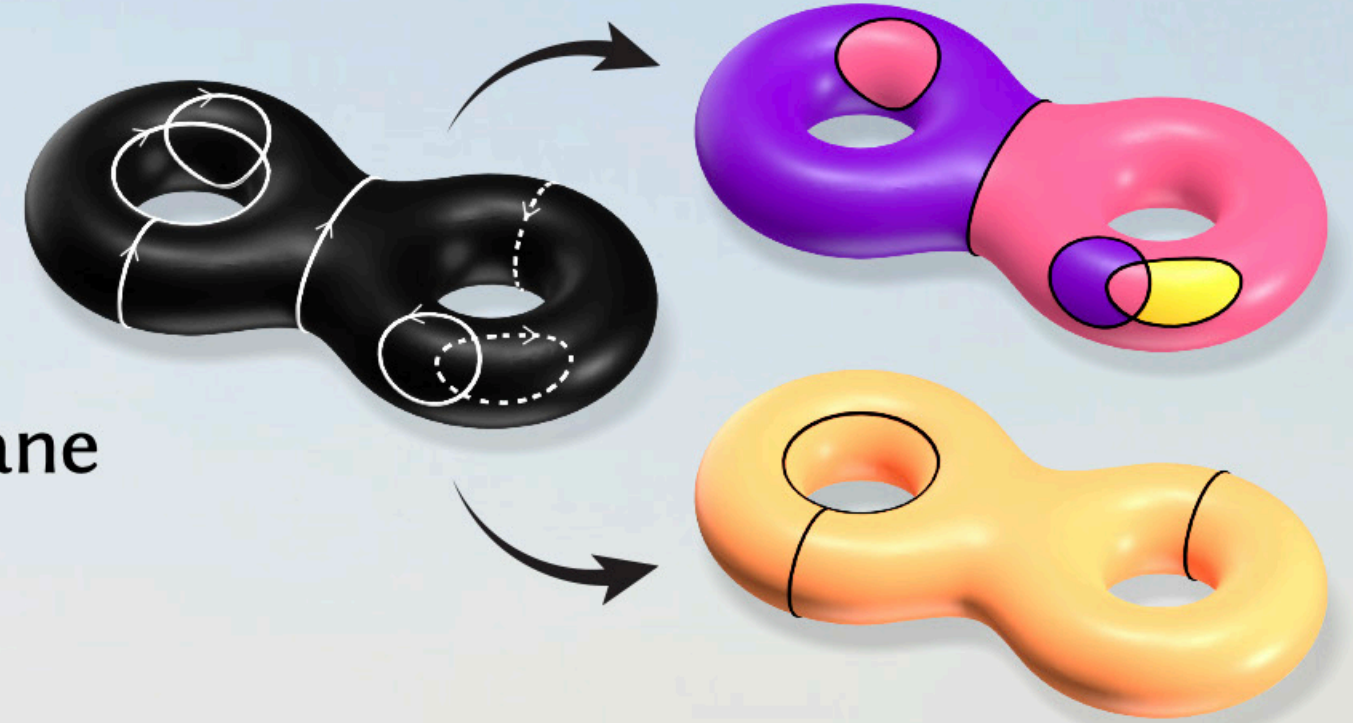


WINDING NUMBERS ON DISCRETE SURFACES

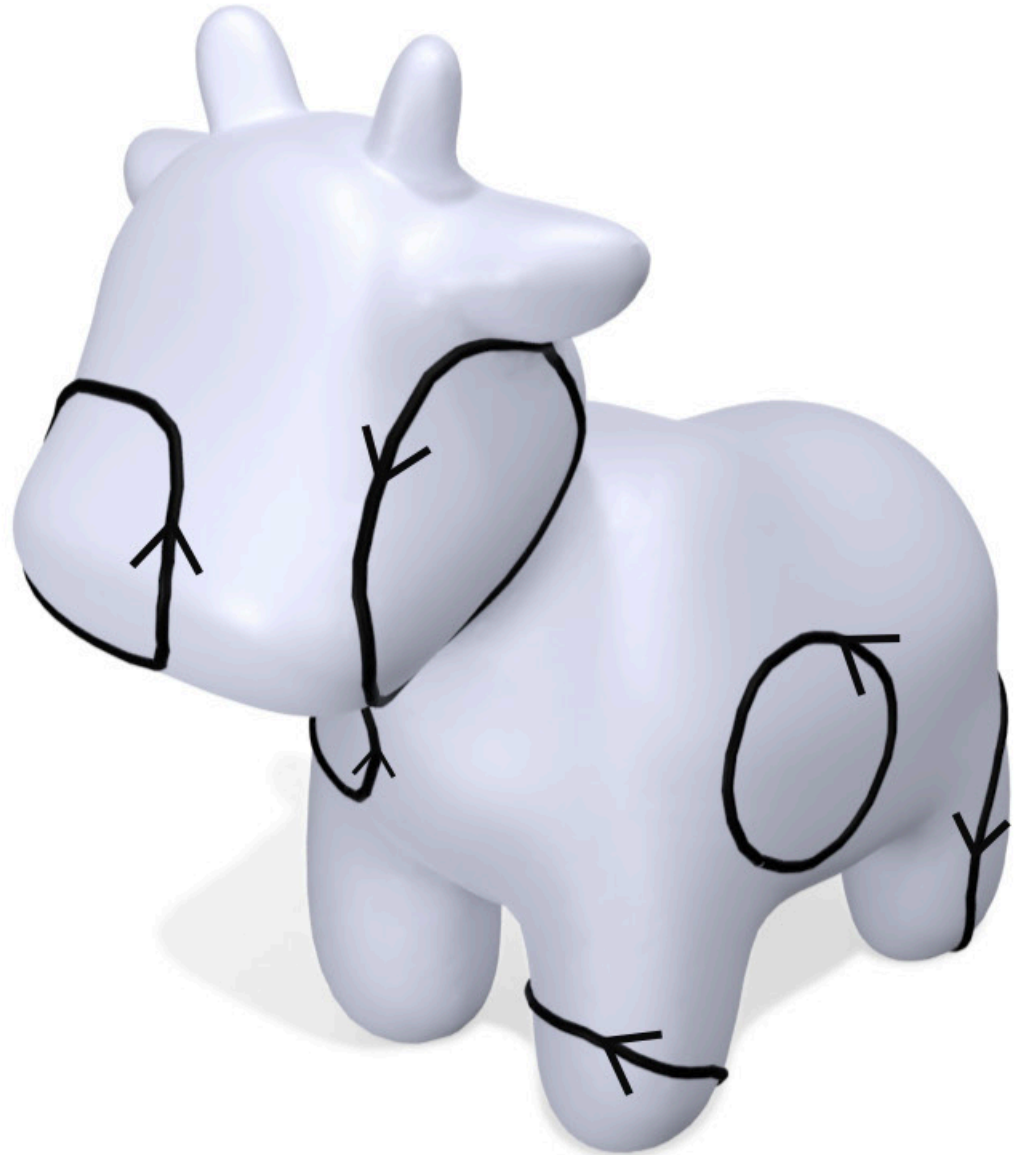
Nicole Feng, Mark Gillespie, Keenan Crane

Carnegie Mellon University



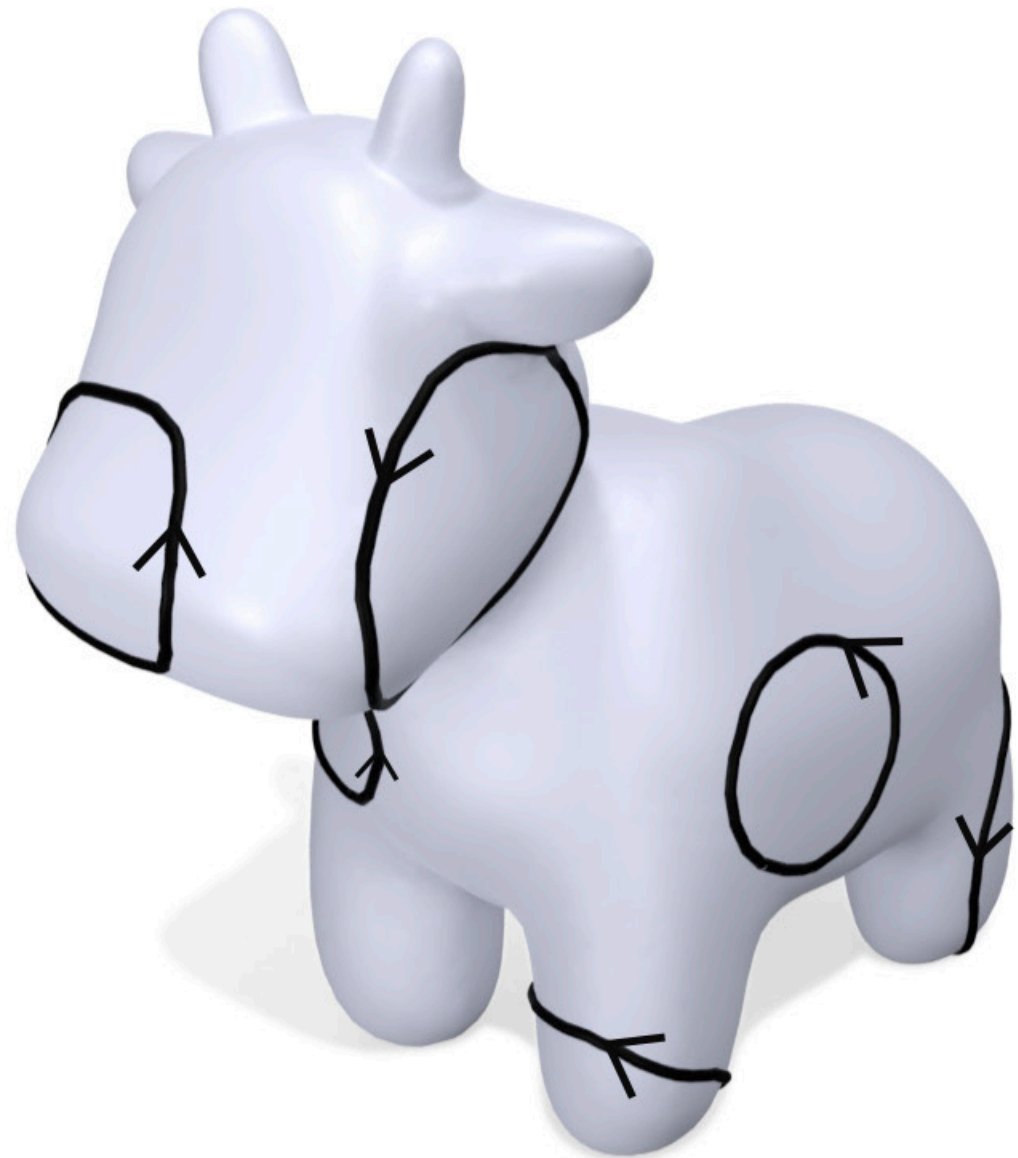
Problem

Given curves on a surface...



Problem

Given curves on a surface...



...classify points as inside or outside.



Not all closed curves have an inside & outside

Not all closed curves have an inside & outside

Fence bounds a region:



Not all closed curves have an inside & outside

Fence bounds a region:



Fence doesn't bound a region:



Not all closed curves have an inside & outside

Fence bounds a region:

BOUNDING



Fence doesn't bound a region:



Not all closed curves have an inside & outside

Fence bounds a region:

BOUNDING



Fence doesn't bound a region:

NONBOUNDING



Not all closed curves have an inside & outside

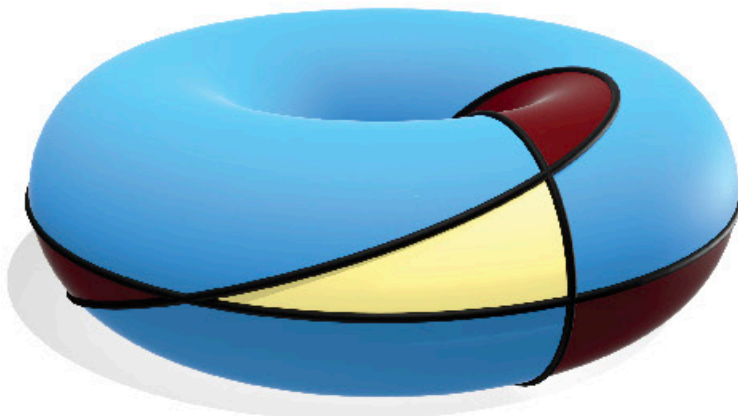
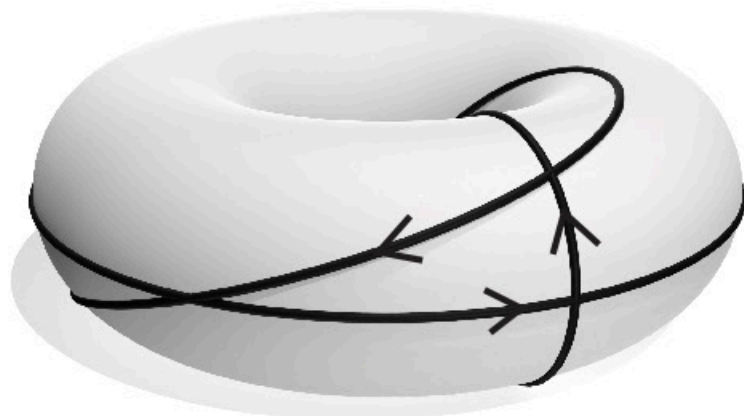
Fence bounds a region:

BOUNDING



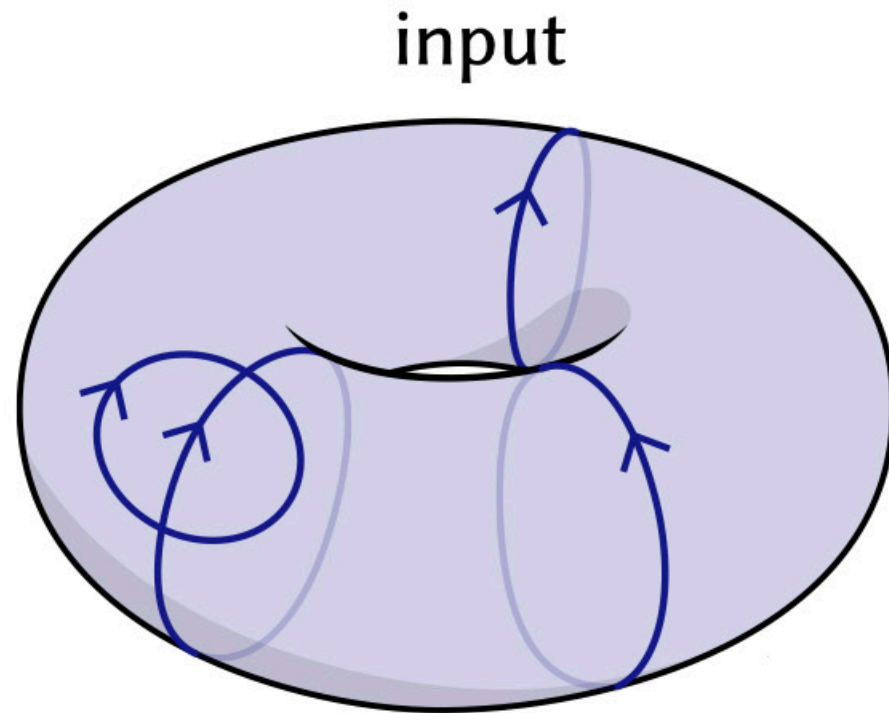
Fence doesn't bound a region:

NONBOUNDING

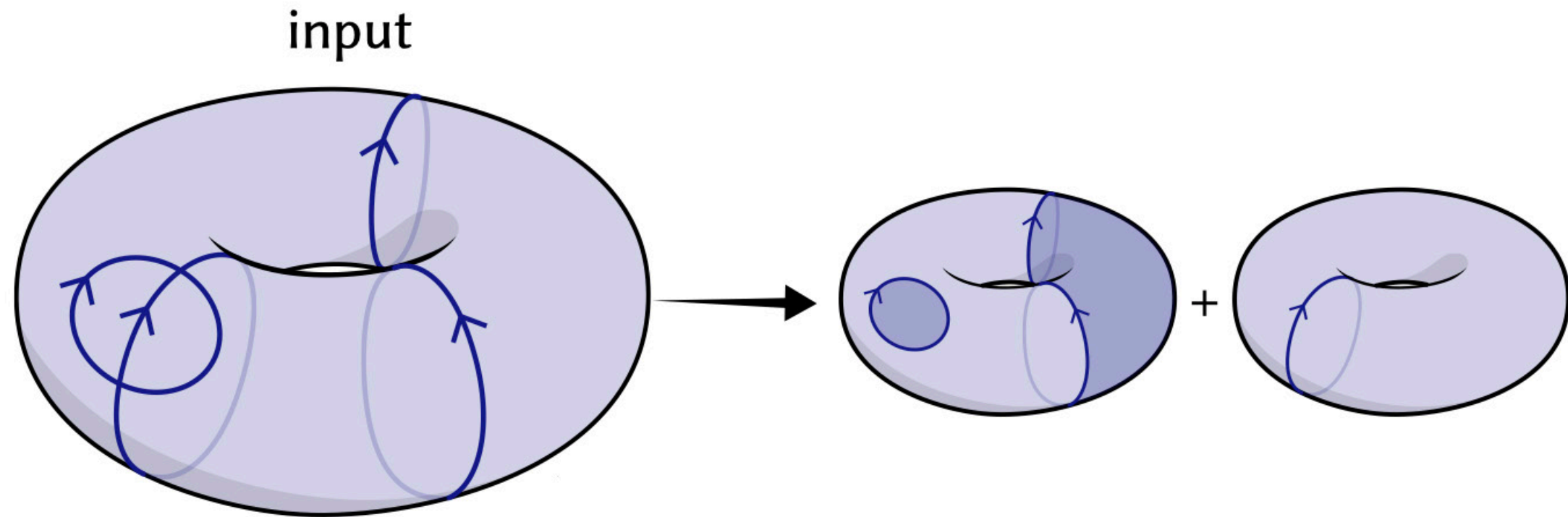


Can't just throw away
nonbounding curves

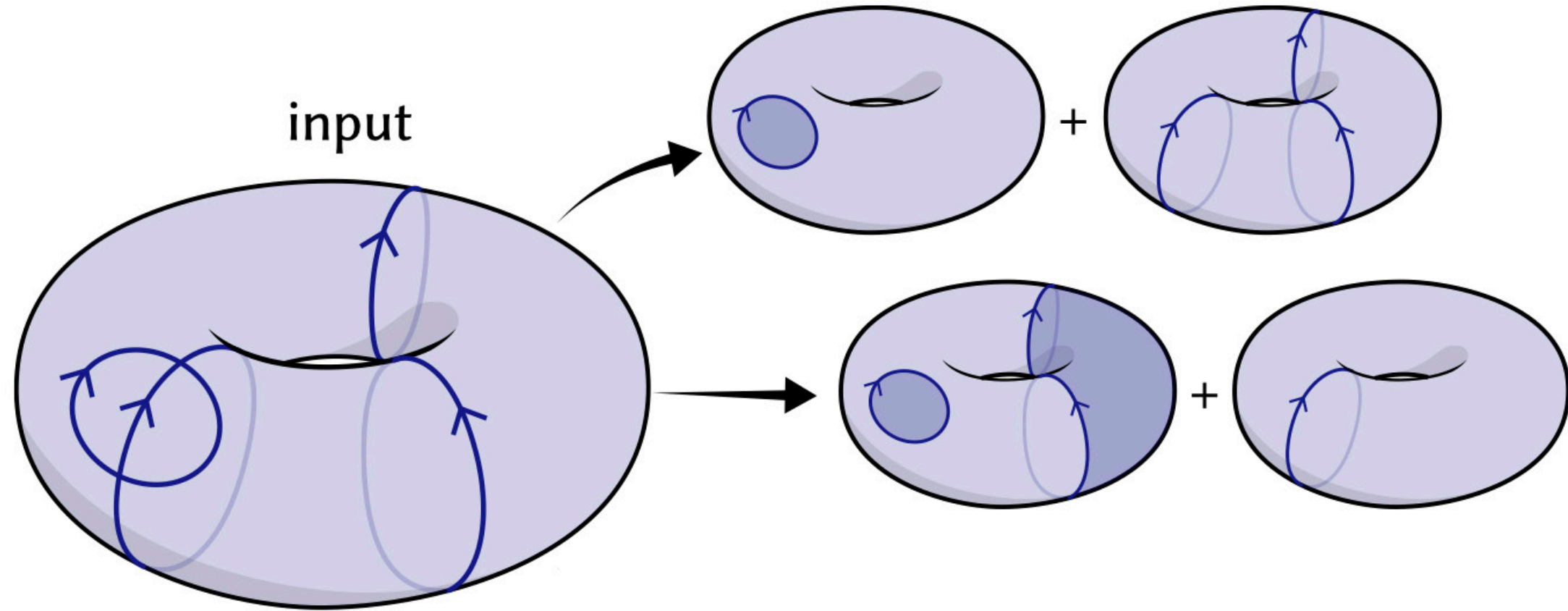
Many ways to partition input into regions



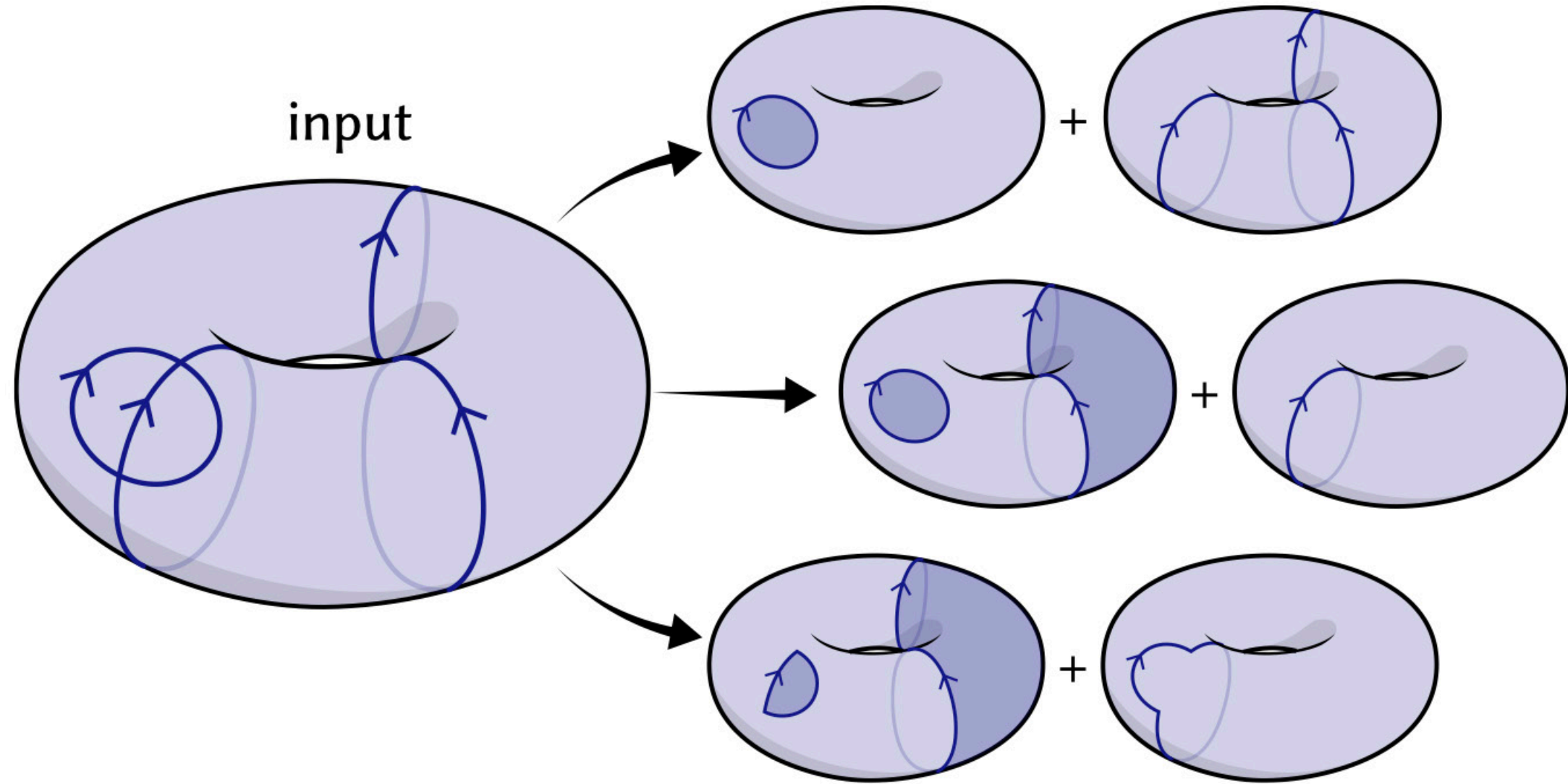
Many ways to partition input into regions



Many ways to partition input into regions

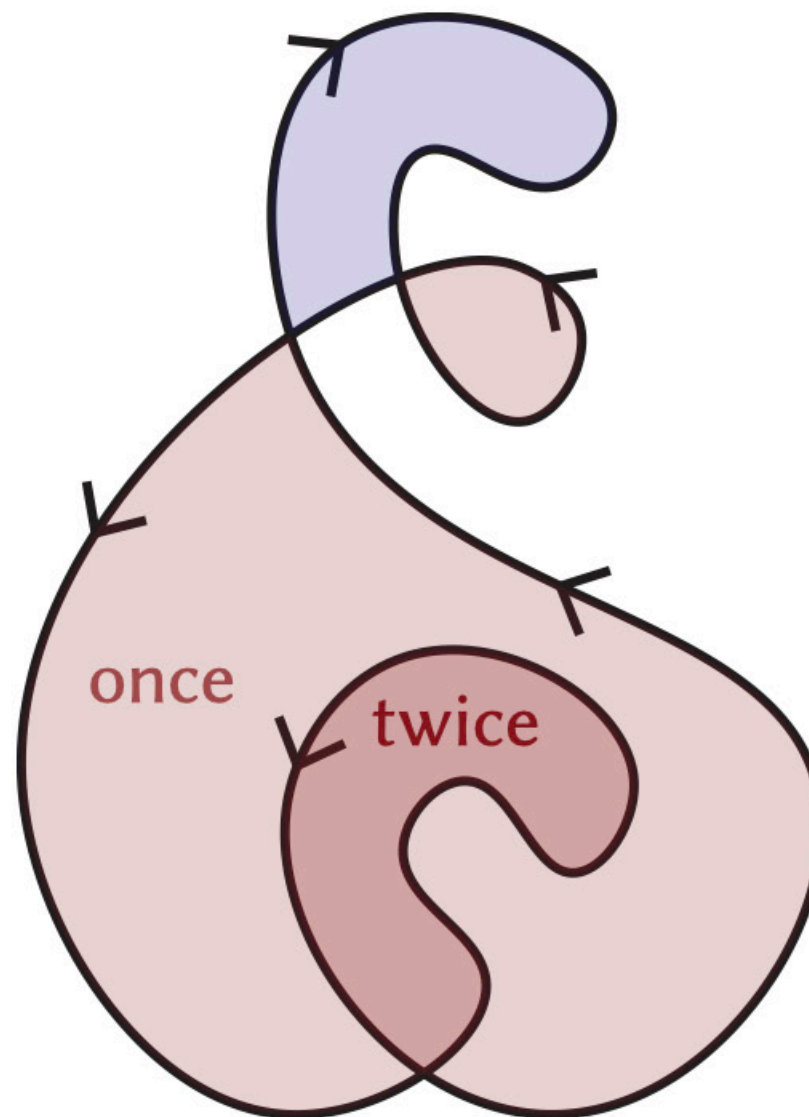


Many ways to partition input into regions

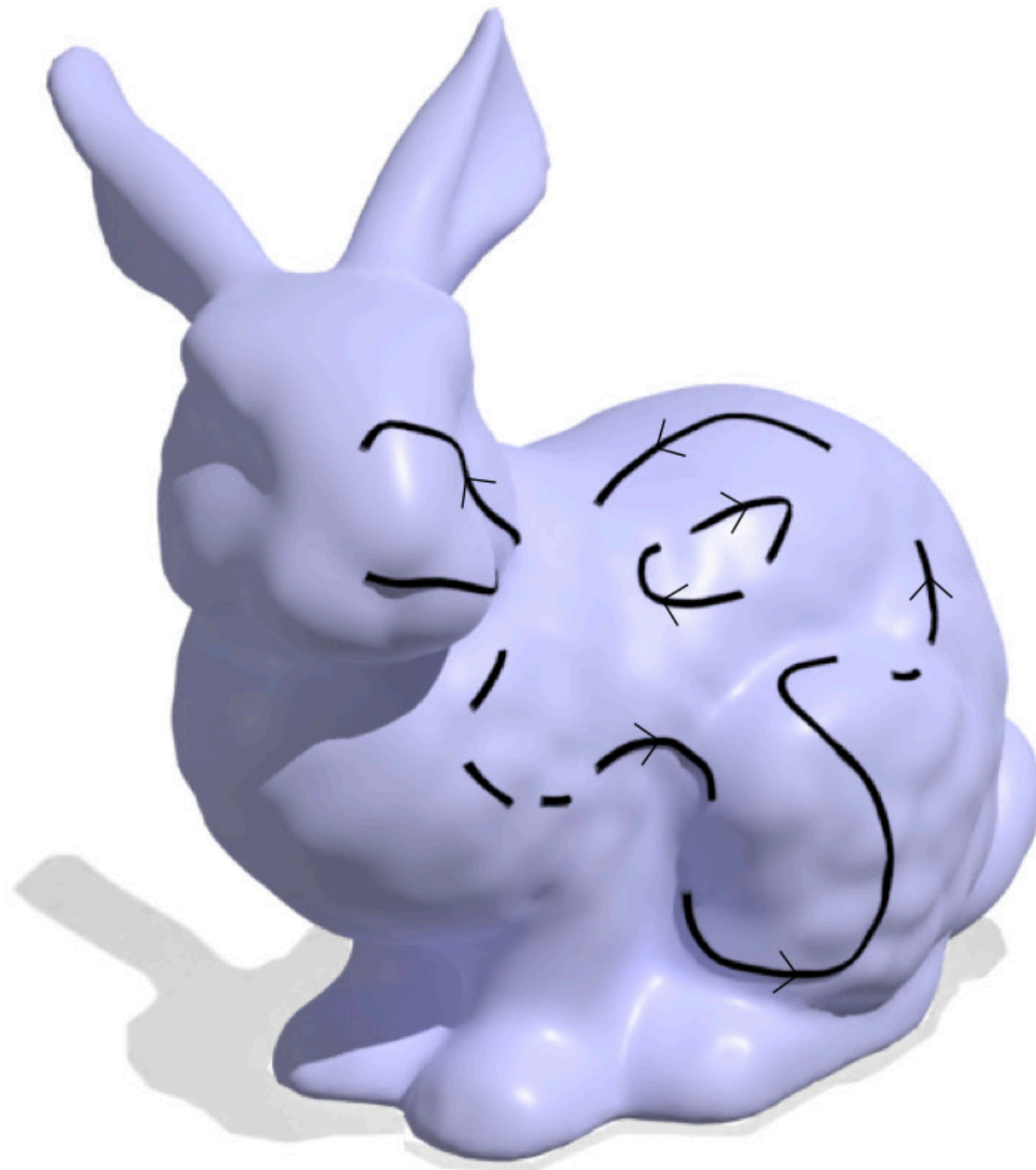


Curves can enclose points multiple times

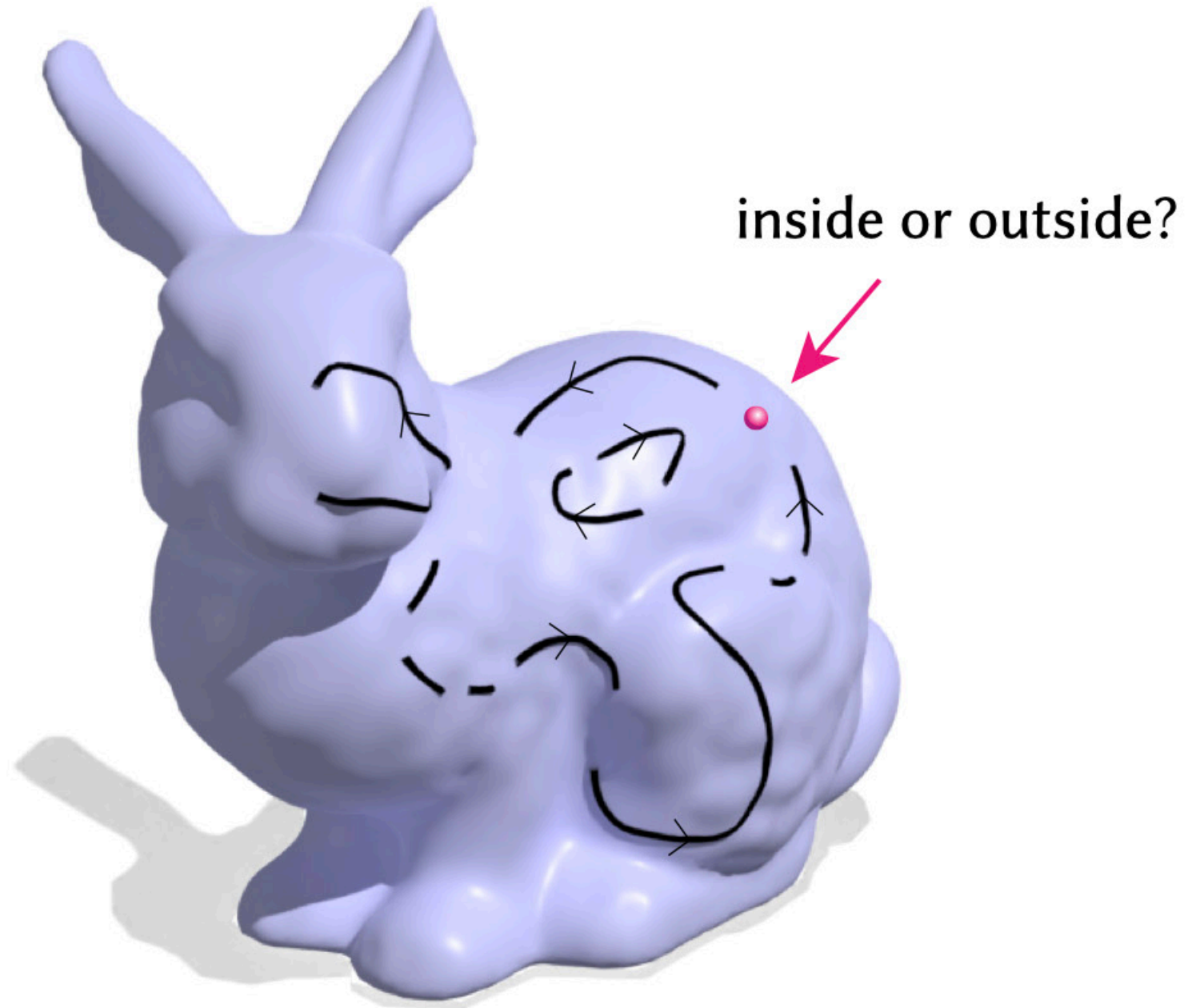
-1 **0** **+1** **+2**
winding number



Inside/outside of broken curves?

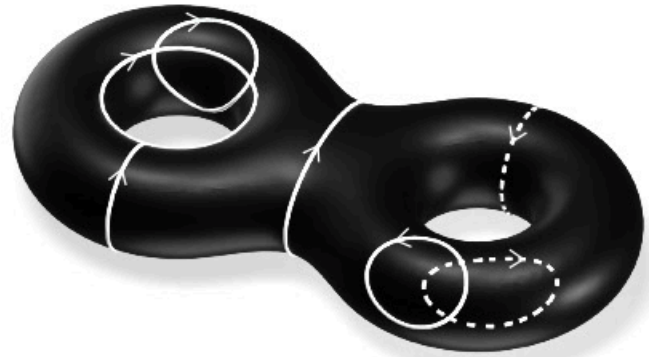


Inside/outside of broken curves?



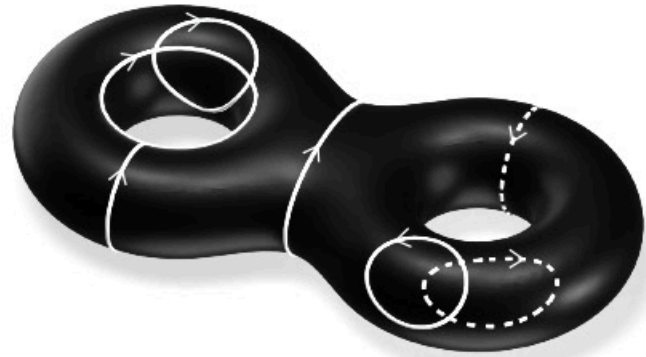
Surface Winding Numbers (SWN)

Surface Winding Numbers (SWN)



Surface Winding Numbers (SWN)

Input: subset of edges in a triangle mesh

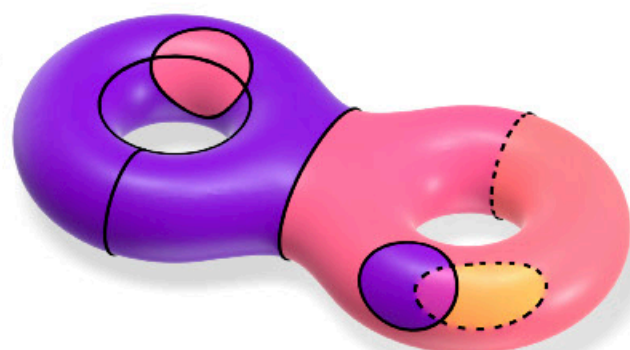


Surface Winding Numbers (SWN)

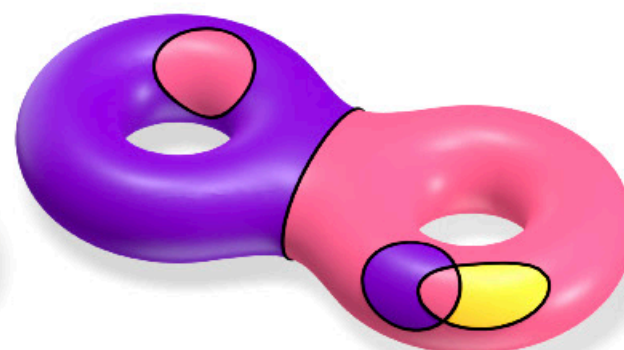
Input: subset of edges in a triangle mesh



Outputs:



winding number
function



bounding
components



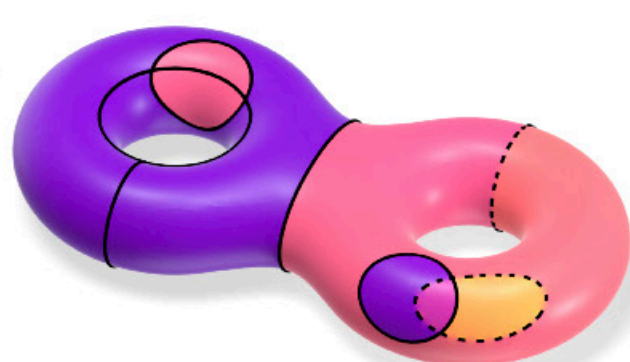
nonbounding
components

Surface Winding Numbers (SWN)

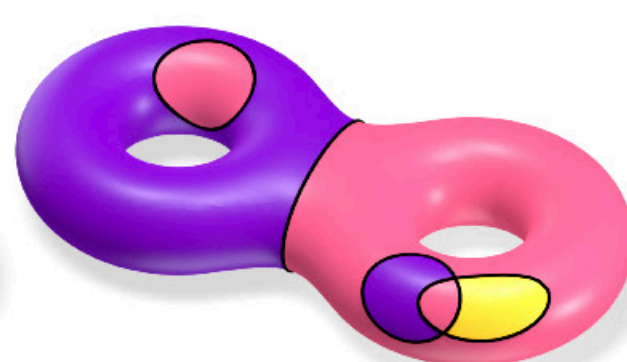
Input: subset of edges in a triangle mesh



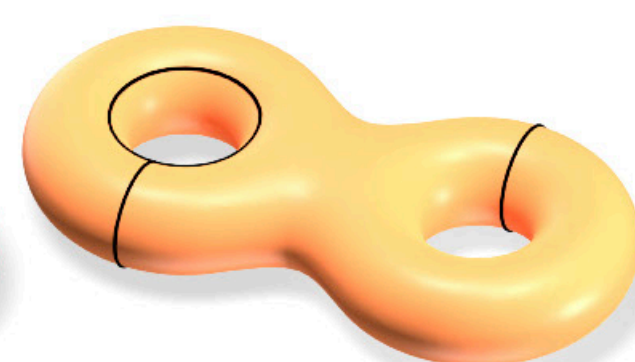
Outputs:



winding number
function

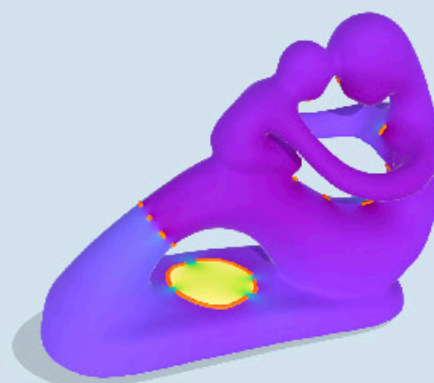
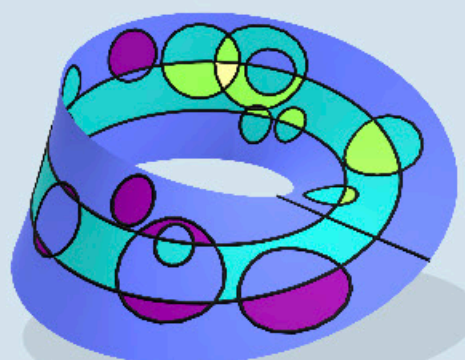
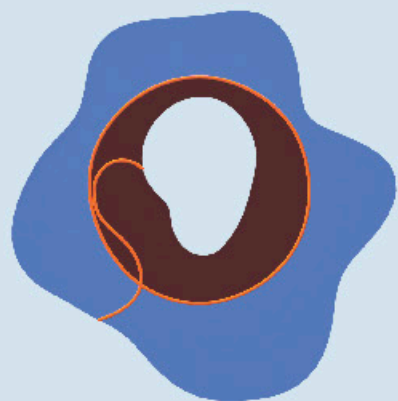


bounding
components



nonbounding
components

Handles general
topology, broken
curves

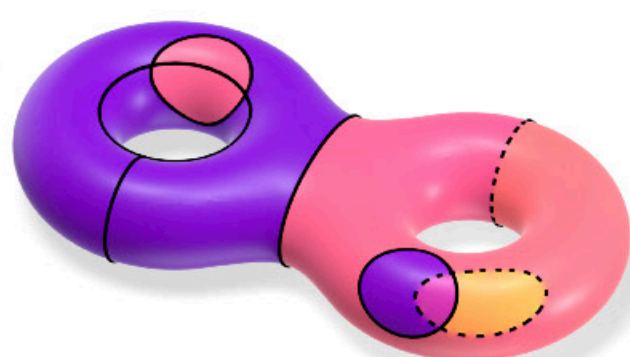


Surface Winding Numbers (SWN)

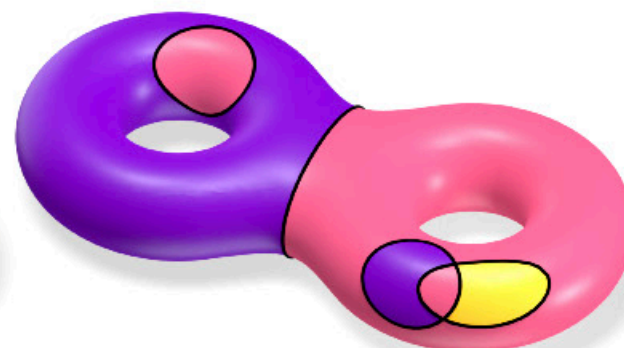
Input: subset of edges in a triangle mesh



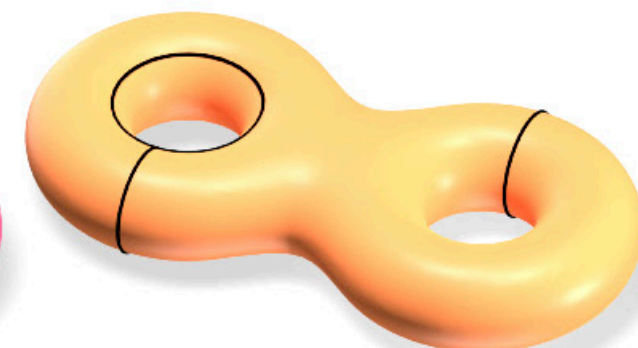
Outputs:



winding number
function

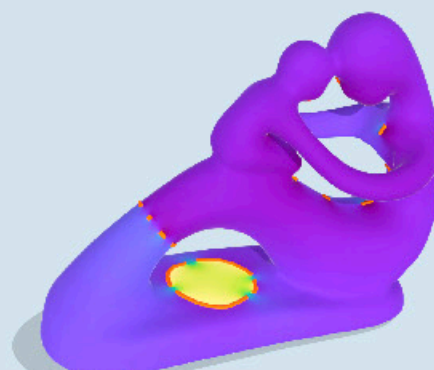
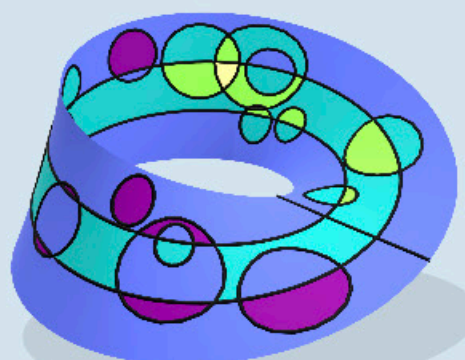
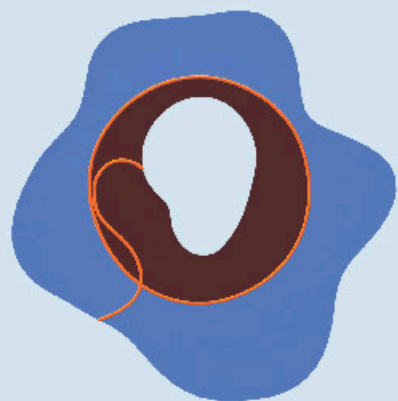


bounding
components

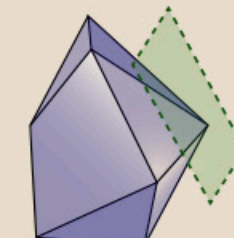
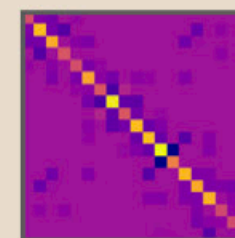


nonbounding
components

Handles general
topology, broken
curves



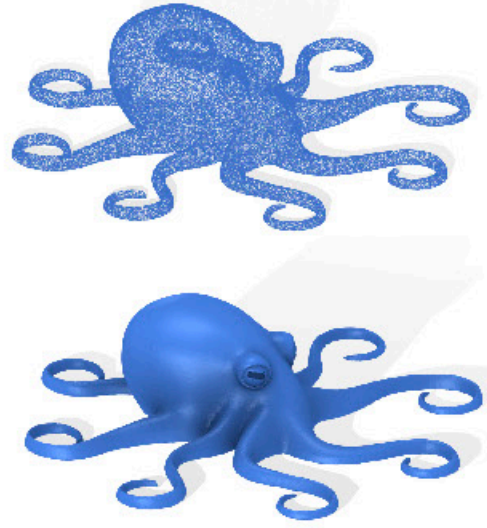
sparse Poisson
problems + LP



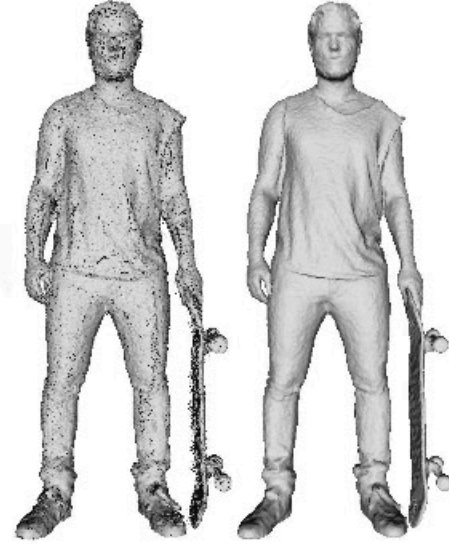
Winding numbers are useful for geometry processing!

Winding numbers are useful for geometry processing!

surface reconstruction



[Barill et al. 2018]



[Collet et al. 2015]



[Zhou et al. 2016]



mesh booleans



[Barill et al. 2018]

iterative normal estimation



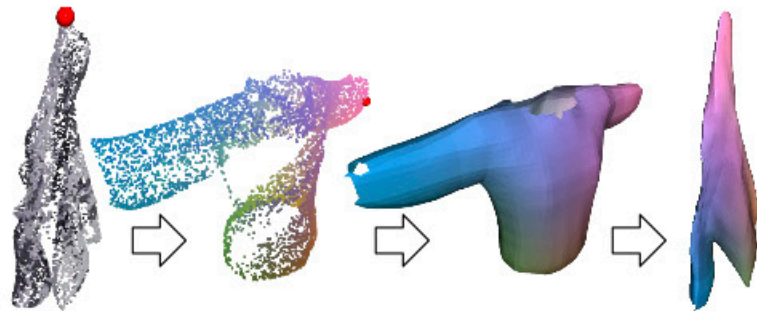
[Xu et al. 2023]



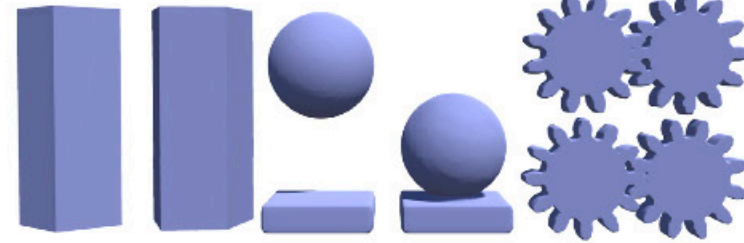
[Hou et al. 2022]

meshing

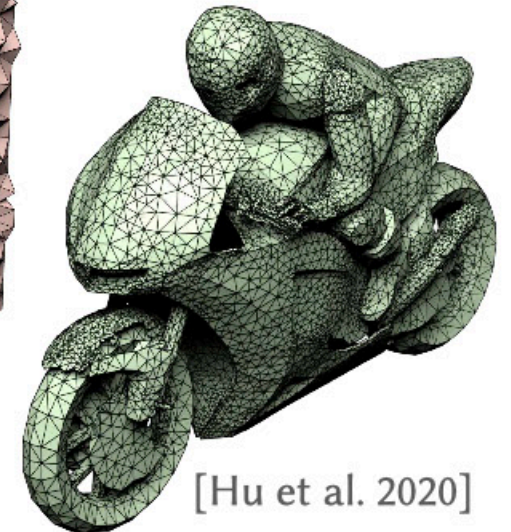
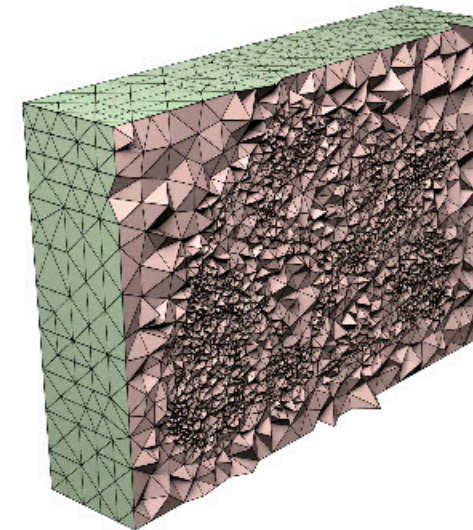
geometric preprocessing



[Chi, Song 2021]



[Dvořák et al. 2021]



[Hu et al. 2020]

History

History

(Generalized) winding number = solid angle

[Euler 1781; Lagrange 1798; Gauss 1838, Maxwell 1881...]

On Solid Angles.

417.] We have already proved that at any point P the potential due to a magnetic shell is equal to the solid angle subtended by the edge of the shell multiplied by the strength

[Maxwell 1881]

History

(Generalized) winding number = solid angle

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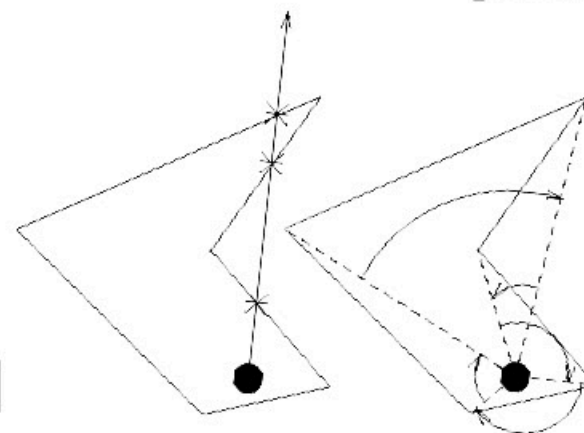
Winding number & solid angle in graphics

[Shimrat 1962; Haines 1994; Goral et al. 1984; Veach & Guibas 1995...]

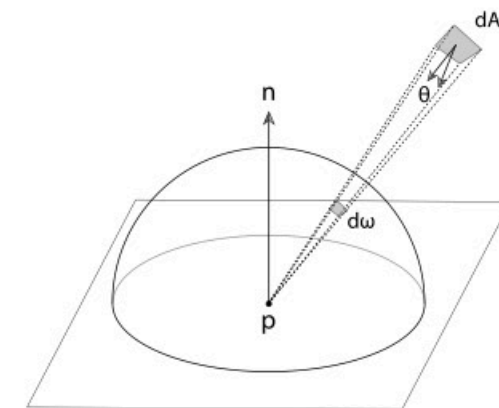
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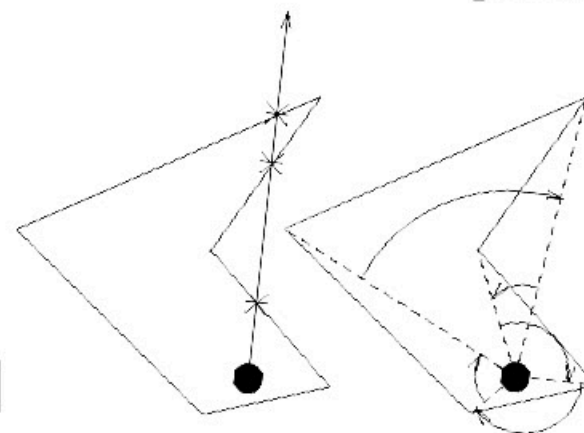
~~Winding~~ Turning number on surfaces

[Reinhart 1960, 1963; Chillingworth 1972; Humphries & Johnson 1989; McIntyre & Cairns 1993; Chernov & Rudyak 2009]

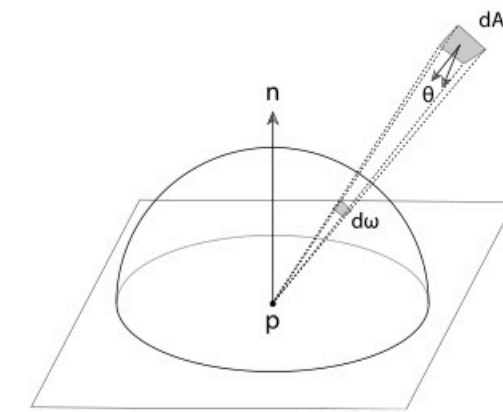
On Solid Angles.

417.] We have already proved that at any point P the potential due to a magnetic shell is equal to the solid angle subtended by the edge of the shell multiplied by the strength

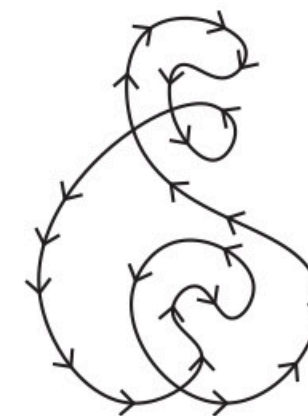
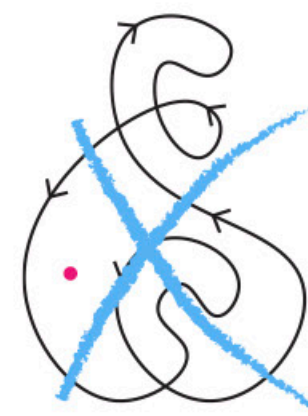
[Maxwell 1881]



[Haines 1994]



[Pharr et al. 2018]

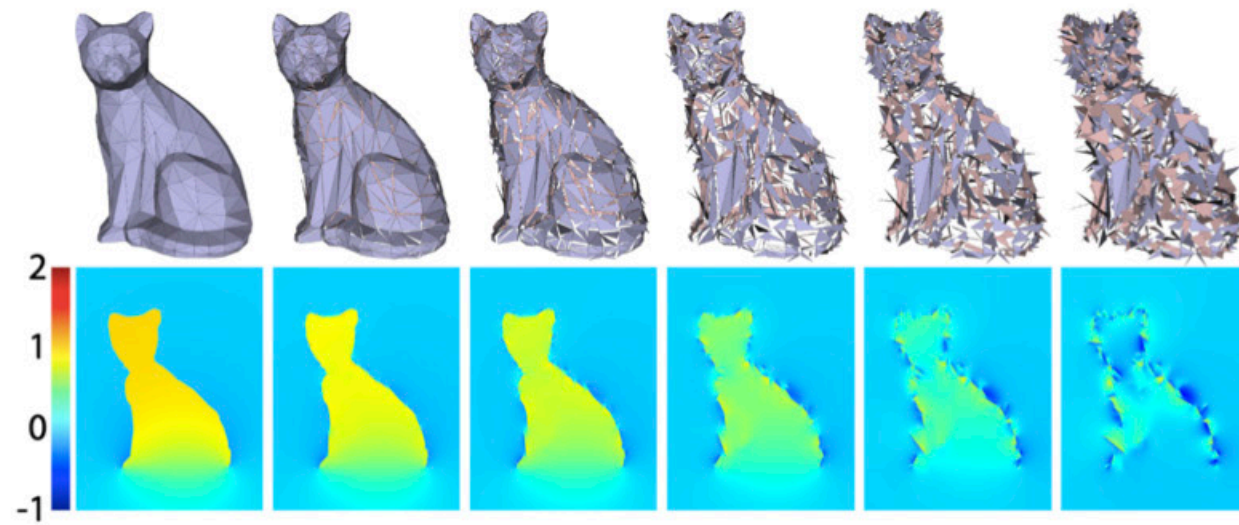


Related work

Poisson Surface Reconstruction \equiv Generalized Winding Number

[Kazhdan et al. 2006]

[Jacobson et al. 2013]



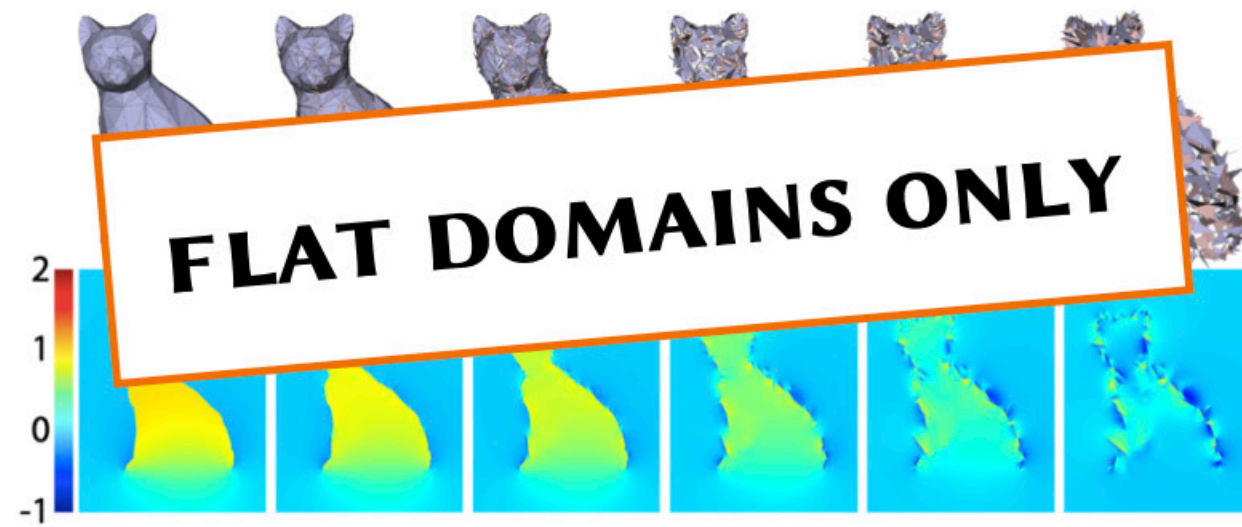
[Jacobson et al. 2013]

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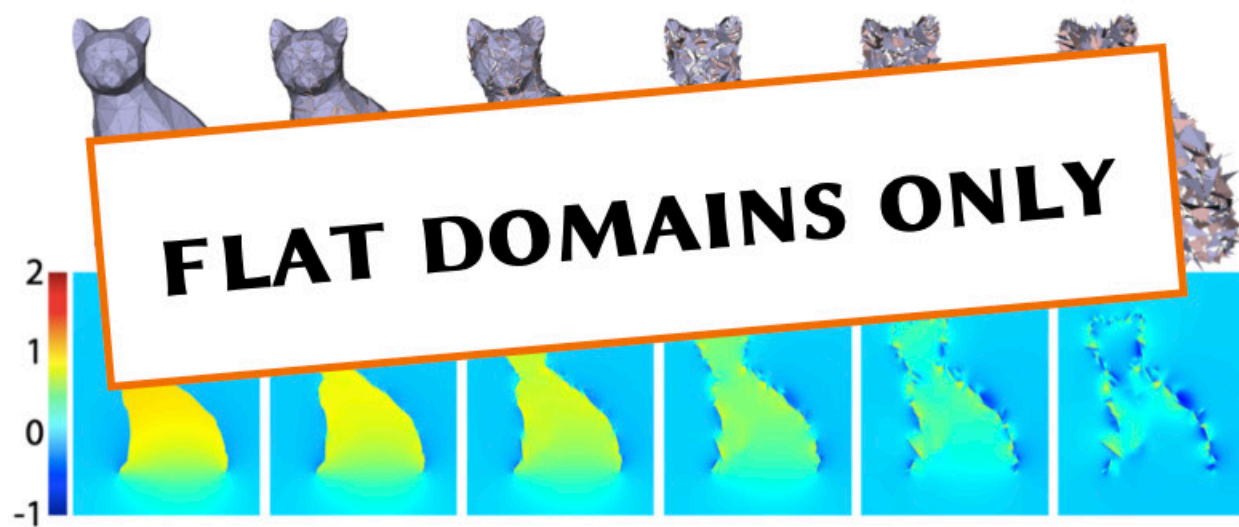
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BoolSurf

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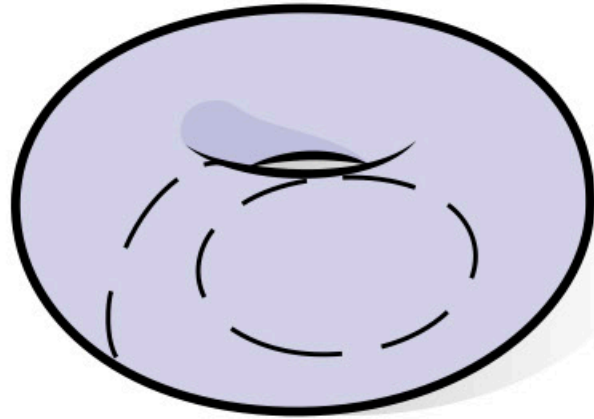


We include the best of both worlds (and more)

ALGORITHM

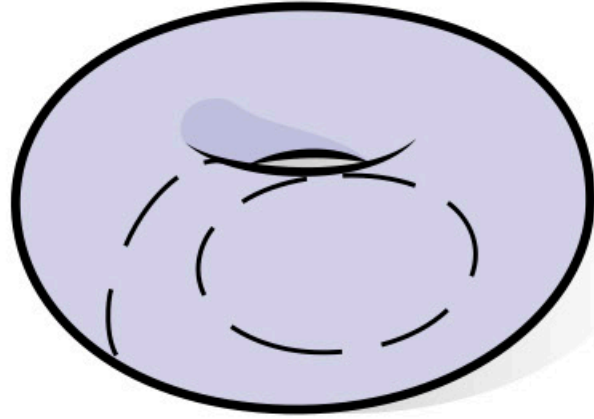
Basic idea: treat curves as vector fields

curves

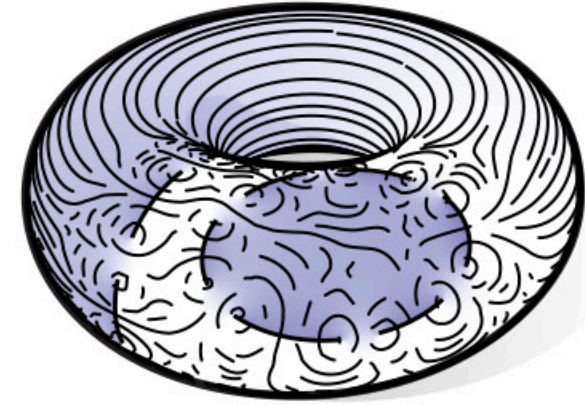


Basic idea: treat curves as vector fields

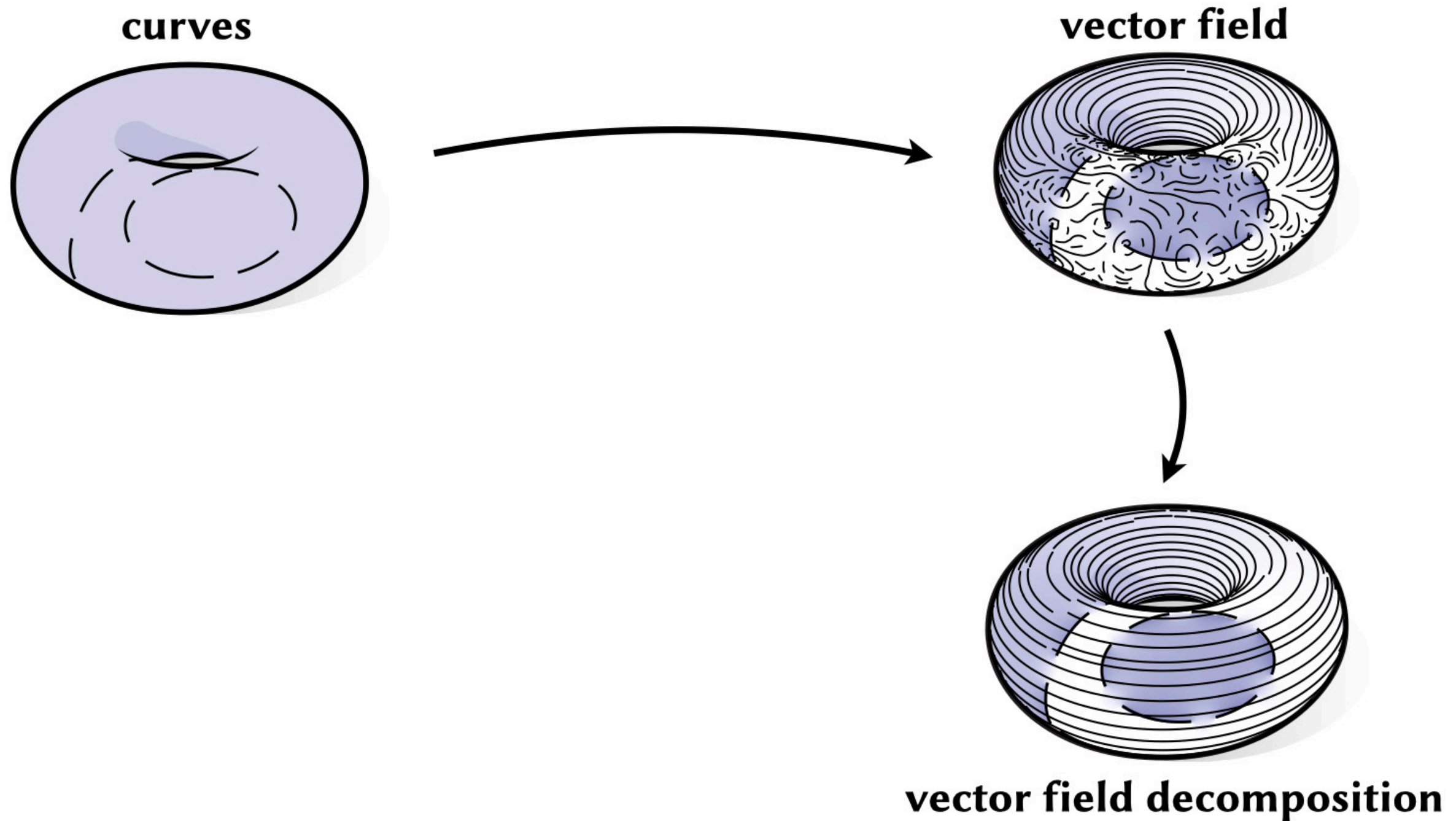
curves



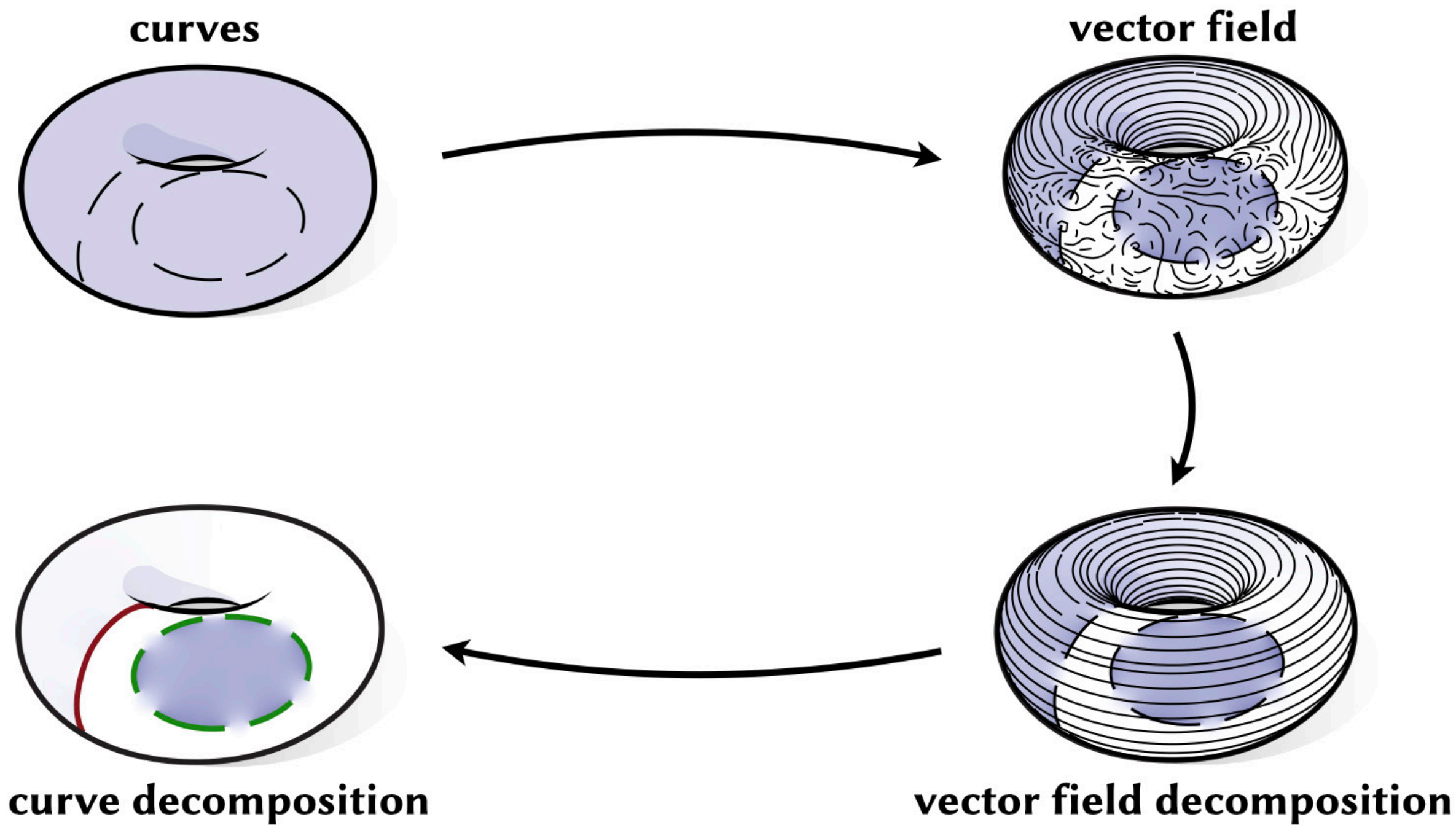
vector field



Basic idea: treat curves as vector fields



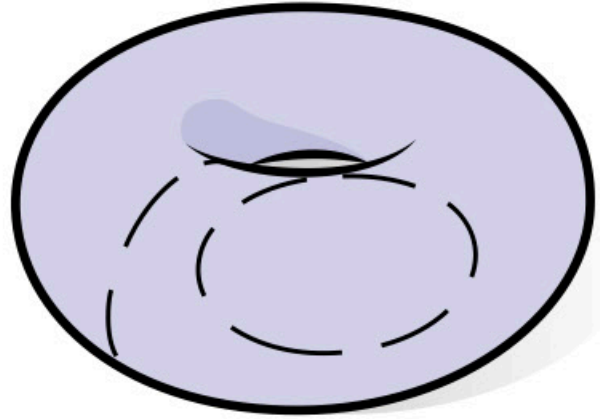
Basic idea: treat curves as vector fields



In more detail...

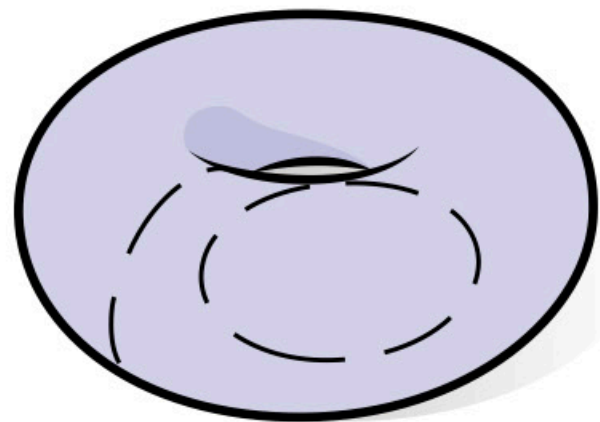
In more detail...

input curves

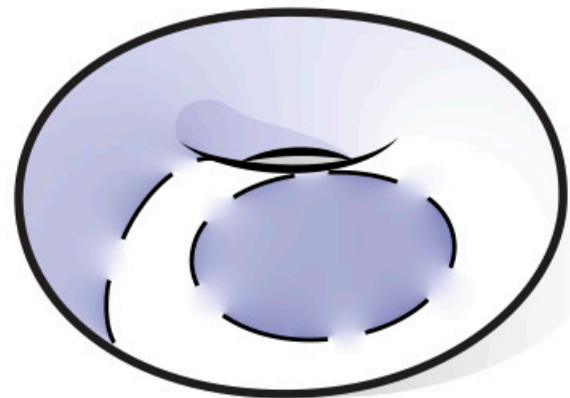


In more detail...

input curves



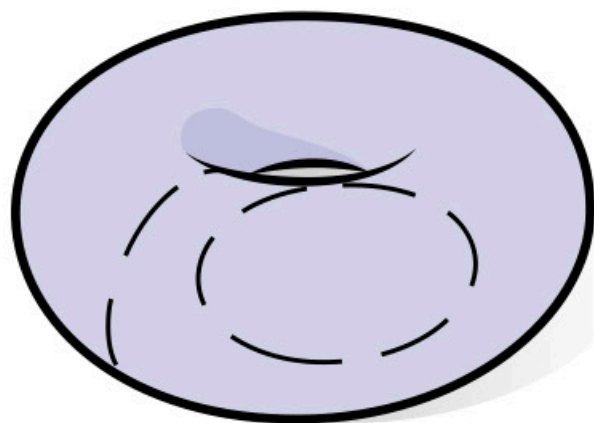
harmonic function with jumps



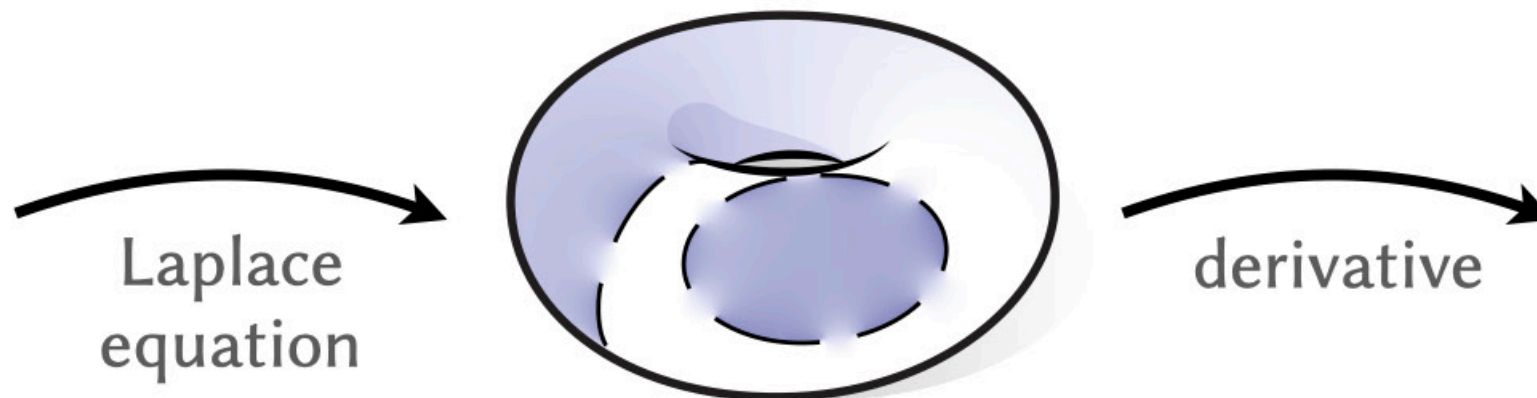
Laplace
equation

In more detail...

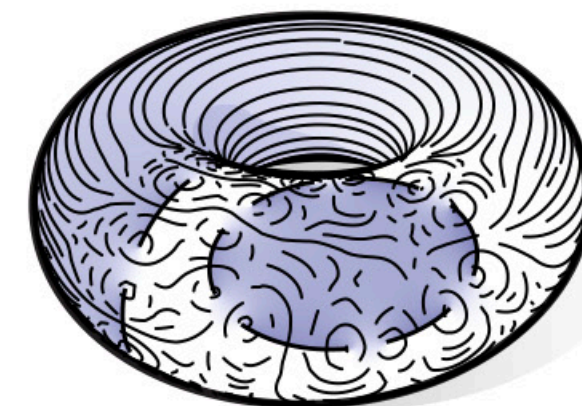
input curves



harmonic function with jumps

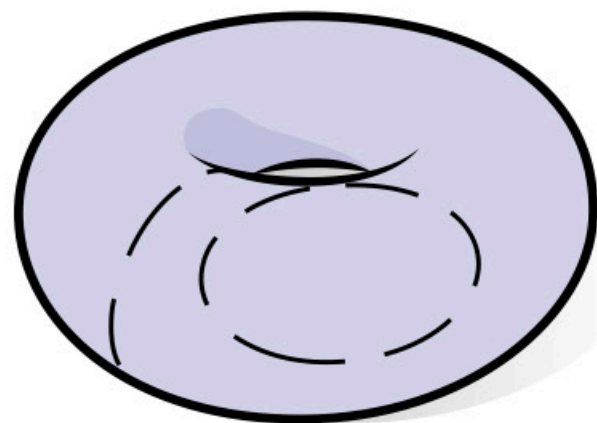


gradient vector field



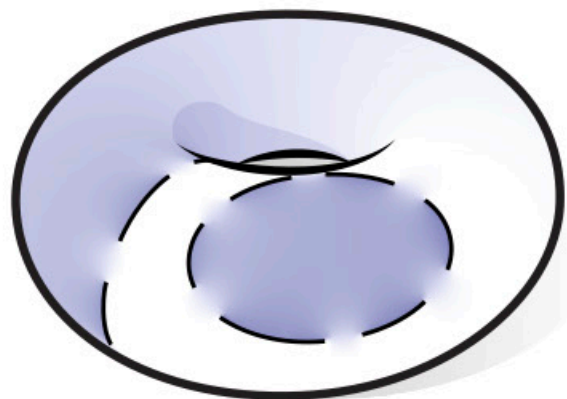
In more detail...

input curves



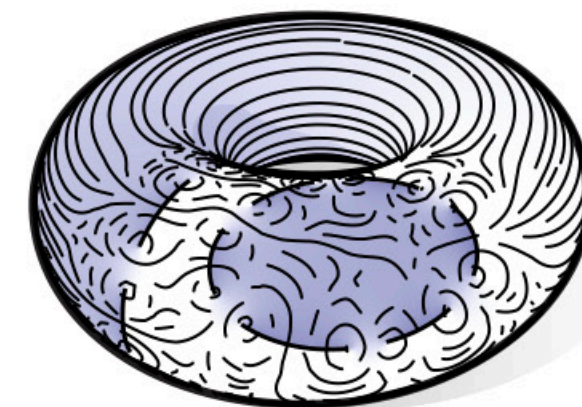
Laplace
equation

harmonic function with jumps

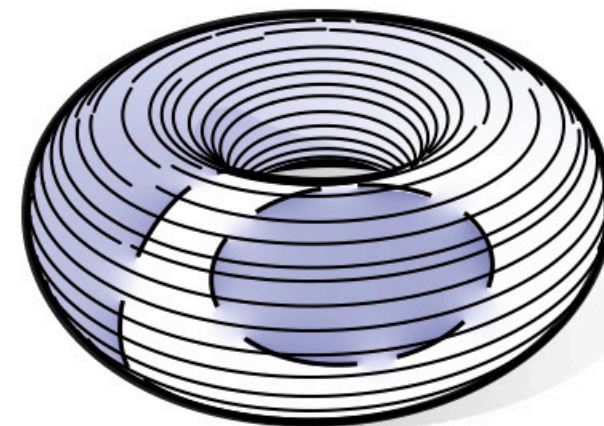


derivative

gradient vector field

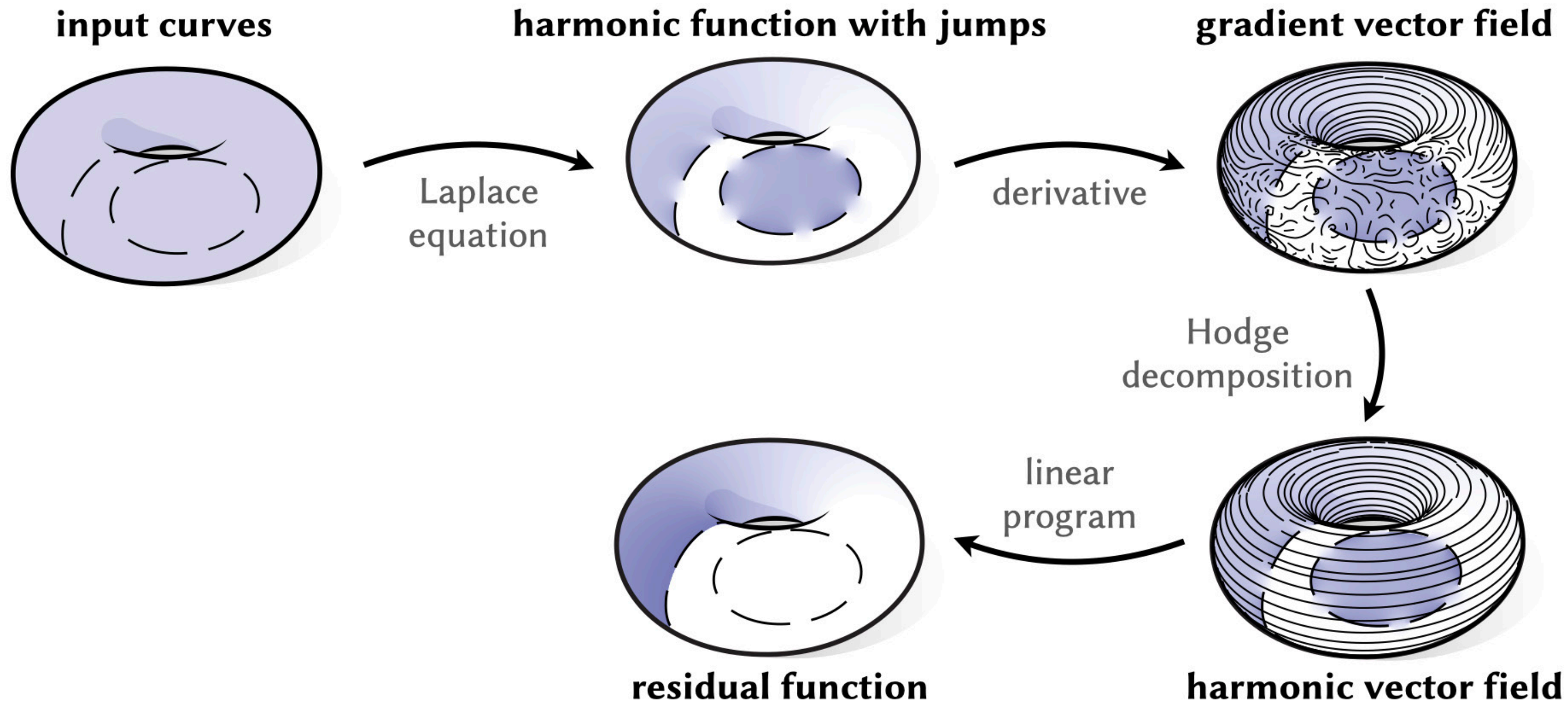


Hodge
decomposition



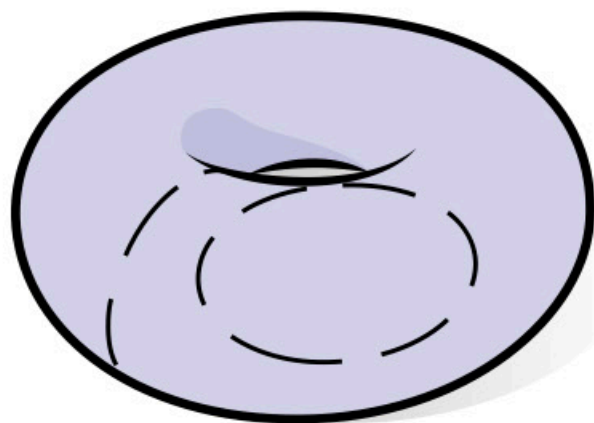
harmonic vector field

In more detail...

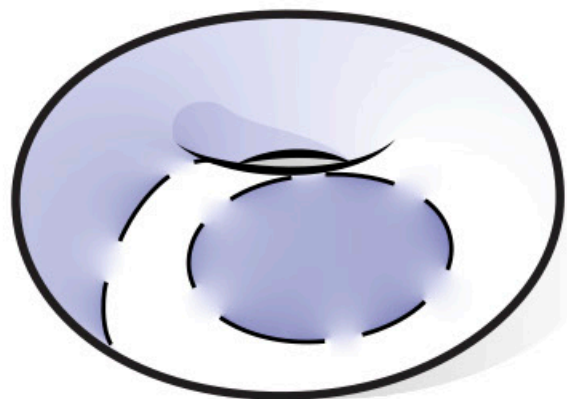


In more detail...

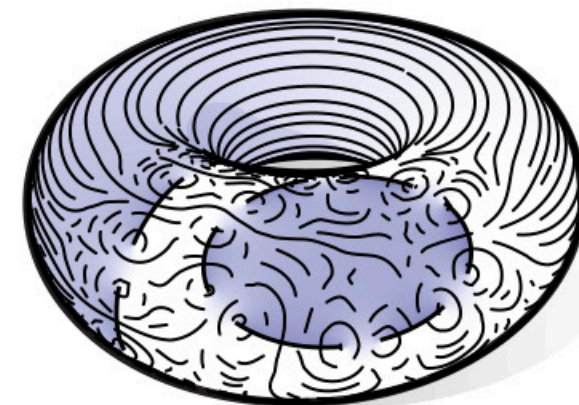
input curves



harmonic function with jumps



gradient vector field



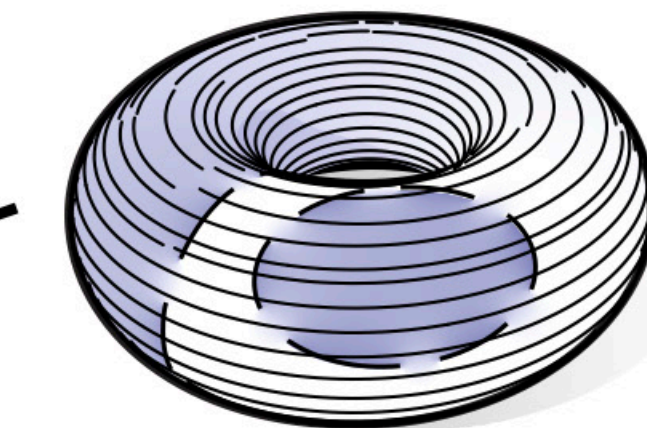
Laplace
equation

derivative

Hodge
decomposition

Laplace
equation

linear
program



winding number function

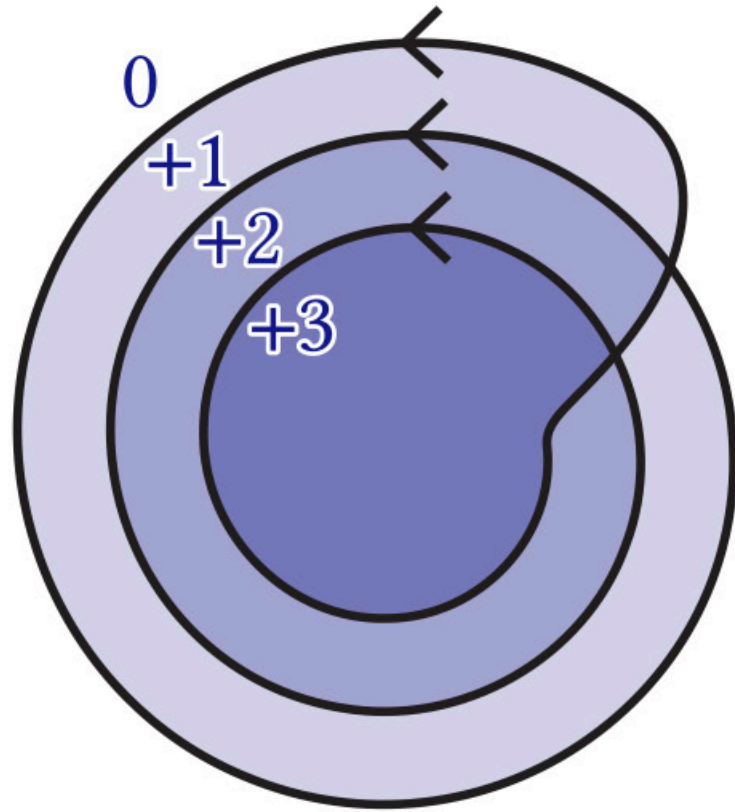


residual function

harmonic vector field

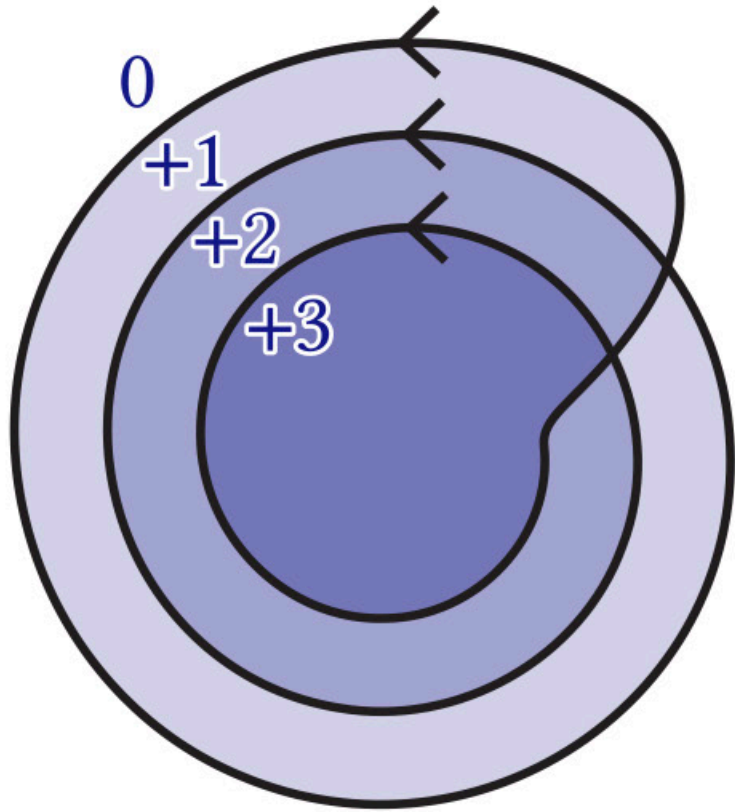
Why harmonic functions with jumps?

Why harmonic functions with jumps?



winding number

Why harmonic functions with jumps?



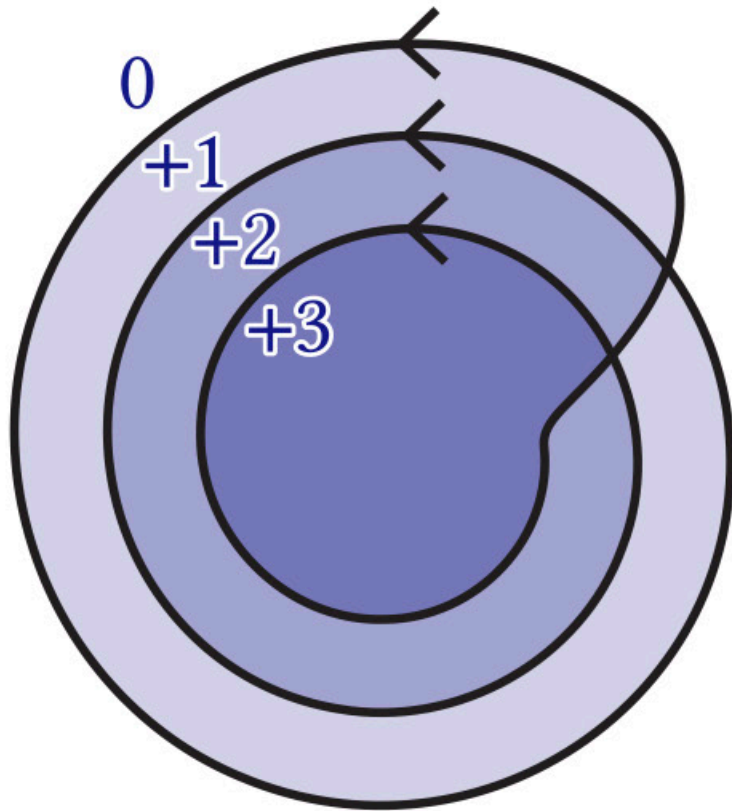
winding number



solid angle

\subset

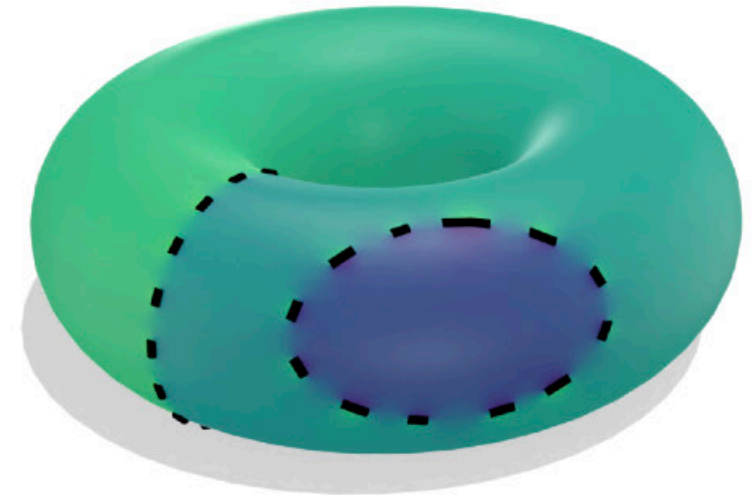
Why harmonic functions with jumps?



winding number



solid angle



jump harmonic functions

\subset

\subset

Jump Laplace equation

$$\Delta u = 0, \quad \text{on } M \setminus \Gamma,$$

Jump Laplace equation

harmonic

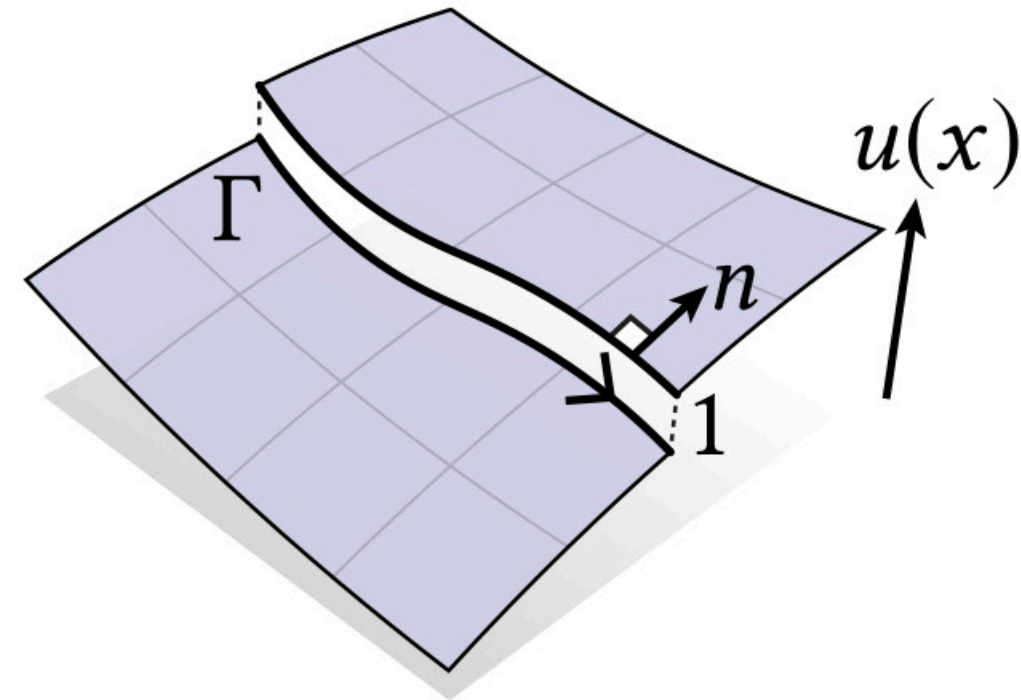
$$\Delta u = 0, \quad \text{on } M \setminus \Gamma,$$

Jump Laplace equation

harmonic

$$\Delta u = 0, \quad \text{on } M \setminus \Gamma,$$

$$u^+ - u^- = 1, \quad \text{on } \Gamma,$$



The jump problem for the Laplace equation. Krutitskii (2001)

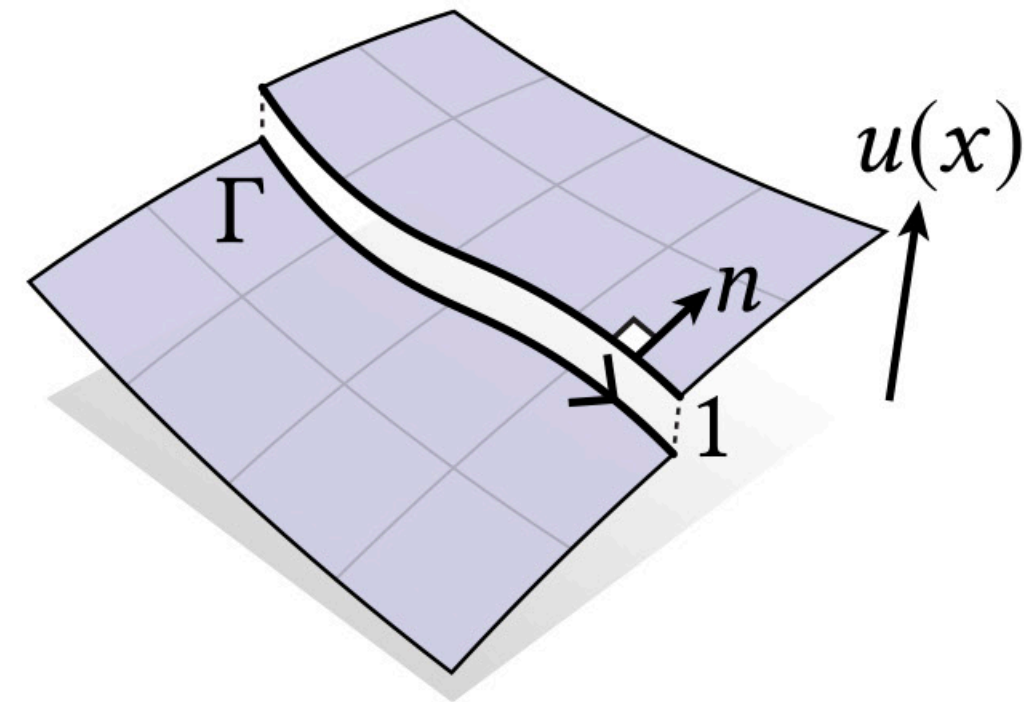
Jump Laplace equation

harmonic

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jump

$$u^+ - u^- = 1, \quad \text{on } \Gamma,$$



The jump problem for the Laplace equation. Krutitskii (2001)

Jump Laplace equation

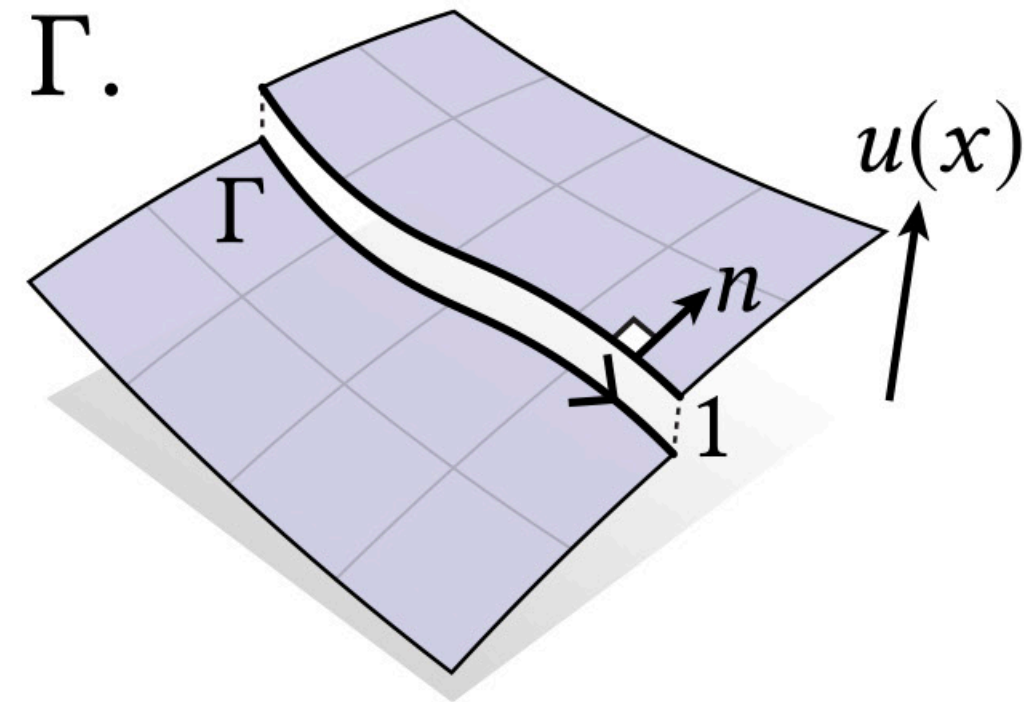
harmonic

$$\Delta u = 0, \quad \text{on } M \setminus \Gamma,$$

jump

$$u^+ - u^- = 1, \quad \text{on } \Gamma,$$

$$\frac{\partial u^+}{\partial n} = \frac{\partial u^-}{\partial n}, \quad \text{on } \Gamma.$$



The jump problem for the Laplace equation. Krutitskii (2001)

Jump Laplace equation

harmonic

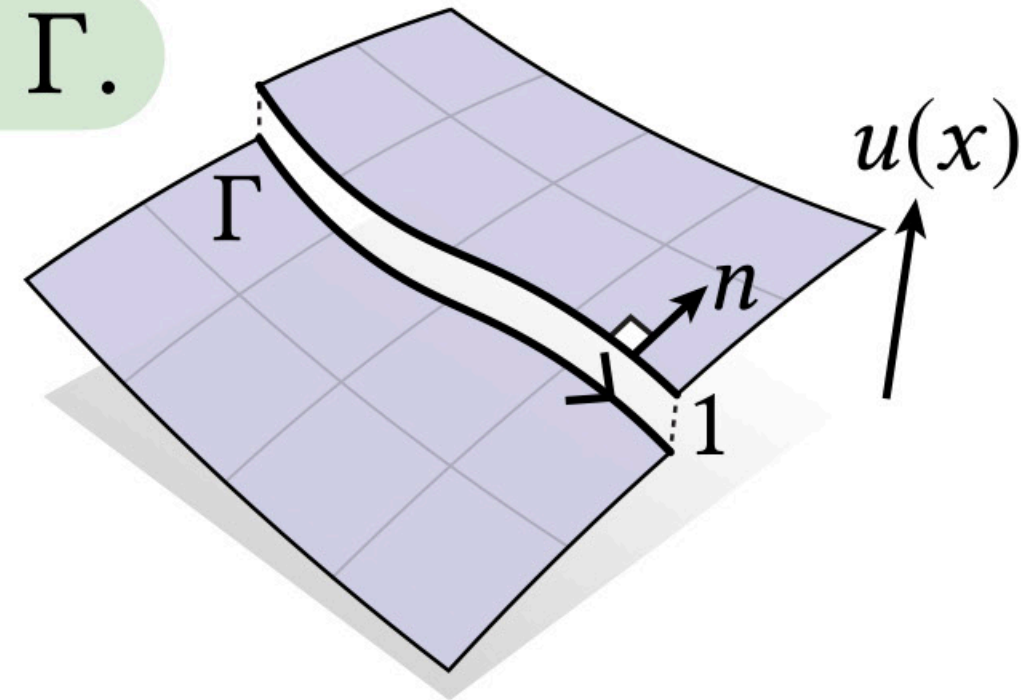
$$\Delta u = 0, \quad \text{on } M \setminus \Gamma,$$

jump

$$u^+ - u^- = 1, \quad \text{on } \Gamma,$$

compatibility

$$\partial u^+ / \partial n = \partial u^- / \partial n, \quad \text{on } \Gamma.$$



The jump problem for the Laplace equation. Krutitskii (2001)

Jump Laplace equation

harmonic

$$\Delta u = 0, \quad \text{on } M \setminus \Gamma,$$

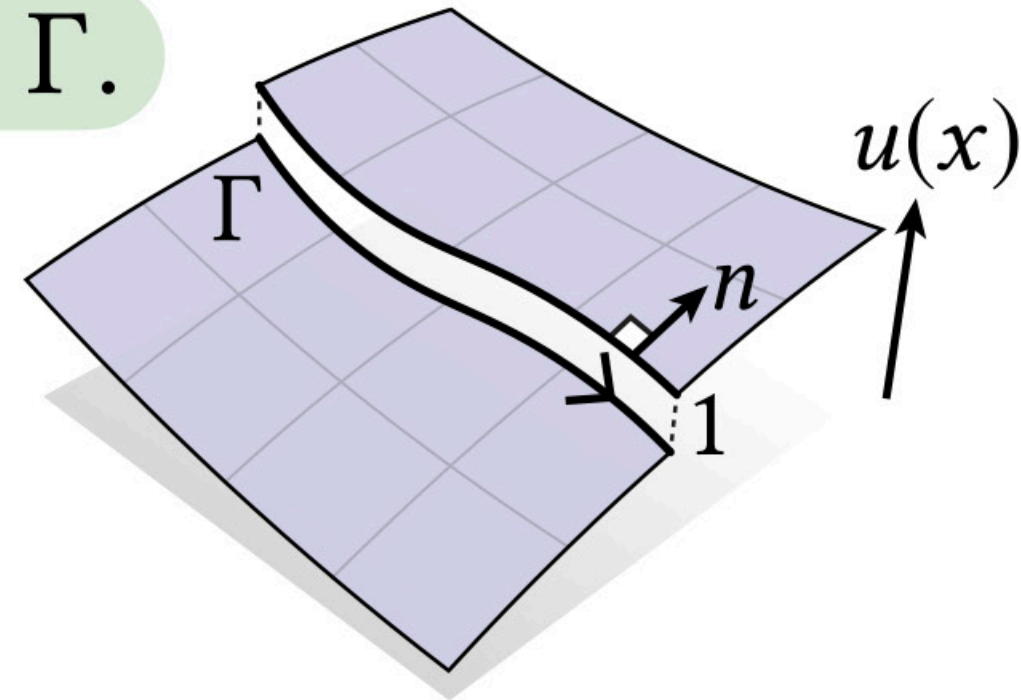
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sparse $|V| \times |V|$ linear system



The jump problem for the Laplace equation. Krutitskii (2001)

If domain has trivial topology:

jump harmonic function



If domain has trivial topology:

jump harmonic function



round



integer region labels



If domain has nontrivial topology:

jump harmonic function

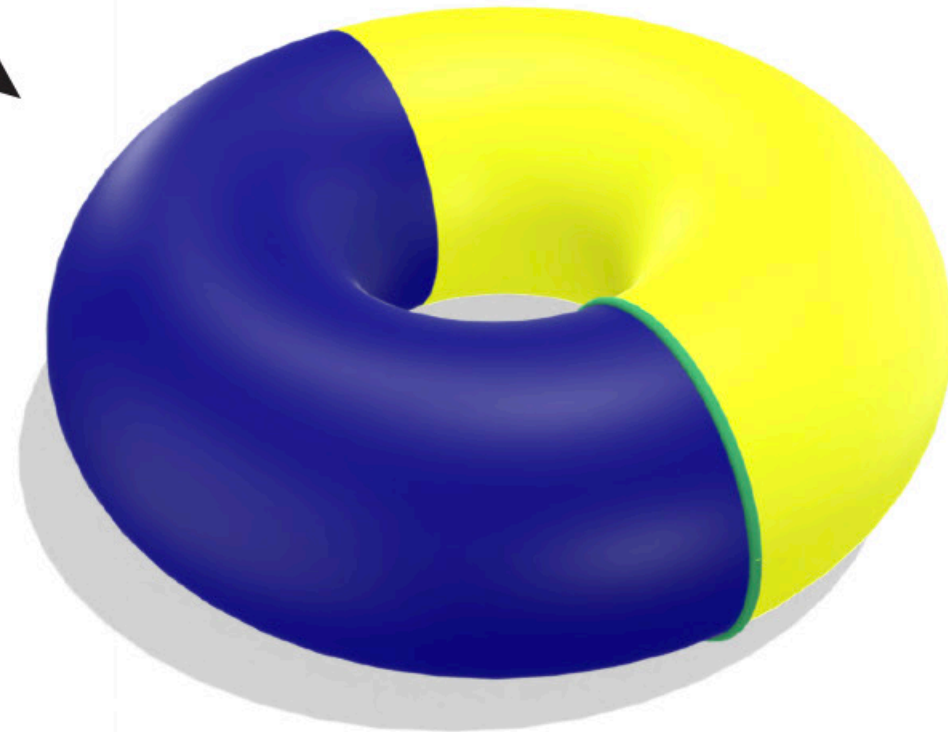


If domain has nontrivial topology:

jump harmonic function



round



If domain has nontrivial topology:

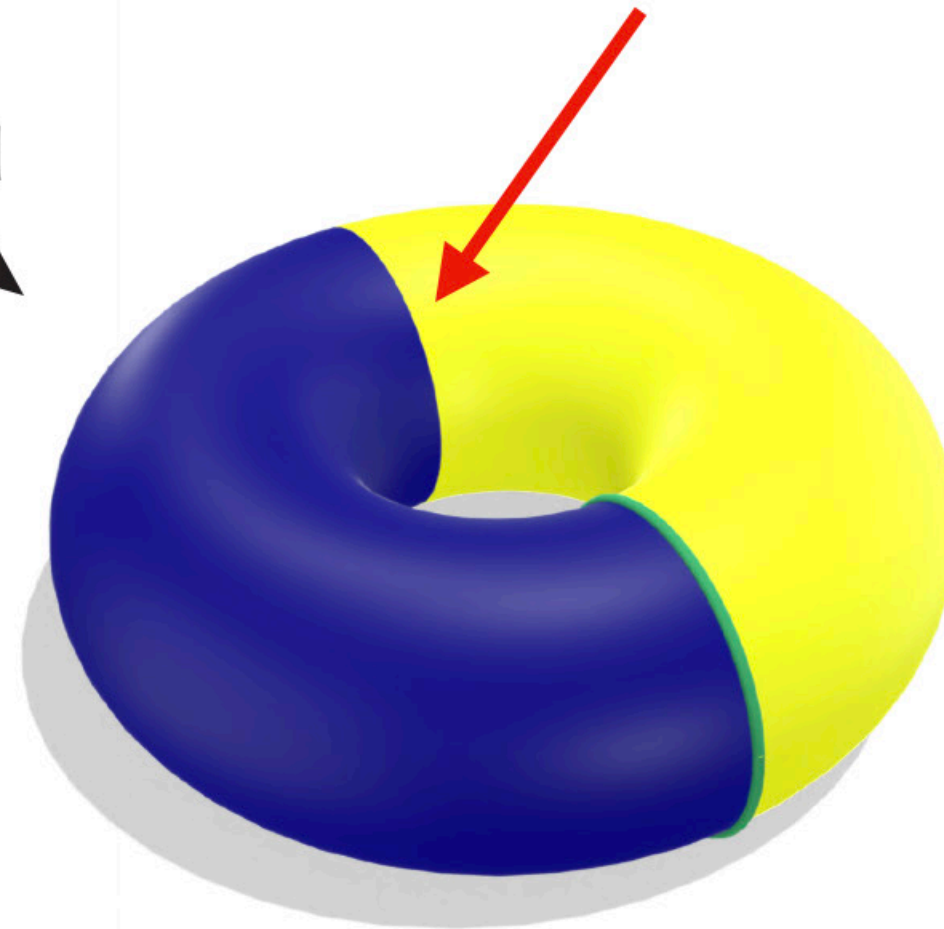
jump harmonic function



round



Not part of the input!



Differentiating jump harmonic functions



u

Differentiating jump harmonic functions

$$\Delta u = 0, \quad \text{on } M \setminus \Gamma,$$

$$u^+ - u^- = 1,$$

compatibility

$$\partial u^+ / \partial n = \partial u^- / \partial n,$$



u

Differentiating jump harmonic functions

$$\Delta u = 0, \quad \text{on } M \setminus \Gamma,$$

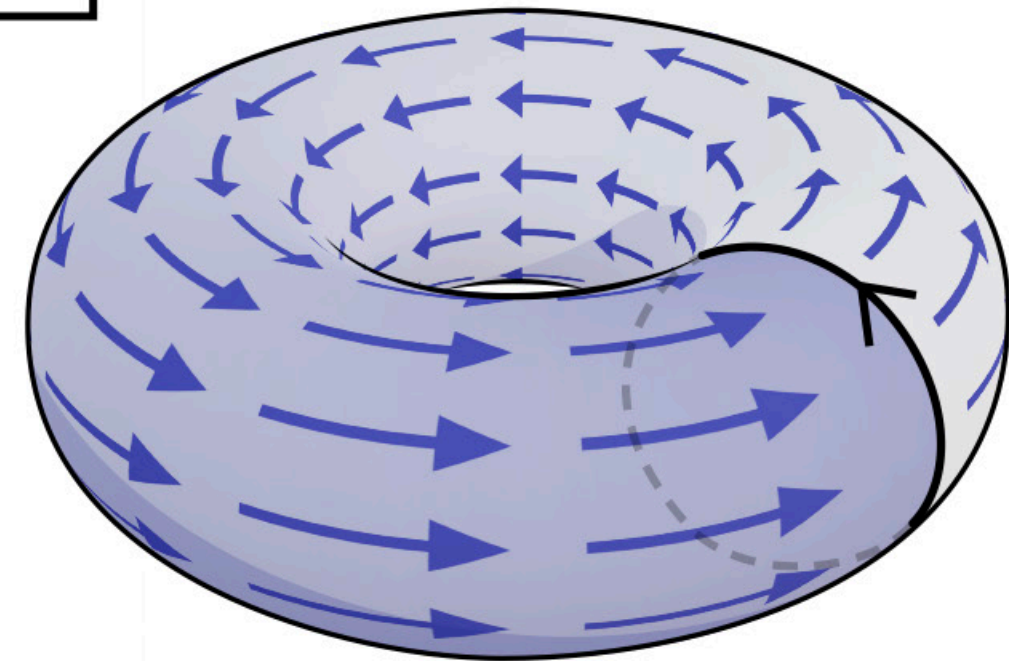
$$u^+ - u^- = 1,$$

compatibility

$$\partial u^+ / \partial n = \partial u^- / \partial n,$$



u

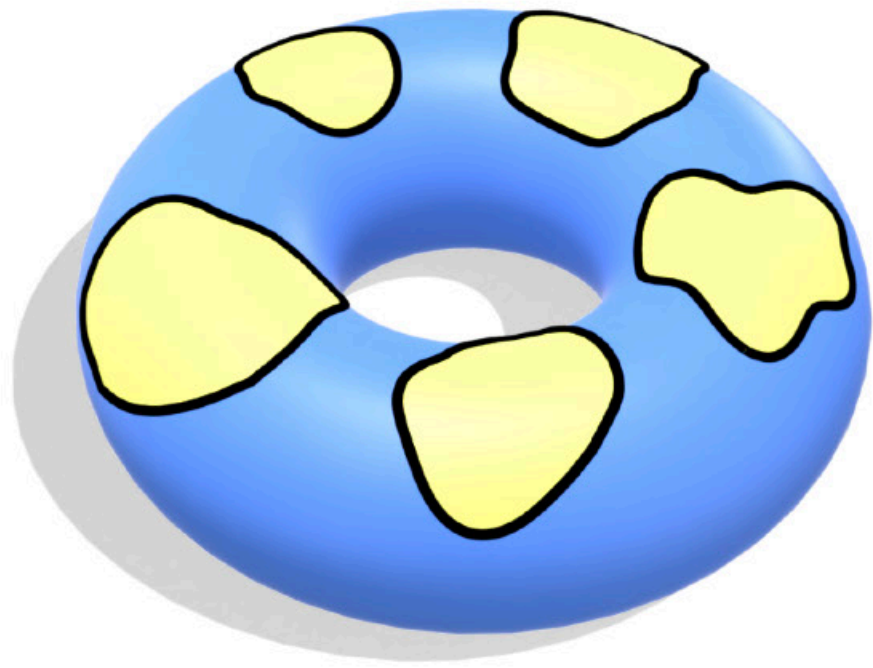


$\omega :=$ derivative of u

What does the derivative tell us?

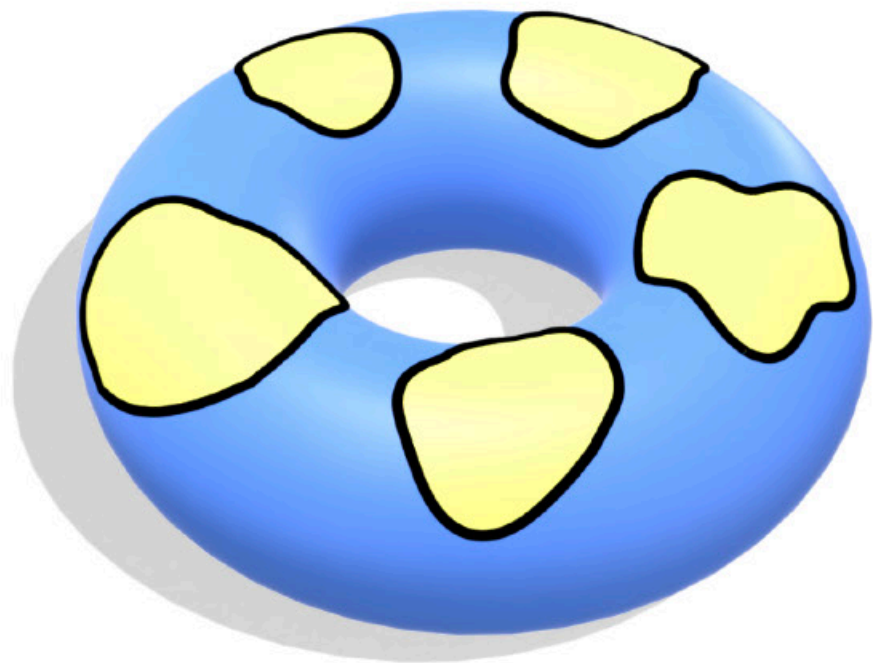
What does the derivative tell us?

If all curves are **bounding**,
the derivative is **zero**.

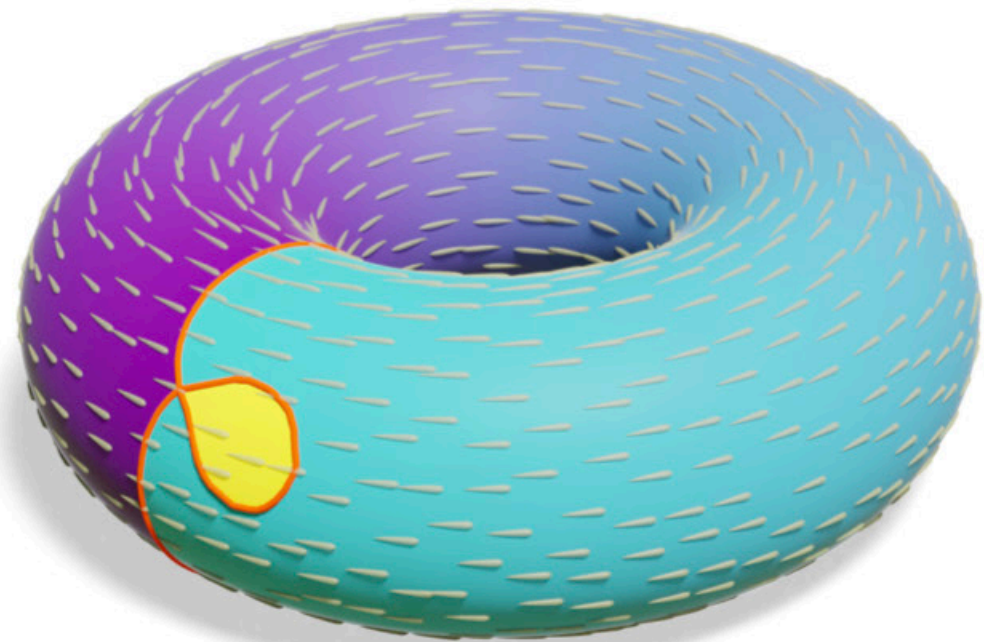


What does the derivative tell us?

If all curves are **bounding**,
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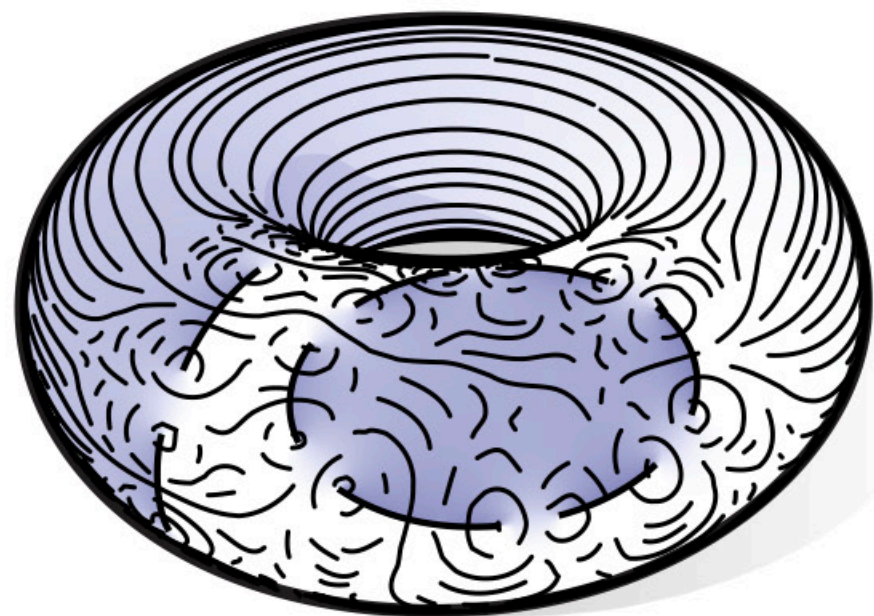


If some curves are **nonbounding**,
the derivative is nonzero and **harmonic**.



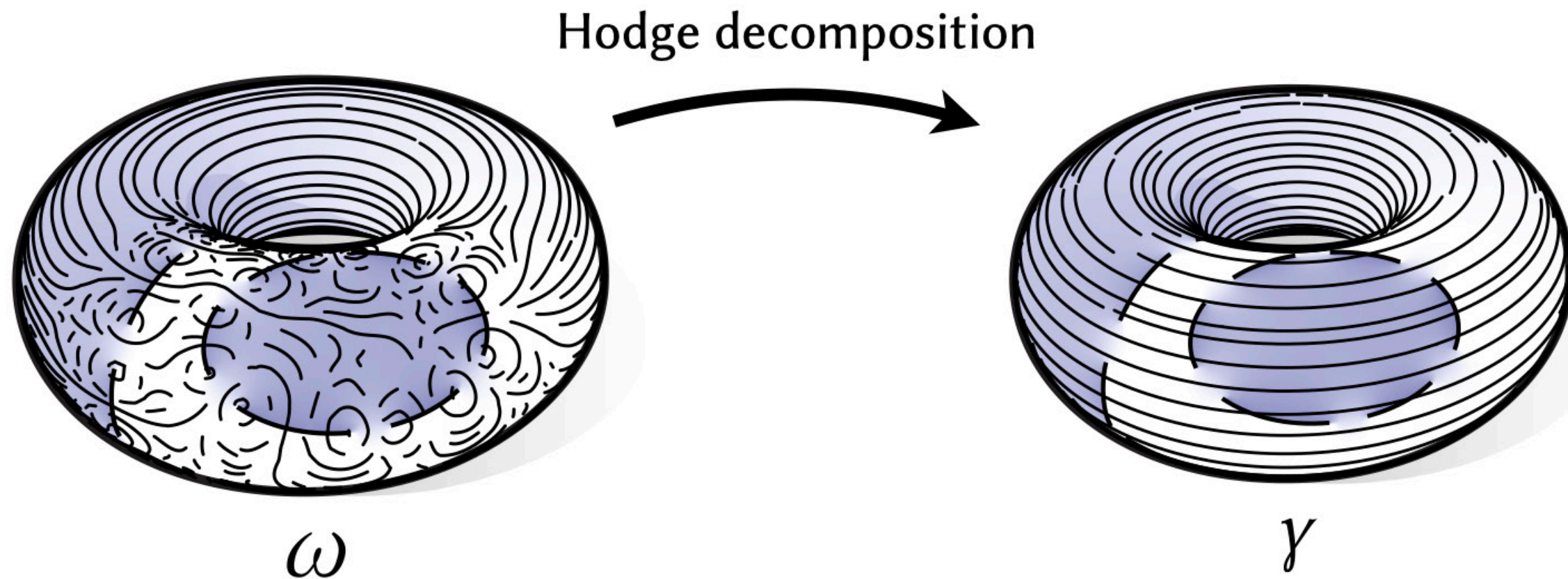
If the curve is broken, find closest harmonic field

If the curve is broken, find closest harmonic field

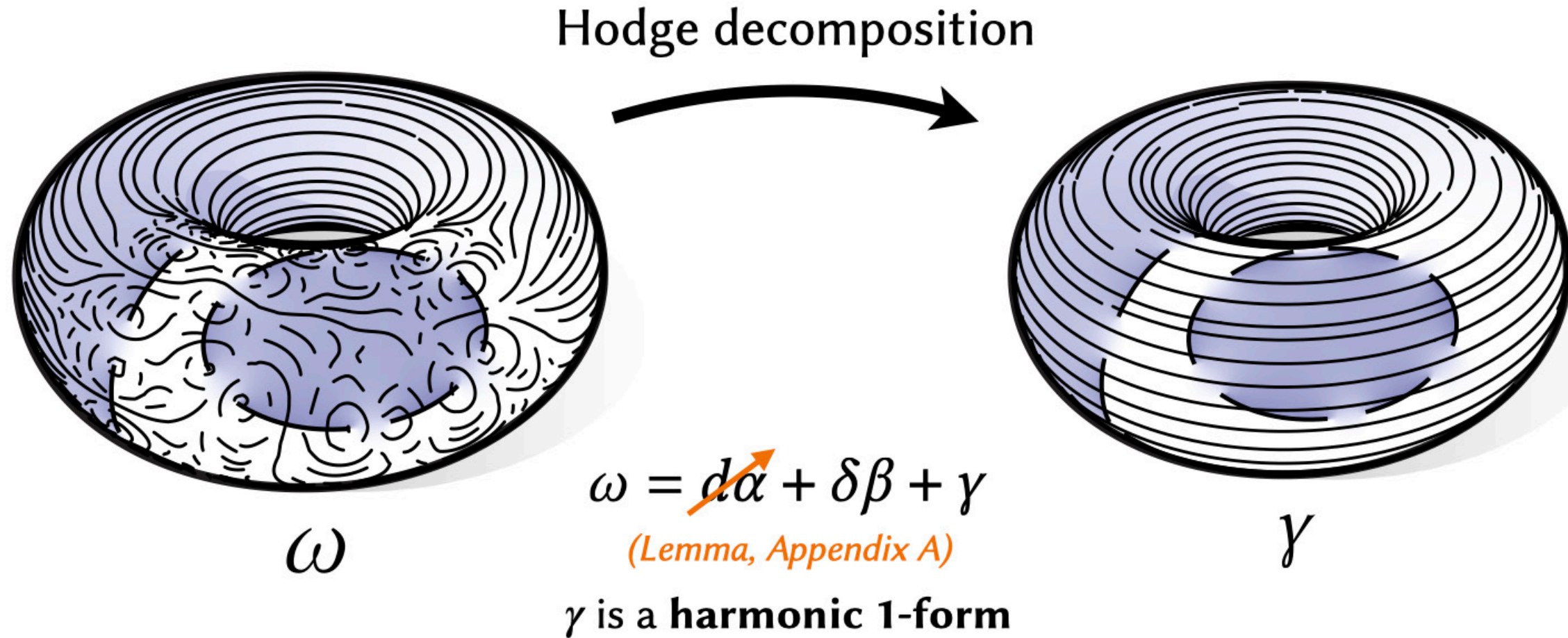


ω

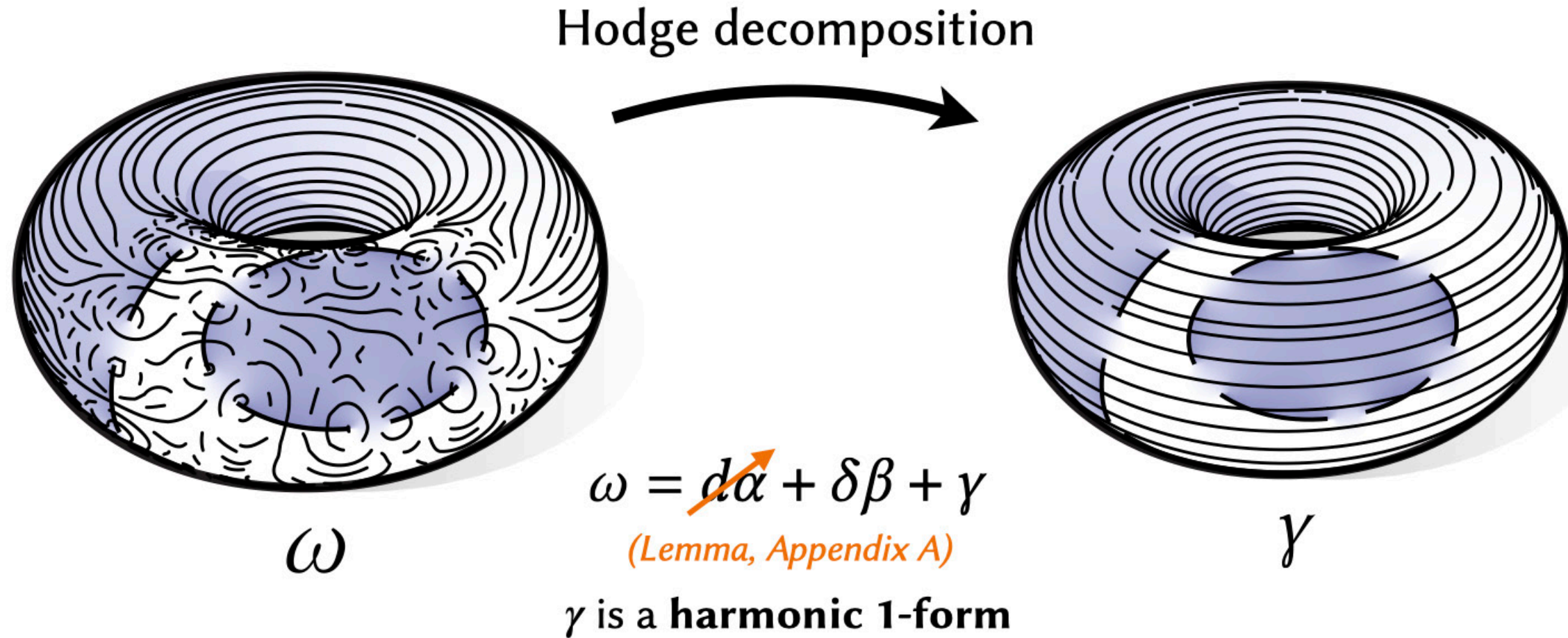
If the curve is broken, find closest harmonic field



If the curve is broken, find closest harmonic field

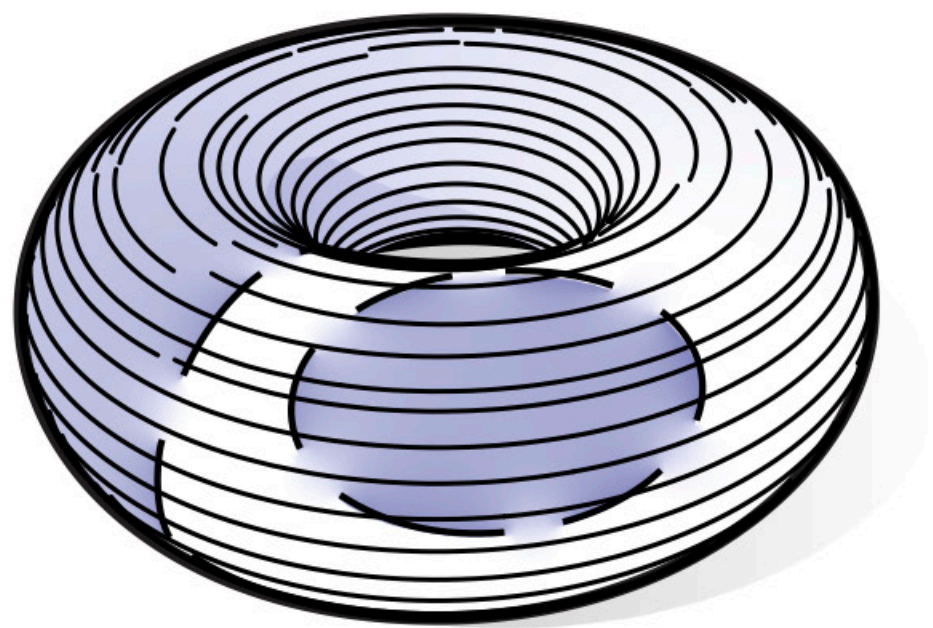


If the curve is broken, find closest harmonic field



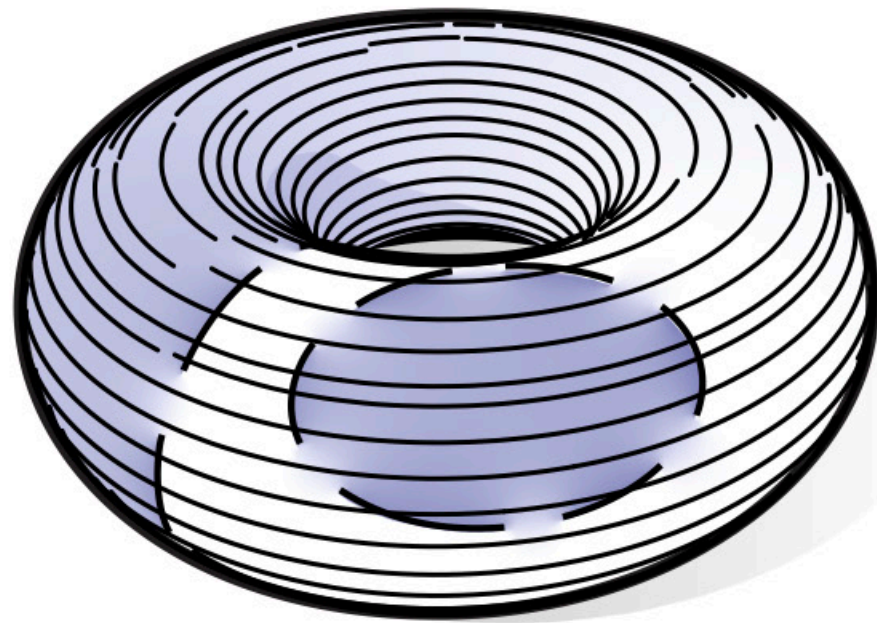
sparse $|F| \times |F|$ linear Poisson system

Use harmonic vector field to decompose curve



harmonic field

Use harmonic vector field to decompose curve



harmonic field

integrate w/ jumps



residual function

Linear program for the residual

penalize jumps

smaller penalty across Γ

$$\min_{v: M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}} \int |\text{the jumps not across } \Gamma| + \varepsilon \int |\text{the jumps across } \Gamma|$$

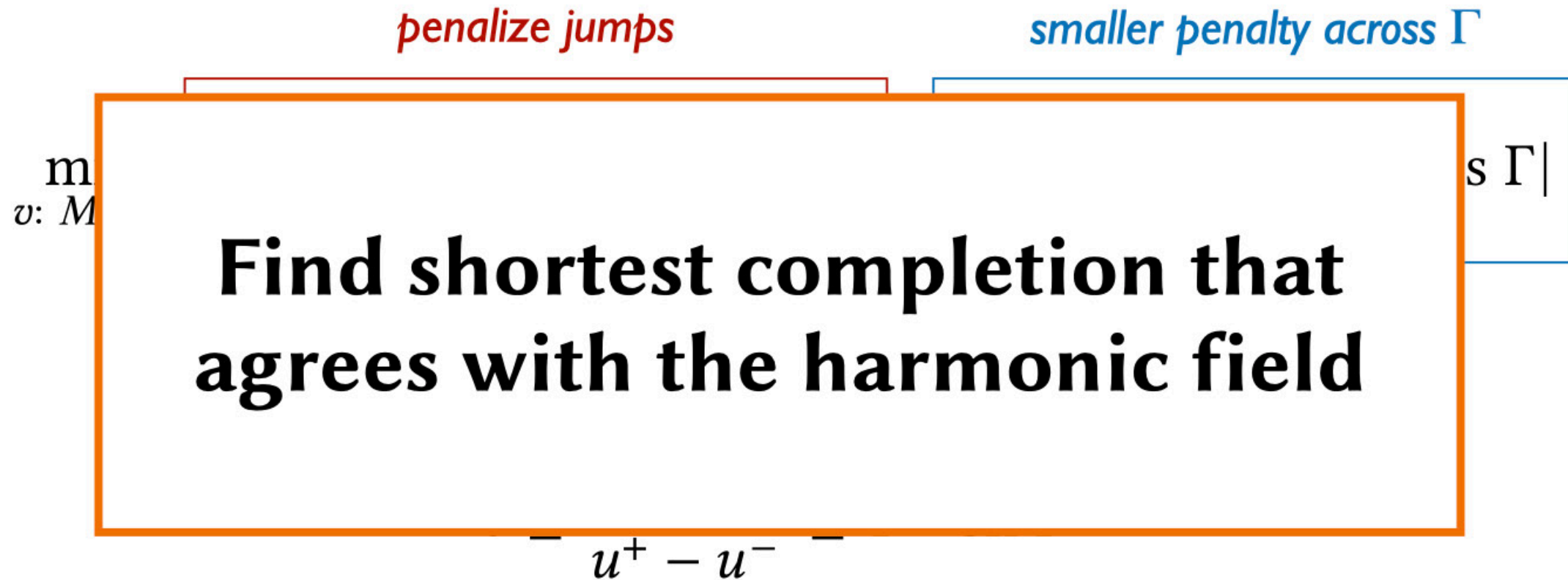
subject to

$$\mathcal{D}v = \gamma$$

(co)homology constraint

$$0 \leq \frac{v^+ - v^-}{u^+ - u^-} \leq 1 \quad \text{on } \Gamma \quad \textit{no extra loops}$$

Linear program for the residual

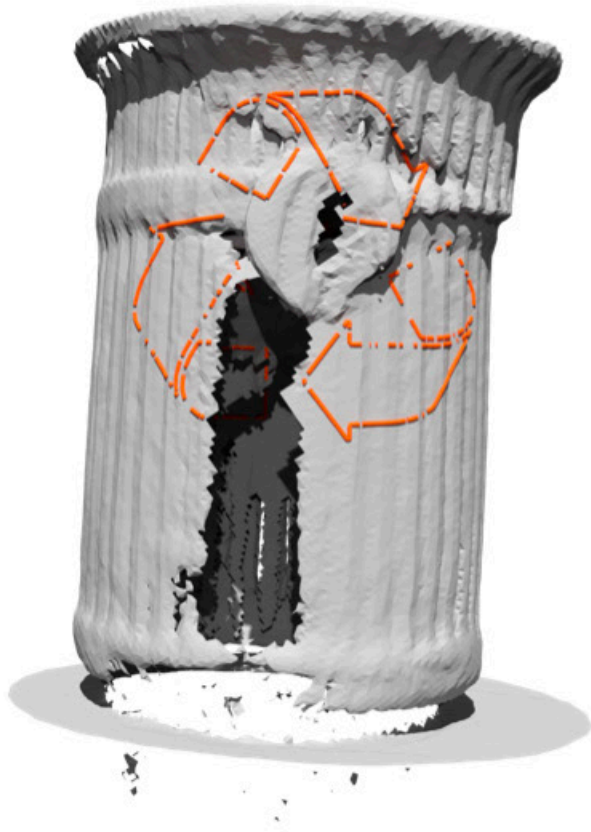


sparse linear program

RESULTS

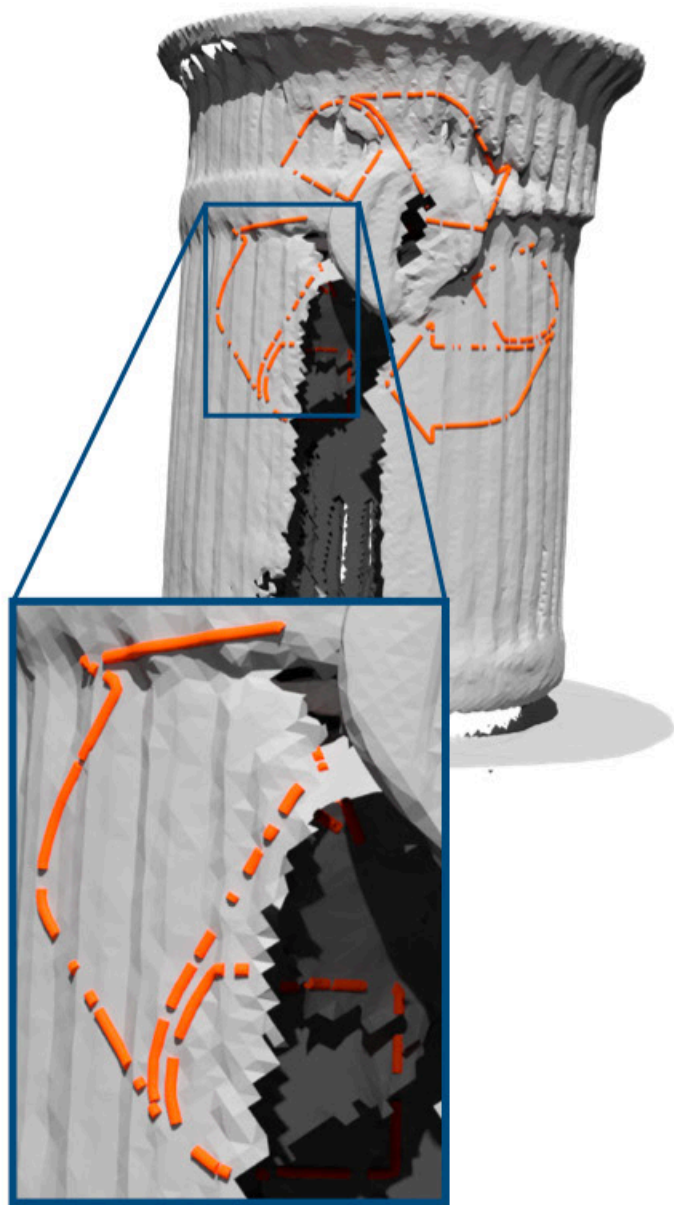
Robustness to defects in both Γ and M

Input



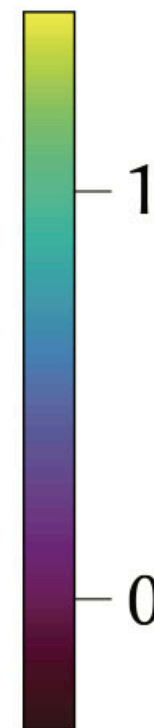
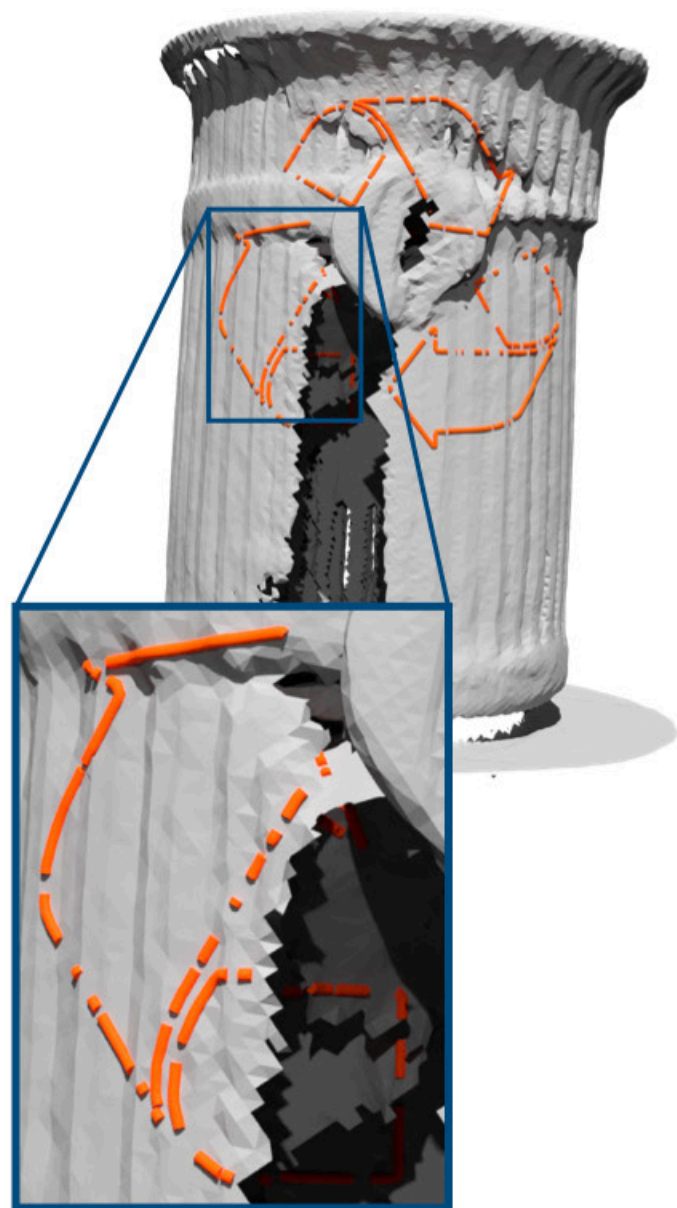
Robustness to defects in both Γ and M

Input



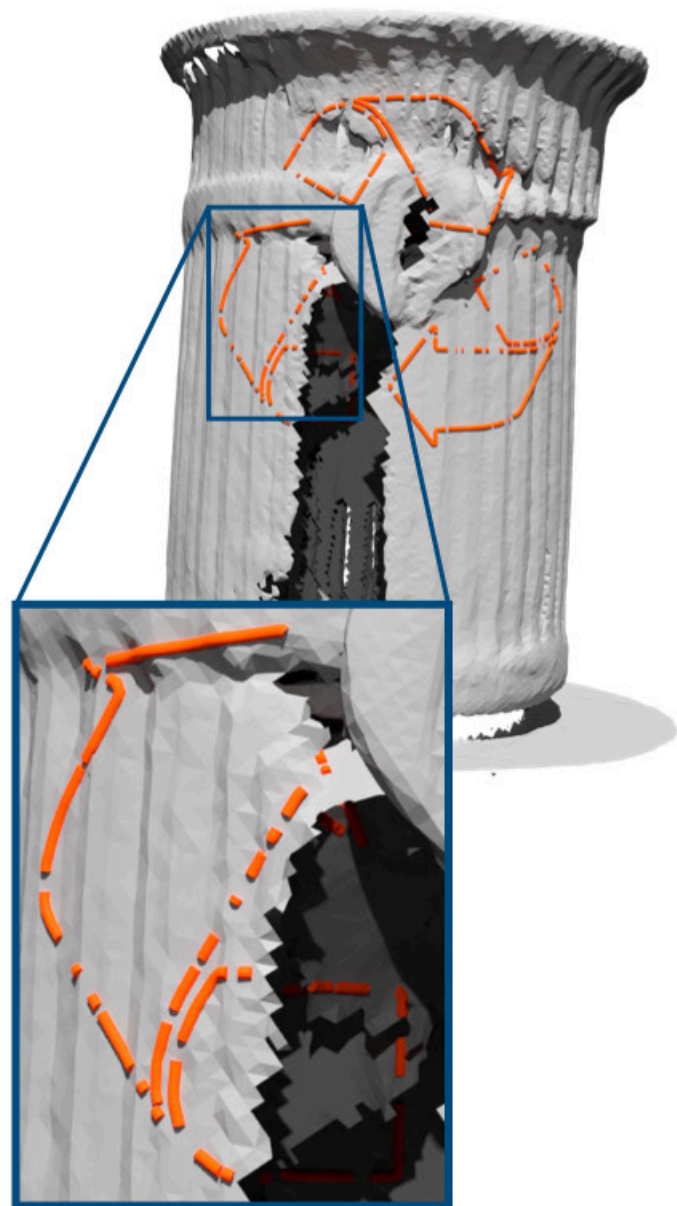
Robustness to defects in both Γ and M

Input

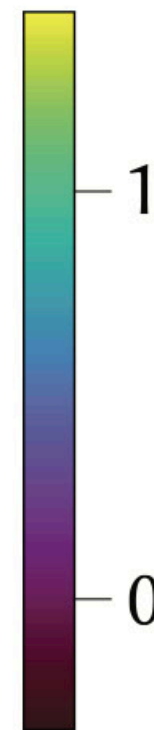


Robustness to defects in both Γ and M

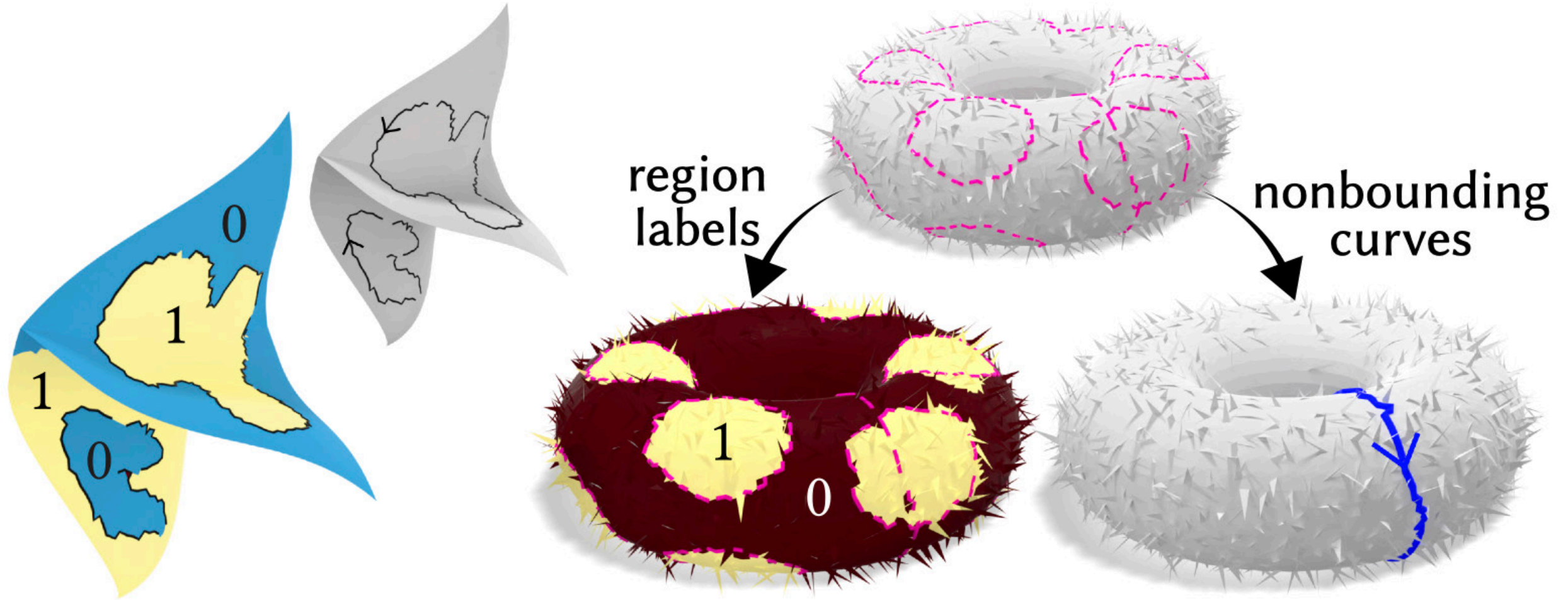
Input



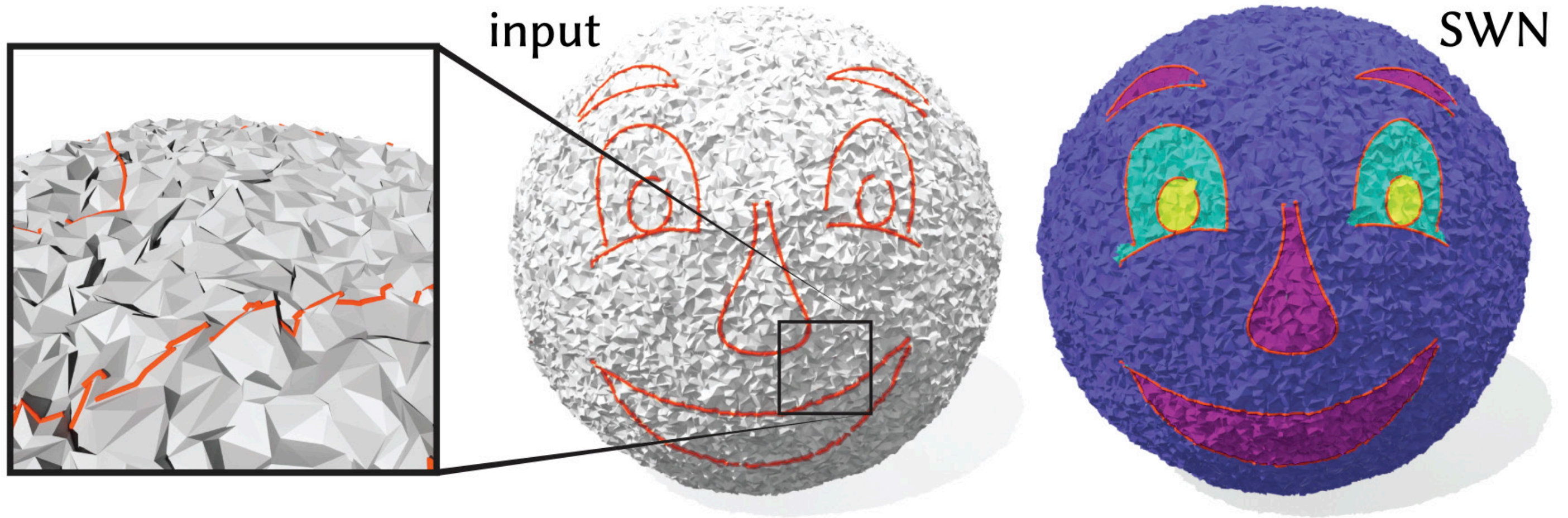
round



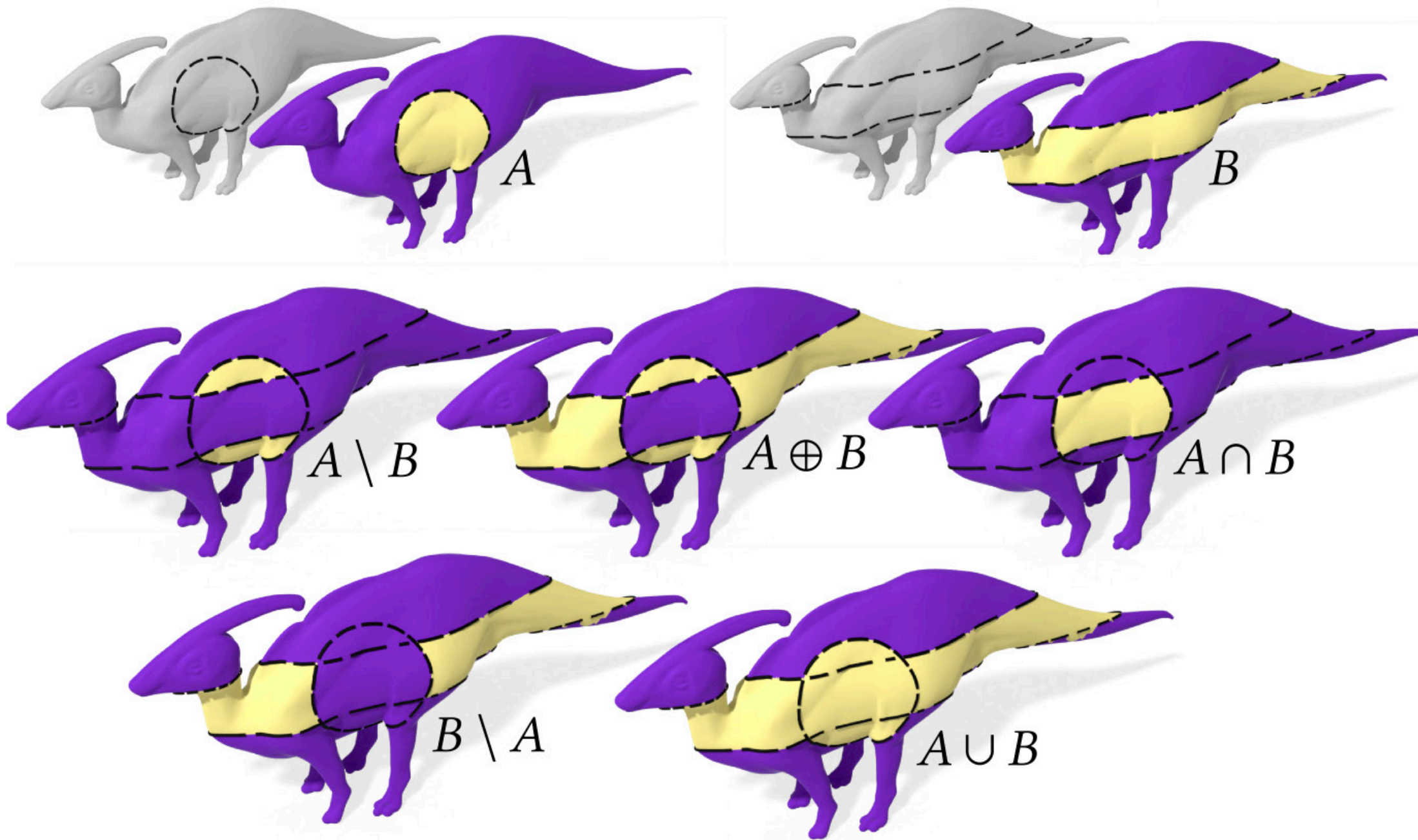
Nonmanifold meshes



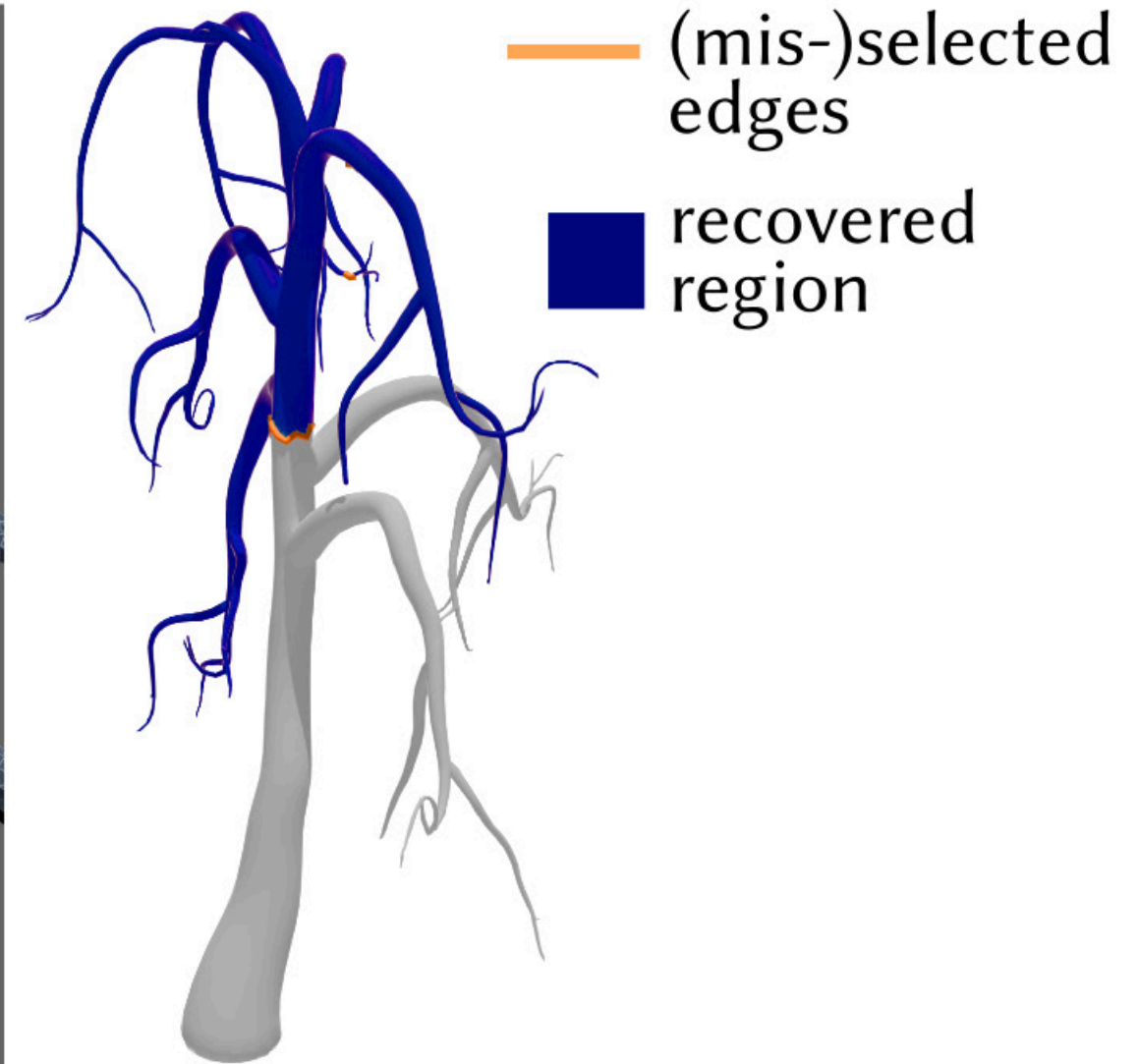
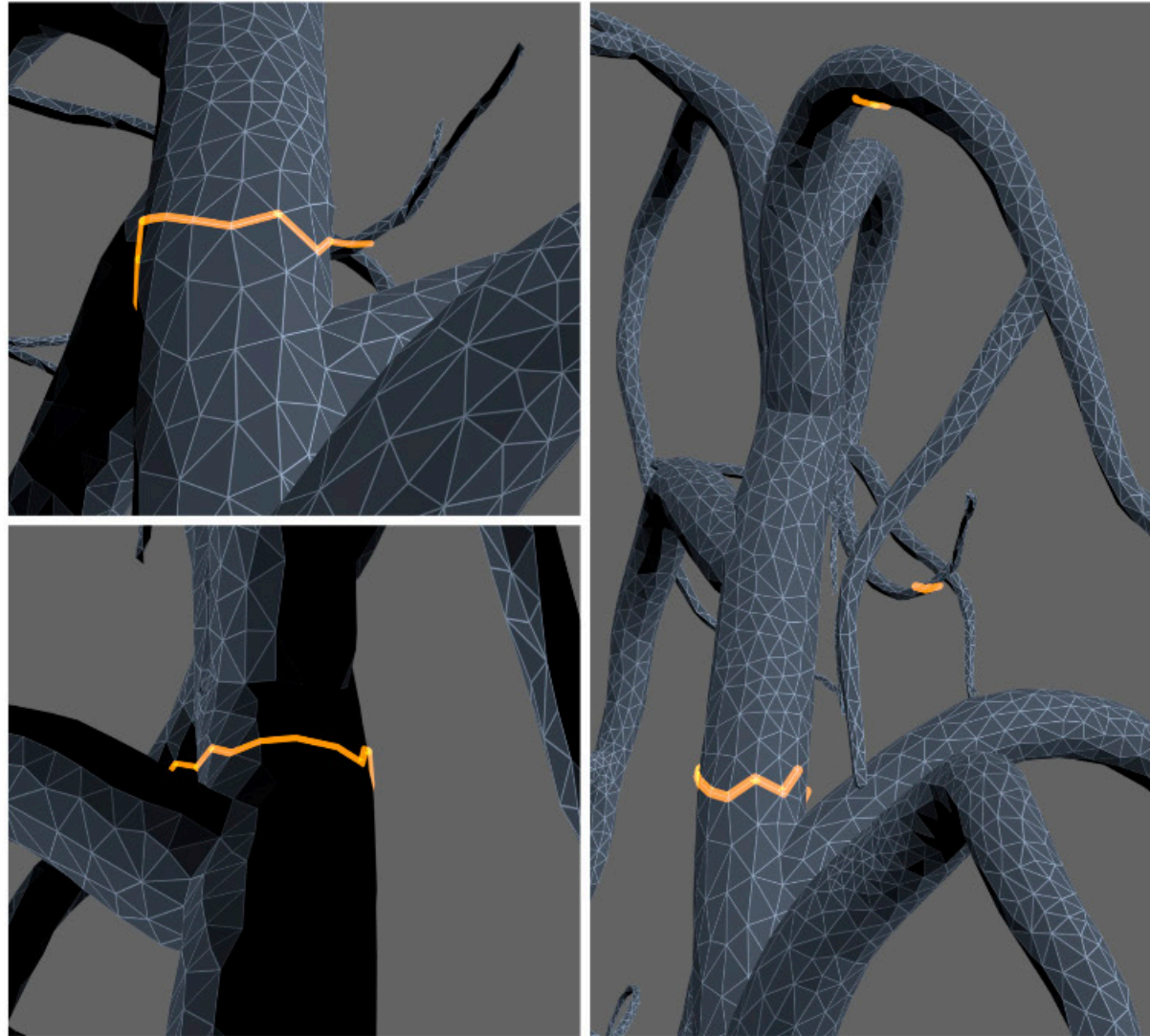
Surface painting



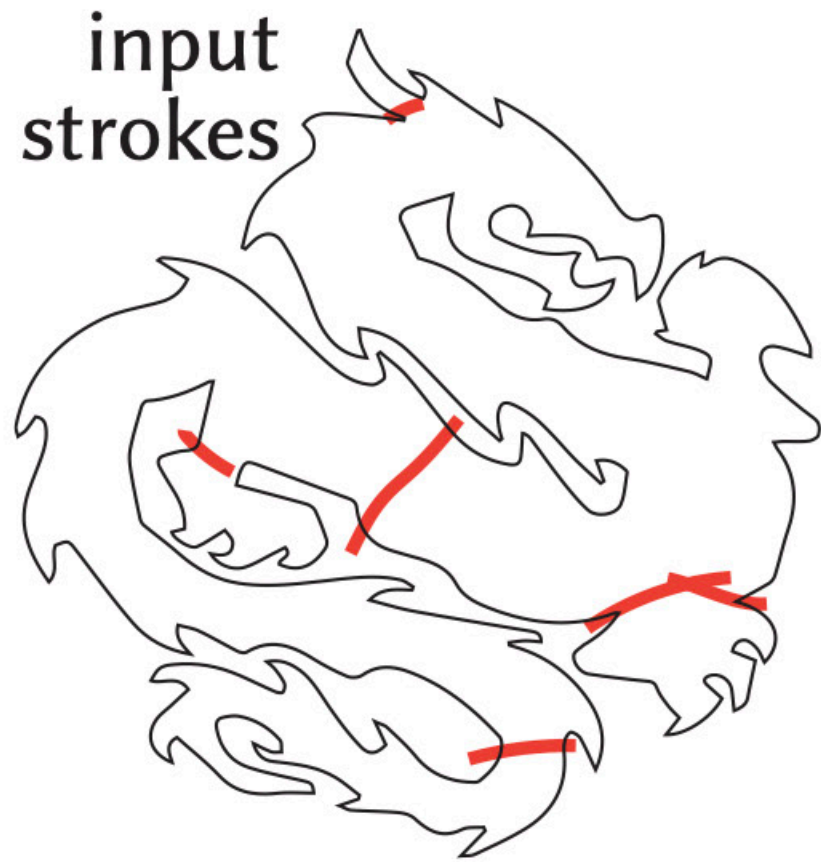
Booleans



Region selection

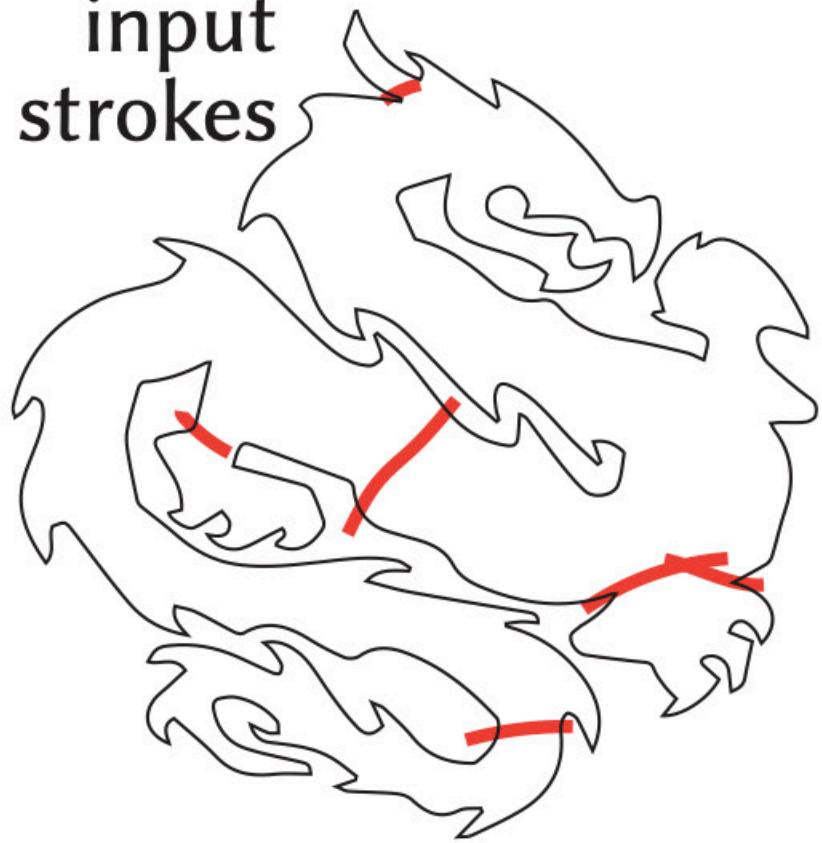


Surface winding numbers are useful even in 2D



Surface winding numbers are useful even in 2D

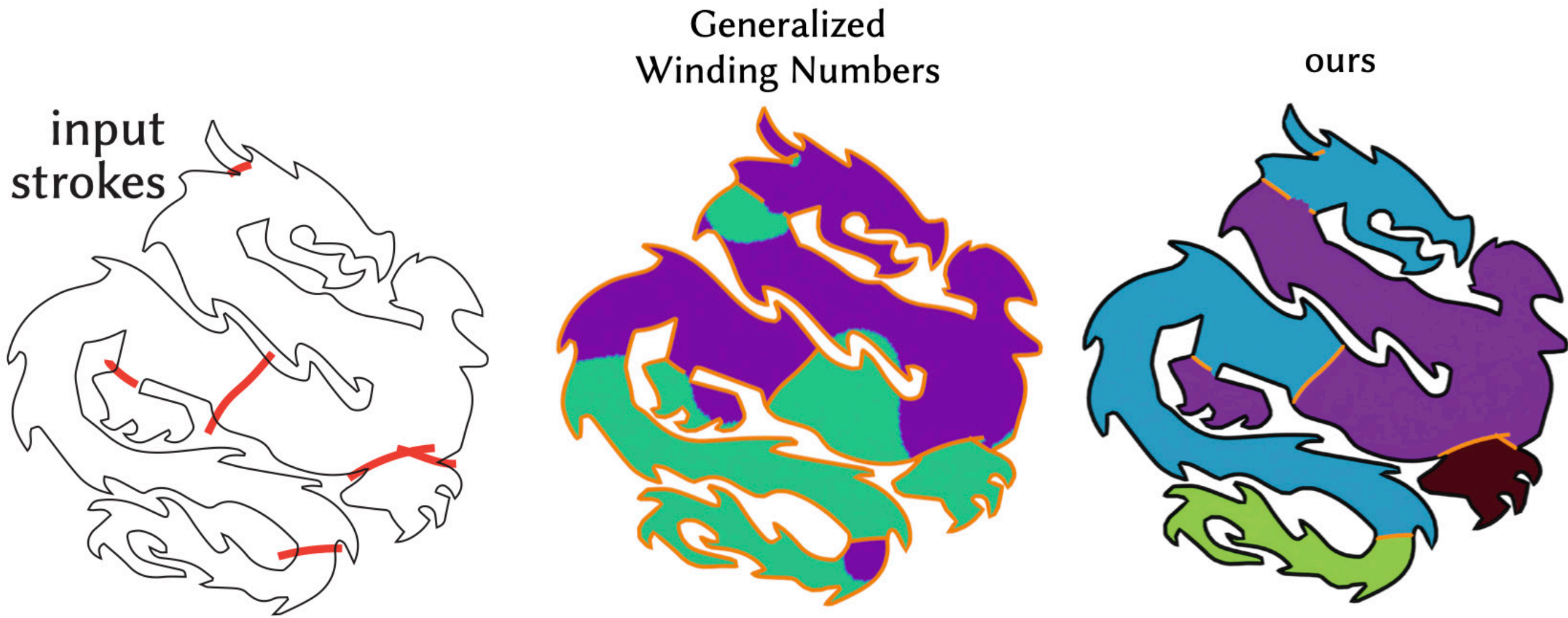
input
strokes



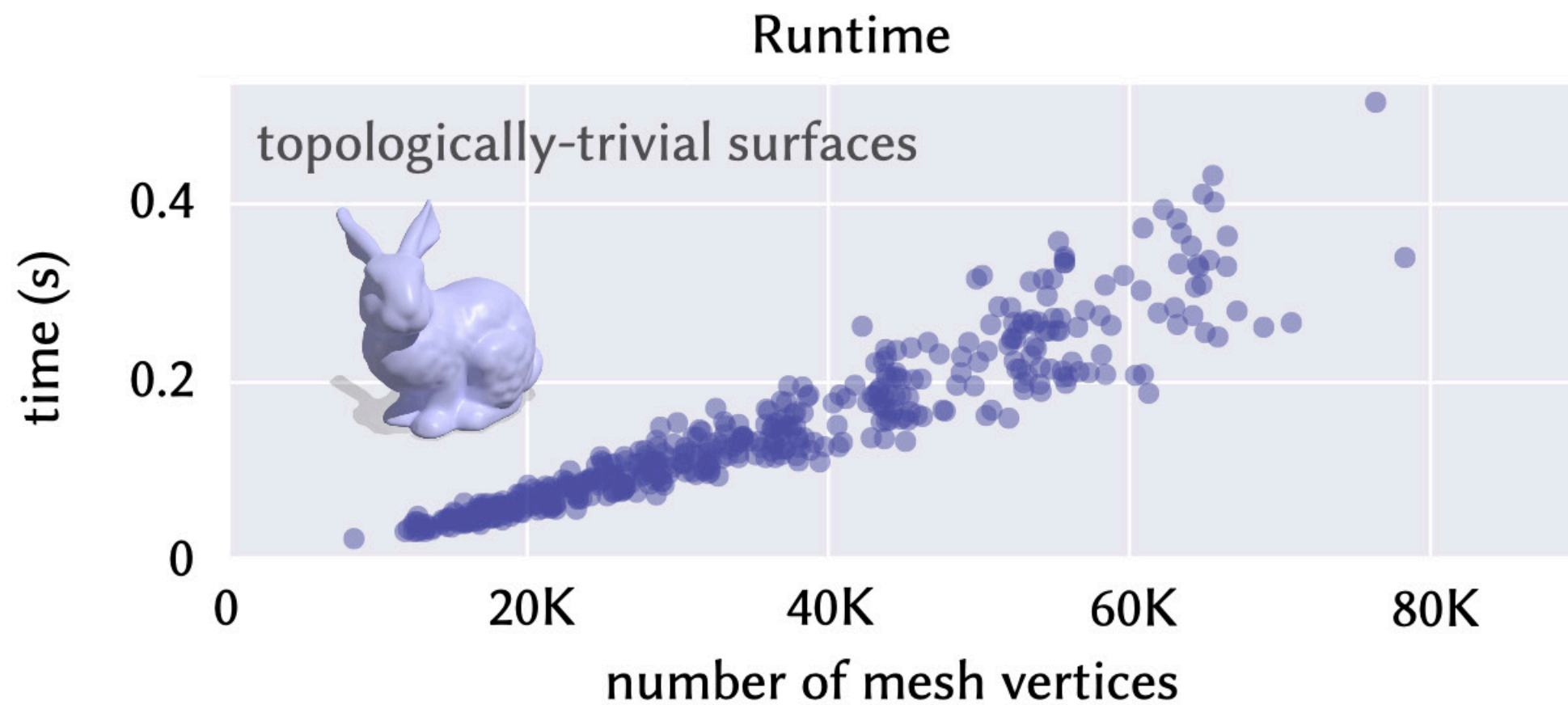
Generalized
Winding Numbers



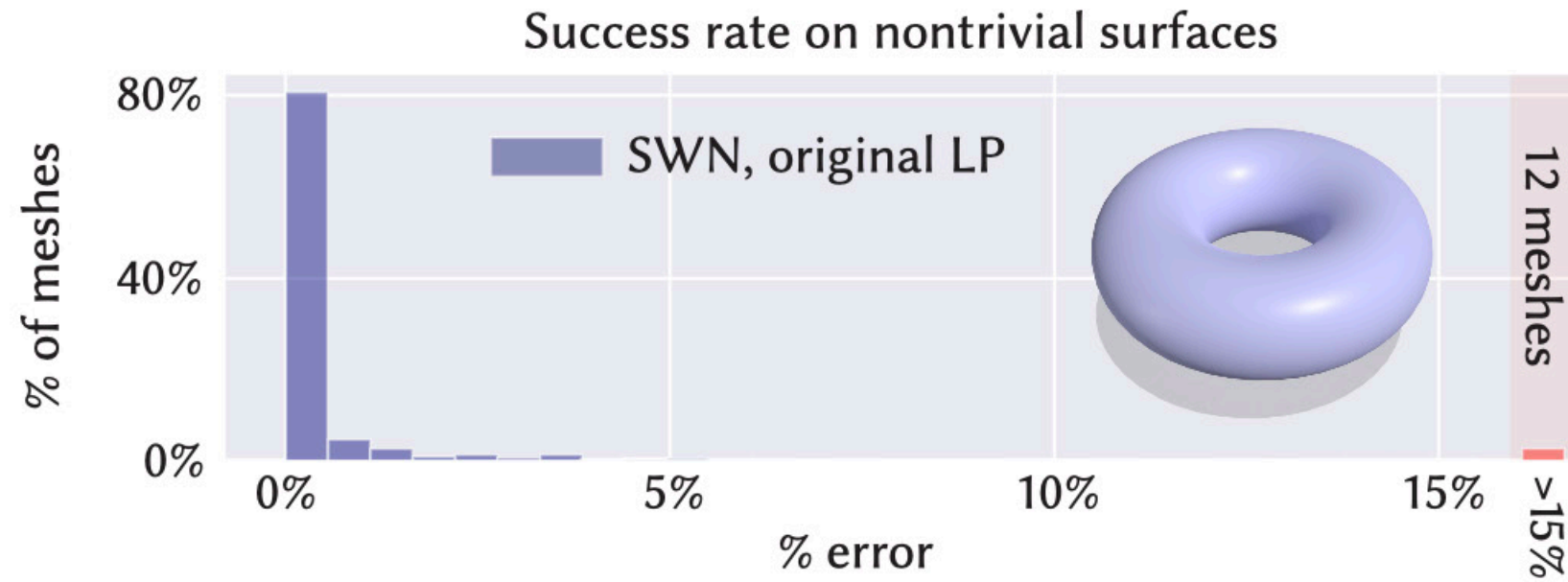
Surface winding numbers are useful even in 2D



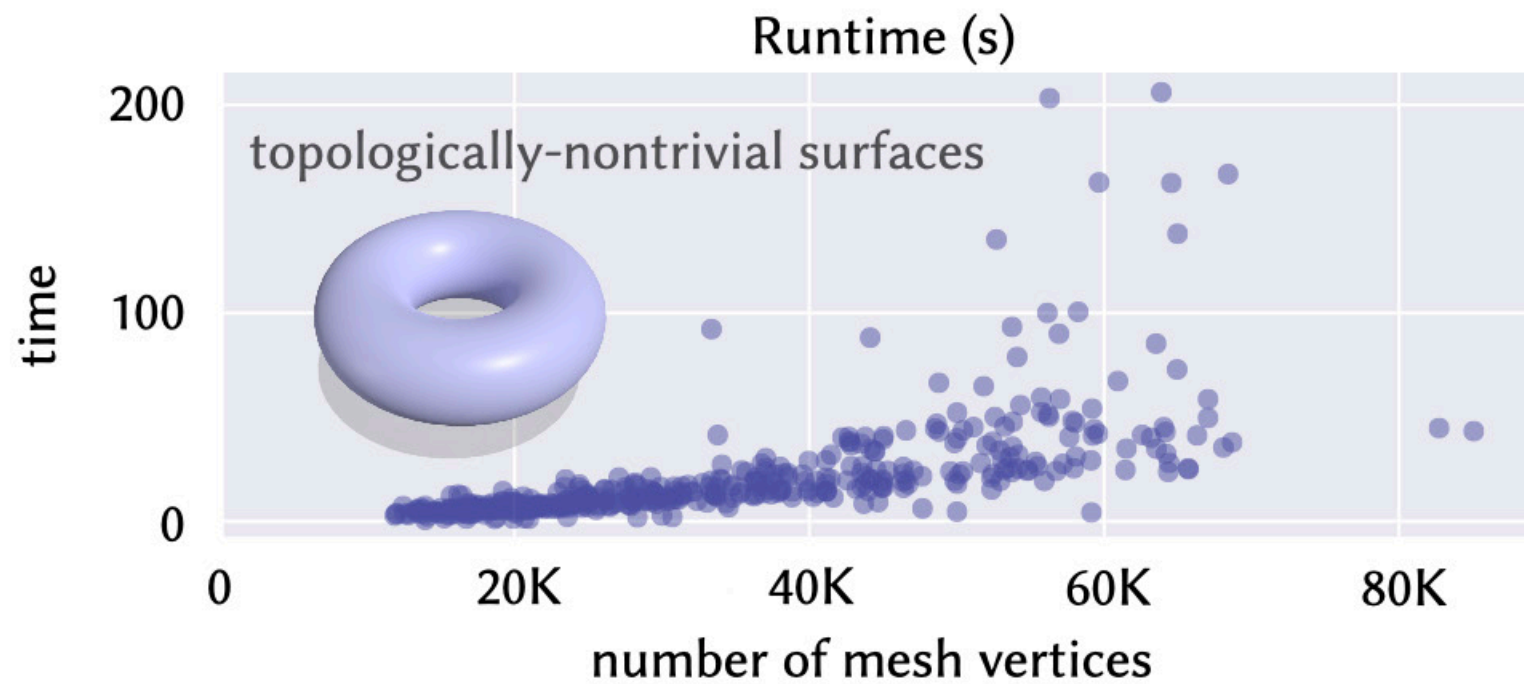
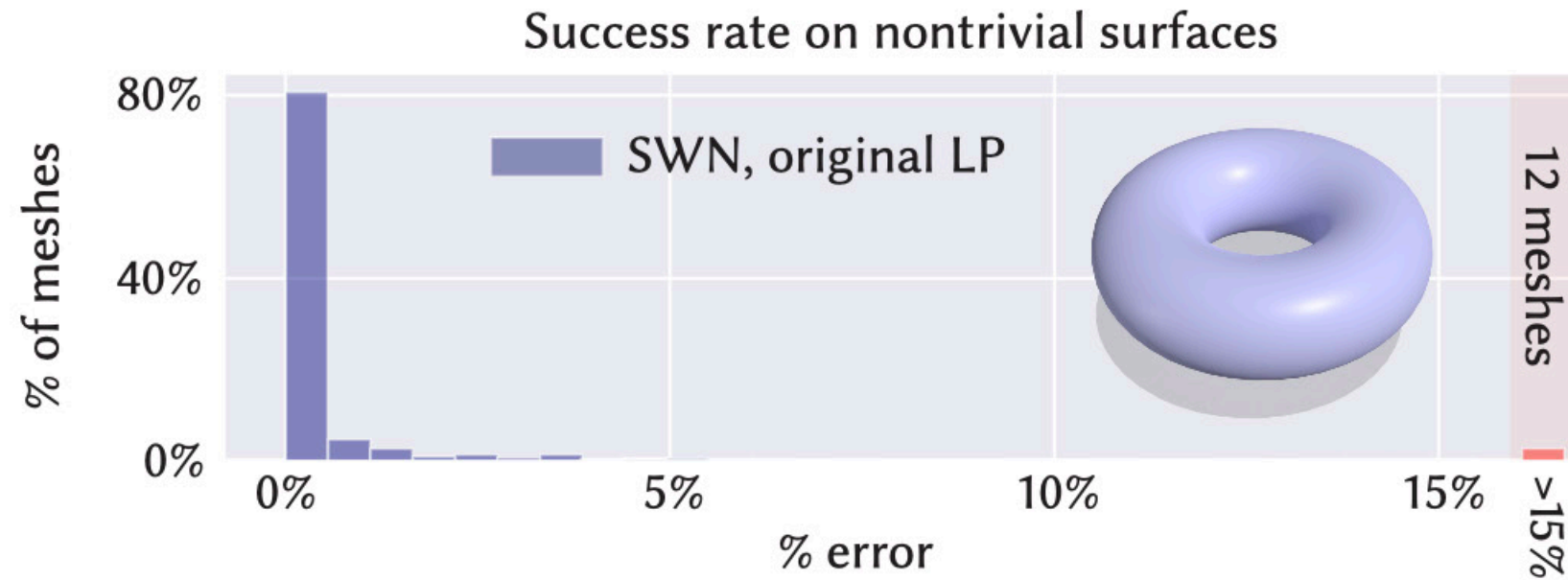
Performance



Performance

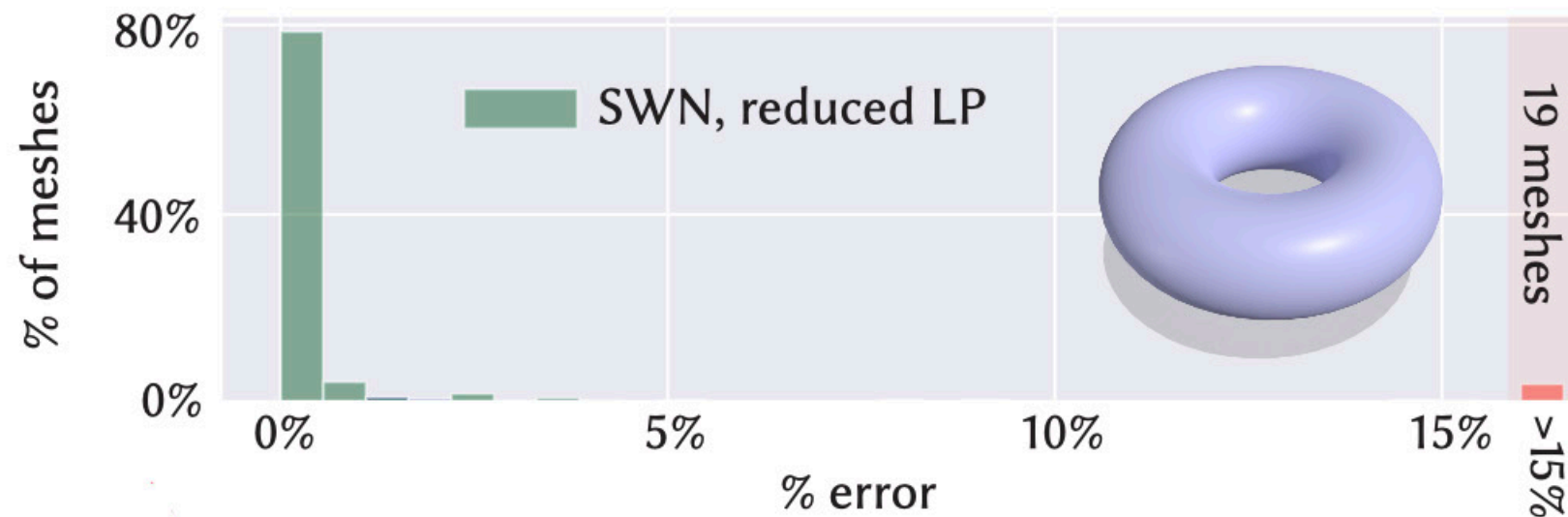


Performance

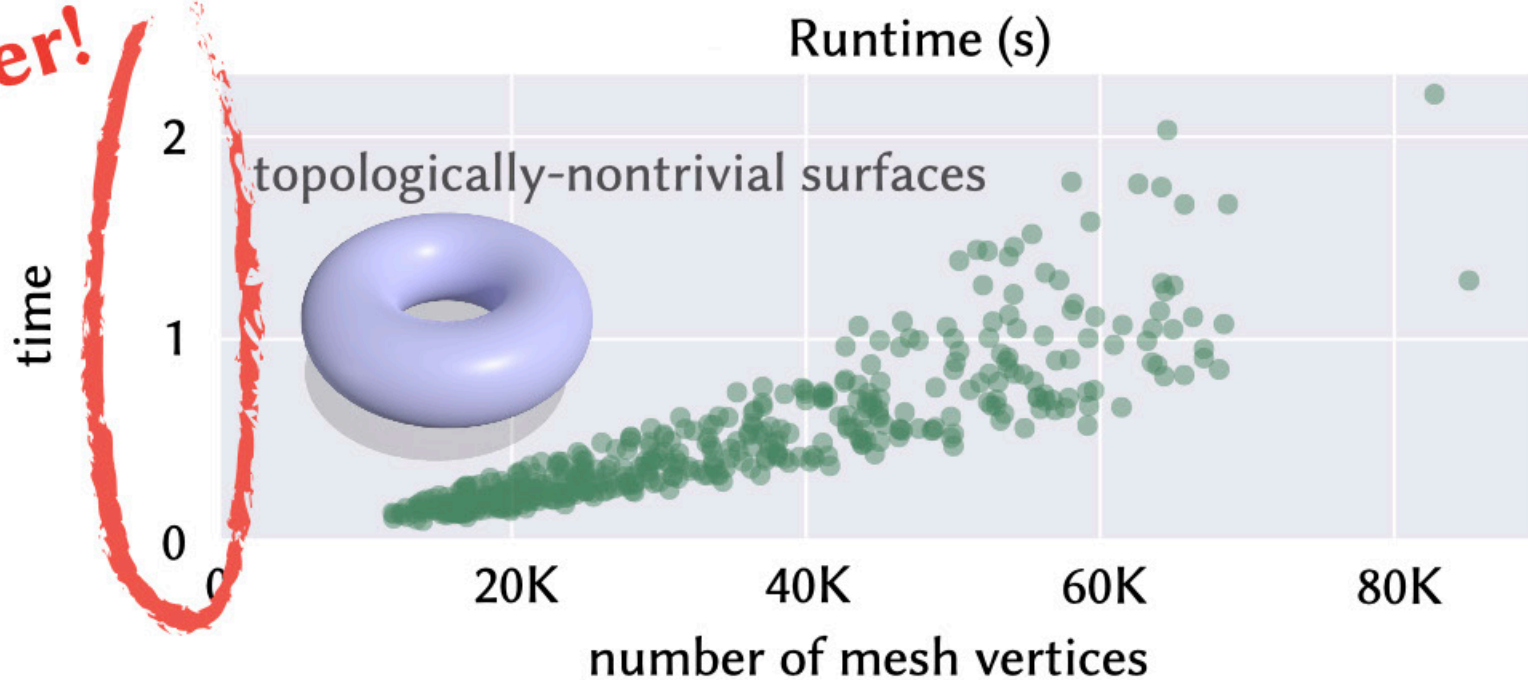


Performance

Success rate on nontrivial surfaces

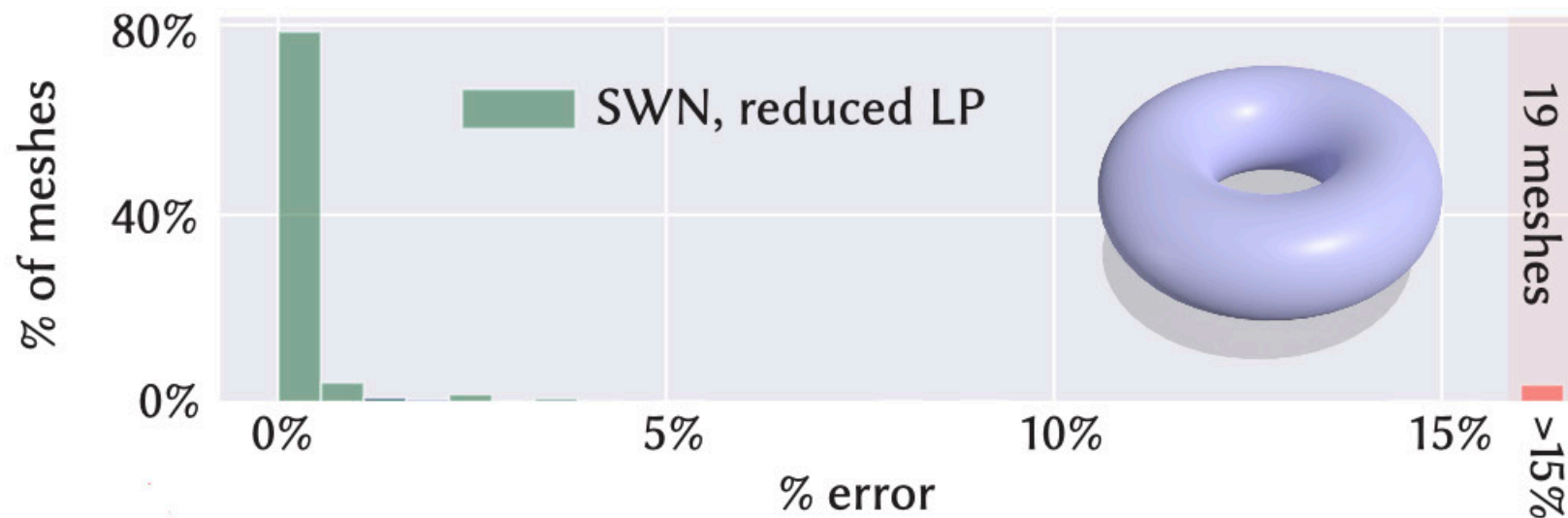


100x faster!

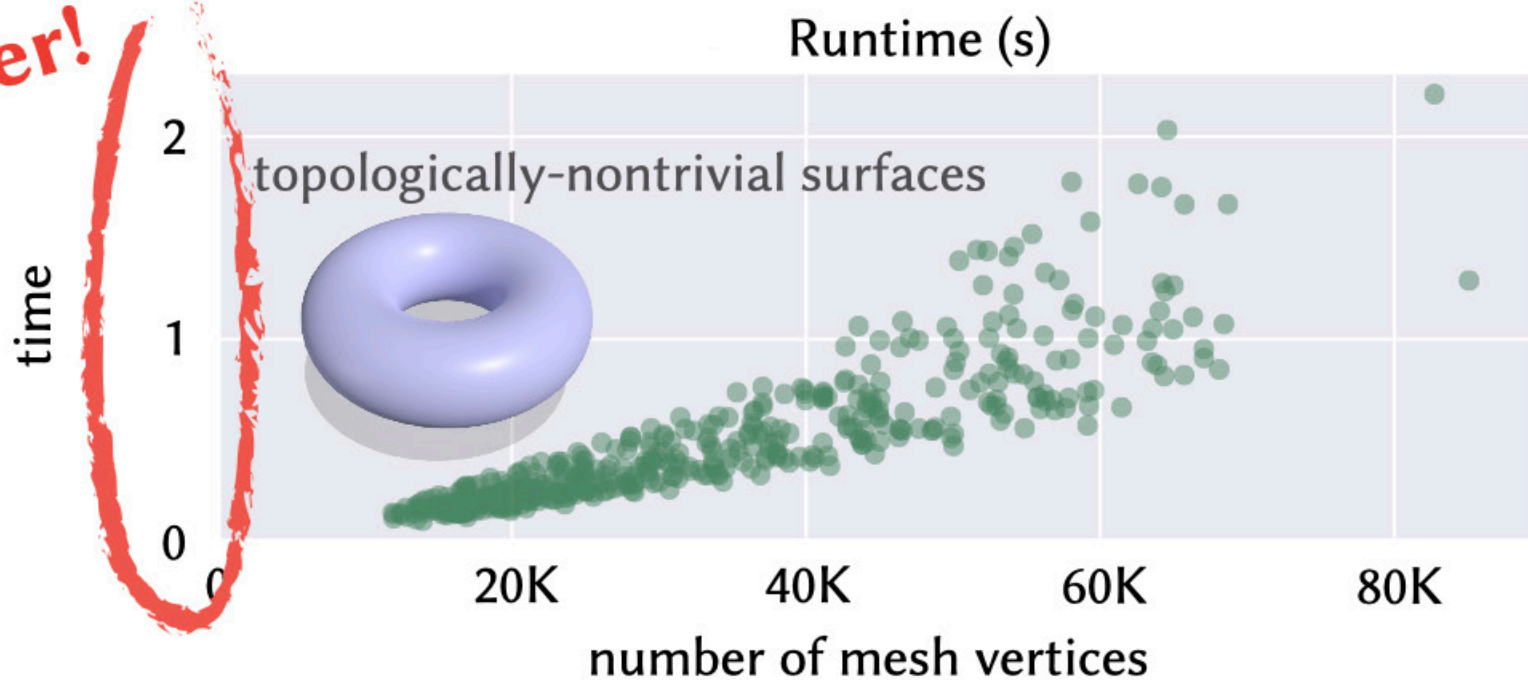


Performance

Success rate on nontrivial surfaces



100x faster!



nzfeng.github.io

CONCLUSION

Theory

Theory



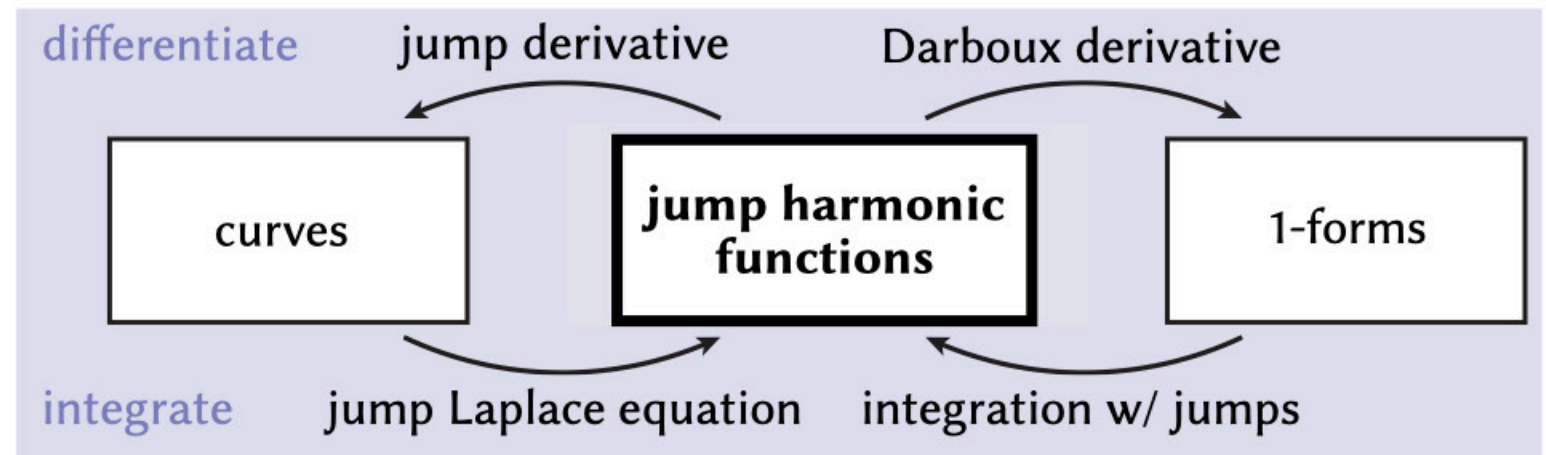
Cohomology \rightarrow robust homological
geometry processing

Theory



Cohomology \rightarrow robust homological geometry processing

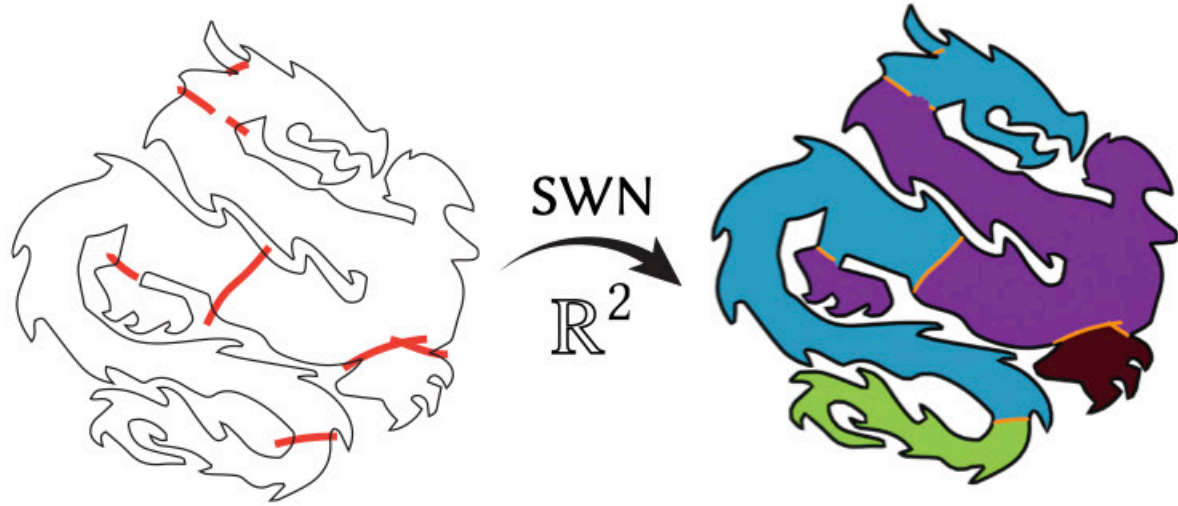
Duality between curves and 1-forms \rightarrow jump harmonic functions to translate between the two



Fun future directions

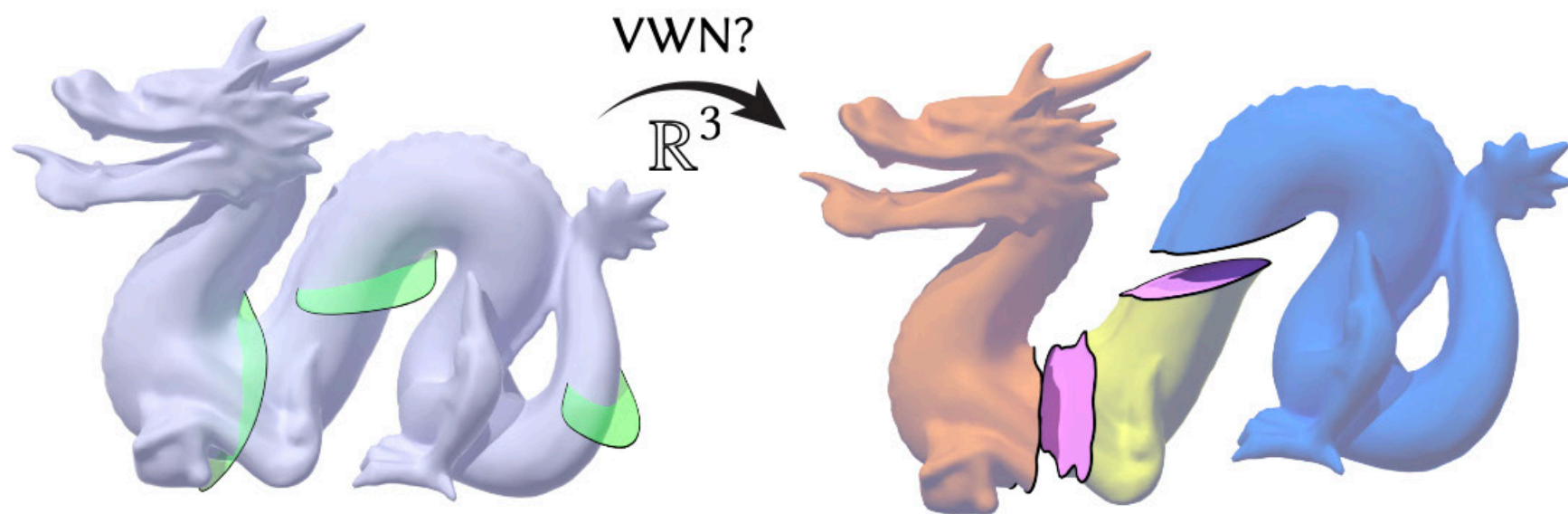
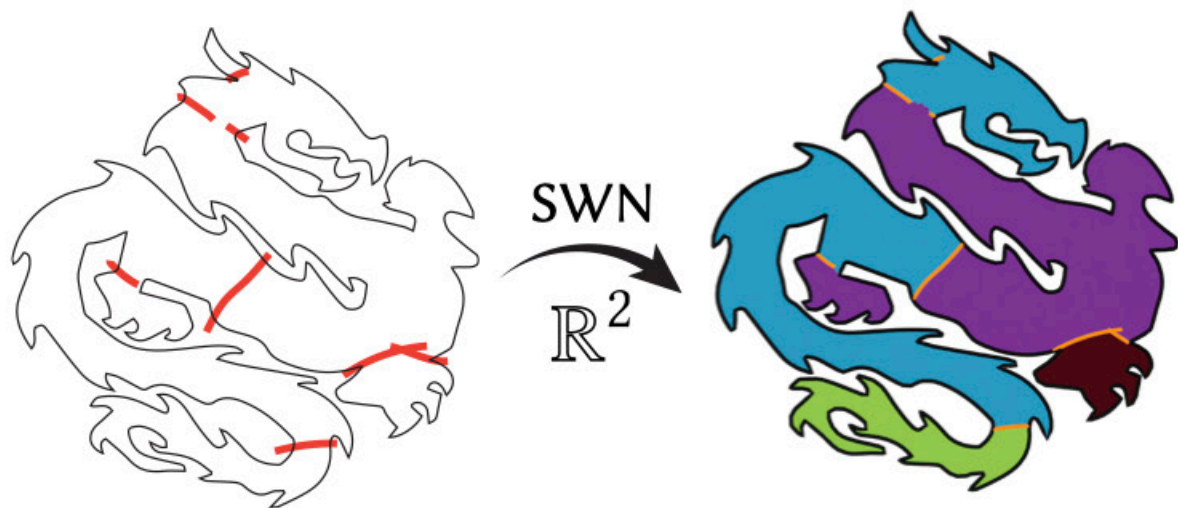
Fun future directions

Subsets of \mathbb{R}^n :



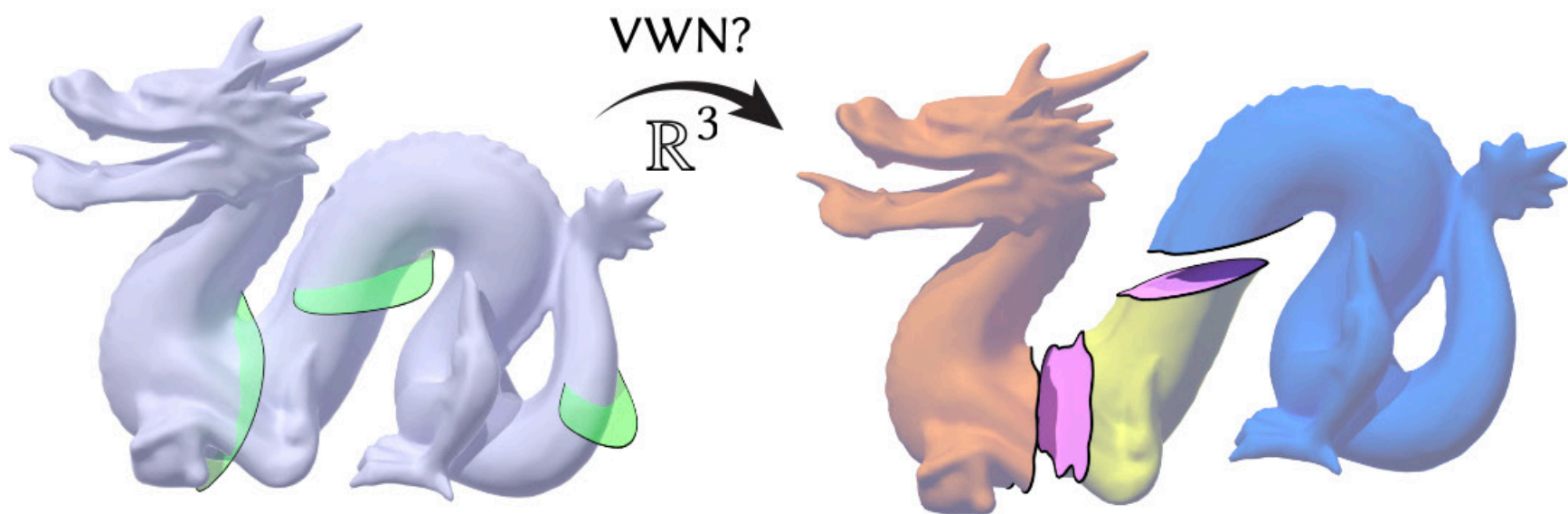
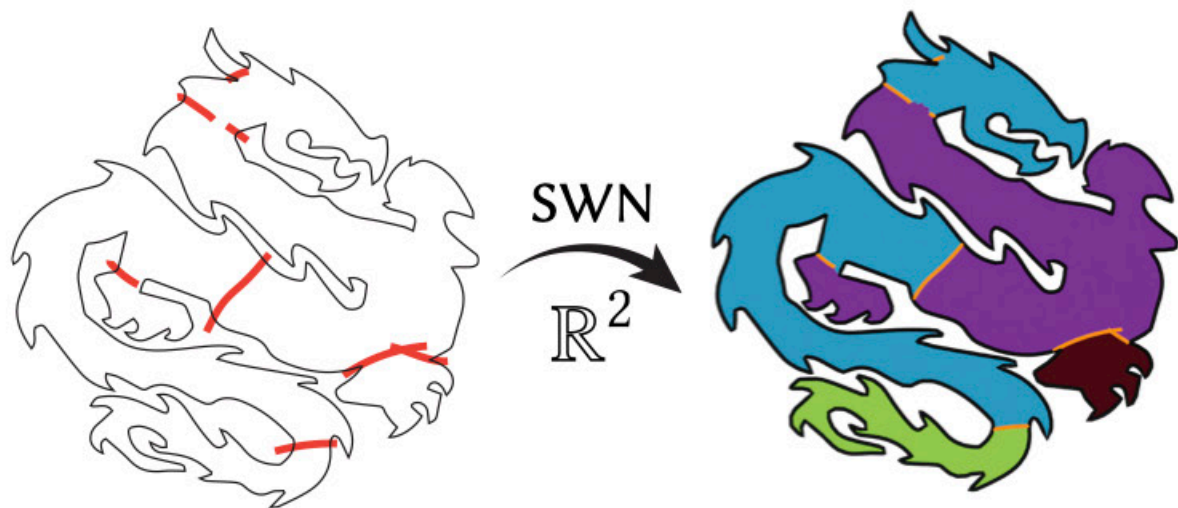
Fun future directions

Subsets of \mathbb{R}^n :

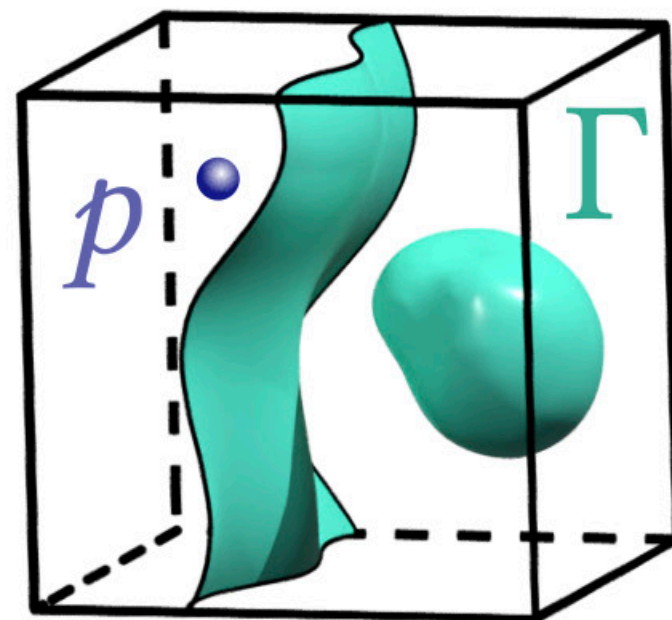


Fun future directions

Subsets of \mathbb{R}^n :



Extension of SWN to higher dimensions,
e.g. periodic domains in 3D.



THANKS!

