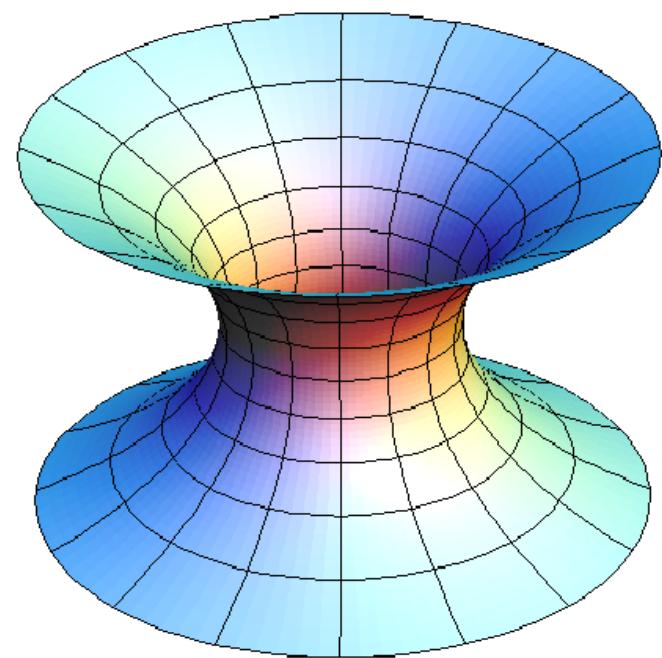
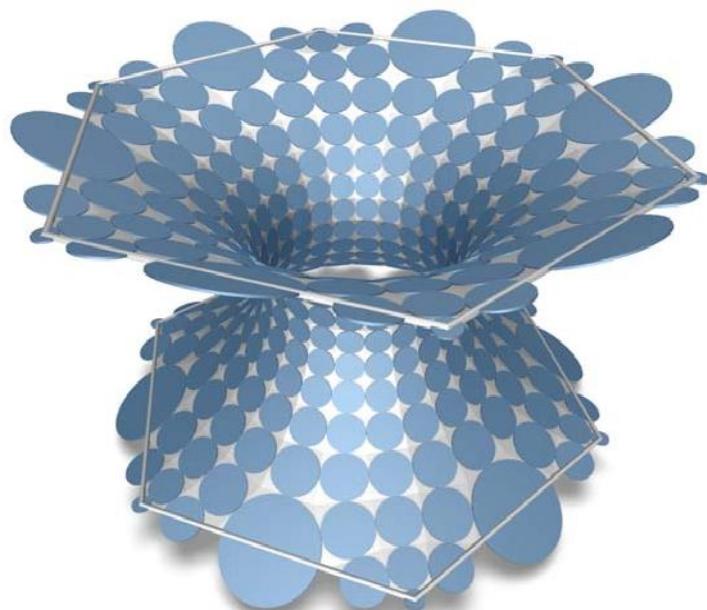


(Discrete) Differential Geometry



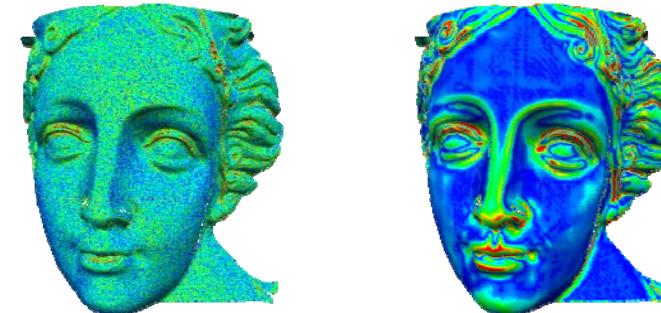
Motivation

- Understand the structure of the surface
Properties: smoothness, « curviness », important directions
- How to modify the surface to change these properties
- What properties are preserved for different modifications
- The math behind the scenes for many geometry processing applications

Motivation

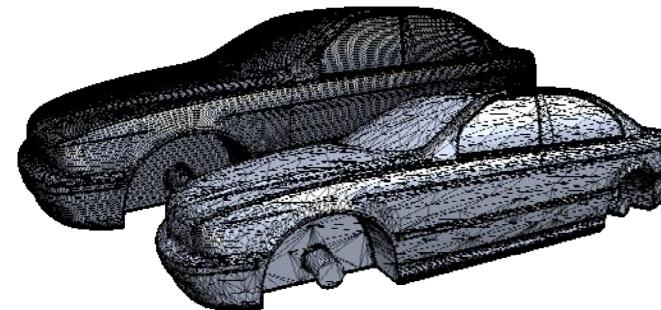
- Smoothness

→ Mesh smoothing

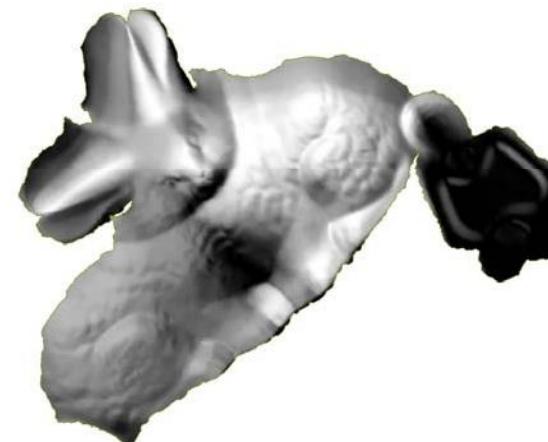


- Curvature

→ Adaptive simplification

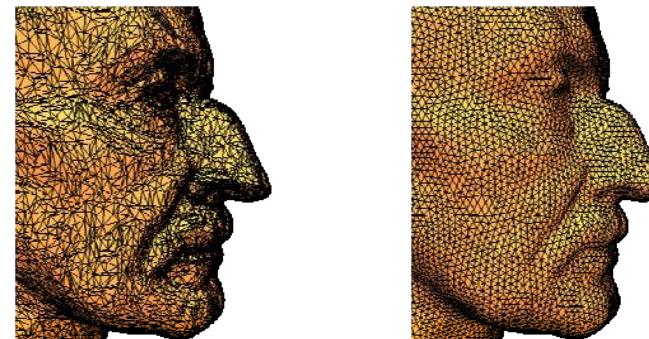


→ Parameterization

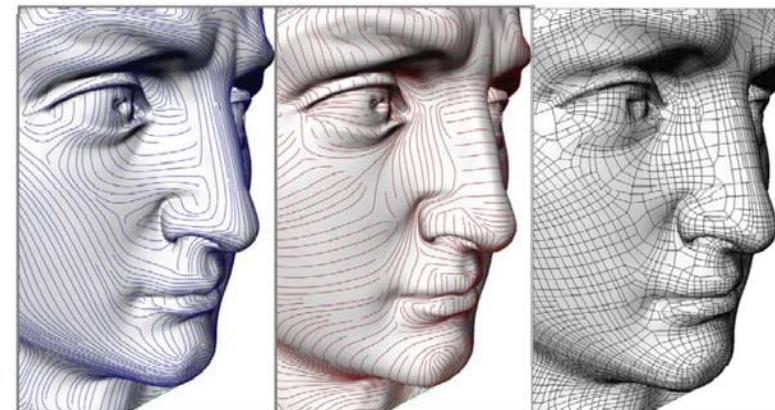


Motivation

- Triangle shape
→ Remeshing

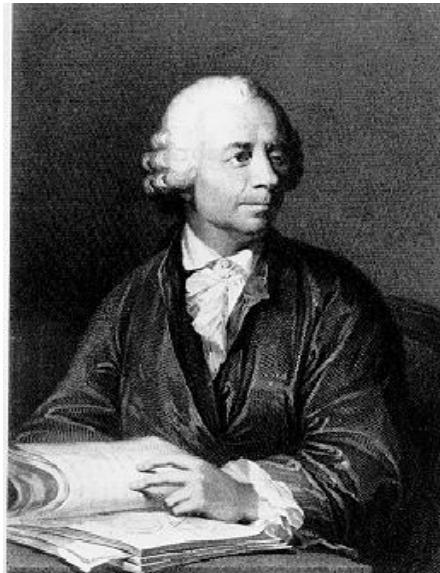


- Principal directions
→ Quad remeshing



Differential Geometry

- M.P. do Carmo: *Differential Geometry of Curves and Surfaces*, Prentice Hall, 1976



Leonard Euler (1707 - 1783)

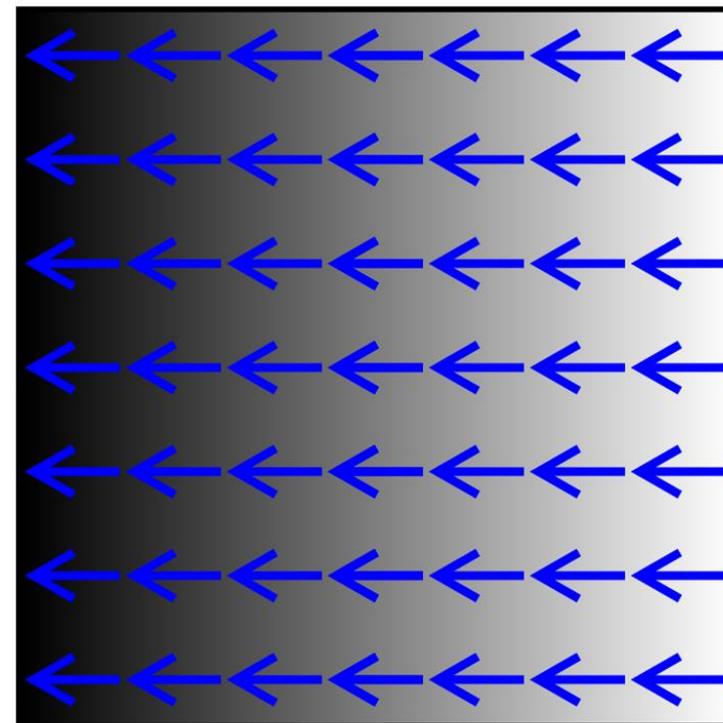
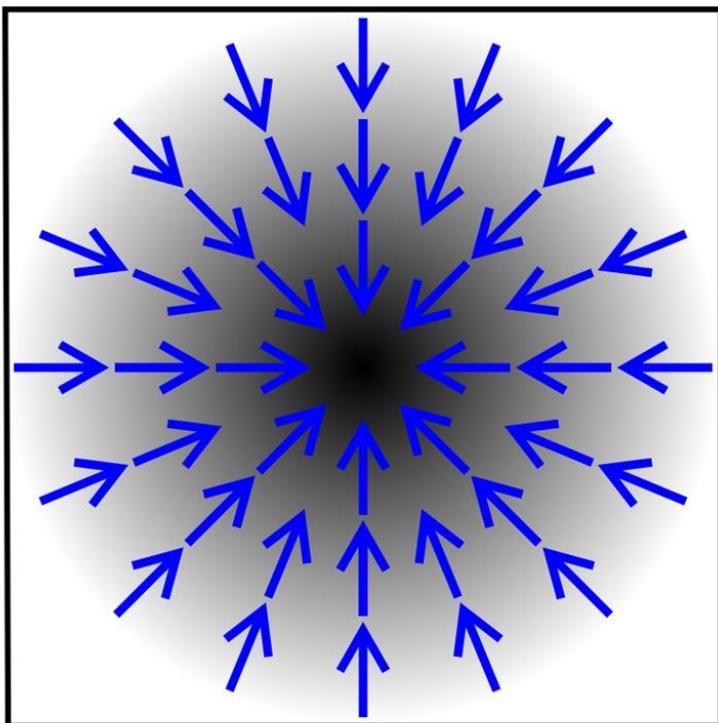


Carl Friedrich Gauss (1777 - 1855)

Functions and operators on a triangle mesh

Gradient in the Euclidean space

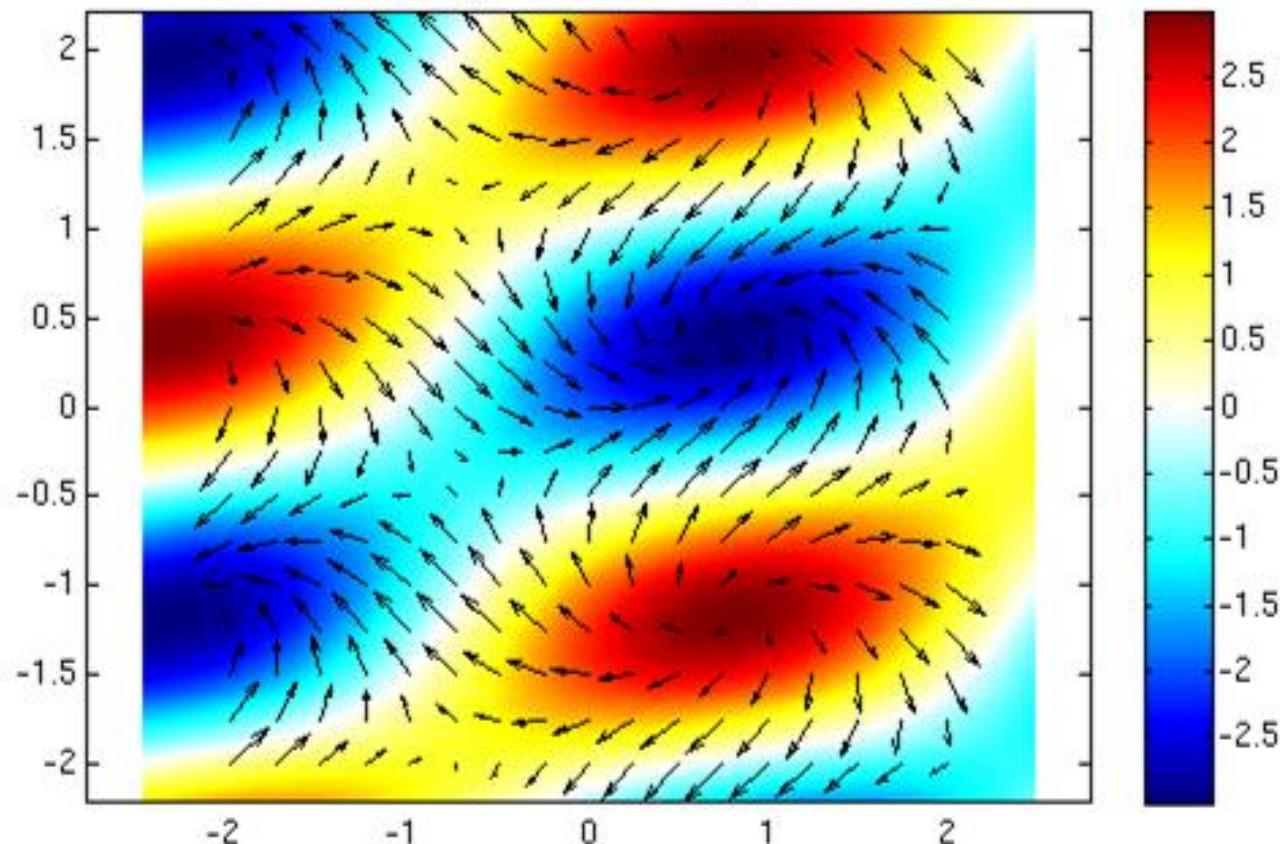
$$\vec{\nabla}f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = \begin{bmatrix} \partial f / \partial x_1 \\ \partial f / \partial x_2 \\ \vdots \\ \partial f / \partial x_n \end{bmatrix}$$



Divergence of a vector field in the Euclidean space

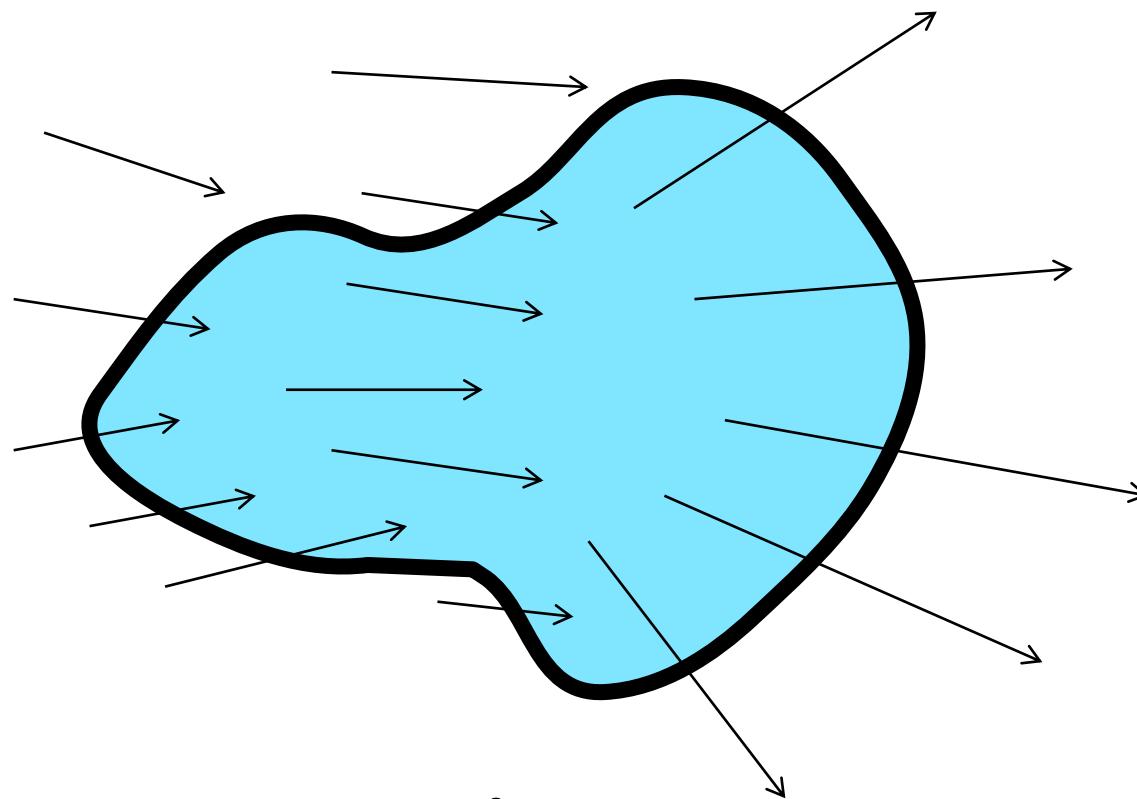
$$\nabla \cdot \vec{f}(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial x_1} + \frac{\partial f_2}{\partial x_2} + \dots + \frac{\partial f_n}{\partial x_n} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x_2} \\ \vdots \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x_n} \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} f_1 \\ f_2 \\ \vdots \\ f_n \end{bmatrix}$$

colors show divergence: blue is sink, red is source



Green-Ostrogradski theorem

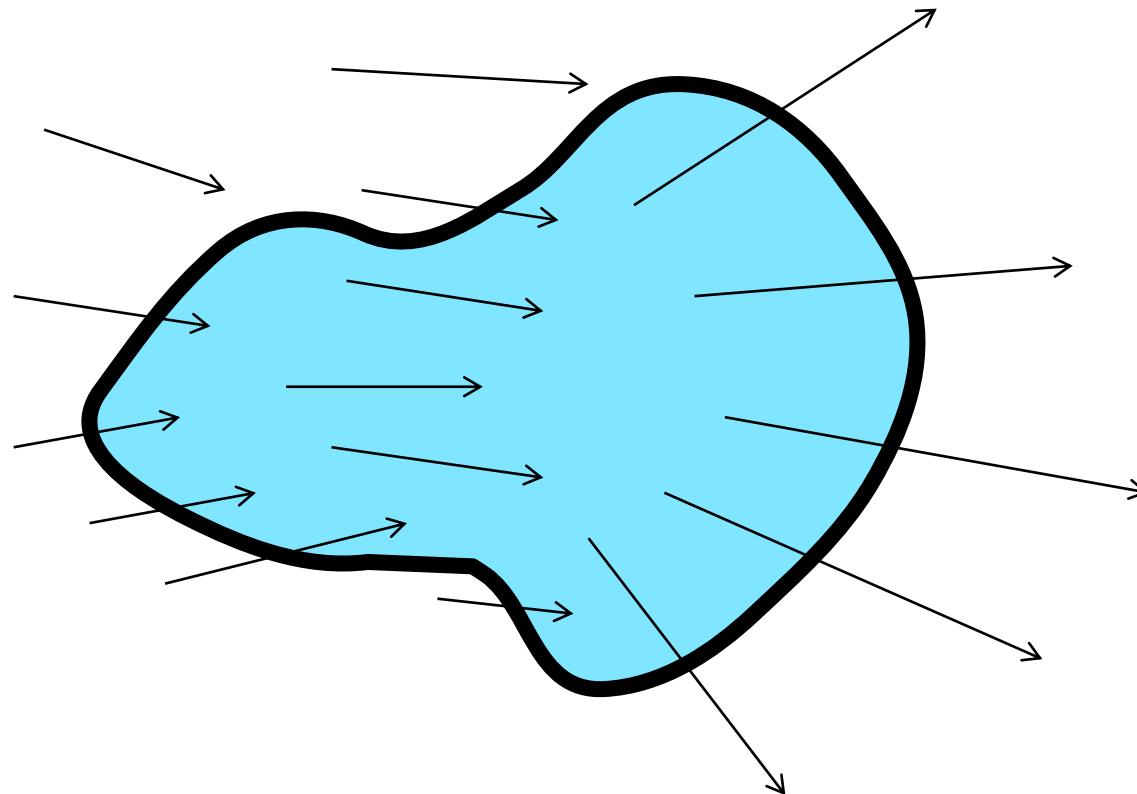
$$\int_{p \in B} \nabla \cdot \vec{f}(p) dV(p) = \int_{p \in \partial B} \vec{f}(p) \cdot N(p) dS(p)$$



Green-Ostrogradski theorem

$$\nabla \cdot \vec{f}(q) = \frac{\lim_{vol(B) \rightarrow 0} \int_{p \in B} \nabla \cdot \vec{f}(p) dV(p)}{vol(B)} = \lim_{vol(B) \rightarrow 0} \frac{\int_{p \in \partial B} \vec{f}(p) \cdot N(p) dS(p)}{vol(B)}$$

(with $q \in B$)

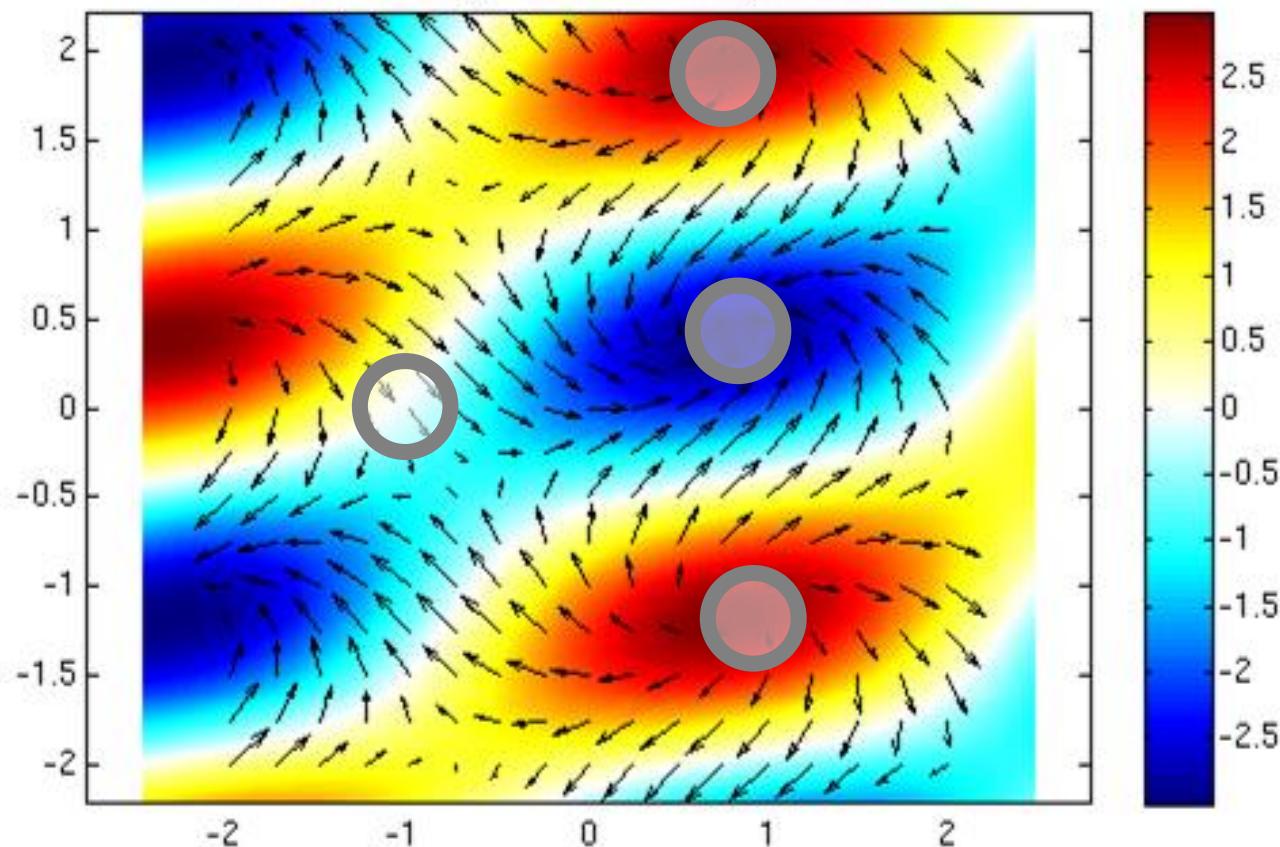


Green-Ostrogradski theorem

$$\nabla \cdot \vec{f}(q) = \frac{\lim_{vol(B) \rightarrow 0} \int_{p \in B} \nabla \cdot \vec{f}(p) dV(p)}{vol(B)} = \lim_{vol(B) \rightarrow 0} \frac{\int_{p \in \partial B} \vec{f}(p) \cdot N(p) dS(p)}{vol(B)}$$

(with $q \in B$)

colors show divergence: blue is sink, red is source



Laplacian in the Euclidean space

$$\nabla^2 f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = \partial^2 f / \partial^2 x_1 + \partial^2 f / \partial^2 x_2 + \dots + \partial^2 f / \partial^2 x_n$$

$$\nabla^2 f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = \nabla \cdot \vec{\nabla} f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$$

$$\text{Laplacian}(f) = \text{Div}(\text{Grad}(f))$$

Why do we care ?

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} - \alpha \nabla^2 u = 0$$

Heat equation

Why do we care ?

Incompressible Navier-Stokes equations (*convective form*)

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial t} + (\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{u} - \nu \nabla^2 \mathbf{u} = -\nabla w + \mathbf{g}.$$

Navier-Stokes momentum equation (*convective form*)

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial t} + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{u} = -\frac{1}{\rho} \nabla \bar{p} + \nu \nabla^2 \mathbf{u} + \frac{1}{3} \nu \nabla (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u}) + \mathbf{g}.$$

Navier-Stokes equations (fluids)

Why do we care ?

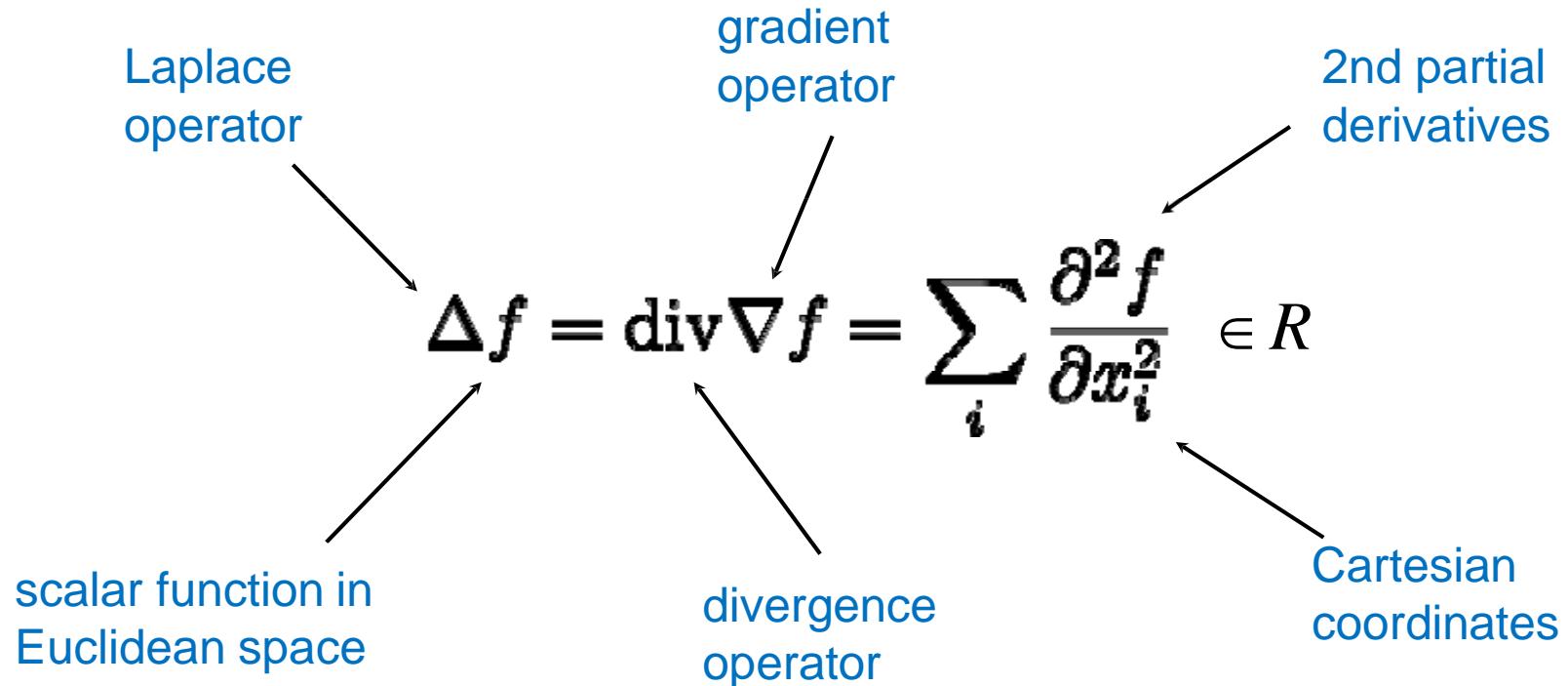
| Name | Integral equations | Differential equations | Meaning |
|---|---|--|---|
| Gauss's law | $\oint_{\partial\Omega} \mathbf{E} \cdot d\mathbf{S} = \frac{1}{\epsilon_0} \iiint_{\Omega} \rho dV$ | $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{E} = \frac{\rho}{\epsilon_0}$ | The electric flux leaving a volume is proportional to the charge inside. |
| Gauss's law for magnetism | $\oint_{\partial\Omega} \mathbf{B} \cdot d\mathbf{S} = 0$ | $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0$ | There are no magnetic monopoles; the total magnetic flux through a closed surface is zero. |
| Maxwell-Faraday equation (Faraday's law of induction) | $\oint_{\partial\Sigma} \mathbf{E} \cdot d\ell = -\frac{d}{dt} \iint_{\Sigma} \mathbf{B} \cdot d\mathbf{S}$ | $\nabla \times \mathbf{E} = -\frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t}$ | The voltage induced in a closed circuit is proportional to the rate of change of the magnetic flux it encloses. |
| Ampère's circuital law (with Maxwell's addition) | $\oint_{\partial\Sigma} \mathbf{B} \cdot d\ell = \mu_0 \iint_{\Sigma} \mathbf{J} \cdot d\mathbf{S} + \mu_0 \epsilon_0 \frac{d}{dt} \iint_{\Sigma} \mathbf{E} \cdot d\mathbf{S}$ | $\nabla \times \mathbf{B} = \mu_0 \left(\mathbf{J} + \epsilon_0 \frac{\partial \mathbf{E}}{\partial t} \right)$ | The magnetic field induced around a closed loop is proportional to the electric current plus displacement current (rate of change of electric field) it encloses. |

Maxwell equations (electro-magnetism)

Laplace Operator

$$f: R^3 \rightarrow R$$

$$\Delta f: R^3 \rightarrow R$$



$$\operatorname{grad} f = \nabla f = \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}, \frac{\partial f}{\partial z} \right)$$

$$\operatorname{div} \mathbf{F} = \nabla \cdot \mathbf{F} = \frac{\partial F_x}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial F_y}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial F_z}{\partial z}$$

Laplace-Beltrami Operator

- Extension to functions on manifolds

$$f: S \rightarrow R$$

$$\Delta_S f = \operatorname{div}_S \nabla_S f \in R$$

Diagram illustrating the components of the Laplace-Beltrami operator:

- Laplace-Beltrami (top left)
- gradient operator (top right)
- scalar function on manifold S (bottom left)
- divergence operator (bottom right)

Arrows point from each component to its corresponding term in the formula $\Delta_S f = \operatorname{div}_S \nabla_S f$.

Laplace-Beltrami Operator

- For coordinate function(s)

$$f(x, y, z) = \mathbf{x}$$

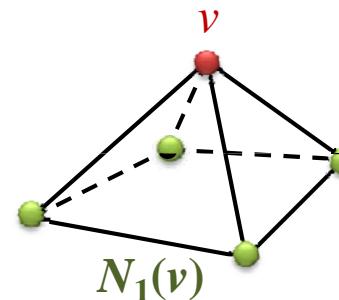
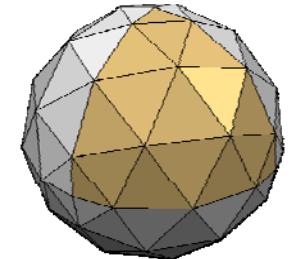
$$\Delta_S \mathbf{x} = \operatorname{div}_S \nabla_S \mathbf{x} = -2H\mathbf{n} \in \mathbb{R}^3$$

Diagram illustrating the components of the Laplace-Beltrami operator:

- Laplace-Beltrami: Points to $\Delta_S \mathbf{x}$.
- gradient operator: Points to $\nabla_S \mathbf{x}$.
- mean curvature: Points to $-2H\mathbf{n}$.
- surface normal: Points to \mathbf{n} .
- coordinate function: Points to div_S .
- divergence operator: Points to ∇_S .

Discrete Differential Operators

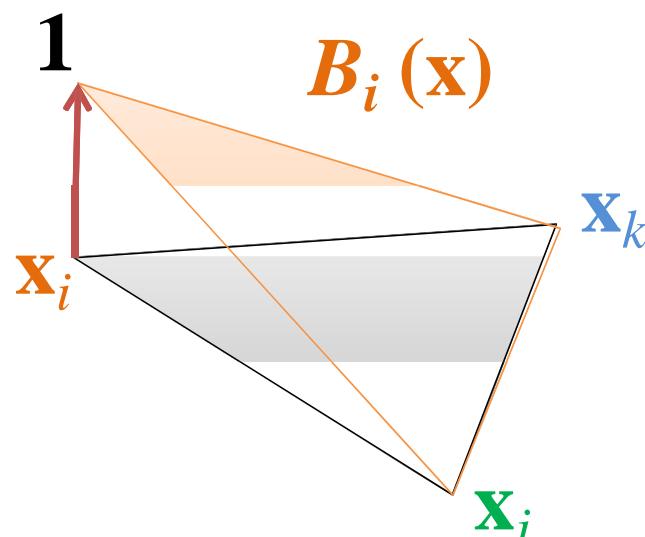
- **Assumption:** Meshes are piecewise linear approximations of smooth surfaces
- **Approach:** Approximate differential properties at point v as finite differences over local mesh neighborhood $N(v)$
 - v = mesh vertex
 - $N_d(v) = d\text{-ring neighborhood}$
- **Disclaimer:** many possible discretizations, none is “perfect”



Functions on Meshes

- Function f given at mesh vertices $f(v_i) = f(\mathbf{x}_i) = f_i$
- Linear interpolation to triangle $\mathbf{x} \in (\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j, \mathbf{x}_k)$

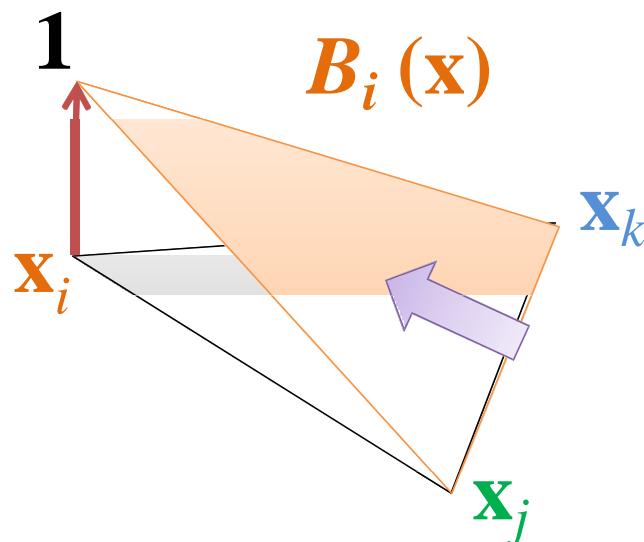
$$f(\mathbf{x}) = f_i B_i(\mathbf{x}) + f_j B_j(\mathbf{x}) + f_k B_k(\mathbf{x})$$



Gradient of a Function

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = f_i B_i(\mathbf{x}) + f_j B_j(\mathbf{x}) + f_k B_k(\mathbf{x})$$

$$\nabla f(\mathbf{x}) = f_i \nabla B_i(\mathbf{x}) + f_j \nabla B_j(\mathbf{x}) + f_k \nabla B_k(\mathbf{x})$$



Steepest ascent direction
perpendicular to opposite edge

$$\nabla B_i(\mathbf{x}) = \nabla B_i = \frac{(\mathbf{x}_k - \mathbf{x}_j)^\perp}{2A_T}$$

Constant in the triangle

Gradient of a Function

$$B_i(\mathbf{x}) + B_j(\mathbf{x}) + B_k(\mathbf{x}) = 1$$

$$\nabla B_i + \nabla B_j + \nabla B_k = 0$$

$$\nabla f(\mathbf{x}) = (f_j - f_i) \nabla B_j(\mathbf{x}) + (f_k - f_i) \nabla B_k(\mathbf{x})$$

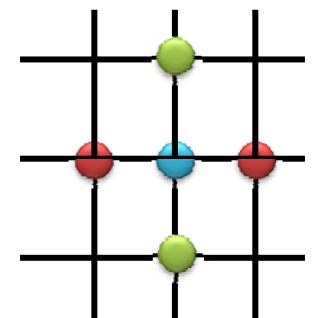
$$\nabla f(\mathbf{x}) = (f_j - f_i) \frac{(\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_k)^\perp}{2A_T} + (f_k - f_i) \frac{(\mathbf{x}_j - \mathbf{x}_i)^\perp}{2A_T}$$

Discrete Laplace-Beltrami

First Approach

- Laplace operator: $\Delta f = \operatorname{div} \nabla f = \sum_i \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_i^2}$

- In 2D: $\Delta f = \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^2}$

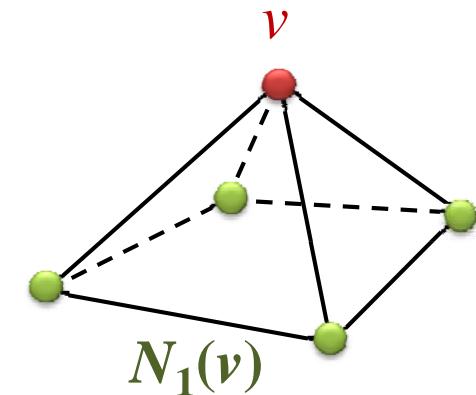


- On a grid – finite differences discretization:

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta f(x_i, y_i) = & \frac{f(x_{i+1}, y_i) - f(x_i, y_i)}{h^2} + \frac{f(x_{i-1}, y_i) - f(x_i, y_i)}{h^2} + \\ & + \frac{f(x_i, y_{i+1}) - f(x_i, y_i)}{h^2} + \frac{f(x_i, y_{i-1}) - f(x_i, y_i)}{h^2}\end{aligned}$$

Discrete Laplace-Beltrami Uniform Discretization

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta f &= \sum_{v_i \in N_1(v)} (f(v) - f(v_i)) = \\ &= |N_1(v)| f(v) - \sum_{v_i \in N_1(v)} f(v_i)\end{aligned}$$



Normalized:

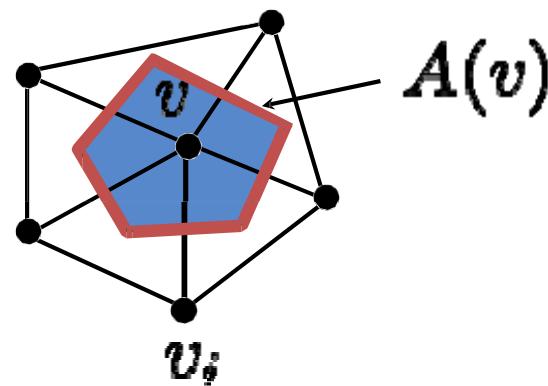
$$\begin{aligned}\Delta f &= \frac{1}{|N_1(v)|} \sum_{v_i \in N_1(v)} (f(v) - f(v_i)) = \\ &= f(v) - \frac{1}{|N_1(v)|} \sum_{v_i \in N_1(v)} f(v_i)\end{aligned}$$

Discrete Laplace-Beltrami Second Approach

- Laplace-Beltrami operator: $\Delta_S f = \operatorname{div}_S \nabla_S f$
- Compute integral around vertex

Divergence theorem

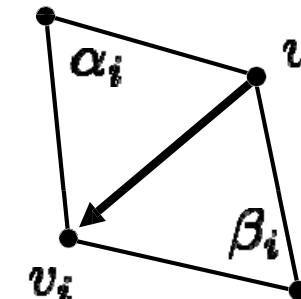
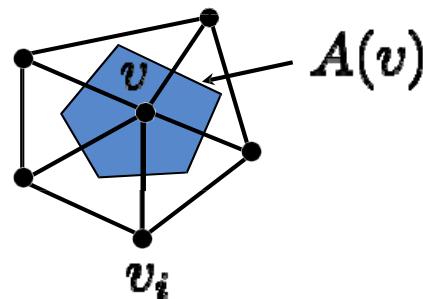
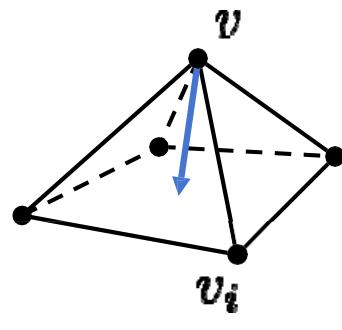
$$\int_{A(v)} \Delta f(\mathbf{u}) dA = \int_{A(v)} (\operatorname{div} \nabla f(\mathbf{u})) dA = \int_{\partial A(v)} (\nabla f(\mathbf{u}) \cdot \mathbf{n}(\mathbf{u})) ds$$



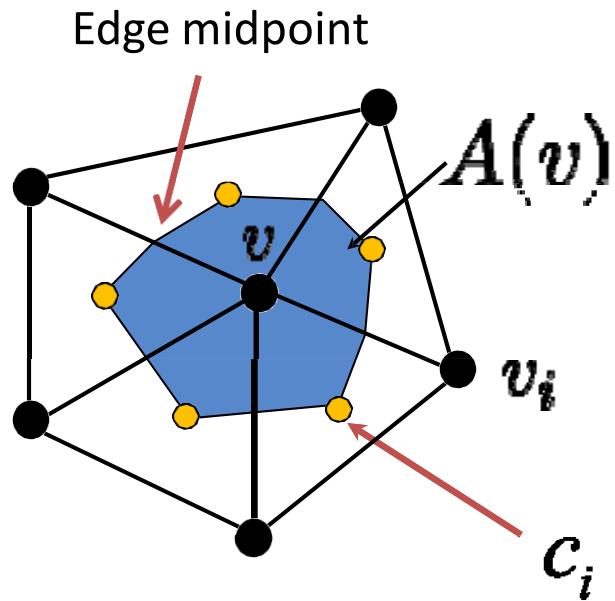
Discrete Laplace-Beltrami Cotangent Formula

Plugging in expression for gradients gives:

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta f(v) &= \sum_{v_i \in N_1(v)} w_i (f(v_i) - f(v)) \\ &= \frac{1}{2A(v)} \sum_{v_i \in N_1(v)} (\cot \alpha_i + \cot \beta_i) (f(v_i) - f(v))\end{aligned}$$

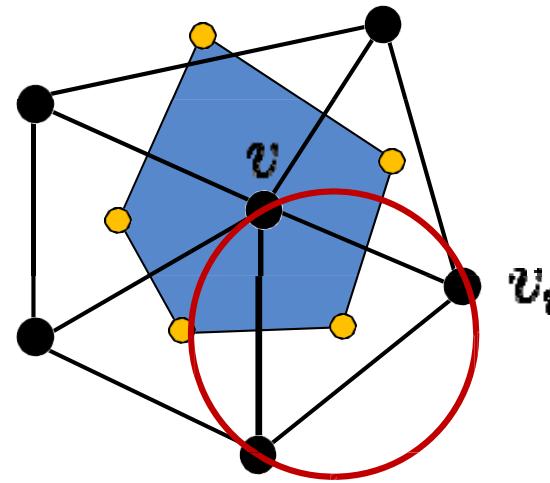


The Averaging Region



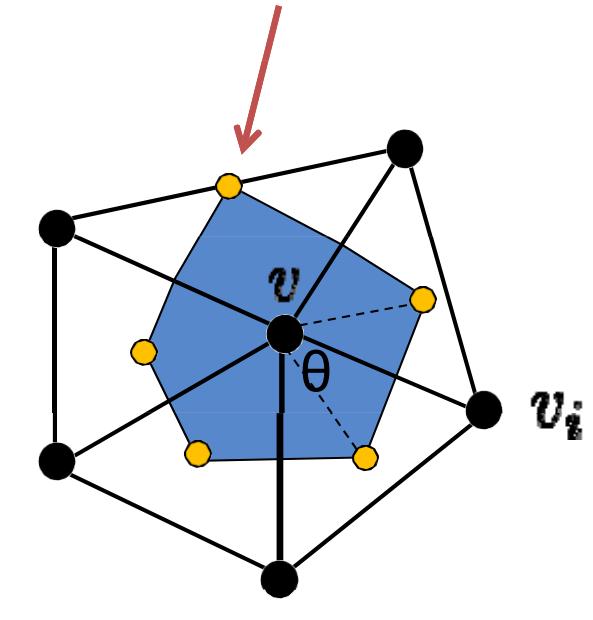
Barycentric cell

c_i = barycenter
of triangle



Voronoi cell

c_i = circumcenter
of triangle



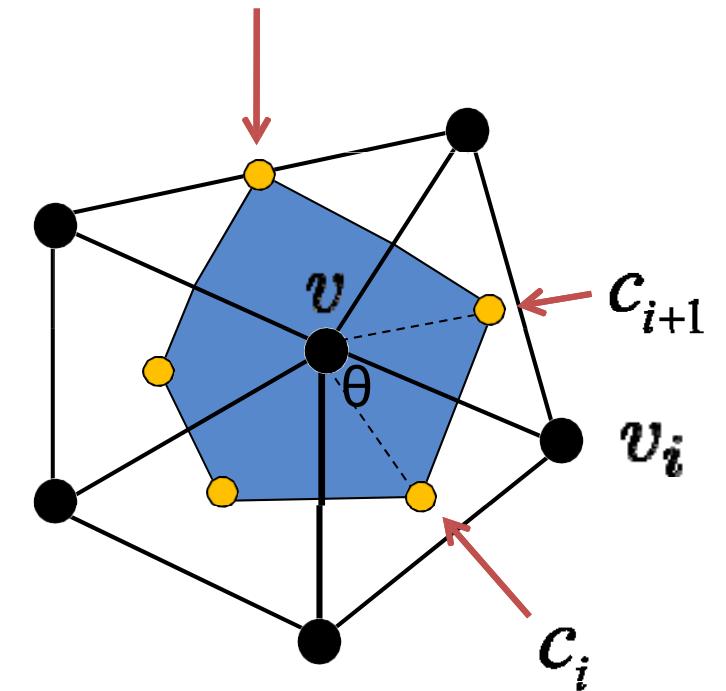
Mixed cell

The Averaging Region

Mixed Cell

If $\theta < \pi/2$, c_i is the circumcenter
of the triangle (v_i, v, v_{i+1})

If $\theta \geq \pi/2$, c_i is the midpoint of
the edge (v_i, v_{i+1})



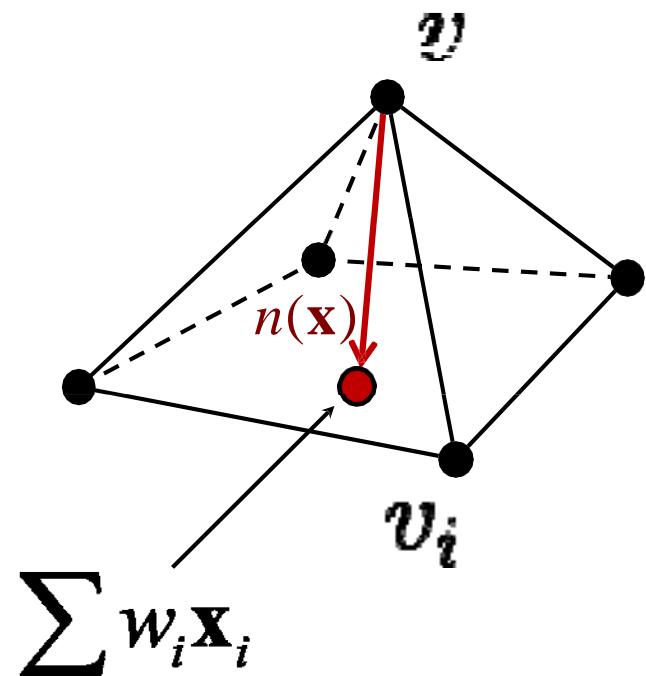
$$A(v) = \sum_{v_i \in N(v)} \left(\text{Area}(c_i, v, (v + v_i)/2) + \text{Area}(c_{i+1}, v, (v + v_i)/2) \right)$$

Discrete Normal

$$\Delta_S \mathbf{x} = \operatorname{div}_S \nabla_S \mathbf{x} = -2H\mathbf{n}$$

$$n(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{v_i \in N_1(v)} w_i (\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}) \quad \sum_i w_i = 1$$

$$= \left(\sum_{\mathbf{x}_i \in N_1(\mathbf{x})} w_i \mathbf{x}_i \right) - \mathbf{x}$$



$$\sum w_i \mathbf{x}_i$$

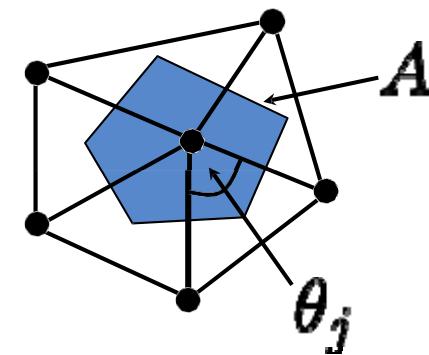
Discrete Curvatures

- Mean curvature

$$H = \|\Delta_S \mathbf{x}\|$$

- Gaussian curvature

$$G = (2\pi - \sum_j \theta_j)/A$$

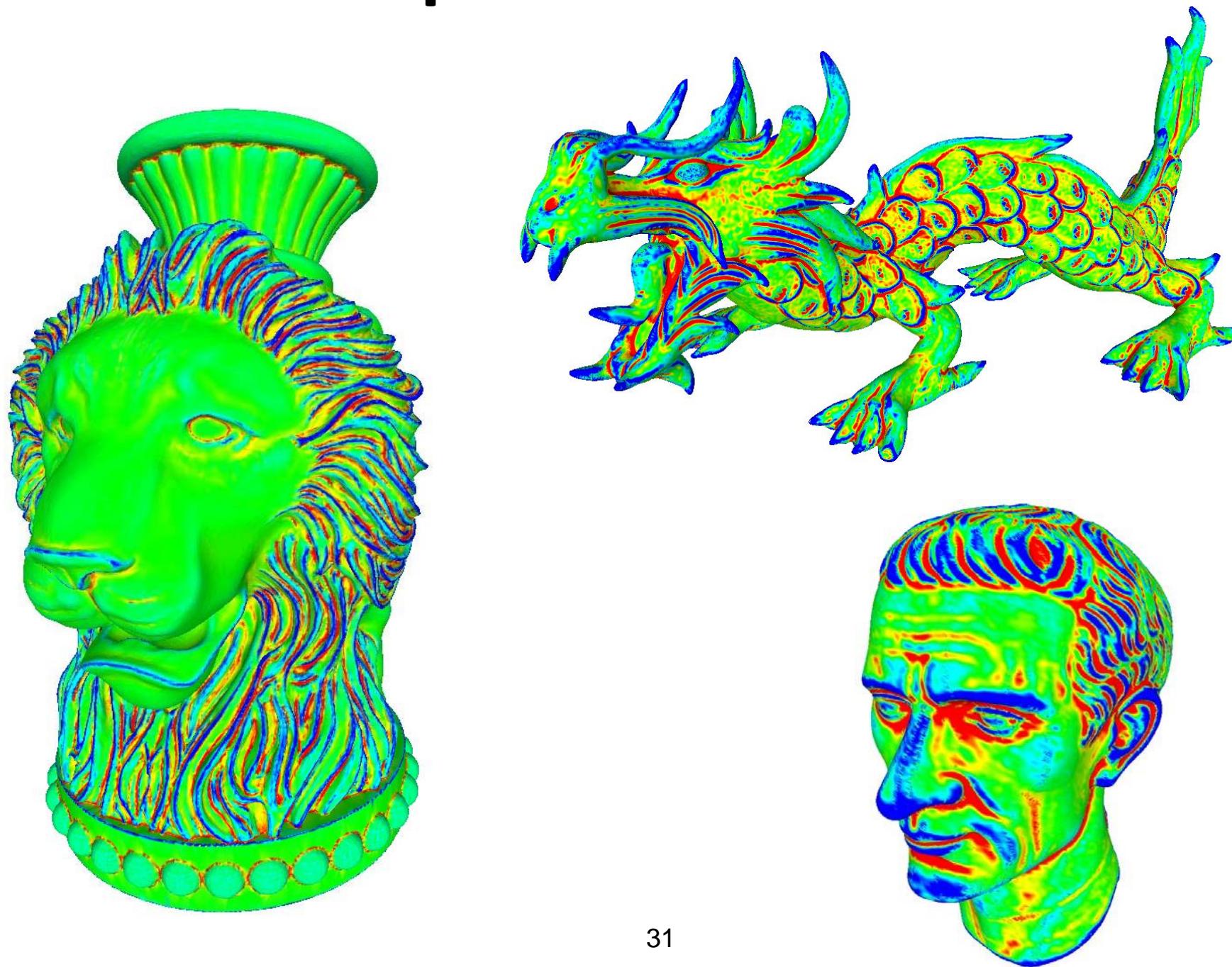


- Principal curvatures

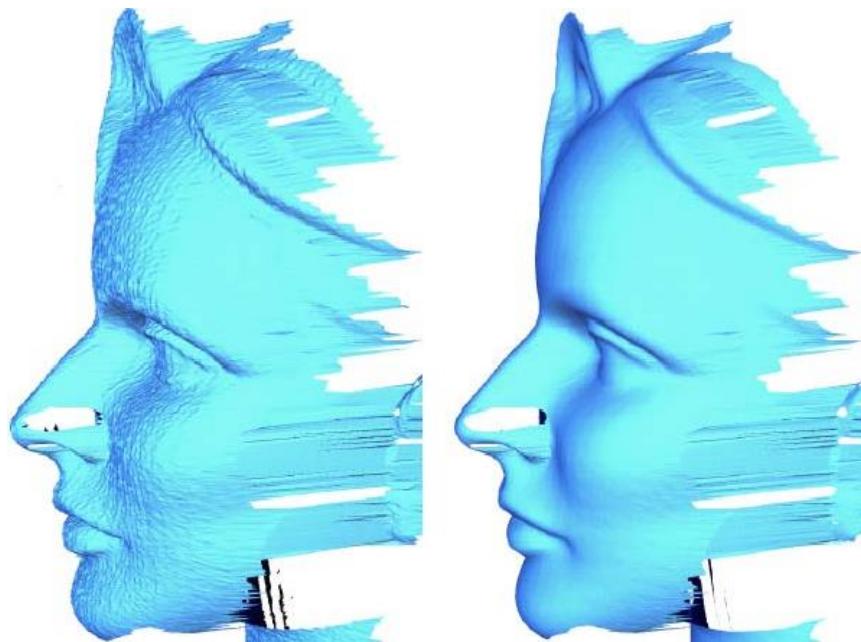
$$\kappa_1 = H + \sqrt{H^2 - G}$$

$$\kappa_2 = H - \sqrt{H^2 - G}$$

Example: Mean Curvature



Mesh Smoothing



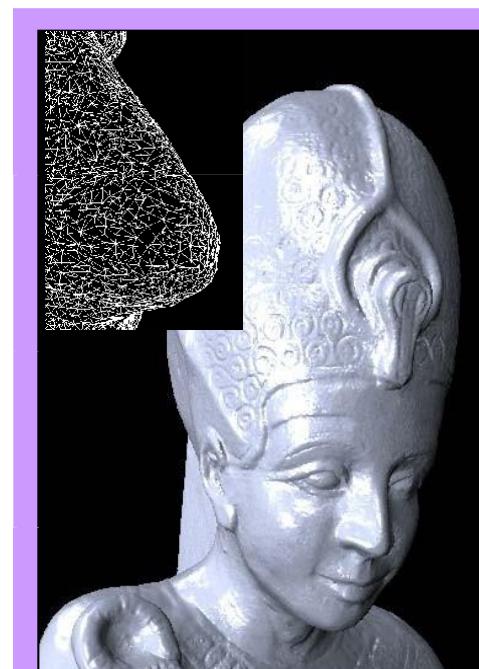
Mesh Processing Pipeline



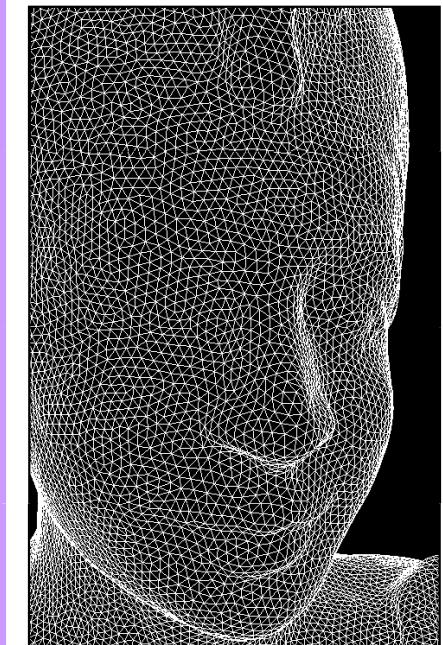
Scan



Reconstruct



Clean



Remesh

...

Mesh Quality

- Visual inspection of “sensitive” attributes
 - Specular shading



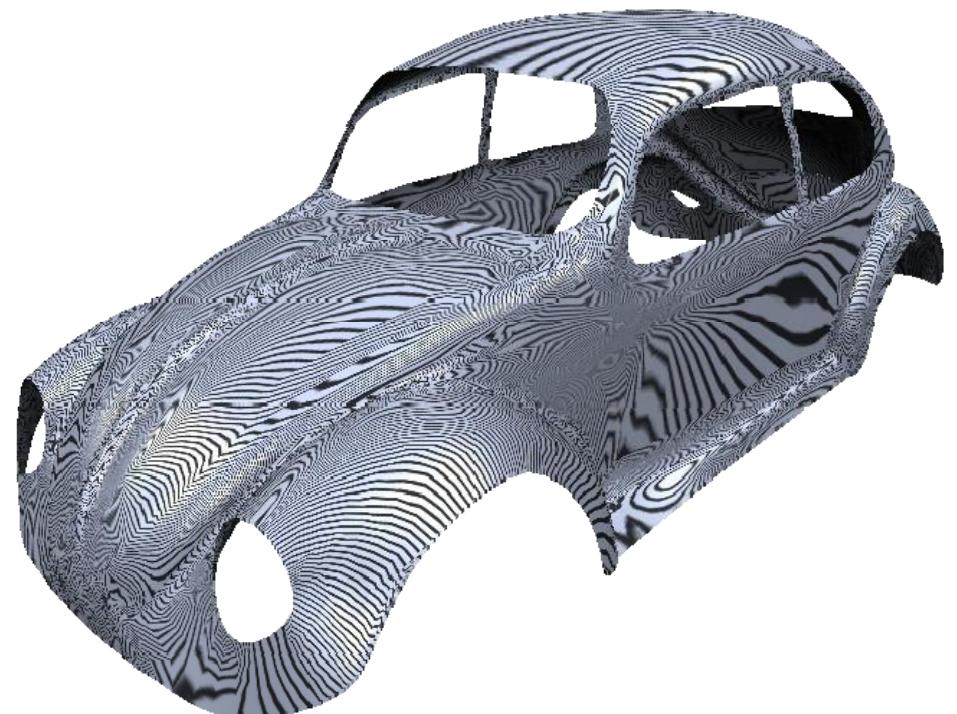
Mesh Quality

- Visual inspection of “sensitive” attributes
 - Specular shading



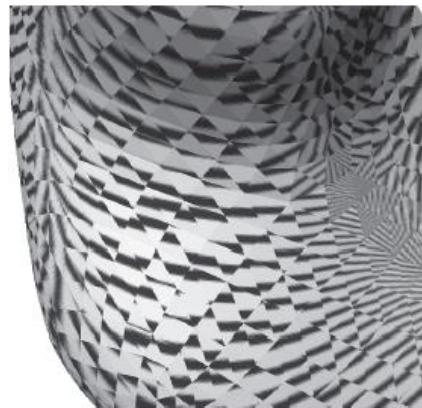
Mesh Quality

- Visual inspection of “sensitive” attributes
 - Specular shading
 - Reflection lines



Mesh Quality

- Visual inspection of “sensitive” attributes
 - Specular shading
 - Reflection lines
 - differentiability one order lower than surface
 - can be efficiently computed using graphics hardware



C^0



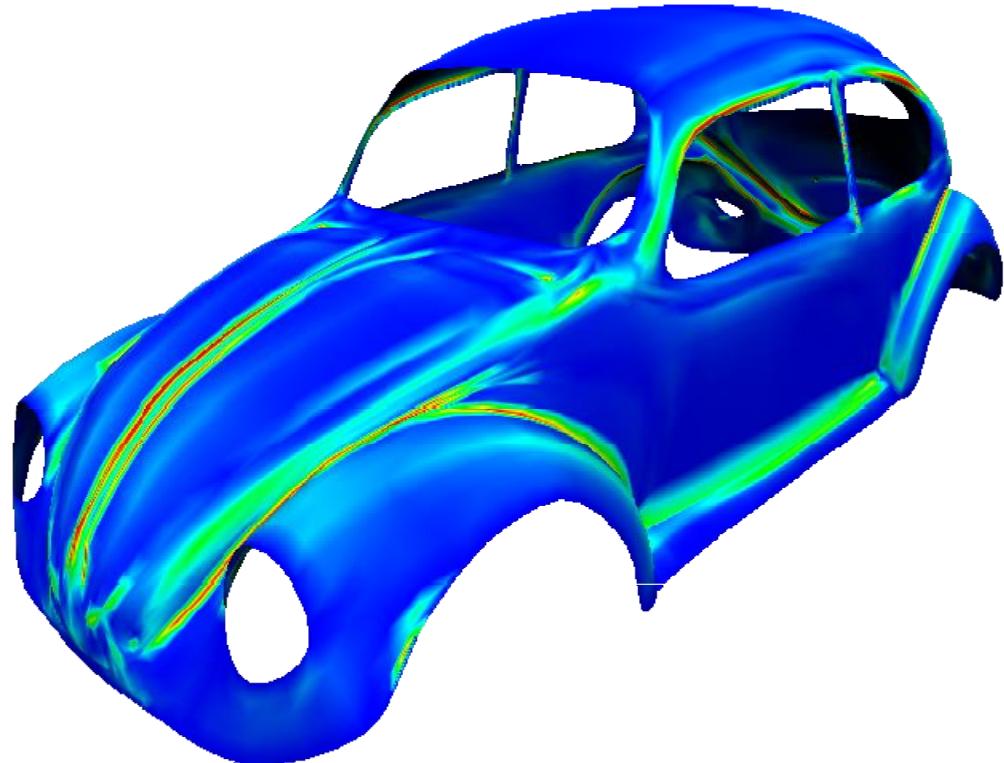
C^1



C^2

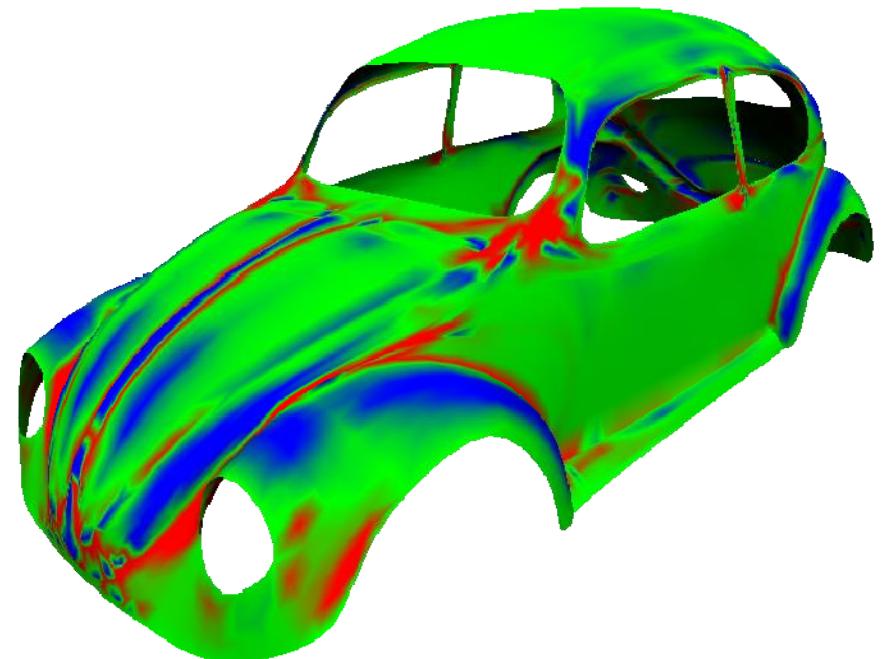
Mesh Quality

- Visual inspection of “sensitive” attributes
 - Specular shading
 - Reflection lines
 - Curvature
 - Mean curvature



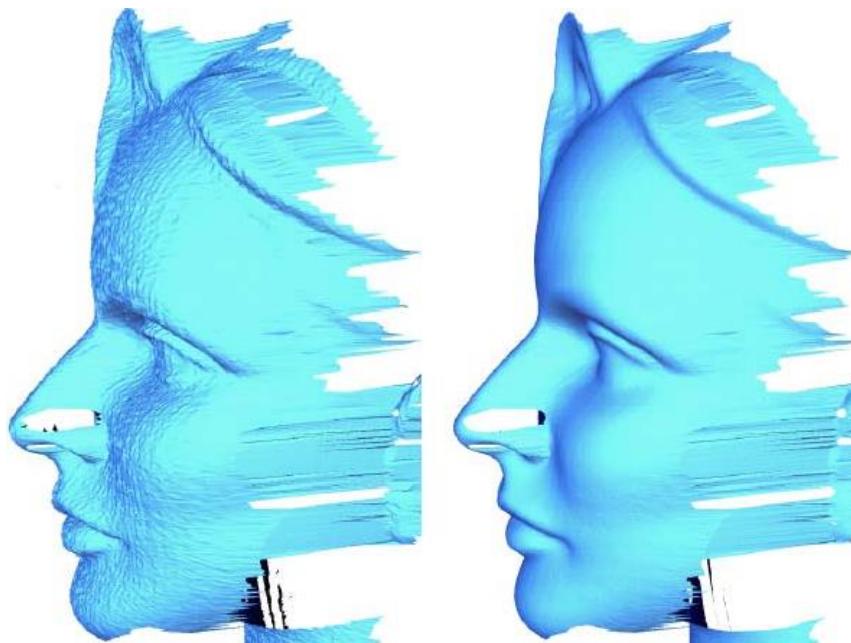
Mesh Quality

- Visual inspection of “sensitive” attributes
 - Specular shading
 - Reflection lines
 - Curvature
 - Mean curvature
 - Gaussian curvature



Motivation

- Filter out high frequency noise



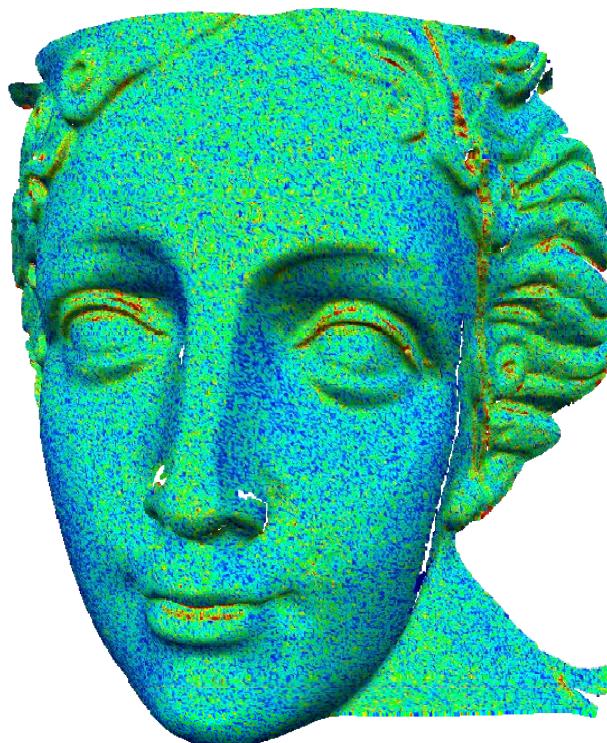
Mesh Smoothing

(aka Denoising, Filtering, Fairing)

Input: Noisy mesh (scanned or other)

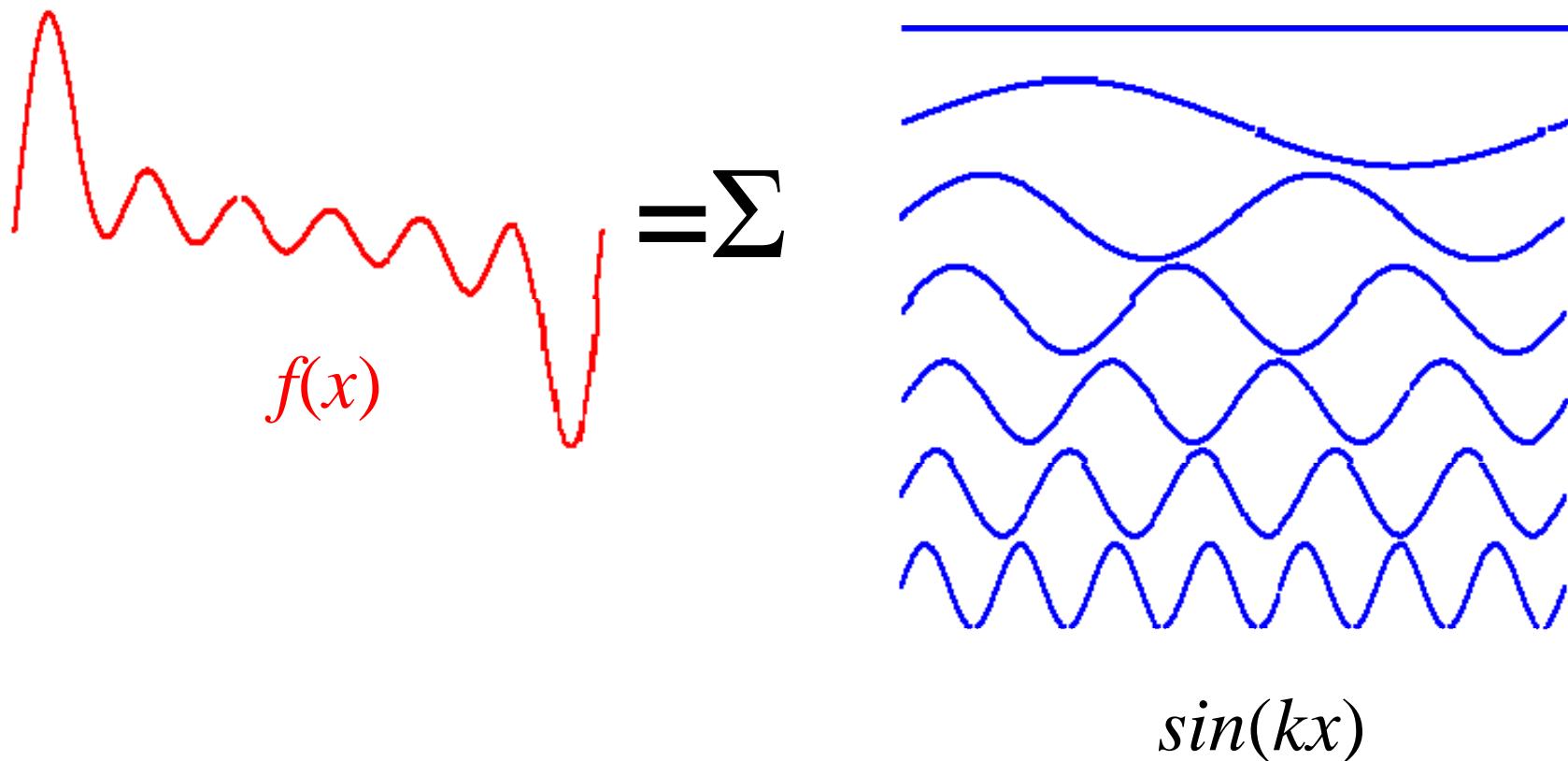
Output: Smooth mesh

How: Filter out high frequency noise



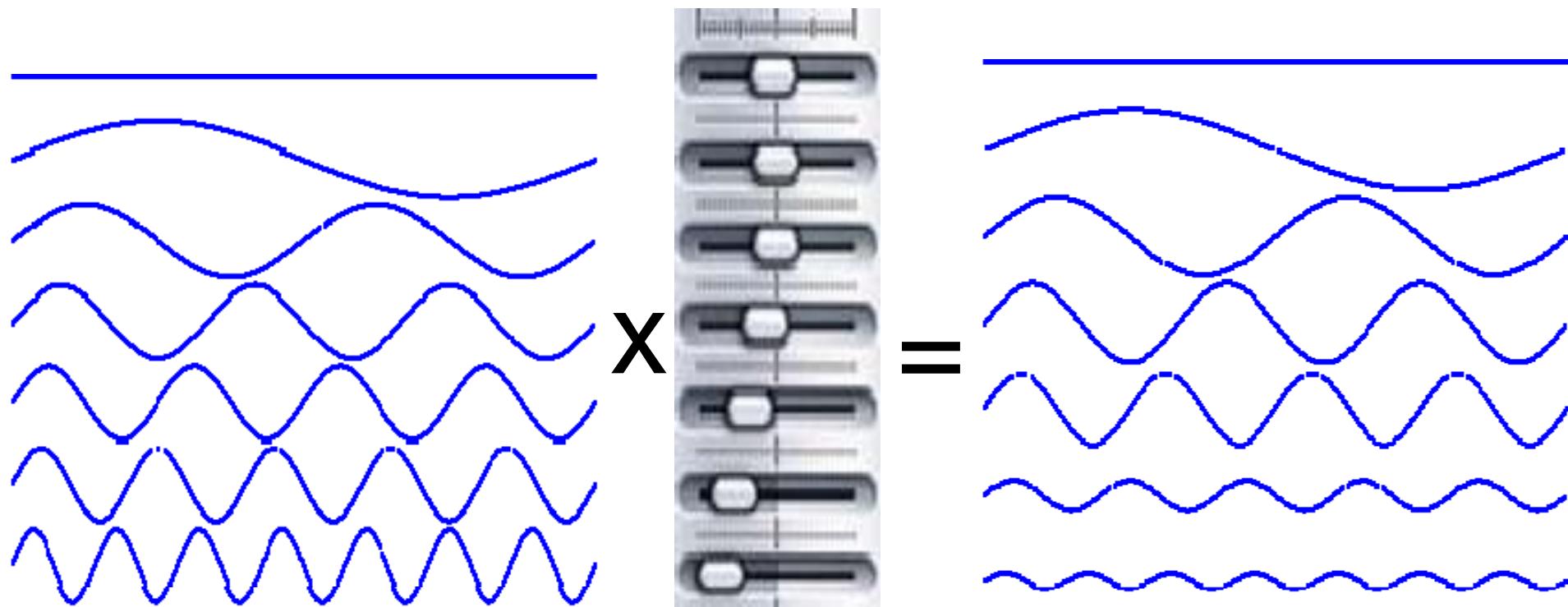
Smoothing by Filtering

Fourier Transform



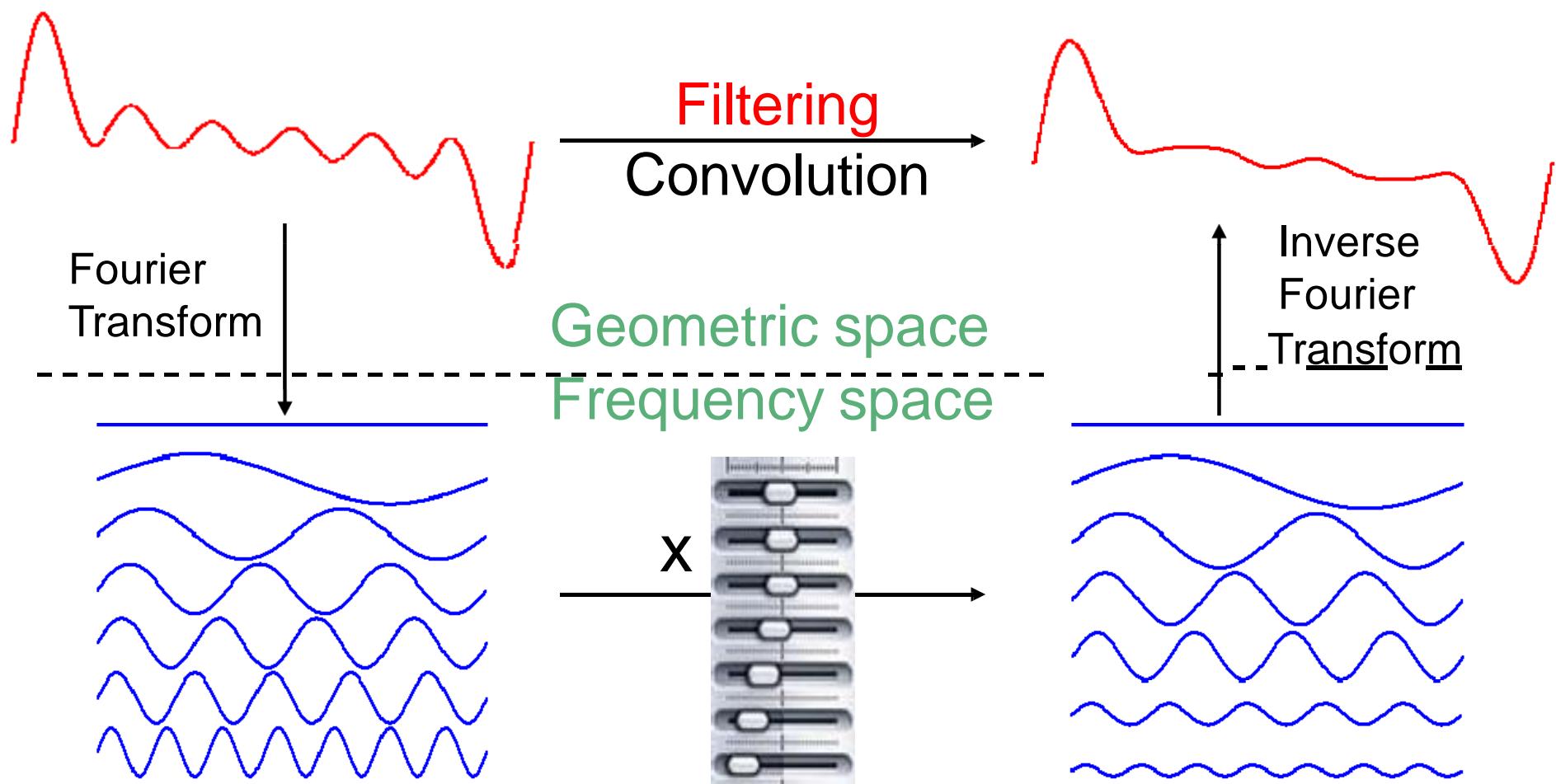
Smoothing by Filtering

Fourier Transform

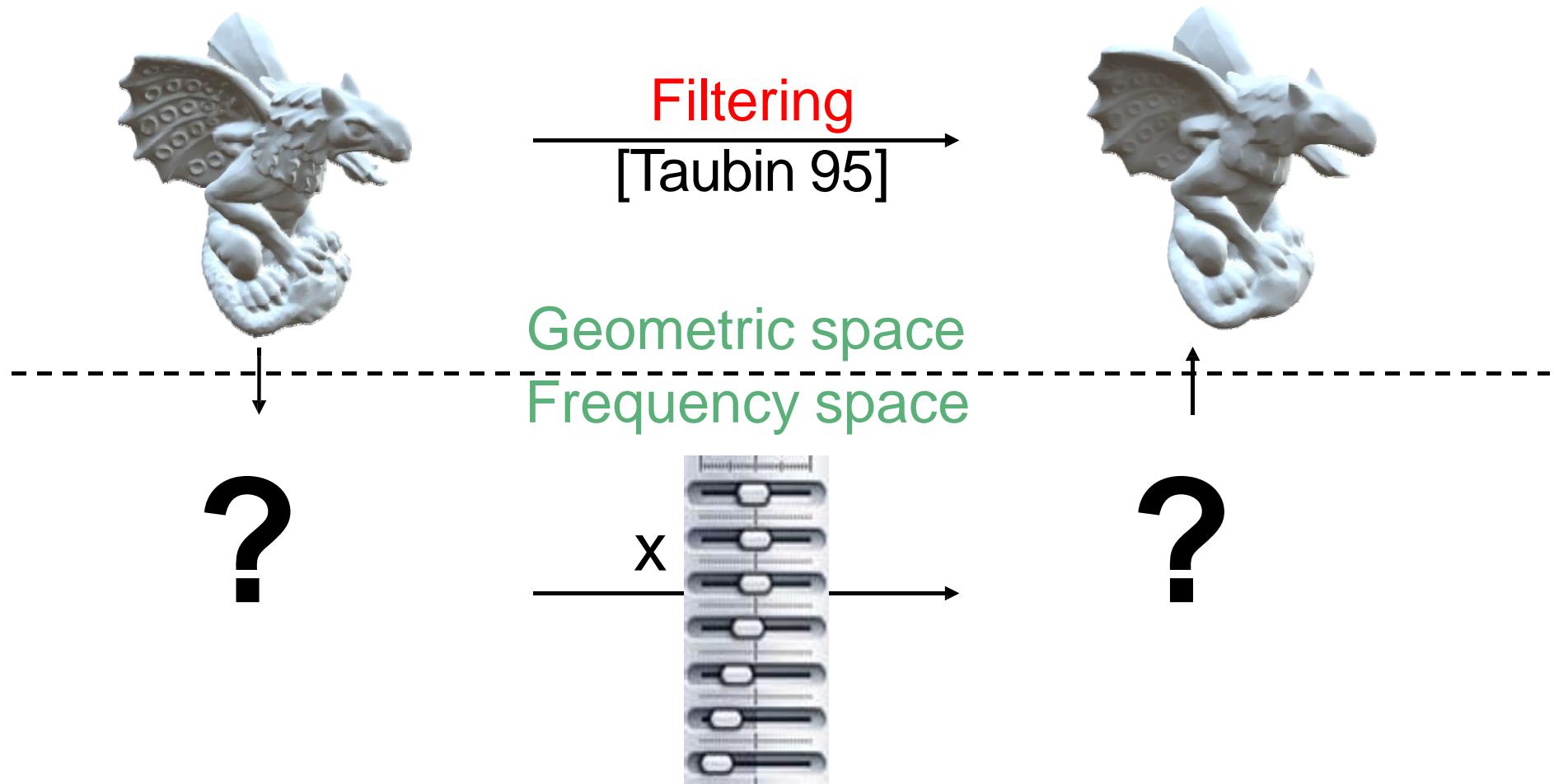


Smoothing by Filtering

Fourier Transform

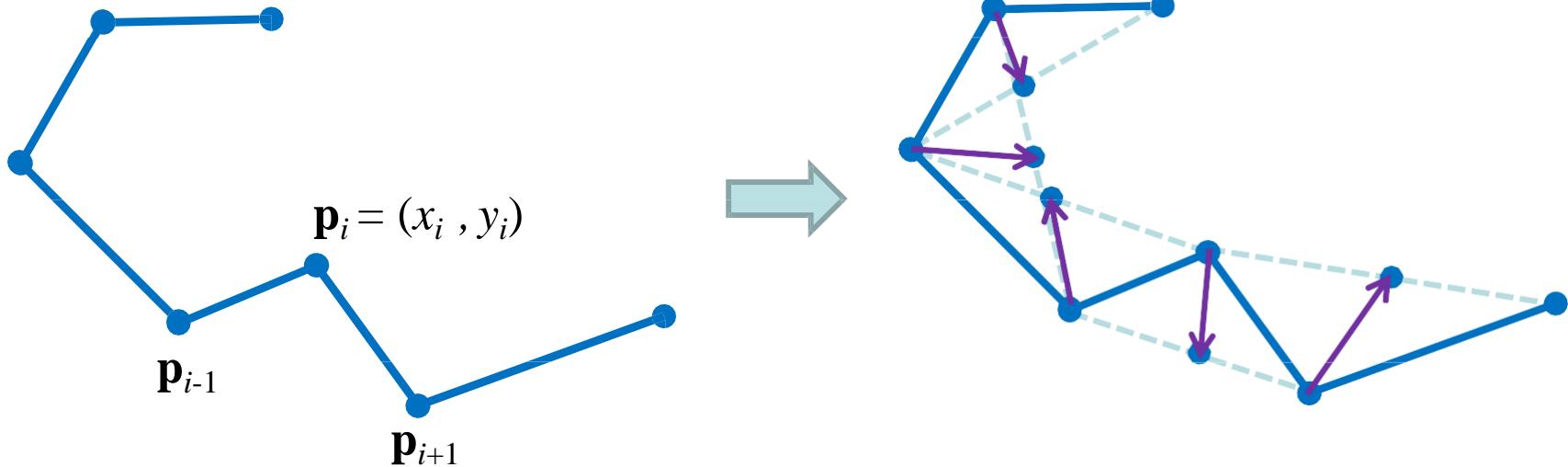


Filtering on a Mesh



Laplacian Smoothing

An easier problem: How to smooth a curve?

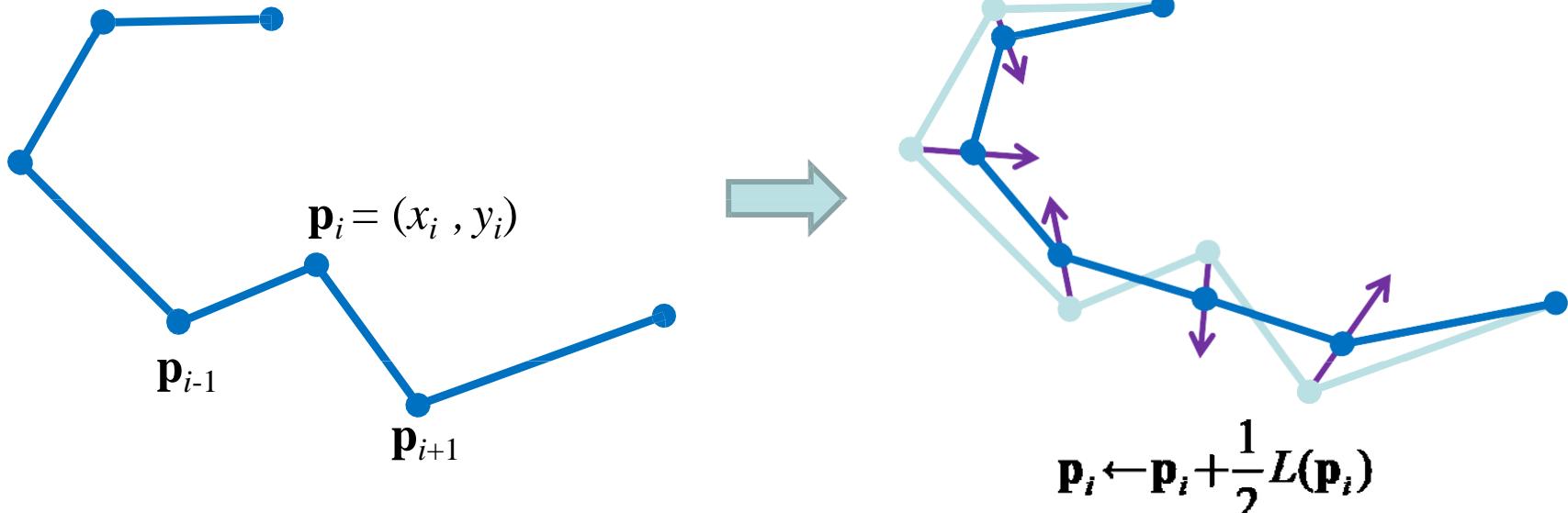


$$(\mathbf{p}_{i-1} + \mathbf{p}_{i+1})/2 - \mathbf{p}_i$$

$$L(\mathbf{p}_i) = \frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{p}_{i+1} - \mathbf{p}_i) + \frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{p}_{i-1} - \mathbf{p}_i)$$

Laplacian Smoothing

An easier problem: How to smooth a curve?



Finite difference
discretization of second
derivative
= Laplace operator in
one dimension

$$L(\mathbf{p}_i) = \frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{p}_{i+1} - \mathbf{p}_i) + \frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{p}_{i-1} - \mathbf{p}_i)$$

Laplacian Smoothing

Algorithm:

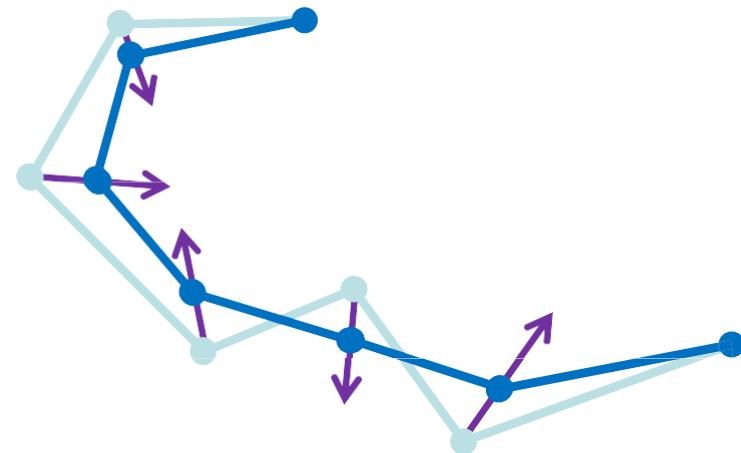
Repeat for m iterations (for non boundary points):

$$\mathbf{p}_i \leftarrow \mathbf{p}_i + \lambda L(\mathbf{p}_i)$$

For which λ ?

$$0 < \lambda < 1$$

Closed curve converges to?
Single point



Laplacian Smoothing on Meshes

Same as for curves:

$$\mathbf{p}_i^{(t+1)} = \mathbf{p}_i^{(t)} + \lambda \Delta \mathbf{p}_i^{(t)}$$

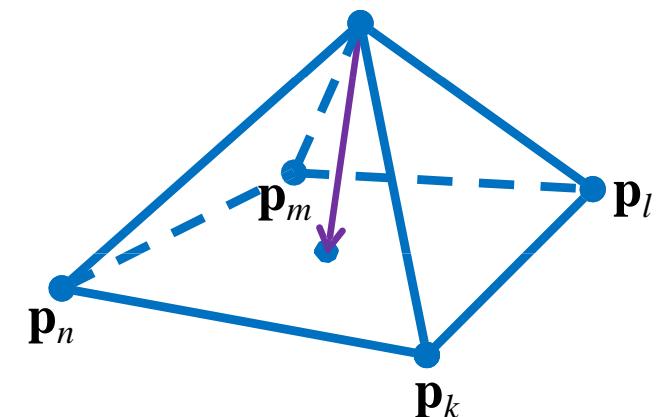
$$N_i = \{k, l, m, n\}$$

$$\mathbf{p}_i = (x_i, y_i, z_i)$$

What is $\Delta \mathbf{p}_i$?

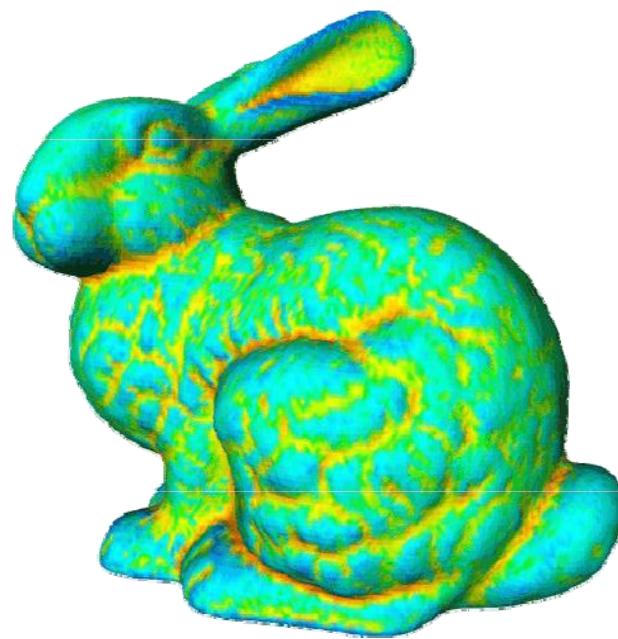


$$\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{p}_{i+1} + \mathbf{p}_{i-1}) - \mathbf{p}_i$$

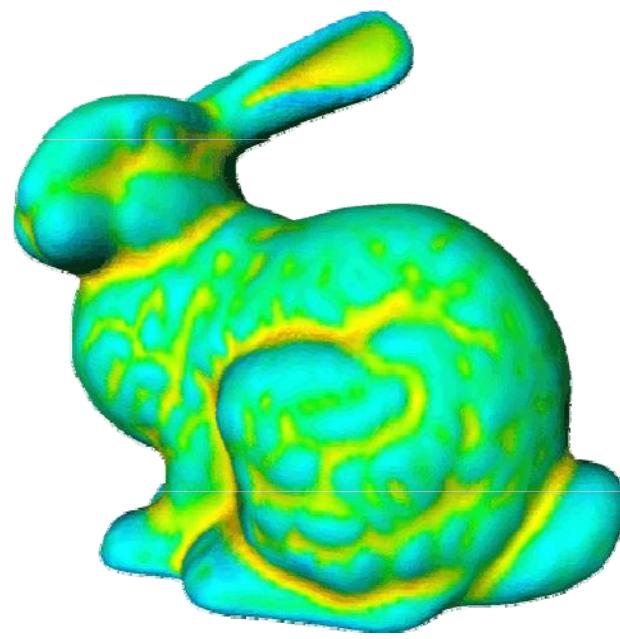


$$\frac{1}{|N_i|} \left(\sum_{j \in N_i} \mathbf{p}_j \right) - \mathbf{p}_i$$

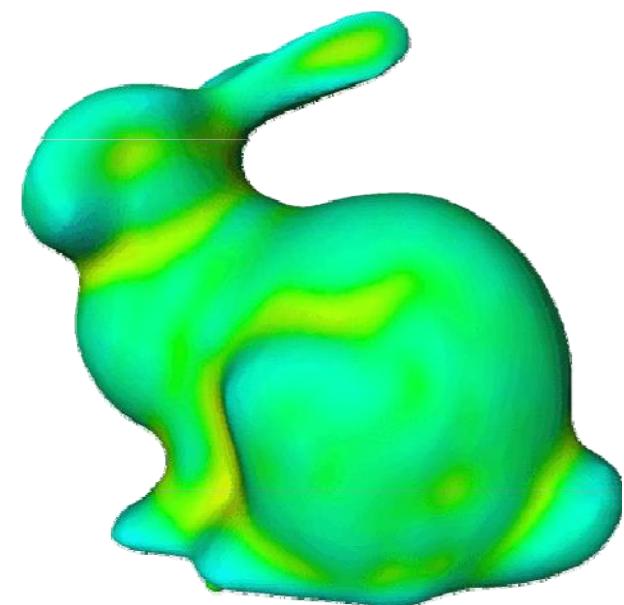
Laplacian Smoothing on Meshes



0 Iterations



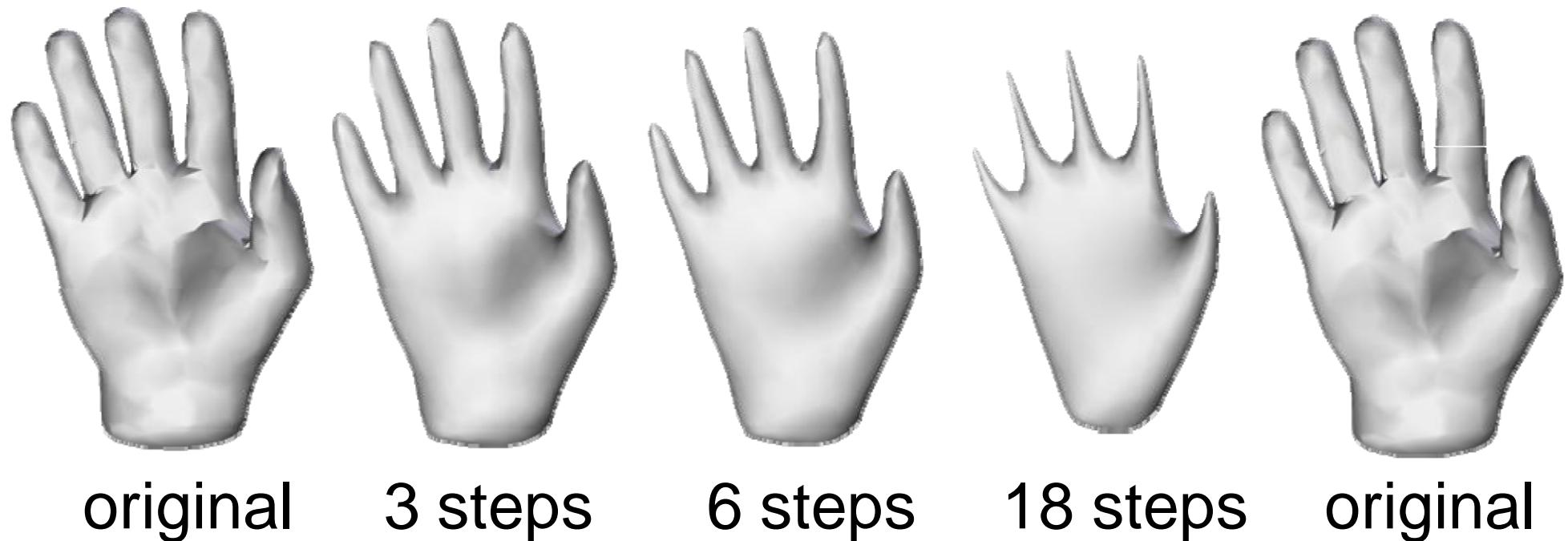
5 Iterations



20 Iterations

Problem - Shrinkage

Repeated iterations of Laplacian smoothing shrinks the mesh



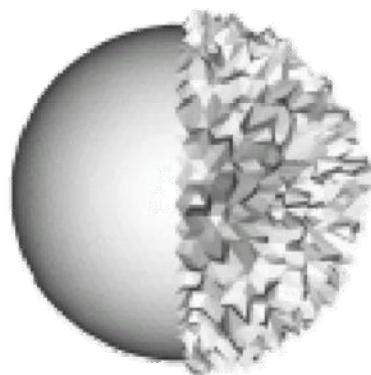
Taubin Smoothing

Iterate:

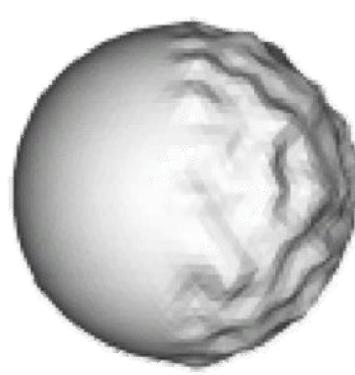
$$\mathbf{p}_i \leftarrow \mathbf{p}_i + \lambda \Delta \mathbf{p}_i \quad \text{Shrink}$$

$$\mathbf{p}_i \leftarrow \mathbf{p}_i + \mu \Delta \mathbf{p}_i \quad \text{Inflate}$$

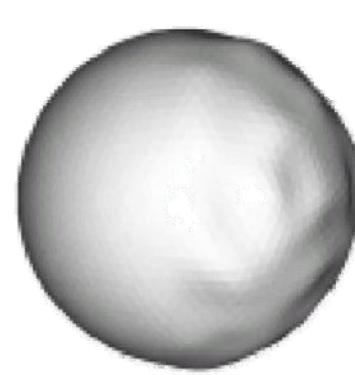
with $\lambda > 0$ and $\mu < 0$



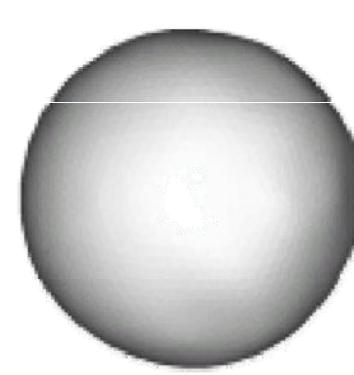
original



10 steps



50 steps



200 steps

Laplacian Smoothing

$$\mathbf{p}_i^{(t+1)} = \mathbf{p}_i^{(t)} + \lambda \Delta \mathbf{p}_i^{(t)}$$

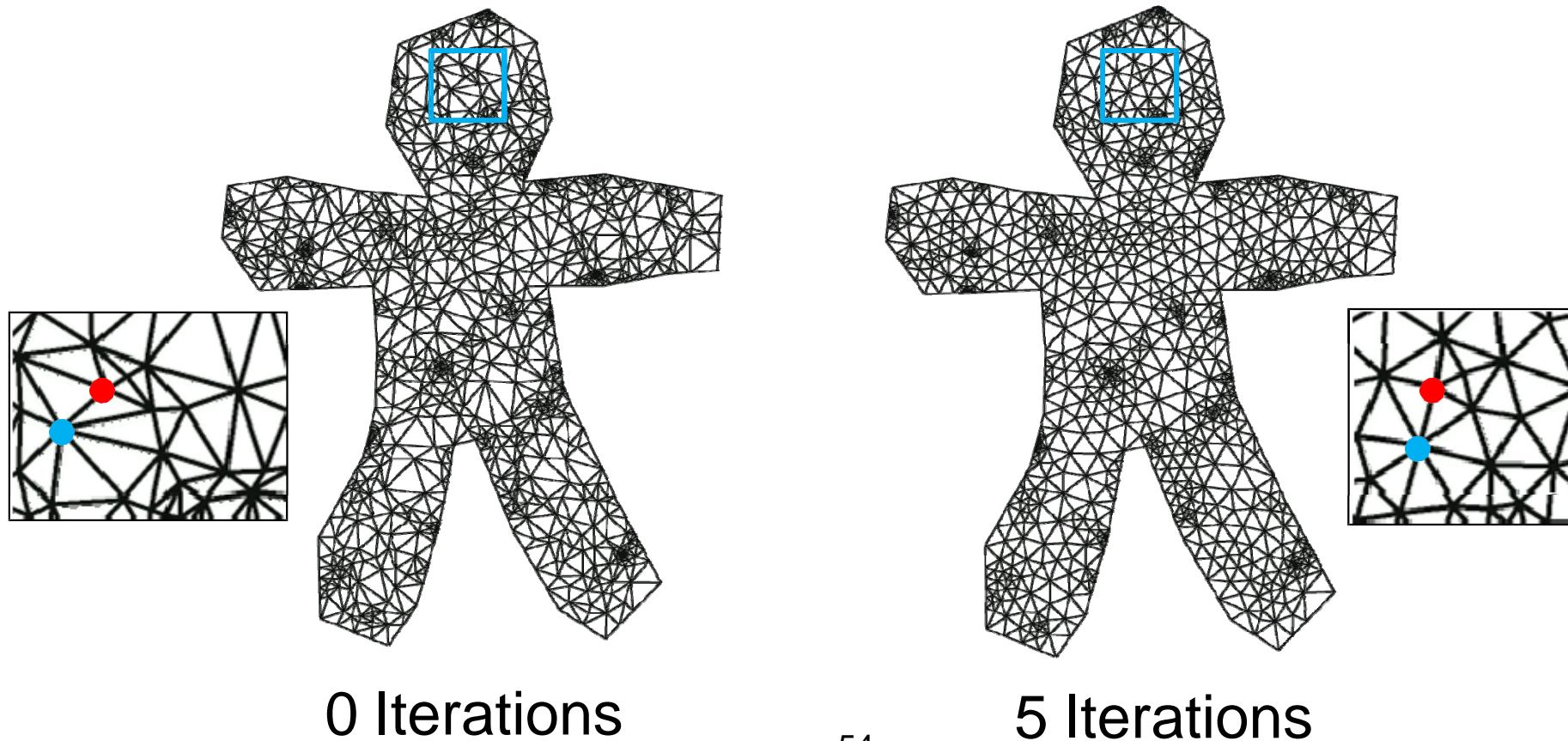
$\Delta \mathbf{p}_i$ = mean curvature normal

 mean curvature flow

Laplace Operator Discretization

The Problem

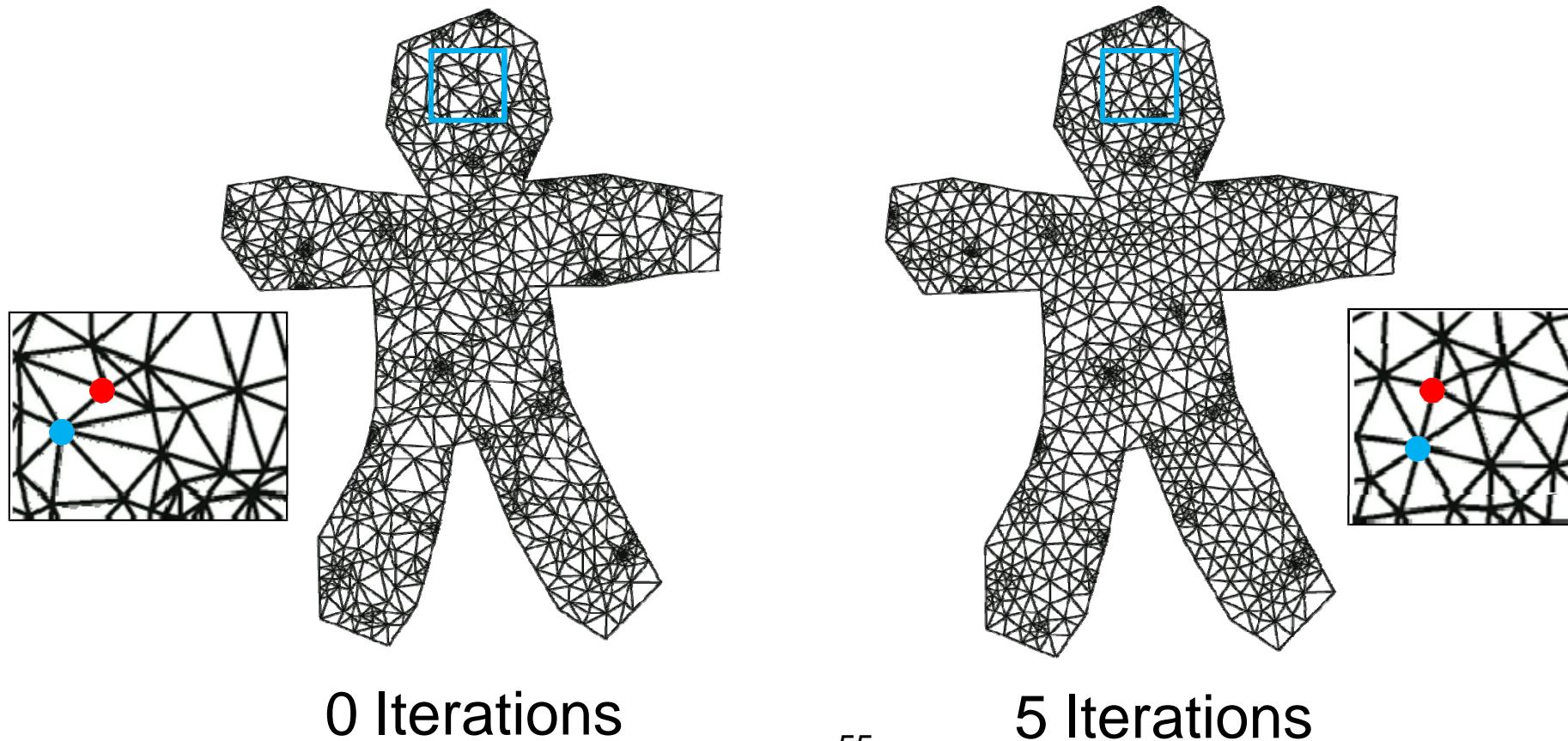
Laplace Operator Discretization



Laplace Operator Discretization

The Problem

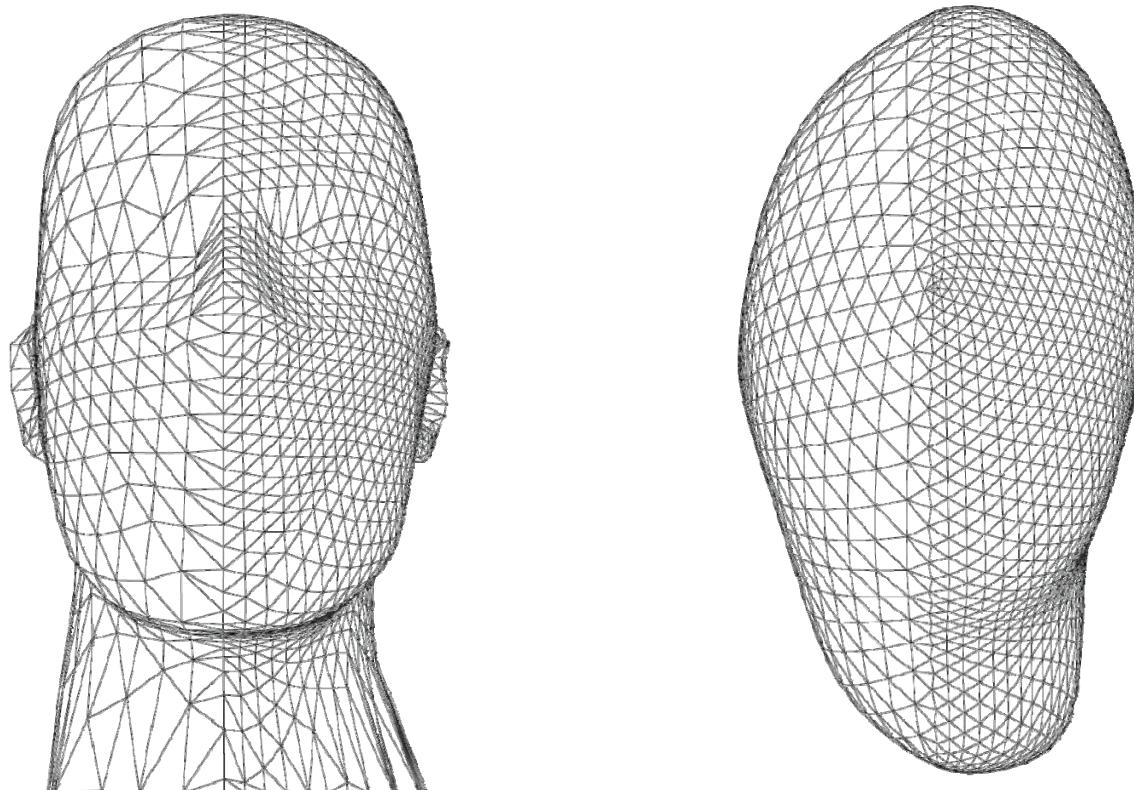
Laplace Operator Discretization



Laplace Operator Discretization

The Problem

Not good – The result should not depend on triangle sizes



Laplace Operator Discretization

What Went Wrong?

Back to curves:

$$\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{p}_{i+1} + \mathbf{p}_{i-1}) - \mathbf{p}_i$$



Same weight for both neighbors,
although one is closer

Laplace Operator Discretization

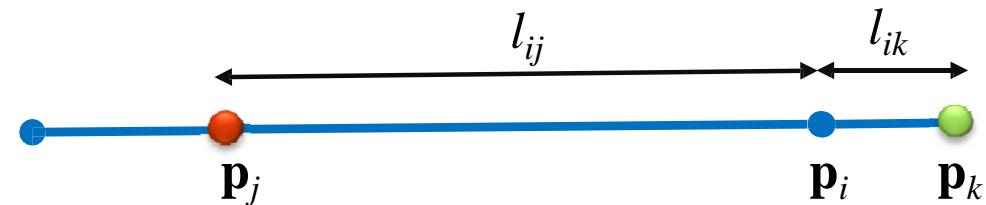
The Solution

Use a weighted average to define Δ

Which weights?

$$w_{ij} = \frac{1}{l_{ij}}$$

$$w_{ik} = \frac{1}{l_{ik}}$$



$$L(\mathbf{p}_i) = \frac{w_{ij}\mathbf{p}_j + w_{ik}\mathbf{p}_k}{w_{ij} + w_{ik}} - \mathbf{p}_i$$

Straight curves will be invariant to smoothing

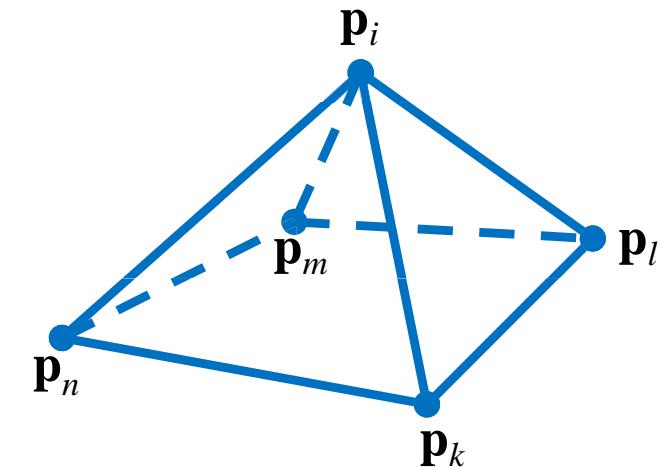
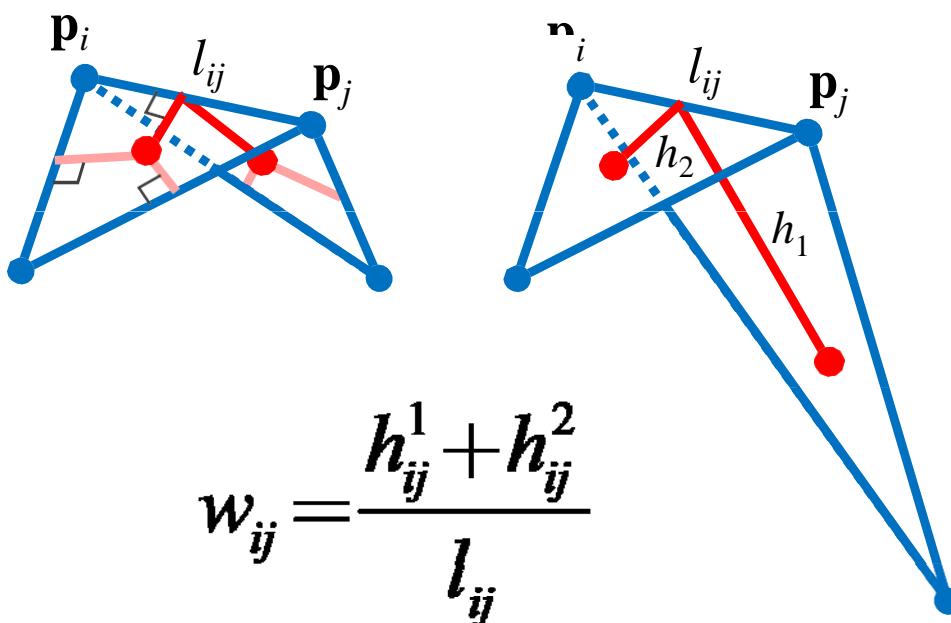
Laplace Operator Discretization

Cotangent Weights

Use a weighted average to define Δ

$$N_i = \{k, l, m, n\}$$

Which weights? $w_{ij} = \frac{1}{l_{ij}}$?



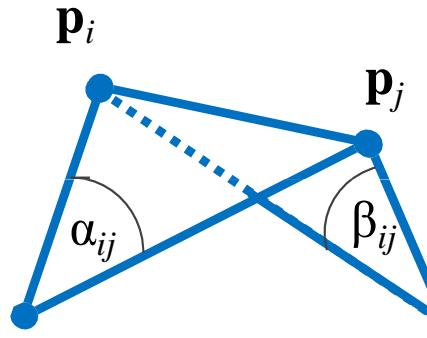
$$L(\mathbf{p}_i) = \frac{1}{\sum_{j \in N_i} w_{ij}} \left(\sum_{j \in N_i} w_{ij} \mathbf{p}_j \right) - \mathbf{p}_i$$

Laplace Operator Discretization

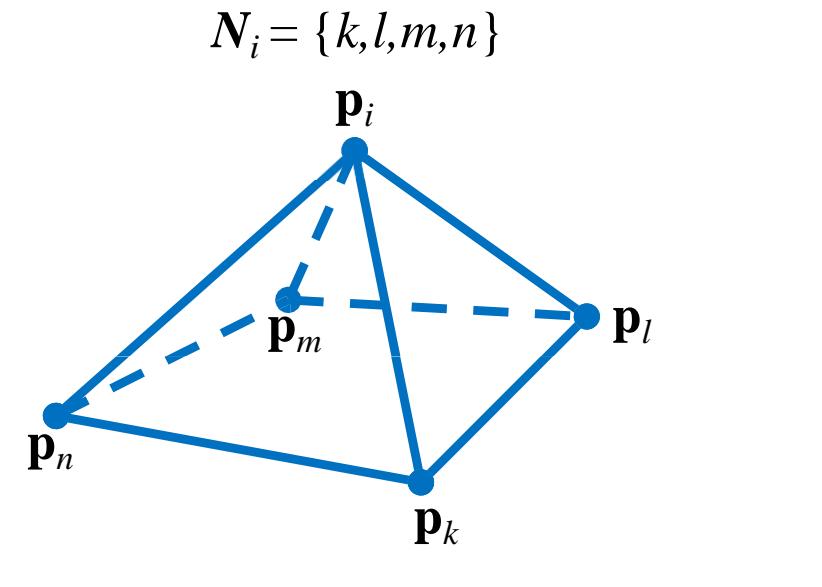
Cotangent Weights

Use a weighted average to define Δ

Which weights?



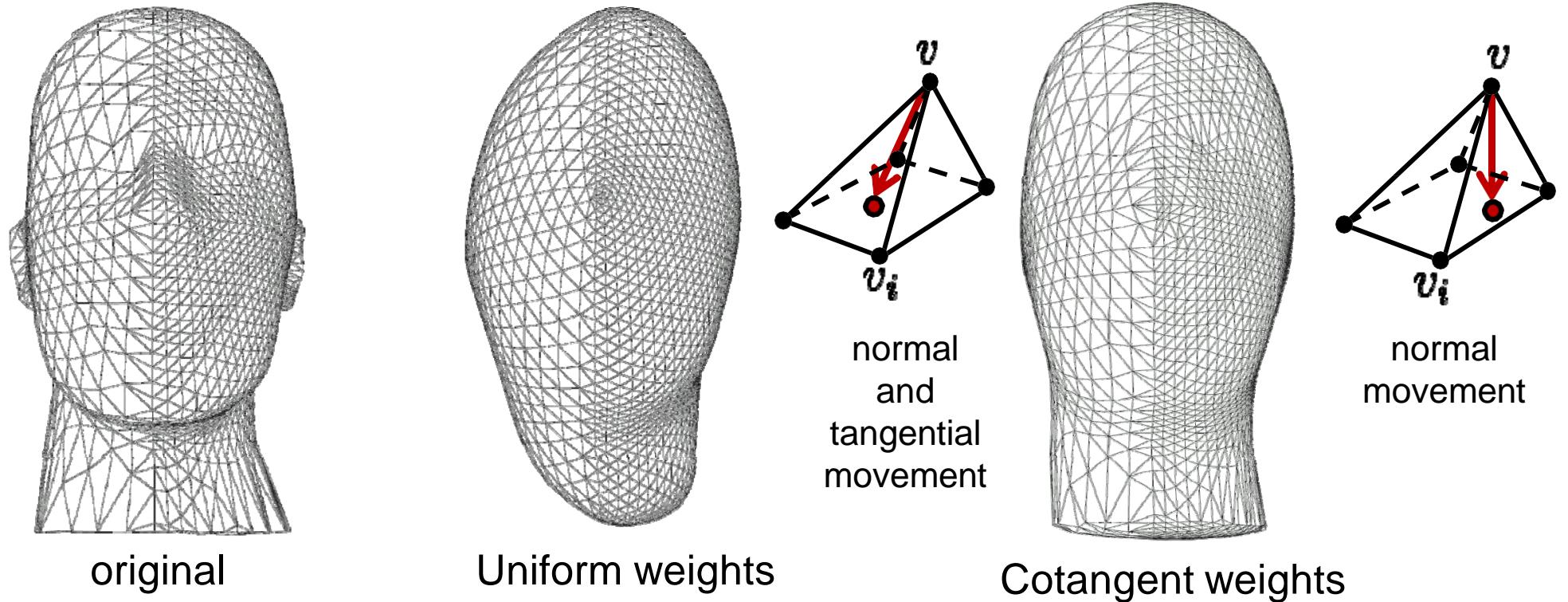
$$w_{ij} = \frac{h_{ij}^1 + h_{ij}^2}{l_{ij}} = \frac{1}{2} (\cot \alpha_{ij} + \cot \beta_{ij})$$



$$L(\mathbf{p}_i) = \frac{1}{\sum w_{ij}} \sum_{j \in N_i} w_{ij} (\mathbf{p}_j - \mathbf{p}_i)$$

Planar meshes will be invariant to smoothing

Smoothing with the Cotangent Laplacian

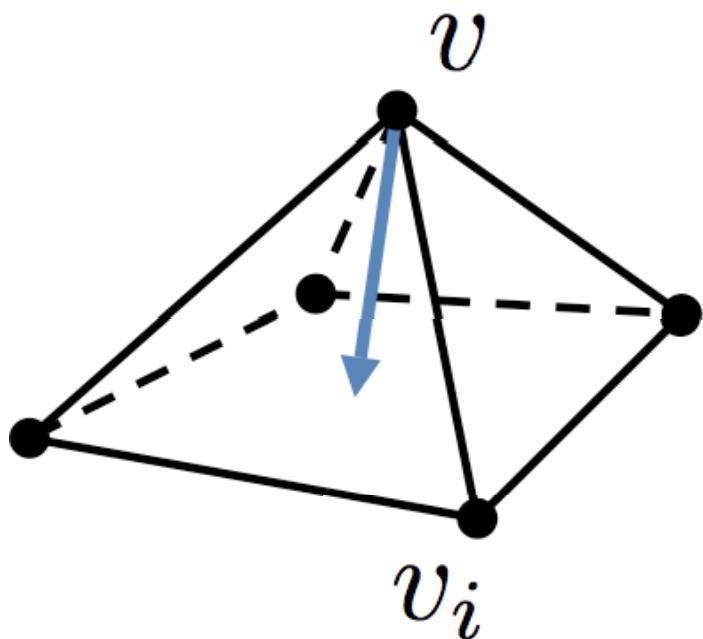


Exercise

- Smoothing
 - Uniform
 - Cotangent formula
- Smoothness visualization
 - Mean curvature (uniform, weighted)
 - Gaussian curvature
 - Triangle shape

Exercise

- Smoothing
 - Uniform Laplace-Beltrami



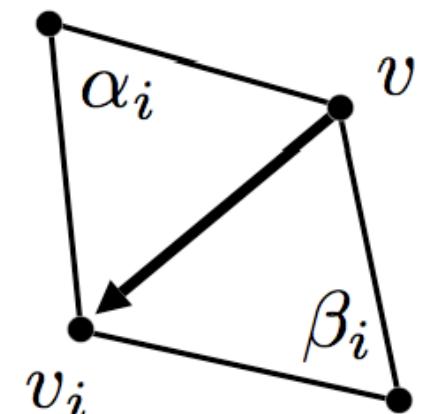
$$L_U(v) = \left(\frac{1}{n} \sum_i v_i \right) - v$$

Exercise

- Smoothing
 - Cotangent Formula (simplified)

$$L_B(v) = \frac{1}{\sum_i w_i} \sum_i w_i (v_i - v)$$

$$w_i = \frac{1}{2} (\cot \alpha_i + \cot \beta_i)$$



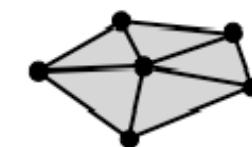
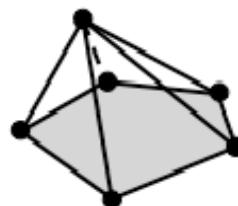
$$\cot(\theta) = \frac{\cos \theta}{\sin \theta} = \frac{\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v}}{\|\vec{u} \times \vec{v}\|} = \frac{\|\vec{u}\| \cdot \|\vec{v}\| \cos(\theta)}{\|\vec{u}\| \cdot \|\vec{v}\| \sin(\theta)}$$

Exercise

- Smoothing

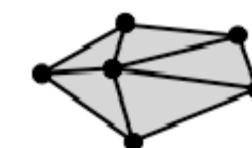
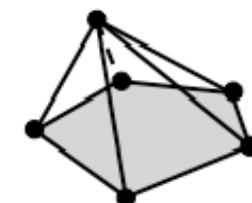
- Uniform Laplace-Beltrami

$$v' = v + \frac{1}{2} \cdot L_U(v)$$



- Cotangent Formula

$$v' = v + \frac{1}{2} \cdot L_B(v)$$

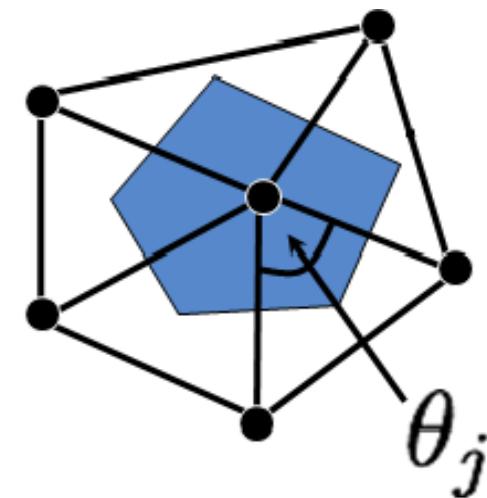


- Move vertices in parallel!

Exercise

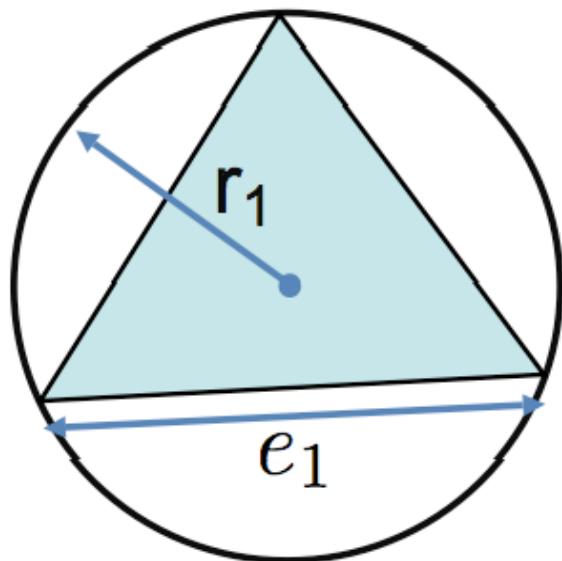
- Curvature
 - Mean Curvature
 - Gaussian Curvature (simplified)

$$G = (2\pi - \sum_j \theta_j)$$

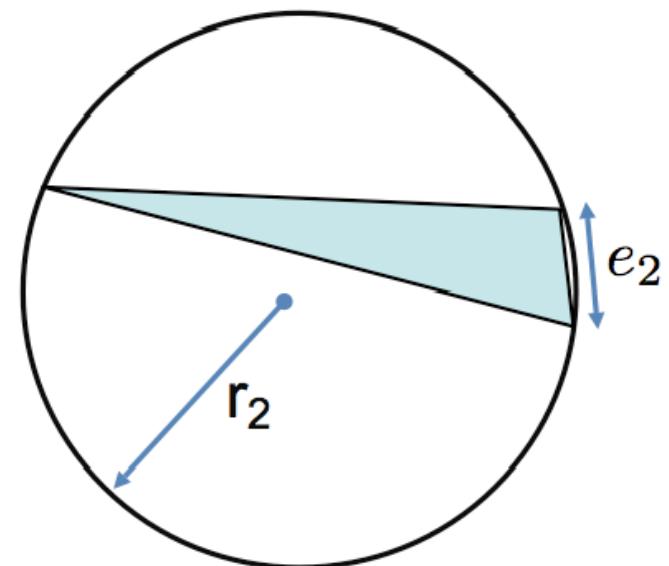


Exercise

- Triangle Shape – circumradius vs. minimal edge length

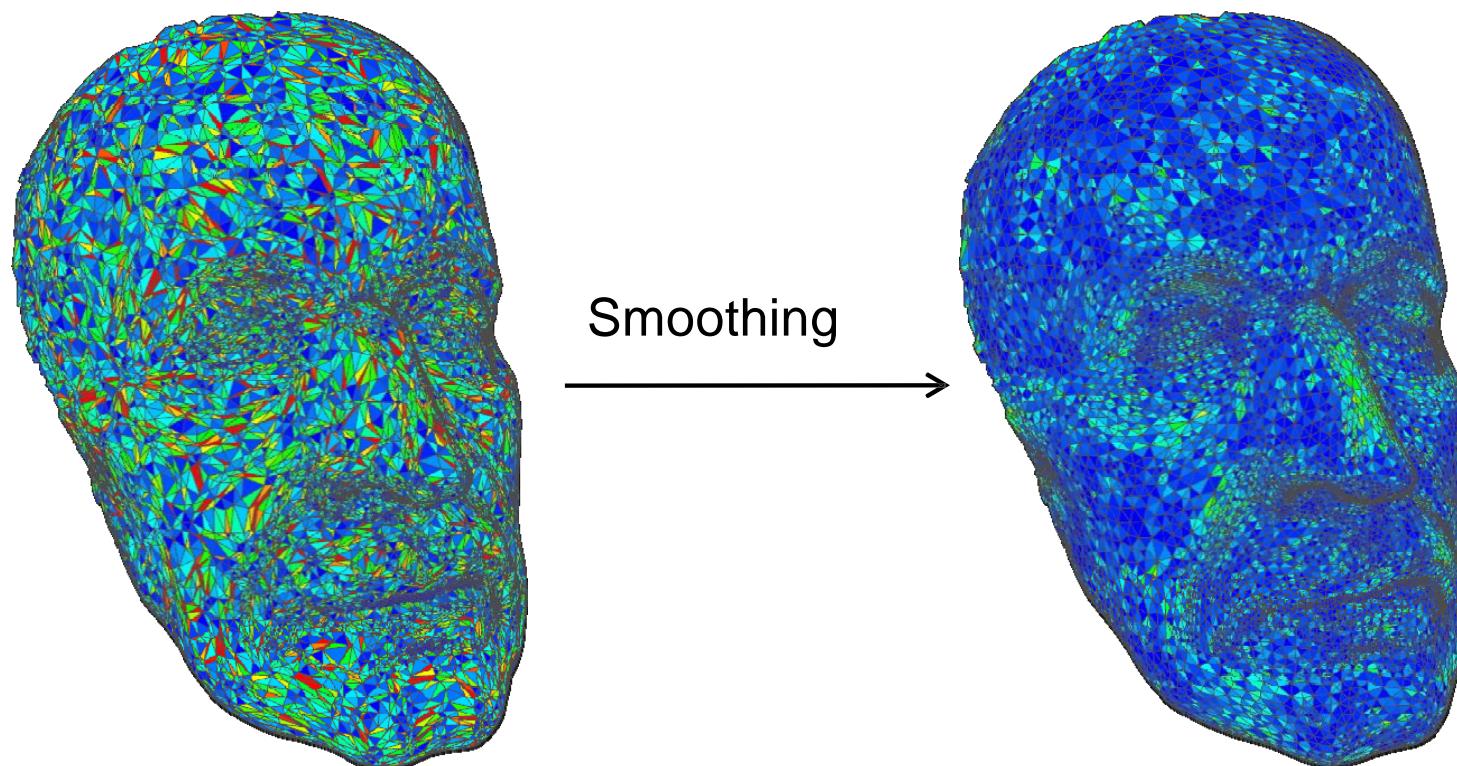


$$\frac{r_1}{e_1} < \frac{r_2}{e_2}$$



Exercise

- Triangle Shape



References

- “Discrete Differential-Geometry Operators for Triangulated 2-Manifolds”, Meyer et al., ’02
- “Restricted Delaunay triangulations and normal cycle”, Cohen-Steiner et al., SoCG ‘03
- “On the convergence of metric and geometric properties of polyhedral surfaces , Hildebrandt et al., 06
- “Discrete Laplace operators: No free lunch”, Wardetzky et al., SGP ‘07
- “A Signal Processing Approach to Fair Surface Design”, Taubin, Siggraph ‘95
- “Implicit Fairing of Irregular Meshes using Diffusion and Curvature Flow”, Desbrun et al., Siggraph ’99
- “An Intuitive Framework for Real-Time Freeform Modeling”, Botsch et al., Siggraph ’04
- “Spectral Geometry Processing with Manifold Harmonics”, Vallet et al., Eurographics ‘08

References

- “Discrete Differential-Geometry Operators for Triangulated 2-Manifolds”, Meyer et al., ’02
- “Restricted Delaunay triangulations and normal cycle”, Cohen-Steiner et al., SoCG ‘03
- “On the convergence of metric and geometric properties of polyhedral surfaces”, Hildebrandt et al., ’06
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