

## Simplification and LOD Applications

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## Contents

- ❑ Static LOD
  - Support for LOD-based visualization
    - ◇ VRML, Metastrea, Java3d
  - Support for simplification and construction of LOD models
    - ◇ Jade, SGI Cosmo, SGI Optimizer, HP Direct Model Tk, IMCompress
- ❑ Dynamic LOD
  - constant resolution
  - view-dependent resolution
- ❑ Use of MultiRes: ***data trasmission, GIS, FlightSimulators***
- ❑ Resolution Modelling
  - user-driven variable resolution
- ❑ Multiresolution for Volume dataset management

## Level of detail (LOD)

### □ LOD repr. [Clark76,Funkhouser93]

○ multiple instances/representations of the same object at different resolutions

○ decide which to render depending on current object position

◇ near

◇ ....

◇ far

◇ reduces download time (smaller first)

◇ improves frame rate



38,000 faces



4,000 faces



1,200 faces

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## LOD -- OpenInventor

### LOD support under SGI OpenInventor

○ scene represented by a tree of **shape**, **property** and **group** nodes

○ *SoLevelOfDetail* node:

◇ group node

◇ specifies the shape of a single object at multiple level of details (children **shape** nodes specified in order of decreasing details)

◇ at rendering time, object's **projected size** determines which child is chosen to be displayed

★ uses 3D bounding box to compute the projected area

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## LOD -- VRML (Virtual Reality Modeling Language)

### LOD support under VRML 2.0

- LOD grouping node (one child displayed at a time):

```
LOD {
  MFNode  level[]
  SFVec3f  center  0. 0. 0.          (-∞,∞)
  MFFloat  range[]          (0,∞)
}
```

- ◇ main difference with OpenInventor: object's **distance from the viewer** determines which child is chosen
- ◇ level field: list of shape nodes at different level of detail (specified in order of decreasing details)
- ◇ center field: object's baricenter used to compute viewing distance
- ◇ range field: defines distances to switch between shape nodes

## LOD -- VRML (Virtual Reality Modeling Language)

### LOD support under Java3d

- LOD Abstract Class

```
□ java.lang.Object
□ +--javax.media.j3d.SceneGraphObject
□   +--javax.media.j3d.Node
□     +--javax.media.j3d.Leaf
□       +--javax.media.j3d.Behavior
□         +--javax.media.j3d.LOD
□           +--javax.media.j3d.DistanceLOD
```

One abstract class (`javax.media.j3d.LOD`) for any possible lod choosing strategy

One implementation (`javax.media.j3d.DistanceLOD`):

object's **distance from the viewer** determines which child is chosen

## ... Level of detail (LOD)...

### Problems with LOD approach:

- ❶ level transition may generate a *popping* effect
  - ◇ disparity between different LOD instances must be very smooth
  - ◇ sudden changes in shaded color or texture are very easily detected by humans!!
- ❷ selection of the optimal ranges for LOD transition

### (Partial) Solutions

- ❶ generate high quality approximations
- ❷ use *dynamic LOD* (selection done at run time, adaptively)

## LOD Construction

### ❑ Standard approach to construct an LOD model

- ❶ eliminate **details**
  - ◇ textures
  - ◇ text
- ❷ **simplify** geometry



### ❑ But preservation of detail is crucial for good perception

==>

use an **attribute-preserving** simplifier!!

## LOD Construction -- Systems for mesh simplification

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### Commercial

- SGI
  - ◇ [Cosmo Worlds]
  - ◇ OpenGL Optimizer
- HP DirectModel
- IBM Interaction Accelerator
- Innovmetrics IMCompress
- ...

### Public domain

- VTK (Visualization Toolkit)
- Quadric Error Metrics
- Jade 2
- Mesh Optimization
- Simpl. Envelopes

## Systems for mesh simplification -- **Jade v2.0**

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### **Jade 2.0** (Multiresolution Global Error Decim.)

[Ciampalini et al.'97]



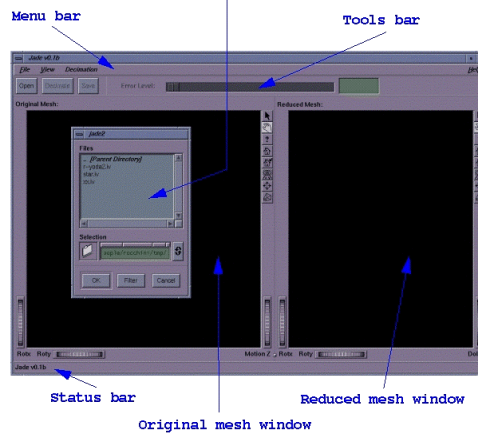
- decimation-based simplifier
  - global error evaluation
  - multiresolution output
  - I/O: SGI OpenInventor
- available on the web ( <http://miles.cnuce.cnr.it/cg/enhadecimation.html> )
- executable for SGI ws only

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□ Jade's GUI

Step 1: Load a mesh



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□ Jade's GUI

Decimation options



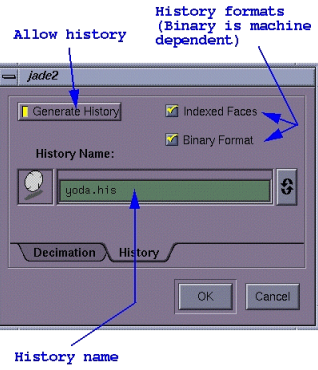
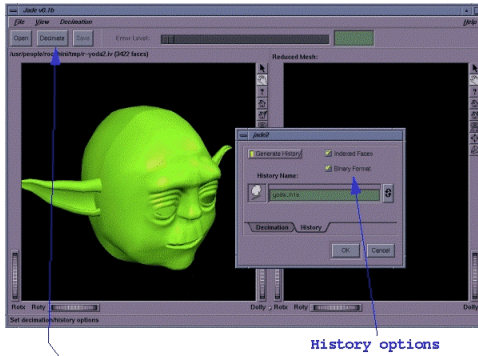
The original mesh  
Step 2: Select the decimation parameters

... Jade 2.0 ...

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### □ Jade's GUI

Step 3: Set the history options (if you wish)



Step 4: Start the decimation

IEEE Vis'98 Tutorial

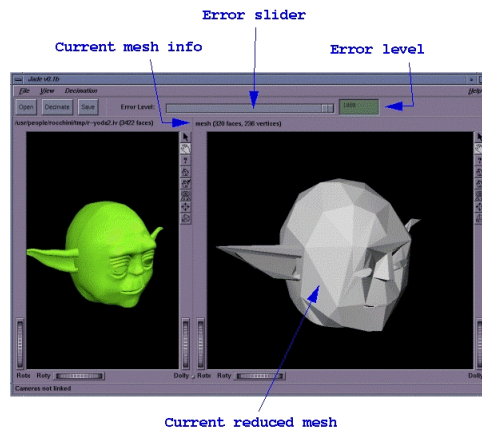
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### □ Jade's GUI

Step 5: Select an error level



IEEE Vis'98 Tutorial

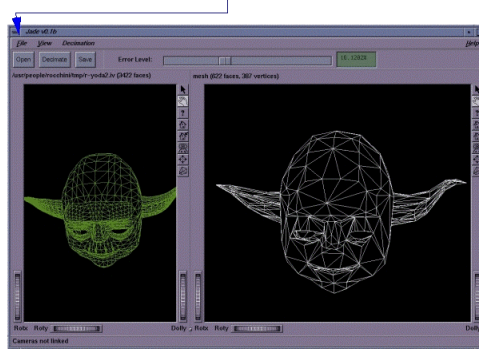
14

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□ Jade's GUI

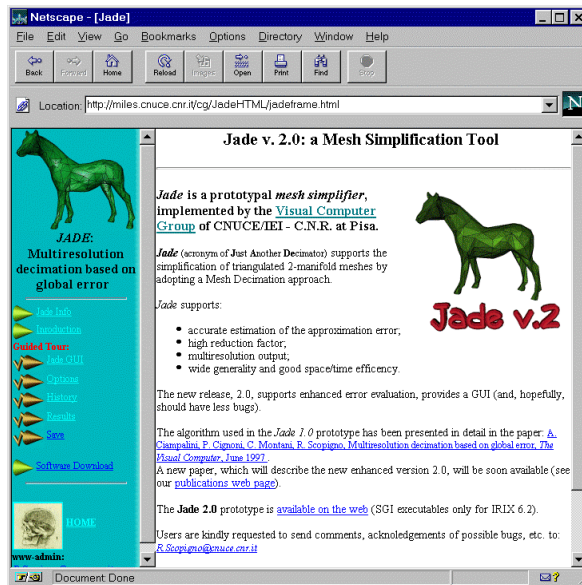
Step 6: Save the mesh (or a screen snapshot)



... Jade 2.0 ...

Jade's  
on line  
HTML  
User Guide

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## Systems for mesh simplification -- SGI Cosmo Worlds

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### Cosmo Worlds

- supports creation and editing of virtual 3D worlds (VRML);
- **Optimization Tools** suite:
  - ◇ **Polygon Reduction Editor**
  - ◇ **Inline Editor**
  - ◇ **LOD Editor**
- **Polygon Reduction Editor** reduces polygon # :
  - ◇ deletes points by **curvature**
  - ◇ discards triangles by **area**
  - ◇ discards edges by **length**
  - ◇ **merge** initial coordinates (clustering)

*but SGI has dismissed the Cosmo division...*

## ... Systems for mesh simplification -- SGI Cosmo Worlds...

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### Polygon Reduction Editor GUI

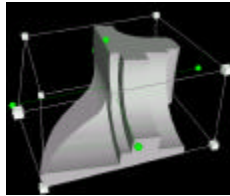
The screenshot shows the Polygon Reduction Editor interface. At the top, a 3D model of a jet is displayed. Below it, the 'Original Triangle Count: 957' and 'Current Triangle Count: 368' are shown. The interface includes several control panels:
 

- Delete Points by Curvature:** A slider set to 90. Annotations indicate that 0 is the lowest degree and 90 is the highest degree.
- Discard Triangles by Area:** A slider set to 0.30. Annotations explain that 0 is the smallest area and 1 is the largest area.
- Discard Edges by Length:** A slider set to 1.70. Annotations explain that 0 is the shortest and 1 is the longest.
- Merge Initial Coordinates:** A slider set to 0.30. Annotations explain that 0 is the least distance and 1 is the most distance.

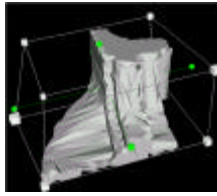
 Other controls include checkboxes for 'Use Slices', 'Octahedron', 'Bbox', 'Viewing', 'Lock/Unlock Points', 'Display Lock Markers', 'Global Coord Degradate', 'Local Coord Degradate', and 'Curvature Surface Edge'. Annotations also point to the 'Accept' button and the 3D view area.

### Polygon Reduction Editor

- clustering--based simplification
  - ◇ fast
  - ◇ low quality approximation
  - ◇ any measure or bound on simplified mesh approximation
  - ◇ user goes through a number of attempts ==> process cannot be easily reproduced



Fandisk, 6300 vertices



Cosmo, 1278 vertices



Jade, 129 vertices

### LOD Editor GUI

Creates a new level of detail grouping object

Center of the LOD object, used for measuring the distance from the object to the viewpoint; type in the desired values.

Range limit; you can select and drag ranges interactively.

Range bar; blue band indicates current level; click to select a level interactively.

You can type a range value directly into this text field or change ranges by sliding the markers on the range bar (new values are shown in this box).

Adds a new level, which contains no objects. Useful for objects that are at the furthest distance and can't be seen.

Removes the LOD object, promoting its child objects one step in the scene hierarchy.

Creates a new level that is a copy of the current level. You can then modify the new level, perhaps to create a simpler version.

Use the "Active LOD" mode to test the transition between levels as you move the viewpoint; use "Keep Current Level" to edit an object.

You can select the current level (child) by typing its index into the text field or by cycling through the levels using the up or down arrow. The first level has an index of 0.

A distance-LOD switches between levels at the specified ranges; a performance LOD allows the browser to determine when to switch between ranges, based on rendering frame rate.

Level-of-Detail Editor

Create LOD Grouping Over All Selections

LOD Type: Distance Performance

Distances Computed from Point: 0 x 0 y 0 z

Mode: Active LOD Keep Current Level

Current Level: 2 Range Limit: 16.7496

Number of Levels: 4

Duplicate Current Level Append Empty Level

Remove LOD Grouping

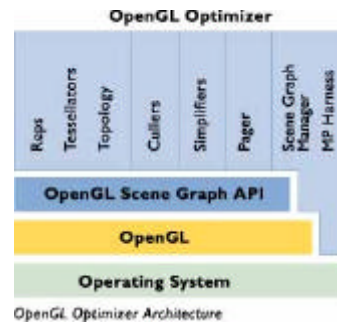
## Systems for mesh simplification -- SGI OpenGL Optimizer

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### OpenGL Optimizer

- ❑ specifically developed to meet the demands of high performances visualization applications (e.g. CAD/CAM/CAE games, medical, scientific).
- ❑ OpenGL API built on top of OpenGL.
- ❑ Optimizer v.1.3 will become the core component to SGI/ Microsoft "Fahrenheit" project

web:  
<http://www.sgi.com/Technology/OpenGL/optimizer/>



## ... Systems for mesh simplification -- SGI OpenGL Optimizer

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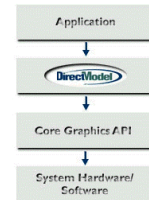
### OpenGL Optimizer Technical Specifications (v.1.1 released June '98)

- ❑ Simplification
  - Successive Relaxation Simplifier
    - ◇ Target polygon count or percentage
    - ◇ Target surface deviation
    - ◇ Automatic surface normal recalculation
    - ◇ Maintains surface topology
  - Detail removal as percentage of entire model volume space
  - Spatial grid simplifier
    - ◇ Non-topological spatial simplification
    - ◇ Target model percentage
- ❑ Geometry Operators
  - ◇ Spatialization - breaks scene graph into optimal spatial sizes
  - ◇ Unified triangle stripper and triangle fanner optimizer
  - ◇ Spatial and graphics state combiner reduces needless scene graph and rendering overhead

## Systems for mesh simplification -- HP Direct Model



- ❑ *goal*: enable real-time visualization of very large and highly complex models
- ❑ object oriented toolkit, scene described with a graph
- ❑ includes different simplification methods (C++ Simplifier classes):
  - bounding box
  - drop component (discard some nodes from the input graph)
  - convex hull
  - vertex clustering (octree-based), with/without feature edge preservation
  - edge-based decimation
  - tri-stripper



web:<http://www.hp.com/unixwork/products/grfx/dmodel>

## Systems for mesh simplification -- IBM Interaction Accelerator

### IBM 3D Interaction Accelerator

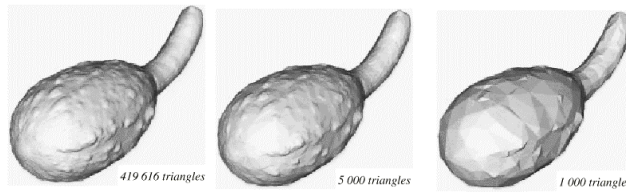
- ❑ workstation-based interactive software
- ❑ enables real-time visualization of very large and highly complex mechanical and architectural CAD models
- ❑ includes a simplification module, based on the **Vertex Clustering** algorithm [Rossignac 93]

## Systems for mesh simplification -- IMCompress

### IMCompress by Innovmetrix

(specialized on range scanner data management; sw by Soucy et al.)

- automatic polygon reduction tool, included in the PolyWorks integrated line of software tools for building 3-D polygonal models from 3-D range scanner data
- adopts a *global error decimation* approach
- guarantees bounded 3-D tolerances between compressed and original models
- preserves local topology, surface edges and **color/ textures**



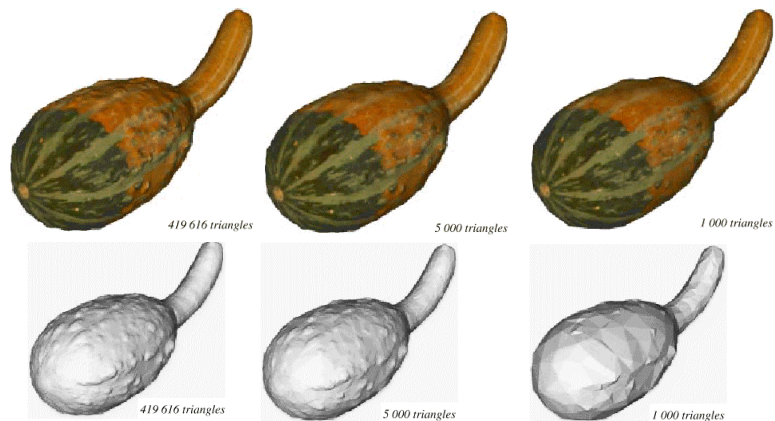
IEEE Vis'98 Tutorial

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## ...Systems for mesh simplification -- IMCompress...

### IMCompress

- preserves **color / textures**



IEEE Vis'98 Tutorial

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## Other systems for Surface Simplification

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- **Geomagic Decimator Surface simplifier**, by Geomagic,  
<http://www.geomagic.com/products/decimator.html>
- **Rational Reducer Surface simplifier**, by System in Motion  
<http://www.sim.no/polyred.html>
- **Decimate**, by Cyberware  
<http://www.cyberware.com/products/Decimate.html>
- **Multiresolution Geometry SDK**, by Sven Technologies,  
<http://www.sven-tech.com/products/mrg/>

## "The future (?)"

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- What **near future** will take us?
  - **MPEG 4** -- a new International Standard
  - **Fahrenheit architecture** -- an industrial project (MS + SGI)

## 3D graphics in MPEG-4

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### **MPEG-4**

- ISO standard from the MPEG (Moving Picture Experts Group)
- Version 1 I.S. in Dec.'98
  - still images and video
  - audio
  - 3D graphics:
    - ◇ VRML-like data definition features (with binary format)
    - ◇ improved control of 3D data animation and behavior
    - ◇ texture compression
  - ... and more...

## ... 3D graphics in MPEG-4...

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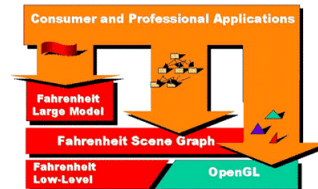
### **MPEG-4**

- Version 2 planned for Dec.'99
  - 3D graphics:
    - ◇ improved animation (body animation)
    - ◇ 3D mesh compression
      - ★ topology : *topologic surgery*
      - ★ geometry : quantization, predictive coding, entropy coding
    - ◇ LOD representation
    - ◇ progressive representation (and transmission)
  - ... and more...
  - See web at: <http://cseit.it/mpeg>

## Fahrenheit Architecture

Collaborative SGI - Microsoft project :

- ❑ design of a complete high-performance graphics architecture, for both **WinNT** and **Unix**
- ❑ three components (API):
  - **Fahrenheit Low Level**
    - ◇ expected Y2000, replaces Direct3D
  - **Fahrenheit Scene Graph**
    - ◇ tree-like data structure for scene representation
    - ◇ expected 2Q'99, ~replaces Open Inventor
  - **Fahrenheit Large Module Visualization**
    - ◇ tools for the visualization of large models, based on SGI Performer and HP DirectModel
    - ◇ expected 2Q'99, replaces SGI Performer and MS plans to deliver HP DirectModel



## Multiresolution Management

Exploit multiresolution representation:

- ❑ **to speed-up visualization**
  - improve visualization *frame rate* and *quality* in environments with constraints on data transmission/rendering
  - ⇒ dynamic LOD
  - ⇒ view-driven variable resolution
- ❑ **to enhance geometric data content**
  - link geometric detail to a user-driven interpretation of the data
  - ⇒ resolution modelling



## Dynamic LOD

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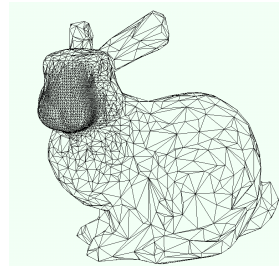
### □ Reasons for the construction of **Dynamic LOD**:

- Produce the **best-fit model** for a given graphics throughput (constant resolution)

Can be done:

- ◇ interactive simplification (very low quality)
- ◇ post-processing (hystory or progressive mesh)

- Produce the **best-looking model** for a given view point , also known as **adaptive LOD** (or variable resolution)



## ... Dynamic LOD ...

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### **MetaStream™** (<http://www.metastream.com>)

- new open PC file format announced jointly by Intel and MetaCreations
- plug-in technology to create, delivery and display 3D objects :
  - **progressive transmission** over Internet of 3D data
  - **dynamic selection of best-fit model** (given the graphics performances of the local host): Metastream plug-in (or user) may adjust the resolution of any object, so that it will rotate and react in real time
  - developed to manage 3D meshes with **texture-coded detail** (e.g. color)
  - data creation: MetaStream 3D **file format conversion plug-in** available for Ray Dream Studio™ 5 and Ray Dream 3D™ modelling applications

... Dynamic LOD ...

Metastream plug-in example:

- ❑ **best-fit** model (Pentium 166MHz)  
4,667 faces
- ❑ **user-selected** resolution  
23,161 faces



... Dynamic LOD ...

**Multi-Resolution Geometry SDK™**

(<http://www.sven-tech.com/products/mrg/>)



- ❑ software development kit
- ❑ to build interactive application based on dynamic lod technology
- ❑ available for Web, PC, Playstation, N64
- ❑ Integrates with 3DS MAX, Softimage, Maya, Lightwave, and proprietary pipelines/run-time formats.

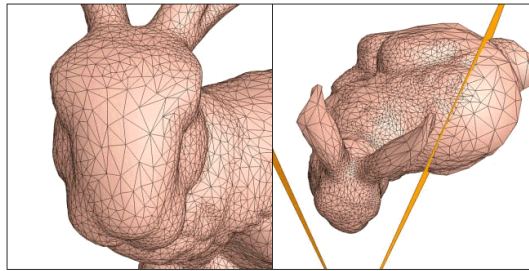
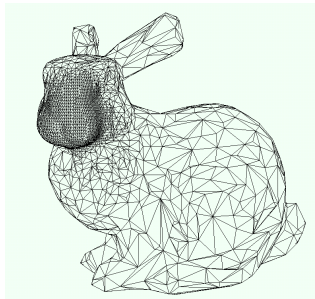


...Dynamic/Adaptive LOD ...

□ View-dependent best-looking model:

○ distance from the observer

○ region of interest



(b) Front view and (c) Top view ( $\tau=0.1\%$ ; 10,528 faces)

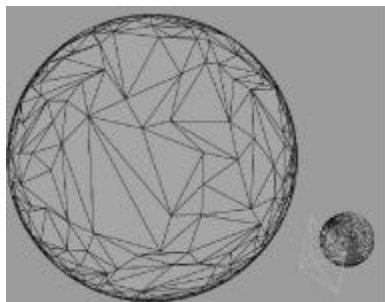
[Image by H. Hoppe]

...Dynamic /Adaptive LOD ...

... View-dependent **best-looking model**:

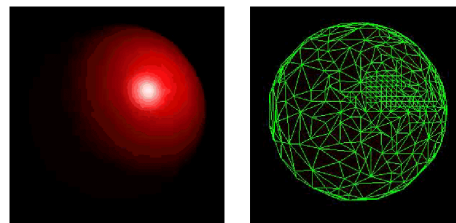
○ object's silhouette

○ lighting model



Variable resolution: 1% silhouette error, 20% interior error (1,950 faces).

[Image by Luebke et al.]



(c) Sphere with 537 triangles (adaptive LOD)

[Image by Xia et al.]

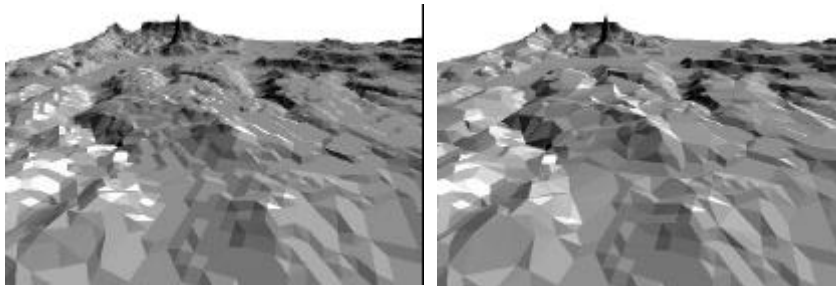
...Dynamic/Adaptive LOD ...

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□ Applications: **terrain visualization**

- full resolution
- 54K triangles

- variable resolution (view-depend.)
- 12K triangles



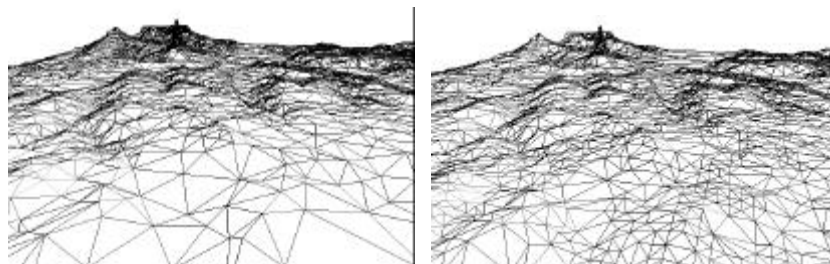
...Dynamic/Adaptive LOD ...

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□ Applications: **terrain visualization**

- constant resolution
- 12K triangles

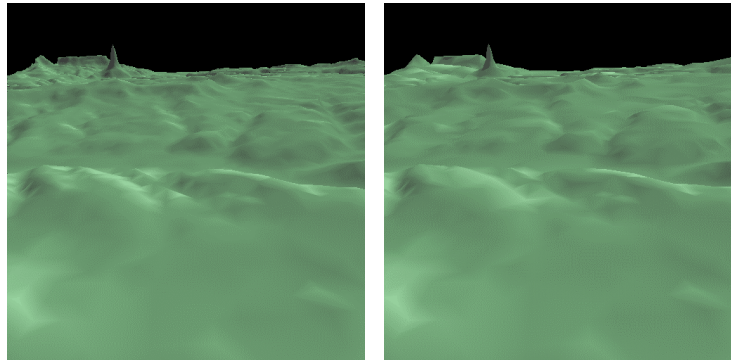
- variable resolution (view-depend.)
- 12K triangles



### ...Dynamic / Adaptive LOD ...

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- once we add shading (and texture-based color) the difference becomes negligible



Original terrain, 54K faces

Variable resolution, 5K faces

## MultiRes - Data Transmission

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- Moving large meshes over the net is critical
- LOD models:
  - send different levels of detail in a sequence
  - each level gives a full mesh, replacing the previous level
  - levels stored independently ==> redundant information transmitted
- Linear sequences (e.g., PM):
  - send data in given sequence and perform incremental reconstruction
  - reconstruction based on progressive refinement: *no data wasted*
  - Delaunay meshes can be reconstructed in linear time  
[Snoeyink Van Kreveld '96 , De Floriani, Magillo and Puppo '97]

### Multiresolution applied to terrain data

- Operations:
  - display
  - windowing
  - estimation of local properties
  - contour lines
  - overlay with thematic maps
  - visibility computation and line-of-sight problems
- Each operation can be performed at a level of detail specified by the user/application.
- Hierarchical organization can support structured processing, and speedup data access.

- All queries on a multiresolution model can be seen as specialization of a general query
  - *threshold function*  $t : R^2 \rightarrow R$
  - *focus set*  $F$  in  $R^2$
  - **General query:**
    - return a representation of the surface satisfying  $t$ , and relevant with respect to  $F$  (e.g., either restricted to  $F$ , or made of elements that intersect  $F$ ).
- Examples of focus set:
  - a **point**: point location query (to estimate local properties)
  - a **polyline**: configuration of terrain along a street, a river, etc.
  - a **rectangle**: windowing
  - a **sector**: view frustum for perspective display

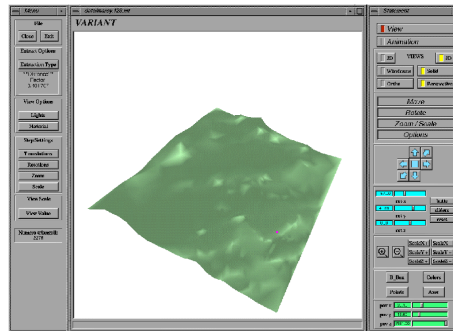
Multiresolution query processing -- two alternative approaches:

- two-steps: extract a mesh, then resolve query on it
  - ◇ exploit standard algorithms for single-resolution representations
  - ◇ can be less efficient
- direct: resolve query directly on the multiresolution model
  - ◇ exploit the inherent hierarchical structure of a multiresolution model
  - ◇ can be more difficult to implement

**VARIANT** (VARIABLE Resolution Interactive ANALYSIS of Terrain)

- Multiresolution GIS based on the MT
- MT-manager module implements basic operations on the MT:
  - I/O operations
  - update operations
  - general query
- MT-client modules implement applications through primitives provided by the MT-manager:
  - MT-builder: construction
  - MT-viewer: perspective display
  - .....

**VARIANT** (Variable Resolution Interactive Analysis of Terrain)



□ see web:

[http://www.disi.unige.it/research/Geometric\\_modeling/](http://www.disi.unige.it/research/Geometric_modeling/)

MultiRes - Flight Simulation

- Based on adaptive LOD. Resolution of extracted mesh is varying with:
  - distance from viewpoint
  - size of triangles projected onto the screen
- Extraction algorithms based on dynamic update of extracted mesh are better suited to navigation
- Existing interactive systems:
  - Georgia Tech display algorithm (based on implicit hierarchy of right triangles)
  - TopoVista from CS Arizona (based on explicit hierarchy of right triangles)
  - VARIANT animation mode (based on explicit MT)
  - .....

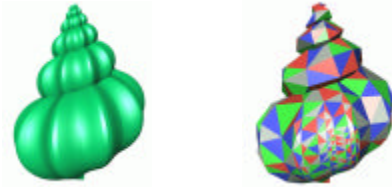


## Resolution Modeling

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A three-phases global **modelling conceptual framework** may be conceived as follows:

- **shape modeling**, canonical 3D shape design (CAD design / automatic acquisition / surface fitting) ➤ *user-assisted*
- **multiresolution model construction** (supported by surface simplification tools) ➤ *semi-automatic*
- **resolution modeling**, construction of variable resolution representations (depends on user interpretation/use of data content) ➤ *user-assisted*



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## ... Resolution Modeling ...

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- Two different approaches in literature:
  - Interactive multiresolution mesh editing based on patch-based surface representations and mesh subdivision  

D. Zorin, P. Schroeder, W. Sweldens  
"Interactive Multiresolution Mesh Editing"  
Siggraph '97
  - Zeta, resolution modeling based on multiresolution triangle-based representation  

P. Cignoni, C. Montani, C. Rocchini, R. Scopigno  
"Zeta: a Resolution Modeling system"  
GMIP: Graphical Models and Image Processing, 1998.

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**Zeta** [Cignoni et al.'98]

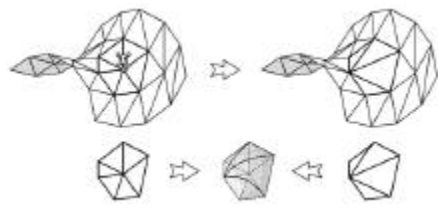
- construction of **variable resolution models** from a multiresolution mesh represented with the **hypertriangulation** scheme.

## Zeta supports:

- efficient extraction of **fixed resolution meshes**;
  - unified and interactive management of **selective refinements** and **selective simplification**;
  - easy **composition** of selective ref./simpl. actions;
  - **no cracks** in the variable resolution mesh produced;
  - **shape editing** capabilities;
  - **interactive** response times.
- **available on the web** - <http://miles.cnuce.cnr.it/cg/zeta.html> (SGI only)

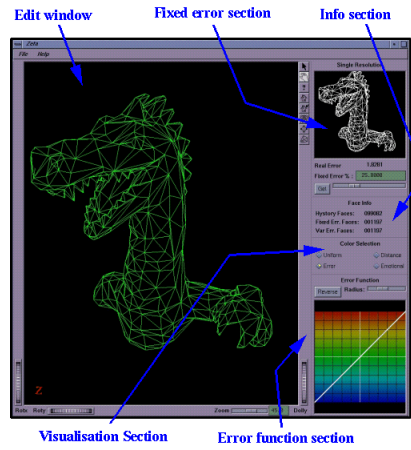
## Zeta -- Hypertriangulation Scheme

- Zeta input:
  - a simple multiresolution representation  
(**history** of incremental updates of a *global\_error*-based simplificator)
- Zeta run time representation: **hypertriangulation scheme**
  - holds in a compact way **geometry**, **error intervals** and **topology**
  - each single local update is not replaced, but glued to the current multiresolution mesh



□ Zeta's GUI

Zeta -- GUI



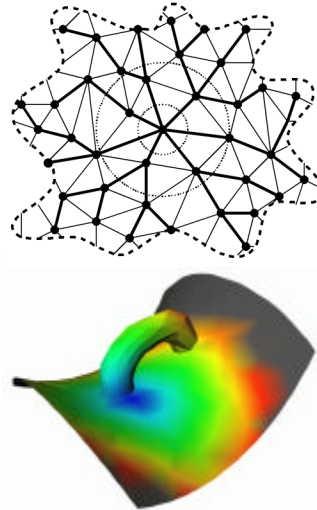
Zeta -- Variable resolution modeling

Proposed approach:

- interactive selection of resolution on a **base mesh**,  
 through the composition of **multiple selective refinements / simplification** actions  
 each of them affecting a **focus region**

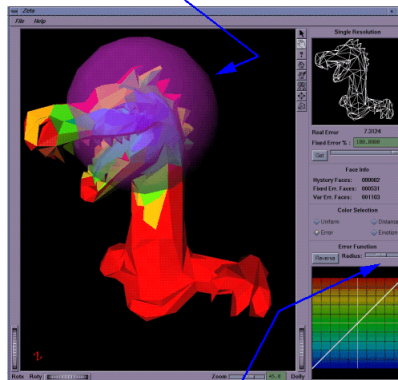
## Zeta -- Region of interest selection

- ❑ interactive selection of a **radius** and a **focus point**, which define the region of interest (*roi*) affected by the following **selective refinement / simplification actions**
- ❑ resolution in the updated area will depend on the approximated geodetic distance from the **focus point**
- ❑ distances computed solving a shortest path tree problem on the surface graph (graph arcs = mesh edges)



## Zeta -- Selection of the *roi* radius

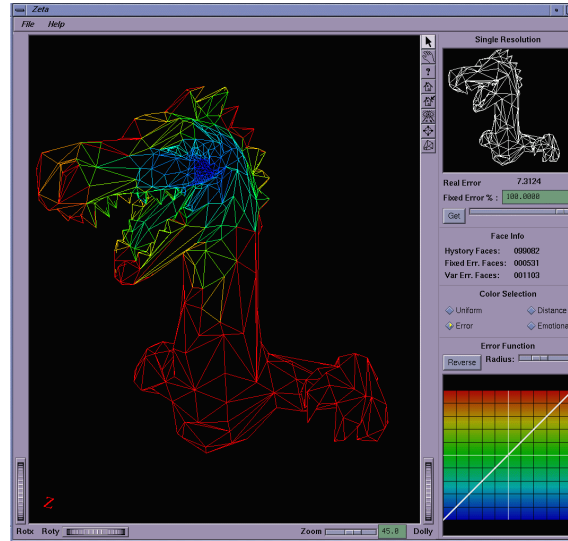
Radius modification is shown with a semi-transparent sphere.



Change radius

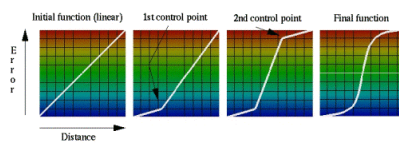
the sphere represents *visually* the approximate magnitude of the selective refinement region of interest (*roi*)

## Zeta: selective refinement

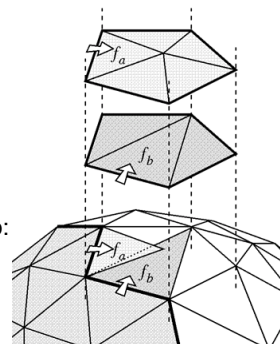


## Error management in selective refinement

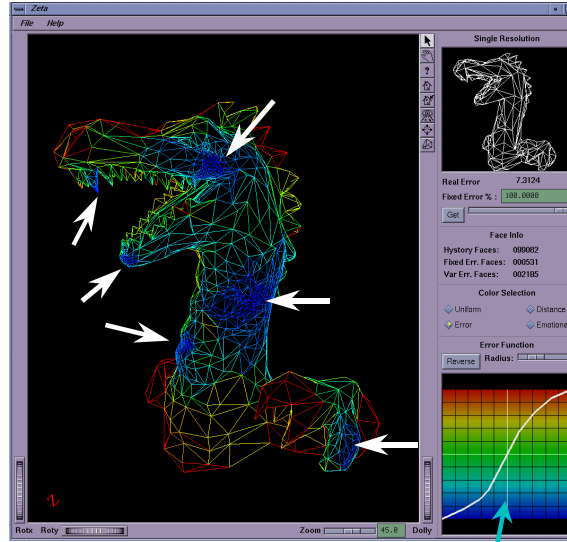
- error in the updated area varies following a user-defined function



- during the topologic expansion the border of the updated area should not self-intersect or fold-over  
(a double heap is adopted to maintain the facet-edges to be further expanded)
- ordering the facet-edge expansion is critical to:
  - minimize size of the current *expansion front*
  - get a smoother approximation refinement on the updated area



### Zeta: **composition** of multiple selective refinements

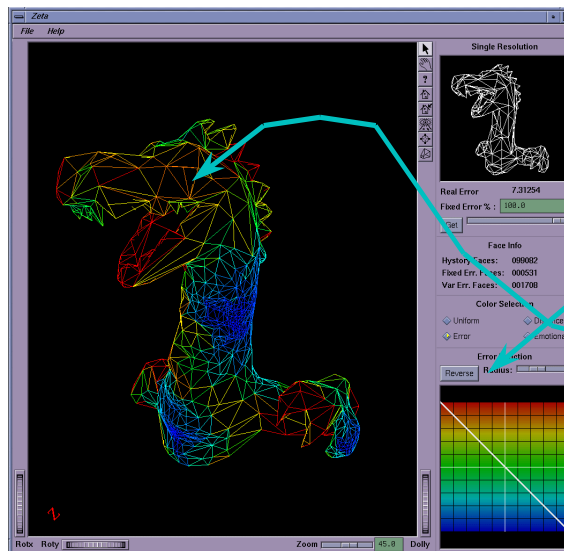


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user changed the current Error function

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### Zeta: selective **simplification**



step1) revert the Error function

step2) select the focus point

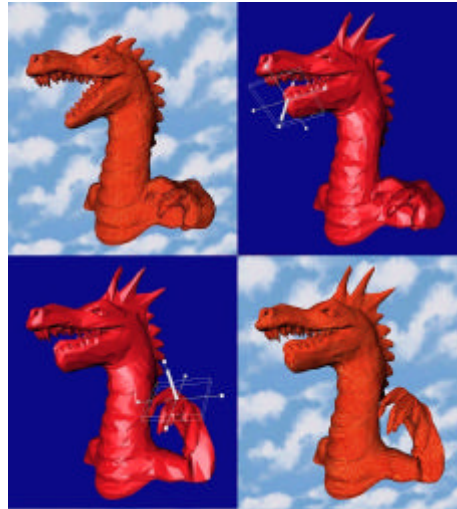
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## Zeta: interactive shape editing actions

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original  
mesh



shape editing  
on the low  
res. mesh (1)

shape editing  
on the low  
res. mesh (2)

results of shape  
editing in high  
resolution

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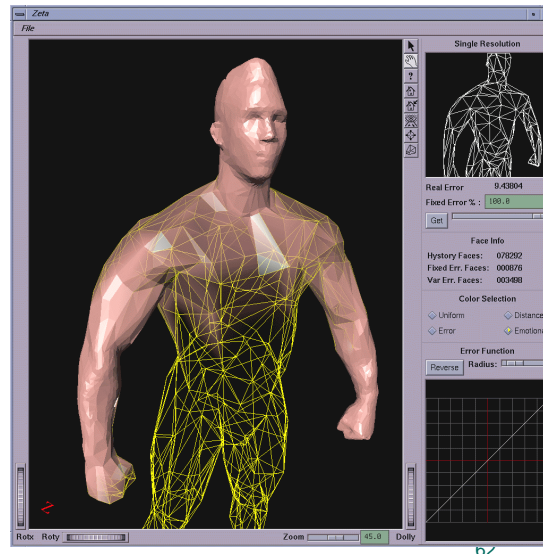
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## Zeta -- Applications

Use Zeta to produce illustrations:

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- ❑ Use multiple rendering modes which depend on mesh resolution:
  - normalize error in (0., 1.)
  - ① render shaded with opacity = (1-error)
  - ② render wireframe with opacity = error

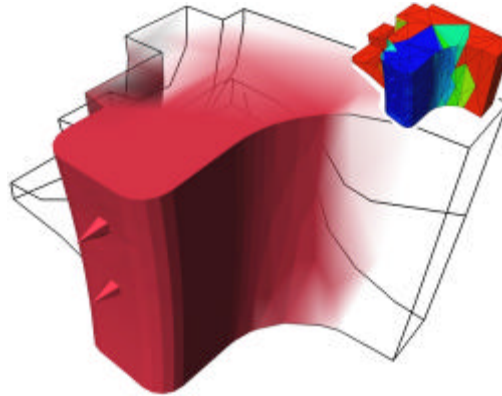


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### Use of multiple rendering modalities

- normalize error in (0., 1.)
- ① render shaded with opacity =  $(1-error)$
- ② render feature edges only with opacity =  $error$



## Multiresolution in Volume Visualization

### □ Why ?

- to reduce **data size** (run time)
- to improve **interactivity**
  - ◇ simplified models, LOD representation
  - ◇ progressive rendering
- to **focus** on region of interest
  - ◇ use full resolution only on limited areas



## Simplification of Volume Data

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- Extension of techniques developed for surfaces:
  - subsampling
  - octree-based decomposition scheme [Wilhelms van Gelder 94]
  - refinement of Delaunay mesh [Cignoni et al.94, HamannChen, 1994]
  - decimation [RenzeOliver '96, Cignoni et al. 97, StaadtGross98]

## Multiresolution in VolVis

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Approaches based on:

- **hierarchical structures**
  - ◇ octrees, k-d trees [WilVGel'94]
  - ◇ hierarchical Delaunay tetrahedrization [Bertolotto et al., 1994]
  - ◇ hierarchy of regular tetrahedra [Zhou et al' 97]
  - ◇ adaptive hierarchy of non regular tetrahedra [Grosso et al '97]  
[Rumpf et al '97]
- **linear sequence of tetrahedra** [Cignoni et al '94, '97]
- **MT 3D** [under implementation]
- **wavelets** [Muraki92-93,Guo95 ]

... Multiresolution in VolVis ...

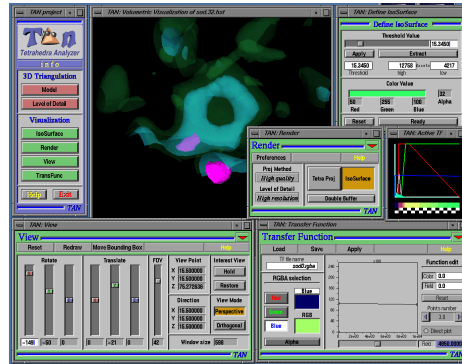
**TAn** (Tetrahedra Analyzer)

[Cignoni et al.94/97]

Volume visualization system based on linear sequences of tetrahedra

Features:

- both **structured** and **unstructured** data
- simplification based on either **refinement** or **decimation**
- extraction of a mesh at uniform resolution
- efficient extraction and rendering of multiple **isosurfaces**
- **direct volume rendering** through tetrahedra projection
- **hybrid rendering**
- **progressive rendering**

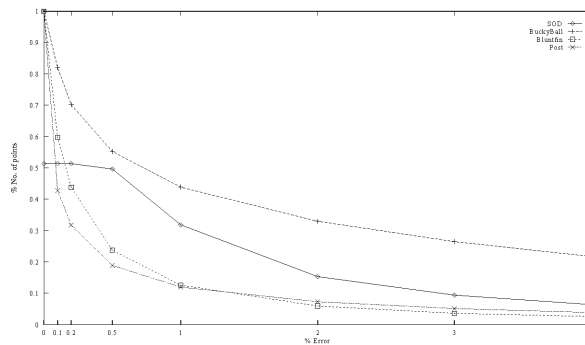


Multires in VolVis -- Data Compression

TAn - dataset simplification

some results:

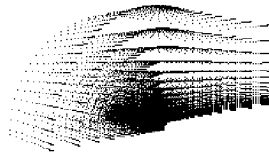
- SOD  
32x32x32, 32K sites
- BuckyBall  
32x32x32, 32K sites
- Bluntfin  
40x32x32, 40K sites
- Post  
38x76x38, 109K sites



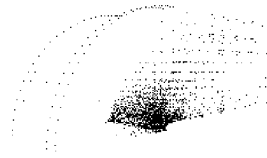
## ... Multires in VolVis -- Data Compression

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□ **bluntfin dataset** 40x32x32  
full precision (40K sites)



2% precision (2K sites)



## ... Multiresolution VolVis ...

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A *multiresolution* organization of the data may support

- **isosurface fitting**: simplified surfaces comes free
  - ◇ simplification is operated on the dataset (pre-proc. time);
  - ◇ efficient isosurf fitting, no simplification added costs;
- **hierarchical** or **progressive** rendering
- **multiresolution** data rendering

### Progressive rendering

the availability of a multiresolution representation allows to:

- visualize a **low resolution model** when user--system interaction is high (e.g during interactive view settings);
- visualize a **high resolution model** when user--system interaction is low

the choice of the resolution level may depend on:

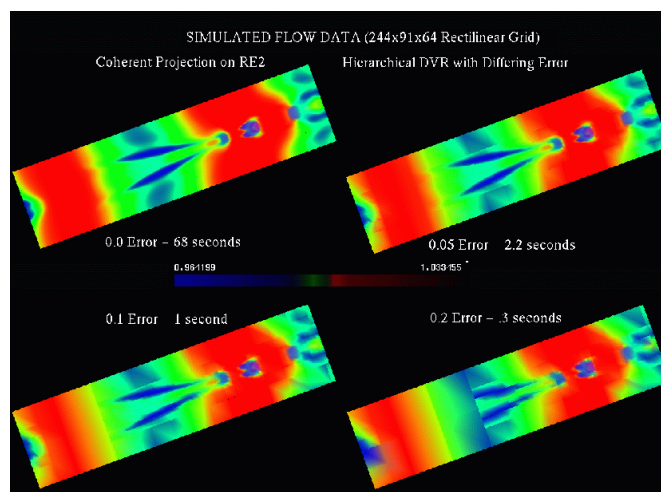
- complexity of the dataset at full precision
- graphics performances of the current system
- required rendering quality and/or frame rate

### Multires in VolVis -- Hierarchical Rendering

#### Multi-dimensional Trees

[Wilhelms et al 94]

- an example of **hierarchical** Coherent Projection



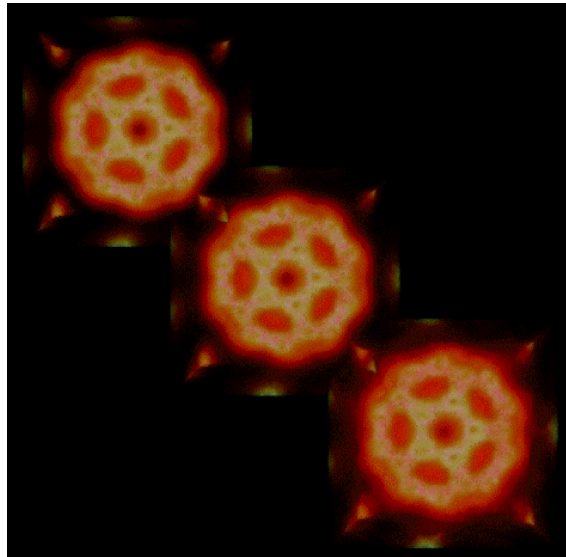
## TAn

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□ Buckyball  
(chemical dataset,  
32x32x32)

□ projected tetrahedra  
algorithm, different  
data resolutions:

- 100% of the data
- ~50% of the data
- ~10% of the data



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## Multiresolution rendering

how multiple levels of detail (LOD) may contribute to a single image?

**if the goal is to produce images of reality:**

for each object, use an LOD proportional to its *visible magnitude* or  
*distance to the observer* (in the current view)

(e.g. virtual environment rendering, VRML applications)

**if the goal is to get insight into reality:**

adopt **viewing filters**, e.g. process the data to give synthetic, enhanced  
and/or interpreted visual presentation

(e.g. multiple resolution models and MagicSphere)

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**Multiresolution rendering** via **MagicSphere**

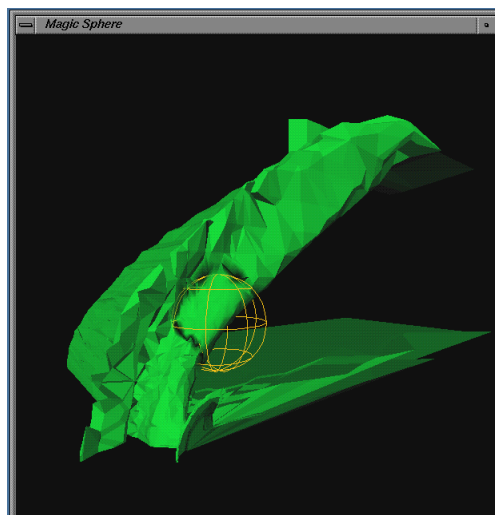
[Cignoni et al EG'94]

based on the metaphor of a 3D glass lens

- user defines a **spherical focus volume** in the data space;
- two different levels of detail are linked to the interior / exterior of MagicSphere
- user can define **different rendering modalities** for the data visualized in the interior/exterior of MagicSphere

**Multiresolution rendering** via **MagicSphere**

*MagicSphere  
with a MultiRes filter*



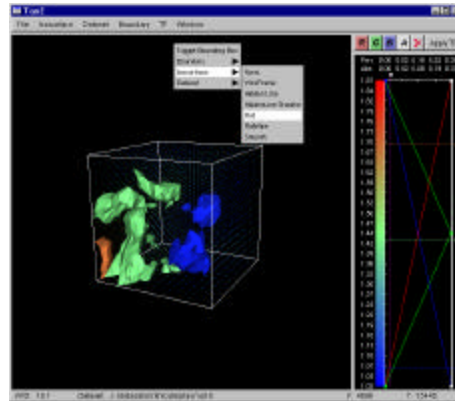
... Multiresolution in VolVis ...

**TAn 2** (Tetrahedra Analyzer Second Release) [Cignoni et al.94/97]

- Volume visualization system based on **MT** multires data structure

Features:

- Portable (win, sgi, linux)
- unstructured** data
- simplification system based on either **refinement** or **decimation**
- extraction of a mesh at uniform resolution
- efficient extraction and rendering of multiple **isosurfaces**
- Fixed and variable** resolution dataset management



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... Multiresolution in VolVis ...

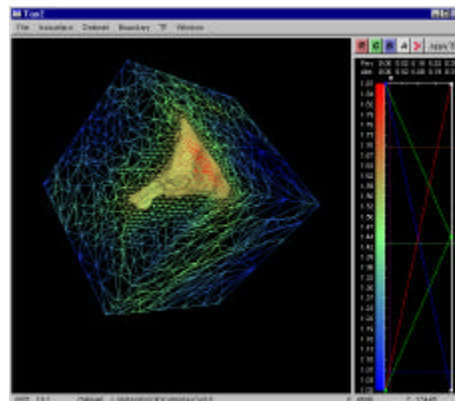
**TAn 2** (Tetrahedra Analyzer Second Release) [Cignoni et al.94/97]

- Volume visualization system based on **MT** multires data structure

Variable resolution features:

Refinement depending on

- field value
- space based
- dataset clipping through MT



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