

# Tetrahedral Meshing in the Wild

Yixin Hu<sup>1</sup>, Qingnan Zhou<sup>2</sup>, Xifeng Gao<sup>1</sup>,  
Alec Jacobson<sup>3</sup>, Denis Zorin<sup>1</sup>, Daniele Panozzo<sup>1</sup>

1



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2

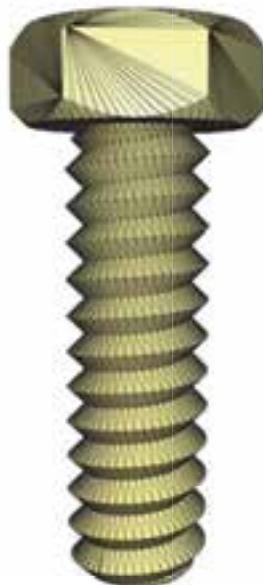


3

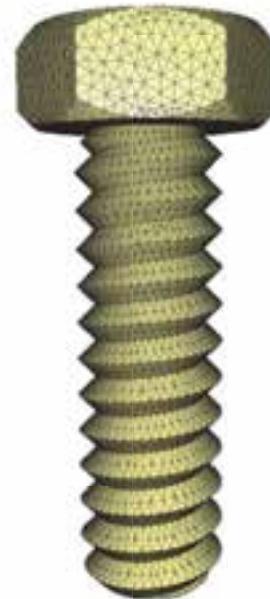


Computer Science  
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

# Tetrahedral Meshing



**Surface Representation**  
(From Thingi10k)



**Volumetric Representation**  
(Generated by TetWild)



**Physical Simulation**

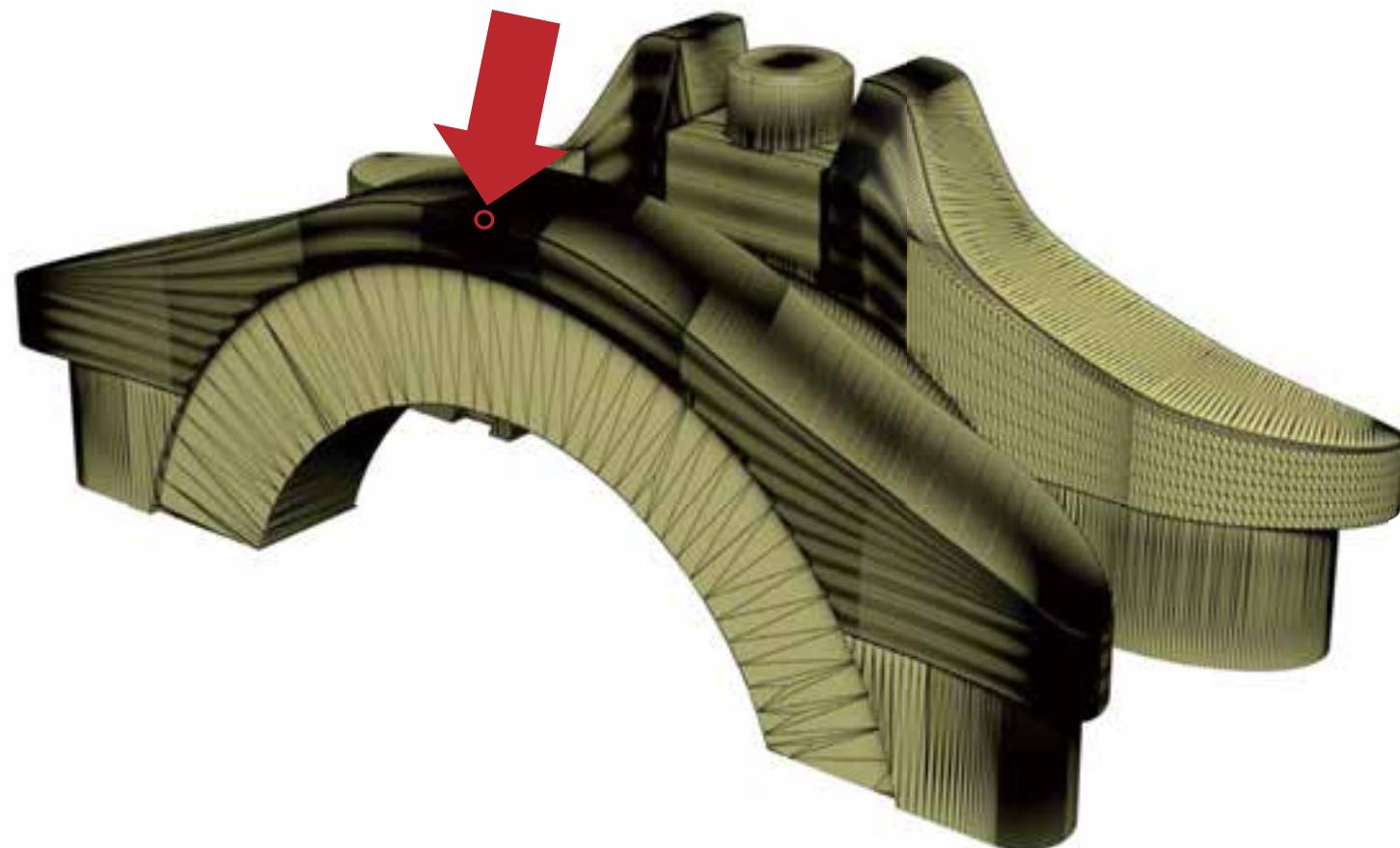
Yixin Hu, 1



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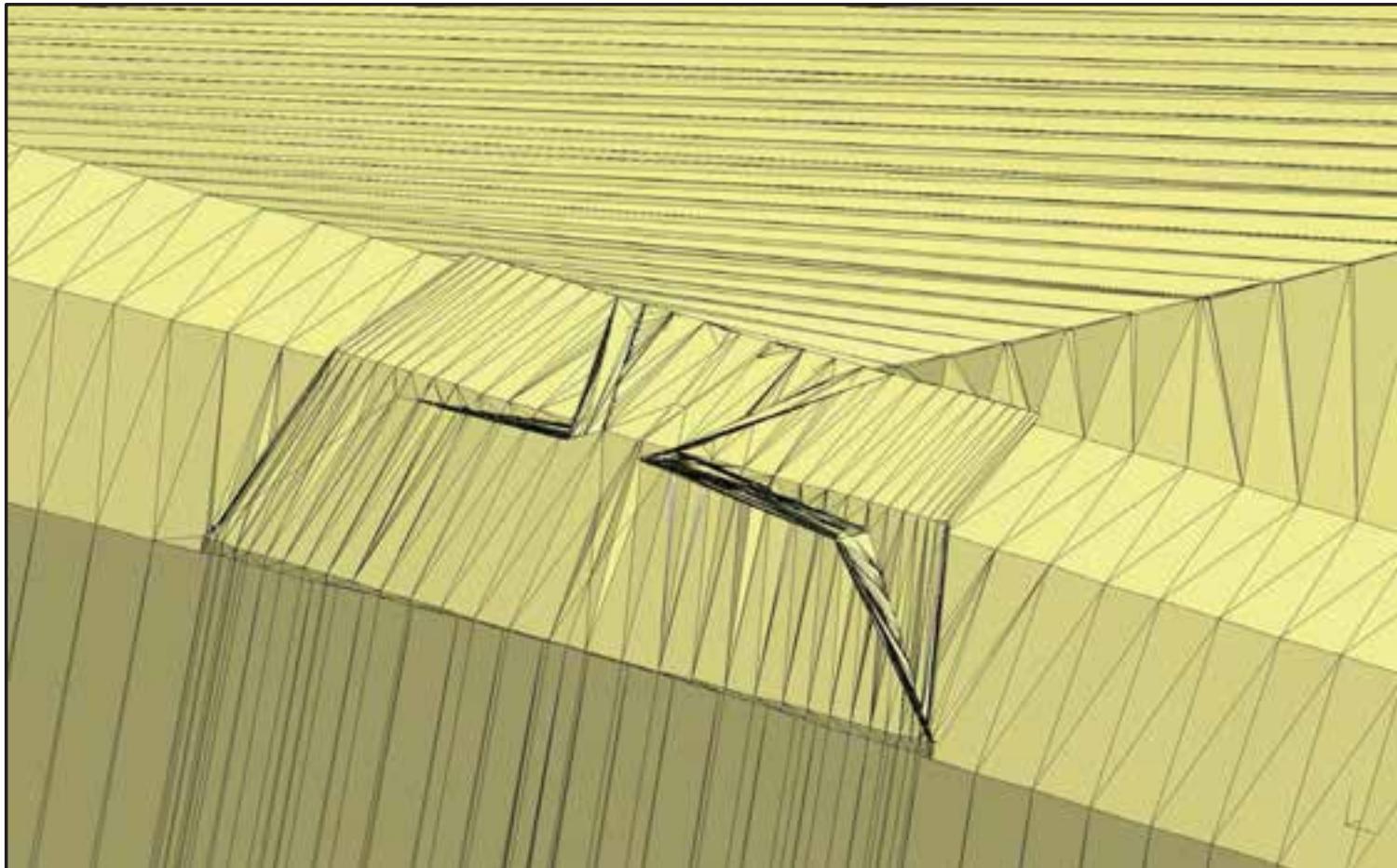
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# Why is it a Hard Problem?

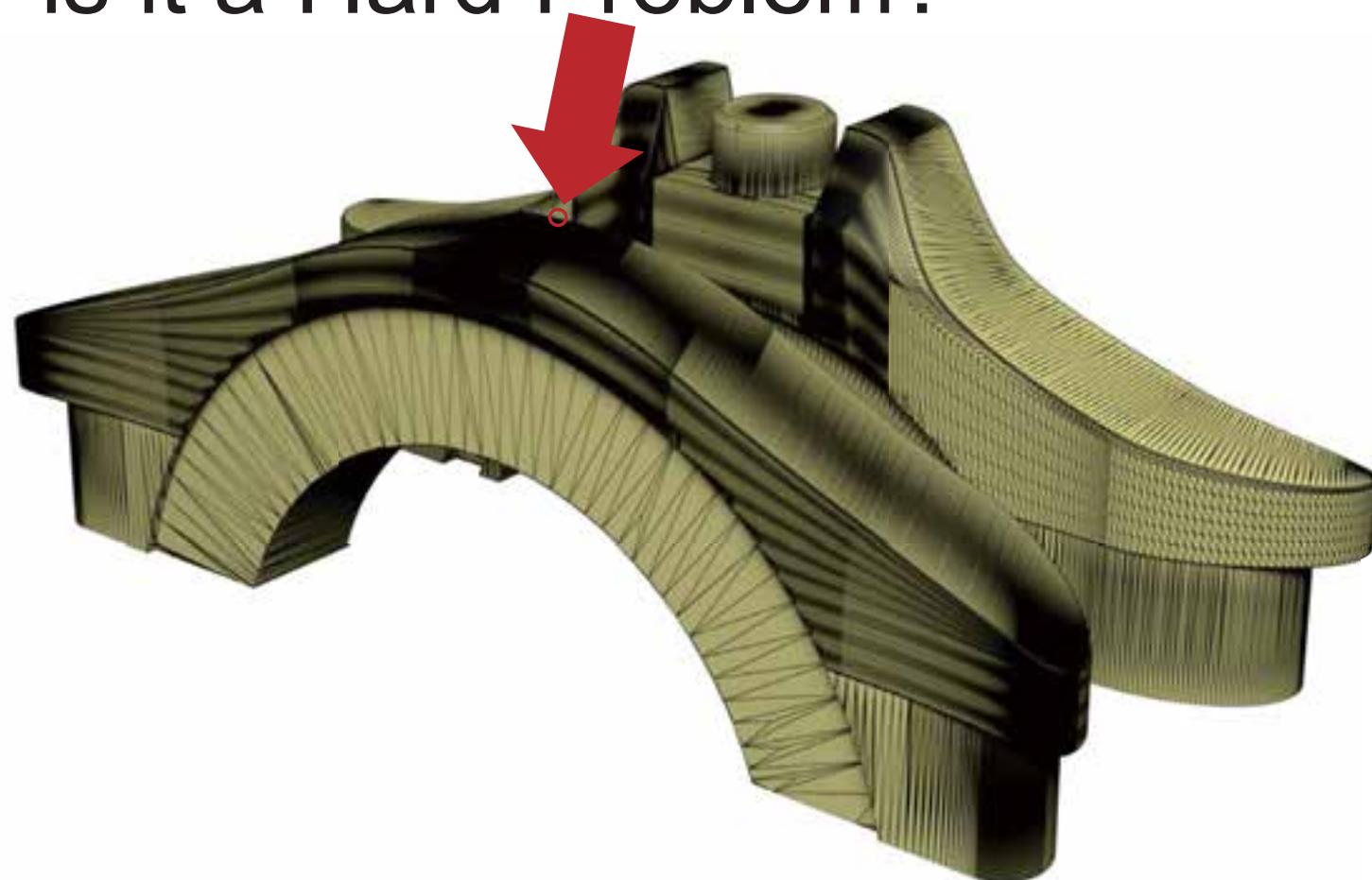


Yixin Hu, 2

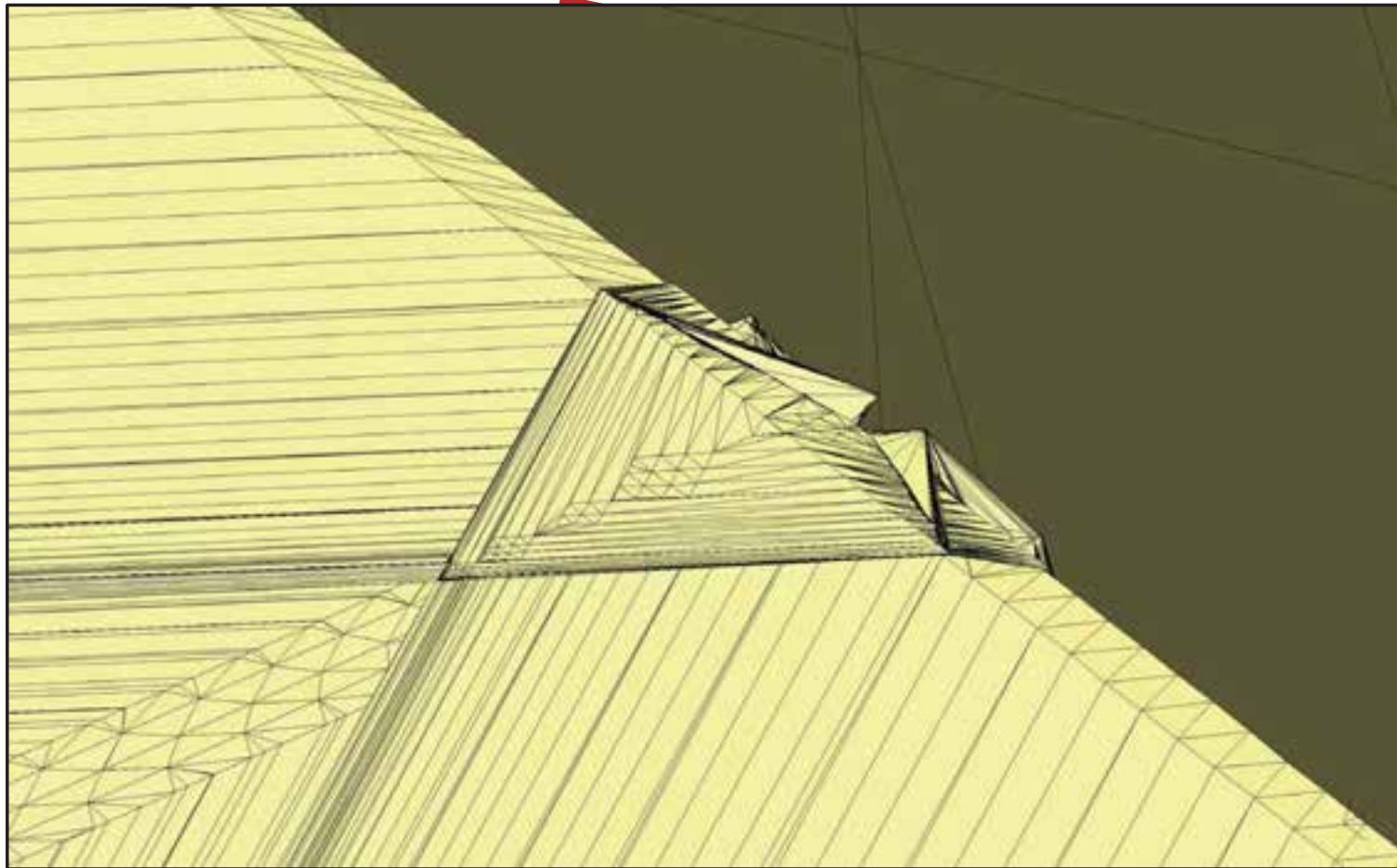
# Why is it a Hard Problem?



# Why is it a Hard Problem?



# Why is it a Hard Problem?



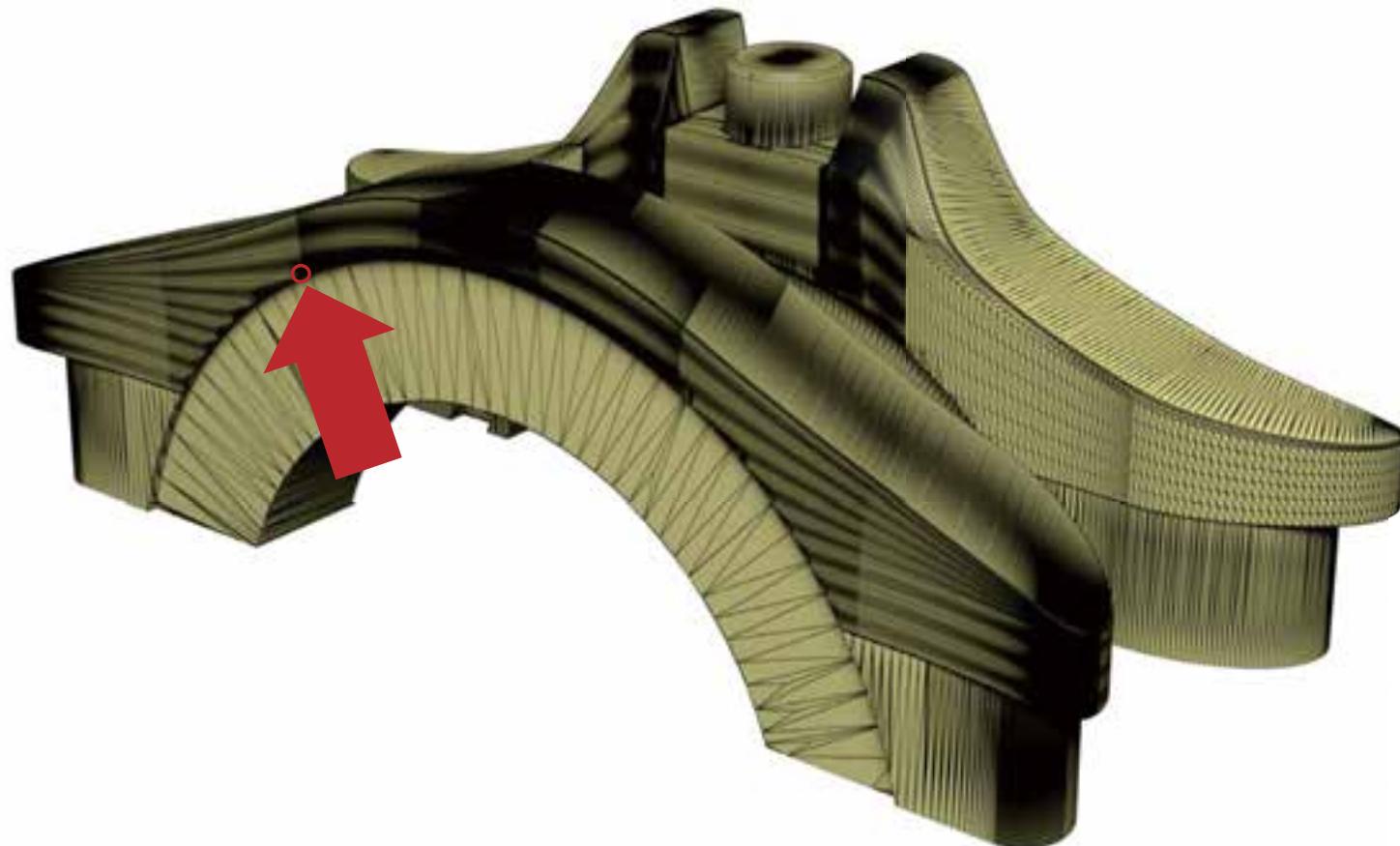
Yixin Hu, 5



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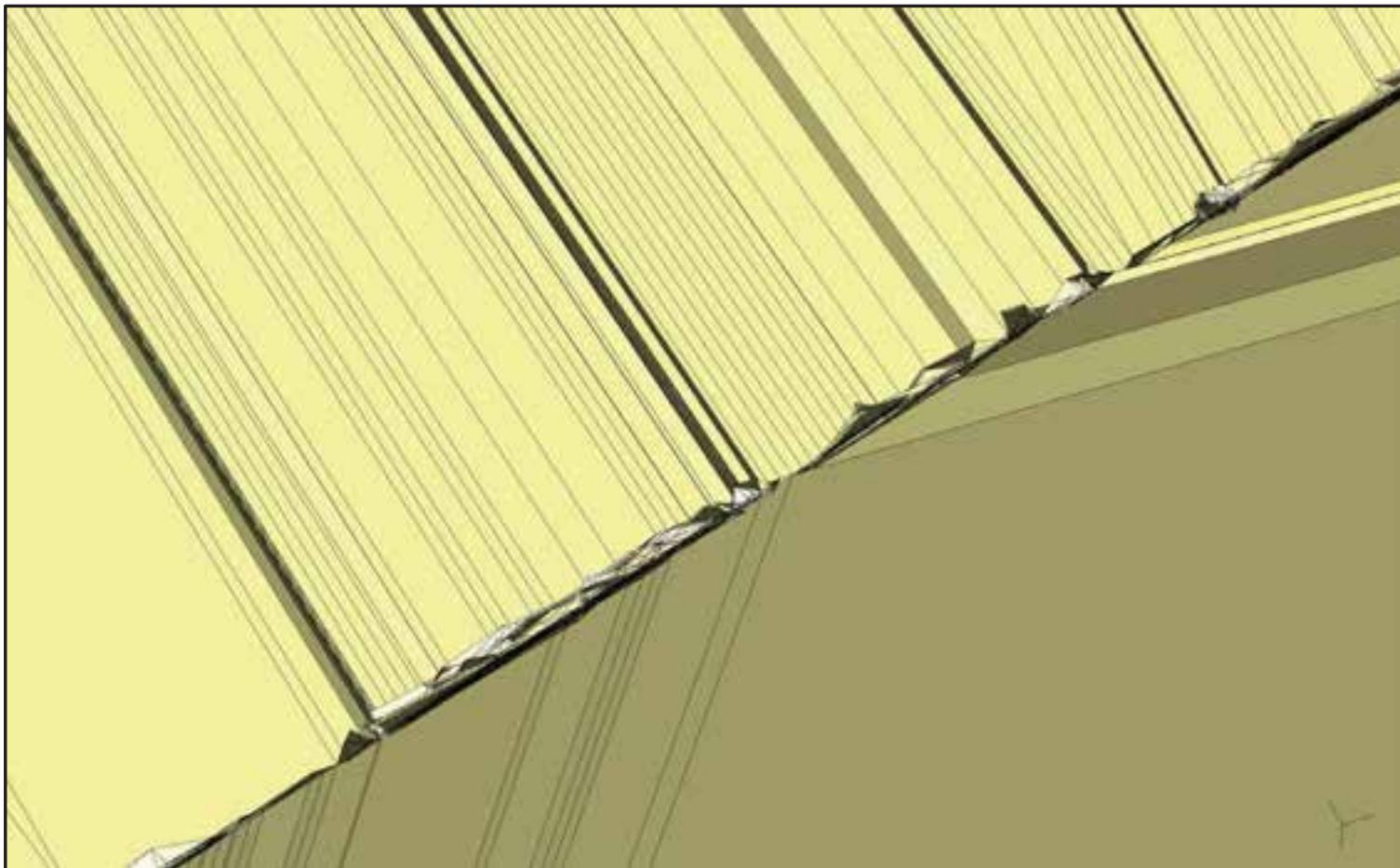
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# Why is it a Hard Problem?



Yixin Hu, 6

# Why is it a Hard Problem?



# Why is it a Hard Problem?



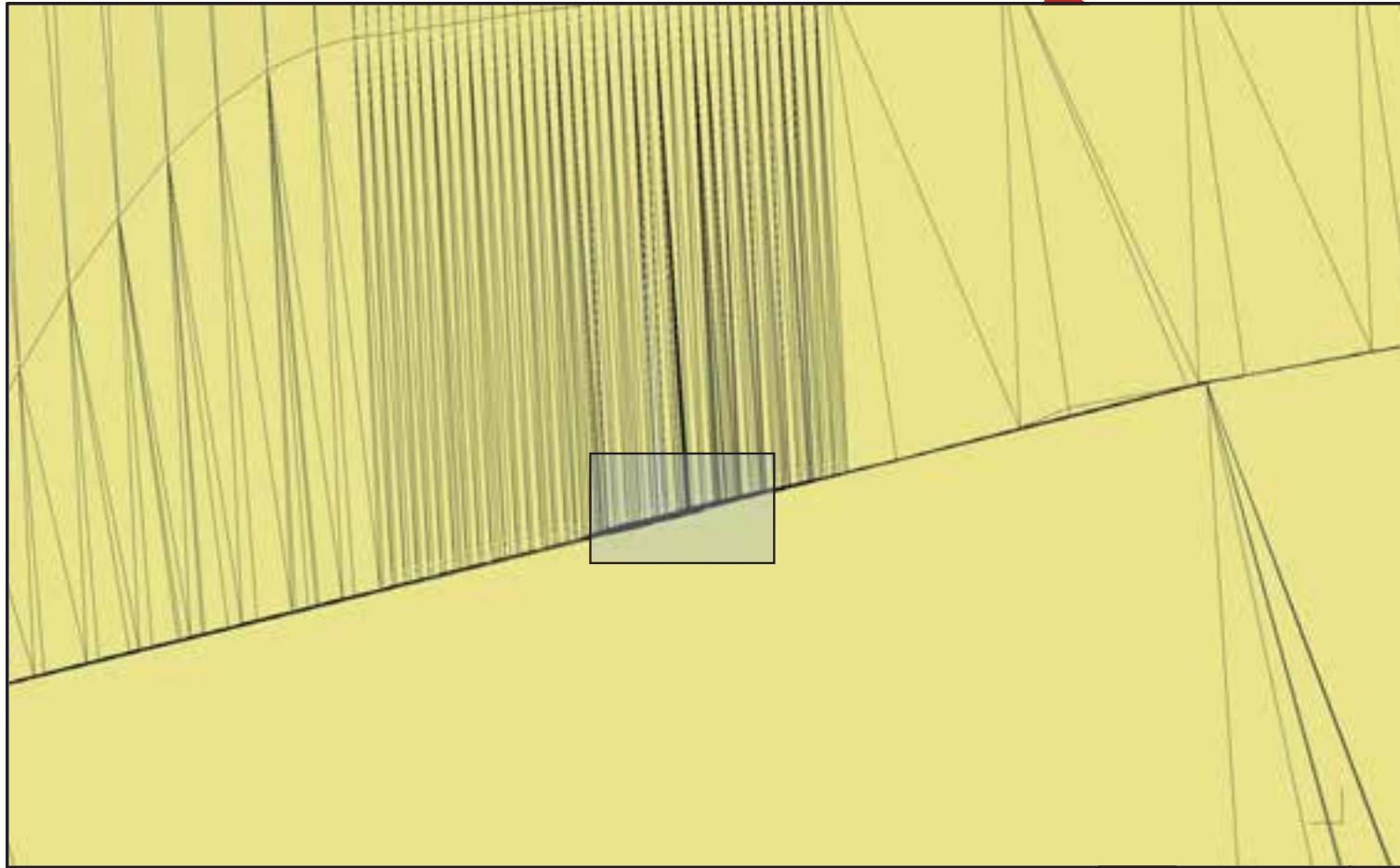
Yixin Hu, 8



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# Why is it a Hard Problem?



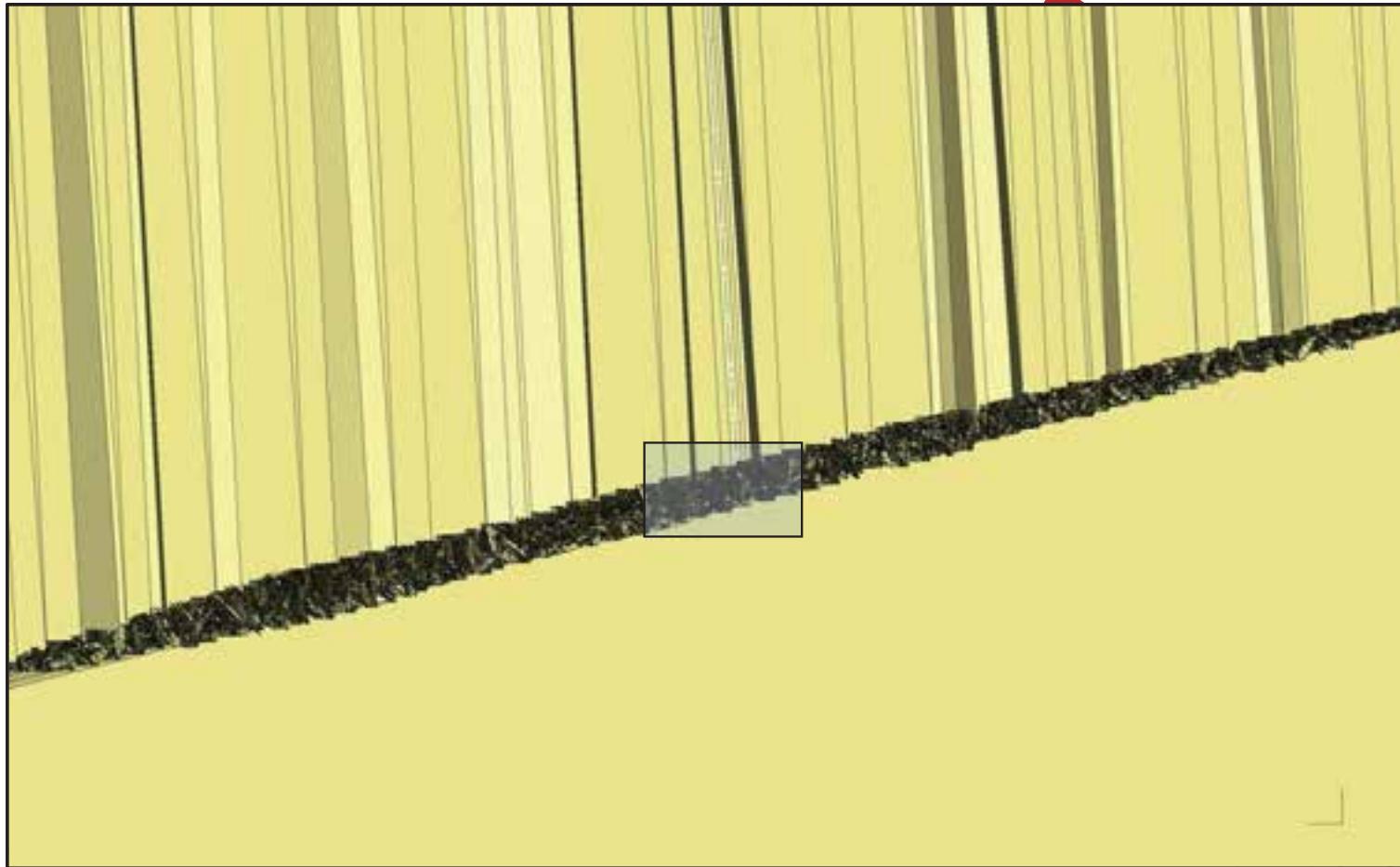
Yixin Hu, 9



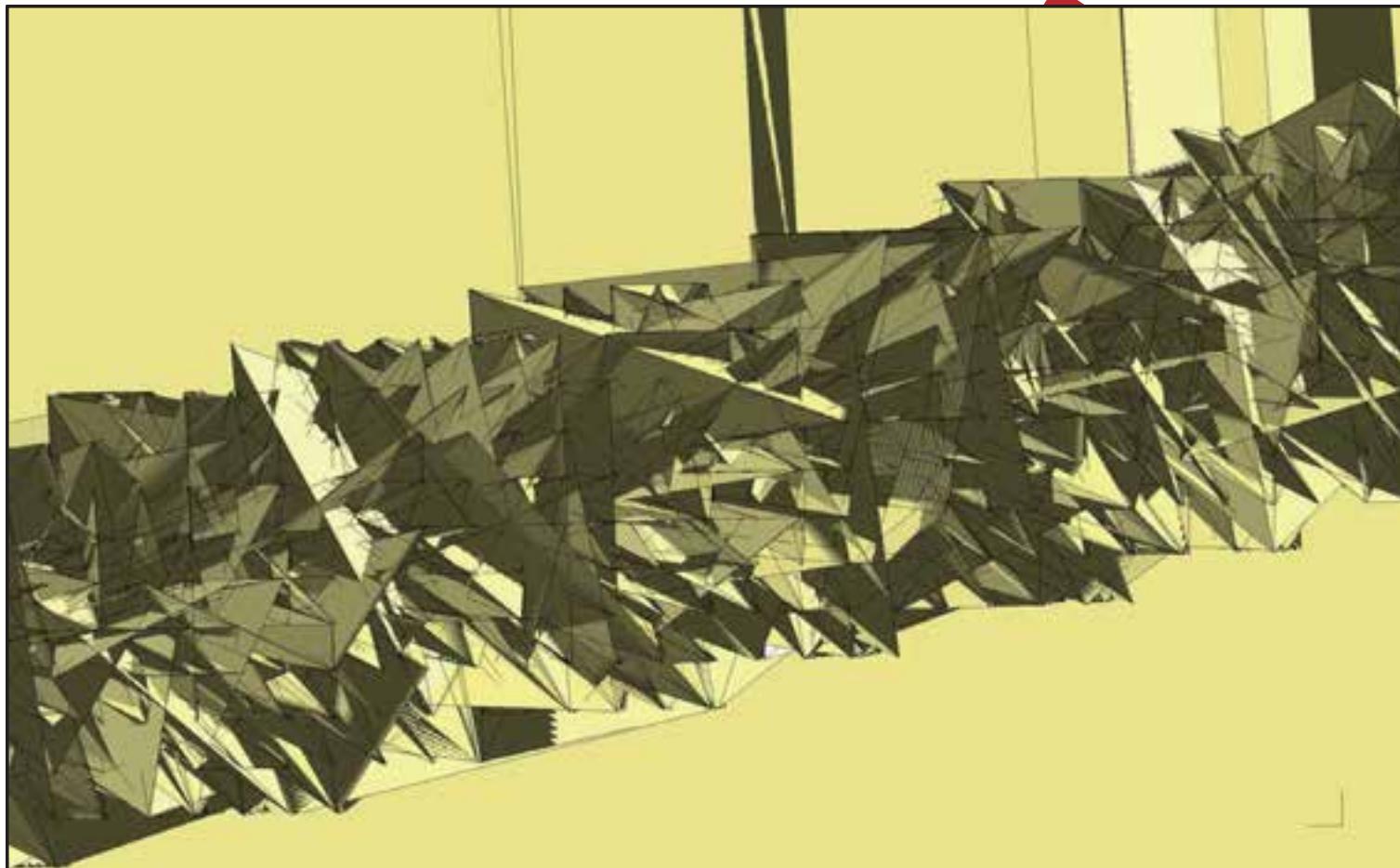
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# Why is it a Hard Problem?



# Why is it a Hard Problem?



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# New Problem

[cs,GR] 2 Jul 2016

## Thingi10K: A Dataset of 10,000 3D-Printing Models

Qingnan Zhou  
New York University

Alec Jacobson  
Columbia University

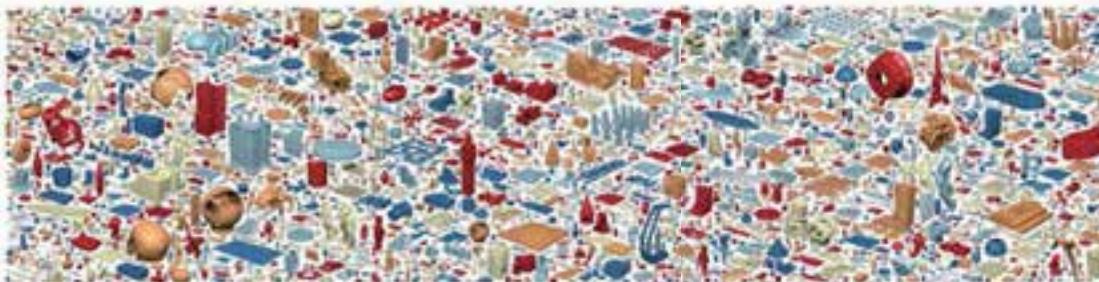


Figure 1: The Thingi10K dataset contains 10,000 models from featured “things” on thingiverse.com, a popular online repository.

### Abstract

Empirically validating new 3D-printing related algorithms and implementations requires testing data representative of inputs encountered in *the wild*. An ideal benchmarking dataset should not only draw from the same distribution of shapes people print in terms of class (e.g., toys, mechanisms, jewelry), representation type (e.g., triangle soup meshes) and complexity (e.g., number of facets), but should also capture problems and artifacts endemic to 3D print-

the demand for state-of-the-art processing techniques and automation within 3D printing pipelines.

However, testing remains inadequate. Existing datasets contain only sanitized models (e.g., [Aim@Shape 2004; Levoy et al. 2005; Myles et al. 2014]) or draw from populations containing raw models not specifically intended for printing (rather, e.g., for shape classification [Shilane et al. 2004; Chang et al. 2015] or scene understanding [Nathan Silberman & Fergus 2012; Choi et al. 2016]).

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# Tetrahedral Meshing on Messy Surface?

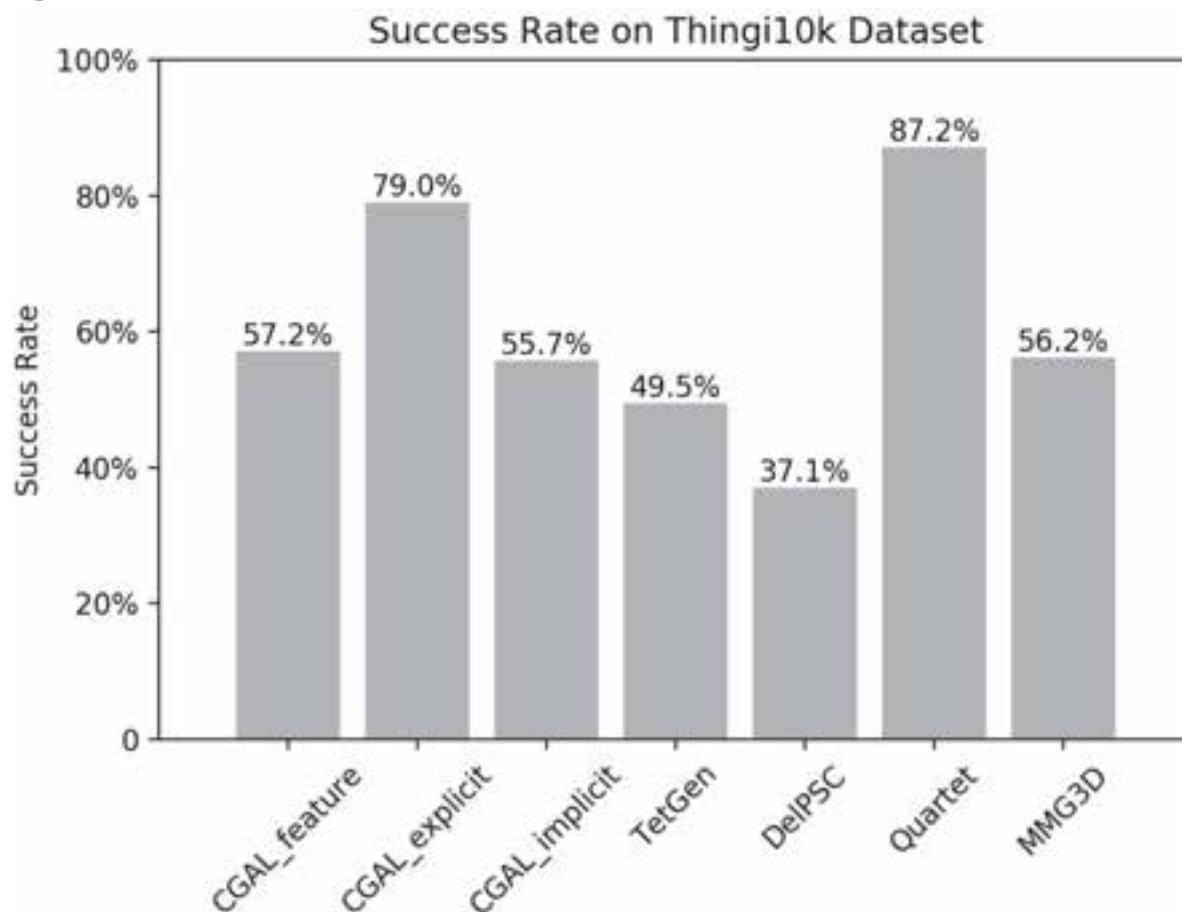
Yixin Hu, 13



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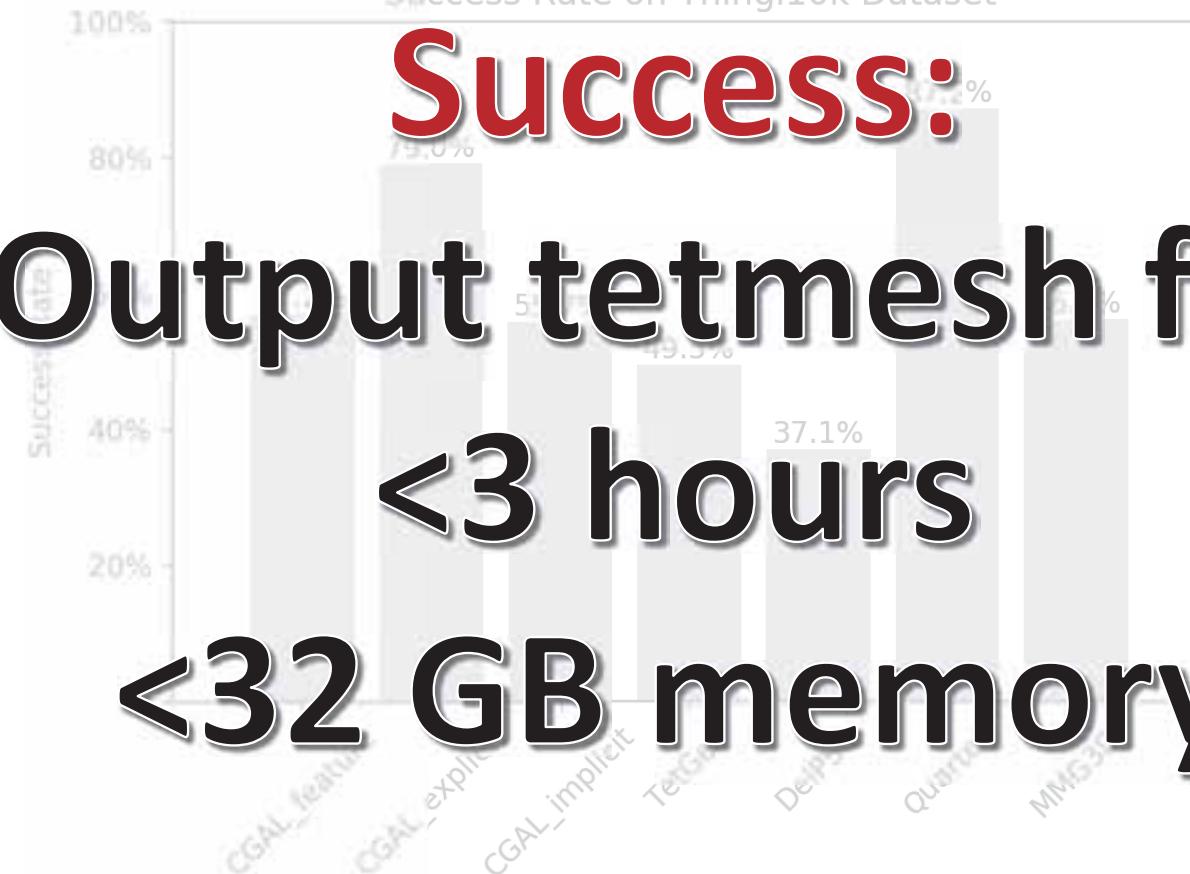
# Existing Methods



# Existing Methods

Success Rate on Thingi10k Dataset

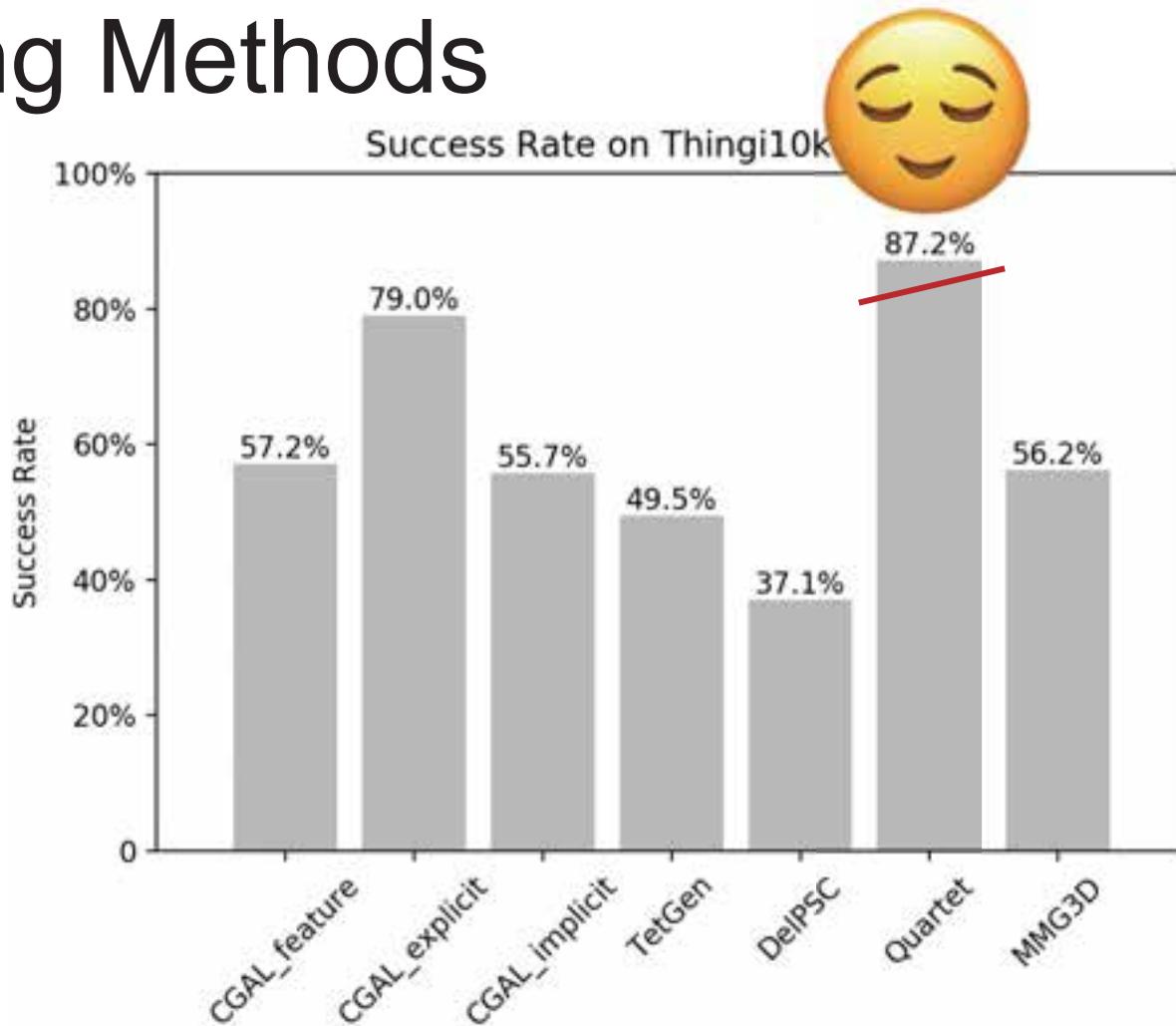
**Success:**  
**Output tetmesh file**  
**<3 hours**  
**<32 GB memory**



Method	Success Rate (%)
CGAL_feature	75.0%
CGAL_explicit	51.0%
CGAL_implicit	49.5%
TetGen	37.1%
Delaunator	37.1%
Quartetizer	37.1%
MM53	37.1%

# Existing Methods

Success Rate on Thingi10k



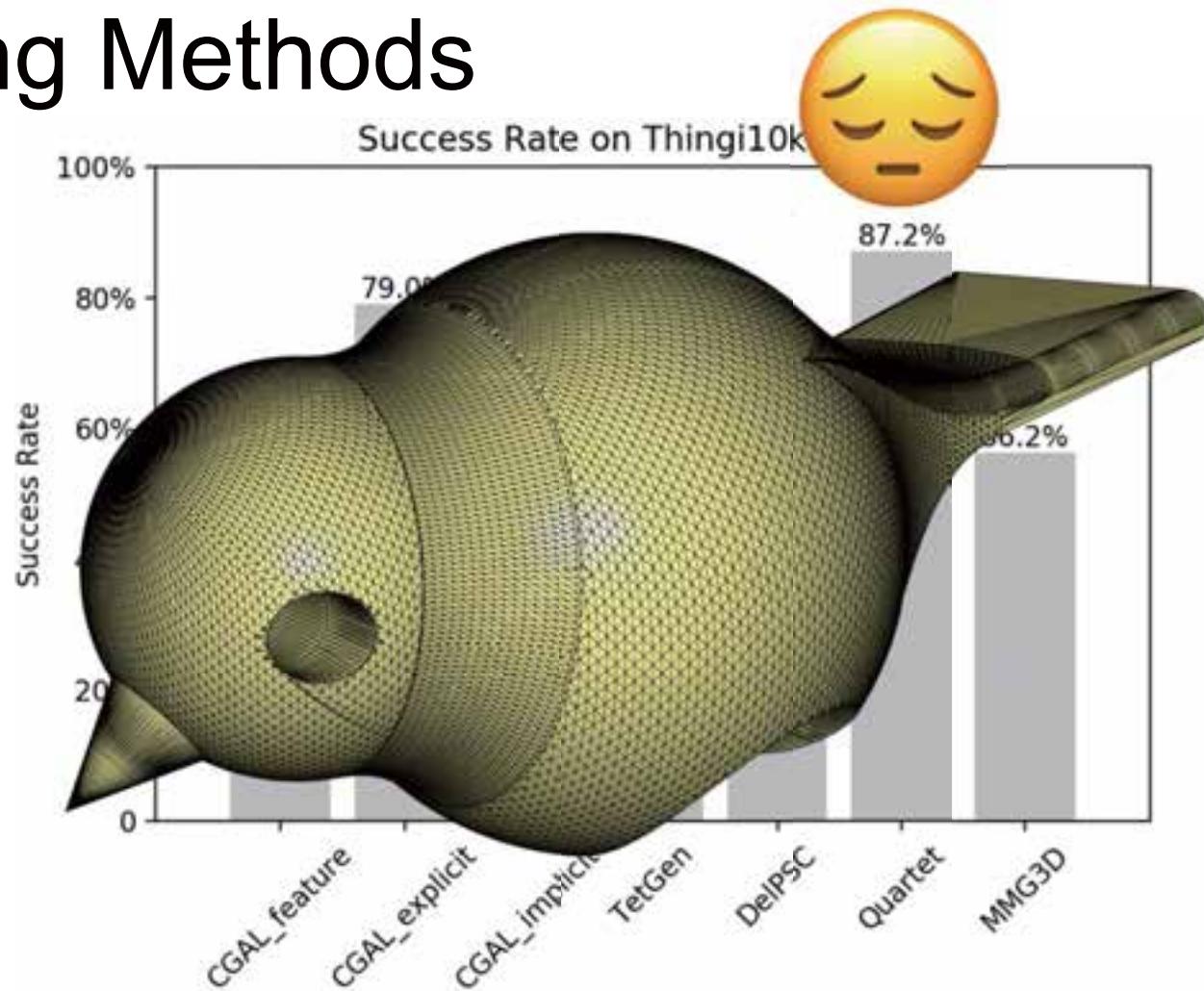
Yixin Hu, 16



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# Existing Methods



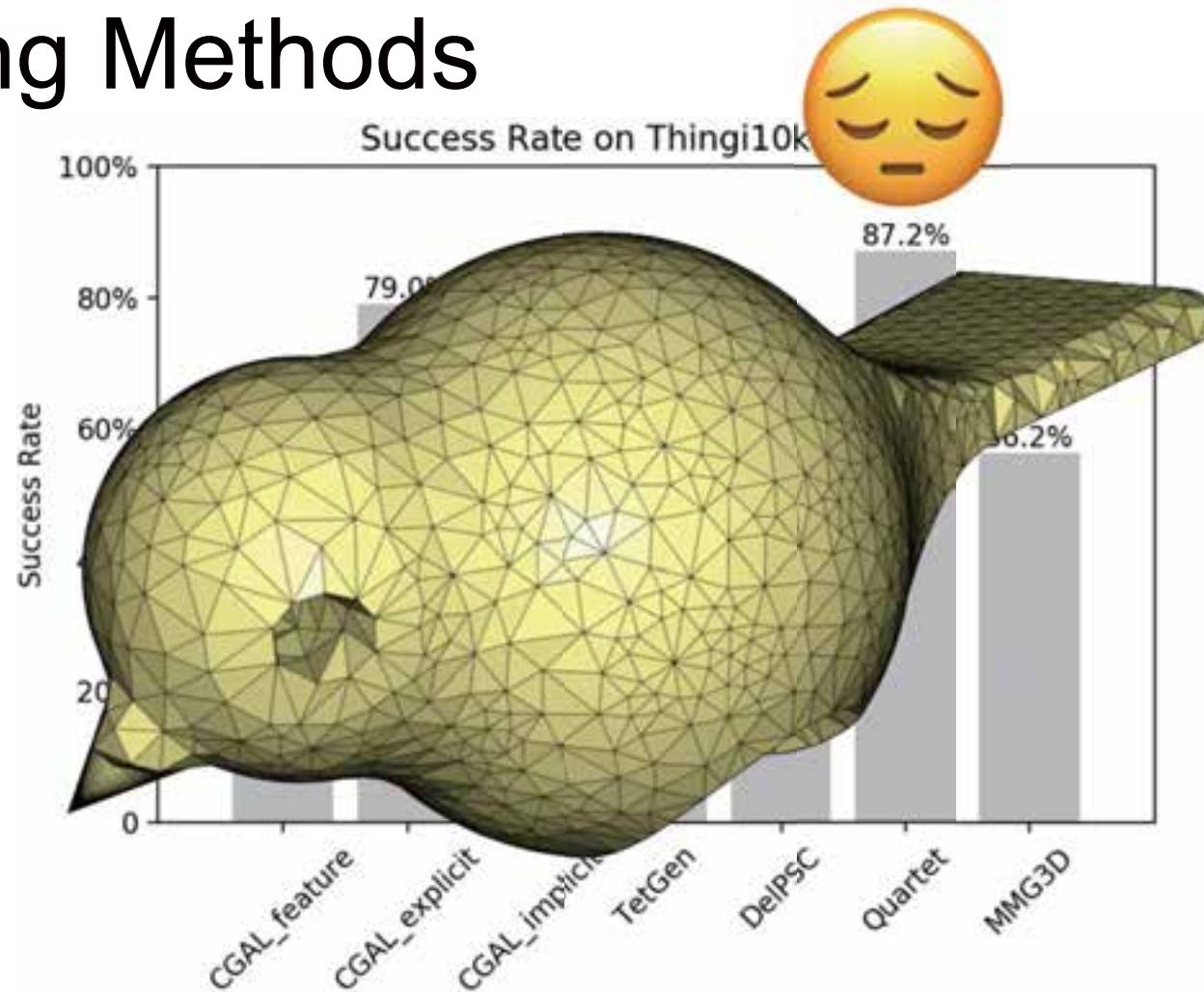
Yixin Hu, 17



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# Existing Methods



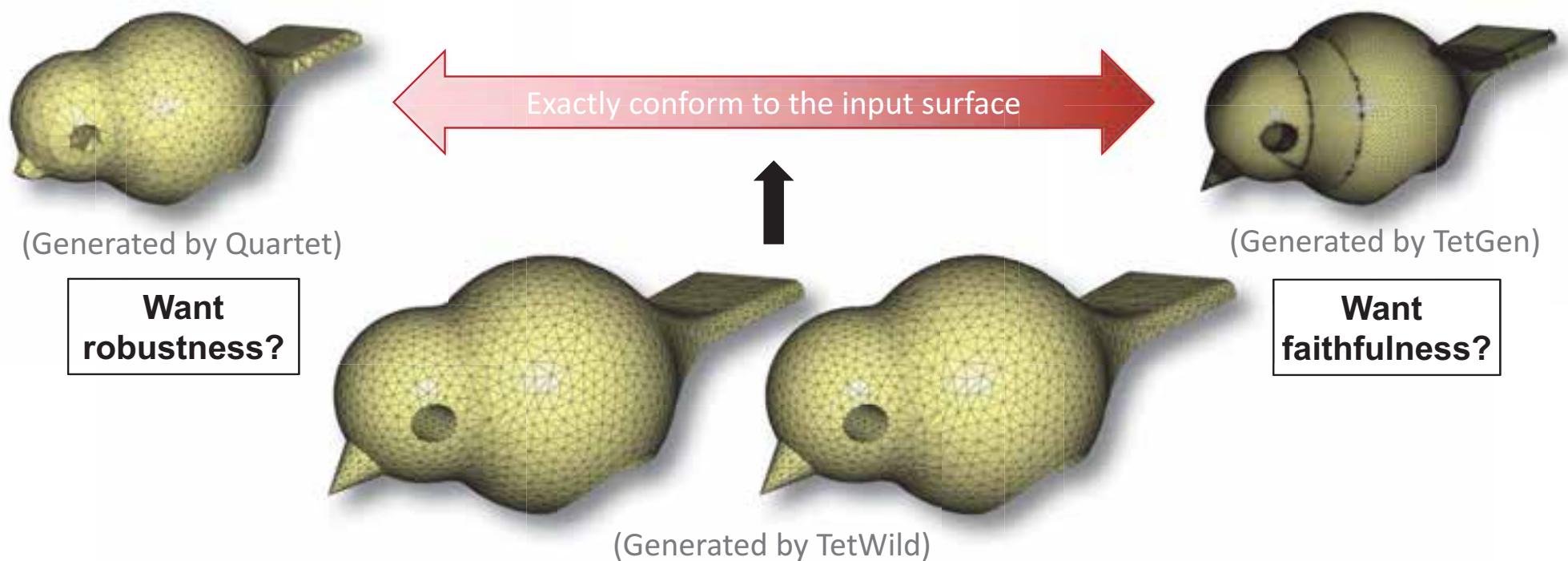
Yixin Hu, 18



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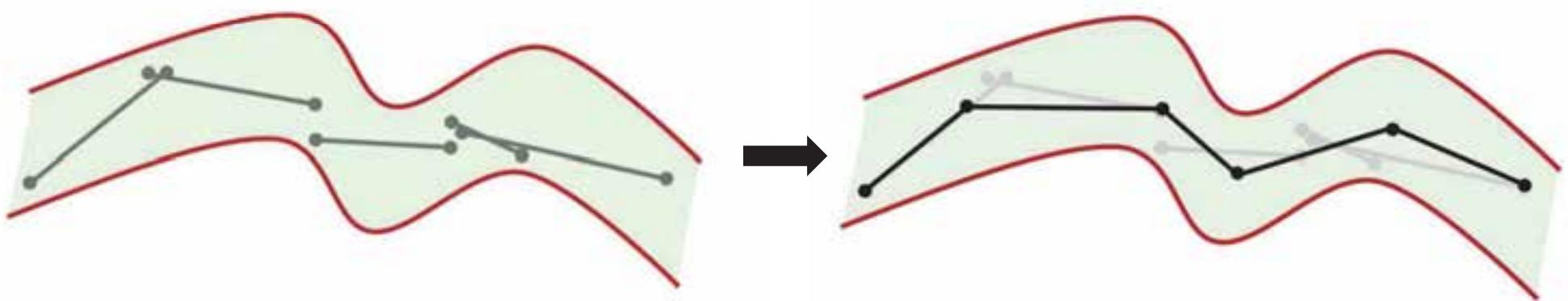
# New Method



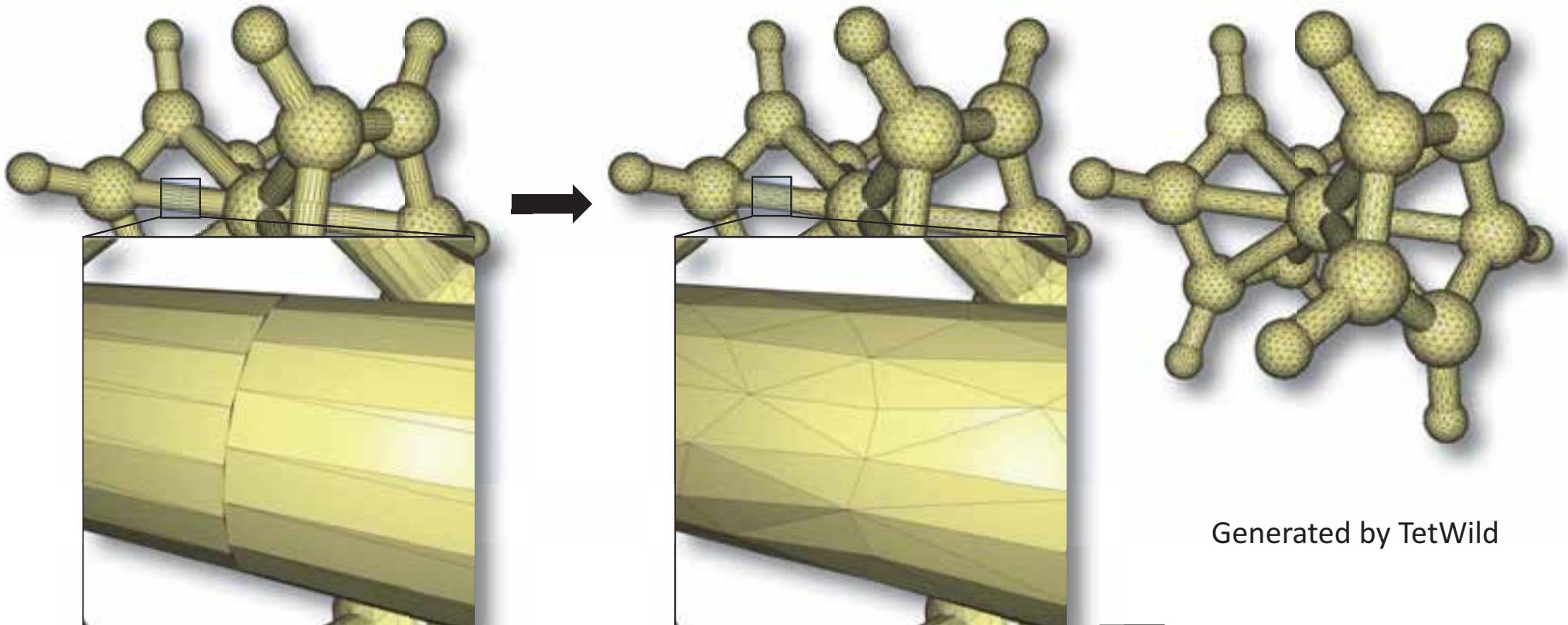
**Our method:** 1. Closed under rationals. 2. Approximate input surface within an envelope.

# Why Envelope?

- Optimize boundary inside an envelope



# Input with Gaps



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Generated by TetWild



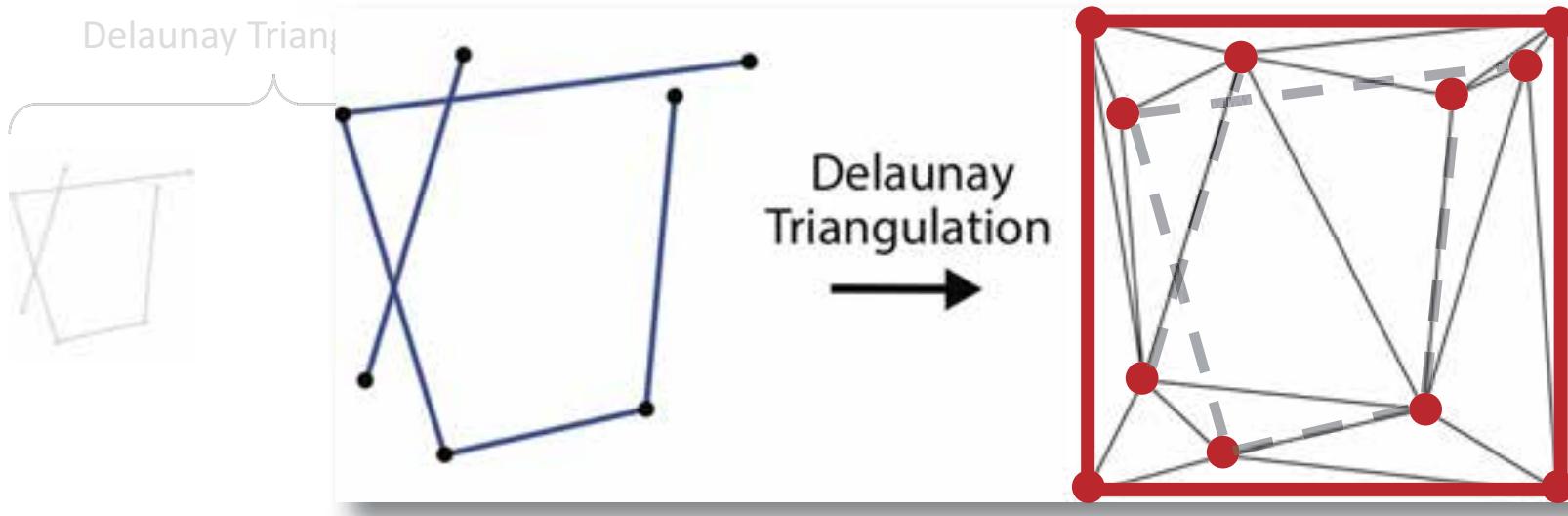
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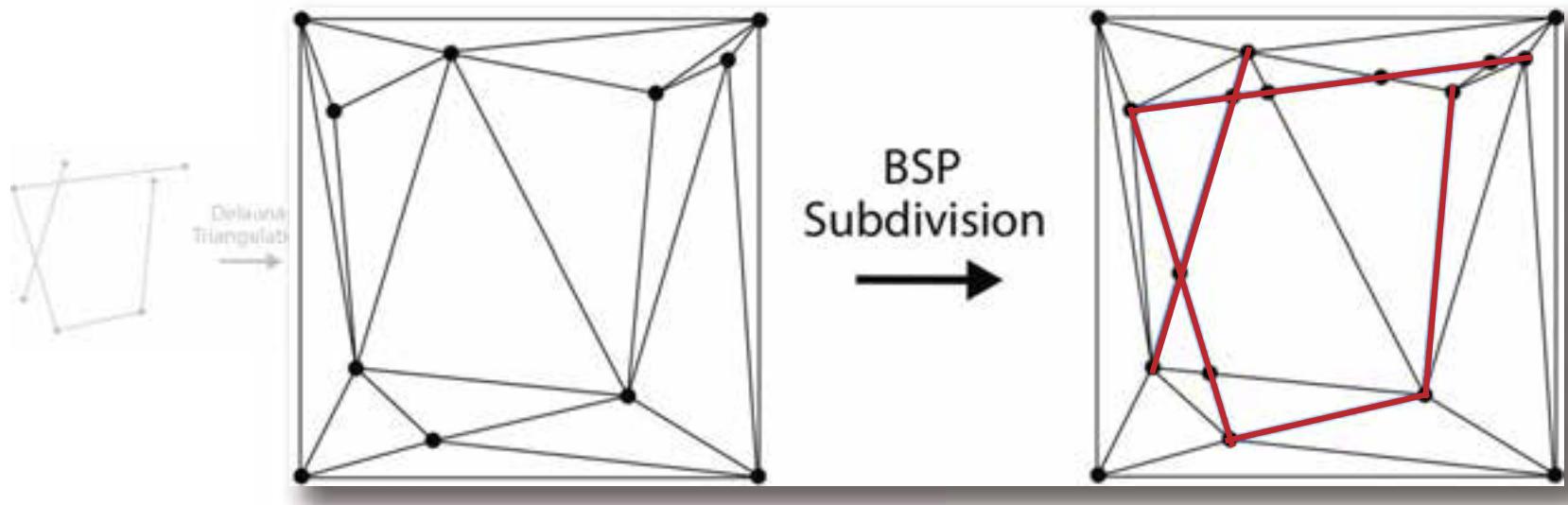
# TetWild

- **Input:** Triangle soup that forms the surface of a 3D shape.
  - No assumption about the input.
- **Output:** Approximated constrained tetrahedral mesh. (Envelope)
  - Able to clean up imperfect regions on the input and produce high-quality output.

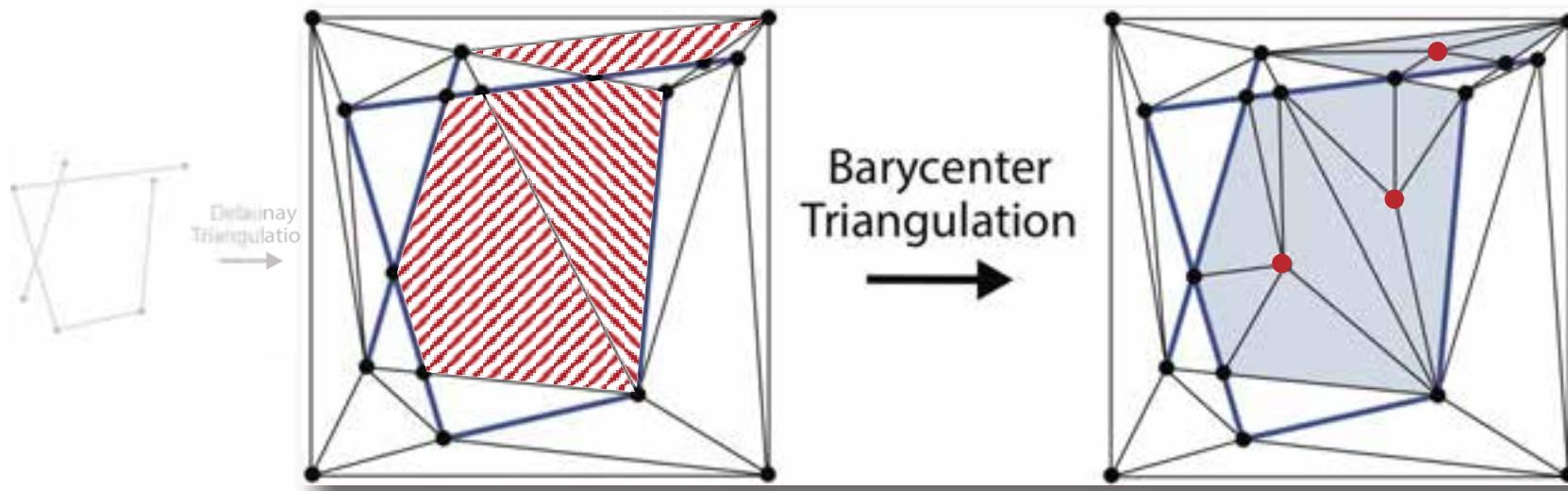
# Pipeline



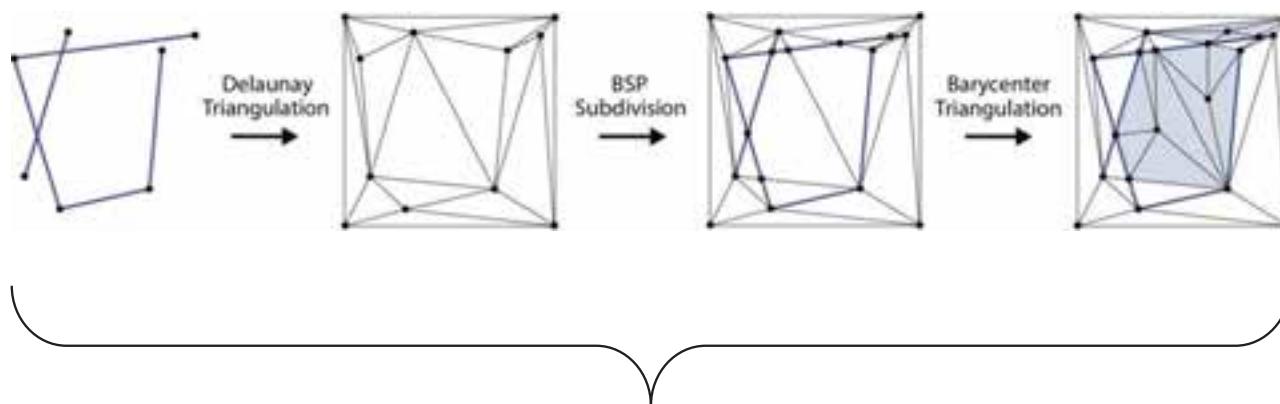
# Pipeline



# Pipeline



# Pipeline



Stage I: Valid Mesh Generation  
(Rational)

# Pipeline



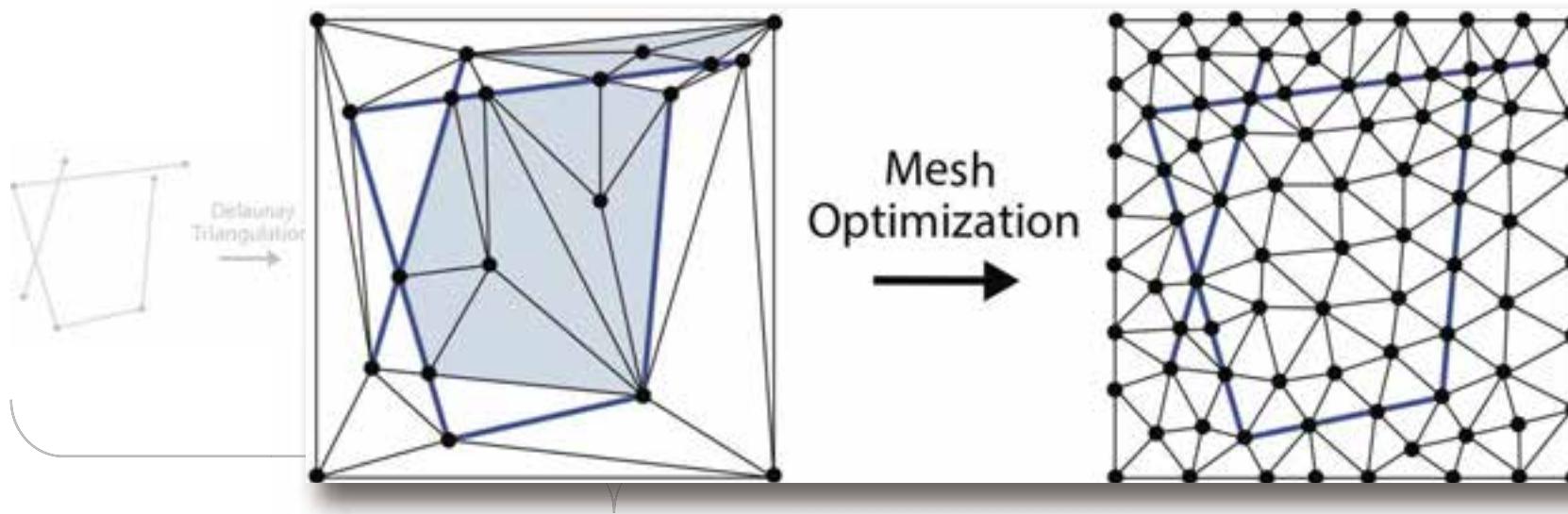
**Valid:**

**No inversion or self-intersection**

**Input boundary preserved**

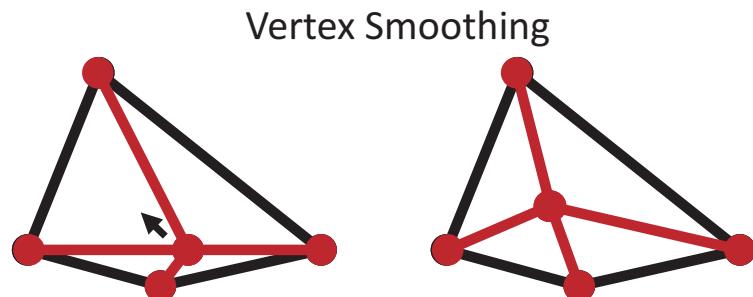
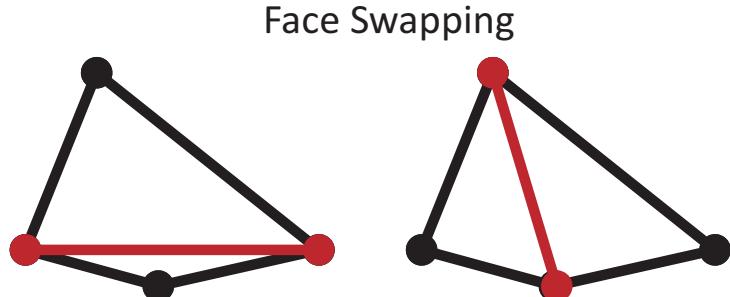
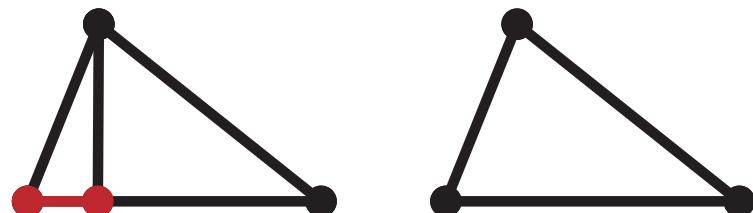
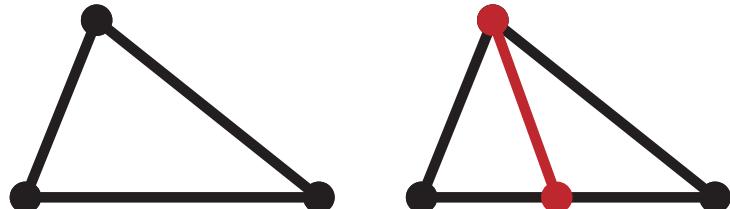
(Rational)

# Pipeline



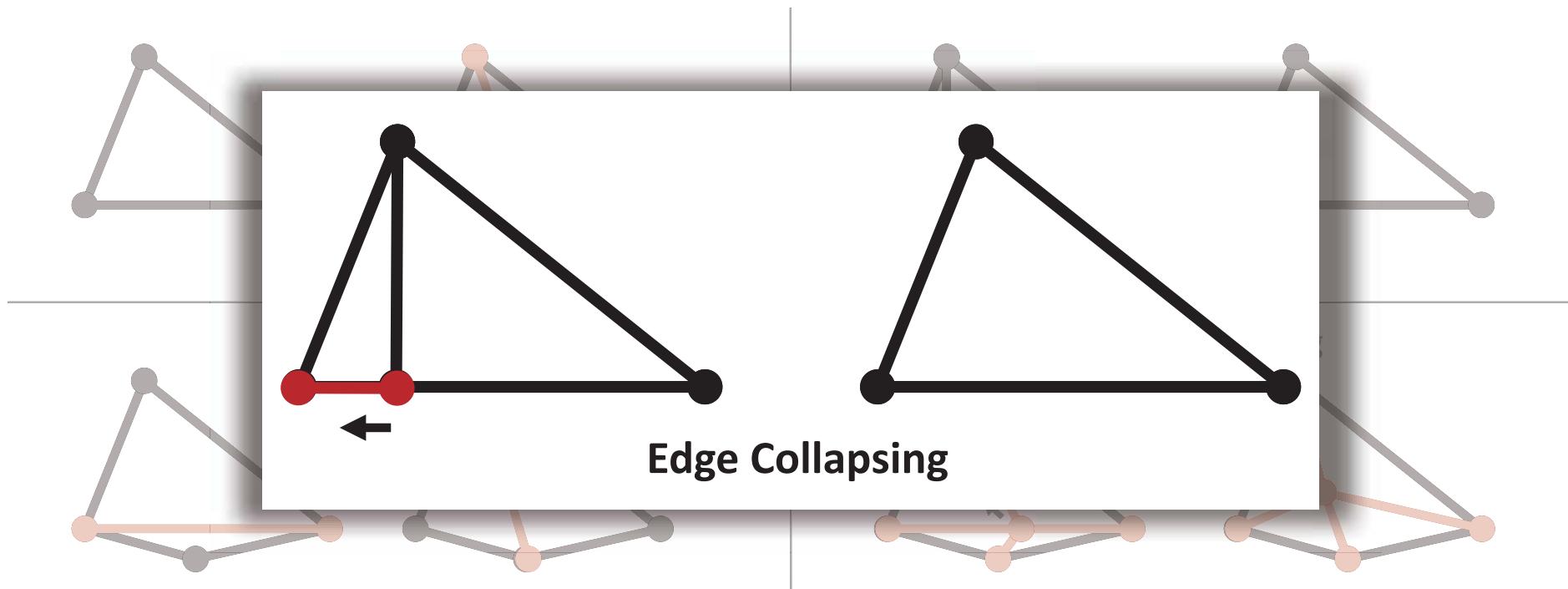
Stage I: Valid Mesh Generation  
(Rational)

# Mesh Optimization

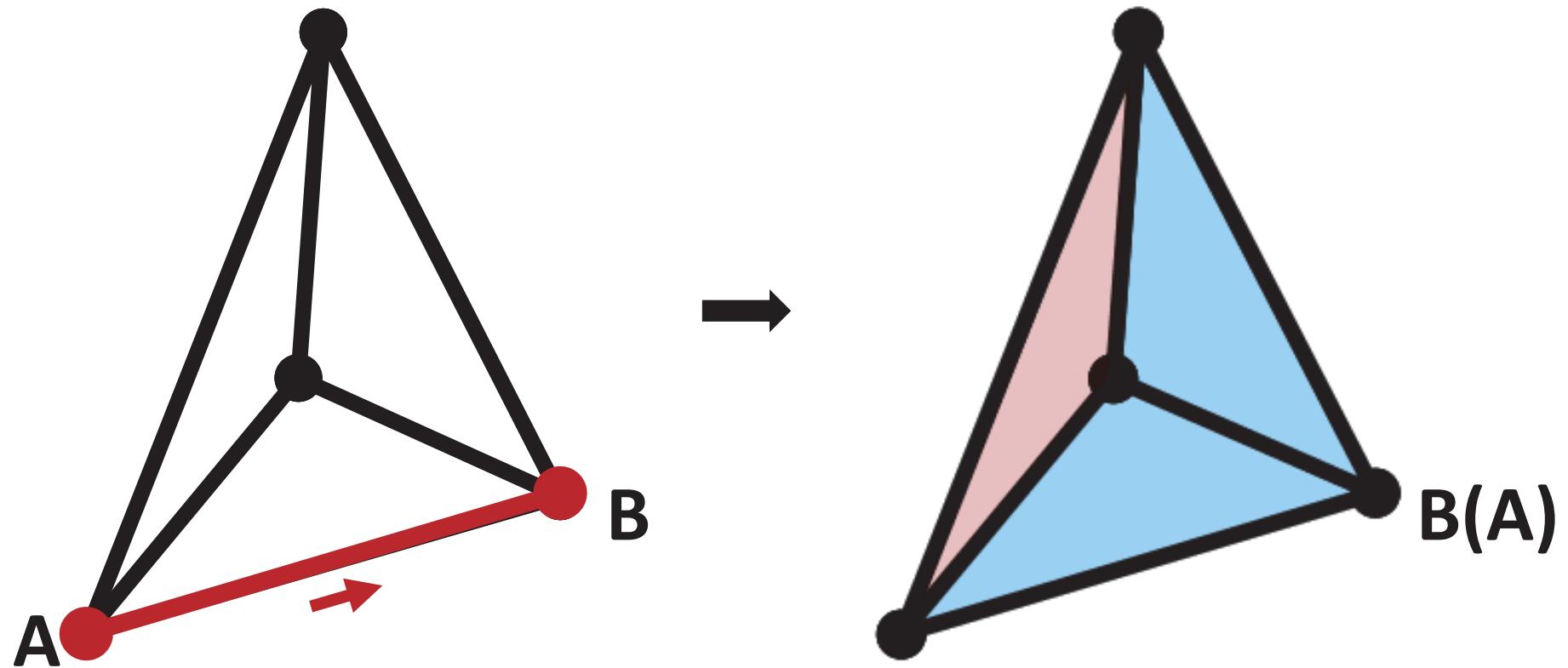


# Mesh Optimization

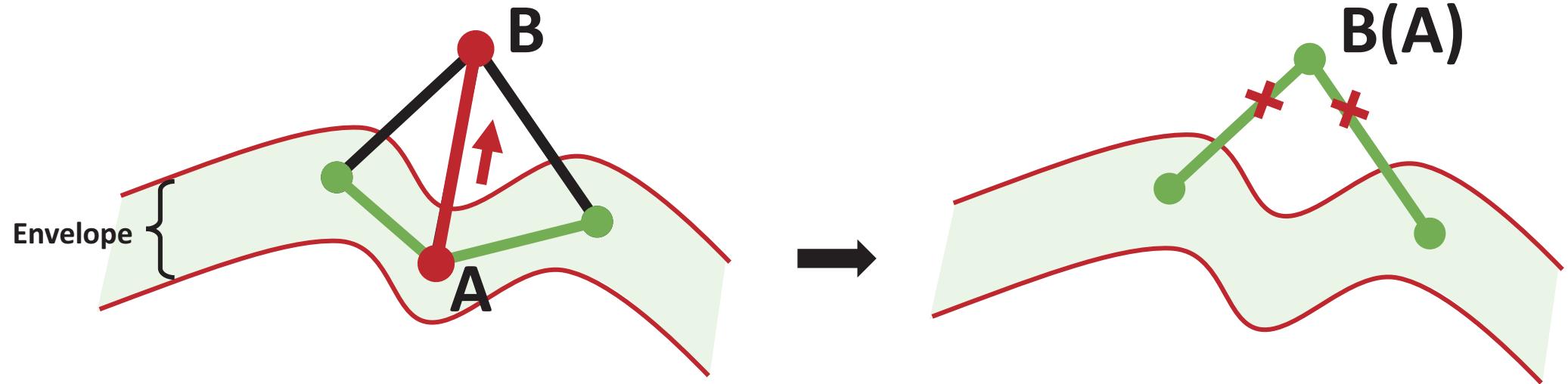
Conformal AMIPS 3D Energy



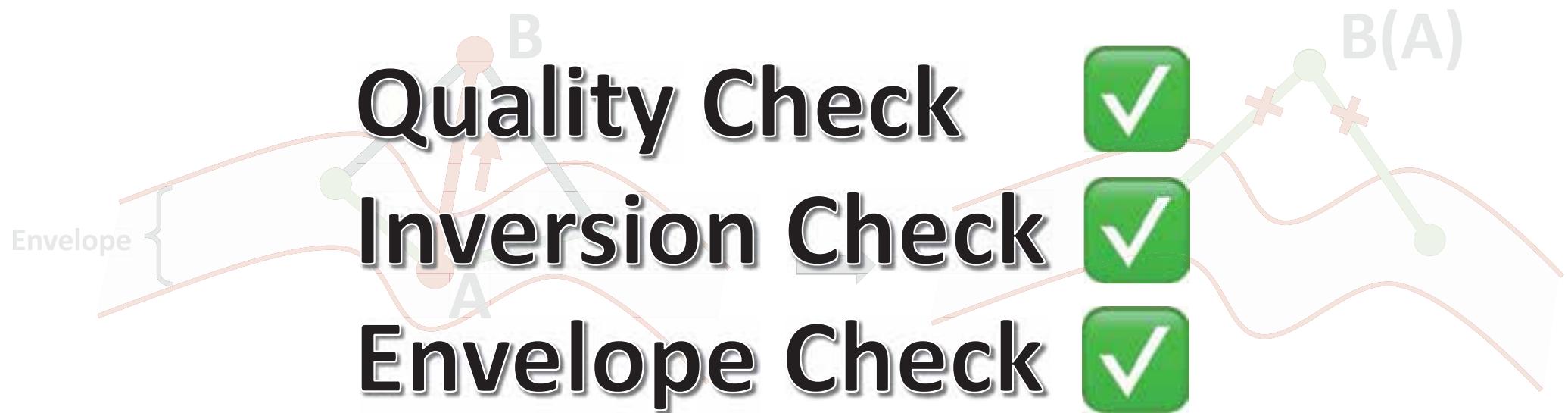
# Inversion Check



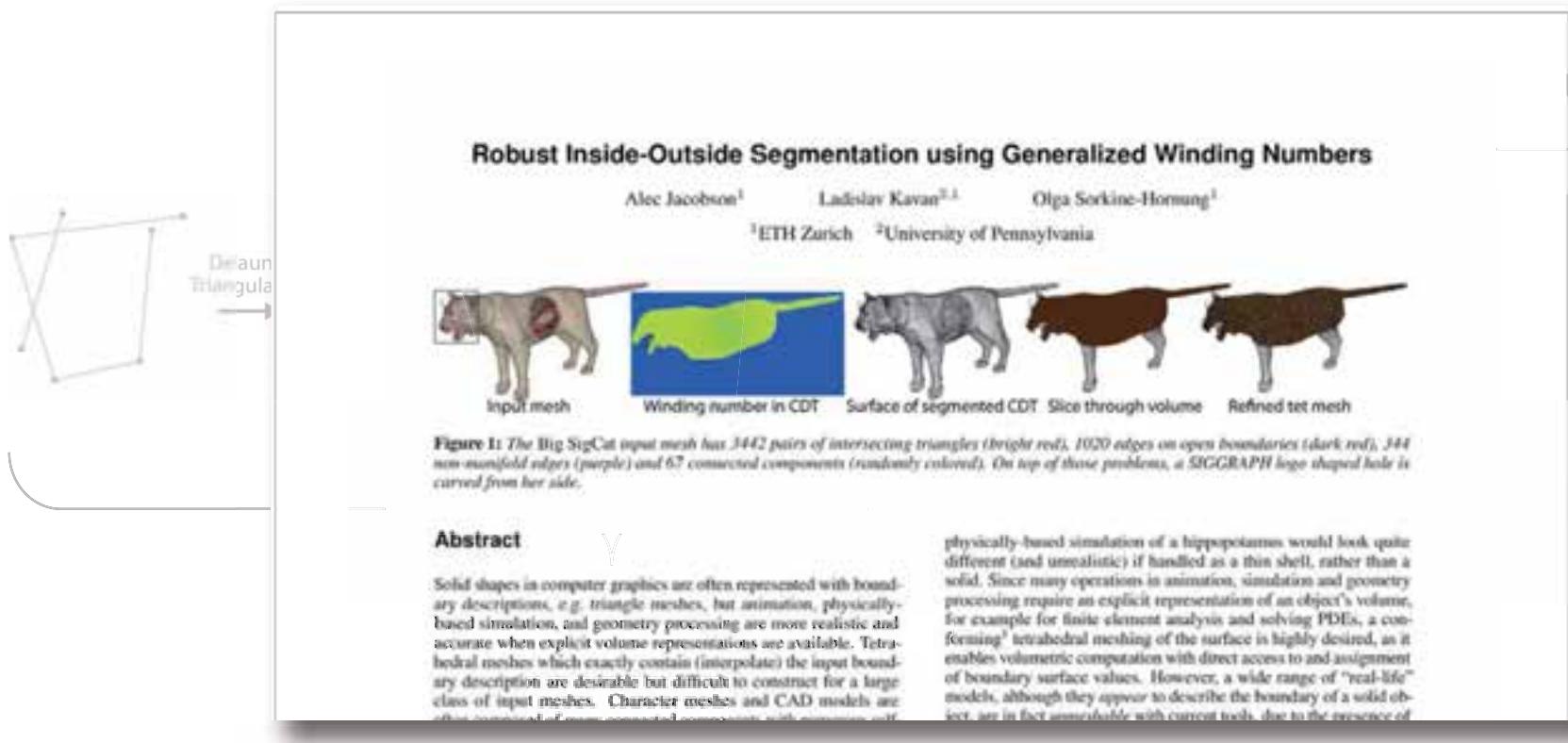
# Envelope Check



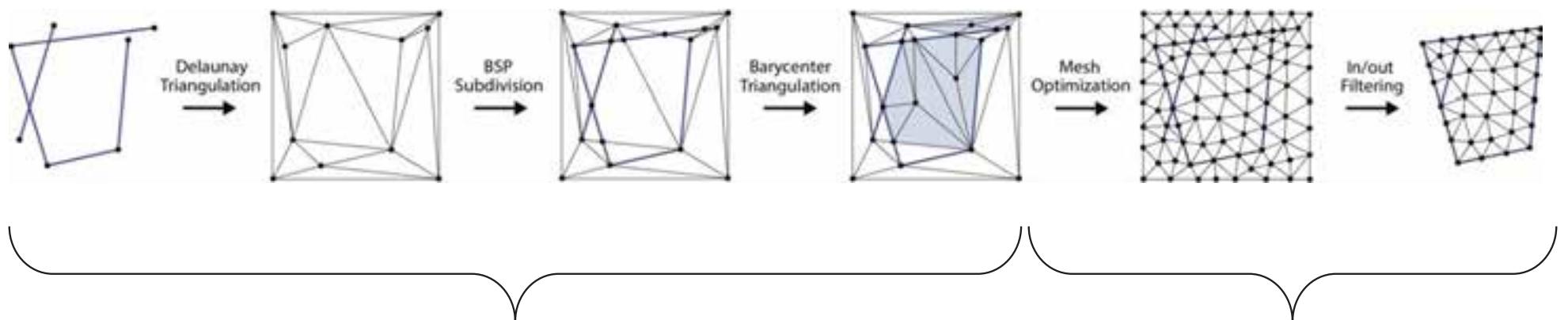
# Envelope Check



# Pipeline



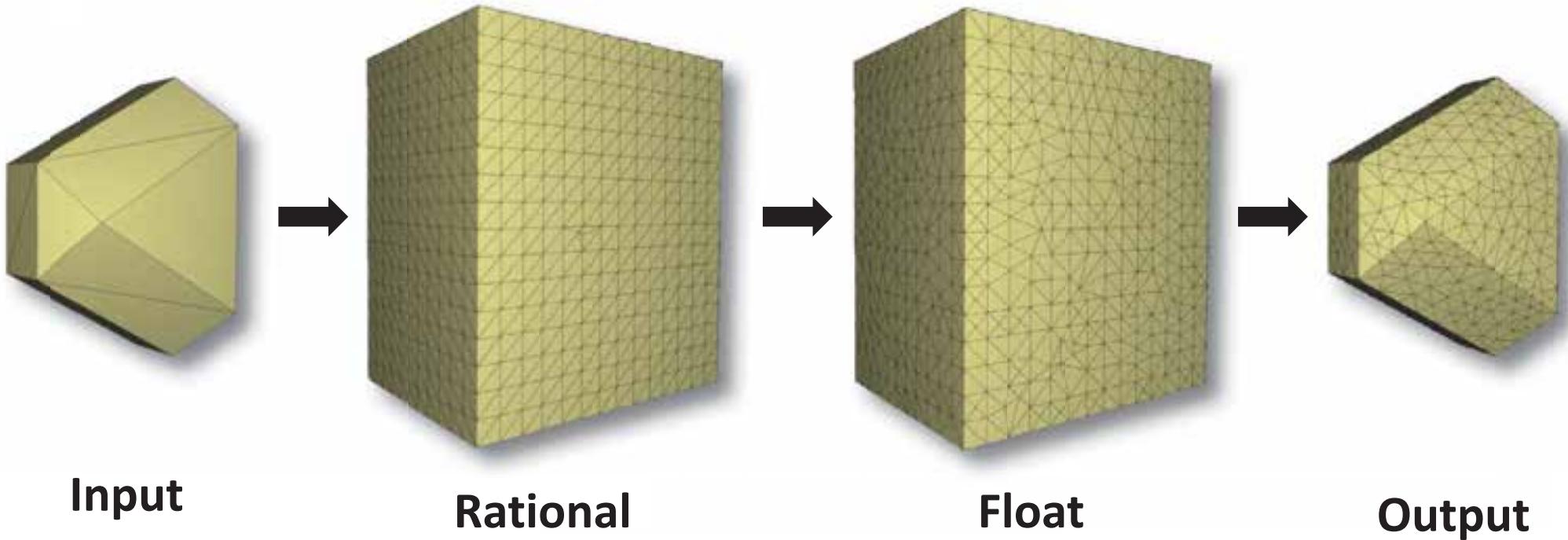
# Pipeline



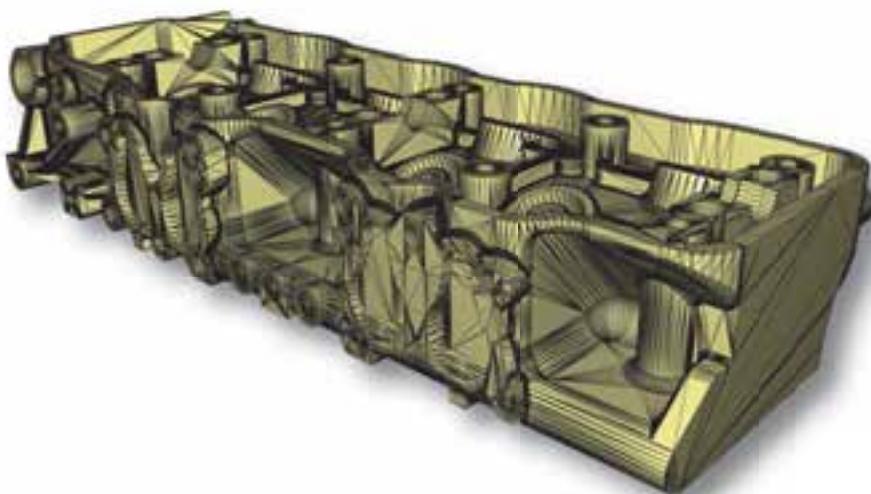
Stage I: Valid Mesh Generation  
(Rational)

Stage II: Mesh Improvement  
(Mixed → Double)

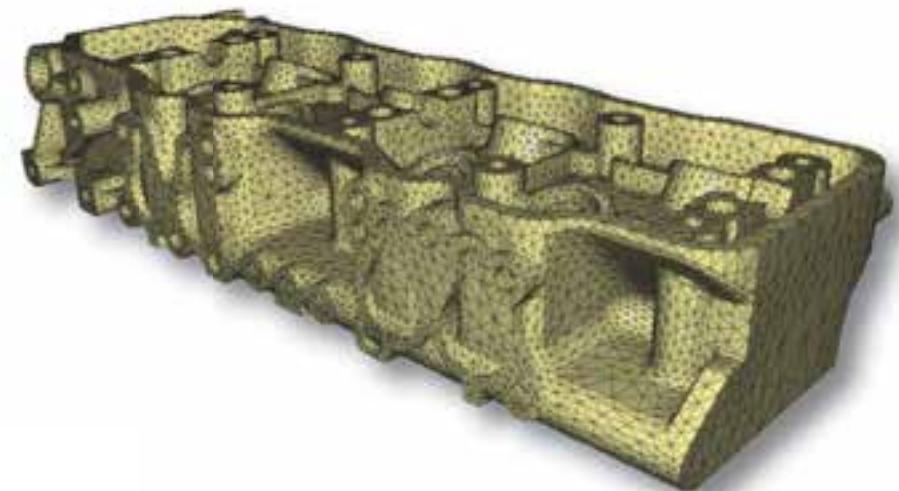
# Pipeline



# Parameters: Ideal Edge Length

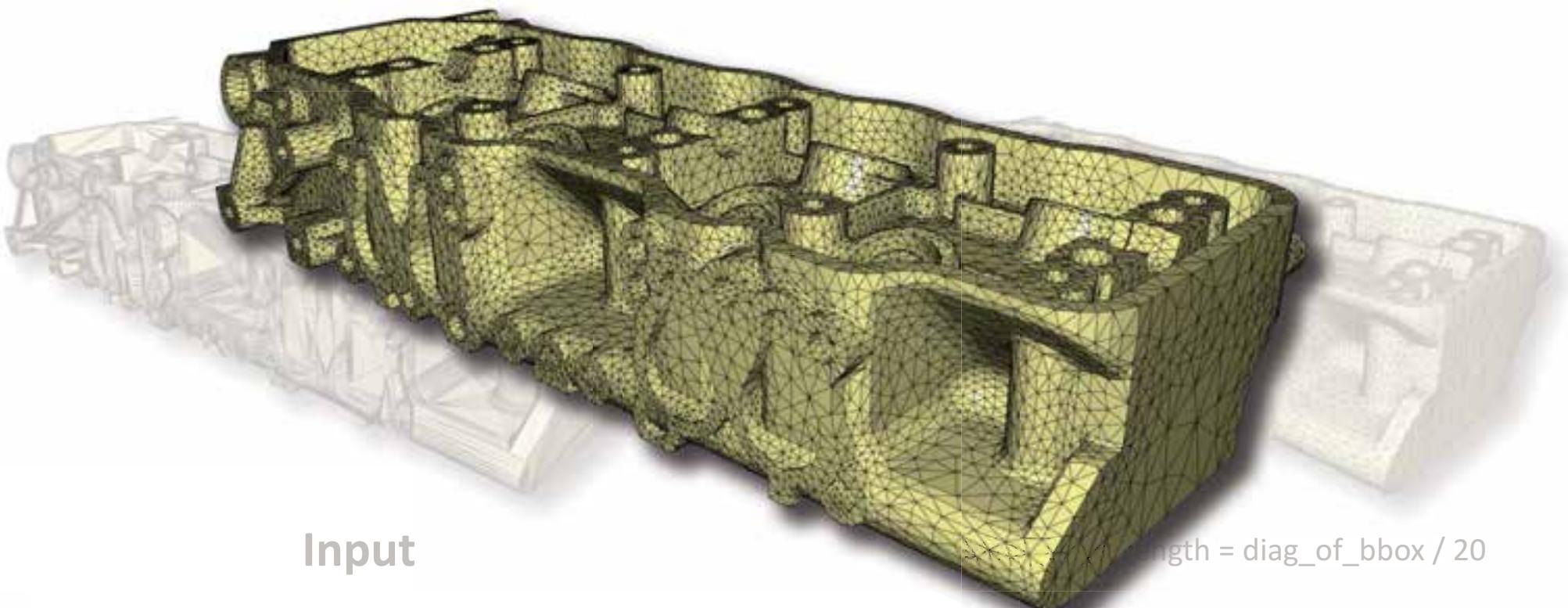


**Input**



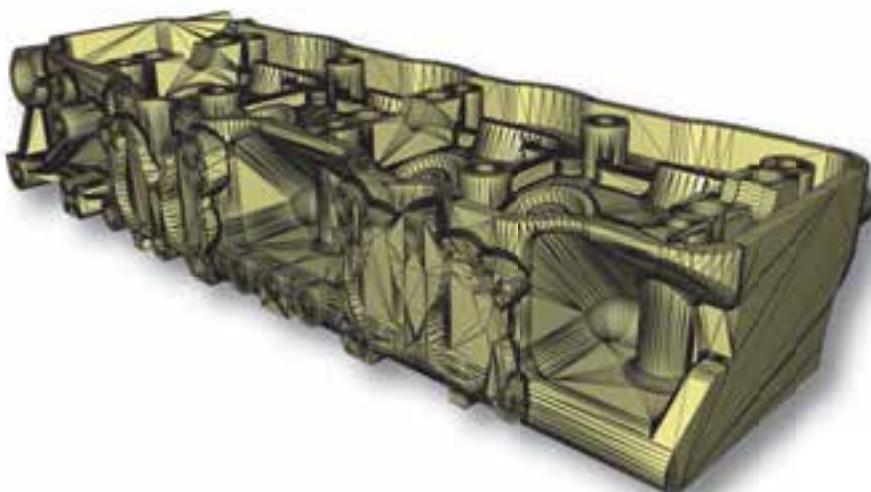
`Ideal_edge_length = diag_of_bbox / 20`

# Parameters: Ideal Edge Length

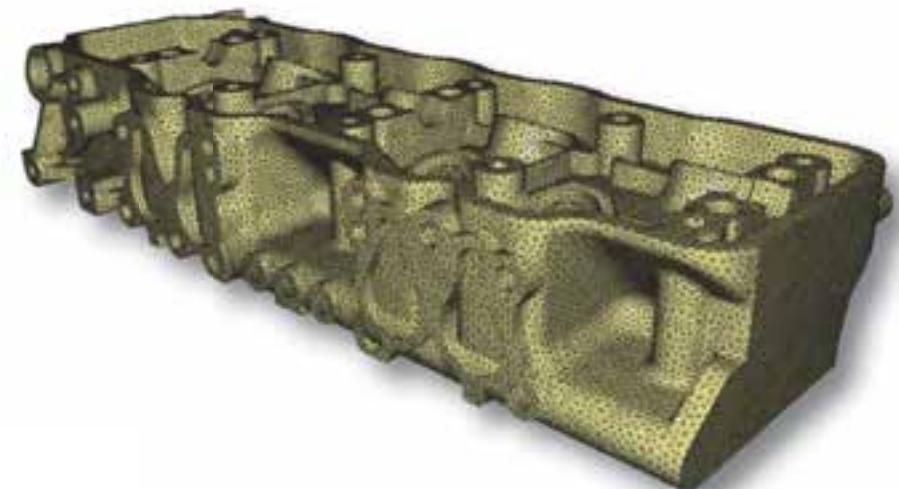


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# Parameters: Ideal Edge Length

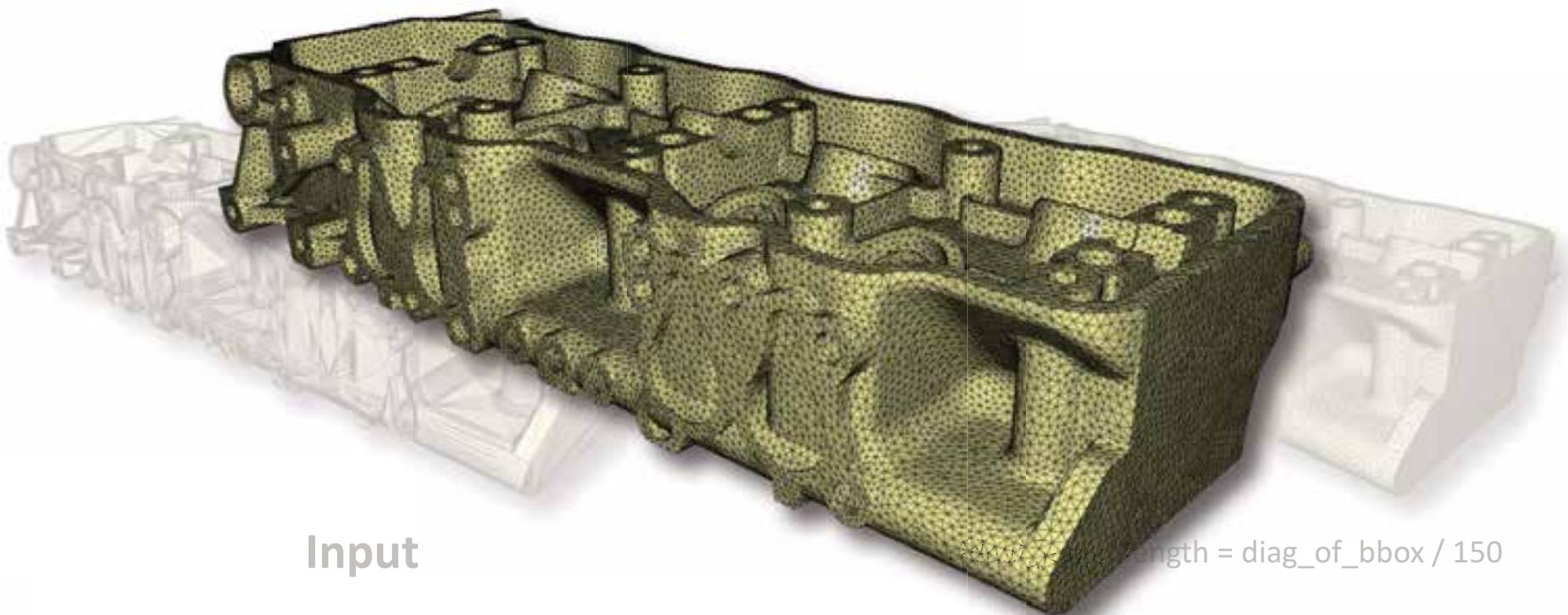


**Input**



`Ideal_edge_length = diag_of_bbox / 150`

# Parameters: Ideal Edge Length



Input

~~length = diag\_of\_bbox / 150~~

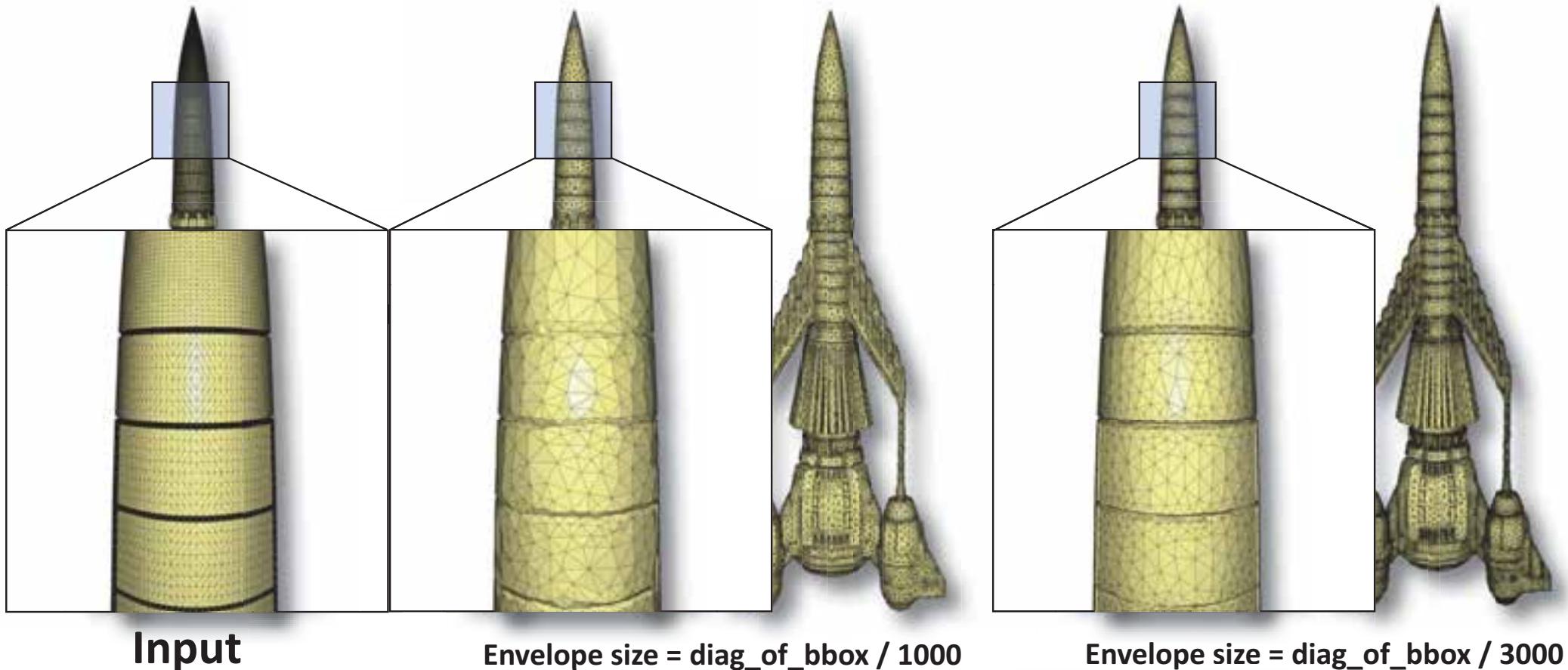
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# Parameters: Envelope Size

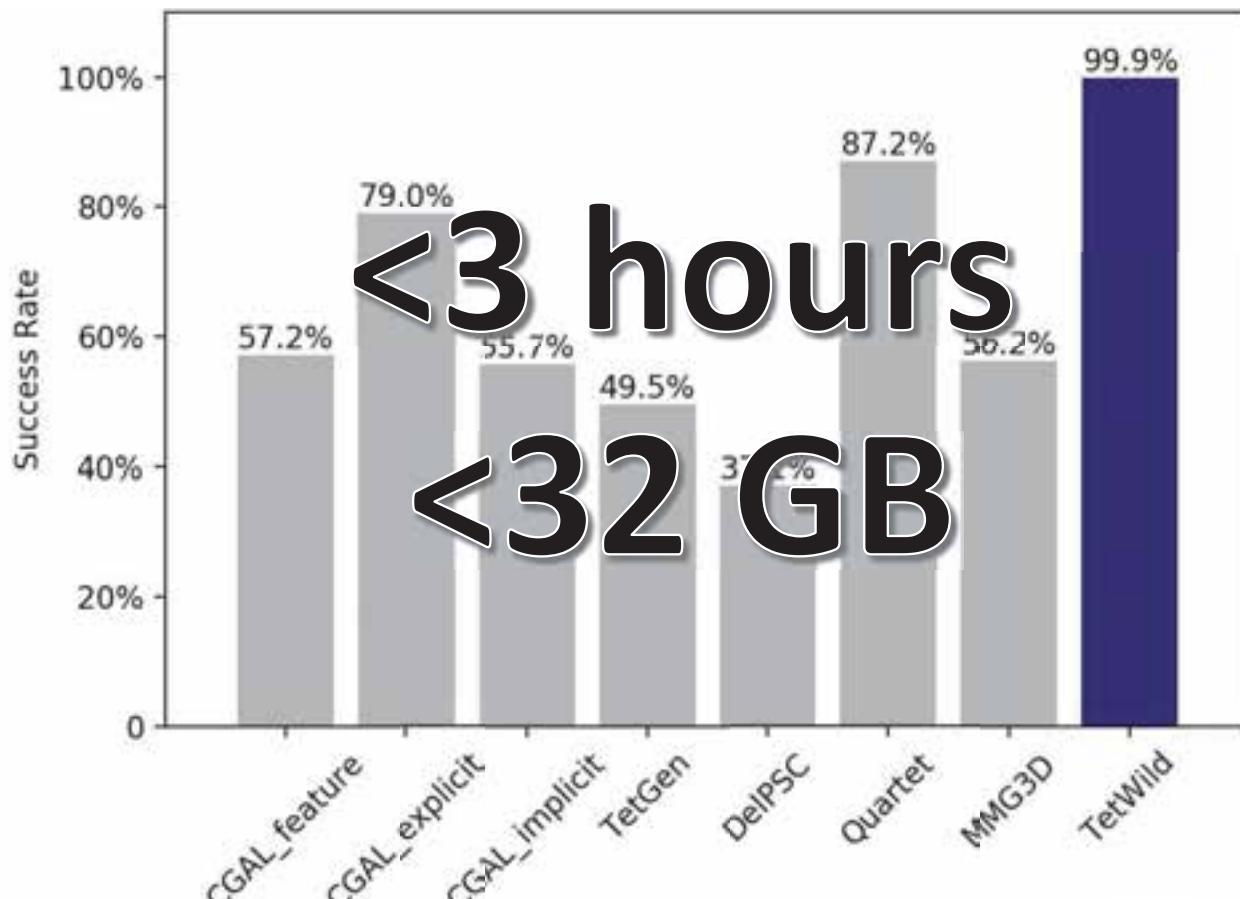


# Parameters: Envelope Size

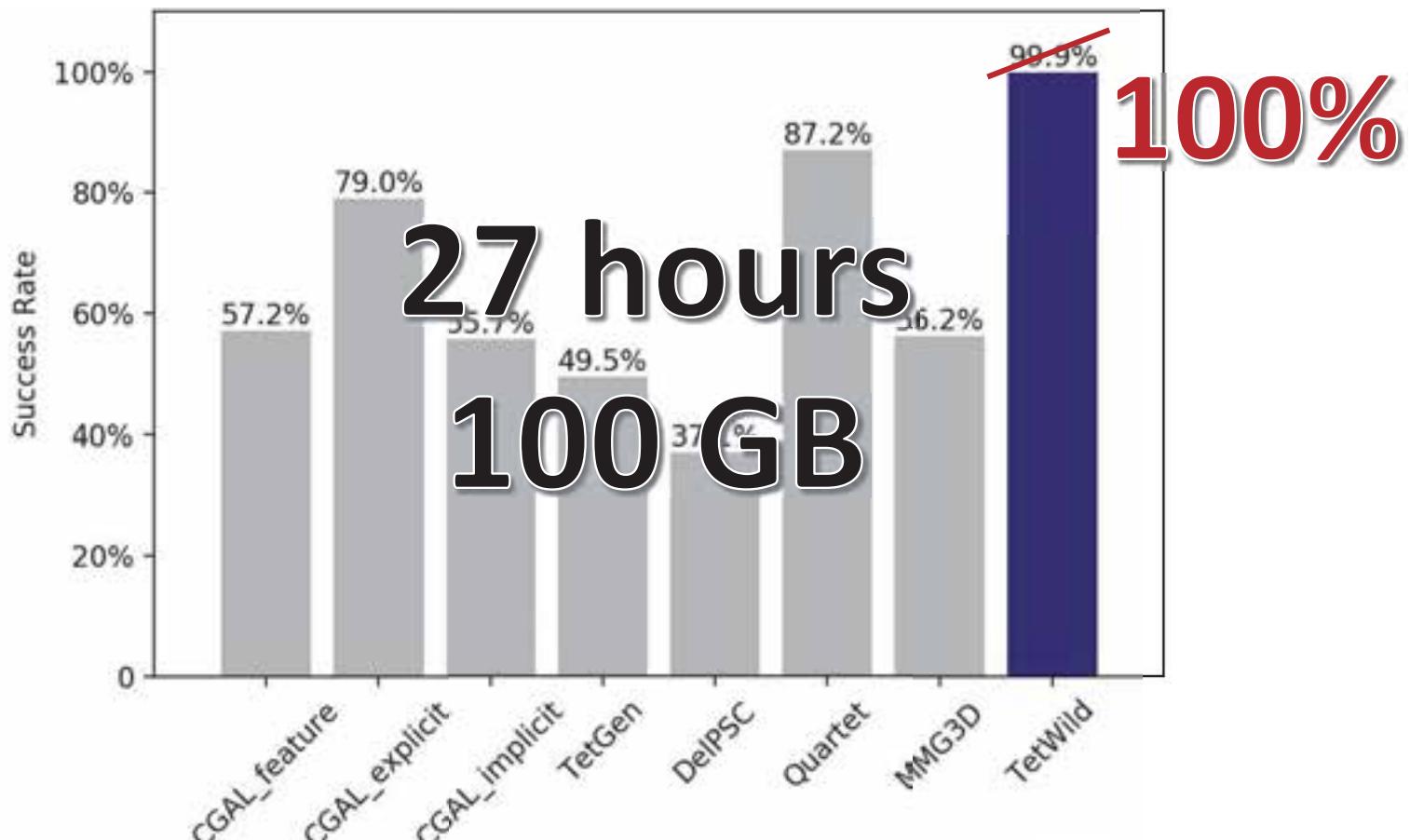


Envelope size = diag\_of\_bbox / 1000

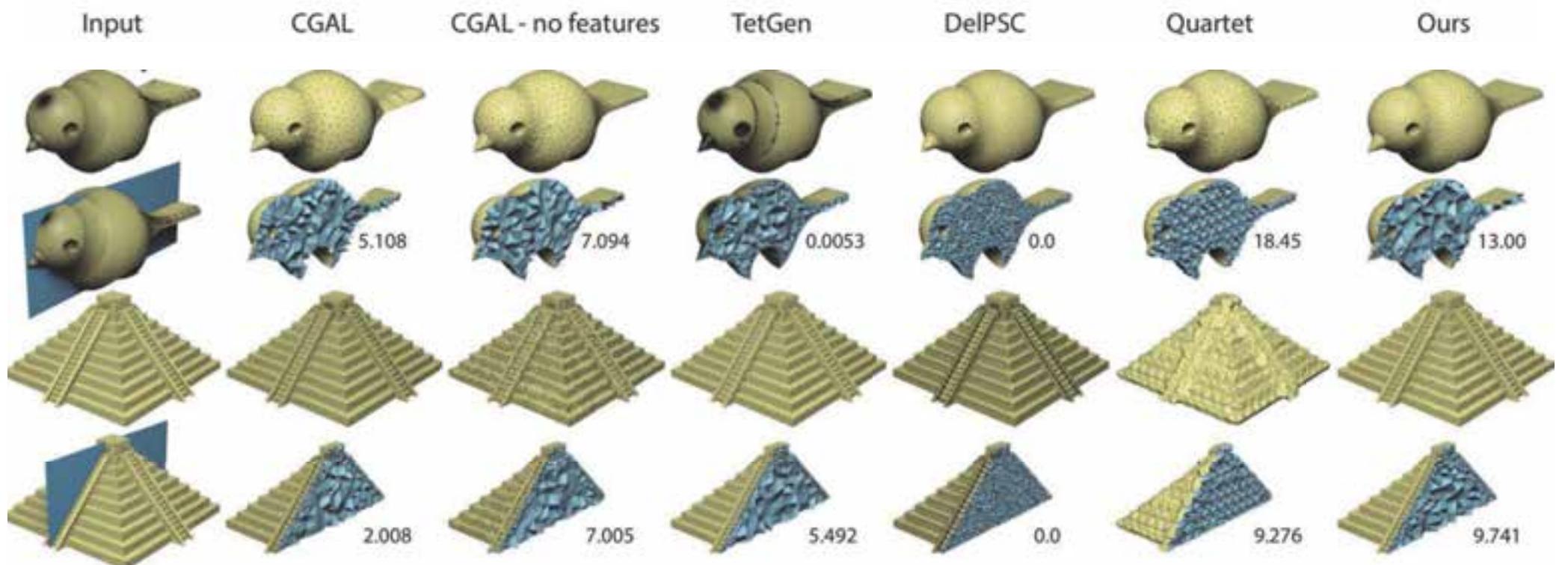
# Comparison: Success Rate on 10k Models



# Comparison: Success Rate on 10k Models



# Comparison



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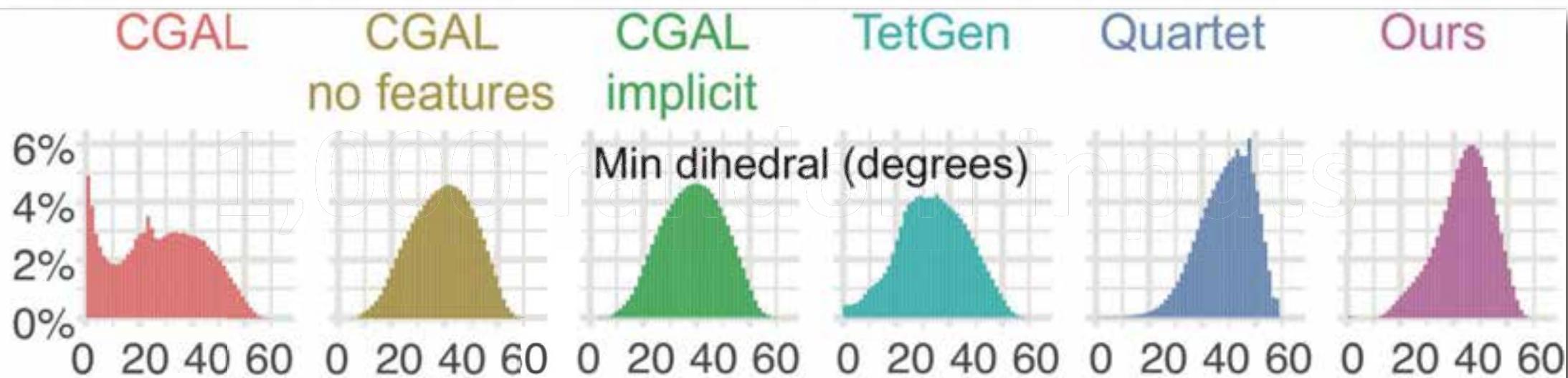
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# Comparison measures

1,000 random inputs

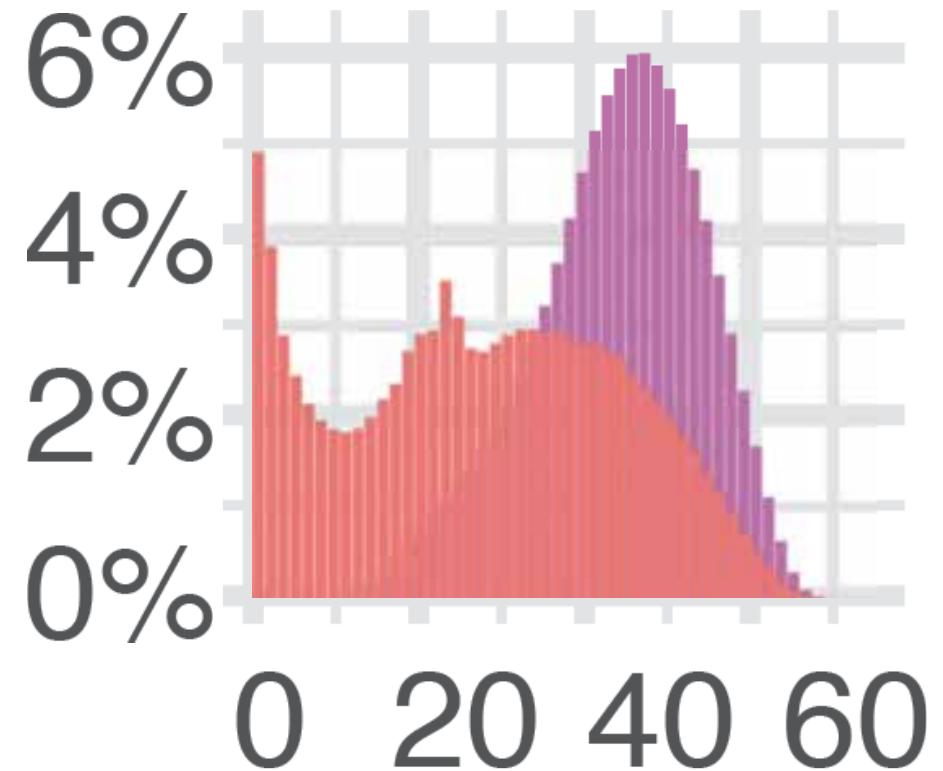


# Comparison: Quality in Different Measures



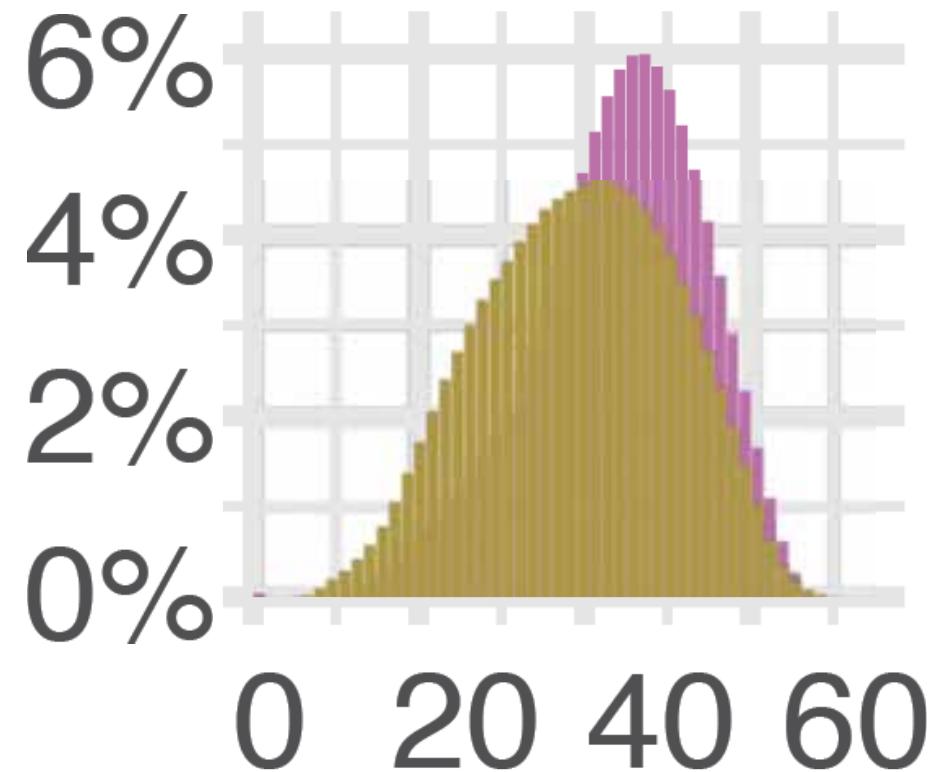
# Comparison: Quality in Different Measures

**Min dihedral angle:**  
**TetWild vs. CGAL**



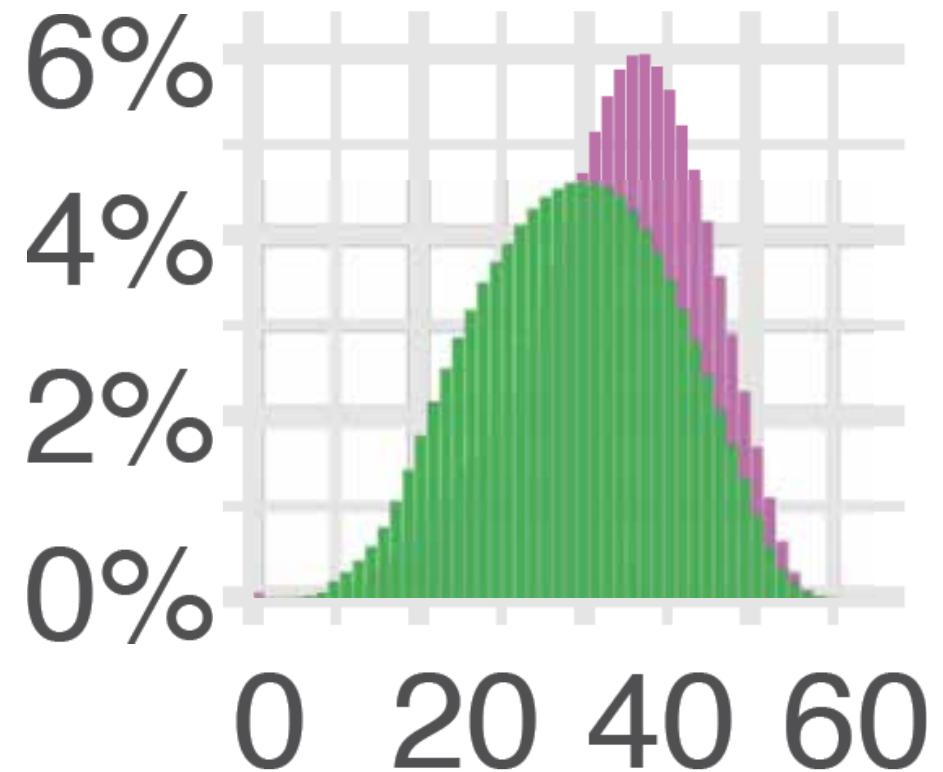
# Comparison: Quality in Different Measures

**Min dihedral angle:**  
**TetWild vs.**  
**CGAL no feature**



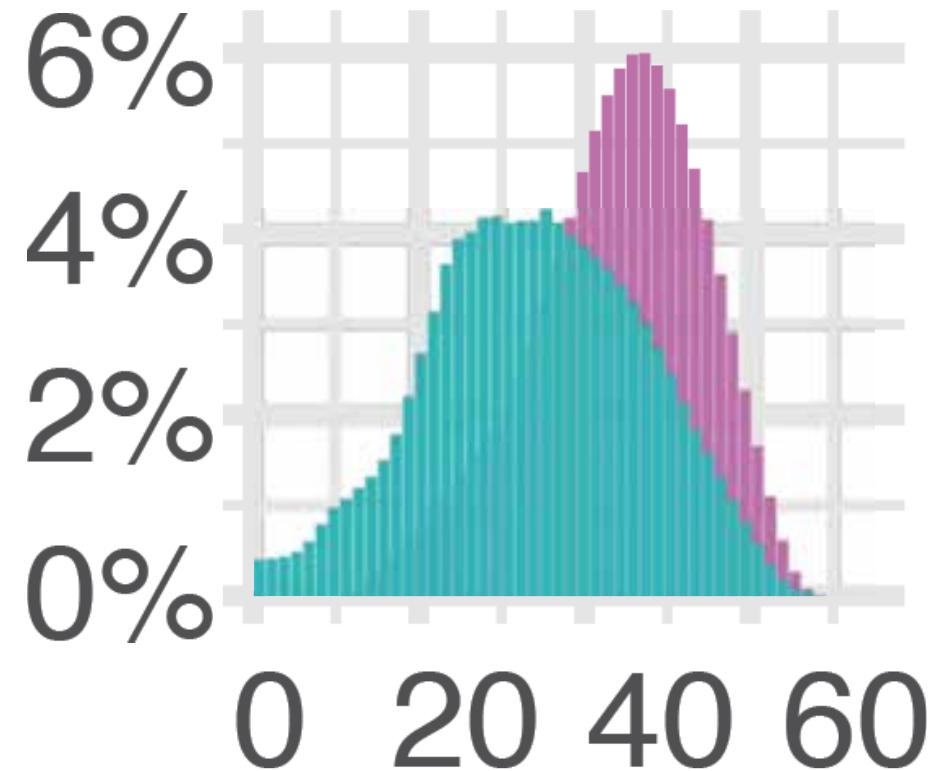
# Comparison: Quality in Different Measures

**Min dihedral angle:**  
**TetWild vs.**  
**CGAL implicit**



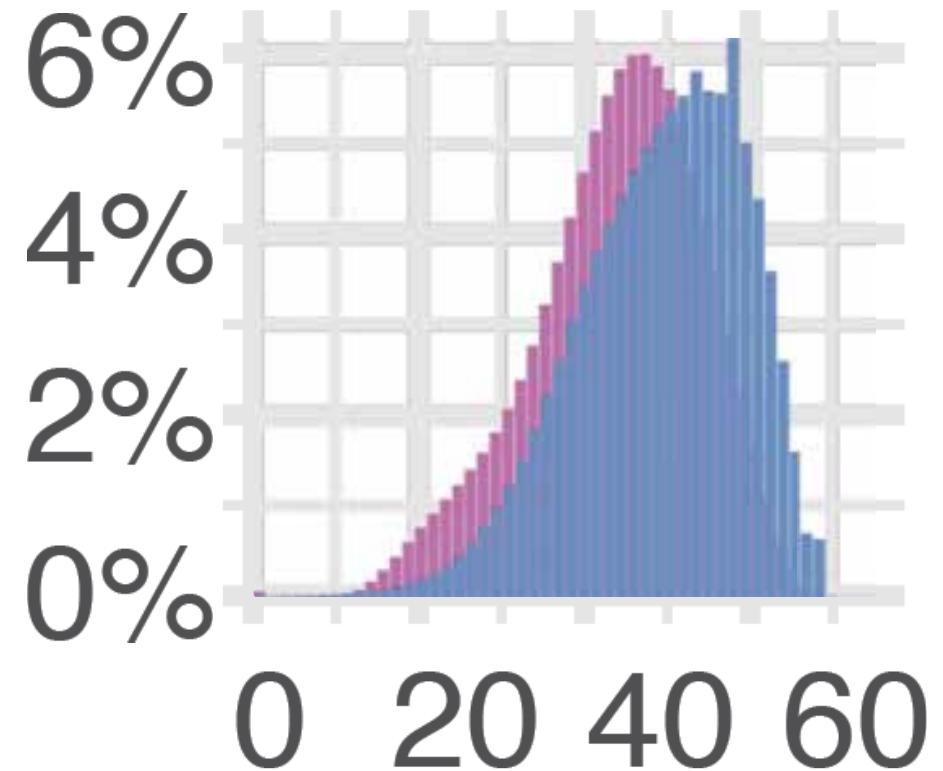
# Comparison: Quality in Different Measures

**Min dihedral angle:**  
**TetWild vs. TetGen**

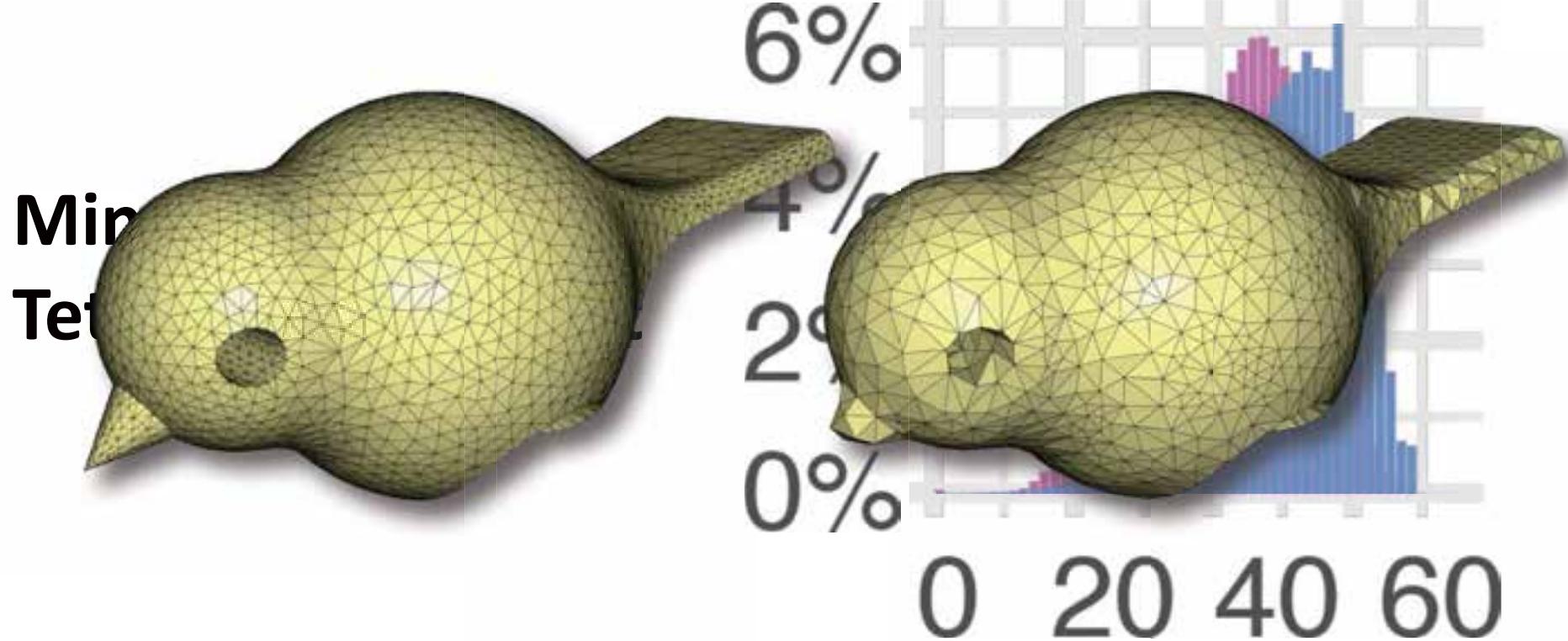


# Comparison: Quality in Different Measures

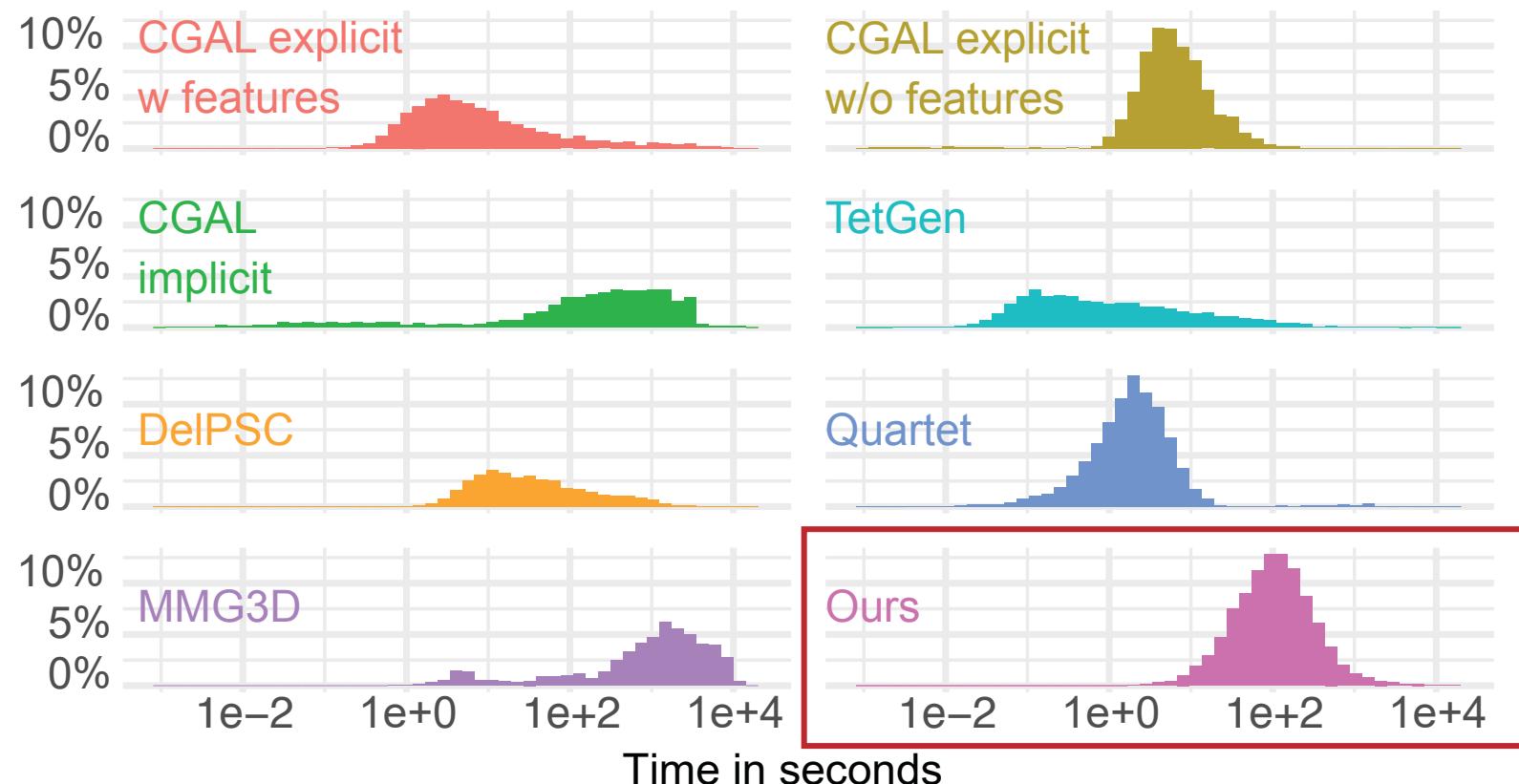
**Min dihedral angle:**  
**TetWild vs. Quartet**



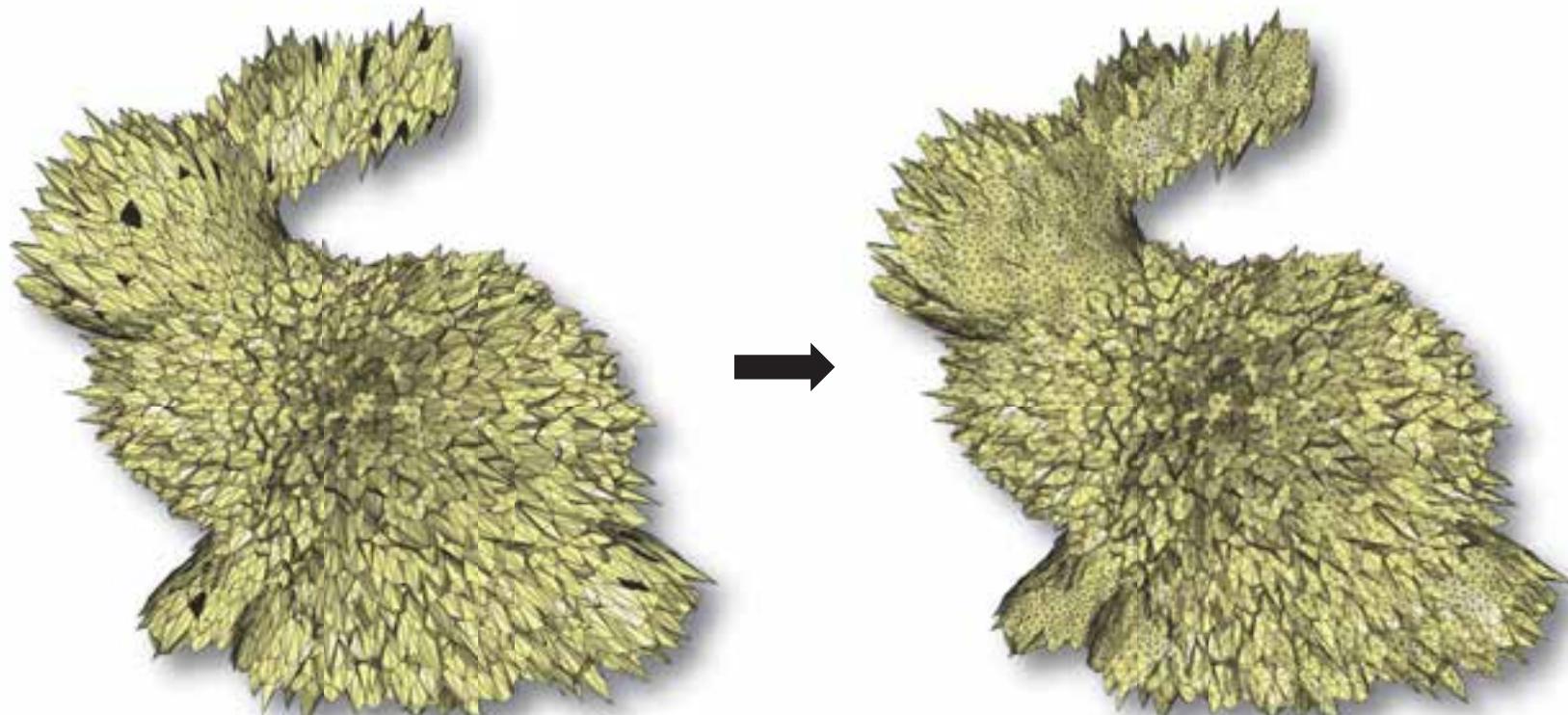
# Comparison: Quality in Different Measures



# Comparison: Running Time on 10k Models



# Noise Stress-Test



Input, noise = 0.05

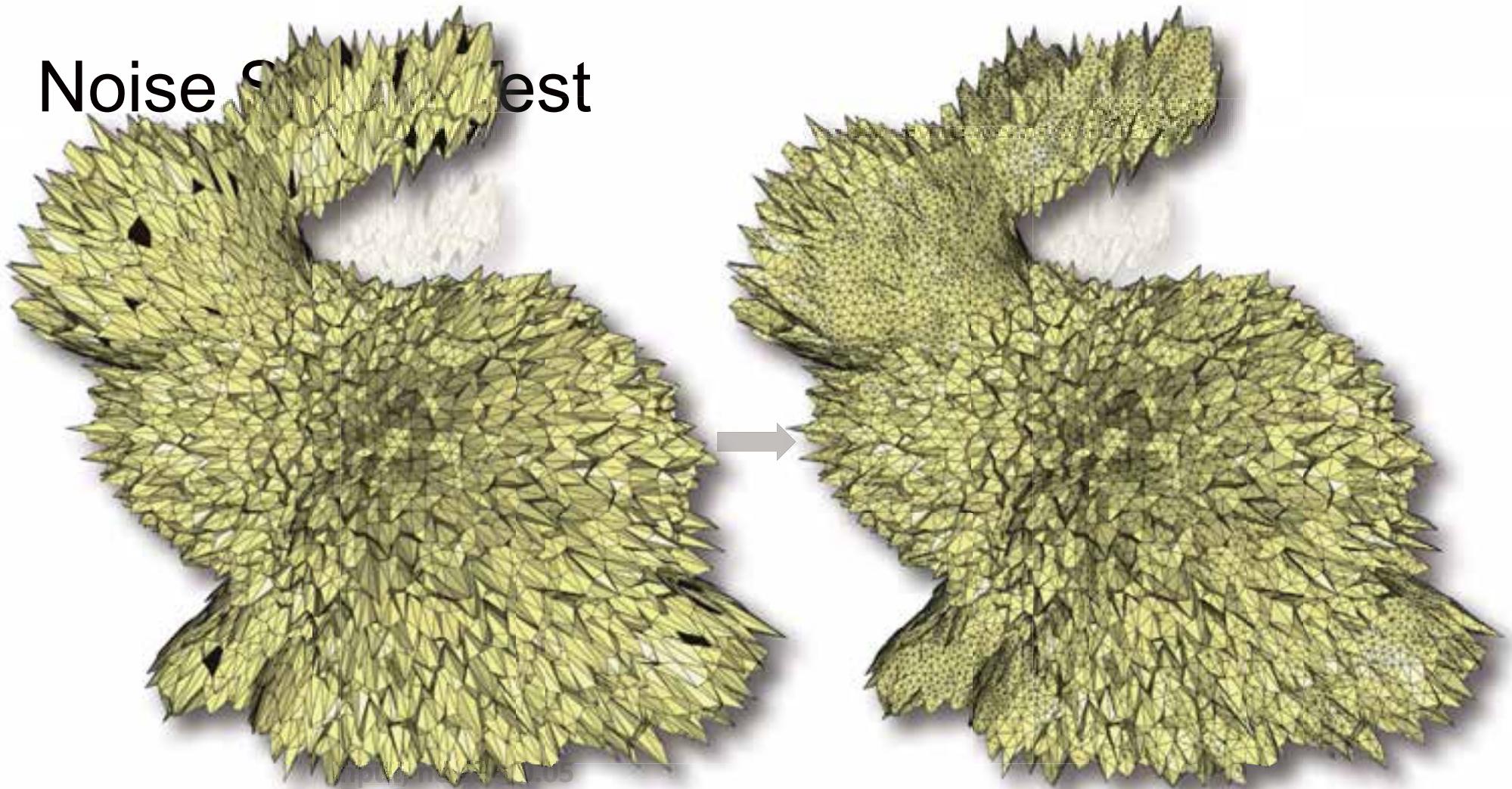
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Noise  $\sigma = 0.05$



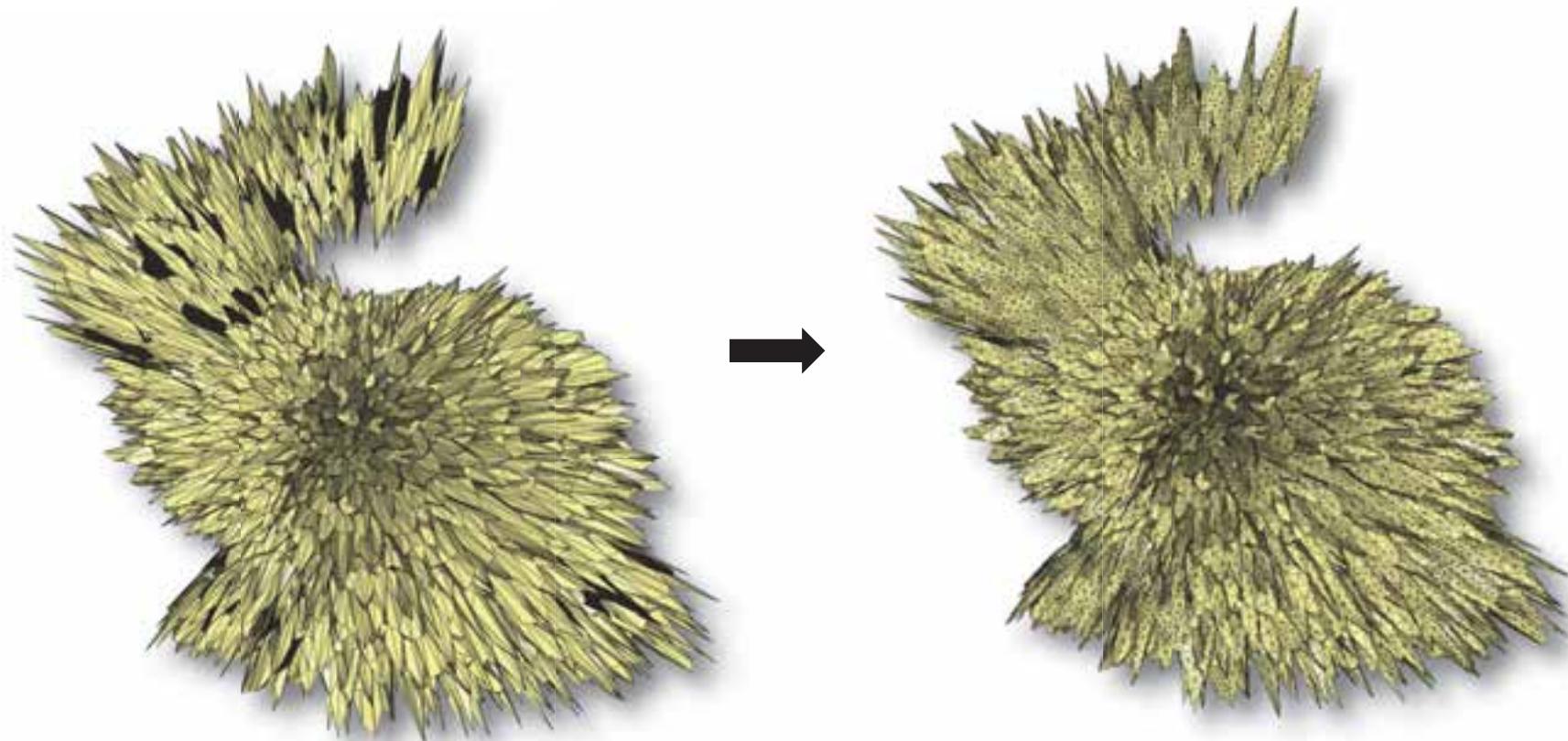
Yixin Hu, 56



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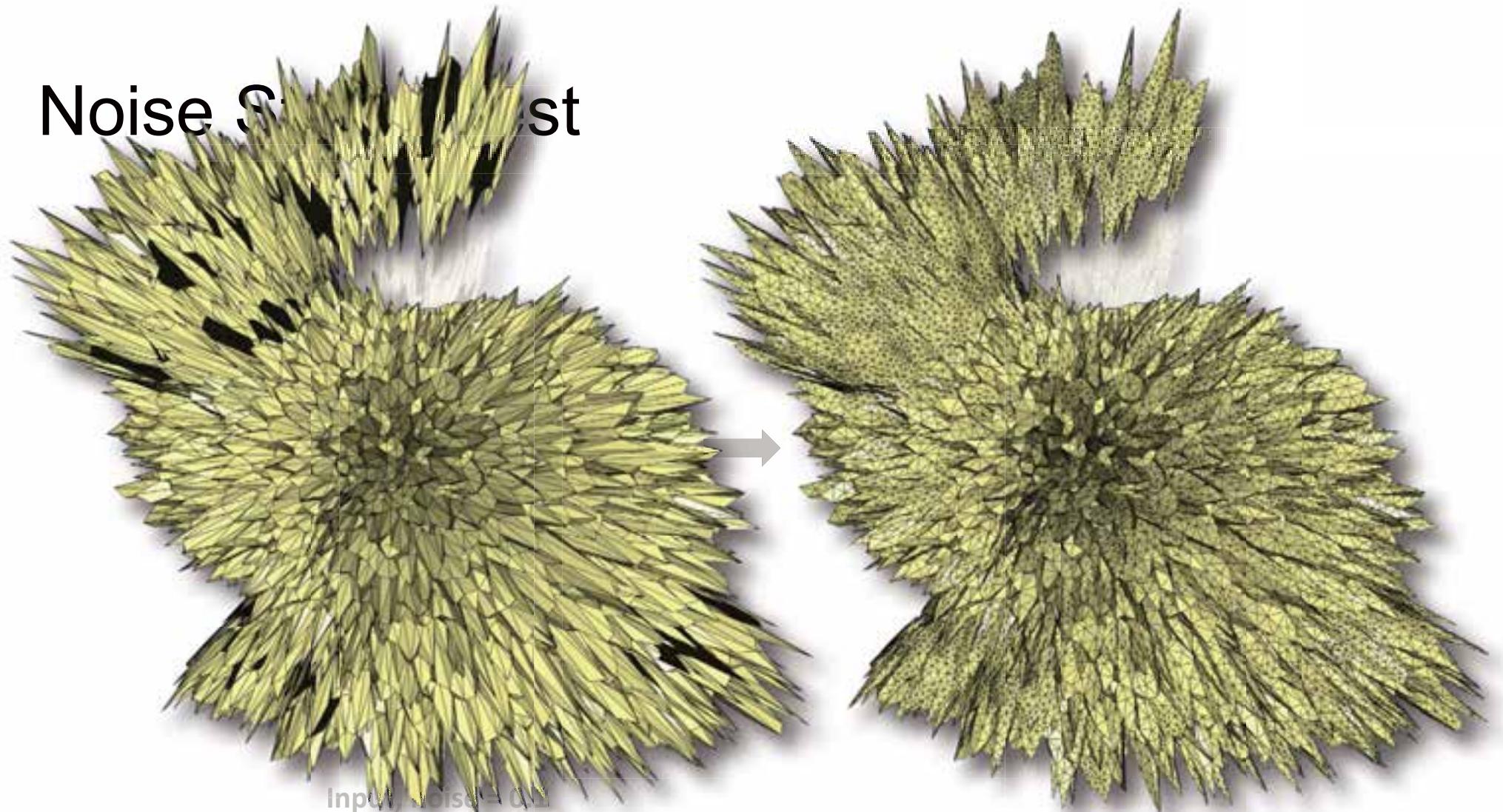
# Noise Stress-Test



Input, noise = 0.1

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Noise S<sub>1</sub> S<sub>2</sub> S<sub>3</sub> S<sub>4</sub> S<sub>5</sub>



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# Surface Repair



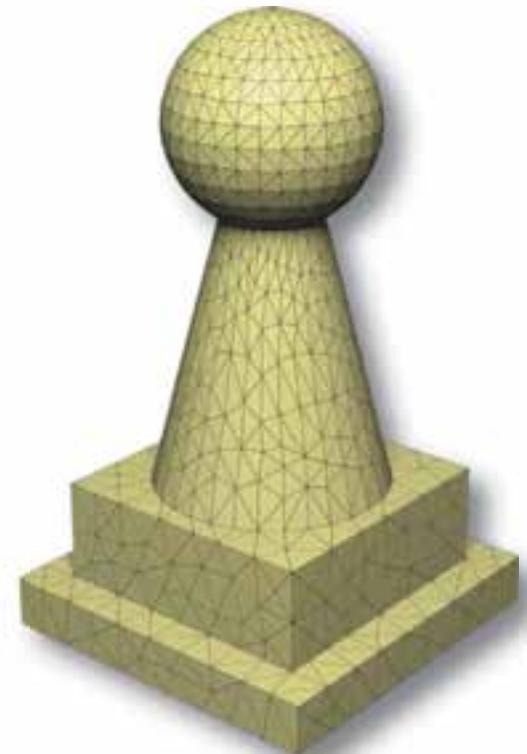
**Input**



**Self-intersection(red)**

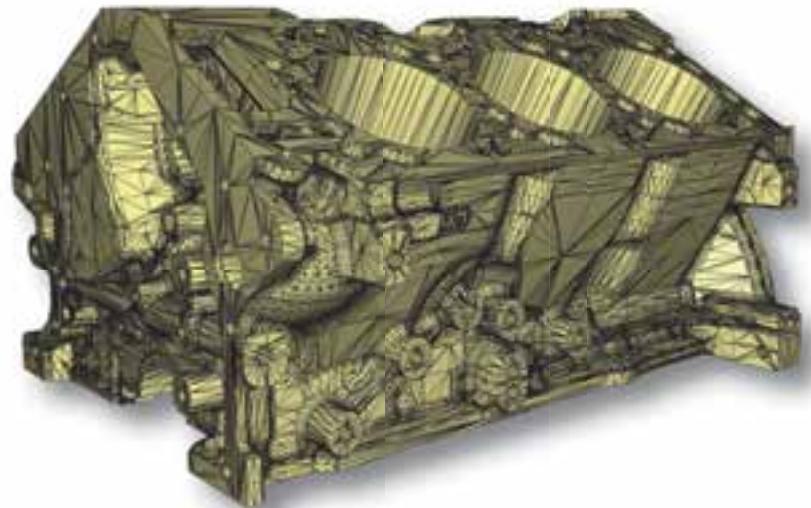


**MeshFix**

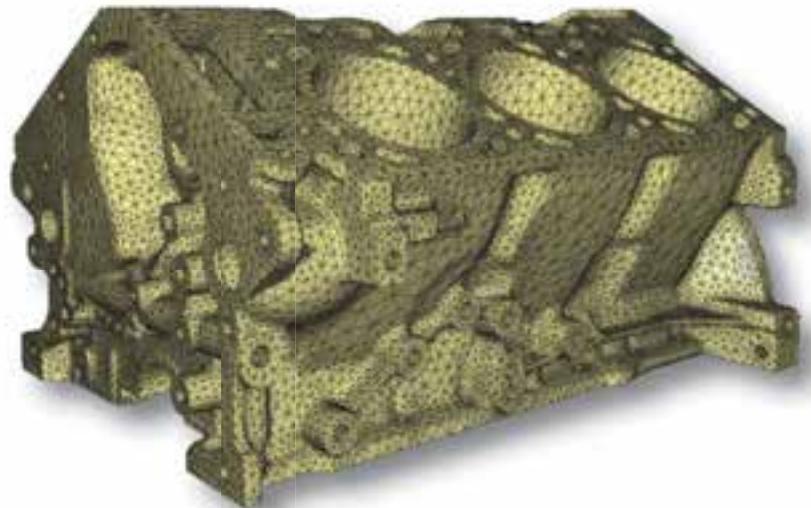


**TetWild**

# CAD models



Input



Output

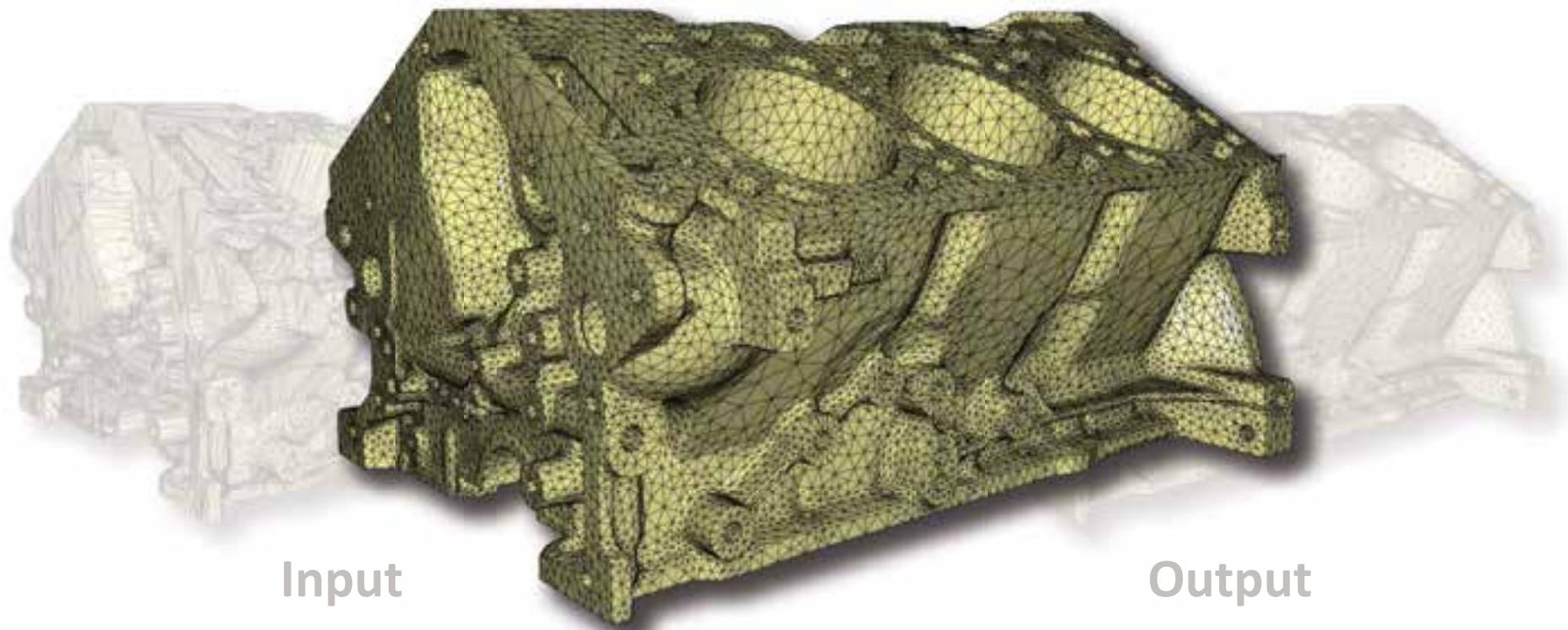
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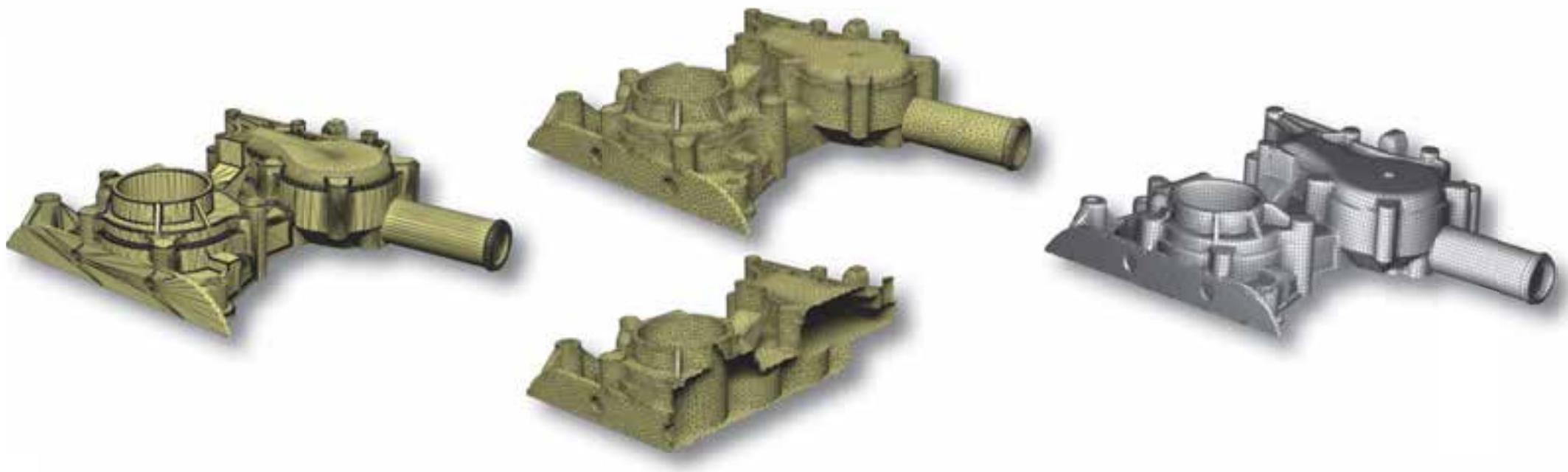
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# CAD models



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# Structured Meshing: Quadmesh



Input

Surface of Tetmesh

Quadmesh

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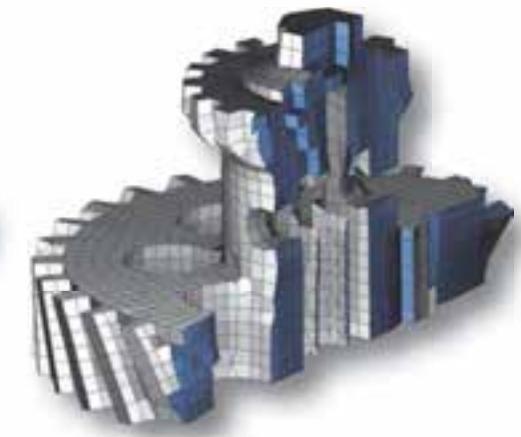
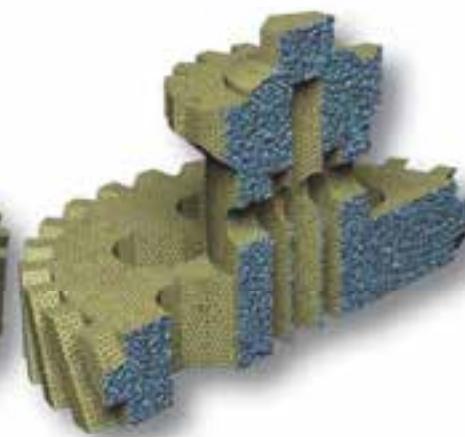
# Structured Meshing: Hexmesh



**Input**

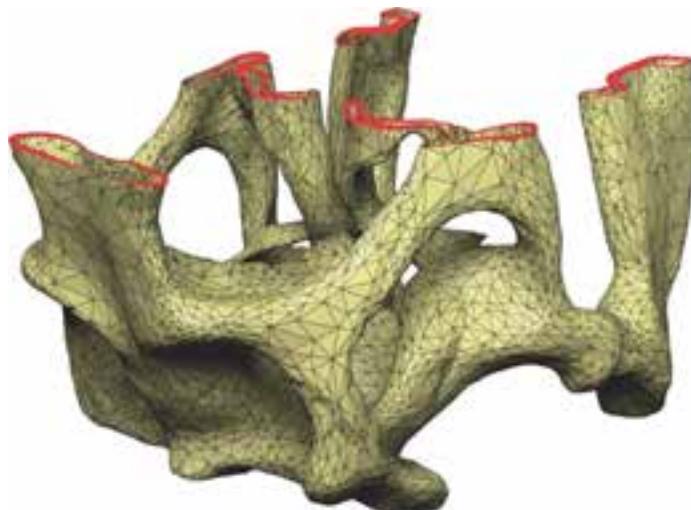


**Tetmesh**

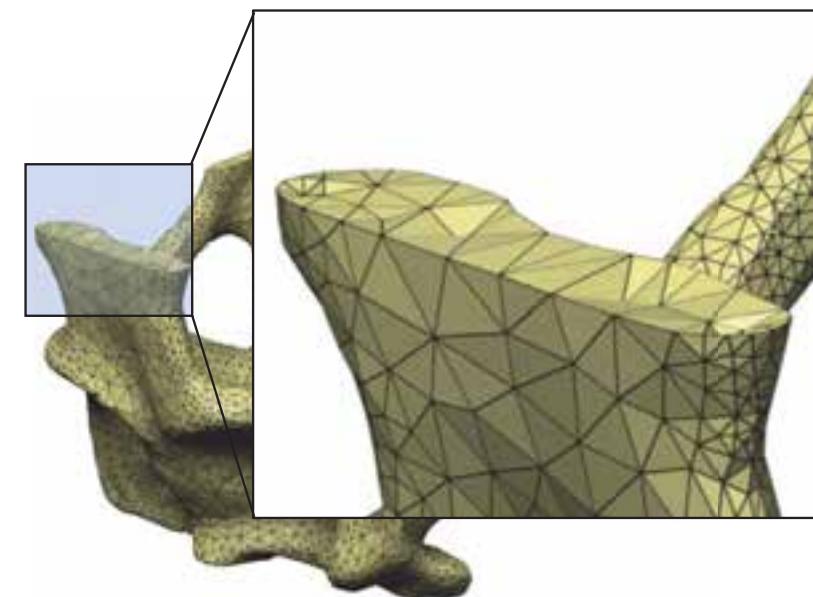


**Hex-dominant  
Mesh**

# Input with Open Boundary



Input



Output w/ smoothing

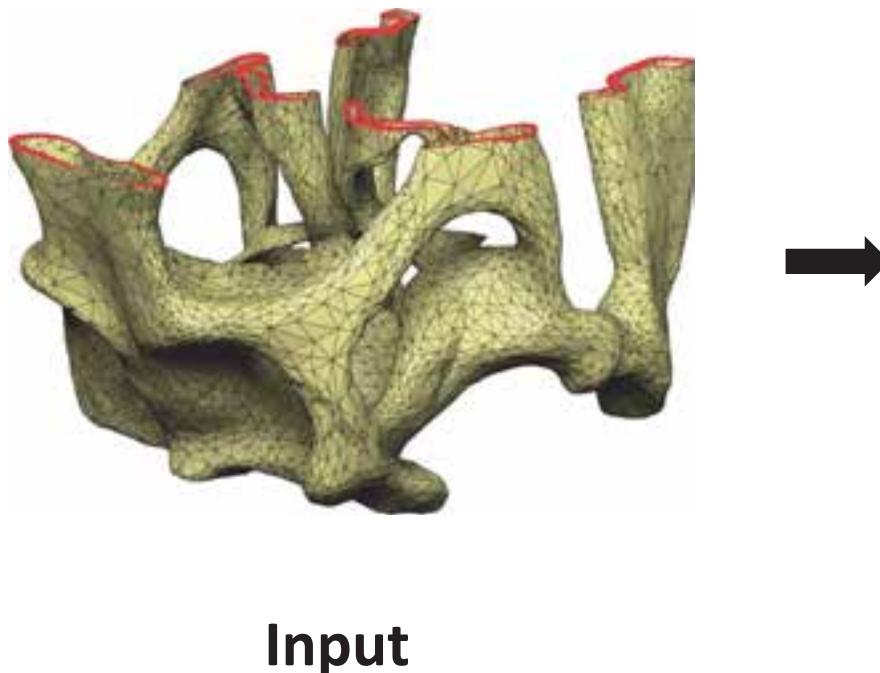
Yixin Hu, 64



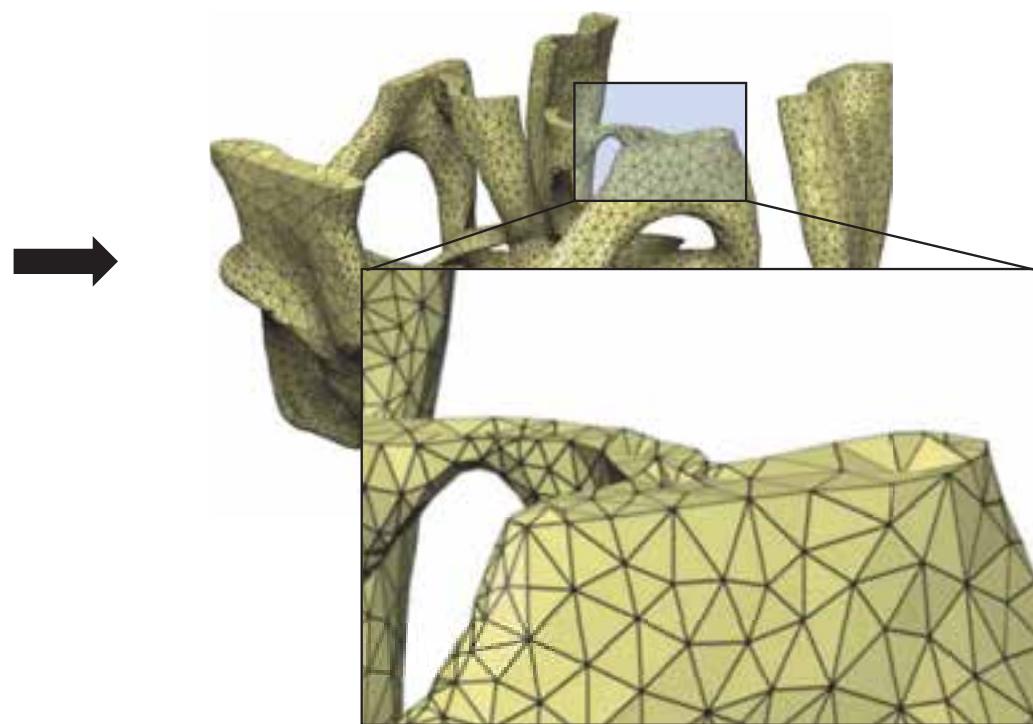
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# Input with Open Boundary



Input



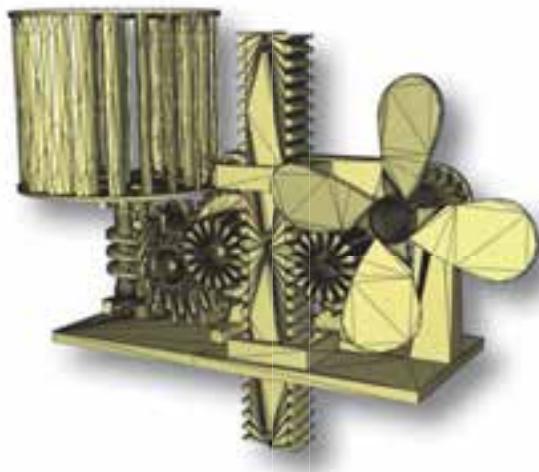
Yixin Hu, 65



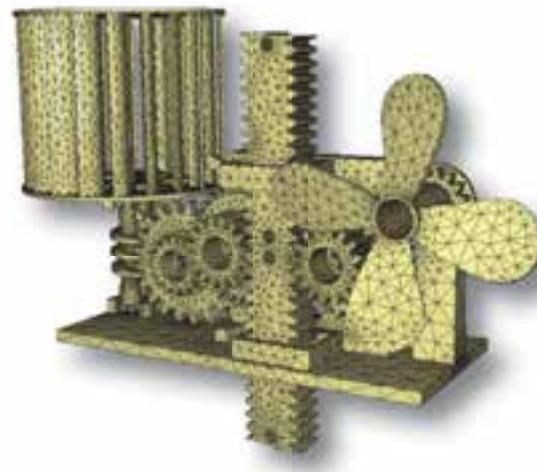
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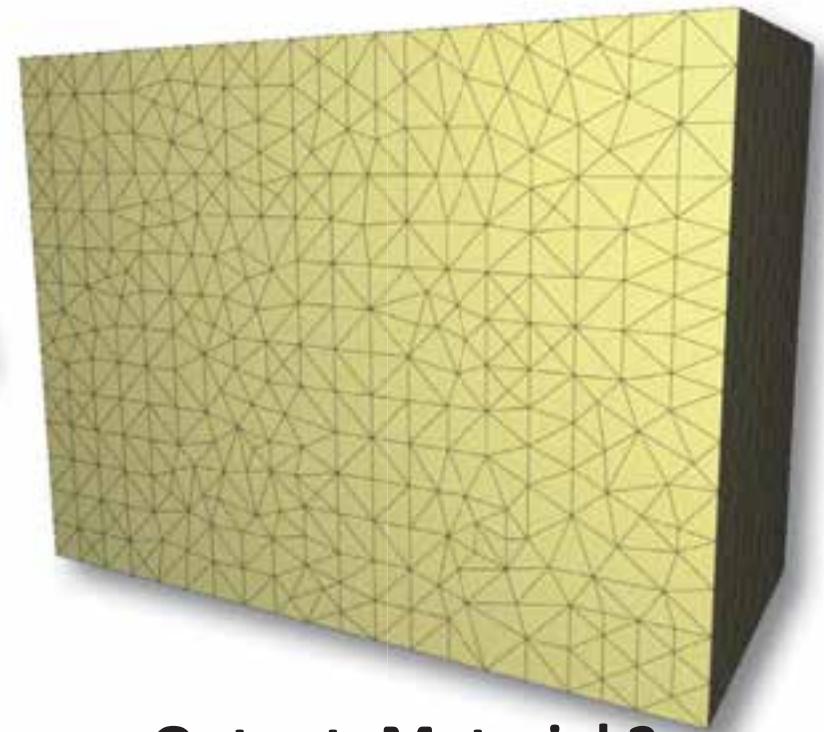
# Meshing for Multi-material Solids



Input

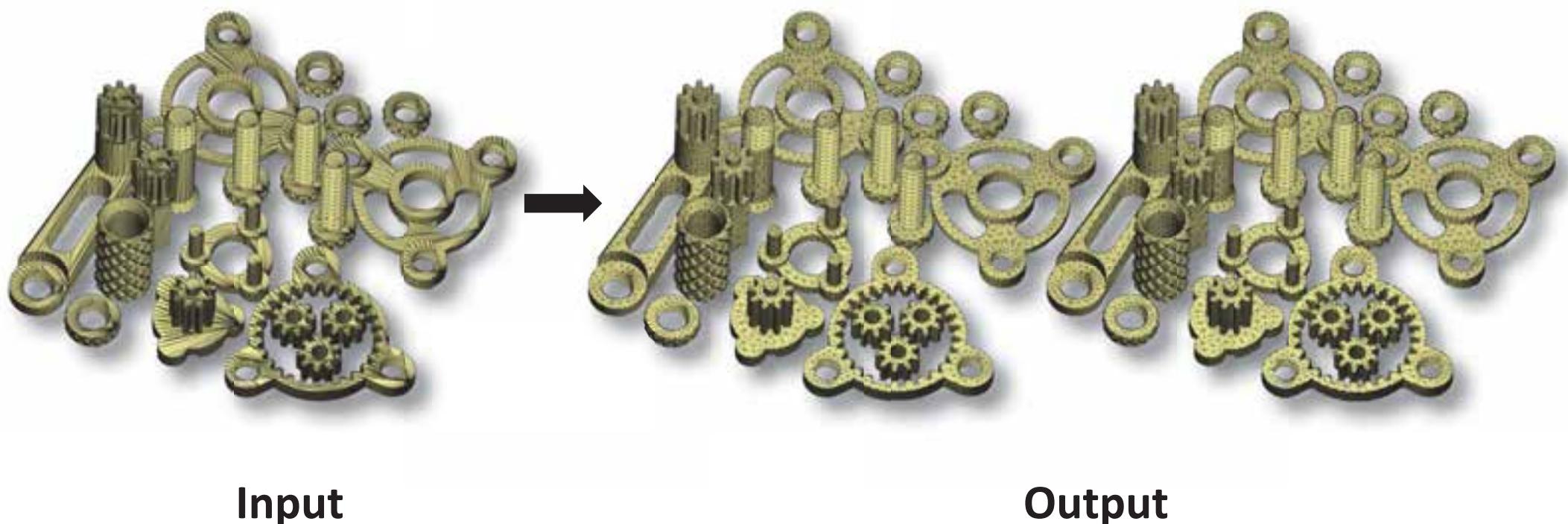


Output: Material 1



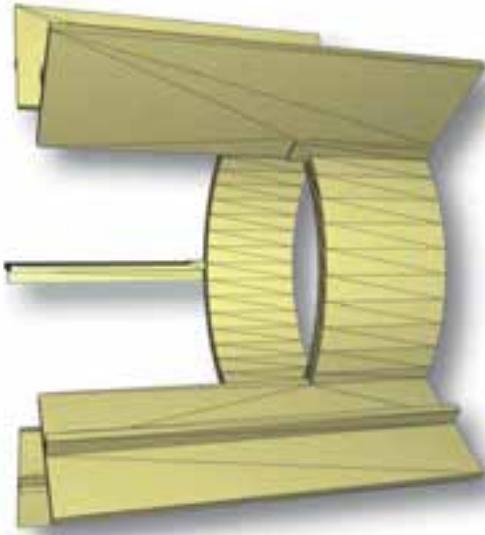
Output: Material 2

# Multi-component

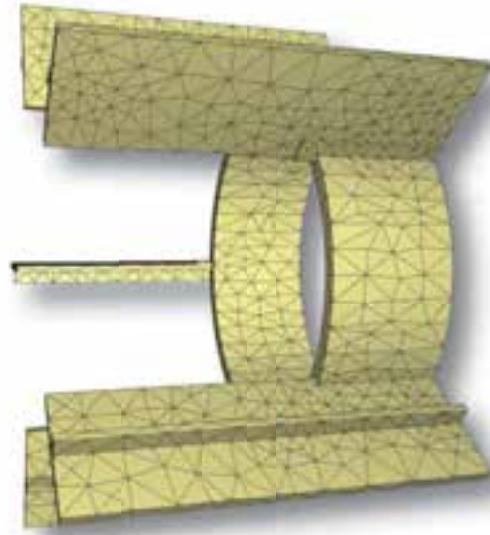


Yixin Hu, 67

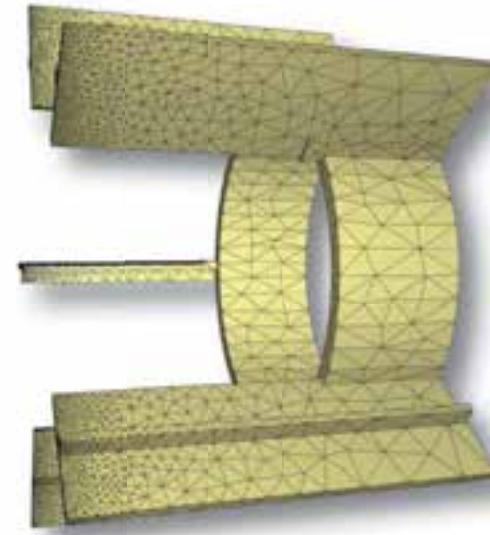
# Spatially Varying Sizing Field



**Input**



**Without Sizing Field**



**With Sizing Field**

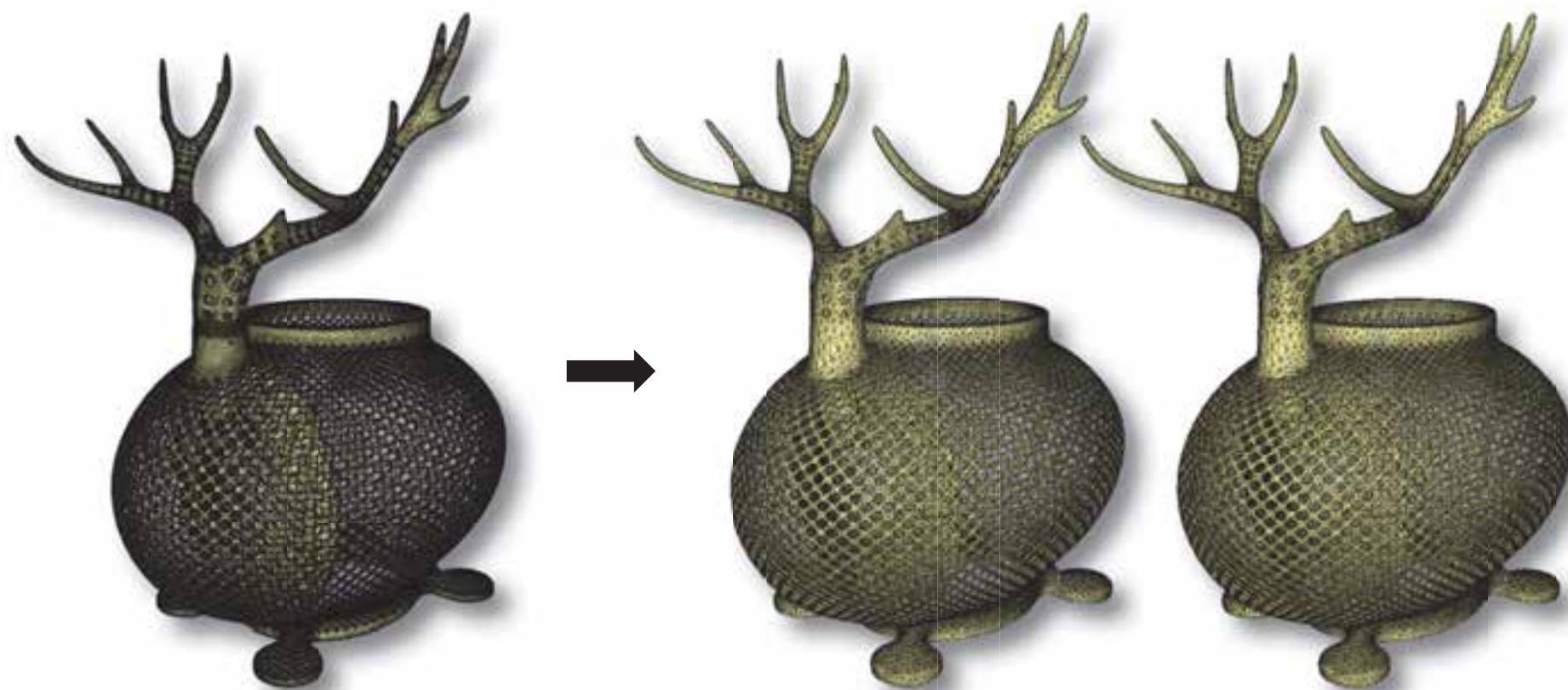
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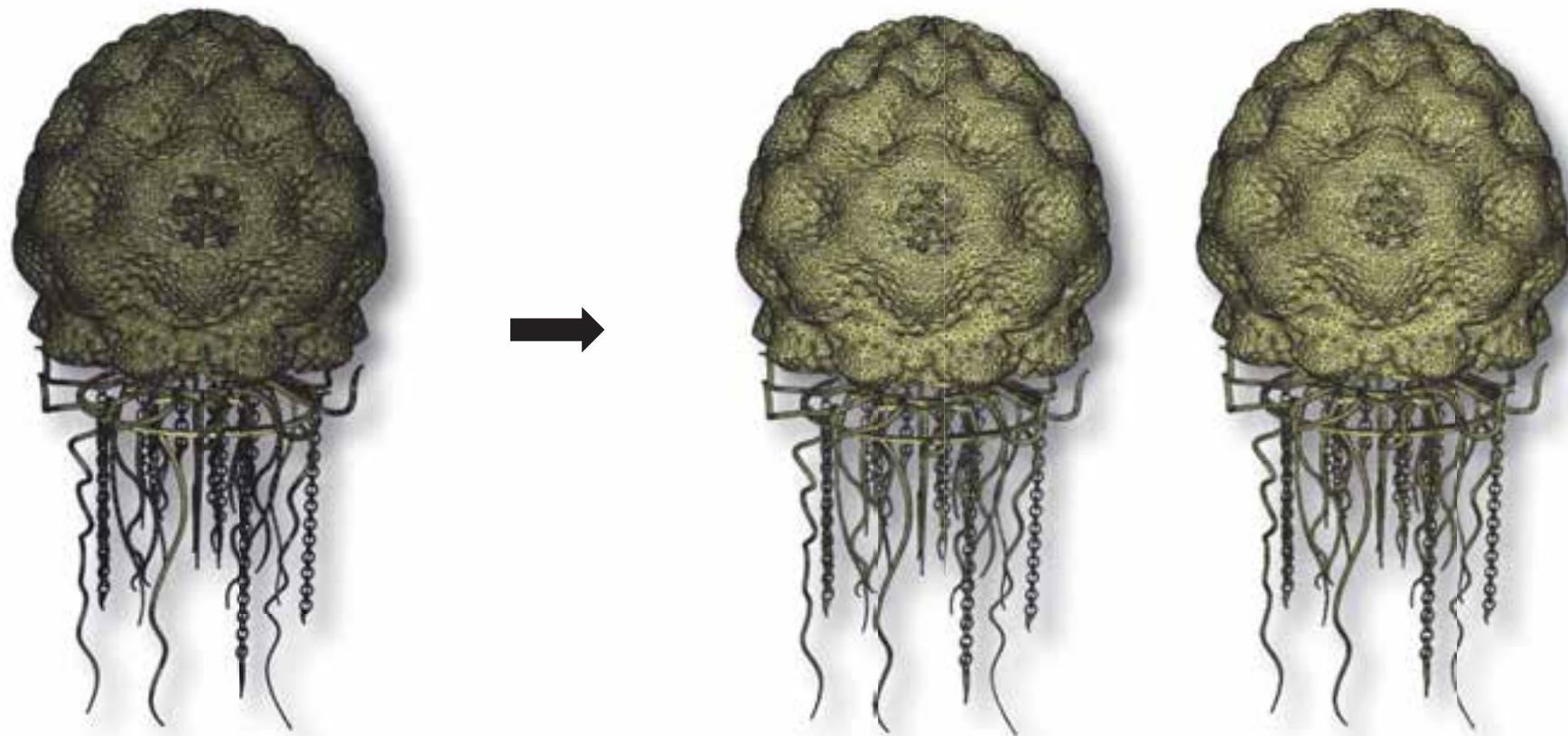
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## More Examples: Thin Structure

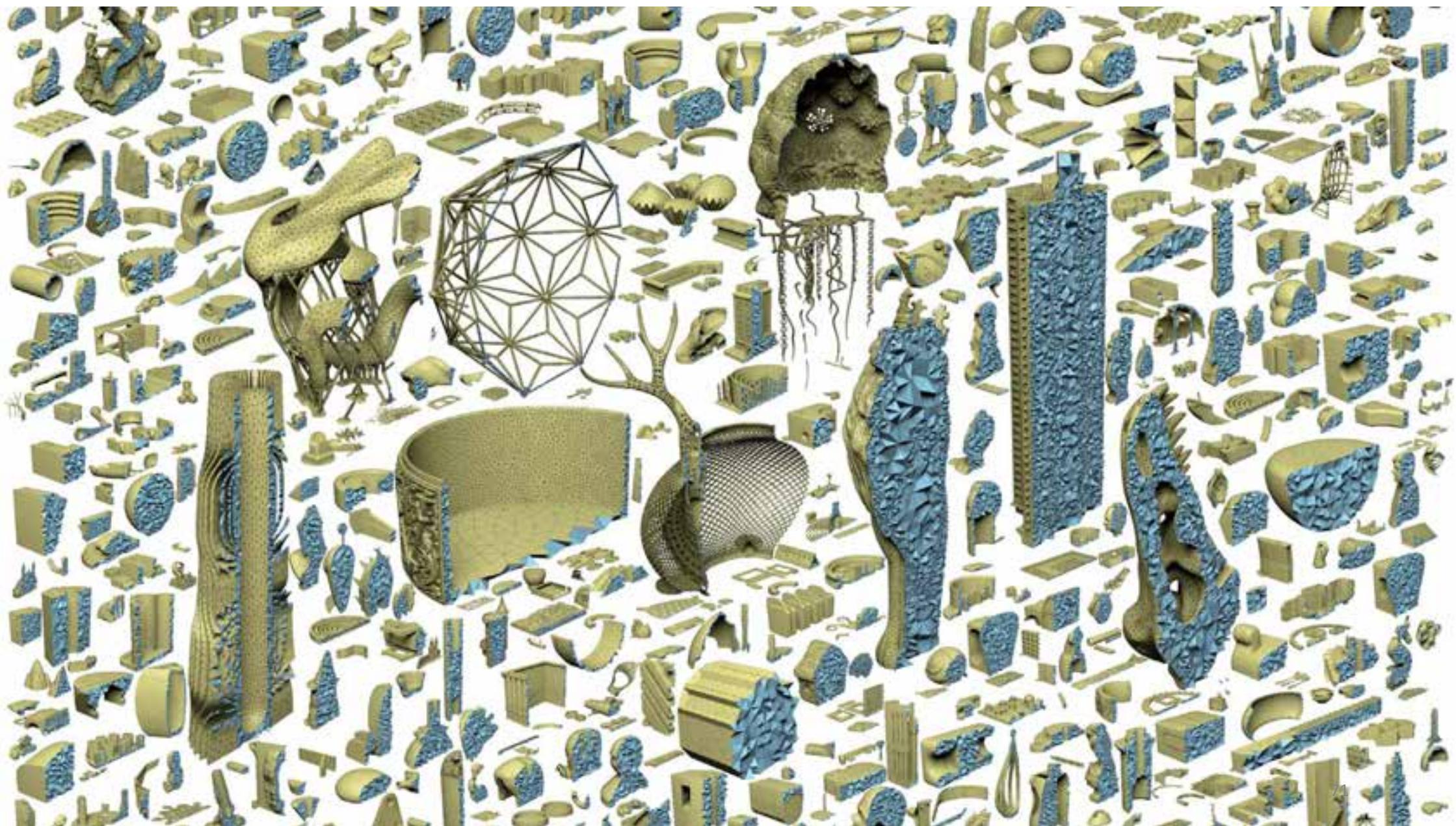


Yixin Hu, 69

## More Examples: Thin Structure



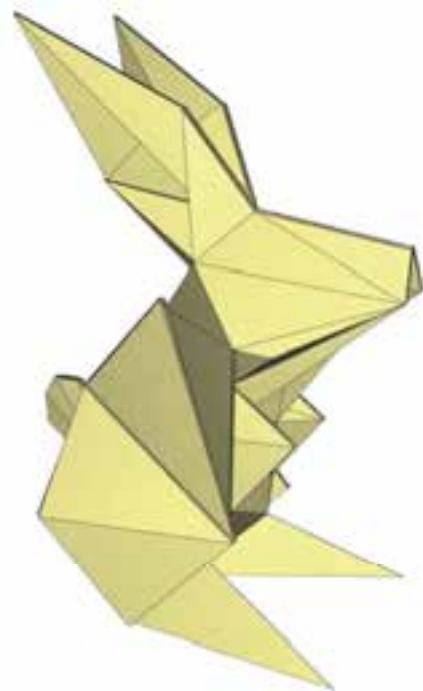
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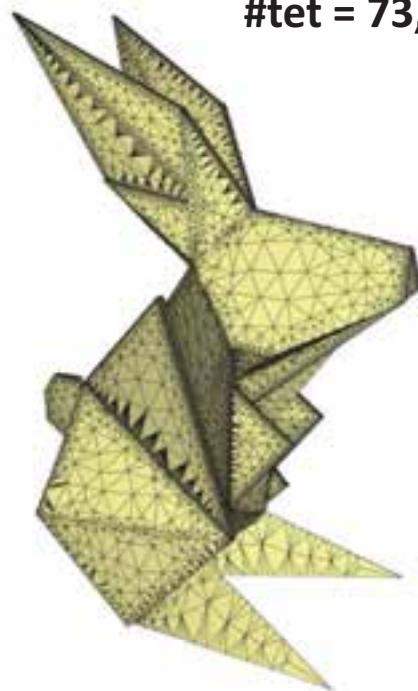
# Limitations

- Our algorithm handles sharp features in a soft way.
  - There always a balance between how well the features are preserved and how much time it takes.
- For repairing surface purpose, our method is limited to surface without large open regions.
- Rational-based computation and envelop check are time-consuming.

# CGAL with Feature vs. Ours

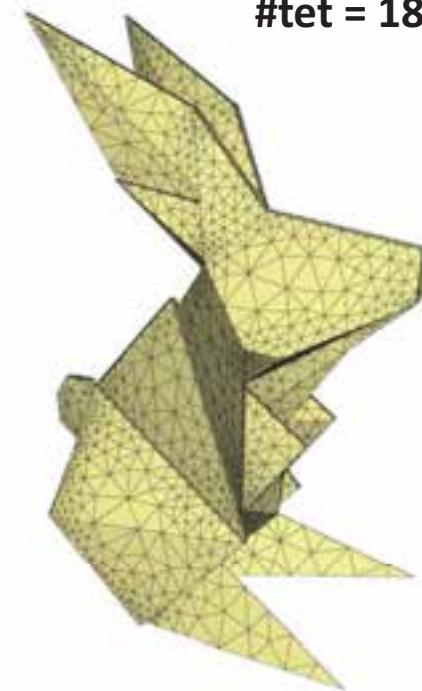


Input



CGAL with feature

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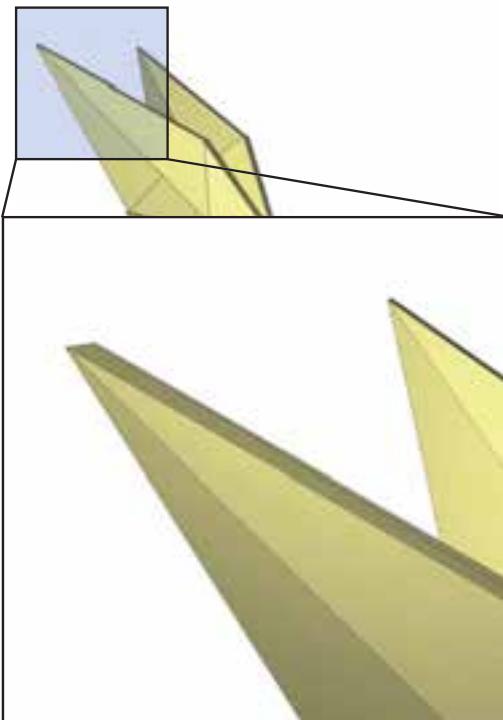
TetWild



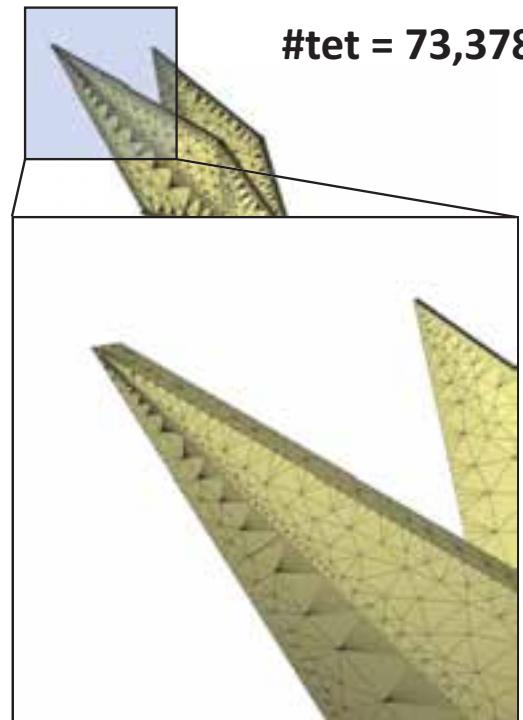
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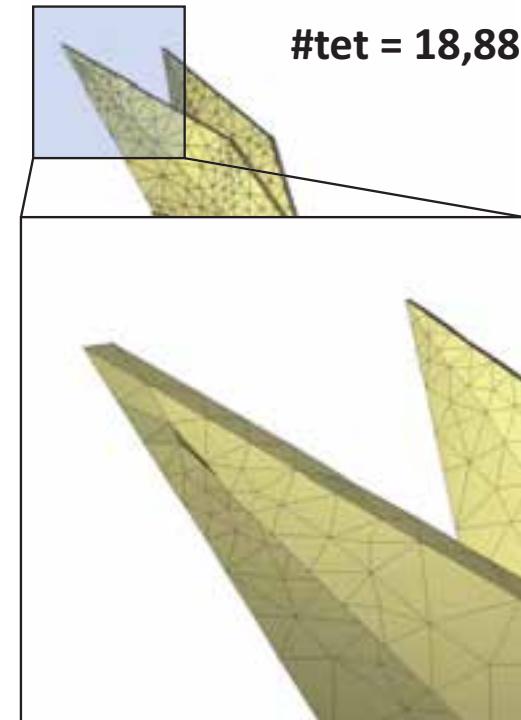
# CGAL with Feature vs. Ours



Input



CGAL with feature



TetWild

# Limitations

- Our algorithm handles sharp features in a soft way.
  - There always a balance between how well the features are preserved and how much time it takes.
- For repairing surface purpose, our method is limited to surface without large open regions.
- Rational-based computation and envelop check are time-consuming.

# Conclusion

- **Robust:**
  - No assumption about the input.
  - Verified on 10,000 models and achieved 100% success rate.
- **Automatic:**
  - No complex user-controlled parameters.
  - Pre-set general parameters tested on 10k dataset.
- **High-quality output.**

# Open-source Implementation

- GitHub Repository: <https://github.com/Yixin-Hu/TetWild>



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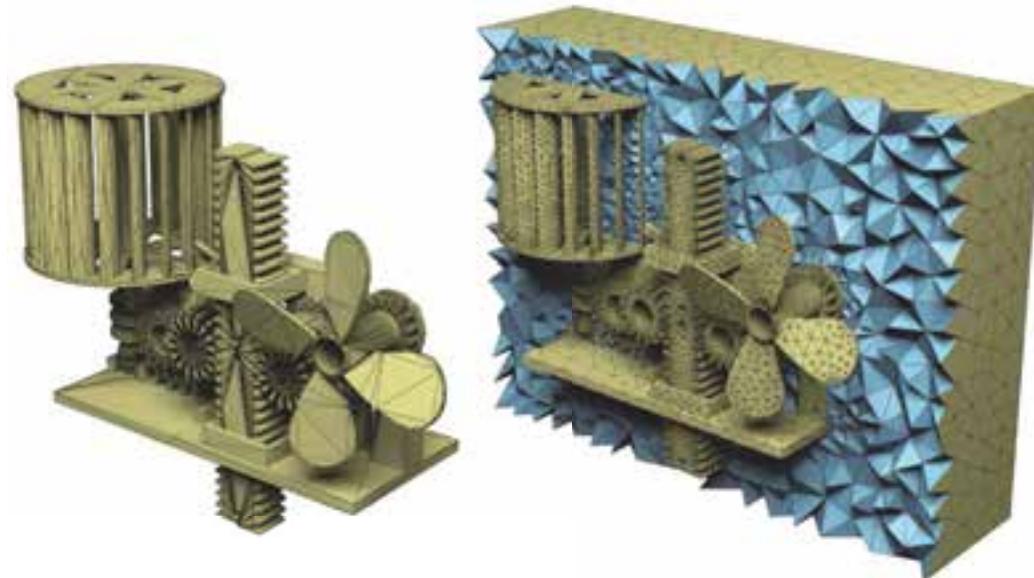
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# Thank you!

- Email: [yixin.hu@nyu.edu](mailto:yixin.hu@nyu.edu)
- GitHub Repository: <https://github.com/Yixin-Hu/TetWild>



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