

6.838:

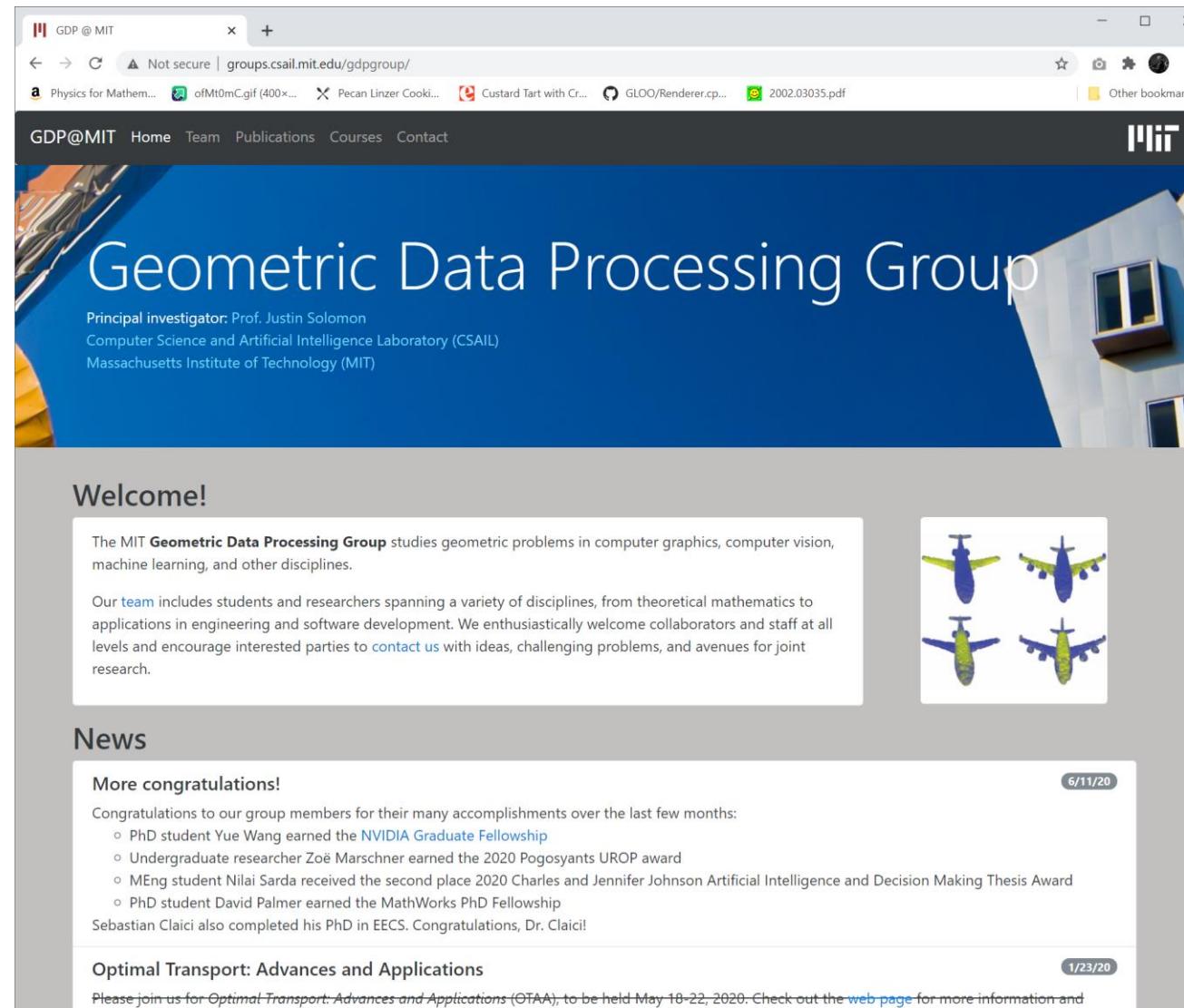
# Shape Analysis

Justin Solomon

Spring 2021



# Course Instructor



The screenshot shows the homepage of the Geometric Data Processing Group (GDP) at MIT. The header features the group's name and the MIT logo. Below the header, there is a large blue banner with the text "Geometric Data Processing Group". Underneath the banner, it says "Principal investigator: Prof. Justin Solomon" and "Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence Laboratory (CSAIL), Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)". The main content area includes a "Welcome!" section, a "News" section with a "More congratulations!" heading, and a "Events" section titled "Optimal Transport: Advances and Applications". The footer contains links to "GDP @ MIT", "Home", "Team", "Publications", "Courses", and "Contact".

**Instructor:** Justin Solomon  
**Email:** jsolomon@mit.edu

**Geometric Data Processing Group:**  
<http://gdp.csail.mit.edu>

*Will cover administrative details over Zoom.*

# Prerequisites

- **Coding**

Julia, Python, or Matlab preferred

- **Math**

*Fluency* in linear algebra and multivariable calculus

- **Not required (won't hurt):**

Graphics, differential geometry, numerics, ML

# Philosophy

We want you to take this course!

Assignments intended to be interesting  
(may be unintentionally easy/hard!).



# Theme

1. *Geometric data analysis:* The analysis of geometric data  
   Modifier                      Noun
  
2. *Geometric data analysis:* Data analysis using geometric techniques  
  Modifier                      Noun

# Applied Geometry

- I. Theoretical toolbox**
- II. Computational toolbox**
- III. Application areas**

*Mostly a picture book!*

# Applied Geometry

I. Theoretical toolbox

II. Computational toolbox

III. Application areas

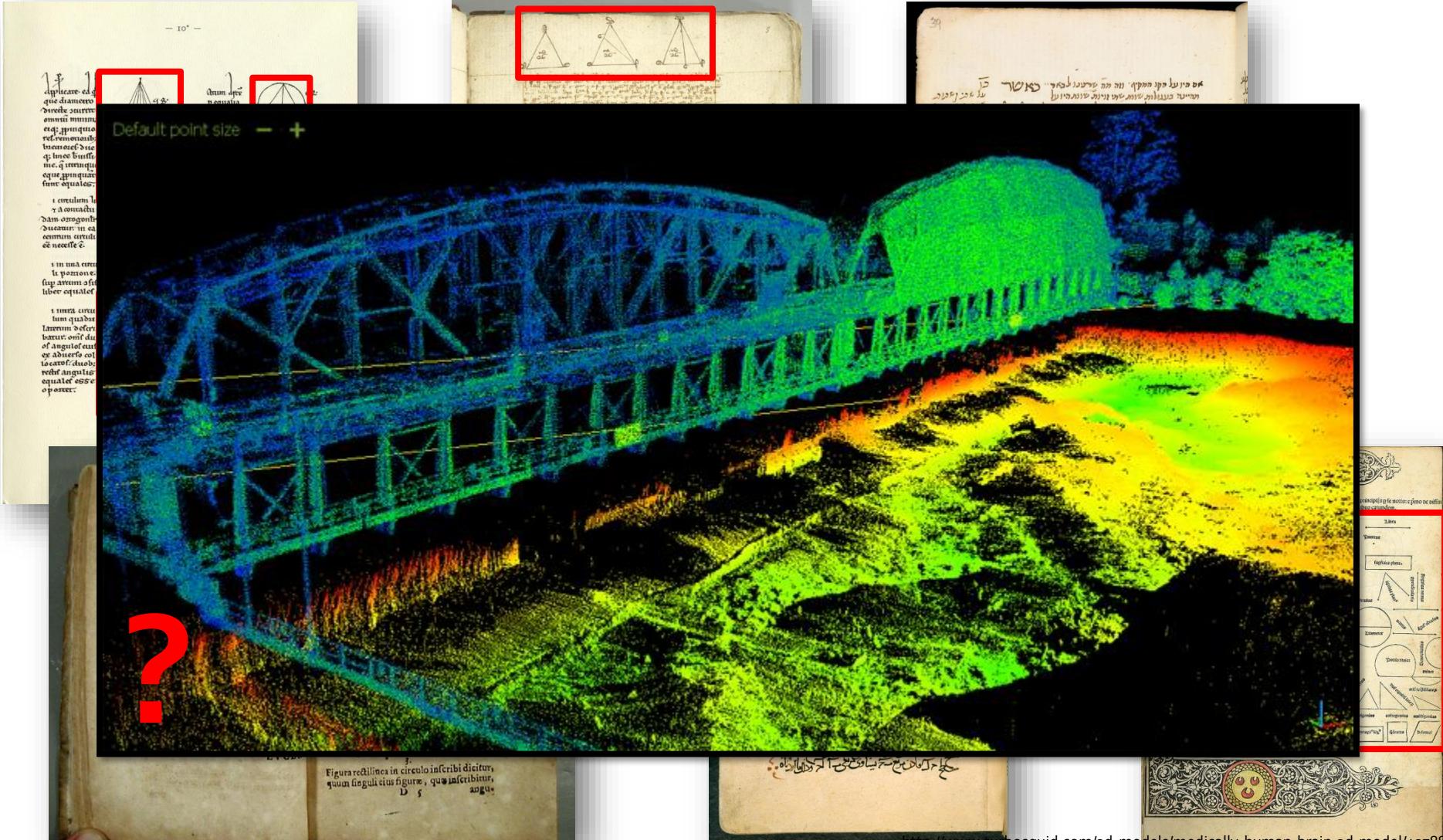
# Euclidean Geometry



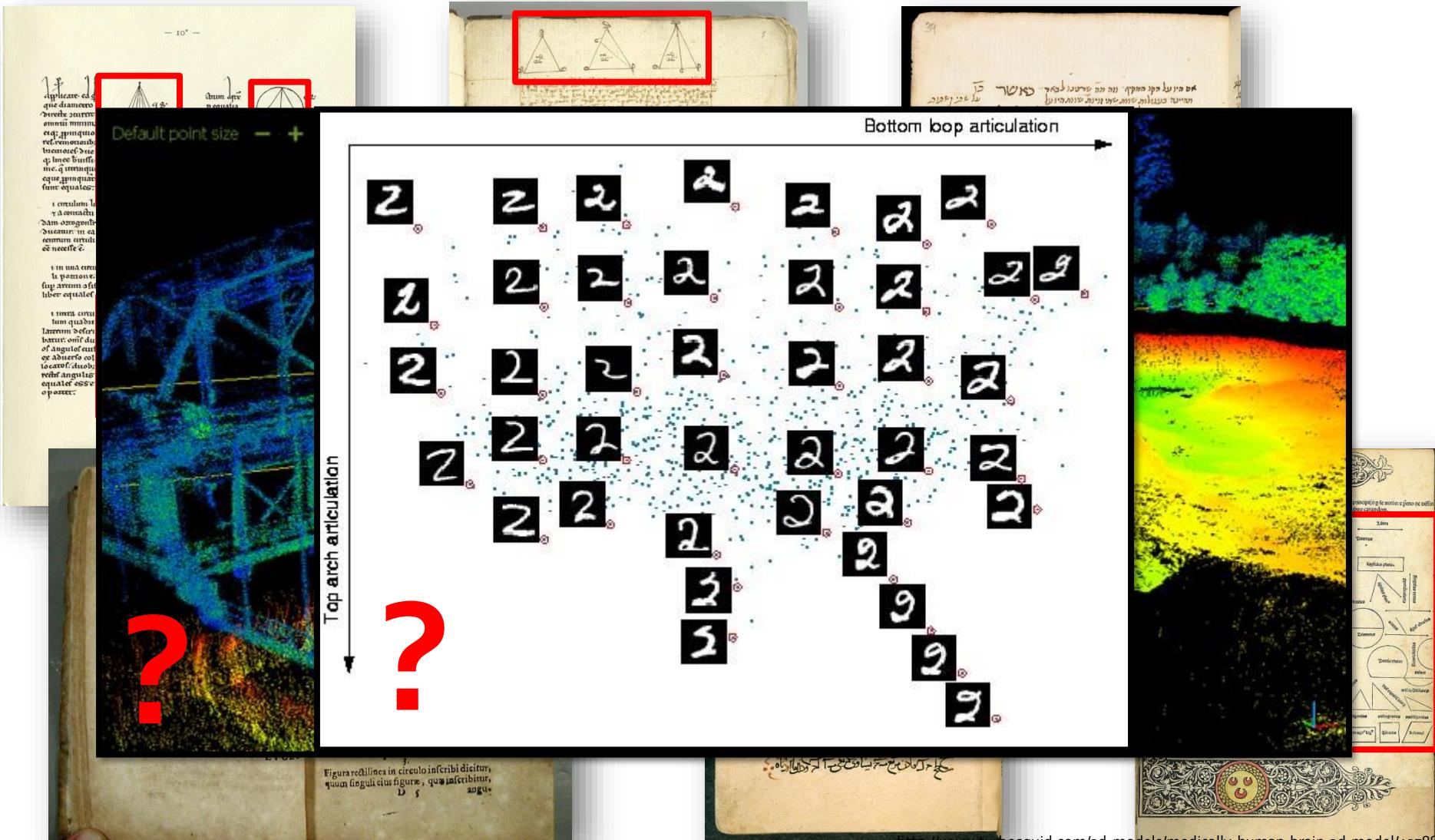
# Euclidean Geometry



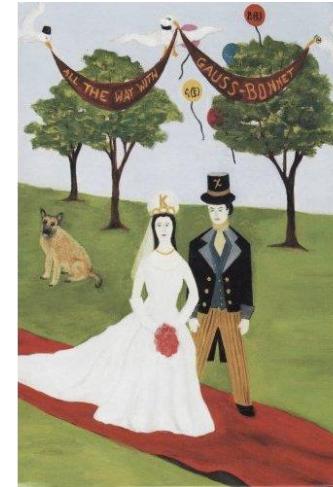
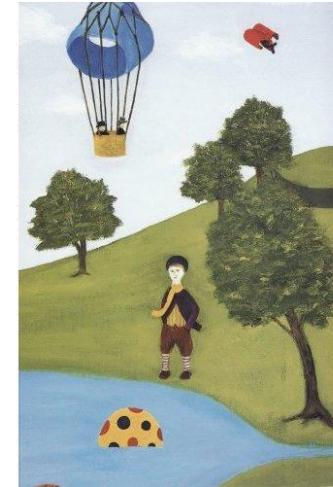
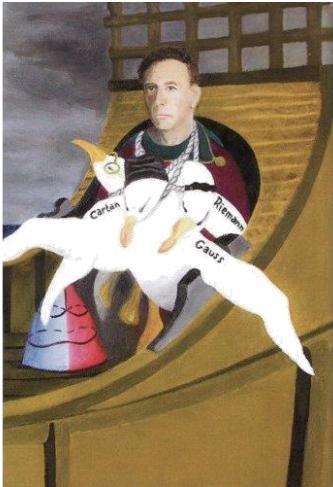
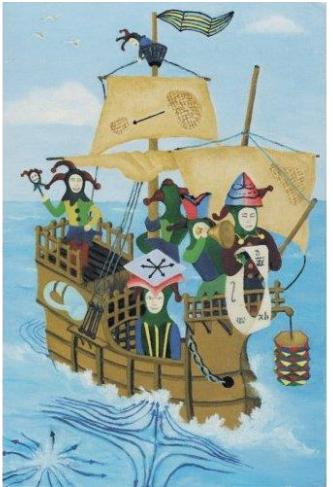
# Euclidean Geometry



# Euclidean Geometry

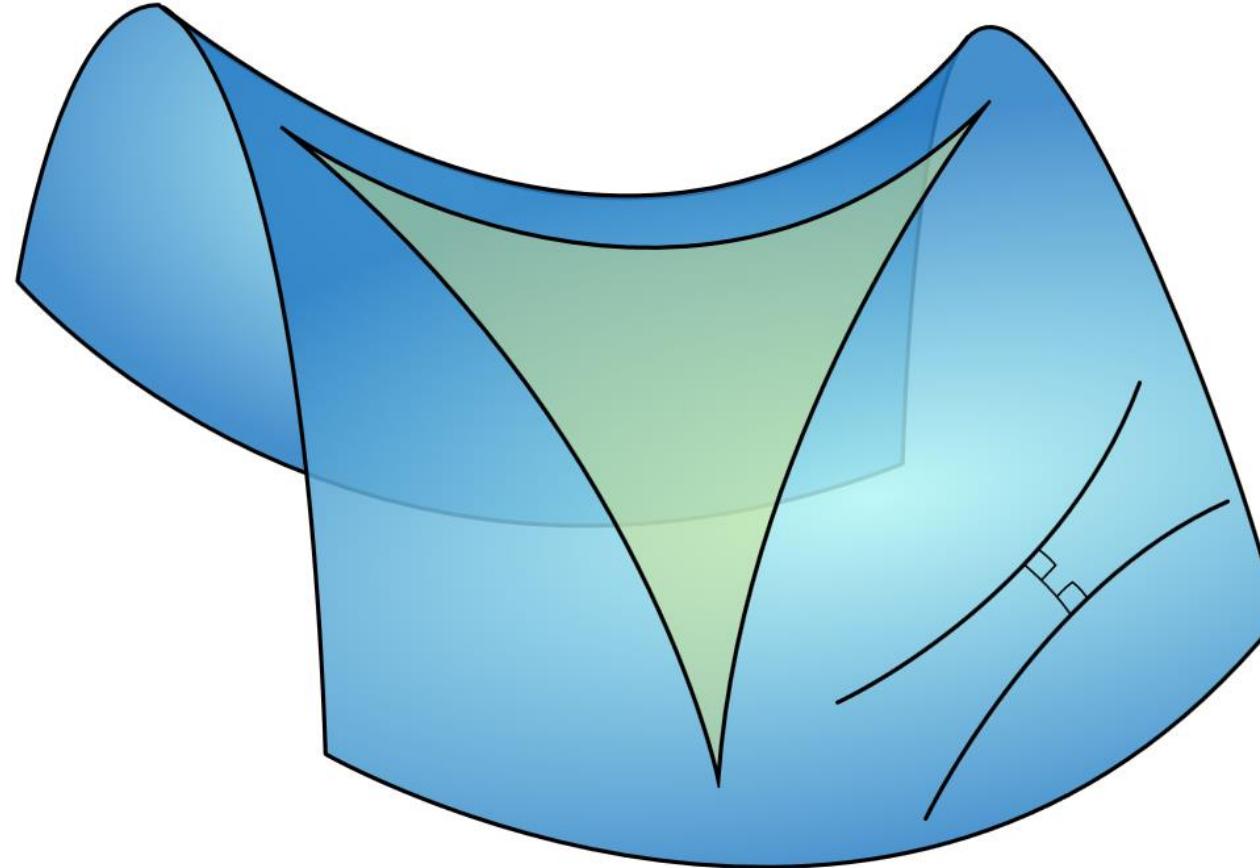


# Differential Geometry



Spivak: *A Comprehensive Introduction to Differential Geometry*

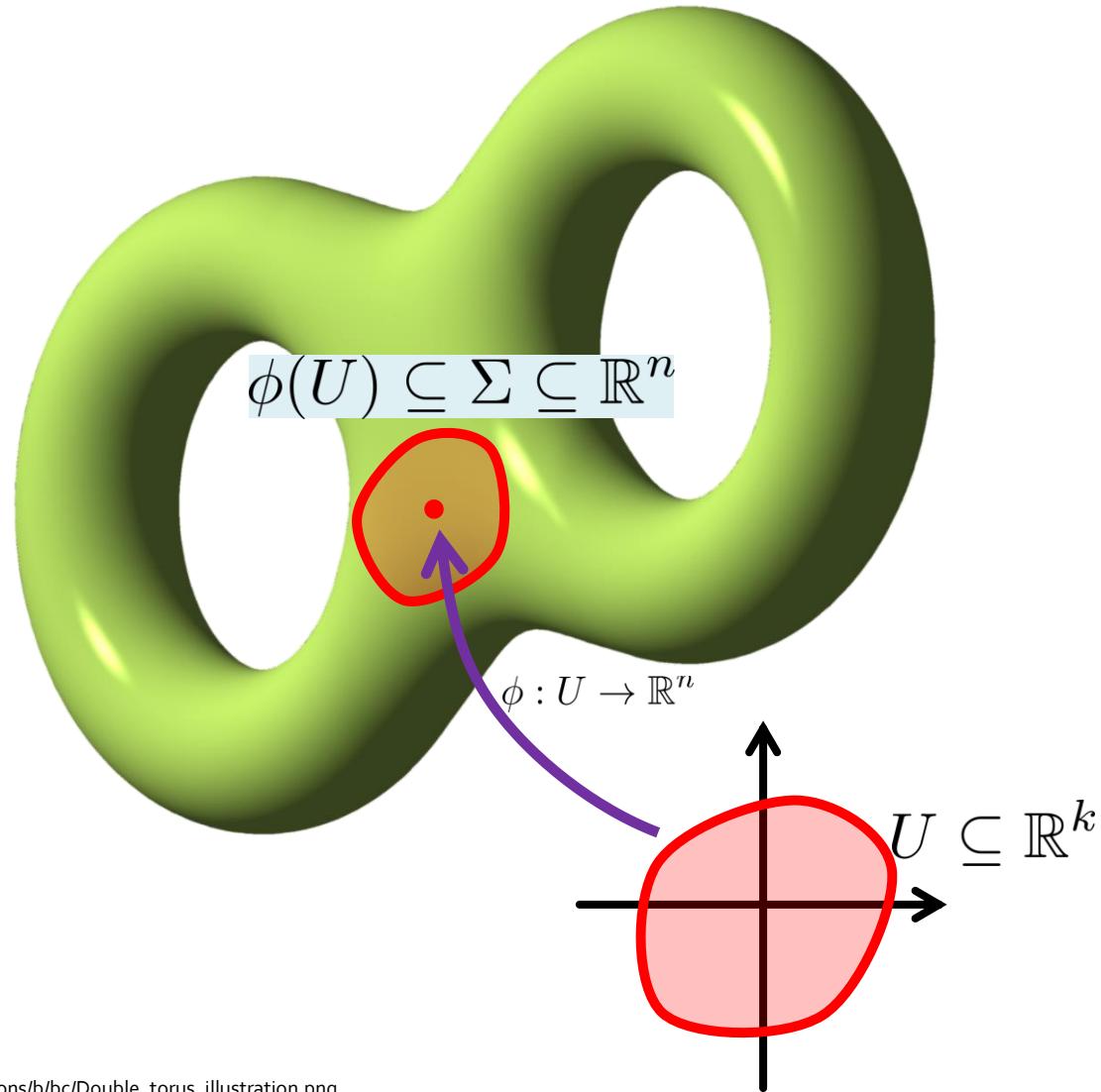
# Differential Geometry



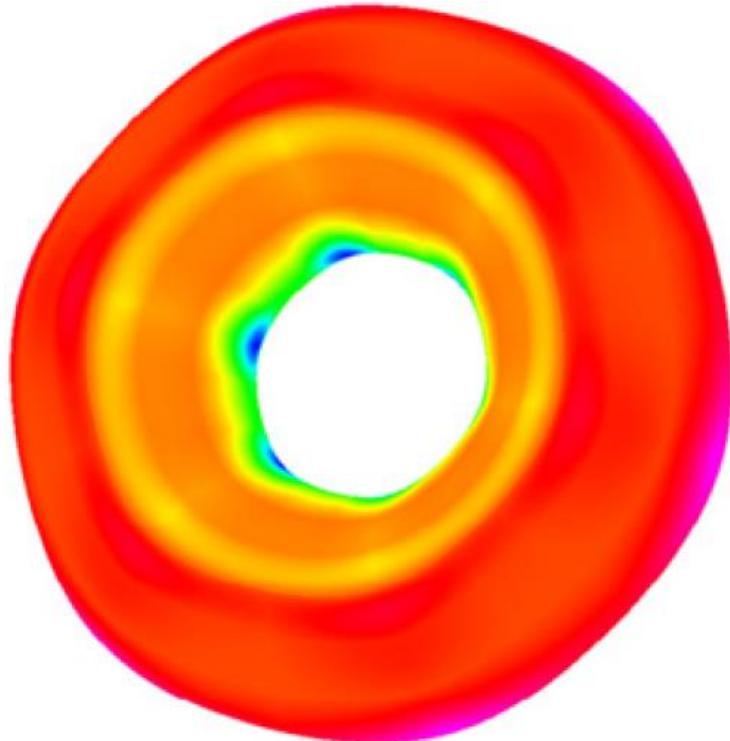
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Differential\\_geometry](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Differential_geometry)

**Study of smooth manifolds**

# Manifold



# Differential Geometry Toolbox



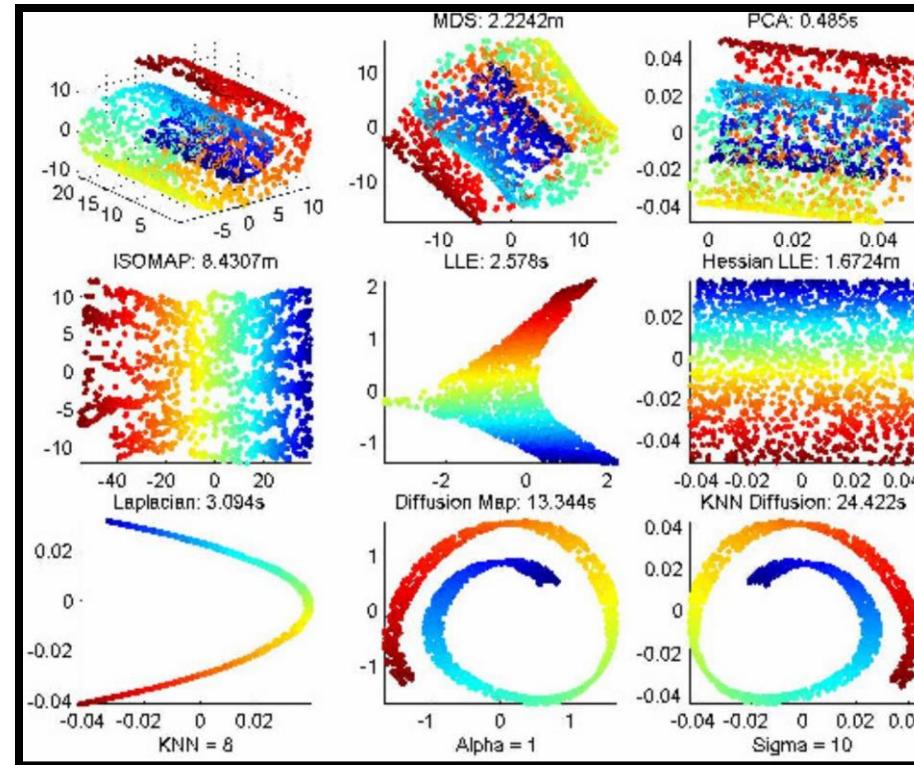
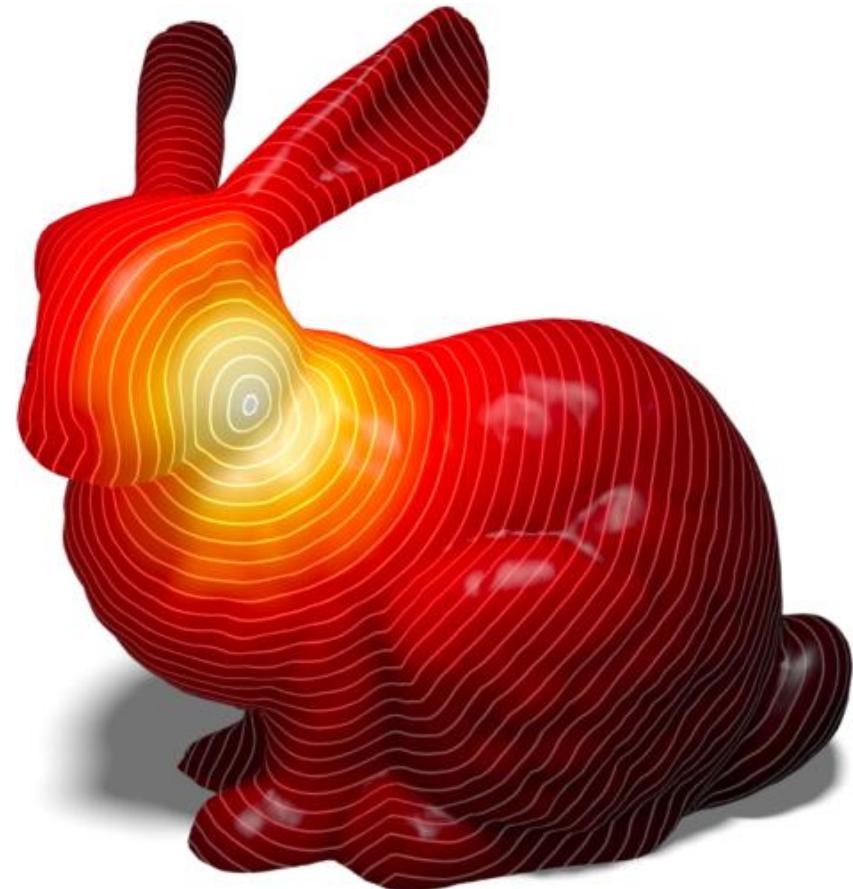
$$K := \kappa_1 \kappa_2 = \det \mathbb{II}$$

$$H := \frac{1}{2}(\kappa_1 + \kappa_2) = \frac{1}{2}\text{tr } \mathbb{II}$$

<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0010448510001983>

**Curvature and shape properties**

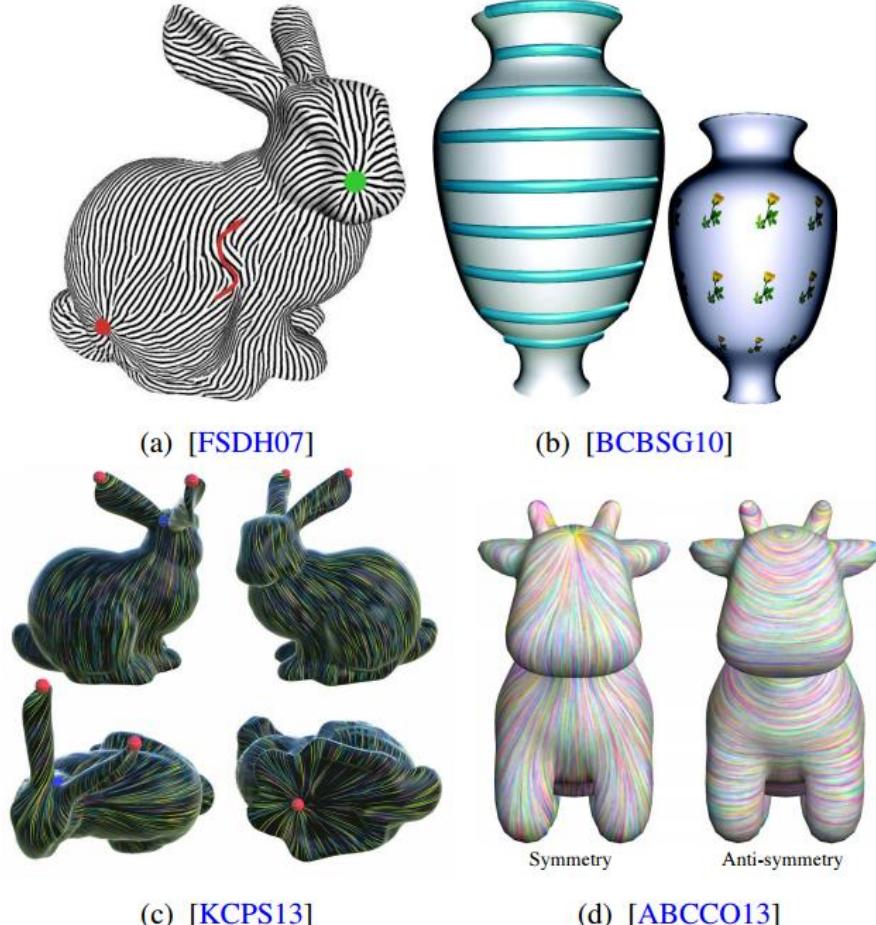
# Differential Geometry Toolbox



Crane, Weischedel, Wardetzky. *Geodesics in heat*. TOG 2013.  
Wittman. Manifold learning techniques.

Distances

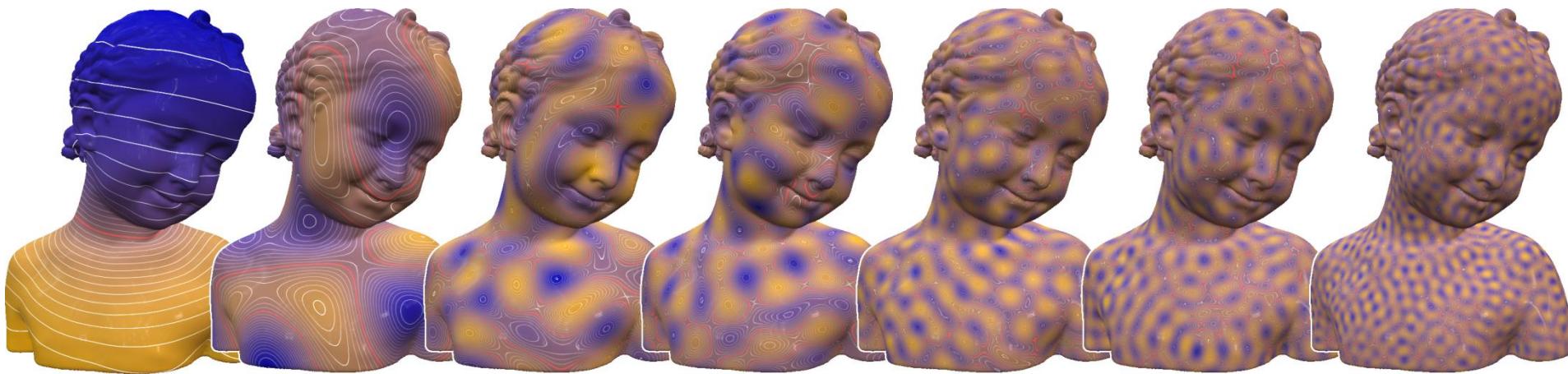
# Differential Geometry Toolbox



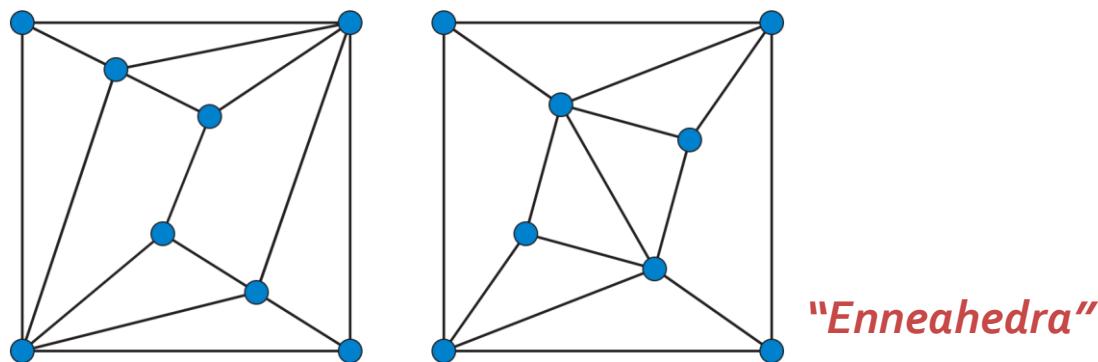
Vaxman et al.  
*Directional field synthesis, design, and processing.*  
EG STAR 2016.

Flows and vector fields

# Differential Geometry Toolbox

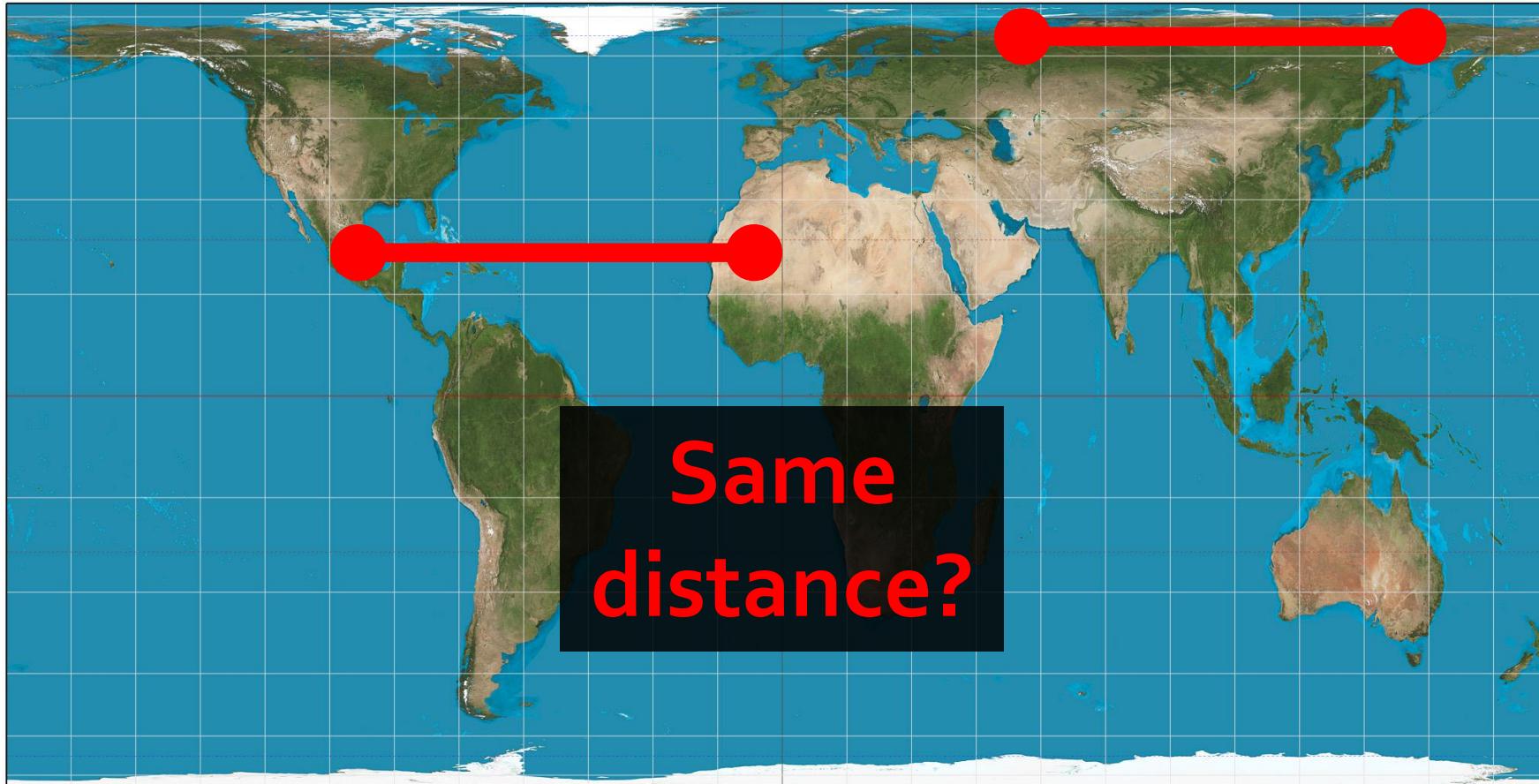


Vallet and Lévy. *Spectral Geometry Processing with Manifold Harmonics.* EG 2008



Differential operators

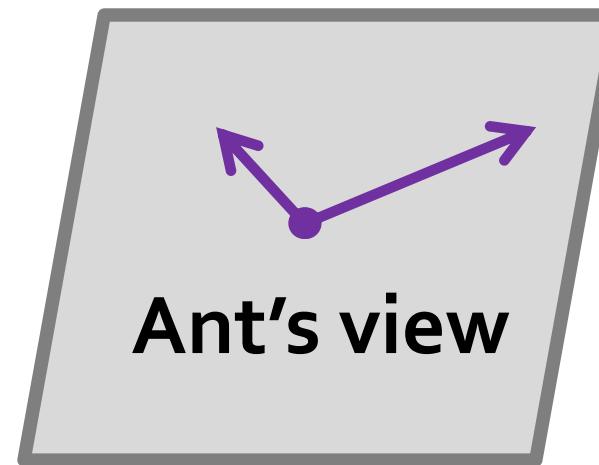
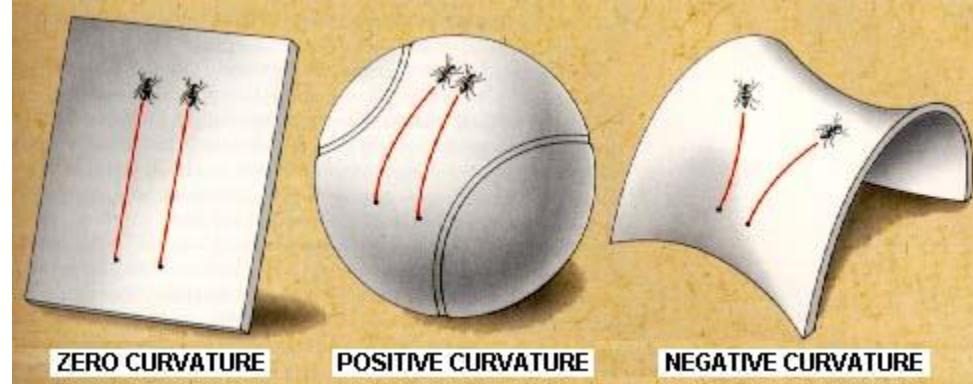
# Riemannian Geometry



[http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/2/2c/Hobo%20%93Dyer\\_projection\\_SW.jpg](http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/2/2c/Hobo%20%93Dyer_projection_SW.jpg)

Only need angles and distances

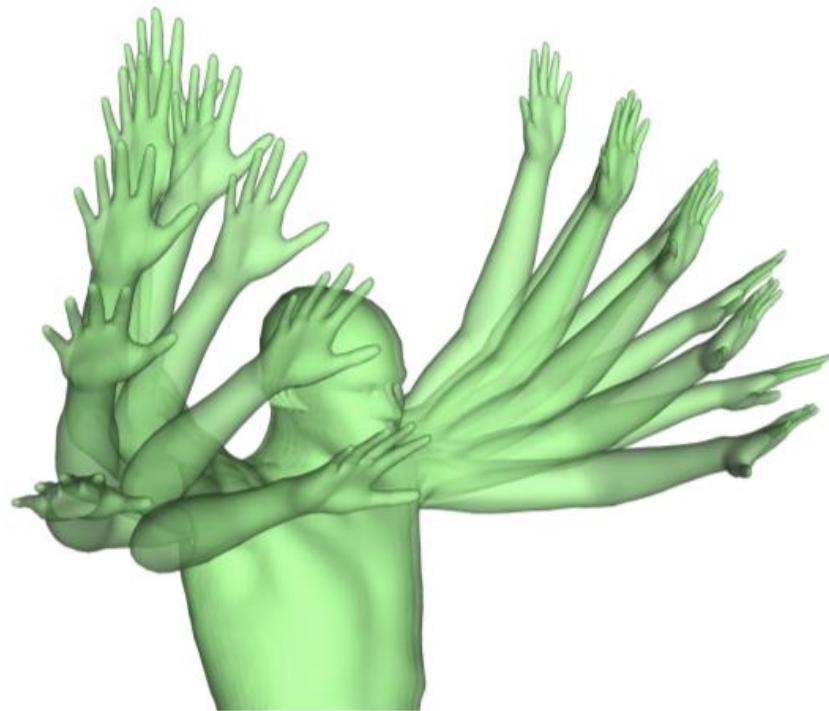
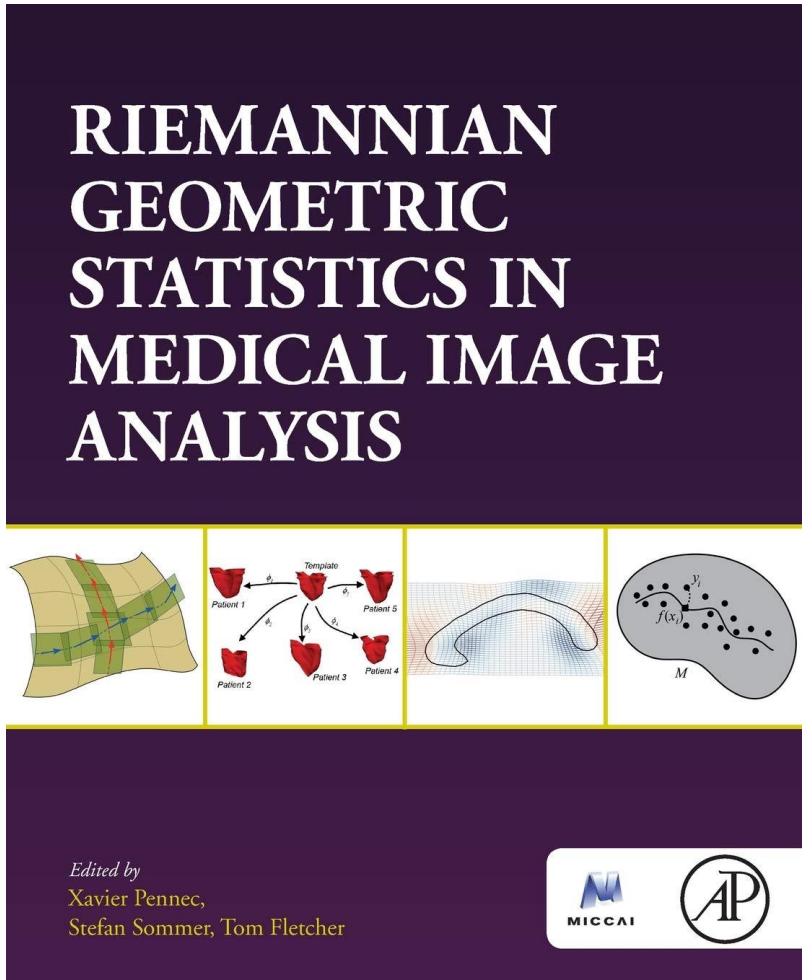
# Riemannian Viewpoint



<http://www.phy.syr.edu/courses/modules/LIGHTCONE/pics/curved.jpg>

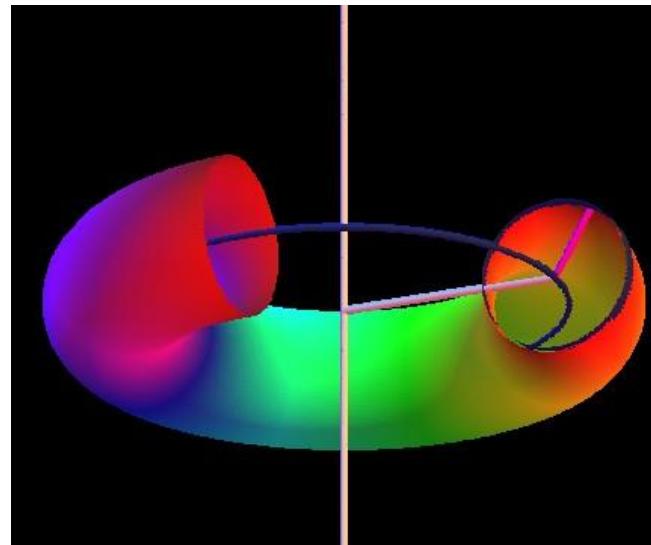
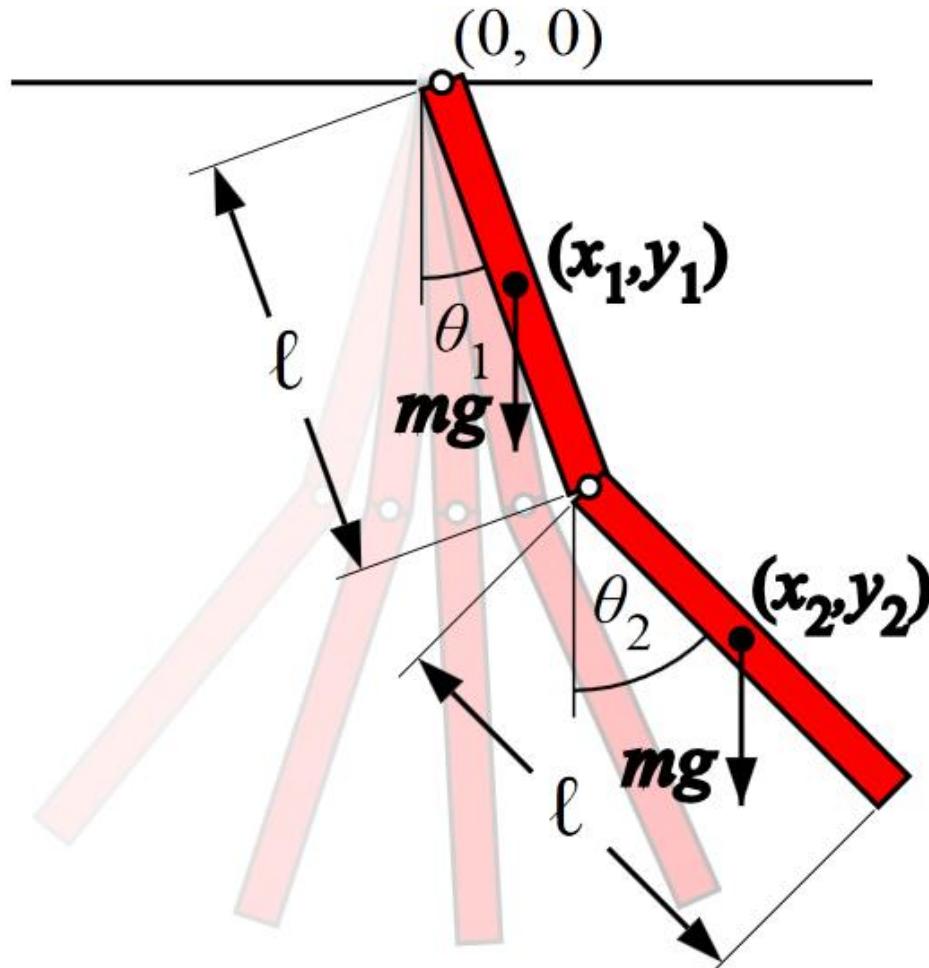
Only need angles and distances

# High-Dimensional Geometry

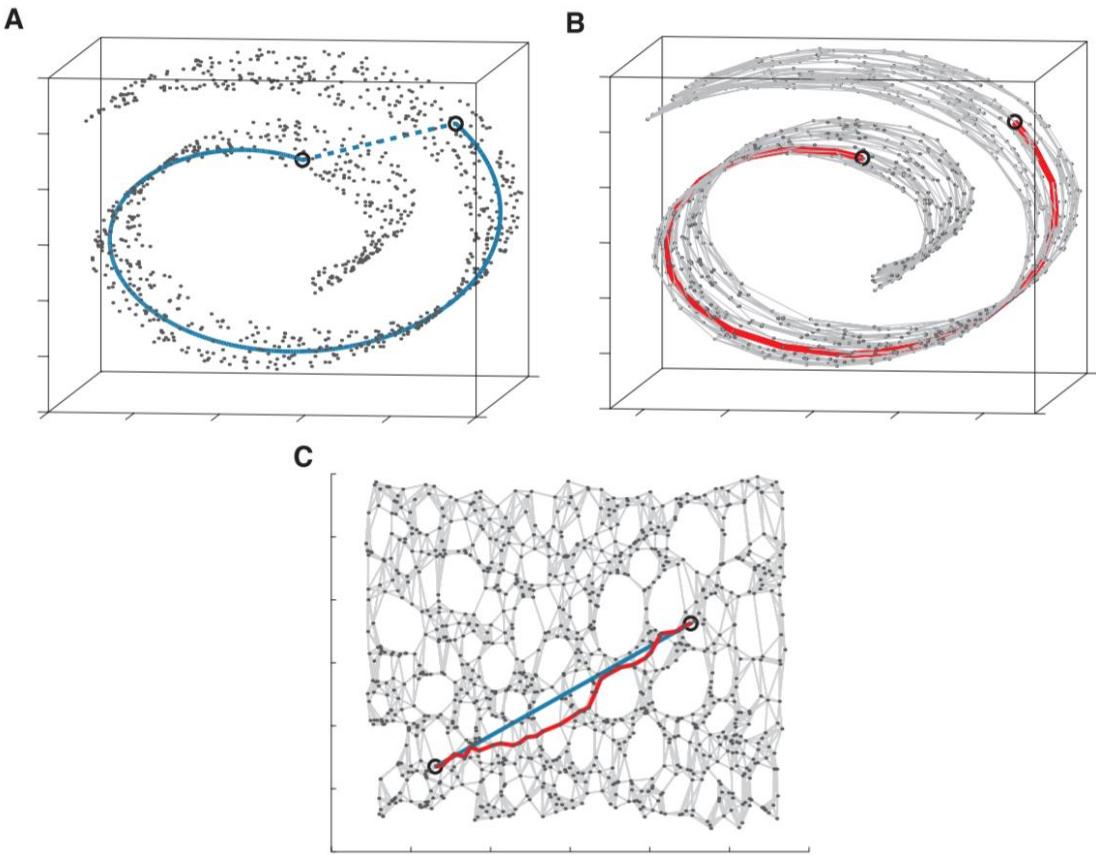


Heeren et al.  
*Splines in the Space of Shells.*  
SGP 2016.

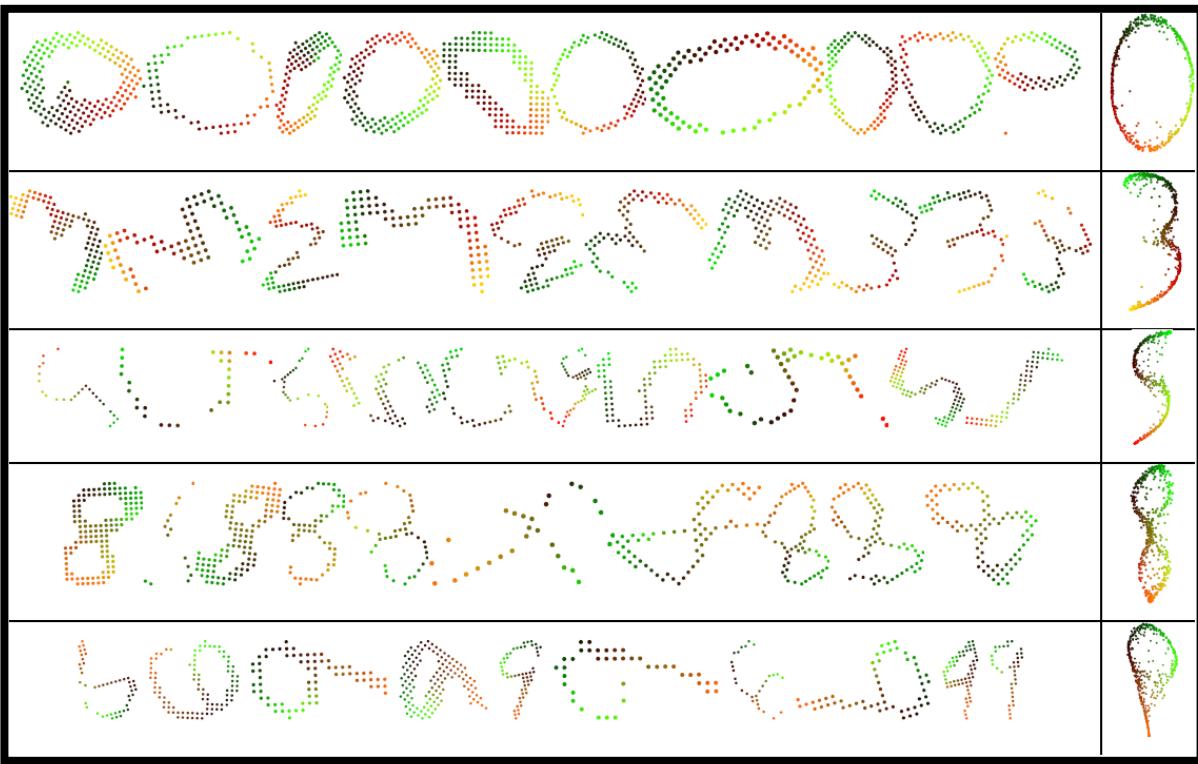
# Geometric Mechanics and Lie Groups



# Metric Geometry and Metric Embedding



*Input data*



*Barycenter (MDs)*

Tenenbaum et al.

*A Global Geometric Framework for Nonlinear Dimensionality Reduction.*

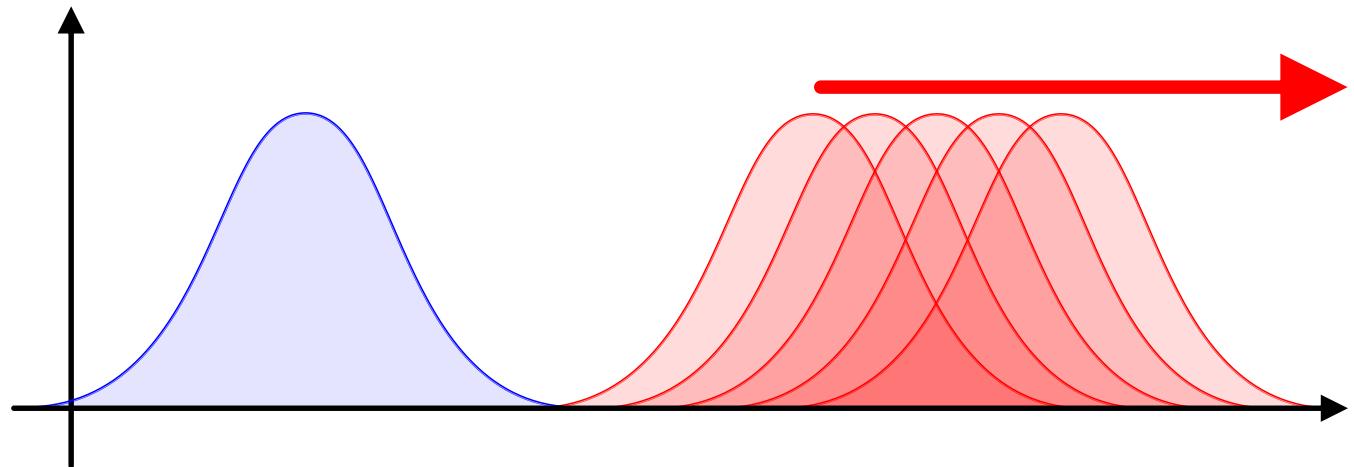
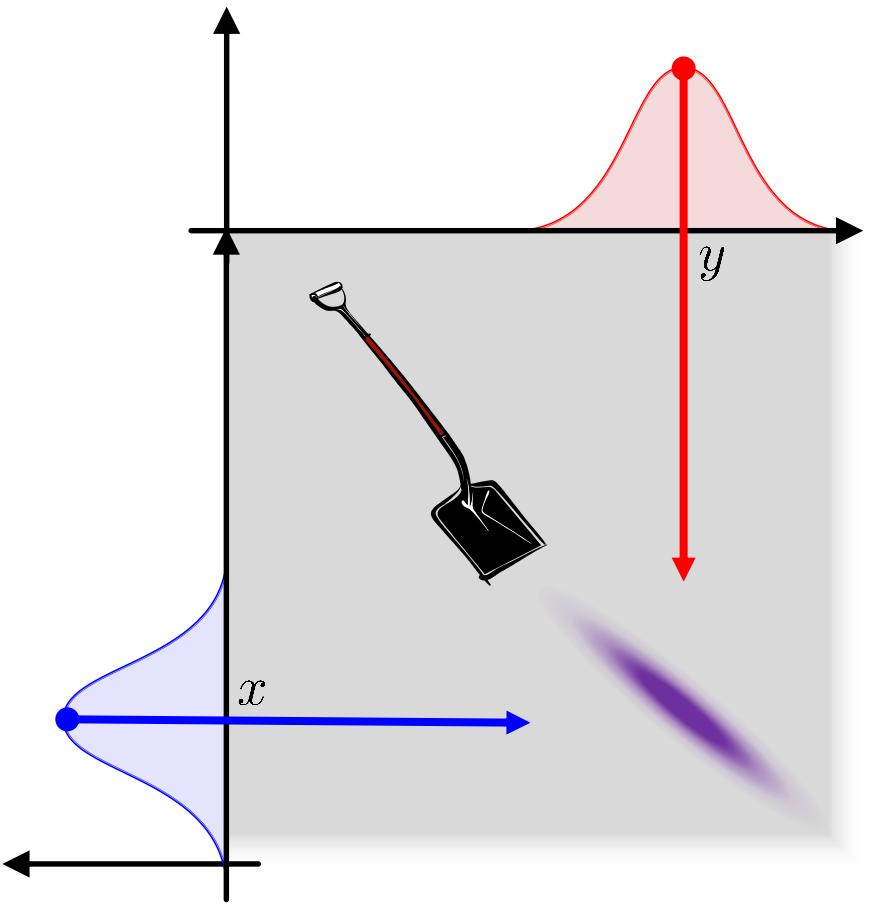
Science 2000.

Peyré, Cuturi, and Solomon.

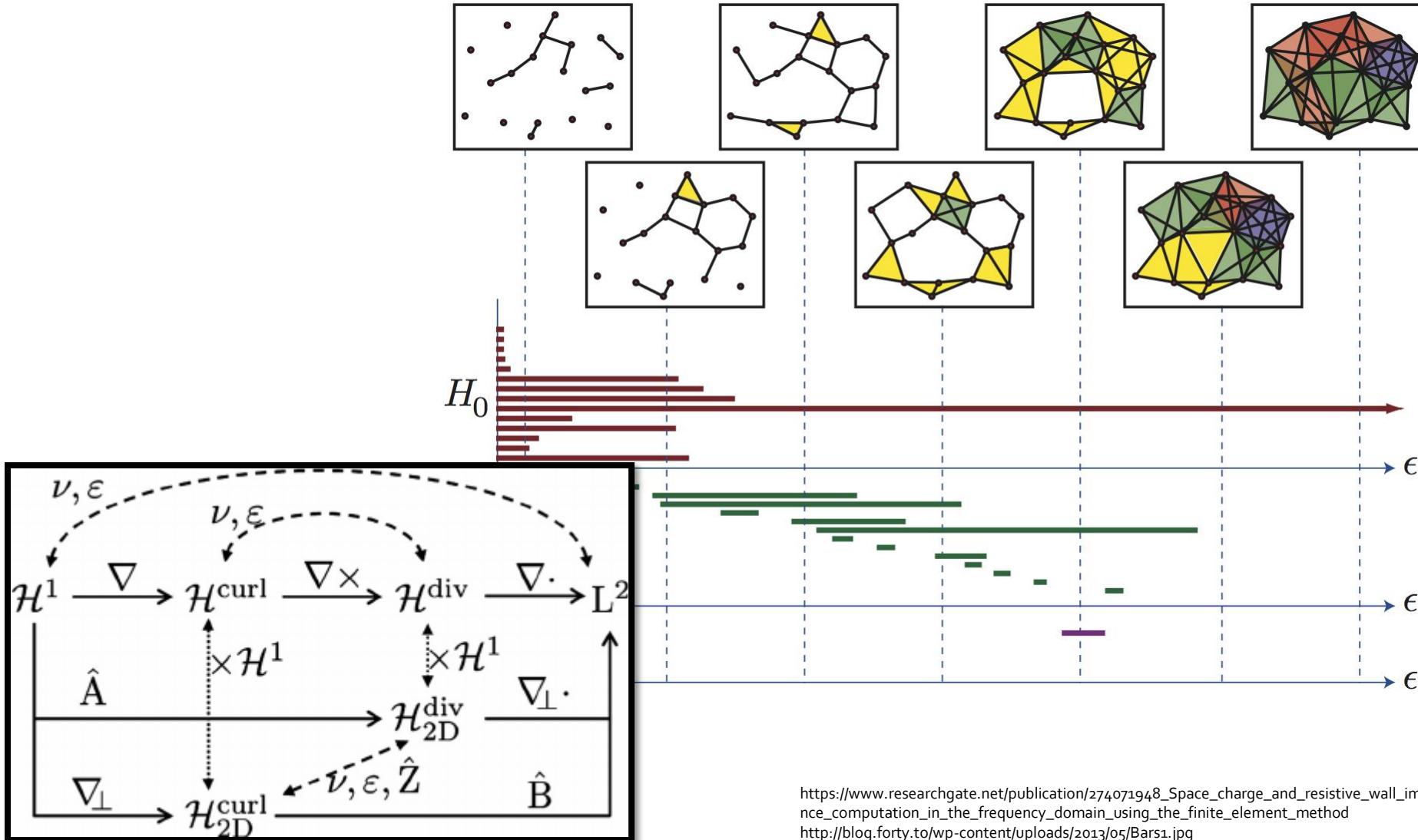
*Gromov-Wasserstein Averaging of Kernel and Distance Matrices.*

ICML 2016.

# Optimal Transport



# {Differential/Morse/Persistent/...} Topology



# Plan for Today

I. Theoretical toolbox

**II. Computational toolbox**

III. Application areas

# Many Notions of Shape

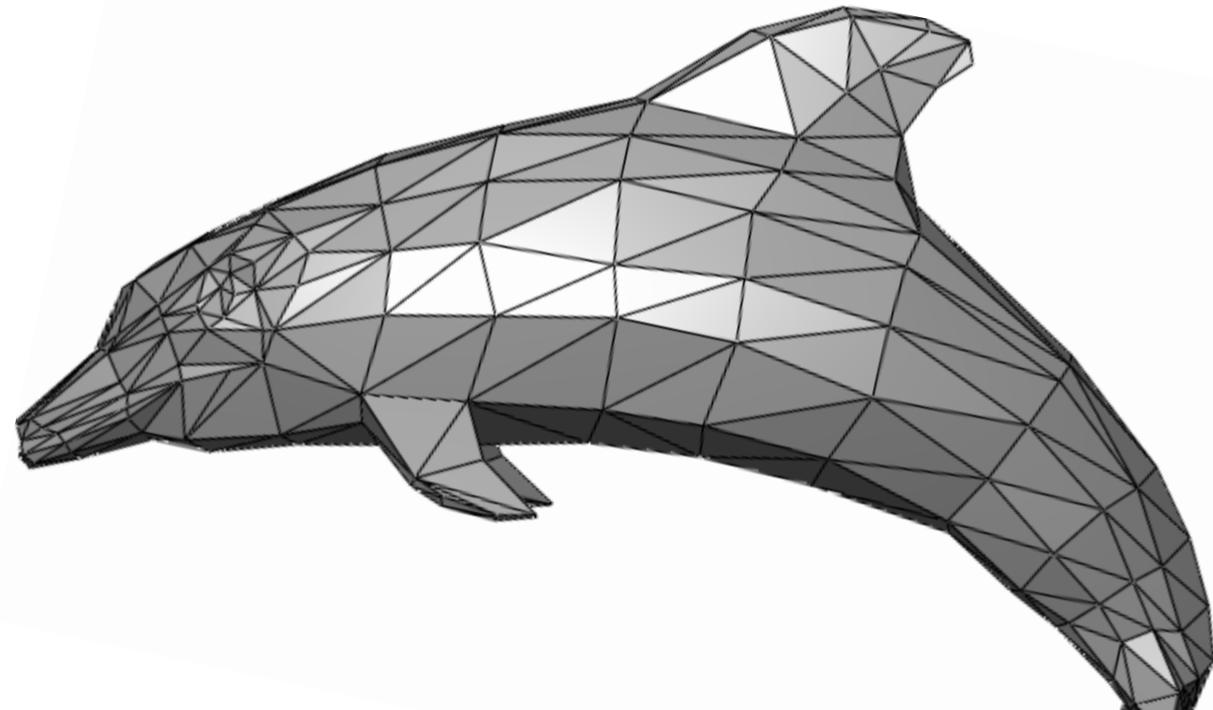
- Triangle mesh
- Triangle soup
  - Graph
- Point cloud
- Pairwise distance matrix
  - Dataset
  - Network

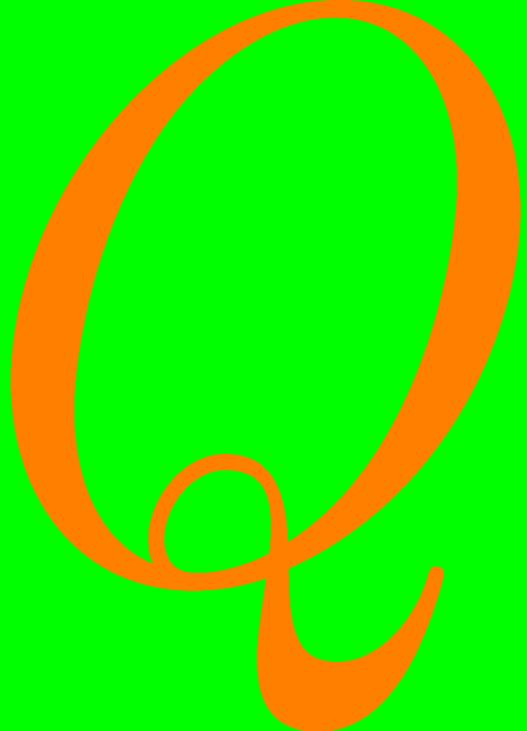
Nearly anything with a notion of  
proximity/distance/curvature/...

Typical issue:

# How to Interpret Geometric Data

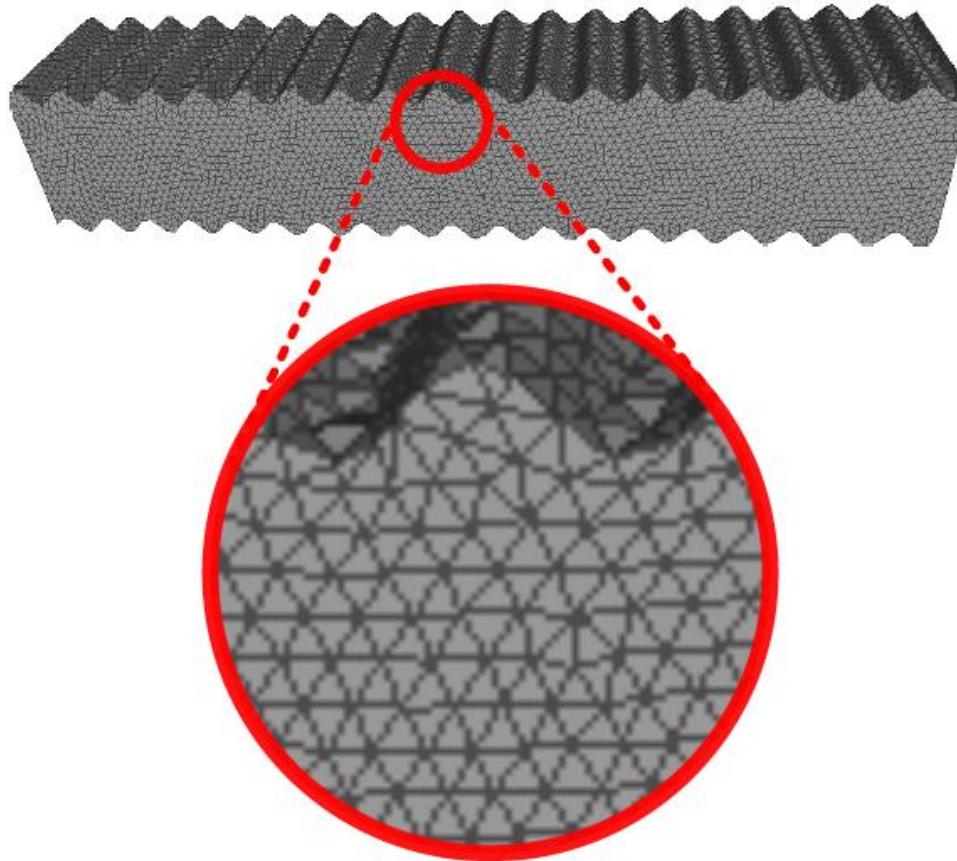
- Collection of **flat triangles**
- Approximates a **smooth surface**





- Can a triangle mesh have **curvature**?

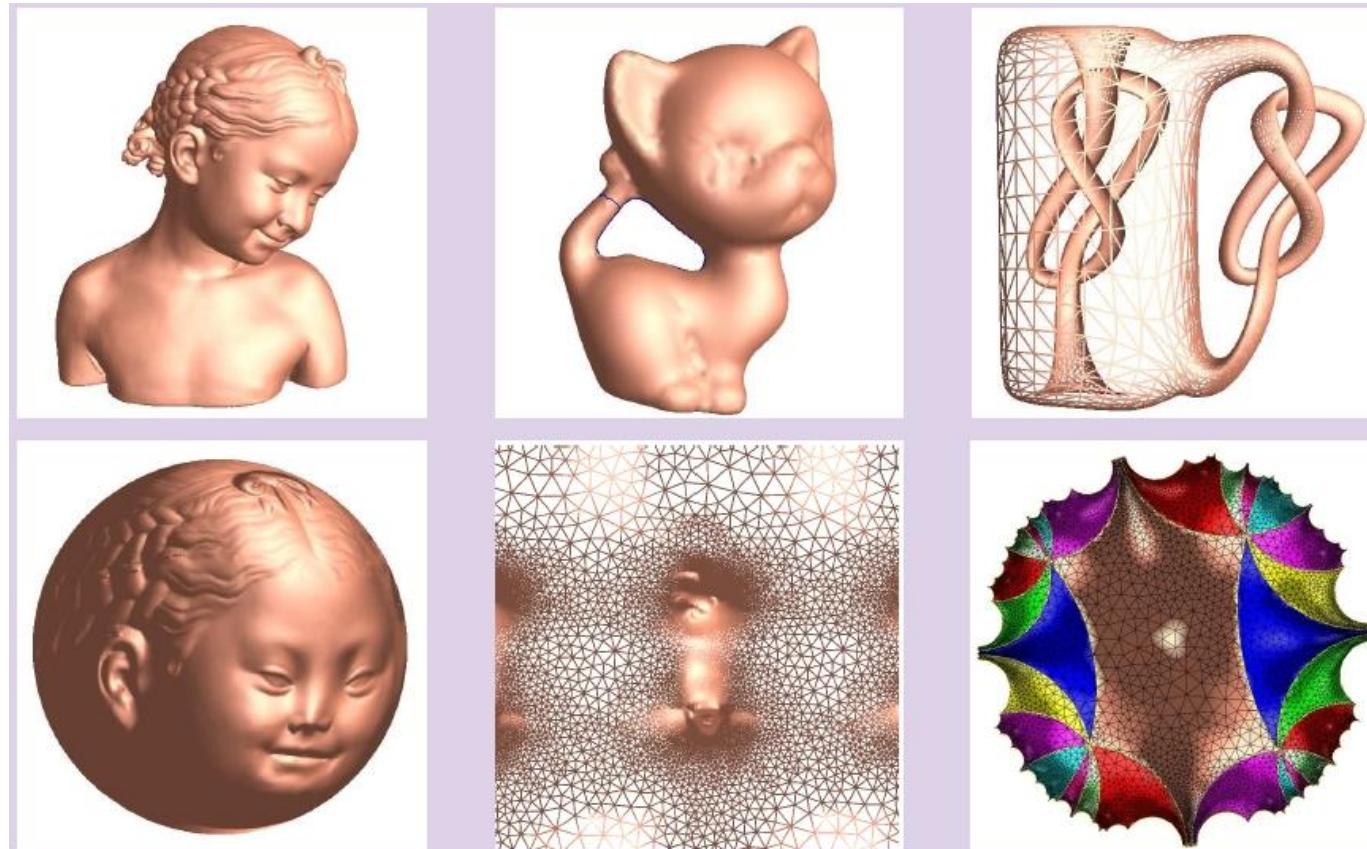
# Jack of All Trades



Combine smooth and discrete

Example:

# Discrete Differential Geometry



**Modern Approach**

**Discrete**

**vs.**

**Discretized**

# Discrete Differential Geometry

Discrete theory *paralleling*  
differential geometry.

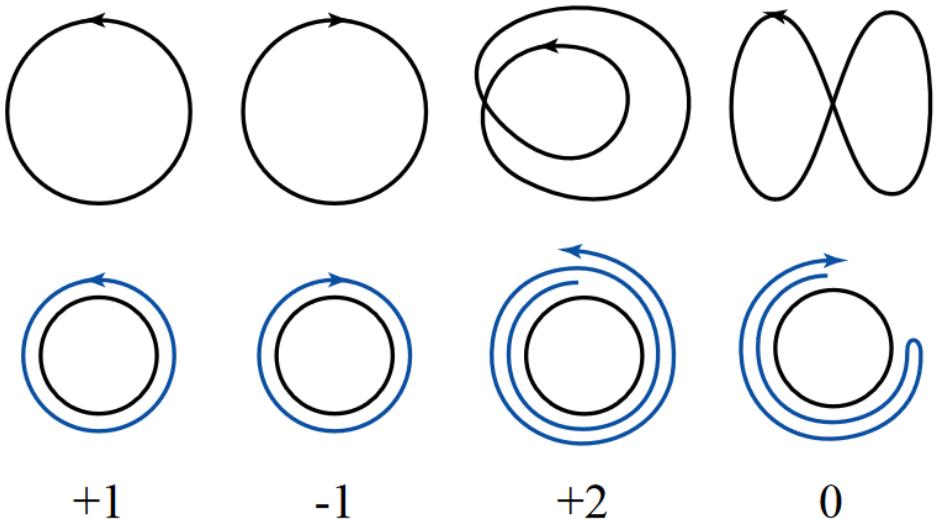
# Structure preservation

[struhk-cher pre-zur-vey-shuh n]:

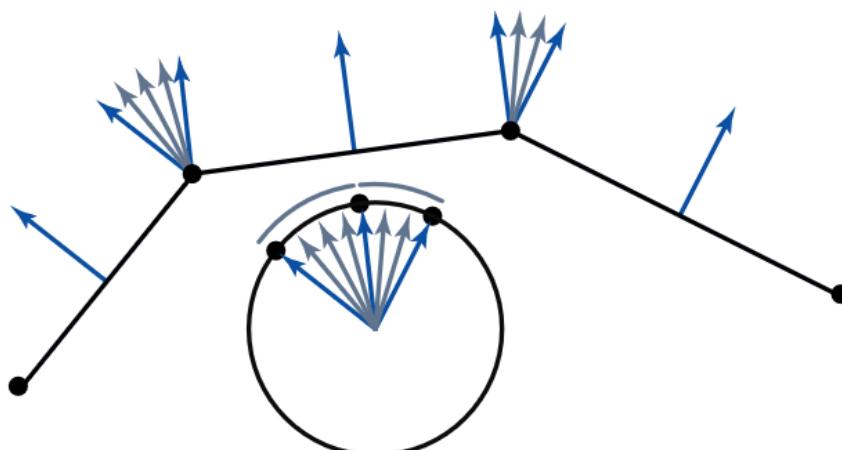
Keeping properties from the continuous abstraction exactly true in a discretization.



# Example: Turning Numbers



$$\int_{\Omega} \kappa \, ds = 2\pi k$$



$$\sum_i \alpha_i = 2\pi k$$

Images from: Grinspun and Secord, "The Geometry of Plane Curves" (SIGGRAPH 2006)

# Convergence

[kuh n-vur-juh ns]:

Increasing approximation quality as a discretization is refined.



# Convergence *and* Structure

Can you have it all?



# Disappointing Result

Eurographics Symposium on Geometry Processing (2007)  
Alexander Belyaev, Michael Garland (Editors)

## Discrete Laplace operators: No free lunch

Max Wardetzky<sup>1</sup>

Saurabh Mathur<sup>2</sup>

Felix Kälberer<sup>1</sup>

Eitan Grinspun<sup>2</sup> †

<sup>1</sup>Freie Universität Berlin, Germany

<sup>2</sup>Columbia University, USA

---

### Abstract

*Discrete Laplace operators are ubiquitous in applications spanning geometric modeling to simulation. For robustness and efficiency, many applications require discrete operators that retain key structural properties inherent to the continuous setting. Building on the smooth setting, we present a set of natural properties for discrete Laplace operators for triangular surface meshes. We prove an important theoretical limitation: discrete Laplacians cannot satisfy all natural properties; retroactively, this explains the diversity of existing discrete Laplace operators. Finally, we present a family of operators that includes and extends well-known and widely-used operators.*

---

### 1. Introduction

Discrete Laplace operators on triangular surface meshes span the entire spectrum of geometry processing applications, including mesh filtering, parameterization, pose transfer, segmentation, reconstruction, re-meshing, compression, simulation, and interpolation via barycentric coordinates [Tau00, Zha04, FH05, Sor05].

In applications one often requires certain structural prop-

#### 1.1. Properties of smooth Laplacians

Consider a smooth surface  $S$ , possibly with boundary, equipped with a Riemannian metric, *i.e.*, an intrinsic notion of distance. Let the intrinsic  $L^2$  inner product of functions  $u$  and  $v$  on  $S$  be denoted by  $(u, v)_{L^2} = \int_S uv dA$ , and let  $\Delta = -\operatorname{div} \operatorname{grad}$  denote the intrinsic smooth Laplace-Beltrami operator [Ros97]. We list salient properties of this operator:

(NULL)  $\Delta u = 0$  whenever  $u$  is constant

# Disappointing Result

Eurographics Symposium on Geometry Processing (2007)  
Alexander Belyaev, Michael Garland (Editors)

## Discrete Laplace operators: No free lunch

Max Wardetzky<sup>1</sup>

Saurabh Mathur<sup>2</sup>

Felix Kälberer<sup>1</sup>

Eitan Grinspun<sup>2</sup> †

<sup>1</sup>Freie Universität Berlin, Germany

<sup>2</sup>Columbia University, USA

*the continuous setting. Building on the smooth setting, we present a set of natural properties for discrete Laplace operators for triangular surface meshes. We prove an important theoretical limitation: discrete Laplacians cannot satisfy all natural properties; retroactively, this explains the diversity of existing discrete Laplace operators.*

*operators for triangular surface meshes. We prove an important theoretical limitation: discrete Laplacians can not satisfy all natural properties; retroactively, this explains the diversity of existing discrete Laplace operators. Finally, we present a family of operators that includes and extends well-known and widely-used operators.*

### 1. Introduction

Discrete Laplace operators on triangular surface meshes span the entire spectrum of geometry processing applications, including mesh filtering, parameterization, pose transfer, segmentation, reconstruction, re-meshing, compression, simulation, and interpolation via barycentric coordinates [Tau00, Zha04, FH05, Sor05].

In applications one often requires certain structural prop-

### 1.1. Properties of smooth Laplacians

Consider a smooth surface  $S$ , possibly with boundary, equipped with a Riemannian metric, *i.e.*, an intrinsic notion of distance. Let the intrinsic  $L^2$  inner product of functions  $u$  and  $v$  on  $S$  be denoted by  $(u, v)_{L^2} = \int_S uv dA$ , and let  $\Delta = -\operatorname{div} \operatorname{grad}$  denote the intrinsic smooth Laplace-Beltrami operator [Ros97]. We list salient properties of this operator:

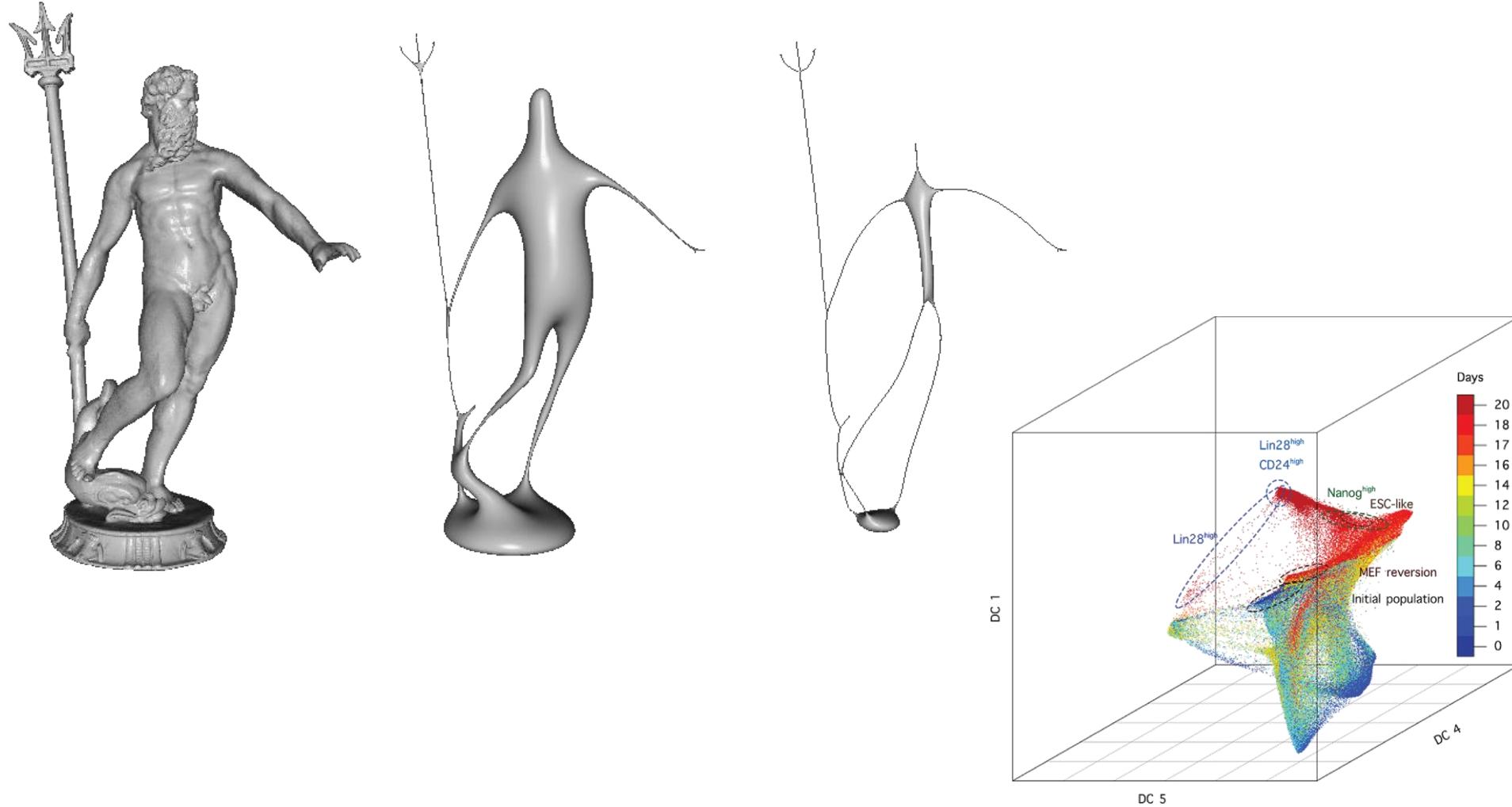
$(\text{NULL}) \Delta u = 0$  whenever  $u$  is constant

# Theme

Pick and choose  
which properties you need.

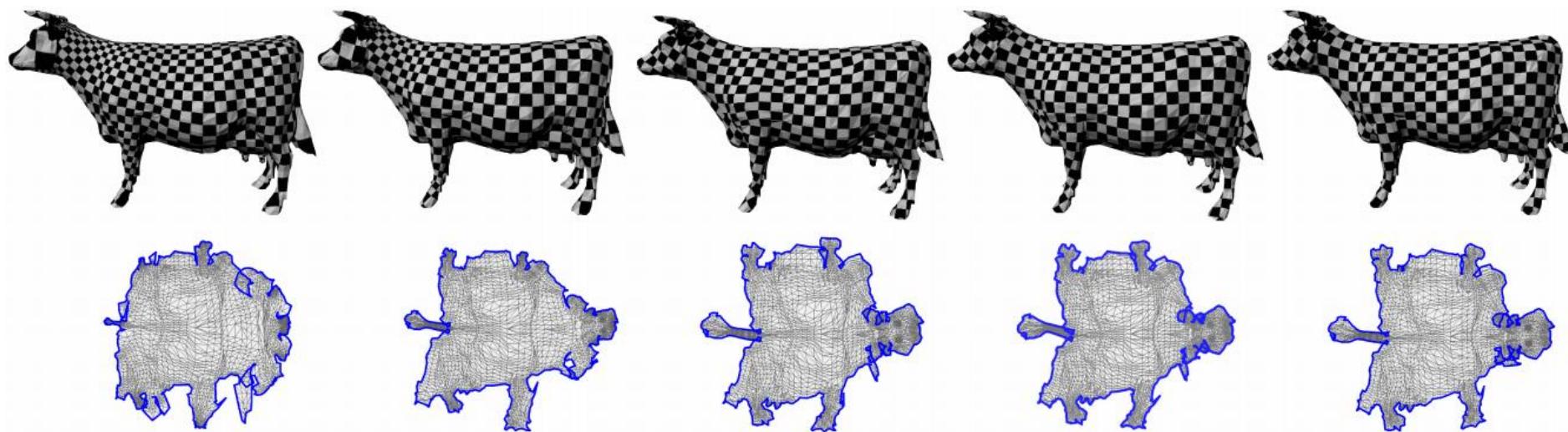
But there is a huge toolbox of algorithms to draw from!

# Numerical PDE



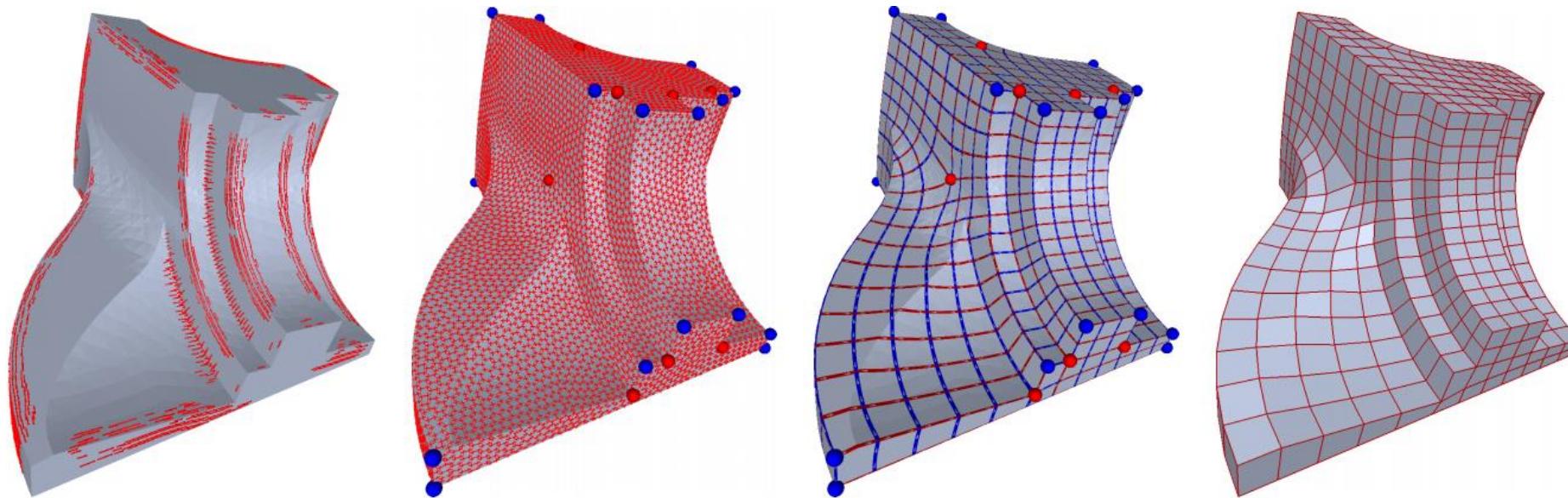
Chuang and Kazhdan. *Fast Mean-Curvature Flow via Finite-Elements Tracking*. CGF 2011.  
Coifman & Lafon. *Diffusion Maps*. ACHA 2006.

# Large-Scale Smooth Optimization



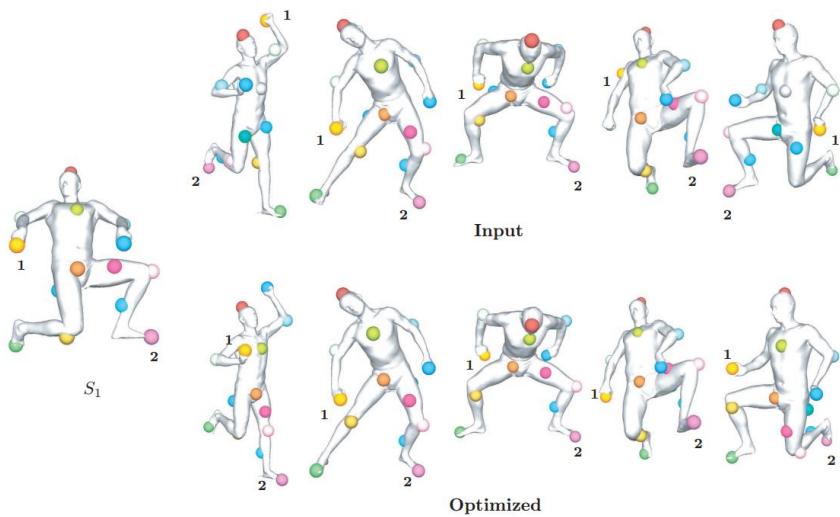
Smith and Schaefer. *Bijective parameterization with free boundaries*. SIGGRAPH 2015.

# Discrete Optimization

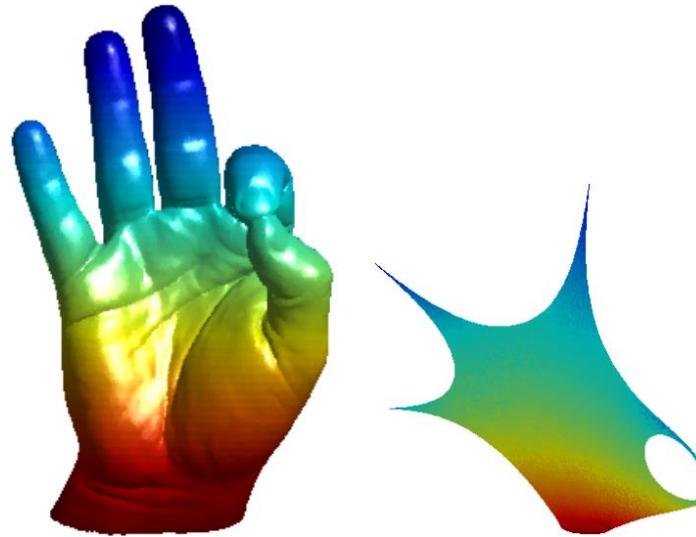


Bommes, Zimmer, Kobbelt. *Mixed-integer quadrangulation*. SIGGRAPH 2009.

# Linear Algebra



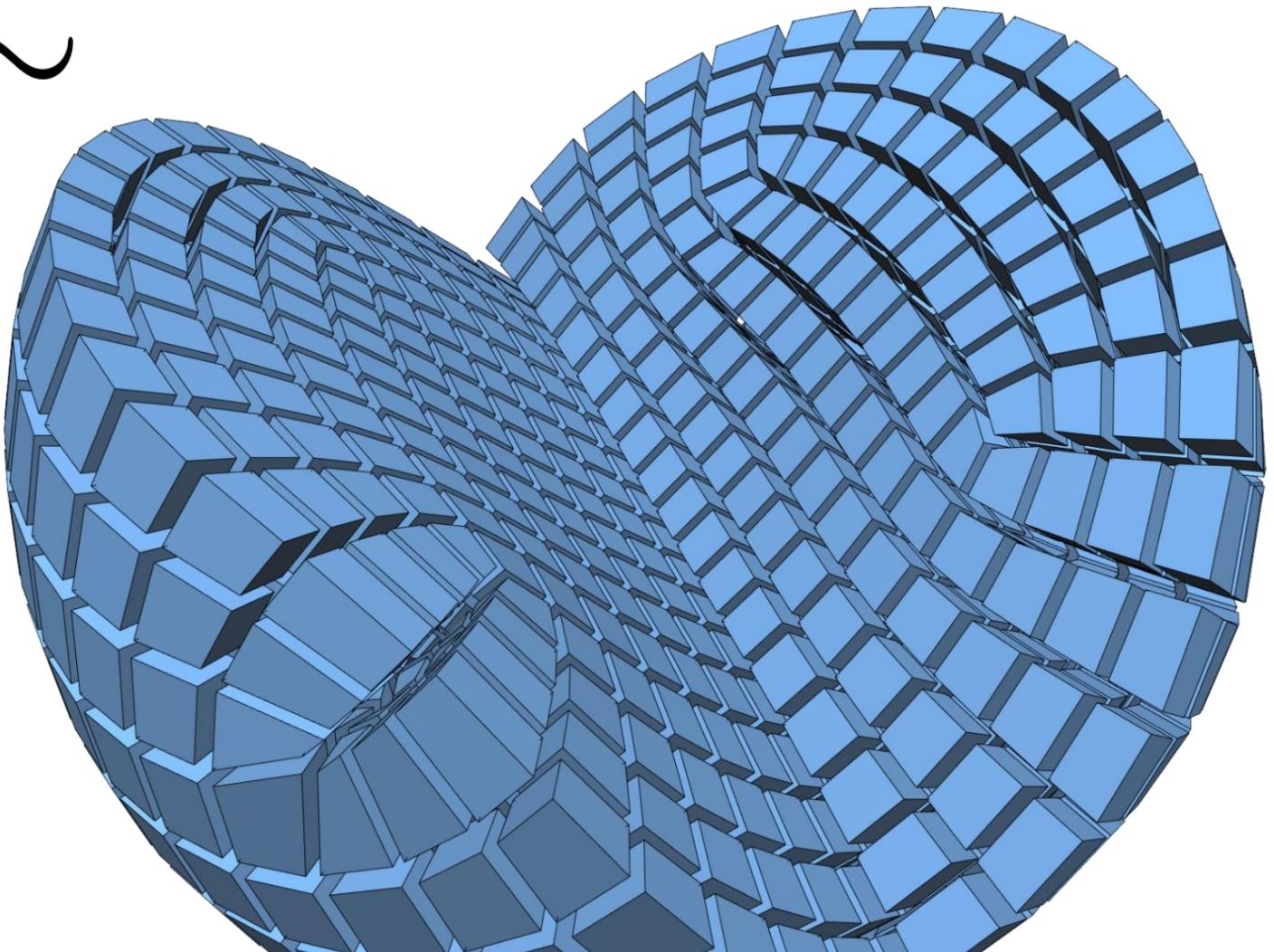
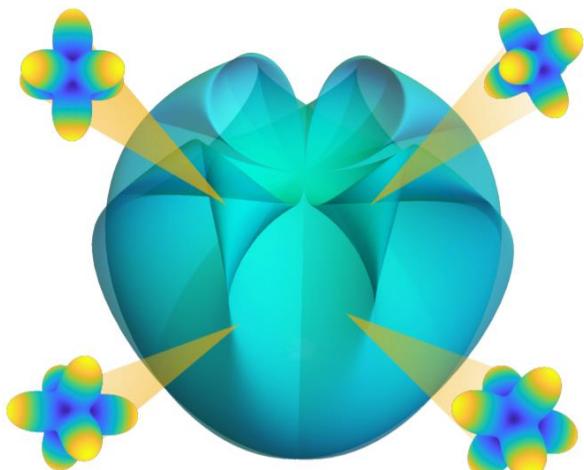
Huang, Guibas. *Consistent shape maps via semidefinite programming*. SGP 2013.



Krishnan, Fattal, Szeliski. *Efficient preconditioning of Laplacian matrices for computer graphics*. SIGGRAPH 2013.

# Algebra & Representation Theory

$\text{SO}(3) / \sim$



Palmer, Bommes, & Solomon.  
*Algebraic Representations for Volumetric Frame Fields.*  
TOG 2020.

# Plan for Today

I. Theoretical toolbox

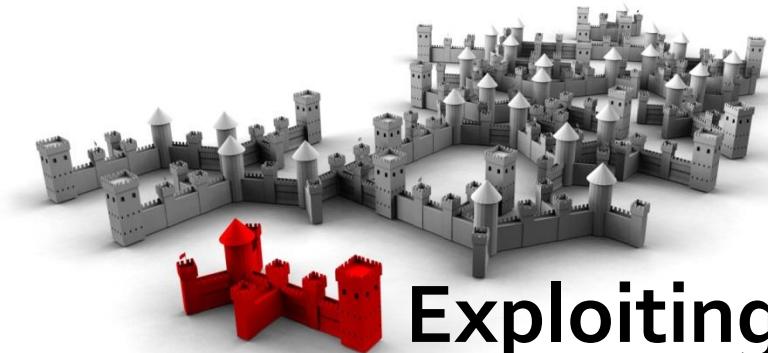
II. Computational toolbox

**III. Application areas**

# Applications

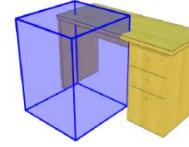


Transfer

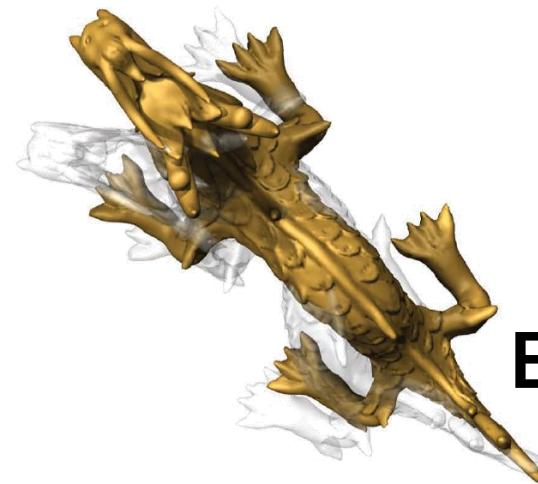


Exploiting patterns

Retrieval



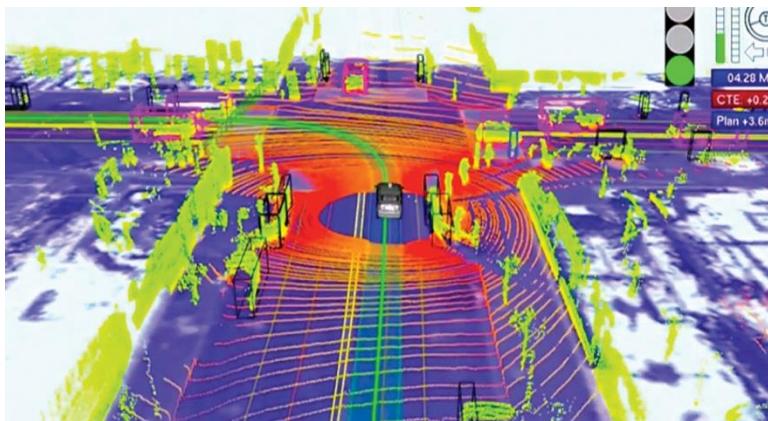
Editing



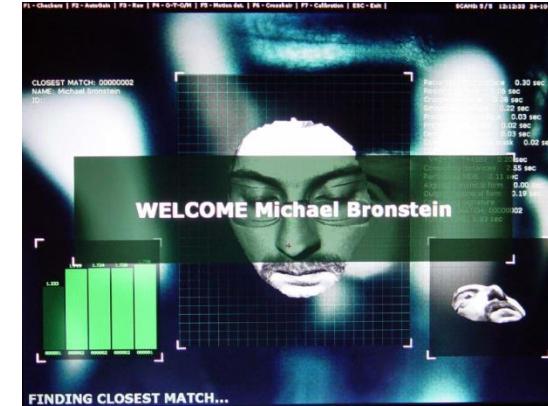
Mertens et al. "Texture Transfer Using Geometry Correlation."  
Fisher et al. "Context-Based Search for 3D Models."  
Mitra et al. "Symmetrization."  
Bokeloh et al. "A connection between partial symmetry and inverse procedural modeling."

Graphics

# Applications



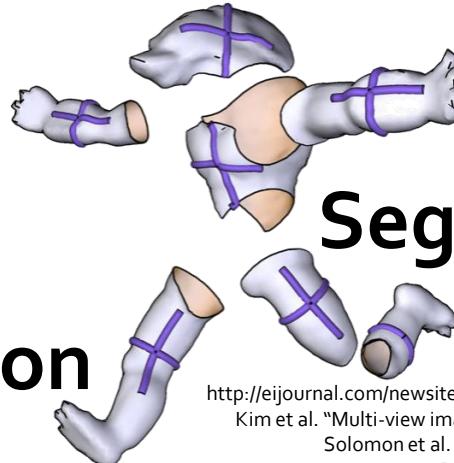
Recognition



Navigation



Reconstruction

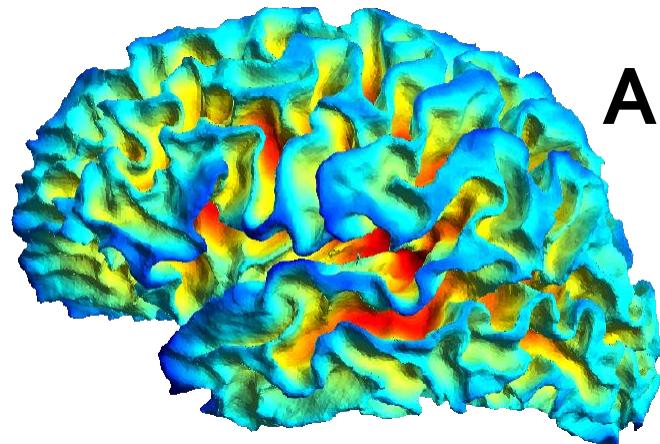


Segmentation

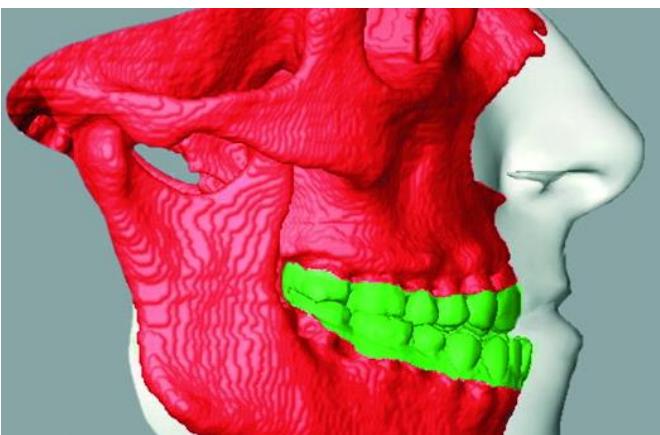
<http://eijournal.com/newsite/wp-content/uploads/2012/01/VELODYNE-IMAGE.jpg>  
Kim et al. "Multi-view image and tof sensor fusion for dense 3d reconstruction."  
Solomon et al. "Discovery of Intrinsic Primitives on Triangle Meshes."  
Bronstein et al. "Three-Dimensional Face Recognition."

Vision

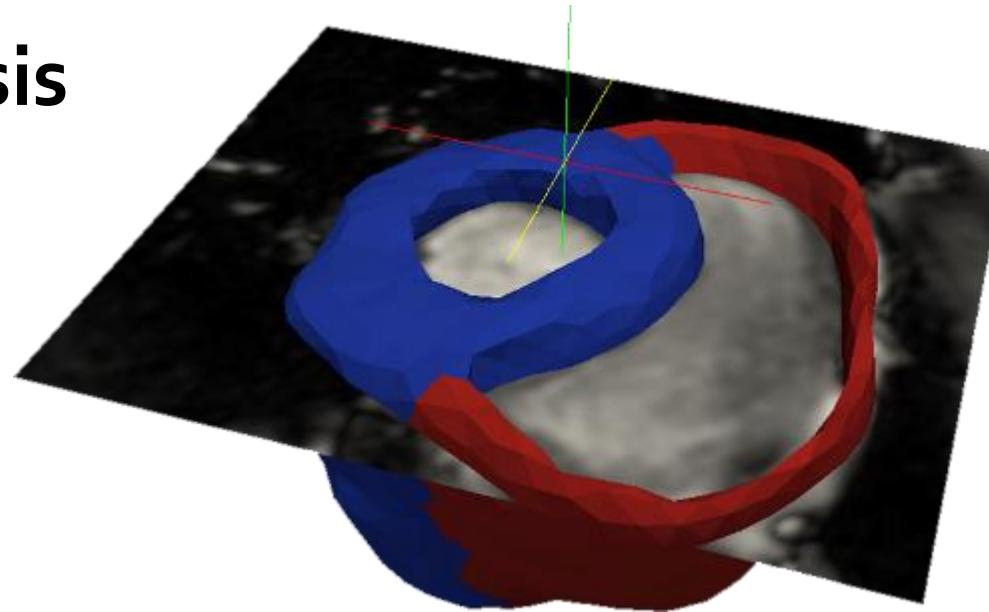
# Applications



Analysis



Registration



Segmentation

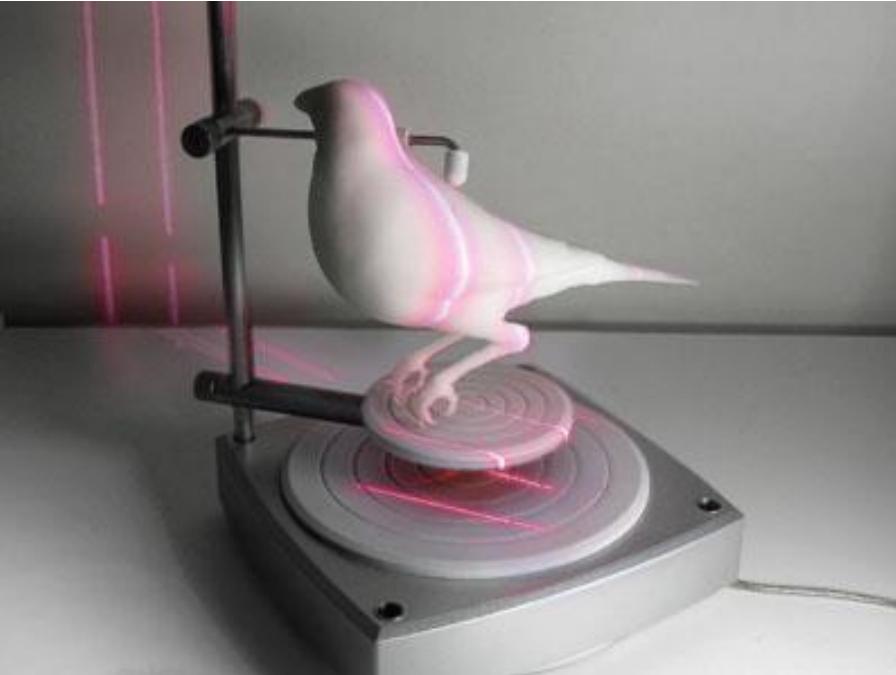
<http://dmfr.birjournals.org/content/33/4/226/F3.large.jpg>

<http://www-sop.inria.fr/asclepios/software/inriaviz4d/SphericalImTransp.png>

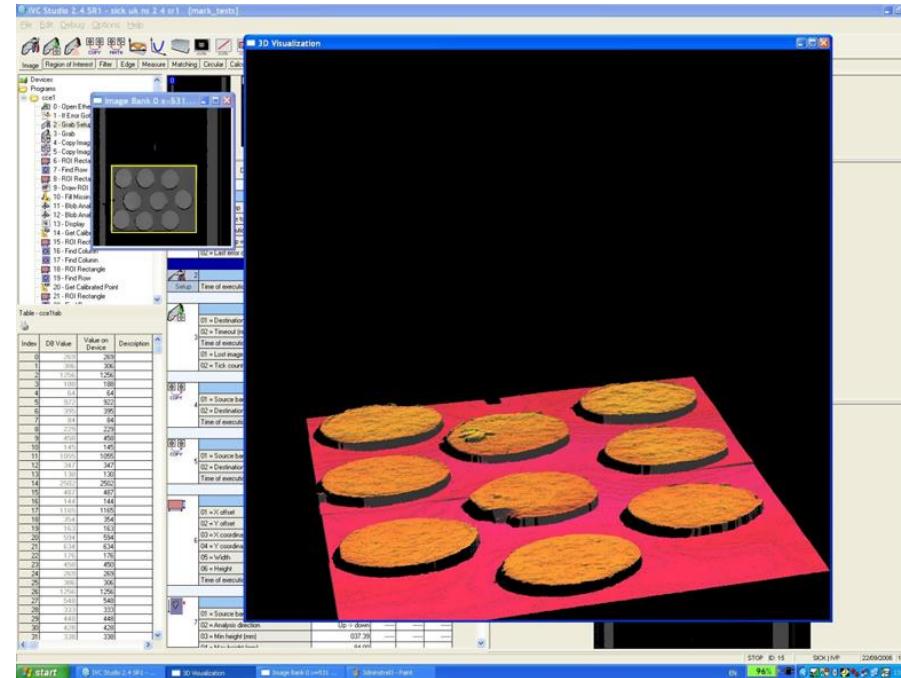
<http://www.creatis.insa-lyon.fr/site/sites/default/files/segm2.png>

Medical Imaging

# Applications



Scanning



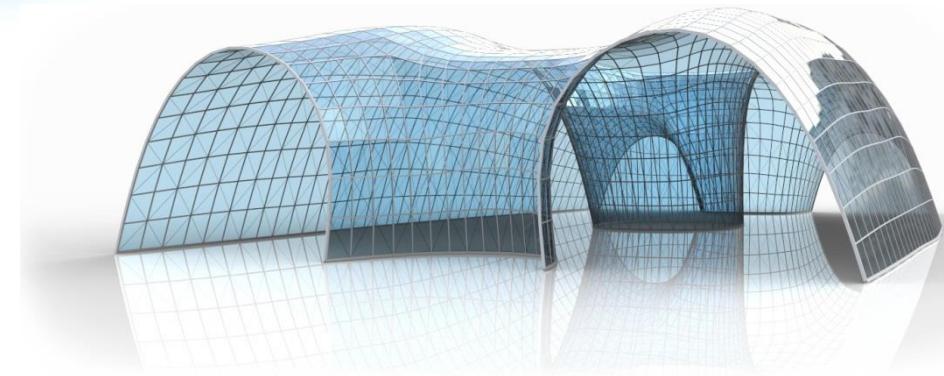
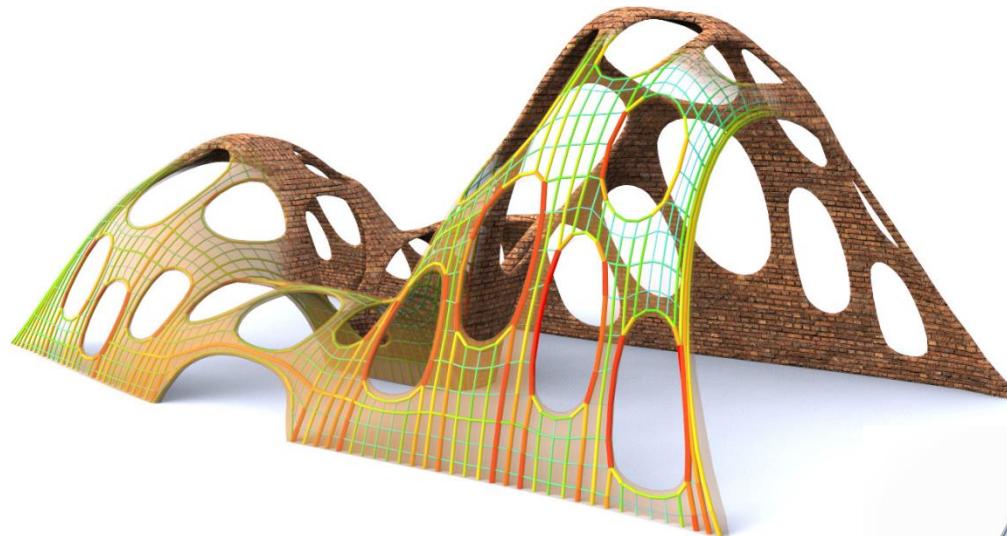
Defect detection

<http://www.conduitprojects.com/php/images/scan.jpg>

[http://www.emeraldinsight.com/content\\_images/fig/0330290204005.png](http://www.emeraldinsight.com/content_images/fig/0330290204005.png)

Manufacturing and Fabrication

# Applications

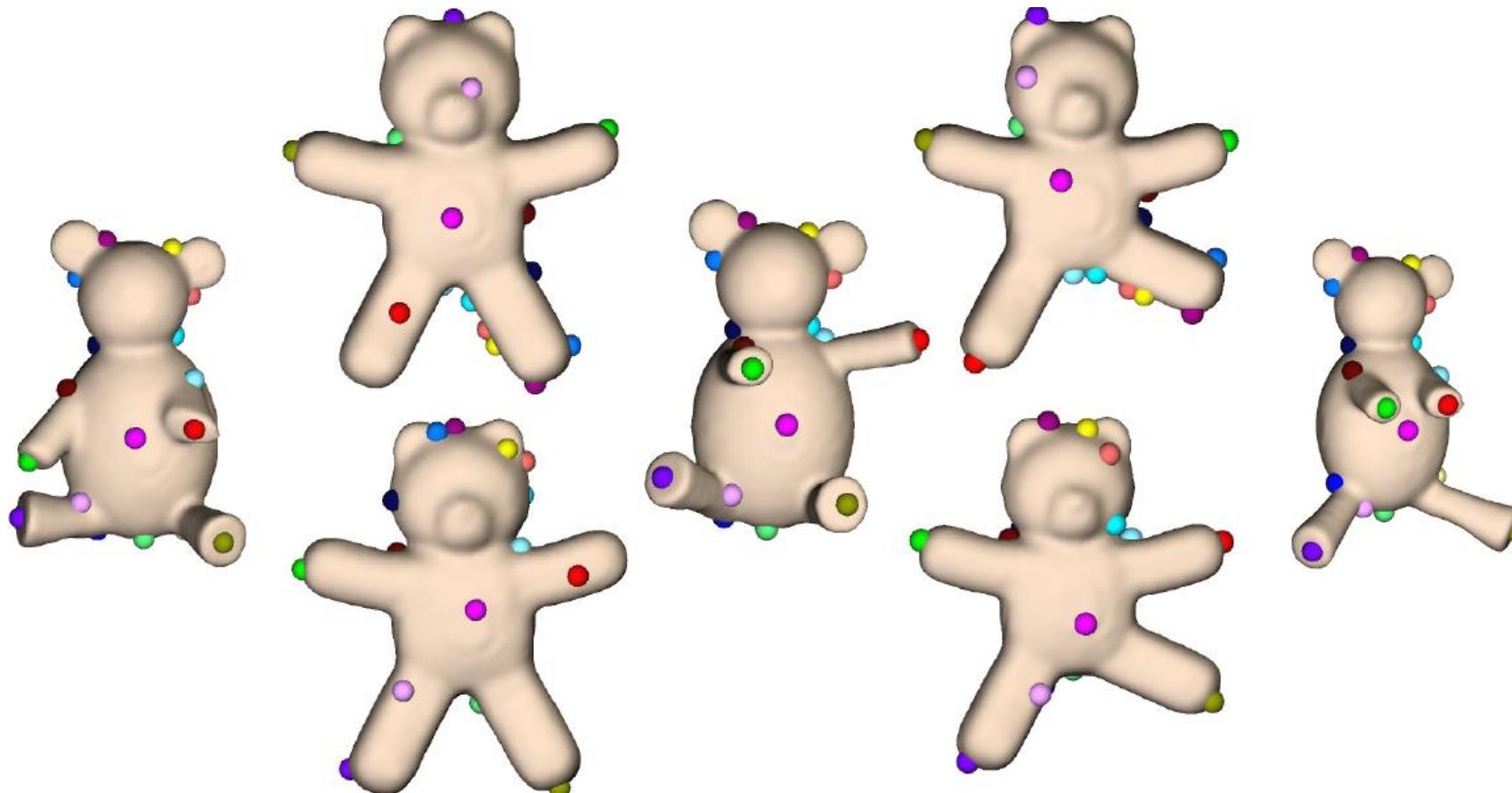


Design and analysis

Vouga et al. "Design of self-supporting surfaces."

Architecture

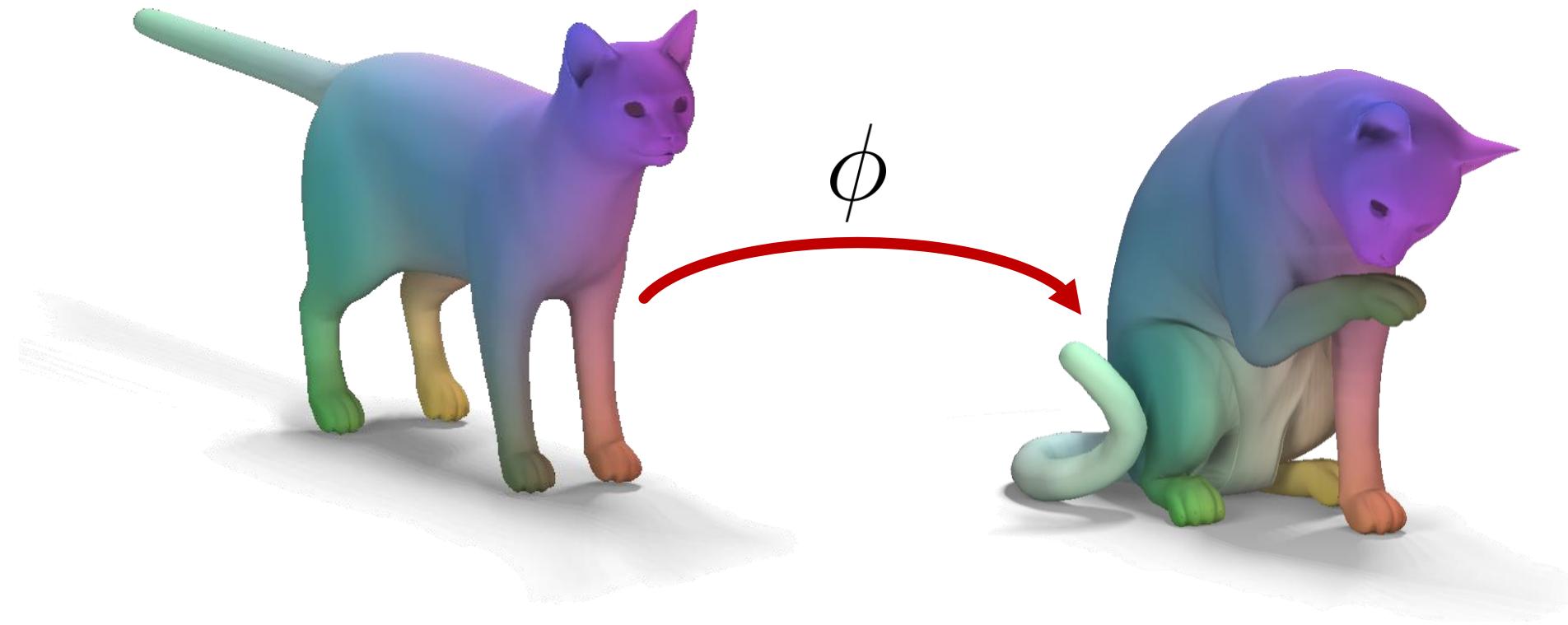
# Applications



Huang et al. "Consistent shape maps via semidefinite programming."

Shape collections

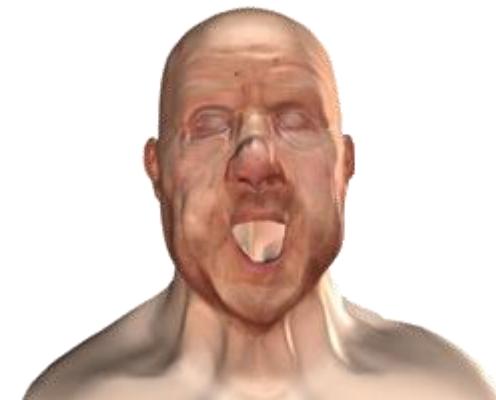
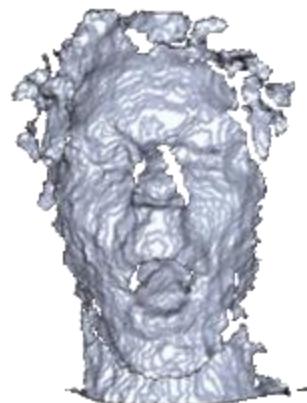
# Applications



Ovsjanikov et al. "Functional maps."

Correspondence

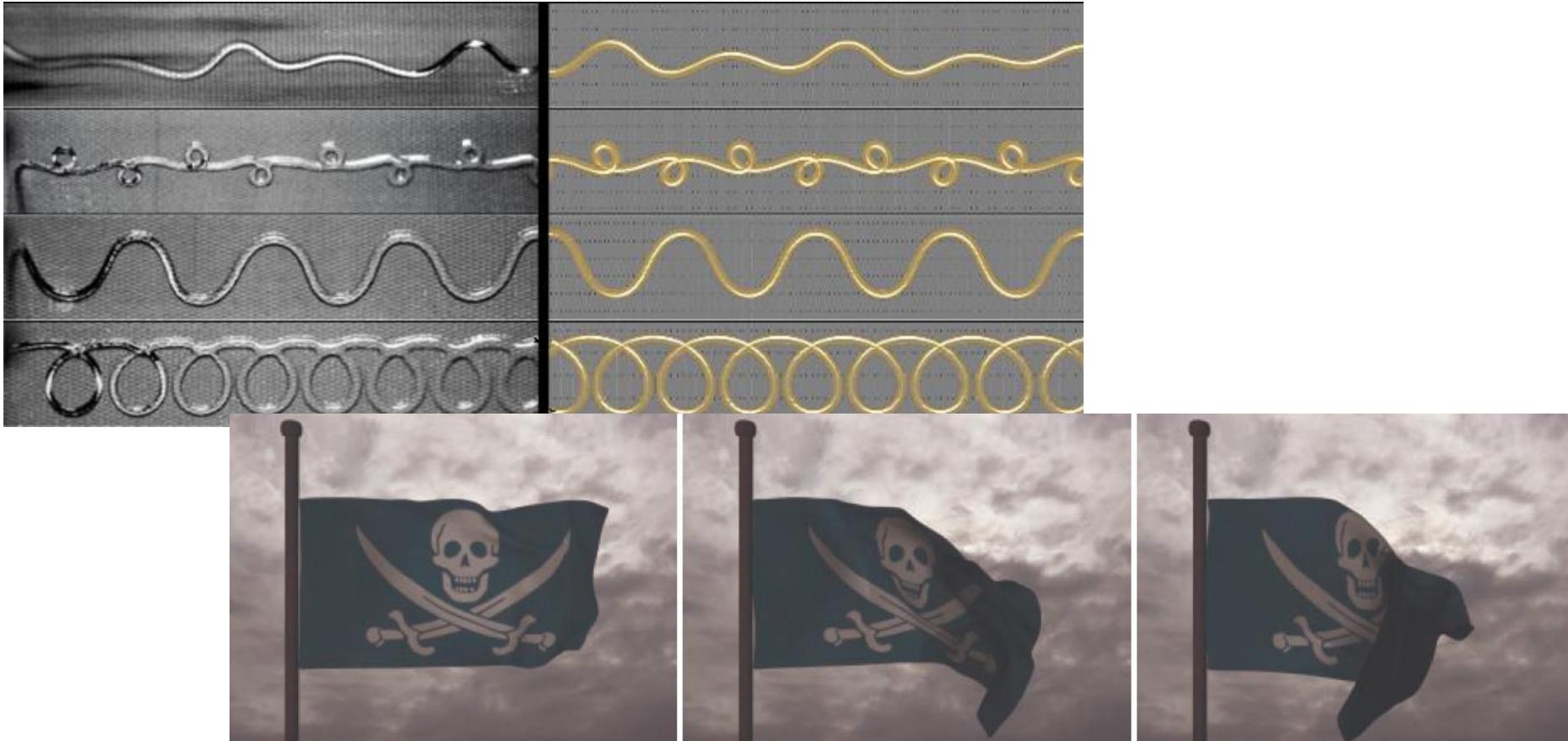
# Applications



Weise et al. "Realtime performance-based facial animation."

Deformation transfer

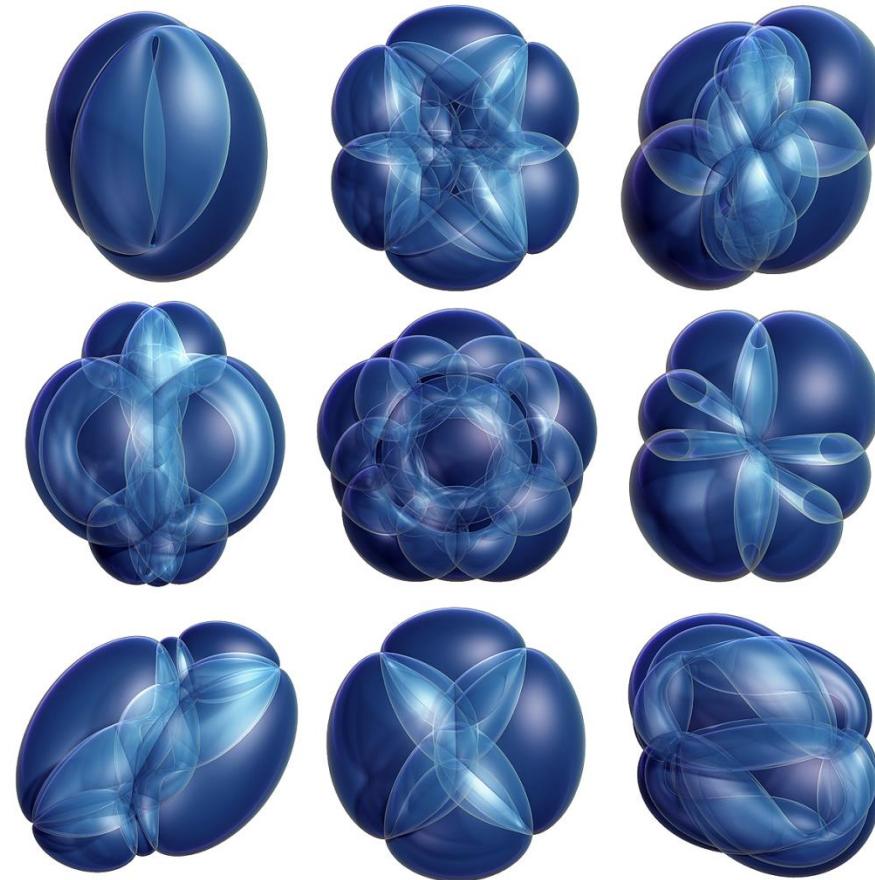
# Applications



Bergou et al. "Discrete viscous threads."  
Wardetzky et al. "Discrete quadratic curvature energies."

# Simulation

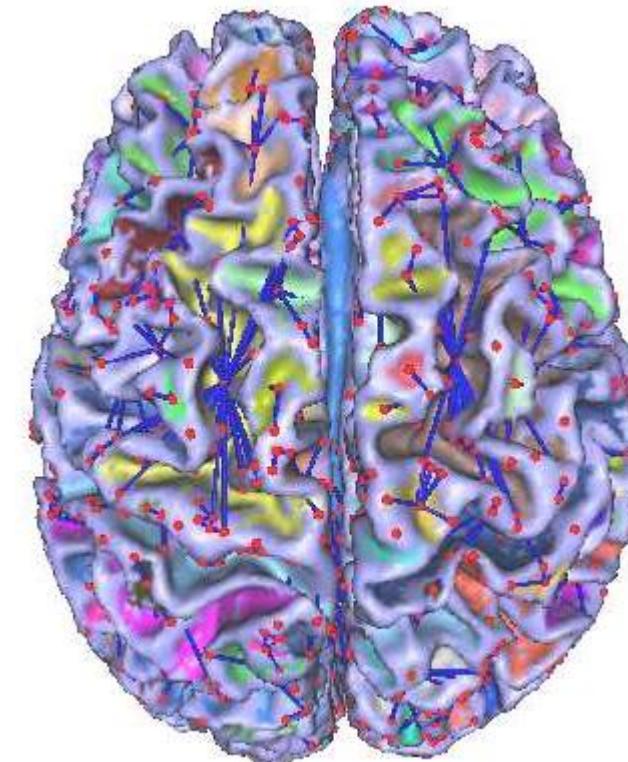
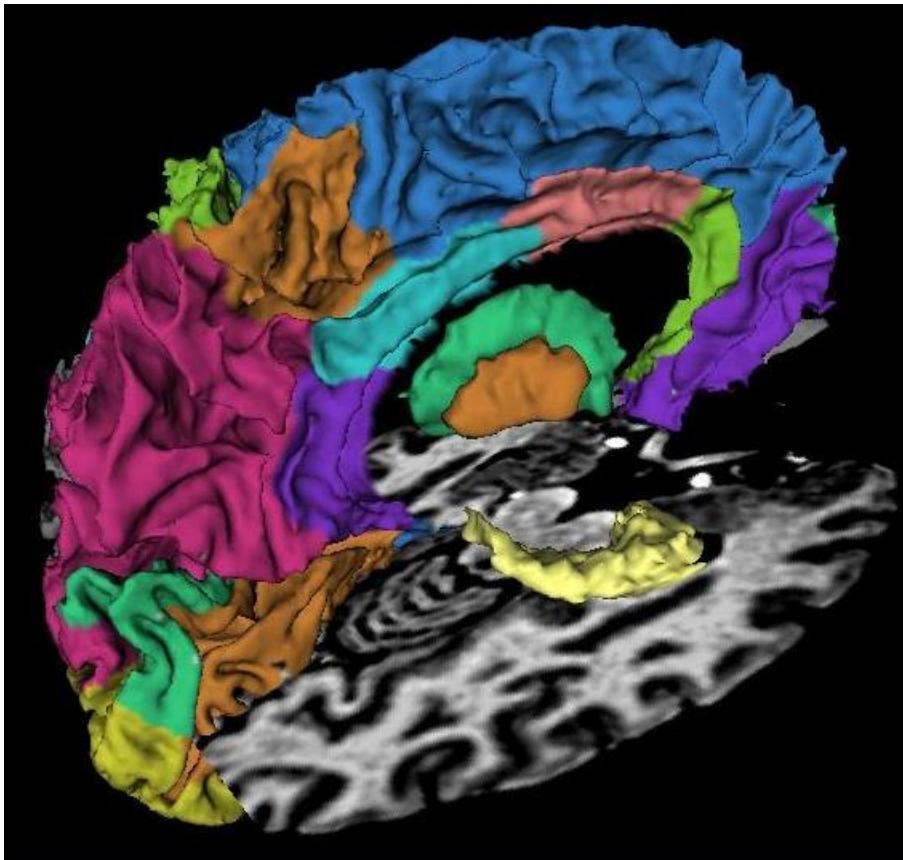
# Applications



Crane et al. "Spin Transformations of Discrete Surfaces."

Scientific visualization

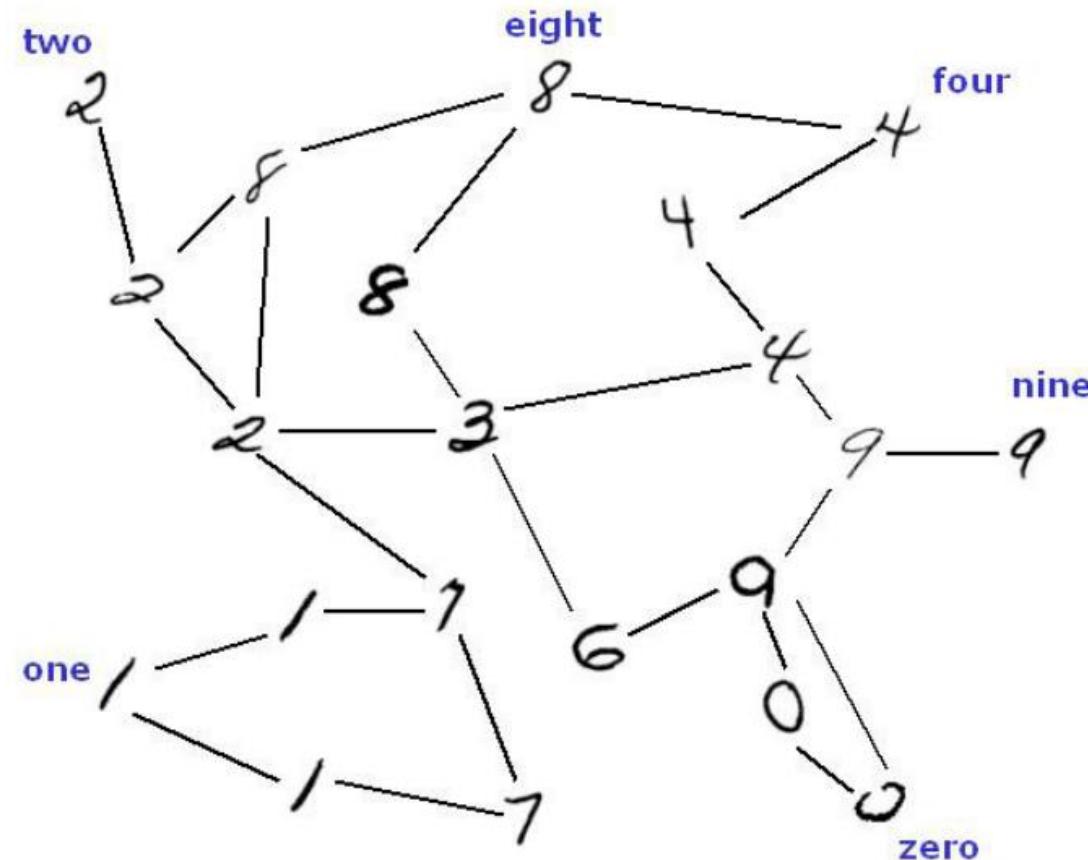
# Applications



<http://www.bioinformaticslaboratory.nl/twiki/pub/EBioScience/News/freesurfer-3d.jpg>  
[http://hal.inria.fr/docs/00/40/21/30/IMG/vivodtzev\\_et\\_al-Dagstuhl03.jpg](http://hal.inria.fr/docs/00/40/21/30/IMG/vivodtzev_et_al-Dagstuhl03.jpg)

## Segmentation

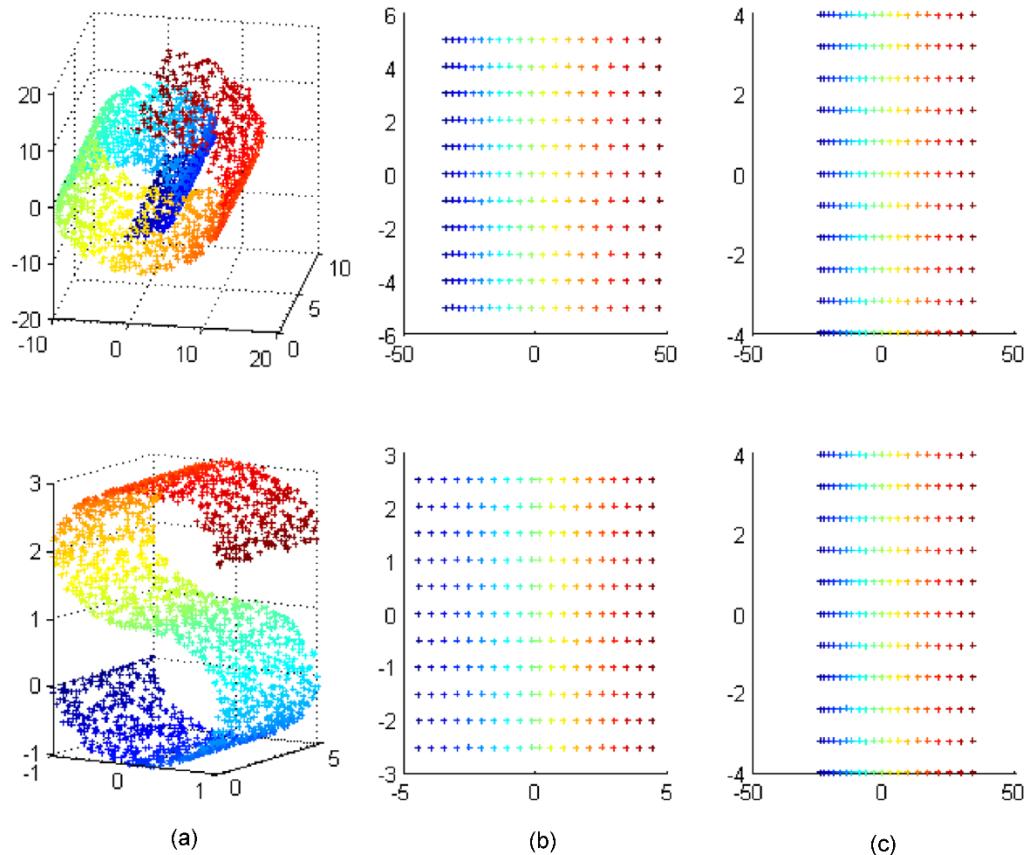
# Applications



Zhu et al. *Semi-Supervised Learning Using Gaussian Fields and Harmonic Functions*. ICML 2003.

# Machine learning

# Applications



Hou et al. *Novel semisupervised high-dimensional correspondences learning method*. Opt. Eng. 2008.

Statistics

6.838:

# Shape Analysis

Justin Solomon

Spring 2021

