

Lecture 1:

Introduction

Computer Graphics and Imaging
UC Berkeley CS184/284A

Welcome to CS184 / 284A!

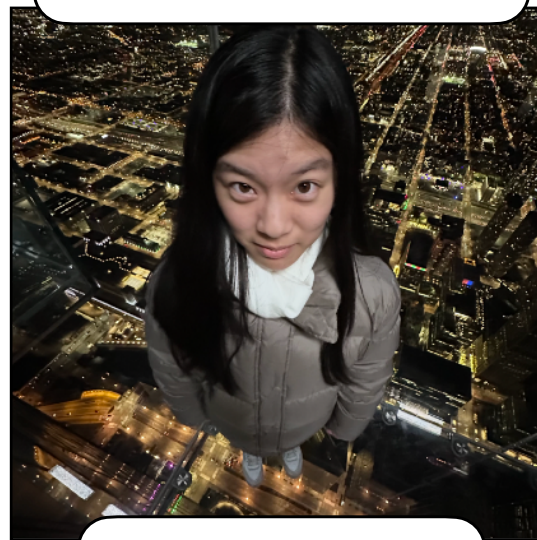


Prof. Ren Ng

- **Ph.D. 2006 on Digital Light Field Photography (evolving camera design using graphics technology)**
- **Founder of Lytro, a light field camera company**
- **Research interests: color, computational imaging systems, computer graphics, computer vision, human vision**
- **Fun fact: born Malaysian, became Australian, naturalized American. Had all three speaking accents!**

Welcome to CS184 / 284A!

CO-HEAD TA



20 HOUR

Ashley Chiu
she/her

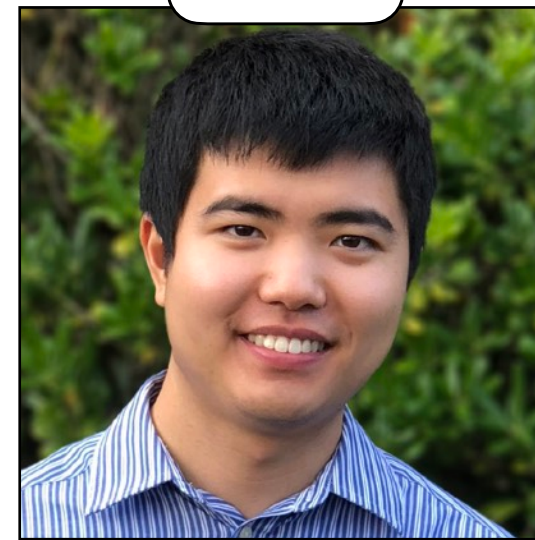
GSI



20 HOUR

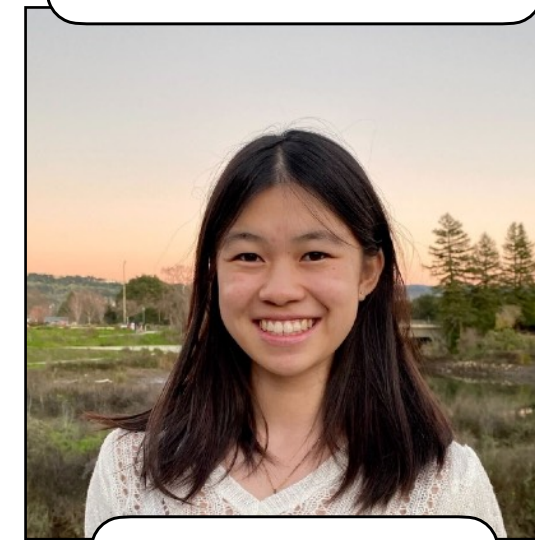
Ethan Weber
he/him

GSI



James Fong
he/him

CO-HEAD TA

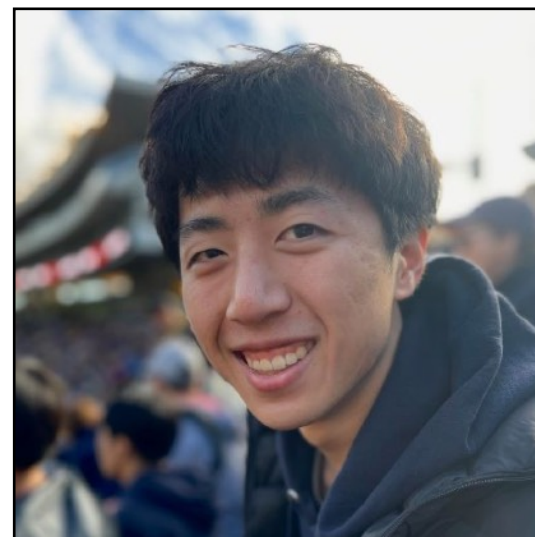


20 HOUR

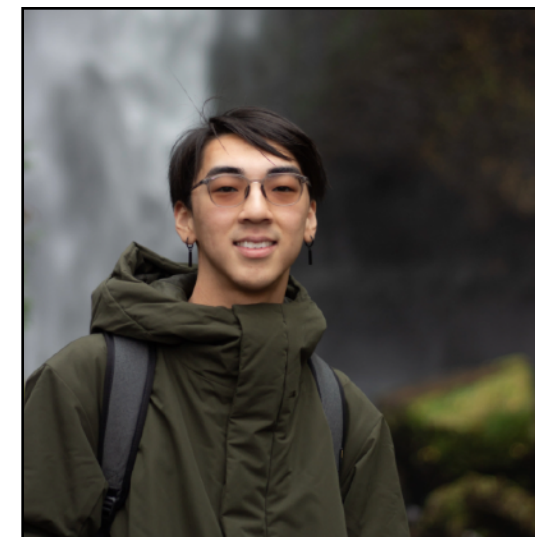
Jennifer Zhao



Joshua You
he/him



Preston Fu
he/him



Raine Koizumi
he/him

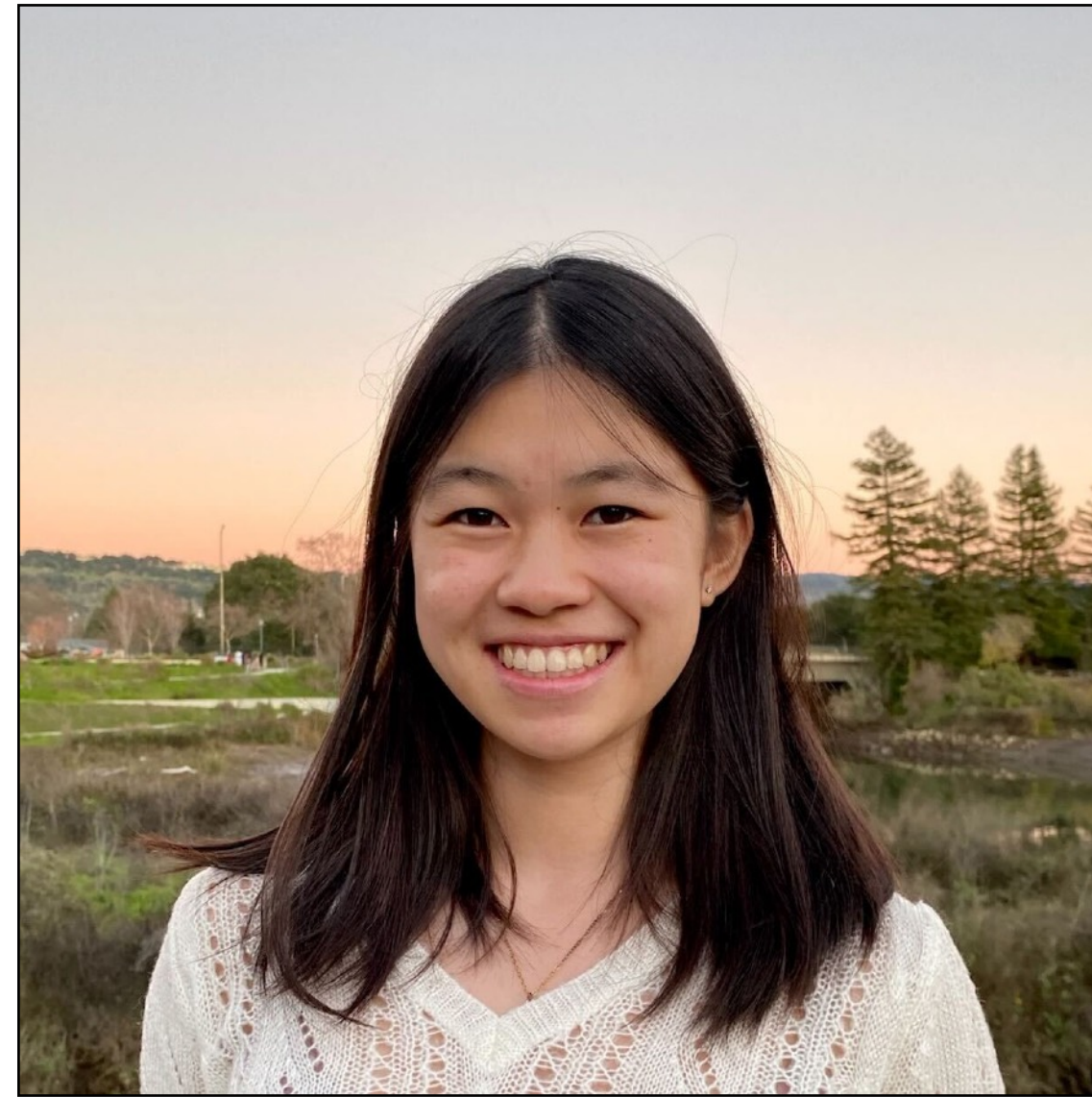


Rebecca Feng
she/her

Acknowledgment & Thank You



Ashley Chiu



Jennifer Zhao

Our Co-Head TAs have done an outstanding job getting us ready for a smooth class kickoff, a huge effort even before the semester started.

Your Names: An Important Request

- We want to get to know you
- It starts with your names
- We want to remember, but there are many of us
- Please help us with this rule:
 - Every time you participate in class, section, office hours, please remind us your name.
 - Example: "Hi, this is Xu Yi. My question is about..."
- Thank you very much!

CS184/284A: Computer Graphics & Imaging

Why Study Computer Graphics?

Course Overview

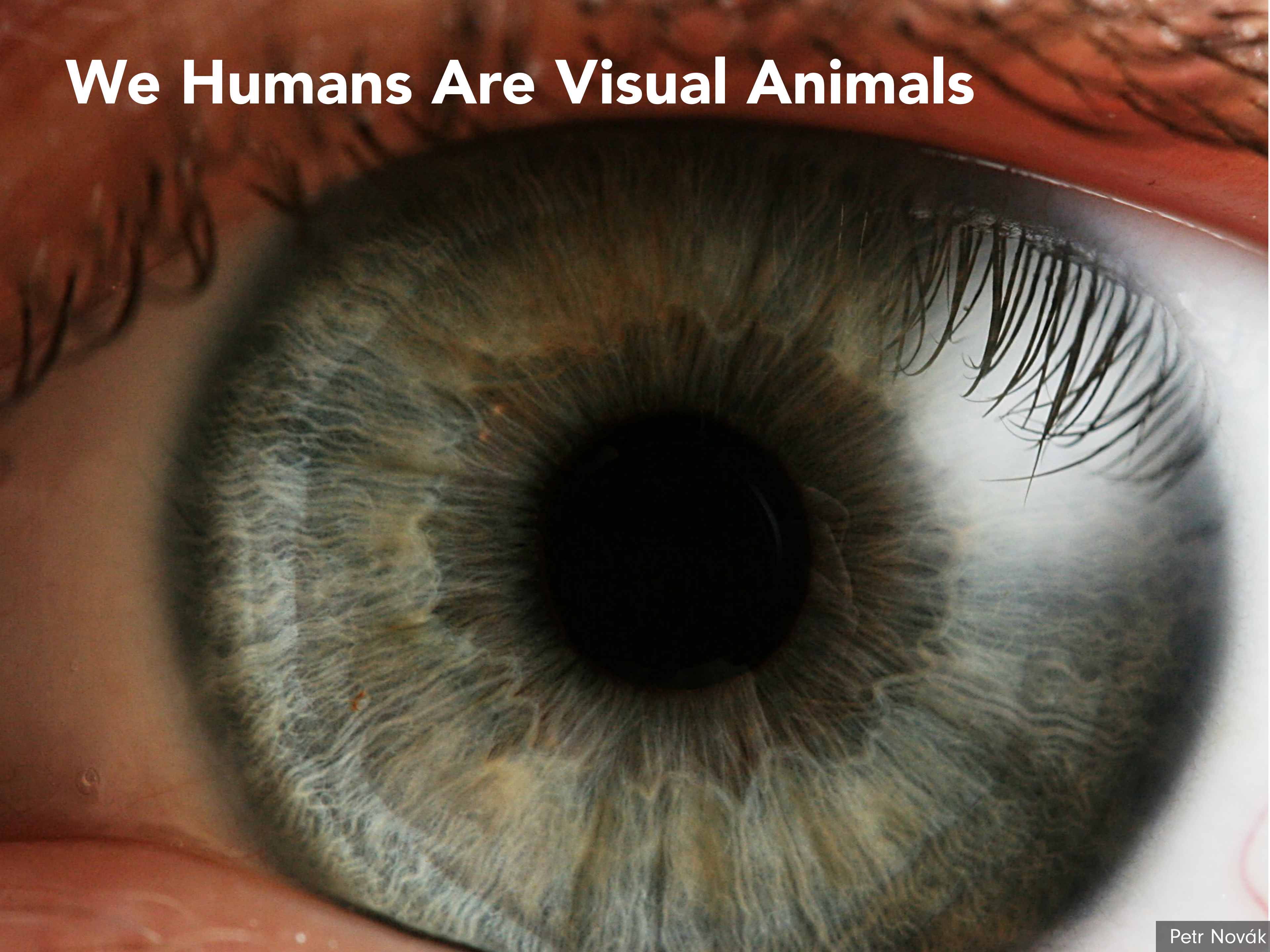
Logistics

What is Computer Graphics?

com • put • er graph • ics /kəm'pyʊədər 'grafiks/ n.
The use of computers to synthesize and manipulate visual information.

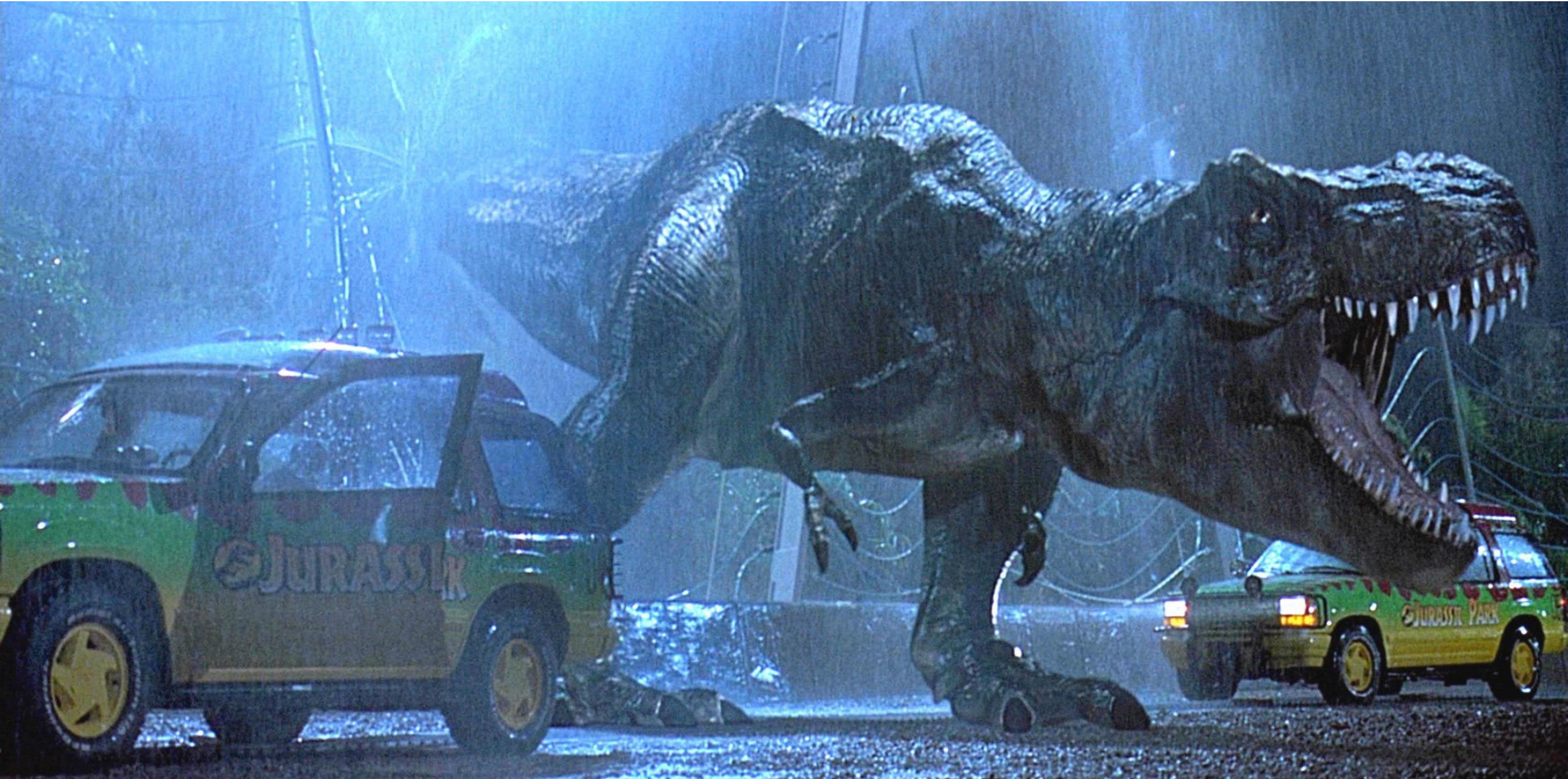
Why Visual Information?

We Humans Are Visual Animals



Why Study Computer Graphics and Imaging?

Movies



Jurassic Park (1993)



87



Moments That Changed The Movies: Jurassic Park
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KWsbcbvYqN8>

Movies - 3D Geometry, Materials, Lighting



Toy Story (1995)

Movies - Image-Based Computer Graphics



The Matrix (1999)

Movies - Image-Based Computer Graphics



The Matrix (1999)

The Campanile



Debevec, Taylor and Malik SIGGRAPH 1996

<https://www.pauldebevec.com/Campanile/>

Motion Capture



Andy Serkis in The Two Towers

Avatar (2009)



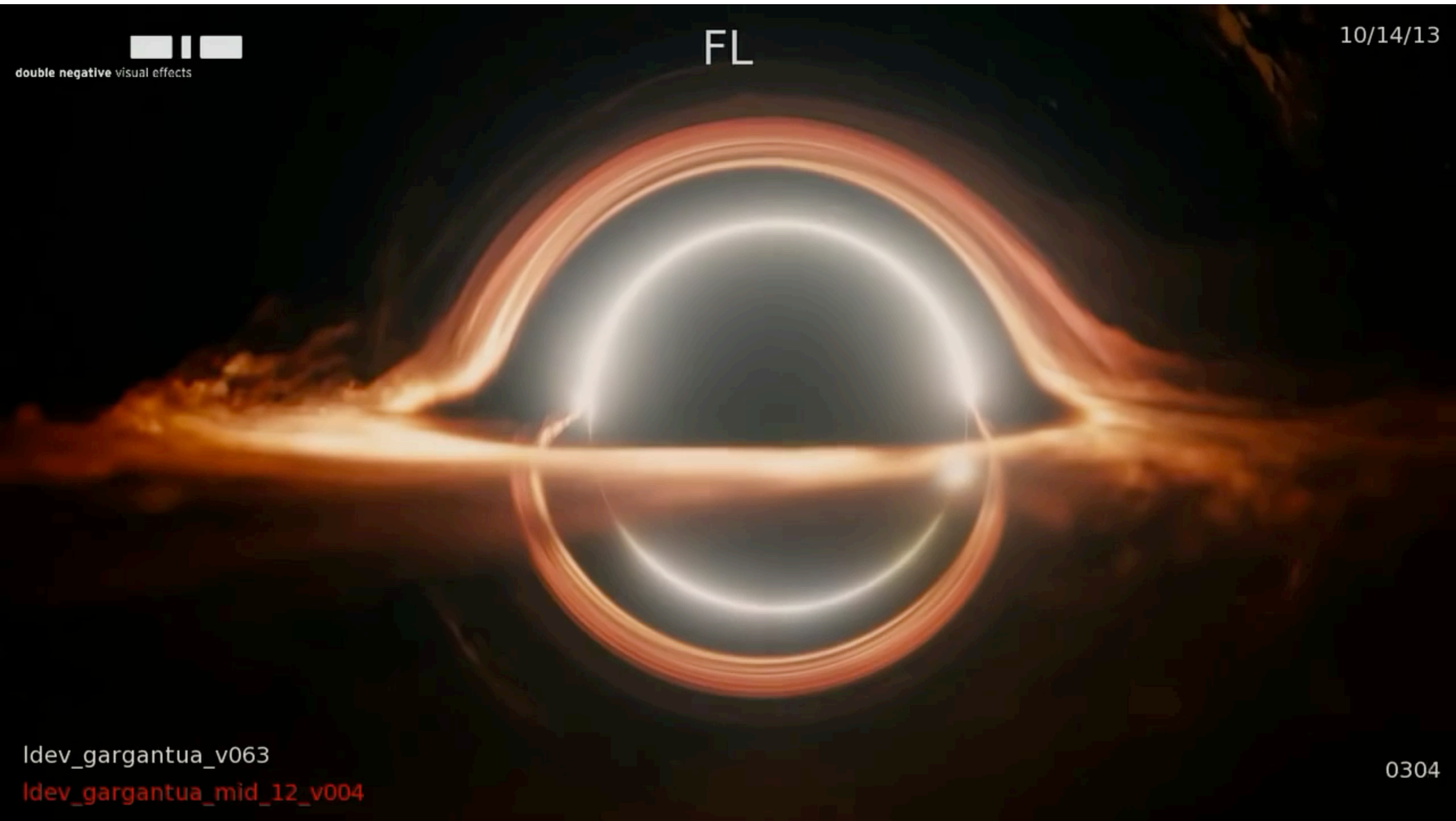
Interstellar (2014)



double negative visual effects

FL

10/14/13



Idev_gargantua_v063

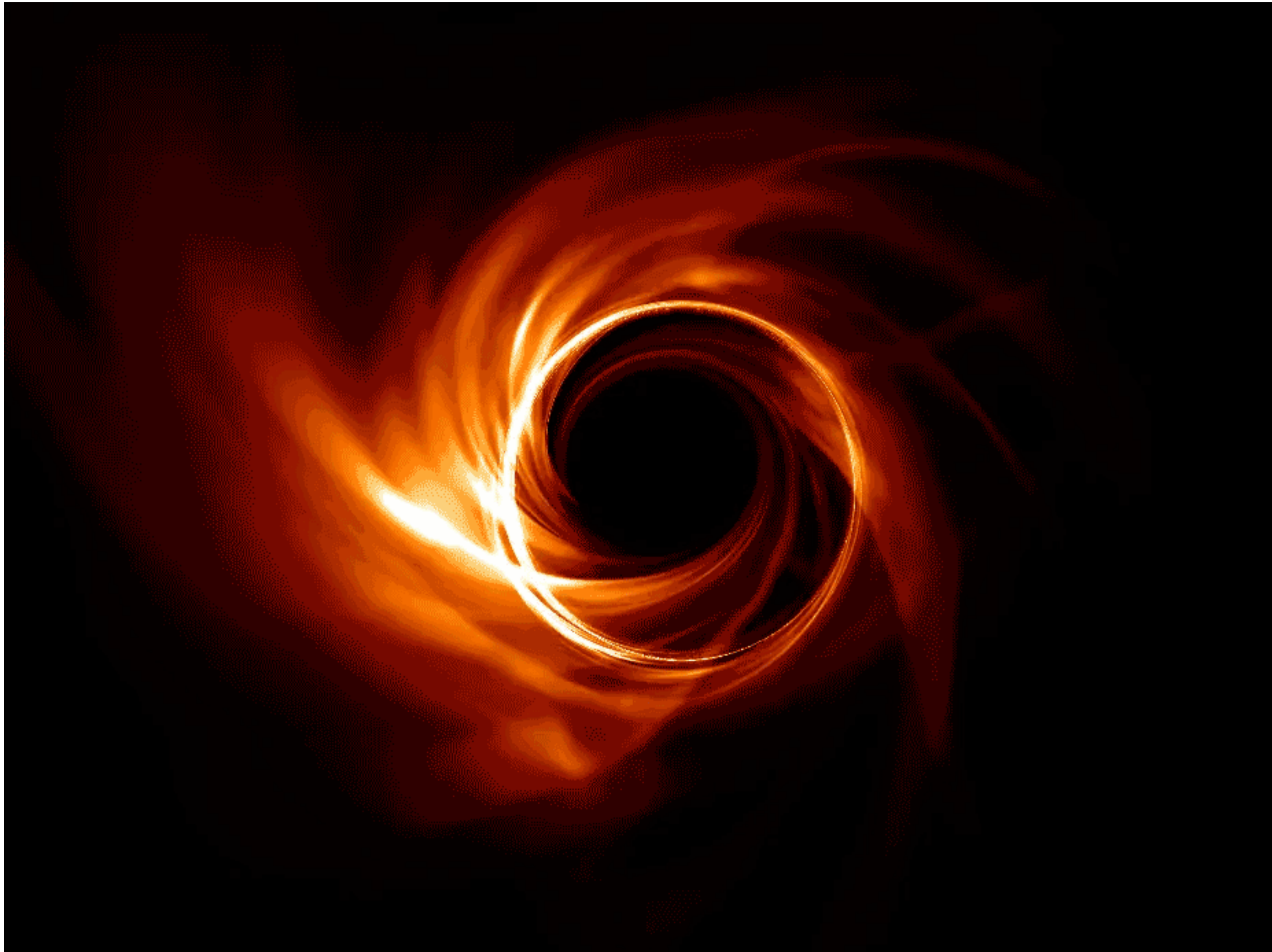
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Computational Imaging - Event-Horizon Telescope



Computational Imaging - Event-Horizon Telescope

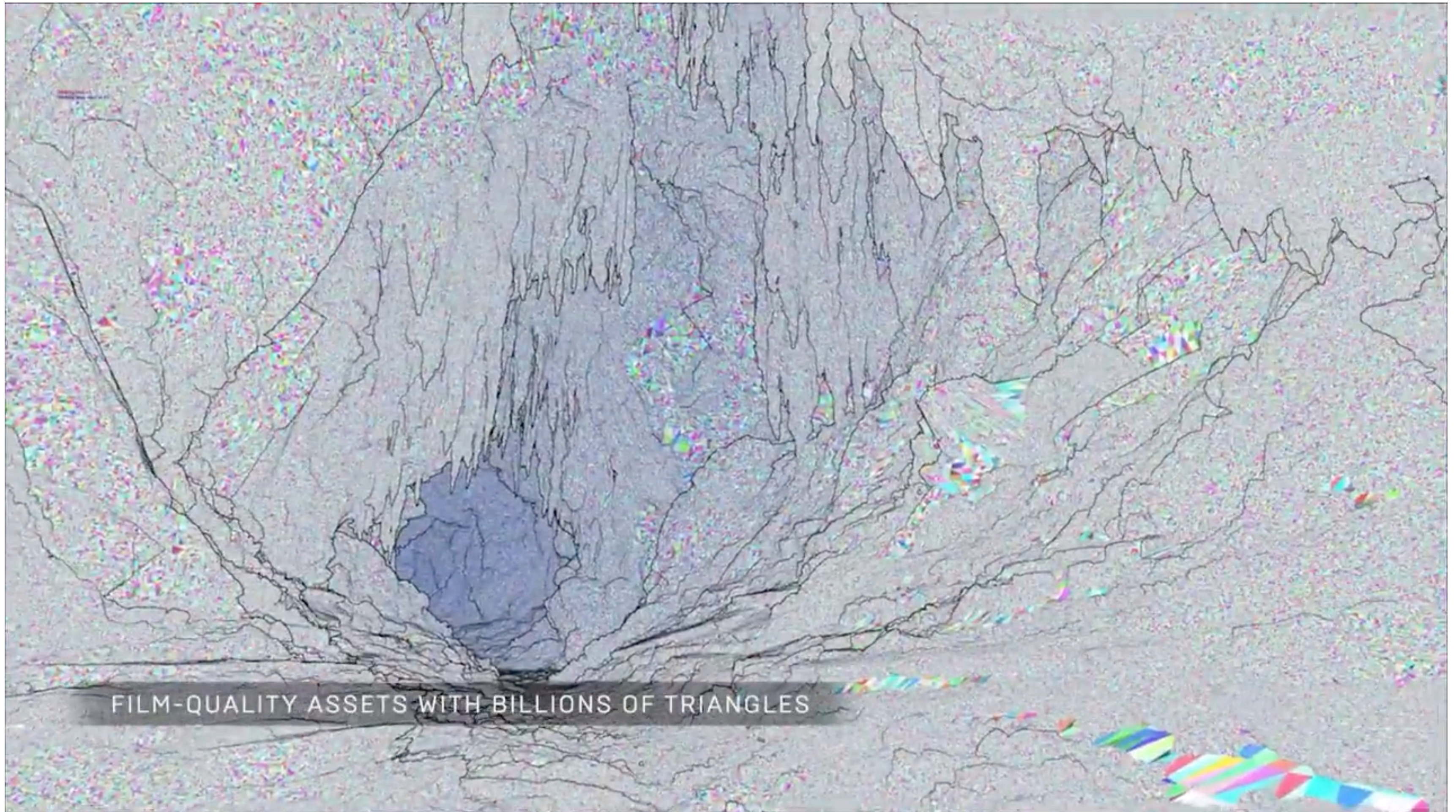


Games



Super Mario World

Games



Unreal Engine Demo - Realtime in PS5

Games



Full Ray Tracing Off

Full Ray Tracing On

Indiana Jones and the Great Circle (2024)

Realtime ray tracing (path tracing) for global illumination

Visual Simulation



CS184/284A

Aviator.aero; CAE Inc.

Ren Ng

Visual Simulation



**Driving simulator
Toyota Higashifuji Technical Center**



**da Vinci surgical robot
Intuitive Surgical**

Flight simulator, driving simulator, surgical simulator, ...

Virtual Reality



HTC Vive headset and controllers

Augmented Reality



Microsoft HoloLens augmented reality headset concept

“Mixed Reality”



Product Design and Visualization



Ikea - over 75% of catalog is rendered imagery

Product Design and Visualization



Photograph



Simulation

Product Design and Visualization



Tesla Model X concept (2012)

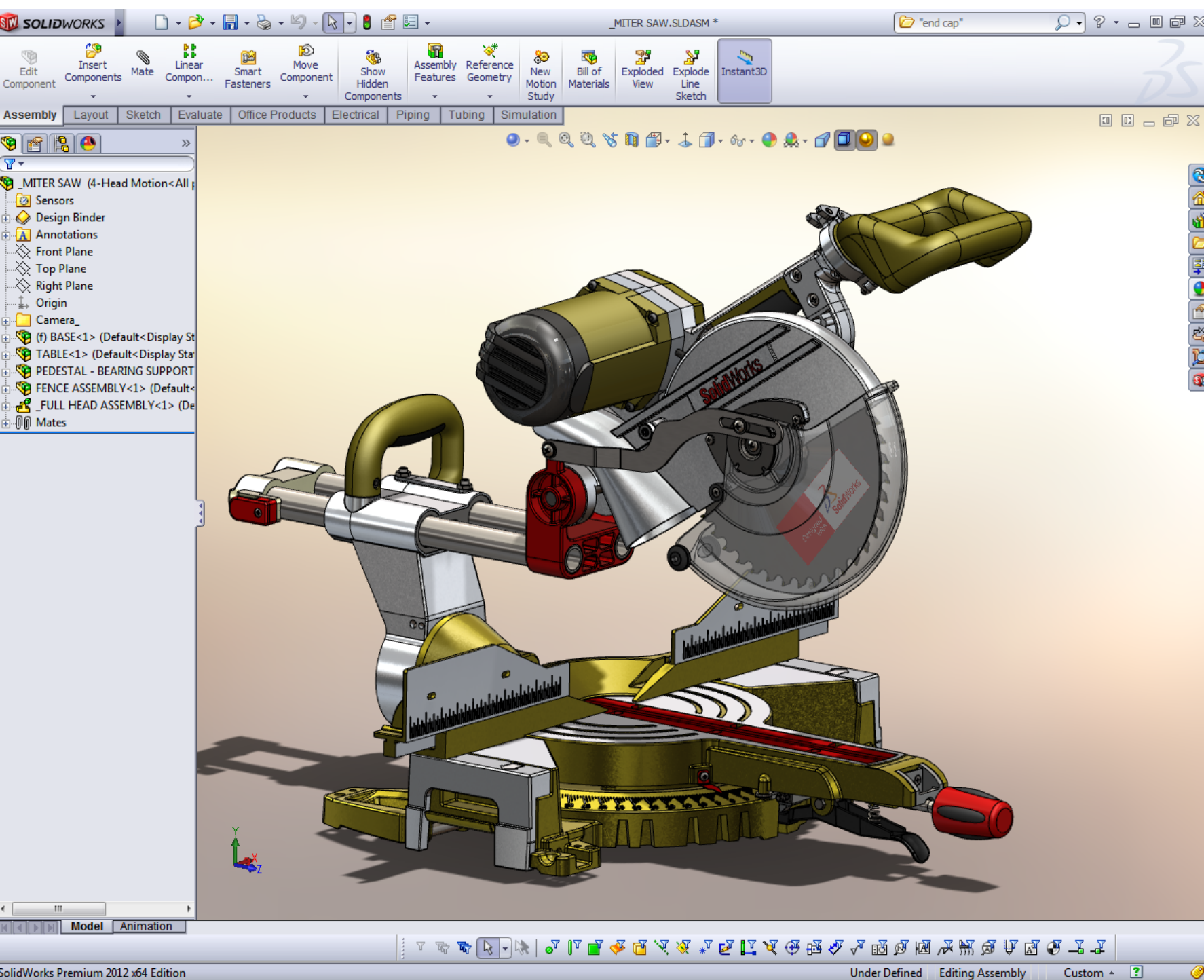
Product Design and Visualization



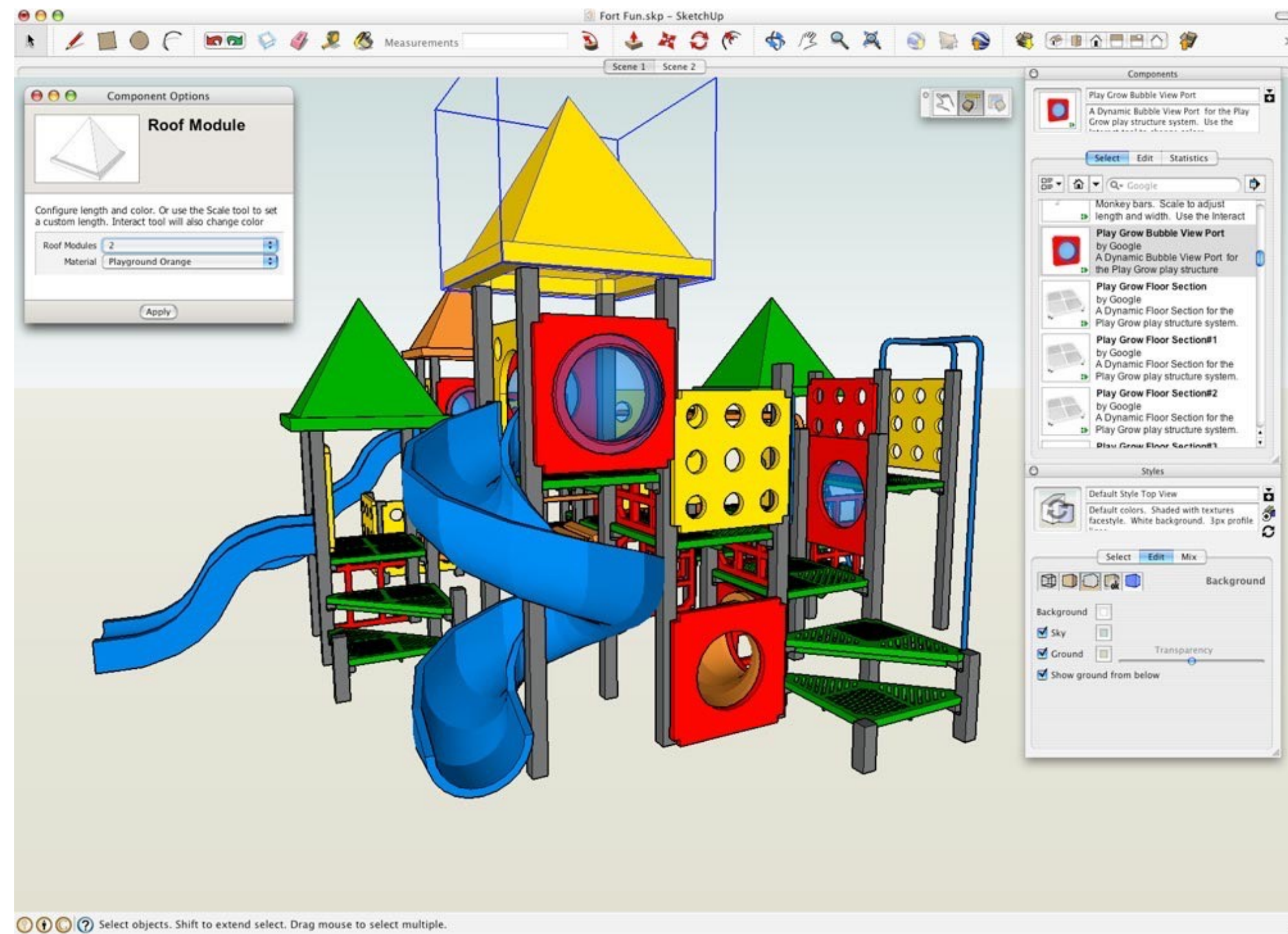
Credit: [EV_obsession.com](https://www.evobsession.com), James Ayre

Tesla Model X production

Computer-Aided Design



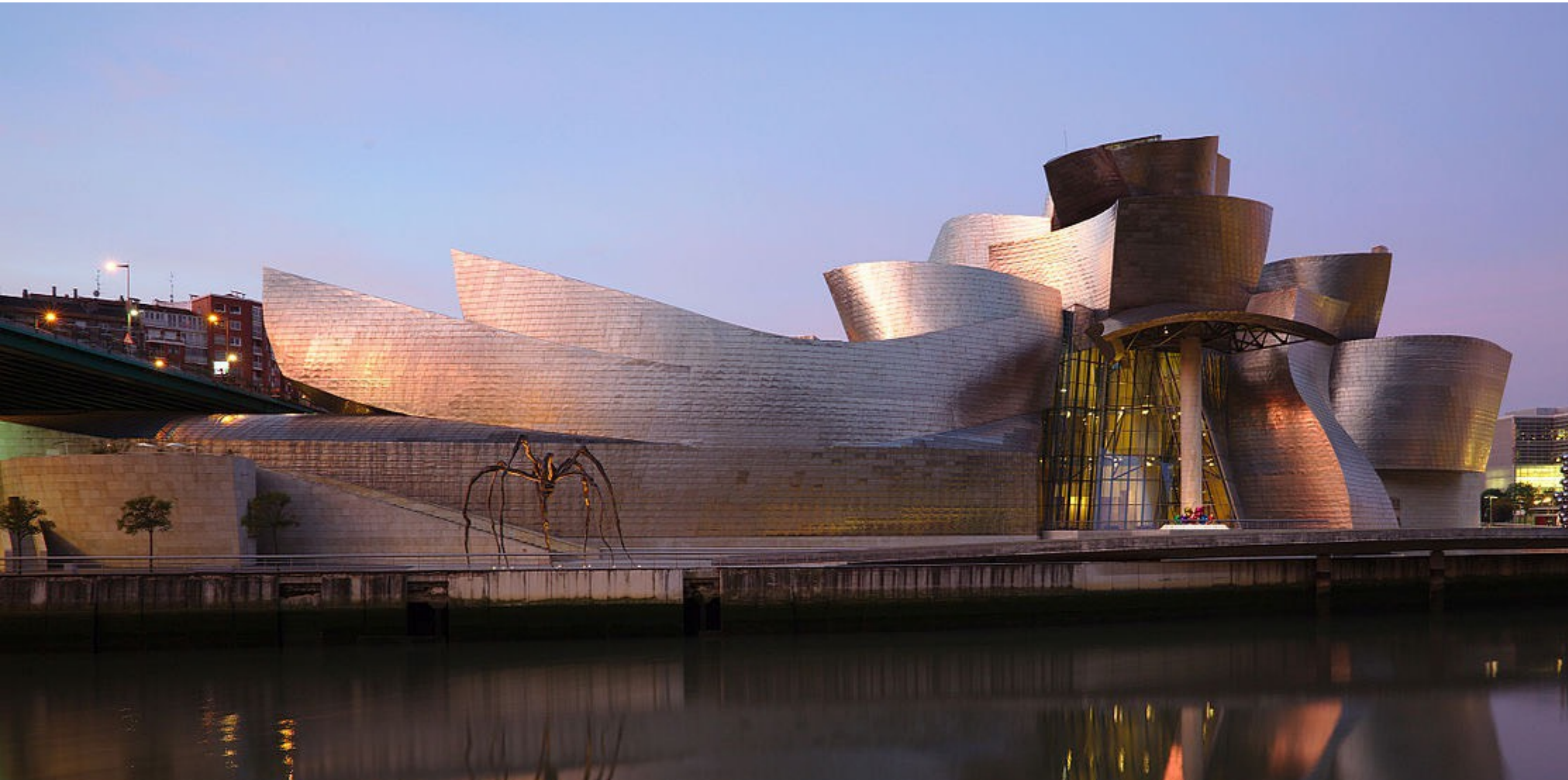
SolidWorks



SketchUp

For mechanical, architectural, electronic, optical, ...

Architectural Design



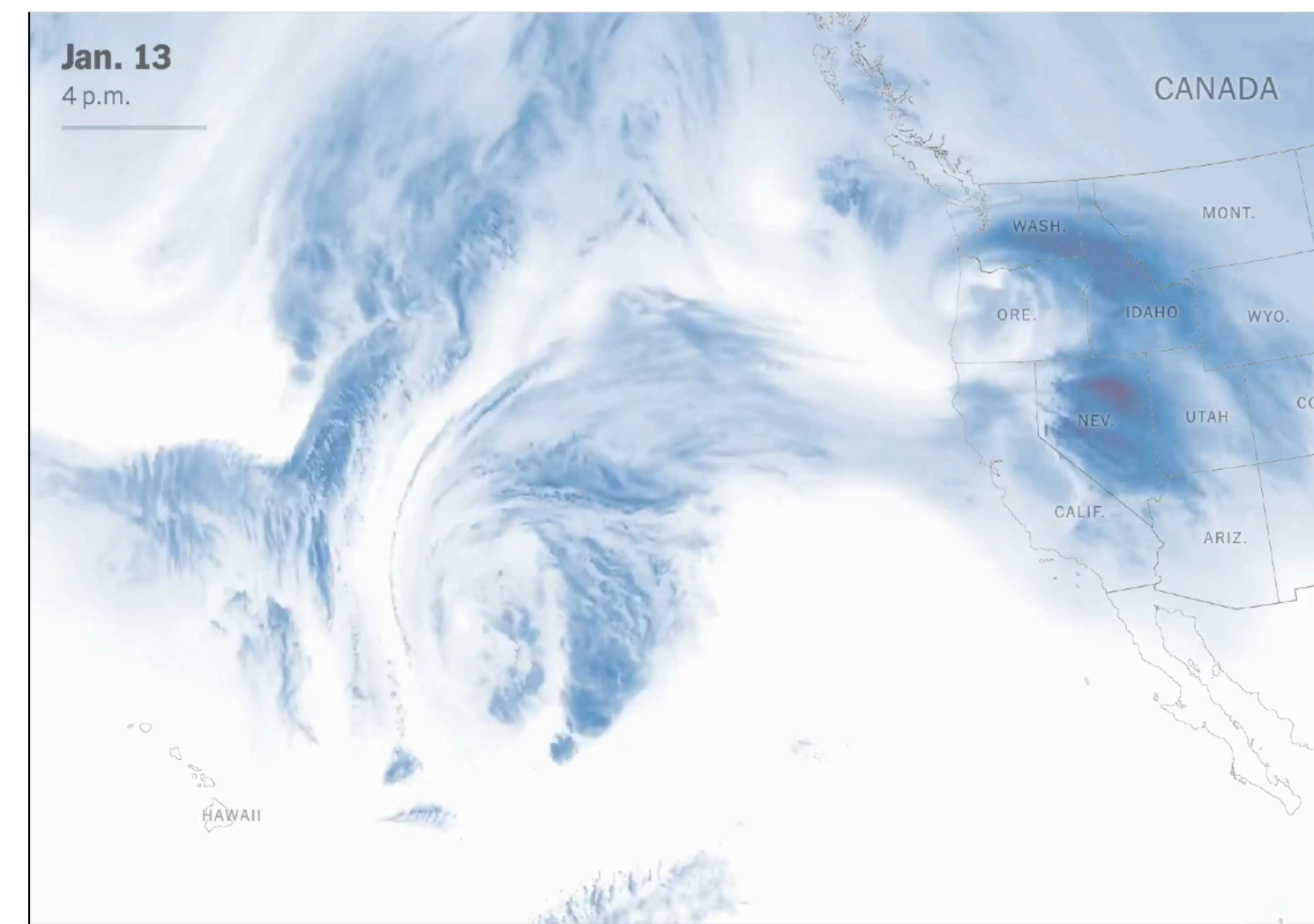
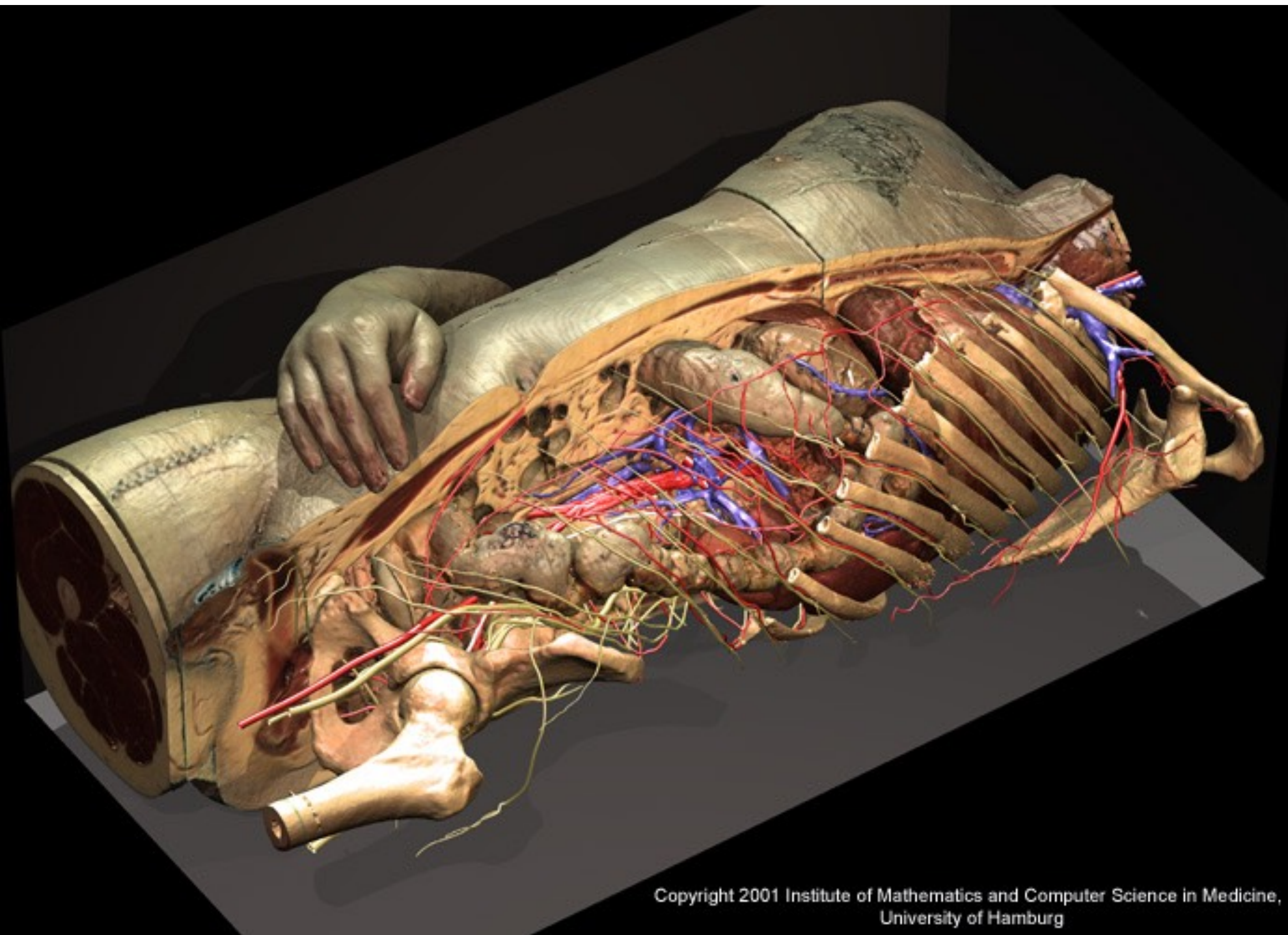
Bilbao Guggenheim, Frank Gehry

Architectural Design



Heydar Aliyev Center, Zaha Hadid Architects

Visualization

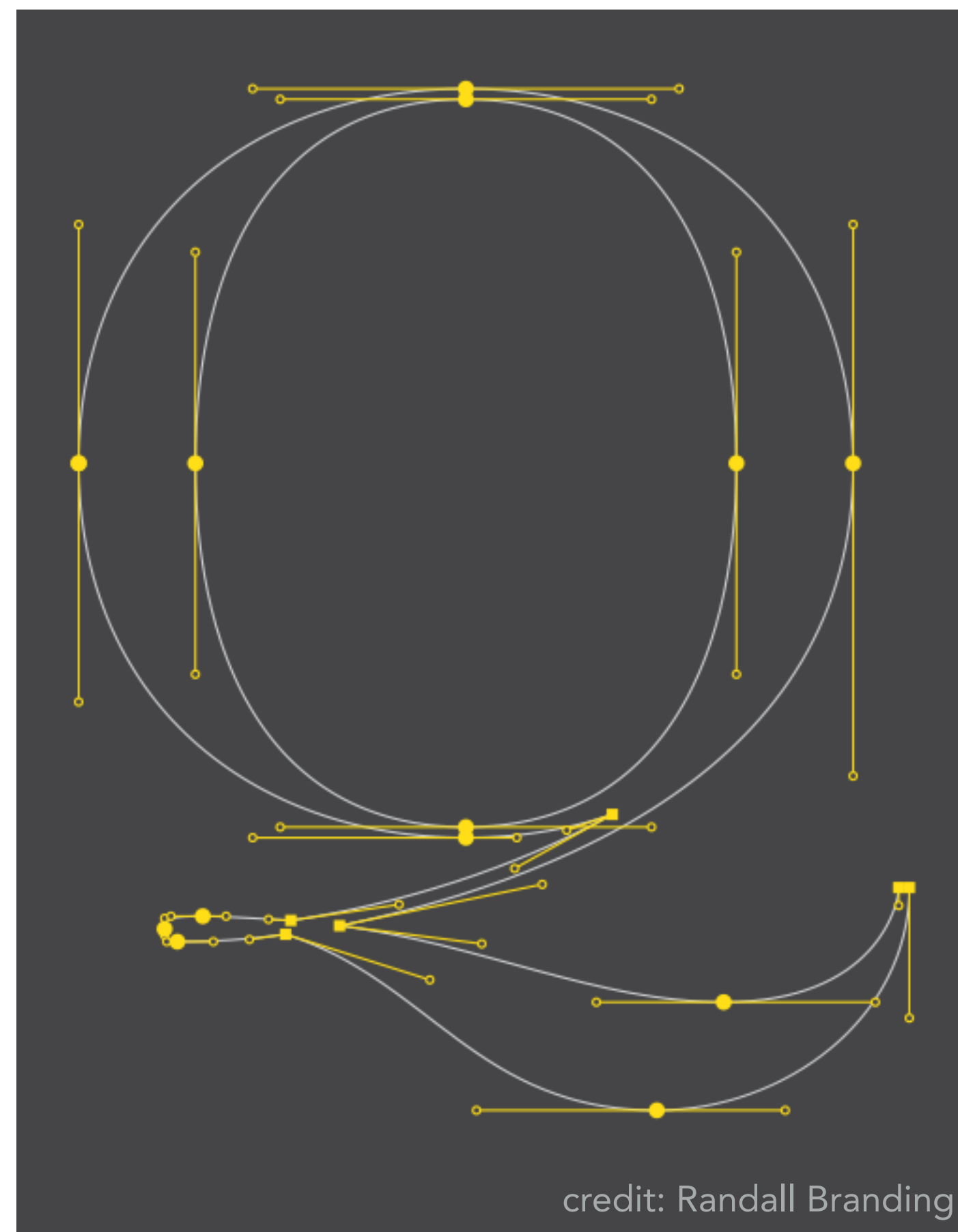


Science, engineering, medicine, journalism, ...

Typography

The Quick Brown
Fox Jumps Over
The Lazy Dog

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ
abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz 0123456789

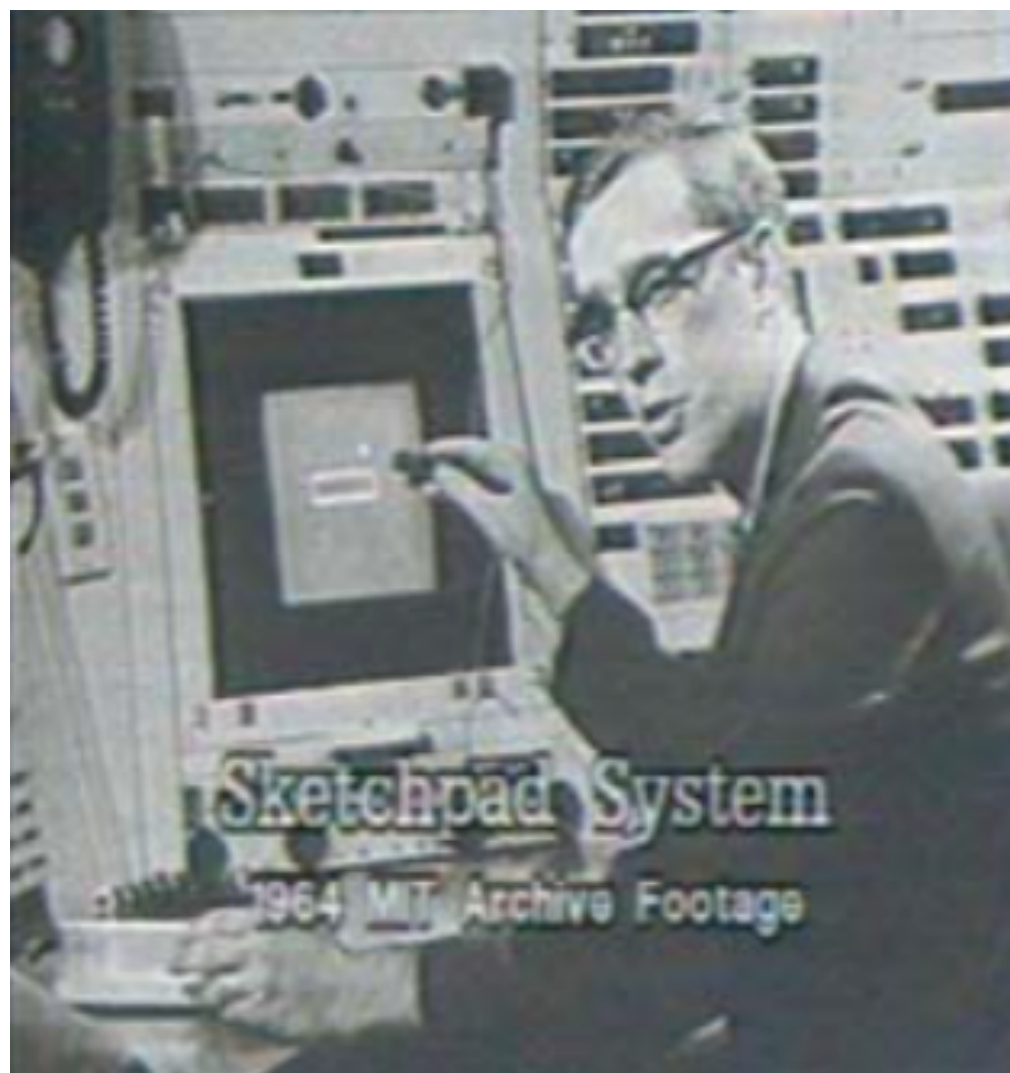


Baskerville

Graphical User Interfaces

Desktop metaphor

- Input: Keyboard, mouse
- Output: Cathode-ray tube



Ivan Sutherland, Sketchpad
Light pen, vector display



Doug Engelbart
Mouse

Graphical User Interfaces



2D drawing and animation are ubiquitous in computing.
Typography, icons, images, transitions, transparency, ...

Graphical User Interfaces



**2D drawing and animation are ubiquitous in computing.
Typography, icons, images, transitions, transparency, ...**

Graphical User Interfaces



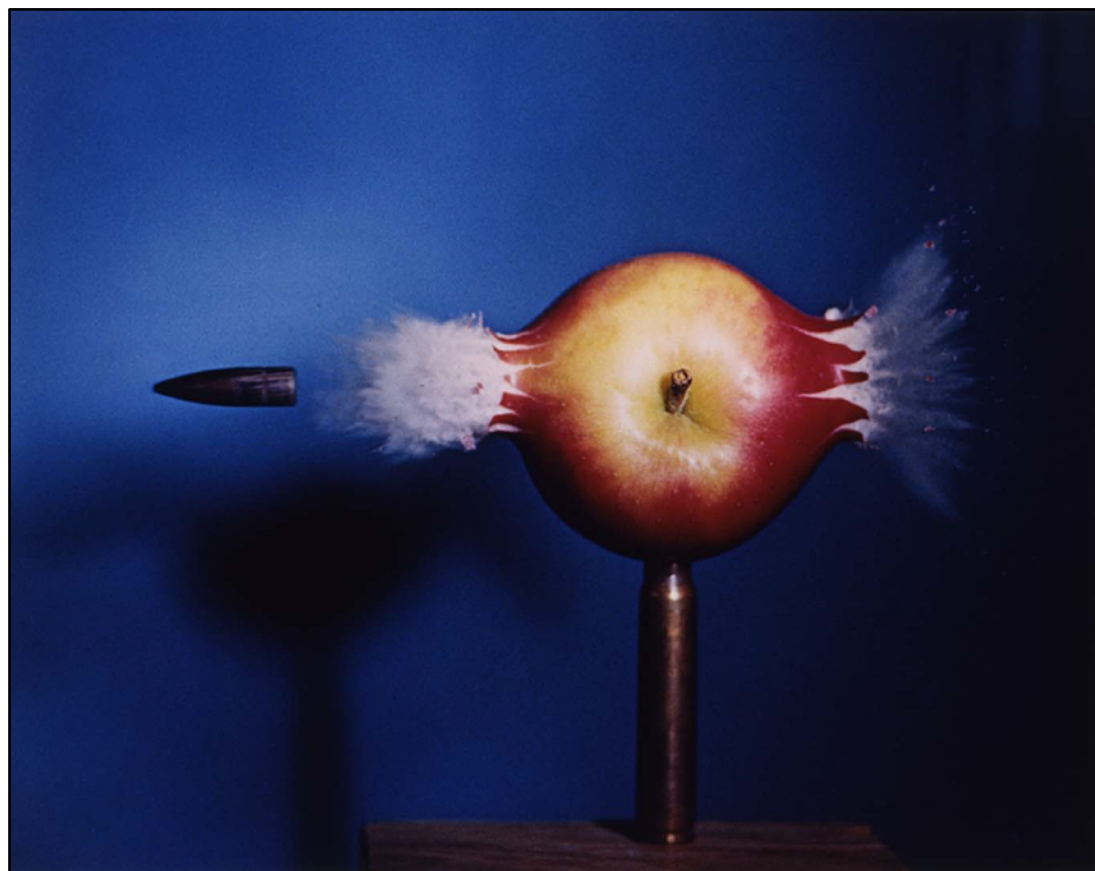
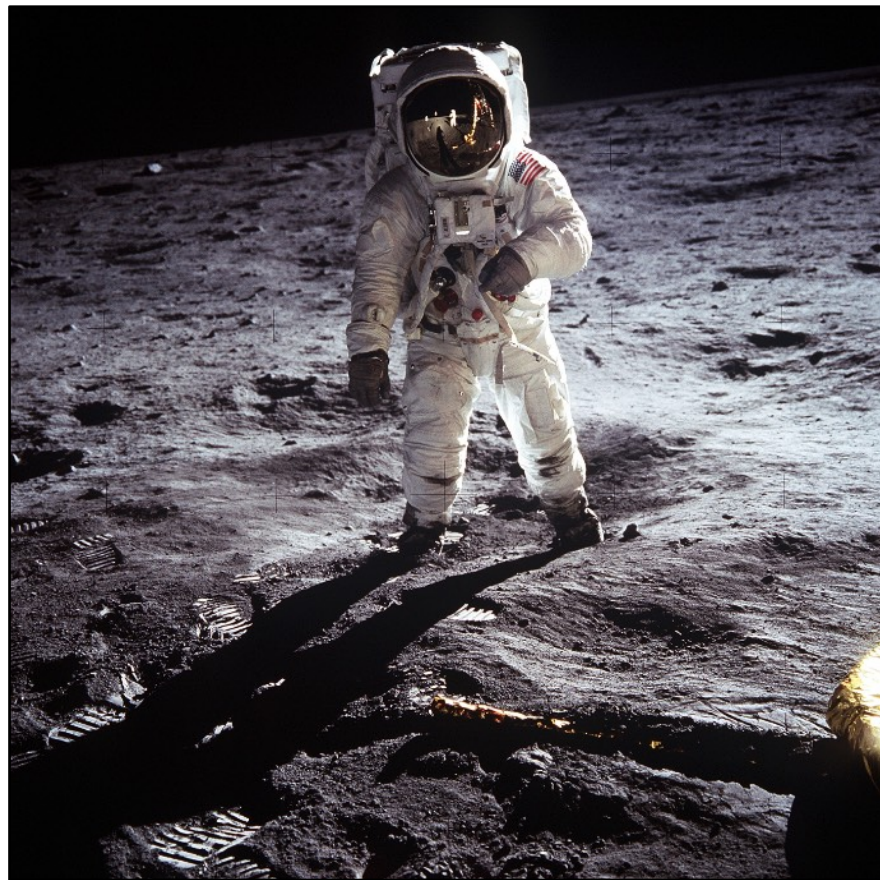
Digital Illustration



Meike Hakkart

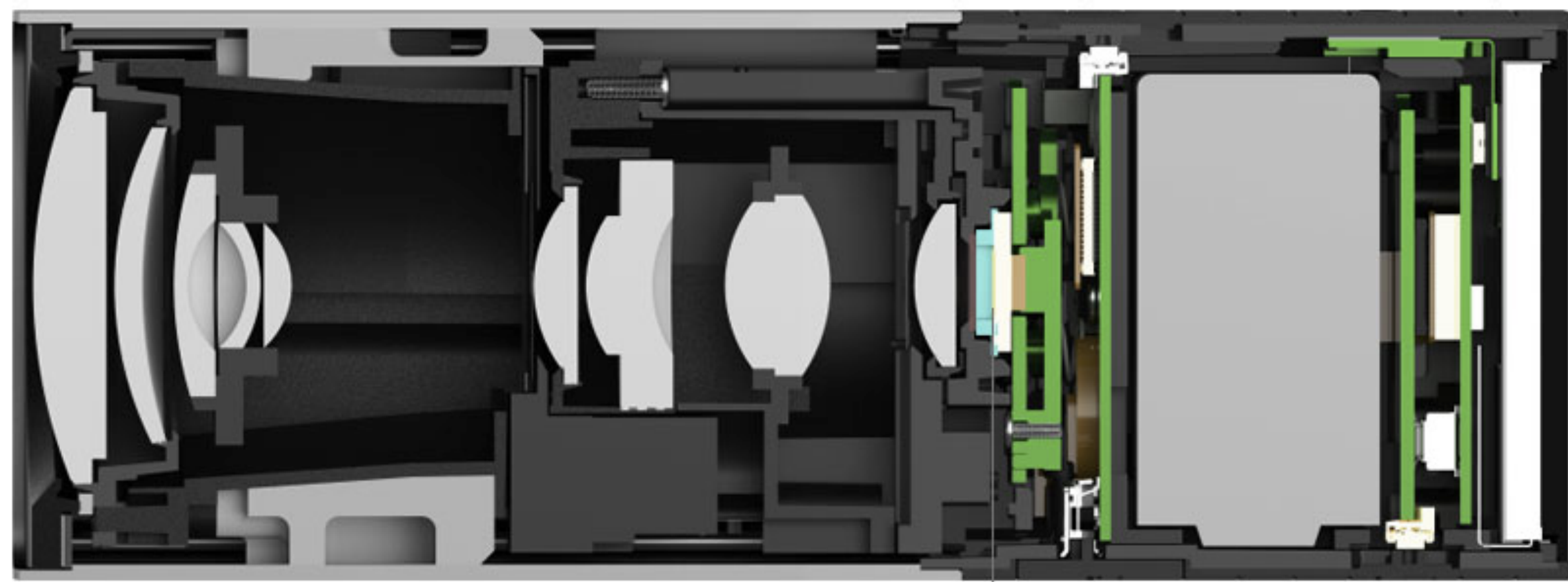
<http://maquenda.deviantart.com/art/Lion-done-in-illustrator-327715059>

Photography



NASA | Walter Ioss | Steve McCurry
Harold Edgerton | NASA | National Geographic

Digital and Computational Cameras



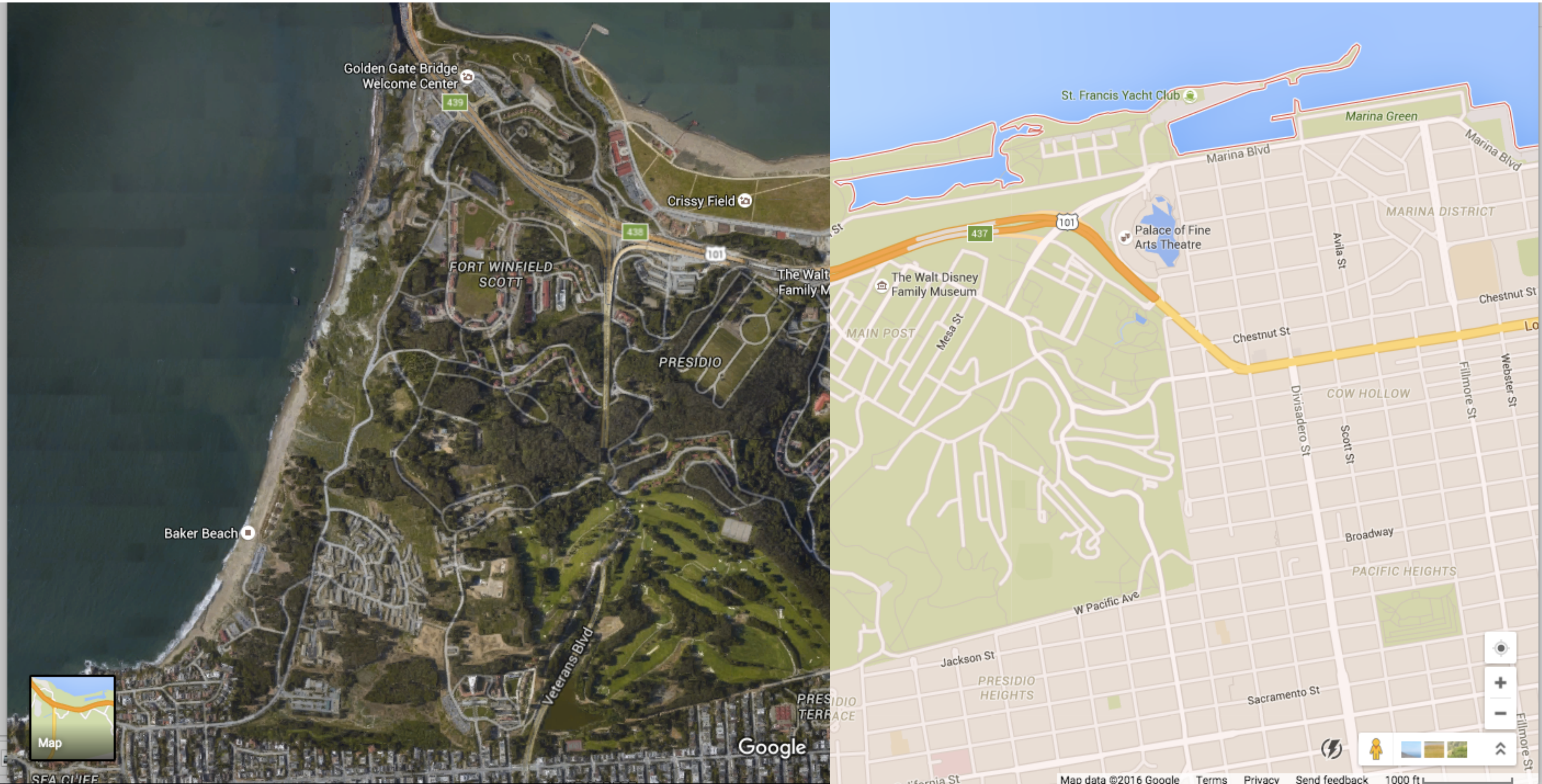
Panaromic stitching, HDR photos, light field cameras, ...

Ubiquitous Imaging



Cameras everywhere

Imaging in Mapping



Maps, satellite imagery, street-level imaging,...

Imaging in Mapping



Maps, satellite imagery, street-level imaging,...

Imaging for Computer Vision



ImageNet: 15M images, 22K categories
<http://image-net.org>

Imaging for Robotics



Google's "Arm Farm"

Neural Radiance Fields



Generative Visual AI



Generative Visual AI



Foundations of Graphics and Imaging

These applications require sophisticated theory and systems

Science and Mathematics

- Physics of light, color, optics, ...
- Math of curves, surfaces, geometry, perspective, ...

Technology and Systems

- Displays, GPUs, input devices, ...
- Cameras, lenses, sensors, ...

Perception and Art

- Perception: color, stereo, motion, image quality, ...
- Art and design: composition, form, lighting, ...

Course Goals

Overview of core ideas in graphics and imaging

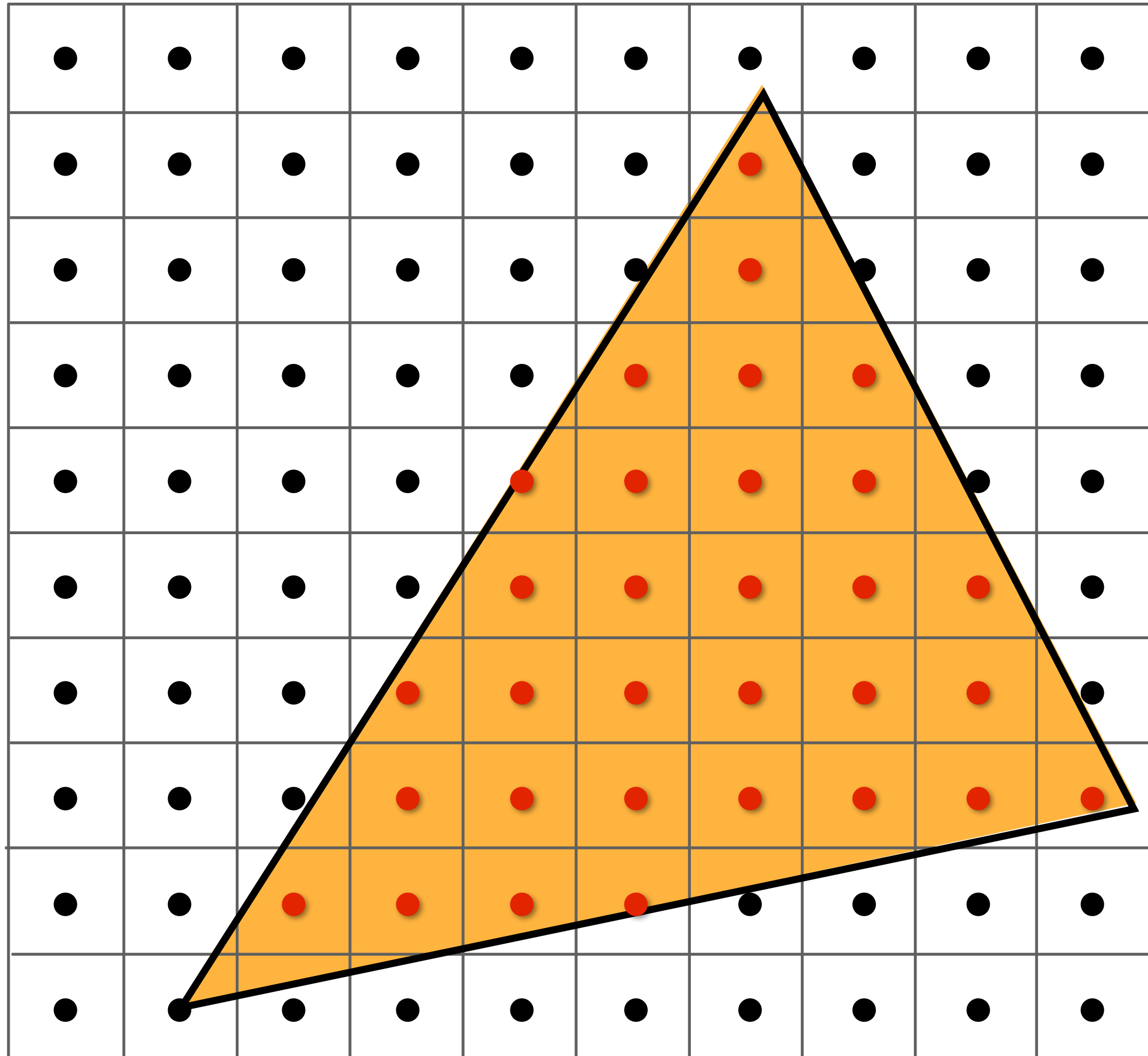
- Modeling the world, image synthesis
- 3D graphics: geometry, rendering, animation
- Image capture, manipulation and display

Acquire core concepts and skills

- Representations (geometry, images, transforms, ...)
- Algorithms (sampling, subdivision, ray-tracing, ...)
- Technology (GPUs, displays, cameras, ...)

Course Topics

Drawing Digital Images (Rasterization)

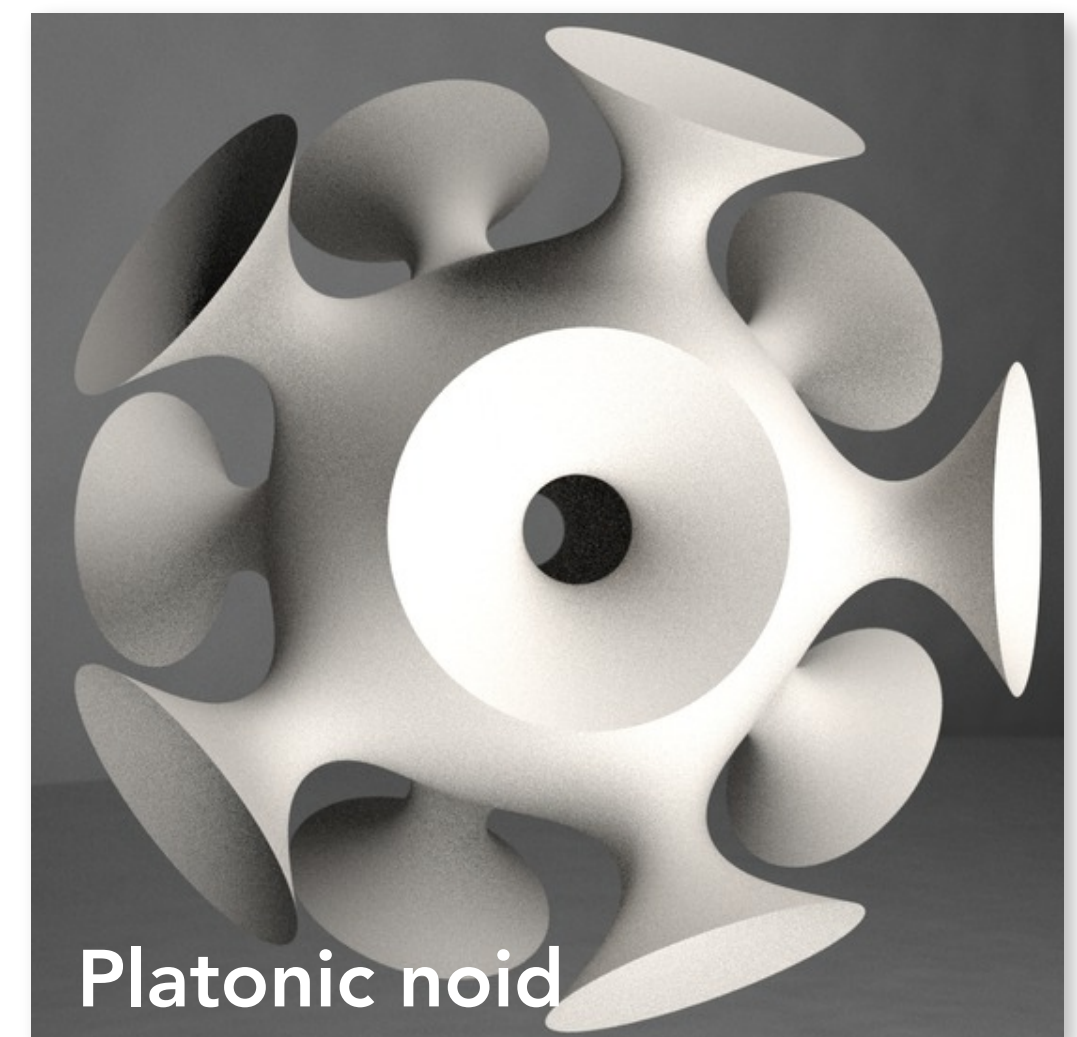
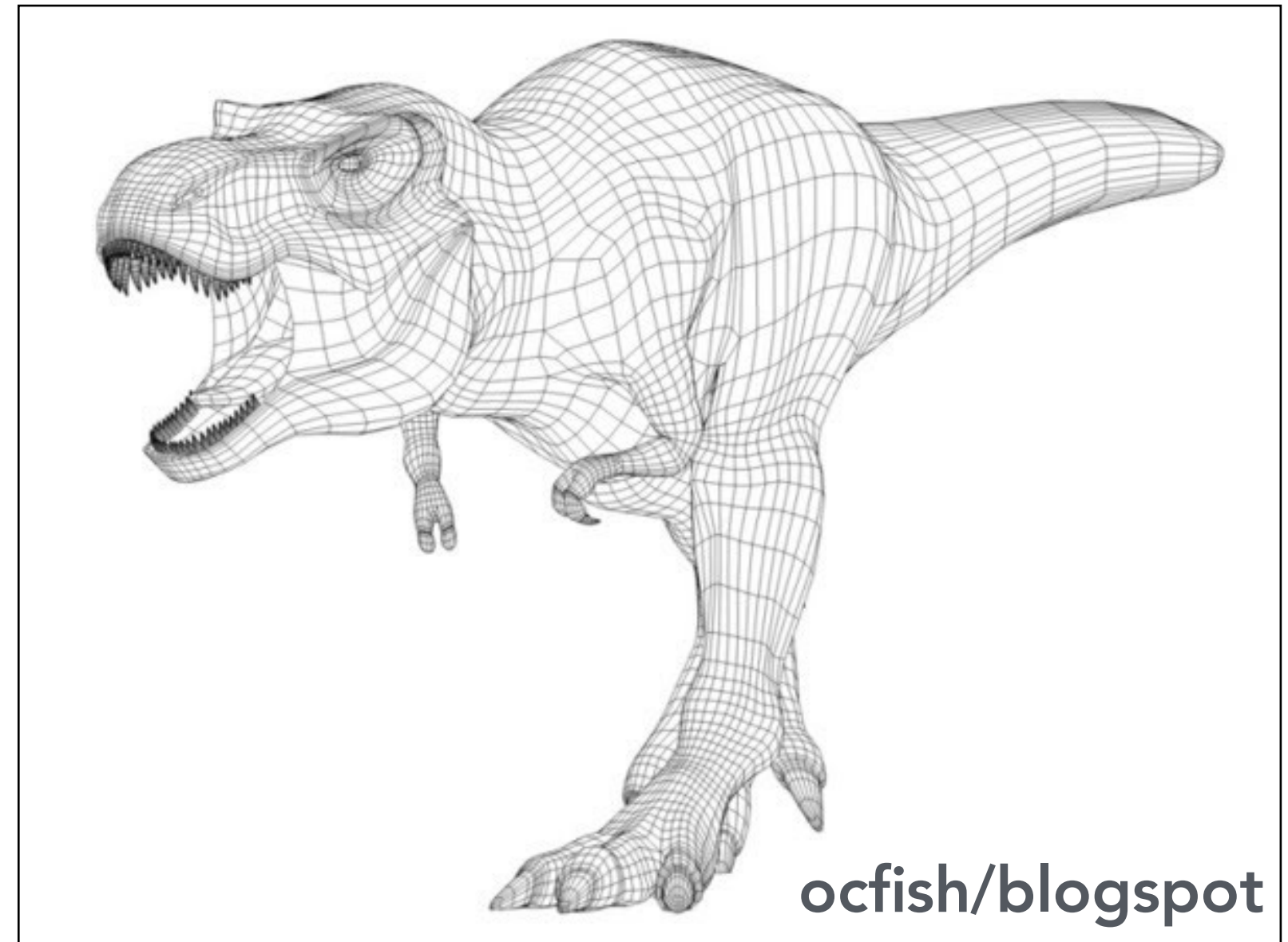


Filtering and Sampling

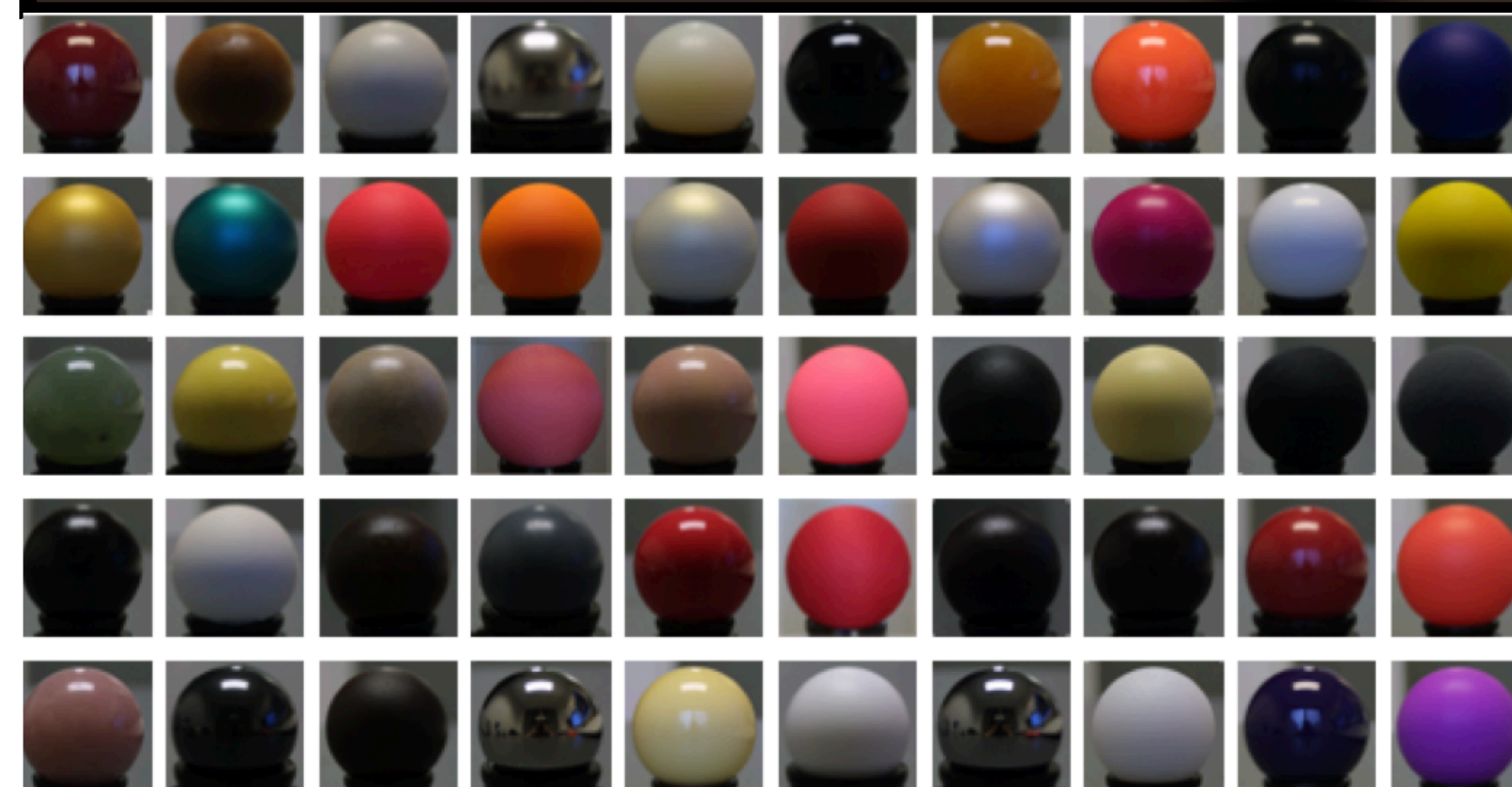


No Jaggies

Modeling Geometry



Modeling Material Properties



Modeling Lighting



Monsters' Inc., 2001

Modeling Lighting



Monster's U., 2013

Light Transport and Image Synthesis



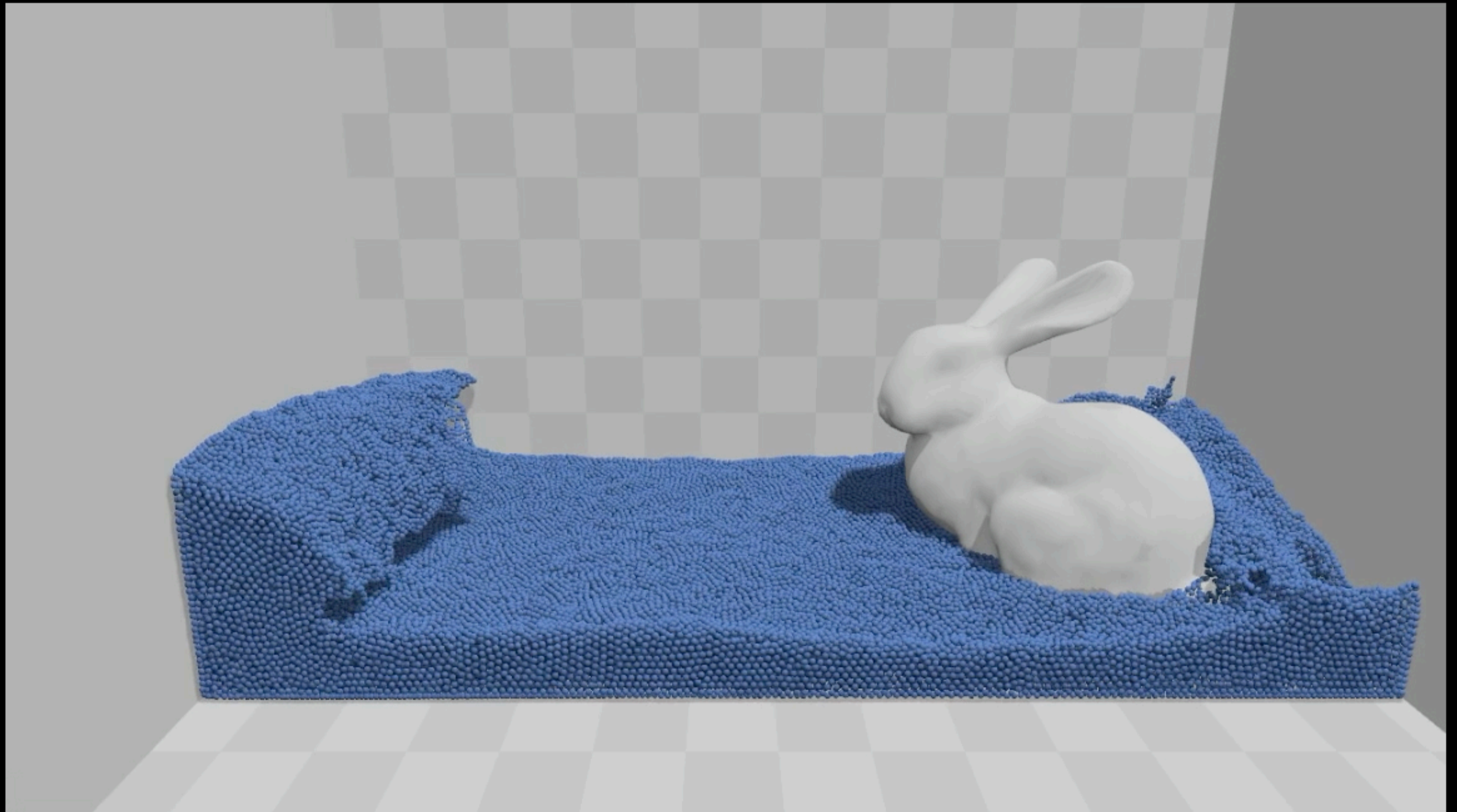
Photograph (CCD) vs. computer rendering

How Do Cameras and Lenses Work?



Glenn Derene, Popular Mechanics

Animation and Physical Simulation

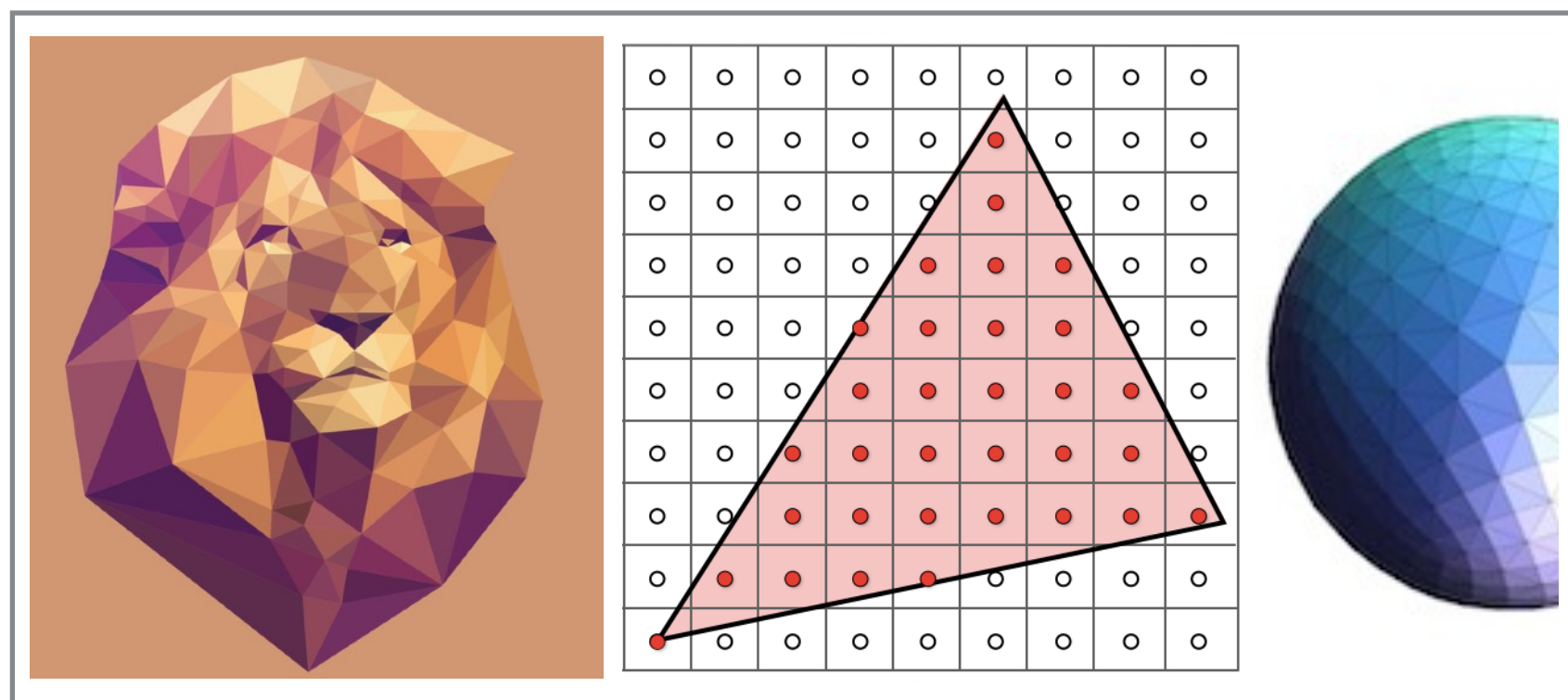


Virtual Reality

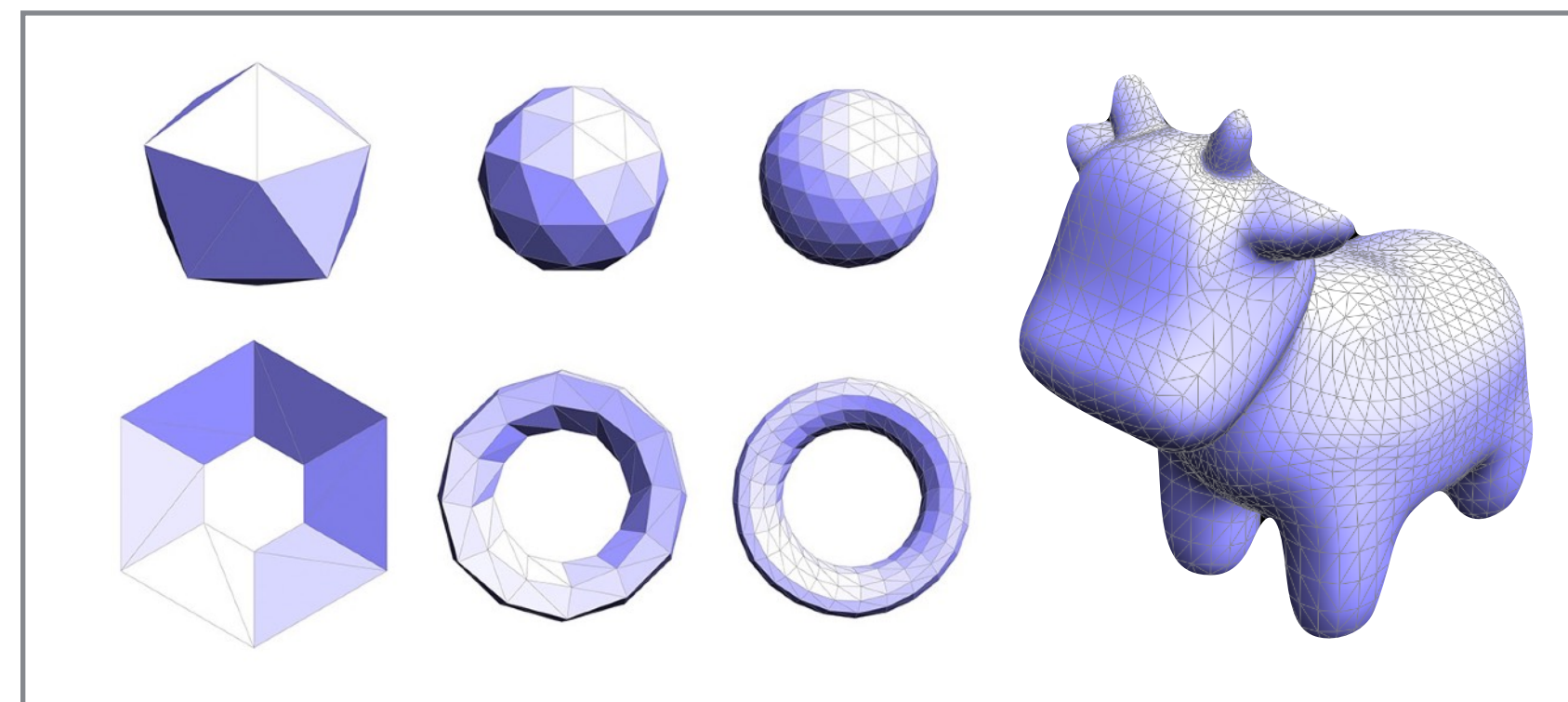


Hands-On Learning

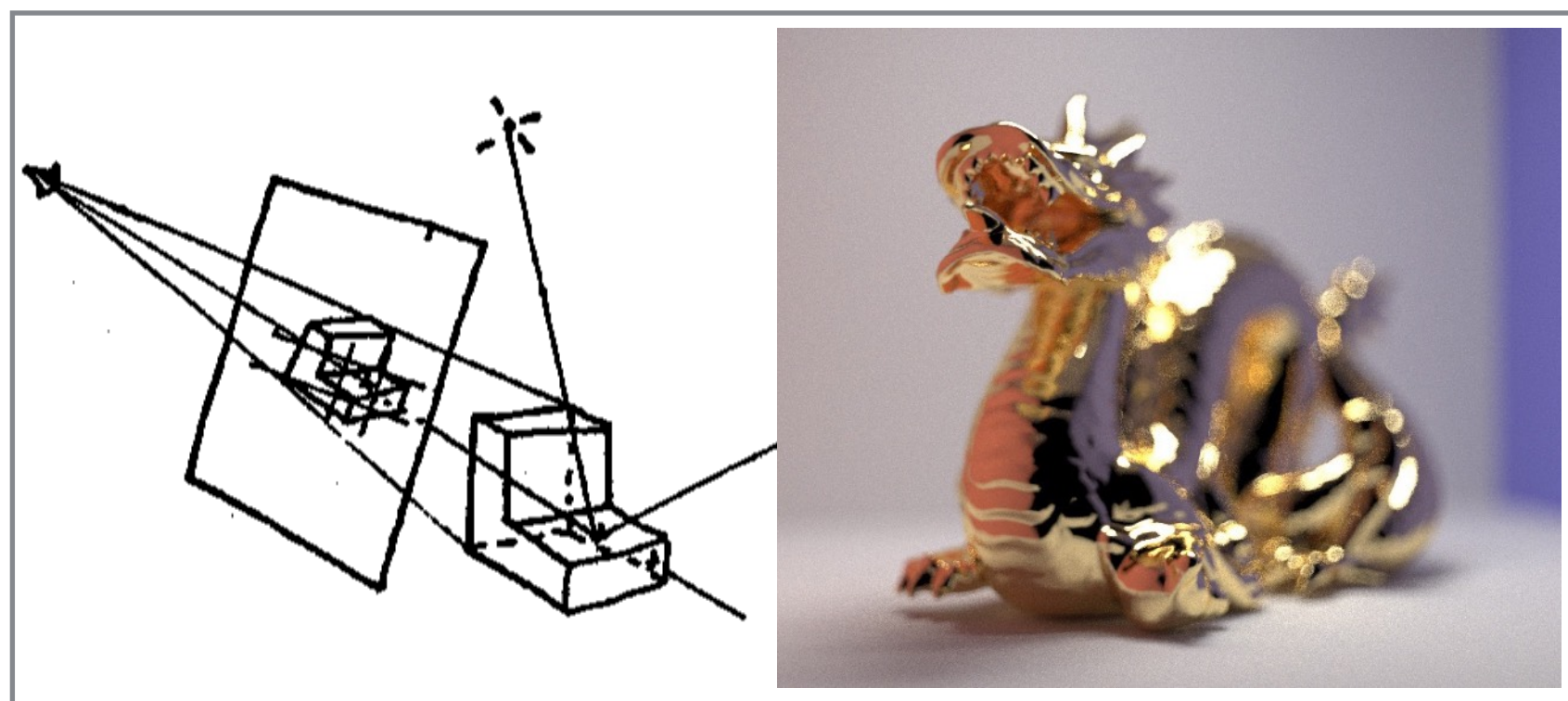
Course Assignments



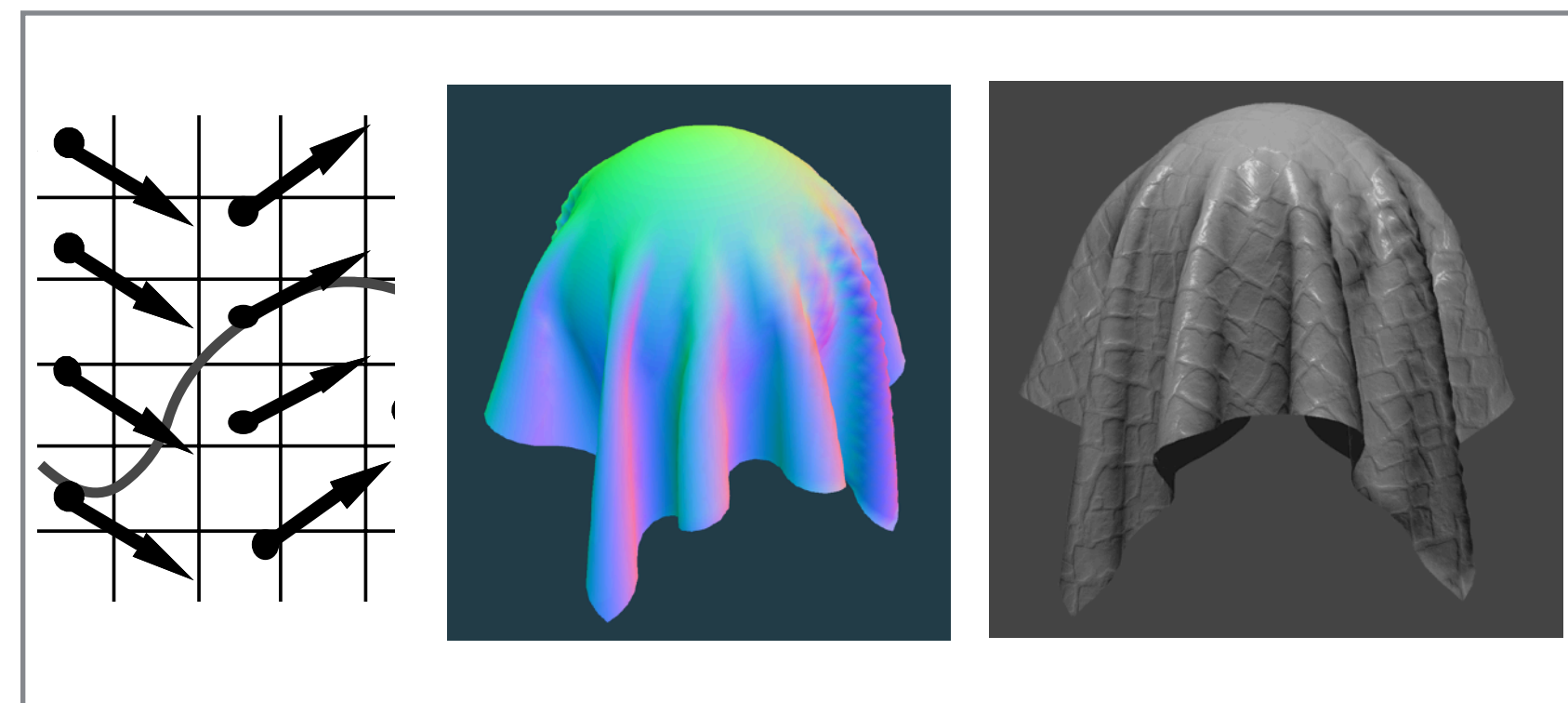
1. Digital Drawing (2 weeks)



2. Geometry (2 weeks)



3. Ray-Tracing (2 weeks)



4. Animation (2 weeks)

Final Project



Project Competition

- 4 weeks, let your creativity take flight!
(we will have suggested projects)
- Proposal; checkpoint; presentation, video, report

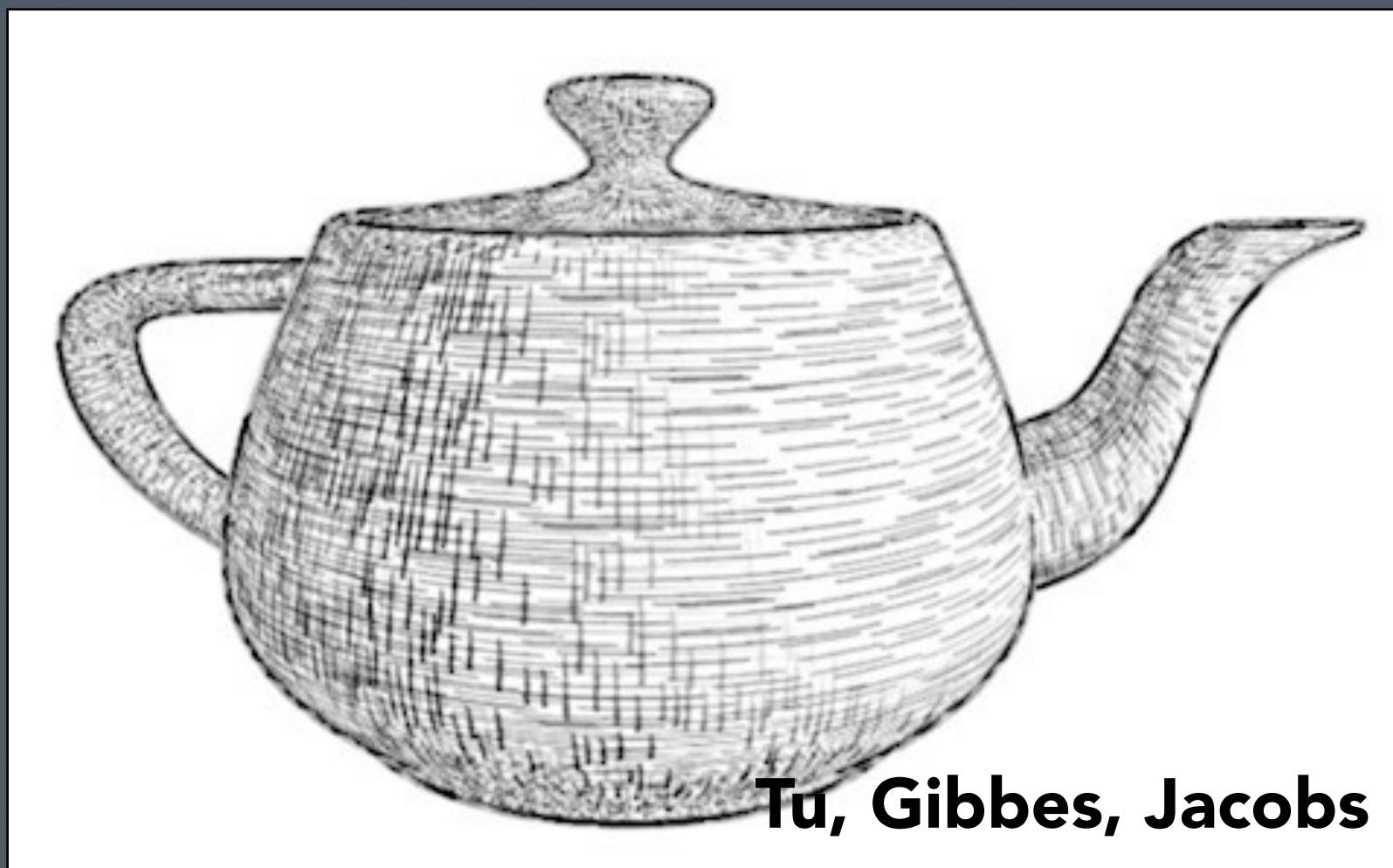
Final Project - Examples



Talati, Bhattacharyya, You, Luong



Ni, Wu, Yu, Zhou

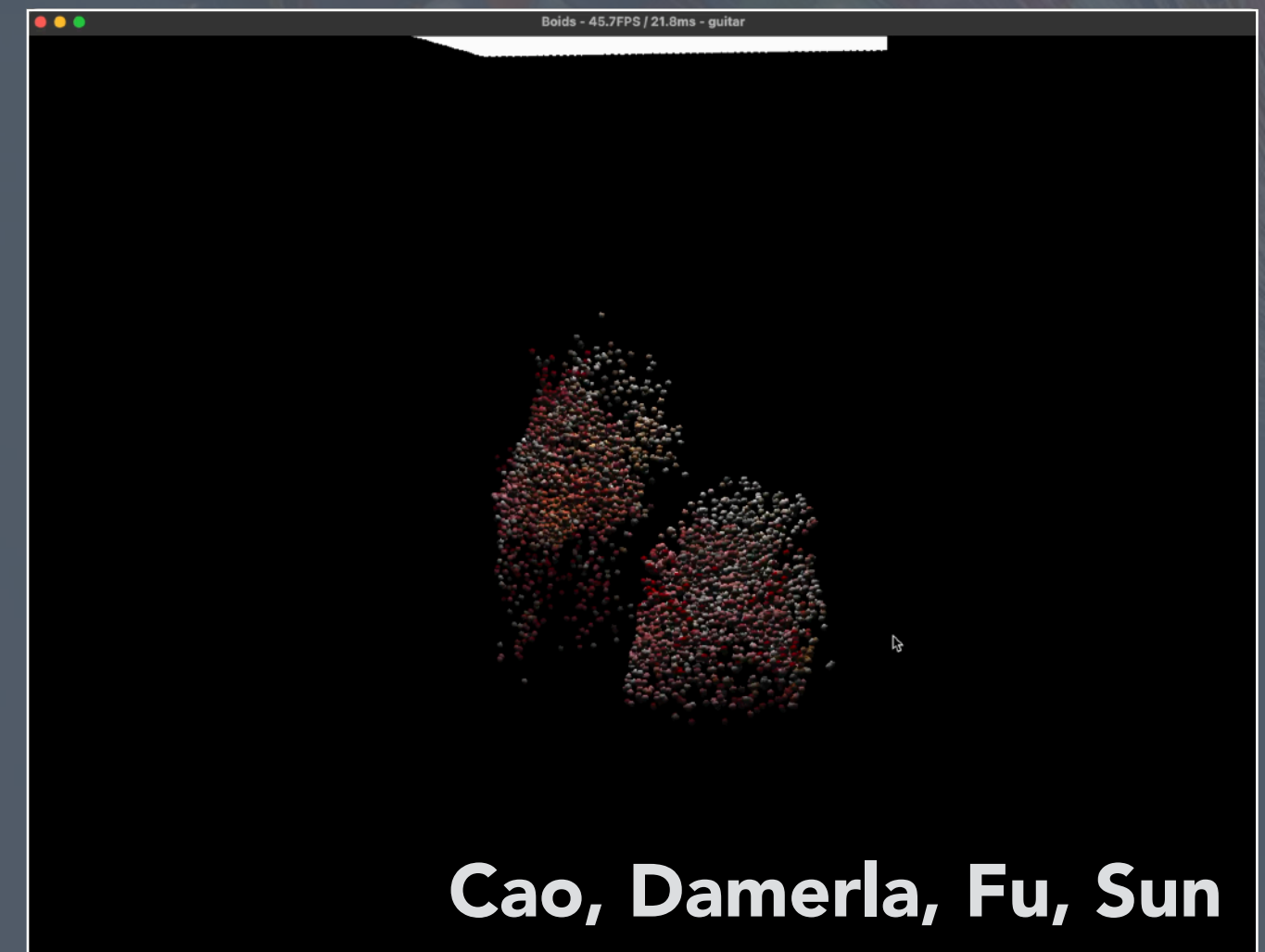
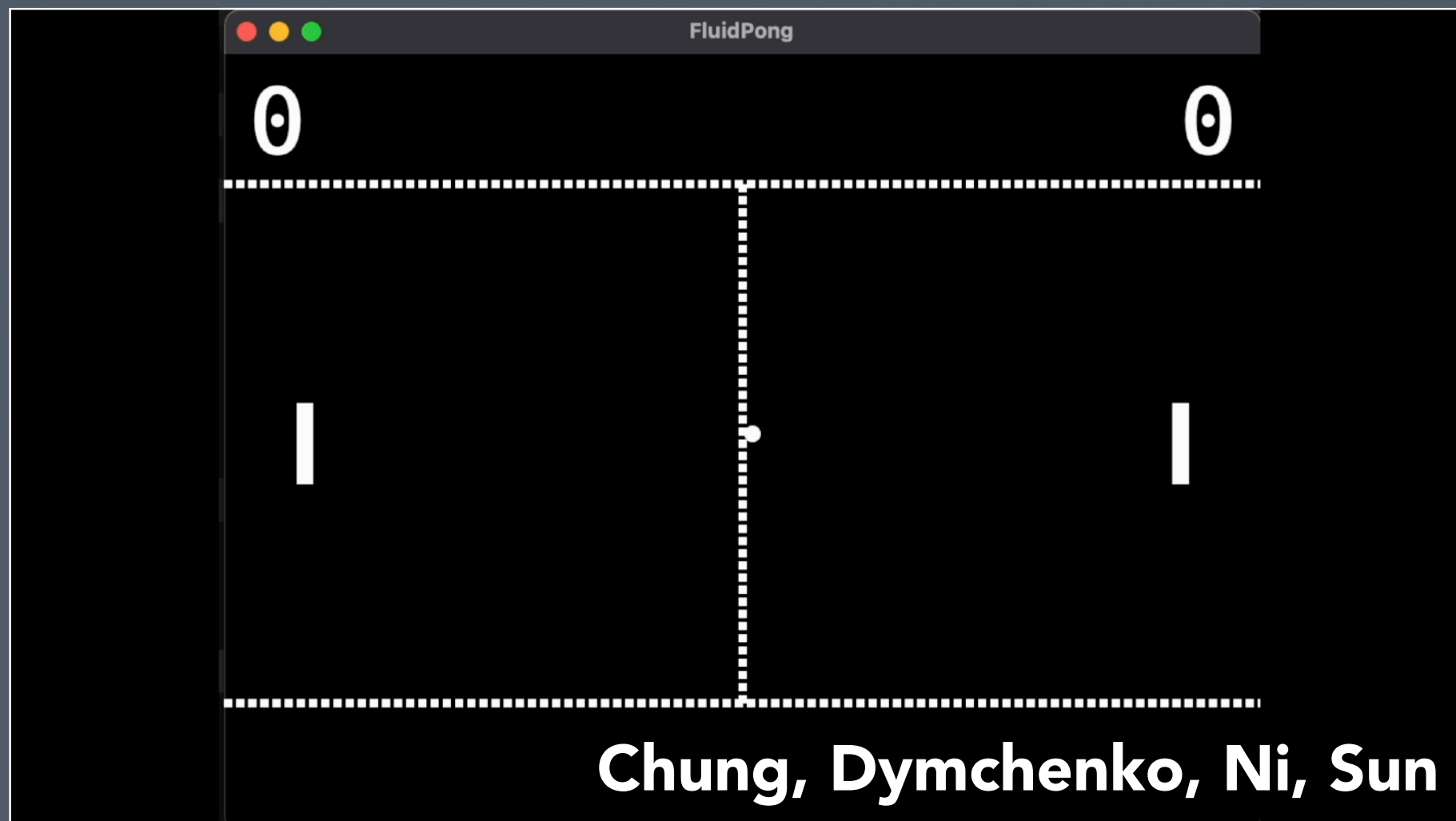
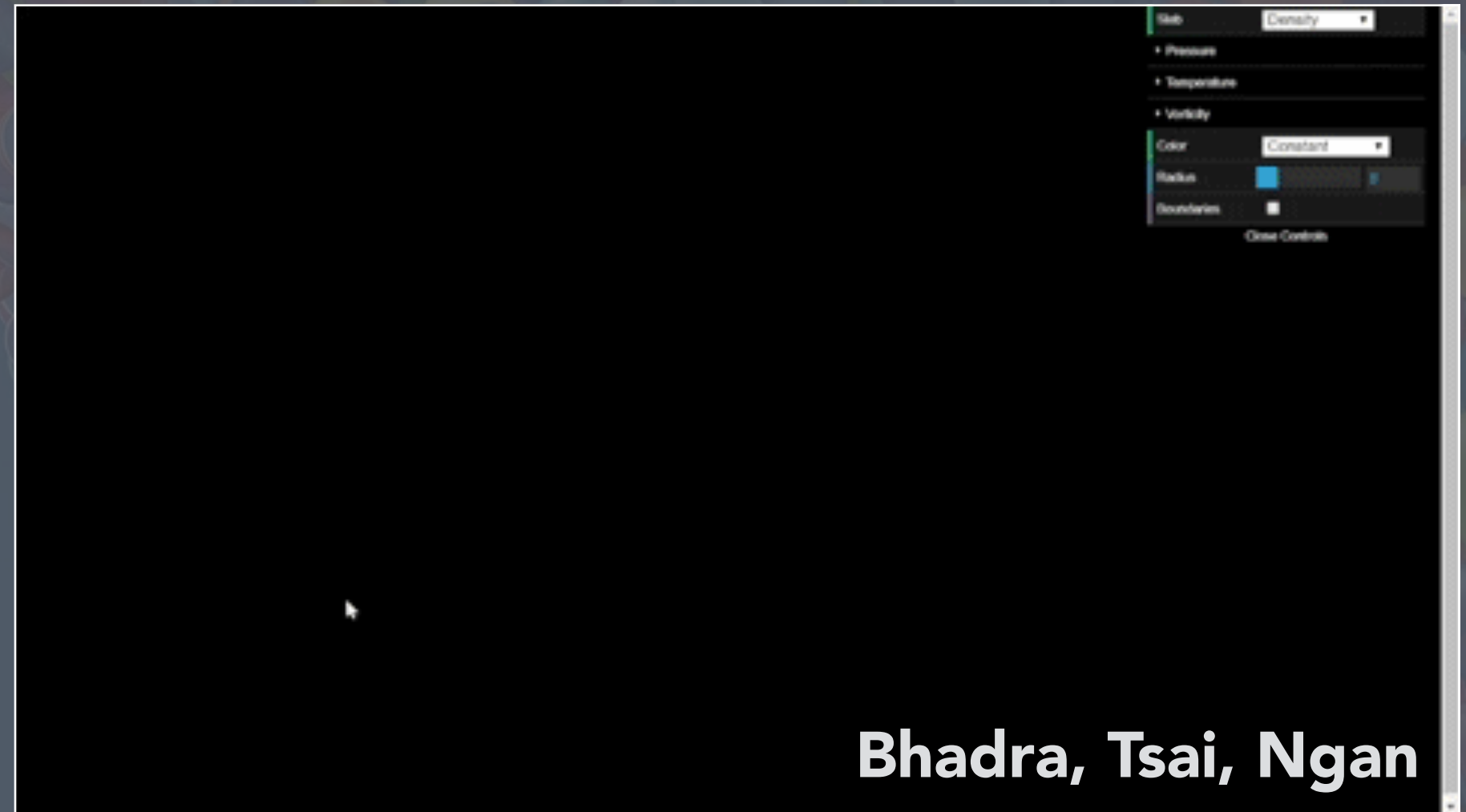
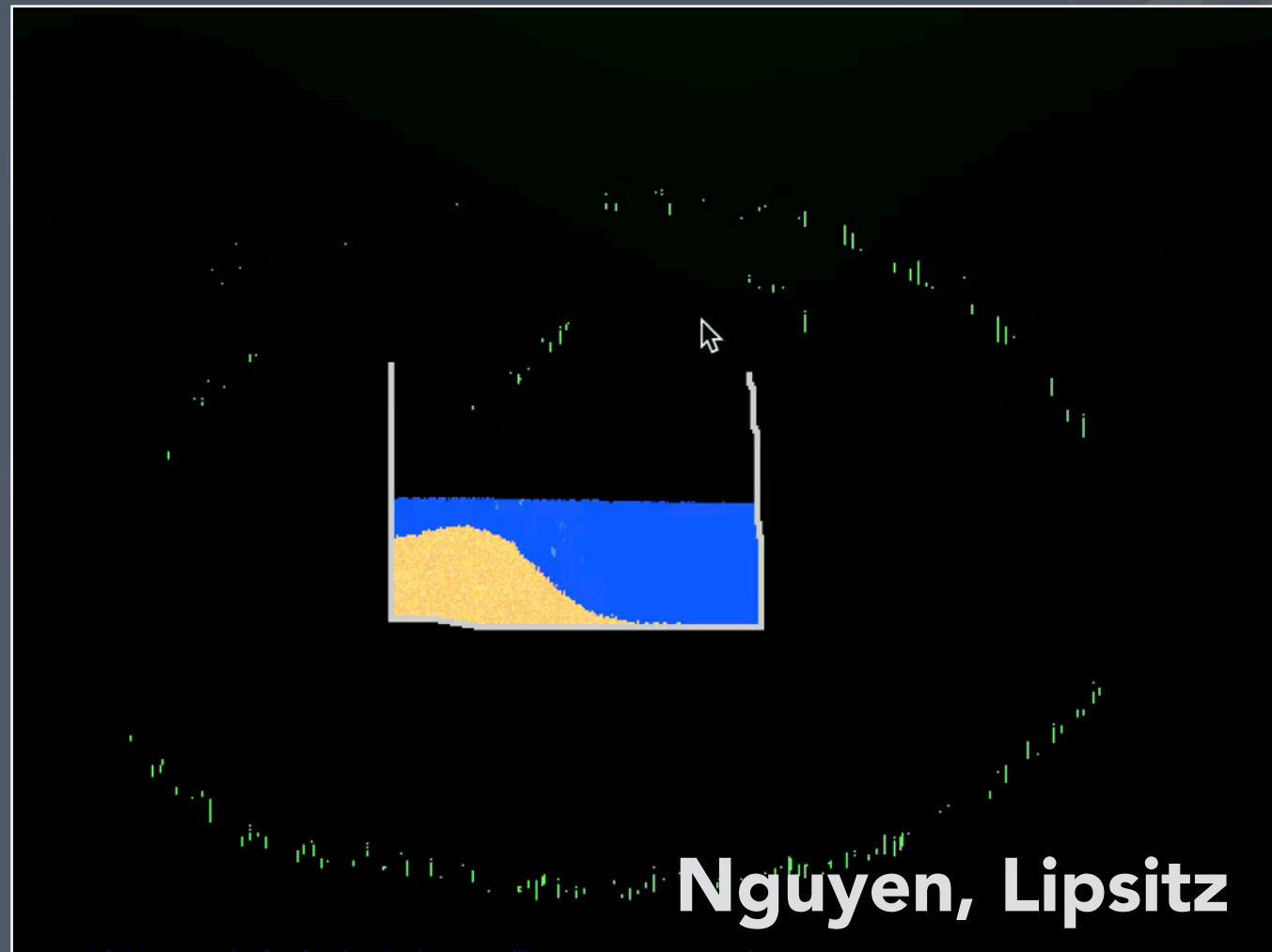


Tu, Gibbes, Jacobs

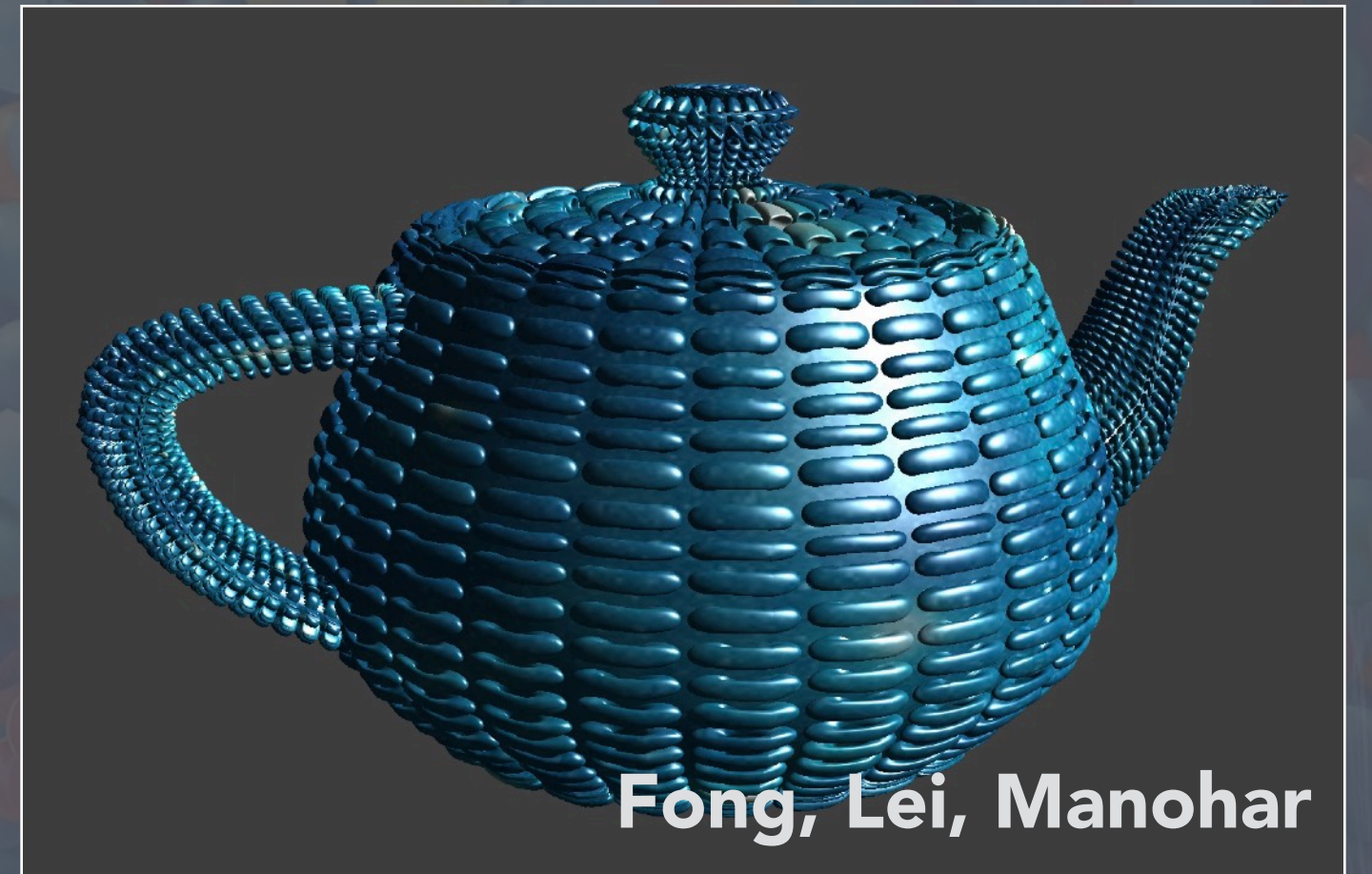


Doriwala, Kamat, Lim, Feguson

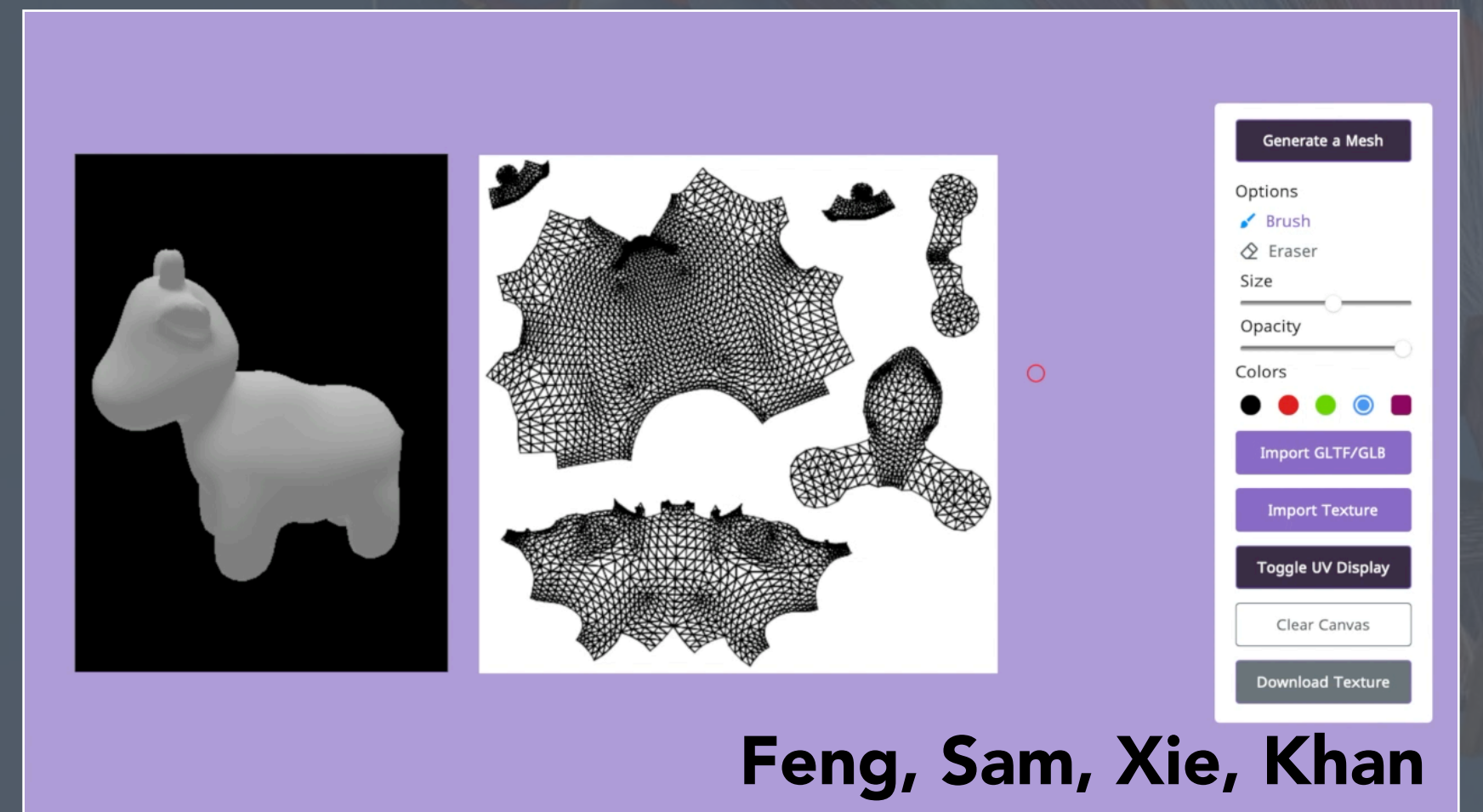
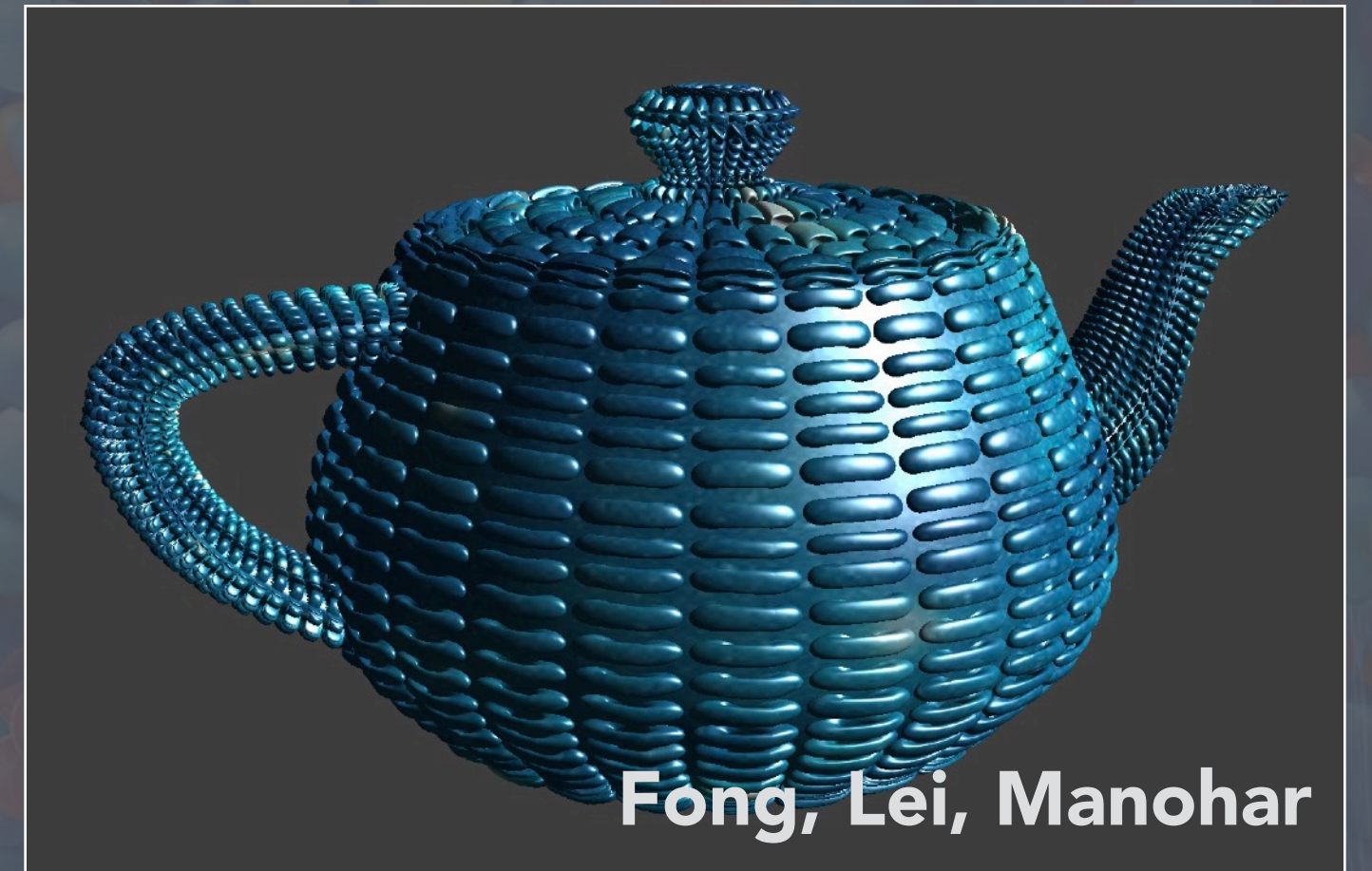
Final Project - Examples



Final Project - Examples



Final Project - Examples



Course Logistics

Prerequisites

Math

- Vectors, matrices, basic linear algebra
- Helpful: exposure to stats, signal processing, Fourier transform

Programming

- Data structures (CS61B)
- Fluency with development environment, debugging, etc.
- Fluency with C and C++

Enrollment

- Past years, high turnover from wait list
- Questions about enrollment:
 - Undergraduate students (CS184): ask EECS course scheduler (Cindy Conners) cs-scheduling@berkeley.edu
 - Graduate students (CS284A): contact course staff on Ed
 - Concurrent enrollment: can enroll after UCB waitlist clears, by order of CE application — CE/EECS course scheduling has the order

Course Website



- cs184.eecs.berkeley.edu
- Big shout-out to Ashley Chiu for bringing this inclusive template from CS161 to graphics
- Full schedule up on website calendar now

CS 184/284A

Search CS 184/284A Spring 2025

Dark Mode Ed OH Queue Extensions Feedback

WARNING
This site is under construction. All dates and policies are tentative until this message goes away.

CS 184/284A Spring 2025

Instructor: Ren Ng / Lecture: 3:30-5:00PM Tu & Th, Birge 50

Course Calendar

Skip to current week

| Wk. | Date | Lecture | Discussion | Homework | Project |
|-----|------------|-----------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------|
| 1 | Tue Jan 21 | 1. Introduction | No Discussion | Homework 0 | |
| | Thu Jan 23 | 2. Drawing Triangles | | | |
| 2 | Tue Jan 28 | 3. Sampling and Aliasing | 2. Intro/Triangles | | |
| | Thu Jan 30 | 4. Transforms | | | |
| 3 | Tue Feb 04 | 5. Texture Mapping | 3. Transforms/Texture Mapping | Homework 1 Checkpoint (due 02/07) | |
| | Thu Feb 06 | 6. Rasterization Pipeline | | | |
| 4 | Tue Feb 11 | 7. Bezier Curves & Surfaces | 4. Splines/Curves | Homework 1 (due 02/18) | |
| | Thu Feb 13 | 8. Mesh Representations + Geometry Processing | | | |
| | Tue | | | Homework 2 | |

Report an accessibility issue.

This site uses [Just the Docs](#), a documentation theme for Jekyll.

Course Schedule - Important Dates

See course website for all dates and more info.

Exams

- Monday March 10th 7:00 - 9:00 pm
- Monday April 28th 7:00 - 9:00pm

Final Project Presentations

- Report/Video due May 4th
- In-Person Presentations: Monday May 5th

Please check calendars and save these dates now!

- Send a private Ed message to staff this week if you have an exceptional circumstance

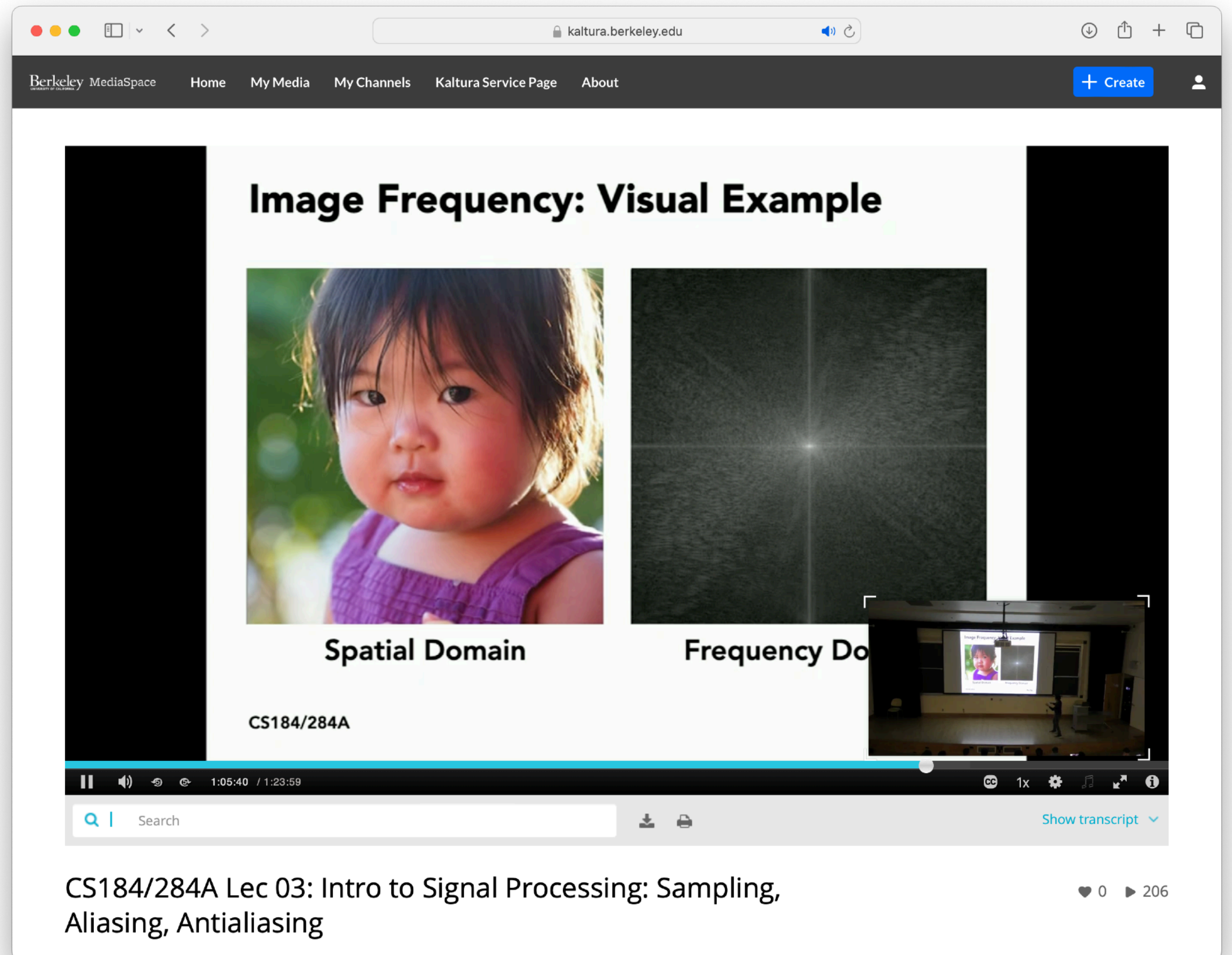
Ed

edstem.org, course Ed link on course website

- **You should be added already (if not, please sign up)!**
- **Please use Ed instead of email for logistics and general communication / discussion**
- **Conceptual questions and intellectual discussions will be hosted on lecture-specific threads (connected to class participation points)**

Lecture Will Be Recorded

Videos will be linked on the course website shortly after lecture



The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying a video player. The browser's address bar shows 'kaltura.berkeley.edu'. The video player interface includes a navigation bar with 'Berkeley MediaSpace', 'Home', 'My Media', 'My Channels', 'Kaltura Service Page', and 'About'. A '+ Create' button and a user profile icon are also visible. The video content shows a slide with the title 'Image Frequency: Visual Example'. The slide features two side-by-side images: on the left, a photograph of a young child's face labeled 'Spatial Domain'; on the right, a corresponding frequency domain plot labeled 'Frequency Do'. Below the images, the text 'CS184/284A' is visible. The video player controls at the bottom show a play button, volume, and a progress bar at 1:05:40 / 1:23:59. A search bar and 'Show transcript' link are also present. Below the video player, the video title 'CS184/284A Lec 03: Intro to Signal Processing: Sampling, Aliasing, Antialiasing' is displayed, along with a heart icon and a play button icon next to the number '206'.

Discussion Section

Sections start next week, and TAs will give a primer on C++ and building class projects

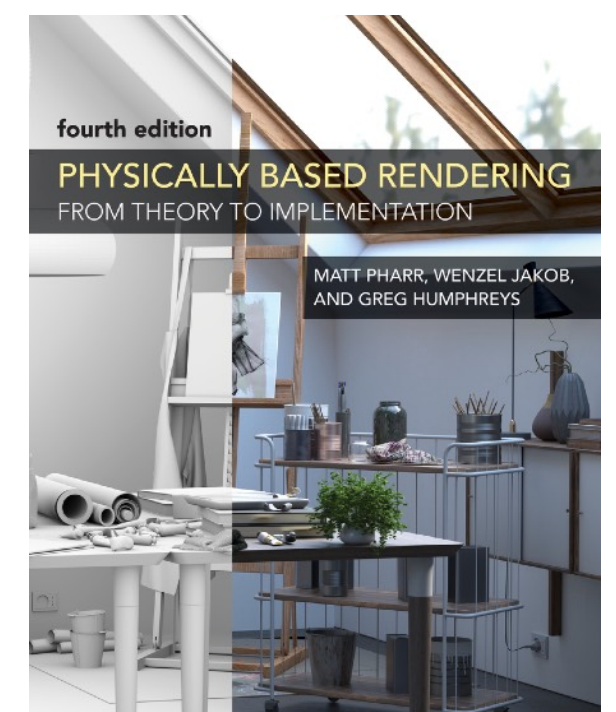
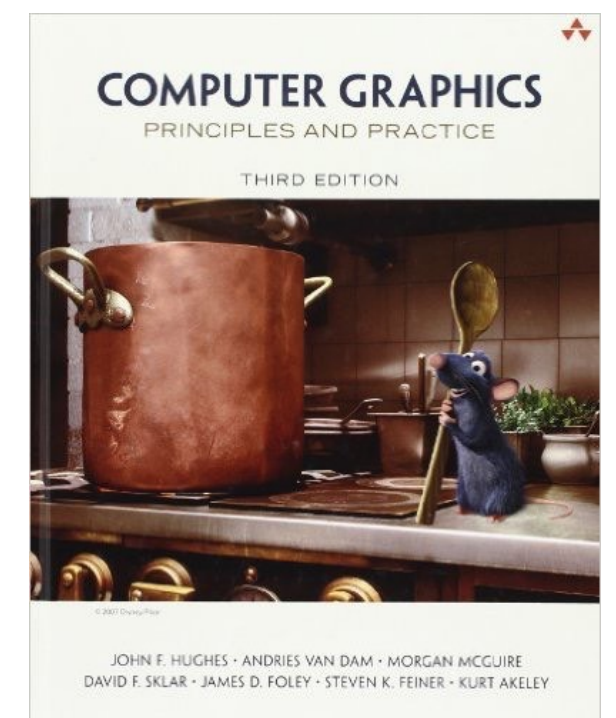
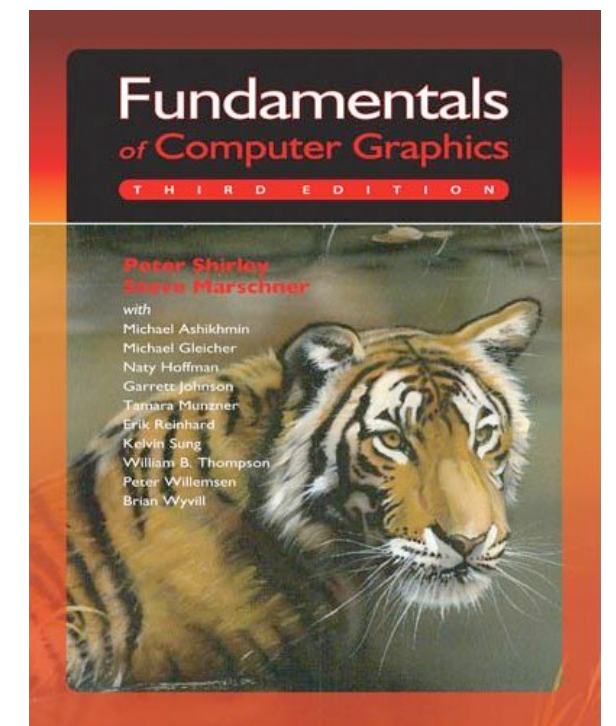
Resources

Lectures will be primary source

Textbook reference material (optional):

- **Fundamentals of Computer Graphics**
by P. Shirley, S. Marschner, et al.
- **Computer Graphics: Principles and Practice**
(3rd Edition)
by Hughes, van Dam, et al.
- **Physically Based Rendering, Fourth Edition: From Theory to Implementation**
by Pharr, Jakob and Humphreys

Other optional reading resources on class website



Learning, Grading, Collaboration & Culture

Goals:

- Enable you to increase focus on learning rather than assessment
- Encourage your learning through collaboration
- Entrust you with and support you in maintaining academic integrity

Main Ideas (details on course website policies page — please review):

- The class is not graded on a curve.
- Collaboration in pairs is encouraged on homework assignments.
- Final project in teams of four.
- Two in-person exams.

Details

- Please read the Policies page on the course website; ask questions on Ed.

Course Deliverables and Assessment

CS184: your course grade is out of 100 total points

- **Four homework assignments, 12.5 points each**
 - **Pair projects encouraged. Programming and written reports.**
- **Two in-person, closed-book exams, 10 points each**
 - **Check dates on website schedule. No exam during Finals Week.**
- **Final project, 25 points**
 - **In teams of four, with final presentation, video, report.**
- **Participation, 5 points**
 - **Attend lectures/discussion**

CS284A students: Project is 40% of grade, remainder normalized.

Late Days Policy

You have 8 late days for the semester

- Extend a homework assignment deadline (not the final project) by 24 hours using one late day.
- No more than 4 late days on last homework (#4)
- If you do not have remaining late days, 1 course point penalty per day (out of 12.5 course points for 184, or 10 course points for 284A)
- Late days are meant to be used for personal schedule conflicts, illness, submission issues and other unforeseen circumstances.
- For exceptional circumstances, contact staff or see website for extension request form.

Participation Policy

Every week, starting week 2, you are eligible for up to 2 participation credits.

- 1 credit for attending lecture
- 0.75 credits for attending discussion, and
- 0.5 credit for making one well thought-out comment on any designated Ed lecture thread

Note that you must earn participation credits week-to-week and cannot “make up” participation at the end of the semester

Policy on Use of Generative-AI Tools

You are welcome to use AI tools for coding and writing reports. But a few rules / comments:

- Must describe use and what you learned
- Exams are in-person, closed-book. Likely will have coding questions
- Current AI tools are not perfect, so supervise your tools closely if you use them
- Minimal-effort use of AI tools may result in no partial credit
- We encourage you to explore AI tools in a way that augments rather than reduces your learning in class

What We Are Looking For In Lecture Ed Posts

Try to explain the slide (as if teaching your classmate to study for an exam)

- “Ren said this, but if you think about it this way it is much clearer”

Explain what is confusing you

- “What I was totally confused about here was...”

Challenge classmates with a question

- For example, make up a question you think might be on an exam

Provide a link to an alternative explanation

- “This site has a really good animation of pre-filtering to avoid aliasing”

Mention real-world examples

- For example, describe what default interpolation functions are used in iOS.

Constructively respond to another student’s question

- “@nojaggies, are you sure that is correct? I thought that Ren said...”

It is OK, and even encouraged, to address the same topic (or repeat someone else’s summary, explanation or idea) in your own words

- “@cornellbox’s point is that subdivision is also used to...”

Class Philosophy

We want to build an active, engaged class community.

Come to class, participate in lecture, discussion, office hour parties, homework parties.

Practice cooperative, supportive learning.

Contribute on the website.

Uphold academic honor individually and collectively.

Inclusive Classroom

We are committed to creating a learning environment welcoming and supportive of all students. Towards this goal, we call on our class community to:

- Respect, welcome and learn from each other as individuals with unique backgrounds, perspectives and identities.
- Collaboration and team learning are encouraged, and will be supported through class staff and resources.
- Homework assignments and final project are a great way to meet new people and make friends; work on building trust and leveraging each other's unique strengths.
- If you feel that your learning is negatively affected by your experiences outside of class (e.g. family matters, current events), please don't hesitate to come and talk with the instructor and/or staff. We want to support you.

Course Roadmap

Rasterization Pipeline

Core Concepts

- Sampling
- Antialiasing
- Transforms

Geometric Modeling

Core Concepts

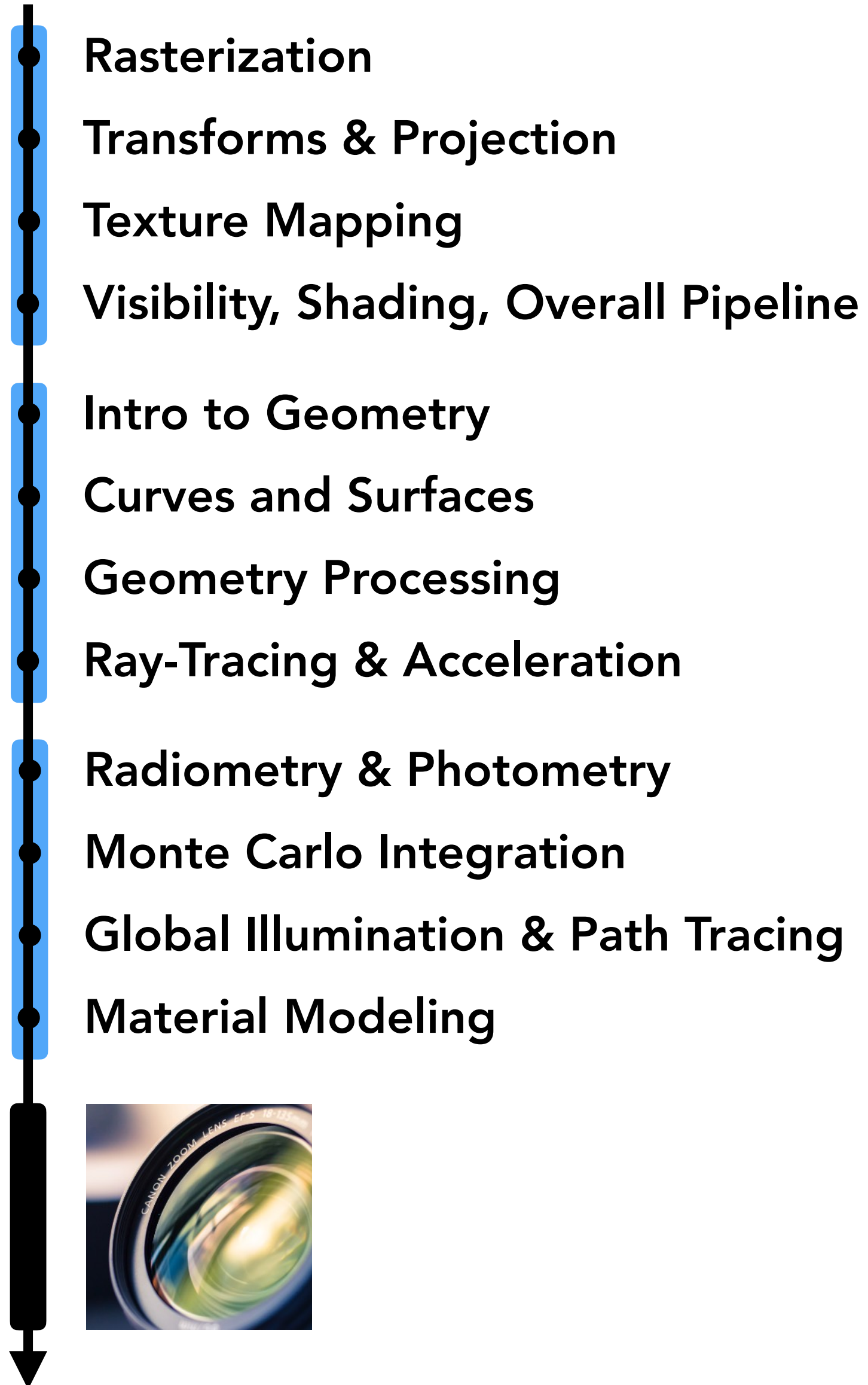
- Splines, Bezier Curves
- Topological Mesh Representations
- Subdivision, Geometry Processing

Lighting & Materials

Core Concepts

- Measuring Light
- Unbiased Integral Estimation
- Light Transport & Materials

Cameras & Imaging



Questions?

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