



Implicit Surfaces & Solid Representations

COS 426, Spring 2014
Princeton University

3D Object Representations

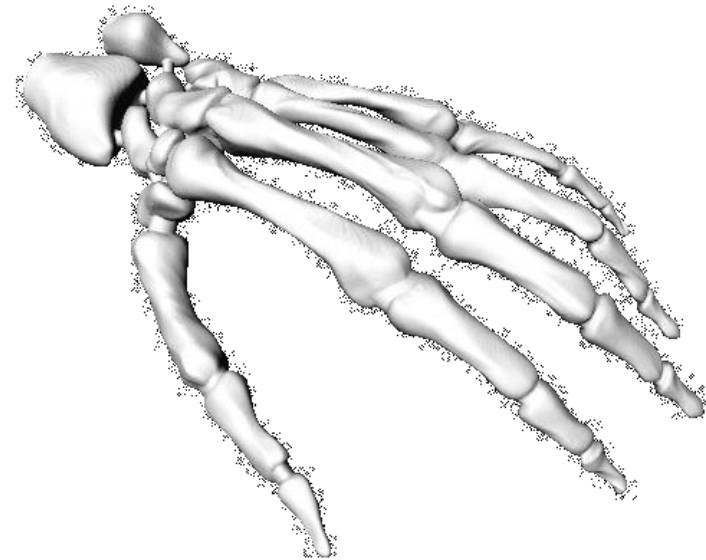


- Raw data
 - Range image
 - Point cloud
- Surfaces
 - Polygonal mesh
 - Subdivision
 - Parametric
 - **Implicit**
- Solids
 - Voxels
 - BSP tree
 - CSG
 - Sweep
- High-level structures
 - Scene graph
 - Application specific

3D Object Representations



- Desirable properties of an object representation
 - Easy to acquire
 - Accurate
 - Concise
 - Intuitive editing
 - Efficient editing
 - Efficient display
 - Efficient intersections
 - Guaranteed validity
 - Guaranteed smoothness
 - etc.

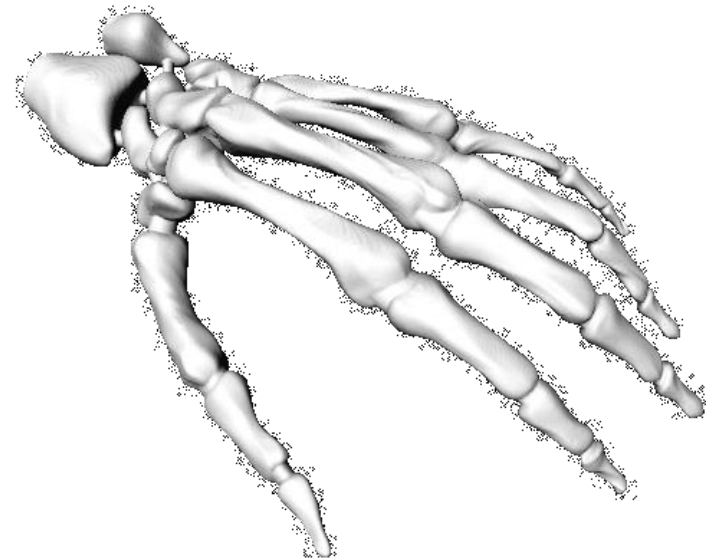


Large Geometric Model Repository
Georgia Tech

3D Object Representations



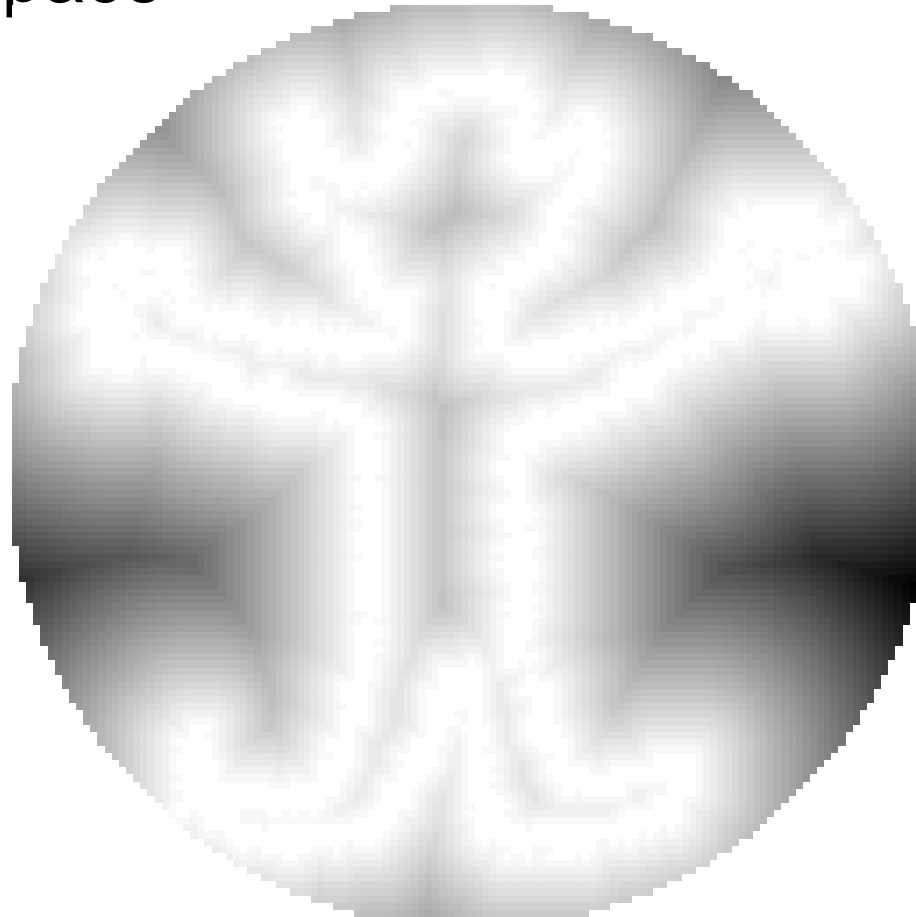
- Desirable properties of an object representation
 - Easy to acquire
 - Accurate
 - Concise
 - Intuitive editing
 - Efficient editing
 - Efficient display
 - **Efficient intersections**
 - **Guaranteed validity**
 - **Guaranteed smoothness**
 - etc.



Large Geometric Model Repository
Georgia Tech

Implicit Surfaces

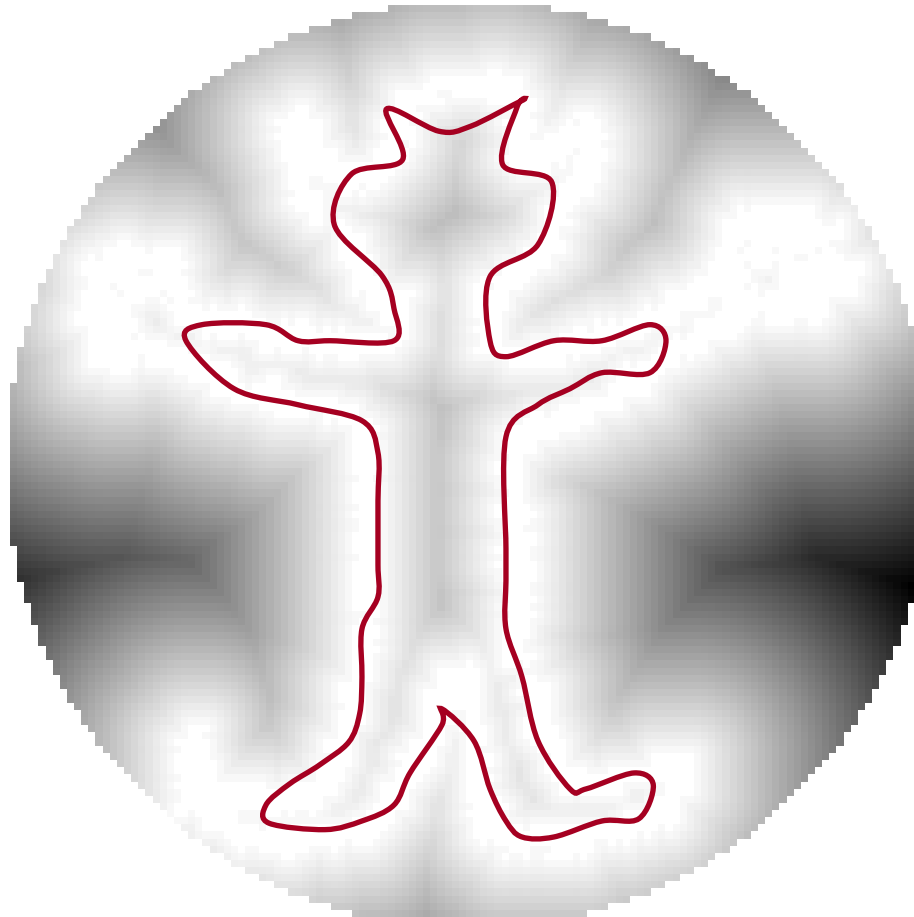
- Represent surface with function over all space



Implicit Surfaces



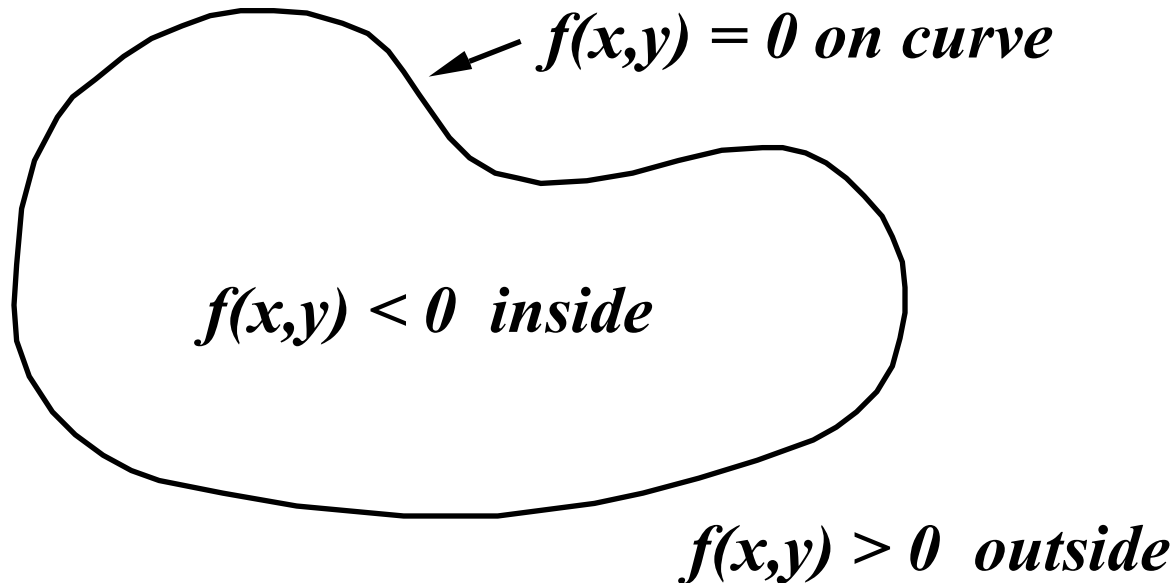
- Surface defined implicitly by function





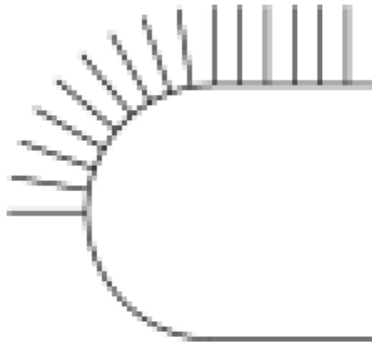
Implicit Surfaces

- Surface defined implicitly by function:
 - $f(x, y, z) = 0$ (on surface)
 - $f(x, y, z) < 0$ (inside)
 - $f(x, y, z) > 0$ (outside)



Implicit Surfaces

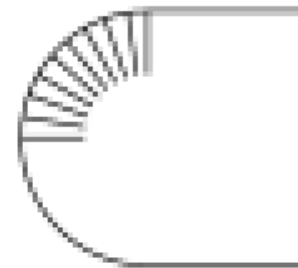
- Normals defined by partial derivatives
 - $\text{normal}(x, y, z) = \text{normalize}(\partial f / \partial x, \partial f / \partial y, \partial f / \partial z)$



Normals



Tangents

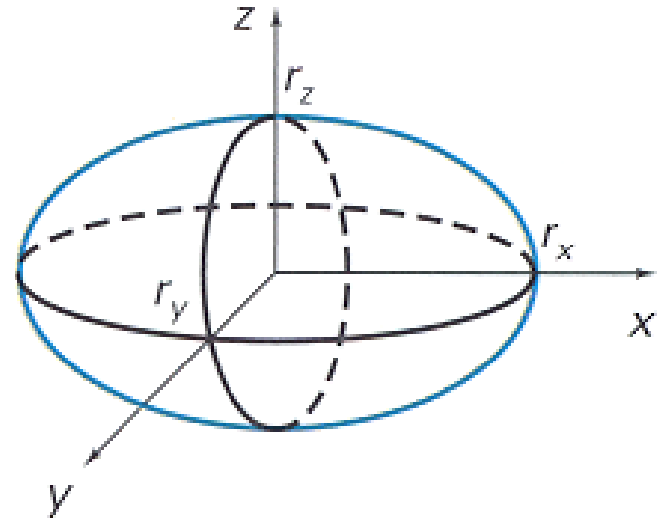


Curvatures

Implicit Surface Properties

- (1) Efficient check for whether point is inside
- Evaluate $f(x,y,z)$ to see if point is inside/outside/on
 - Example: ellipsoid

$$f(x, y, z) = \left(\frac{x}{r_x}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{y}{r_y}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{z}{r_z}\right)^2 - 1$$



Implicit Surface Properties

(2) Efficient surface intersections

- Substitute to find intersections

$$\text{Ray: } P = P_0 + tV$$

$$\text{Sphere: } |P - O|^2 - r^2 = 0$$

Substituting for P, we get:

$$|P_0 + tV - O|^2 - r^2 = 0$$

Solve quadratic equation:

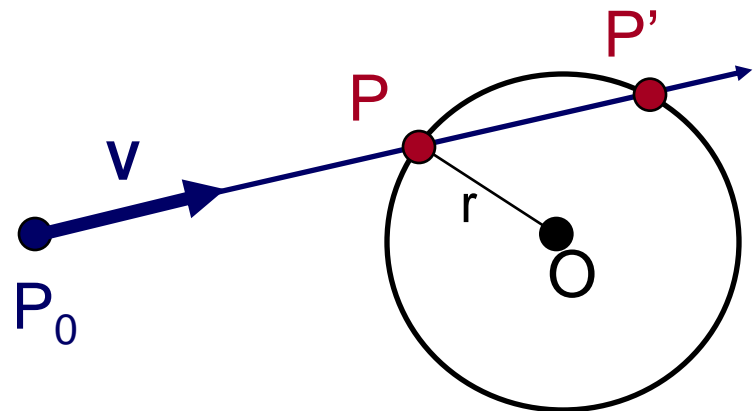
$$at^2 + bt + c = 0$$

where:

$$a = 1$$

$$b = 2 V \cdot (P_0 - O)$$

$$c = |P_0 - O|^2 - r^2 = 0$$

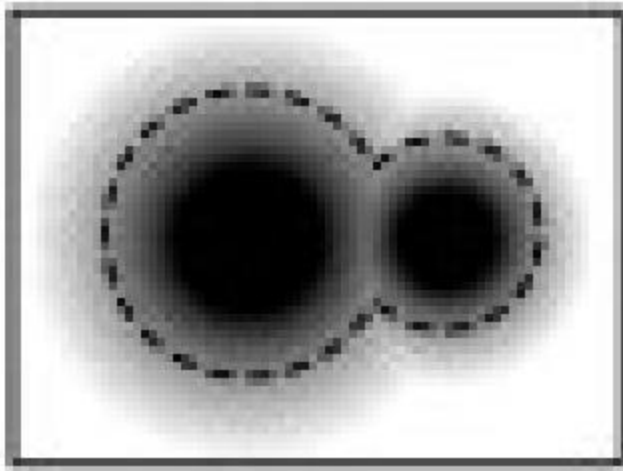


Implicit Surface Properties

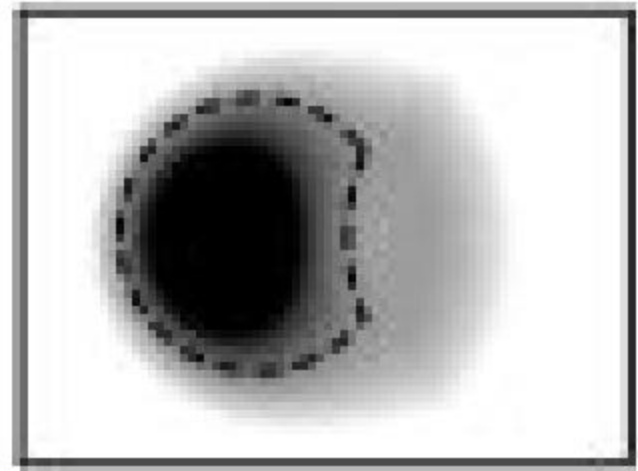


(3) Efficient boolean operations (CSG)

- How would you implement:
Union? Intersection? Difference?



Union



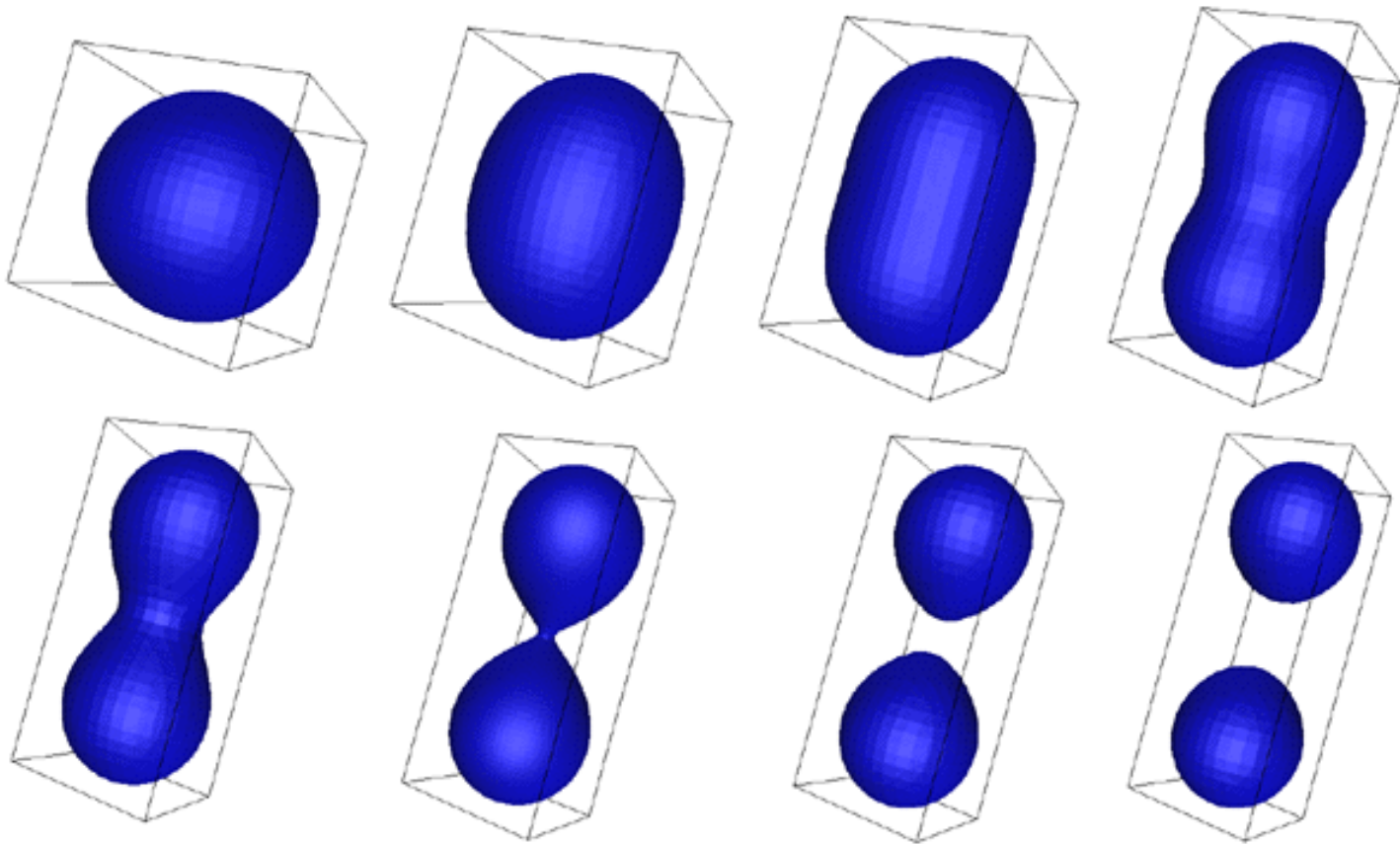
Difference

Implicit Surface Properties



(4) Efficient topology changes

- Surface is not represented explicitly!

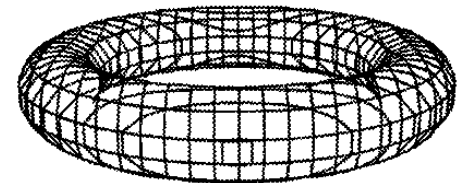
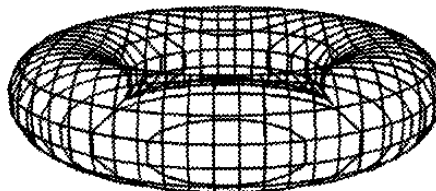
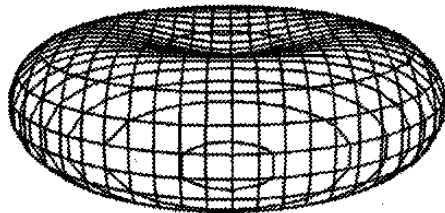
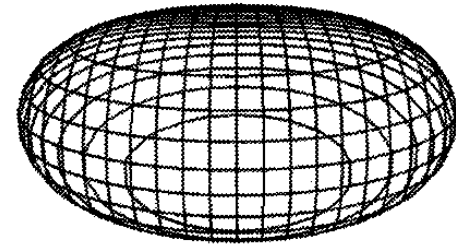
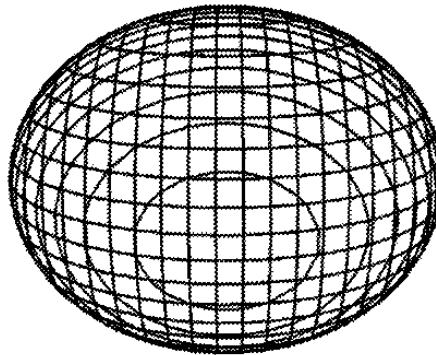
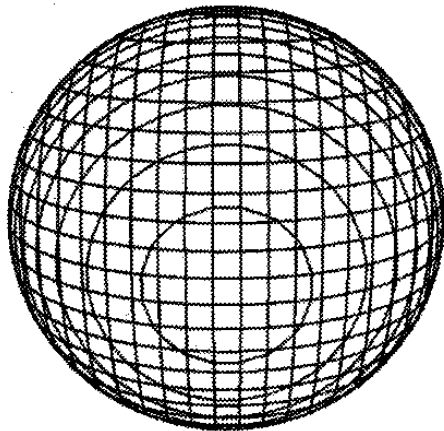


Implicit Surface Properties



(4) Efficient topology changes

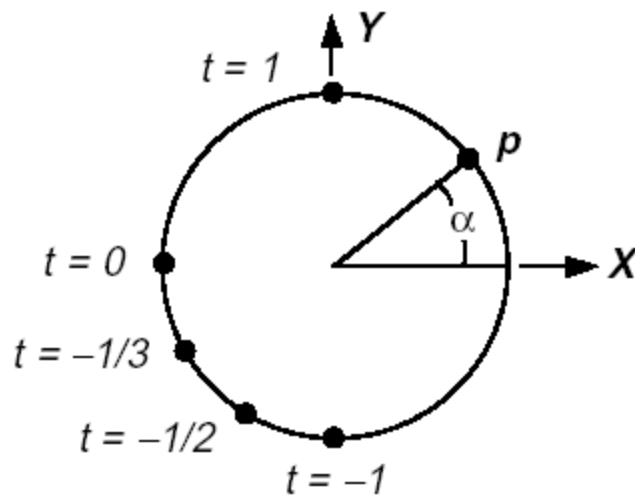
- Surface is not represented explicitly!



Comparison to Parametric Surfaces



- Implicit
 - Efficient intersections & topology changes
- Parametric
 - Efficient “marching” along surface & rendering



*equiangular parametric
(transcendental trigonometric)*

$$\mathbf{p} = (\cos(\alpha), \sin(\alpha)), \alpha \in [0, 2\pi]$$

non-equiangular parametric (rational)

$$\mathbf{p} = (\pm(1-t^2)/(1+t^2), 2t/(1+t^2)), t \in [-1, 1]$$

implicit

$$\mathbf{p}_x^2 + \mathbf{p}_y^2 - 1 = 0$$

Implicit Surface Representations



- How do we define implicit function?
 - $f(x,y,z) = ?$

Implicit Surface Representations



- How do we define implicit function?
 - Algebraics
 - Voxels
 - Basis functions
 - Others

Implicit Surface Representations

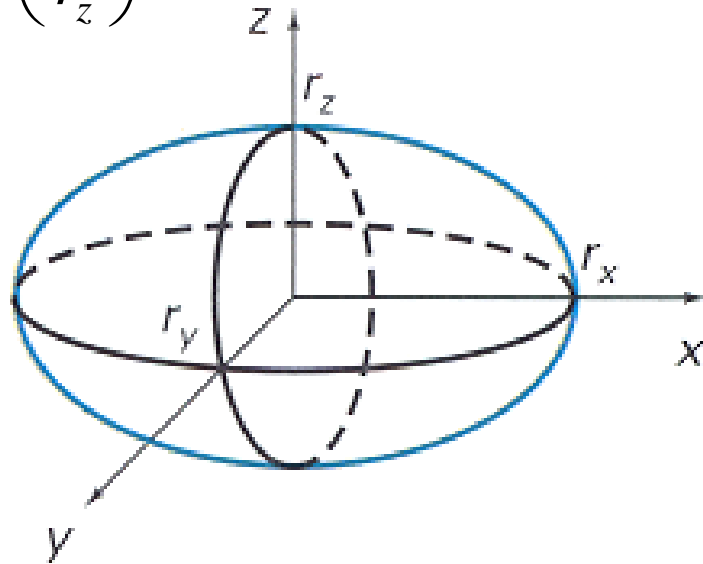


- How do we define implicit function?
 - **Algebraics**
 - Voxels
 - Basis functions
 - Others

Algebraic Surfaces

- Implicit function is polynomial
 - $f(x,y,z)=ax^d+by^d+cz^d+dx^{d-1}y+dx^{d-1}z +dy^{d-1}x+\dots$

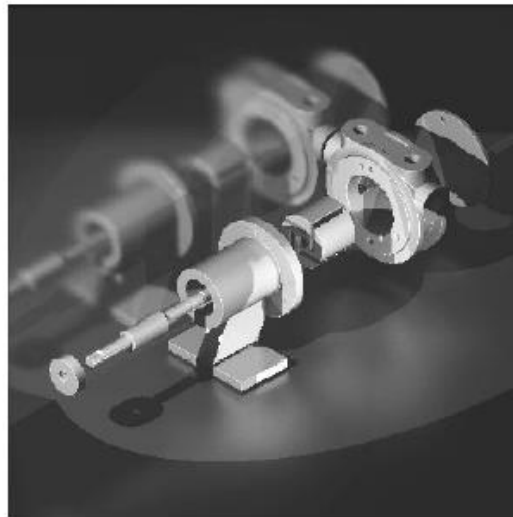
$$f(x, y, z) = \left(\frac{x}{r_x}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{y}{r_y}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{z}{r_z}\right)^2 - 1$$



Algebraic Surfaces



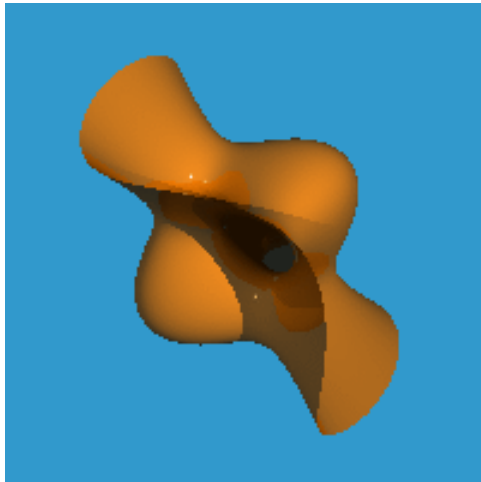
- Most common form: quadrics
 - $f(x,y,z)=ax^2+by^2+cz^2+2dxy+2eyz+2fxz+2gx+2hy+2jz+k$
- Examples
 - Sphere
 - Ellipsoid
 - Paraboloid
 - Hyperboloid



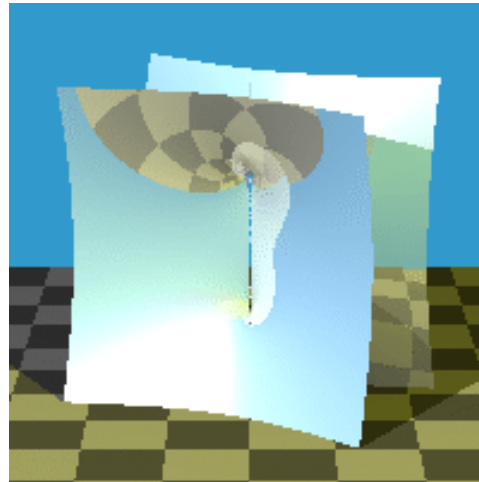
Algebraic Surfaces



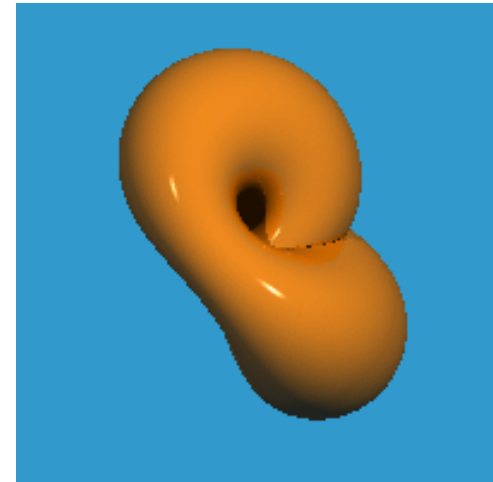
- Higher degree algebraics



Cubic



Quartic

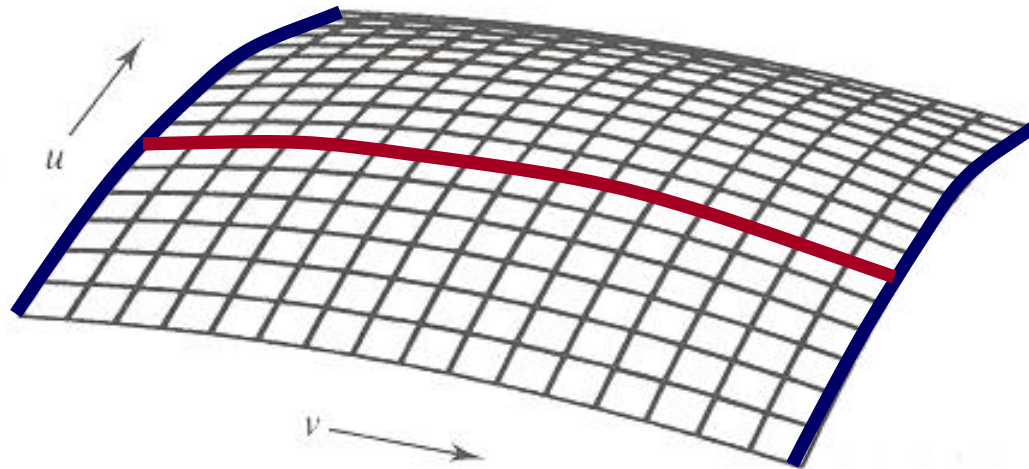


Degree six

Algebraic Surfaces



- Equivalent parametric surface
 - Tensor product patch of degree m and n curves yields algebraic function with degree $2mn$

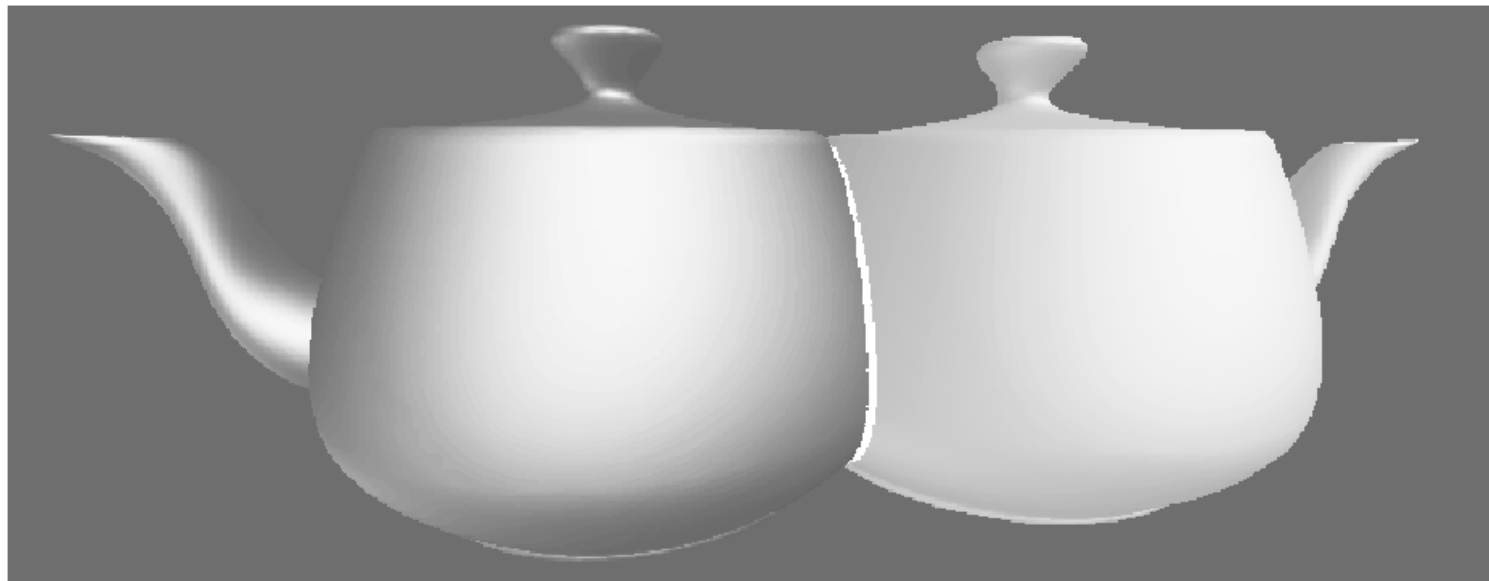


Bicubic patch has degree 18!

Algebraic Surfaces



- Intersection
 - Intersection of degree m and n algebraic surfaces yields curve with degree mn

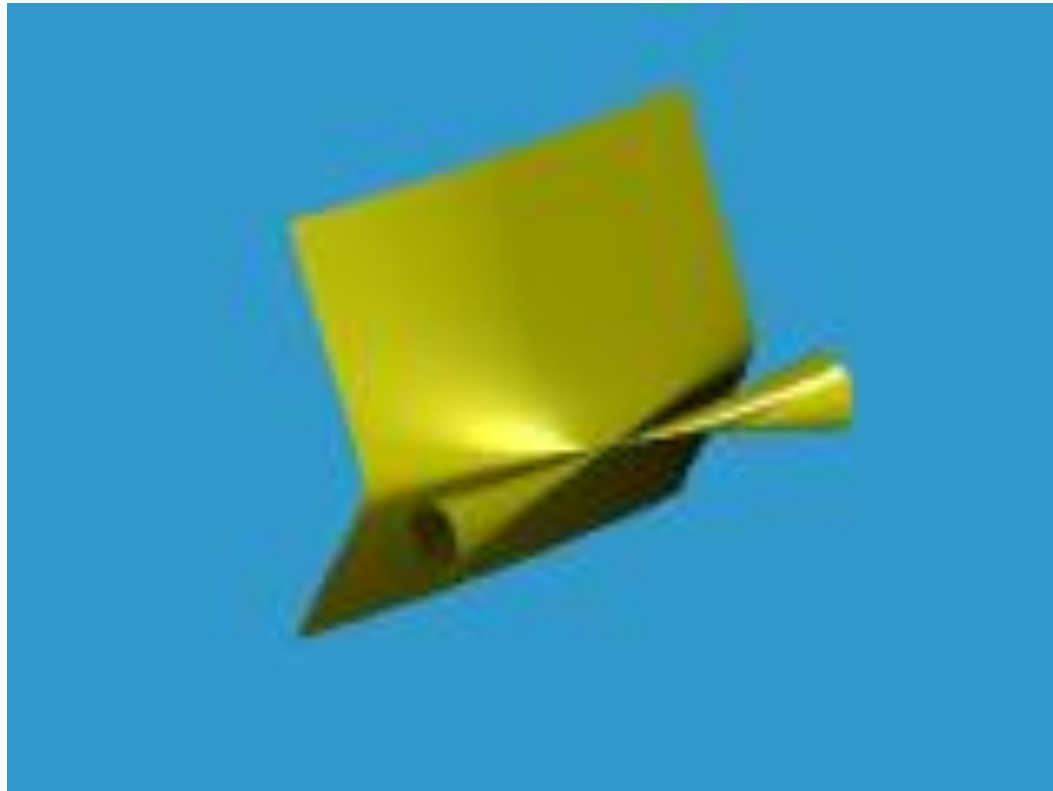


Intersection of bicubic patches has degree 324!

Algebraic Surfaces



- Function extends to infinity
 - Must trim to get desired patch (this is difficult!)



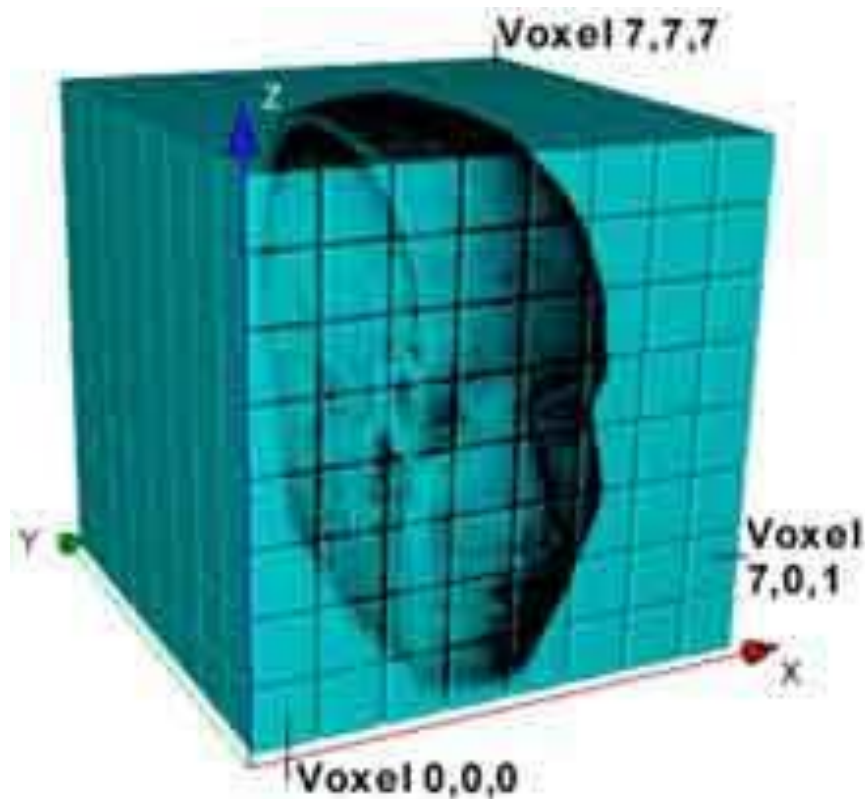
Implicit Surface Representations



- How do we define implicit function?
 - Algebraics
 - Voxels
 - Basis functions

Voxels

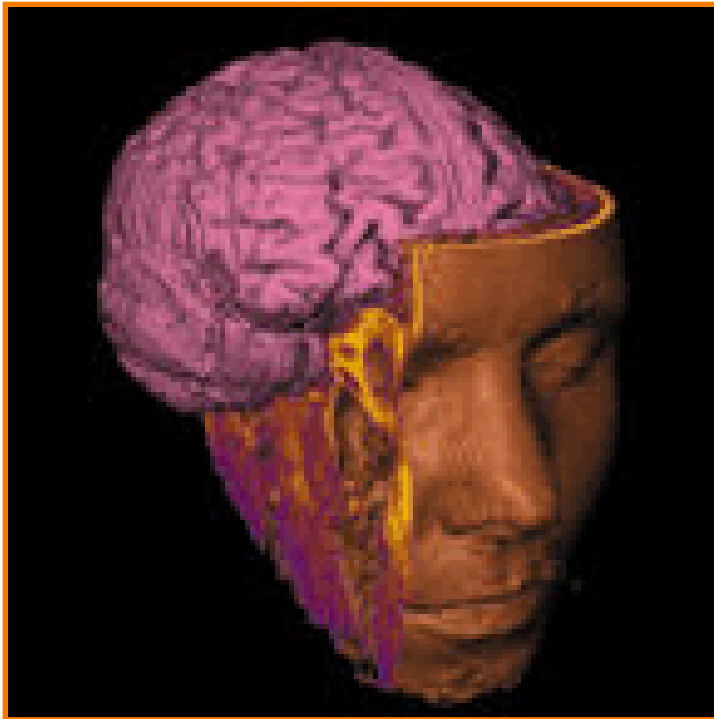
- Regular array of 3D samples (like image)
 - Samples are called *voxels* (“**v**olume **p**ixels”)



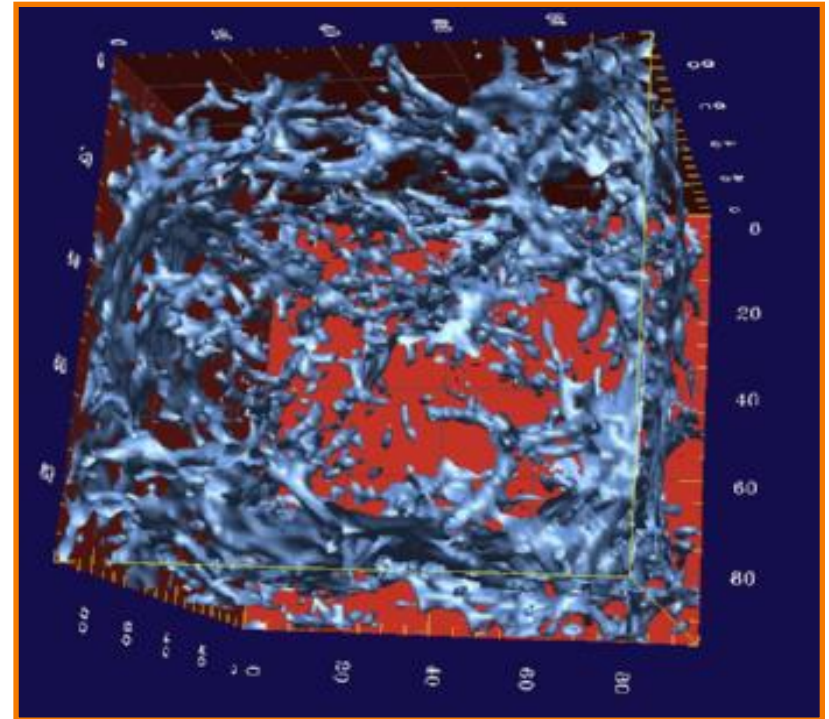
Voxels



- Example isosurfaces



SUNY Stoney Brook

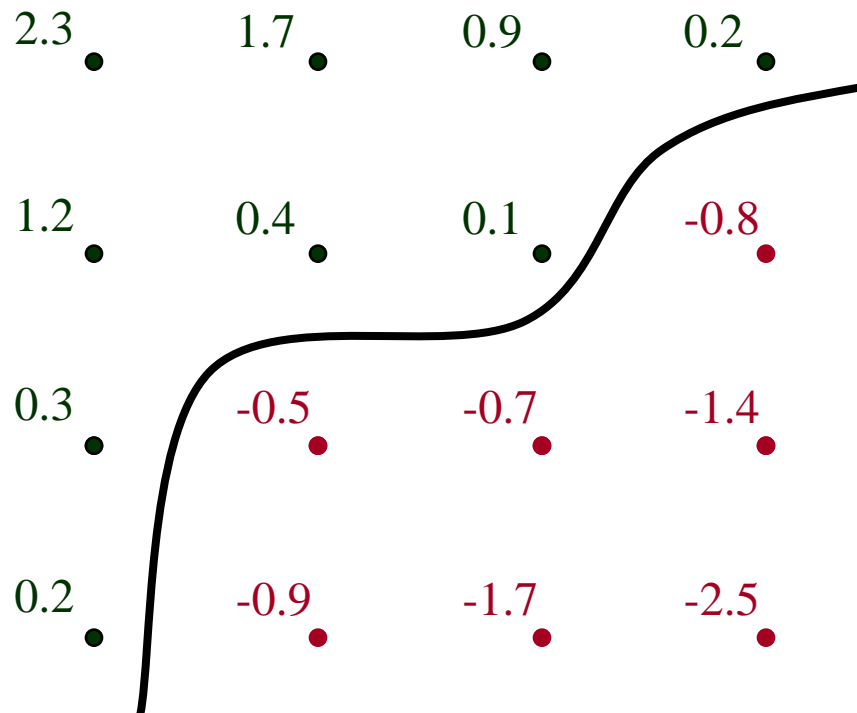


Princeton University

Voxels

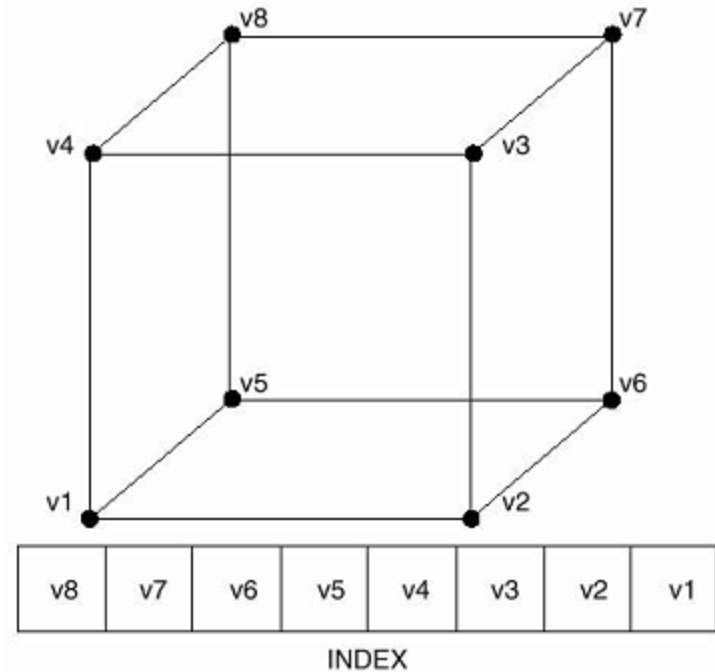
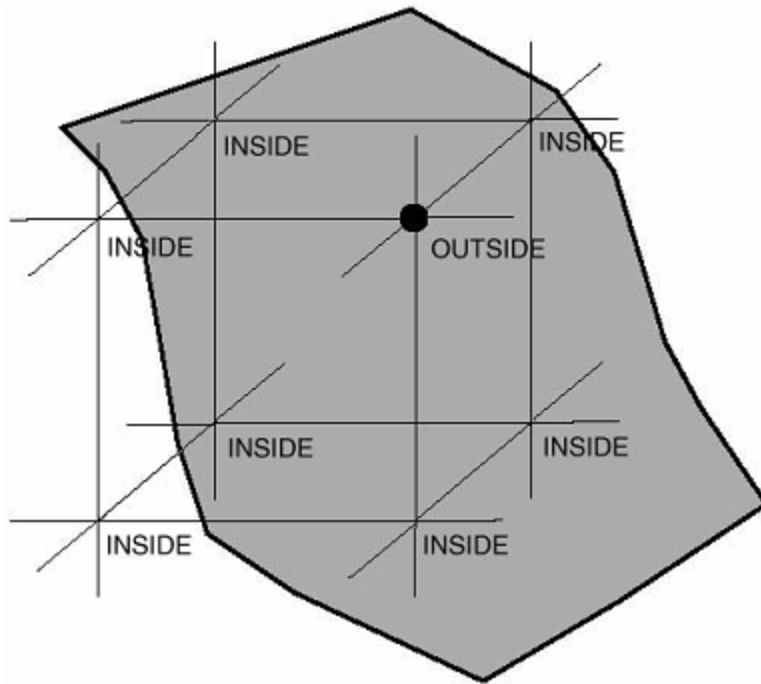


- Regular array of 3D samples (like image)
 - Applying reconstruction filter (e.g. trilinear) yields $f(x,y,z)$
 - Isosurface at $f(x,y,z) = 0$ defines surface



Voxels

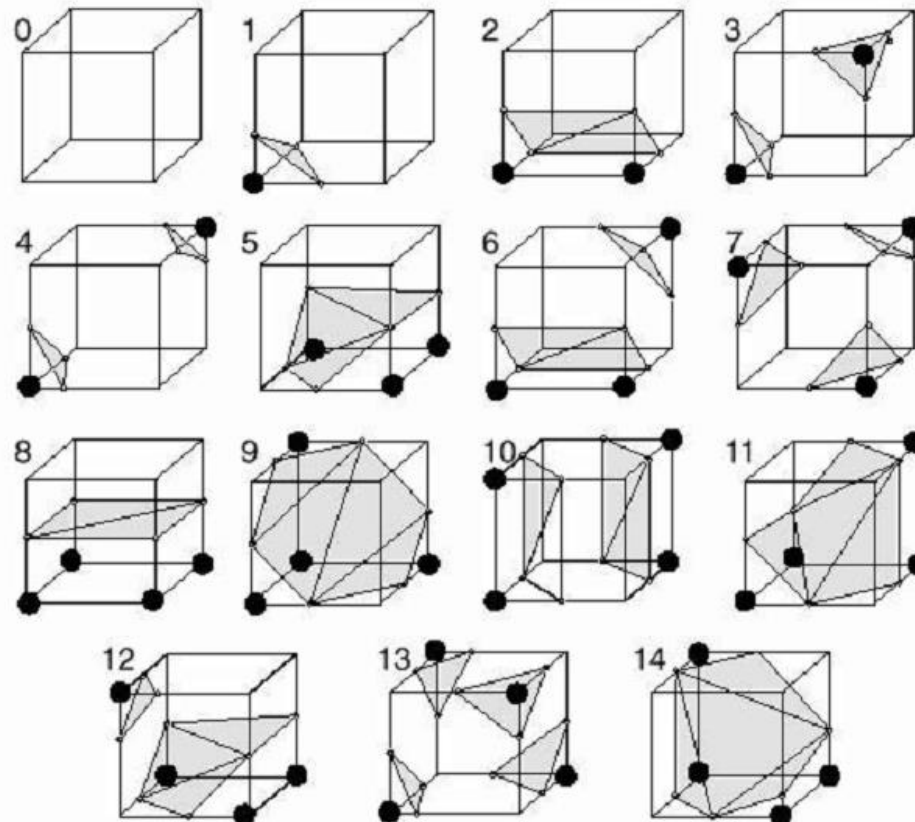
- Iso-surface extraction algorithm
 - e.g., Marching cubes



Voxels

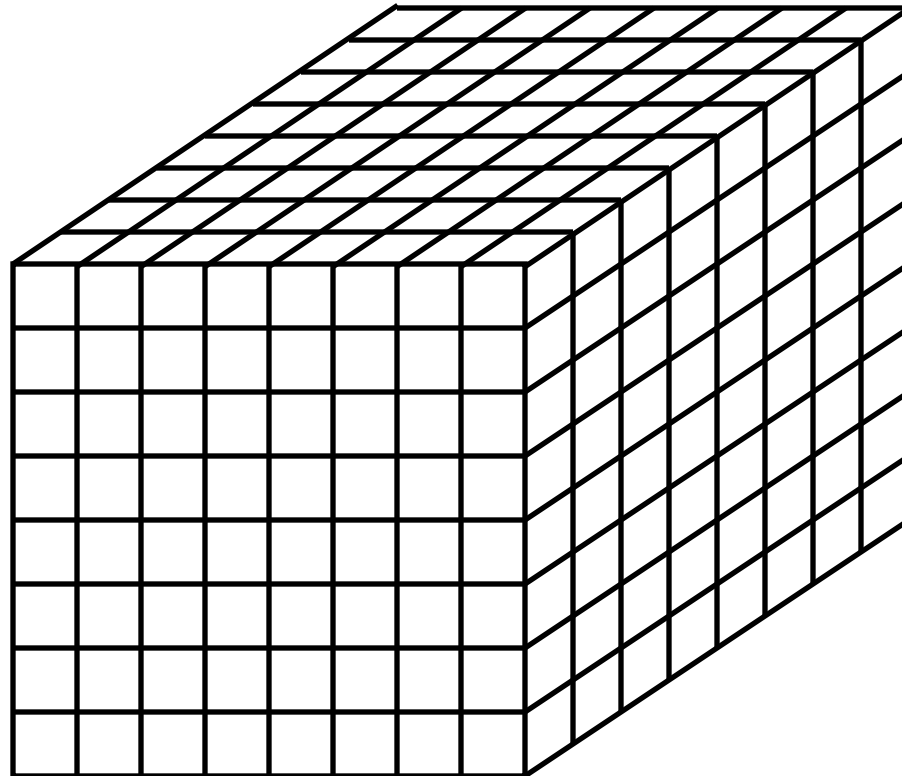


- Iso-surface extraction algorithm
 - e.g., Marching cubes (15 cases)



Voxel Storage

- $O(n^3)$ storage for $n \times n \times n$ grid
 - 1 billion voxels for 1000 x 1000 x 1000



Implicit Surface Representations

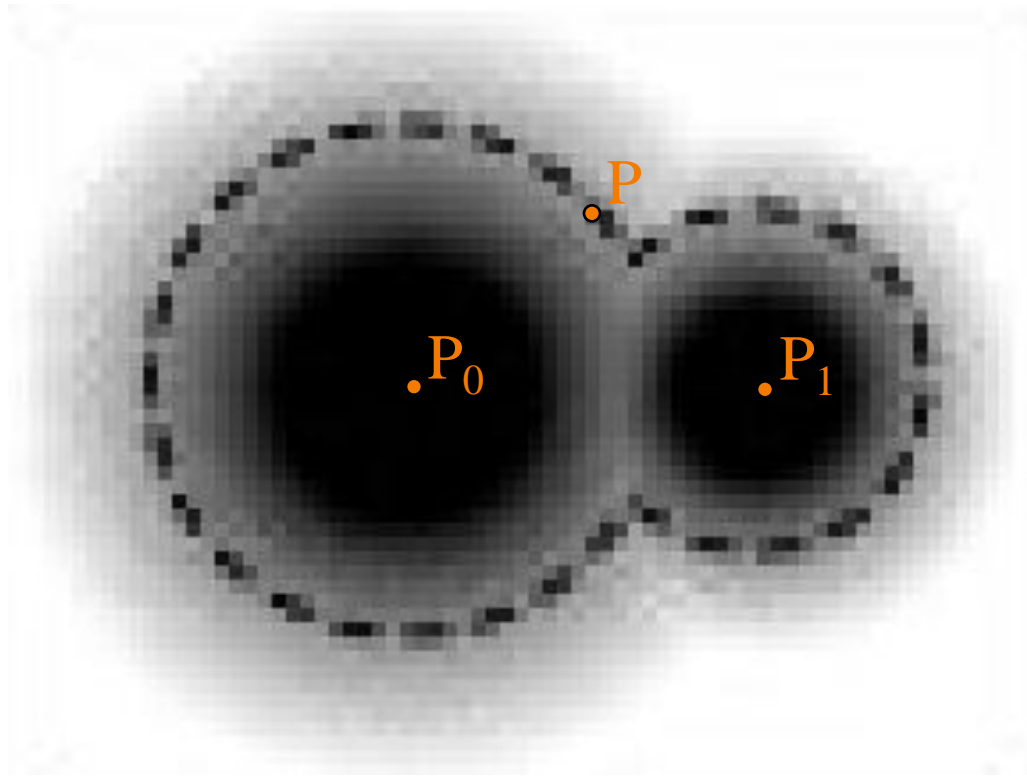


- How do we define implicit function?
 - Algebraics
 - Voxels
 - Basis functions

Basis functions

- Implicit function is sum of basis functions
 - Example:

$$f(P) = a_0 e^{-b_0 d(P, P_0)^2} + a_1 e^{-b_1 d(P, P_1)^2} + \dots - \tau$$





Radial Basis Functions

- Blobby molecules

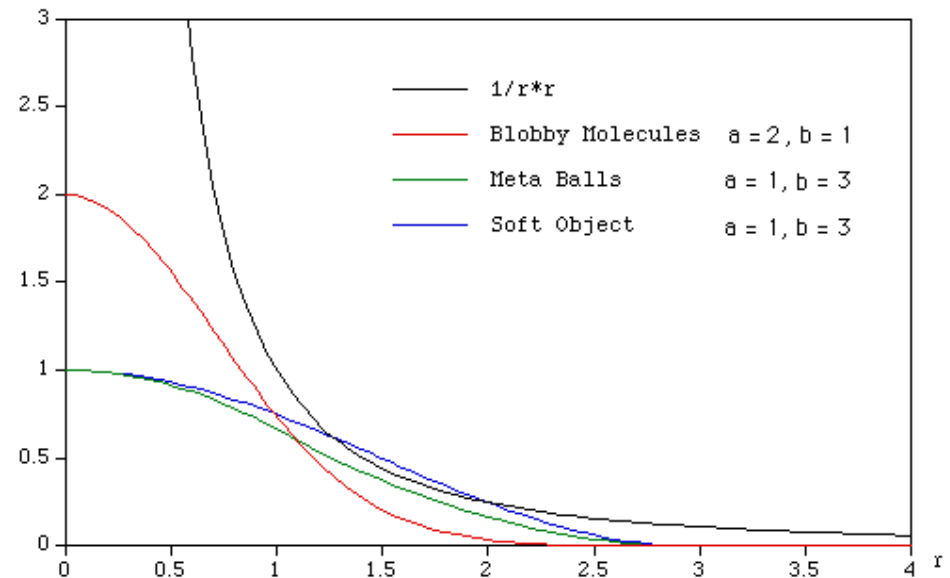
$$D(r) = ae^{-br^2}$$

- Meta balls

$$D(r) = \begin{cases} a(1 - \frac{3r^2}{b^2}) & 0 \leq r \leq b/3 \\ \frac{3a}{2}(1 - \frac{r}{b})^2 & b/3 \leq r \leq b \\ 0 & b \leq r \end{cases}$$

- Soft objects

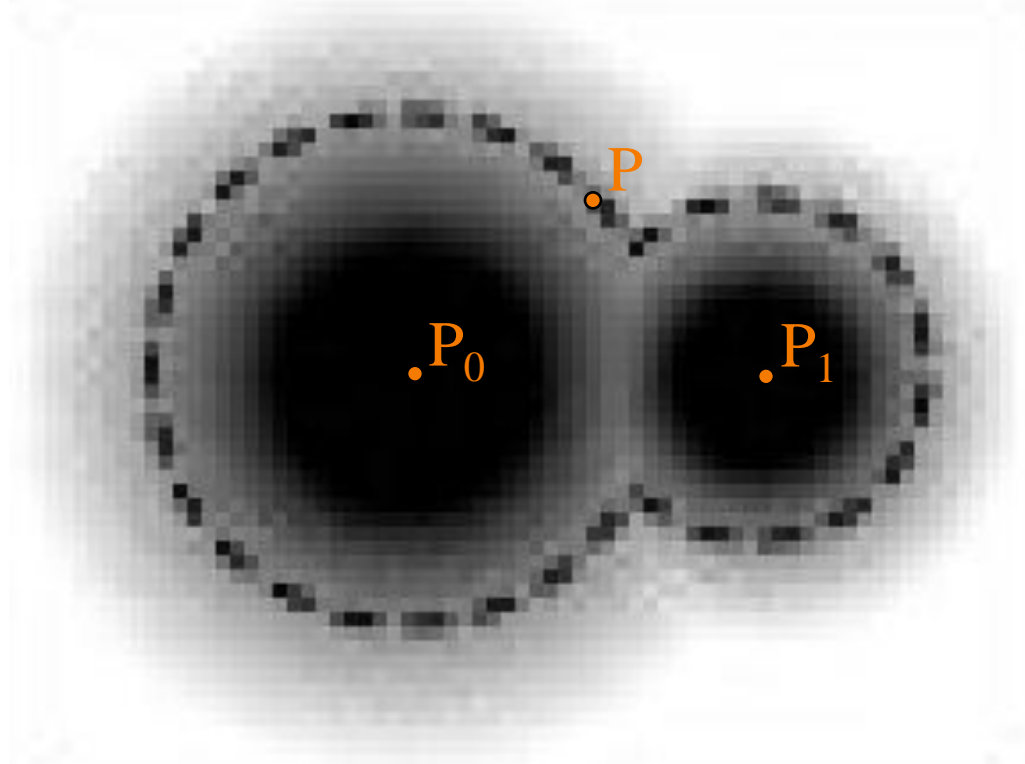
$$D(r) = \begin{cases} a(1 - \frac{4r^6}{9b^6} + \frac{17r^4}{9b^4} - \frac{22r^2}{9b^2}) & r \leq b \\ 0 & r \geq b \end{cases}$$



Blobby Models

- Implicit function is sum of Gaussians

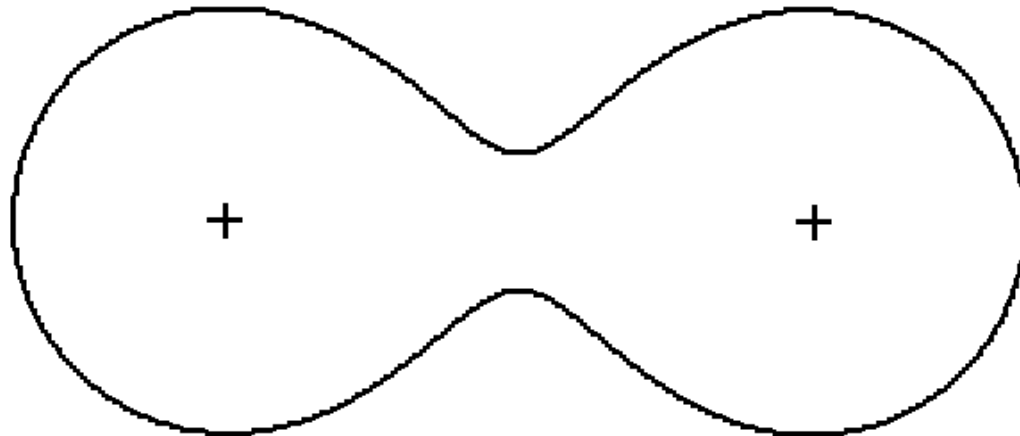
$$f(P) = a_0 e^{-b_0 d(P, P_0)^2} + a_1 e^{-b_1 d(P, P_1)^2} + \dots - \tau$$



Blobby Models



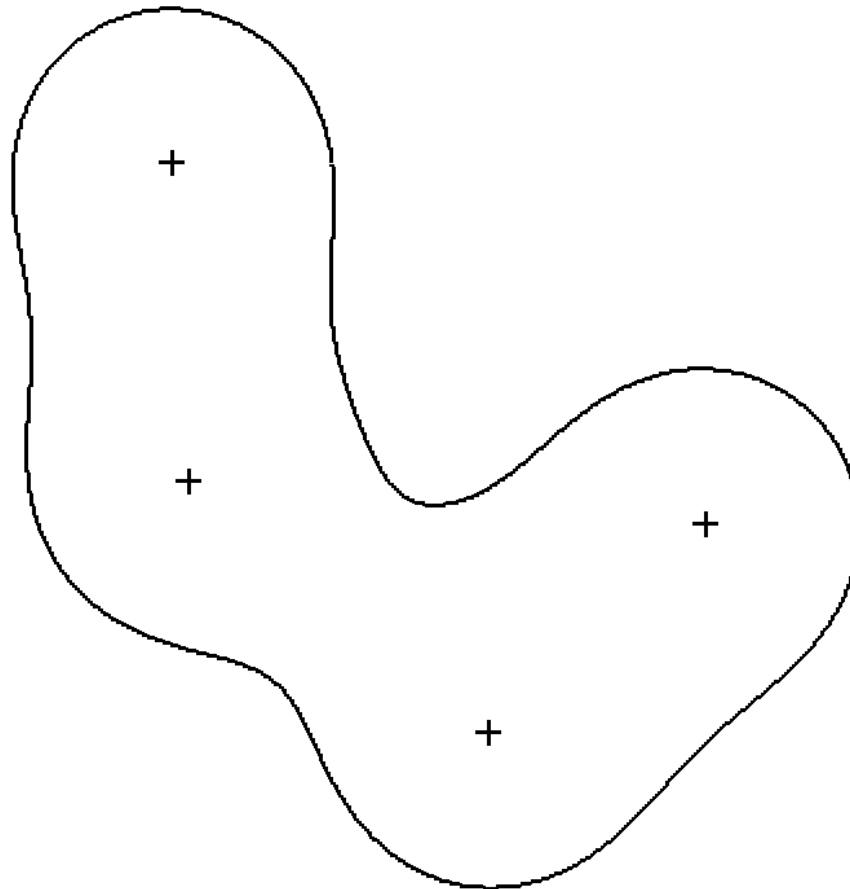
- Sum of two blobs



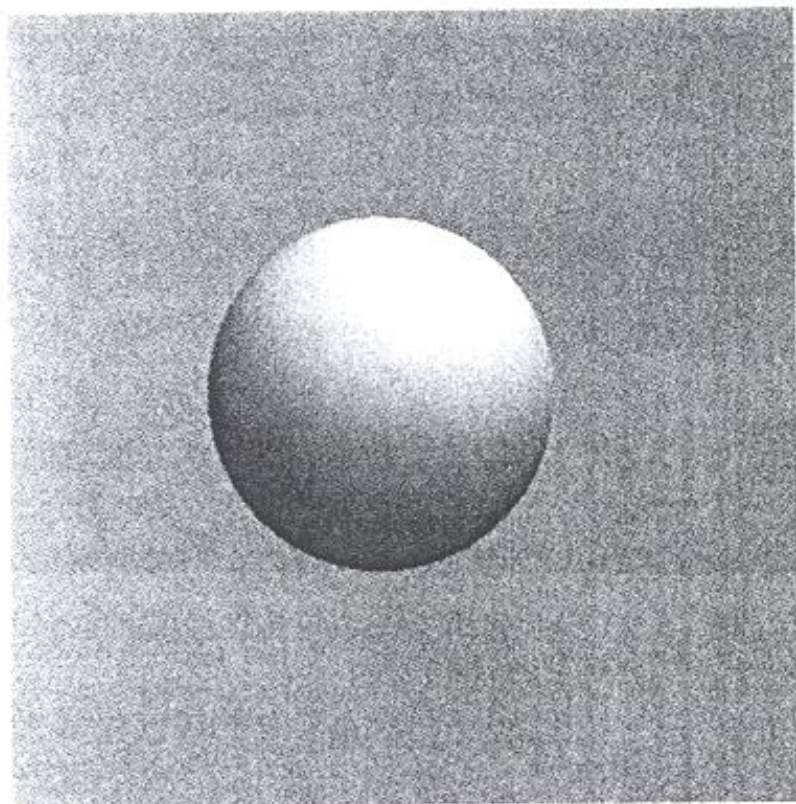
Blobby Models



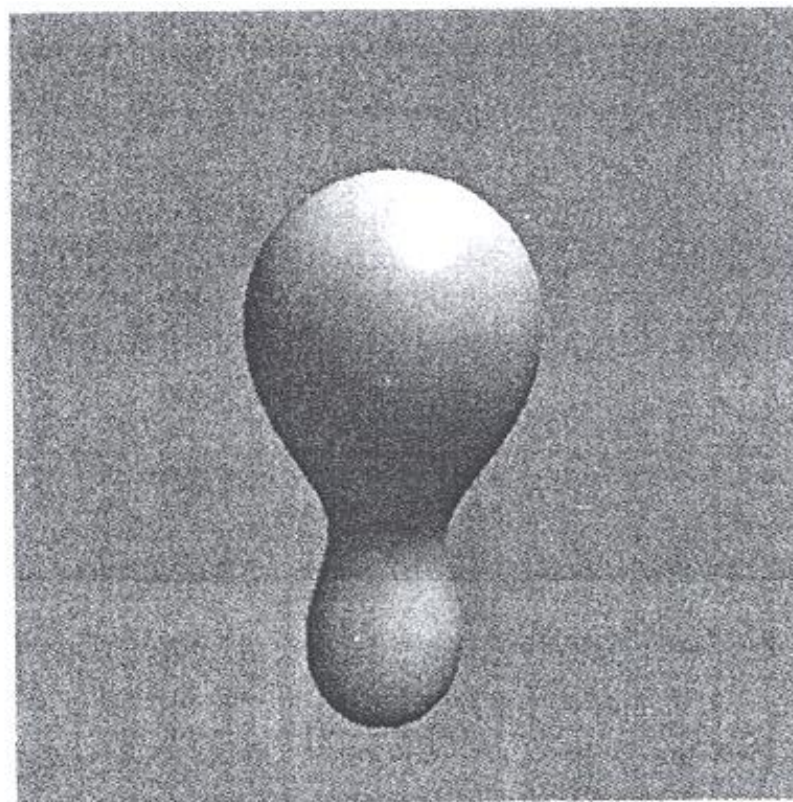
- Sum of four blobs



Blobby Model of Face

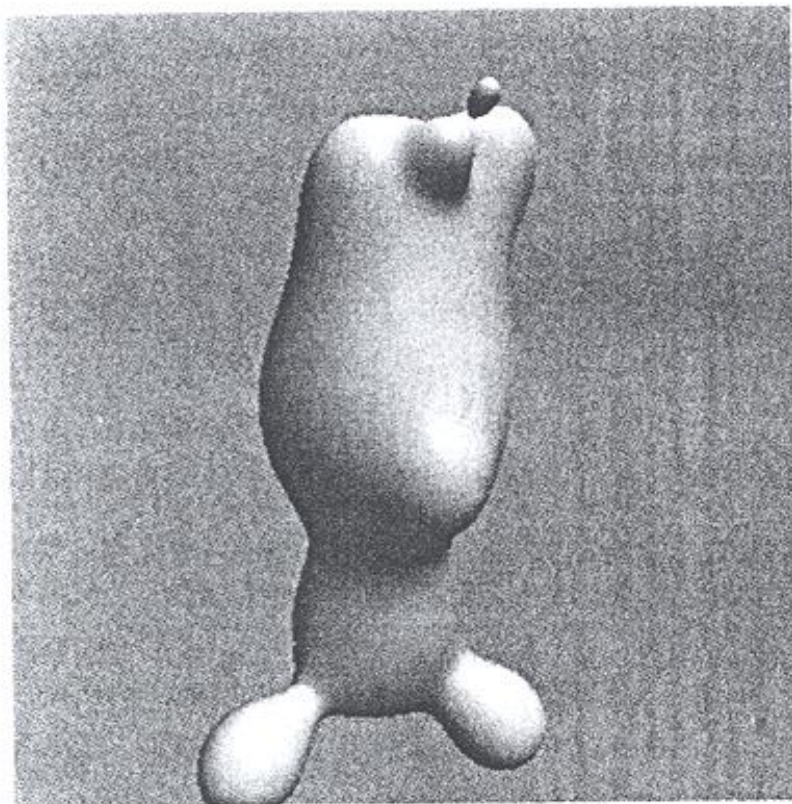


(a) $N = 1$

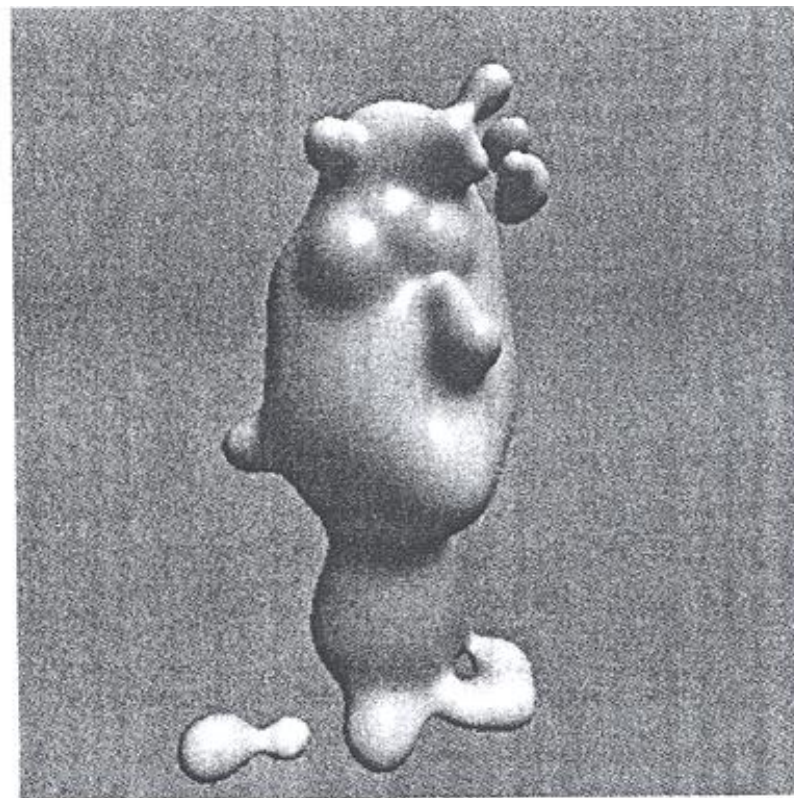


(b) $N = 2$

Blobby Model of Face

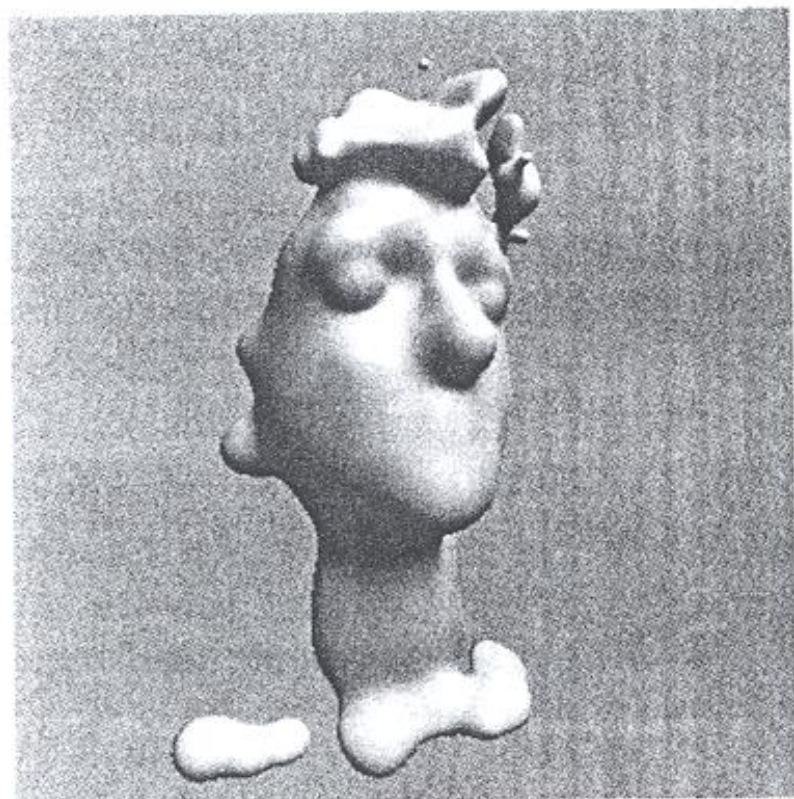


(c) $N = 10$

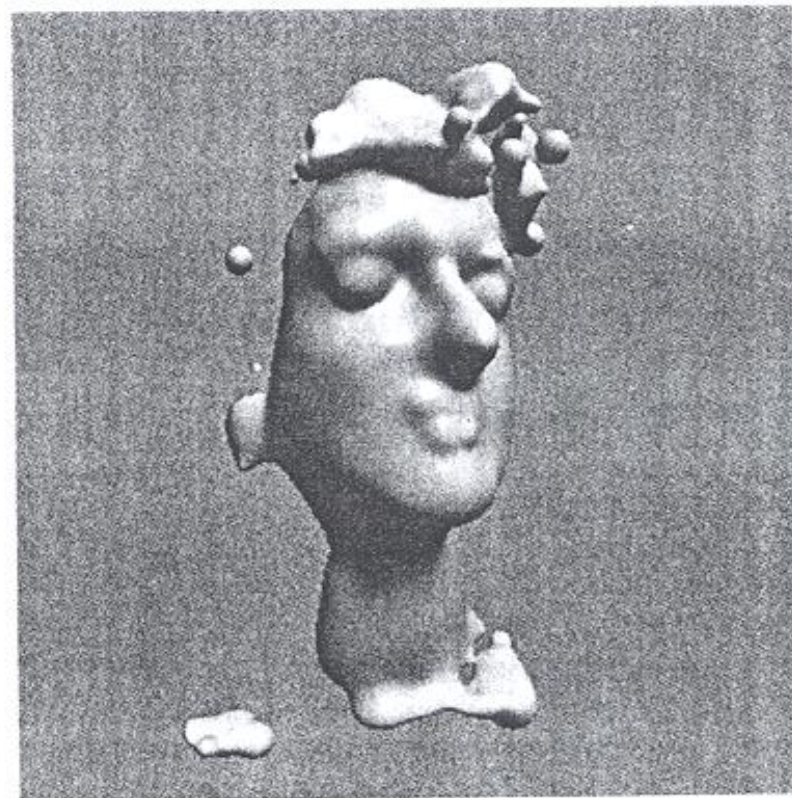


(d) $N = 35$

Blobby Model of Face

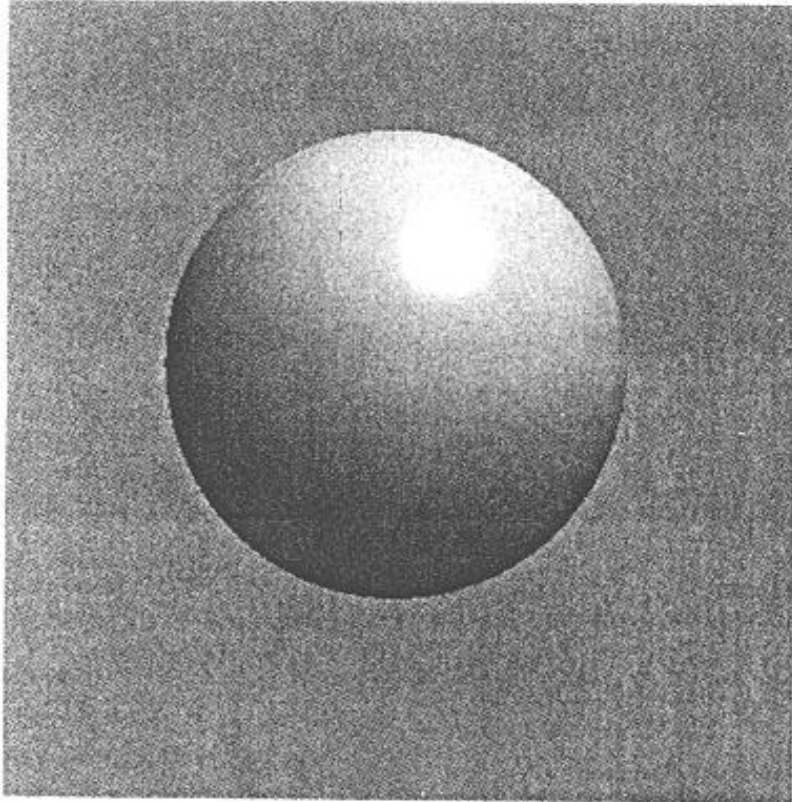


(e) $N = 70$

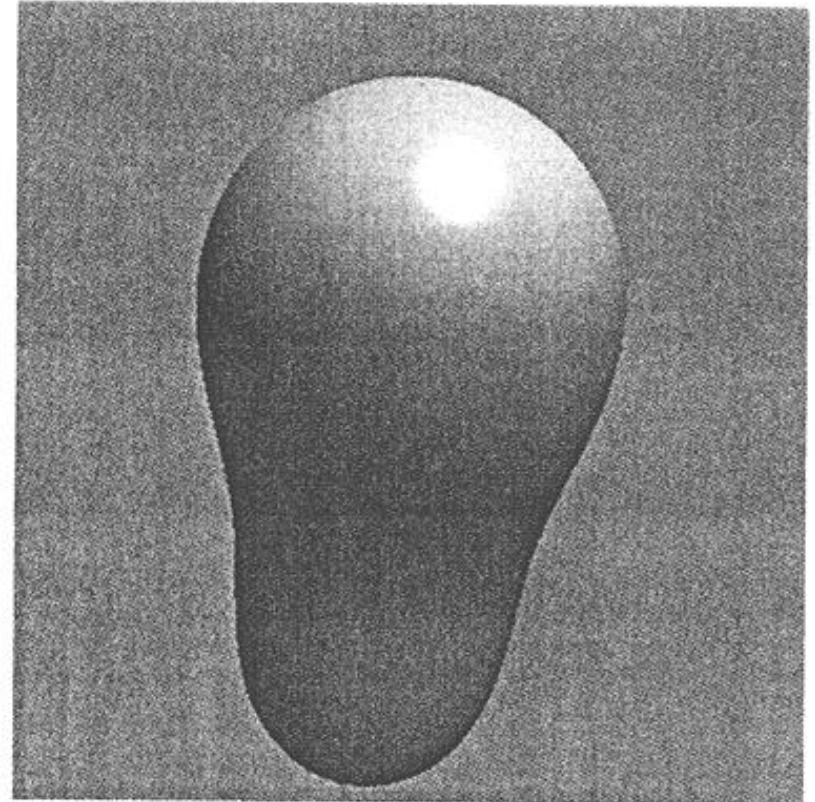


(f) $N = 243$

Blobby Model of Head

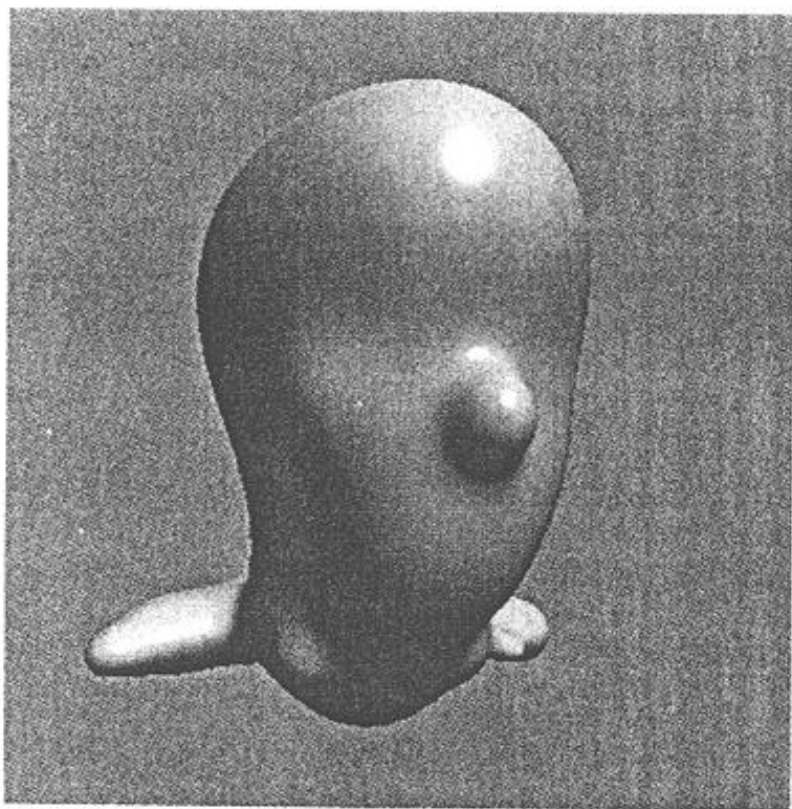


(a) $N = 1$

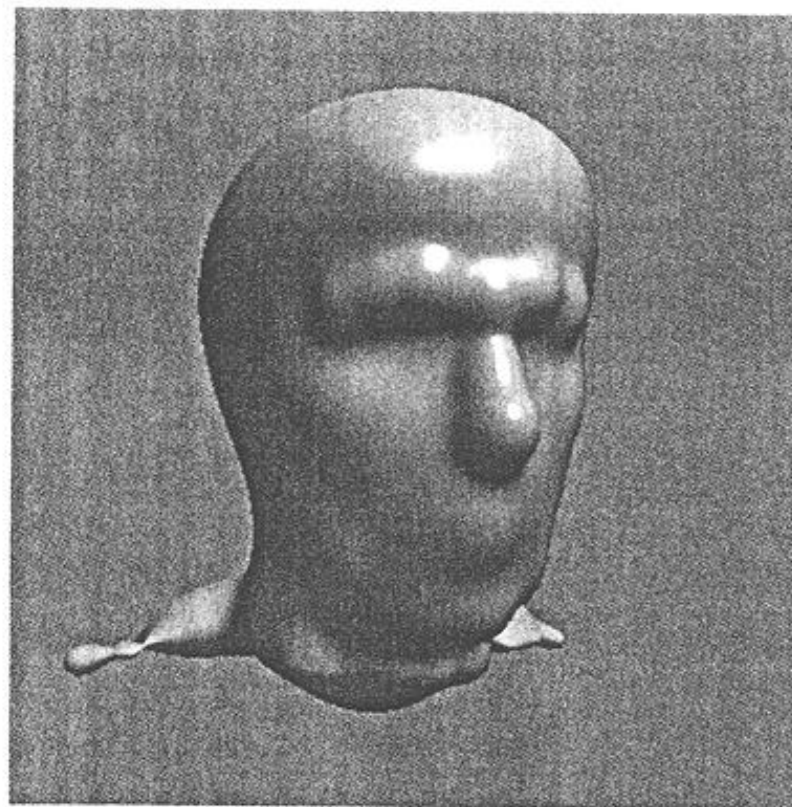


(b) $N = 2$

Blobby Model of Head

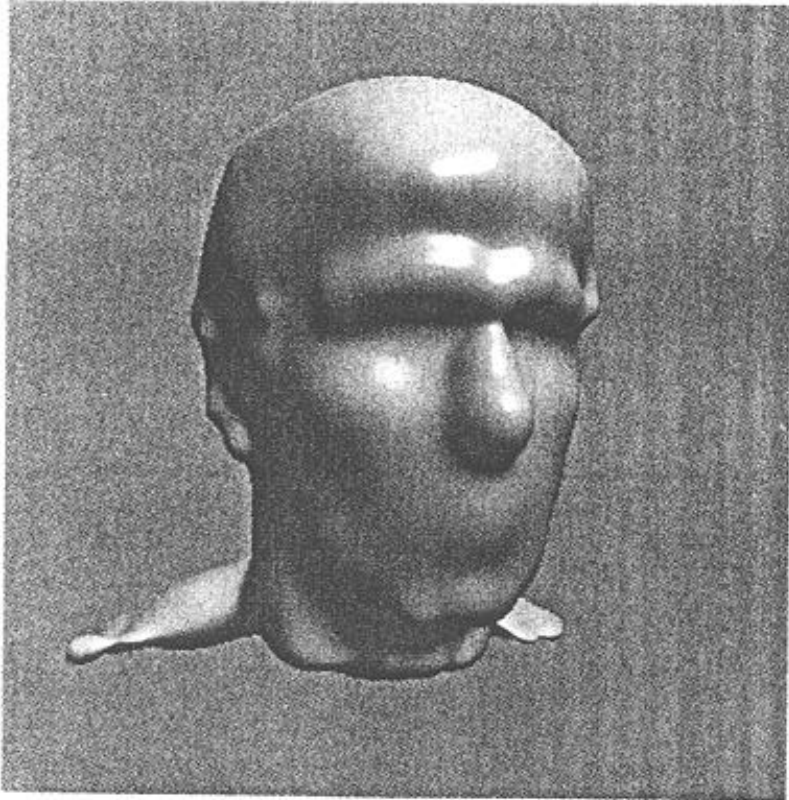


(c) $N = 20$

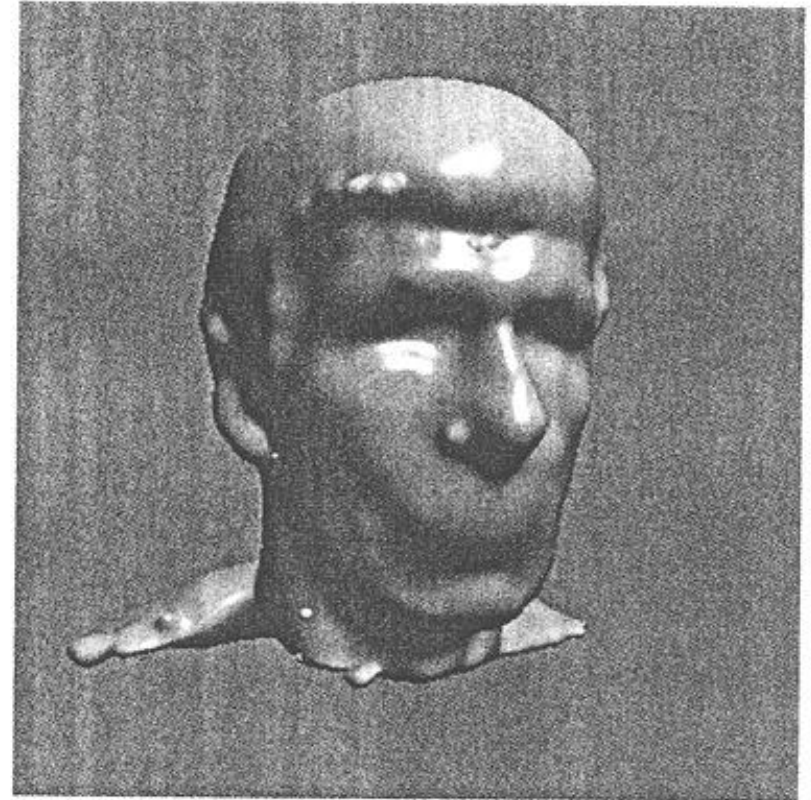


(d) $N = 60$

Blobby Model of Head



(e) $N = 120$



(f) $N = 451$

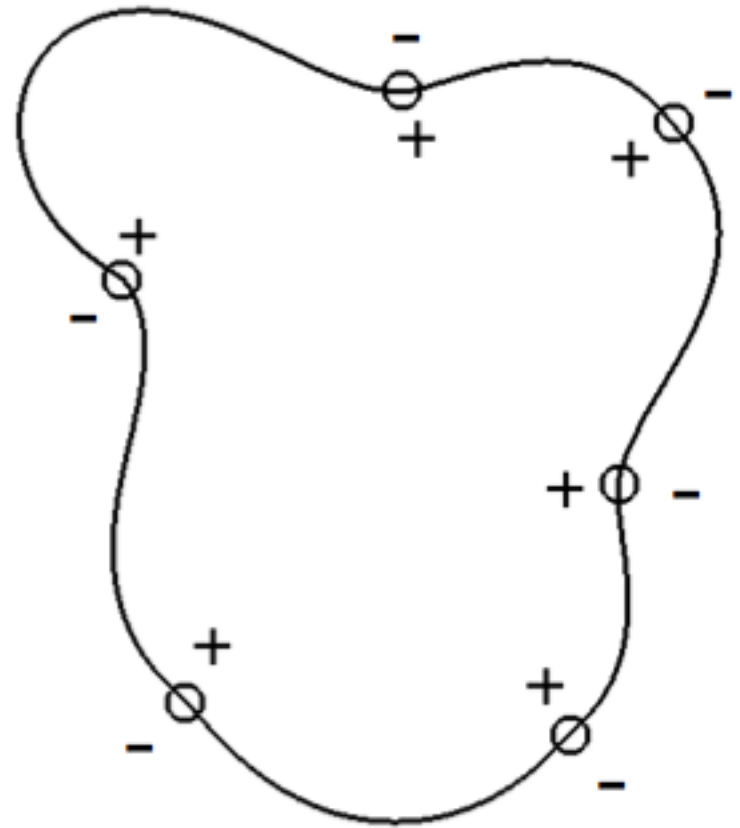
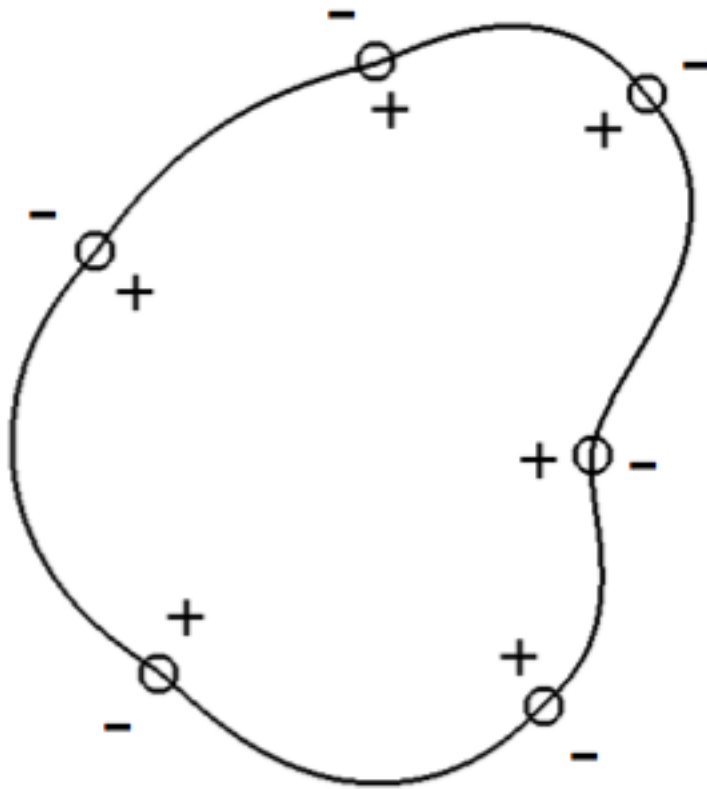
Bloppy Models



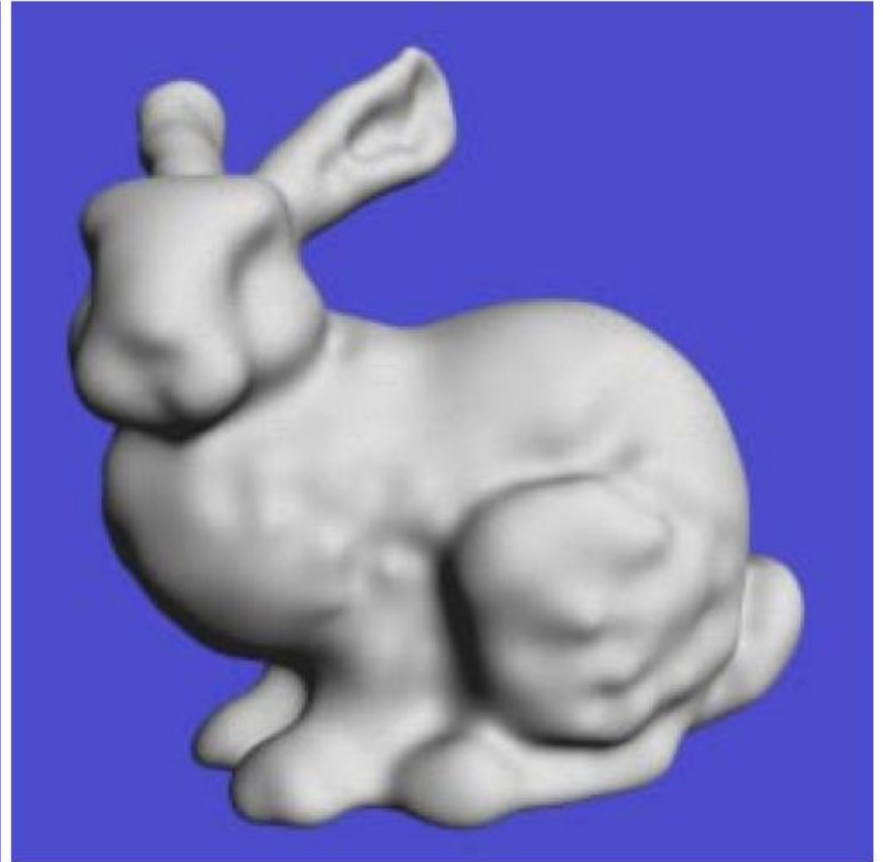
Objects resulting from CSG of implicit soft objects and other primitives



Variational Implicit Surfaces



Variational Implicit Surfaces



Implicit Surface Summary



- Advantages:
 - Easy to test if point is on surface
 - Easy to compute intersections/unions/differences
 - Easy to handle topological changes
- Disadvantages:
 - Indirect specification of surface
 - Hard to describe sharp features
 - Hard to enumerate points on surface
 - » Slow rendering

Summary



Feature	Polygonal Mesh	Implicit Surface	Parametric Surface	Subdivision Surface
Accurate	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Concise	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Intuitive specification	No	No	Yes	No
Local support	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Affine invariant	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Arbitrary topology	Yes	No	No	Yes
Guaranteed continuity	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Natural parameterization	No	No	Yes	No
Efficient display	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Efficient intersections	No	Yes	No	No

3D Object Representations

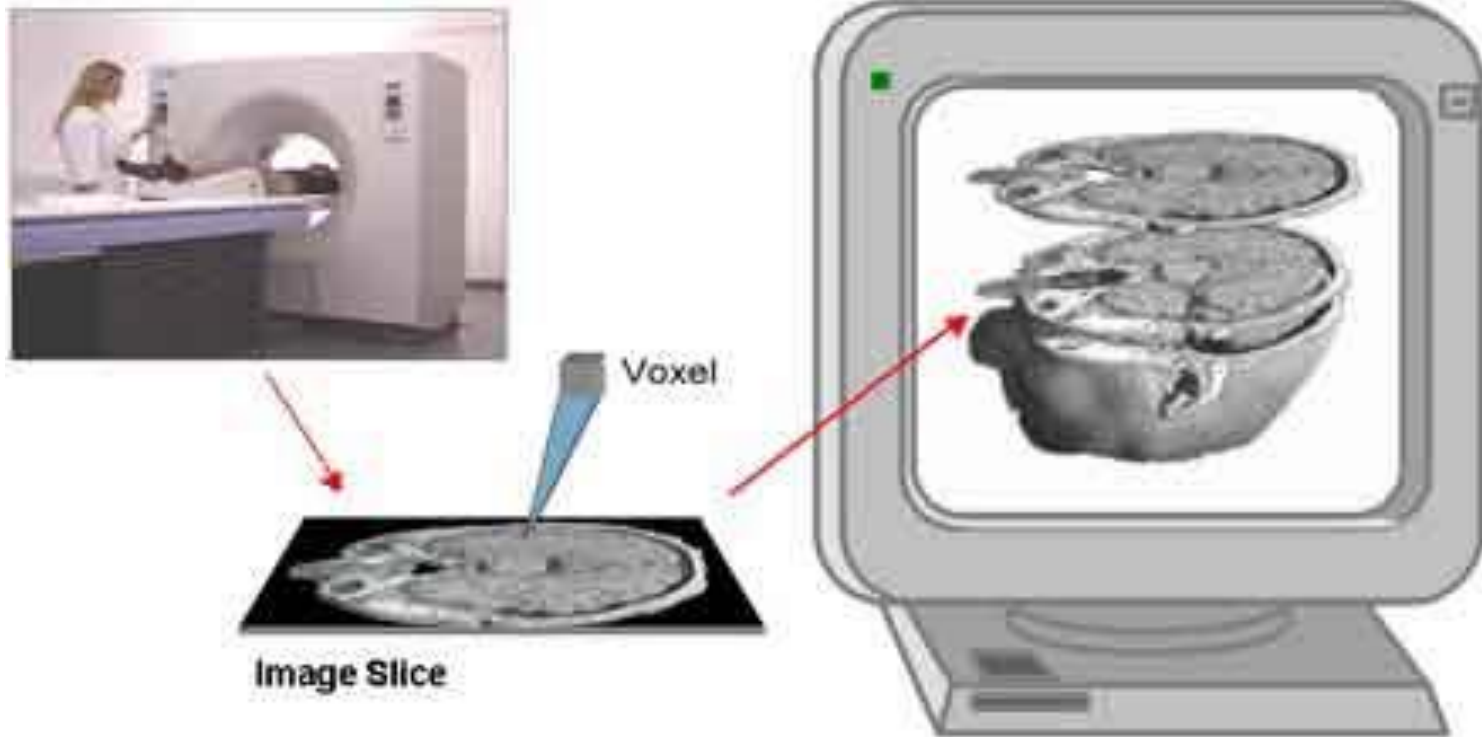


- Raw data
 - Range image
 - Point cloud
- Surfaces
 - Polygonal mesh
 - Subdivision
 - Parametric
 - Implicit
- Solids
 - Voxels
 - BSP tree
 - CSG
 - Sweep
- High-level structures
 - Scene graph
 - Application specific

Solid Modeling



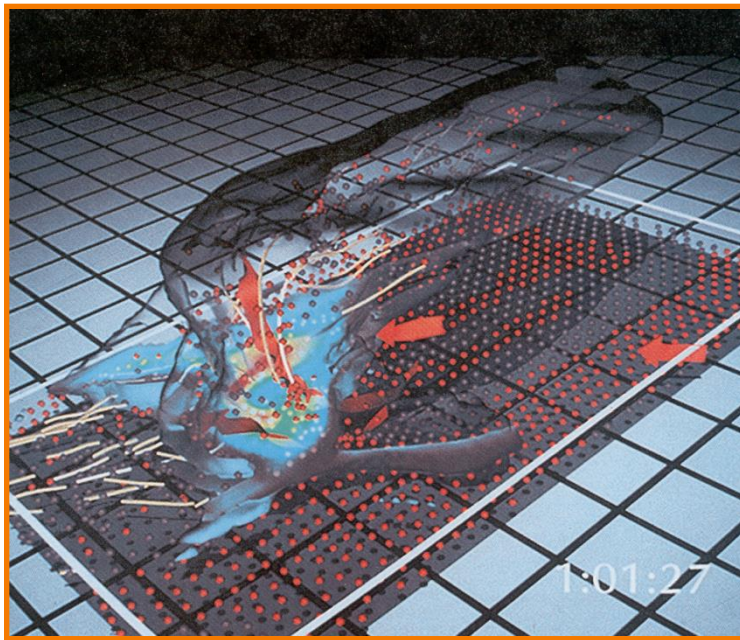
- Represent solid interiors of objects



Motivation 1

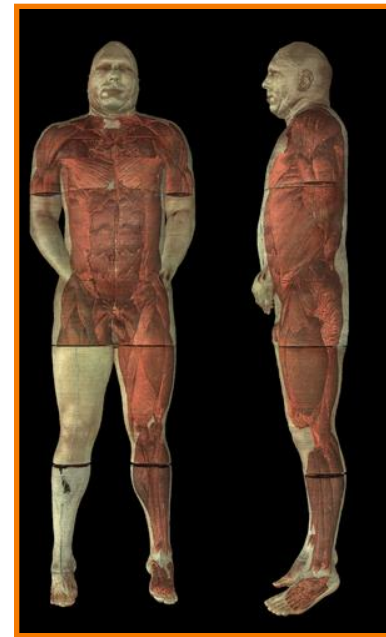


- Some acquisition methods generate solids



Airflow Inside a Thunderstorm

*(Bob Wilhelmson,
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign)*



Visible Human

(National Library of Medicine)

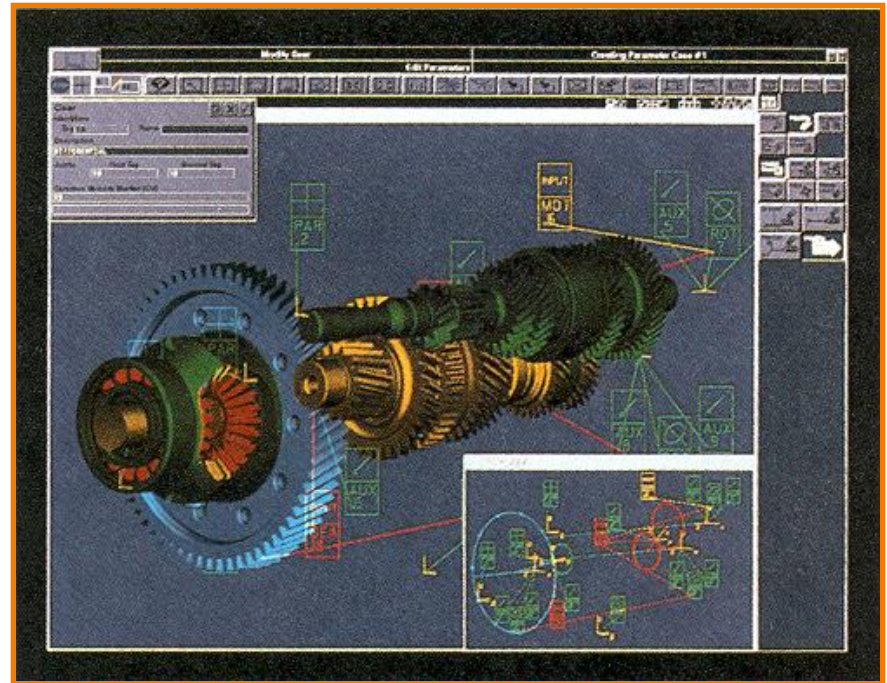
Motivation 2



- Some applications require solids
 - Examples: medicine, CAD/CAM



SUNY Stony Brook

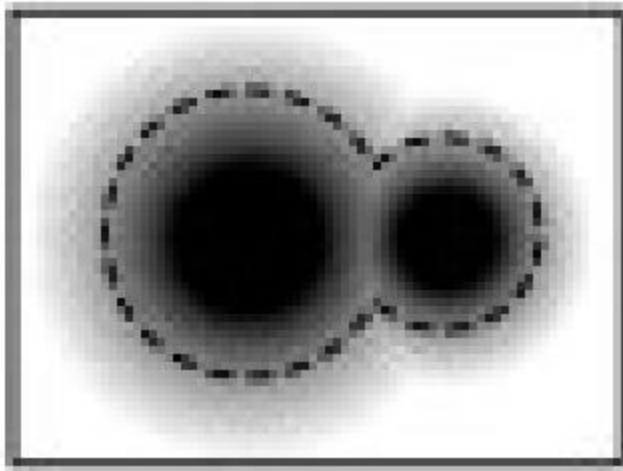


Intergraph Corporation

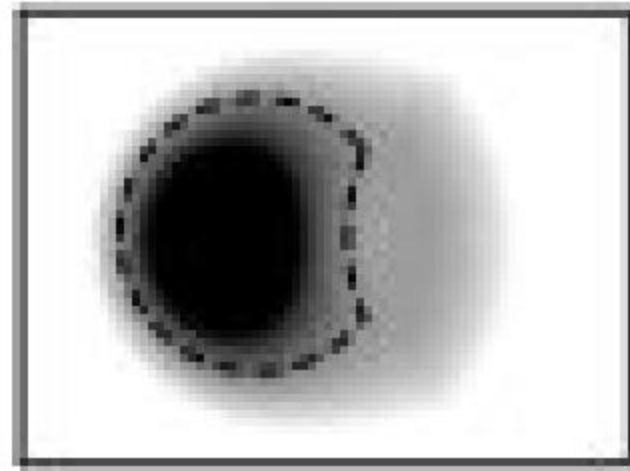
Motivation 3



- Some operations are easier with solids
 - Example: union, difference, intersection



Union



Difference

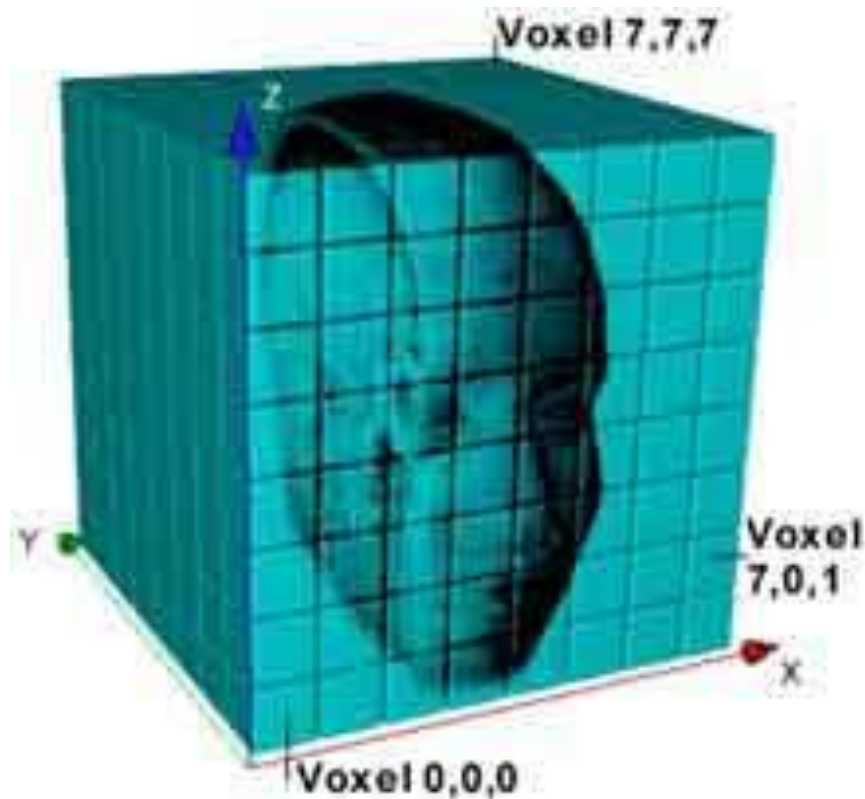
3D Object Representations



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

Voxels

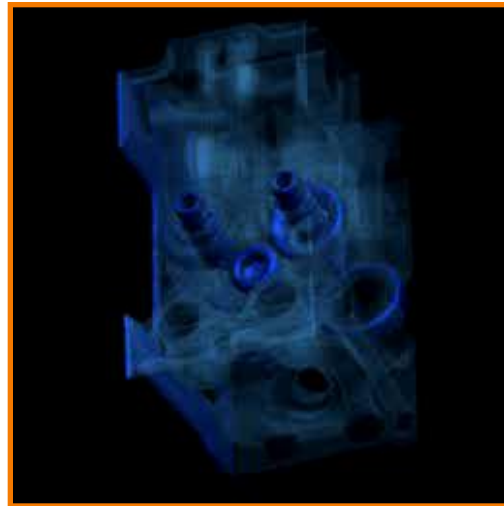
- Regular array of 3D samples (like image)
 - Samples are called *voxels* (“**v**olume **p**ixels”)



Voxels



- Store properties of solid object with each voxel
 - Occupancy
 - Color
 - Density
 - Temperature
 - etc.



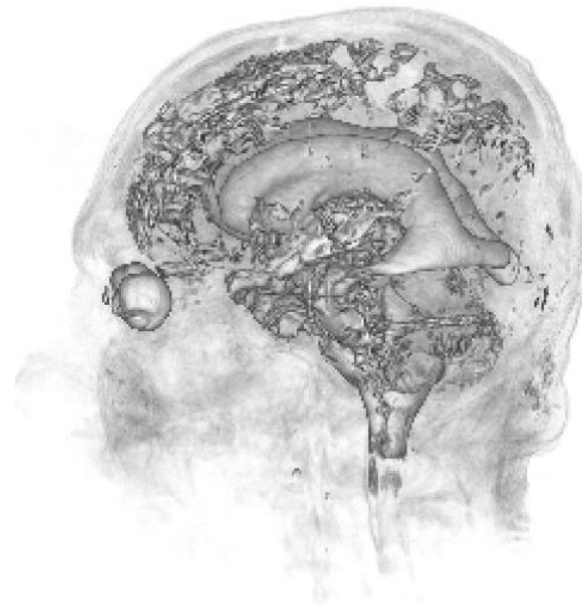
Engine Block
Stanford University



Visible Human
(National Library of Medicine)

Voxel Processing

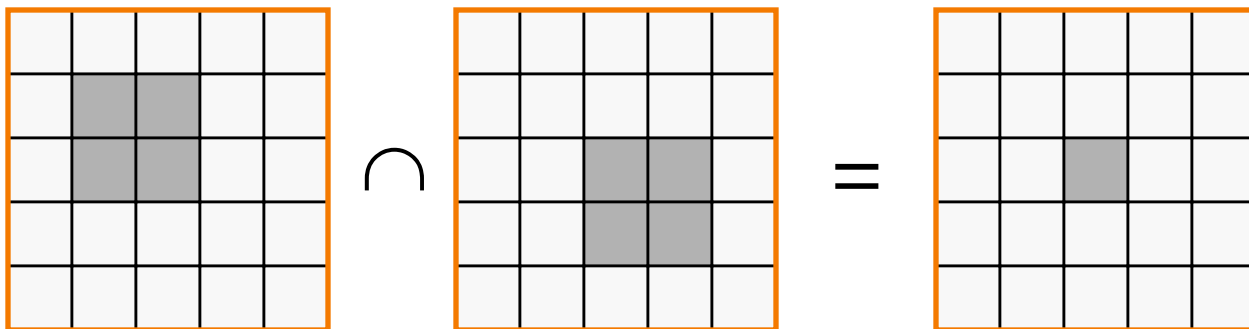
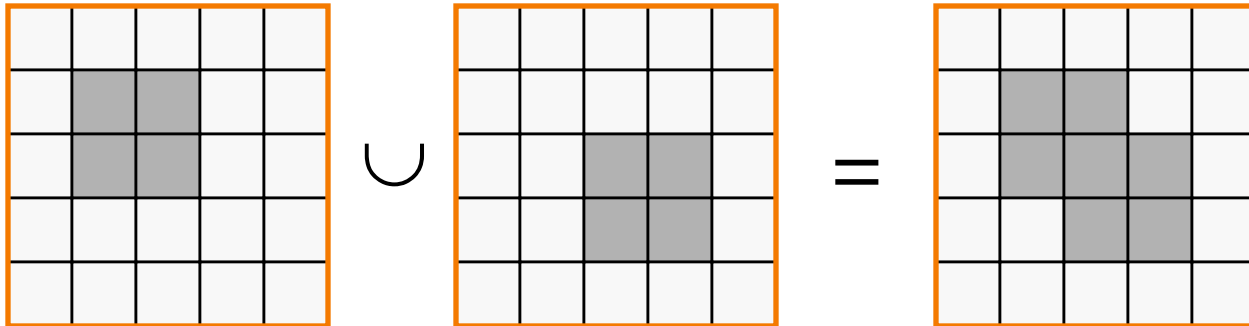
- Signal processing (just like images)
 - Reconstruction
 - Resampling
- Typical operations
 - Blur
 - Edge detect
 - Warp
 - etc.
- Often fully analogous to image processing



Voxel Boolean Operations

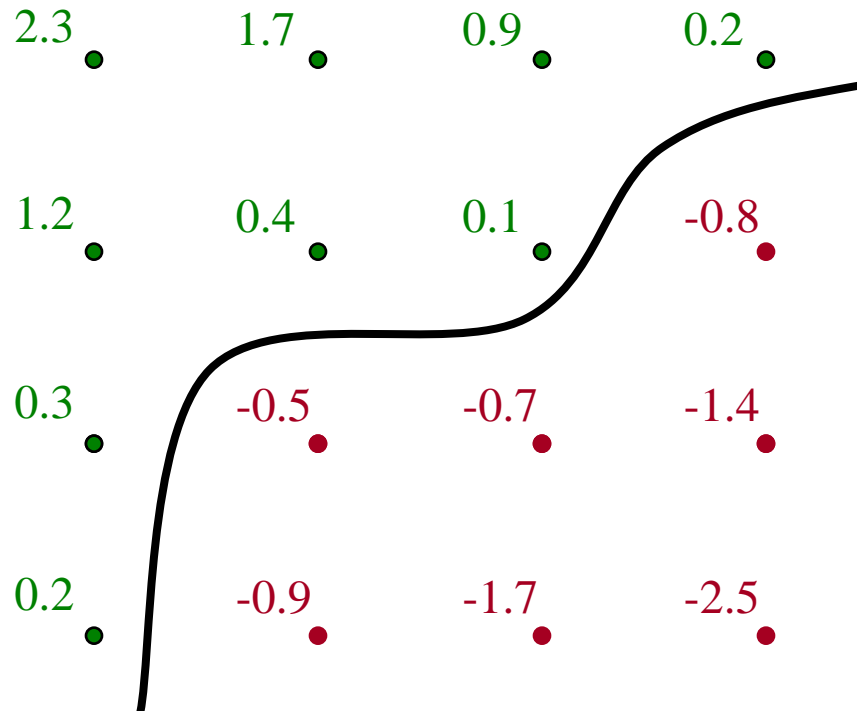


- Compare objects voxel by voxel
 - Trivial



Voxel Display

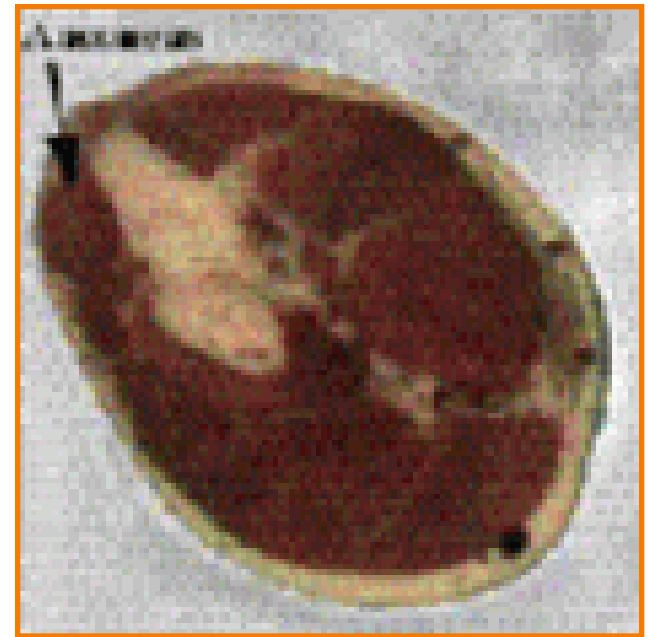
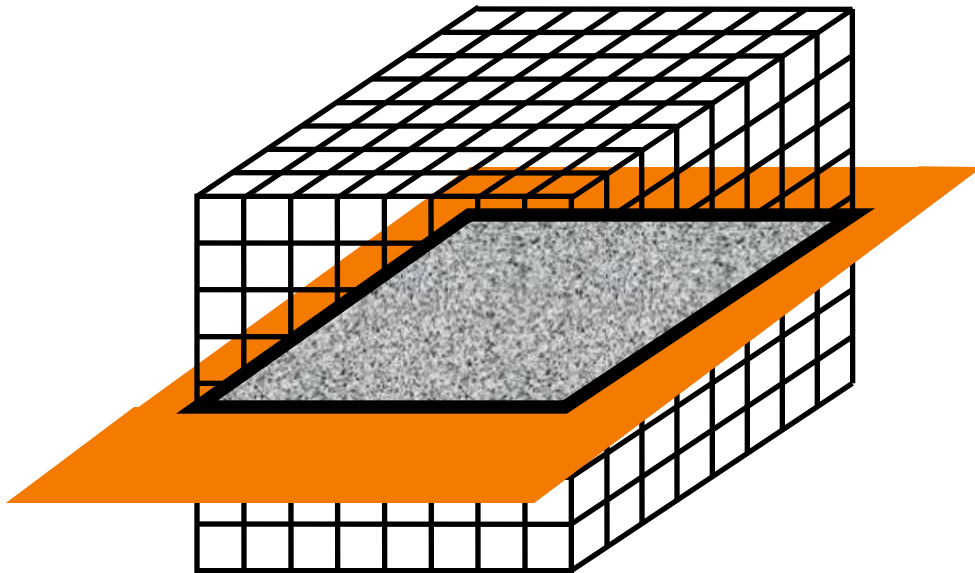
- Isosurface rendering
 - Interpolate samples stored on regular grid
 - Isosurface at $f(x,y,z) = 0$ defines surface



Voxel Display



- Slicing
 - Draw 2D image resulting from intersecting voxels with a plane

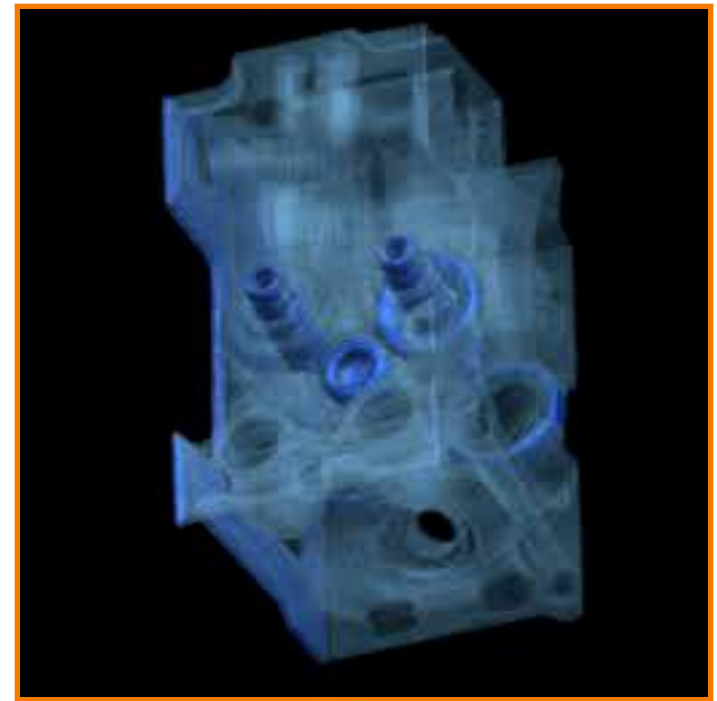
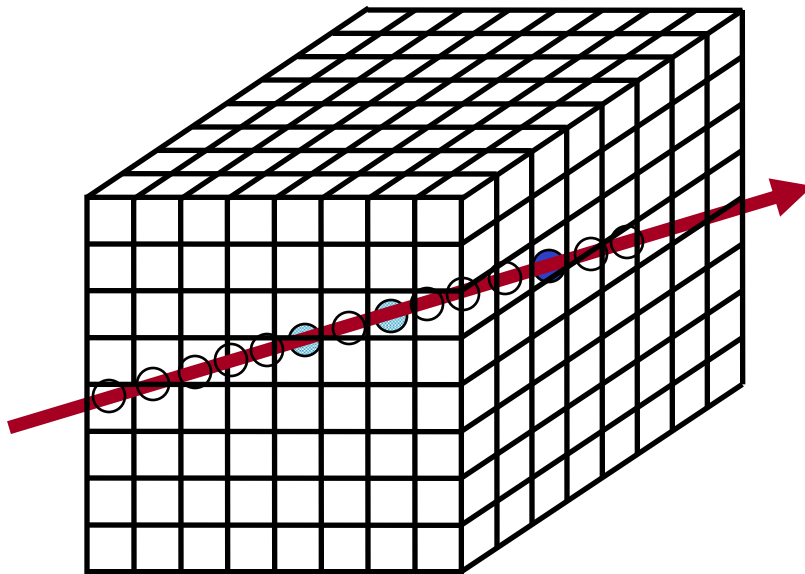


Visible Human
(National Library of Medicine)

Voxel Display



- Ray casting
 - Integrate density along rays: compositing!

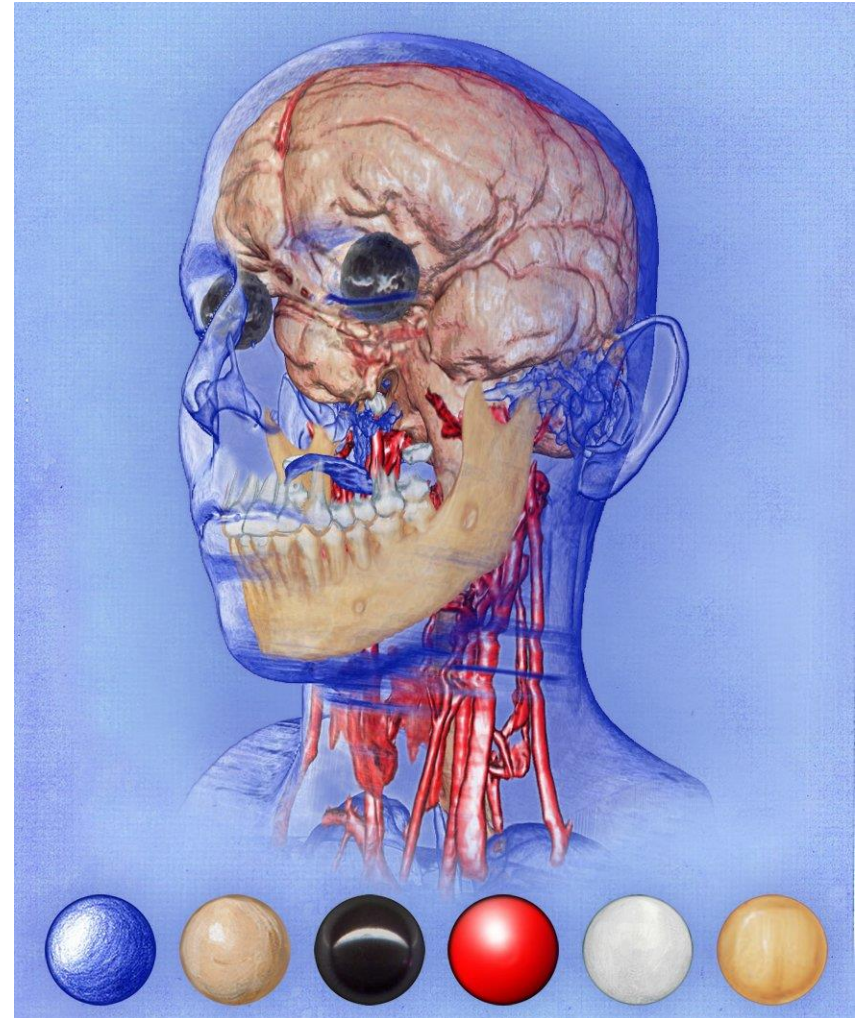


Engine Block
Stanford University

Voxel Display



- Extended ray-casting
 - **Transfer functions:**
Map voxel values to opacity and material
 - Normals (for lighting)
from density gradient



[Bruckner et al. 2007](#)

Voxels

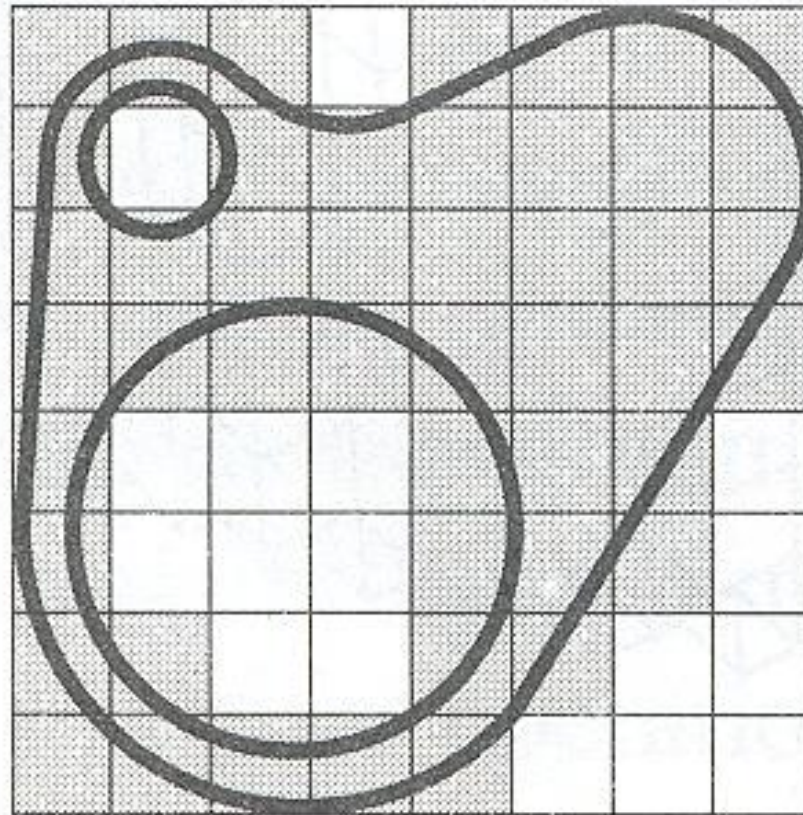


- Advantages
 - Simple, intuitive, unambiguous
 - Same complexity for all objects
 - Natural acquisition for some applications
 - Trivial boolean operations
- Disadvantages
 - Approximate
 - Not affine invariant
 - Expensive display
 - Large storage requirements

Voxels

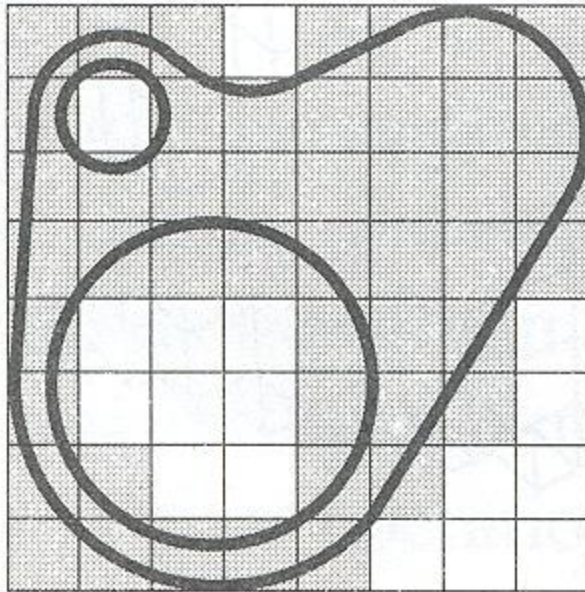


- What resolution should be used?

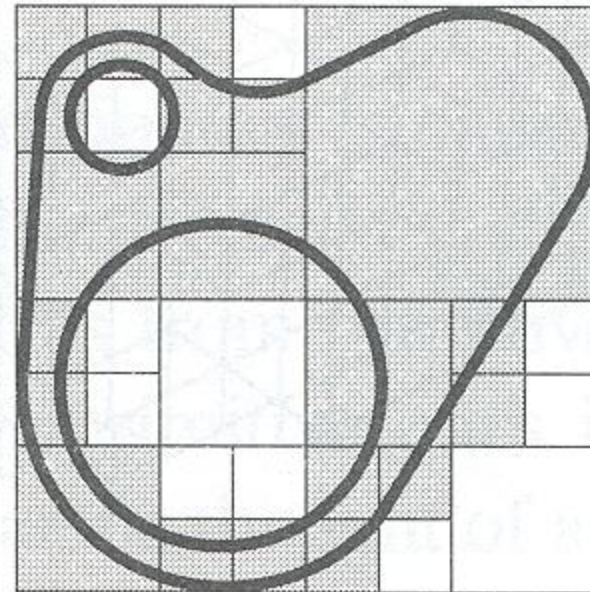


Quadrees & Octrees

- Refine resolution of voxels hierarchically
 - More concise and efficient for non-uniform objects



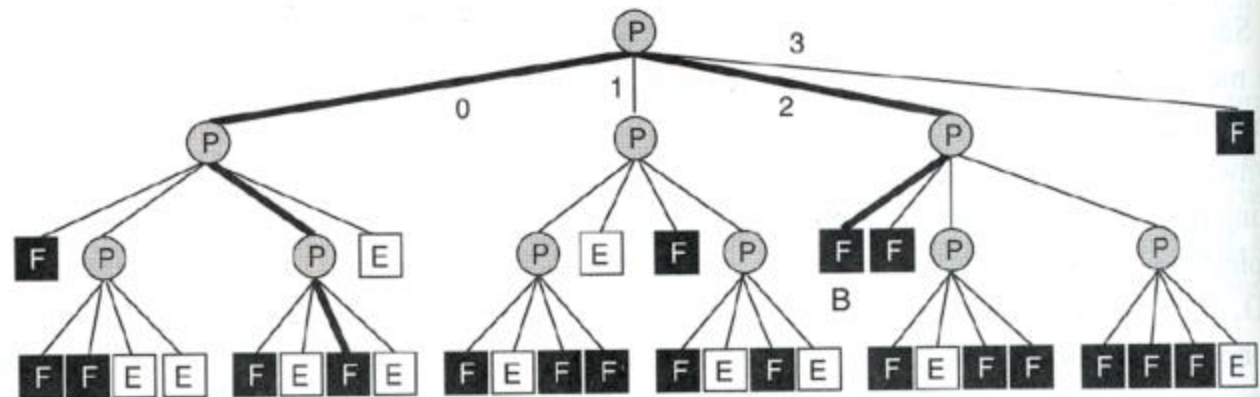
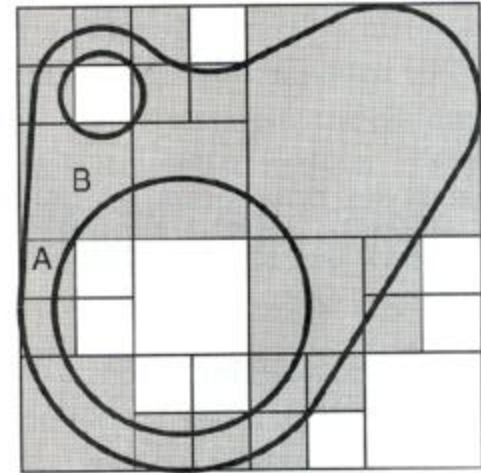
Uniform Voxels



Quadtree (Octree in 3D)

Quadtree Processing

- Hierarchical versions of voxel methods
 - Finding neighbor cell requires traversal of hierarchy: expected/amortized $O(1)$

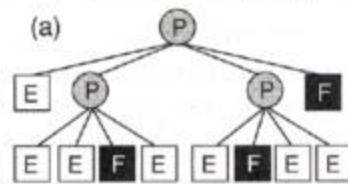
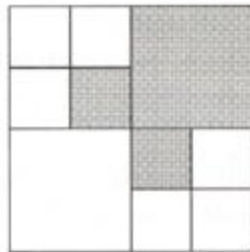


FvDFH Figure 12.25

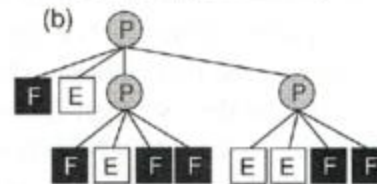
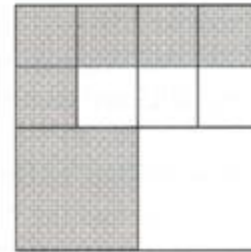
Quadtree Boolean Operations



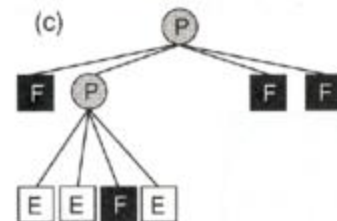
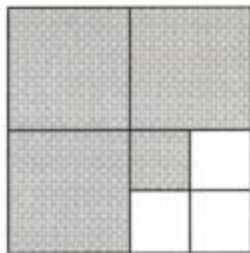
A



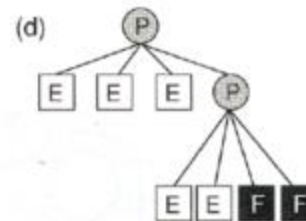
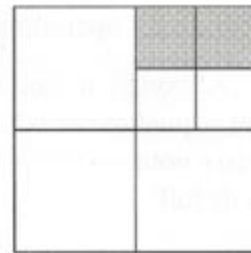
B



A ∪ B



A ∩ B

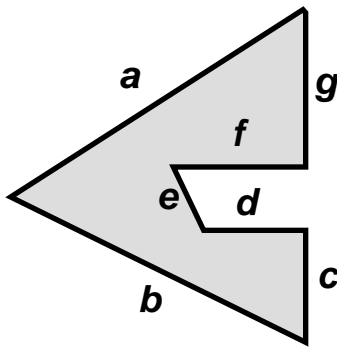


3D Object Representations

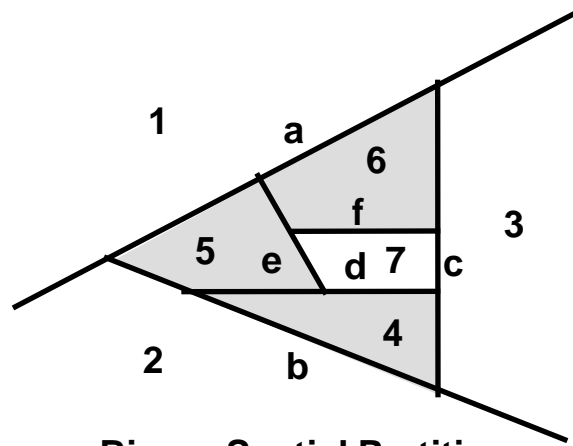


- Points
 - Range image
 - Point cloud
- Surfaces
 - Polygonal mesh
 - Subdivision
 - Parametric
 - Implicit
- Solids
 - Voxels
 - **BSP tree**
 - CSG
 - Sweep
- High-level structures
 - Scene graph
 - Application specific

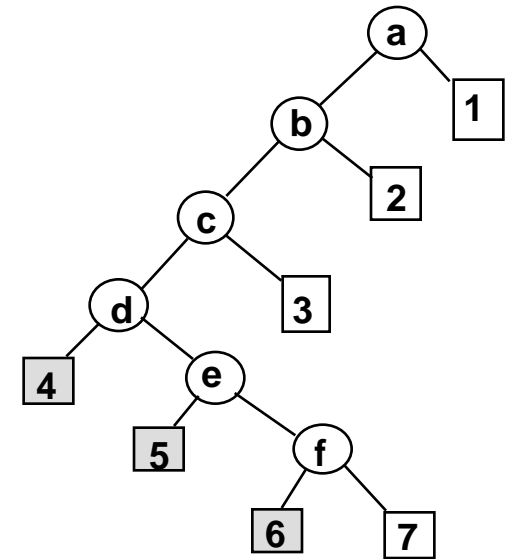
BSP Trees



Object



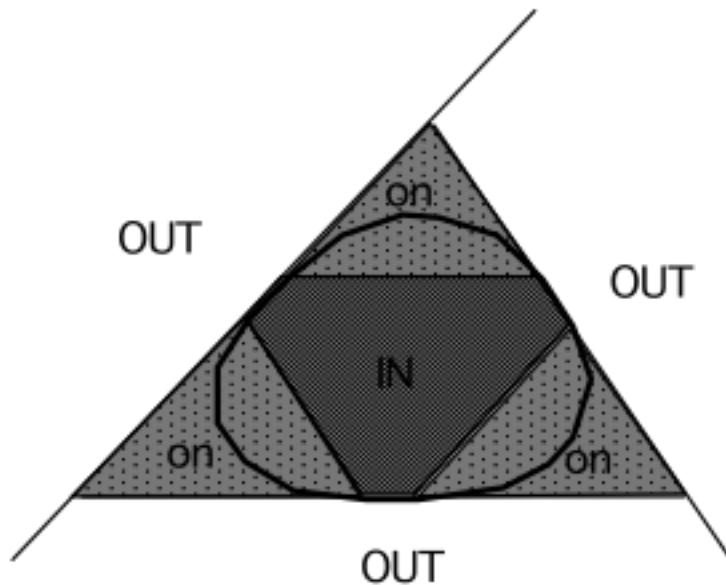
Binary Spatial Partition



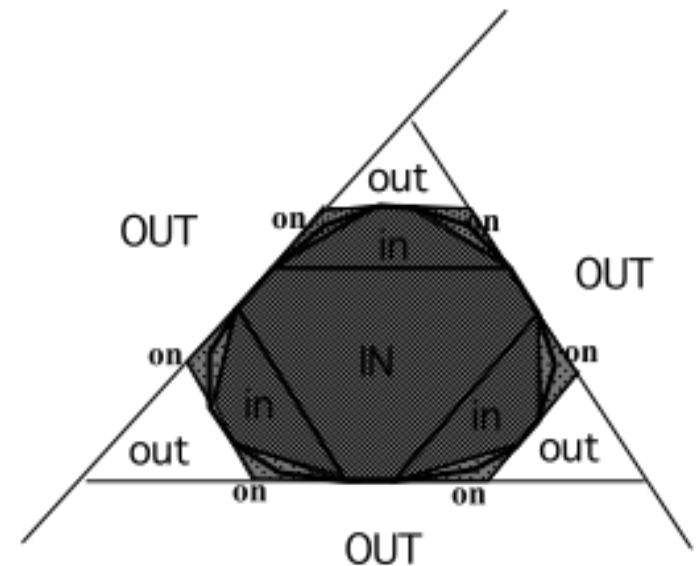
Binary Tree

BSP Trees

- Key properties
 - visibility ordering (later)
 - hierarchy of convex regions



1st level Approximation



2nd level Approximation

3D Object Representations

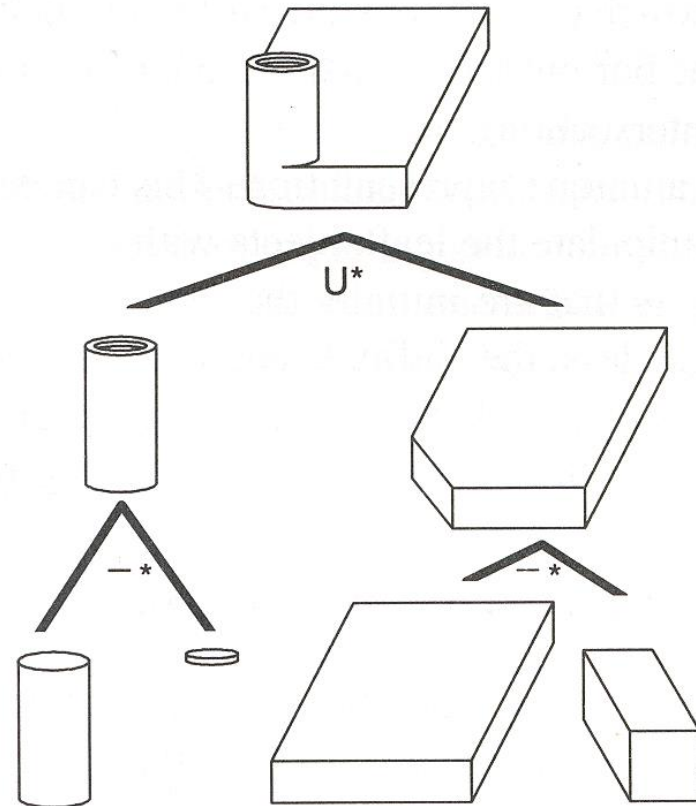


- Points
 - Range image
 - Point cloud
- Surfaces
 - Polygonal mesh
 - Subdivision
 - Parametric
 - Implicit
- Solids
 - Voxels
 - BSP tree
 - **CSG**
 - Sweep
- High-level structures
 - Scene graph
 - Application specific

Constructive Solid Geometry (CSG)



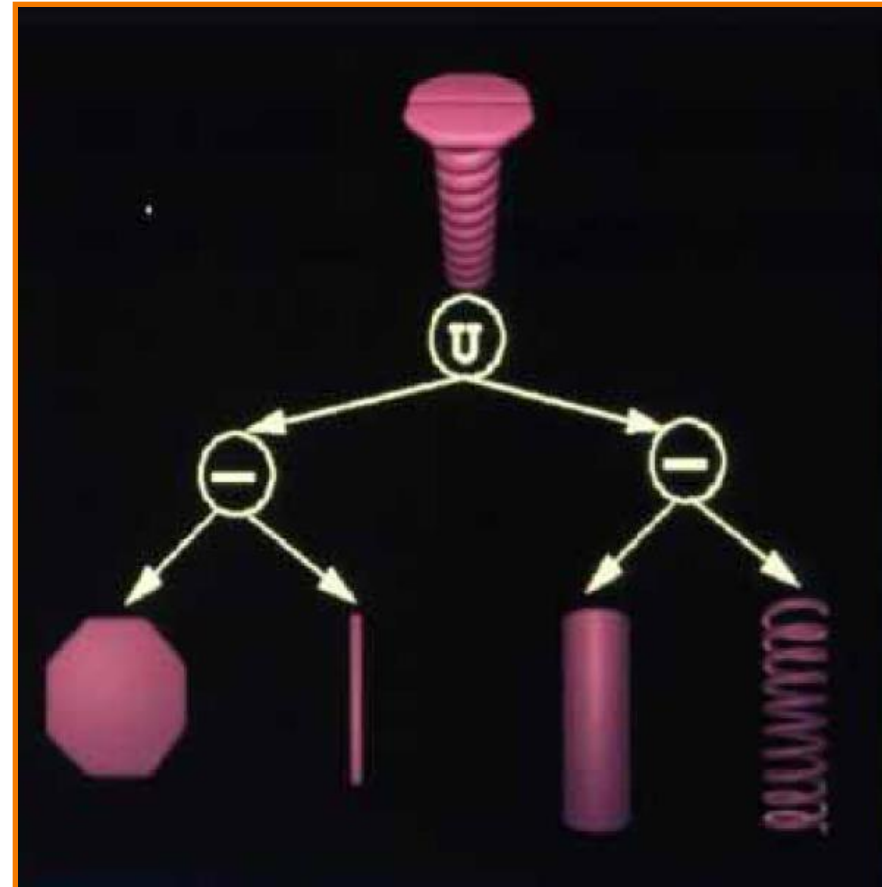
- Represent solid object as hierarchy of boolean operations
 - Union
 - Intersection
 - Difference



CSG Acquisition



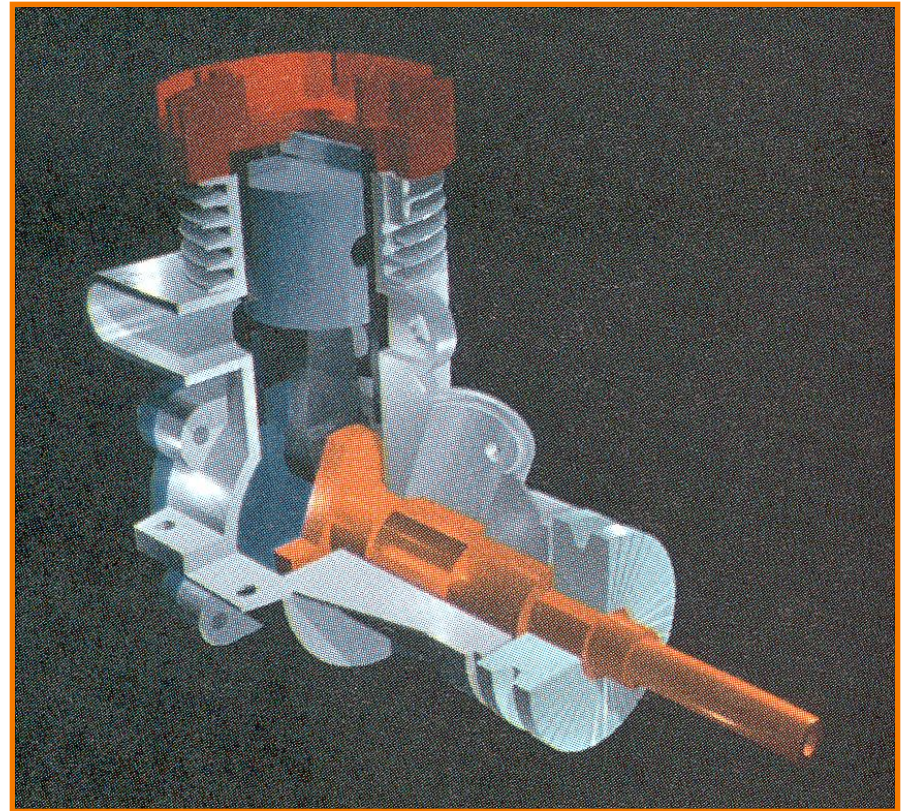
- Interactive modeling programs
 - Intuitive way to design objects



CSG Acquisition



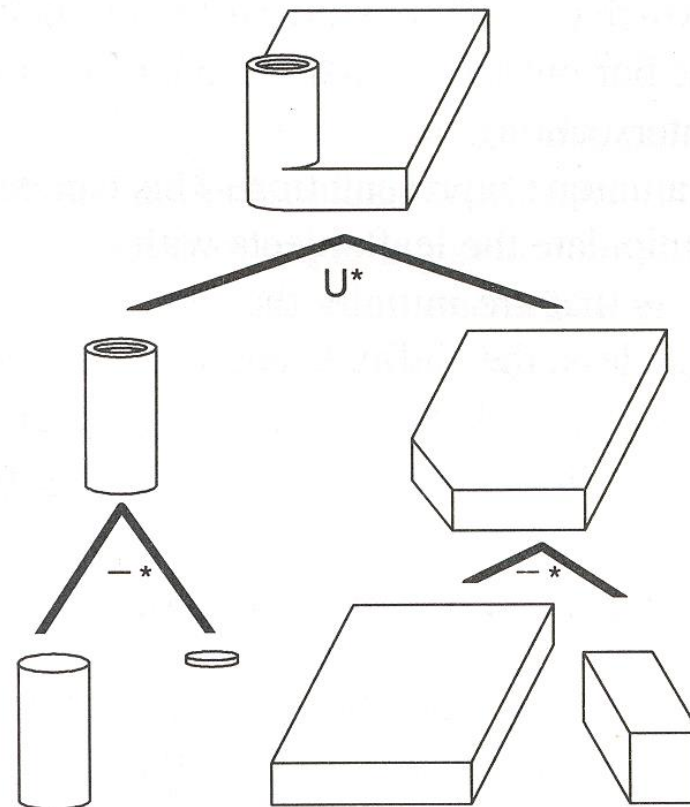
- Interactive modeling programs
 - Intuitive way to design objects



H&B Figure 9.9

CSG Boolean Operations

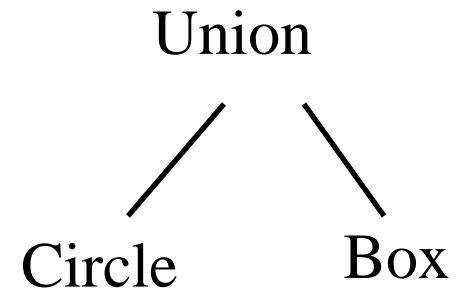
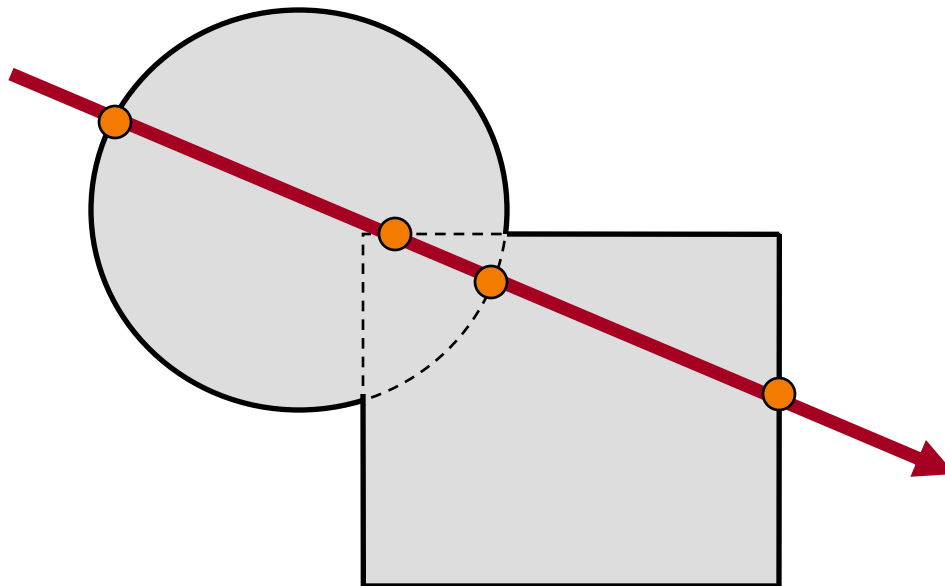
- Create a new CSG node joining subtrees
 - Union
 - Intersection
 - Difference



CSG Display & Analysis



- Ray casting



3D Object Representations

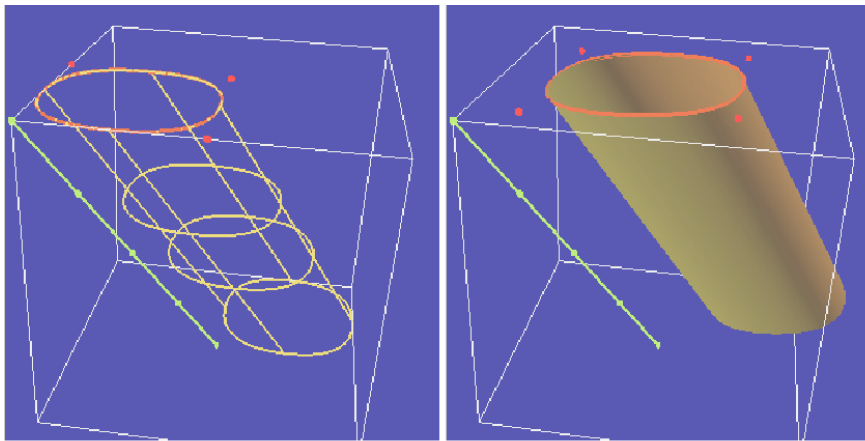


- Points
 - Range image
 - Point cloud
- Surfaces
 - Polygonal mesh
 - Subdivision
 - Parametric
 - Implicit
- Solids
 - Voxels
 - BSP tree
 - CSG
 - Sweep
- High-level structures
 - Scene graph
 - Application specific

Sweeps

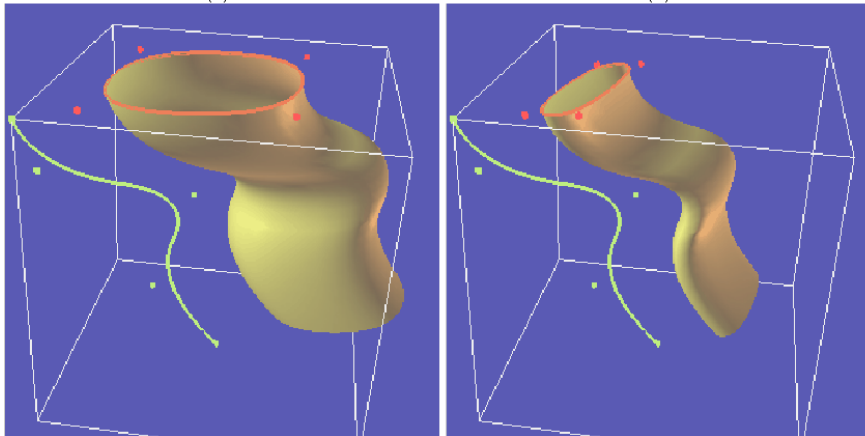


- Swept volume
 - Sweep one curve along path of another curve



(a)

(b)



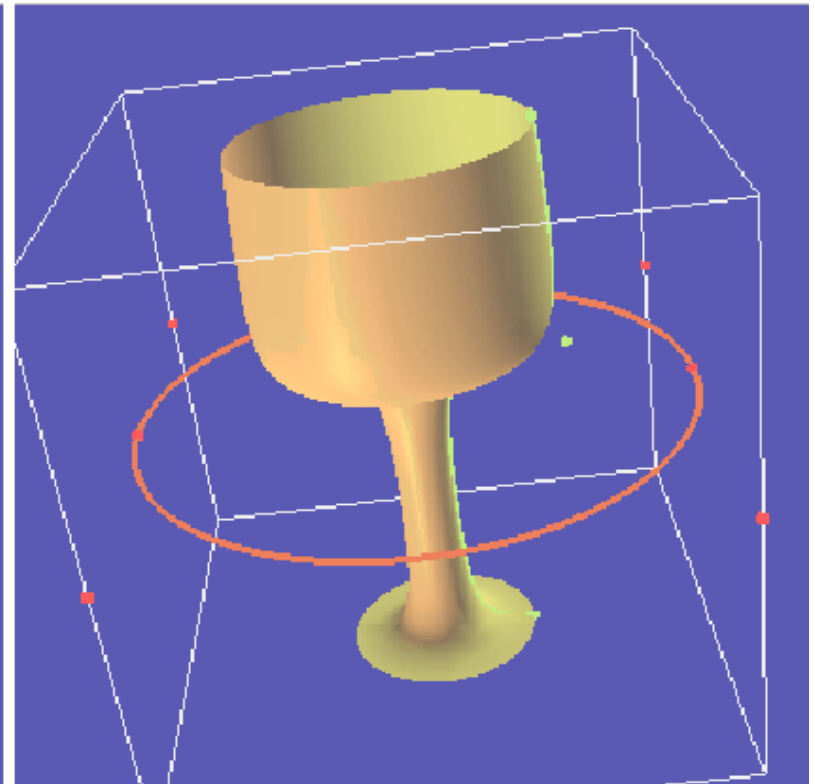
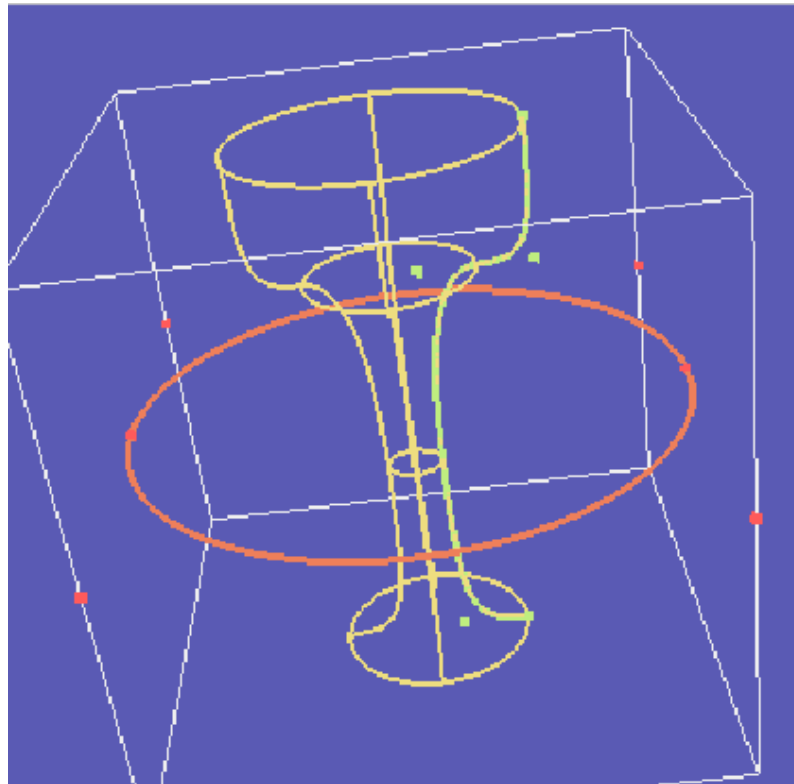
(c)

(d)

Sweeps



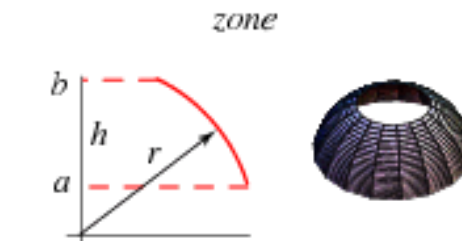
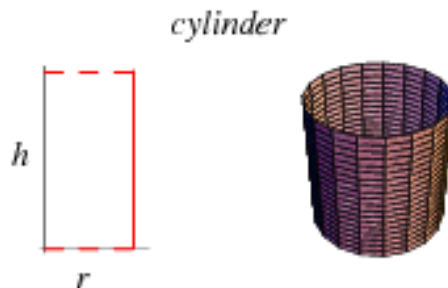
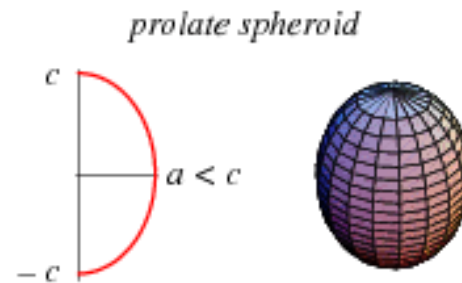
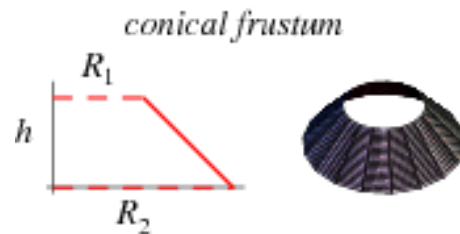
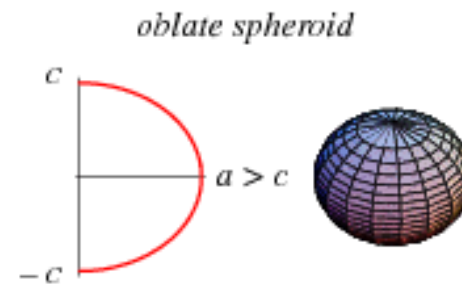
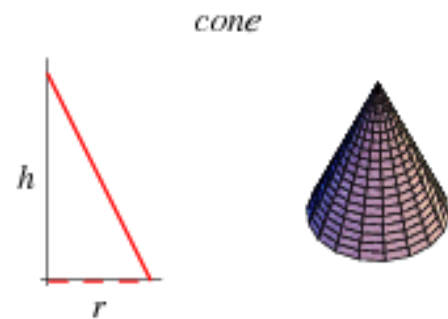
- Surface of revolution
 - Take a curve and rotate it about an axis



Sweeps



- Surface of revolution
 - Take a curve and rotate it about an axis



Summary



	Voxels	Octree	BSP	CSG
Accurate	No	No	Some	Some
Concise	No	No	No	Yes
Affine invariant	No	No	Yes	Yes
Easy acquisition	Some	Some	No	Some
Guaranteed validity	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Efficient boolean operations	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Efficient display	No	No	Yes	No