

# Non-photorealistic Rendering (NPR)

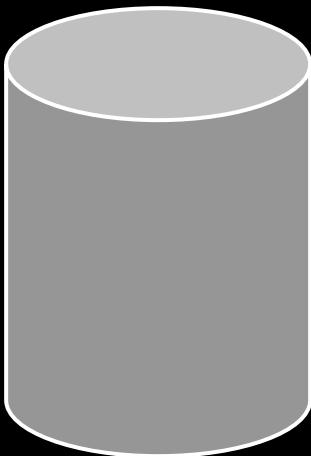
COS 426, Spring 2021  
Princeton University

Slides from Forrester Cole, Doug DeCarlo,  
Adam Finkelstein, Rob Kalnins, Allison Klein,  
Emil Praun, Szymon Rusinkiewicz



# Rendering alternatives

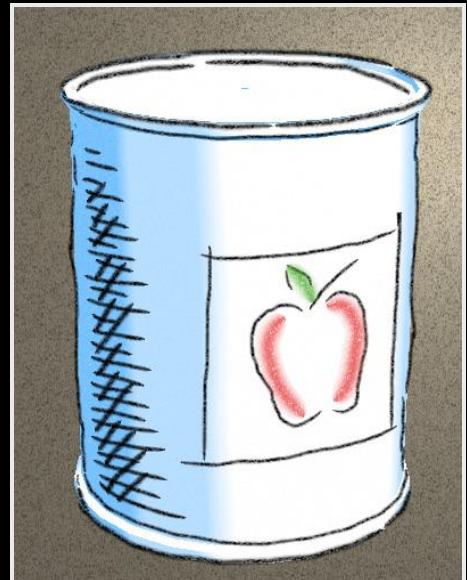
model



photorealism



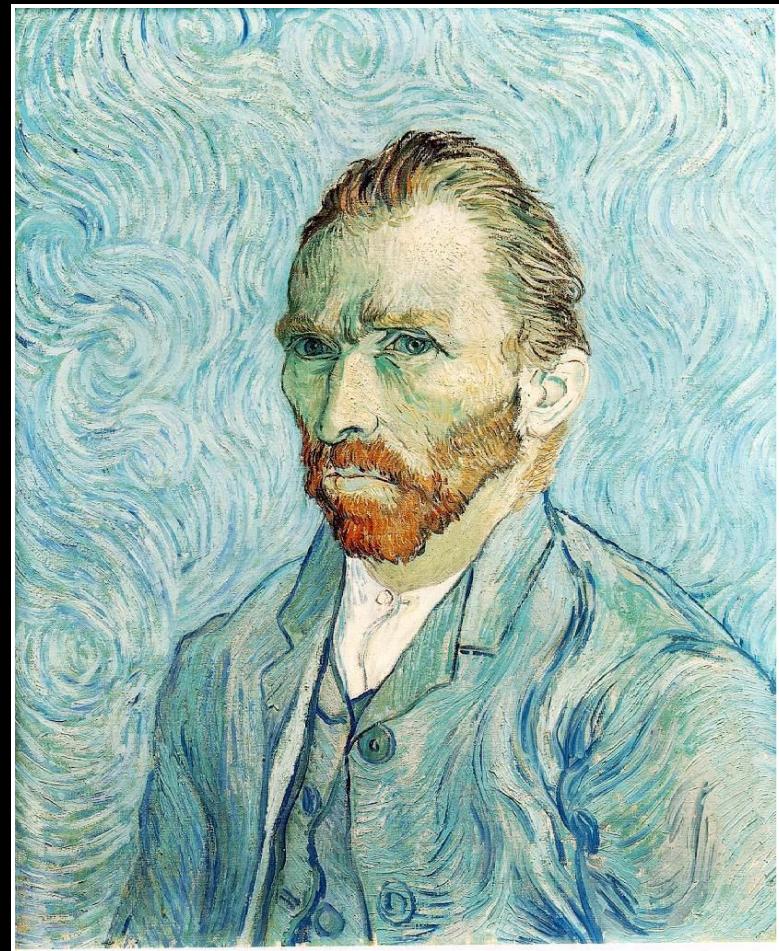
non-photorealism  
(NPR)



# Non/Photorealism in painting



Bouguereau 1891



van Gogh 1889

# Realistic modeling and rendering



[Deussen 99]

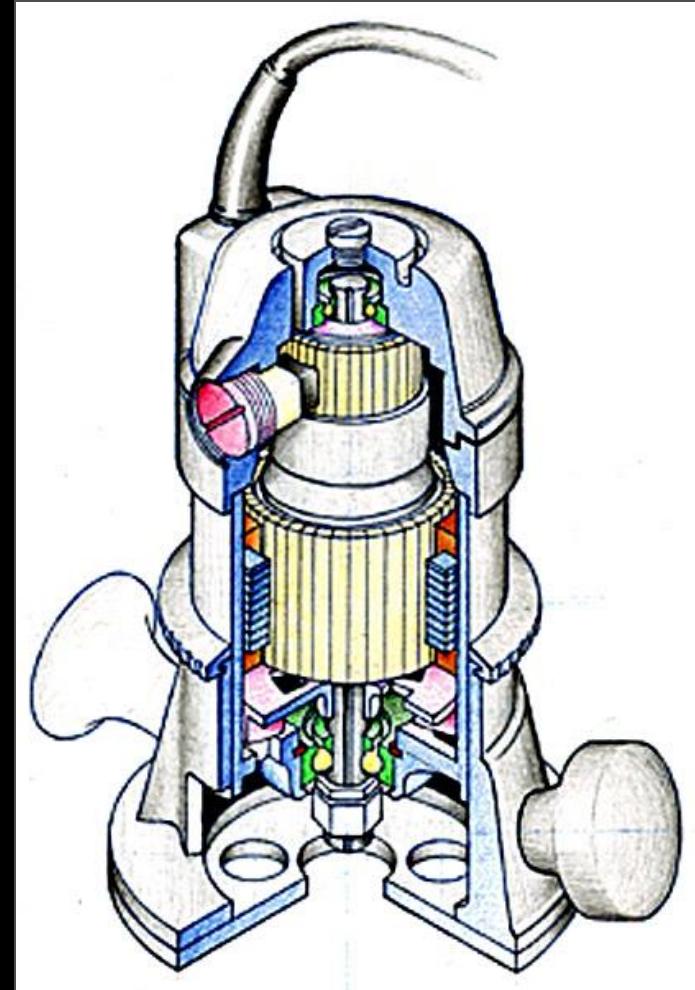
# Non-photorealistic rendering (NPR)



[Deussen 2000]

# NPR: Applications

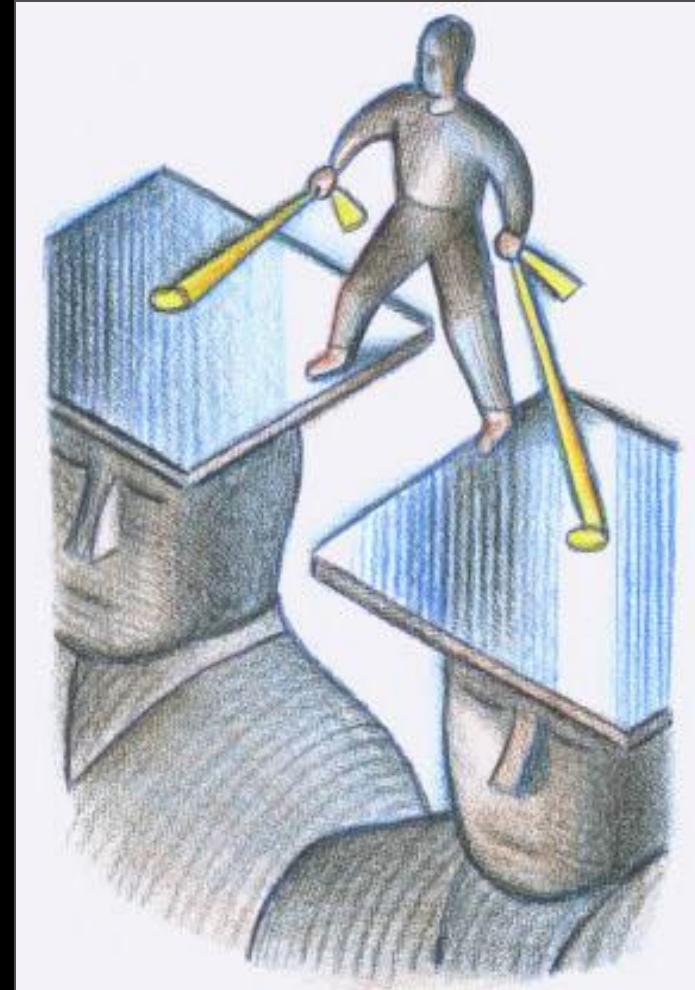
- Explanation
- Illustration
- Storytelling
- Design



[Birkey]

# NPR: Applications

- Explanation
- Illustration
- Storytelling
- Design



[Sutter]

# NPR: Applications

- Explanation
- Illustration
- Storytelling
- Design



[Dr. Seuss]

# NPR: Applications

- Explanation
- Illustration
- Storytelling
- Design



[Borderlands]

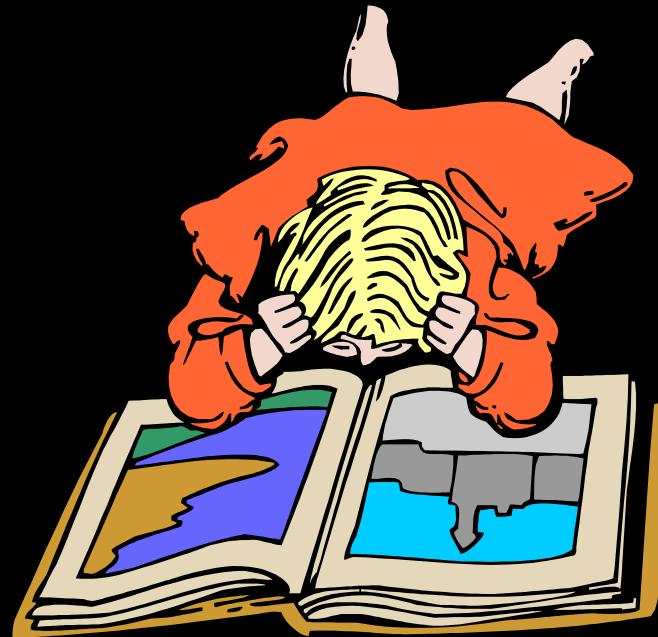
# NPR: Applications

- Explanation
- Illustration
- Storytelling
- Design

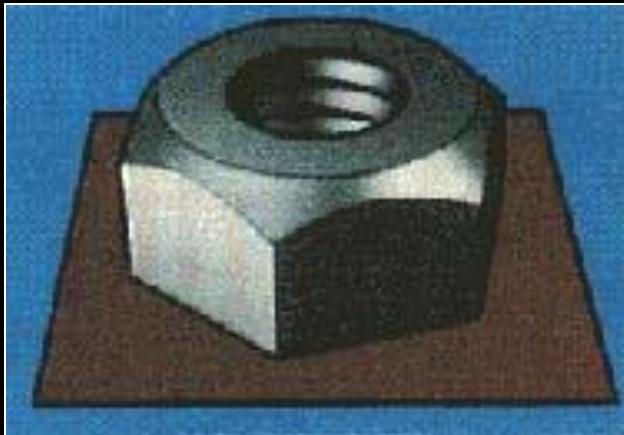


[McCoy]

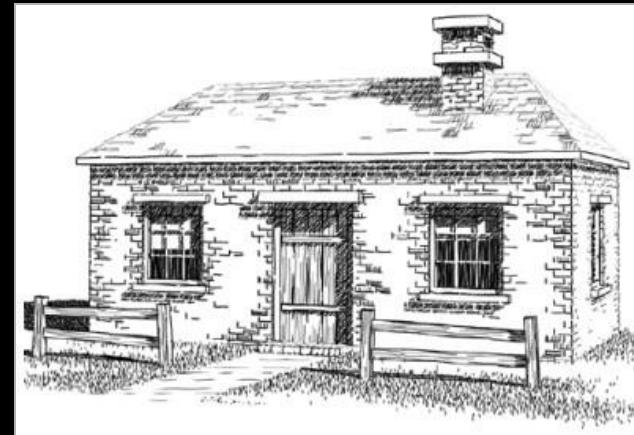
# A Brief History of NPR...



# NPR: Simulating various media



Technical Illustration [Saito 90]



Pen & Ink [Winkenbach 94]



Watercolor [Curtis 97]



Paint [Hertzmann 98]

# NPR: Dynamic imagery

Painterly rendering for...

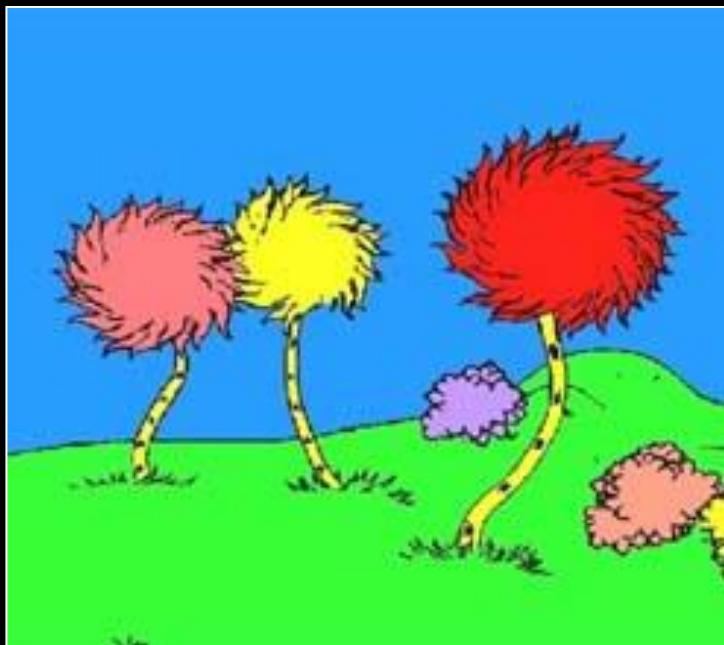


3D models  
[Meier 96]

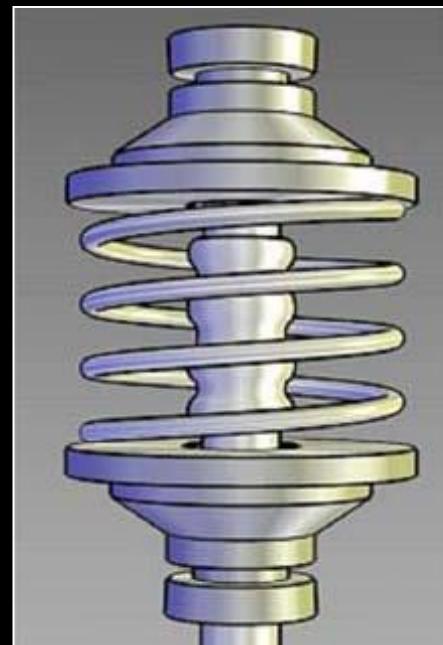


Video  
[Litwinowicz 97]

# NPR: Interactive rendering



[Kowalski 99]



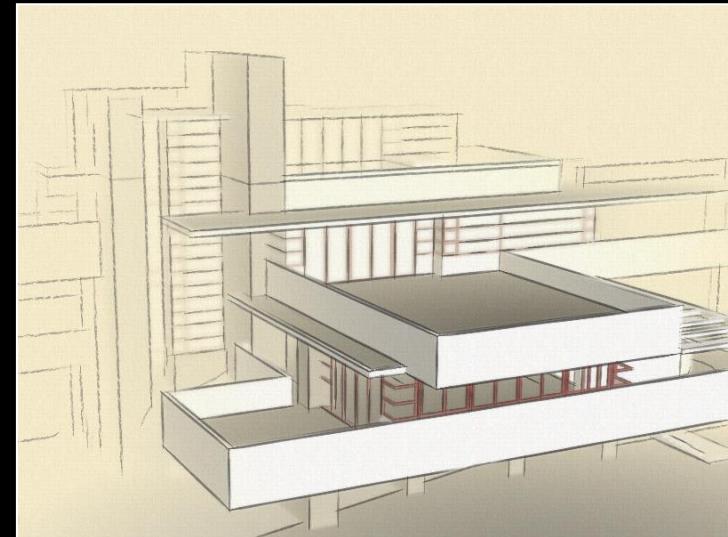
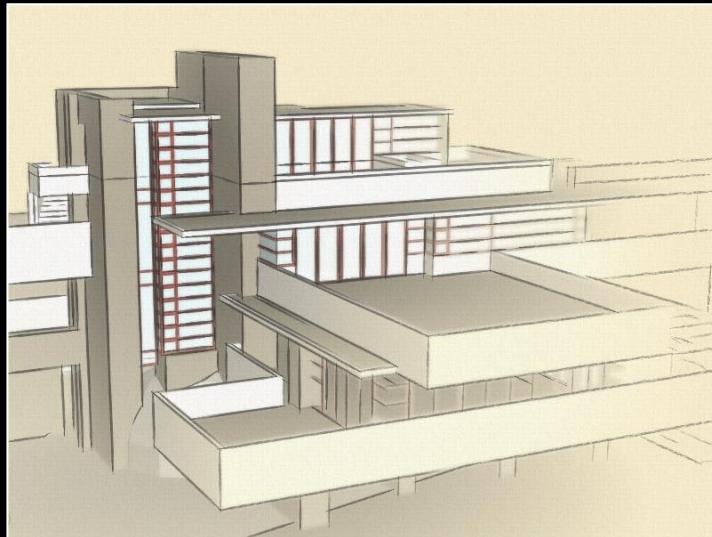
[Gooch 98]



[Praun 01]

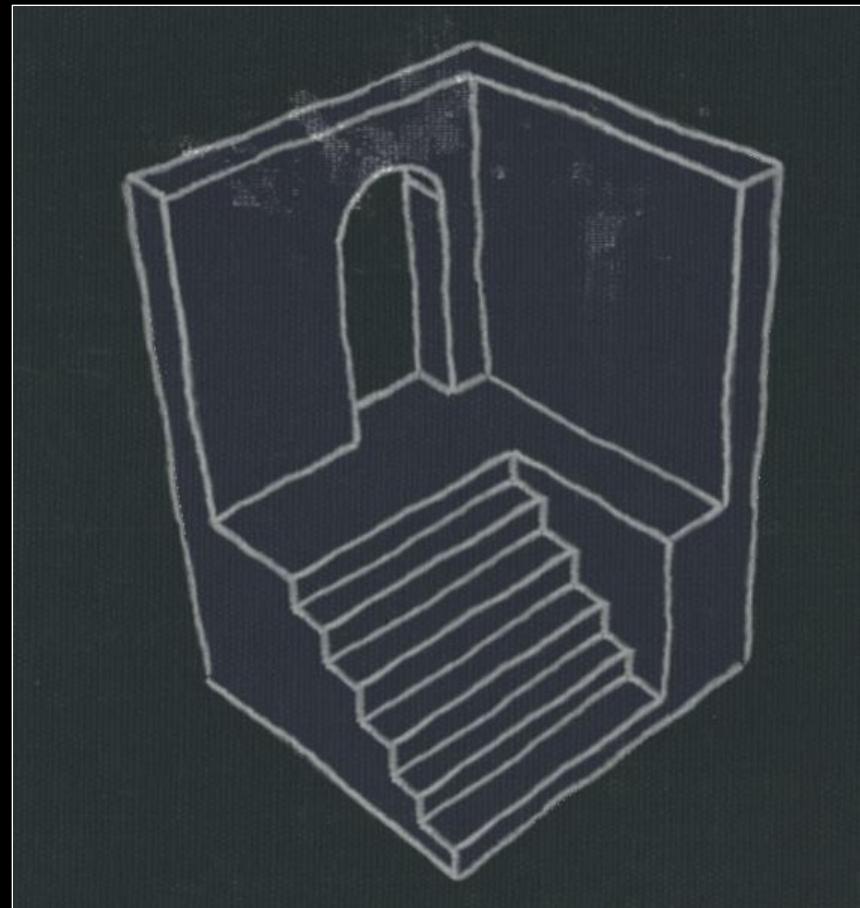
# NPR: Abstraction & attention

Provide control over point of emphasis  
Control clutter in the rendered image



[Cole et al. 2006]

# Stylized lines in commercial apps...



[SketchUp]

# Tools for stylized rendering

Toon shading

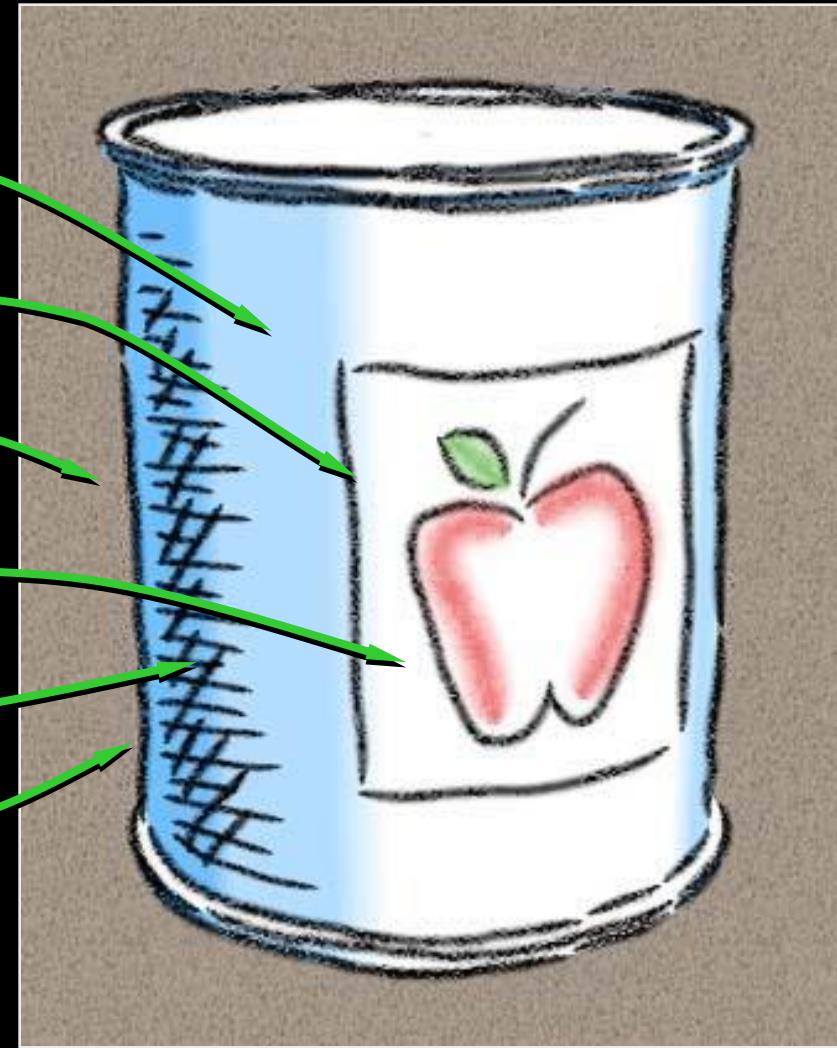
Stylized strokes

Paper Effect

Detail Marks

Hatching

Outlines



# Tools for stylized rendering

Toon shading

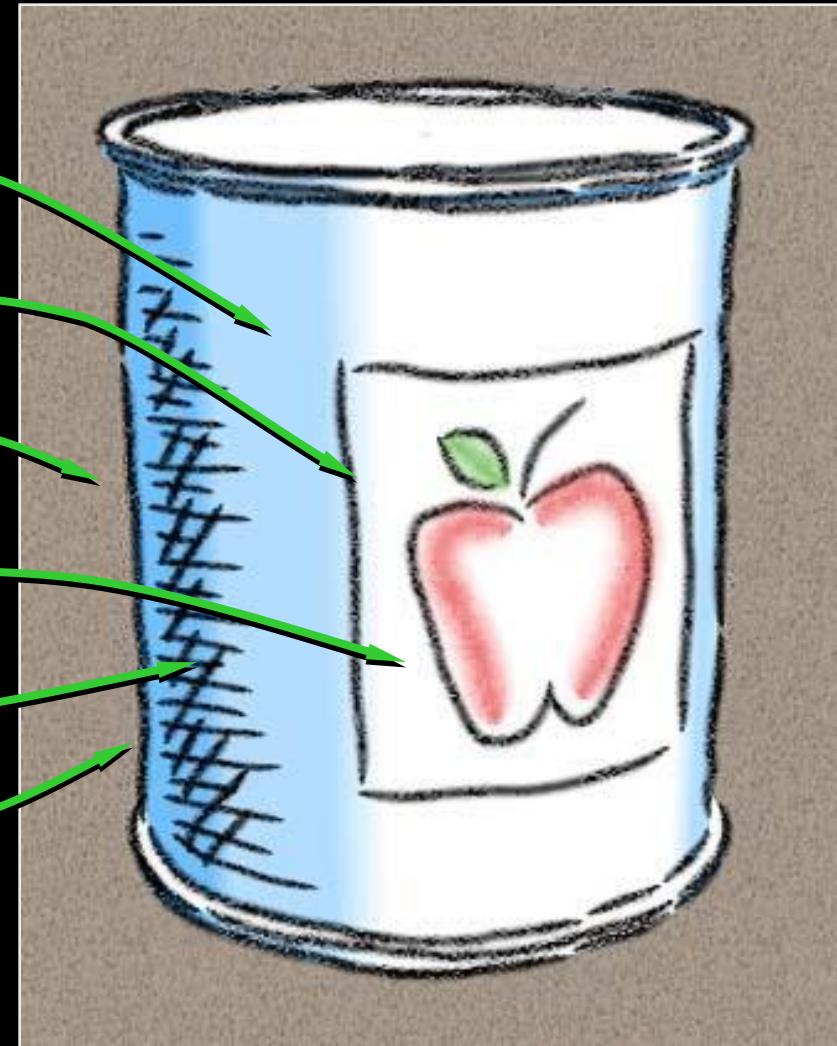
Stylized strokes

Paper Effect

Detail Marks

Hatching

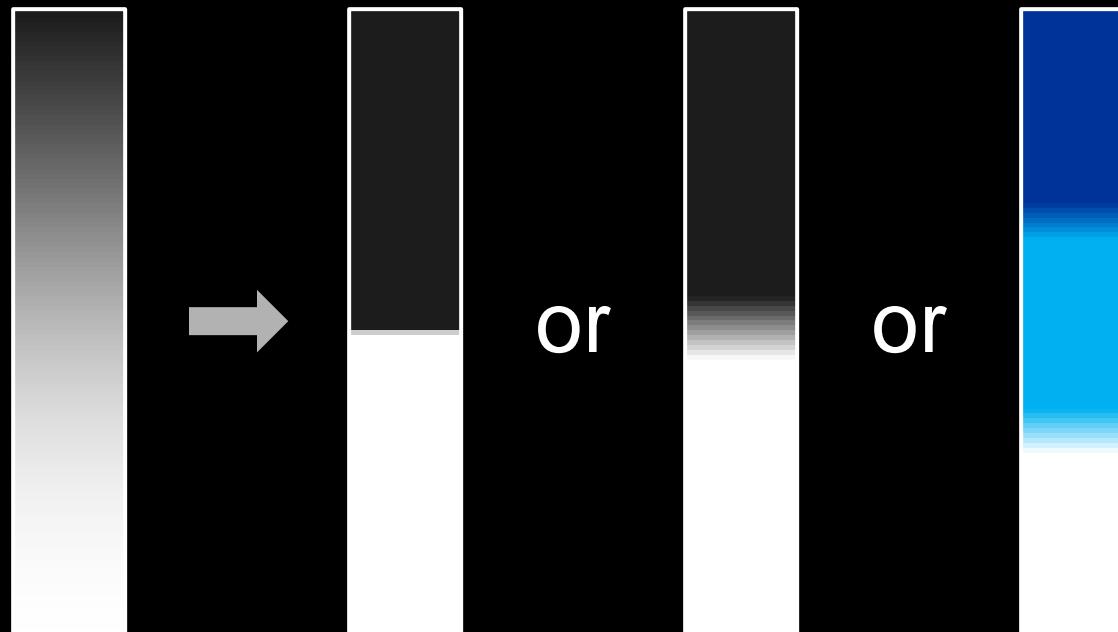
Outlines



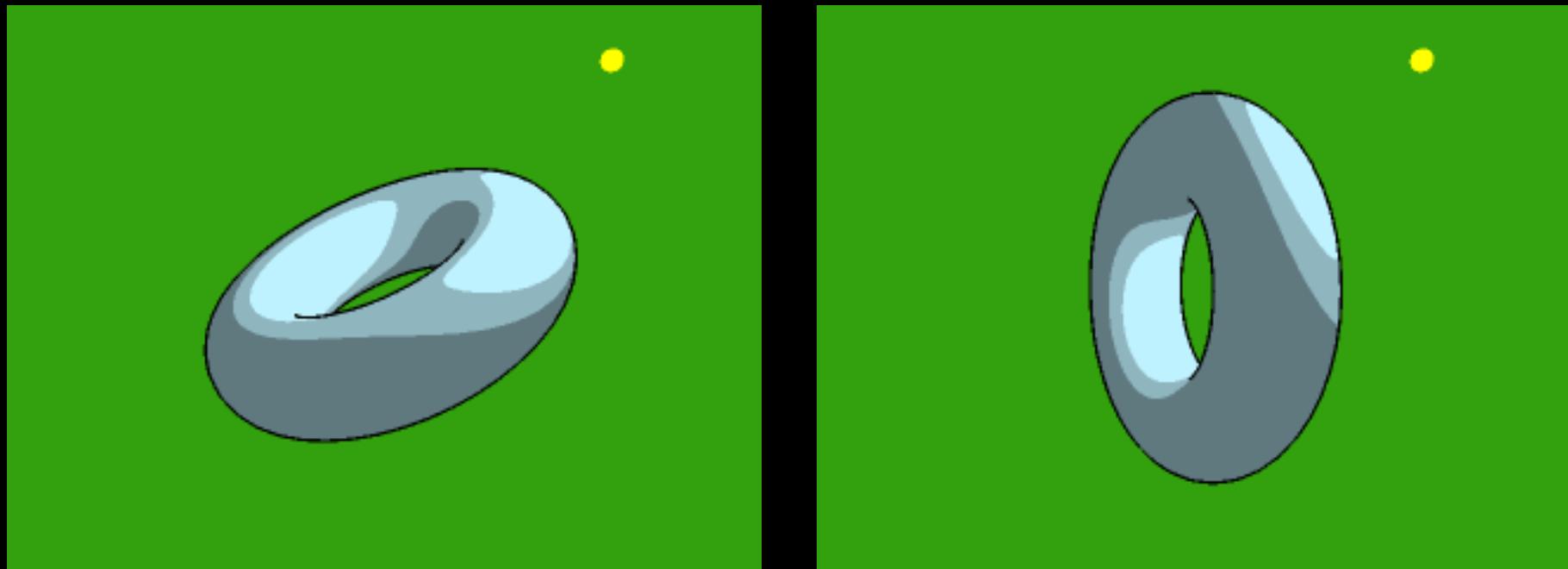
# Toon shading

Remap  $(n \cdot I)$  from lighting calculation

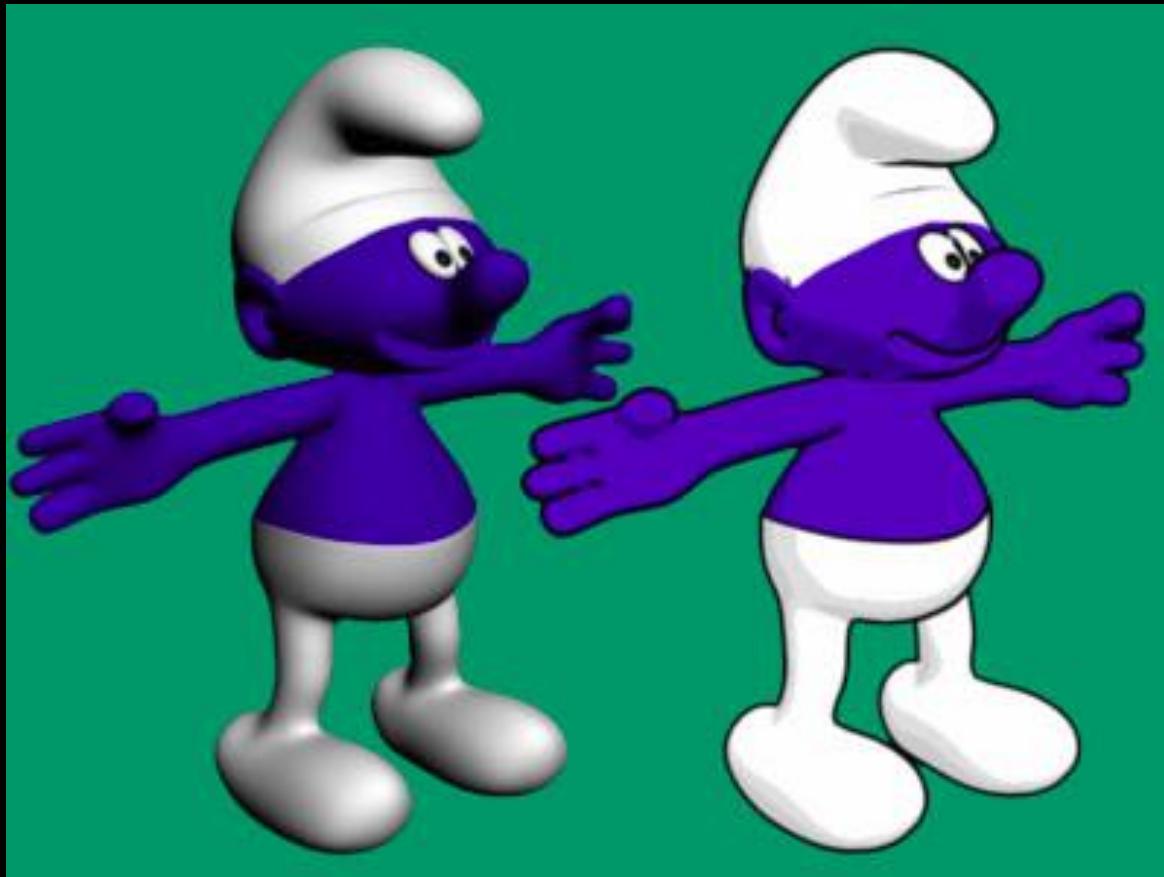
- Or  $(n \cdot v)$  for headlight
- Can be done by texture lookup (1D)



# Toon shading



# Toon shading



# Tools for stylized rendering

Toon shading

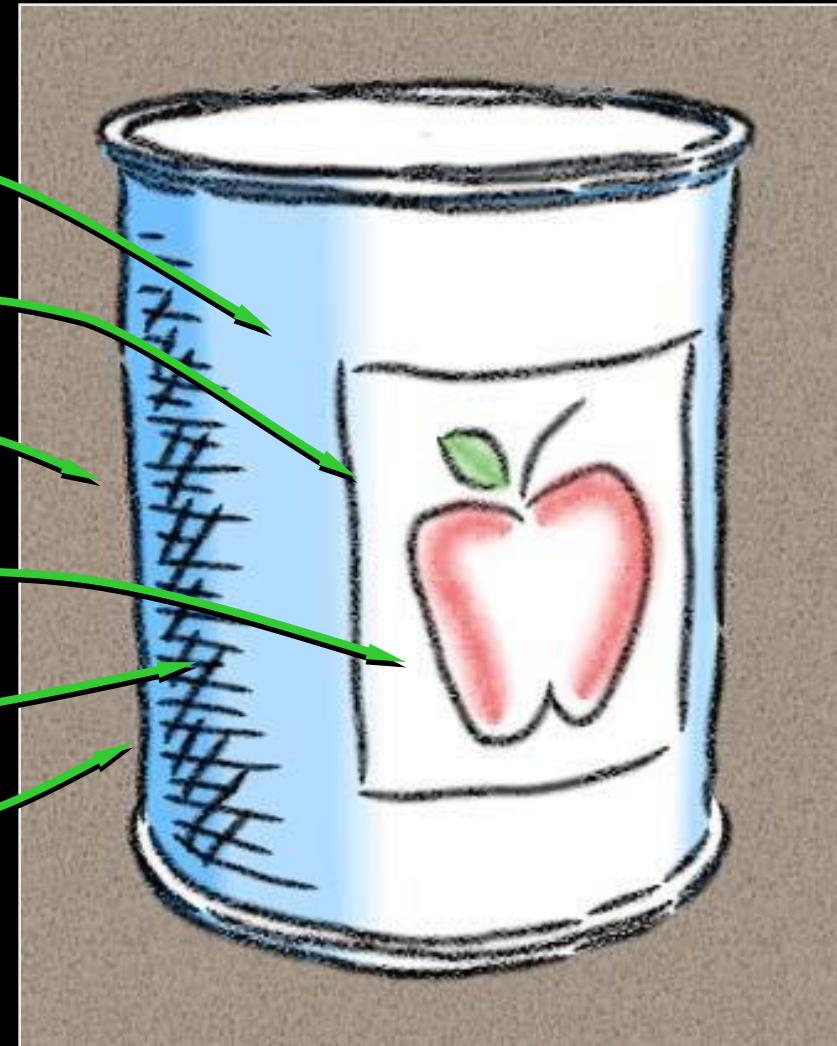
Stylized strokes

Paper Effect

Detail Marks

Hatching

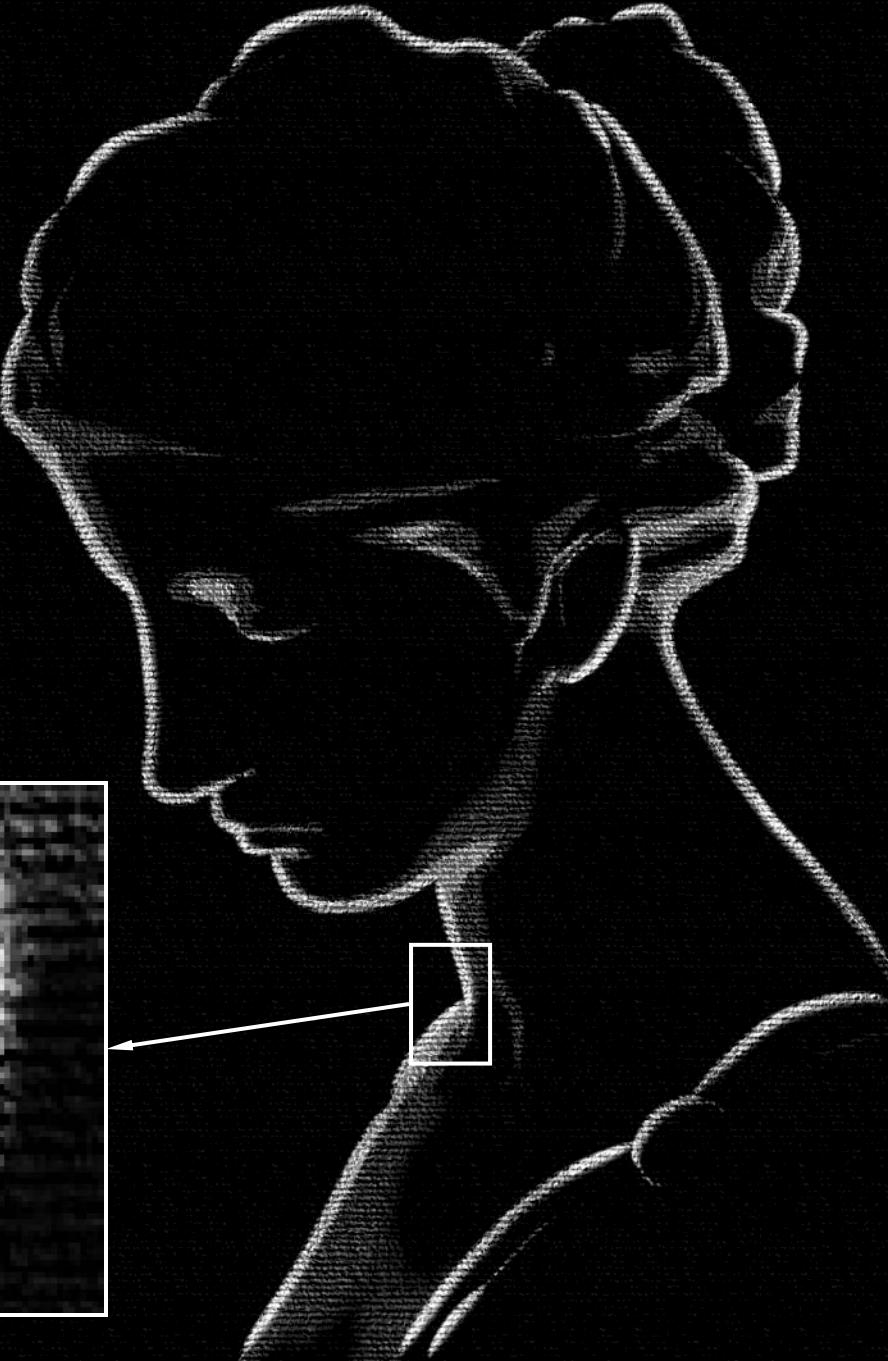
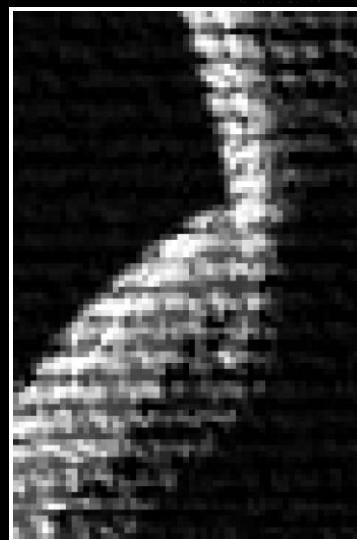
Outlines



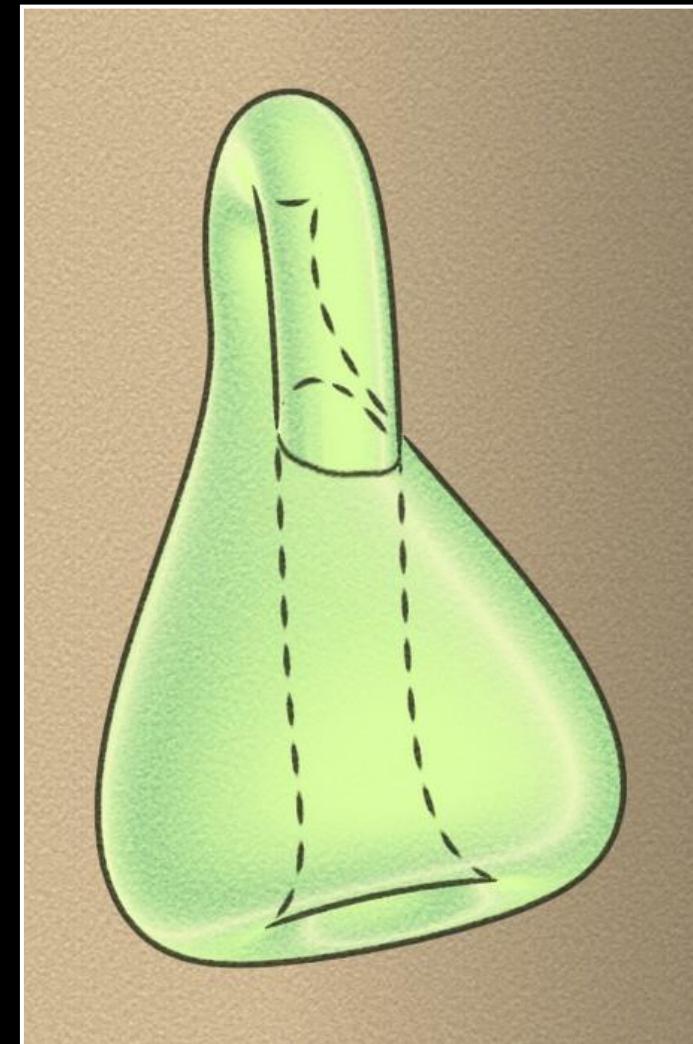
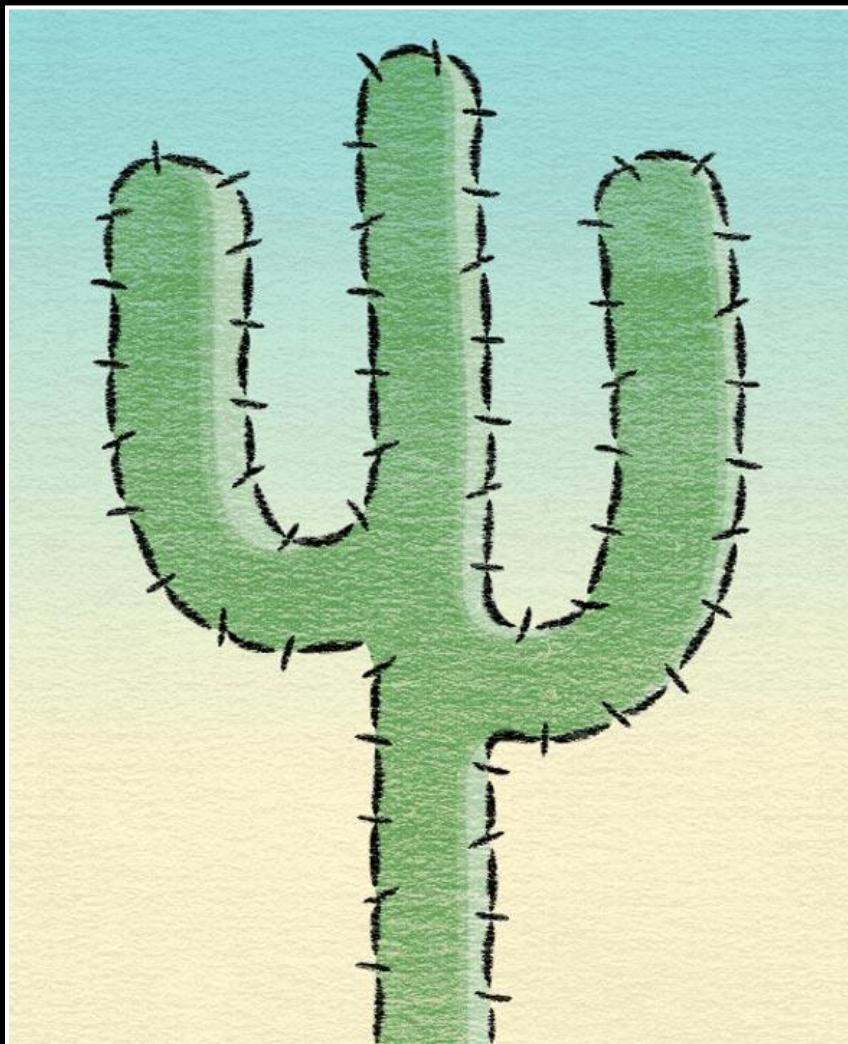
# Paper Effect

Height field texture:

- Peaks catch pigment
- Valleys resist pigment



# Paper effect



[Kalnins02,03]

# Tools for stylized rendering

Toon shading

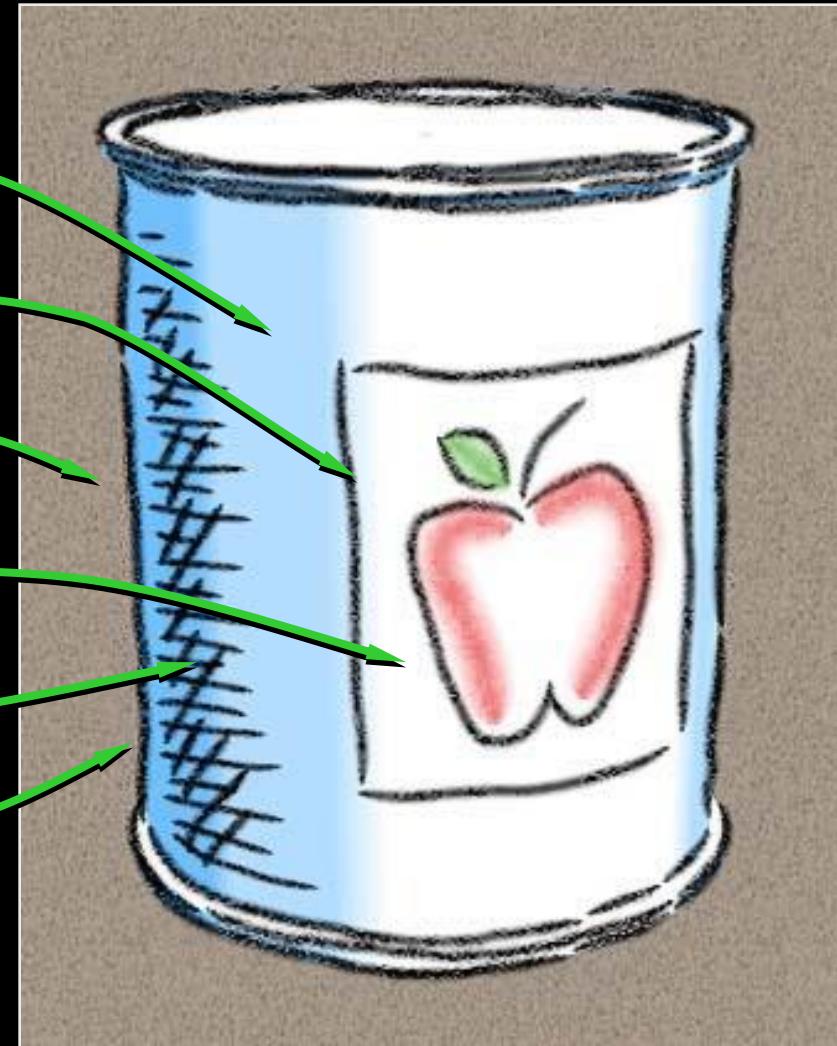
Stylized strokes

Paper Effect

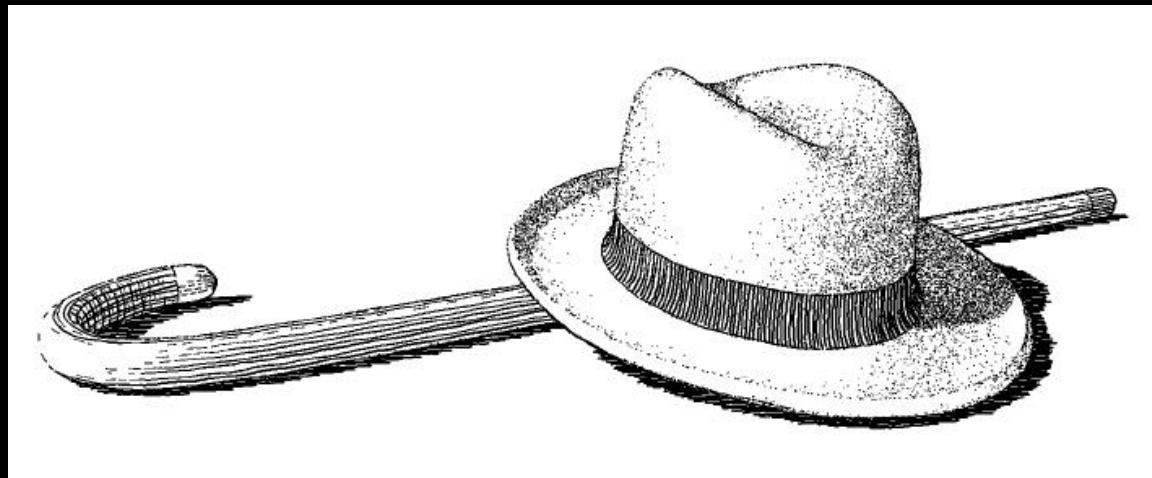
Detail Marks

Hatching

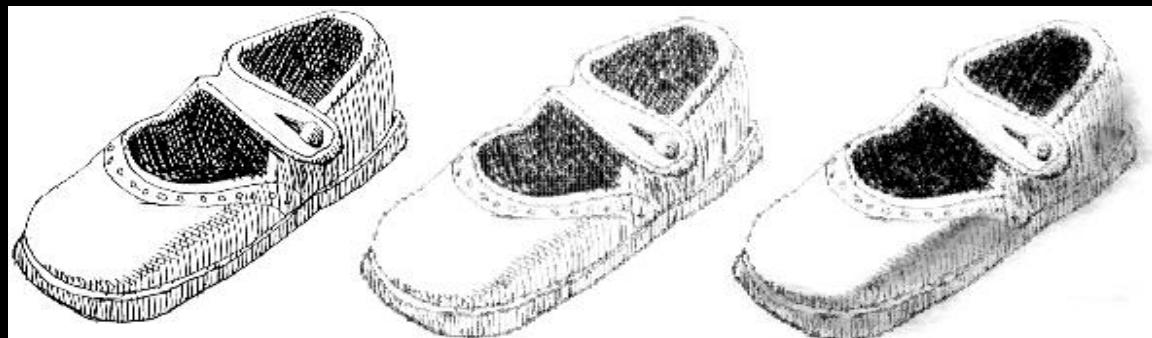
Outlines



# Stroke-based hatching



[Winkenbach 94, 96]

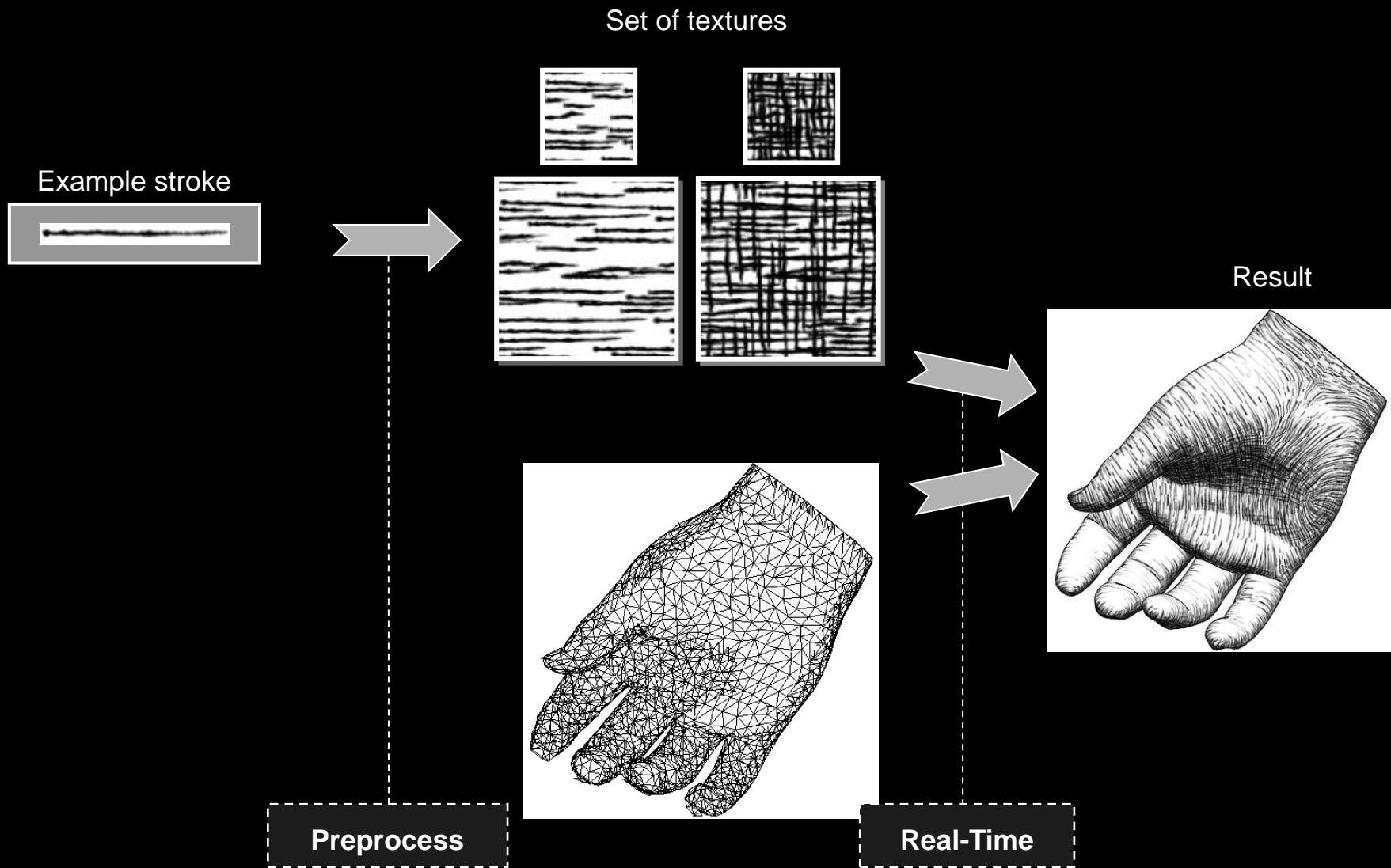


[Sousa 99]



[Hertzmann 2000]

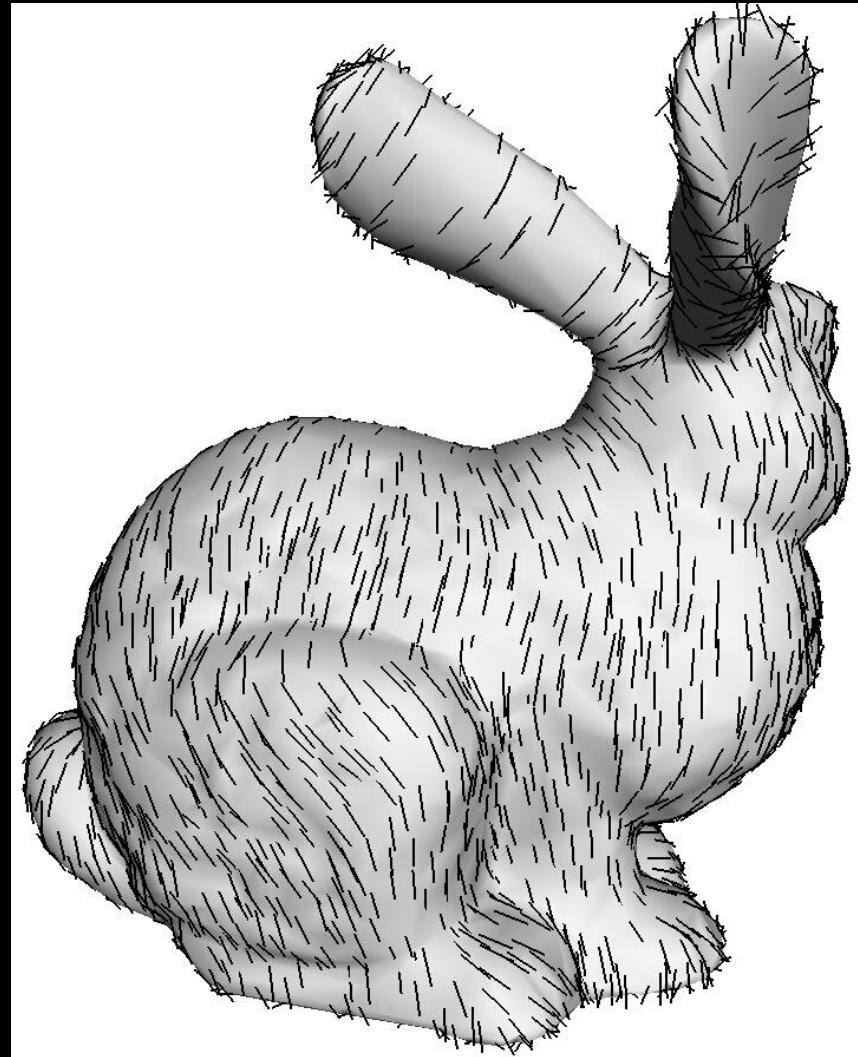
# Hatching based on $n \cdot l$



# Hatching direction

Along lines of  
principal curvature

(this can also be  
used for growing  
explicit hatching  
strokes)



# Painterly rendering

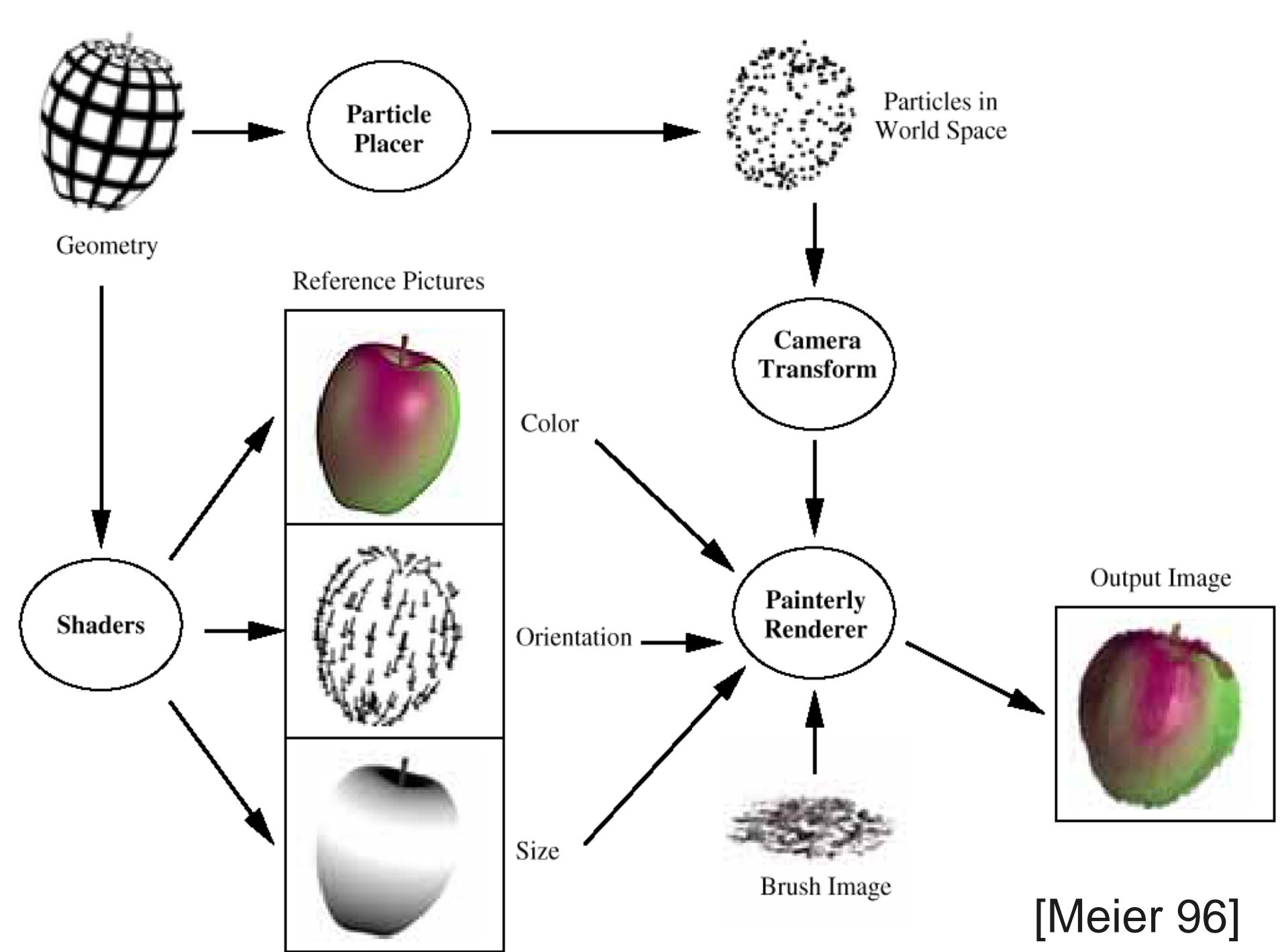
Object- or image-space paint strokes



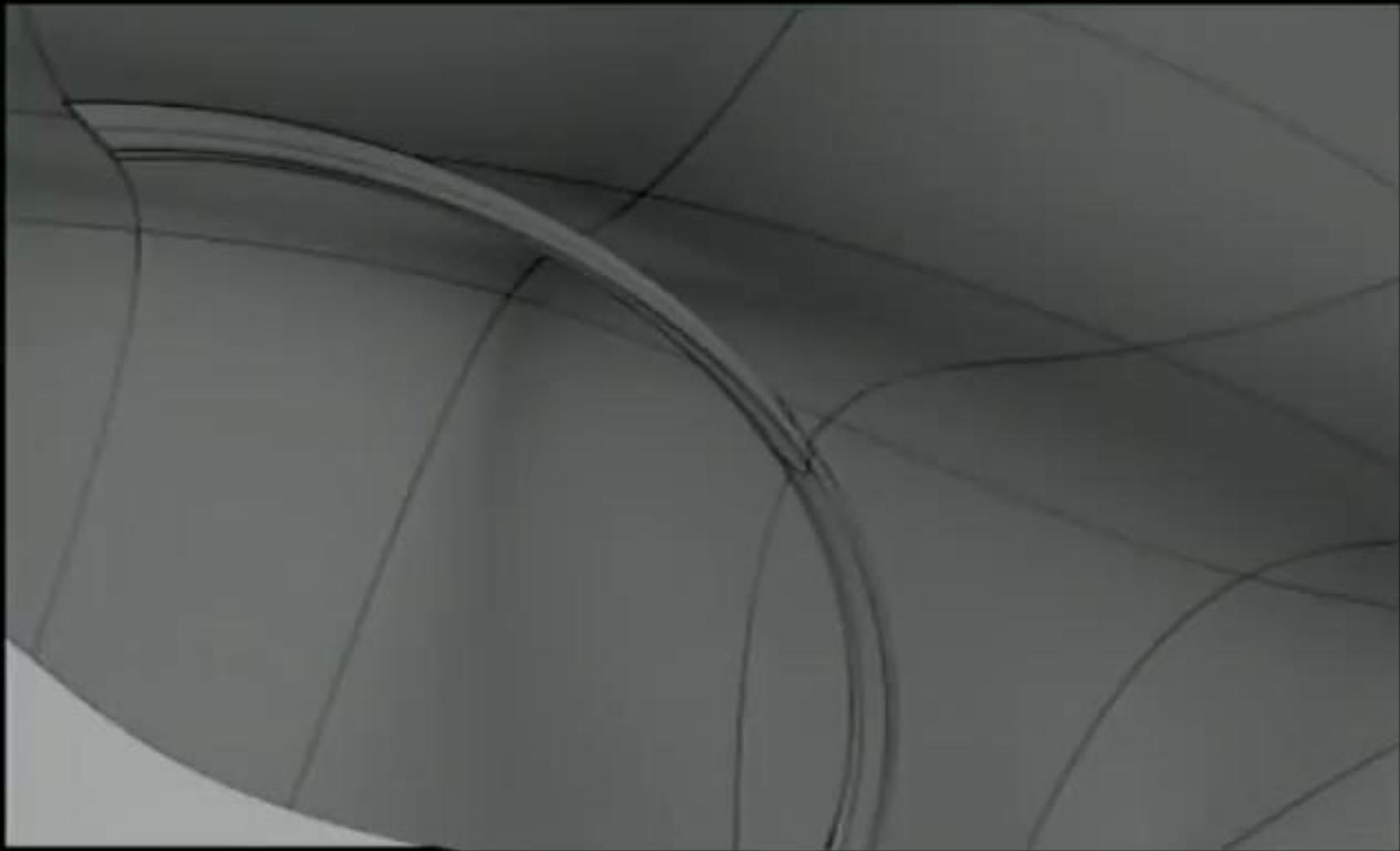
3D models  
[Meier 96]



Video  
[Litwinowicz 97]



# Deep Canvas [Disney]





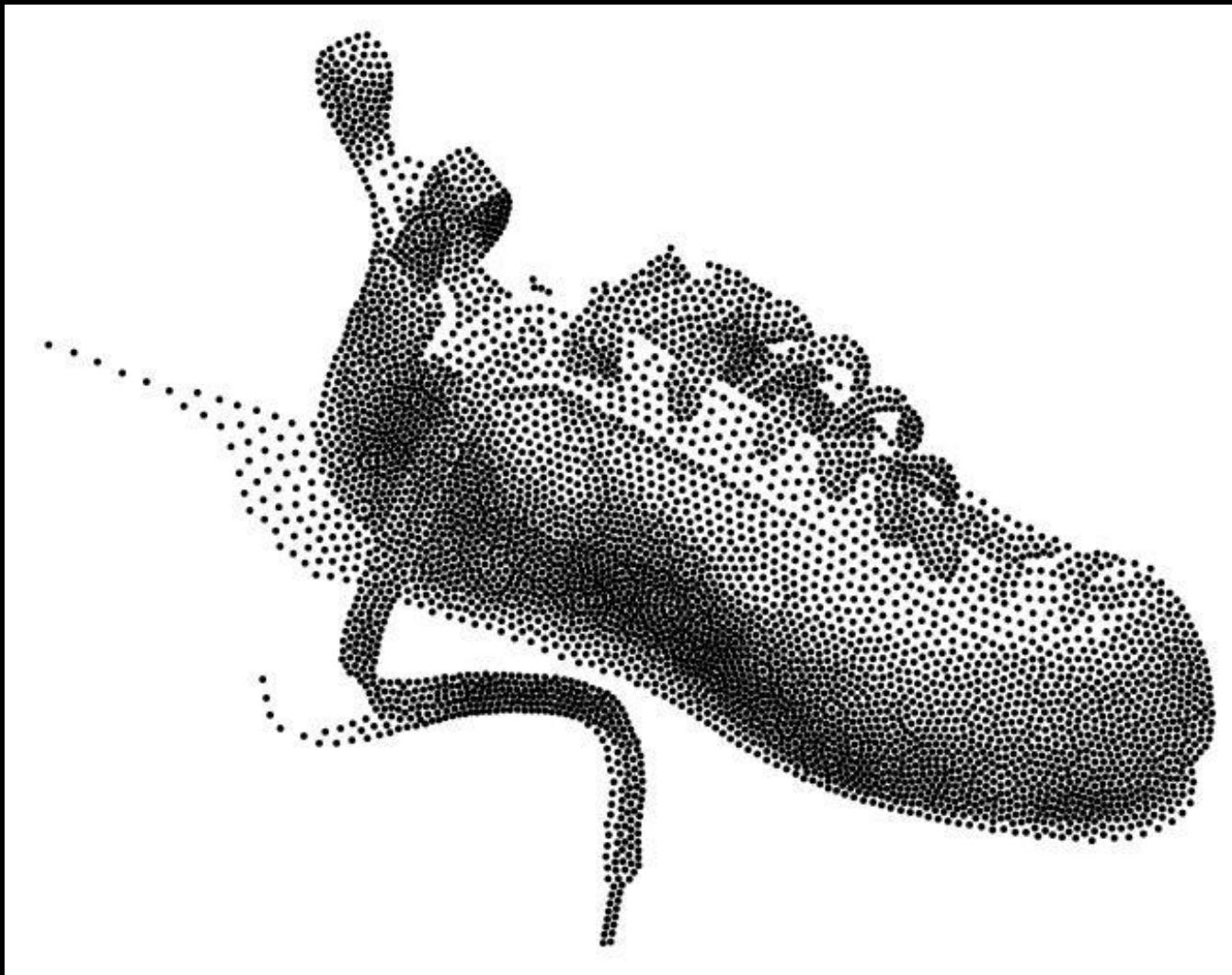
(input photo)



[Hertzmann98]

# Stippling: density $\sim n \cdot l$

[Secord02]



# Tools for stylized rendering

Toon shading

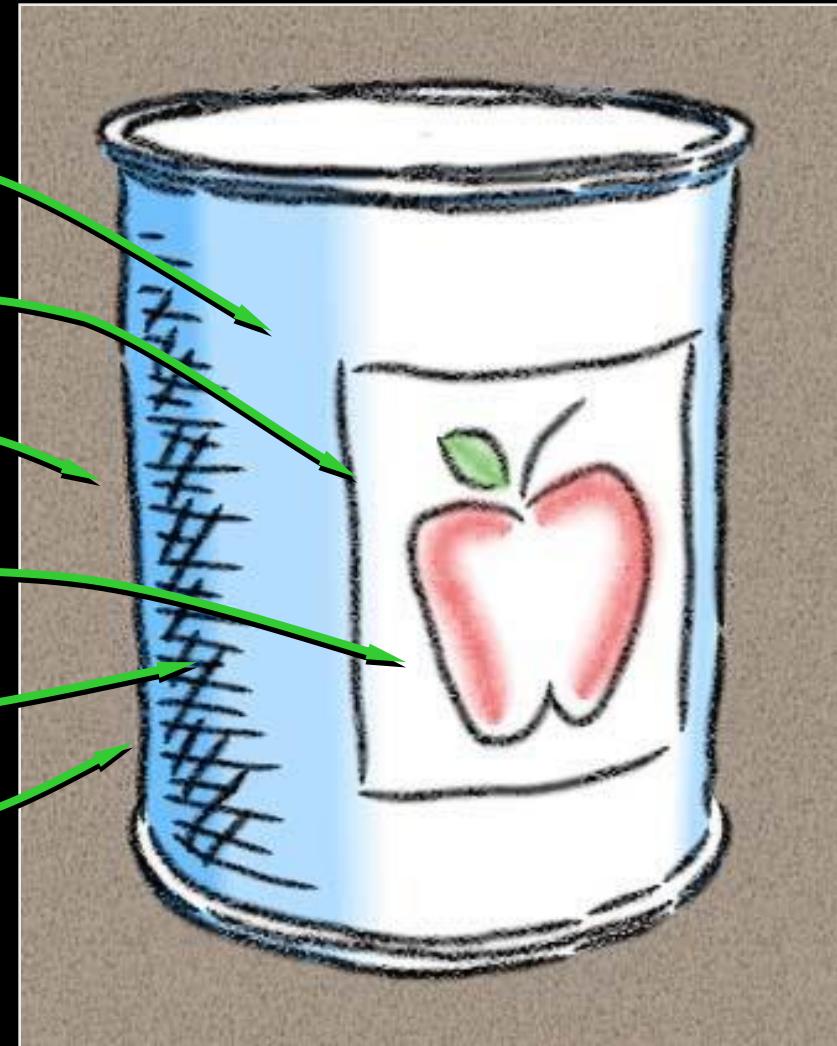
Stylized strokes

Paper Effect

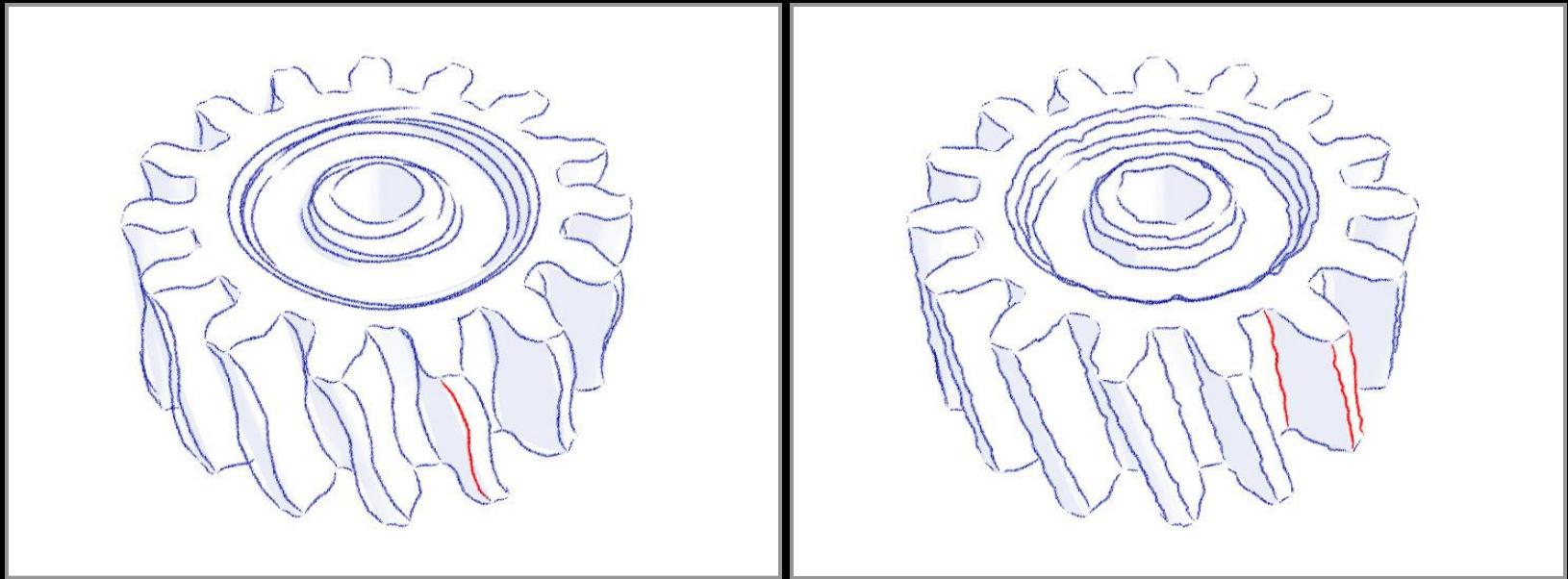
Detail Marks

Hatching

Outlines



# Crease Stylization



“Rubber-stamping”

Synthesis from Example

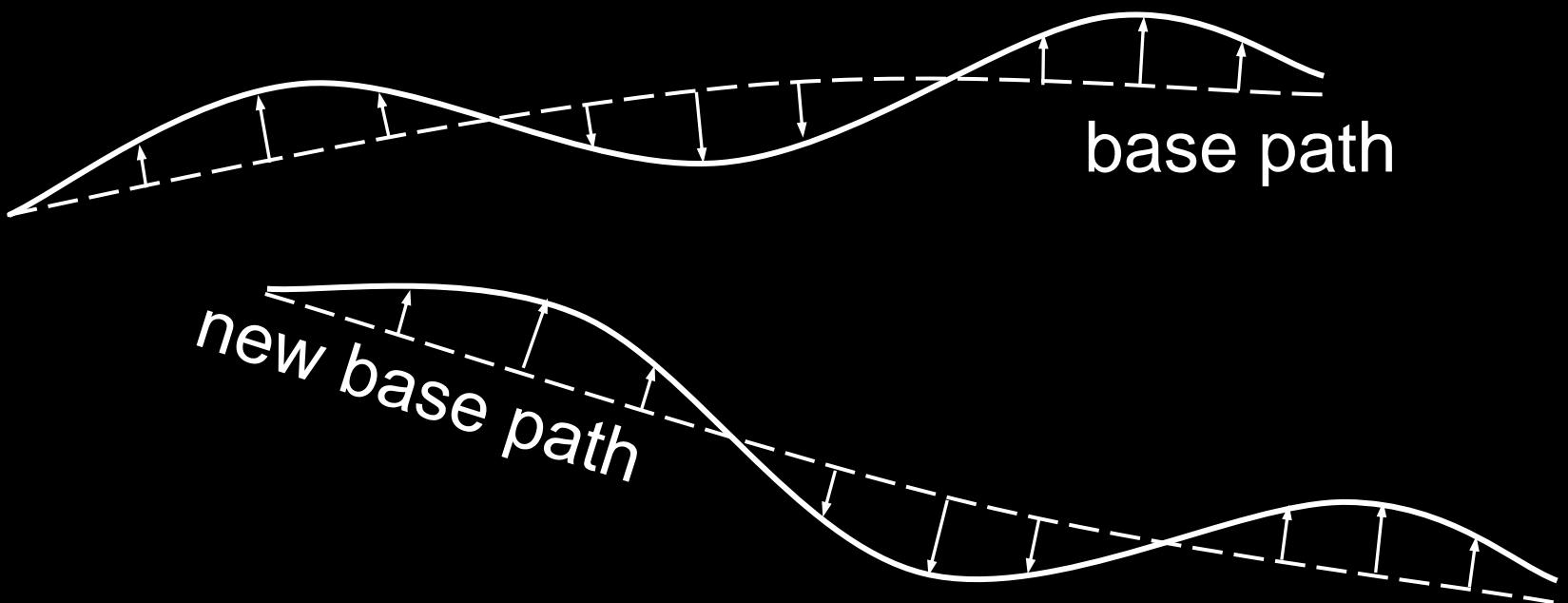
Synthesis uses Markov model.

Similar to “video textures” [Schödl 00]



# Stylization as Offsets

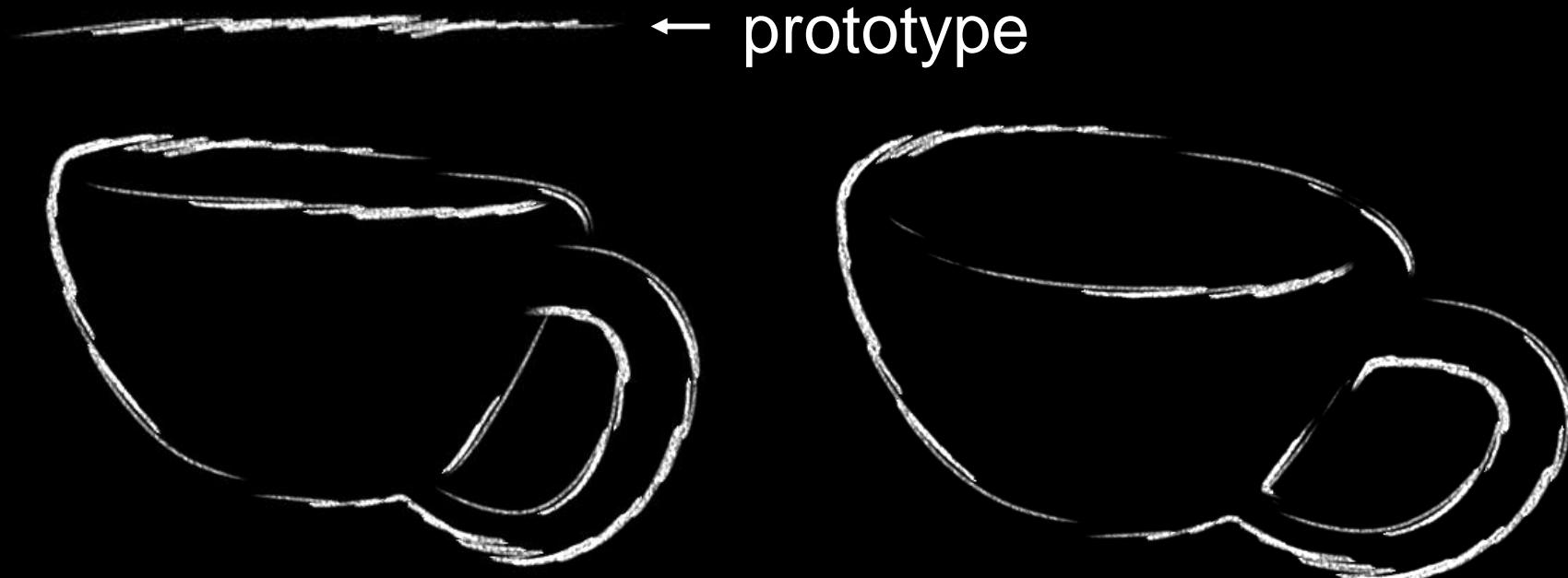
- Artist over-sketches crease
- Stylization recorded as 2D offsets
- Applied to new base path



# Silhouette Stylization

Silhouettes are view-dependent.

- Problem #1: localized stylization?
- Solution: “rubber-stamp” globally



# Silhouette Tracking

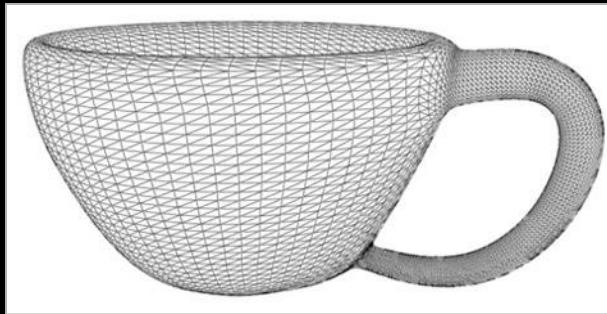
Silhouettes are view-dependent.

- Problem #2: parameterization coherence
- Solution: screen-space tracking

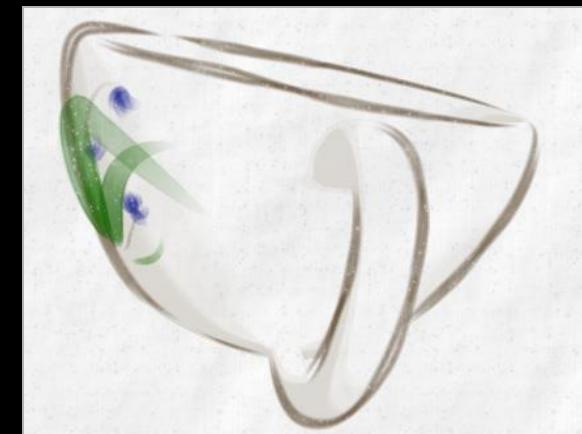


# WYSIWYG NPR

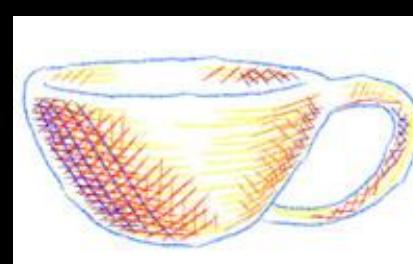
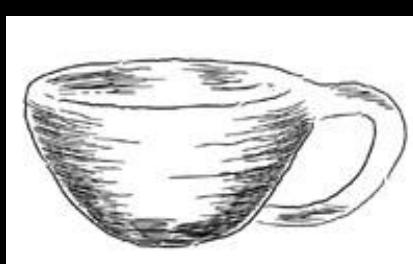
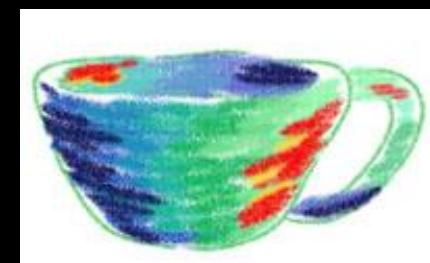
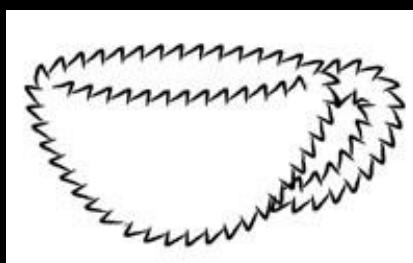
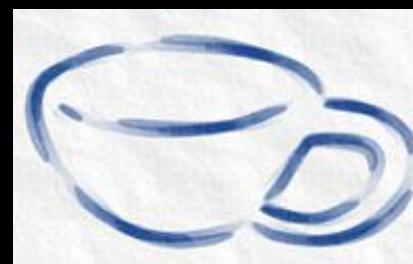
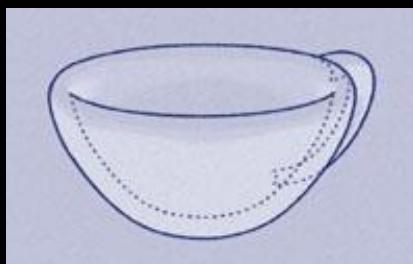
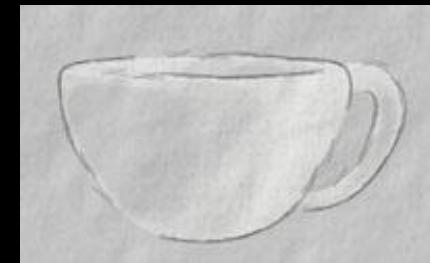
[Kalnins02]



- Draw into 3D scene
- Retain style in new views
- Ensure coherent animation



# Aesthetic flexibility



# Tools for stylized rendering

Toon shading

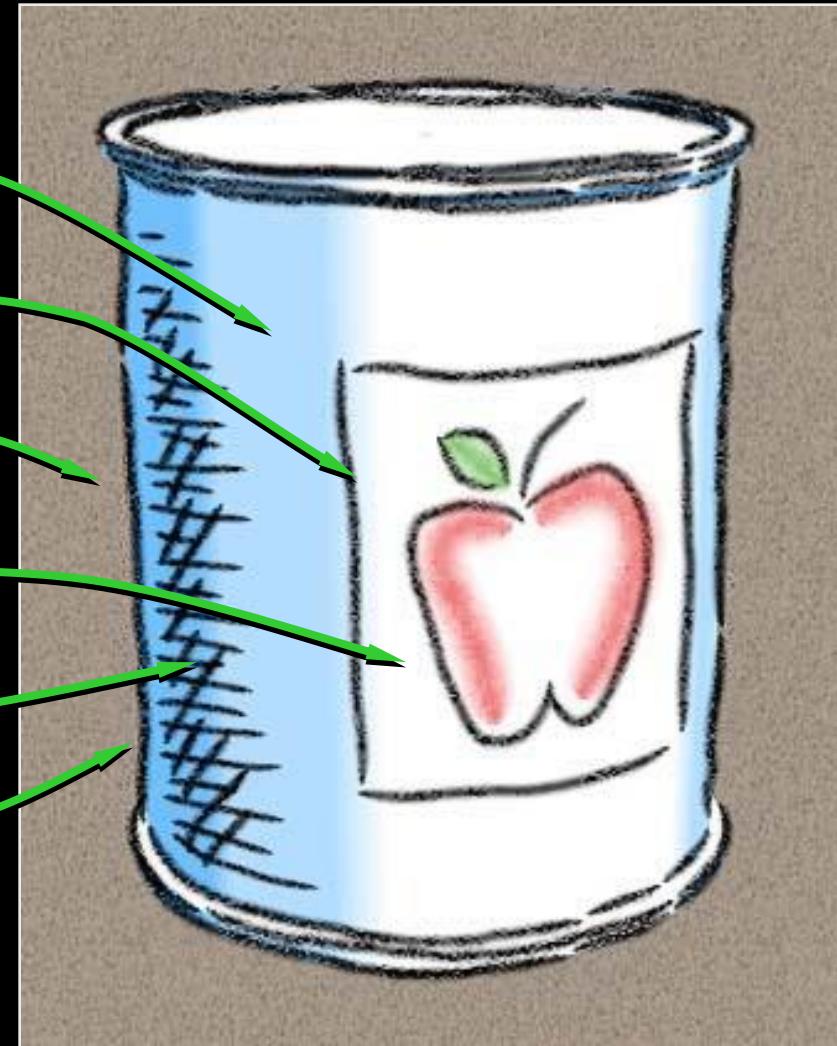
Stylized strokes

Paper Effect

Detail Marks

Hatching

Outlines



# How to Describe Shape-Conveying Lines?

- Image-space features
- Object-space features
  - View-independent
  - View-dependent



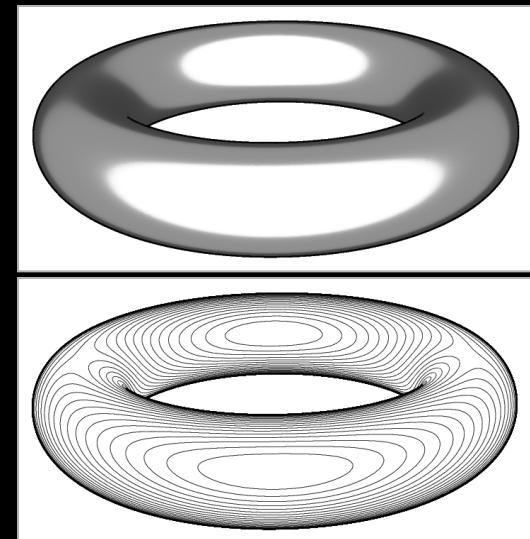
[Flaxman 1805]

# Image-Space Lines

- + Intuitive motivation; well-suited for GPU
- Difficult to stylize

Examples:

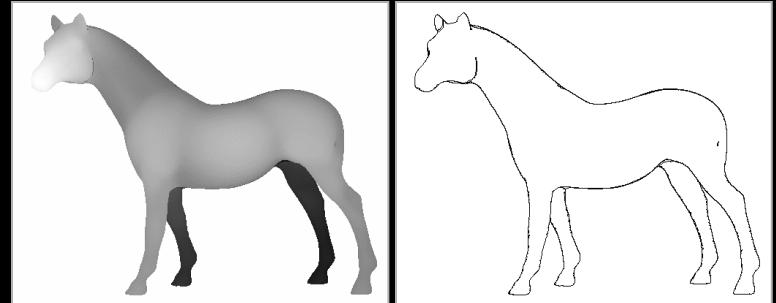
- Isophotes (toon-shading boundaries)
- Edges (e.g., [Canny 1986])
- Ridges, valleys of illumination  
[Pearson 1985, Rieger 1997,  
DeCarlo 2003, Lee 2007, ...]



# Image Edges and Extremal Lines

Edges:

Local maxima of  
gradient magnitude,  
in gradient direction



Ridges/valleys:

Local minima/maxima of  
intensity, in direction of  
max Hessian eigenvector

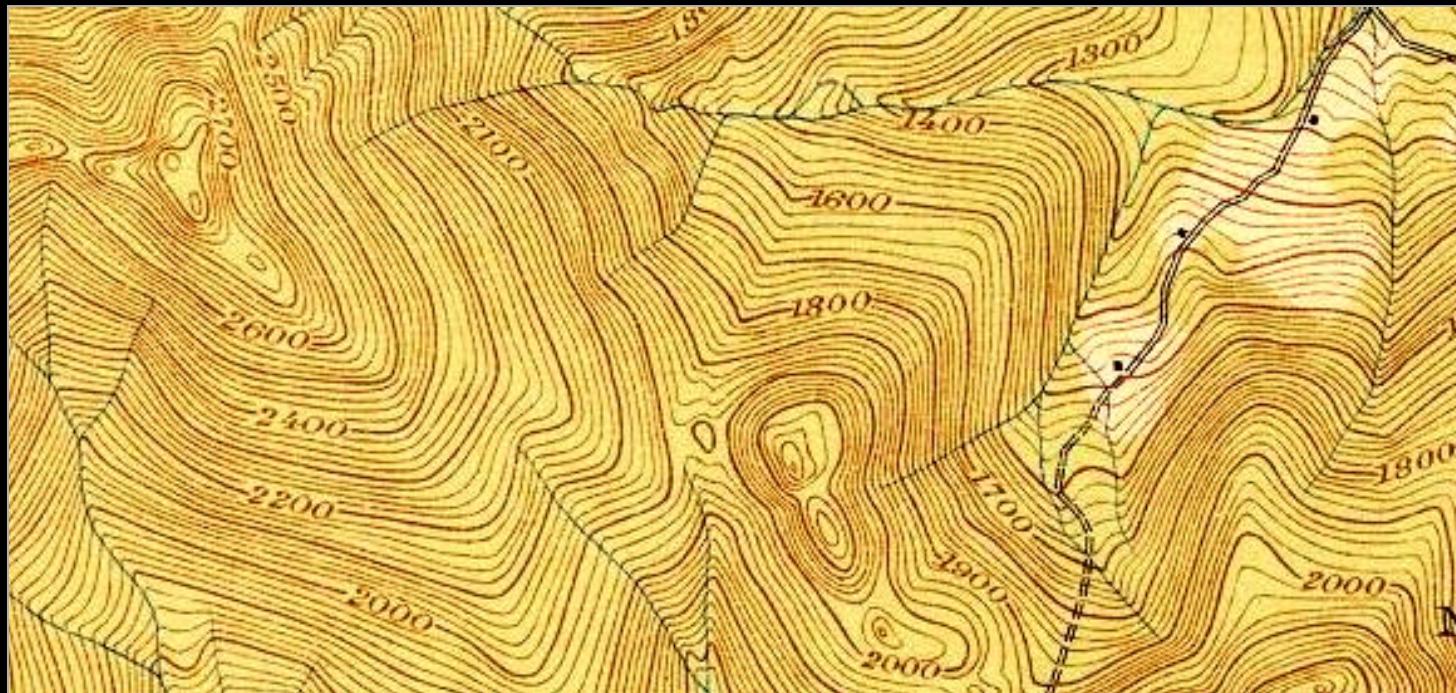


# View-Independent Object-Space Lines

- + Intrinsic properties of shape;  
can be precomputed
- Under changing view, can be  
misinterpreted as surface markings

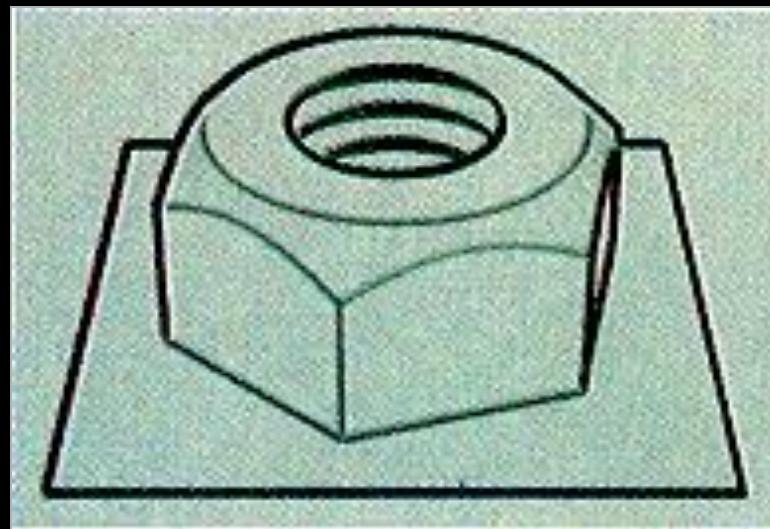
# View-Independent Object-Space Lines

Topo lines: constant altitude



# View-Independent Object-Space Lines

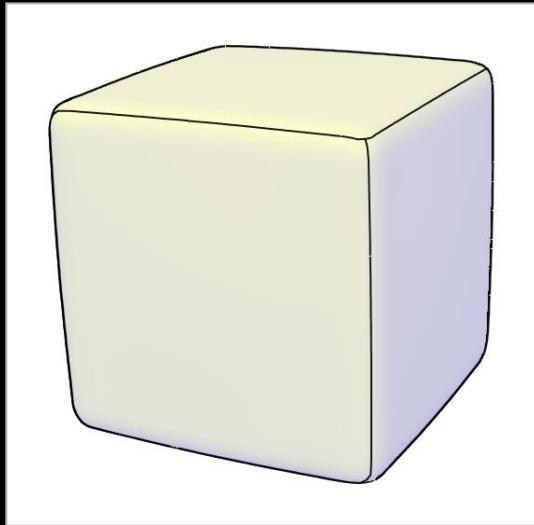
Creases: infinitely sharp folds



# View-Independent Object-Space Lines

## Ridges and valleys (crest lines)

- Local maxima of curvature
- Sometimes effective, sometimes not



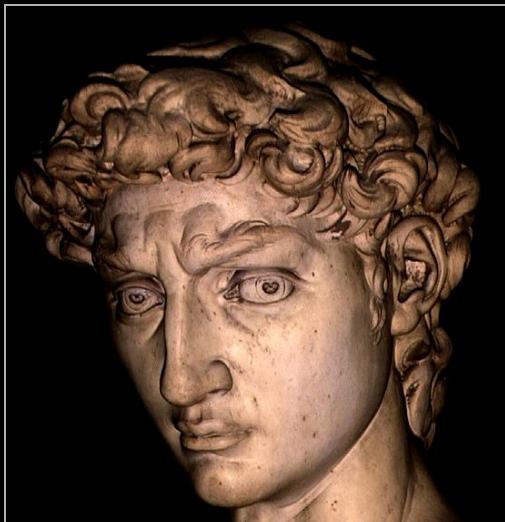
# View-Dependent Object-Space Lines

- + Seem to be perceived as conveying shape
- Must be recomputed per frame

# What Lines to Draw?

Silhouettes:

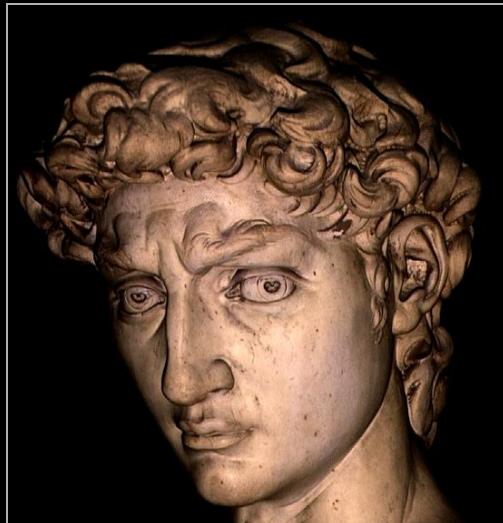
- Boundaries between object and background



# What Lines to Draw?

Occluding contours:

- Depth discontinuities
- Surface normal perpendicular to view direction



# Occluding Contours

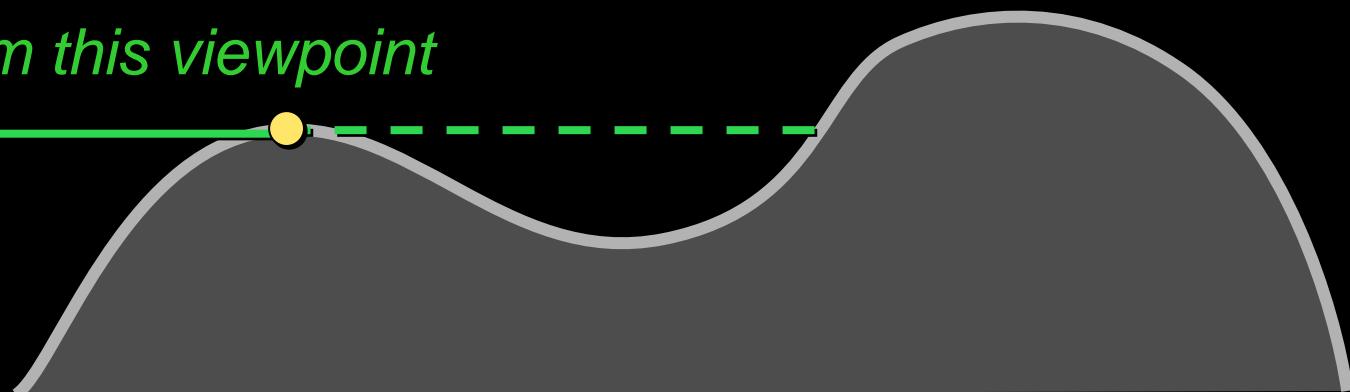
For any shape: locations of depth discontinuities

- View dependent
- Also called “interior and exterior silhouettes”



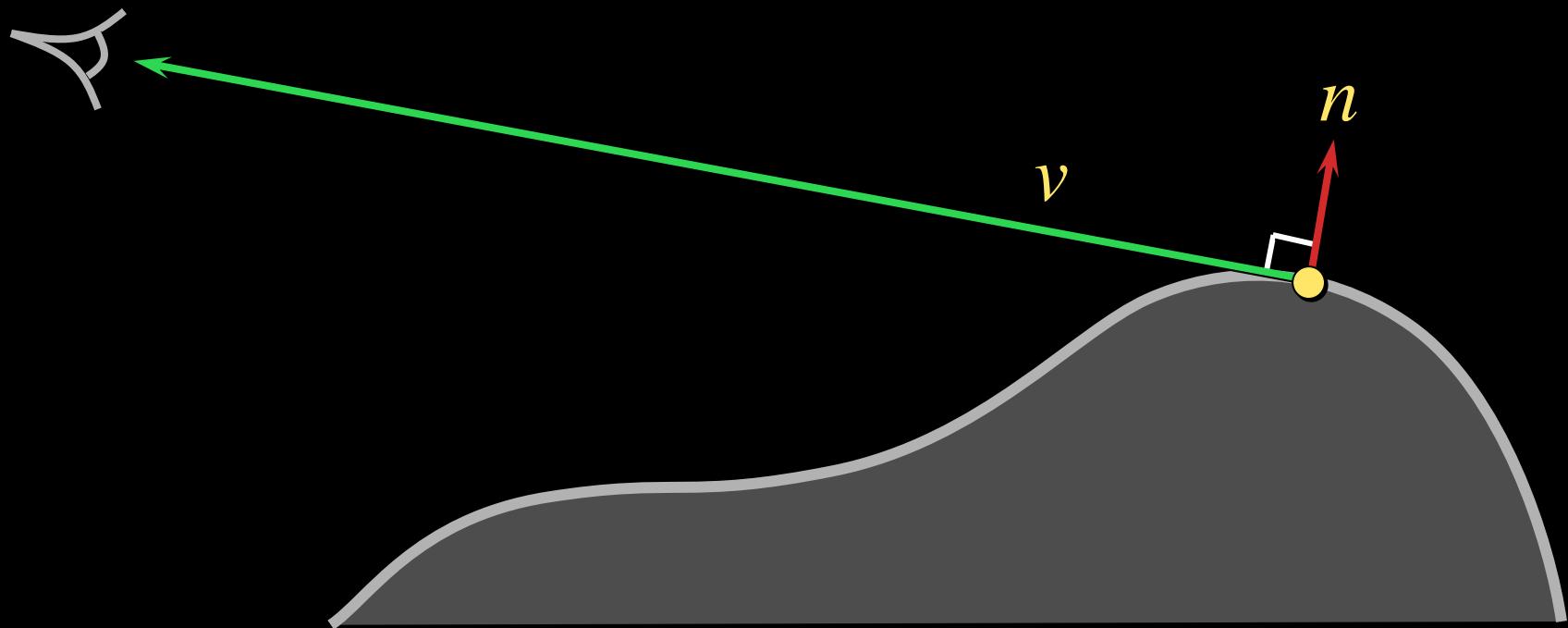
*no contour from this viewpoint*

*contour from this viewpoint*



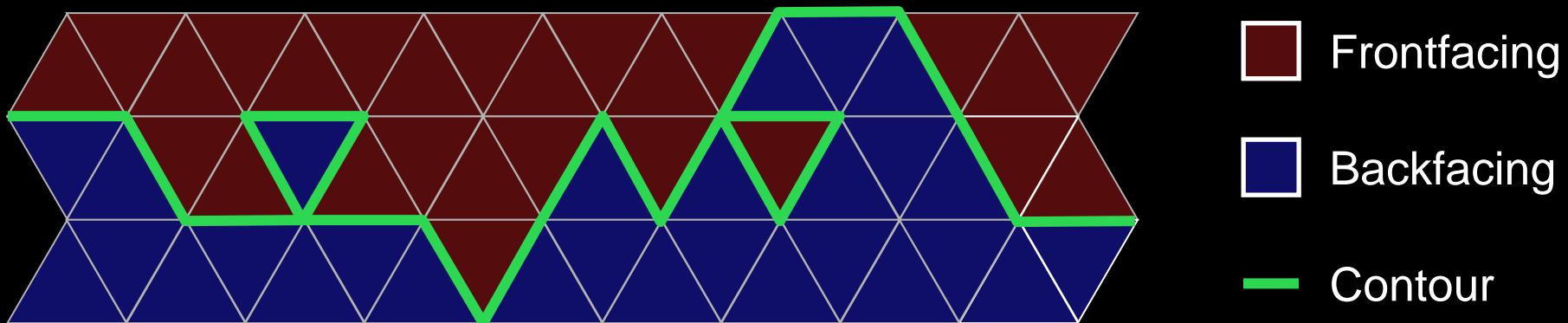
# Occluding Contours

For smooth shapes: points at which  $n \cdot v = 0$



# Occluding Contours on Meshes

Applying either definition on polygonal meshes  
can result in messy lines

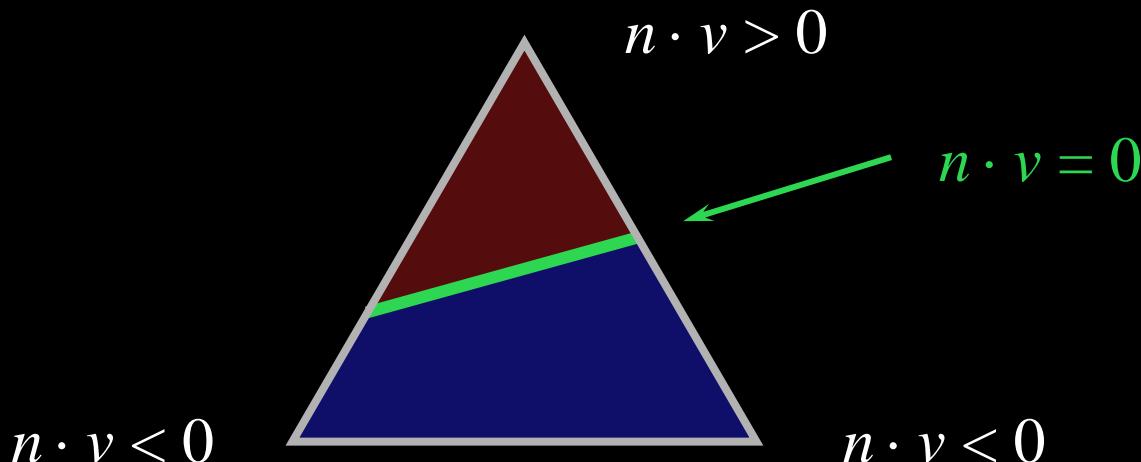


# Occluding Contours on Meshes

[Hertzmann 00]

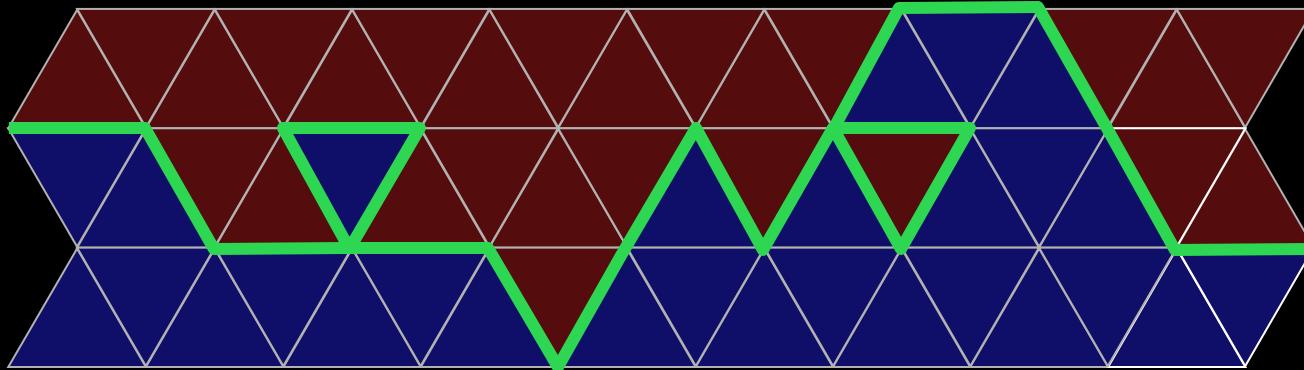
Alternative: interpolate normals within faces

- Start with per-vertex normals
- Interpolate per-face (same as Phong shading)
- Compute  $n \cdot v$  at each point, find zero crossings
- Potential snag: visibility



# Occluding Contours on Meshes

Contours along edges

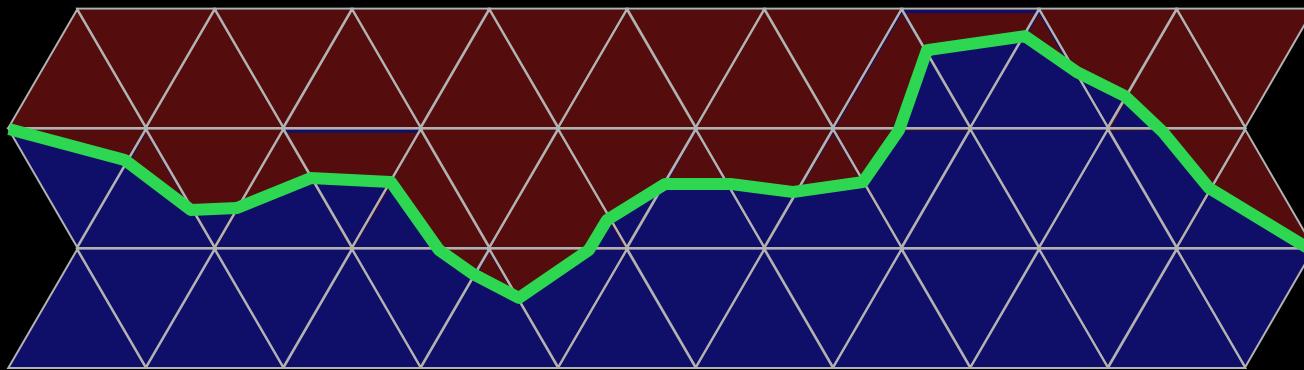


Frontfacing

Backfacing

Contour

Contours within faces



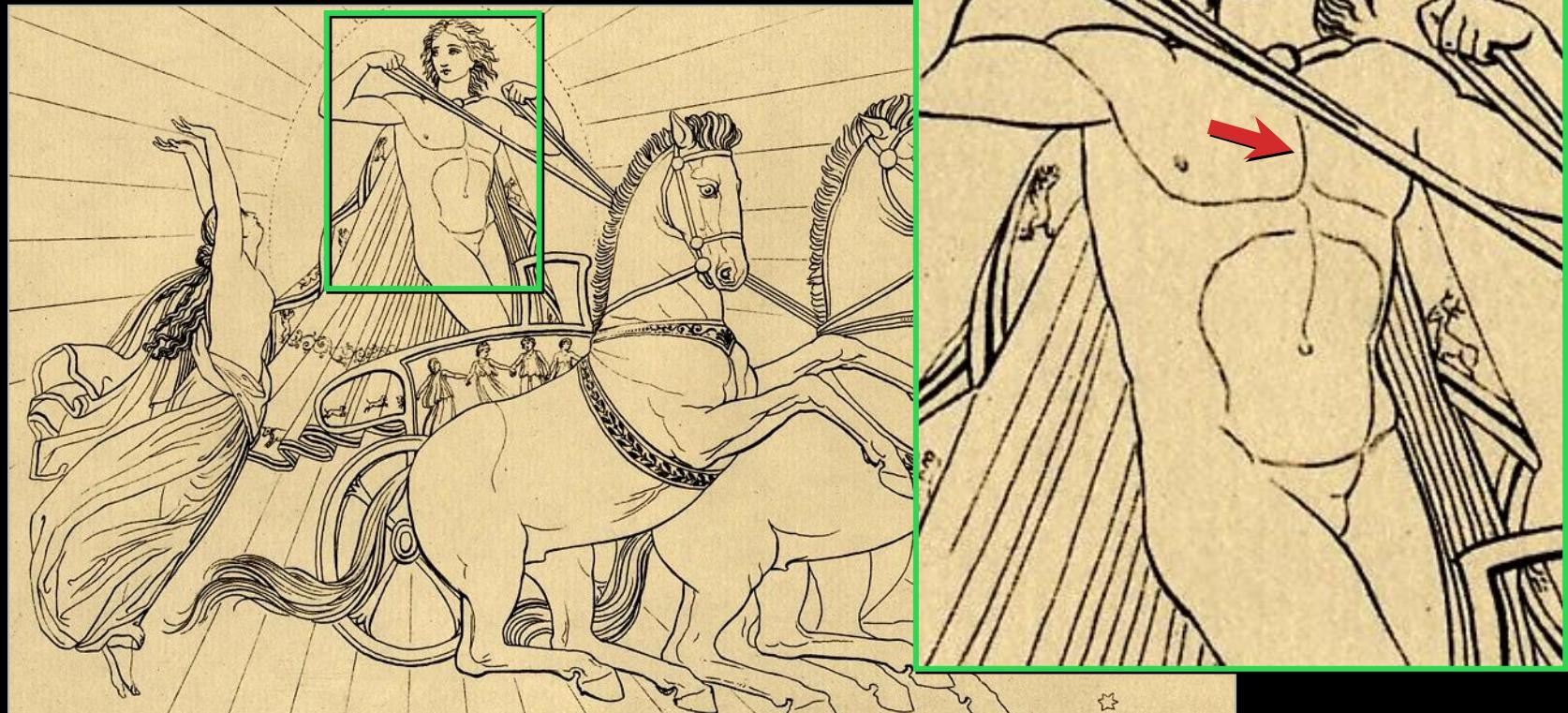
# What Lines to Draw?

There are other lines...



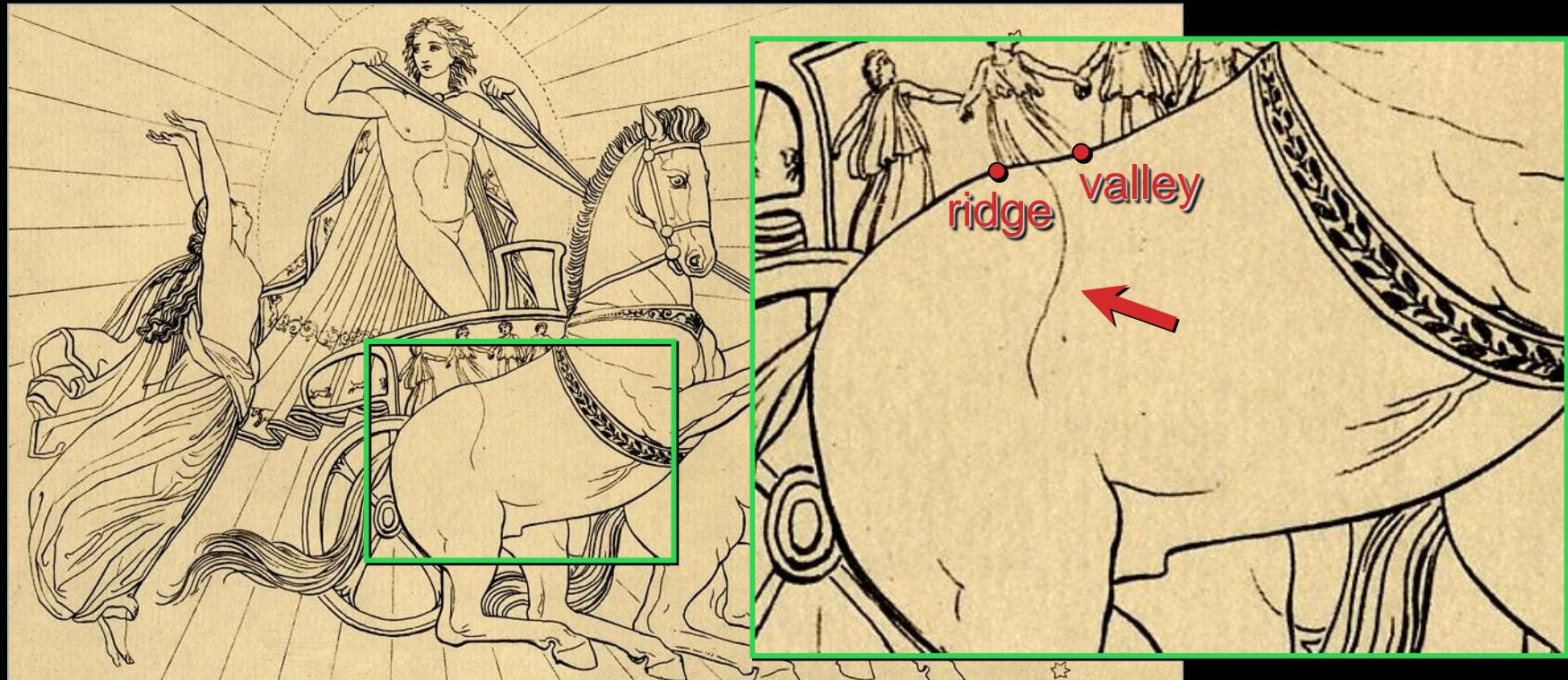
# What Lines to Draw?

There are other lines...



# What Lines to Draw?

There are other lines...



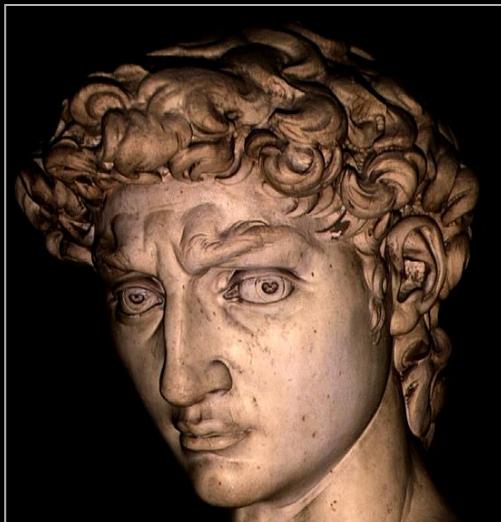
Hypothesis: some are “almost contours”

[Flaxman 1805]

# Suggestive Contours

“Almost contours”:

- Points that become contours in nearby views



contours

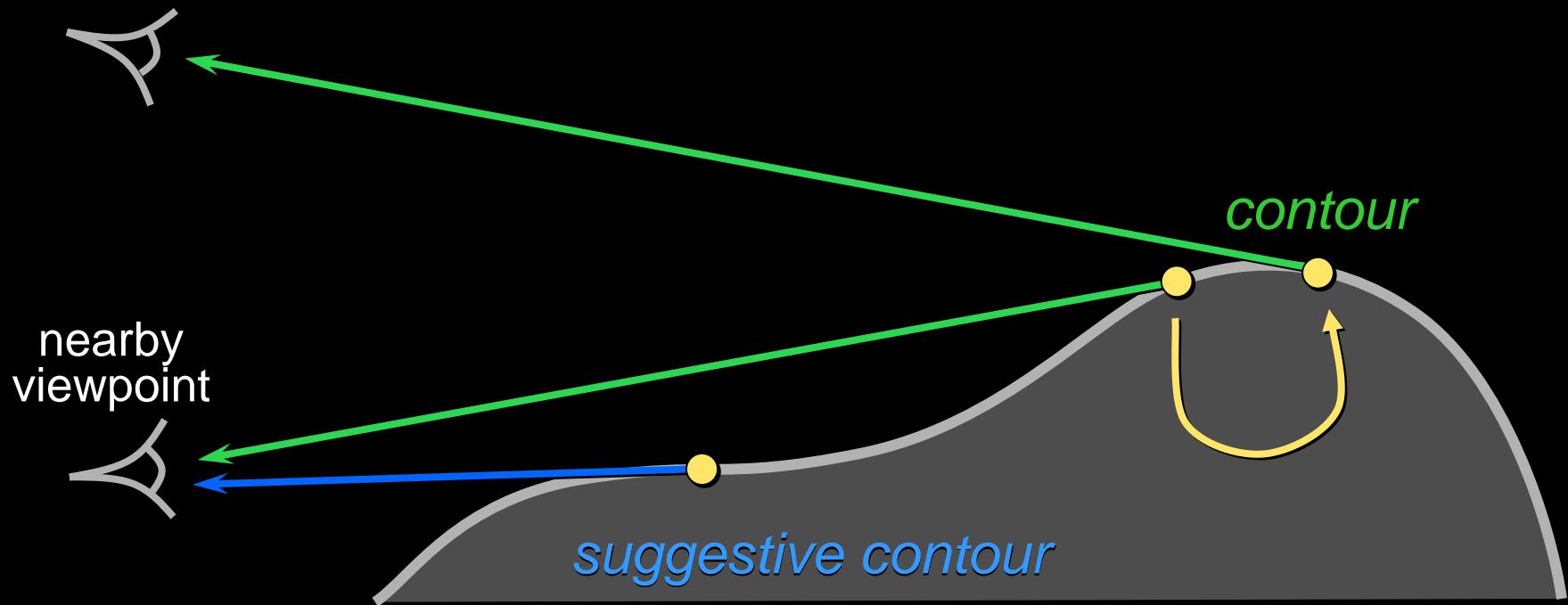


contours +  
suggestive contours

# Suggestive Contours: Definition 1

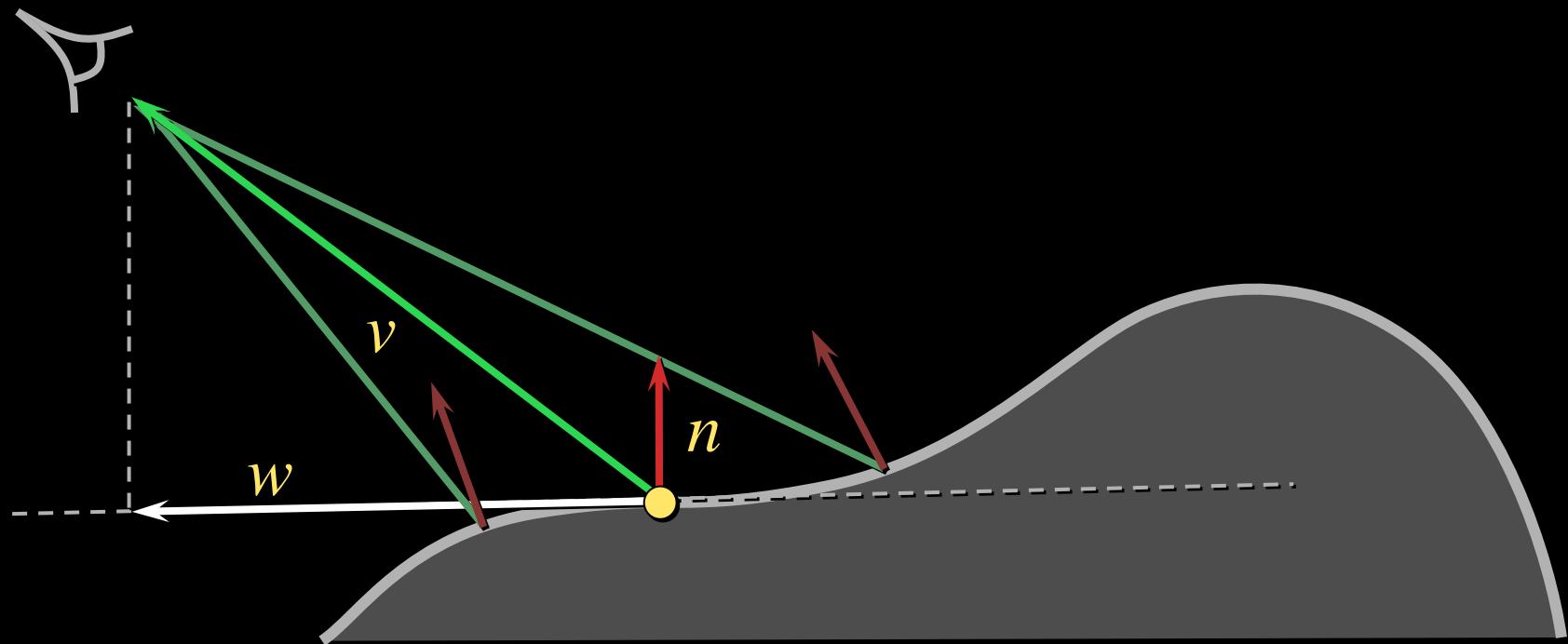
Contours in nearby viewpoints

(not corresponding to contours in closer views)

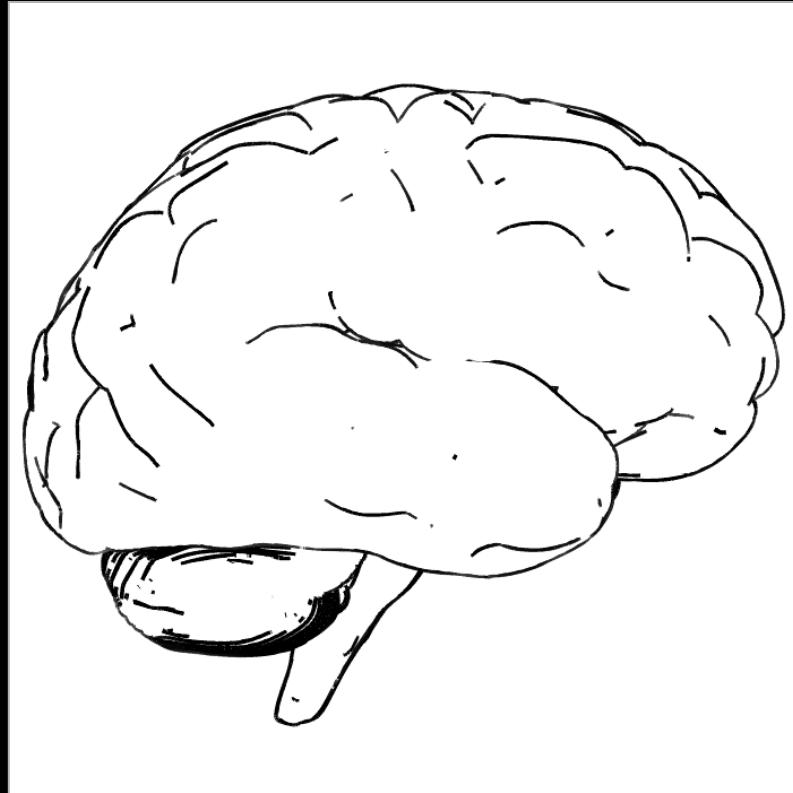


# Suggestive Contours: Definition 2

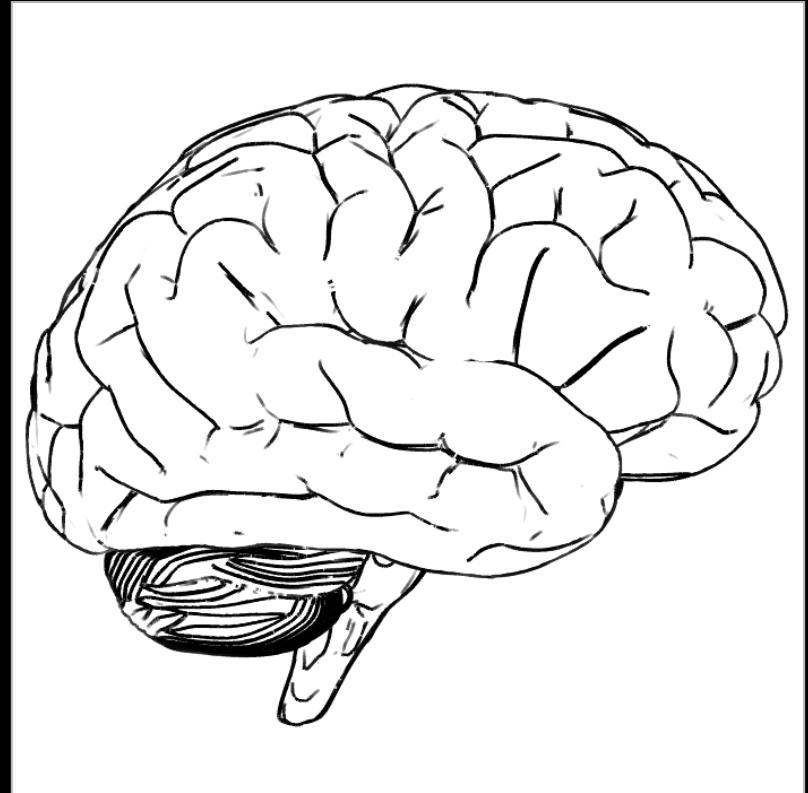
$n \cdot v$  not quite zero, but a local minimum  
(in the projected view direction  $w$ )



# Results...

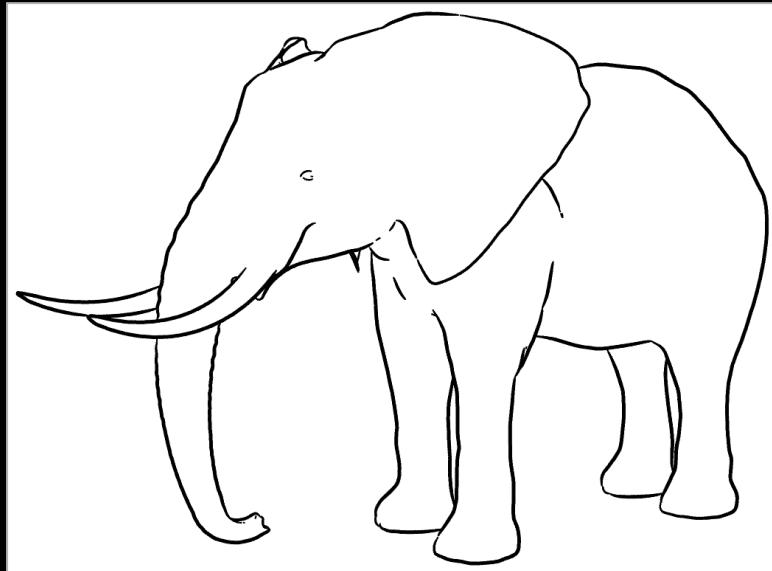


contours

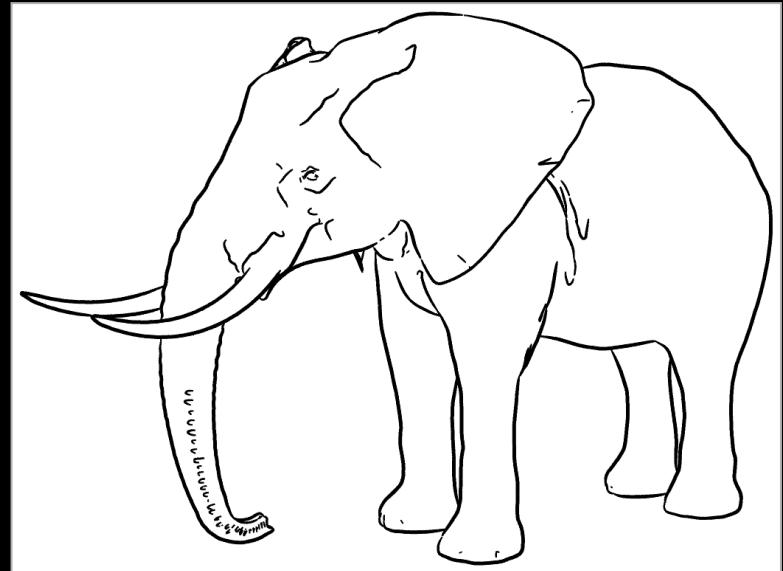


contours +  
suggestive contours

# Results...



contours

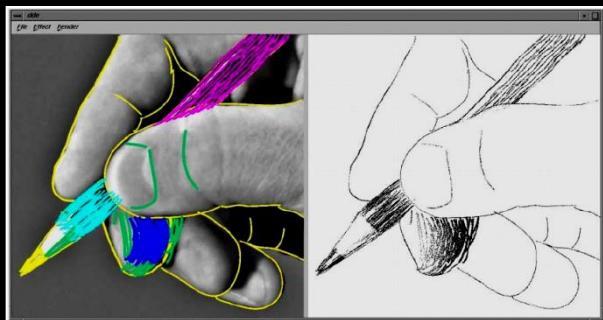


contours +  
suggestive contours

# Abstraction in NPR

## User guided approaches

- the user explicitly marks the important content



[Durand et al. 2001]

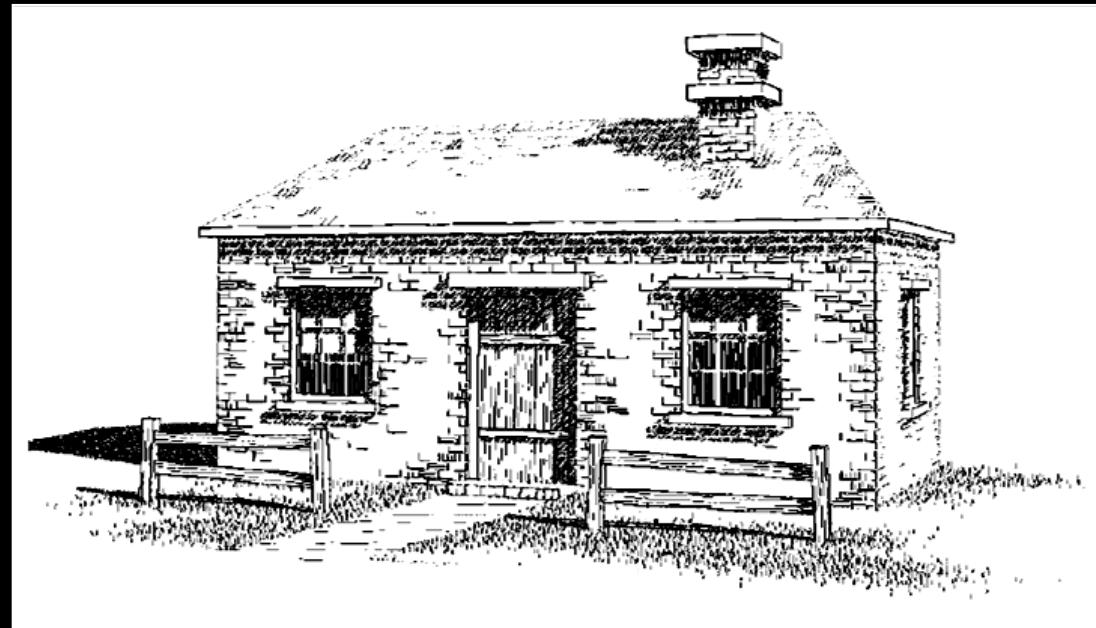


[Hertzmann 2001]

# Abstraction in NPR

Indication in pen and ink illustration

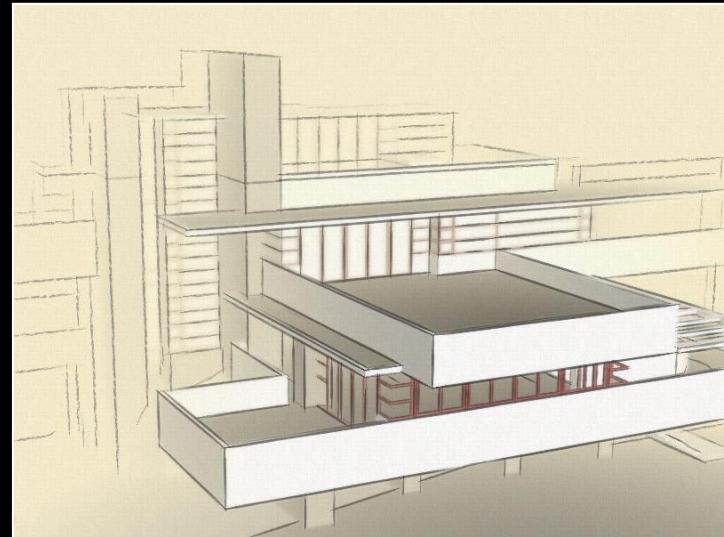
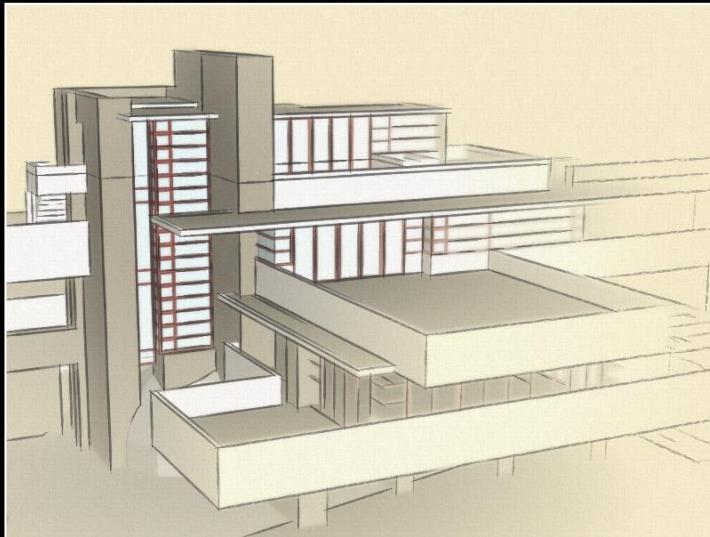
- the user specified what content was important



[Winkenbach and Salesin 1994]

# Abstraction in NPR

Provide control over point of emphasis  
– control clutter in the rendered image

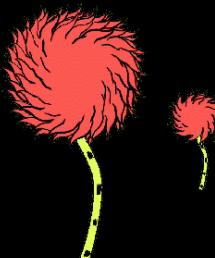


[Cole et al. 2006]

# Abstraction in NPR

Rendering specific content: trees

- programatically leave out lines in center of tree



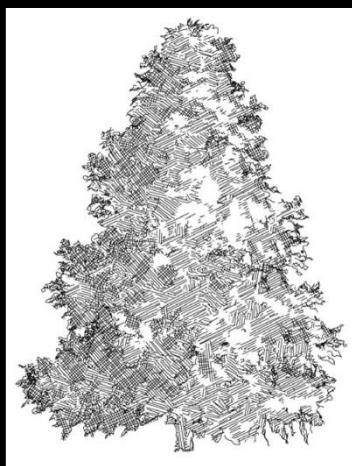
[Kowalski et al. 1999]



[Deussen 2000]

# Abstraction in NPR

Select elements based on density and clutter  
– drop strokes in areas of high density



[Winson and Ma 2004]

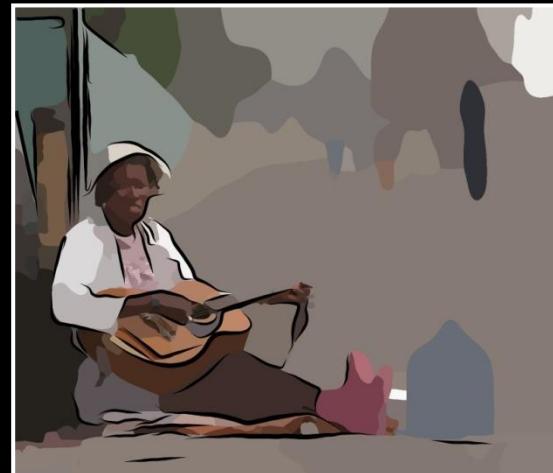


[Grabli et al. 2004]

# Abstraction in NPR

## User guided approaches

- infer important content from a user's eye movements
- evaluate using eye tracking [Santella and DeCarlo 2004]



[DeCarlo and Santella 2002]

# Results...



# Summary

NPR provides control over style, abstraction

Common ingredients:  
toon shading,  
outline strokes,  
hatching, paint,  
paper effect

