

# Water Technology of Uncharted

**Carlos Gonzalez Ochoa**  
Graphics Programmer – Naughty Dog

**Doug Holder**  
Fx Artist – Naughty Dog

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# Contributors

Eben Cook  
Michal Iwanicki  
Ryan Broner  
Vincent Marxen  
Jacob Minkoff

Matt Morgan  
Jerome Durand  
Peter Field  
Junki Saita  
Marshall Robin



## Action and Adventure

Not a “water” game

Uncharted is an action adventure game. Game play is combat and exploration. It's not about water gameplay

There are tons of environments: Jungle, temples, cities, caverns, ruins, etc  
In each we generally add some water element. puddles, streams, rivers, pools, lakes, and lastly the ocean  
Water has been a major design element and we have improved it through the series



HENZEN '05



# UNCHARTED

## DRAKE'S FORTUNE

# Water in many forms





From small to large bodies of water



Interaction with the water. Clothes get wet

Fast moving



Slow and hard to navigate



The game has a very particular art style and the water had to be able to match it

Water has to move  
Has to look better

Previous work... lots of it

*Crysis, Kameo, Resistance, Bioshock, Halo* and  
many, many others

*Perfect storm, Cast Away, Poseidon, Surf's Up,...*

Tech demos

Scientific visualization

SIGGRAPH, IEEE, I3D papers



Complex refraction/reflection model

Flow: Scroll uvs (per pixel/vertex) of normal map by a vector field

Refraction: depth based jitter and coloring

Foam movement using a threshold operation on a gradient field

Churn: further depth based coloring. Use foam texture to modulate water depth, blend again. Pseudo-volumetric effect

All parameters are artist controlled!



Complex refraction/reflection model

Flow: Scroll uvs (per pixel/vertex) of normal map by a vector field

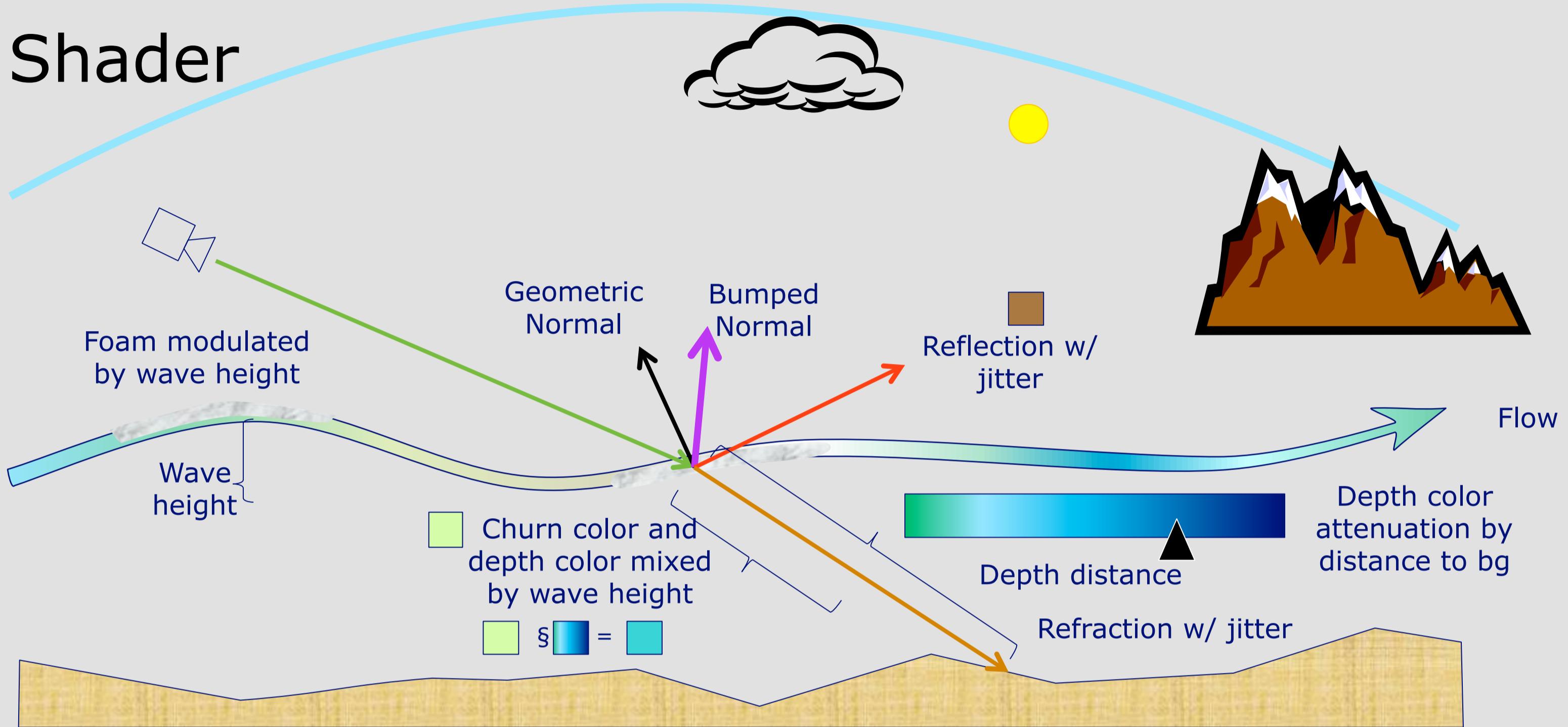
Refraction: depth based jitter and coloring

Foam movement using a threshold operation on a gradient field

Churn: further depth based coloring. Use foam texture to modulate water depth, blend again. Pseudo-volumetric effect

All parameters are artist controlled!

# Shader



The water shading uses already used ideas:

Use a bump map to jitter the normal of the surface.

Use a fresnel term using the jittered normal to blend between a refraction and reflection contribution.

In addition, we use other ideas to modulate the coloring of each contribution

We add foam that get lit on top of the reflection and refraction. We can also choose to mix the foam w/ the refraction, this can create muck

We use churn to simulate a volumetric effect

Refraction. We color the refraction depending on the distance between the surface of the water and the background

The depth coloring can be a linear or exponential function

The depth coloring can be affected by churn. We take one channel of the foam texture to blend between the depth coloring and the "churn" coloring.

As the foam moves (which it also gets modulated by the waves), the coloring changes with the waves and the foam scrolling

The reflection can also be added on top the refraction instead of just blended.

All fresnel coefficients, start-end are artist controlled

# Water shader by layers



Reflection - no bump



# Reflection - with bump



# Refraction



The reflection and refraction are blended using a fresnel coefficient

# Reflection - depth based color - no bump



Depth based function is used to blend a base color and the refraction color. Here no jittering is applied.

# Reflection - depth based color - with bump



The jitter factor is also modulated by the depth

# Soft shadows



# Foam - modulated by wave's amplitude



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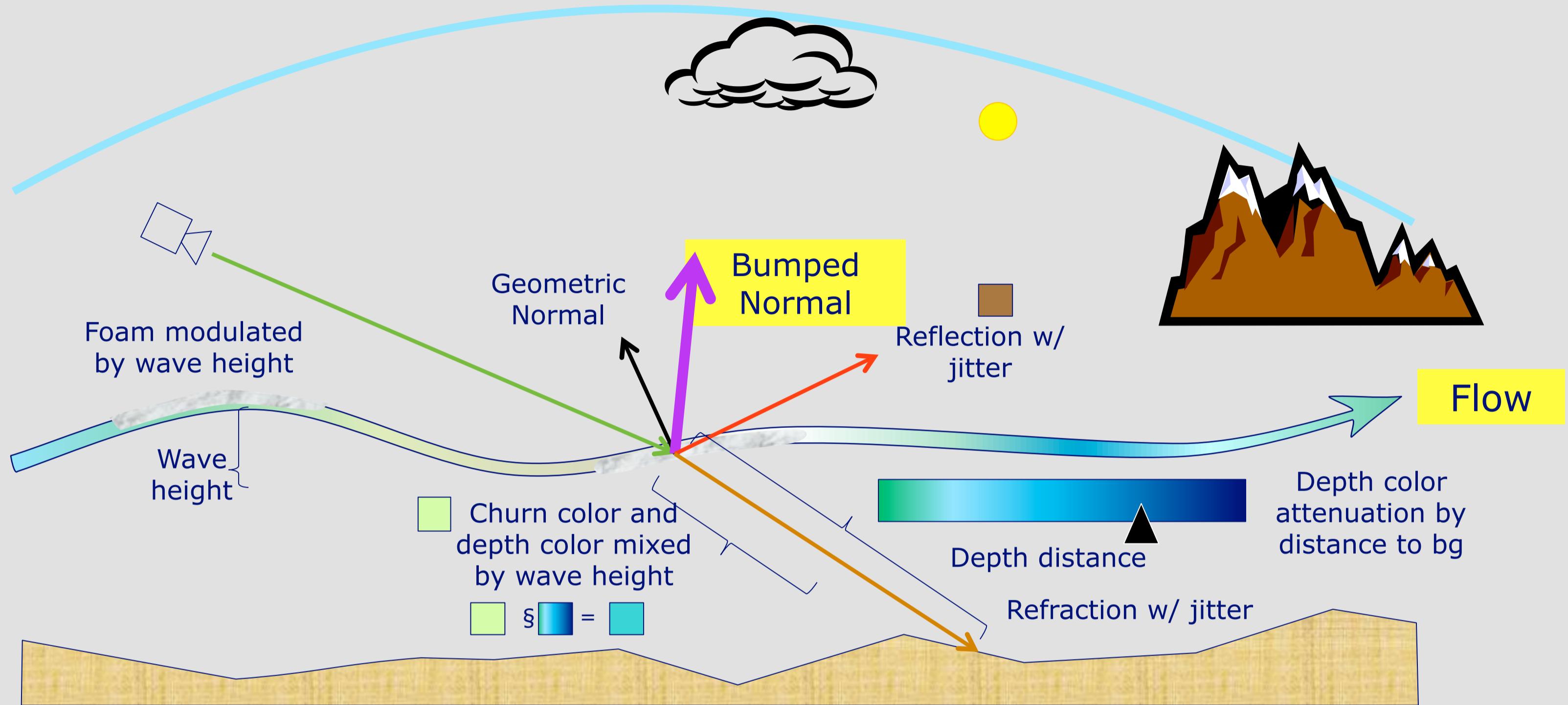
Foam and churn which add a texture above and below  
The foam is also moving by the flow

# Specular lighting



Final





We will look into how we moved the normal maps, this is the key of the water shader

# Flow shader

Vector field used to advect mesh properties

UV scrolling

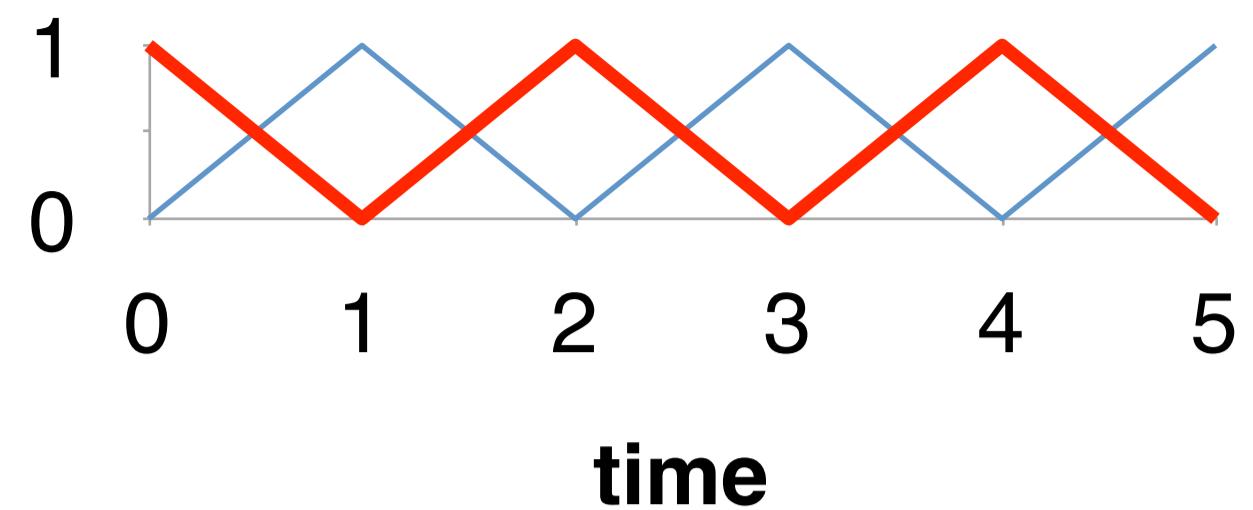
Displacement

Shader based on scientific visualization work:

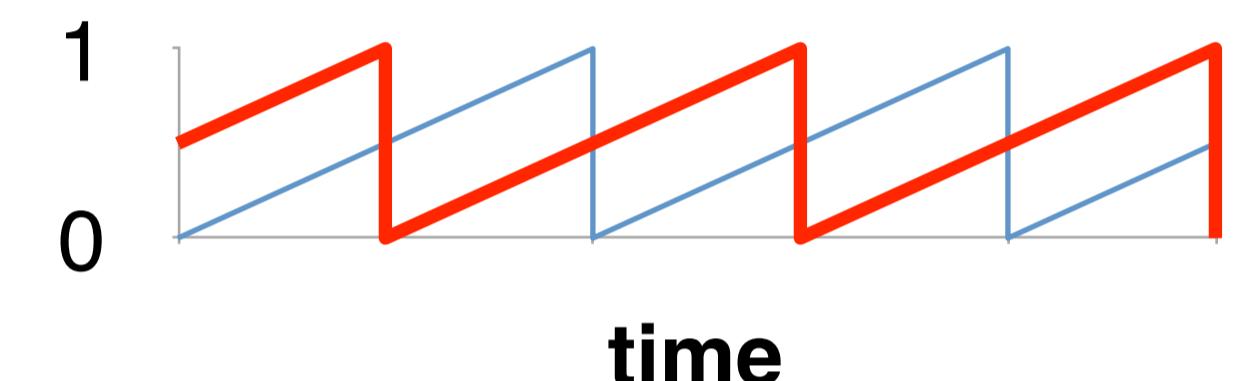
N. Max, B. Becker, "Flow Visualization using Moving Textures", 96

F. Neyret. "Advect Textures", 03

## Blend value



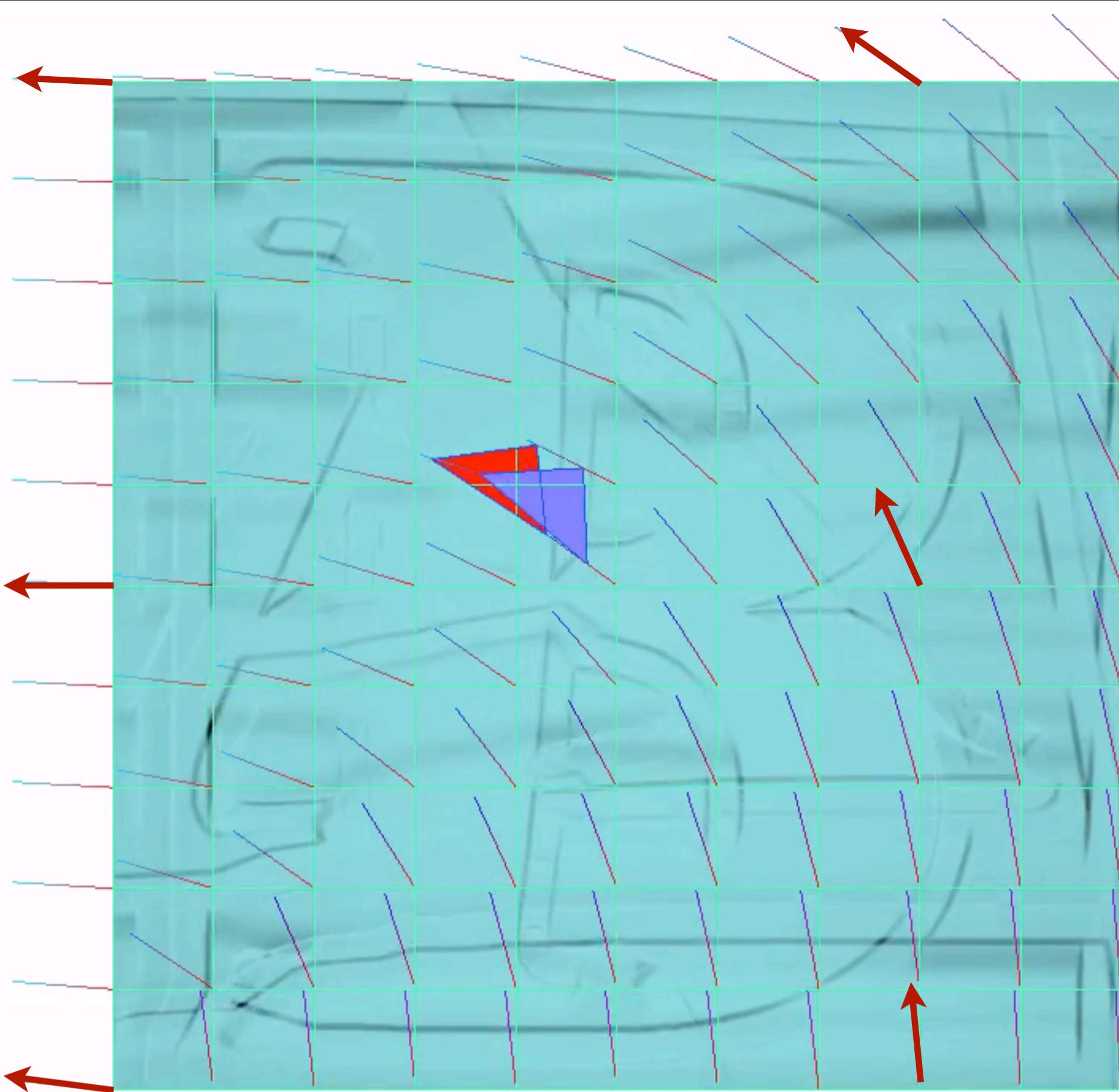
## UV distance movement



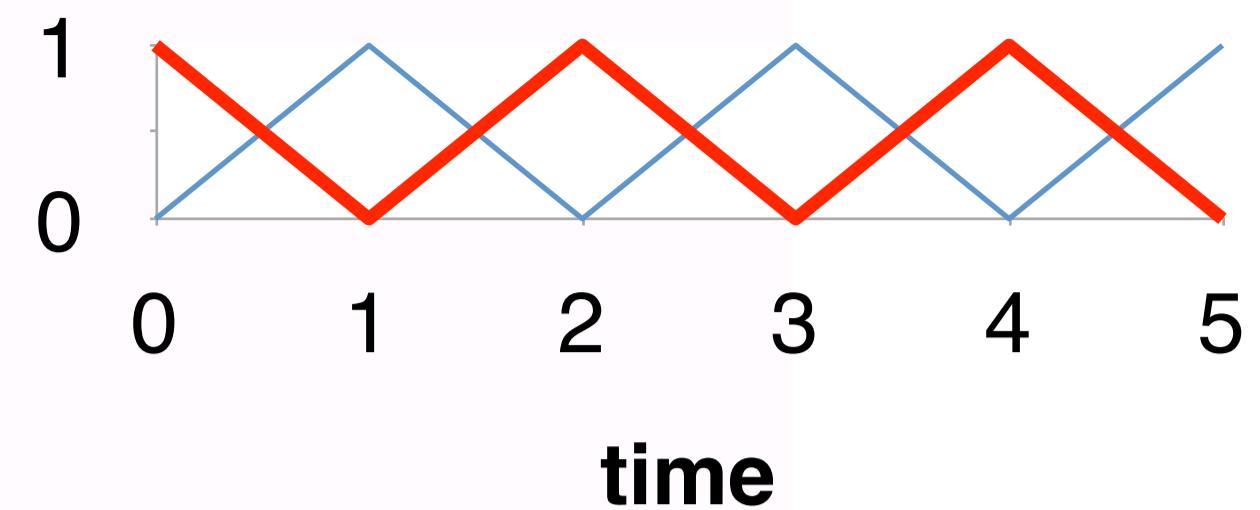
— Texture 1  
— Texture 2

Here is an example of flow using a vertex shader to compute the blend values for triangles (instead of pixels).

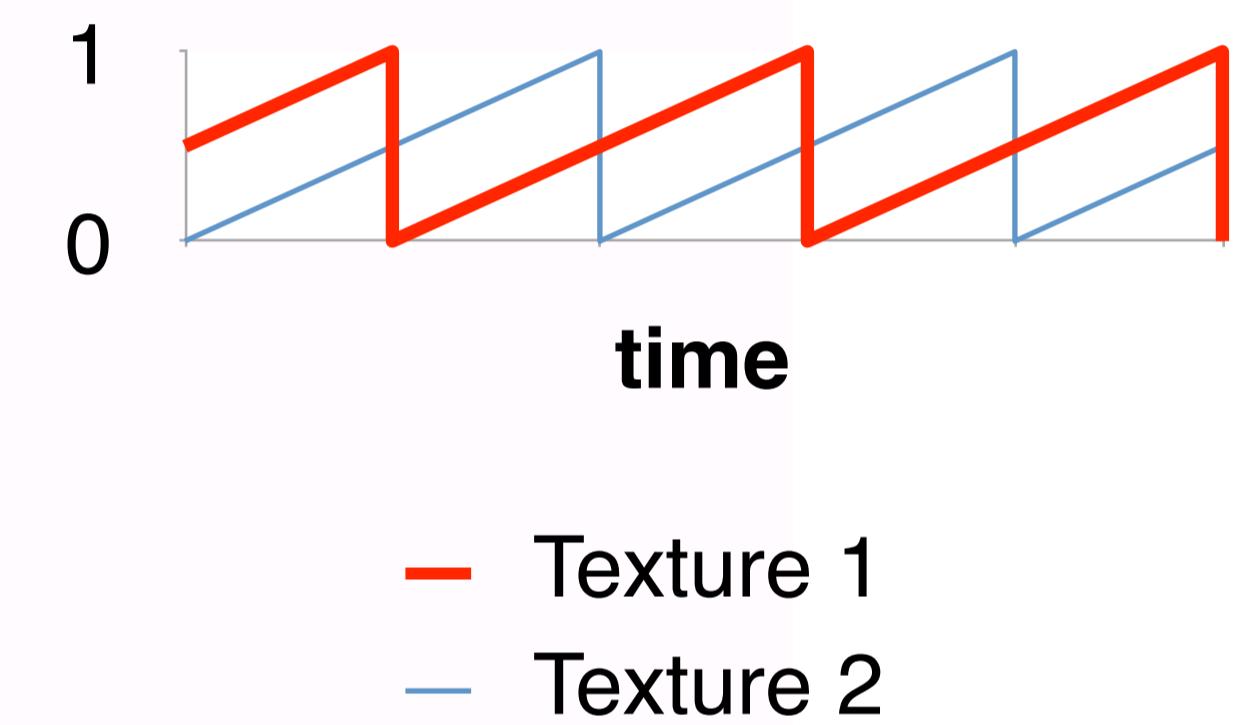
Remember, to scroll in the right direction the uvs should move OPPOSITE to the intended direction



**Blend value**

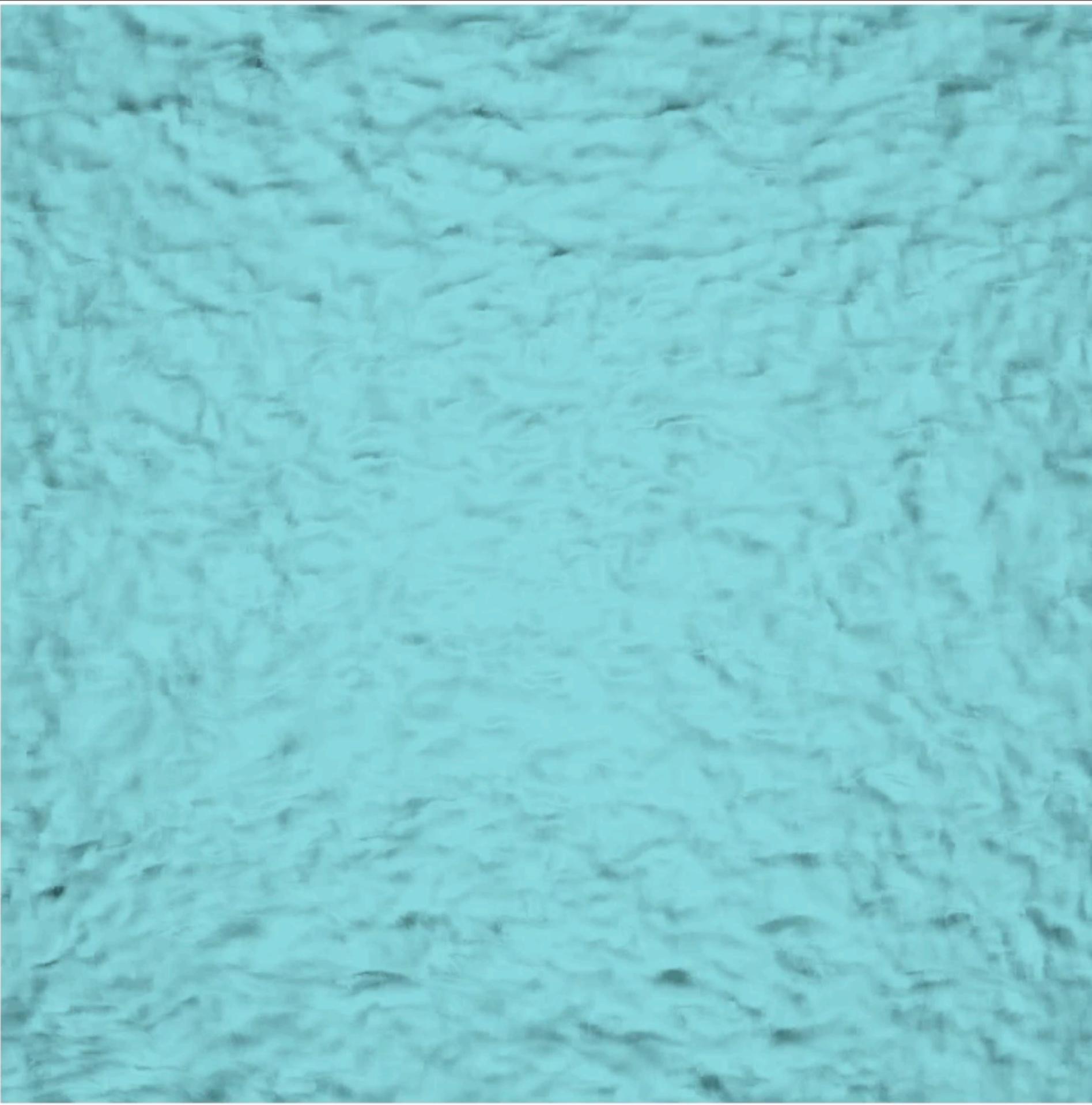


**UV distance movement**



Here is an example of flow using a vertex shader to compute the blend values for triangles (instead of pixels).

Remember, to scroll in the right direction the uvs should move **OPPOSITE** to the intended direction



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We can use several other effects besides using the basic flow. Here we use a second fetch (feedback) to give extra fluidity

Blend between two “flow” textures, one offset in phase by  $\tau/2$

## Ways to improve it:

Offset the placement after each cycle

Offset uv starting position to minimize distortion

Offset in space the phase

Use texture feedback (ping back) to get extra motion

There are many ways to improve flow.

Since the texture moves in cycles of Tau seconds, the improvements come from where the texture starts moving from (1 and 2 above)

The offset in space, is when using flow on a vertex shader and we want each pixel to blend at a different rate.

Be careful because one does not want big discontinuities across the whole texture.

# Flow shader

```

half3 result, tx1, tx2;
half s = .1; // small value

float timeInt = (g_time) / (interval * 2);
float2 fTime = frac(float2(timeInt, timeInt + .5));
float2 flowUV1 = uv - (flowDir/2) + fTime.x * flowDir.xy;
float2 flowUV2 = uv - (flowDir/2) + fTime.y * flowDir.xy;

tx1 = FetchTexture(flowUV1);
tx2 = FetchTexture(flowUV2);
tx1 = FetchTexture(flowUV1 + s*tx1.xy); // [optional] Fetch 2nd
tx2 = FetchTexture(flowUV2 + s*tx2.xy); // time for extra motion
result = lerp(tx1,tx2, abs((2*frac(timeInt))-1));

```

This is the most basic flow shader.

There are many ways to improve it. By adding an offset to where the texture starts:

```

float2 offset1 = float2(floor(timeInt) .1);
float2 offset2 = float2 (floor(timeInt + .5) * .1 + .5);

flowUV2 = uv + offset1 - (flowDir/2) + fTime.x * flowDir.xy;
flowUV2 = uv + offset2 - (flowDir/2) + fTime.y * flowDir.xy;

```

-----  
Offset the uv starting position to minimize distortion. One wants the uv coordinates to have less distortion (that mean their displacement is 0) when the blend is at its maximum.

```

float timeInt = (g_time) / (interval * 2);
float2 fTime = frac(float2(timeInt, timeInt + .5));
float2 flowUV1 = uv - (flowDir/2) + fTime.x * flowDir.xy + .5 * flowDir.xy;
float2 flowUV2 = uv - (flowDir/2) + fTime.y * flowDir.xy + .5 * flowDir.xy;

```

-----  
You can spread around where the phase changes, this is easy to do if the flow is done on a pixel shader (not on triangles)

```

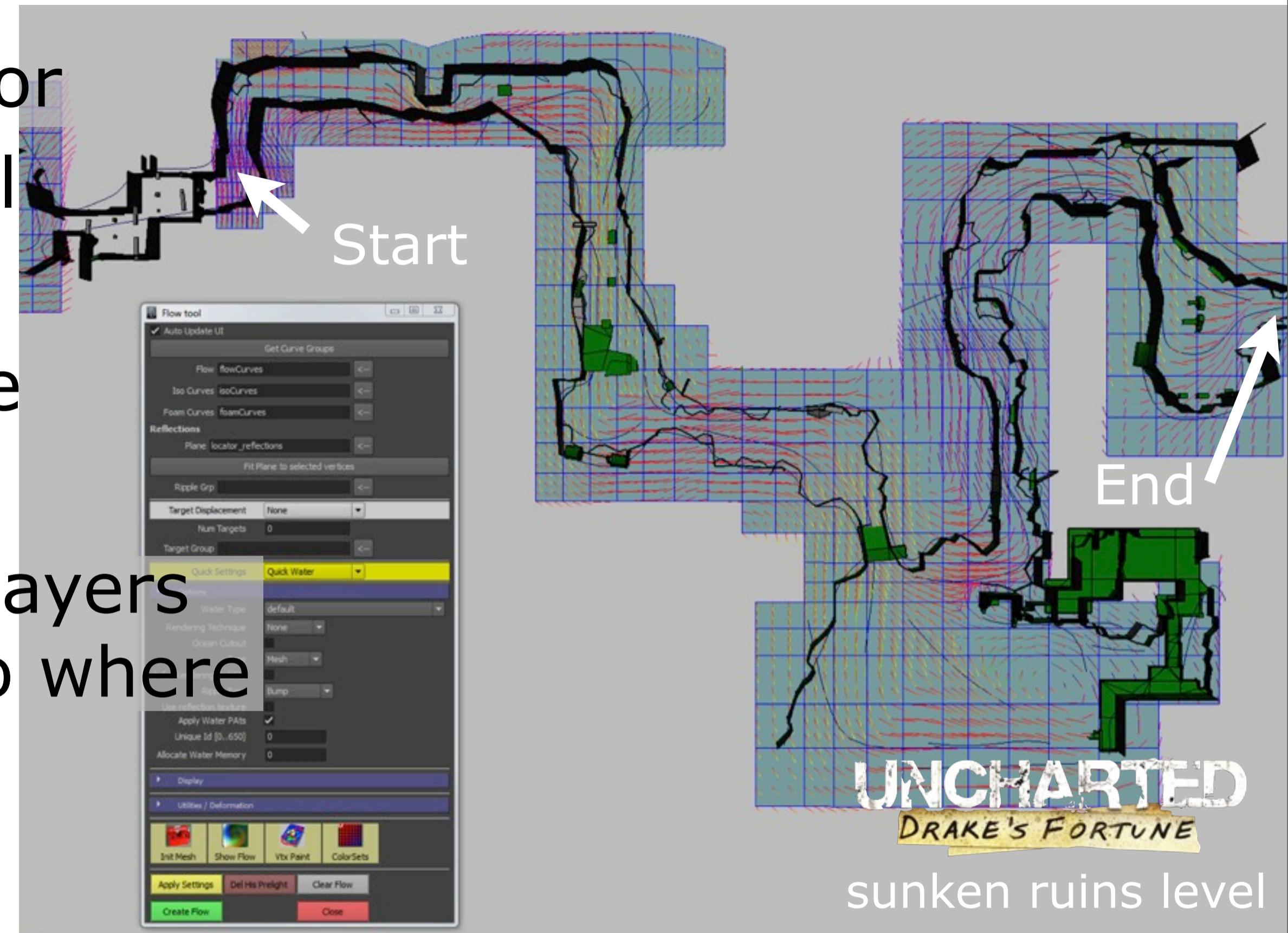
float timeInt = (g_time) / (interval * 2);
float offsetPhase = phaseScale * FetchPhaseTexture(u,v); // texture goes from 0..1
float2 fTime = frac(offsetPhase + float2(timeInt, timeInt + .5));

```

-----  
You can think on many other ways to use flow.

Easy to author  
ND Maya tool  
Dir, velocity  
Foam, phase

Flow gives players  
a direction to where  
to go.



This is the Maya tool used in all the Uncharted games.  
The tool uses splines to define the direction and color maps to control the magnitude of the velocities.  
Also, we can generate foam maps, and phase (for displacement).  
Later we will talk more about the basic flow displacement

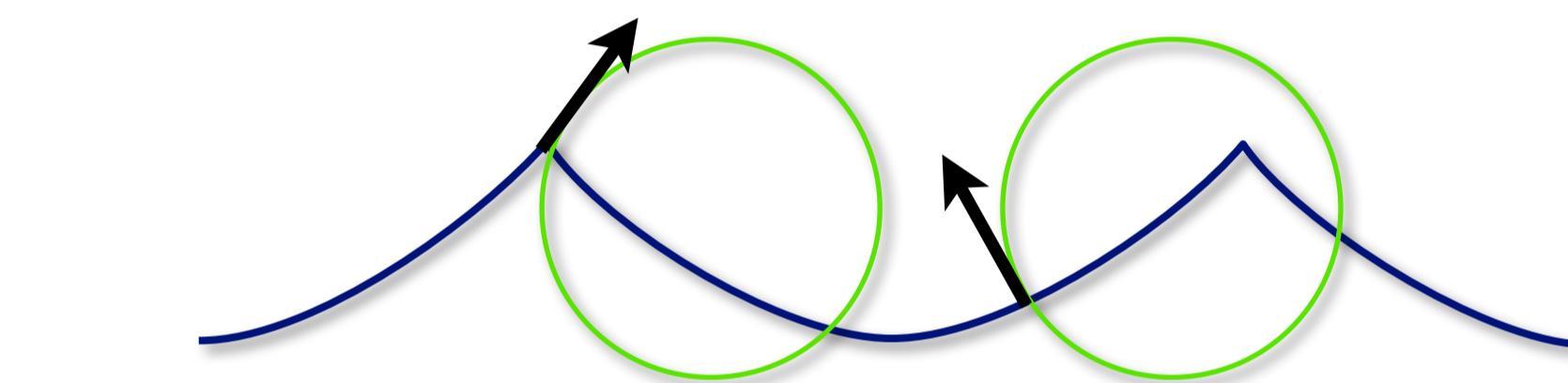


UNCHARTED  
DRAKE's FORTUNE

sunken ruins level

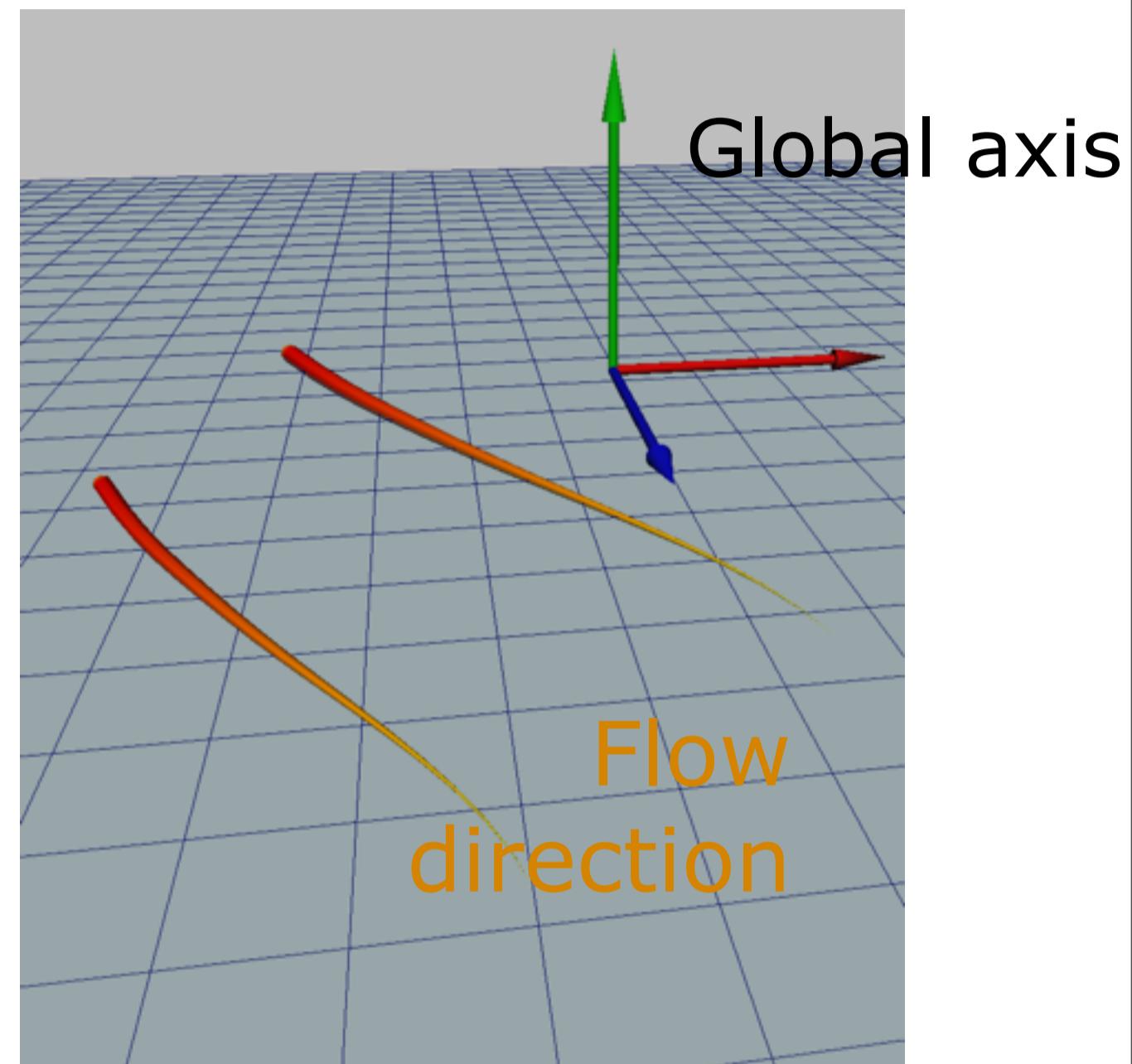
# Flow based displacement

Each vertex moves on a circular pattern at a different phase  $\phi$



$$x_1' = x_1 + \cos(\alpha t + \phi_1)$$
$$y_1' = y_1 + \sin(\alpha t + \phi_1)$$

$$x_2' = x_2 + \cos(\alpha t + \phi_2)$$
$$y_2' = y_2 + \sin(\alpha t + \phi_2)$$



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Flow can also be used for displacement.

In the case of U1, I encoded flow into the vertices. And we could do displacement in the SPU's.

In addition to a vector field, we encoded a phase field over the mesh.

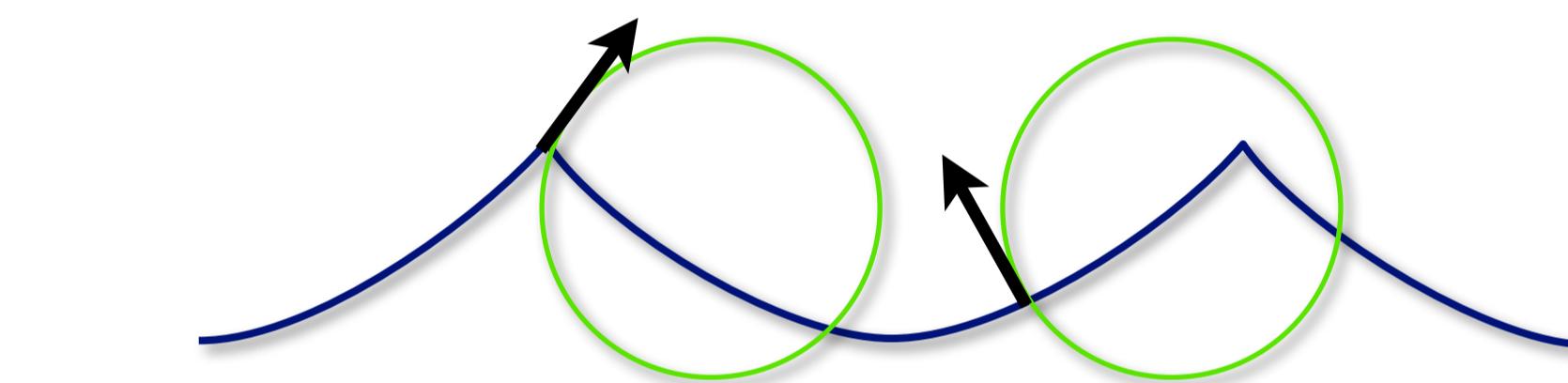
Every vertex moves in an anisotropic scaled circle.

So if we set the phase field nicely spaced not only in the direction of flow, but also perpendicular to it, we can get some interesting waves.

Of course these waves will not be as dramatic nor complex as the one in U3

# Flow based displacement

Each vertex moves on a circular pattern at a different phase  $\phi$

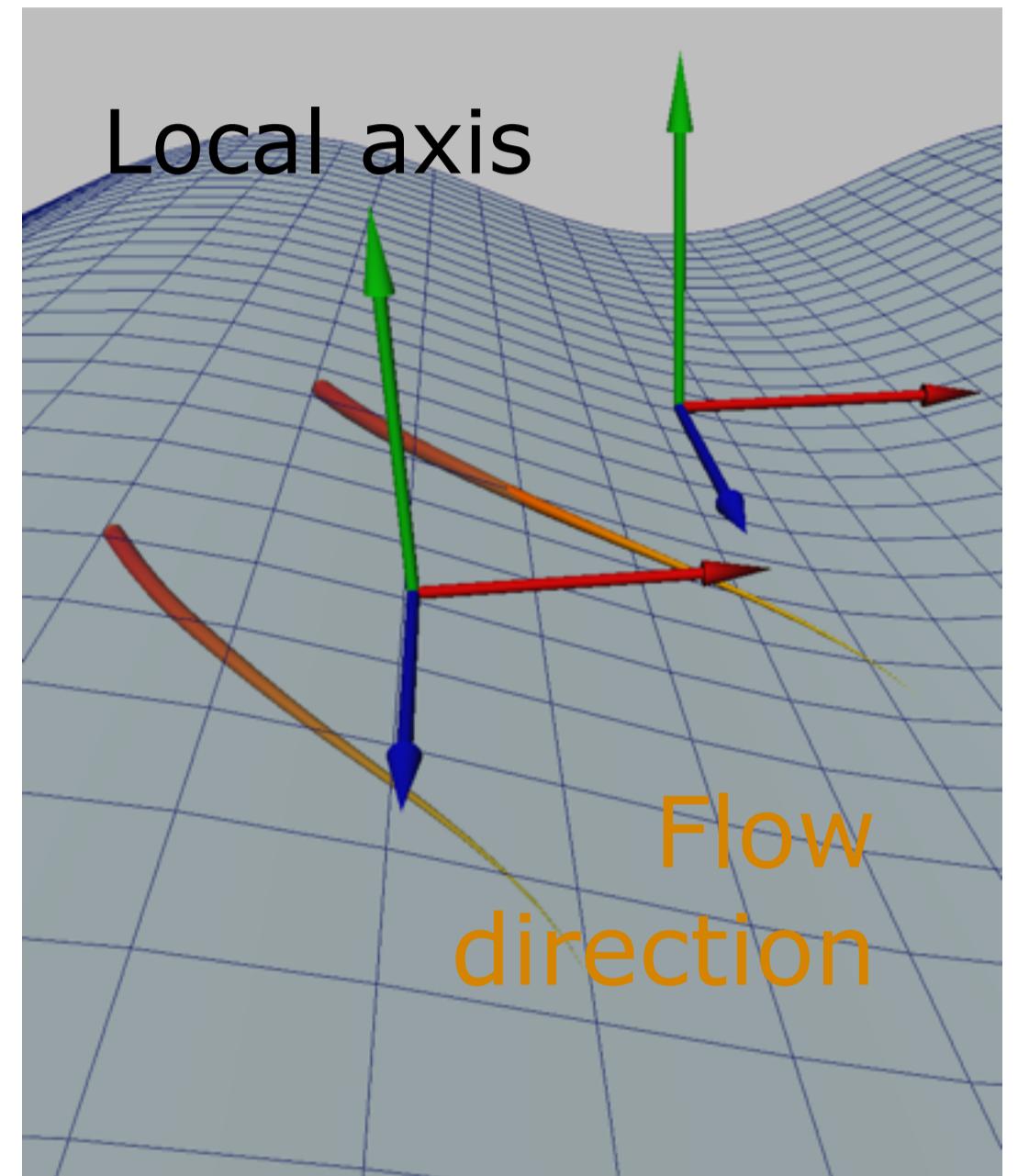


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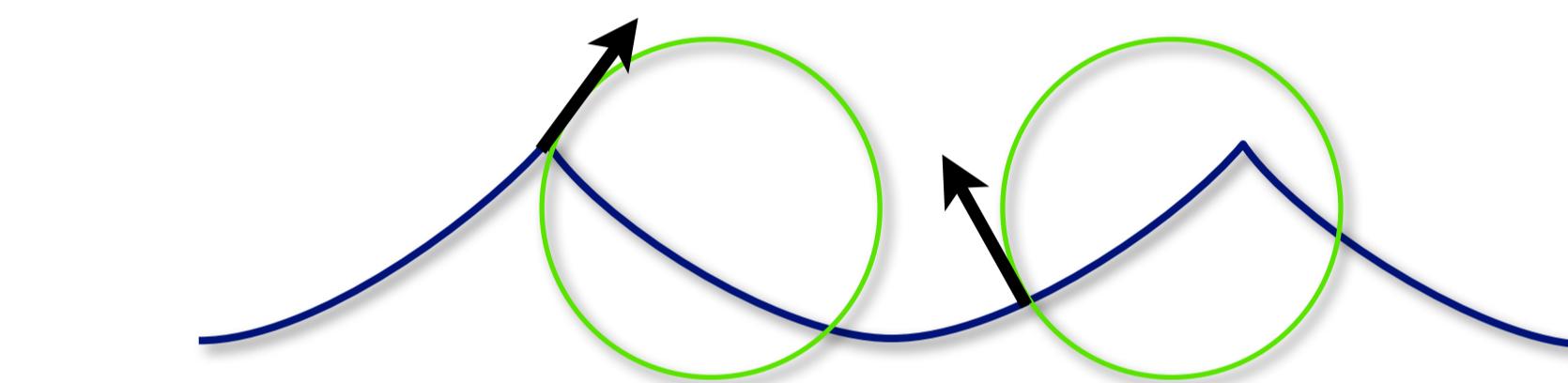
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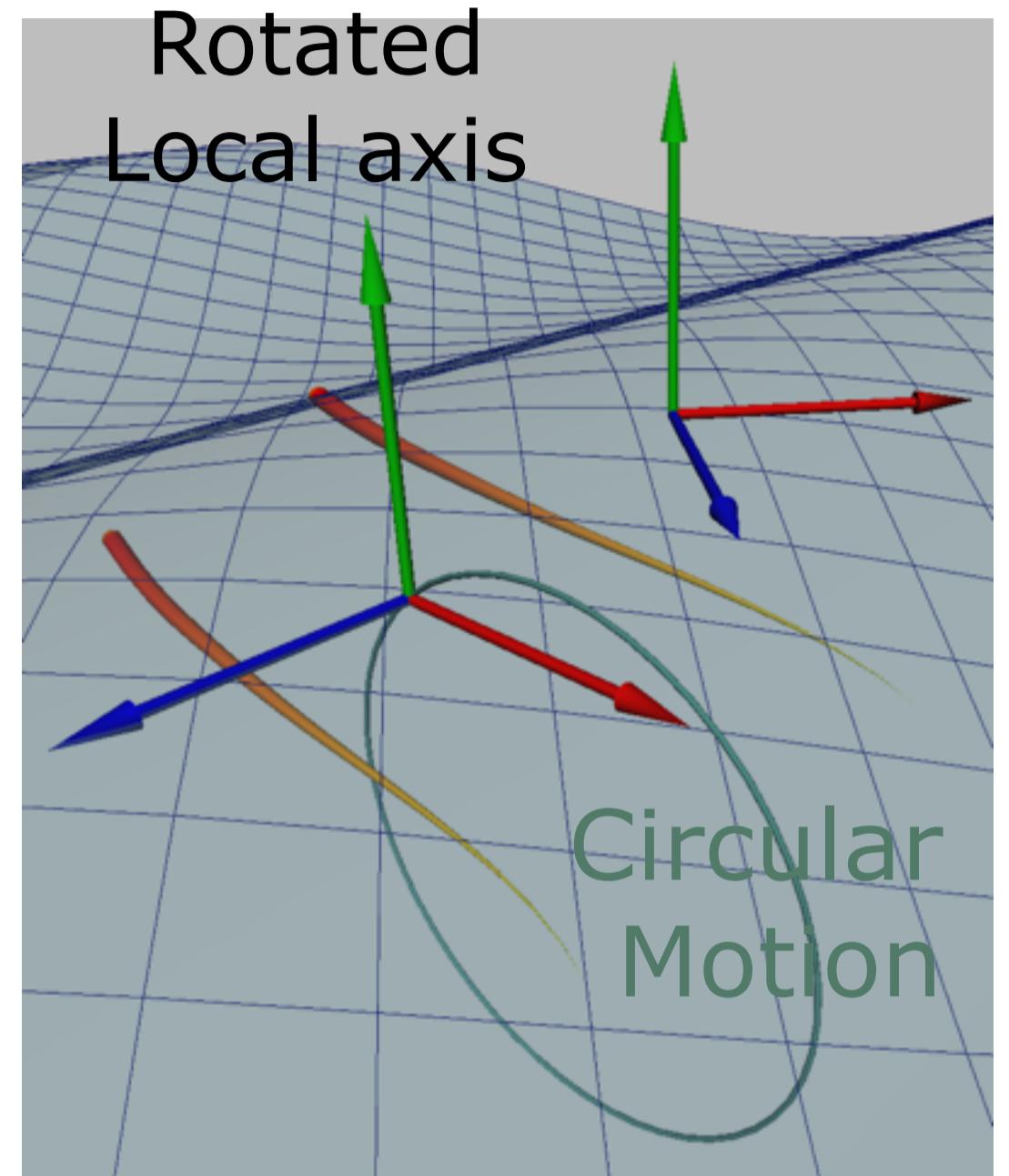


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# UNCHARTED

DRAKE'S FORTUNE





Flow

Useful for lots of other effects

Clouds, sand, snow, psychedelic effects...

See Keith Guerrette's GDC 2012 talk  
"The Tricks Up Our Sleeves...."

We have used flow for sand moving on top of the dunes, the psychedelic effects in U3, cloud movement.  
FX artists even use it for fire and trails

Water good enough for



What is next?





early 2009 idea

*"What if we have a ship in a storm...  
and we turn it 180 degrees and sink it?  
Wouldn't that be awesome?"*

Jacob Minkof  
Lead Designer

Simple displacement mesh with a shader will not be enough for this idea



The cruise ship

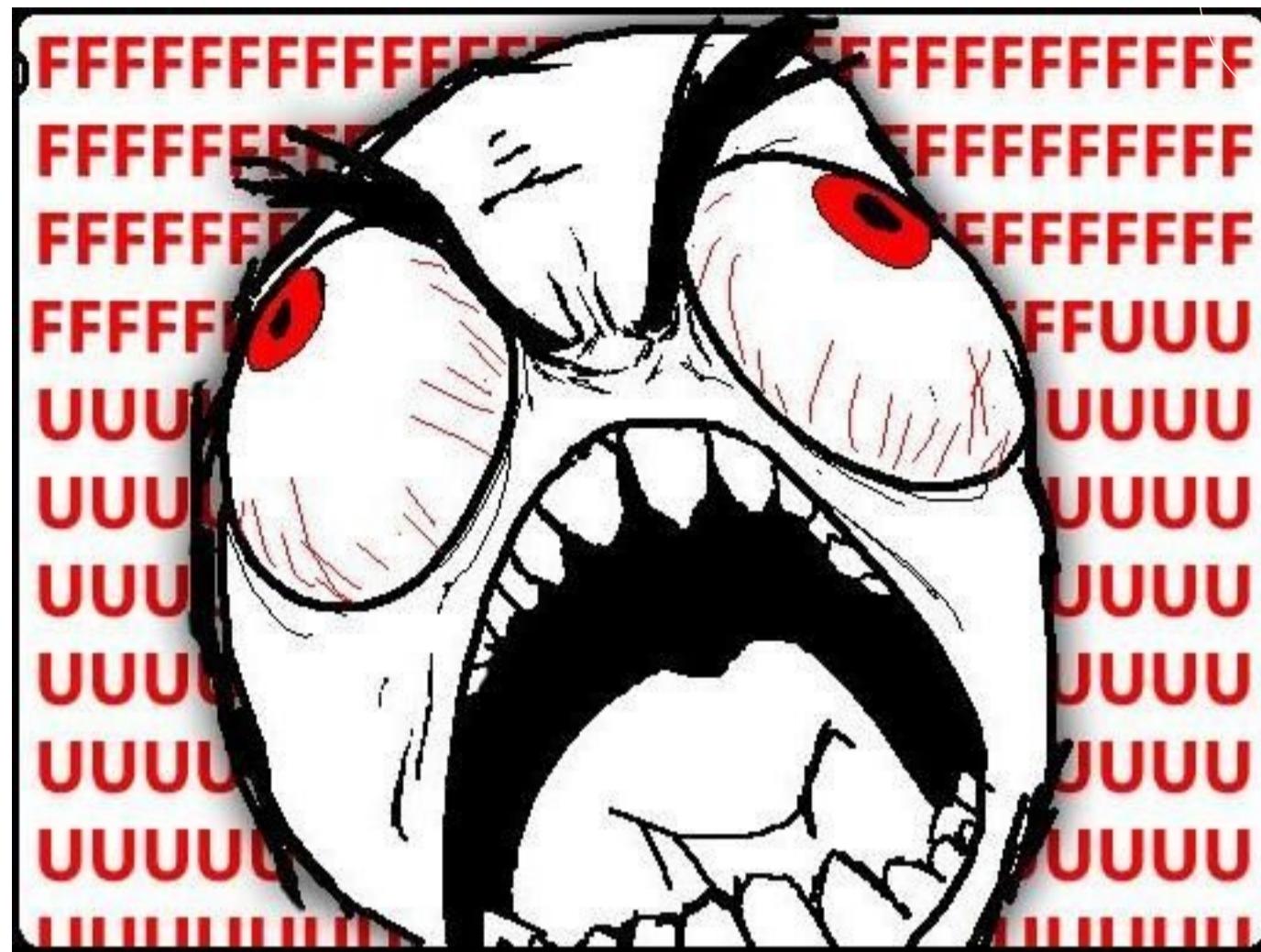
Nor for this rough ocean



Ship graveyard

This one was crazy. There is so much detail that we needed to capture on the ocean. All the action on the ship graveyard would be close to the water. We would smoothly transition from a calm ocean to a stormier and stormier ocean

\*



\*



\* Thanks, we truly appreciate the challenge

# Ocean

## Render challenges

Open ocean, big waves (100 meters+)

Waves drive boats and barges

Animation loops were considered but not used

# Swimming

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Initially designers thought about using a can animation for the cruise boat  
(silly designers, we can do better)

One problem was that once we are on the boat is hard to read the scale of the waves.

We are high on the boat and the camera attached to the player smooths out the waves. To compensate we have to exaggerated the amplitude of the waves to read as a storm.

# Ocean

Wave System  
Procedural  
Parametric  
Deterministic  
LOD



# Procedural

~~Simulation~~ = too expensive

~~Perlin like noise~~ = not that good visually

Procedural geometry and animation are good if we can find a good model.

Simulation would be too expensive to compute (even in SPUs) and hard to control by designers

Perlin noise results are not that great visually, tend to look very artificial

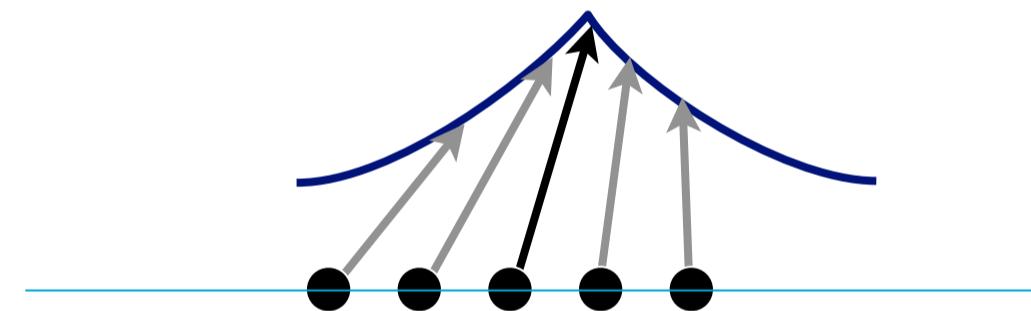
The FFT technique is great, but the parameters are hard to control and tweak by artists. Also is hard to get right.

# Parametric

Evaluate at any point in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  domain

$$F(<u,v>, t, \text{parameters}) \rightarrow <x,y,z>$$

Vector displacement, **not** a heightfield



Since we would have an ocean any point should be able to be computed.  
The ocean was not restricted to a fixed grid and had to be compatible with other parametric equations.  
This way we could do a compositing wave system

It's important to note we are generating a vector displacement.  
One would need a super fine mesh to have by sharp wave peaks with a heightfield.  
Its easier with a vector displacement, one does not need a fine mesh for it.

# Deterministic

Evaluate at any point in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  space and **time**

$$F(<u,v>, t, \text{parameters}) \rightarrow <x,y,z>$$

Needed for cutscenes and multiplayer

# Waves

## Gerstner waves



- Simple but not enough high frequency detail
- Can only use few [big swells] before it's too expensive

So all these requirements force us to certain techniques to use to evaluate waves.

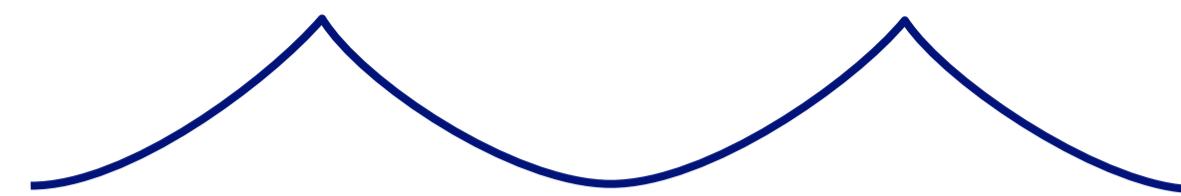
So the easiest ones are the Gerstner waves. These are the workhorse of waves, any one uses them. However, they get expensive to evaluate to get a good number (20+) of them.

The FFT technique is the most realistic one. But is hard to get the right parameters, the artists have to spend lot of time searching for the “correct” values

We also found some tiling artifacts when one has small grid resolutions (64 side)

# Waves

## Gerstner waves



- Simple but not enough high frequency detail
- Can only use few [big swells] before it's too expensive

## FFT Waves - Tessendorf "Simulating Ocean Water", 1999

- + Realistic, more detail
- Spectrum of frequencies - hard for artists to control
- $\frac{1}{2}$  Tiling visual artifacts at low resolution grids



So all these requirements force us to certain techniques to use to evaluate waves.  
So the easiest is Gerstner waves. The work horse of waves, any one uses them. However, they get expensive to evaluate to get a good number (20+) of them.  
FFT again the most realistic ones. But as we said, hard to get right parameters. We found some tiling artifacts

# Wave Particles

Yuksel, House, Keyser, SIGGRAPH 2007

Waves from point sources



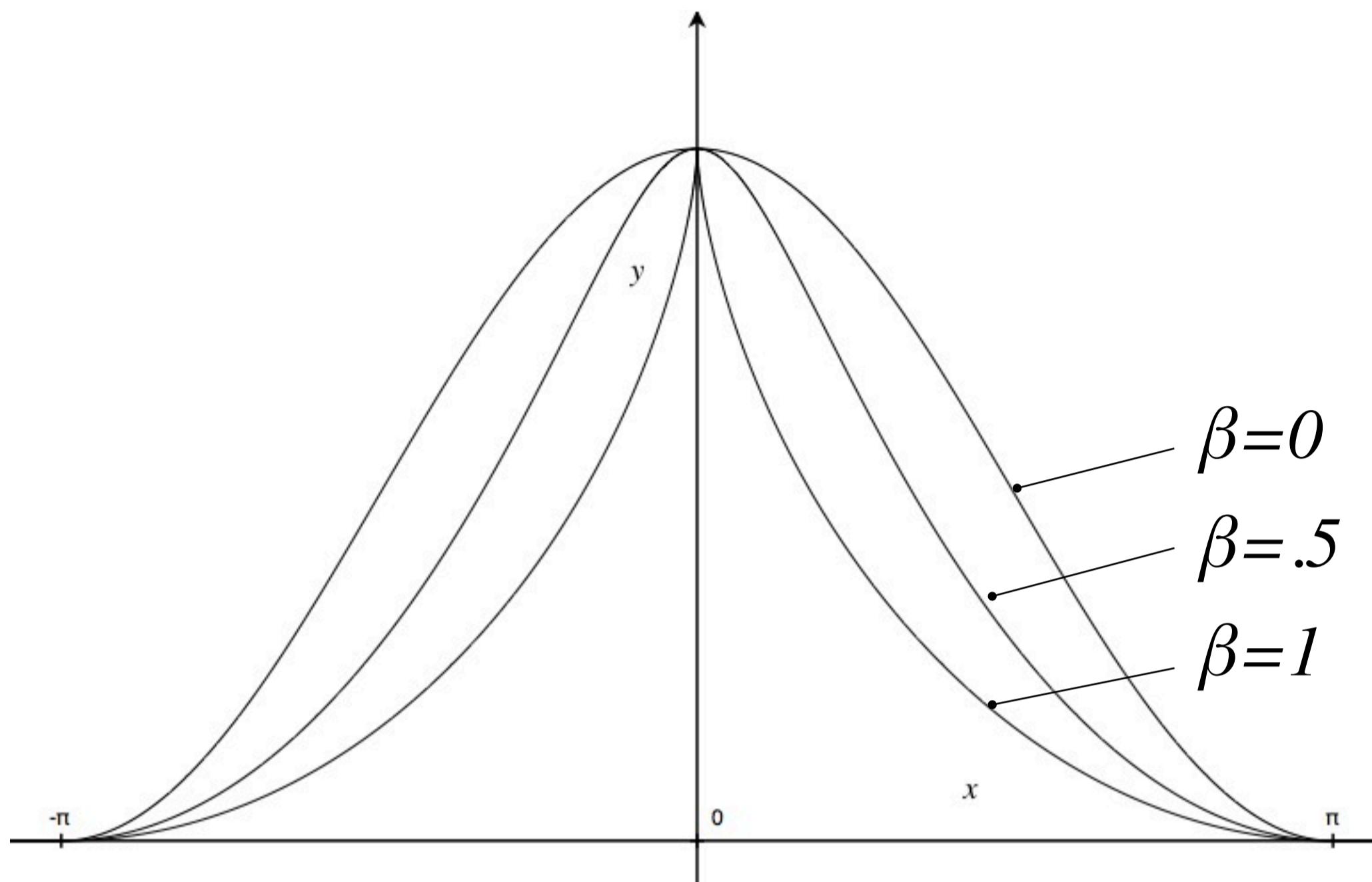
Ours -> Don't use point sources

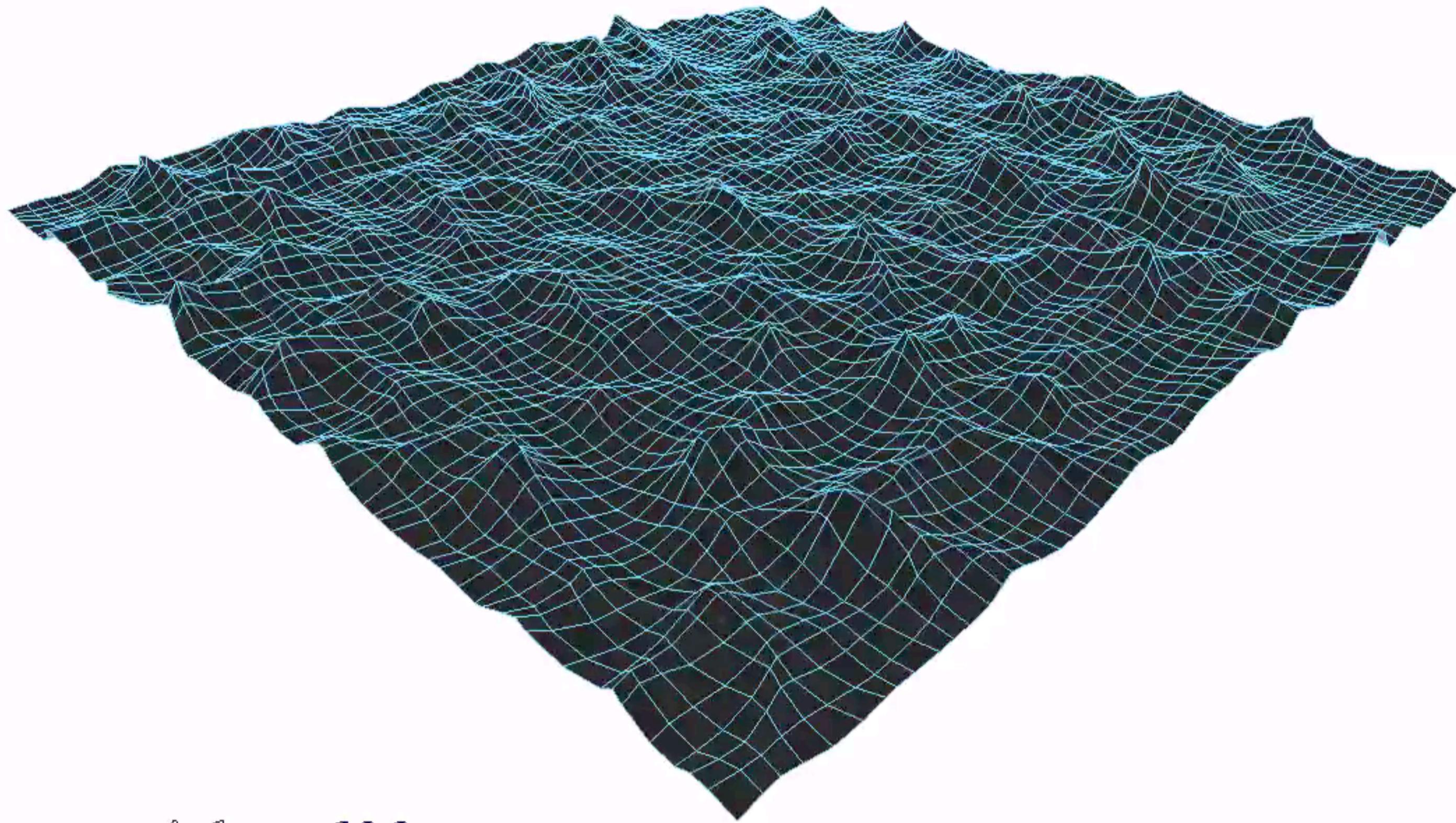
Instead, in a toroidal domain place a random distribution of particles to approximate the chaotic motion of open water

Random positions and velocities within a some speed bounds

→ Yields a tileable vector displacement field

This is the main idea to get our open ocean waves. It's easy to implement and to optimize.  
See the Wave Particle paper for more details

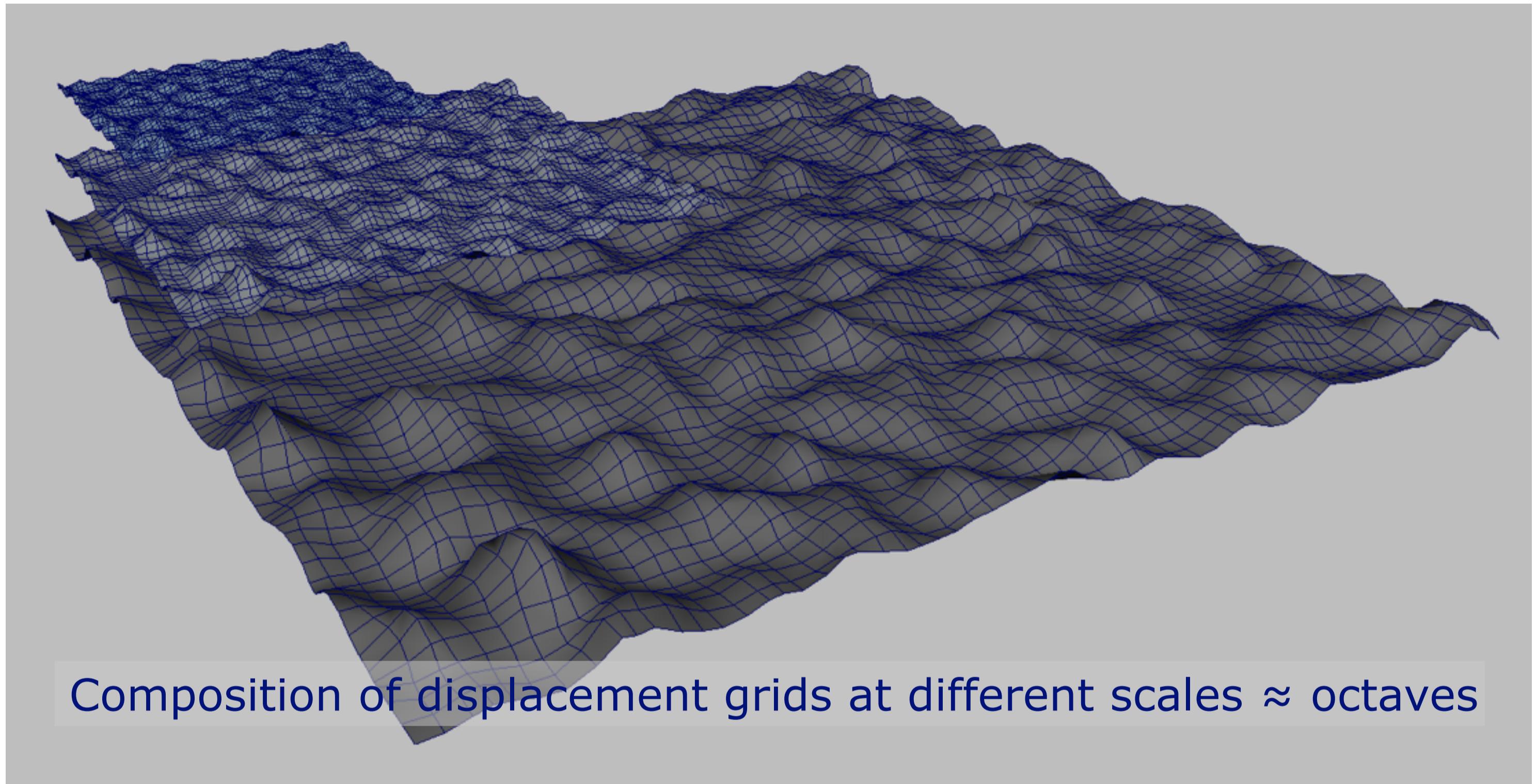




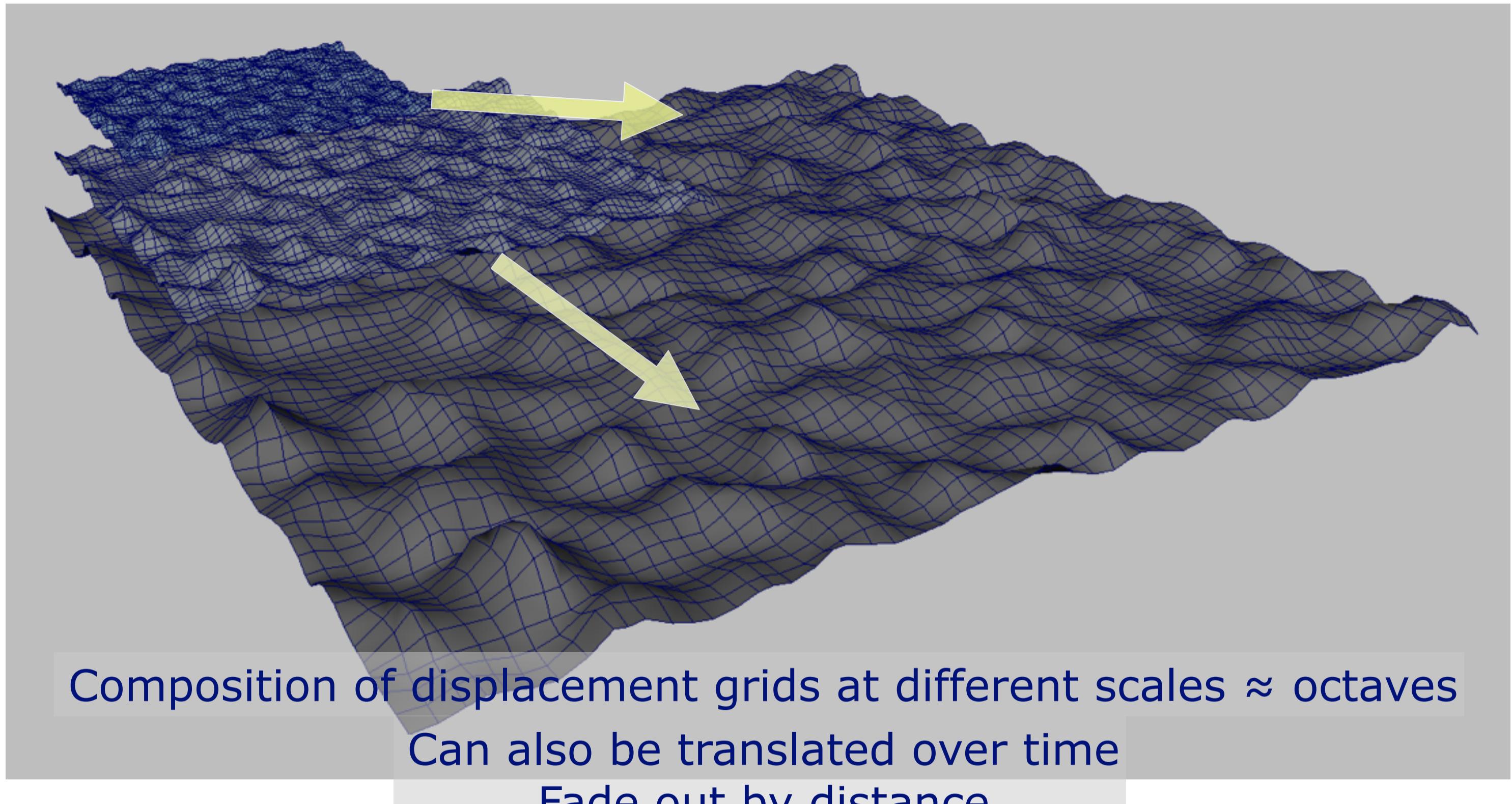
num particles: 600

# Wave Particles

- + Intuitive for artists to control
- + No tiling artifacts
- + Fast! Good for SPU vectorization
  - [Optimization by Michal Iwanicki]
- + Deterministic in time. No need to move particles  
New position is derived from initial position,  
velocity and time



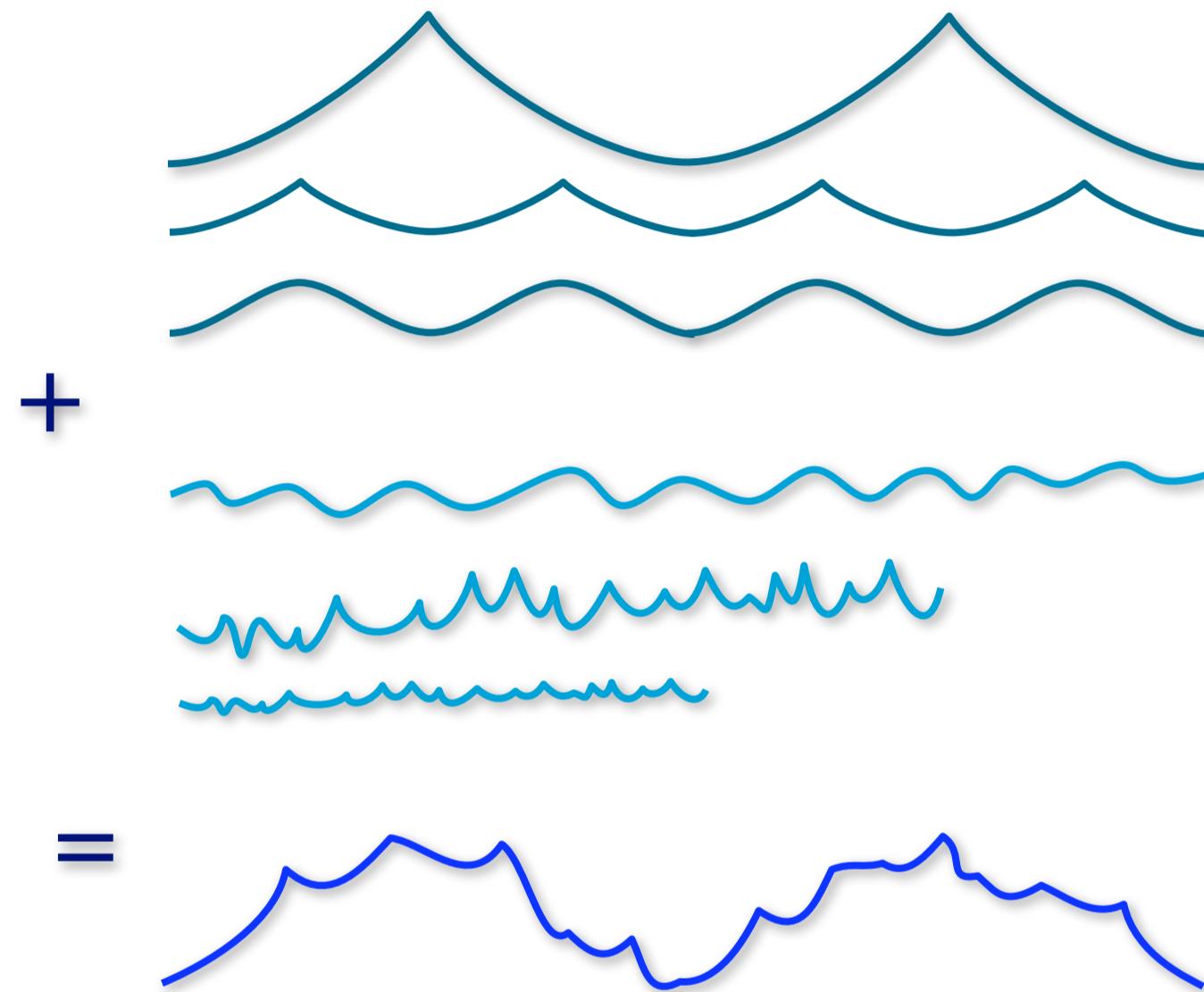
Composition of displacement grids at different scales  $\approx$  octaves



# Wave field

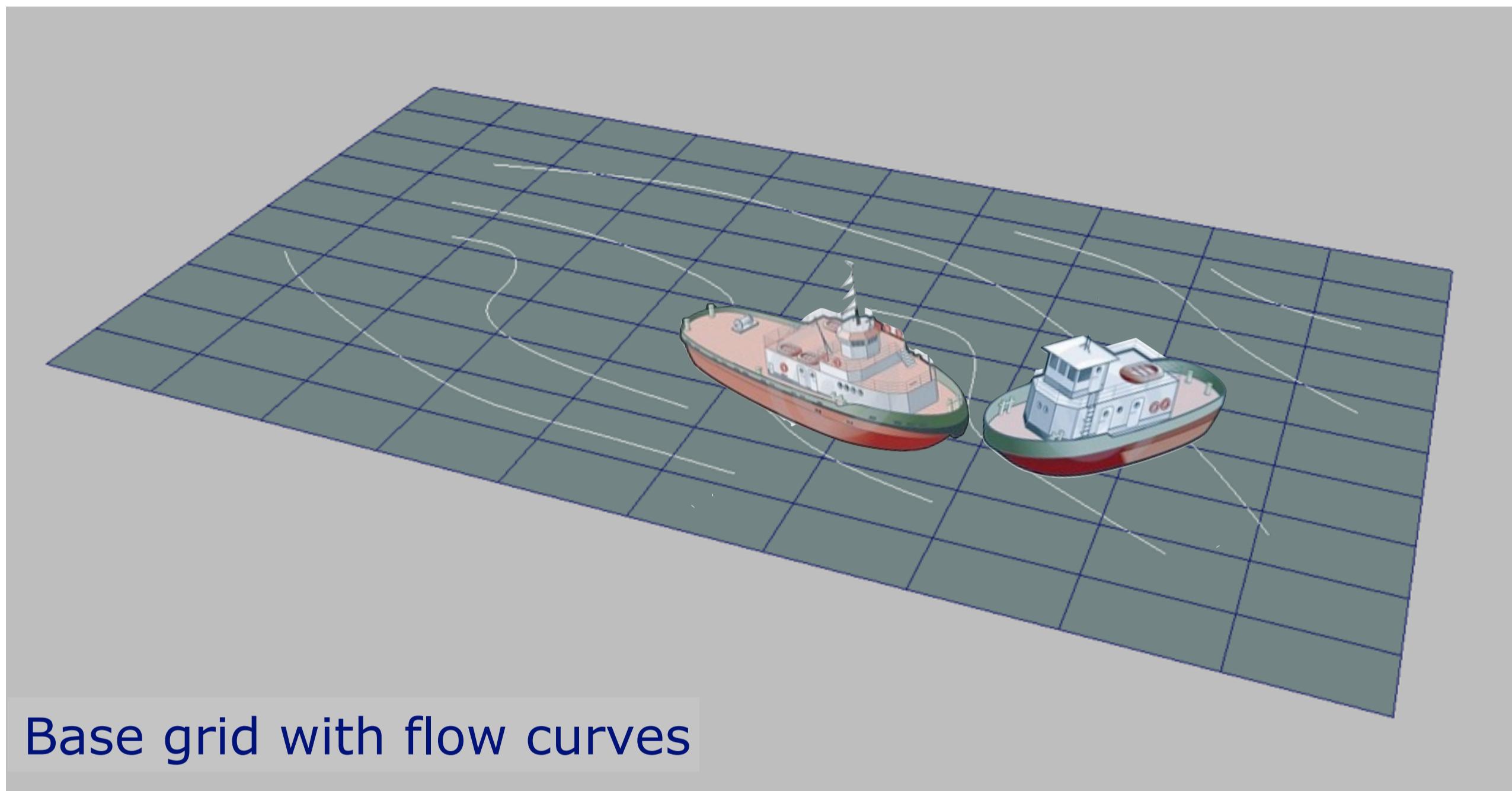
Gerstner waves (x4)

Wave particles  
(1 grid used x4)

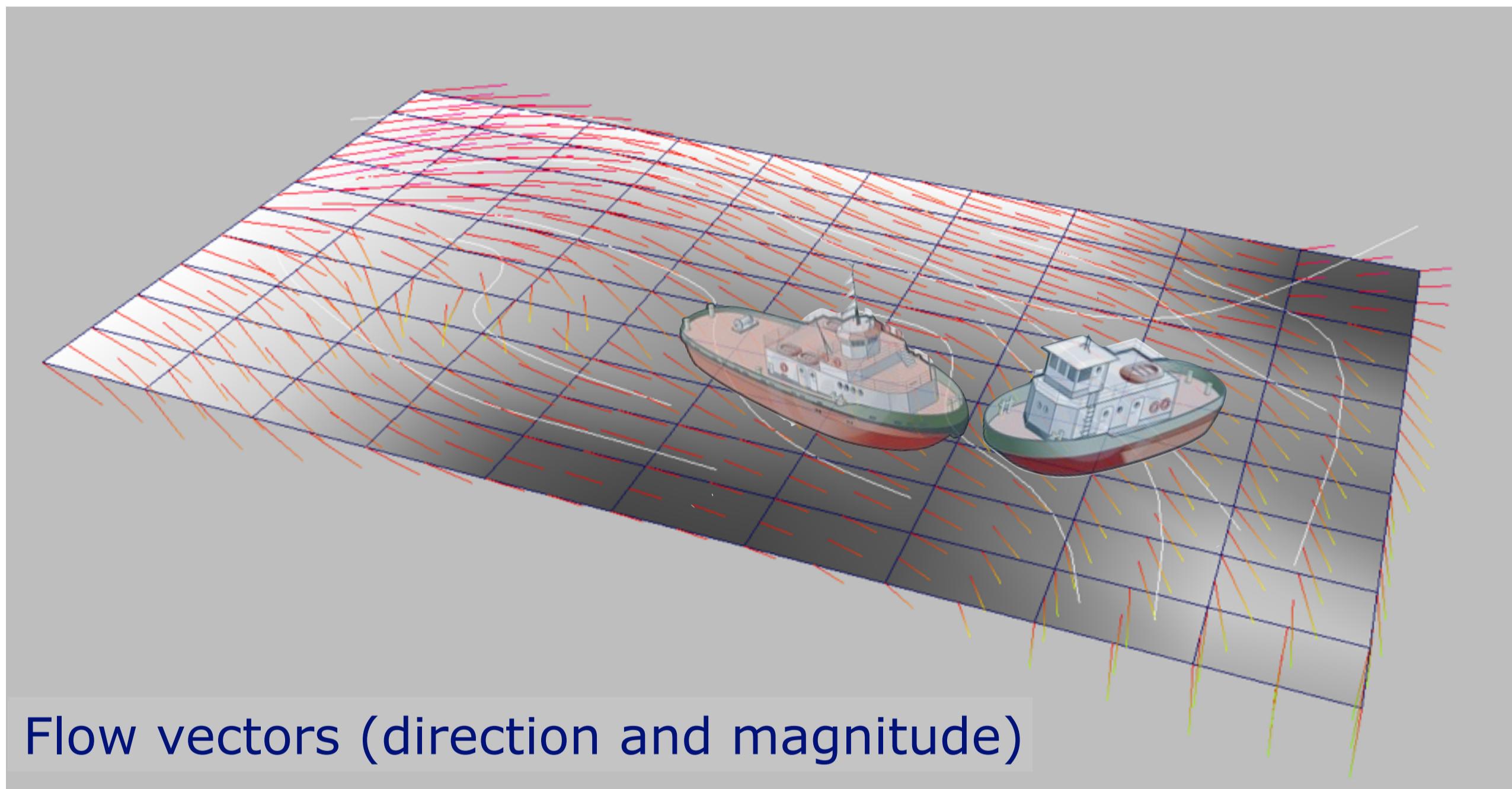


At this point , the displacement field, evaluates 4 gerstner waves plus 4 wave-particle grids per vertex

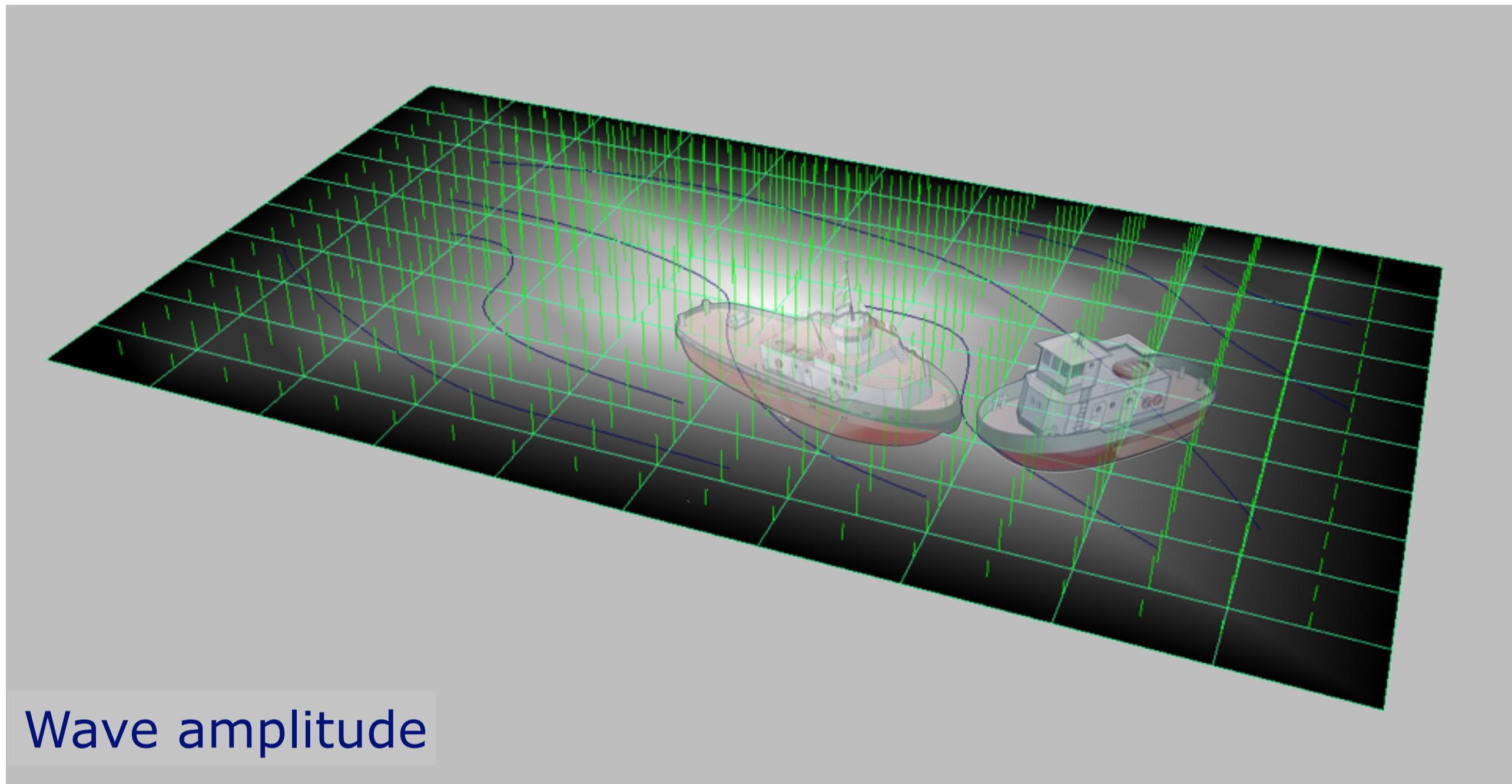
Flow grid: Encode flow, foam, amplitude multipliers in a grid



Flow grid: Encode flow, foam, amplitude multipliers in a grid



Flow grid: Encode flow, foam, amplitude multipliers in a grid



Wave's amplitude

modulates foam



The foam modulation is outputed as a vertex color when we generate the final mesh



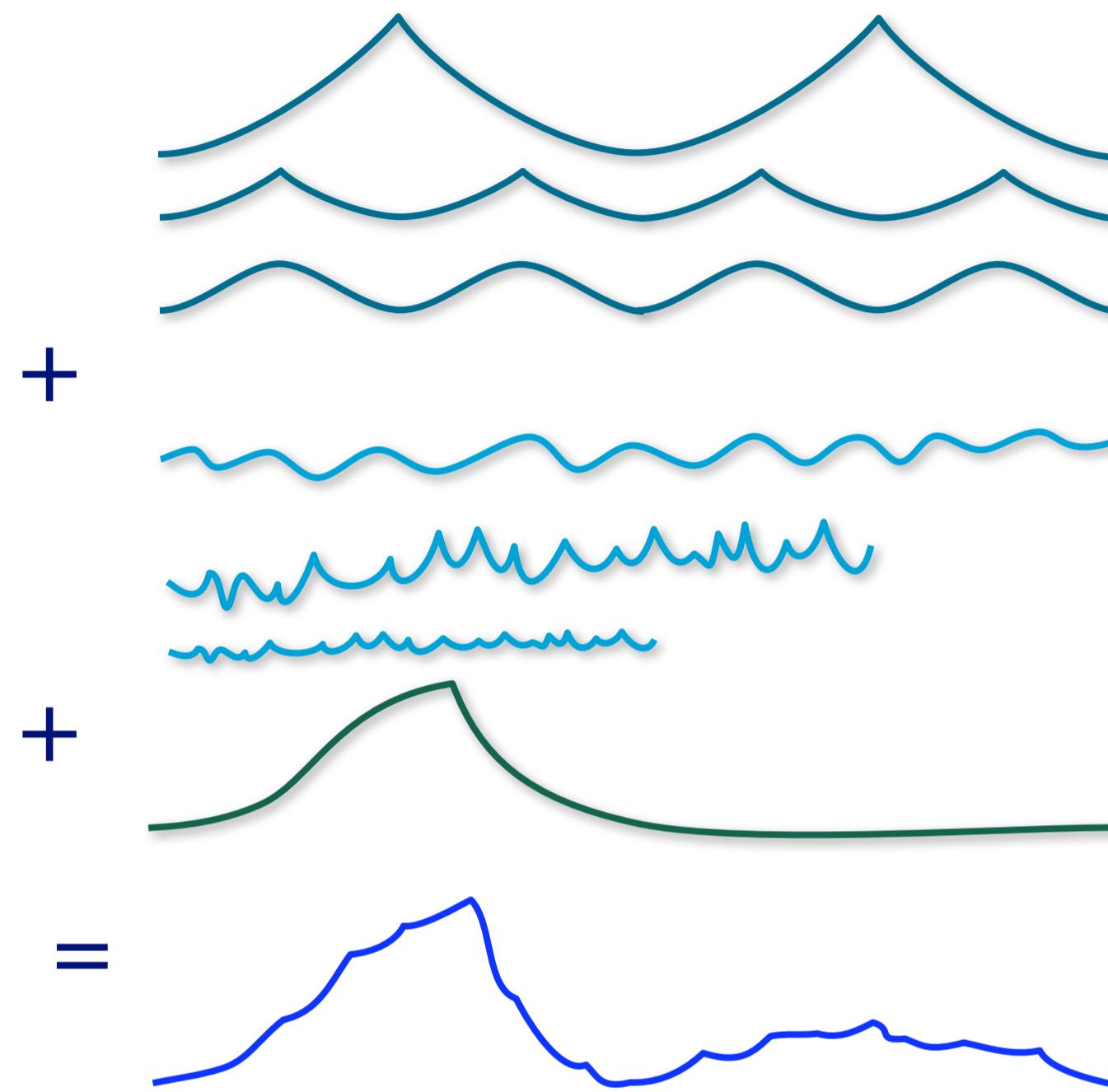




Hey, we need this!

# Addition of simpler waves

Gerstner waves (x4)

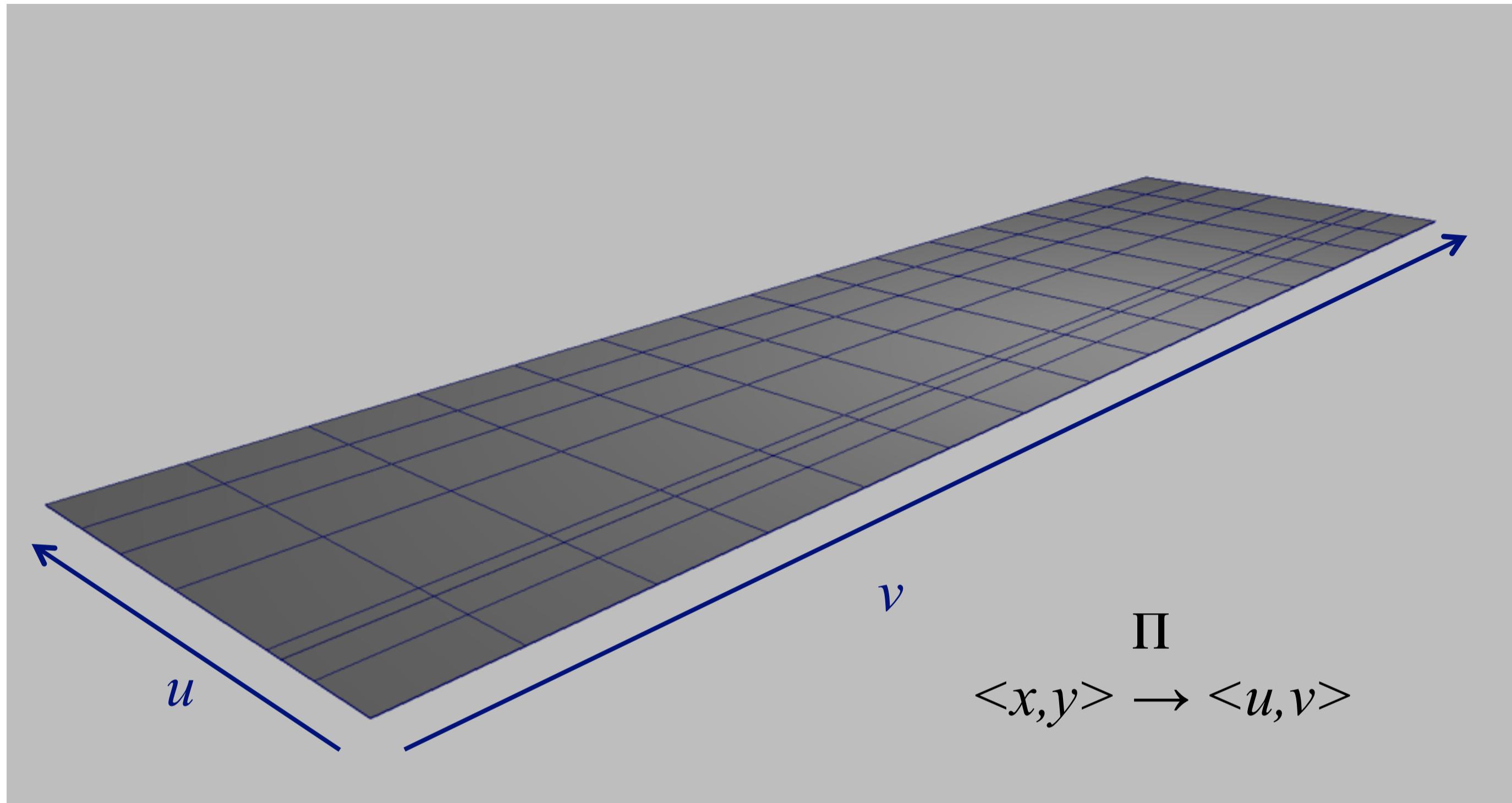


Wave particles (x4)

Big wave

In addition to the previous waves, we add a custom artist wave.

This type of wave will be used for the crash wave scene and to also keep the player from swimming away from the game play area



## Big wave - Orient a square region $\Pi$ over domain

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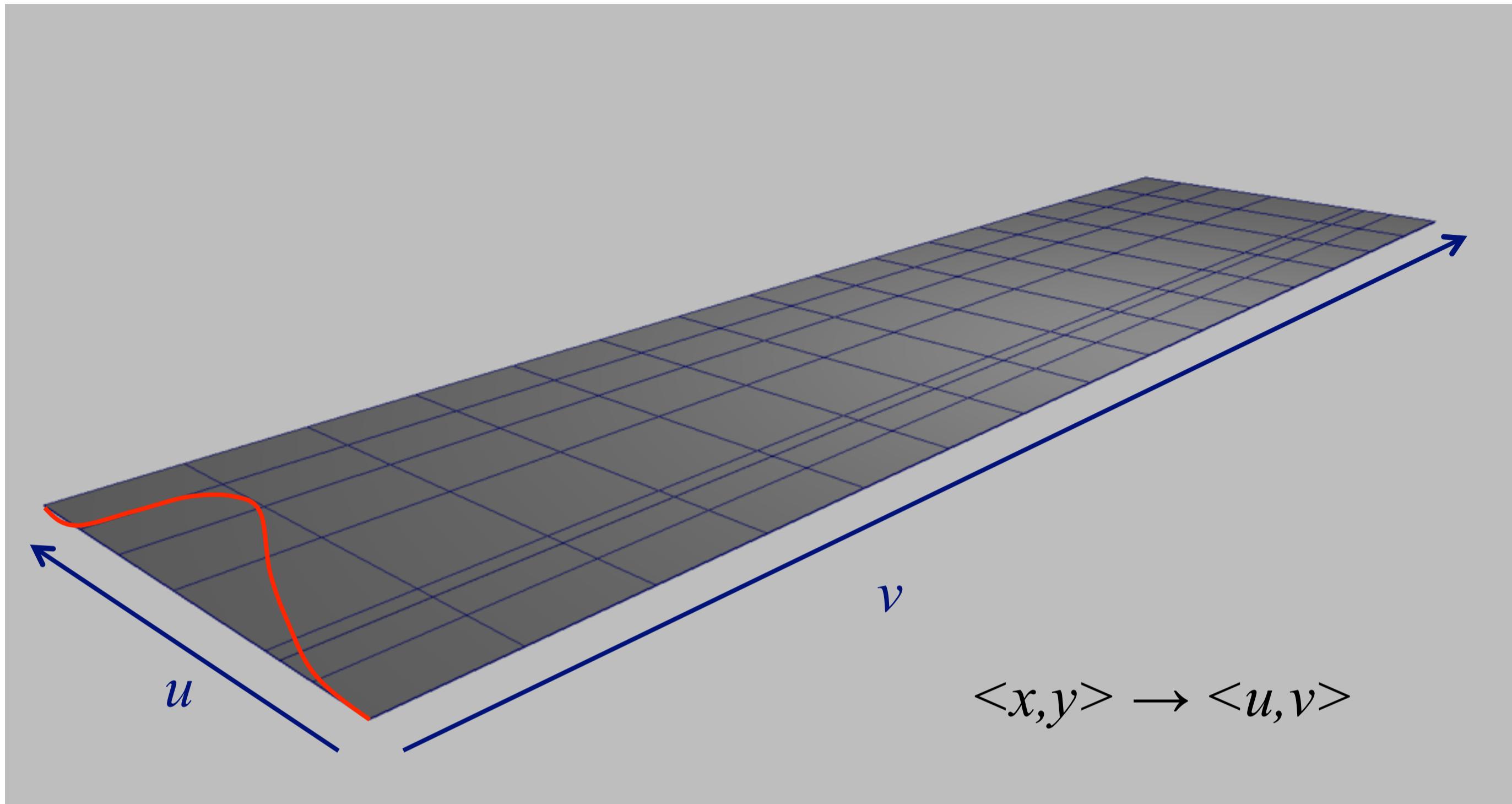
The wave is quite easier to construct. We need to reparametrize a rectangular domain over the plane.

The rectangle can be thought as the base of a NURBS patch.

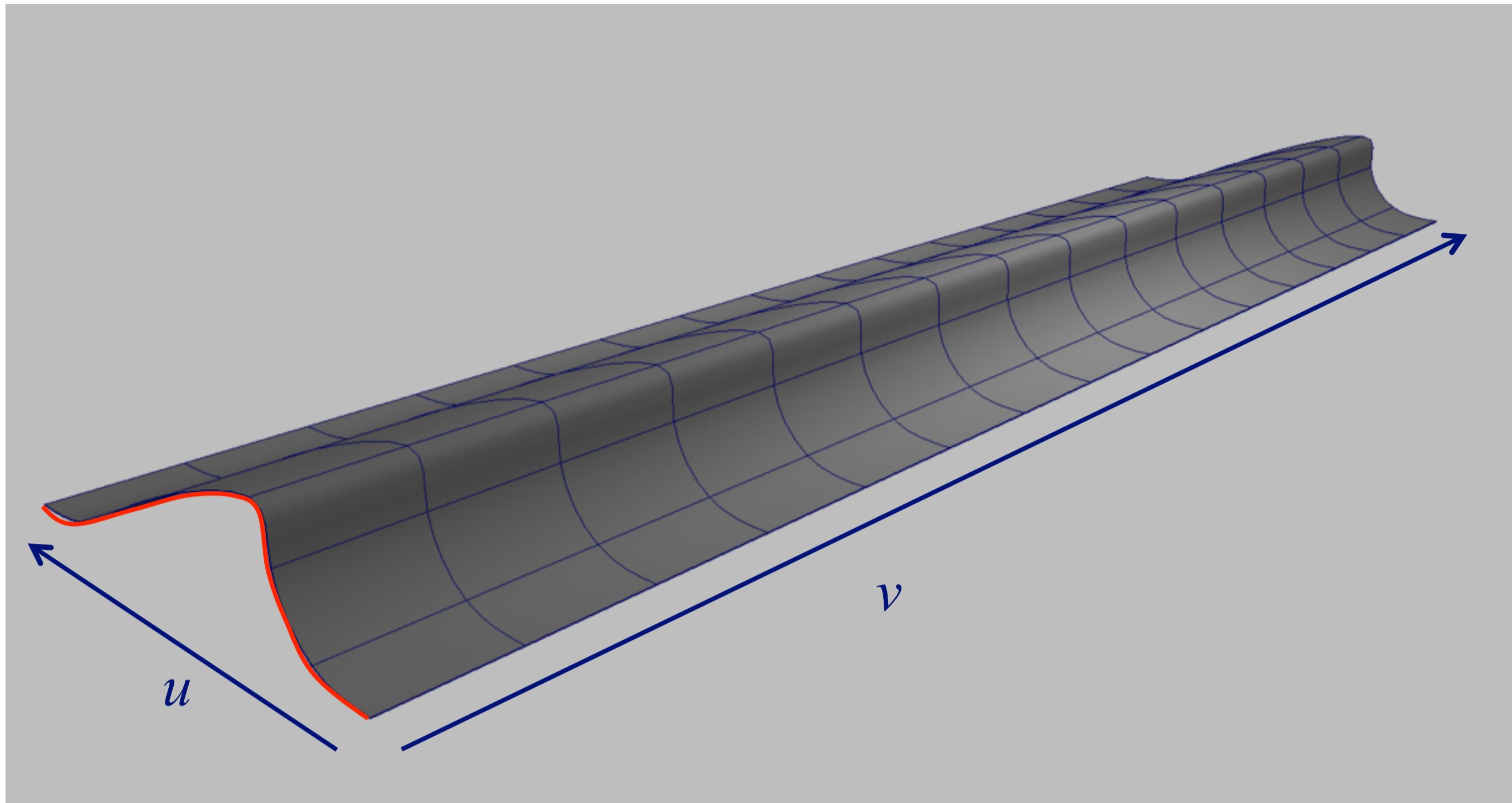
We can use the  $(u, v) \rightarrow (0..1, -1..1)$  domain or the normalized one  $(0..1, 0..1)$ , depending where is the center.

The  $u$  is used to parameterize a Bspline curve. The  $v$  we extrude the curve and taper it.

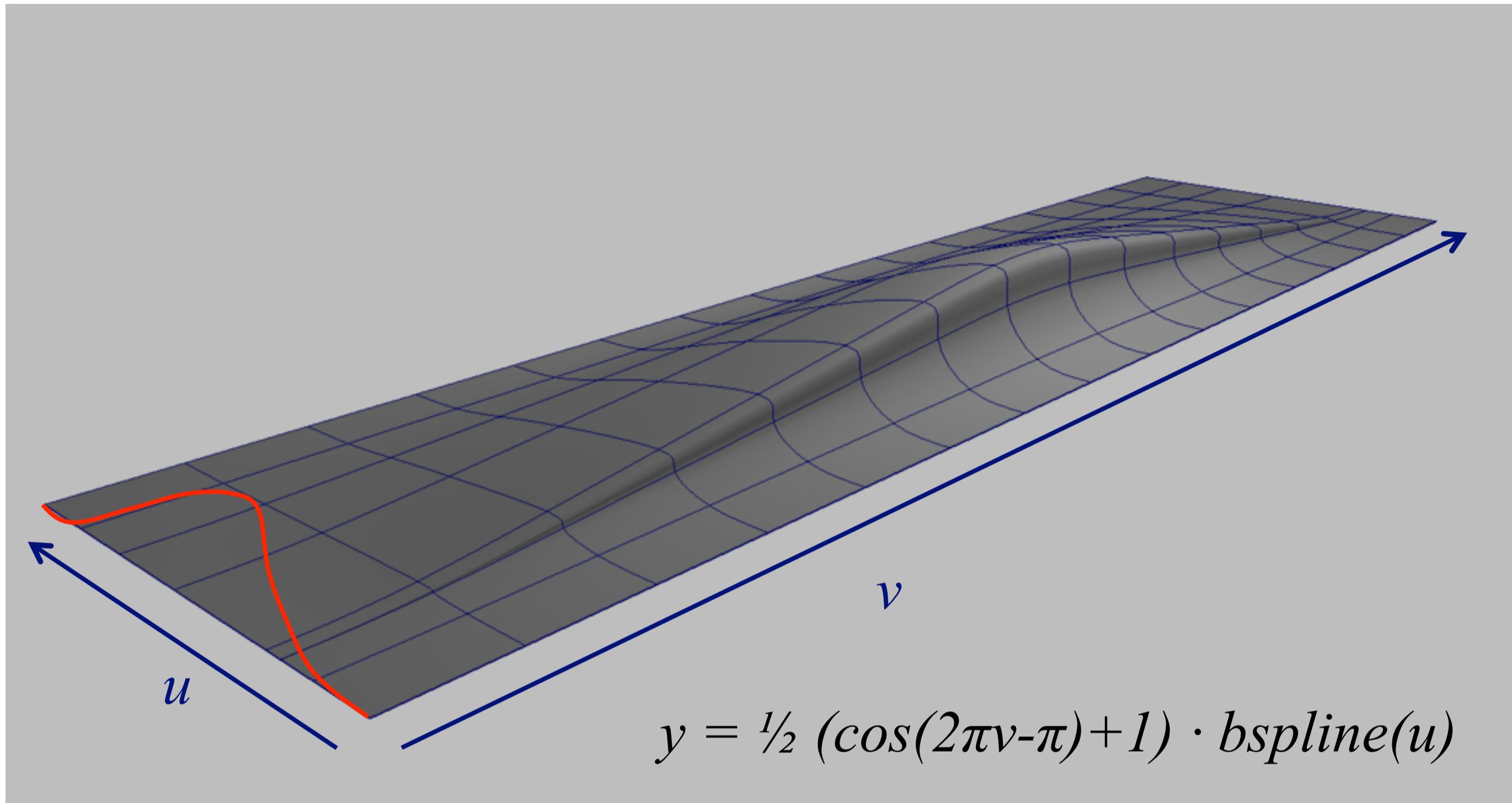
The subdomain can be scaled and translate over time to animate the wave



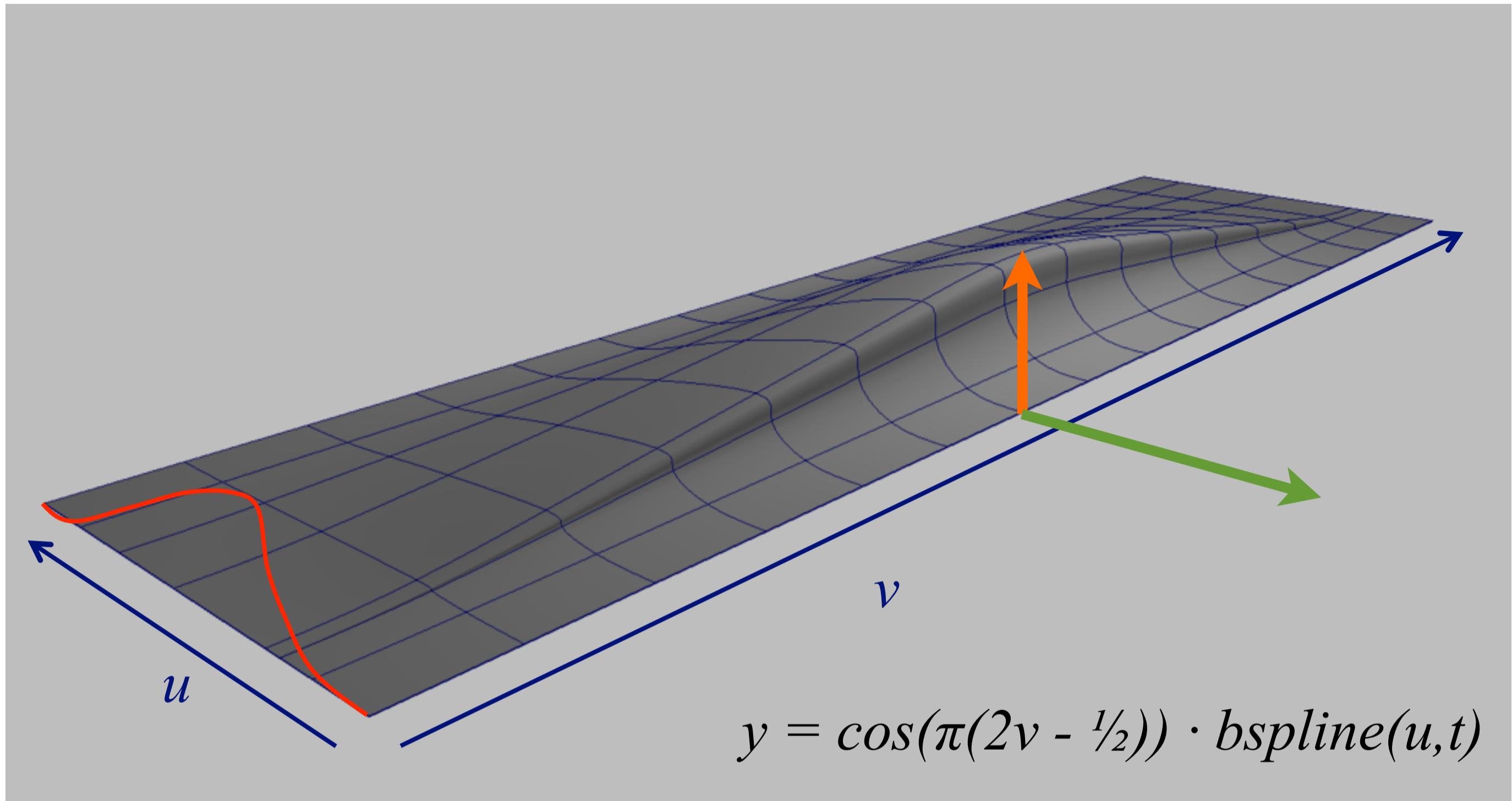
Big wave - Create a Bspline curve oriented in the  $u$  direction



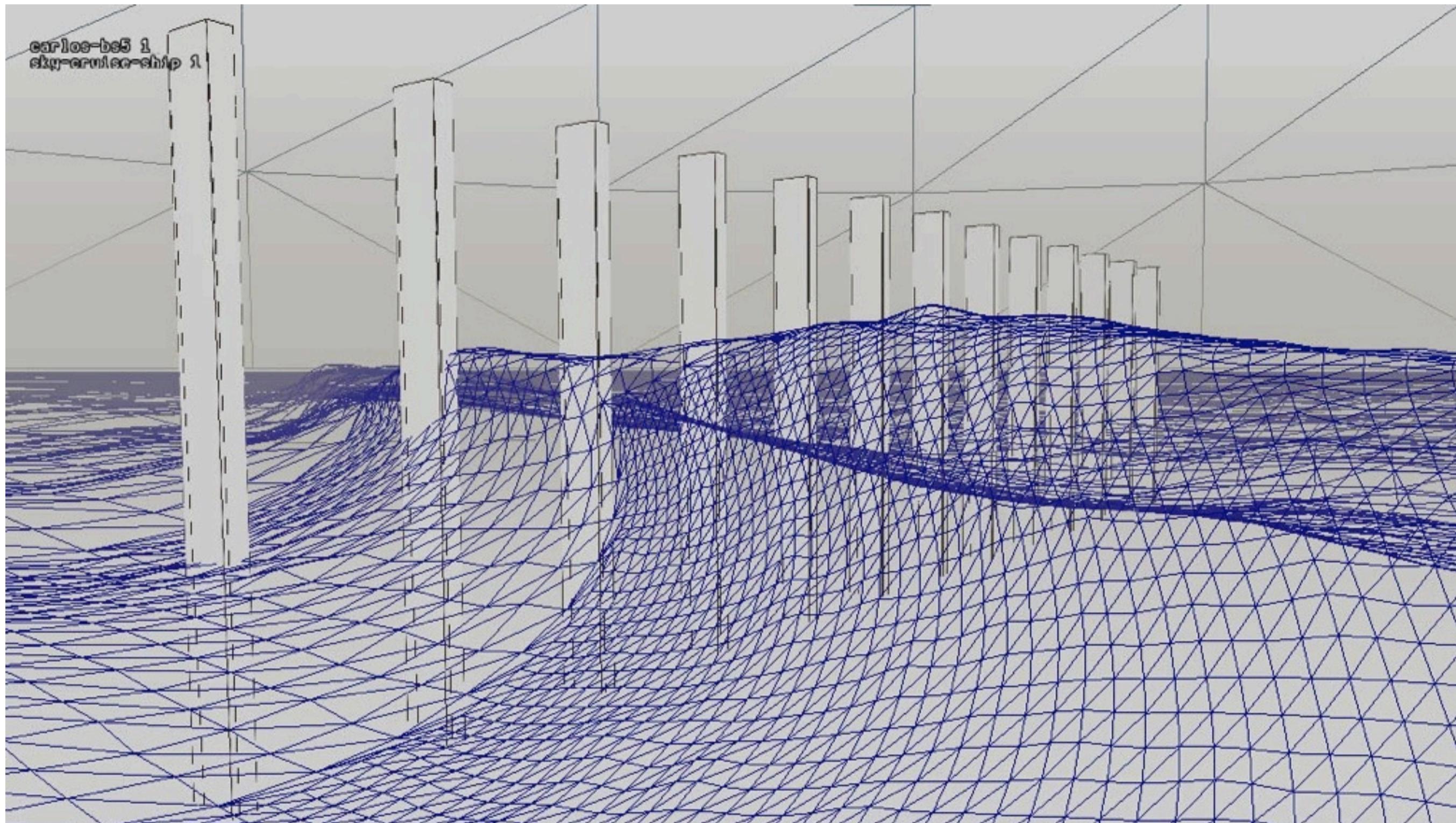
Big wave - Extrude the Bspline along  $v$  direction

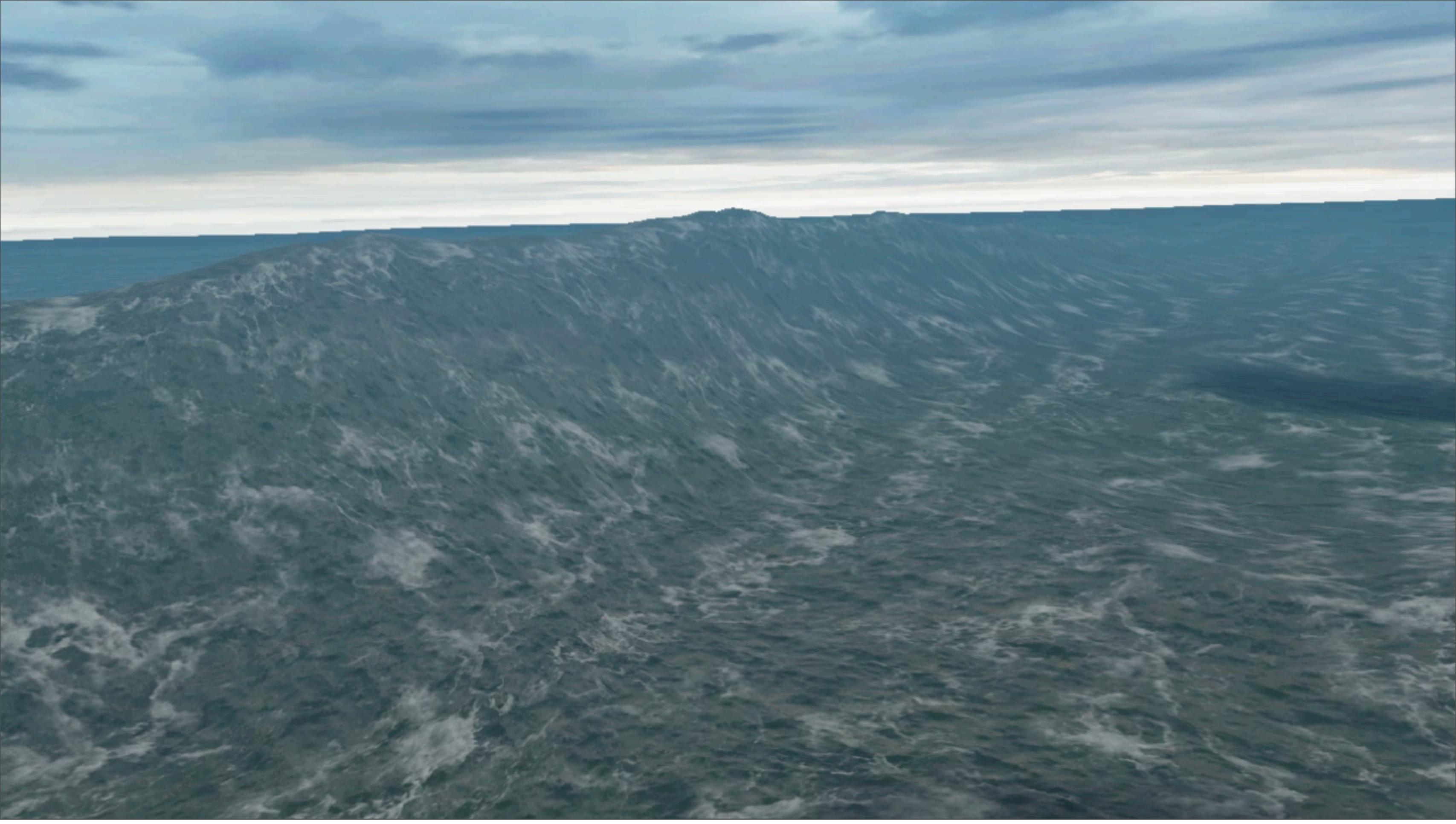


Big wave - Taper on the sides



Big wave - Translate, scale region or curve over time





$$\begin{aligned}
 f(u, v, t, \mathbf{p}) = & \alpha \cdot \text{grid}(u, v) \sum_i \text{gerstner}(u, v, p_j) \\
 & + \alpha \cdot \text{grid}(u, v) \sum_j \text{wp}(u, v, p_k) \\
 & + \Pi(u', v'), \cos(\pi(2v' - 1/2)) \cdot \text{bspline}(u', t, p_b)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 u' &= u \cos(\theta)u + v \sin(\theta)v \\
 v' &= u \sin(\theta)u - v \cos(\theta)v
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{gerstner}(x_0, A, \lambda, t) &= \begin{cases} x = x_0 - (\mathbf{k}/k)A \sin(\mathbf{k} \cdot x_0 - wt) \\ y = A \cos(k \cdot x_0 - wt) \end{cases} \\
 \mathbf{k} &= 2\pi/\lambda \\
 \text{bspline}(u, v, \mathbf{p}) &= \sum_{i=0}^{m-n-2} \mathbf{p}_i b_{i,n}(u), \quad t \in [u_n, u_{m-n-1}] \\
 \mathbf{p}_i &\in \mathbb{R}^2 \\
 b_{j,n}(u) &= b_n(u - u_j), \quad j = 0, \dots, m - n - 2 \\
 b_n(u) &:= \frac{n+1}{n} \sum_{i=0}^{n+1} \omega_{i,n} (u - u_i)_+^n \quad \omega_{i,n} := \prod_{j=0, j \neq i}^{n+1} \frac{1}{u_j - u_i} \\
 (u - u_i)_+^n &:= \begin{cases} (u - u_i)^n & \text{if } u \geq u_i \\ 0 & \text{if } u < u_i \end{cases}
 \end{aligned}$$

This is a partial formula of the whole wave system.

The bspline is a uniform, non-rational bspline. We could have used a Bezier but it requires more code.

The  $\text{grid}(u, v)$  function returns a scalar value given the  $u, v$  coordinates. In this case, we have a multiplier for the wave scale

# LOD

Many ways to create the water mesh

Screen projected grid → aliasing artifacts

Quasi projected grid → issues handling large displacements

# Irregular Geometry Clipmaps

Based on:

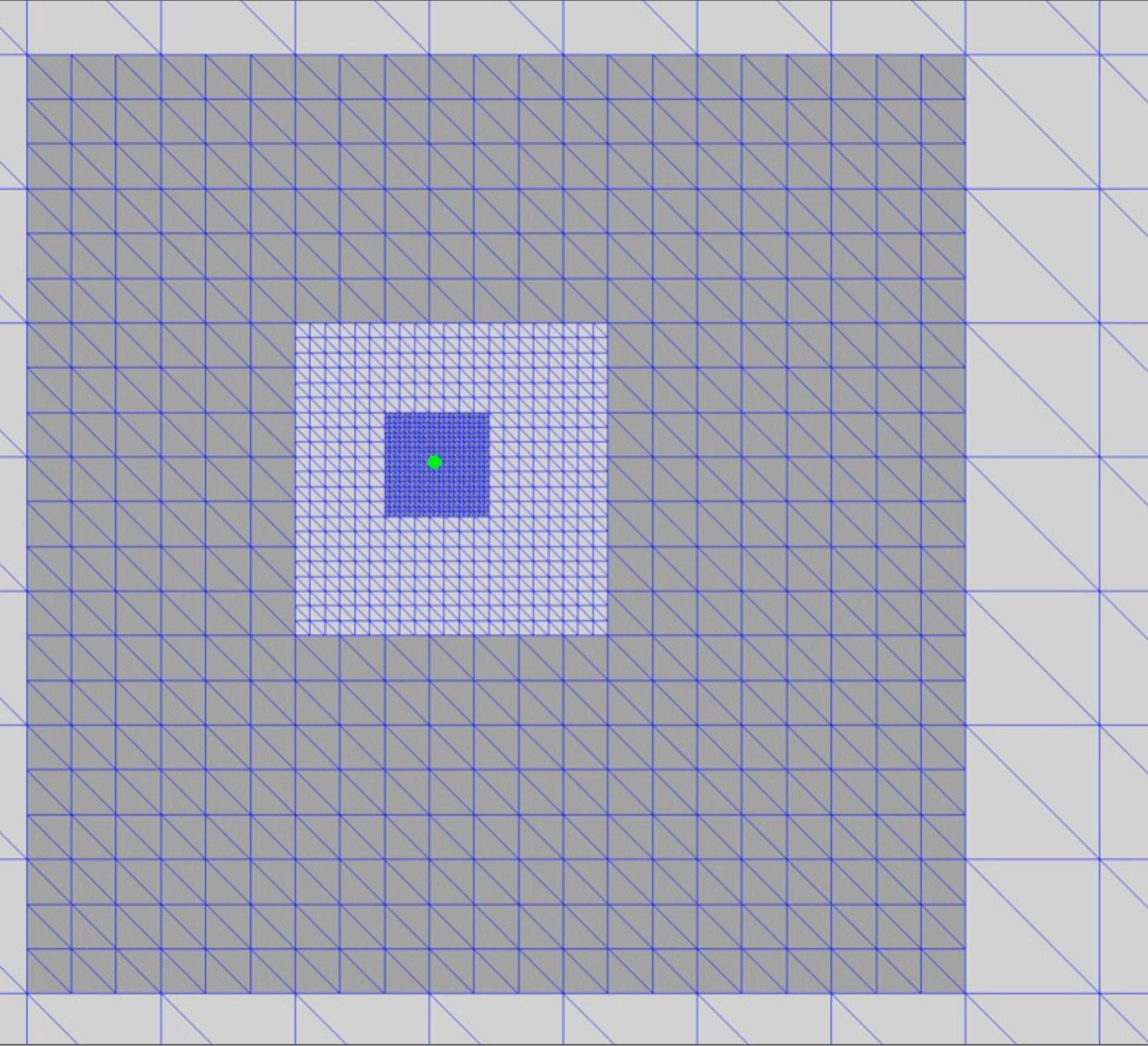
Losasso, Hoppe, "Geometry Clipmaps: Terrain  
Rendering Using Nested Regular Grids"  
SIGGRAPH 04

Modified for water rendering

The irregular geometry clipmaps have different way to partition the rings and the blocks.

# Irregular Geometry Clipmaps

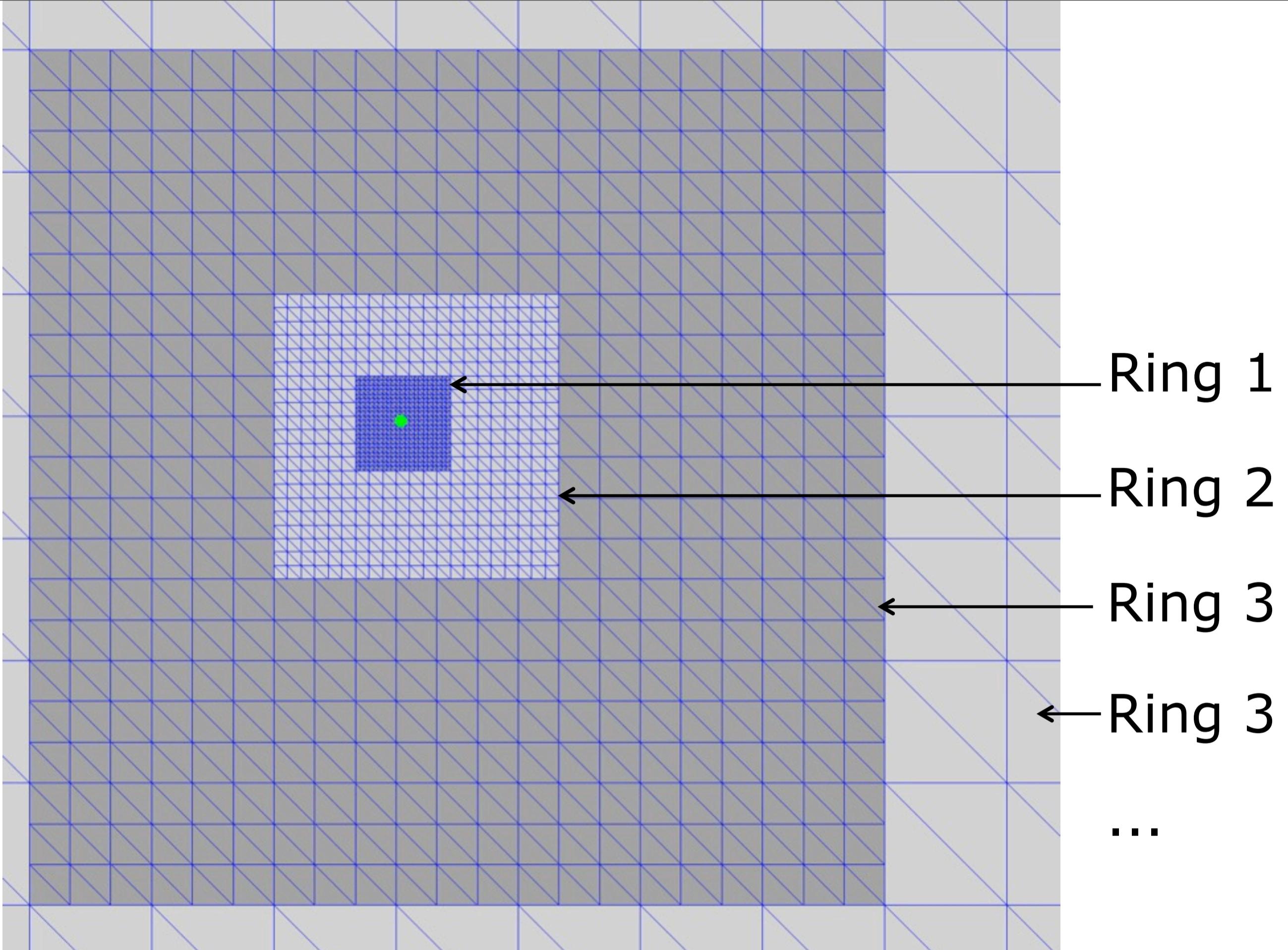
Different splits to fix T-joints across ring levels  
Dynamic blending between levels  
Patches lead to better SPU utilization

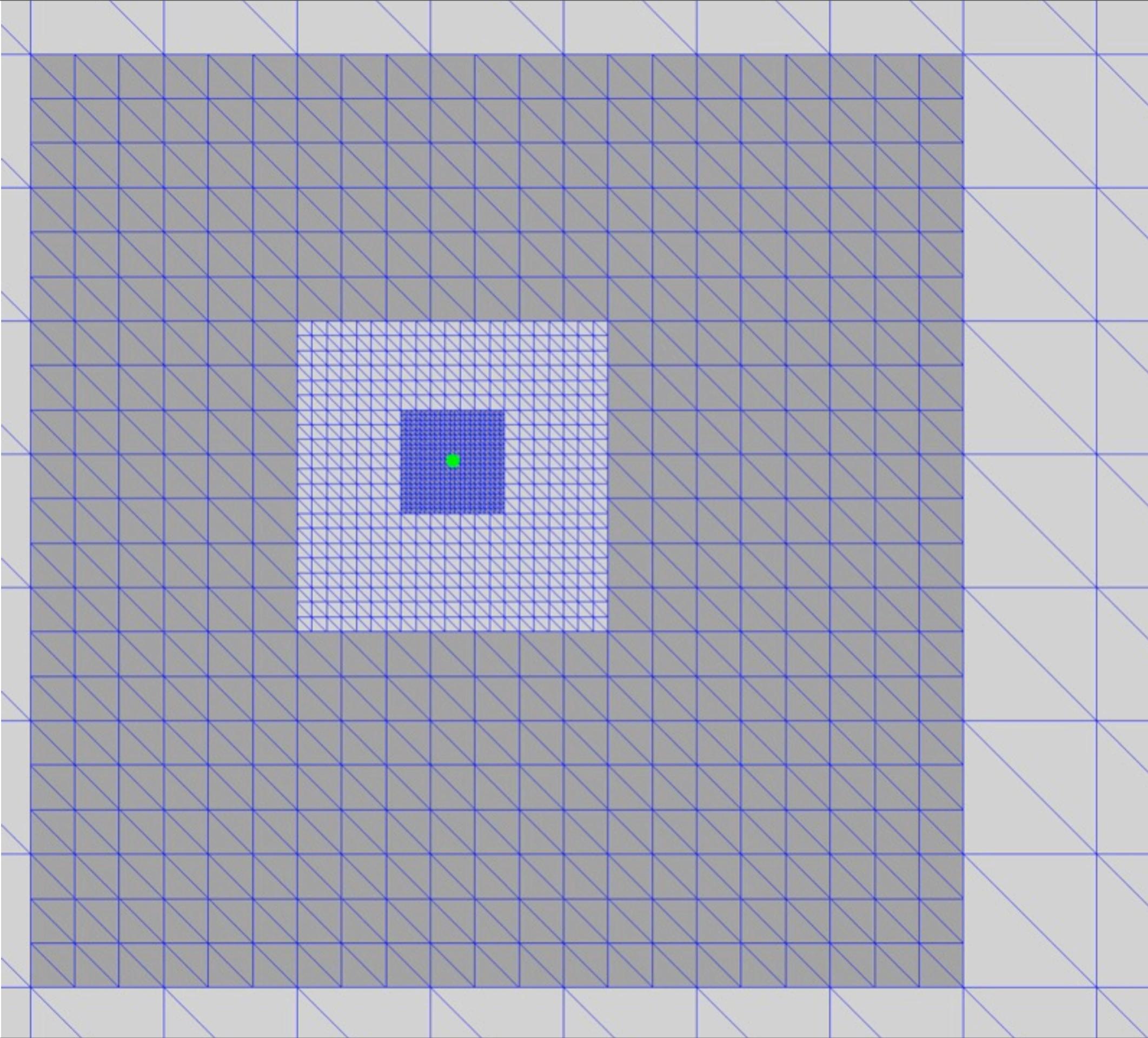


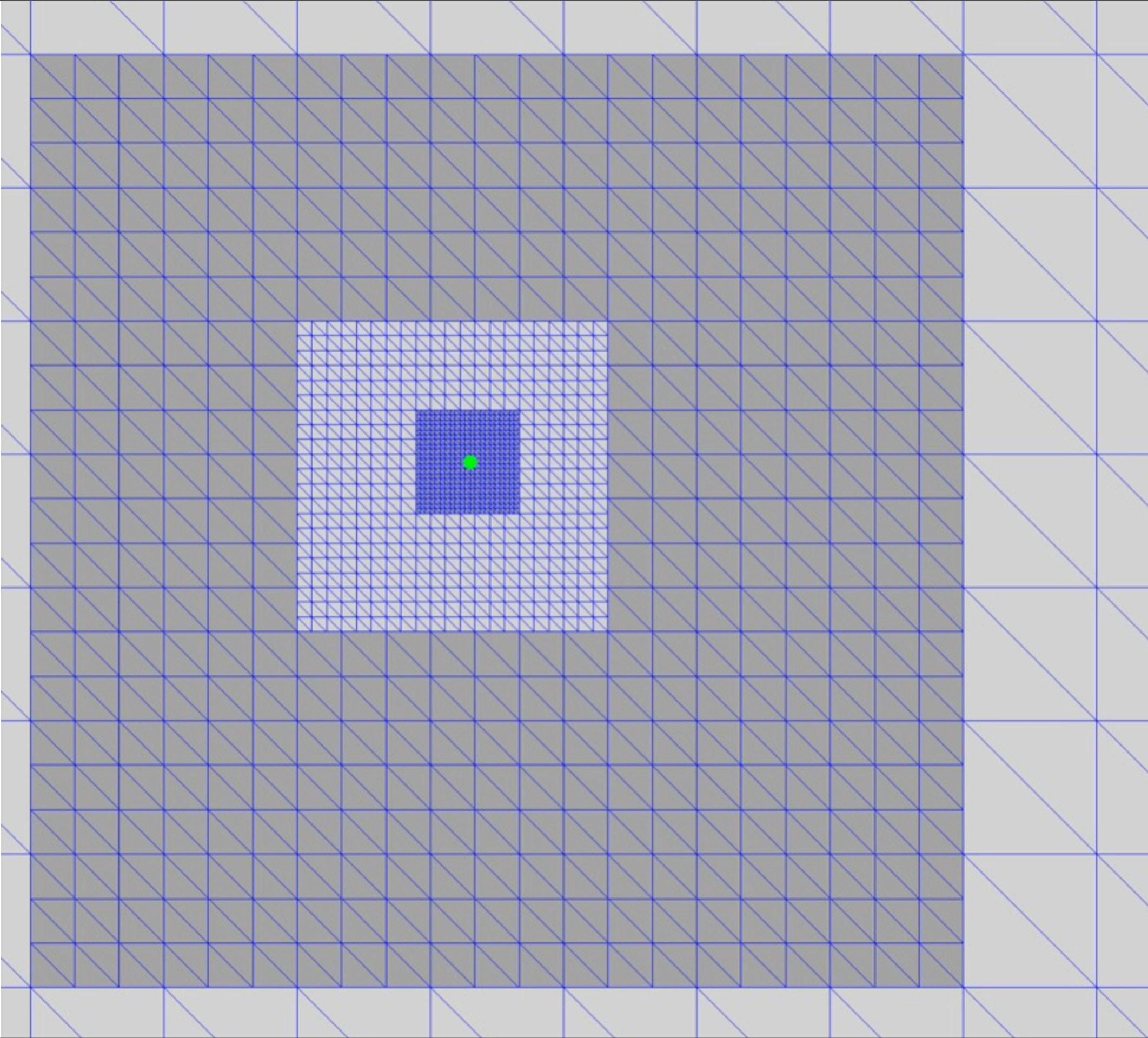
72

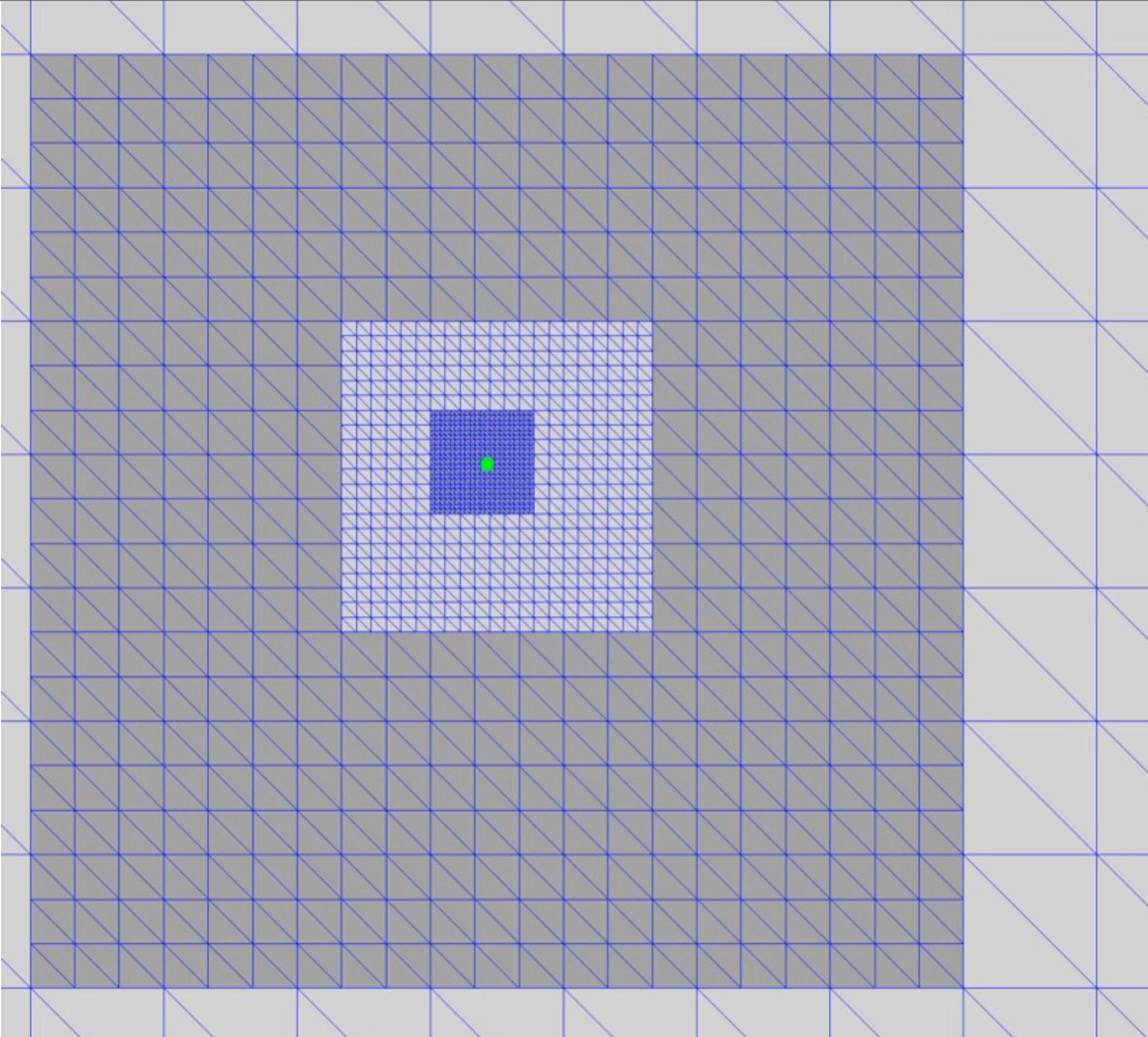
As the camera moves, the rings will move quads from one side to the other.

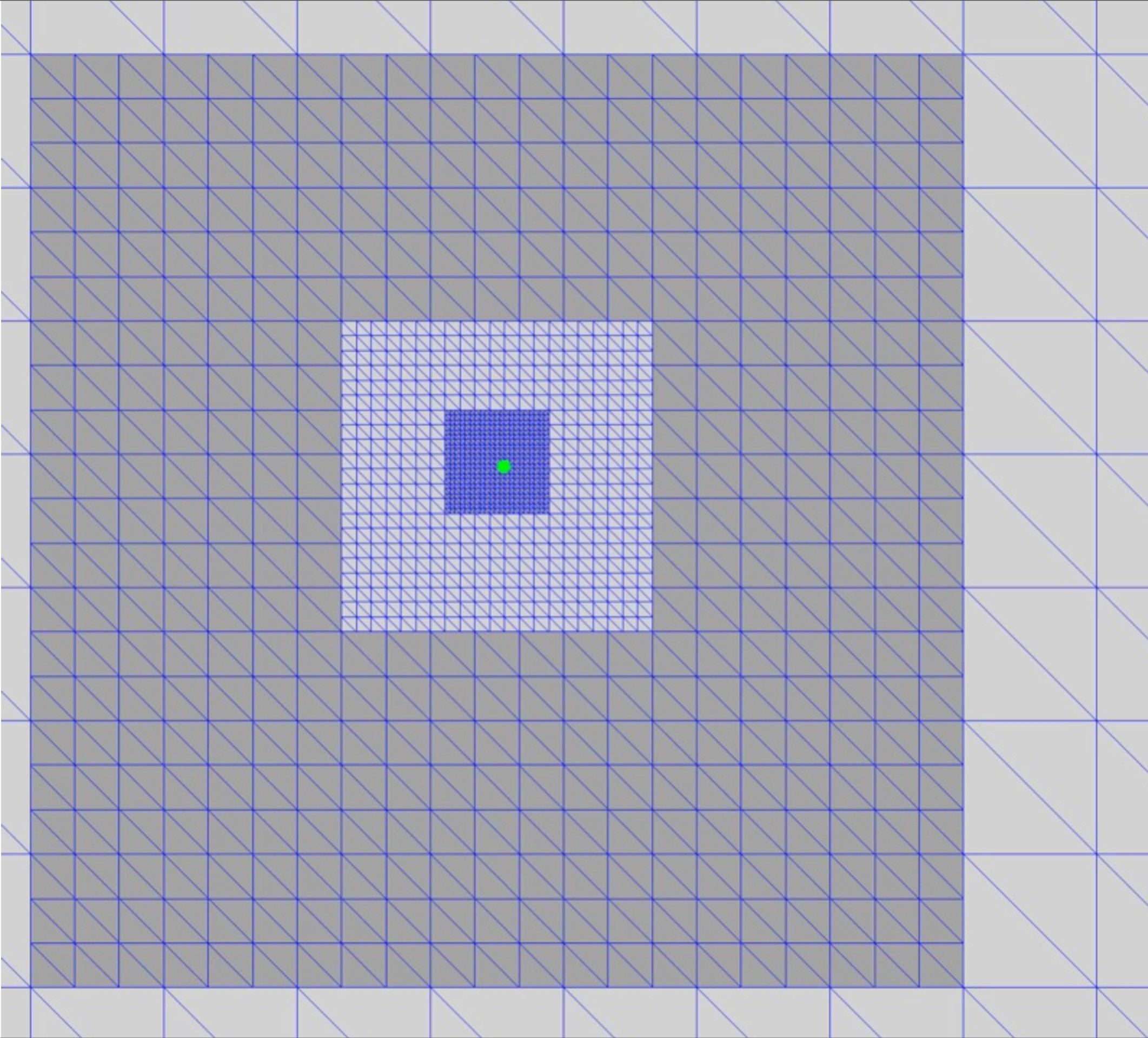
Any point in a ring will always be sampled from the same place. This way, we don't have any jittering and aliasing problems

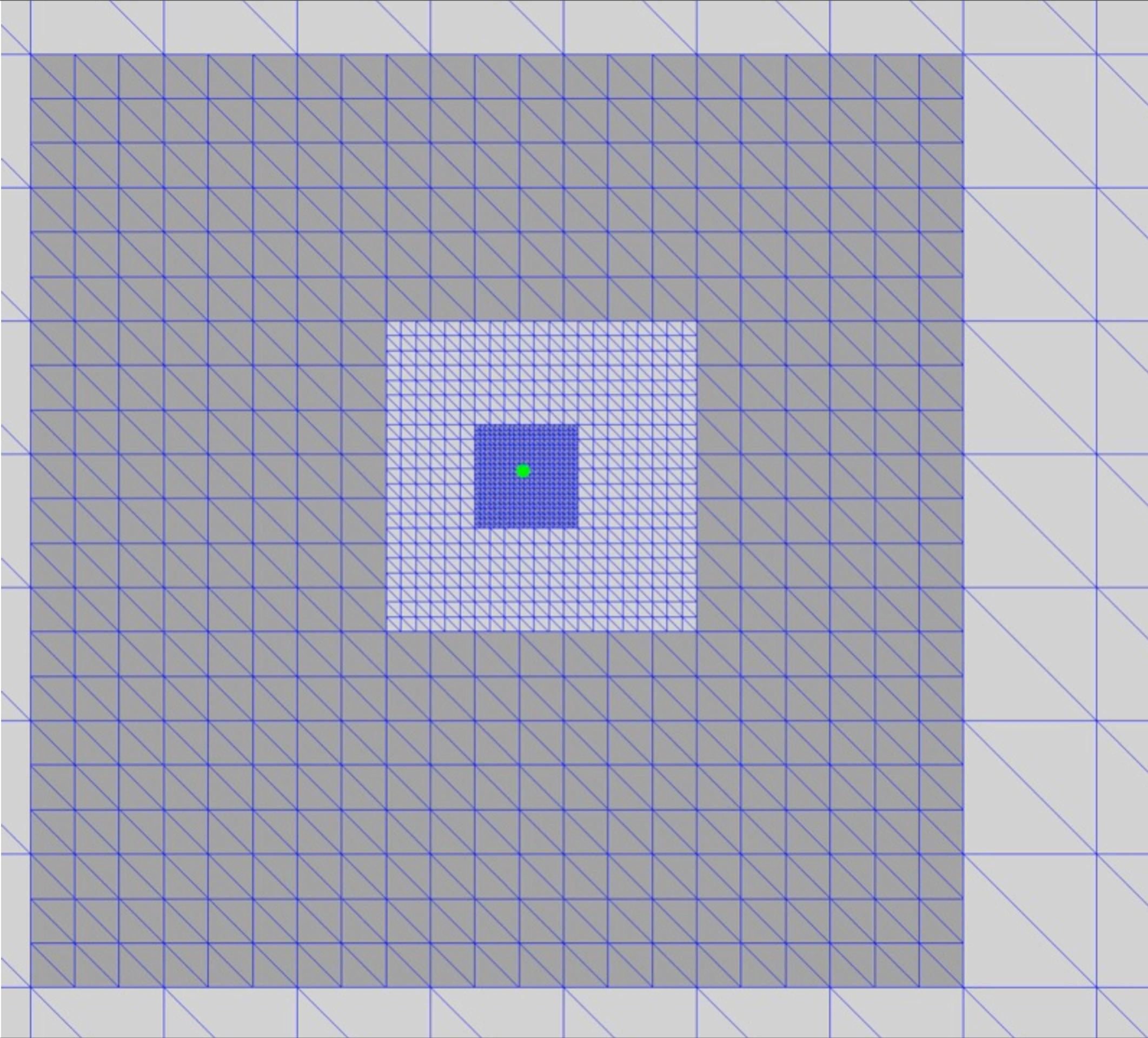


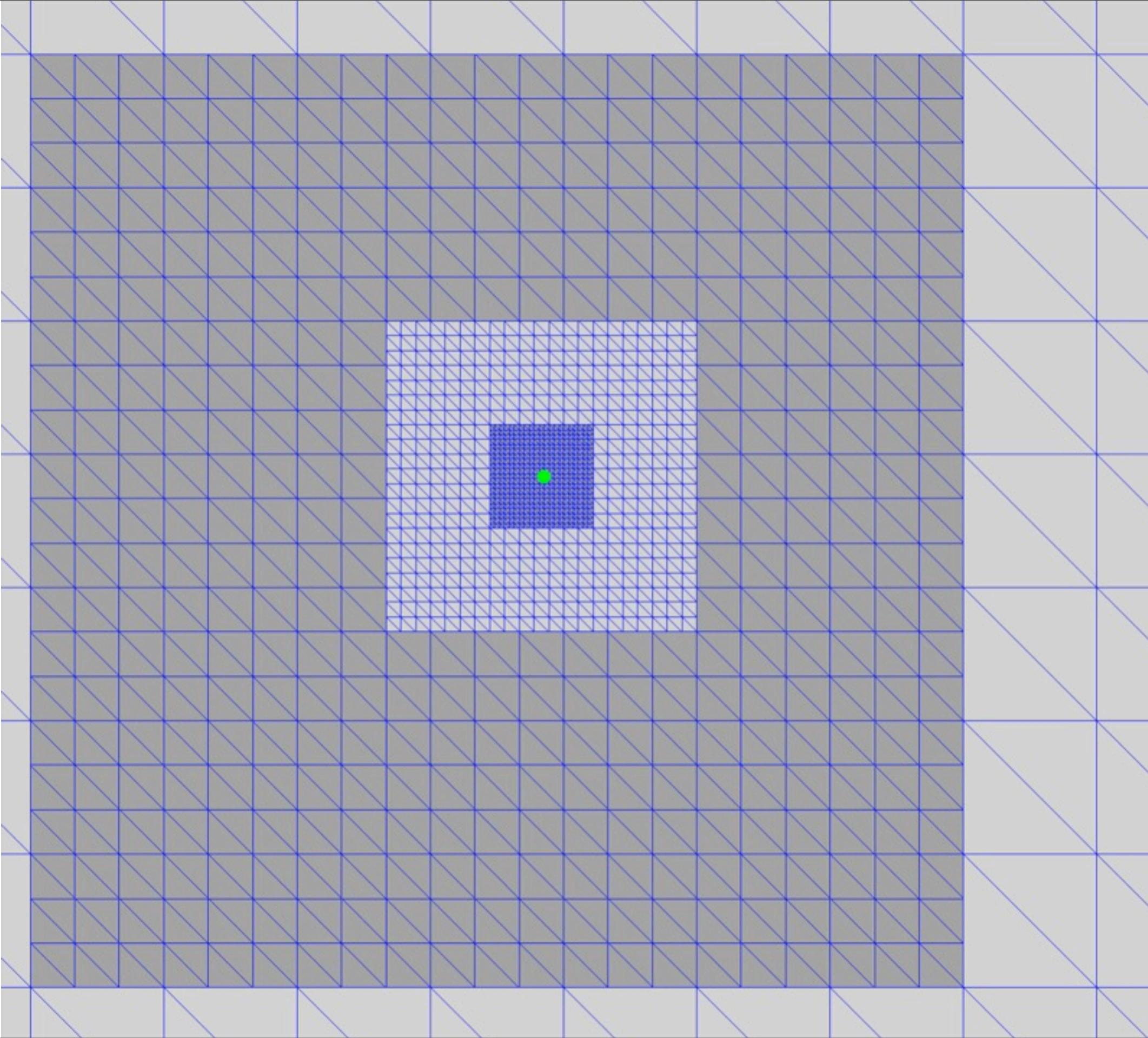


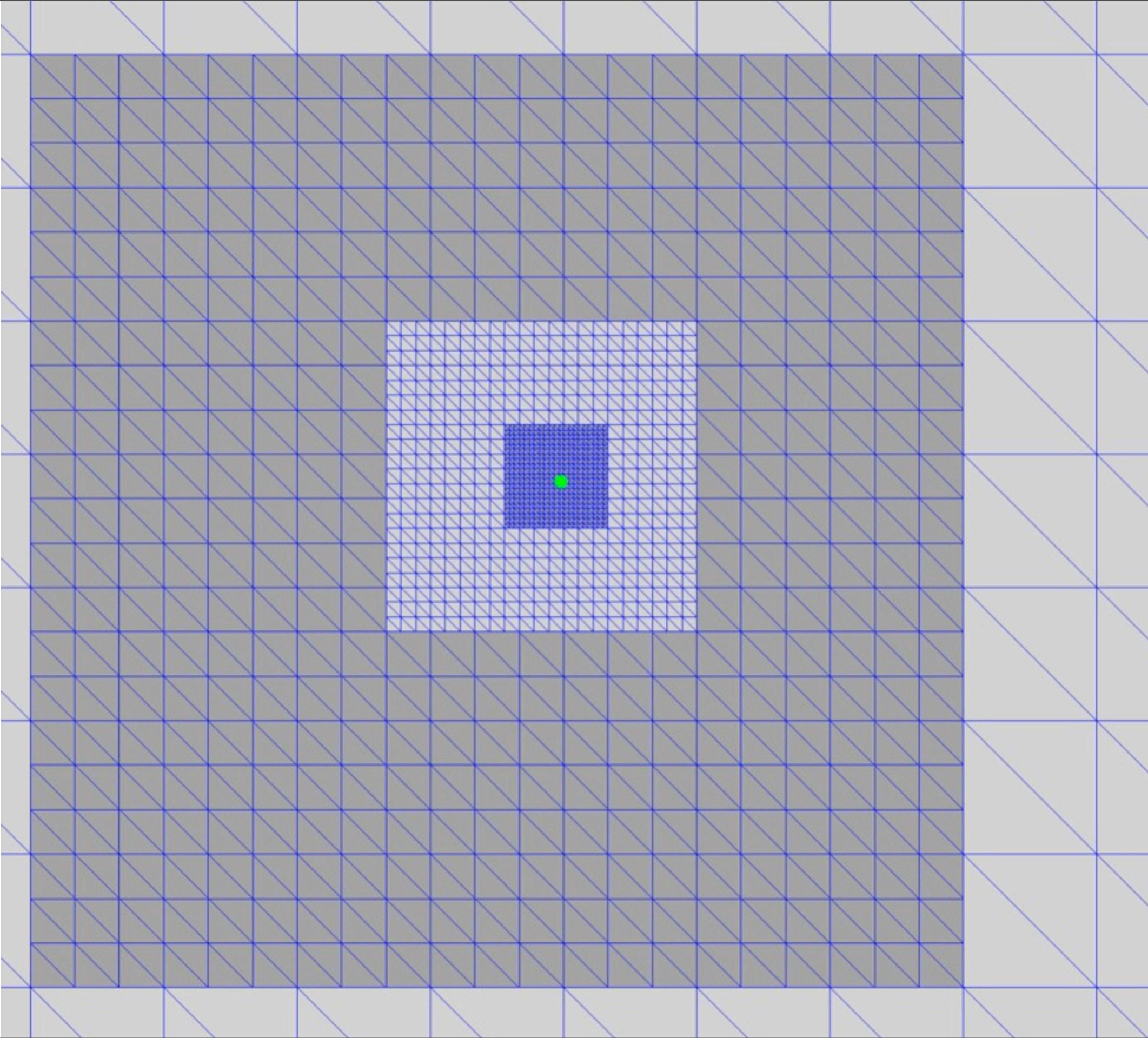


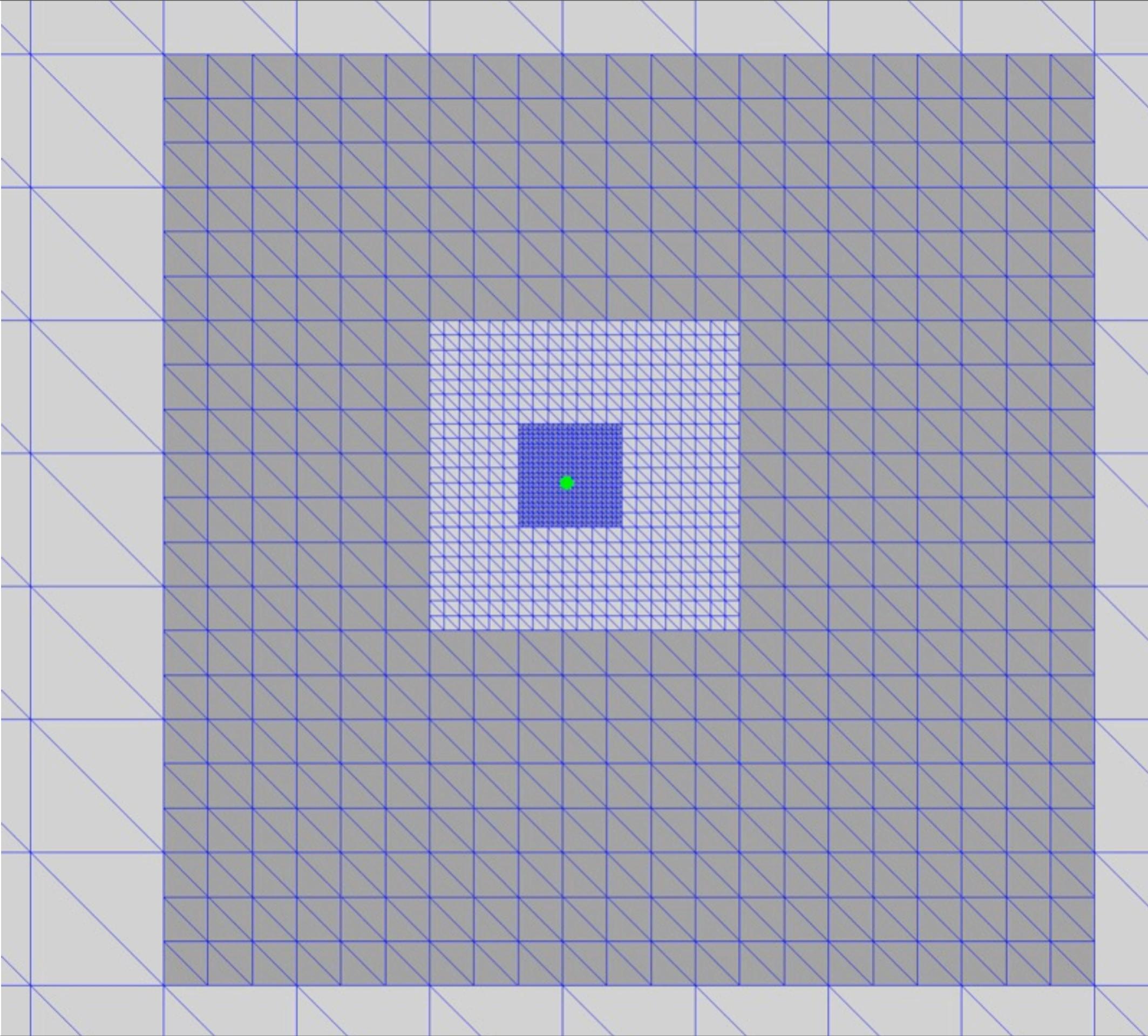




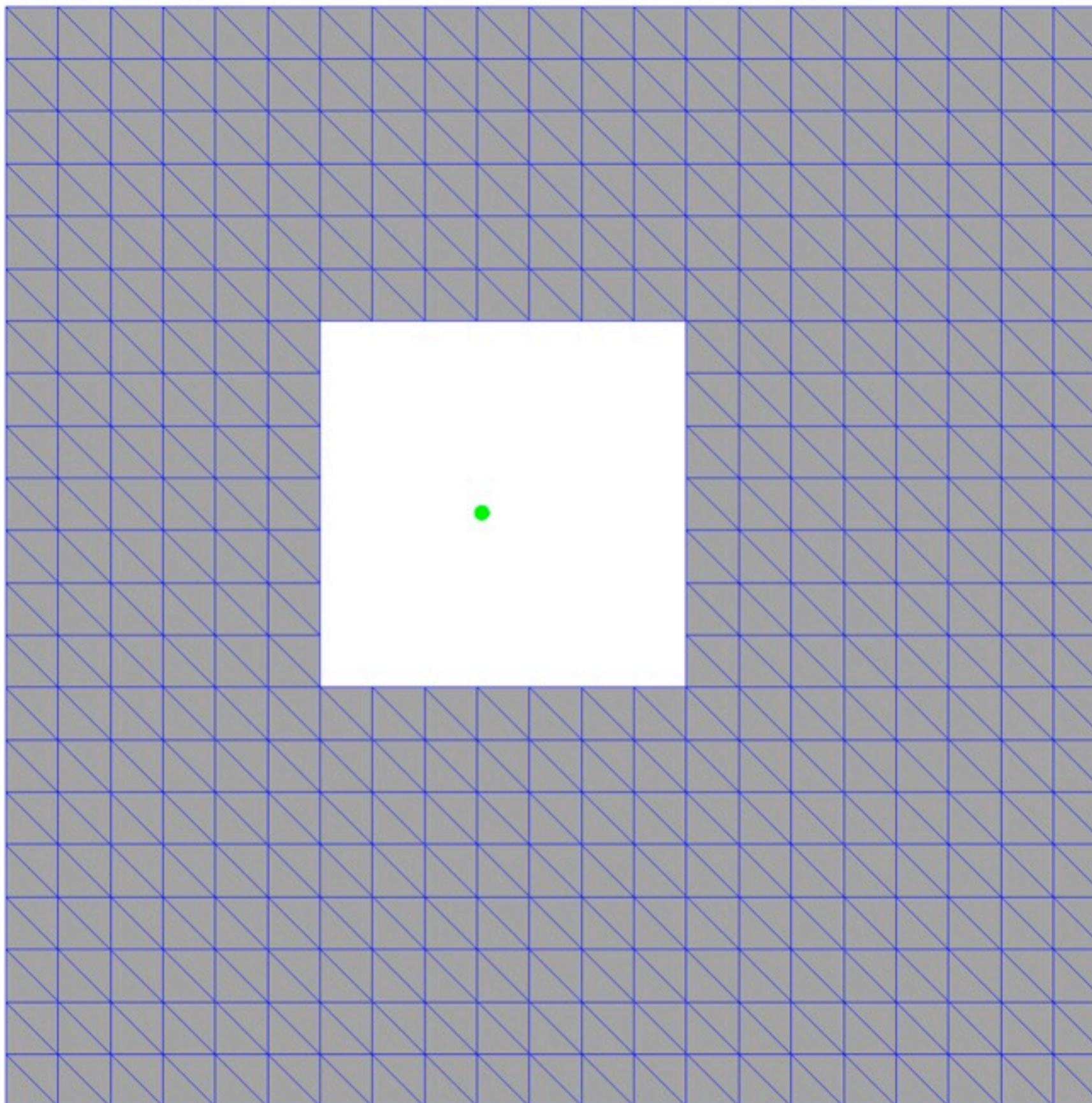






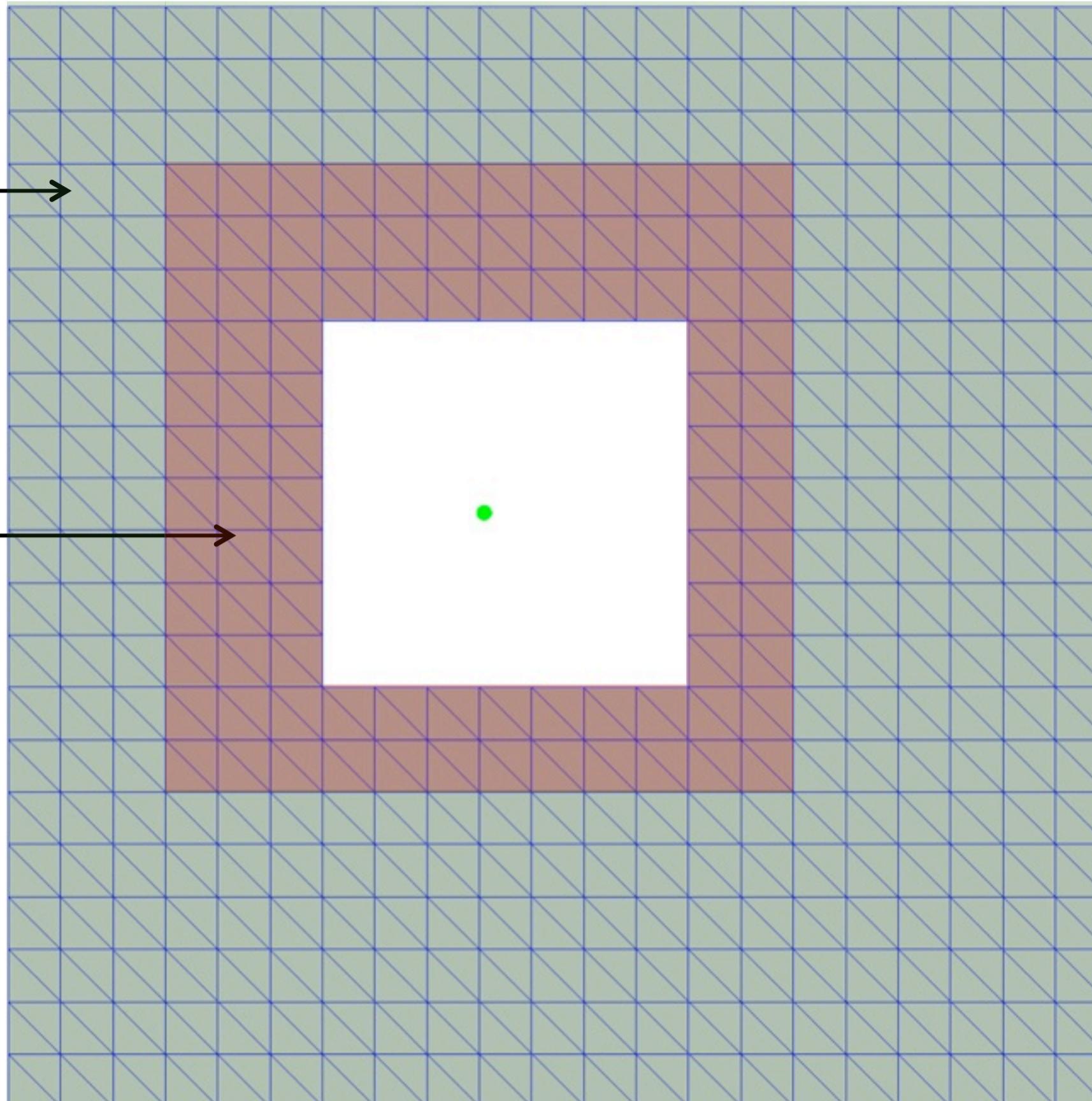


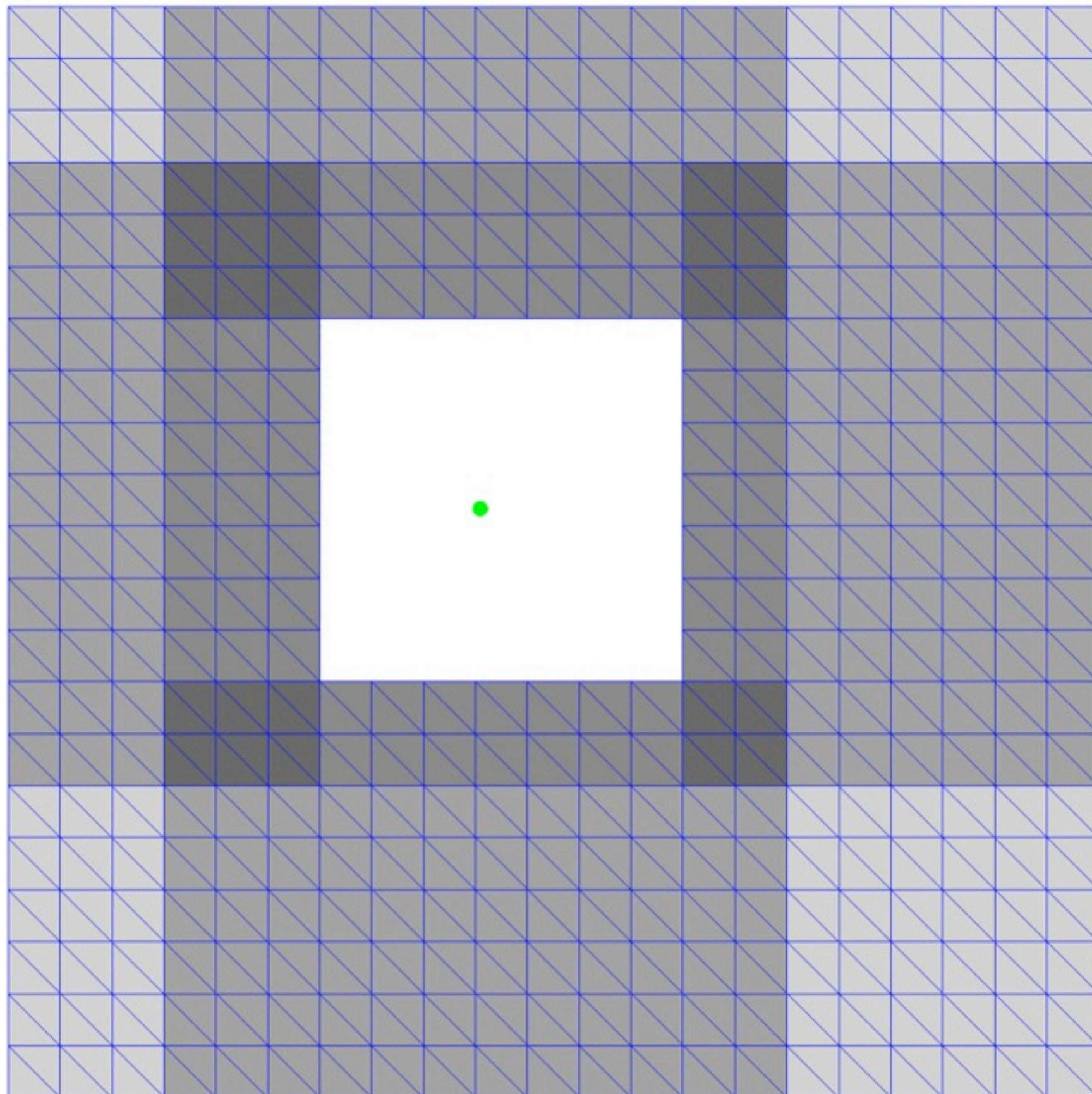
# Single Ring



Normal  
Patches

Fixer  
Patches

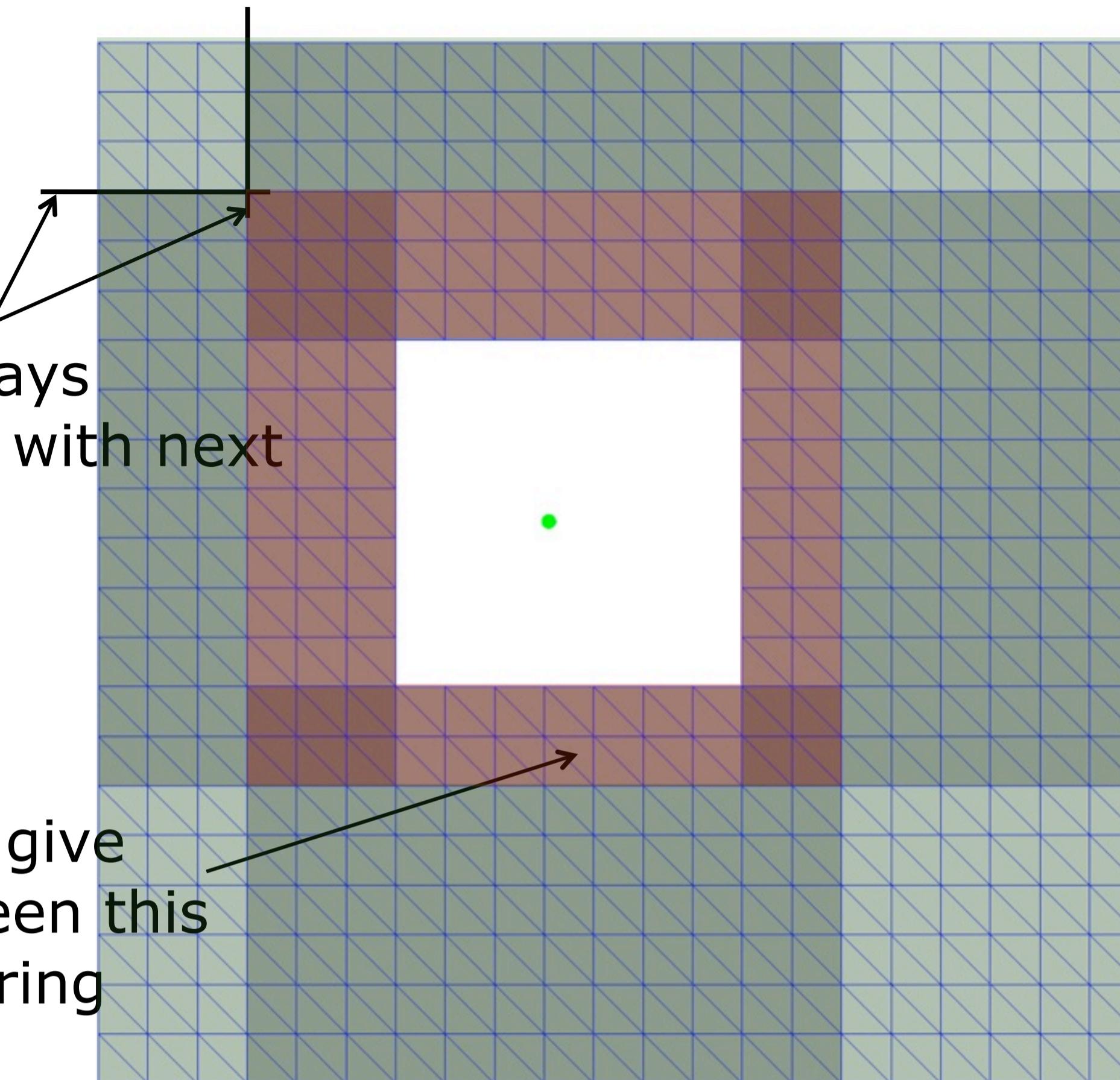




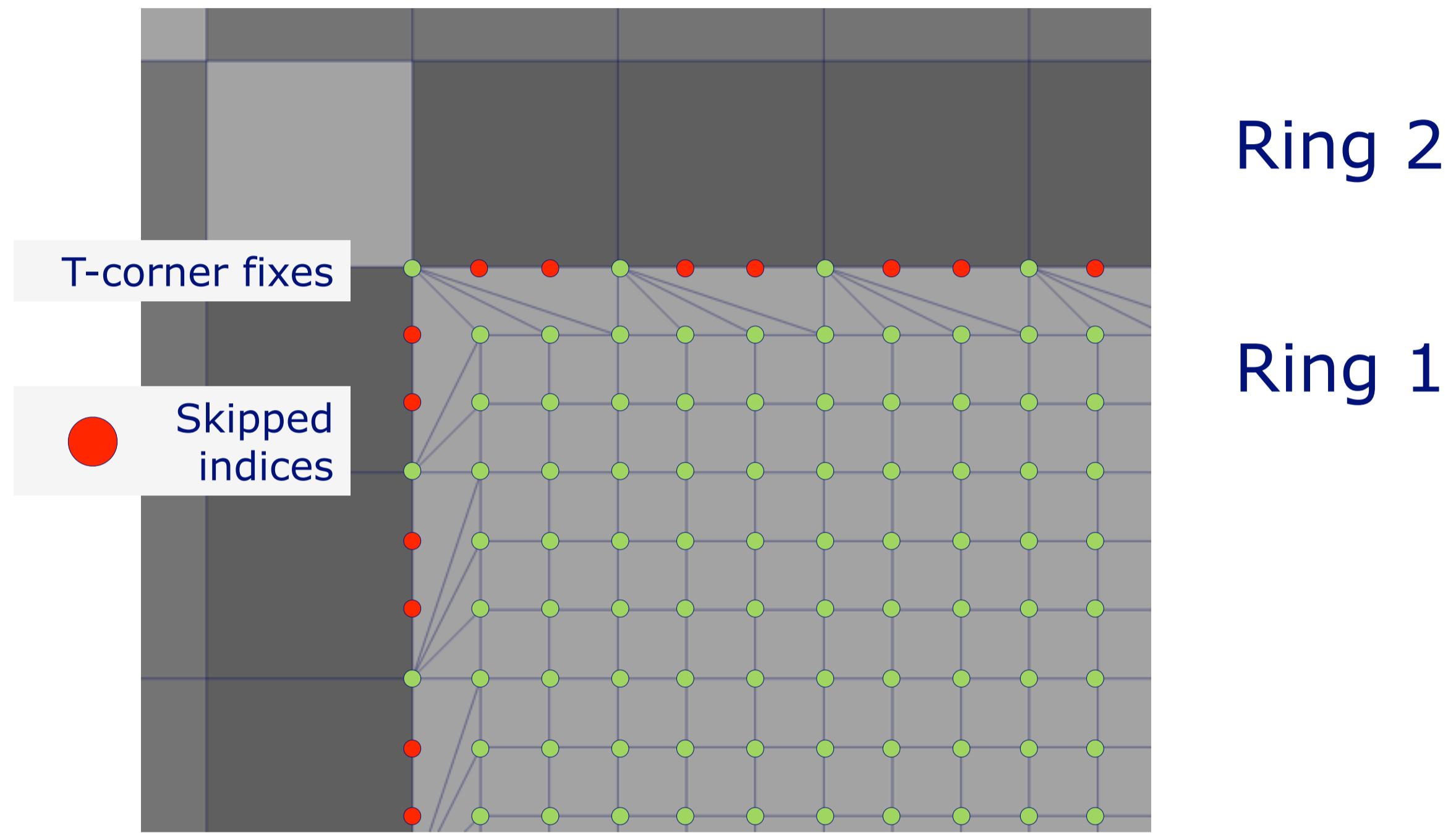
This is the general patch divisions. On a ring there are 16 patches.  
The lowest level ring would have an additional patch in the center

Splits will always  
avoid T-joints with next  
ring

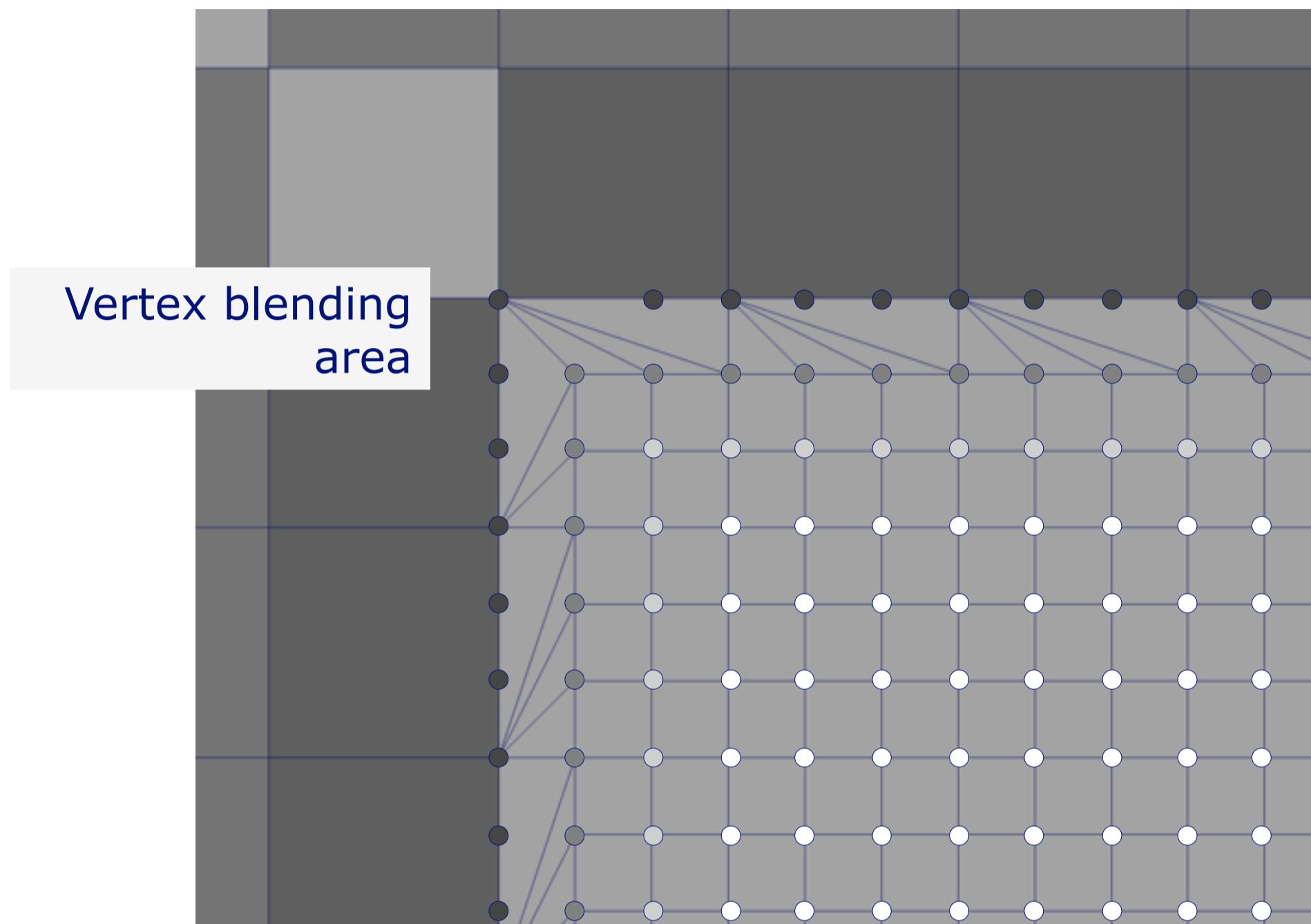
Fixer patches give  
“space” between this  
and previous ring



# Border triangulation fixing

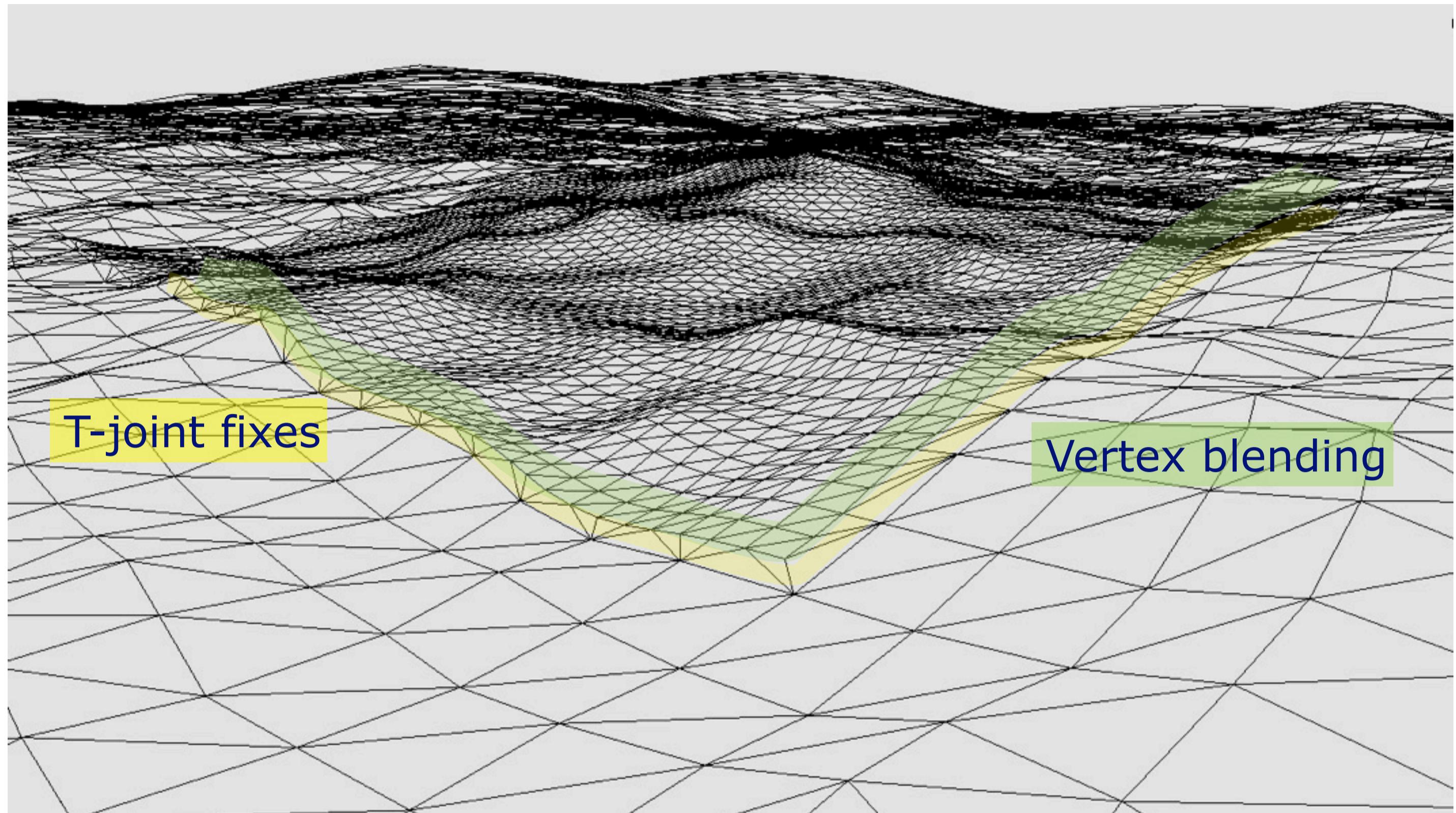


# Border blending



Ring 2

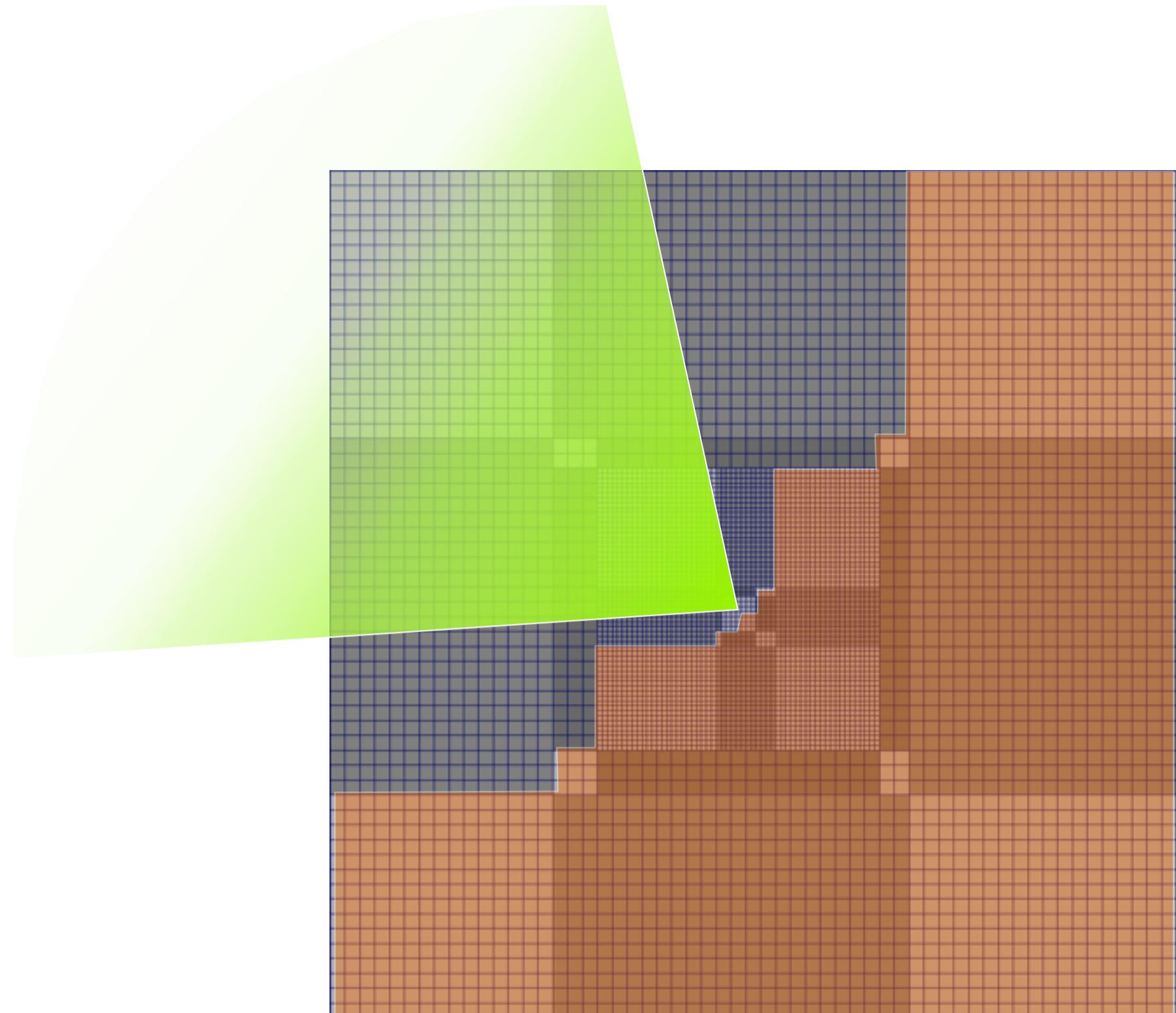
Ring 1



# Culling

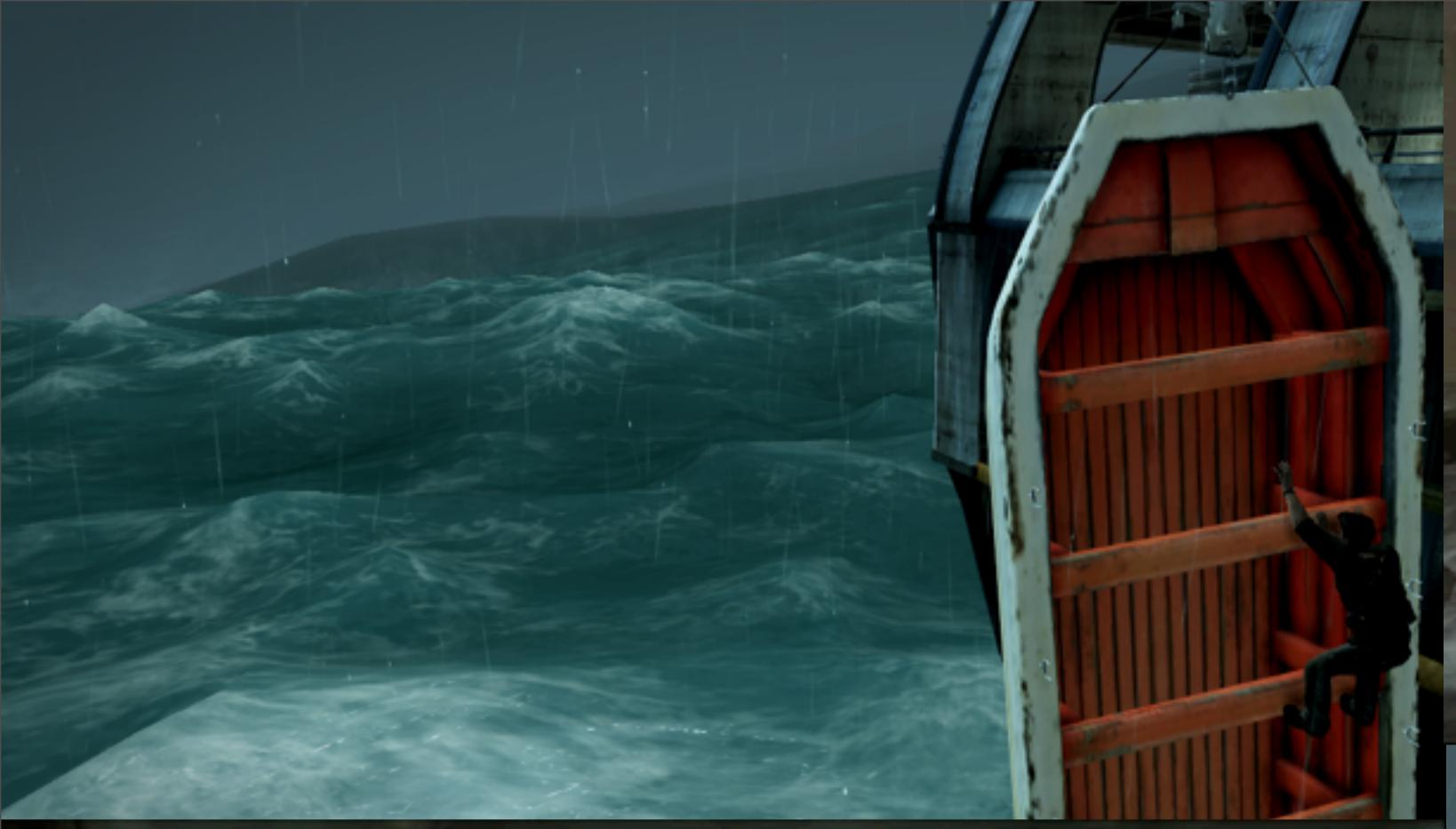
Cull out patches that are outside frustum

*Frustum-bbox test*



2 pass culling. First we generate bounding boxes with some extra slack from 4 corners and perform a quick intersection test.

After we generate the displaced surface, we have a tighter bbox, and can perform another intersection test.





91

Video of the ocean clipmap rendering. In wireframe is easier to see how the clipmap levels are rendered



Into the lion's den

A. KIM '10

92

Although we are inside the ballroom, we can see out the ocean. Furthermore the waves are moving the boat, so the chandeliers are being driven indirectly by the waves.

To heighten the drama we are closer to the water level

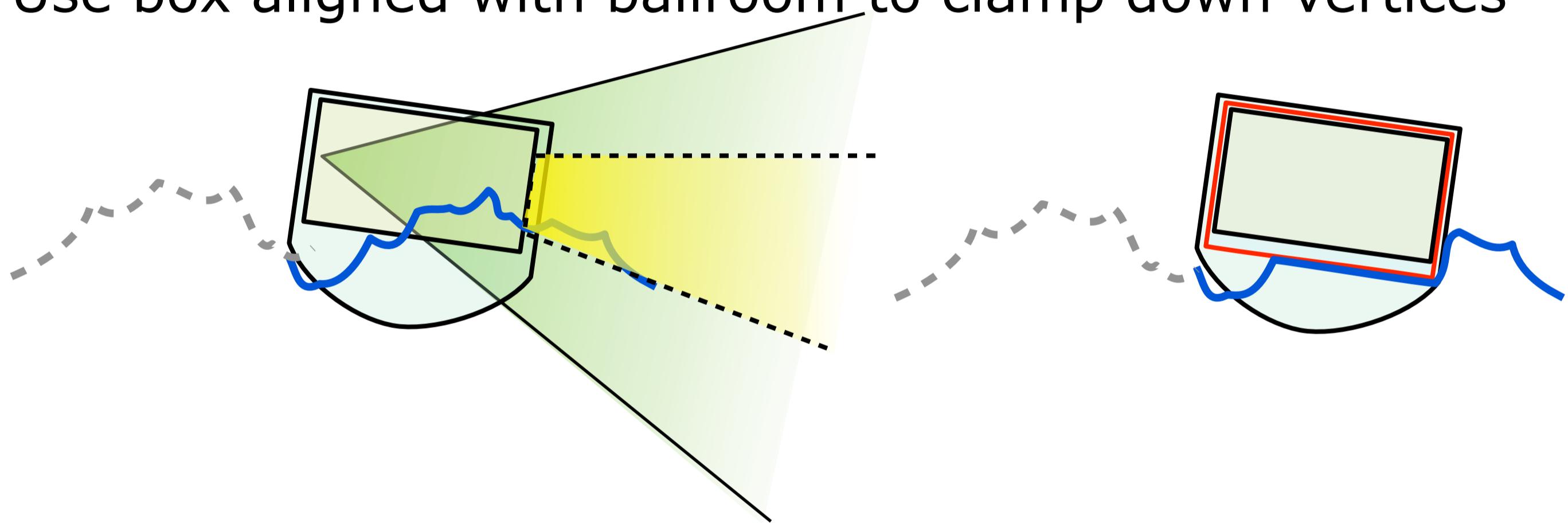


# Culling

Use portals to show patches seen from windows

For waves intersecting ballroom:

Use box aligned with ballroom to clamp down vertices



Another problem is that the ballroom is too low to the water line and we had clipping issues with big waves.  
The solution is simple, test the points to a box, oriented to the ballroom, and push the vertices down

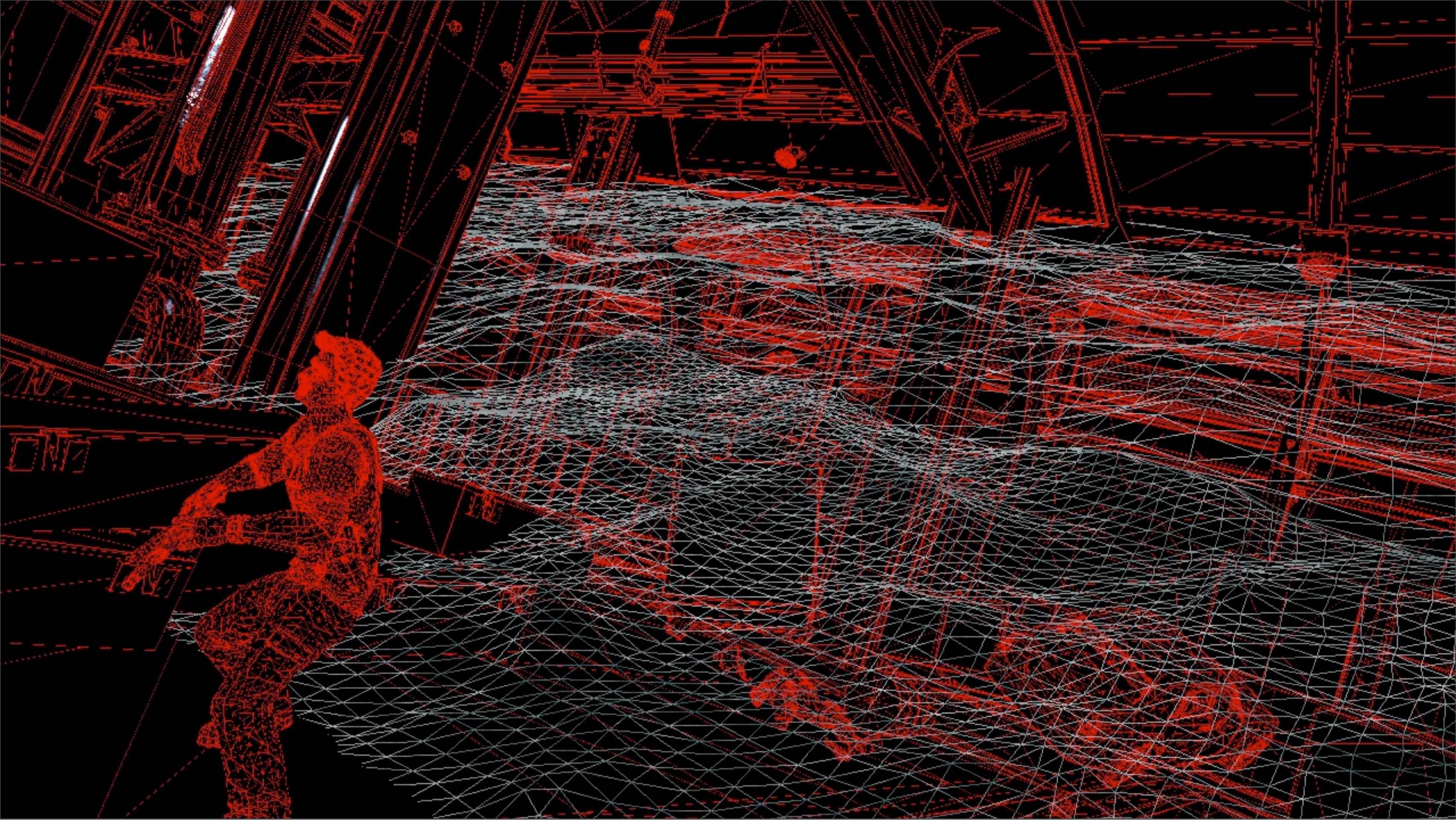
# So something happens to the ship...

There is a sequence in U3, the Drakes goes from the top of the cruise-ship to the cargo hold.  
At the cargo hold, Drake does what he does best: destroy everything



96

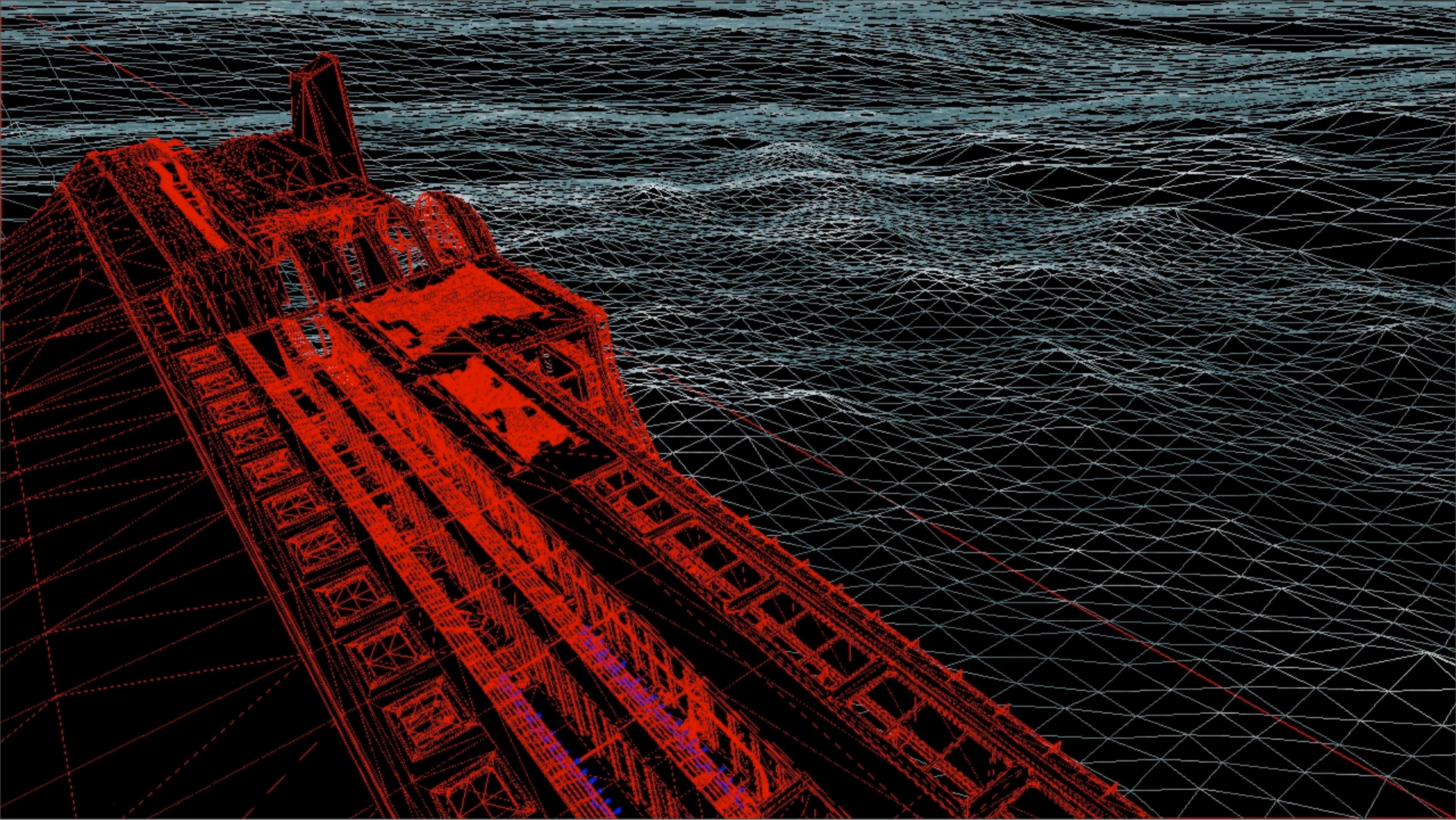
The ocean system is used in all the water in this sequence, we just change the shader and parameters.



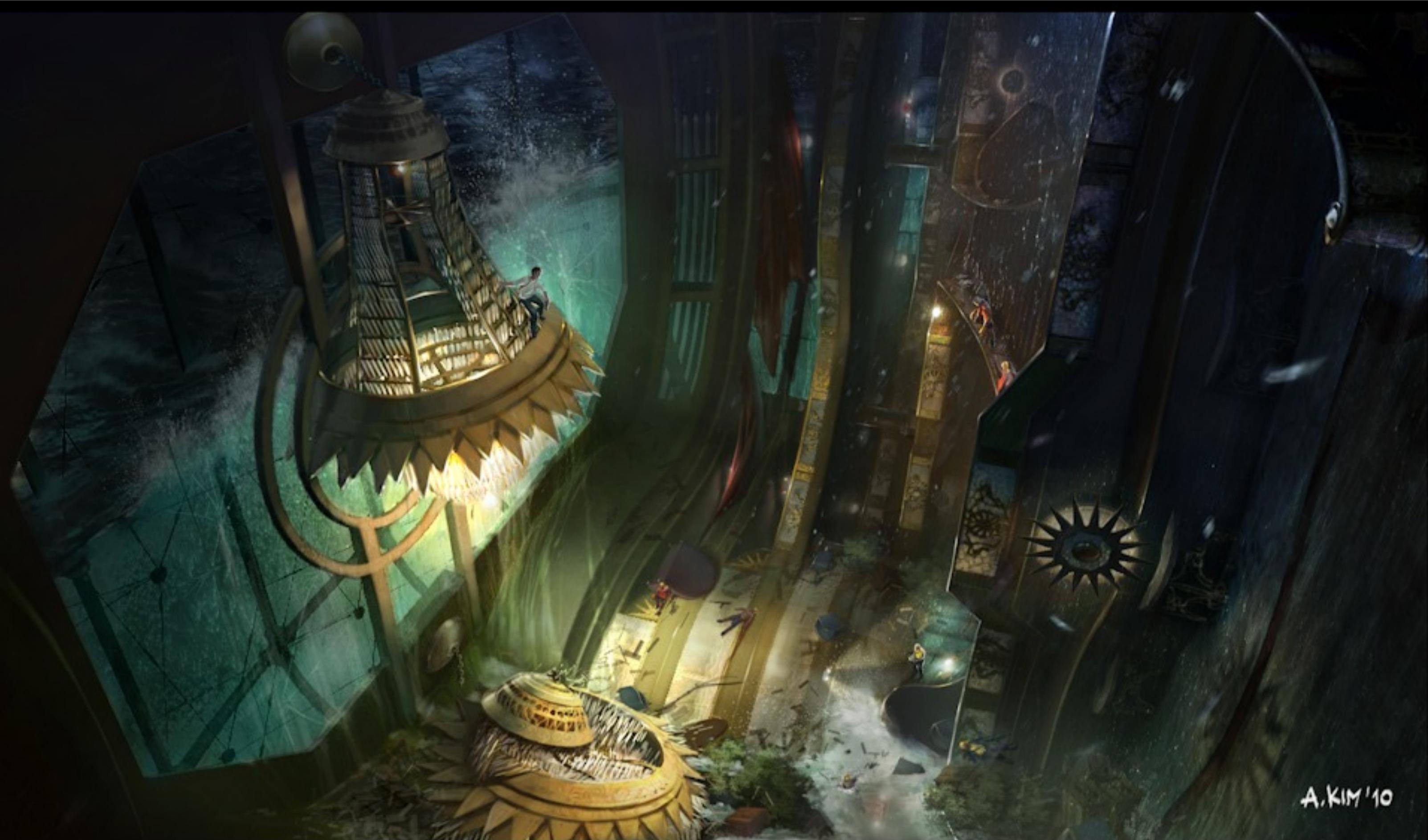
96

The ocean system is used in all the water in this sequence, we just change the shader and parameters.





and we come back to the ballroom



A.KIM'10



A.KIM'10

100

We could only render one ocean at a time, so we constantly had to change between all the different water elements in the cruise ship.

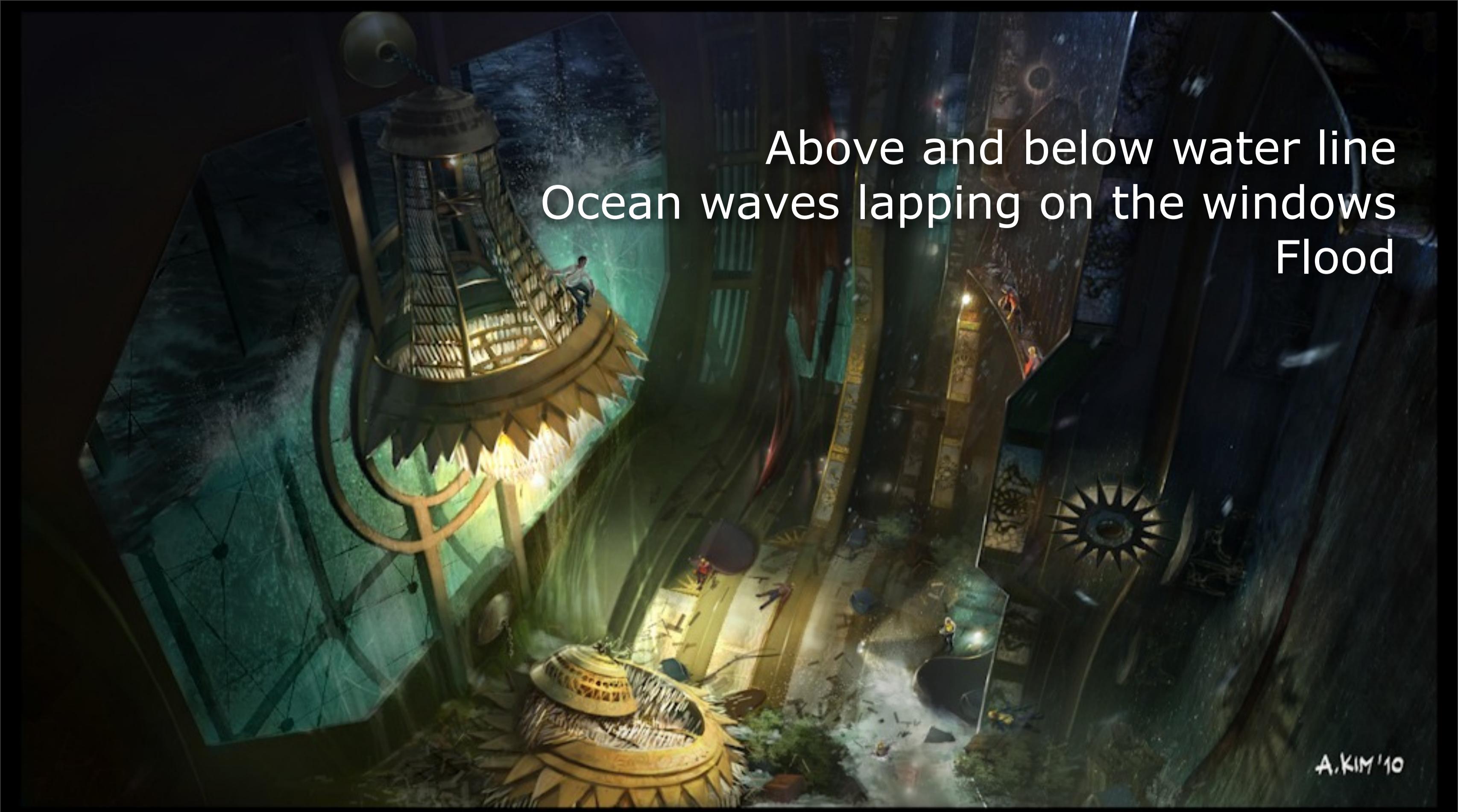
We would switch parameters and shader of the water. At some points between 2 frames.

The skylight section (the ballroom tilted 90 degrees) is technically the most difficult section of the whole game.

We needed to render water outside, and could be seen from above and below. Also there would be a flooding stage.

We had to limit the movement of the boat to one plane, so we could clip the water using a simple plane.

At some point we thought of using a curved glass, but we ran out of time.



Above and below water line  
Ocean waves lapping on the windows  
Flood

A.KIM'10

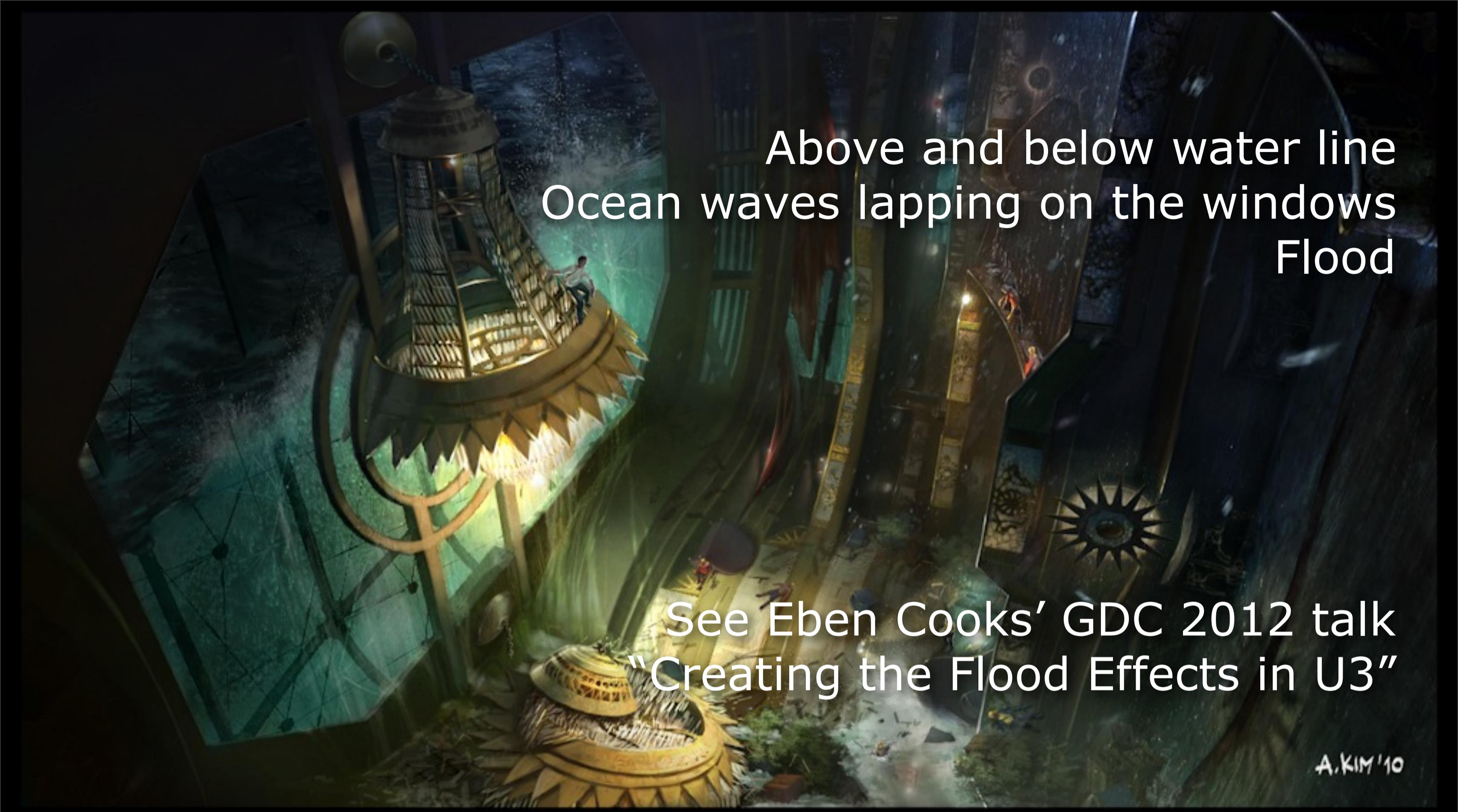
100

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See Eben Cooks' GDC 2012 talk  
“Creating the Flood Effects in U3”

A.KIM '10

100

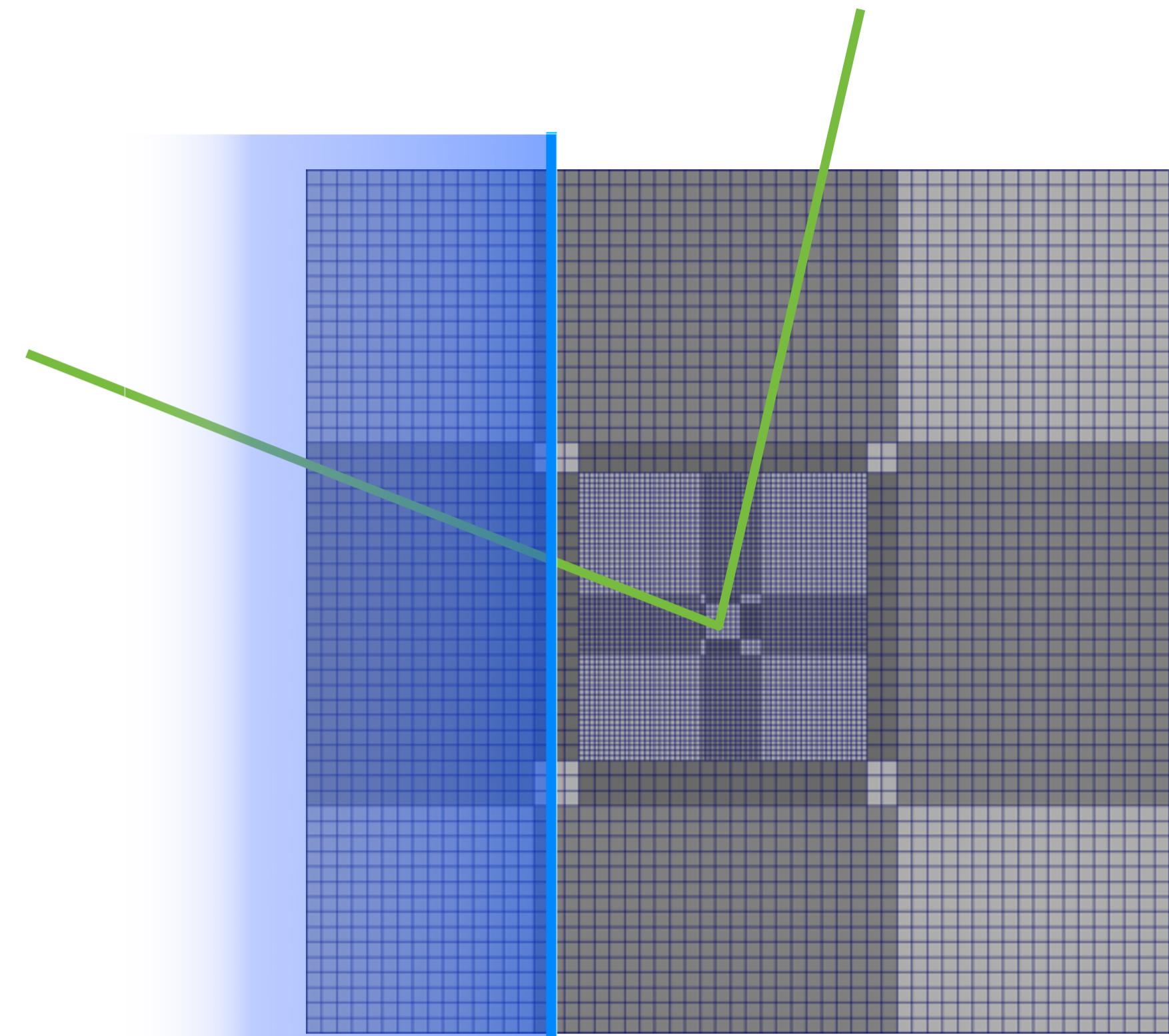
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# Skylight scene

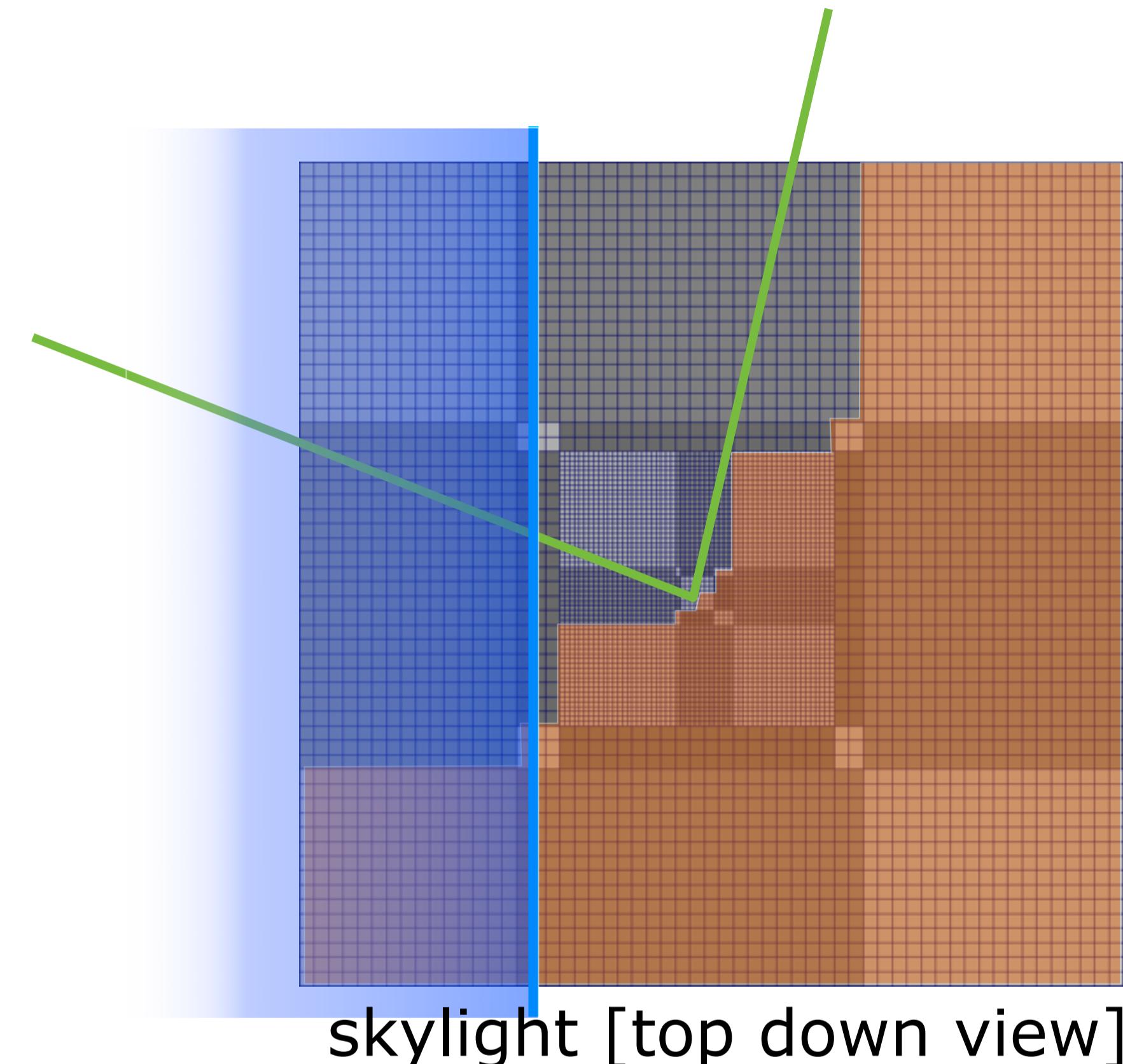


skylight [top down view]

# Skylight scene

- Cull out patches that are outside frustum

*Frustum-bbox test*



skylight [top down view]

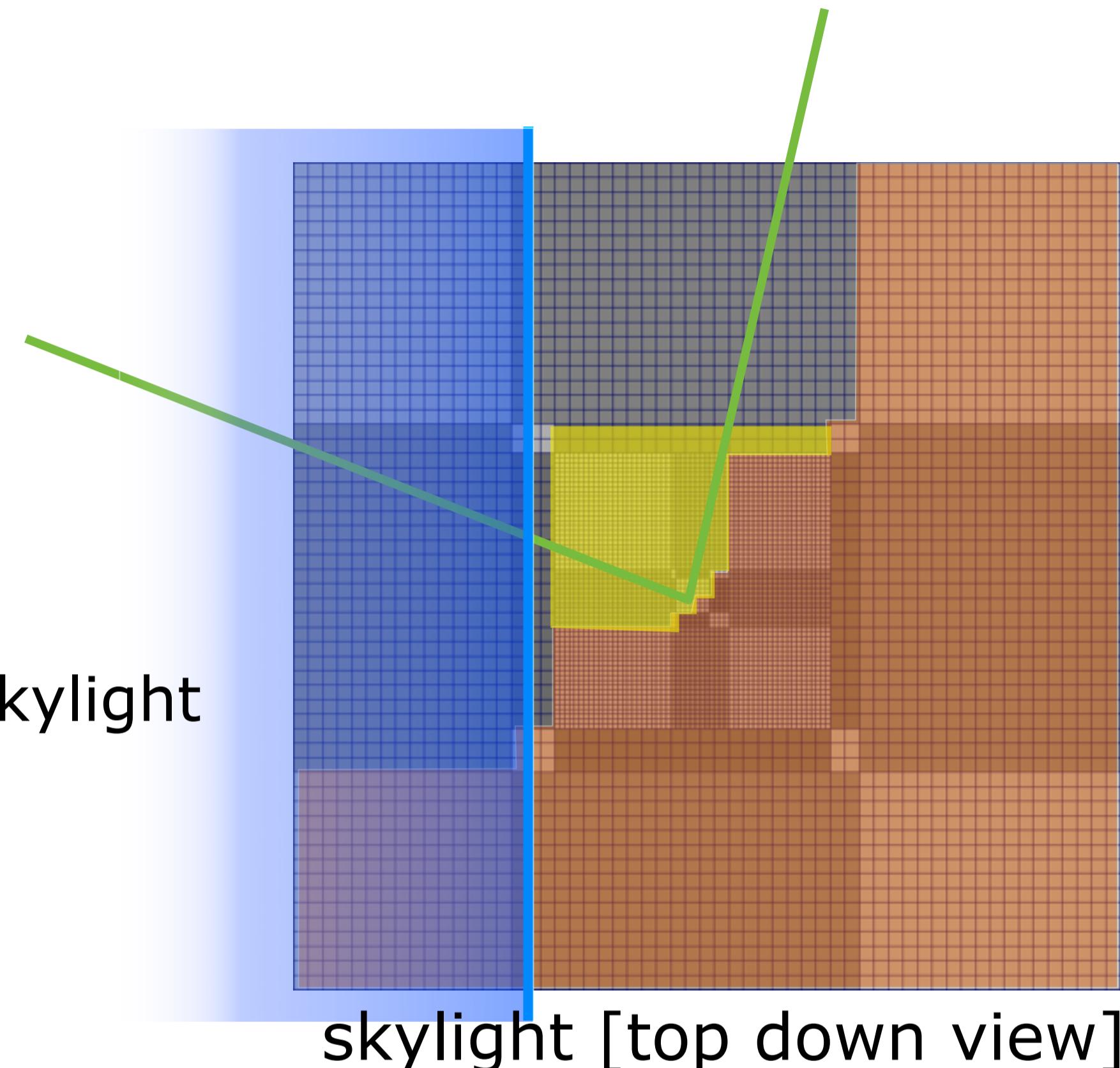
# Skylight scene

- Cull out patches that are outside frustum

*Frustum-bbox test*

- Cull out patches outside skylight

*Plane-bbox test*



# Skylight scene

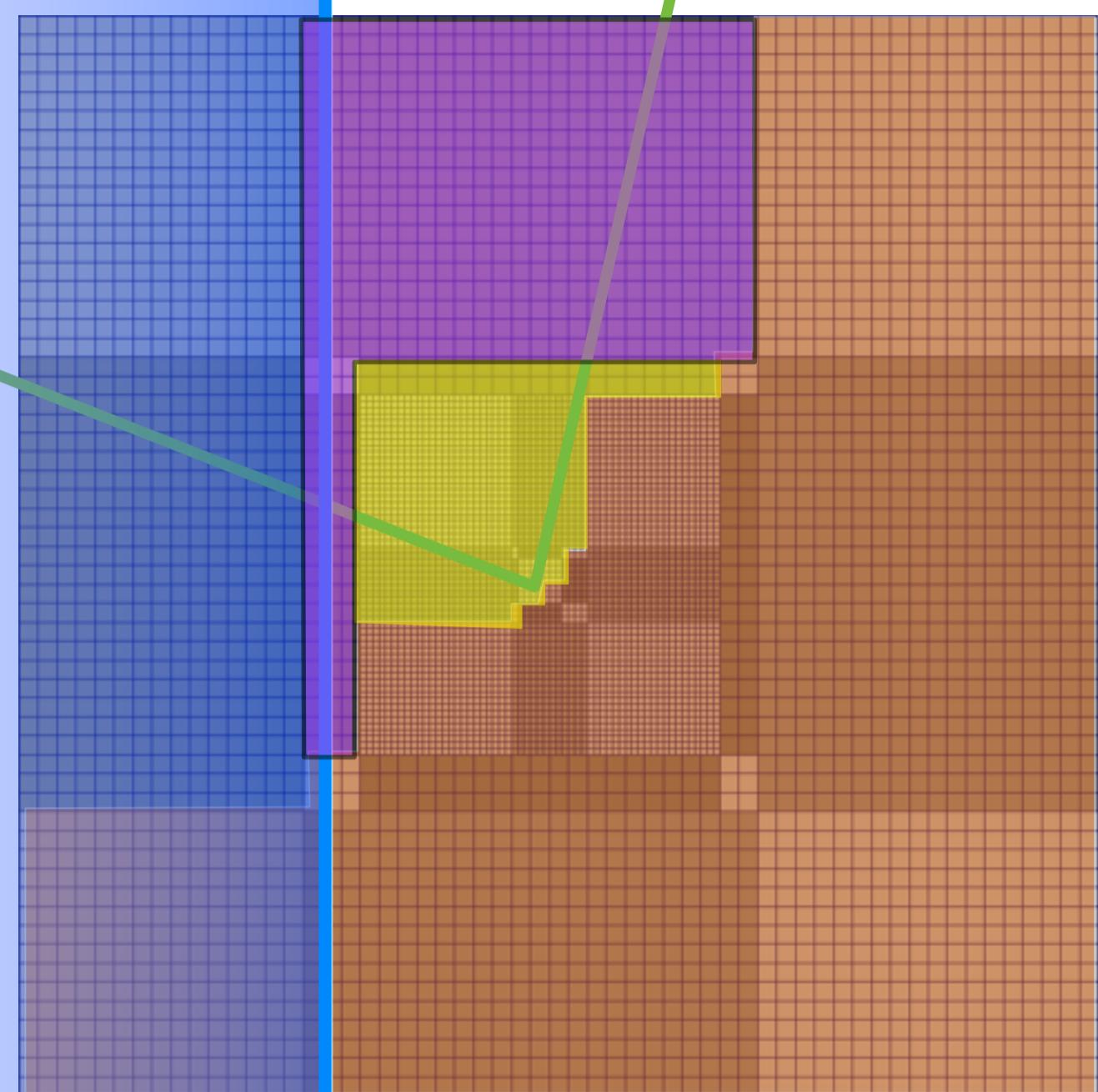
- Cull out patches that are outside frustum

*Frustum-bbox test*

- Cull out patches outside skylight

*Plane-bbox test*

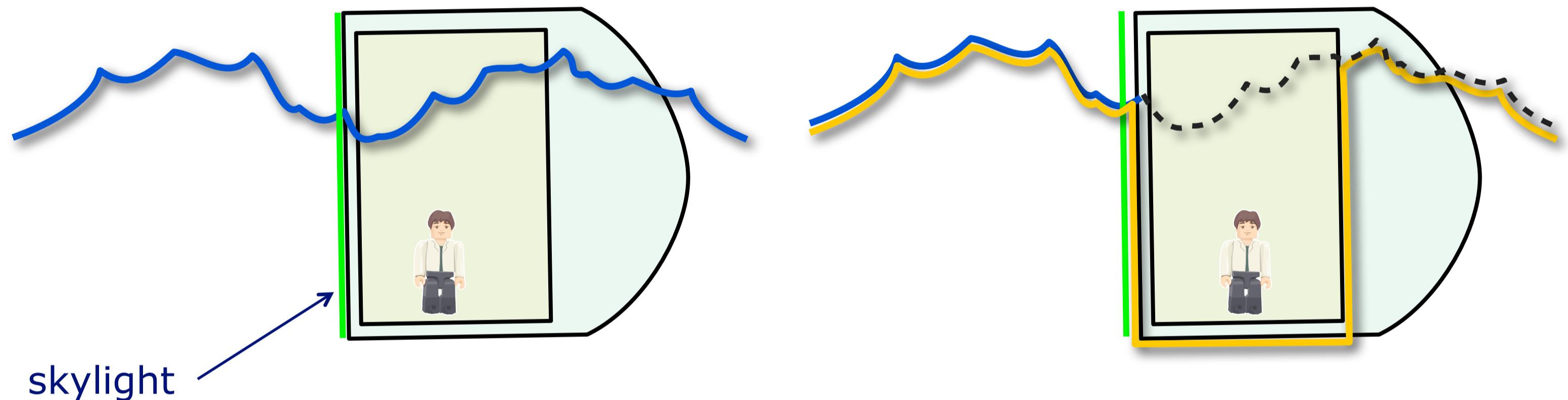
These ones still remain



skylight [top down view]

# Skylight scene

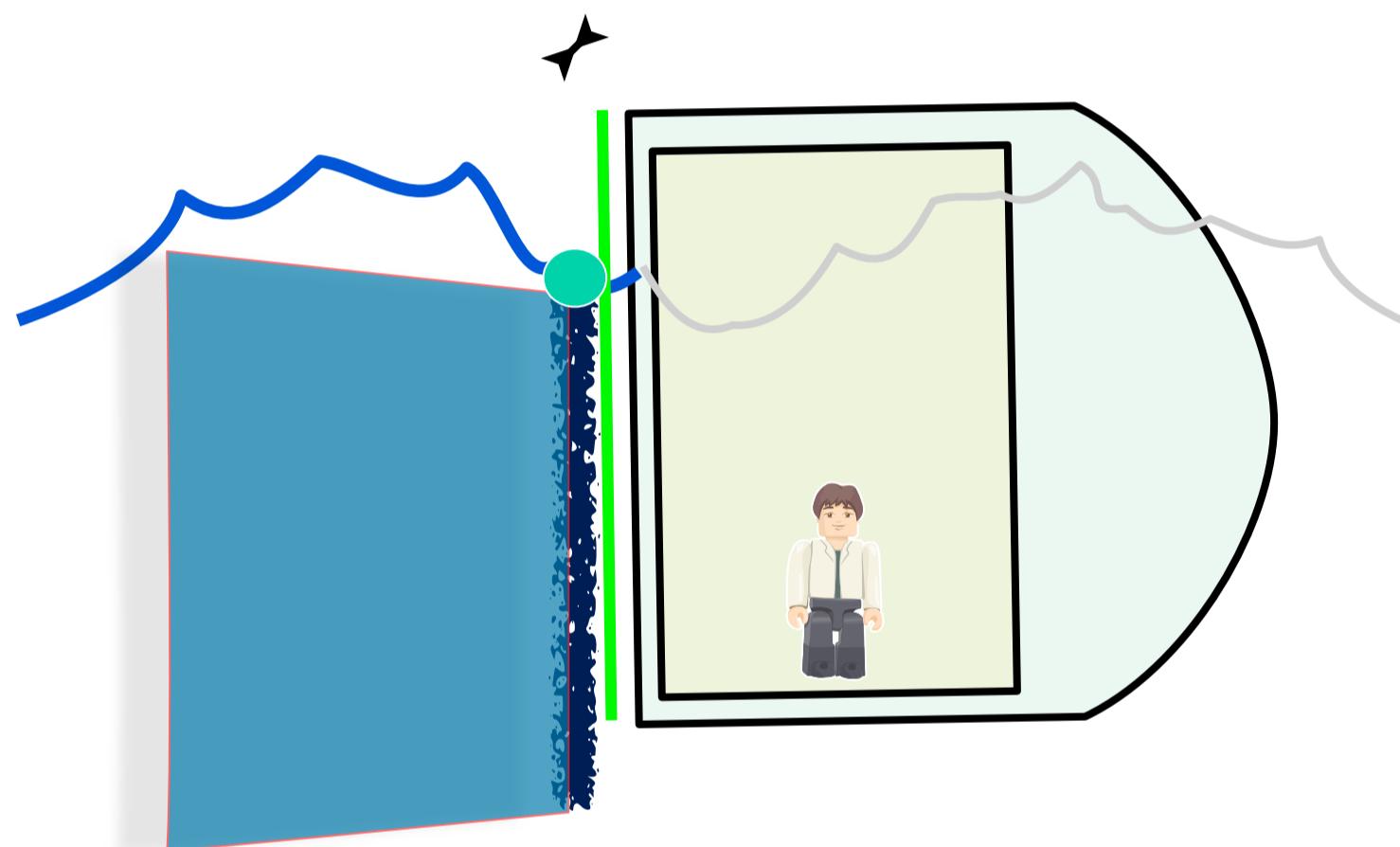
- For rendering use shader discard operation to do plane clipping
- For evaluation clamp down points inside ballroom bbox



The culling using the shader was simple a plane culling

# Skylight scene (90 degree cruise-ship)

- Fake underwater fog with a polygon “curtain” driven by the water movement (Eben’s Cook hack)



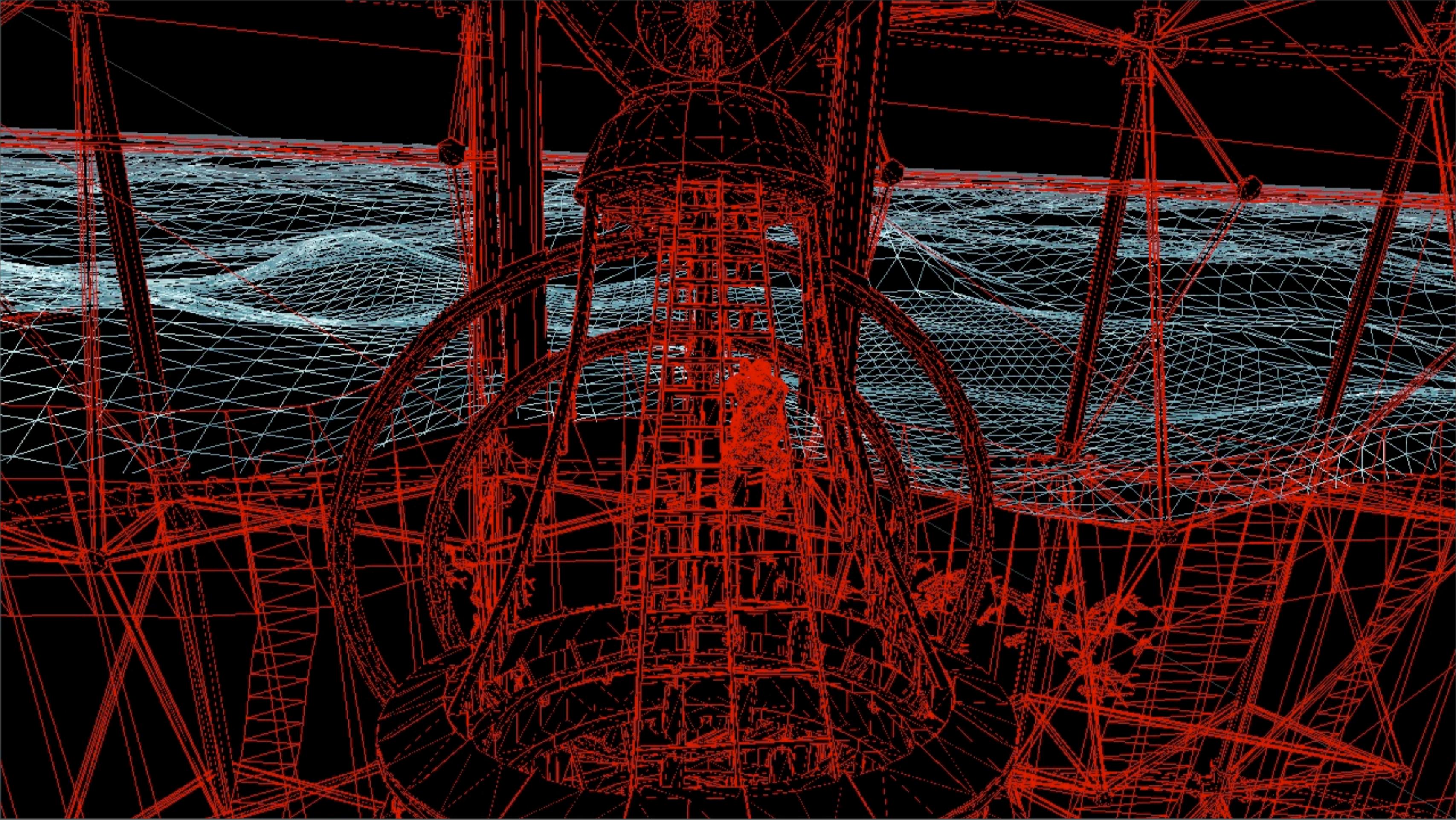
103

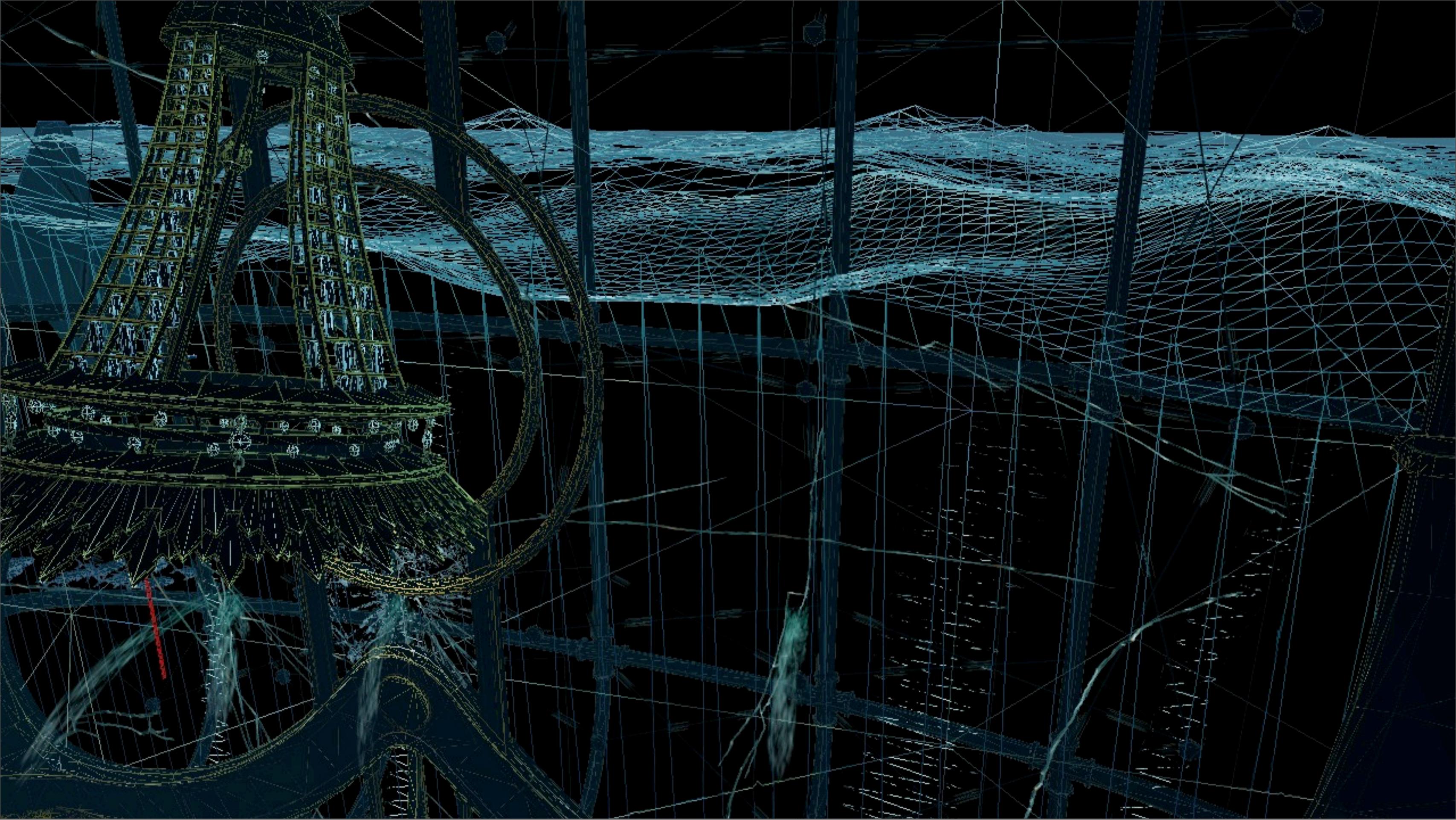
Faking the underwater fog was more complicated.

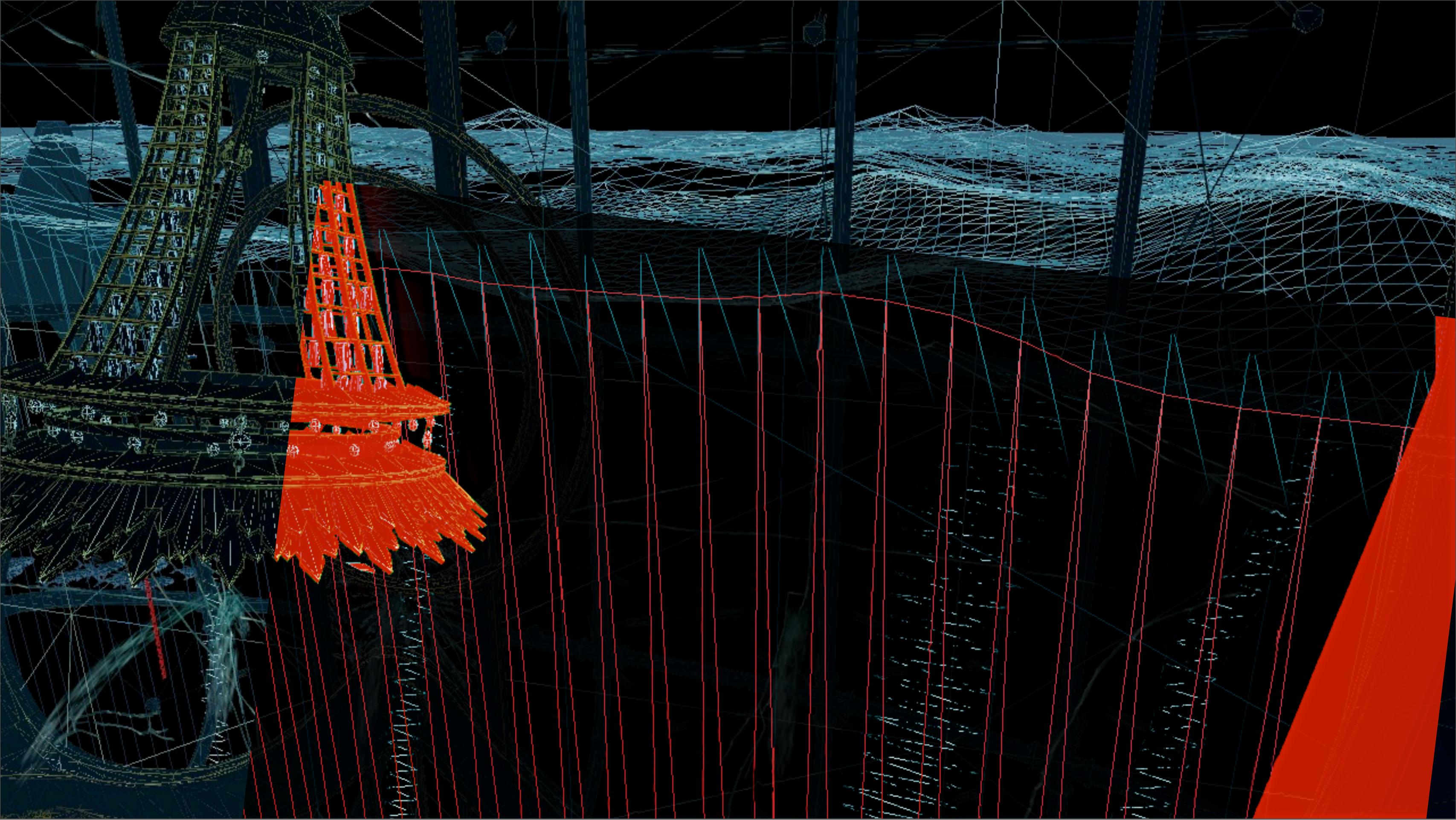
Eben Cook did an awesome job figuring out a way to realize the effect without multipasses.

He used a polygon skirt that is driven by the waves and it covers the back of the glass. The skirt shader simulates the fog effect of water.







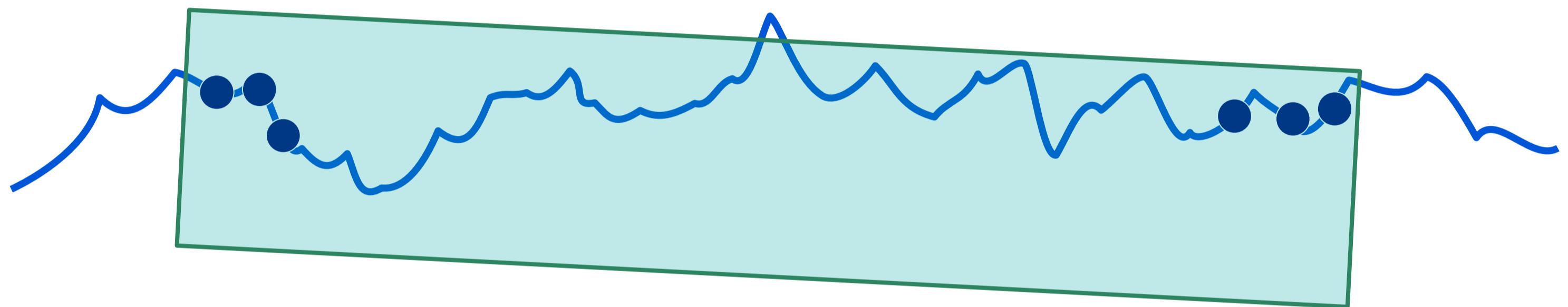




# Floating objects

Sample points and best fit a plane for orientation

On intersection areas, multiply down amplitude

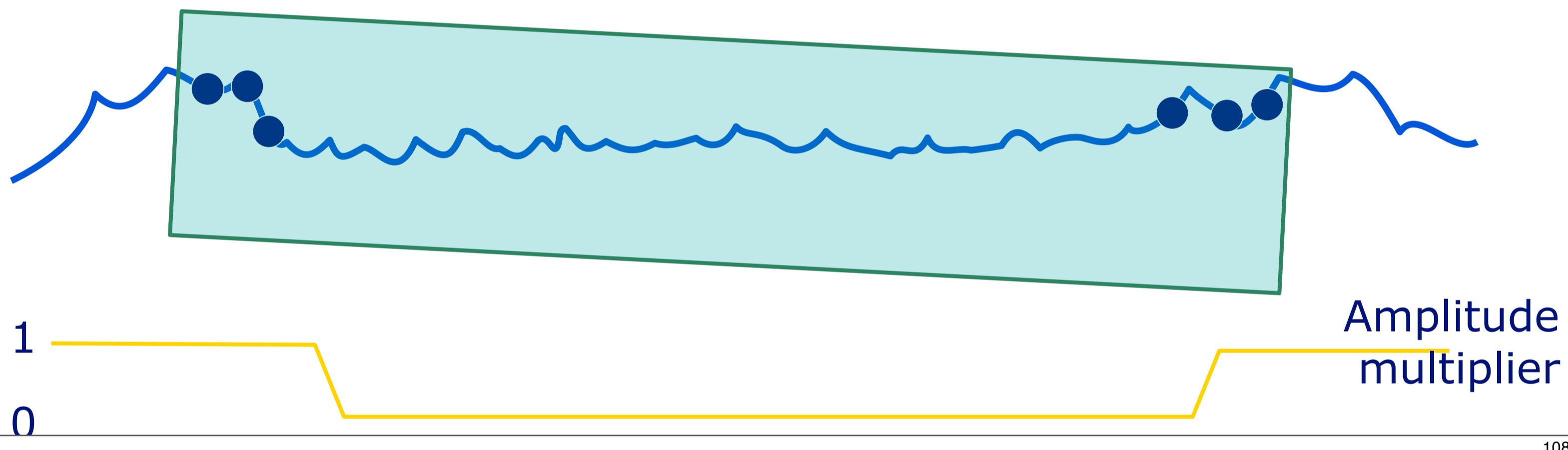


Depending on object, we can sample some points and best fit a plane to orient the object

# Attaching objects

Sample points and best fit a plane for orientation

On intersection areas, multiply down amplitude

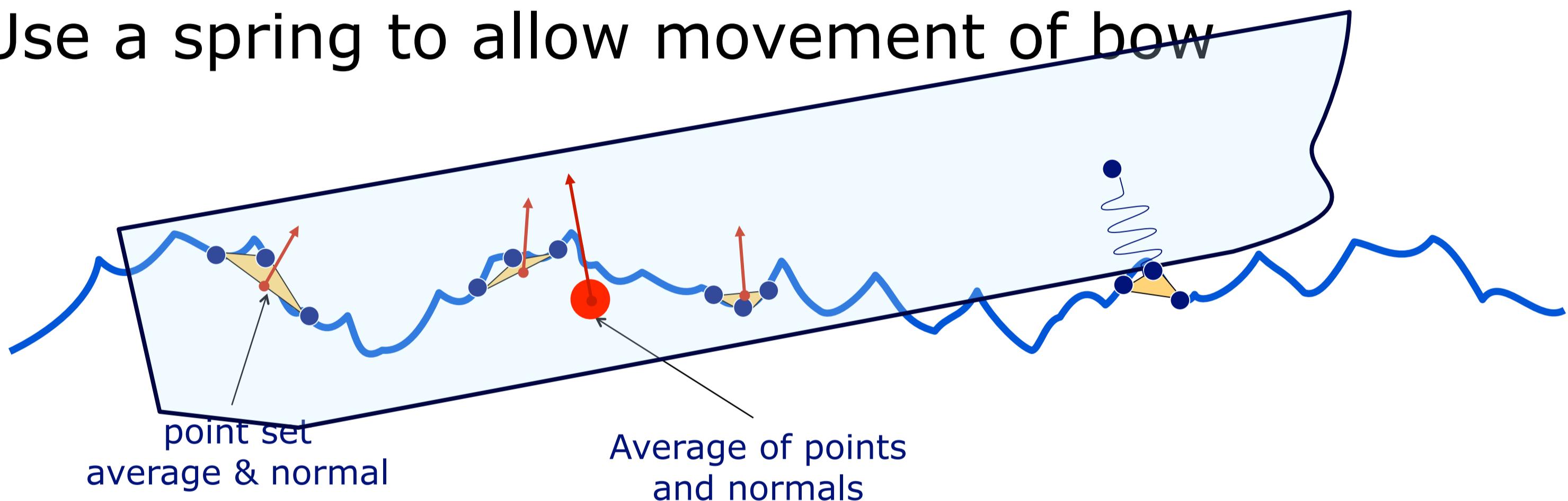


# Cruise ship

Sample points along length of the boat

Don't sample all waves (filter out high frequencies)

Use a spring to allow movement of bow



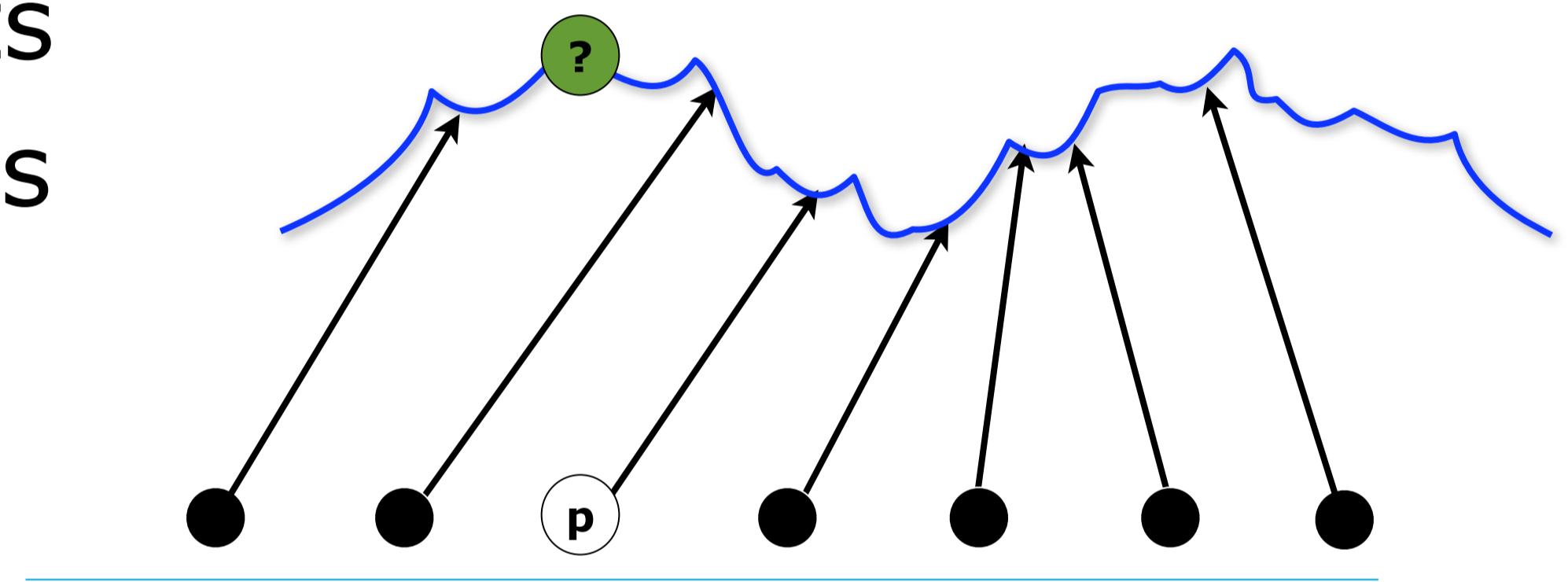
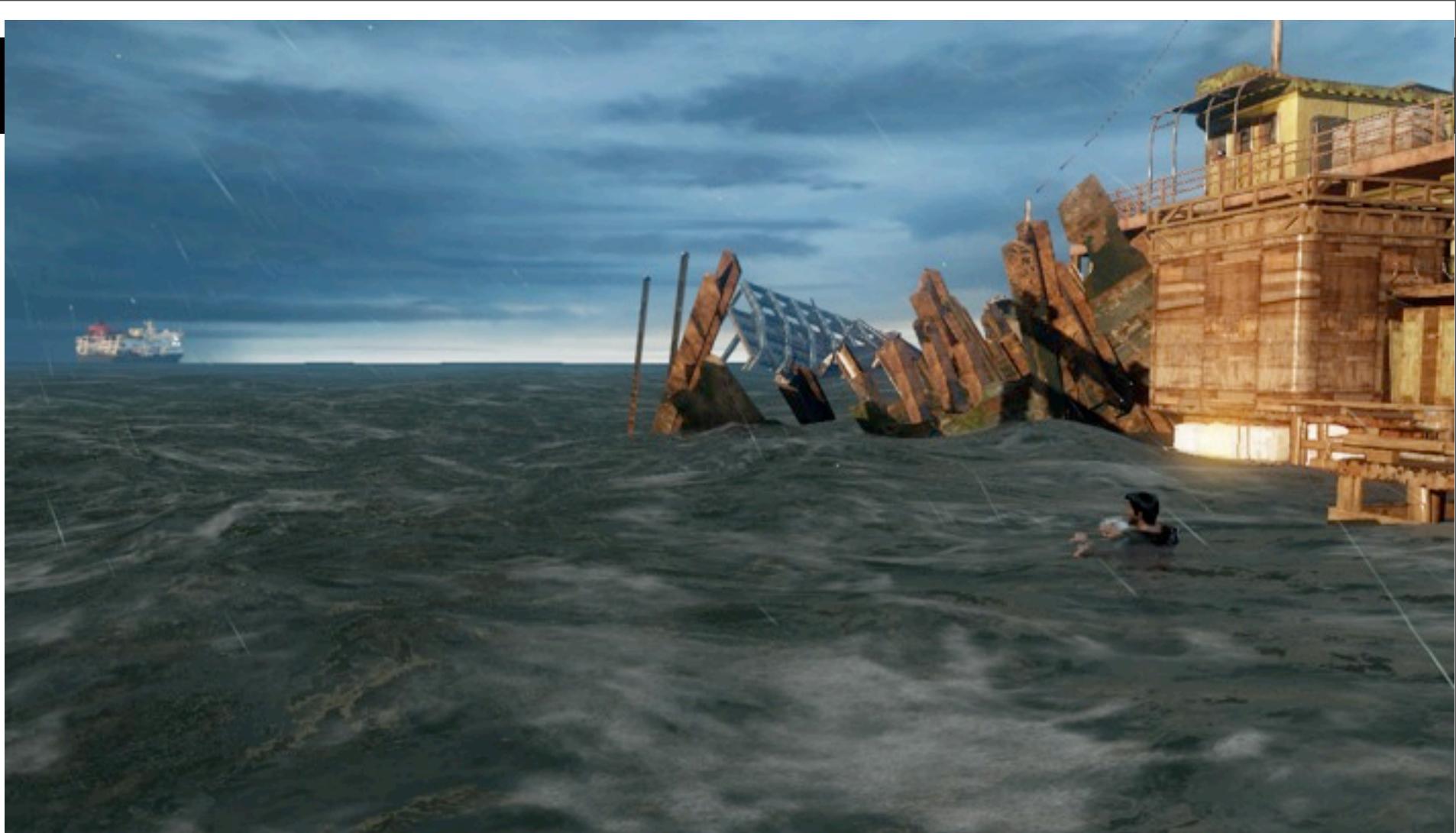
# Point queries

Player swimming

Cameras

Floating objects

Collision probes



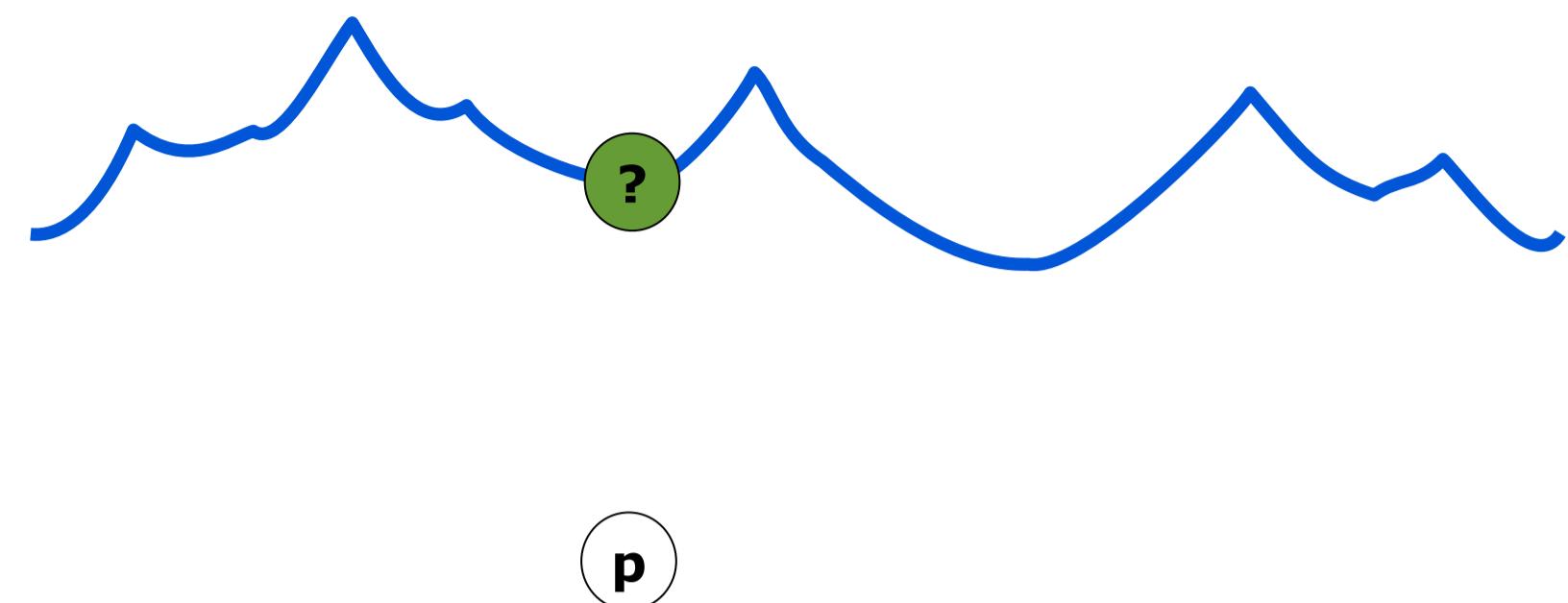
110

Sampling a vector displacement field is not as trivial as a heightfield.

# Point queries

Cameras, player query:  
given point  $\mathbf{p} <u,v>$  find  
water position  $\mathbf{r} <u, y, v>$

Ryan Broner's search method  
Similar to the Secant method,  
but use displacement in a  
 $R^2 \rightarrow R^3$  map



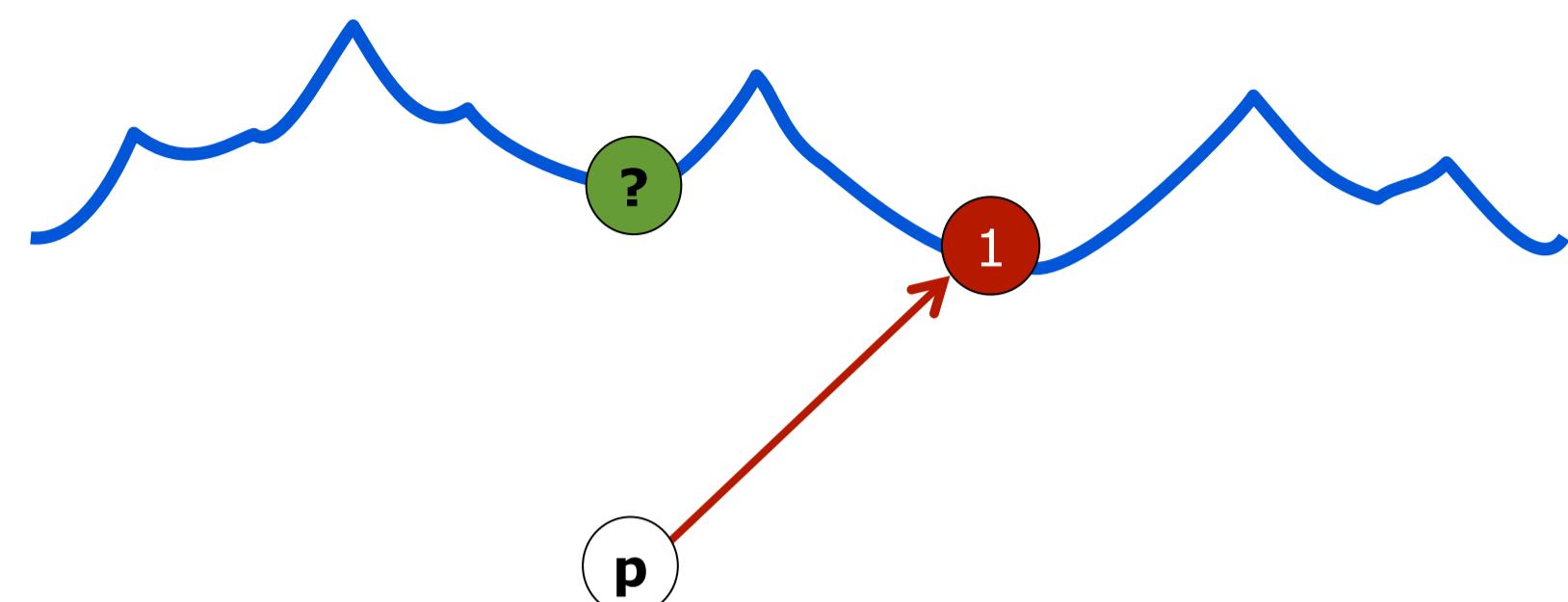
- $\mathbf{p}$  query  $<u,v>$
- $\mathbf{q}$  result  $<u,v> + <x,y,z>$
- $\mathbf{s}$  projection  $<u,v> + <0,y,0>$
- $\mathbf{r}$  final result position

We use a search method to the wave field instead of building a mesh and then do some form of ray casting.

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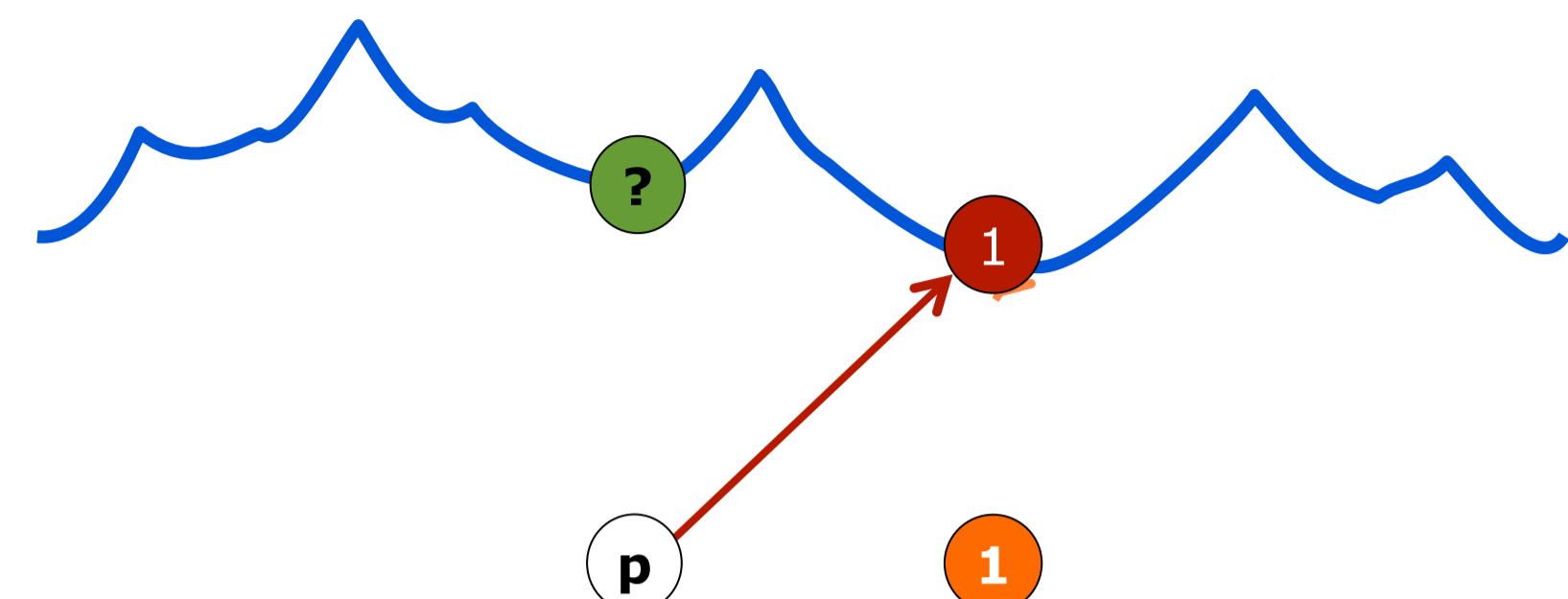
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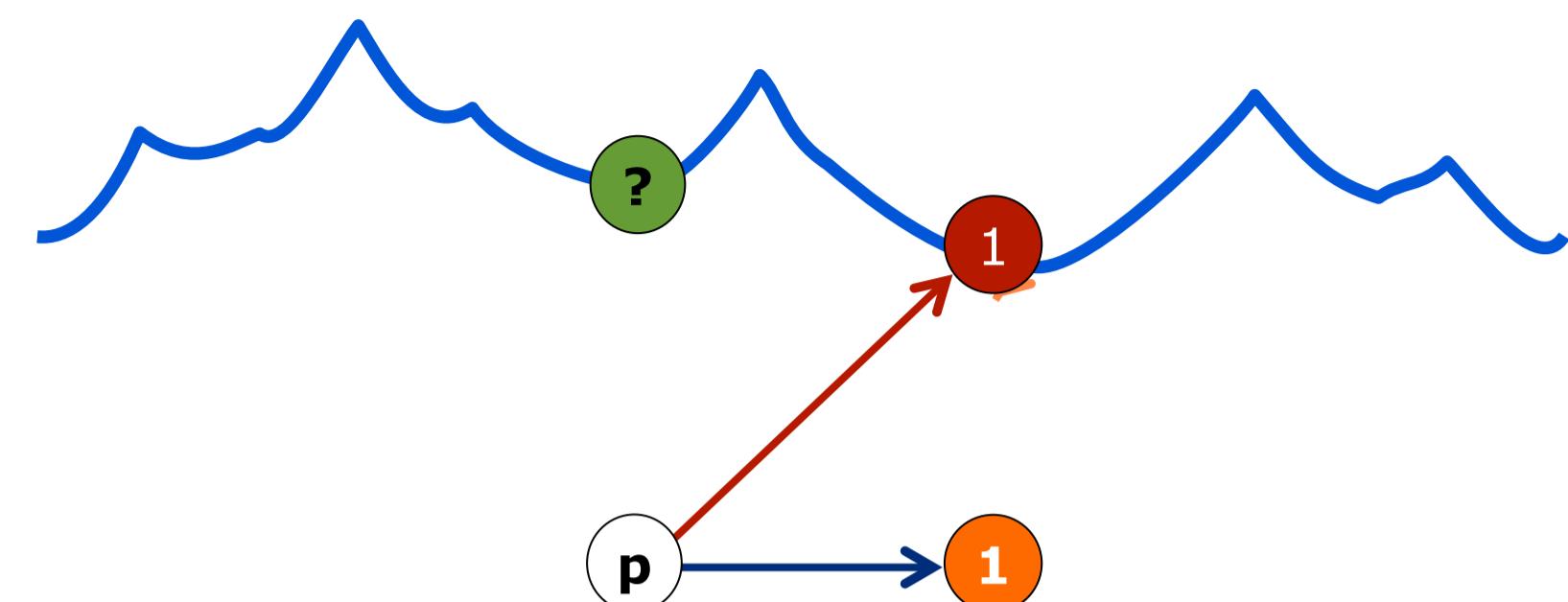
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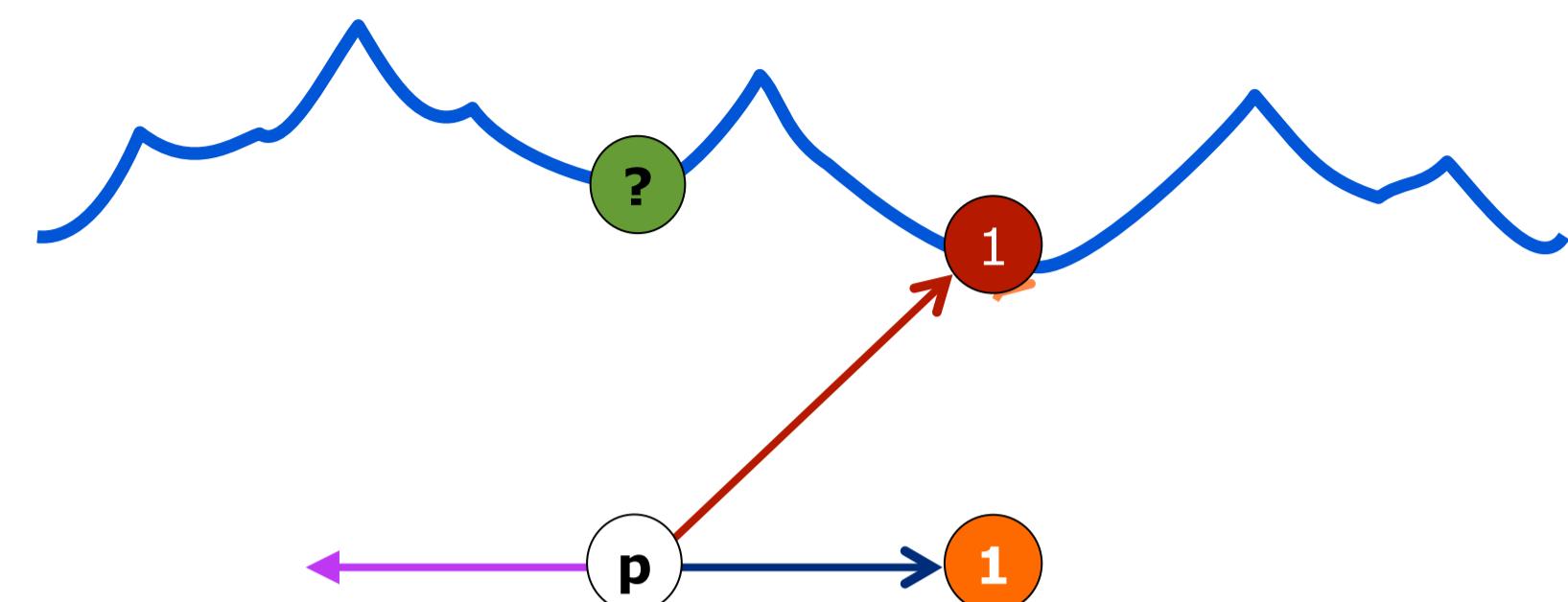
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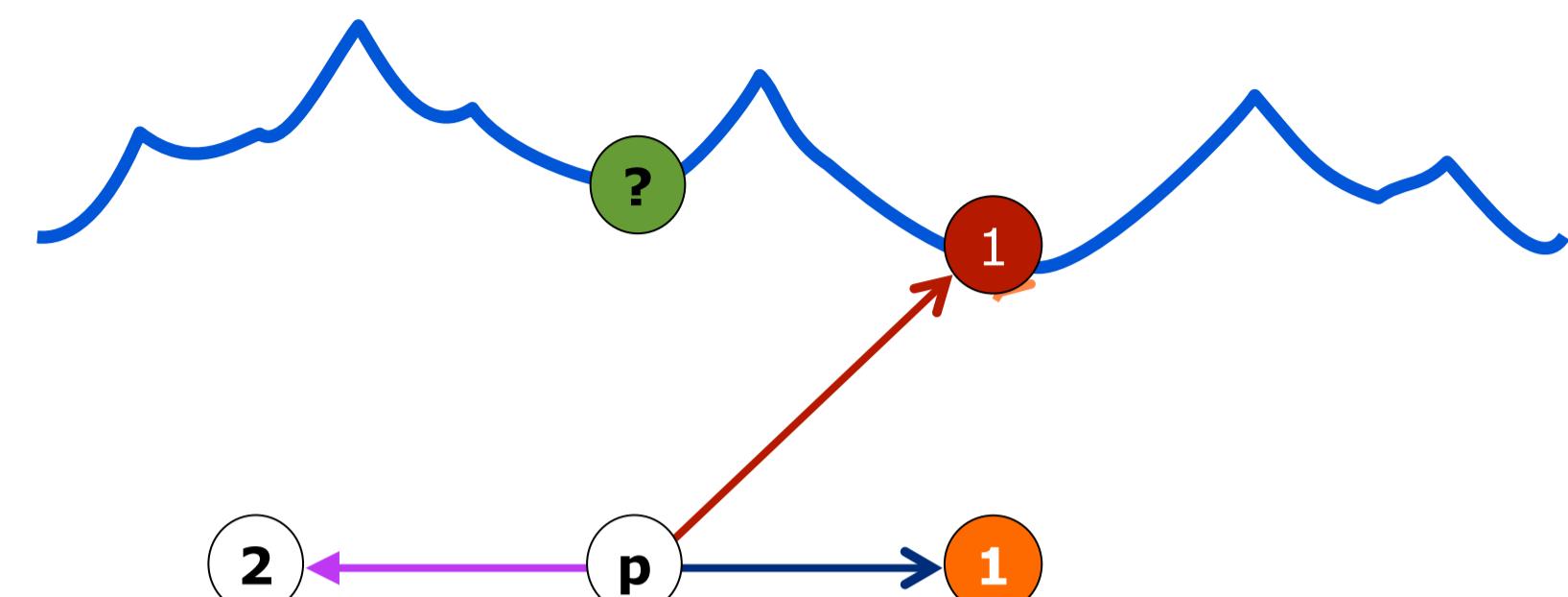
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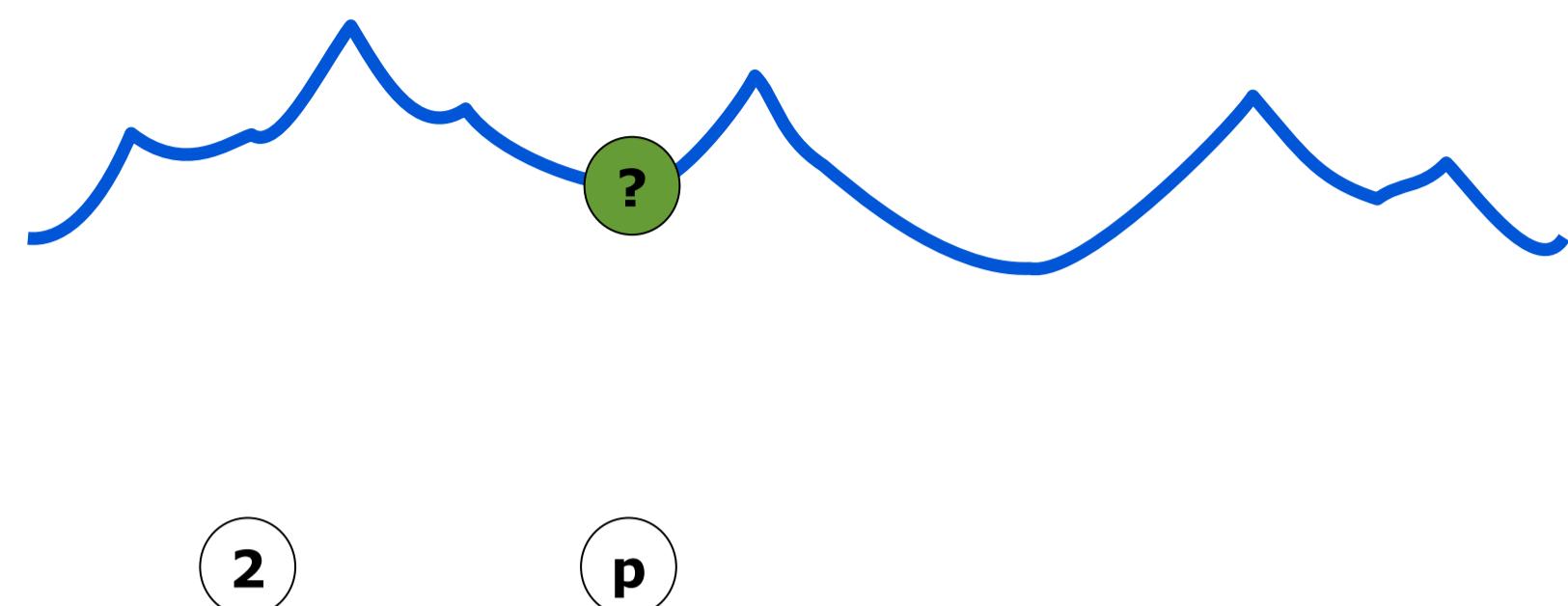
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 $\mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  map

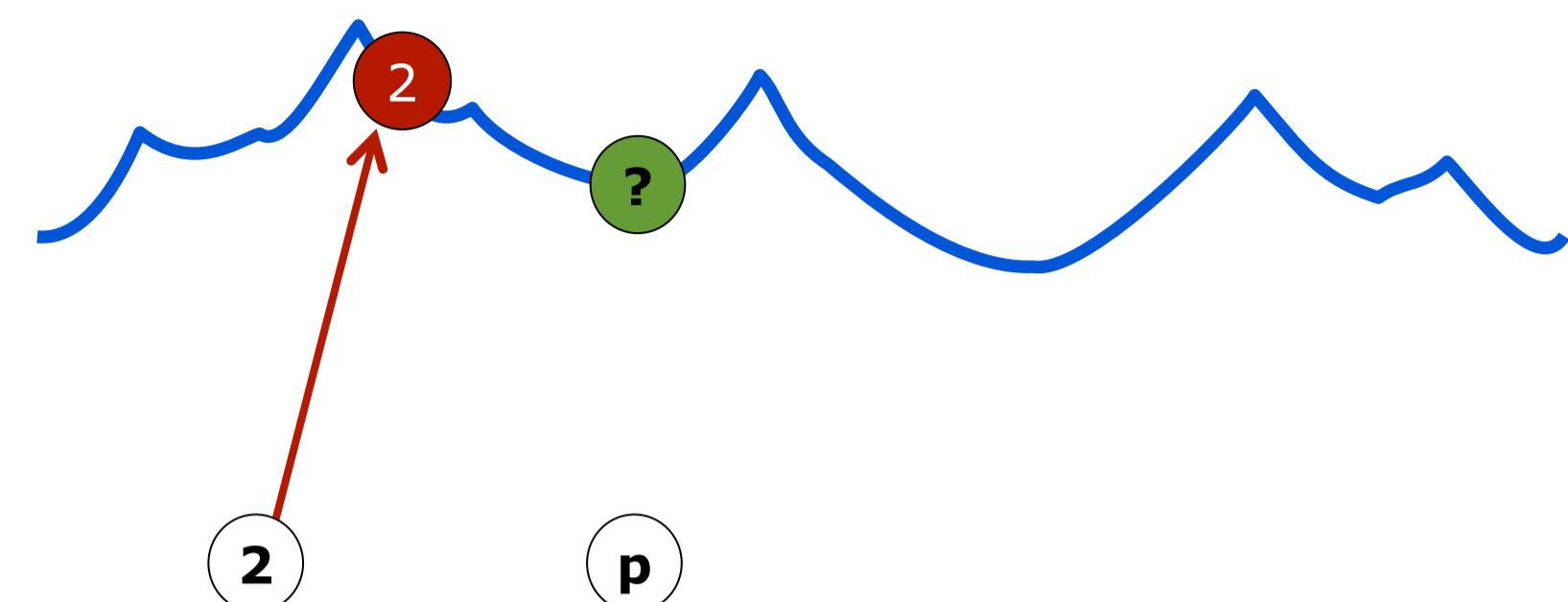


- $\mathbf{p}$  query  $\langle u, v \rangle$
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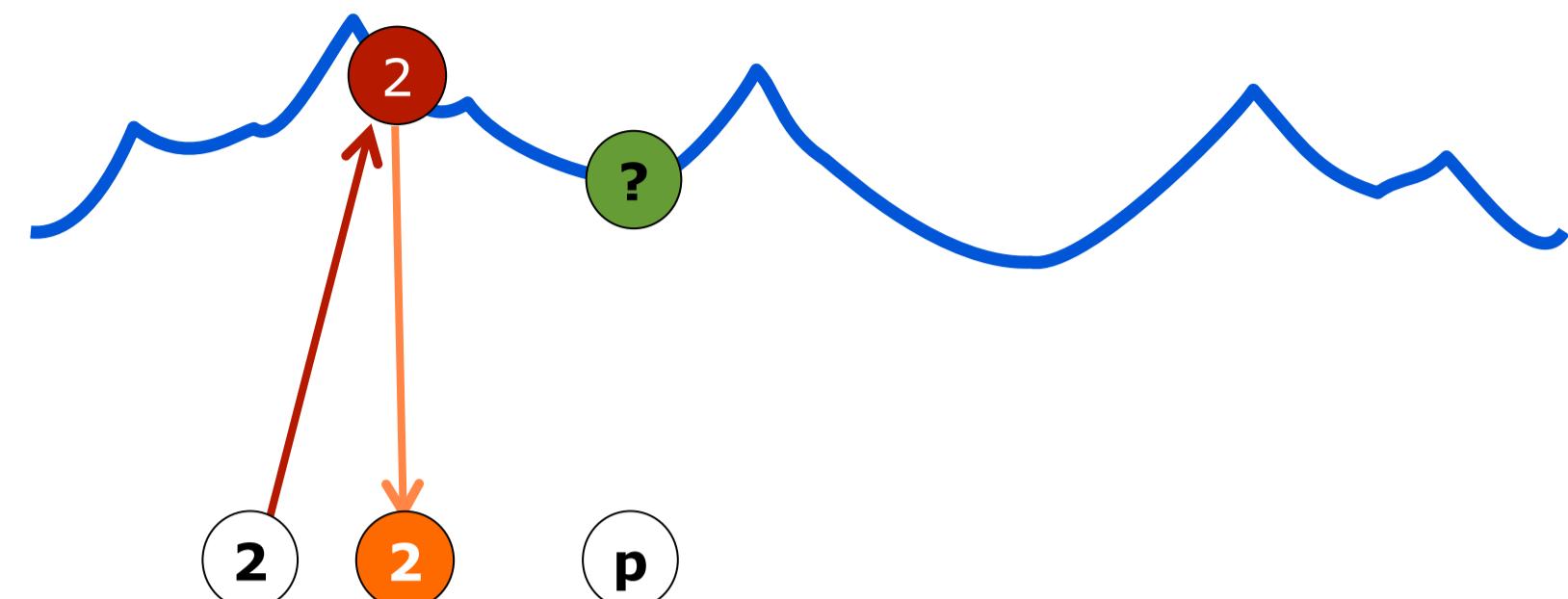
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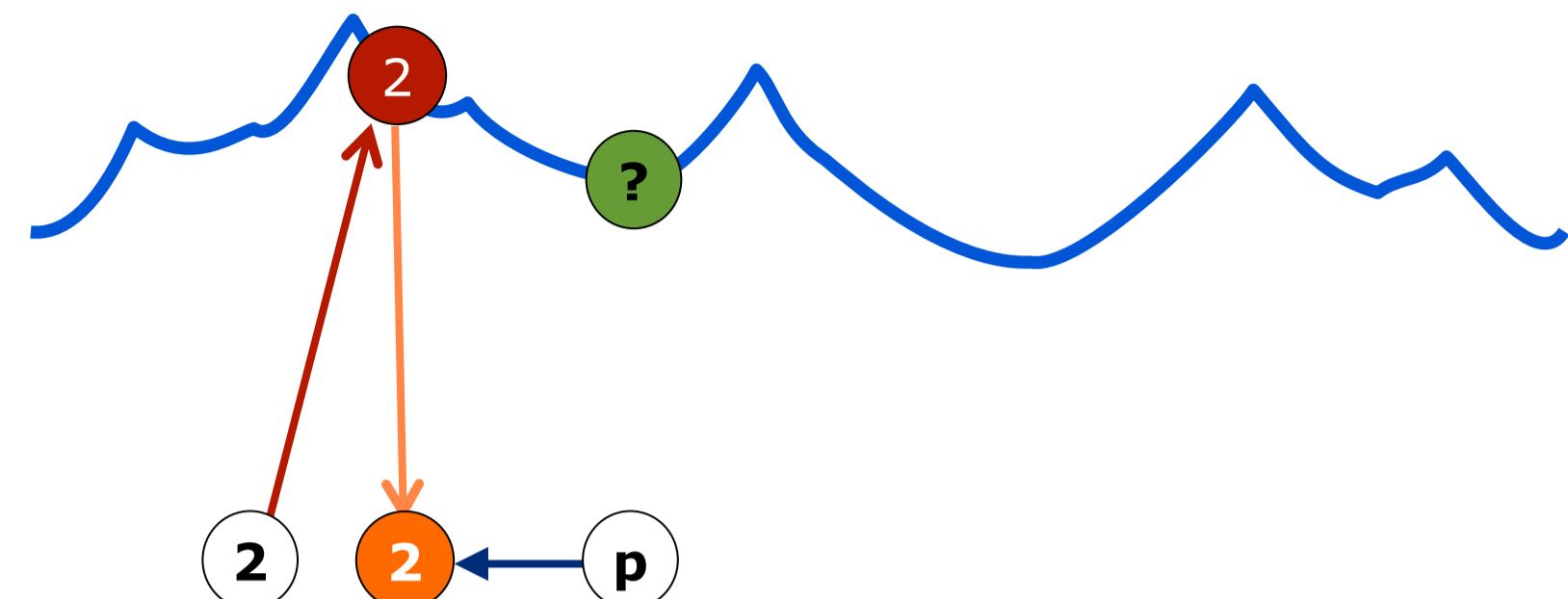
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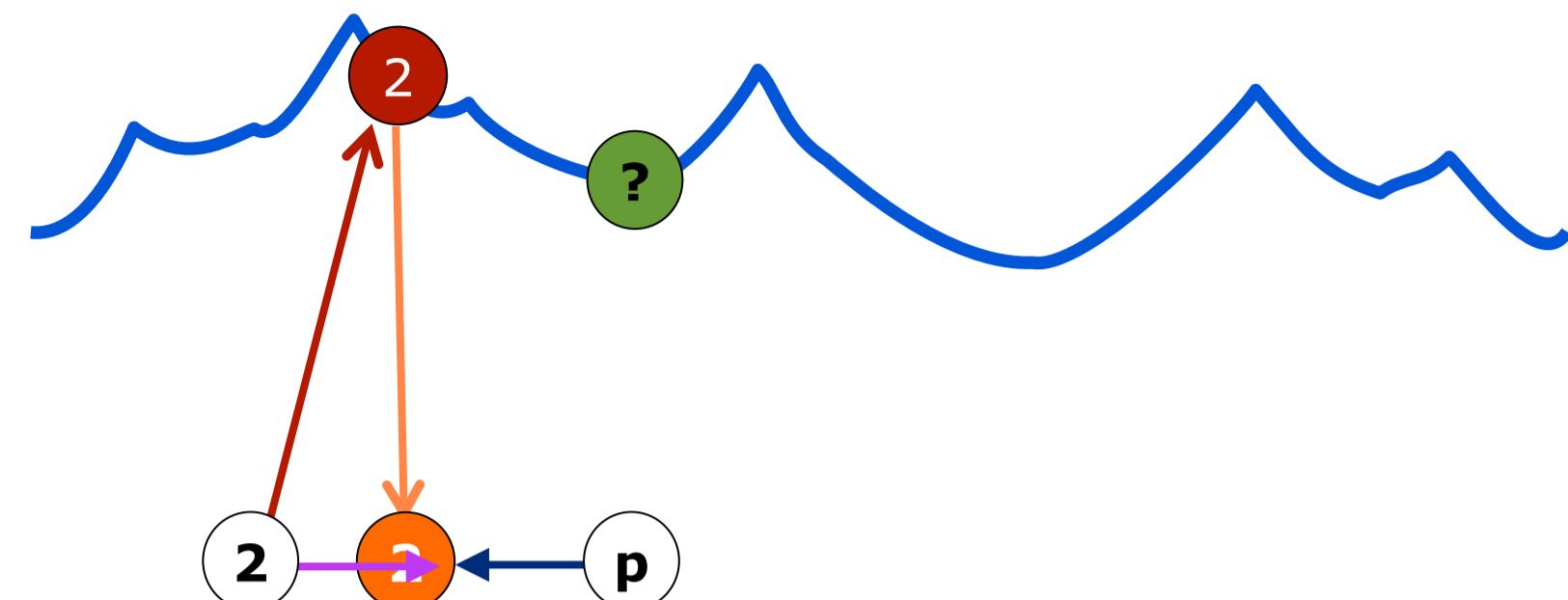
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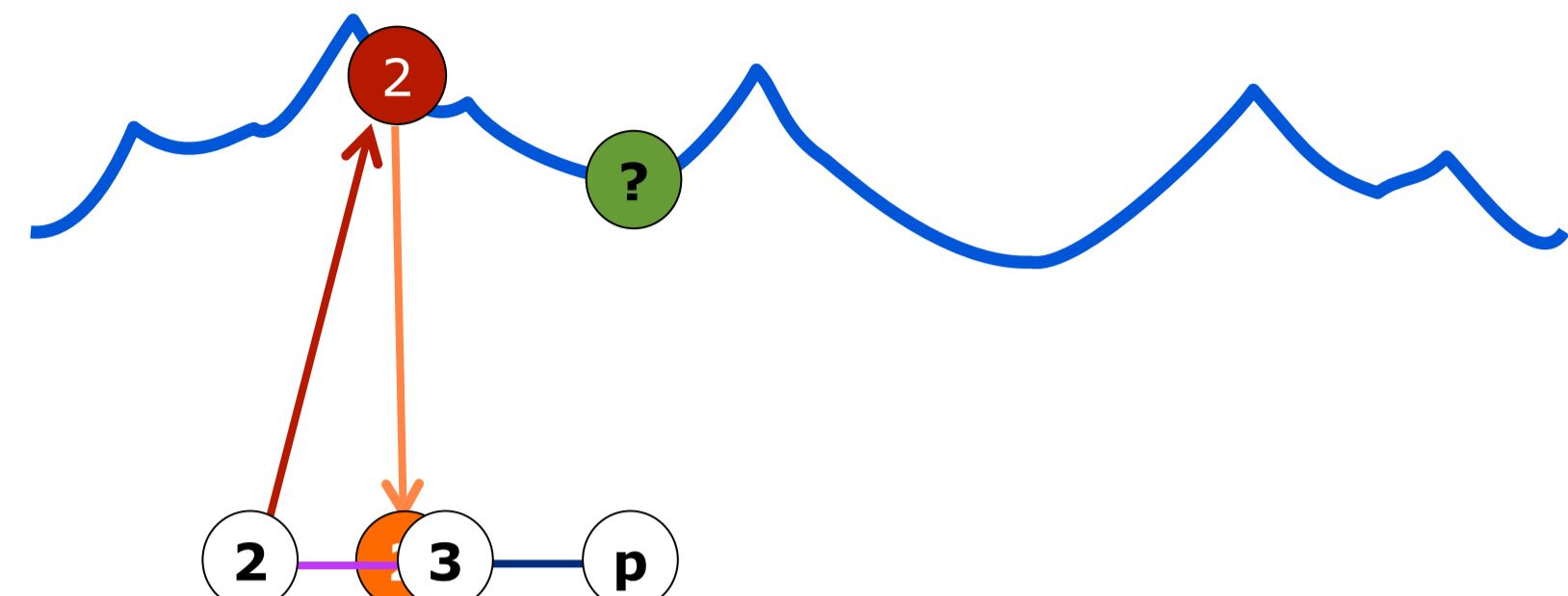
- $\mathbf{p}$  query  $<u,v>$
- $\mathbf{q}$  result  $<u,v> + <x,y,z>$
- $\mathbf{s}$  projection  $<u,v> + <0,y,0>$
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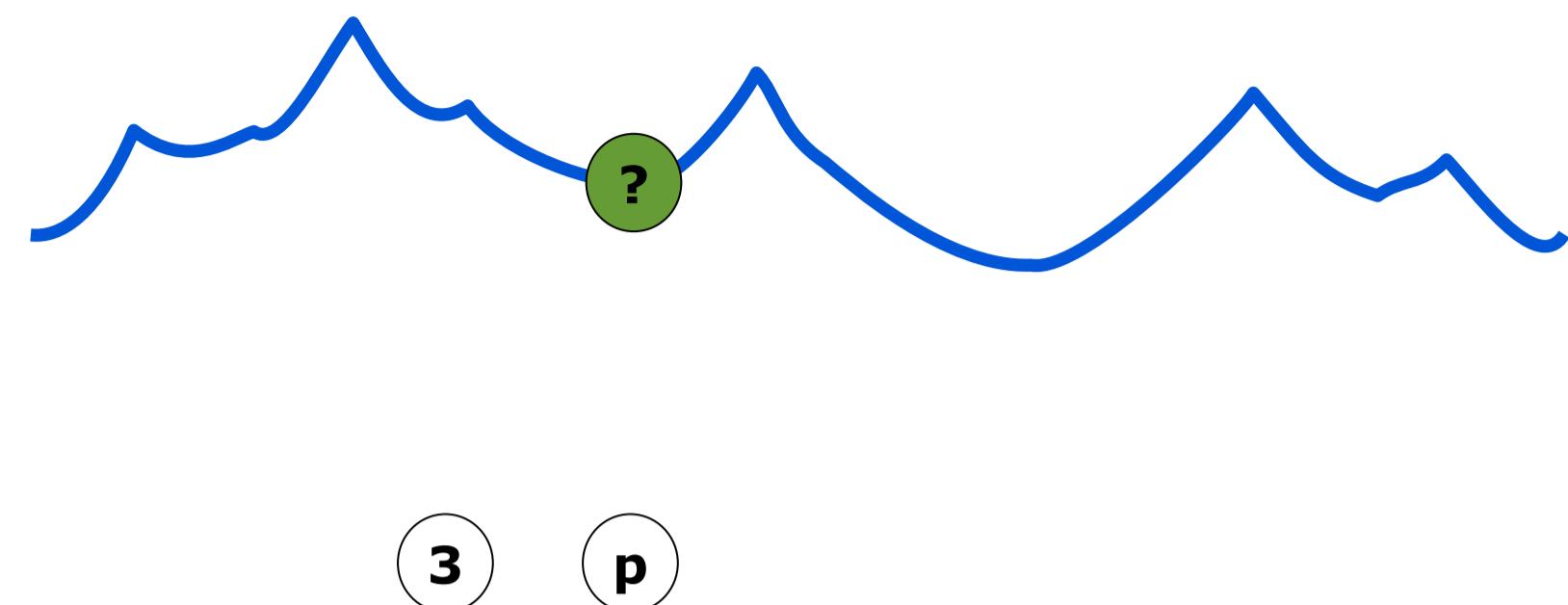
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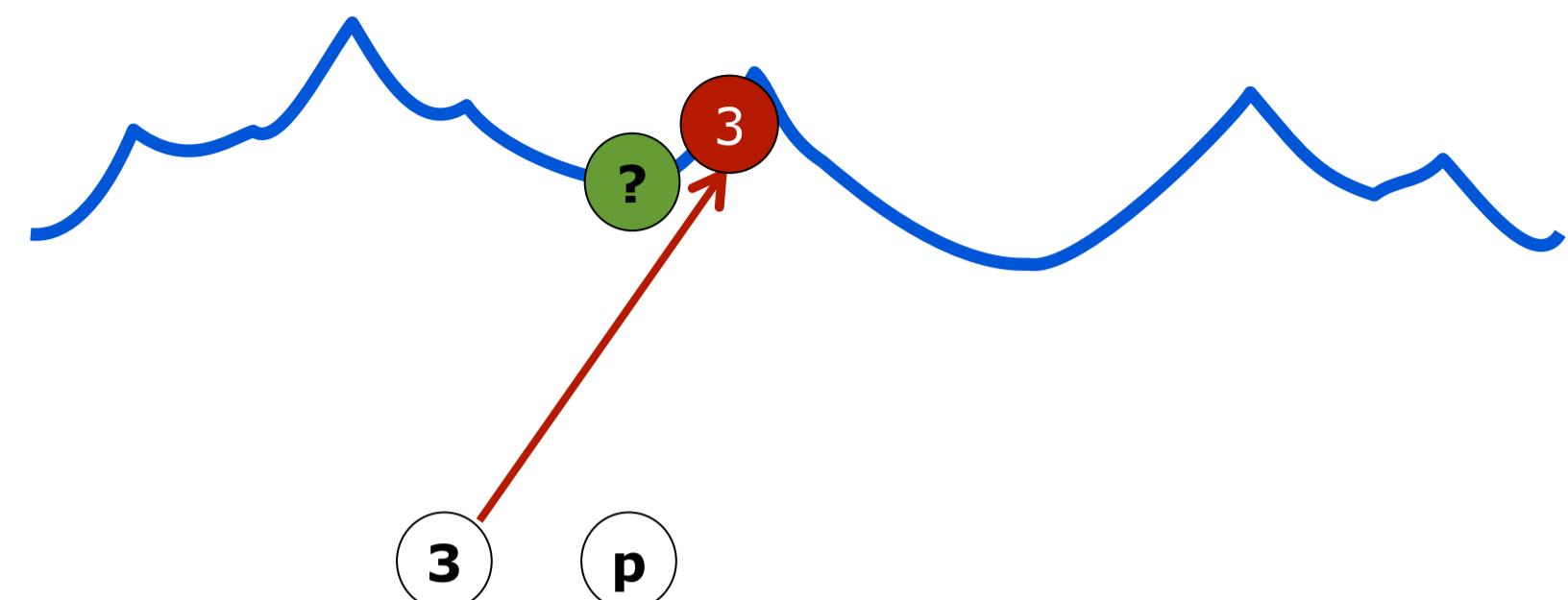
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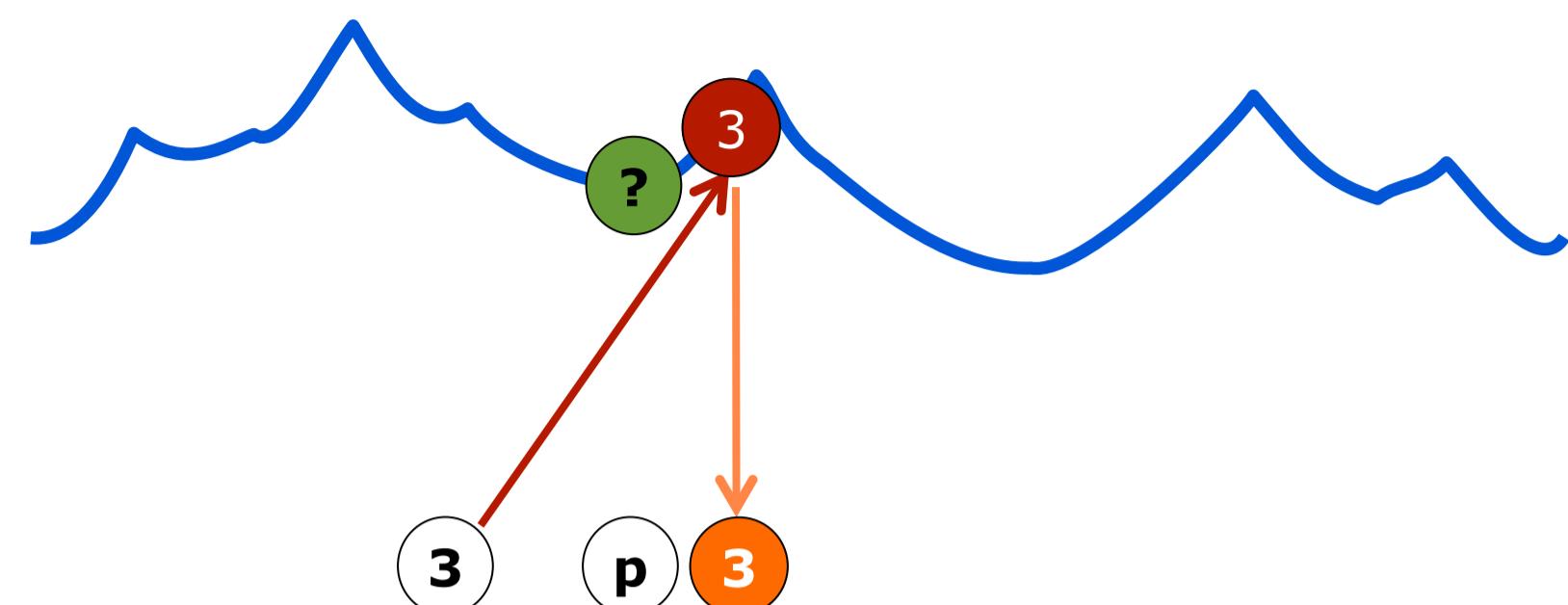
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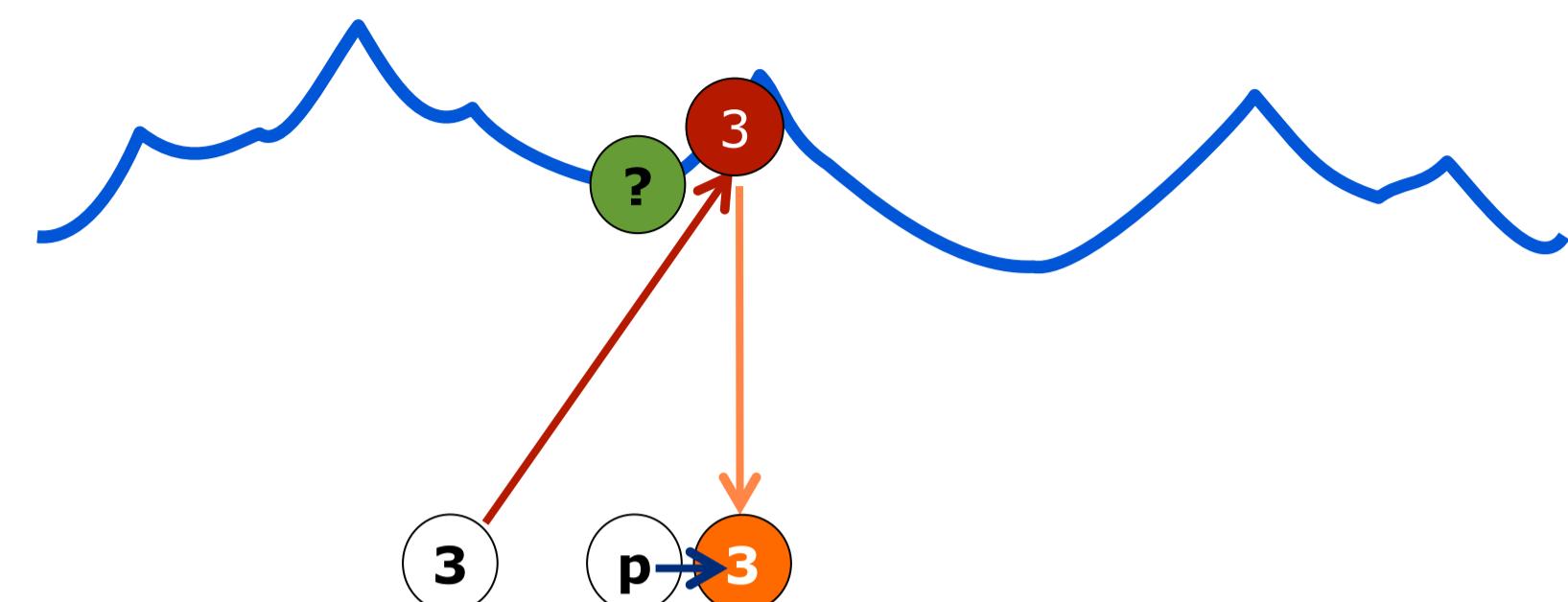
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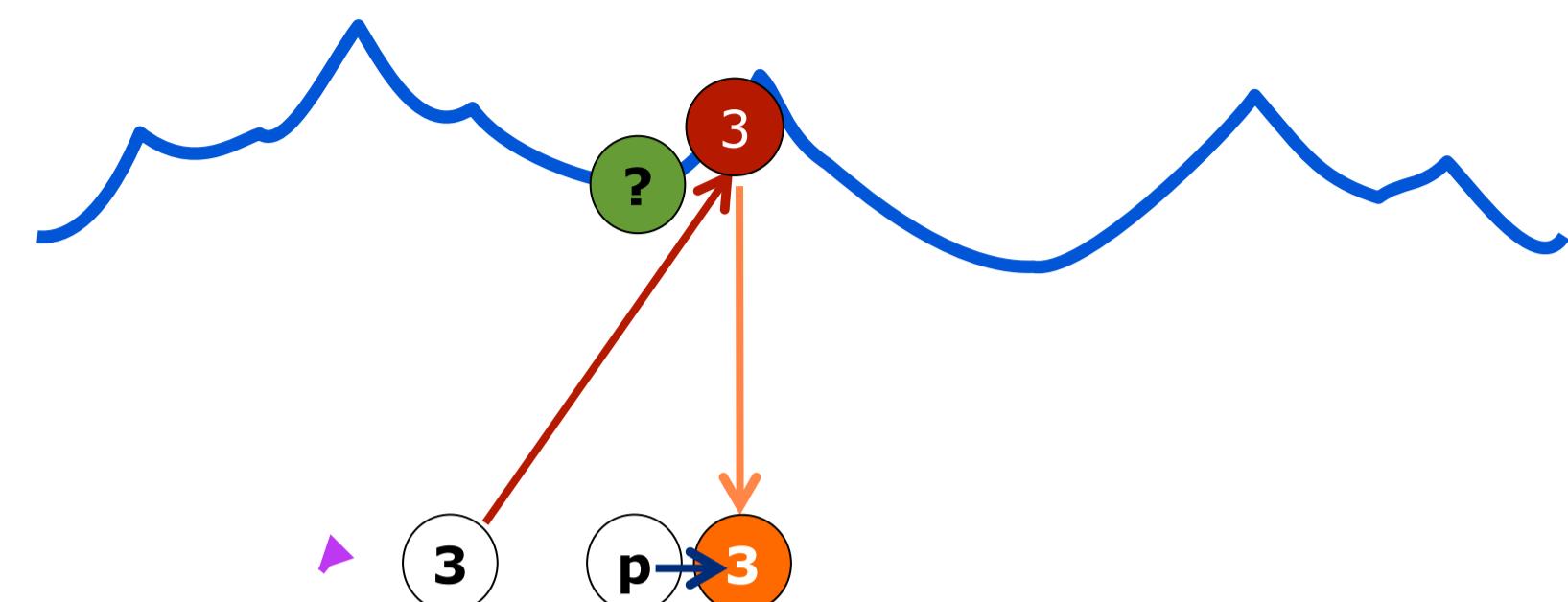
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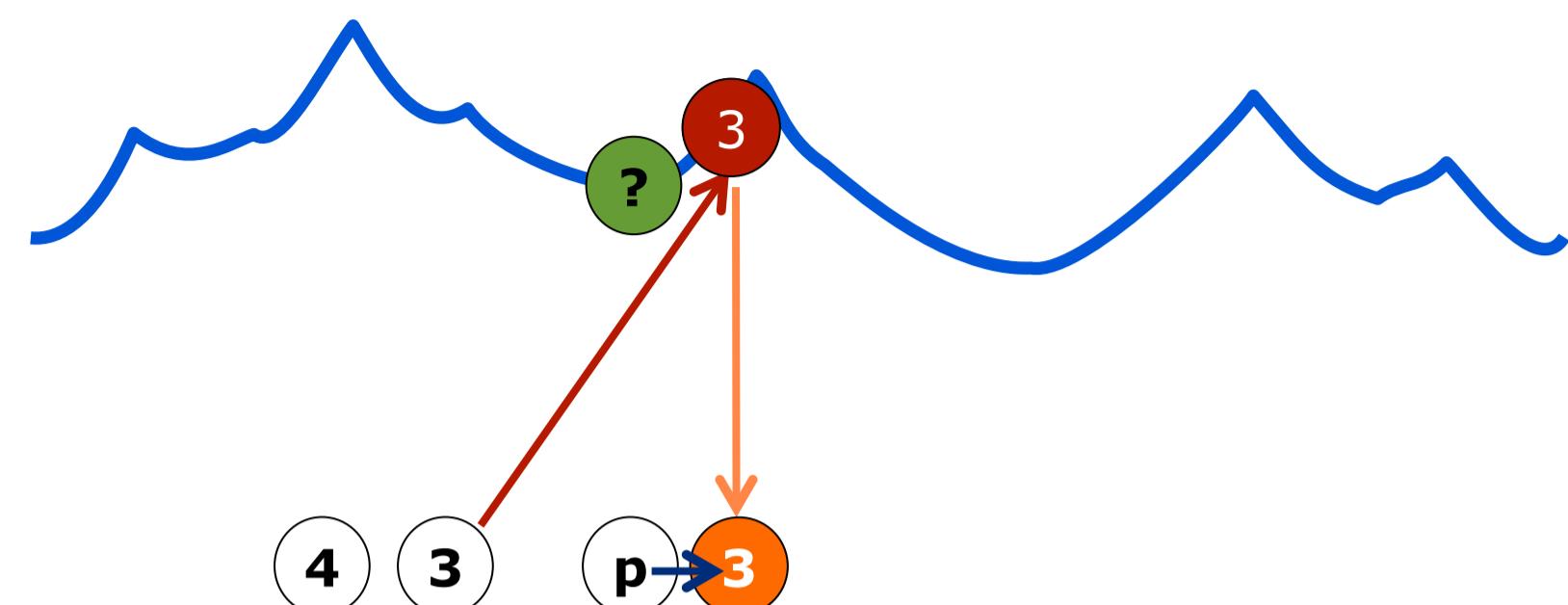
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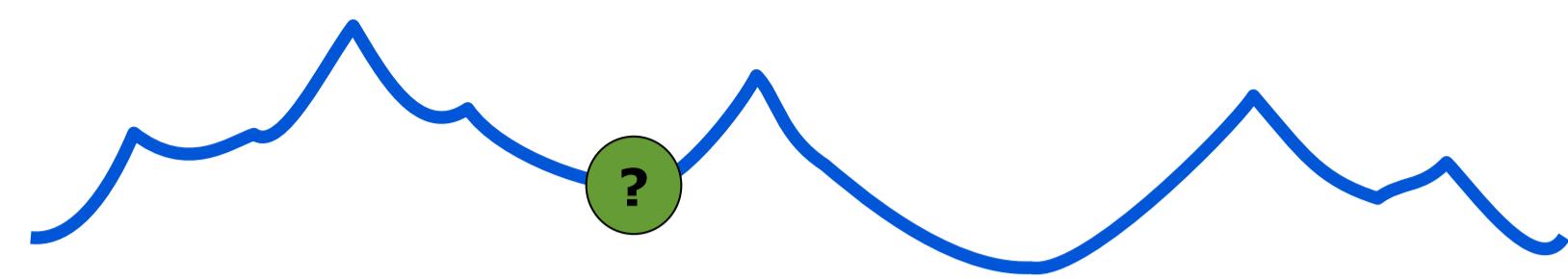
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④      p

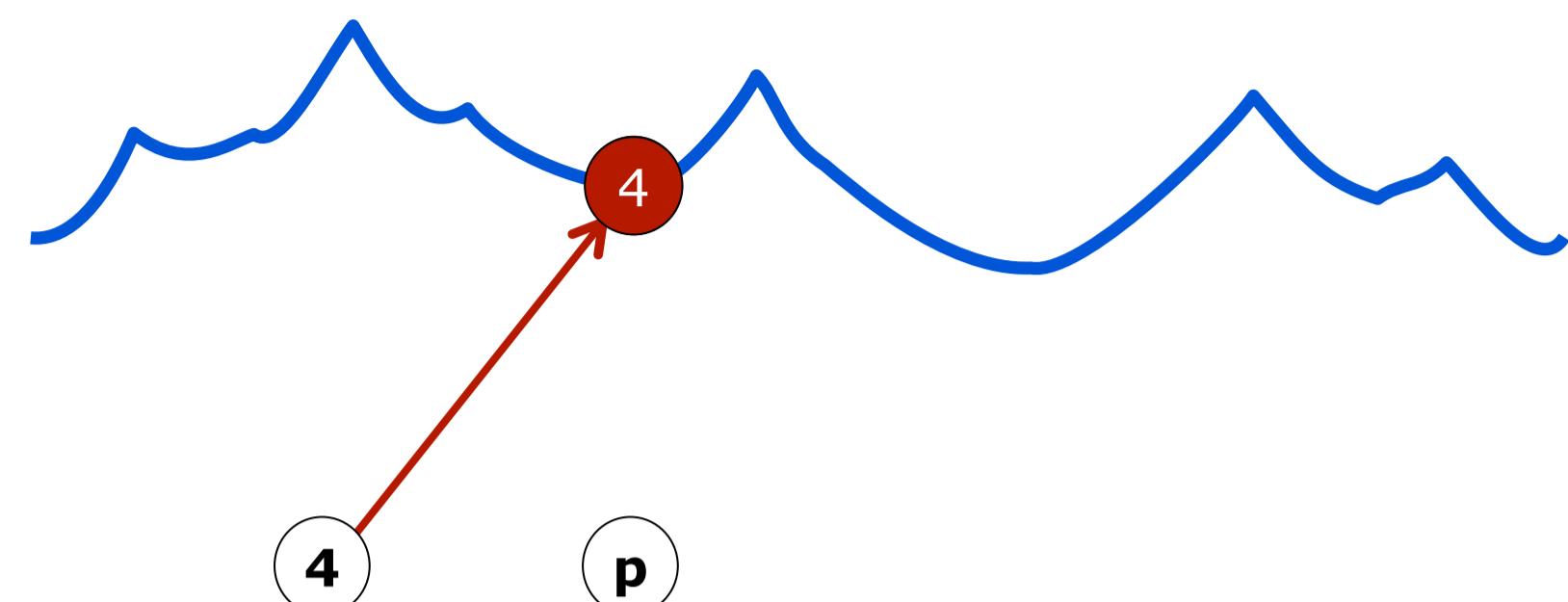
- p query  $<u,v>$
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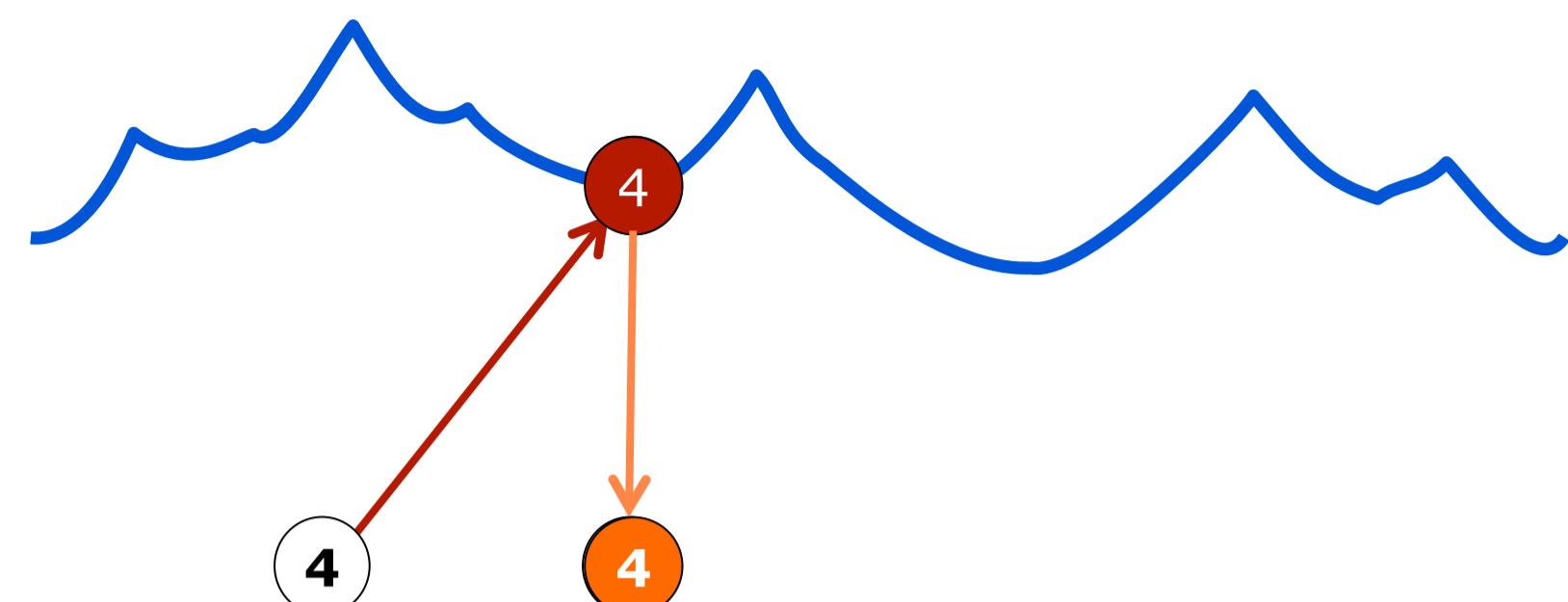
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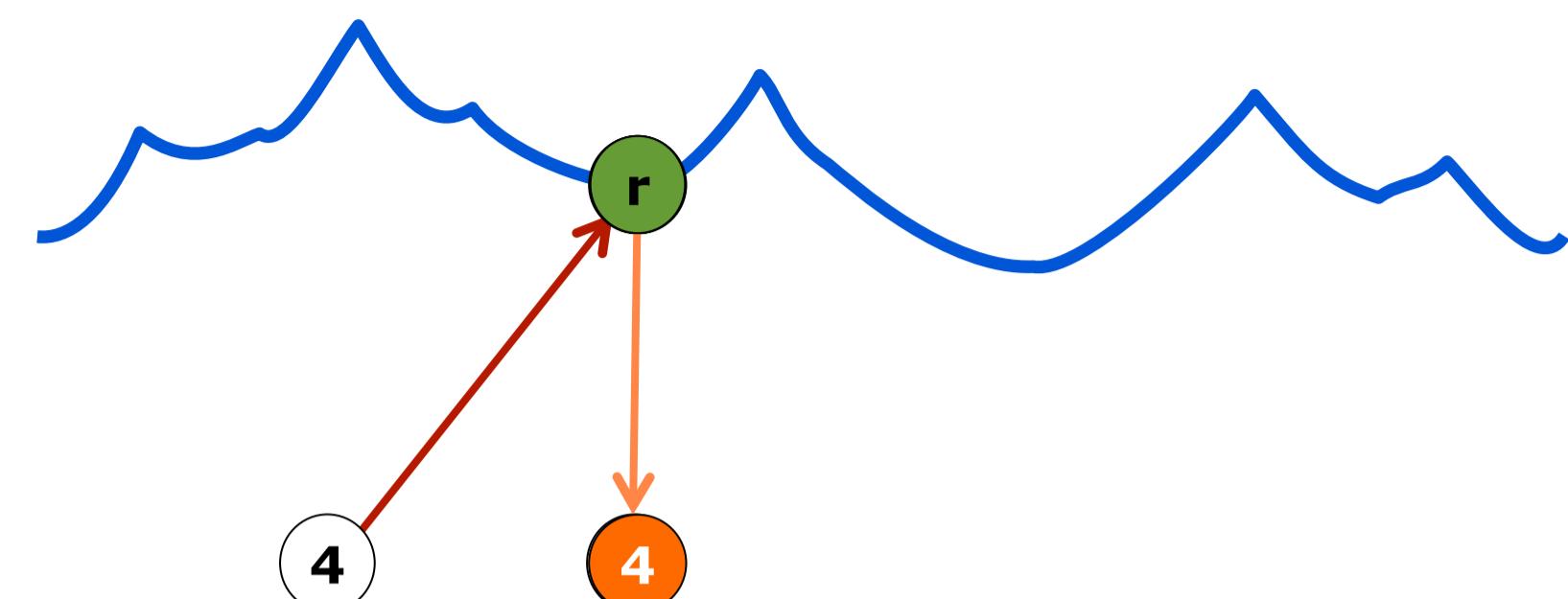
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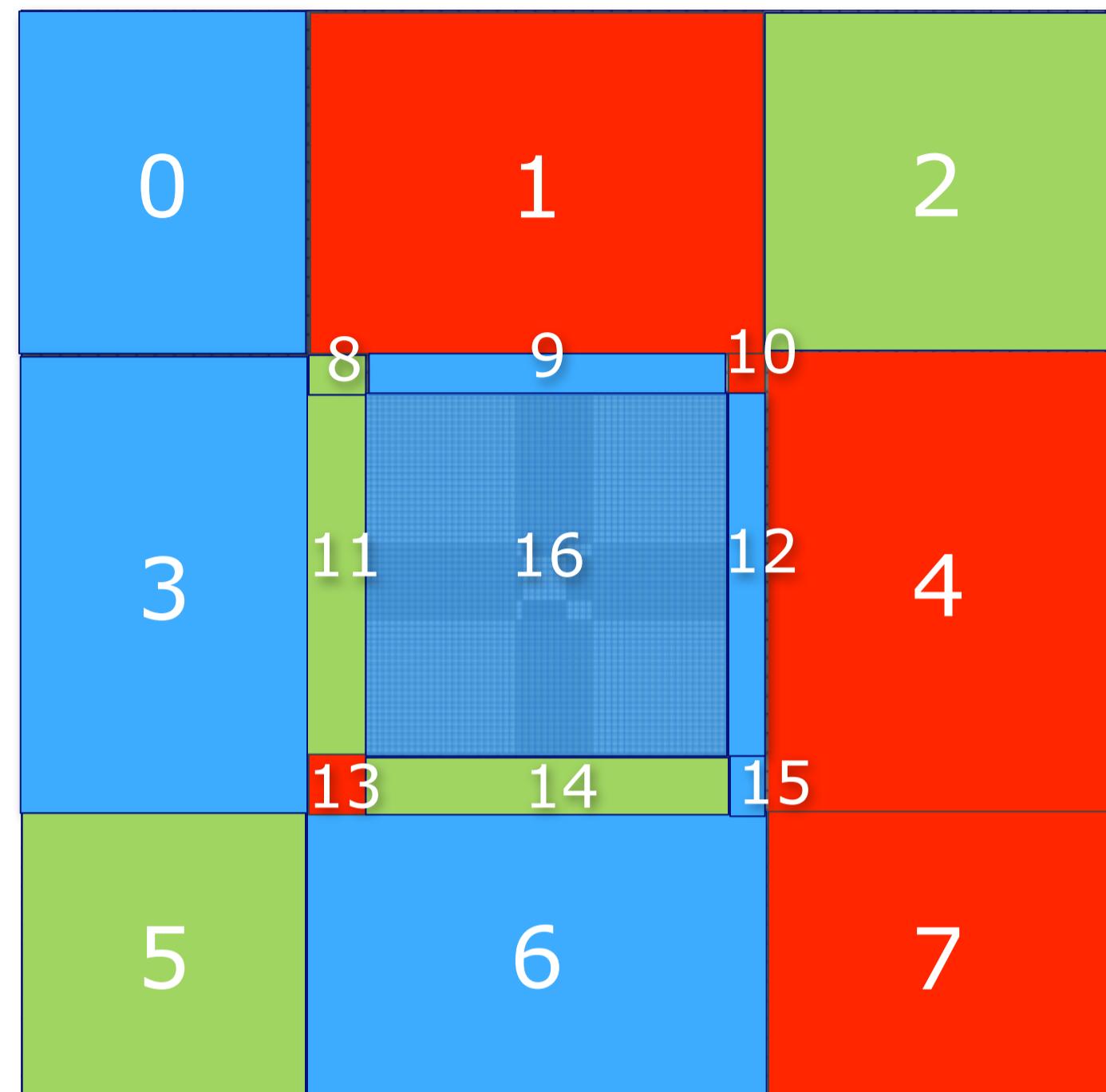
# Mesh computation

For each ring, run an SPU job to handle patches ( $i \% 3$ ):

J1: (0,3,6,9,12,15)

J2: (1,4,7,10,13,[16])

J3: (2,5,8,11,14)

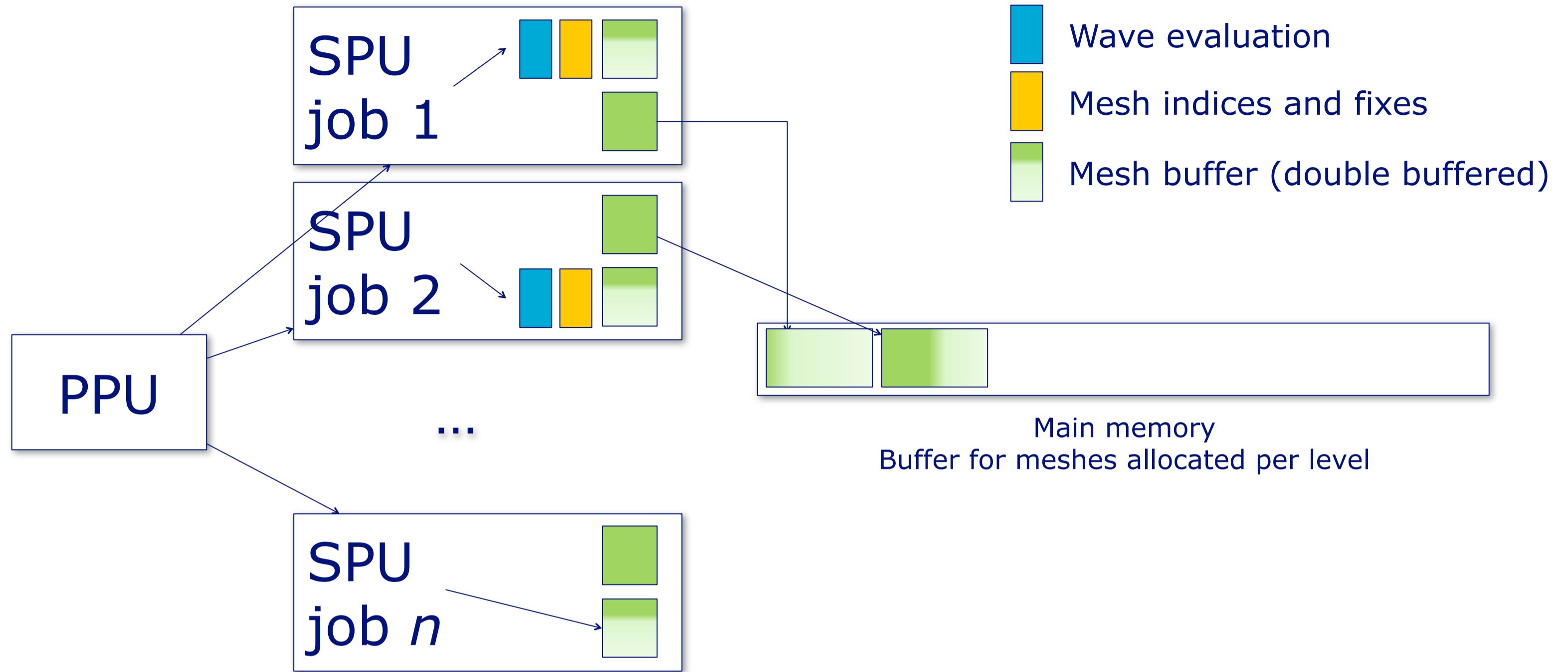


Minimize ring level computation

Double buffer mesh output

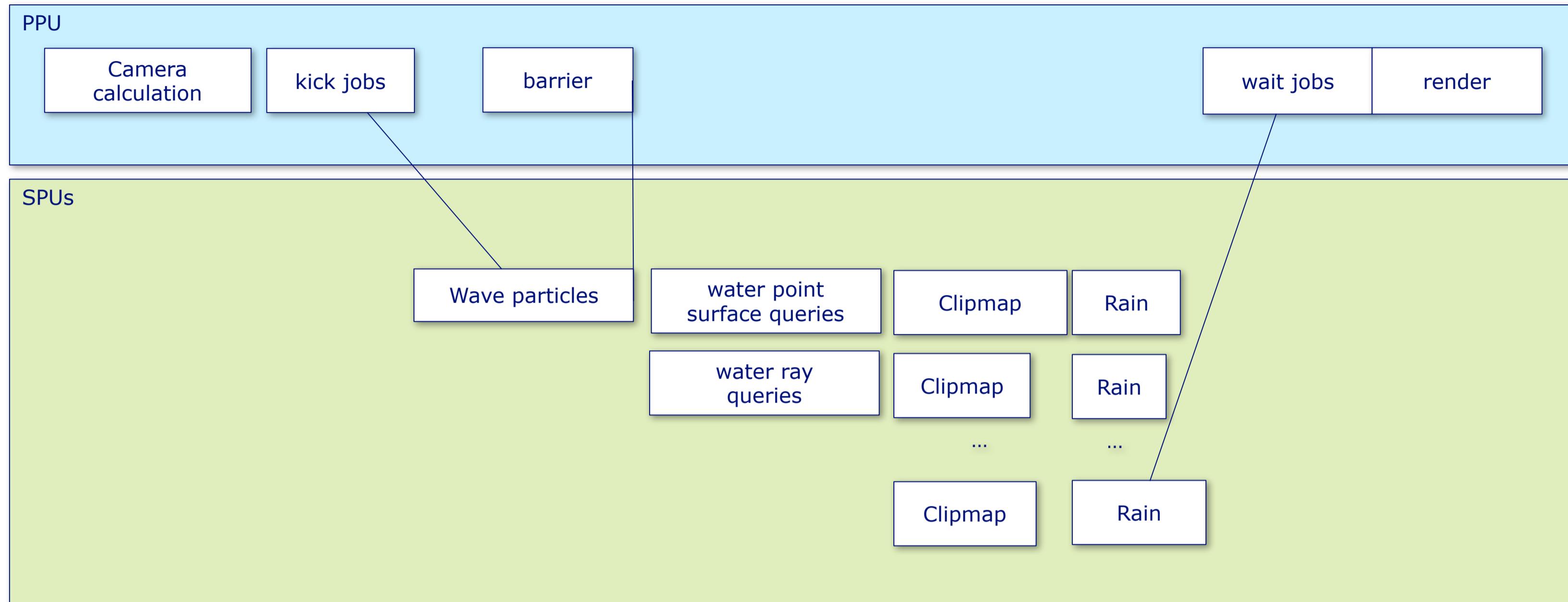
The job distribution per SPU is in round-robin order.

A job consists on a set of patches (indexed using a modulus 3) on a particular ring.



Since each job will create a perfectly seemed mesh, there is no need to stitch back the mesh.

The final mesh of the ocean, consists on multiple meshes



We only have to be careful with time. The clipmaps need the wave particles at a particular time.

We only need a single wave-particles job. This job generates a displacement grid.

To synchronize the jobs we put a barrier to wait for the wave-particles job to have finished generating its mesh.

# Performance

Ocean

0.9 ms wave particles

0.1 ms water query (point and ray)

8.0 ms tessellation + wave displacement  
5 SPUs

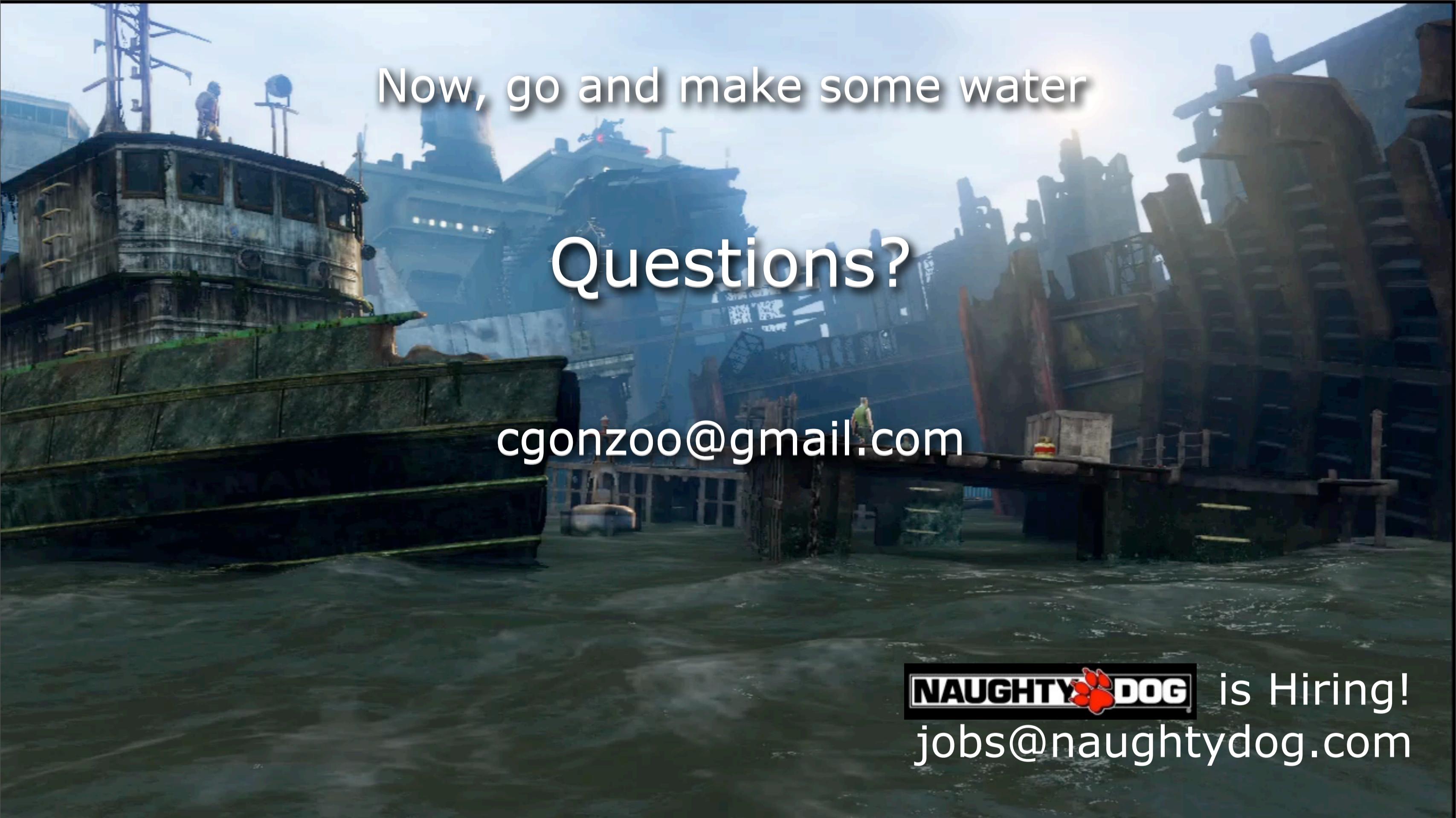
average 7 rings = 21 jobs

~2.7 ms rendering

average 50+ visible patches

1 Mb double buffer memory





Now, go and make some water

Questions?

cgonzoo@gmail.com

**NAUGHTY DOG** is Hiring!  
jobs@naughtydog.com



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This is a shot of the first pond we generated for U1. This was our test bed for flow, foam and interaction of Drake's clothes