Surface Simplification

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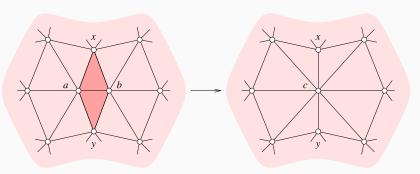
Project Goal

• Implement an algorithm for simplifying surface triangulations



Algorithm idea

- Iteratively contract edges which minimally affect the overall shape
- Edge is chosen according to an error function



Error function

- For each edge we compute the point to which this edge will contract
- The error of this point is calculated as the sum of squared distances to the planes spanned by adjacent triangles

Implementation

- The edges are stored in a priority queue, ordered on the error of the point that replaces them
- Each iteration we contract the edge from the top the priority queue
- After contracting we discard all the adjacent edges, recompute their error and reinsert them in the priority queue
- Repeat until the number of triangles is sufficiently low





