

# Curves and surfaces

Florent Lafarge

**Inria Sophia Antipolis - Mediterranee**

# Parametric surfaces

- Continuous surface

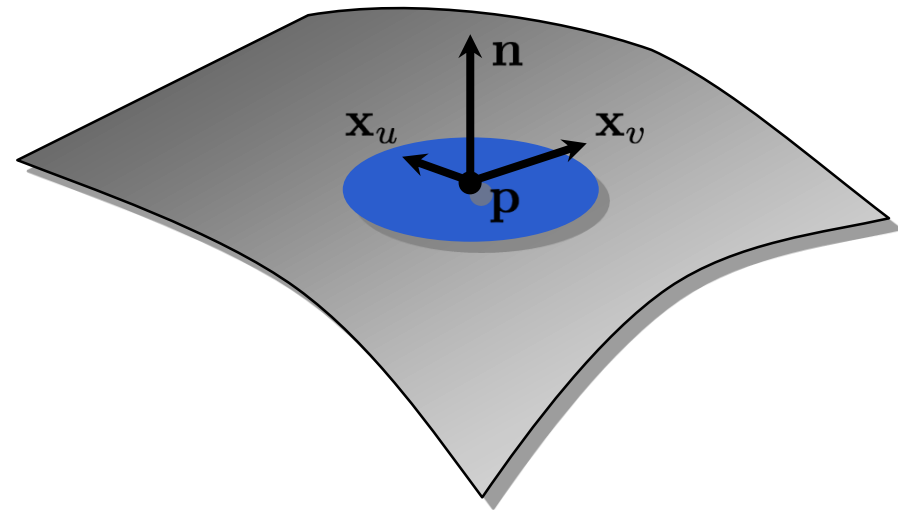
$$\mathbf{x}(u, v) = \begin{pmatrix} x(u, v) \\ y(u, v) \\ z(u, v) \end{pmatrix}$$

- Normal vector

$$\mathbf{n} = \frac{\mathbf{x}_u \times \mathbf{x}_v}{\|\mathbf{x}_u \times \mathbf{x}_v\|}$$

- Assume *regular* parameterization

$$\mathbf{x}_u \times \mathbf{x}_v \neq \mathbf{0}$$



# Parametric surfaces

## Angles on surface

- Curve  $[u(t), v(t)]$  in  $uv$ -plane defines curve on the surface  $\mathbf{x}(u,v)$

$$\mathbf{c}(t) = \mathbf{x}(u(t), v(t))$$

- Two curves  $c_1$  and  $c_2$  intersecting at  $p$

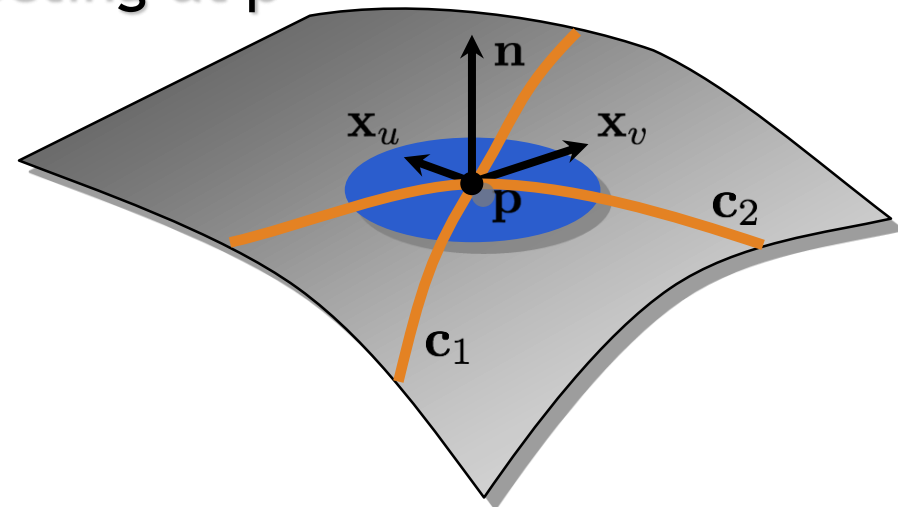
- Angle of intersection?

- Two tangents  $\mathbf{t}_1$  and  $\mathbf{t}_2$

$$\mathbf{t}_i = \alpha_i \mathbf{x}_u + \beta_i \mathbf{x}_v$$

- Compute inner product

$$\mathbf{t}_1^T \mathbf{t}_2 = \cos \theta \|\mathbf{t}_1\| \|\mathbf{t}_2\|$$



# Parametric surfaces

## Angles on surface

- Curve  $[u(t), v(t)]$  in  $uv$ -plane defines curve on the surface  $\mathbf{x}(u,v)$

$$\mathbf{c}(t) = \mathbf{x}(u(t), v(t))$$

- Two curves  $c_1$  and  $c_2$  intersecting at  $p$

$$\mathbf{t}_1^T \mathbf{t}_2 = (\alpha_1 \mathbf{x}_u + \beta_1 \mathbf{x}_v)^T (\alpha_2 \mathbf{x}_u + \beta_2 \mathbf{x}_v)$$

$$= \alpha_1 \alpha_2 \mathbf{x}_u^T \mathbf{x}_u + (\alpha_1 \beta_2 + \alpha_2 \beta_1) \mathbf{x}_u^T \mathbf{x}_v + \beta_1 \beta_2 \mathbf{x}_v^T \mathbf{x}_v$$

$$= (\alpha_1, \beta_1) \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{x}_u^T \mathbf{x}_u & \mathbf{x}_u^T \mathbf{x}_v \\ \mathbf{x}_u^T \mathbf{x}_v & \mathbf{x}_v^T \mathbf{x}_v \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_2 \\ \beta_2 \end{pmatrix}$$



# Parametric surfaces

## First fundamental form

- First fundamental form
- Defines inner product on tangent space

$$\mathbf{I} = \begin{pmatrix} E & F \\ F & G \end{pmatrix} := \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{x}_u^T \mathbf{x}_u & \mathbf{x}_u^T \mathbf{x}_v \\ \mathbf{x}_u^T \mathbf{x}_v & \mathbf{x}_v^T \mathbf{x}_v \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\left\langle \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_1 \\ \beta_1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_2 \\ \beta_2 \end{pmatrix} \right\rangle := \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_1 \\ \beta_1 \end{pmatrix}^T \mathbf{I} \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_2 \\ \beta_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

# Parametric surfaces

## First fundamental form

$$\mathbf{t}_1^T \mathbf{t}_2 = \langle (\alpha_1, \beta_1), (\alpha_1, \beta_1) \rangle$$

$$\begin{aligned} ds^2 &= \langle (du, dv), (du, dv) \rangle \\ &= Edu^2 + 2Fdudv + Gdv^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} dA &= \|\mathbf{x}_u \times \mathbf{x}_v\| \, du \, dv \\ &= \sqrt{\mathbf{x}_u^T \mathbf{x}_u \cdot \mathbf{x}_v^T \mathbf{x}_v - (\mathbf{x}_u^T \mathbf{x}_v)^2} \, du \, dv \\ &= \sqrt{EG - F^2} \, du \, dv \end{aligned}$$

# Parametric surfaces: exercices

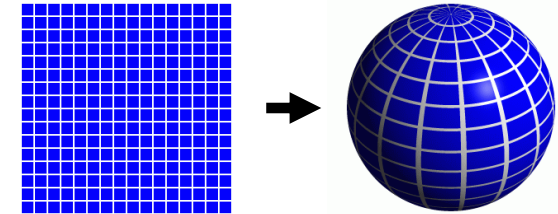
- Sphere centrée en  $(0,0,0)$  de rayon 1
  - Parametrage de la surface
  - Longueur à l'équateur
  - Aire de la sphere

# Parametric surfaces: exercices

## Sphere example

- Spherical parameterization

$$\mathbf{x}(u, v) = \begin{pmatrix} \cos u \sin v \\ \sin u \sin v \\ \cos v \end{pmatrix}, \quad (u, v) \in [0, 2\pi) \times [0, \pi)$$



- Tangent vectors

$$\mathbf{x}_u(u, v) = \begin{pmatrix} -\sin u \sin v \\ \cos u \sin v \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \mathbf{x}_v(u, v) = \begin{pmatrix} \cos u \cos v \\ \sin u \cos v \\ -\sin v \end{pmatrix}$$

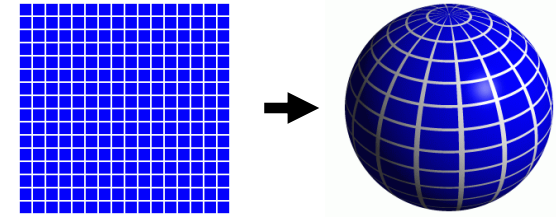
- First fundamental form

$$\mathbf{I} = \begin{pmatrix} \sin^2 v & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

# Parametric surfaces: exercices

## Sphere example

- Length of equator  $\mathbf{x}(t, \pi / 2)$

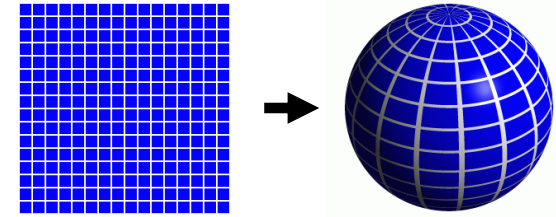


$$\begin{aligned}\int_0^{2\pi} 1 \, ds &= \int_0^{2\pi} \sqrt{E (u_t)^2 + 2F u_t v_t + G (v_t)^2} \, dt \\ &= \int_0^{2\pi} \sin v \, dt \\ &= 2\pi \sin v = 2\pi\end{aligned}$$

# Parametric surfaces: exercices

## Sphere example

- Area of a sphere



$$\begin{aligned}\int_0^\pi \int_0^{2\pi} 1 \, dA &= \int_0^\pi \int_0^{2\pi} \sqrt{EG - F^2} \, du \, dv \\ &= \int_0^\pi \int_0^{2\pi} \sin v \, du \, dv \\ &= 4\pi\end{aligned}$$

# Parametric surfaces: exercices

- cylindre centrée en  $(0,0,0)$ , de normal  $(0,0,1)$ , de rayon 1 et de hauteur  $2h$ 
  - Parametrage de la surface
  - Longueur à l'équateur
  - Aire du cylindre

# Parametric surfaces: exercices

- tore centrée en  $(0,0,0)$ , de normal  $(0,0,1)$ , de grand rayon 10 et de petit rayon 1
  - Parametrage de la surface
  - Aire du tore



# Parametric surfaces: exercices

**Exercice 2** (Une surface réglée). On considère deux arcs d'ellipse fournis pour  $0 \leq u \leq \pi$  par les paramétrisations suivantes :

$$\alpha(u) := (0, a_1 \cos u, b_1 \sin u), \quad \beta(u) := (1, a_2 \cos u, b_2 \sin u),$$

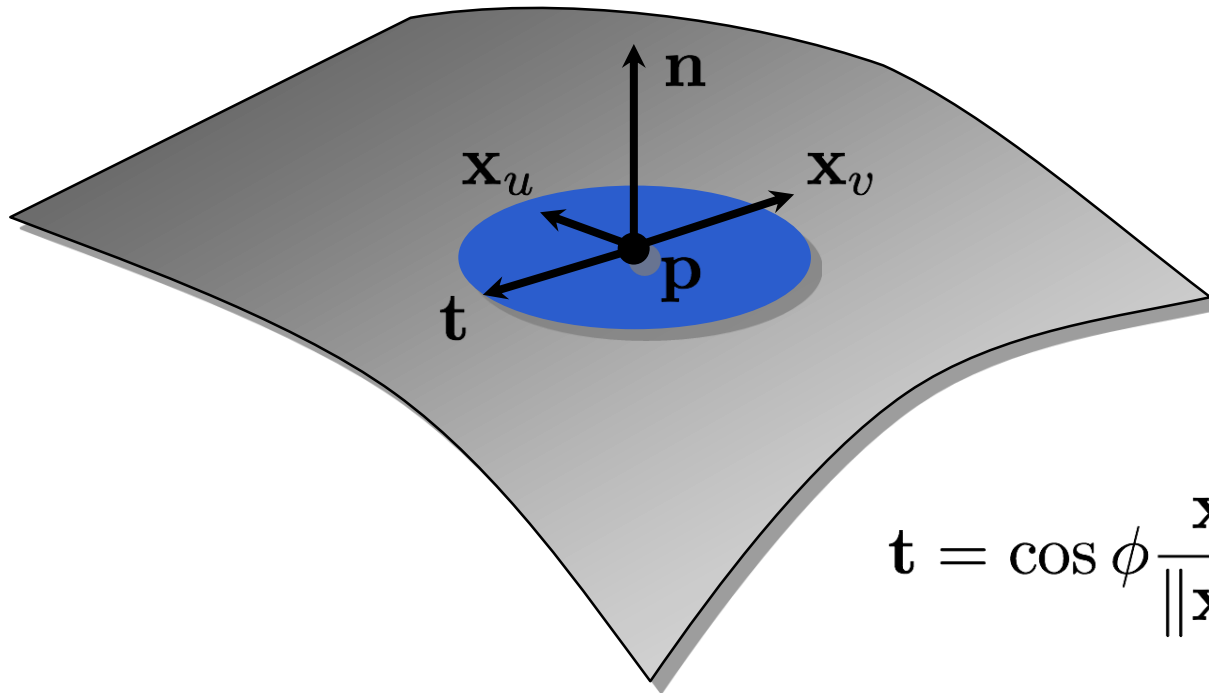
$a_1, b_1, a_2, b_2 > 0$ . Pour chaque valeur de  $u$  on trace la droite qui joint le point  $\alpha(u)$  au point  $\beta(u)$ , et on considère la surface  $S$  obtenue comme la réunion de toutes ces droites.

1. Tracer qualitativement la surface.
2. Donner un paramétrage de cette surface en rajoutant un paramètre  $v$ .
3. Préciser la nature de la section de cette surface par des plans d'équation  $x = \text{constante}$ .
4. Calculer en tout point le vecteur normal unitaire.
5. On considère la courbe obtenue en coupant la surface par le plan d'équation  $x = \frac{1}{2}$ . Calculer le repère de Frenet de cette courbe.
6. Quel est le lien entre ce repère de Frenet et le vecteur normal à la surface calculé plus haut ?
7. Pour quelles valeurs des paramètres du modèle la surface est-elle une portion de cylindre, ou de cône ?

# Parametric surfaces

## Normal curvature

- Tangent vector  $\mathbf{t}$ ...

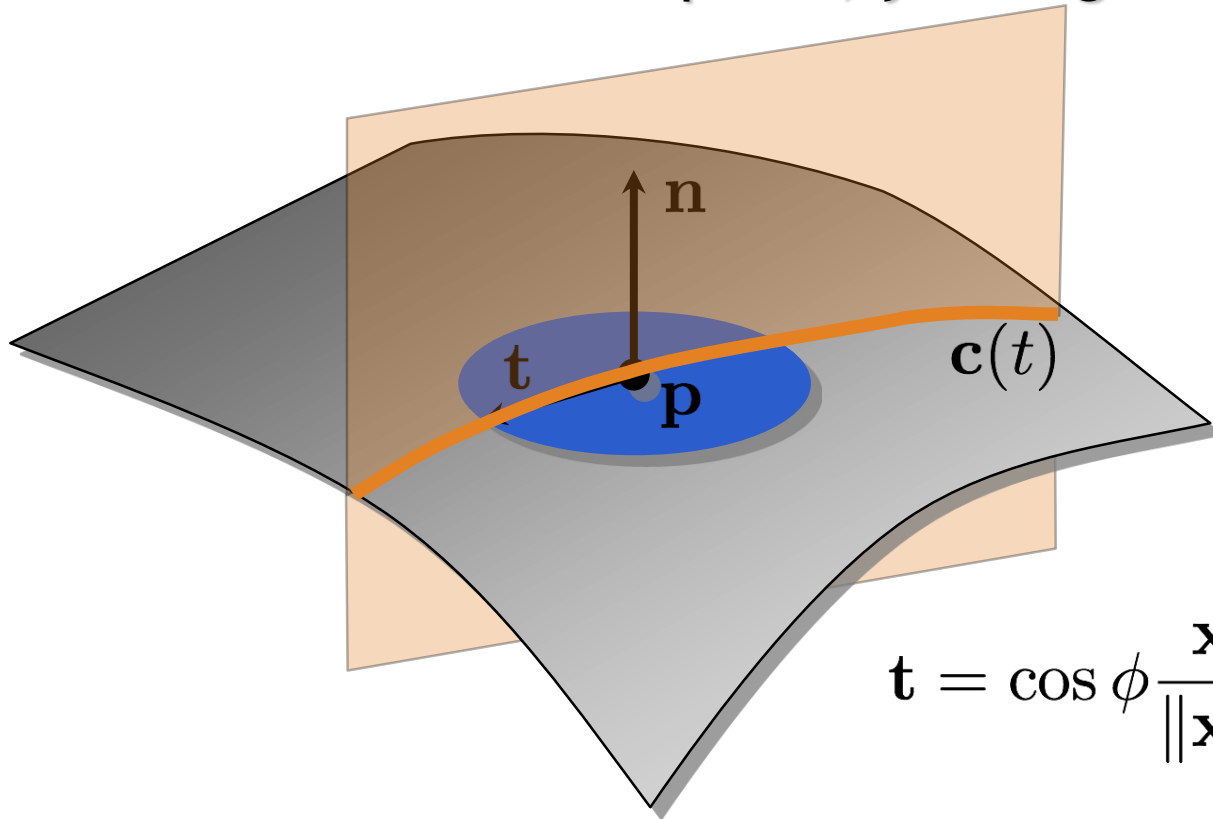


$$\mathbf{t} = \cos \phi \frac{\mathbf{x}_u}{\|\mathbf{x}_u\|} + \sin \phi \frac{\mathbf{x}_v}{\|\mathbf{x}_v\|}$$

# Parametric surfaces

## Normal curvature

- .. defines intersection plane, yielding curve  $\mathbf{c}(t)$



$$\mathbf{t} = \cos \phi \frac{\mathbf{x}_u}{\|\mathbf{x}_u\|} + \sin \phi \frac{\mathbf{x}_v}{\|\mathbf{x}_v\|}$$

# Parametric surfaces

## Normal curvature

- Normal curvature  $\kappa_n(\mathbf{t})$  is defined as curvature of the normal curve  $c(t)$  at point  $p = x(u, v)$ .

- With second fundamental form

$$\mathbf{II} = \begin{pmatrix} e & f \\ f & g \end{pmatrix} := \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{x}_{uu}^T \mathbf{n} & \mathbf{x}_{uv}^T \mathbf{n} \\ \mathbf{x}_{uv}^T \mathbf{n} & \mathbf{x}_{vv}^T \mathbf{n} \end{pmatrix}$$

- normal curvature can be computed as

$$\kappa_n(\bar{\mathbf{t}}) = \frac{\bar{\mathbf{t}}^T \mathbf{II} \bar{\mathbf{t}}}{\bar{\mathbf{t}}^T \mathbf{I} \bar{\mathbf{t}}} = \frac{ea^2 + 2fab + gb^2}{Ea^2 + 2Fab + Gb^2}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{t} &= a\mathbf{x}_u + b\mathbf{x}_v \\ \bar{\mathbf{t}} &= (a, b) \end{aligned}$$

# Parametric surfaces

## Surface curvatures

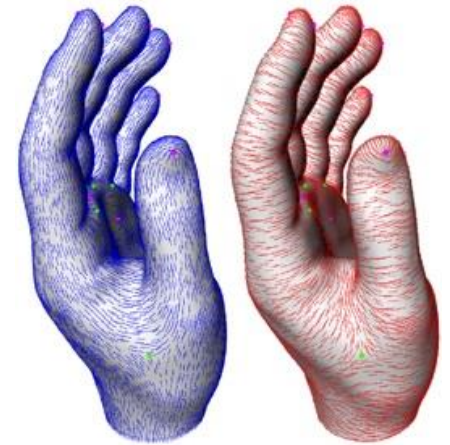
- *Principal curvatures*

- Maximum curvature  $\kappa_1 = \max_{\phi} \kappa_n(\phi)$

- Minimum curvature  $\kappa_2 = \min_{\phi} \kappa_n(\phi)$

- Euler theorem:  $\kappa_n(\phi) = \kappa_1 \cos^2 \phi + \kappa_2 \sin^2 \phi$

- Corresponding *principal directions*  $e_1, e_2$  are orthogonal



# Parametric surfaces

## Surface curvatures

- *Principal curvatures*

- Maximum curvature  $\kappa_1 = \max_{\phi} \kappa_n(\phi)$

- Minimum curvature  $\kappa_2 = \min_{\phi} \kappa_n(\phi)$

- Euler theorem:  $\kappa_n(\phi) = \kappa_1 \cos^2 \phi + \kappa_2 \sin^2 \phi$

- Corresponding *principal directions*  $e_1, e_2$  are orthogonal

- *Special curvatures*

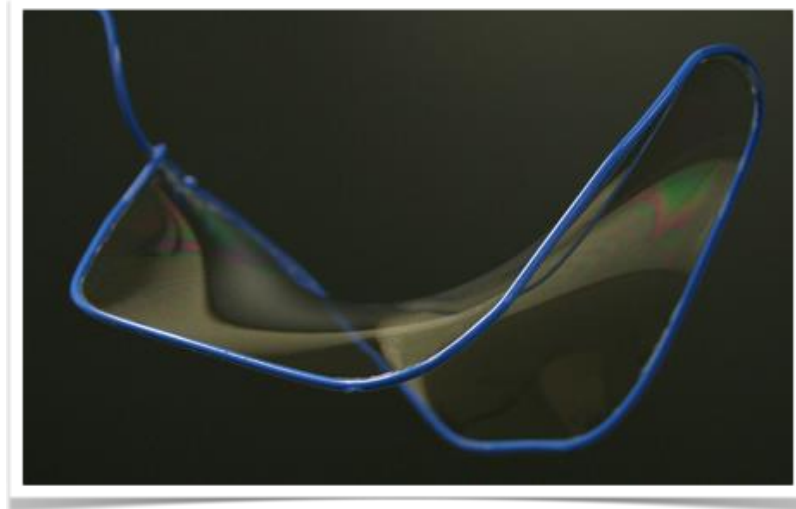
- Mean curvature  $H = \frac{\kappa_1 + \kappa_2}{2}$

- Gaussian curvature  $K = \kappa_1 \cdot \kappa_2$

# Parametric surfaces

## Curvature of surfaces

- Mean curvature  $H = \frac{\kappa_1 + \kappa_2}{2}$ 
  - $H = 0$  everywhere  $\rightarrow$  minimal surface



soap films

# Parametric surfaces

## Curvature of surfaces

- Gaussian curvature  $K = \kappa_1 \cdot \kappa_2$ 
  - $K = 0$  everywhere  $\rightarrow$  developable surface



**Disney Concert Hall, L.A.**  
**Architects: Gehry Partners**



**Timber Fabric**  
**IBOIS, EPFL**



# Parametric surfaces

## Classification

- A point  $\mathbf{x}$  on the surface is called
  - *elliptic*, if  $K > 0$
  - *hyperbolic*, if  $K < 0$
  - *parabolic*, if  $K = 0$
  - *umbilic*, if  $\kappa_1 = \kappa_2$

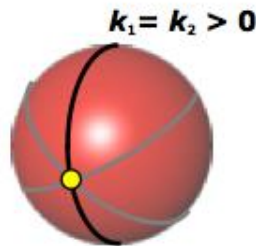
# Parametric surfaces

## Classification

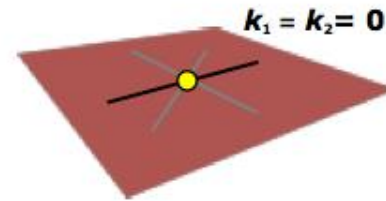
- A point  $x$  on the surface is called

### Isotropic

Equal in all directions



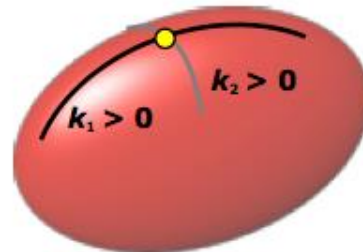
spherical



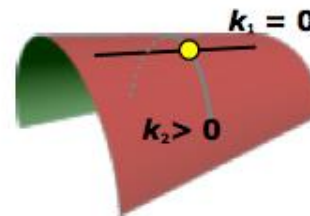
planar

### Anisotropic

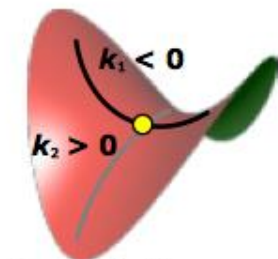
Distinct principal directions



elliptic  
 $K > 0$



parabolic  
 $K = 0$   
developable



hyperbolic  
 $K < 0$

# Parametric surfaces: exercices

**Exercice 3** (Aire des surfaces de révolution). On fait tourner autour de l'axe  $z$  une courbe  $\gamma$  définie dans le plan  $(x, z)$ , paramétrée à vitesse unité, et ne touchant pas l'axe  $z$ .

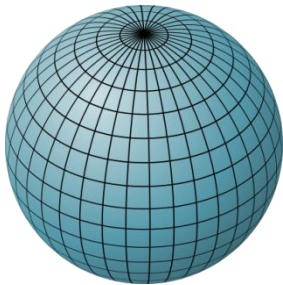
1. Écrire le paramétrage de cette surface.
2. Calculer ses coefficients métriques.
3. Pour chaque valeur du paramètre  $t$ , on note  $\rho(t)$  la distance du point à l'axe vertical. Montrer que la surface totale est donnée par :

$$S = 2\pi \int \rho(u) du.$$

Examiner le cas particulier de la sphère et du tore.

# Genus of a surface

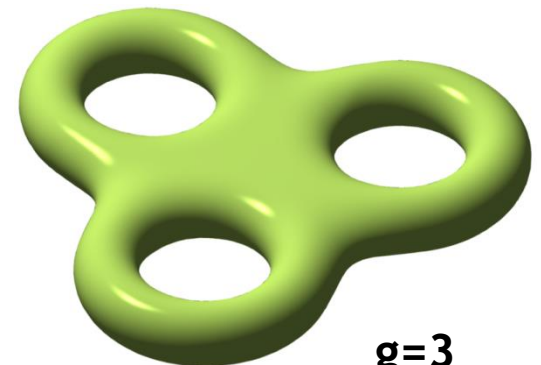
- largest number of nonintersecting simple closed curves that can be drawn on the surface without separating it
- It is equal to the number of holes in a surface



$g=0$



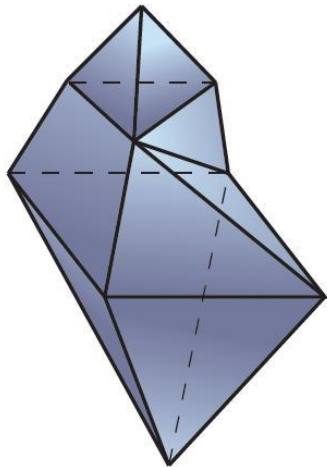
$g=1$



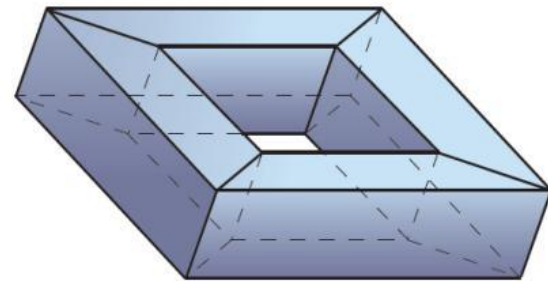
$g=3$

# Euler characteristic

$$\chi = V - E + F$$



$$V - E + F = 2$$



$$V - E + F = 0$$

# Gauss-Bonnet theorem

- For any closed manifold surface with Euler characteristic  $\chi = 2-2g$

$$\int K = 2\pi\chi$$

$$\int K(\text{Hand}) = \int K(\text{Cow}) = \int K(\text{Sphere}) = 4\pi$$

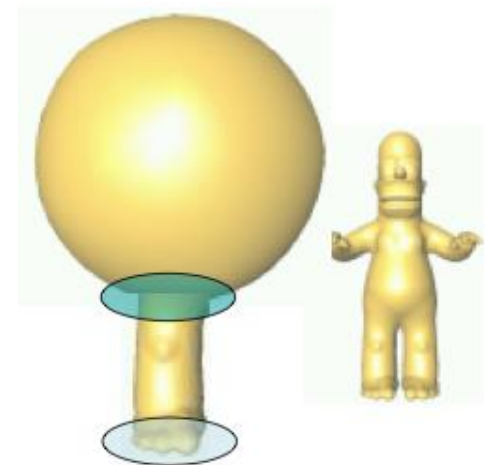
# Gauss-Bonnet theorem

- Sphere

$$\kappa_1 = \kappa_2 = 1/r$$

$$K = \kappa_1 \kappa_2 = 1/r^2$$

$$\int K = 4\pi r^2 \cdot \frac{1}{r^2} = 4\pi$$



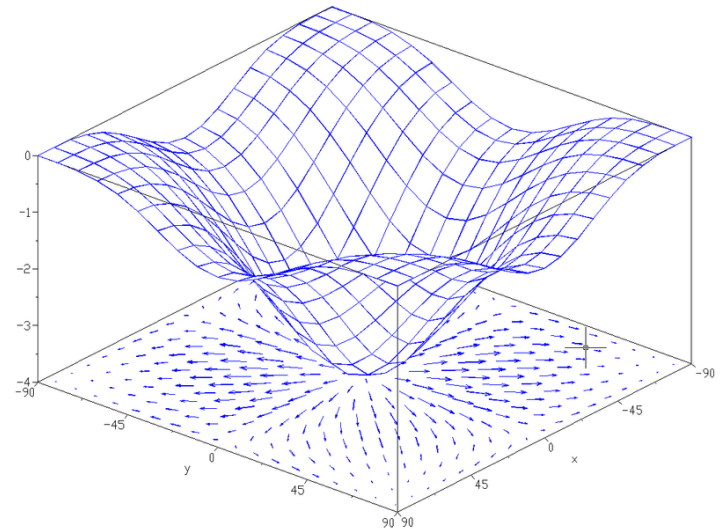
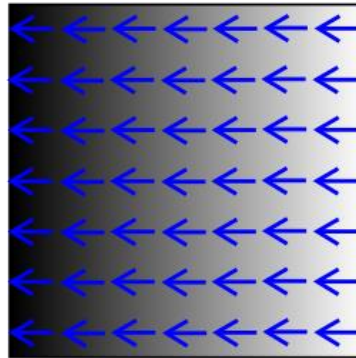
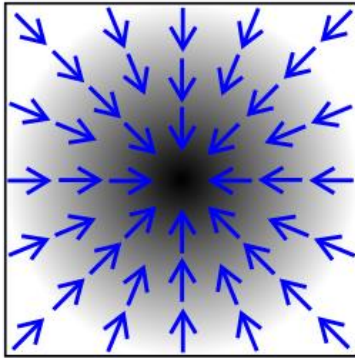
- when sphere is deformed new positive and negative curvature cancel out!

# Differential operators

- Gradient

$$\nabla f := \left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_1}, \dots, \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_n} \right)$$

- points in the direction of steepest ascent



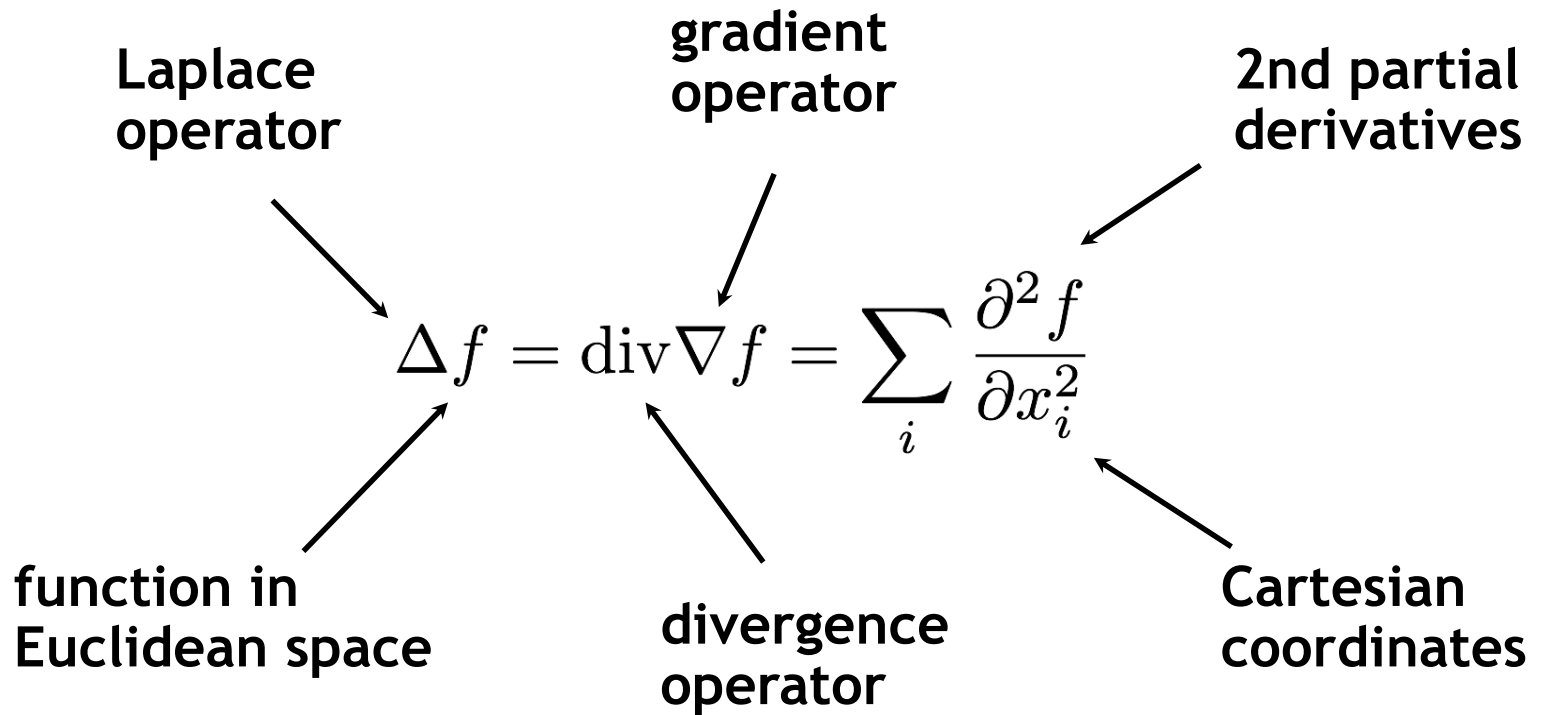


# Differential operators

- Divergence

$$\operatorname{div} F = \nabla \cdot F := \frac{\partial F_1}{\partial x_1} + \dots + \frac{\partial F_n}{\partial x_n}$$

# Laplace operator



# Laplace-Beltrami operator

- Extension of Laplace to functions on manifolds

The diagram illustrates the Laplace-Beltrami operator  $\Delta_S f$  as the composition of the divergence operator  $\text{div}_S$  and the gradient operator  $\nabla_S f$ . The equation  $\Delta_S f = \text{div}_S \nabla_S f$  is centered, with four arrows pointing towards it from the labels: 'Laplace-Beltrami' (top-left), 'gradient operator' (top-right), 'divergence operator' (bottom-right), and 'function on manifold  $S$ ' (bottom-left).

$$\Delta_S f = \text{div}_S \nabla_S f$$

# Laplace-Beltrami operator

- Extension of Laplace to functions on manifolds

The diagram illustrates the Laplace-Beltrami operator equation on a manifold  $\mathcal{S}$ . The central equation is  $\Delta_{\mathcal{S}} \mathbf{x} = \operatorname{div}_{\mathcal{S}} \nabla_{\mathcal{S}} \mathbf{x} = -2H \mathbf{n}$ . Arrows point from descriptive labels to the corresponding parts of the equation: 'Laplace-Beltrami' points to  $\Delta_{\mathcal{S}}$ , 'coordinate function' points to  $\mathbf{x}$ , 'divergence operator' points to  $\operatorname{div}_{\mathcal{S}}$ , 'gradient operator' points to  $\nabla_{\mathcal{S}}$ , 'mean curvature' points to  $H$ , and 'surface normal' points to  $\mathbf{n}$ .

$$\Delta_{\mathcal{S}} \mathbf{x} = \operatorname{div}_{\mathcal{S}} \nabla_{\mathcal{S}} \mathbf{x} = -2H \mathbf{n}$$

Labels and their corresponding parts in the equation:

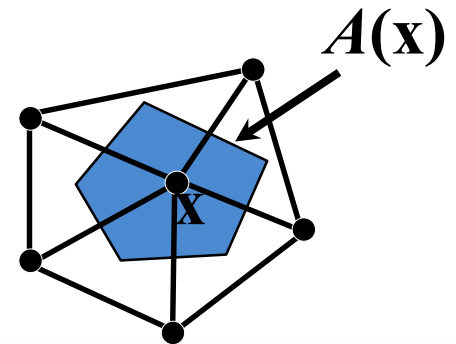
- Laplace-Beltrami:  $\Delta_{\mathcal{S}}$
- coordinate function:  $\mathbf{x}$
- divergence operator:  $\operatorname{div}_{\mathcal{S}}$
- gradient operator:  $\nabla_{\mathcal{S}}$
- mean curvature:  $H$
- surface normal:  $\mathbf{n}$

# Contents

- Differential Geometry
- Discrete Differential Geometry
- Mesh Quality Measures

# Discrete curvatures

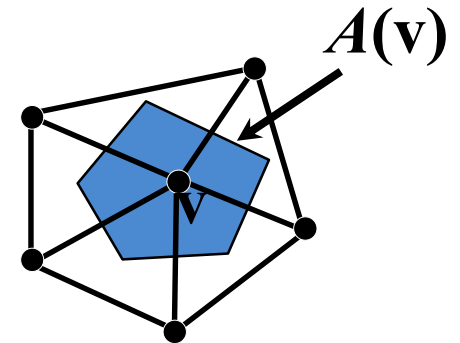
- How to discretize curvatures on a mesh?
- Approximate differential properties at point  $\mathbf{x}$  as average over local neighborhood  $A(\mathbf{x})$ 
  - $\mathbf{x}$  is a mesh vertex
  - $A(\mathbf{x})$  within one-ring neighborhood



# Discrete curvatures

- How to discretize curvatures on a mesh?
- Approximate differential properties at point  $\mathbf{x}$  as average over local neighborhood  $A(\mathbf{x})$

$$K(v) \approx \frac{1}{A(v)} \int_{A(v)} K(\mathbf{x}) \, dA$$



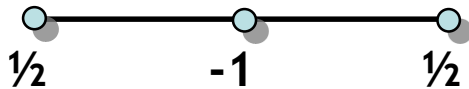
# Discrete curvatures

- Which curvatures to discretize?
  - Discretize Laplace-Beltrami operator
  - Laplace-Beltrami gives us mean curvature  $H$
  - Discretize Gaussian curvature  $K$
  - From  $H$  and  $K$  we can compute  $\kappa_1$  and  $\kappa_2$

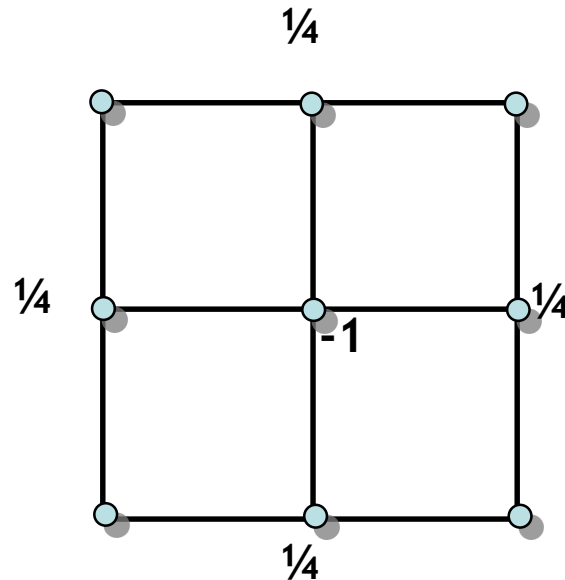


# Laplace operator on mesh?

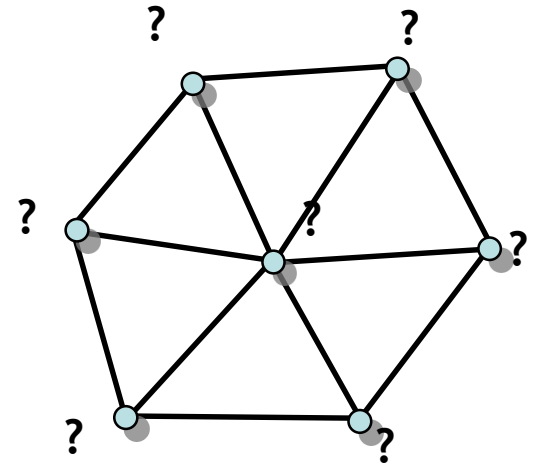
- Extend finite differences to meshes?
  - What weights per vertex / edge?



1D grid



2D grid

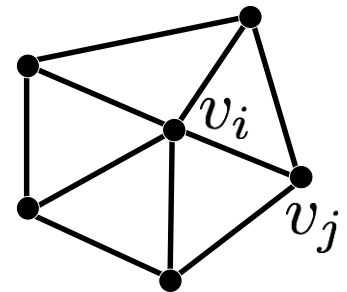


2D/3D mesh

# Uniform Laplace

- Uniform discretization

$$\Delta_{\text{uni}} f(v_i) := \frac{1}{|\mathcal{N}_1(v_i)|} \sum_{v_j \in \mathcal{N}_1(v_i)} (f(v_j) - f(v_i))$$



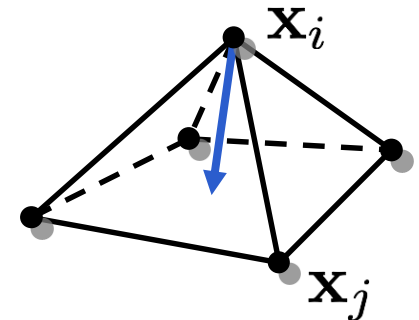
# Uniform Laplace

- Uniform discretization

$$\Delta_{\text{uni}} \mathbf{x}_i := \frac{1}{|\mathcal{N}_1(v_i)|} \sum_{v_j \in \mathcal{N}_1(v_i)} (\mathbf{x}_j - \mathbf{x}_i) \approx -2H \mathbf{n}$$

- Properties

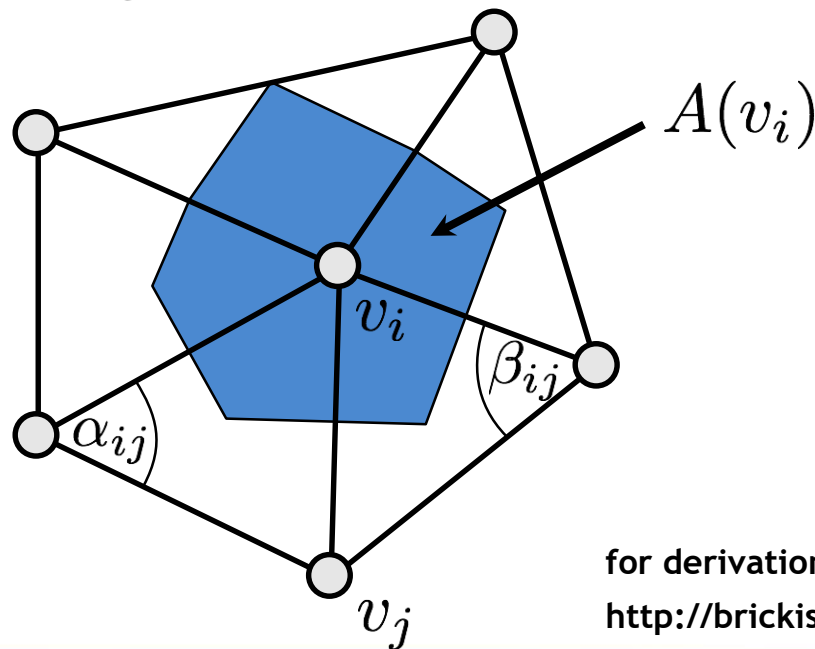
- depends only on connectivity
- simple and efficient
- bad approximation for irregular triangulations



# Discrete Laplace-Beltrami

- Cotangent discretization

$$\Delta_S f(v_i) := \frac{1}{2A(v_i)} \sum_{v_j \in \mathcal{N}_1(v_i)} (\cot \alpha_{ij} + \cot \beta_{ij}) (f(v_j) - f(v_i))$$

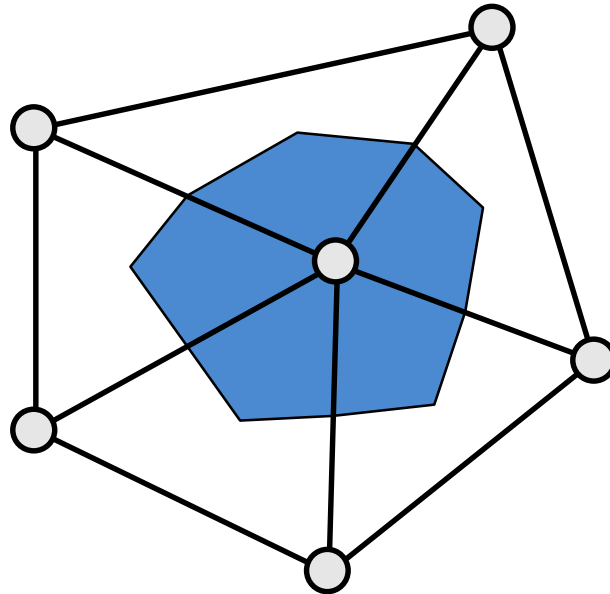


for derivation, check out:

<http://brickisland.net/cs177/>

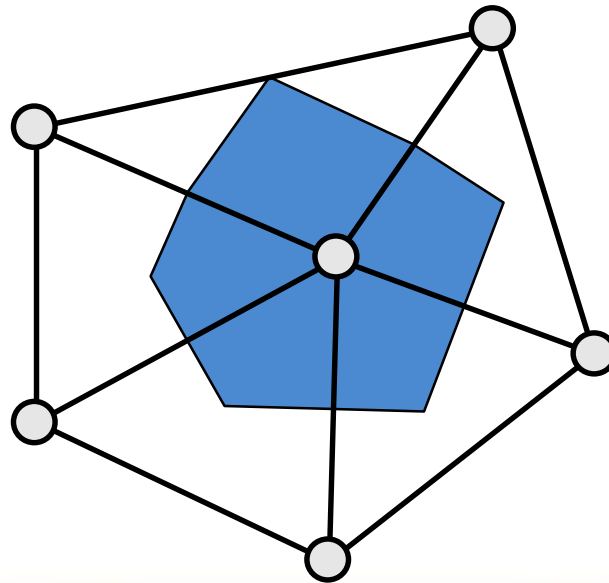
# Barycentric cells

- Connect edge midpoints and triangle barycenters
  - Simple to compute
  - Area is  $1/3$  of triangle areas
  - Slightly wrong for obtuse triangles



# Mixed cells

- Connect edge midpoints and
  - Circumcenters for non-obtuse triangles
  - Midpoint of opposite edge for obtuse triangles
  - Better approximation, more complex to compute...



# Discrete Laplace-Beltrami

- Cotangent discretization

$$\Delta_{\mathcal{S}} f(v) := \frac{1}{2A(v)} \sum_{v_i \in \mathcal{N}_1(v)} (\cot \alpha_i + \cot \beta_i) (f(v_i) - f(v))$$

- Problems
  - weights can become negative (when?)
  - depends on triangulation
- Still the most widely used discretization

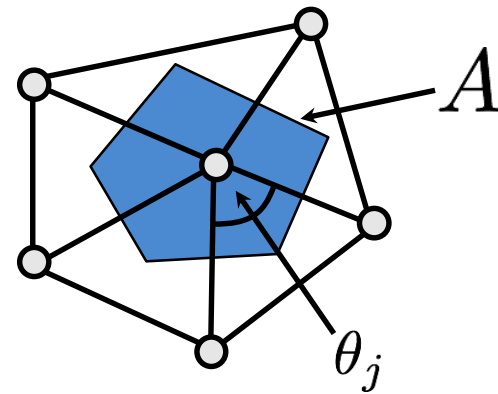
# Discrete curvatures

- Mean curvature (absolute value)

$$H = \frac{1}{2} \|\Delta_S \mathbf{x}\|$$

- Gaussian curvature

$$K = (2\pi - \sum_j \theta_j) / A$$



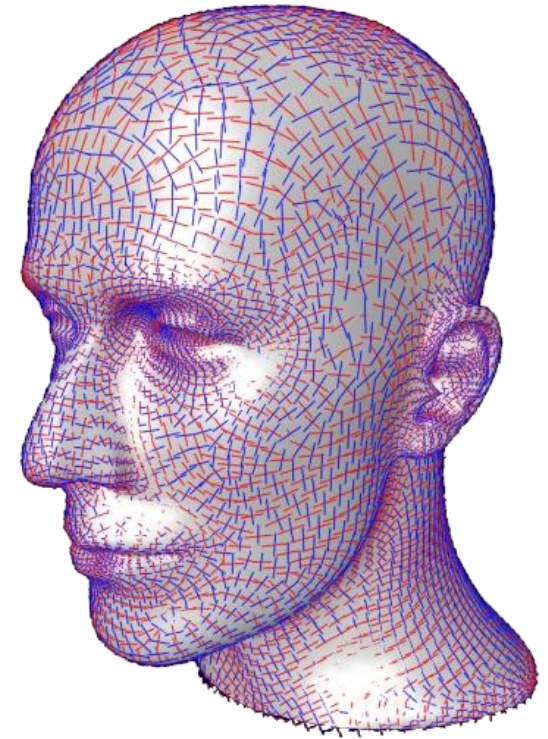
- Principal curvatures

$$\kappa_1 = H + \sqrt{H^2 - K}$$

$$\kappa_2 = H - \sqrt{H^2 - K}$$



- P. Alliez: *Estimating Curvature Tensors on Triangle Meshes* (source code)
  - <http://www-sop.inria.fr/geometrica/team/Pierre.Alliez/demos/curvature/>
- CGAL package



principal directions

# Contents

- Differential Geometry
- Discrete Differential Geometry
- Mesh Quality Measures

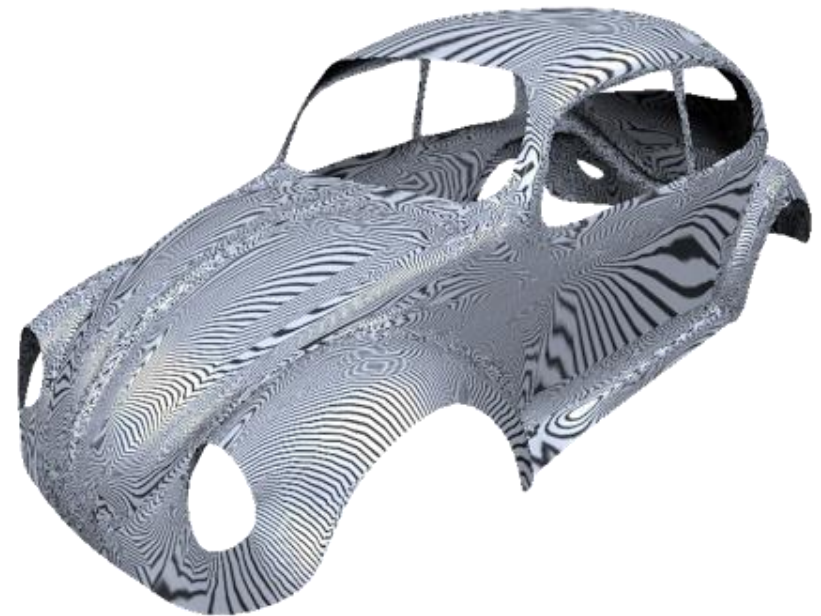
## Mesh quality

- Visual inspection of “sensitive” attributes
  - Specular shading



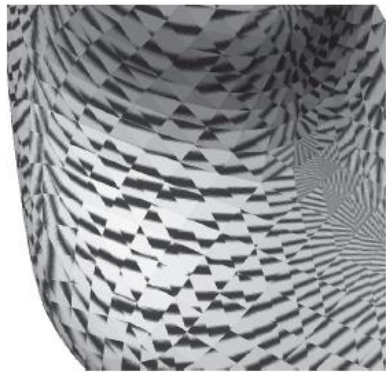
# Mesh quality

- Visual inspection of “sensitive” attributes
  - Specular shading
  - Reflection lines



# Mesh quality

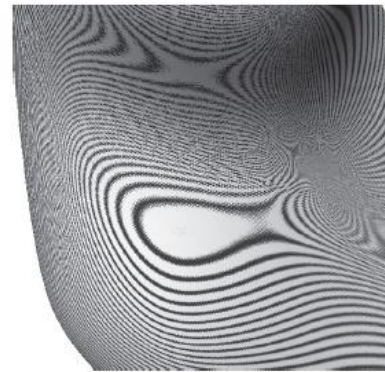
- Visual inspection of “sensitive” attributes
  - Specular shading
  - Reflection lines
    - differentiability one order lower than surface
    - can be efficiently computed using graphics hardware



$C^0$



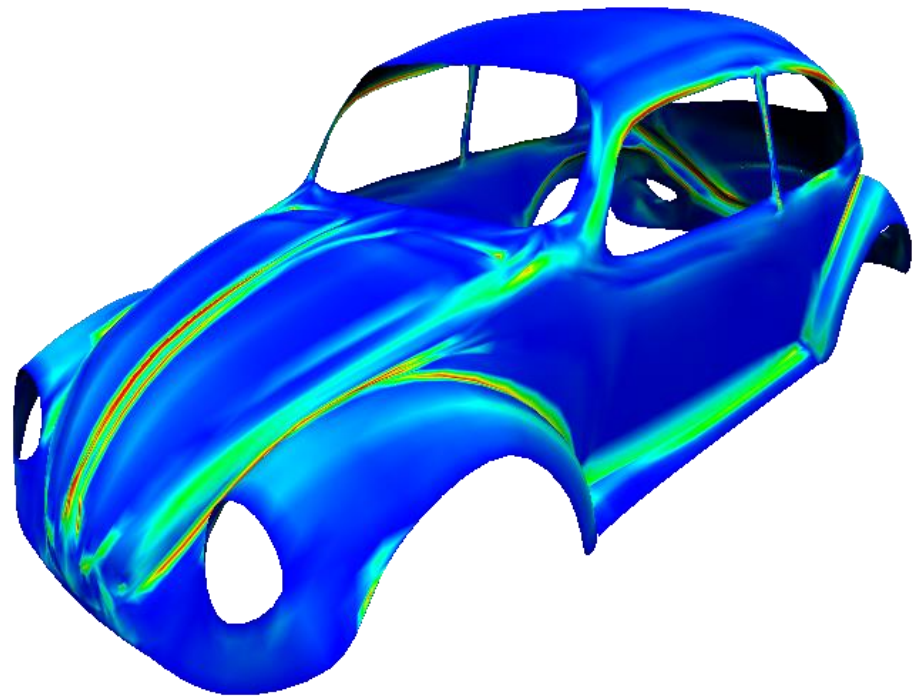
$C^1$



$C^2$

# Mesh quality

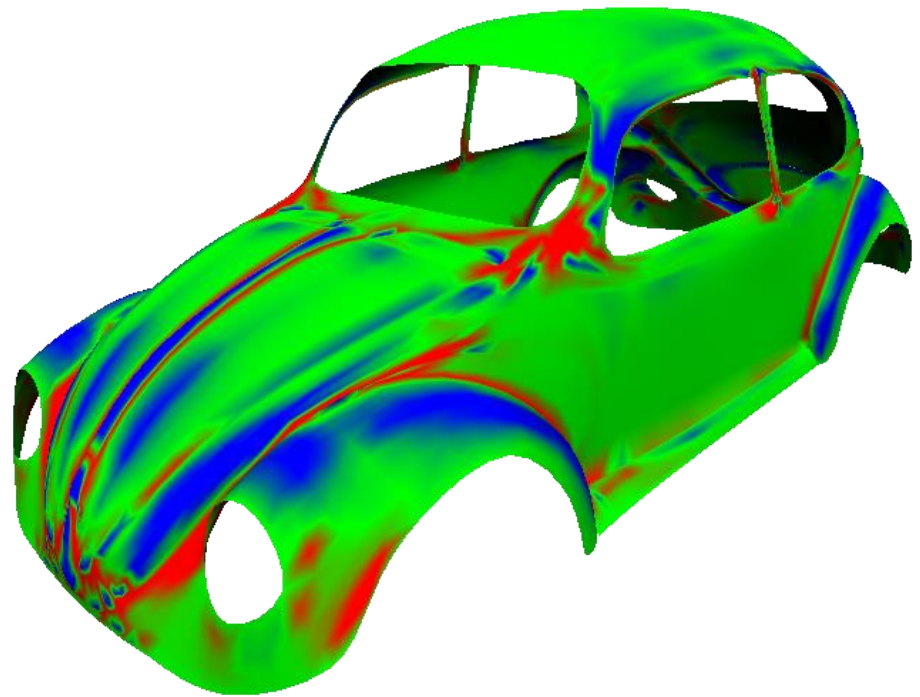
- Visual inspection of “sensitive” attributes
  - Specular shading
  - Reflection lines
  - Curvature
    - Mean curvature





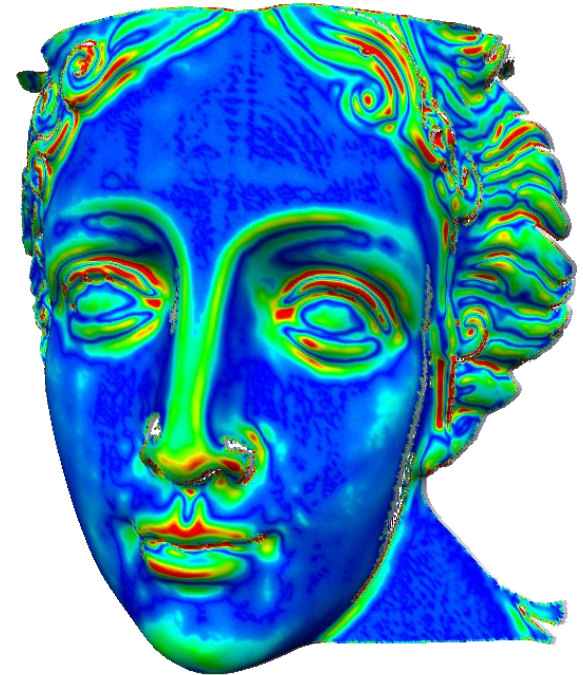
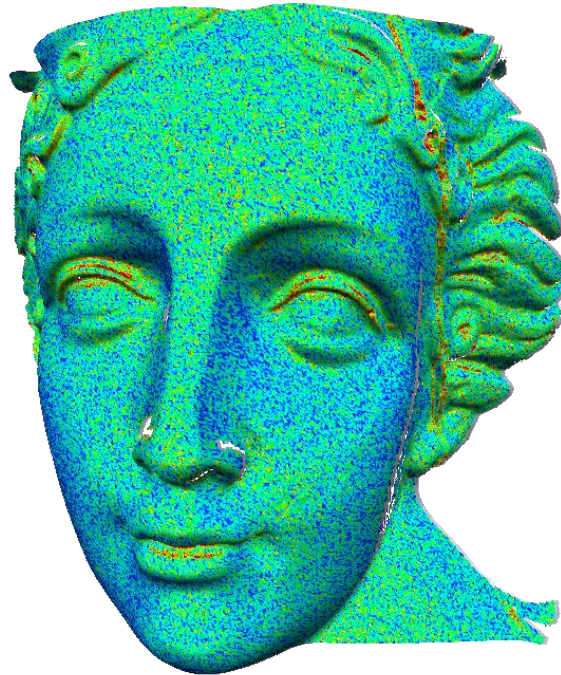
# Mesh quality

- Visual inspection of “sensitive” attributes
  - Specular shading
  - Reflection lines
  - Curvature
    - Mean curvature
    - Gauss curvature



# Mesh quality criteria

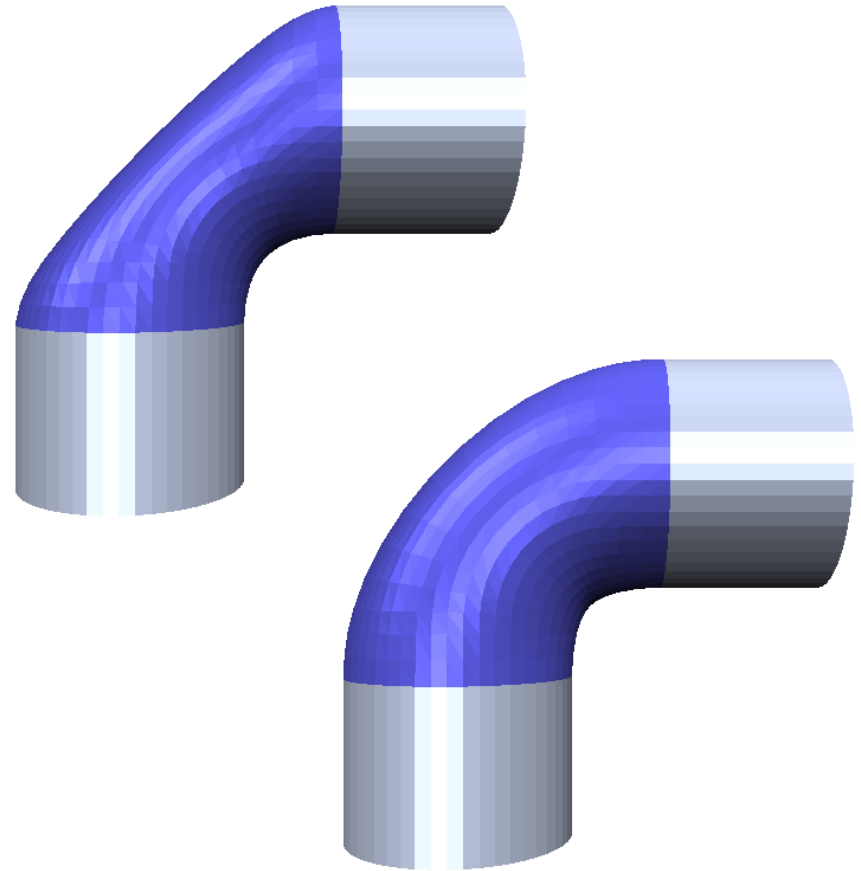
- Smoothness
  - Low geometric noise





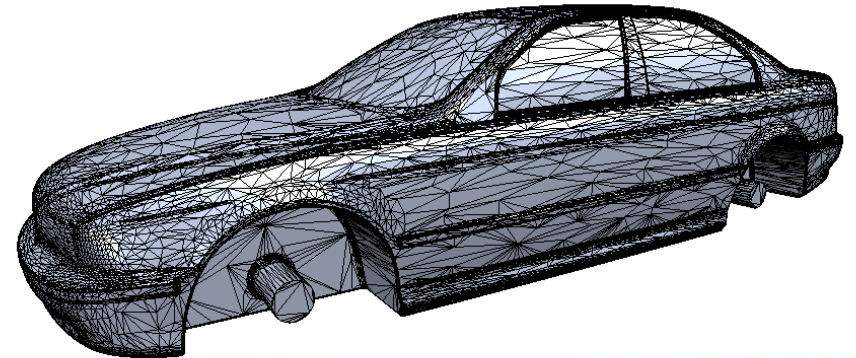
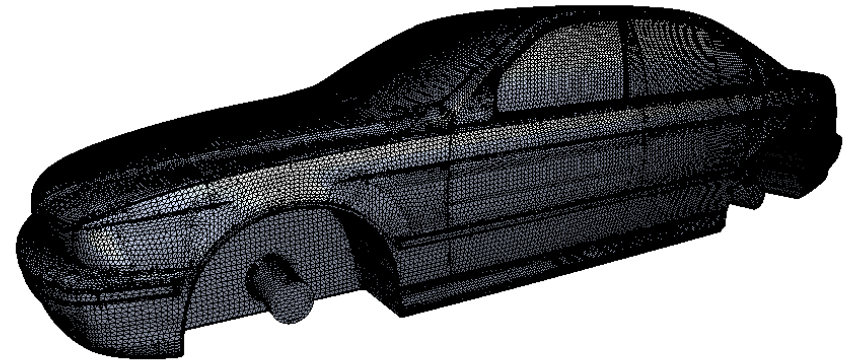
# Mesh quality criteria

- Smoothness
  - Low geometric noise
- Fairness
  - Simplest shape



# Mesh quality criteria

- Smoothness
  - Low geometric noise
- Fairness
  - Simplest shape
- Adaptive tessellation
  - Low complexity



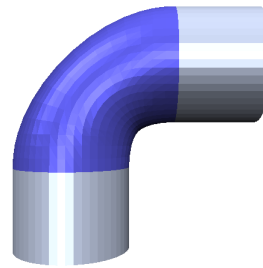
# Mesh quality criteria

- Smoothness
  - Low geometric noise
- Fairness
  - Simplest shape
- Adaptive tessellation
  - Low complexity
- Triangle shape
  - Numerical robustness

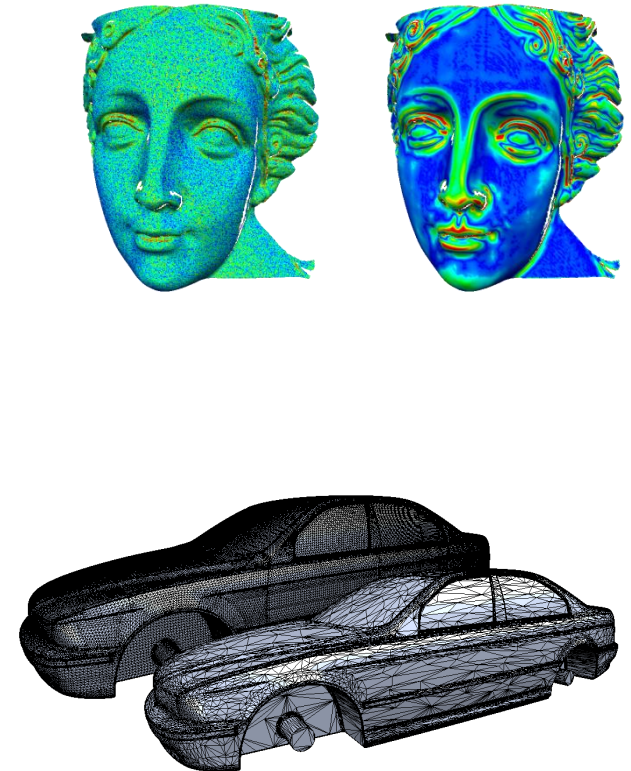


# Mesh quality criteria

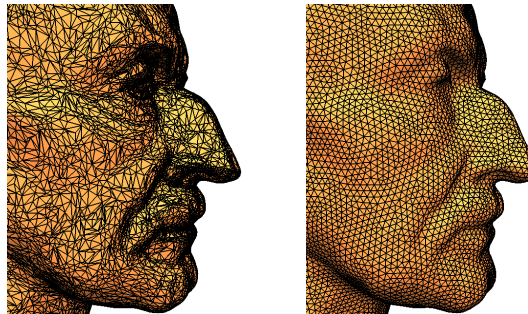
- Smoothness  
→ Smoothing



- Fairness  
→ Fairing



- Adaptive tessellation  
→ Decimation



- Triangle shape  
→ Remeshing