

Computer Graphics (COMP0027) 2022/23

# Planes and Polygons

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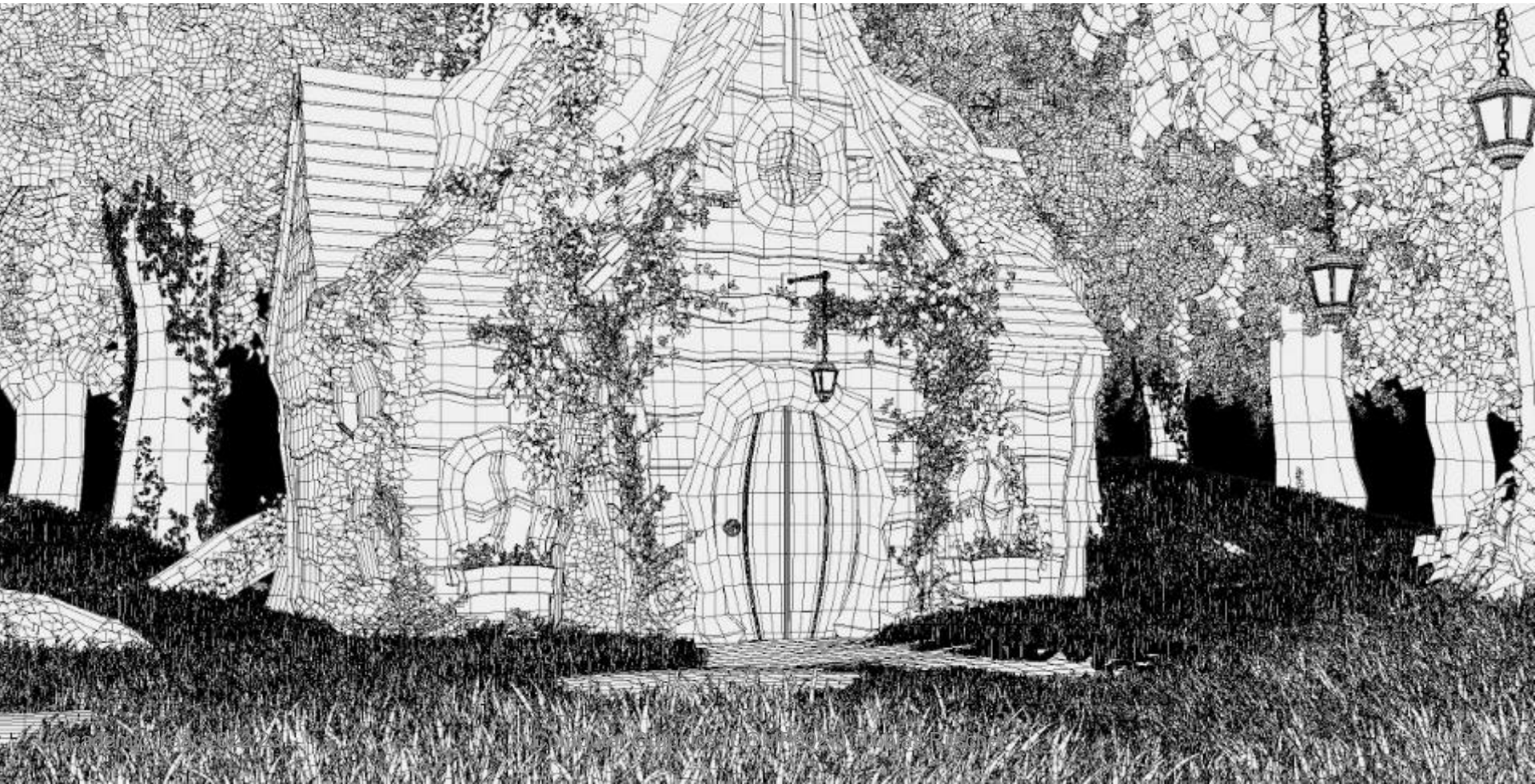
# Overview

- Polygons
- Planes
- Creating an object from polygons

# No more spheres

- Most things in computer graphics are not described with spheres!
- **Polygonal meshes** are the most common representation
- Look at how polygons can be described and how they can be used in ray-casting

# Polygonal meshes



# Polygons

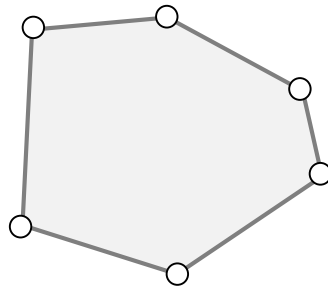
- A polygon (face)  $P$  is defined by a series of points *have order*

$$P = \{\mathbf{p}_1, \mathbf{p}_2, \dots, \mathbf{p}_{n-1}, \mathbf{p}_n\}$$

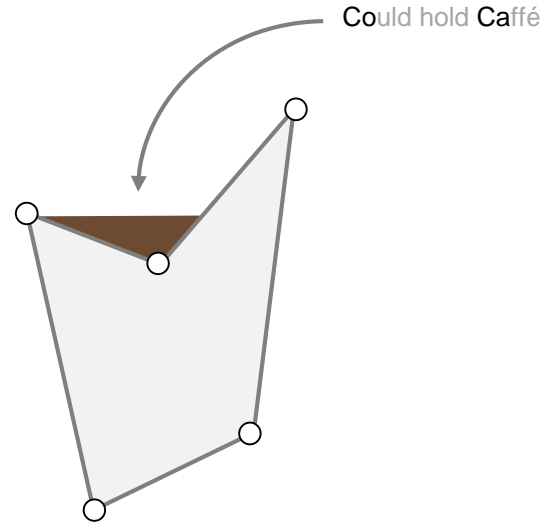
$$\mathbf{p}_i = (x_i, y_i, z_i)$$

- We ask the points to be **co-planar**
  - 3 points always a plane
  - Further point need not lie on that plane

# Convex vs. Concave



Convex

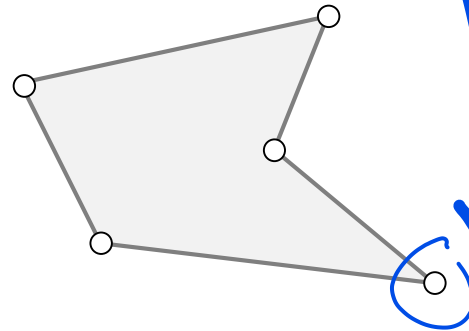
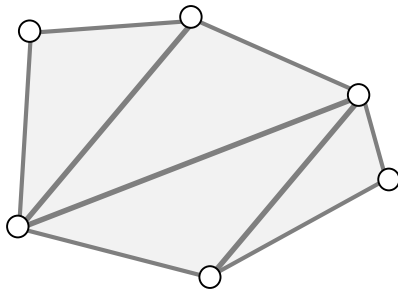


Concave

kon'keiv

# Convex, Concave

- CG people dislike concave polygons
- CG people would prefer triangles
  - Easy to break convex object into triangles, hard for concave



从这个点  
开始就找  
不到了

## Recap: Equation of a sphere

$$\sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2} = r$$

- All points  $x, y, z$  lie on a sphere of radius  $r$
- $r$  is radius
- Remember: sphere at the origin



# Equation of a plane

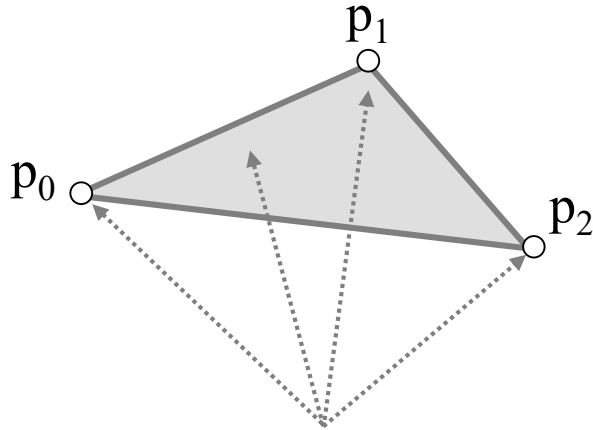
$$ax + by + cz = d \quad \rightarrow \quad \vec{n} \cdot \vec{p} = d.$$

- All points  $x, y, z$  lie on a plane with minimal signed distance  $d$
- Plane, other than sphere, does not have “position”
- We will derive  $a, b, c$  now

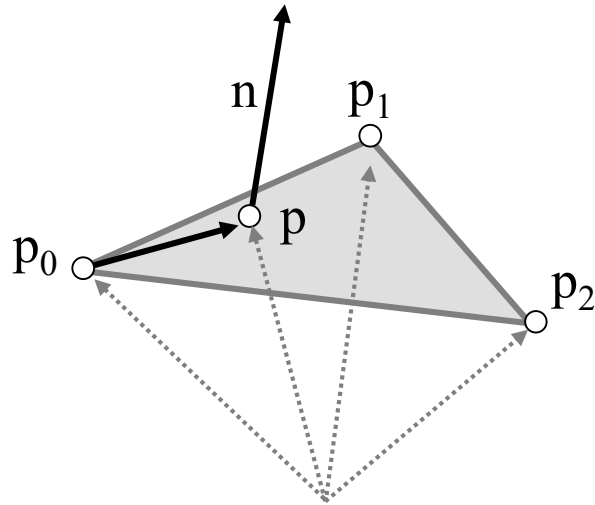
& neither inside  
or outside

# Deriving $a, b, c, d$ (1)

- Given are three 3D points



## Deriving $a, b, c, d$ (2)



- Vectors in the plane are **all** orthogonal to the plane normal vector

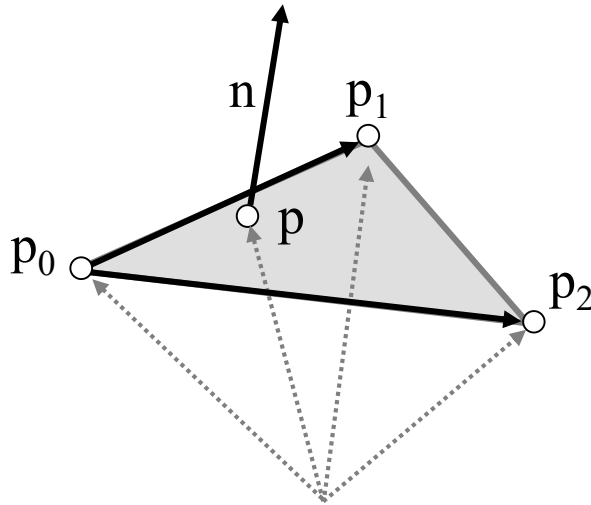
垂直 (正交)

## Deriving $a, b, c, d$ (3)

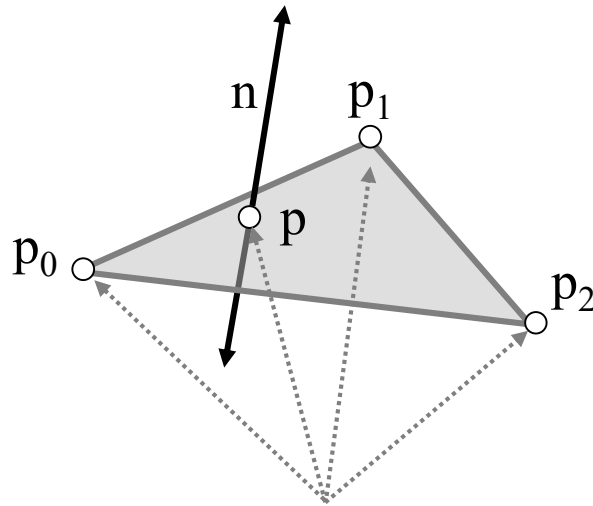
- The cross product

$$\mathbf{n} = (\mathbf{p}_1 - \mathbf{p}_0) \times (\mathbf{p}_2 - \mathbf{p}_0)$$

defines a **normal** to the plane



## Deriving $a, b, c, d$ (4)

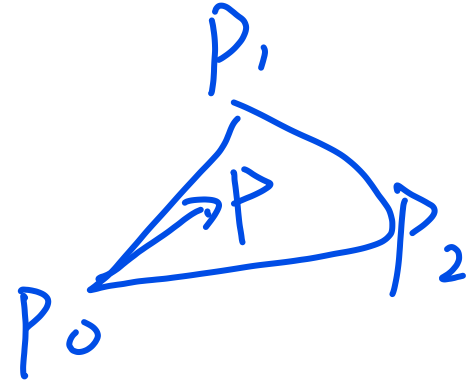


- There are two normals (they are opposite)
- Depends on choice of cross product / left-hand vs right-hand

## Deriving $a, b, c, d$ (5)

- Every  $\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{p}_0$  is orthogonal to  $\mathbf{n}$ , therefore

$$\mathbf{n} \cdot (\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{p}_0) = 0$$



- If  $\mathbf{n} = (a, b, c)$  and  $\mathbf{p} = (x, y, z)$  and  
 $d = \mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{p}_0 = n_1 x_0 + n_2 y_0 + n_3 z_0$

$$ax + by + cz = d$$

2个变量  
我可以设内推

un.  $P = d$   
是怎么来的)

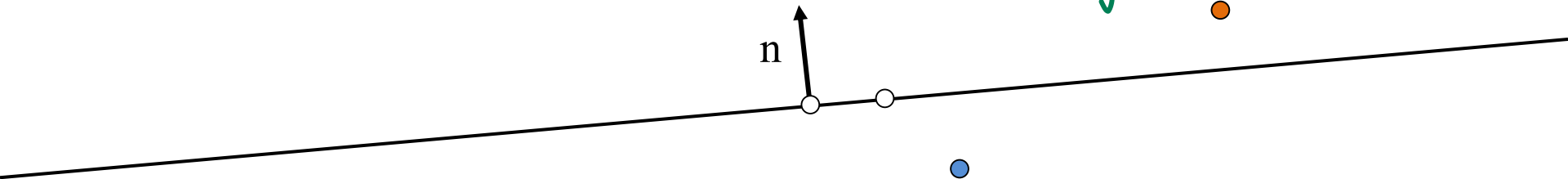
# Half-space

- A plane cuts space into 2 **half-spaces**
- Define

$$l(x, y, z) = ax + by + cz - d$$

- If  $l(p) = 0$  point on plane
- If  $l(p) > 0$  point in **positive** half-space
- If  $l(p) < 0$  point in **negative** half-space

这可以更好地理解  
lab 1 的 normal  
到底是哪个。



# Ray-plane intersection

- Coursework!



# Polyhedra

多边形 2d

# Polyhedra

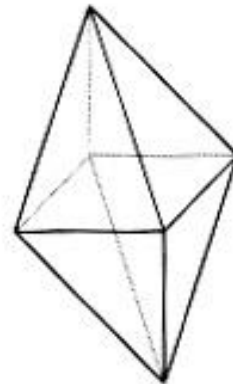
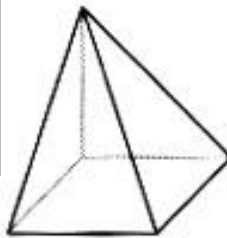
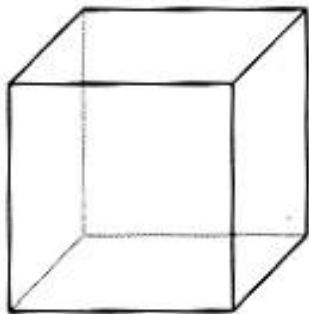
- Polygons are often grouped to form polyhedra
  - Each **edge** connects 2 vertices
  - Each **vertex** joins 3 (or more) edges
  - No faces intersect

多面体 3d

# Polyhedra

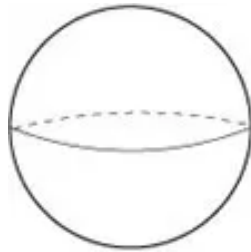
- $|V| - |E| + |F| = g + 2$   
 – For cubes, tetrahedra, cows, etc...

这里是 0  
genus (下一页)

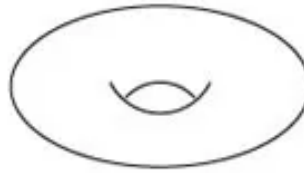


# Genus $g$

- “Number  $g$  of holes”



genus 0



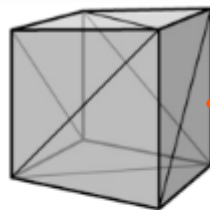
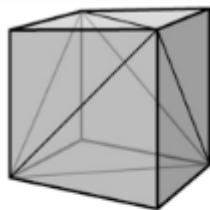
genus 1



genus 2

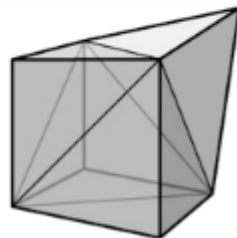
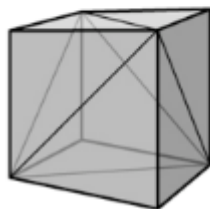
# Topology / Geometry

Same geometry, different mesh topology



度量与形状

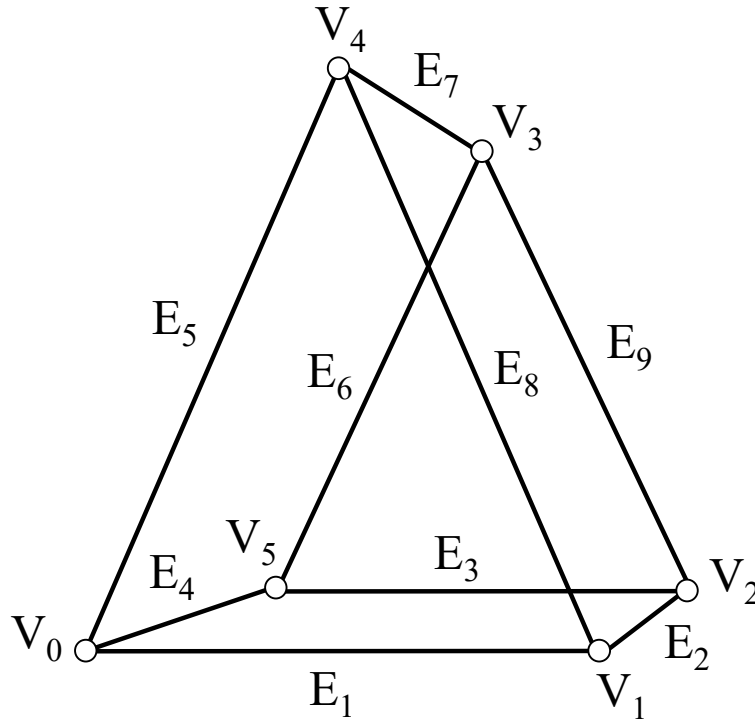
⇒ 因为第二张图没有连通



⇒ sphere & cube.  
也可以算做  
因为通过拉伸变形  
sphere 可以  
得到 cube

Same topology, different geometry

# Example polyhedron



$$F_0 = \{V_0, V_1, V_4\}$$

$$F_1 = \{V_5, V_3, V_2\}$$

$$F_2 = \{V_1, V_2, V_3, V_4\}$$

$$F_3 = \{V_0, V_4, V_3, V_5\}$$

$$F_4 = \{V_0, V_5, V_2, V_1\}$$

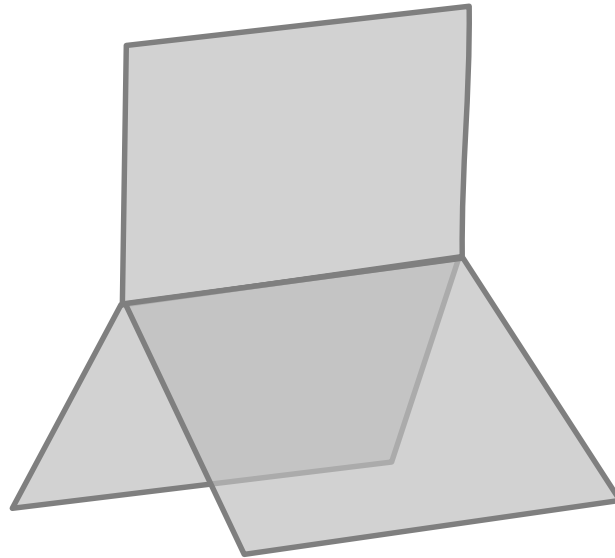
$$|V|=6, |F|=5, |E|=9$$

$$|V| - |E| + |F| = 2$$

# Manifold (流形)

- Ideally: should be **manifold**
  - One vertex has one loop of polygons/edges
  - Each edge has one or two polygons
- Quiz: Counter-examples?

# Non-manifold of sadness





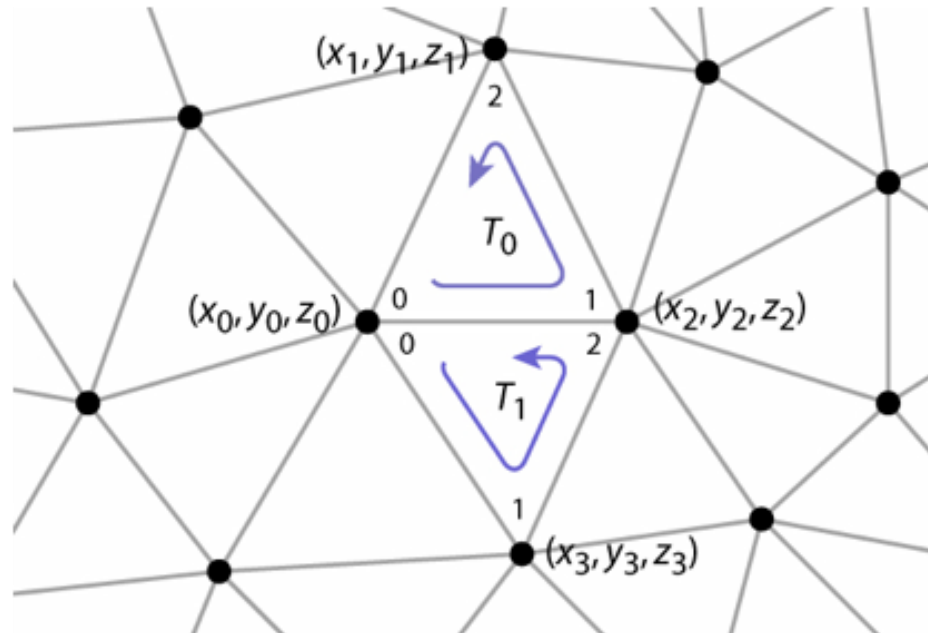
# Representing polyhedra

Multiple options:

1. Separate polygons
  - Replicate all coordinates
2. Index face set
  - Share vertices
3. Winged-edge data structure
  - General and space-efficient

# Separate polygons

	[0]	[1]	[2]
tris[0]	$x_0, y_0, z_0$	$x_2, y_2, z_2$	$x_1, y_1, z_1$
tris[1]	$x_0, y_0, z_0$	$x_3, y_3, z_3$	$x_2, y_2, z_2$
	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$



# Separate polygons

- Exhaustive (array of vertex lists)
  - `faces[0] = (x0, y0, z0), (x1, y1, z1), (x3, y3, z3);`
  - `faces[1] = (x2, y2, z2), (x0, y0, z0), (x3, y3, z3);`
  - ...
- Problems
  - Very wasteful
    - same vertex appears at 3 (or more) points in the list
  - Cracks due to rounding errors
  - Difficult to find neighbouring polygons

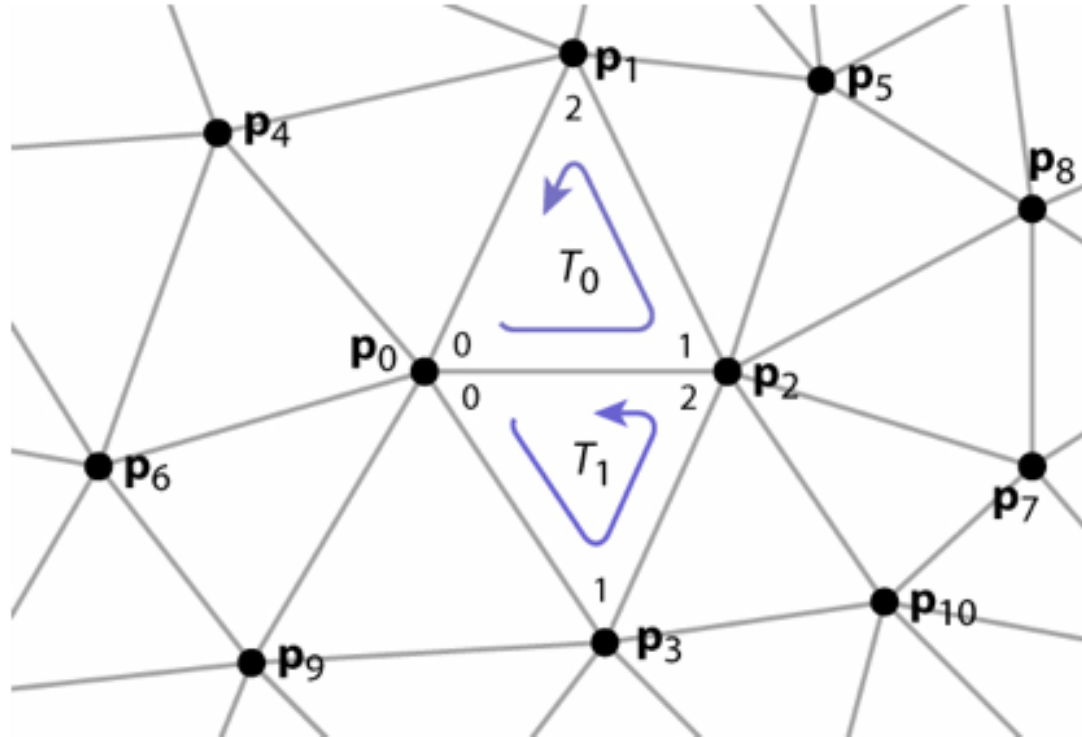
VBO  $\Rightarrow$  EBO



# Indexed face set

verts[0]	$x_0, y_0, z_0$
verts[1]	$x_1, y_1, z_1$
	$x_2, y_2, z_2$
	$x_3, y_3, z_3$
	$\vdots$

tInd[0]	0, 2, 1
tInd[1]	0, 3, 2
	$\vdots$

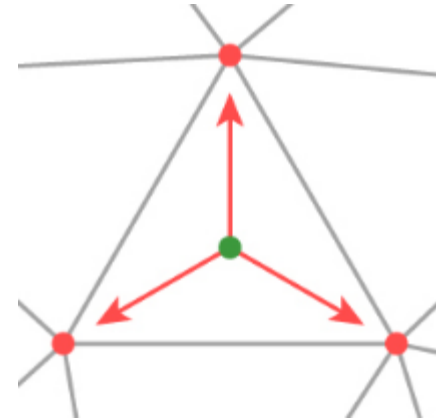


# Indexed face set

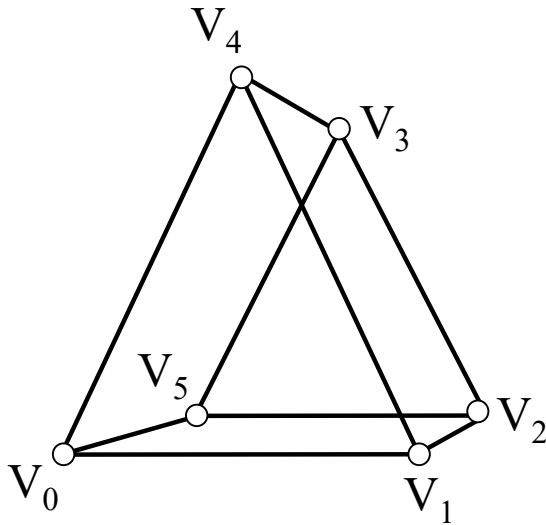
- Store each vertex once
- Each polygon points to its vertices
  - Vertex array

```
vertices[0] = (x0, y0, z0);
vertices[1] = (x1, y1, z1);
...
```
  - Face array (list of indices into vertex array)

```
faces[0] = {0, 2, 1};
faces[1] = {2, 3, 1};
...
```



# Vertex order matters



- Polygon  $V_0, V_1, V_4$  is NOT equal to  $V_0, V_4, V_1$
- Normal points in different directions
- Usually a polygon is only visible from points in its positive half-space
- Known as **back-face culling**

# Indexed face set issues

- Even indexed face set wastes space!
  - Each face edge is represented twice
- Finding neighbours is expensive (search)

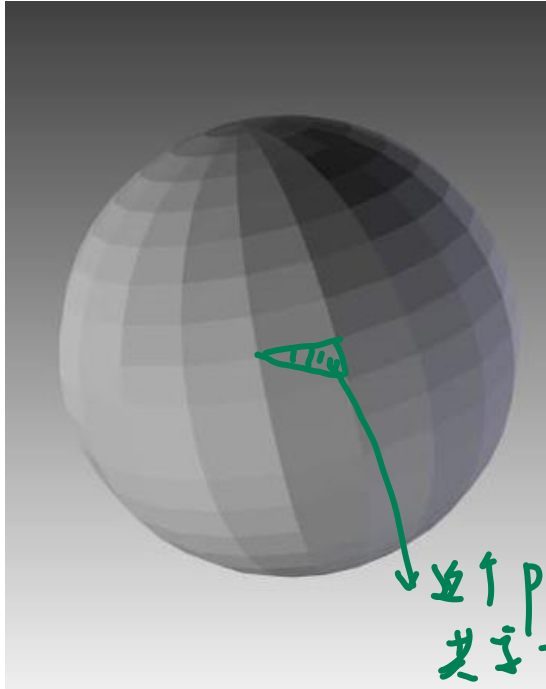
→ ∴ 表示面还是  
 (0, 1, 2)  
 (0, 2, 3)  
 redundant  
 有个什么 wing-edge  
 算法可以解决

# Exercises

- Make some objects using index face set structure
- Verify that  $V - E + F = 2$  for some polyhedra
- Think about testing for intersection between a ray and a polygon (or triangle)



# Vertex normals



Face normals

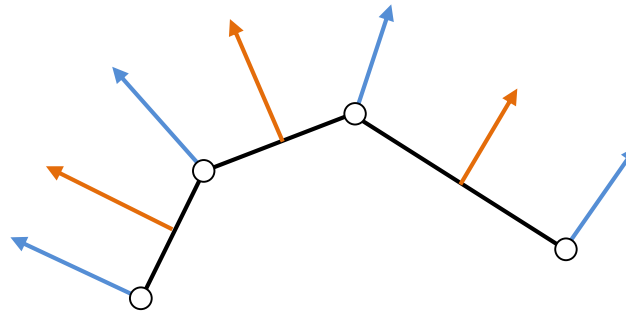
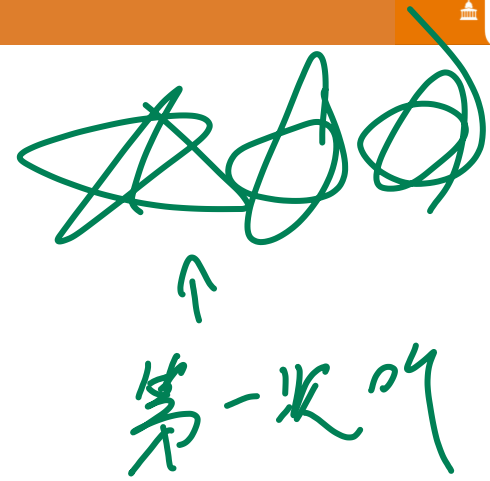


Vertex normals

↑ polygon  
其子 - 1 normal

# Vertex normals

- Compute/store a normal at each vertex
- Improves shading
- Computed by averaging neighbour faces



## Vertex normals (bad)

```
for all vertices i
  for all faces f
    if any(faces[f].index[] = i)
      normals[i] += faces[f].normal;
```

把这4个点周围  
的face取  
均值

```
for all vertices i
  normals[i] = normalize(normals[i]);
```

## Vertex normals (good)

```
for all vertices i  
    normals[i] = 0;
```

```
for all faces
```

```
    for all vertices in face[i]
```

```
        normals[faces[i][j]] += faces[i].normal;
```

```
for all vertices
```

```
    normals[i] = normalize(normals[i]);
```

face 上所有点  
都加上  
face 的 normal

# Complexity

- Bad complexity

$$O(\text{vertexCount} \times \text{faceCount})$$

- Good complexity

$$O(\text{vertexCount} + \text{faceCount})$$

# Recap

- We have seen definition of planes and polygons and their use in approximating general shapes
- We have looked at data structures for shapes
  - Indexed face sets
- The former is easy to implement and fast for rendering
- It is possible, though we haven't shown how, to convert between the two