



Polygonal Meshes

COS 426, Spring 2020

Princeton University

Felix Heide

3D Object Representations

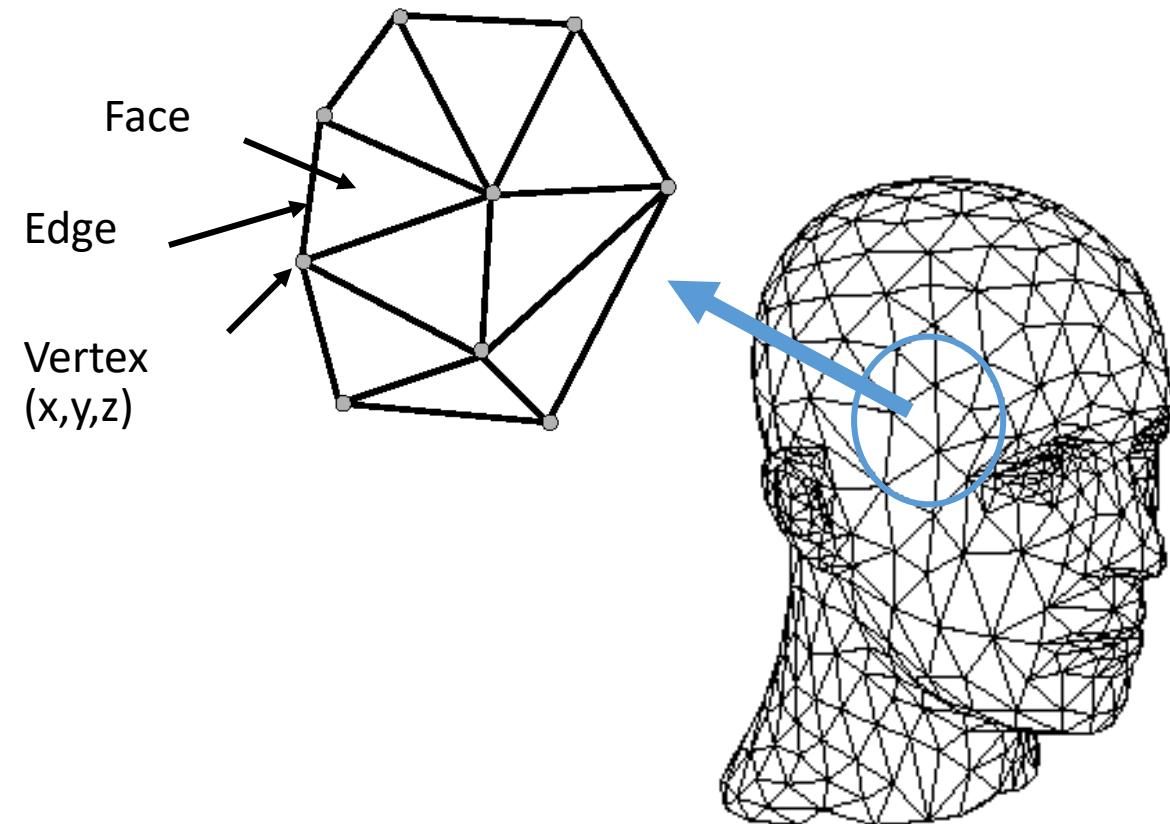


- Points
 - Range image
 - Point cloud
- Surfaces
 - **Polygonal mesh**
 - Parametric
 - Subdivision
 - Implicit
- Solids
 - Voxels
 - BSP tree
 - CSG
 - Sweep
- High-level structures
 - Scene graph
 - Application specific



3D Polygonal Mesh

- Set of polygons representing a 2D surface embedded in 3D





3D Polygonal Mesh

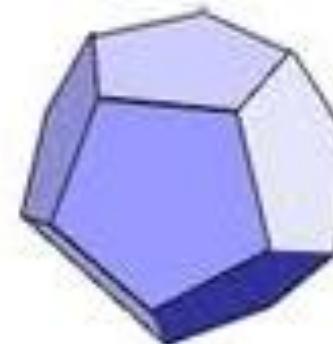
- The power of polygonal meshes



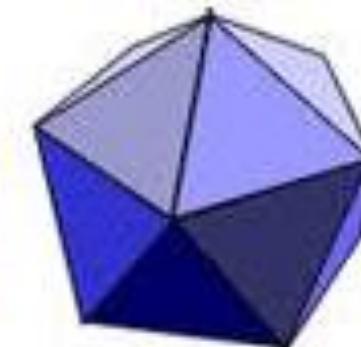
3D Polygonal Mesh

- Set of polygons representing a 2D surface embedded in 3D

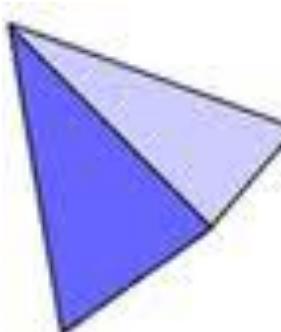
Platonic Solids



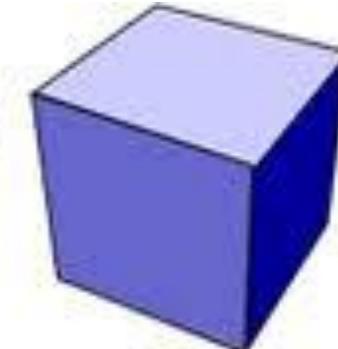
Dodecahedron



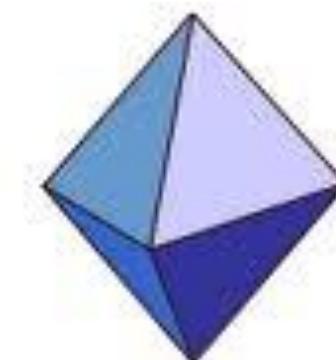
Icosahedron



Tetrahedron

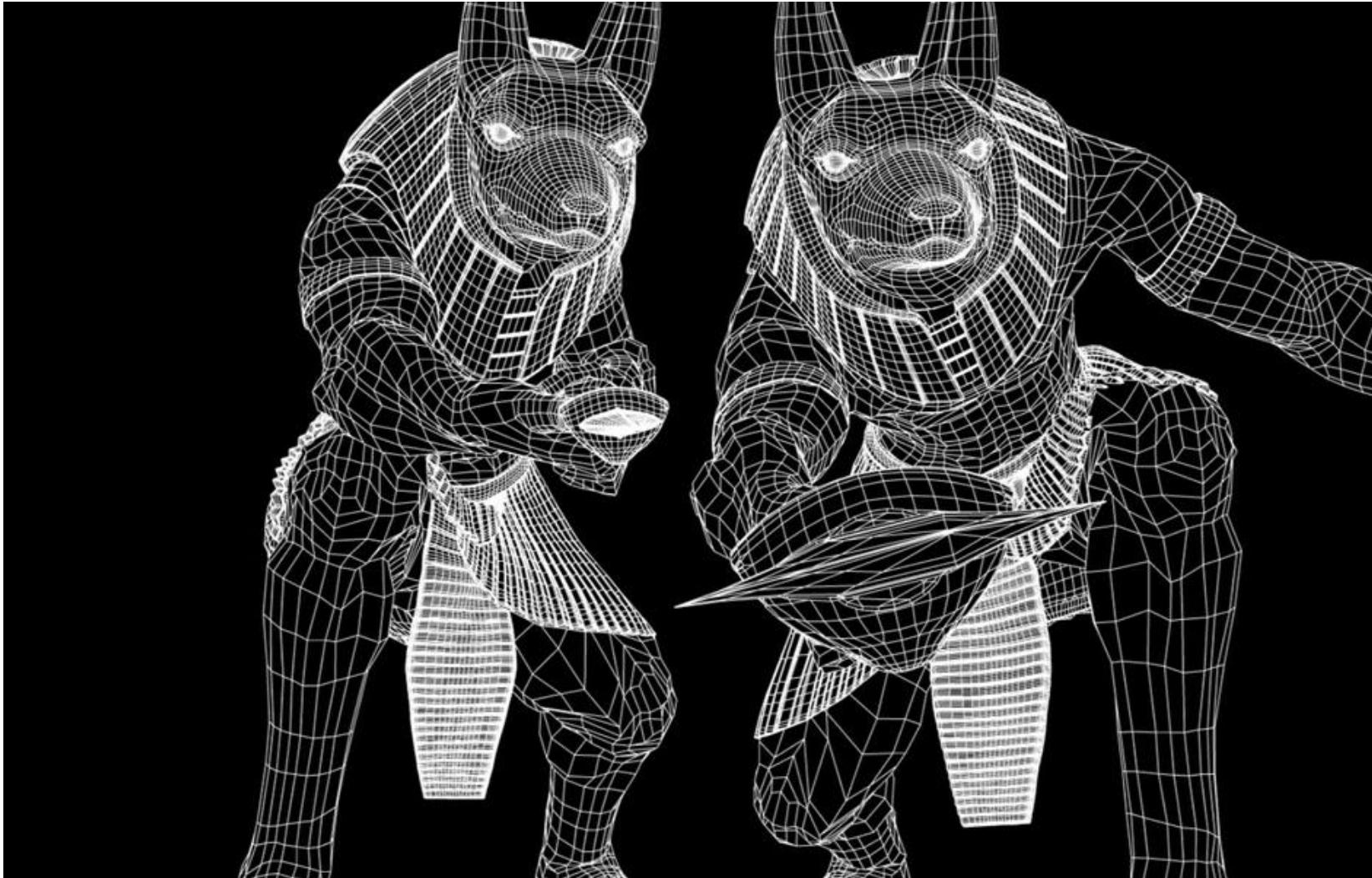


Cube



Octahedron

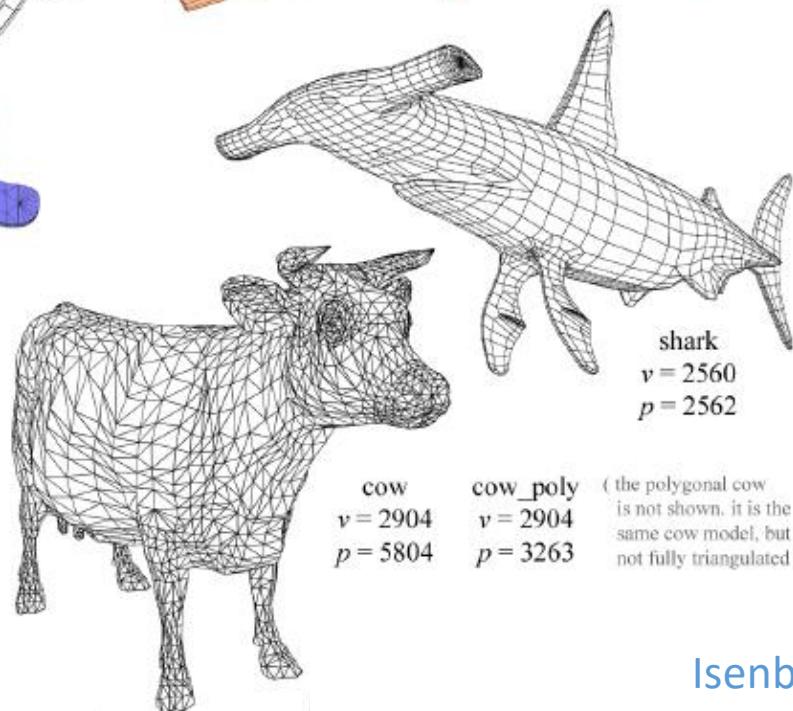
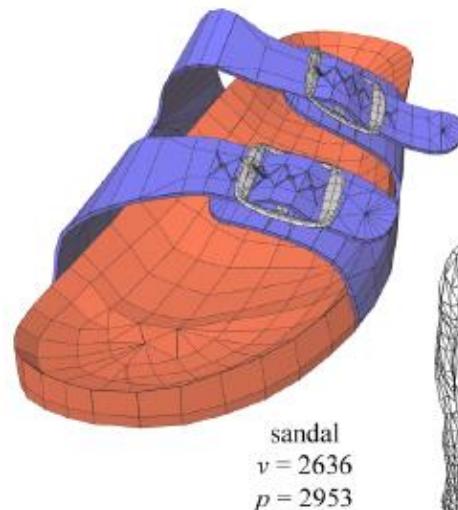
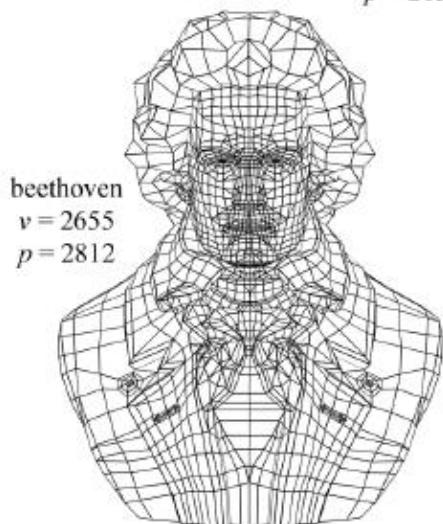
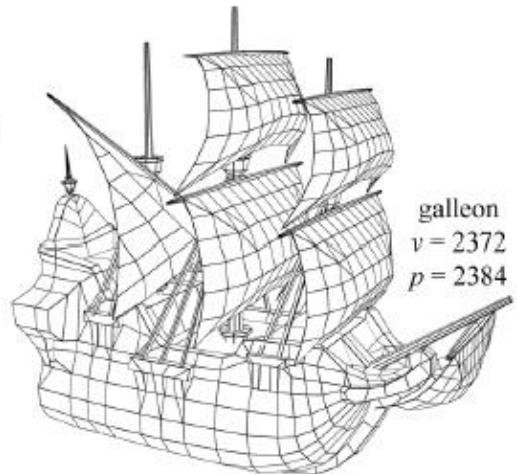
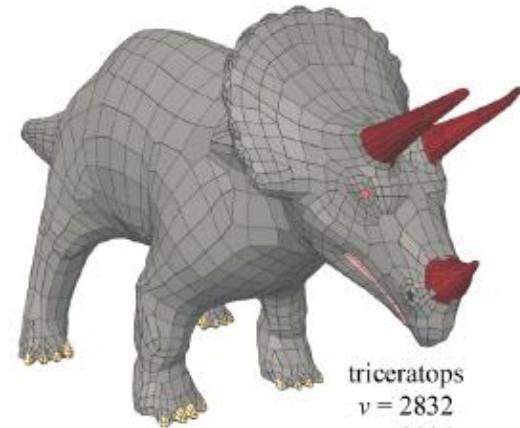
3D Polygonal Mesh



http://www.fxguide.com/featured/Comic_Horrors_Rocks_Statuses_and_VanDyke/



3D Polygonal Mesh





3D Polygonal Meshes

- Why are they of interest?
 - Simple, common representation
 - Rendering with hardware support
 - Output of many acquisition tools
 - Input to many simulation/analysis tools



Viewpoint



3D Polygonal Meshes

- Properties
 - ? Efficient display
 - ? Easy acquisition
 - ? Accurate
 - ? Concise
 - ? Intuitive editing
 - ? Efficient editing
 - ? Efficient intersections
 - ? Guaranteed validity
 - ? Guaranteed smoothness
 - ? etc.



Viewpoint



Outline

- Acquisition
- Representation
- Processing





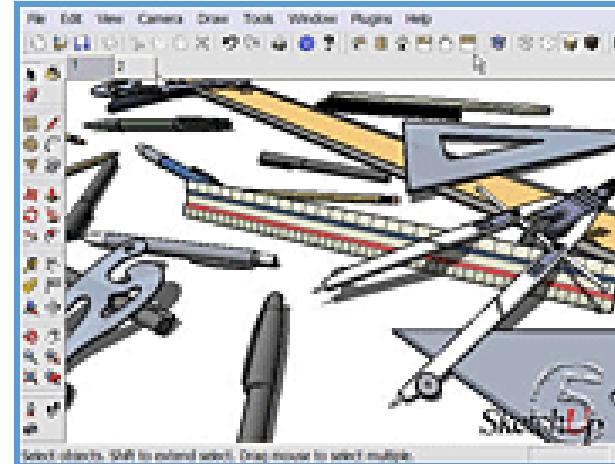
Polygonal Mesh Acquisition

- Interactive modeling
- Scanners
- Procedural generation
- Conversion
- Simulations

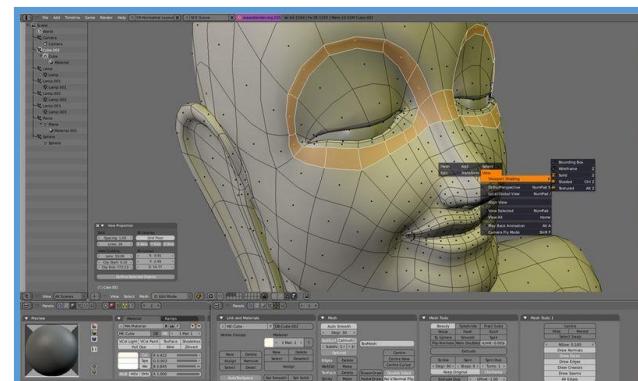


Polygonal Mesh Acquisition

- Interactive modeling
- Scanners
- Procedural generation
- Conversion
- Simulations



Sketchup

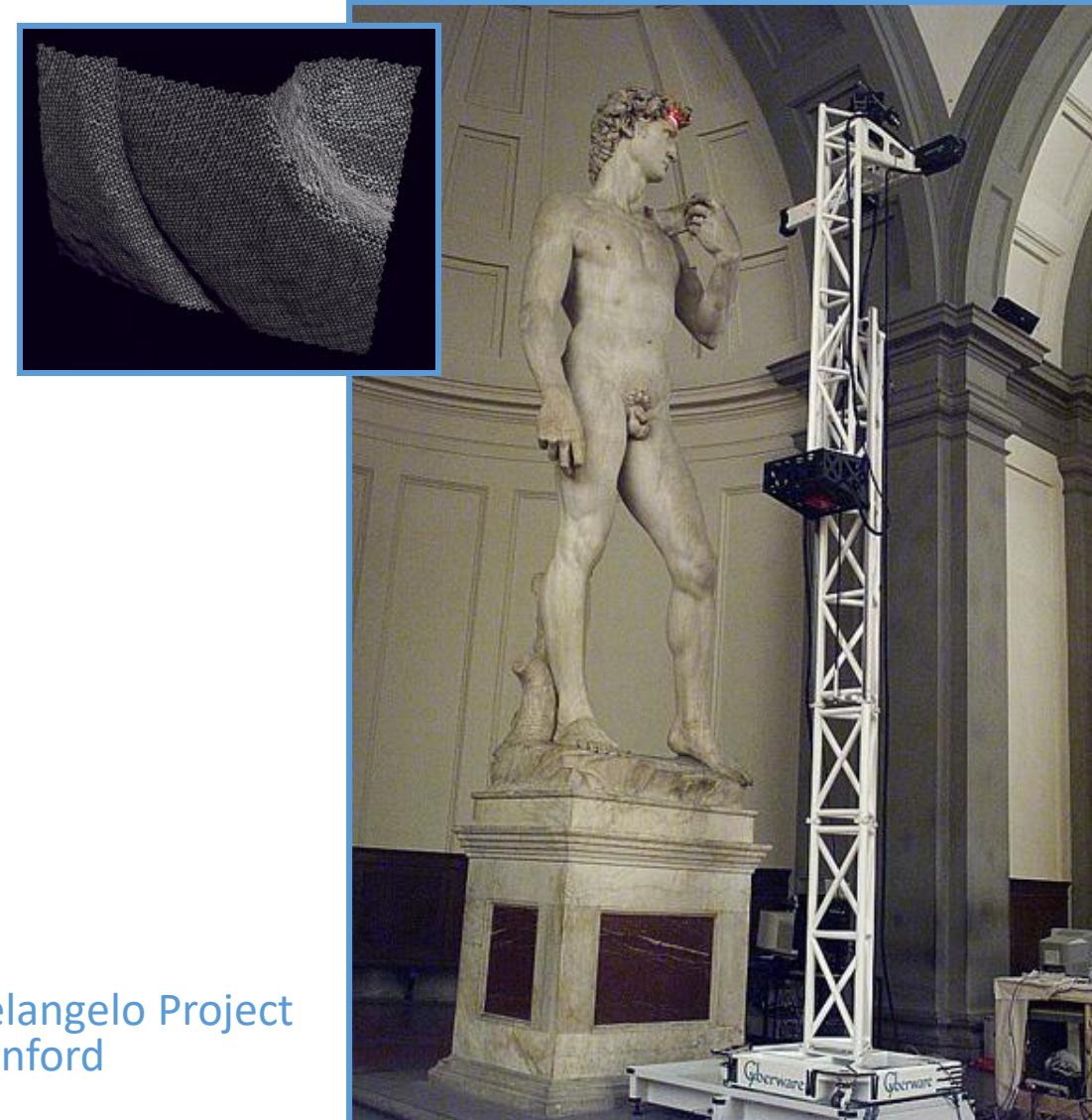


Blender



Polygonal Mesh Acquisition

- Interactive modeling
- **Scanners**
- Procedural generation
- Conversion
- Simulations

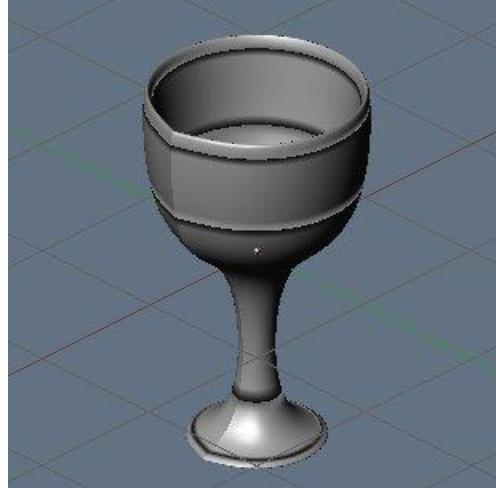
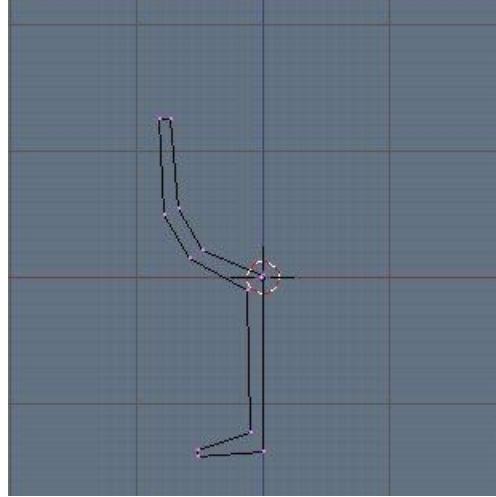


Digital Michelangelo Project
Stanford



Polygonal Mesh Acquisition

- Interactive modeling
- Scanners
- Procedural generation
- Conversion
- Simulations





Polygonal Mesh Acquisition

- Interactive modeling
- Scanners
- Procedural generation
- Conversion
- Simulations



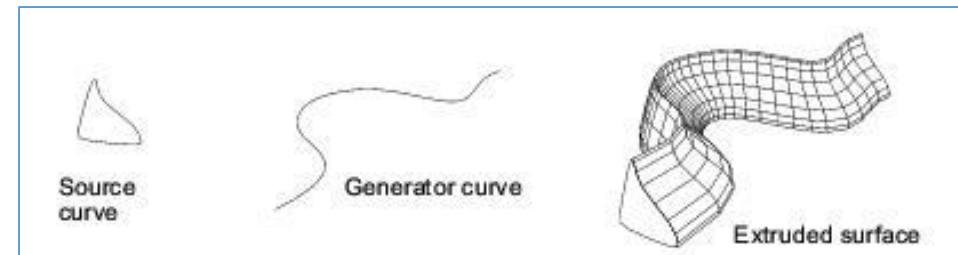
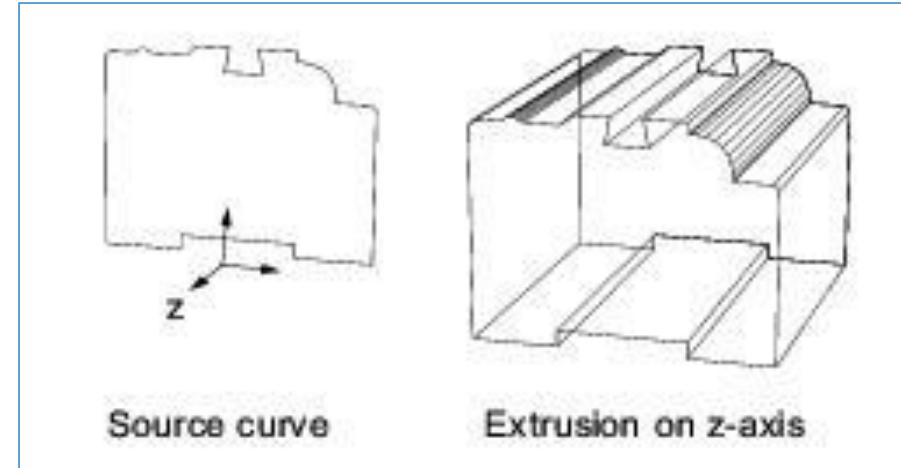
MakeAGIF.com

Nicky Robinson, COS 426, 2014



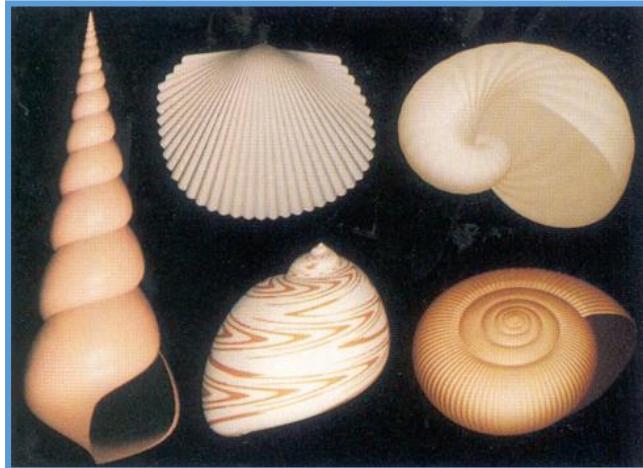
Polygonal Mesh Acquisition

- Interactive modeling
- Scanners
- **Procedural generation**
- Conversion
- Simulations

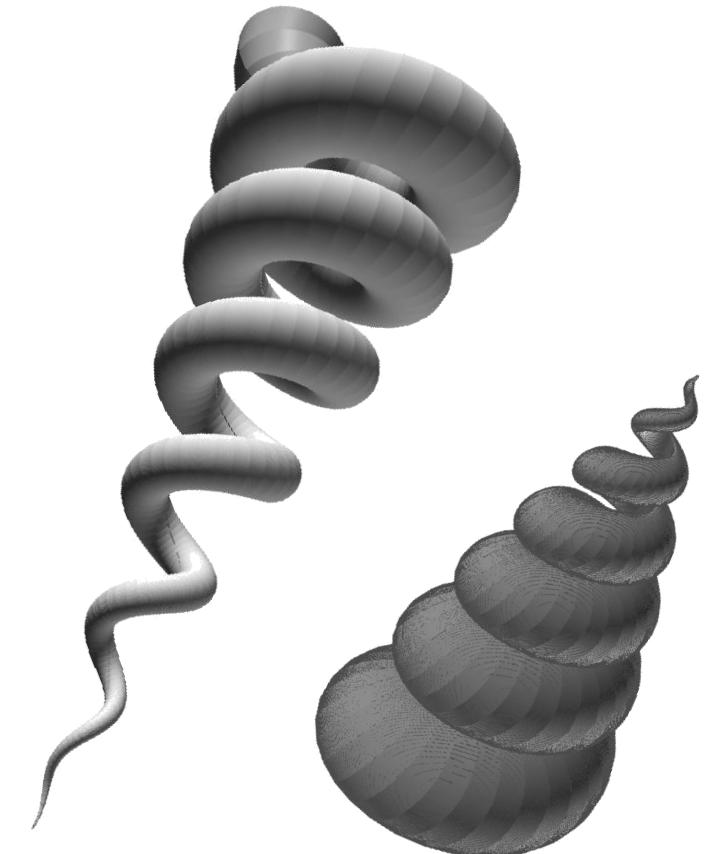


Polygonal Mesh Acquisition

- Interactive modeling
- Scanners
- Procedural generation
- Conversion
- Simulations



Fowler et al., 1992

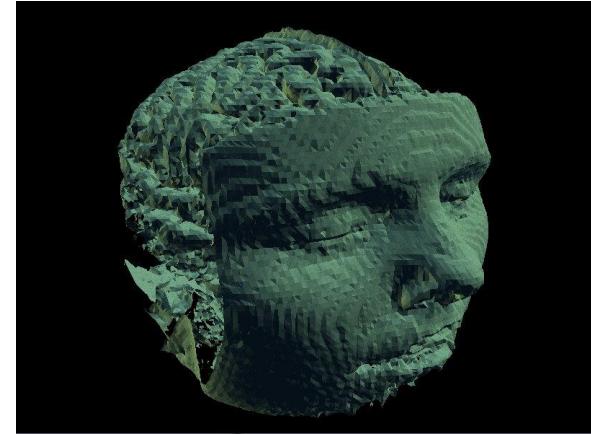
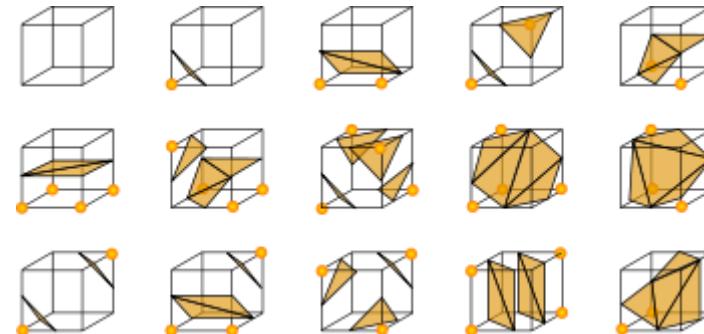


Peter Maag, COS 426, 2010

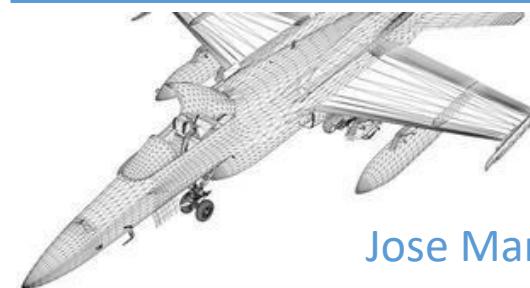


Polygonal Mesh Acquisition

- Interactive modeling
- Scanners
- Procedural generation
- Conversion
- Simulations



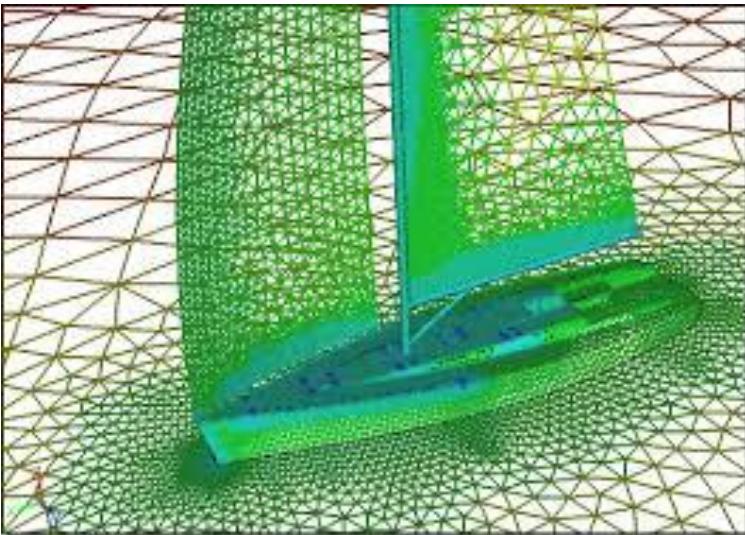
Marching cubes



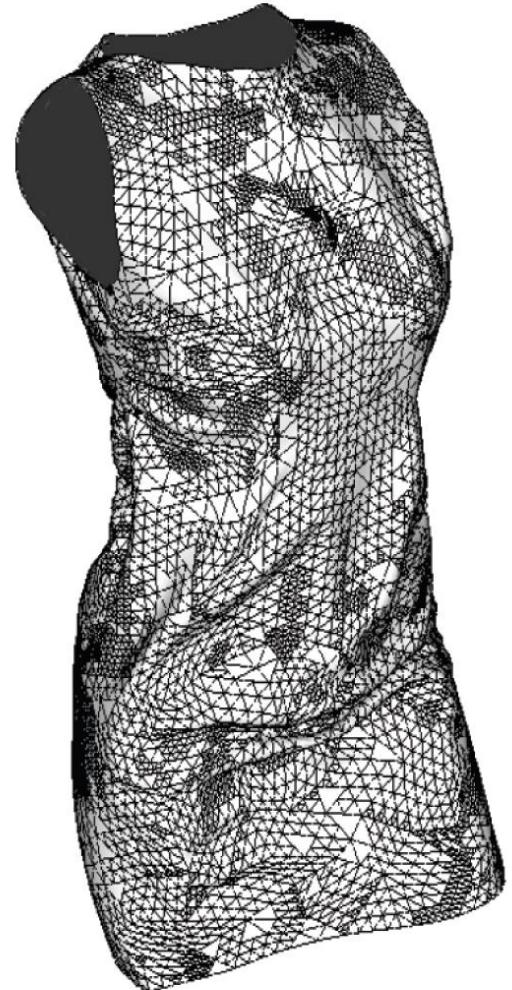
Jose Maria De Espona

Polygonal Mesh Acquisition

- Interactive modeling
- Scanners
- Procedural generation
- Conversion
- **Simulations**



symscape



Lee et. al 2010



Outline

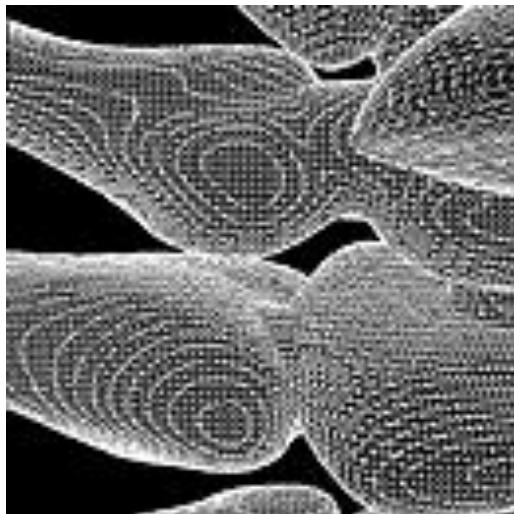
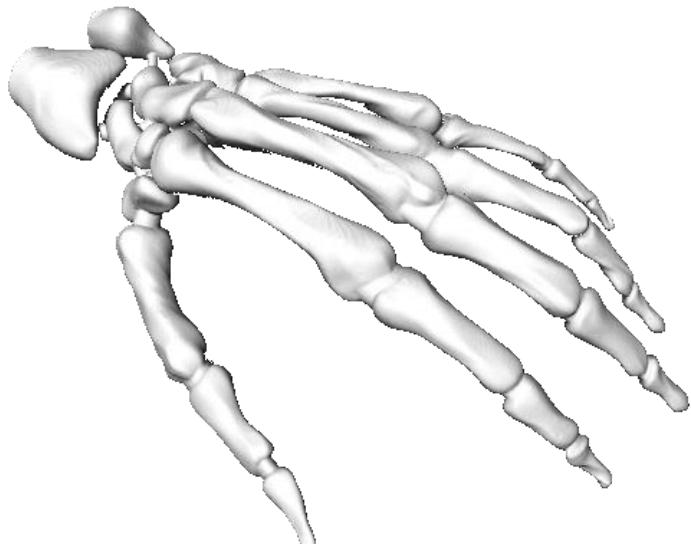
- Acquisition
- Representation
- Processing





Polygon Mesh Representation

- Important properties of mesh representation?
 - Efficient traversal of topology
 - Efficient use of memory
 - Efficient updates

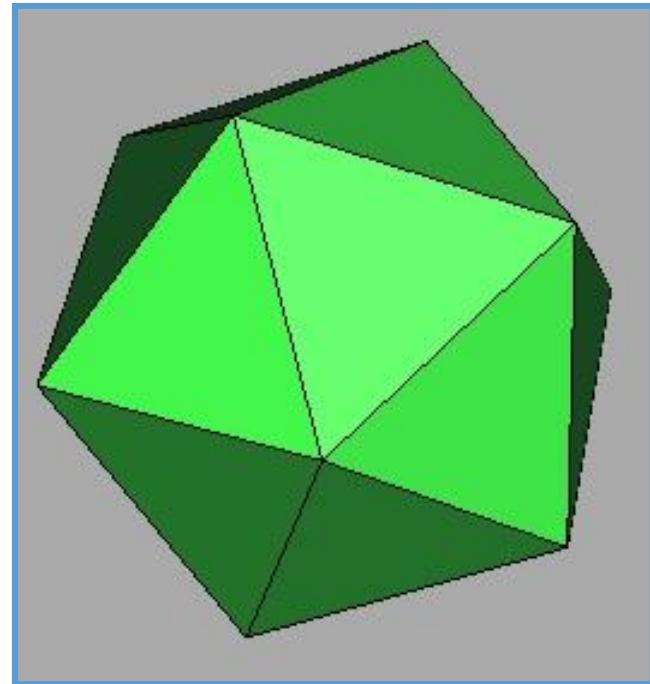


Large Geometric Model Repository
Georgia Tech



Polygon Mesh Representation

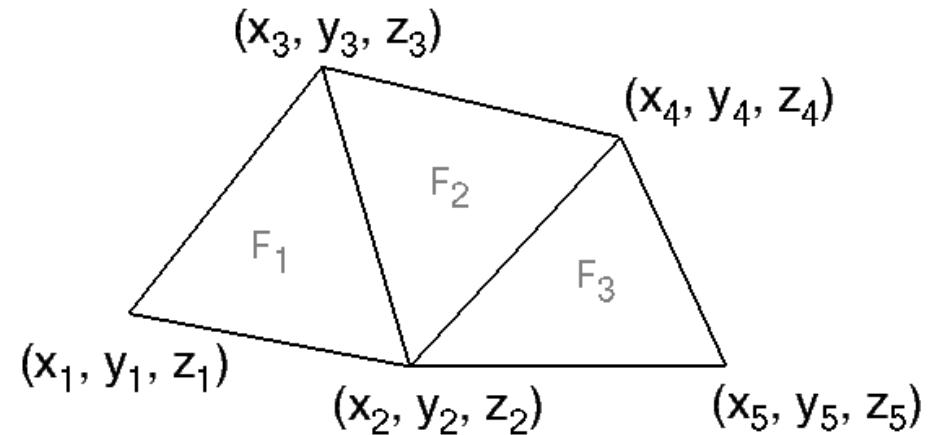
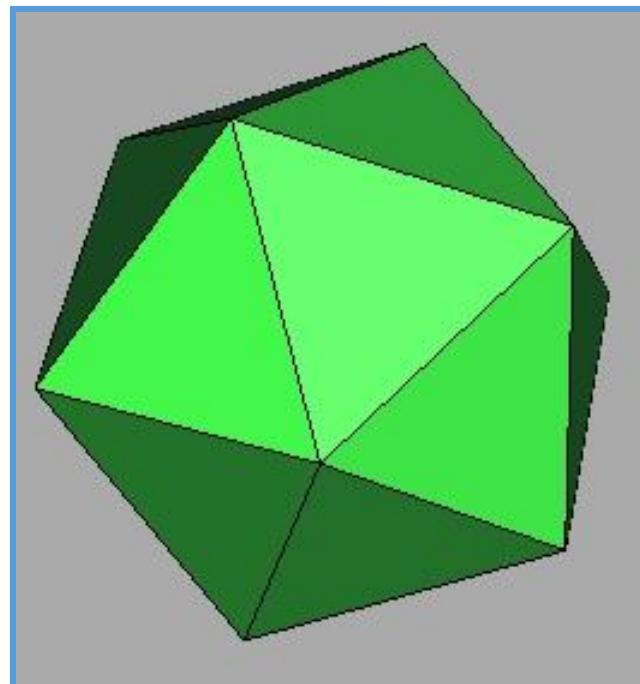
- Possible data structures





Independent Faces

- Each face lists vertex coordinates
 - Redundant vertices
 - No adjacency information

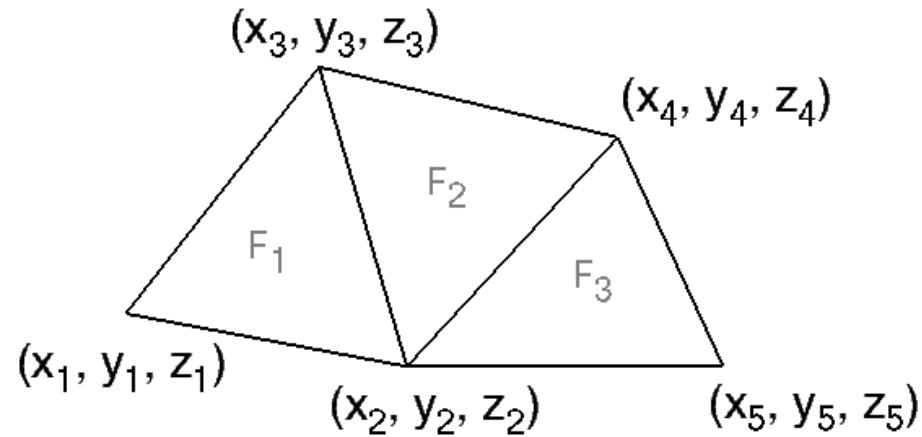
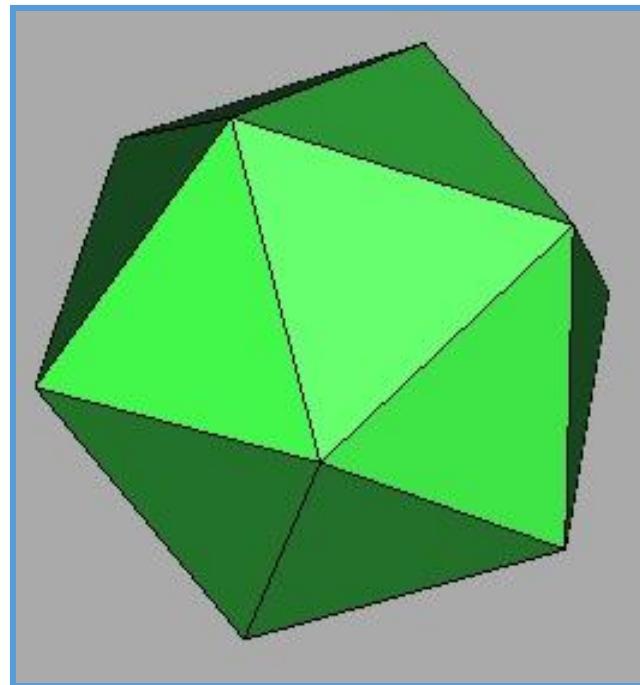


FACE TABLE			
F_1	(x_1, y_1, z_1)	(x_2, y_2, z_2)	(x_3, y_3, z_3)
F_2	(x_2, y_2, z_2)	(x_4, y_4, z_4)	(x_3, y_3, z_3)
F_3	(x_2, y_2, z_2)	(x_5, y_5, z_5)	(x_4, y_4, z_4)



Vertex and Face Tables (Indexed Vertices)

- Each face lists vertex references
 - Shared vertices
 - Still no adjacency information



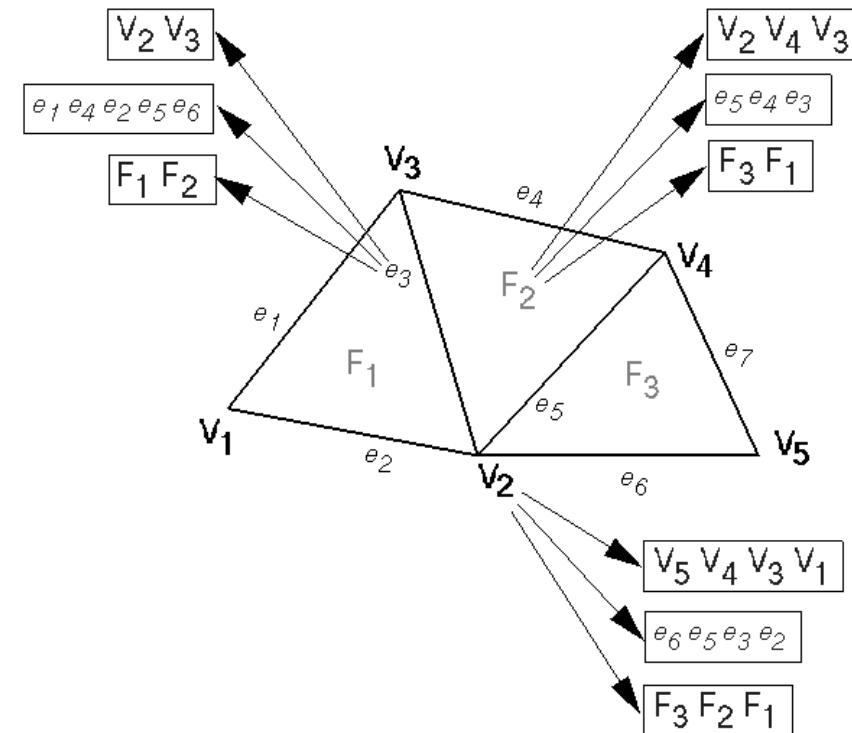
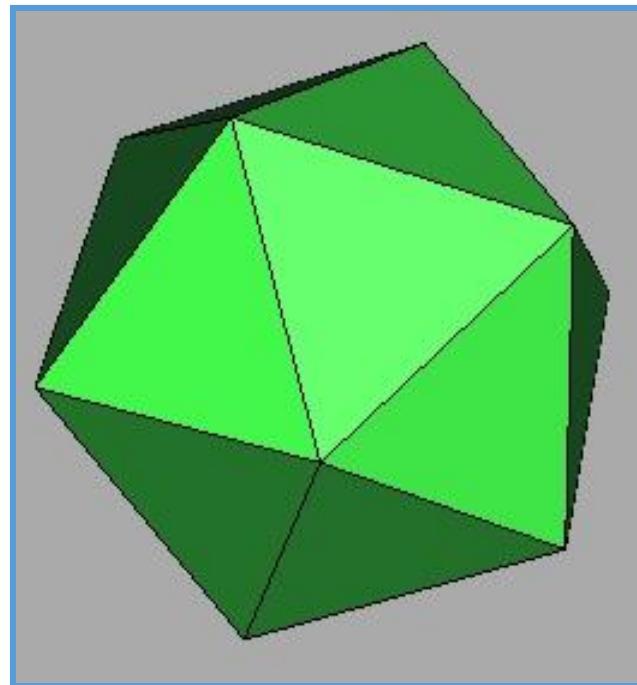
VERTEX TABLE			
V1	X1	Y1	Z1
V2	X2	Y2	Z2
V3	X3	Y3	Z3
V4	X4	Y4	Z4
V5	X5	Y5	Z5

FACE TABLE			
F1	V1	V2	V3
F2	V2	V4	V3
F3	V2	V5	V4



Adjacency Lists

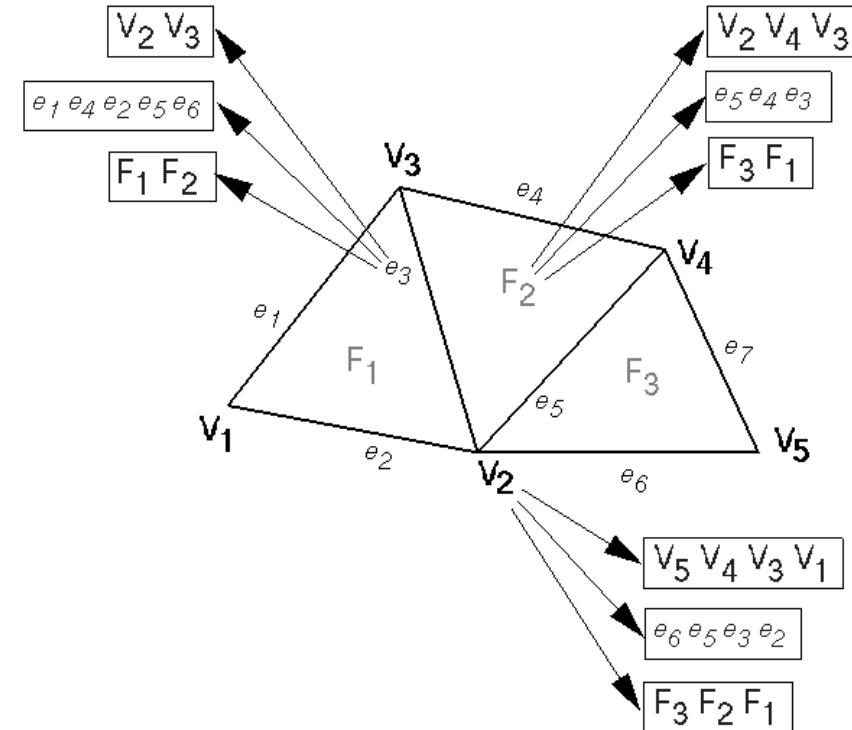
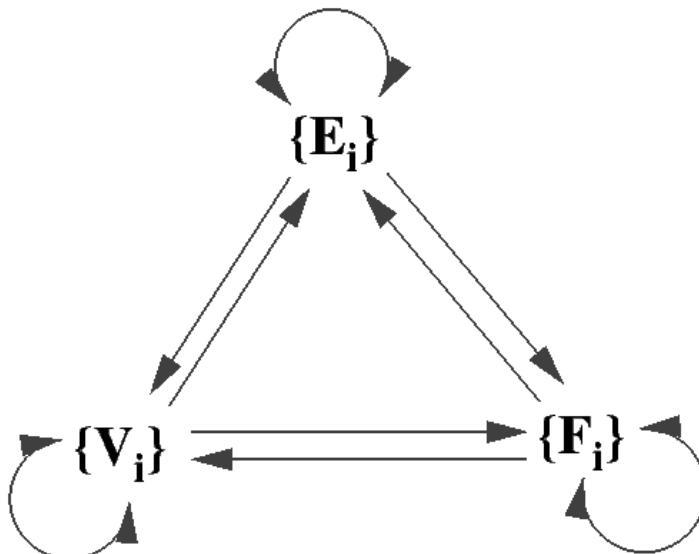
- Store all vertex, edge, and face adjacencies
 - Efficient adjacency traversal
 - Extra storage





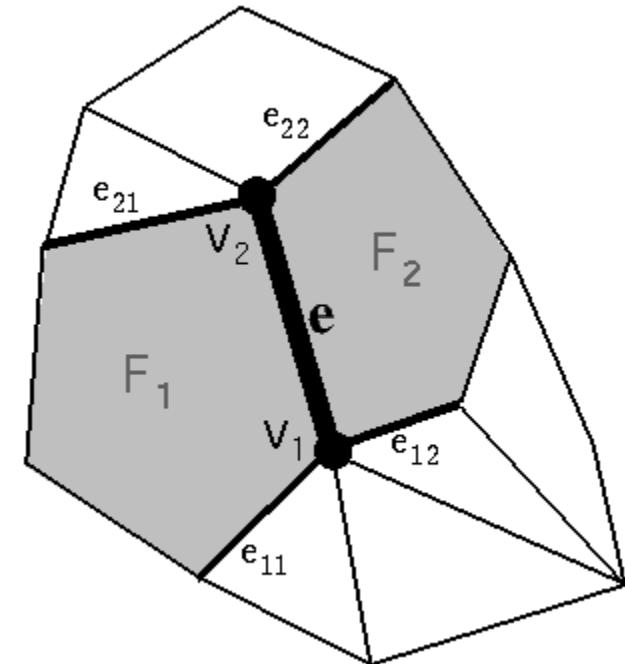
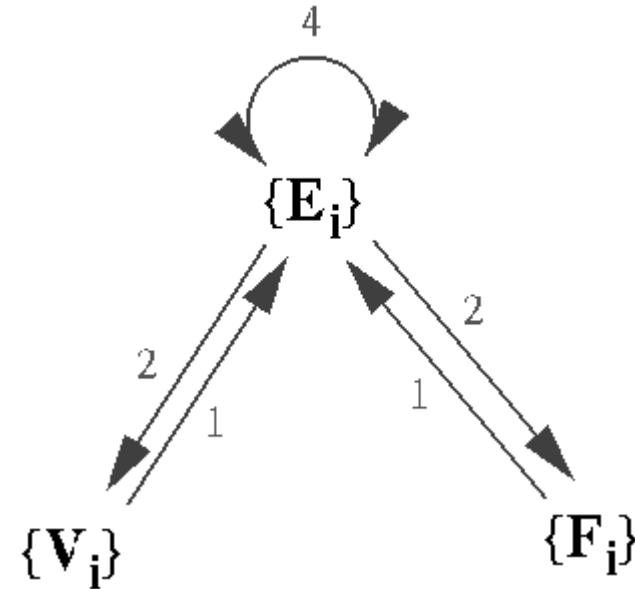
Partial Adjacency Lists

- Can we store only some adjacency relationships and derive others?



Winged Edge

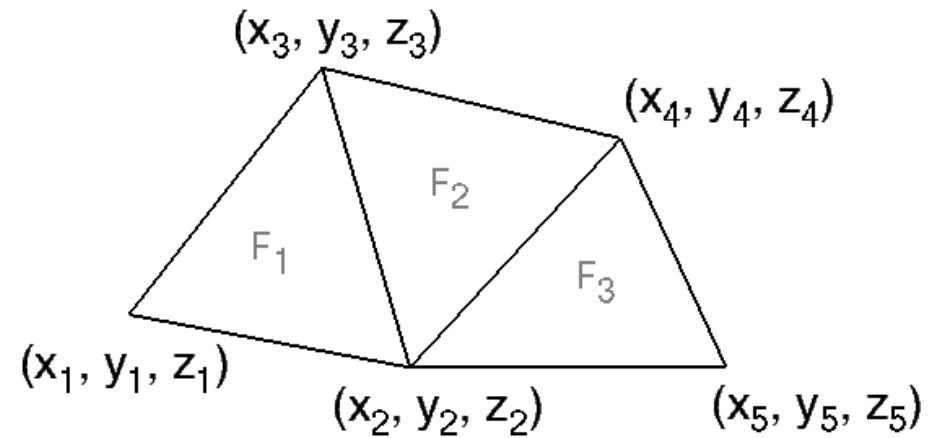
- Adjacency encoded in edges
 - All adjacencies in $O(1)$ time
 - Little extra storage (fixed records)
 - Arbitrary polygons





Winged Edge

- Example:



VERTEX TABLE				
V ₁	X ₁	Y ₁	Z ₁	e ₁
V ₂	X ₂	Y ₂	Z ₂	e ₆
V ₃	X ₃	Y ₃	Z ₃	e ₃
V ₄	X ₄	Y ₄	Z ₄	e ₅
V ₅	X ₅	Y ₅	Z ₅	e ₆

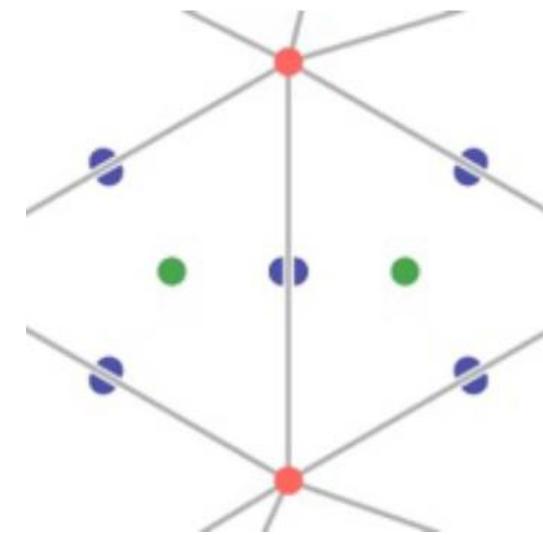
EDGE TABLE							
			11	12	21	22	
e ₁	V ₁	V ₃	F ₁	e ₂	e ₂	e ₄	e ₃
e ₂	V ₁	V ₂	F ₁	e ₁	e ₁	e ₃	e ₆
e ₃	V ₂	V ₃	F ₁	e ₂	e ₅	e ₁	e ₄
e ₄	V ₃	V ₄	F ₂	e ₁	e ₃	e ₇	e ₅
e ₅	V ₂	V ₄	F ₂	e ₃	e ₆	e ₄	e ₇
e ₆	V ₂	V ₅	F ₃	e ₅	e ₂	e ₇	e ₇
e ₇	V ₄	V ₅	F ₃	e ₄	e ₅	e ₆	e ₆

FACE TABLE	
F ₁	e ₁
F ₂	e ₃
F ₃	e ₅



Half Edge

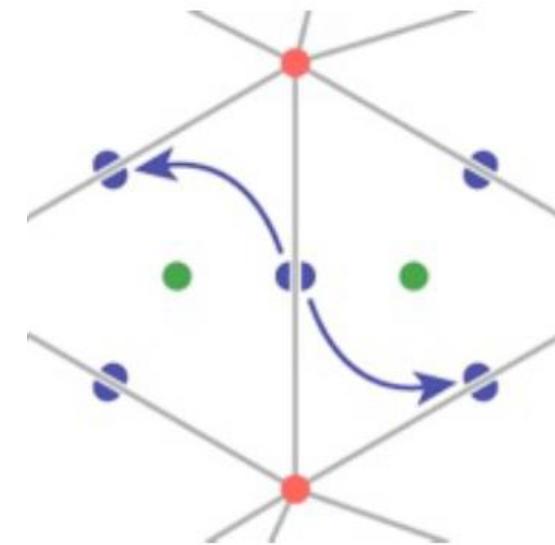
- Each **half-edge** stores:
 - Its twin half-edge





Half Edge

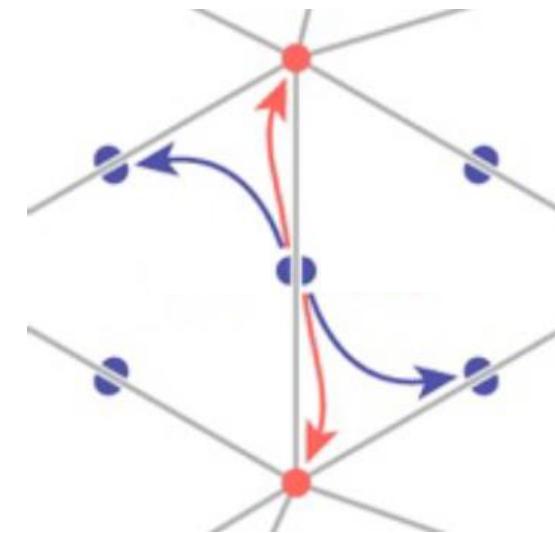
- Each **half-edge** stores:
 - Its twin half-edge
 - The next half-edge





Half Edge

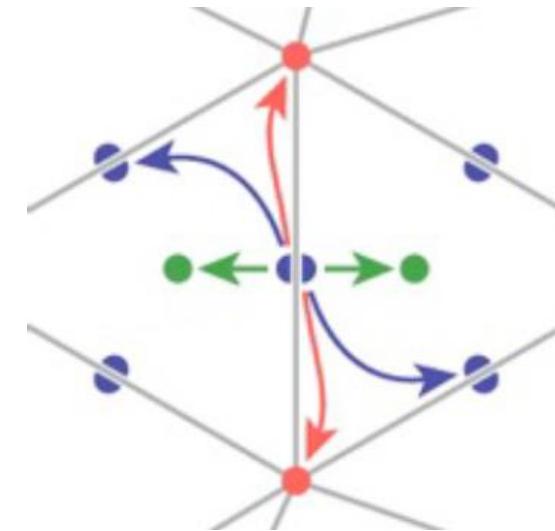
- Each **half-edge** stores:
 - Its twin half-edge
 - The next half-edge
 - The next vertex





Half Edge

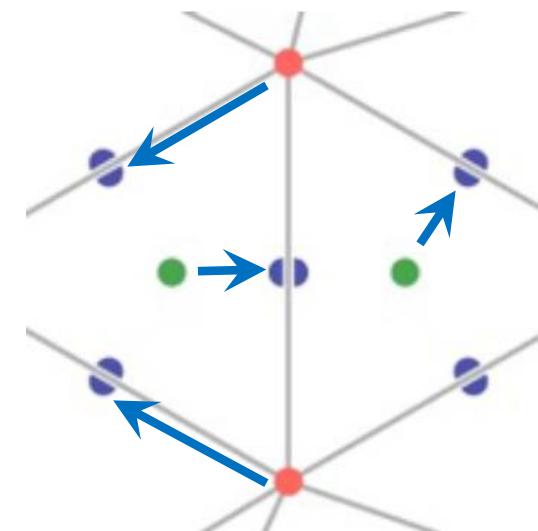
- Each **half-edge** stores:
 - Its twin half-edge
 - The next half-edge
 - **The next vertex**
 - The incident face





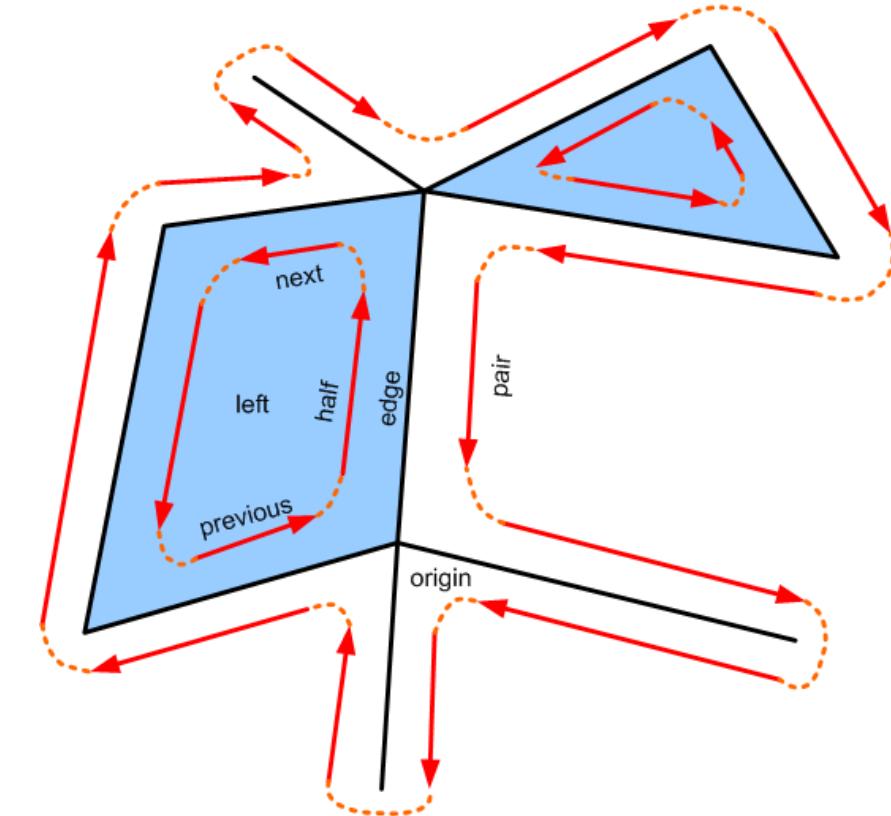
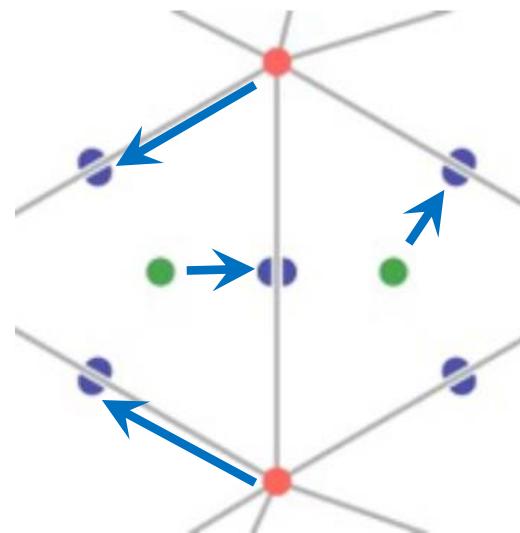
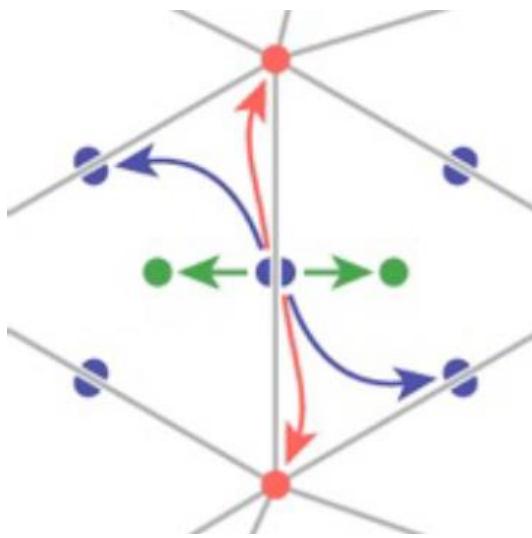
Half Edge

- Each **half-edge** stores:
 - Its twin half-edge
 - The next half-edge
 - **The next vertex**
 - The incident face
- Each face stores:
 - 1 adjacent half-edge
- Each vertex stores:
 - 1 outgoing half-edge



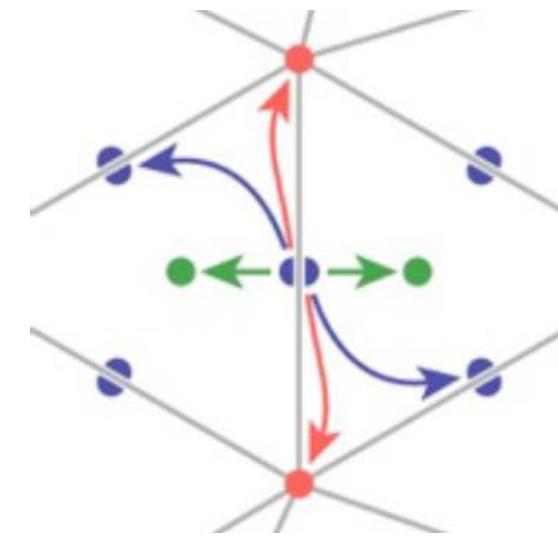
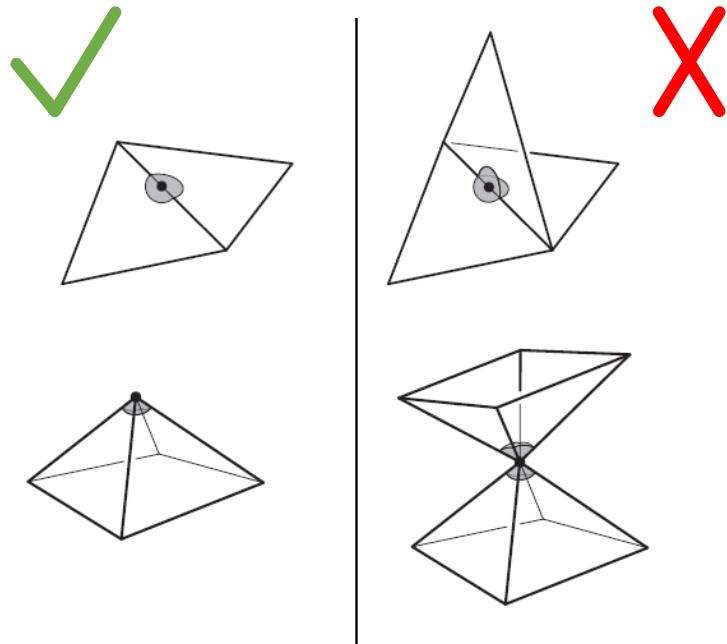
Half Edge

- Queries. How do you find:
 - All faces incident to an edge?
 - All vertices of a face?
 - All faces incident to a face?
 - All vertices incident to a vertex?



Half Edge

- Adjacency encoded in edges
 - All adjacencies in $O(1)$ time
 - Little extra storage (fixed records)
 - Arbitrary polygons
 - **Assumes 2-Manifold surfaces**





Outline

- Acquisition
- Representation
- Processing





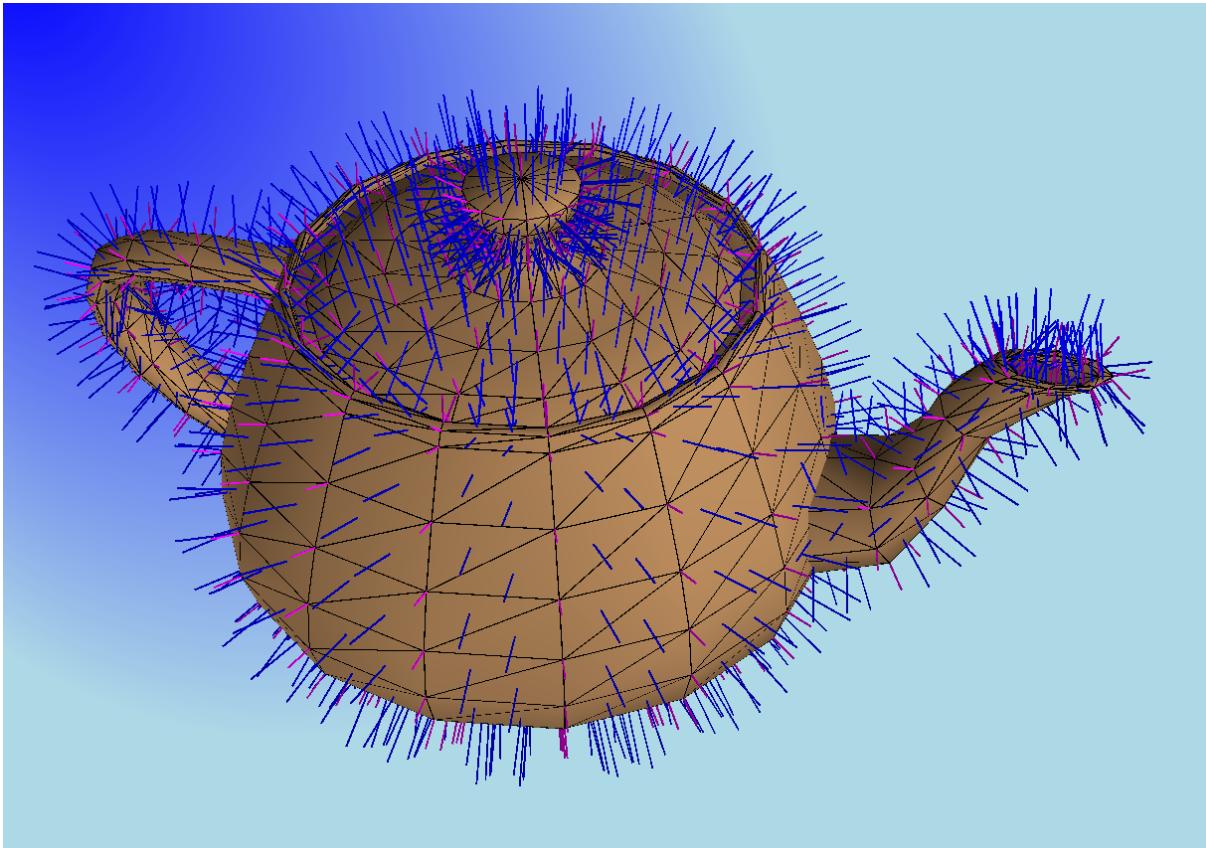
Polygonal Mesh Processing

- Analysis
 - Normals
 - Curvature
- Warps
 - Rotate
 - Deform
- Filters
 - Smooth
 - Sharpen
 - Truncate
 - Bevel



Polygonal Mesh Processing

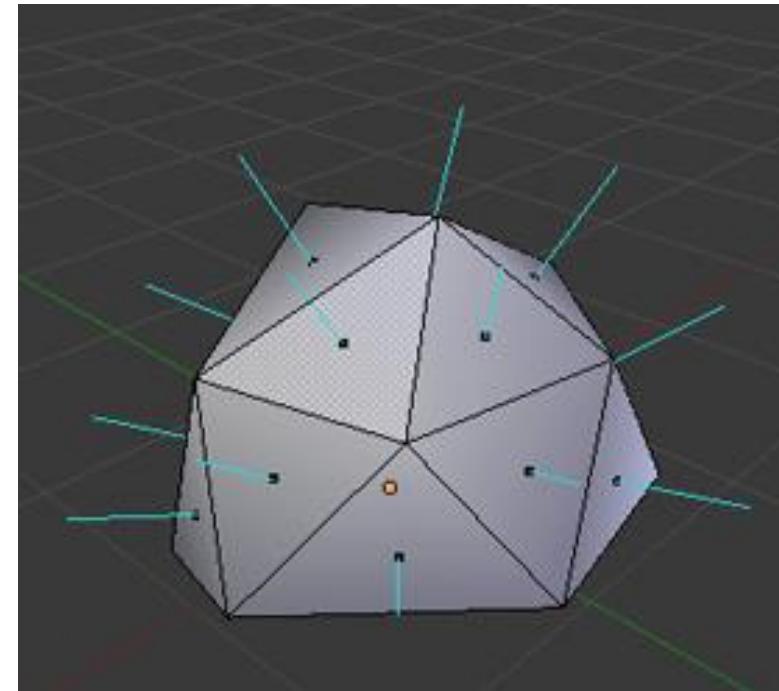
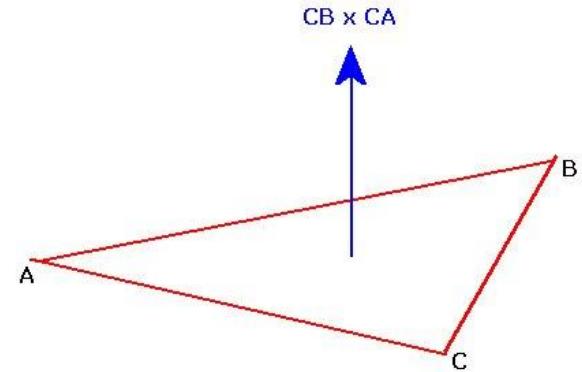
- Analysis
 - Normals
 - Curvature
- Warps
 - Rotate
 - Deform
- Filters
 - Smooth
 - Sharpen
 - Truncate
 - Bevel



Polygonal Mesh Processing

- Analysis
 - Normals
 - Curvature
- Warps
 - Rotate
 - Deform
- Filters
 - Smooth
 - Sharpen
 - Truncate
 - Bevel

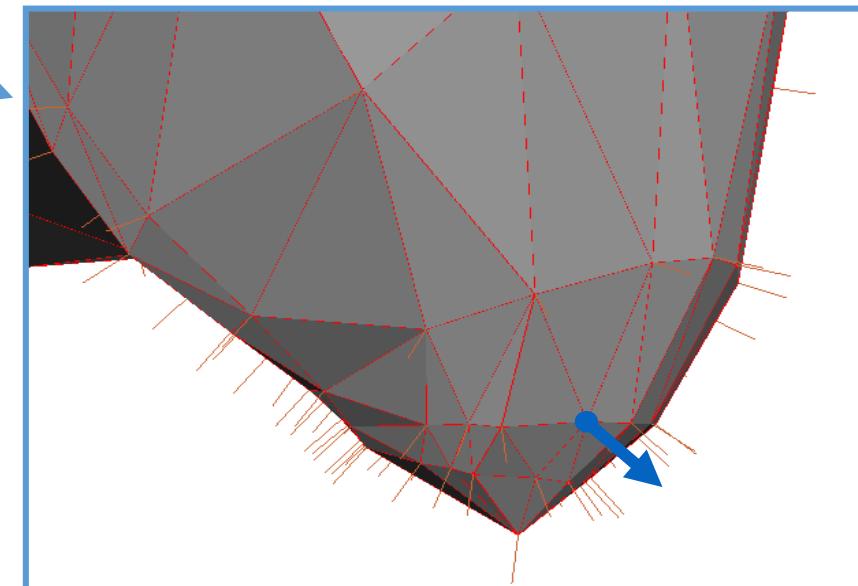
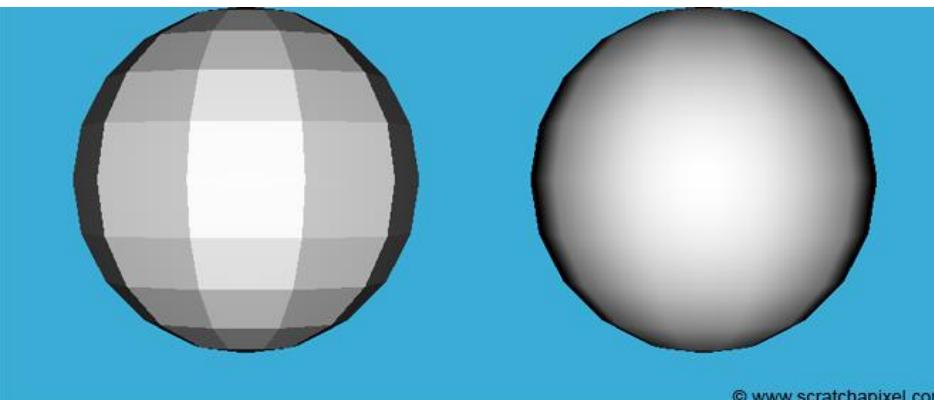
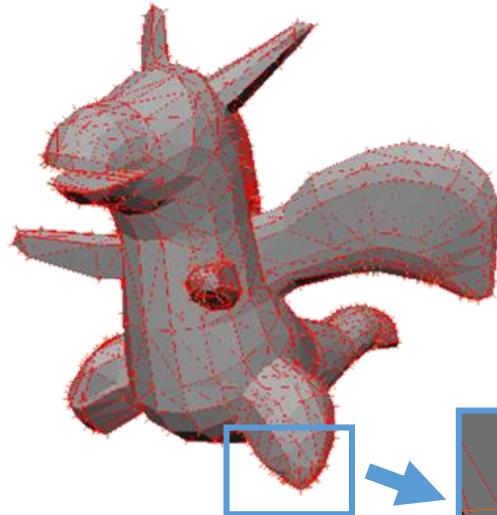
Face normals:



Polygonal Mesh Processing

- Analysis
 - Normals
 - Curvature
- Warps
 - Rotate
 - Deform
- Filters
 - Smooth
 - Sharpen
 - Truncate
 - Bevel

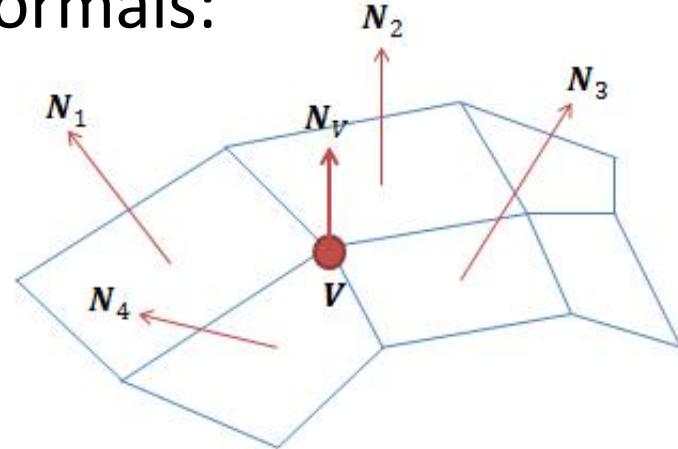
Vertex normals:



Polygonal Mesh Processing

- Analysis
 - Normals
 - Curvature
- Warps
 - Rotate
 - Deform
- Filters
 - Smooth
 - Sharpen
 - Truncate
 - Bevel

Vertex normals:



$$N_v = \frac{\sum_{k=1}^n N_k}{|\sum_{k=1}^n N_k|}$$

- for each face
 - calculate face normal
 - add normal to each connected vertex normal
- for each face normal
 - normalize
- for each vertex normal
 - normalize

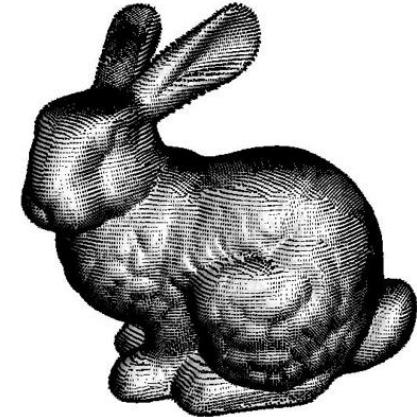


Polygonal Mesh Processing

- Analysis
 - Normals
 - Curvature
- Warps
 - Rotate
 - Deform
- Filters
 - Smooth
 - Sharpen
 - Truncate
 - Bevel

NORMAL VERTEX

presents



The Next Dual

"The bunny with normal vertices shown.
Reminded me of an album cover so I made it into one."

Lucas Mayer, COS 426, 2014



Polygonal Mesh Processing

- Analysis
 - Normals
 - Curvature
- Warps
 - Rotate
 - Deform
- Filters
 - Smooth
 - Sharpen
 - Truncate
 - Bevel

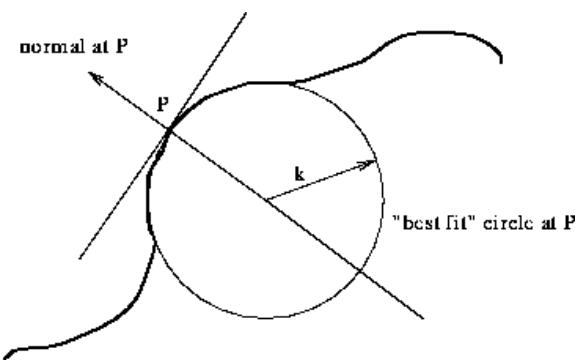
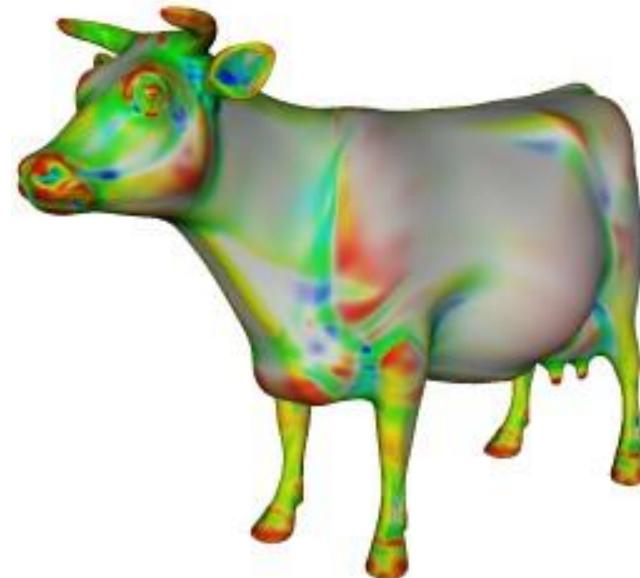
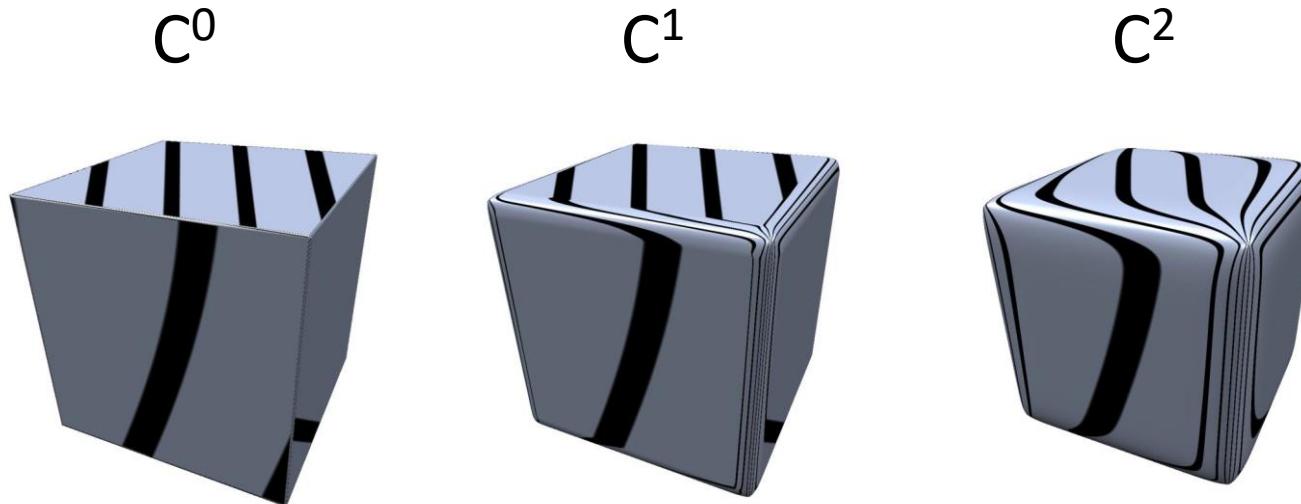


Figure 32: curvature of curve at P is $1/k$

Polygonal Mesh Processing

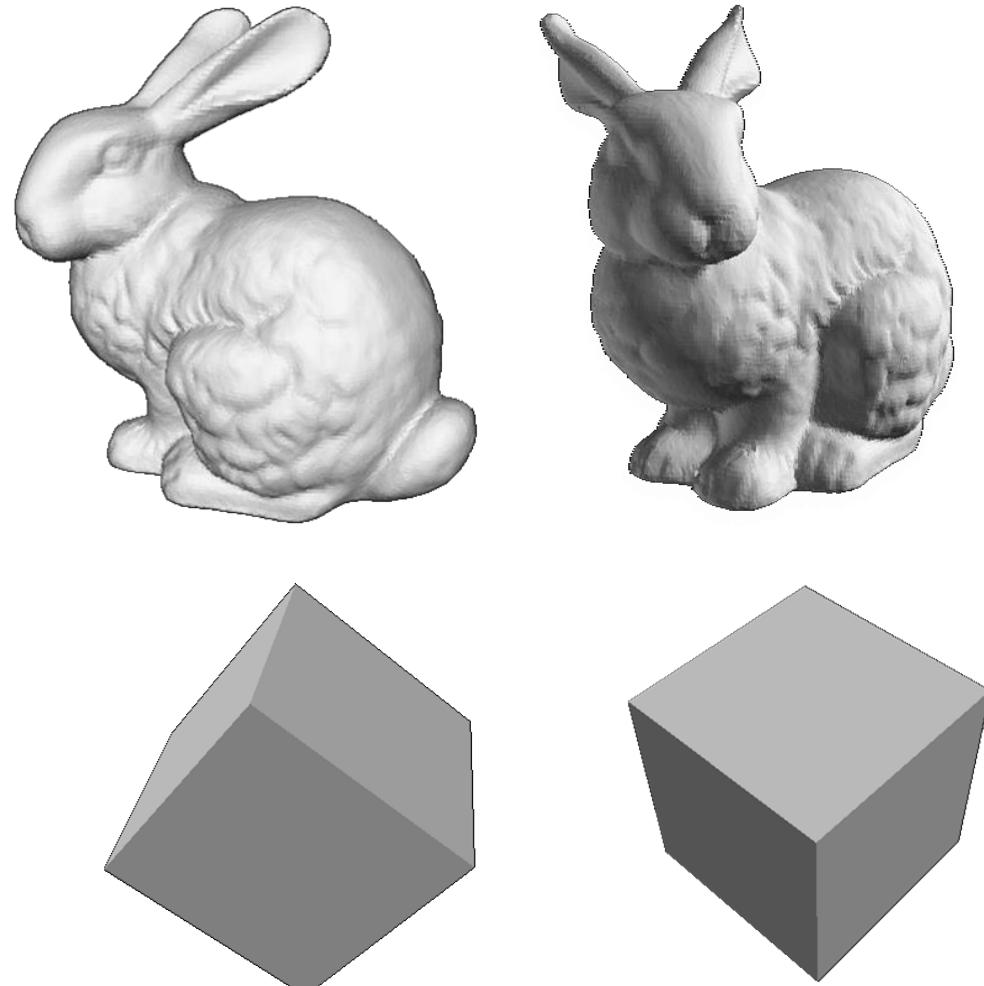
- Analysis
 - Normals
 - Curvature
- Warps
 - Rotate
 - Deform
- Filters
 - Smooth
 - Sharpen
 - Truncate
 - Bevel





Polygonal Mesh Processing

- Analysis
 - Normals
 - Curvature
- Warps
 - Rotate
 - Deform
- Filters
 - Smooth
 - Sharpen
 - Truncate
 - Bevel





Polygonal Mesh Processing

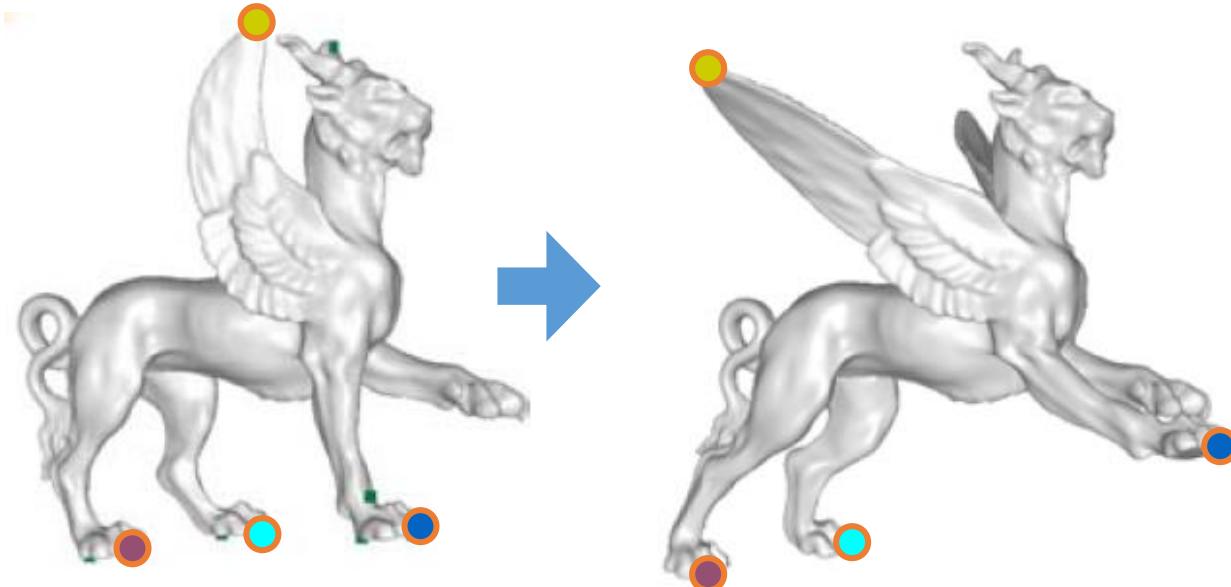
- Analysis
 - Normals
 - Curvature
- Warps
 - Rotate
 - Deform
- Filters
 - Smooth
 - Sharpen
 - Truncate
 - Bevel





Polygonal Mesh Processing

- Analysis
 - Normals
 - Curvature
- Warps
 - Rotate
 - Deform
- Filters
 - Smooth
 - Sharpen
 - Truncate
 - Bevel

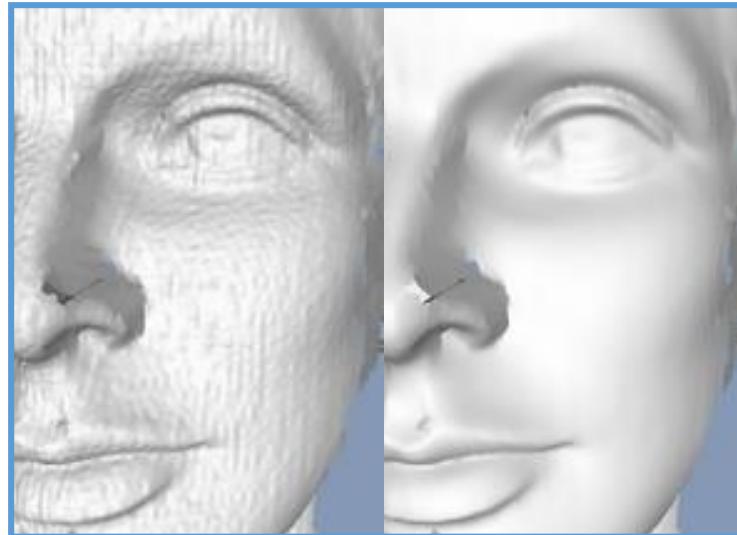


Sheffer



Polygonal Mesh Processing

- Analysis
 - Normals
 - Curvature
- Warps
 - Rotate
 - Deform
- Filters
 - Smooth
 - Sharpen
 - Truncate
 - Bevel



Thouis “Ray” Jones

How?

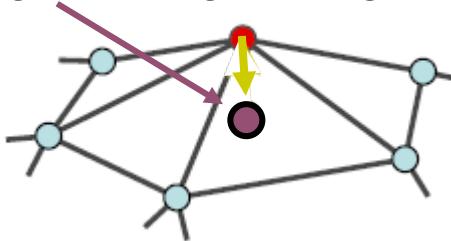


The Laplacian Operator

- Mesh formulation:

$$p_i = \frac{\sum_{j \in \text{1ring}_i} p_j}{\#\text{1ring}_i}$$

Average of Neighboring Vertices



Olga Sorkine

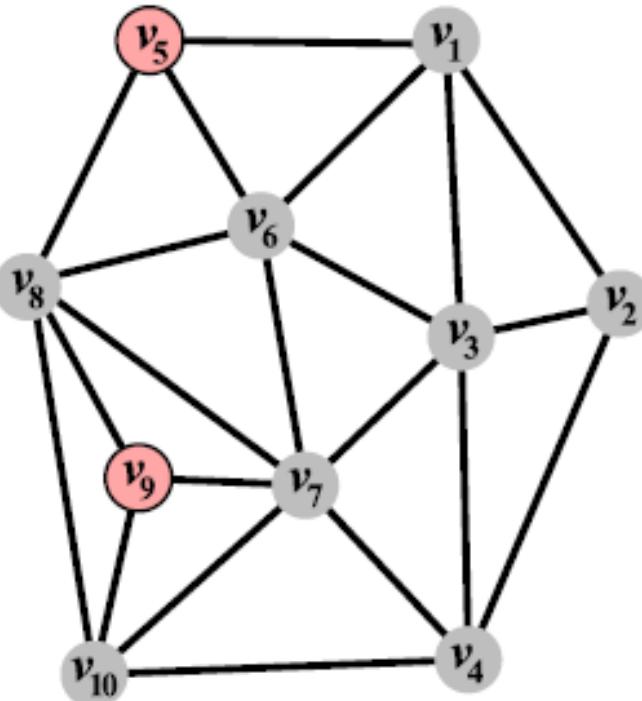
The Laplacian Operator

- The Laplacian operator Δ

$$L(p_i) = \Delta(p_i) = \frac{\sum_{j \in \text{ring}_i} p_j - p_i}{\#\text{ring}_i}$$

- In matrix form:

$$L_{ij} = \begin{cases} -w_{ij} & i \neq j \\ \sum_{j \in \text{ring}_i} w_{ij} & i = j \\ 0 & \text{else} \end{cases}$$



4	-1	-1		-1	-1			
-1	3	-1	-1					
-1	-1	5	-1		-1	-1		
-1	-1	4			-1			-1
-1			3	-1	-1			
-1			-1	5	-1	-1		
		-1	-1	-1	6	-1	-1	-1
			-1	-1	-1	5	-1	-1
			-1	-1	-1	3	-1	

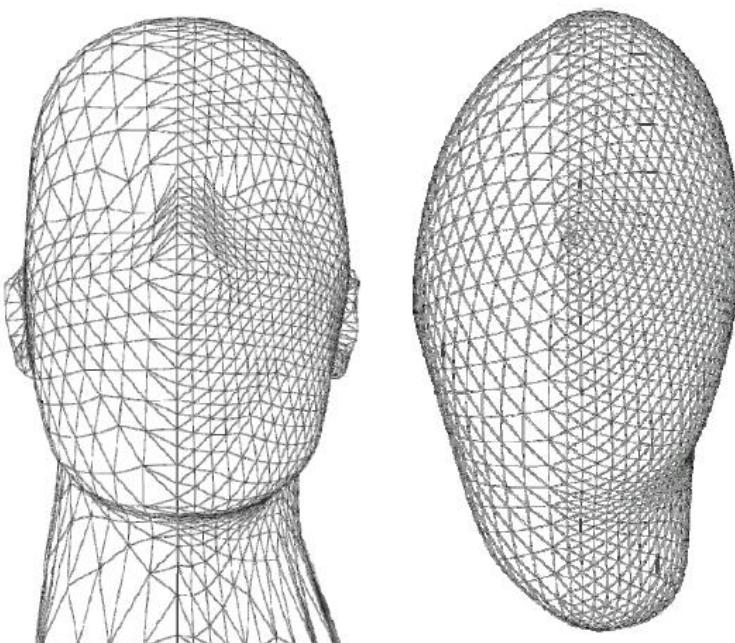


The Laplacian Operator

- The Laplacian operator Δ

$$L(p_i) = \Delta(p_i) = \frac{\sum_{j \in \text{ring}_i} p_j - p_i}{\#\text{ring}_i}$$

- However, Meshes are irregular



The Laplacian Operator

- The Laplacian operator Δ

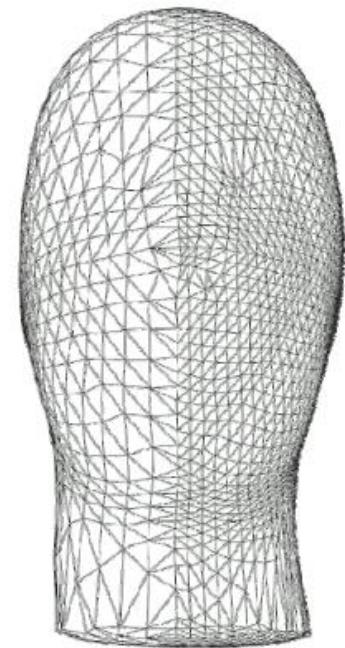
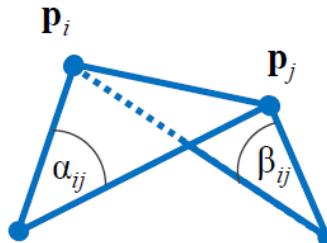
$$L(p_i) = \Delta(p_i) = \frac{\sum_{j \in \text{ring}_i} p_j - p_i}{\#\text{ring}_i}$$

- However, Meshes are irregular

- Cotangent weights:

$$L(p_i) = \frac{\sum_{j \in \text{ring}_i} w_{ij} \cdot p_j}{\sum_{j \in \text{ring}_i} w_{ij}} - p_i$$

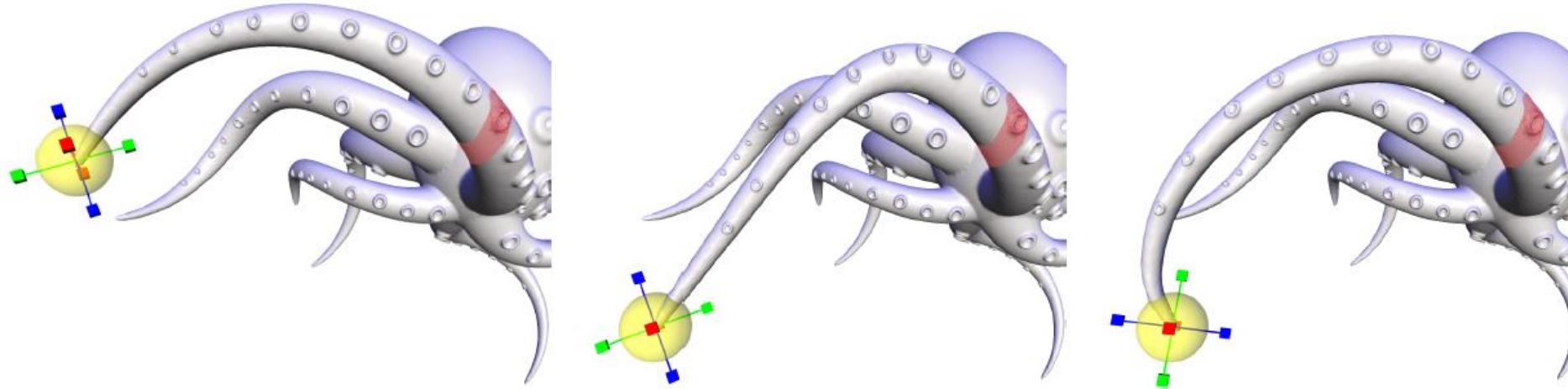
$$w_{ij} = \frac{\cot(\alpha_{ij}) + \cot(\beta_{ij})}{2}$$





The Laplacian Operator

- Applicable to:
 - Deformation, by adding constraints





Polygonal Mesh Processing

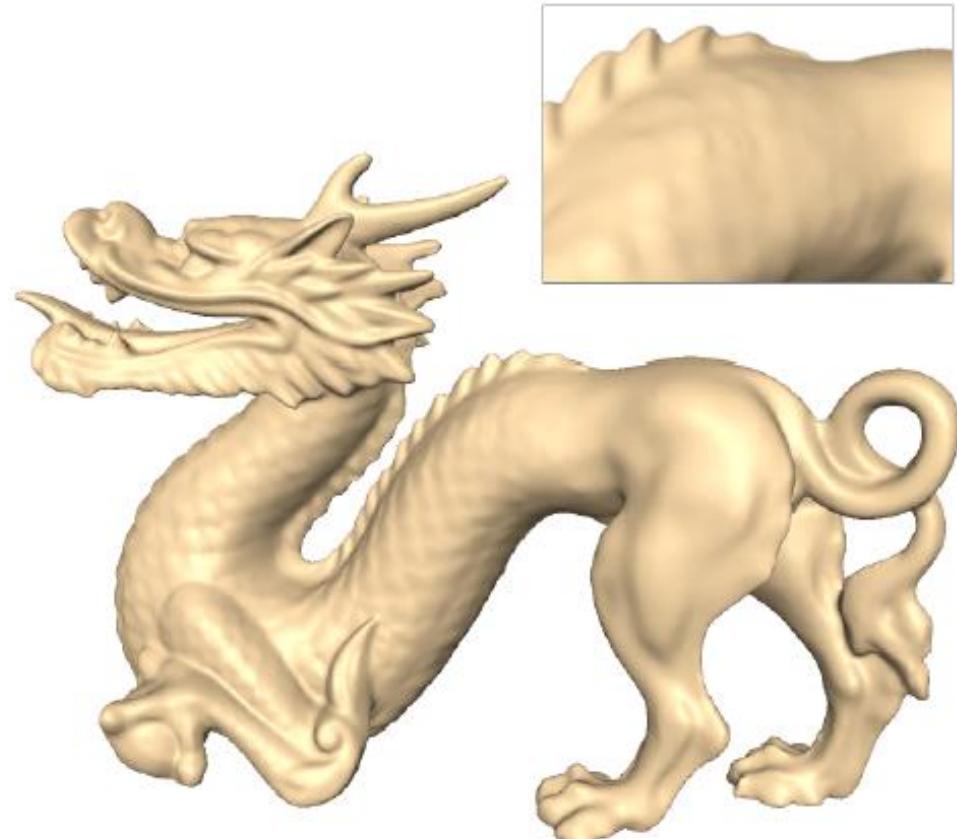
Deformation



Sorkine

The Laplacian Operator

- Applicable to:
 - Deformation, by adding constraints
 - Blending, by concatenating rows





The Laplacian Operator

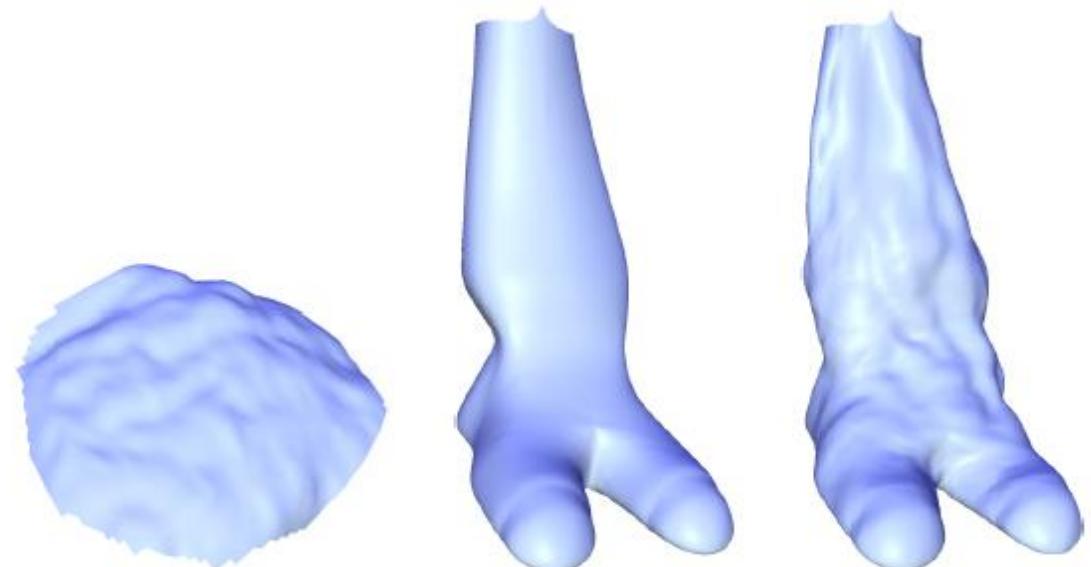
- Applicable to:
 - Deformation, by adding constraints
 - Blending, by concatenating rows
 - Hole filling, by 0's on the RHS





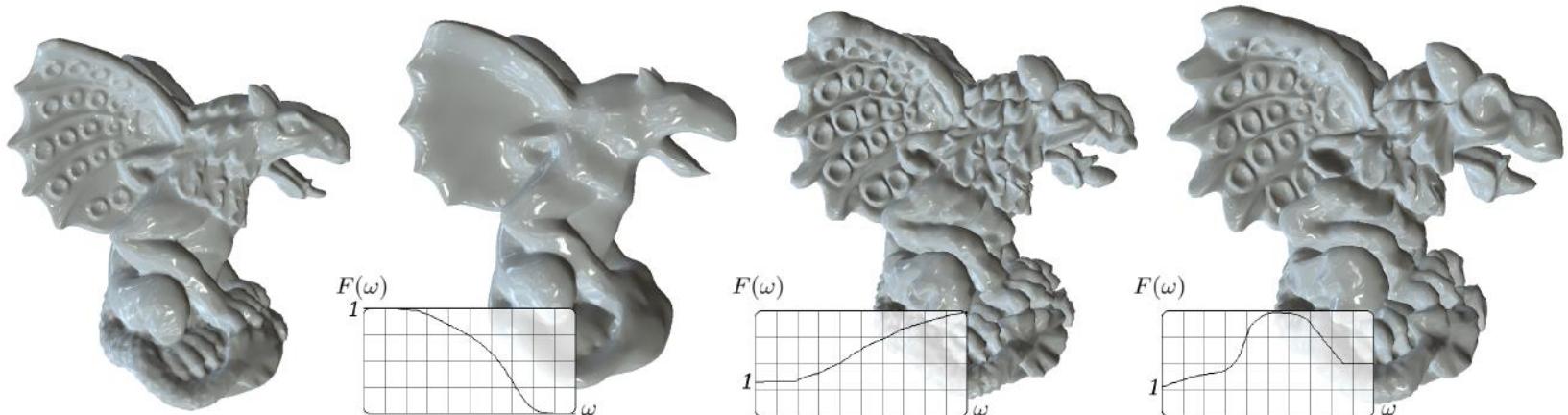
The Laplacian Operator

- Applicable to:
 - Deformation, by adding constraints
 - Blending, by concatenating rows
 - Hole filling, by 0's on the RHS
 - Coating (or detail transfer), by copying RHS values (after filtering)



The Laplacian Operator

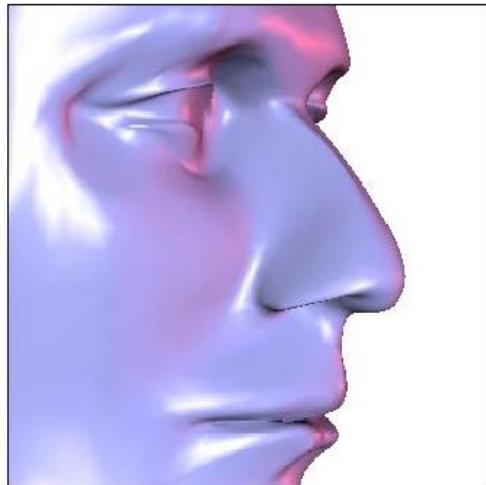
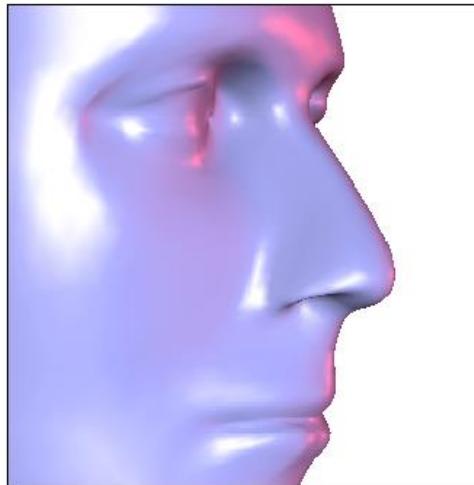
- Applicable to:
 - Deformation, by adding constraints
 - Blending, by concatenating rows
 - Hole filling, by 0's on the RHS
 - Coating (or detail transfer), by copying RHS values (after filtering)
 - Spectral mesh processing, through eigen analysis



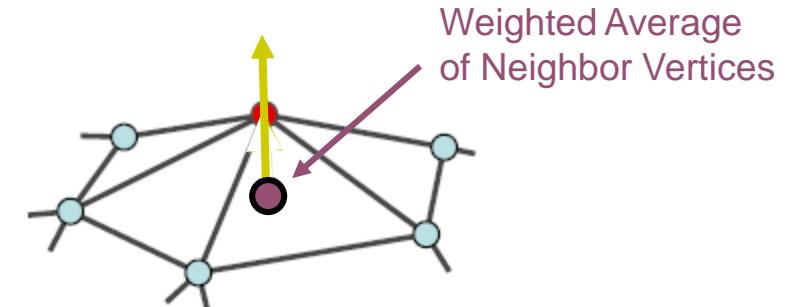


Polygonal Mesh Processing

- Analysis
 - Normals
 - Curvature
- Warps
 - Rotate
 - Deform
- Filters
 - Smooth
 - Sharpen
 - Truncate
 - Bevel



Desbrun

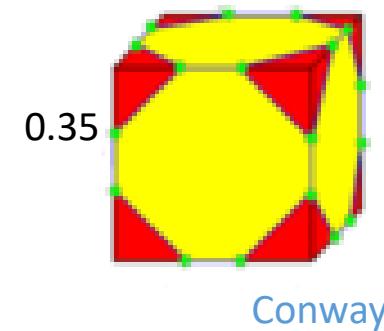
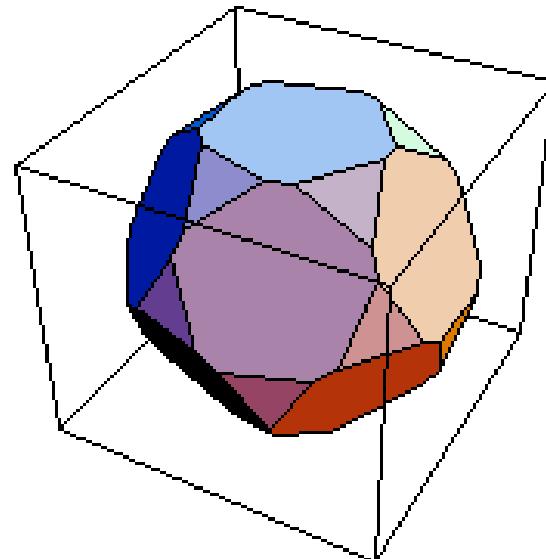
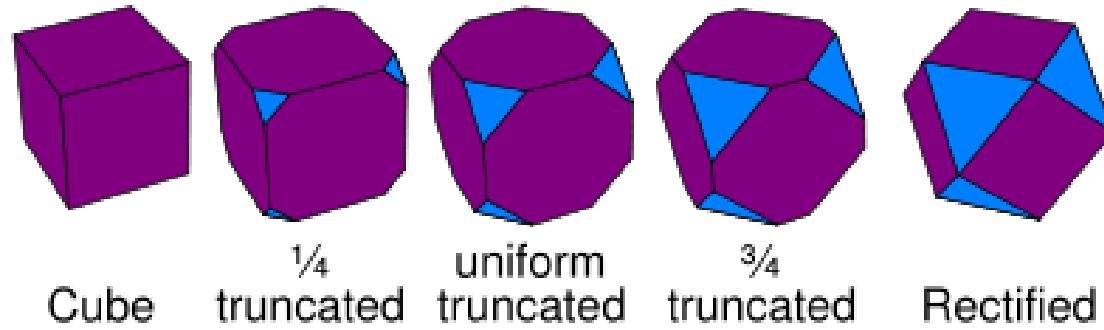


Olga Sorkine



Polygonal Mesh Processing

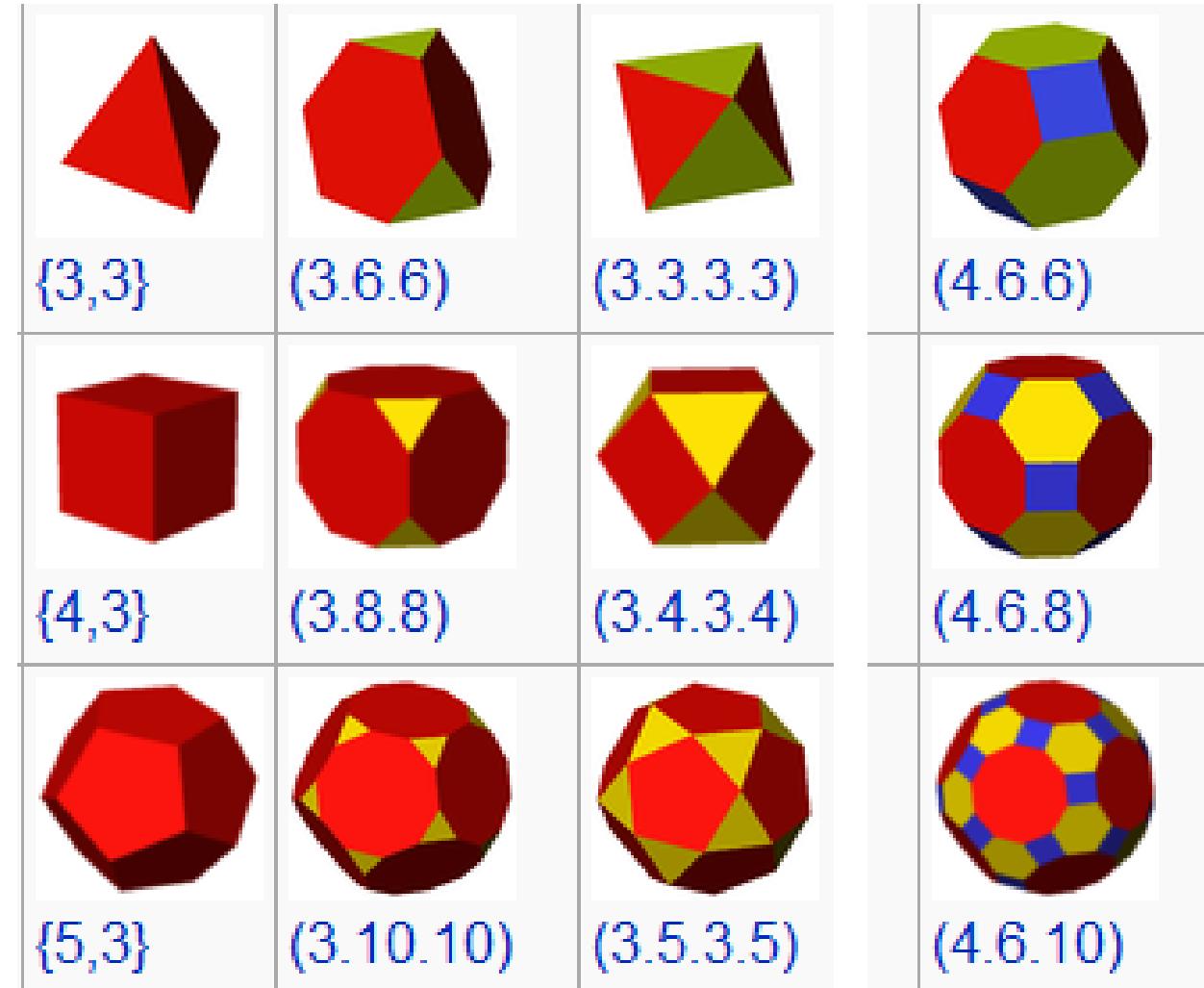
- Analysis
 - Normals
 - Curvature
- Warps
 - Rotate
 - Deform
- Filters
 - Smooth
 - Sharpen
 - Truncate
 - Bevel





Polygonal Mesh Processing

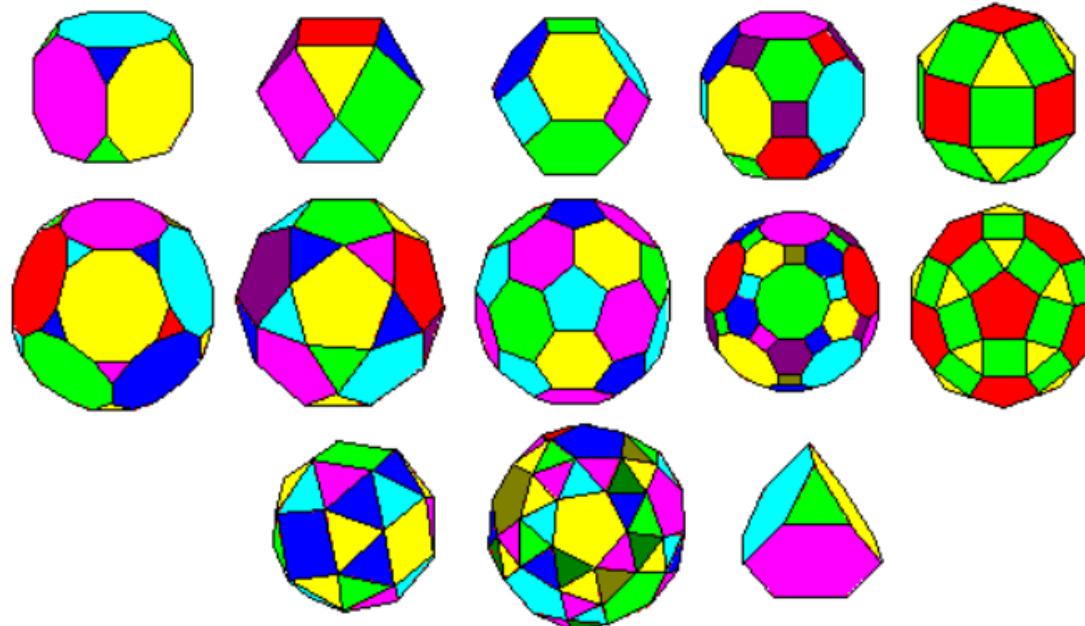
- Analysis
 - Normals
 - Curvature
- Warps
 - Rotate
 - Deform
- Filters
 - Smooth
 - Sharpen
 - Truncate
 - Bevel





Polygonal Mesh Processing

- Analysis
 - Normals
 - Curvature
- Warps
 - Rotate
 - Deform
- Filters
 - Smooth
 - Sharpen
 - Truncate
 - Bevel



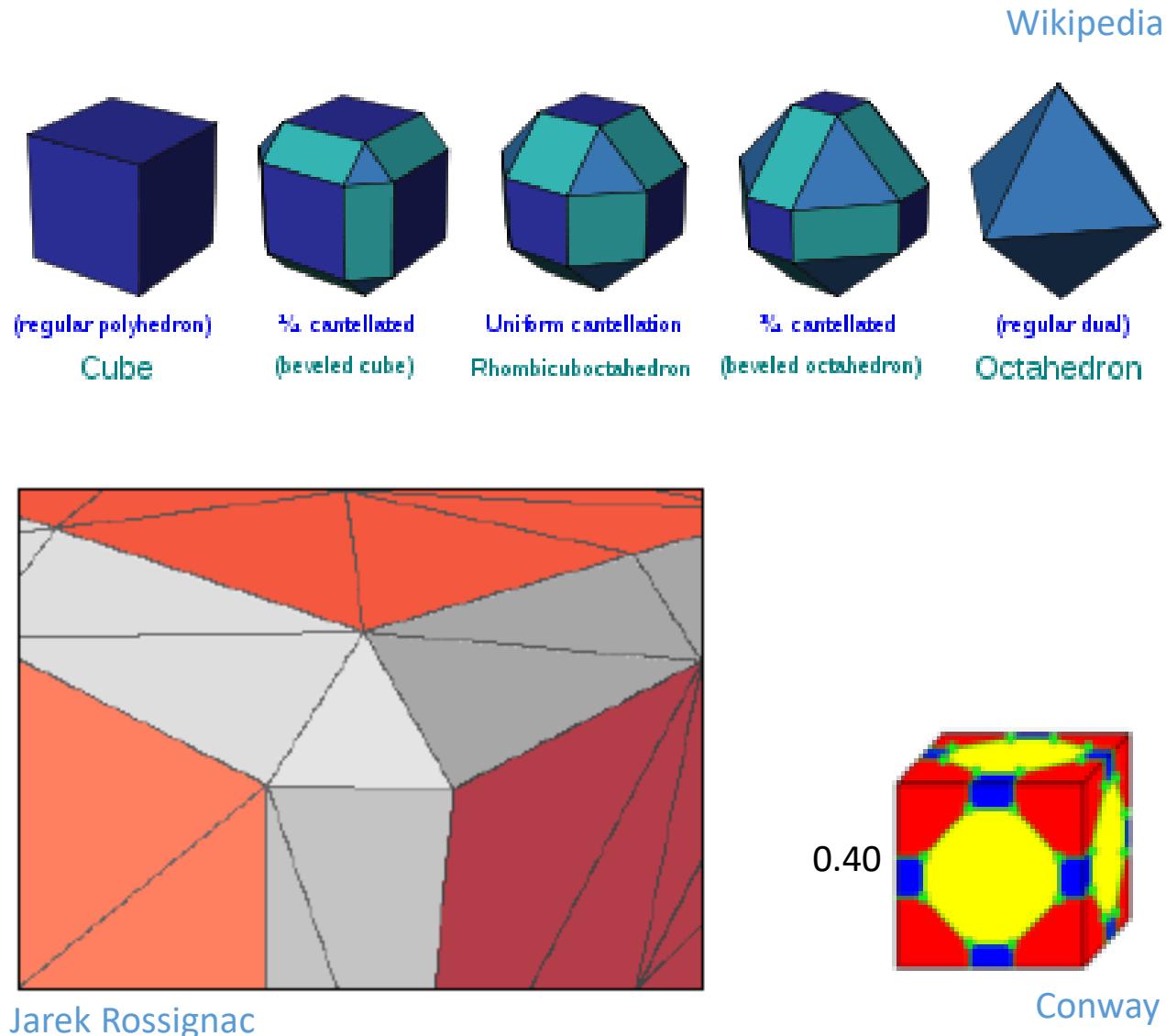
Archimedean Polyhedra

<http://www.uwgb.edu/dutchs/symmetry/archpol.htm>



Polygonal Mesh Processing

- Analysis
 - Normals
 - Curvature
- Warps
 - Rotate
 - Deform
- Filters
 - Smooth
 - Sharpen
 - Truncate
 - Bevel





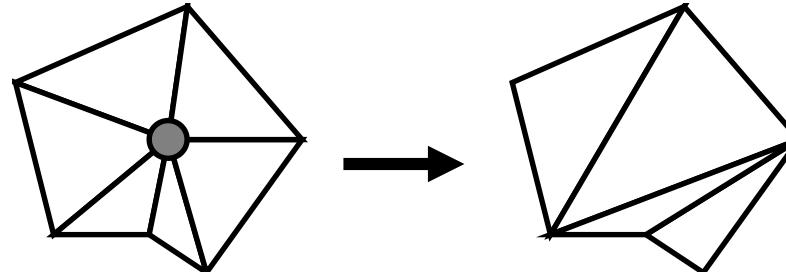
Polygonal Mesh Processing

- Remeshing
 - Subdivide
 - Resample
 - Simplify
- Topological fixup
 - Fill holes
 - Fix self-intersections
- Boolean operations
 - Crop
 - Subtract

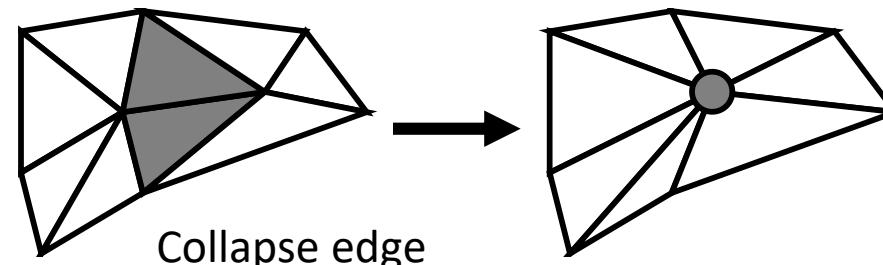


Polygonal Mesh Processing

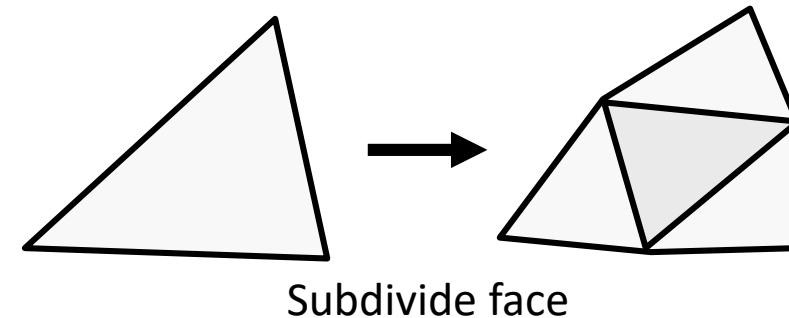
- Remeshing
 - Subdivide
 - Resample
 - Simplify
- Topological fixup
 - Fill holes
 - Fix self-intersections
- Boolean operations
 - Crop
 - Subtract



Remove Vertex



Collapse edge

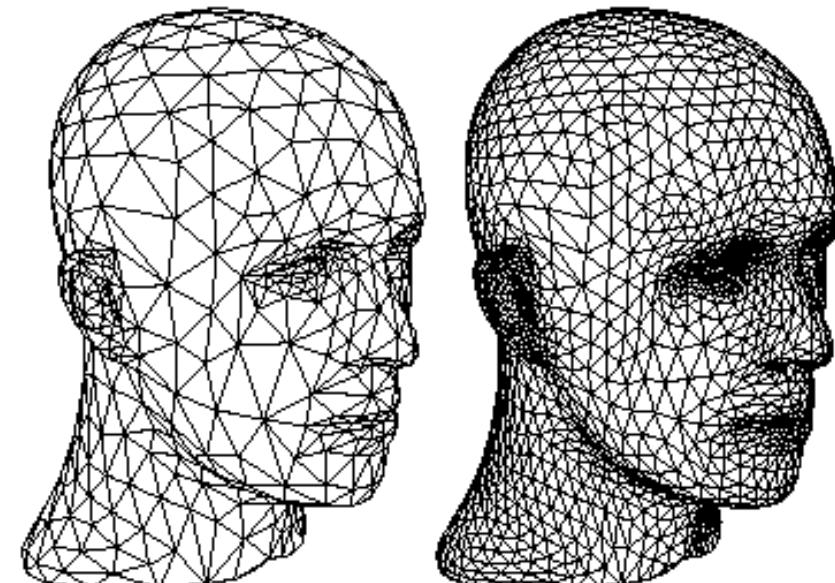
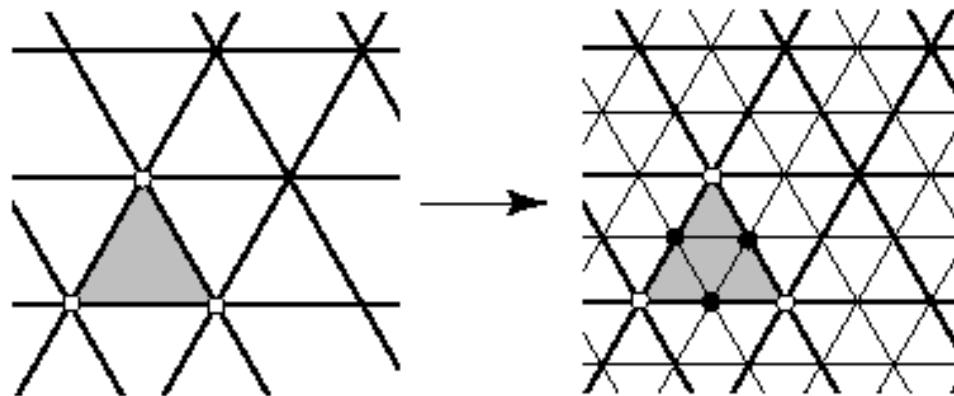


Subdivide face



Polygonal Mesh Processing

- Remeshing
 - Subdivide
 - Resample
 - Simplify
- Topological fixup
 - Fill holes
 - Fix self-intersections
- Boolean operations
 - Crop
 - Subtract



Zorin & Schroeder



Polygonal Mesh Processing

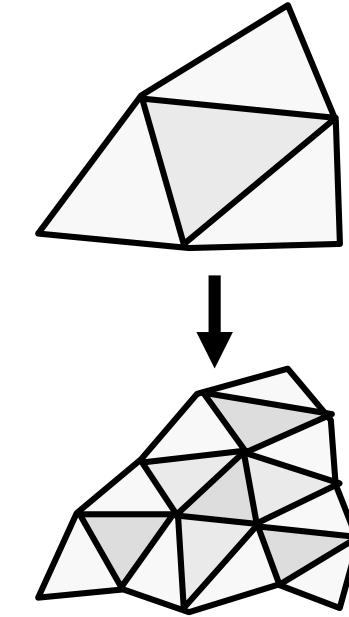
- Remeshing
 - [Subdivide](#)
 - Resample
 - Simplify
- Topological fixup
 - Fill holes
 - Fix self-intersections
- Boolean operations
 - Crop
 - Subtract





Polygonal Mesh Processing

- Remeshing
 - Subdivide
 - Resample
 - Simplify
- Topological fixup
 - Fill holes
 - Fix self-intersections
- Boolean operations
 - Crop
 - Subtract



Fractal Landscape

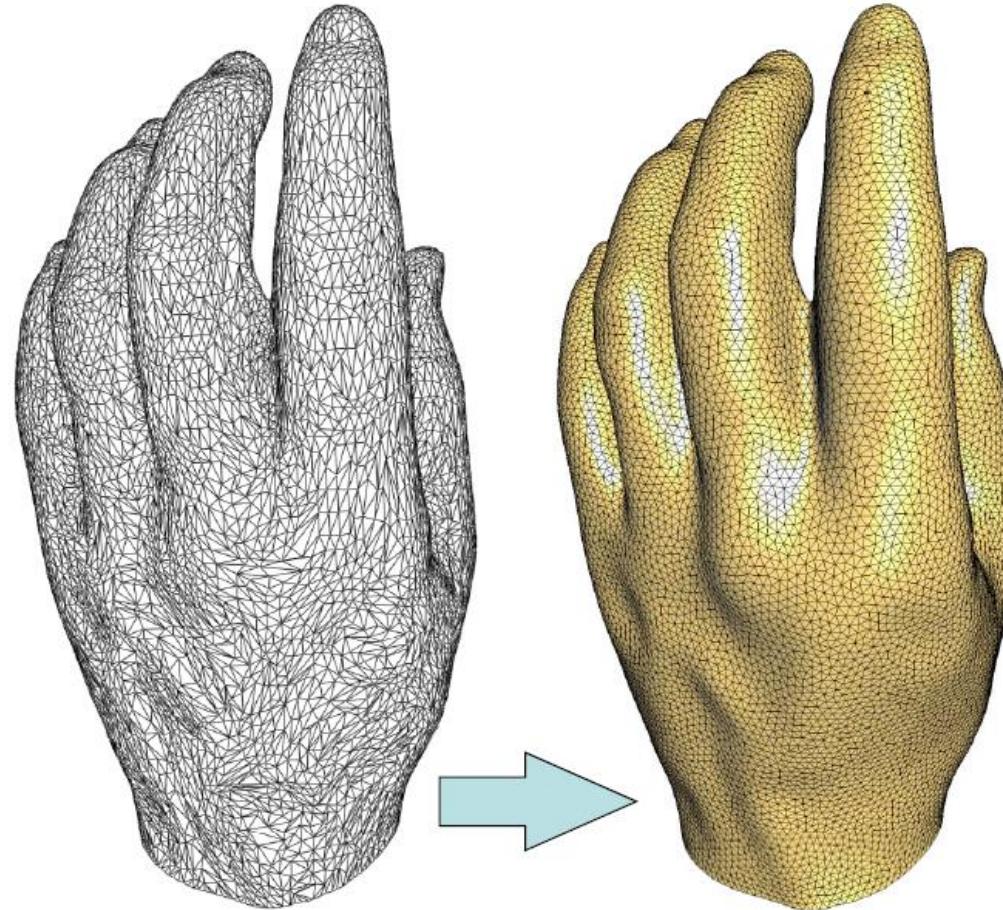


*Dirk Balfanz, Igor Guskov,
Sanjeev Kumar, & Rudro Samanta,*



Polygonal Mesh Processing

- Remeshing
 - Subdivide
 - Resample
 - Simplify
- Topological fixup
 - Fill holes
 - Fix self-intersections
- Boolean operations
 - Crop
 - Subtract

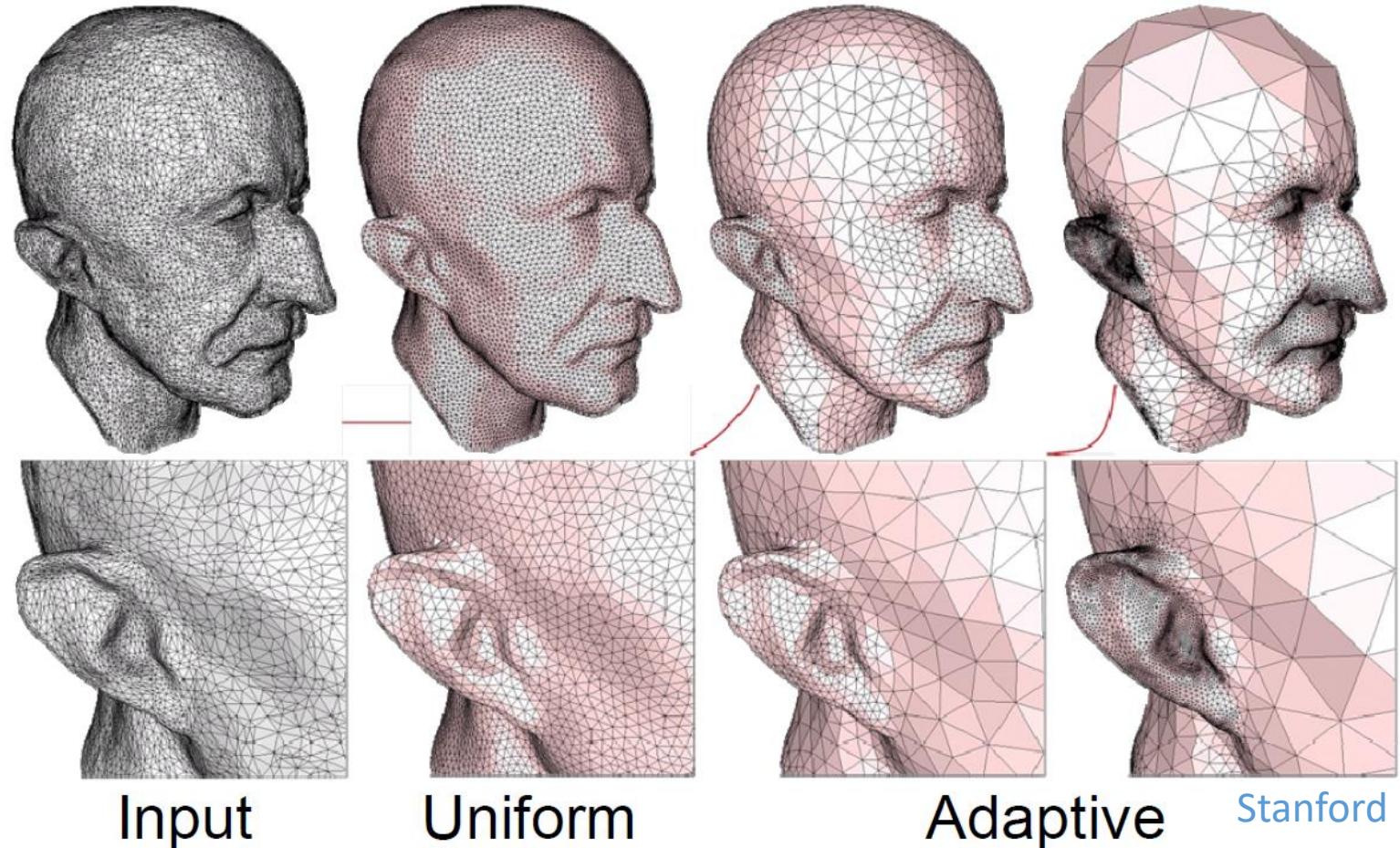


- more uniform distribution
- triangles with nicer aspect

Stanford

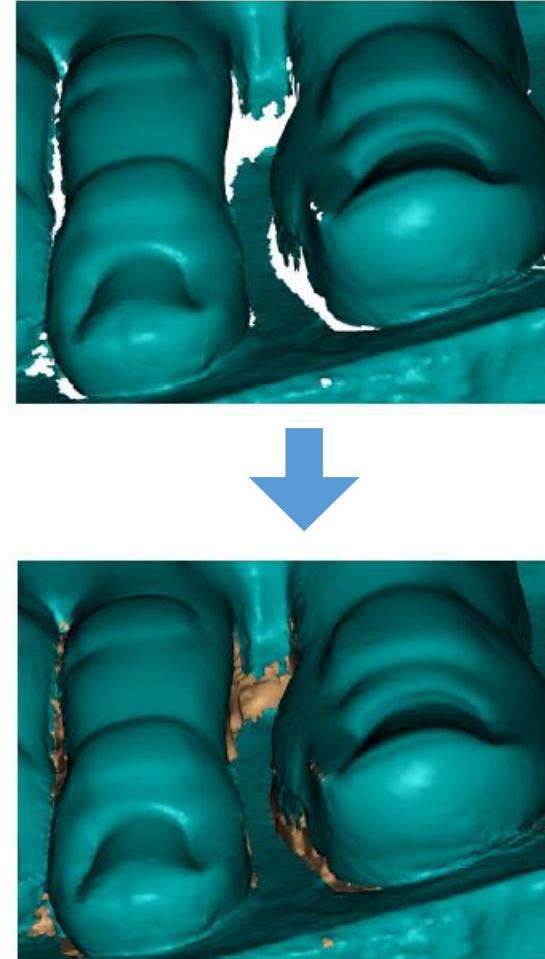
Polygonal Mesh Processing

- Remeshing
 - Subdivide
 - Resample
 - Simplify
- Topological fixup
 - Fill holes
 - Fix self-intersections
- Boolean operations
 - Crop
 - Subtract



Polygonal Mesh Processing

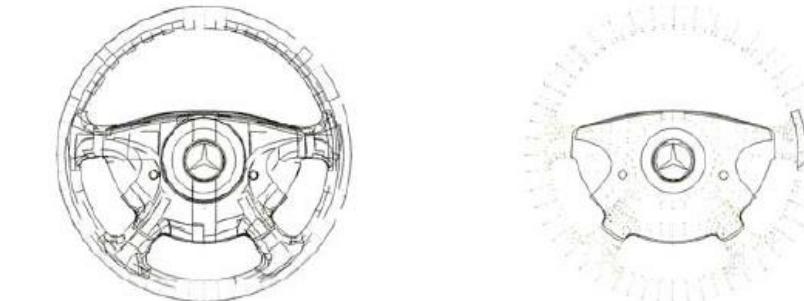
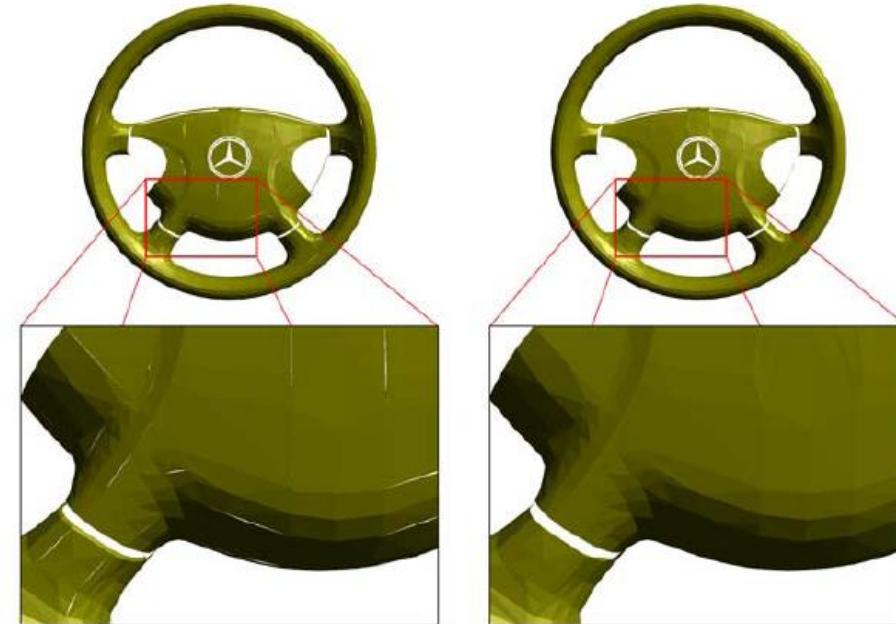
- Remeshing
 - Subdivide
 - Resample
 - Simplify
- Topological fixup
 - Fill holes
 - Fix self-intersections
- Boolean operations
 - Crop
 - Subtract





Polygonal Mesh Processing

- Remeshing
 - Subdivide
 - Resample
 - Simplify
- Topological fixup
 - Fill holes
 - Fix self-intersections
- Boolean operations
 - Crop
 - Subtract

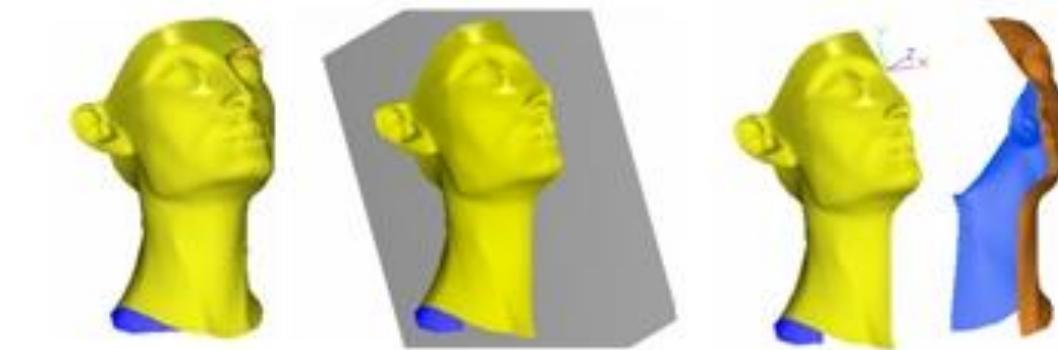


Borodin

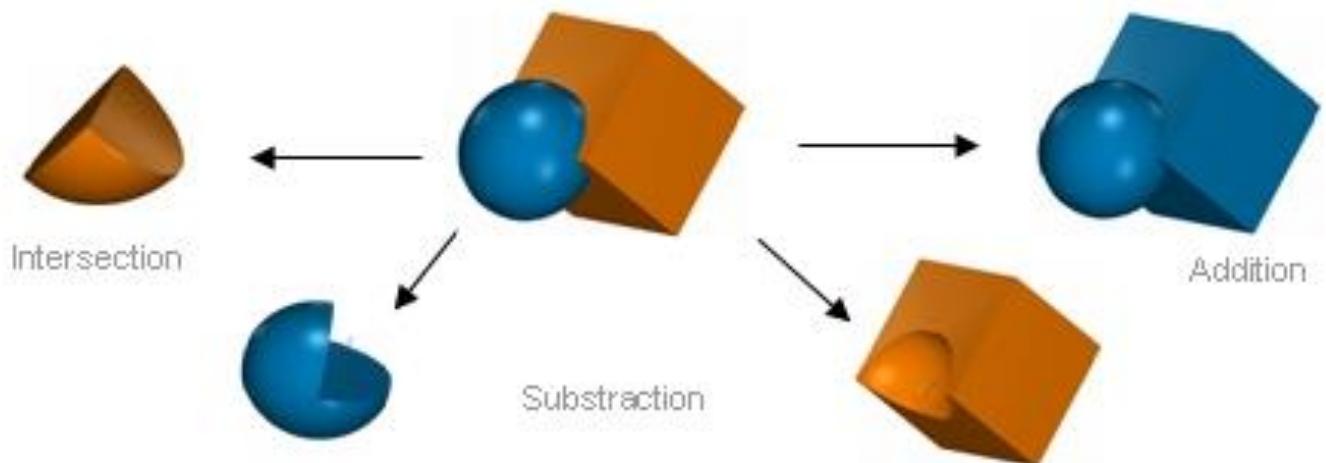


Polygonal Mesh Processing

- Remeshing
 - Subdivide
 - Resample
 - Simplify
- Topological fixup
 - Fill holes
 - Fix self-intersections
- Boolean operations
 - Crop
 - Subtract
 - Etc.



Mesh separation processed by a boolean operation.



Several Boolean operations with 3DReshaper®



Summary

- Polygonal meshes
 - Most common surface representation
 - Fast rendering
- Processing operations
 - Must consider irregular vertex sampling
 - Must handle/avoid topological degeneracies
- Representation
 - Which adjacency relationships to store depend on which operations must be efficient



3D Polygonal Meshes

- Properties
 - ? Efficient display
 - ? Easy acquisition
 - ? Accurate
 - ? Concise
 - ? Intuitive editing
 - ? Efficient editing
 - ? Efficient intersections
 - ? Guaranteed validity
 - ? Guaranteed smoothness
 - ? etc.



Viewpoint



3D Polygonal Meshes

- Properties

- ☺ Efficient display

- ☺ Easy acquisition

- ☹ Accurate

- ☹ Concise

- ☹ Intuitive editing

- ☹ Efficient editing

- ☹ Efficient intersections

- ☹ Guaranteed validity

- ☹ Guaranteed smoothness



Viewpoint