
Multi-Resolution Techniques

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Course URL:
<http://jupiter.kaist.ac.kr/~sungeui/SGA/>



At the Previous Class

- The overview of the course
 - Culling techniques

Problems

- Even after visibility culling we can still have too many visible triangles



372 million triangles (10GB)



13M Triangles

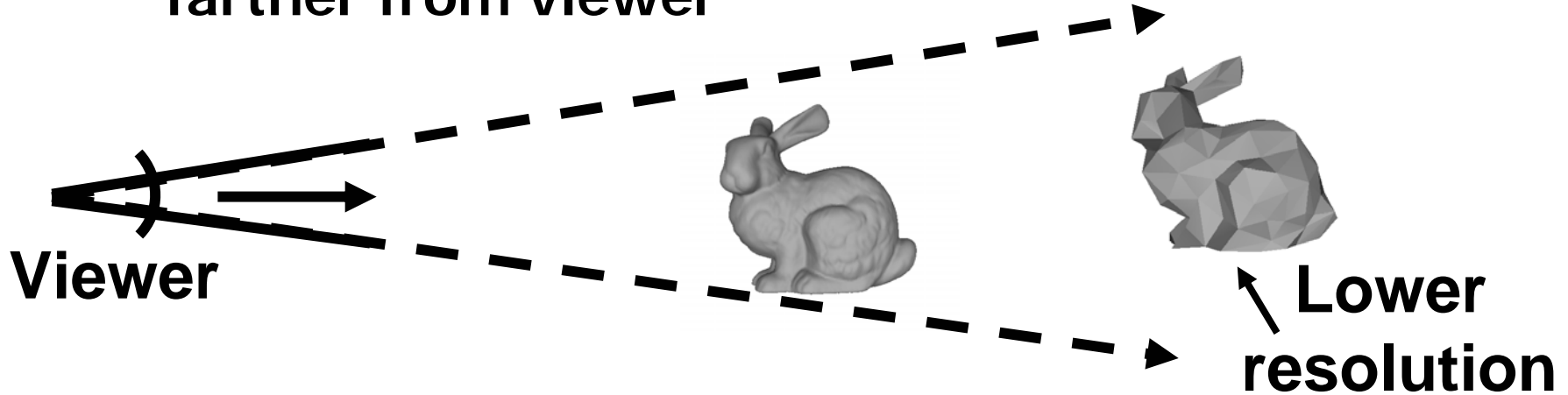
Problems

- **Won't this problem go away with faster GPUs?**
 - **The real world has virtually infinite complexity**
 - **Our ability to model and capture this complexity can outpace rendering performance**

Multi-Resolution or Levels of Detail

- Basic idea

- Render with fewer triangles when model is farther from viewer



- Methods

- Polygonal simplification
- Parametric and subdivision surfaces
- Image impostors

Polygonal Simplification

- Method for reducing the polygon count of mesh



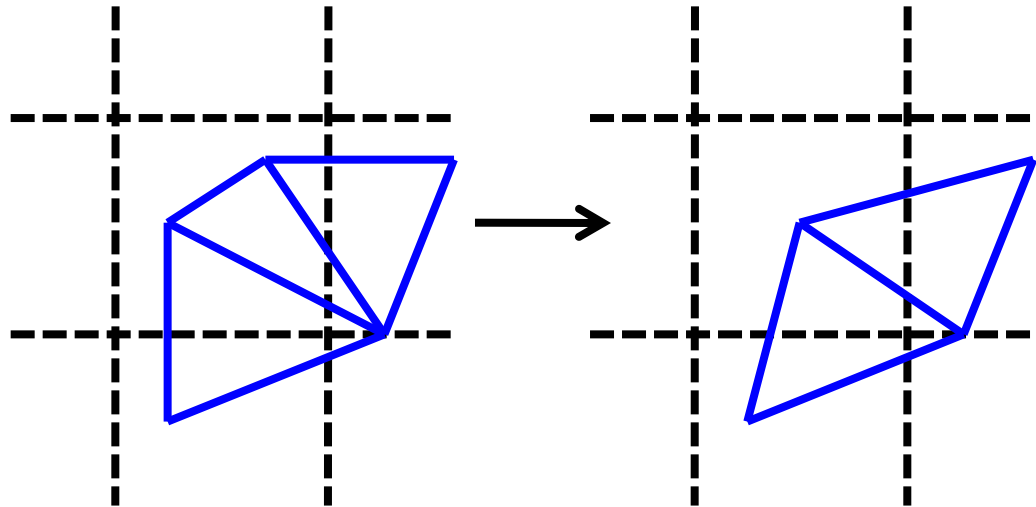
- Two main components
 - Simplification operators
 - Simplification error metrics

Simplification Operators

- Vertex clustering
- Edge collapse
- Vertex removal

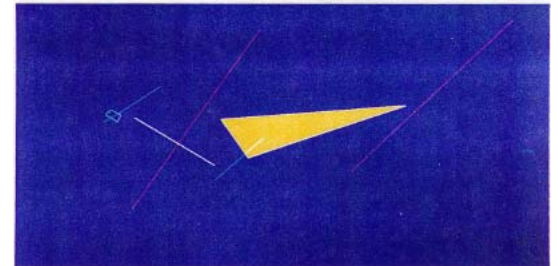
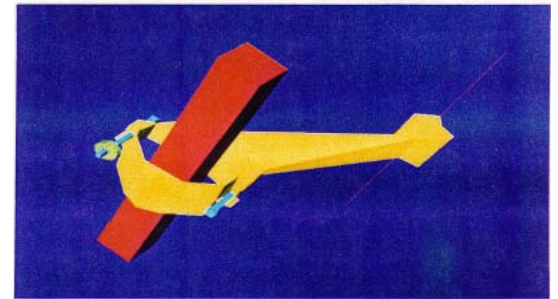
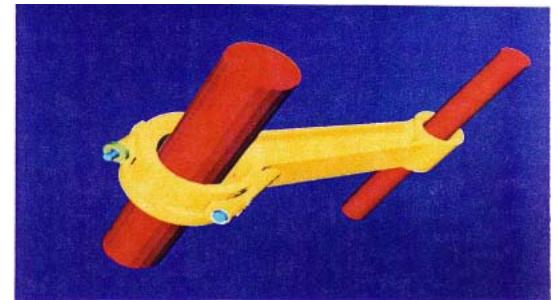
Vertex Clustering [Rossignac & Borrel 93]

- Impose a grid on the model
- Compute weighted average vertex in each cell
- Triangles become:
 - Triangles
 - Lines
 - Points

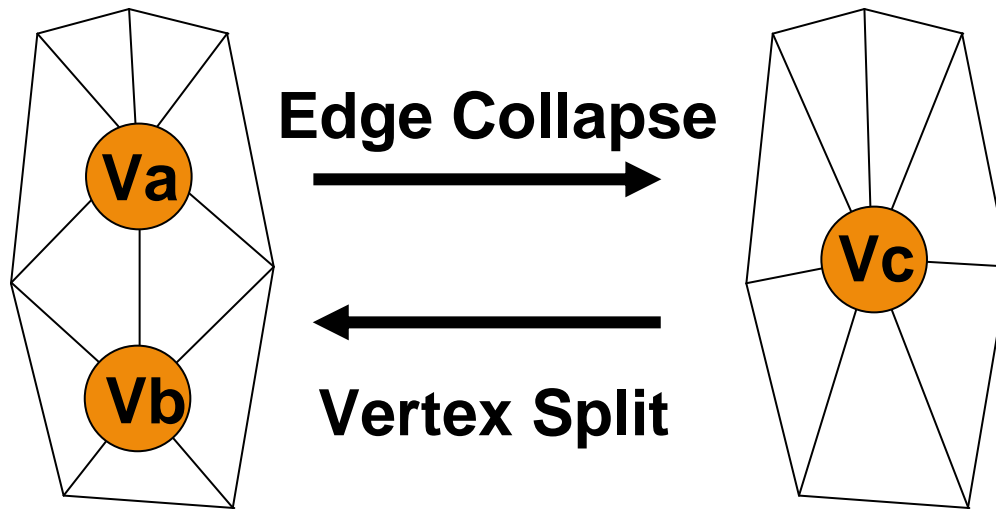


Vertex Clustering

- Main benefits
 - Simple and robust
- Disadvantages
 - Hard to target a polygon count
 - Poor error control



Edge Collapse [Hoppe93]

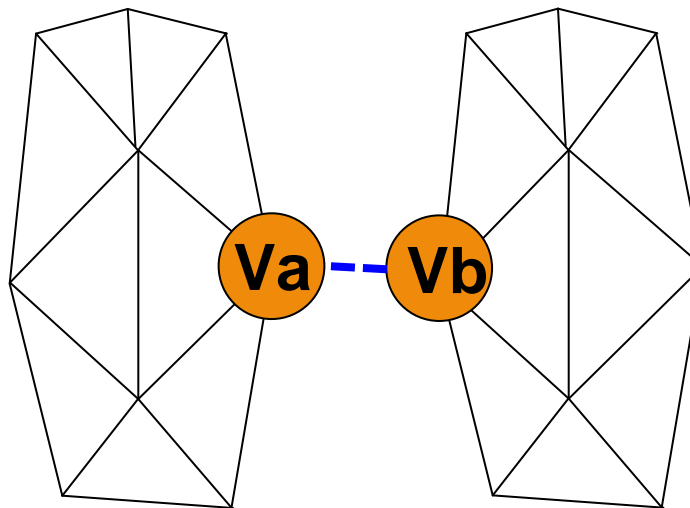


- **Fine grained**
 - Reduce two triangles at most
- **Allows simple geomorphs**
- **Topology preserving**



Virtual Edge Collapse

- Extension of edge collapse to two vertices not connected by an edge
 - Allows topological simplification
 - Usually limited to small distance to avoid $O(n^2)$ virtual edges

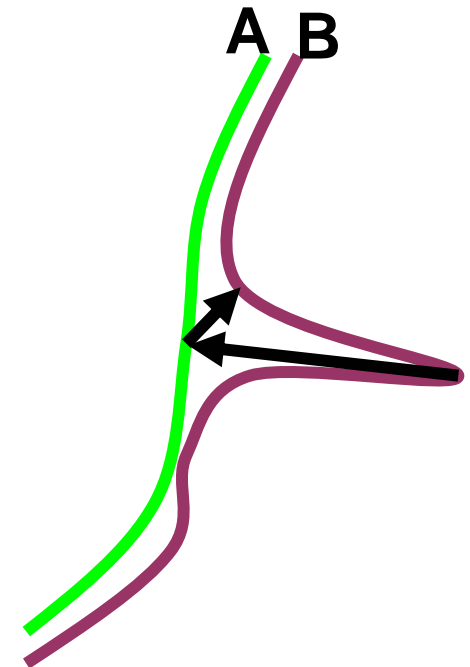


Simplification Error Metric

- **Control and quantify the quality of the LOD**
 - Ultimately, we want to measure appearance
 - Typically, we use a geometric measure as an approximation
- **Error measures are used in three ways**
 - To pick which parts are simplified
 - To determine the simplified mesh from the operation (e.g. position of the new vertex)
 - To choose an LOD at runtime
- **Two common LOD selection criteria**
 - Target frame rate vs. target quality

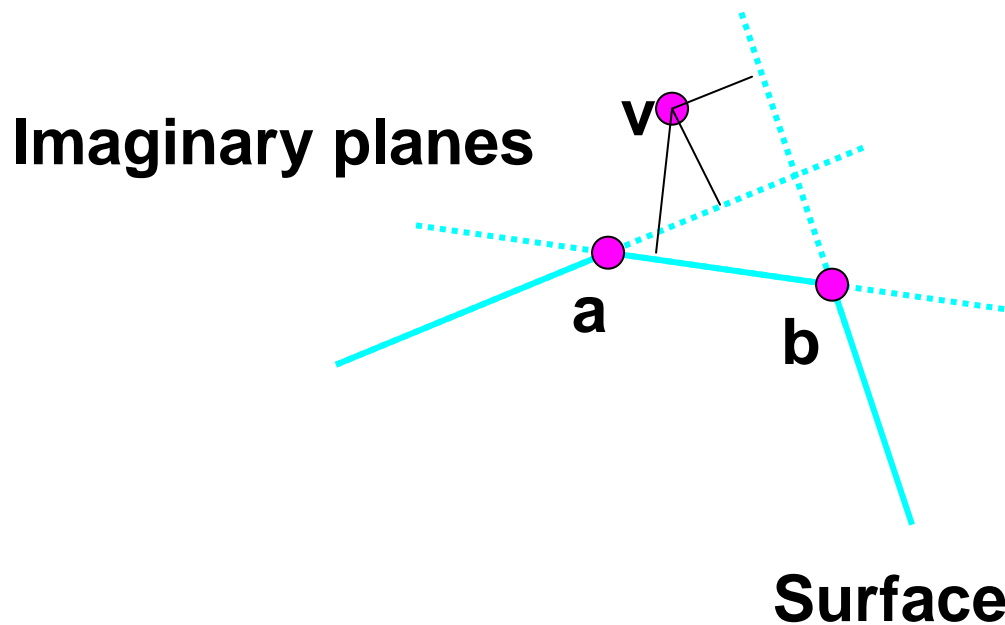
Hausdorff Distance

- A measure of surface deviation
 - $H(A,B) = \max(h(a,b), h(b,a))$,
where $h(A,B) = \max_a \min_b (|a-b|)$
 - h is called the one-sided Hausdorff distance
- Provides a bound on the maximum possible error
 - Project to screen space to get deviation in pixels



Vertex Plane Distance [Ranford 96]

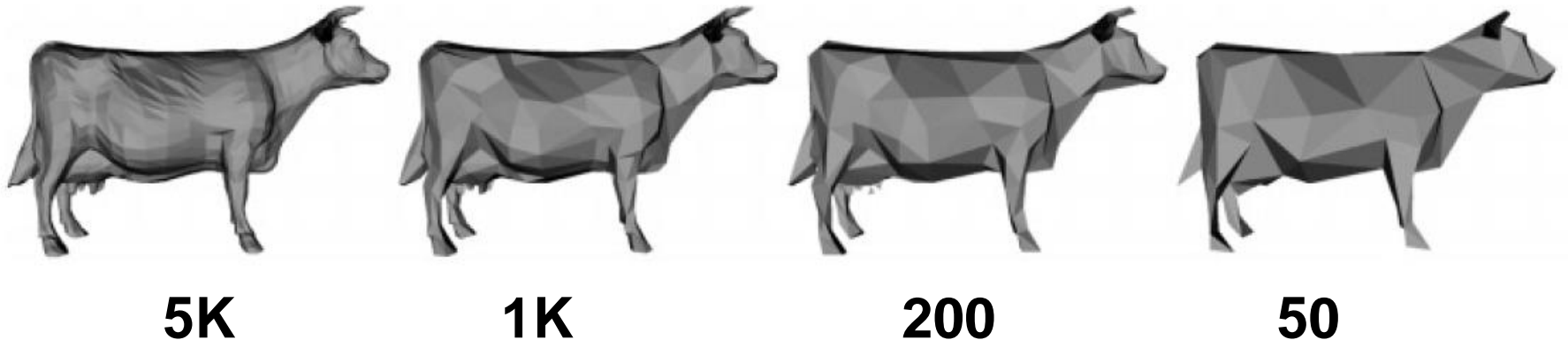
- One metric is the max distance between the vertex and the planes of the supported triangles



$$E = \max_p (p \cdot v)$$

Quadric Error Metric [Garland & Heckbert 97]

- Use sum of squared distance rather than max distance
 - Can be efficiently computed and empirically shows very good results



Excerpted from [Garland & Heckert 97]

Attributes

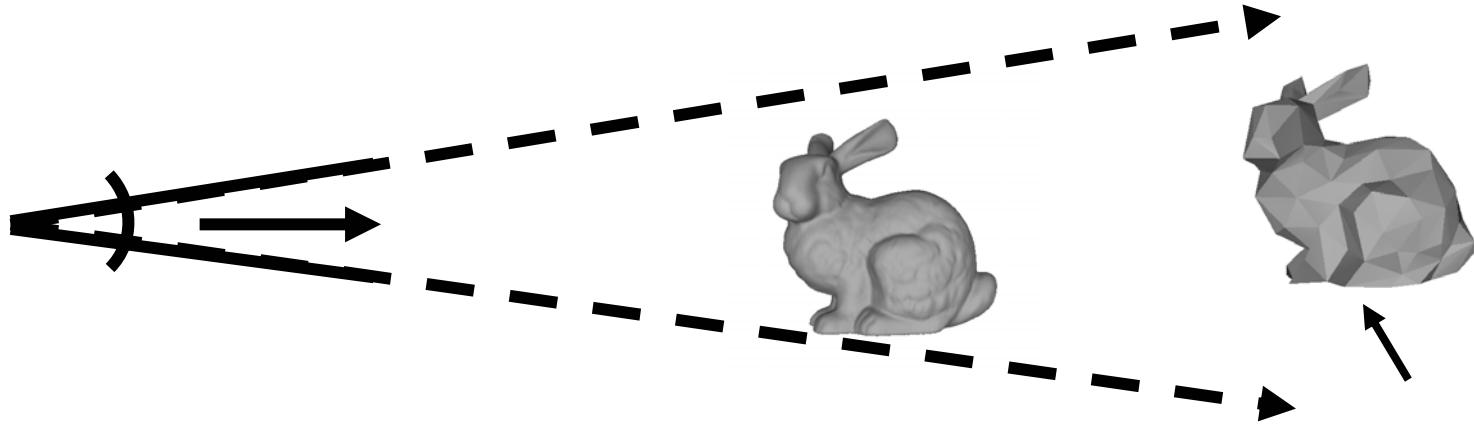
- **Vertices have more than just position:**
 - **Colors**
 - **Normals**
 - **Texture coords**
 - **Shader programs**

Overall Simplification Process

- **Compute simplification candidates**
- **While (there is candidate)**
 - **Pick a candidate with the smallest error**
 - **Perform the simplification**

View-Dependent Rendering

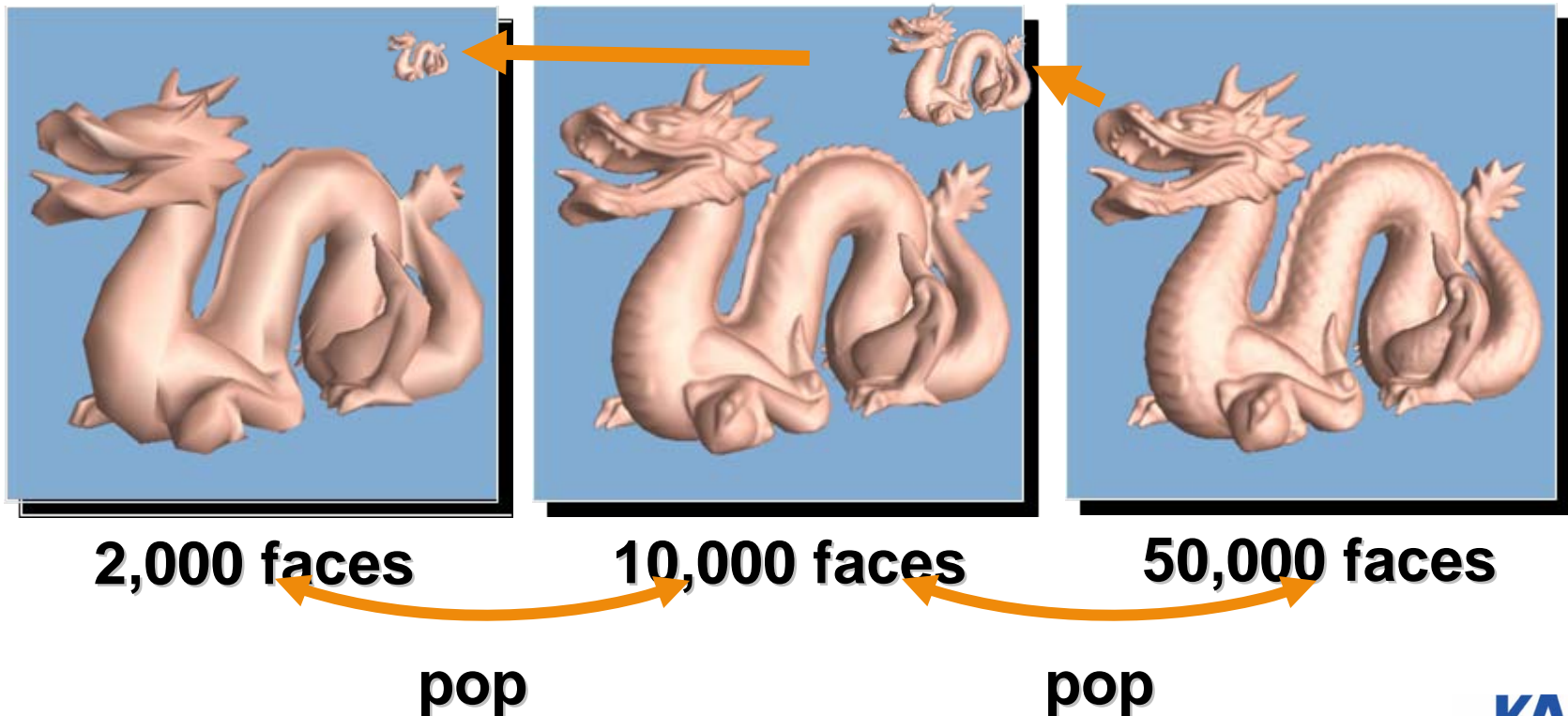
- Use different resolutions according to view points
 - [Clark 76, Funkhouser and Sequin 93]



- Static levels-of-detail (LODs)
- Dynamic (or view-dependent) simplification

Static LODs

- Pre-compute discrete simplified meshes
 - Switch between them at runtime
 - Has very low LOD selection overhead

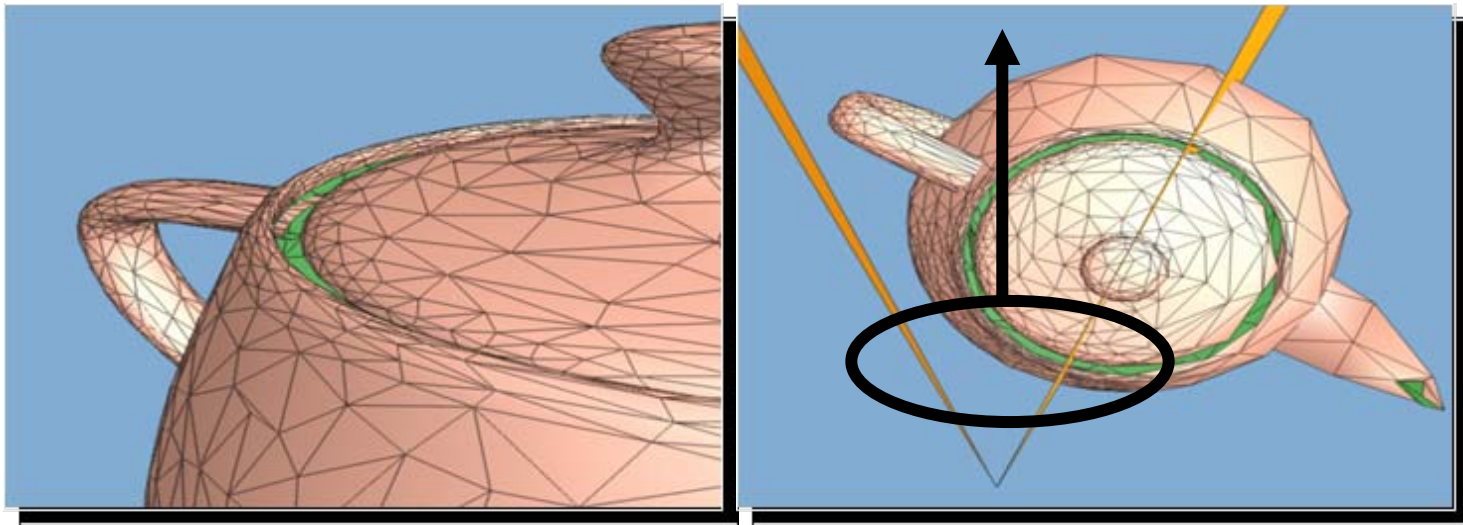


Dynamic Simplification

- Provides smooth and varying LODs over the mesh [Hoppe 97]

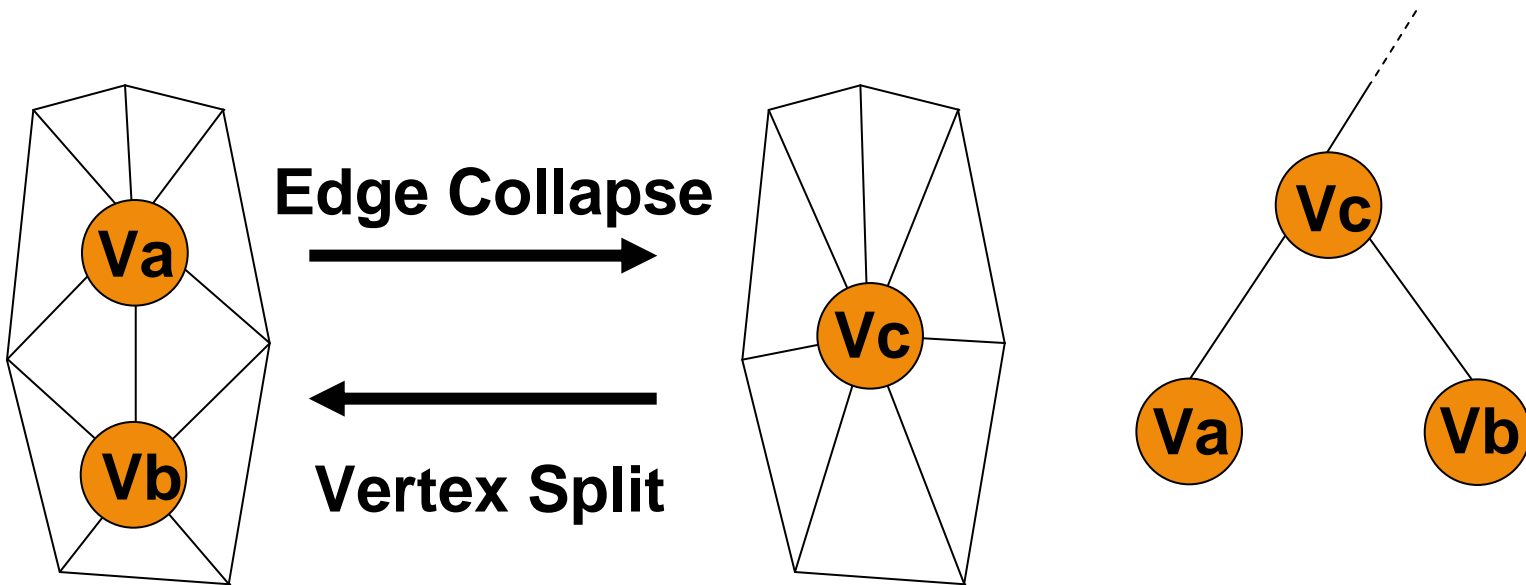
1st person's view

3rd person's view

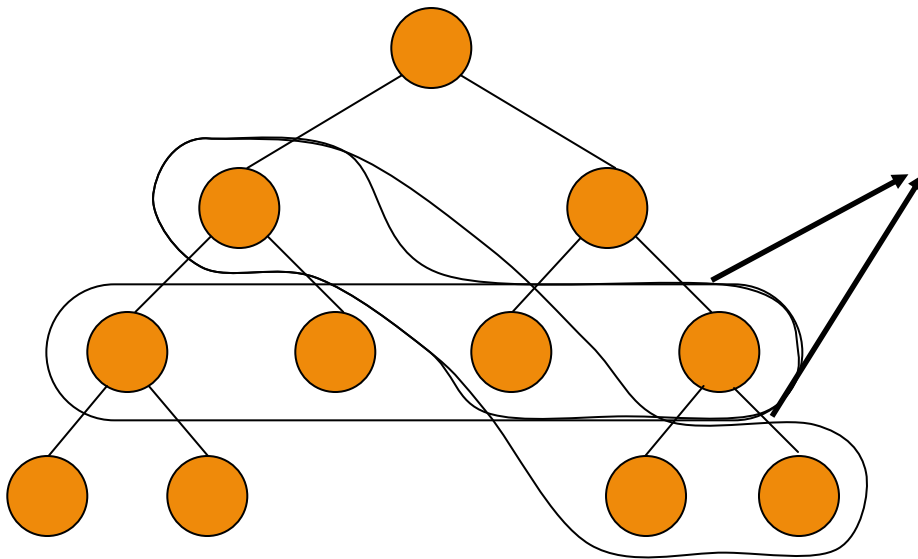


[Play video](#)

Vertex Hierarchy



View-Dependent Refinement



Front representing
a LOD mesh

Dynamic Simplification: Issues

- Representation
- Construction
- Runtime computation
- Integration with other acceleration techniques

Dynamic Simplification: Issues

- **Representation** 22+GB for 100M
- Construction triangles [**Hoppe 97**]
- Runtime computation
- Integration with other acceleration techniques

Dynamic Simplification: Issues

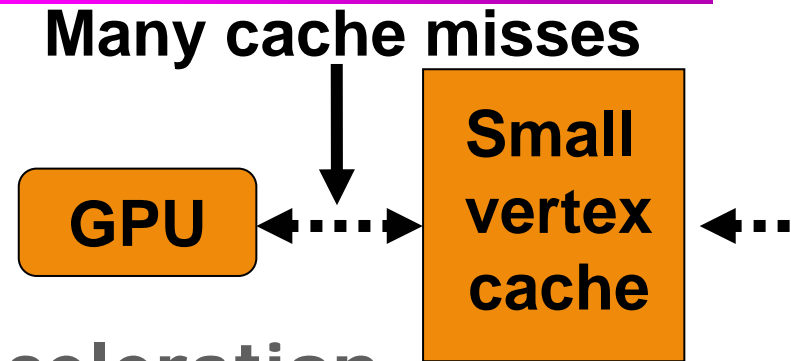
- Representation
- **Construction**
- Runtime computation
- Integration with other acceleration techniques

Dynamic Simplification: Issues

- Representation
 - Construction
 - **Runtime computation**
 - Integration with other acceleration techniques
- Rendering throughput
of 3M triangles per sec
[Lindstrom 03]

Dynamic Simplification: Issues

- Representation
- Construction
- **Runtime computation**
- Integration with other acceleration techniques



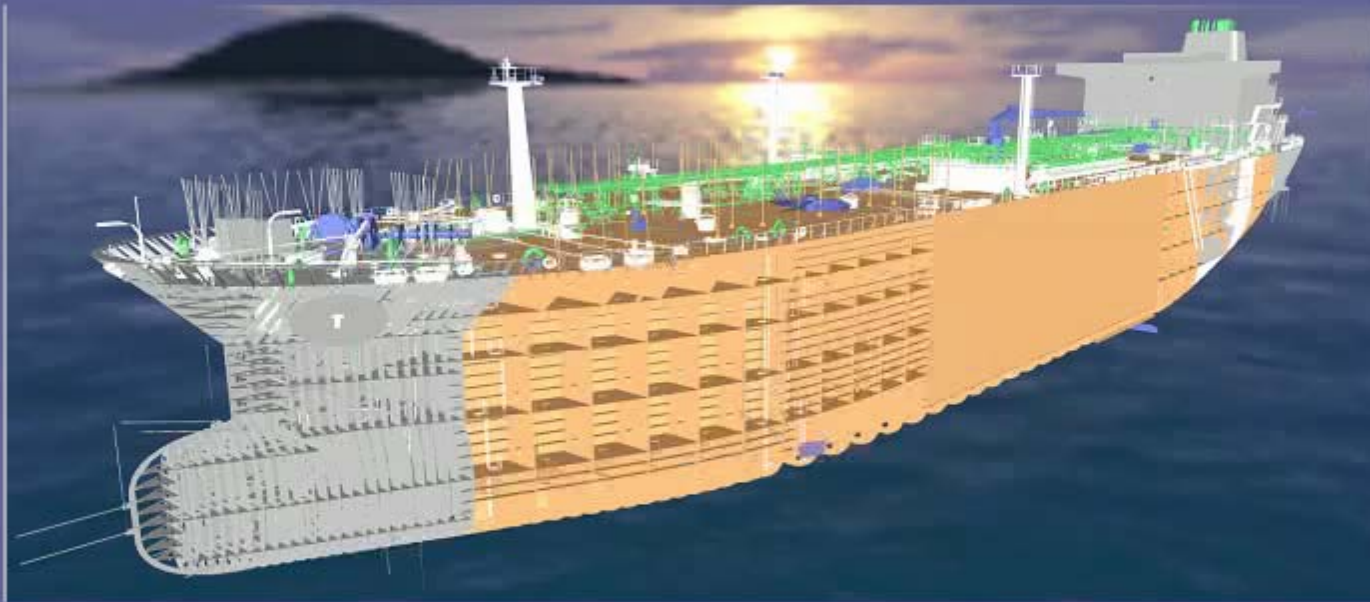
Dynamic Simplification: Issues

- Representation
- Construction
- Runtime computation
- **Integration with other acceleration techniques**

Toward Scale-able Dynamic Simplification Method

- View-dependent rendering [Yoon et al. VIS 04]
 - New multi-resolution hierarchy (CHPM)
 - Out-of-core construction for general meshes
 - Applied to collision detection [Yoon et al. SGP 04] and shadow computation [Lloyd et al. EGSR 06]
- Cache-oblivious layouts [Yoon et al. SIG 05]
 - High GPU utilization during rendering

Live Demo – View-Dependent Rendering [Yoon et al., SIG 05]



Double Eagle Tanker

82 Million triangles

30 Pixels of error

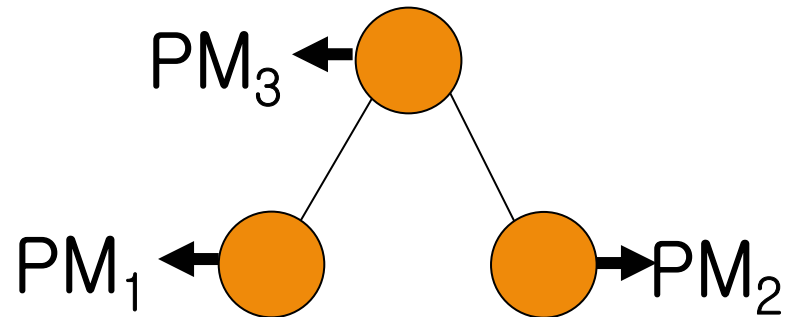
Pentium 4

**GeForce Go
6800 Ultra**

1GB RAM

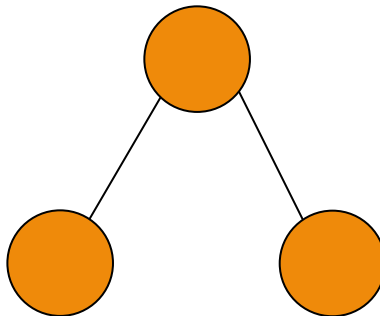
Clustered Hierarchy of Progressive Meshes (CHPM)

- Novel dynamic simplification representation
 - Cluster hierarchy
 - Progressive meshes



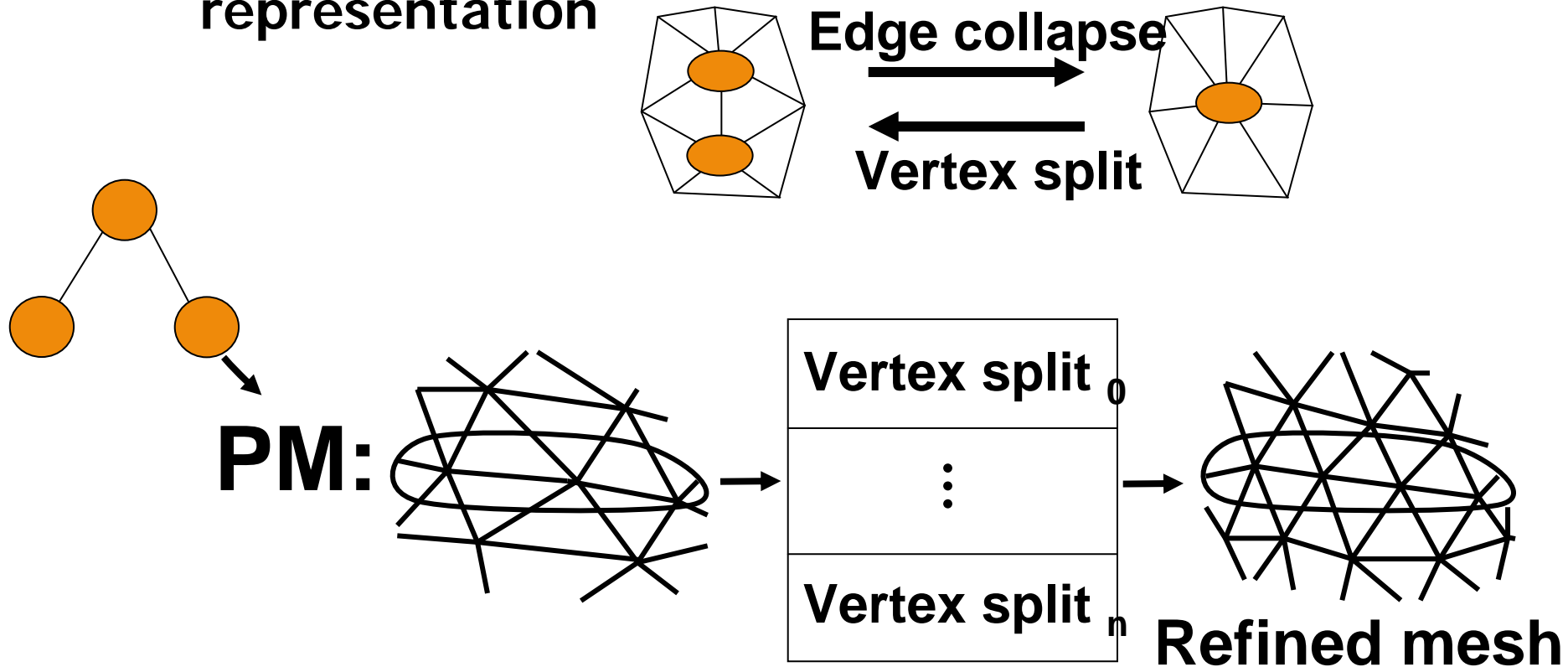
Clustered Hierarchy of Progressive Meshes (CHPM)

- **Clusters**
 - Spatially localized regions of the mesh
 - Main processing unit for view-dependent computation
- **Cluster hierarchy**
 - Used for visibility computations and out-of-core rendering



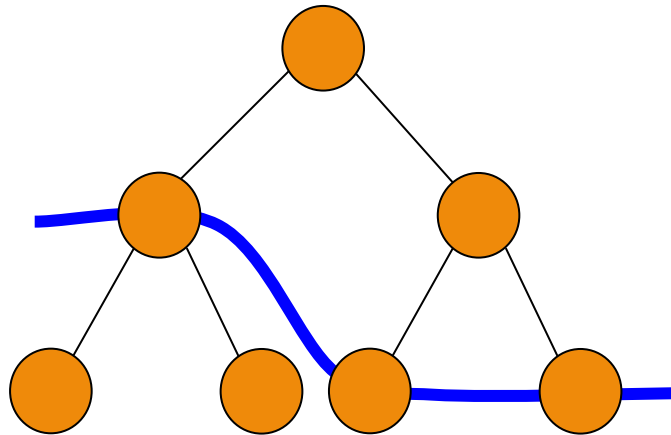
Clustered Hierarchy of Progressive Meshes (CHPM)

- Progressive mesh (PM) [Hoppe 96]
 - Each cluster contains a PM as an LOD representation



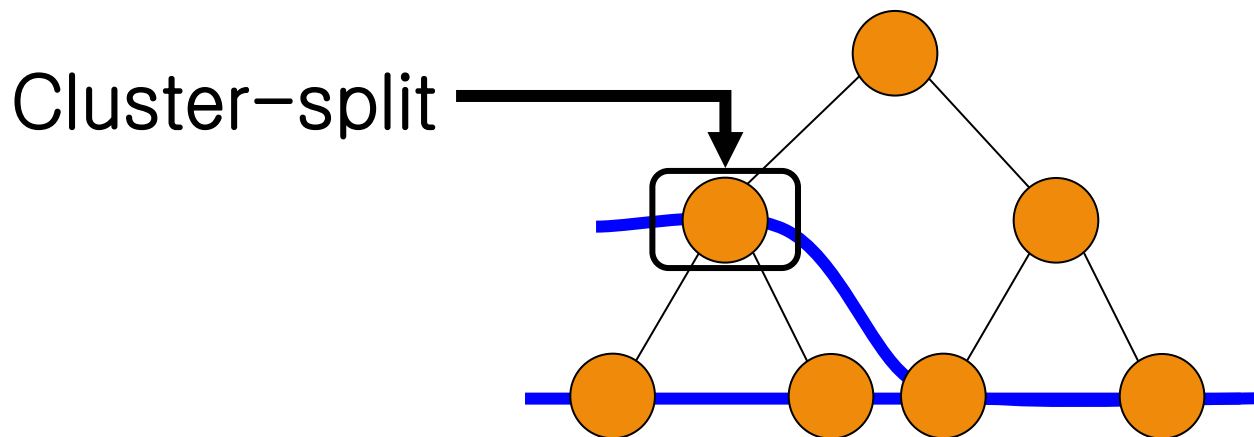
Two-Levels of Refinement at Runtime

- **Coarse-grained view-dependent refinement**
 - Provided by selecting a front in the cluster hierarchy
 - Inter-cluster level refinements



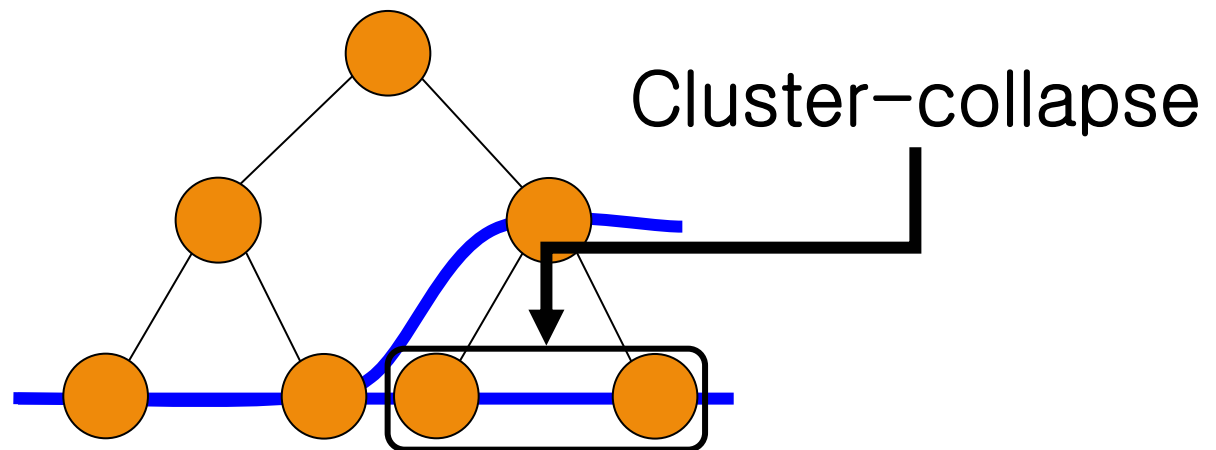
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Two-Levels of Refinement at Runtime

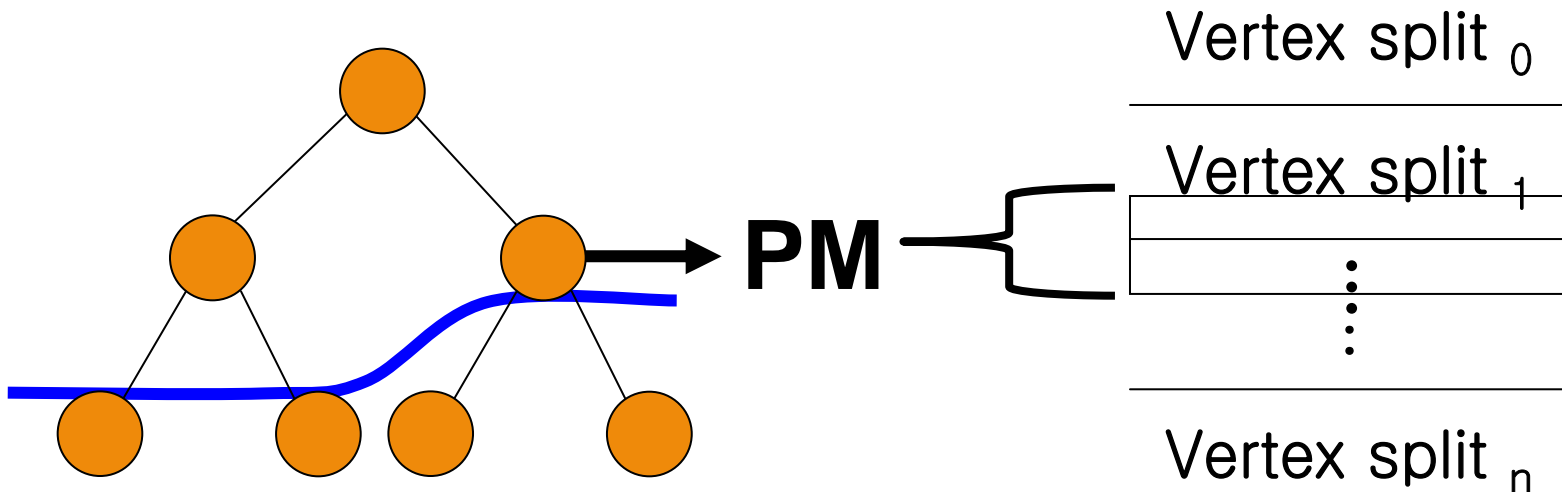
- Coarse-grained view-dependent refinement
 - Provided by selecting a front in the cluster hierarchy
 - Inter-cluster level refinements



Two-Levels of Refinement at Runtime

- Fine-grained local refinement
 - Supported by performing vertex splits in PMs
 - Intra-cluster refinements

**Efficient and effective representation
for massive models!**



Main Properties of CHPM

- **Low refinement cost**
 - 1 or 2 order of magnitude lower than previous representations
- **Alleviates visual popping artifacts**
 - Provides smooth transition between different LODs

Overview of Building a CHPM



Input model

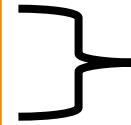


**Cluster
decomposition**



**Cluster hierarchy
generation**

Performed
out-of-core

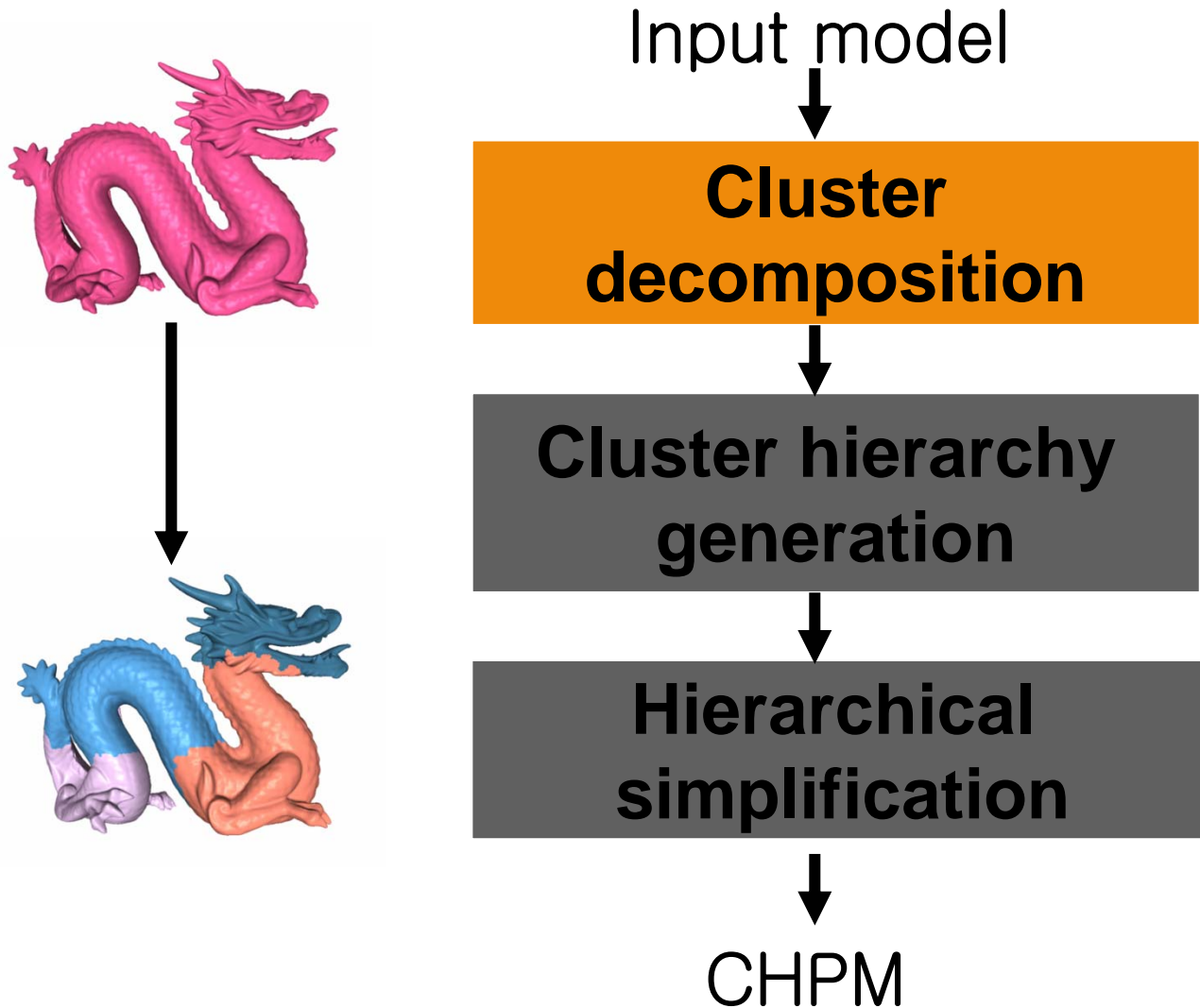


**Hierarchical
simplification**

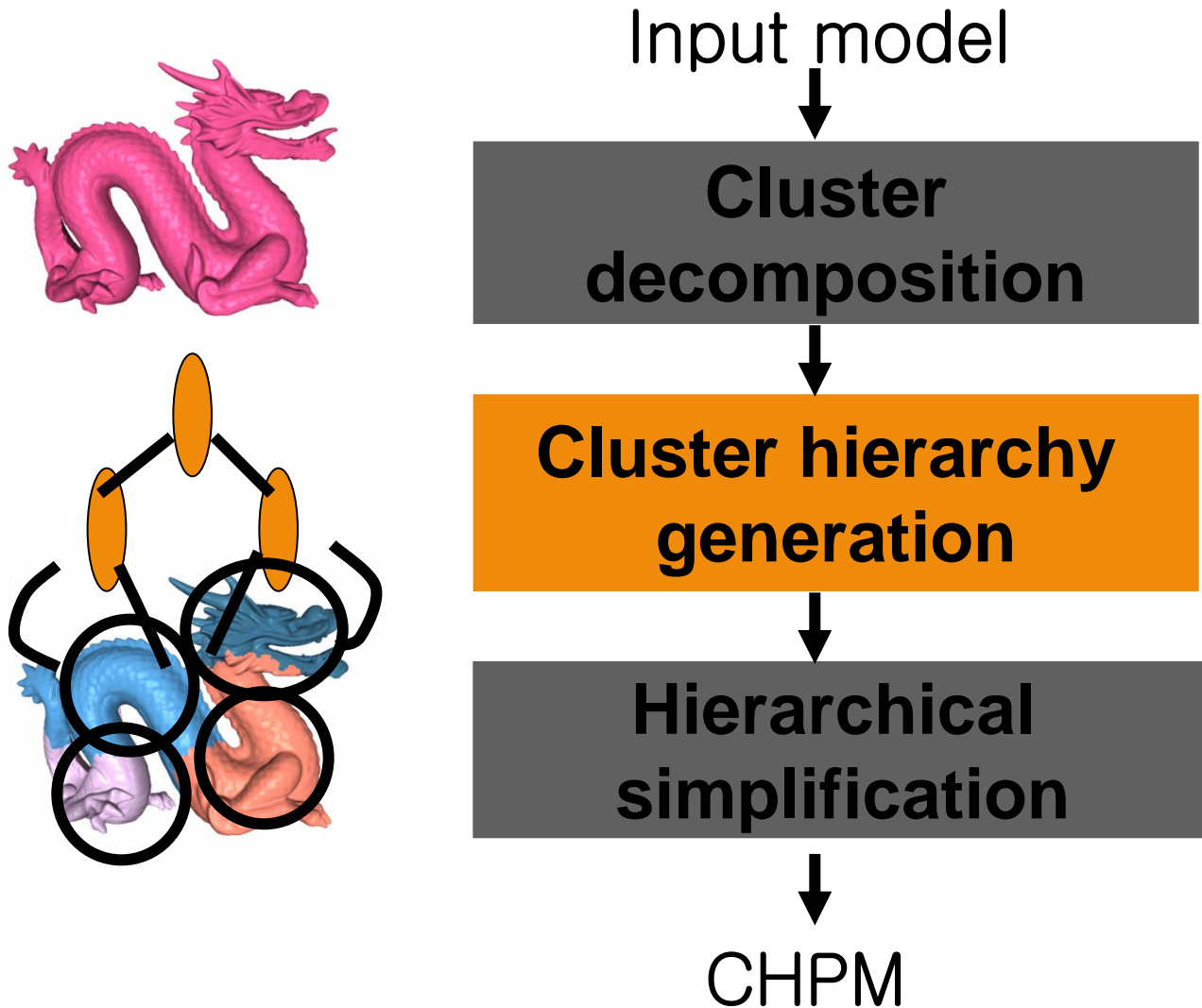


CHPM

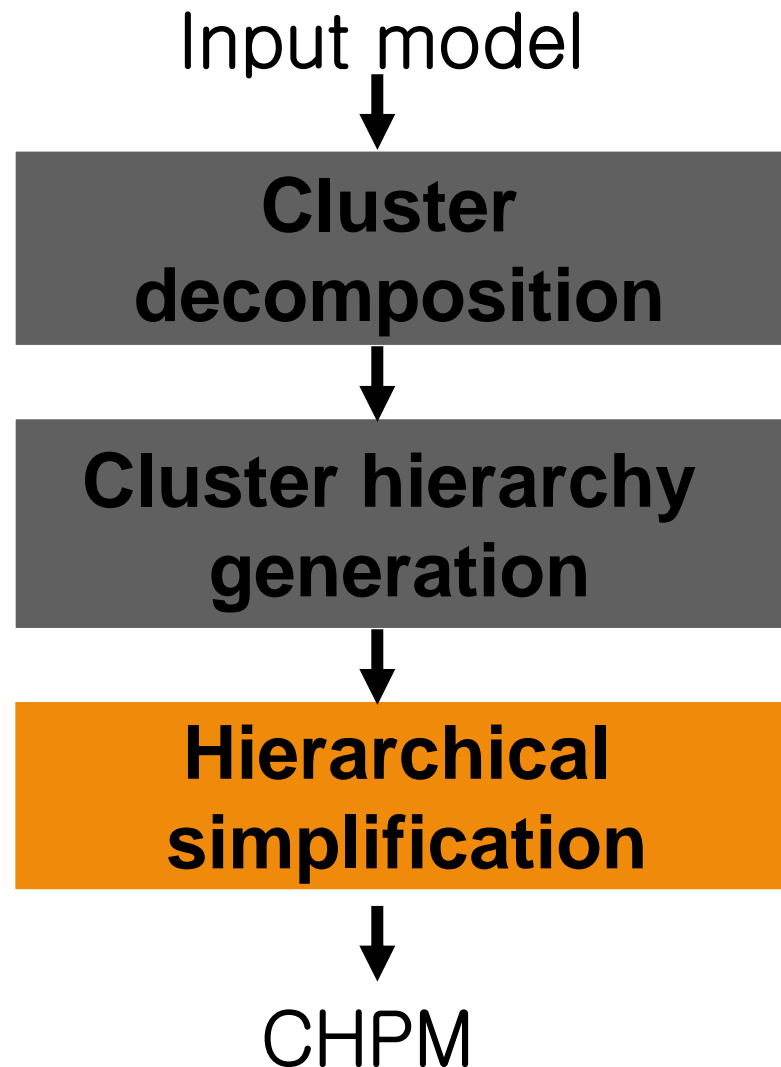
Overview of Building a CHPM



Overview of Building a CHPM

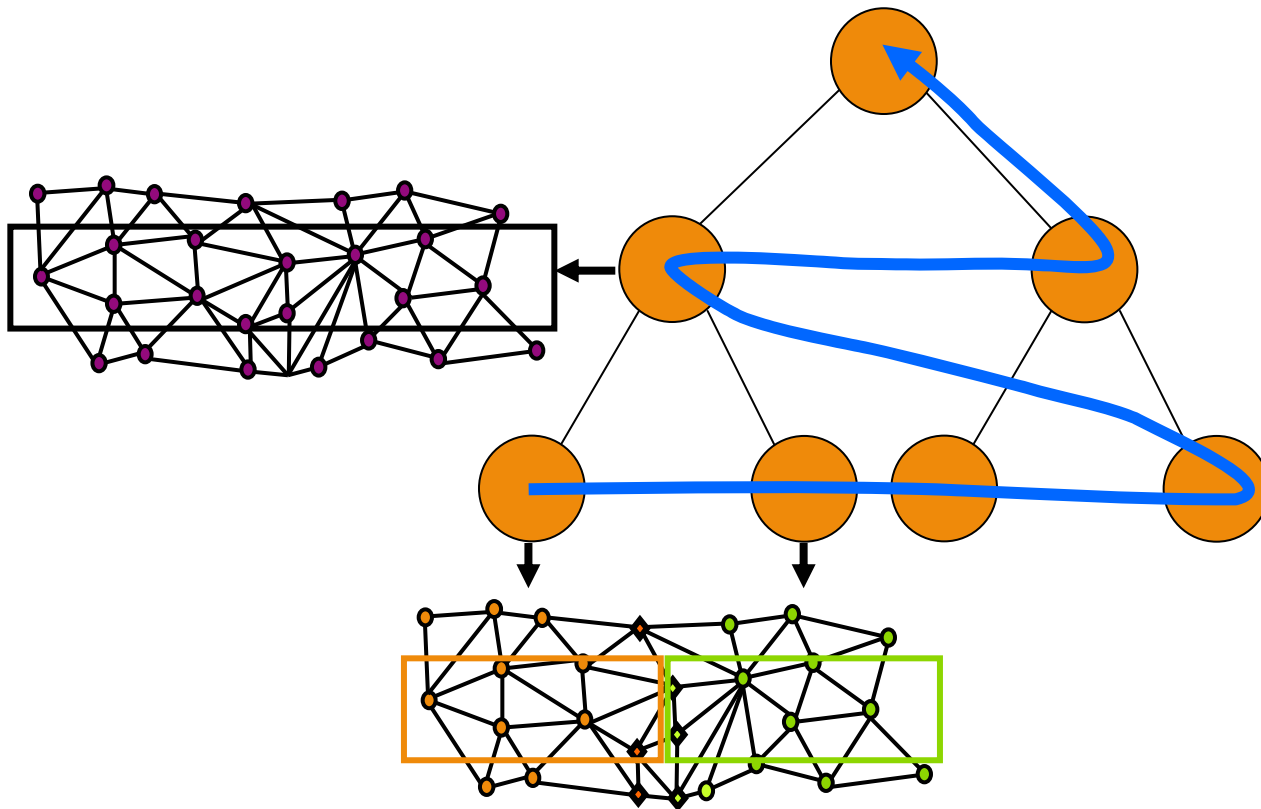


Overview of Building a CHPM



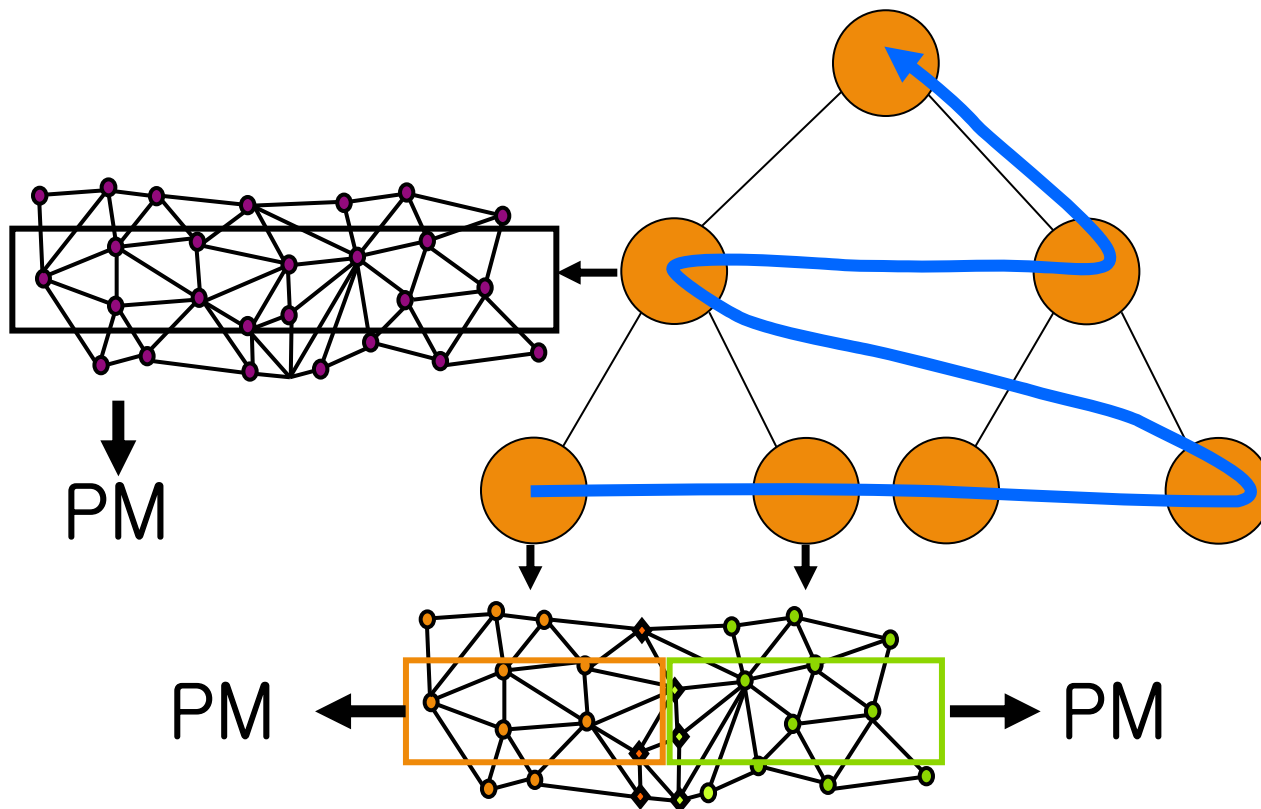
Out-of-Core Hierarchical Simplification

- Simplifies clusters bottom-up

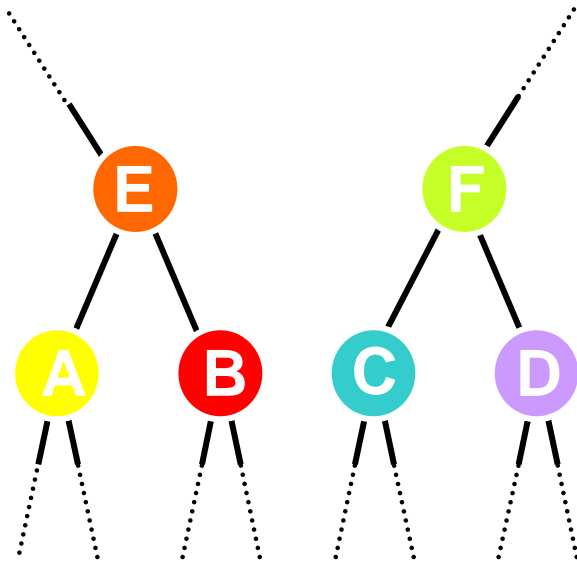


Out-of-Core Hierarchical Simplification

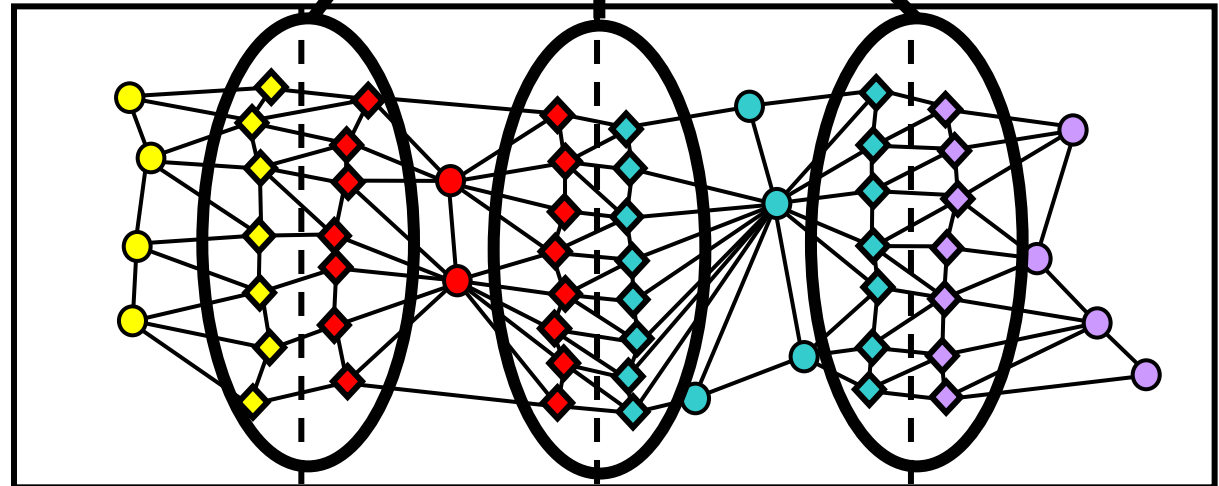
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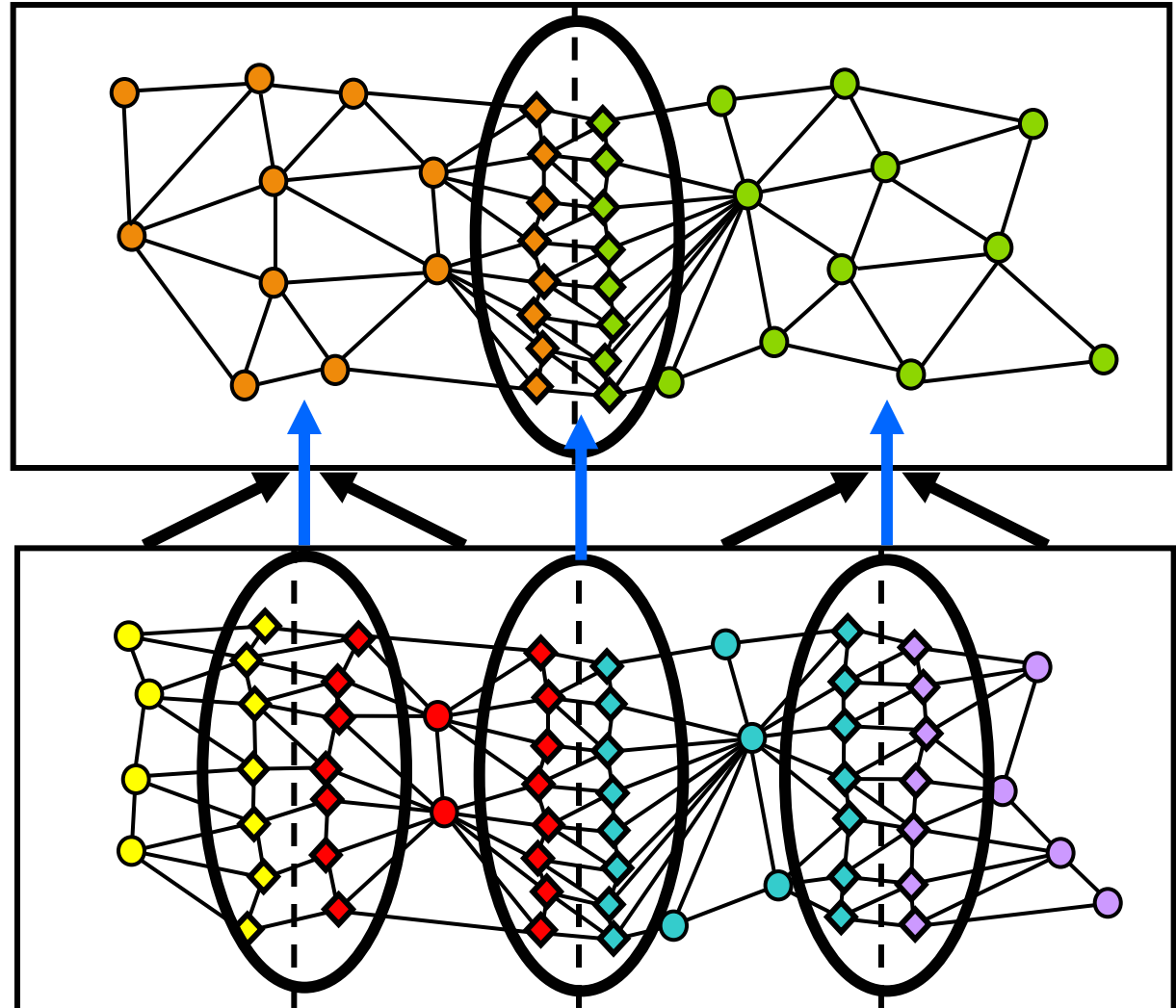
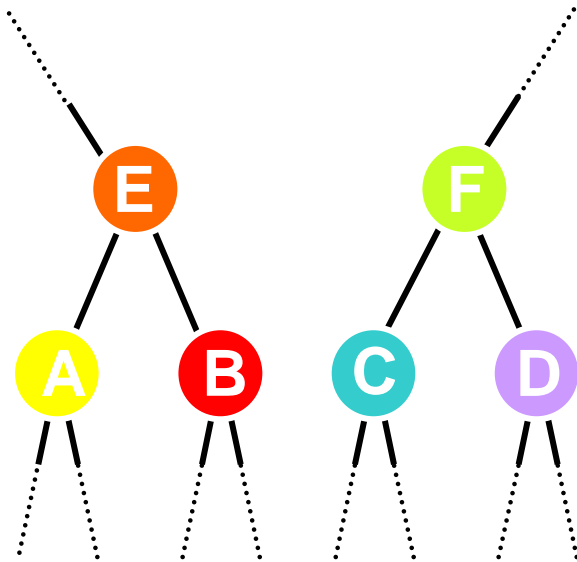
Boundary Simplification



Boundary constraints



Boundary Simplification



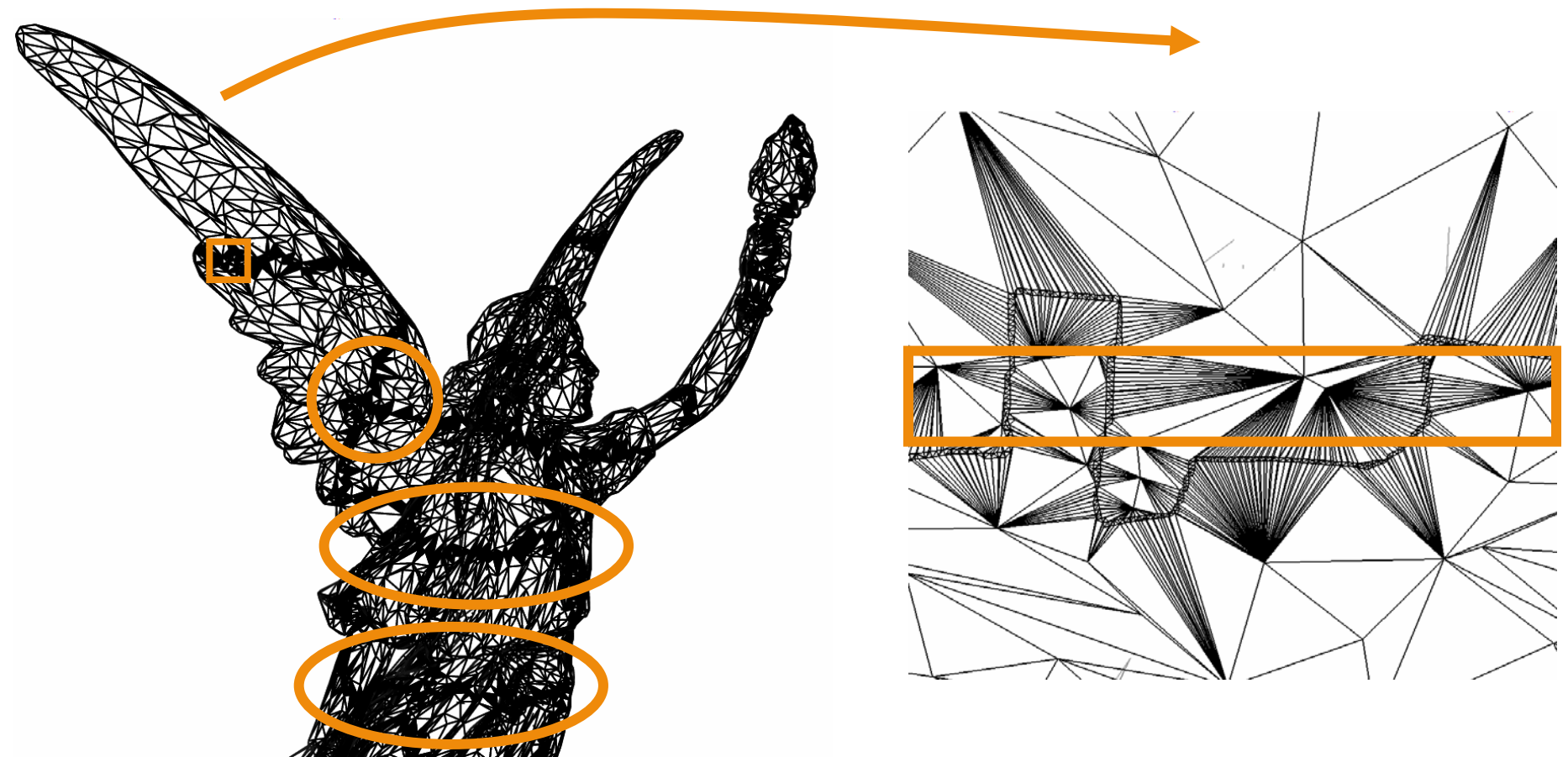
Boundary Constraints

- Common problem in many hierarchical simplification algorithms
 - [Hoppe 98; Prince 00; Govindaraju et al. 03]

Boundary Constraints



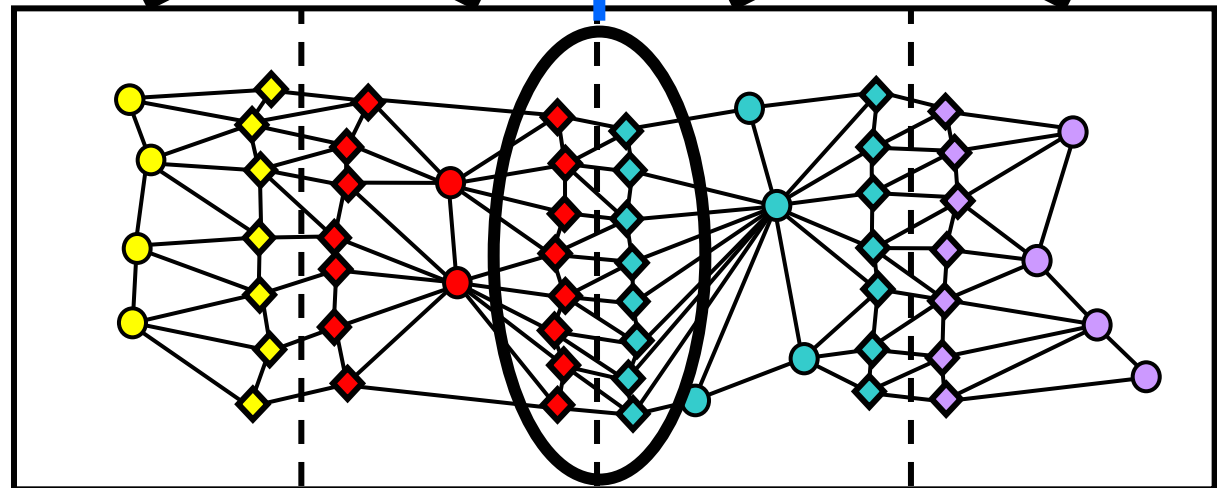
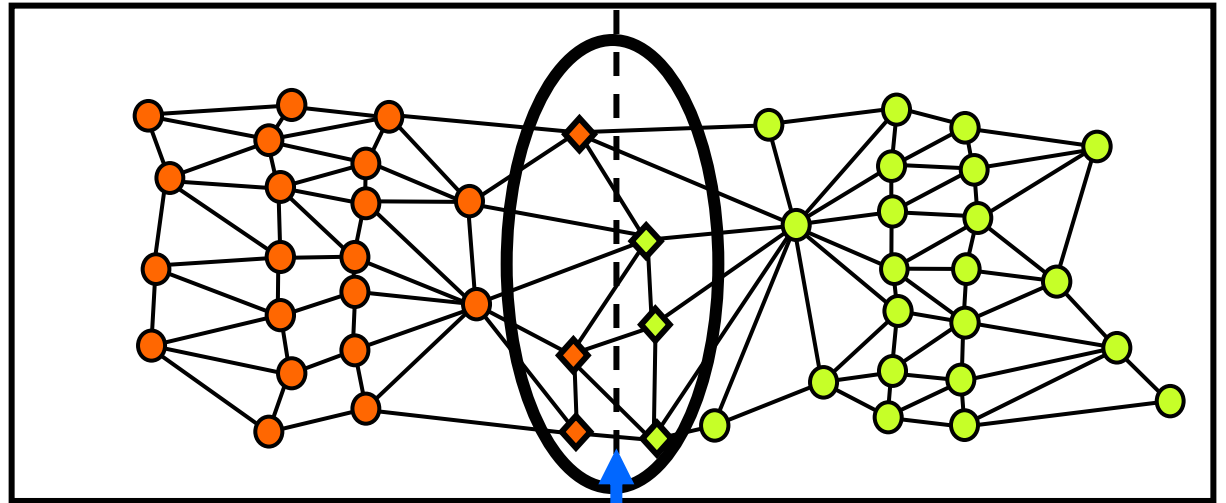
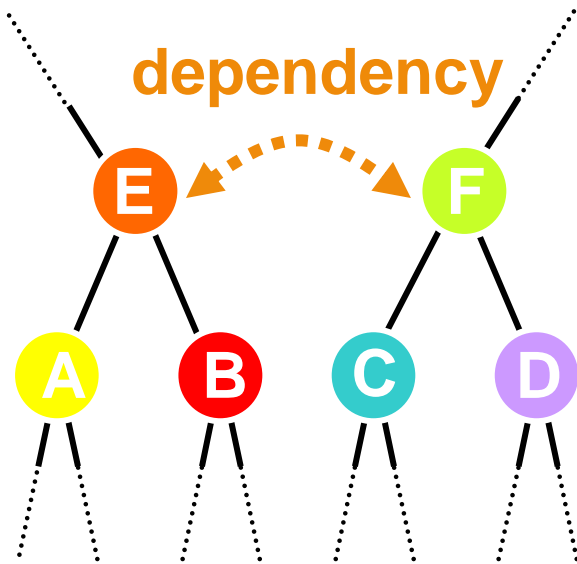
Boundary Constraints



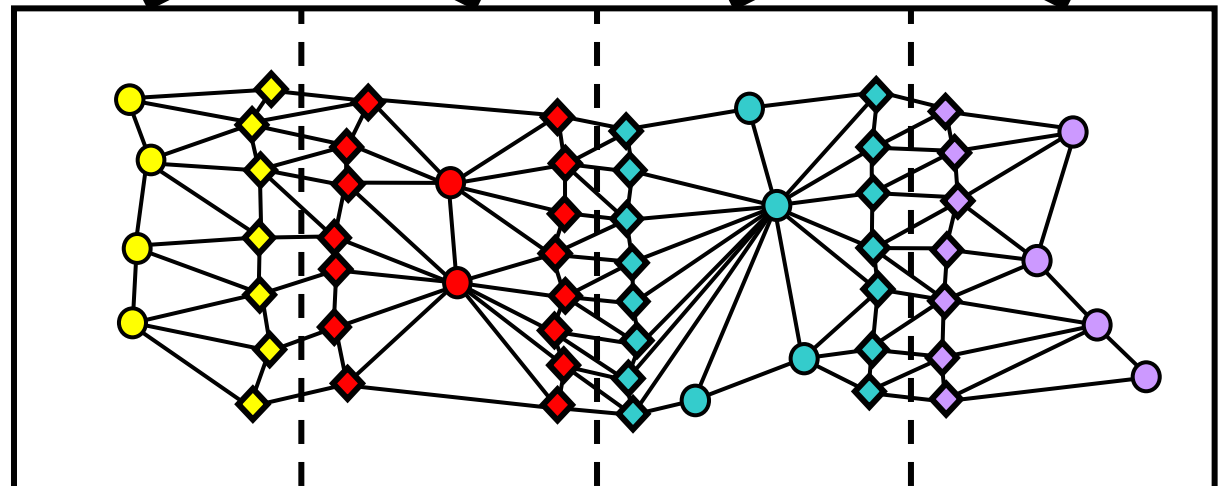
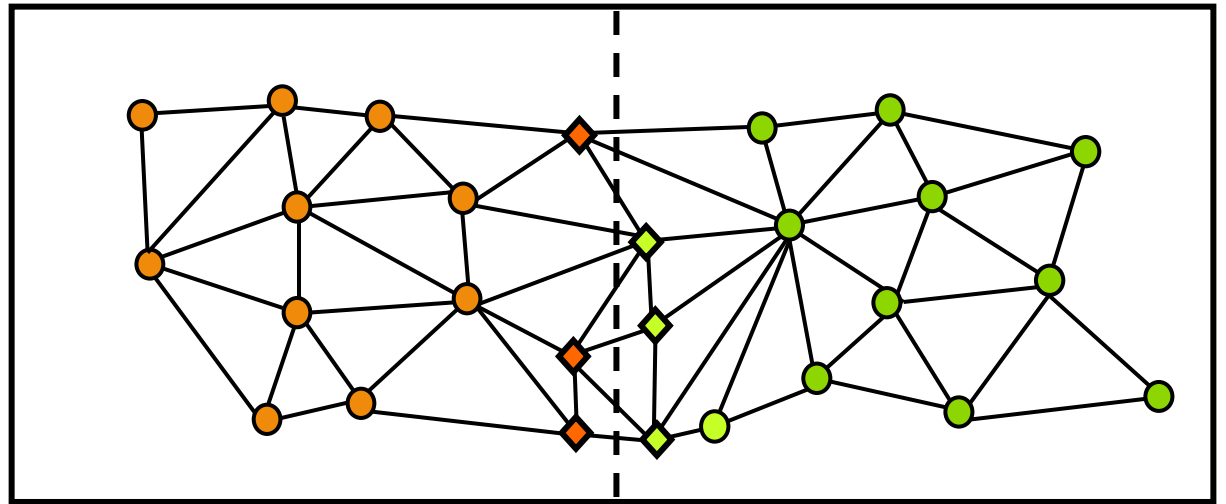
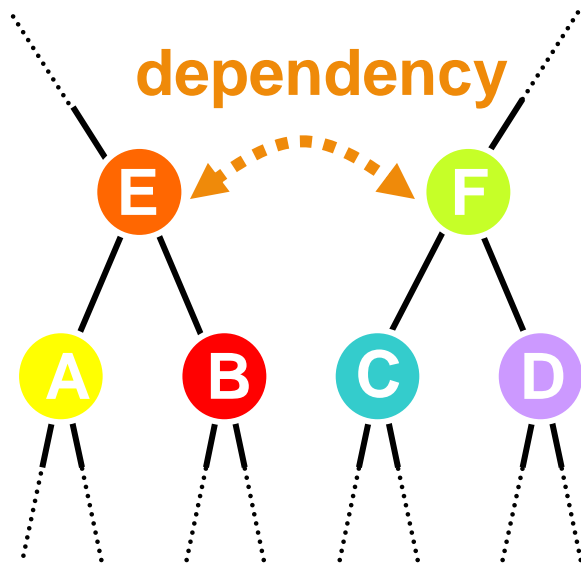
Cluster Dependencies

- Replaces preprocessing constraints with runtime dependencies

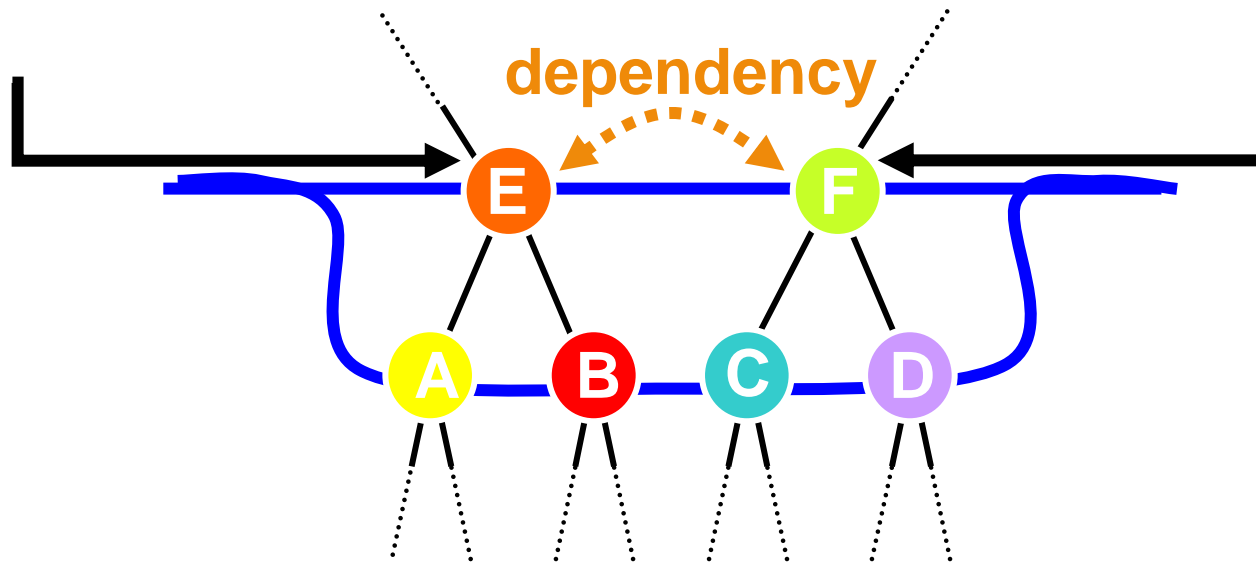
Cluster Dependencies



Cluster Dependencies

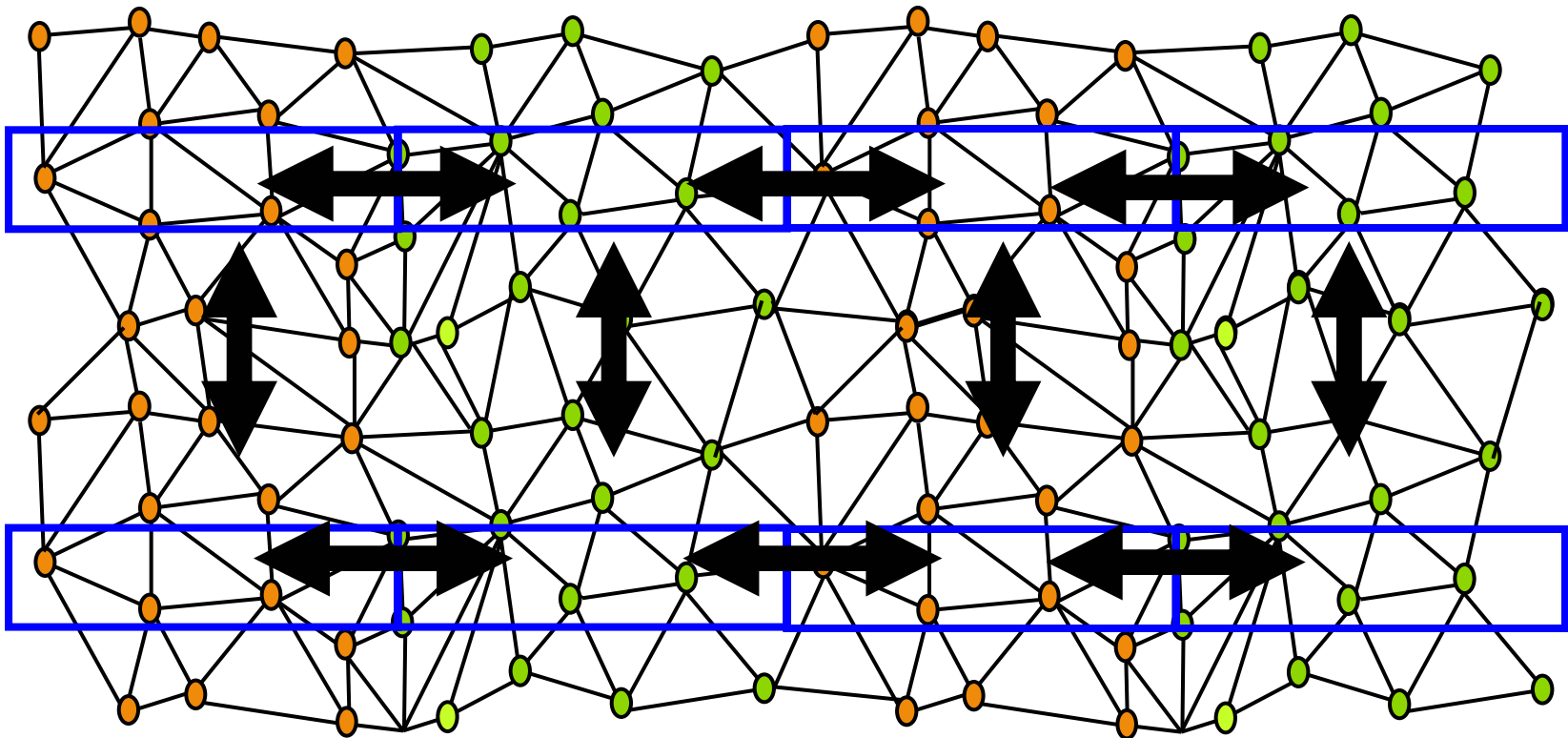


Cluster Dependencies at Runtime

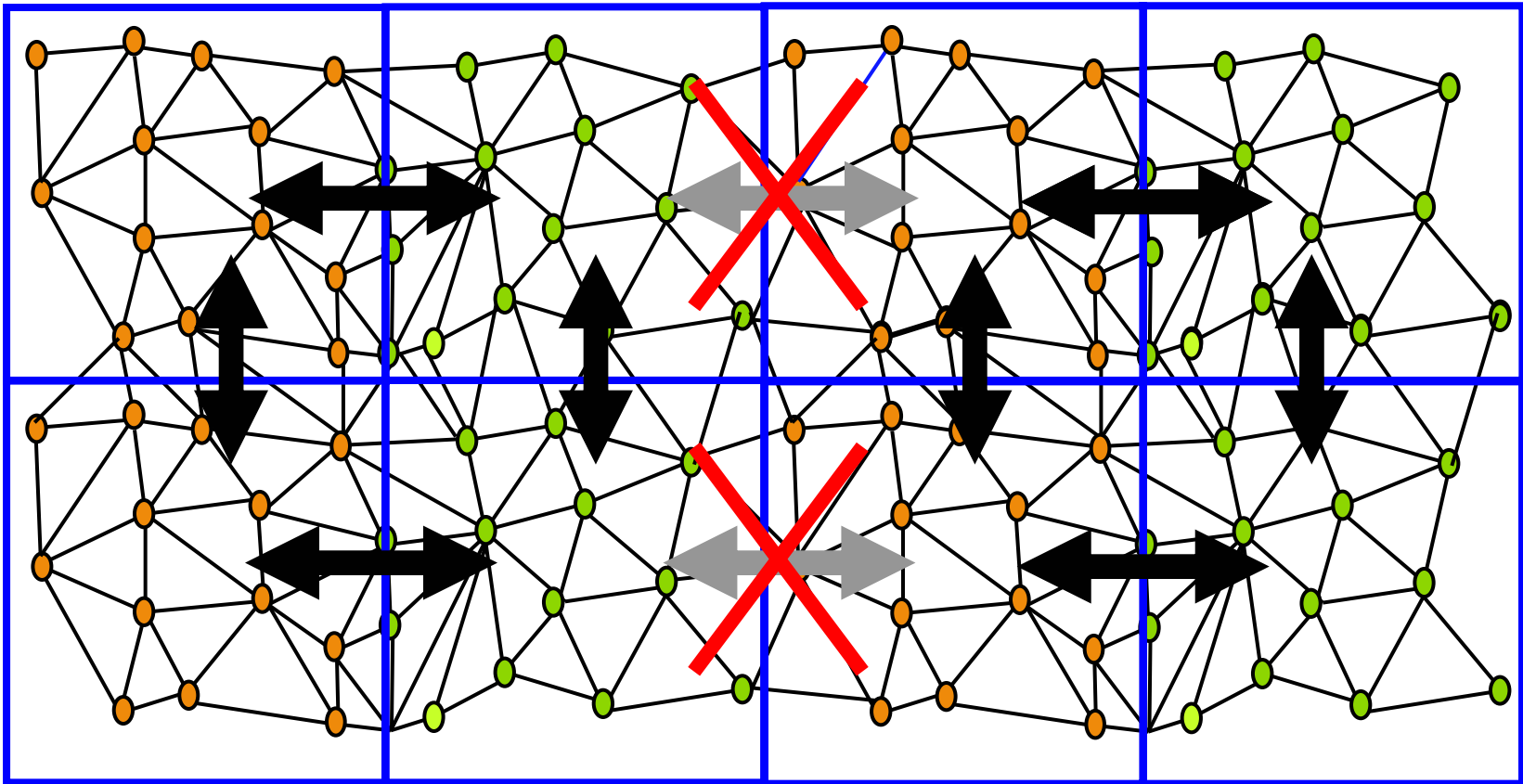


Chained Dependency

- Inappropriate for refinements

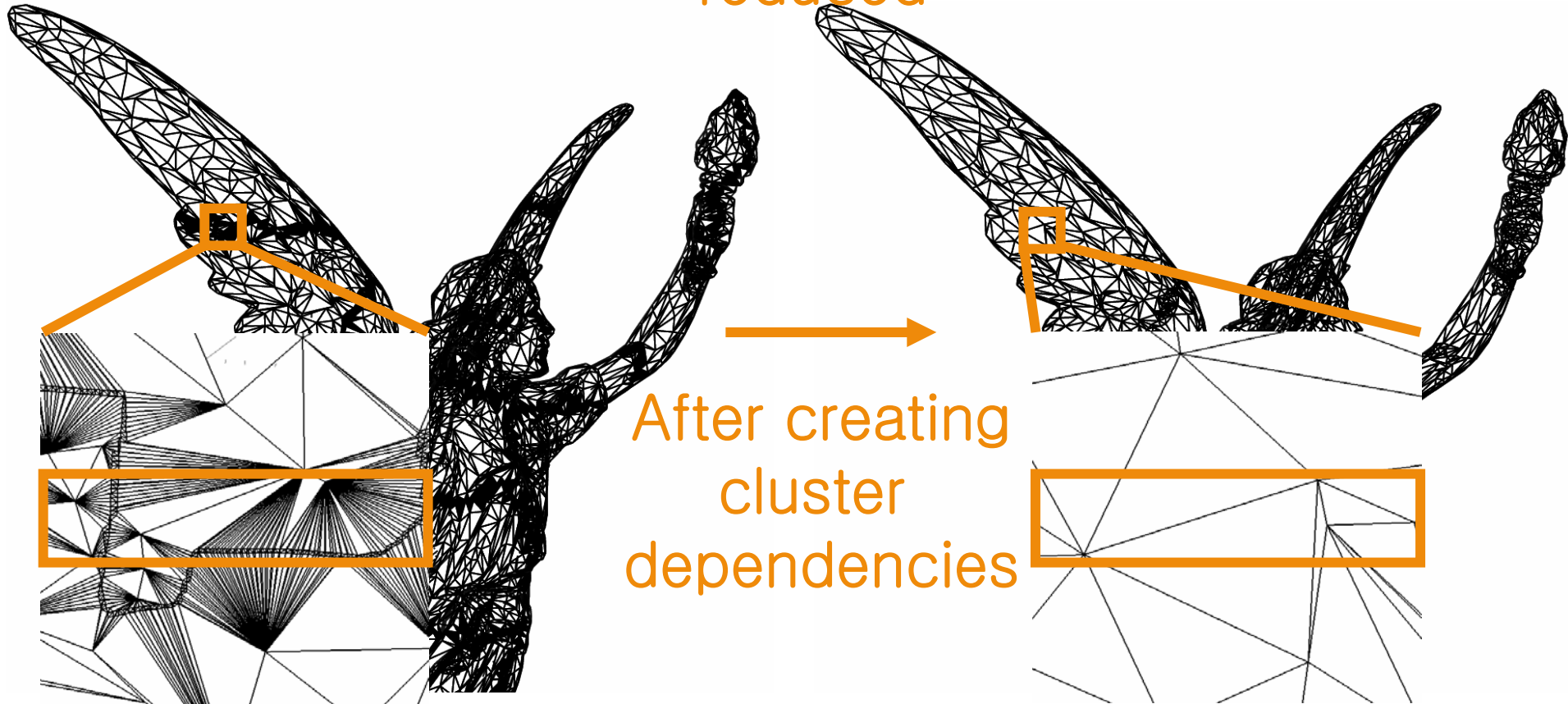


Cluster Dependencies

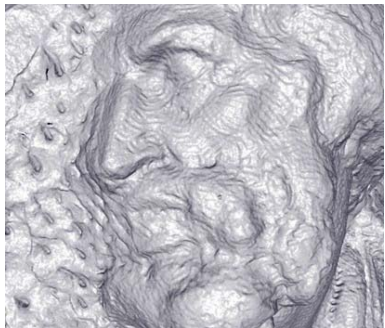
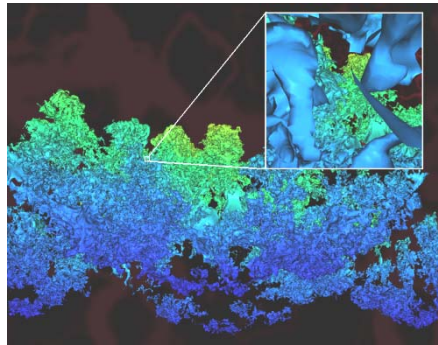


Cluster Dependencies

92% triangles
reduced



Runtime Performance



| Model | Pixels-of-errors | Frame rate | Model size |
|-------------|------------------|------------|------------|
| Power plant | 1 | 28 | 1GB |
| Iso-surface | 10 | 18 | 2.5GB |
| St. Matthew | 1 | 29 | 13GB |

Other Forms of LOD

- **Image impostors**
- **Shader LOD**
 - Number of shaders
 - Number of textures
- **Simulation LOD**
 - Time steps
 - Simulation resolution
 - Number of particles
- **Lighting**
 - Number and type of lights used

Next Time..

- **Study cache-coherent algorithms**