

## 9.3 Modeling with ODEs



# In This Video

---

- Modeling dynamics by ordinary differential equations (ODEs)
  - System state consists of positions, velocities, etc.
  - Forces change the state over infinitesimal time intervals

# Differential Equations

---

- Motion of physical systems is modelled by these
  - “If I am in state  $X$  at time  $t$ , what is my state at time  $t+dt$  ?

# Differential Equations

---

- Motion of physical systems is modelled by these
  - “If I am in state  $X$  at time  $t$ , what is my state at time  $t+dt$  ?
- What is the “state  $X$ ”? A vector that describes all the free parameters of the physical system.
  - For a single point-like mass: position + velocity
  - For a rigid object: position + orientation + linear momentum + angular momentum
  - etc.
- Basically all of physical reality is described by these

# Ordinary Differential Equations

---

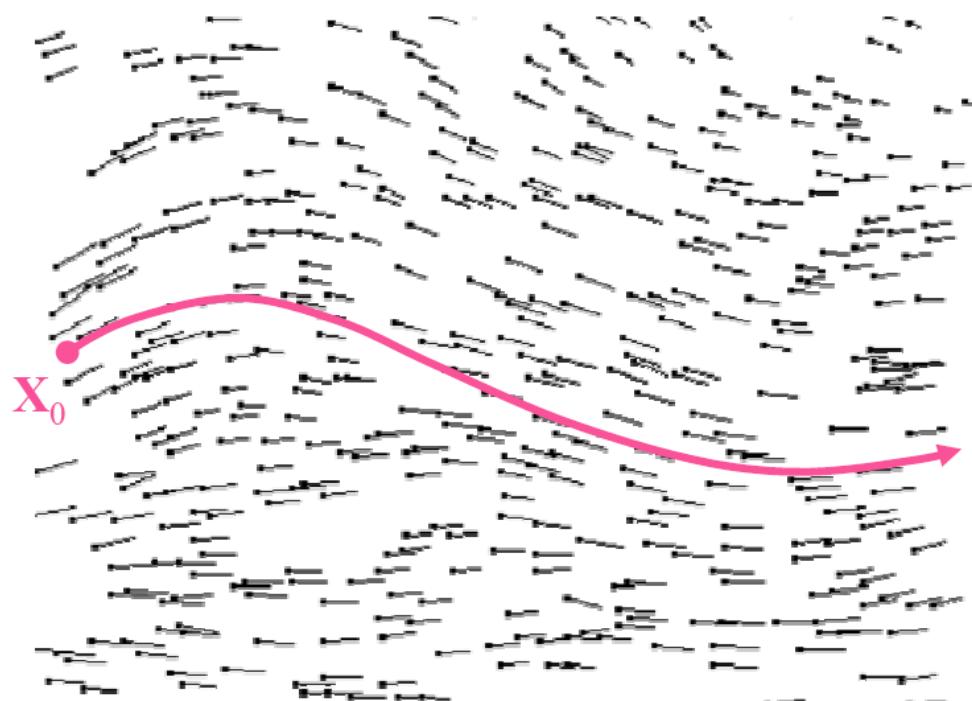
$$\frac{d \mathbf{X}(t)}{dt} = f(\mathbf{X}(t), t)$$

- Given a function  $f(\mathbf{X}, t)$  compute  $\mathbf{X}(t)$
- Typically, *initial value problems*:
  - Given values  $\mathbf{X}(t_0) = \mathbf{X}_0$
  - Find values  $\mathbf{X}(t)$  for  $t > t_0$
- We can use lots of standard tools

# Path through a Vector Field

---

- $X(t)$ : path in multidimensional phase space



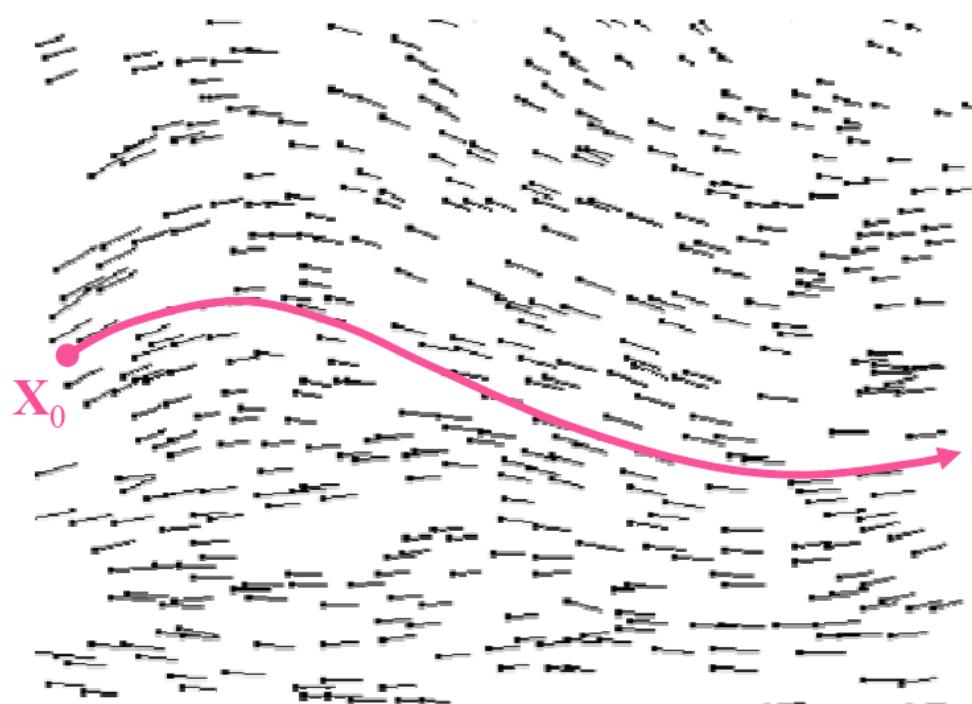
$$\frac{d}{dt} \mathbf{X} = f(\mathbf{X}, t)$$

“When we are at state  $\mathbf{X}$  at time  $t$ , where will  $\mathbf{X}$  be after an infinitely small time interval  $dt$  ?”

# Path through a Vector Field

---

- $X(t)$ : path in multidimensional phase space



$$\frac{d}{dt} \mathbf{X} = f(\mathbf{X}, t)$$

“When we are at state  $\mathbf{X}$  at time  $t$ , where will  $\mathbf{X}$  be after an infinitely small time interval  $dt$  ?”

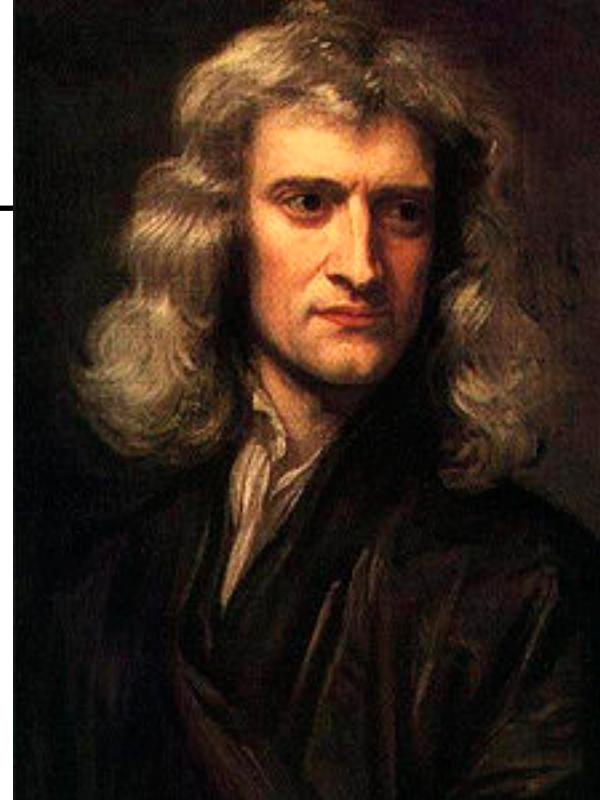
- $f = d/dt \mathbf{X}$  is a vector that sits at each point in phase space, pointing the direction.

# Newtonian Mechanics

---

- Point mass: 2nd order ODE

$$\vec{F} = m\vec{a} \quad \text{or} \quad \vec{F} = m \frac{d^2\vec{x}}{dt^2}$$



- Position  $\boldsymbol{x}$  and force  $\boldsymbol{F}$  are vector quantities
  - We know  $\boldsymbol{F}$  and  $m$ , want to solve for  $\boldsymbol{x}$
- You've all seen this a million times before

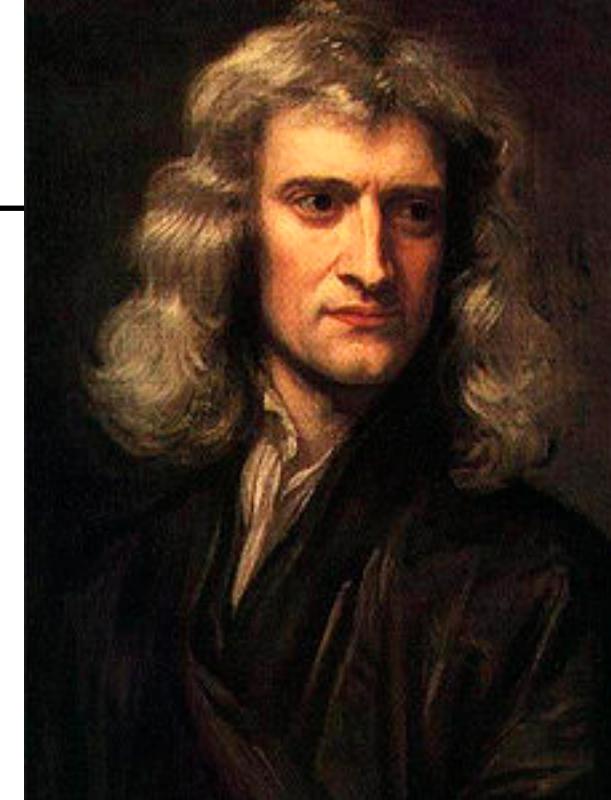
# Reduction to 1st Order

- Point mass: 2nd order ODE

$$\vec{F} = m\vec{a} \quad \text{or} \quad \vec{F} = m \frac{d^2\vec{x}}{dt^2}$$

- Corresponds to system of first order ODEs

$$\begin{cases} \frac{d}{dt}\vec{x} = \vec{v} \\ \frac{d}{dt}\vec{v} = \vec{F}/m \end{cases}$$



2 unknowns ( $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{v}$ )  
instead of just  $\mathbf{x}$

# Reduction to 1st Order

---

$$\begin{cases} \frac{d}{dt}\vec{x} = \vec{v} \\ \frac{d}{dt}\vec{v} = \vec{F}/m \end{cases}$$

2 variables ( $\mathbf{x}$ ,  $\mathbf{v}$ )  
instead of just one

- Why reduce?

# Reduction to 1st Order

---

$$\begin{cases} \frac{d}{dt} \vec{x} = \vec{v} \\ \frac{d}{dt} \vec{v} = \vec{F}/m \end{cases}$$

2 variables ( $\mathbf{x}$ ,  $\mathbf{v}$ )  
instead of just one

- Why reduce?
  - Numerical solvers grow more complicated with increasing order, can just write one 1st order solver and use it
  - Note that this doesn't mean it would always be easy :-)

# Notation

---

- Let's stack the pair  $(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{v})$  into a bigger state vector  $\mathbf{X}$

$$\mathbf{X} = \begin{pmatrix} \vec{\mathbf{x}} \\ \vec{\mathbf{v}} \end{pmatrix}$$

For a particle in  
3D, state vector  $\mathbf{X}$   
has 6 numbers

$$\frac{d}{dt} \mathbf{X} = f(\mathbf{X}, t) = \begin{pmatrix} \vec{\mathbf{v}} \\ \vec{\mathbf{F}}(x, v)/m \end{pmatrix}$$

# Now, Many Particles

---

- We have  $N$  point masses
  - Let's just stack all  $\mathbf{x}$ s and  $\mathbf{v}$ s in a big vector of length  $6N$

$$\mathbf{X} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{x}_1 \\ \mathbf{v}_1 \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{x}_N \\ \mathbf{v}_N \end{pmatrix} \quad f(\mathbf{X}, t) = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{v}_1 \\ \mathbf{F}^1(\mathbf{X}, t) \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{v}_N \\ \mathbf{F}^N(\mathbf{X}, t) \end{pmatrix}$$

# Now, Many Particles

---

- We have  $N$  point masses
  - Let's just stack all  $\mathbf{x}$ s and  $\mathbf{v}$ s in a big vector of length  $6N$
  - $\mathbf{F}^i$  denotes the force on particle  $i$ 
    - When particles don't interact,  $\mathbf{F}^i$  only depends on  $\mathbf{x}_i$  and  $\mathbf{v}_i$ .

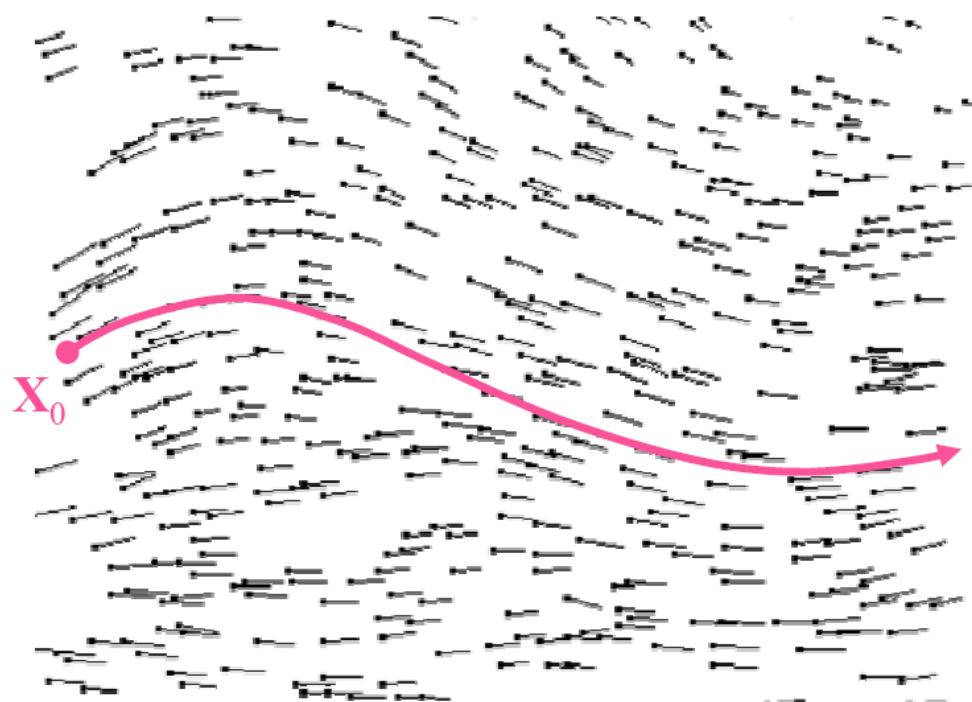
$$\mathbf{X} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{x}_1 \\ \mathbf{v}_1 \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{x}_N \\ \mathbf{v}_N \end{pmatrix} \quad f(\mathbf{X}, t) = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{v}_1 \\ \mathbf{F}^1(\mathbf{X}, t) \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{v}_N \\ \mathbf{F}^N(\mathbf{X}, t) \end{pmatrix}$$

  
**f gives  $d/dt \mathbf{X}$ , remember!**

# Recap: Path through a Vector Field

---

- $X(t)$ : path in multidimensional phase space



$$\frac{d}{dt} \mathbf{X} = f(\mathbf{X}, t)$$

“When we are at state  $\mathbf{X}$  at time  $t$ , where will  $\mathbf{X}$  be after an infinitely small time interval  $dt$  ?”

- $f = d/dt \mathbf{X}$  is a vector that sits at each point in phase space, pointing the direction.

# Numerics of ODEs

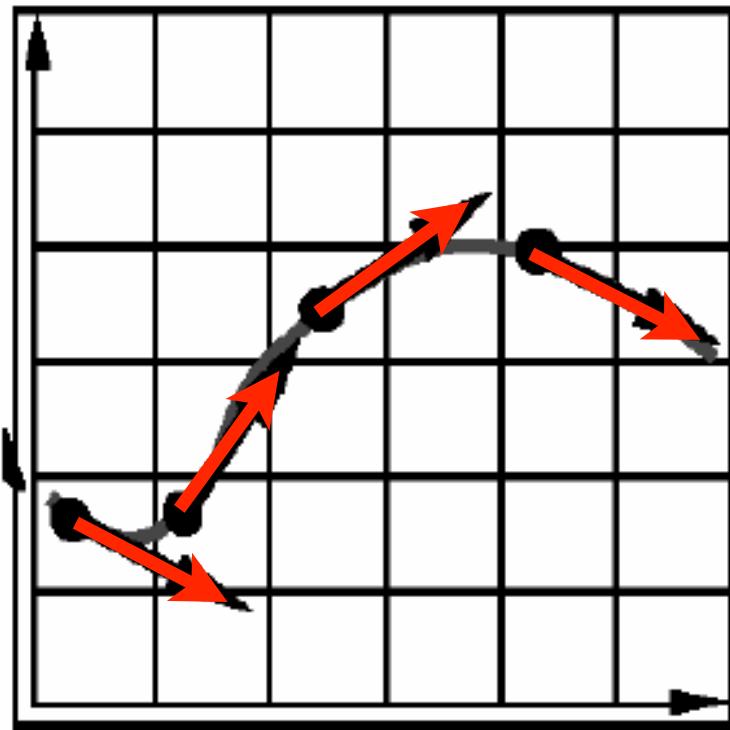
---

- Numerical solution is called “integration of the ODE”
- Many techniques
  - Today, the simplest one
  - Next time we’ll look at some more advanced techniques

# Intuitive Solution: Take Steps

---

- Current state  $\mathbf{X}$
- Examine  $f(\mathbf{X}, t)$  at (or near) current state
- Take a step to new value of  $\mathbf{X}$



$$\frac{d}{dt} \mathbf{X} = f(\mathbf{X}, t)$$

$\Rightarrow "d\mathbf{X} = dt f(\mathbf{X}, t)"$

$f = d/dt \mathbf{X}$  is a vector  
that sits at each  
point in phase  
space, pointing the  
direction.

# Euler's Method

---

- Simplest and most intuitive
- Pick a **step size  $h$**
- Given  $\mathbf{X}_0 = \mathbf{X}(t_0)$ , take step:

$$t_1 = t_0 + h$$

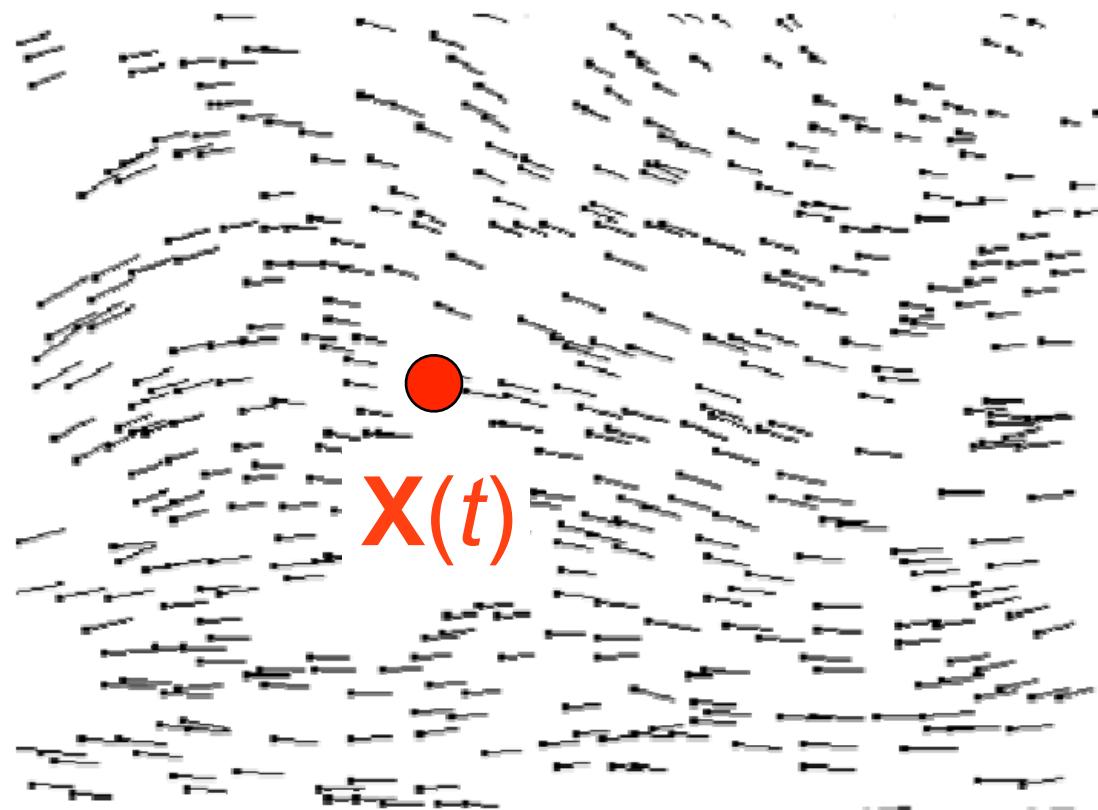
$$\mathbf{X}_1 = \mathbf{X}_0 + h f(\mathbf{X}_0, t_0)$$

- Piecewise-linear approximation to the path
- **Basically, just replace  $dt$  by a small but finite number  $h$**

# Euler, Visually

---

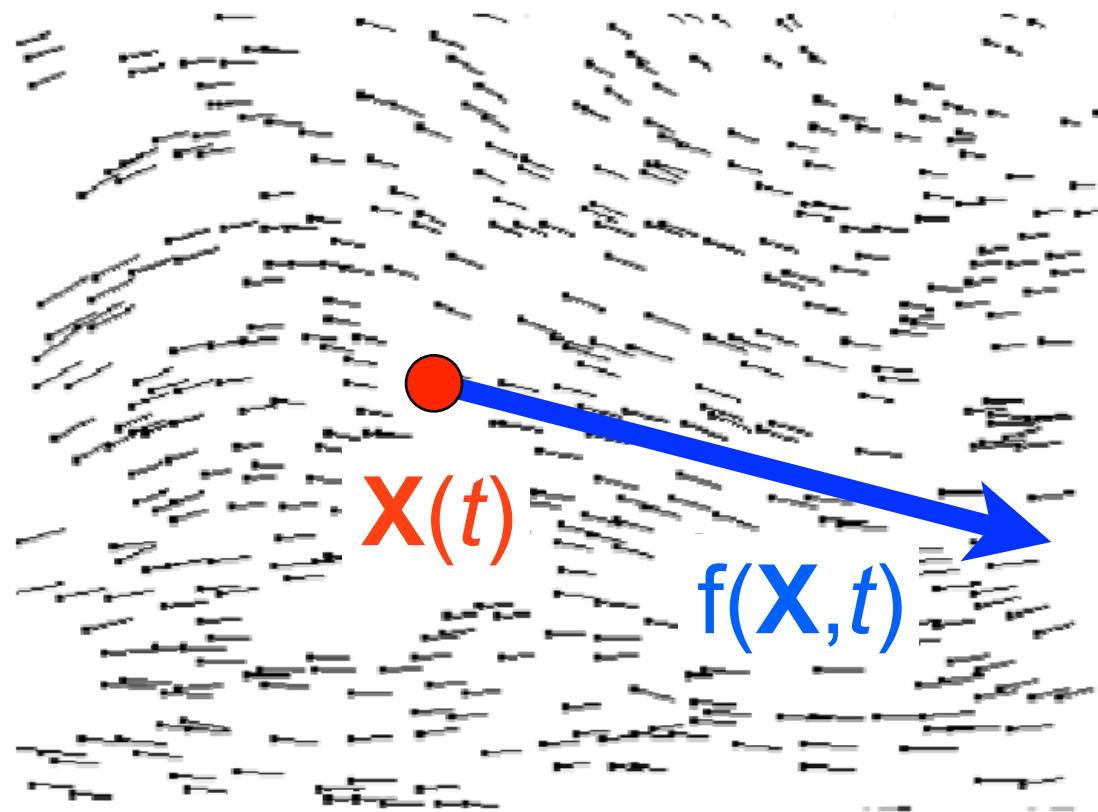
$$\frac{d}{dt} \mathbf{X} = f(\mathbf{X}, t)$$



# Euler, Visually

---

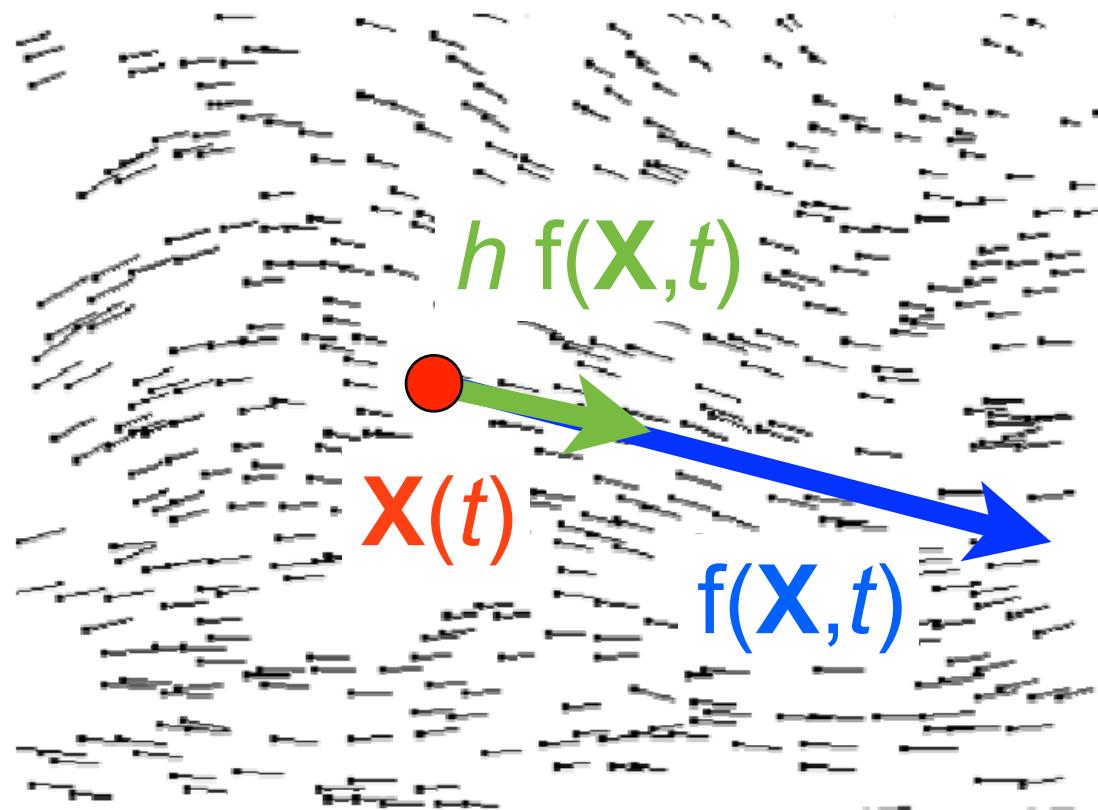
$$\frac{d}{dt} \mathbf{X} = f(\mathbf{X}, t)$$



# Euler, Visually

---

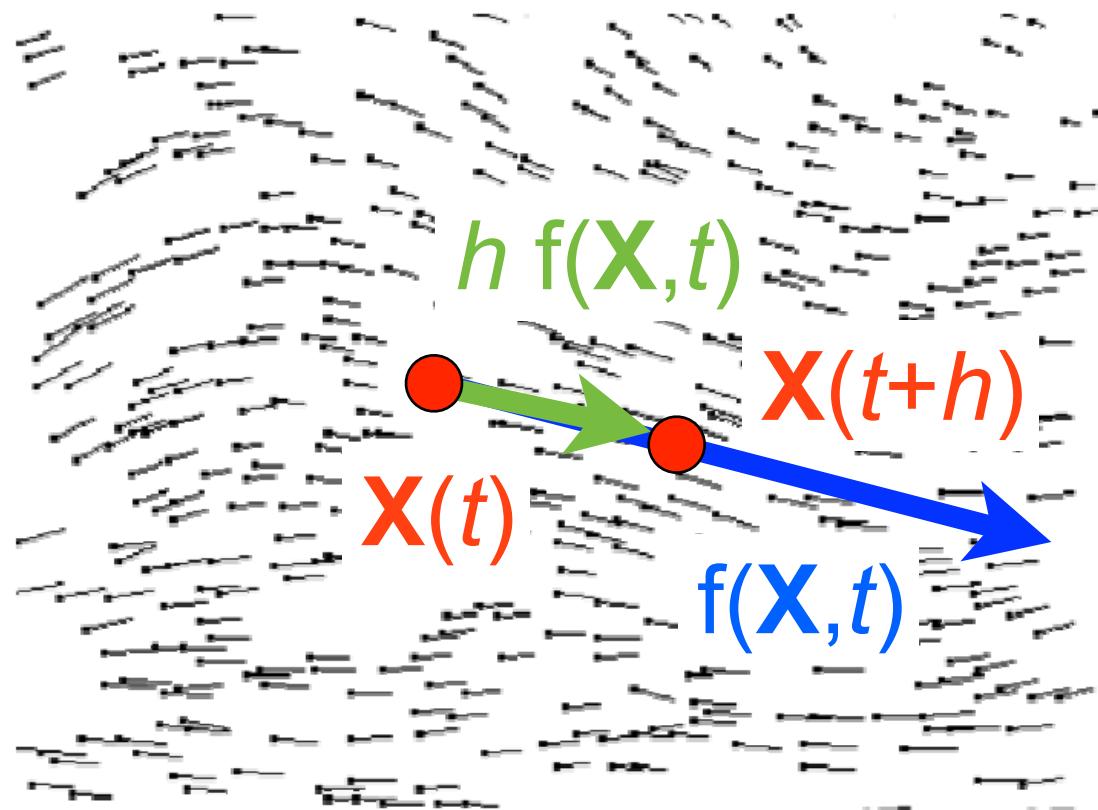
$$\frac{d}{dt} \mathbf{X} = f(\mathbf{X}, t)$$



# Euler, Visually

---

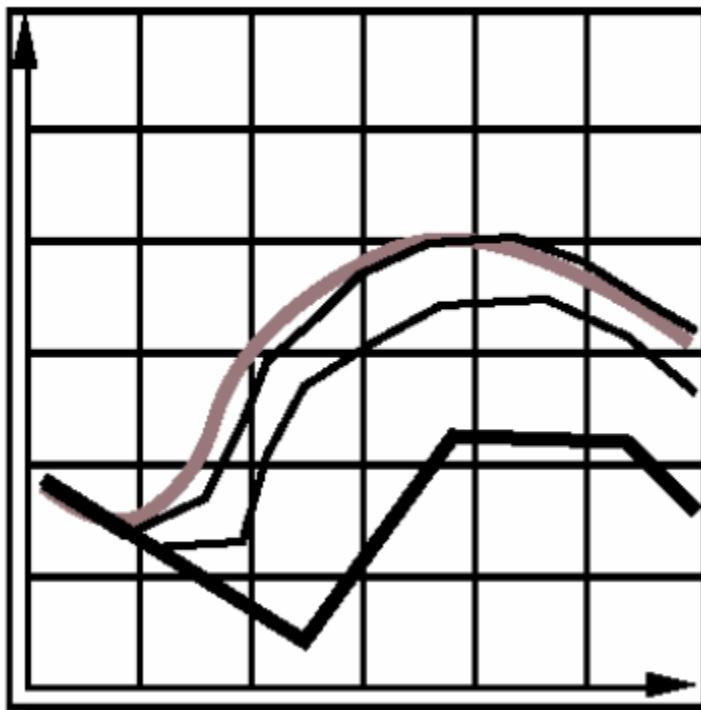
$$\frac{d}{dt} \mathbf{X} = f(\mathbf{X}, t)$$



# Effect of Step Size

---

- Step size controls accuracy
- Smaller steps more closely follow curve
  - May need to take many small steps per frame
  - Properties of  $f(\mathbf{X}, t)$  determine this (more later)



# Euler's method: Inaccurate

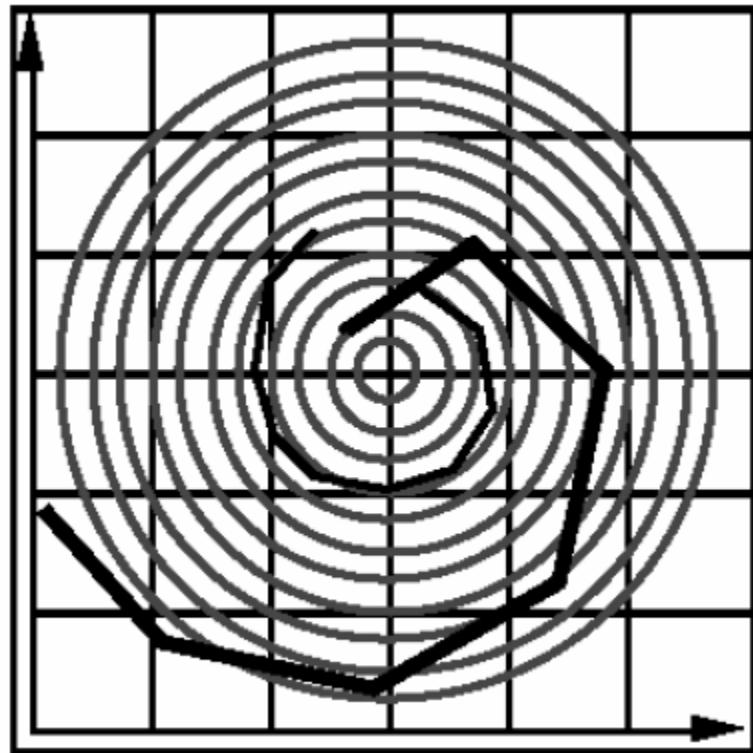
---

- Moves along tangent; can leave solution curve, e.g.:

$$f(\mathbf{X}, t) = \begin{pmatrix} -y \\ x \end{pmatrix}$$

- Exact solution is circle:

$$\mathbf{X}(t) = \begin{pmatrix} r \cos(t+k) \\ r \sin(t+k) \end{pmatrix}$$



# Euler's method: Inaccurate

---

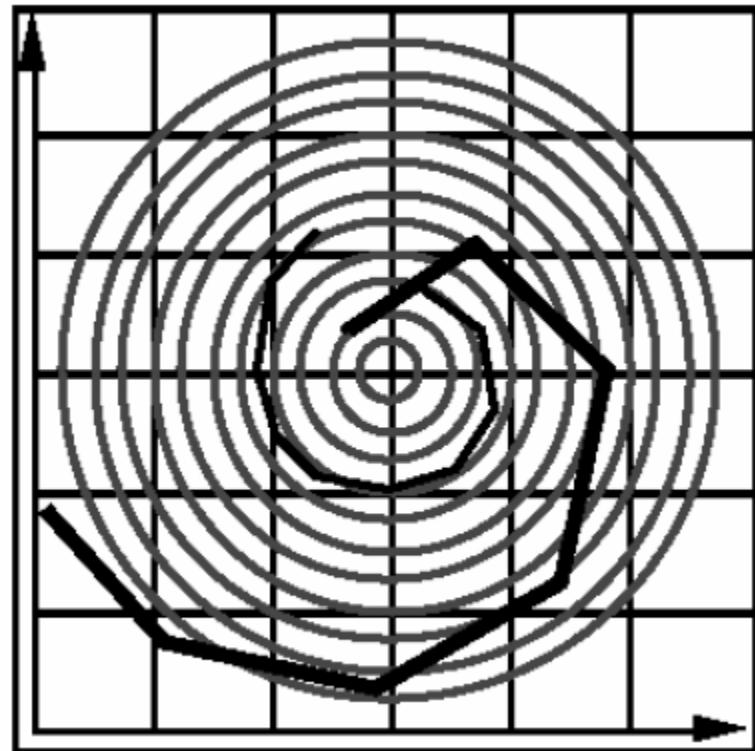
- Moves along tangent; can leave solution curve, e.g.:

$$f(\mathbf{X}, t) = \begin{pmatrix} -y \\ x \end{pmatrix}$$

- Exact solution is circle:

$$\mathbf{X}(t) = \begin{pmatrix} r \cos(t+k) \\ r \sin(t+k) \end{pmatrix}$$

- Euler spirals outward  
no matter how small  $h$  is
  - will just diverge more slowly



# More Accurate Alternatives

---

- Midpoint, Trapezoid, Runge-Kutta
  - Also, “implicit methods” (next week)

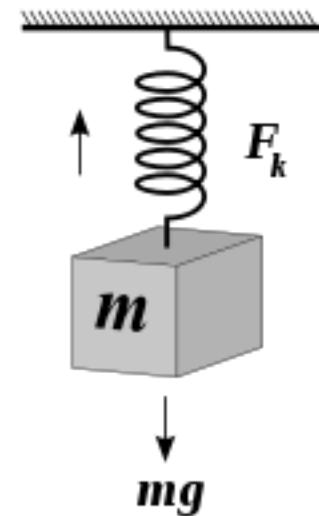
**More on this next time**

- Extremely valuable resource: SIGGRAPH 2001 course notes on physically based modeling

# What is a Force?

---

- A force changes the motion of the system
  - Newton says: When there are no forces, motion continues uniformly in a straight line
- Forces can depend on location, time, velocity
  - Gravity, spring, viscosity, wind, etc.
- For point masses, forces are vectors
  - Ie., to get total force, take vector sum of everything



# Let's Tie This to Math

---

- A force changes the motion of the system
  - Newton says: When there are no forces, motion continues uniformly in a straight line (good enough for us)

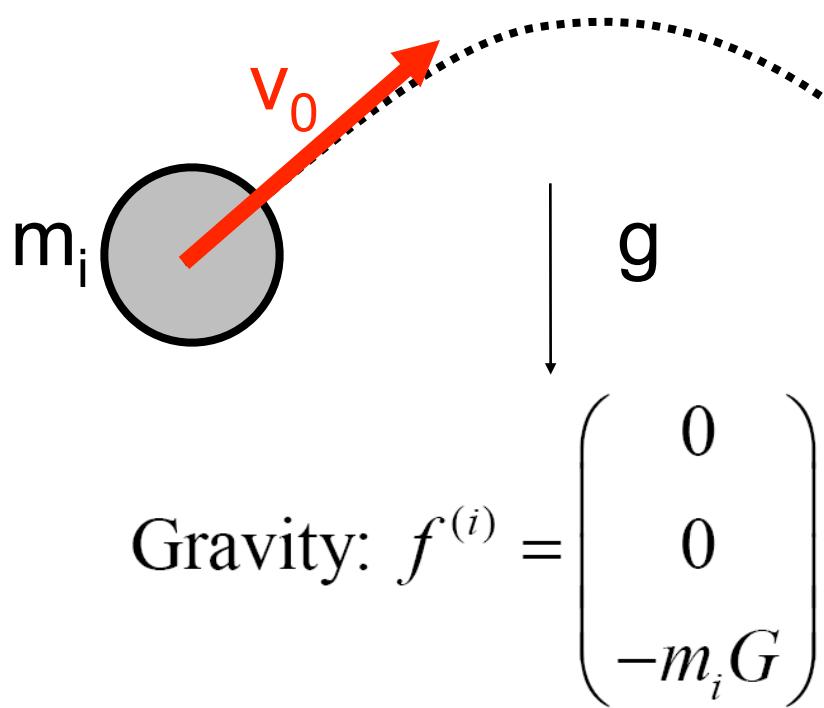
$$\begin{cases} \frac{d}{dt} \vec{x} = \vec{v} \\ \frac{d}{dt} \vec{v} = \vec{F}/m \end{cases}$$

2 variables ( $x, v$ )  
instead of just one

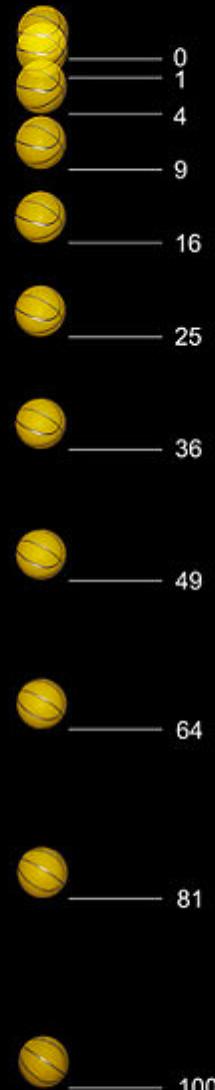
- This shows in the above equation as follows:  
 $F$  is zero  $\Rightarrow d/dt v$  is zero  $\Rightarrow$   
 $v$  is constant  $\Rightarrow x$  moves in a straight line

# Forces: Gravity on Earth

- Depends only on particle mass
- $f(\mathbf{X}, t) = \text{constant}$



[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Image:Falling\\_ball.jpg](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Image:Falling_ball.jpg)



# Let's Tie This to Math: Gravity

---

- $f(\mathbf{X}, t) = \text{constant}$

$$\begin{cases} \frac{d}{dt} \vec{x} = \vec{v} \\ \frac{d}{dt} \vec{v} = \vec{F}/m \end{cases}$$

Gravity:  $f^{(i)} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ -m_i G \end{pmatrix}$

- $\mathbf{F}$  is constant  $\Rightarrow d/dt \mathbf{v}$  is constant  $\Rightarrow$   
 $\mathbf{v}$  changes linearly  $\Rightarrow \mathbf{x}$  moves in a parabola
- Yes, this is high school physics.. :)

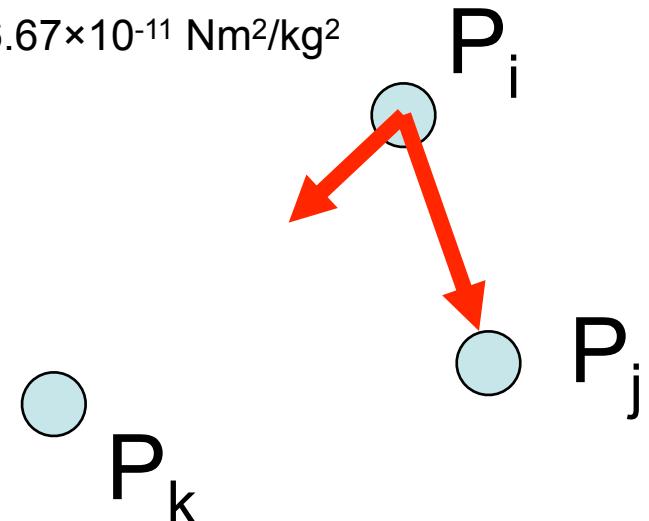
# Forces: Gravity (N-body problem)

---

- For massive bodies, gravity depends on all other particles, opposite for pairs of particles
- Force in the direction of  $\mathbf{p}_i - \mathbf{p}_j$  with magnitude inversely proportional to square distance

$$\|F_{ij}\| = \frac{G m_i m_j}{r^2} \quad \text{where } G=6.67 \times 10^{-11} \text{ Nm}^2/\text{kg}^2$$

- Testing all pairs is  $O(n^2)!$



**Particles are not independent!**

# Real-Time Gravity Demo

---

- [Link to video](#)



# An Aside on Gravity

---

- That was Brute Force
  - Meaning all  $O(n^2)$  pairs of particles were considered when computing forces
  - Yes, computers are fast these days, but this gets prohibitively expensive soon. (The square in  $n^2$  wins.)
- *Hierarchical techniques* approximate forces caused by many distant attractors by one force, yields  $O(n)!$ 
  - “Fast Multipole Method”, Greengard and Rokhlin, J Comput Phys 73, p. 325 (1987) This inspired very cool hierarchical illumination rendering algorithms in graphics (hierarchical radiosity, etc.)

# Forces: Viscous Damping

---

$$f^{(i)} = -d\boldsymbol{v}^{(i)}$$

- Damping force on particle i determined its velocity
  - Opposes motion
  - E.g. wind resistance
- Removes energy, so system can settle
- Small amount of damping can stabilize solver
- Too much damping makes motion like in glue

# Forces: Spatial Fields

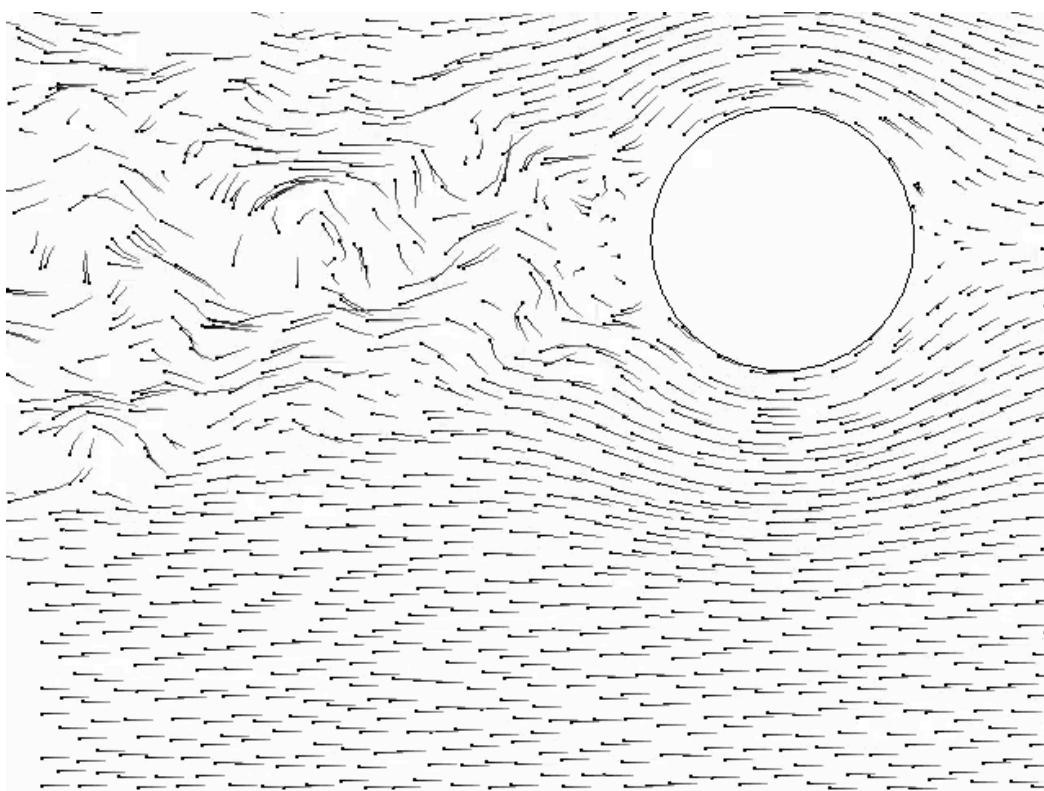
---

- Externally specified force (or velocity) fields in space
- Force on particle  $i$  depends only on its position
- Arbitrary functions
  - wind
  - attractors, repulsors
  - vortices
- Can depend on time
- Note: these add energy, may need damping

# Example: Procedural Spatial Field

---

- Curl noise for procedural fluid flow, R. Bridson, J. Hourihan, and M. Nordenstam, Proc. ACM SIGGRAPH 2007.



**Plausible,  
controllable force  
fields – just  
advecting particles  
along the flow gives  
cool results**

**And it's simple, too!**

# Forces: Other Spatial Interaction

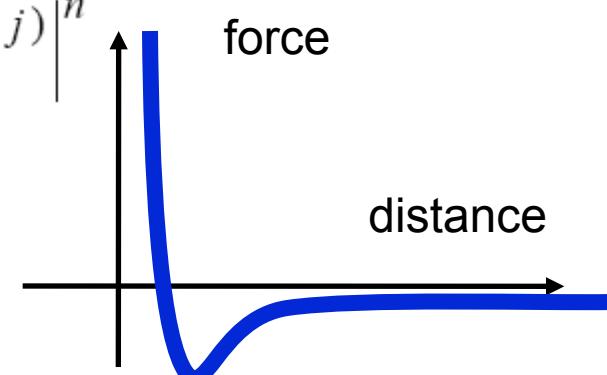
---

Spatial interaction:  $f^{(i)} = \sum_j f(x^{(i)}, x^{(j)})$

- E.g., approximate fluid using Lennard-Jones force:

$$f(x^{(i)}, x^{(j)}) = \frac{k_1}{|x^{(i)} - x^{(j)}|^m} - \frac{k_2}{|x^{(i)} - x^{(j)}|^n}$$

- Repulsive + attractive force
- Again,  $O(N^2)$  to test all pairs
  - usually only local
  - Use buckets/hierarchies to optimize



**Particles are not  
independent!**

# More Eyecandy from NVIDIA

---

- Fluid flow solved using a regular grid solver
  - This gives a velocity field
- 0.5M smoke particles advected using the field
  - That means particle velocity is given by field
- Particles are for rendering, motion solved using other methods
- [Link to video](#)



# More Advanced “Forces”

---

- Flocking birds, fish shoals
  - <http://www.red3d.com/cwr/boids/>
- Crowds ([www.massivesoftware.com](http://www.massivesoftware.com))



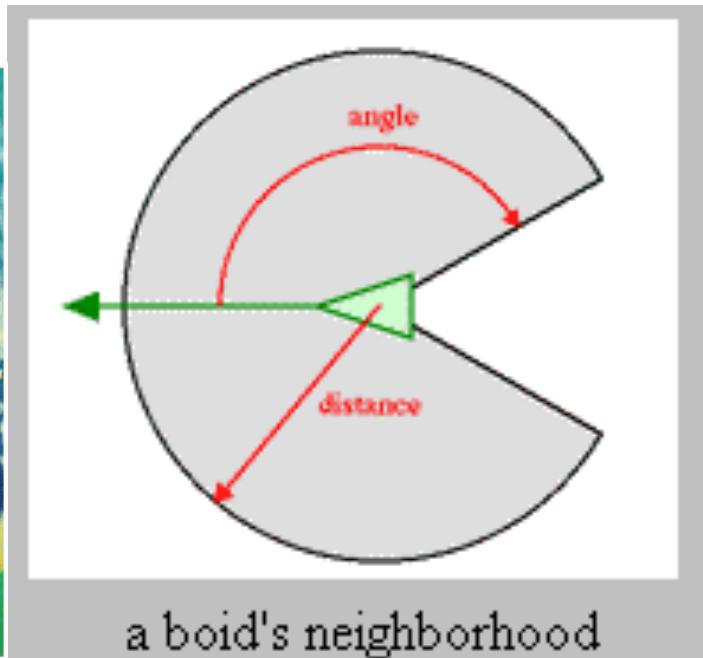
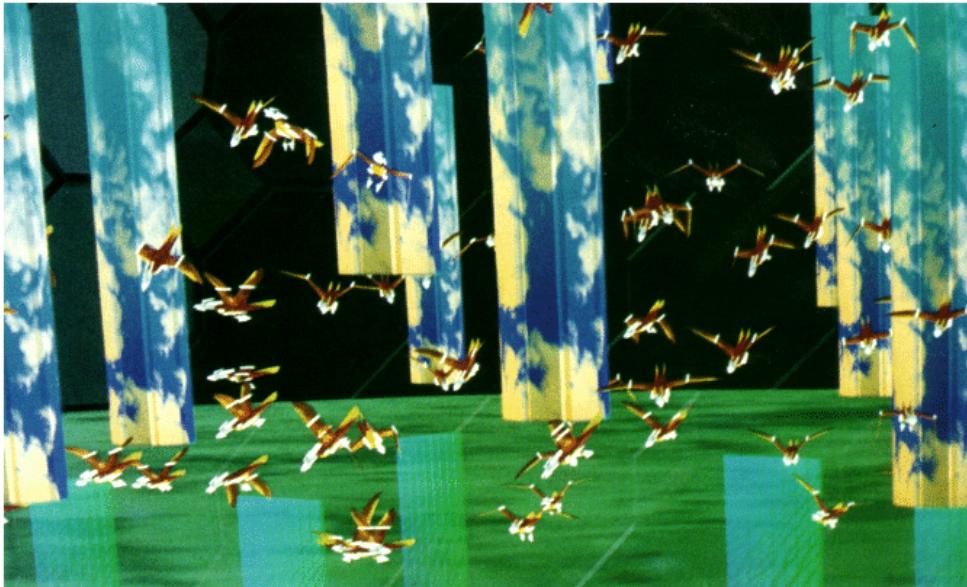
Battle of Helm's Deep, LOTR



# Flocks (“Boids”)

---

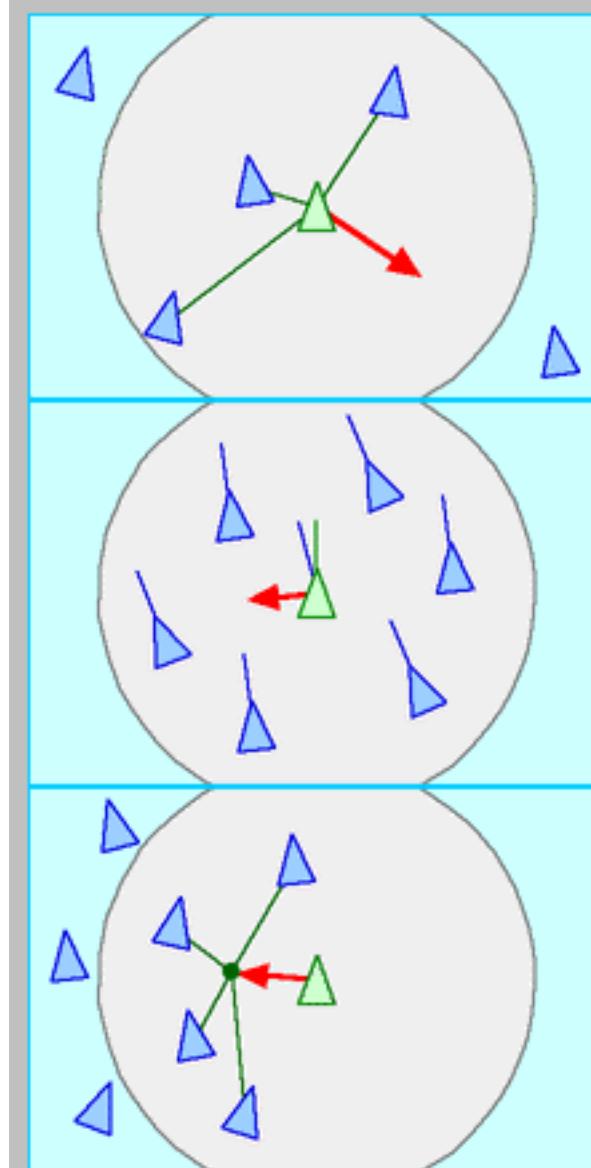
- From Craig Reynolds
- Each bird modeled as a complex particle (“boid”)
- A set of forces control its behavior
- Based on location of other birds and control forces



a boid's neighborhood

# Flocks (“Boids”)

- (“Boid” was an abbreviation of “birdoid”. His rules applied equally to simulated flocking birds, and shoaling fish.)



**Separation:** steer to avoid crowding local flockmates

**Alignment:** steer towards the average heading of local flockmates

**Cohesion:** steer to move toward the average position of local flockmates

# Flocks (“Boids”)

---

COURSE: 07

COURSE ORGANIZER: DEMETRI TERZOPoulos

"BOIDS DEMOS"

CRAIG REYNOLDS

SILICON STUDIOS, MS 3L-980

2011 NORTH SHORELINE BLVD.

MOUNTAIN VIEW, CA 94039-7311

# That's All!

---

- Further reading
  - Witkin, Baraff, Kass: Physically-based Modeling Course Notes, SIGGRAPH 2001
    - **Extremely good, easy-to-read resource. Highly recommended!**
  - William Reeves: Particle systems—a technique for modeling a class of fuzzy objects, Proc. SIGGRAPH 1983
    - The original paper on particle systems