



# Passive Dynamics and Particle Systems

COS 426, Fall 2022

# Animation & Simulation



- Animation
  - Make objects change over time according to scripted actions



Pixar

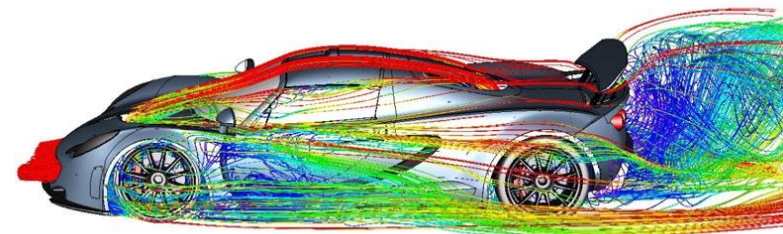
# Animation & Simulation



- Animation
  - Make objects change over time according to scripted actions
- Simulation / dynamics
  - Predict how objects change over time according to physical laws



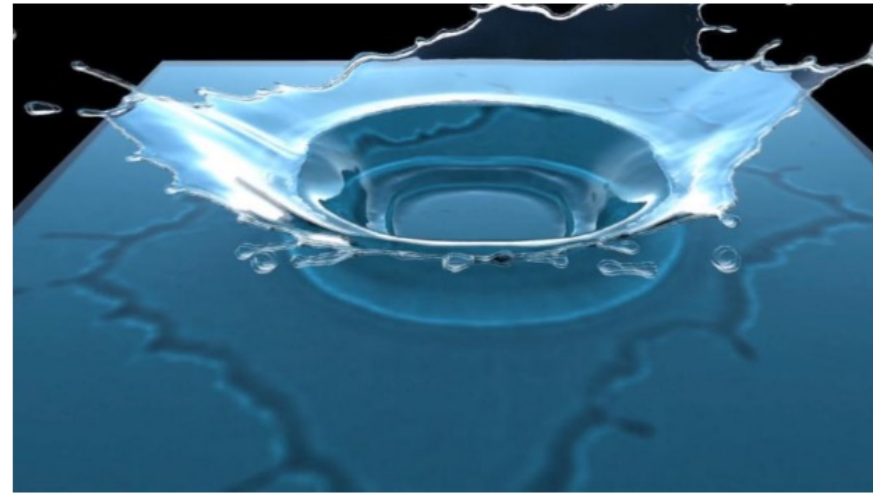
Pixar



# Animation & Simulation



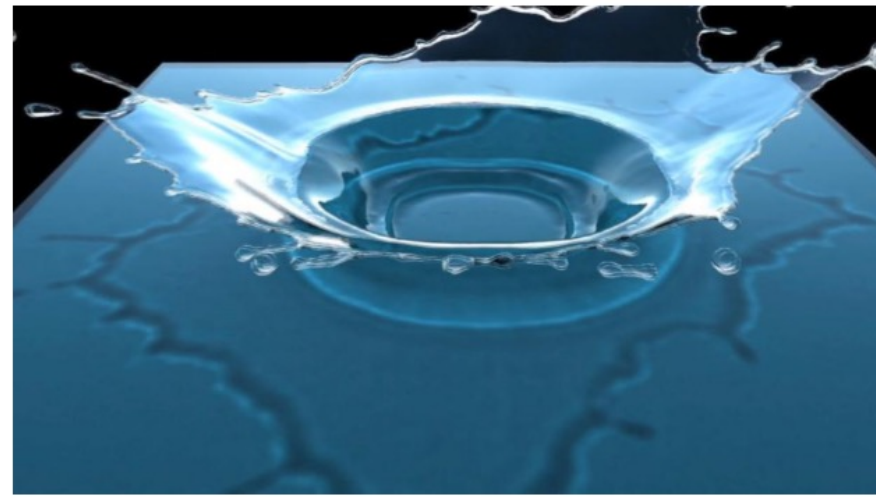
- Keyframing:
  - Manually specify a few poses; computer interpolates.
  - Good for characters and simple motion.
  - But many physical systems are too complex!



# Simulation



1. Identify/derive mathematical model (ODE, PDE)
2. Develop computer model
3. Simulate



# Simulation



- Equations known for a long time
  - Motion (Newton, 1660)
  - Elasticity (Hooke, 1670)
  - Fluids (Navier, Stokes, 1822)

$$d/dt(m\mathbf{v}) = \mathbf{f}$$

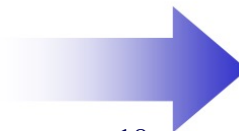
$$\boldsymbol{\sigma} = \mathbf{E}\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}$$

$$\rho \left( \frac{\partial \mathbf{v}}{\partial t} + \mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{v} \right) = -k \nabla \rho + \rho \mathbf{g} + \mu \nabla^2 \mathbf{v}$$

1938: Zuse Z1



0.2 ops



$10^{18}$

2014: Tianhe-2 @ NUDT (China)

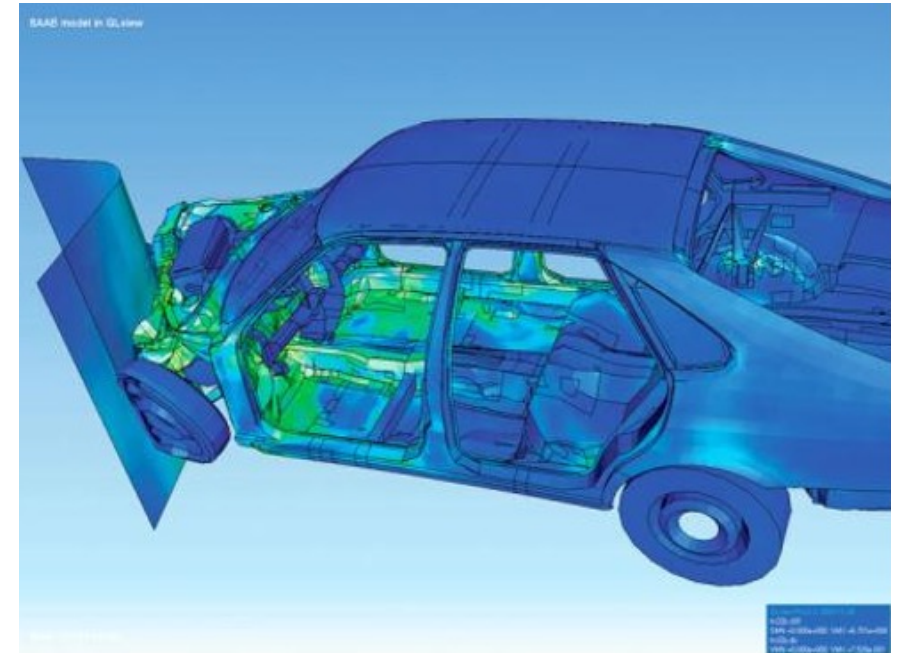
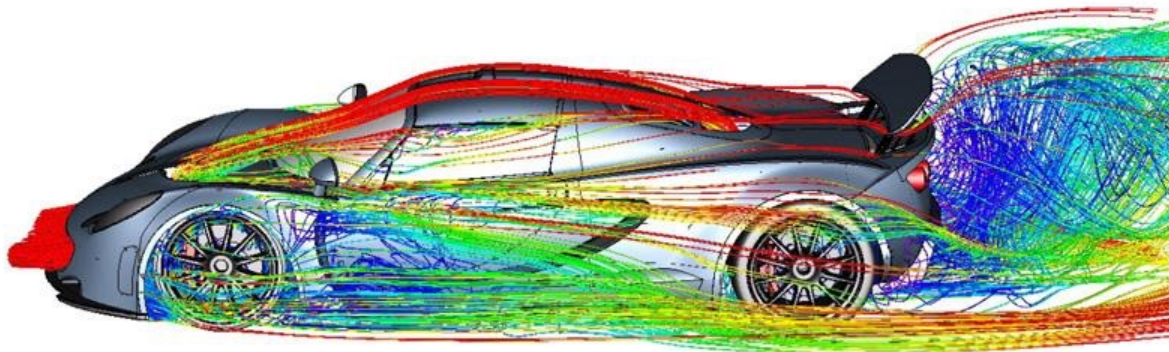


54,902 teraflops (3.12M cores)

# Physically-based Simulation



- Computational Sciences
  - Goal: **reproduction** of physical phenomena
  - Predictive capability
  - Substitute for expensive experiments



# Physically-based Simulation



- Computational Sciences
  - Goal: reproduction of physical phenomena
  - Predictive capability
  - Substitute for expensive experiments
- Computer Graphics
  - Goal: imitation of physical phenomena
  - Visually plausible behavior
  - Speed, stability, art-directability



# Simulation: Speed



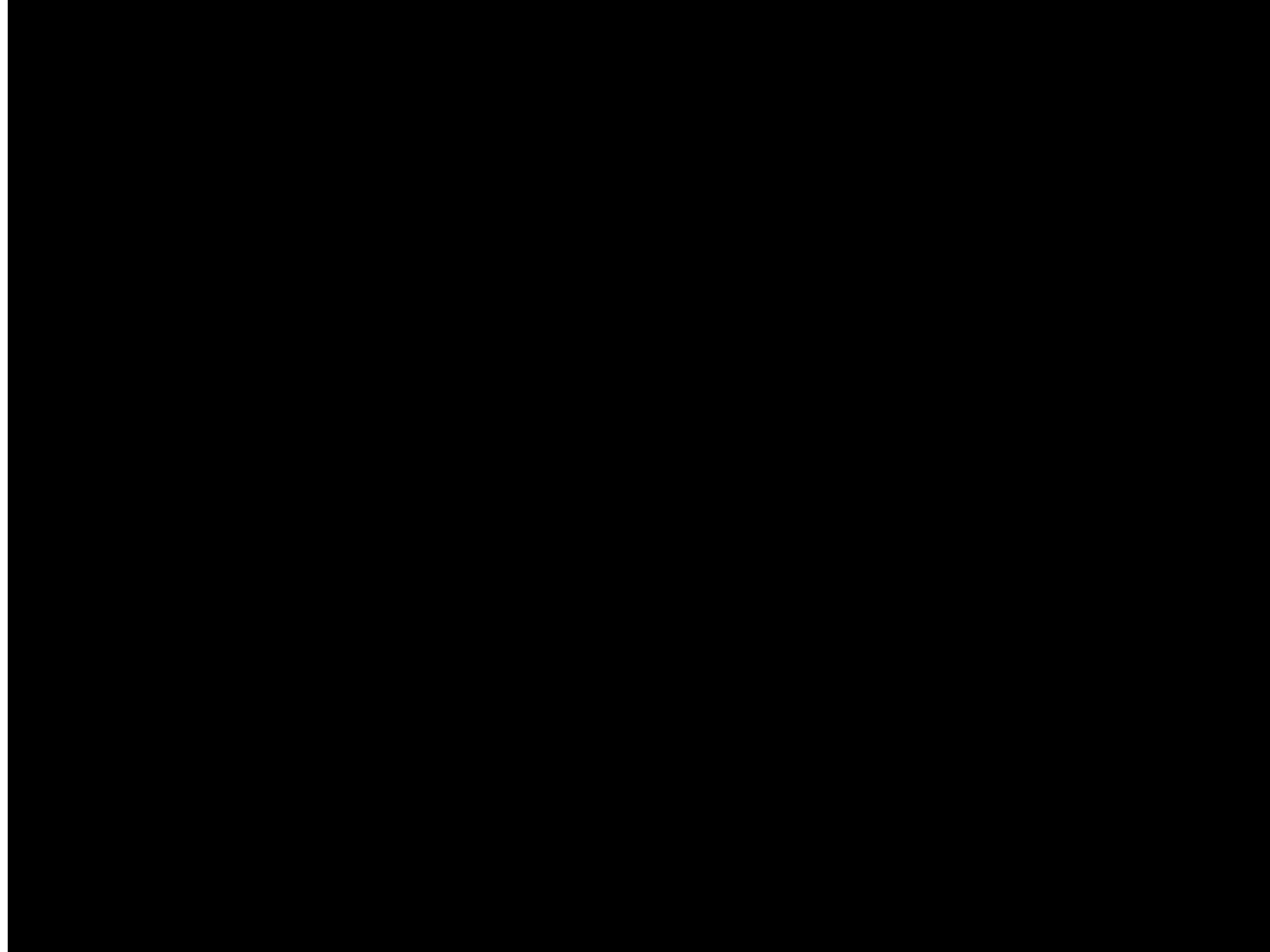
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8jD1bz4N3\\_0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8jD1bz4N3_0)

# Simulation: Stability



[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tT81VPk\\_ukU](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tT81VPk_ukU)

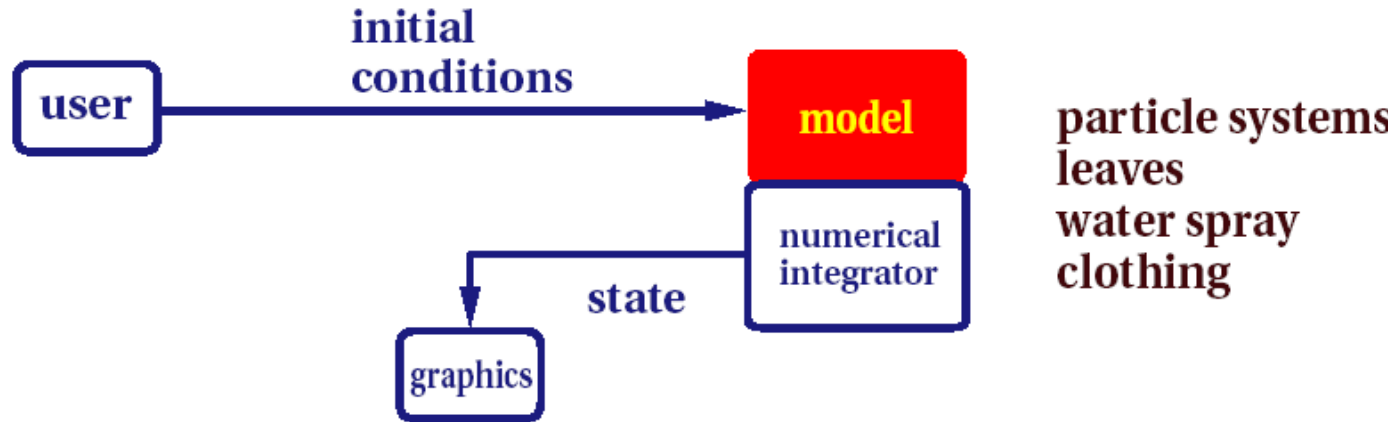
# Simulation: Art-directability



# Dynamics



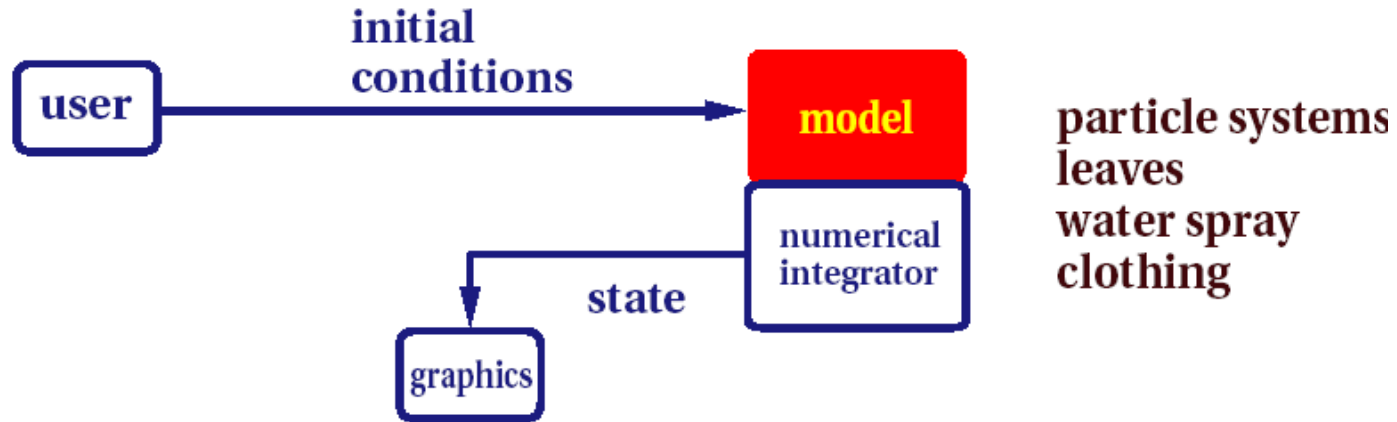
## Passive--no muscles or motors



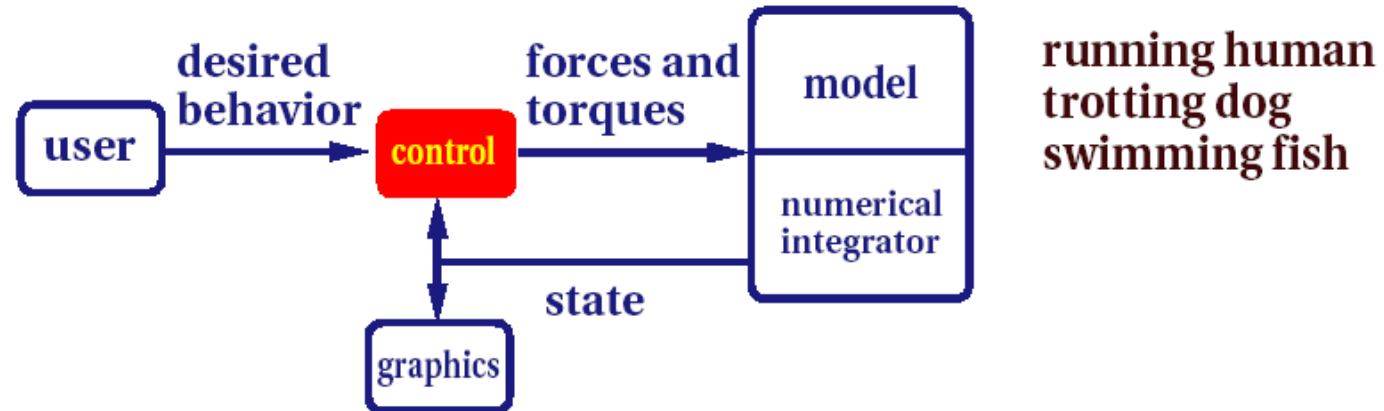
# Dynamics



## Passive--no muscles or motors



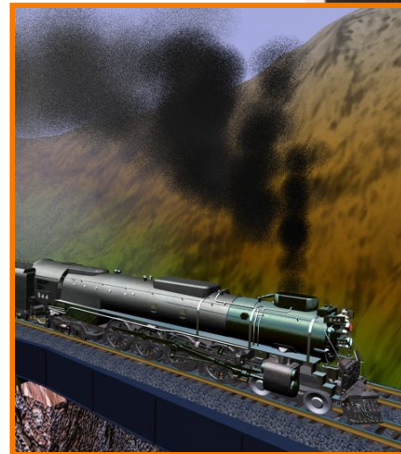
## Active--internal source of energy



# Passive Dynamics



- Physical laws
  - Newton's laws
  - Hooke's law
  - Etc.
- Physical phenomena
  - Gravity
  - Momentum
  - Friction
  - Collisions
  - Elasticity
  - Fracture

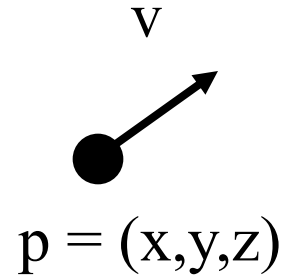


# Particle Systems



- A particle is a point mass

- Position
- Velocity
- Mass
- Drag
- Elasticity
- Lifetime
- Color



- Use many particles to model complex phenomena

- Keep array of particles
- Newton's laws

# Particle Systems



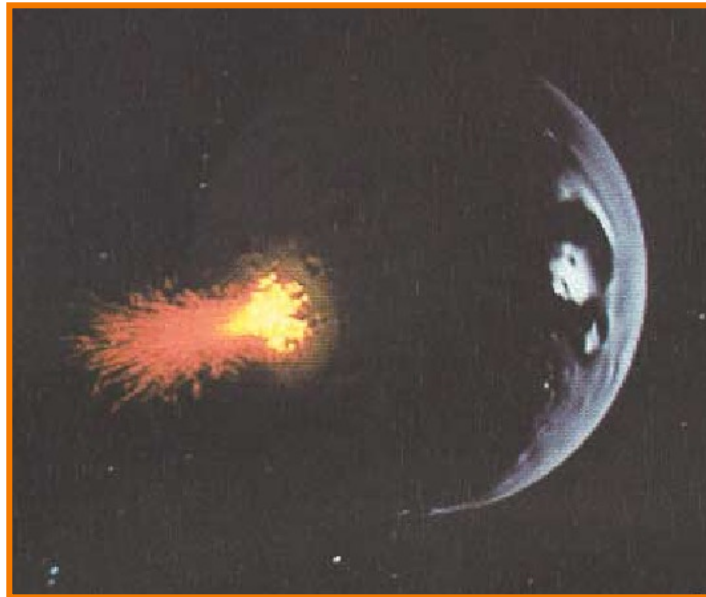
- For each frame:
  - For each simulation step ( $\Delta t$ )
    - Create new particles and assign attributes
    - Update particles based on attributes and physics
    - Delete any expired particles
  - Render particles

# Creating Particles



- Where to create particles?
  - Predefined source
  - Where particle density is low
  - etc.

*Reeves*



# Creating Particles



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*Reeves*

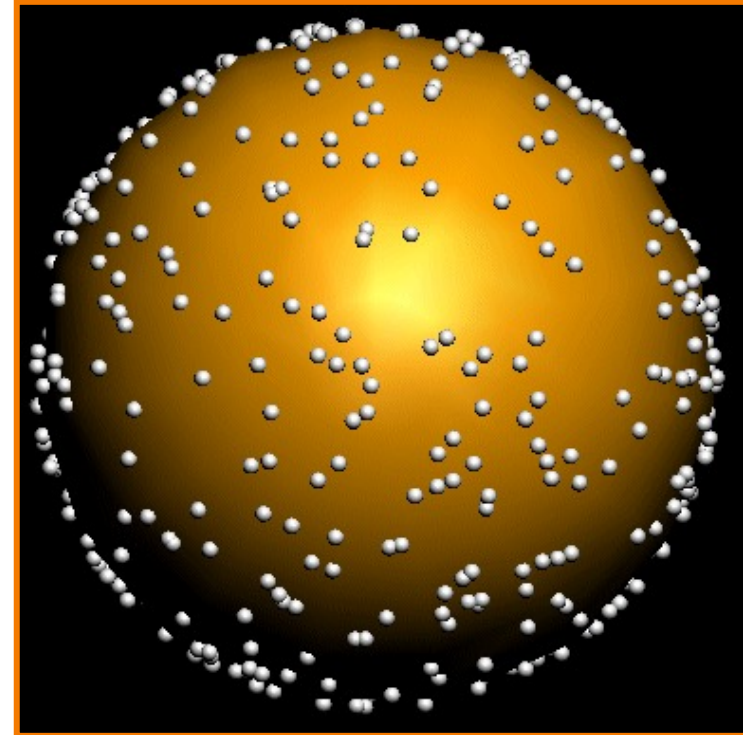
# Creating Particles



- Example: particles emanating from shape
  - Line
  - Box
  - **Circle**
  - **Sphere**
  - Cylinder
  - Cone
  - Mesh



McAllister



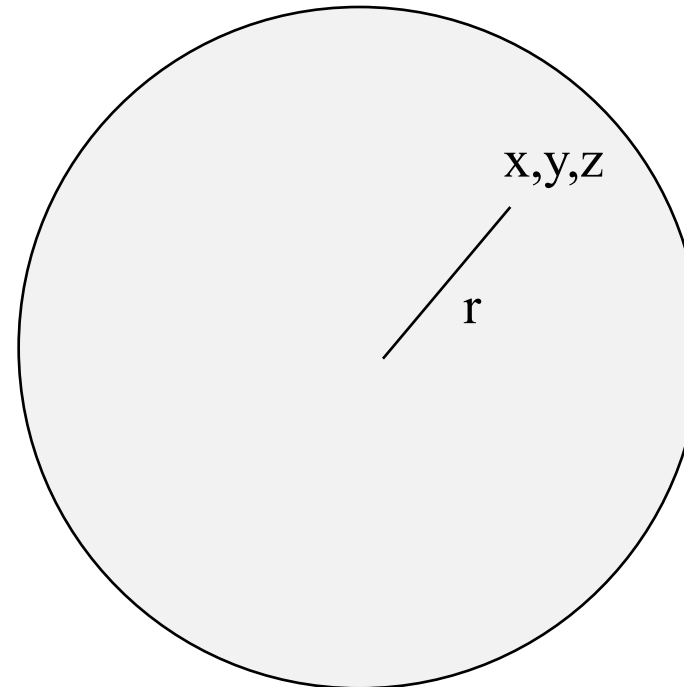
# Creating Particles



- Example: particles emanating from sphere
  - Selecting random position on surface of sphere

Rejection Sampling:

```
// pick random point in sphere  
do {  
    x,y,z = random(-1,1)  
    rsq = x2+y2+z2  
} while (rsq > 1)
```



# Creating Particles

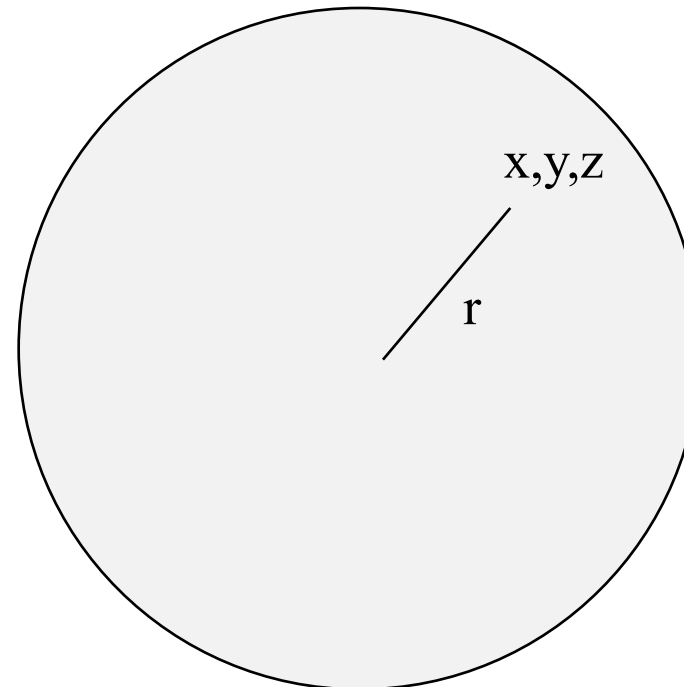


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Rejection Sampling:

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// pick random point in sphere
do {
    x,y,z = random(-1,1)
    r_sq = x2+y2+z2
} while (r_sq > 1)

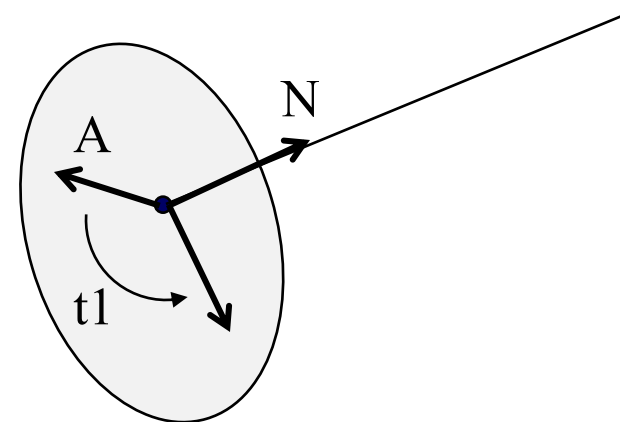
// normalize length
r = sqrt(r_sq)
x /= r
y /= r
z /= r
```



# Creating Particles



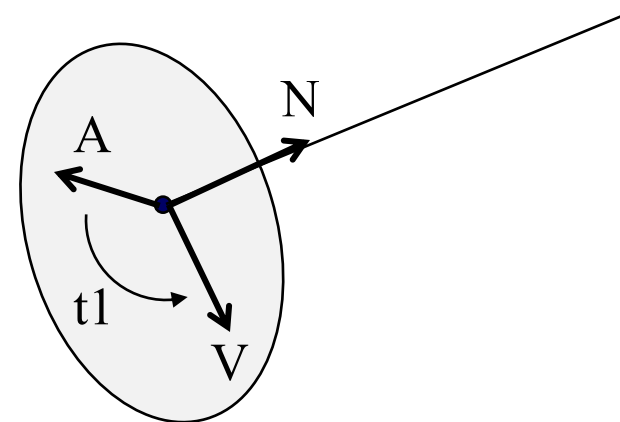
- Example: particles emanating from sphere
  - Selecting random direction within angle cutoff of normal
    1.  $N$  = surface normal
    2.  $A$  = any vector on tangent plane
    3.  $t1$  = random  $[0, 2\pi)$



# Creating Particles



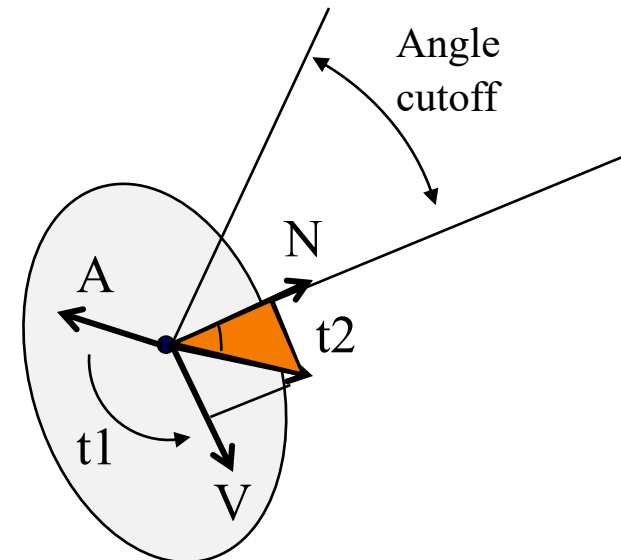
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    4.  $V$  = rotate  $A$  around  $N$  by  $t1$



# Creating Particles



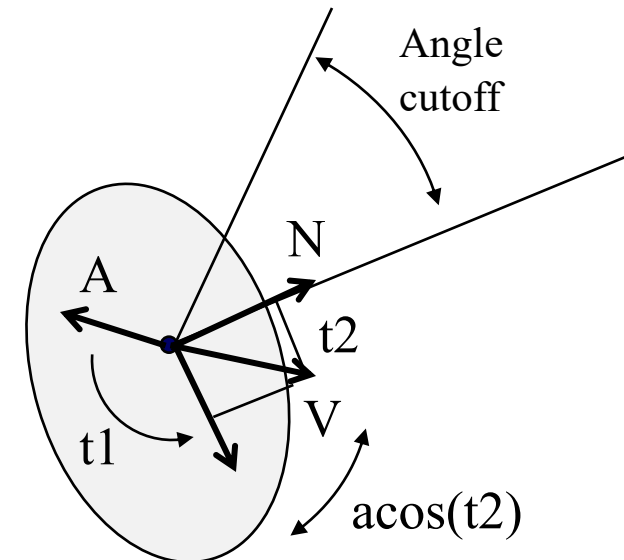
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    4.  $V$  = rotate  $A$  around  $N$  by  $t1$
    5.  $t2$  = random  $[0, \sin(\text{angle cutoff}))$



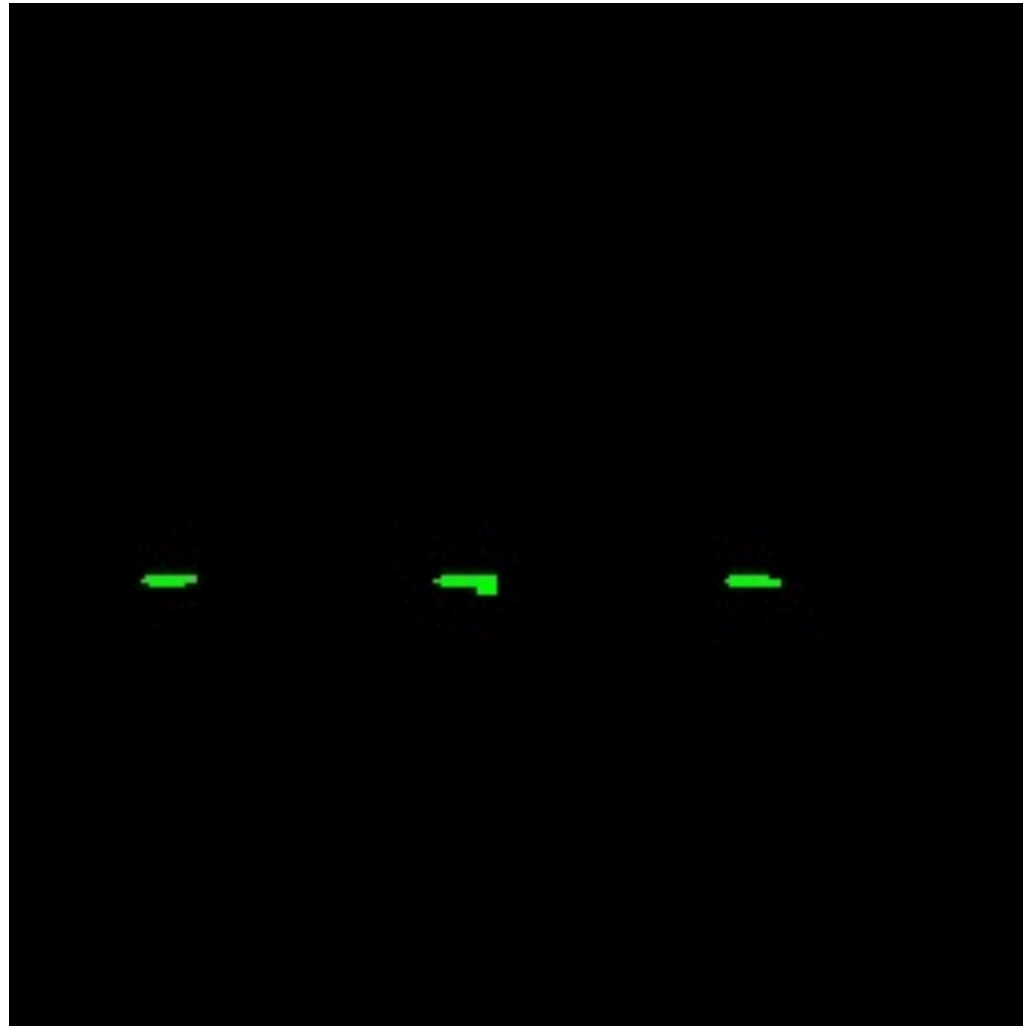
# Creating Particles



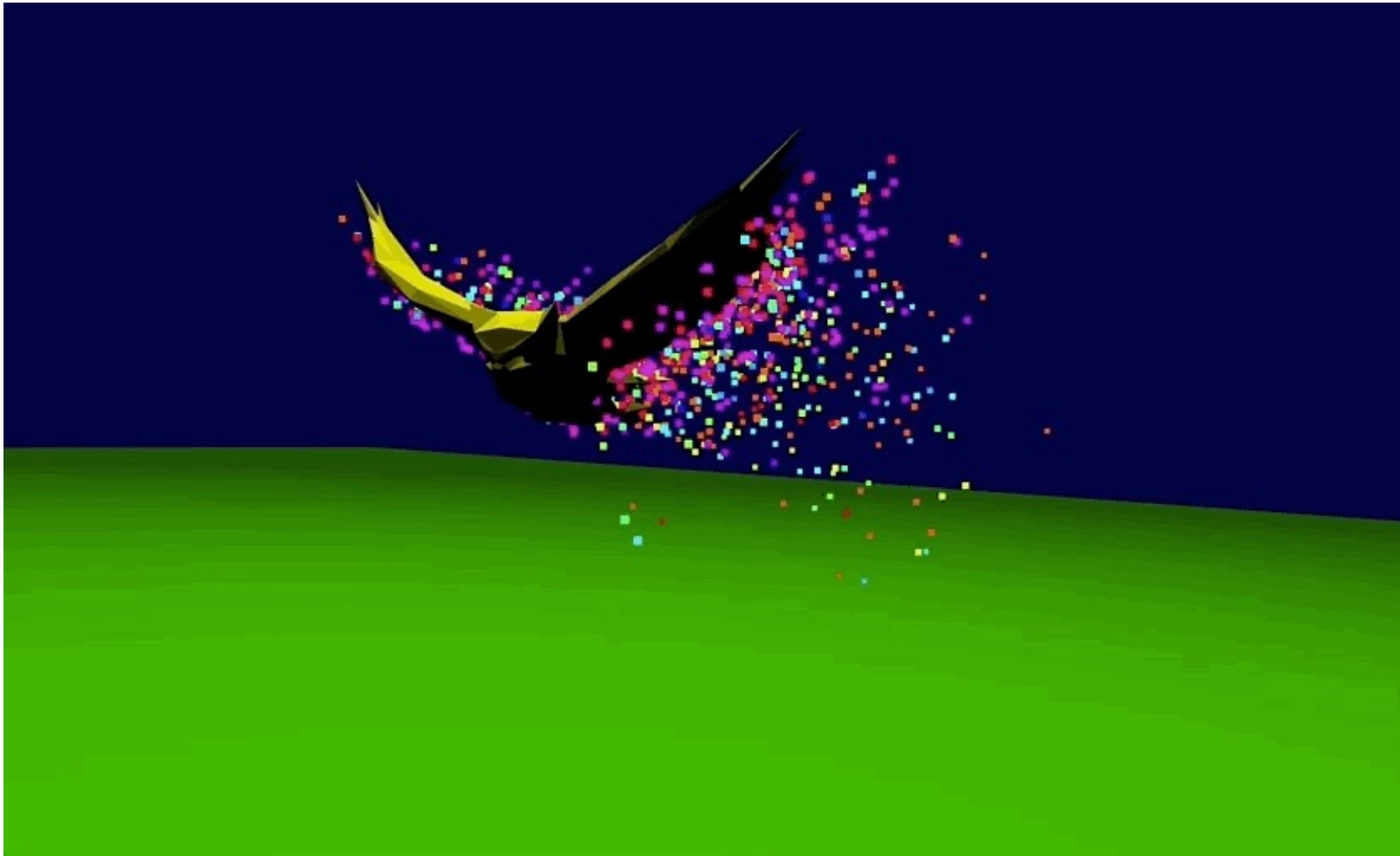
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    4.  $V$  = rotate  $A$  around  $N$  by  $t1$
    5.  $t2$  = random  $[0, \sin(\text{angle cutoff}))$
    6.  $V$  = rotate  $V$  around  $V \times N$  by  $\arccos(t2)$



# Example: Fountains



# Example: Emission from Surface



Jacob Zimmer, COS 426 2018

# Particle Systems



- For each frame:
  - For each simulation step ( $\Delta t$ )
    - Create new particles and assign attributes
    - Update particles based on attributes and physics
    - Delete any expired particles
  - Render particles

# Equations of Motion



- Newton's Law for a point mass
  - $f = ma$
  - And remember:  $dx/dt = v$  and  $dv/dt = a$

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- And remember:  $dx/dt = v$     and     $dv/dt = a$

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x} = v \\ \dot{v} = \frac{f}{m} \end{cases}$$

# Equations of Motion



- Newton's Law for a point mass
  - $f = ma$
  - And remember:  $dx/dt = v$  and  $dv/dt = a$
- Computing particle motion requires solving second-order differential equation

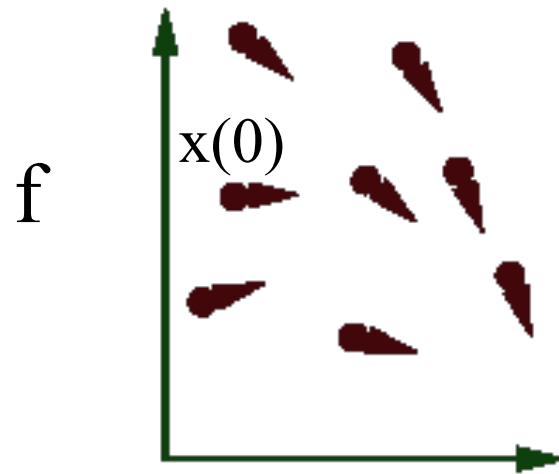
$$\begin{cases} \dot{x} = v \\ \dot{v} = \frac{f}{m} \end{cases}$$

$$\ddot{x} = \frac{f(x, \dot{x}, t)}{m}$$

# Solving the Equations of Motion



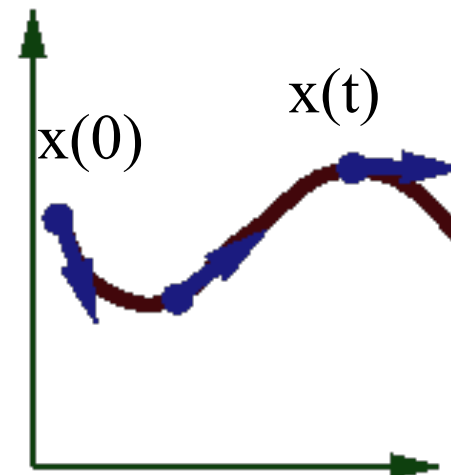
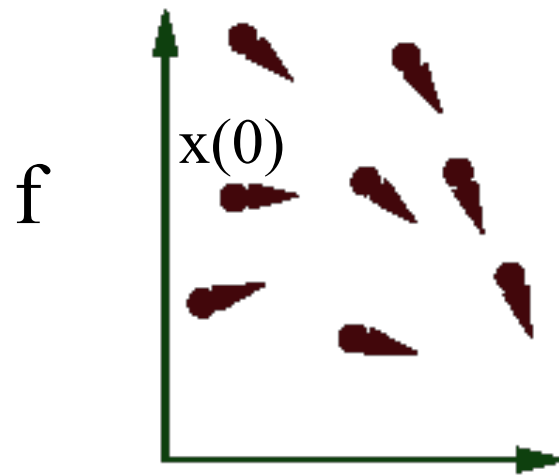
- Initial value problem
  - Know  $x(0)$ ,  $v(0)$
  - Can compute force (and therefore acceleration) for any position / velocity / time



# Solving the Equations of Motion



- Initial value problem
  - Know  $x(0)$ ,  $v(0)$
  - Can compute force (and therefore acceleration) for any position / velocity / time
  - Compute  $x(t)$  by forward integration



# Solving the Equations of Motion



- Forward (explicit) Euler integration

Euler Step (1768)

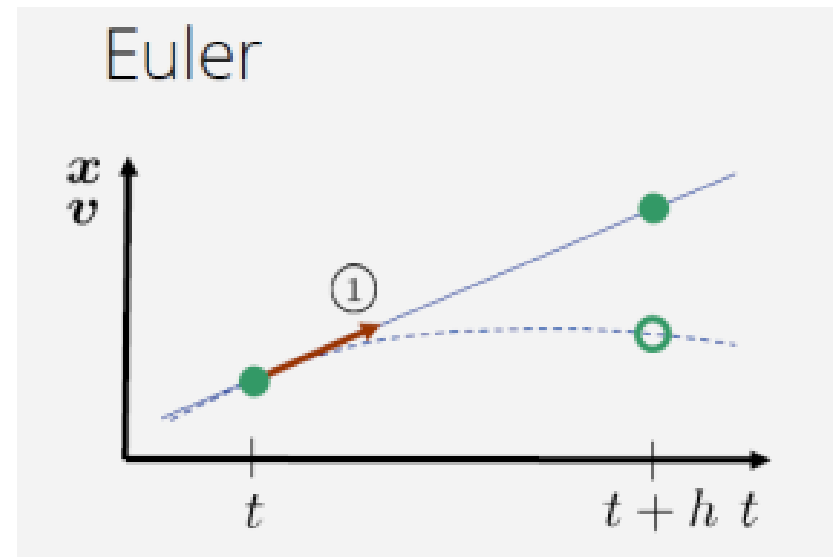
$$y_{n+1} = y_n + h \cdot f(t_n, y_n)$$

- **Idea:** start at initial condition and take a step into the direction of the tangent.
- Iteration scheme:  $y_n \rightarrow f(t_n, y_n) \rightarrow y_{n+1} \rightarrow f(t_{n+1}, y_{n+1}) \rightarrow \dots$

# Solving the Equations of Motion



- Forward (explicit) Euler integration
  - $x(t+\Delta t) \leftarrow x(t) + \Delta t v(t)$
  - $v(t+\Delta t) \leftarrow v(t) + \Delta t f(x(t), v(t), t) / m$

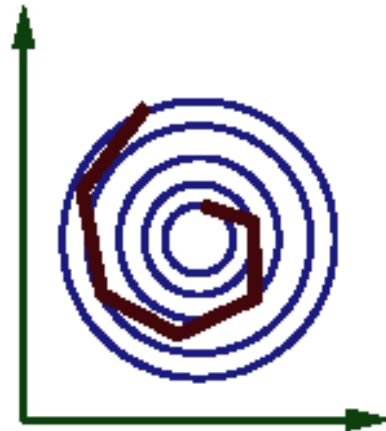


*Teschner*

# Solving the Equations of Motion



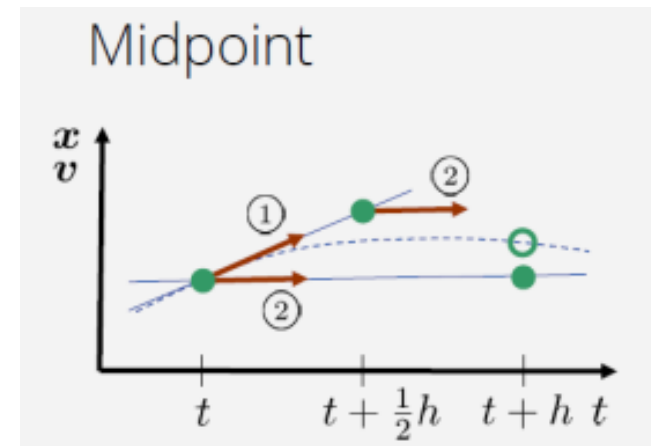
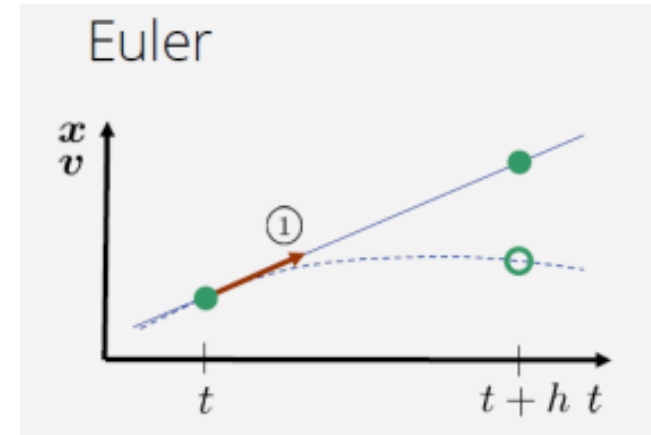
- Forward (explicit) Euler integration
  - $x(t+\Delta t) \leftarrow x(t) + \Delta t v(t)$
  - $v(t+\Delta t) \leftarrow v(t) + \Delta t f(x(t), v(t), t) / m$
- Problem:
  - Accuracy decreases as  $\Delta t$  gets bigger



# Solving the Equations of Motion



- Midpoint method
  1. Compute an Euler step
  2. Evaluate  $f$  at the midpoint of Euler step
  3. Compute new position / velocity using midpoint velocity / acceleration



*Teschner*

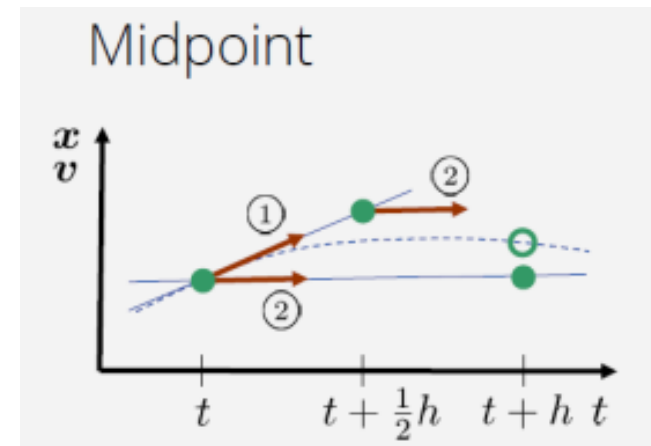
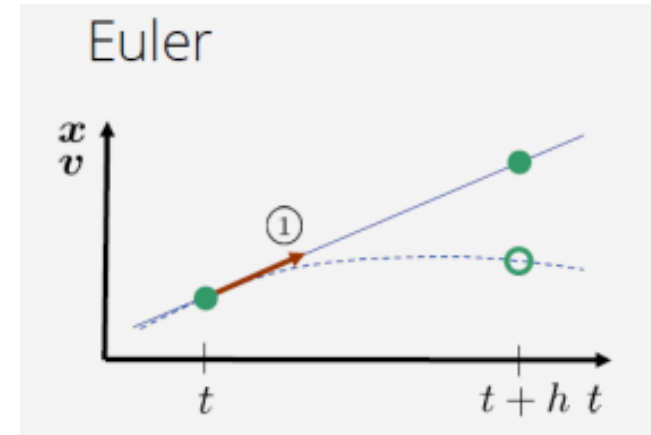
# Solving the Equations of Motion



- Midpoint method
  1. Compute an Euler step
  2. Evaluate  $f$  at the **midpoint** of Euler step
  3. Compute new position / velocity using **midpoint** velocity / acceleration

$$x_{\text{mid}} \leftarrow x(t) + \Delta t / 2 * v(t)$$

$$v_{\text{mid}} \leftarrow v(t) + \Delta t / 2 * f(x(t), v(t), t) / m$$



*Teschner*

# Solving the Equations of Motion



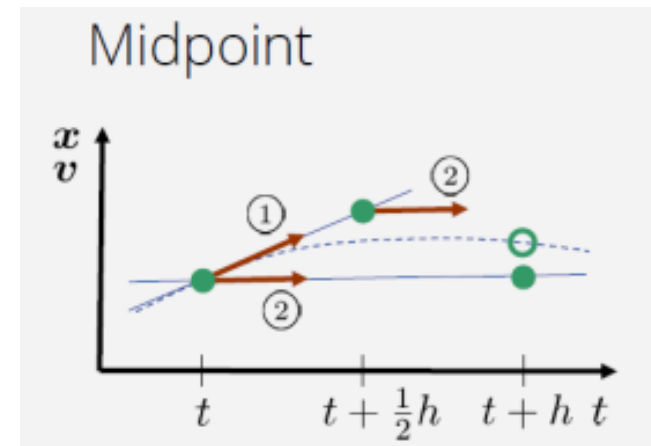
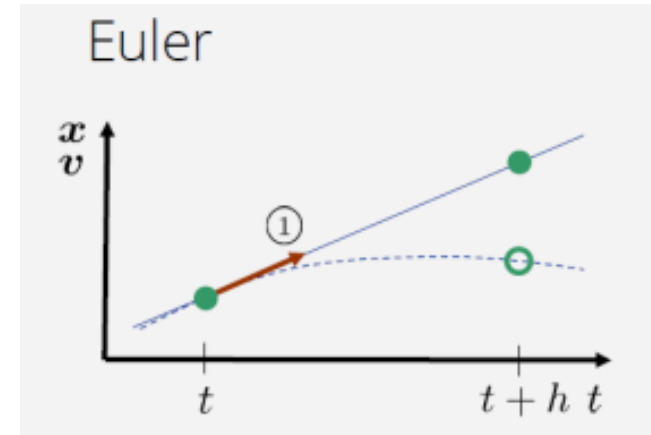
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$$x_{\text{mid}} \leftarrow x(t) + \Delta t / 2 * v(t)$$

$$v_{\text{mid}} \leftarrow v(t) + \Delta t / 2 * f(x(t), v(t), t) / m$$

$$x(t+\Delta t) \leftarrow x(t) + \Delta t v_{\text{mid}}$$

$$v(t+\Delta t) \leftarrow v(t) + \Delta t f(x_{\text{mid}}, v_{\text{mid}}, t) / m$$

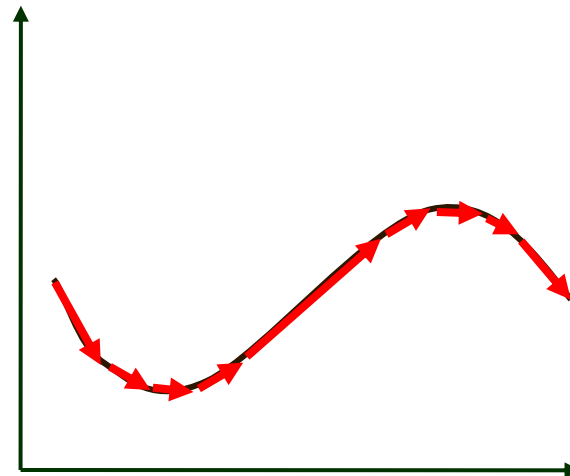
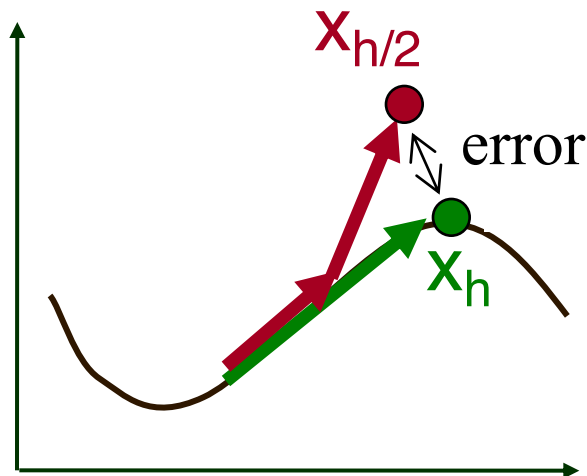


*Teschner*

# Solving the Equations of Motion



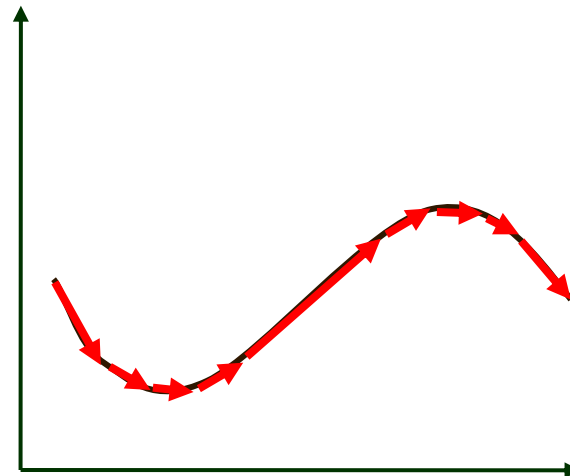
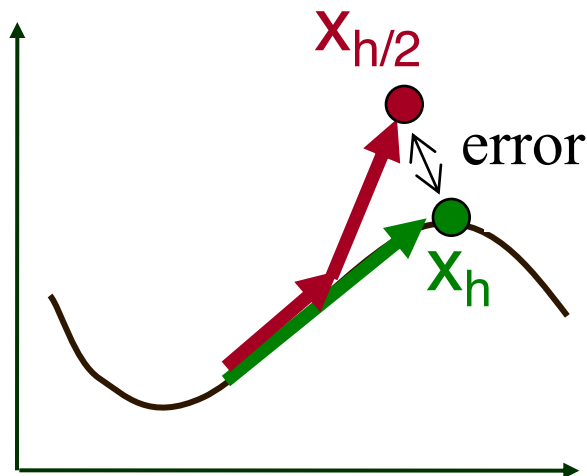
- Adaptive step size
  - Repeat until error is below threshold
    1. Compute  $x_h$  by taking one step of size  $h$
    2. Compute  $x_{h/2}$  by taking 2 steps of size  $h / 2$
    3. Compute error =  $|x_h - x_{h/2}|$



# Solving the Equations of Motion



- Adaptive step size
  - Repeat until error is below threshold
    1. Compute  $x_h$  by taking one step of size  $h$
    2. Compute  $x_{h/2}$  by taking 2 steps of size  $h / 2$
    3. Compute error =  $|x_h - x_{h/2}|$
    4. If (error < threshold) break
    5. Else, reduce step size and try again



# Particle System Forces



- Force fields
  - Gravity, wind, pressure
- Viscosity/damping
  - Drag, friction
- Collisions
  - Static objects in scene
  - Other particles
- Attraction and repulsion
  - Springs between neighboring particles (mesh)
  - Gravitational pull, charge

# Particle System Forces



- Gravity
  - Force due to gravitational pull (of earth)
  - $g$  = acceleration due to gravity ( $\text{m/s}^2$ )

$$f_g = mg$$

↓

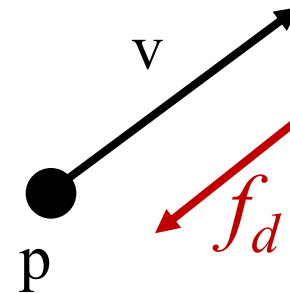
$$g = (0, -9.80665, 0)$$

# Particle System Forces



- Drag
  - Force due to resistance of medium
  - $k_{\text{drag}}$  = drag coefficient (kg/m)

$$f_d = -k_{\text{drag}} v^2$$



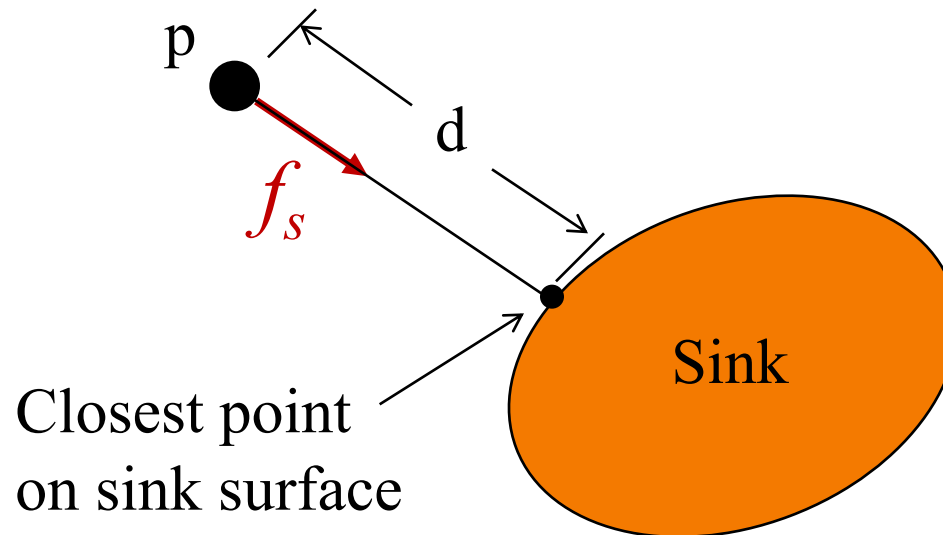
- Air resistance taken as proportional to  $v^2$

# Particle System Forces



- Sinks
  - Force due to attractor in scene

$$f_s = \frac{\text{intensity}}{c_a + l_a \cdot d + q_a \cdot d^2}$$



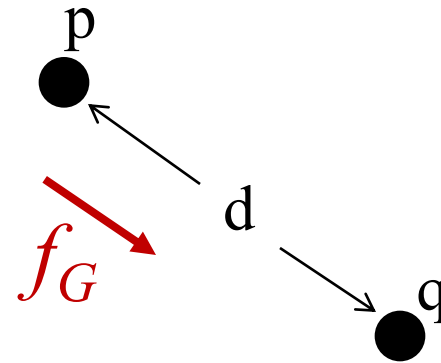
# Particle System Forces



- Gravitational pull of other particles
  - Newton's universal law of gravitation

$$f_G = G \frac{m_1 \cdot m_2}{d^2}$$

$$G = 6.67428 \times 10^{-11} \text{ N m}^2 \text{ kg}^{-2}$$



# Particle System Forces



- Springs
  - Hooke's law

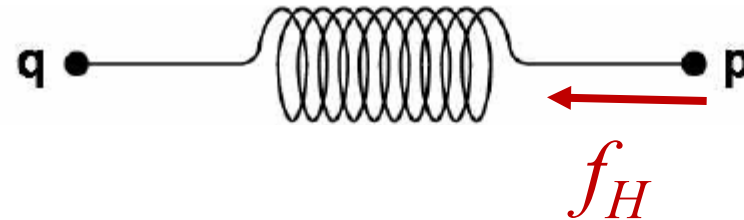
$$f_H(p) = k_s(d(p, q) - s) D$$

$$D = (q - p) / \|q - p\|$$

$$d(p, q) = \|q - p\|$$

$s$  = resting length

$k_s$  = spring coefficient



# Particle System Forces



- Springs
  - Hooke's law with damping

$$f_H(p) = [k_s(d(p, q) - s) + k_d(v(q) - v(p)) \cdot D] D$$

$$D = (q - p) / \|q - p\|$$

$$d(p, q) = \|q - p\|$$

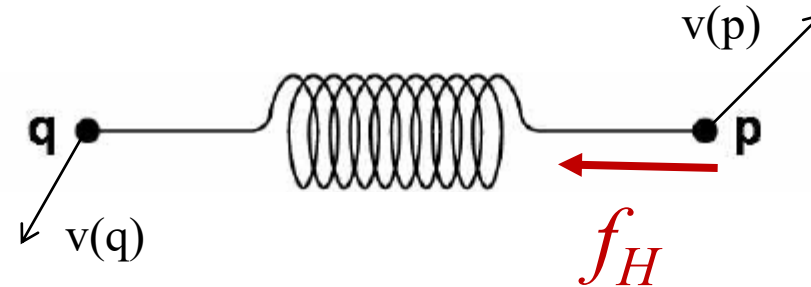
$s$  = resting length

$k_s$  = spring coefficient

$k_d$  = damping coefficient

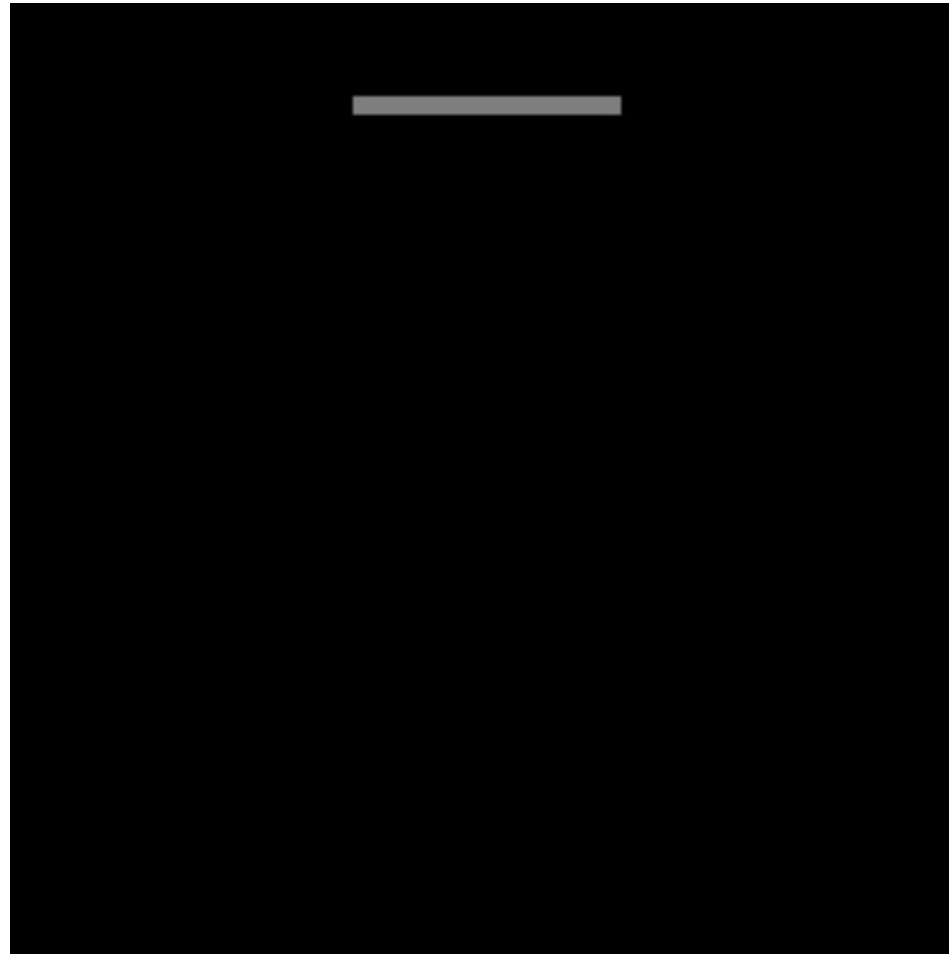
$v(p)$  = velocity of  $p$

$v(q)$  = velocity of  $q$



$$k_d \sim 2\sqrt{mk_s}$$

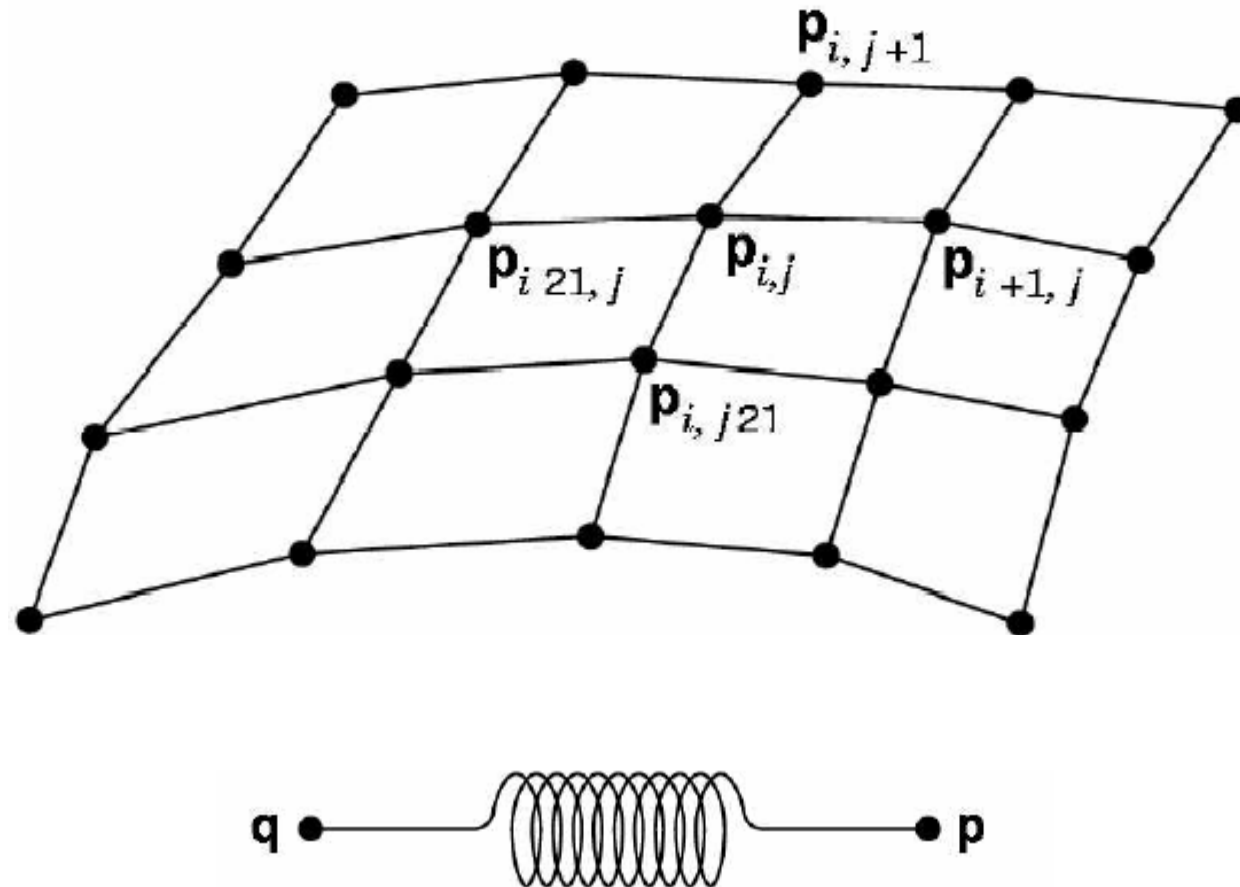
# Example: Rope



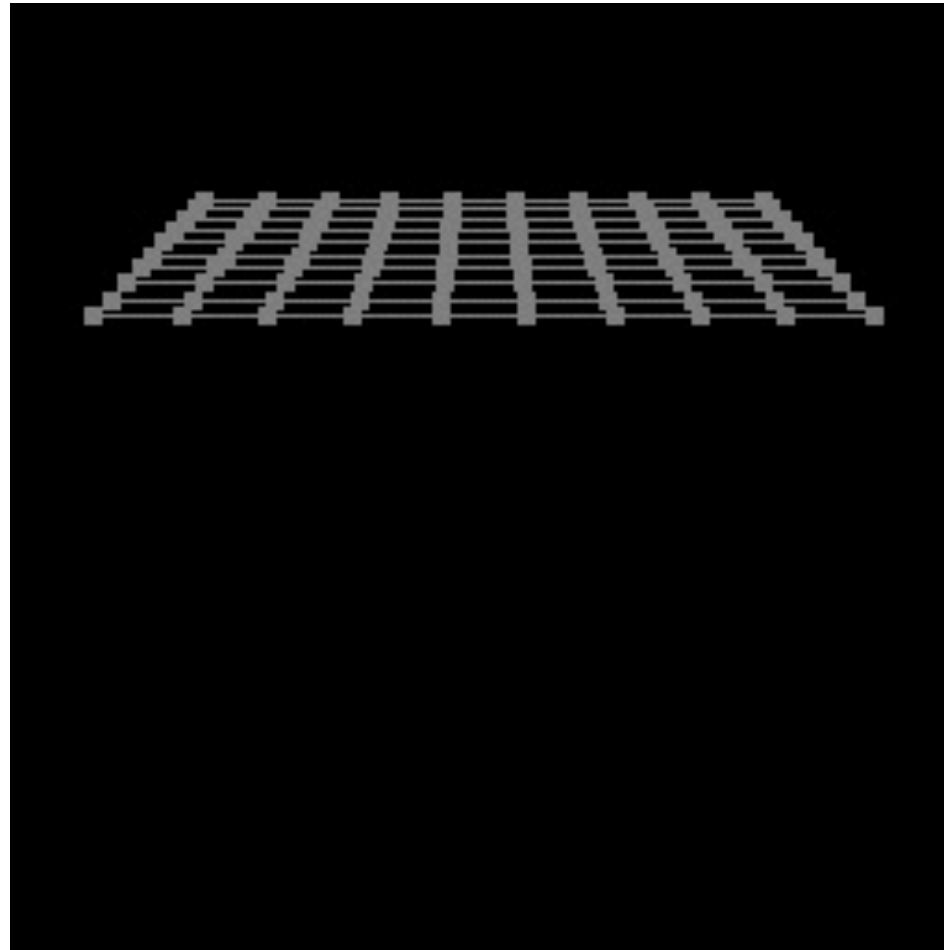
# Particle System Forces



- Spring-mass mesh



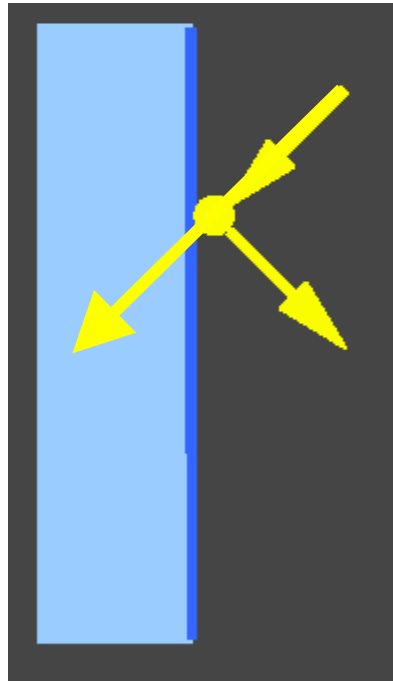
# Example: Cloth



# Particle System Forces



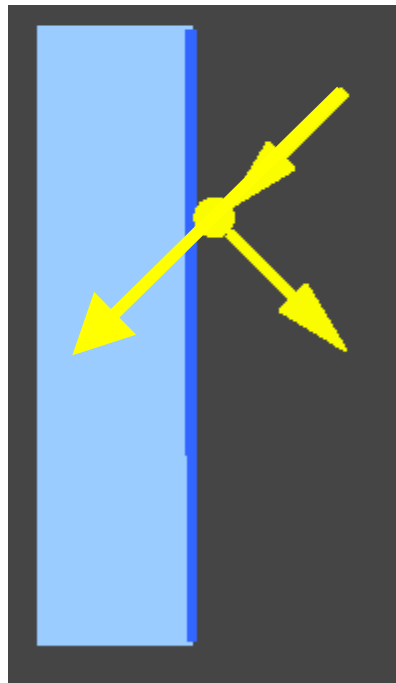
- Collisions
  - Collision detection
  - Collision response



# Particle System Forces



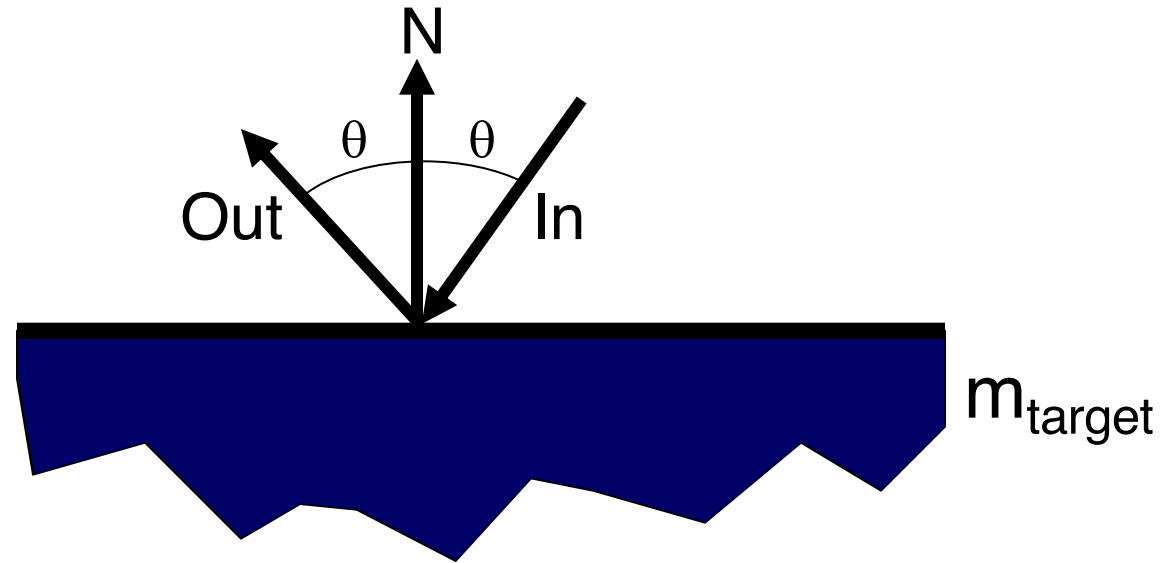
- Collision detection
  - Intersect ray with scene
  - Compute up to  $\Delta t$  away from time of time of first collision, and then continue from there



# Particle System Forces



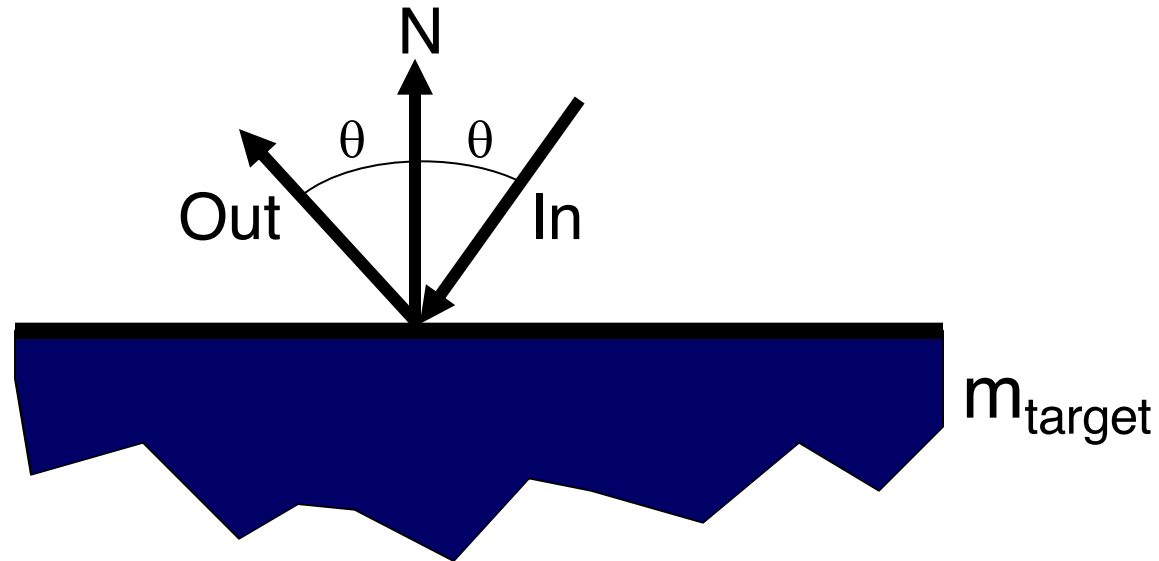
- Collision response
  - No friction: elastic collision  
(for  $m_{\text{target}} \gg m_{text{particle}}$ : specular reflection)



# Particle System Forces

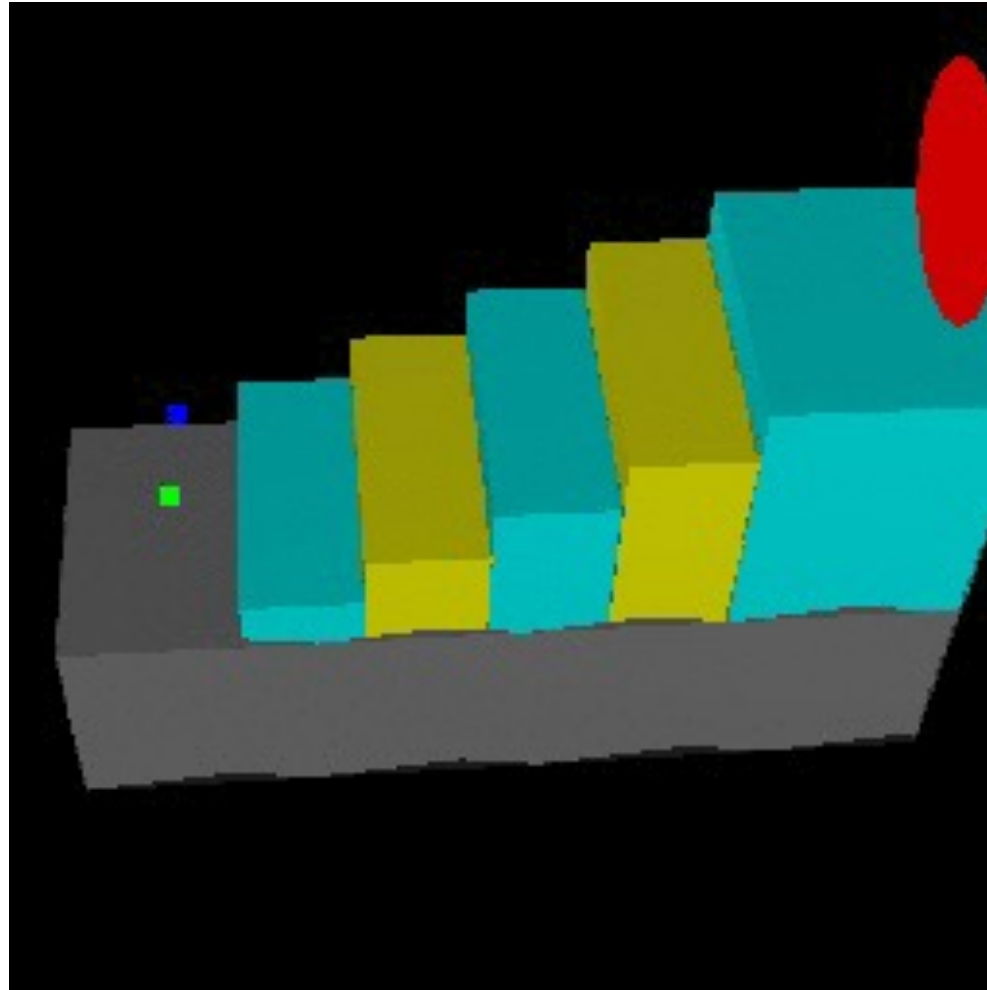


- Collision response
  - No friction: elastic collision  
(for  $m_{\text{target}} \gg m_{text{particle}}$ : specular reflection)



- Otherwise, total momentum conserved, energy dissipated if inelastic

# Example: Bouncing



Ning Jin  
COS 426, 2013

# Particle Systems

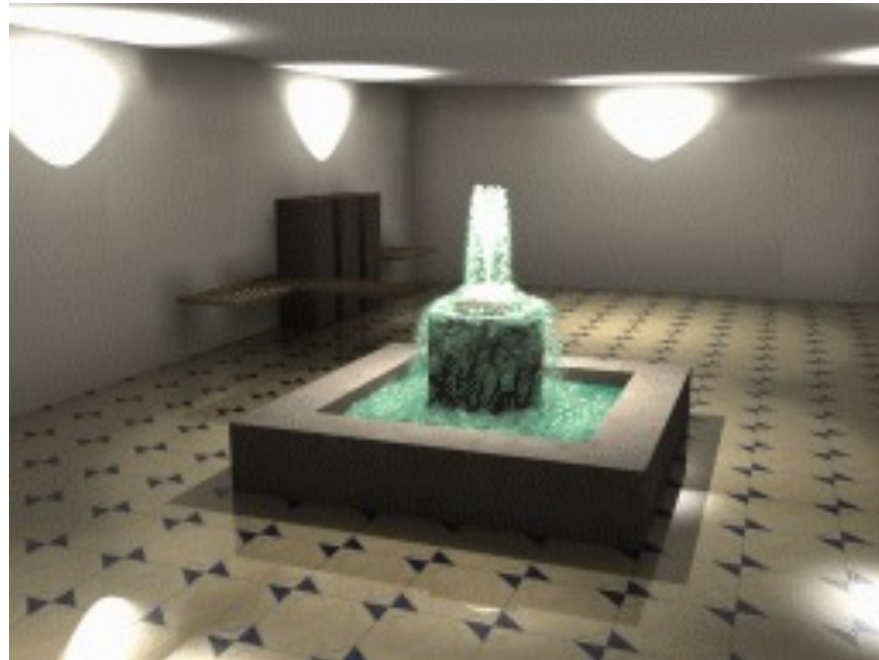


- For each frame:
  - For each simulation step ( $\Delta t$ )
    - Create new particles and assign attributes
    - Update particles based on attributes and physics
    - Delete any expired particles
  - Render particles

# Deleting Particles



- When to delete particles?
  - When life span expires
  - When intersect predefined sink surface
  - Where density is high
  - Random



# Particle Systems



- For each frame:
  - For each simulation step ( $\Delta t$ )
    - Create new particles and assign attributes
    - Update particles based on attributes and physics
    - Delete any expired particles
  - Render particles

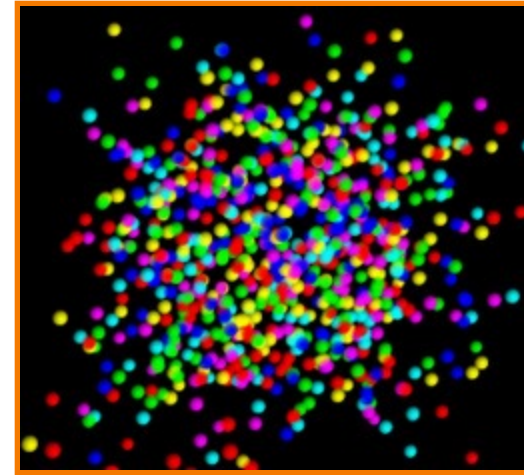
# Rendering Particles



- Rendering styles

- **Points**

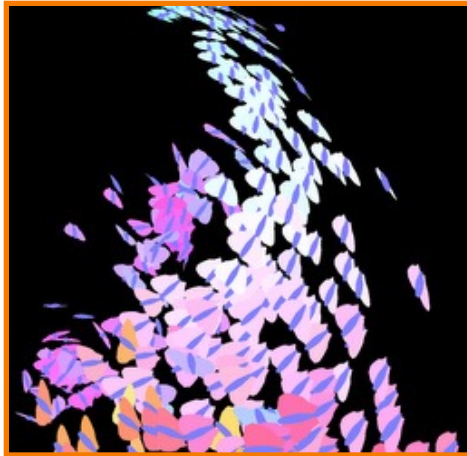
- Polygons
    - Shapes
    - Trails
    - etc.



# Rendering Particles



- Rendering styles
  - Points
  - Textured polygons: sprites
  - Shapes
  - Trails
  - etc.



# Rendering Particles



- Rendering styles
  - Points
  - Polygons
  - Shapes
  - Trails
  - etc.



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# Rendering Particles



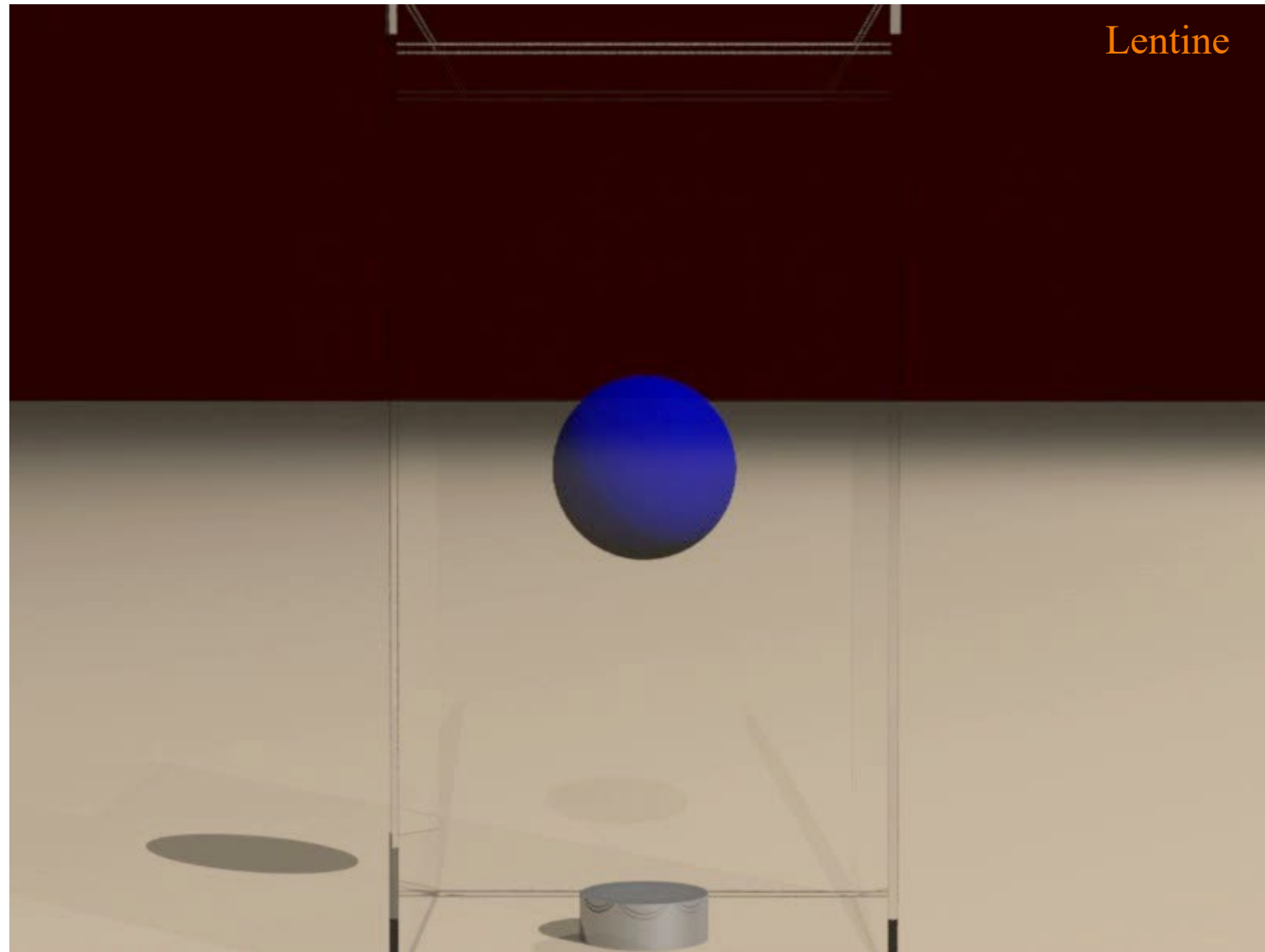
- Rendering styles
  - Points
  - Polygons
  - Shapes
  - Trails
  - etc.



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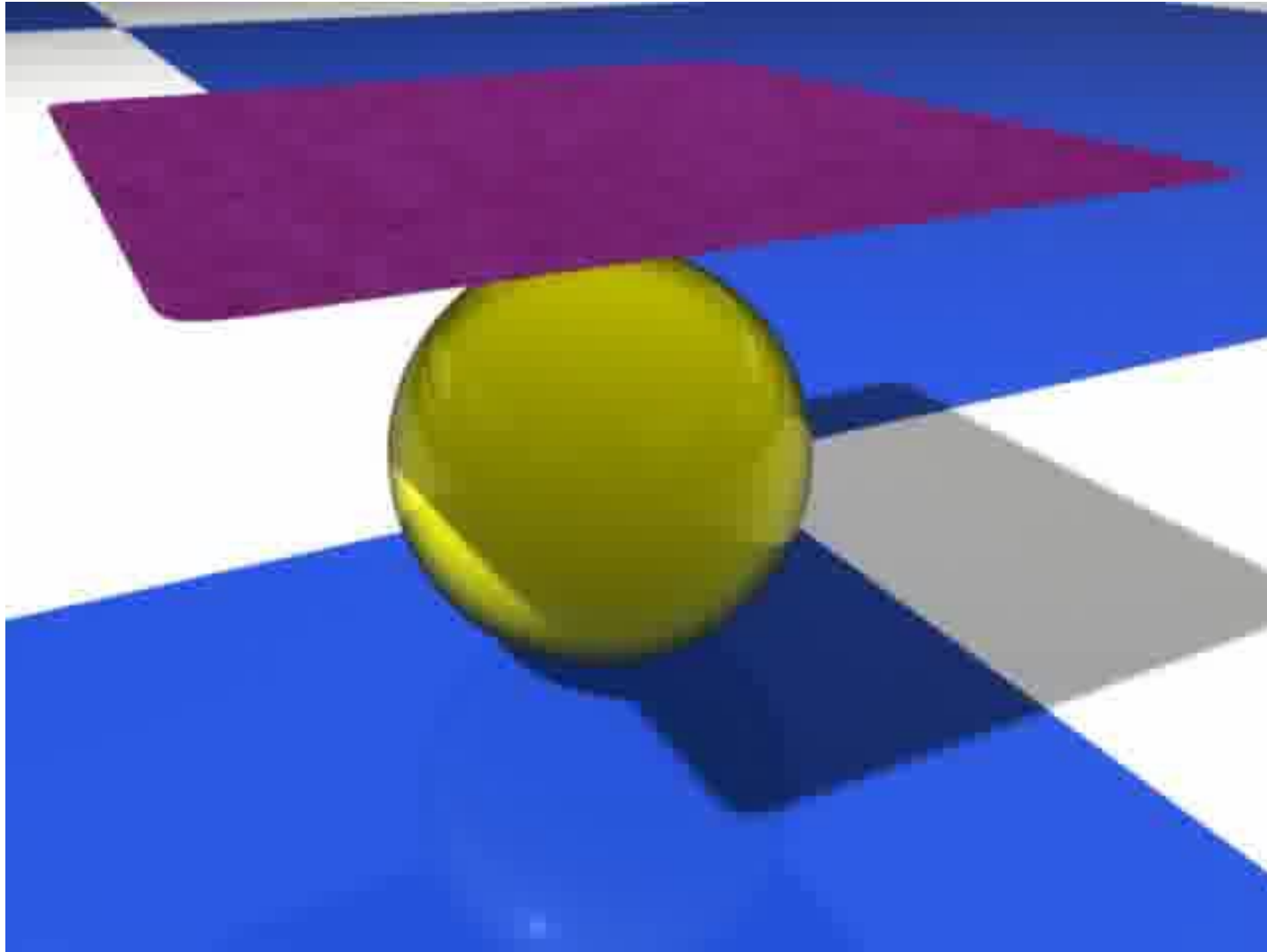
# Example: “Smoke”



# Example: Fire



# Example: Cloth



Bender

# Summary



- Particle systems
  - Lots of particles
  - Simple physics
- Interesting behaviors
  - Smoke
  - Cloth
- Solving motion equations
  - For each step, first sum forces, then update position and velocity

