



# 3D Modeling

COS 426, Spring 2015  
Princeton University

# Syllabus



I. Image processing

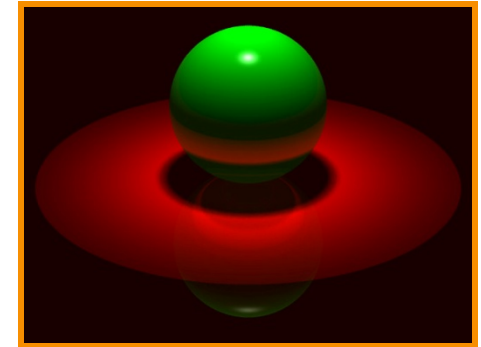
II. Modeling

III. Rendering

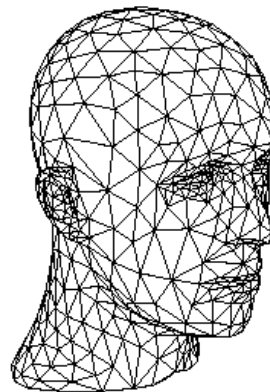
IV. Animation



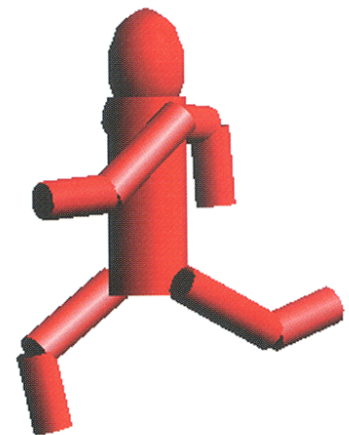
Image Processing  
(Rusty Coleman, CS426, Fall99)



Rendering  
(Michael Bostock, CS426, Fall99)



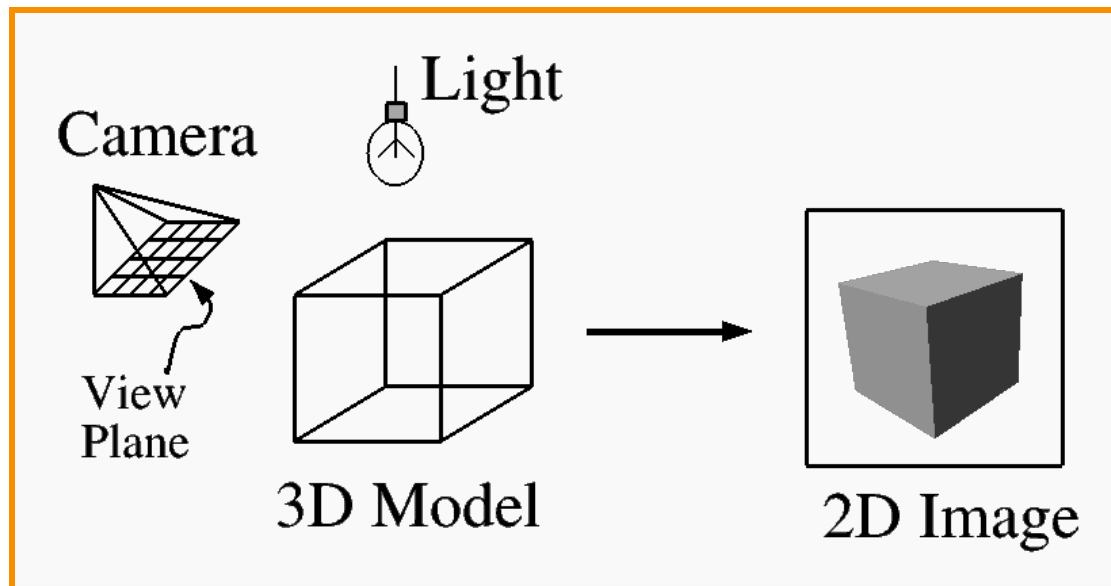
Modeling  
(Dennis Zorin, CalTech)



Animation  
(Angel, Plate 1)

# What is 3D Modeling?

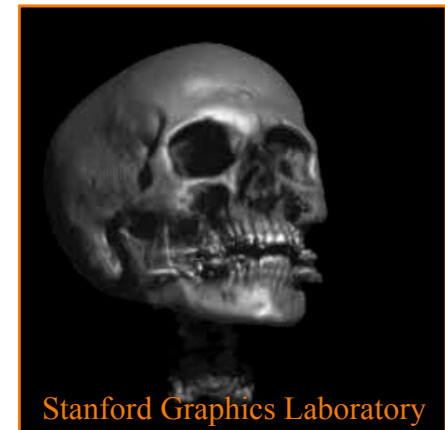
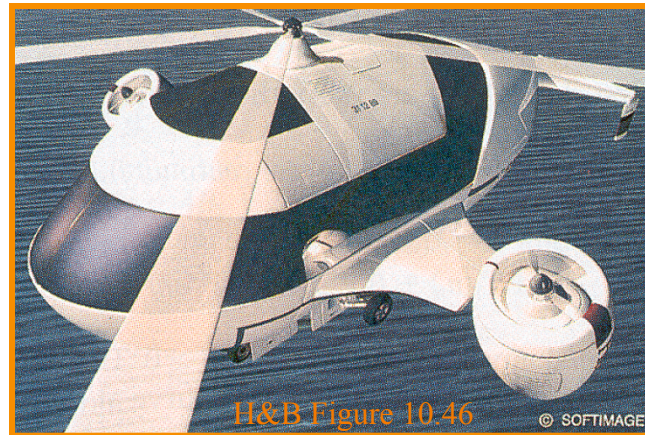
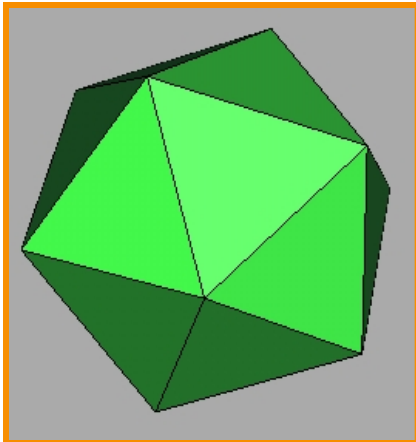
- Topics in computer graphics
  - Imaging = *representing 2D images*
  - Rendering = *constructing 2D images from 3D models*
  - Modeling = *representing 3D objects*
  - Animation = *simulating changes over time*



# Modeling



- How do we ...
  - Represent 3D objects in a computer?
  - Acquire computer representations of 3D objects?
  - Manipulate computer representations of 3D objects?





# Modeling Background

- Scene is usually approximated by 3D primitives
  - Point
  - Vector
  - Line segment
  - Ray
  - Line
  - Plane
  - Polygon

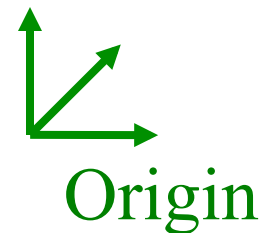


# 3D Point

- Specifies a location
  - Represented by three coordinates
  - Infinitely small

```
typedef struct {  
    Coordinate x;  
    Coordinate y;  
    Coordinate z;  
} Point;
```

• (x,y,z)





# 3D Vector

- Specifies a direction and a magnitude
  - Represented by three coordinates
  - Magnitude  $||V|| = \sqrt{dx^2 + dy^2 + dz^2}$
  - Has no location

```
typedef struct {  
    Coordinate dx;  
    Coordinate dy;  
    Coordinate dz;  
} Vector;
```

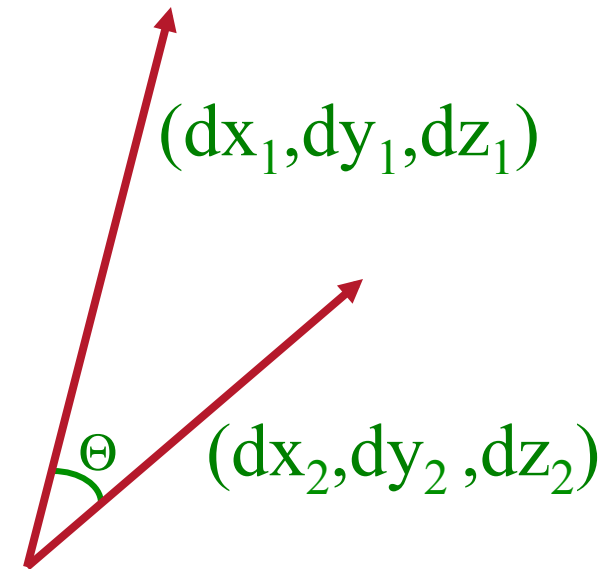
$(dx, dy, dz)$





# 3D Vector

- Dot product of two 3D vectors
  - $V_1 \cdot V_2 = \|V_1\| \|V_2\| \cos(\Theta)$

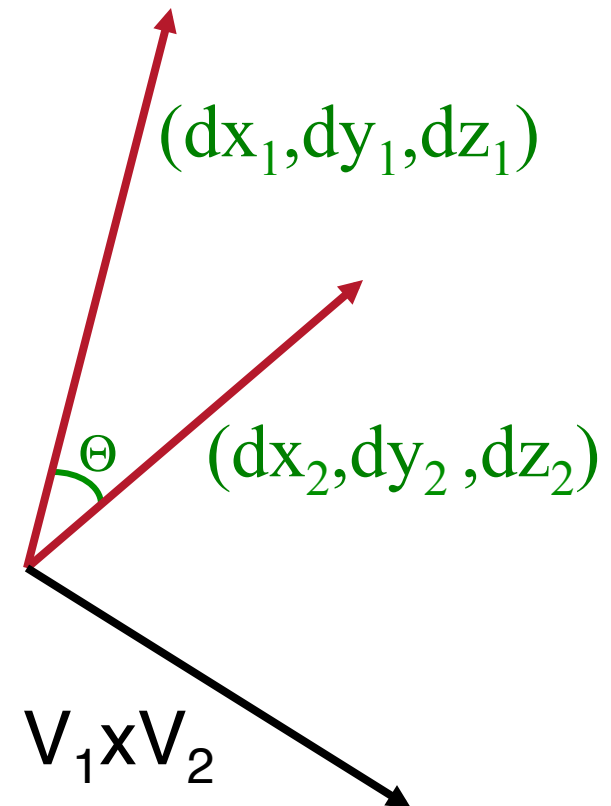






# 3D Vector

- Cross product of two 3D vectors
  - $V_1 \times V_2 =$  vector perpendicular to both  $V_1$  and  $V_2$
  - $\|V_1 \times V_2\| = \|V_1\| \|V_2\| \sin(\Theta)$

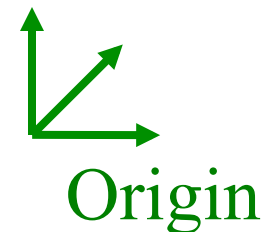




# 3D Line Segment

- Linear path between two points
  - Parametric representation:
    - »  $P = P_1 + t (P_2 - P_1), \quad (0 \leq t \leq 1)$

```
typedef struct {  
    Point P1;  
    Point P2;  
} Segment;
```

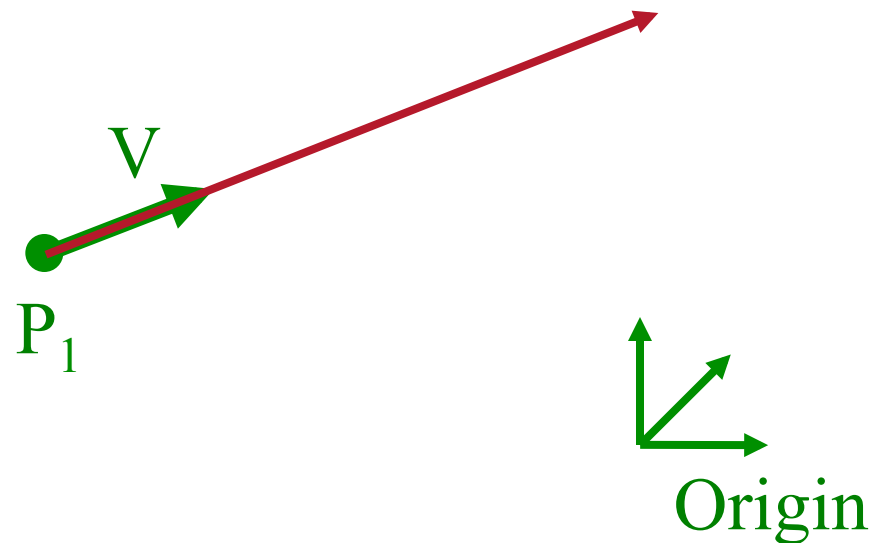




# 3D Ray

- Line segment with one endpoint at infinity
  - Parametric representation:
    - »  $P = P_1 + t V, \quad (0 \leq t < \infty)$

```
typedef struct {  
    Point P1;  
    Vector V;  
} Ray;
```

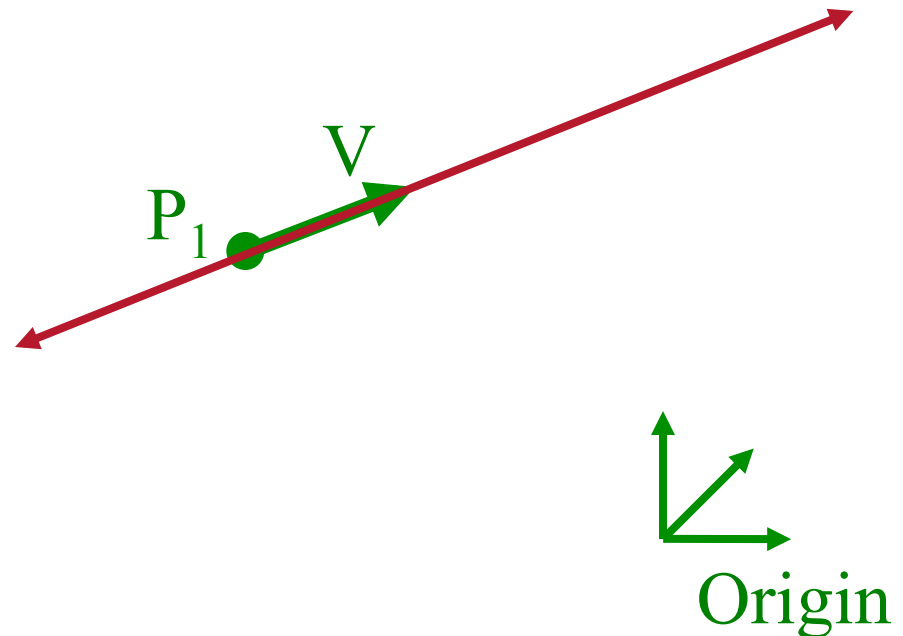




# 3D Line

- Line segment with both endpoints at infinity
  - Parametric representation:
    - »  $P = P_1 + t V, \quad (-\infty < t < \infty)$

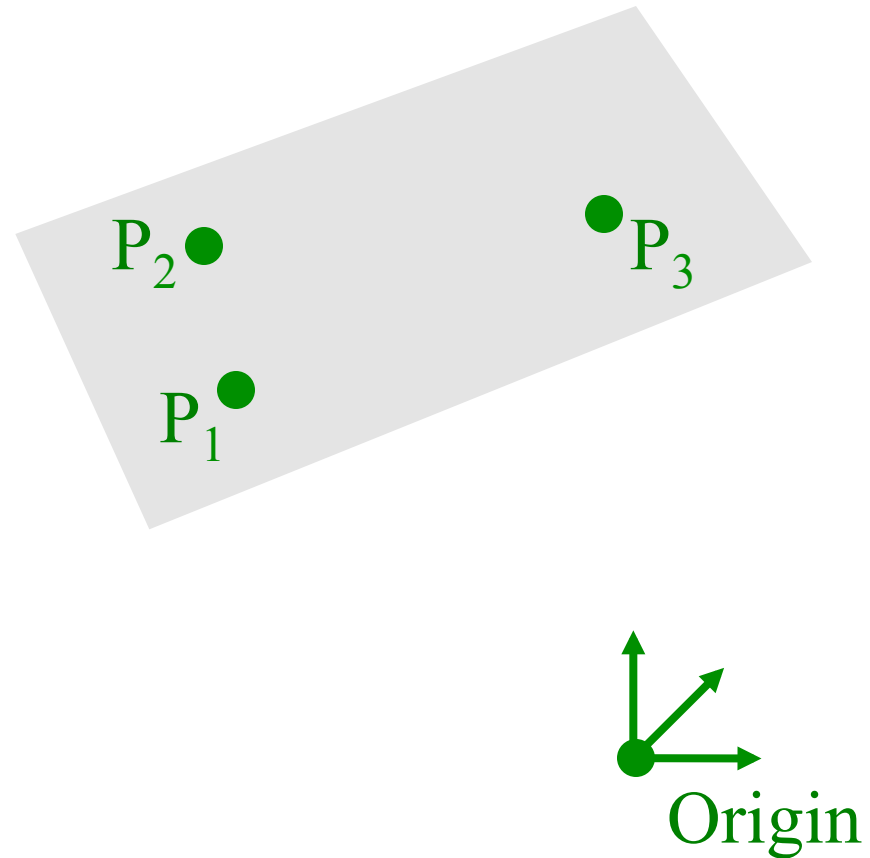
```
typedef struct {  
    Point P1;  
    Vector V;  
} Line;
```



# 3D Plane



- A linear combination of three points

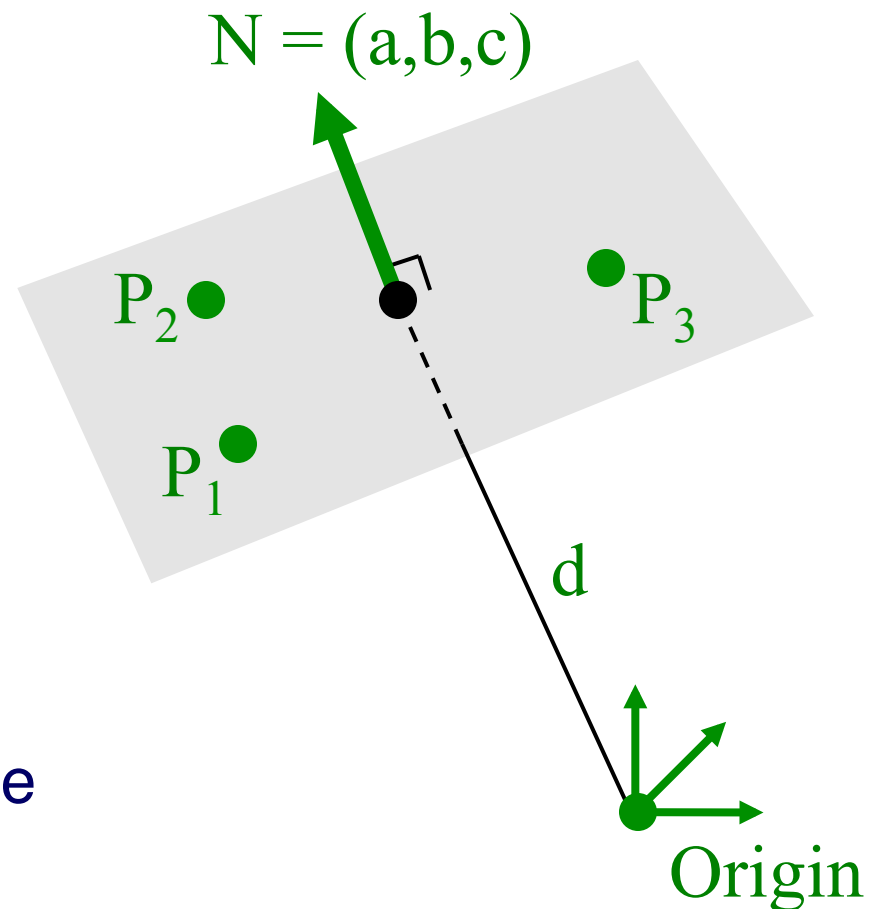


# 3D Plane

- A linear combination of three points
  - Implicit representation:
    - »  $P \cdot N - d = 0$ , or
    - »  $ax + by + cz + d = 0$

```
typedef struct {  
    Vector N;  
    Distance d;  
} Plane;
```

- $N$  is the plane “normal”
  - » Unit-length vector
  - » Perpendicular to plane

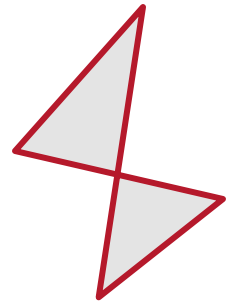
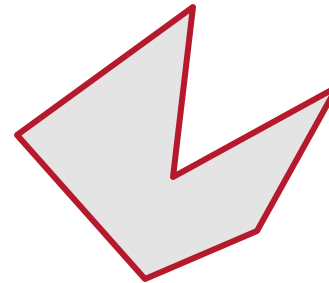
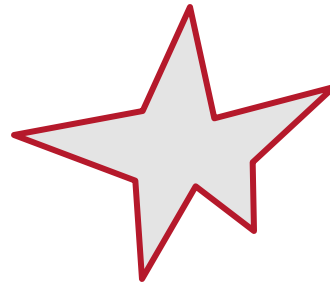
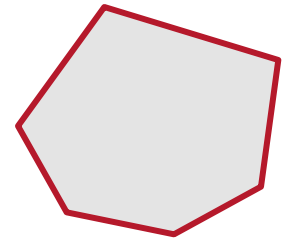
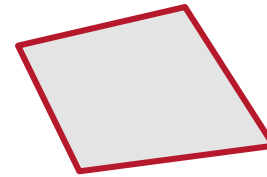
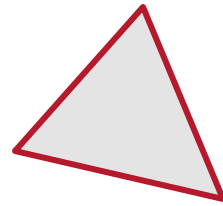




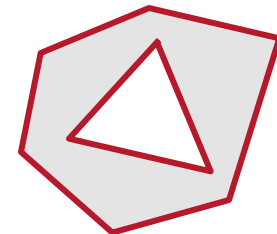
# 3D Polygon

Set of points “inside” a sequence of coplanar points

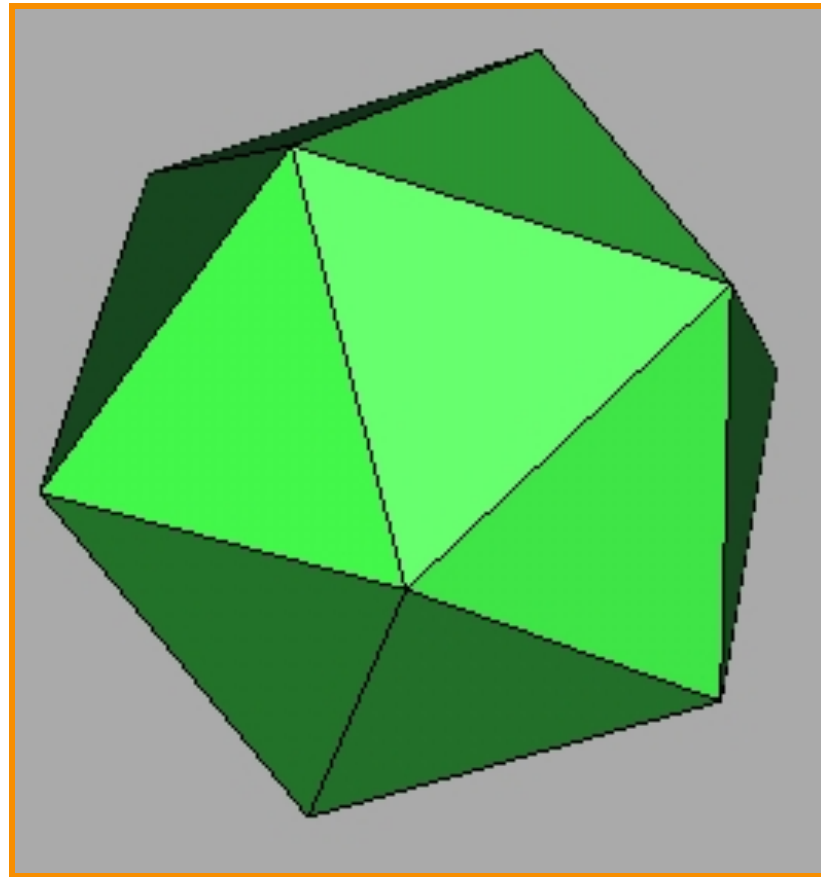
```
typedef struct {  
    Point *points;  
    int npoints;  
} Polygon;
```



Points are in counter-clockwise order



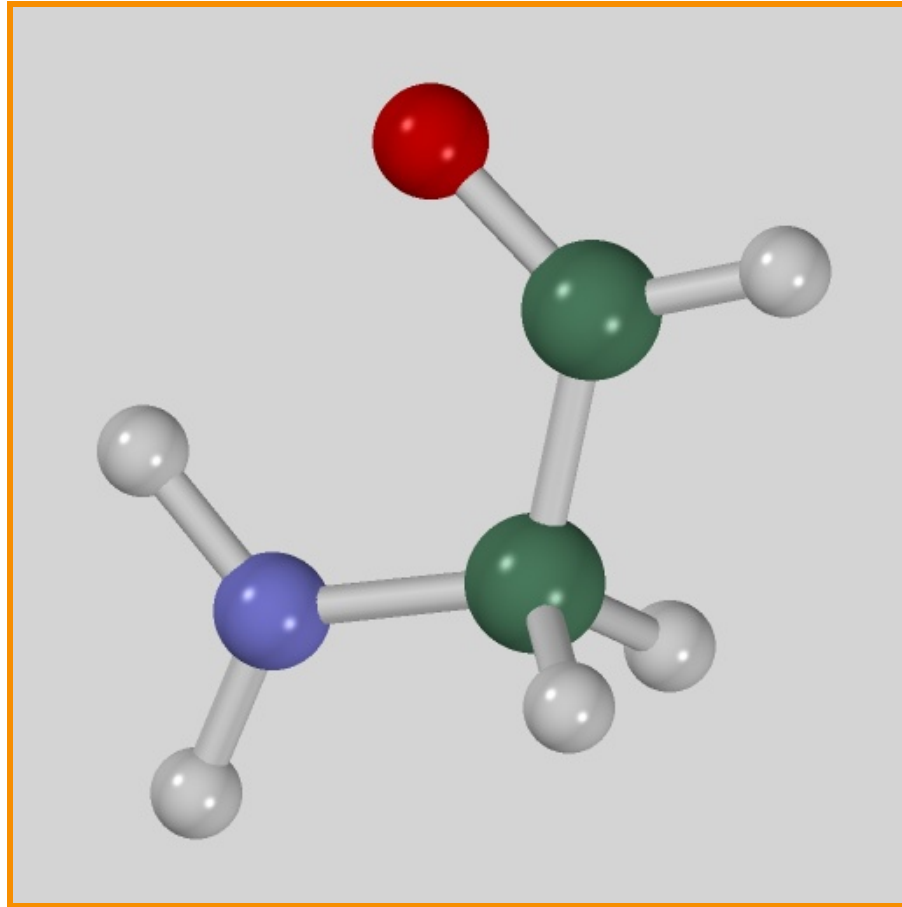
# 3D Object Representations



How can this object be represented in a computer?

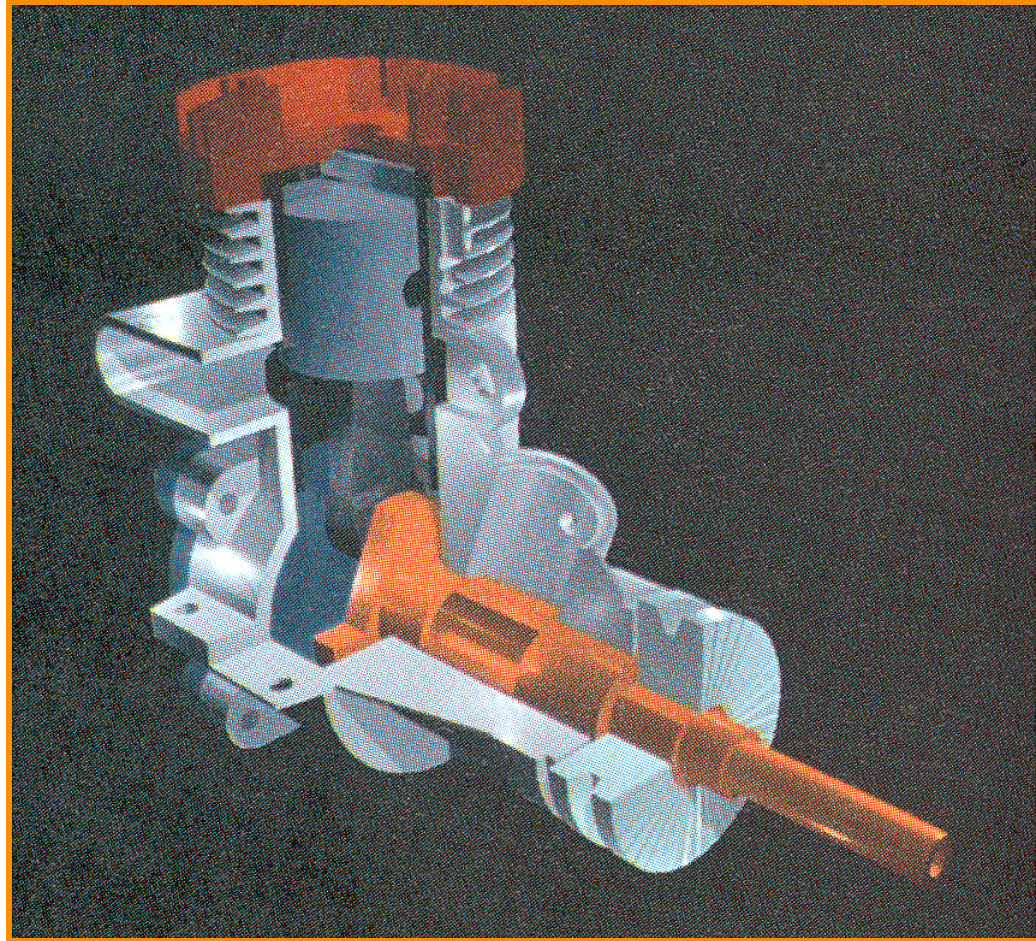


# 3D Object Representations



How about this one?

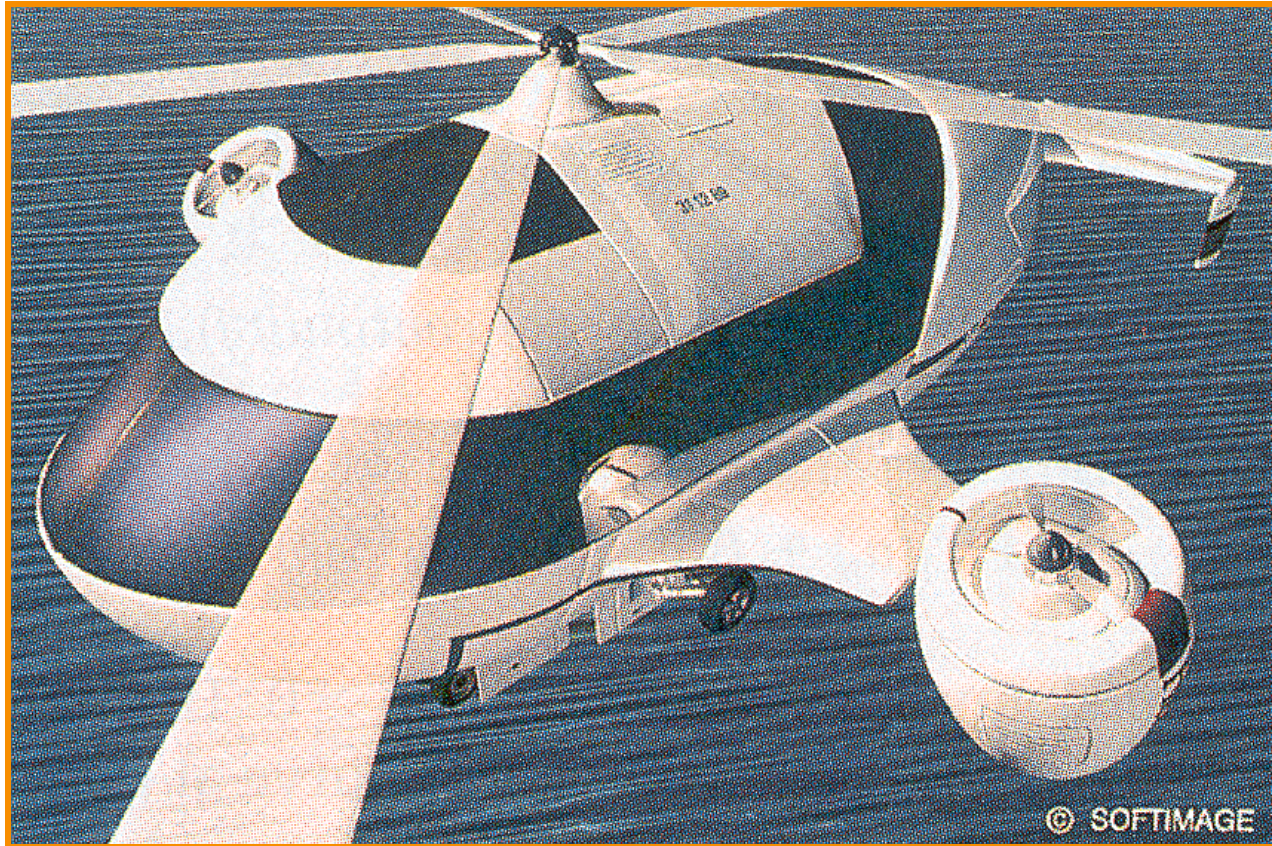
# 3D Object Representations



This one?

H&B Figure 9.9

# 3D Object Representations



H&B Figure 10.46

This one?

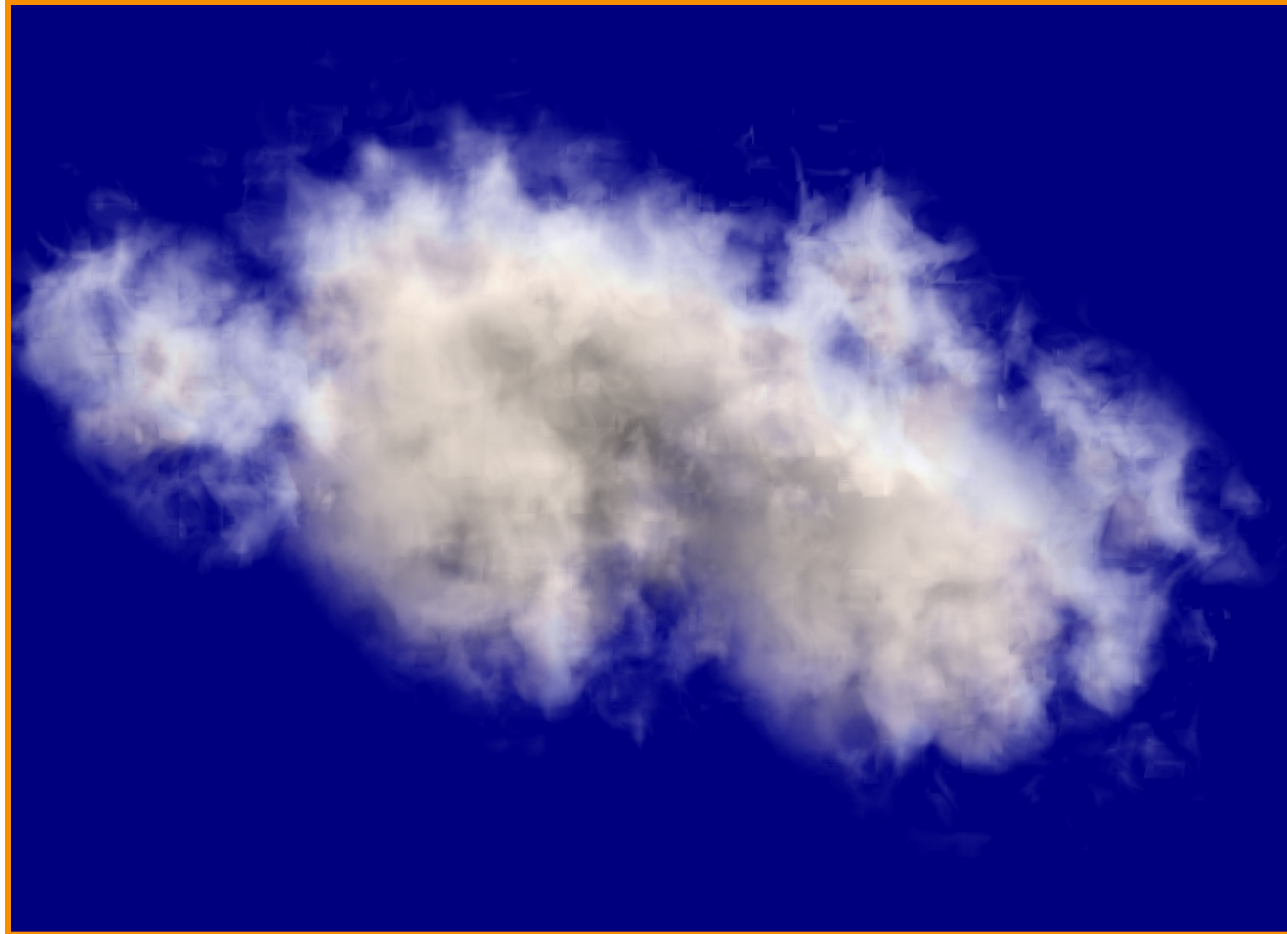
# 3D Object Representations



This one?

Stanford Graphics Laboratory

# 3D Object Representations



This one?

# 3D Object Representations



- Points
  - Range image
  - Point cloud
- Surfaces
  - Polygonal mesh
  - Subdivision
  - Parametric
  - Implicit
- Solids
  - Voxels
  - BSP tree
  - CSG
  - Sweep
- High-level structures
  - Scene graph
  - Application specific

# Equivalence of Representations



- Thesis:
  - Each representation has enough expressive power to model the shape of any geometric object
  - It is possible to perform all geometric operations with any fundamental representation
- Analogous to Turing-equivalence
  - Computers and programming languages are Turing-equivalent, but each has its benefits...

# Why Different Representations?



## Efficiency for different tasks

- Acquisition
- Rendering
- Manipulation
- Animation
- Analysis

Data structures determine algorithms

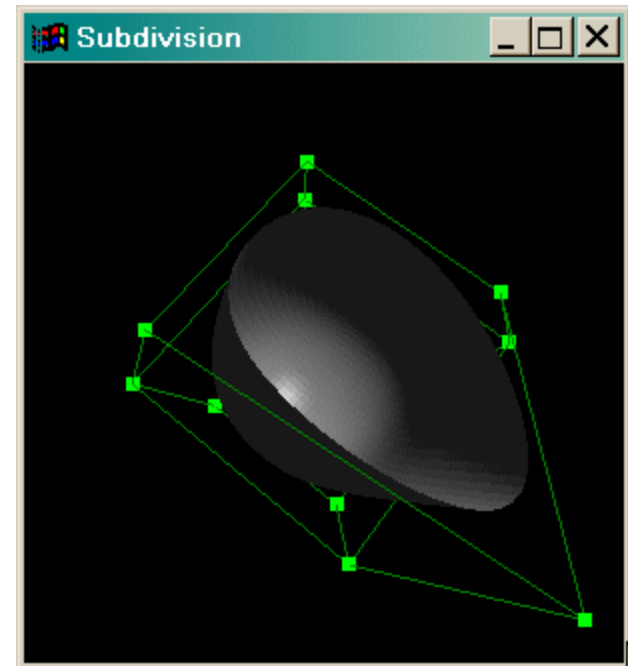


# Why Different Representations?



Desirable properties depend on intended use

- Easy to acquire
- Accurate
- Concise
- Intuitive editing
- Efficient editing
- Efficient display
- Efficient intersections
- Guaranteed validity
- Guaranteed smoothness
- etc.



# 3D Object Representations



- Points
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# 3D Object Representations

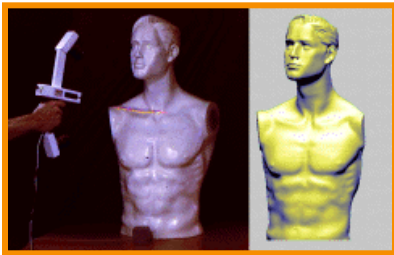


- **Points**
  - Range image
  - Point cloud
- **Surfaces**
  - Polygonal mesh
  - Subdivision
  - Parametric
  - Implicit
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  - Voxels
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- **High-level structures**
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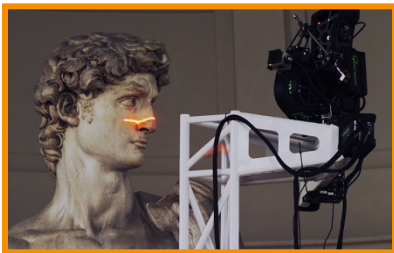
# Range Image

Set of 3D points mapping to pixels of depth image

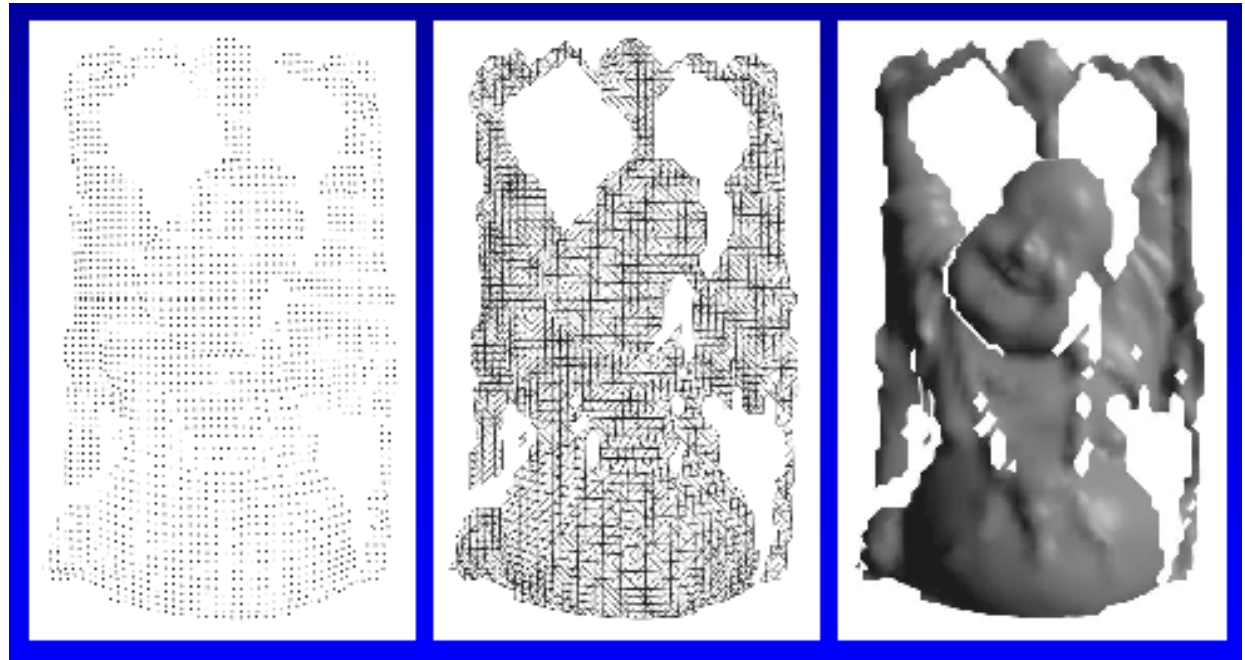
- Can be acquired from range scanner



Cyberware



Stanford



Range Image

Tessellation

Range Surface

# Point Cloud



Unstructured set of 3D point samples

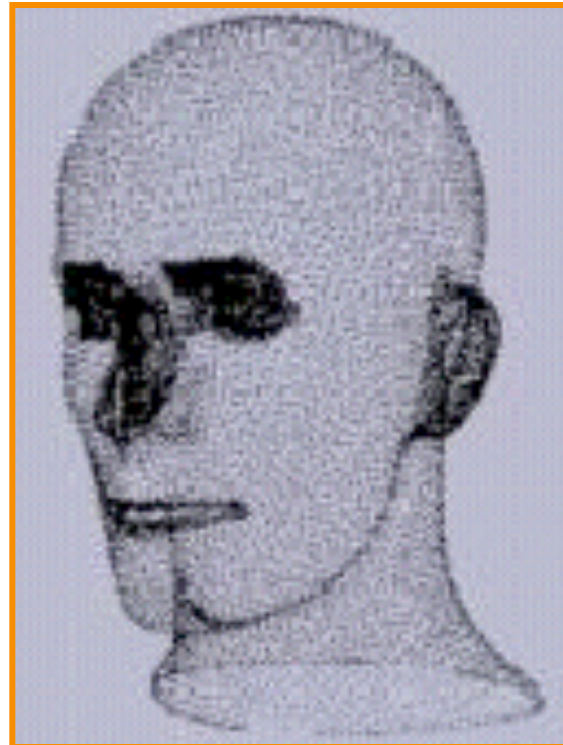
- Acquired from range finder, computer vision, etc



Polhemus



Microscribe-3D



Hoppe



Hoppe

# 3D Object Representations

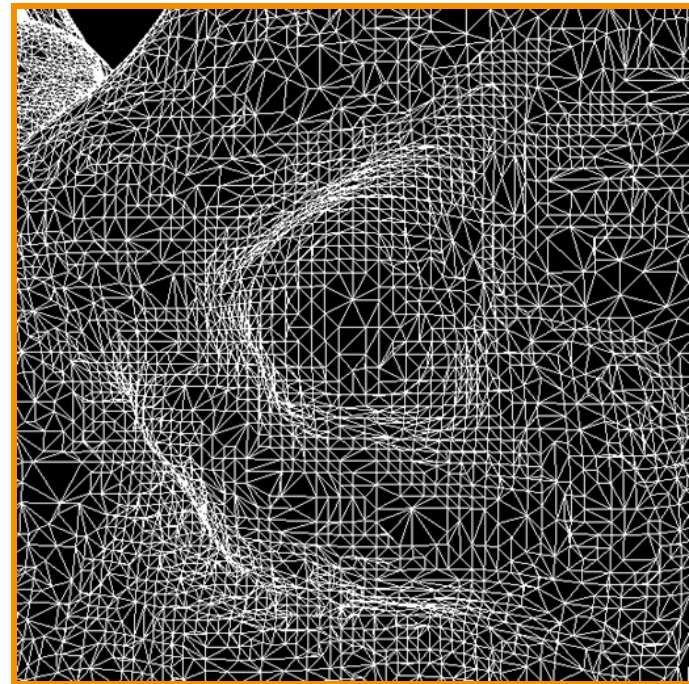


- Points
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# Polygonal Mesh



Connected set of polygons (often triangles)

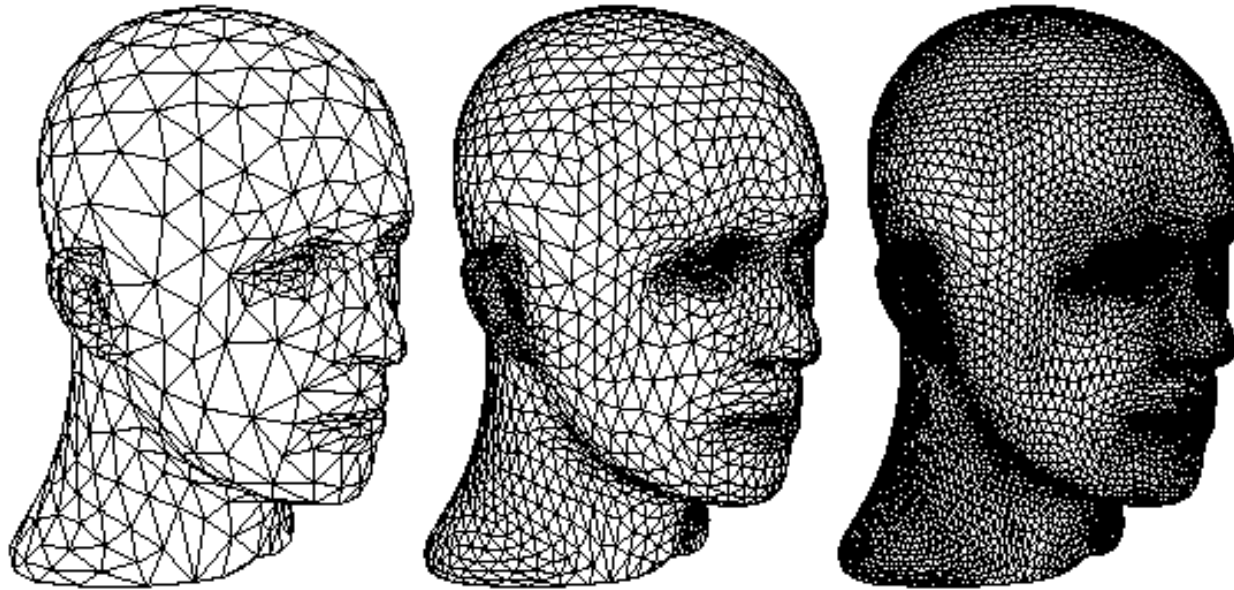


# Subdivision Surface



## Coarse mesh & subdivision rule

- Smooth surface is **limit** of sequence of refinements

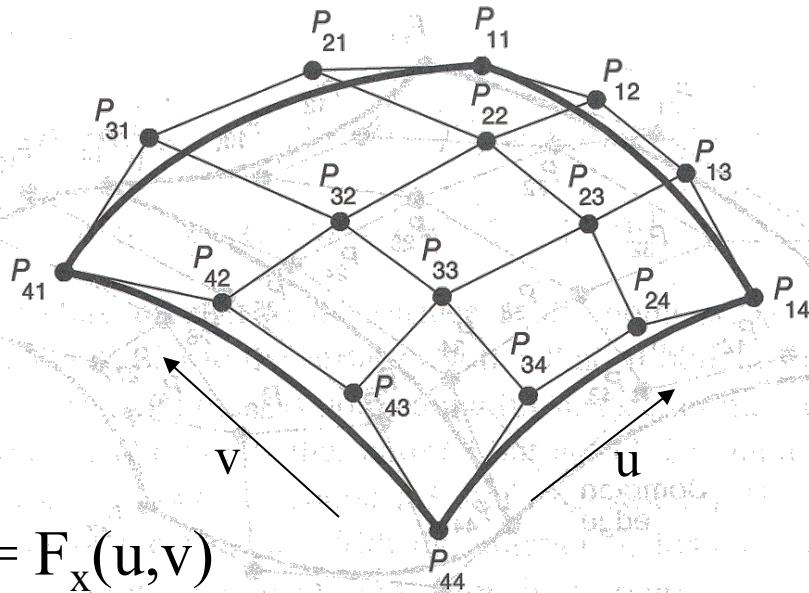




# Parametric Surface

## Tensor-product spline patches

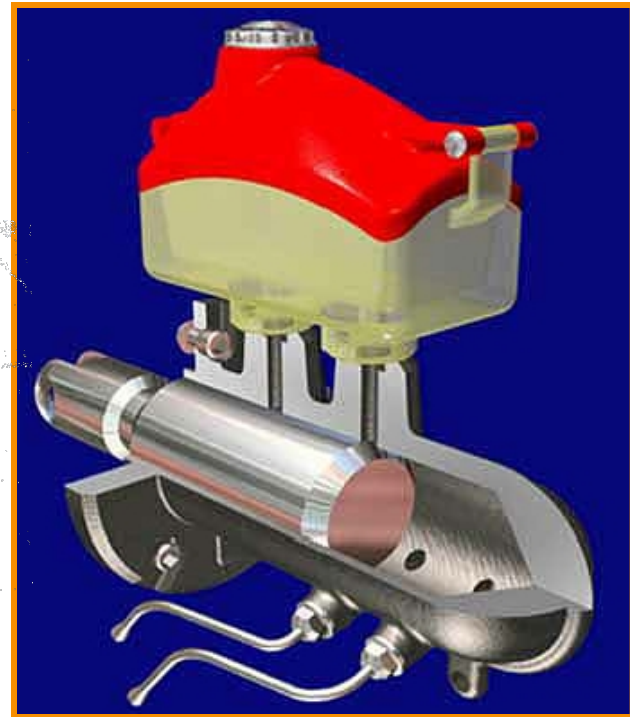
- Each patch is parametric function
- Careful constraints to maintain continuity



$$x = F_x(u, v)$$

$$y = F_y(u, v)$$

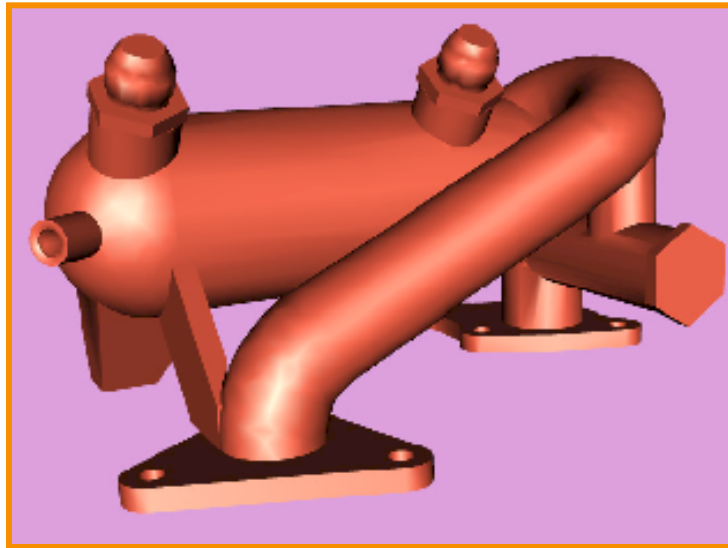
$$z = F_z(u, v)$$



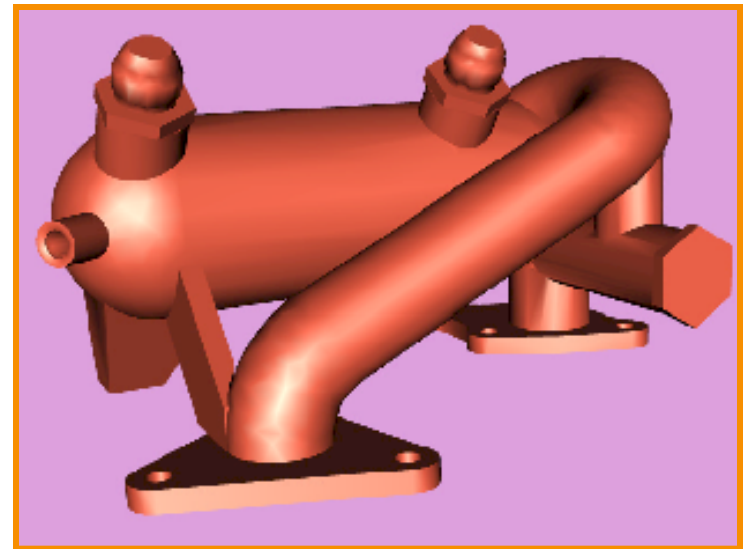
FvDFH Figure 11.44

# Implicit Surface

Set of all points satisfying:  $F(x,y,z) = 0$



Polygonal Model



Implicit Model

# 3D Object Representations



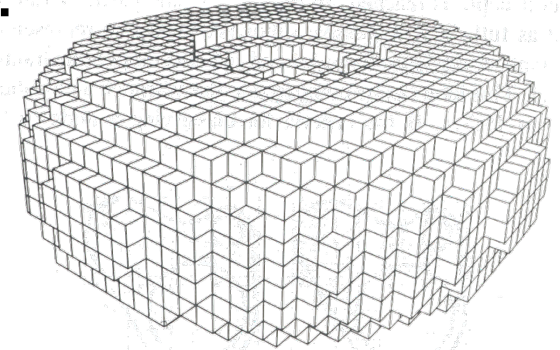
- Points
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# Voxel grid

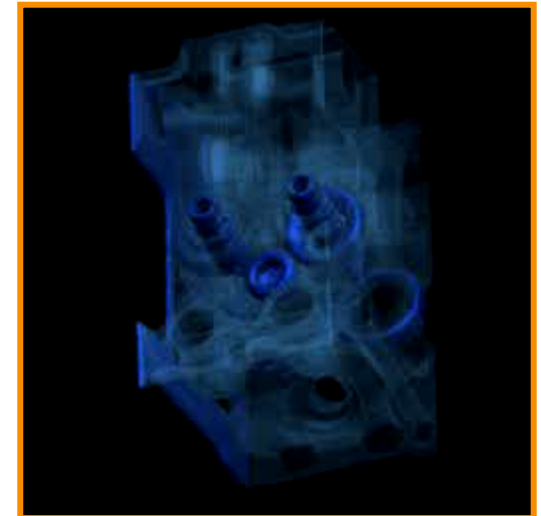


## Uniform volumetric grid of samples:

- Occupancy  
(object vs. empty space)
- Density
- Color
- Other function  
(speed, temperature, etc.)
  
- Often acquired via  
simulation or from  
CAT, MRI, etc.



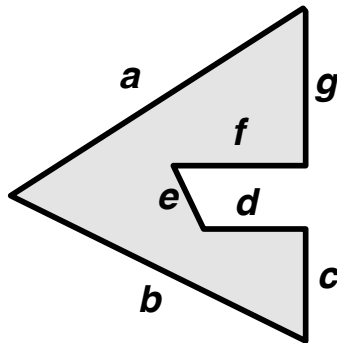
FvDFH Figure 12.20



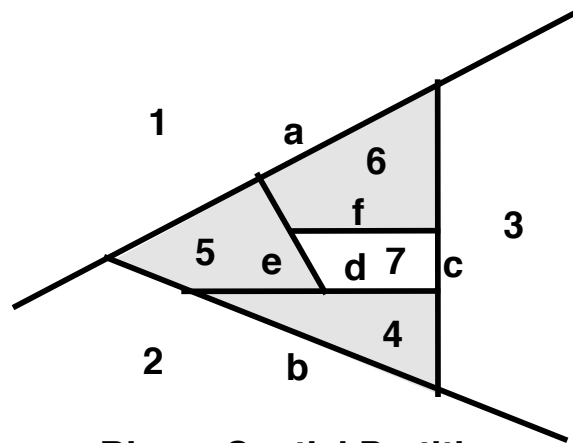
# BSP Tree

Hierarchical **B**inary **S**pace **P**artition with solid/empty cells labeled

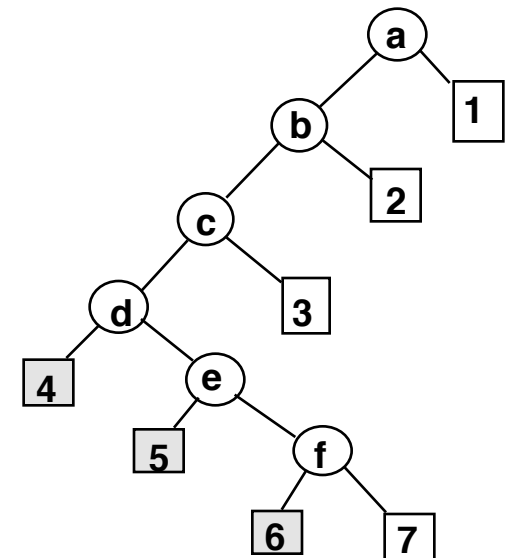
- Constructed from polygonal representations



Object



Binary Spatial Partition

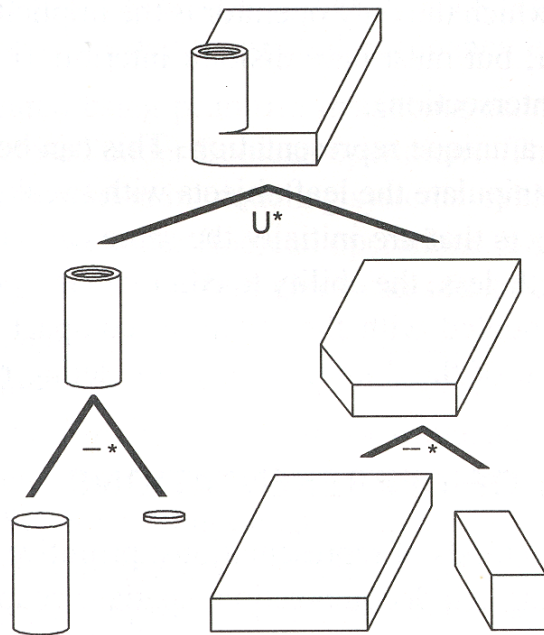


Binary Tree

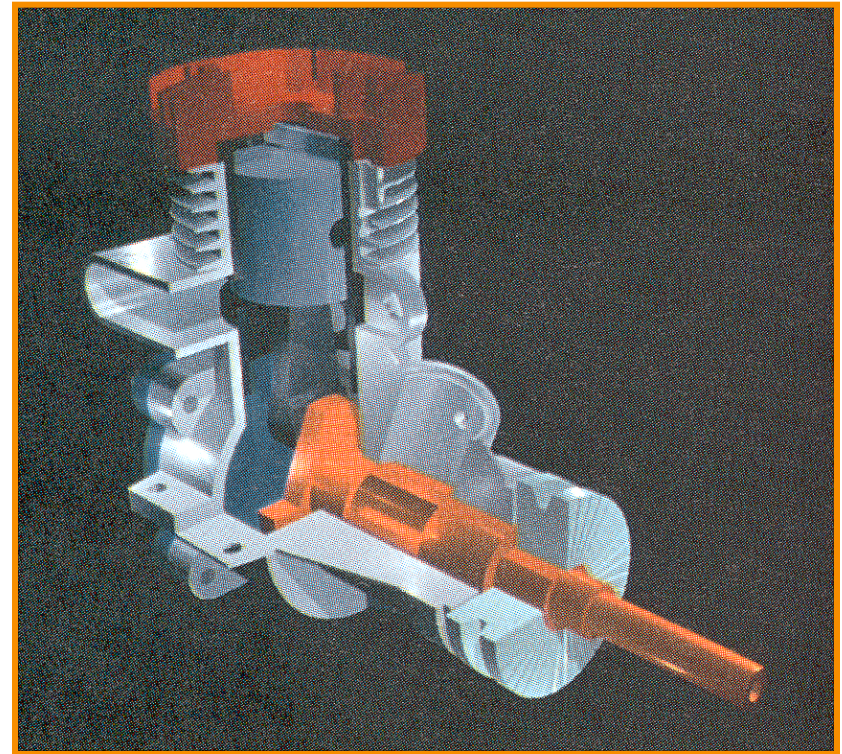
# CSG



**C**onstructive **S**olid **G**eometry: set operations (union, difference, intersection) applied to simple shapes



FvDFH Figure 12.27

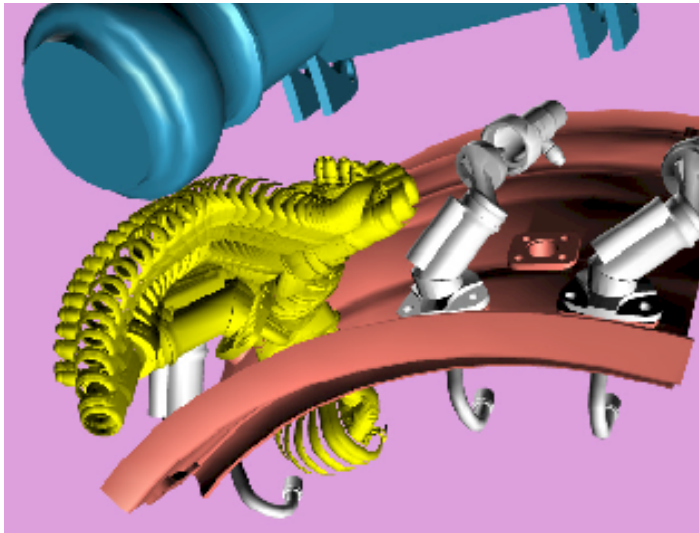


H&B Figure 9.9

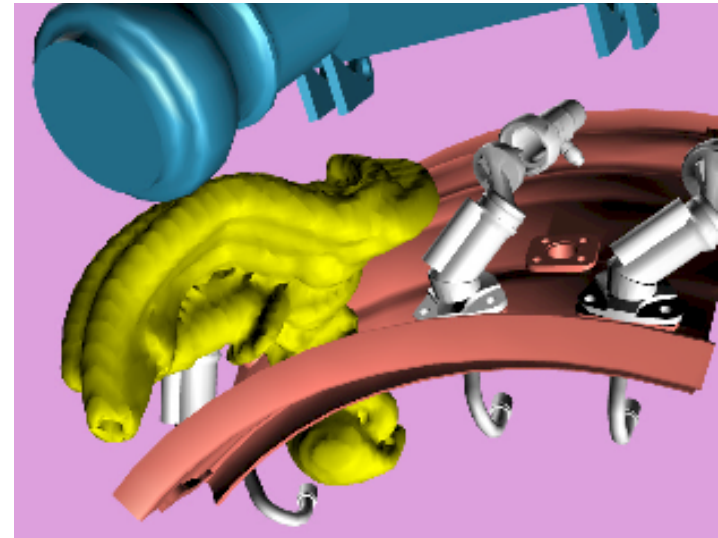
# Sweep



Solid swept by curve along trajectory



Removal Path



Sweep Model

# 3D Object Representations



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  - Scene graph
  - Application specific



# Scene Graph



Union of objects at leaf nodes

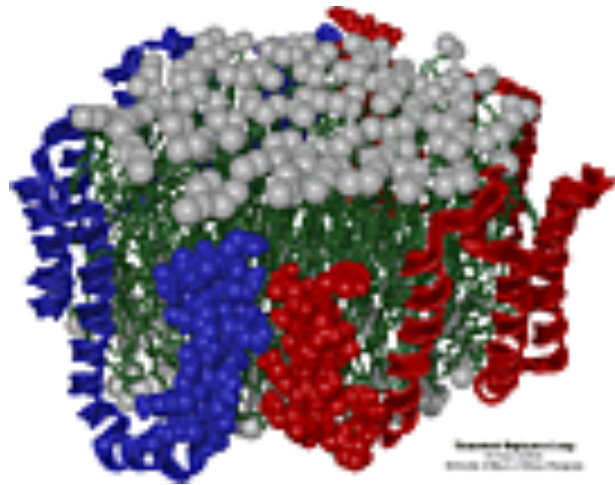


Bell Laboratories

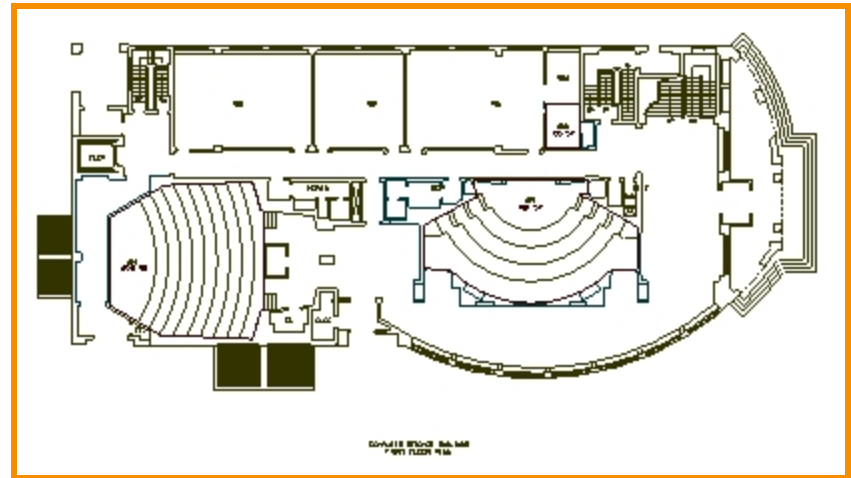


[avalon.viewpoint.com](http://avalon.viewpoint.com)

# Application Specific

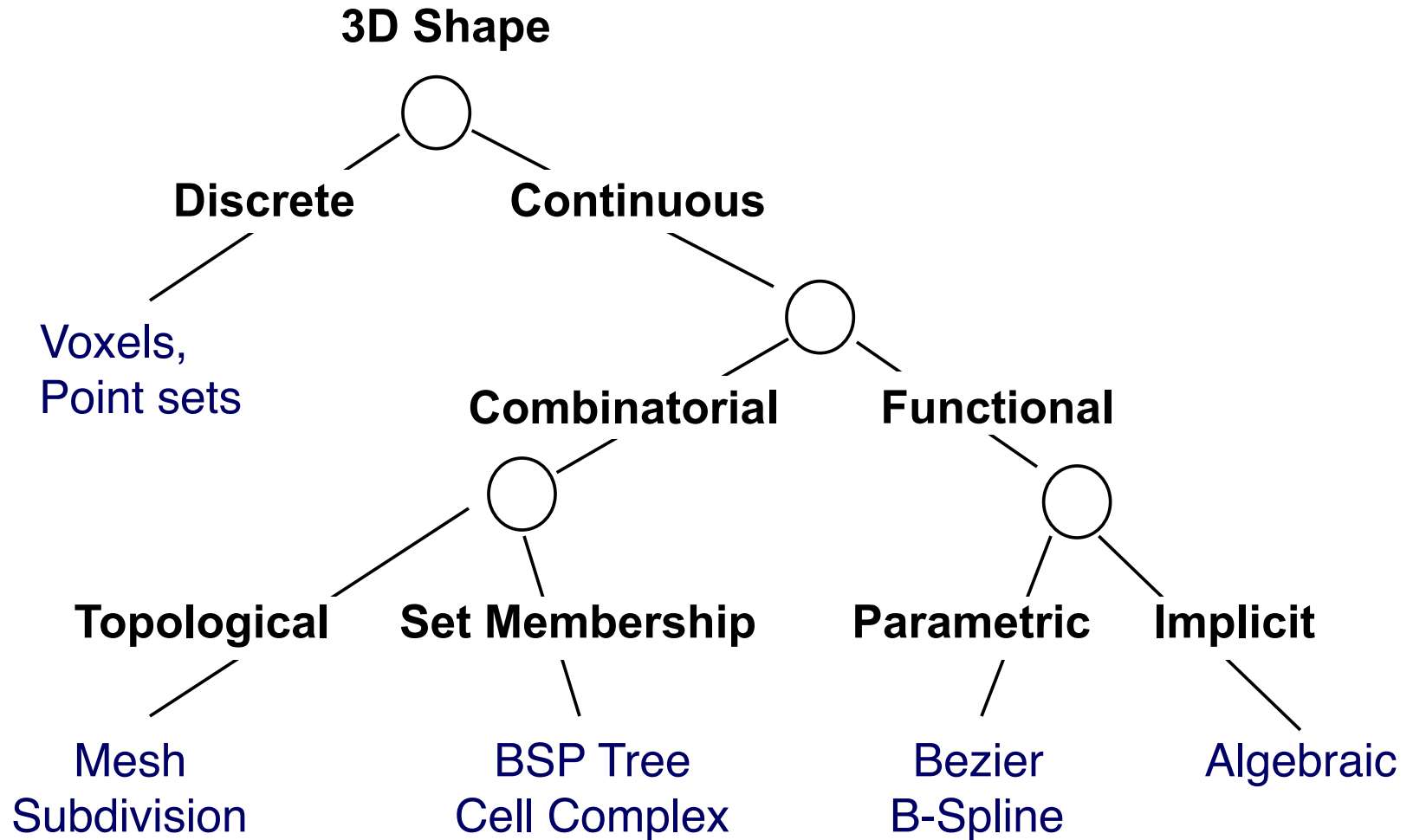


**Apo A-1**  
*(Theoretical Biophysics Group,  
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign)*



**Architectural Floorplan**  
*(CS Building, Princeton University)*

# Taxonomy of 3D Representations



# Equivalence of Representations



- Thesis:
  - Each representation has enough expressive power to model the shape of any geometric object
  - It is possible to perform all geometric operations with any fundamental representation
- Analogous to Turing-equivalence
  - Computers and programming languages are Turing-equivalent, but each has its benefits...



# Computational Differences

- **Efficiency**
  - Representational complexity (e.g. surface vs. volume)
  - Computational complexity (e.g.  $O(n^2)$  vs  $O(n^3)$  )
  - Space/time trade-offs (e.g. tree data structures)
  - Numerical accuracy/stability (e.g. degree of polynomial)
- **Simplicity**
  - Ease of acquisition
  - Hardware acceleration
  - Software creation and maintenance
- **Usability**
  - Designer interface vs. computational engine

# Modeling Operations



What can we do with a 3D object representation?

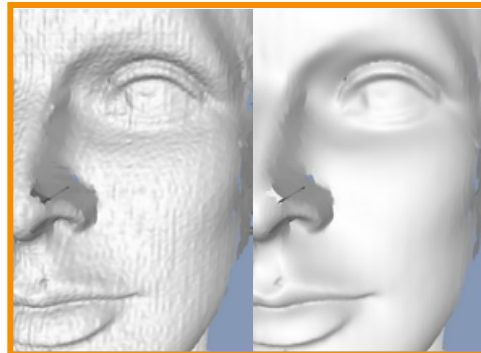
- Edit
- Transform
- Smooth
- Render
- Animate
- Morph
- Compress
- Transmit
- Analyze
- etc.



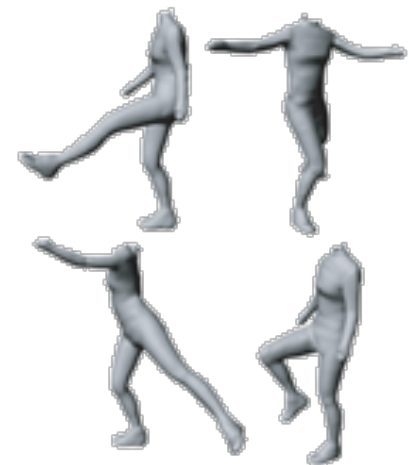
Digital Michelangelo



Pirates of the Caribbean



Thouis "Ray" Jones



Sand et al.



# Upcoming Lectures

- Points
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- Surfaces
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  - Subdivision
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