

# Robust Hex-Dominant Mesh Generation using Field-Guided Polyhedral Agglomeration

**Xifeng Gao**

New York University

**Wenzel Jakob**

École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL)

**Marco Tarini**

Università dell'Insubria and CNR-ISTI

**Daniele Panozzo**

New York University



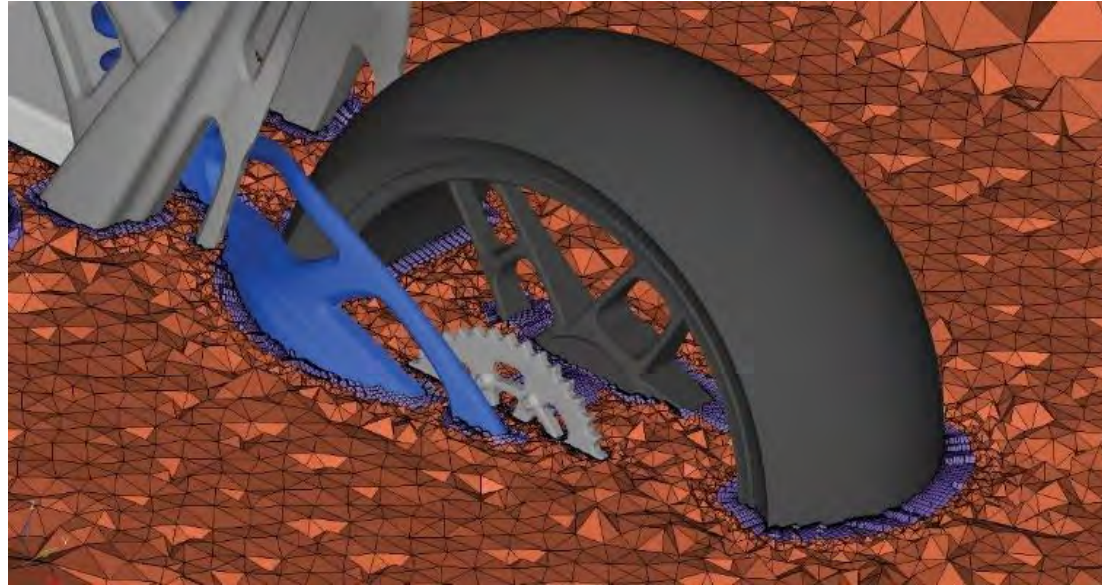
**NYU**

**COURANT INSTITUTE OF  
MATHEMATICAL SCIENCES**

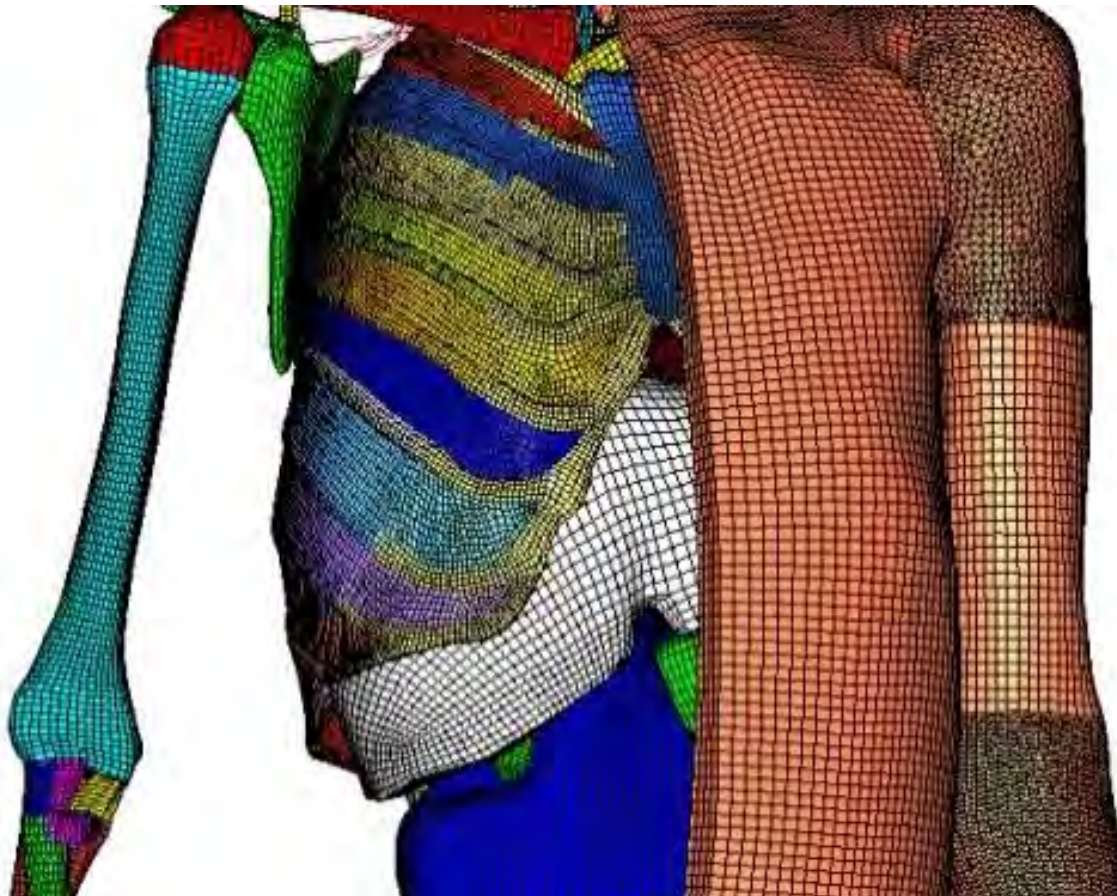




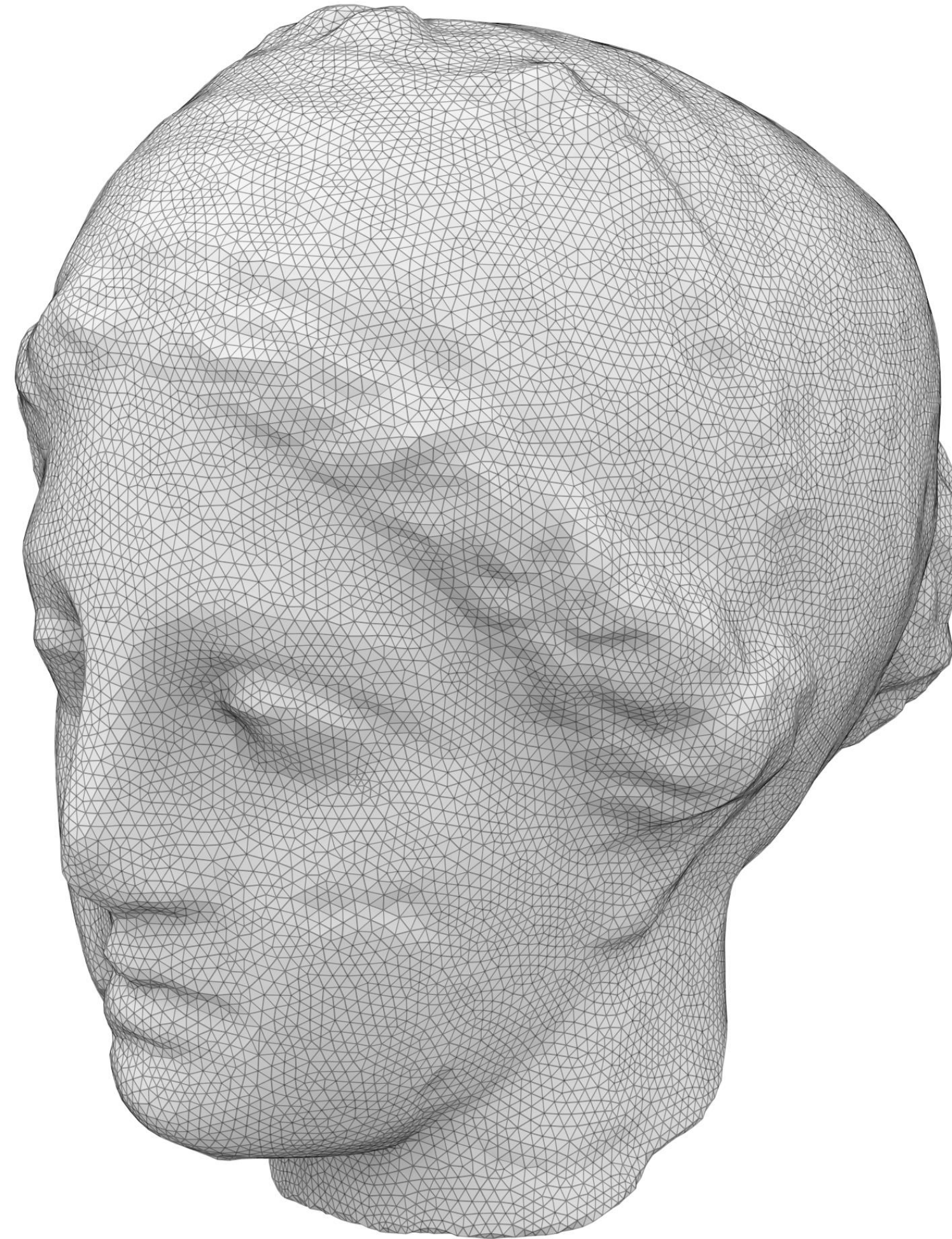
# Volumetric meshes



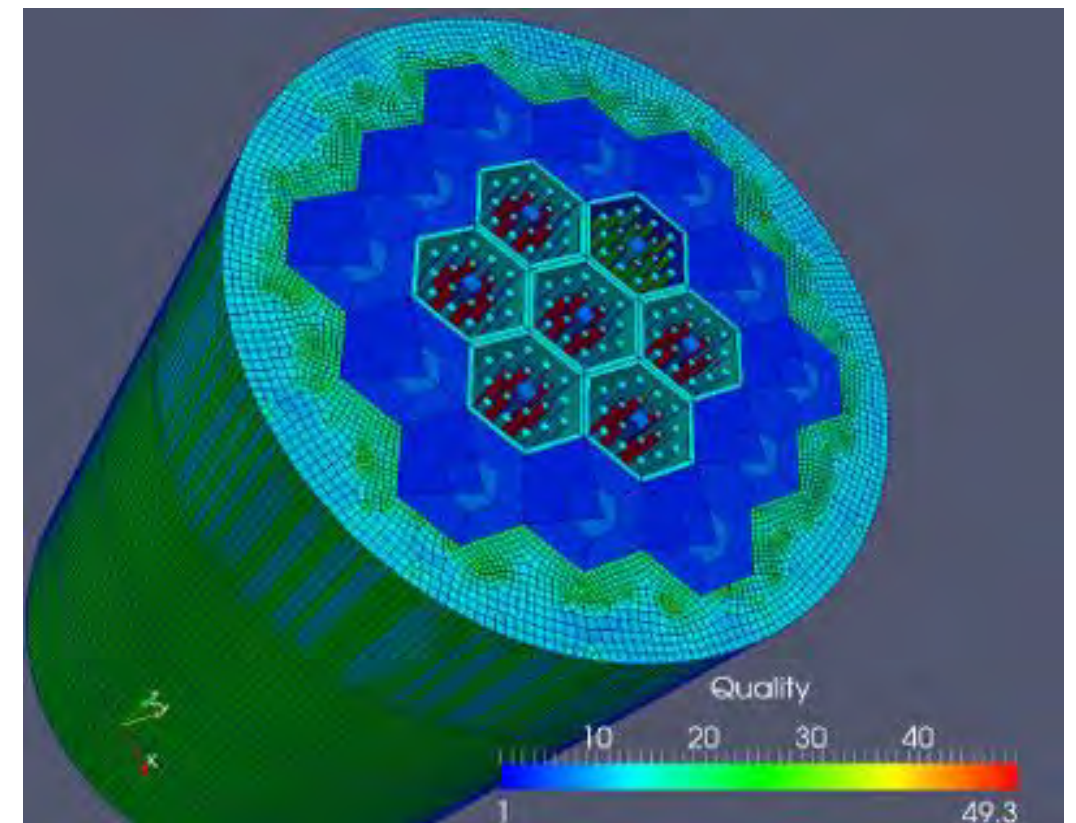
Aerodynamics



Biomechanics



Material design

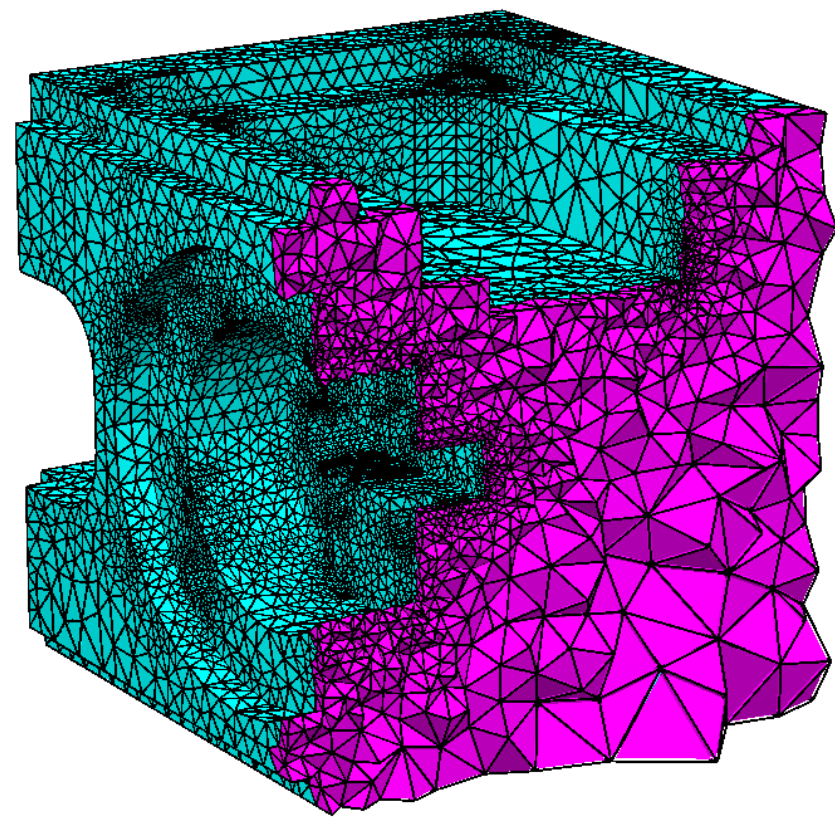


Engineering

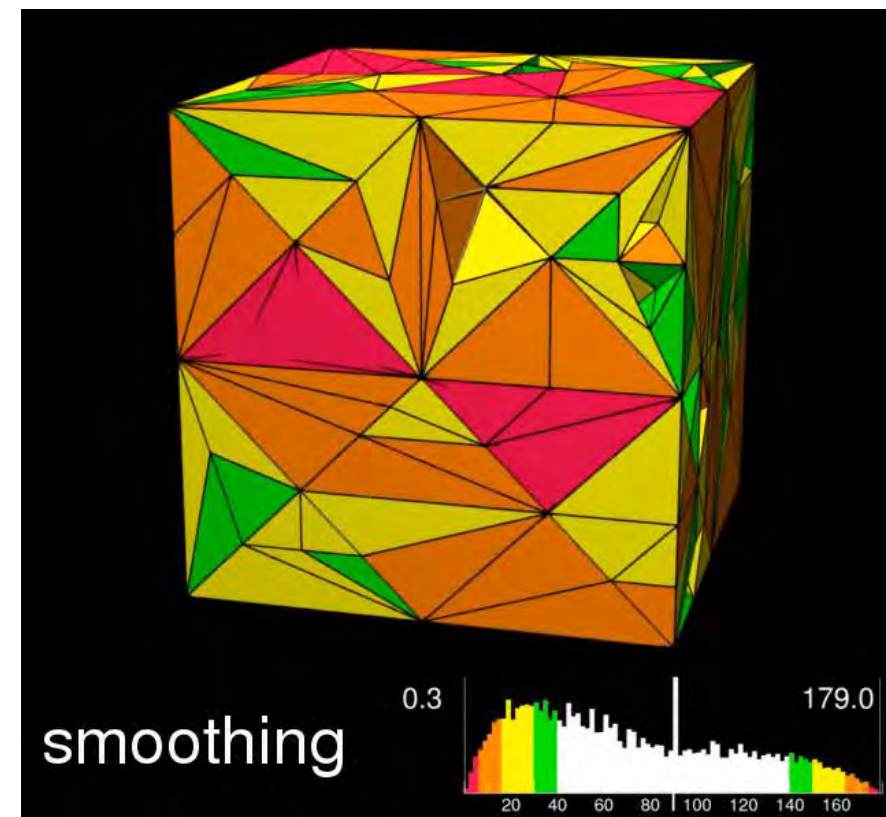


# Volumetric meshes

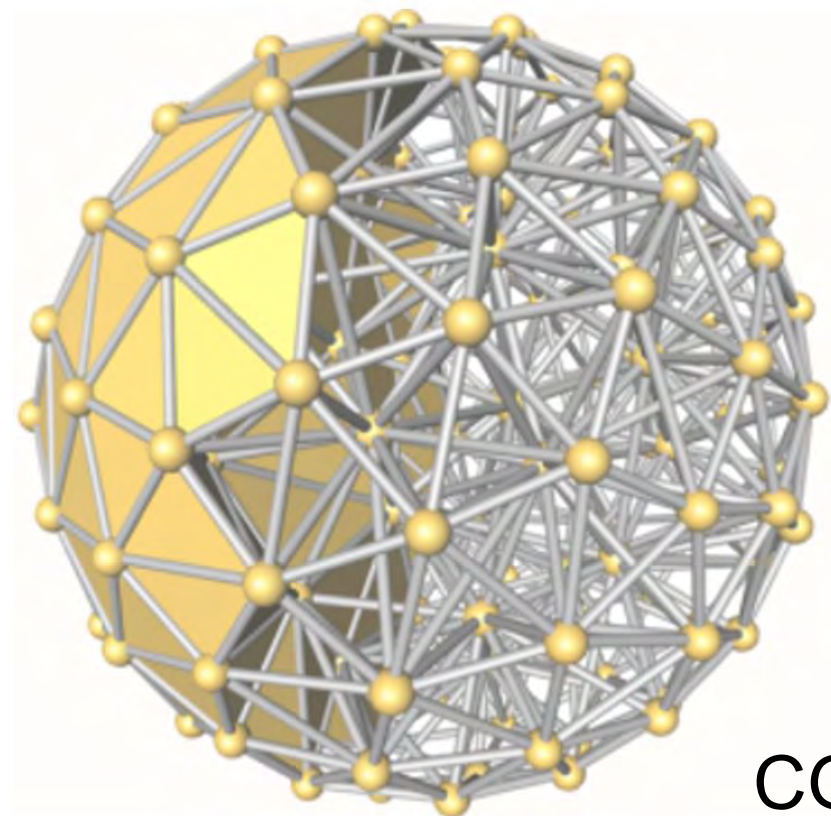
## Tetrahedral-Mesh



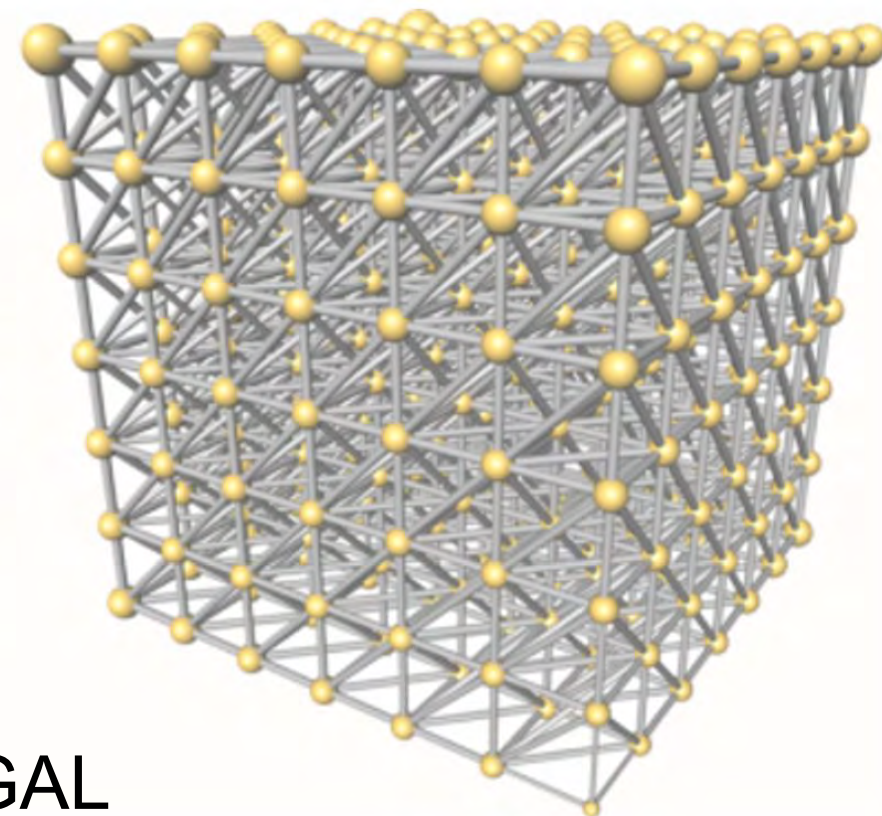
TetGen



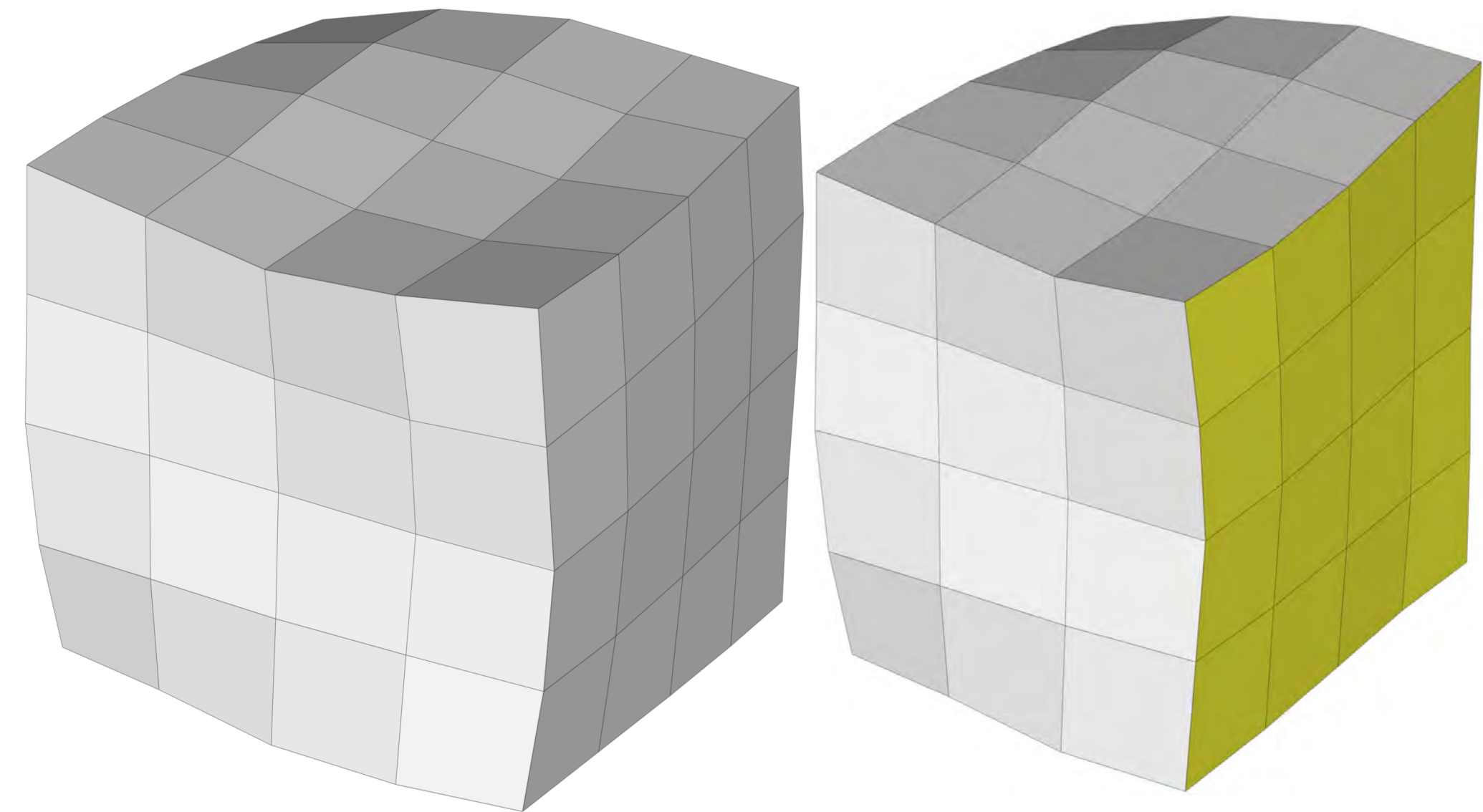
Stellar



CGAL



## Hexahedral-Mesh

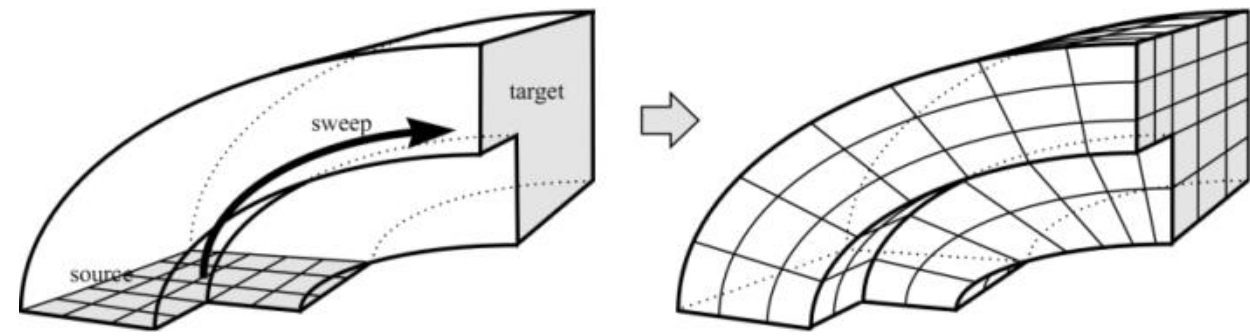


- Fewer elements
- Tensor product structure
- Superior numerical properties

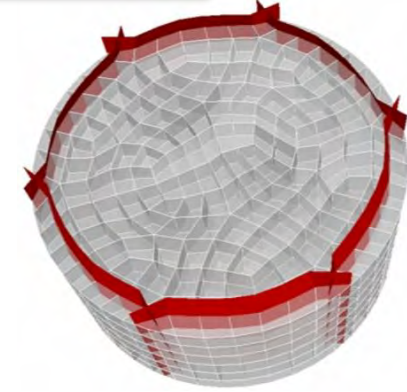


# Hexahedral-Meshing

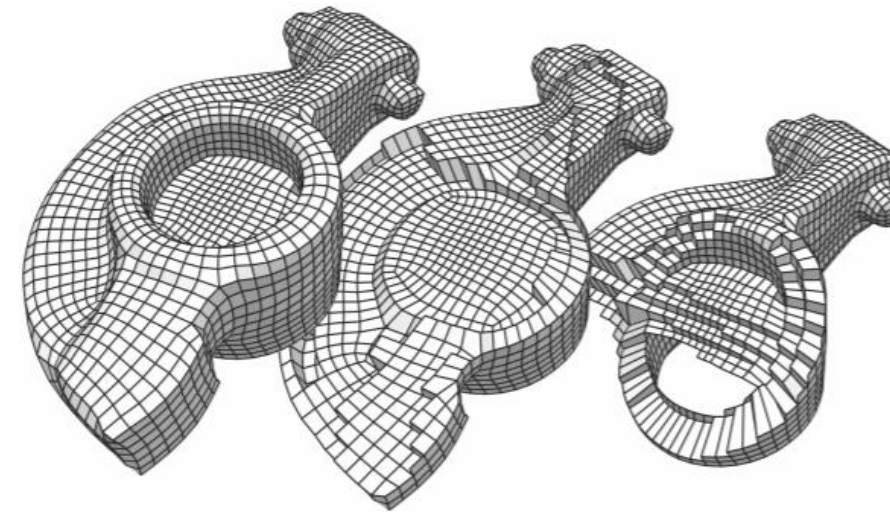
## Sweeping, connectivity editing, and advancing



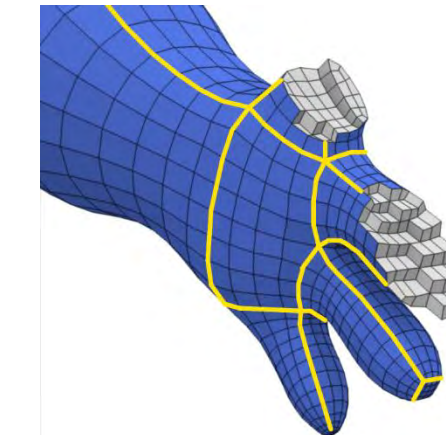
[Owen, et al. 1998]



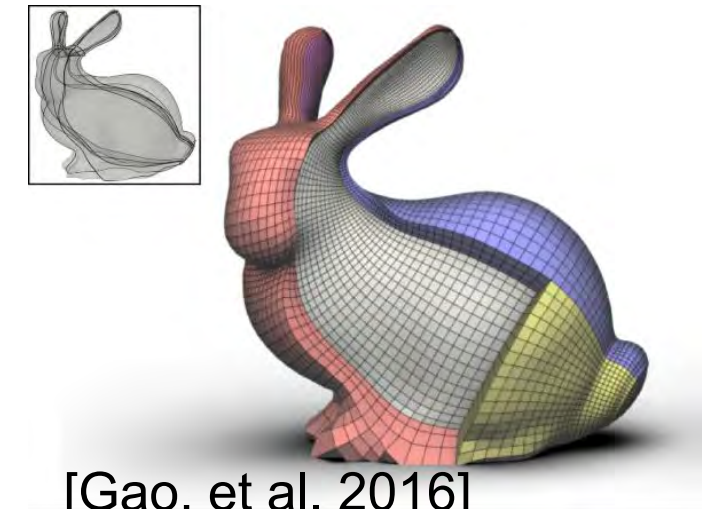
[Shepherd, et al. 2008]



[Kremer, et al. 2013]

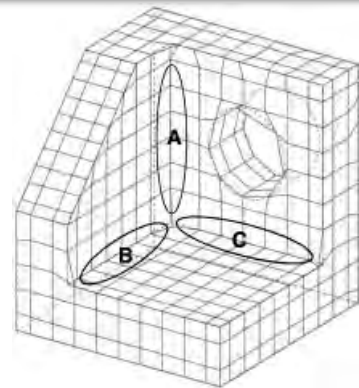


[Livesu, et al. 2016]

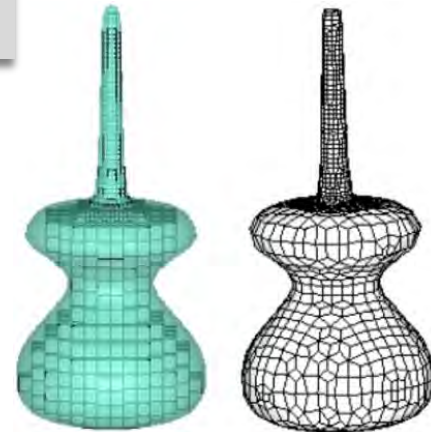


[Gao, et al. 2016]

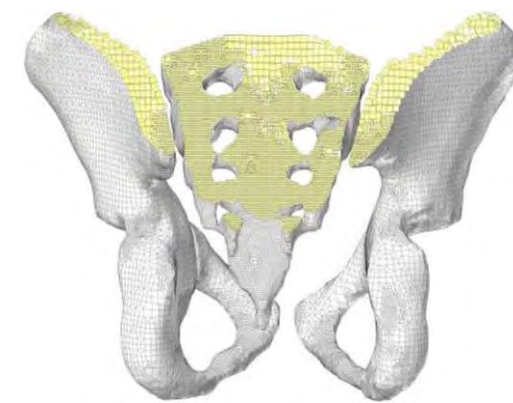
## Space decomposition



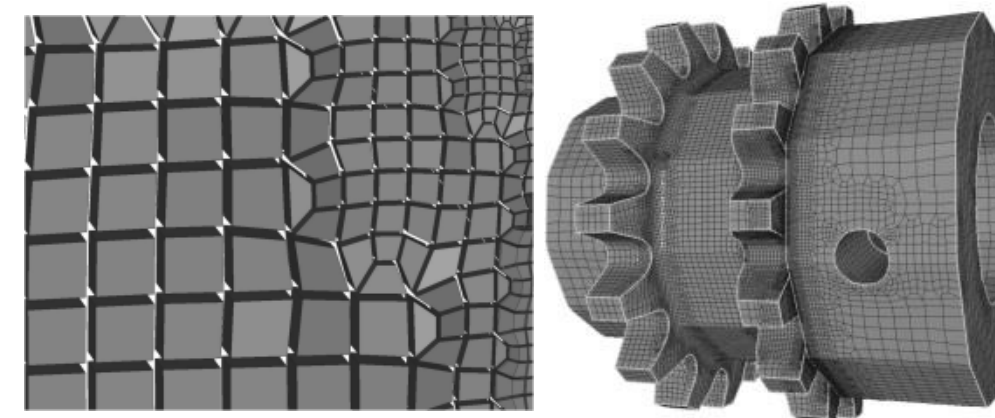
[Su, et al. 2004]



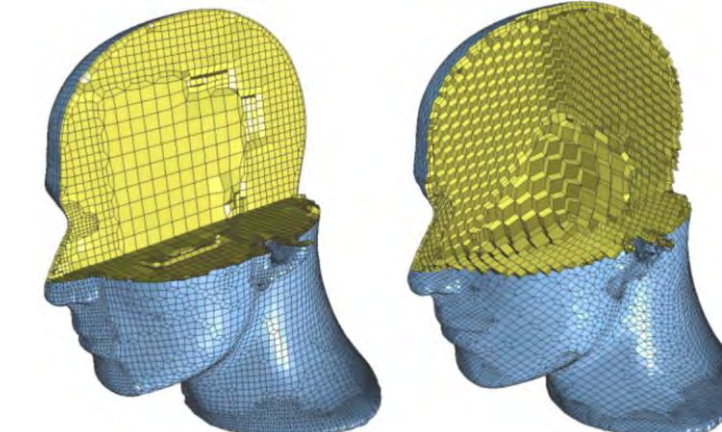
[Zhang, et al. 2007]



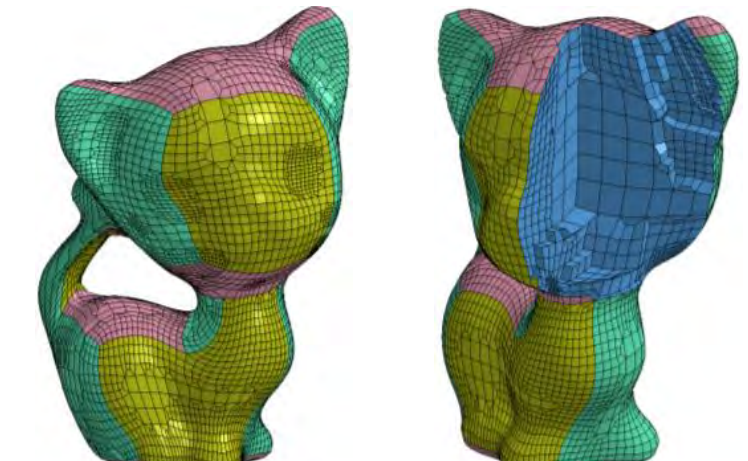
[Ito, et al. 2009]



[Maréchal, et al. 2009]

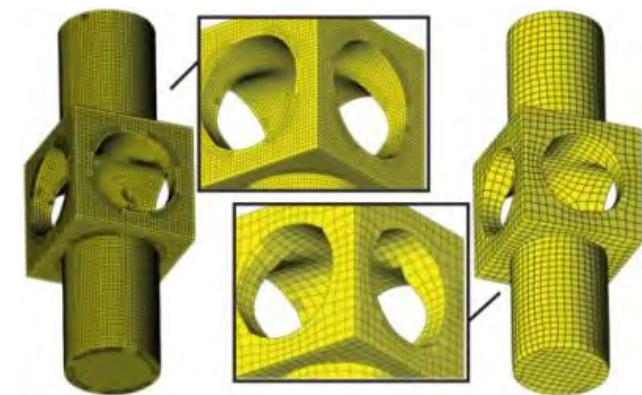


[Zhang, et al. 2013]

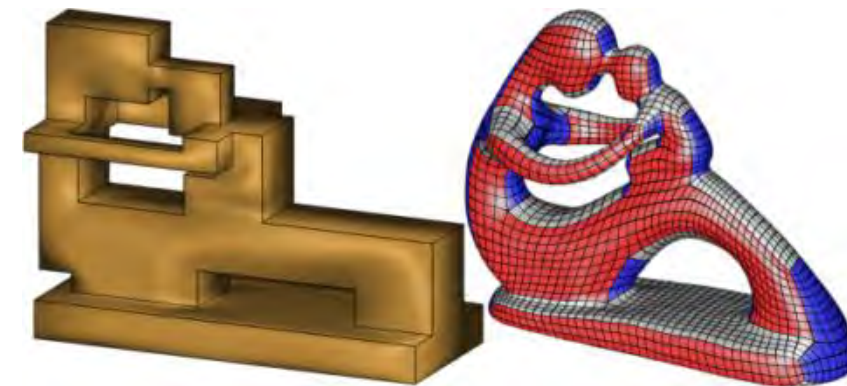


[Hu, et al. 2016]

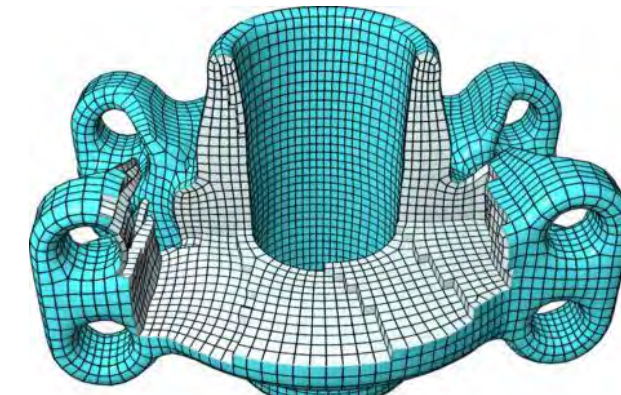
## Polycube-based



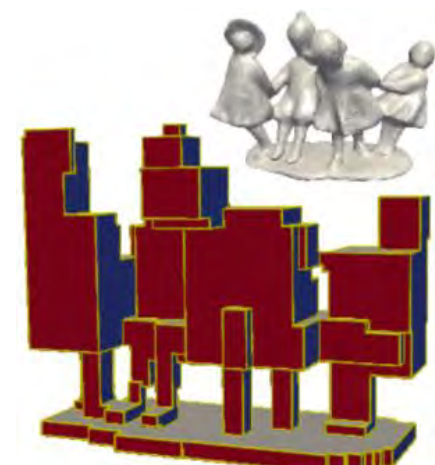
[Gregson, et al. 2011]



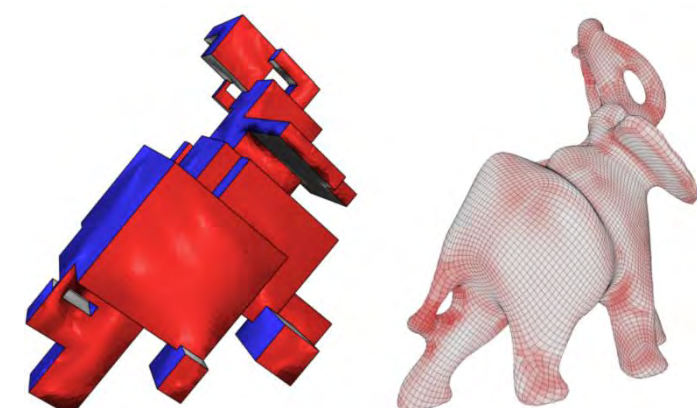
[Livesu, et al. 2013]



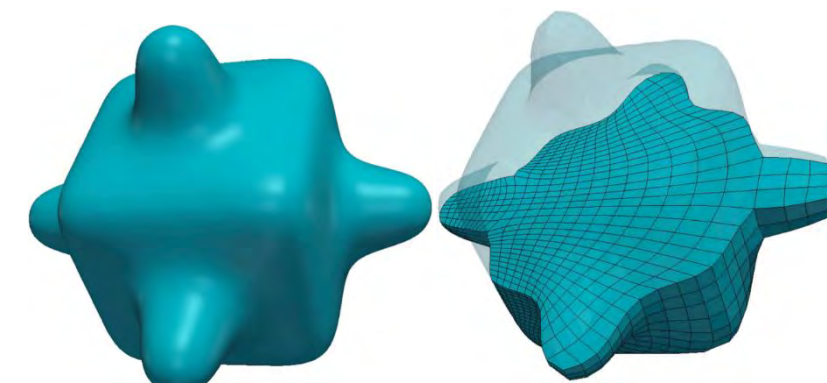
[Fang, et al. 2016]



[Huang, et al. 2014]

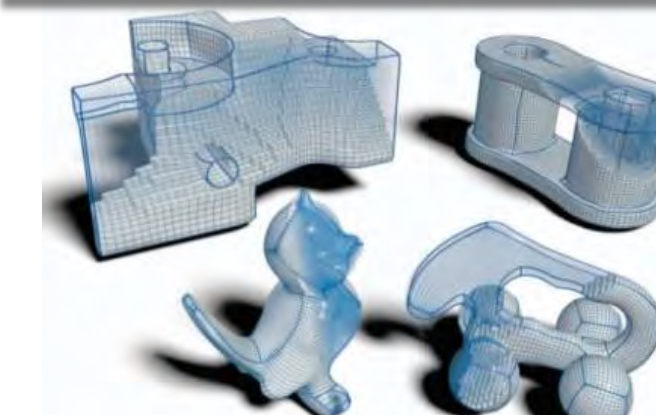


[Fu, et al. 2016]



[Xu, et al. 2017]

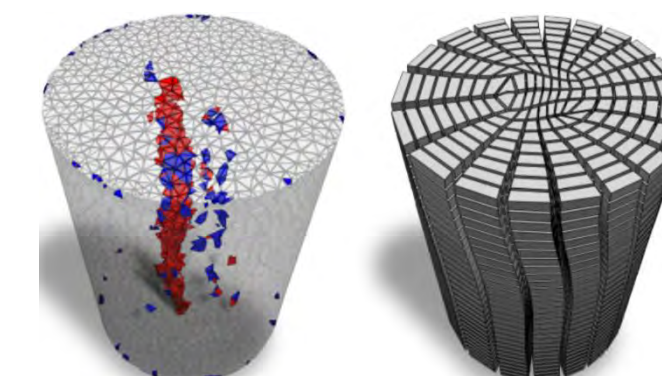
## Orientation field-guided



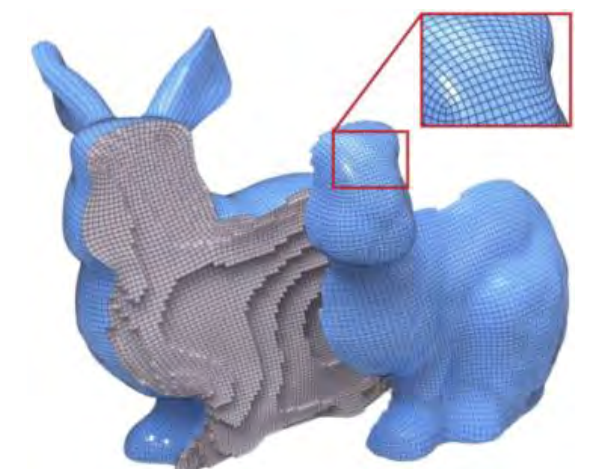
[Jiang, et al. 2013]



[Nieser, et al. 2011]



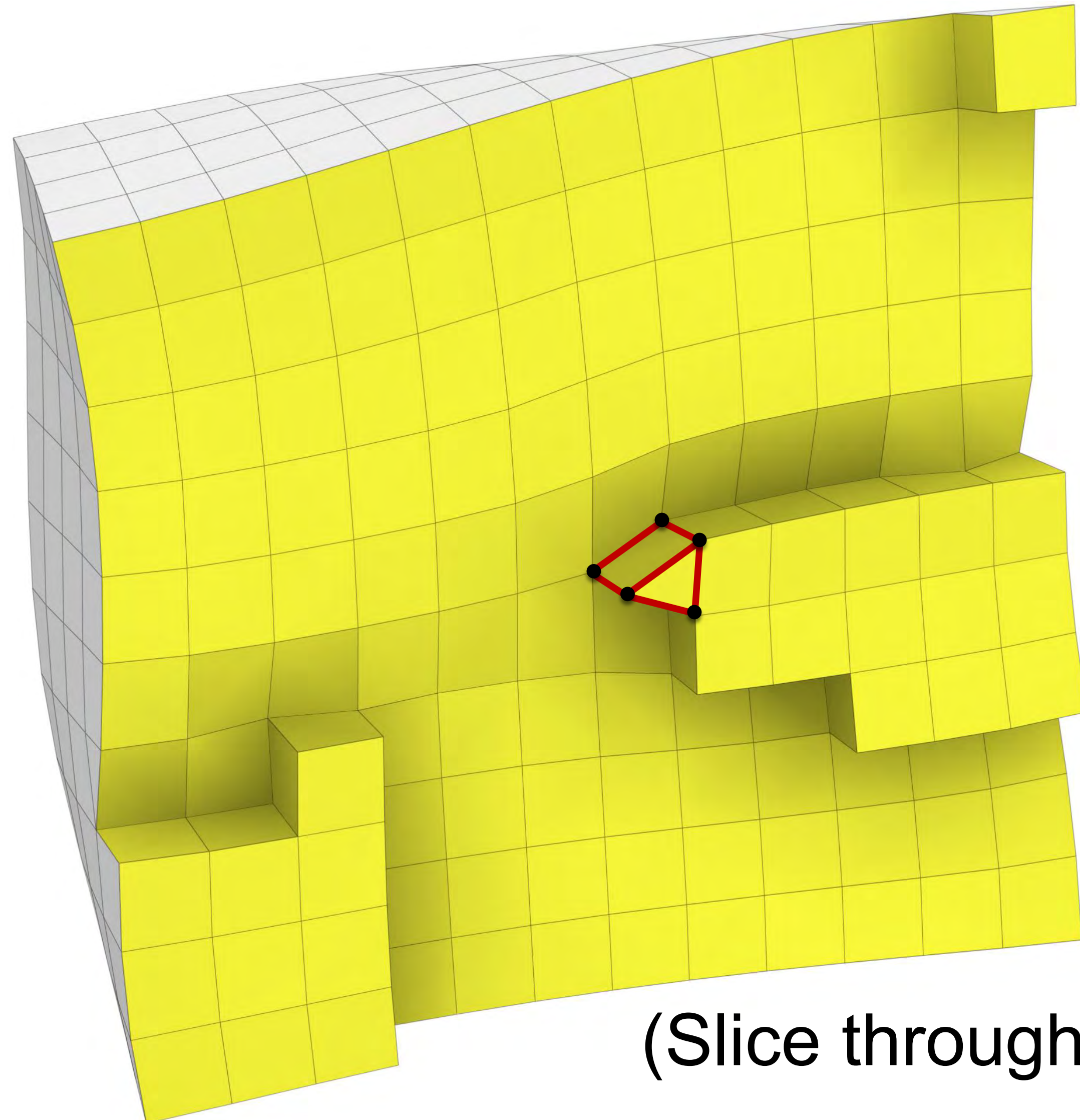
[Lyon, et al. 2016]



[Li, et al. 2012]



# Hex-Dominant Mesh



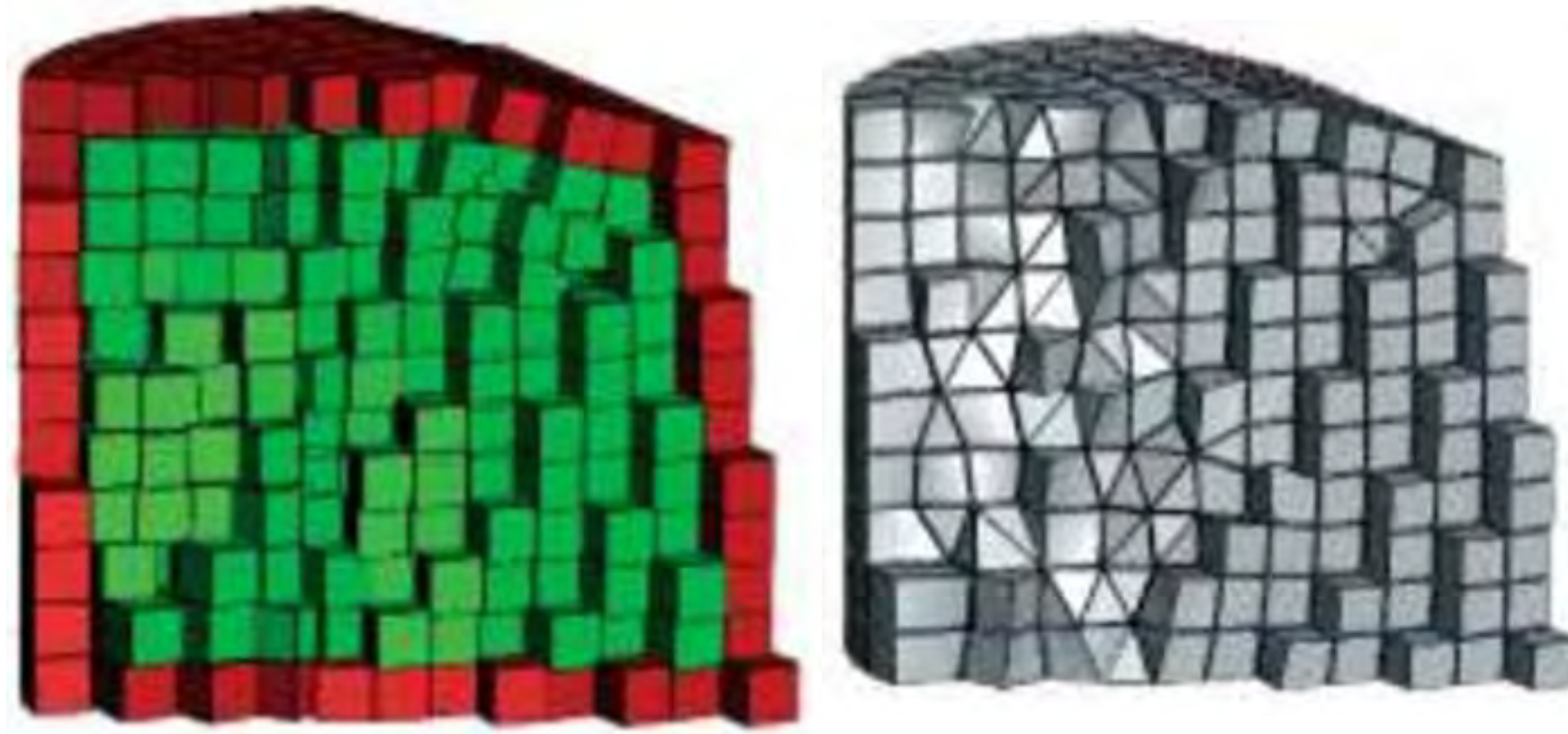
(Slice through the interior)



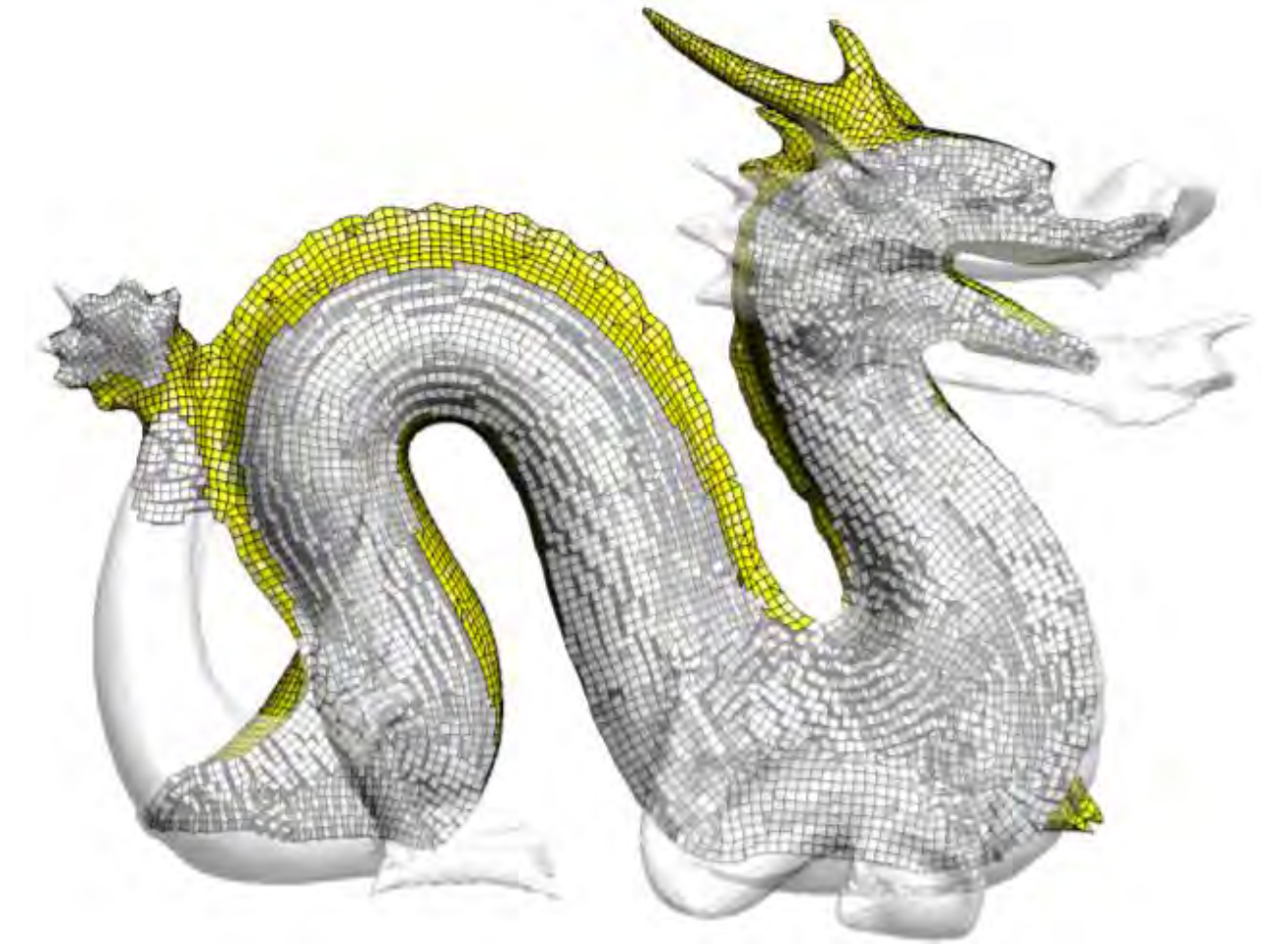
# Hex-Dominant Meshing



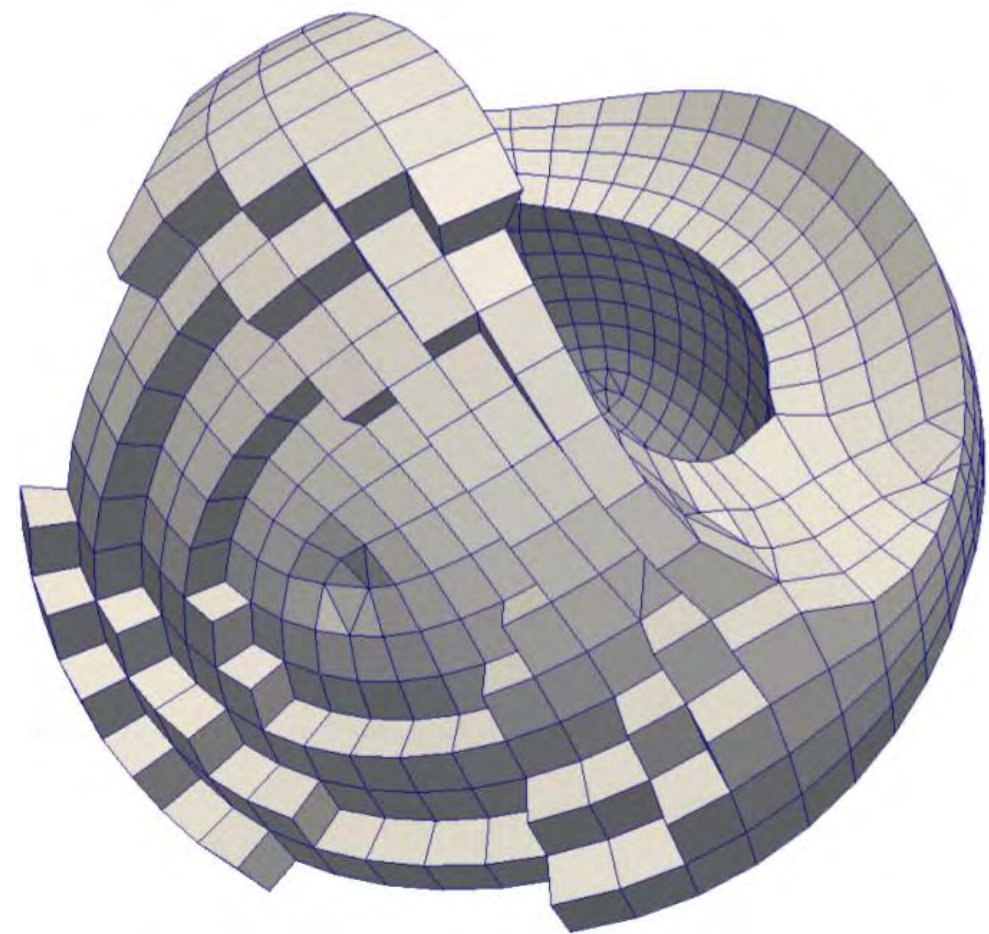
[Meshkat and Talmor, 2000]



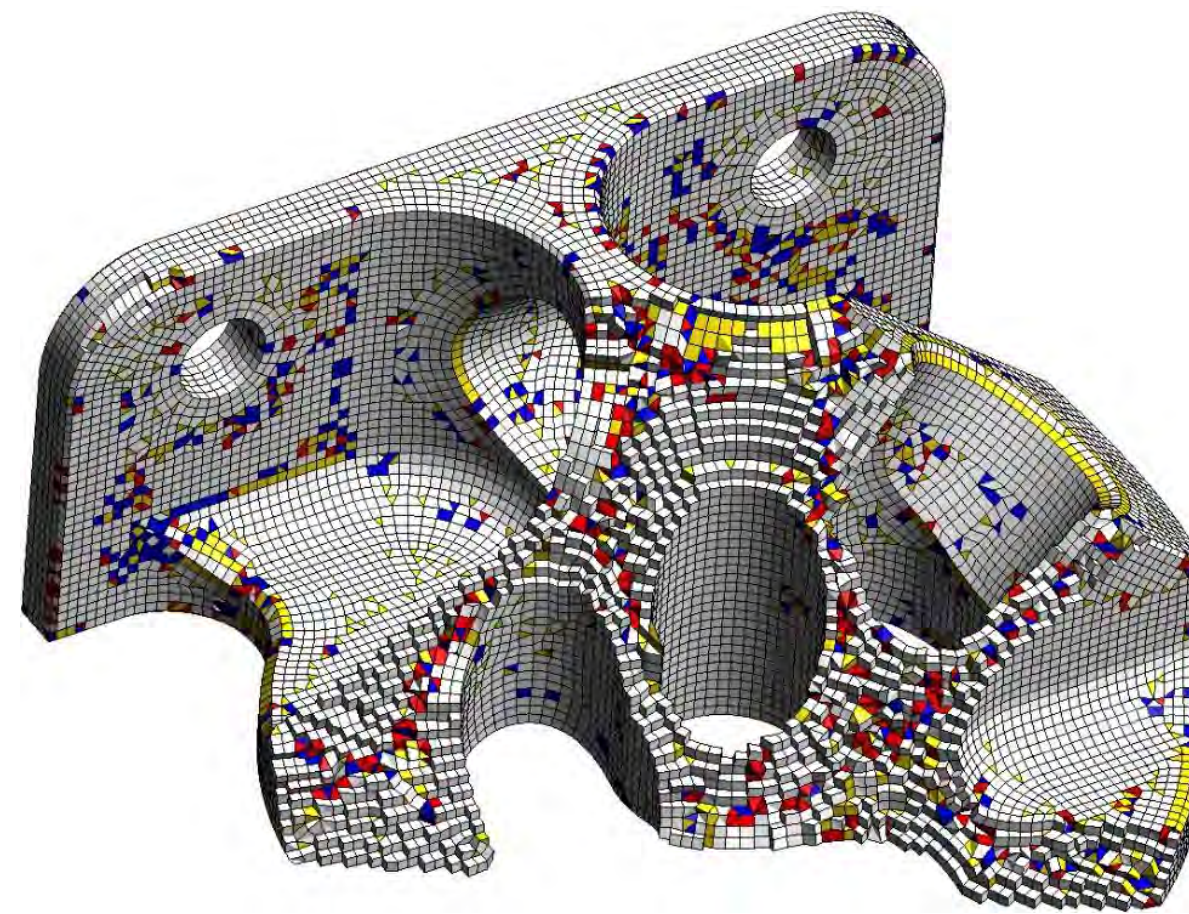
[Yamakawa, et al. 2003]



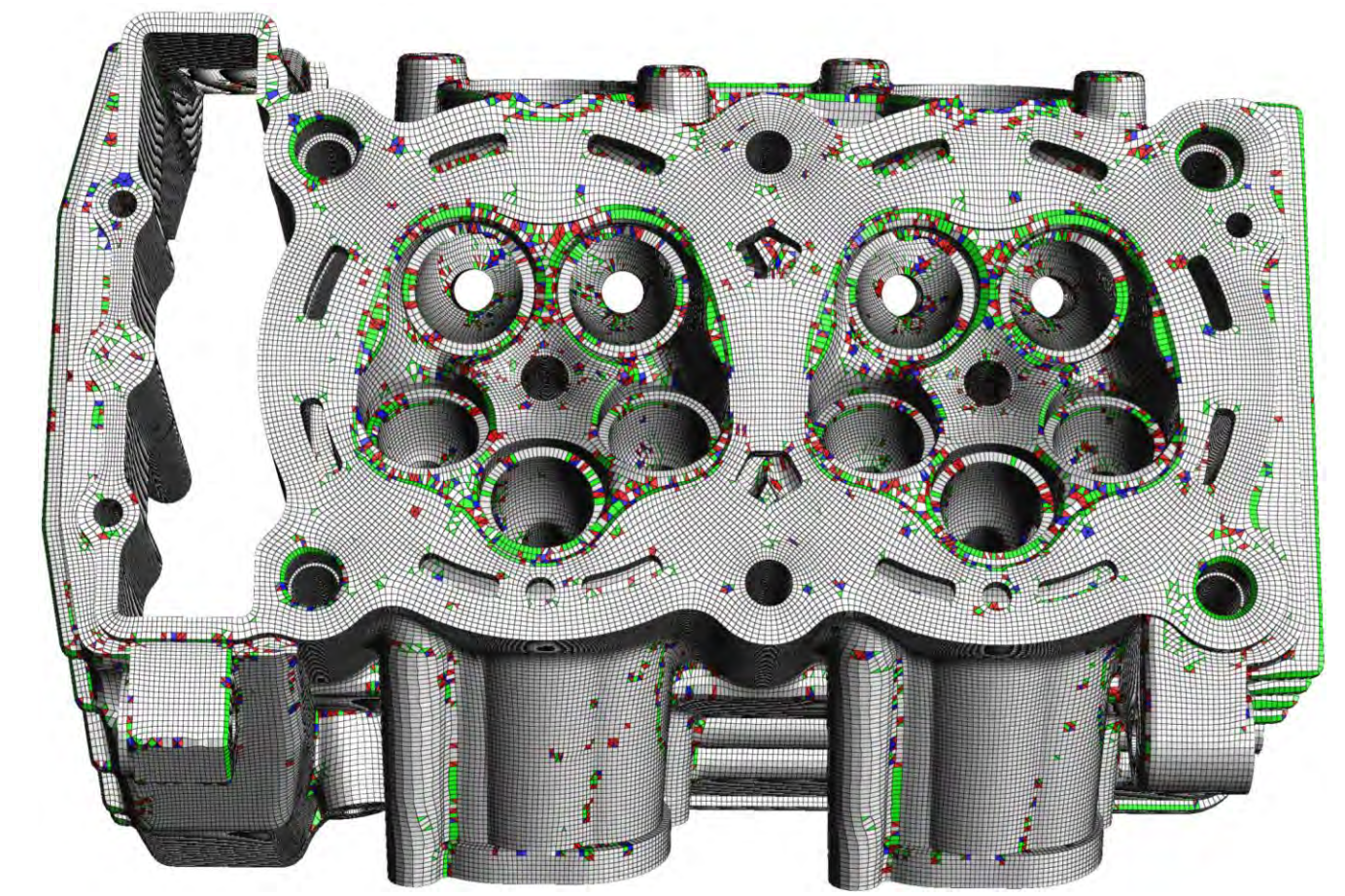
[Lévy, et al. 2010]



[Huang, et al. 2011]



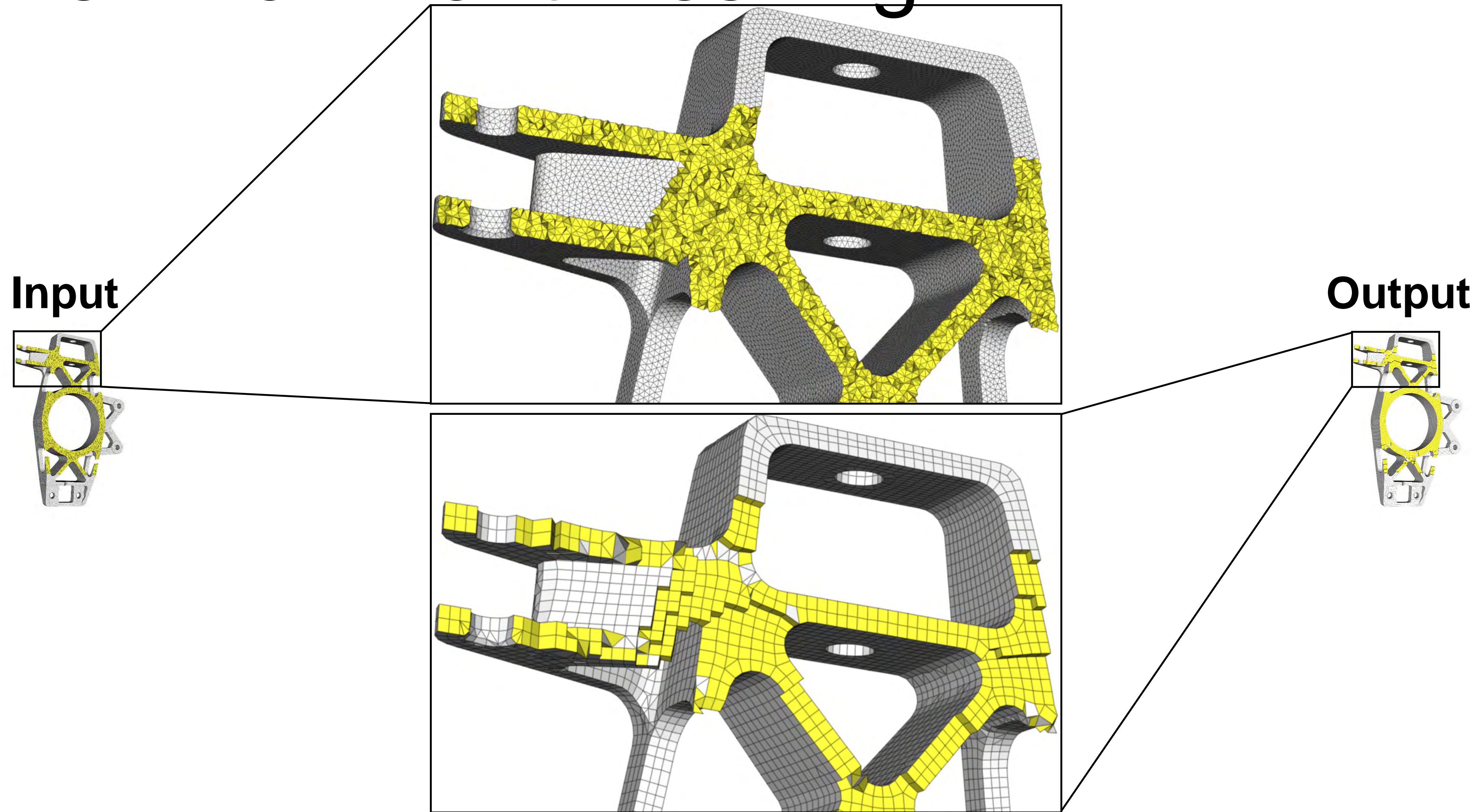
[Baudouin, et al. 2014]



[Sokolov, et al. 2016]



# Hex-Dominant Meshing





# Field Guided Meshing Pipeline

**Input**



**1. Orientation**



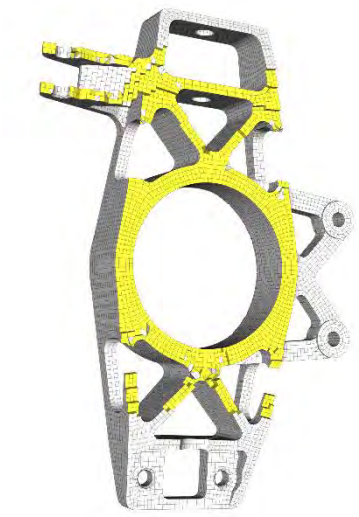
**2. Position**



**3. Extraction**



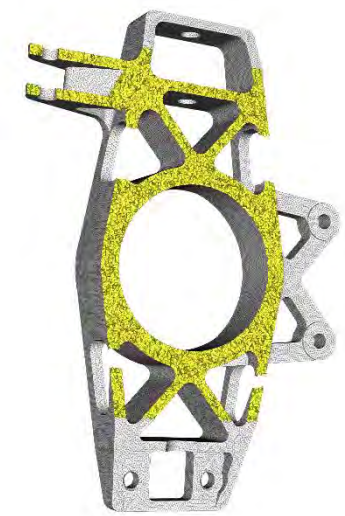
**Output**



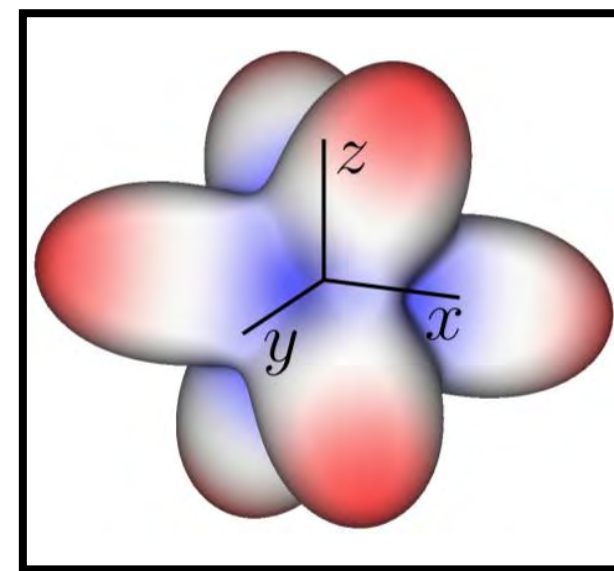


# Hex-Dominant Meshing

**Input**

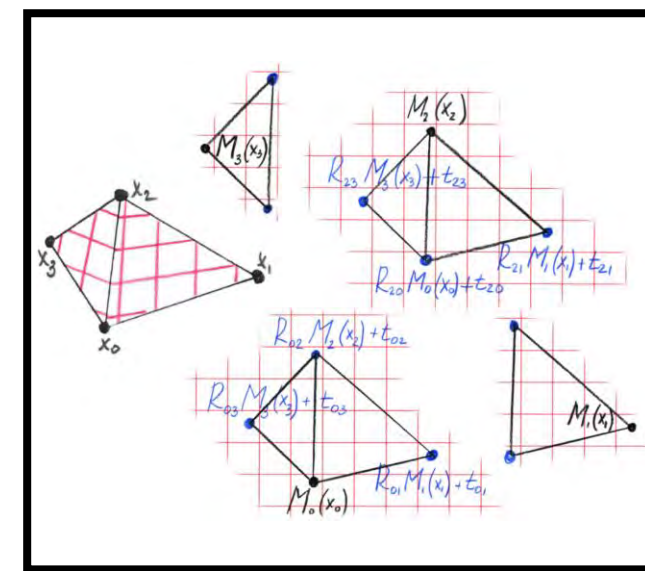


**1. Orientation**



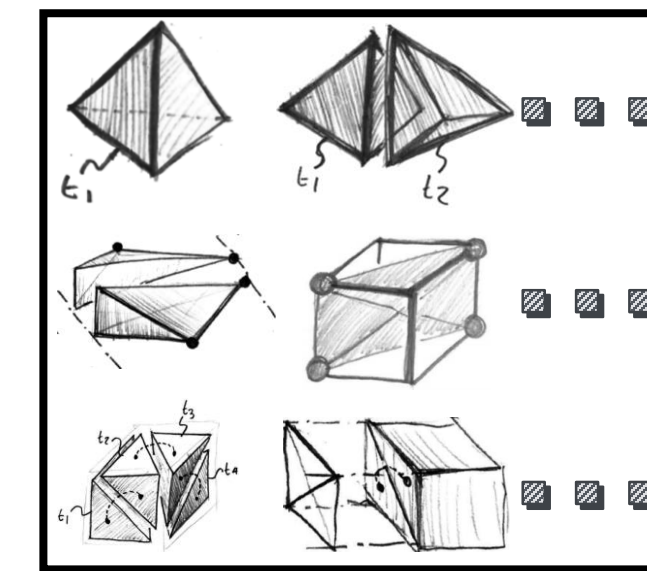
Spherical harmonic functions

**2. Position**



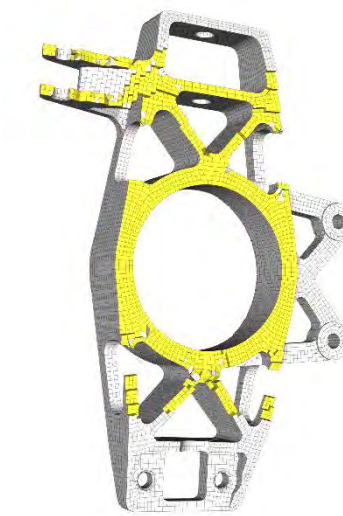
Periodic global parameterization

**3. Extraction**



Tetrahedral recombination

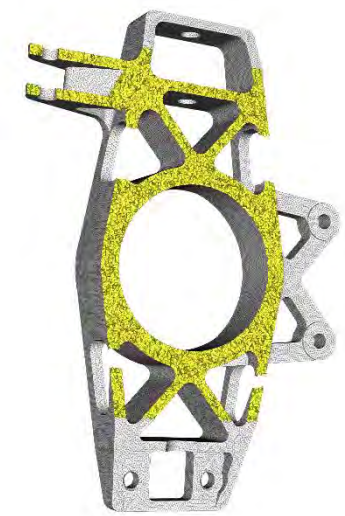
**Output**



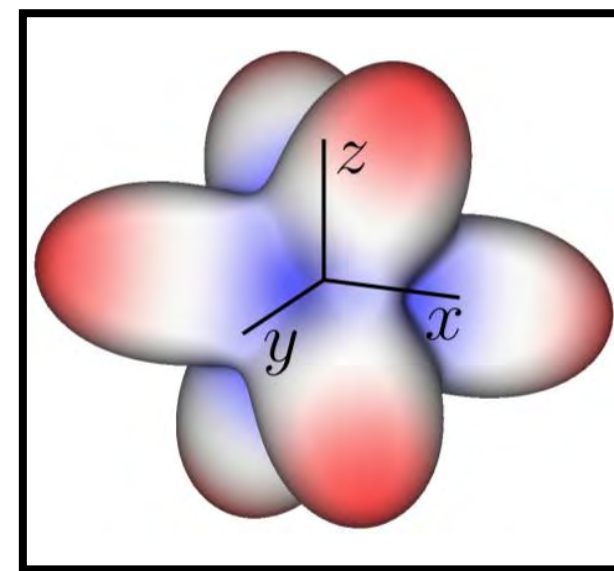


# Hex-Dominant Meshing

**Input**

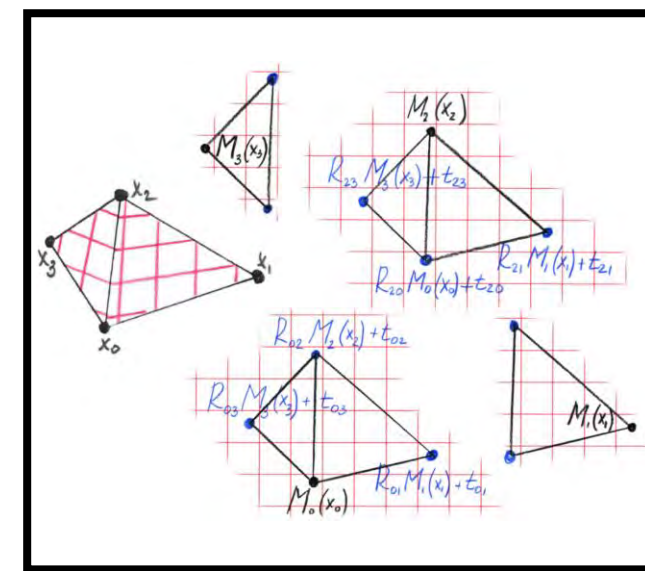


**1. Orientation**



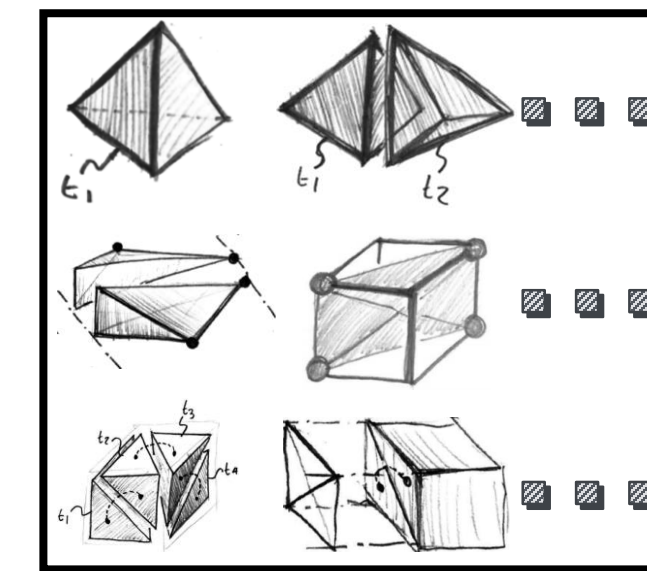
Spherical harmonic functions

**2. Position**



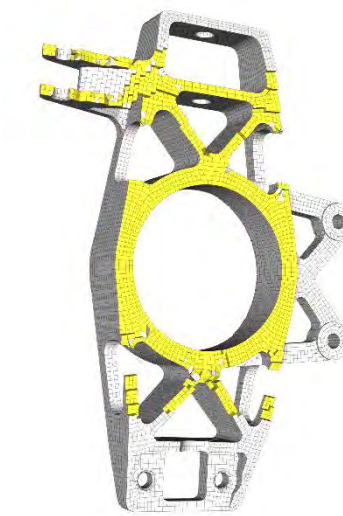
Periodic global parameterization

**3. Extraction**



Tetrahedral recombination

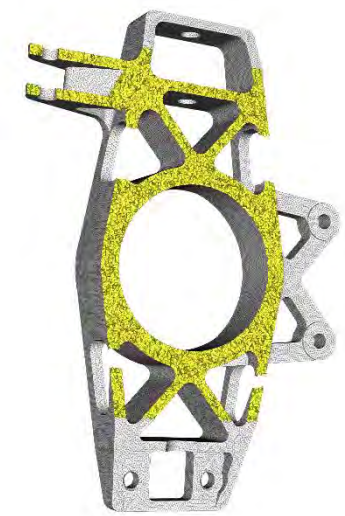
**Output**



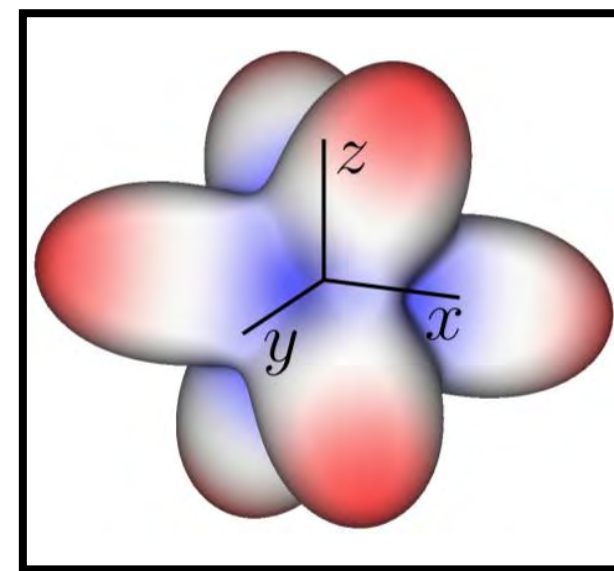


# Hex-Dominant Meshing

**Input**

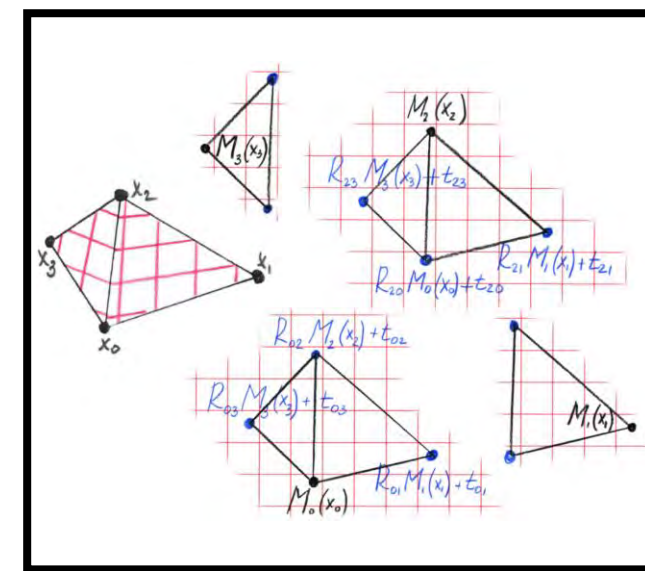


**1. Orientation**



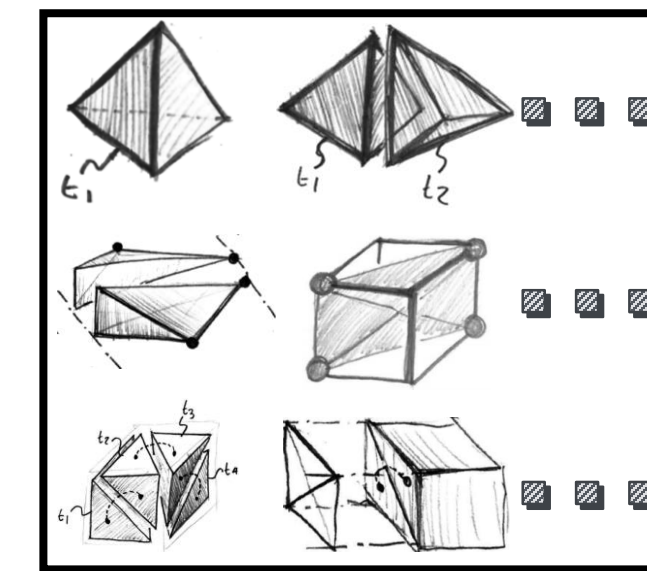
Spherical harmonic functions

**2. Position**



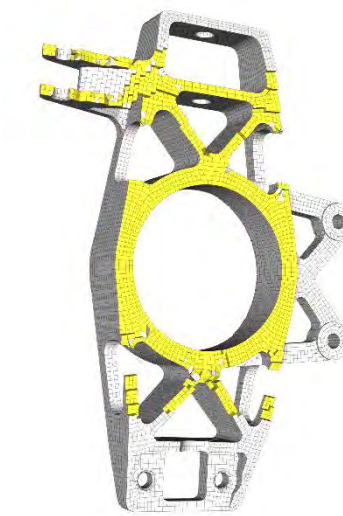
Periodic global parameterization

**3. Extraction**



Tetrahedral recombination

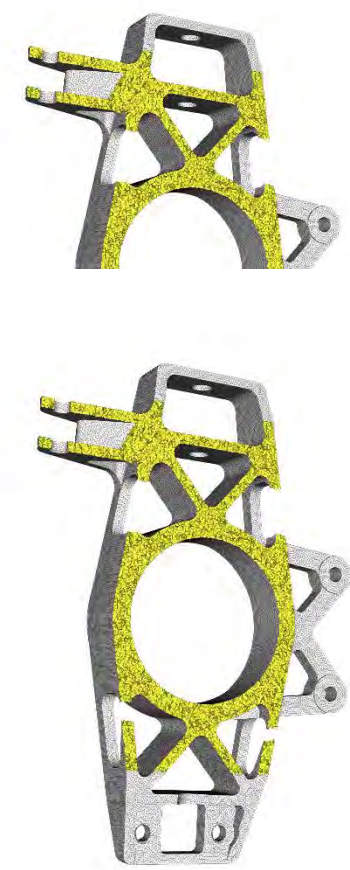
**Output**



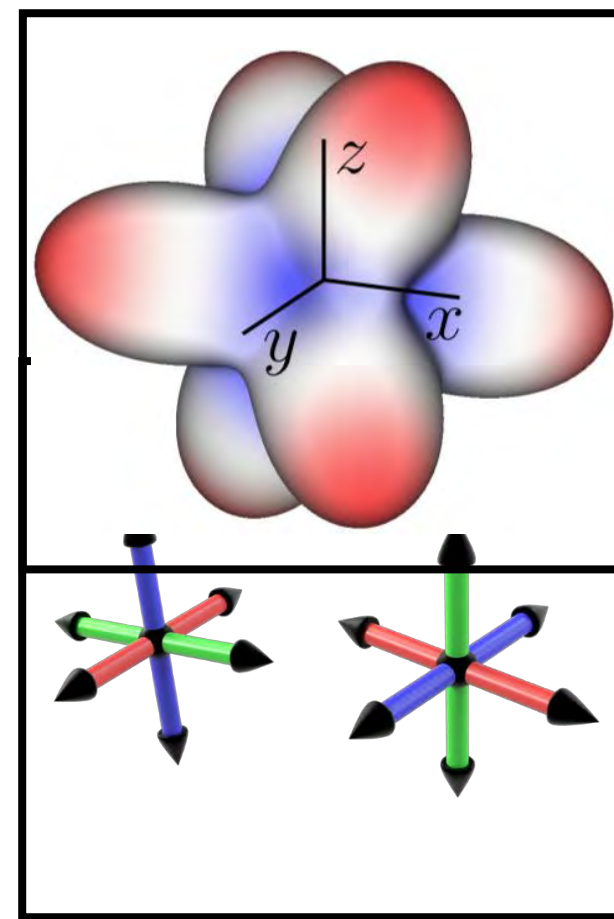


# Axis Dominant Meshing

Input

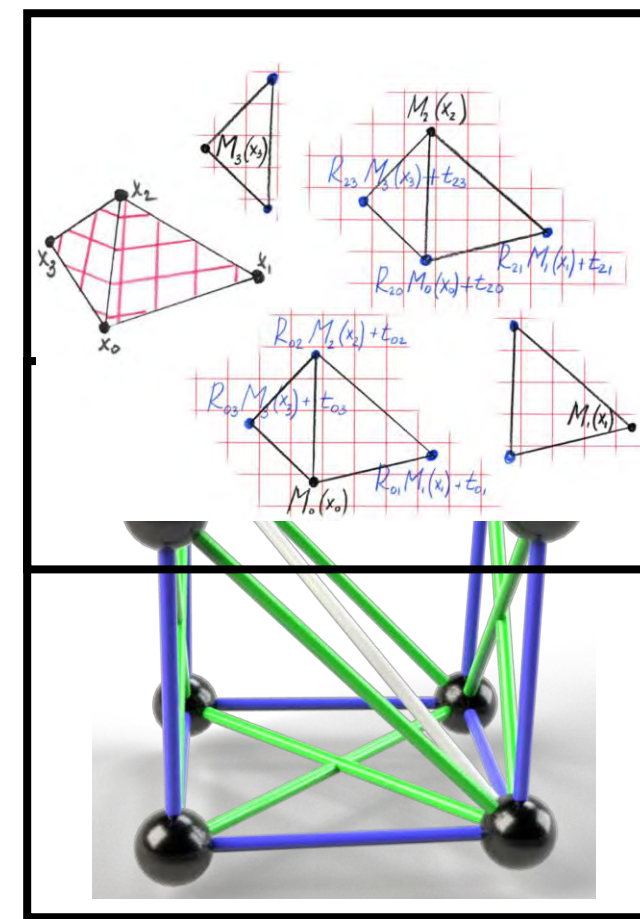


1. Orientation



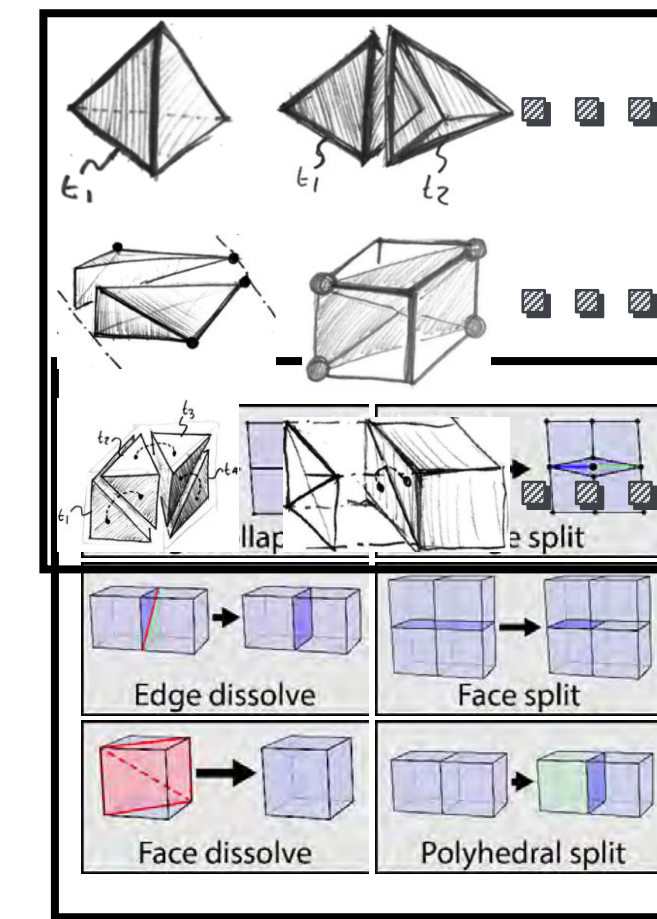
Local iteration

2. Position



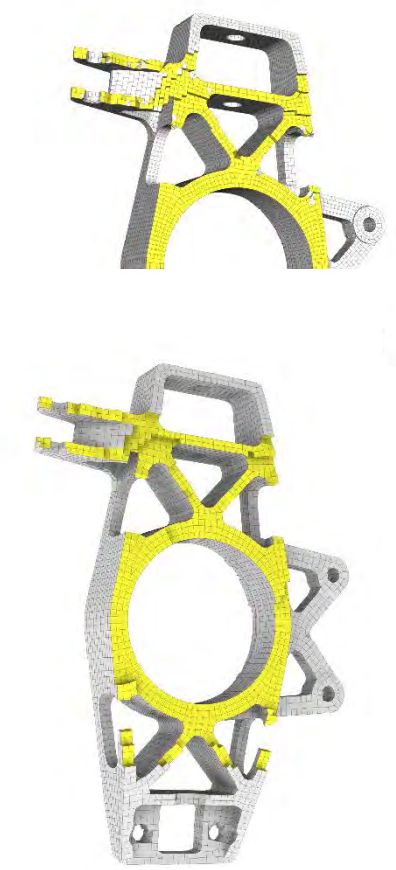
Local iteration

3. Extraction



Local operations

Output



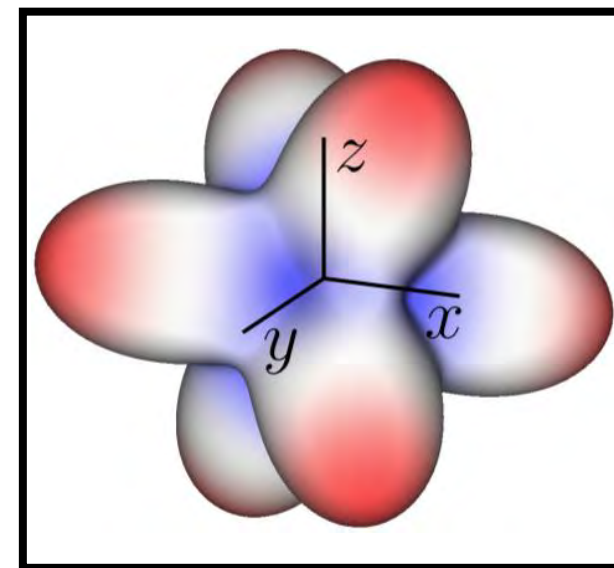


# Ours

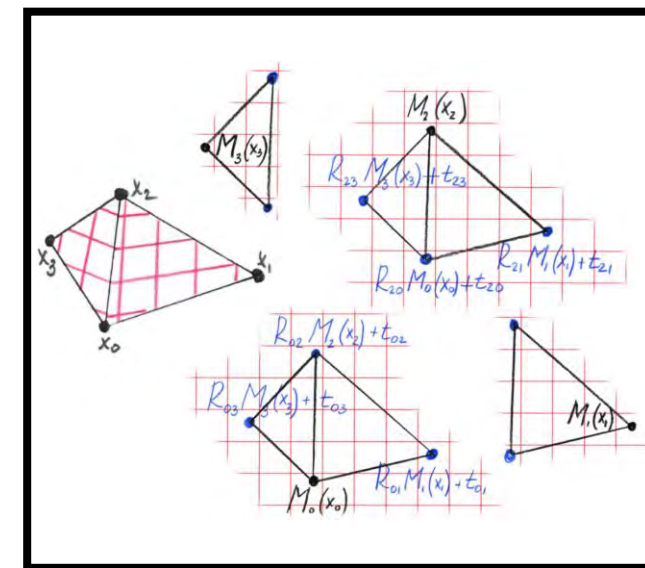
Input



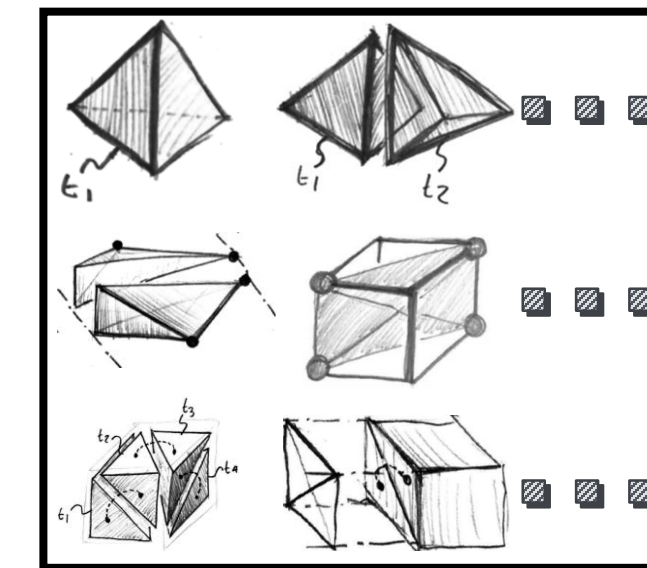
1. Orientation



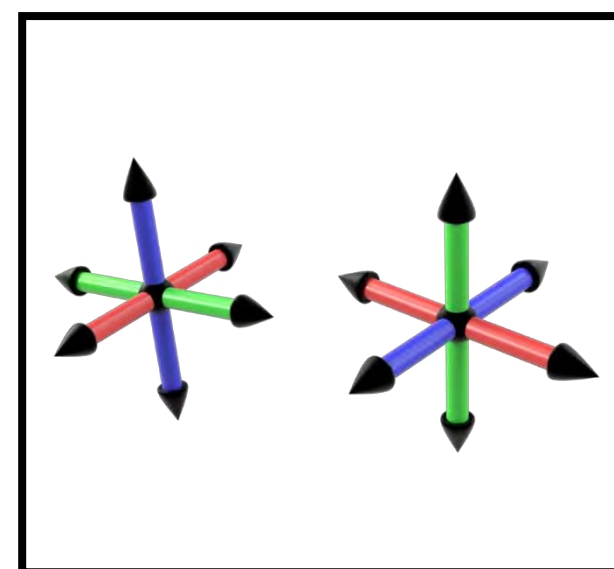
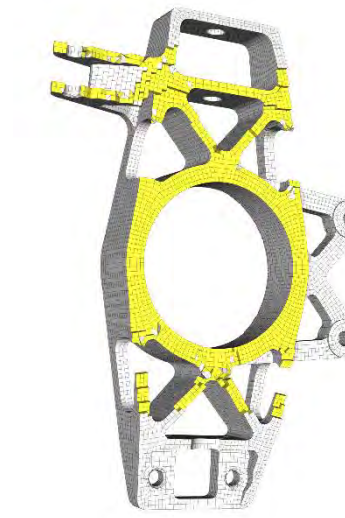
2. Position



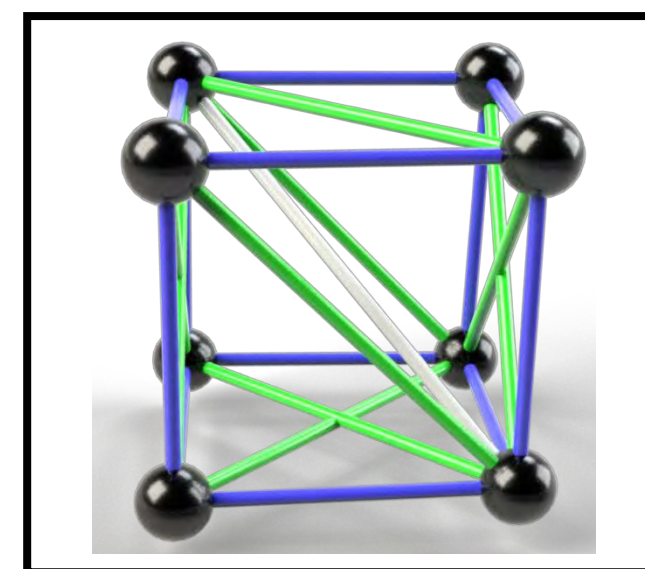
3. Extraction



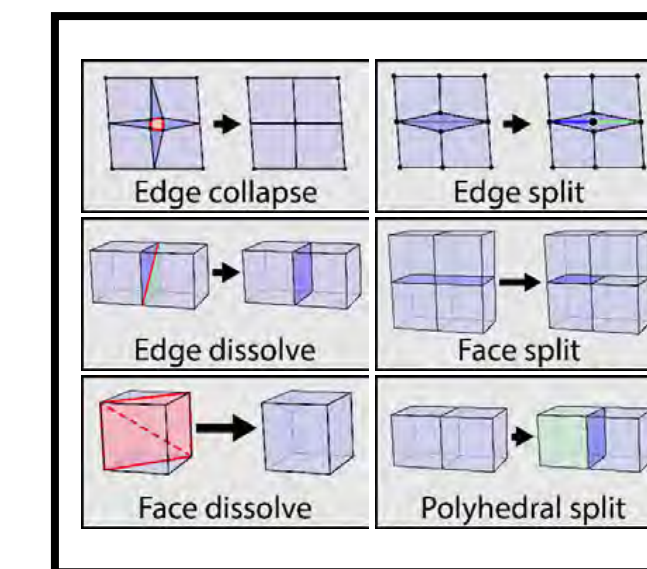
Output



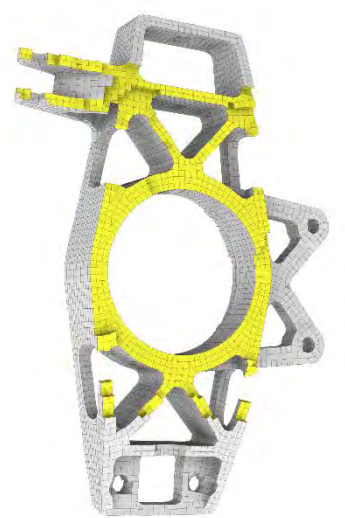
Local iteration



Local iteration

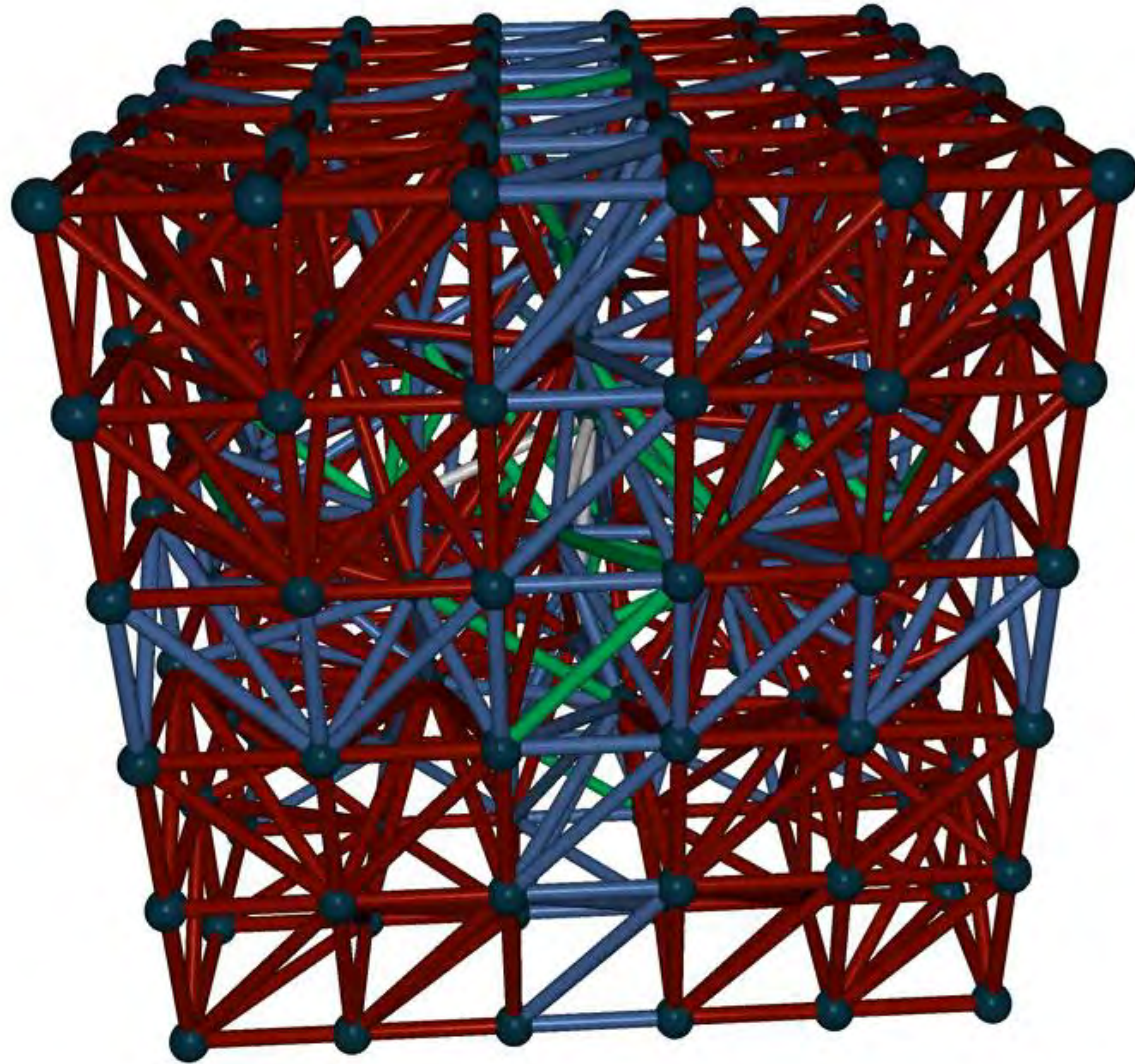


Local operations





# Key Idea



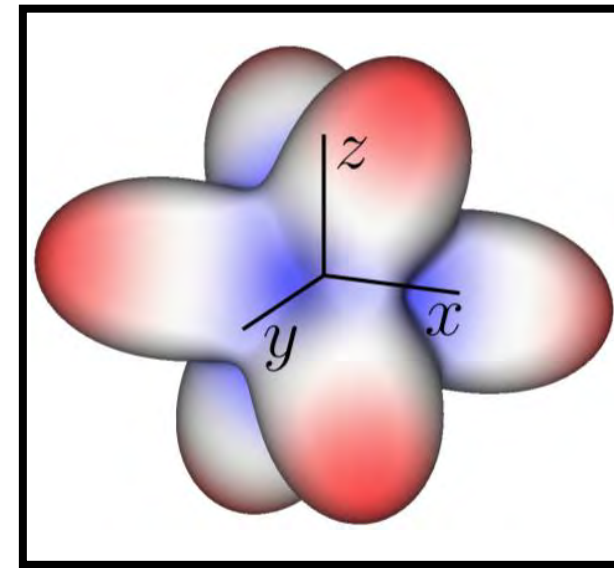


# Ours

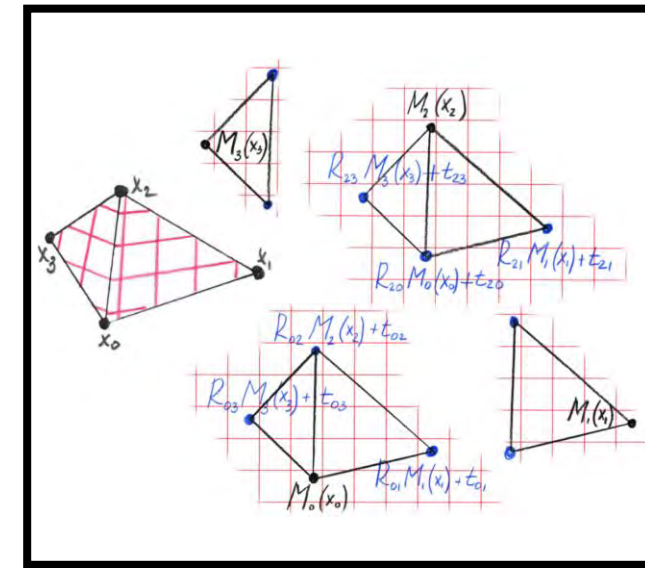
Input



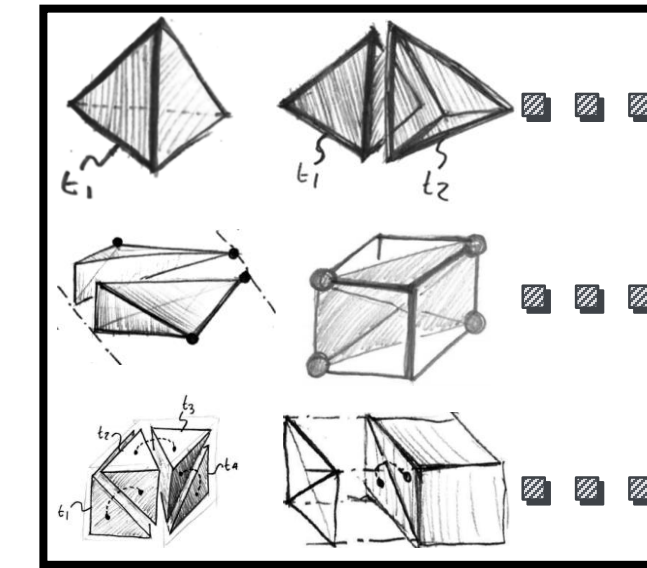
1. Orientation



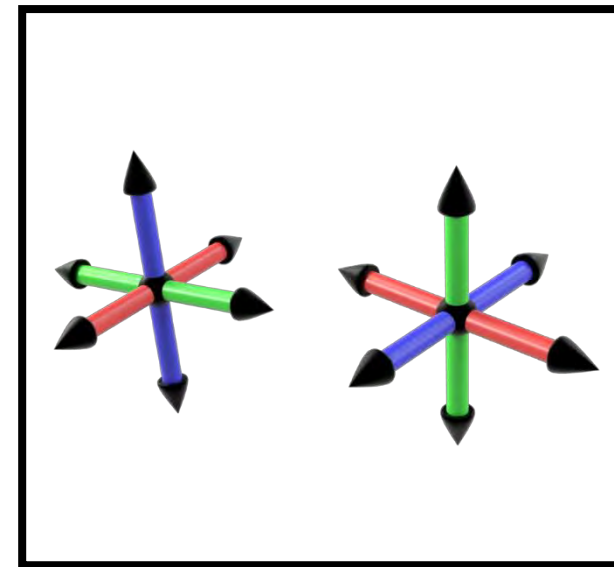
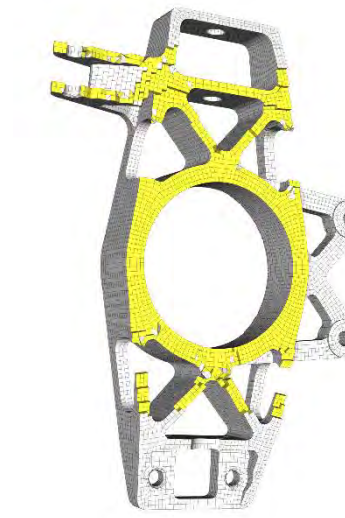
2. Position



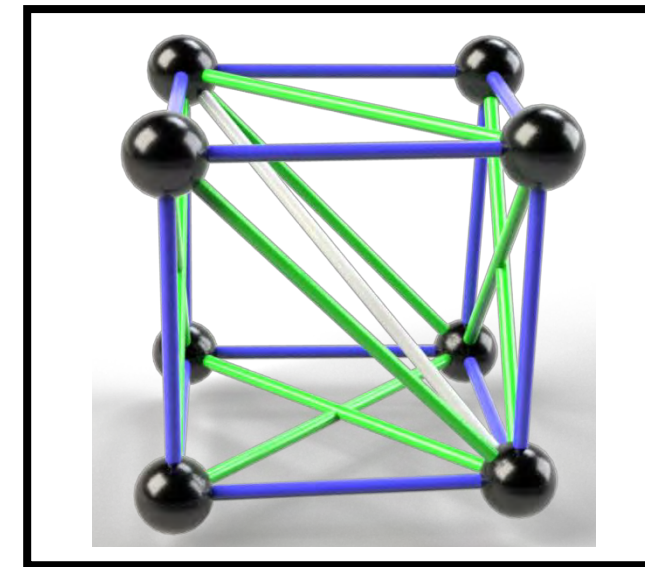
3. Extraction



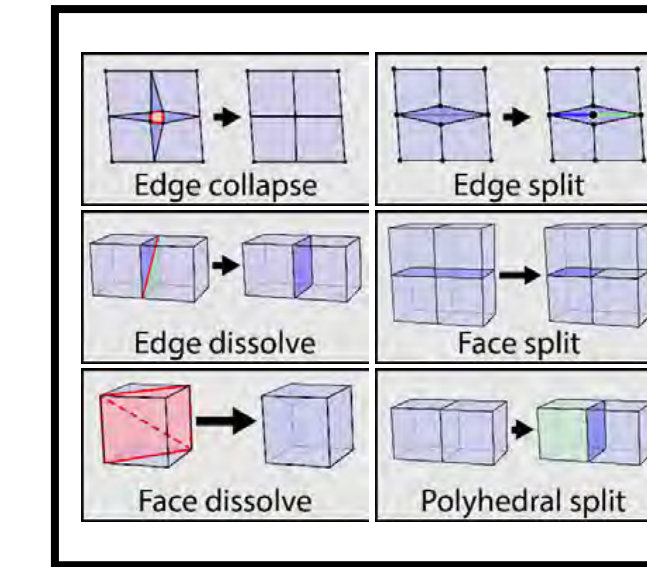
Output



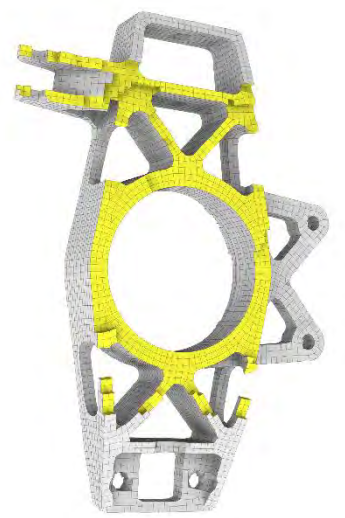
Local iteration



Local iteration



Local operations



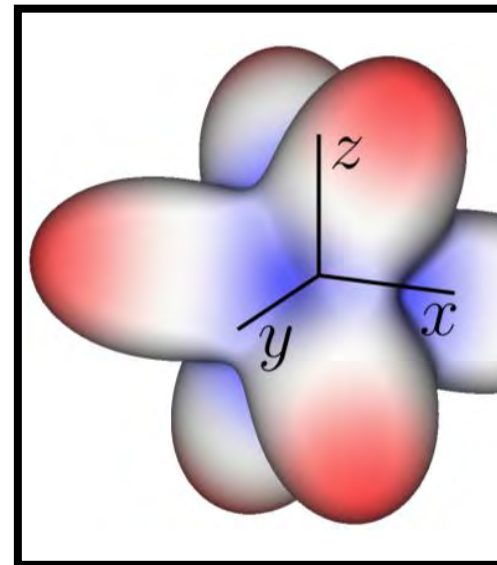


# Comparison

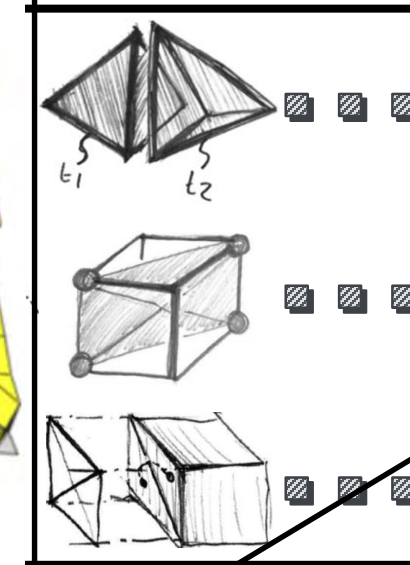
Input



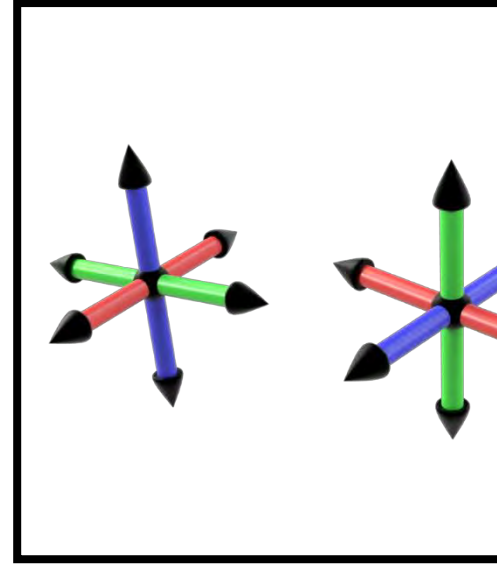
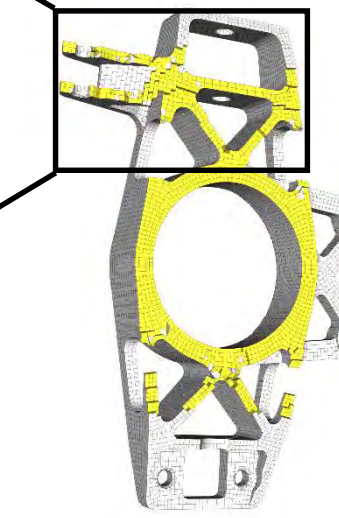
1. Orientation



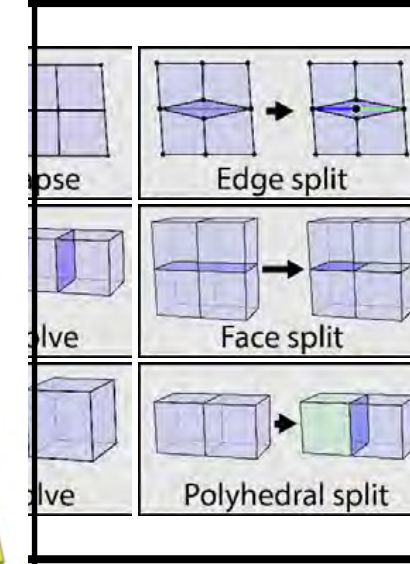
traction



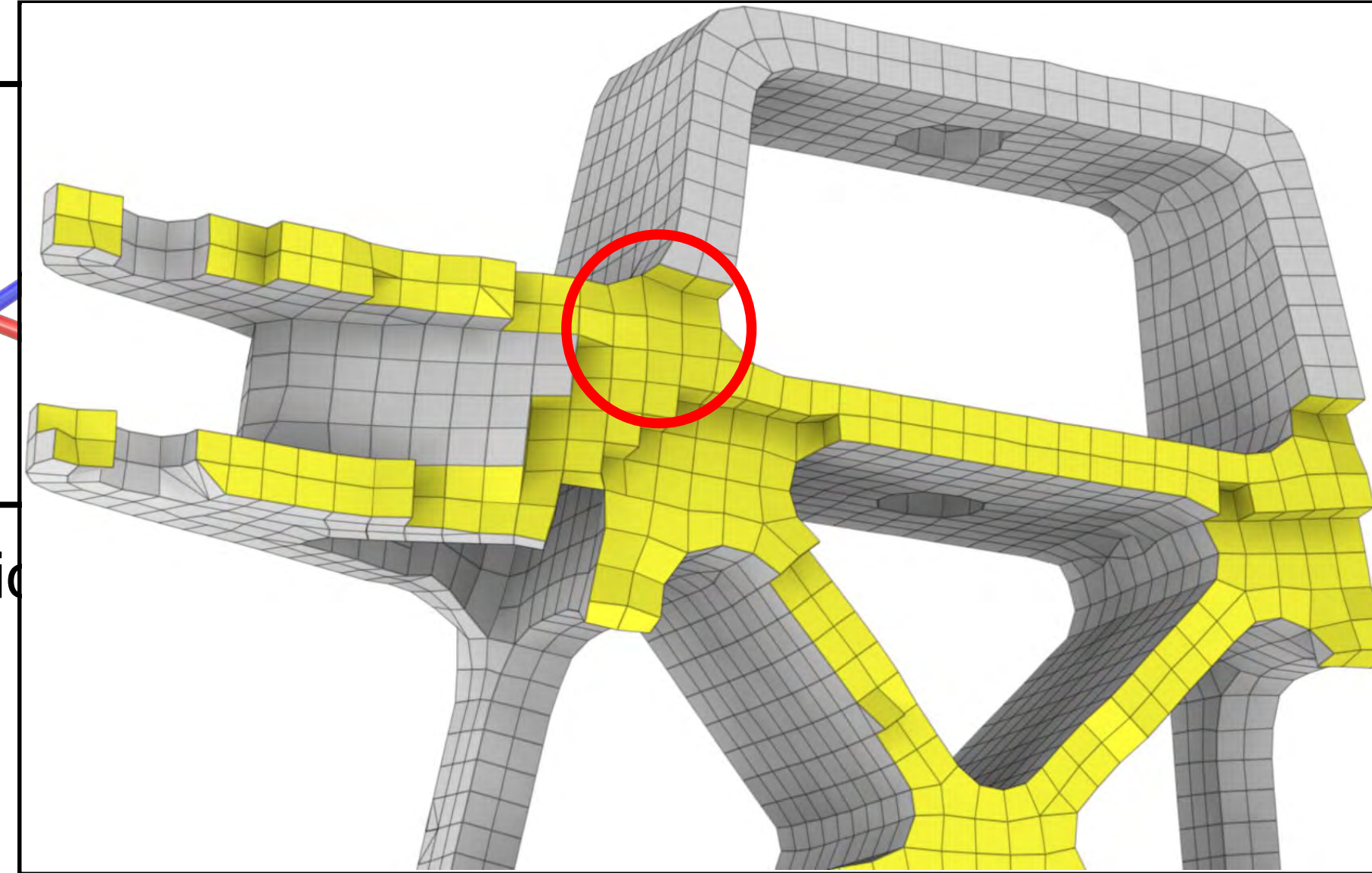
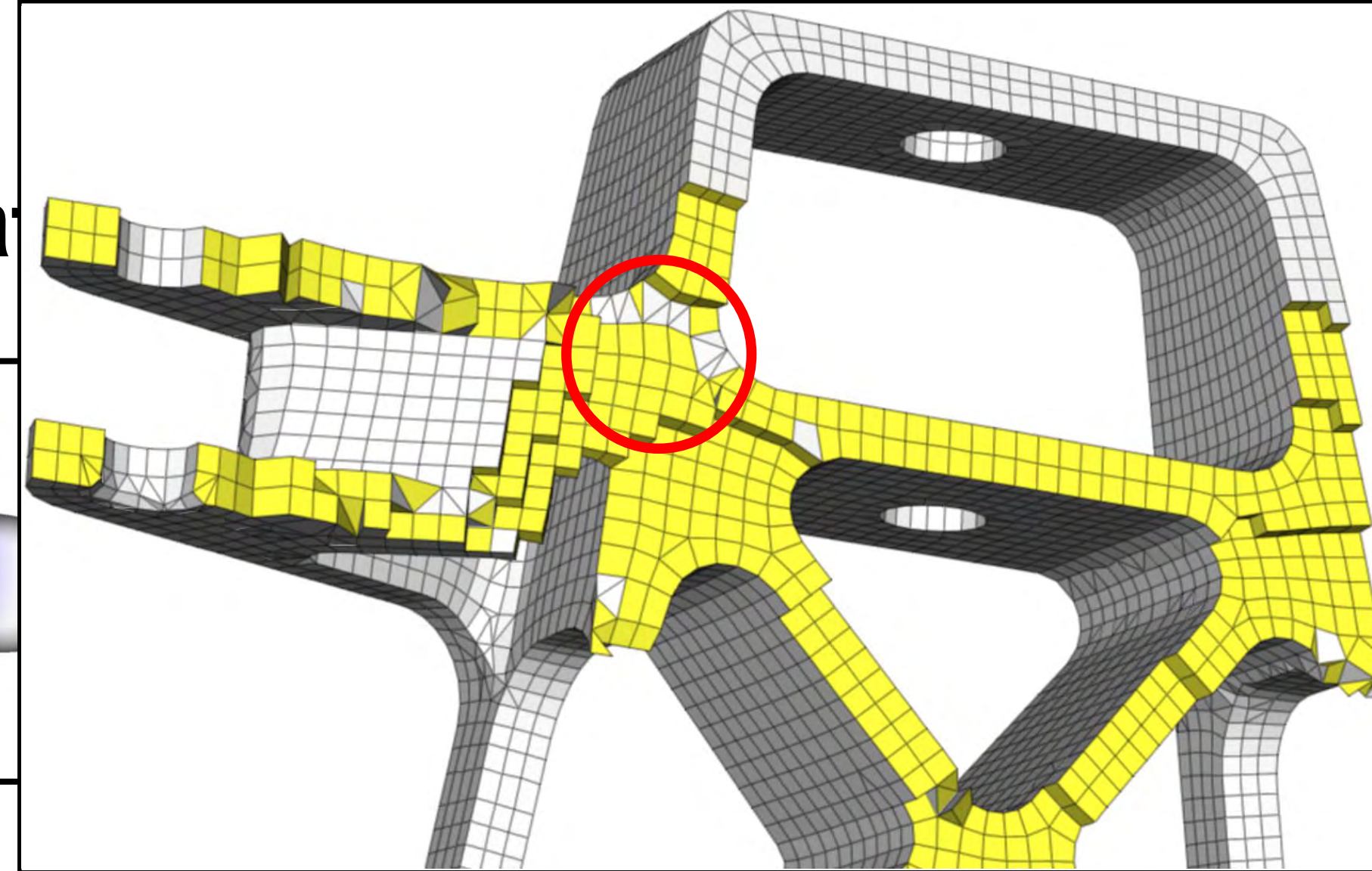
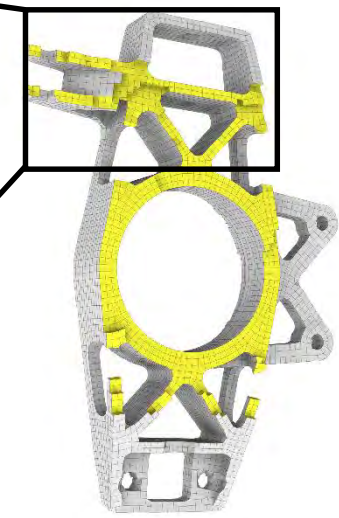
Output



Local iteration



operations



Fewer irregular elements

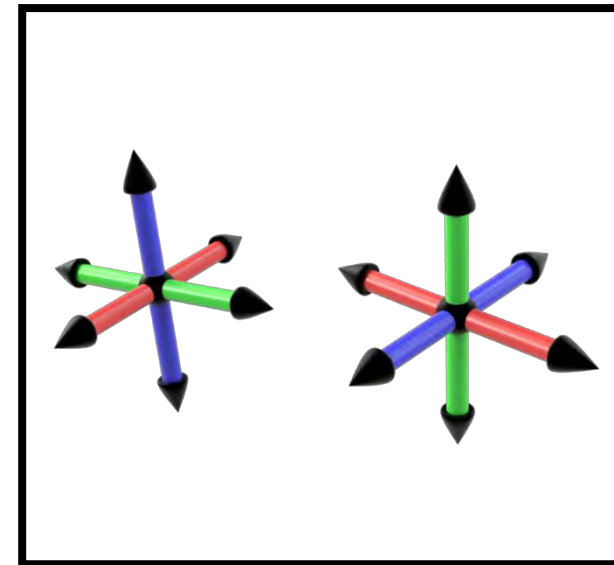


# Pipeline

**Input**

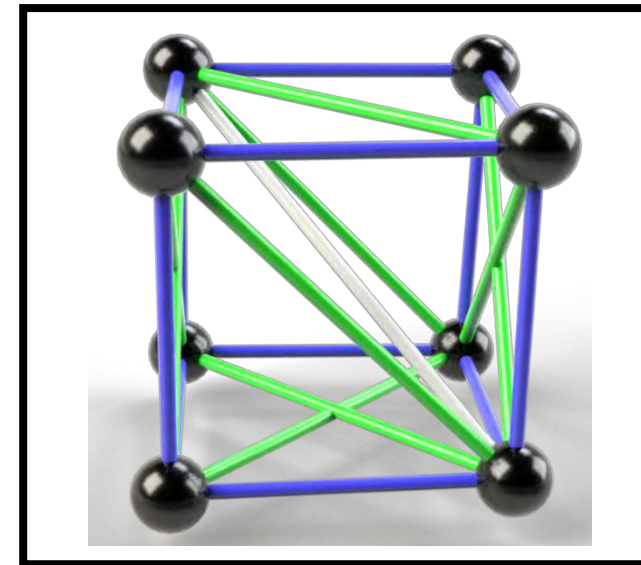


**1. Orientation**



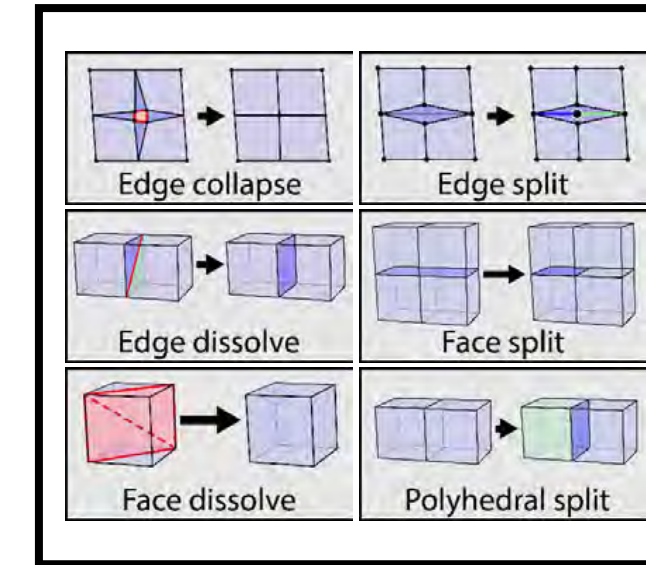
Local iteration

**2. Position**



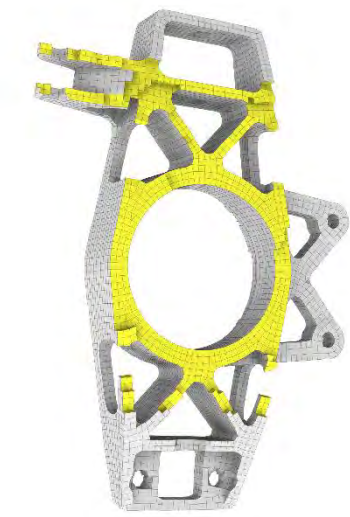
Local iteration

**3. Extraction**

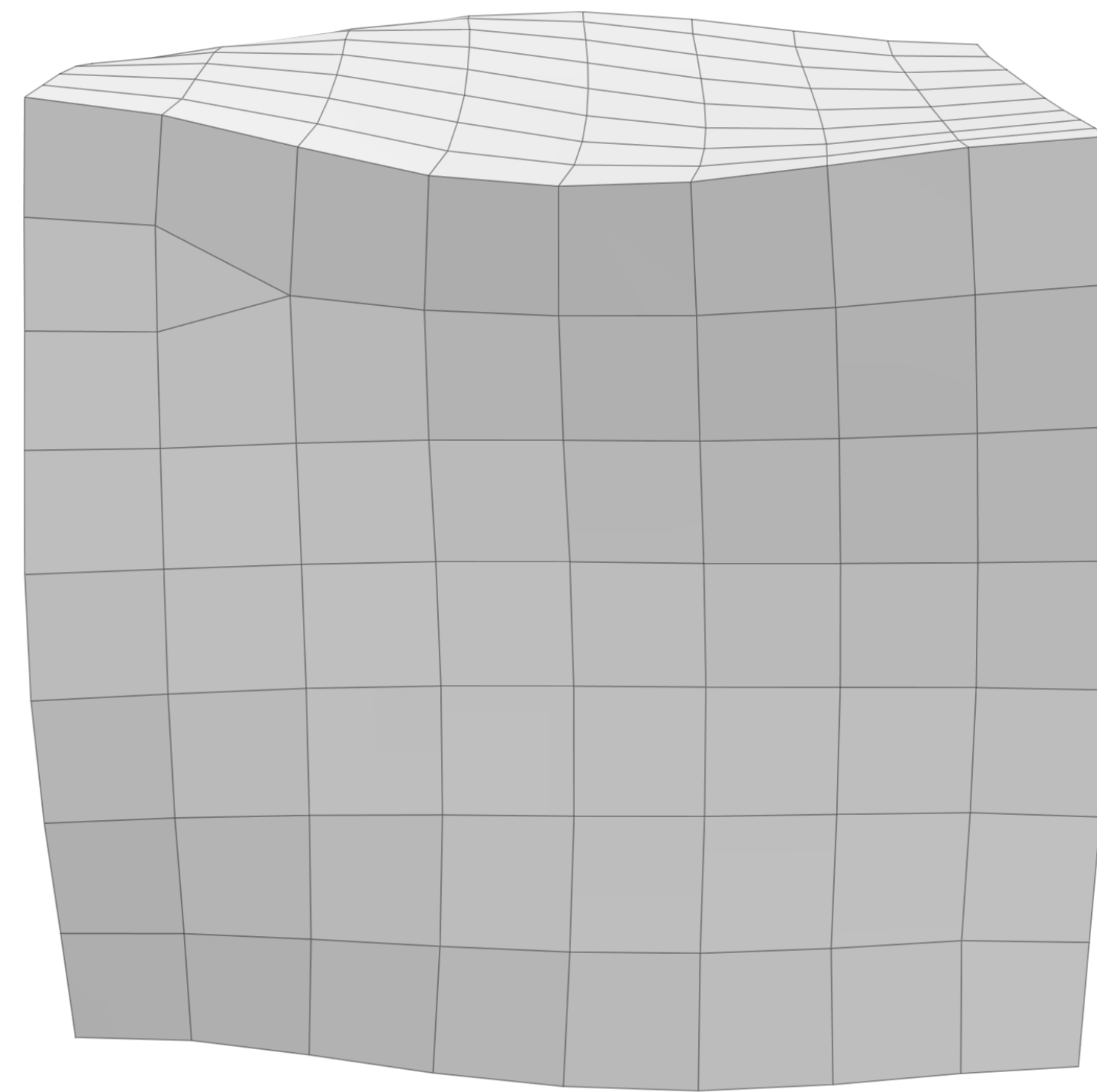
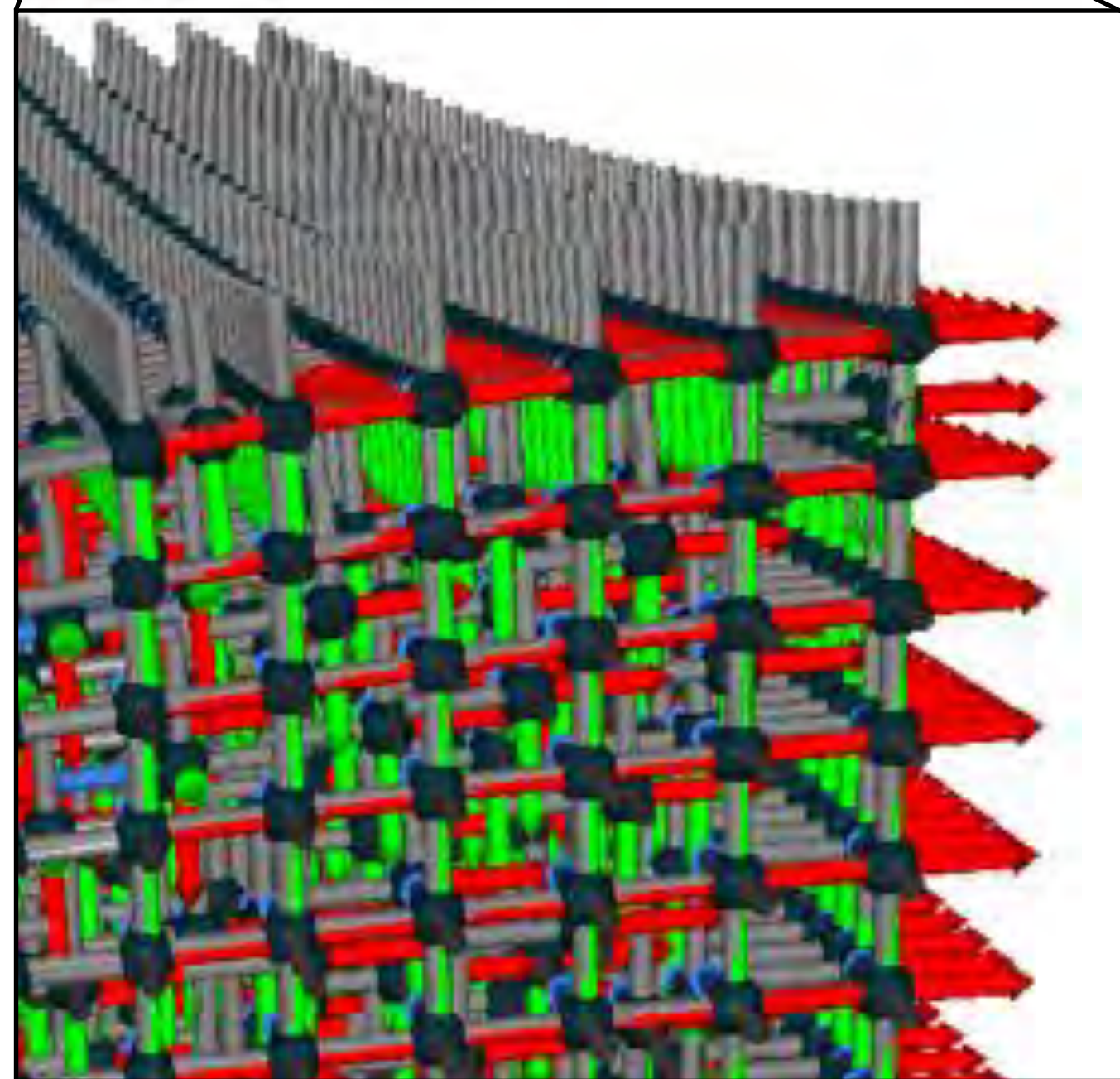
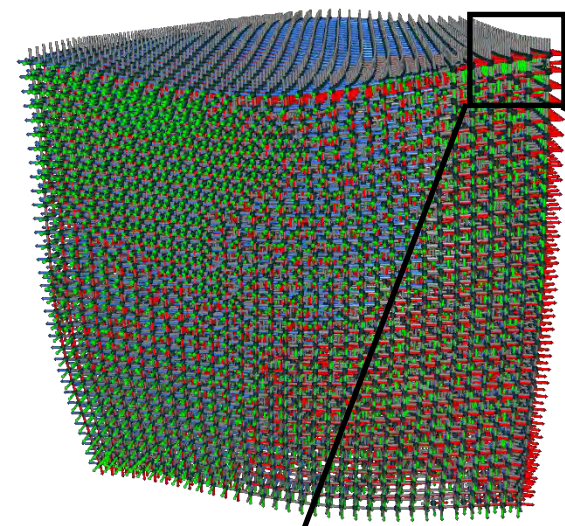
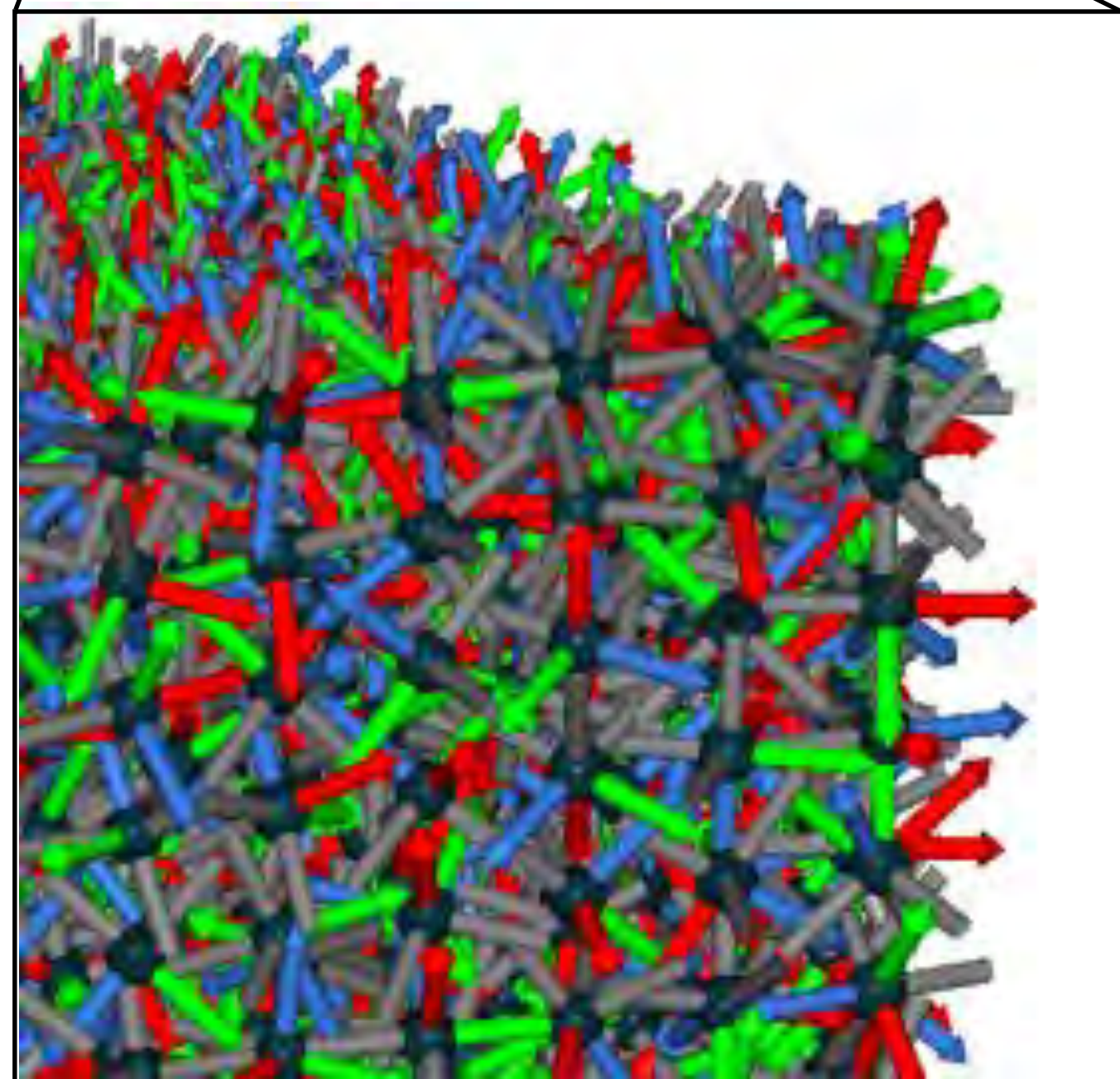
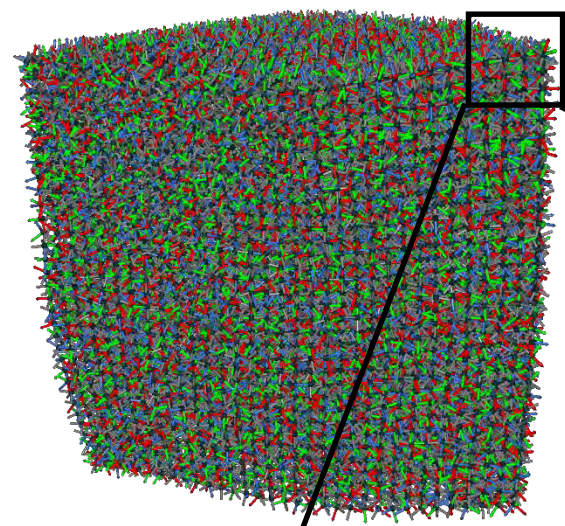


Local operations

**Output**



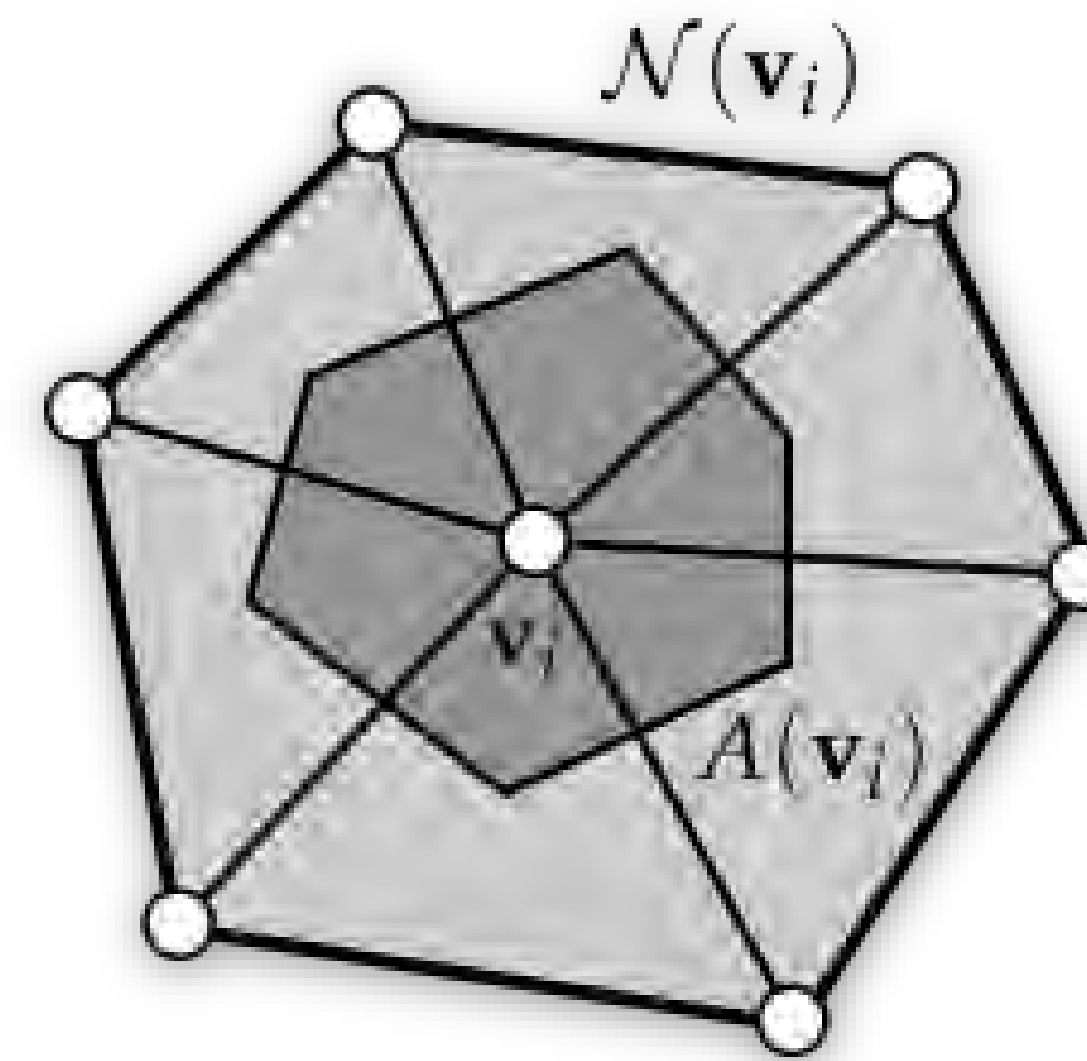






# A simple smoothing algorithm

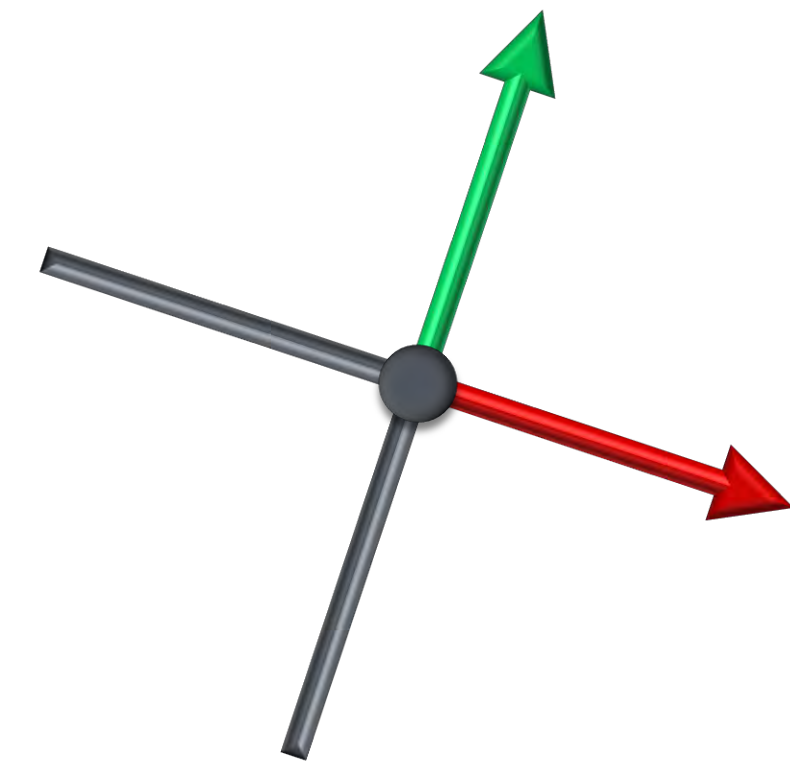
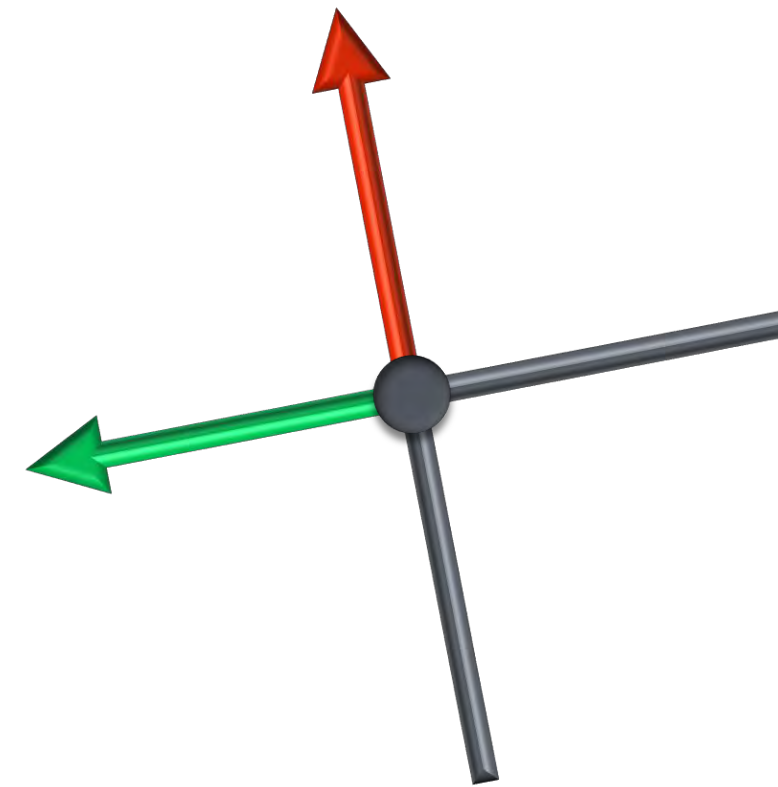
1. foreach  $v \in V$ :
2.     temp = 0
3.     foreach  $n \in N(v)$ :
4.         temp += value[n]
5.     value[v] = temp /  $|N(v)|$





# A simple smoothing algorithm

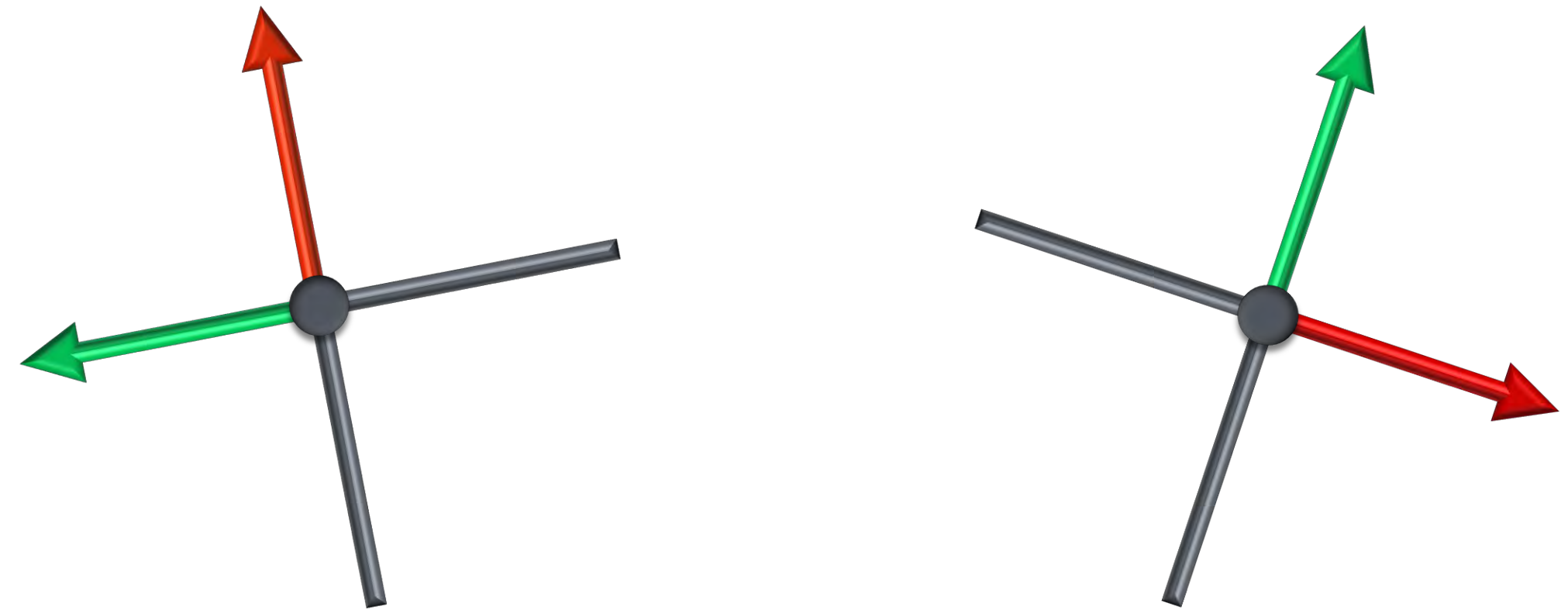
1. `foreach v ∈ V:`
2.     `temp = 0`
3.     `foreach n ∈ N(v):`
4.         `temp += value[n]`
5.     `value[v] = temp / |N(v)|`





# A simple smoothing algorithm

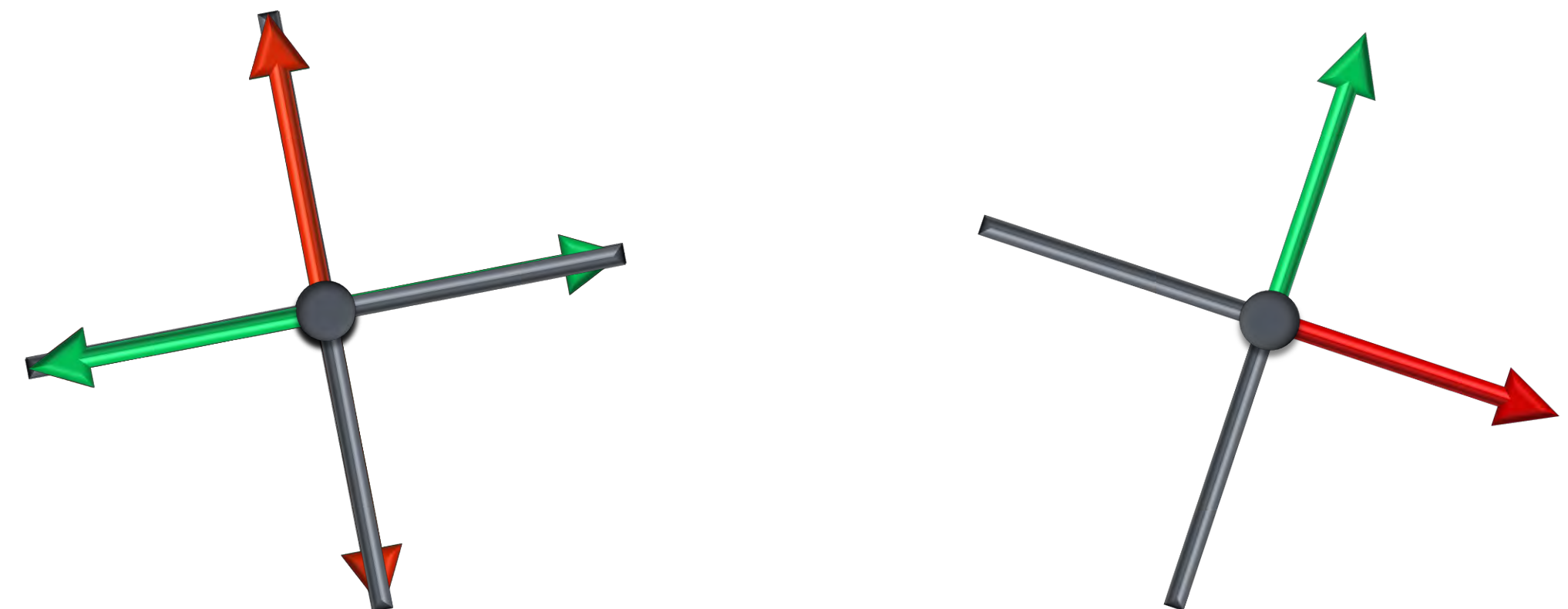
1. foreach  $v \in V$ :
2.     temp = 0
3.     foreach  $n \in N(v)$ :  
       **matching of crosses**
4.     temp += value[n]
5.     value[v] = temp /  $|N(v)|$





# A simple smoothing algorithm

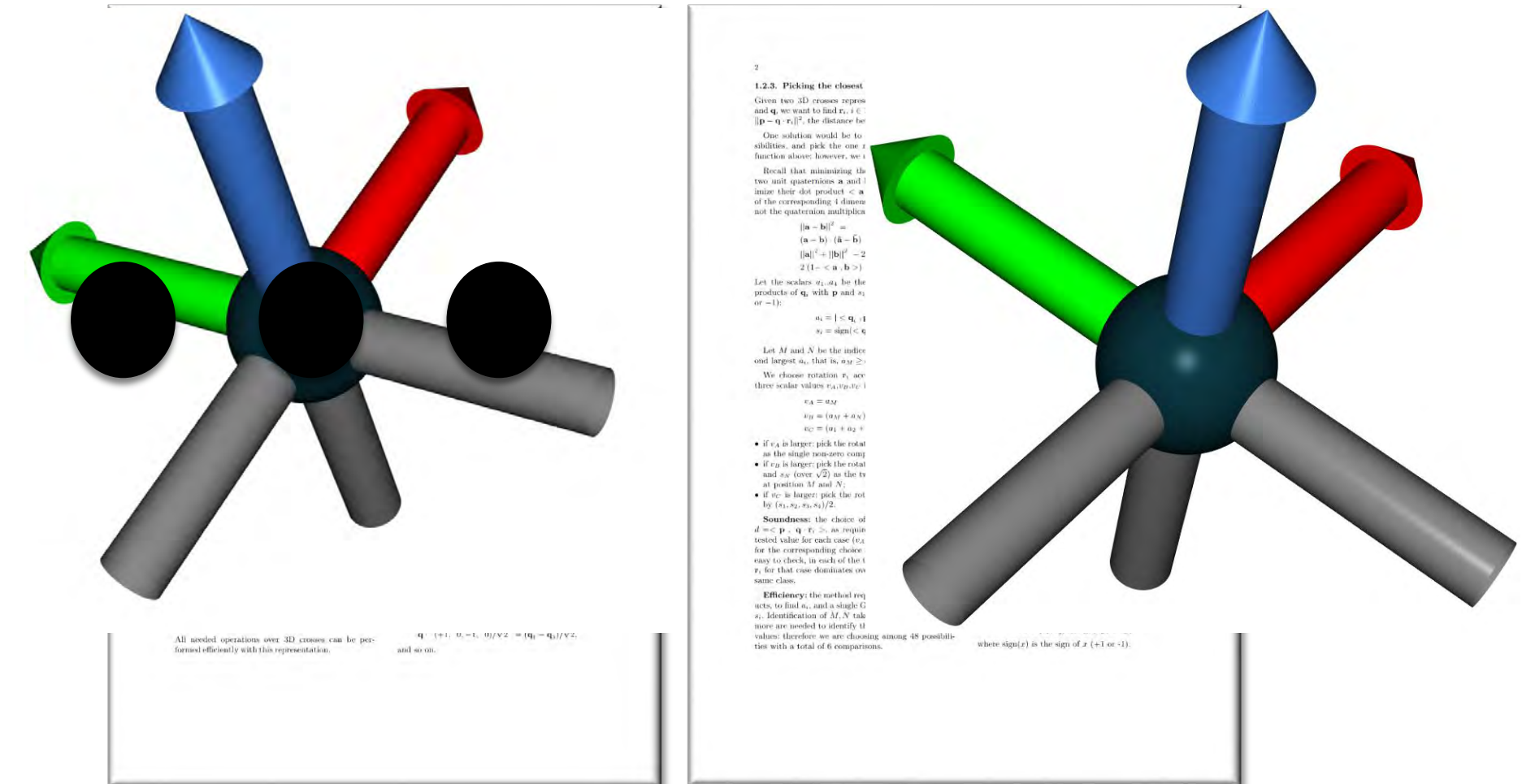
1. foreach  $v \in V$ :
2.     temp = 0
3.     foreach  $n \in N(v)$ :  
       **matching of crosses**
4.     temp += value[n]
5.     value[v] = temp /  $|N(v)|$



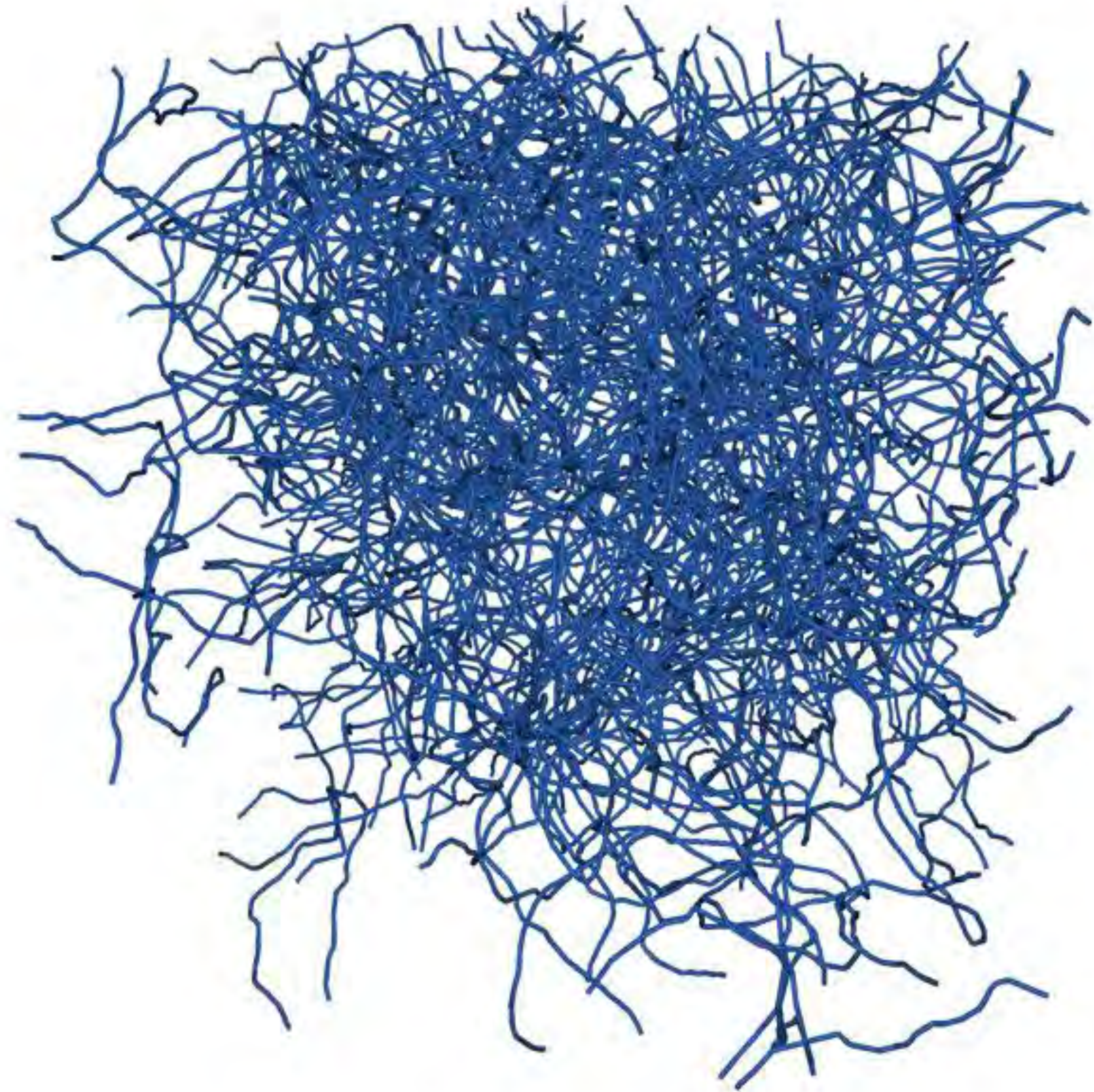


# The simplest smoothing algorithm

1. foreach  $v \in V$ :
2.     temp = 0
3.     foreach  $n \in N(v)$ :  
        **matching of crosses**
4.     temp += value[n]
5.     value[v] = temp /  $|N(v)|$    24 equivalents





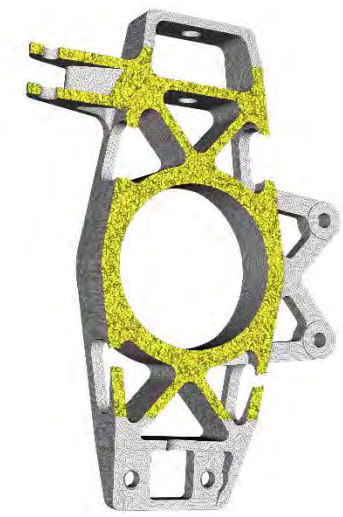


Level 11

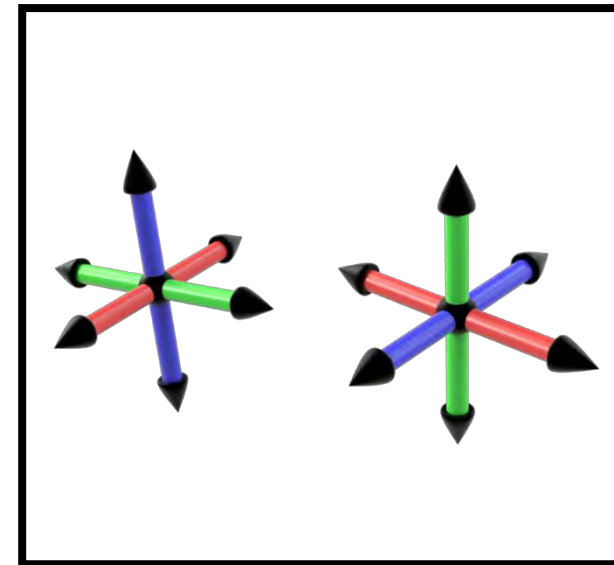


# Pipeline

**Input**

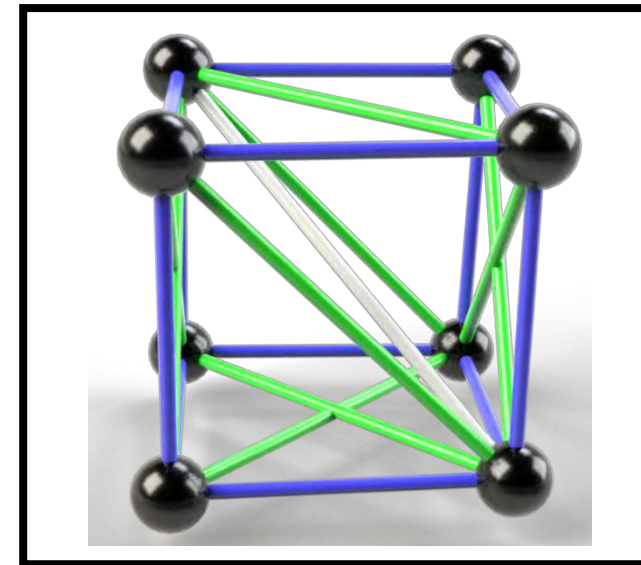


**1. Orientation**



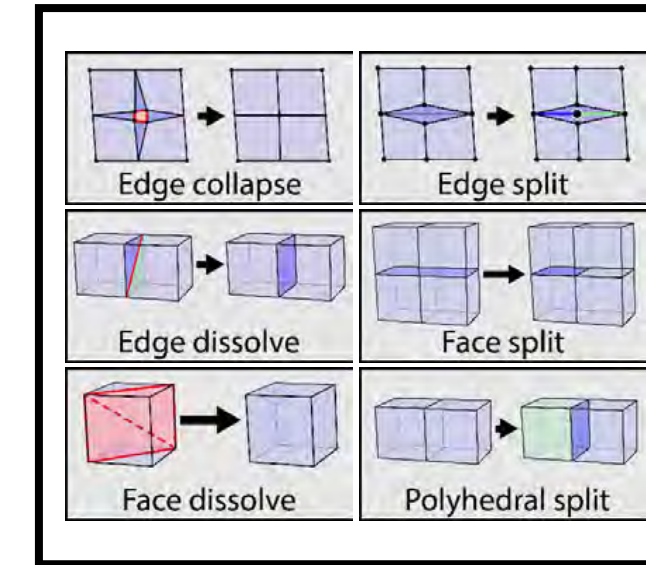
Local iteration

**2. Position**



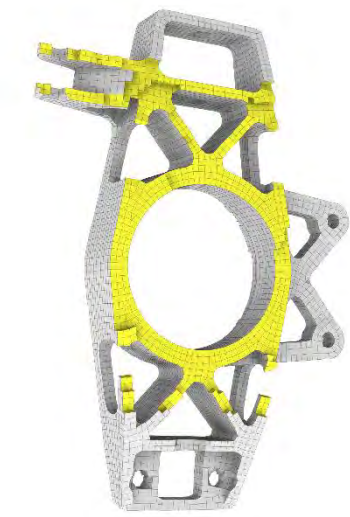
Local iteration

**3. Extraction**

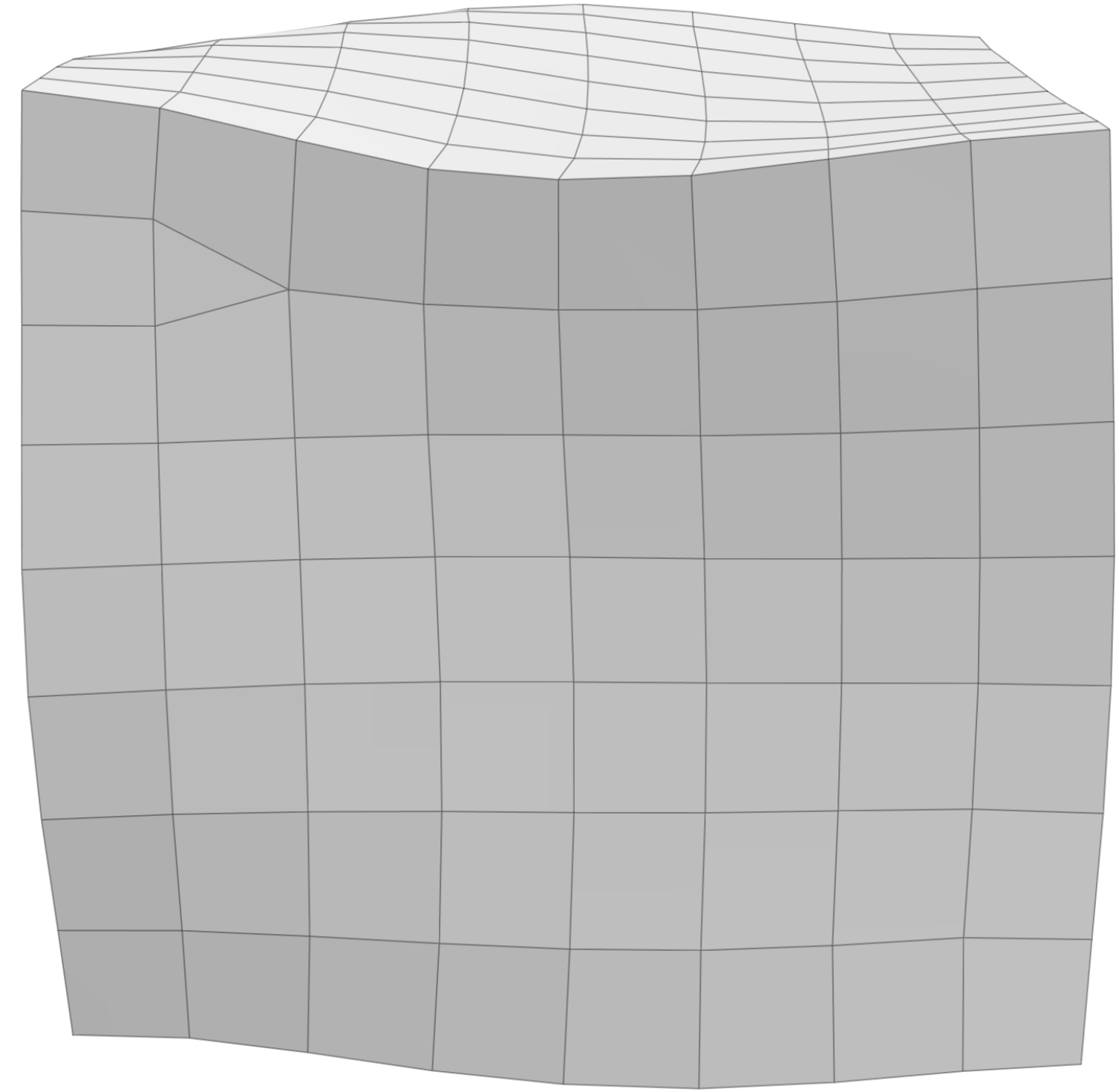
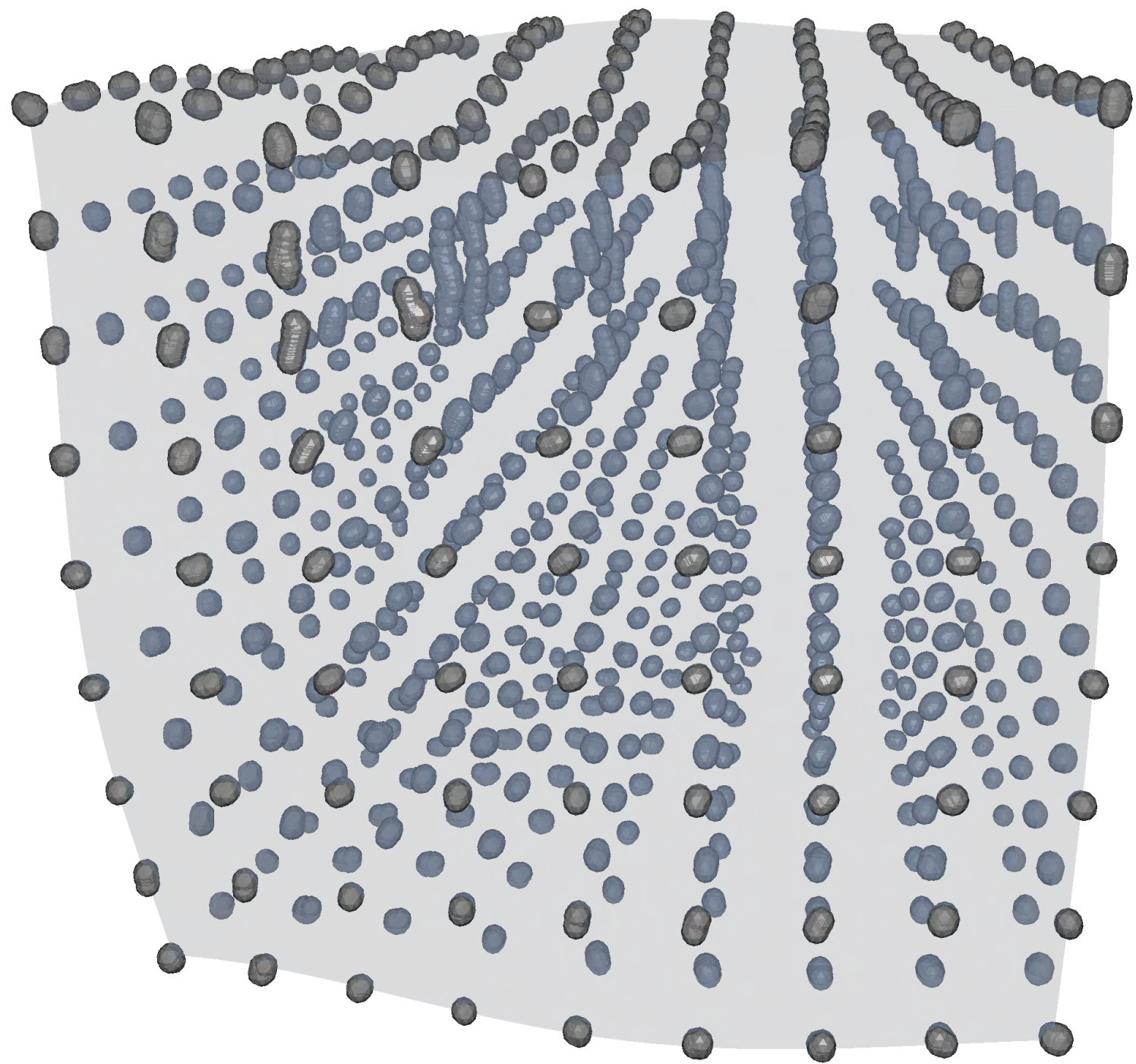
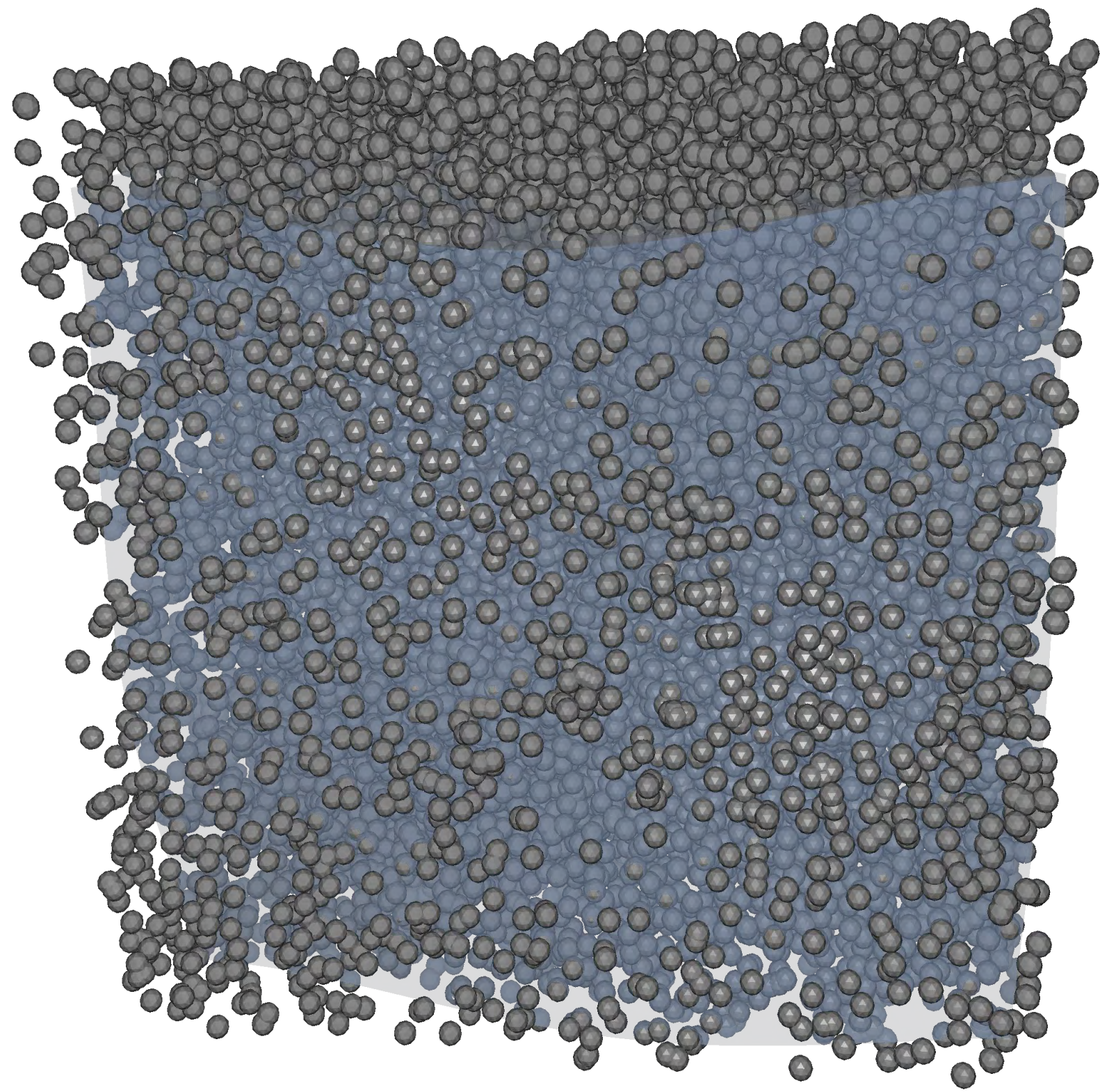


Local operations

**Output**







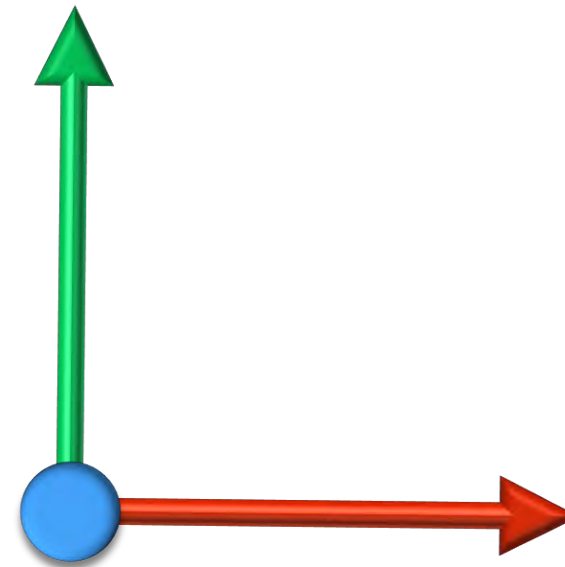


# A simple smoothing algorithm

1. foreach  $v \in V$ :
2.     temp = 0
3.     foreach  $n \in N(v)$ :  
       **matching of local parameterization**
4.     temp += value[n]
5.     value[v] = temp /  $|N(v)|$

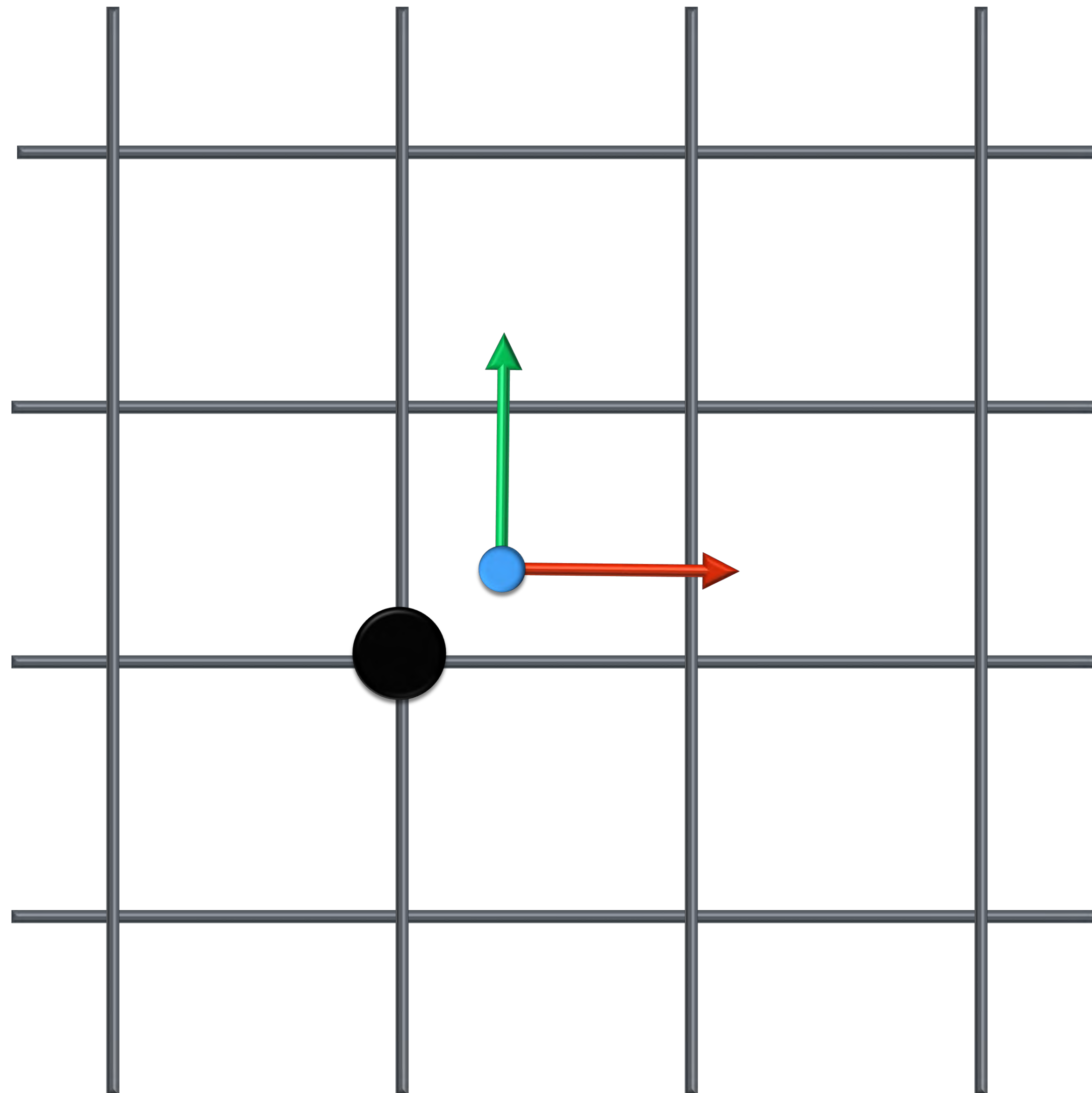


# Local Parameterization



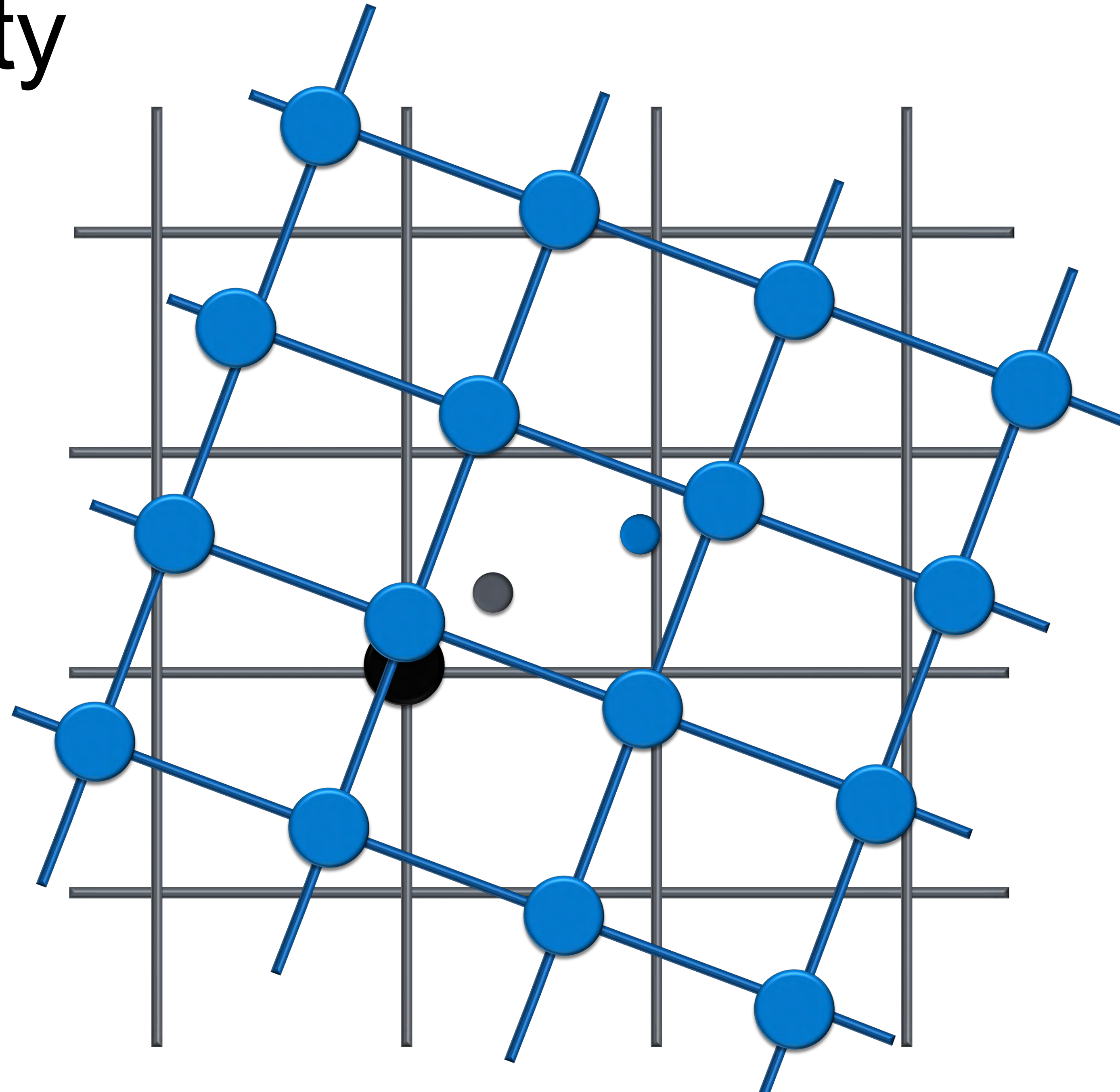


# Local Parameterization



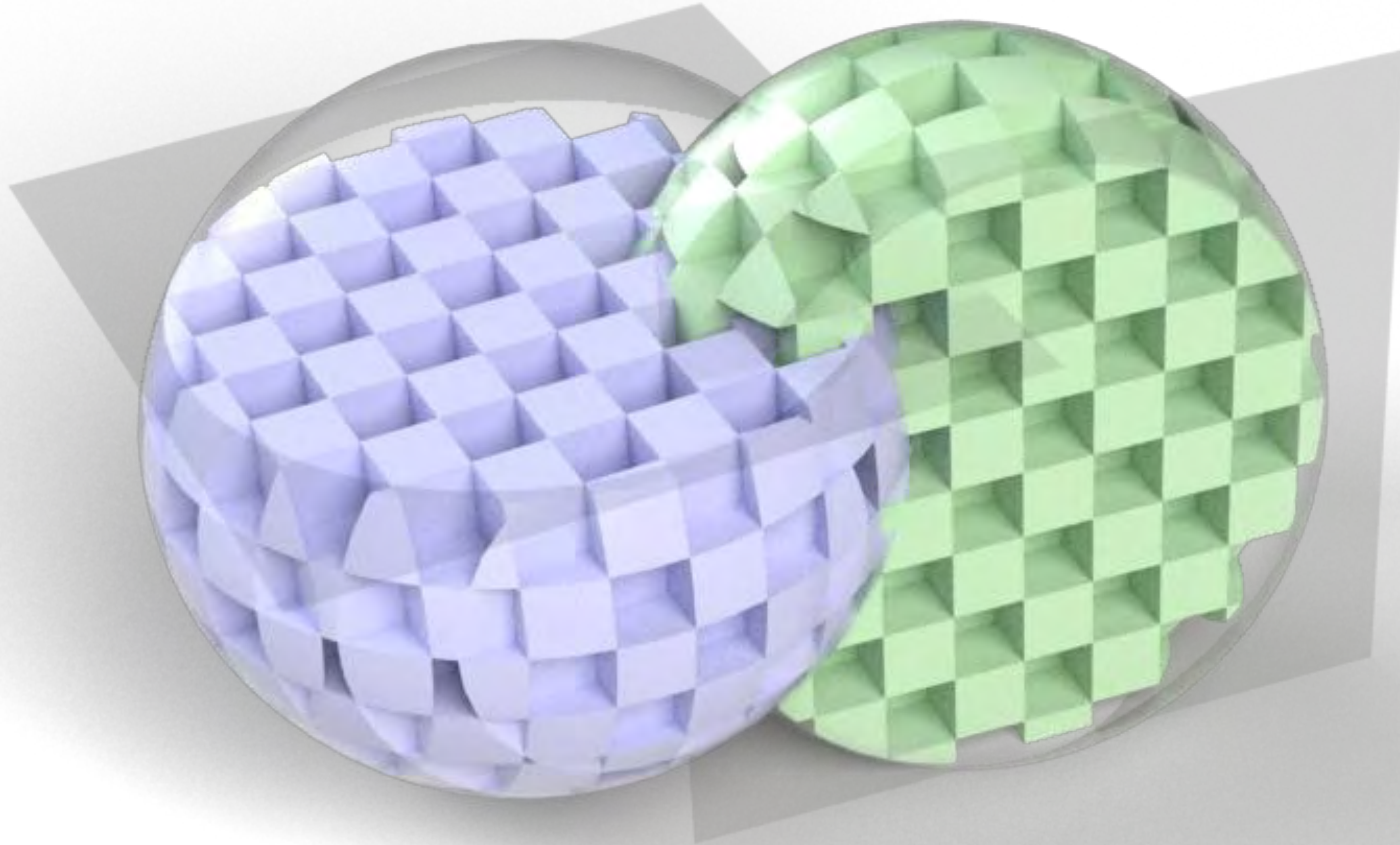


# Similarity

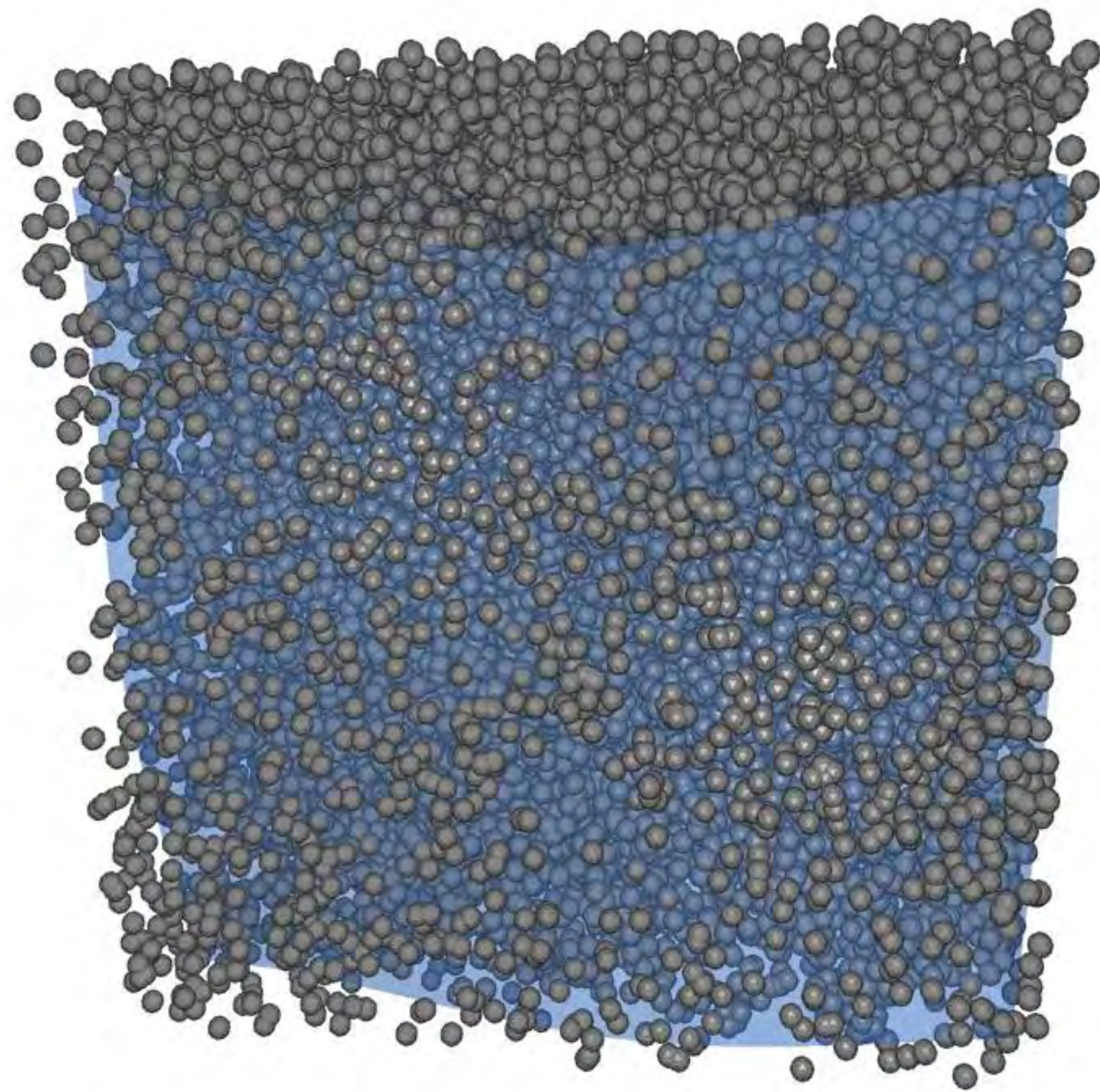




# 3D Position Field







Level 

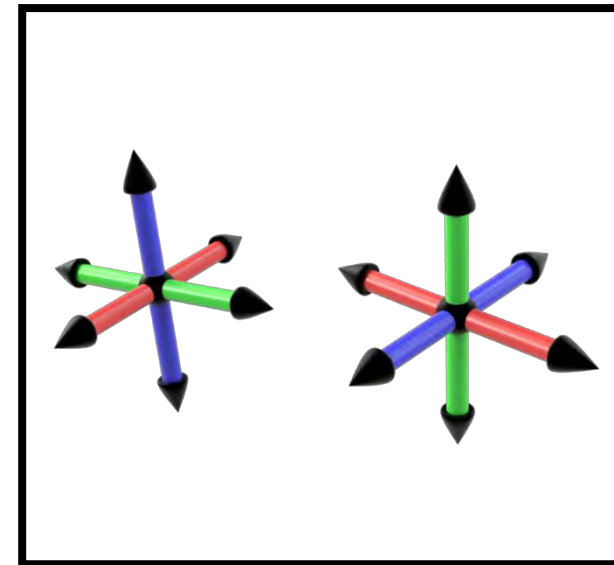


# Pipeline

**Input**

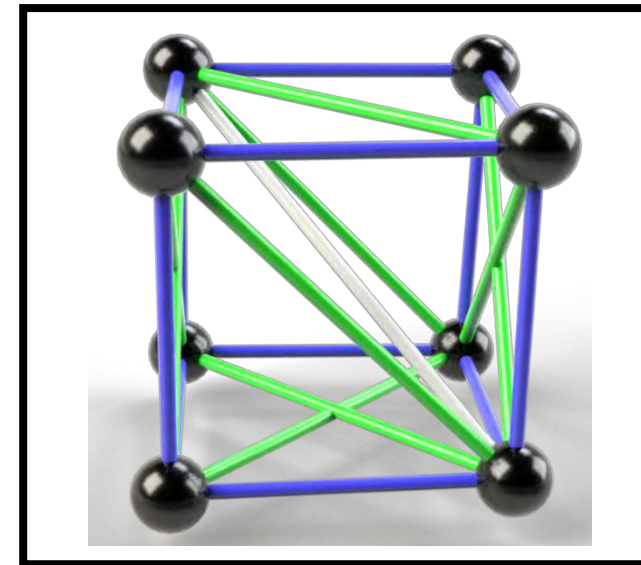


**1. Orientation**



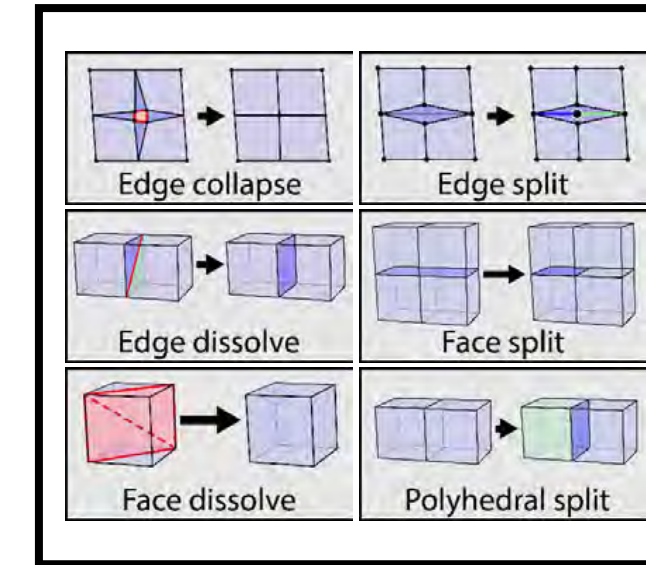
Local iteration

**2. Position**



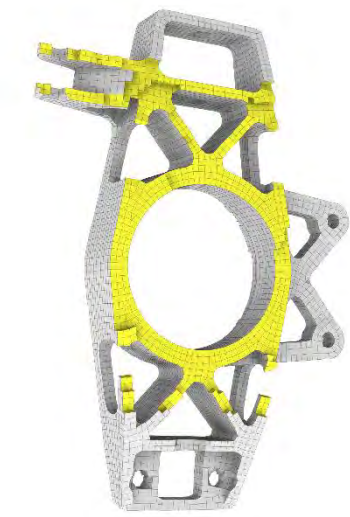
Local iteration

**3. Extraction**



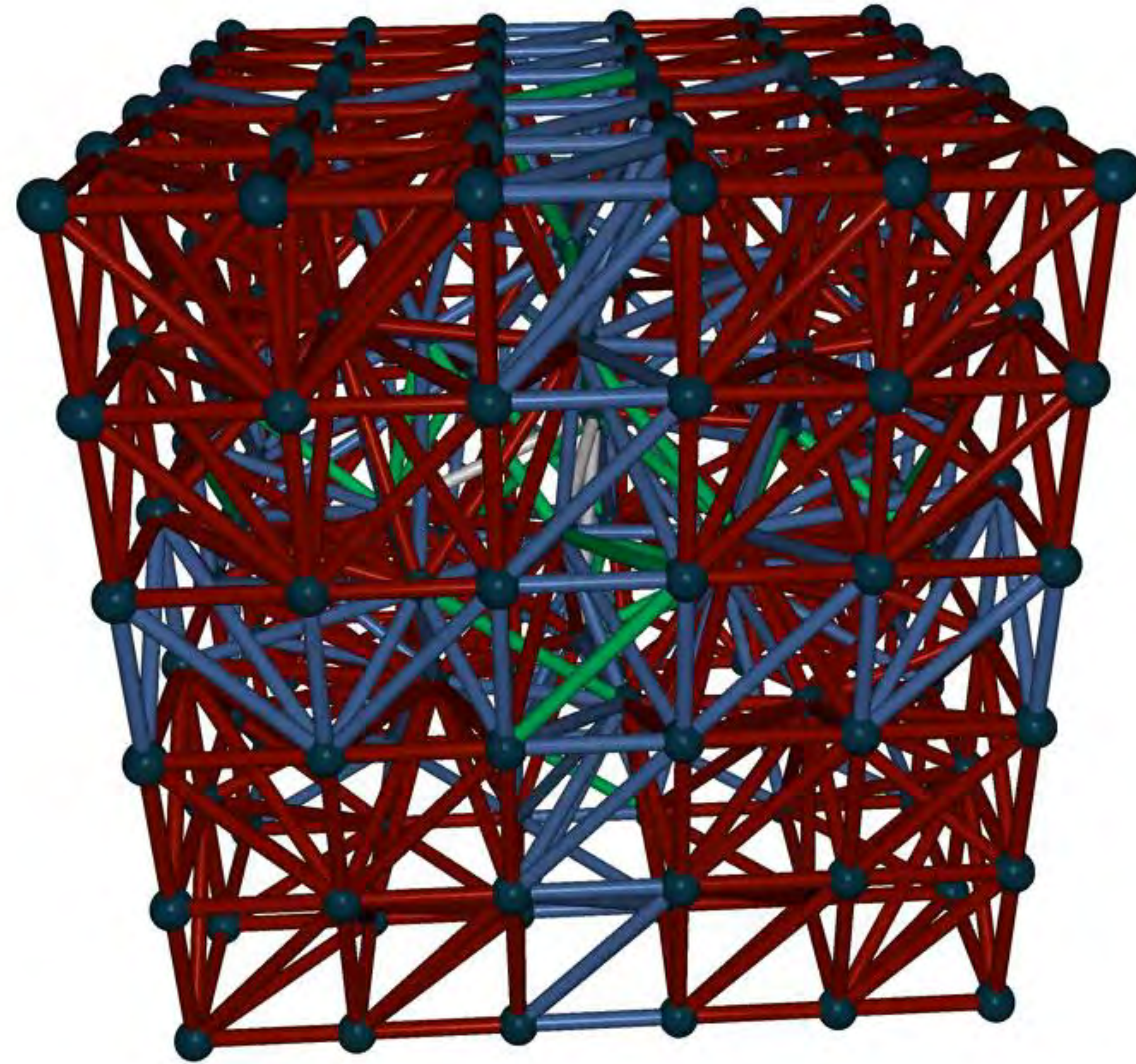
Local operations

**Output**



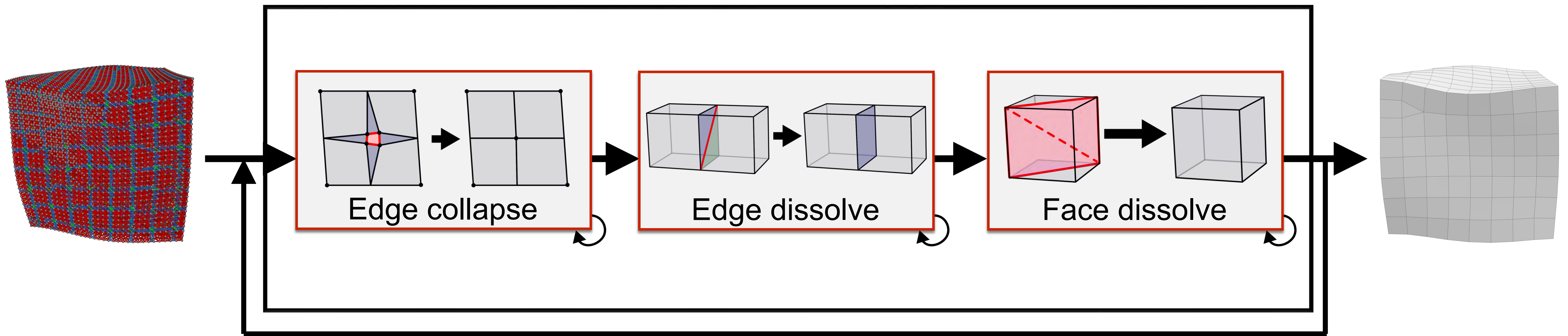


# Edge Classification



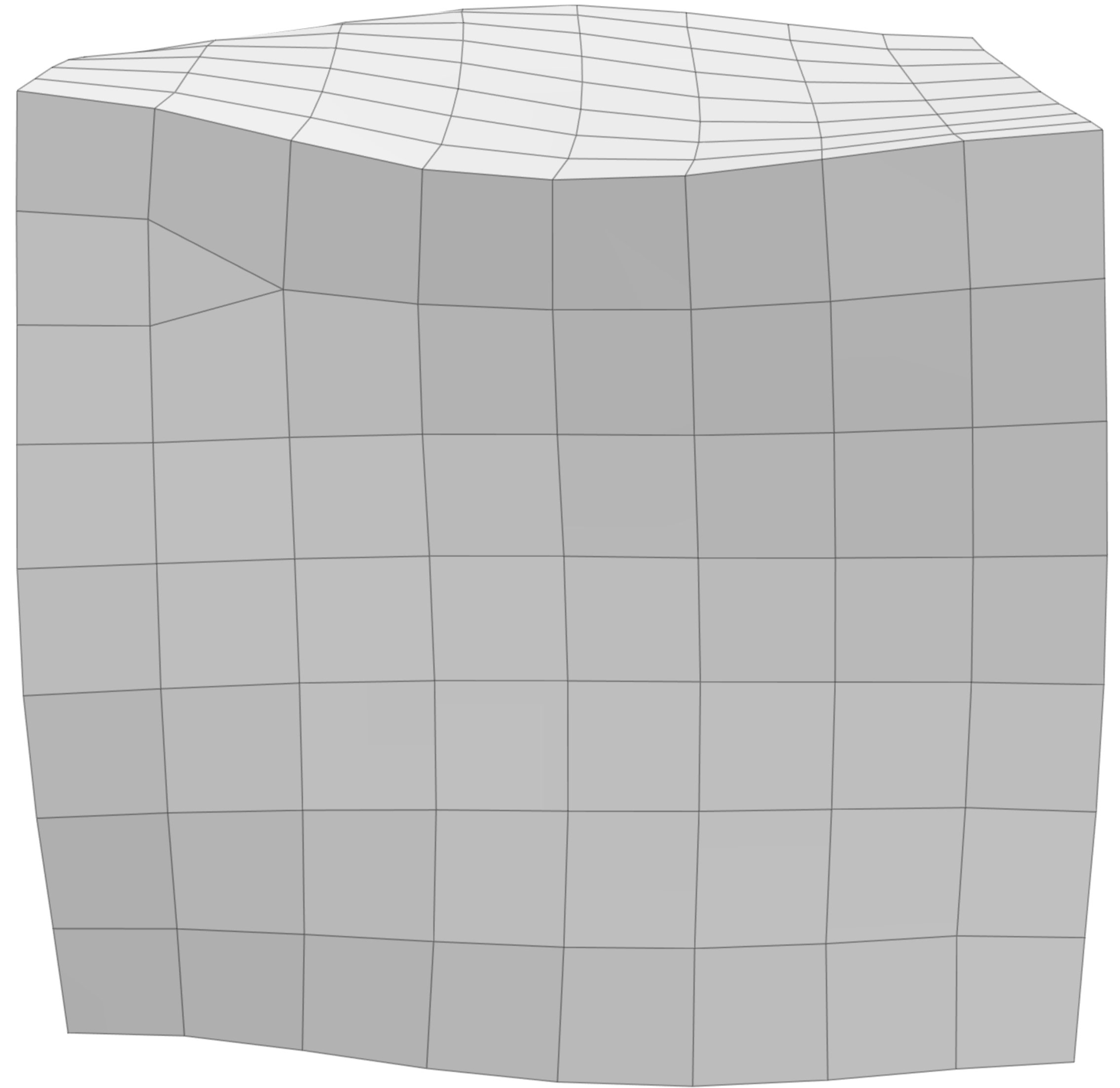
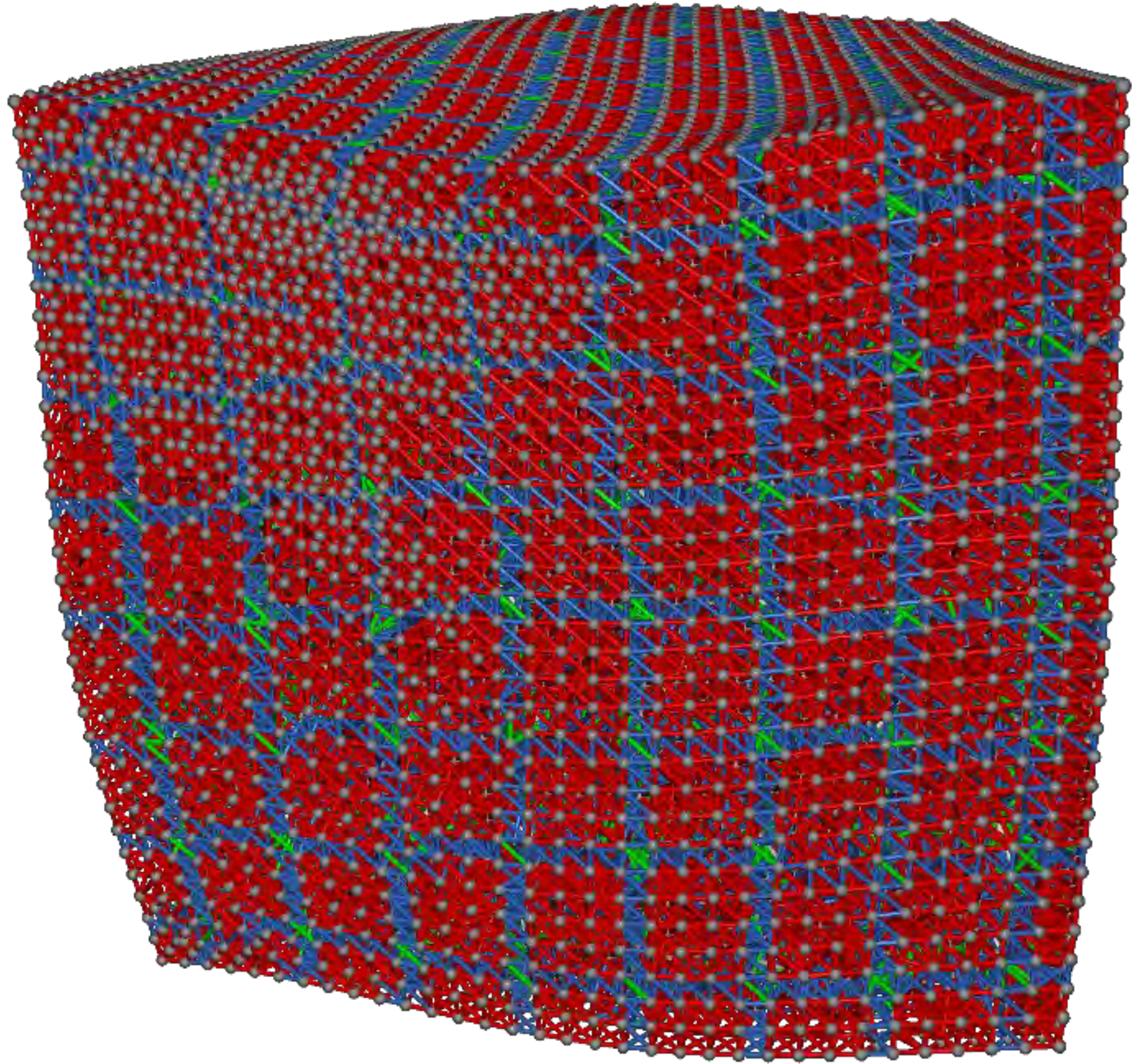


# Local Coarsening

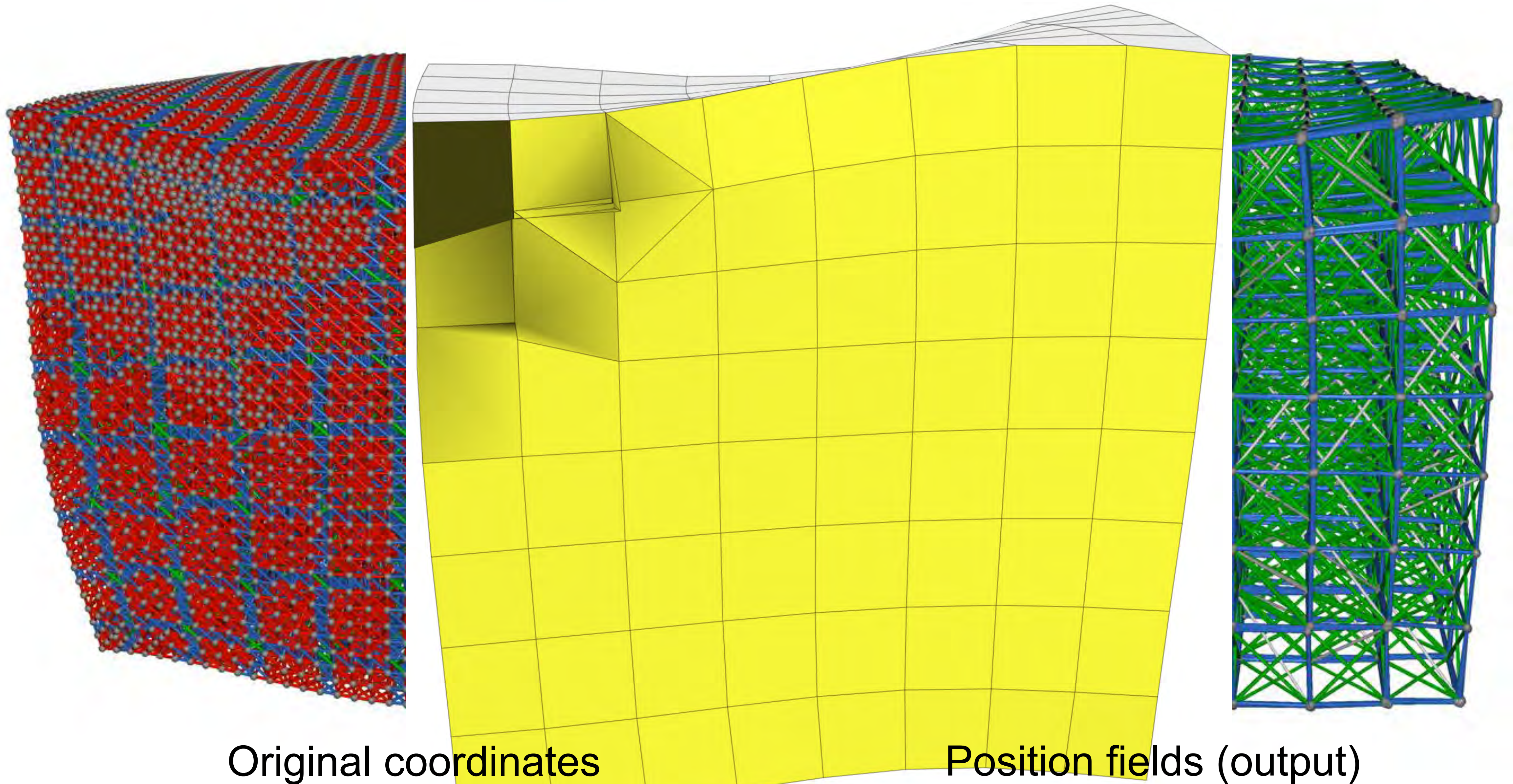




# Local Coarsening





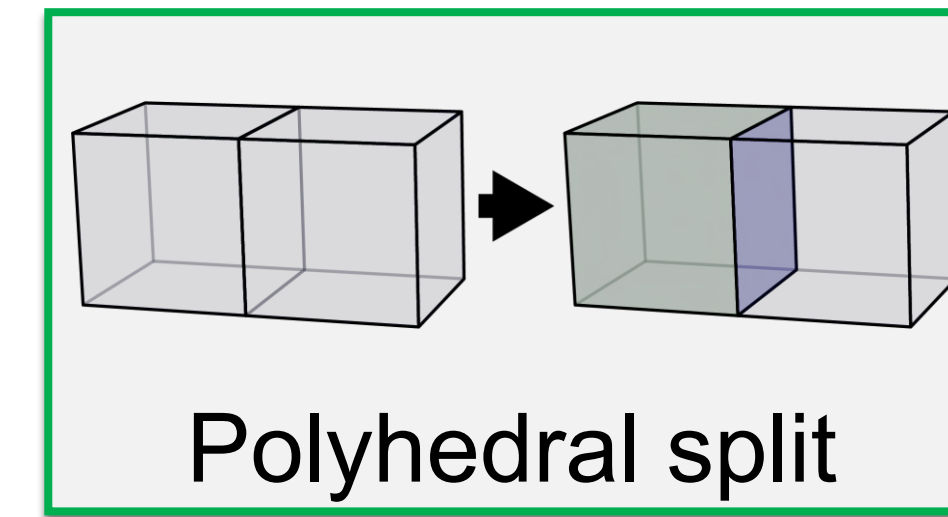
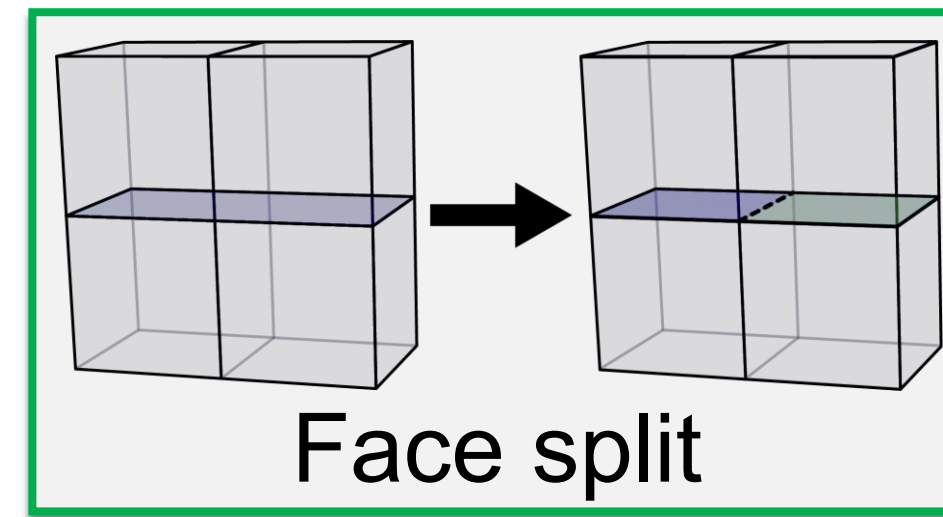
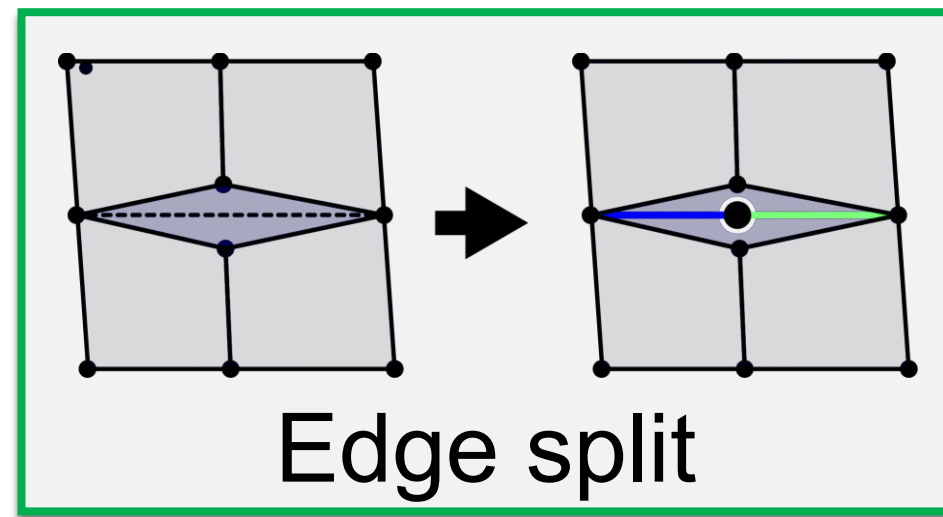


Original coordinates  
(demonstration purpose only)

Position fields (output)

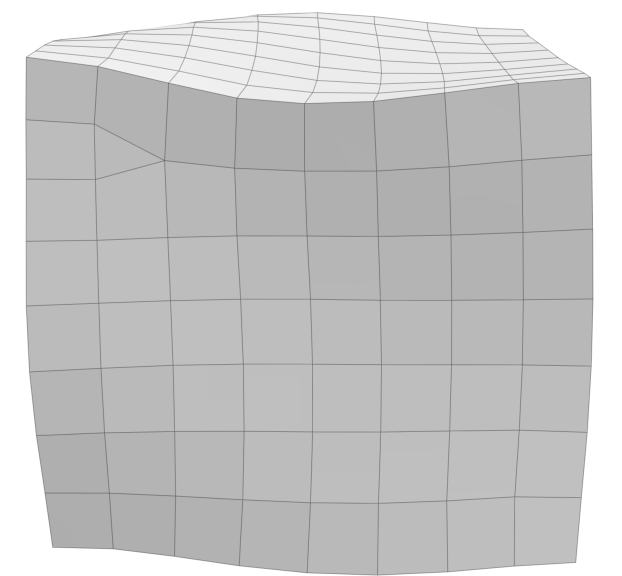
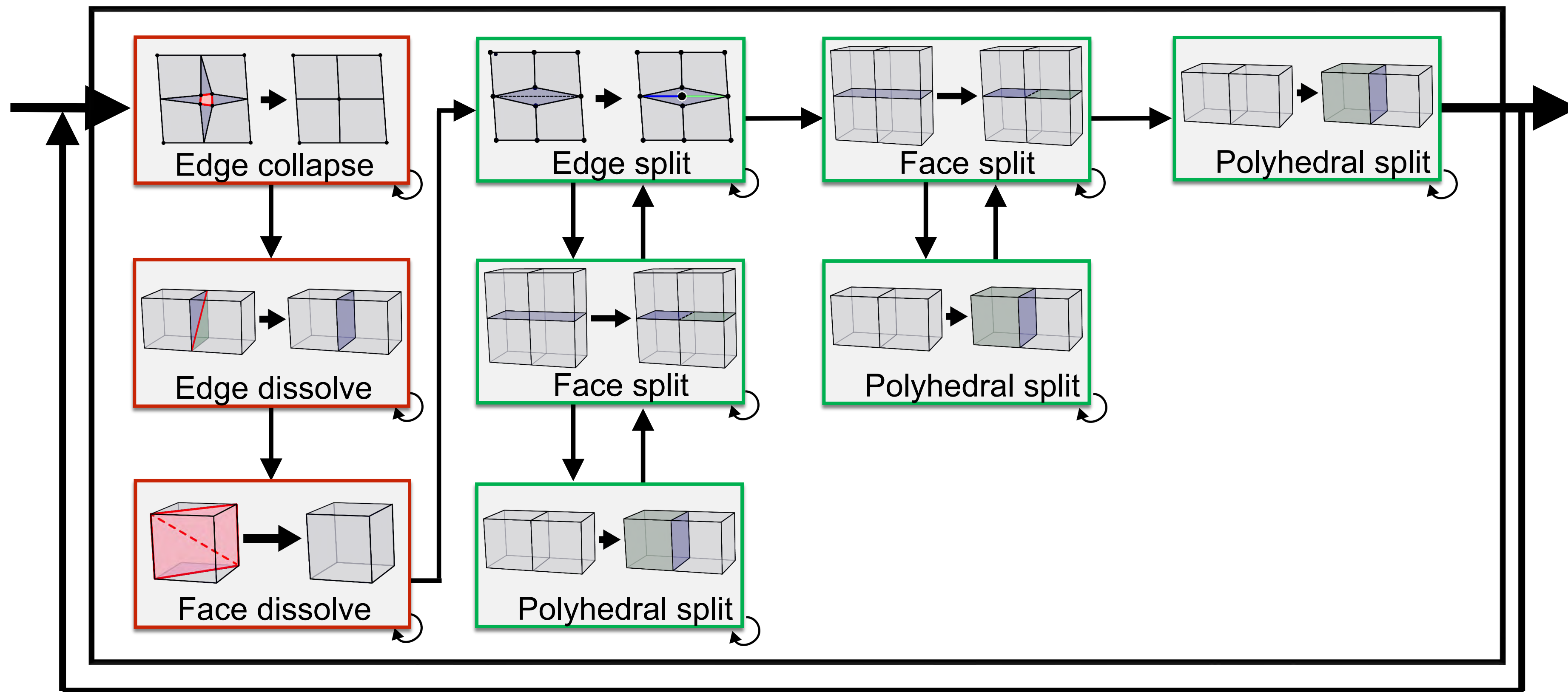
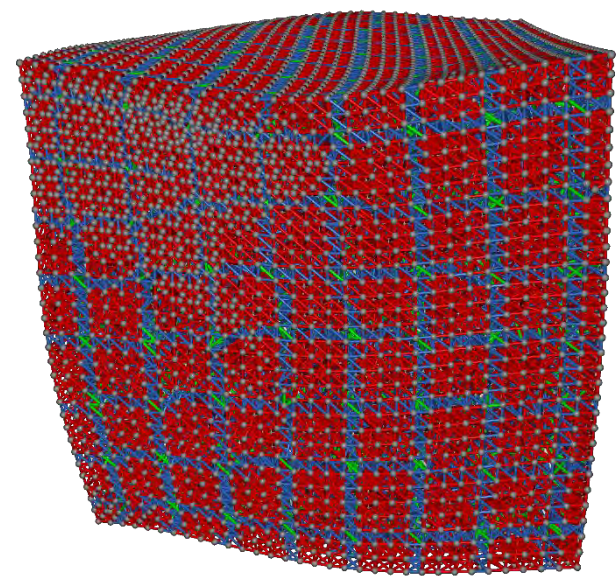


# Local Refinement

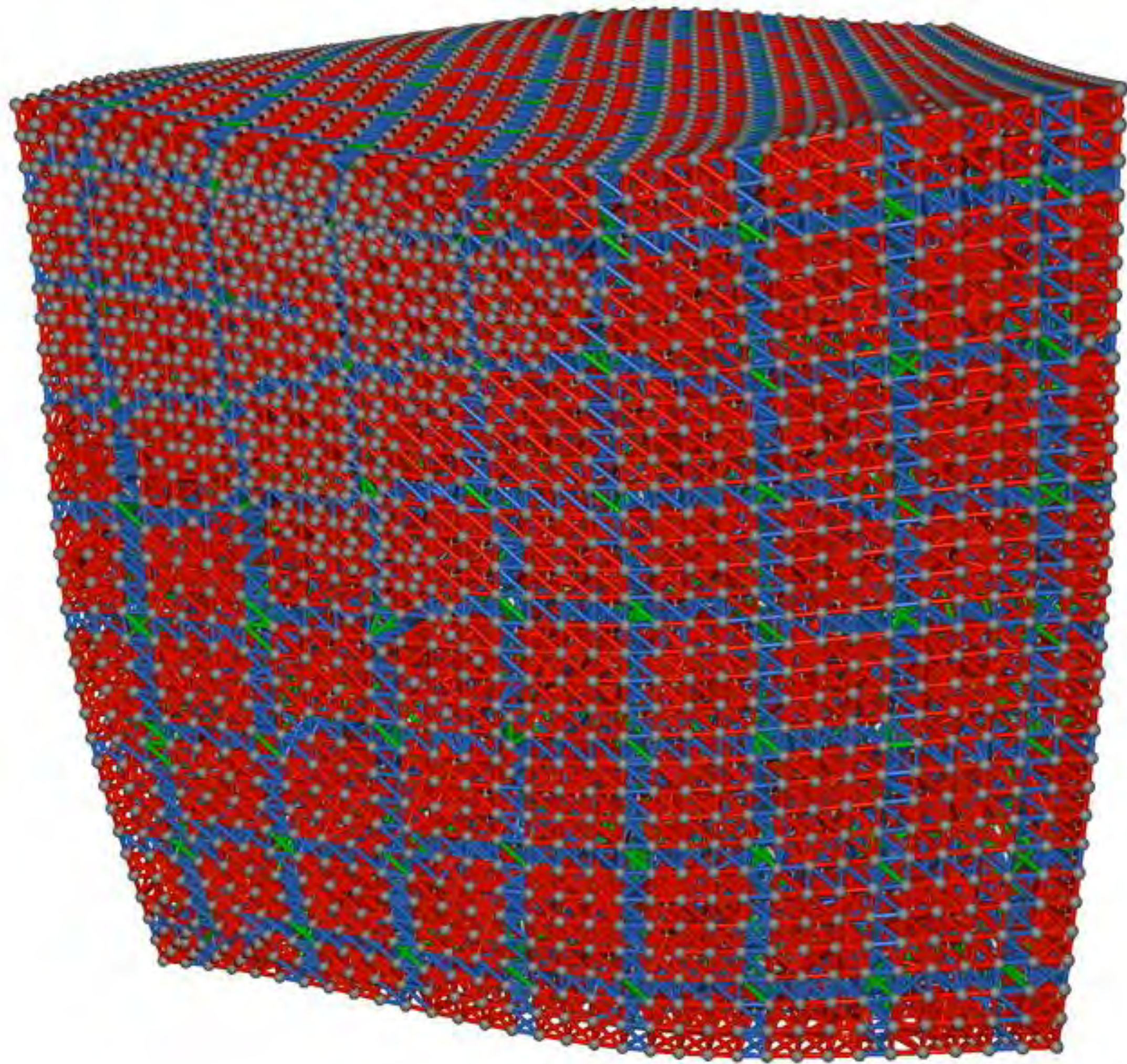




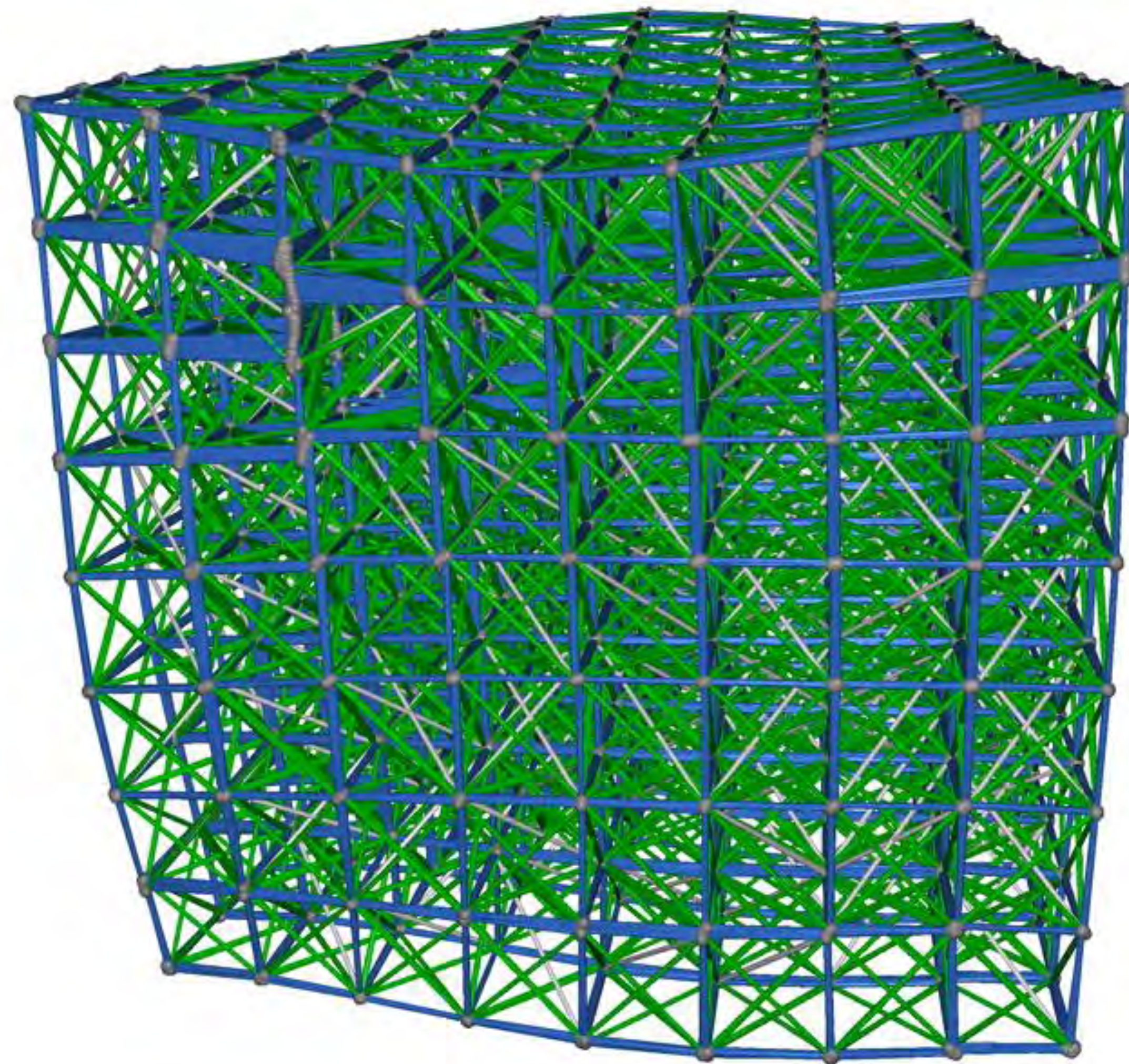
# Local Coarsening + Local Refinement







Original coordinates  
(demonstration purpose only)



Position fields (output)

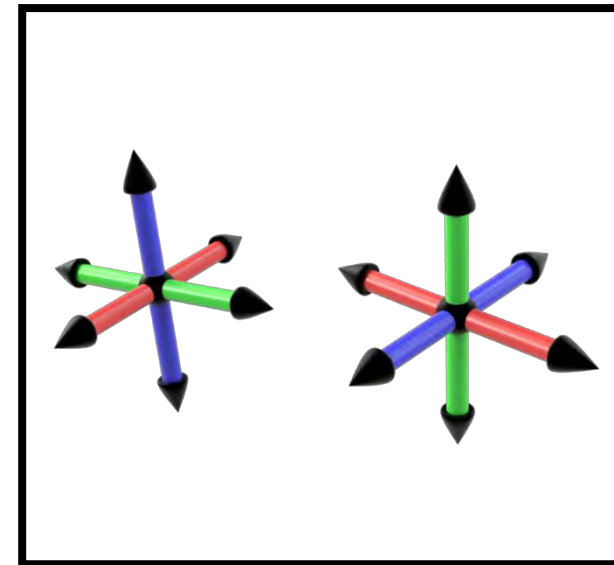


# Pipeline

**Input**

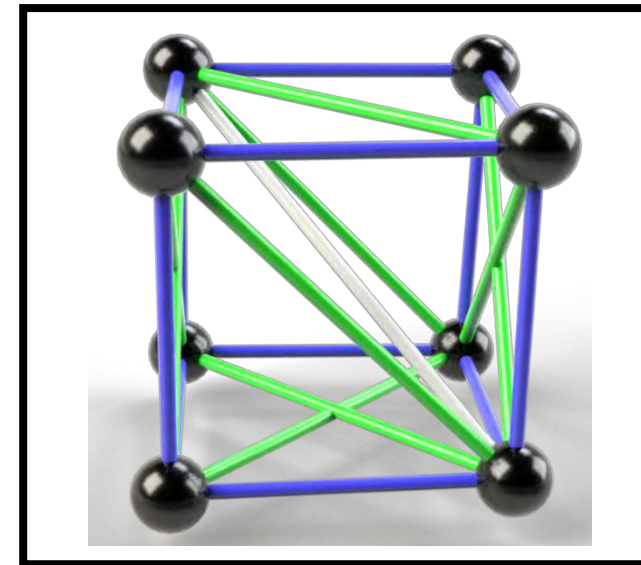


**1. Orientation**



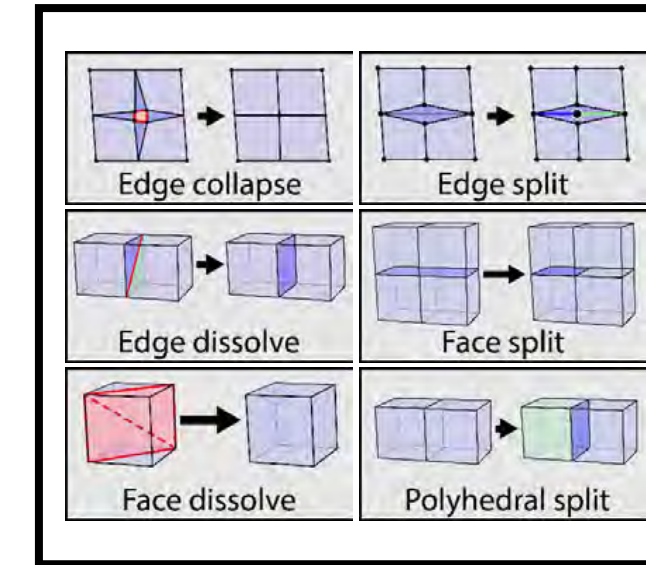
Local iteration

**2. Position**



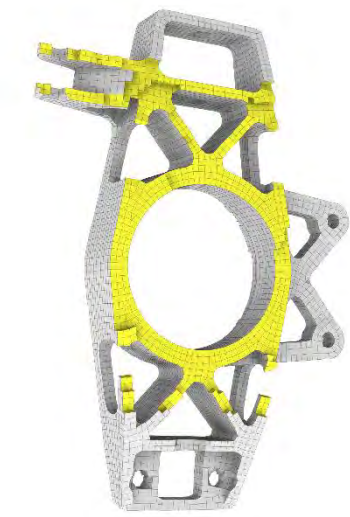
Local iteration

**3. Extraction**



Local operations

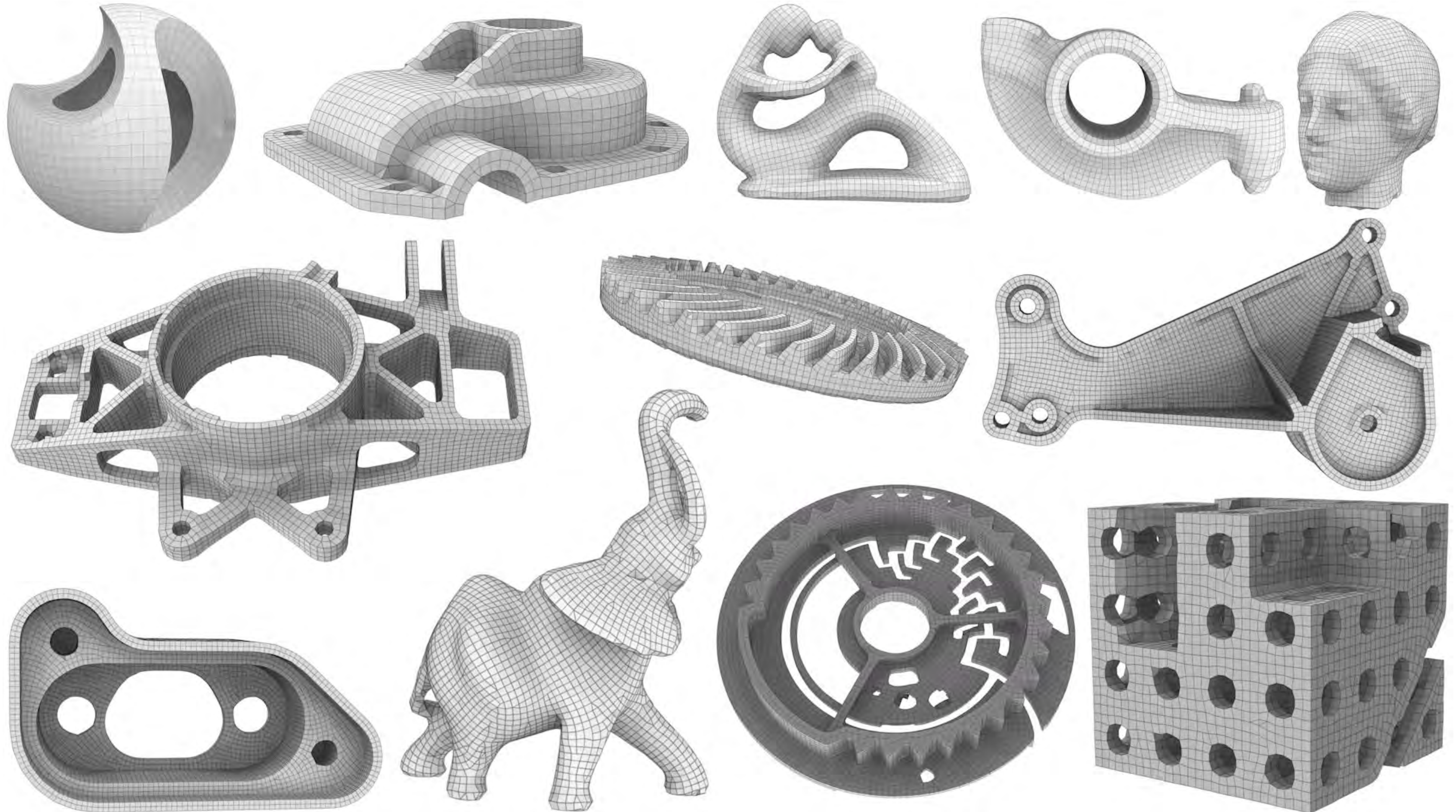
**Output**





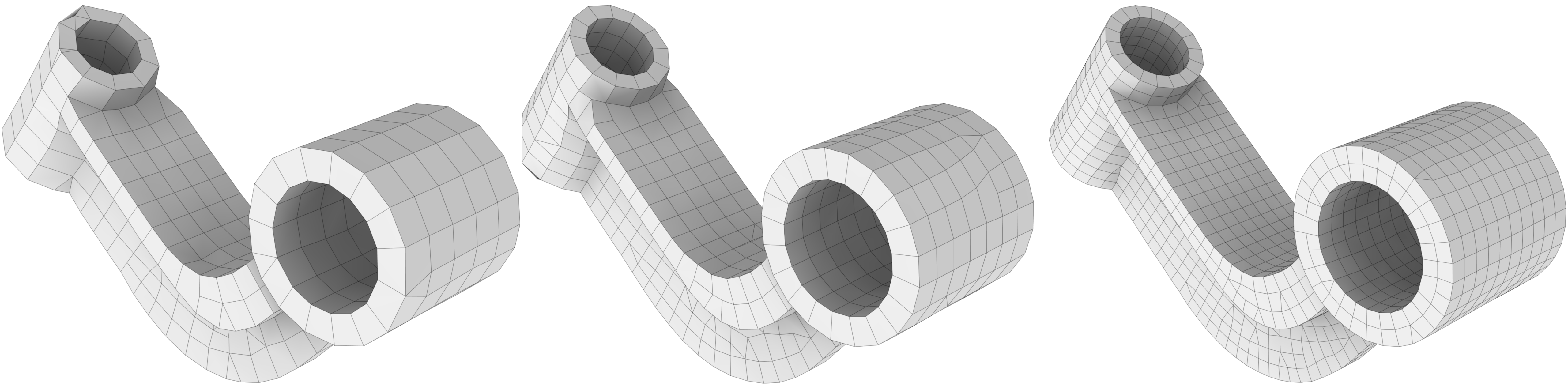
# Robustness

110 models





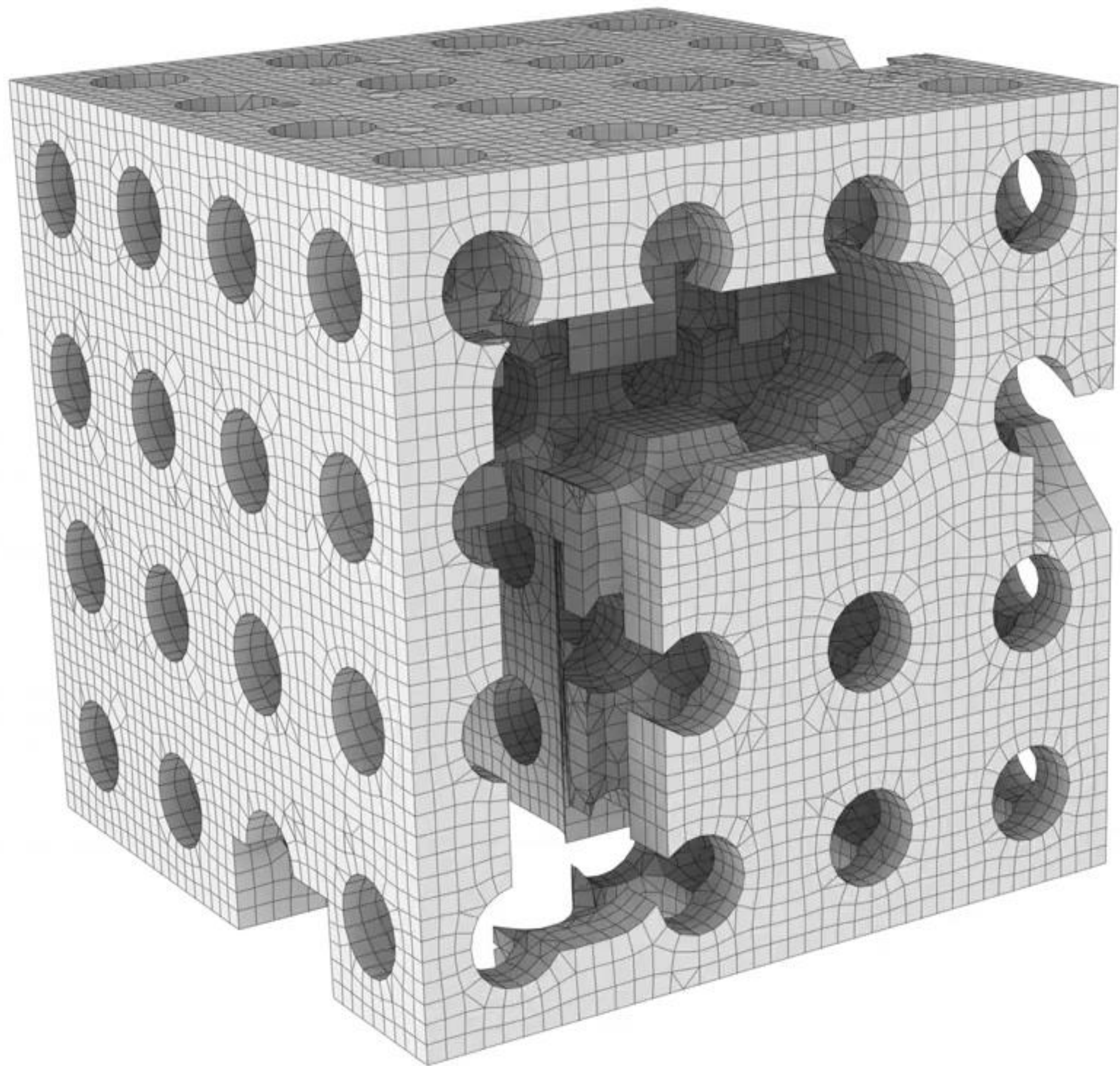
# Single Parameter



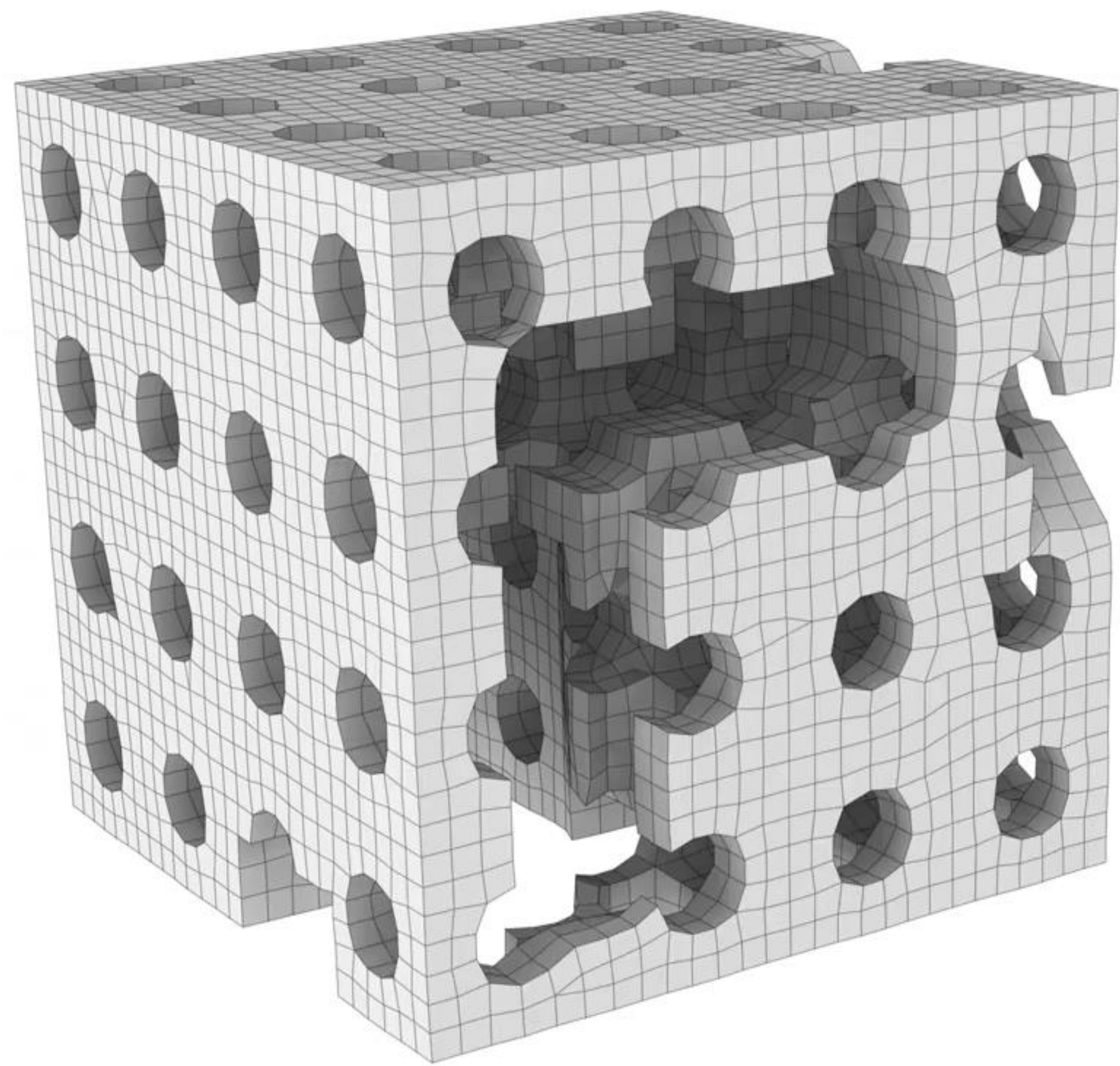
Different target element sizes



# Comparisons



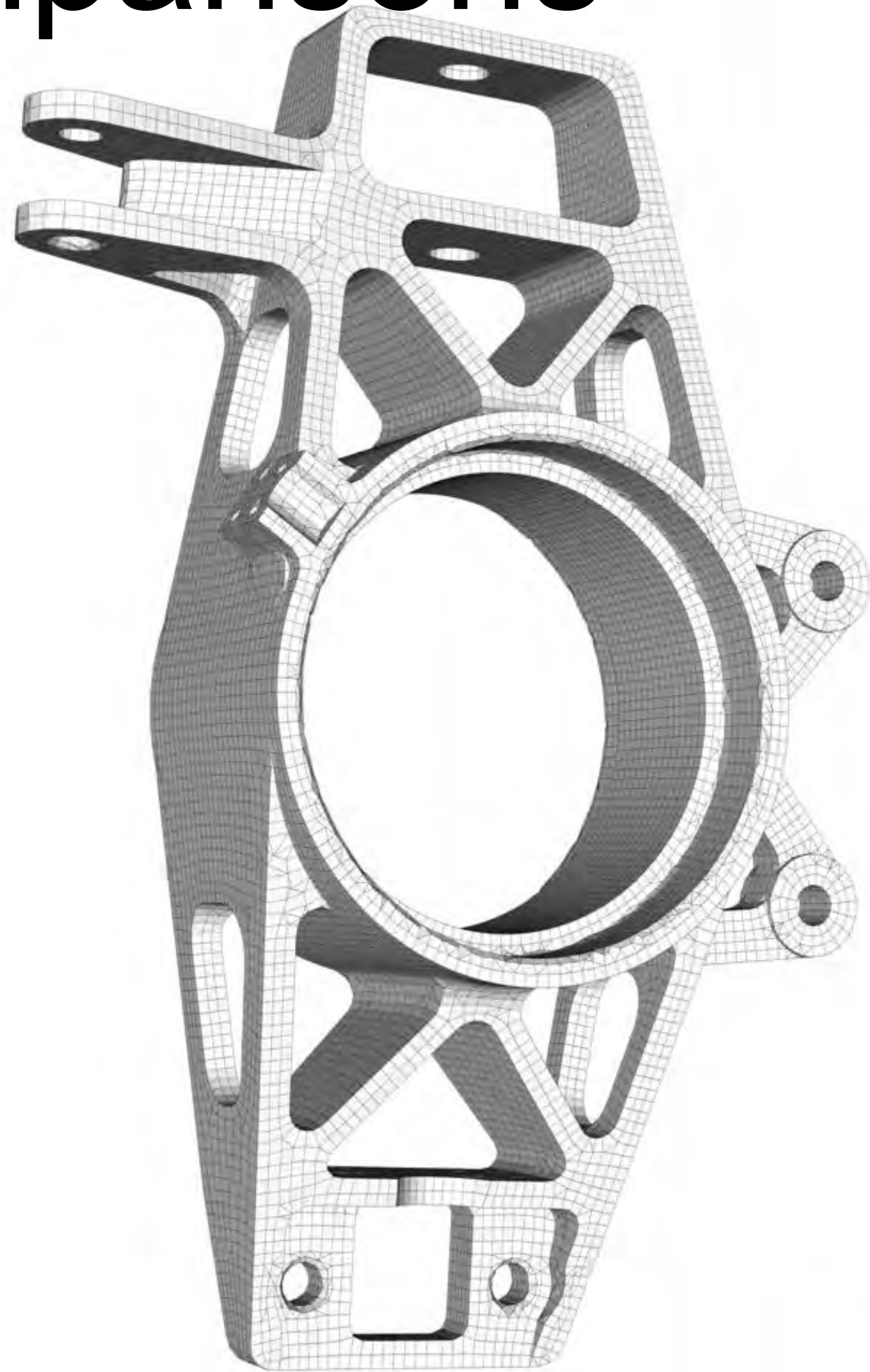
[Sokolov et al., 2016]



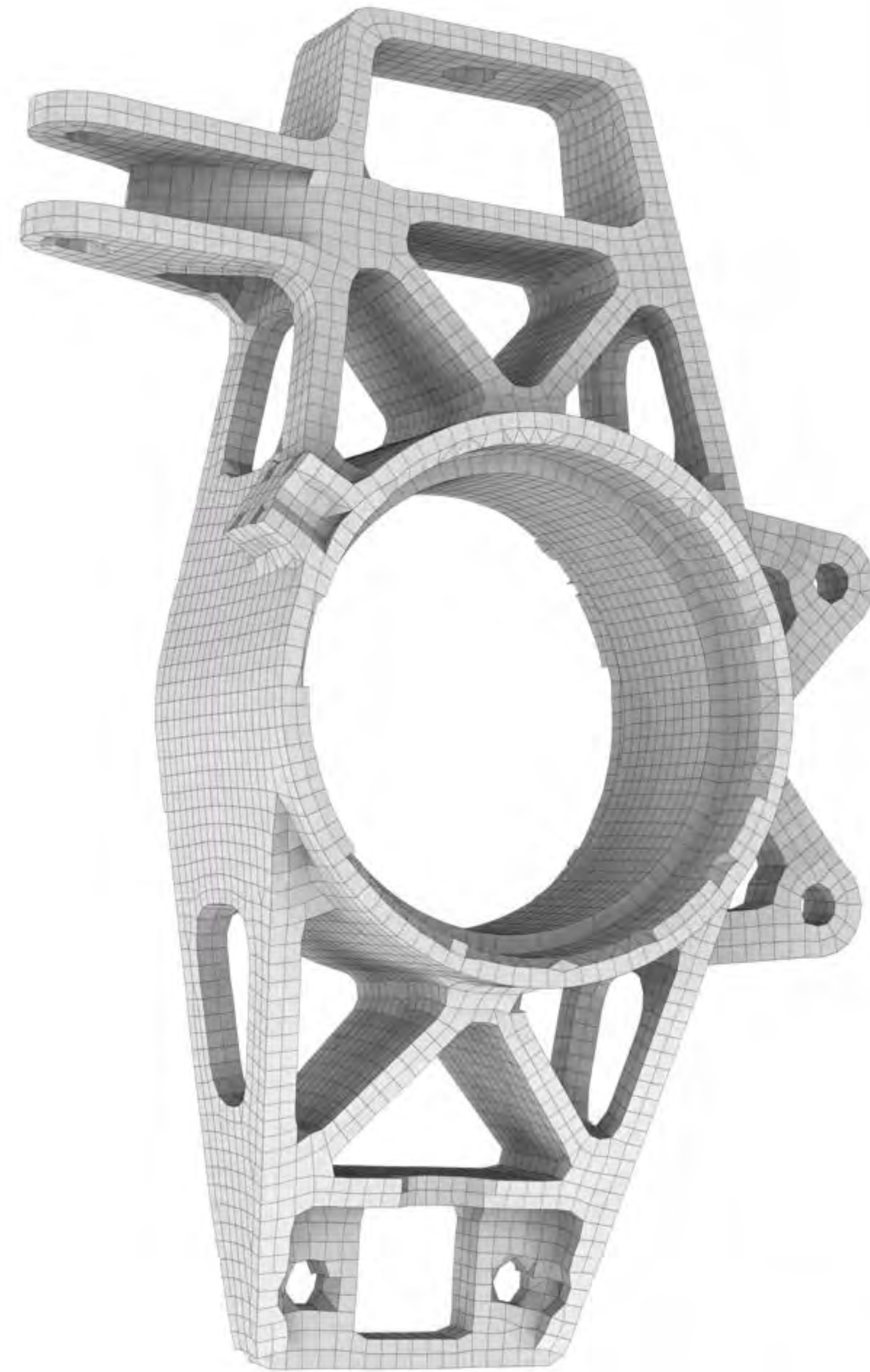
Ours



# Comparisons



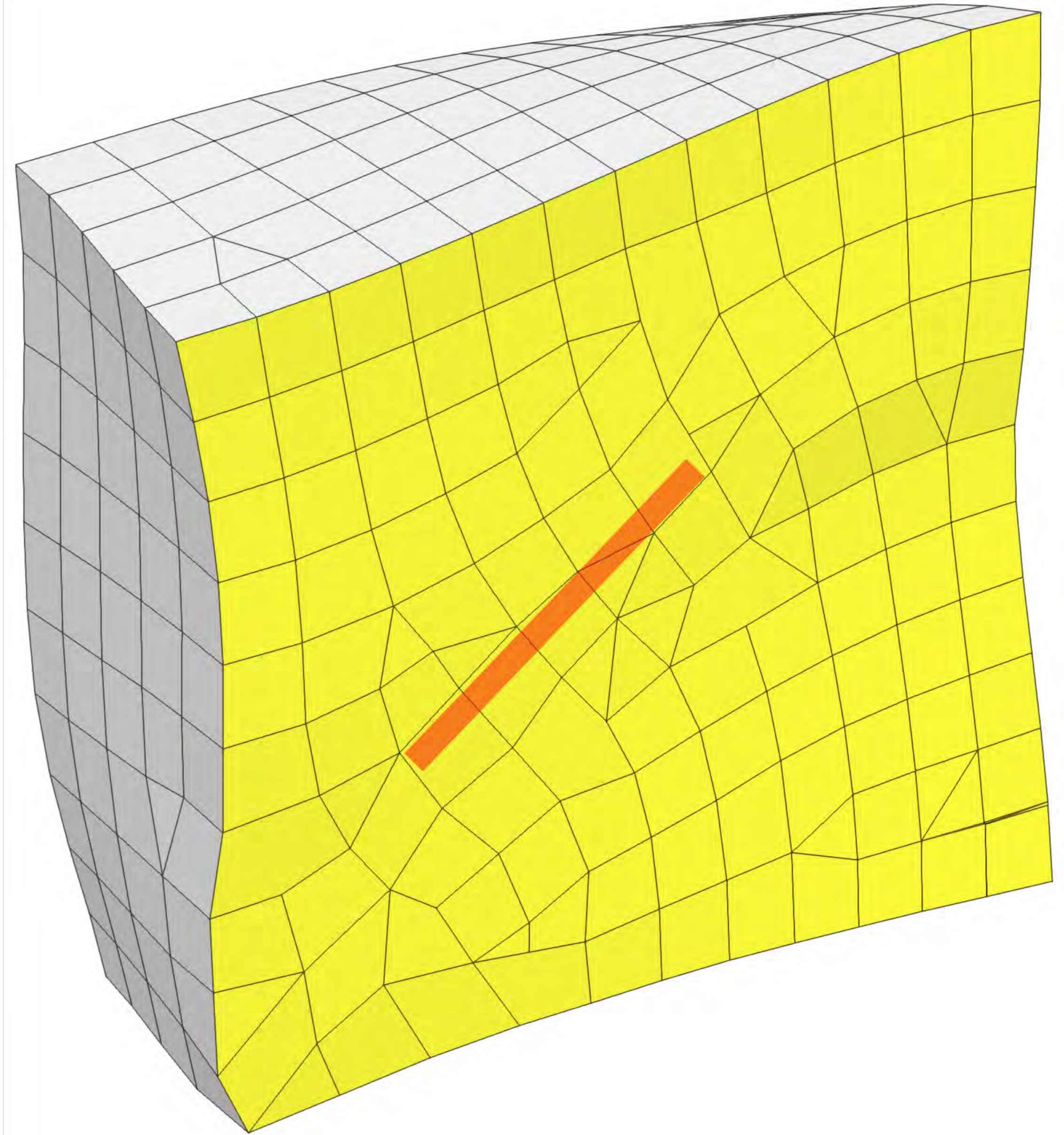
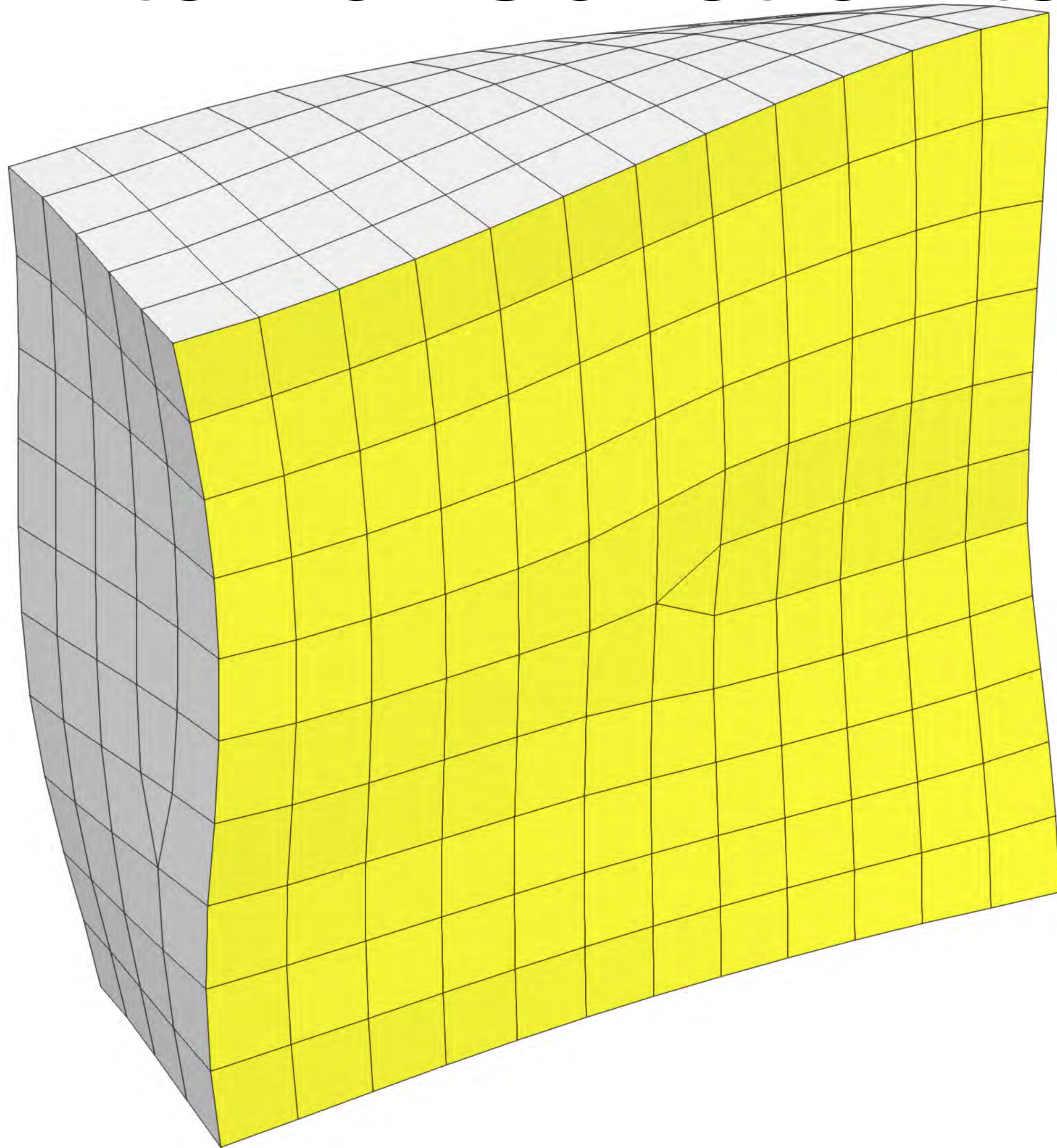
[Sokolov et al., 2016]



Ours

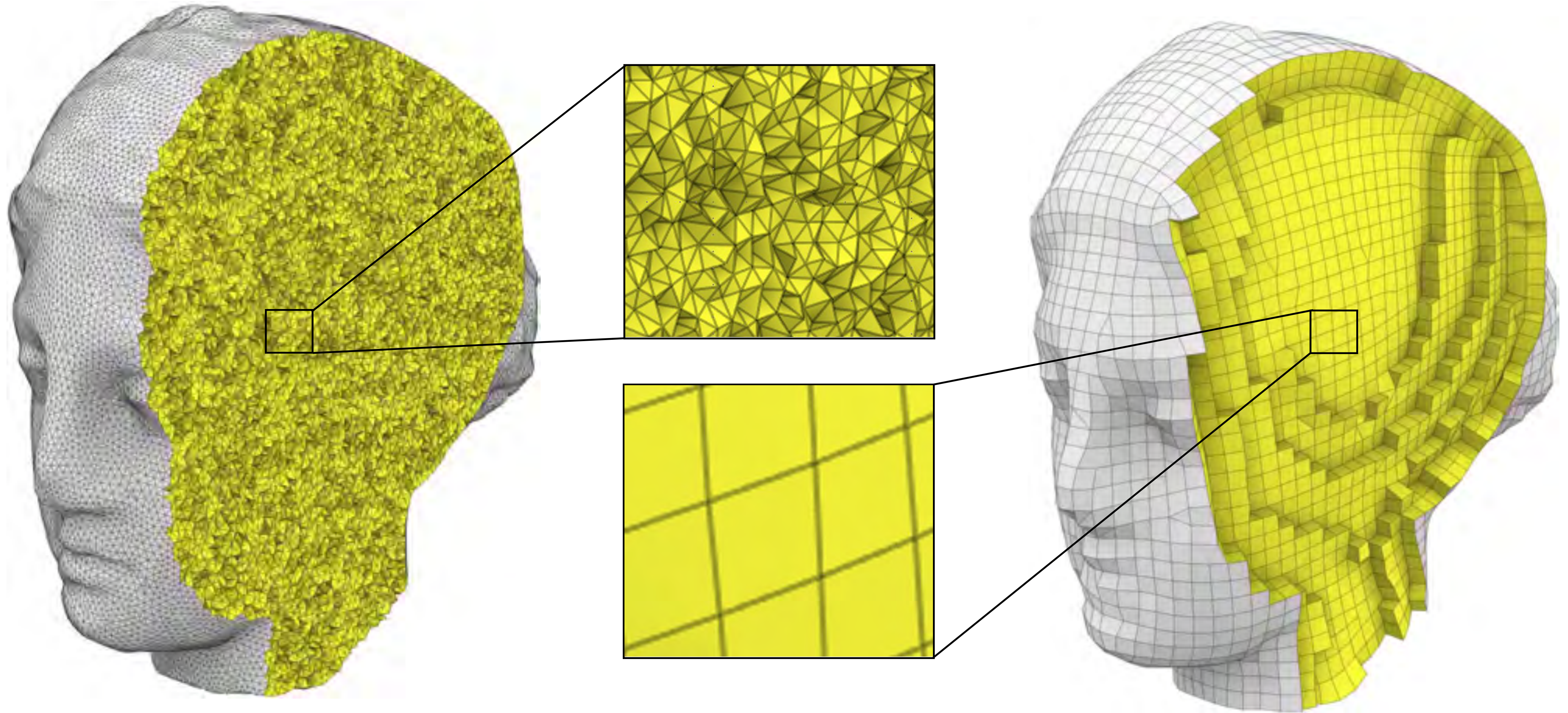


# Internal Constraints





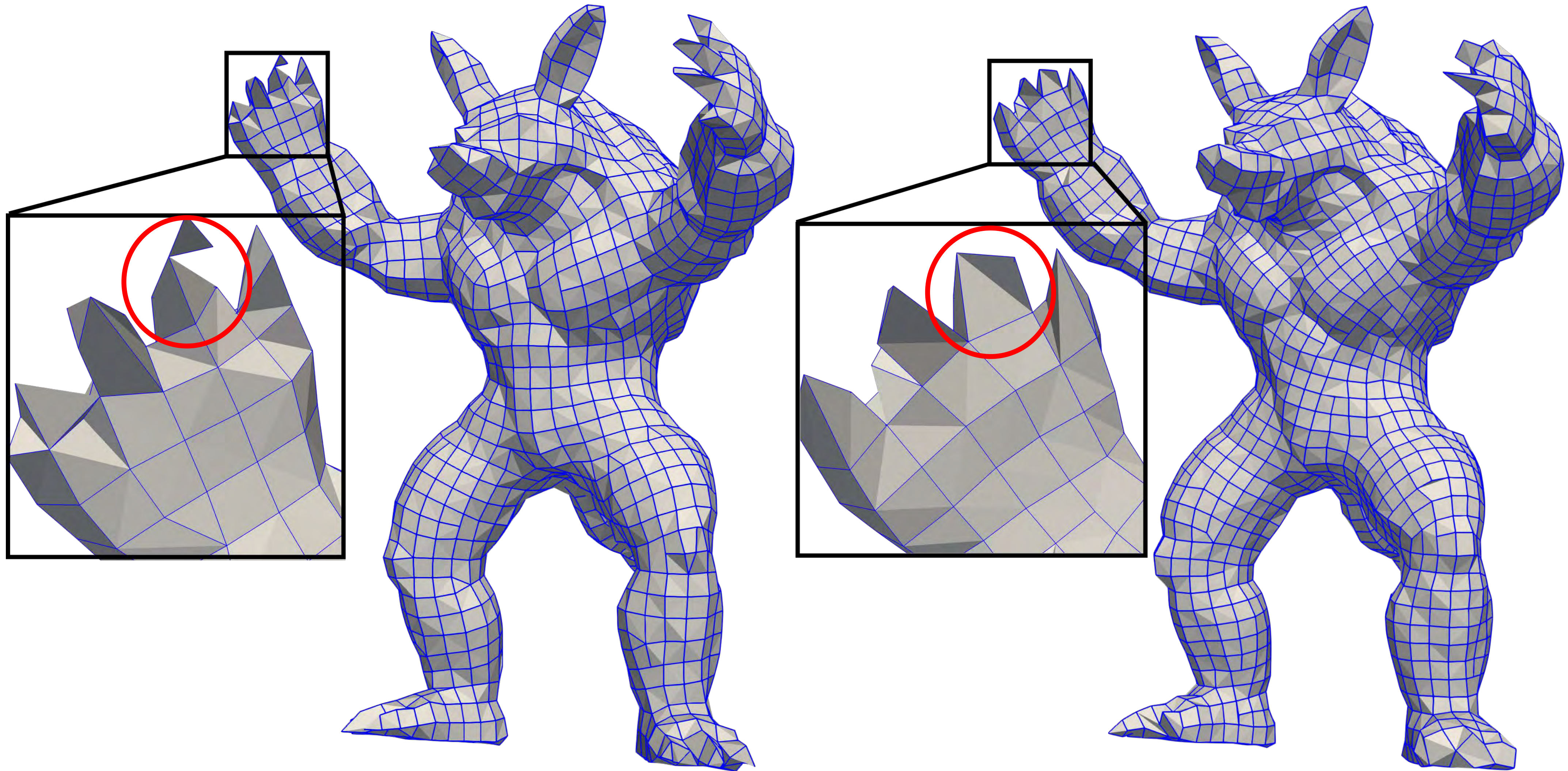
# Scalability



Takes 84 minutes for 1.2 millions tets



# Surface Mesh Extraction

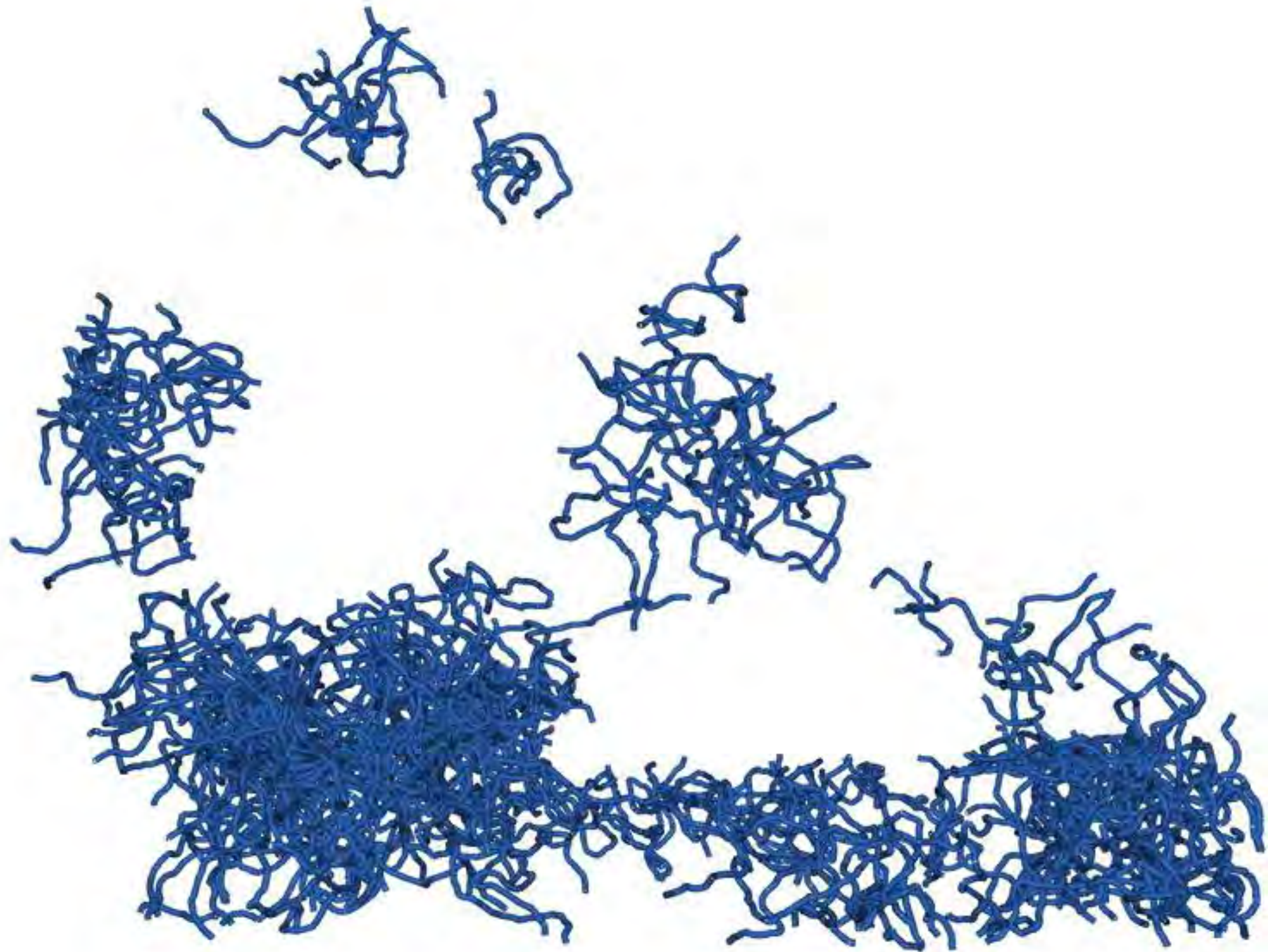


[Jakob et al., 2015]

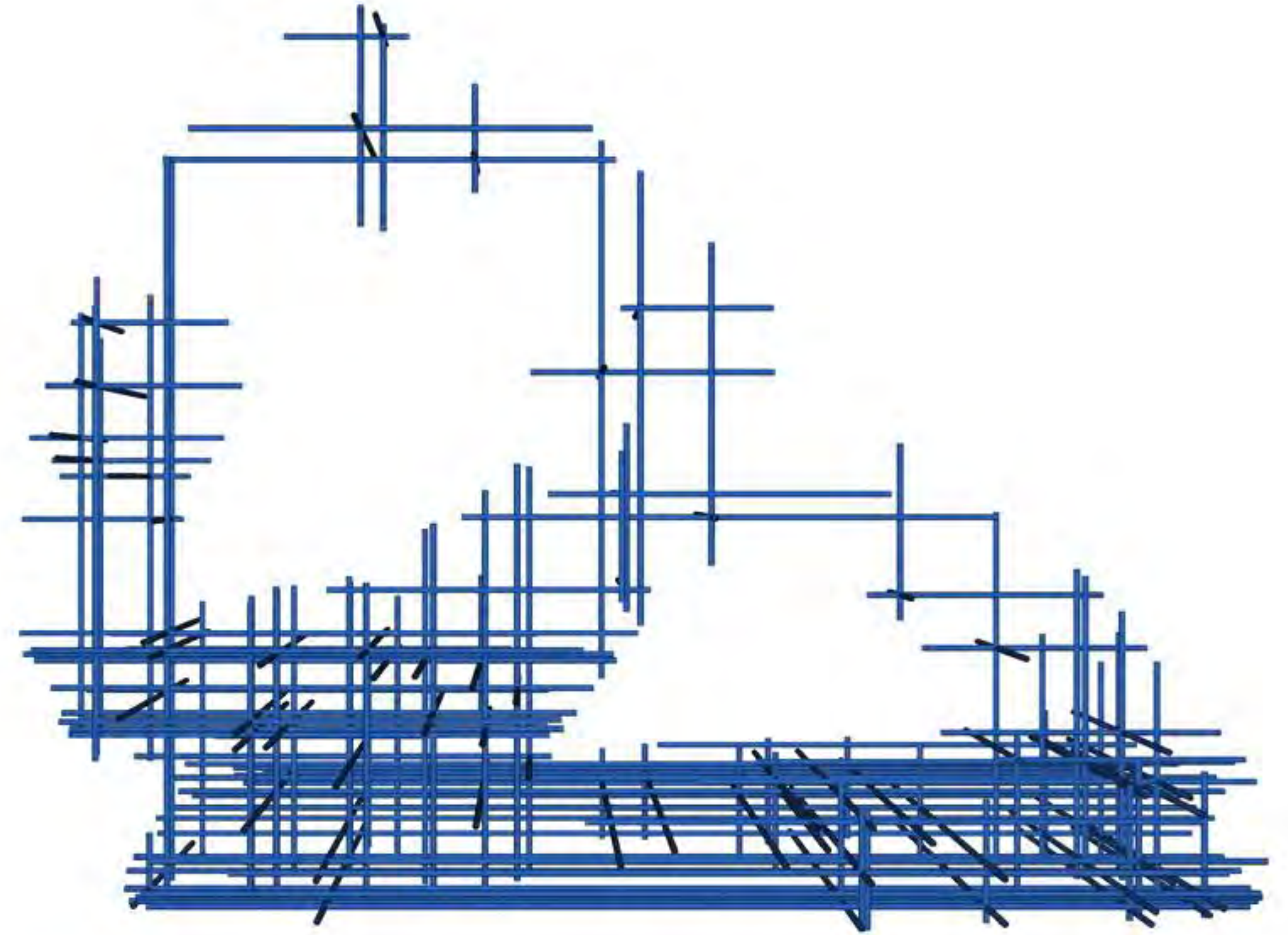
Ours



# Arbitrary Initialization



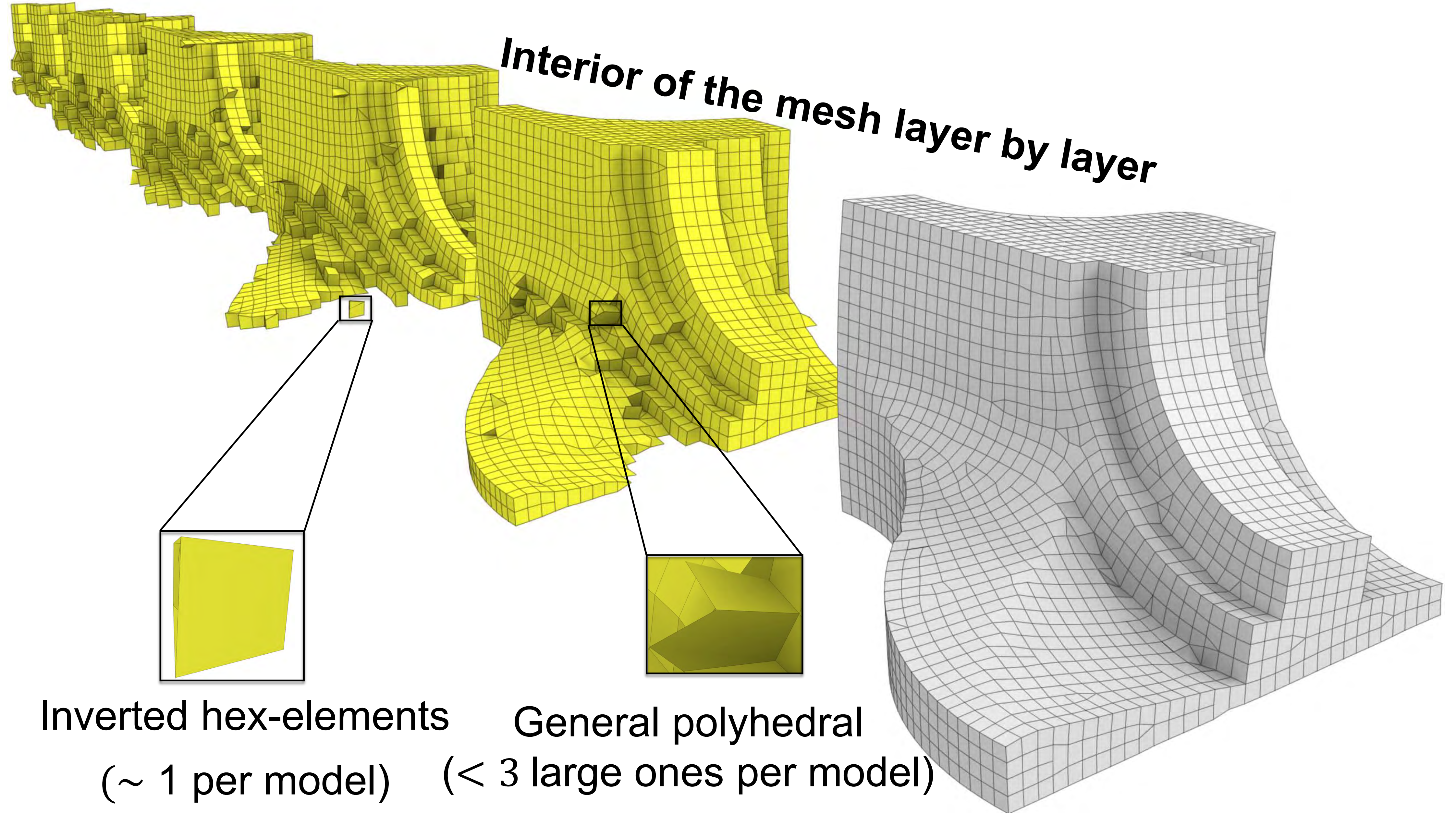
Random initialization



Constant initialization

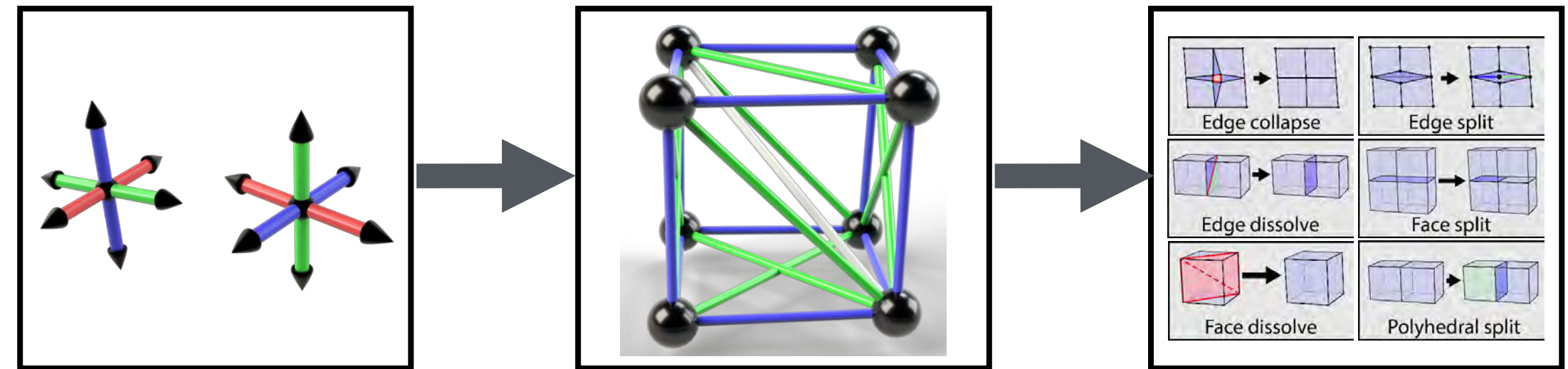


# Limitations

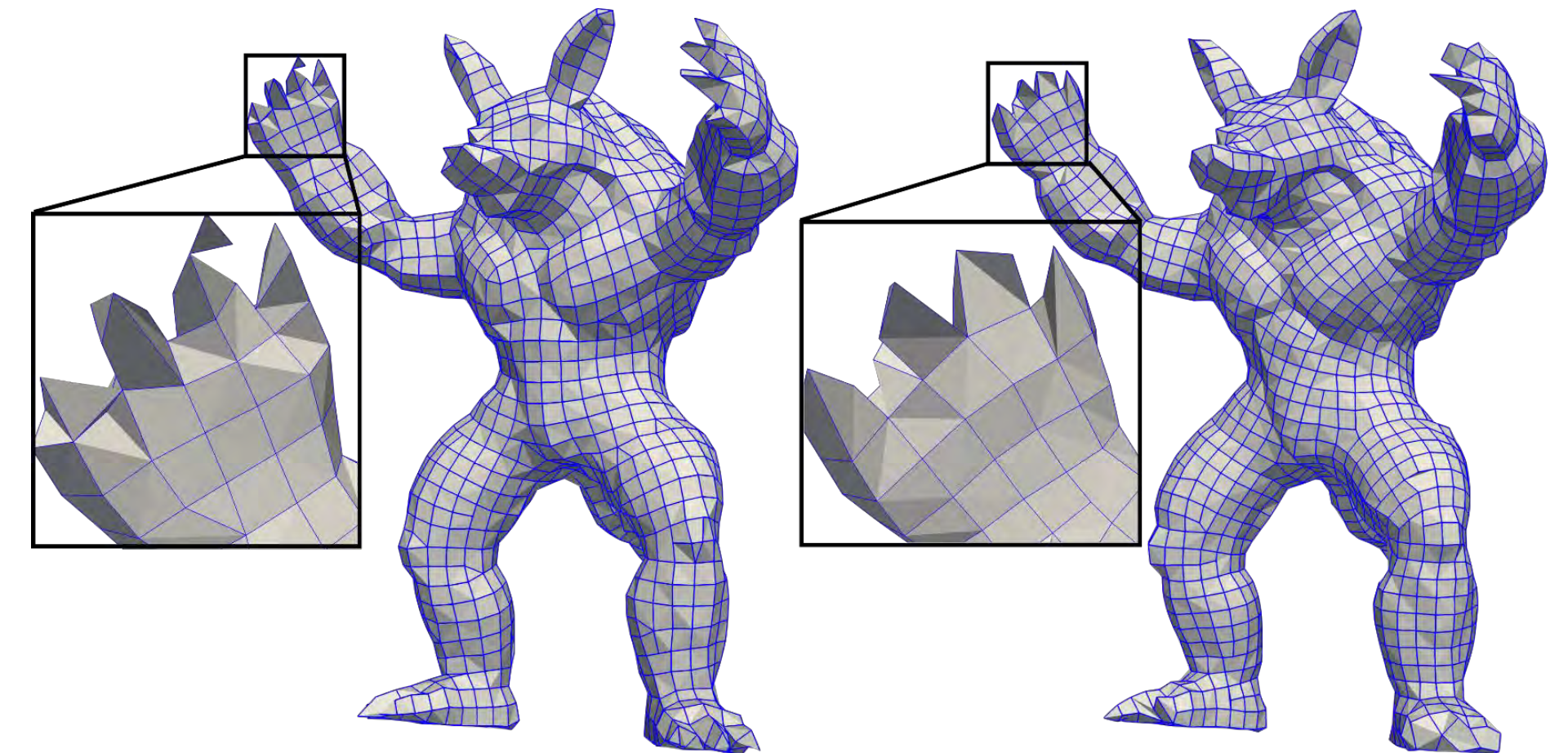




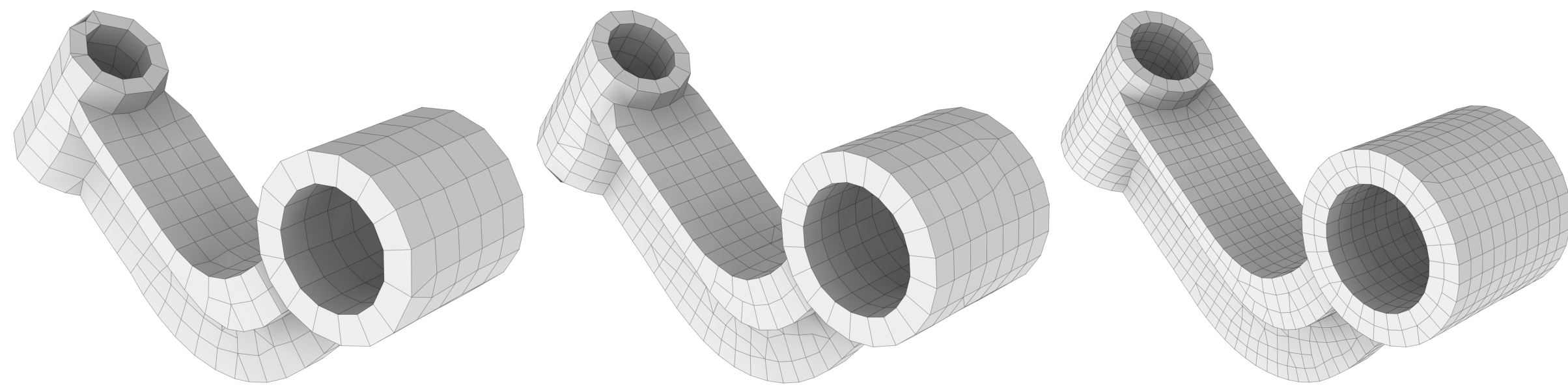
# Summary



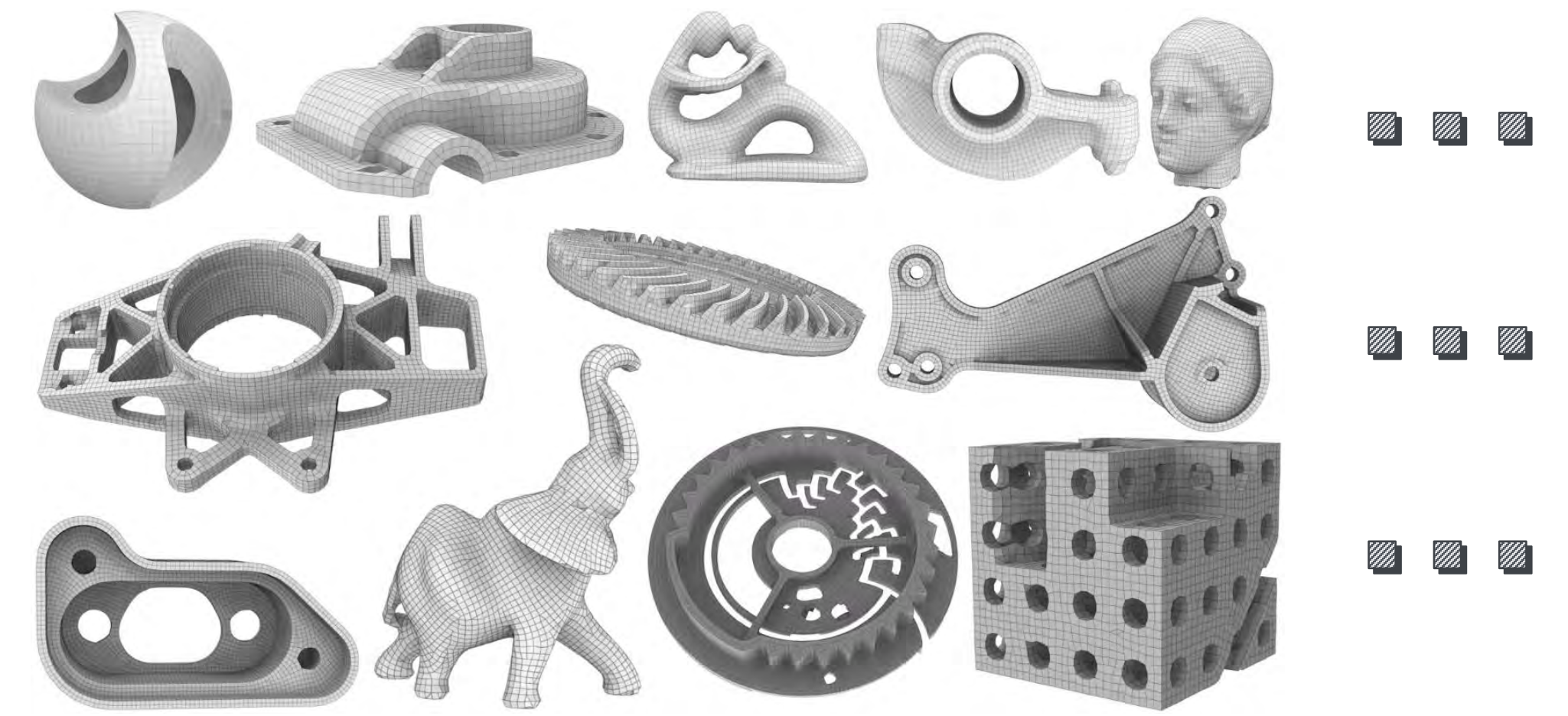
Simplicity



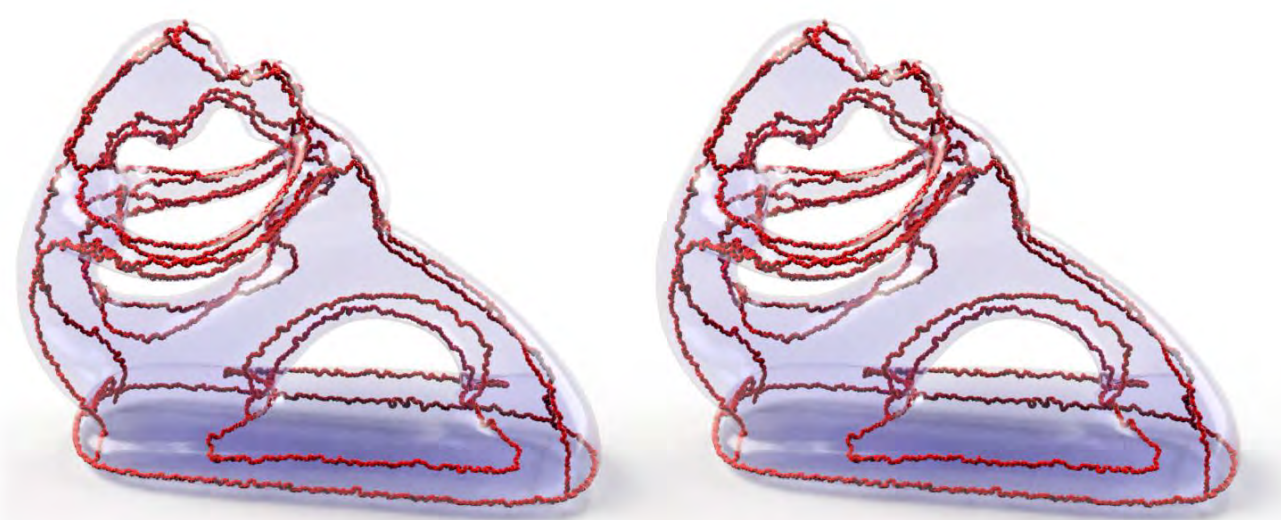
Topological guarantees



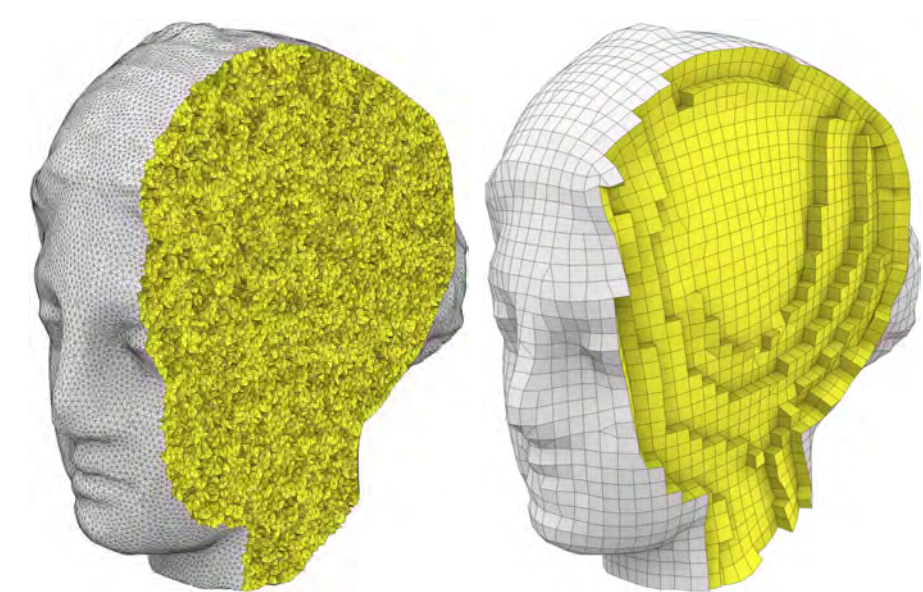
Single parameter



Robustness: 110 models



Arbitrary initializations



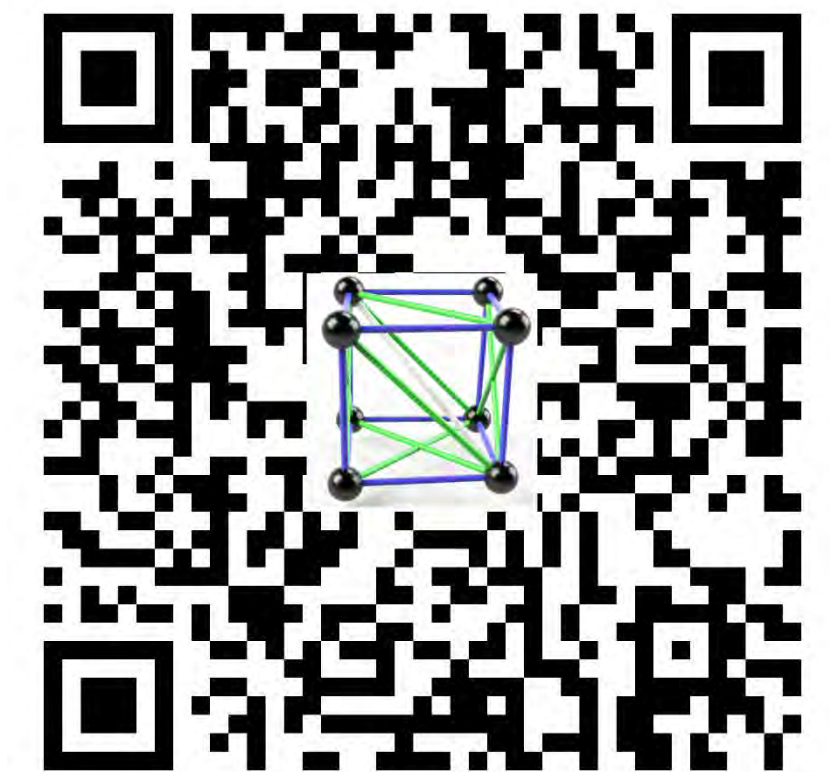
Scalability



# Thank you!

## Acknowledgement

We thank Bruno Levy for providing the mechanical models for our experiments and comparisons, Yixin Hu for preparing video clips, Zhongshi Jiang for helping with the statistics, Alexandra Trif for coding a preliminary prototype, and Olga Sorkine-Hornung for the insightful discussions. The elephant, fertility, and rocker-arm models are part of the AIM@SHAPE Shape Repository. This work was supported in part by the NSF CAREER award 1652515 and by the MIUR project Dsurf.



Code: [https://github.com/gaoxifeng/robust\\_hex\\_dominant\\_meshing](https://github.com/gaoxifeng/robust_hex_dominant_meshing)