

# Digital Geometry

## - Discrete Differential Geometry

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<http://jjcao.github.io/DigitalGeometry/>

The purpose of computing is insight, not numbers

# Normal

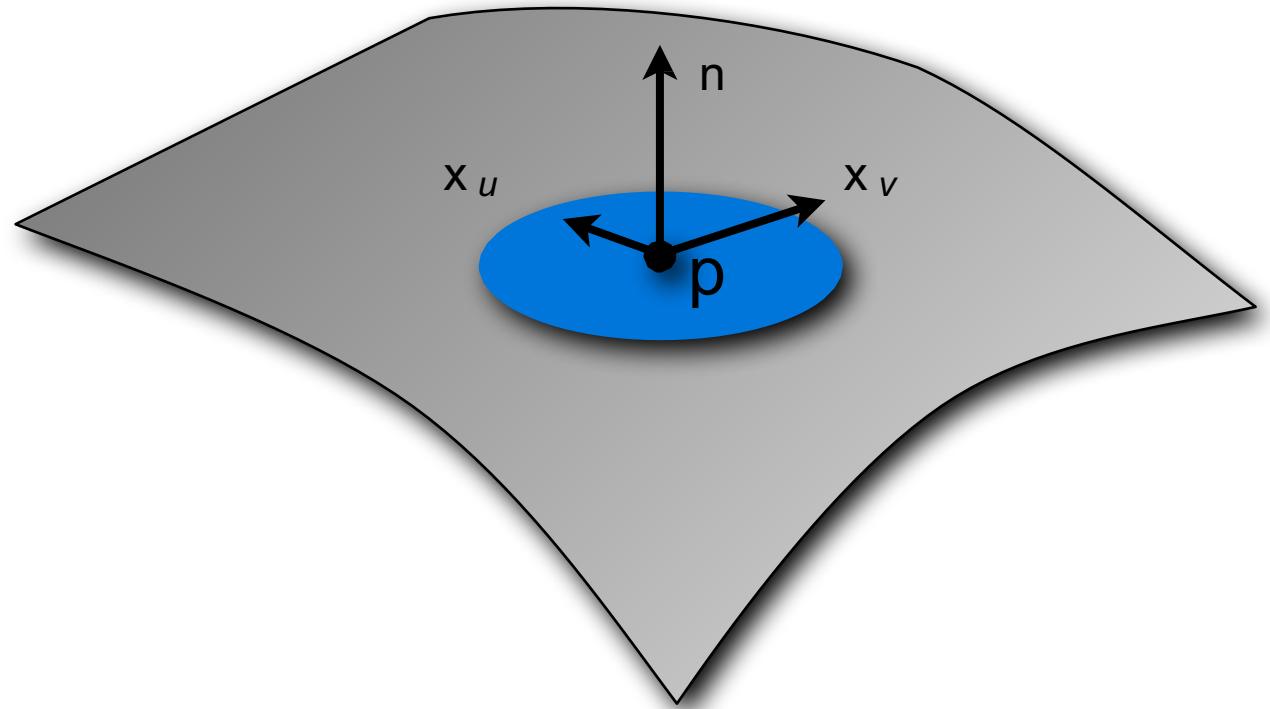
# Normal Vectors

- Continuous surface

$$\mathbf{x}(u, v) = \begin{pmatrix} x(u, v) \\ y(u, v) \\ z(u, v) \end{pmatrix}$$

Normal vector

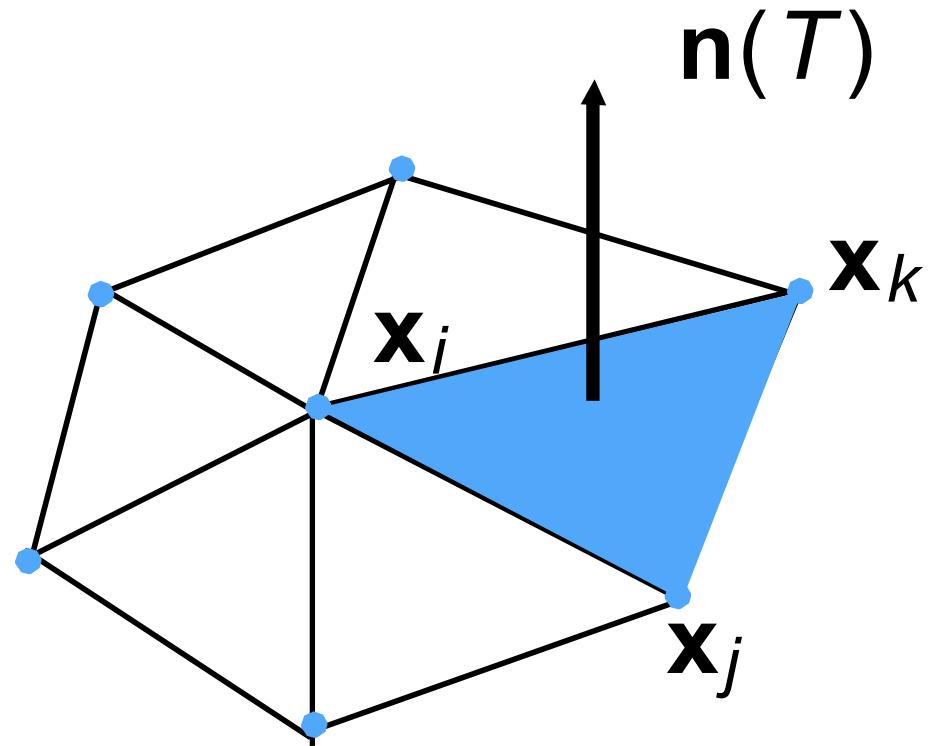
$$\mathbf{n} = \frac{\mathbf{x}_u \times \mathbf{x}_v}{\|\mathbf{x}_u \times \mathbf{x}_v\|}$$



Assume *regular* parameterization

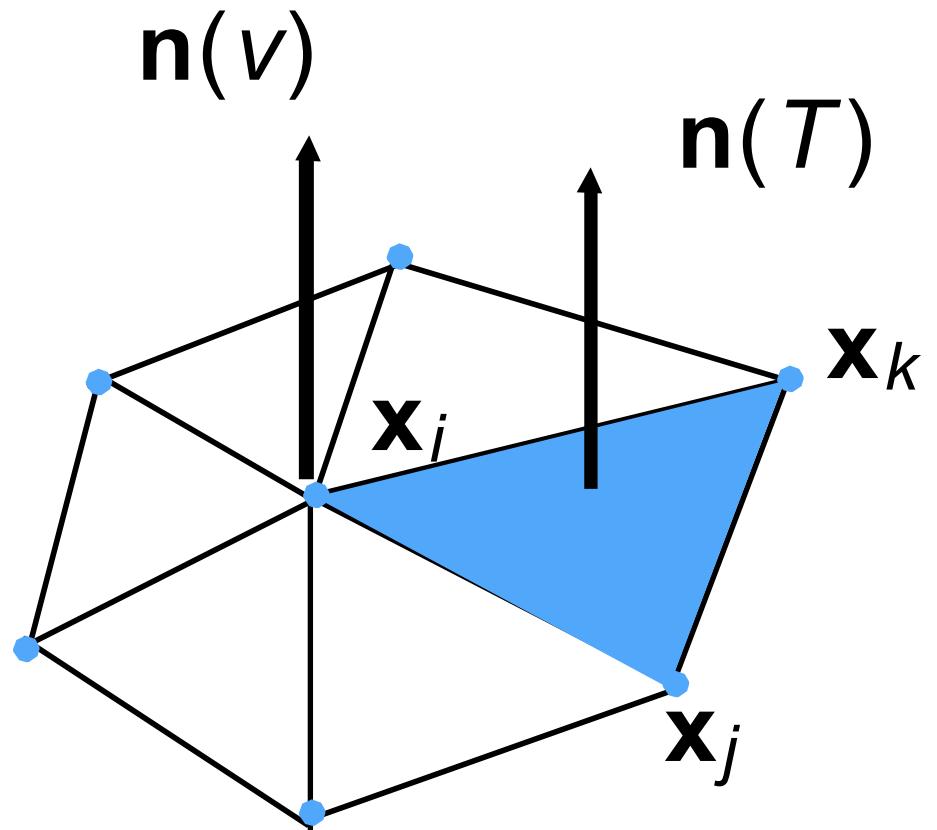
$$\mathbf{x}_u \times \mathbf{x}_v \neq \mathbf{0} \quad \text{normal exists}$$

# Discrete Face Normal Vectors



$$\mathbf{n}(T) = \frac{(\mathbf{x}_j - \mathbf{x}_i) \times (\mathbf{x}_k - \mathbf{x}_i)}{\|(\mathbf{x}_j - \mathbf{x}_i) \times (\mathbf{x}_k - \mathbf{x}_i)\|}$$
$$T = (\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j, \mathbf{x}_k)$$

# Discrete Vertex Normal Vectors

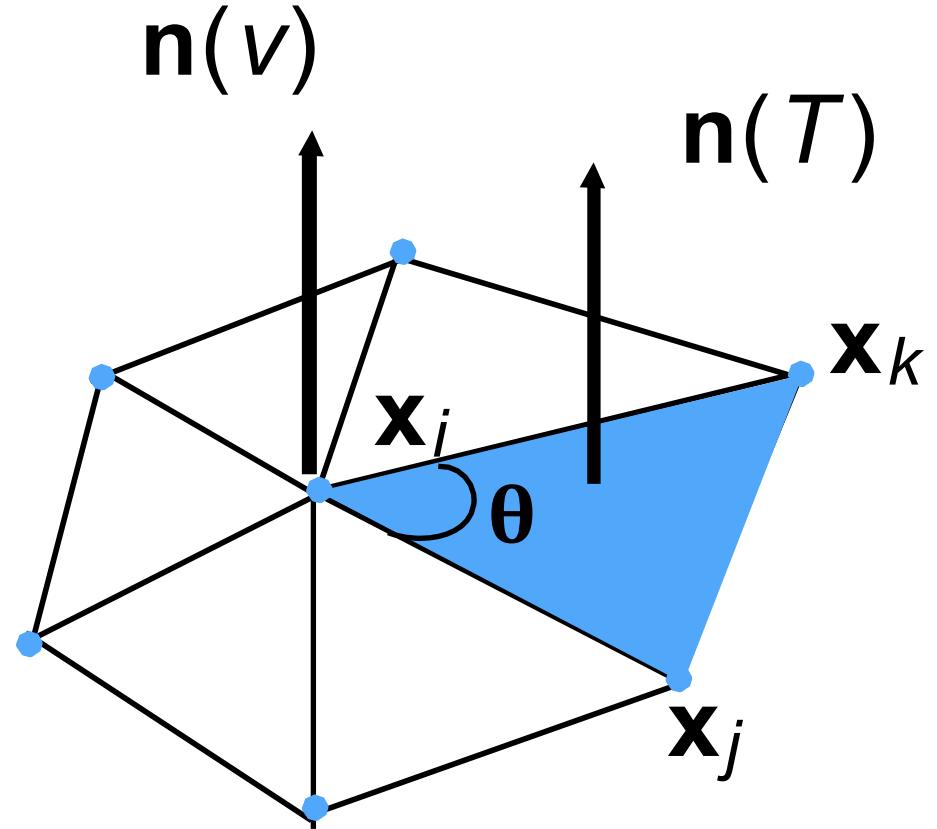


$$\mathbf{n}(T) = \frac{(\mathbf{x}_j - \mathbf{x}_i) \times (\mathbf{x}_k - \mathbf{x}_i)}{\|(\mathbf{x}_j - \mathbf{x}_i) \times (\mathbf{x}_k - \mathbf{x}_i)\|}$$

$$T = (\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j, \mathbf{x}_k)$$

$$\mathbf{n}(v) = \frac{\sum_{T \in \mathcal{N}_1(v)} \alpha_T \mathbf{n}(T)}{\left\| \sum_{T \in \mathcal{N}_1(v)} \alpha_T \mathbf{n}(T) \right\|}$$

# Discrete Vertex Normal Vectors



$$\mathbf{n}(T) = \frac{(\mathbf{x}_j - \mathbf{x}_i) \times (\mathbf{x}_k - \mathbf{x}_i)}{\|(\mathbf{x}_j - \mathbf{x}_i) \times (\mathbf{x}_k - \mathbf{x}_i)\|}$$

$$T = (\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j, \mathbf{x}_k)$$

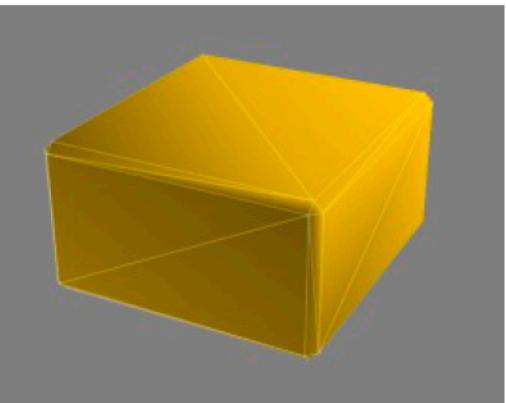
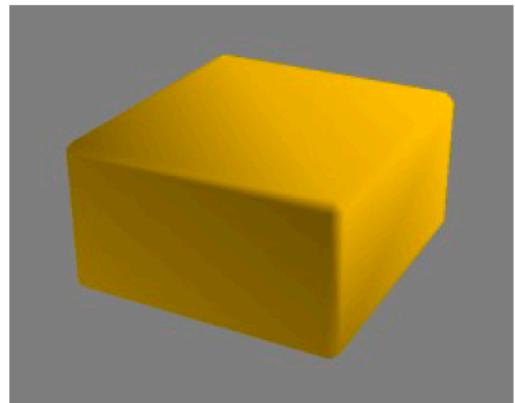
$$\mathbf{n}(v) = \frac{\sum_{T \in \mathcal{N}_1(v)} \alpha_T \mathbf{n}(T)}{\left\| \sum_{T \in \mathcal{N}_1(v)} \alpha_T \mathbf{n}(T) \right\|}$$

$$\alpha_T = 1$$

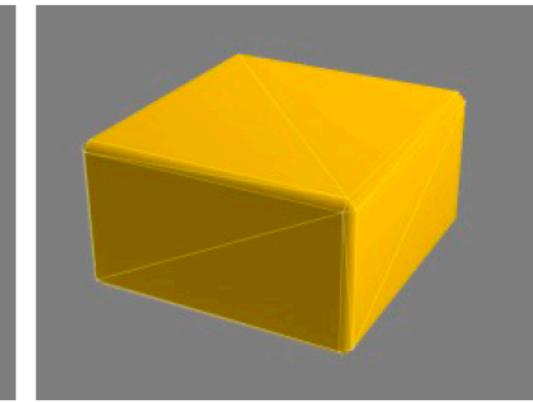
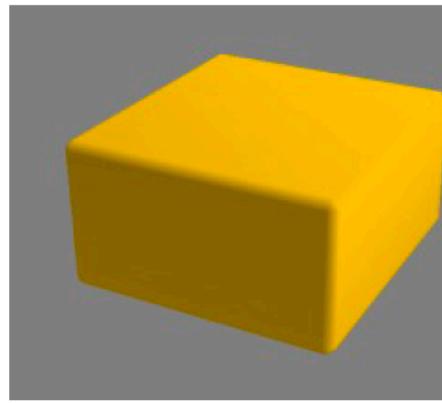
$$\alpha_T = |T|$$

$$\alpha_T = \theta_T$$

# Shading via various Vertex Normal Vectors

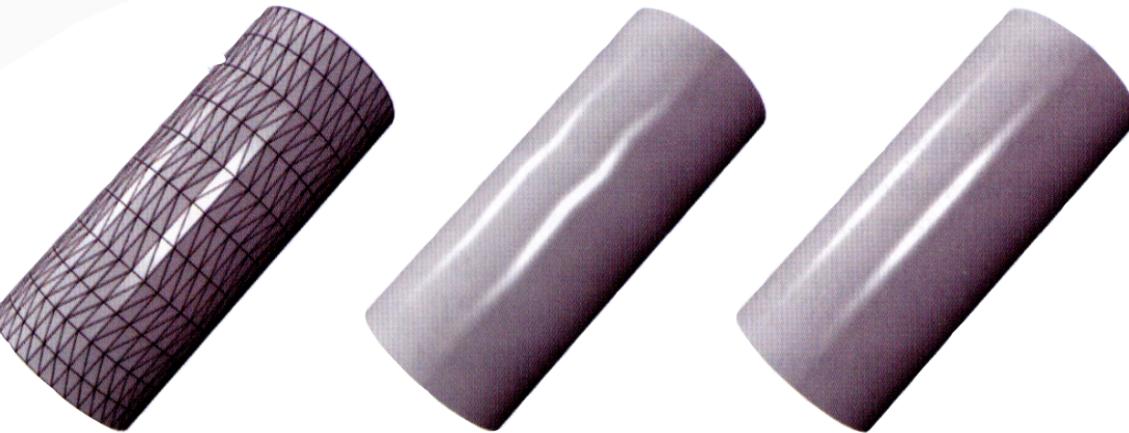


|



Without area-

weighting



tessellated  
cylinder

$$\alpha_T = 1$$
$$\alpha_T = |T|$$

$$\alpha_T = \theta_T$$

# Local Averaging

# Local Averaging

- Local Neighborhood  $N(x)$  of a point
  - often coincides with mesh vertex  $V_i$
  - n-ring neighborhood  $N_n(V_i)$  or local geodesic ball
- Neighborhood size
  - Large: smoothing is introduced, stable to noise
  - Small: fine scale variation, sensitive to noise

# Local average operator

$$(\mathbf{W}f)_i = \sum_{(i,j) \in E} w_{ij} f_j$$

A particularly important class of local operators are local smoothings (also called filterings) that perform a local weighted sum around each vertex of the mesh. For this averaging to be consistent, we define a normalized operator  $\tilde{\mathbf{W}}$  whose set of weights sum to one

**Definition 9** (Local averaging operator). *A local normalized averaging is  $\tilde{\mathbf{W}} = (\tilde{w}_{ij})_{i,j \in V} \geq 0$  where*

$$\forall (i,j) \in E, \quad \tilde{w}_{ij} = \frac{w_{ij}}{\sum_{(i,j) \in E} w_{ij}}.$$

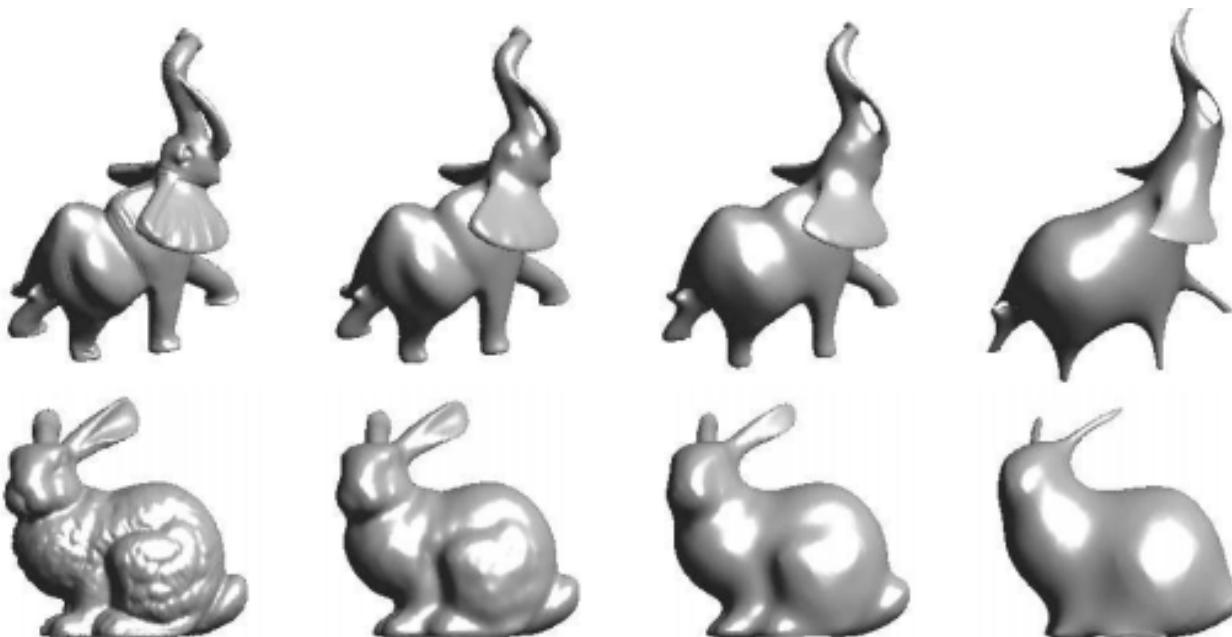
*It can be equivalently expressed in matrix form as*

$$\tilde{\mathbf{W}} = \mathbf{D}^{-1} \mathbf{W} \quad \text{with} \quad \mathbf{D} = \text{diag}_i(d_i) \quad \text{where} \quad d_i = \sum_{(i,j) \in E} w_{ij}.$$

- Combinatorial/uniform weights  $\forall (i,j) \in E, \quad w_{ij} = 1.$
- Distance weights  $\forall (i,j) \in E, \quad w_{ij} = \frac{1}{\|x_j - x_i\|^2}.$

# An example of such iterations applied to the three coordinates of mesh.

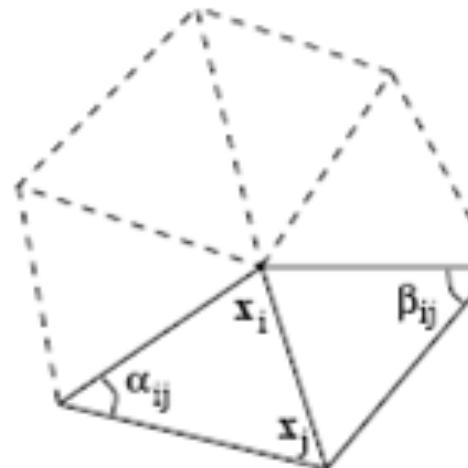
- One can use iteratively a smoothing in order to further filter a function on a mesh. The resulting vectors  $Wf$ ,  $W^2f, \dots, W^kf$  are increasingly smoothed version of  $f$ .
- The sharp features of the mesh tend to disappear during iterations.



# Normalization and some famous weights

**Cotangent weights** ↗

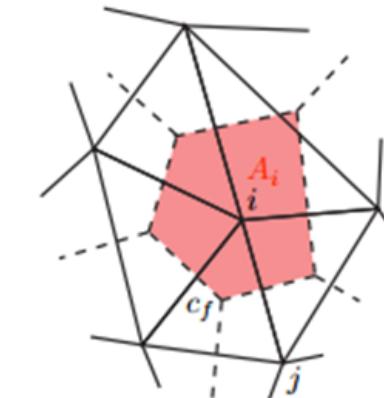
$$w_{ij} = \cot \alpha_{ij} + \cot \beta_{ij}.$$



$$(\mathbf{W}f)_i = \sum_{(i,j) \in E} w_{ij} f_j$$

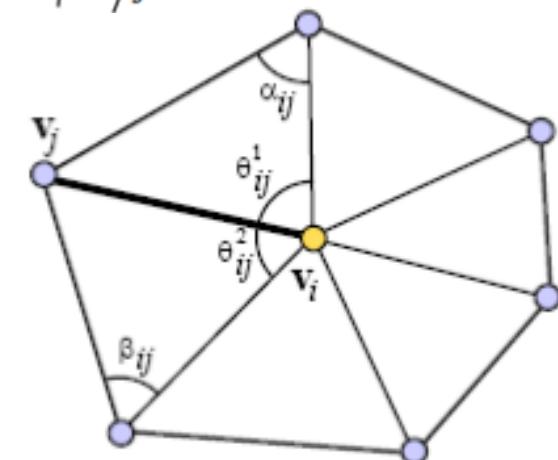
**Mean curvature weights** ↗

$$w_{ij} = \frac{1}{4A(v_i)} (\cot \alpha_{ij} + \cot \beta_{ij}).$$



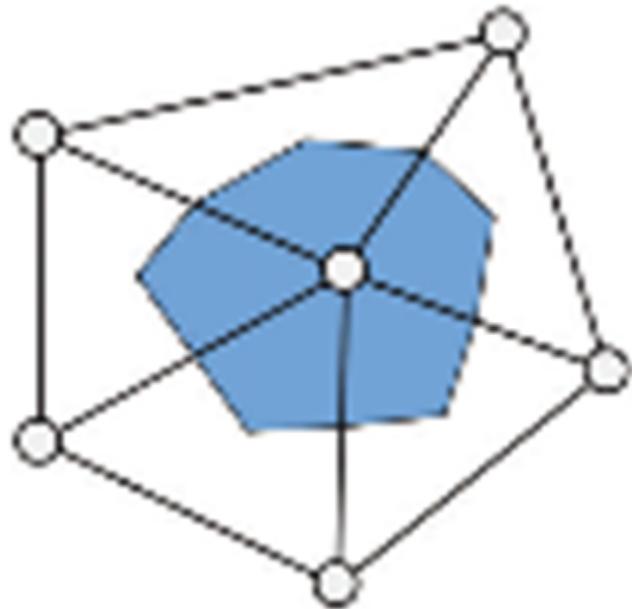
**Mean value weights** ↗

$$w_{ij} = \frac{\tan(\theta_{ij}^1 / 2) + \tan(\theta_{ij}^2 / 2)}{\|v_i - v_j\|}.$$



What is the area of the Voronoi region (in red) of the vertex?

# Local Averaging: 1-Ring



Barycentric cell

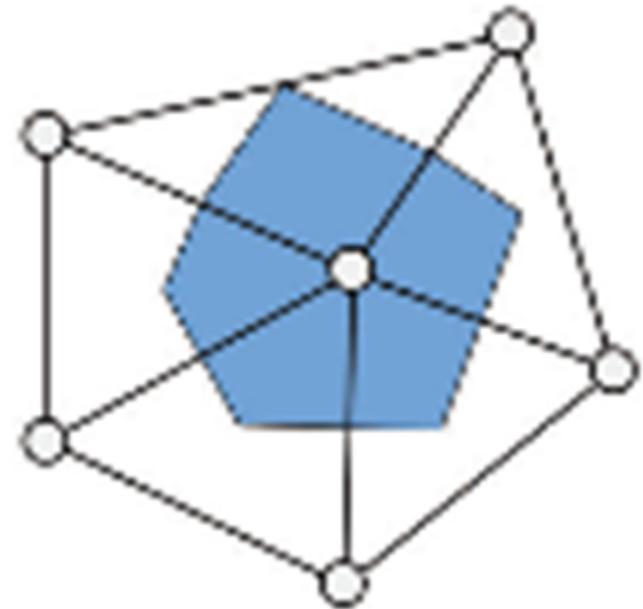
(barycenters/edgemidpoints)



Voronoi cell

(circumcenters)

tight error bound



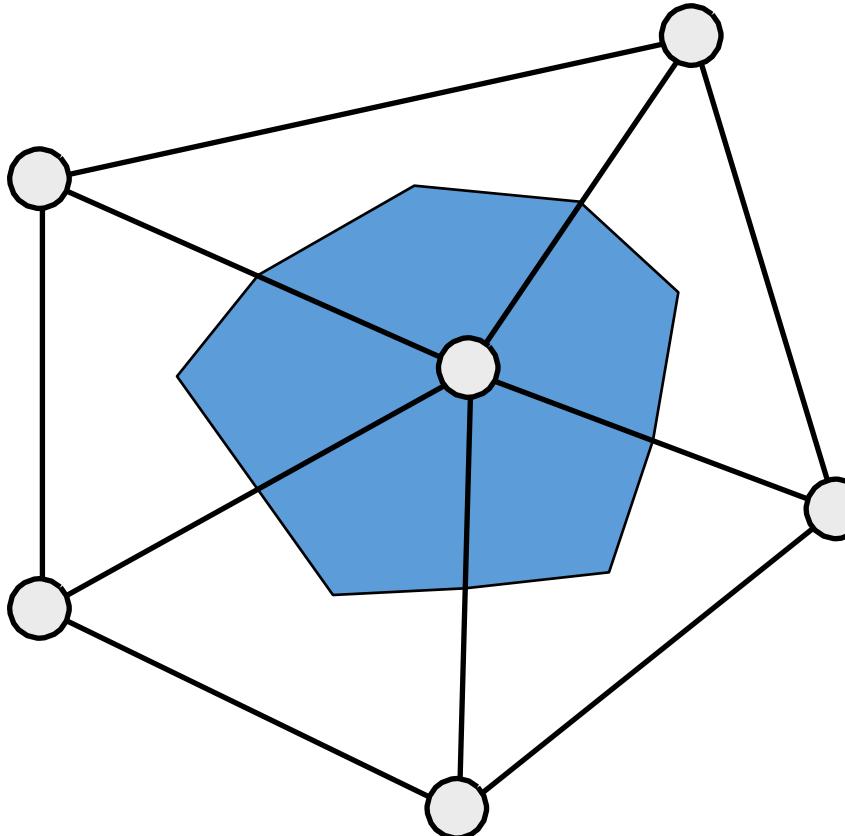
Mixed Voronoi cell

(circumcenters/midpoint)

better approximation

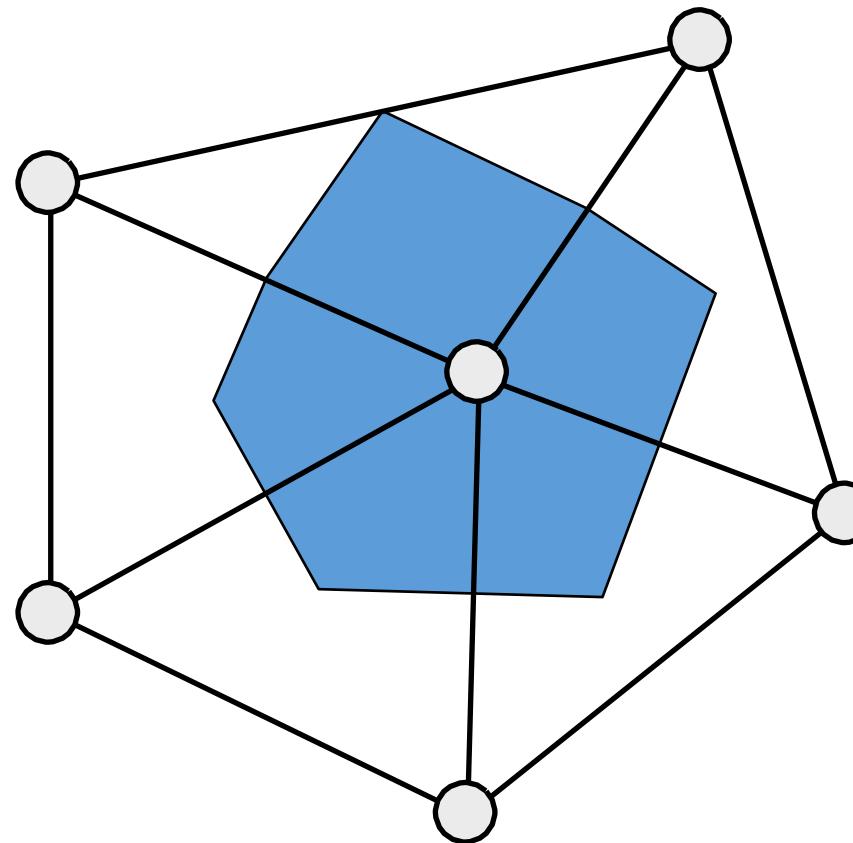
# Barycentric Cells

- Connect edge midpoints and triangle barycenters
  - Simple to compute
  - Area is  $1/3$  o triangle areas



# Mixed Cells

- **Connect edge midpoints and**
  - Circumcenters for non-obtuse triangles
  - Midpoint of opposite edge for obtuse triangles
  - Better approximation, more complex to compute...



# Mixed Regions

$$\mathcal{A}_{\text{Mixed}} = 0$$

For each triangle  $T$  from the 1-ring neighborhood of  $\mathbf{x}$

If  $T$  is non-obtuse, // Voronoi safe

// Add Voronoi formula (see Section 3.3)

$\mathcal{A}_{\text{Mixed}} +=$  Voronoi region of  $\mathbf{x}$  in  $T$

Else // Voronoi inappropriate

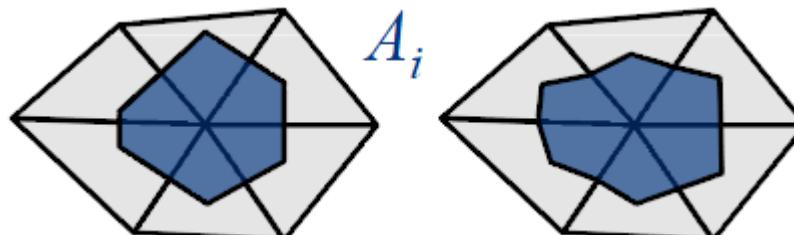
// Add either  $\text{area}(T)/4$  or  $\text{area}(T)/2$

If the angle of  $T$  at  $\mathbf{x}$  is obtuse

$\mathcal{A}_{\text{Mixed}} += \text{area}(T)/2$

Else

$\mathcal{A}_{\text{Mixed}} += \text{area}(T)/4$

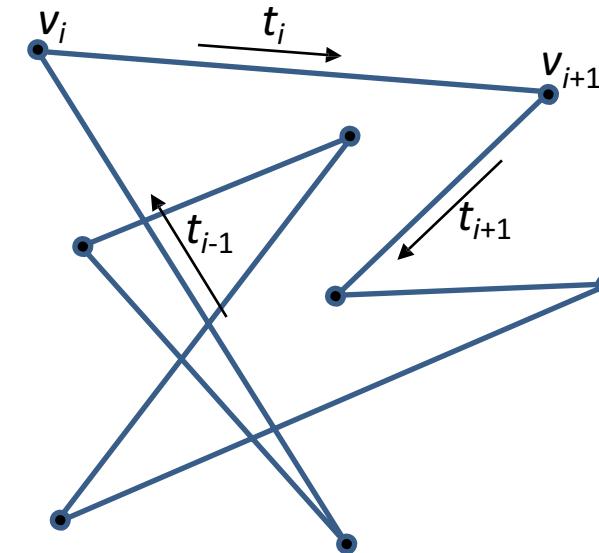


# Discrete Curves

Q: Where and how should we define curvature?

A: Since the tangent only changes at vertices we should define the curvature as a vertex value.

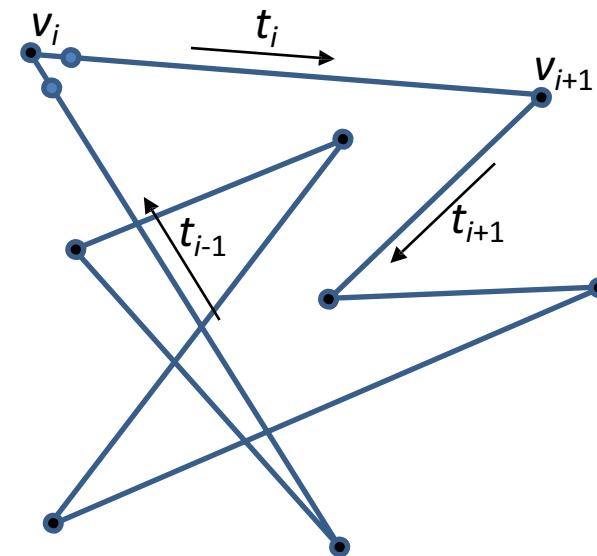
We should define the value of the curvature as the change in the tangent as we move through the vertex.



# Discrete Curves

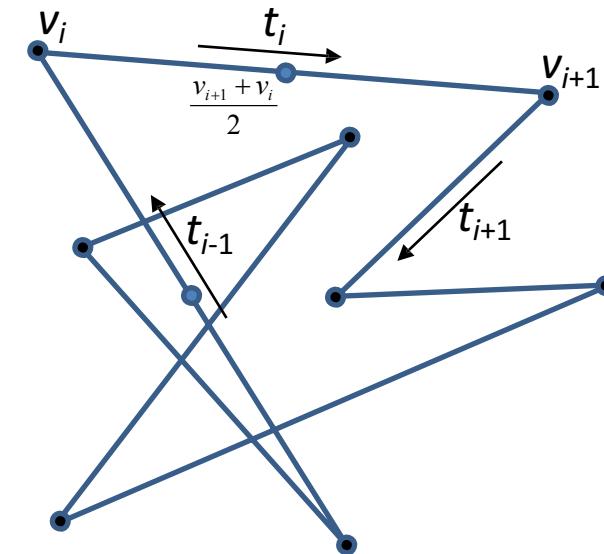
Note that we cannot define the curvature as the result of a limiting process:

$$\begin{aligned}\kappa_i &= \lim_{\Delta t \rightarrow 0} \frac{|t_i - t_{i-1}|}{|[(1-\Delta t)v_i + \Delta t v_{i+1}] - [(1-\Delta t)v_i + \Delta t v_{i-1}]|} \\ &= \lim_{\Delta t \rightarrow 0} \frac{|t_i - t_{i-1}|}{\Delta t |v_{i+1} - v_{i-1}|}\end{aligned}$$



# Discrete Curves

However, we can estimate it using the finite- differences using the edge centers  $(v_i+v_{i+1})/2$ .

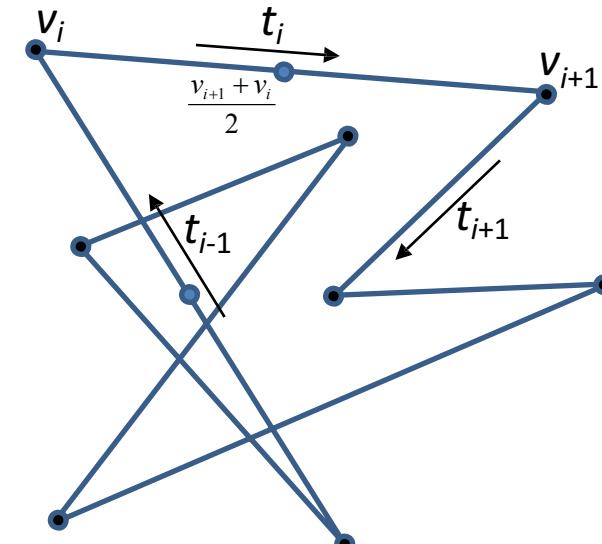
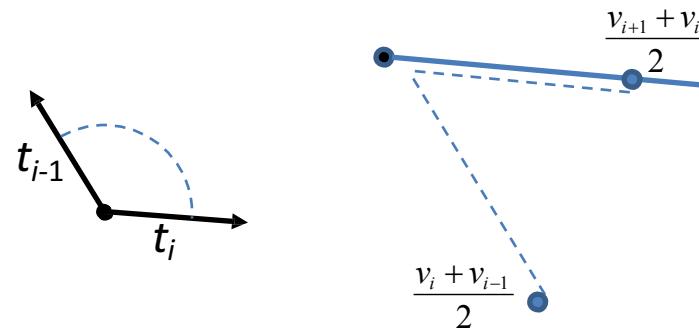


# Discrete Curves

However, we can estimate it using the finite- differences using the edge centers  $(v_i+v_{i+1})/2$ .

Specifically, we define the **curvature** in terms of change in tangents angle divided by the arc-length between **edge centers**:

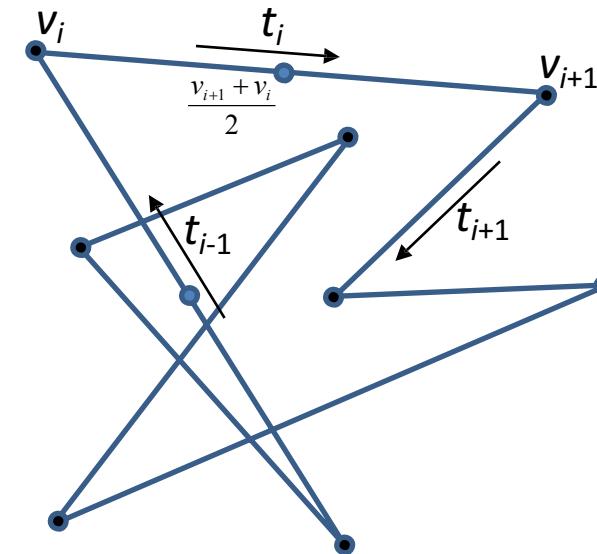
$$\kappa_i = \frac{\angle t_i t_{i+1}}{|(v_{i+1} - v_i)/2| + |(v_i - v_{i-1})/2|}$$



# Discrete Curves

- Since we are only storing the curvature at the vertices, we want the value to correspond to the “total curvature associated to the vertex”:

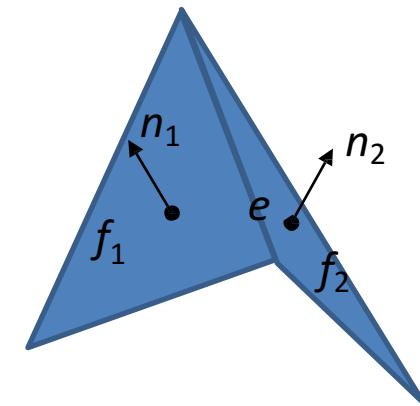
$$\kappa(v_i) = \frac{|v_{i+1} - v_i| + |v_i - v_{i-1}|}{2} \quad \kappa = \angle t_i t_{i+1}$$



# Discrete Surfaces - normal curvatures

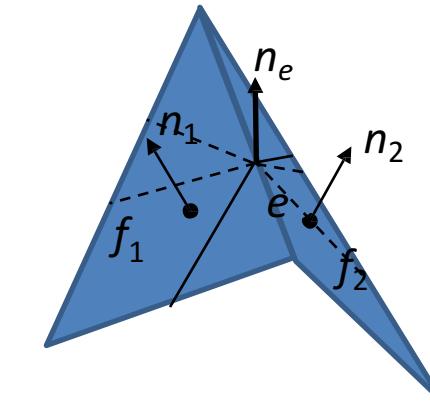
Q: Where and how should we compute the normal curvatures?

A: Since the normals only changes at edges we should compute the normal curvature at the edges.



# Discrete Surfaces - normal curvatures

Picking a (good) normal at the edge and looking at the set of planes passing through the normal, we get a family of curves.

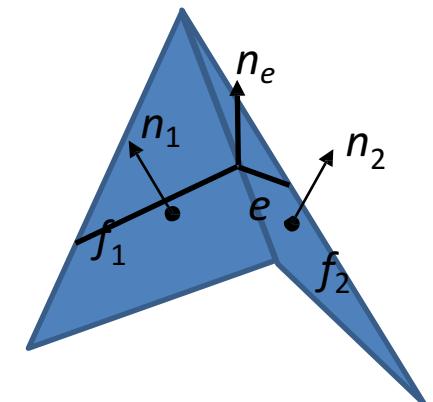
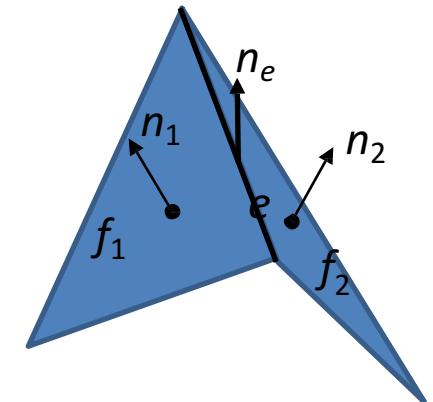


# Discrete Surfaces - principal curvature

Picking a (good) normal at the edge and looking at the set of planes passing through the normal, we get a family of curves.

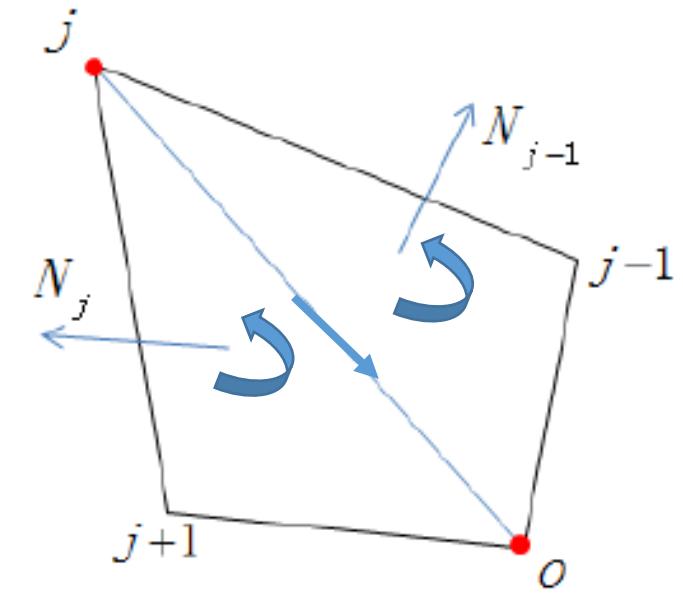
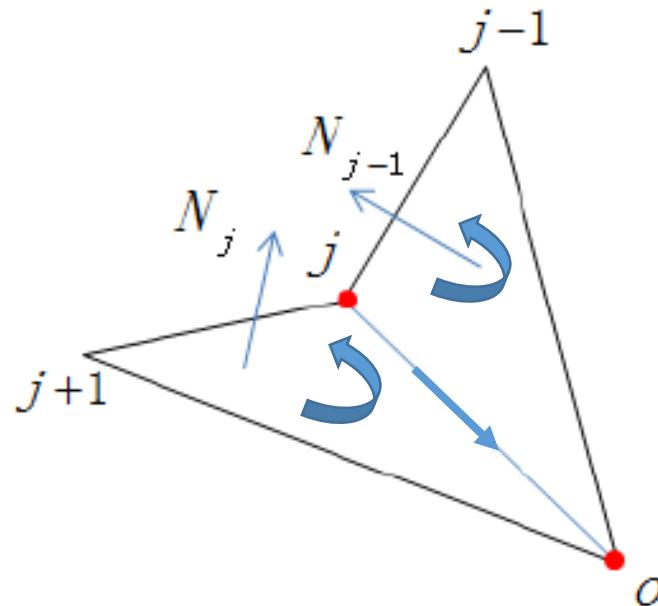
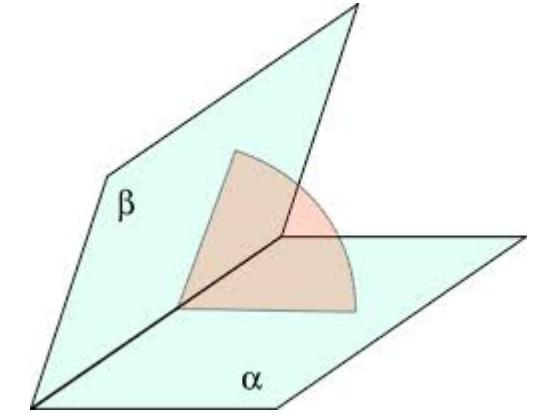
Defining the curvature of the curve in terms of the angle between curve segments:

- The min curvature is 0, with principal curvature direction along  $e$ .
- The max curvature is equal to the **dihedral angle** ( $\beta(e)=\angle n_1 n_2$ ), with principal curvature direction along  $n_e \times e$ , so **orthogonal** to  $e$ .



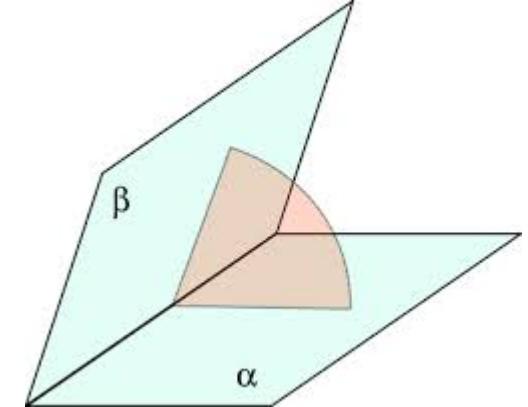
# Dihedral-angle

- $\varphi_{AB} = \text{acos}(n_A \cdot n_B) \in [0, \text{PI}]$  (see geom3d)
  - sharp features (e.g. dihedral angles <90 degrees)
- Signed dihedral-angle:  $\text{dir} = (N_{j-1} \times N_j) \cdot e_{jo}$ 
  - $\text{dir}>0$ , the edge is ridge;
  - $\text{dir}<0$ , the edge is ravine



# dihedral-angle

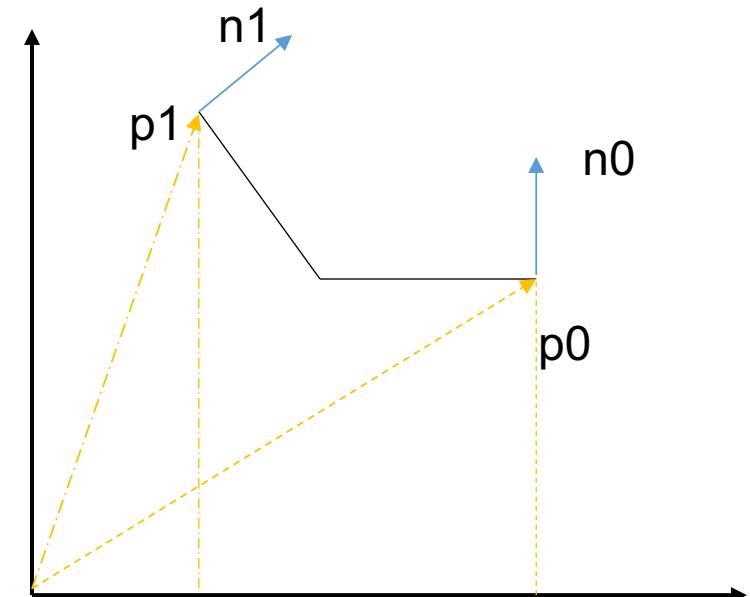
- $\varphi_{AB} = \arccos(n_A \cdot n_B) \in [0, \pi]$  (see geom3d)
- sharp features (e.g. dihedral angles <90 degrees)



- Signed dihedral-angle
  - A surface may depart from planarity by a positive or a negative dihedral angle (convex or concave).
  - `vcg::face::DihedralAngleRad (FaceType &f, const int i)`
  - Compute the signed dihedral angle between the normals of two adjacent faces.
  - It simply use the projection of the opposite vertex onto the plane of the other one.

# Signed dihedral-angle v.s. Convex & Concave

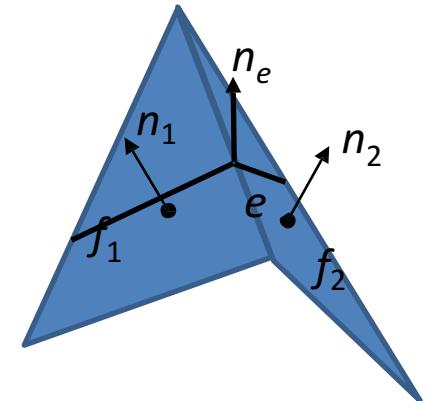
- `vcg::face::DihedralAngleRad (FaceType &f, const int i)`
- It simply use the projection of the opposite vertex onto the plane of the other one.
  - `dist01 = n0*p0- n0*p1;`
  - `dist10 = n1*p1- n1*p0`
  - // just to be sure use the sign of the largest in absolute value;
  - `if(fabs(dist01) > fabs(dist10)) sign = dist01;`
  - `else sign=dist10;`
- Positive for convex & negative for concave



# Curvature tensor @ edge

- Thus, the mean curvature at a point on the edge is equal to the dihedral angle between the faces:  $H(p \in e) = 0.5 * \beta(e)$
- Moreover, since the principal curvatures at  $p \in e$  are 0 and  $\beta(e)$ , with directions  $e/|e|$  and  $n_e \times e / |n_e \times e|$ , we can use this to define a curvature tensor at  $p \in e$ :

$$C(p) = \beta(e) \frac{1}{\|n_e \times e\|^2} (n_e \times e)(n_e \times e)^t$$



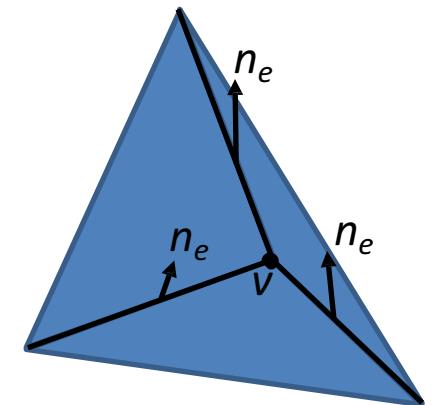
Recall that  $C(x(p)) = \kappa_1 J_{W_1} J_{W_1^t} + \kappa_2 J_{W_2} J_{W_2^t}$

# Curvature tensor @ vertex

$$C(p) = \beta(e) \frac{1}{\|n_e \times e\|^2} (n_e \times e)(n_e \times e)$$

- Averaging the curvature tensor over the edges coming out of a vertex  $v$ , we get a curvature tensor associated with vertices:

$$C(v) = \sum_{e \in v} \frac{|e|}{2} \beta(e) \frac{1}{\|n_e \times e\|^2} (n_e \times e)(n_e \times e)$$

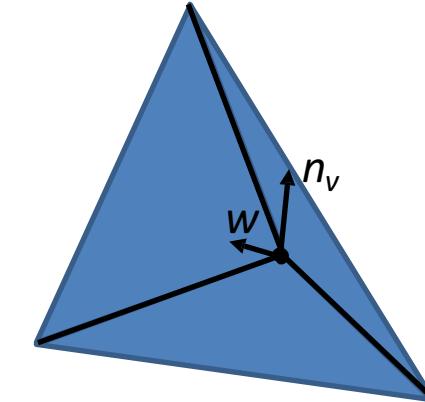


# Discrete Surfaces – normal curvature

$$C(v) = \sum_{v \in e} \frac{|e|}{2} \beta(e) \frac{1}{\|n_e \times e\|^2} (n_e \times e)(n_e \times e)$$

For any “tangent direction”  $w$  at  $v$ , we can now compute the normal curvature along  $w$  as:

$$\kappa_v(w) = \frac{w^t C(v) w}{w^t w}$$



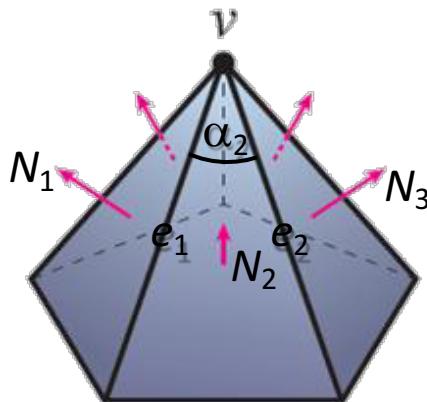
allowing us to compute principal curvatures values and directions at a vertex, then mean & Gaussian curvature

curvature of discrete curve => normal curvature @ edge => principle curvature @ edge =>  
curvature tensor @ edge => curvature tensor @ vertex => normal curvature @ vertex =>  
principle curvature @ vertex => mean and Gaussian curvature @ vertex

# Gaussian curvature via angle deficits

- Note:
- This discretization of curvature information and does not have to conform with others.
- For example, the computed Gaussian curvature is not the same as the one defined using angle deficits.

$$\kappa(v) = 2\pi - \sum_{i=1}^k \alpha_i$$



# Gauss-Bonnet Theorem

$$\int_M K \, dA + \int_{\partial M} k_g \, ds = 2\pi\chi(M)$$

**Gaussian curvature**      **Geodesic curvature**       **$2-2g$**

The diagram shows the Gauss-Bonnet Theorem equation:  $\int_M K \, dA + \int_{\partial M} k_g \, ds = 2\pi\chi(M)$ . Three green arrows point from the text labels to their corresponding terms in the equation: a vertical arrow points to  $K \, dA$ , another points to  $k_g \, ds$ , and a third points to  $2\pi\chi(M)$ .

- The theorem states, somewhat surprisingly, if one deforms the surface  $M$ , its total Gaussian curvature will not change, while the curvatures at some points will.

# Gauss-Bonnet Theorem

- For a closed surface  $M$

- Total Gauss Curvature:  $\int_M K dA = 2\pi\chi(M)$ , where  $V-E+F=2-2g=\chi$

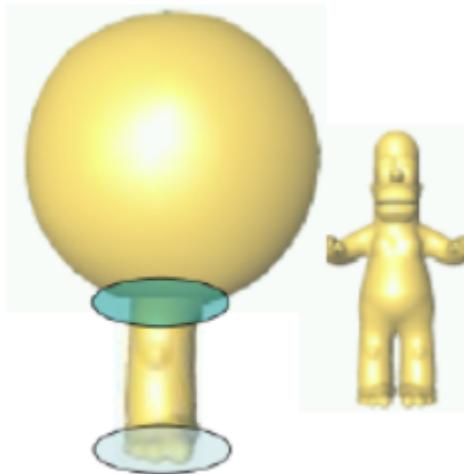


- Sphere

$$\kappa_1 = \kappa_2 = 1/r$$

$$K = \kappa_1 \kappa_2 = 1/r^2$$

$$\int K = 4\pi r^2 \cdot \frac{1}{r^2} = 4\pi$$



when sphere is deformed, new **positive and negative curvature cancel out**

# Gauss-Bonnet Theorem

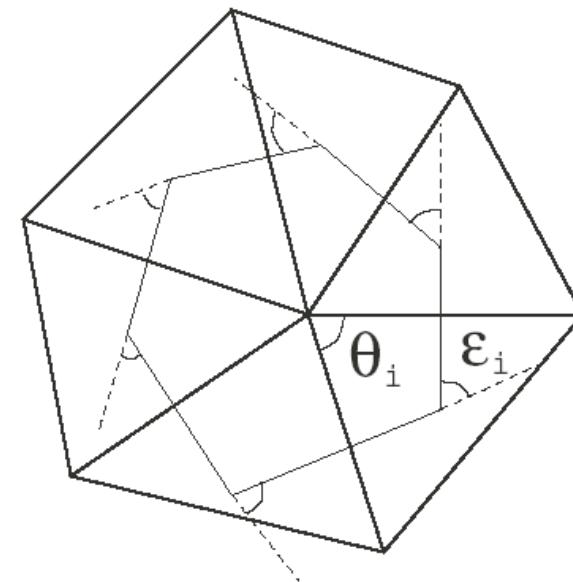
- For a closed surface  $M$ 
  - Total Gauss Curvature:

$$\int_M K dA = 2\pi\chi(M), \text{ where } V-E+F=2-2g=\chi$$

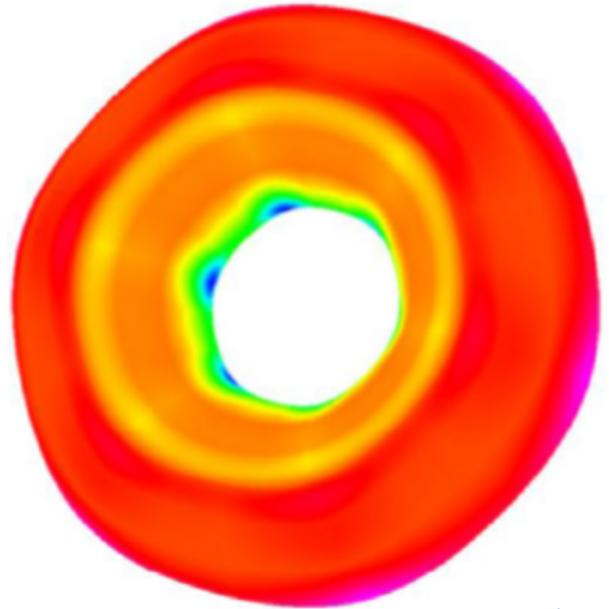
- For a surface patch

- For voronoi region:  $\iint_{A_M} \kappa_G dA + \int_{\partial A_M} \kappa_g dl = 2\pi$

$$\iint_{A_M} \kappa_G dA = 2\pi - \sum_{j=1}^{\#f} \theta_j$$



# Curvature



$K=k_1k_2$



# Discrete Curvature

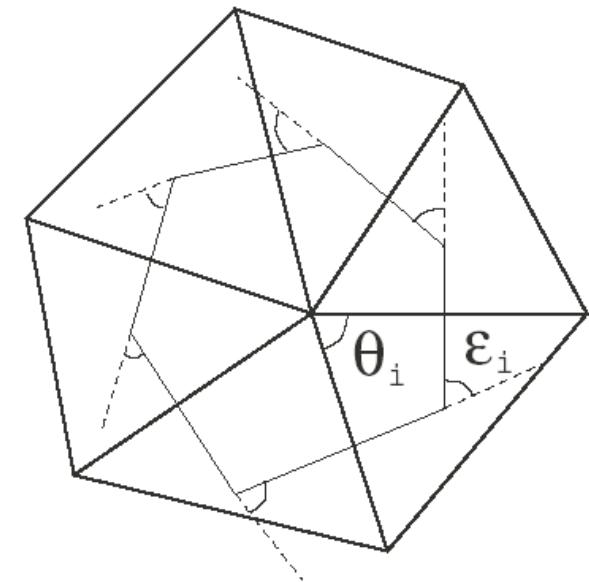
$$\Delta_{\mathcal{S}} \mathbf{x} = -2H \mathbf{n}.$$

$$H(v_i) = \frac{1}{2} \|\Delta \mathbf{x}_i\|$$

Gauss-Bonnet theorem

$$\int_M K \, dA + \int_{\partial M} k_g \, ds = 2\pi\chi(M)$$

$$K(v_i) = \frac{1}{A_i} \left( 2\pi - \sum_{v_j \in \mathcal{N}_1(v_i)} \theta_j \right)$$

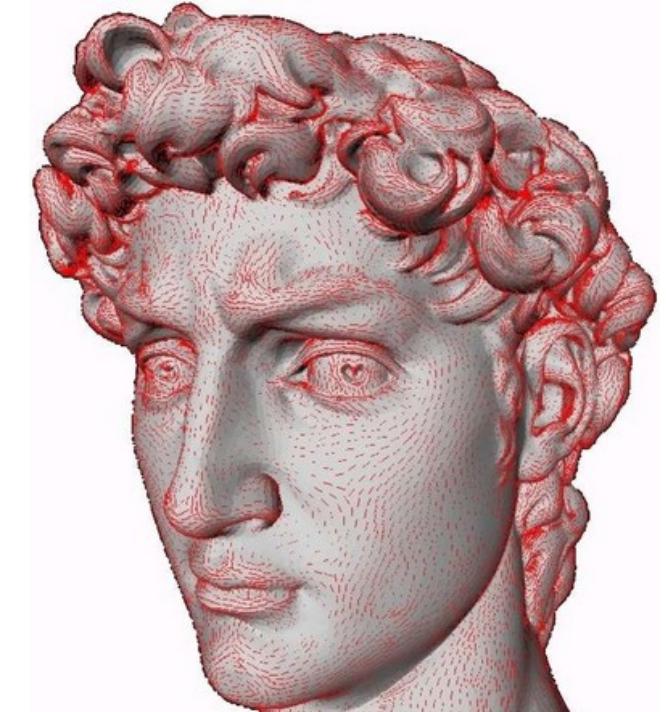


$$k_H = \frac{k_1+k_2}{2}, \quad k_G = k_1 \cdot k_2$$

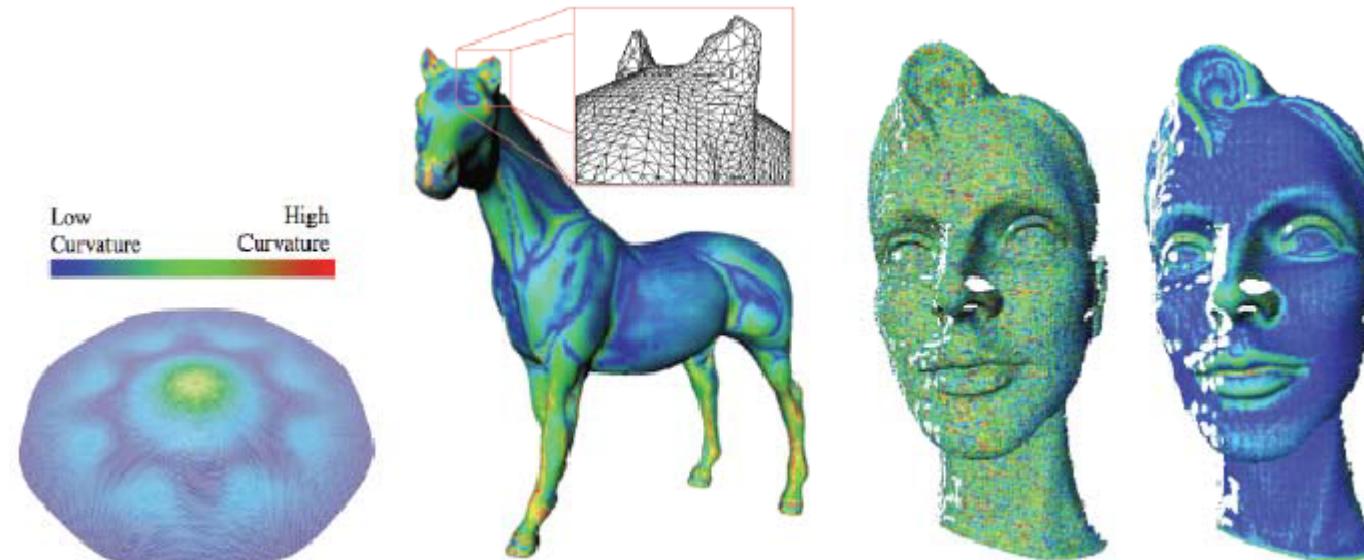
$$\kappa_{1,2}(v_i) = H(v_i) \pm \sqrt{H(v_i)^2 - K(v_i)}.$$

# Curvature Computation

- Approaches:
  - Discrete differential geometry: Normal Cycle
  - Smooth differential geometry: Jet-fitting
- Implementation:
  - `toolbox_mesh/compute_curvature`
  - CGAL
  - MeshLab
  - 3d-workspace

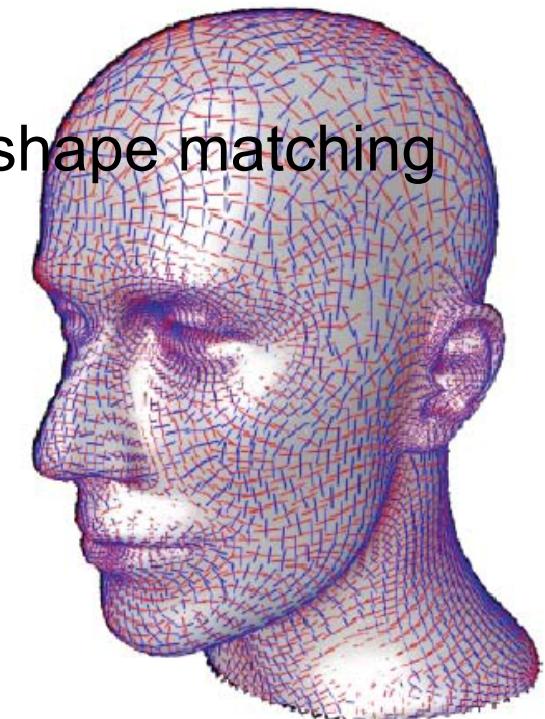


- M. Meyer, M. Desbrun, P. Schroeder, A. Barr *Discrete Differential-Geometry Operators for Triangulated 2-Manifolds*, VisMath, 2002
- [Hamann 93] simple way to determine principal curvature and direction using least-squared paraboloid fitting
  - No easy way



# Links and literature

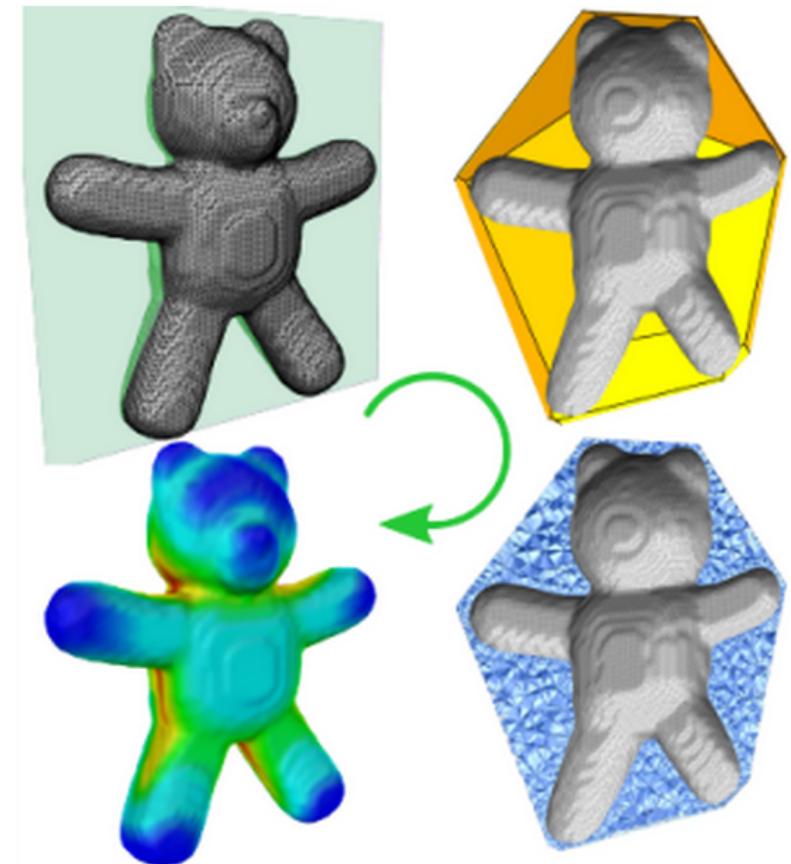
- P. Alliez, *Estimating Curvature Tensors on Triangle Meshes*, [Source code!](#)
- [Taubin 95] introduced a complete derivation of surface properties approximating curvature tensors for polyhedral surface
- Gaussian curvature: tog06\_Salient geometric features for partial shape matching and similarity.



principal directions

# Global concavity

- cvpr13\_Efficient Computation of Shortest Path-Concavity for 3D Meshes, has source code



# Discrete Surfaces

## Note:

This discretization of curvature information and does not have to conform with others. Similarly, we can use the cotangent Laplacian and the fact that:

$$\Delta_S f = -2H\mathbf{n}$$

to define the mean curvature at a vertex, but this also won't agree with the mean-curvature defined by the curvature tensor.

**How to compute it?**

Scalar field & its  
gradient, Laplacian

# Function on a mesh $M=\{V,E,F\}$

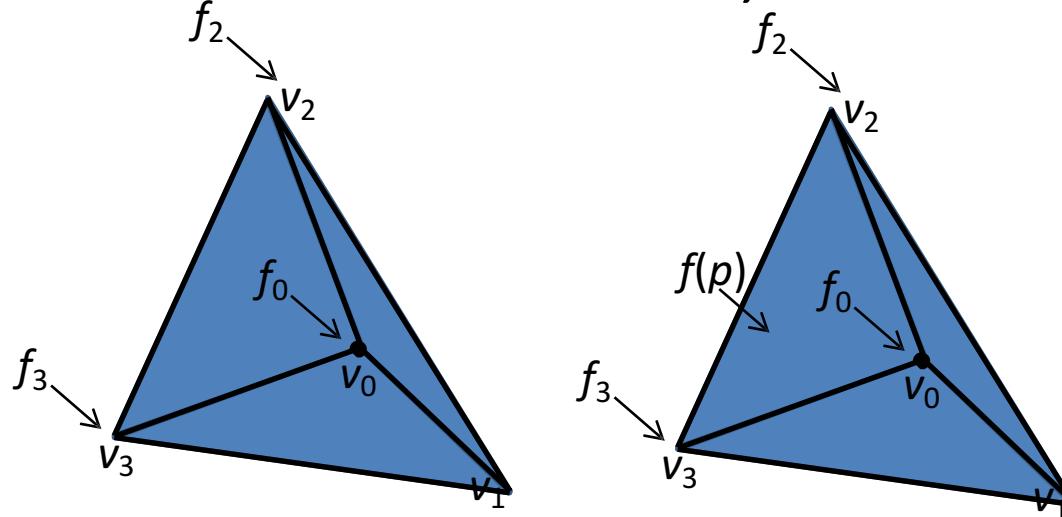
- A function is a discrete set of values or vectors defined at each vertex location. Then we have these two definitions,
- **Definition 2.1 (Scalar function on a mesh)**
  - A scalar function  $f$  on a mesh with  $n$  vertices is a discrete set of values defined at each vertex, and can be viewed equivalently as an  $n$ -vector, that is

$$f : \begin{cases} V & \xrightarrow{\quad} \mathbb{R} \\ x_i & \mapsto f(x_i) \end{cases} \iff f : \begin{cases} V & \xrightarrow{\quad} \mathbb{R} \\ i & \mapsto f_i \end{cases} \iff f = (f_i)_{i \in V} \in \mathbb{R}^n.$$

- **Definition 2.2 (Vector function on a mesh)**
  - A  $d$ -vector function on a mesh with  $n$  vertices is a discrete set of  $d$ -vectors defined at each vertex, and can be viewed equivalently as an  $n \times d$  matrix, that is  $f = (f_i)_{i \in V} \in R^{n \times d}$

# Function on a mesh

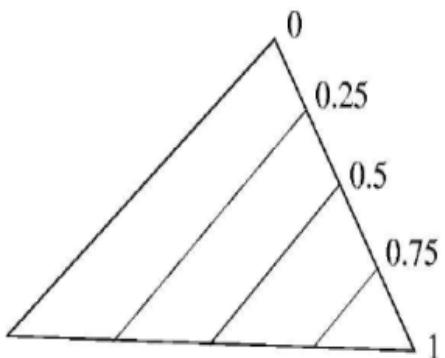
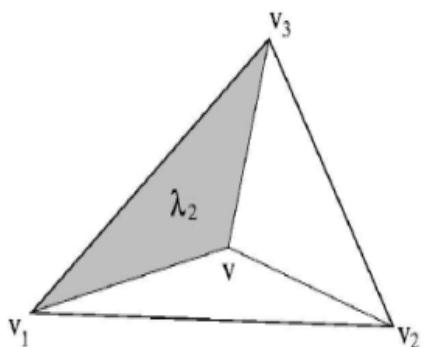
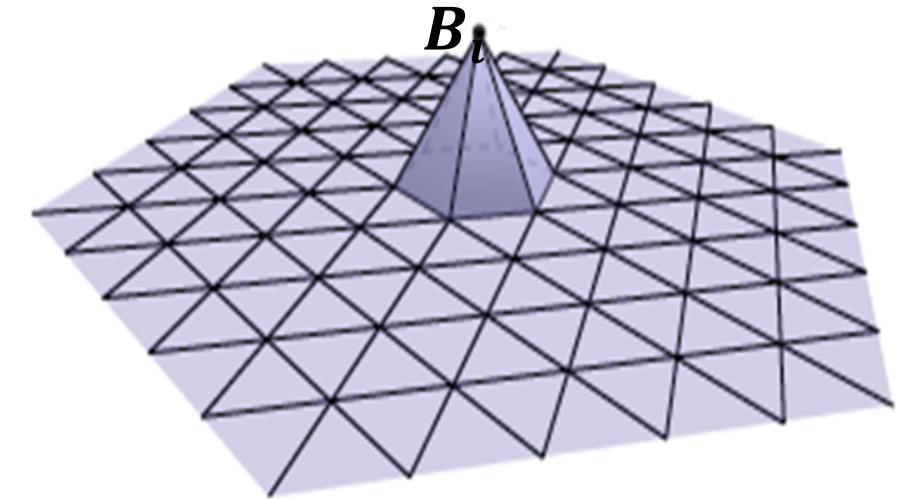
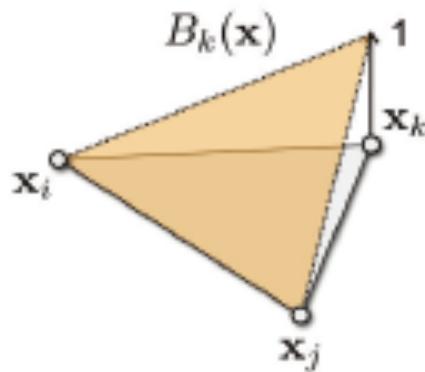
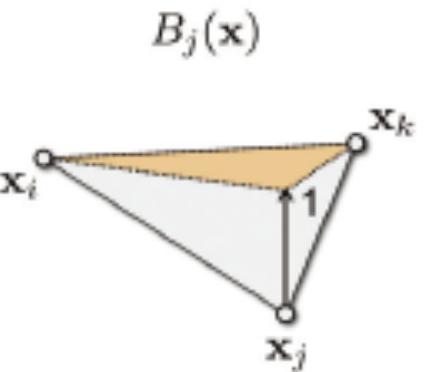
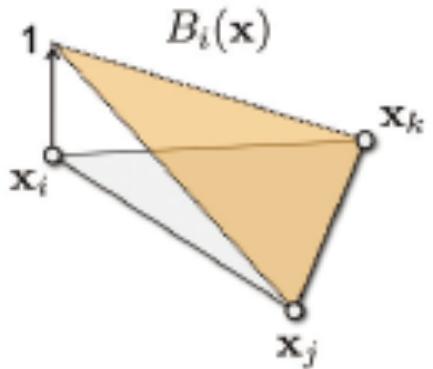
In considering functions on the a mesh, we will associate values with each vertex.



We then extend the functions to the interior of the triangles using barycentric interpolation:

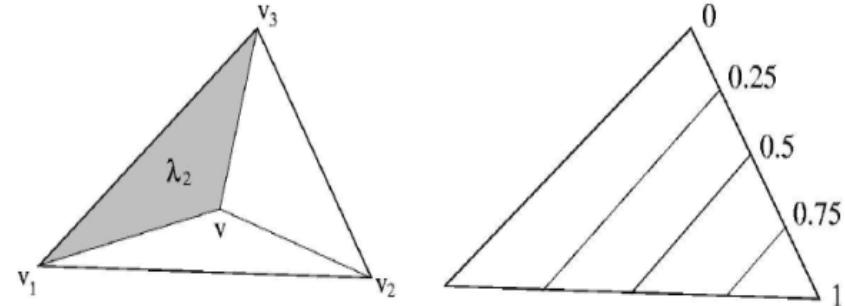
$$f(p) = \sum f_i B_i(p)$$

# The linear basis functions for barycentric interpolation on a triangle.



Triangle barycentric coordinates. Left:  $\lambda_2$ ; Right: iso-curve of  $\lambda_2$ .

# Triangle barycentric coordinates



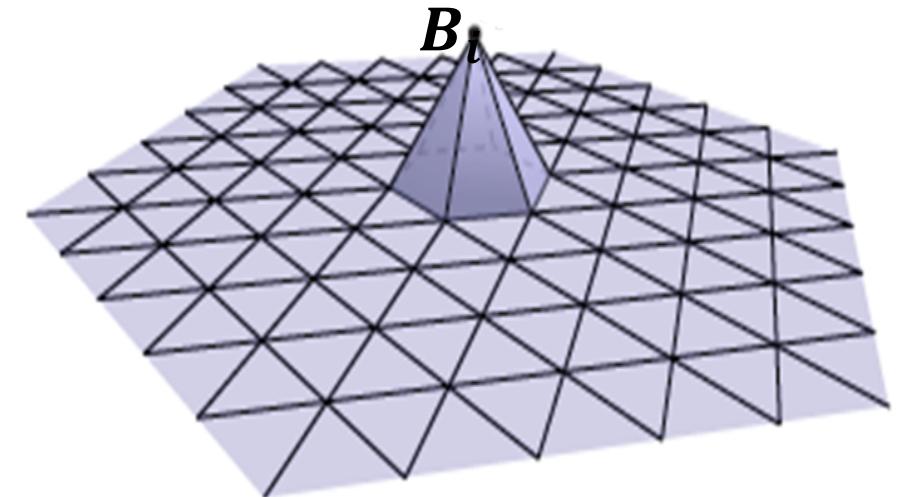
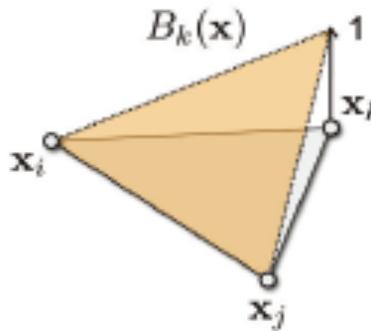
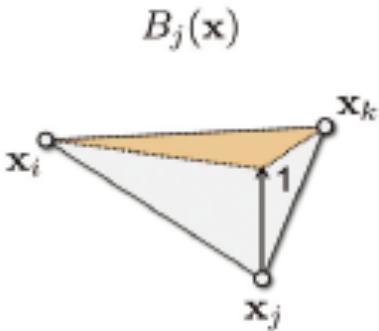
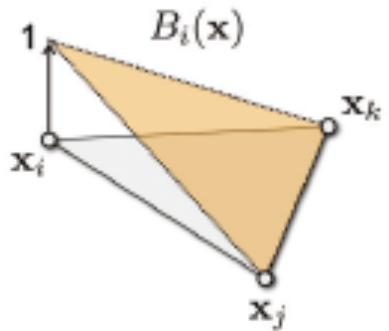
- **Mobius [Mobius1827]** was the first to study  $\omega_i$  and he defined  $\omega_i$  as the barycentric coordinates of  $v$ .

$$\bullet \omega_1(v) = A(v, v_2, v_3) = \frac{1}{2} \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ x & x_2 & x_3 \\ y & y_2 & y_3 \end{vmatrix} = \frac{1}{2} [x(y_2 - y_3) + y(x_3 - x_2) + x_2y_3 - x_3y_2] \text{ is linear in } v.$$

- add one other condition:  $\sum_i \lambda_i = 1$ .
- $\{\lambda_1 = \frac{A(v, v_2, v_3)}{A(v_1, v_2, v_3)}, \lambda_2 = \frac{A(v_1, v, v_3)}{A(v_1, v_2, v_3)}, \lambda_3 = \frac{A(v_1, v_2, v)}{A(v_1, v_2, v_3)}\}$  are called **Normalized barycentric coordinates (NBC)**.

# Function on mesh

- $f(\mathbf{u}) = \sum_i B_i(\mathbf{u}) f_i$ , 
$$f(v_i) = f(\mathbf{x}_i) = f(\mathbf{u}_i) = f_i$$
- Where  $\mathbf{u}=(u,v)$  is the parameter pair corresponding to the surface point  $\mathbf{x}$  in a 2D conformal parameterization induced by the triangle.



# Approximating Integrals on a Mesh

# Approximating Integrals on a Mesh

- In the continuous domain, **filtering** is defined through **integration** of functions over the mesh.
- In order to discretize integrals, one needs to define a partition of the mesh into small cells centered around a vertex or an edge.

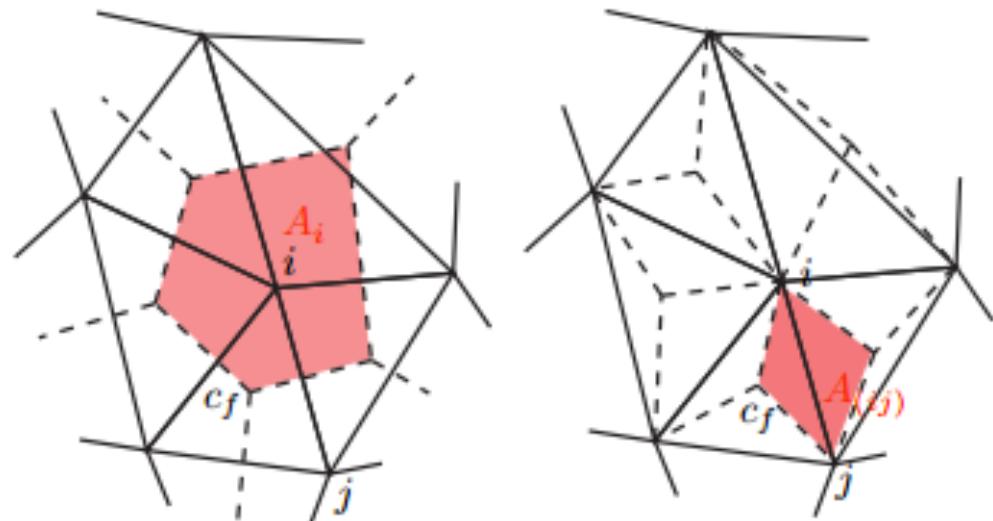
# Approximating Integrals on a Mesh - Voronoi

**Definition 10** (Vertices Voronoi). *The Voronoi diagram associated to the vertices is*

$$\forall i \in V, \quad E_i = \{x \in \mathcal{M} \setminus \forall j \neq i, \|x - x_i\| \leq \|x - x_j\|\}$$

**Definition 11** (Edges Voronoi). *The Voronoi diagram associated to the edges is*

$$\forall e = (i, j) \in E, \quad E_e = \{x \in \mathcal{M} \setminus \forall e' \neq e, d(x, e) \leq d(x, e')\}$$



These Voronoi cells indeed form a partition of the mesh

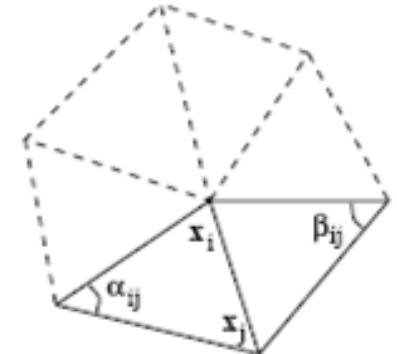
$$\mathcal{M} = \bigcup_{i \in V} E_i = \bigcup_{e \in E} E_e.$$

# Approximating Integrals on a Mesh

**Theorem 1** (Voronoi area formulas). *For all  $e = (i, j) \in E$ ,  $\forall i \in V$ , one has*

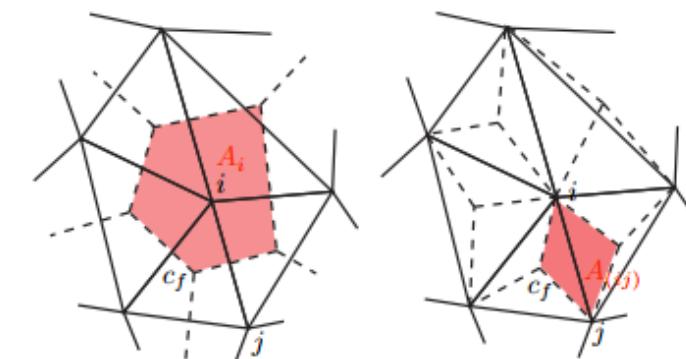
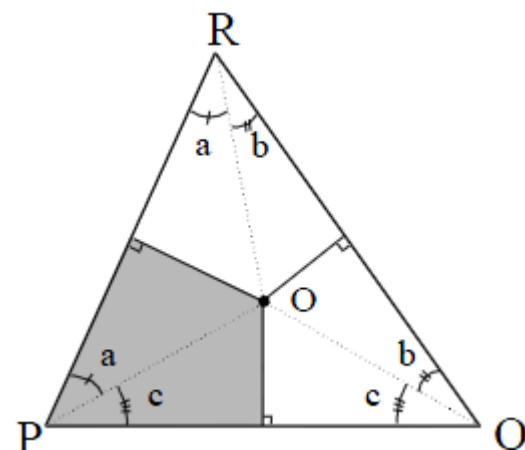
$$A_e = \text{Area}(E_e) = \frac{1}{2} \|x_i - x_j\|^2 (\cot(\alpha_{ij}) + \cot(\beta_{ij}))$$

$$A_i = \text{Area}(E_i) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{j \in N_i} A_{(ij)}.$$



With these areas, one can approximate integrals on vertices and edges using

$$\int_M f(x) dx \approx \sum_{i \in V} A_i f(x_i) \approx \sum_{e=(i,j) \in E} A_e f([x_i, x_j]).$$



# Dirichlet's energy of a function ( $f: M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , $M \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ ) on a manifold:

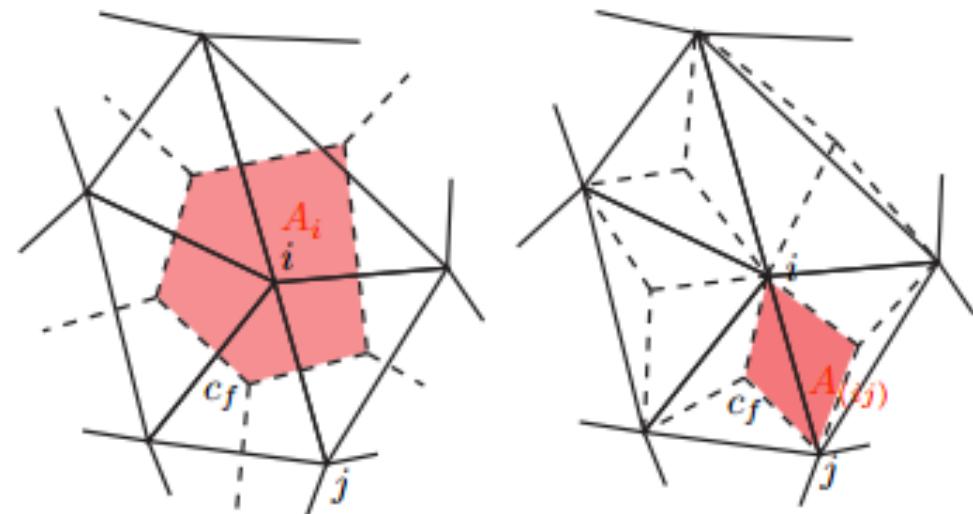
- **Dirichlet's energy** is a measure of how *variable* a function is.
- Solutions to  $\Delta f = 0$  are functions that make the Dirichlet energy functional stationary:

$$E_D(f) = \frac{1}{2} \iint_M |\nabla f|^2 dudv$$

- i.e. the Euler equation of the Dirichlet problem is a **Laplacian equation**:  
 $\Delta f = 0$

$$\int_{\mathcal{M}} f(x) dx \approx \sum_{i \in V} A_i f(x_i) \approx \sum_{e=(i,j) \in E} A_e f([x_i, x_j]).$$

$$A_e = \text{Area}(E_e) = \frac{1}{2} \|x_i - x_j\|^2 (\cot(\alpha_{ij}) + \cot(\beta_{ij}))$$



$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\mathcal{M}} \|\nabla_x f\|^2 dx &\approx \sum_{(i,j) \in E} A_{(i,j)} \frac{|f(x_j) - f(x_i)|^2}{\|x_j - x_i\|^2} \\ &= \sum_{(i,j) \in E} w_{ij} |f(x_j) - f(x_i)|^2 \quad \text{where} \quad w_{ij} = \cot(\alpha_{ij}) + \cot(\beta_{ij}). \end{aligned}$$

# Approximate two vector fields

- M is a 2D manifold, and  $\chi = (u(x, y, z), v(x, y, z))$  is an unknown map (vector function) defined on M.  $G = \begin{pmatrix} g_1 \\ g_2 \end{pmatrix}$  is a known **2\*2 tensor field** defined on M, formed by two vector fields  $g_1$  and  $g_2$ .
- If we want find a  $\chi$ , using  $\nabla\chi$  to approximate the tensor field G, we can get the following formula:
- $\min_{\chi} \int_M \|\nabla\chi - G\|^2 = \min_{(u,v)} \int_M \|\nabla u - g_1\|^2 + \|\nabla v - g_2\|^2 =$   
 $\min_{(u,v)} \int_M F(u, v, \nabla u, \nabla v)$

# Poisson Equation

- $\min_{\chi} \int_M \|\nabla \chi - G\|^2 = \min_{(u,v)} \int_M \|\nabla u - g_1\|^2 + \|\nabla v - g_2\|^2 =$   
 $\min_{(u,v)} \int_M F(u, v, \nabla u, \nabla v)$

- The Euler equation of the above problem is:
- $\frac{\partial E(u,v)}{\partial u} = -\text{div}(\nabla u - g_1) = 0, \frac{\partial E(u,v)}{\partial v} = -\text{div}(\nabla v - g_1) = 0$
- i.e. a **Poisson Equation**
- $\begin{cases} \Delta u = \text{div}(g_1) \\ \Delta v = \text{div}(g_2) \end{cases}$  or  $\Delta \chi = \text{div}(G)$

# Dirichlet energy

- When  $G$  is zero everywhere, we get the **Dirichlet energy**:
- $E_D(\chi) = \frac{1}{2} \iint_M \|\nabla \chi\|^2 ds$
- The Euler equation of the Dirichlet problem is a **Laplacian equation**:
- $\Delta \chi = \operatorname{div}(G) = 0$
- The **heat equation** is:  $k\Delta \chi = \frac{\partial \chi}{\partial t}$

## Variational: Euler equation

单元单标量函数

$$E(u) = \int_0^1 F(x, u, u', u'') dx$$

$$\frac{\partial F}{\partial u} - \frac{d}{dx} \left( \frac{\partial F}{\partial u'} \right) + \frac{d^2}{dx^2} \left( \frac{\partial F}{\partial u''} \right) = 0$$

多元单标量函数

$$E(u) = \iint_{\Omega} F(x, y, u, u_x, u_y, u_{xx}, u_{yy}) dx dy$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial F}{\partial u} - \frac{d}{dx} \left( \frac{\partial F}{\partial u_x} \right) - \frac{d}{dy} \left( \frac{\partial F}{\partial u_y} \right) + \frac{d^2}{dx^2} \left( \frac{\partial F}{\partial u_{xx}} \right) + \frac{d^2}{dy^2} \left( \frac{\partial F}{\partial u_{yy}} \right) &= 0 \\ \mathbf{F}_u - \operatorname{div}(\mathbf{F}_{u_x}, \mathbf{F}_{u_y}) + \Delta(\mathbf{F}_{u_{xx}}, \mathbf{F}_{u_{yy}}) &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

多元多标量函数

**Multi multivariable (scalar)  
function**

$$E[u, v] = \iint_{\Omega} F(x, y, u, u_x, u_y, v, v_x, v_y) dx dy$$

$$\begin{cases} \mathbf{F}_u - \operatorname{div}(\mathbf{F}_{u_x}, \mathbf{F}_{u_y}) = 0 \\ \mathbf{F}_v - \operatorname{div}(\mathbf{F}_{v_x}, \mathbf{F}_{v_y}) = 0 \end{cases}$$

# Operators on a mesh

# Operators on a mesh $M=\{V,E,F\}$

- **Definition 2.3 (Linear operator A)**

- *A linear operator is defined as*
- *And operate on a function as follow*

$$(Af)(x_i) = \sum_{j \in V} a_{ij} f(x_j) \iff (Af)_i = \sum_{j \in V} a_{ij} f_j.$$

- **Definition 2.4 (Local operator)**

- *A local operator  $W \in R^{n*n}$  satisfies  $w_i = 0$ , if  $(i,j) \notin E$  if , that is*

$$(Wf)_i = \sum_{(i,j) \in E} w_{ij} f_j$$

In most applications, we restrict our attention to local operators that can be conveniently stored as sparse matrices.

# Gradient operator – for edges

$$\forall (i, j) \in E, i < j, \quad (Gf)_{(i,j)} \stackrel{\text{def.}}{=} \sqrt{w_{ij}}(f_j - f_i) \in \mathbb{R}.$$

$$w_{ij} = \|x_i - x_j\|^{-2}, \quad (Gf)_{(i,j)} = \frac{f(x_j) - f(x_i)}{\|x_i - x_j\|}$$

which is exactly the finite difference discretization of a directional derivative.

# Gradient operator – for vertices

The gradient defined on a vertex as<sup>1</sup>

$$\nabla_M^{(A)} f(p_i) = \frac{1}{\mathcal{A}(p_i)} \sum_{j \in N_1(i)} A_j \nabla_{T_j} f,$$

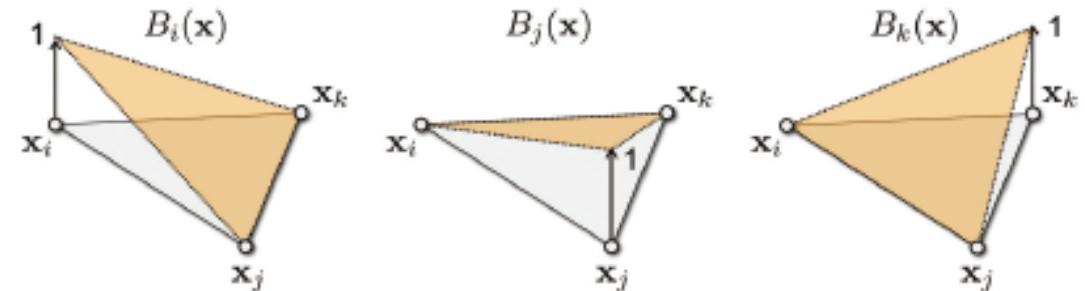
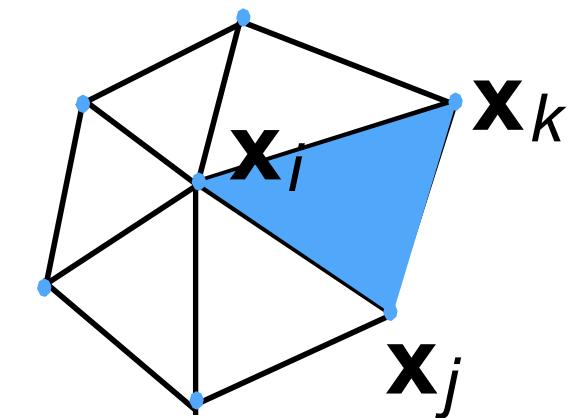
Where<sup>1</sup>

$$\mathcal{A}(p_i) = \sum_{j \in N_1(i)} A_j.$$

# Gradient operator – for faces

$$\bullet f(\mathbf{u}) = \sum_i B_i(\mathbf{u}) f_i \quad \mathbf{u} = (u, v) \quad f(\mathbf{u}) = f_i B_i(\mathbf{u}) + f_j B_j(\mathbf{u}) + f_k B_k(\mathbf{u})$$

gradient of linear  $\nabla f(\mathbf{u}) = f_i \nabla B_i(\mathbf{u}) + f_j \nabla B_j(\mathbf{u}) + f_k \nabla B_k(\mathbf{u})$   
function



partition of unity  $B_i(\mathbf{u}) + B_j(\mathbf{u}) + B_k(\mathbf{u}) = 1 \rightarrow \nabla B_i(\mathbf{u}) + \nabla B_j(\mathbf{u}) + \nabla B_k(\mathbf{u}) = 0.$

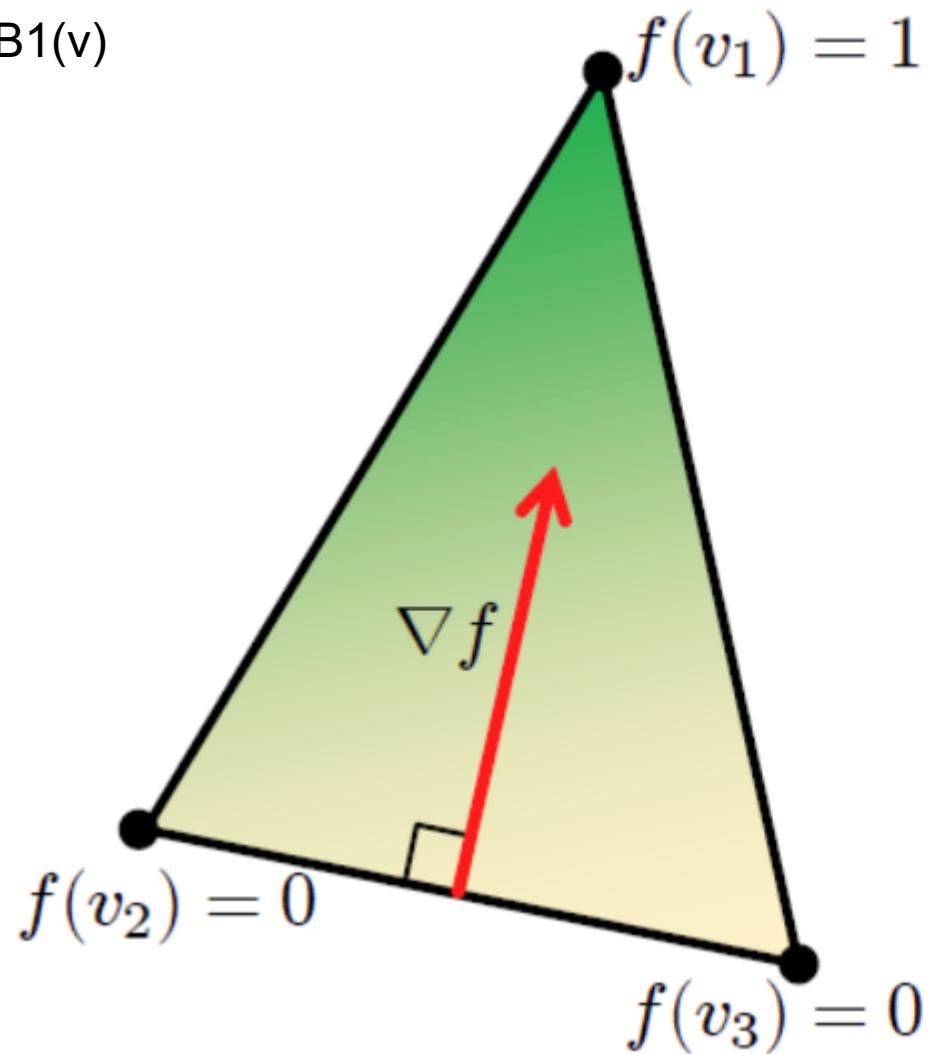
$$\nabla f(\mathbf{u}) = (f_j - f_i) \nabla B_j(\mathbf{u}) + (f_k - f_i) \nabla B_k(\mathbf{u}).$$

$$\nabla B_i(\mathbf{u}) = \frac{(\mathbf{x}_k - \mathbf{x}_j)^\perp}{2 A_T},$$

linear basis functions for barycentric interpolation on a triangle

# Direction of the Gradient

$$f(v) := B_1(v)$$



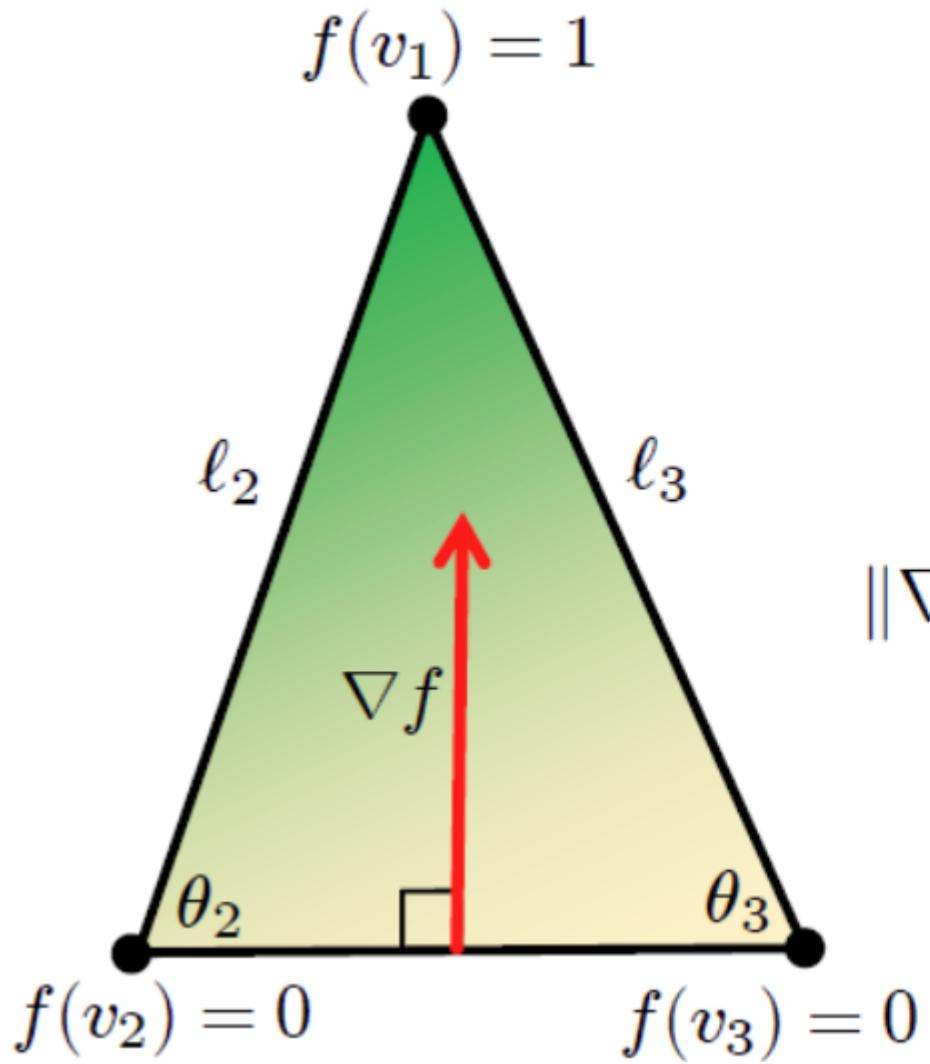
**Linear along edges**

$$\nabla f \cdot (v_1 - v_3) = 1$$

$$\nabla f \cdot (v_1 - v_2) = 1$$

$$\nabla f \cdot (v_2 - v_3) = 0$$

# Magnitude of the gradient



$$\begin{aligned} 1 &= \nabla f \cdot (v_1 - v_3) \\ &= \|\nabla f\| \ell_3 \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{2} - \theta_3\right) \\ &= \|\nabla f\| \ell_3 \sin \theta_3 \\ \|\nabla f\| &= \frac{1}{\ell_3 \sin \theta_3} = \frac{1}{h} \end{aligned}$$

$$\nabla f = \frac{e_{23}^\perp}{2A}$$

Length of  $e_{23}$  cancels "base" in A

$$\nabla B_i(u) = \frac{(x_k - x_j)^\perp}{2A_T}$$

- $B_i(u) = \frac{A(x, x_j, x_k)}{A(x_i, x_j, x_k)}$

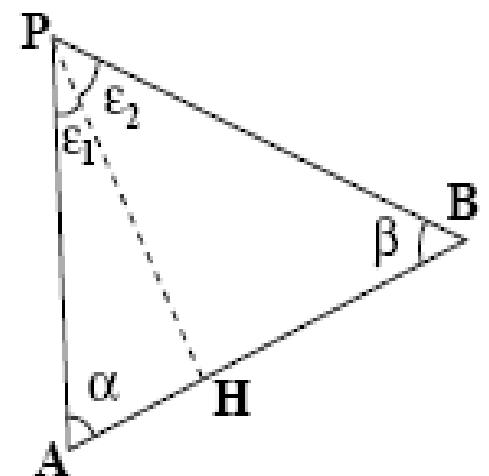
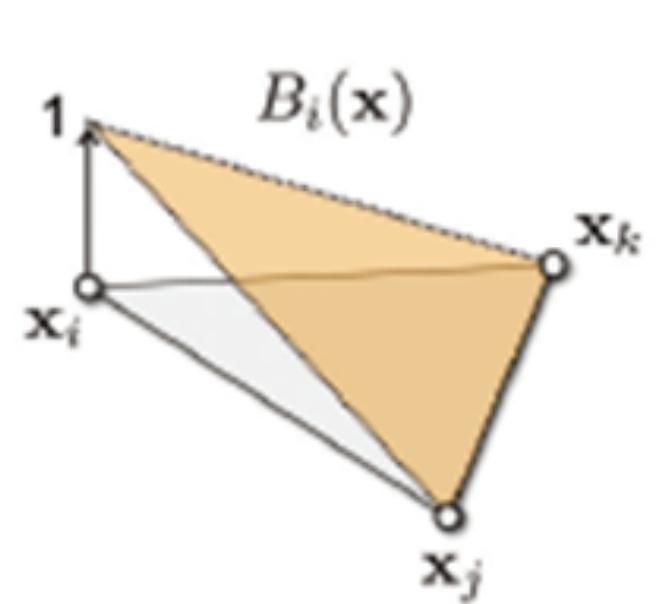
- $\nabla B_i(u) = \frac{\nabla A(x, x_j, x_k)}{A(x_i, x_j, x_k)}$

- $\nabla A(x, x_j, x_k) = \frac{(x_k - x_j)^\perp}{2}$

- Area  $\Delta PAB = F(P) = \frac{1}{2} |AB| |PH|$

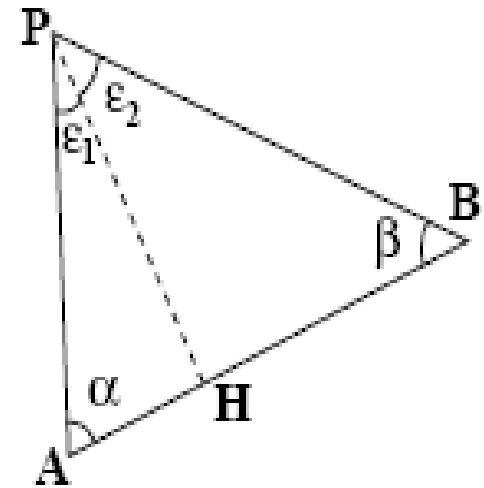
- $\nabla F = \frac{1}{2} |AB| \nabla |PH| = \frac{1}{2} |AB| \frac{|HP|}{|PH|} = \frac{1}{2} AB^{\perp}$

$\nabla |PH| = \frac{|HP|}{|PH|}$ : Unit vector in HP direction



$$\nabla |PH| = \frac{HP}{|PH|}$$

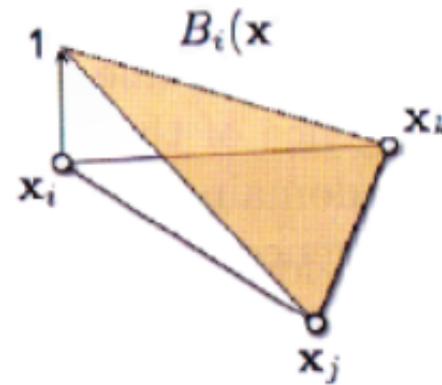
- Proof:
- $P(x,y), v_1 = \frac{AB}{|AB|} = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ y_1 \end{pmatrix}, v_2 = v_1^\perp = \begin{pmatrix} -y_1 \\ x_1 \end{pmatrix},$
- $H = (v_1 \ v_2) \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} (v_1 \ v_2)^T \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} x_1^2 & x_1 y_1 \\ x_1 y_1 & y_1^2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}$
- $PH = H - P = \begin{pmatrix} x_1^2 - 1 & x_1 y_1 \\ x_1 y_1 & y_1^2 - 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -y_1^2 & x_1 y_1 \\ x_1 y_1 & -x_1^2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 y_1 y - y_1^2 x \\ x_1 y_1 x - x_1^2 y \end{pmatrix}$
- $|PH| = \sqrt{(x_1 y_1 y - y_1^2 x)^2 + (x_1 y_1 x - x_1^2 y)^2}$
- $\frac{\partial |PH|}{\partial x} = \frac{-(x_1 y_1 y - y_1^2 x)y_1^2 + (x_1 y_1 x - x_1^2 y)x_1 y_1}{\sqrt{(x_1 y_1 y - y_1^2 x)^2 + (x_1 y_1 x - x_1^2 y)^2}} = \frac{[(x_1 y_1)^2 + (y_1 y_1)^2]x - [x_1 y_1 (y_1)^2 + x_1 y_1 (x_1)^2]y}{|PH|}$
- $= \frac{y_1^2 x - x_1 y_1 y}{|PH|} = \frac{HP_x}{|PH|}$
- $\nabla |PH| = \frac{HP}{|PH|}$
- END.



# Gradients

gradient of linear function  $\nabla f(\mathbf{u}) = (f_j - f_i)\nabla B_j(\mathbf{u}) + (f_k - f_i)\nabla B_k(\mathbf{u})$

with appropriate normalization:  $\nabla B_i(\mathbf{u}) = \frac{(\mathbf{x}_k - \mathbf{x}_j)^\perp}{2A_T}$



$$\nabla f(\mathbf{u}) = (f_j - f_i)\frac{(\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_k)^\perp}{2A_T} + (f_k - f_i)\frac{(\mathbf{x}_j - \mathbf{x}_i)^\perp}{2A_T} \quad f_i = f(\mathbf{x}_i)$$

discrete gradient of a piecewise linear function within  $T$

# Laplacian Operators

# Simple Curvature Discretization

gradient  
operator

mean  
curvature

Laplace-Beltrami     $\Delta_S x = \operatorname{div}_S \nabla_S x = -2H n$

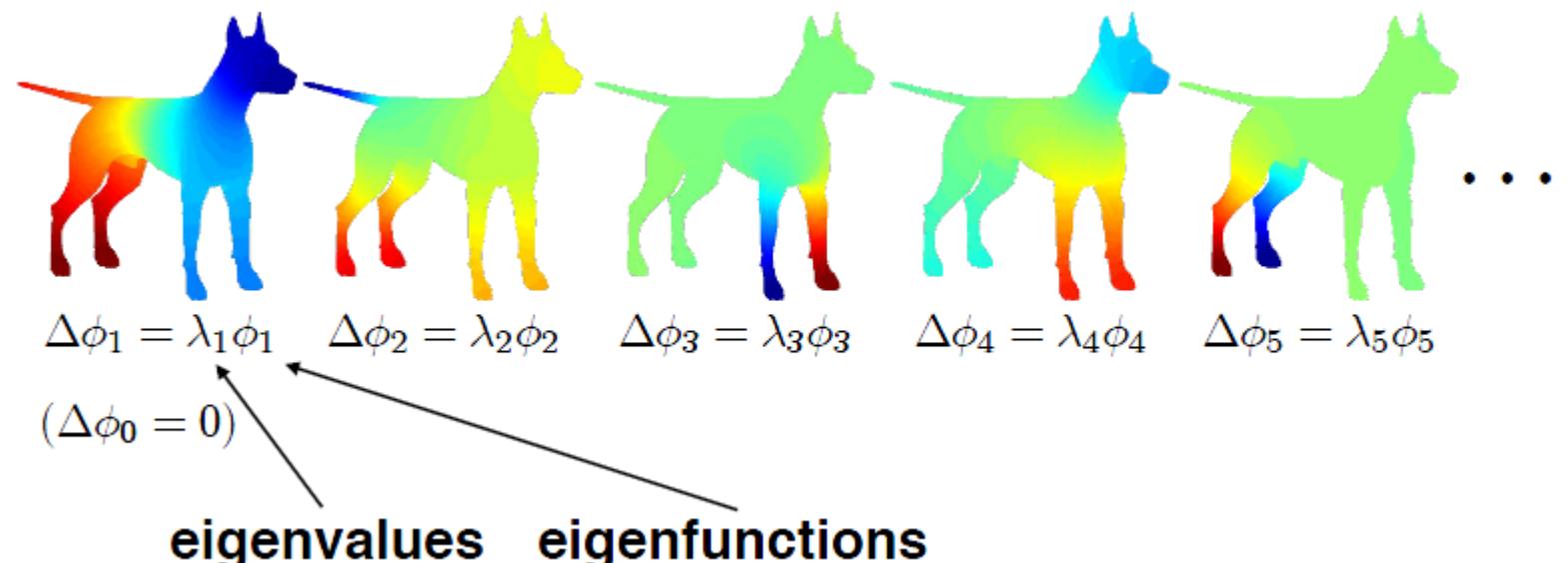
A downward arrow points from the Laplace-Beltrami equation to the question "How to discretize?". Two arrows point from the words "gradient operator" and "mean curvature" to their respective terms in the equation.

How to discretize?

# Laplace-Beltrami Operator

Functional basis on a surface

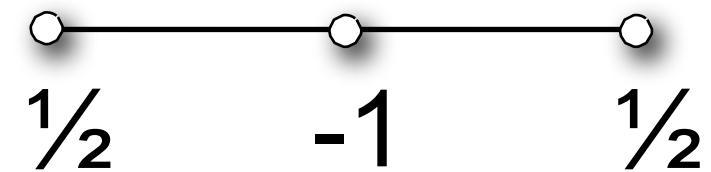
- Invariant to isometric deformations
- Has physics interpretation
  - Low-frequency to high-frequency



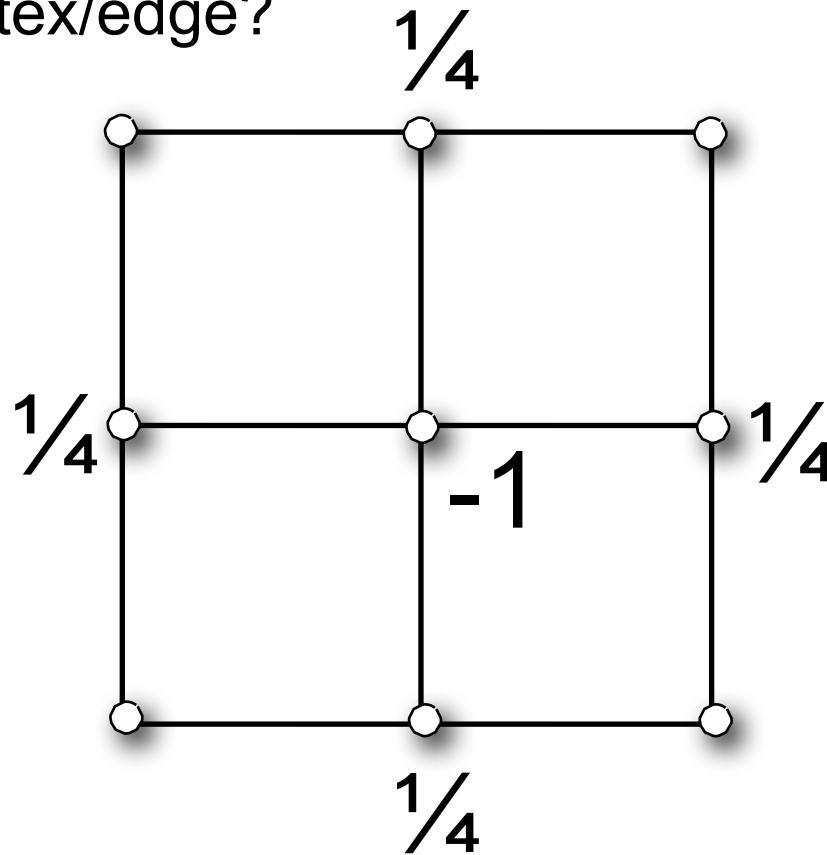
# Laplace Operator on Meshes

- Extend finite differences to meshes?

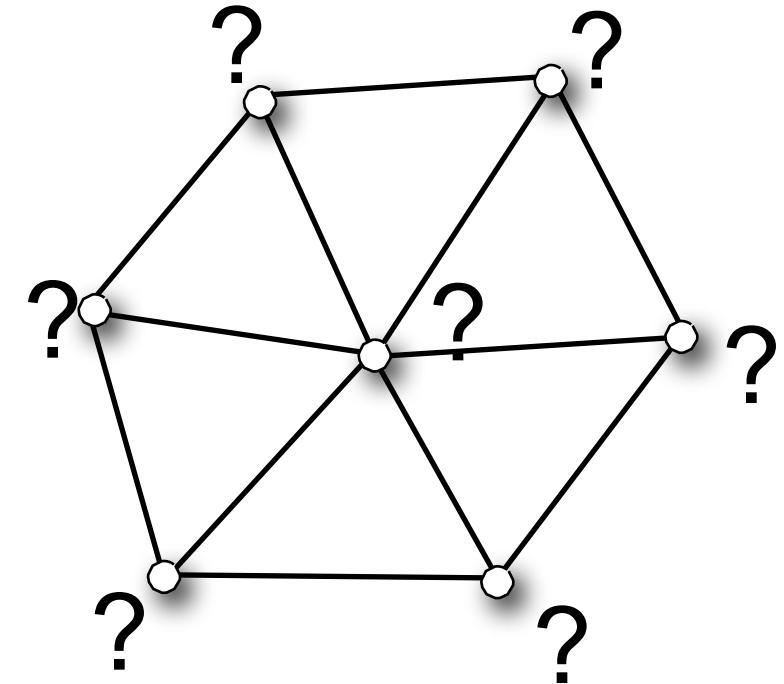
- What weights per vertex/edge?



1D grid



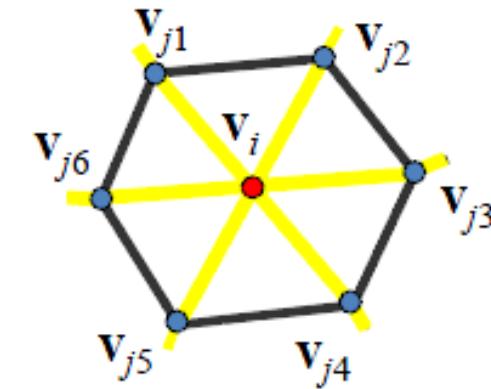
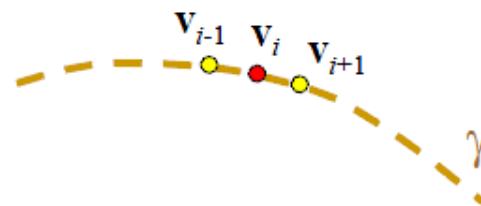
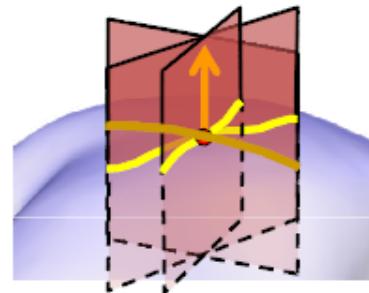
2D grid



2D/3D grid

# Uniform Laplace

- Intuition for uniform discretization



$$H = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \kappa(\varphi) d\varphi$$

$$\kappa \mathbf{n} = \gamma''$$



$$\gamma'' \approx \frac{1}{t} ((v_i - v_{i-1}) - (v_{i+1} - v_i)) = -\frac{1}{t} (v_{i-1} + v_{i+1} - 2v_i)$$

$$\Delta_S x = -2Hn$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & v_{j1} + v_{j4} - 2v_i & + \\
 & v_{j2} + v_{j5} - 2v_i & + \\
 & v_{j3} + v_{j6} - 2v_i & = \\
 6L(v_i) &= \sum_{k=1}^6 v_{jk} - 6v_i \approx -6 \cdot 2Hn
 \end{aligned}$$

# Uniform Laplace

## Uniform discretization

$$\Delta_{\text{uni}} \mathbf{x}_i := \frac{1}{|\mathcal{N}_1(v_i)|} \sum_{v_j \in \mathcal{N}_1(v_i)} (\mathbf{x}_j - \mathbf{x}_i) \approx -2H \mathbf{n}$$

## Properties

- depends only on connectivity
- simple and efficient
- bad approximation for irregular triangulations
  - can give non-zero  $H$  for planar meshes
  - tangential drift for mesh smoothing

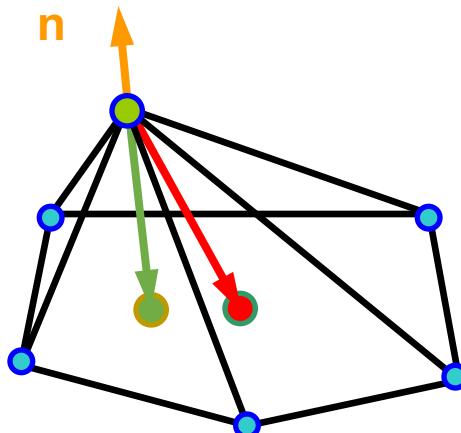
# Discrete Laplacians

$$\delta_i = \mathbf{x}_i - \frac{1}{\sum_{(i,j) \in E} w_{ij}} \sum_{(i,j) \in E} w_{ij} \mathbf{x}_j$$

$\delta_{\text{uniform}}$  :  $w_{ij} = 1$

$\delta_{\text{cotangent}}$  :  $w_{ij} = \cot \alpha_{ij} + \cot \beta_{ij}$

$\Delta_{\text{mean curvature}}$  :  $w_{ij} = \frac{\cot \alpha_{ij} + \cot \beta_{ij}}{2A(v_i)}$

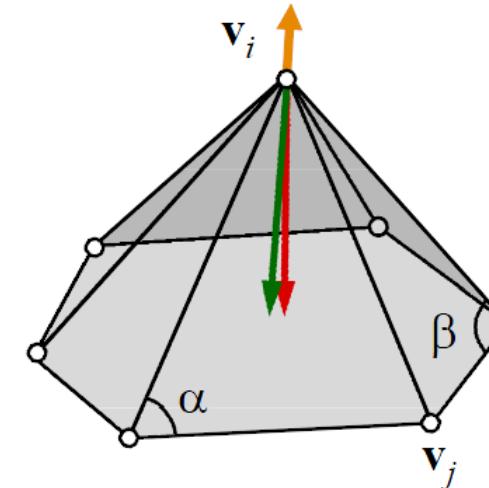


$$\Delta_S \mathbf{x} = -2H \mathbf{n}.$$

$$\boxed{L} \quad \boxed{v} = \boxed{\delta}$$

- For nearly equal edge lengths **Uniform**  $\approx$  **Cotangent**
- While simple and efficient to compute, the resulting vector can be non-zero even for a planar configuration of vertices. However, in such a setting we would expect a zero Laplacian since the mean curvature over the entire mesh region is zero.

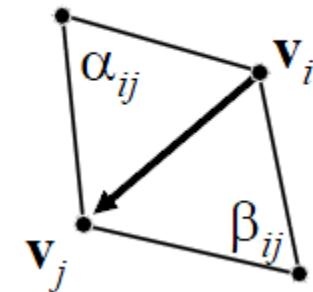
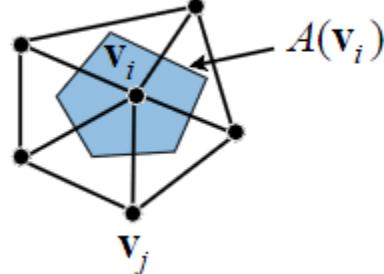
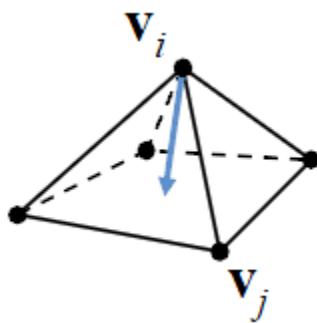
$$L_c(\mathbf{v}_i) = \frac{1}{2A(\mathbf{v}_i)} \sum_{\mathbf{v}_j \in N_1(\mathbf{v}_i)} (\cot \alpha_{ij} + \cot \beta_{ij})(\mathbf{v}_j - \mathbf{v}_i)$$



# Discrete Laplacian by integration of Laplacian

- a mixed finite element/finite volume method [Meyer et al. 03]
- 2010\_Polygon Mesh Processing

$$L_c(\mathbf{v}_i) = \frac{1}{2A(\mathbf{v}_i)} \sum_{\mathbf{v}_j \in N_1(\mathbf{v}_i)} (\cot \alpha_{ij} + \cot \beta_{ij})(\mathbf{v}_j - \mathbf{v}_i)$$

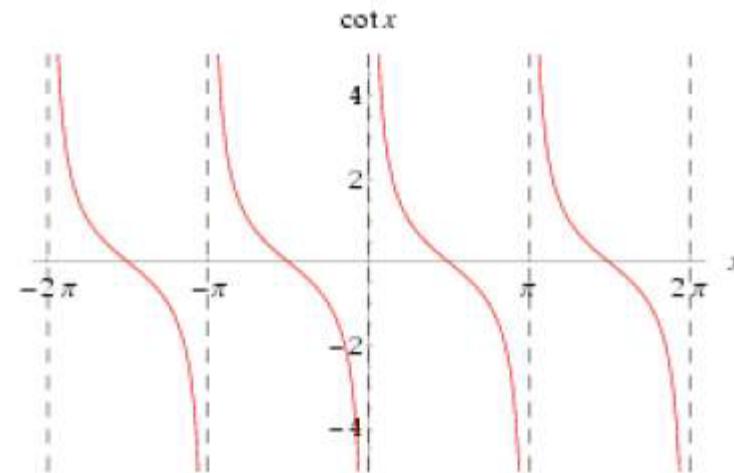


# Discrete Laplace-Beltrami

- Cotangent formula

$$L_c(\mathbf{v}_i) = \frac{1}{2A(\mathbf{v}_i)} \sum_{\mathbf{v}_j \in N_1(\mathbf{v}_i)} (\cot \alpha_{ij} + \cot \beta_{ij})(\mathbf{v}_j - \mathbf{v}_i)$$

- Problems
  - Potentially negative weights
  - Depends on geometry



# Discrete Laplacians – Cotangent formula

Gauss' theorem (divergence theorem) for a vector-valued function  $\mathbf{F}$

$$\int_{A_i} \operatorname{div} \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{u}) dA = \int_{\partial A_i} \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{u}) \cdot \mathbf{n}(\mathbf{u}) ds.$$

$$\int_{A_i} \Delta f(\mathbf{u}) dA = \int_{A_i} \operatorname{div} \nabla f(\mathbf{u}) dA = \int_{\partial A_i} \nabla f(\mathbf{u}) \cdot \mathbf{n}(\mathbf{u}) ds.$$

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\partial A_i \cap T} \nabla f(\mathbf{u}) \cdot \mathbf{n}(\mathbf{u}) ds &= \nabla f(\mathbf{u}) \cdot (\mathbf{a} - \mathbf{b})^\perp \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \nabla f(\mathbf{u}) \cdot (\mathbf{x}_j - \mathbf{x}_k)^\perp \end{aligned}$$

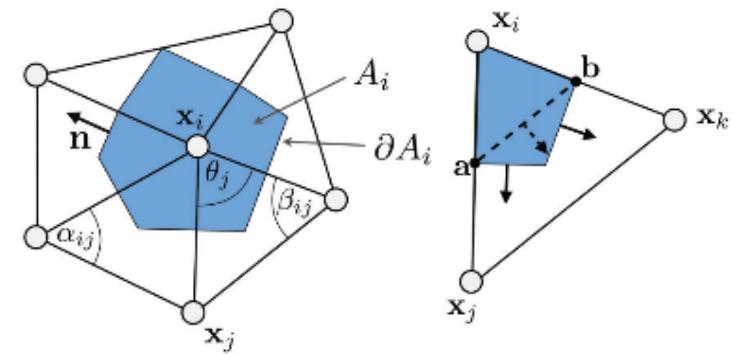
Gradient is constant in  $T$  &

Normal of point  $(x,y,z)$  of the surface  $g(x,y,z)=0$  is the gradient of  $g$ .

Gradient field is Conservative vector field

Integral of a conservative field over a closed path is zero.

$$\nabla f(\mathbf{u}) = (f_j - f_i) \nabla B_j(\mathbf{u}) + (f_k - f_i) \nabla B_k(\mathbf{u}), \quad \nabla B_i(\mathbf{u}) = \frac{(\mathbf{x}_k - \mathbf{x}_j)^\perp}{2A_T},$$



- $\mathbf{F}$  is a vector field  $\xrightarrow{\text{Path independence}}$   $\mathbf{F}$  is a Gradient field of a scalar function  $f \Leftrightarrow \mathbf{F}$  is a conservative Field  $\Rightarrow \mathbf{F}$  is cur-free:  $\oint_C \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{r} = \iint_R \nabla \times \mathbf{F} \cdot \mathbf{k} dA = 0 \Rightarrow \forall p \in R, \text{curl}(\mathbf{F}) = 0 \Rightarrow \forall p \in R, \text{curl}(\nabla f) = 0$
- ( $f$  is called potential function of the vector field  $\mathbf{F}$ )

### Unifying the Integral Theorems

Green's Theorem and Its Generalization to Three Dimensions

Normal form of Green's Theorem:  $\oint_C \mathbf{F} \cdot \mathbf{n} ds = \iint_R \nabla \cdot \mathbf{F} dA$

Divergence Theorem:  $\iint_S \mathbf{F} \cdot \mathbf{n} d\sigma = \iiint_D \nabla \cdot \mathbf{F} dV$

Tangential form of Green's Theorem:  $\oint_C \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{r} = \iint_R \nabla \times \mathbf{F} \cdot \mathbf{k} dA$

Stokes' Theorem:  $\oint_C \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{r} = \iint_S \nabla \times \mathbf{F} \cdot \mathbf{n} d\sigma$

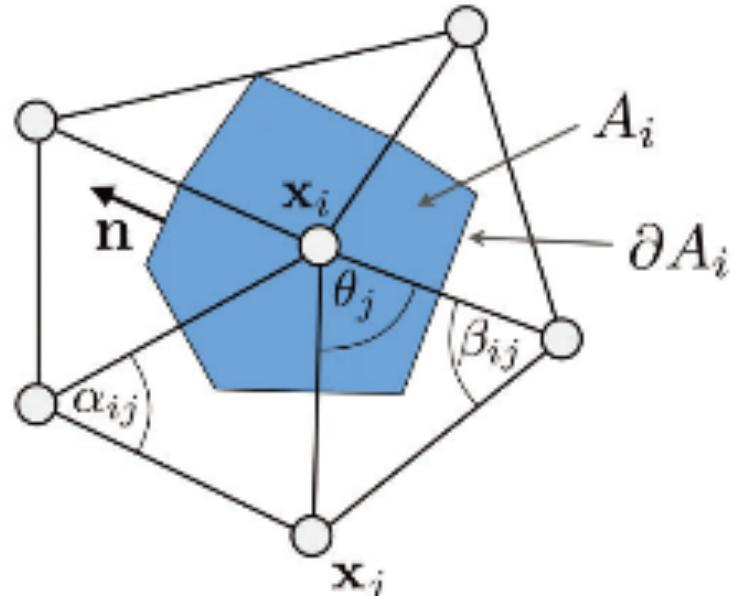
$$\int_{\partial A_i \cap T} \nabla f(\mathbf{u}) \cdot \mathbf{n}(\mathbf{u}) ds = \nabla f(\mathbf{u}) \cdot (\mathbf{a} - \mathbf{b})^\perp = \frac{1}{2} \nabla f(\mathbf{u}) \cdot (\mathbf{x}_j - \mathbf{x}_k)^\perp$$

$$\nabla f(\mathbf{u}) = (f_j - f_i) \nabla B_j(\mathbf{u}) + (f_k - f_i) \nabla B_k(\mathbf{u}), \quad \nabla B_i(\mathbf{u}) = \frac{(\mathbf{x}_k - \mathbf{x}_j)^\perp}{2A_T},$$

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\partial A_i \cap T} \nabla f(\mathbf{u}) \cdot \mathbf{n}(\mathbf{u}) ds &= (f_j - f_i) \frac{(\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_k)^\perp \cdot (\mathbf{x}_j - \mathbf{x}_k)^\perp}{4A_T} \\ &\quad + (f_k - f_i) \frac{(\mathbf{x}_j - \mathbf{x}_i)^\perp \cdot (\mathbf{x}_j - \mathbf{x}_k)^\perp}{4A_T}. \end{aligned}$$

Let  $\gamma_j, \gamma_k$  denote the inner triangle angles at vertices  $v_j, v_k$ , respectively. Since  $A_T = \frac{1}{2} \sin \gamma_j \|\mathbf{x}_j - \mathbf{x}_i\| \|\mathbf{x}_j - \mathbf{x}_k\| = \frac{1}{2} \sin \gamma_k \|\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_k\| \|\mathbf{x}_j - \mathbf{x}_k\|$ , and  $\cos \gamma_j = \frac{(\mathbf{x}_j - \mathbf{x}_i) \cdot (\mathbf{x}_j - \mathbf{x}_k)}{\|\mathbf{x}_j - \mathbf{x}_i\| \|\mathbf{x}_j - \mathbf{x}_k\|}$  and  $\cos \gamma_k = \frac{(\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_k) \cdot (\mathbf{x}_j - \mathbf{x}_k)}{\|\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_k\| \|\mathbf{x}_j - \mathbf{x}_k\|}$ , this expression simplifies to

$$\int_{\partial A_i \cap T} \nabla f(\mathbf{u}) \cdot \mathbf{n}(\mathbf{u}) ds = \frac{1}{2} (\cot \gamma_k (f_j - f_i) + \cot \gamma_j (f_k - f_i)).$$



$$\int_{A_i} \Delta f(\mathbf{u}) dA = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{v_4 \in \mathcal{N}_1(v_i)} (\cot \alpha_{i,j} + \cot \beta_{i,j})(f_j - f_i),$$

$$\Delta f(v_i) := \frac{1}{2A_i} \sum_{v_j \in \mathcal{N}_1(v_i)} (\cot \alpha_{i,j} + \cot \beta_{i,j})(f_j - f_i).$$

# Discrete Laplace-Beltrami

## Cotangent discretization

$$\Delta_S f(v) := \frac{1}{2A(v)} \sum_{v_i \in \mathcal{N}_1(v)} (\cot \alpha_i + \cot \beta_i) (f(v_i) - f(v))$$

## Problems

- weights can become negative
- depends on triangulation

Still the most widely used discretization

# Discretizing the Laplacian

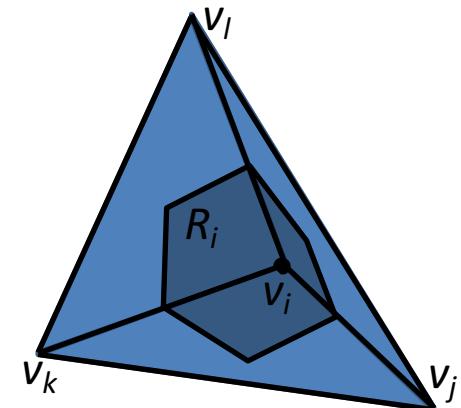
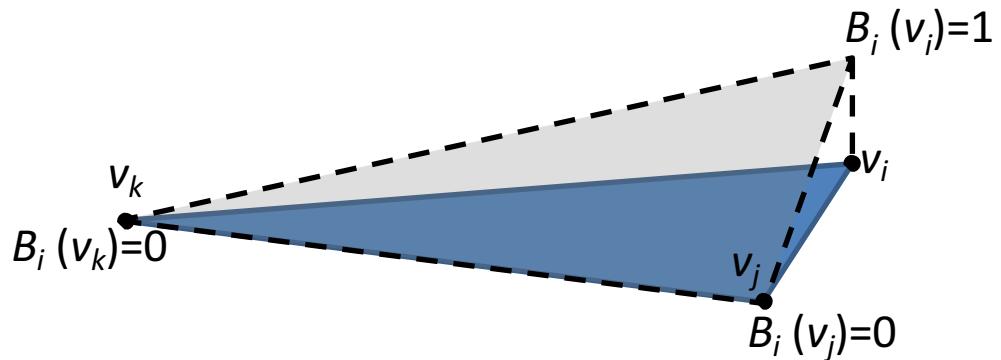
Since the Laplace-Beltrami operator is linear, to compute the Laplacian of  $f$  it suffices to be able to compute the Laplacians of  $B_i(p)$ :

$$\Delta f(p) = \sum_i f_i \Delta B_i(p)$$

# Discretizing the Laplacian on vertex

Since also want to represent the Laplacian of  $f$  just by prescribing vertex values, we will set the Laplacian of  $f$  at vertex  $v$  to be the average of the Laplacian in a neighborhood around  $v$ :

$$\left( \Delta B_j \right)_i = \frac{1}{|R_i|} \int_{R_i} \Delta B_j(r) dr = \int_{R_i} \operatorname{div}(\nabla B_j(r)) dr$$

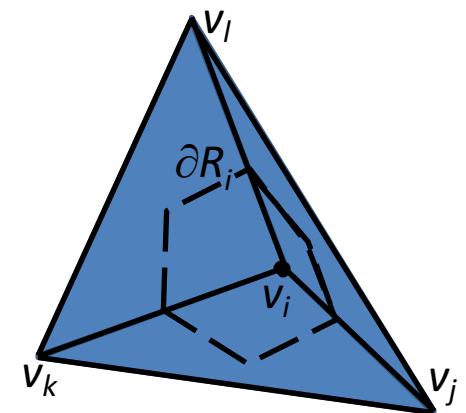
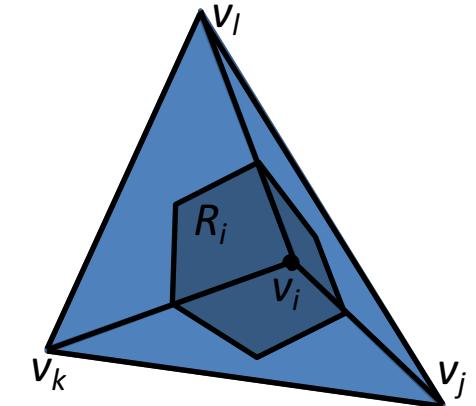


# Discretizing the Laplacian on vertex

$$\left( \Delta B_j \right)_i = \frac{1}{|R_i|} \int_{R_i} \Delta B_j(r) dr = \int_{R_i} \operatorname{div}(\nabla B_j(r)) dr$$

But by the definition of the divergence, this is just the integral over the boundary:

$$\left( \Delta B_j \right)_i = \frac{1}{|R_i|} \int_{\partial R_i} \langle \nabla B_j(r), n_r \rangle dr$$

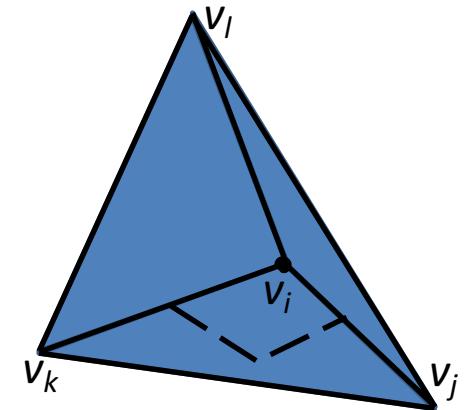


# Discretizing the Laplacian

$$(\Delta B_j)_i = \frac{1}{|R_i|} \int_{\partial R_i} \langle \nabla B_j(r), n_r \rangle dr$$

Breaking up the  $R_i$  per triangle, we get:

$$(\Delta B_j)_i = \frac{1}{|R_i|} \sum_{v_i \in T} \int_{\partial R_i \cap T} \langle \nabla B_j(r), n_r \rangle dr$$



# Discretizing the Laplacian

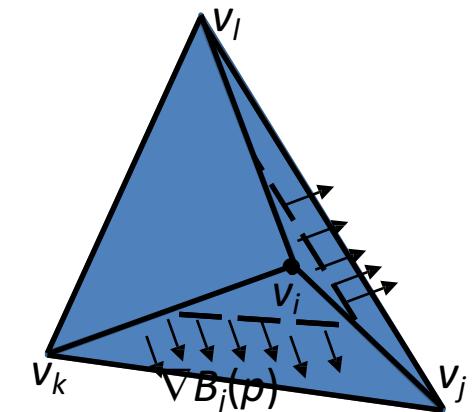
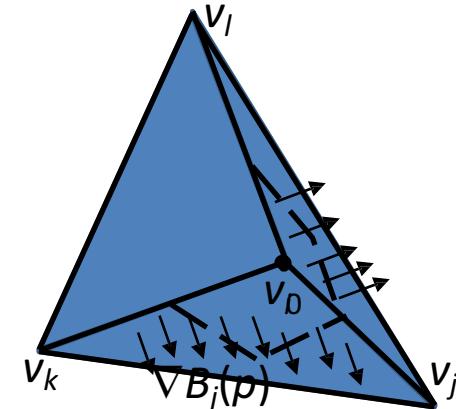
$$(\Delta B_j)_i = \frac{1}{|R_i|} \sum_{v_i \in T \cap R_i} \int_{\partial R_i \cap T} \langle \nabla B_j(r), n_r \rangle dr$$

Computing the gradient of  $B_j$  we get:

$$\nabla B_j(p) = \frac{(v_i - v_k)^\perp}{2 \text{Area}(T_{ijk})}$$

for all  $p$  in triangle  $T_{ijk}$ .

Note that since the gradient is constant over the interior of the triangle, the integral is path independent.



# Discretizing the Laplacian

$$(\Delta B_j)_i = \frac{1}{|R_i|} \sum_{v_i \in T \cap \partial R_i} \int \langle \nabla B_j(r), n_r \rangle dr$$

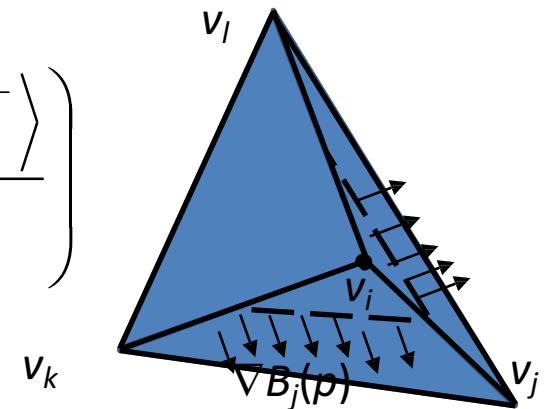
Computing the gradient of  $B_j$  we get:

$$\nabla B_j(p) = \frac{(v_i - v_k)^\perp}{2\text{Area}(T_{ijk})}$$

for all  $p$  in triangle  $T_{ijk}$ .

Computing the integral over the new boundary gives:

$$(\Delta B_j)_i = \frac{1}{|R_i|} \left( \frac{\langle (v_j - v_k)^\perp, (v_k - v_i)^\perp \rangle}{4\text{Area}(T_{ikj})} + \frac{\langle (v_l - v_j)^\perp, (v_i - v_l)^\perp \rangle}{4\text{Area}(T_{ijl})} \right)$$

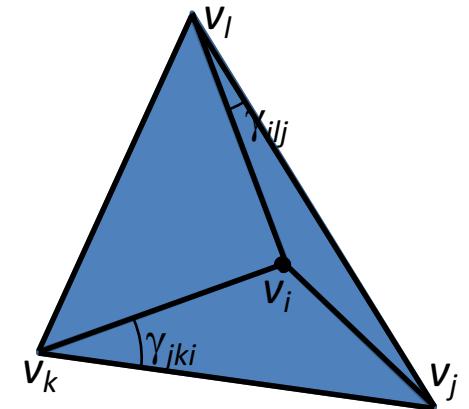


# Discretizing the Laplacian

$$(\Delta B_j)_i = \frac{1}{|R_i|} \left( \frac{\langle (v_j - v_k)^\perp, (v_k - v_i)^\perp \rangle}{4\text{Area}(T_{ikj})} + \frac{\langle (v_l - v_j)^\perp, (v_i - v_l)^\perp \rangle}{4\text{Area}(T_{ijl})} \right)$$

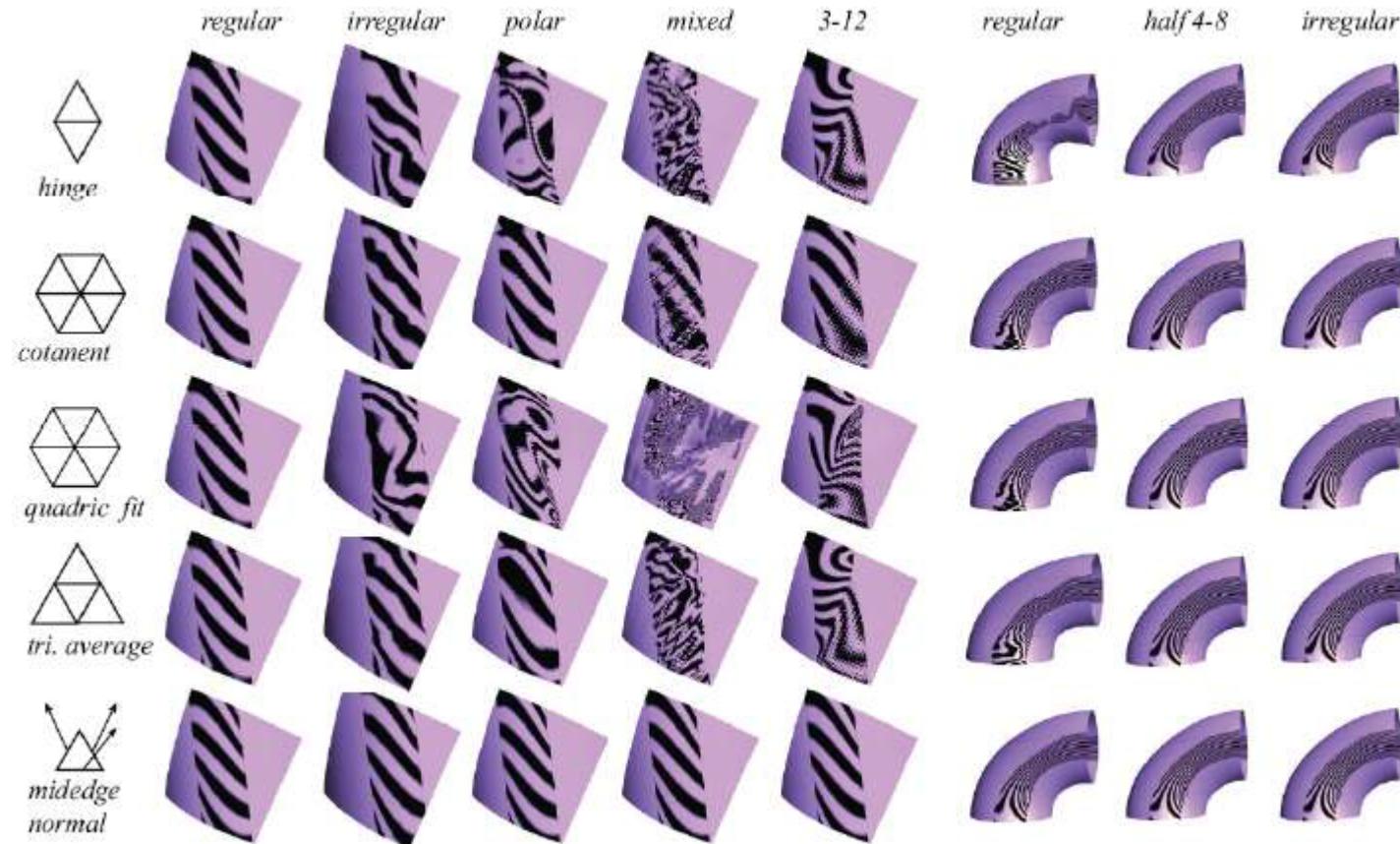
With a little bit of trigonometric manipulation, this gives:

$$(\Delta B_j)_i = \frac{1}{2|R_i|} (\cot \gamma_{jki} + \cot \gamma_{ilj})$$



# Links and literature

- Grinspun et al.: *Computing discrete shape operators on general meshes, Eurographics 2006*



# The Taste of Mathematics

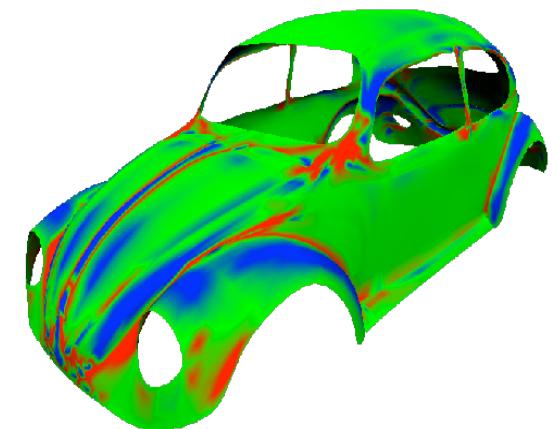
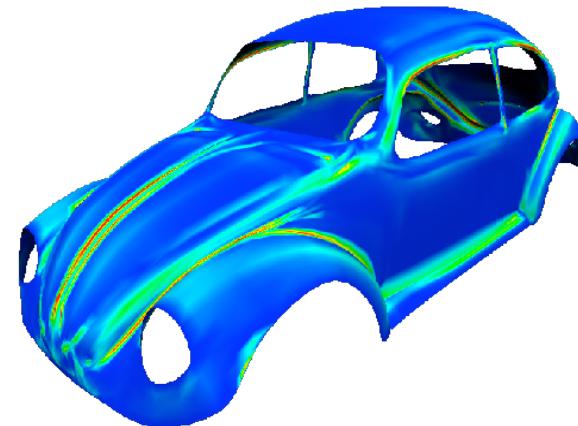
- Discrete Exterior Calculus\_03\_thesis
- Guoliang Xu, Convergent Discrete Laplace-Beltrami Operators over Triangular Surfaces

# **Mesh Quality Measures**

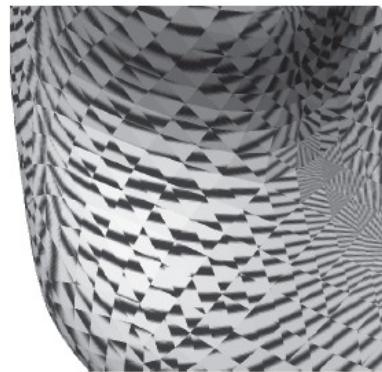
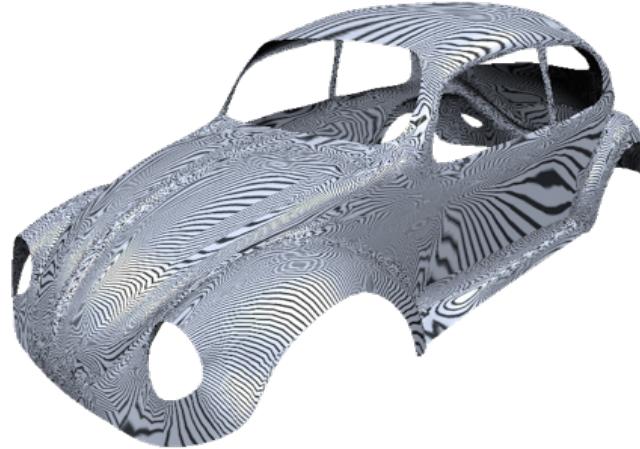
# Mesh Quality

## Visual inspection of “sensitive” attributes

- Specular shading
- Reflection lines
- Curvature
  - Mean curvature, Gauss curvature



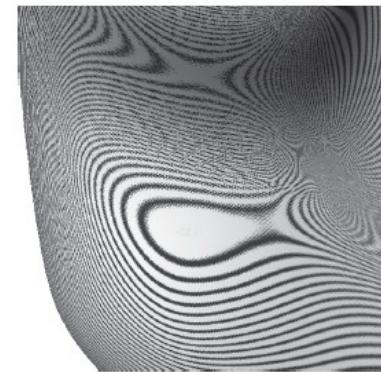
# Reflection lines as an inspection tool



$C^0$



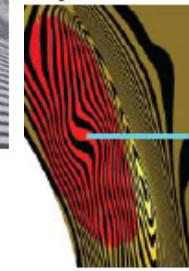
$C^1$



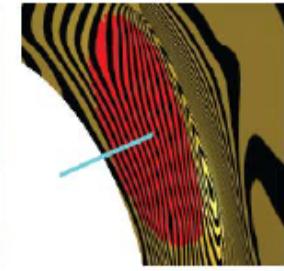
$C^2$



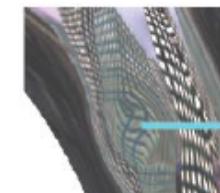
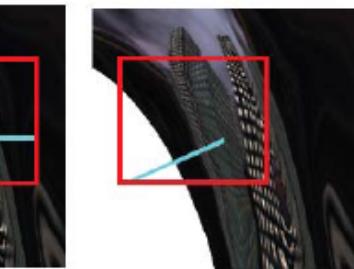
before



after

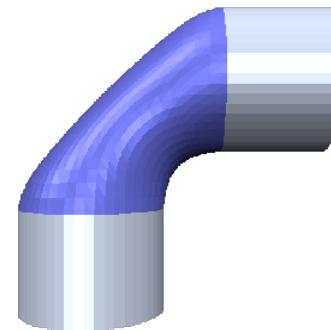


**Shape optimization using reflection lines**  
*E. Tosun, Y. I. Gingold, J. Reisman, D. Zorin*  
Symposium on Geometry Processing 2007



# Mesh Quality Criteria

- Smoothness
  - continuous differentiability of a surface ( $C_k$ )
- Fairness
  - aesthetic measure of “well-shapedness”
  - principle of simplest shape
  - fairness measures from physical models

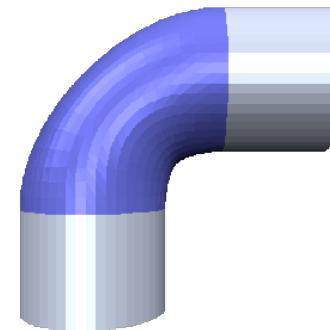


$$\int_S \kappa_1^2 + \kappa_2^2 dA$$

strain energy

$$\int_S \left( \frac{\partial \kappa_1}{\partial t_1} \right)^2 + \left( \frac{\partial \kappa_2}{\partial t_2} \right)^2 dA$$

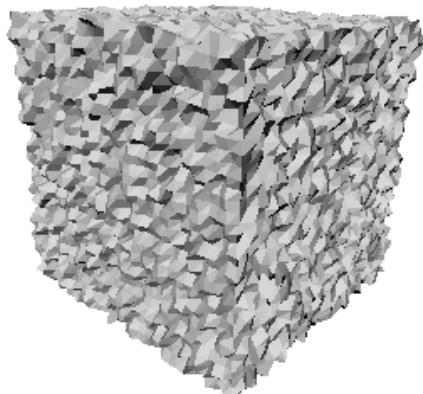
variation of curvature



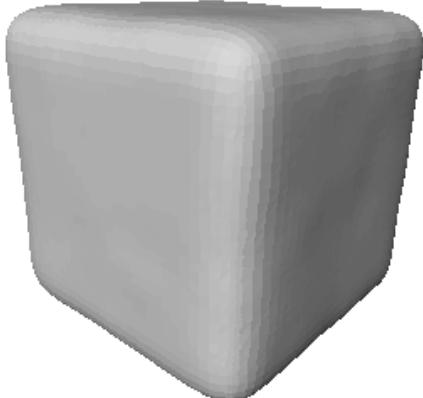
# Mesh Quality Criteria

## Smoothness

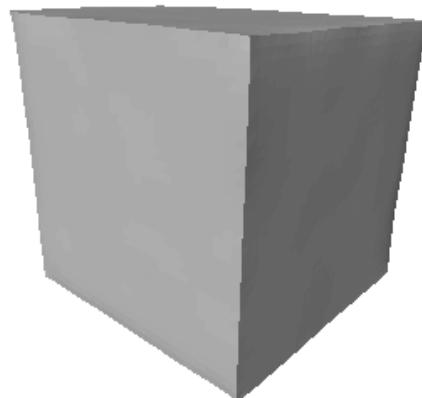
- Low geometric noise



(a)

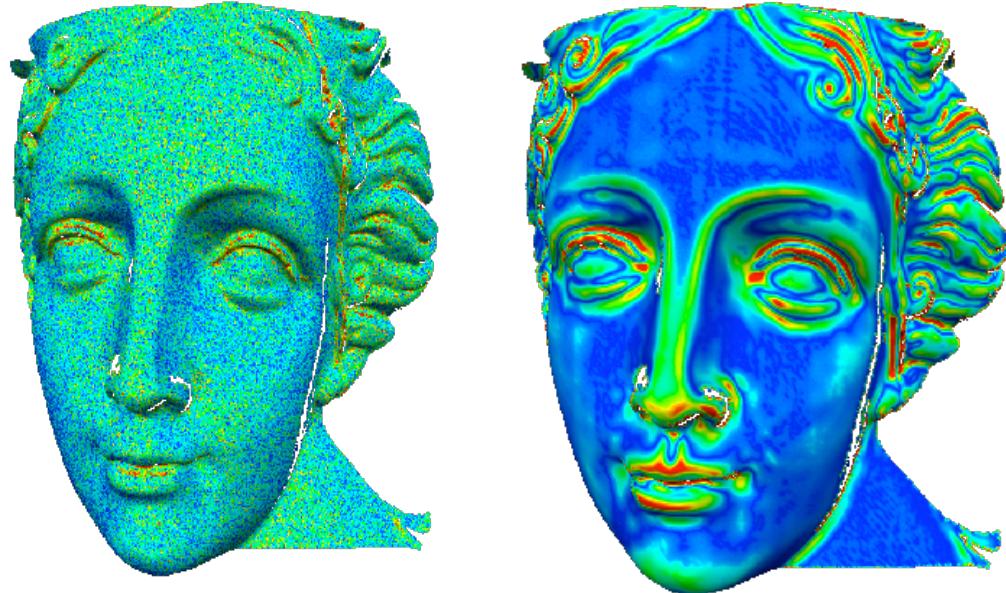


(b)

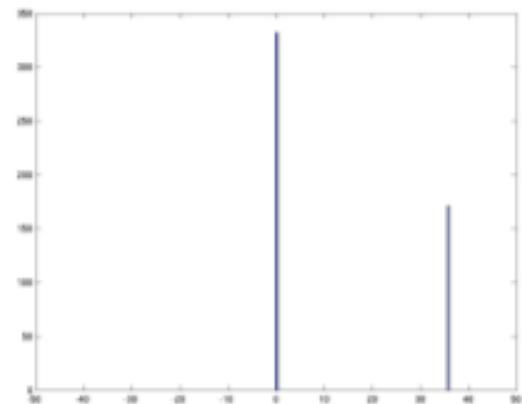
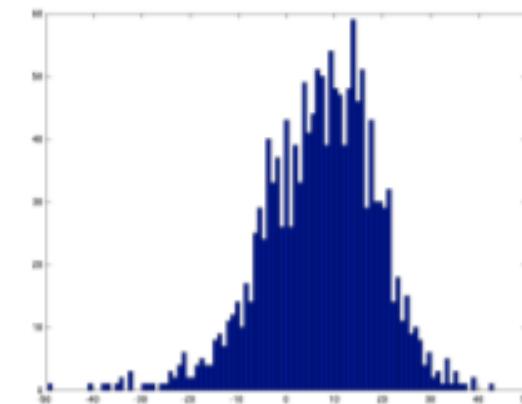
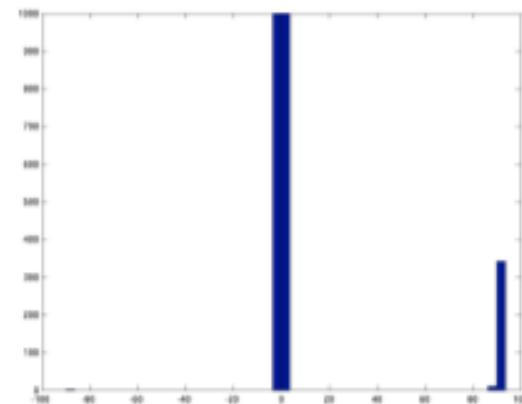
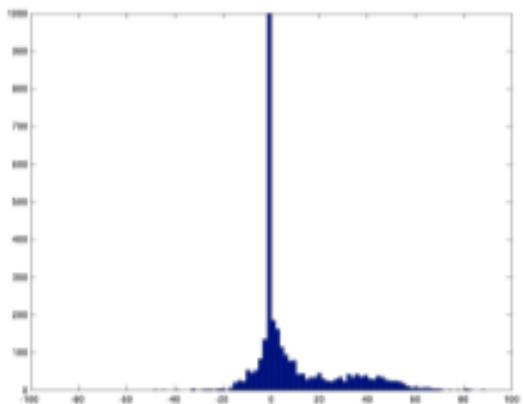
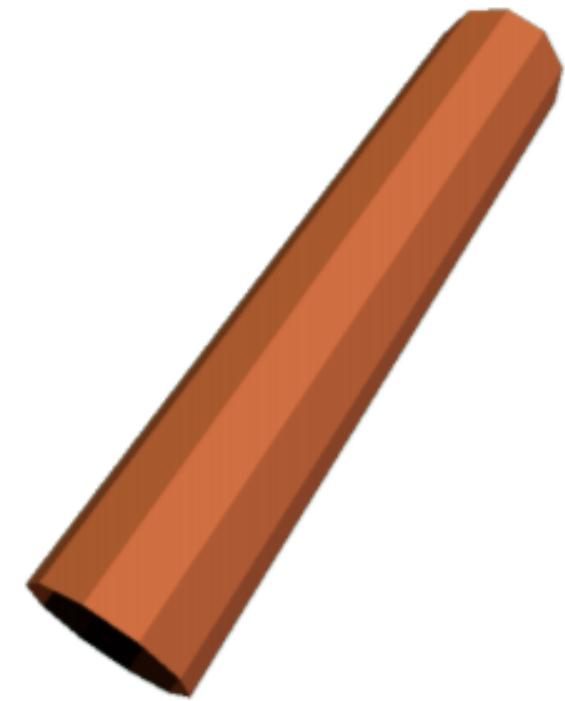
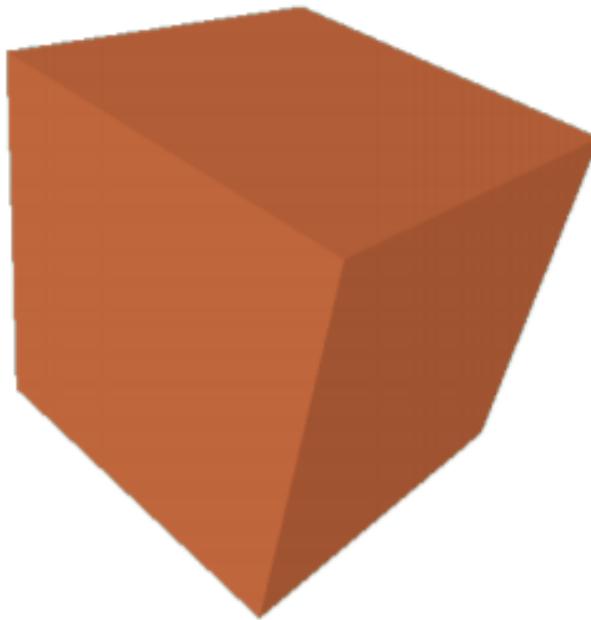
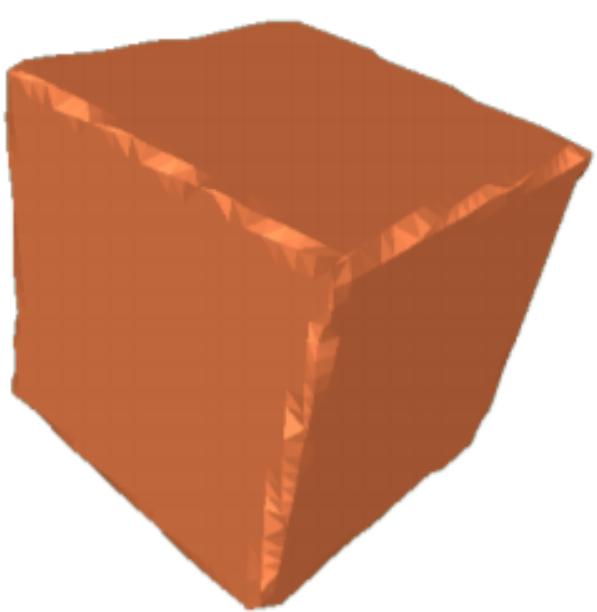


(c)

- (a) 3% noise added along the normal  
(b) Isotropic smoothing  
(c) Anisotropic smoothing



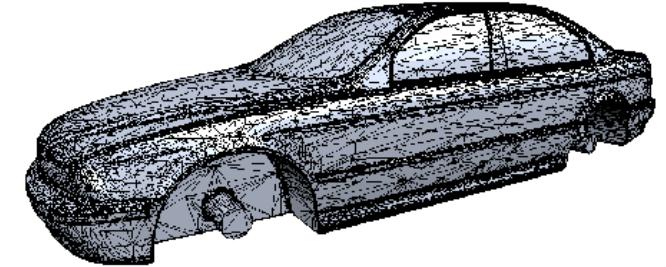
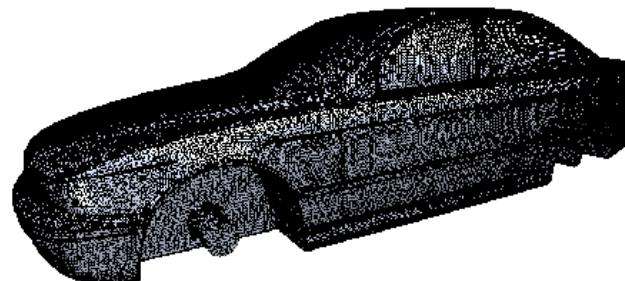
# Normal Noise Analysis



# Mesh Quality Criteria

## Smoothness

- Low geometric noise

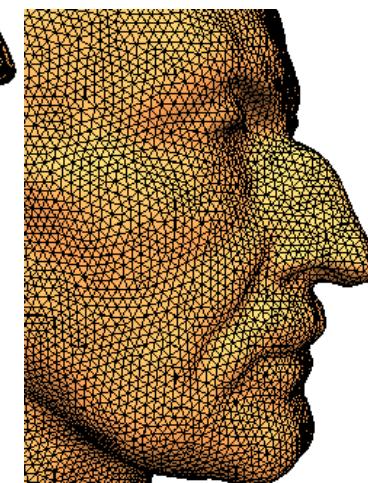
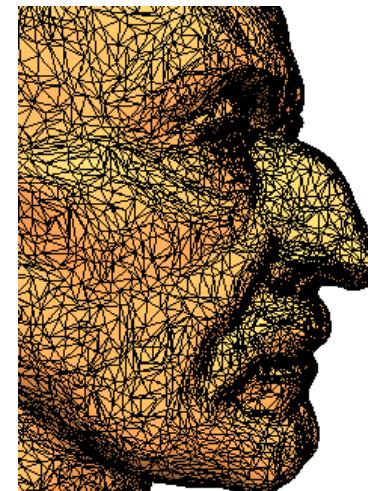


## Fairness

- Simplest shape

## Adaptive tessellation

- Low complexity

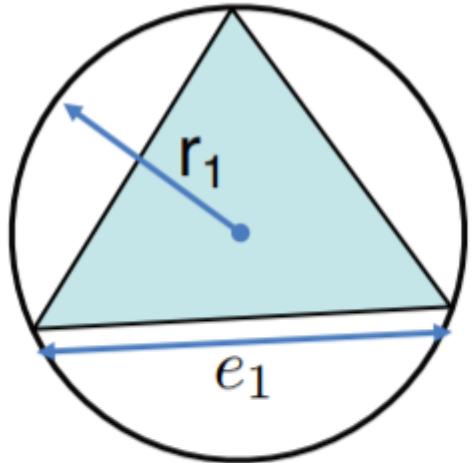


## Triangle shape

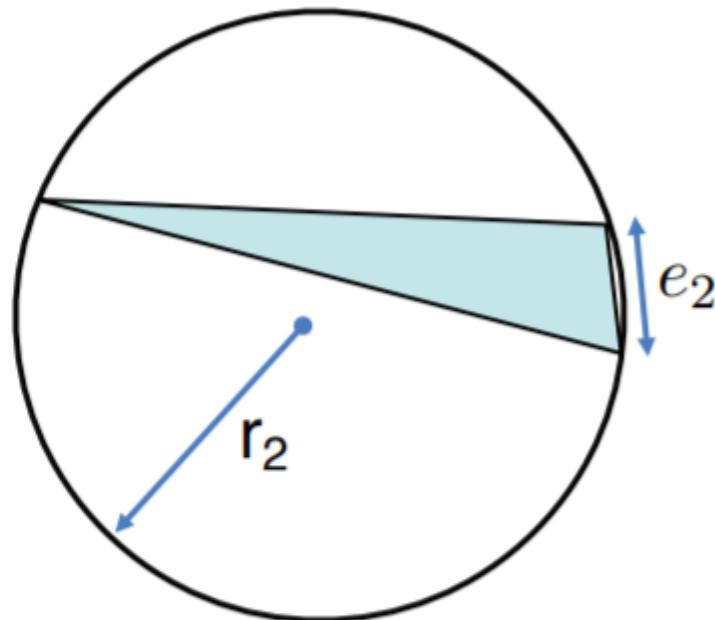
- Numerical Robustness

# Triangle Shape Analysis

- Circum radius / shortest edge



$$\frac{r_1}{e_1} < \frac{r_2}{e_2}$$



- Needles and caps



Needle



Cap

# Summary

## Invariants as overarching theme

- shape does not depend on Euclidean motions (no stretch)
  - **metric & curvatures**
  - smooth continuous notions to discrete notions
    - generally only as **averages**
  - different ways to derive same equations
    - DEC: discrete exterior calculus, FEM, abstract measure theory.

# Summary

- A systematic study of convergence conditions for discrete geometry properties is given in [Hildebrandt et al. 06].
- An alternative approach to estimating local surface properties uses a local higher-order reconstruction of the surface, followed by analytic evaluation of the desired properties on the reconstructed surface patch.
- [Wardetzky et al. 07]. They show that the discrete operators cannot simultaneously satisfy all of the identified properties of symmetry, locality, linear precision, and positivity.
  - For example, the cotangent formula of Equation (3.11) satisfies the first three properties, but not the fourth, since edge weights can assume negative values. The choice of discretization thus depends on the specific application.

# Literature

- Book: Chapter 3
- Taubin: A signal processing approach to fair surface design, SIGGRAPH 1996
- Desbrun et al. : Implicit Fairing of Irregular Meshes using Diffusion and Curvature Flow, SIGGRAPH 1999
- Meyer et al.: Discrete Differential-Geometry Operators for Triangulated 2-Manifolds, VisMath 2002
- Wardetzky et al.: Discrete Laplace Operators: No free lunch, SGP 2007

[1] Gabriel, 2007, **Course; Numerical Mesh Processing.**

[2] 2010\_Polygon Mesh Processing

# Reading

- Computing discrete shape operators on general meshes\_eg06

# Thanks