



# Surface Triangulation and Voronoi Regions

CS334  
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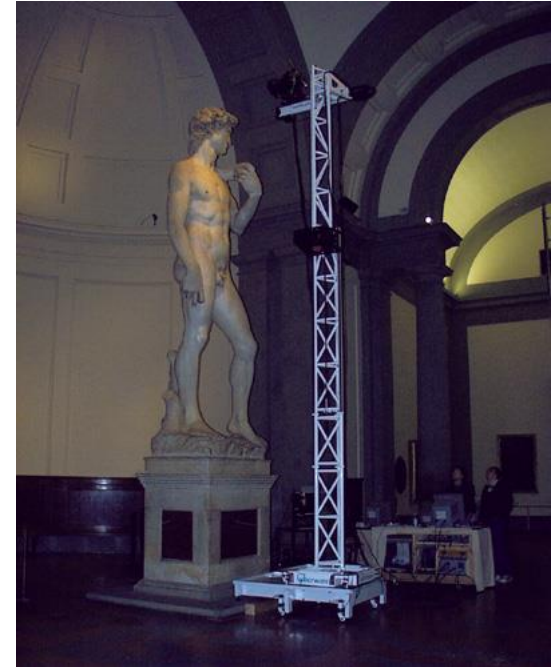
[Slides with help from Michael Kazhdan @ JHU,  
Ioannis Stamos @ CUNY, and  
Prof. Shmuel Wimer and Andy Mirzaian]



# Motivation

- Time of flight
- Structured light
- Stereo images
- Shape from shading
- Etc.

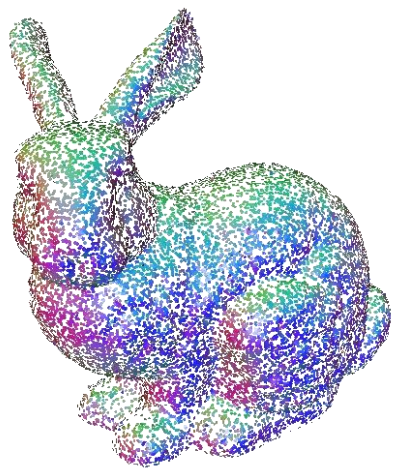
■ <http://graphics.stanford.edu/projects/mich/>



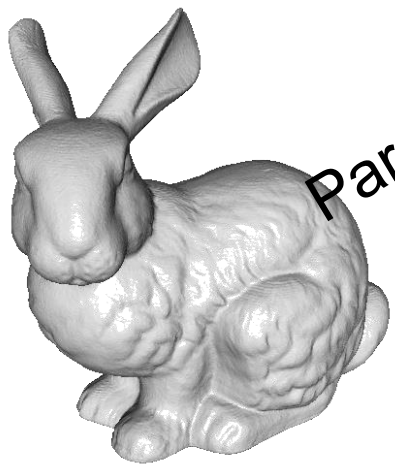


# Motivation

*Surface reconstruction*



*Geometry processing*

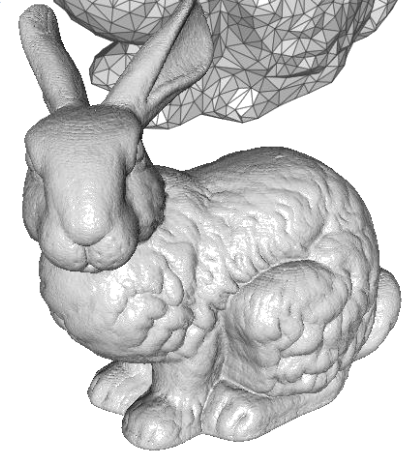
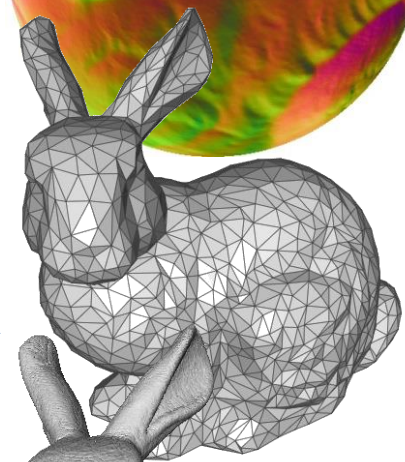
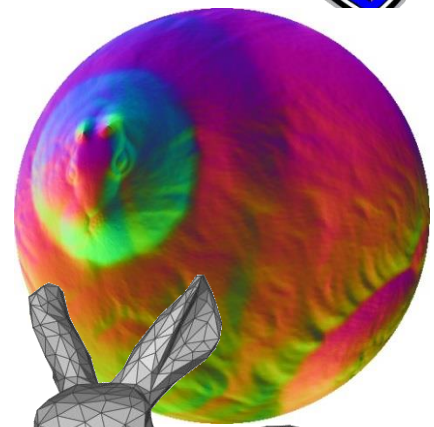


*Parameterization*

*Decimation*

*Filtering*

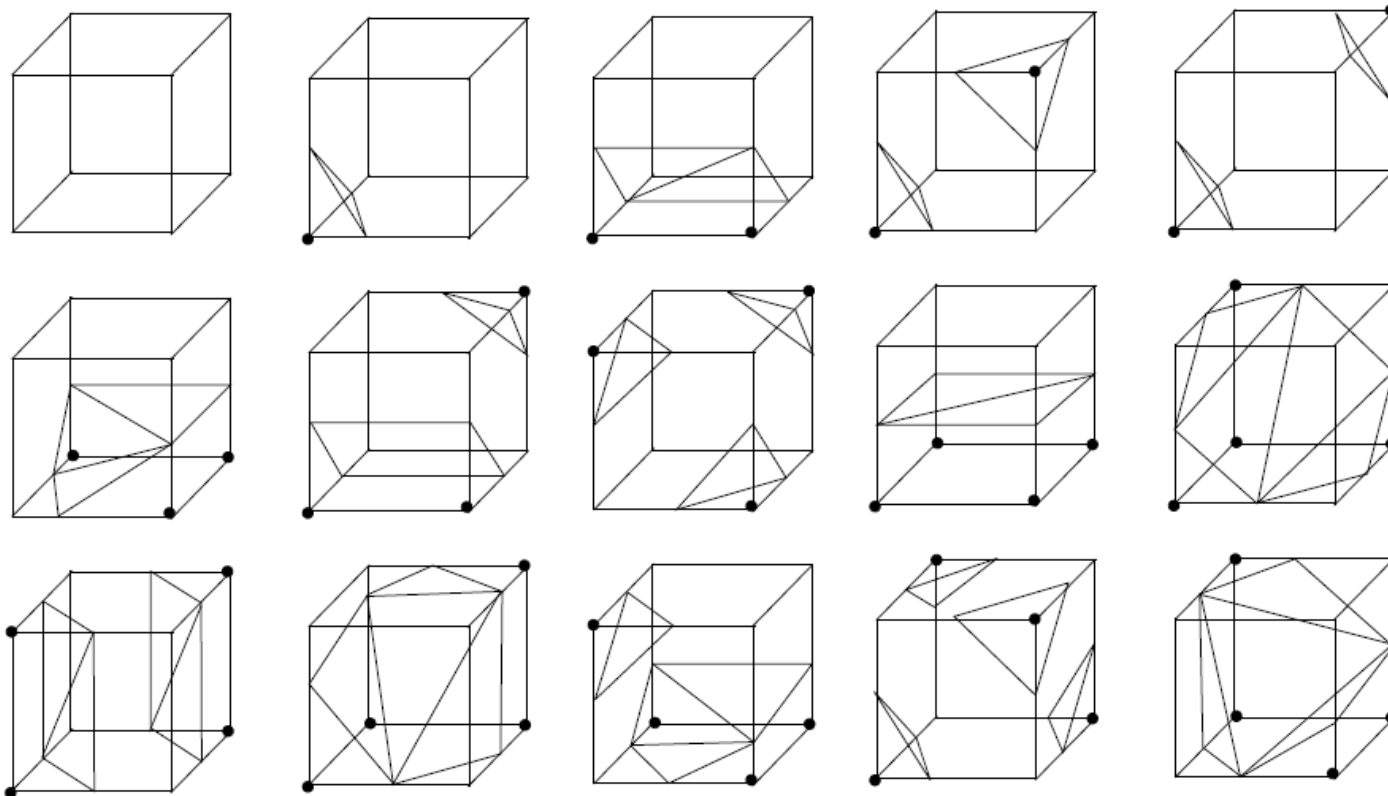
etc.





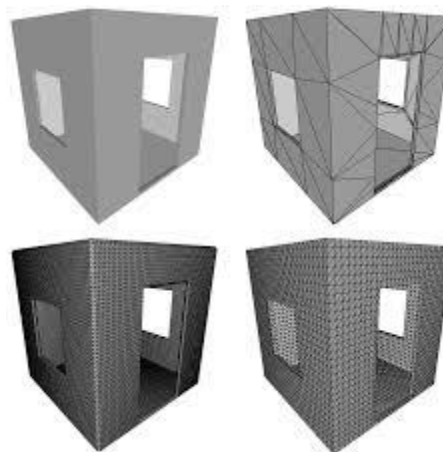
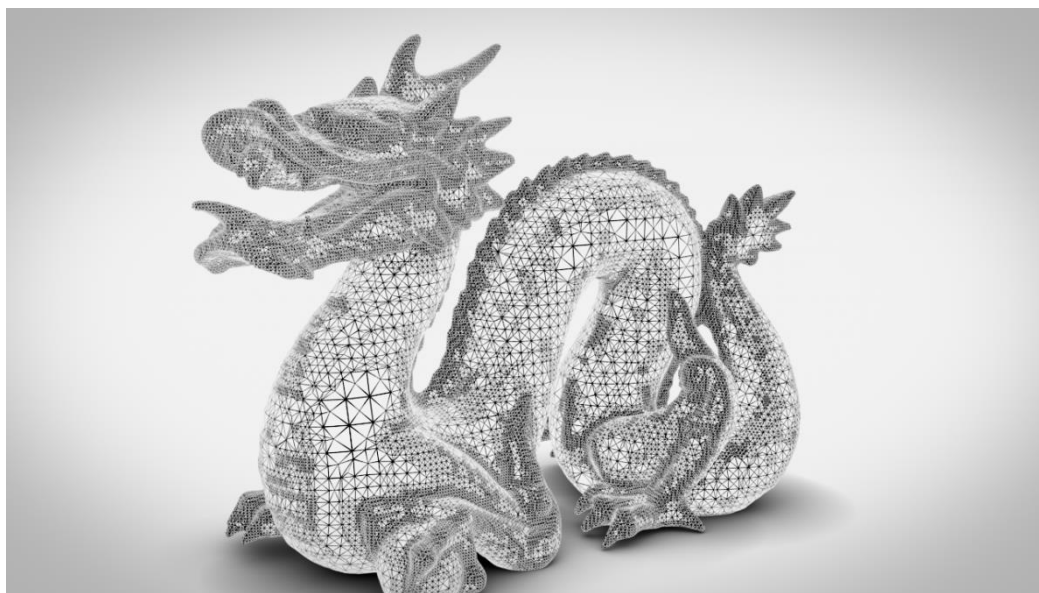
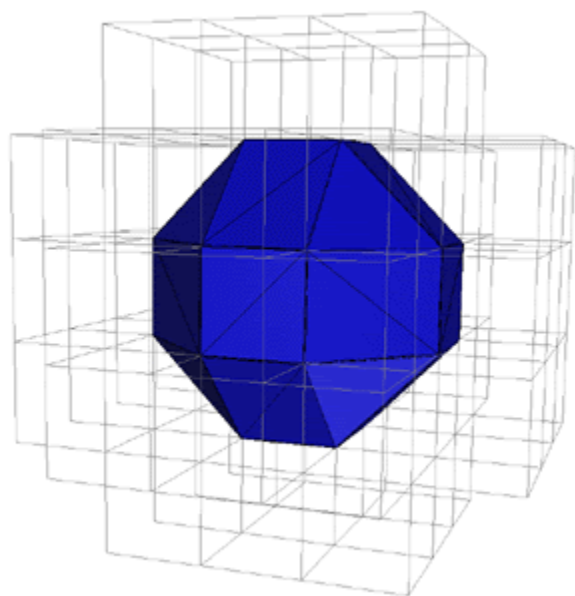
# Marching Cubes

If the function is sampled on a regular voxel grid, we can independently triangulate each voxel.





# Marching Cubes

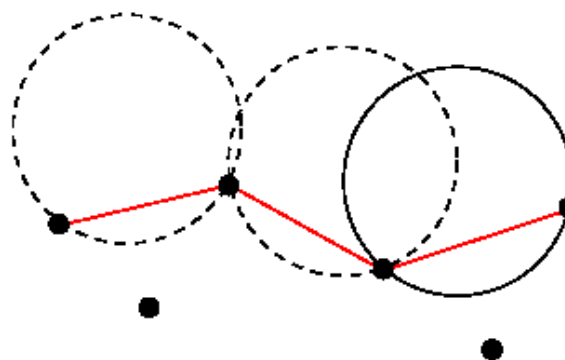




# Ball-pivoting



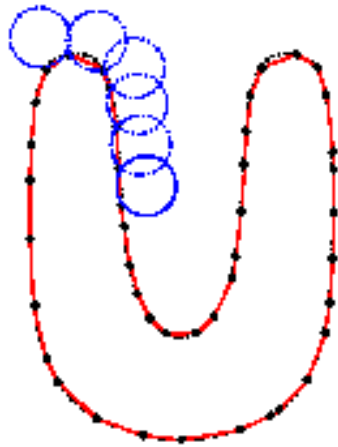
Bernardini et al., IBM



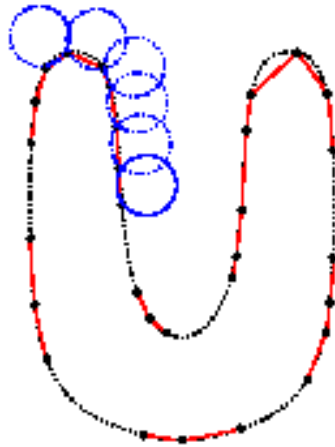
Fixed-radius ball “rolling”  
over points selects subset of  
alpha-shape.



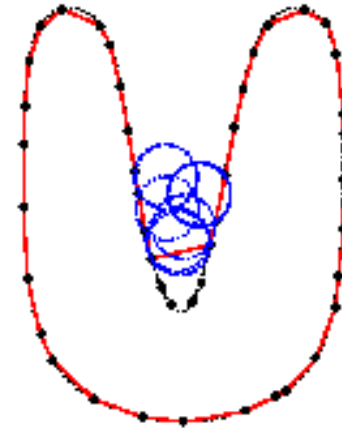
# Pivoting in 2D



(a)



(b)



(c)

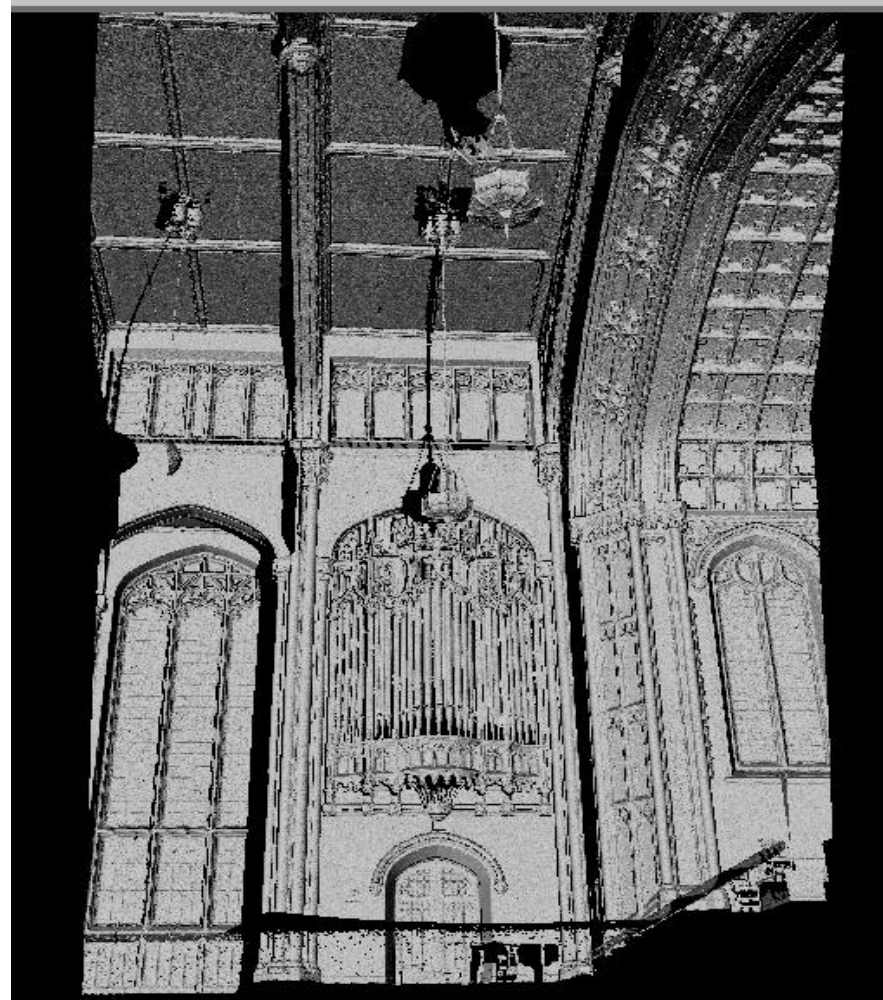
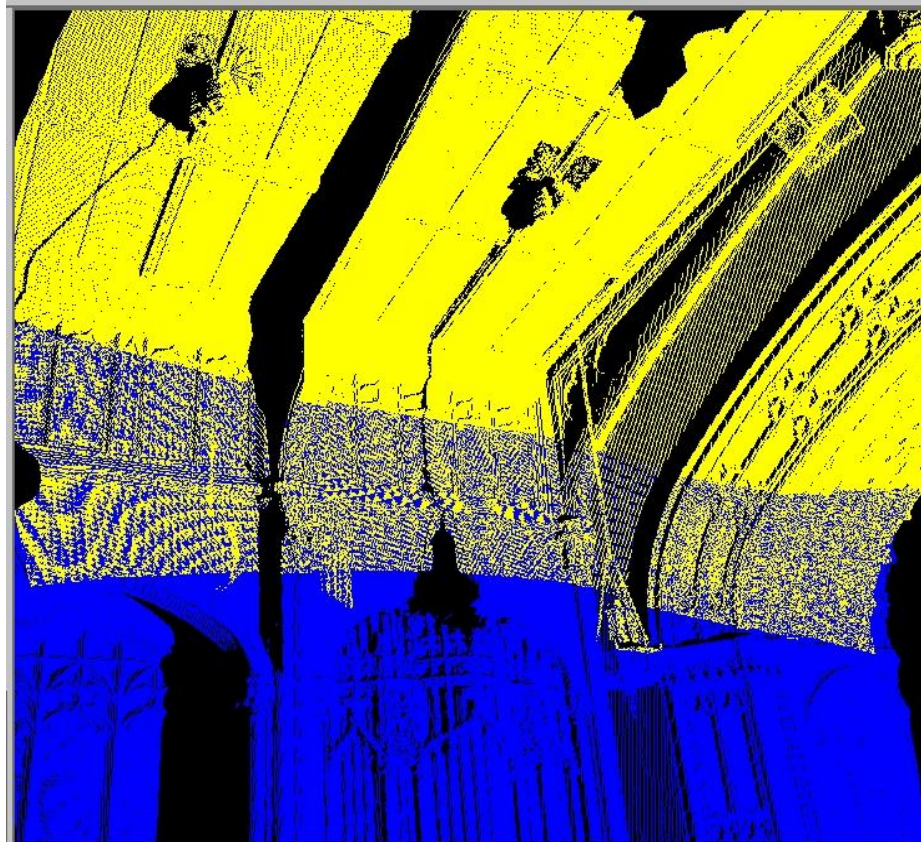
(a) Circle of radius  $\rho$  pivots from point to point, connecting them with edges.

(b) When sampling density is low, some of the edges will not be created, leaving holes.

■ (c) When the curvature of the manifold is larger than  $1/\rho$ , some of the points will not be reached by the pivoting ball, and features will be missed.



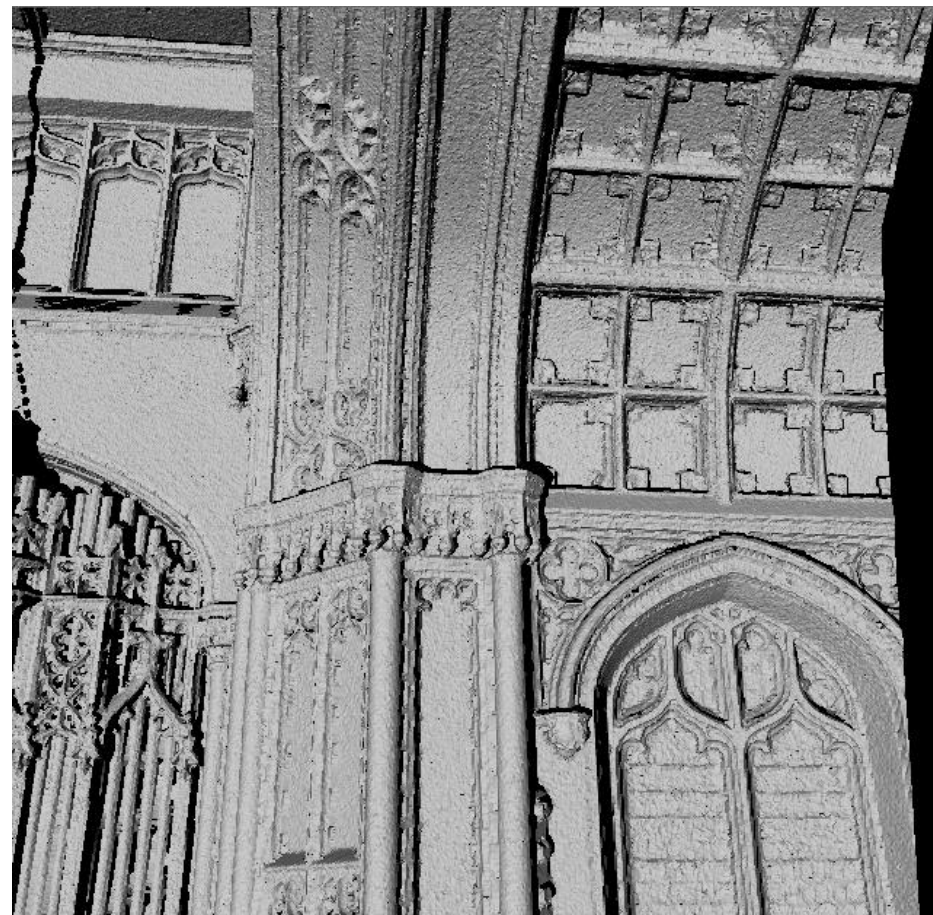
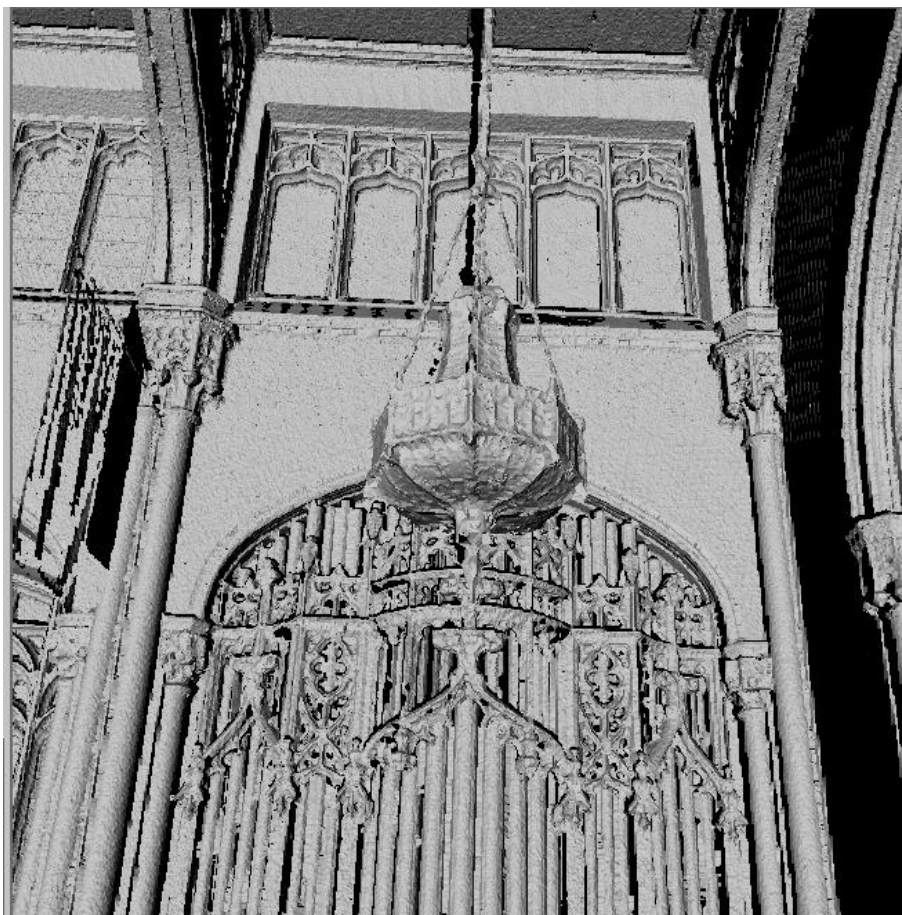
# Ball Pivoting Algorithm







# Ball Pivoting Algorithm

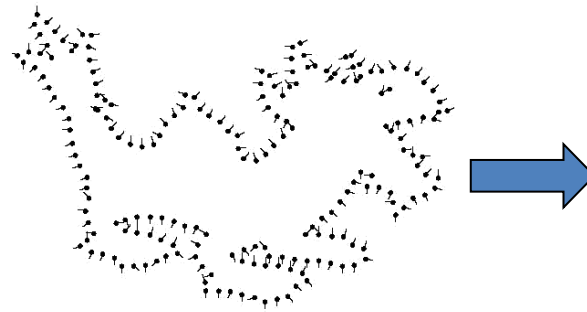




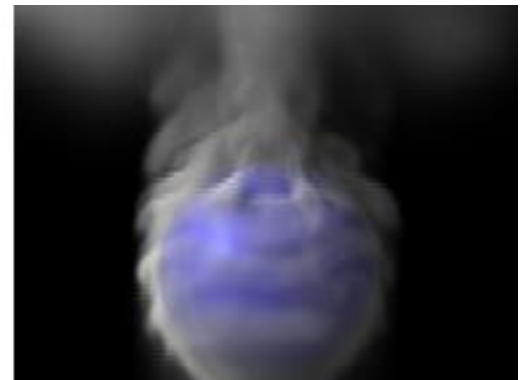
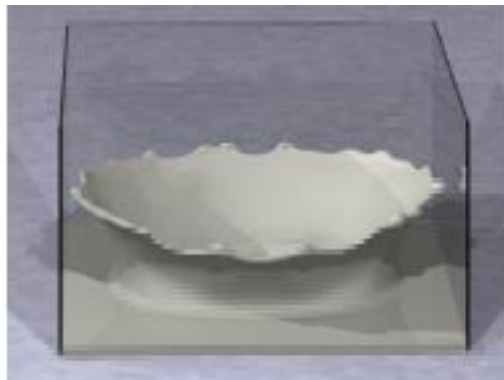
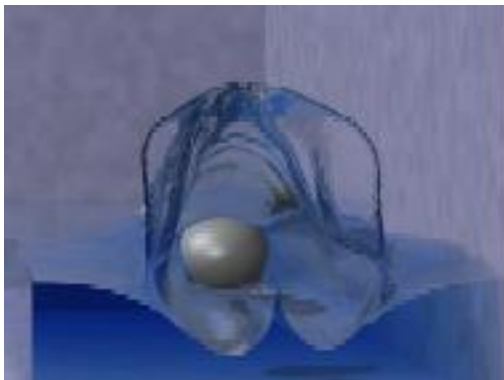
# Implicit Representation

Another option is representing a 3D model by an implicit function for:

- Reconstruction
- Fluid Dynamics
- 3D Texturing



■ Kazhdan 2005



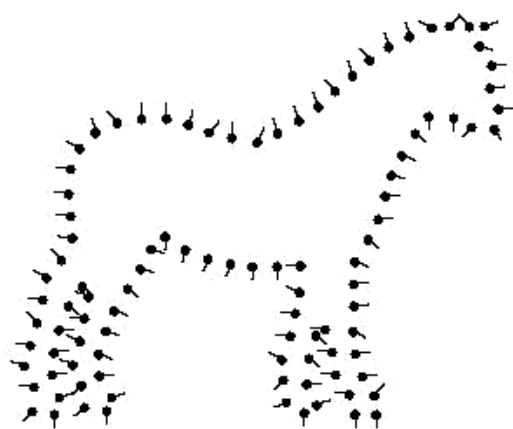
■ Losasso et al. 2004



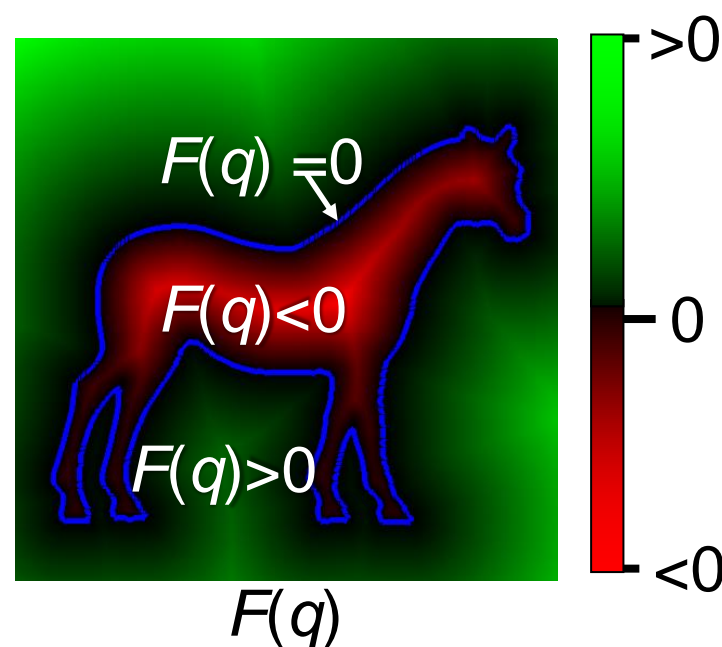
# Implicit Function Fitting

Given point samples:

- Define a function with value zero at the points.
- Extract the zero isosurface.



Sample points



# Triangulation Complexity (in general)



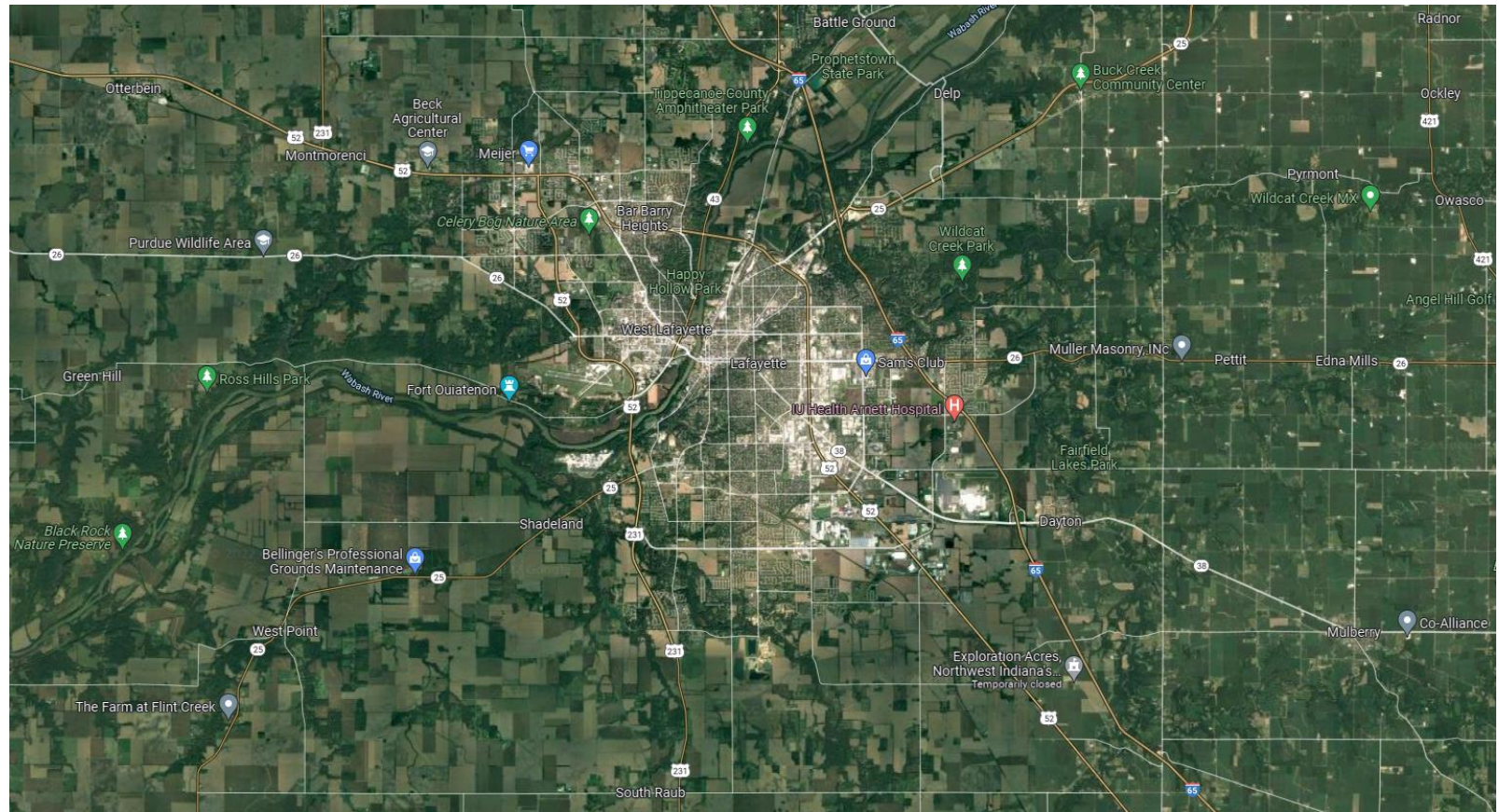
- Theorem: (Gary et. al. 1978) A simple  $n$ -vertex polygon can be triangulated in  $O(n \log n)$  time and  $O(n)$  storage
- The problem has been studied extensively between 1978 and 1991, when in 1991 Chazelle presented an  $O(n)$  time complexity algorithm.



# Delaunay Triangulation

- Another very popular algorithm...
- But first, Voronoi Diagrams...
- Relevant Conversation:
  - Captain Kirk: “Spock! Which tricorder tower (i.e., cell phone) should I be using?”
  - Commander Spock: “Logically, the closest one, Jim.”
- How do you do that?

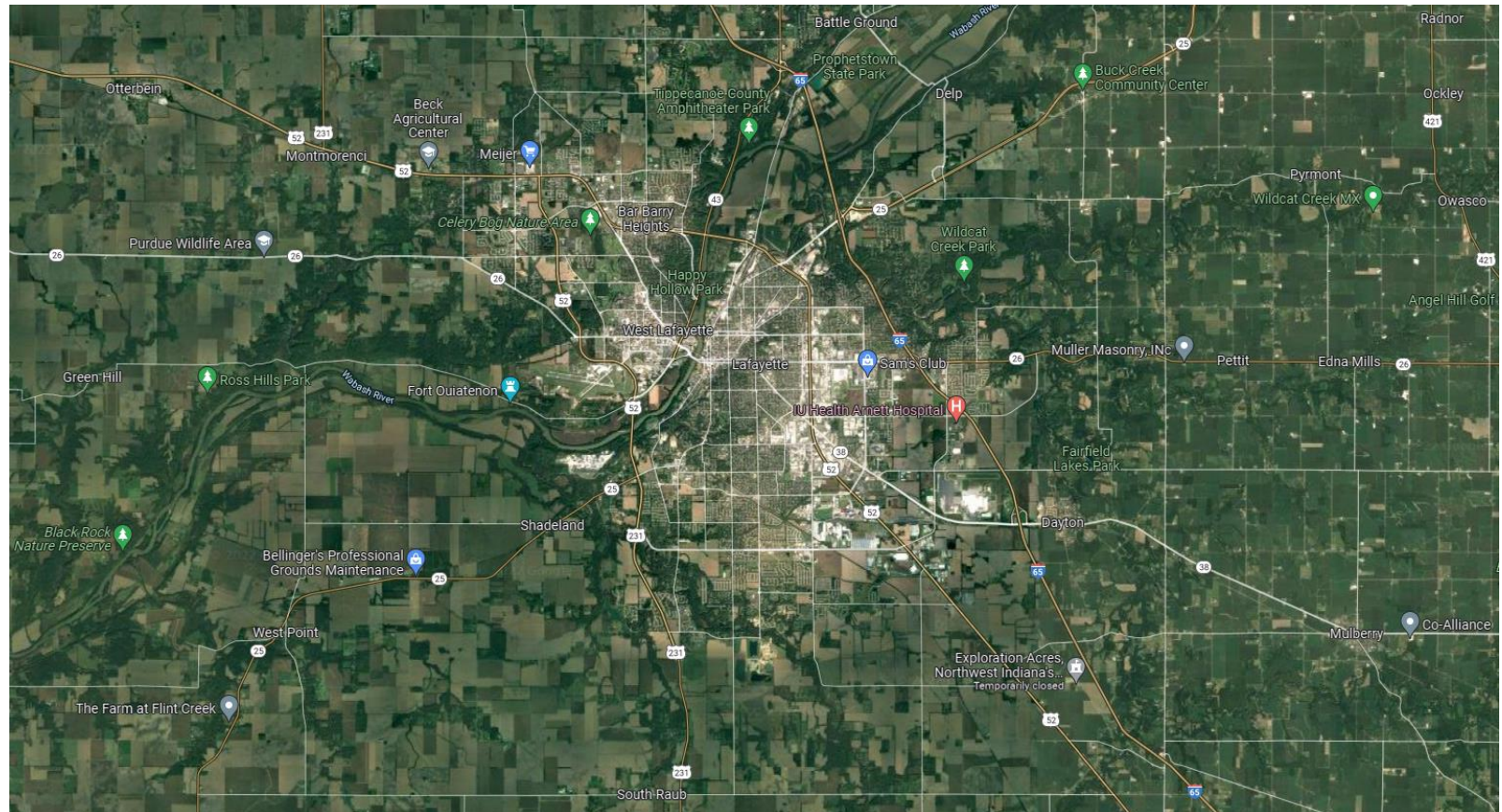
# Where to place cell phone towers? or Which cell phone tower should I use?

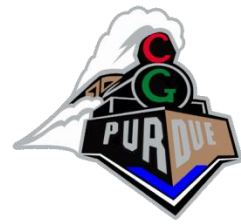




# Cell phone towers

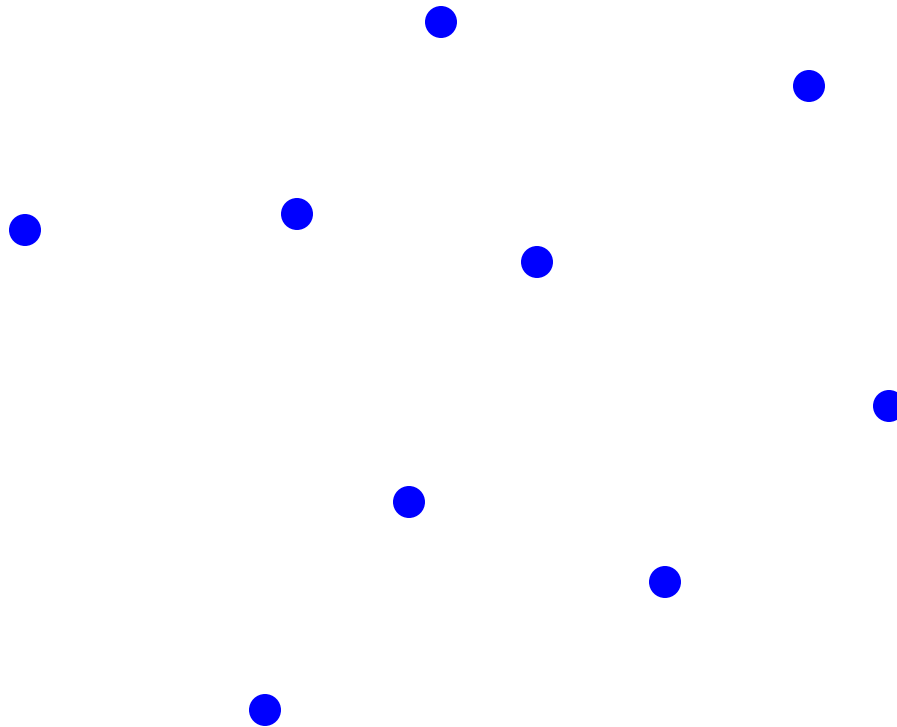
$P = \{ p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n \}$  a set of  $n$  points in the plane.





# Voronoi Diagram

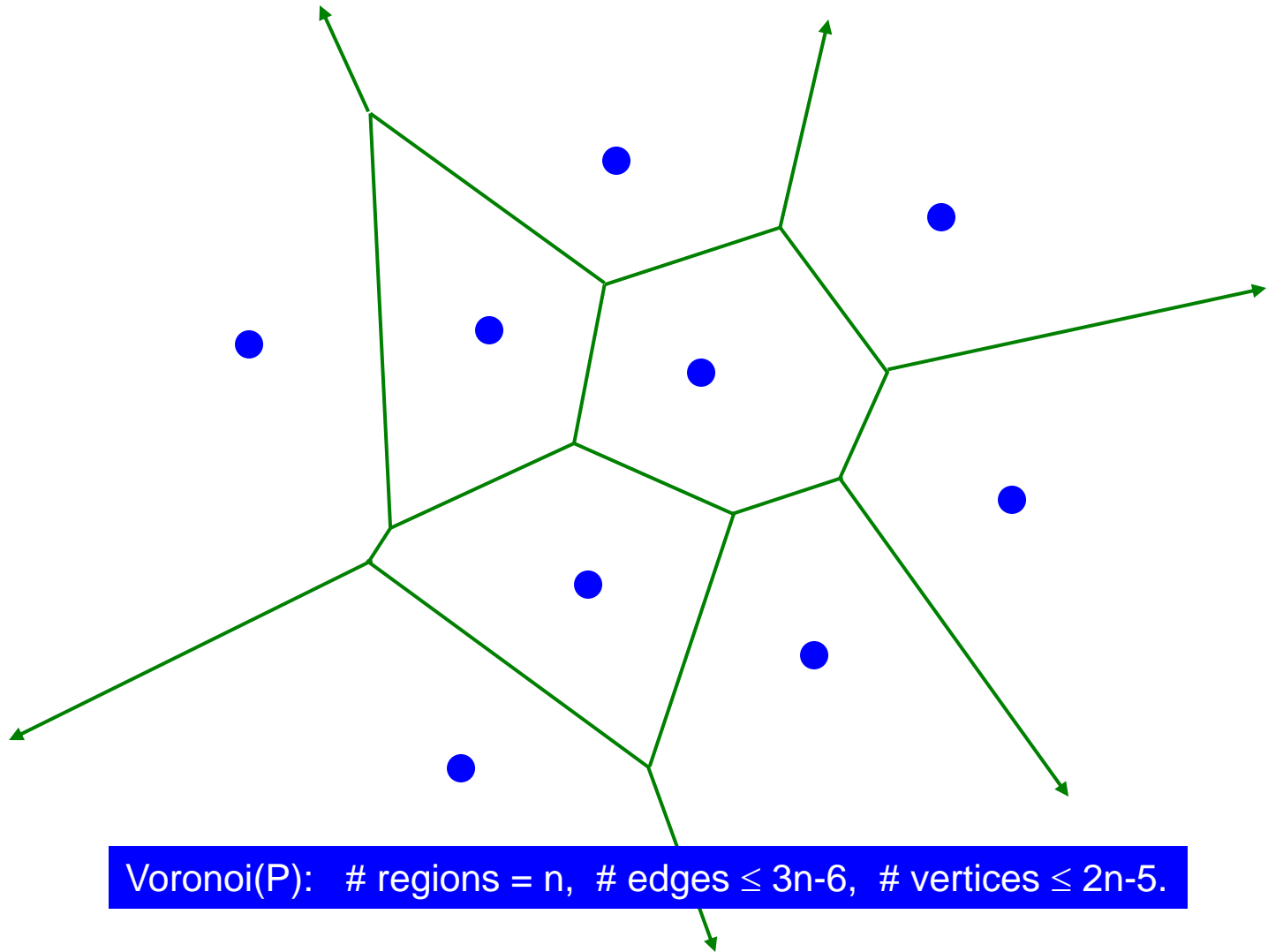
$P = \{ p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n \}$  a set of  $n$  points in the plane.





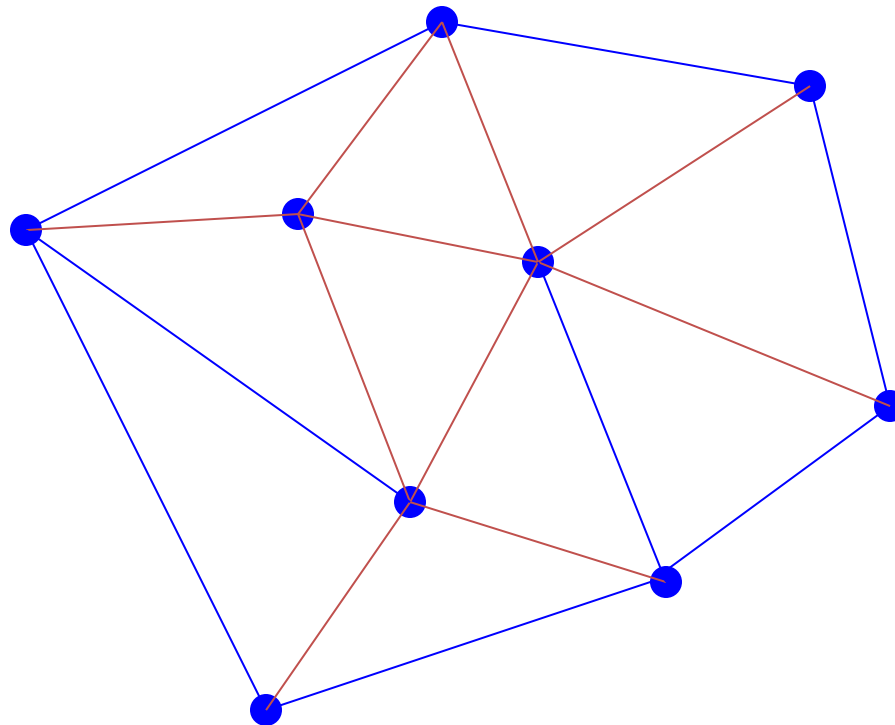


# Voronoi Diagram:



Voronoi(P): # regions = n, # edges  $\leq 3n-6$ , # vertices  $\leq 2n-5$ .

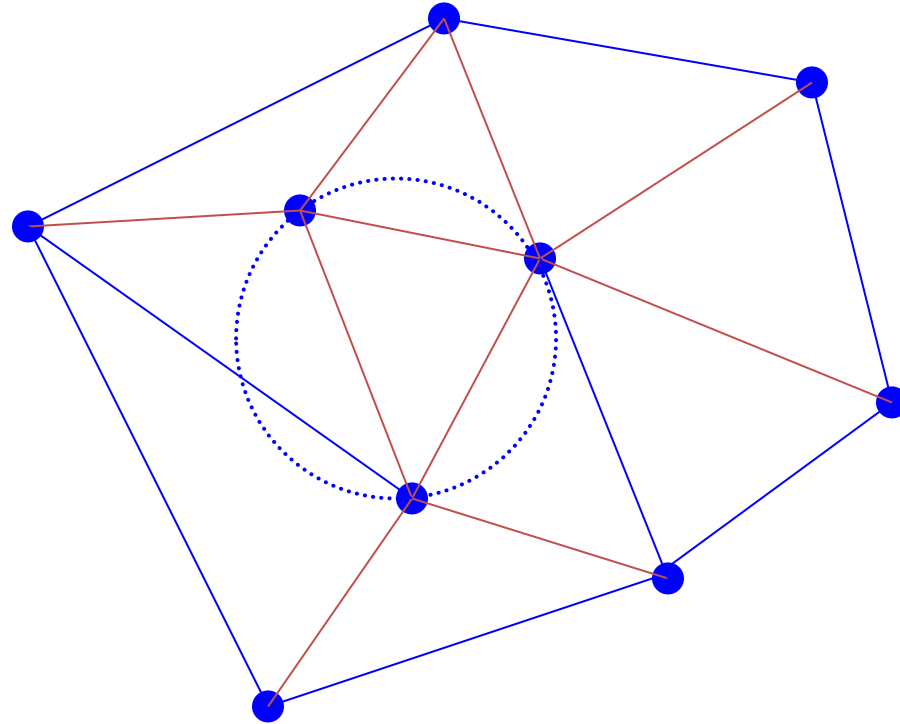
# Delaunay Triangulation = Dual of the Voronoi Diagram



DT(P): # vertices =  $n$ , # edges  $\leq 3n-6$ , # triangles  $\leq 2n-5$ .

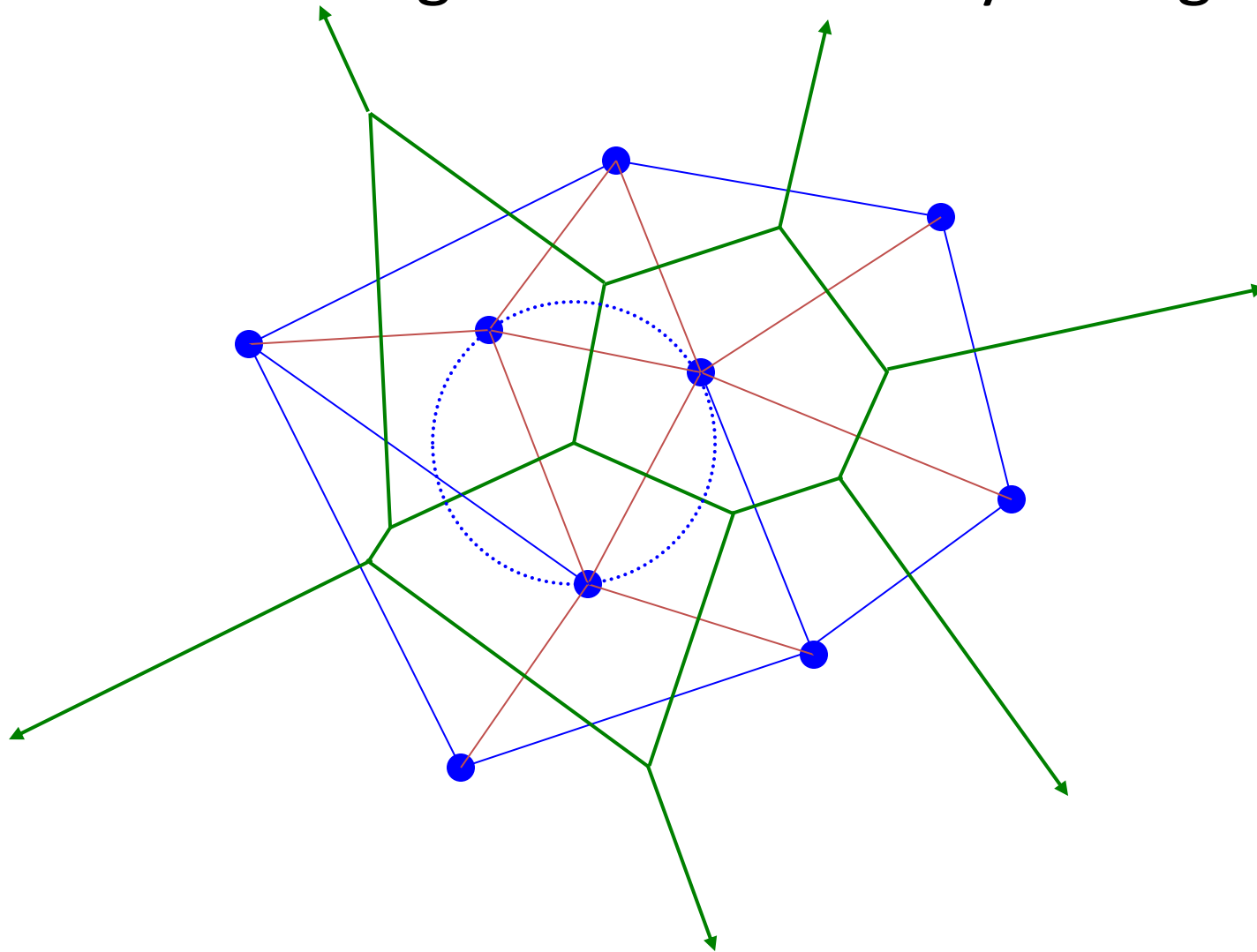


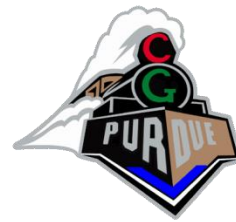
# Delaunay Triangulation



Delaunay triangles have the “empty circle” property.

# Voronoi Diagram and Delaunay Triangulation





# VD Properties

- Each Voronoi region  $V(p_i)$  is a convex polygon (possibly unbounded).
- $V(p_i)$  is unbounded  $\Leftrightarrow p_i$  is on the boundary of  $\text{CH}(P)$ .
- Consider a Voronoi vertex  $v = V(p_i) \cap V(p_j) \cap V(p_k)$ .  
Let  $C(v)$  = the circle centered at  $v$  passing through  $p_i, p_j, p_k$ .
- $C(v)$  is circumcircle of Delaunay Triangle  $(p_i, p_j, p_k)$ .
- $C(v)$  is an empty circle, i.e., its interior contains no other sites of  $P$ .

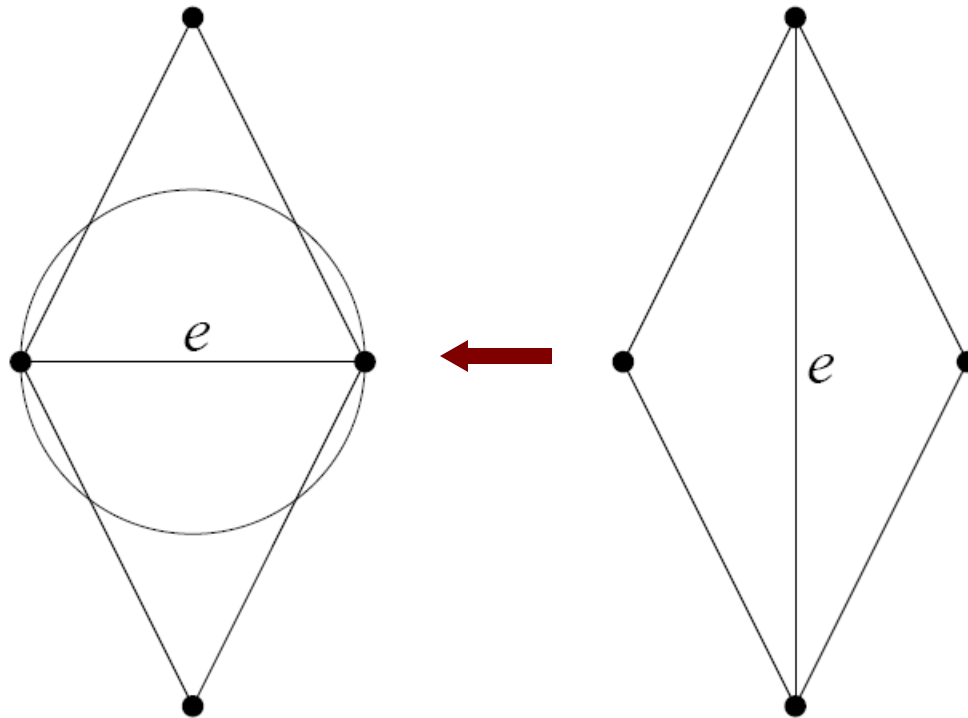
# Computing Delaunay Triangulation



- Many algorithms:  $O(n \log n)$
- Lets use flipping:
  - Recall: A *Delaunay Triangulation* is a set of triangles  $T$  in which each edge of  $T$  possesses at least one empty circumcircle.
  - Empty: A circumcircle is said to be empty if it contains no nodes of the set  $V$



# What is a flip?



A non-Delaunay edge flipped



# Flip Algorithm

- ??





# Flip Algorithm

1. Let  $V$  be the set of input vertices.
2.  $T =$  Any Triangulation of  $V$ .
3. Repeat until all edges of  $T$  are Delaunay edges.
  - a. Find a non-delaunay edge that is flippable
  - b. Flip

Naïve Complexity:  $O(n^2)$

# Locally Delaunay $\rightarrow$ Globally Delaunay



- If  $T$  is a triangulation with all its edges locally Delaunay, then  $T$  is the Delaunay triangulation.
- Proof by contradiction:
  - Let all edges of  $T$  be locally Delaunay but an edge of  $T$  is not Delaunay, so flip it...



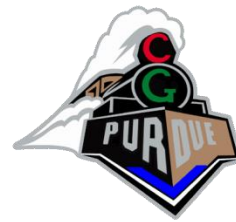
# Flipping

- Other flipping ideas?



# Randomized Incremental Flipping

- Complexity can be  $O(n \log n)$



# Fortune's Algorithm

- “A sweepline algorithm for Voronoi “Algorithms”, 1987,  $O(n \log n)$

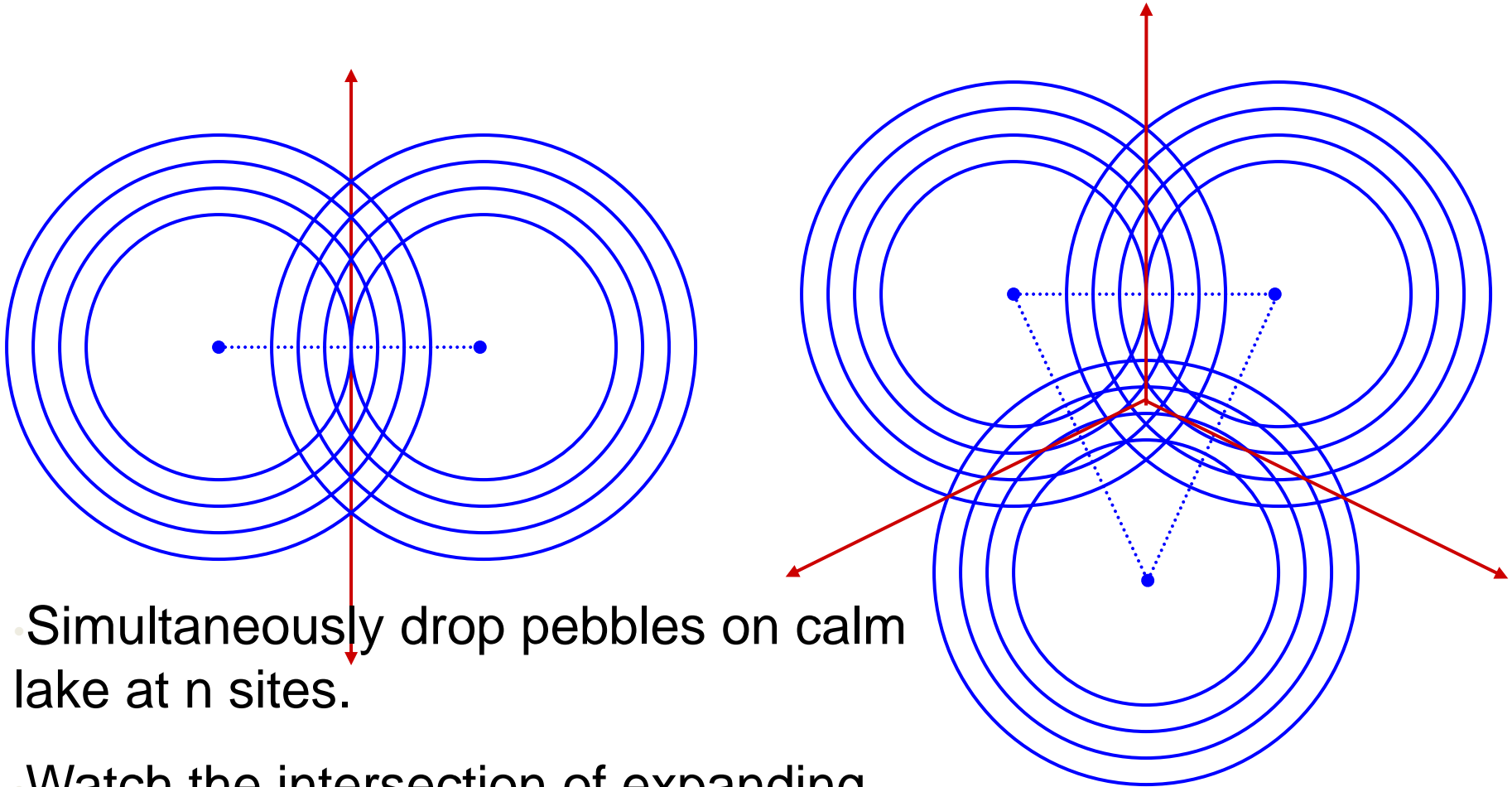
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k2P9yWSMaXE>

## Pseudocode:

```
add a site event in the event queue for each site
while the event queue is not empty
    pop the top event
    if the event is a site event
        insert a new arc in the beachline
        check for new circle events
    else
        create a vertex in the diagram
        remove the shrunk arc from the beachline
        delete invalidated events
        check for new circle events
```



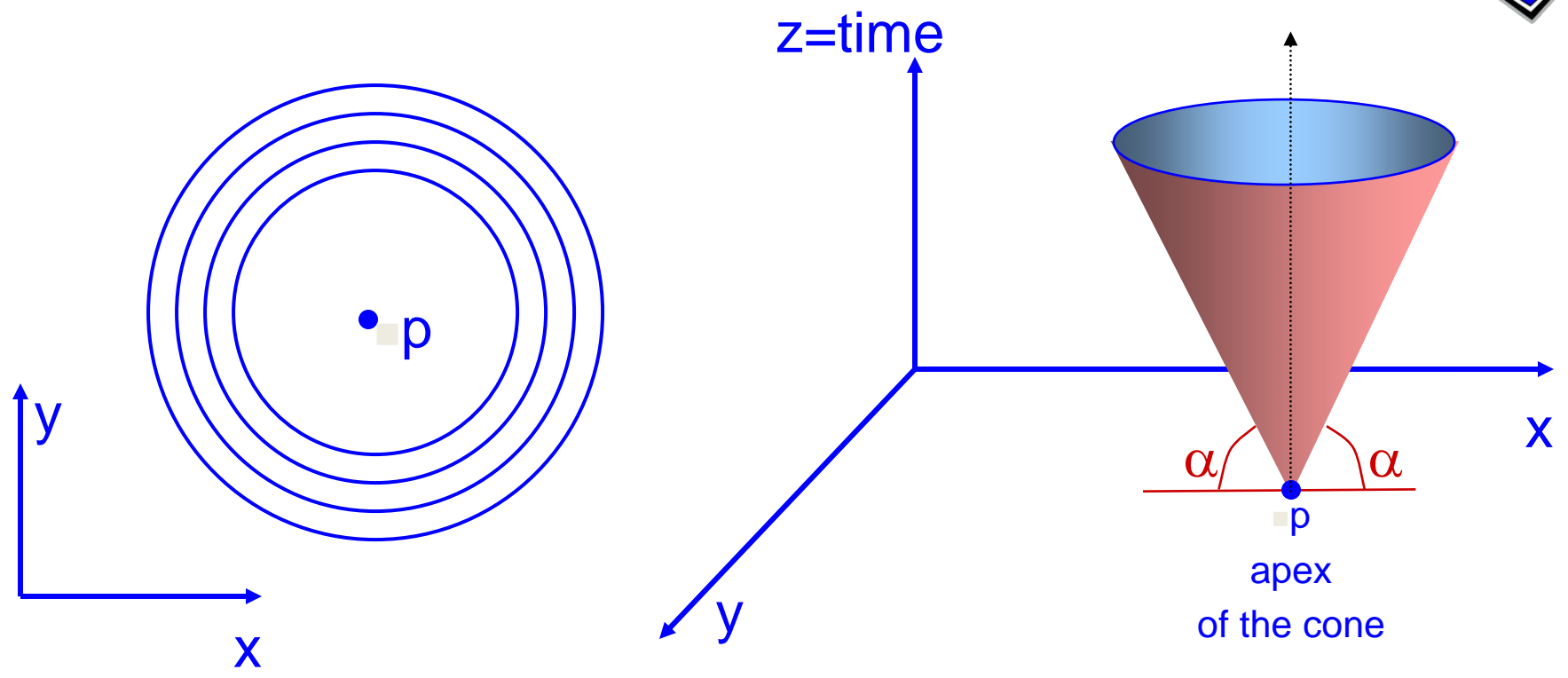
# Wave Propagation View



• Simultaneously drop pebbles on calm lake at  $n$  sites.

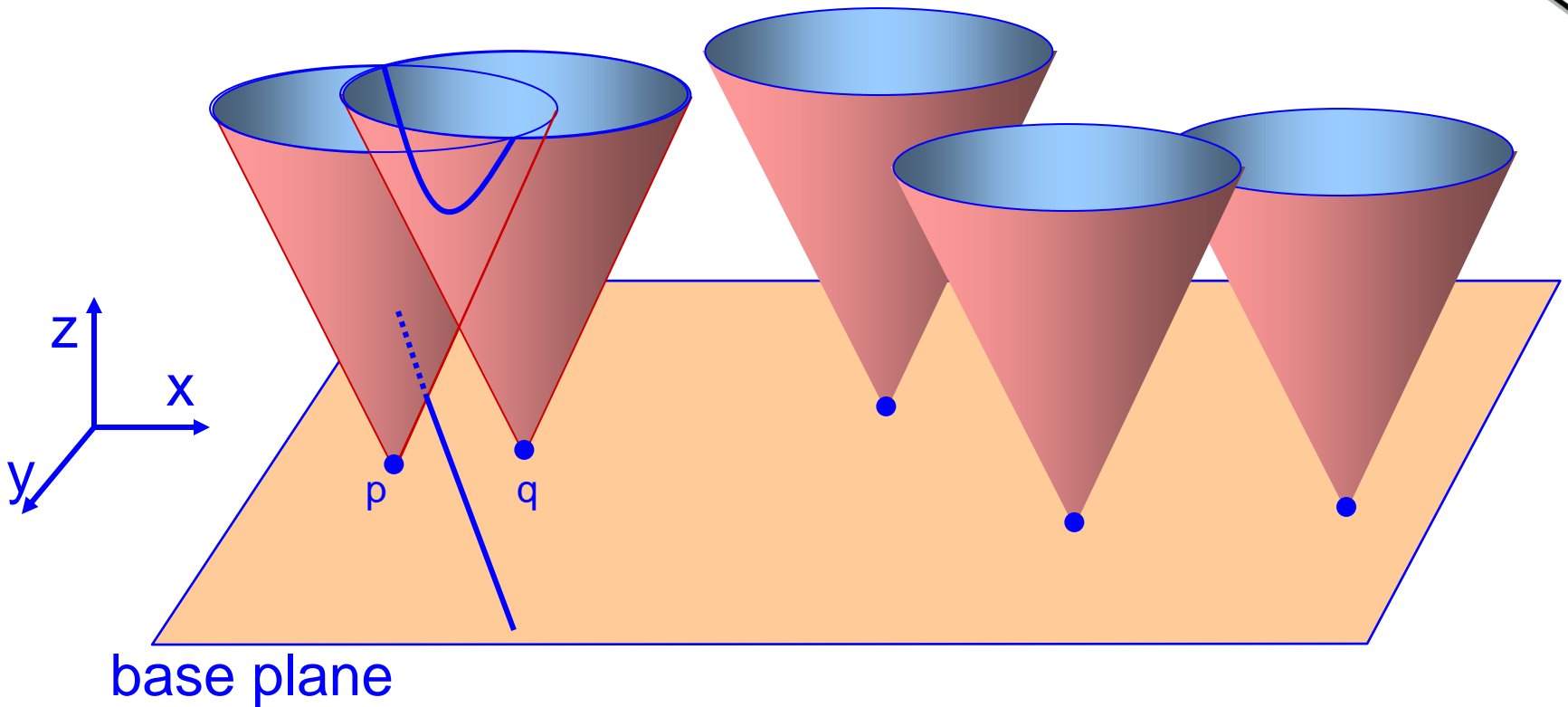
• Watch the intersection of expanding waves.

# Let Time be the 3<sup>rd</sup> Dimension



All sites have identical opaque cones.

# Let Time be the 3<sup>rd</sup> Dimension



All sites have identical opaque cones.

$\text{cone}(p) \cap \text{cone}(q) = \text{vertical hyperbola } h(p,q).$

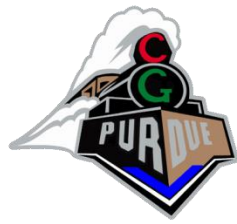
vertical projection of  $h(p,q)$  on the  $xy$  base plane is  $PB(p,q).$





# Voronoi Diagrams

- <http://alexbeutel.com/webgl/voronoi.html>

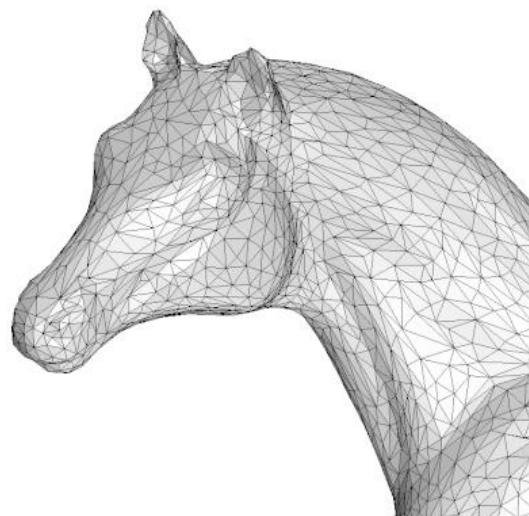
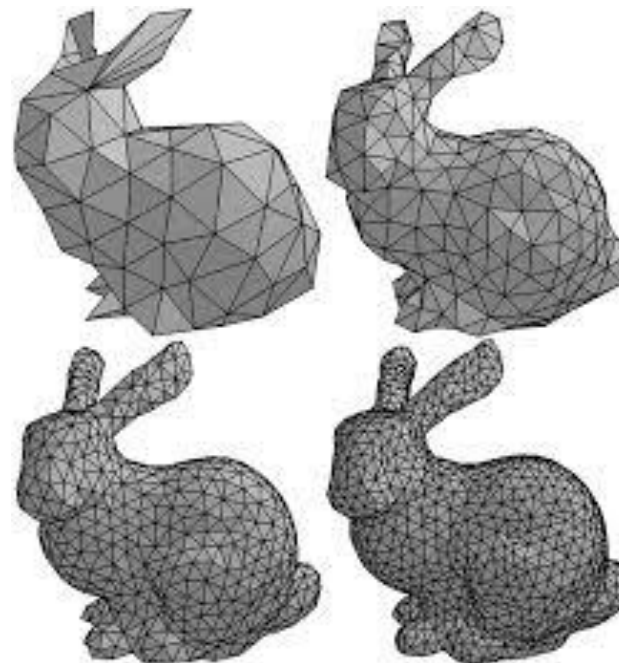
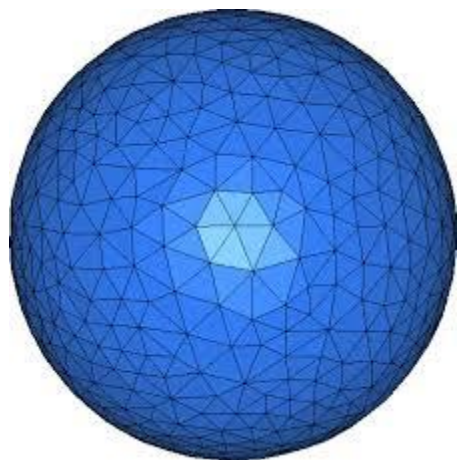


# Voronoi Diagram

- <http://www.raymondhill.net/voronoi/rhill-voronoi-demo5.html>



# Examples Triangulations





# And Beyond...

- Not “relaxation” but more general:
  - Recall: Reaction Diffusion
    - <https://pmneila.github.io/jsexp/grayscale/>
    - Textures:

