

# Delaunay-type structures for manifolds

Jean-Daniel Boissonnat

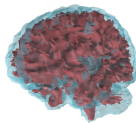
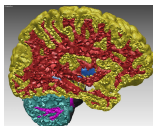
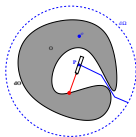
GEOMETRICA  
INRIA Sophia-Antipolis

Workshop on Applied and Computational Topology ATMCS 5  
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- 1 Delaunay triangulation and surface mesh generation
- 2 Stability of Delaunay triangulations
- 3 Approximating Riemannian Delaunay triangulations
- 4 Bypassing the curse of dimensionality

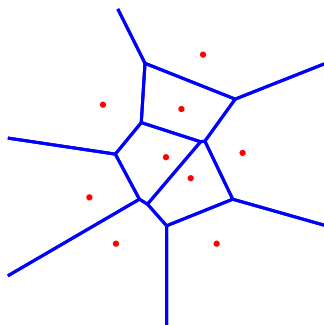
# Meshing surfaces and 3D domains

- visualization and graphics applications
- CAD and reverse engineering
- geometric modelling in medicine, geology, biology etc.
- autonomous exploration and mapping (SLAM)
- scientific computing : meshes for FEM



# Voronoi diagram and Delaunay triangulation

$P$  a finite set of points in  $\mathbb{R}^d$



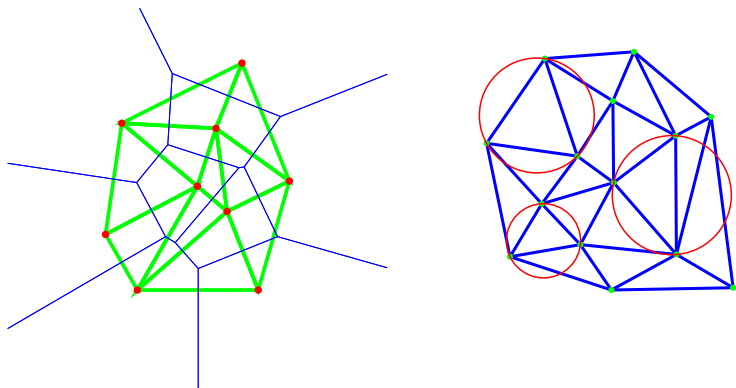
Voronoi cell

$$V(p_i) = \{x : \|x - p_i\| \leq \|x - p_j\|, \forall j\}$$

Voronoi diagram

$$\text{Vor}(P) = \{ \text{cells } V(p_i) \text{ and their faces, } p_i \in P \}$$

# Voronoi diagram and Delaunay triangulation



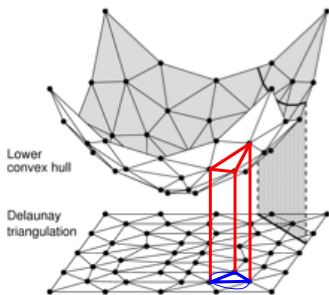
Delaunay triangulation :  $\text{Del}(P) = \text{nerve of Vor}(P)$

$\text{Del}(P)$  can also be defined as the set of simplices with an **empty circumscribing ball**

## Delaunay's fundamental result

[1934]

$\text{Del}(P)$  is a simplicial complex embedded in  $\mathbb{R}^d$  if  $P$  is in **general position** (i.e. no  $d + 2$  points on a same sphere)

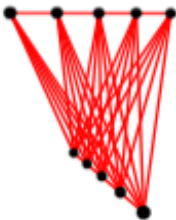


Lifting map :  $x \in \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow (x, x^2) \in \mathbb{R}^{d+1}$

## Upper Bound Theorem

[Mc Mullen 1970]

$$\# \text{ faces of Del (P)} = \Theta \left( |P|^{\lfloor \frac{d+1}{2} \rfloor} \right)$$



(Place P on the moment curve  $\{(t, t^2, \dots, t^{d+1}), t \in \mathbb{R}\}$ )

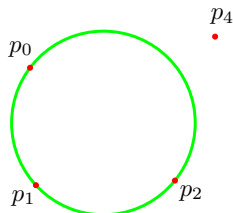
# Algorithms

- Complexity :  $\Theta(n \log n + n^{\lfloor \frac{d+1}{2} \rfloor})$

[Clarkson & Shor 1989]

[Chazelle 1992]

- Predicate :



$$\text{insphere}(p_0, \dots, p_{d+1}) = \text{sign} \begin{vmatrix} 1 & \dots & 1 \\ p_0 & \dots & p_{d+1} \\ p_0^2 & \dots & p_{d+1}^2 \end{vmatrix}$$

- CGAL : 8.5s for  $10^6$  points in  $\mathbb{R}^3$

(64 bit Intel Xeon 3 GHz)

## A European consortium

ETH Zurich, INRIA Sophia Antipolis, MPI Saarbrucken,  
Tel Aviv University...

## A 15 years development project

- 600.000 lines of code
- 3 000 pages of doc
- 45 men-years
- 50 developers

## Widely used for teaching, research and industry

- used in astrophysics, medicine, biology, geosciences, image processing, scientific computing etc.
- 10 000 downloads per year, 800 users
- startup GeometryFactory

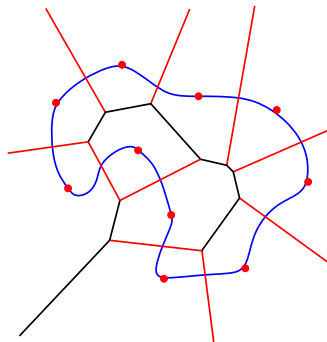
## Definition

$\mathcal{M}$  a submanifold of  $\mathbb{R}^d$   $P \subset \mathcal{M}$

$\text{Vor}_{|\mathcal{M}}(P)$  = restriction of  $\text{Vor}(P)$  to  $\mathcal{M}$

The **Delaunay triangulation restricted to  $\mathcal{M}$**   $\text{Del}_{|\mathcal{M}}(P)$  is the nerve of  $\text{Vor}_{|\mathcal{M}}(P)$

Equivalently,  $\text{Del}_{|\mathcal{M}}(P)$  is the set of simplices of  $\text{Del}(P)$  with an empty circumscribing ball centered on  $\mathcal{M}$



If  $P$  is in general position,  $\text{Del}_{|\mathcal{M}}(P)$  is a simplicial complex embedded in  $\mathbb{R}^d$

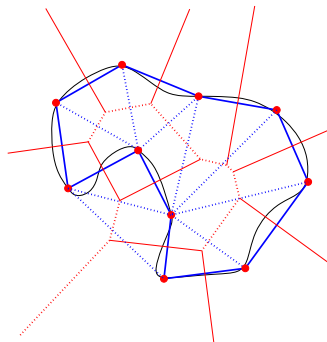
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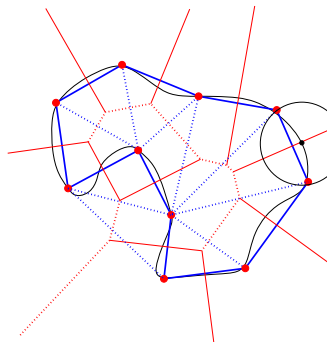
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# A variant of the nerve theorem

**Theorem** [Edelsbrunner & Shah 1997]

If  $\mathcal{M}$  is compact and without boundary and if, for any face  $f \in \text{Vor}_{\mathbb{R}^S}(\mathbf{P})$ ,

- 1  $f$  intersects  $\mathcal{M}$  transversally
- 2  $f \cap \mathcal{M} = \emptyset$  or is a topological ball of the right dimension

then  $\text{Del}_{\mathcal{M}}(\mathbf{P}) \approx \mathcal{M}$



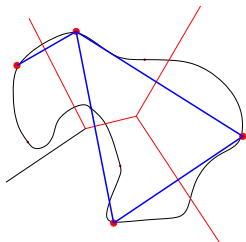
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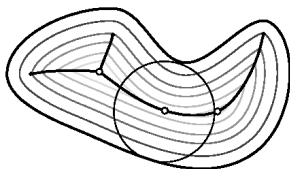


**Medial axis of  $\mathcal{M}$  :  $\text{Med}(\mathcal{M})$**

set of points with at least two closest points on  $\mathcal{M}$

**Reach :  $\text{rch}(x)$**

$\forall x \in \mathcal{M}$ ,  $\text{rch}(x)$  = infimum of the radii of the medial balls at  $x$



$\epsilon$ -sample of  $\mathcal{M}$  ( $\epsilon$ -covering)

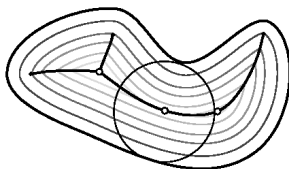
$\mathcal{P} \subset \mathcal{M}$ ,  $\forall x \in \mathcal{M}$  :  $d(x, \mathcal{P}) \leq \epsilon \text{rch}(x)$

**Medial axis of  $\mathcal{M}$  :  $\text{Med}(\mathcal{M})$**

set of points with at least two closest points on  $\mathcal{M}$

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**$\epsilon$ -sample of  $\mathcal{M}$  ( $\epsilon$ -covering)**

$$\mathcal{P} \subset \mathcal{M}, \forall x \in \mathcal{M} : d(x, \mathcal{P}) \leq \epsilon \text{rch}(x)$$

# Restricted Delaunay triangulations of smooth surfaces

[Amenta et al. 1998-]

$\mathcal{S}$  a  $C^{1,1}$  surface  $\subset \mathbb{R}^3$

$\mathcal{P}$  an  $\varepsilon$ -sample of  $\mathcal{S}$ ,  $\varepsilon \leq 0.12$

- $\text{Del}_{|\mathcal{S}}(\mathcal{P})$  provides good estimates of
  - ▶ normals
  - ▶ areas
  - ▶ curvature

[Cohen-Steiner, Morvan]

- There exists an ambient isotopy  $\phi : \text{Del}_{|\mathcal{S}}(\mathcal{P}) \rightarrow \mathcal{S}$
- $\sup_x (\|\phi(x) - x\|) = O(\varepsilon^2)$

# Surface mesh generation by Delaunay refinement

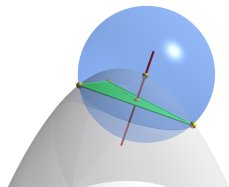
[Chew 1993, B. & Oudot 2003]

$\phi : S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  = Lipschitz function

$$\forall x \in S, 0 < \phi_{\min} \leq \phi(x) < \varepsilon \operatorname{rch}(x)$$

**ORACLE** : For a facet  $f$  of  $\operatorname{Del}_{|S}(\mathcal{P})$ ,  
return  $c_f$ ,  $r_f$  and  $\phi(c_f)$

A facet  $f$  is **bad** if  $r_f > \phi(c_f)$



## Algorithm

INIT compute an initial (small) sample  $\mathcal{P}_0 \subset S$

REPEAT IF  $f$  is a bad facet  
    *insert\_in\_Del3D*( $c_f$ ),  
    *update*  $\mathcal{P}$  and  $\operatorname{Del}_{|S}(\mathcal{P})$

UNTIL all facets are good

# Surface mesh generation by Delaunay refinement

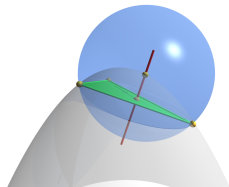
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**UNTIL** all facets are good

# Properties of the algorithm

- The algorithm terminates and produces
  - ▶ guaranteed approximations of surfaces
  - ▶ sparse  $\varepsilon$ -samples
- The algorithm uses a black box model of surfaces
  - ▶ Contouring isosurfaces in 3D images
  - ▶ Mesh generation of volumes bounded by curved surfaces
  - ▶ Multibody mesh generation
  - ▶ Meshing 3D domains with piecewise smooth boundaries
  - ▶ Point set surfaces
- Can be downloaded from the CGAL library (www.cgal.org)

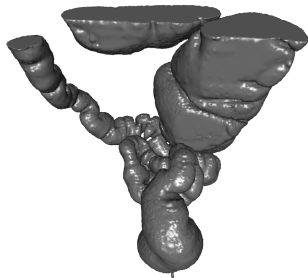
# Meshing 3D domains

Input from segmented 3D medical images

[INSERM]

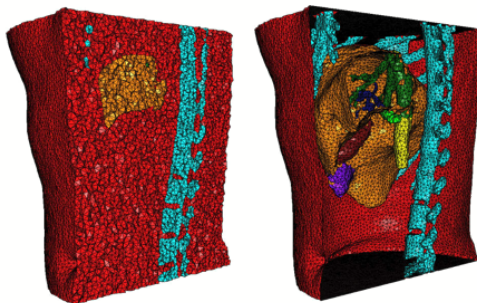


[SIEMENS]



## Meshing 3D multi-domains

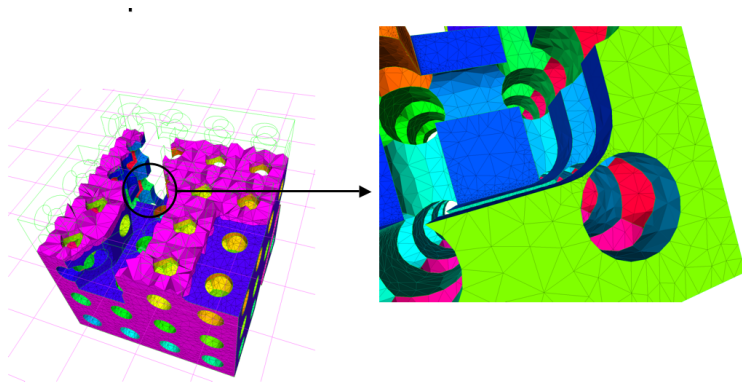
Input from segmented 3D medical images [IRCAD]



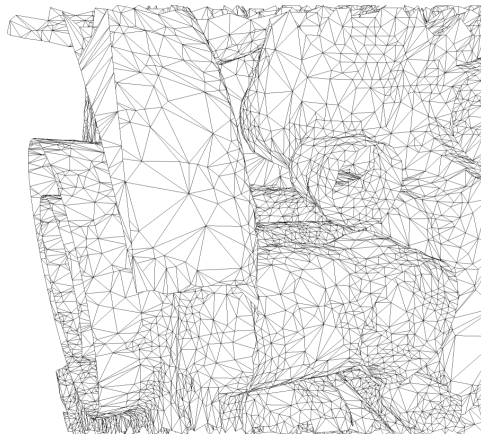
Size bound (mm)	vertices nb	facets nb	tetrahedra nb	CPU Time (s)
16	3,743	3,735	19,886	0.880
8	27,459	19,109	159,120	6.97
4	199,328	76,341	1,209,720	54.1
2	1,533,660	311,420	9,542,295	431

# Meshing with sharp features

A polyhedral example



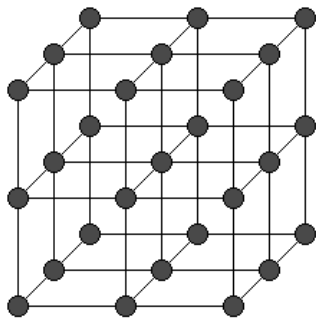
# Reconstruction of surfaces



- $\text{Del}_{|\mathcal{M}}(\mathbf{P})$  usually contains badly shaped simplices (of  $\text{dim} > 2$ )
- $\text{Del}_{|\mathcal{M}}(\mathbf{P})$  relies on the Euclidean metric
- Curse of dimensionality

## Badly-shaped simplices

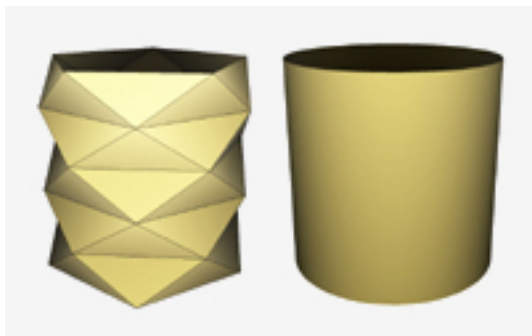
Delaunay Triangulations may contain badly-shaped  $i$ -simplices,  $i > 2$ , even if the vertices are well-spaced



- Each square face can be circumscribed by an empty sphere
- This remains true if the grid points are slightly perturbed therefore creating thin simplices

# Badly-shaped simplices

Badly-shaped simplices lead to bad geometric approximations

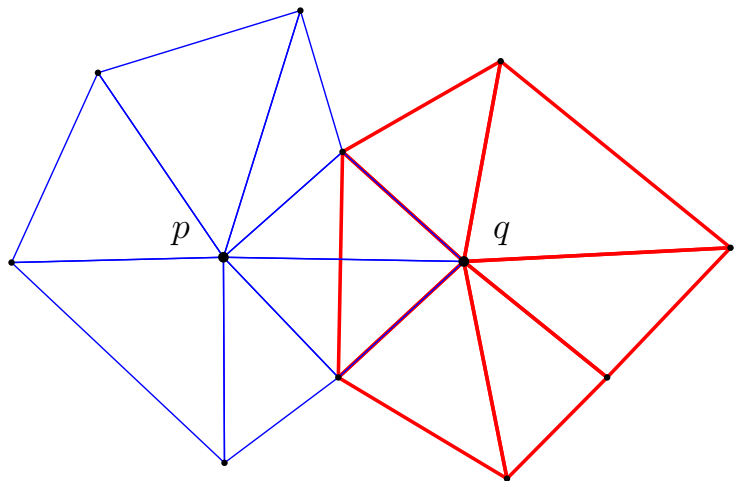


which in turn may lead to topological defects in  $\text{Del}_{|\mathcal{M}}(\mathbf{P})$  [Oudot]

see also [Cairns], [Whitehead], [Munkres], [Whitney]

# Local Delaunay patches

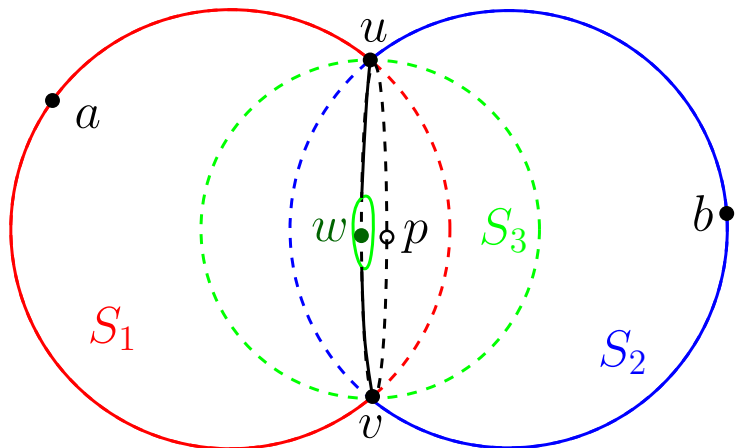
Consistency?



[B., Wormser & Yvinec 2008]; [B. & Ghosh 2010]

# Intrinsic Delaunay triangulations

Existence?



[Leibon and Letscher 2000]; [Oudot 2006]; [B., Dyer and Ghosh 2012]

# The curses of dimensionality

- The combinatorial complexity of DT depends exponentially on  $d$  even if the points lie on a manifold of low dimension

The worst-case may be encountered even if the points lie on a curve, e.g. the moment curve

- The predicates required to construct DT are a polynomial of degree  $d + 2$  in the input coordinates

# Issues

- $\text{Del}_{|\mathcal{M}}(\mathbf{P})$  usually contains badly shaped simplices (of  $\text{dim} > 2$ )
- $\text{Del}_{|\mathcal{M}}(\mathbf{P})$  relies on the Euclidean metric
- Curse of dimensionality

## Approach

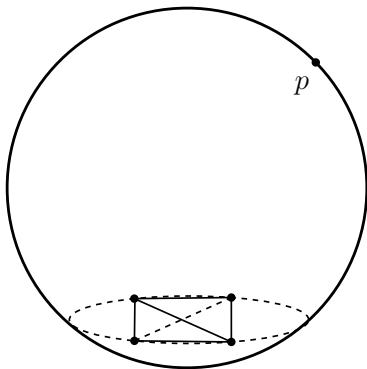
- 1 Introduce local versions of Delaunay triangulations
  - 2 Make them consistent
- ⇒ Stability of DT under perturbations

- 1 Delaunay triangulation and surface mesh generation
- 2 Stability of Delaunay triangulations**
- 3 Approximating Riemannian Delaunay triangulations
- 4 Bypassing the curse of dimensionality

# Degenerate Delaunay simplices

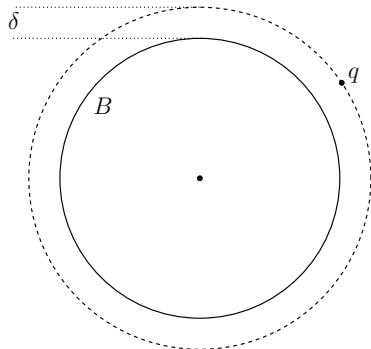
the ultimate slivers

$$P \in \mathbb{R}^d$$



- degenerate Delaunay  $j$ -simplex  $\implies j + 1$  points on a  $(j - 2)$ -sphere
- *always* a face of a degenerate Delaunay  $(m + 1)$ -simplex
- $\implies m + 2$  points on the boundary of a Delaunay ball

# Protection



## Definition (protected)

A simplex  $\sigma$  is *protected* if it has a Delaunay ball  $B$  whose boundary contains no other points from  $P$ .

We say  $\sigma$  is  $\delta$ -*protected* if  $d_{\mathbb{R}^d}(q, \partial B) > \delta$  for all  $q \in P \setminus \sigma$ .

[Funke et al. 2005]

## Definition ( $\delta$ -generic)

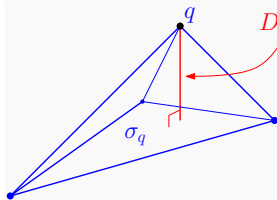
A point set  $P \subset \mathbb{R}^m$  is  $\delta$ -*generic* if the Delaunay  $m$ -simplices are all  $\delta$ -protected.

- guarantees no degenerate  $m$ -simplices
- this definition is uninteresting without a sampling radius,  $\epsilon$
- $\nu_0^{-1} = \epsilon/\delta$  like a condition number

# Quantifying simplex degeneracy

Towards a simplex quality bound

## Altitudes



If  $\sigma_q$ , the face opposite  $q$  in  $\sigma$  is protected, then the *altitude* of  $q$ ,

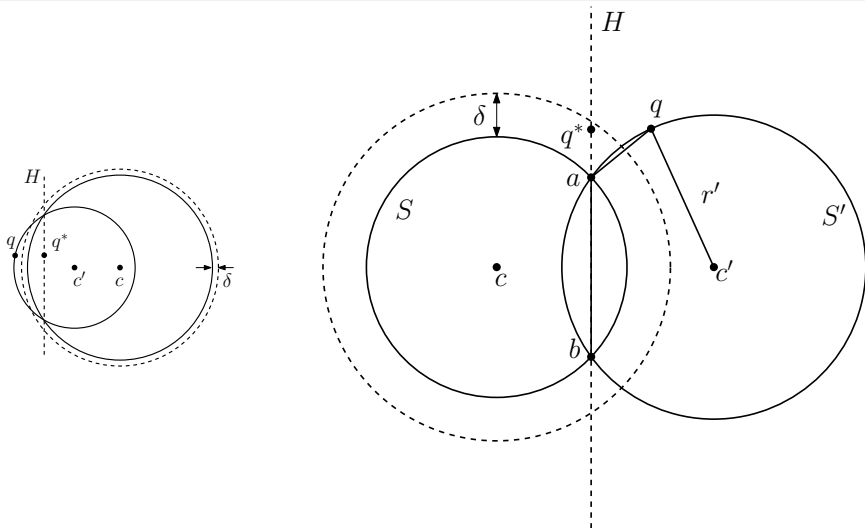
$$D(q, \sigma) = d_{\mathbb{R}^m}(q, \text{aff}(\sigma_q)),$$

is bounded.

Assuming  $\text{aff}(\mathbf{P}) = \mathbb{R}^m$ , and considering only interior simplices:

- If  $\sigma^j$  is a Delaunay  $j$ -simplex, with  $j < m$ , then for any  $q \in \mathbf{P} \setminus \sigma^j$ , there is a Delaunay  $m$ -simplex,  $\sigma^m$ , with  $\sigma^j \leq \sigma^m$  and  $q \notin \sigma^m$ .
- $\implies$  a  $\delta$ -generic point set is  $\delta$ -sparse:  $d_{\mathbb{R}^m}(p, q) > \delta$  for all  $p, q \in \mathbf{P}$

# Bounding the altitudes



Using  $d_{\mathbb{R}^m}(q, a) > \delta$ , and  $d_{\mathbb{R}^m}(a, b) > \delta$ , we bound  $\angle qab$ .

We get  $D(q, \sigma) > \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \frac{\delta^2}{\epsilon}$ .

The *thickness* of a  $j$ -simplex  $\sigma$  with diameter  $\Delta(\sigma)$  is

$$\Upsilon(\sigma) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } j = 0 \\ \min_{p \in \sigma} \frac{D(p, \sigma)}{j\Delta(\sigma)} & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

## Result

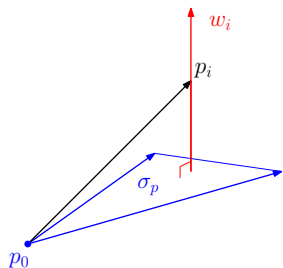
If  $P$  is  $\delta$ -generic, with  $\delta = \nu_0\epsilon$ , then

$$\Upsilon(\sigma) > \Upsilon_0 = \frac{\sqrt{3}\nu_0^2}{4},$$

for all deep interior Delaunay simplices  $\sigma$ .

# Thickness and singular values

$$\begin{bmatrix} \cdots & \cdots & \cdots \\ \cdots & w_i & \cdots \\ \cdots & \cdots & \cdots \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \vdots & p_i & \vdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$
$$P^{-1}P = I$$



## Lemma

Let  $\sigma = [p_0, \dots, p_j]$ , and let  $P$  be the  $d \times j$  matrix whose columns are  $p_i - p_0$ . Then  $s_1(P) \leq \sqrt{j}\Delta(\sigma)$ , and

$$s_j(P) \geq \sqrt{j}\Upsilon(\sigma)\Delta(\sigma).$$

Thus  $\Upsilon(\sigma)^{-1} \geq \frac{s_1(P)}{s_j(P)} = \kappa(P)$ , the condition number of  $P$ .

## Lemma

Let  $\sigma$  be a  $j$ -dimensional simplex  $j \leq m$ , whose vertices lie at distance  $\leq \eta$  from a hyperplane  $H \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ . Then

$$\sin \angle(\text{aff}(\sigma), H) \leq \frac{2\eta}{\Upsilon(\sigma)\Delta(\sigma)}$$

# Almost circumcentres

## Definition of $\xi$ -centre

A point  $x$  is a  $\xi$ -centre for  $\sigma$  if

$$|d_{\mathbb{R}^m}(x, p) - d_{\mathbb{R}^m}(x, q)| \leq \xi \text{ for all vertices } p, q \in \sigma.$$

## Lemma

Suppose  $\sigma$  is an  $\Upsilon_0$ -thick  $m$ -simplex with  $L(\sigma) \geq \mu_0\epsilon$ .

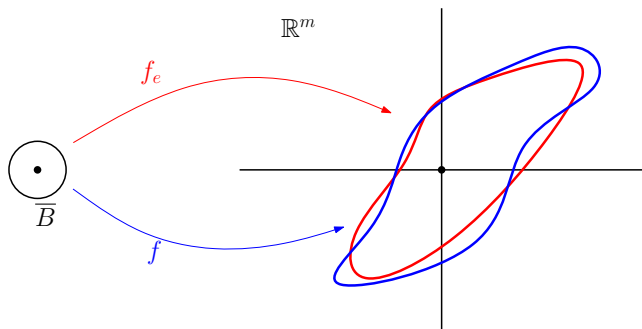
If  $x$  is a  $\xi$ -centre for  $\sigma$  and

$$d_{\mathbb{R}^m}(x, p) < 2\epsilon \text{ for all } p \in \sigma,$$

then

$$x \in B = B_{\mathbb{R}^m}(C(\sigma); \eta), \quad \text{where } \eta = \frac{2\xi}{\Upsilon_0\mu_0}.$$

# Circumcentres under metric perturbation



$$f_e, f : \overline{B} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$$

$$f_e : x \mapsto (d_{\mathbb{R}^m}(p_1, x) - d_{\mathbb{R}^m}(p_0, x), \dots, d_{\mathbb{R}^m}(p_m, x) - d_{\mathbb{R}^m}(p_0, x))^T$$

$$f : x \mapsto (d(p_1, x) - d(p_0, x), \dots, d(p_m, x) - d(p_0, x))^T$$

$f^{-1}(0) \neq \emptyset \implies$  there is in  $B$  a circumcentre for  $\sigma$  w.r.t. the metric  $d$

## Theorem

Suppose  $P$  is  $\delta$ -generic for  $P_I$ , with sampling radius  $\epsilon$  and  $\delta = \nu_0 \epsilon$ . Suppose also that  $\text{conv}(P) \subseteq U$ , and  $d : U \times U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is such that  $|d(x, y) - d_{\mathbb{R}^m}(x, y)| \leq \rho$  for all  $x, y \in U$ . If

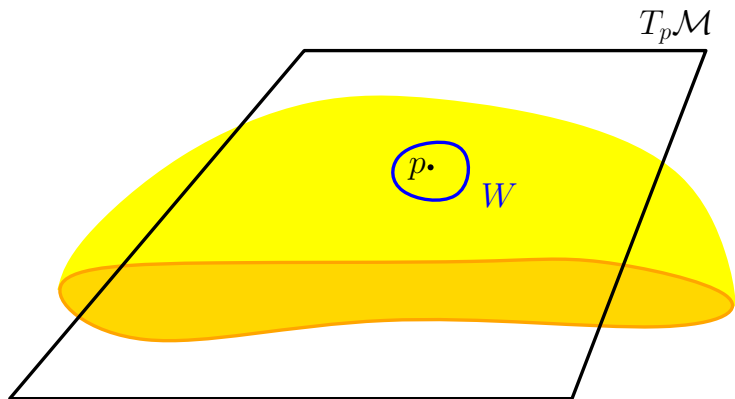
$$\rho \leq \frac{\nu_0^3}{84} \delta = \frac{\nu_0^4}{84} \epsilon,$$

then

$$\text{star}(P_I; \text{Del}_d(P)) = \text{star}(P_I; \text{Del}(P)).$$

# Triangulating smooth submanifolds

## Local Euclidean metrics



Locally project into  $T_p \mathcal{M}$ , which is identified with  $\mathbb{R}^m$

$$\psi_p : \mathcal{M} \supset W \xrightarrow{\cong} U \subset T_p \mathcal{M}$$

$d_{\mathbb{R}^m}(\psi_p(x), \psi_p(y))$ , a Euclidean metric on  $W$

# Equating restricted and intrinsic Delaunay structures

## Theorem

Suppose  $\mathcal{P} \subset \mathcal{M}$  is an  $\epsilon$ -sample set with respect to the intrinsic metric  $d_{\mathcal{M}}$ , and that for each  $p \in \mathcal{P}$  the set  $P = W \cap \mathcal{P}$  is  $\delta$ -generic for  $\{p\}$  with respect to the local Euclidean metric on  $W = B_{\mathbb{R}^N|_{\mathcal{M}}}(p; 7\epsilon)$ .

If  $\delta = \nu_0 \epsilon$  and

$$\epsilon \leq \frac{\nu_0^4 \text{rch}(\mathcal{M})}{10^5},$$

then  $\text{Del}_{\mathbb{R}^N|_{\mathcal{M}}}(\mathcal{P}) = \text{Del}_{\mathcal{M}}(\mathcal{P})$  and they are manifold complexes.

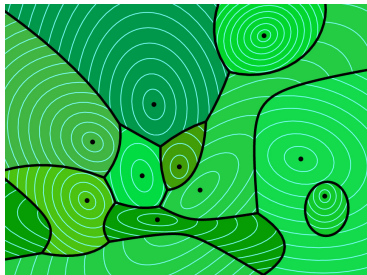
## Protection parameterizes general position

- Bounded thickness for Delaunay simplices on  $\delta$ -generic  $P$
- Quantified robustness with respect to perturbations
- Sufficient conditions for the intrinsic Delaunay complex to be a triangulation (result currently relies on an embedding in  $\mathbb{R}^N$ )
- Genericity can be enforced by refinement

- 1 Delaunay triangulation and surface mesh generation
- 2 Stability of Delaunay triangulations
- 3 Approximating Riemannian Delaunay triangulations**
- 4 Bypassing the curse of dimensionality

# Approximating Voronoi diagrams on Riemannian manifolds

- $V(p) = \{x : d_p(x,p) \leq d_q(x,q) \text{ for all } p,q \in P\}$  [Labelle & Shewchuk 2003]



- $V(p) = \{x : d_x(x,p) \leq d_x(x,q) \text{ for all } p,q \in P\}$

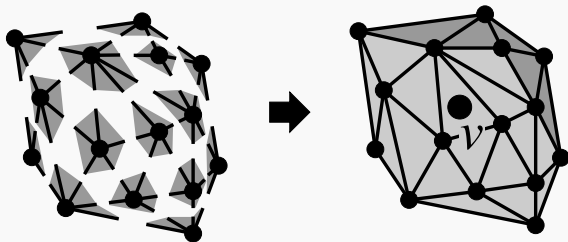
[Du & Wang 2005] [Canas & Gortler 2012]

## Main issue

Existence of a dual triangulation ?

## Definition

An anisotropic Delaunay mesh is a simplicial mesh in which the star of each vertex is Delaunay for the metric attached to the vertex



# Uniform Anisotropic Triangulation

Take the metric  $\text{cst} = M_p$ :  $d_{M_p}(x, y) = \sqrt{(x - y)^t M_p (x - y)}$

The associated Voronoi diagram  $\text{AVD}(\mathcal{P})$  is **affine**

$$\begin{aligned}d_{M_p}(x, a) < d_{M_p}(x, b) &\Leftrightarrow (x - a)^t M_p (x - a) < (x - b)^t M_p (x - b) \\ &\Leftrightarrow -2a^t M_p x + a^t M_p a < -2b^t M_p x + b^t M_p b\end{aligned}$$

## Corollaries

- +  $\text{AVD}(\mathcal{P})$  has a **dual triangulation**  $\text{Del}_{M_p}(\mathcal{P})$
- +  $\text{Del}_{M_p}(\mathcal{P})$  can be computed efficiently

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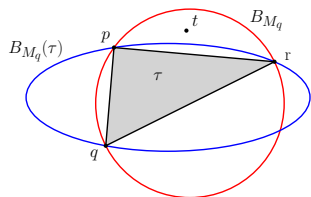
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- +  $\text{Del}_{M_p}(\mathcal{P})$  can be computed efficiently

# Conflicting stars



$$\tau \in \text{star}((\cdot)p) \Rightarrow t \in B_{M_p}(\tau)$$

$$\tau \notin \text{star}((\cdot)p) \Rightarrow t \notin B_{M_q}(\tau)$$

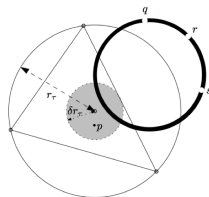
If  $\tau$  is **small** and **thick**, and the metric field is **Lipschitz continuous**

$\Rightarrow$  the vertices of the  $(d + 1)$ -simplex  $\tau * t$   
are close to a  $(d - 1)$ -dimensional  $M_p$ -sphere

# Killing quasi-cospherical configurations by refinement

In order to remove element  $\tau$ , we insert a new point in the picking region  $\text{pick}(\tau) =$

- a small ball around the cc of  $\tau$
- minus the set of small quasi-cospherical configurations



[Li 00]

## Pick\_valid

Randomly pick a point  $p$  in  $B(c, \delta r_\tau)$  until  $p$  does not form a quasi-cospherical configuration with any thick simplex with vertices in a neighborhood of  $p$

# Refinement algorithm

## 1 Sizing field - Distortion\* :

If  $\exists v \in V$  and  $\tau \in S_v$  such that  $r_v(\tau) \geq r_0$  or  $\gamma(\tau) \geq \gamma_0$ ,  
then `Insert( $c_v(\tau)$ )`;

## 2 Shape - Radius-edge ratio :

If  $\exists v \in V$  and  $\tau \in S_v$  such that  $\rho_v(\tau) > \rho_0$ ,  
then `Insert(Pick_valid( $\tau, M_v$ ))`;

## 3 Thin simplices removal :

If a  $d$ -simplex  $\tau$  in star  $S_v$  is a sliver ( $\rho_v(\tau) \leq \rho_0$ ,  $\sigma_v(\tau) < \sigma_0^d$ ),  
`Insert_valid_d( $\tau, M_v$ )`;

## 4 Inconsistency :

If  $\exists v \in V, \tau \in S_v$  that is inconsistent,  
then `Insert(Pick_valid( $\tau, M_v$ ))`;

\*Distortion :  $\gamma(p, q) = \max(\|F_p F_q^{-1}\|_2, \|F_q F_p^{-1}\|_2)$  where  $M_x = F_x^t F_x$

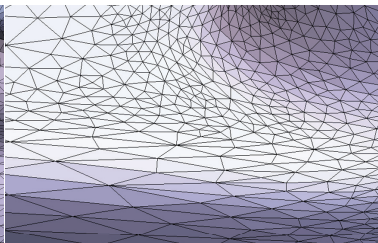
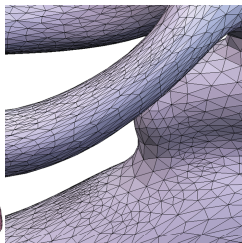
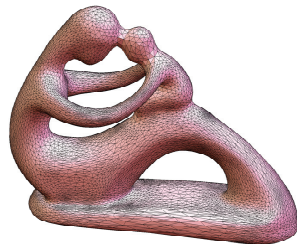
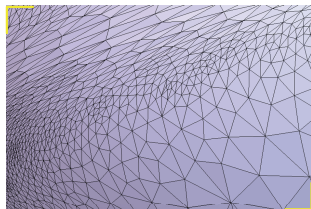
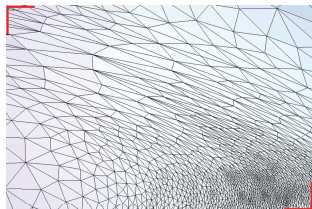
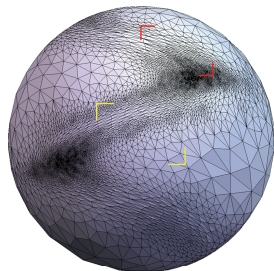
# Main ingredients in the proof of termination

## Picking Lemma

- **Stability** of circumcenters of thick simplices
- **Volume** of a forbidden region  $\rightarrow 0$  when  $\gamma_0 \rightarrow 0$   
(the other parameters being fixed)
- **Number** of forbidden regions is  $O(1)$

## Termination

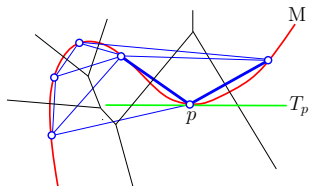
The insertion radius is bounded from below



- 1 Delaunay triangulation and surface mesh generation
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# The tangential Delaunay complex

[Freedman 2002], [B. & Flottoto 2004], [Cheng, Dey, Ramos 2005]

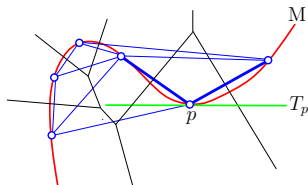


- 1 Construct the star of  $p \in \mathcal{P}$  in the Delaunay triangulation  $\text{Del}_{T_p}(\mathcal{P})$  of  $\mathcal{P}$  restricted to  $T_p$
- 2  $\text{Del}_{T\mathcal{M}}(\mathcal{P}) = \bigcup_{p \in \mathcal{P}} \text{star}(p)$

- +  $\text{Del}_{T\mathcal{M}}(\mathcal{P}) \subset \text{Del}(\mathcal{P})$
- +  $\text{star}(p)$ ,  $\text{Del}_{T_p}(\mathcal{P})$  and therefore  $\text{Del}_{T\mathcal{M}}(\mathcal{P})$  can be computed without computing  $\text{Del}(\mathcal{P})$
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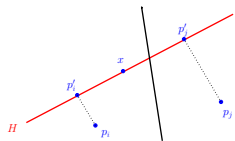


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# Construction of $\text{Del}_{T_p}(\mathcal{P})$

Given a  $k$ -flat  $H$ ,  $\text{Vor}(\mathcal{P}) \cap H$  is a **weighted** Voronoi diagram in  $H$



$$\|x - p_i\|^2 \leq \|x - p_j\|^2$$

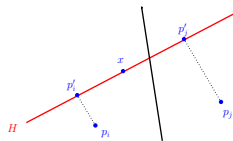
$$\Leftrightarrow \|x - p'_i\|^2 - \|p_i - p'_i\|^2 \leq \|x - p'_j\|^2 - \|p_j - p'_j\|^2$$

Corollary: construction of  $\text{Del}_{T_p}$

- 1 project  $\mathcal{P}$  onto  $T_p$  which requires  $O(dn)$  time
- 2 construct  $\text{star}(p'_i)$  in  $\text{Del}^\omega(p'_i) \subset T_{p_i}$  where  $\omega(p_i) = \|p_i - p'_i\|$
- 3  $\text{star}(p_i)$  and  $\text{star}(p'_i)$  are isomorphic

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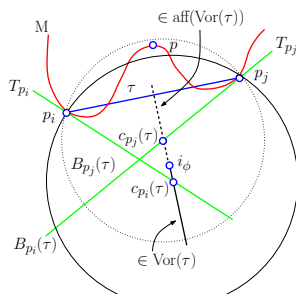
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# Conflicting stars in the tangential complex

- 1  $\tau \in \text{star}(p_i) \Rightarrow B(c_{p_i}(\tau)) \cap \mathcal{P} = \emptyset$
- 2  $\tau \notin \text{star}(p_j) \Rightarrow B(c_{p_i}(\tau)) \cap \mathcal{P} \ni p$



if  $\tau$  is **small and thick**

$\Rightarrow c_i$  and  $c_j$  are close &  $\text{aff}(\tau) \approx T_{p_i} \approx T_{p_j}$

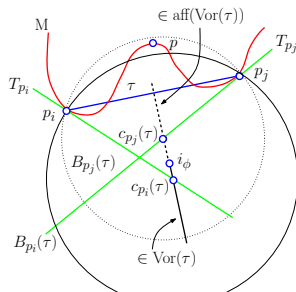
$\Rightarrow \phi := \tau * p$  is **not thick**

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Inconsistencies are due to **instabilities** of DT

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# Equating the tangential complex and the previous Delaunay structures

## Theorem

Suppose  $\mathcal{P} \subset \mathcal{M}$  is  $(\tilde{\mu}_0\epsilon)$ -sparse with respect to  $d_{\mathbb{R}^N}$ , and every  $m$ -simplex  $\tilde{\sigma} \in \text{Del}_{T\mathcal{M}}(\mathcal{P})$  is  $\tilde{\Upsilon}_0$ -thick, and has, for every vertex  $p \in \tilde{\sigma}$ , a  $\check{\delta}^2$ -power-protected empty ball of radius less than  $\epsilon$  centred on  $T_p\mathcal{M}$ , with  $\check{\delta} \geq \delta_0\tilde{\mu}_0\epsilon$ . If  $\delta_0^2\tilde{\mu}_0^2 \leq \frac{1}{7}$ , and

$$\epsilon \leq \frac{\tilde{\Upsilon}_0^2 \tilde{\mu}_0^3 \delta_0^2 \text{rch}(\mathcal{M})}{1.5 \times 10^6},$$

then

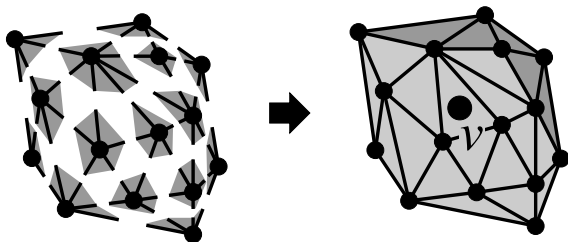
$$\text{Del}_{T\mathcal{M}}(\mathcal{P}) = \text{Del}_{\mathbb{R}^N|_{\mathcal{M}}}(\mathcal{P}) = \text{Del}_{\mathcal{M}}(\mathcal{P}),$$

and for  $\epsilon$  sufficiently small, these will be homeomorphic to  $\mathcal{M}$ :

$$|\text{Del}_{\mathcal{M}}(\mathcal{P})| \cong \mathcal{M}.$$

# Reconstruction of smooth submanifolds

- 1 For each vertex  $v$ , compute the star  $\text{star}(p)$  of  $p$  in  $\text{Del}_p(\mathcal{P})$
- 2 Remove inconsistencies among the stars by perturbing either the points or the metric (weighted DT)
- 3 Glue the stars to obtain a triangulation of  $\mathcal{P}$



# Reconstruction of smooth submanifolds

- Termination

- ▶ If  $\varepsilon$  is small enough, the algorithm terminates and returns a tangential complex  $\hat{\mathcal{M}}$  that has no inconsistent configurations

- Complexity

- ▶ No  $d$ -dimensional data structure  $\Rightarrow$  linear in  $d$
- ▶ exponential in  $k$

- Approximation

- ▶  $\hat{\mathcal{M}}$  is a PL simplicial  $k$ -manifold
- ▶  $\hat{\mathcal{M}} \subset \text{tub}(\mathcal{M}, \varepsilon)$
- ▶ ambient isotopic to  $\mathcal{M}$

# Conclusion

## A quest for nice simplicial complexes

- small
- easy to compute
- precise approximations of manifolds

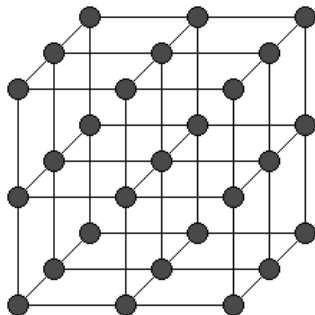
## On-going work

- Witness complexes [B., Dyer, Ghosh, Oudot]
- Efficient data structures for simplicial complexes [B., Maria 2012]
- Software development

# Acknowledgments

- My co-authors  
A. Ghosh, R. Dyer, S. Oudot, M. Yvinec, C. Wormser
- The CG-Learning project <http://cgl.uni-jena.de/Home/WebHome>
- The CGAL project <http://cgal.org>

## Flat simplices may exist in higher dimensional DT



- Each square face can be circumscribed by an empty sphere
- This remains true if the grid points are slightly perturbed therefore creating flat tetrahedra

## $k$ -simplex

The convex hull of  $k + 1$  points that are affinely independent

1-simplex = line segment

2-simplex = triangle

3-simplex = tetrahedron



## Simplicial complex

A finite collection of simplices  $C$  called the faces of  $C$  such that

- $f \in C, f \subset g \Rightarrow g \in C$
- $\forall f, g \in C, \text{ either } f \cap g = \emptyset \text{ or } f \cap g \in C$

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# Triangulation of differentiable manifolds

Cairns, Whitehead, Whitney [1934-1957]

Triangulation of a topological space  $M$

a simplicial complex  $K$  + homeomorphism :  $\cup K \rightarrow M$

*“ Mr Poincaré a laissé à ses successeurs le problème de la triangulation. Il aurait été bien plus gentil de la part de Mr Poincaré de résoudre ce problème fondamental et de nous laisser quelques uns des problèmes plus amusants dont il s'est occupé.”*

# Triangulation of differentiable manifolds

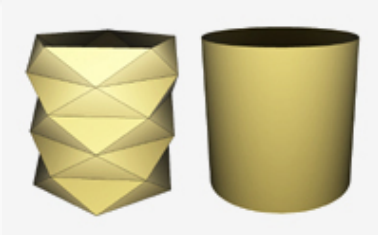
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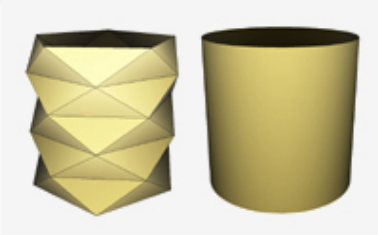
## Emergence of the notion of good/thick/fat simplices



## Un souci de simplicité

*[Cairns, 1960] Quoique je trouve la triangulation de Whitney la plus simple jusqu'ici, je crois bien que la triangulation la plus simple reste à trouver*

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