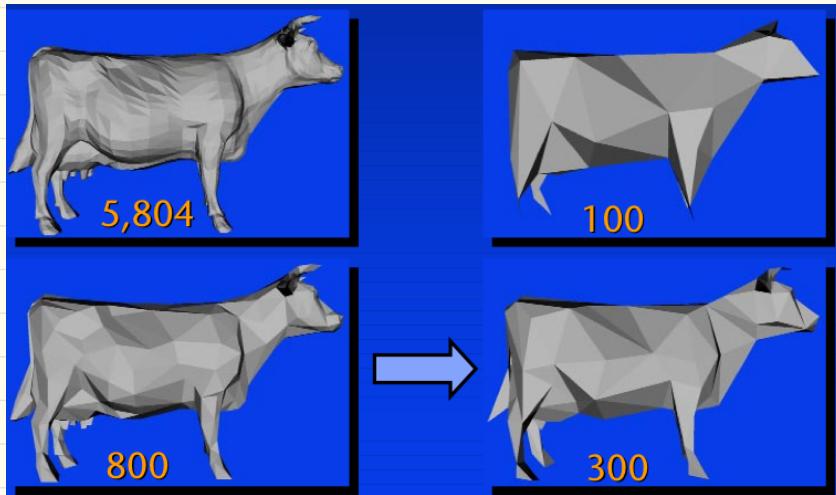
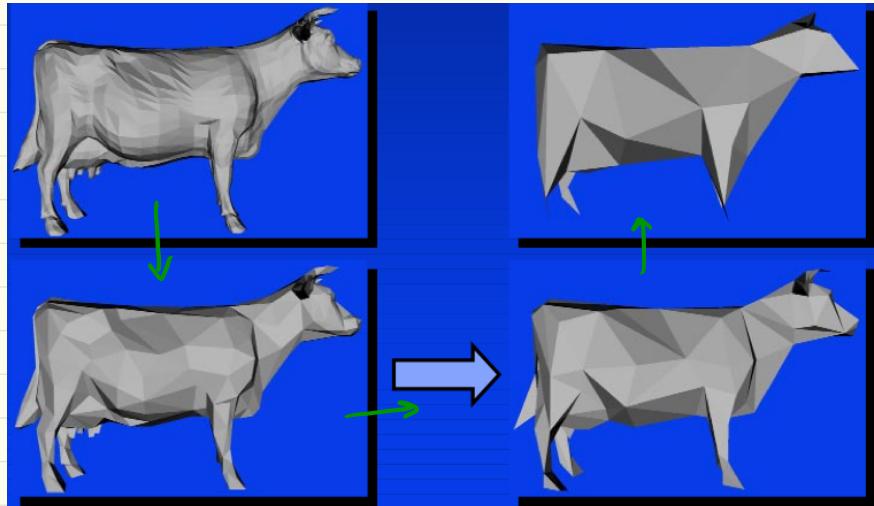


## LECTURE 4: SIMPLIFICATION



# How to 'simplify' a mesh?

- design a basic simplification step
- use this step iteratively on the mesh.

## COMPLEXITY OF A MESH

- faces
  - edges
  - vertices .
- } all related  
to each other  
via  
**EULER'S  
THEOREM**  
↓ next year.

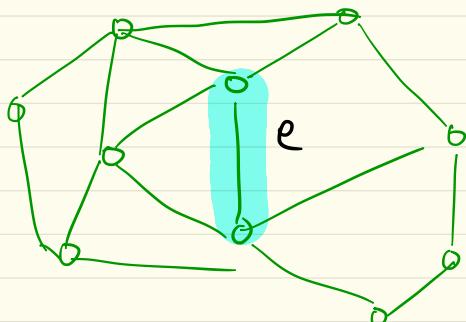
1 Remove vertices

VERTEX DECIMATION

2 Remove edges

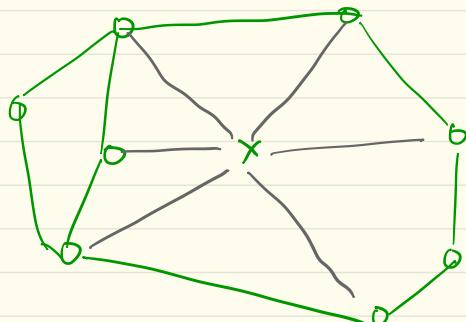
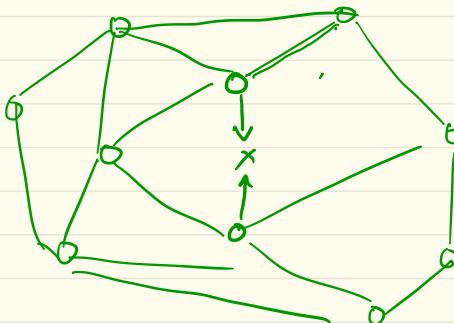
TODAY.

## REMOVE EDGES



~~removing~~  
collapse  
~~e~~  
~~e~~

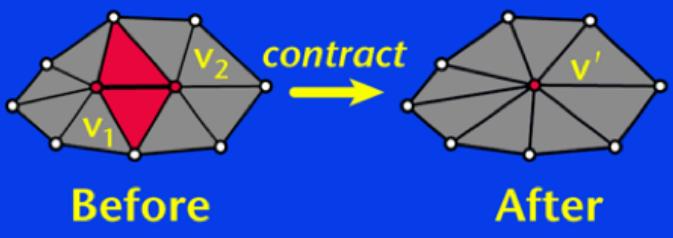
- remove e
- merge the two endpoints of e.



- ① maintain co-planarity
- ② maintain new faces
- ③ clean away duplicate edges.

## **Contract vertex pair $(v_1, v_2) \rightarrow v'$**

- Move  $v_1$  and  $v_2$  to position  $v'$
- Replace all occurrences of  $v_2$  with  $v_1$
- Remove  $v_2$  and degenerate triangles
- Typically, we contract edges, as others have d



# ALGORITHM (myMesh $\neq m$ )

$m_0 = m$  ;

$i = 0$  ;

do {

all the  
complication is  
here !

① choose an edge of  $m_i$  ;  
say  $e_i$ .

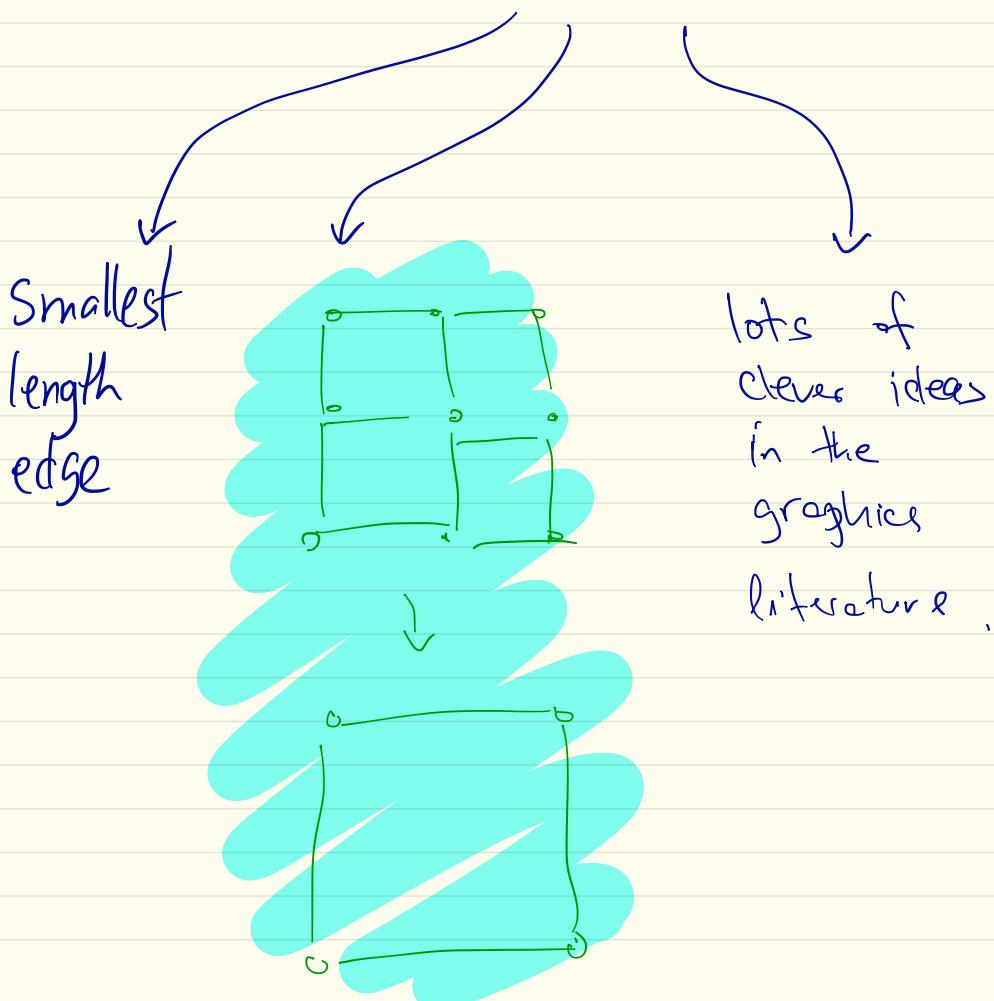
② collapse  $e_i$

③ new mesh  $m_{i+1}$  ;  $i++$  ;

} while ( $m_i$  is too complicated);

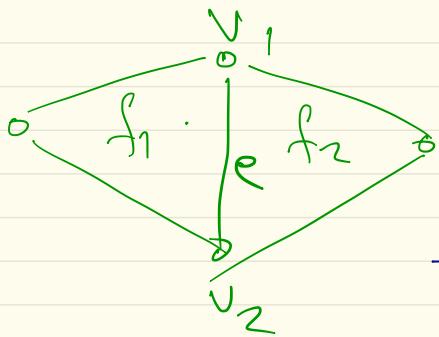
Q: Which edge to collapse?

→ pick an edge that creates  
the smallest 'error'.



Q: Which edge to collapse?

FOR NOW: pick an edge that minimizes the point distance!

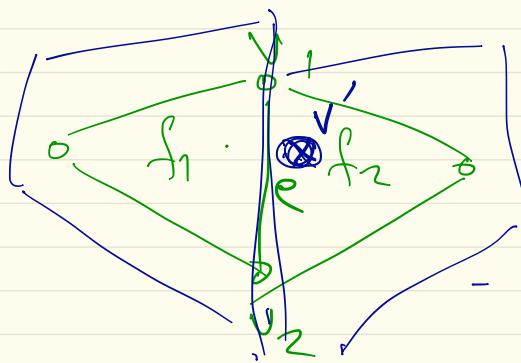


-  $f_1$  &  $f_2$  define 2 planes

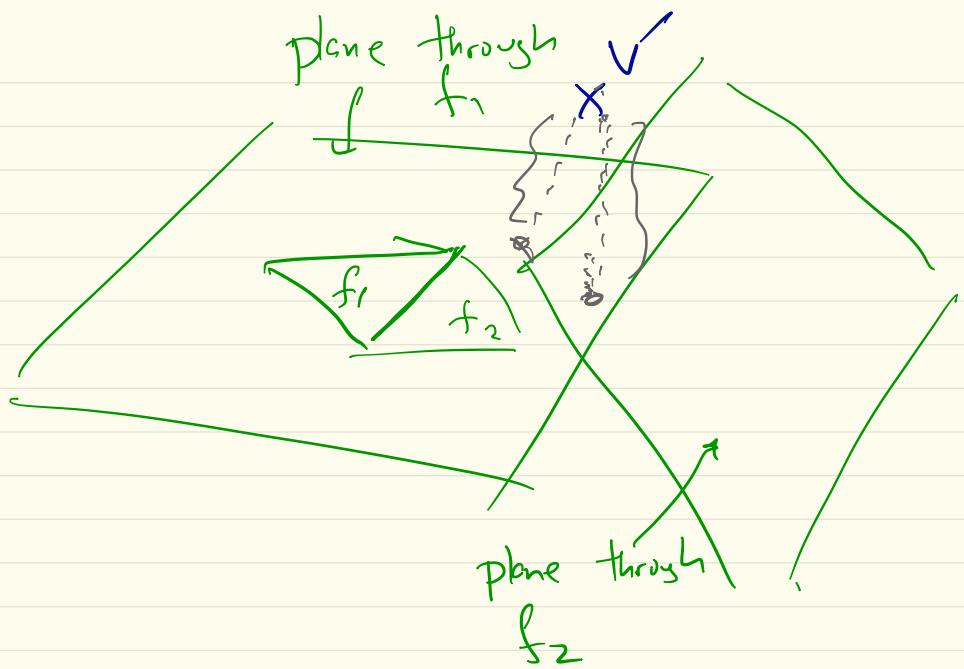
- error: for  $e$ ,  
find a new vertex position  $v'$ ,

that minimizes the error of  $v'$  to

the 2 planes  
passing through  $f_1, f_2$



new vertex position  $v'$



Minimise distance of  $v'$  to the  
two planes  $f_1 \in f_2$ .

$$\text{dist}(v', f_1) + \text{dist}(v', f_2)$$

↓ error.

$$[\text{dist}(v', f_1)^2 + \text{dist}(v', f_2)^2]$$

→ Why use  $\text{dist}^2$  instead of  $\text{dist}$ ?

- ① avoid taking a square-root for efficiency
- ② mathematically easier to minimize nice inequalities ...
- ③ example:

1      9  
- approxint 1  $\approx$  9 with a new, number  $v'$

- error of the approx.,  
by sum of distan of  
 $v'$  to 1 and 9

$$v' = 2 \rightarrow (2-1) + (9-2) = 8$$

$$v' = 5 \rightarrow (5-1) + (9-5) = 8$$

$$V' = 2 \rightarrow \text{error} = 8 \quad V' = 5 \rightarrow \text{error} = 8$$

9

Sum of distances.

$$V' = 2 \rightarrow (2-1)^2 + (9-2)^2 = 50$$

$$V' = 5 \rightarrow (5-2)^2 + (9-5)^2 = 32$$

Sum of squares -

---

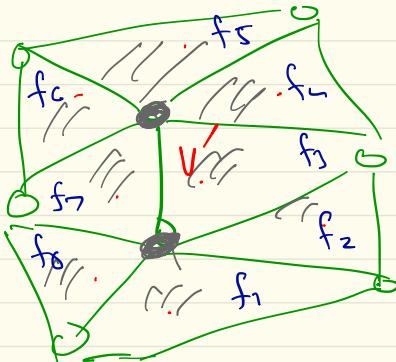
Sum of squares tries more to make the distances more equal

∴ dist<sup>3</sup>, dist<sup>4</sup>... dist<sup>∞</sup>  
max.

Back to business:

M

- find an edge of M that  
minimizes the distance<sup>2</sup> to  
the surrounding plane,



find a point  $v'$  that  
minimizes  $\sum_{i=1}^8 (d(v', f_i))^2$ .

$M_1$

↓ contract  $e_1$

minimum sum of square distance.

$M_2$

↓ contract  $e_2$

$M_3$

:

↓

↓

↓

↓

↓

↓

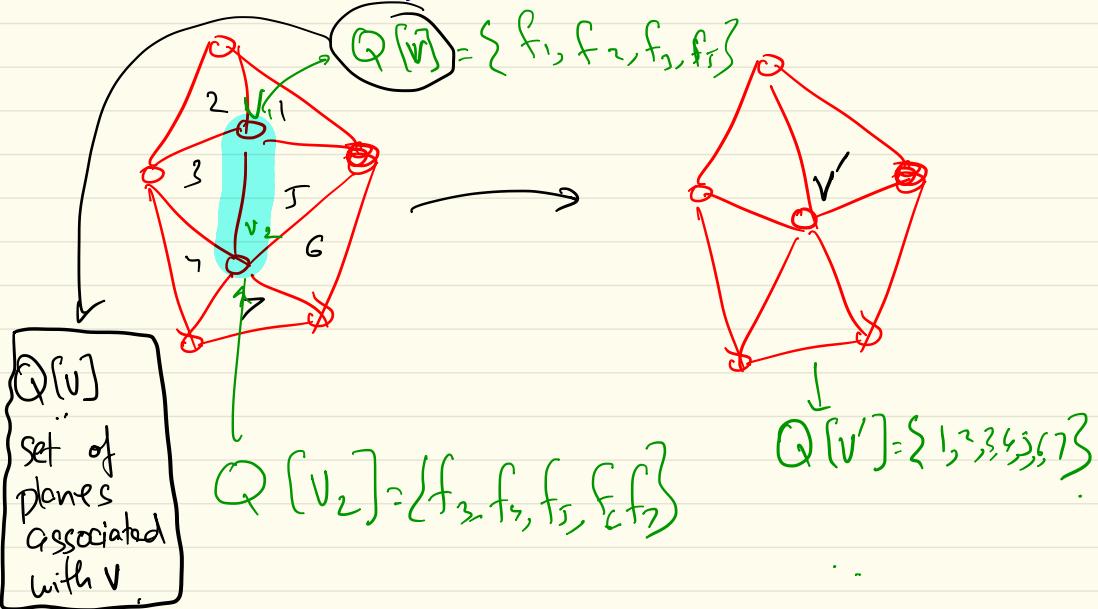
↓

$M_t$

Contract  $e_t$

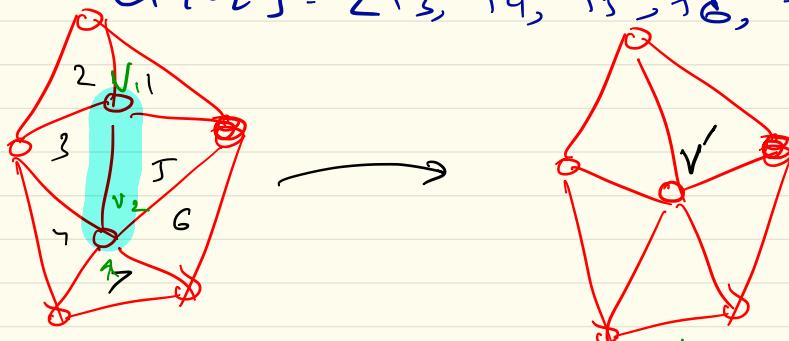
Idea: never contract the same vertex twice.  
 a restriction on choices  
 of Contractible edges. :-)

Idea: the set of planes from which we measure the distance<sup>2</sup> will come from original mesh



$$Q[V_1] = \{f_1, f_2, f_3, f_5\}$$

$$Q[V_2] = \{f_3, f_4, f_5, f_6, f_7\}$$



- For each vertex, define the set  $Q$ , to be a list of planes associated with that vertex.

- To compute the error of contracting

$V_1 - V_2$ , minimize

$$\text{error}(v') = \sum (d(v', h))^2$$

plane  $h \in Q[V_1] \cup Q[V_2]$

- Set  $Q[v'] = Q[V_1] \cup Q[V_2]$ .

# Algorithm Outline

## *Initialization*

- Compute quadric  $\mathbf{Q}$  for each vertex
- Select set of valid vertex pairs (edges + non-edges)
- Compute minimal cost candidate for each pair

## *Iteration*

- Select lowest cost pair  $(v_1, v_2)$
- Contract  $(v_1, v_2)$  —  $\mathbf{Q}$  for new vertex is  $\mathbf{Q}_1 + \mathbf{Q}_2$
- Update all pairs involving  $v_1$  &  $v_2$

# DETAILS

- point  $v'$ , plane  $h_1$ .

- compute distance  $(h_1, q')^2$ :

$h_1$ : defined by  $\xrightarrow{\text{a point}} P_1$   $\xrightarrow{\text{a norm}} N_1$ .

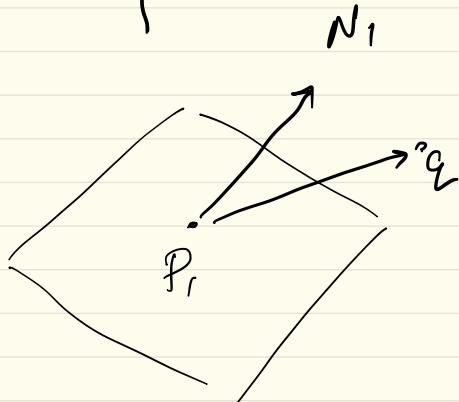
if  $q$  lies on the plane  $h_1$ ,  $(q - P_1) \cdot N_1 = 0$ .

if  $q$  does not lie on

$h_1$ ,

$$|(q - P_1) \cdot N_1| ?$$

distance of  
 $q$  to  $h_1$ !



- point  $v'$ , plane  $h_1$ .

- Compute distance  $(h_1, q')^2$ :

$h_1$ : defined by  $\xrightarrow{\text{a point}} p_1$   $\xrightarrow{\text{a norm}} N_1$

$$\left| (q - p_1) \cdot N_1 \right| \leftarrow \text{distance of } q \text{ to } h_1$$
$$= |q \cdot N_1 - p_1 \cdot N_1|$$

$$N_1 = (n'_x, n'_y, n'_z)$$

$$q = (x, y, z)$$

$$\| n'_x \cdot x + n'_y \cdot y + n'_z \cdot z - p_1 \cdot N_1 \|$$

$d$

$$= |q \cdot N_1 - p_1 \cdot N_1|$$

$$N_1 = (n'_x, n'_y, n'_z)$$

$$q = (x, y, z)$$

$$n'_x \cdot x + n'_y \cdot y + n'_z \cdot z - p_1 \cdot N_1$$

set  $H_1 = \begin{pmatrix} n'_x \\ n'_y \\ n'_z \\ d \end{pmatrix} 4 \times 1$

$$q = \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} 4 \times 1$$

then  $q^T H_1$ : distance of  $q$  to  $h_1$ .

$$(4 \times 1) 4 \times 1$$

distance<sup>2</sup> sum of  $v'$  to a set  
of plane  $Q$ .

$$\sum_{h_i \in Q} \text{dist}(v', h_i)^2$$

$$= \sum_{h_i \in Q} \left( v'^T \cdot H_i \right)^2$$

$$= \sum_{h_i \in Q} (v'^T \cdot H_i)(v'^T \cdot H_i)$$

$$= \sum_{h_i \in Q} (v'^T \cdot H_i)(H_i^T \cdot v')$$

$$= \sum_{h_i \in Q} v'^T (H_i \cdot H_i^T) v'$$
$$= v'^T \left( \sum_{h_i \in Q} H_i \cdot H_i^T \right) v'$$

$$= \sum_{h_i \in Q} (v^T \cdot h_i)(h_i^T \cdot v')$$

$$= \sum_{h_i \in Q} v^T (h_i \cdot h_i^T) v'$$

Define  $\underbrace{Q_i}_{4 \times 4}$  as the matrix  $\begin{matrix} h_i \cdot h_i^T \\ 4 \times 1 \\ 1 \times 4 \end{matrix}$

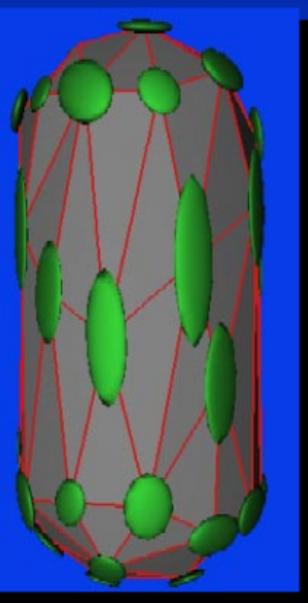
$$= v^T \left( \sum_{h_i \in Q} Q_i \right) v' \quad \text{need only the sum of } Q_i's!$$

$$v' \xrightarrow{\begin{matrix} Q^1 \\ Q^2 \\ \dots \end{matrix}} v_1 \quad v_2 \quad \text{store only one within with each } v.$$

$$v^T \left( \sum_{h_i \in Q^1} Q_i^1 \right) v + v^T \left( \sum_{h_i \in Q^2} Q_i^2 \right) v'$$

$$= v^T \left( \sum_{h \in Q^1 \cup Q^2} Q_i \right) v'$$

# But What Are These Quadratics Really Doing?



*Almost always ellipsoids*

- When  $\mathbf{Q}$  is positive definite

*Characterize error at vertex*

- Vertex at center of each ellipsoid
- Move it anywhere on ellipsoid with constant error

*Capture local shape of surface*

- Stretch in least curved direction

Finally: need to compute, given a Quadratic error matrix  $Q$ , the vertex that minimizes the error to  $Q$ .

$$\underbrace{V^T \cdot Q \cdot V}_{\text{minimized}} \quad V = \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

just a polynomial of degree two.

- differentiate in each of  $\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \frac{\partial}{\partial z}$
- set to 0 and solve  
to find the best placement for  $V'$ .