

# HW2 Update

- Extend the deadline to 23:59pm, next Monday (Feb 21)
- Updated rubric:

	ICP (>)	Learning (>)
2pt	Beat baseline	Beat baseline
3pt	40%	20%
4pt	60%	50%
5pt	80%	80%

- Some basic generic tricks for network training are very useful (e.g., data normalization, increasing batch size, ...)
- Fanbo will create a post about some generic tricks.

# L13: Analysis by Intrinsic

Hao Su

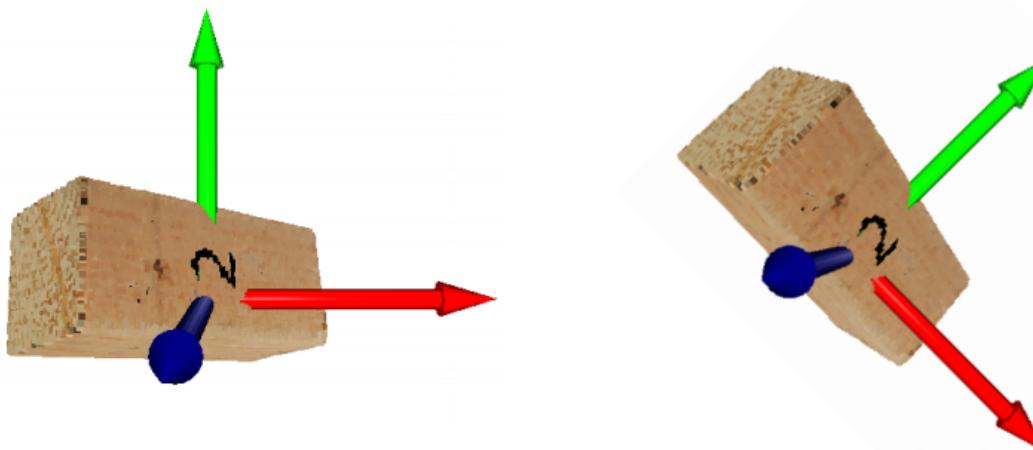
Thank Xiaoshuai Zhang for helping to prepare slides

# Extrinsics v.s. Intrinsics

- Extrinsics: cares about the embedding of a surface
  - Looking at the surface **outside** the surface

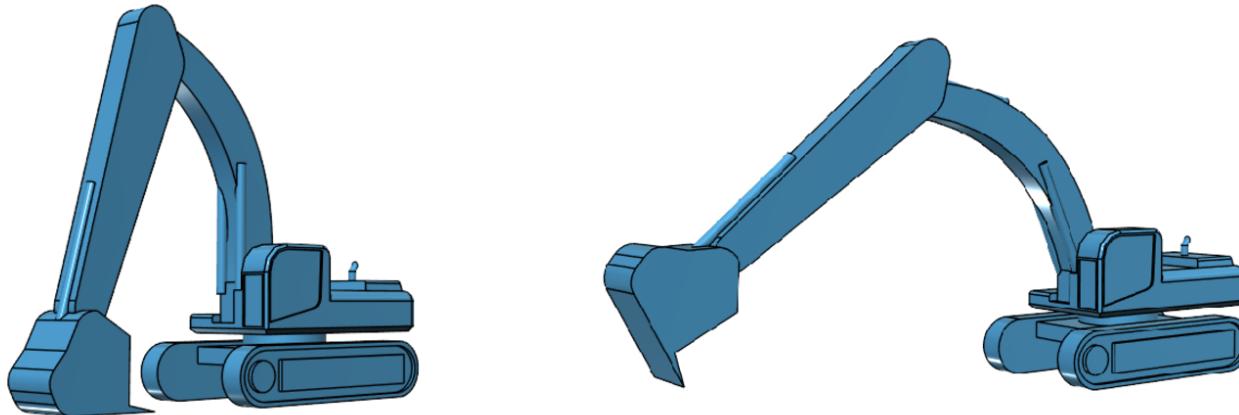
# Extrinsics v.s. Intrinsics

- Extrinsics: cares about the embedding of a surface
  - Looking at the surface **outside** the surface
  - For example:
    - est. 6D pose of a rigid body



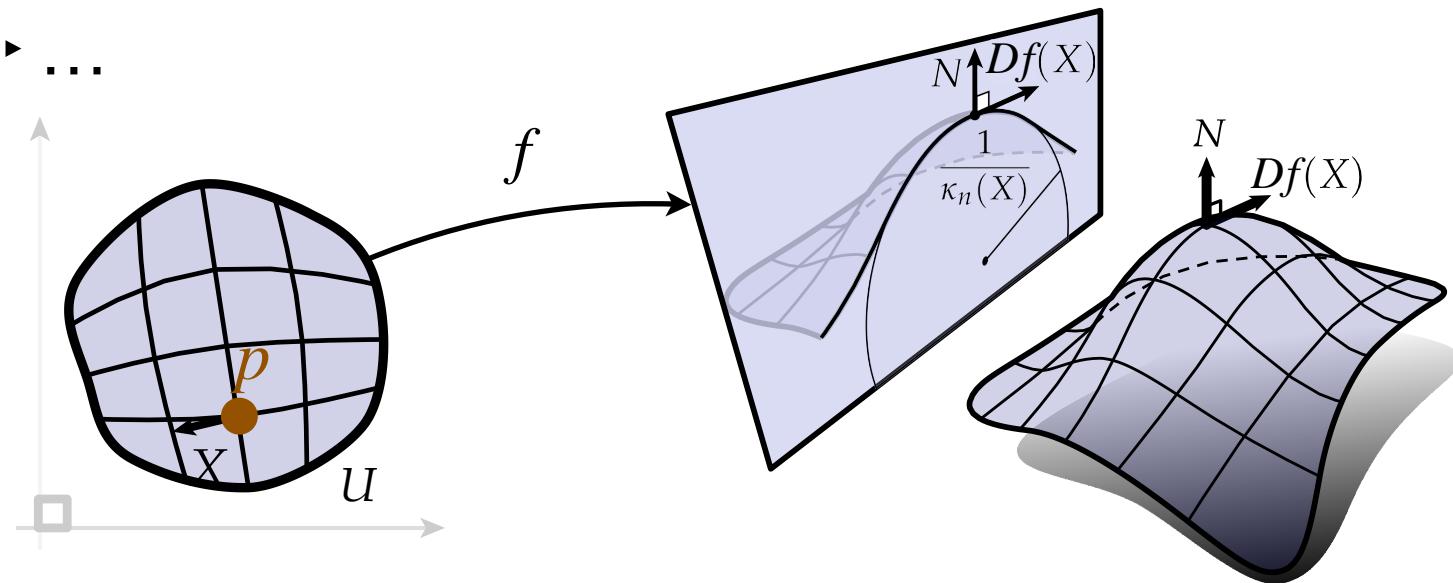
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    - est. Normal curvature
    - ...



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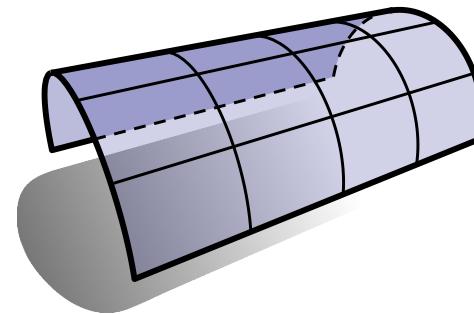
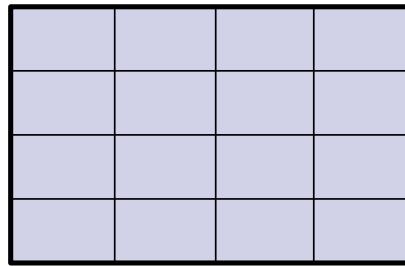
# Extrinsics v.s. Intrinsics

- Extrinsics: cares about the embedding of a surface
  - Looking at the surface **outside** the surface
  - For example:
    - est. 6D pose of a rigid body
    - est. Articulation state of joints linking rigid bodies
    - est. Normal curvature
    - ...
- Intrinsics:
  - Looking at the surface **inside** the surface
  - **Geodesic distance** uniquely determines shape intrinsics

# *Recall:* Gaussian and Mean Curvatures

Gaussian:  $K := \kappa_1 \kappa_2$

Mean:  $H := \frac{1}{2}(\kappa_1 + \kappa_2)$



$$\begin{aligned} K &= 0 \\ H &= 0 \\ \kappa_n(X) &\equiv 0 \end{aligned}$$

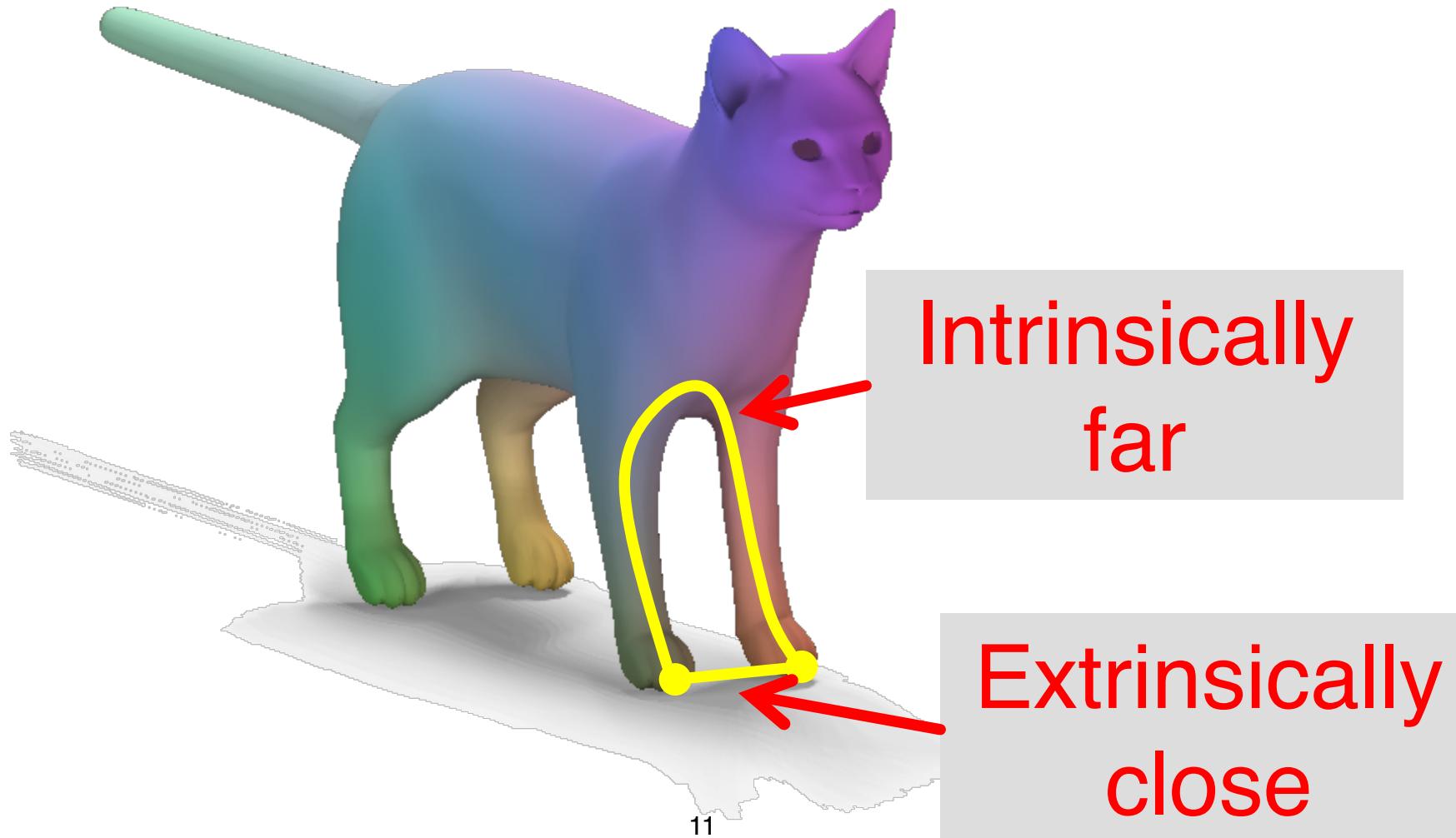
$$\begin{aligned} K &= 0 \\ H &\neq 0 \\ \kappa_n(X) &\not\equiv 0 \end{aligned}$$

# *Recall:* Theorema Egregium

The Gaussian curvature of an embedded smooth surface in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  is invariant under the local isometries.

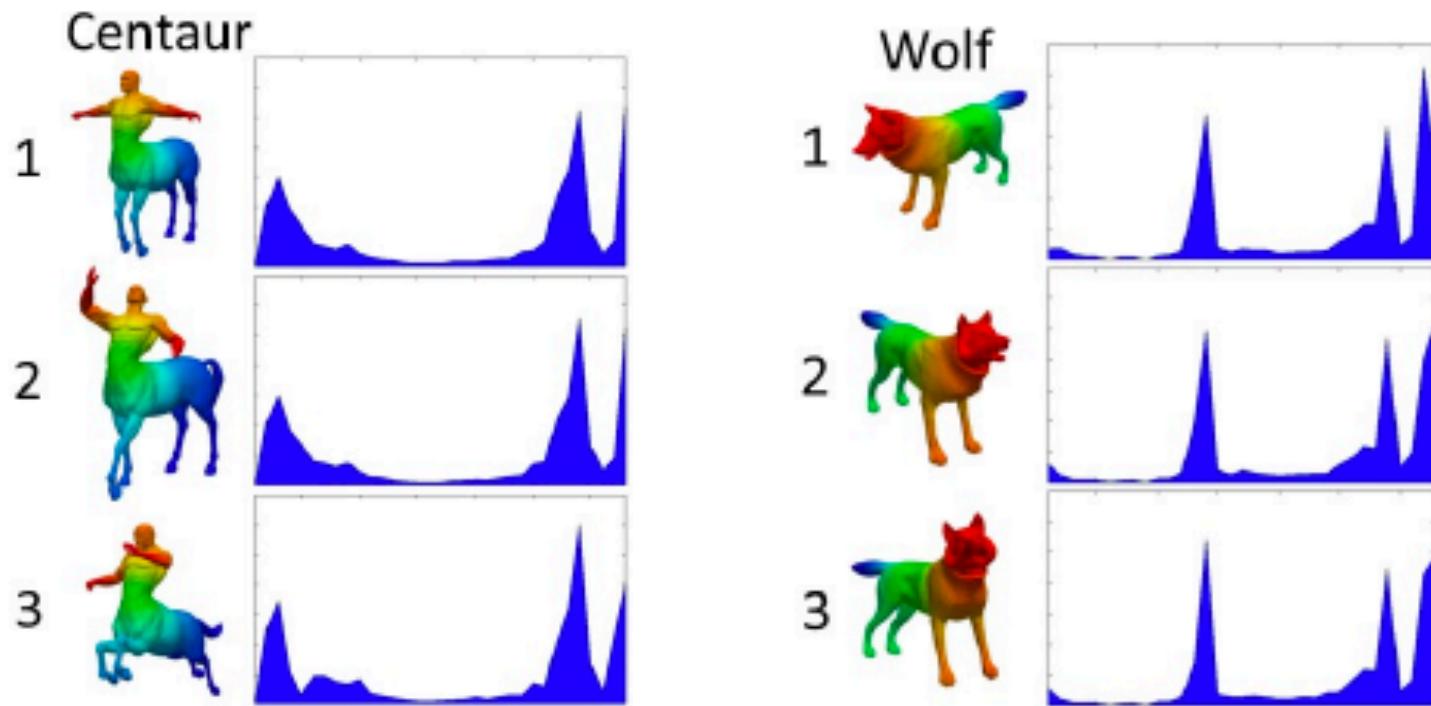
**Gaussian Curvature is an Intrinsic Measurement of a Surface**

# Geodesic Distances



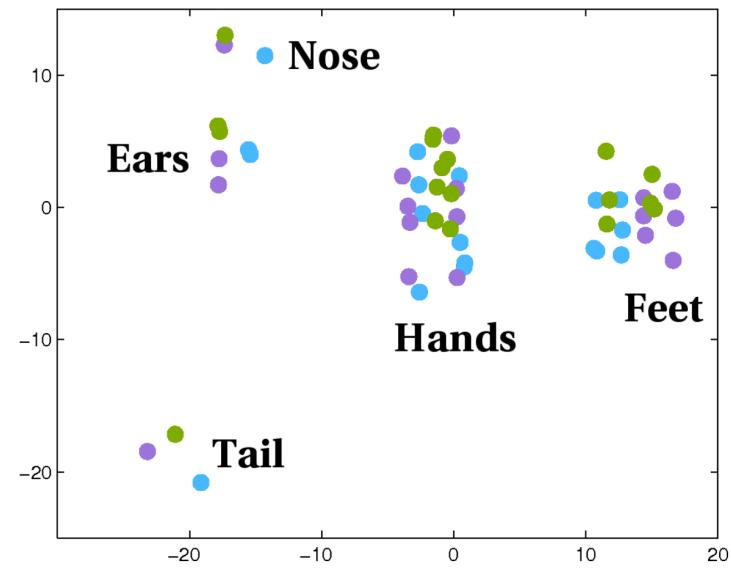
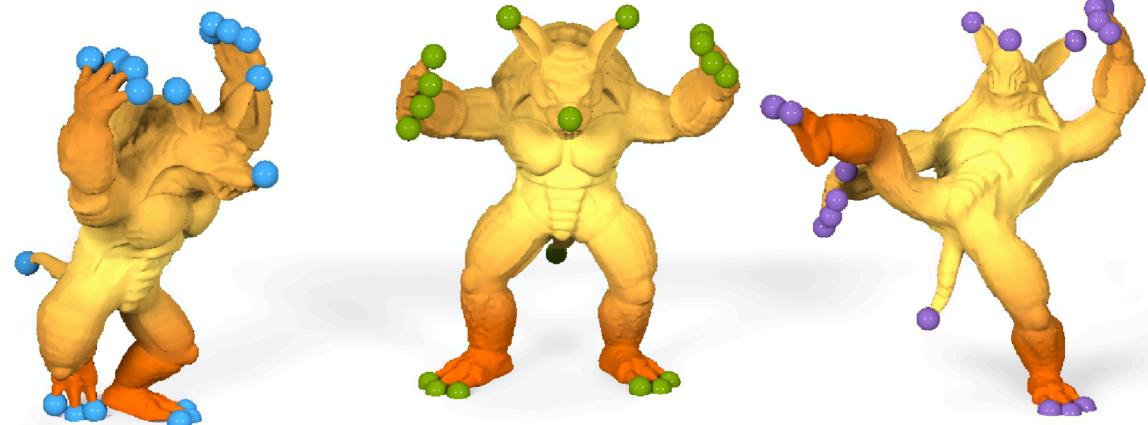
# Applications: Shape Classification

- By classical method: Distribution of distances for point pairs randomly picked on the surface



# Applications: Deformation-Invariant Point Feature

- By learning-based method: Extract some geodesic distance based features (intrinsic features)



# Agenda

- Analytic Method for Computing Geodesics
- Learning to Predict Geodesics for Point Cloud
- Applications of Learning Point Cloud Geodesics
  - Normal Estimation
  - Mesh Reconstruction

# **Analytical Method for Computing Geodesics**

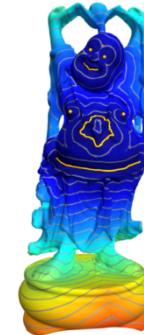
# Related Queries



Single source



Multi-source

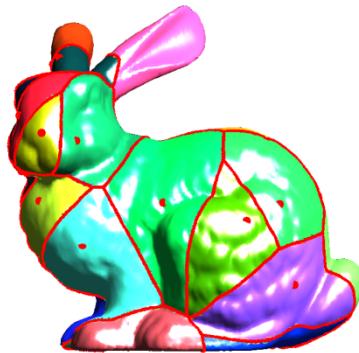


All-pairs

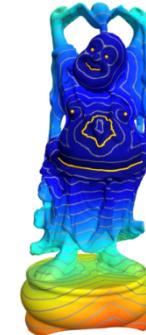
# Related Queries



Single source

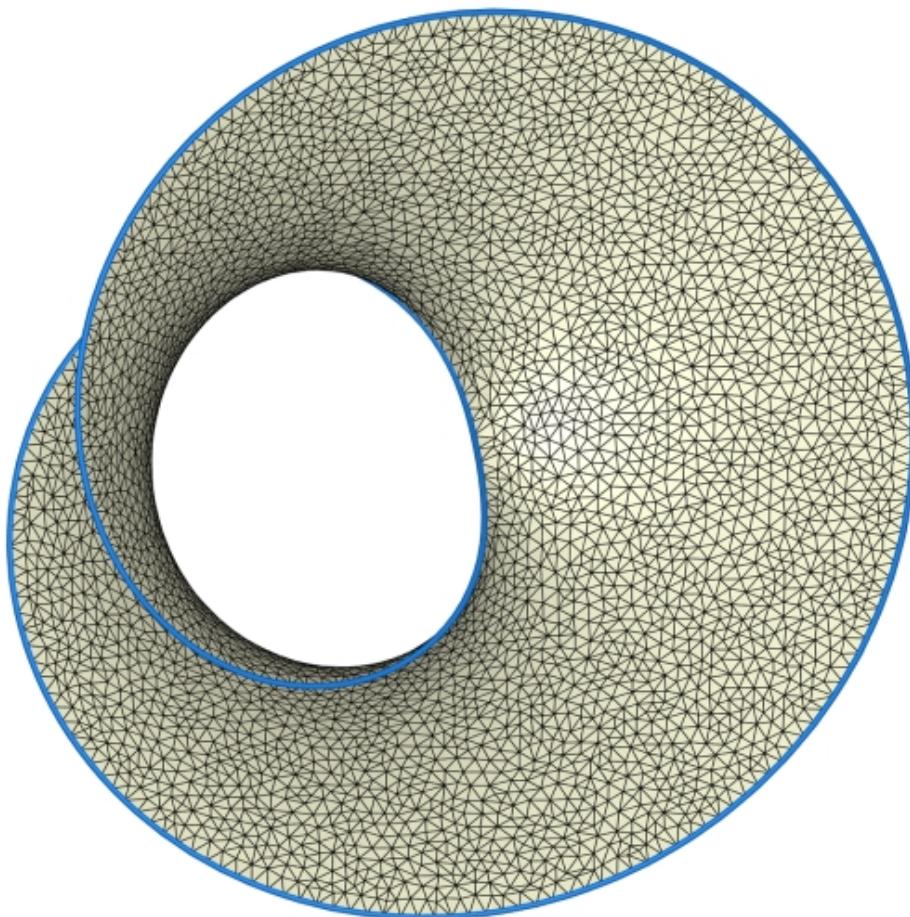


Multi-source



All-pairs

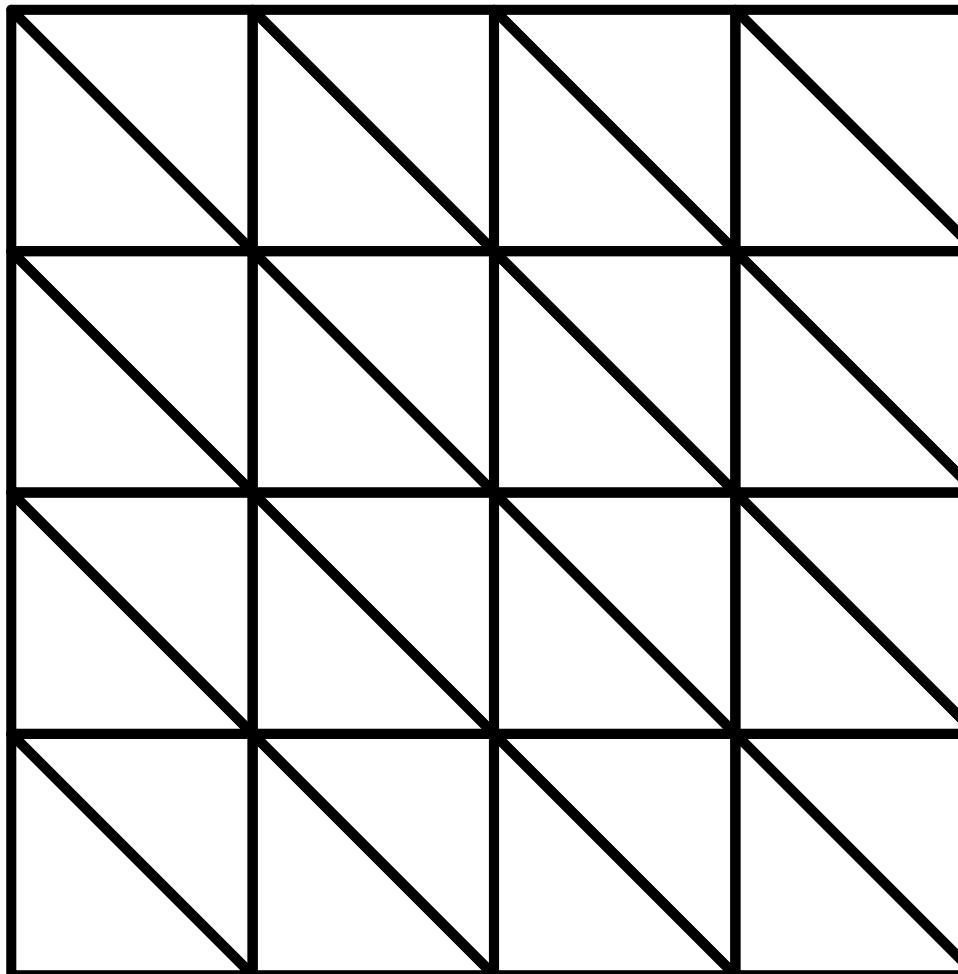
# Geodesics on Meshes



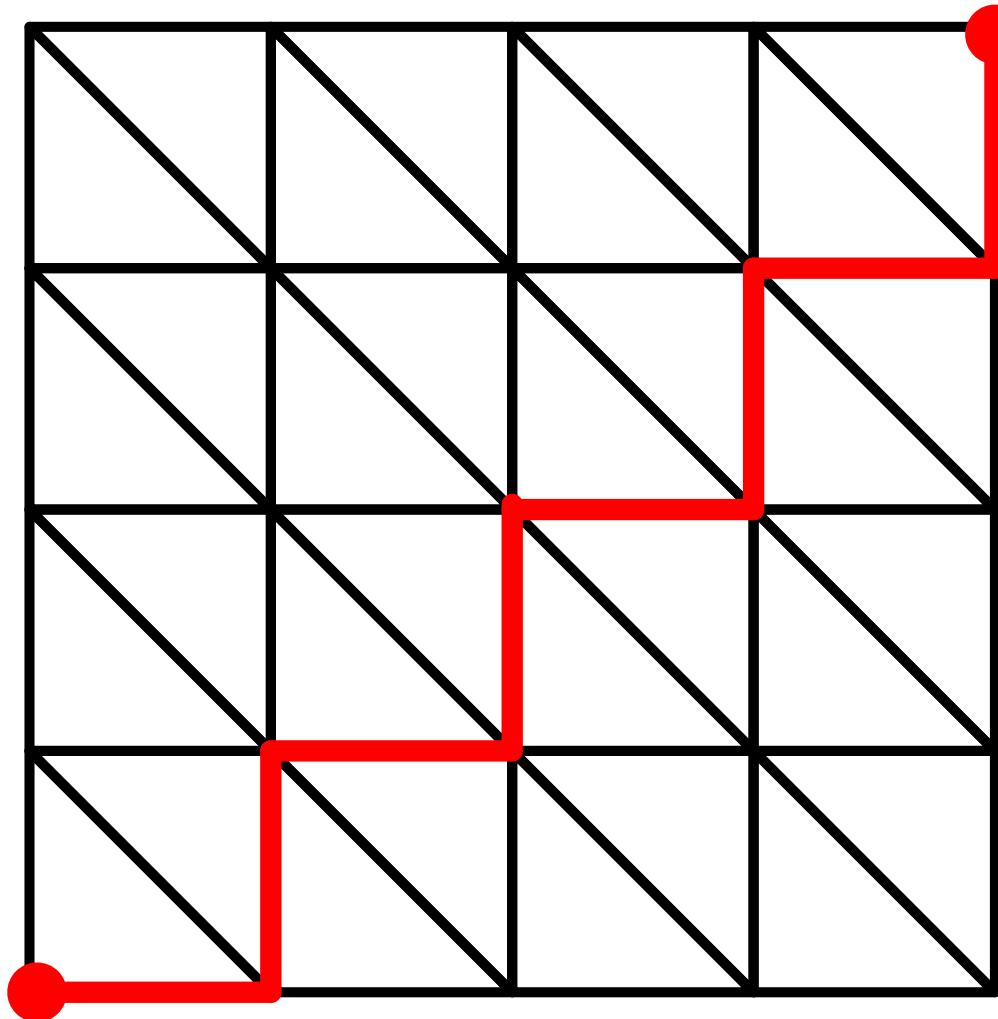
Approximate  
geodesics as  
paths along  
edges

Meshes are graphs

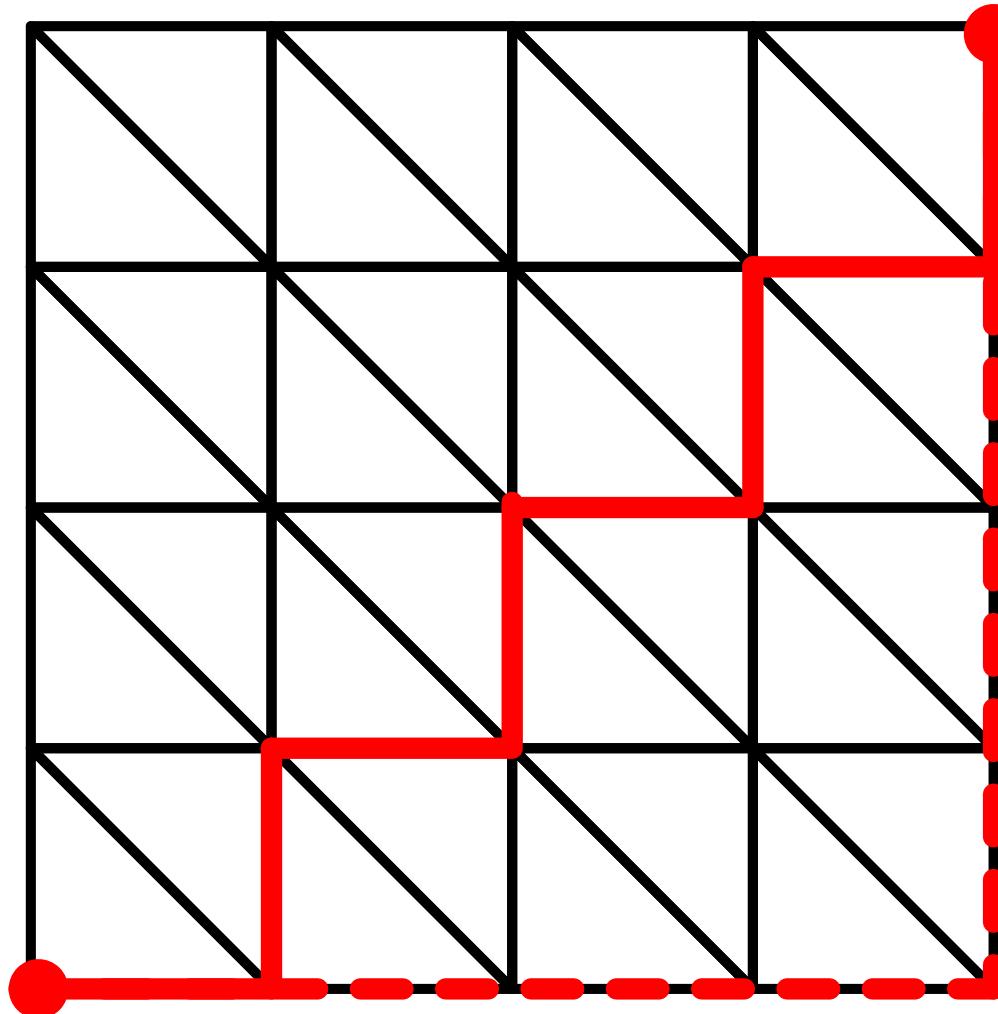
# Can We Use Shortest Path Algorithms to Compute Geodesics?



# Can We Use Shortest Path Algorithms to Compute Geodesics?



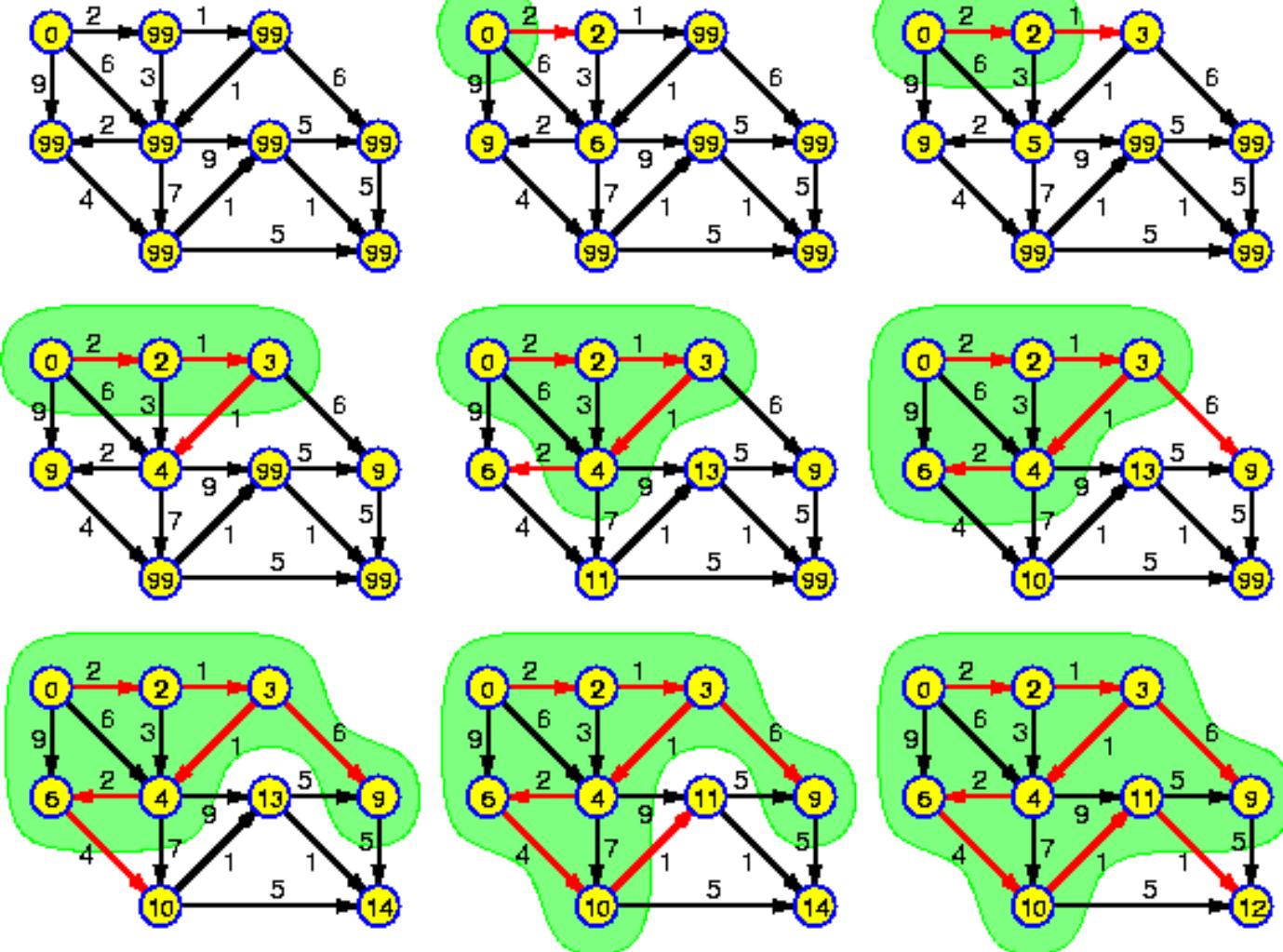
# Can We Use Shortest Path Algorithms to Compute Geodesics?



# Fast Marching Algorithm

Dijkstra's algorithm, modified to  
approximate geodesic distances.

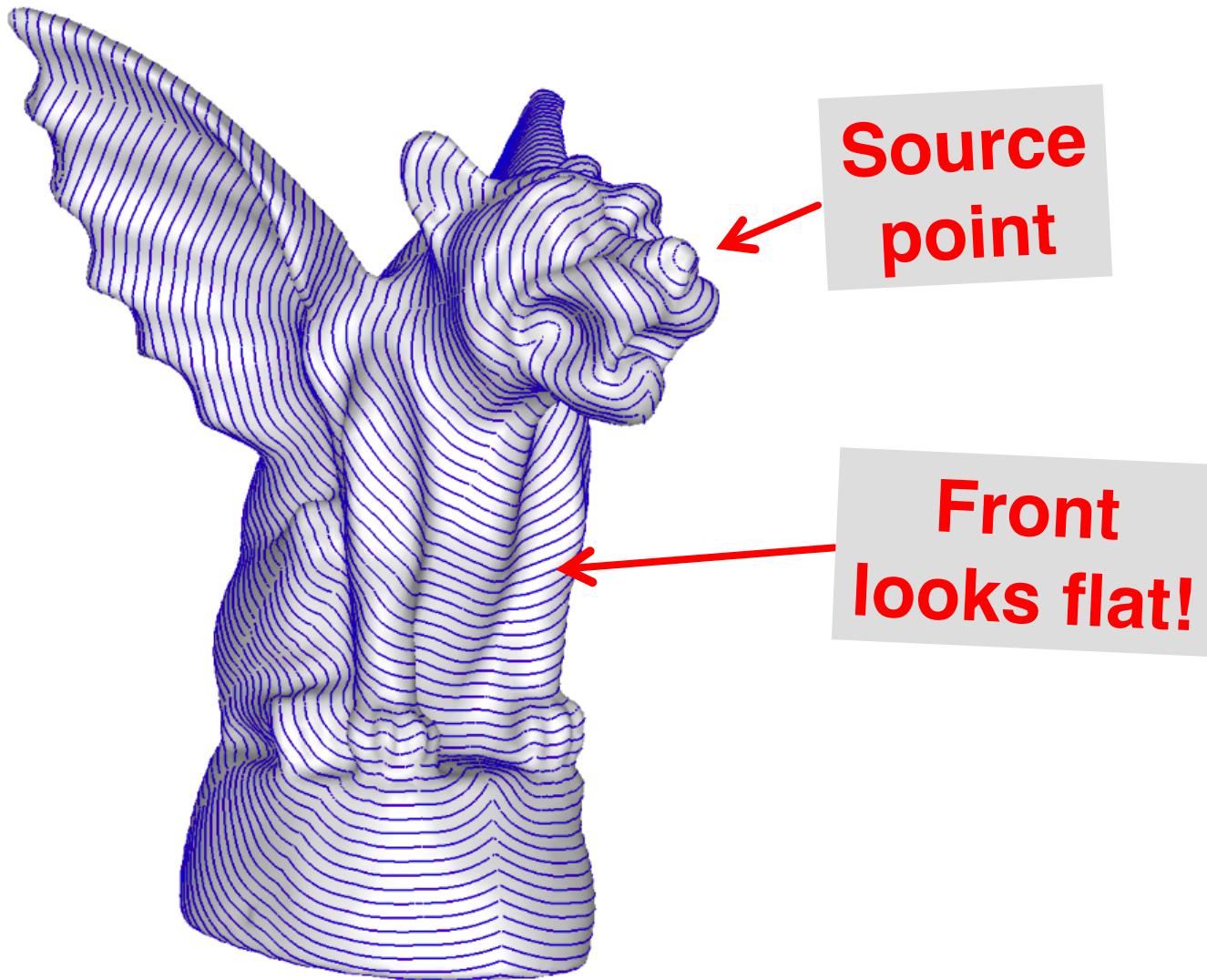
# Review of Dijkstra's Algorithm



# Key Idea of Dijkstra's Algorithm

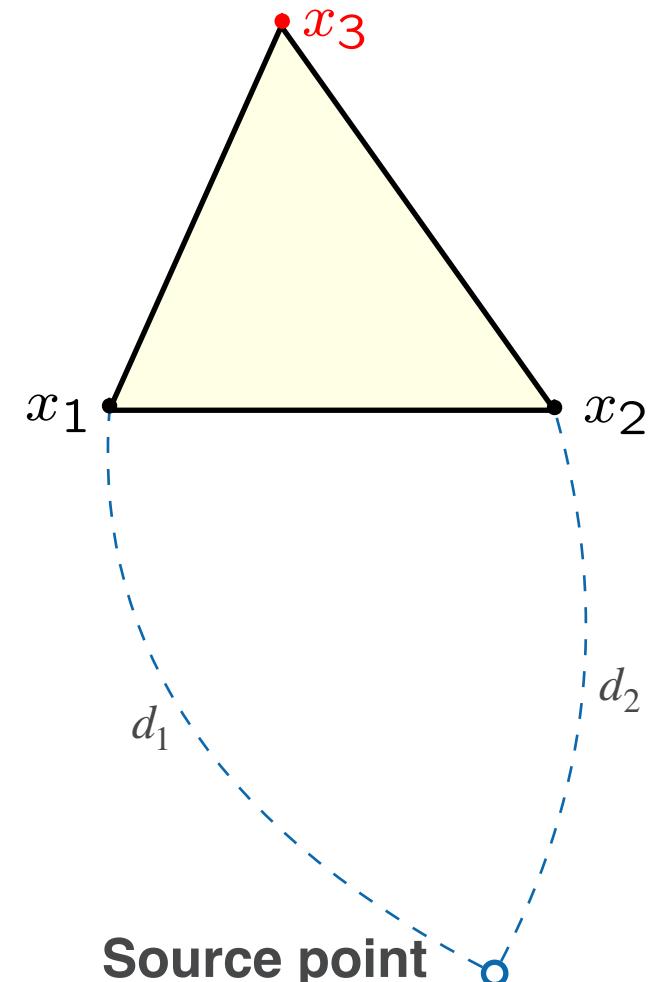
- Maintain a frontier set of vertices with the shortest distance from the source
- Propagate to the neighborhood

# Fast Marching Algorithm



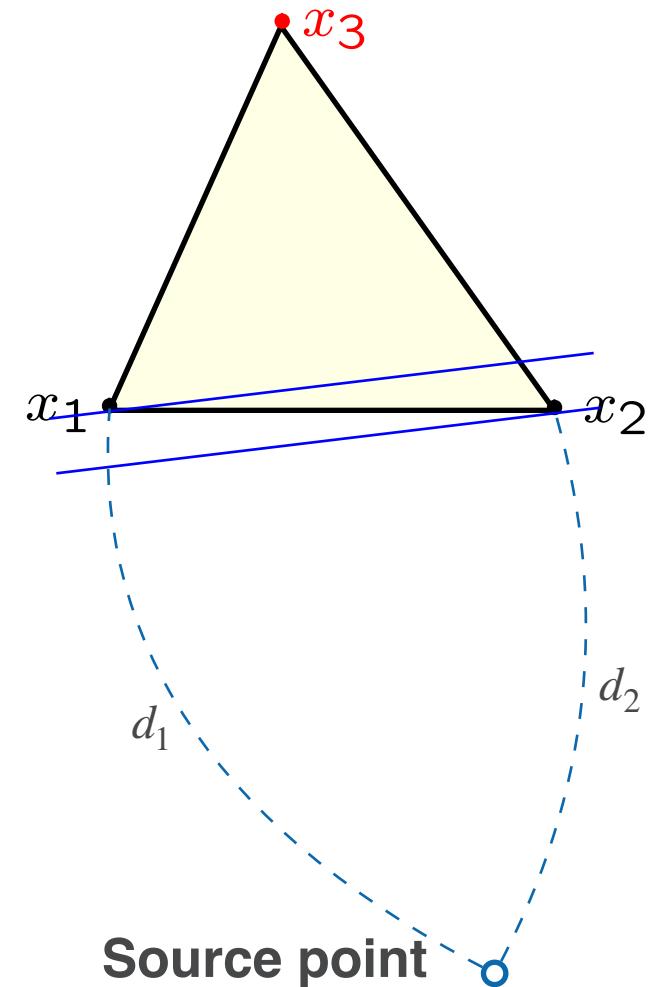
# Fast Marching Algorithm

- At  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  stores the shortest paths  $d_1$  and  $d_2$
- Question: shortest path  $d_3$  at  $x_3$ ?

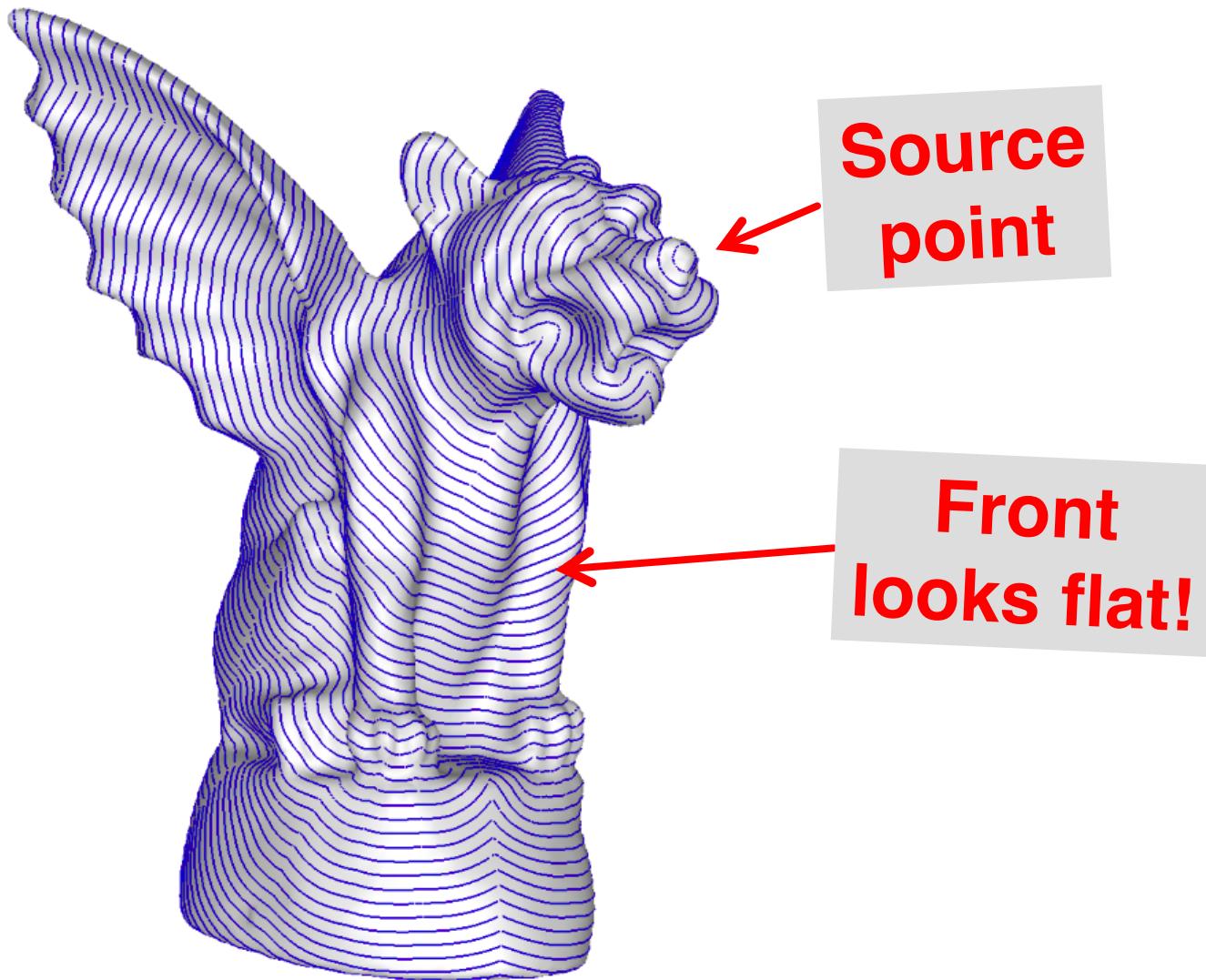


# Fast Marching Algorithm

- Idea: Planar front approximation ( $\because |x_1x_2| \approx 0$ )

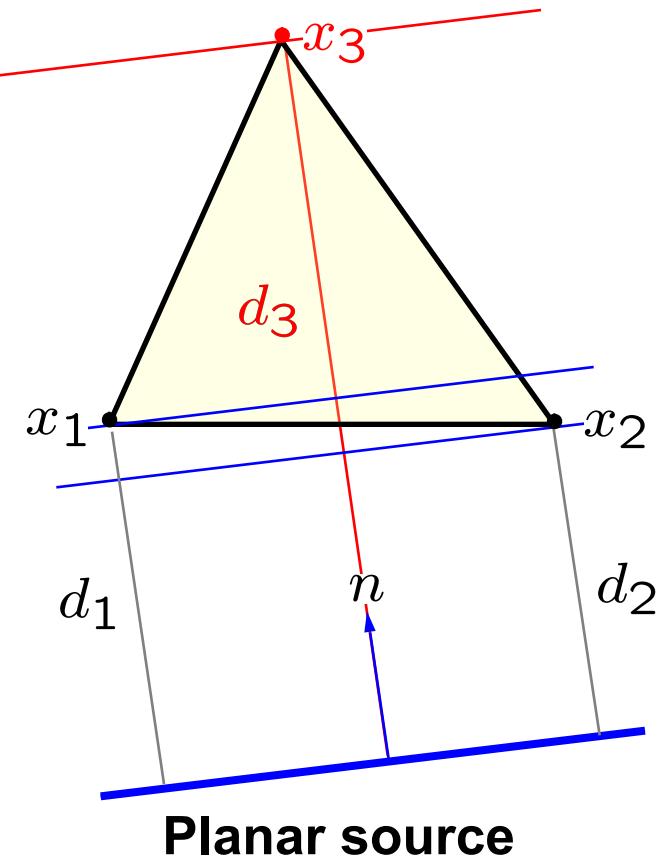
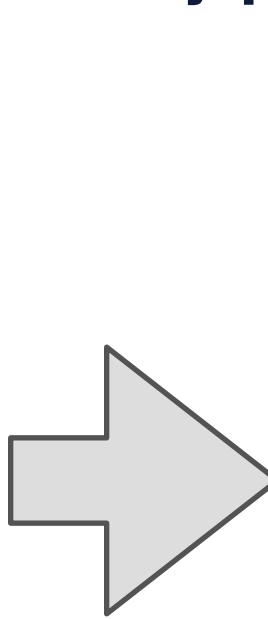
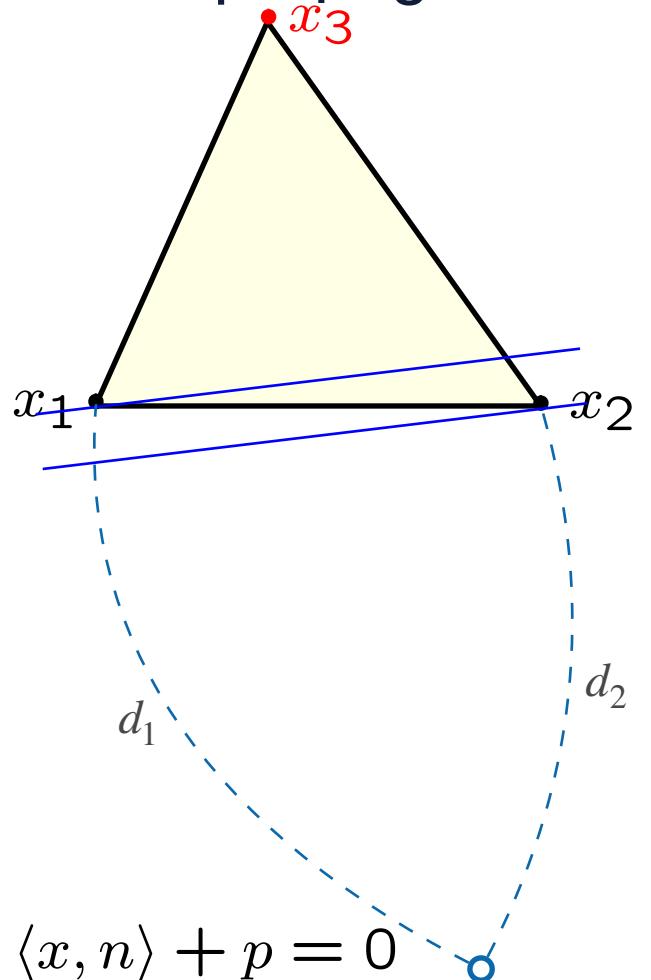


# Trick: Every front looks flat!



# Fast Marching Algorithm

- Change of view: point source → planar source
- Front propagates from **every point on the source**



# Fast Marching Update Steps

- Front hits  $x_1$  at time  $d_1$
- Hits  $x_2$  at time  $d_2$
- When does the front arrive  $x_3$ ?

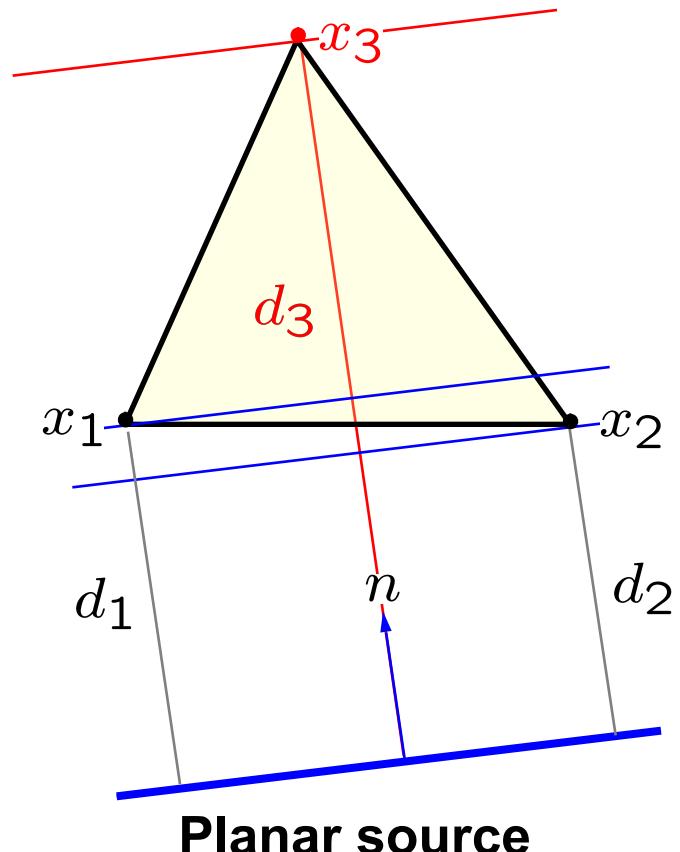
- Step 1: Model **wave front** propagation from a planar source

$$\langle x, n \rangle + p = 0$$

$n$  : unit propagation direction

$p$  : source offset

- Step 2: Compute the distance from  $x_3$  to the plane



$$\langle x, n \rangle + p = 0$$

# Practical Implementation

## Fast Exact and Approximate Geodesics on Meshes

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University of Oslo

Tatiana Surazhsky  
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Harvard University

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Harvard University

Hugues Hoppe  
Microsoft Research

### Abstract

The computation of geodesic paths and distances on triangle meshes is a common operation in many computer graphics applications. We present several practical algorithms for computing such geodesics from a source point to one or all other points efficiently. First, we describe an implementation of the exact “single source, all destination” algorithm presented by Mitchell, Mount, and Papadimitriou (MMP). We show that the algorithm runs much faster in practice than suggested by worst case analysis. Next, we extend the algorithm with a merging operation to obtain computationally efficient and accurate approximations with bounded error. Finally, to compute the shortest path between two given points, we use a lower-bound property of our approximate geodesic algorithm to efficiently prune the frontier of the MMP algorithm, thereby obtaining an exact solution even more quickly.

**Keywords:** shortest path, geodesic distance.

### 1 Introduction

In this paper we present practical methods for computing both exact and approximate shortest (i.e. geodesic) paths on a triangle mesh. These geodesic paths typically cut across faces in the mesh and are therefore not found by the traditional graph-based Dijkstra algorithm for shortest paths.

The computation of geodesic paths is a common operation in many computer graphics applications. For example, parameterizing a mesh often involves cutting the mesh into one or more charts (e.g. [Krishnamurthy and Levoy 1996]). The result generally has less distortion if the cuts are geodesic. Geodesic mesh into charts, as done in [Katz et al.

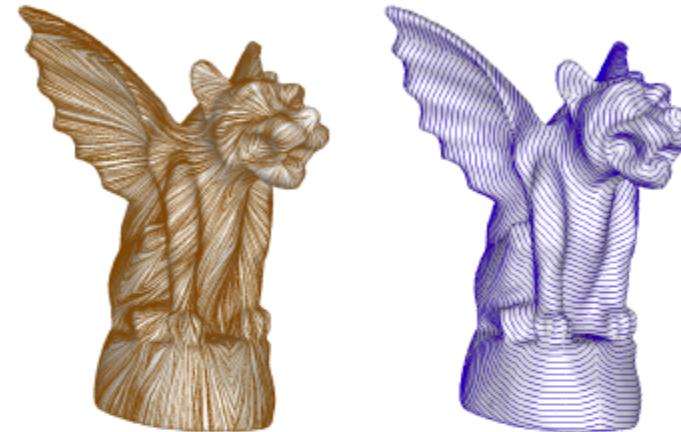


Figure 1: Geodesic paths from a source vertex, and isolines of the geodesic distance function.

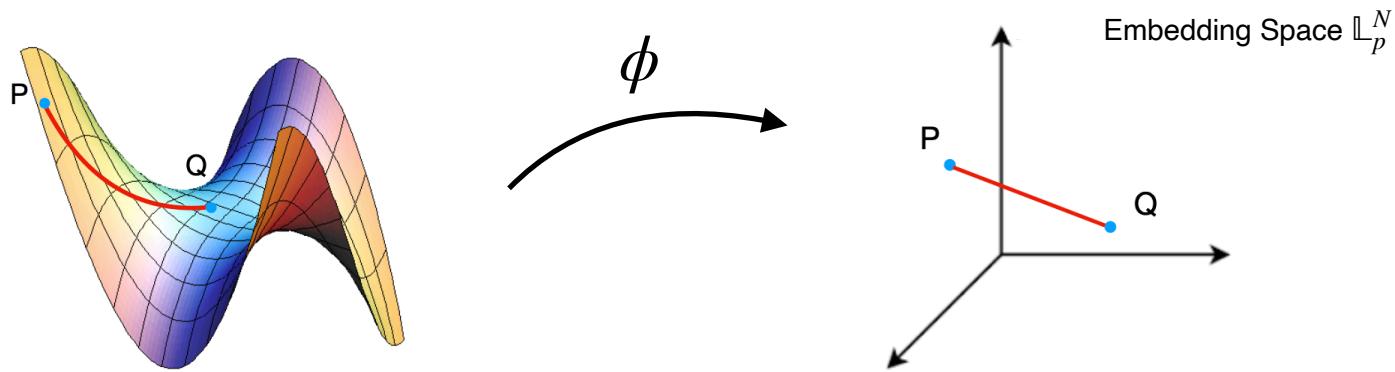
function over the edges, the implementation is actually practical even though, to our knowledge, it has never been done previously. We demonstrate that the algorithm’s worst case running time of  $O(n^2 \log n)$  is pessimistic, and that in practice, the algorithm runs in sub-quadratic time. For instance, we can compute the exact geodesic distance from a source point to all vertices of a 400K-triangle mesh in about one minute.

**Approximation algorithm** We extend the algorithm with a merging operation to obtain computationally efficient and accurate approximations with *bounded* error. In practice, the algorithm runs in

<http://code.google.com/p/geodesic/>

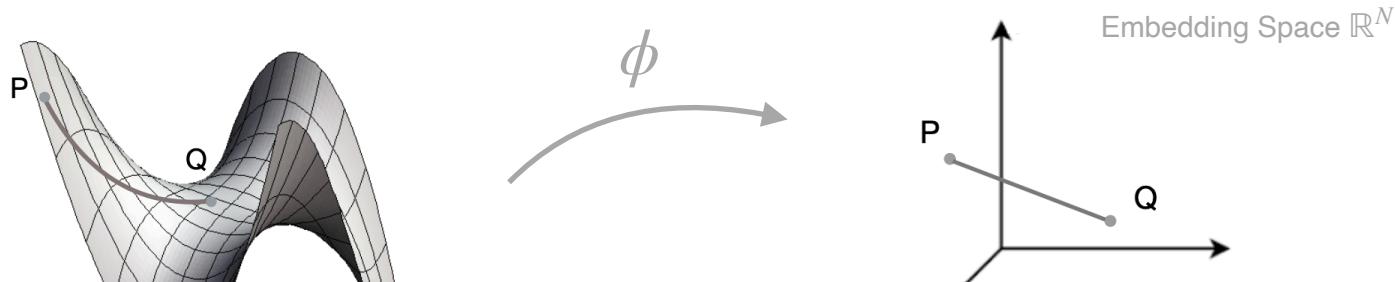
# Learning to Predict Geodesics

# Metric Learning Formulation



- Given points  $P, Q$  on the surface, what is  $d_G(P, Q)$ ?
- Metric learning:
$$d_G(P, Q) \approx \|\phi(P) - \phi(Q)\|_p$$
- $\phi$ : embedding function (e.g., MLP)
- Usually,  $\dim(\phi(\cdot)) \gg 3$  and  $p = 2$

# Metric Learning Formulation



**Q: Could “ $\approx$ ” become “ $=$ ” with  
 $\dim(\phi(\cdot)) < \infty$ ?**

- Metric learning.

$$d_G(P, Q) \approx \|\phi(P) - \phi(Q)\|_p$$

- $\phi$ : embedding function (e.g., MLP)
- Usually,  $\dim(\phi(\cdot)) \gg 3$  and  $p = 2$

# Counter-Example

- Recall our  $SO(2)$  example:
  - Distance preservation (geodesic v.s.  $\ell_p$ ) would preserve topological structure
  - Circle has different topology as line segments
  - So  $SO(2)$  cannot be embedded into Euclidean space without distortion
- Some results of the embedding for general metric space to come

# **Some Result of Embedding**

## ***General Metrics*** in $\ell_p$

# Distortion of Embedding

- Metrics:
  - $d(x, y) \geq 0$
  - $d(x, x) = 0$  and  $\forall y \neq x, d(x, y) > 0$
  - $d(x, y) + d(y, z) \geq d(x, z)$
- Assume  $\phi : S \mapsto T$  and  $d_S(\cdot, \cdot)$  and  $d_T(\cdot, \cdot)$ 
  - $\text{expansion}(f) = \max_{x,y} \frac{d_T(\phi(x), \phi(y))}{d_S(x, y)}$
  - $\text{contraction}(f) = \max_{x,y} \frac{d_S(x, y)}{d_T(\phi(x), \phi(y))}$
  - $\text{distortion}(f) = \text{expansion} \times \text{contraction}$

# A Well-Known Result

**Theorem** (Bourgain, 1985).

Let  $(X, d)$  be a metric space on  $n$  points. Then,

$$(X, d) \xleftarrow{O(\log n)} \ell_p^{O(\log^2 n)}$$

Remarks:

- **Any n-point** metric space  $(X, d)$  can be embedded in  $\ell_p$  with distortion  $O(\log n)$
- To accommodate more points, one needs higher dim space
- This bound can be shown tight (by worse case, w.r.t. distortion)

# Influence

- We cannot expect that a finite (even infinite) dimensional  $\ell_p$  space would approximate any metric
- To compromise, we usually require the approximation to have higher precision for closer points:
  - The geometry underlying closer points may be better embeddable (e.g., on the same tangent plane)
  - Far away points just need to be known far away
- Recall the hinge loss for point feature learning in the *bottom-up instance segmentation* lecture:

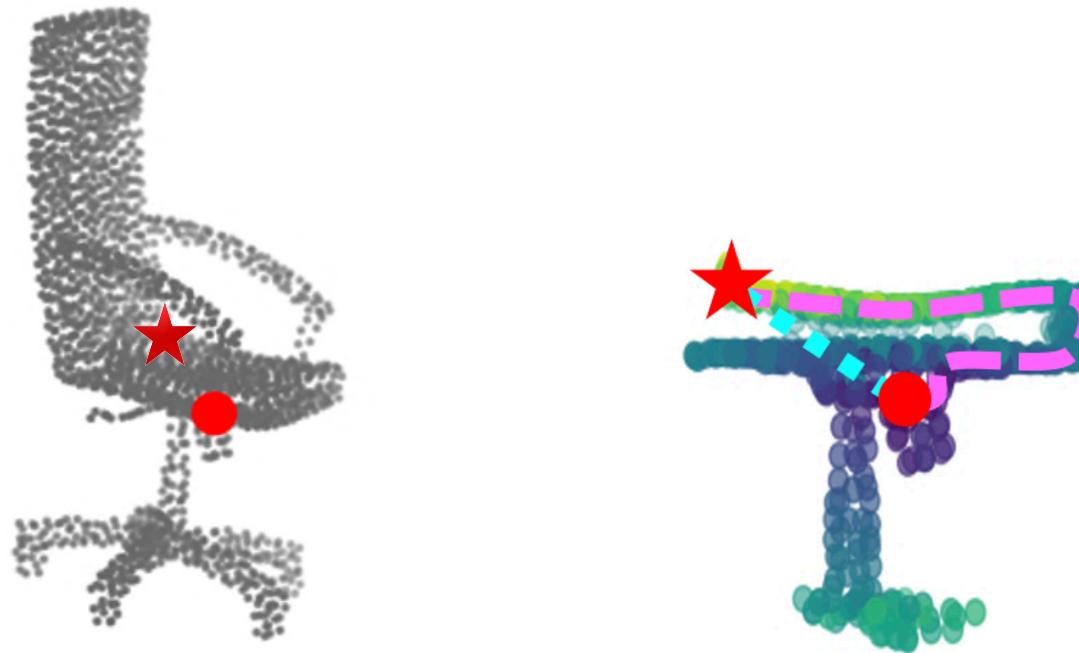
$$L_{ij} = \max(0, K - \|F_i - F_j\|)$$

# Learning to Predict Geodesics

## Example work: GeoNet

# Geodesics for Point Clouds

- No connectivity information

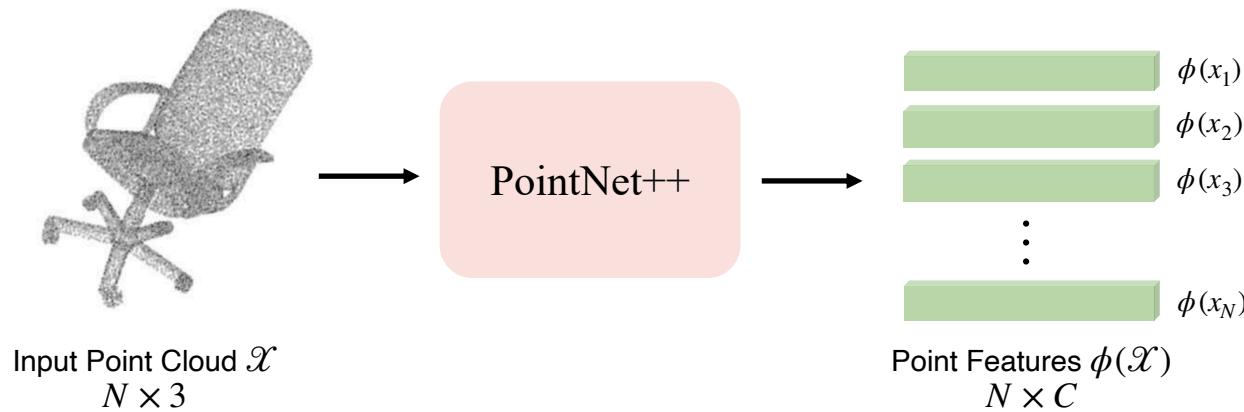


# Task Formulation

- Input: Point Cloud  $\mathcal{X} = \{x_i\}_{i=1}^N$
- Output: Geodesic distance to  $K$  Euclidean neighbors for each point

# GeoNet: Geodesic Distance Regression

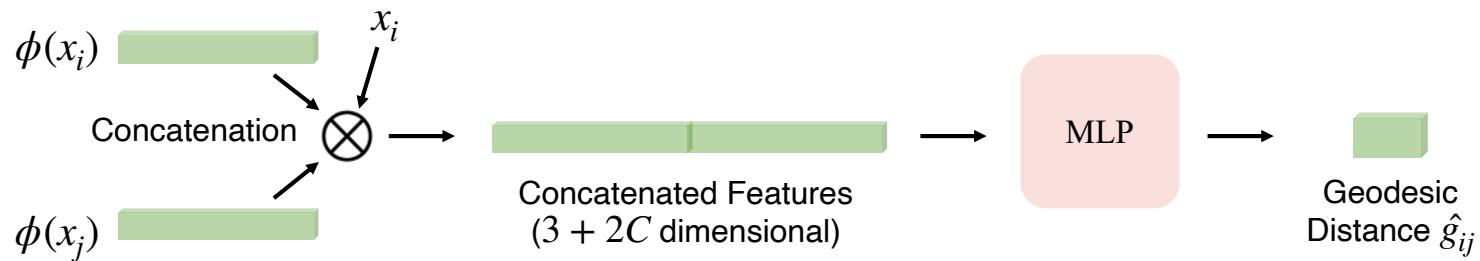
## Step 1: Feature Extraction



# GeoNet: Geodesic Distance Regression

## Step 2: Metric Learning

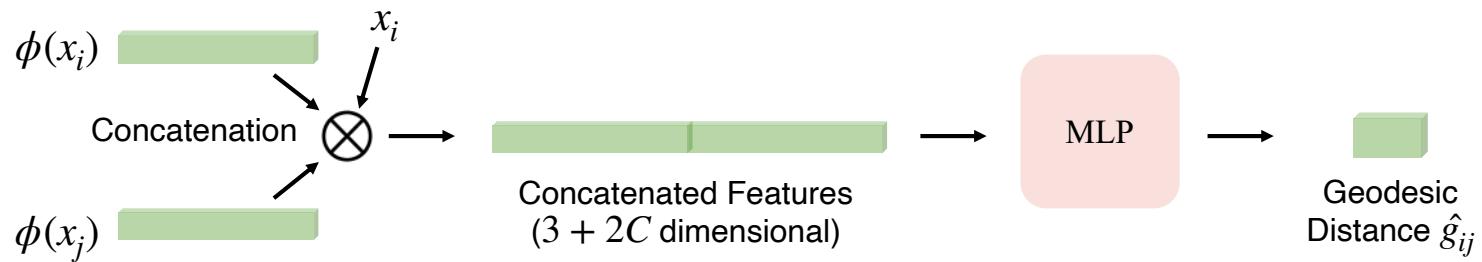
For each  $x_i$  and its neighbor  $x_j$ :



# GeoNet: Geodesic Distance Regression

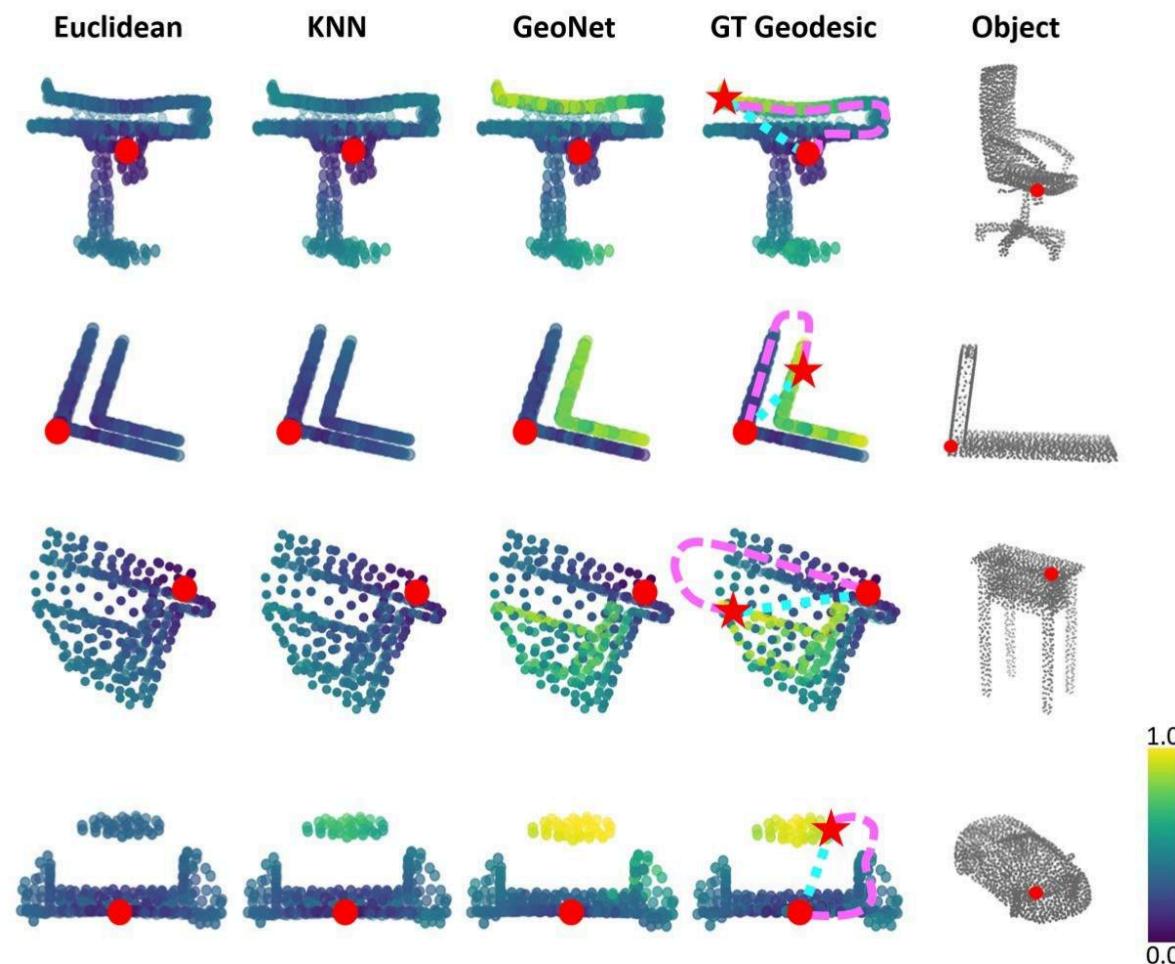
## Step 2: Metric Learning

For each  $x_i$  and its neighbor  $x_j$ :



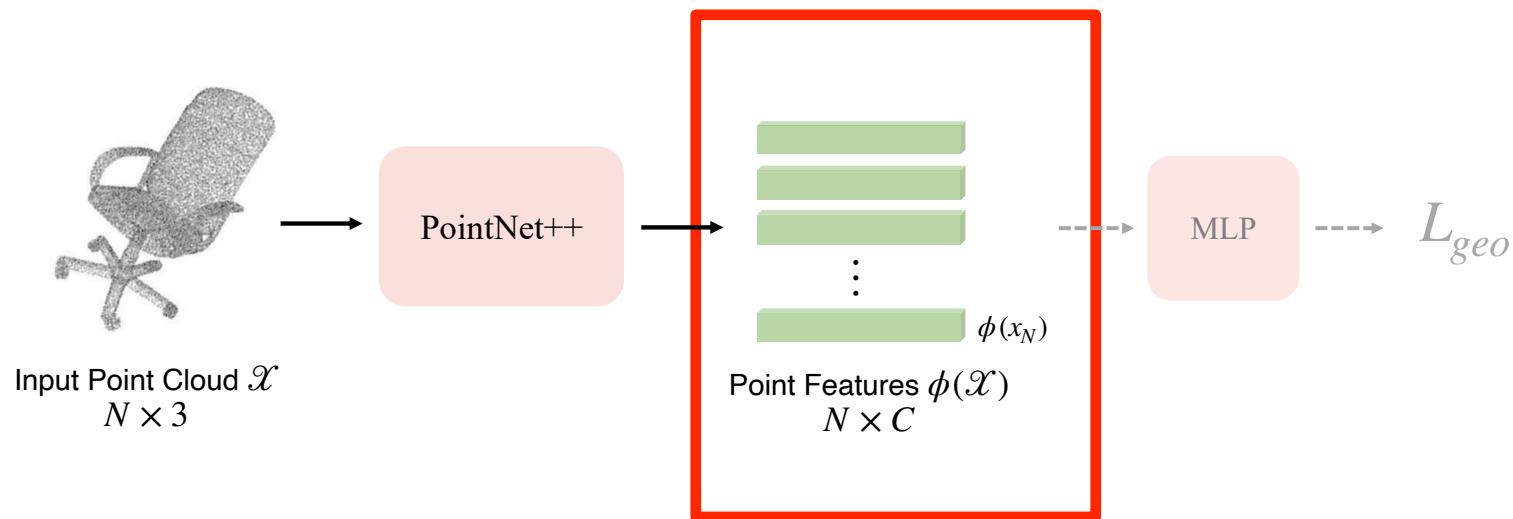
$$L_{geo} = \sum_{x_i \in \mathcal{X}} \sum_{x_j \in NN(x_i)} |g_{ij} - \hat{g}_{ij}|$$

# Geodesics Regression



# Geodesics Induced Features

- Geodesics induced features are useful for downstream tasks



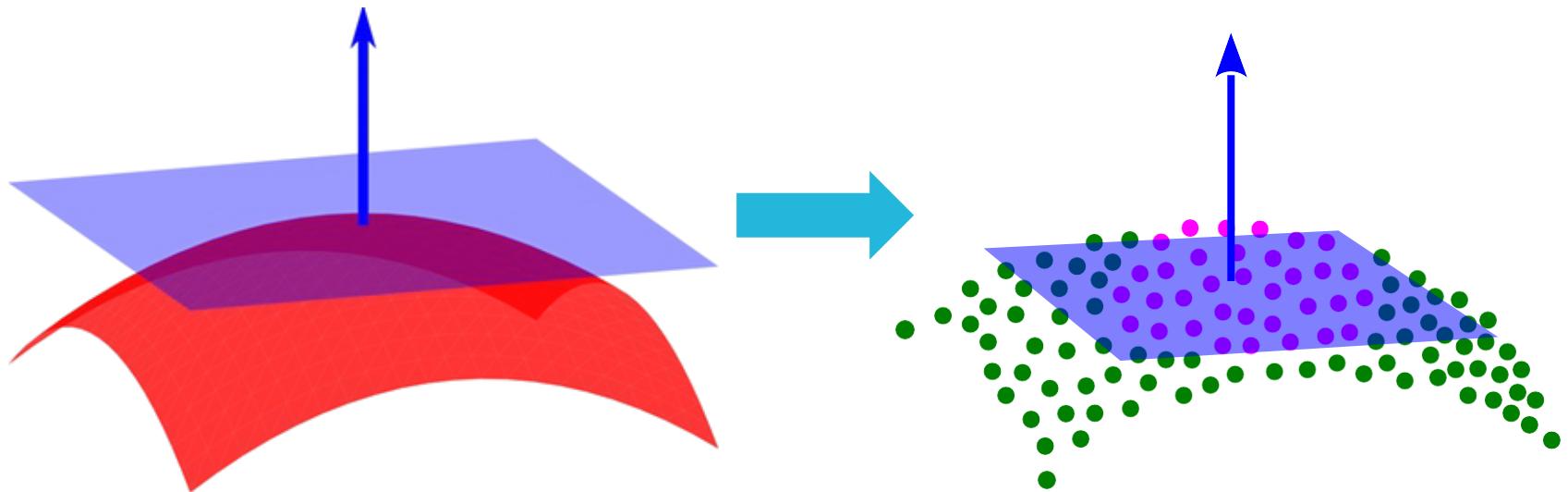
# Applications

- Normal Estimation
- Mesh reconstruction

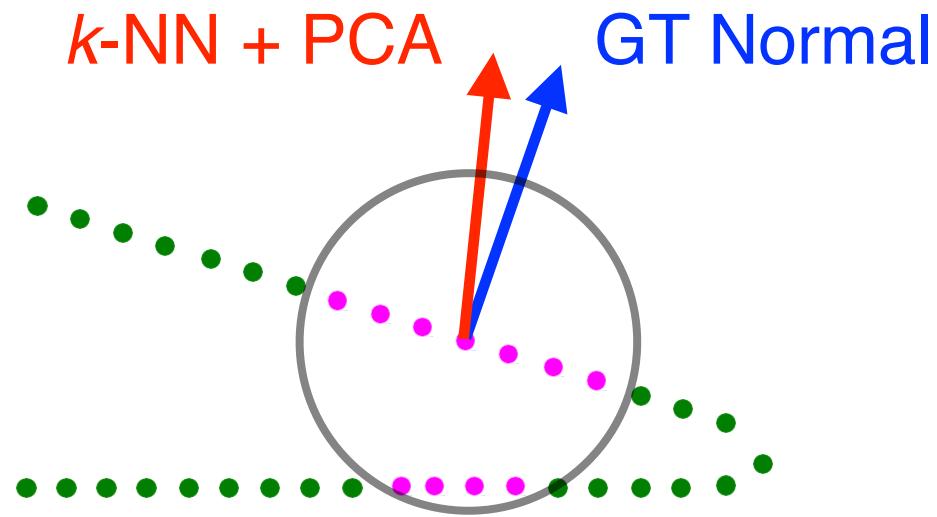
# *Recall:* Normal Estimation

- Plane-fitting: find the plane that best fits the neighborhood of a point of interest

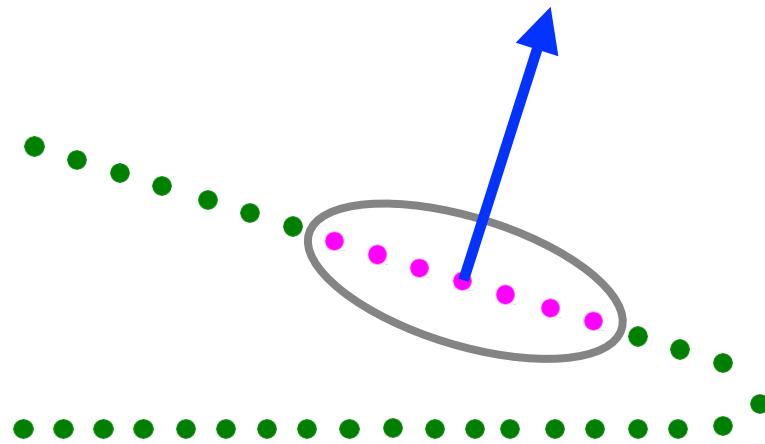
- Let  $M = \sum_i (x_i - \bar{x})(x_i - \bar{x})^T$  and  $\bar{x} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_i x_i$ ,
- $n$ : the last principal component of  $M$



# Normal Estimation



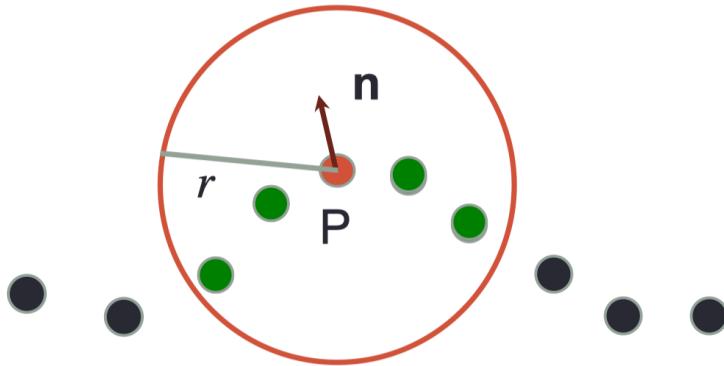
# Normal Estimation



$d_G(u, v)$  is large although  $d_E(u, v)$  is small!

⇒ Use geodesic neighborhoods for PCA

# Normal Estimation



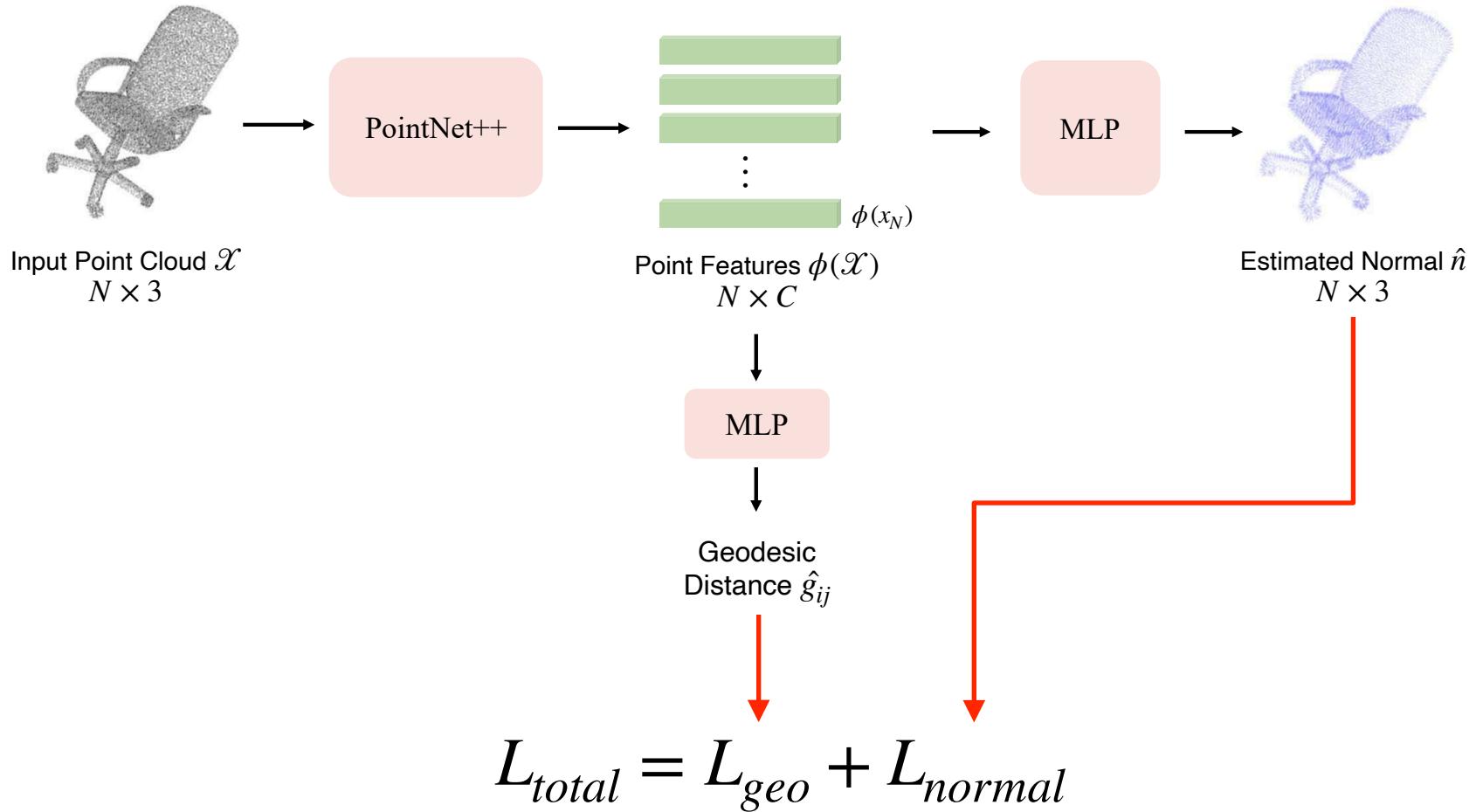
**Critical parameter:** number of neighbors  $k$ .

For unevenly sampled point cloud, we typically use all points inside a ball of radius  $r$

*Tricky to choose in practice!*

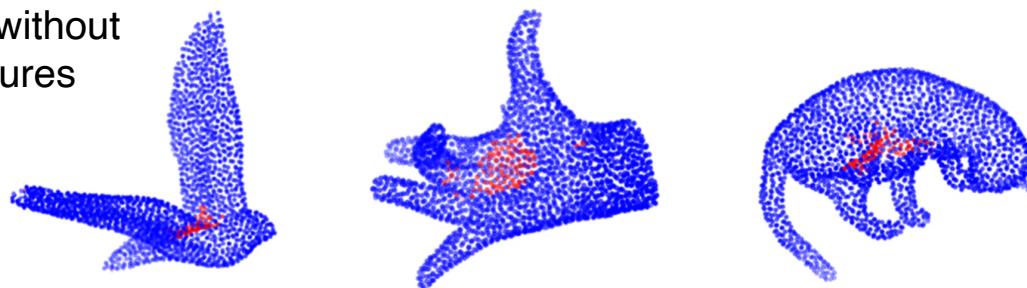
How about **predicting the normal**,  
without PCA and estimation of  $r$  or  $k$ ?

# Learning to Regress Normals

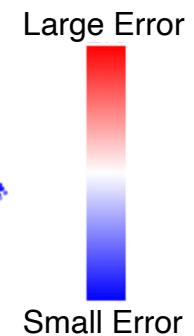


# Error Patterns

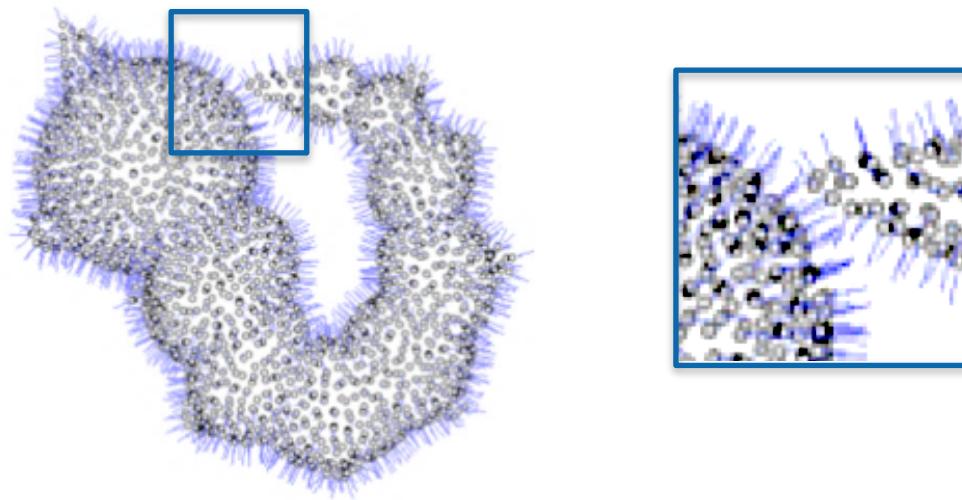
PointNet++ without  
GeoNet features



PointNet++ with  
GeoNet features



# Learning to Regress Normals



# Advantage of Learning-based Normal Estimation

- Can be robust to point cloud sampling strategy
- Without the need to determine neighborhood size
- Get orientation consistent normals (in classical methods, this step is highly non-trivial)

# Applications

- Normal Estimation
- Mesh Reconstruction

# Mesh Reconstruction

- Input: Point Cloud
- Output: Polygon Mesh

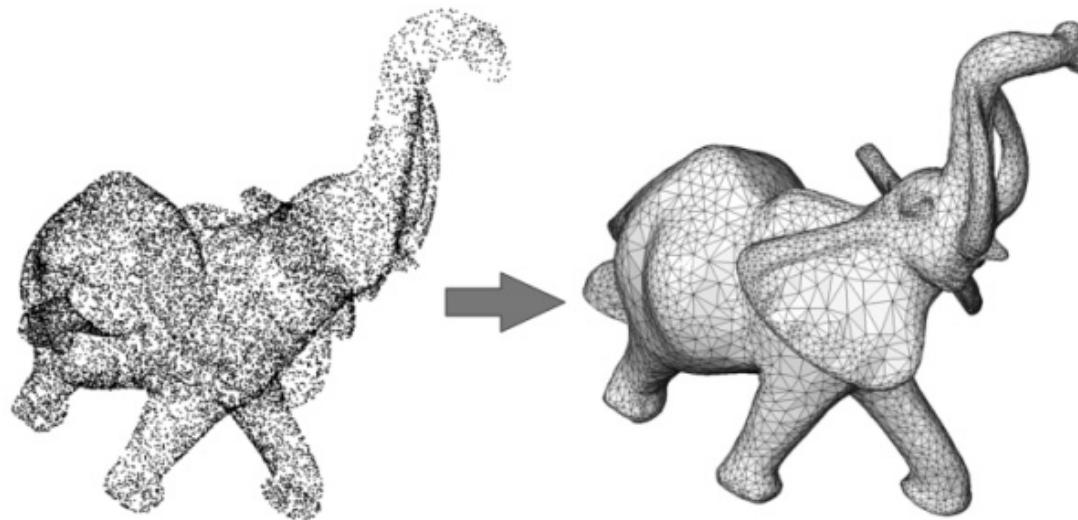


Figure courtesy of Pierre Alliez,  
Laurent Saboret, Gaël Guennebaud

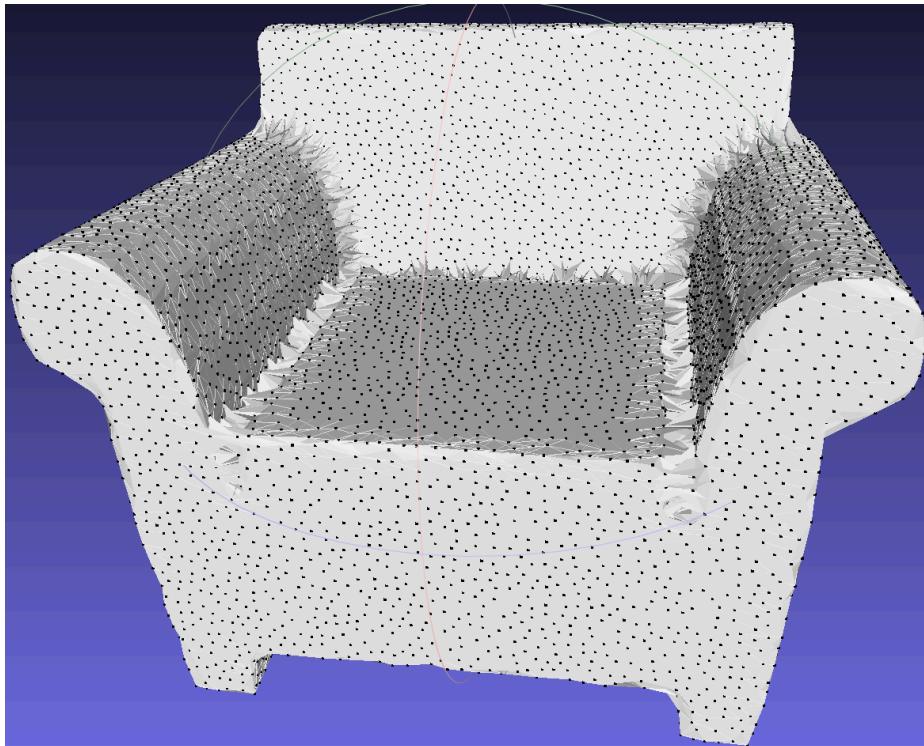
# A Simple $K$ -NN Approach

- For each point  $x_i$  we try to greedily add all triangles formed by  $x_i$  and its neighbors:

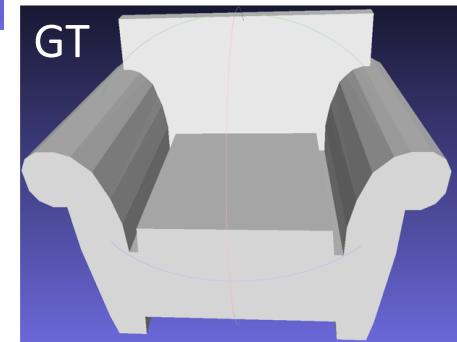
$\chi = \{x_i\}^n$  is the input point cloud  
 $S = \{\}$  is the output mesh triangles

```
for  $i = 1$  to  $n$ :  
    find  $K$  nearest neighbors  $\{p_l\}_{l=1}^K$  of  $x_i$ :  
    for  $j = 1$  to  $K$ :  
        for  $k = j + 1$  to  $K$ :  
            triangle  $\triangle = (x_i, N_j, N_k)$   
            if  $\triangle$  is not in  $S$  and  $S$  is manifold after adding  $\triangle$ :  
                add  $\triangle$  to  $S$ 
```

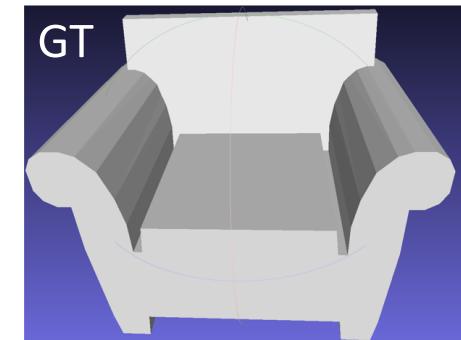
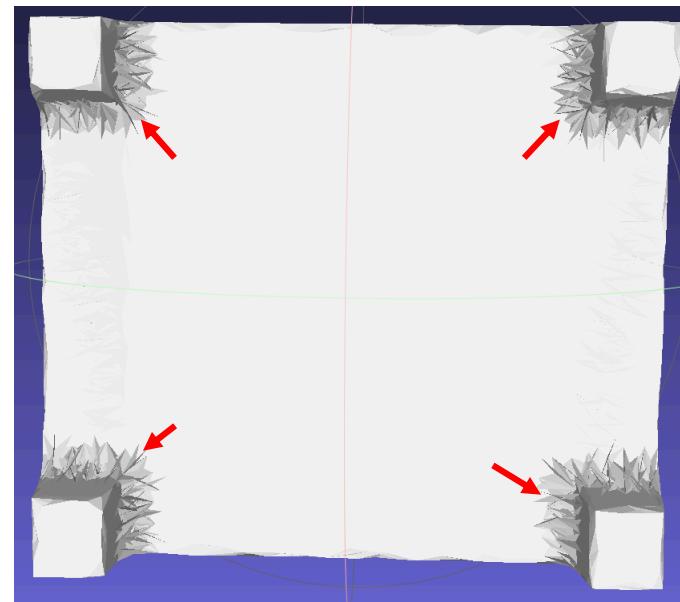
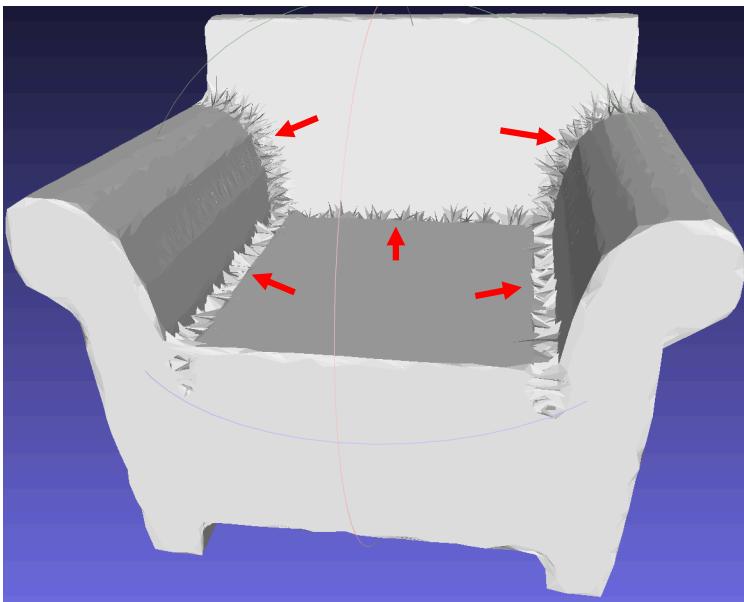
# Results not bad...



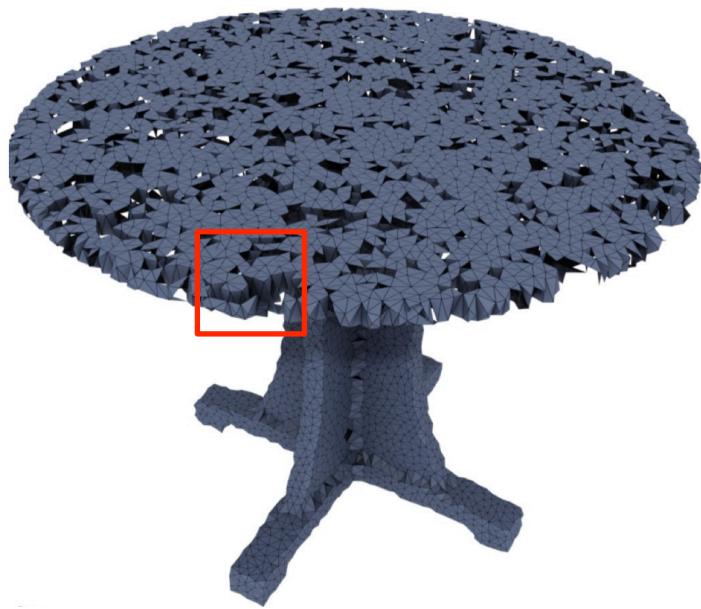
$K = 10$



# But has issues at boundaries



# and some bad triangles



- Triangles formed by connecting the upper surface and the bottom surface of the tabletop (intrinsically far)

# and some bad triangles



**Q: Do we have a certificate  
of good triangles?**



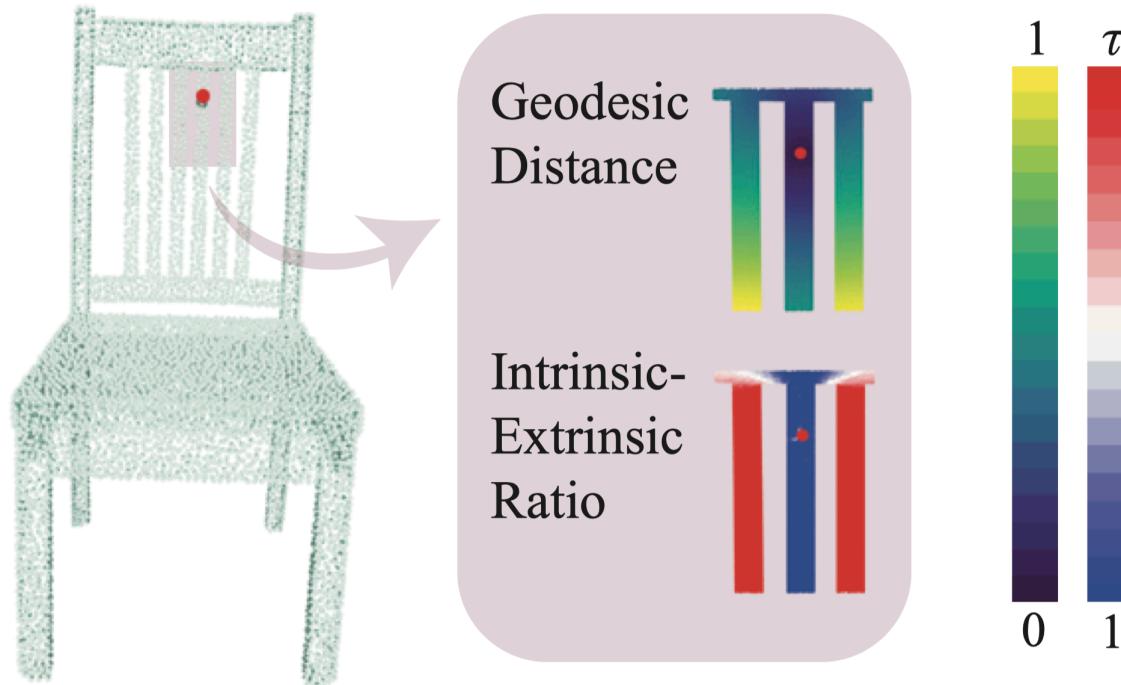
- Triangles formed by connecting the upper surface and the bottom surface of the tabletop (intrinsically far)

# Intrinsic-Extrinsic Ratio

Given two vertices  $u, v$  on the surface, the intrinsic-extrinsic ratio is defined as:

$$\text{IER}(u, v) = \frac{d_G(u, v)}{d_E(u, v)}$$

# Visualization



# Intrinsic-Extrinsic Ratio for Triangles

For a triangle  $\triangle uvw$ :

$$\text{IER}(\triangle uvw) = \frac{d_G(u, v) + d_G(v, w) + d_G(w, u)}{d_E(u, v) + d_E(v, w) + d_E(w, u)}$$

If point  $u, v, w$  is **close enough**,  $\text{IER}(\triangle uvw) \leq 1 + \varepsilon$   
 $\Rightarrow$  (very likely) Triangle is on the surface

# Intrinsic-Extrinsic Ratio for Triangles

For a triangle  $\triangle uvw$ :

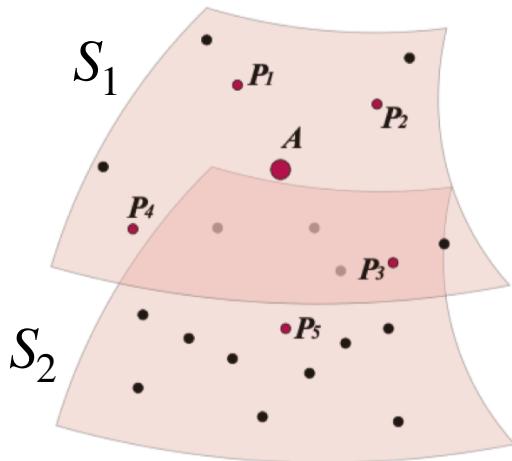
$$\text{IER}(\triangle uvw) = \frac{d_G(u, v) + d_G(v, w) + d_G(w, u)}{d_E(u, v) + d_E(v, w) + d_E(w, u)}$$

If point  $u, v, w$  is **close enough**,  $\text{IER}(\triangle uvw) \leq 1 + \varepsilon$   
 $\Rightarrow$  (very likely) Triangle is on the surface

We learn to predict this quantity!

# Meshing Point Clouds with Intrinsic-Extrinsic Ratio Guidance

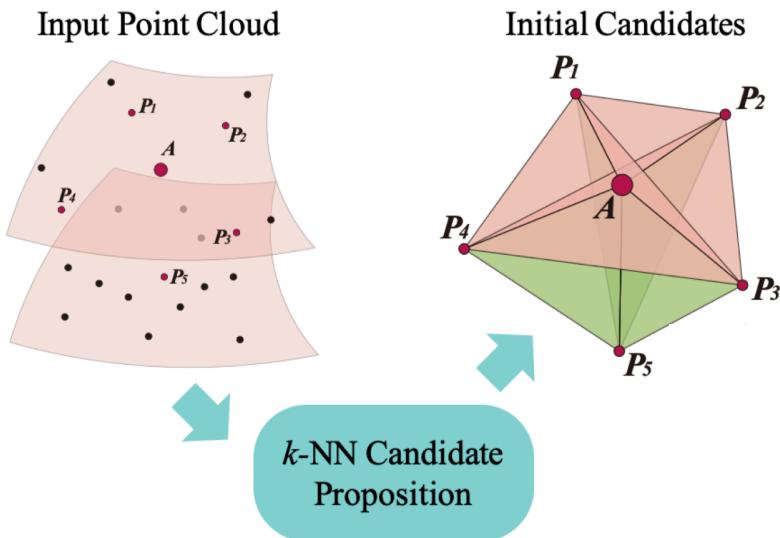
Input Point Cloud



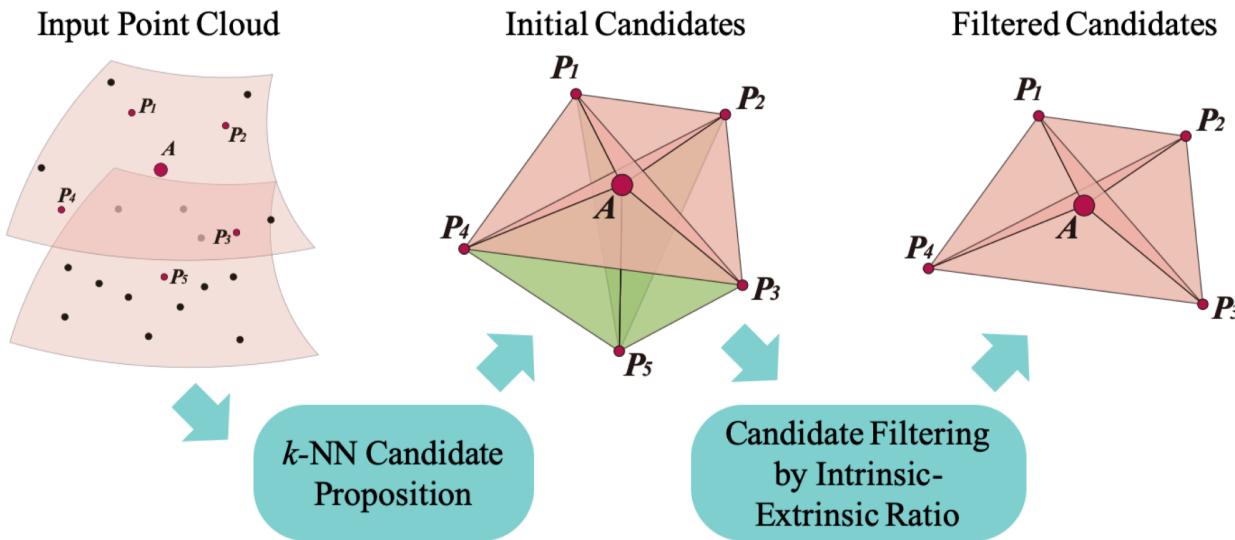
## Case Study:

- Input point cloud is sampled from two closed thin surfaces  $S_1$  and  $S_2$
- $\{P_i\}$  are Euclidean nearest neighbors of  $A$ 
  - $\{A, P_1, P_2, P_3, P_4\} \subset S_1$
  - $P_5 \in S_1$

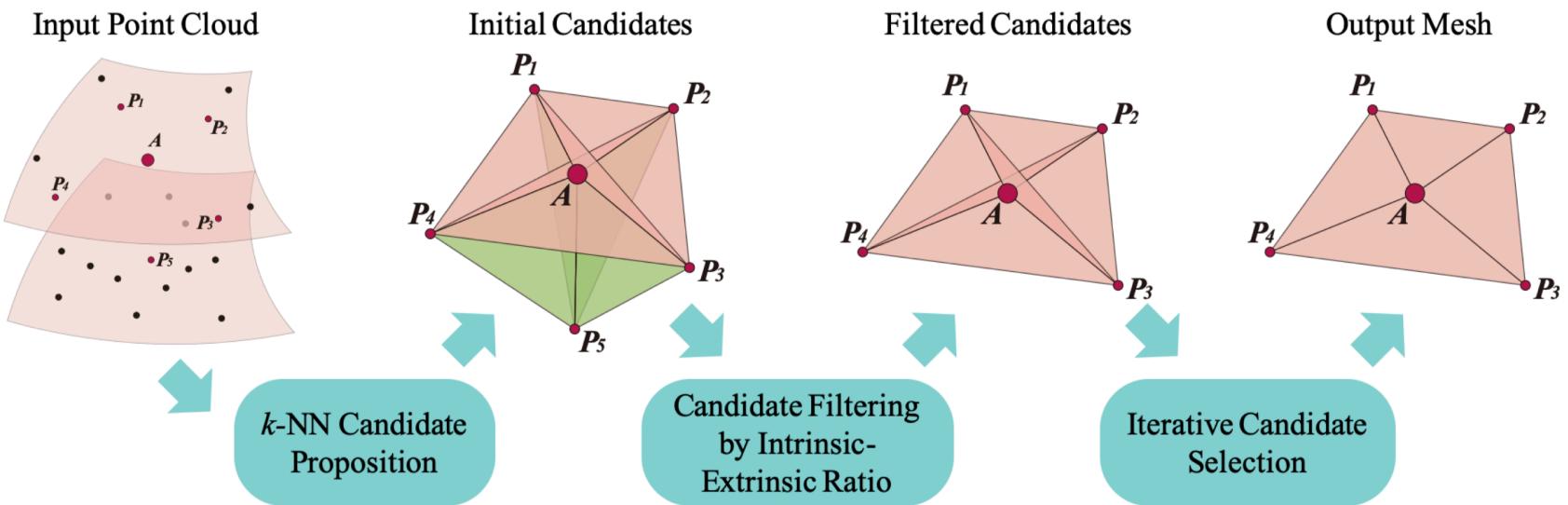
# Meshing Point Clouds with Intrinsic-Extrinsic Ratio Guidance



# Meshing Point Clouds with Intrinsic-Extrinsic Ratio Guidance

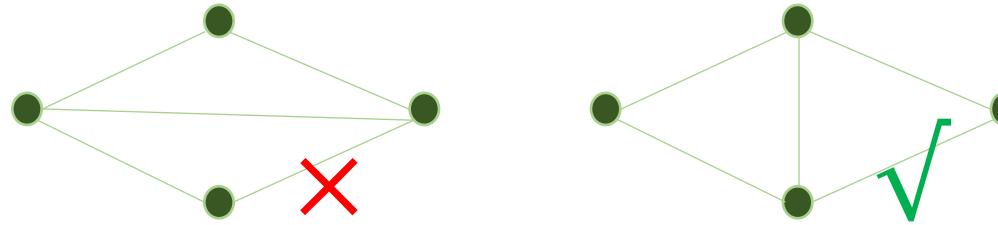


# Meshing Point Clouds with Intrinsic-Extrinsic Ratio Guidance



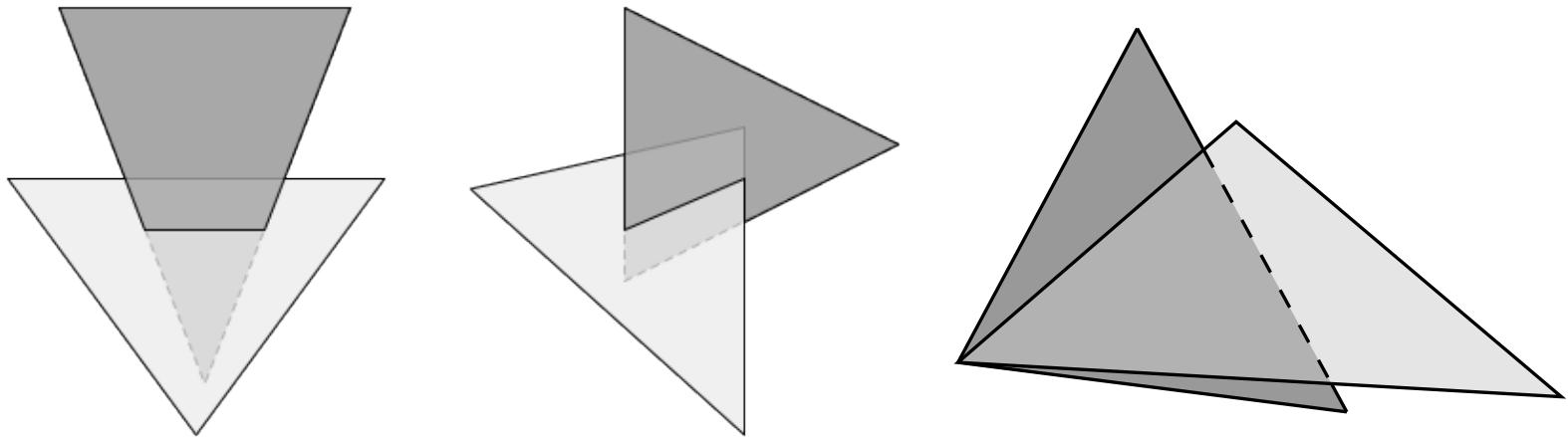
# Iterative Candidate Selection

- The added triangle should not break manifold properties
  - No edge has more than two incident faces
  - No intersection between triangles
- Prefer equilateral triangles:



Measured by the ratio of longest edge to shortest edge

# Triangle Collision Detection



Guigue P, Devillers O. Fast and robust triangle-triangle overlap test using orientation predicates. Journal of Graphics Tools. 2003 Jan 1;8(1):25-32.

Code: [https://github.com/erich666/jgt-code/tree/master/Volume\\_08/Number\\_1/Guigue2003](https://github.com/erich666/jgt-code/tree/master/Volume_08/Number_1/Guigue2003)

# Meshering Results

$k$ -NN

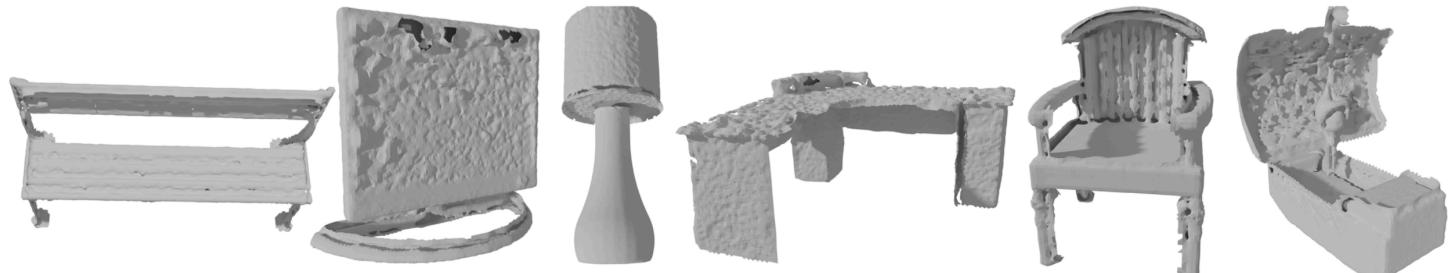


$k$ -NN  
with IER

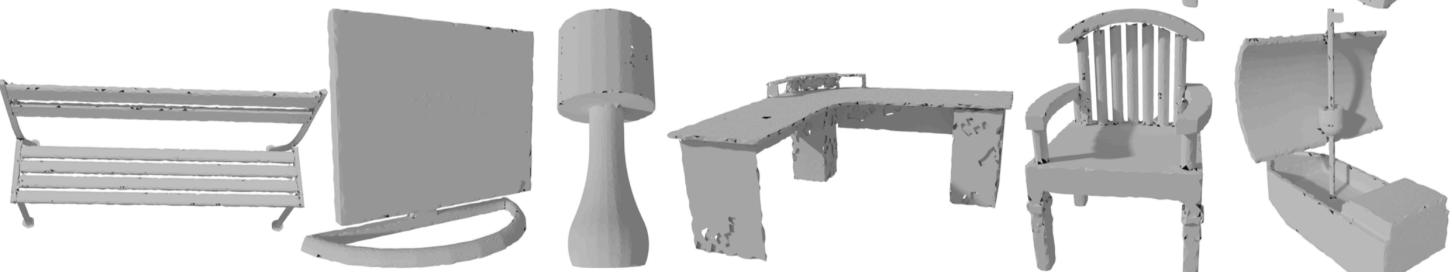


# Robustness

Poisson



$k$ -NN  
with IER



Ground-  
Truth

