

# CS-184: Computer Graphics

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Lecture #25: Modeling w/ Points

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V2005F-25-1.0

## Today

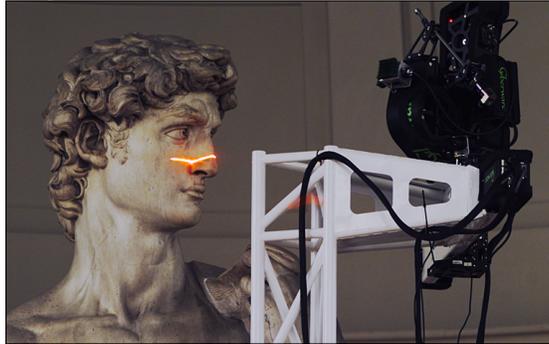
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- Points as a graphics primitive

# A Thought Experiment

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- Laser scanners
  - Millions to *billions* of points
- Typical image
  - At most a few million pixels
- More points than pixels...



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# “Point-Based Graphics”

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- Surfaces represented only by points
  - Maybe normals also
  - No topology
- How can we do
  - Rendering
  - Modeling operations
  - Simulation

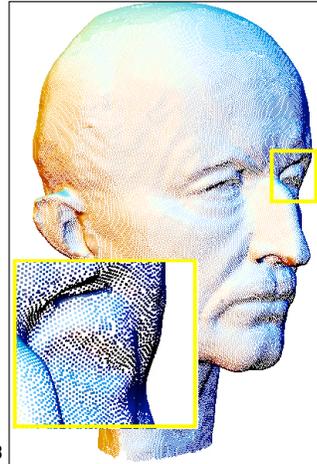
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# Rendering

- For each point draw a little “splat”
  - Use associated normal for shading
  - Possibly apply texture

If “splats” are small compared to spacing then gaps result

Splatting too many points would waste time

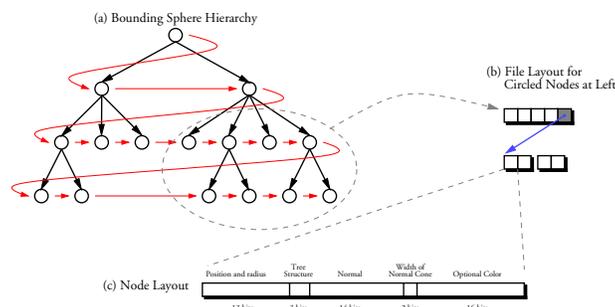


Ohtake, et al., SIGGRAPH 2003

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# Rendering

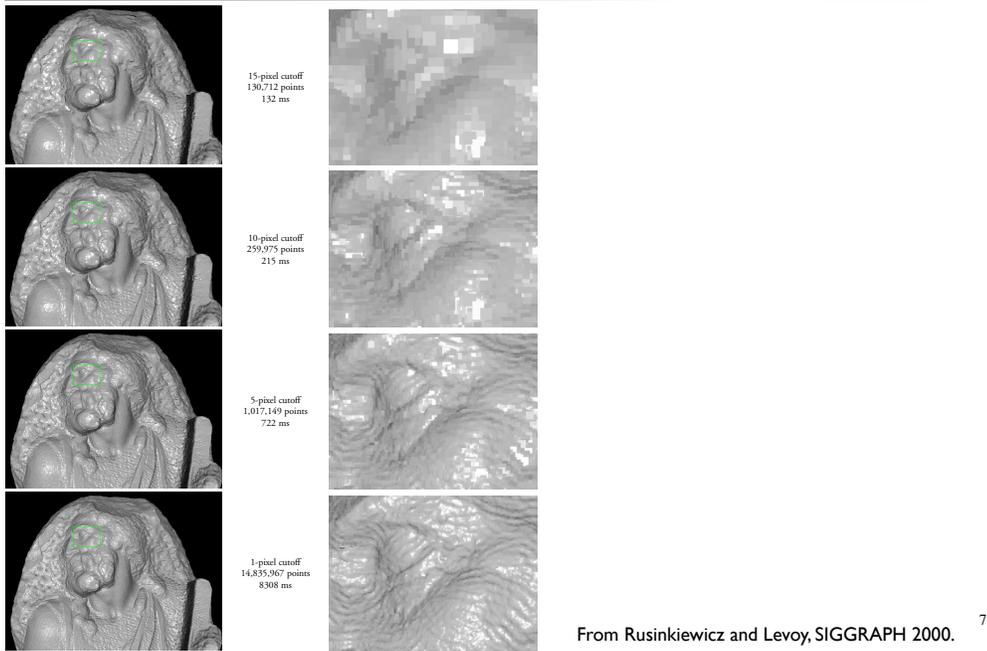
- “QSplat” algorithm
  - Build hierarchical tree of the points
  - Use bounding spheres to estimate size of clusters
  - Render clusters based on screen size
  - Use cluster-normals for internal nodes



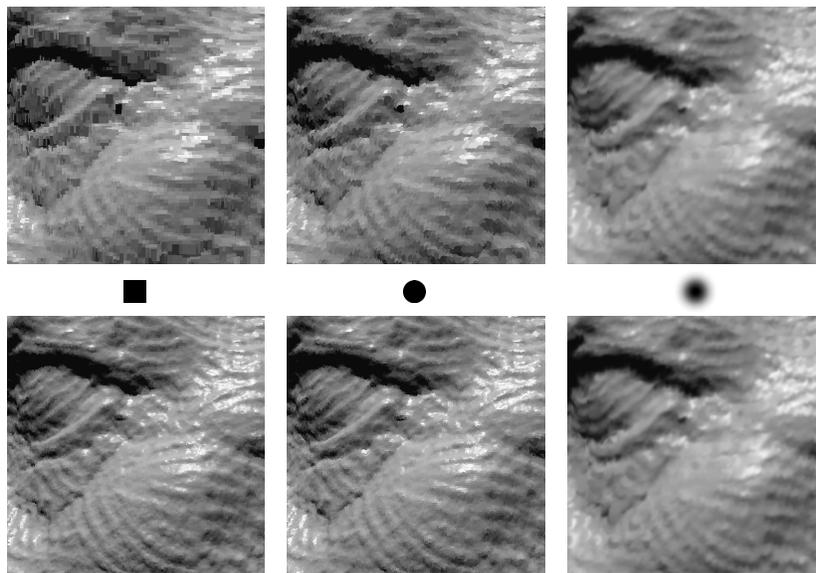
From Rusinkiewicz and Levoy, SIGGRAPH 2000.

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# Rendering



# Rendering



# Rendering

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From Rusinkiewicz and Levoy, SIGGRAPH 2000. <sup>9</sup>

# Rendering

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(a)  
Points



(b)  
Polygons – same number of primitives as (a)  
Same rendering time as (a)



(c)  
Polygons – same number of vertices as (a)  
Twice the rendering time of (a)

From Rusinkiewicz and Levoy, SIGGRAPH 2000. <sup>10</sup>

# Defining a Surface

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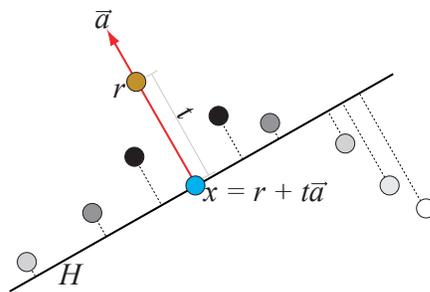
- Two related methods
  - Surface is a point attractor
    - Point-set surfaces
  - Implicit surface
    - Multi-level Partition of Unity Implicits
    - Implicit Moving Least-Squares

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# Point-Set Surfaces

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- Surface is the attractor of a repeated projection process
  - Find nearby points
  - Fit plane (weighted)
  - Project into plane
  - Repeat
- Does it converge?
- How to weight points?

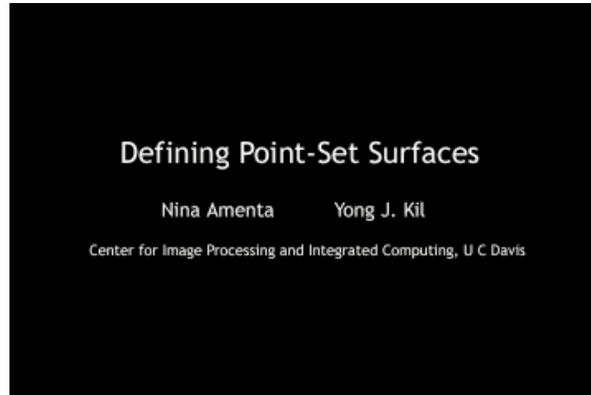


From Amenta and Kil, SIGGRAPH 2004.

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# Point-Set Surfaces

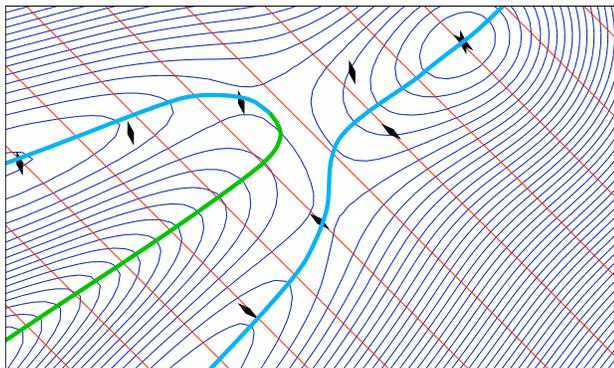
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# Point-Set Surfaces

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From Amenta and Kil, SIGGRAPH 2004.

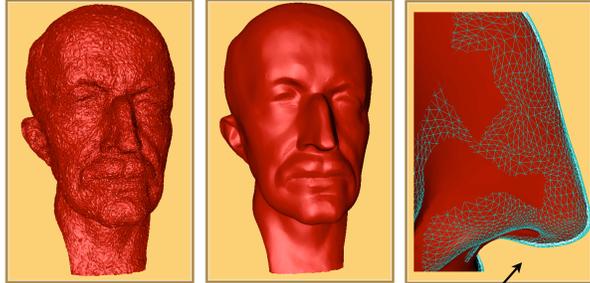
Does this give us a good surface?

New “robust” methods exist for sharp features

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# Point-Set Surfaces

- Some examples



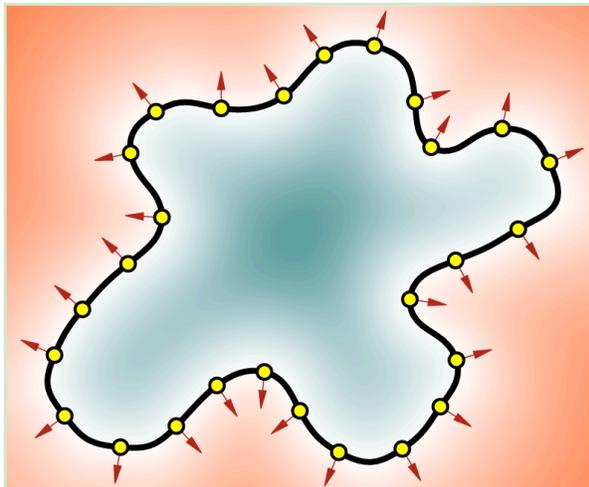
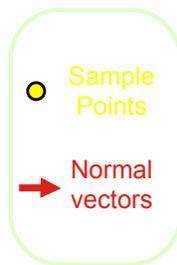
Note shrinkage

From Fleichman, Thesis, 2003.

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# Implicit Moving Least-Squares

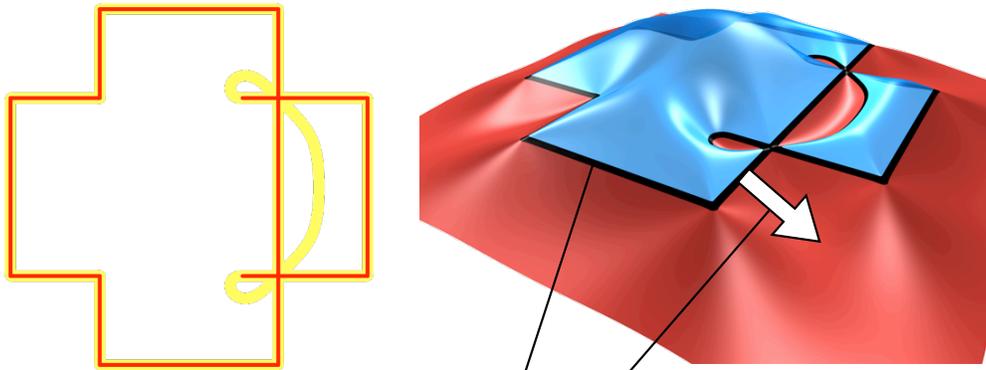
- Define a scalar function that is zero passing through all the points



From Shen, et al., SIGGRAPH, 2004.

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# Implicit Moving Least-Squares



Function is zero on boundary  
Decreases in outward direction

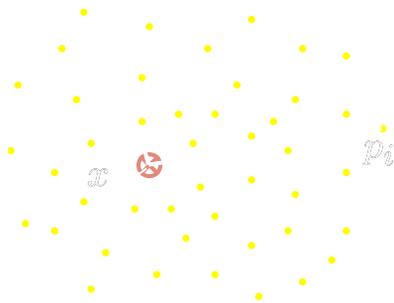
From Shen, et al., SIGGRAPH, 2004.

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# Moving Least-Square Interpolation

Standard Least Square

$$\begin{bmatrix} b^T(p_1) \\ \vdots \\ b^T(p_N) \end{bmatrix} c = \begin{bmatrix} \phi_1 \\ \vdots \\ \phi_N \end{bmatrix}$$



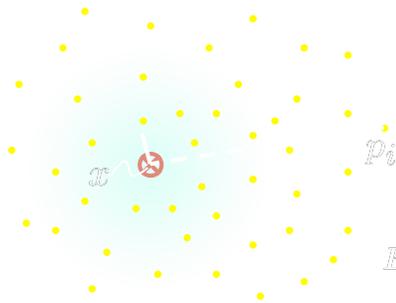
$$B^T B c = B^T \phi$$

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# Moving Least-Square Interpolation

## Moving Least Square

$$\begin{bmatrix} w(x, p_1) \\ \vdots \\ w(x, p_N) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} b^T(p_1) \\ \vdots \\ b^T(p_N) \end{bmatrix} c = \begin{bmatrix} w(x, p_1) \\ \vdots \\ w(x, p_N) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \phi_1 \\ \vdots \\ \phi_N \end{bmatrix}$$



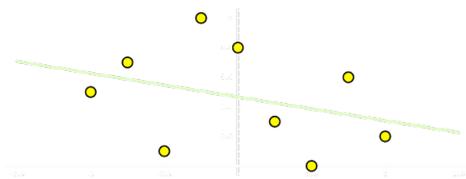
$$w(r) = \frac{1}{(r^2 + \epsilon^2)}$$

$$B^T (W(x))^2 B c(x) = B^T (W(x))^2 \phi$$

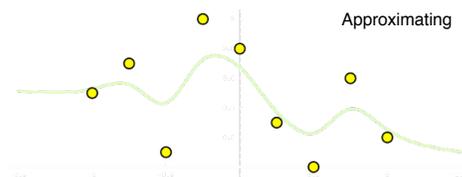
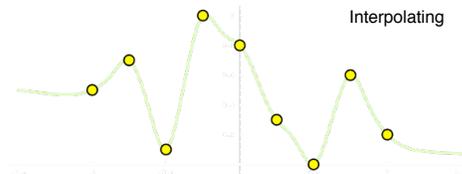
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# Moving Least-Square Interpolation

## Least Square

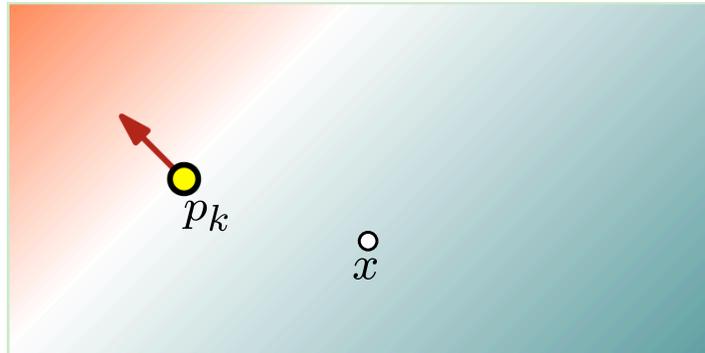


## Moving Least Square



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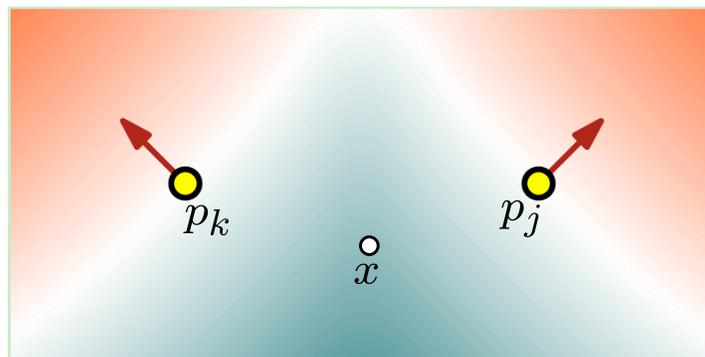
# Interpolating Functions



$$\begin{aligned}
 S_k(\mathbf{x}) &= \phi_k + (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{p}_k)^\top \hat{\mathbf{n}}_k \\
 &= \psi_{0k} + \psi_{xk}x + \psi_{yk}y + \psi_{zk}z
 \end{aligned}$$

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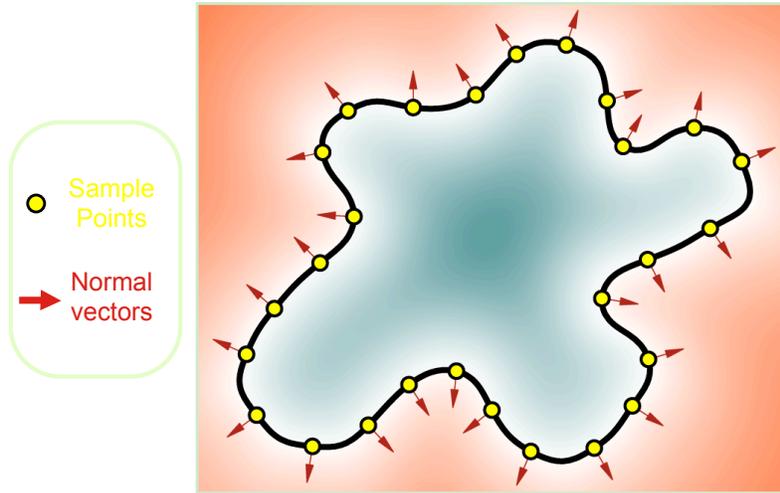
# Interpolating Functions



$$\begin{bmatrix} w(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}_1) \\ \vdots \\ w(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}_i) \end{bmatrix} c_1 = \begin{bmatrix} w(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}_1) \\ \ddots \\ w(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}_N) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} S_1(\mathbf{x}) \\ \vdots \\ S_N(\mathbf{x}) \end{bmatrix}$$

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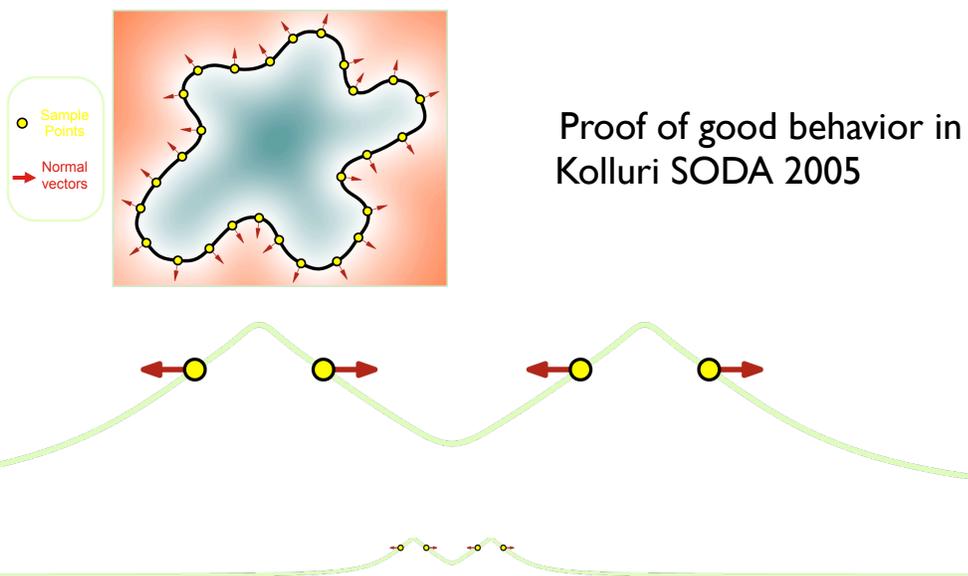
# Implicit Moving Least-Squares



From Shen, et al., SIGGRAPH, 2004.

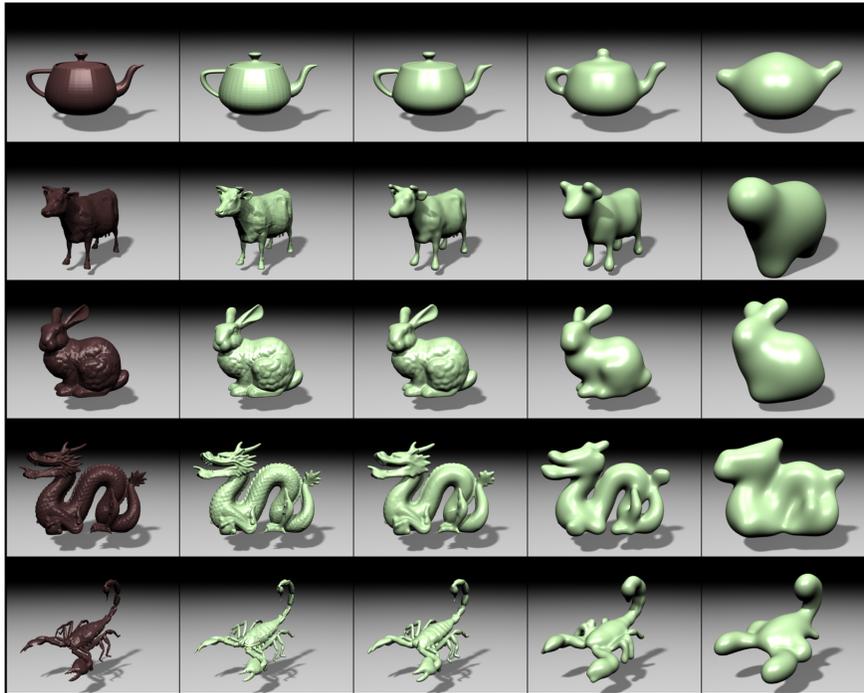
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# Implicit Moving Least-Squares

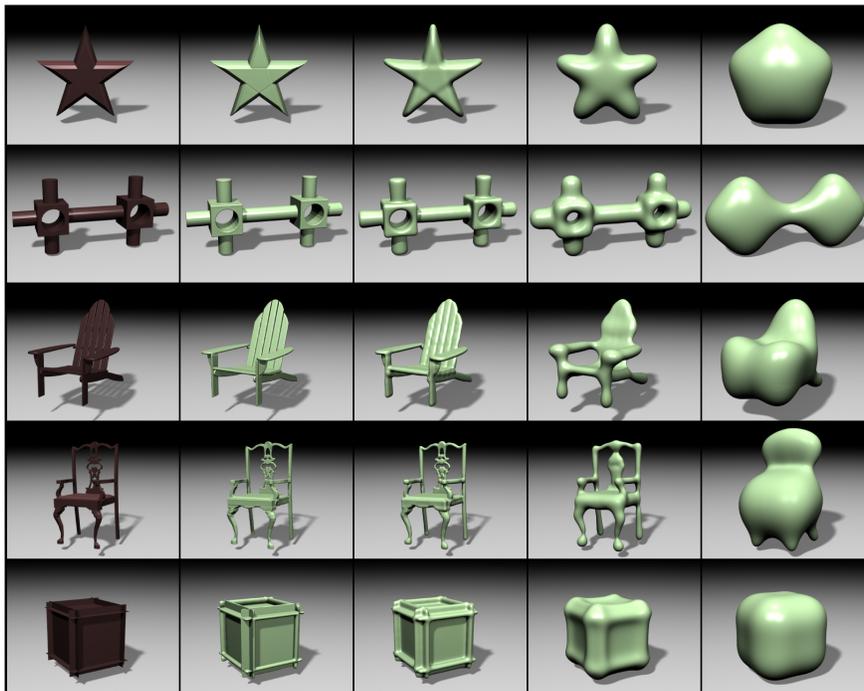


From Shen, et al., SIGGRAPH, 2004.

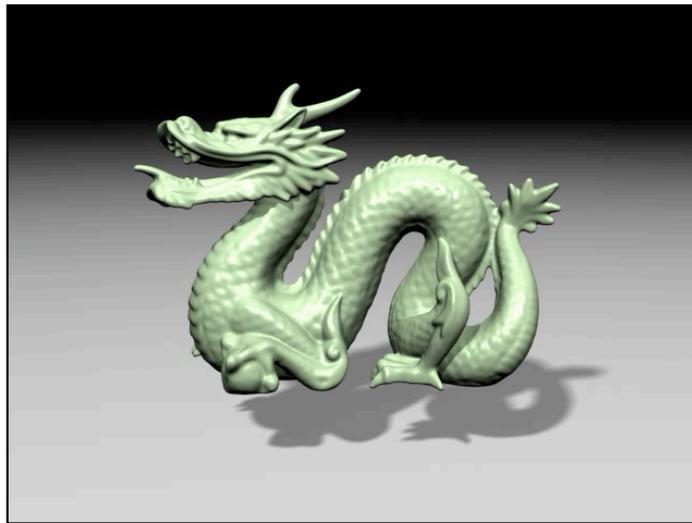
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From Shen, et al., SIGGRAPH, 2004.  
 (Actually based on polygon constraints... but same idea.)



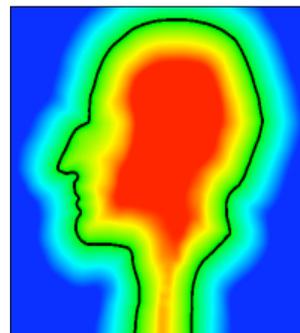
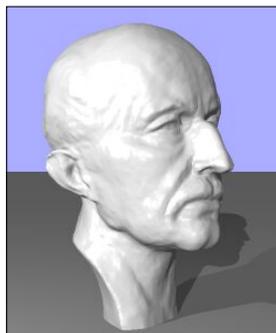
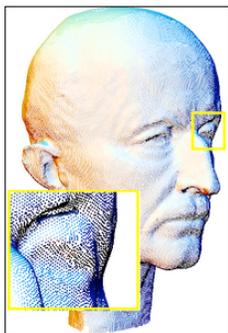
From Shen, et al., SIGGRAPH, 2004.  
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(Actually based on polygon constraints... but same idea.)

## Partition of Unity Method

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Ohtake, *et al.*, SIGGRAPH 2003

Partition of Unity is a special case of Moving Least-Squares

# Partition of Unity Method

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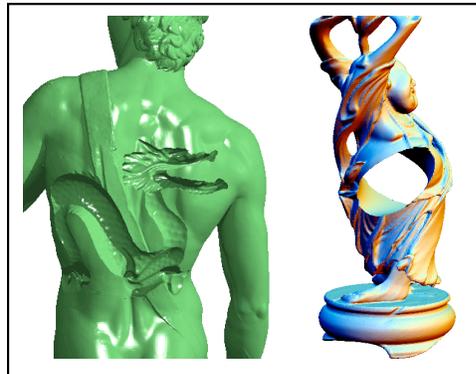
Ohtake, et al., SIGGRAPH 2003

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# Editing Operations

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- Implicit function can be
  - Combined w/ booleans
  - Warped
  - Offset
  - Composed
  - And more...



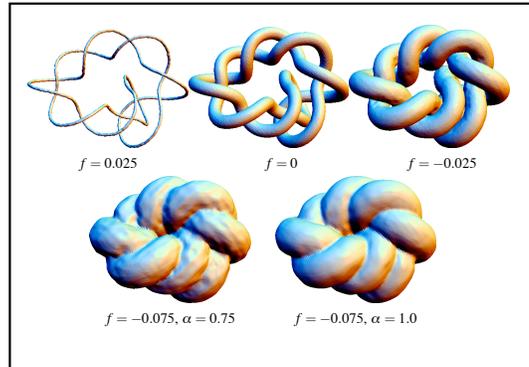
Ohtake, et al., SIGGRAPH 2003

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# Editing Operations

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  - And more...



Ohtake, et al., SIGGRAPH 2003

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# Editing Operations

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- Implicit function can be
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  - And more...



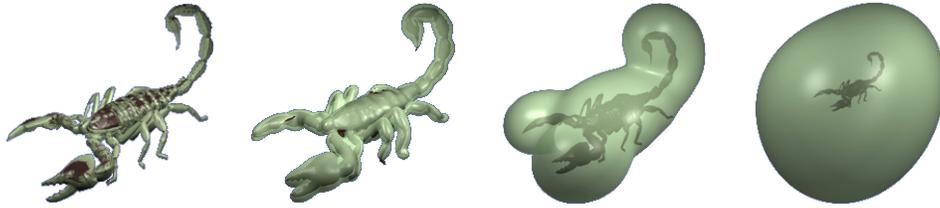
Ohtake, et al., SIGGRAPH 2003

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# Smoothing

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## Simple Smoothing



## Adjustment Smoothing



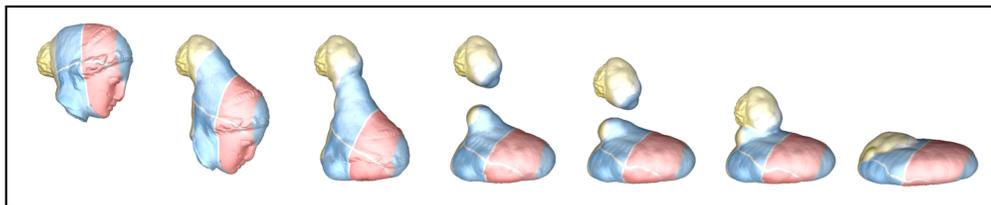
From Shen, et al., SIGGRAPH, 2004.

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# Point-Based Simulation

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- MLS originated in mechanics literature
- Natural use in graphics for animation

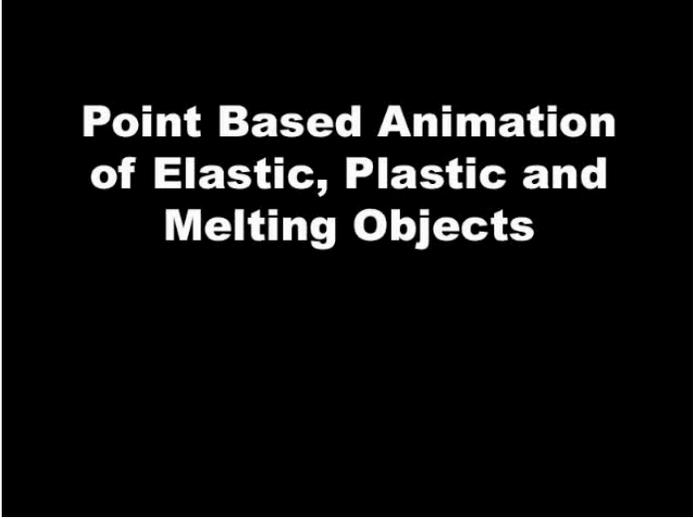


From Mueller, et al., SCA, 2004.

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# Point-Based Simulation

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**Point Based Animation  
of Elastic, Plastic and  
Melting Objects**

From Mueller, *et al.*, SCA, 2004.

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# Suggested Reading

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- "QSplat: A Multiresolution Point Rendering System for Large Meshes" by Szymon Rusinkiewicz and Marc Levoy, SIGGRAPH 2000.
- "Multi-level Partition of Unity Implicits" by Yutaka Ohtake and colleagues, SIGGRAPH 2003.
- "Point Based Animation of Elastic, Plastic and Melting Objects" by Mueller and colleagues, SCA 2004.
- "Defining point-set surfaces" by Nina Amenta and Yong Joo Kil, SIGGRAPH 2004.
- "Interpolating and Approximating Implicit Surfaces from Polygon Soup" by Chen Shen, James O'Brien, and Jonathan Shewchuk, SIGGRAPH 2004.

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