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# Robot Vision

ICP and 3D Scan Registration

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# Overview

- Iterative Closet Point (ICP)
  - 3D data representation
  - Point cloud registration
  - ICP
- Variants of ICP
  - Point-to-plane ICP
  - Colored ICP
- Application of ICP
  - Kinect Fusion



# References

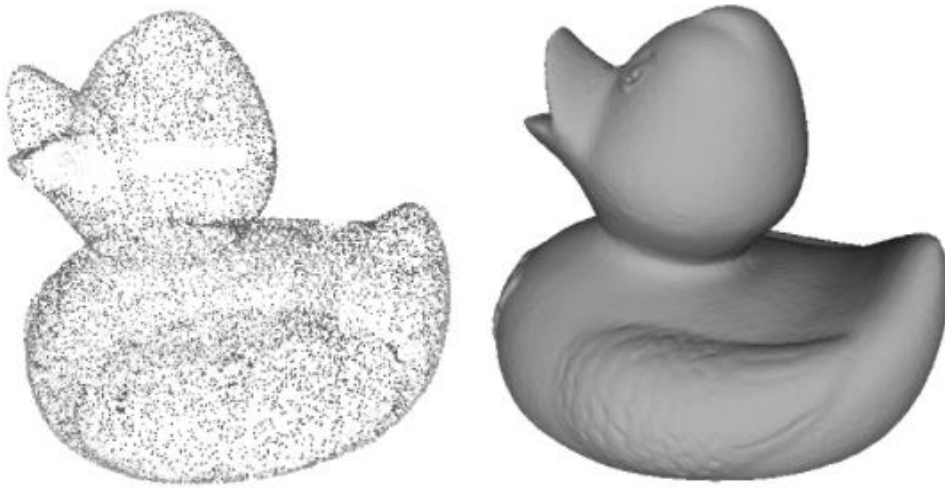
- Corke 2017:
  - Section 14.5
- Forsyth & Ponce 2011
  - Section 14.3
- Szeliski 2022:
  - Section 13.2.1
- Umeyama, S. (1991). Least-squares estimation of transformation parameters between two point patterns. *IEEE Transactions on Pattern Analysis & Machine Intelligence*, (4), 376-380.
- Low, K.L., 2004. Linear least-squares optimization for point-to-plane icp surface registration. *University of North Carolina Chapel Hill*, 4(10).
- Park, J., Zhou, Q. Y., & Koltun, V., (2017). Colored point cloud registration revisited. In *Proceedings of the IEEE Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition* (pp. 143-152).



# 3D Data Representations

## Point Cloud/Mesh

- ✓ Raw format/Efficiency
- Explicit representation
- × Unorganized/Unordered



[https://elmoatazbill.users.greyc.fr/  
point\\_cloud/reconstruction.png](https://elmoatazbill.users.greyc.fr/point_cloud/reconstruction.png)

## Voxel

- Implicit representation
- × Resolution/Scalability
- × Discretization artifact



[https://www.planetminecraft.com/  
/project/giant-snowman-1638162/](https://www.planetminecraft.com/project/giant-snowman-1638162/)

## Primitives

- ✓ Compact
- ✓ Ready for interaction
- Complex shapes?

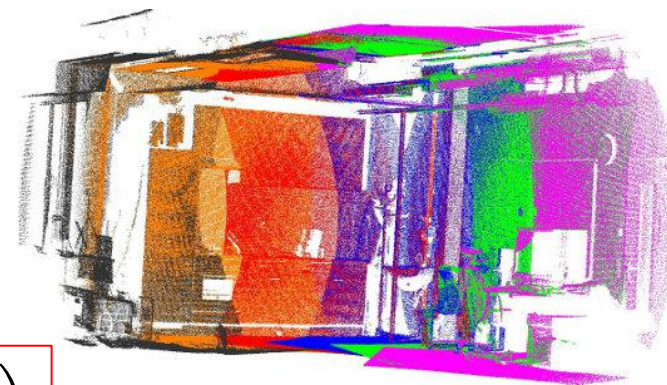
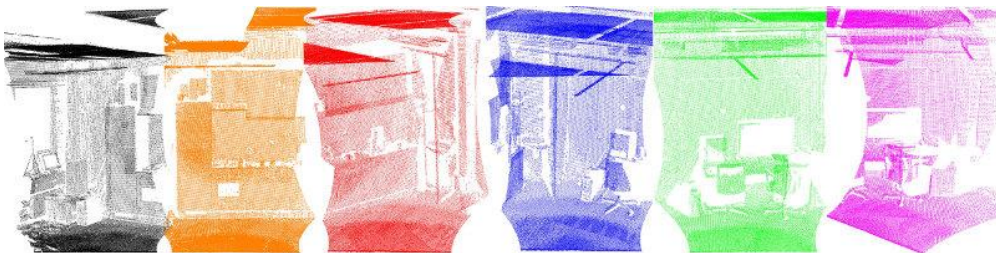


<http://pointclouds.org/gsoc/>



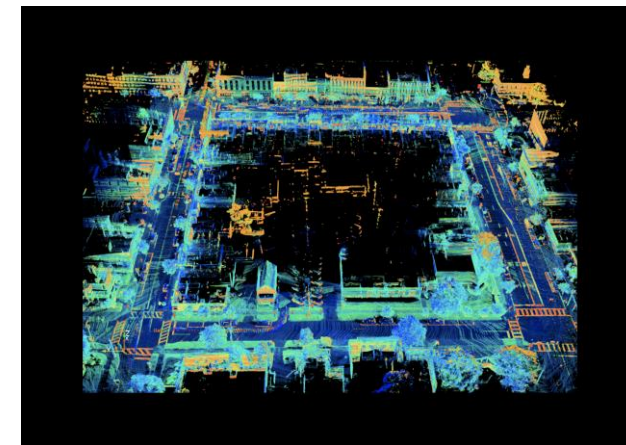


# Point Cloud Mapping / Scan Registration



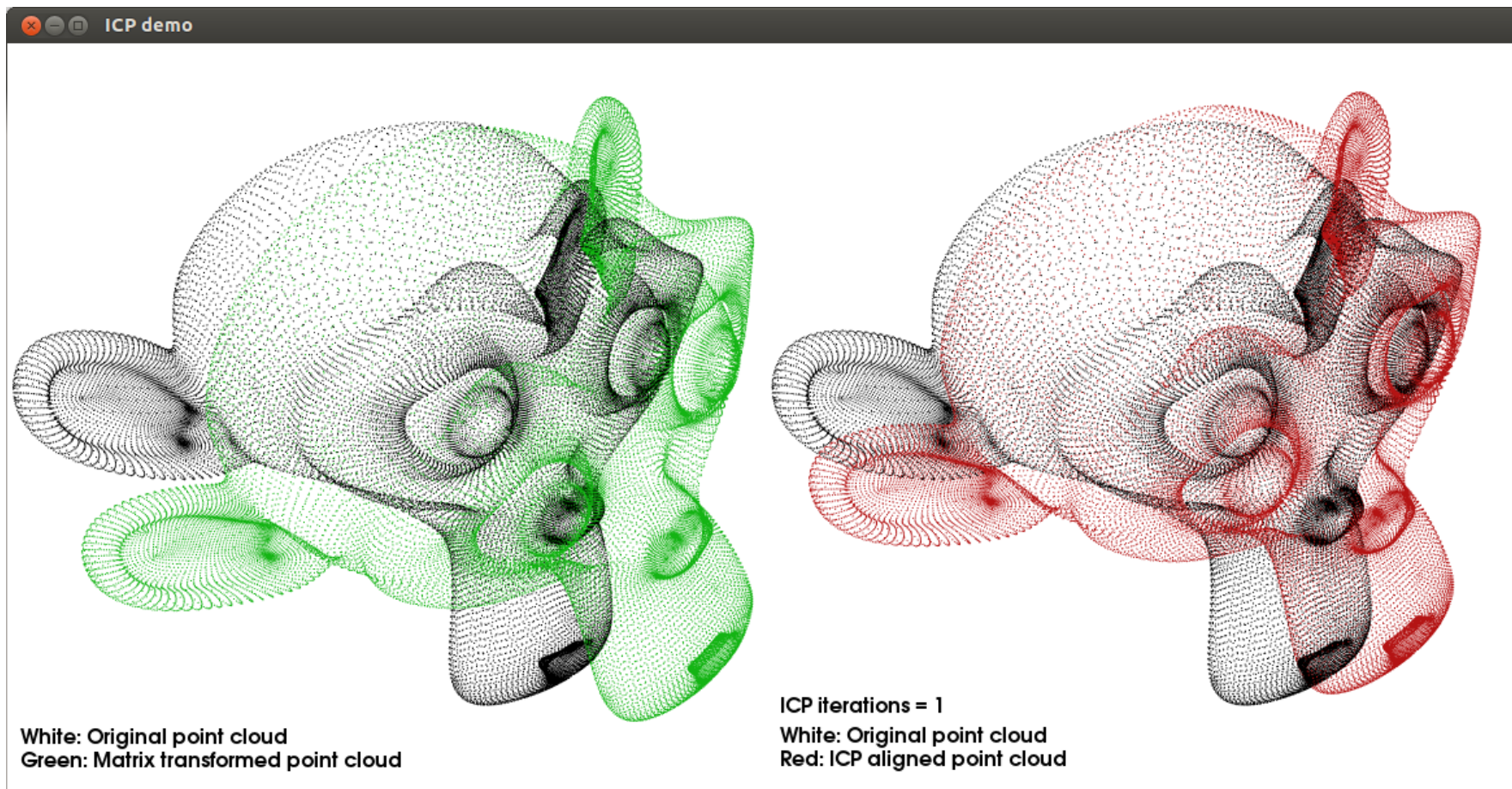
$$\operatorname{argmin}_{\{R_i, t_i\}} \sum_{i,j} \sum_k \rho \left( \min_s \left\| \begin{bmatrix} R_j & t_j \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} p_s^j \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} R_i & t_i \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} p_k^i \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\|^2 \right)$$

*s. t.*  $R_i \in SO(3)$   
 $t_i, p_k^i \in \mathbb{R}^3$ ,  $\rho(\cdot)$  is a robust loss function (e.g., Huber loss)





# Iterative Closest Point (ICP)

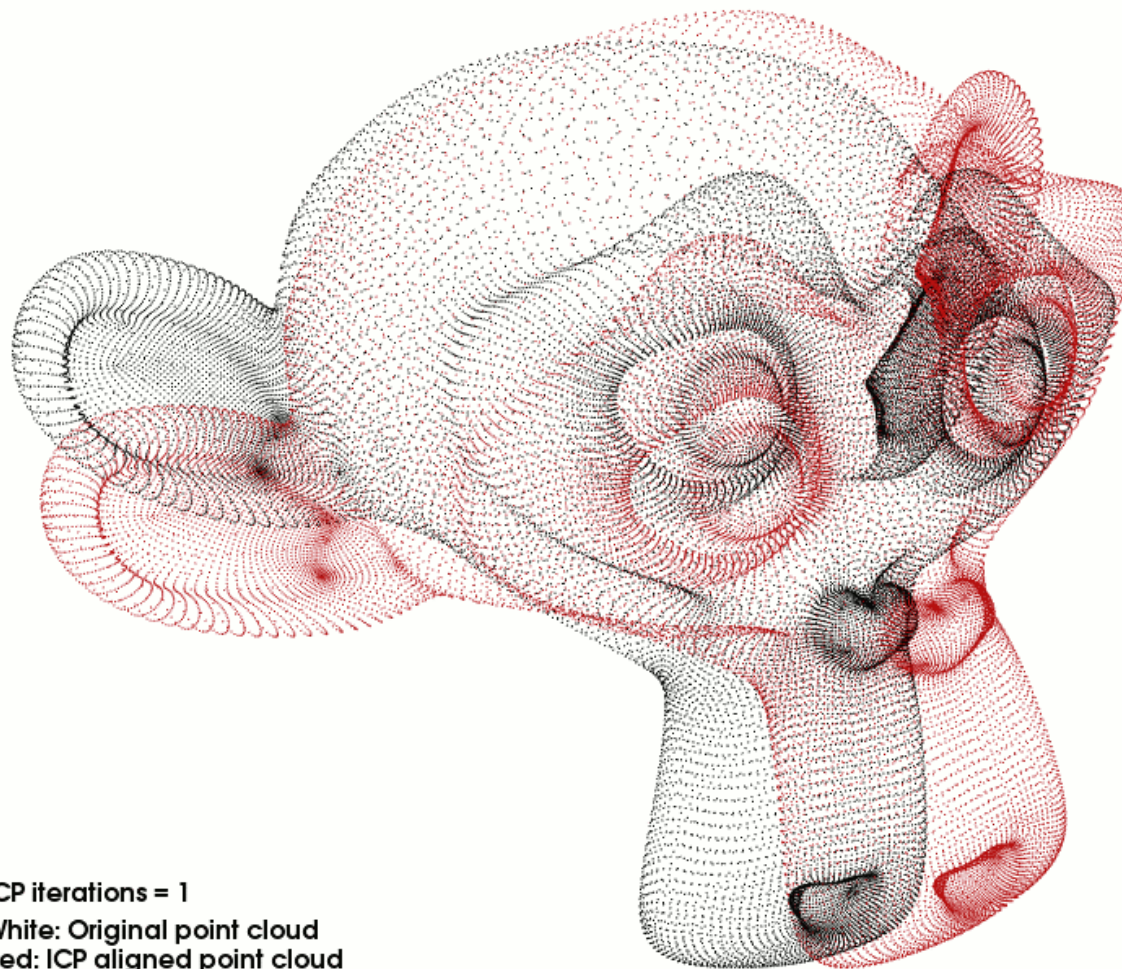


[http://pointclouds.org/documentation/tutorials/interactive\\_icp.php#interactive-icp](http://pointclouds.org/documentation/tutorials/interactive_icp.php#interactive-icp)





# ICP Process



ICP iterations = 1

White: Original point cloud

Red: ICP aligned point cloud

[http://pointclouds.org/documentation/tutorials/interactive\\_icp.php#interactive-icp](http://pointclouds.org/documentation/tutorials/interactive_icp.php#interactive-icp)



# Core Problem Definition



- Given two sets of **corresponding** points
  - Source:  $S = \{S_1, S_2, \dots, S_n\}$
  - Destination  $D = \{D_1, D_2, \dots, D_n\}$
- Find the translation and rotation that optimize the cost function
  - $C(R, t) = \sum_i \|D_i - RS_i - t\|^2$
- A fancy name of the problem: procrustes analysis
  - We've seen a simpler version of this
  - Hand-eye calibration
  - Vanishing-point-based camera orientation estimation





## Solve Translation First



- Idea: assume the optimal rotation has been found
- Set partial derivative w.r.t. translation to zero, solve the optimal translation
- Result
  - $t^* = (\sum_i D_i - R \sum_i S_i) / n$



## Solve Rotation



- Idea: substitute the optimal translation back into the cost function
- $C(R, t) = \sum_i \|D_i - RS_i - (\sum_i D_i - R \sum_i S_i)/n\|^2$
- Define new sets of corresponding points
  - Source:  $s = \{s_i\} = \{S_i - \sum_i S_i / n\}$
  - Destination  $d = \{d_i\} = \{D_i - \sum_i D_i / n\}$
  - A common term of this process: **demean, i.e. move data center to origin**
- $C(R, t) = \sum_i \|d_i - Rs_i\|^2$
- Solve this by the Orthogonal Procrustes Problem
  - Polar decomposition on the 3x3 covariance matrix  $\sum_i d_i s_i^T$  by SVD
- Basically: **Center** point clouds, then **rotate** to align further. Repeat as necessary.

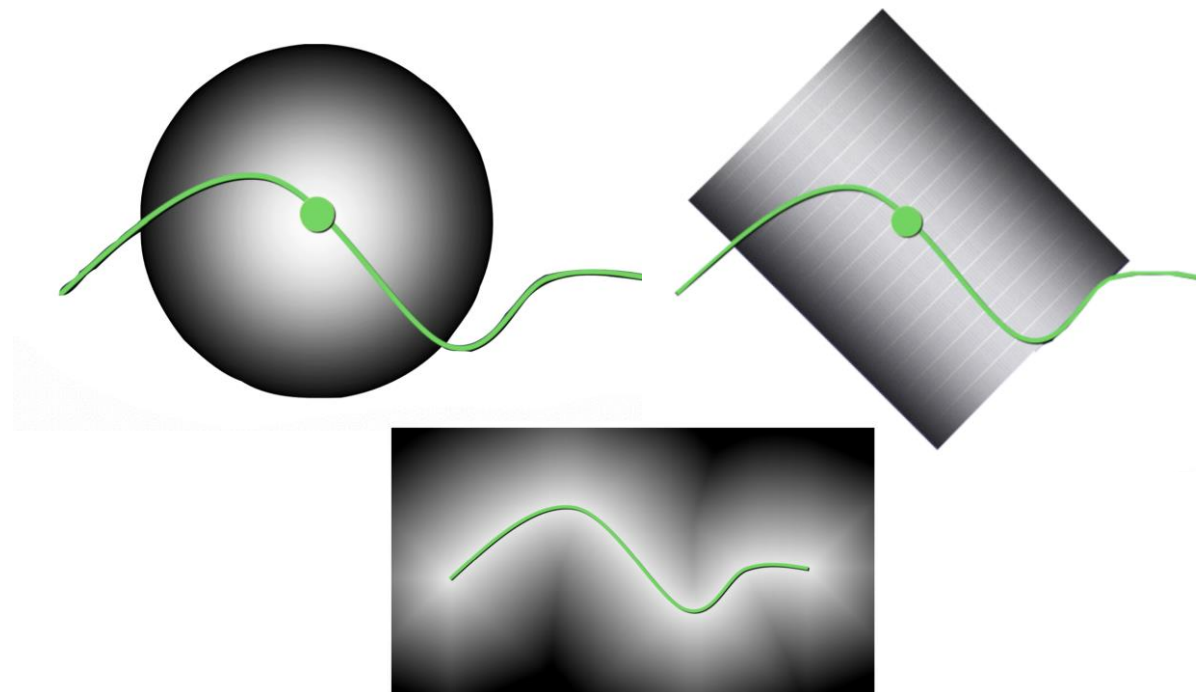
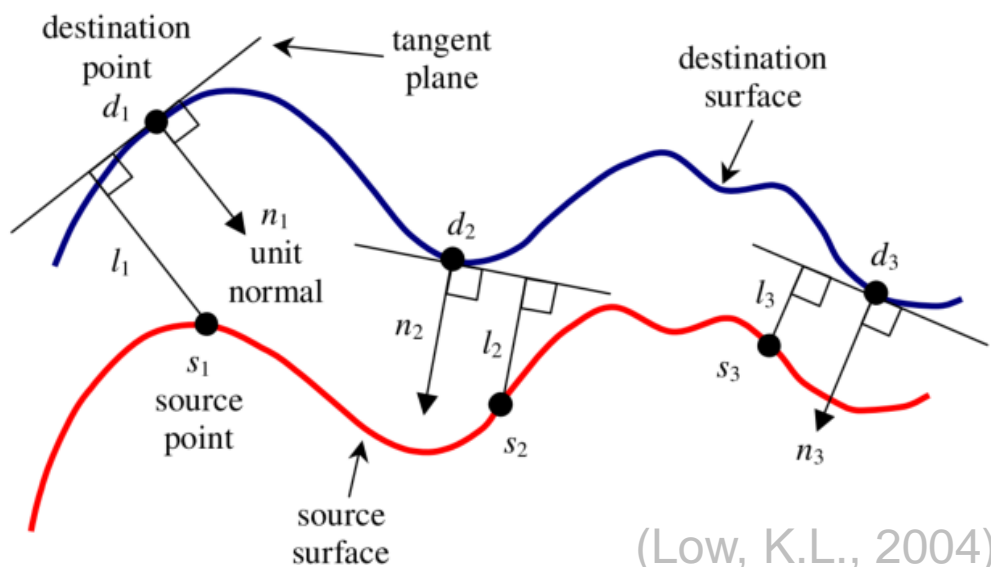


# Wait, but I Do Not Know Correspondences!

- Approximate correspondences
  - Simply pick the closest point
- Then iterate until converge
- ICP step-by-step
  1. **Find Correspondences:**  
Find correspondences of **S** in **D** by searching closest points (Brute-Force, KdTree)
  2. **Compute Center and Rotation:**  
Solve the current optimal translation and rotation by Procrustes analysis
  3. **Align via Centering and Rotating:**  
If cost **decreased**, apply the current solution back to **S**  
If cost **stopped** changing or smaller than a threshold, stop.  
Otherwise **repeat** the above steps.

# ICP variants - Change Cost Function

- Point-to-Point:  $C(R, t) = \sum_i \|D_i - RS_i - t\|^2$
- Point-to-Plane:  $C(R, t) = \sum_i \|N_i^T (D_i - RS_i - t)\|^2$ ,  $N_i$  being  $D_i$ 's unit normal
  - Often significantly better convergence rate than point-to-point ICP
  - Linearization under small rotation assumption

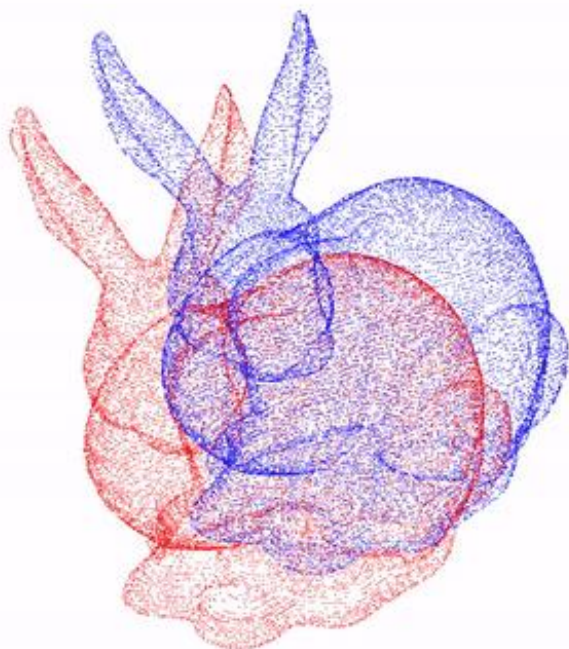




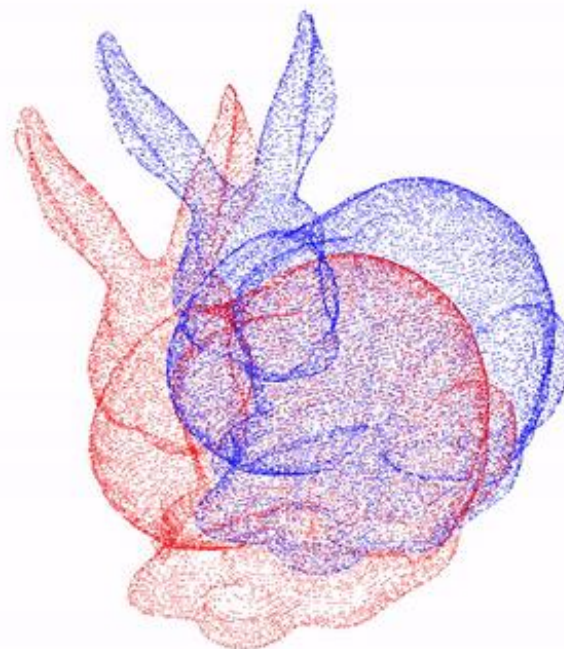


# ICP variants - Point-to-Point vs Point-to-Plane ICP

Point-to-point / Iteration 0



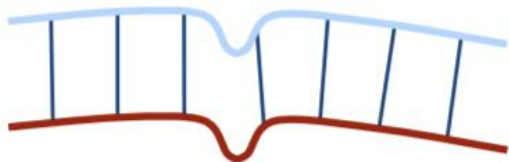
Point-to-plane / Iteration 0



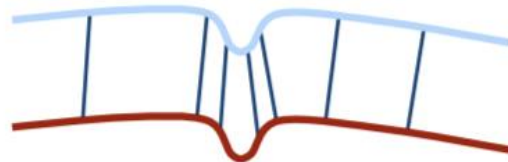


## ICP variants – Sampling Source Points

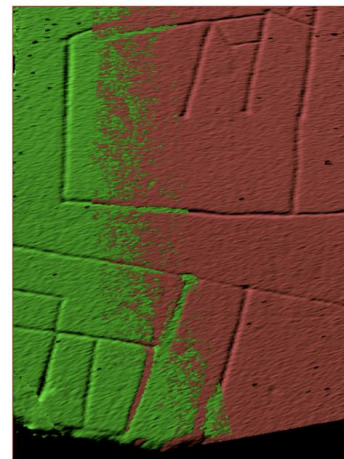
- Normal-space sampling is better for mostly smooth areas with sparse features



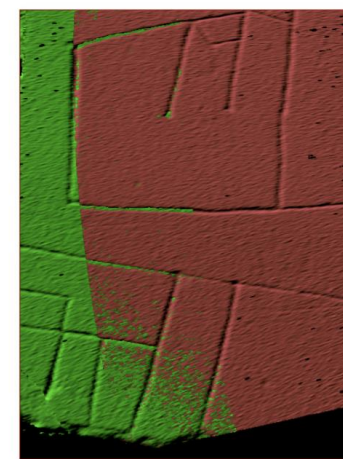
uniform sampling



normal-space sampling



Random sampling



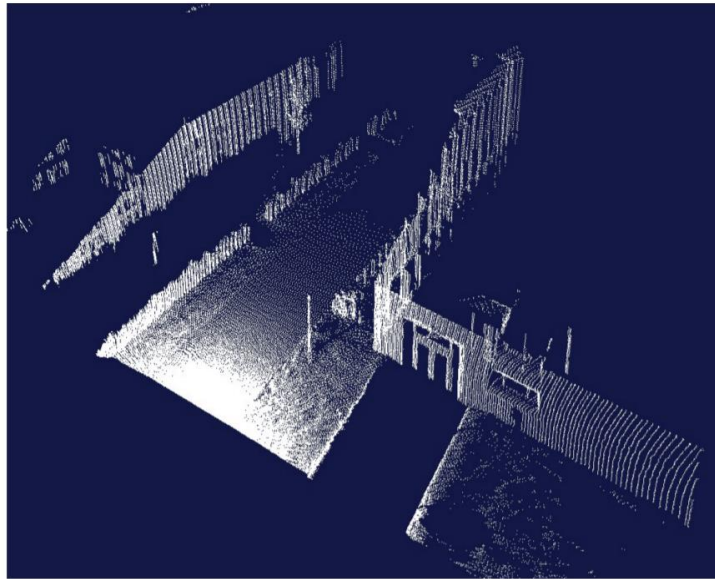
Normal-space sampling

(Rusinkiewicz et al., 2001)

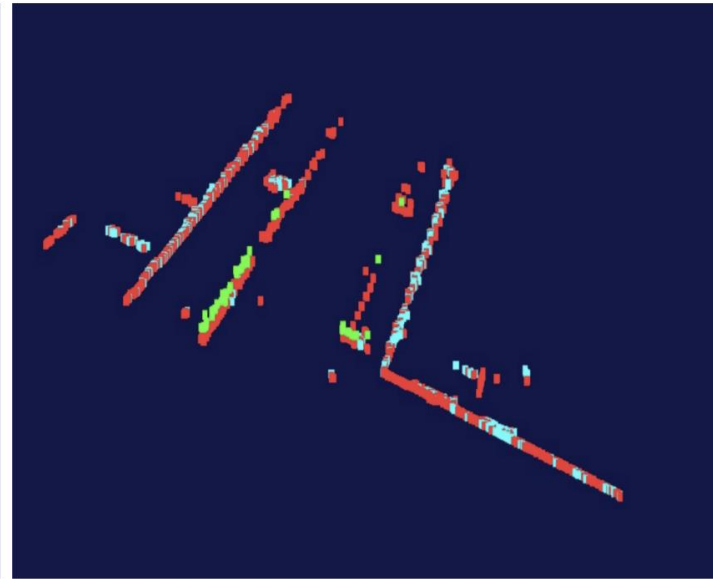


# ICP variants – Sampling Source Points

- Feature-based Sampling
  - Find 3D keypoints
  - Often with higher efficiency and higher accuracy
  - May require RANSAC to remove outliers



3D Scan (~200.000 Points)

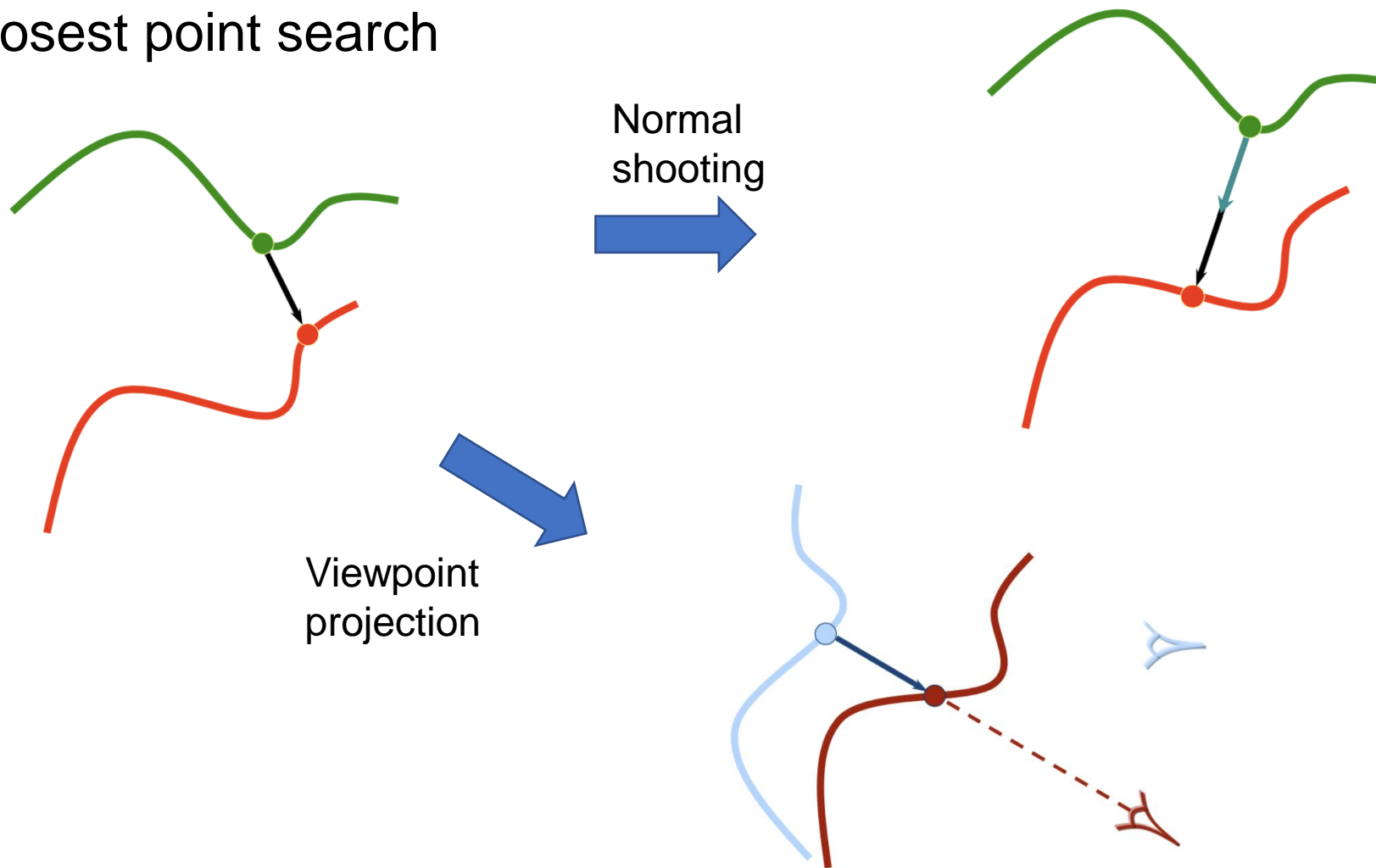


Extracted Features (~5.000 Points)



# ICP variants - Change Data Association

- Beyond closest point search

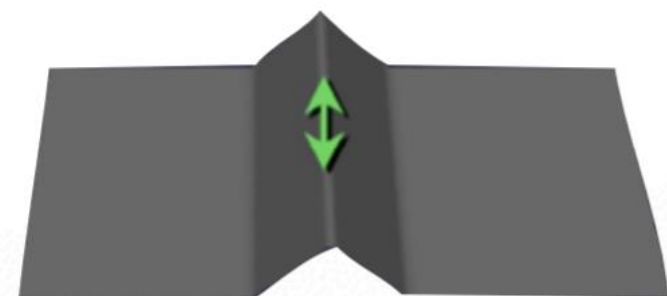
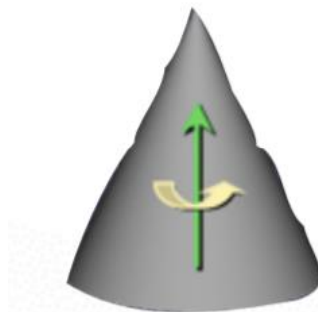
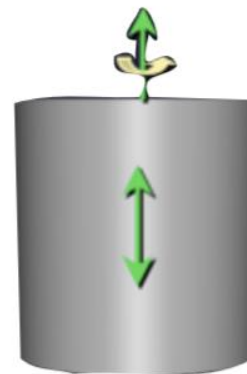
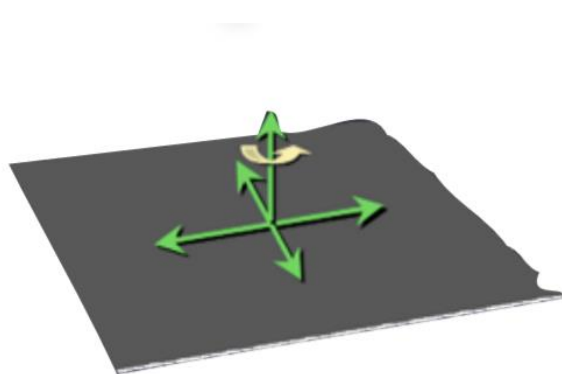






# ICP for Degenerated Cases

- Solution: use color-based ICP





## **Global Registration – Avoid the problem**

- In some cases, have 1 (possibly low-resolution) scan that covers most surface
- Align all other scans to this “anchor” [Turk 94]
- Disadvantage: not always practical to obtain anchor scan



## Global Registration – The greedy solution

- Align each new scan to all previous scans [Masuda '96]
- Disadvantages:
  - Order dependent
  - Doesn't spread out error



# Global Registration – The Brute-Force Solution

- While not converged:
  - For each scan:
    - For each point:
      - For every other scan
        - Find closest point
  - Minimize error w.r.t. transforms of **all** scans
- Disadvantage:
  - Solve  $(6n) \times (6n)$  matrix equation, where  $n$  is number of scans





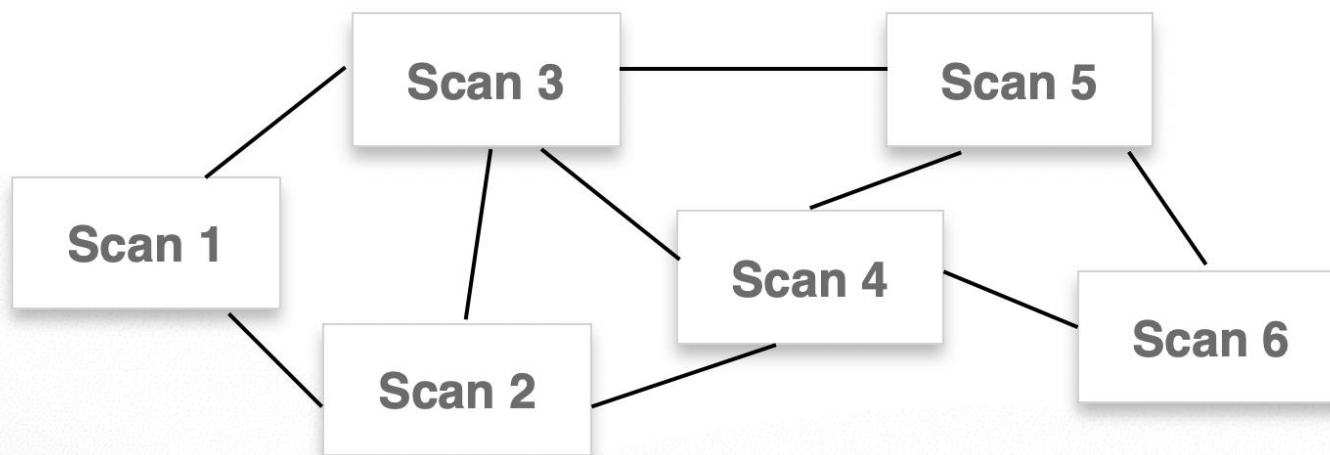
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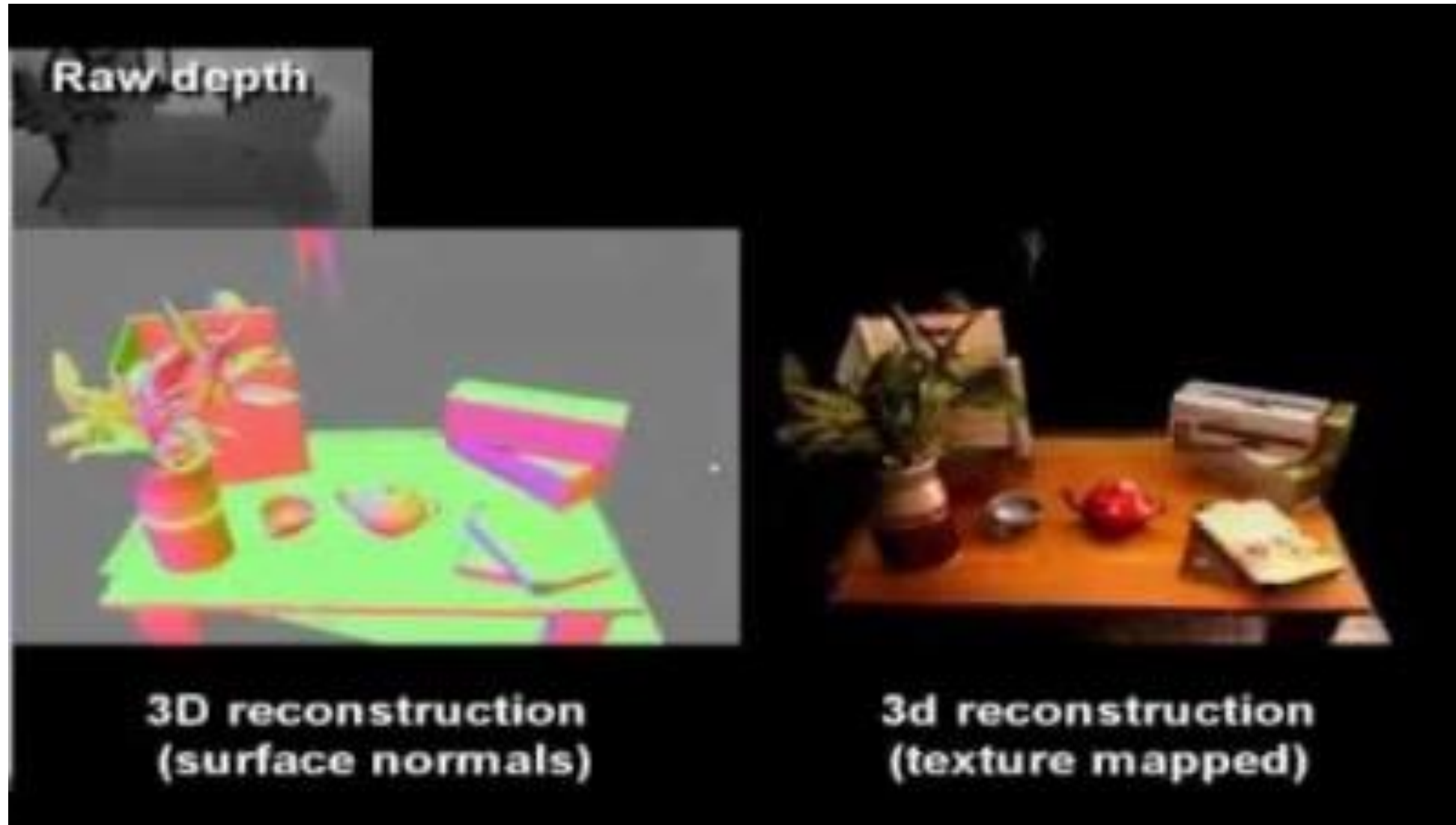
## Global Registration – Graph Methods

- Many global registration algorithms create a graph of **pairwise alignments** between scans





# Kinect Fusion

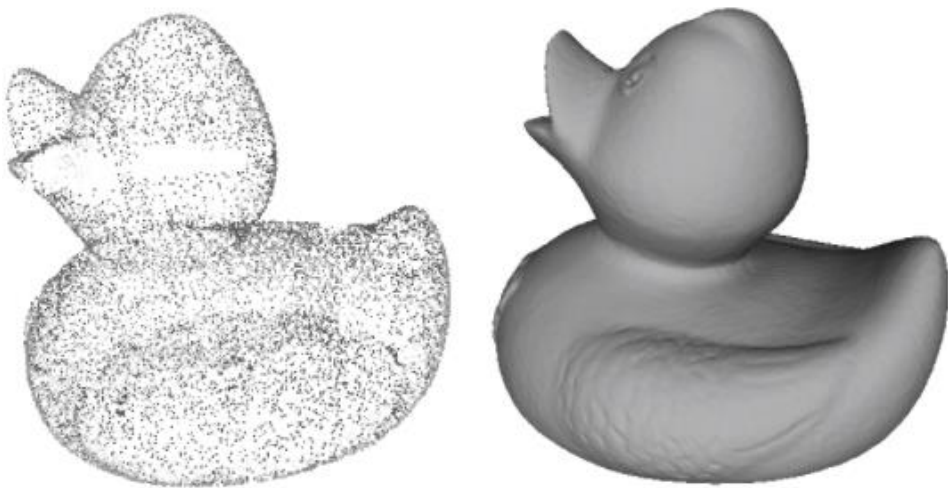




# 3D Data Representations

## Point Cloud/Mesh

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- Explicit representation
- × Unorganized/Unordered



[https://elmoatazbill.users.greyc.fr/  
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## Primitives

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- Complex shapes?



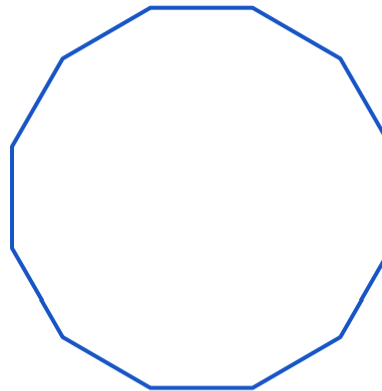
<http://pointclouds.org/gsoc/>





# Explicit Surface Representation

- Geometry/Shape is stored explicitly as a list of points, triangles, or other geometric fragments
  - Point clouds, mesh, ...



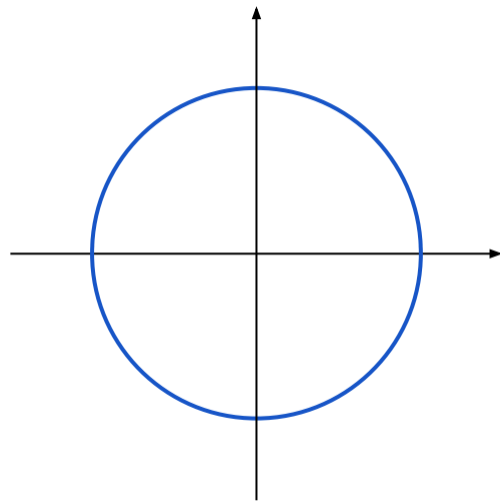
Vertices: [  $(x_0, y_0, z_0)$ ,  $(x_1, y_1, z_1)$ , ...,  $(x_n, y_n, z_n)$  ]

Indices: [  $(i_0, i_1)$ ,  $(i_2, i_3)$ , ...,  $(i_{n-1}, i_n)$  ]



# Implicit Surface Representation

- Geometry/Shape is not stored explicitly but rather defined as a level set of a function defined over the space in which the geometry is embedded
  - Some are **parametric**

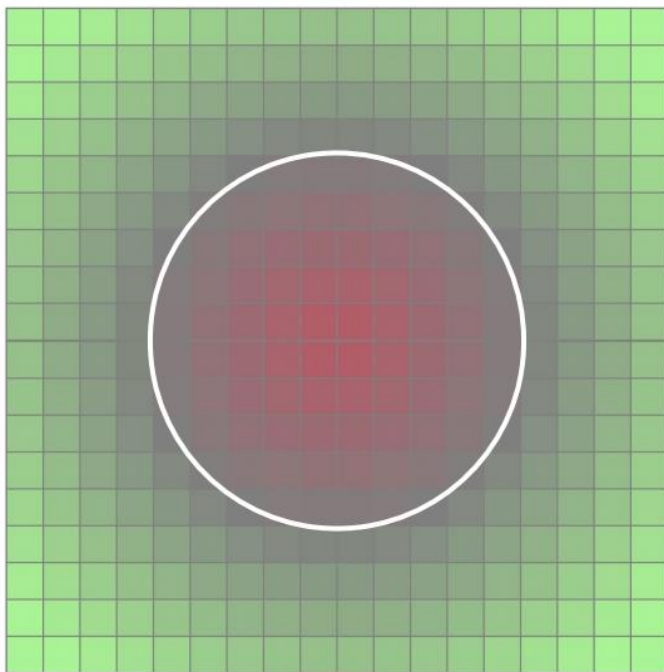


$$f(x, y) = x^2 + y^2 - r^2$$



# Implicit Surface Representation

- Geometry/Shape is not stored explicitly but rather defined as a level set of a function defined over the space in which the geometry is embedded
  - Some are **non-parametric: Signed Distance Function/Field (SDF)**



## Example

SDF of a circle centered at origin, with radius of 1 from before, we'll have the following SDF and sample values

$$SDF = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2} - 1$$

$$f(1, 0) = 0$$

$$f(0, 2) = 3$$

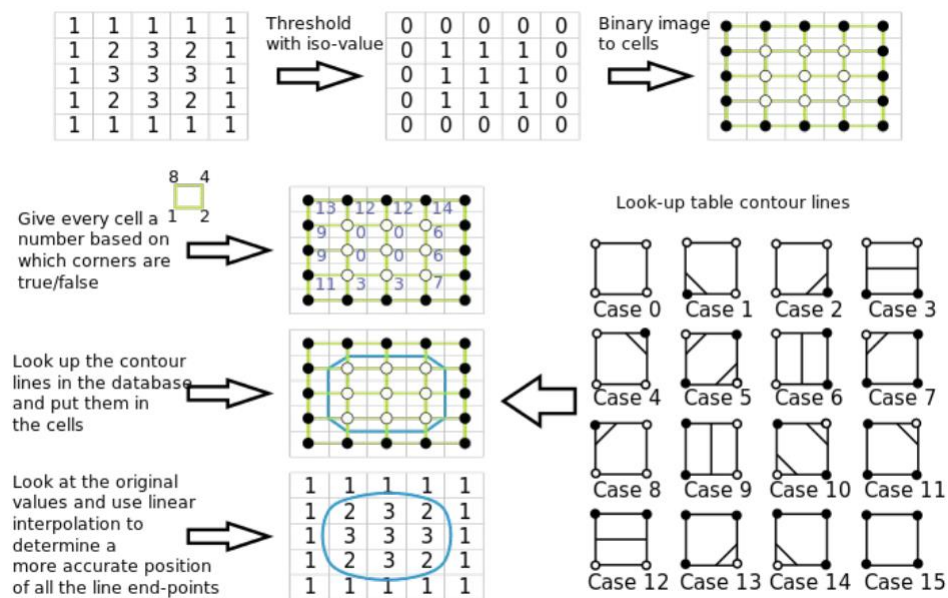
$$f(0, 0) = -1$$

$$f(0.5, 0) = -0.5$$

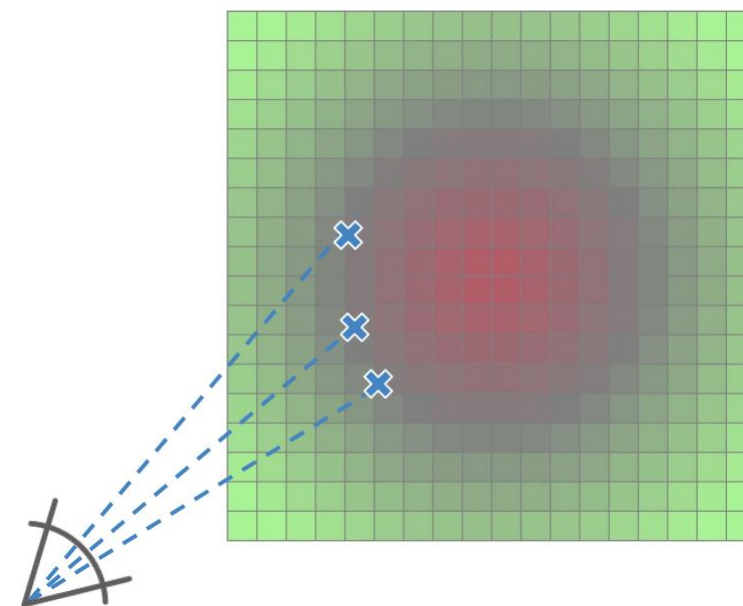


# Implicit-to-Explicit Conversions

## Marching Squares (2D)



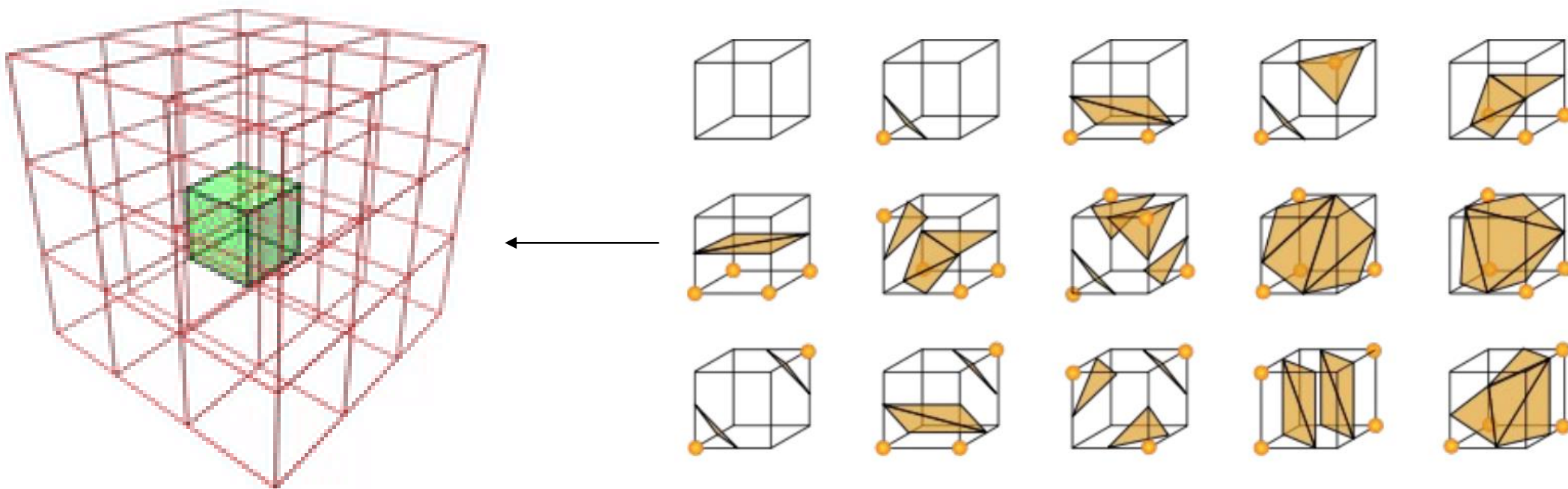
## Raycasting for partial conversion





# Implicit-to-Explicit Conversions

## Surface Reconstruction via Marching Cubes (3D)

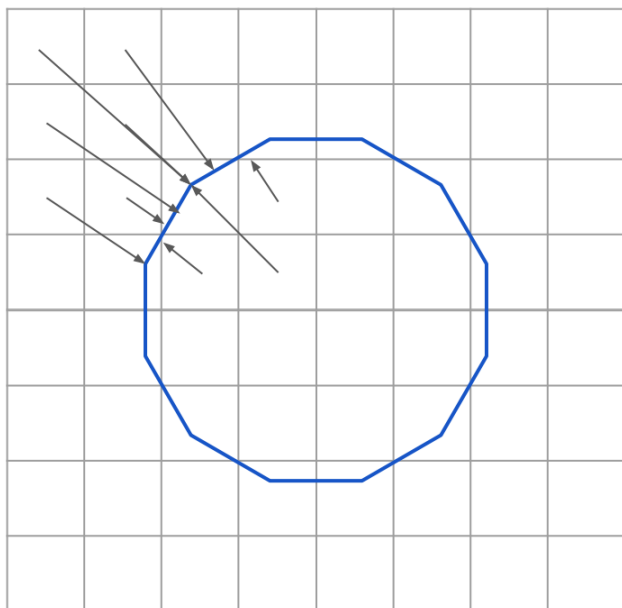




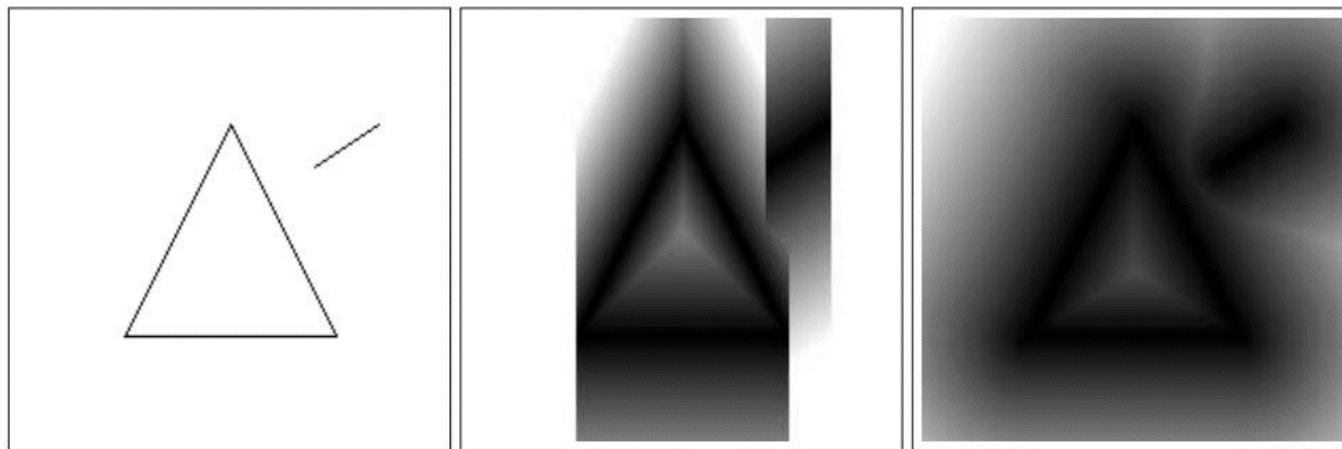


# Explicit-to-Implicit Conversions

By finding closest points to the surface



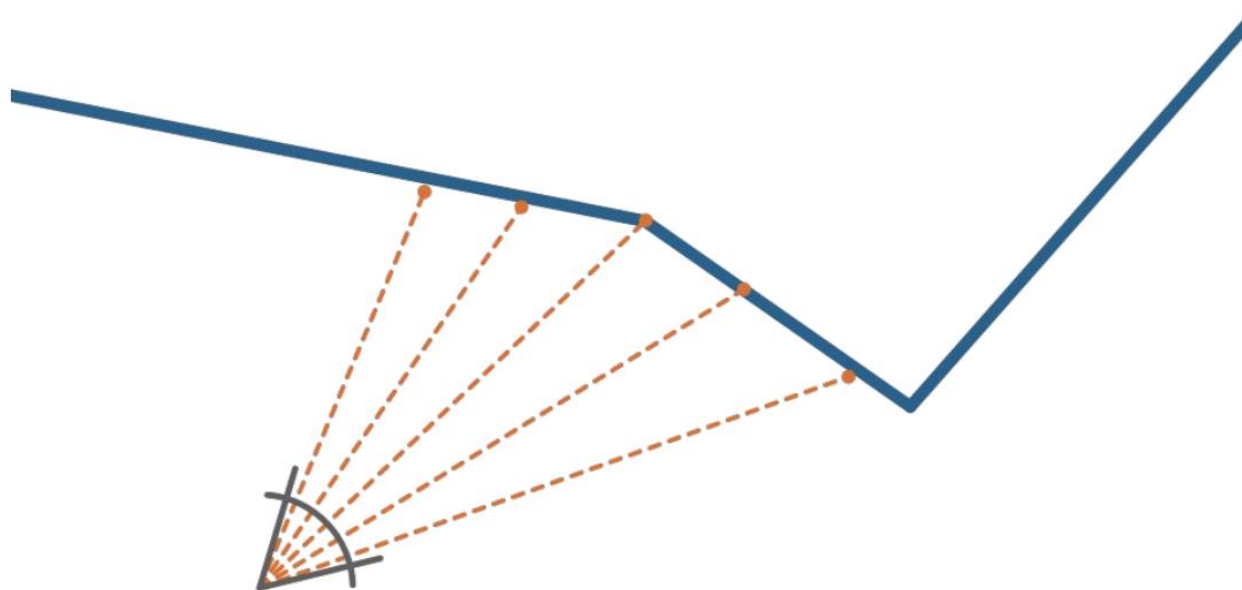
Distance Transform (2D)





# Projective SDF and Truncated SDF (TSDF)

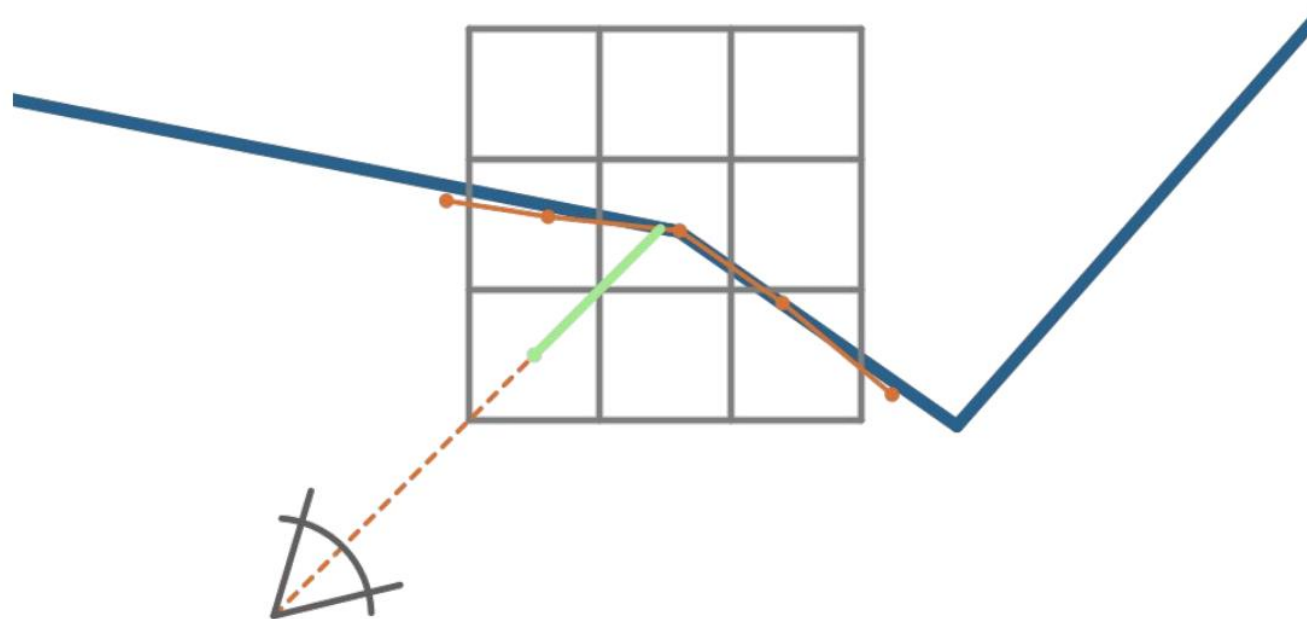
- Computing SDF requires a closed surface
- **What if I have only partial observation of the surface?**





# Projective SDF and Truncated SDF (TSDF)

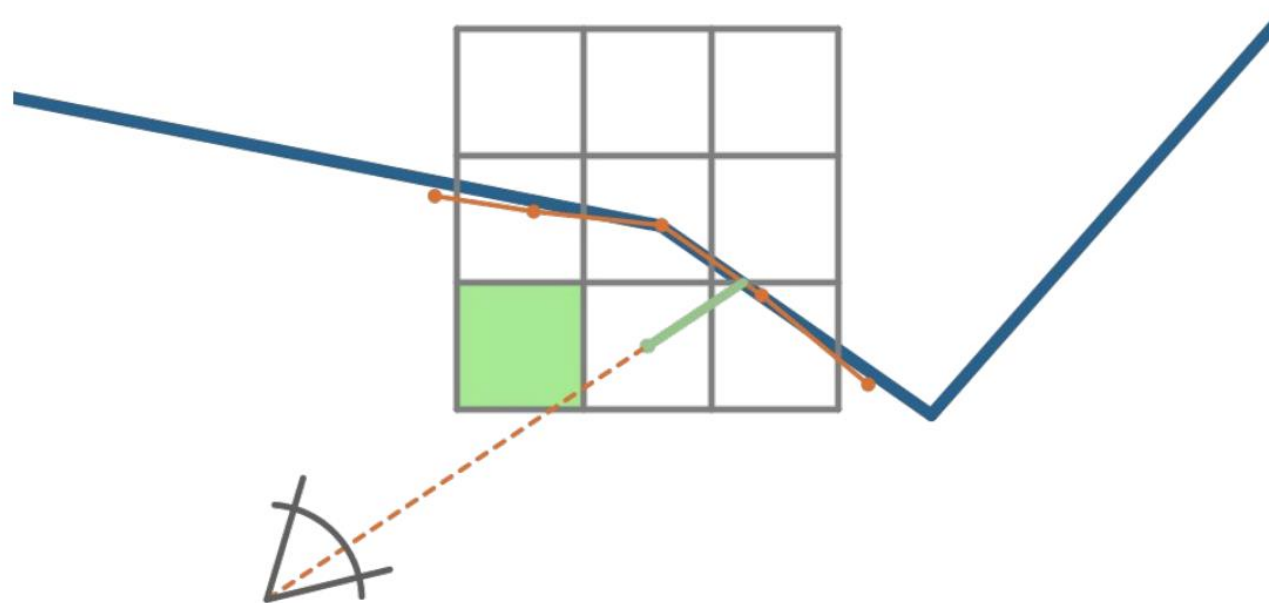
- What if I have only partial observation of the surface?
- We can define projective SDF:





# Projective SDF and Truncated SDF (TSDF)

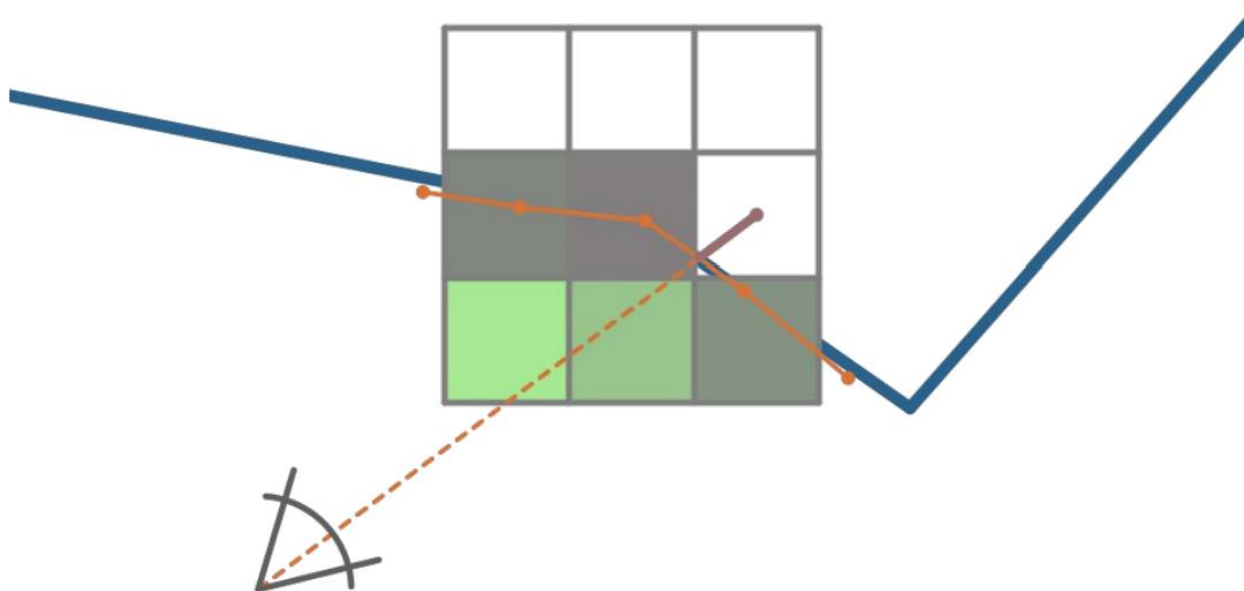
- What if I have only partial observation of the surface?
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# Projective SDF and Truncated SDF (TSDF)

- What if I have only partial observation of the surface?
- We can define projective SDF:

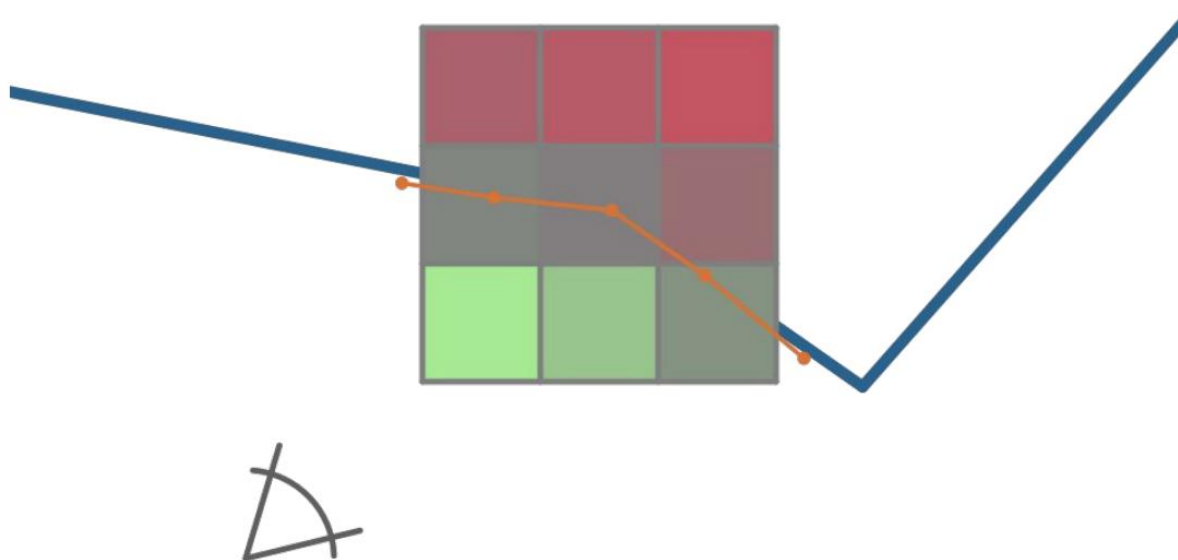






# Projective SDF and Truncated SDF (TSDF)

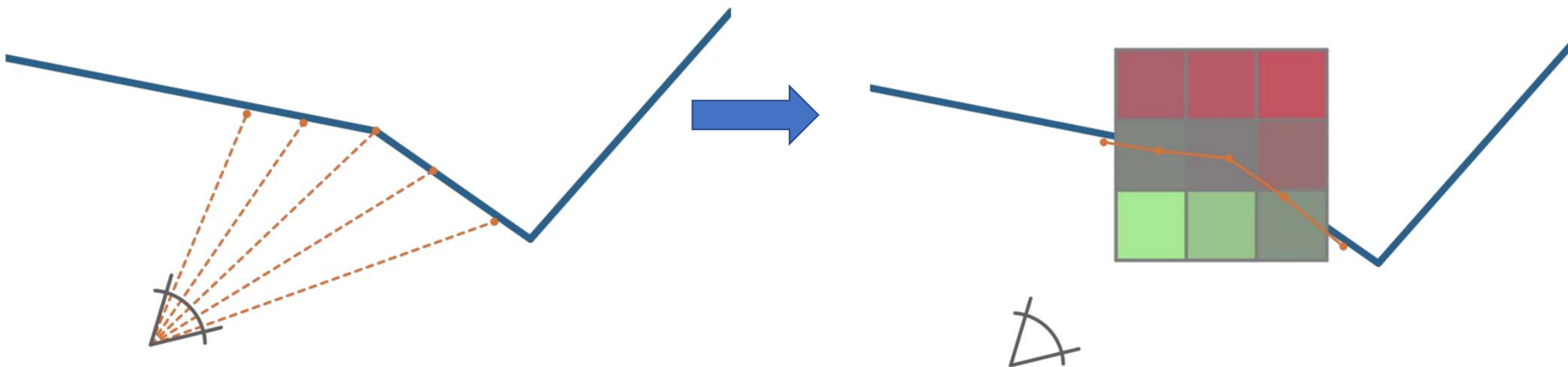
- What if I have only partial observation of the surface?
- Since we only compute the distance near both sides of the surface, we call this projective SDF as a **Truncated SDF**, or **TSDF**.





# Projective SDF and Truncated SDF (TSDF)

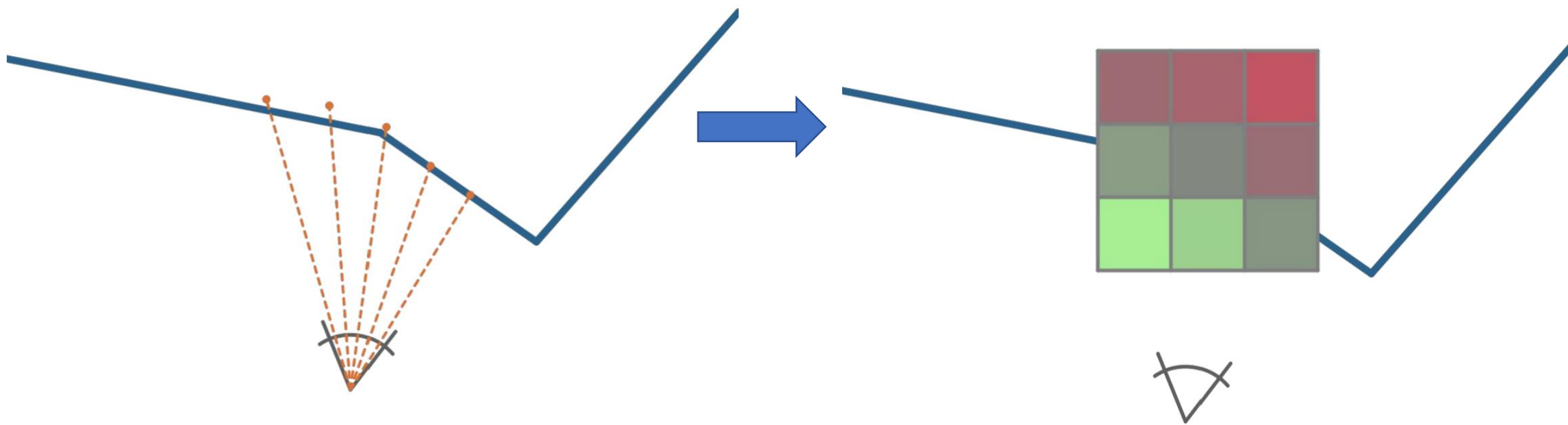
- TSDF is view dependent





# Projective SDF and Truncated SDF (TSDF)

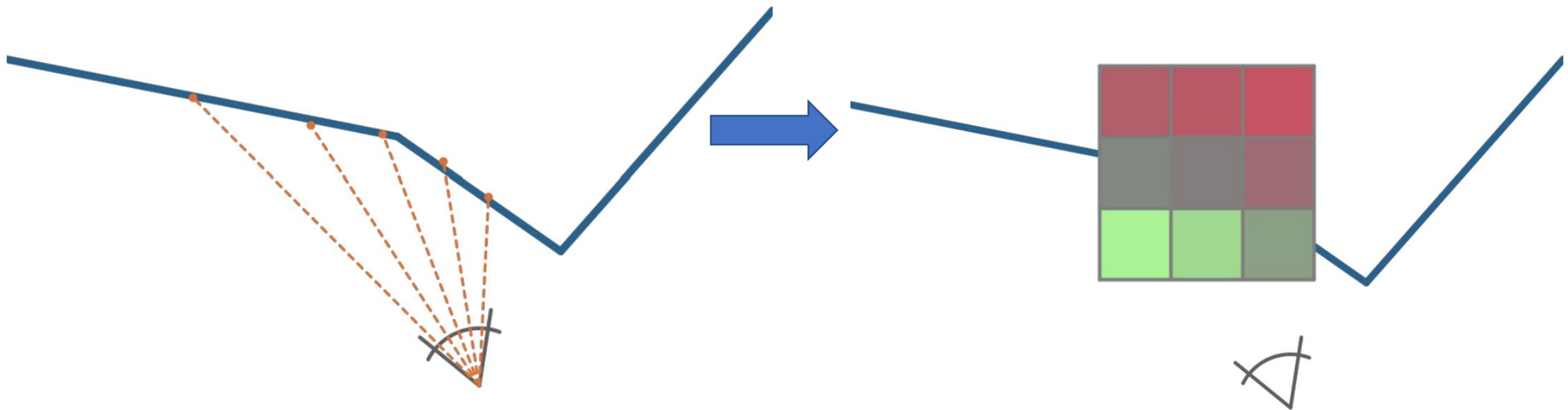
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# Projective SDF and Truncated SDF (TSDF)

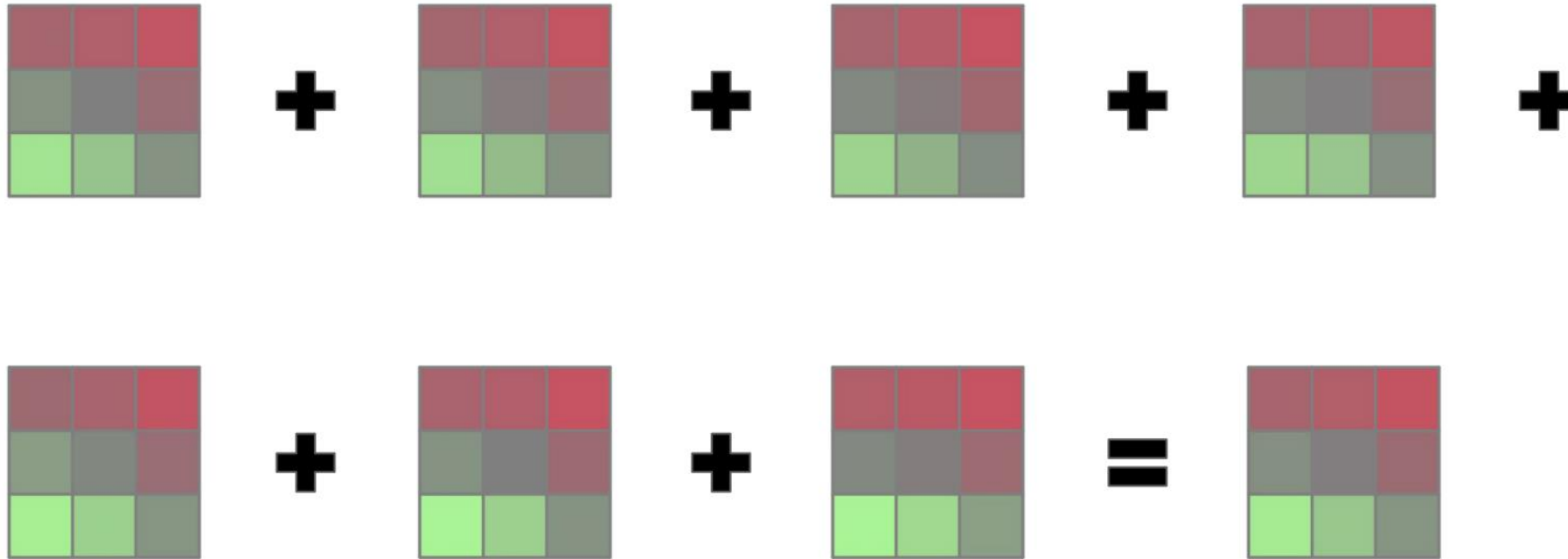
- TSDF is view dependent





# Projective SDF and Truncated SDF (TSDF)

- Fusing multiple TSDF gives a good approximation of the true SDF





# References

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- Hartley & Zisserman 2003:
  - Section 4.7
- Corke 2011:
  - Section 14.1, 14.2.3
- Forsyth & Ponce 2011:
  - Chapter 5, Section 10.4
- Szeliski 2022:
  - Section 7.1, 7.2, 8.1.4