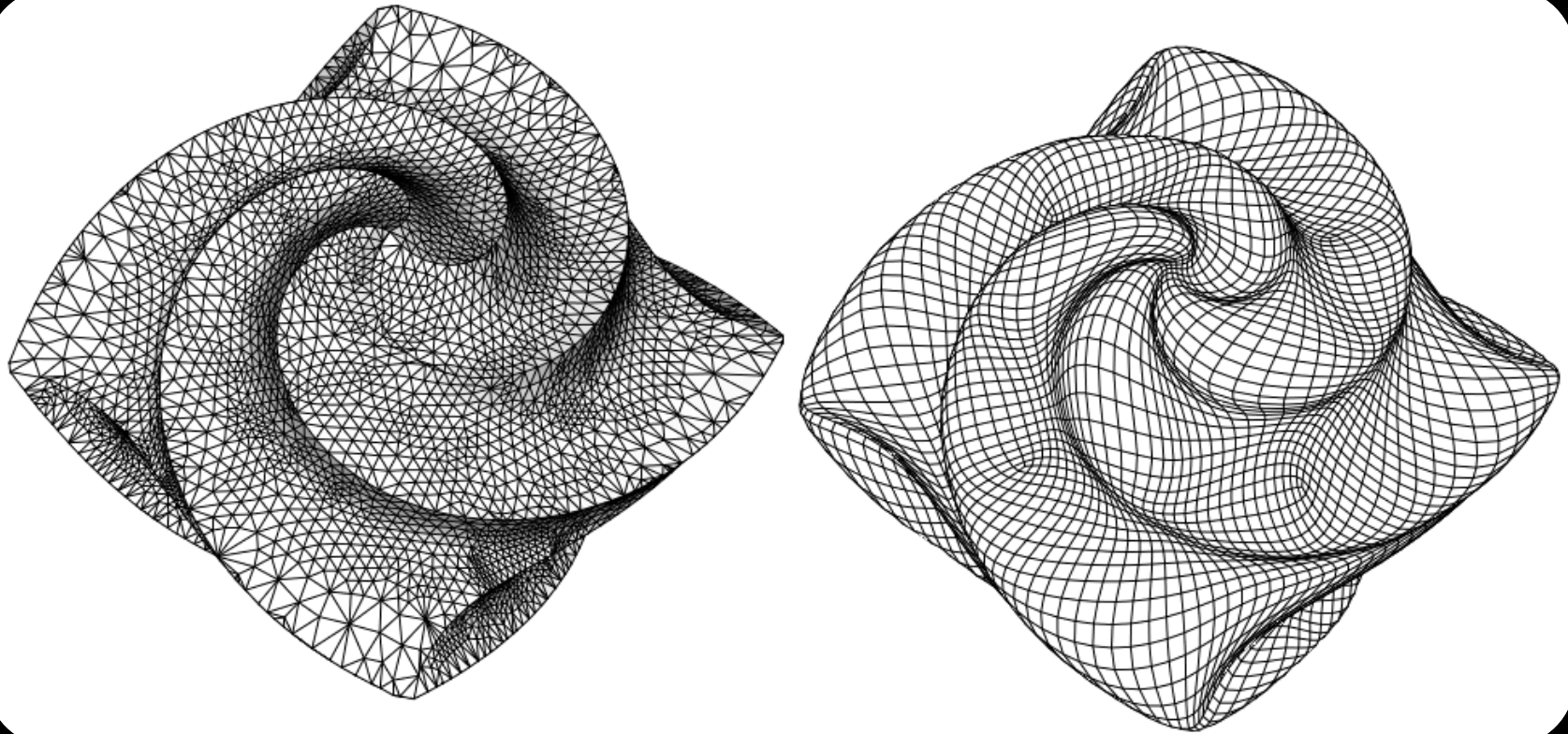




# Representing Surfaces

Justin Solomon

MIT, Spring 2019



# Today's Plan

Step up  
**one dimension**  
from curves to surfaces.

- Theoretical definition
- Discrete representations
- Higher dimensionality

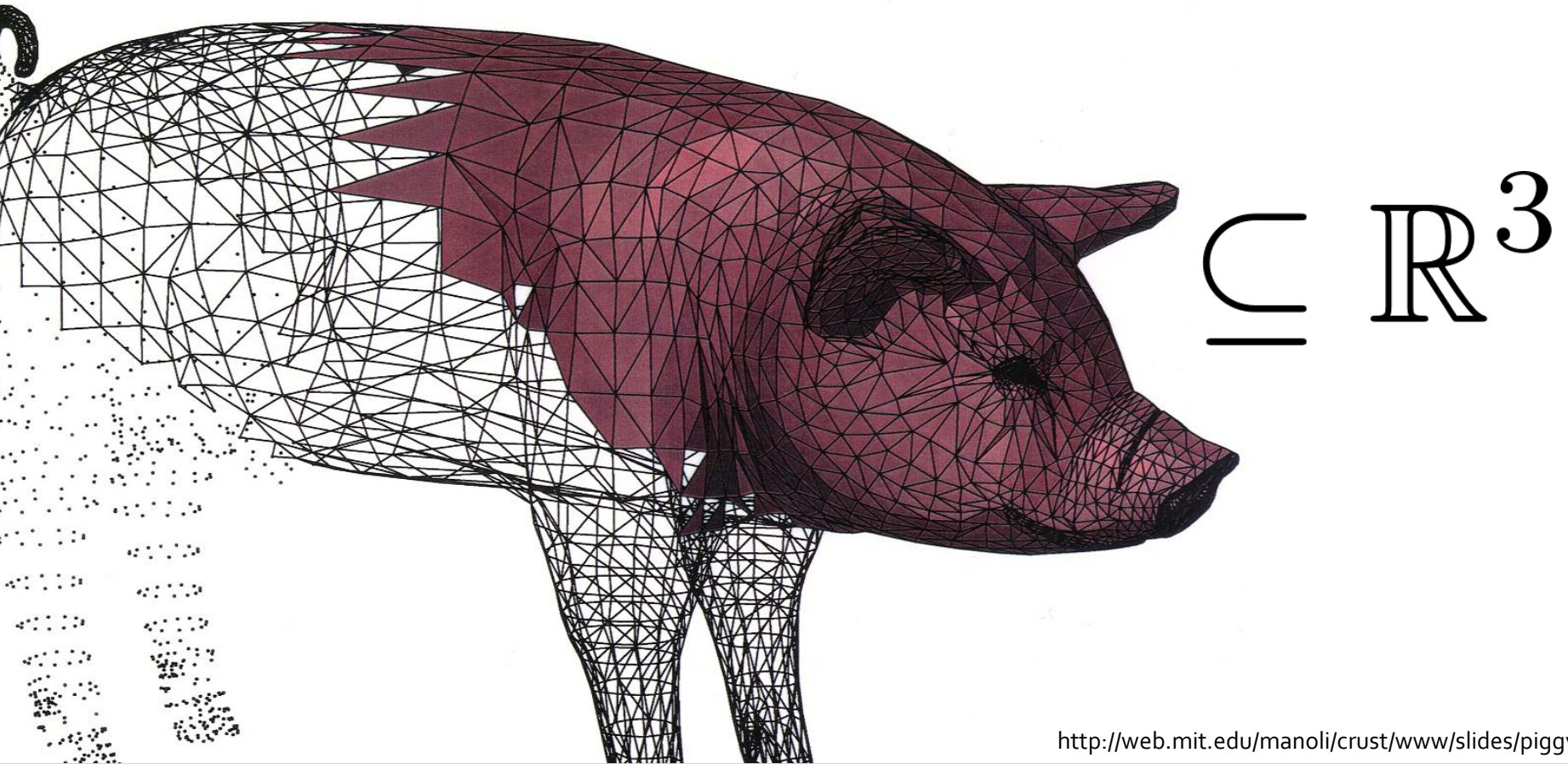
# Briefly Will Mention

Step up  
 **$n$  dimensions**  
from surfaces to (sub)manifolds.

Easier transition.

*Not entirely true:  
e.g. topology of 3-manifolds*

# Our Focus



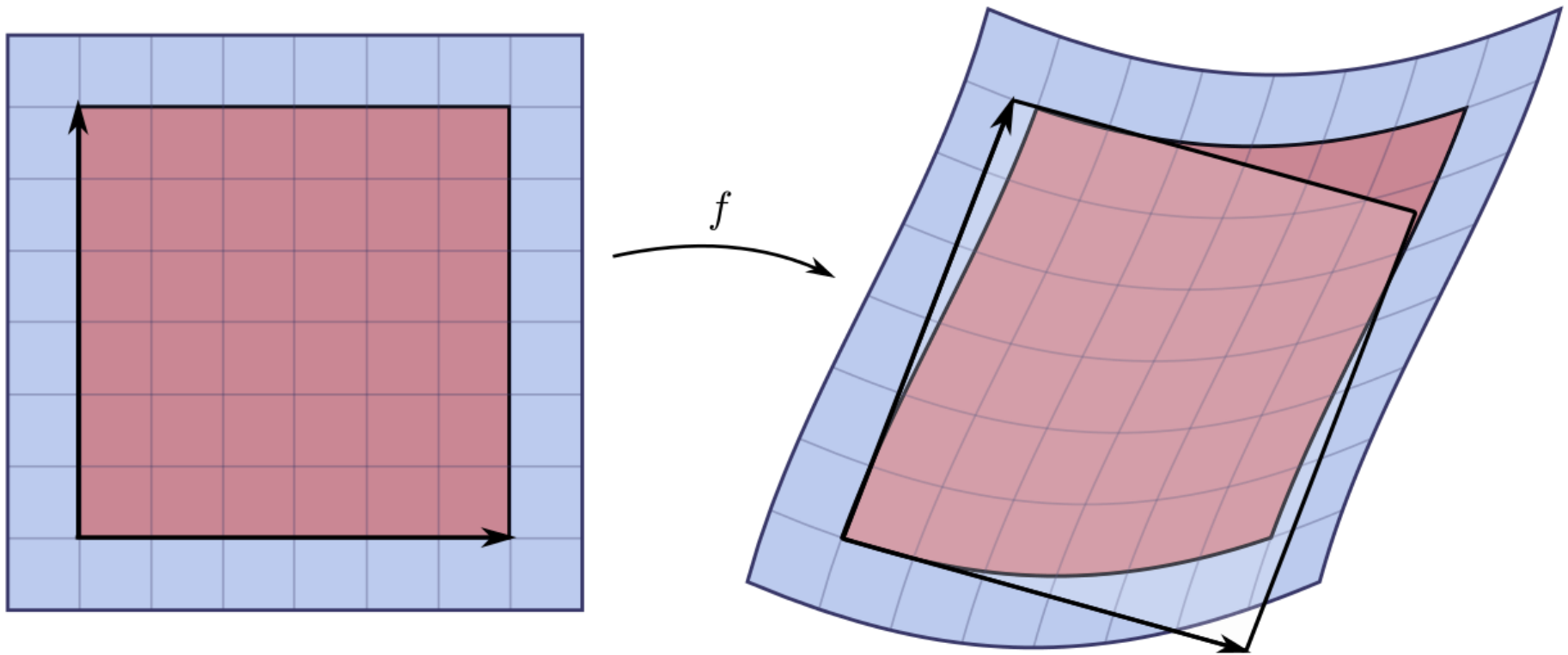
<http://web.mit.edu/manoli/crust/www/slides/piggy.jpg>

# Embedded geometry



What is an  
embedded surface?

# Parametric Surface

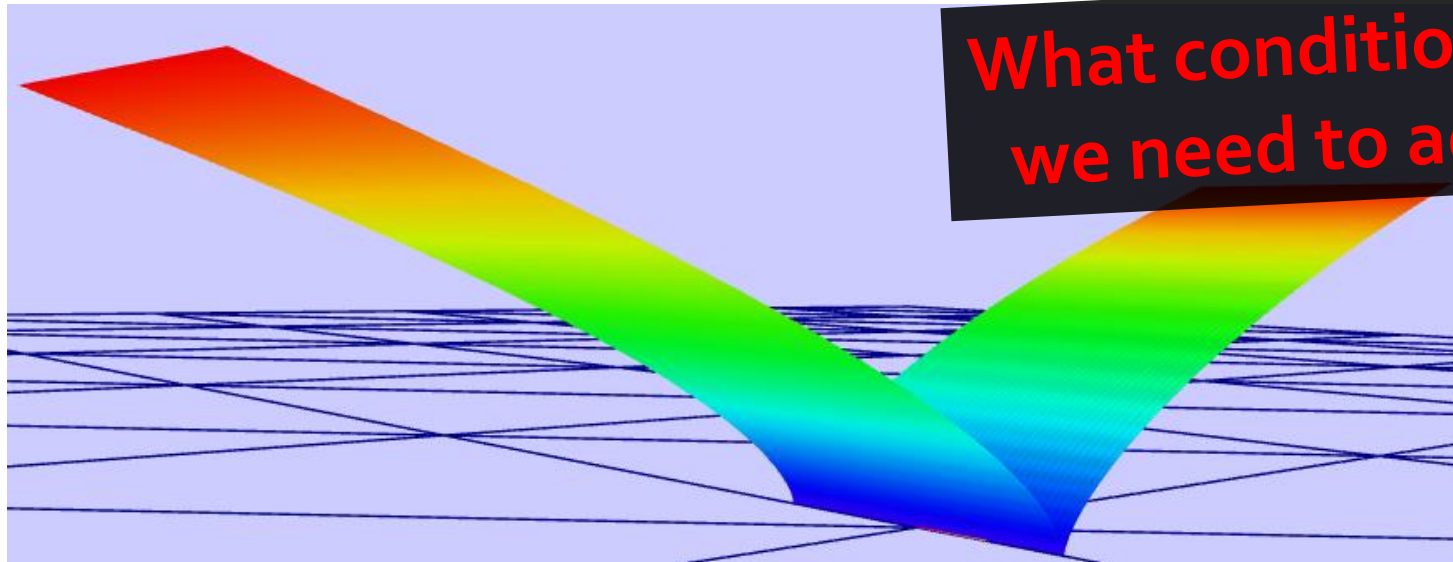


# Pathological Cases

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

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

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



**What condition do we need to add?**

# 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:**

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

# Injective/Regular/One-to-One

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

**Matrix:**

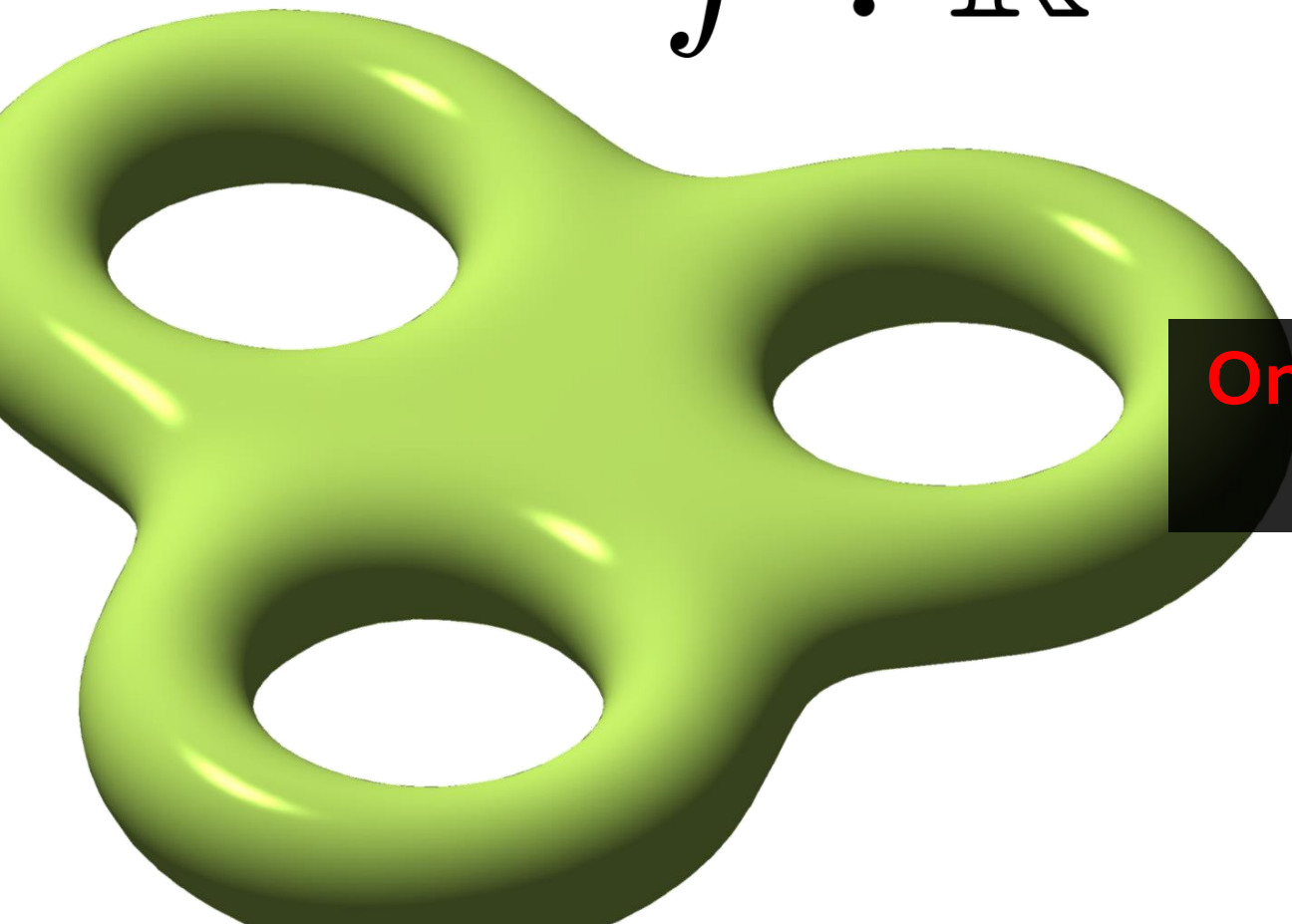
$$Df \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n} \text{ full rank}$$

**Linear operator:**

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

# Next Issue

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

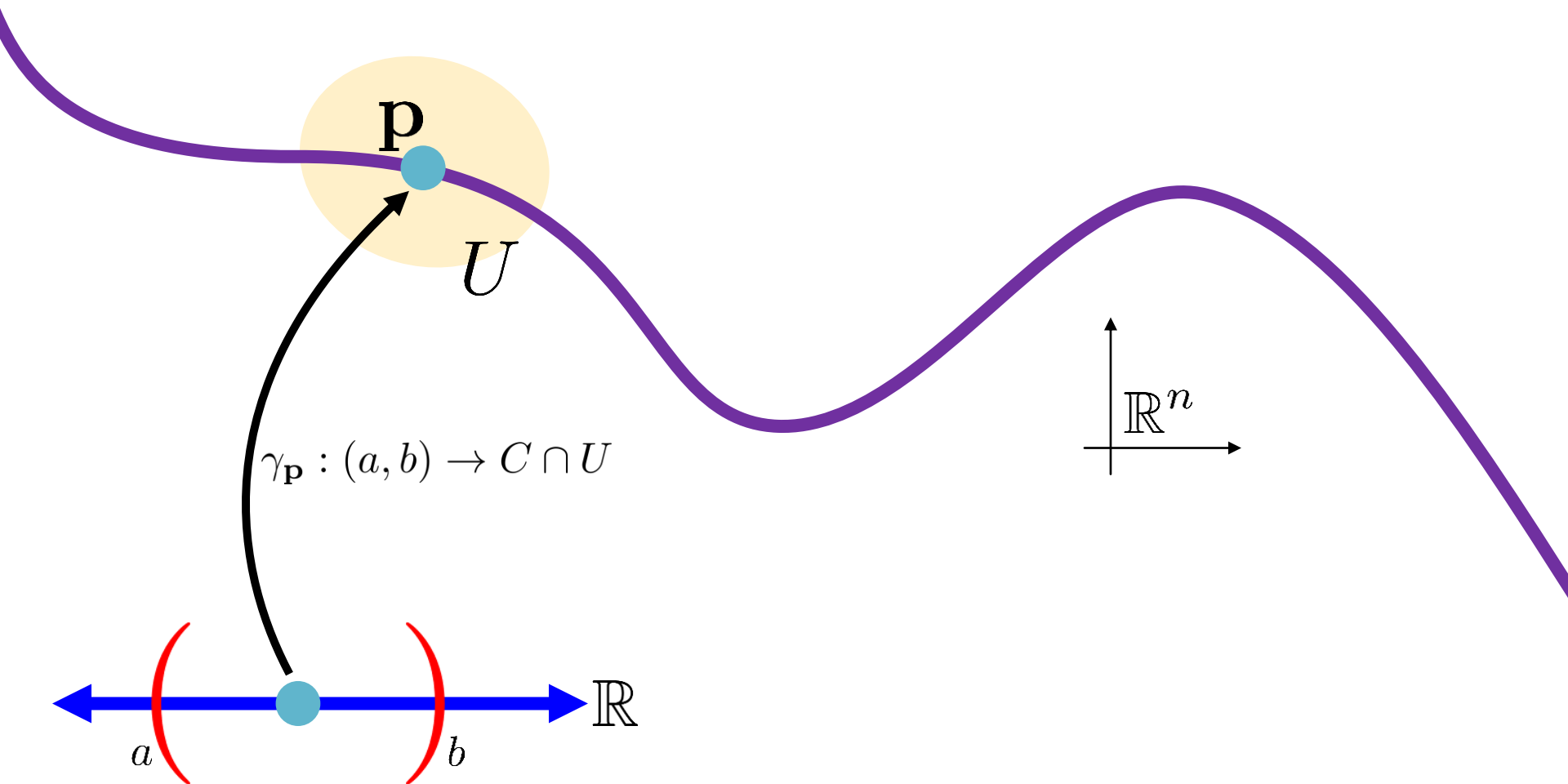


**One function isn't  
enough!**

*Major difference from curves!*

*Recall:*

# Differential Geometry Definition

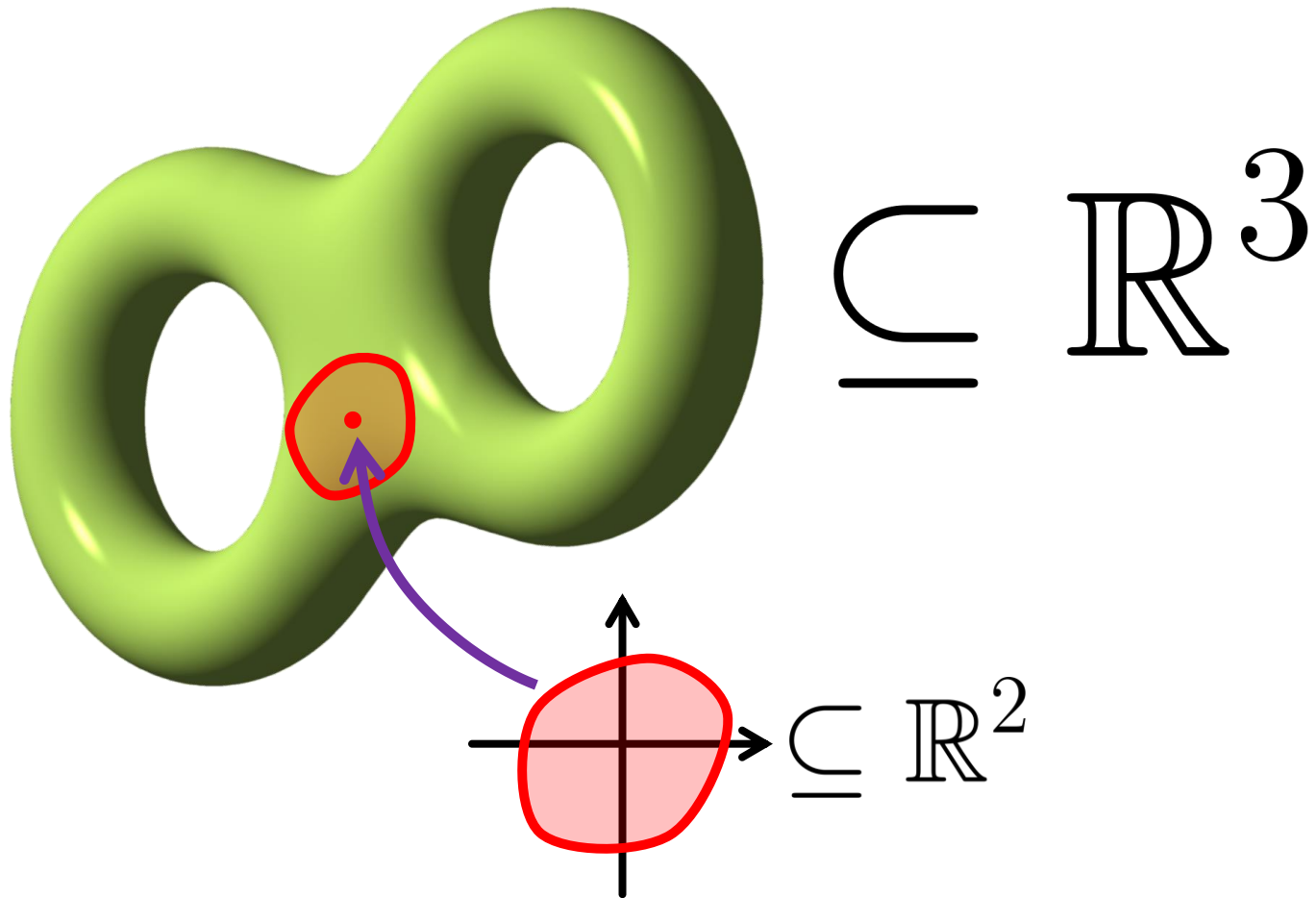


# Just Like Curves

A surface is a  
**set of points**  
with certain properties.

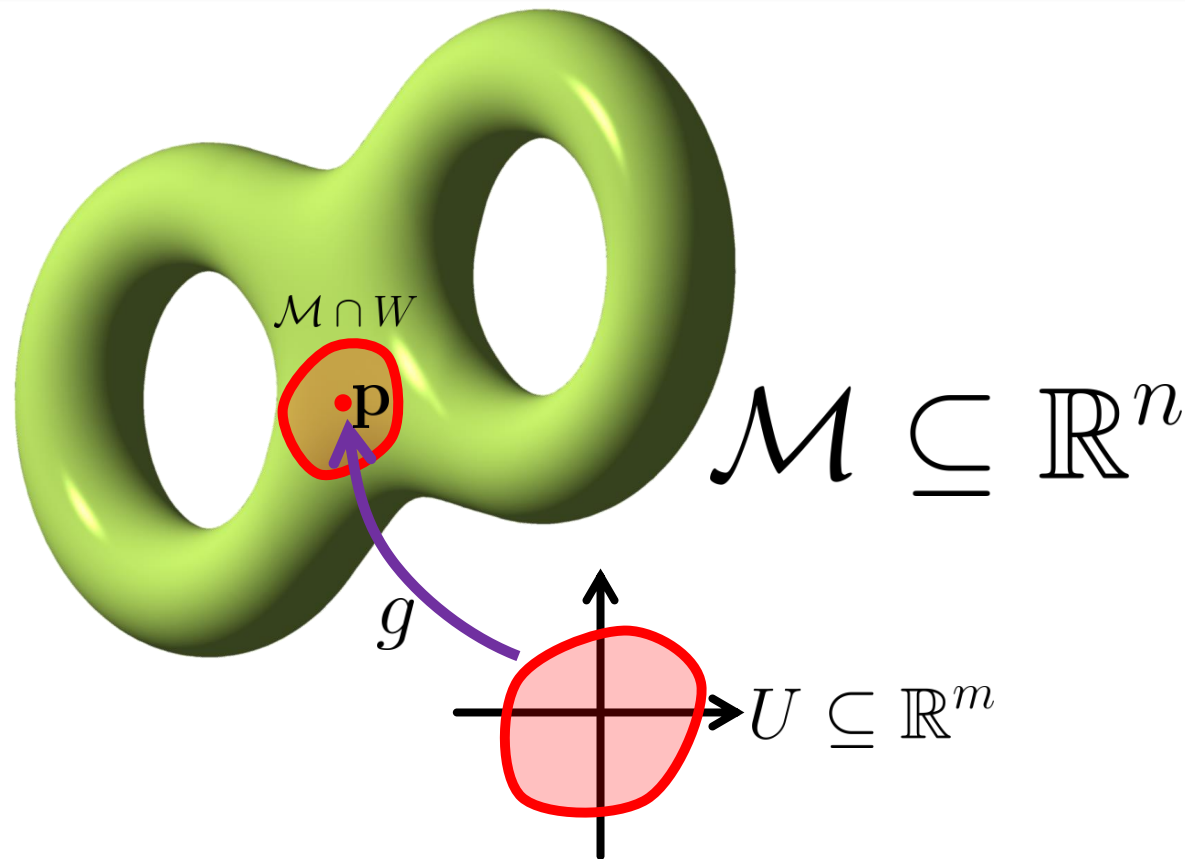
It is not a function.

# Theoretical Definition of Surface



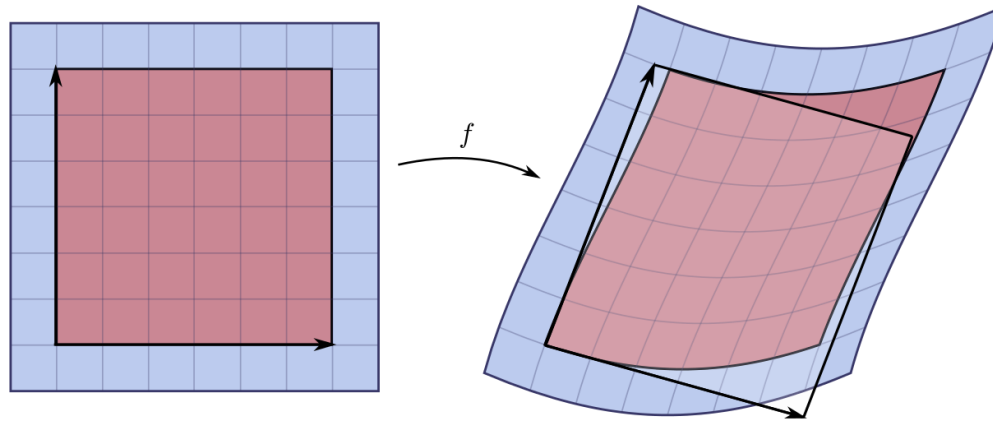
# Theoretical Definition: Manifold

**Definition** (Submanifold of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , with and without boundary). A set  $\mathcal{M} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  is an  $m$ -dimensional submanifold of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  if for each  $\mathbf{p} \in \mathcal{M}$  there exist open sets  $U \subseteq \mathbb{R}^m$ ,  $W \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  and a function  $g : U \cap \mathcal{H}_m \rightarrow \mathcal{M} \cap W$  such that  $\mathbf{p} \in W$  and  $g$  is a one-to-one and smooth map whose Jacobian is rank- $m$  and admitting a continuous inverse  $g^{-1} : W \cap \mathcal{M} \rightarrow U$ .



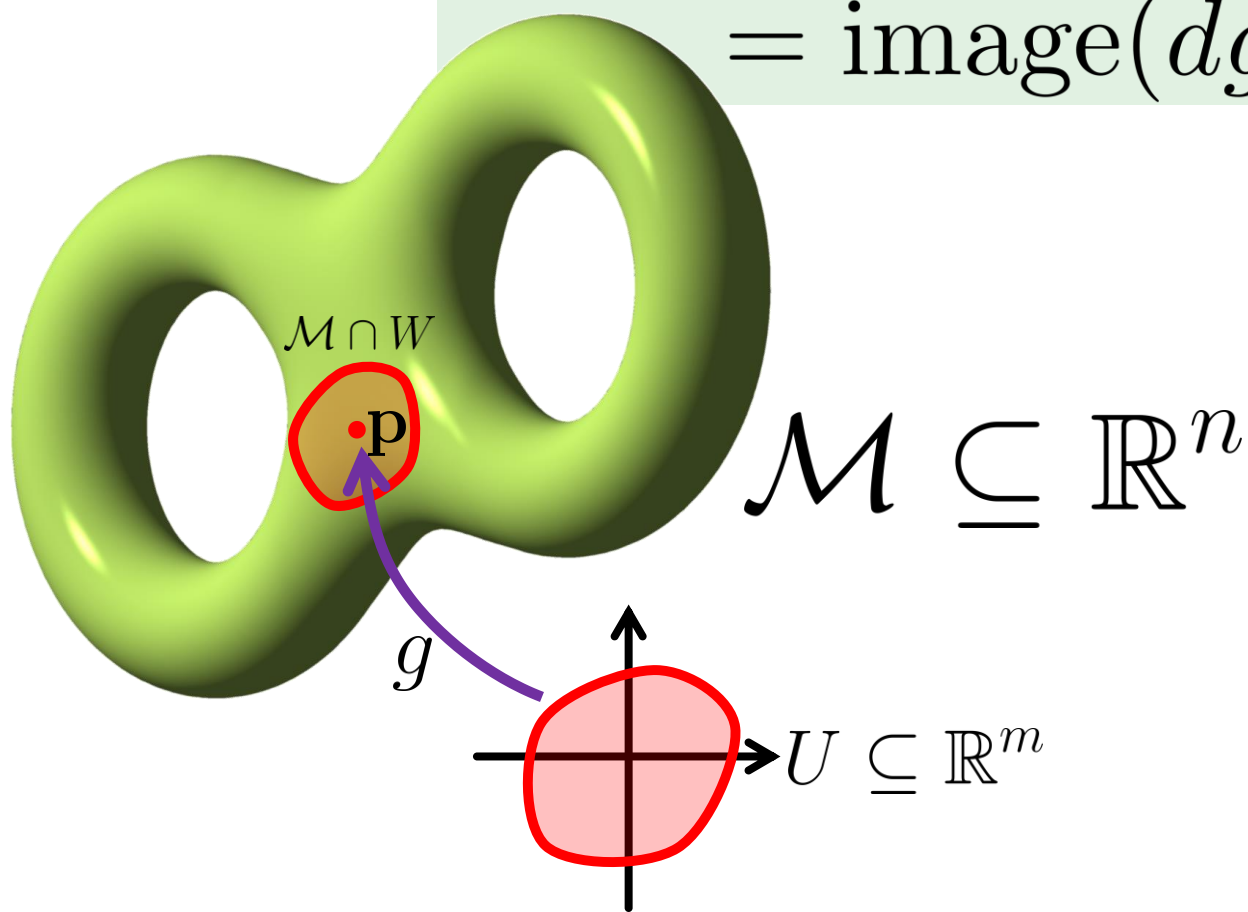
# Differential Geometer's Mantra

A surface is  
**locally planar.**



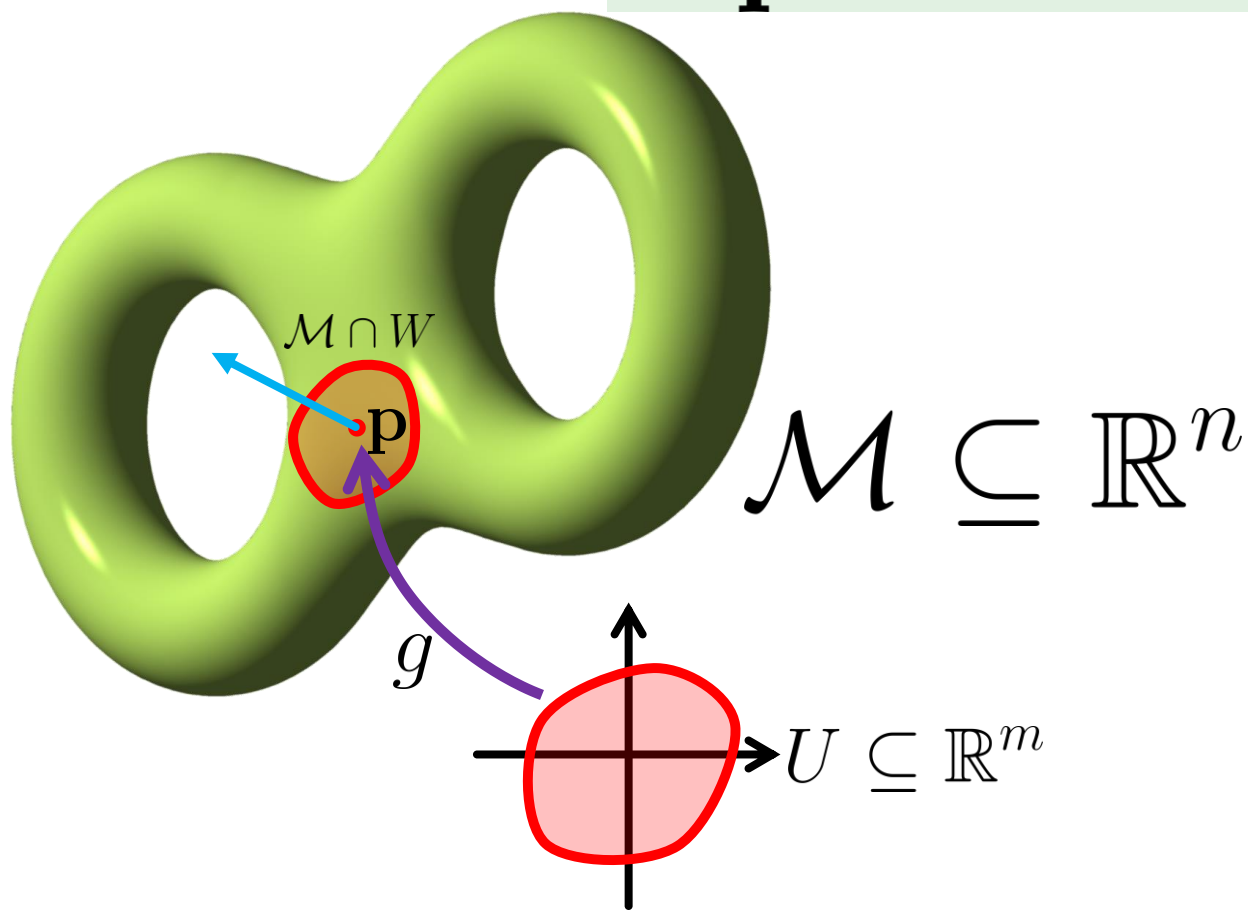
# Tangent Space

$$T_{\mathbf{p}}\mathcal{M} = \gamma'(0), \text{ where } \gamma(0) = \mathbf{p} \\ = \text{image}(dg_{\mathbf{p}})$$



# Normal Space

$$N_{\mathbf{p}}\mathcal{M} := (T_{\mathbf{p}}\mathcal{M})^\perp$$



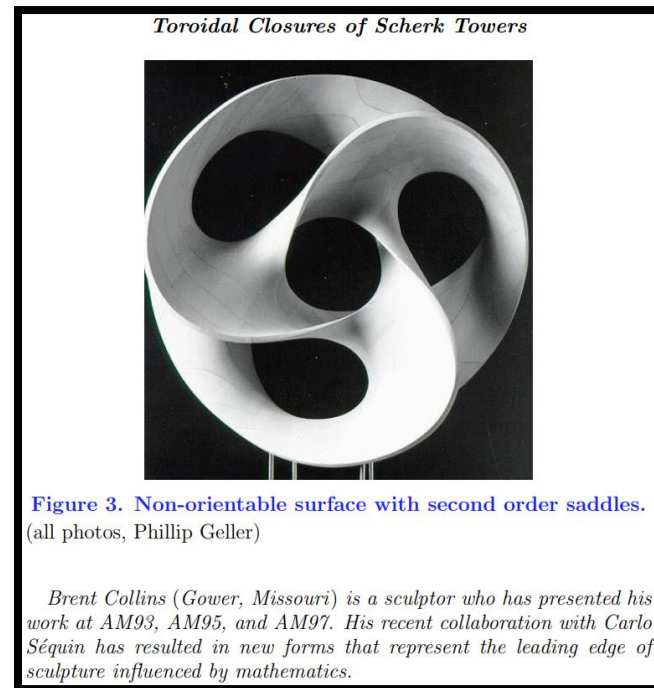
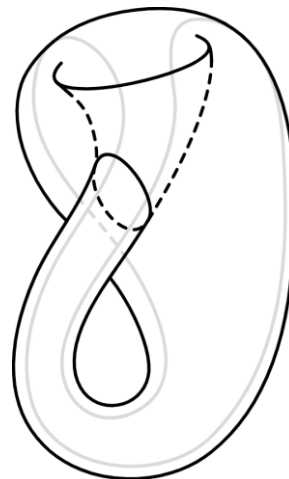
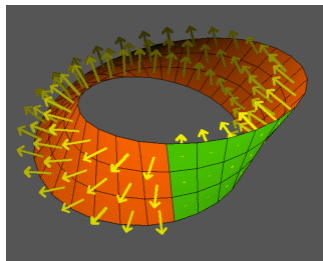
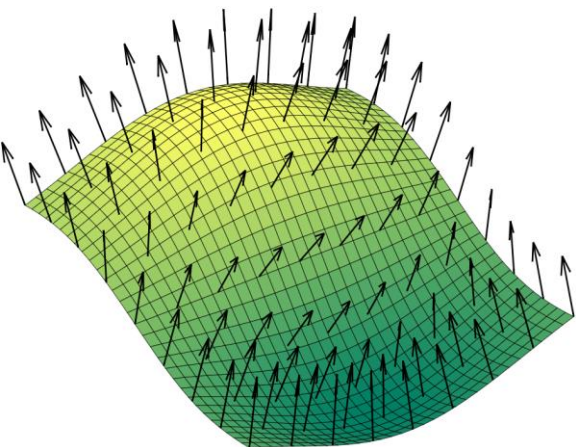
# Orientable Submanifold

*Admits a continuous map*

$$\mathbf{n}(\mathbf{p}) : \mathcal{M} \setminus \partial\mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{S}^{n-1}$$

*with*

$$\mathbf{n}(\mathbf{p}) \in N_{\mathbf{p}}\mathcal{M}$$



**Figure 3. Non-orientable surface with second order saddles.**  
(all photos, Phillip Geller)

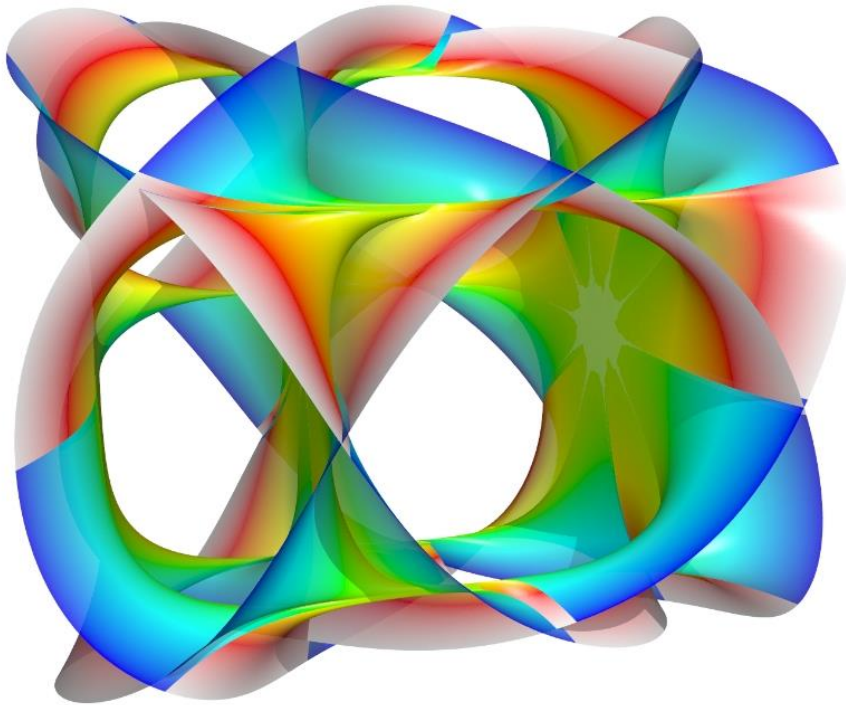
*Brent Collins (Gower, Missouri) is a sculptor who has presented his work at AM93, AM95, and AM97. His recent collaboration with Carlo Séquin has resulted in new forms that represent the leading edge of sculpture influenced by mathematics.*

**Orientable**

**Not Orientable**

# More General Definition: Manifold

**Definition 4.2** (Manifold). *An  $m$ -dimensional (topological) manifold  $\mathcal{M}$  is a Hausdorff space for which each  $\mathbf{p} \in \mathcal{M}$  admits open sets  $U \subseteq \mathbb{R}^m, W \subseteq \mathcal{M}$  and a homeomorphism (continuous map with continuous inverse)  $g : U \rightarrow W$ .*



*To think about:*

No notion of normal!

Tangent vectors exist but have no length!

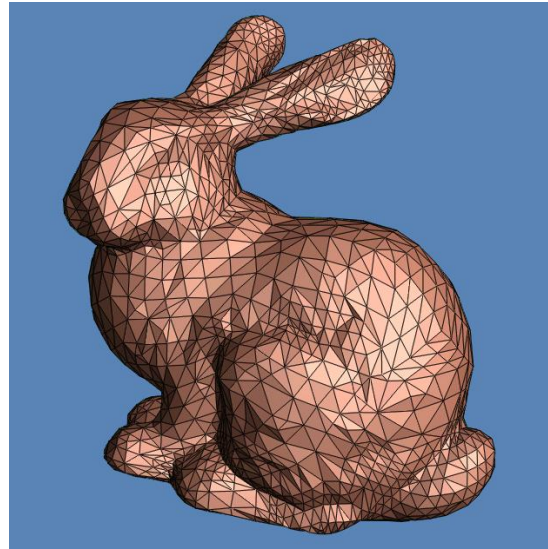
How do you detect orientability?

<http://www.math.sjsu.edu/~simic/Pics/Calabi-Yau.jpg>

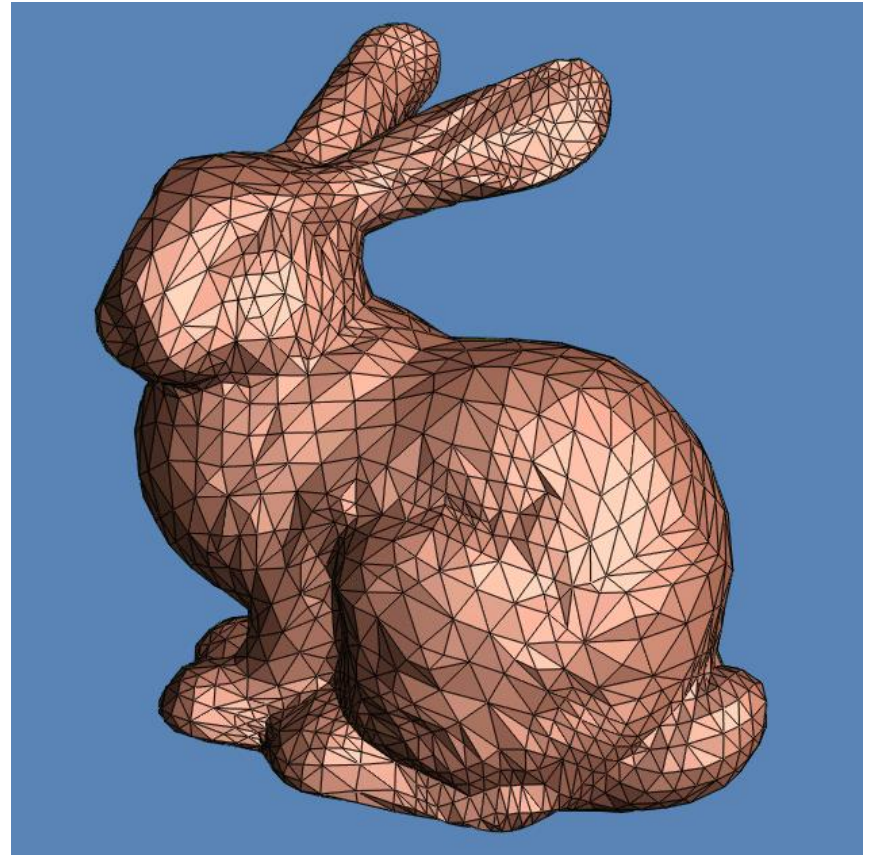
## No Euclidean embedding

# 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

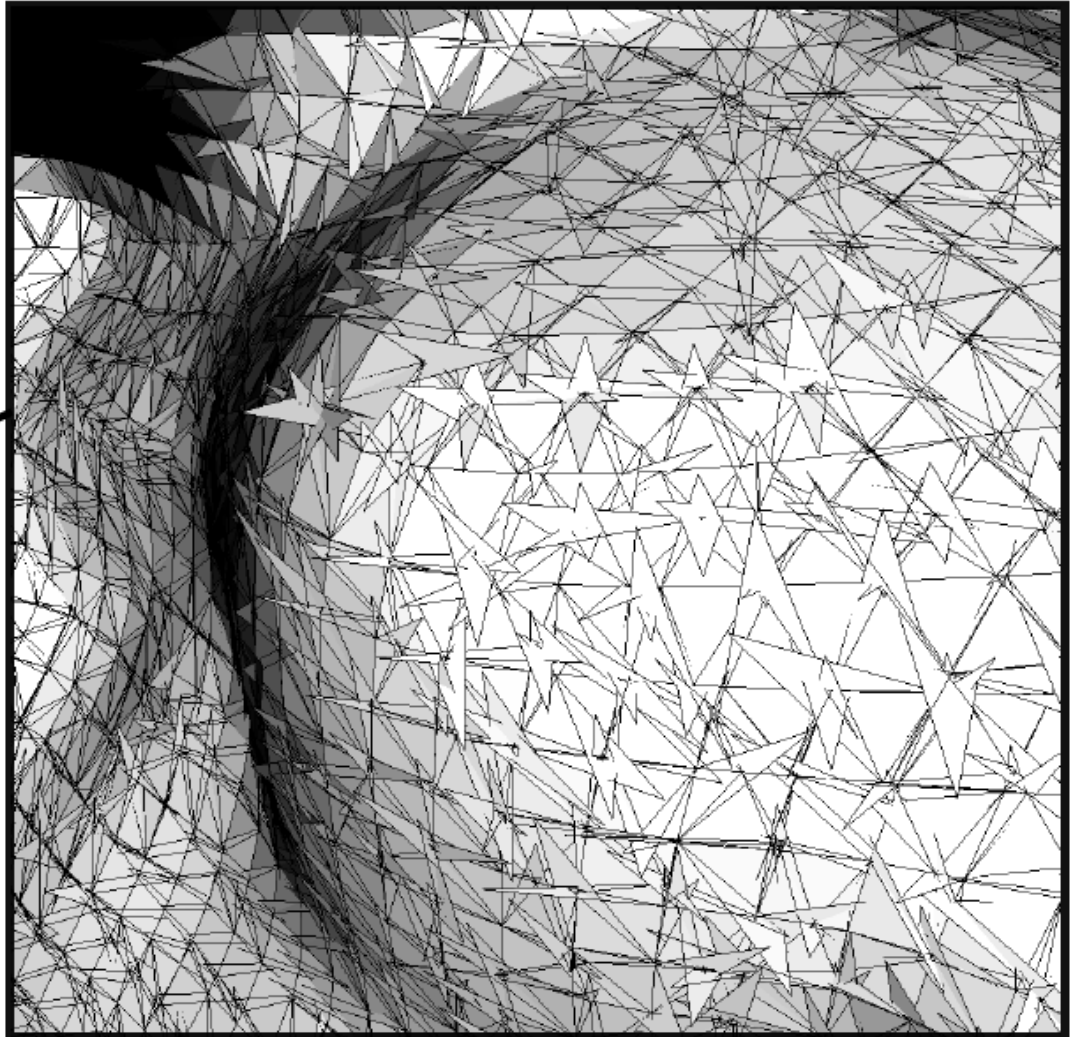
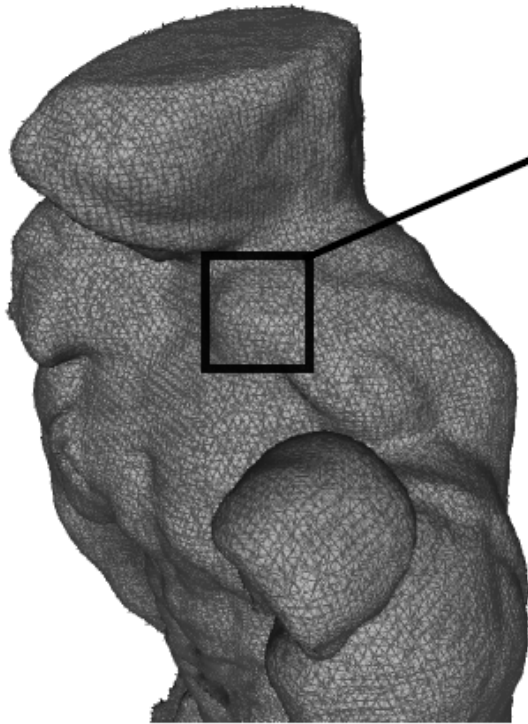
# After Some Cleaning

$$M = (V, T)$$

What conditions are needed?

Triangle mesh

# What is a Discrete Surface?



*To read: More general story*

**“Orientable combinatorial manifold”**

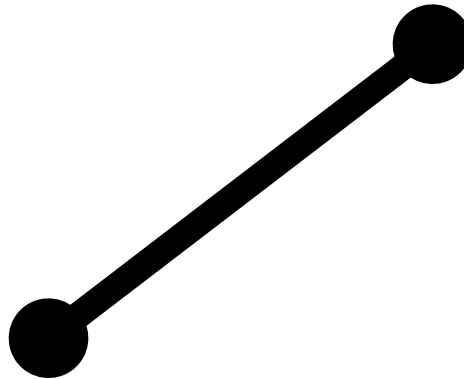
# Dimensionality Structure

**Simplicial  
complex**



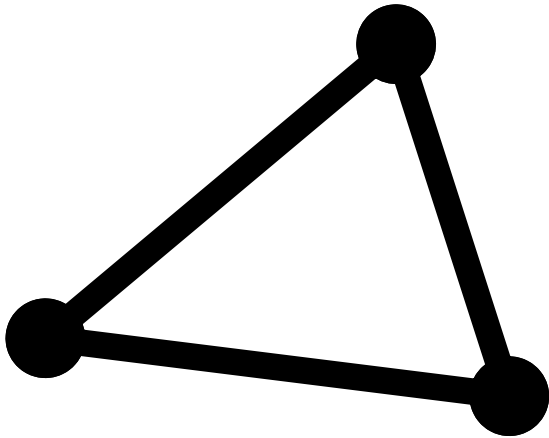
**Vertex**

**Dimension 0**



**Edge**

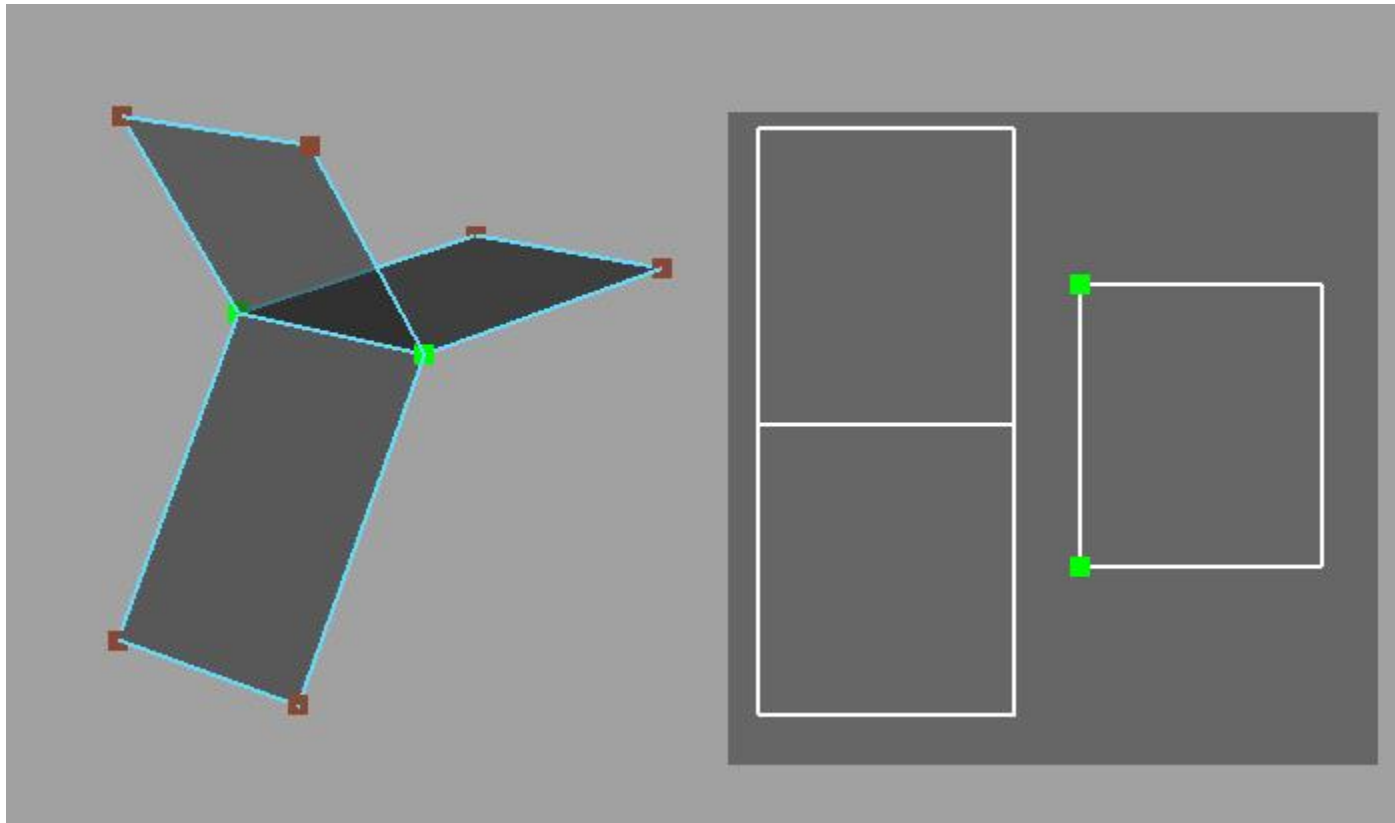
**Dimension 1**



**Face**

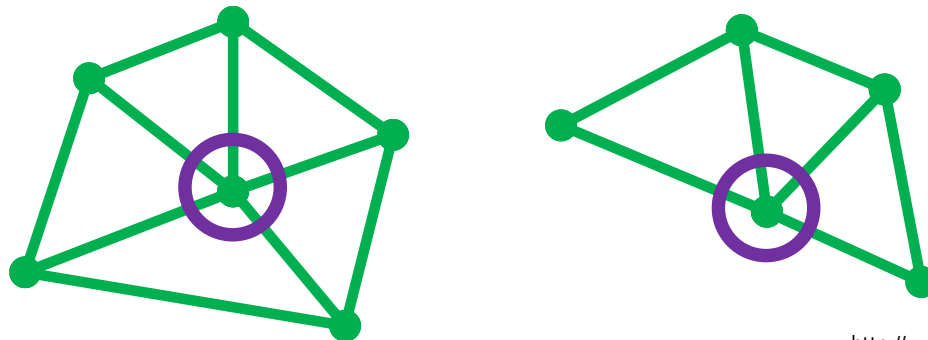
**Dimension 2**

# 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)



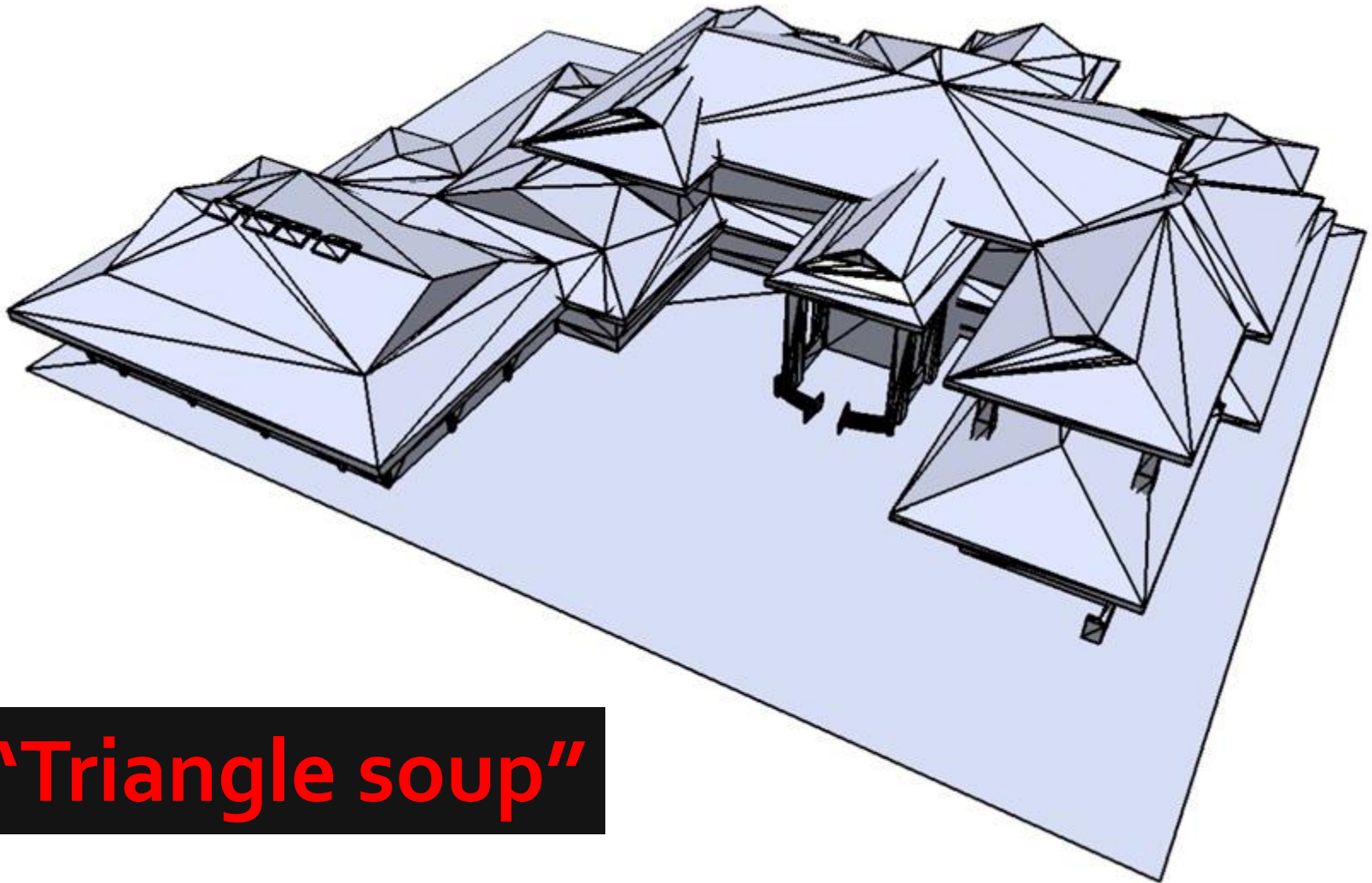
# Basic Observation

Piecewise linear faces are  
reasonable building blocks.

# Additional Advantages

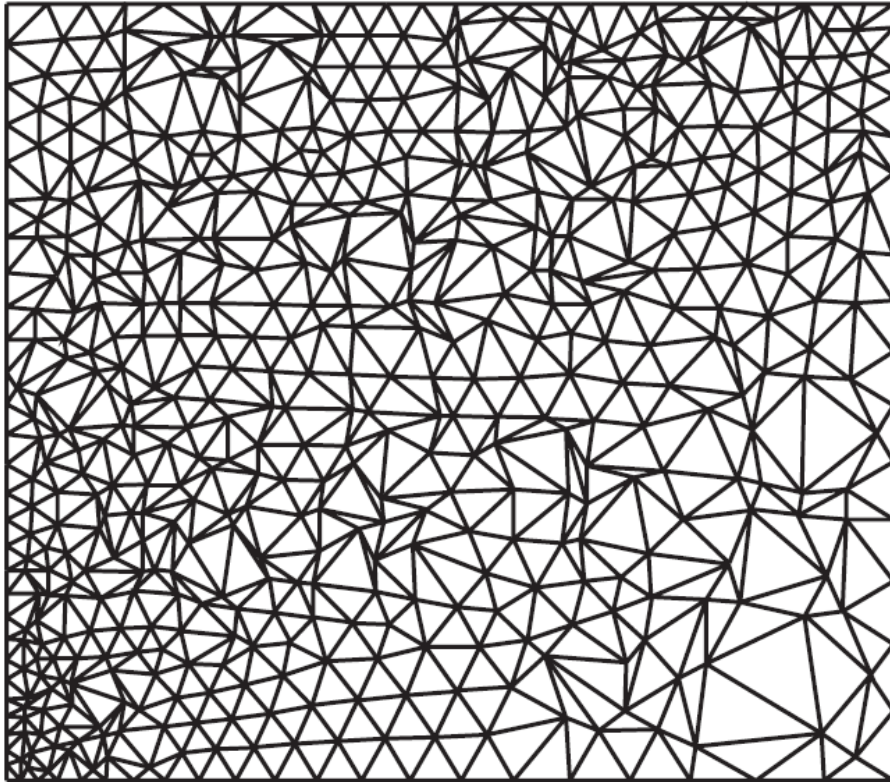
- Simple to render
- Arbitrary topology possible
- Basis for subdivision, refinement

# Easy-to-Violate Assumption

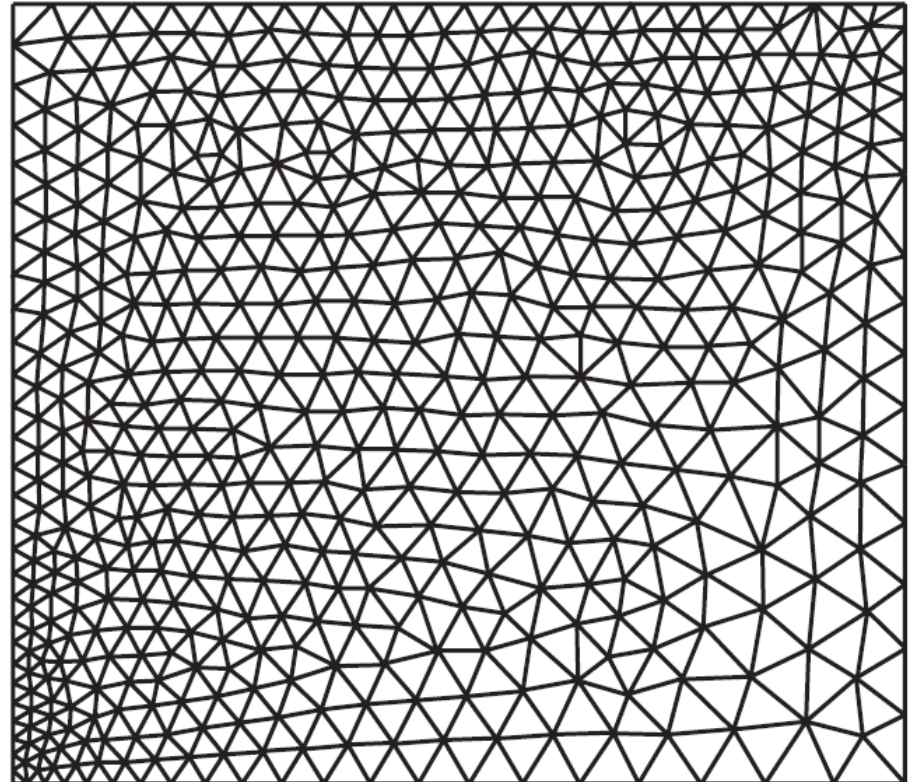


**“Triangle soup”**

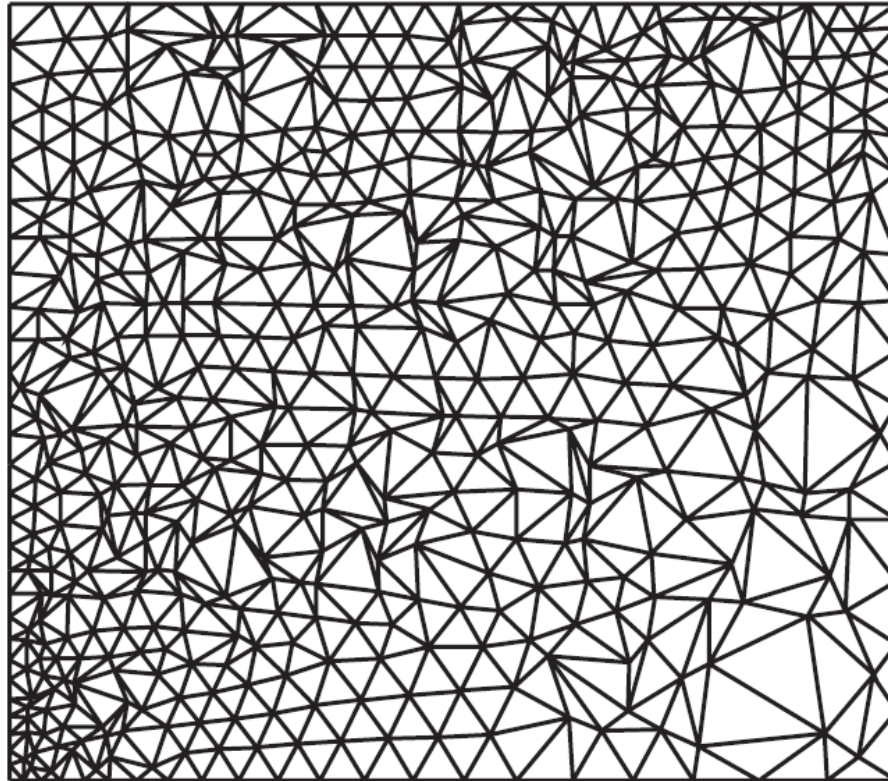
# Invalid Meshes vs. Bad Meshes



**Nonuniform**  
**areas and angles**



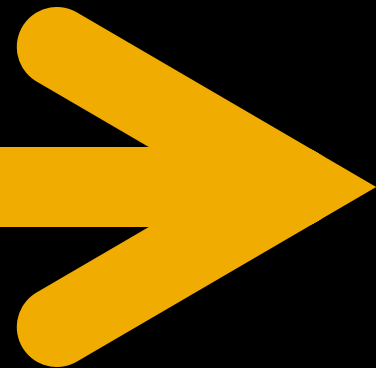
# Why is Meshing an Issue?



How to you interpret  
**one value per vertex?**

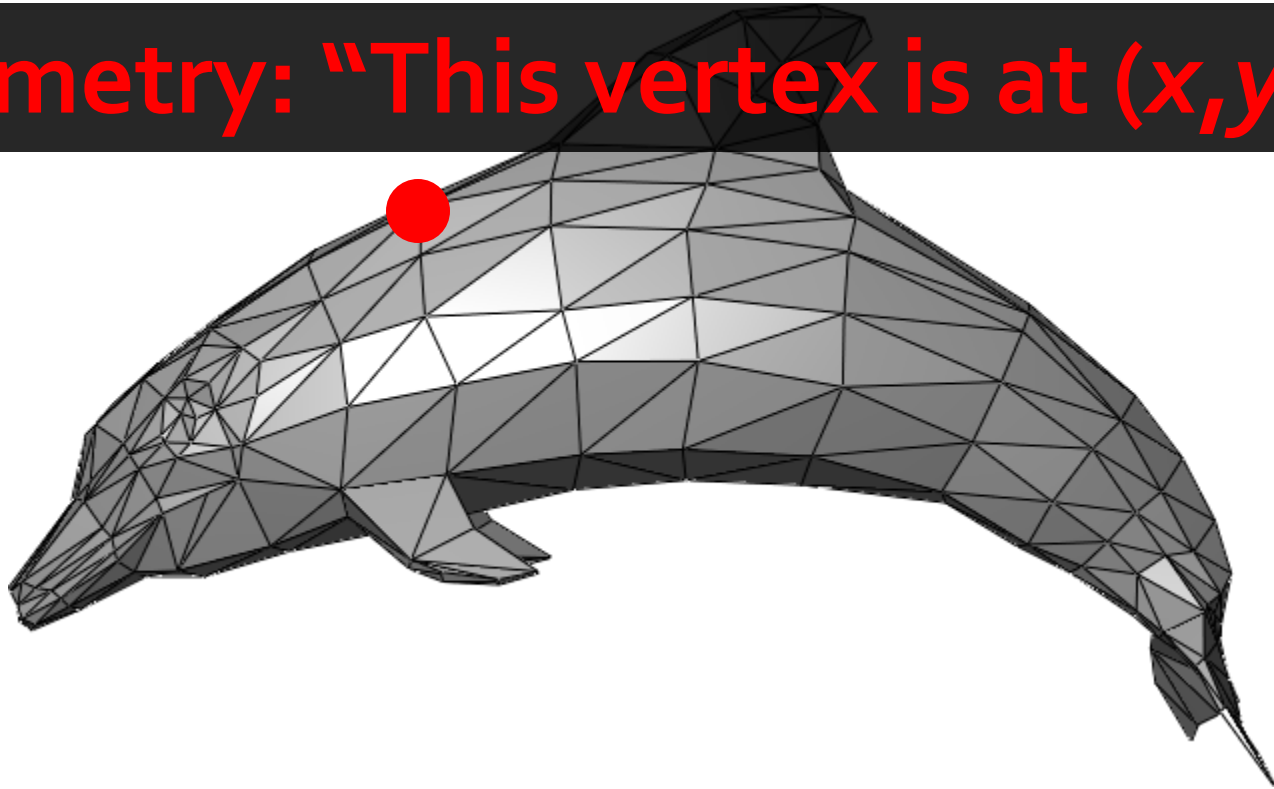
**Topology** [*tuh-pol-uh-jee*]:

The study of geometric  
properties that remain  
invariant under certain  
transformations



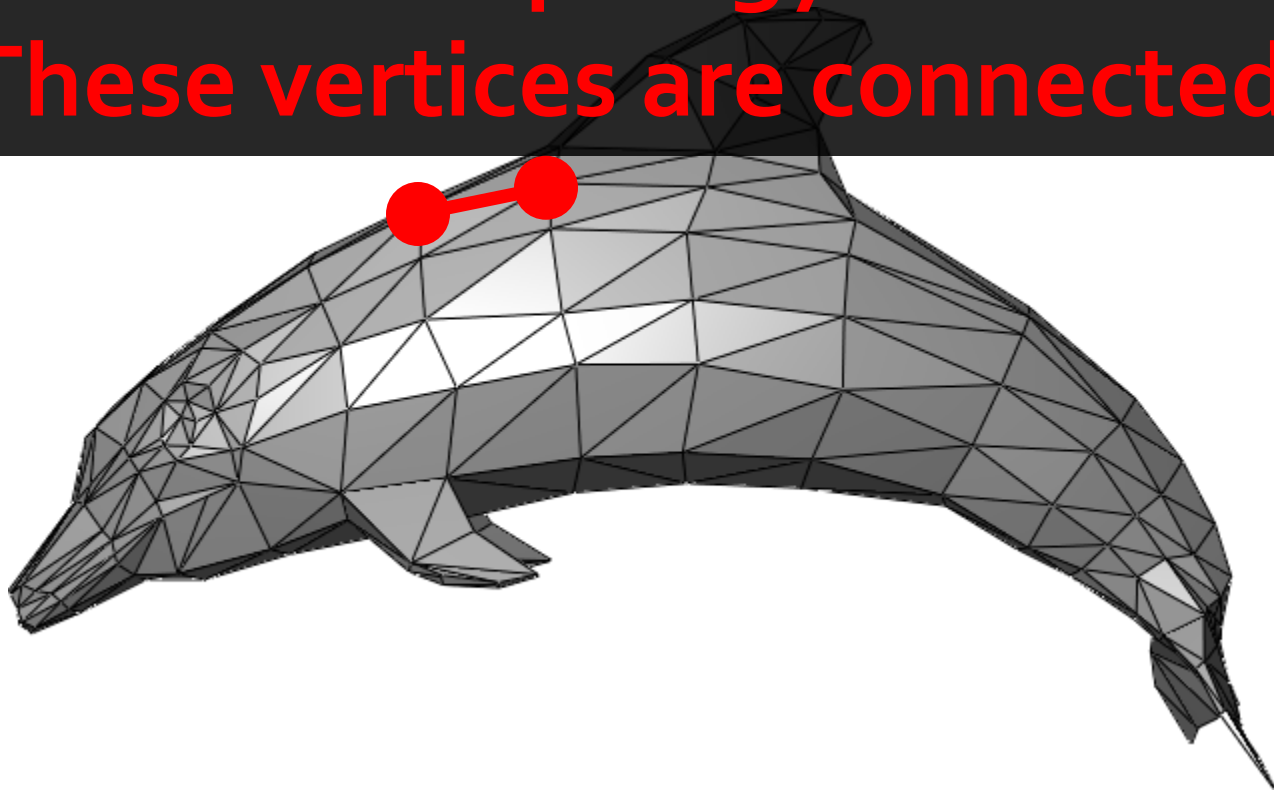
# Mesh Topology vs. Geometry

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



# Mesh Topology vs. Geometry

**Topology:**  
“These vertices are connected.”



# Triangle Mesh

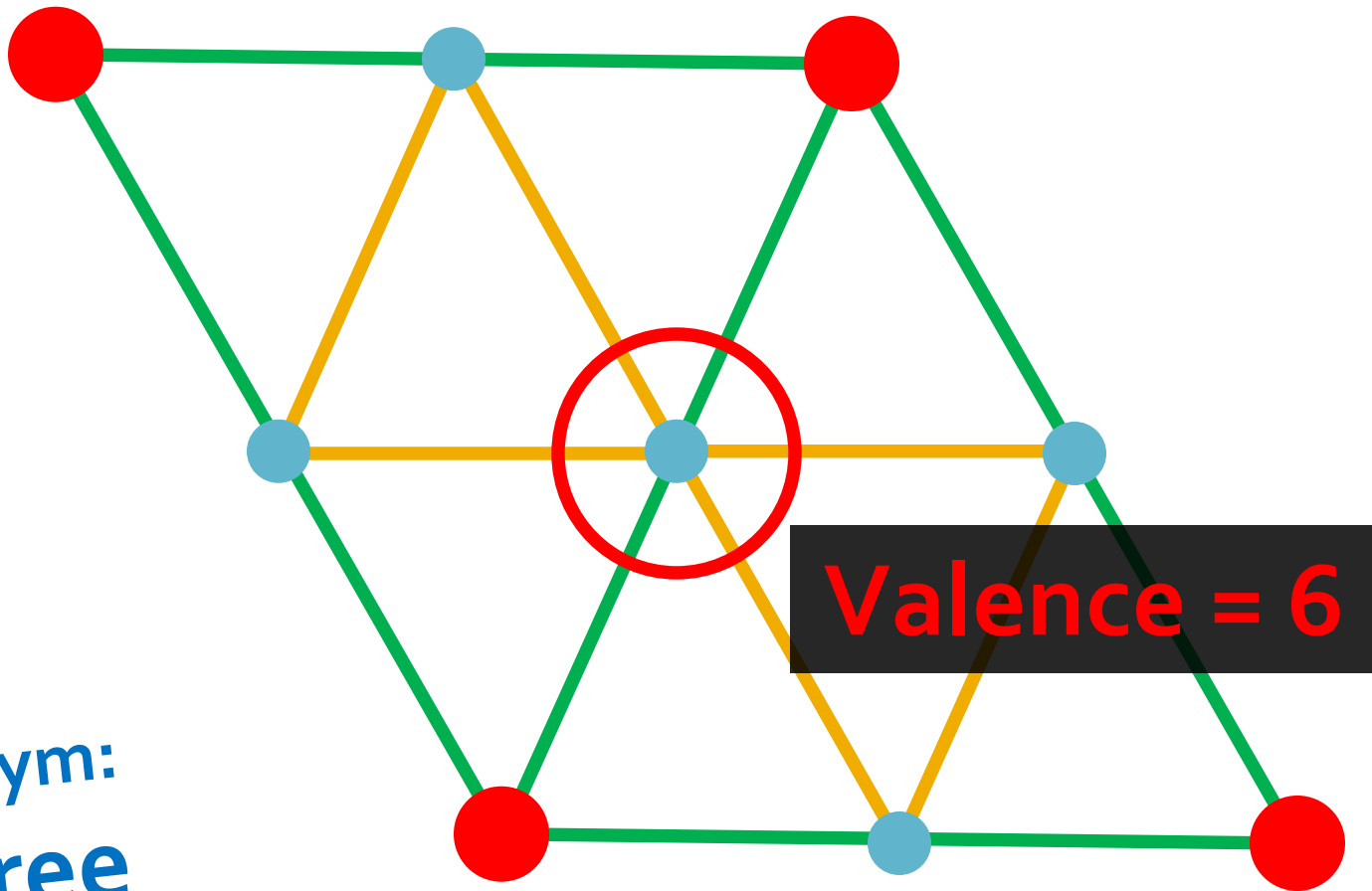
$$V = (v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n) \subset \mathbb{R}^n$$

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

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

**Plus manifold conditions**

# Valence



Synonym:  
**Degree**

# Euler Characteristic

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

$$\chi = 2 - 2g$$



$$g = 0$$



$$g = 1$$

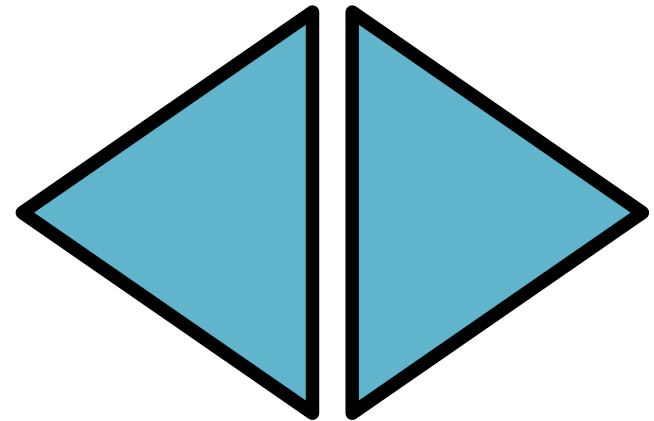


$$g = 2$$

# Consequences for Triangle Meshes

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

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



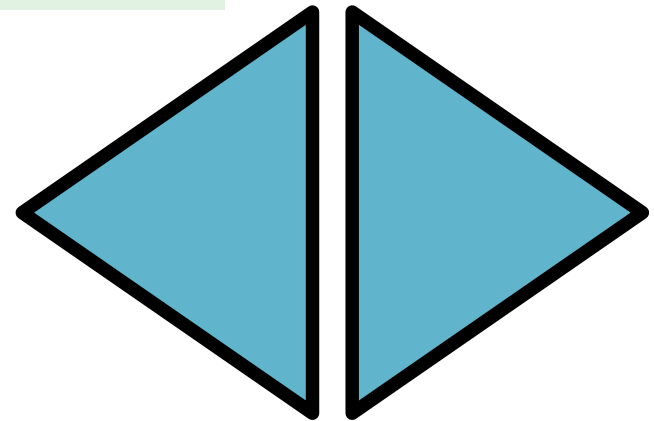
$$2E = 3F$$

**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

$$E \approx 3V$$

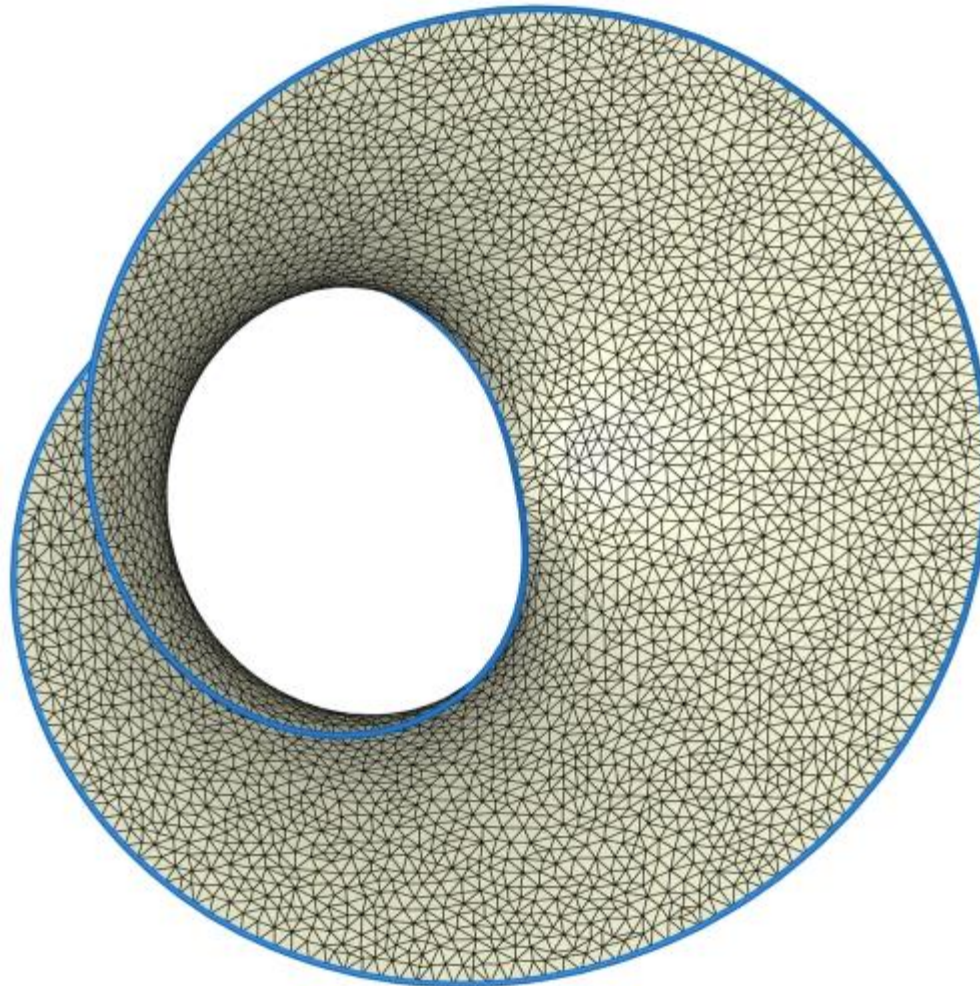
$$F \approx 2V$$

average valence  $\approx 6$

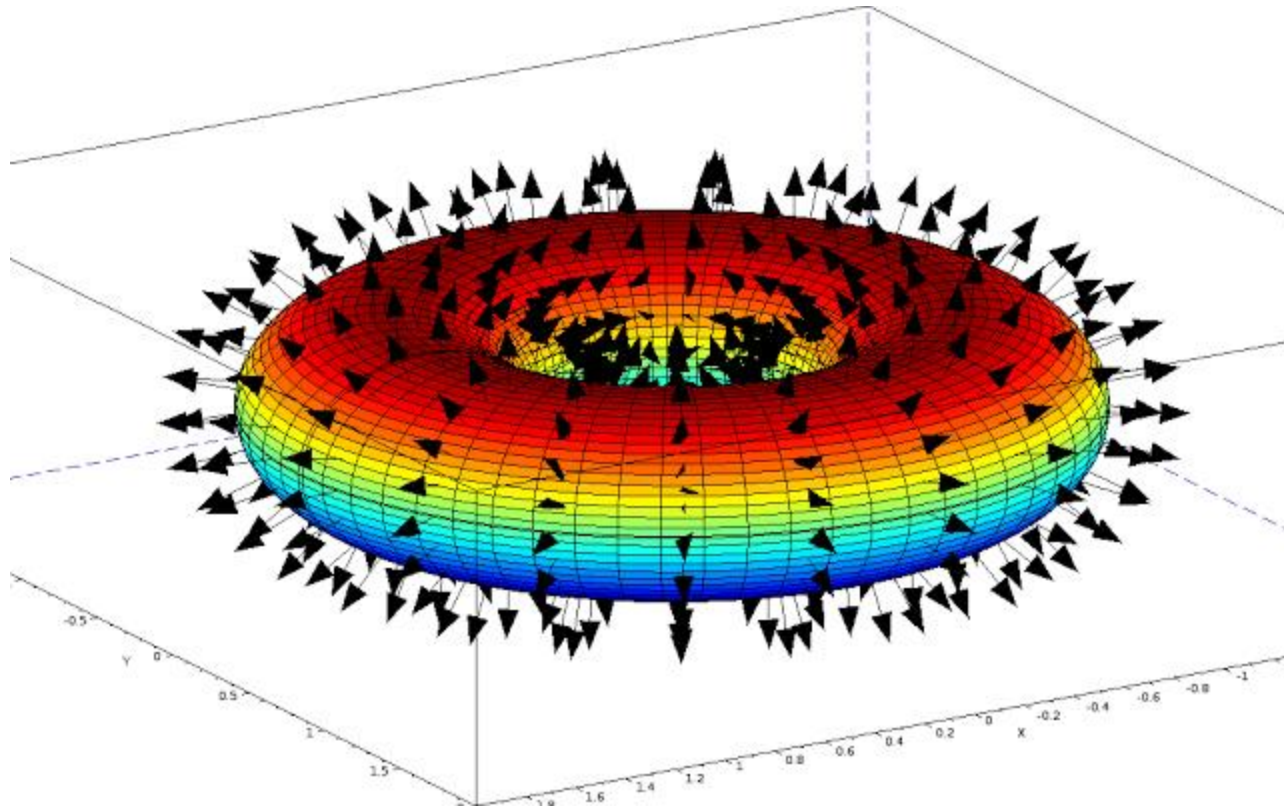
*Why?!*

**General estimates**

# Orientability



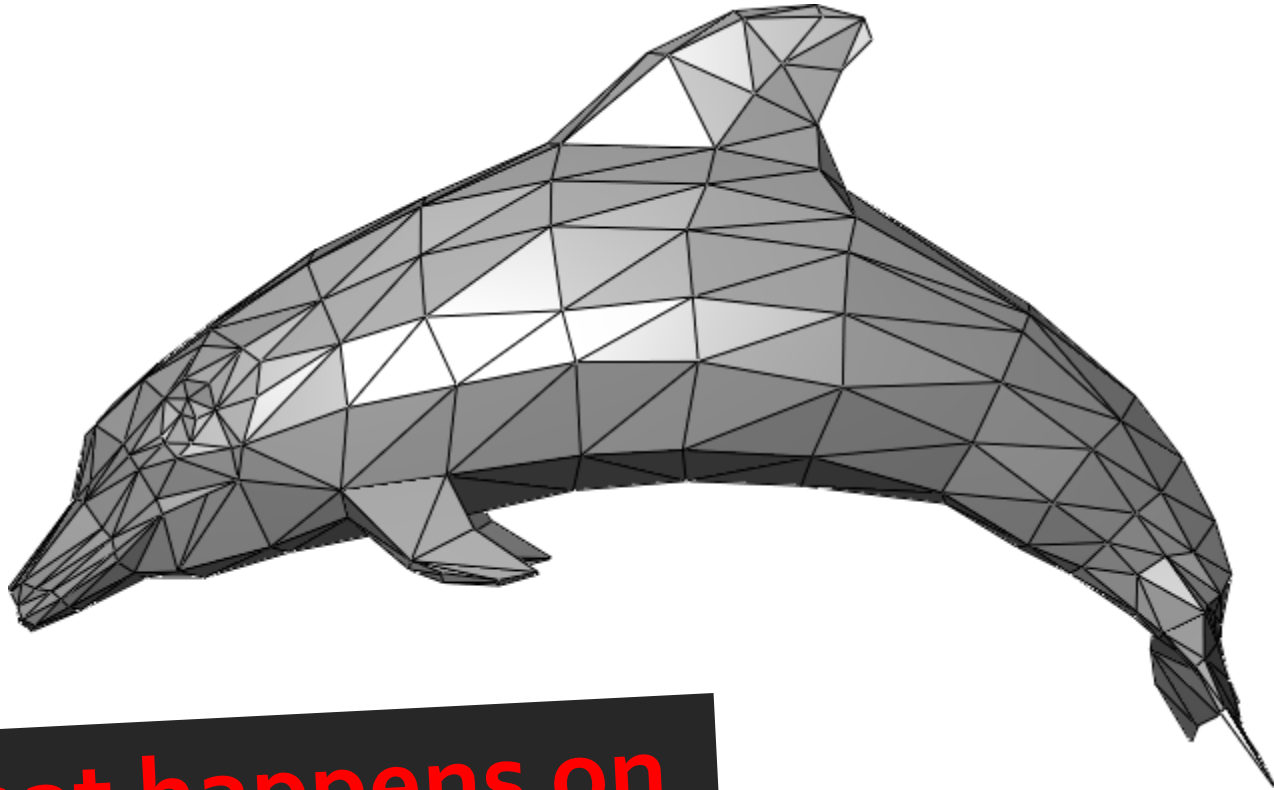
# Smooth Surface Definition



[https://lh3.googleusercontent.com/-njXPH7NSX5c/VV4PXu54n9I/AAAAAAAAAJM/m6TGg3ZVKGGE/w640-h400-p-k/normal\\_tore.png](https://lh3.googleusercontent.com/-njXPH7NSX5c/VV4PXu54n9I/AAAAAAAAAJM/m6TGg3ZVKGGE/w640-h400-p-k/normal_tore.png)

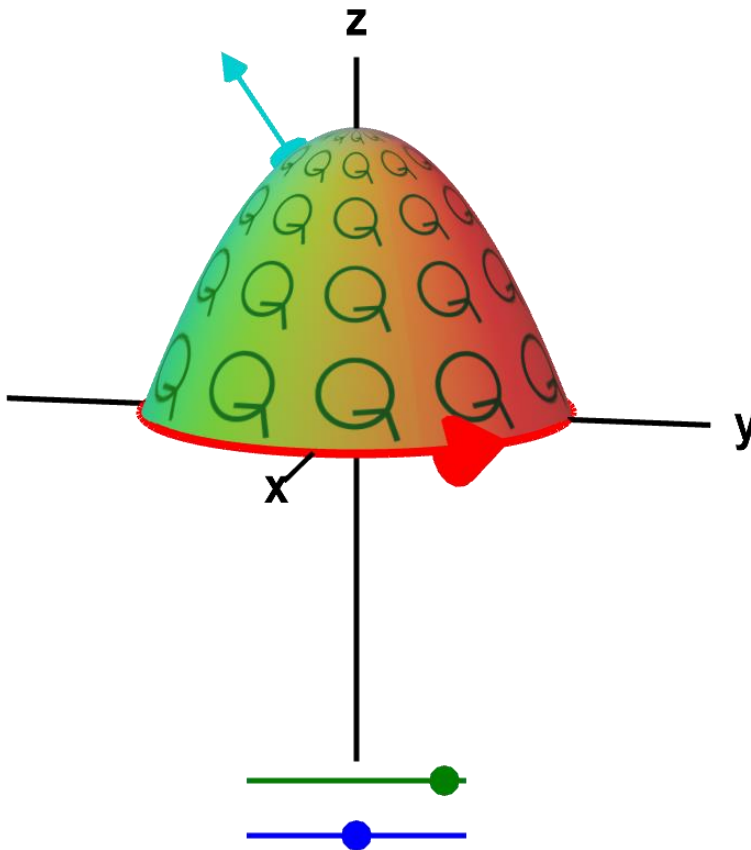
## Continuous field of normal vectors

# Issue on Triangle Mesh

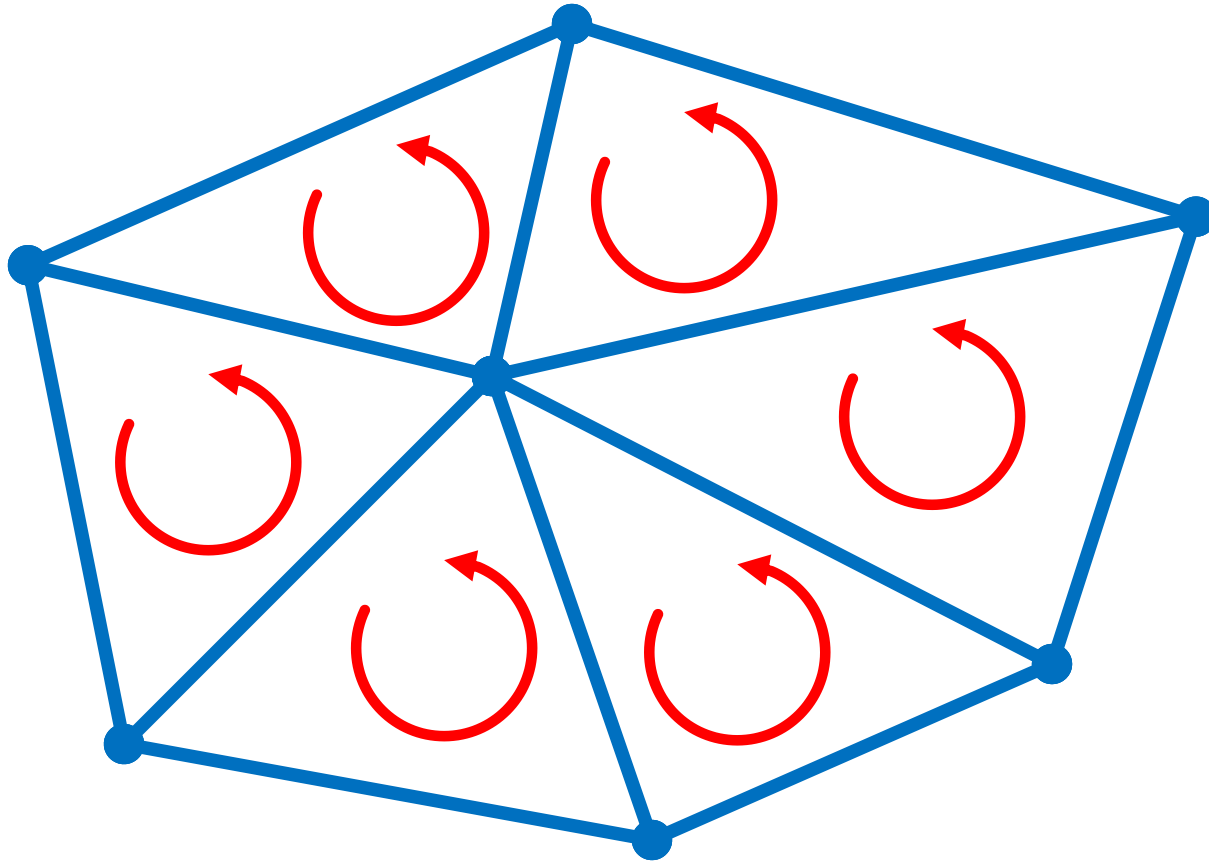


**What happens on  
edges/vertices?**

# 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!**

```
glBegin(GL_TRIANGLES)
```

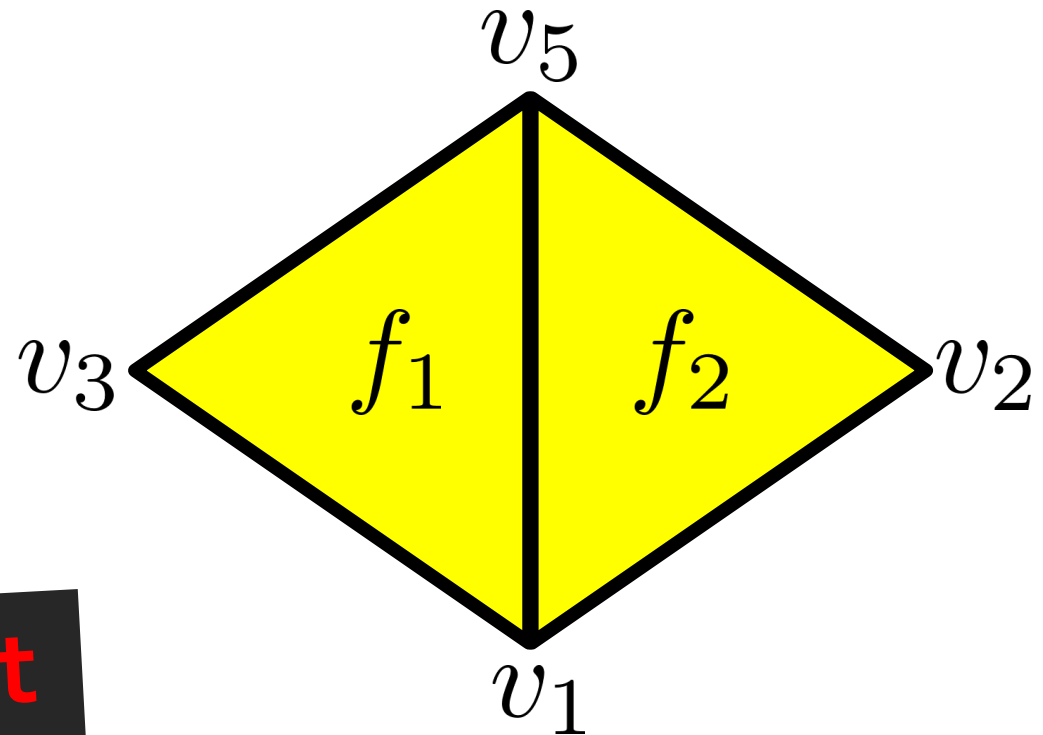
CS 468 2011 (M. Ben-Chen), other slides

**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
- ...

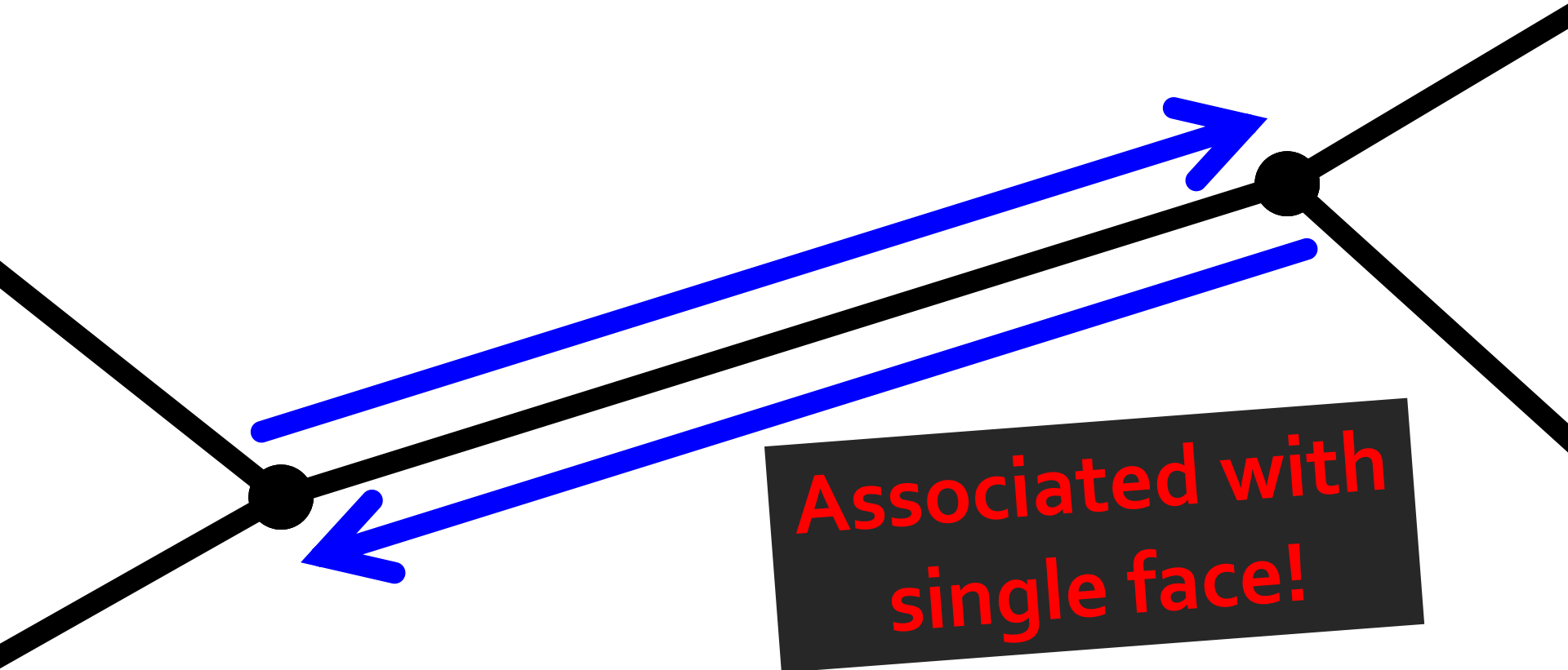
**Mostly localized**

# Pieces of Halfedge Data Structure

- Vertices
- Faces
- Half-edges

Structure tuned for meshes

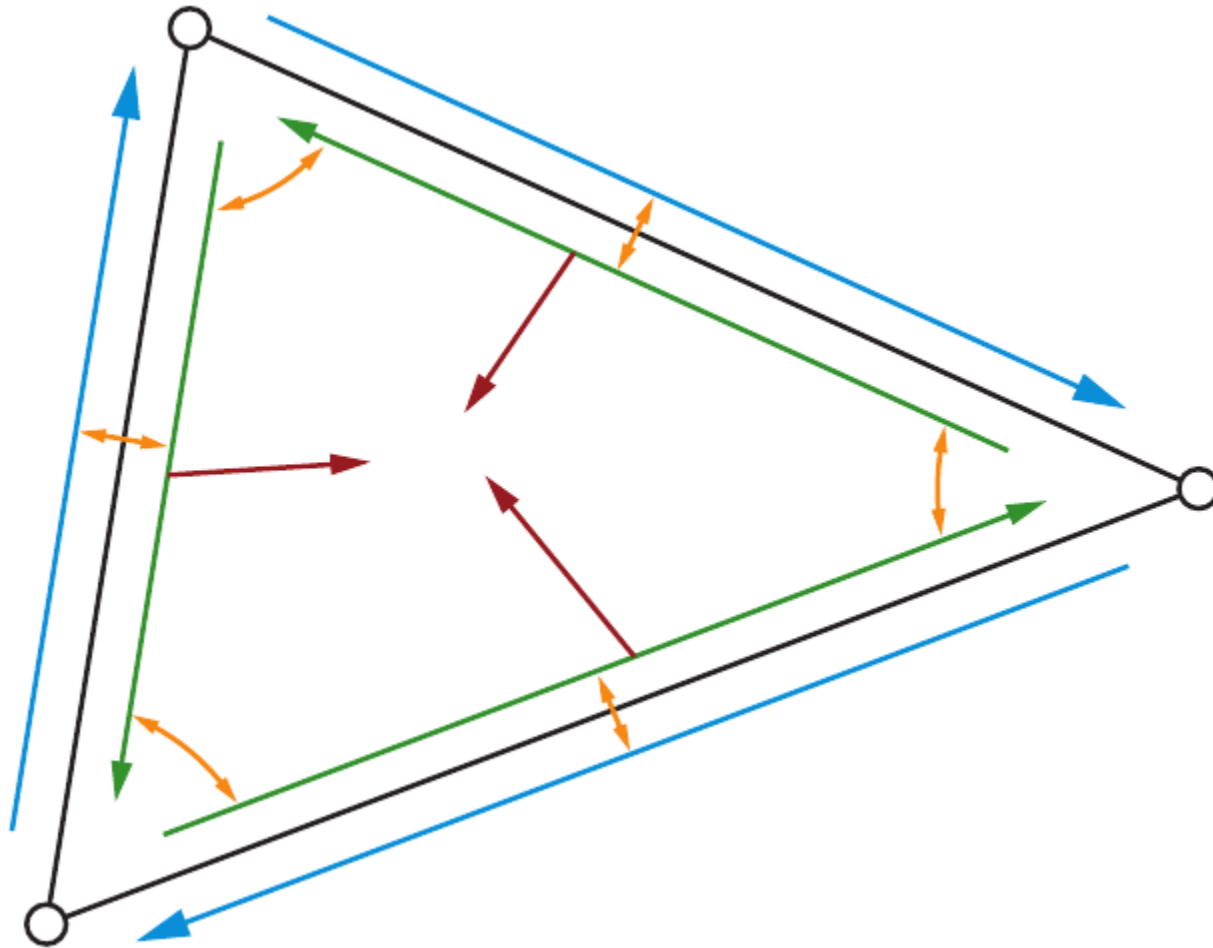
# Halfedge?



Associated with  
single face!

Oriented edge

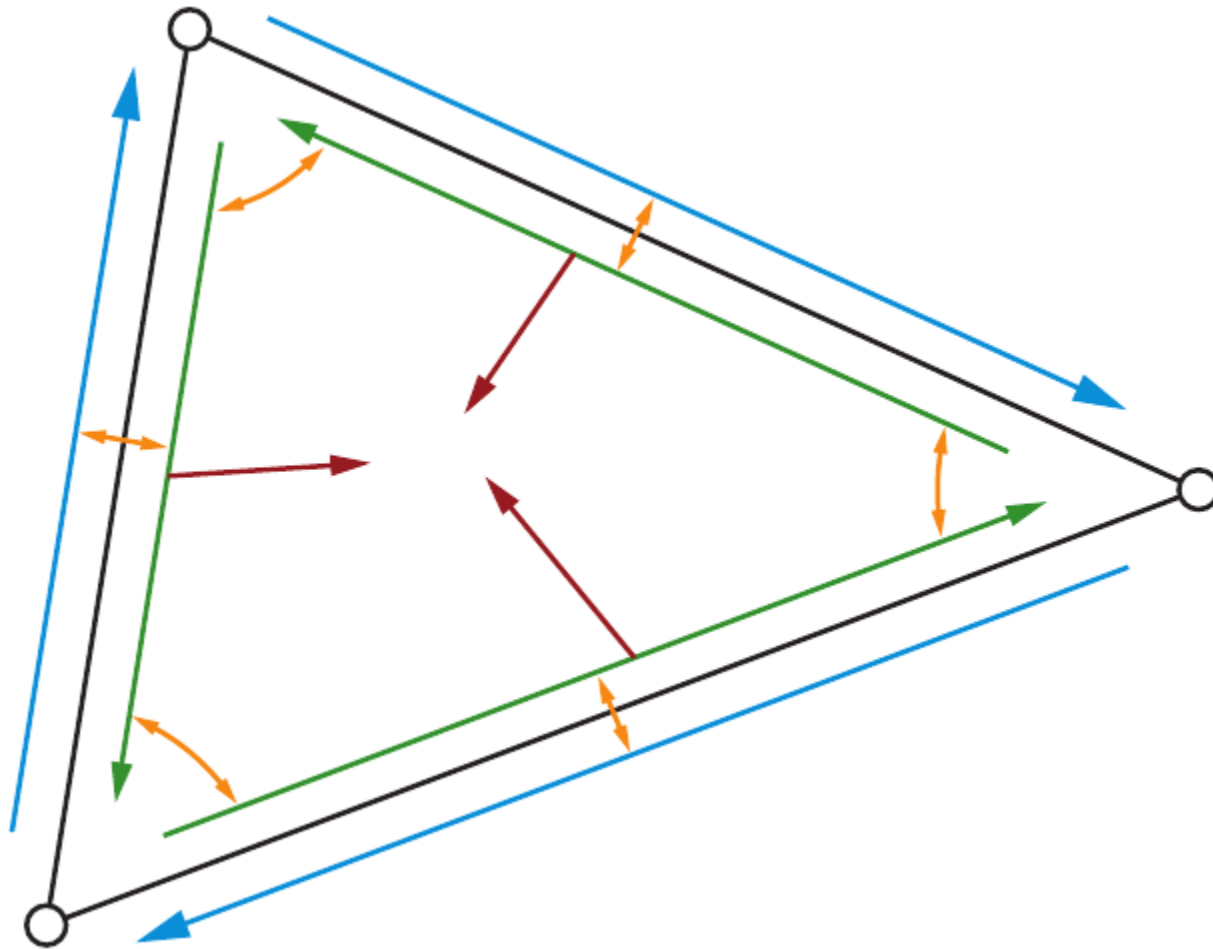
# Halfedge Data Types



**Vertex** stores:

- Arbitrary outgoing halfedge

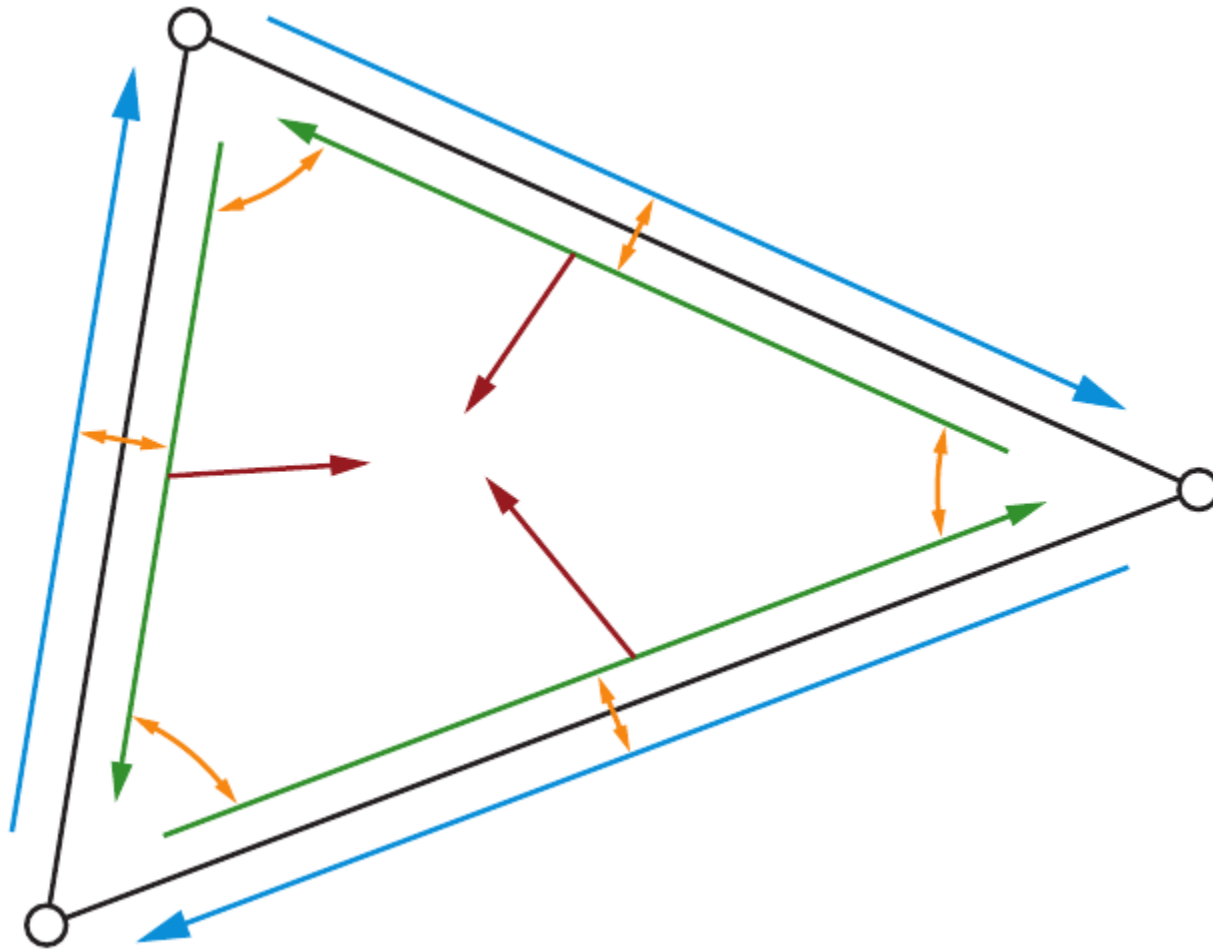
# Halfedge Data Types



**Face** stores:

- Arbitrary adjacent halfedge

# Halfedge Data Types

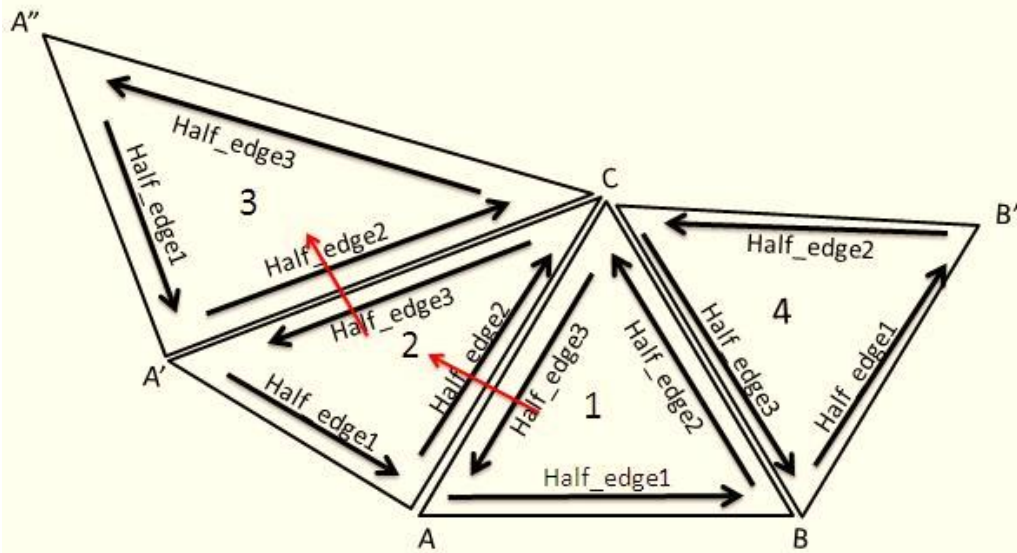


**Halfedge**

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<sup>1†</sup>

Peter Lindstrom<sup>2</sup>

Jack Snoeyink<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

<sup>2</sup> Lawrence Livermore National Labs

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

*Volume 30 (2011), Number 2*

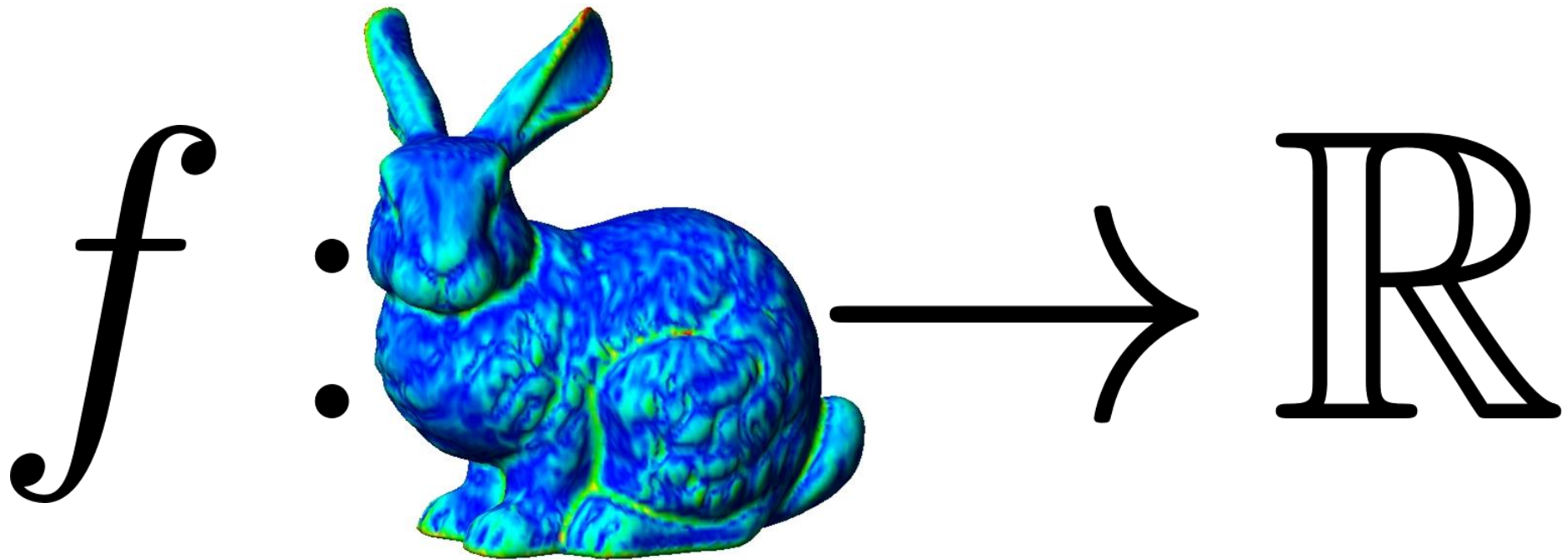
## SQuad: Compact Representation for Triangle Meshes

Topraj Gurung<sup>1</sup>, Daniel Laney<sup>2</sup>, Peter Lindstrom<sup>2</sup>, Jarek Rossignac<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Georgia Institute of Technology

<sup>2</sup>Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory

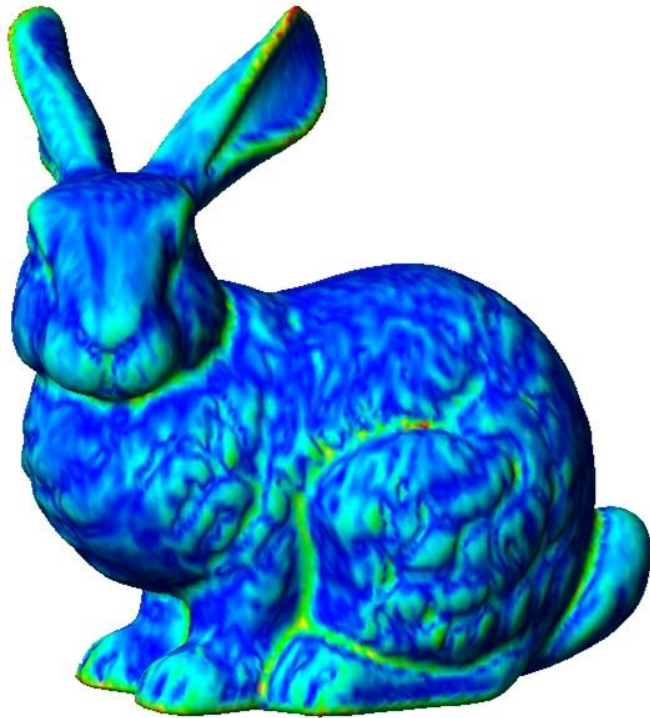
# Scalar Functions



[http://www.ieeta.pt/polymeco/Screenshots/PolyMeCo\\_OneView.jpg](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](http://www.ieeta.pt/polymeco/Screenshots/PolyMeCo_OneView.jpg)

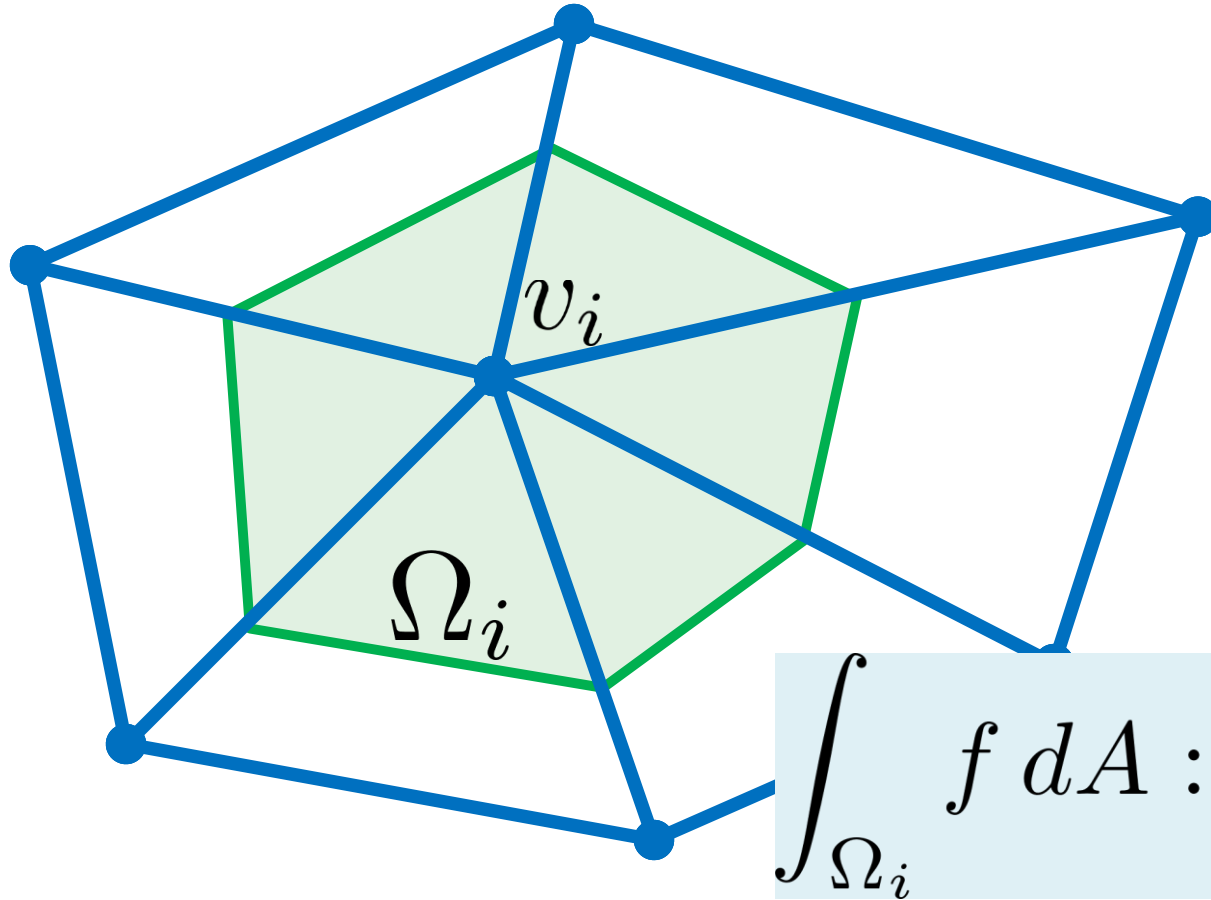
**Map vertices to real numbers**

# Question

What is the integral of  $f$ ?

$$\int_M f \, dA$$

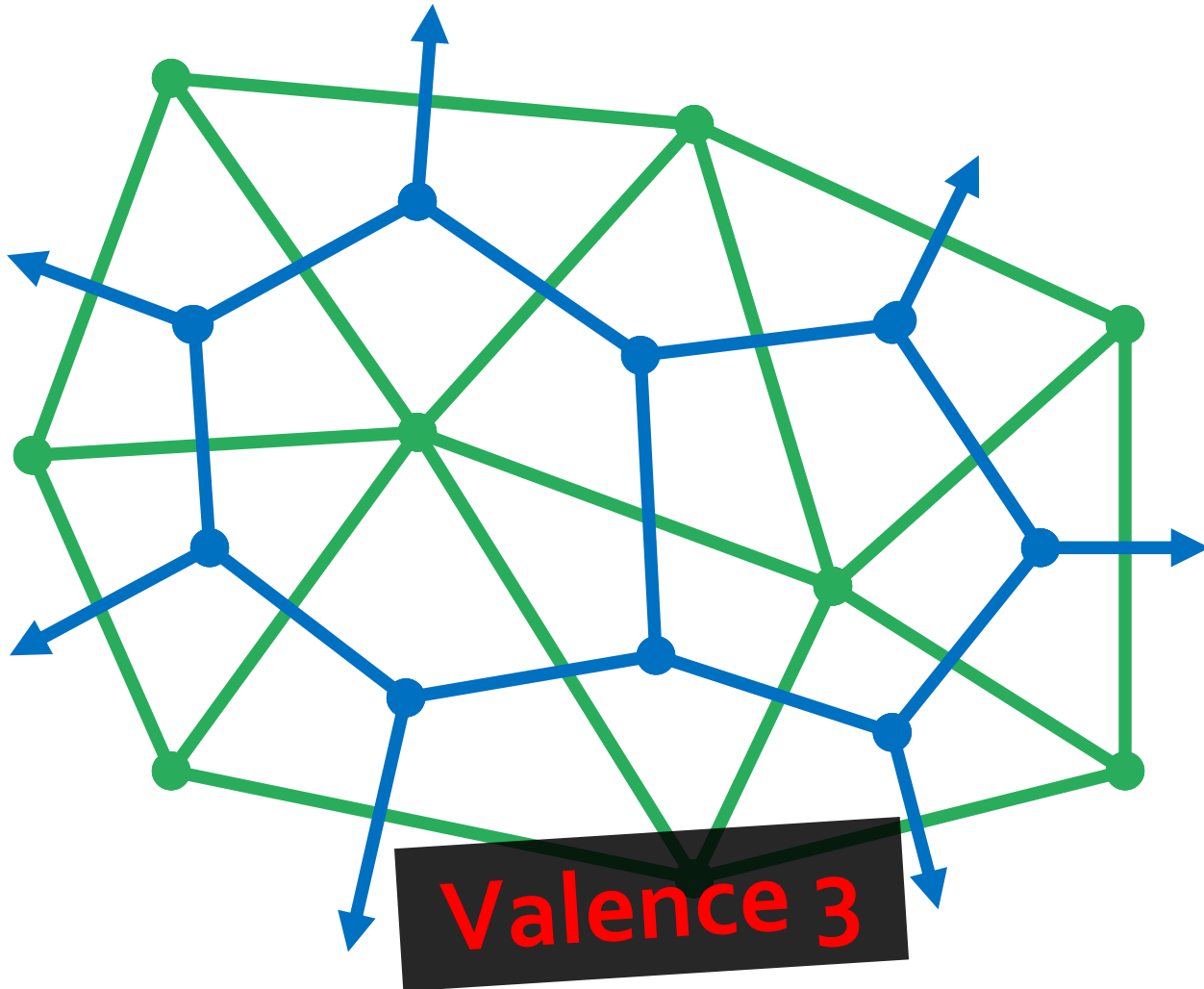
# Dual Cell



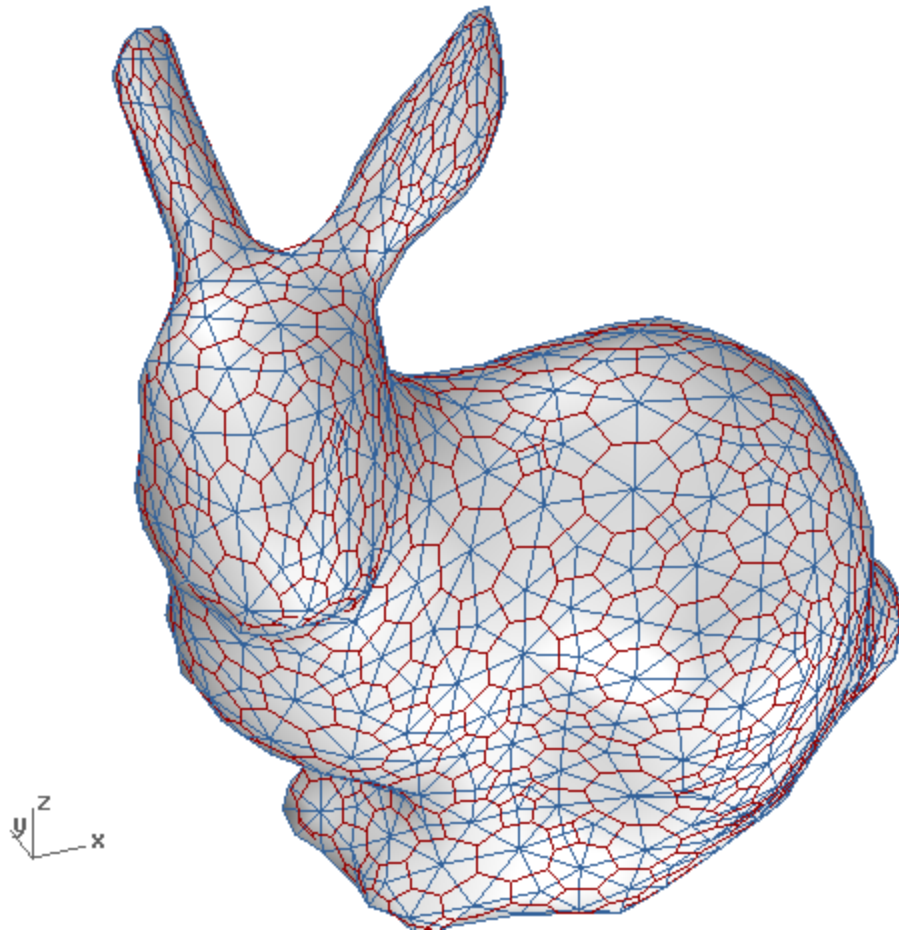
$$\int_{\Omega_i} f \, dA := f_i |\Omega_i|$$

**Discrete version of  $dA$**

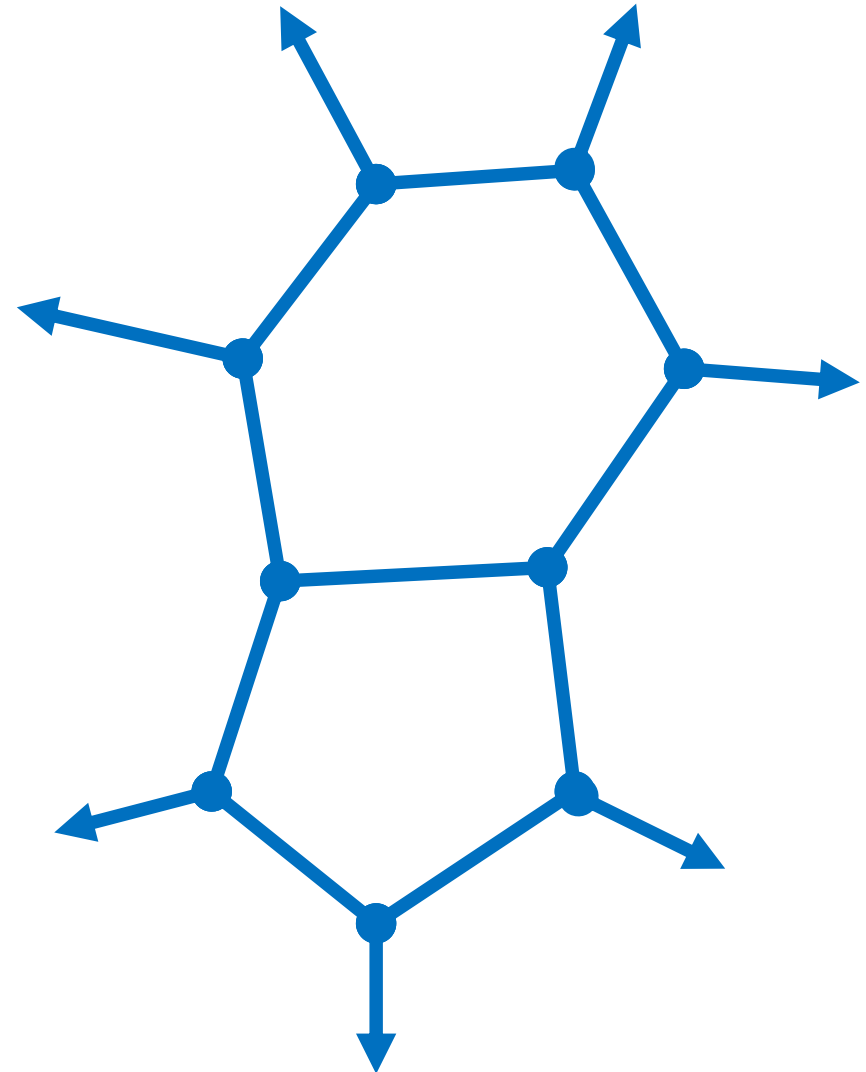
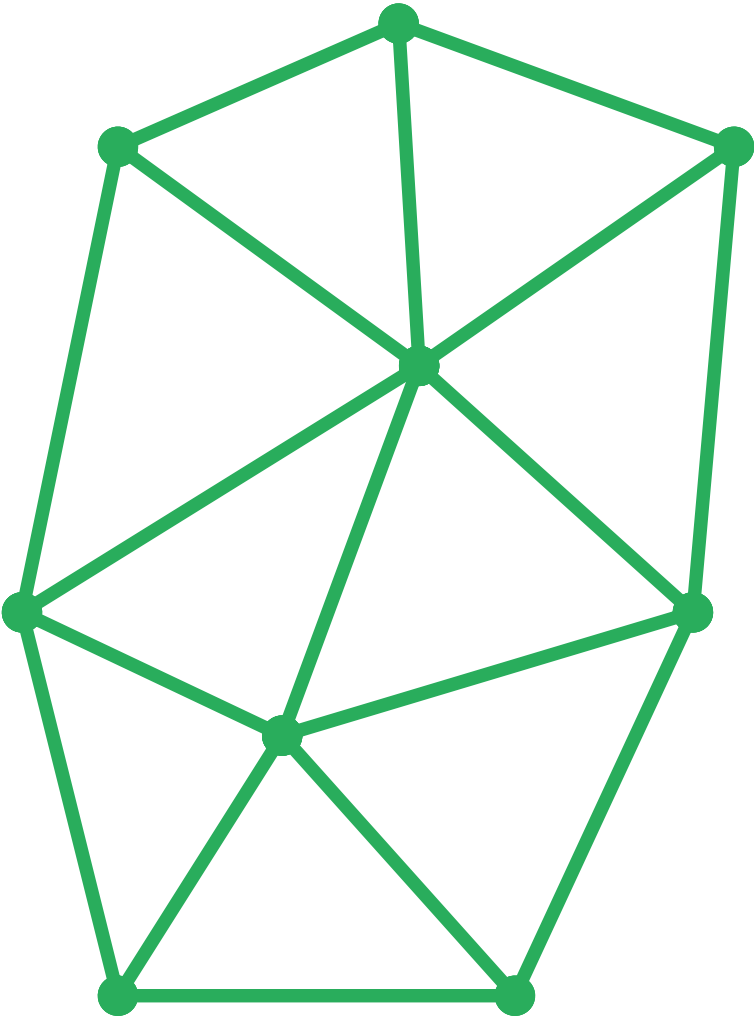
# Dual Complex



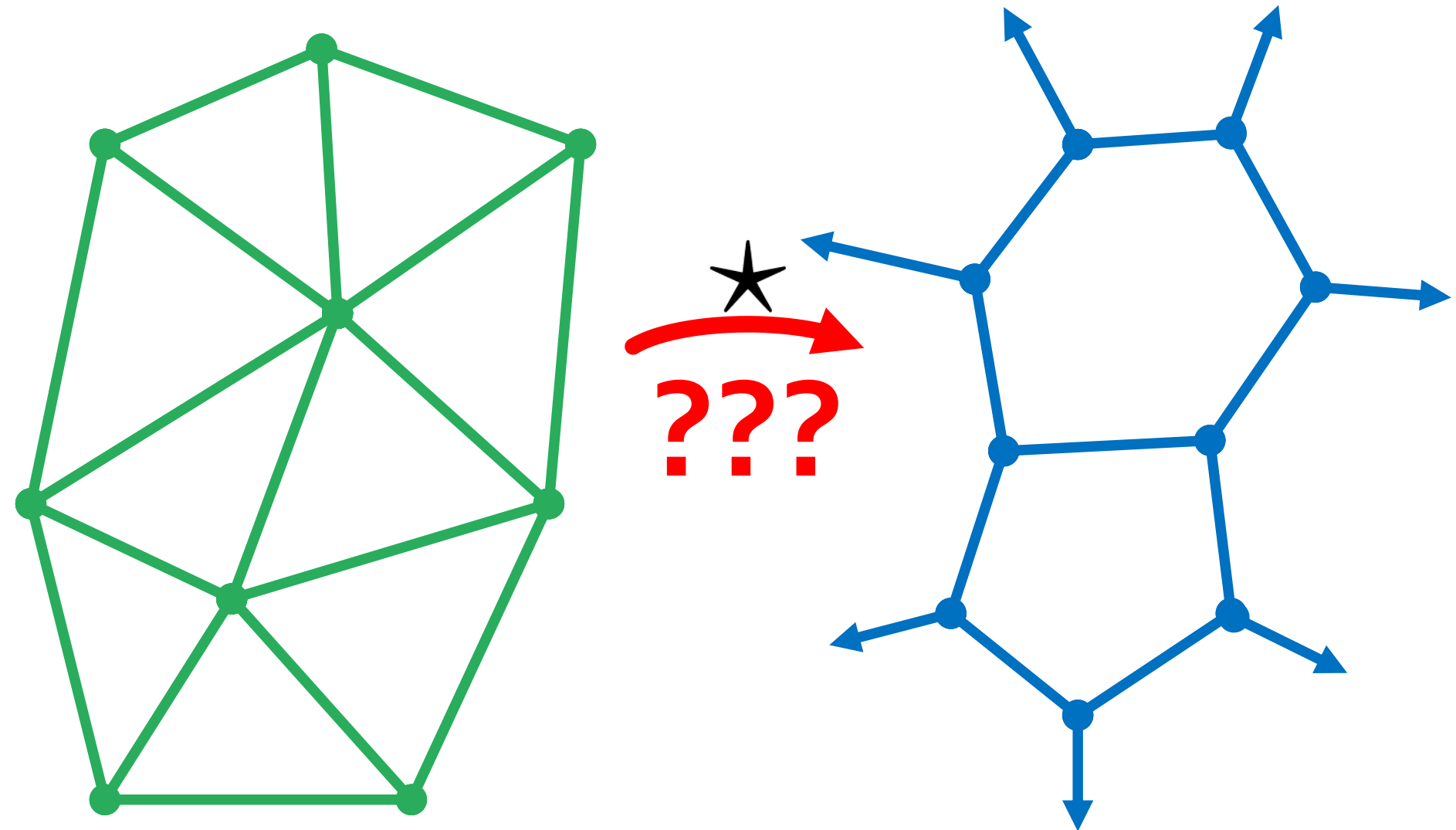
# One Surface, Two Meshes



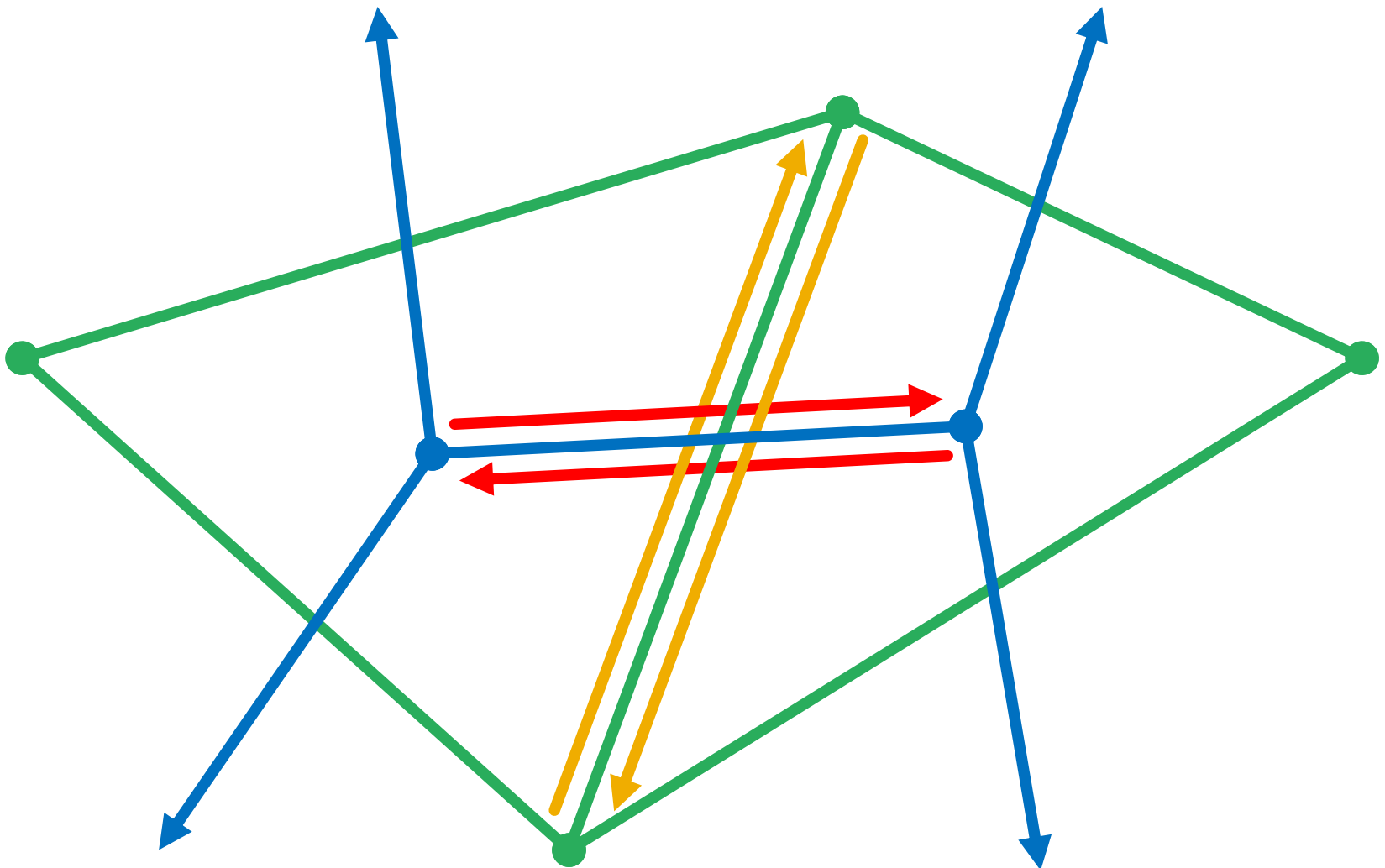
# One Surface, Two Halfedges



# Missing Operation

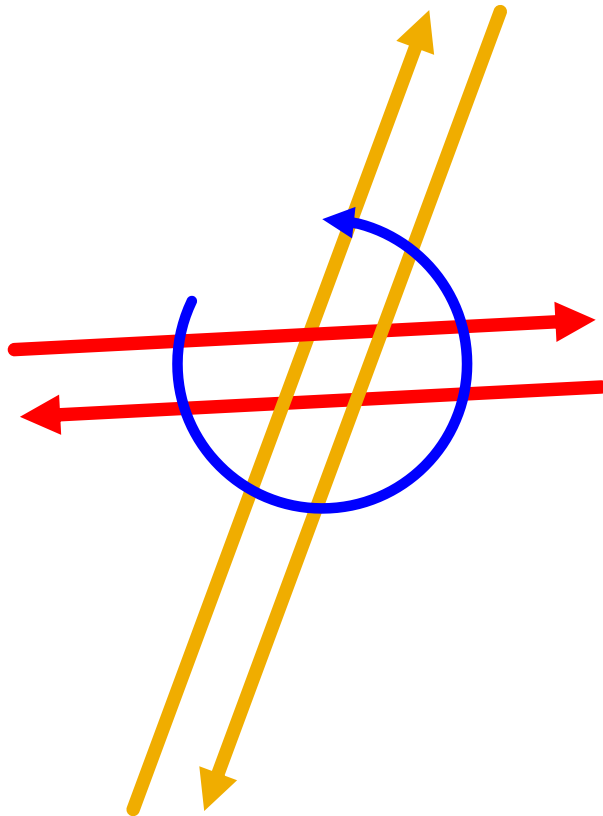


# Quad Edge



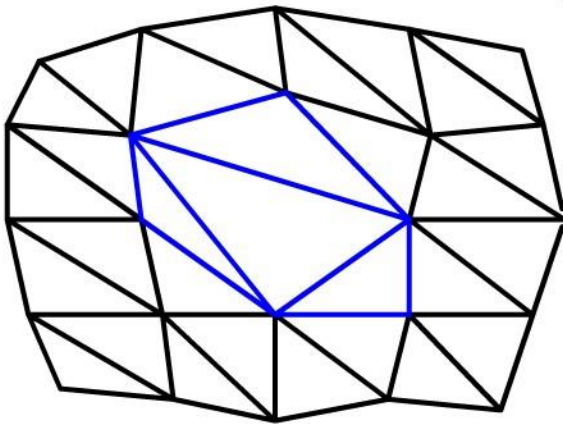
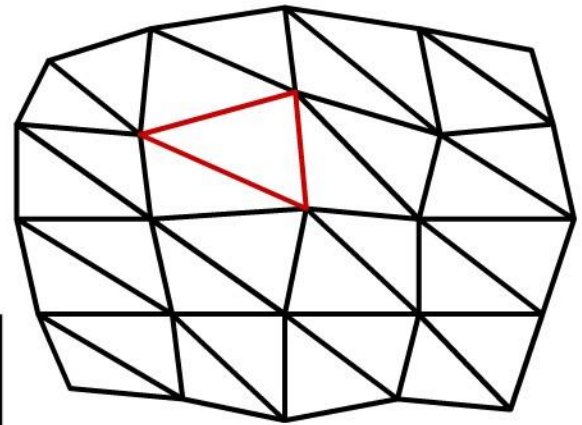
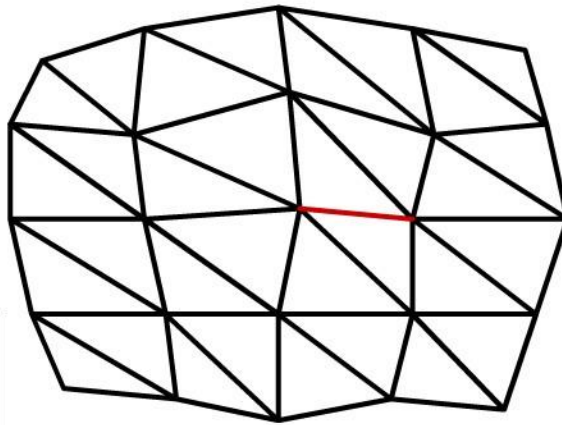
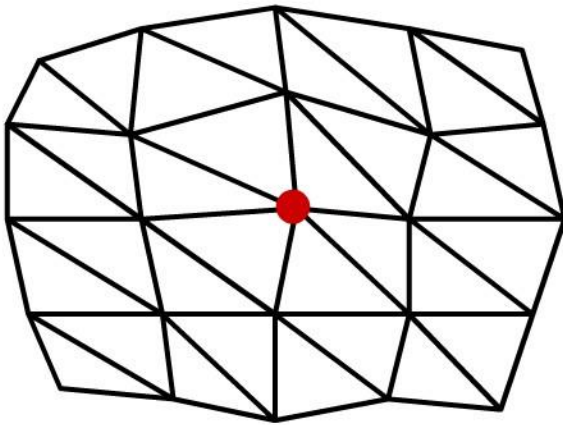
# Rotation Operation

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

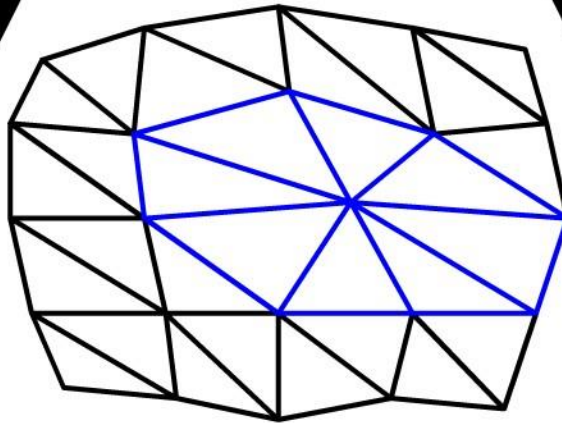


# Topological Operations

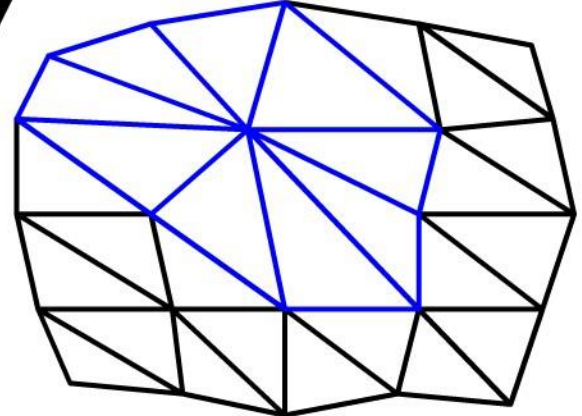
Original Mesh Segment



Vertex Removal



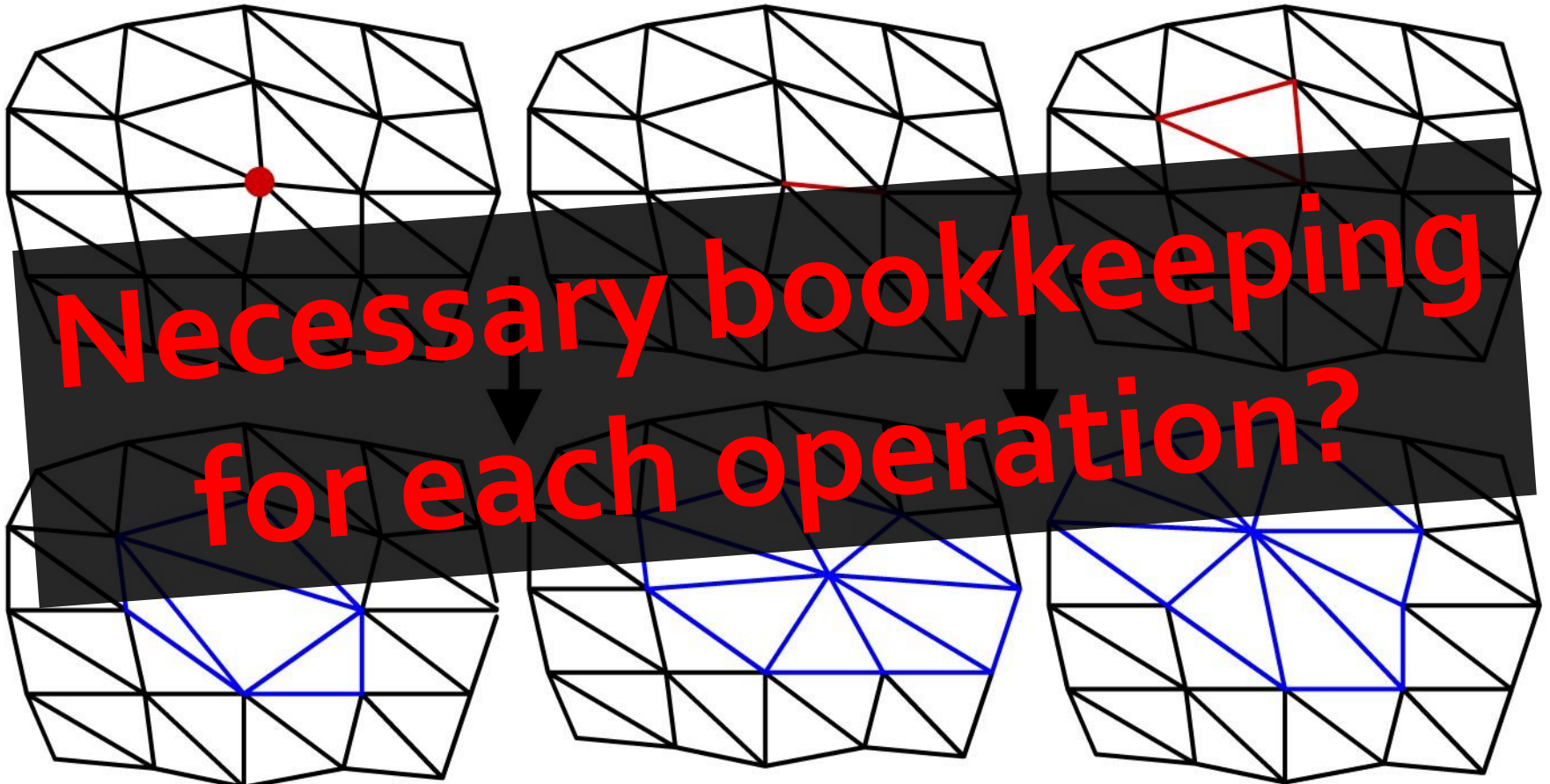
Edge Collapse



Face Collapse

# Topological Operations

Original Mesh Segment



Vertex Removal

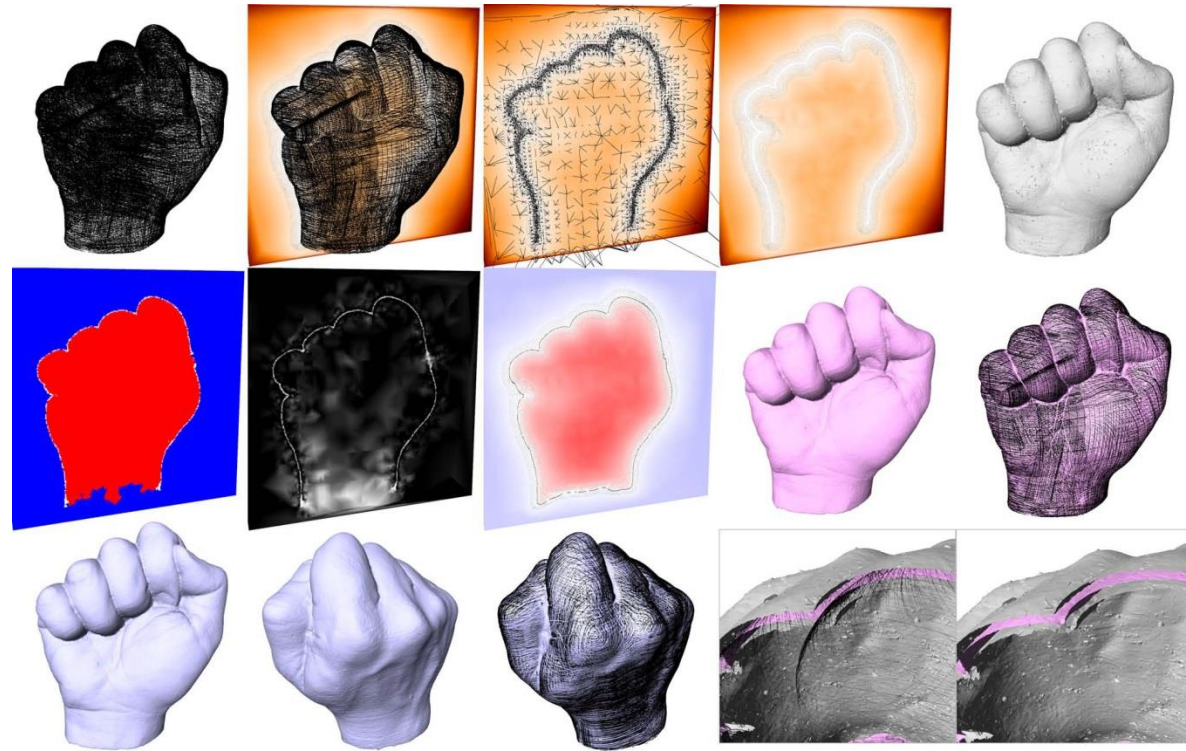
Edge Collapse

Face Collapse

# Take-Away

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

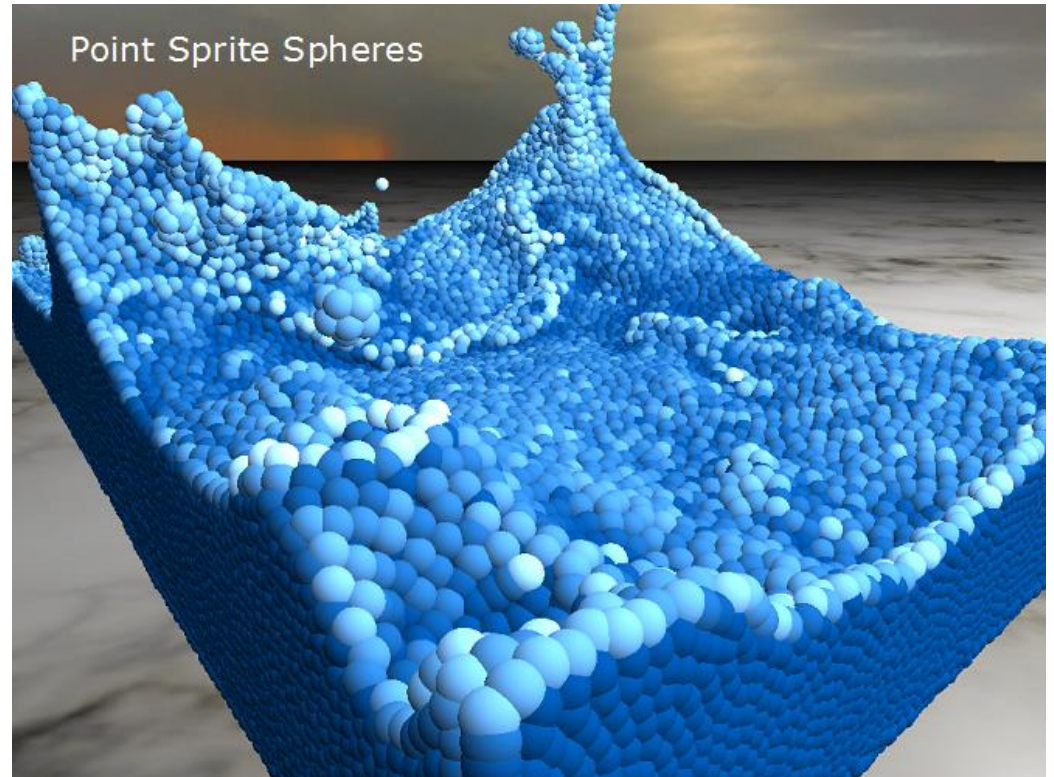
# Not the Only Model



[http://www.cs.umd.edu/class/spring2005/cmsc828v/papers/mpu\\_implicit.pdf](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

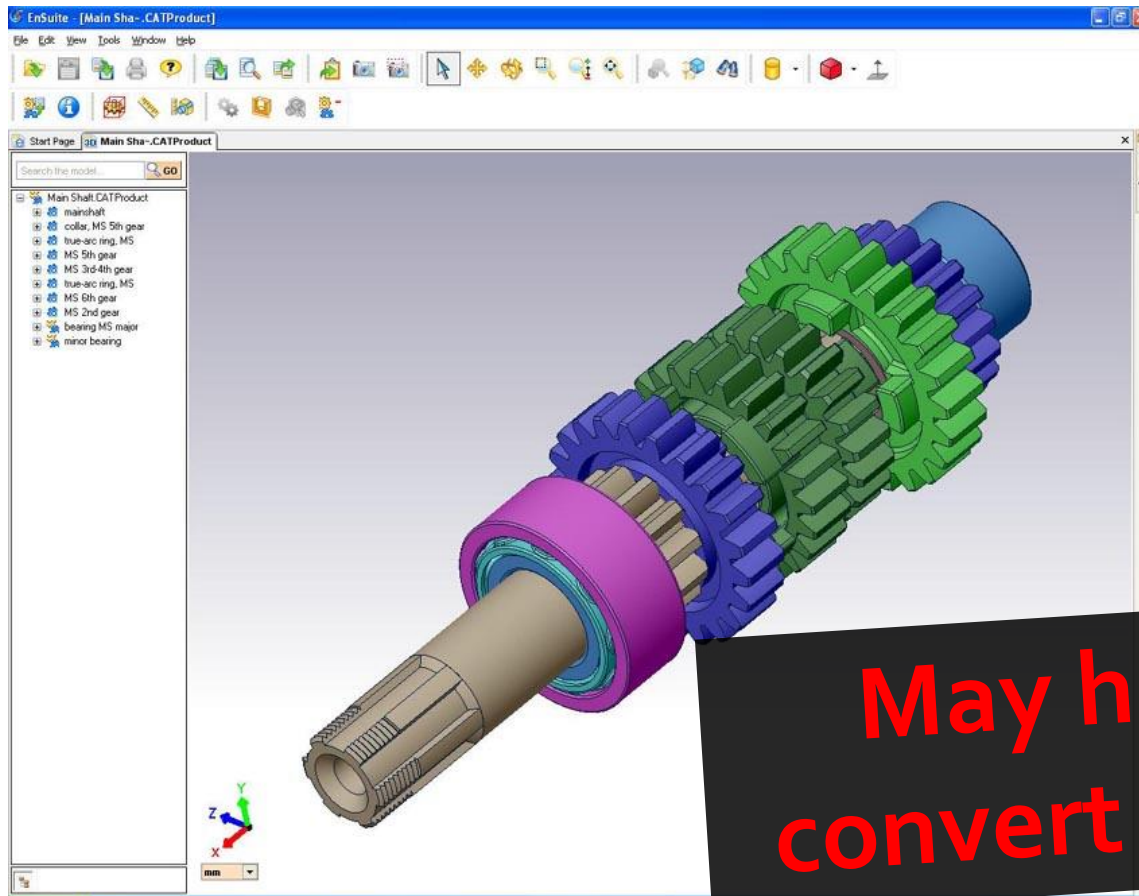
A new implicit model for surface tension at a two-fluid interface is proposed for use in computational models of flows with free surfaces and its performance is compared to an existing explicit model. The new model is based on an evolution equation for surface curvature that includes the influence of 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

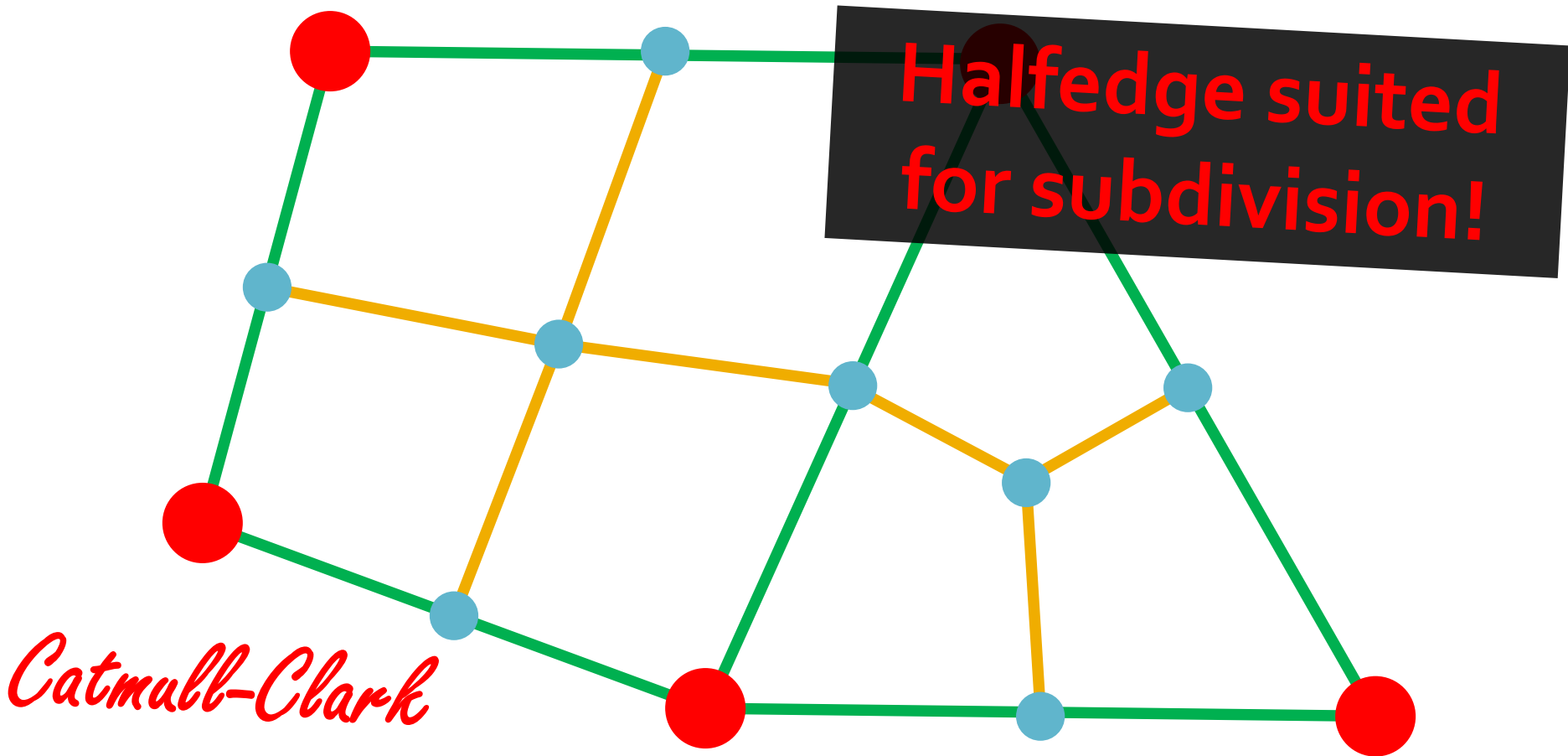


**May have to  
convert to mesh**

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

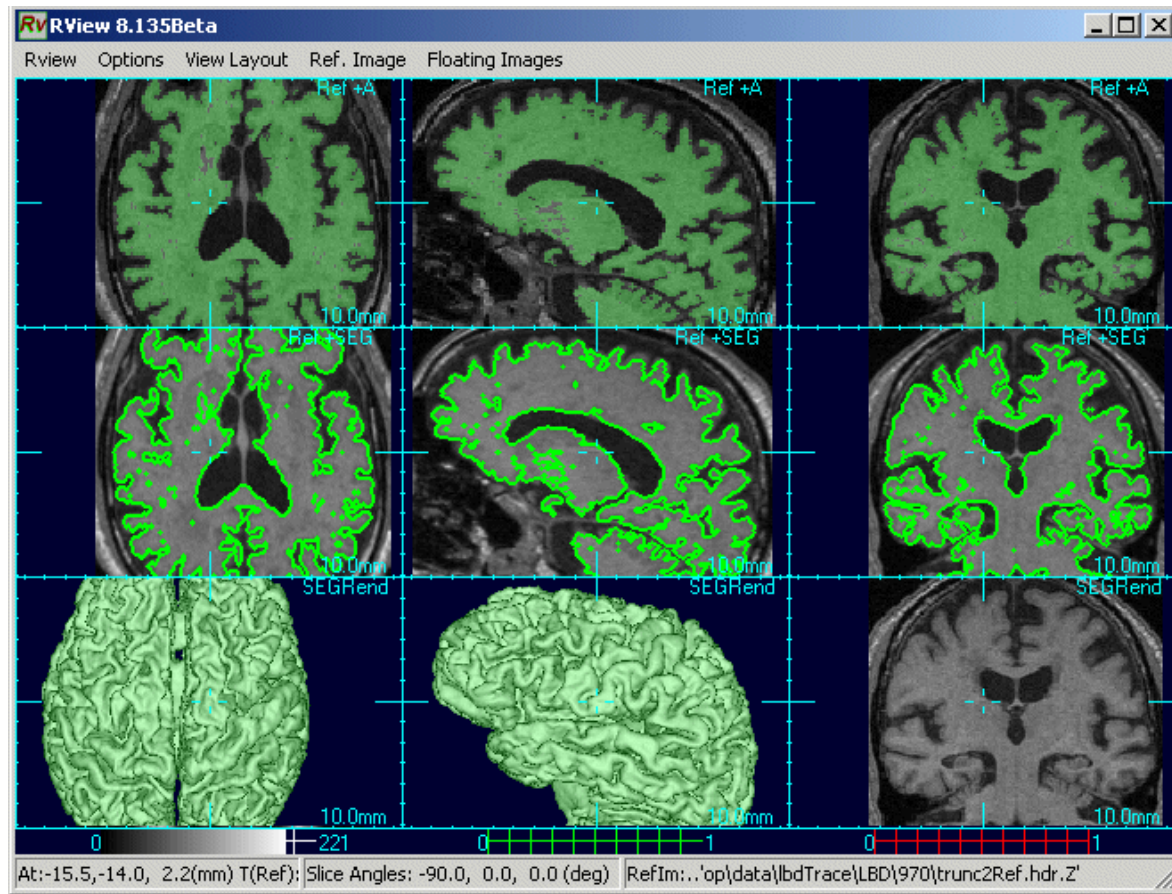
**Cleanest: Design software**

# Obtaining Geometry



Cleanest: Design software

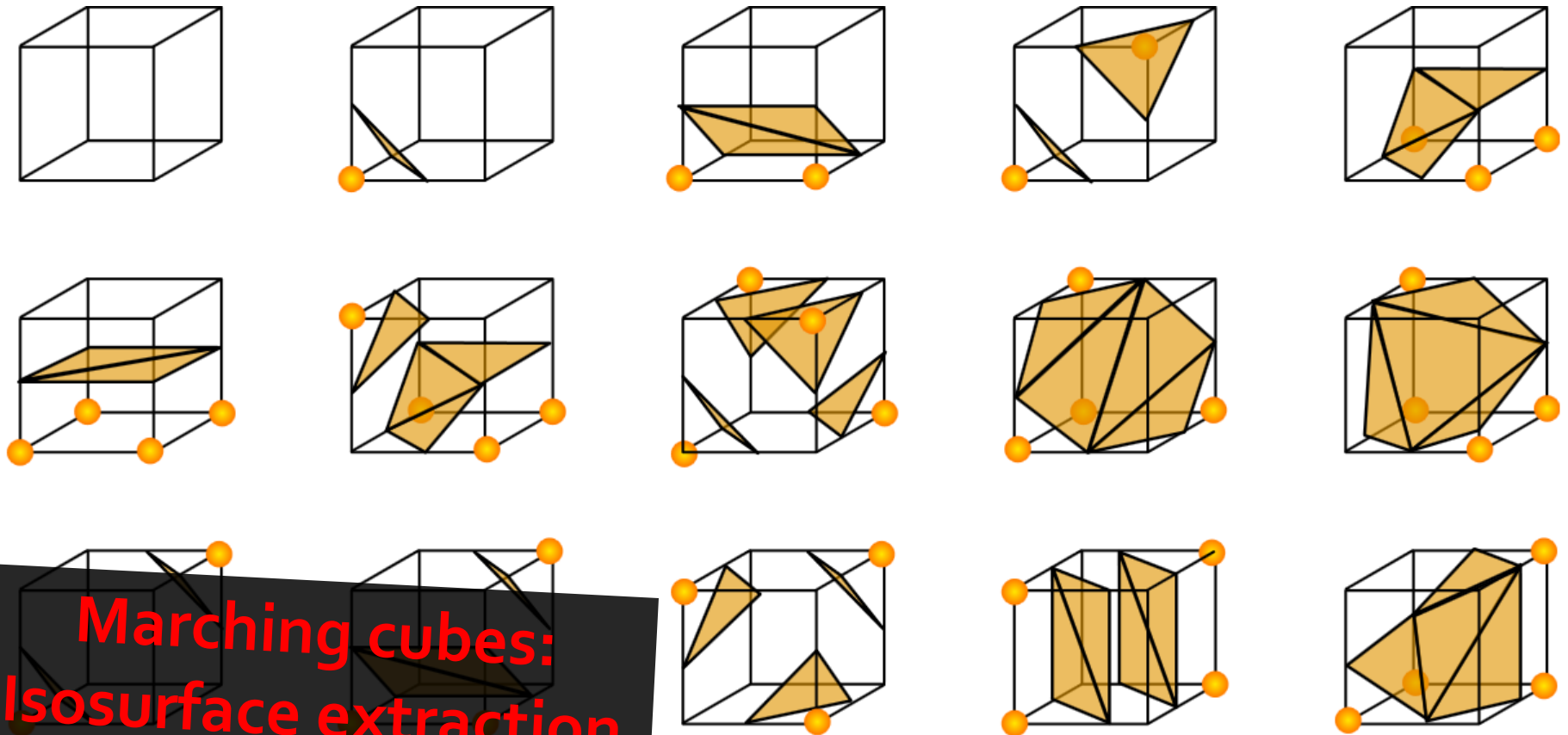
# Obtaining Geometry



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

## Volumetric extraction

# Obtaining Geometry

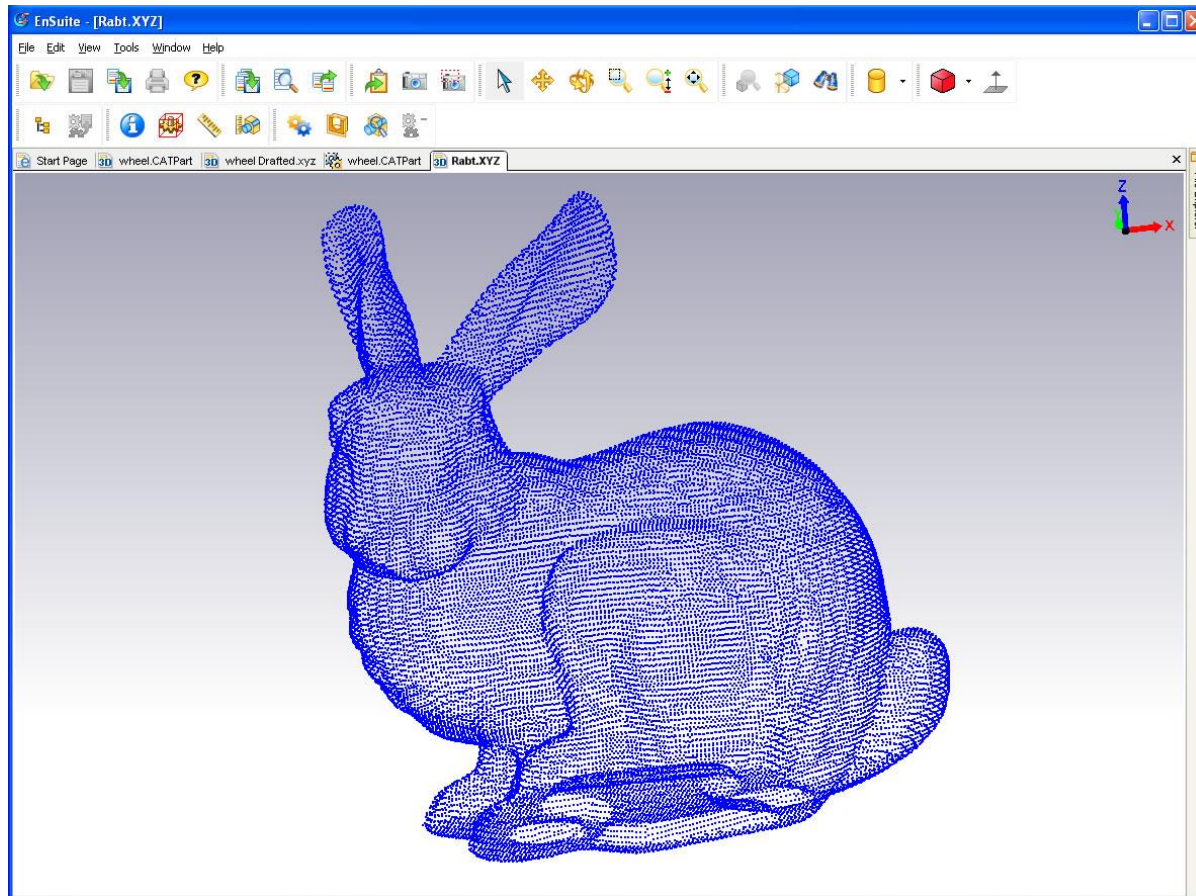


Marching cubes:  
Isosurface extraction

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marching\\_cubes](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marching_cubes)

## Volumetric extraction

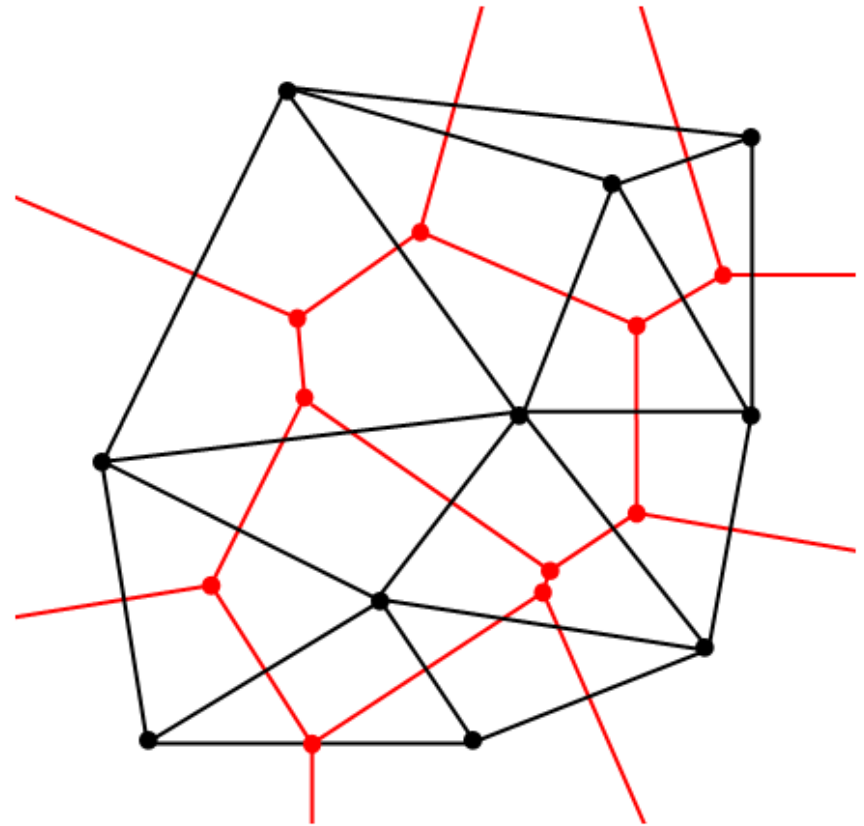
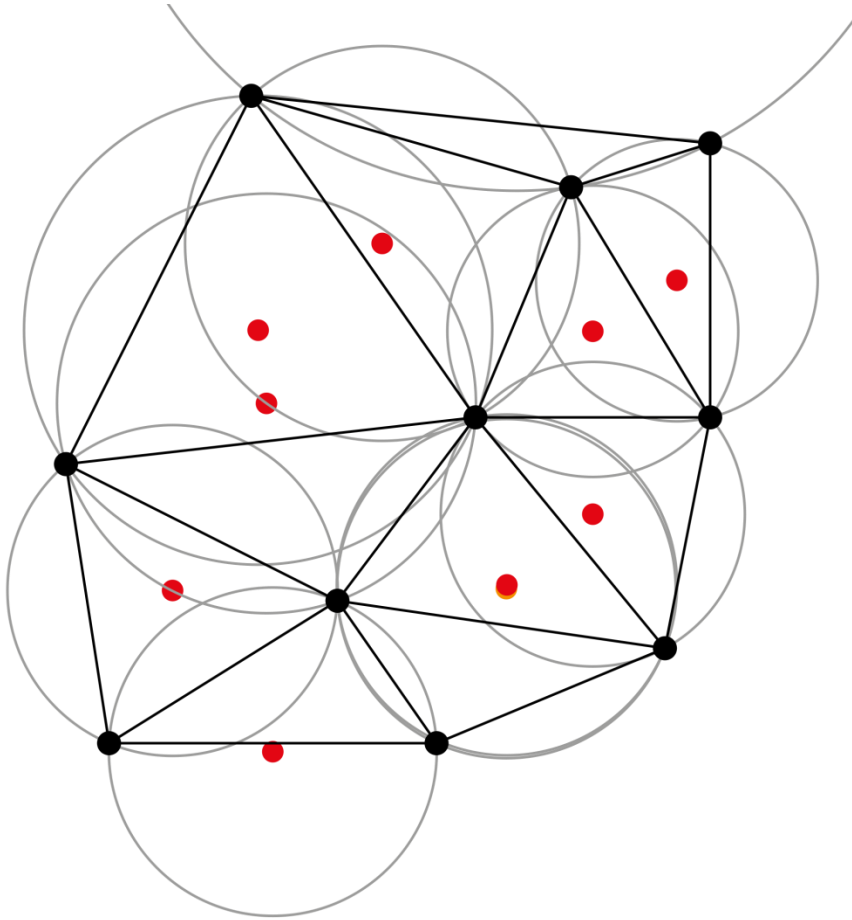
# Obtaining Geometry



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

## Point clouds

# Delaunay Triangulation



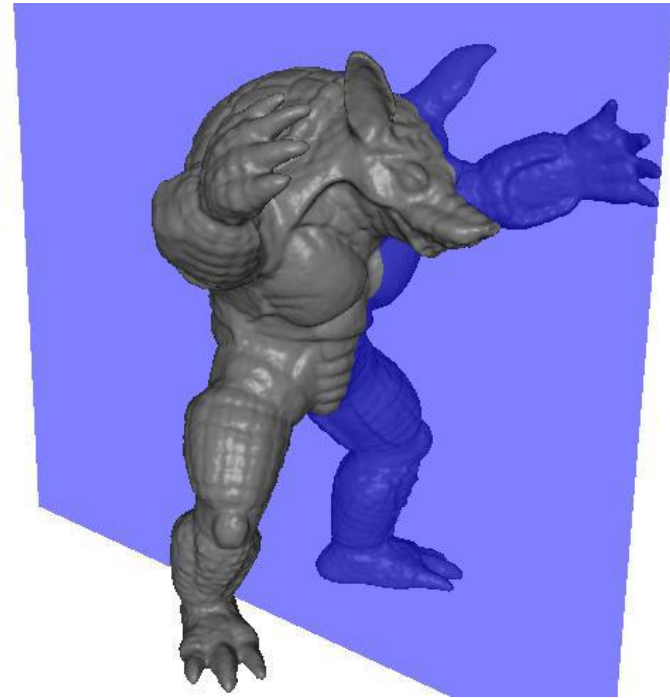
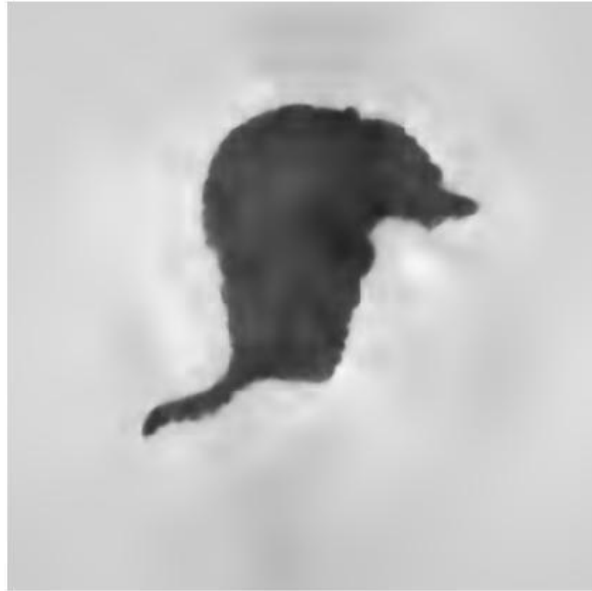
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Delaunay\\_triangulation](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Delaunay_triangulation)

**Well-behaved dual mesh**

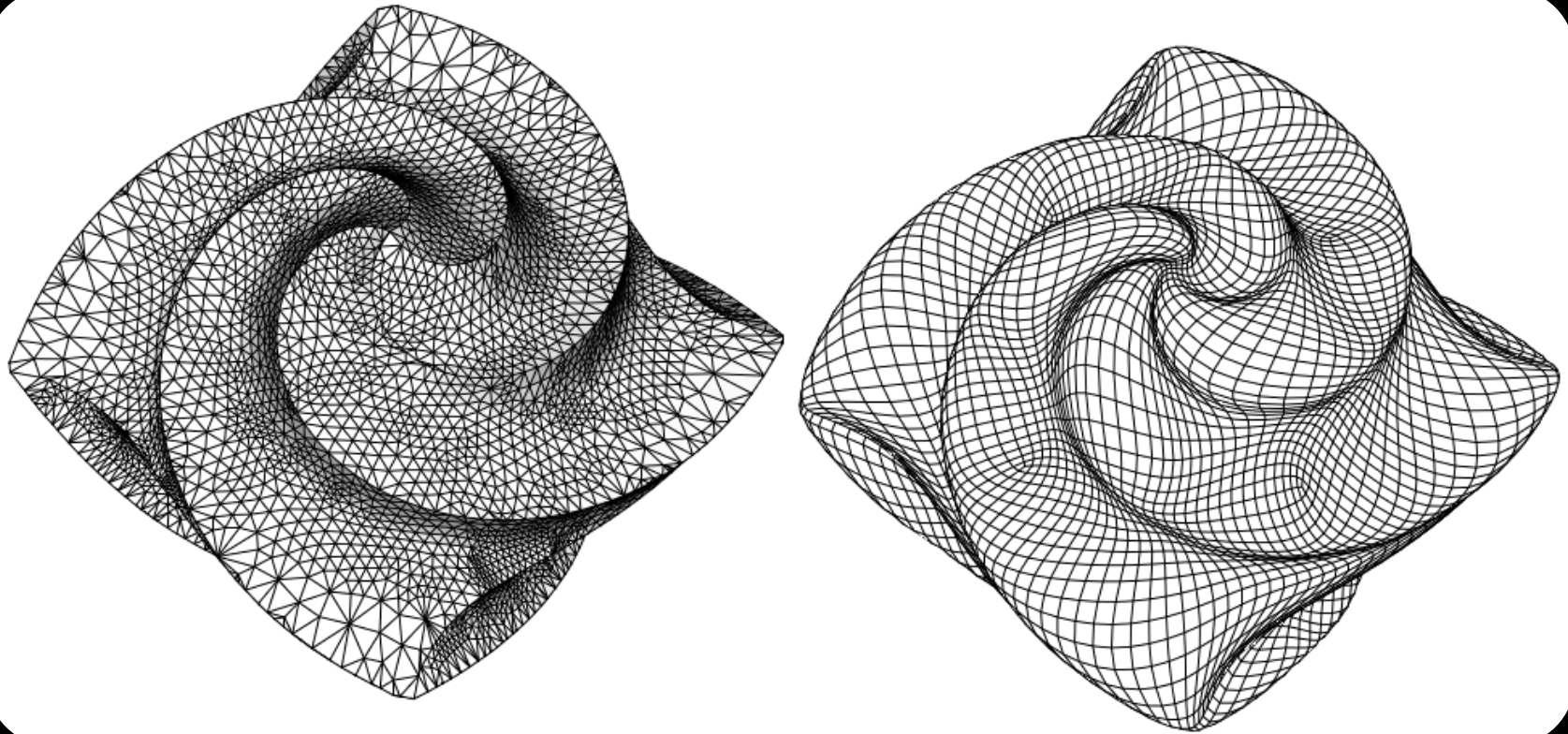
# Strategies for Surface Delaunay

- **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 2019

