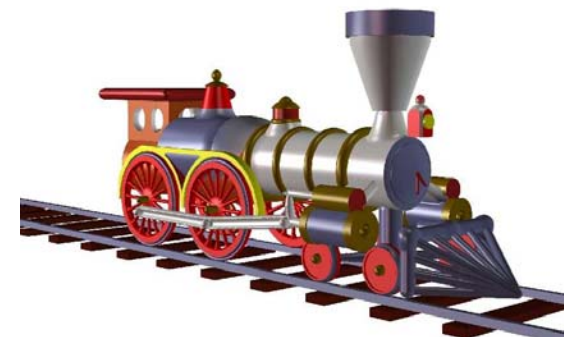




Come and hear  
*Introduction to  
Implicit Modelling*  
by Brian Wyvill

With a little help  
from his students



# Overview

- **Introduction to Implicit Surfaces**
- **Blending, Warping, CSG**
- **Some Problems**
- **The BlobTree**
- **Blending**
- **Texturing**
- **Animation**
- **Hierarchical Implicit Surfaces**
- **Building Models**



# Introduction to Implicit Surfaces

## Implicit Definition

$$f(x,y) = x^2 + y^2 - r^2 > 0$$

e.g.  $r = 1$

$f(x,y) < 0$  inside

$f(x,y) > 0$  outside

implies search space to find  
 $x,y$  to satisfy:  $f(x,y) = 0$

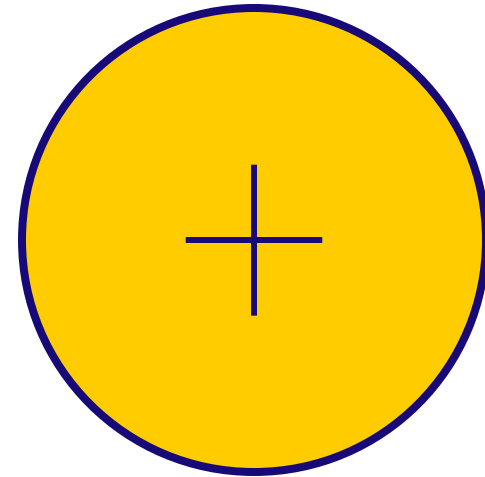
iso-surface:  $f(x,y) - c = 0$

## Parametric Definition

$$x = r \sin(\alpha)$$

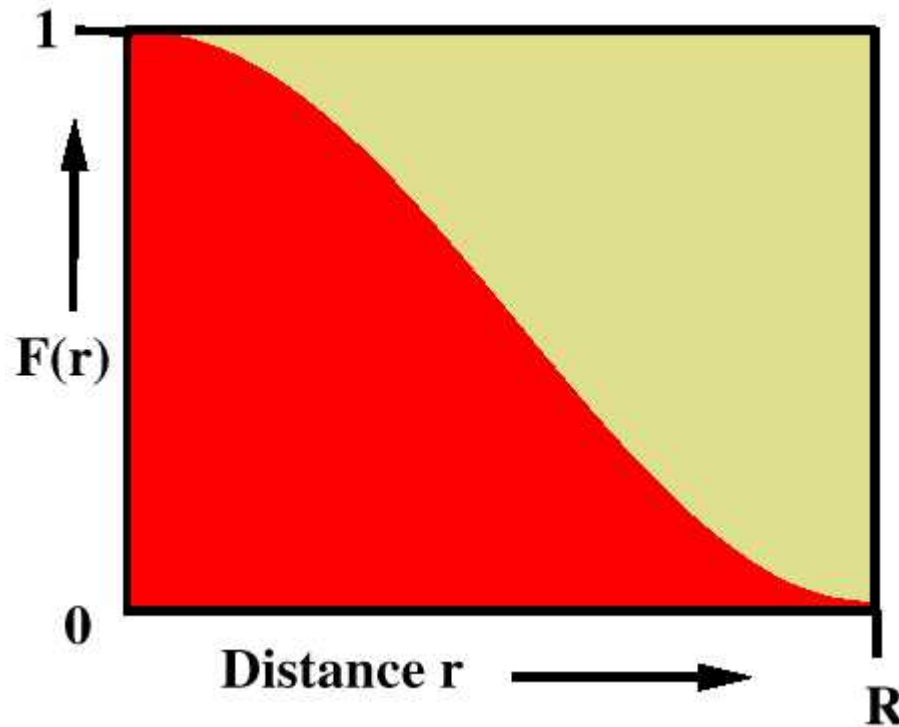
$$y = r \cos(\alpha)$$

$$0 \leq \alpha \leq 2\pi$$



# The Geoff Function

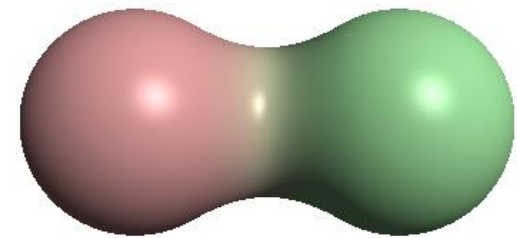
[Click Me](#)



**Proximity Blending:**  
Add contributions from  
generating skeletal elements  
in the neighbourhood

## Field Function

$$F(r) = 1 - \left(\frac{4}{9}\right) \frac{r^6}{R^6} + \left(\frac{17}{9}\right) \frac{r^4}{R^4} - \left(\frac{22}{9}\right) \frac{r^2}{R^2}$$

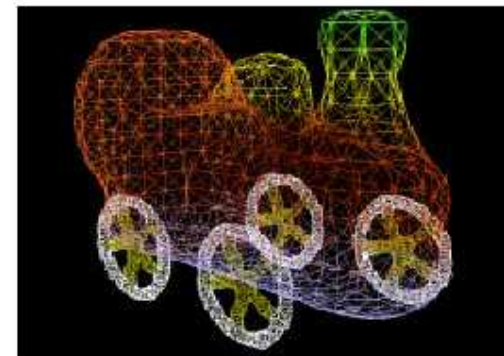
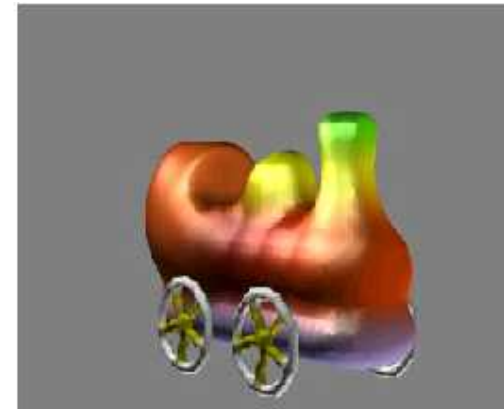
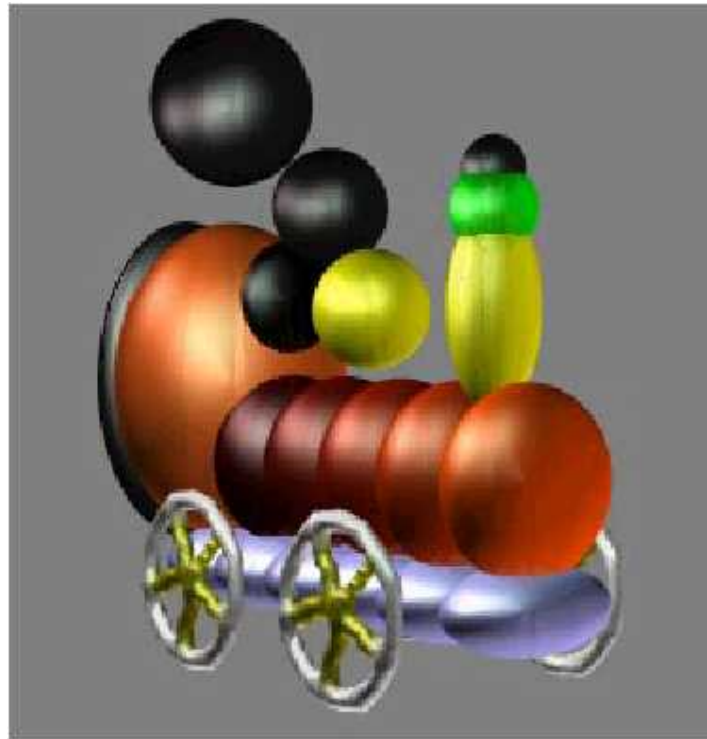


# Blending and The Soft Train

1986



Polygonizer  
Info.



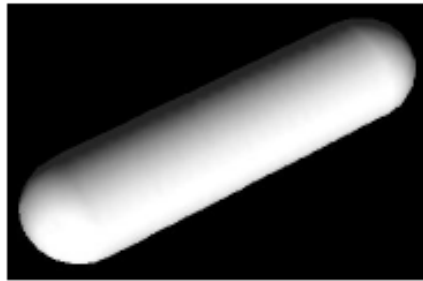
$$F_{\text{total}}(\mathbf{P}) = \sum_{i=1}^{i=n} c_i F_i(\mathbf{r}_i)$$



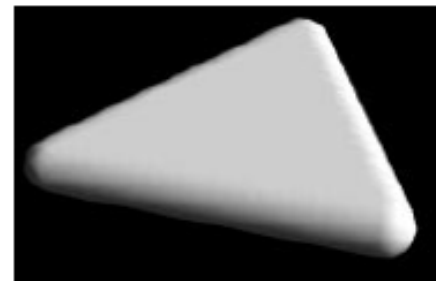
Skeletal  
Element  
Examples



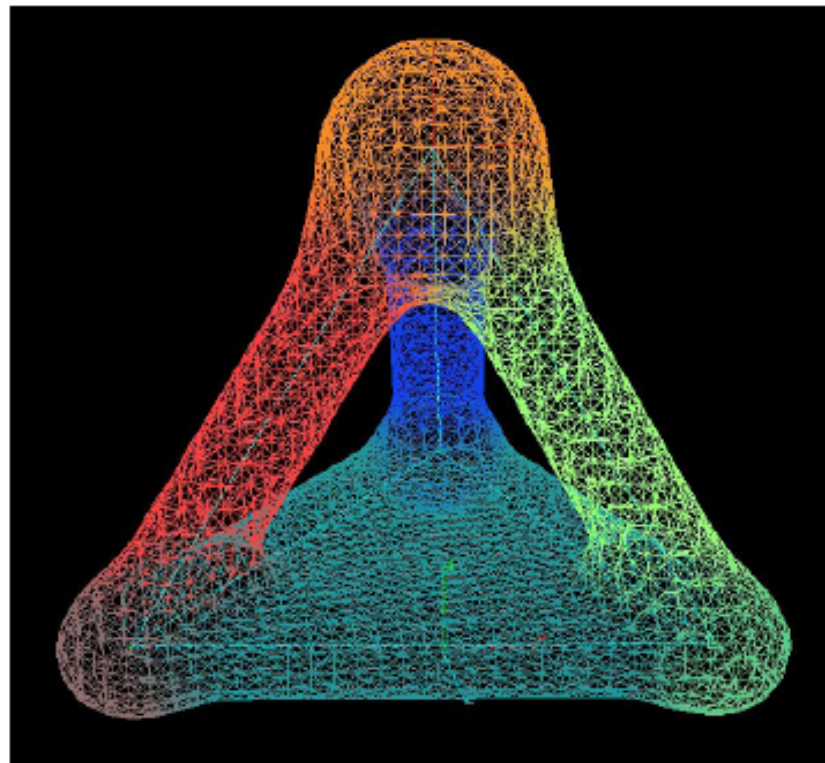
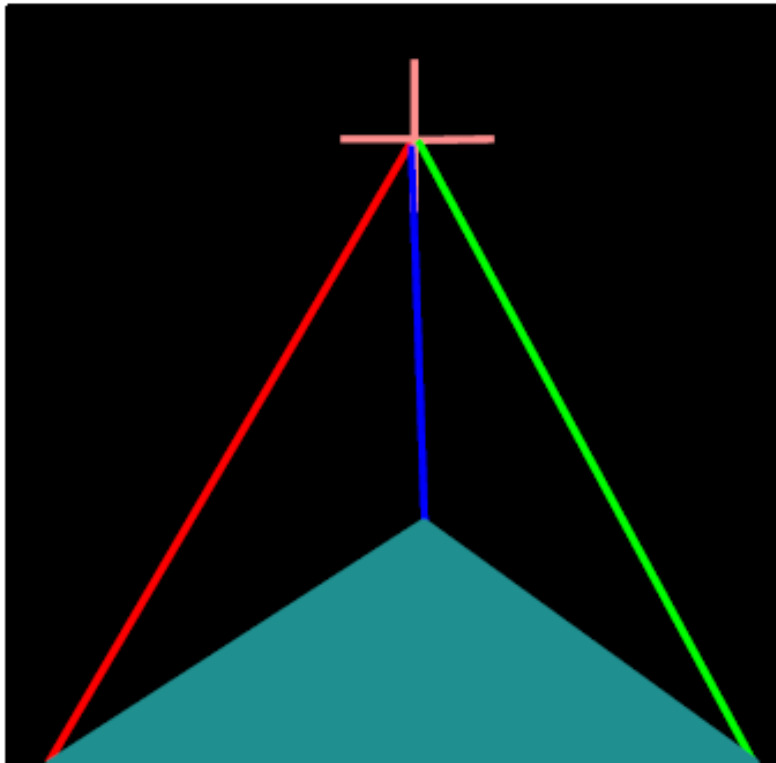
Points



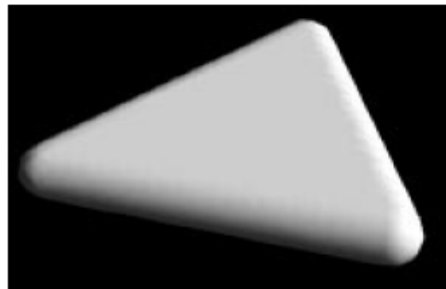
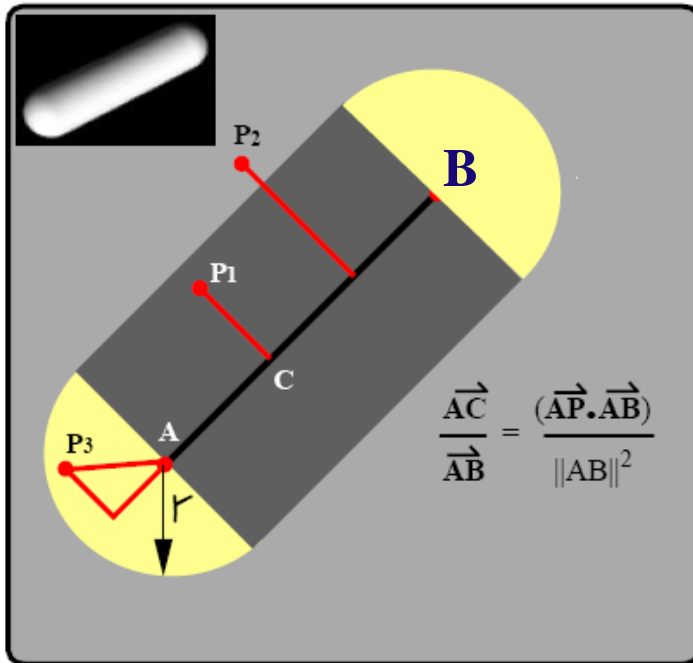
Lines



Polygons

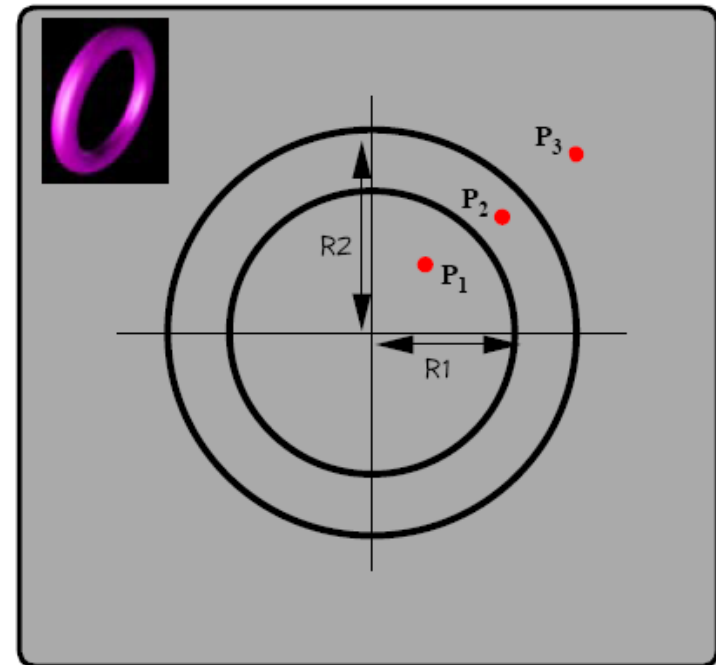


## Skeletal Element - Line Skeleton



# Polygon Offset Surface

# Torus





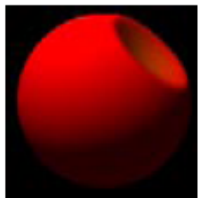
# Calculating The Implicit Value

$$\mathbf{F}_{\text{total}}(\mathbf{P}) = \sum_{i=1}^{i=n} \mathbf{c}_i \mathbf{F}_i(\mathbf{r}_i)$$

$\mathbf{F}_{\text{total}}(\mathbf{P})$  is the value of the field at  $\mathbf{P}$

$\mathbf{P}$  is a point in space

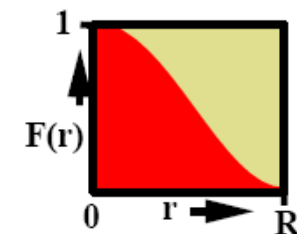
$n$  is the number of skeletal elements



$\mathbf{c}_i$  is a scalar value (+/-)

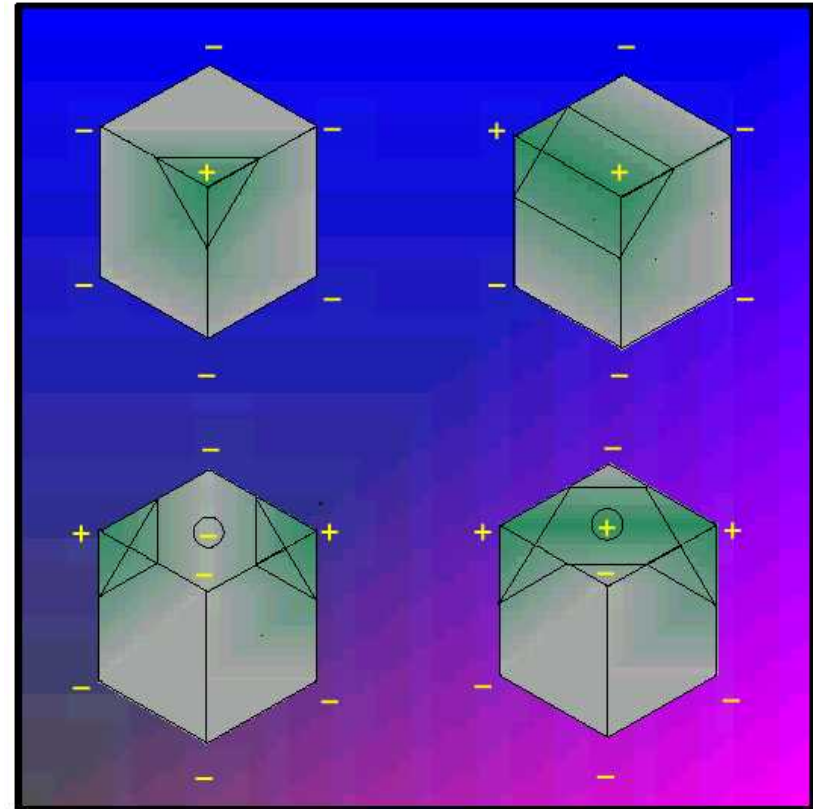
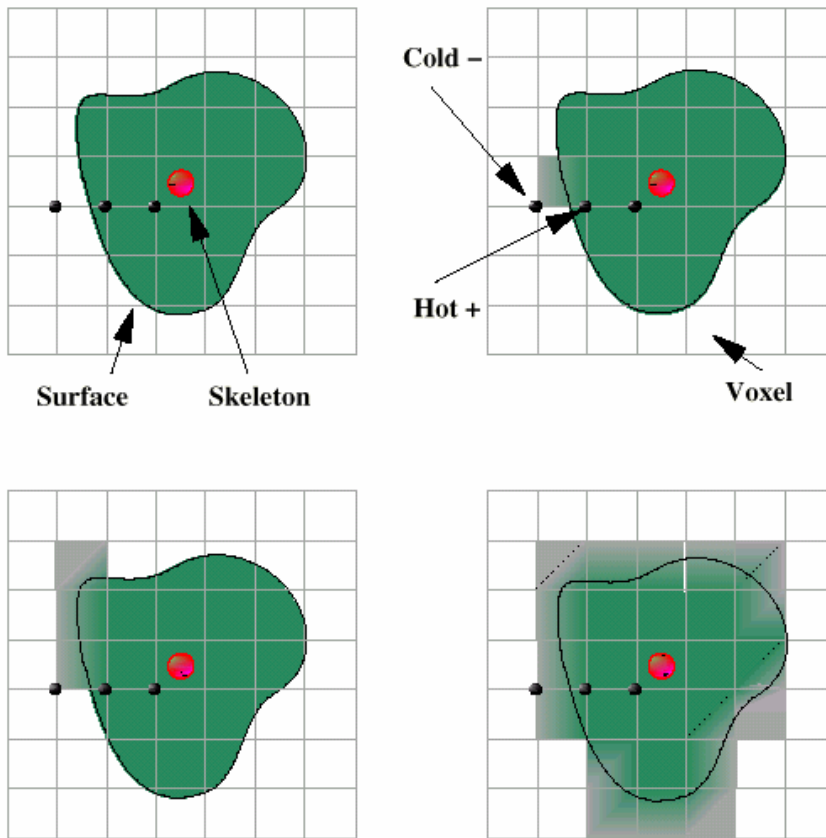
$\mathbf{F}_i$  is the blending function

$\mathbf{r}_i$  is the distance from  $\mathbf{P}$  to the nearest point  $Q_i$  on the  $i_{th}$  element

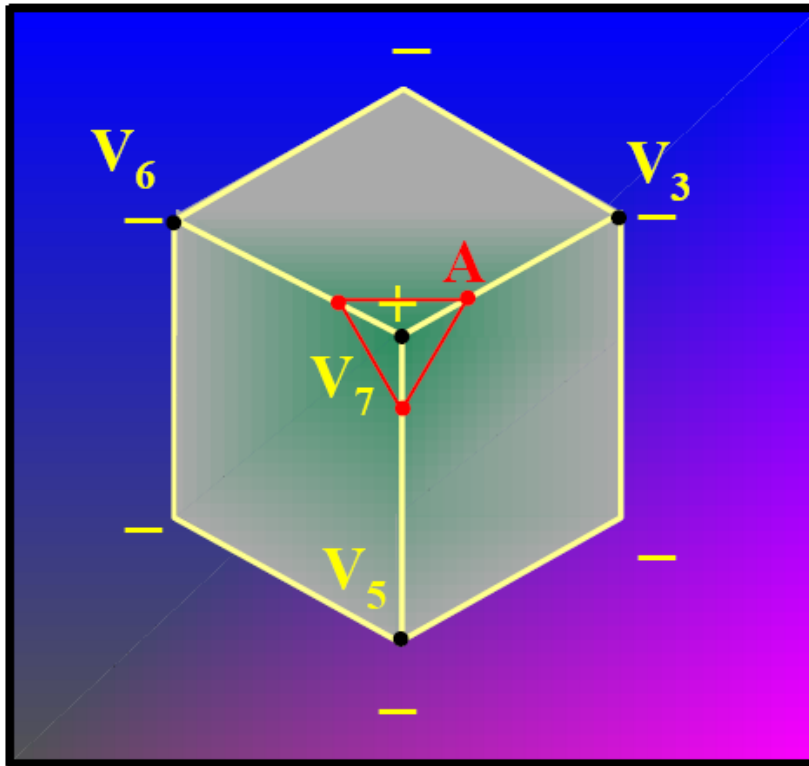




# Polygonization Algorithm



# Edge-Surface Intersections



Linear Interpolation

Quick and dirty (see GTR video)

$$\frac{f(A) - f(V_3)}{f(V_7) - f(V_3)} = \frac{A - V_3}{\text{Side} = 1}$$

$$f(A) = \text{iso-value} = 0.5$$

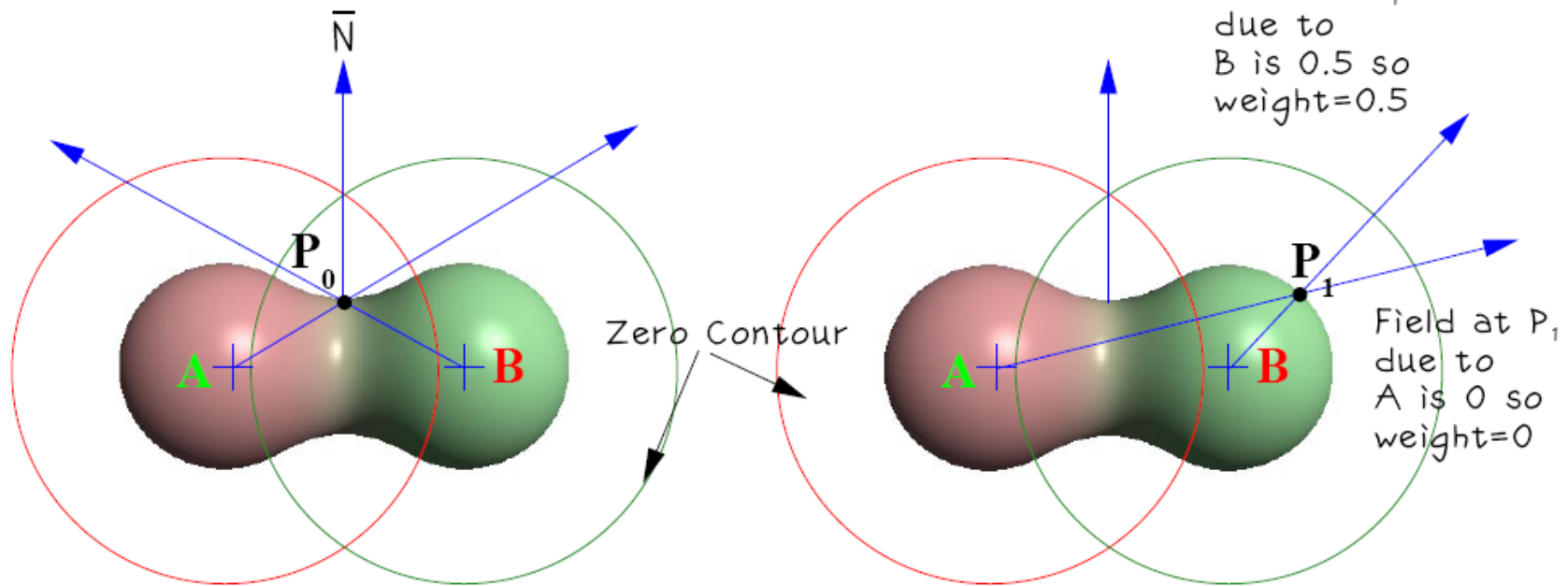
$$A = \frac{f(A) - f(V_3)}{f(V_7) - f(V_3)}$$

Binary Search - slower and more accurate  
(termination strategy)

For objects whose derivatives are known:  
Newton's Method (Regula Falsi)



# Calculating Normals



From the gradient, the normals can be averaged weighted by field.

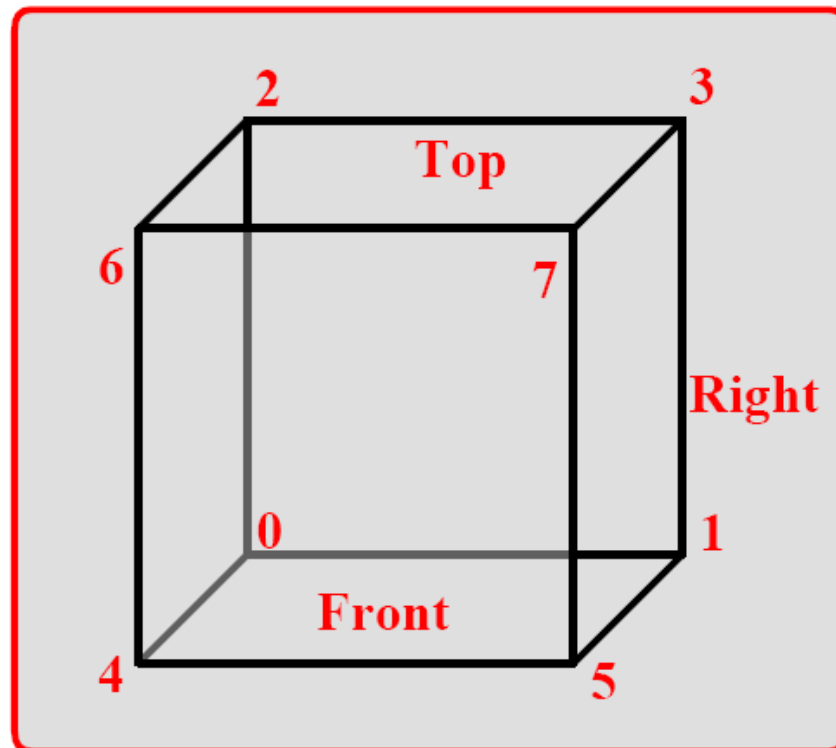
For black box functions use numerical technique:

Sample the field at P and at P+d

$$\bar{N} = \frac{f(x - \delta) - f(x + \delta)}{2\delta} \quad \frac{f(y - d) - f(y + d)}{2\delta} \quad \frac{f(z - d) - f(z + d)}{2\delta}$$



# Voxel Numbering



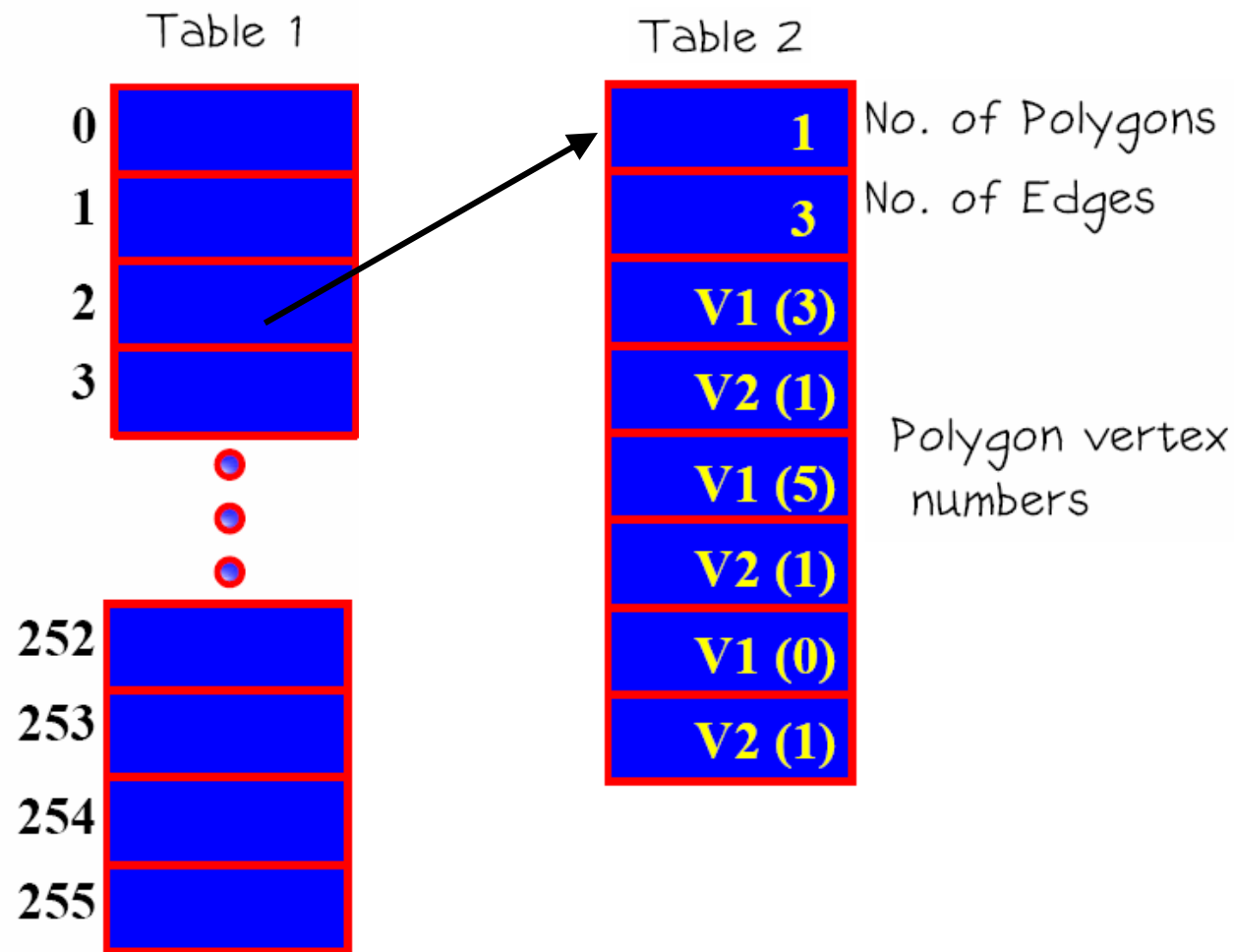
Address in table is 8 bits  
taking one bit from each vertex

Right: vertices with bit 0 set  
Top: vertices with bit 1 set  
Front: vertices with bit 2 set

Vertex	if (+)
0 0	00000001
1 01	00000010
2 010	00000100
3 011	00001000
4 100	00010000
5 101	00100000
6 110	01000000
7 111	10000000

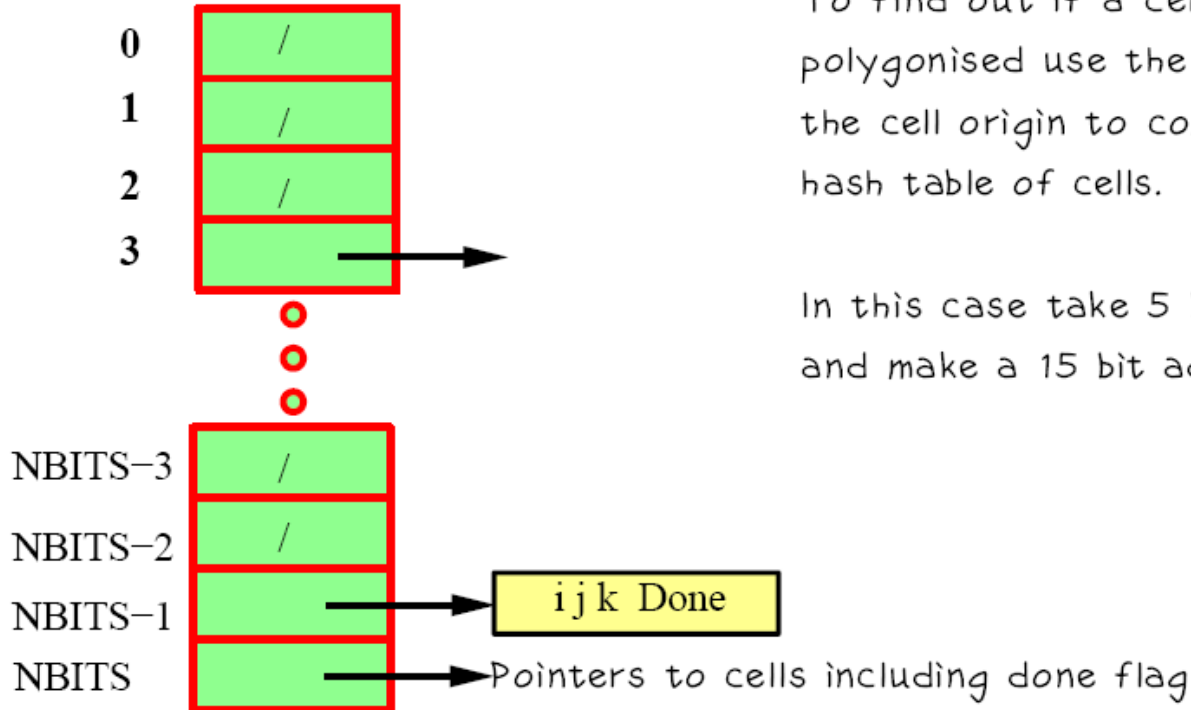


## Polygon Tables



# Hash Table

```
#define NBITS          5
#define BMASK          037
#define HASH(a,b,c)
(( (a&BMASK) <<NBITS | b&BMASK) <<NBITS | c&BMASK)
#define HSIZE          1<<NBITS*3
```



To find out if a cell has already been polygonised use the integer coordinates of the cell origin to compute an address in the hash table of cells.

In this case take 5 bits out of each of x,y,z and make a 15 bit address.



## The Queue (FIFO)

The Queue is used as temporary storage to identify the neighbors for processing (others have used a stack (LIFO list) although there is some evidence that the queue processes the cubes in a more memory efficient order). The algorithm begins with a seed cube that is marked as visited and placed on the queue. The first cube on the queue is dequeued and all its unvisited neighbors added to the queue. Each cube is processed and if it contains part of the surface output to the second phase of the algorithm. The queue is then processed until empty. The continuation algorithm proceeds as indicated in the pseudo code.

```
begin
  Set seed cube's done flag to true
  Add seed cube to the queue.
  while queue is not empty do
    begin
      remove one cube from the queue
      for each face of cube do
        begin if surface intersects face then
          begin select neighbour cube for that face
            if neighbours done flag is not true then
              begin set neighbours done flag to true
                add neighbour to queue
              end
            end
          end
        end
      Pass cube to second stage
    end
  end
```

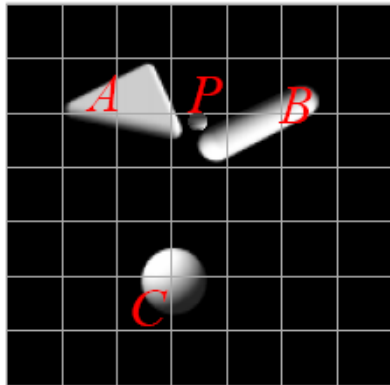




# Reducing Implicit Function Evaluations (IFE)

## Measure of Efficiency:

- IFEPT (IFE per Triangle)
- IFEPT can be reduced by pre-sorting skeletal elements to voxels.
- In 2-space:



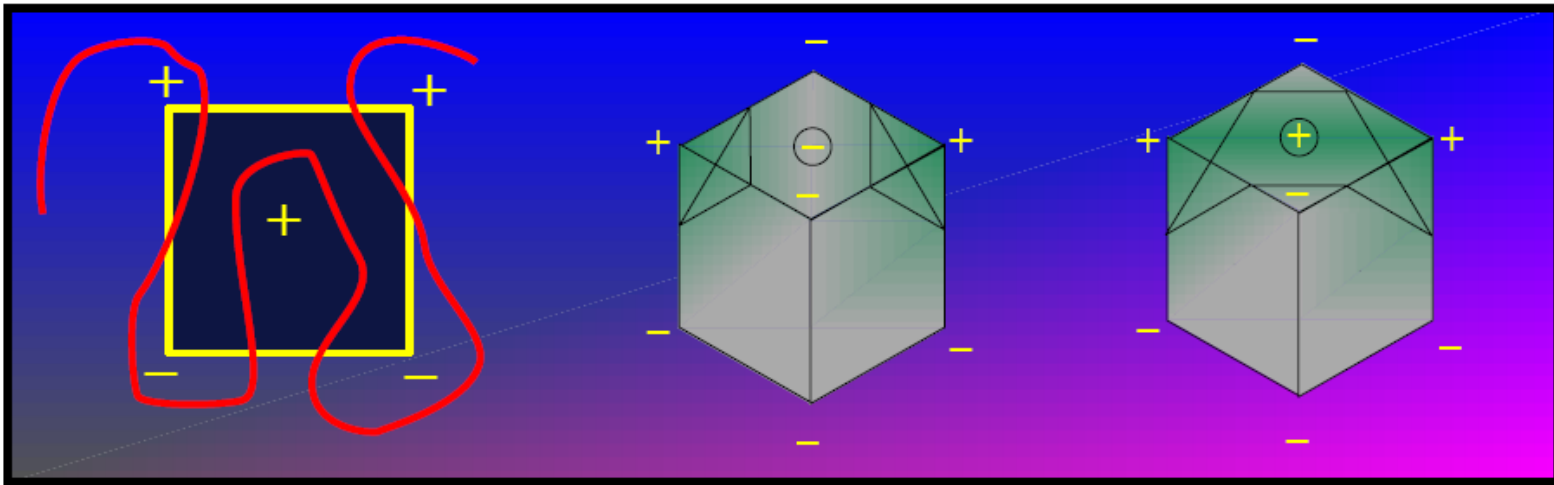
- For an arbitrary probe point ( $P$ ) with skeletal elements polygon ( $A$ ), line ( $B$ ) and point ( $C$ ).

$$F_{total}(P) = F_A(P) + F_B(P)$$



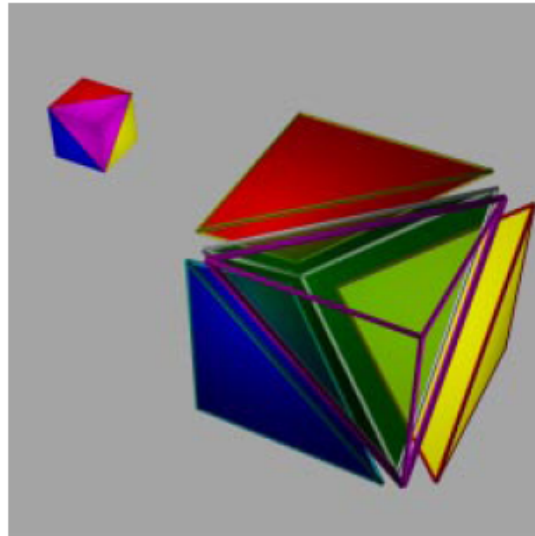
# Sampling Problems

- Nothing is known about the surface between the sample points.
- Voxel Grid produces artifacts in animation

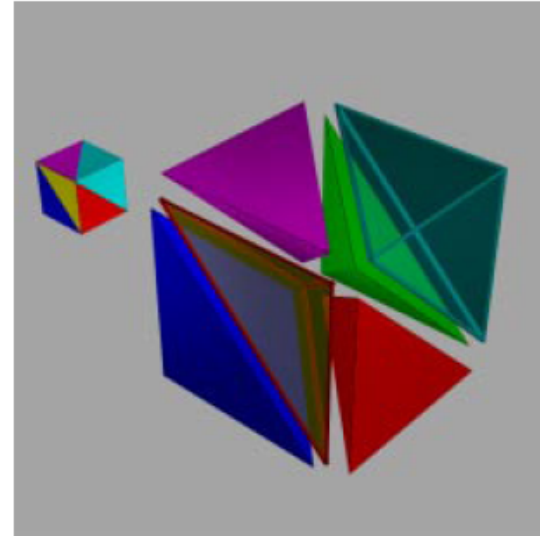


# Tetrahedral Decomposition

Decomposing a cube  
into 5 tetrahedra



Decomposing a cube  
into 6 tetrahedra

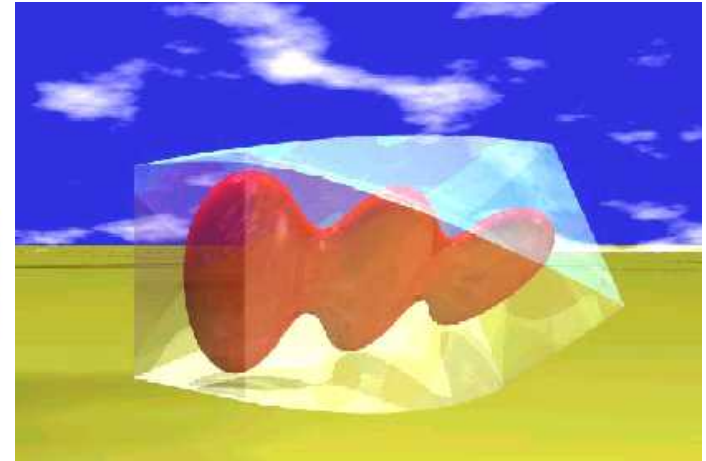


Tetrahedra avoid the ambiguity and produces correct meshes. The table is only 16 entries (4 vertices), however many more polygons result. These decompositions introduce diagonals on the cube faces, thus determining the resulting face contours. Consider two faces, although their polarity configurations are the same, the orientation of the diagonal affects the connectivity of the surface vertices. Because this orientation is arbitrarily determined by the decomposition, topological correctness is not provided. In order to maintain topological consistency, the orientation of the five-tetrahedral decomposition must alternate between face-adjacent cubes. This insures that the diagonal introduced on a cube face agrees with that of its neighbor.



## Warping

$$F_{\text{total}}(\mathbf{P}) = \sum c_i F_i(|\mathbf{P} - \mathbf{Q}_i|)$$



Warp function  $w$ :

$$F_{\text{total}}(\mathbf{P}) = \sum c_i F_i(|w(\mathbf{P}) - \mathbf{Q}_i|)$$

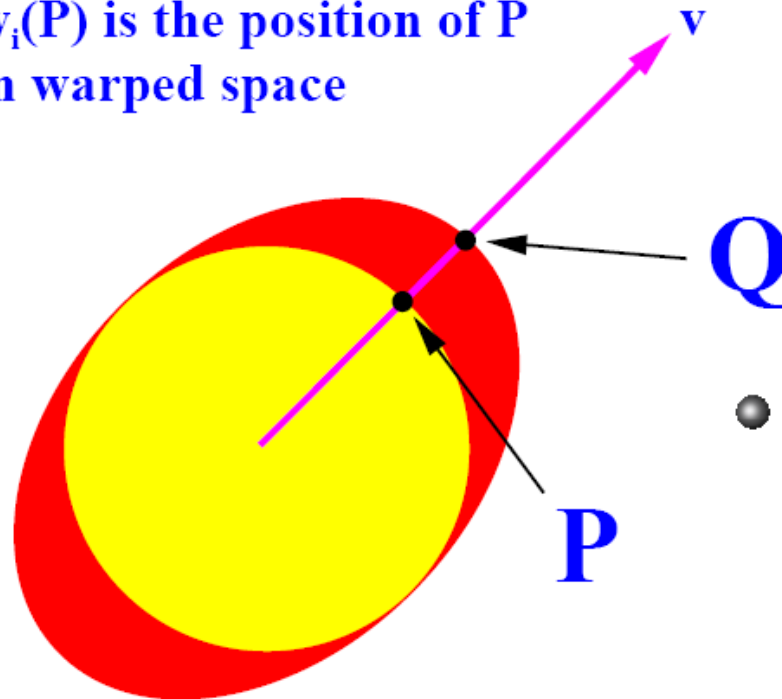


## E.g. The Vector Warp

displace the evaluation point

$$r_i = F_i(P) = \text{dist}(w_i(P), Q_i)$$

- $w_i(P) = P - \frac{\mathbf{v}}{\|\mathbf{v}\|}(\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{P})$
- $w_i(P)$  is the position of P in warped space

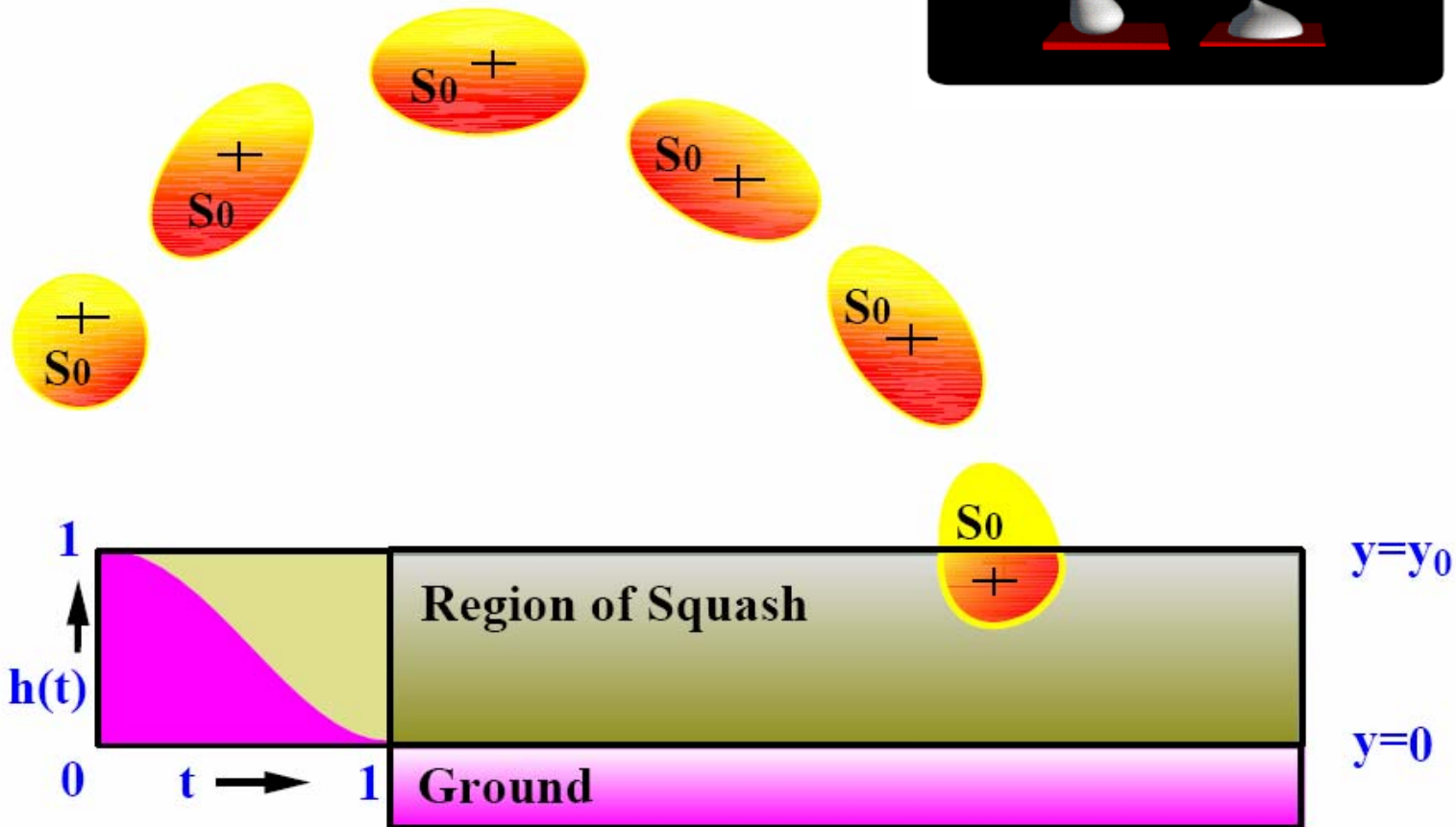
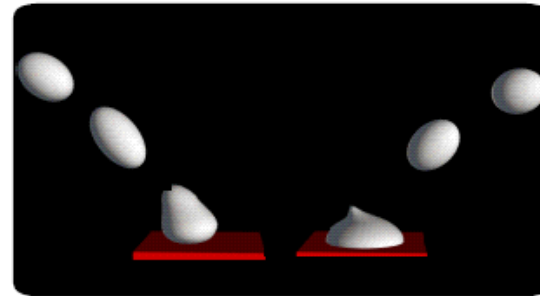


- the value returned for Q is the value of P in unwarped space (in this case the contour value)



# Warping

The bouncing ball example:

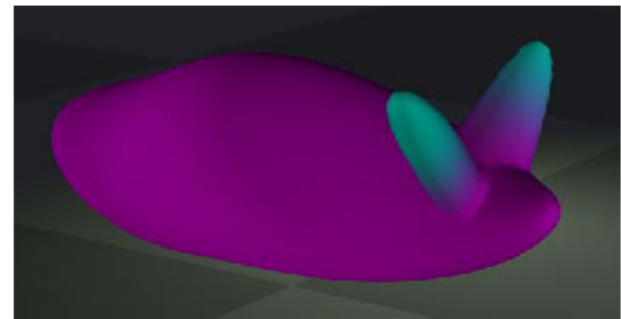


# Warping

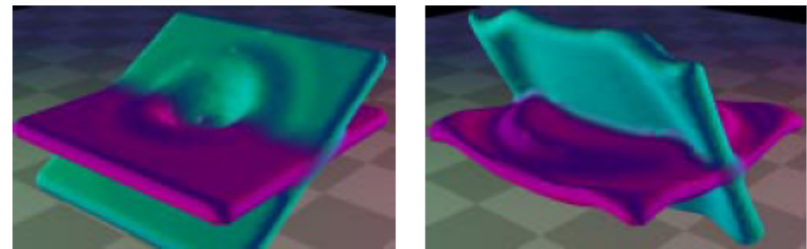
Applying the squash warp to a bear:



Non-linear periodic warp:



Wave simulation as a warp applied over time:

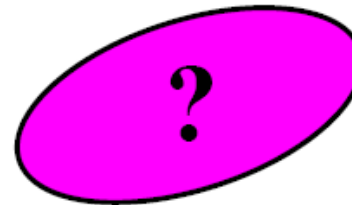




# Affine Transformations as Warps

E.g.

$$\frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2} = r^2$$



$$F_{\text{total}}(\mathbf{P}) = \sum c_i F_i(|\text{rotate}(\mathbf{P}) - \mathbf{P}_i|)$$



Ellipsoids defined in the canonical position and then rotated by warping. For efficiency these can be concatenated in the normal way.



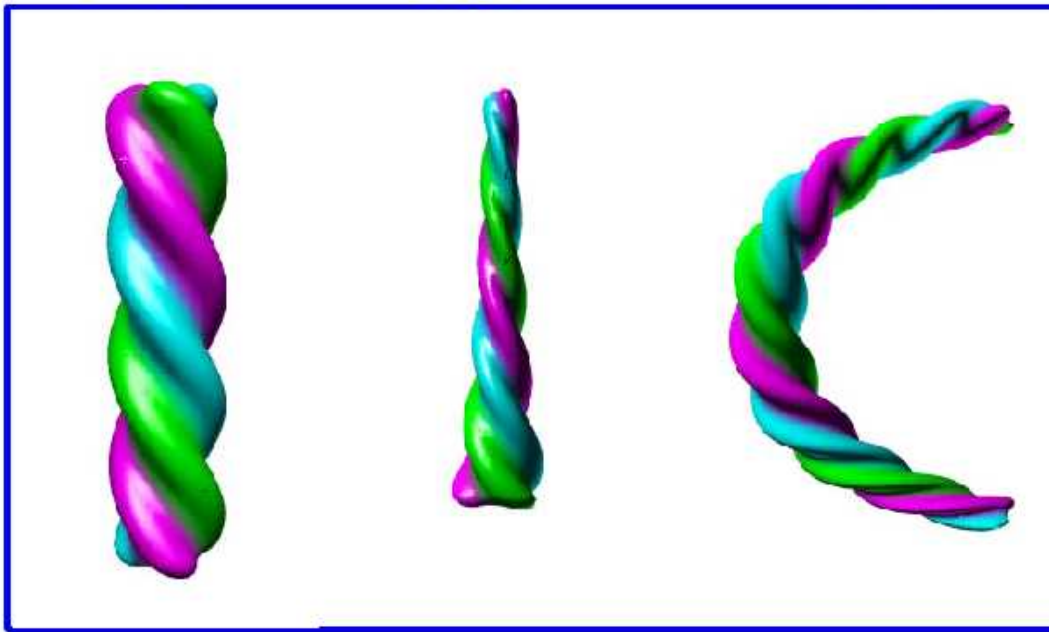
# *Barr Operators*

The Barr operators:

Twist

Taper

Bend



SHAPE  
MODELLING

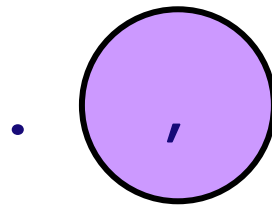


# Constructive Solid Geometry (CSG)

Primitives are combined using boolean set operations:

Union, Intersection, Difference. Each primitive represents a half space, ie the set of points defining the half space

E.g.



Sphere

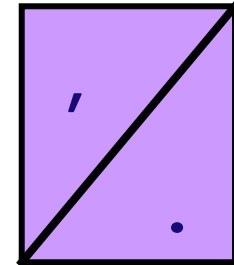
.

.



Cylinder

.

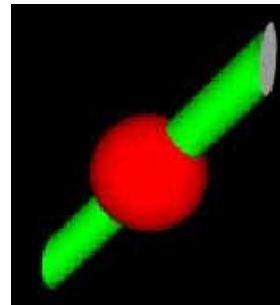
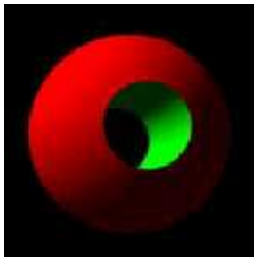


Plane

Boolean expression (u= union, d= difference, i= intersection)

d( sphere, cylinder)

u( sphere, i( i( cylinder, plane1), plane2) )



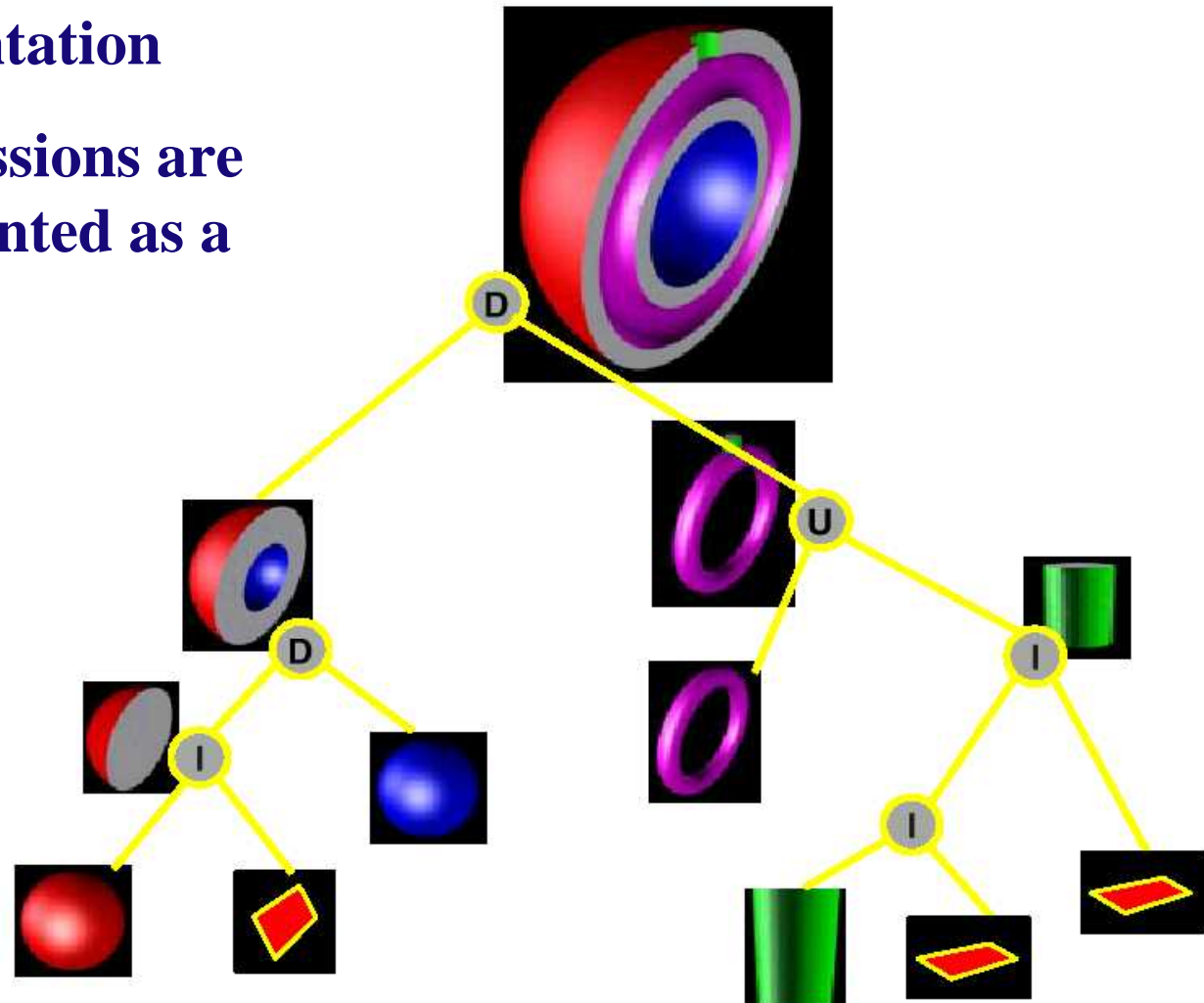
The cylinder is infinite in extent  
it is first intersected with two  
half space planes.



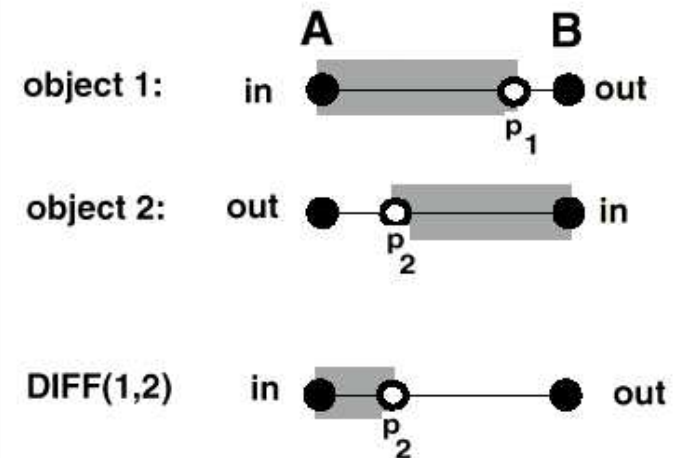
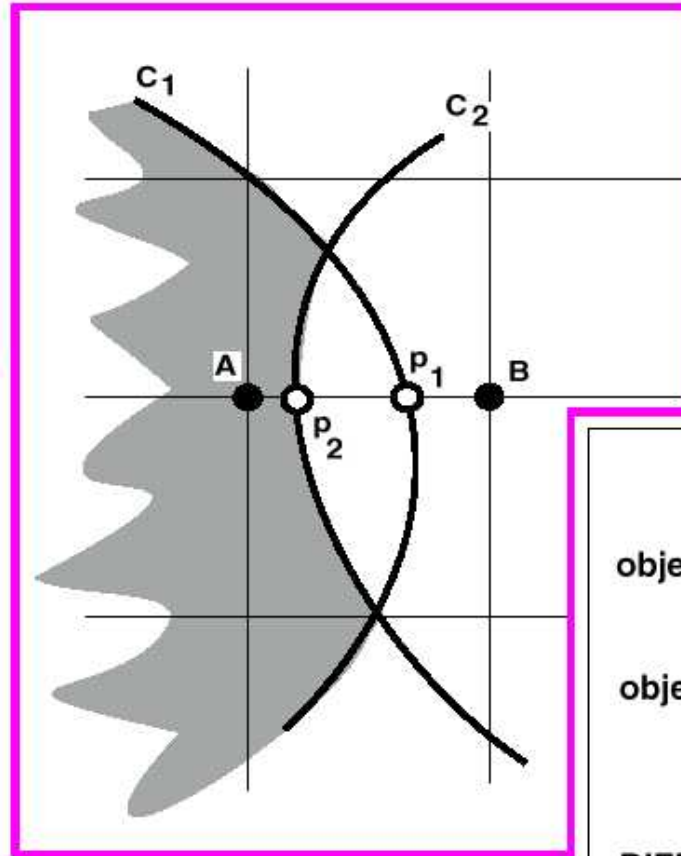
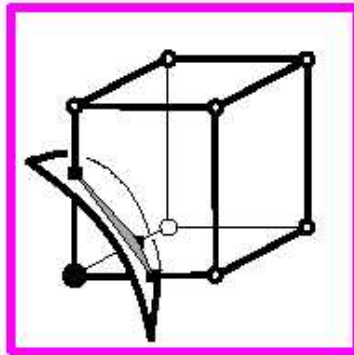
# CSG Tree

## CSG Implementation

Boolean Expressions are usually represented as a binary tree.



# CSG Intersections with Voxels



# CSG Intersection Value

## Boolean Operations

Union and intersection of primitives, A and B may be respectively defined as a composition of the field values,  $F_A$ ,  $F_B$

$$F_A \times F_B = \max(F_A, F_B)$$

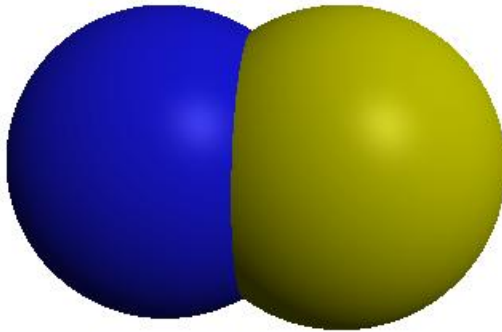
$$F_A \cap F_B = \min(F_A, F_B)$$

Difference use  $\cdot \min(F_A, F_B)$   
(  $\cdot$  in this case inverts inside and outside )



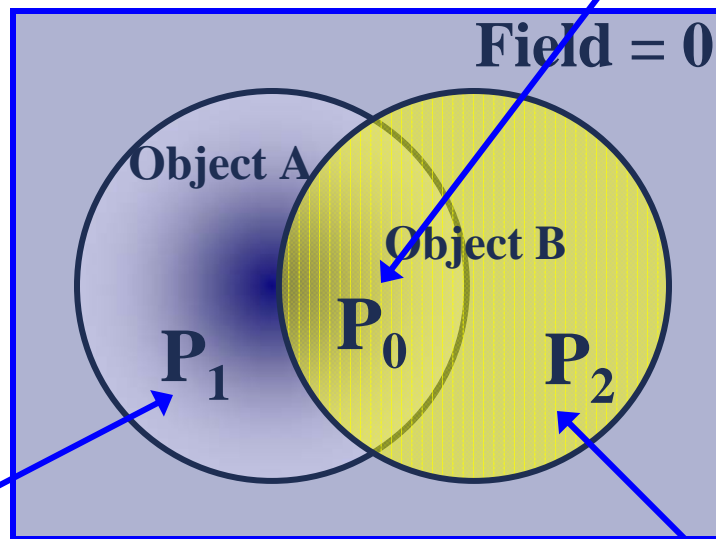
## CSG - Min and Max

### Union



$$f_{A|B}(p_0) = \text{Max}(f_A(p_0), f_B(p_0))$$

Depending on position of  $p_0$



$$f_A(p_1) = \text{Max}(f_A(p_1), f_B(p_1))$$

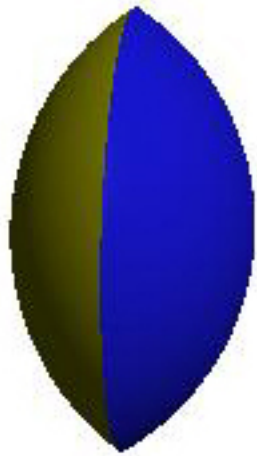
$$f_B(p_2) = \text{Max}(f_A(p_2), f_B(p_2))$$





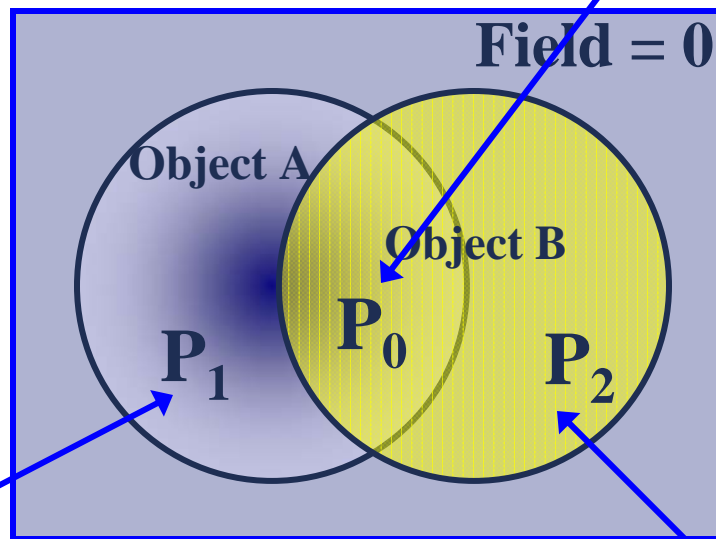
# CSG - Min

## Intersection



$$f_{A|B}(p_0) = \text{Min}(f_A(p_0), f_B(p_0))$$

Depending on position of  $p_0$



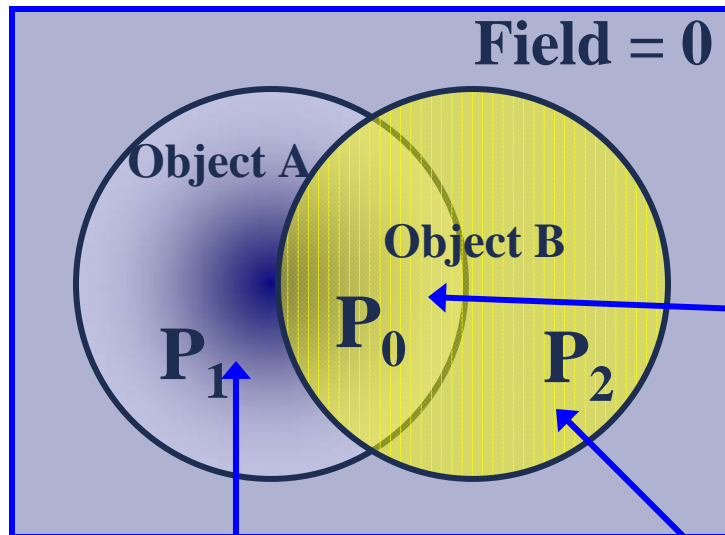
$$f_B(p_1) = \text{Min}(f_A(p_1), f_B(p_1)) = 0$$

$$f_A(p_2) = \text{Min}(f_A(p_2), f_B(p_2)) = 0$$



# CSG - Min

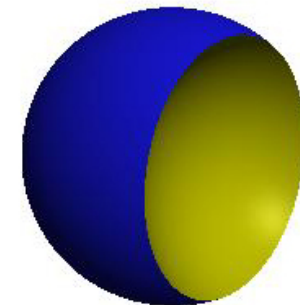
## Difference



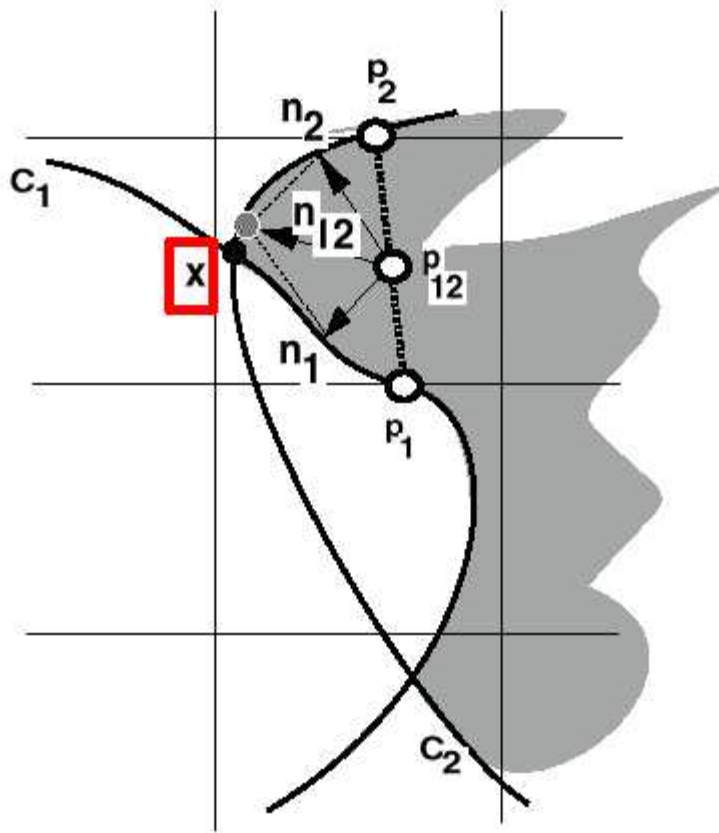
$\text{Min}(f_A(p_0), f_B(p_0)) = 1 - f_{A|B}(p_0)$   
Depending on position of  $p_0$

$\text{Min}(f_A(p_1), 1 - f_B(p_1)) = 0$

$\text{Min}(f_A(p_1), 1 - f_B(p_1)) = f_A(p_1)$



# Polygonization Problems



X is the true intersection point for  $C_1$  and  $C_2$

Segment  $P_1 P_2$  is far from x.

Estimate for x s. t.  $f_1(x) \geq f_2(x) \geq 1$

We can apply a first order Taylor expansion to the difference :  $n_{12} = x - P_{12}$

$$1 \geq f_1(x) \geq f_1(P_{12}), \quad n_{12} \geq f_1(P_{12}), \quad \Rightarrow n_{12} \rightarrow f_1(P_{12})$$

$$1 \geq f_2(x) \geq f_2(P_{12}), \quad n_{12} \geq f_2(P_{12}), \quad \Rightarrow n_{12} \rightarrow f_2(P_{12})$$



## Iterating to the Surface

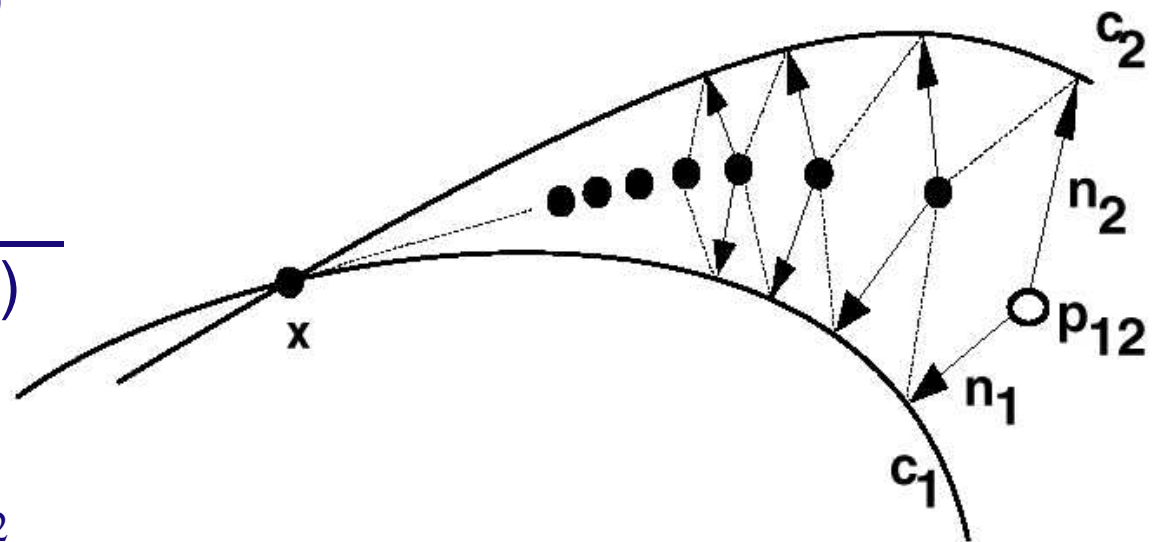
$$\lambda_1 = \frac{-f_1}{(\diamond f_1, \diamond f_1)}$$

so

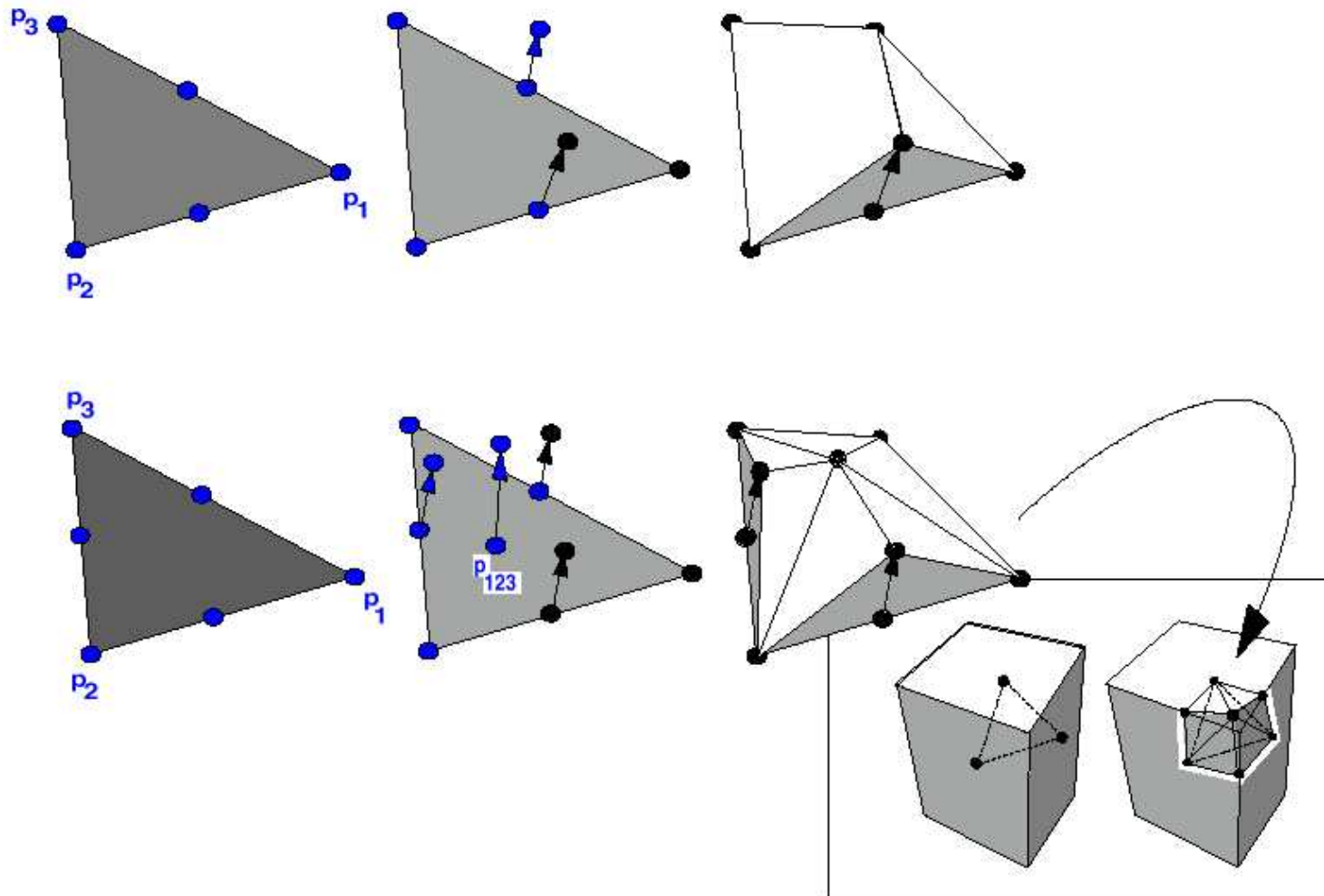
$$n_1 = \frac{-f_1 \diamond f_1}{(\diamond f_1, \diamond f_1)}$$

and similarly

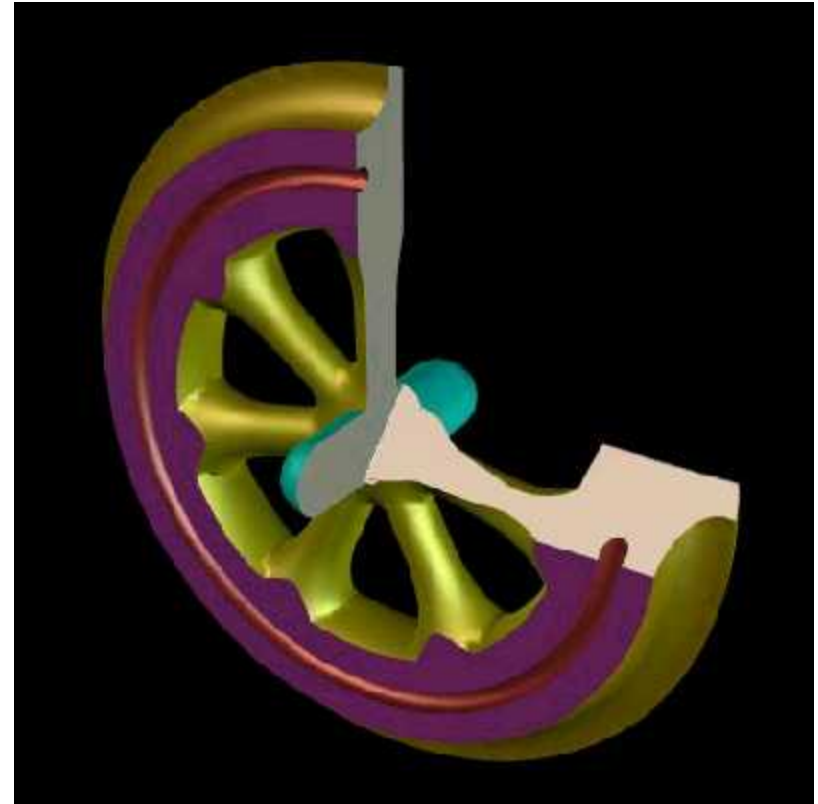
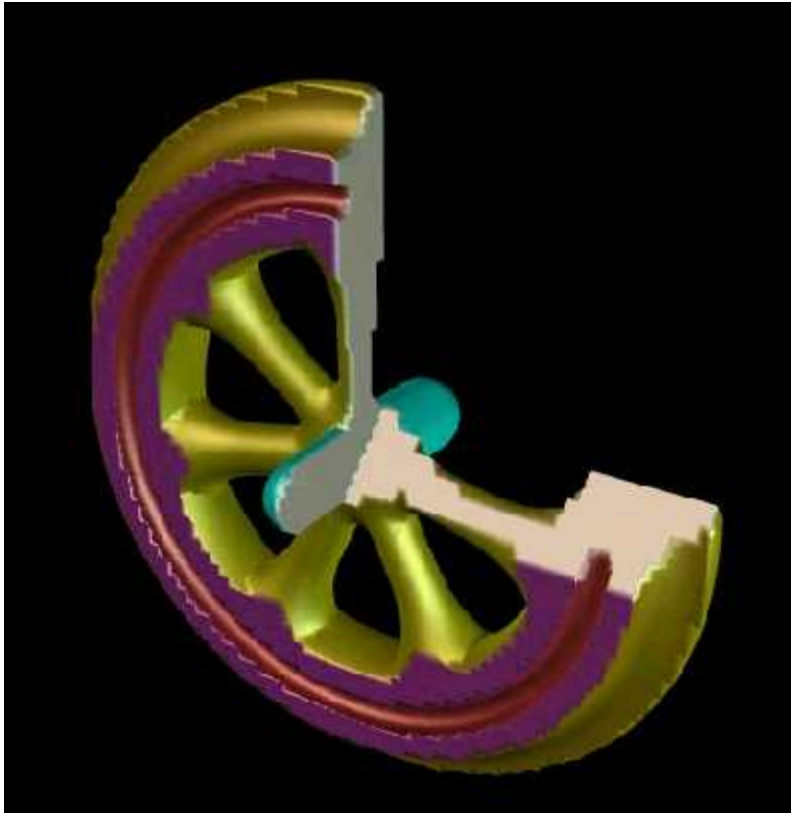
$$n_2 = \frac{-f_2 \diamond f_2}{(\diamond f_2, \diamond f_2)}$$



# Adaptive Polygonisation



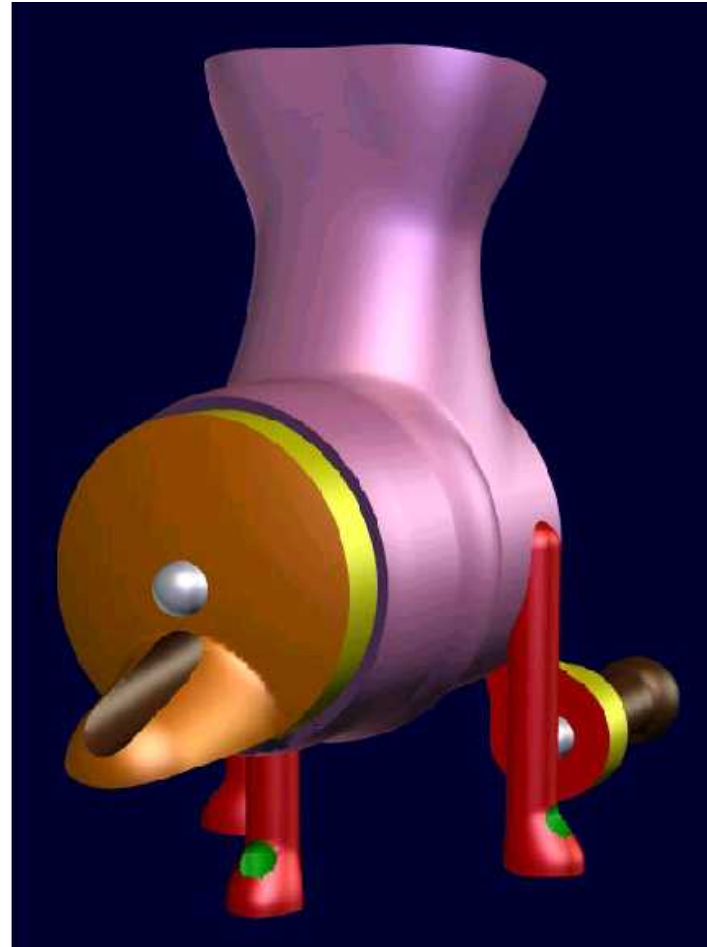
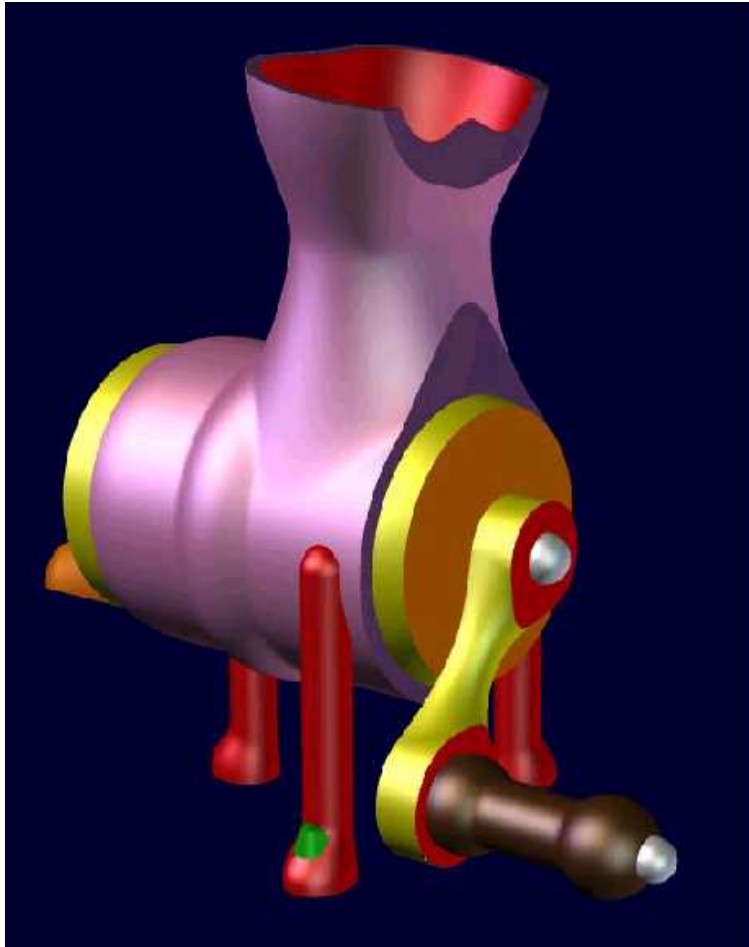
## CSoftG Wheels



**Csoft Wheel before and after removal of artifacts**



## *Canmore Coffee Grinder*





# Ray Traced Canmore Coffee Grinder

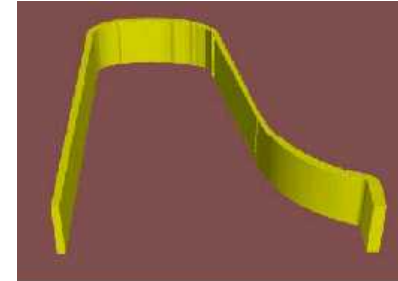
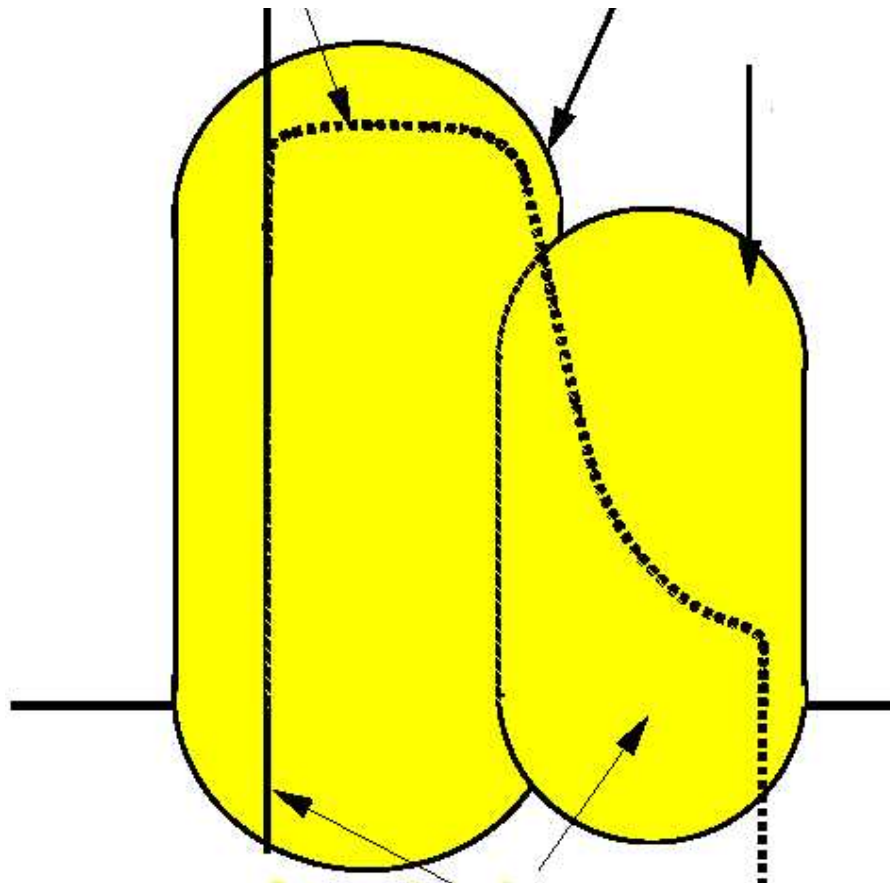
by

Kees van Overveld  
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Brian Wyvill



# Building the Piano

Parametric Bounding Curve



Cylinders intersected with bounding plane and parametric curve



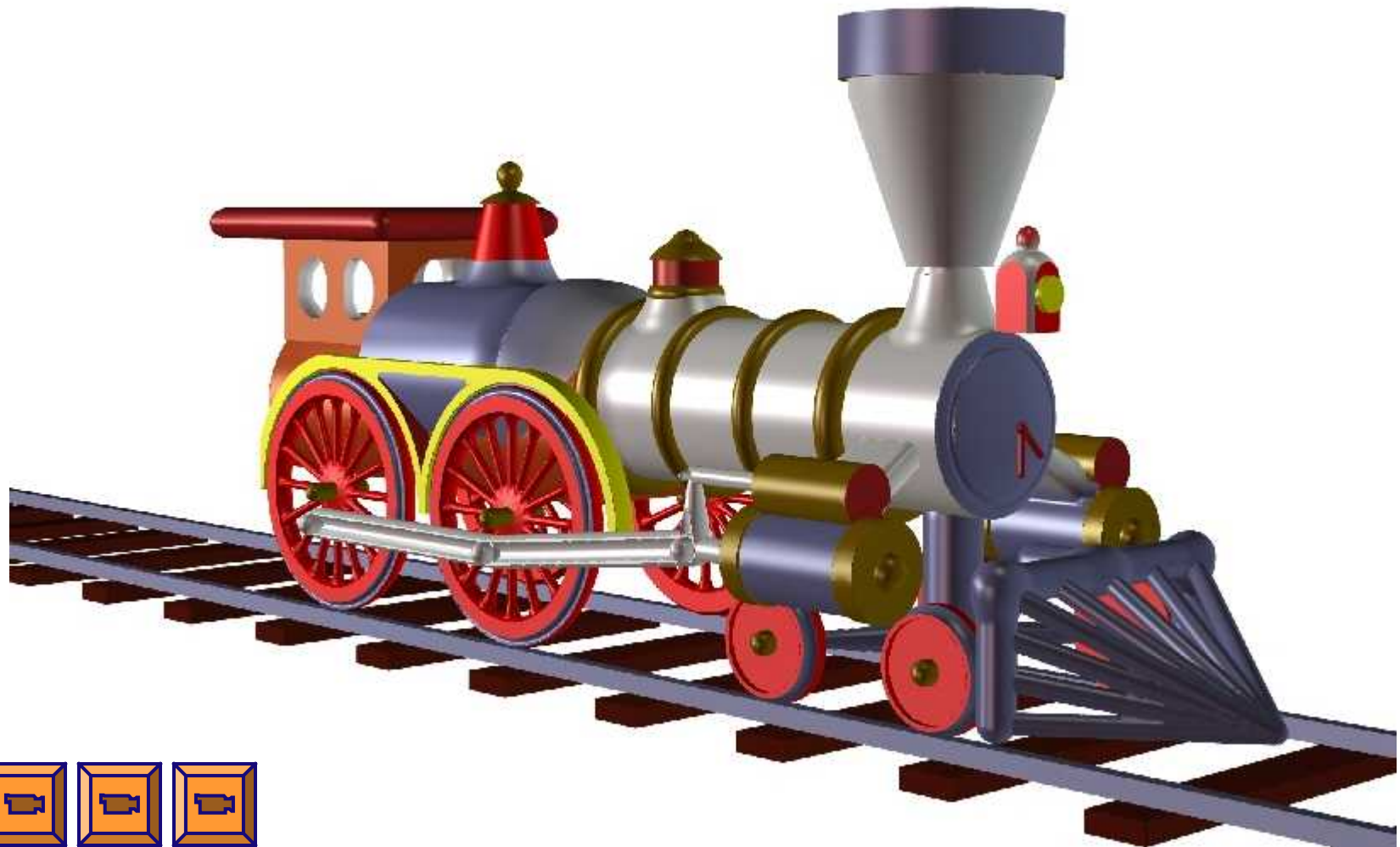
## *Model of 9ft. Steinway Concert Grand*



*Plant by Dr.  
Prusinkiewicz*

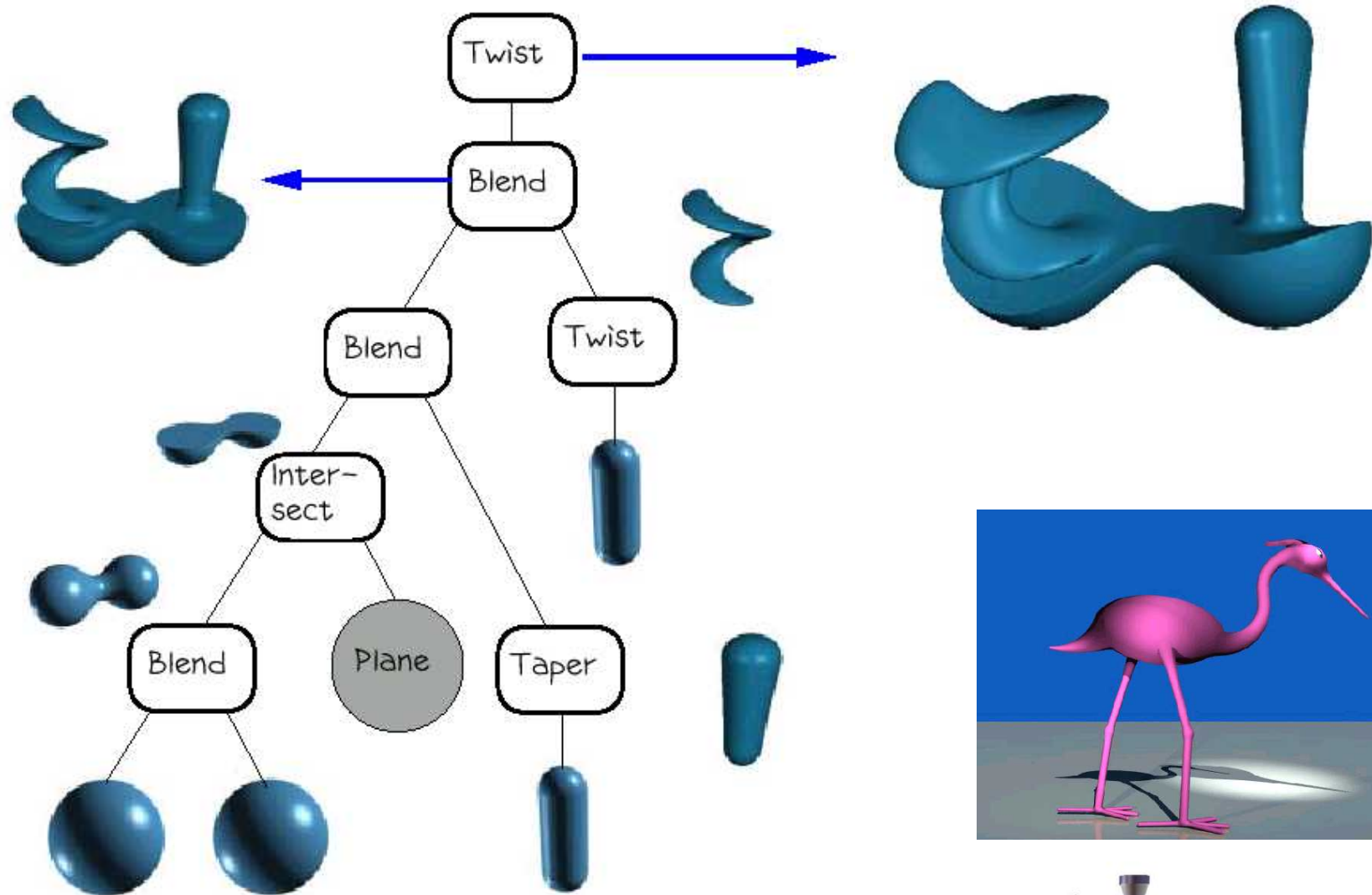


## *American Type 4-4-0*

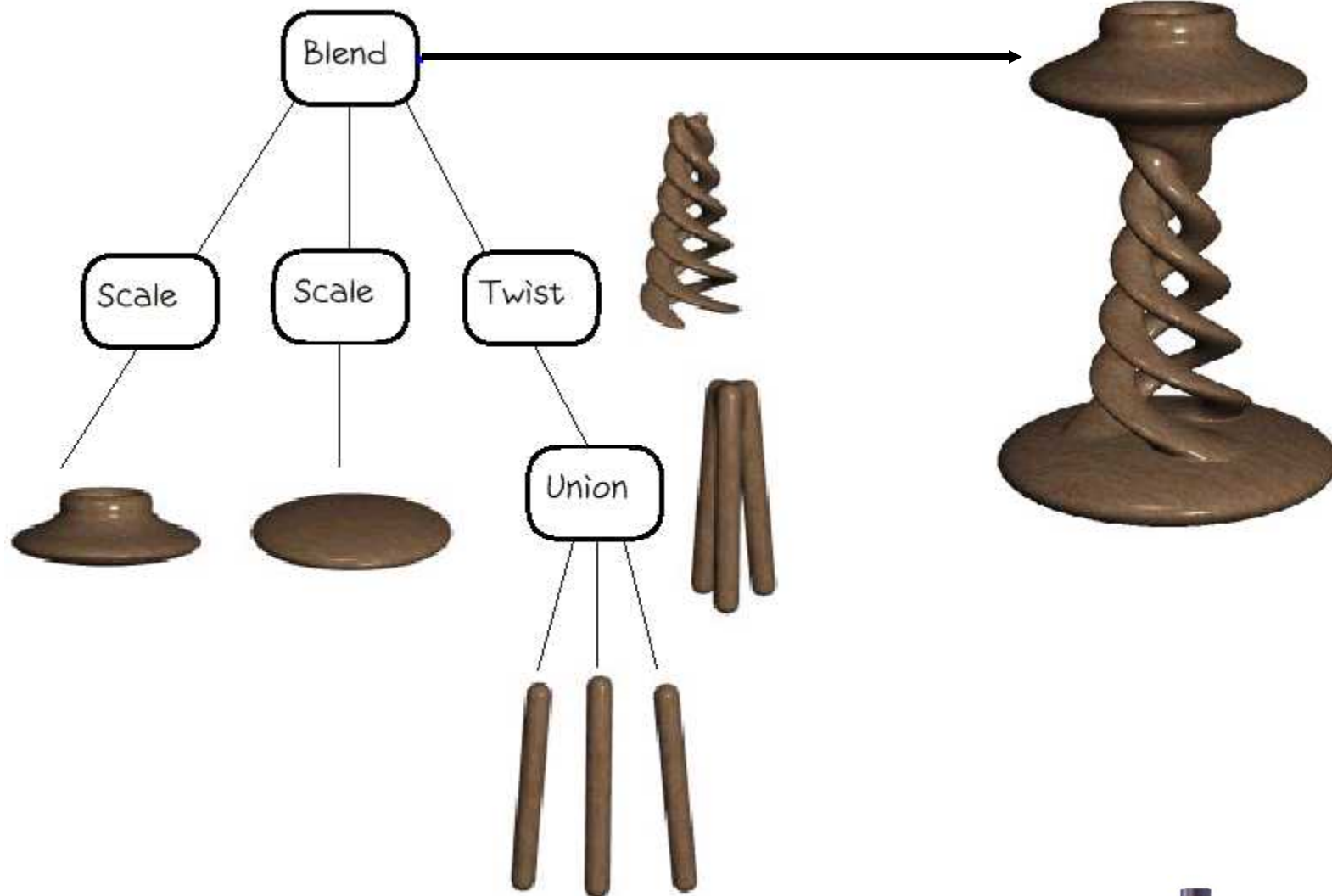




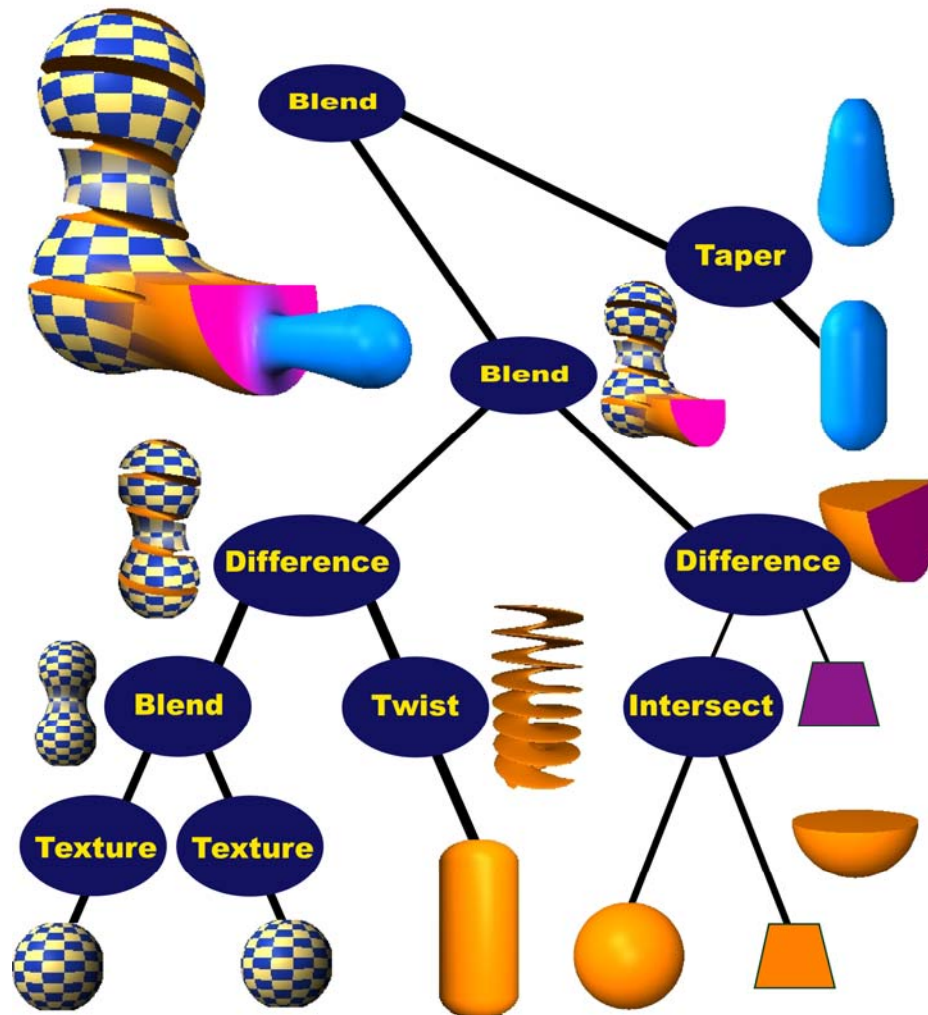
# The BlobTree



## A BlobTree Example



## More BlobTree Nodes



**Note the inclusion  
of the  
texture node.**





# *Traversing The BlobTree*

N - indicates a node in the BlobTree

L (N ) - left child R (N ) - right child

function F returns the field value for the node N at the point M

**function F(N , M)**

1. Primitive: F( M)
2. Warp: F( L (N ) , w( M)) (warp is a unary operator)
3. Blend: F( L (N ) , M)+ F( R (N ) , M))
4. Union: max( F( L (N ) , M), F( R (N ) , M))
5. Intersection: min( F( L (N ) , M), F( R (N ) , M))
6. Difference: min( F( L (N ) , M), -F( R (N ) , M))

**end**

