# Halfedge Mesh Representation

David Gu<sup>1</sup>

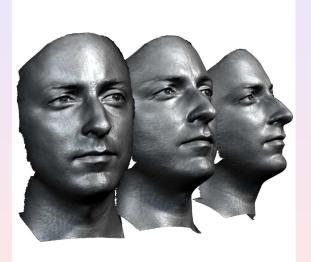
<sup>1</sup>Mathematics Science Center Tsinghua University

Tsinghua University

# **Halfedge Data Structure**

### Discrete Surfaces

Acquired using 3D scanner.



### Discrete Surfaces

Our group has developed high speed 3D scanner, which can capture dynamic surfaces 180 frames per second.



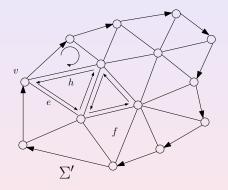
- Surfaces are represented as polyhedron triangular meshes.
- Isometric gluing of triangles in  $\mathbb{E}^2$ .
- Isometric gluing of triangles in  $\mathbb{H}^2, \mathbb{S}^2$ .





#### Discrete structures

- Topology Simplicial Complex, combinatorics
- Conformal Structure Corner angles (and other variant definitions)
- Riemannian metrics Edge lengths
- Embedding Vertex coordinates



## Triangle mesh

#### Definition (Mesh)

A triangle mesh is a oriented two dimensional simplical complex, generally embedded in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .

Our goal is to design a data structure to efficiently represent general meshes.





## halfedge data structure

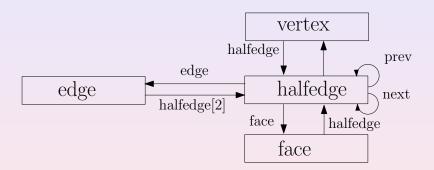
#### fundamental classes

- Vertex
- Halfedge, oriented edge
- Edge, non-oriented edge
- Face, oriented

#### Links

All objects are linked together through pointers, such that

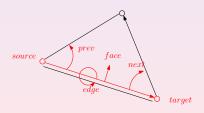
- The local Eucler operation can be easily performed
- The memory cost is minimized



# Halfedge class

#### **Pointers**

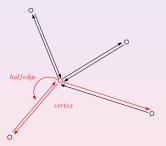
- Halfedge pointers: prev, next halfedge;
- Vertex pointers: target vertex, source vertex;
- Edge pointer: the adjacent edge;
- face pointer: the face it belongs to;



### Vertex class

#### **Pointers**

Halfedge pointers: the first in halfedge



## Edge class

#### **Pointers**

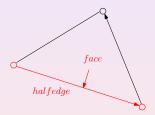
- Halfedge pointers: to the adjacent two halfedges.
- if the edge is on the boundary, then the second halfedge pointer is null.



### Face class

#### **Pointers**

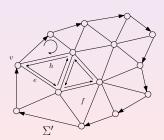
• Halfedge pointers: to the first halfedge.



### Mesh class

#### Data members

- A list of vertices;
- A list of halfedges;
- A list of edges;
- A list of faces;



## **Euler Operation**

### circulating neighbors of a vertex $v \rightarrow v/e/f/h$

- iterate out-halfedges counter-clock-wisely
- iterate in-halfedges counter-clock-wisely
- iterate neighboring faces CCWly
- iterate neighboring vertices CCWly

Rotate a halfedge about its target vertex clwly:

$$he = he \rightarrow next() \rightarrow dual();$$

Rotate a halfedge about its target vertex ccwly:

$$he = he \rightarrow dual() \rightarrow prev();$$



## **Euler Operation**

### circulating neighbors of a face $f \rightarrow v/e/f/h$

- iterate halfedges ccwly
- iterate edges ccwly
- iterate vertices ccwly
- iterate faces ccwly

Circulate halfedges of a face ccwly:

$$he = he \rightarrow next()$$

circulate halfedge of a face clwly:

$$he = he \rightarrow prev()$$
;



### **Attributes**

#### **Attributes**

Each object stores attributes (traits) which defines other structures on the mesh:

- metric structure: edge length
- angle structure: halfedge
- curvature : vertex
- conformal factor: vertex
- Laplace-Beltrami operator: edge
- Ricci flow edge weight; edge
- holomorphic 1-form: halfedge

