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Venue | Tokyo International Forum, Japan

Dynamic skeletonization via variational medial axis sampling

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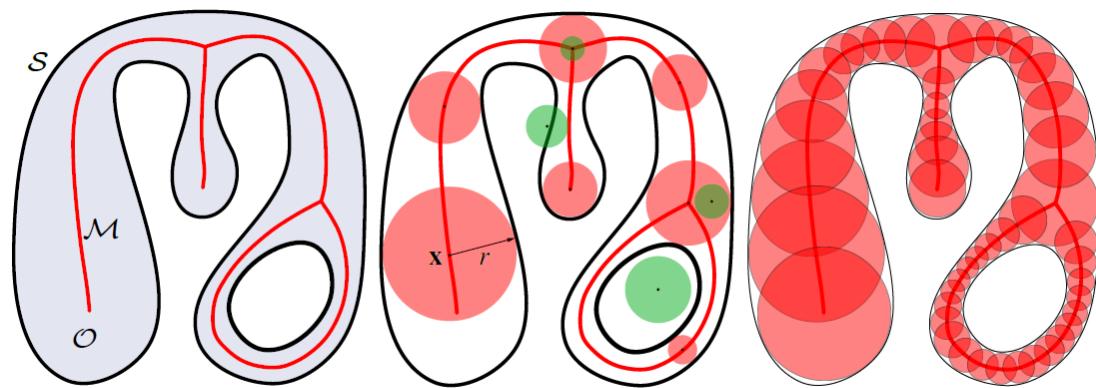


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Skeleton: Discretized Medial Axis

- **Medial Axis:** The set of centers of spheres that have at least two closest points on the boundary of the shape. Such a sphere is called a *medial sphere*



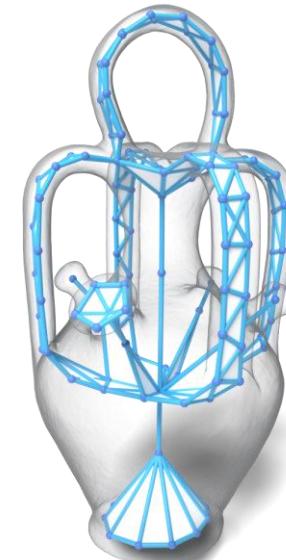
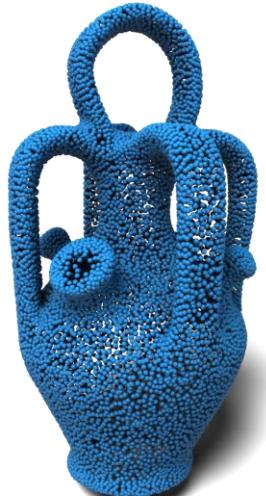
[Tagliasacchi et al. 2016]

Objective

Surface



Oriented Point
cloud



Discretization of Medial Axis

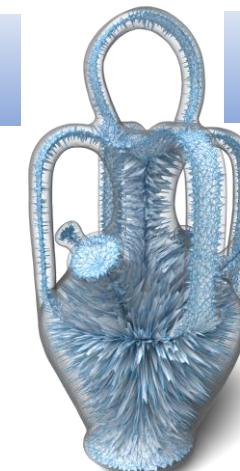
Medial Axis Approximation

Impractical for application

*Simplification
(Fine to Coarse)*

Refinement ?

Voronoi Diagram
[Amenta et al. 1998]



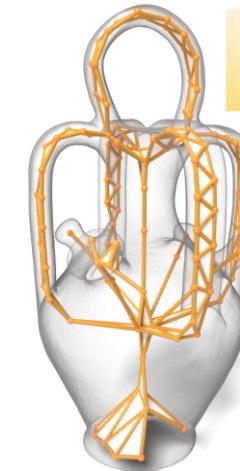
Shrinking balls
[Ma et al. 2013]



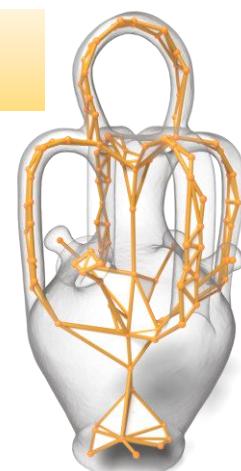
Random sampling
[Dou et al. 2022][Wang et al. 2024]



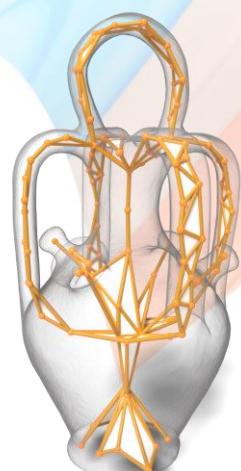
Q-MAT
[Li et al. 2015]



Coverage Axis
[Dou et al. 2022]



Coverage Axis++
[Wang et al. 2024]

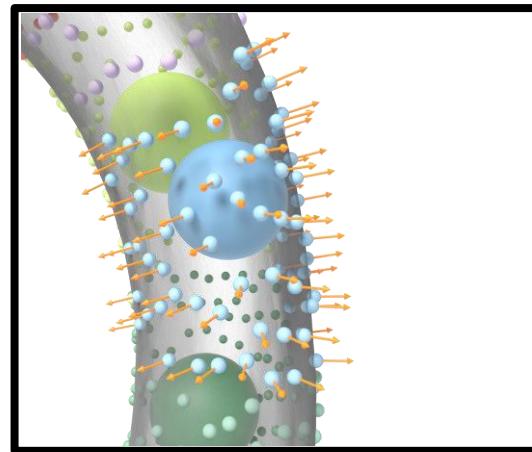
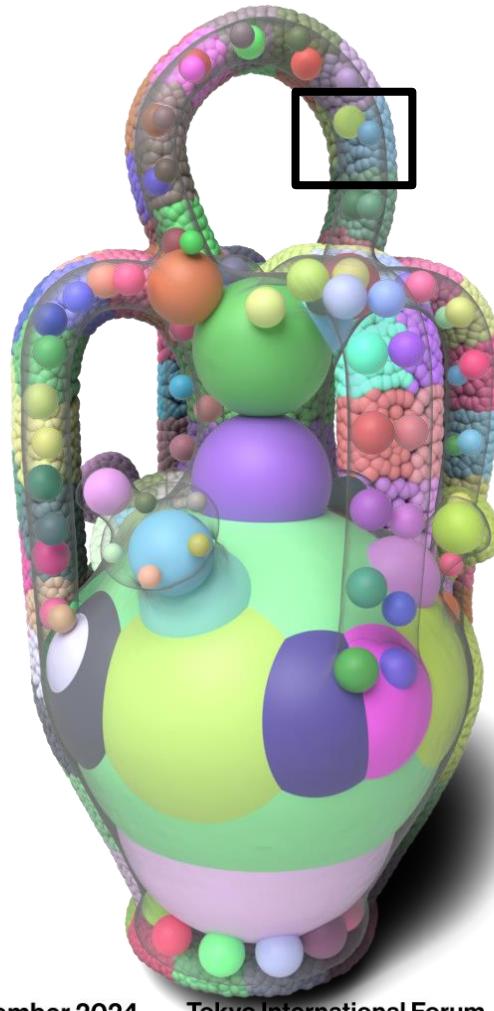


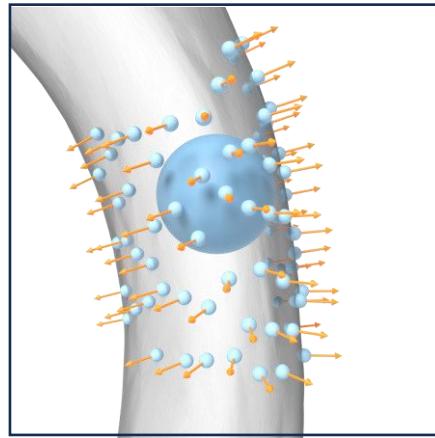
- Feature preservation
- Time consuming
- No control on the result
- Irregularity of the distribution of medial samples



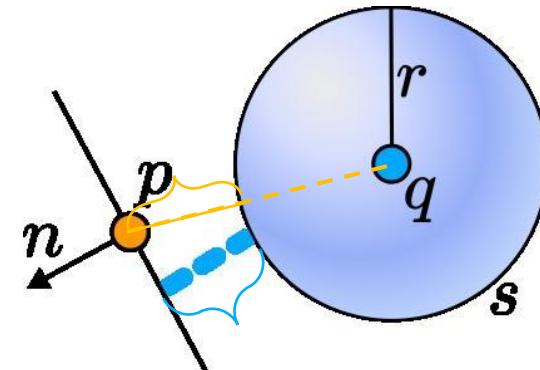
Method

Observation: Each medial sphere occupies a segment of surface





Metric



- Sphere-plane distance:

$$d_{p,n}(s) = n^t \cdot (p - q) - r$$

- Spherical quadric error metric: [Thiery et al. 2013]

$$d_{p,n}(s)^2 = Q_{p,n}(s) = \frac{1}{2} s^t \cdot A \cdot s - b^t \cdot s + c$$

- Diffused quadric:

$$Q_{v_i}(s) = \sum_{t_j \in T(v_i)} \frac{\mathcal{A}(t_j)}{3} Q_{v_i, n_j}$$

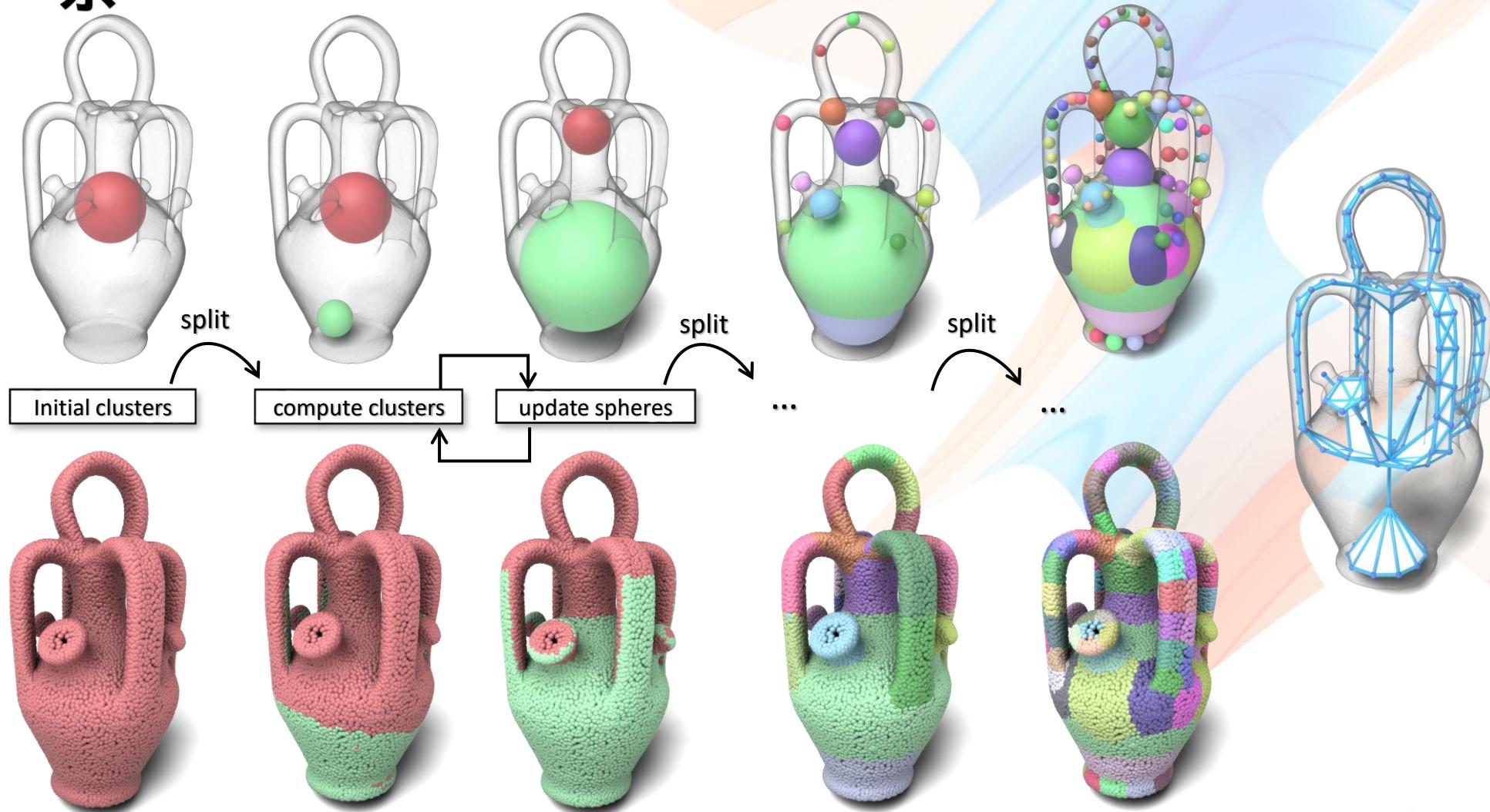
- Sphere-point distance:

$$D_{v_i}(s) = \left(\sum_{t_j \in T(v_i)} \frac{\mathcal{A}(t_j)}{3} \right) (|p - q| - r)^2$$

$\mathcal{A}(t_j)$: area of triangle (KNN graph for point cloud)



Pipeline



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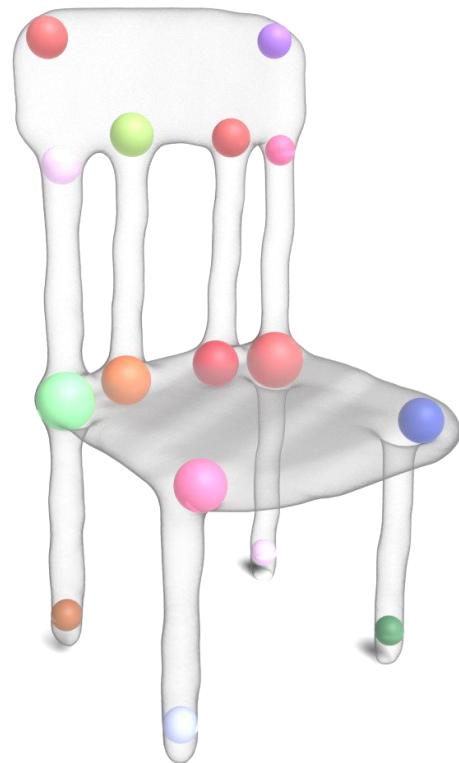
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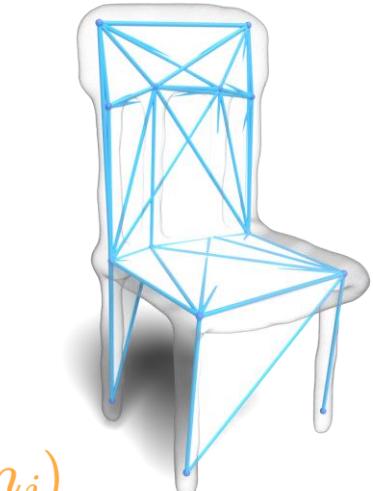
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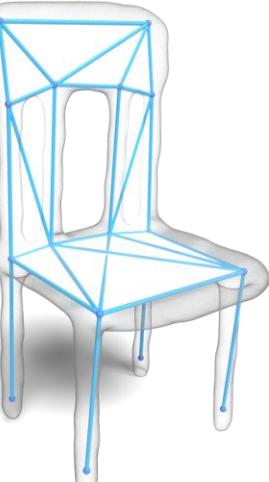
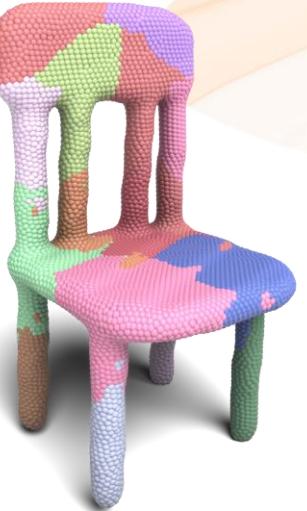


$$E_{v_i}(m_j) = Q_{v_i}(m_j) + \lambda D_{v_i}(m_j)$$

$\lambda = 0$



Compute clusters



$\lambda = 0.02$



$\lambda = 0.2$



$\lambda = 1$

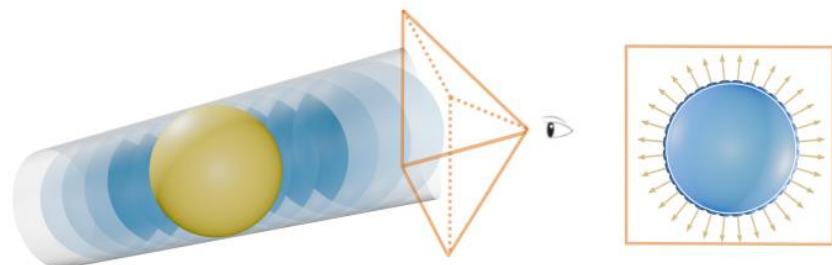
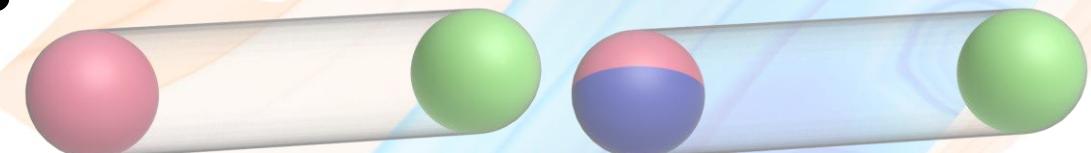
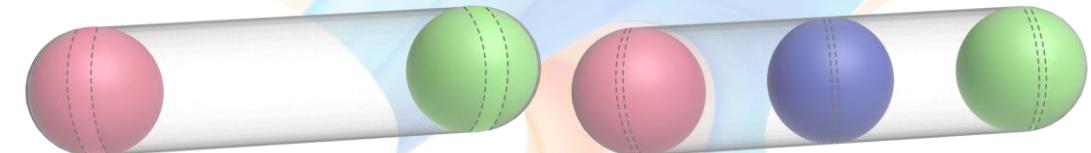
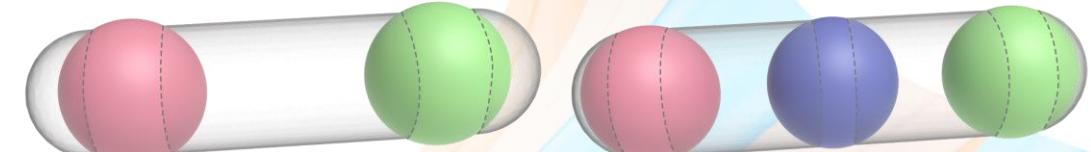
Update spheres

- For each cluster vertices, fitting a sphere which minimizes the following metric:

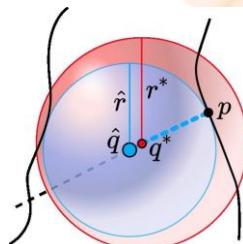
$$(q_i^*, r_i^*) = \arg \min_{q_i, r_i} (E_{SQEM}(\mathcal{C}_i) + \lambda E_{euclidean}(\mathcal{C}_i))$$

$$E_{SQEM}(\mathcal{C}_i) = \sum_{v_j \in \mathcal{C}_i} Q_{v_j}(m_i)$$

$$E_{euclidean}(\mathcal{C}_i) = \sum_{v_j \in \mathcal{C}_i} D_{v_j}(m_i)$$


 $\lambda = 0$

 $\lambda = 0.2$

 $\lambda = 1$

 $|M| = 2$
 $|M| = 3$

- No guarantee that the optimized sphere is medial sphere or within the shape
- Sphere Projection: Project the sphere center on the medial axis in the direction of the gradient of distance function.



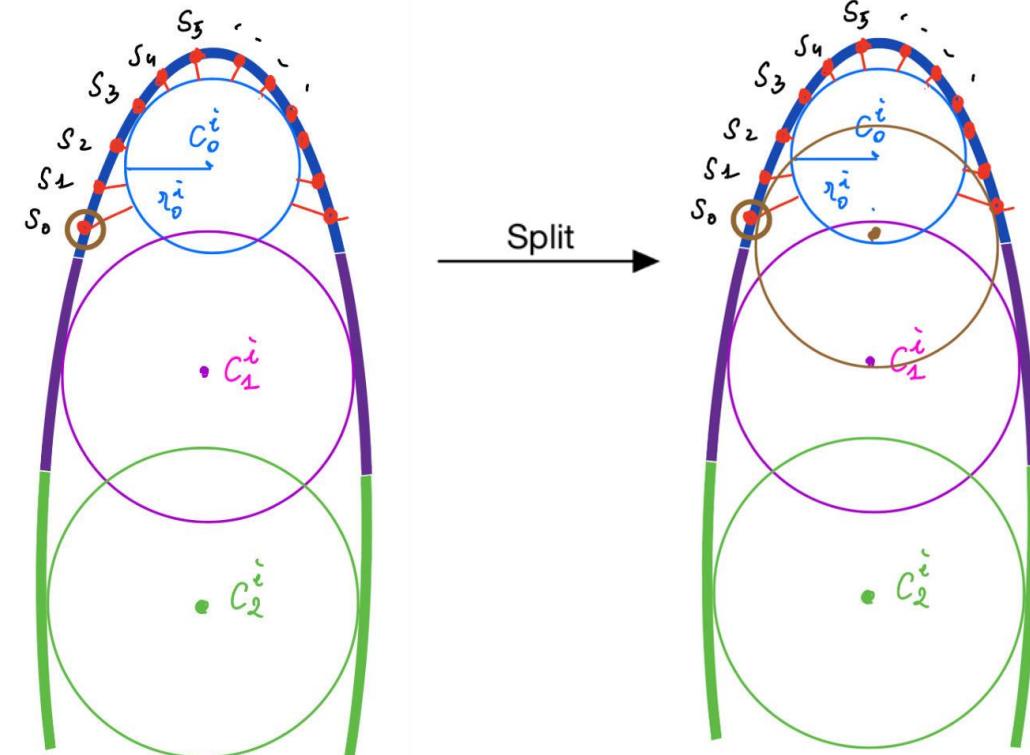
Sphere splitting

- For each cluster C_i evaluate the error to determine whether it should be split.

$$E(C_i) = \frac{1}{\mathcal{A}(C_i)} \sum_{v_j \in C_i} E_{v_j}(m_i)$$

- Taking the vertex that has largest error as a seed to create a new sphere

$$v_{max} = \arg \max_{v_i \in C_i} E_{v_j}(m_i)$$



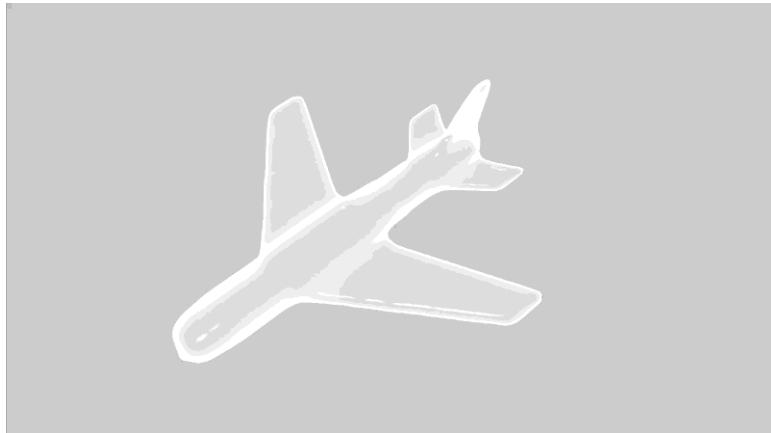
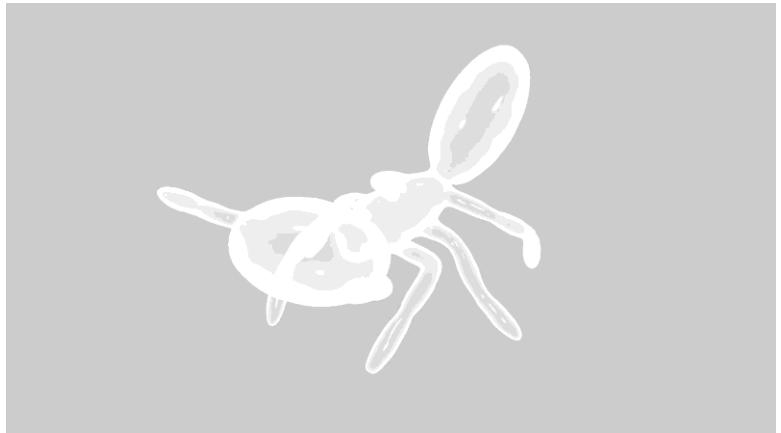
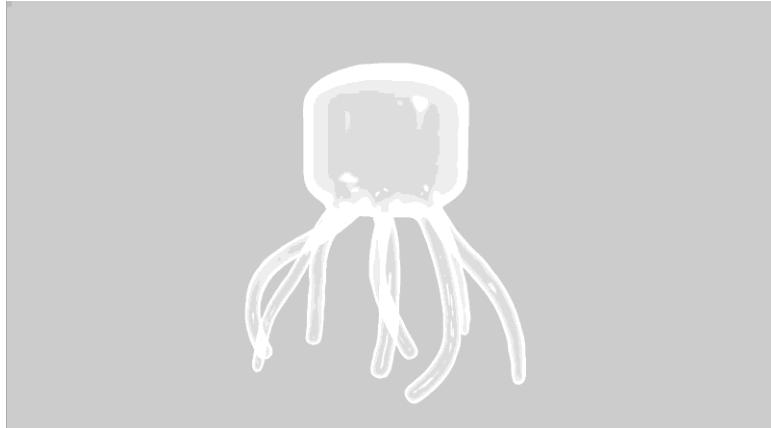
Connectivity

- Build edge if two clusters are adjacent.
- Build face if three clusters share the same neighbours



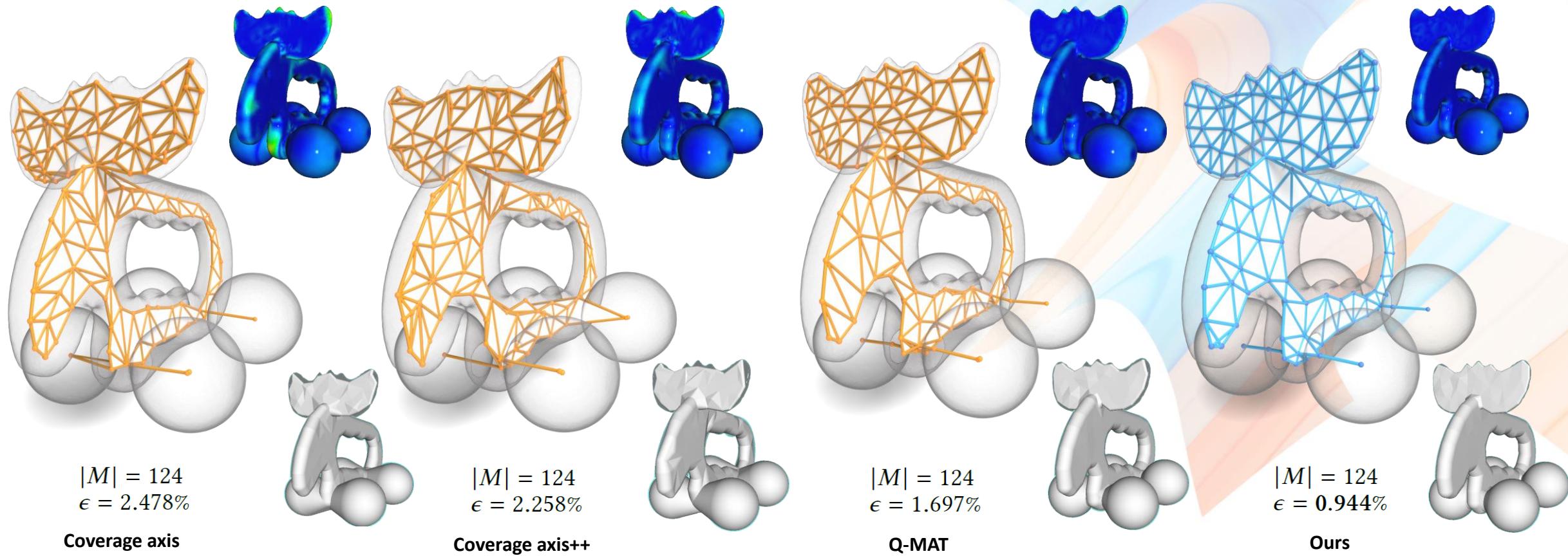


Result

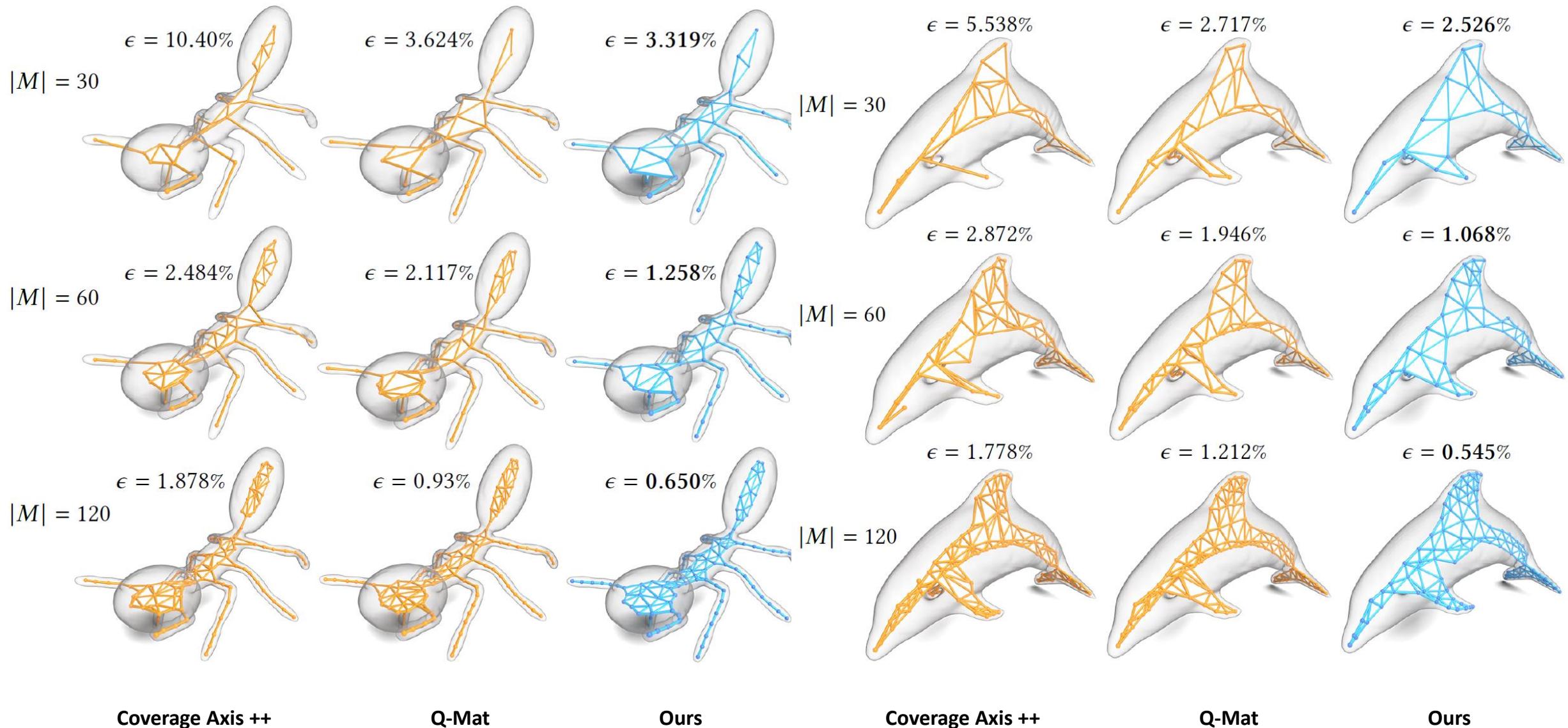




Visual Comparison

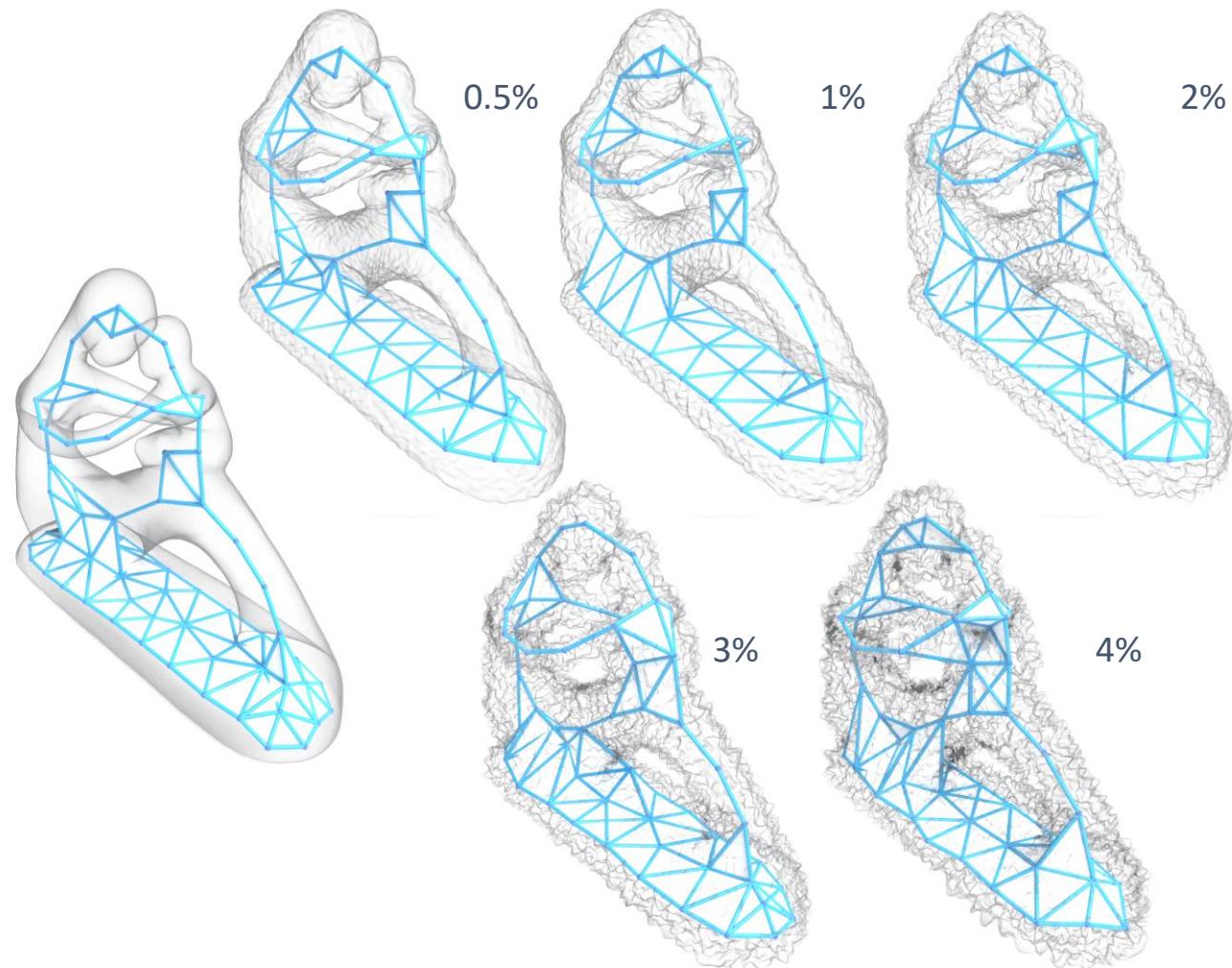


Comparison: Different resolution

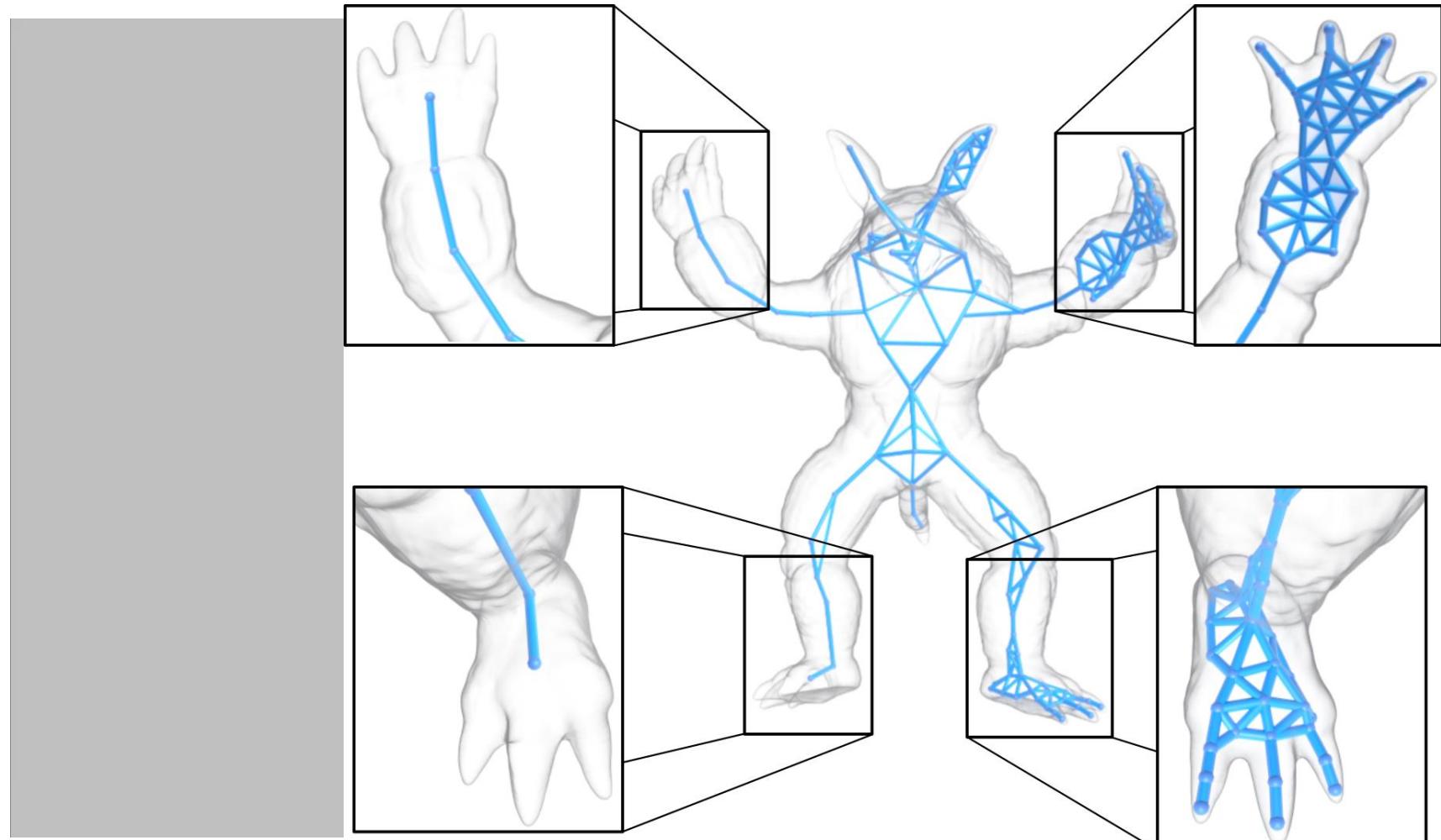




Robustness to noise



Interactive edition of skeleton



Limitation and future work

● Limitation:

- **No Global Convergence:** There is potential for oscillations in the positions of medial spheres.
- **Topology Mismatch:** Coarse resolutions may result in a topology that differs from the input shape.
- **Suboptimal connectivity:** Intersecting triangles or closed surfaces may occur.

● Future work:

- **Medial Sample Freezing:** Lock samples in place to improve control.
- **Adaptive Density Function:** Enable region-specific refinement.
- **Support Diverse Inputs:** Extend to binary images or incomplete data.



Gallery



Project page:
<https://huang46u.github.io/VMAS>
Code will release soon!

