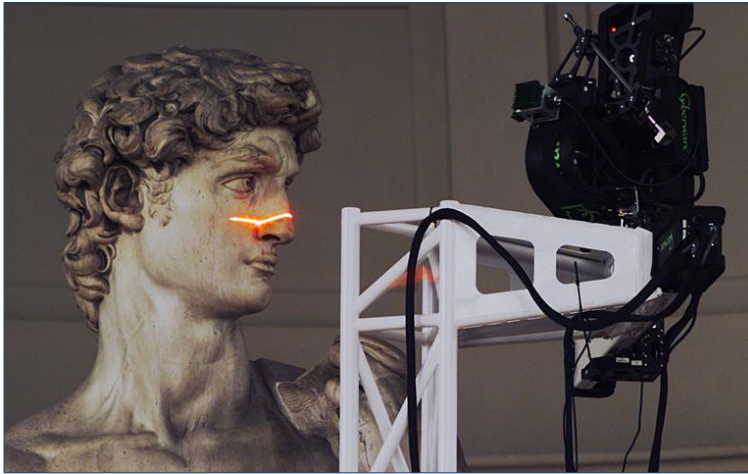


# Surface Reconstruction

Michael Kazhdan  
(601.457/657)

# Motivation

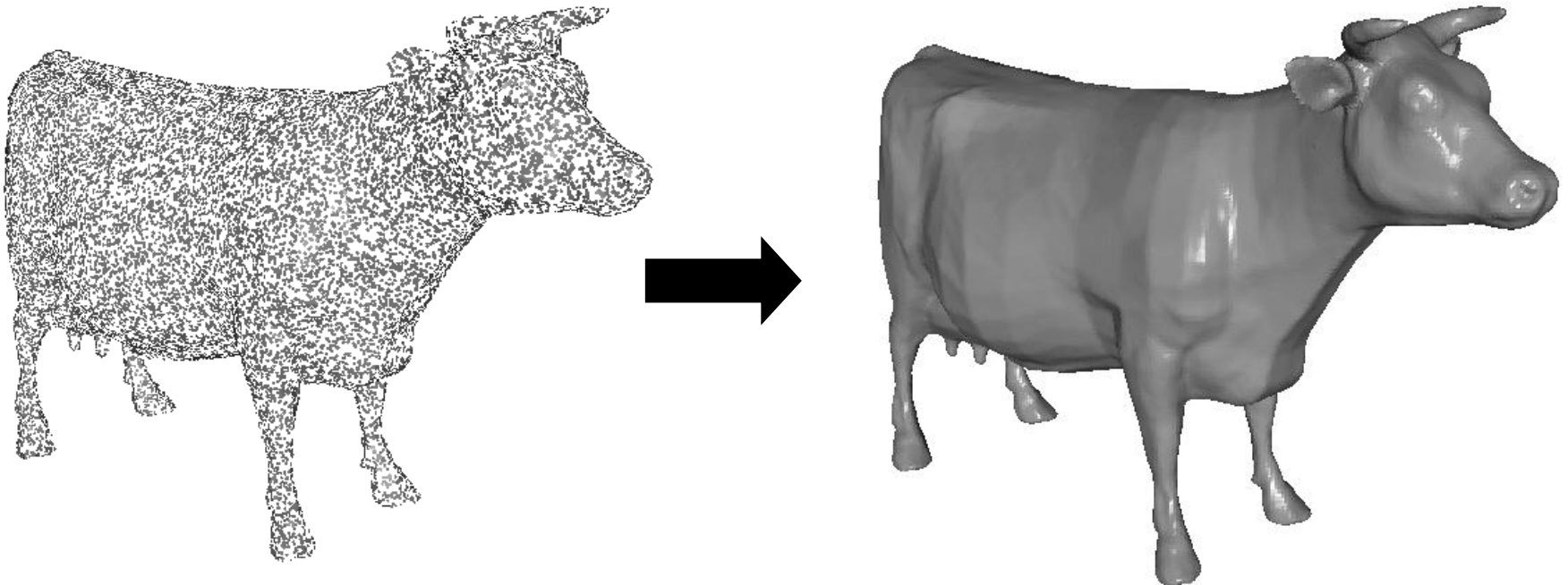
3D Scanners are ubiquitous (and cheap)



[Images courtesy of Rusinkiewicz, Strecha, createdigitalmotion.com, and NextEngine]

# Motivation

Merged scans typically consist of un/semi-structured sets of points that need to be connected into a single (water-tight) model.



# Related Work

- [1] GVU Center Georgia Tech, Graphics Research Grupo, Variational Implicit Surfaces Web site: <http://www.cc.gatech.edu/gvu/geometry/implicit/>. [6] T. Gentils R. Smith A. Hilton, D. Beresford and W. Sun. Virtual people: Capturing human models to populate virtual worlds. In Proc. Computer Animation, page 174185, Geneva, Switzerland, 1999. IEEE Press. [7] Anders Adamson and Marc Alexa. Approximating and intersecting surfaces from points. In Proceedings of the Eurographics/ACM SIG-GRAPH Symposium on Geometry Processing 2003, pages 230{239. ACM Press, Jun 2003. [8] Anders Adamson and Marc Alexa. Approximating bounded, nonorientable surfaces from points. In SMI '04: Proceedings of Shape Modeling Applications 2004, pages 243{252, 2004. 153 [9] U. Adamy, J. Giesen, and M. John. Surface reconstruction using umbrella testers. Computational Geometry, 21(1-2):63{86, 2002. [10] G. J. Agin and T. O.Binford. Computer description of curved objects. 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Bajaj, Fausto Bernardini, and Guoliang Xu. Automatic reconstruction of surfaces and scalar fields from 3d scans. In International Conference on Computer Graphics and Interactive Techniques, pages 109{118, 1995. [49] C. L. Bajaj, F. Bernardini, J. Chen, and D. Schikore. Automatic Reconstruction of 3D Cad Models. In Proceedings of Theory and Practice of Geometric Modelling, 1996. [50] C.L. Bajaj, E.J. Coyle, and K.N. Lin. Arbitrary topology shape reconstruction from planar cross sections. Graphical Models and Image Processing., 58:524{543, 1996. 157 [51] G. Barequet, M.T. Goodrich, A. Levi-Steiner, and D. Steiner. Contour interpolation by straight skeletons. Graphical models., 66:245{260, 2004. [52] G. Barequet, D. Shapiro, and A. Tal. Multilevel sensitive reconstruction of polyhedral surfaces from parallel slices. The Visual Computer, 16(2):116{133, 2000. [53] G. Barequet and M. Sharir. Piecewise-linear interpolation between polygonal slices. 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.../... [403]

# Related Work

## Classification:

- Approach:
  - Computational Geometry
  - Implicit Surfaces
- Input:
  - Oriented vs. Unoriented
  - Structured vs. Unstructured
- Output:
  - Water-tight vs. Surface with Boundary

# Related Work

## Classification:

- Computational Geometry (Unoriented Points)
  - Use input to partition space
  - Use a subset of the partition to define the shape
- Implicit Surfaces (Oriented Points)
  - Fit implicit function to the input
  - Extract iso-surface

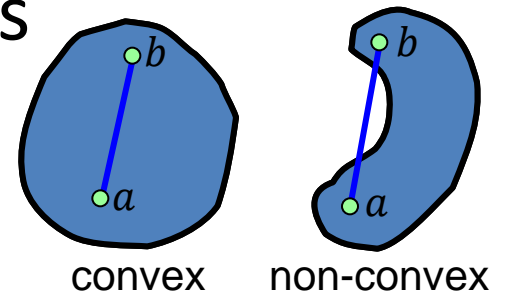
# Outline

- Introduction
- Preliminaries
  - Convex Hulls
  - Delaunay Triangulations
  - Voronoi Diagrams
  - Medial Axes
- A sampling of methods
- Why is reconstruction hard?

# Computational Geometry

## Convex Hulls:

A set  $S$  is *convex* if for any two points  $a, b \in S$ , the line segment between  $a$  and  $b$  is also in  $S$ .

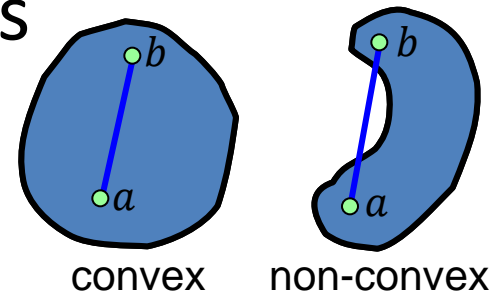




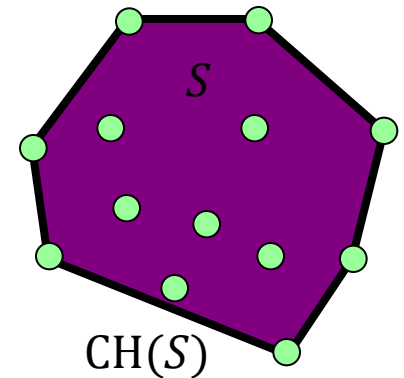
# Computational Geometry

## Convex Hulls:

A set  $S$  is *convex* if for any two points  $a, b \in S$ , the line segment between  $a$  and  $b$  is also in  $S$ .



The *convex hull* of a set of points is the smallest convex set containing  $S$ .

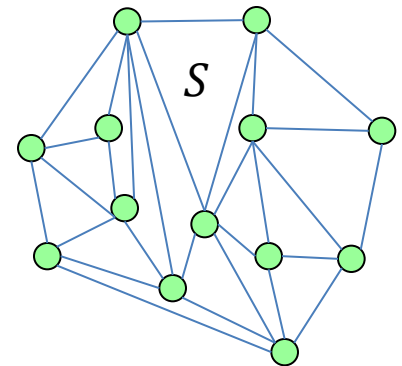


# Computational Geometry

## Triangulation:

A *triangulation* of a set of sites/points  $S$  is a decomposition of the convex hull of the points into triangles, whose vertex set is the set of sites/points.

- There are many ways to triangulate the set  $S$ .
- Not all are equally “good” (e.g. can have skinny triangles with small angles)



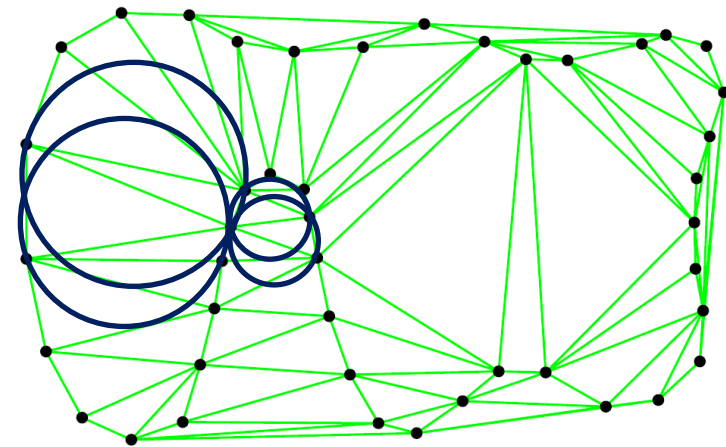
# Computational Geometry

## Delaunay Triangulation:

A *Delaunay Triangulation* of a set of sites  $S$  is a triangulation of  $S$  such that the circumscribing circle of any triangle contains no other site in  $S^*$ .

## Compactness Property:

This triangulation maximizes the minimum angle.



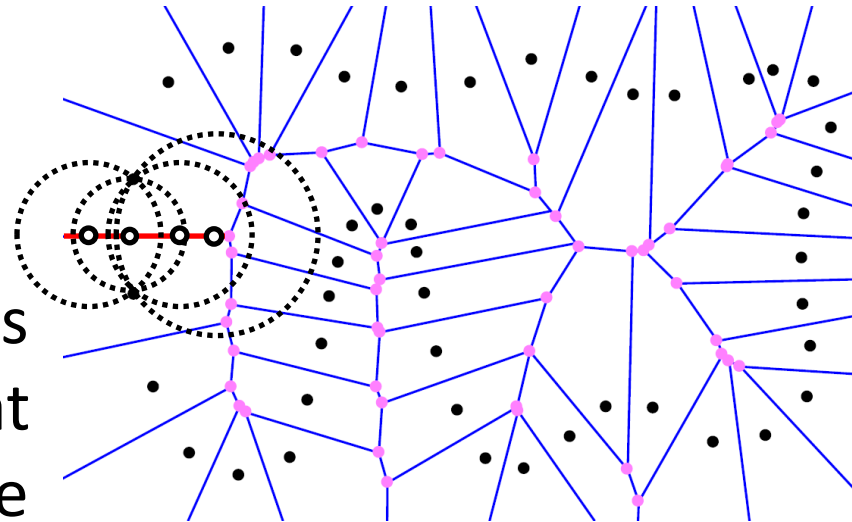
[\*Assuming general position]

# Computational Geometry

## Voronoi Diagrams:

The *Voronoi Diagram* of  $S$  is a partition of space into regions  $VD(s)$ , with  $s \in S$ , s.t. all points in  $VD(s)$  are closer to  $s$  than to any other site.

- Edges are equidistant from the two sites in the incident cells.
- For each edge point there is an empty circle, centered at the point, only touching the sites in the two incident cells.

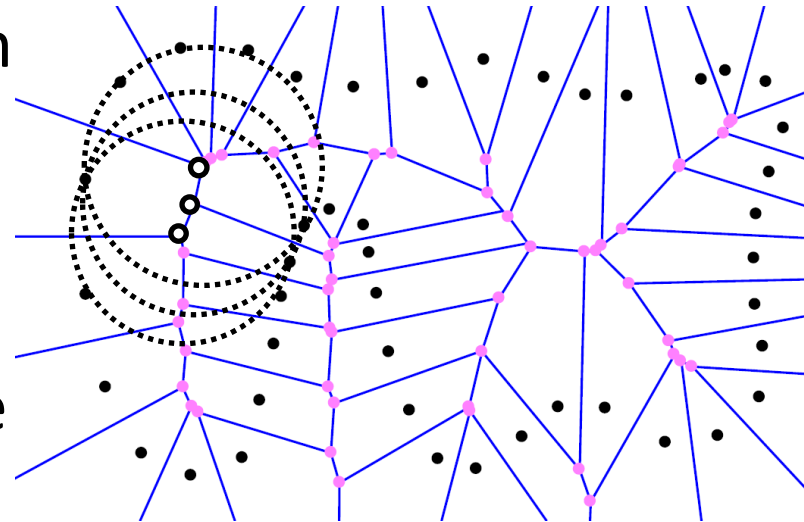


# Computational Geometry

## Voronoi Diagrams:

The *Voronoi Diagram* of  $S$  is a partition of space into regions  $VD(s)$ , with  $s \in S$ , s.t. all points in  $VD(s)$  are closer to  $s$  than to any other site.

- Vertices are equidistant from three (or more) sites in the incident cells.
- For a vertex, we can draw an empty circle, centered at the vertex, that just touches the sites in the three (or more) incident cells.



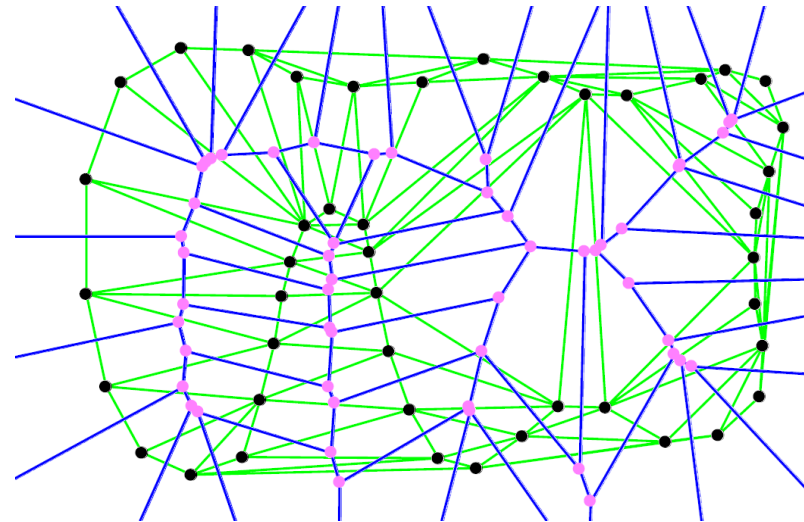
# Computational Geometry

## Voronoi Diagrams:

The *Voronoi Diagram* of  $S$  is a partition of space into regions  $VD(s)$ , with  $s \in S$ , s.t. all points in  $VD(s)$  are closer to  $s$  than to any other site.

## Duality:

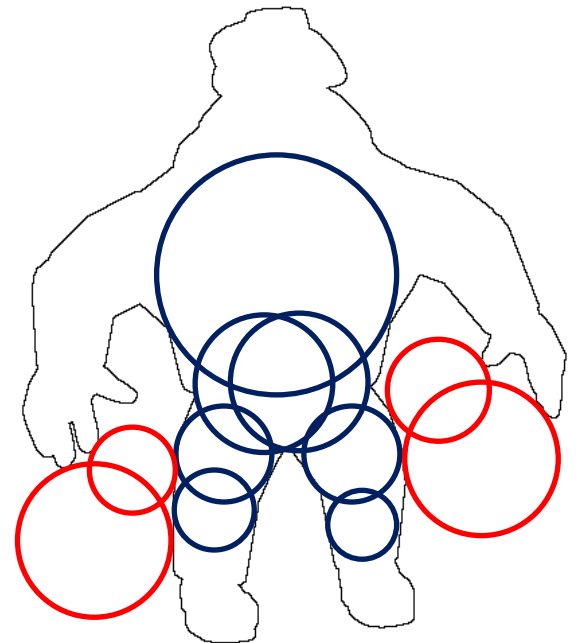
Each Voronoi vertex is in one-to-one correspondence with a Delaunay triangle.



# Computational Geometry

## Medial Axis:

For a shape (curve/surface) a *Medial Ball* is a circle/sphere that only meets the shape tangentially, in at least two points.

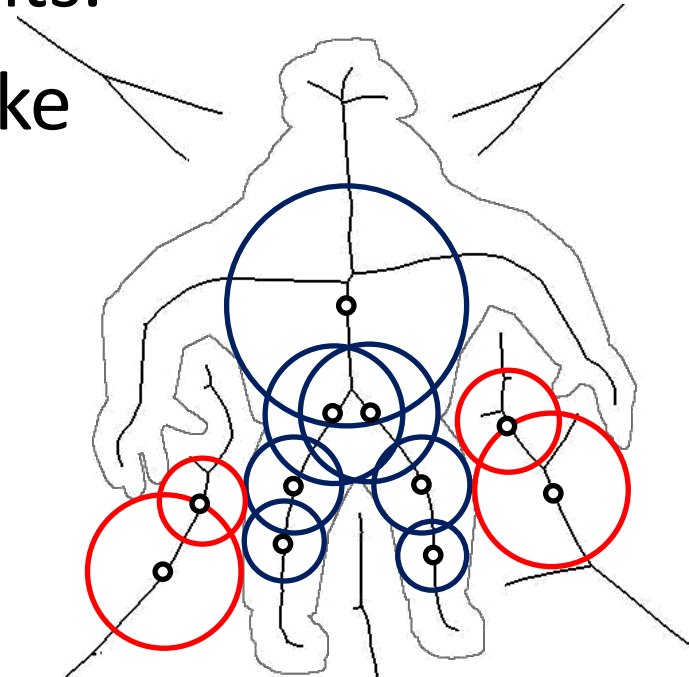


# Computational Geometry

## Medial Axis:

For a shape (curve/surface) a *Medial Ball* is a circle/sphere that only meets the shape tangentially, in at least two points.

The centers of all such balls make up the *medial axis/skeleton*.

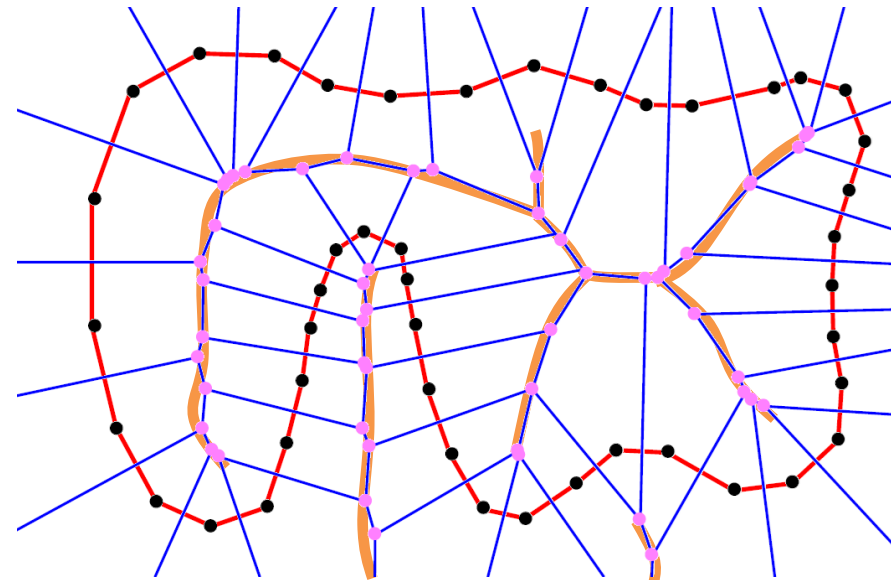




# Computational Geometry

## Observation in 2D\*:

For a reasonable point sample, the medial axis is well-sampled by the Voronoi vertices.



\*In 3D, this is only true for a subset of the Voronoi vertices – the *poles*.

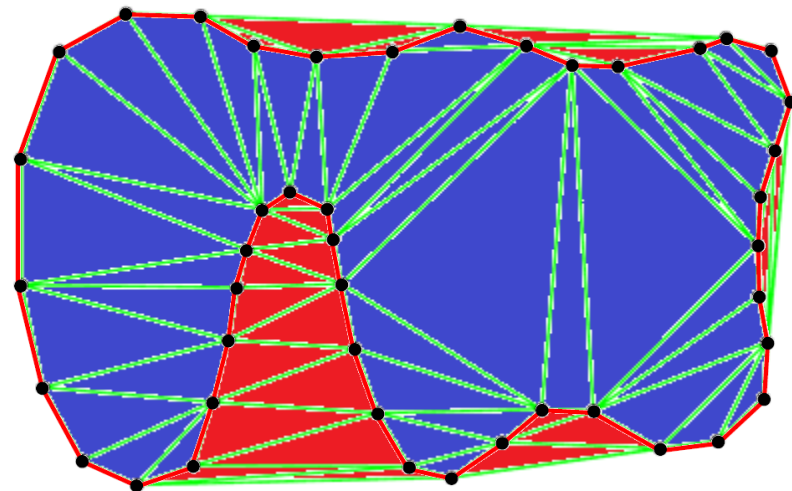
# Outline

- Introduction
  - Preliminaries
  - A sampling of methods
    - **Space Partitioning**
    - Crust
    - ... from Unorganized Points
    - Poisson Reconstruction
  - Why is reconstruction hard?
- Computational Geometry
- Implicit Surfaces

# Space Partitioning

Given a set of points, we can construct the Delaunay triangulation.

**If** we could label each triangle as inside/outside, then the surface of interest is the set of edges that lie between inside and outside triangles.

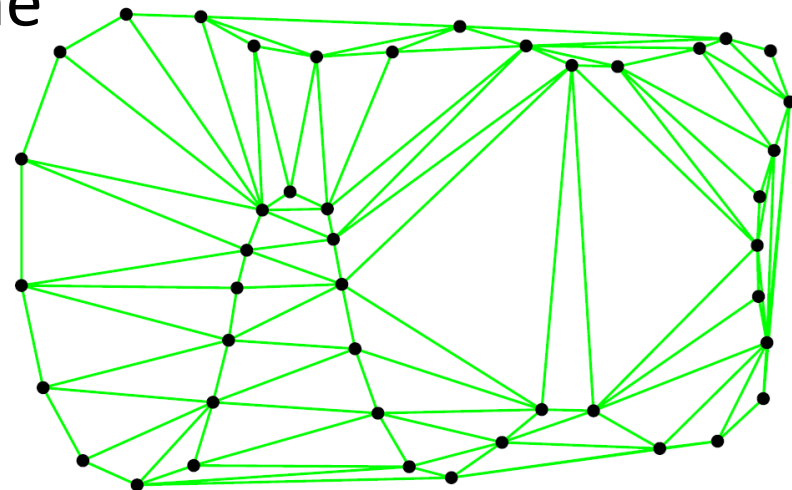


# Space Partitioning

Q: How should we assign labels?

A: Spectral Partitioning [Kolluri et al. 2004]

1. **Local:** Assign a weight to each (interior) edge indicating if the two triangles should have the same label.
2. **Global:** Evenly partition the triangles, minimizing the sum of the weights along partitioning edges.



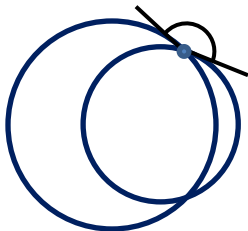
# Space Partitioning

## [Local] Assigning Edge Weights:

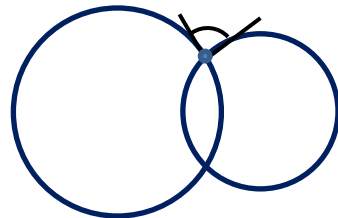
Q: When are triangles on opposite sides of an edge likely to have the same label?

A: If the triangles are on the same side, their circumscribing circles intersect deeply.

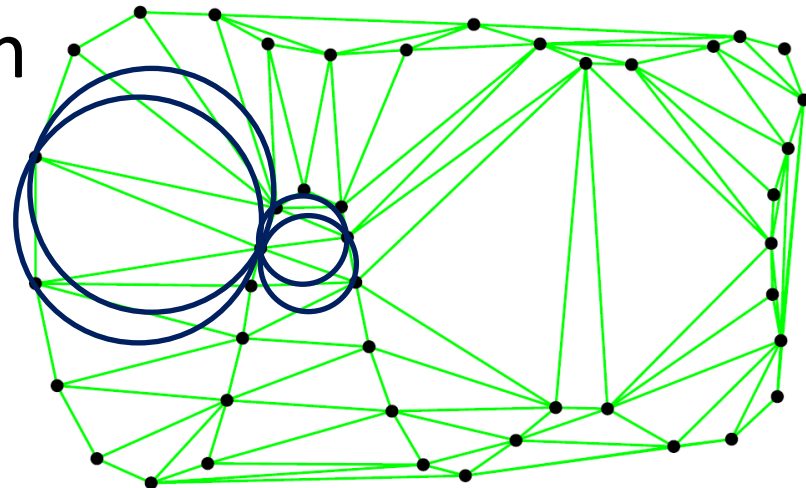
Use the angle of intersection to set the weight.



Large Weight



Small Weight



# Outline

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# Crust [Amenta et al. 1998]

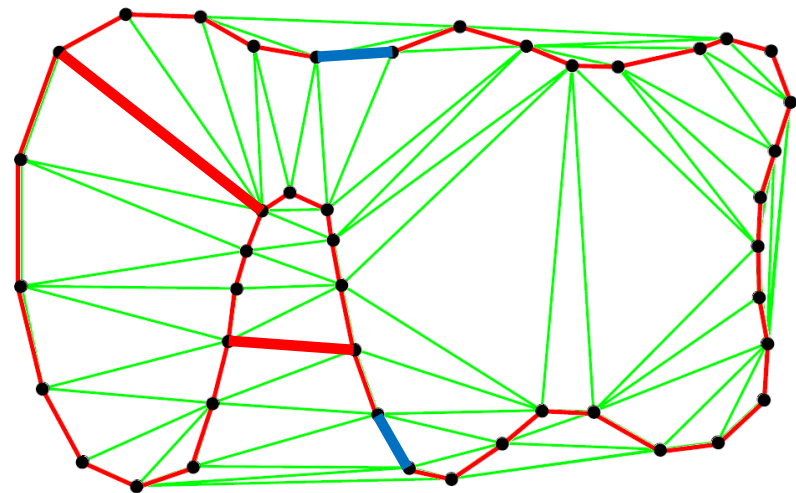
If we consider the Delaunay Triangulation of a point set sampling a curve, the curve should be (approximately) a subset of the Delaunay edges.

Q: How do we determine which edges to keep?

A: Two types of edges:

1. Those connecting adjacent points on the curve
2. Those traversing.

Discard those that traverse.

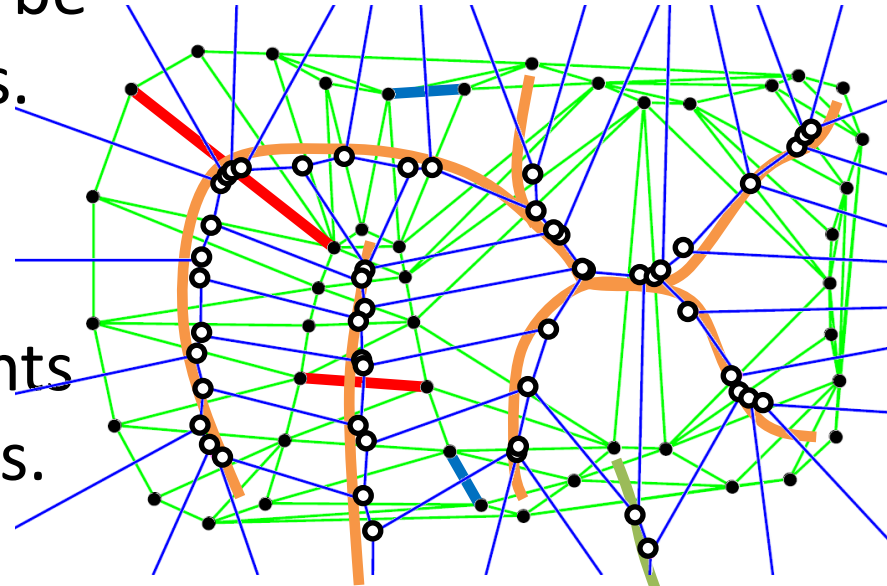


# Crust [Amenta et al. 1998]

## Observation:

Edges that traverse cross the medial axis.

- Although we don't know the medial axis, we can sample it with the Voronoi vertices.
- Edges that traverse must be near the Voronoi vertices.
- We say an edge does not traverse if we can draw a circle through its endpoints empty of Voronoi vertices.





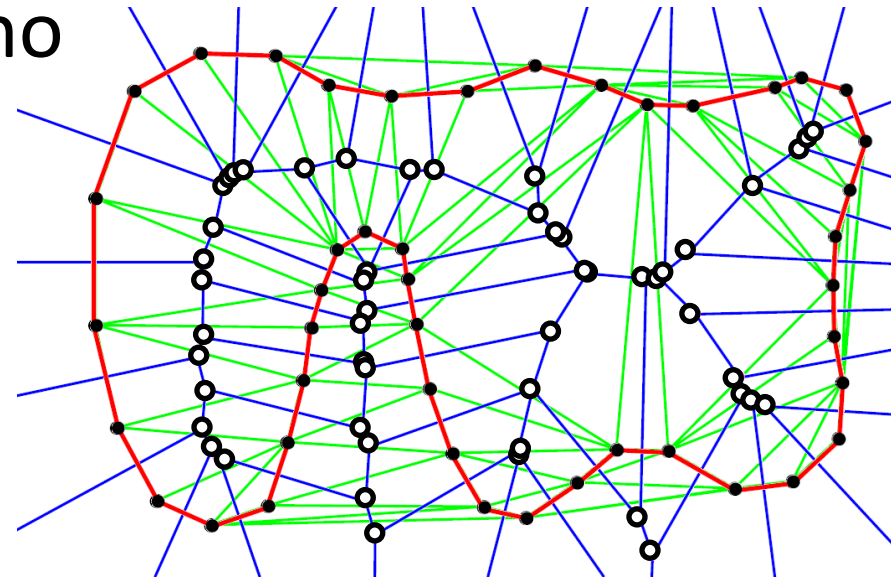
# Crust [Amenta et al. 1998]

## Algorithm:

1. Compute the Delaunay triangulation.
2. Compute the Voronoi vertices
3. Keep all edges for which there is a circle that contains the edge but no Voronoi vertices.

### Note:

As opposed to the previous method, it is not obvious that this will generate a closed, manifold curve/surface.



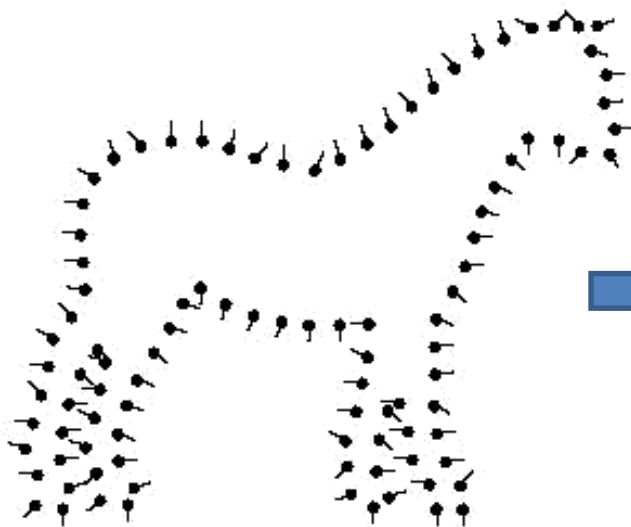
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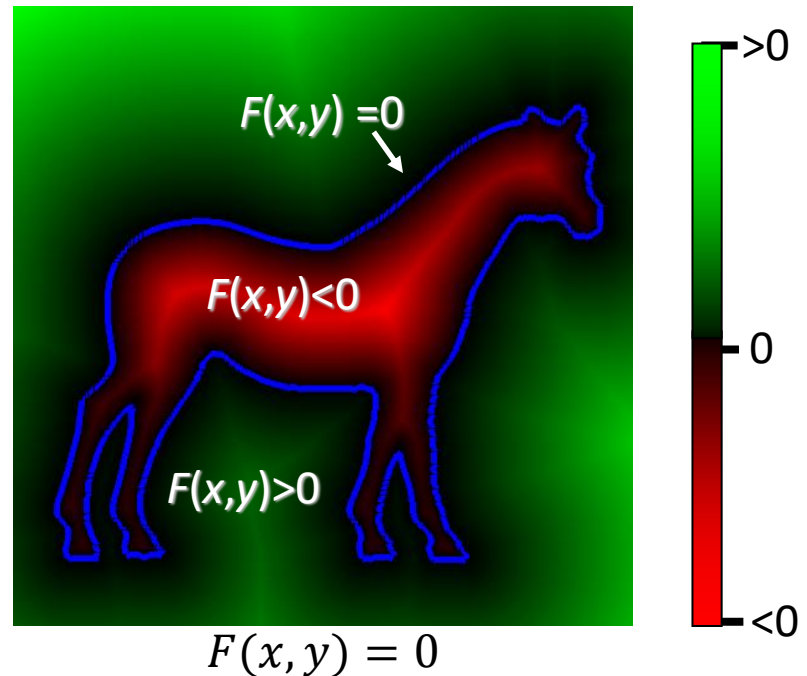
# Implicit Surface Reconstruction

## Key Idea:

- Use the point samples to define a function whose value at each sample positions is zero.
- Extract the zero level set. [Lorensen and Cline, 1987]

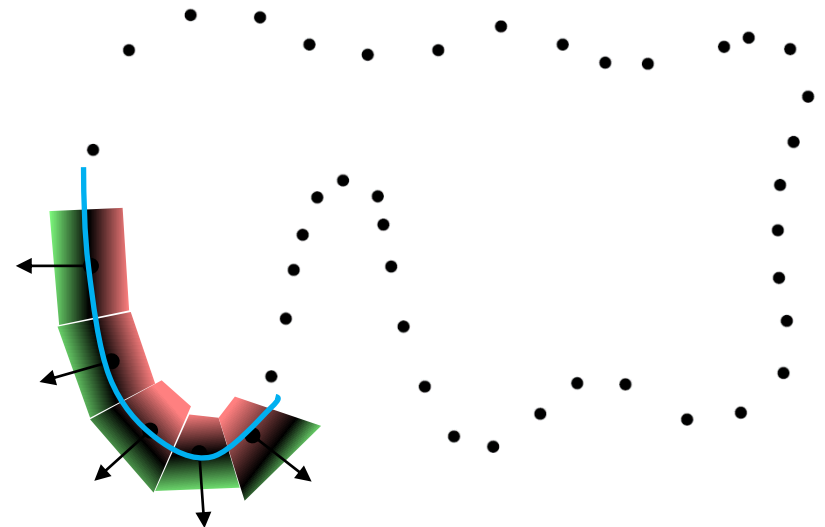


Sample Points



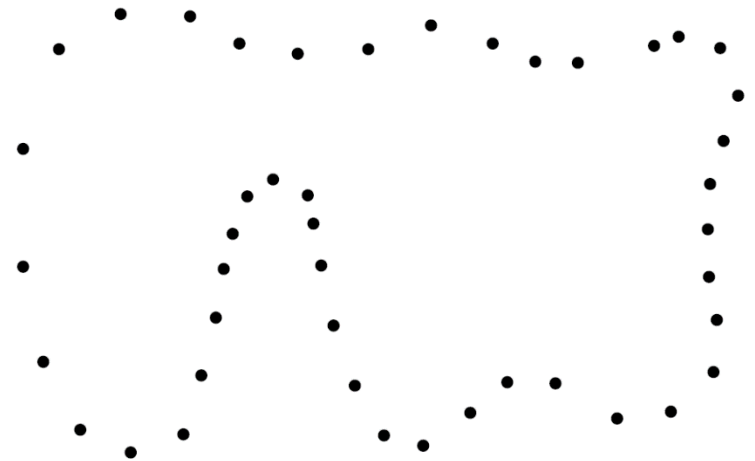
## ... Unorganized Points [Hoppe et al. 1992]

- Compute a local *signed distance function* by using the sample normals to define a **local** linear approximation to the function.
- Blend the linear approximations.
- Extract the zero level (where defined).



# ... Unorganized Points [Hoppe et al. 1992]

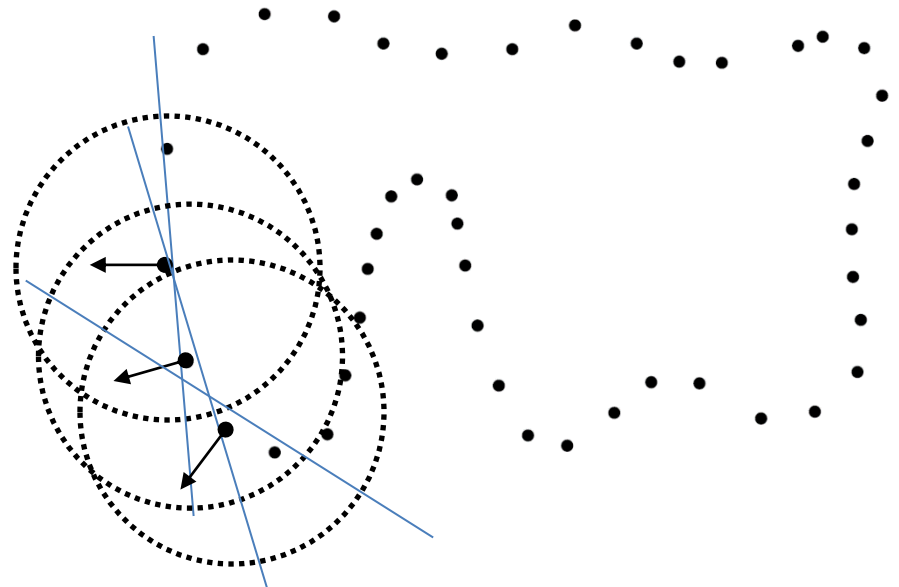
Q: How do we get the normals?



## ... Unorganized Points [Hoppe et al. 1992]

Q: How do we get the normals?

A1: Fit a line to the neighbors of each point.



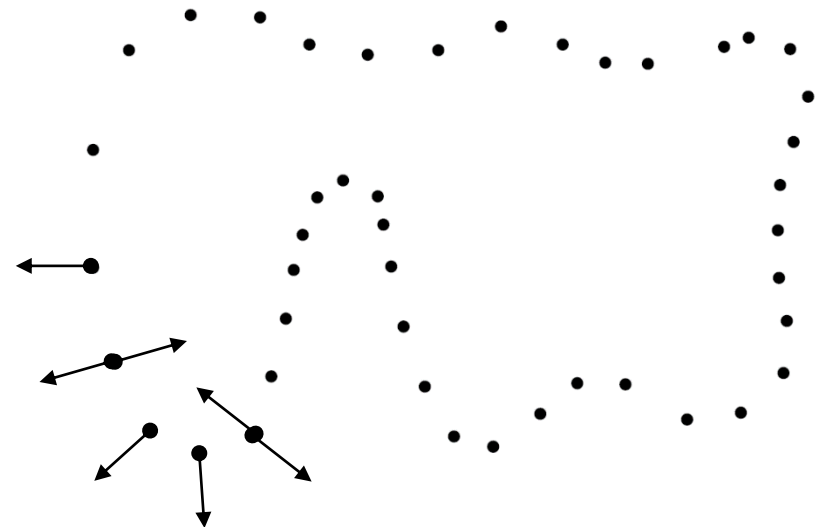
## ... Unorganized Points [Hoppe et al. 1992]

Q: How do we get the normals?

A1: Fit a line to the neighbors of each point.

This doesn't guarantee a consistent orientation!

For the orientation to be consistent, neighboring points should point in the same direction.

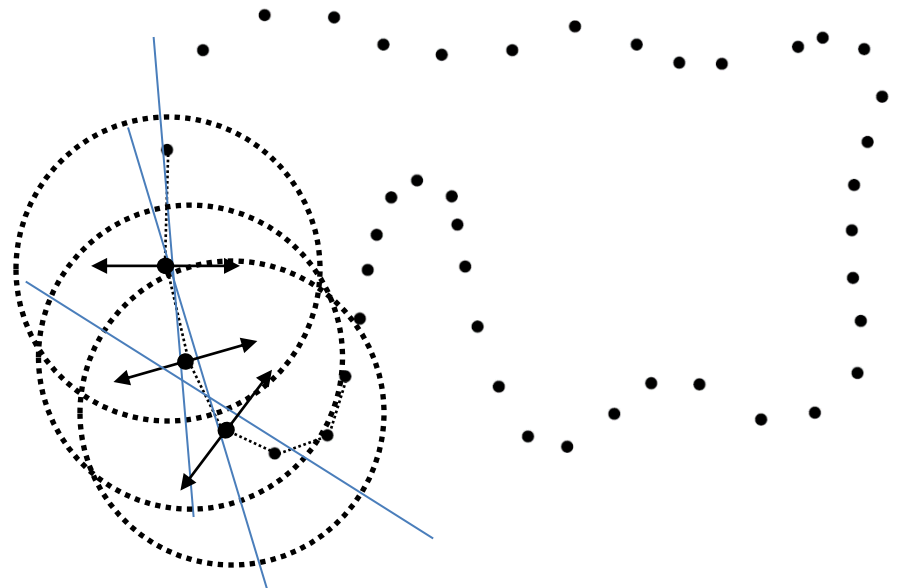


## ... Unorganized Points [Hoppe et al. 1992]

Q: How do we get the normals?

A1: Fit a line to the neighbors of each point.

A2: Build a (Euclidian) minimal spanning tree and propagate the orientation from a root.



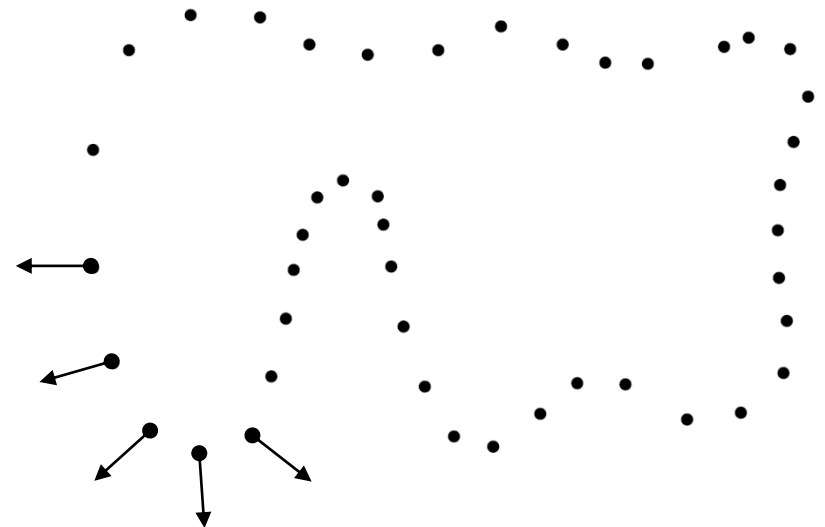


## ... Unorganized Points [Hoppe et al. 1992]

Q: How do we get the normals?

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# Outline

- Introduction
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    - ... from Unorganized Points
    - **Poisson Reconstruction**
  - Why is reconstruction hard?
- Computational Geometry
- Implicit Surfaces

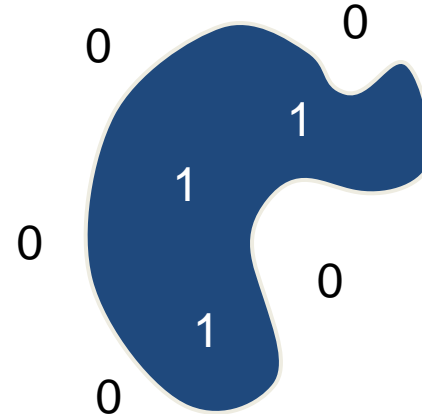
# Poisson Reconstruction [Kazhdan et al. 2006]

Reconstruct the *indicator function* of the surface and then extract the boundary.

Q: How to fit the function to the samples?



Oriented points



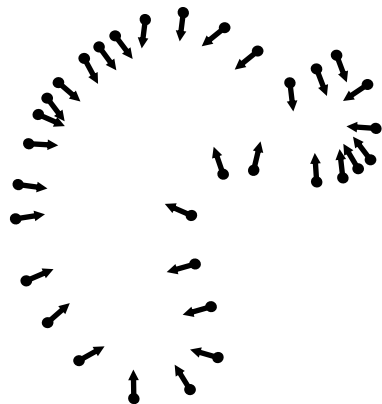
Indicator function

# Poisson Reconstruction [Kazhdan et al. 2006]

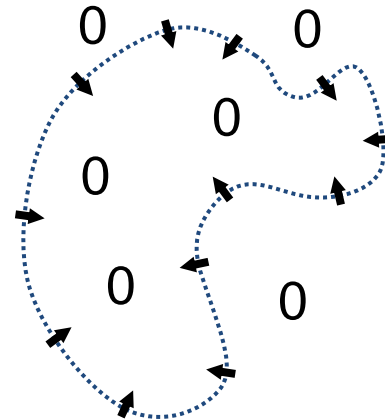
Reconstruct the *indicator function* of the surface and then extract the boundary.

Q: How to fit the function to the samples?

A: Normals are samples of function's gradients.



Oriented points



Indicator gradient

# Poisson Reconstruction [Kazhdan et al. 2006]

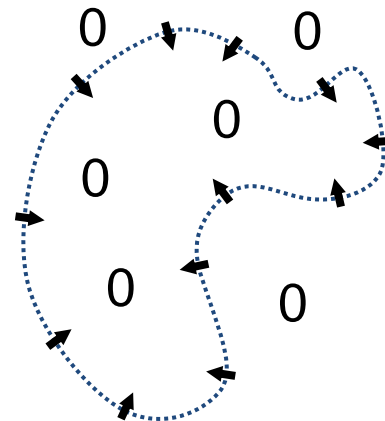
To fit a scalar field  $F$  to the gradients  $\vec{V}$  solve:

$$\nabla F = \vec{V}$$

- ✗ This is an over-constrained problem, so there is (usually) no solution.



Oriented points



Indicator gradient

# Poisson Reconstruction [Kazhdan et al. 2006]

To fit a scalar field  $F$  to the gradients  $\vec{V}$  solve:

$$\nabla F = \vec{V}$$

✗ This is an over-constrained problem, so there is (usually) no solution.

✓ Solve for the best (least-squares) solution:

$$\arg \min_F \|\nabla F - \vec{V}\|^2$$

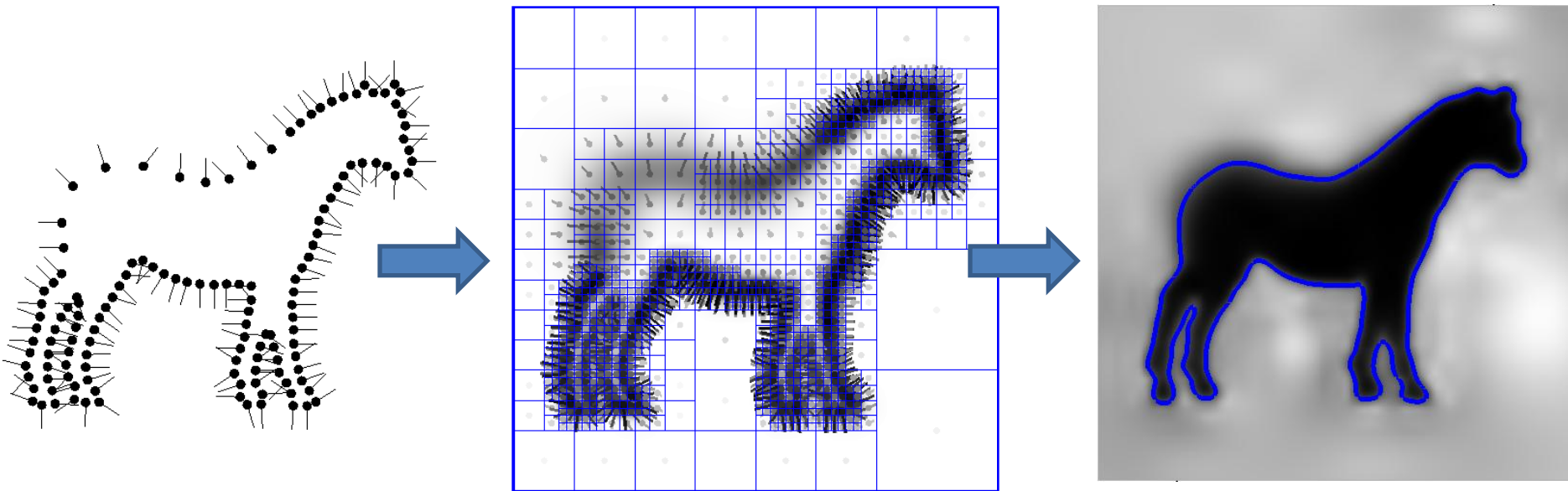
⇒ Taking the divergence, this becomes:

$$\nabla \cdot (\nabla F - \vec{V}) = 0 \iff \Delta F = \nabla \cdot \vec{V}$$

# Poisson Reconstruction [Kazhdan et al. 2006]

## Algorithm:

1. Transform samples into a vector field.
2. Fit a scalar-field to the gradients.
3. Extract the isosurface.



# Outline

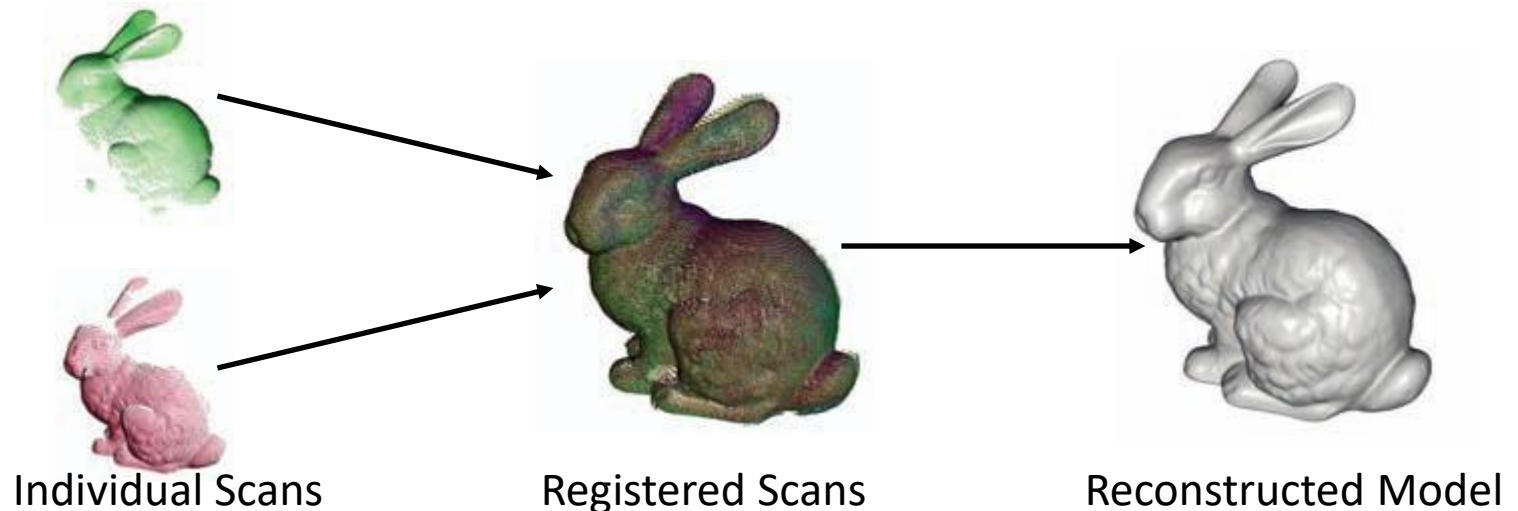
- Introduction
- Preliminaries
- A sampling of methods
- **Why is reconstruction hard?**



# Why is Reconstruction Hard?

The point-set is often the result of:

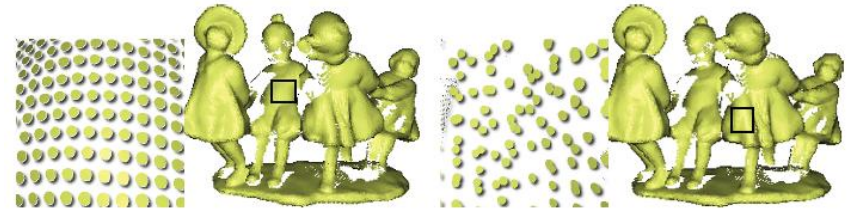
- Scanning
- Registering
- Etc.



# Why is Reconstruction Hard?

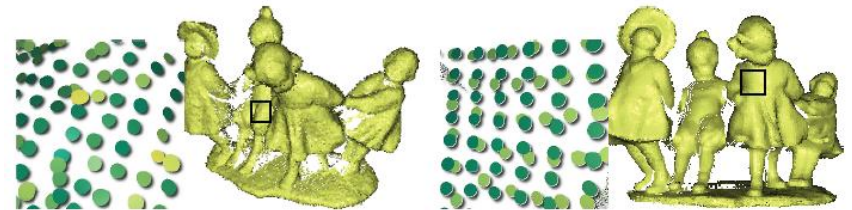
Susceptible to:

- Scanning
  - Nonuniform sampling
  - Grazing angles
  - Scanner noise
  - Imprecise estimates
- Registering
  - Misalignment
  - Non-linear camera model



(a) Uniform sampling

(b) Nonuniform sampling



(c) Noisy data

(d) Misaligned scans

# Practical Concerns

- Performance in the presence of bad data
- Interpolating vs. approximating
- Efficiency of reconstruction
- Quality guarantees
- Manifold / water-tight
- Incorporation of prior knowledge