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Discrete Conformal Equivalence of Polyhedral Surfaces



Mark Gillespie



Boris Springborn

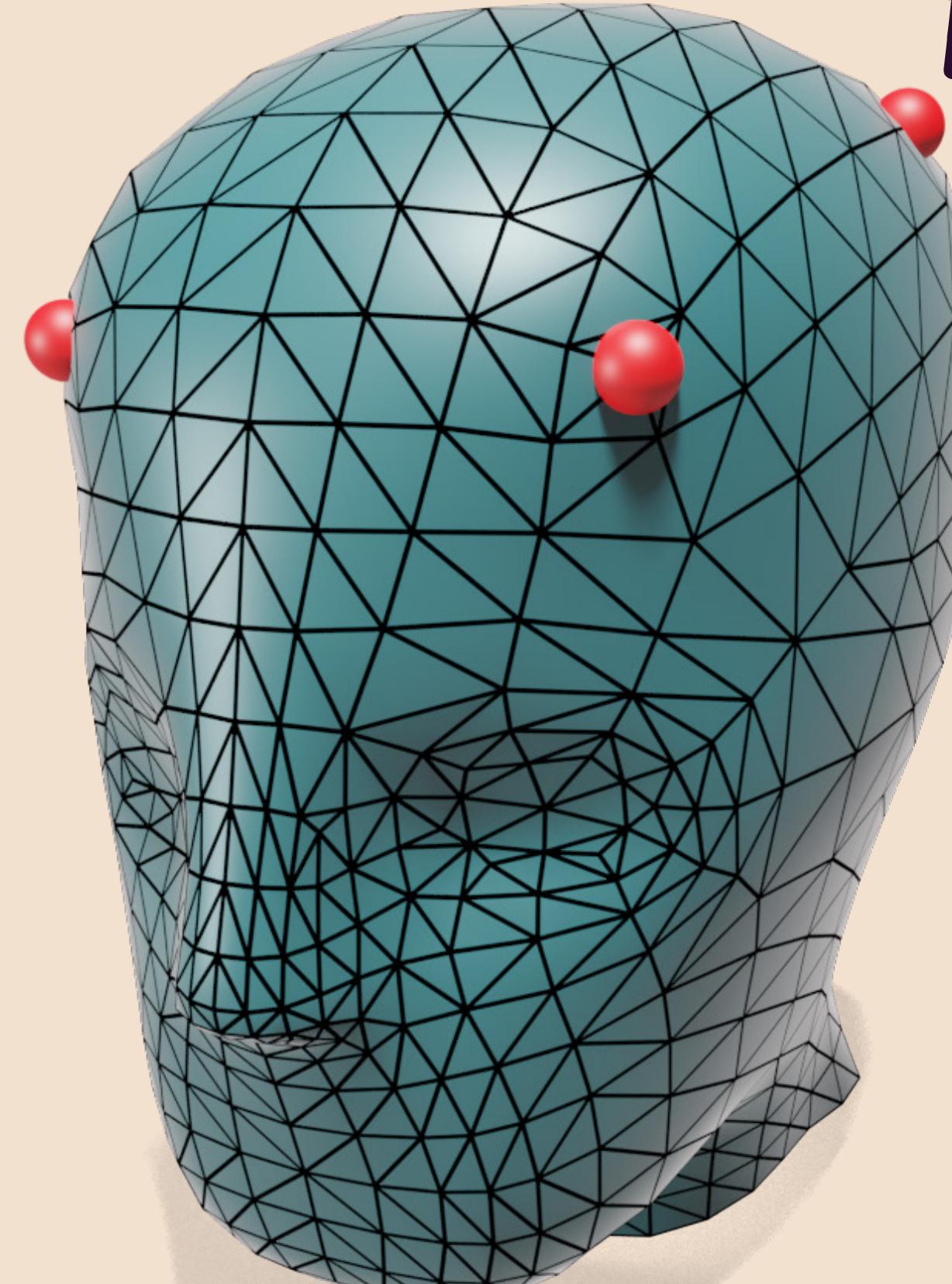


Keenan Crane

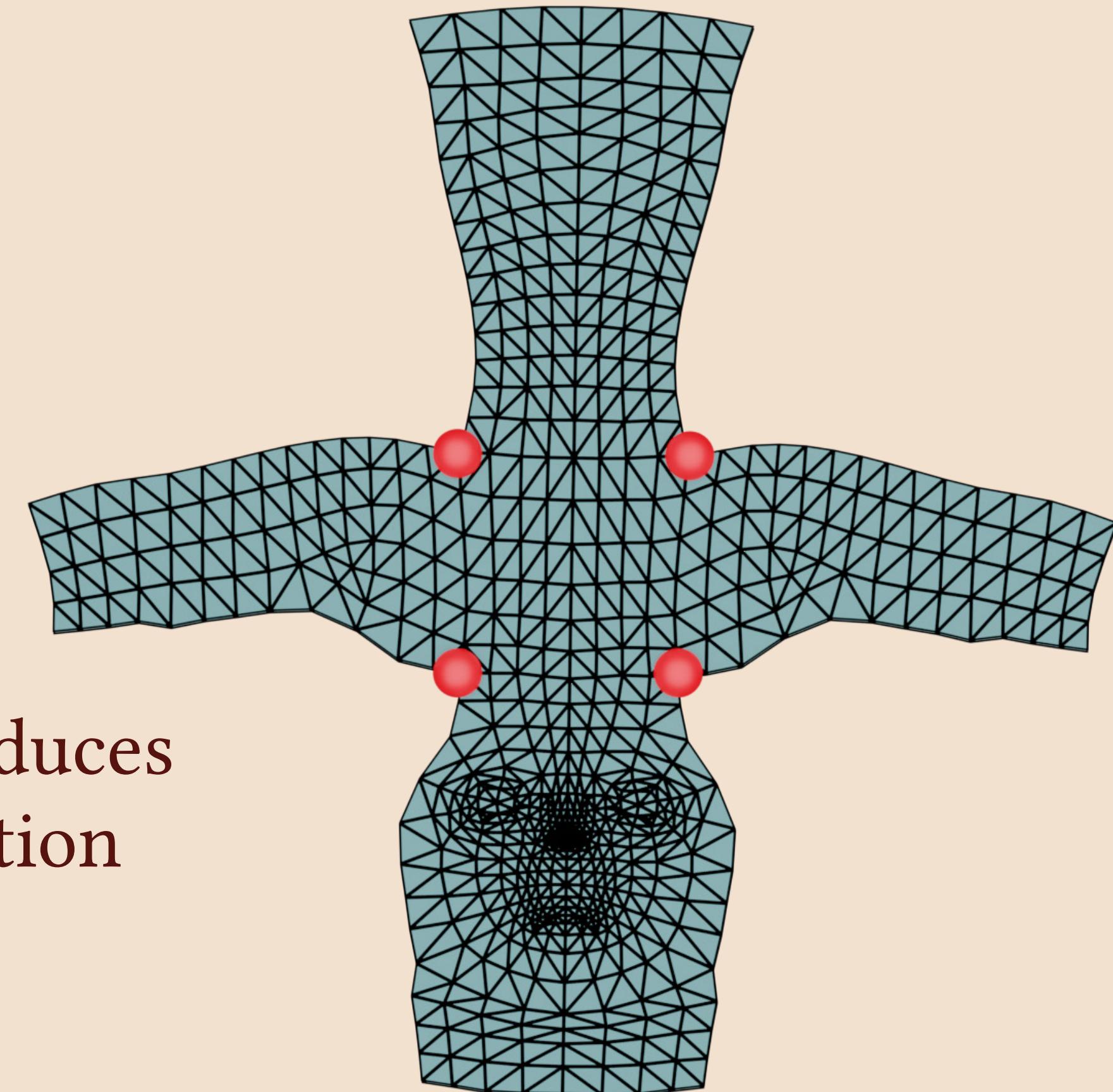
Goal: high-quality surface parameterization

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use *cone flattening*



Cones reduce area distortion



Conformal reduces angle distortion

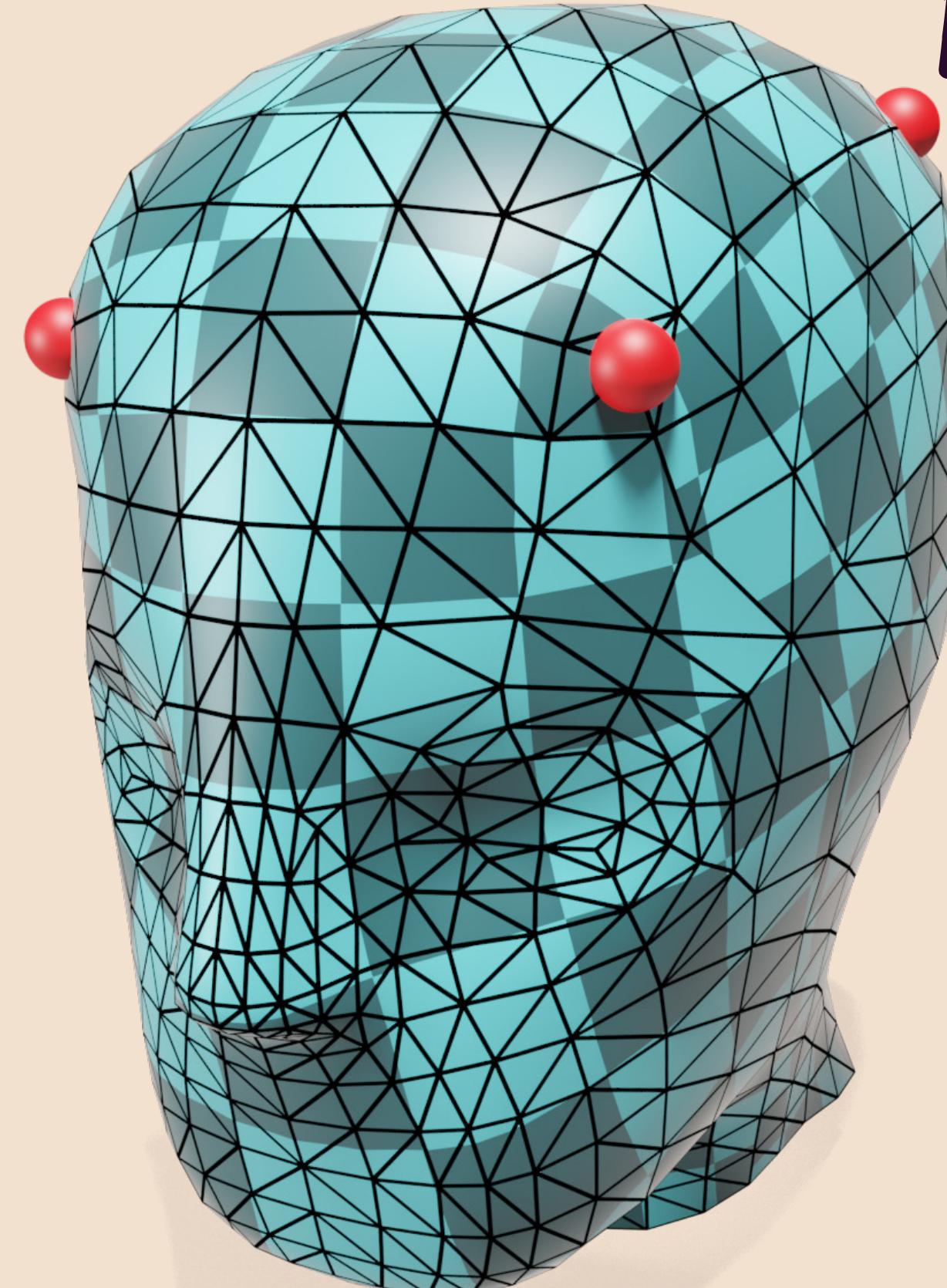
input mesh

output parameterization

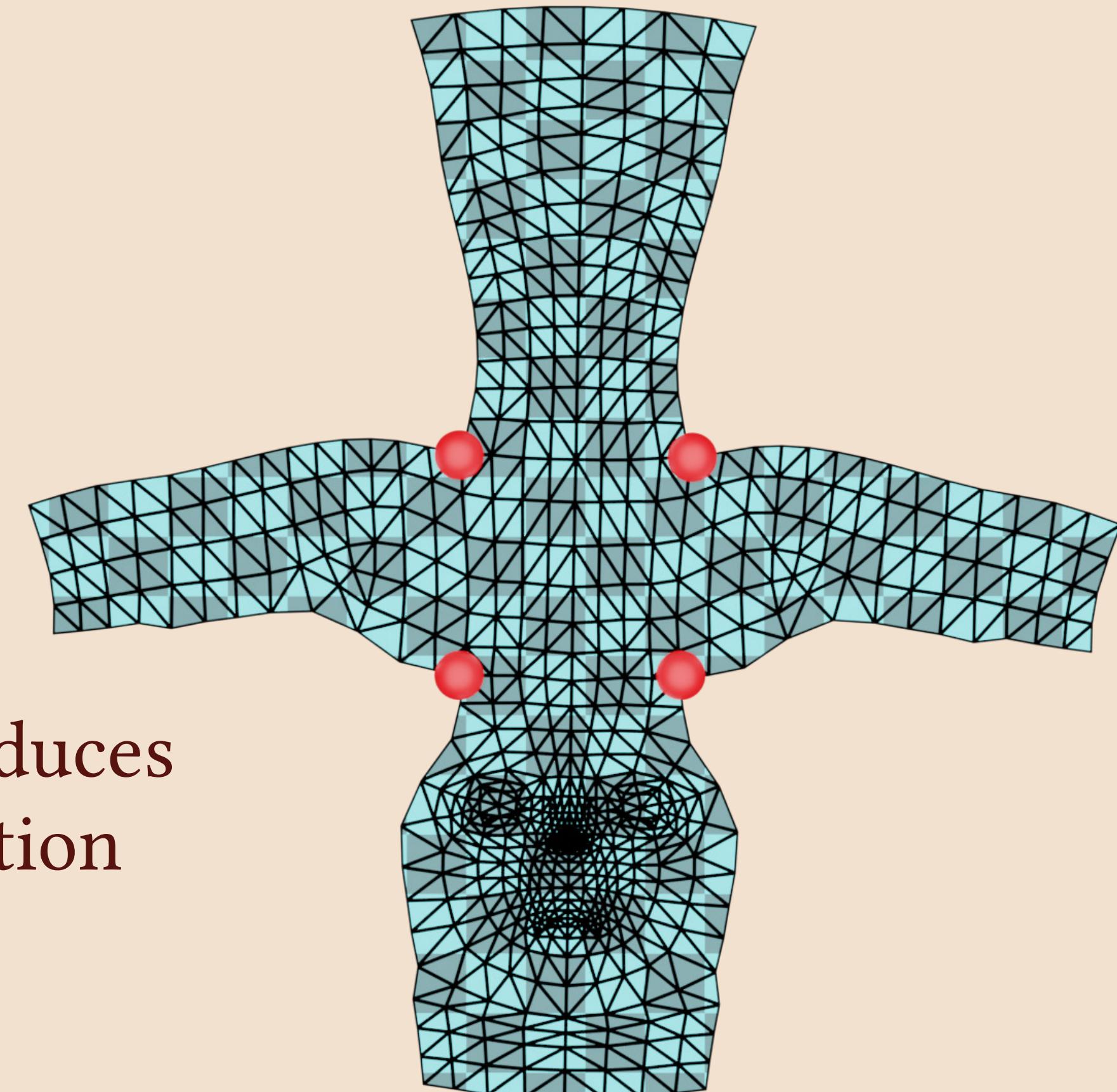
Goal: high-quality surface parameterization

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use *cone flattening*



Cones reduce area distortion



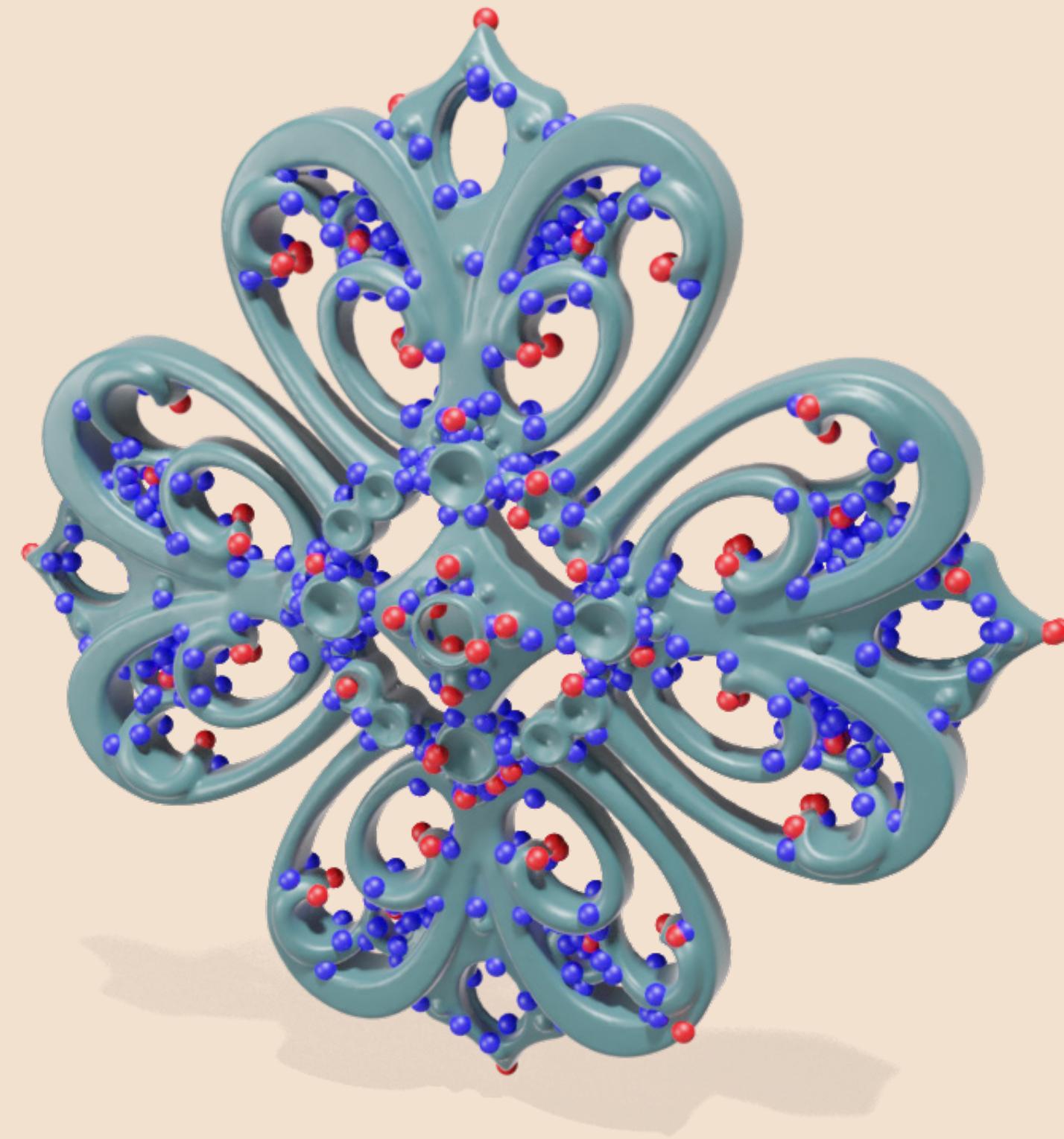
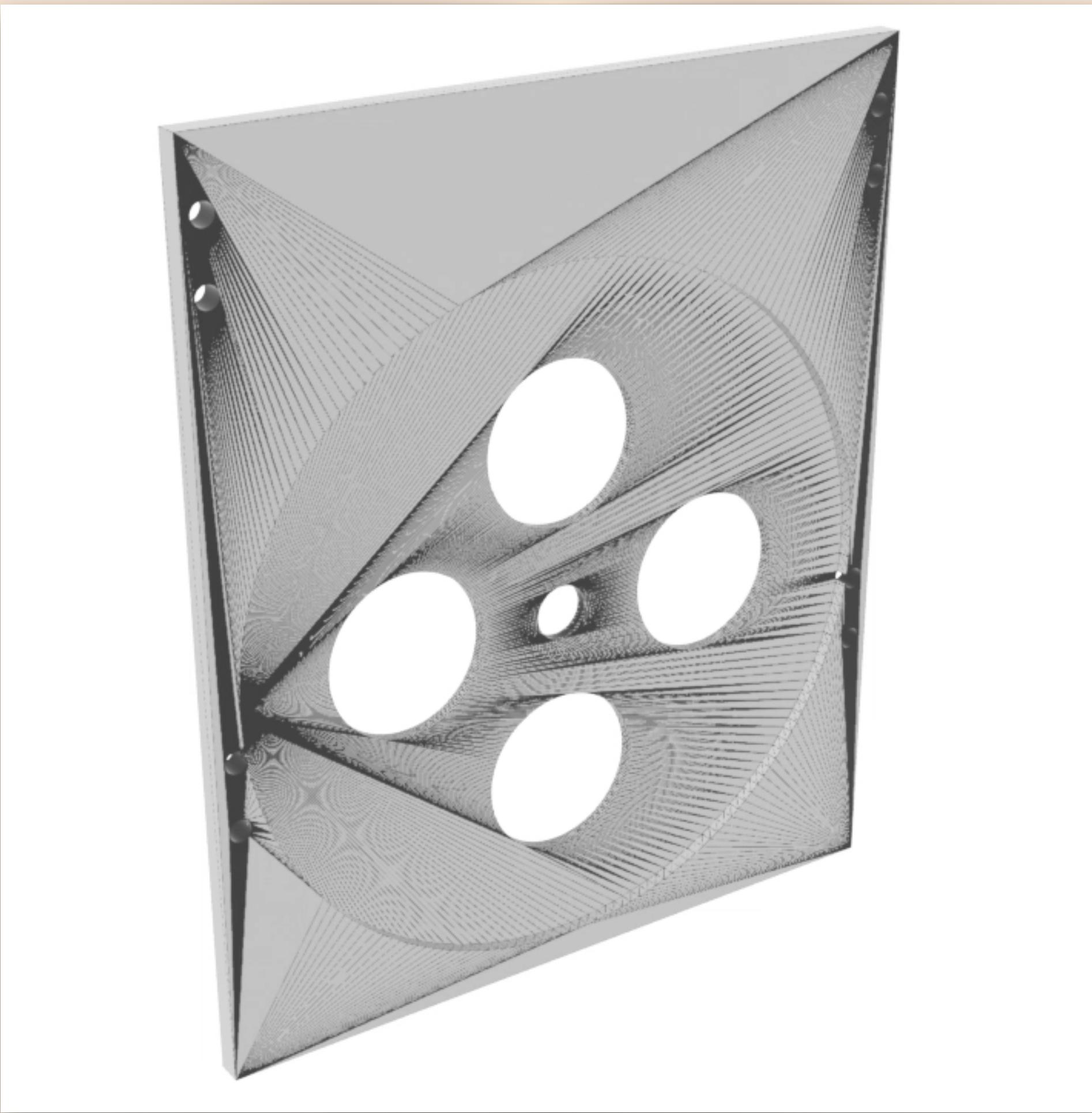
Conformal reduces angle distortion

input mesh

output parameterization

Why is this hard?

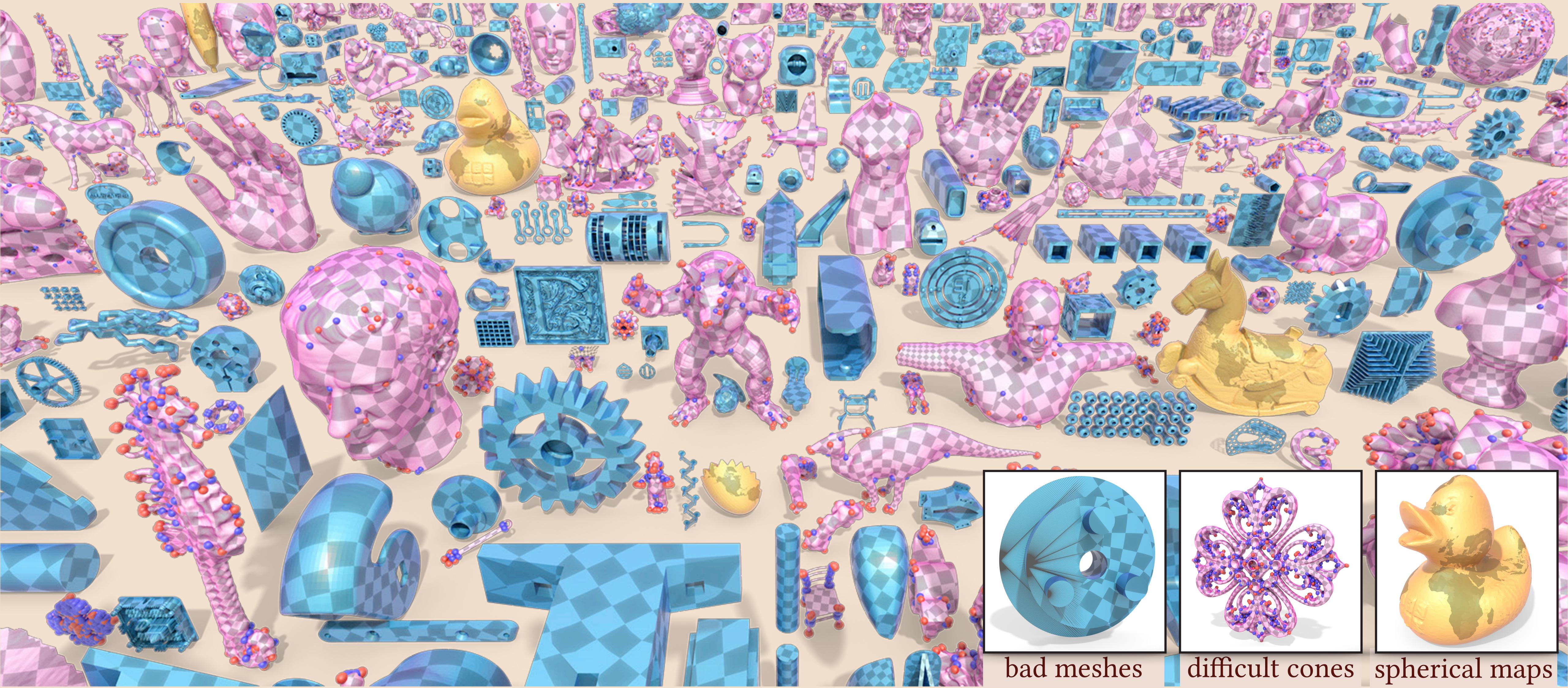
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Reliable surface parameterization

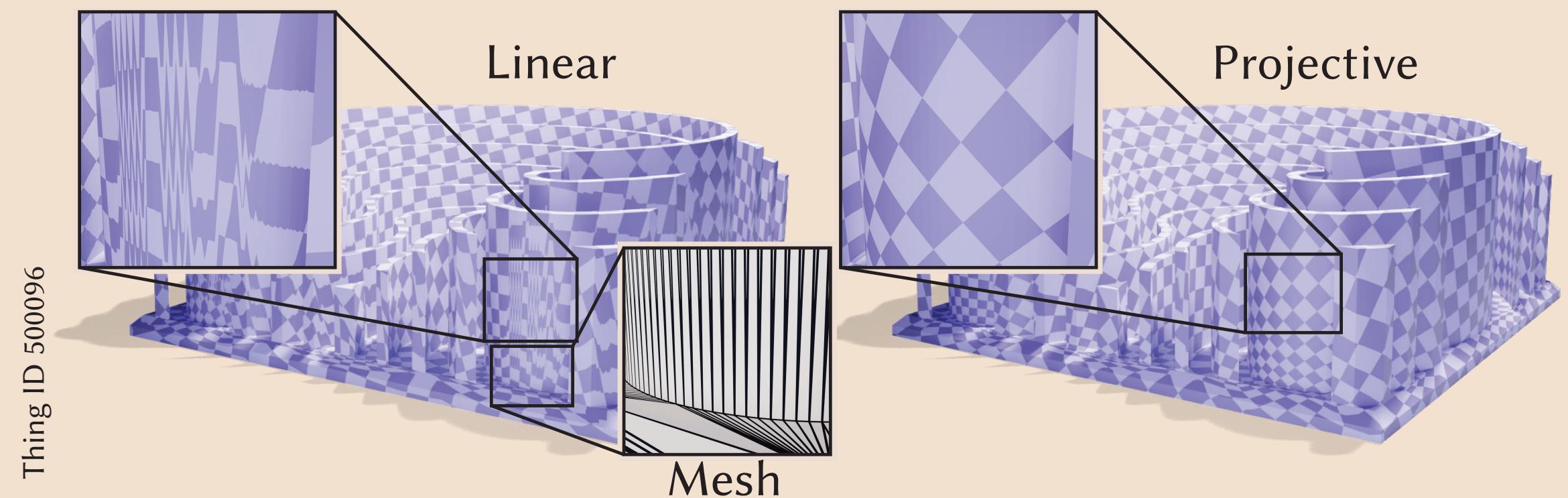
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via the *discrete uniformization theorem*

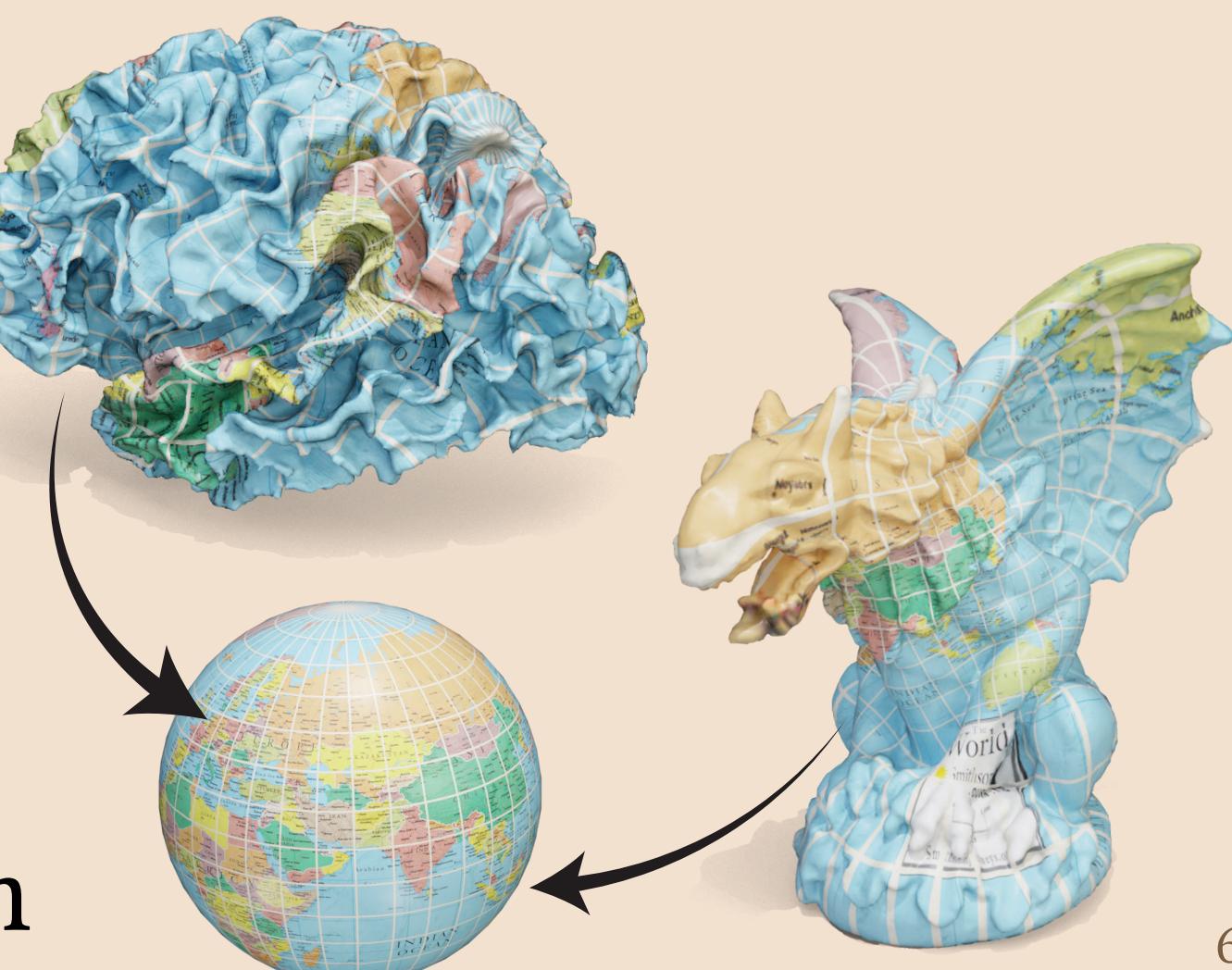
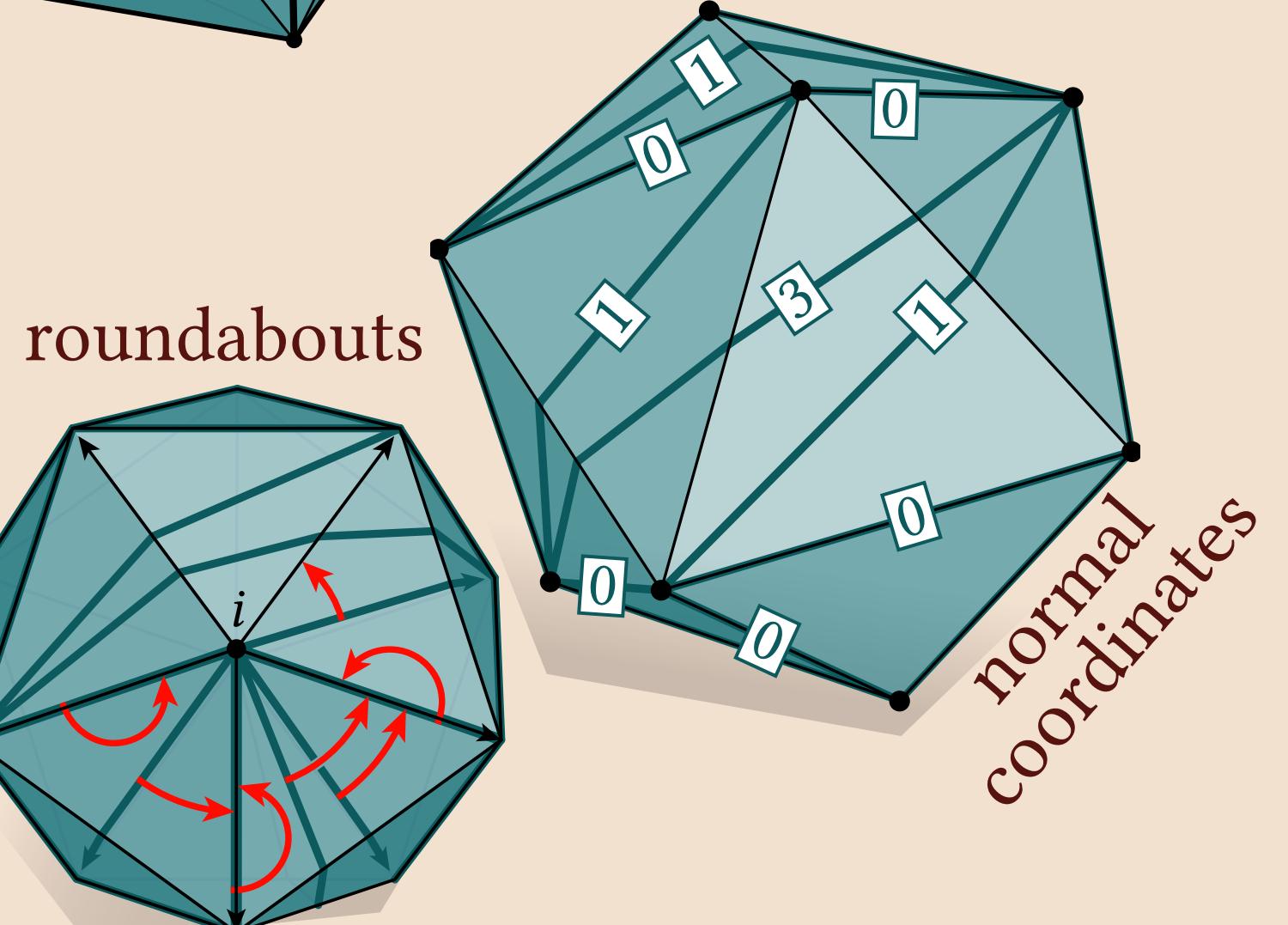
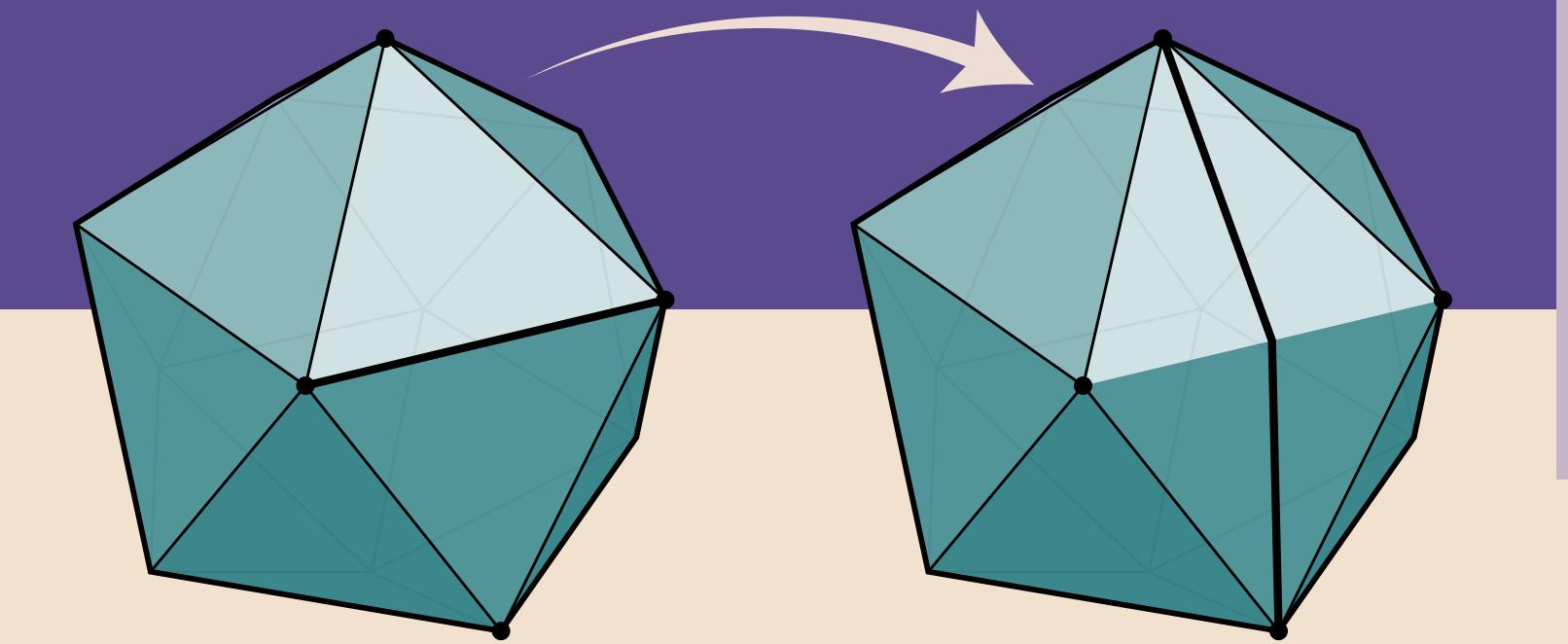


Contributions

- Generalize CETM [Springborn+ 2008]
- Change mesh connectivity → use Ptolemy flips
 - Ensures that we find a valid parameterization
- Correspondence → normal coordinates & roundabouts
- Interpolation → calculate in the hyperboloid model



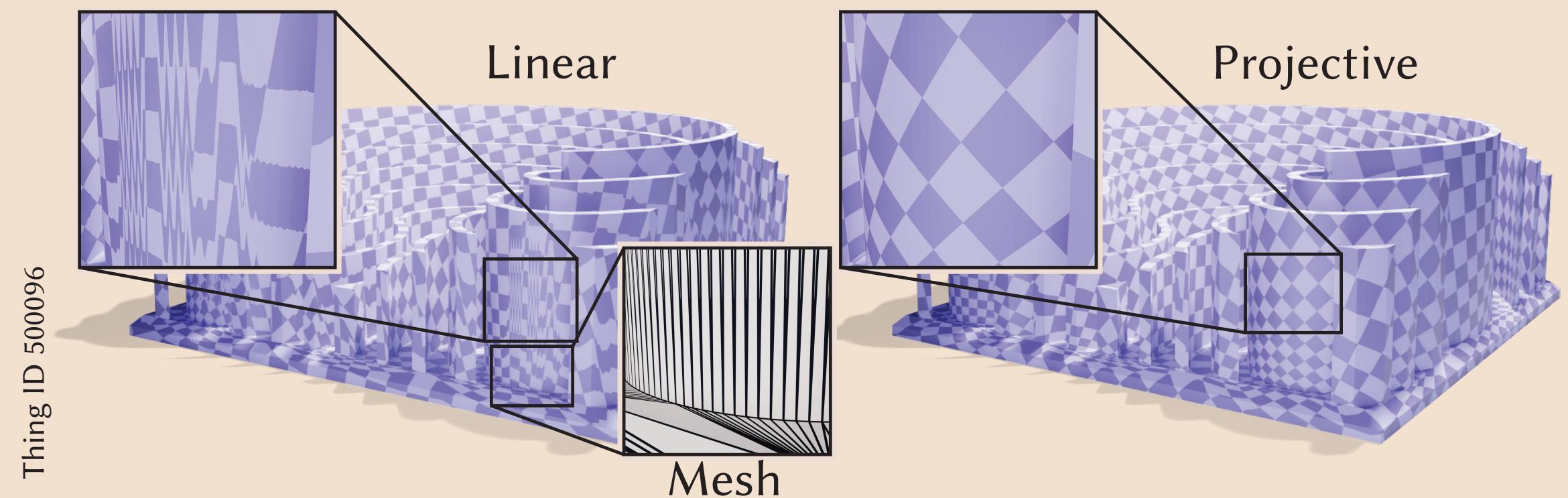
- Spherical case (guaranteed)
 - Discrete conformal map to convex, sphere-inscribed polyhedron



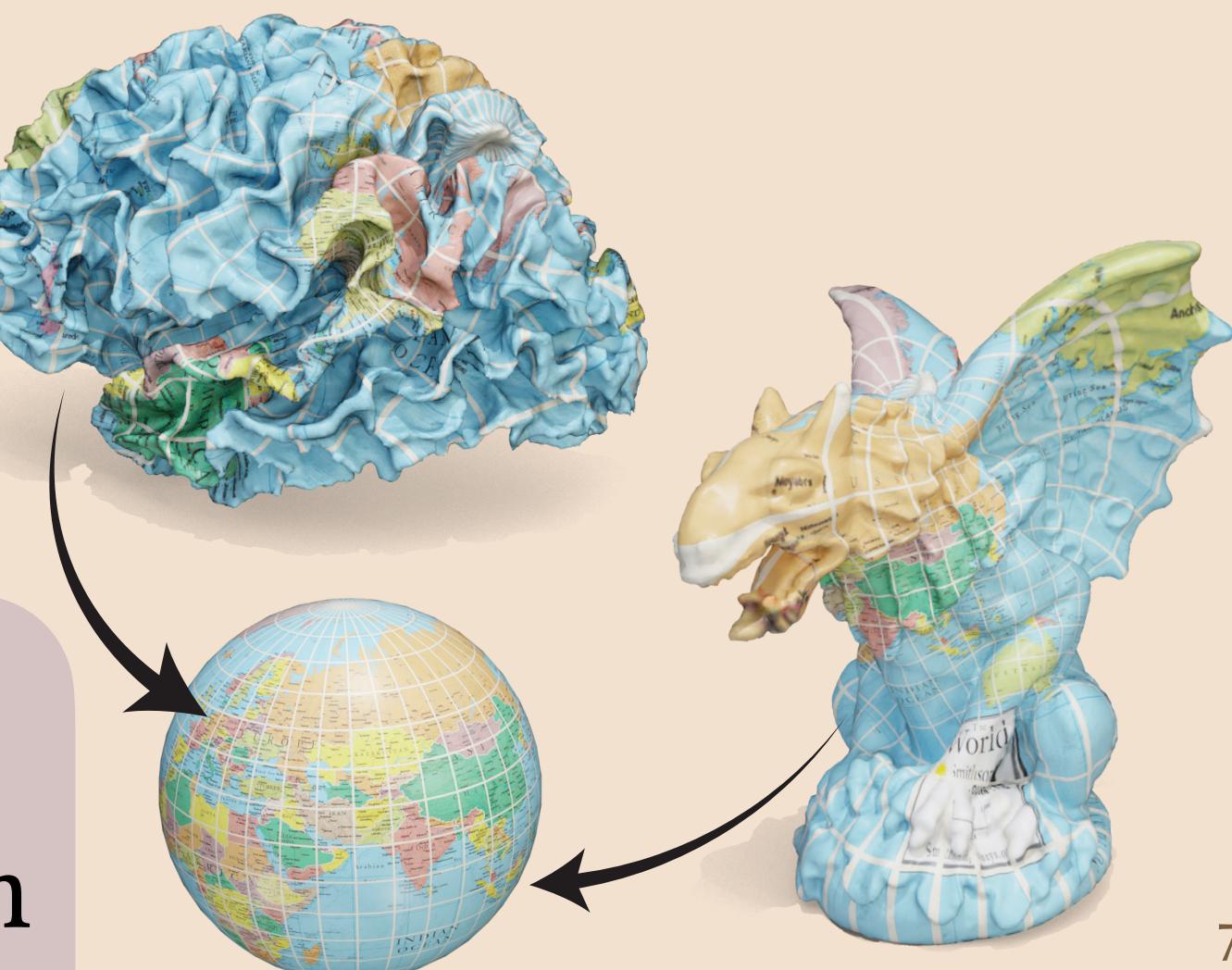
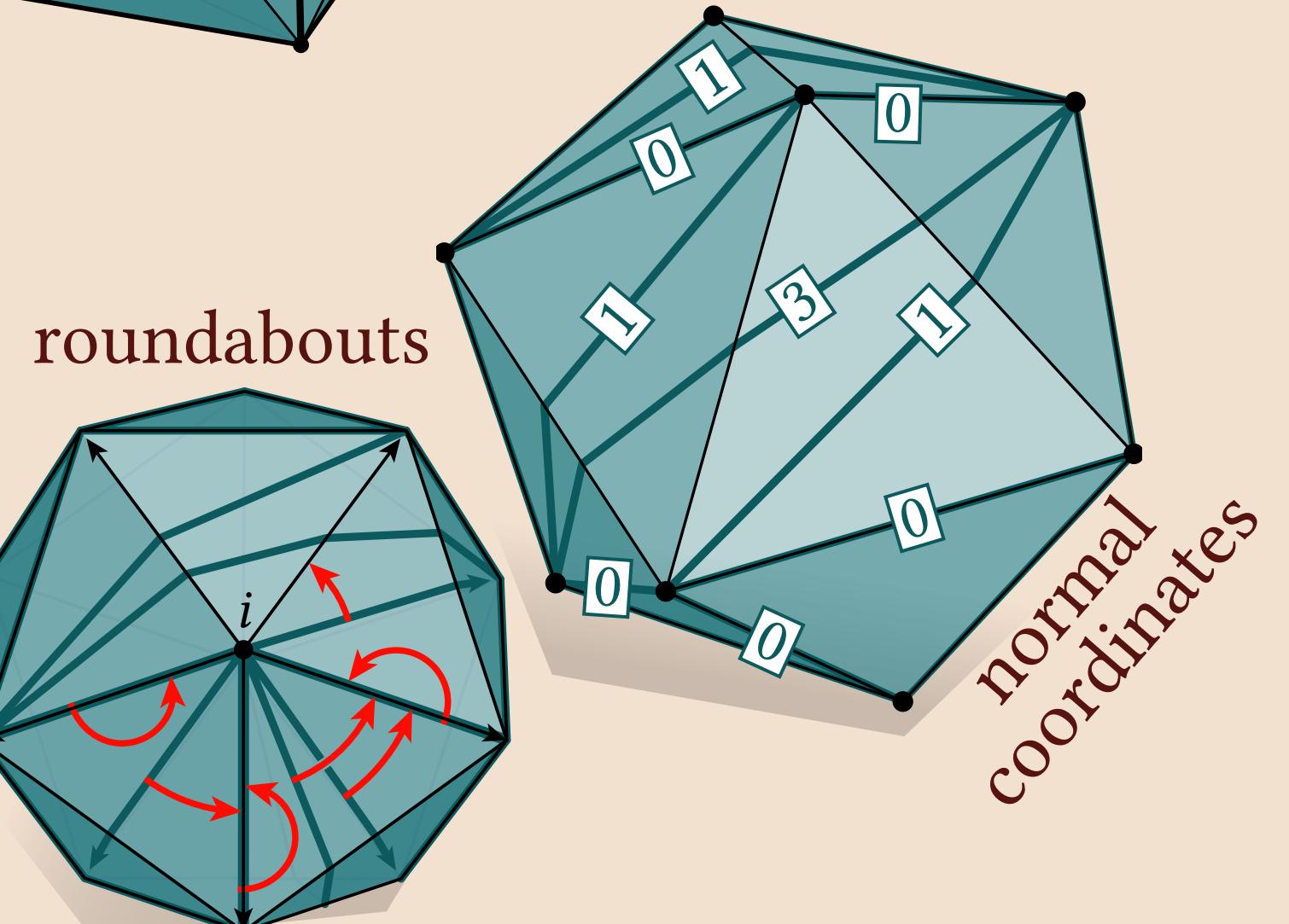
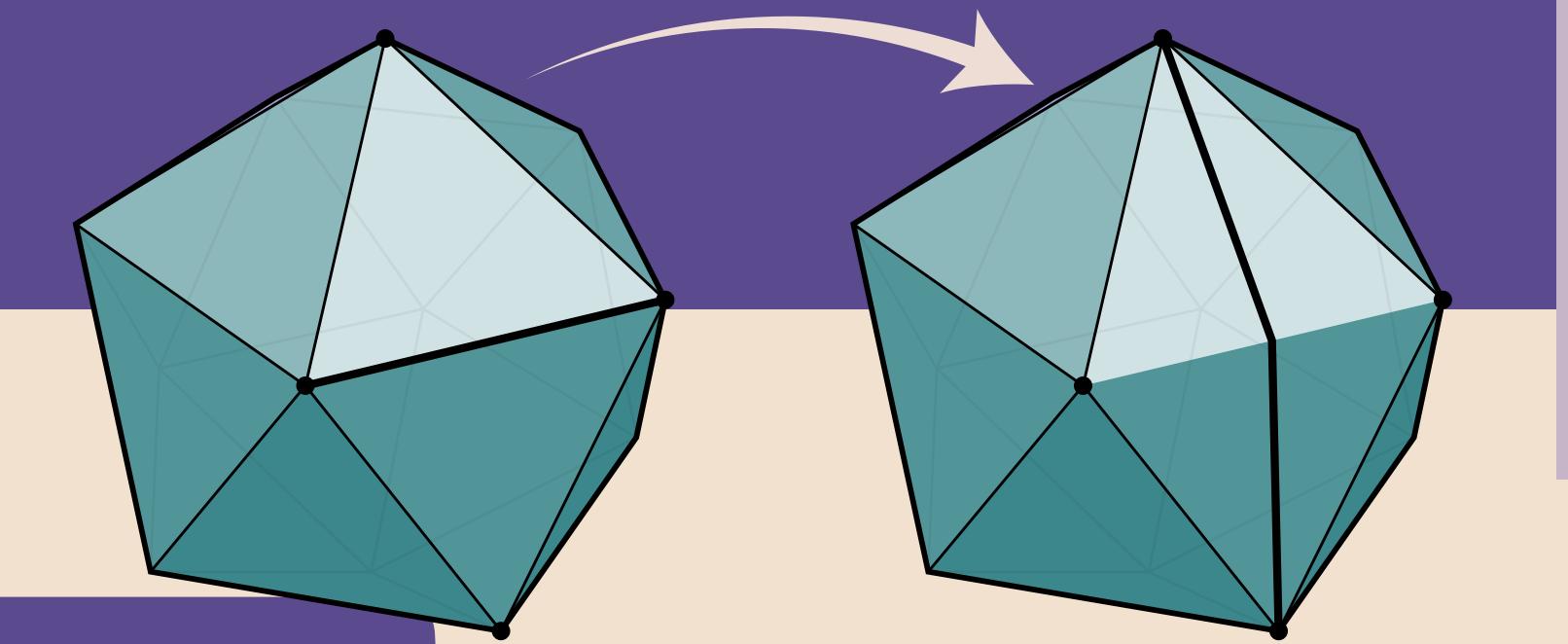
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Contributions

- Generalize CETM [Springborn+ 2008]
- Change mesh connectivity → use Ptolemy flips
 - Ensures that we find a valid parameterization
- Correspondence → normal coordinates & roundabouts
- Interpolation → calculate in the light cone



- Spherical case (guaranteed)
 - Discrete conformal map to convex, sphere-inscribed polyhedron



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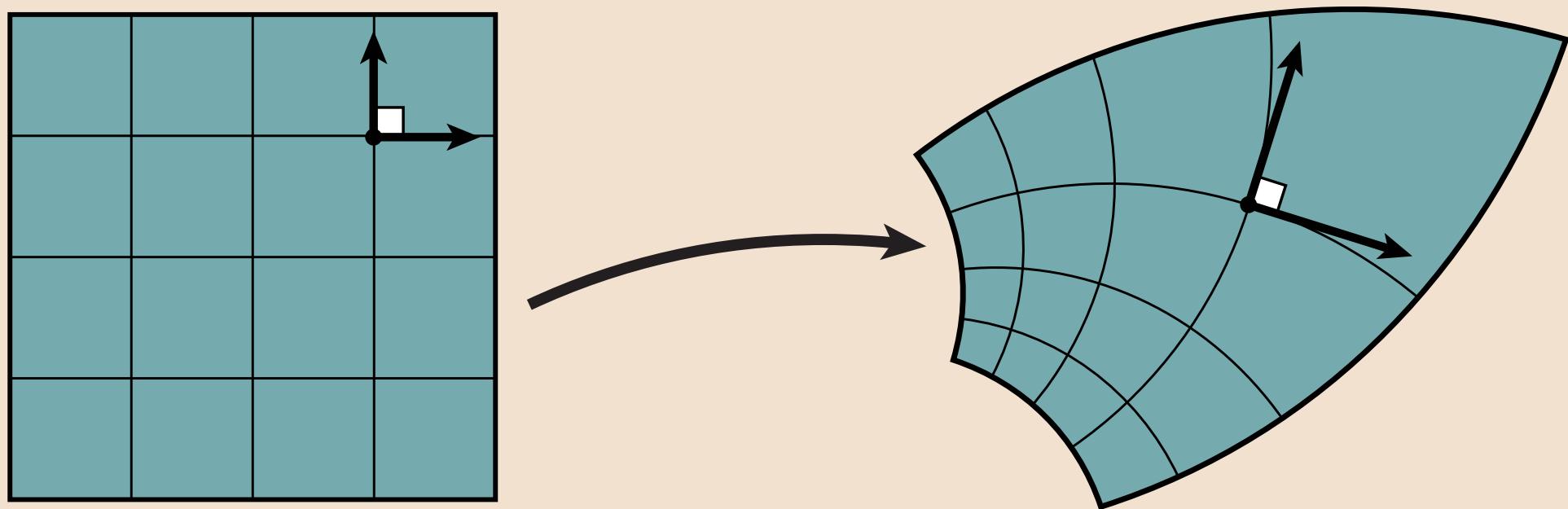
Discrete Conformal Parameterization

with Ptolemy flips

What is a discrete conformal map?

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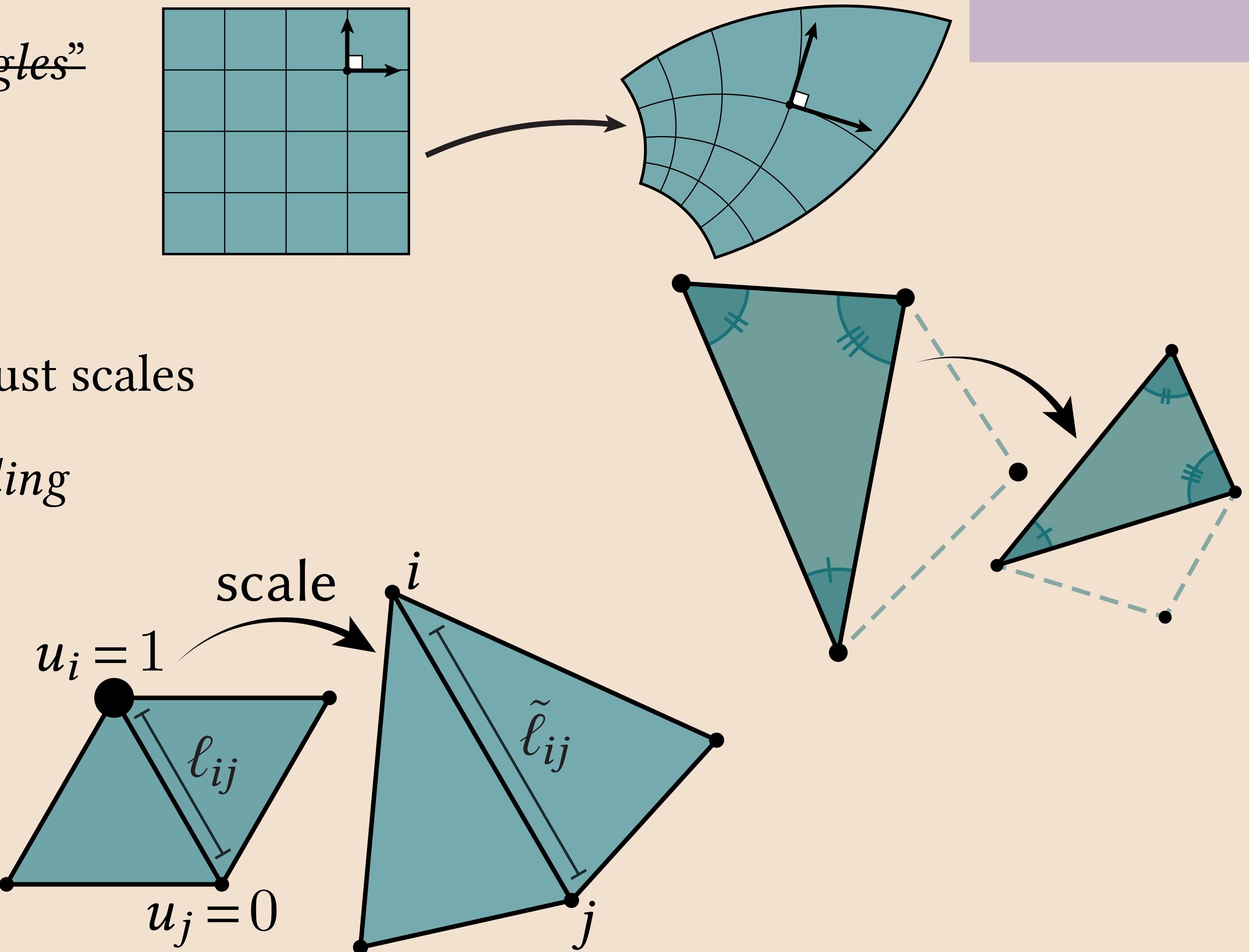
- “*Conformal maps preserve angles*”



What is a discrete conformal map?

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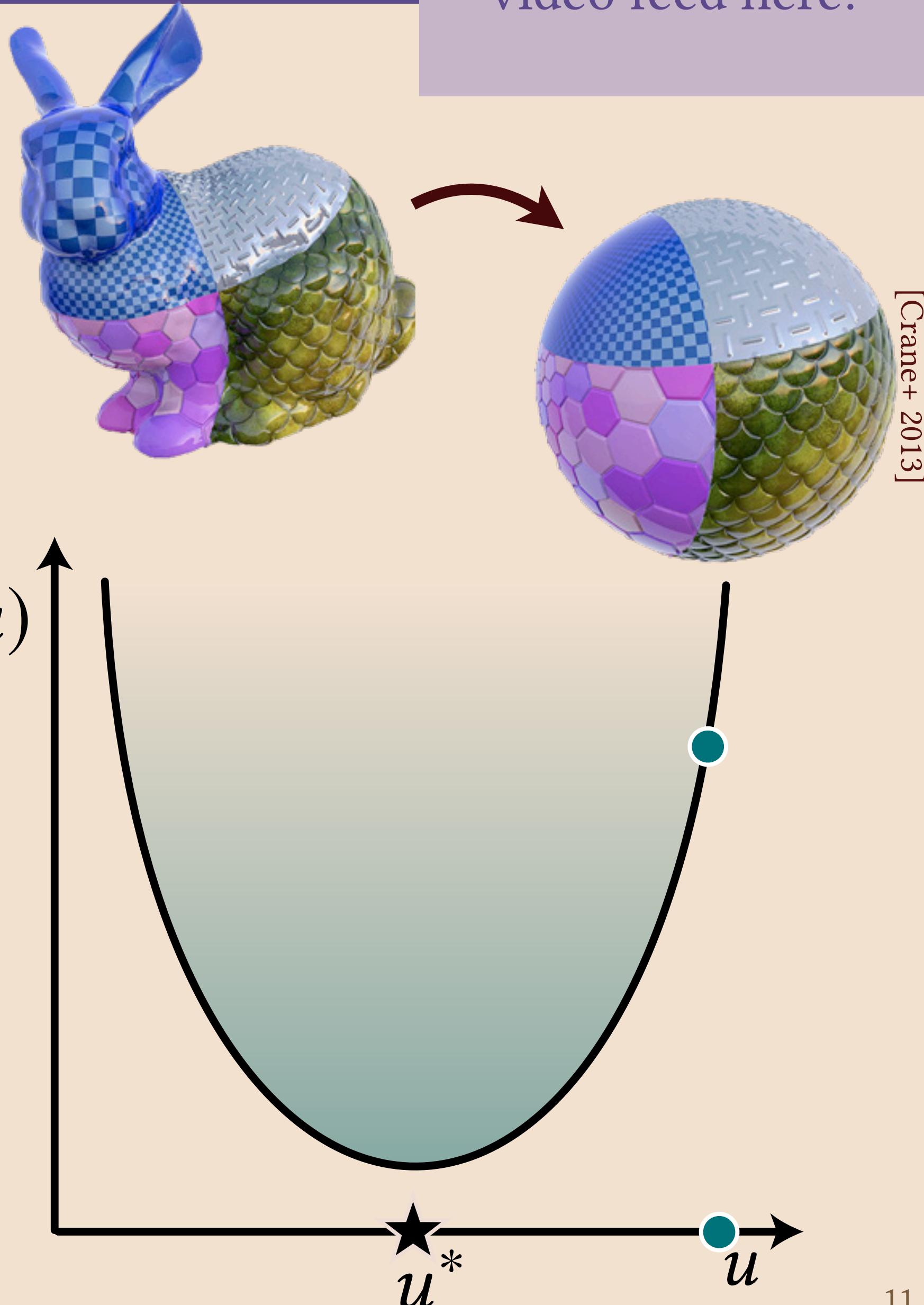
- “~~Conformal maps preserve angles~~”
 - ▶ Too strict
- Metric scaling
 - ▶ Locally, a conformal map just scales
- Discrete analogue: *vertex scaling*
 - ▶ $u : V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$
 - ▶ $\tilde{\ell}_{ij} = e^{(u_i+u_j)/2} \ell_{ij}$
 - ▶ Just flexible enough
[Bobenko+ 2011]



Uniformization

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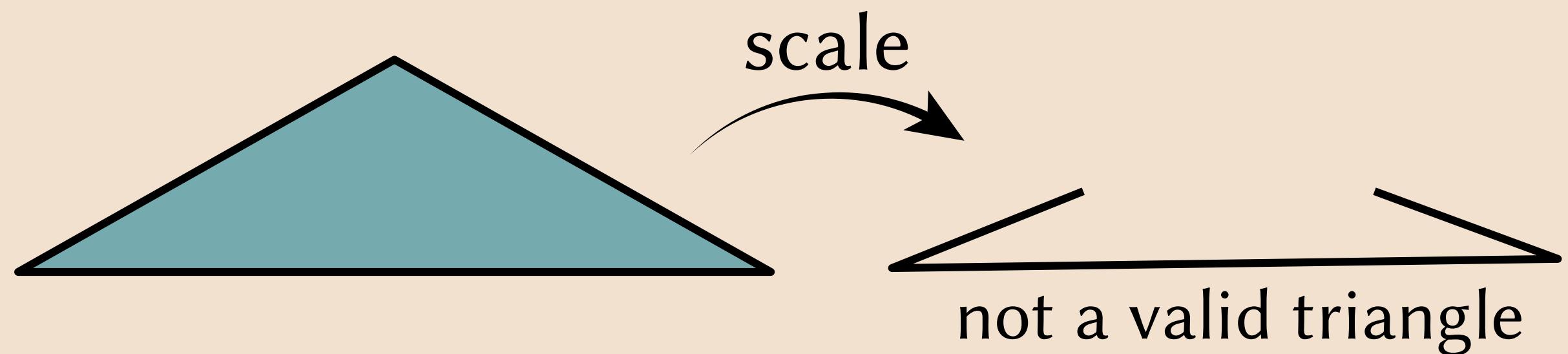
- Smooth uniformization [Poincaré 1907; Abikoff 1981]
 - ▶ *Any surface can be conformally mapped to one of constant curvature*
- Discrete uniformization [Gu+ 2018ab; Springborn 2019]
 - ▶ *Any valid curvatures can be realized by some vertex scaling*
 - ▶ [Luo 2004]: follow flow
 - ▶ [Springborn+ 2008]: minimize energy
 - ▶ **Main idea:** find discrete conformal maps by minimizing a convex energy



Challenges with discrete uniformization

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- **Big Problem:** Discrete uniformization doesn't always work on a fixed mesh because triangles can degenerate

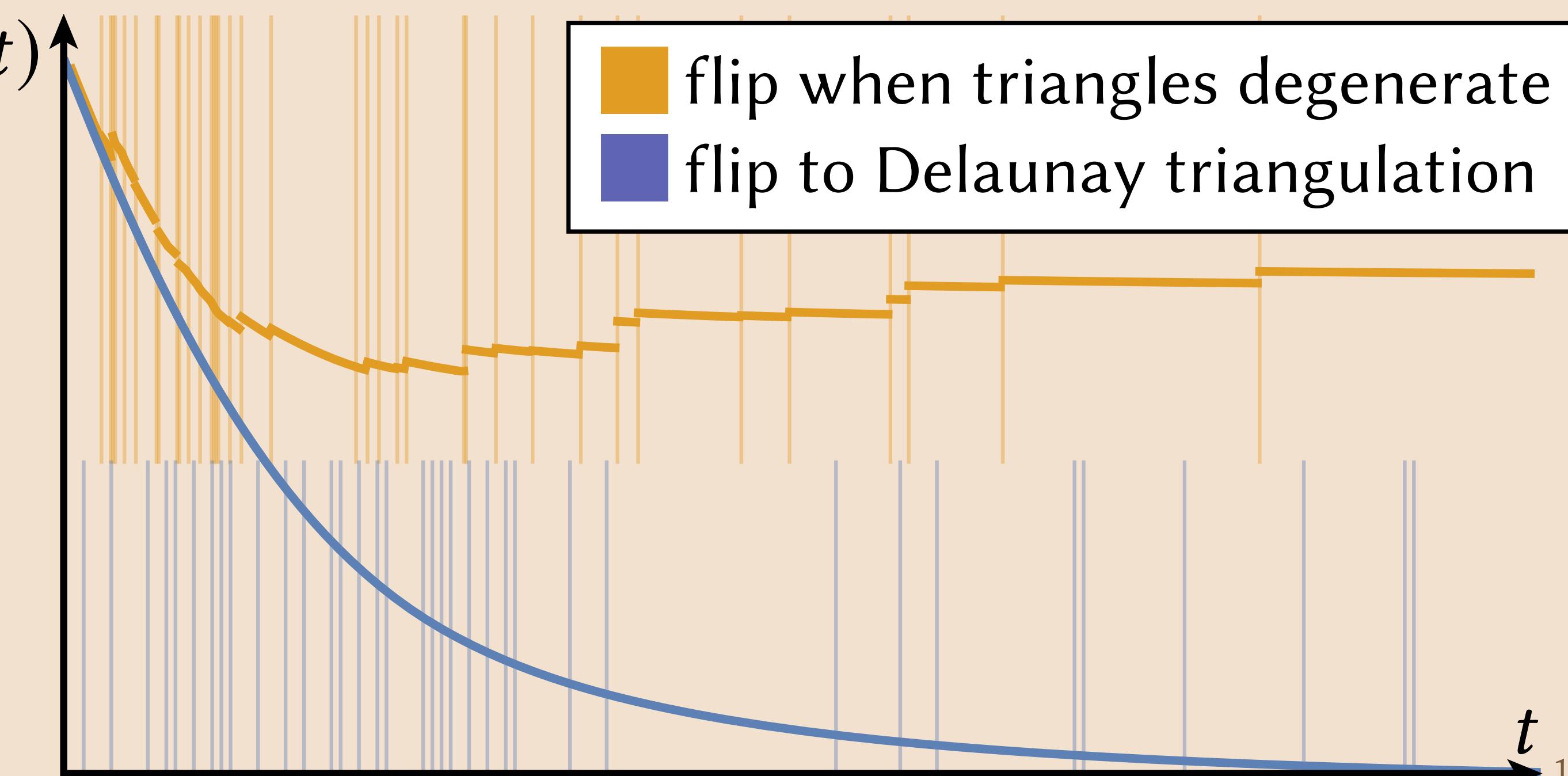


- **Idea:** flip edges when triangles break

- ▶ **Problem:** energy discontinuous at flips (vertical lines)

- [Gu+ 2018a]: maintain Delaunay

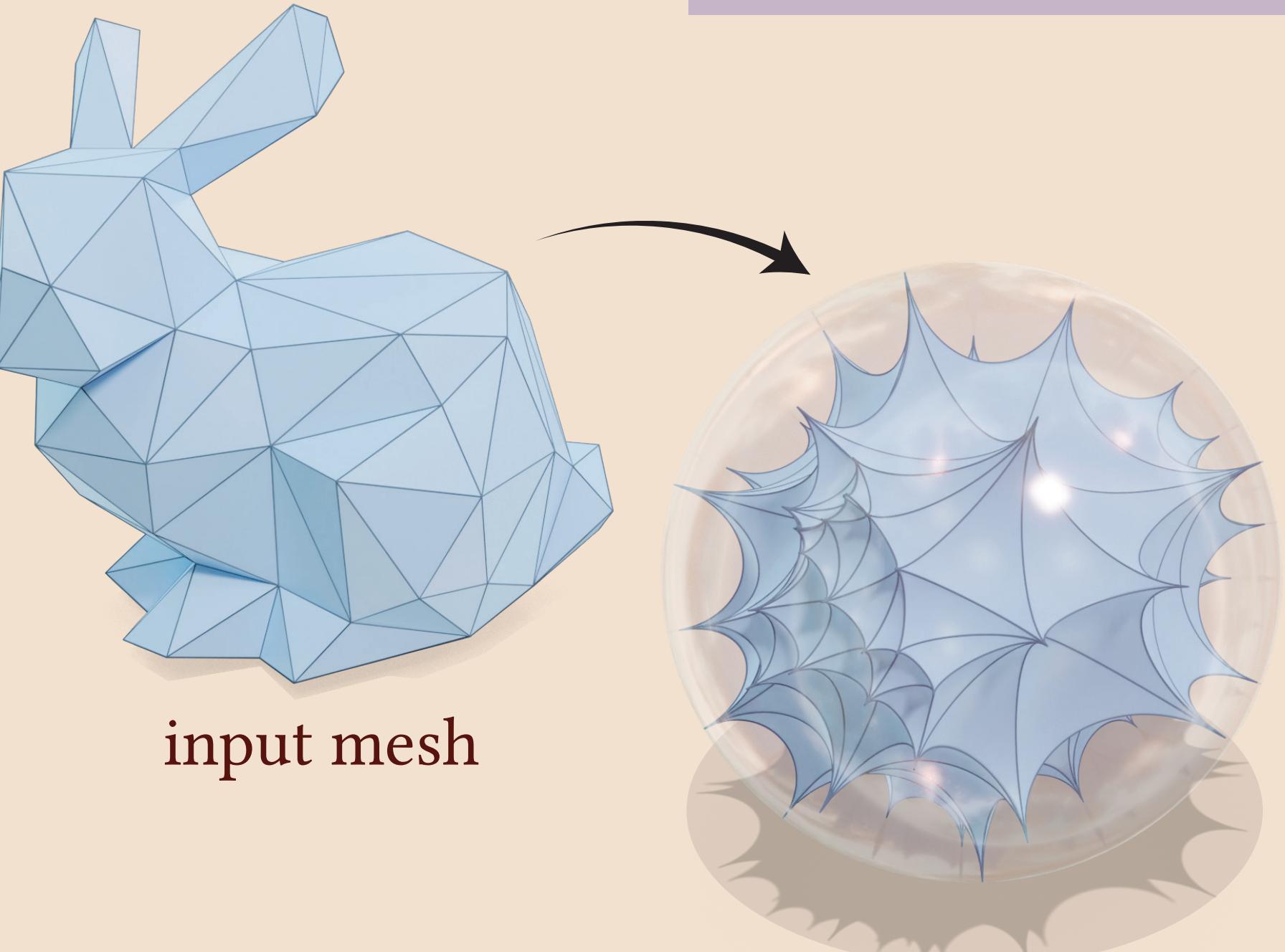
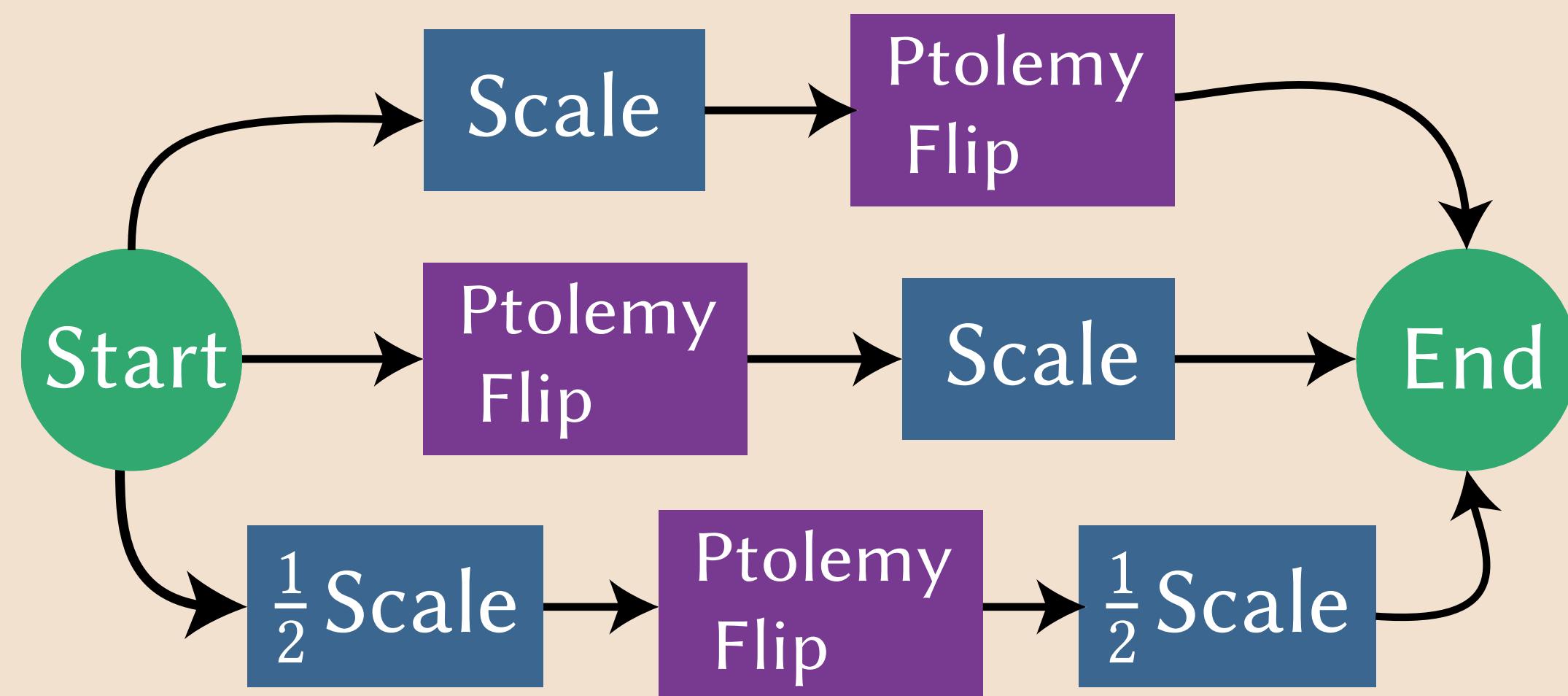
- ▶ **Problem:** stop to flip



Hyperbolic geometry to the rescue

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- Reinterpret mesh as ideal polyhedron [Bobenko+ 2010]
- Compute flipped edge lengths via *Ptolemy's formula*
 - ▶ $\ell_{ij} := (\ell_{lj}\ell_{ki} + \ell_{il}\ell_{jk})/\ell_{lk}$
 - ▶ Well-defined for any positive edge lengths
- Decouples scaling and flipping [Springborn 2019]



Uniformization with Ptolemy Flips

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Now, all scale factors are valid



Energy remains convex and C^2

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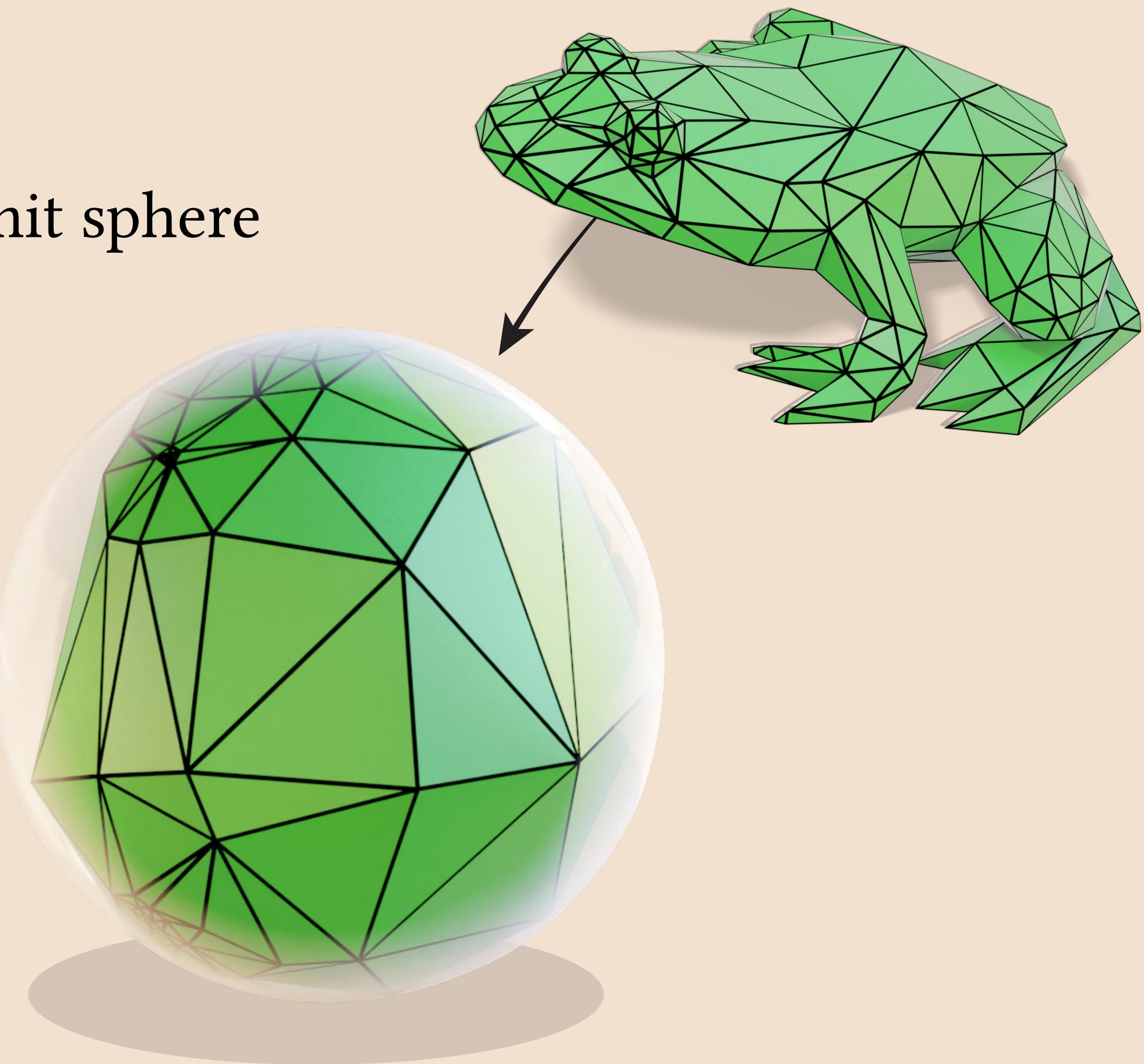
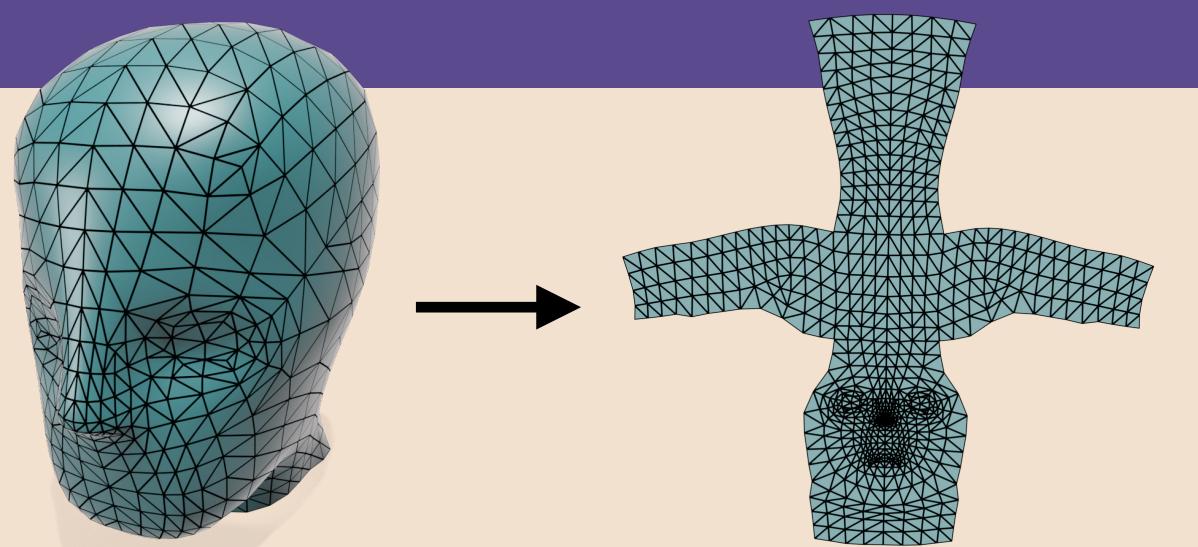
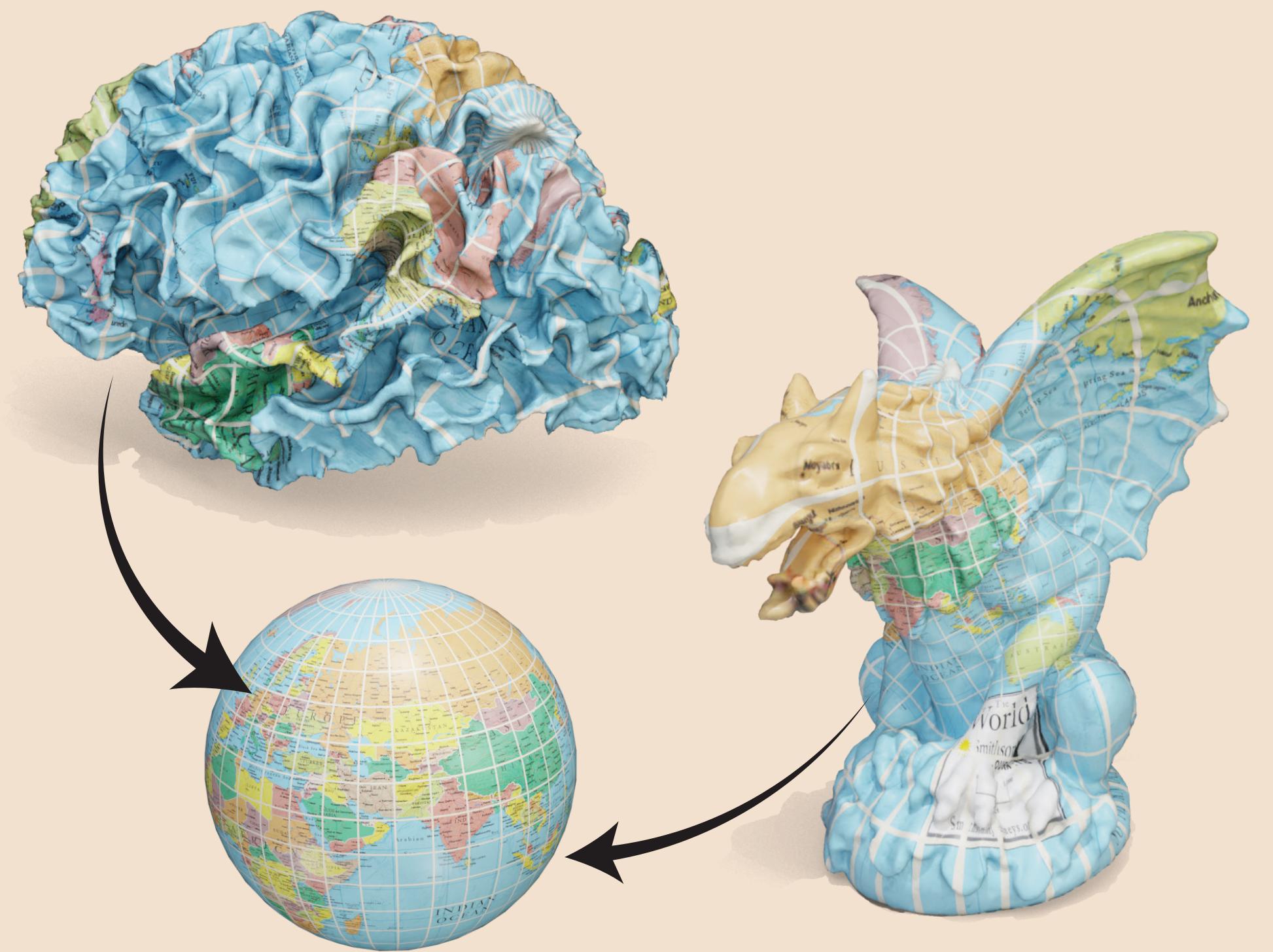
Spherical Uniformization

a very brief overview

Discrete spherical uniformization

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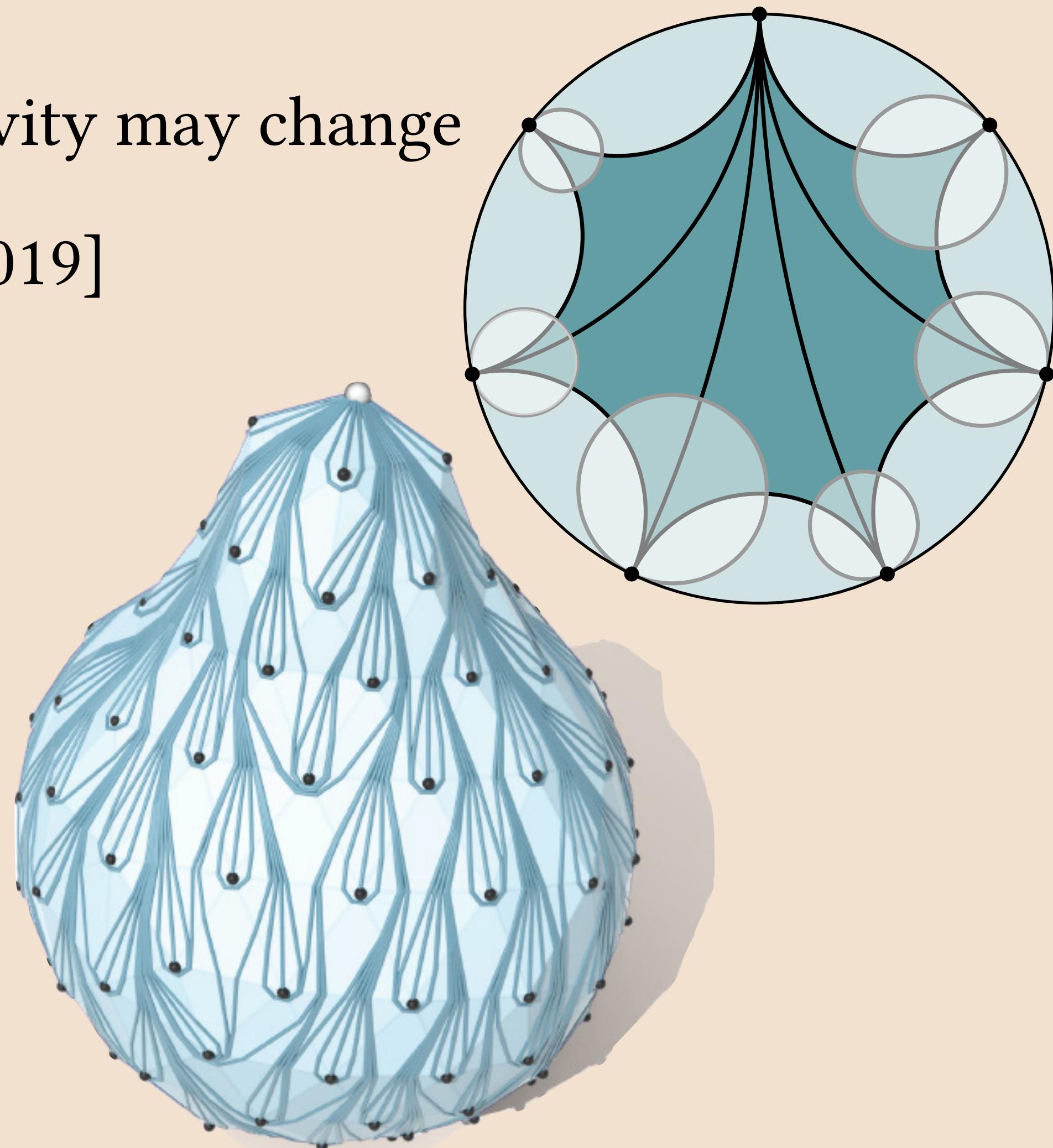
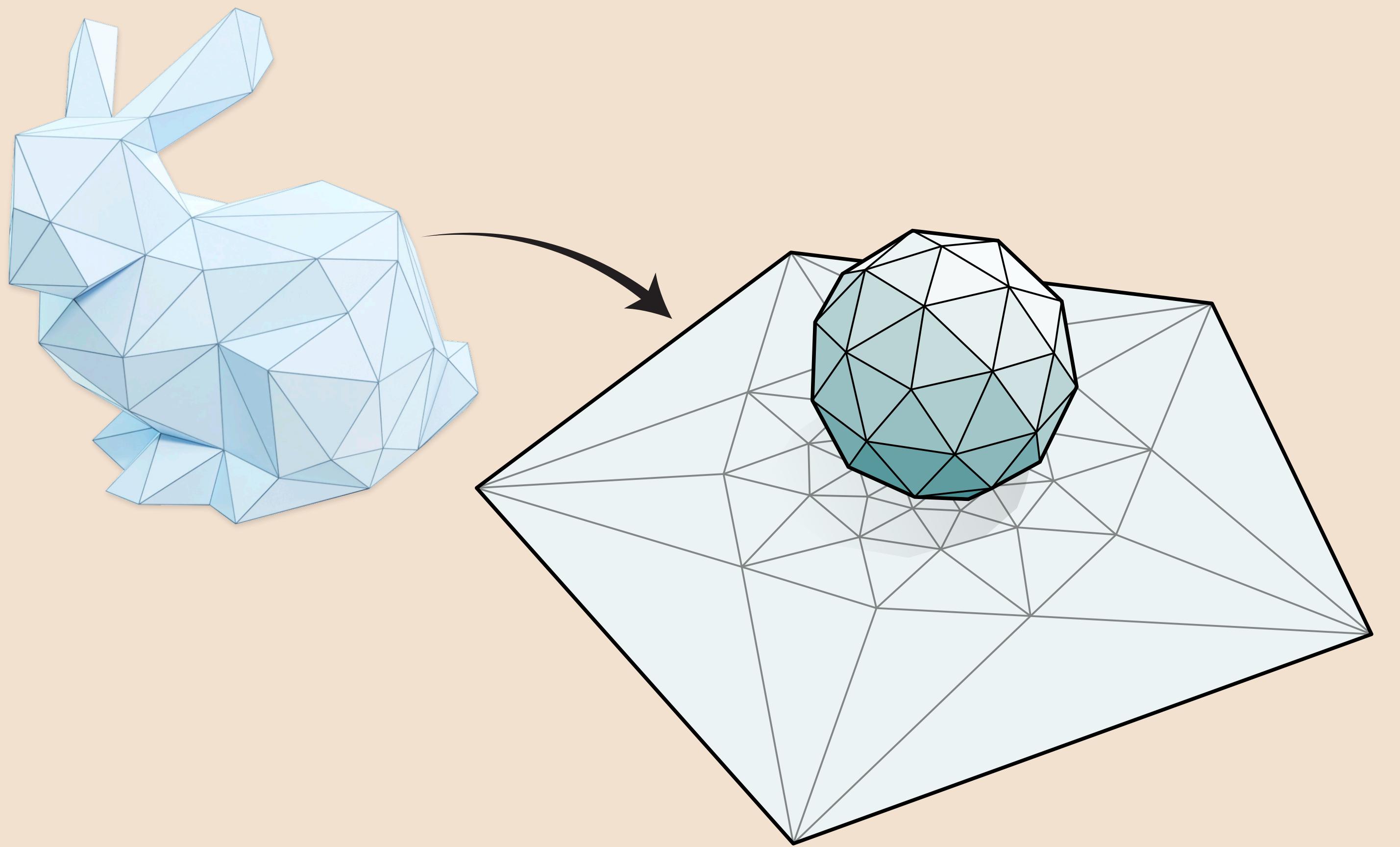
- So far: cone flattenings
- Also: map genus-0 surfaces to sphere
 - ▶ Explicitly, convex polyhedron w/ vertices on unit sphere



Discrete spherical uniformization

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- Similar optimization problem to cone flattening
- Algorithm complicated by the fact that mesh connectivity may change
 - ▶ Use even more hyperbolic geometry! [Springborn 2019]



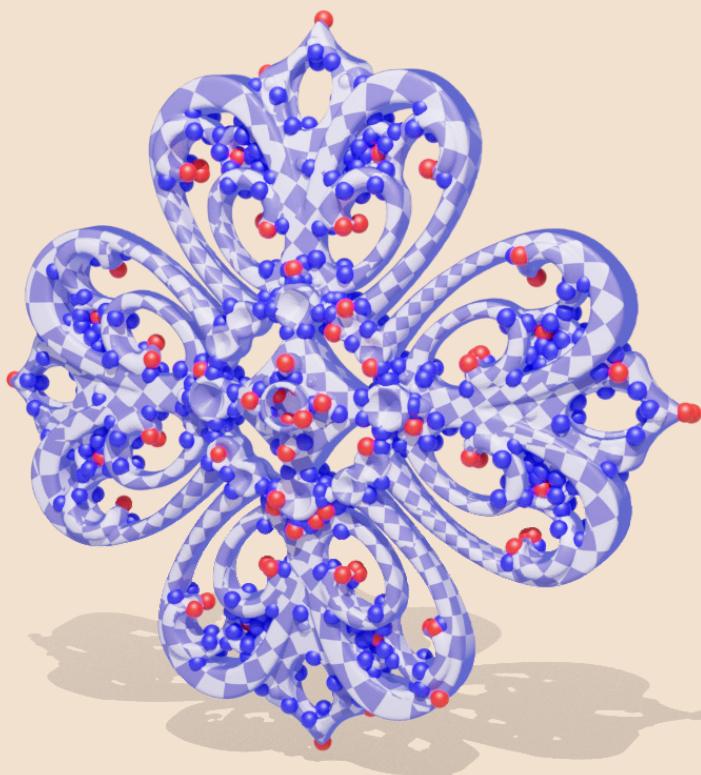
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Results

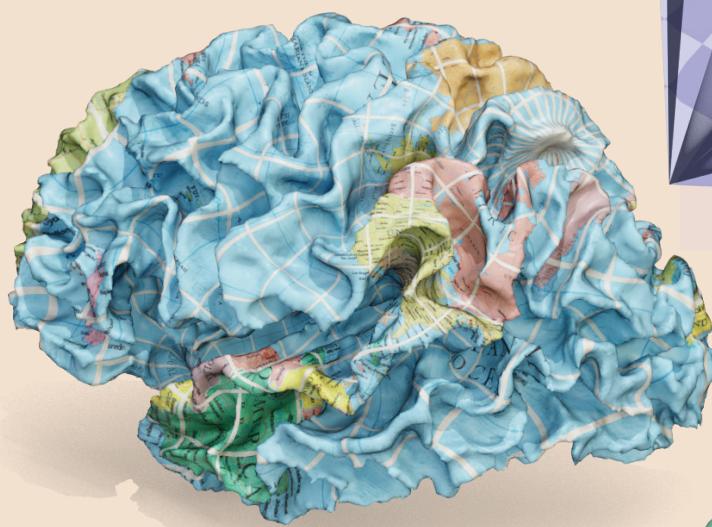
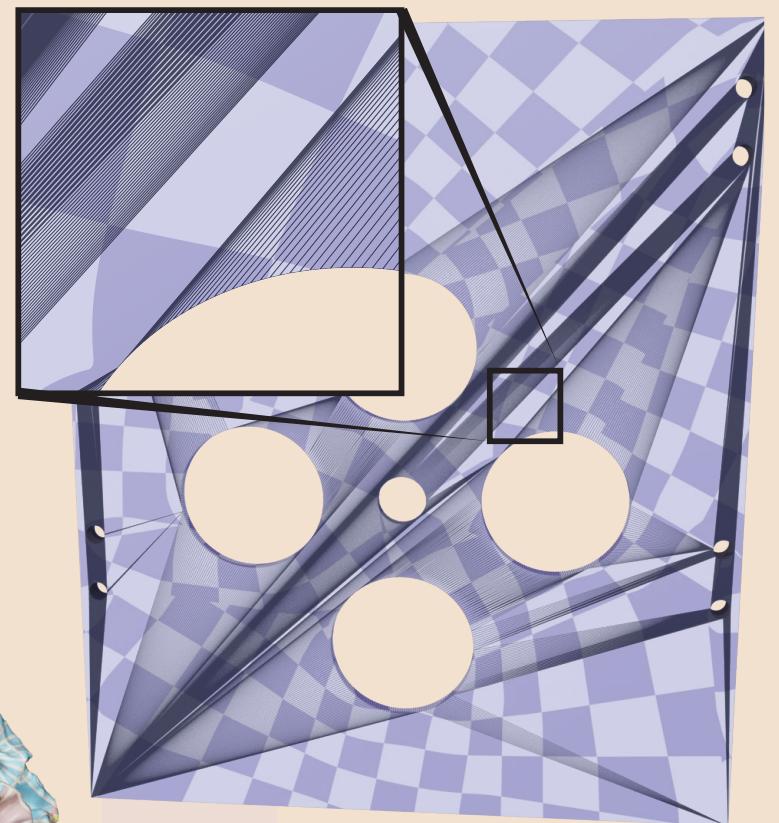
Challenging datasets

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difficult cones



bad meshes



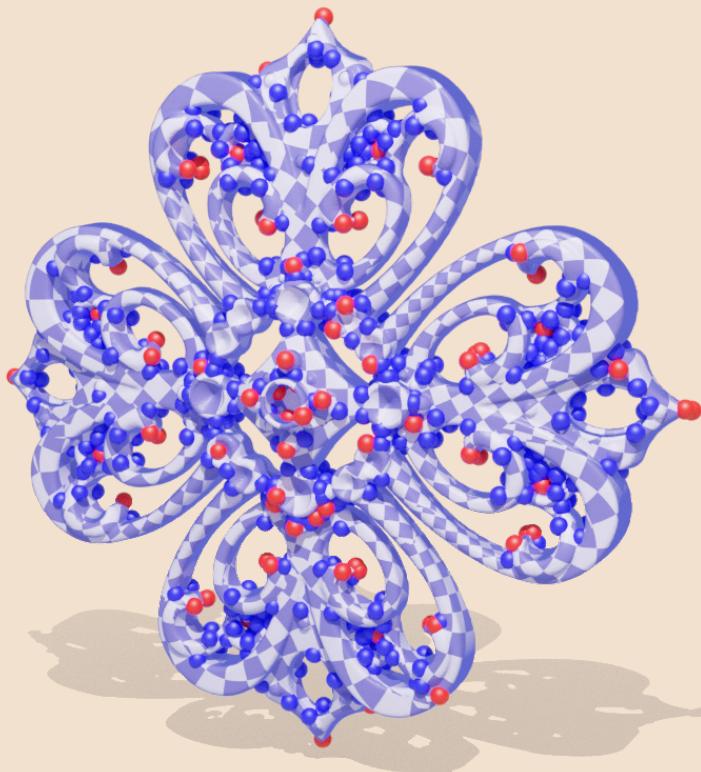
Dataset	# Models
MPZ [Myles+ 2014]	114
Thingi10k [Zhou+ 2016]	32,744*
brain scans [Yeo+ 2009]	78
anatomical surfaces [Boyer+ 2011]	187

* connected components of models from Thingi10k

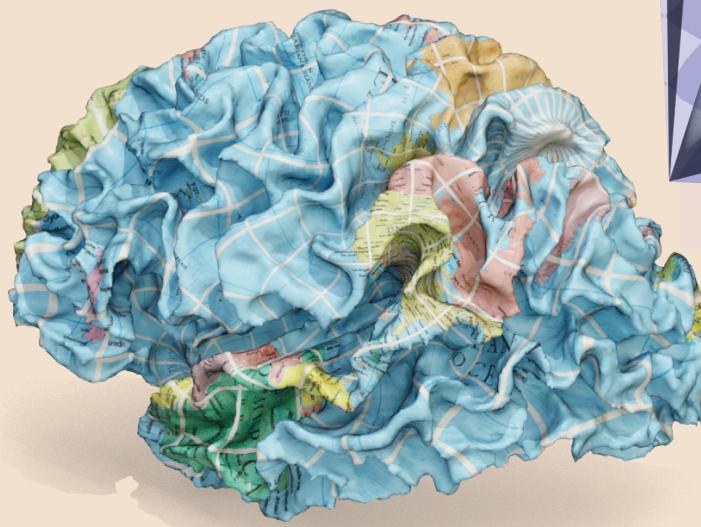
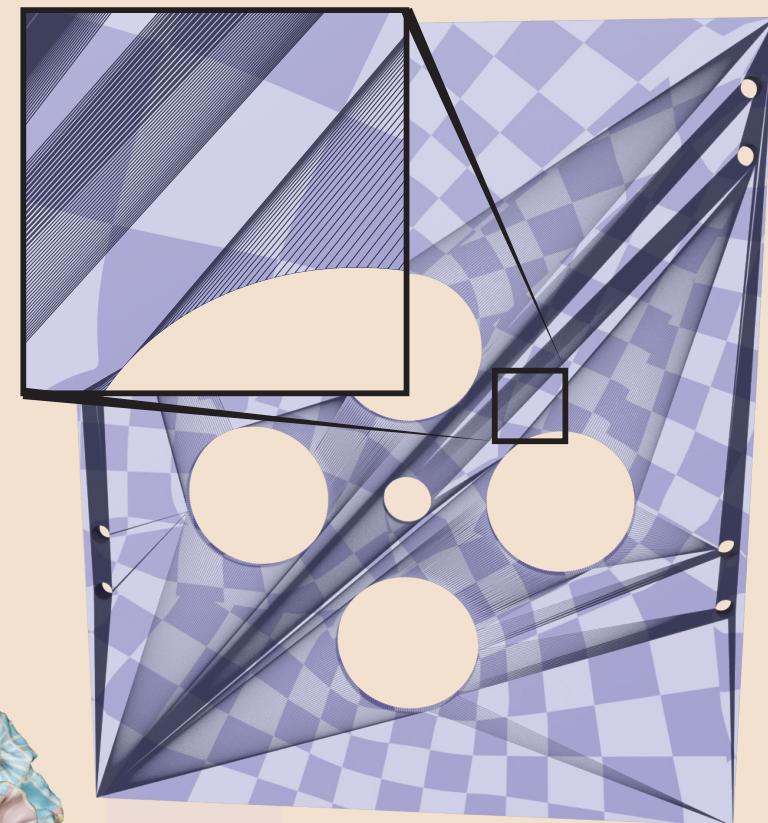
Challenging datasets

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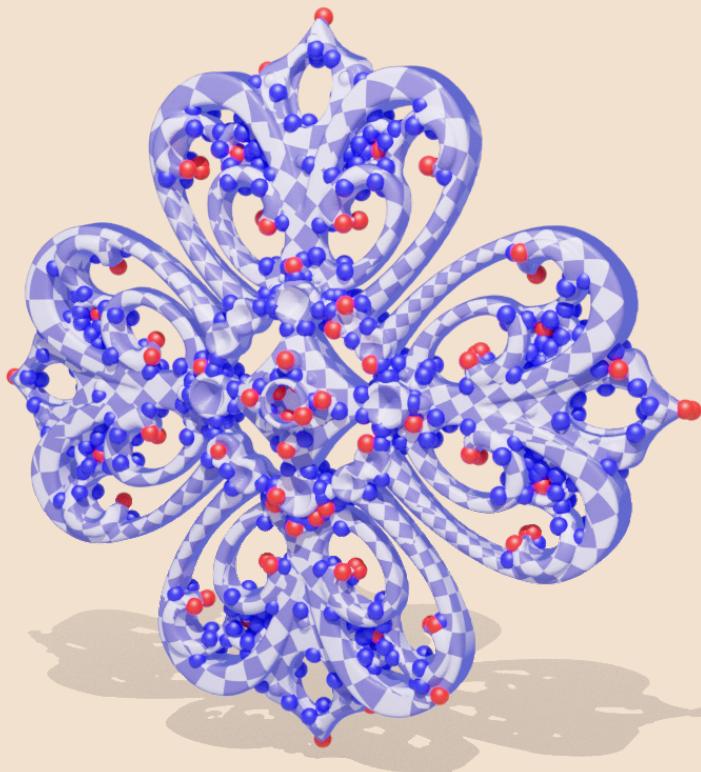
Dataset	# Models	Success rate
MPZ [Myles+ 2014]	114	100%
Thingi10k [Zhou+ 2016]	32,744*	97.7%
brain scans [Yeo+ 2009]	78	100%
anatomical surfaces [Boyer+ 2011]	187	100%

* connected components of models from Thingi10k

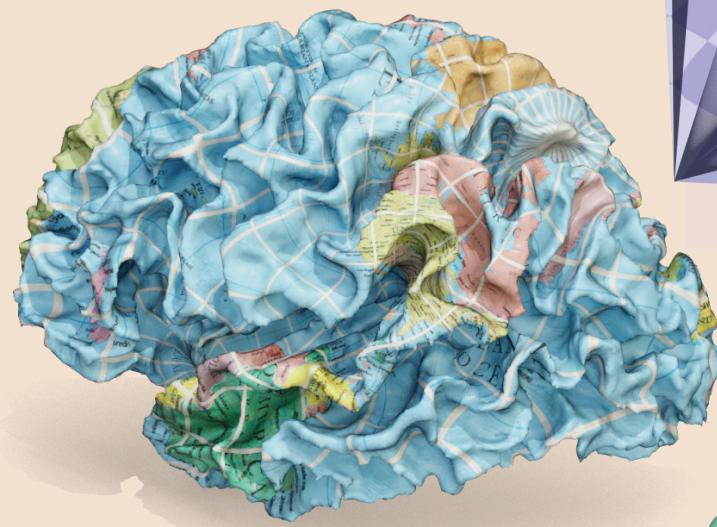
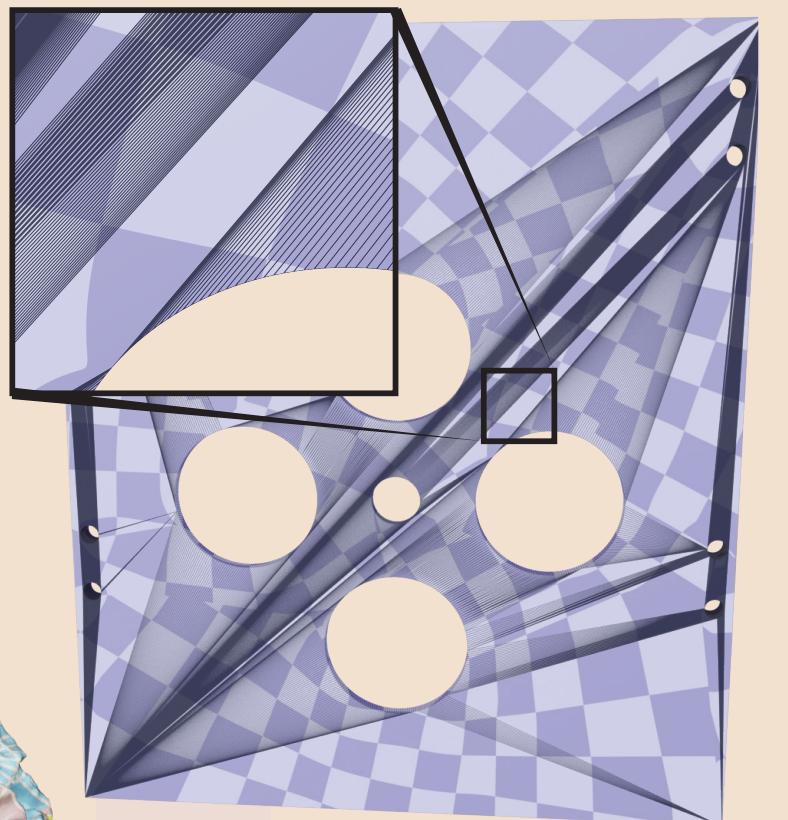
Challenging datasets

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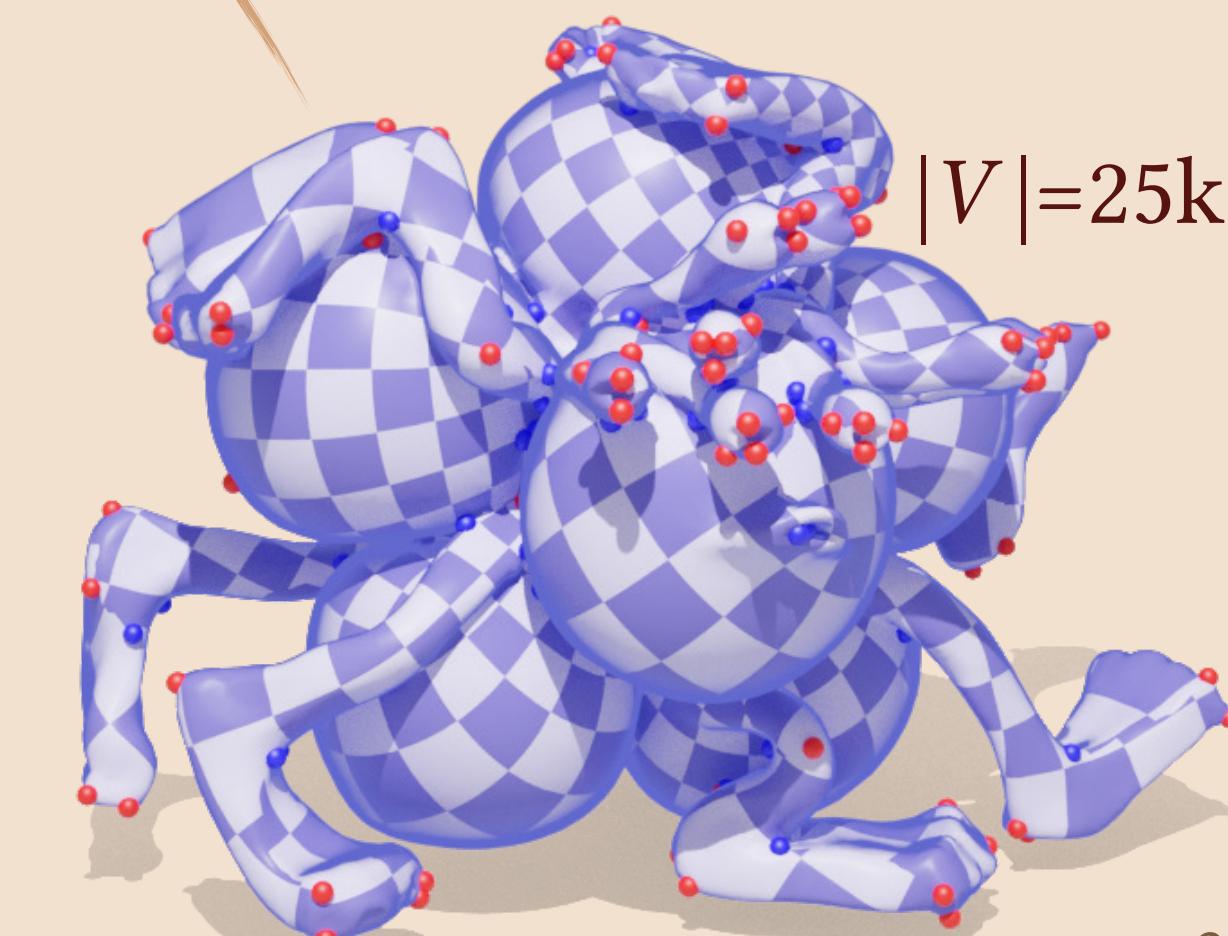
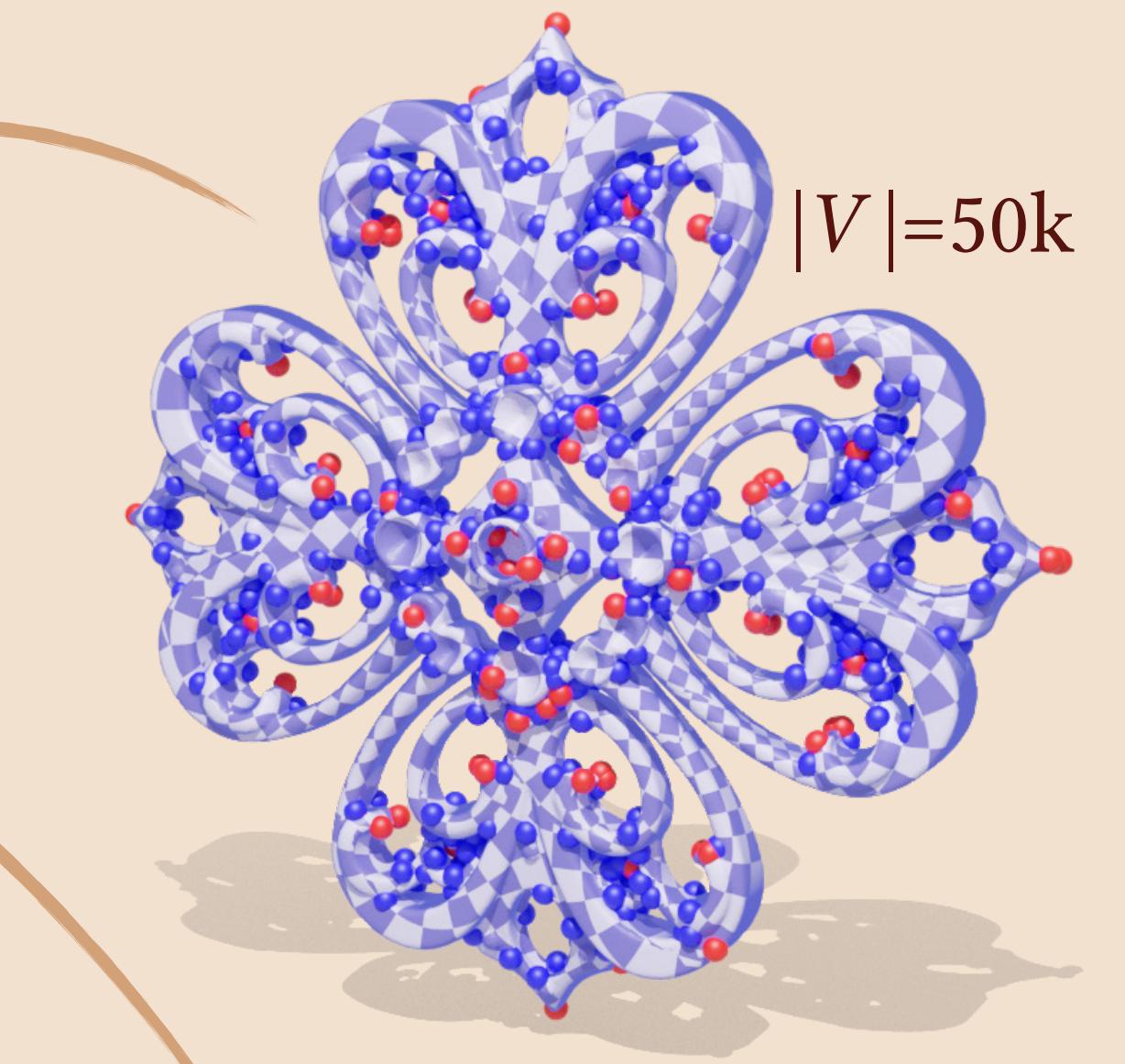
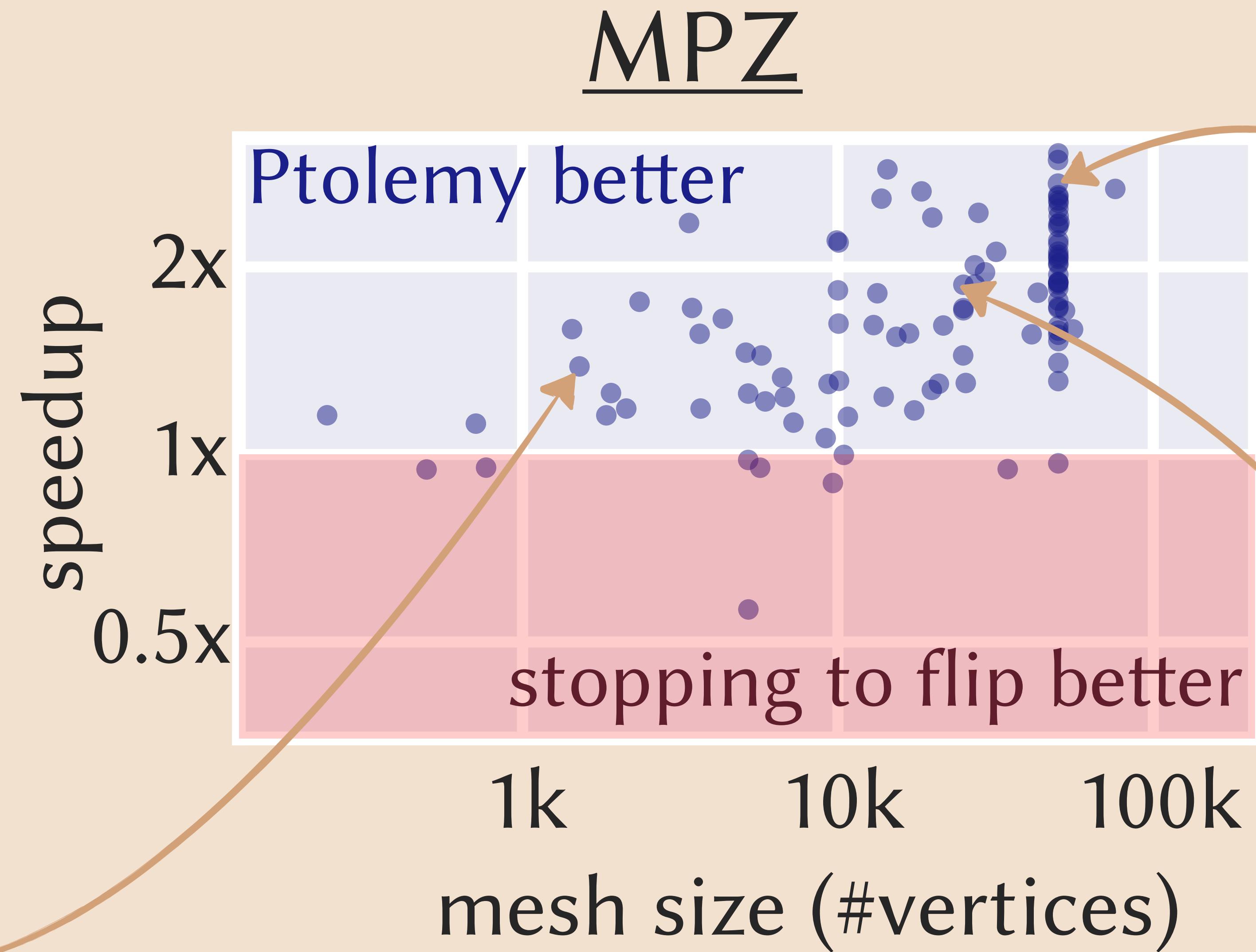
Dataset	# Models	Success rate	Average time
MPZ [Myles+ 2014]	114	100%	8s
Thingi10k [Zhou+ 2016]	32,744*	97.7%	57s†
brain scans [Yeo+ 2009]	78	100%	493s
anatomical surfaces [Boyer+ 2011]	187	100%	15s

* connected components of models from Thingi10k

* † average time on models with > 1000 vertices

Ptolemy flips improve performance

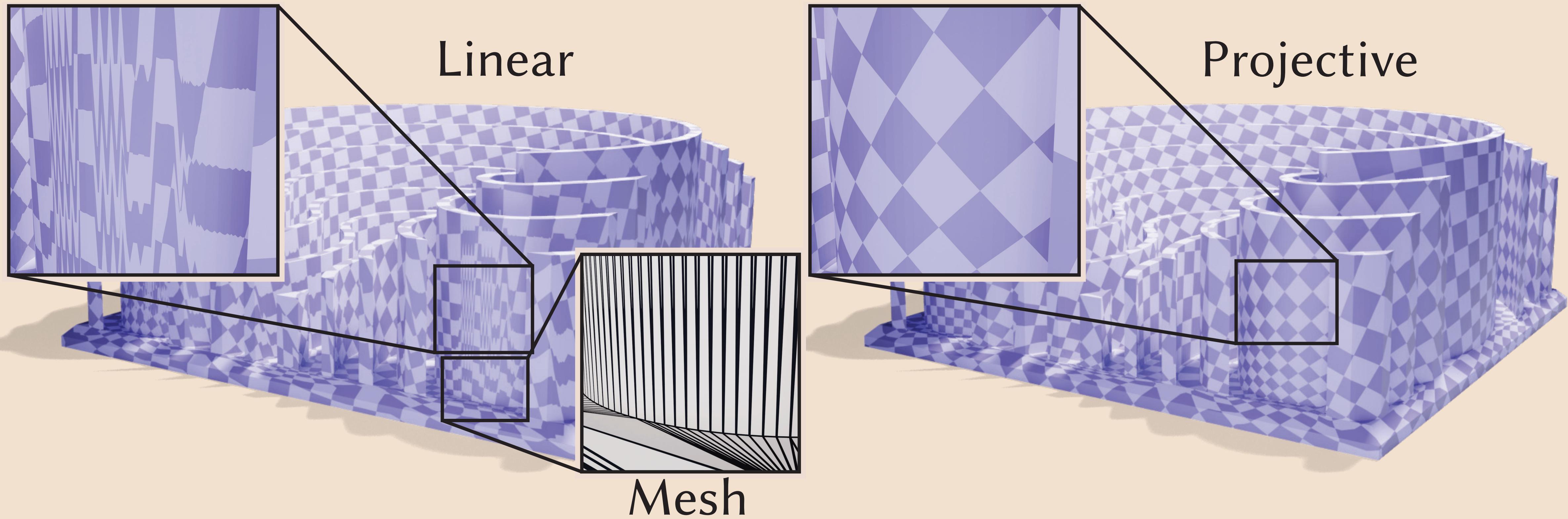
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Projective interpolation improves quality

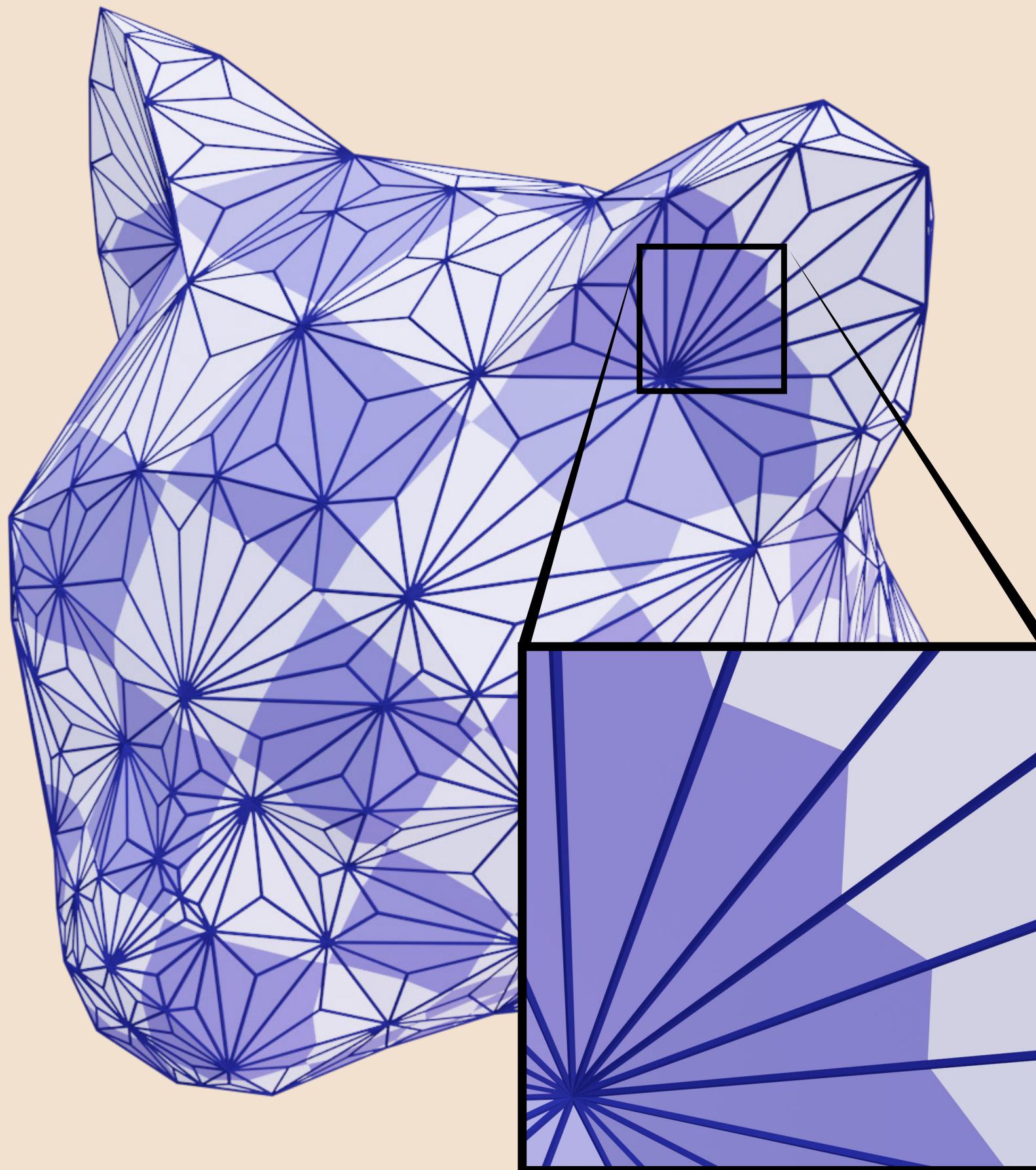
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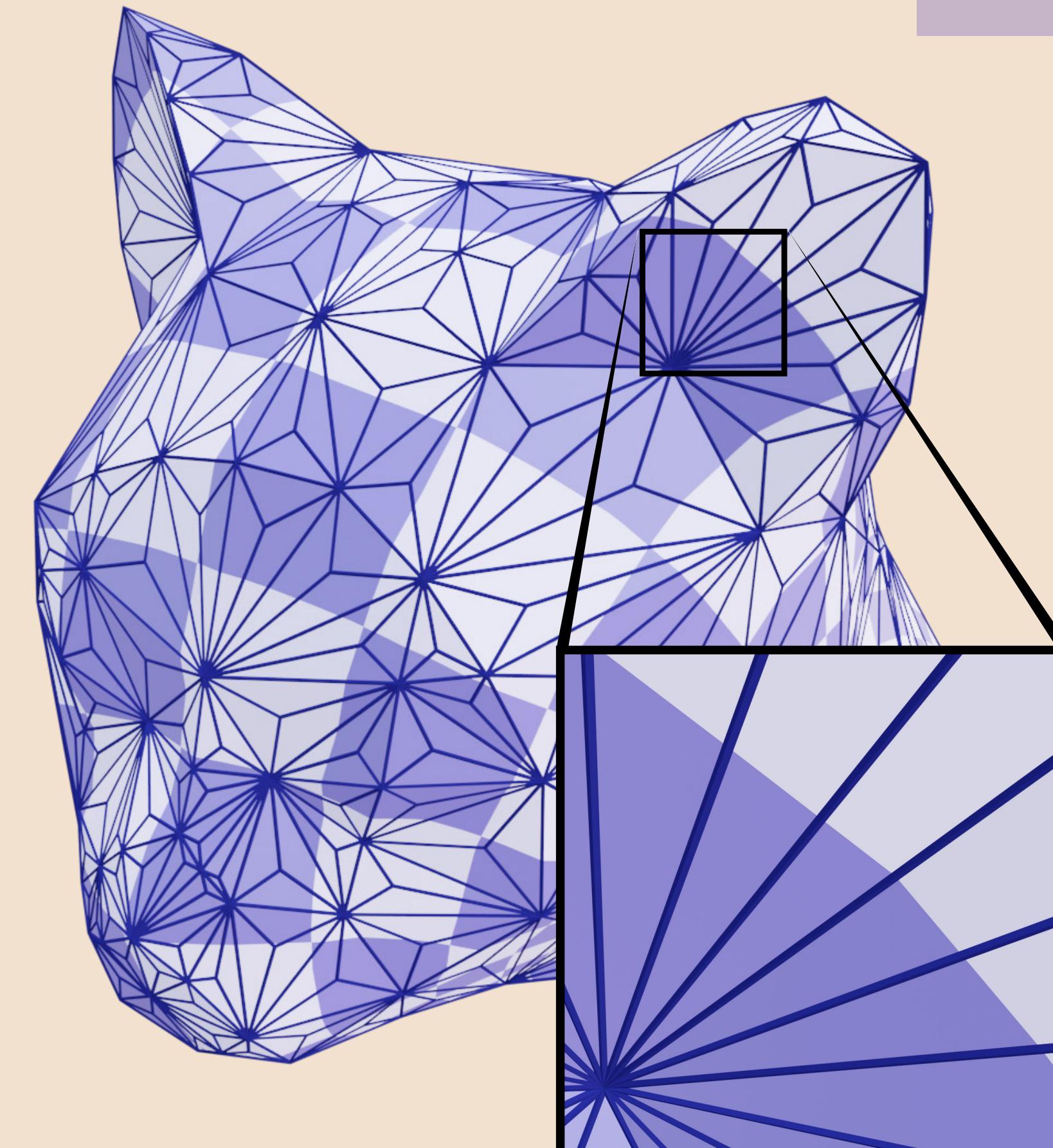


Variable triangulation > fixed triangulation

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Fixed triangulation (CETM)



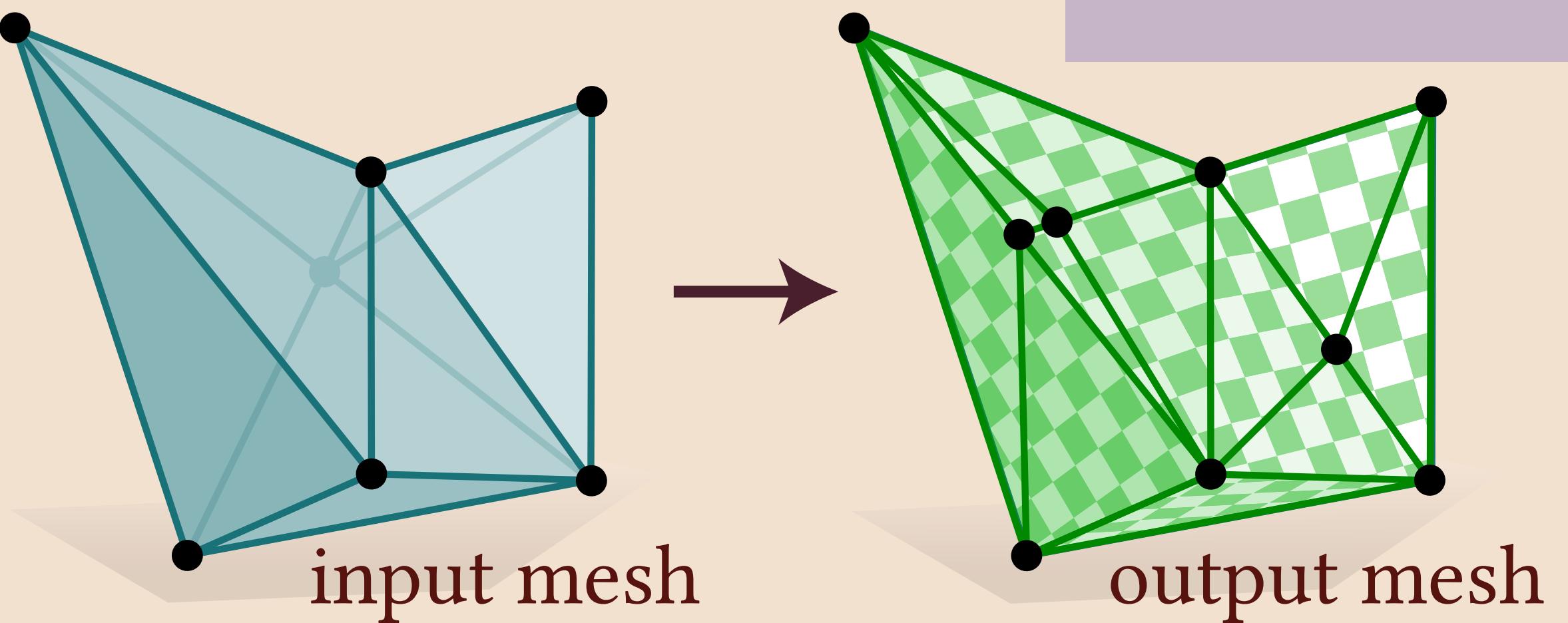
Variable triangulation (CEPS)

Even when fixed triangulation succeeds, variable triangulation projective interpolation is smoother

Limitations and future work

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- Output is refined mesh
 - ▶ Could you unflip all flipped edges?
- If all you care about is injectivity, correspondence is simpler
- Going beyond 2D
 - ▶ 2D uniformization theorem → 3D geometrization theorem
 - ▶ 2D Delaunay triangulations → 3D Delaunay tetrahedralizations



Thanks!

Code is available at
github.com/MarkGillespie/CEPS



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