

# Differential Geometry for Mesh Generation III

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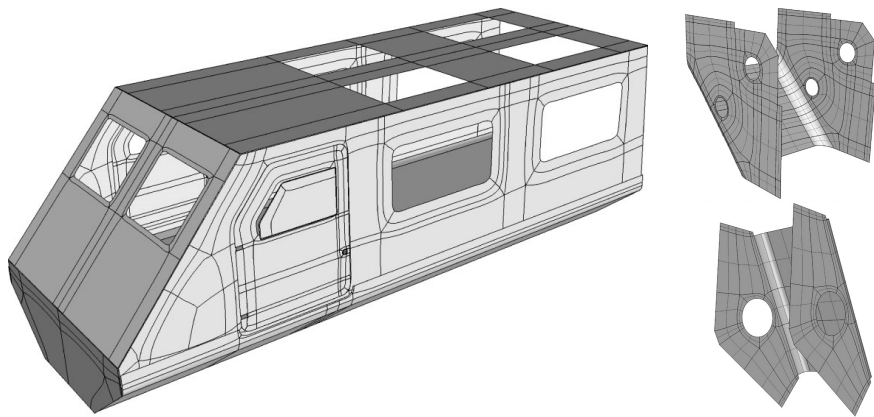
Short Course International Meshing Roundtable  
SIAM IMR 2024, Baltimore, USA

March 5th, 2024

# Structured Surface Quadrilateral Mesh Generation

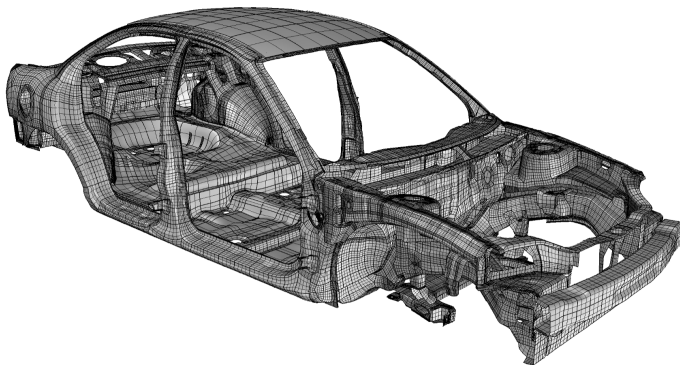
# Motivation

# Spline Surfaces for IGA



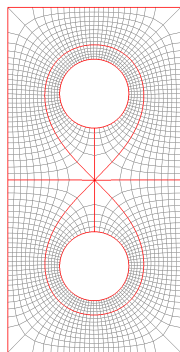
**Figure:** Bicubic spline representation of vehicle (joint work with Tom Hughes and K. Sheperd).

# Spline Surfaces for IGA

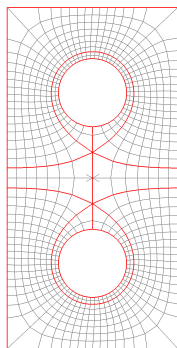


**Figure:** Dodge Neon model represented as bicubic set of NURBS splines (joint work with Tom Hughes and K. Sheperd).

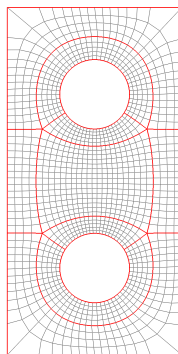
# Central Challenge



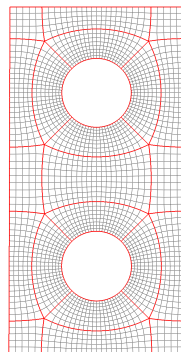
1 zero



2 zeros



4 zeros

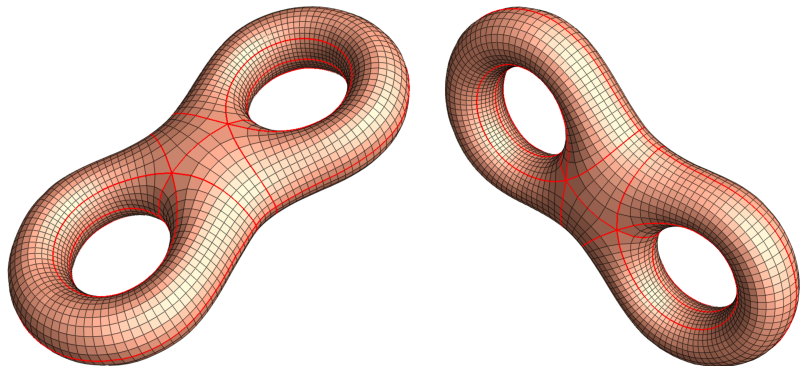


8 zeros

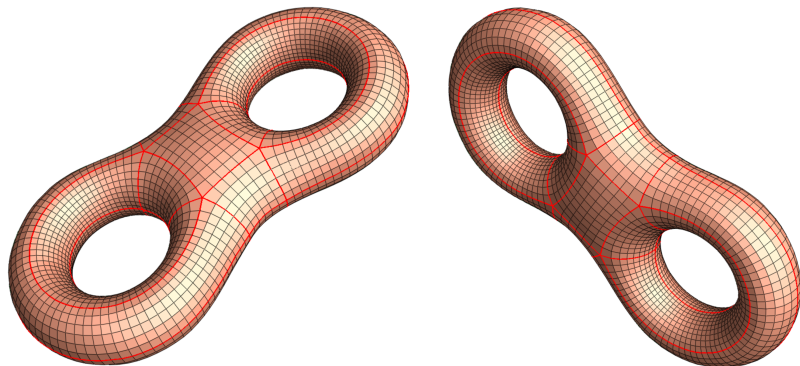
## Problem (Central Task)

*Find the governing equations for the singularities of a quad-mesh.*

# Central Challenge



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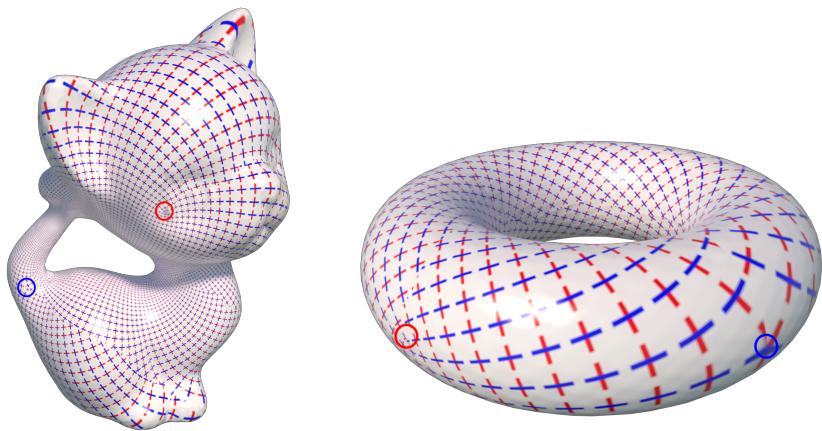


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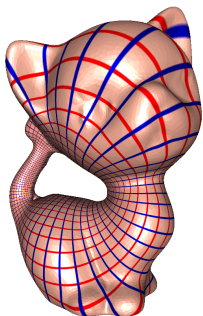


# Singularities on a Topological Torus



Smooth cross fields on genus one closed surfaces with two singularities.

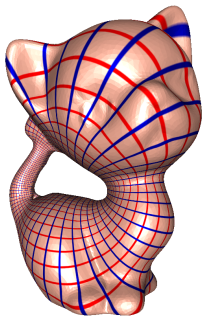
# Singularities on a Topological Torus



## Problem (3-5 Quad-Mesh on a Torus)

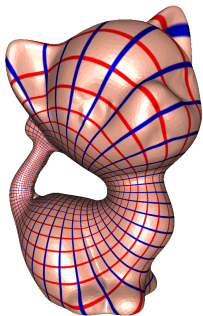
*Is there a quad-mesh on a topological torus with one valence 3 singular point and one valence 5 singular point?*

# Singularities on a Topological Torus



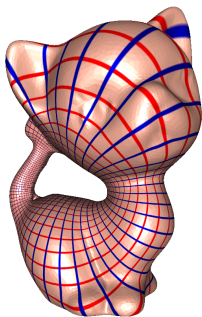
- There is no 3-5 quad-mesh;

# Singularities on a Topological Torus



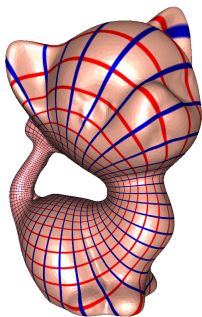
- There is no 3-5 quad-mesh;
- The combinatorial Euler formula is satisfied;

# Singularities on a Topological Torus



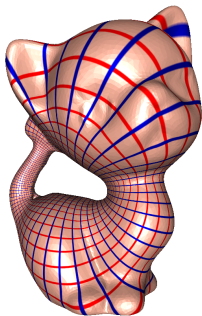
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- There are flat metrics with 2 cone singularities, whose curvatures are  $-\pi/2$  and  $\pi/2$  respectively;

# Singularities on a Topological Torus



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- There are cross fields with 2 singularities, whose indices are  $-1/4$  and  $1/4$  respectively;

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This means differential topology and Riemannian geometry are not enough for quad-mesh theory. Conformal geometry is essential.

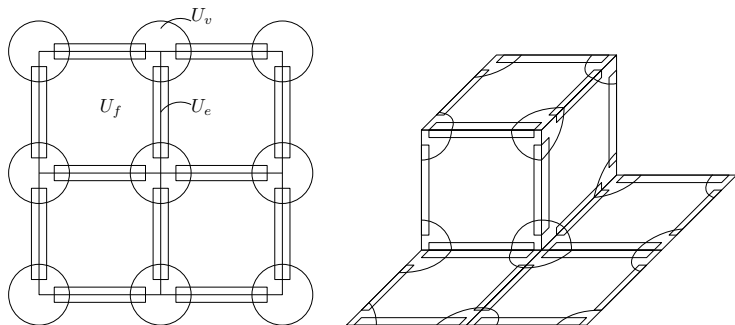
# Quad-Mesh Metric Structure



# Quad-Mesh Metric

## Definition (Quad-Mesh Metric)

Given a quad-mesh  $\mathcal{Q}$ , each face is treated as the unit planar square, this will define a Riemannian metric, the so-called quad-mesh metric  $\mathbf{g}_{\mathcal{Q}}$ , which is a flat metric with cone singularities.



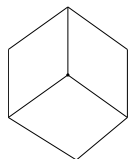
# Discrete Gauss Curvature

## Definition (Curvature)

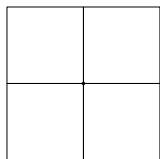
Given a quad-mesh  $\mathcal{Q}$ , for each vertex  $v_i$ , the curvature is defined as

$$K(v) = \begin{cases} \frac{\pi}{2}(4 - k(v)) & v \notin \partial\mathcal{Q} \\ \frac{\pi}{2}(2 - k(v)) & v \in \partial\mathcal{Q} \end{cases}$$

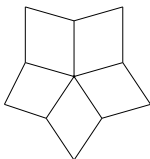
where  $k(v)$  is the topological valence of  $v$ , i.e. the number of faces adjacent to  $v$ .



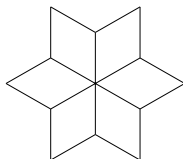
$$k = \pi/2$$



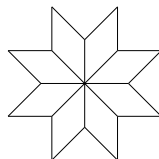
$$k = 0$$



$$k = -\pi/2$$



$$k = -\pi$$



$$k = -2\pi$$

## Theorem (Quad-Mesh Metric Conditions)

Given a quad-mesh  $\mathcal{Q}$ , the induced quad-mesh metric is  $\mathbf{g}_{\mathcal{Q}}$ , which satisfies the following four conditions:

- 1 Gauss-Bonnet condition;
- 2 Holonomy condition;
- 3 Finite horizontal/vertical geodesic condition;
- 4 Boundary Alignment condition.

# 1. Gauss-Bonnet Condition

## Theorem (Gauss-Bonnet)

Given a quad-mesh  $\mathcal{Q}$ , the induced metric is  $\mathbf{g}_{\mathcal{Q}}$ , the total curvature satisfies

$$\sum_{v_i \in \partial \mathcal{Q}} K(v_i) + \sum_{v_i \notin \partial \mathcal{Q}} K(v_i) = 2\pi\chi(\mathcal{Q}).$$

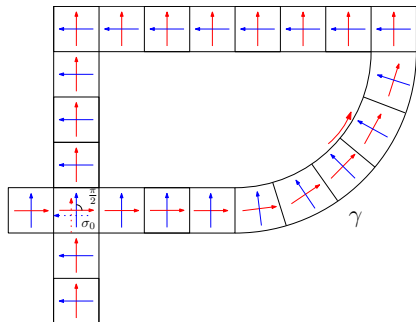
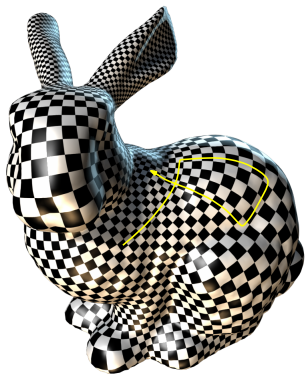
Namely

$$\sum_{v_i \in \partial \mathcal{Q}} (2 - k(v_i)) + \sum_{v_i \notin \partial \mathcal{Q}} (4 - k(v_i)) = 4\chi(\mathcal{Q}).$$

## 2. Holonomy Condition

### Theorem (Holonomy Condition)

Suppose  $\mathcal{Q}$  is a closed quad-mesh, then the holonomy group induced by  $\mathbf{g}_{\mathcal{Q}}$  is a subgroup of the rotation group  $\{e^{i\frac{k}{2}\pi}, k \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ .



### 3. Boundary Alignment Condition

#### Definition (Boundary Alignment Condition)

Given a quad-mesh  $\mathcal{Q}$ , with induced metric  $\mathbf{g}_{\mathcal{Q}}$ , one can define a global cross field by parallel transportation, which is aligned with the boundaries.

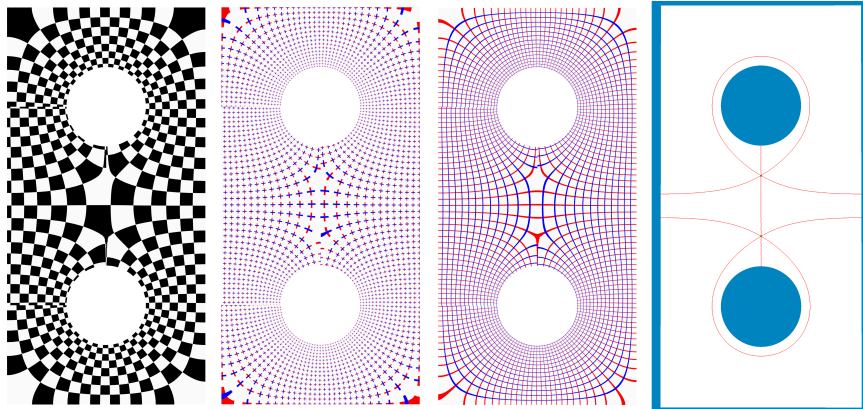


Figure: Aligned and mis-aligned with the inner boundaries

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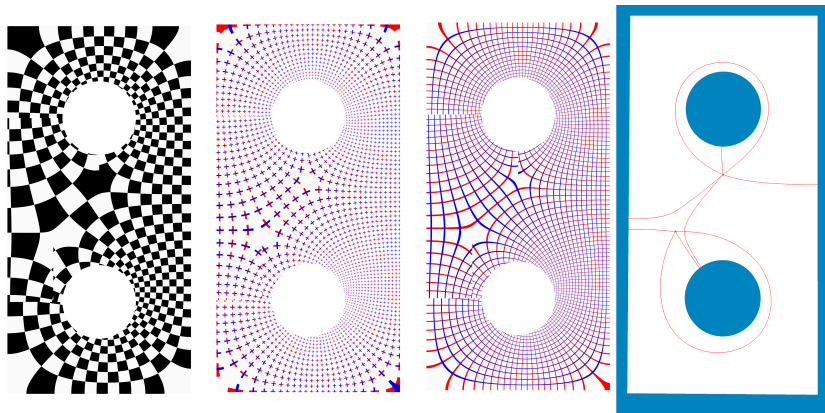
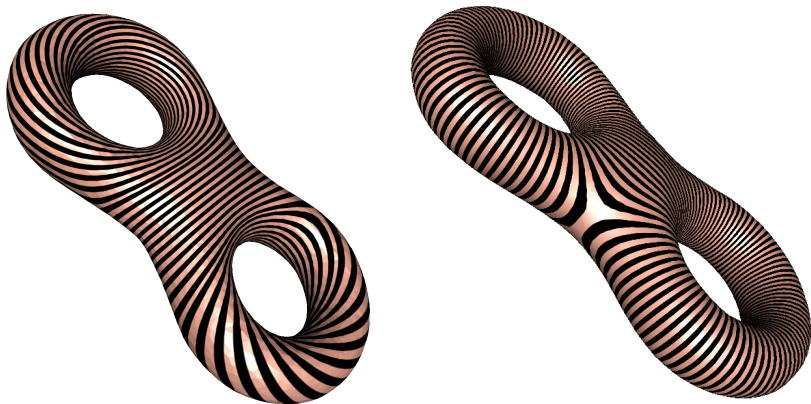


Figure: Aligned and mis-aligned with the inner boundaries

## 4. Finite Horizontal/Vertical Geodesic Condition

### Definition (Finite Horizontal/Vertical Geodesic Condition)

The stream lines parallel to the cross field are finite geodesic loops.





# Riemann Surface Theory

# Riemann Surface

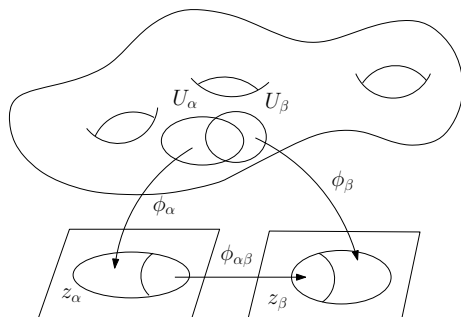


Figure: A Riemann surface.

A surface is covered by a complex atlas  $\mathcal{A}$ , such that all chart transitions are bi-holomorphic.  $\varphi_{\alpha\beta} : (x, y) \mapsto (u, v)$  satisfies Cauchy-Riemann equation:

$$u_x = v_y, \quad u_y = -v_x,$$

## Definition (Meromorphic Function)

Suppose  $f : M \rightarrow \mathbb{C} \cup \{\infty\}$  is a complex function defined on the Riemann surface  $M$ . If for each point  $p \in M$ , there is a neighborhood  $U(p)$  of  $p$  with local parameter  $z(p) = 0$ ,  $f$  has Laurent expansion

$$f(z) = \sum_{i=k}^{\infty} a_i z^i,$$

then  $f$  is called a meromorphic function.

If all  $k$ 's are non-negative, then  $f$  is a holomorphic function.

## Definition (Meromorphic Differential)

Given a Riemann surface  $(M, \{z_\alpha\})$ ,  $\omega$  is a meromorphic differential of order  $n$ , if it has local representation,

$$\omega = f_\alpha(z_\alpha)(dz_\alpha)^n,$$

where  $f_\alpha(z_\alpha)$  is a meromorphic function,  $n$  is an integer; if  $f_\alpha(z_\alpha)$  is a holomorphic function, then  $\omega$  is called a holomorphic differential of order  $n$ .

## Definition (Zeros and Poles)

Suppose  $f : M \rightarrow \mathbb{C} \cup \{\infty\}$  is a meromorphic function. For each point  $p$ , there is a neighborhood  $U(p)$  of  $p$  with local parameter  $z(p) = 0$ ,  $f$  has Laurent expansion

$$f(z) = \sum_{i=k}^{\infty} a_i z^i,$$

if  $k > 0$ , then  $p$  is a zero with order  $k$ ; if  $k = 0$ , then  $p$  is a regular point; if  $k < 0$ , then  $p$  is a pole with order  $k$ . The assignment of  $p$  with respect to  $f$  is denoted as  $\nu_p(f) = k$ .

## Definition (Divisor)

The Abelian group freely generated by points on a Riemann surface is called the divisor group, every element is called a divisor, which has the form  $D = \sum_p n_p p$ . The degree of a divisor is defined as  $\deg(D) = \sum_p n_p$ .

## Definition (Meromorphic Function Divisor)

Given a meromorphic function  $f$  defined on a Riemann surface  $S$ , its divisor is defined as  $(f) = \sum_p \nu_p(f) p$ , where  $\nu_p(f)$  is the assignment of  $p$  with respect to  $f$ .

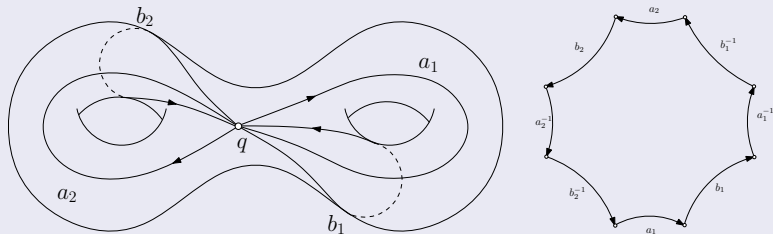
The divisor of a meromorphic function is called a principle divisor.

## Theorem

*Suppose  $M$  is a compact Riemann surface,  $f$  is a meromorphic function, then*

$$\deg((f)) = 0.$$

# Canonical Fundamental Group Generators

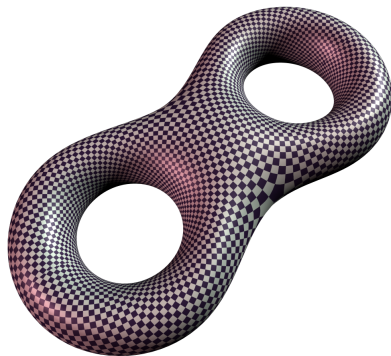
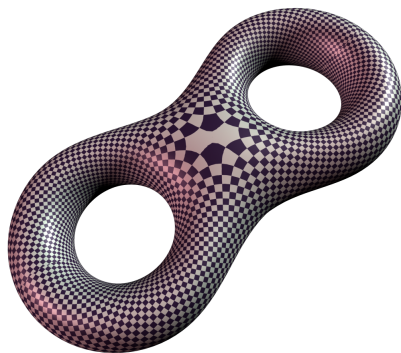


Algebraic intersection numbers satisfy the conditions:

$$a_i \cdot b_j = \delta_{ij}, a_i \cdot a_j = 0, b_i \cdot b_j = 0.$$



# Holomorphic Differential Group Basis



The holomorphic one-form basis  $\{\varphi_1, \varphi_2, \dots, \varphi_g\}$  satisfy the dual condition

$$\int_{a_j} \varphi_i = \delta_{ij}.$$

## Definition (Period Matrix)

Suppose  $M$  is a compact Riemann surface of genus  $g$ , with canonical fundamental group basis

$$\{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_g, b_1, b_2, \dots, b_g\}$$

and holomorphic one form basis

$$\{\varphi_1, \varphi_2, \dots, \varphi_g\}$$

The period matrix is defined as  $[A, B]$

$$A = \left( \int_{a_j} \varphi_i \right), B = \left( \int_{b_j} \varphi_i \right).$$

## Definition (Jacobi Variety)

Suppose the period matrix

$$A = (A_1, A_2, \dots, A_g), \quad B = (B_1, B_2, \dots, B_g),$$

the lattice  $\Gamma$  is

$$\Gamma = \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^g \alpha_i A_i + \sum_{j=1}^g \beta_j B_j \right\},$$

the Jacobi variety of  $M$  is defined as

$$J(M) = \mathbb{C}^g / \Gamma.$$

## Definition (Jacobi Map)

Given a compact Riemann surface  $M$ , choose a set of canonical fundamental group generators  $\{a_1, \dots, a_g, b_1, \dots, b_g\}$ , and obtain a fundamental domain  $\Omega$ ,

$$\partial\Omega = a_1 b_1 a_1^{-1} b_1^{-1} a_2 b_2 a_2^{-1} b_2^{-1} \cdots a_g b_g a_g^{-1} b_g^{-1}.$$

choose a base point  $p_0$ , the Jacobi map  $\mu : M \rightarrow J(M)$  is defined as follows: for any point  $p \in M$ , choose a path  $\gamma$  from  $p_0$  to  $p$  inside  $\Omega$ ,

$$\mu(p) = \left( \int_{\gamma} \varphi_1, \int_{\gamma} \varphi_2, \dots, \int_{\gamma} \varphi_g \right)^T.$$

## Theorem (Abel)

*Suppose  $M$  is a compact Riemann surface with genus  $g$ ,  $D$  is a divisor,  $\deg(D) = 0$ .  $D$  is principle if and only if*

$$\mu(D) = 0 \quad \text{in } J(M).$$

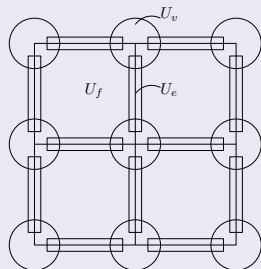
# Quad-Mesh Conformal Structure

# Quad-Mesh Riemann Surface

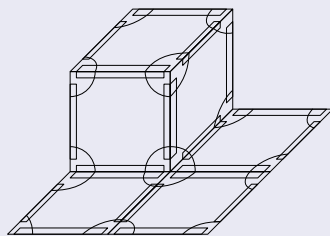
## Theorem (Quad-Mesh Riemann Surface)

Suppose  $Q$  is a closed quadrilateral mesh, then  $Q$  induces a conformal structure and can be treated as a Riemann surface  $M_Q$ .

## Proof.



(a) conformal atlas



(b) singularities

$$z_e = z_f + \frac{1}{2}(\pm 1 \pm i), \quad z_v^{\frac{k}{4}} = e^{i\frac{n\pi}{2}} z_f + \frac{1}{2}(\pm 1 \pm i) \quad (1)$$

# Quad-Mesh Meromorphic Differential

## Theorem (Quad-Mesh Meromorphic Differential)

Suppose  $Q$  is a closed quadrilateral mesh, then  $Q$  induces meromorphic quartic differential.

## Proof.

On each face  $f$ , define  $dz_f$ ,  $\omega_Q = (dz_f)^4$ ; vertex face transition

$$z_v^{\frac{k}{4}} = e^{i\frac{n\pi}{2}} z_f + \frac{1}{2}(\pm 1 \pm i)$$

where  $k$  is the vertex valence, therefore

$$\left(\frac{k}{4}\right)^4 z_v^{k-4} (dz_v)^4 = (dz_f)^4 = \omega_Q. \quad (2)$$





## Definition (Divisor)

The Abelian group freely generated by points on a Riemann surface is called the divisor group, every element is called a divisor, which has the form  $D = \sum_p n_p p$ . The degree of a divisor is defined as  $\deg(D) = \sum_p n_p$ . Suppose  $D_1 = \sum_p n_p p$ ,  $D_2 = \sum_p m_p p$ , then  $D_1 \pm D_2 = \sum_p (n_p \pm m_p) p$ ;  $D_1 \leq D_2$  if and only if for all  $p$ ,  $n_p \leq m_p$ .

## Definition (Quad-Mesh Divisor)

Suppose  $Q$  is a closed quadrilateral mesh, then  $Q$  induces a divisor

$$D_Q = \sum_{v_i \in Q} (k(v_i) - 4) v_i,$$

where  $v_i$  is a vertex with valence  $k(v_i)$ .

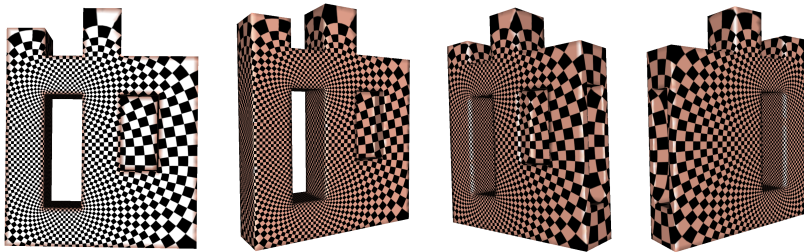
## Theorem (Quad-Mesh Abel-Jacobi Condition 2020)

*Suppose  $Q$  is a closed quadrilateral mesh, then for any holomorphic one-form  $\varphi$*

$$\mu(D_Q - 4(\varphi)) = 0 \quad \text{in } J(M_Q). \quad (3)$$

# Genus One Polycube Surface Example

A genus one closed surface  $S$ , which is a polycube surface (union of canonical unit cubes). The holomorphic one form  $\omega \in \Omega^1(S)$ .

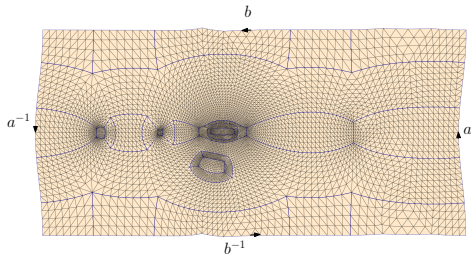
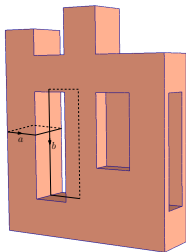


# Genus One Polycube Surface Example

The homology basis is  $\{a, b\}$ , the surface is sliced along  $\{a, b\}$  to get a fundamental domain  $D$ ,  $\partial D = abab^{-1}b^{-1}$ . The conformal mapping  $\mu : D \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  is given by

$$\mu(q) = \int_p^q \omega,$$

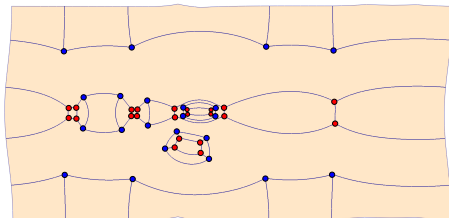
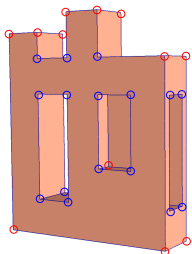
where  $p$  is a base point and the integration path is arbitrarily chosen in  $D$ .



# Genus One Polycube Surface Example

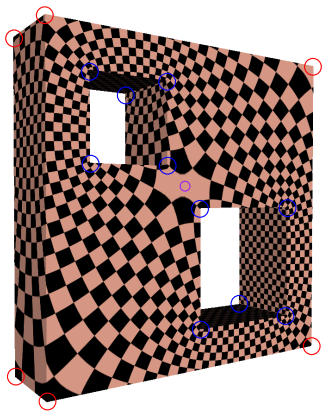
Suppose  $q_i$ 's are **poles (degree 3)**,  $p_j$ 's are **zeros (degree 5)**, then we have found that the number of poles equals to that of the zeros, furthermore,

$$\sum_{j=1}^{22} \mu(p_j) - \sum_{i=1}^{22} \mu(q_i) = 0.$$

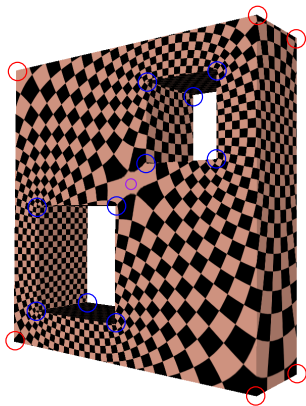


# Genus Two Polycube Surface Example

Suppose  $S$  is a genus two polycube surface,  $\omega$  is a holomorphic one-form. The red circles show the poles (degree 3), the blue circles show the zeros (degree 5), the purple circles the zeros of  $\omega$ .



(a). front view



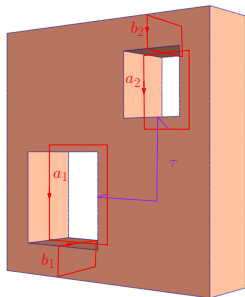
(b). back view

# Genus Two Polycube Surface Example

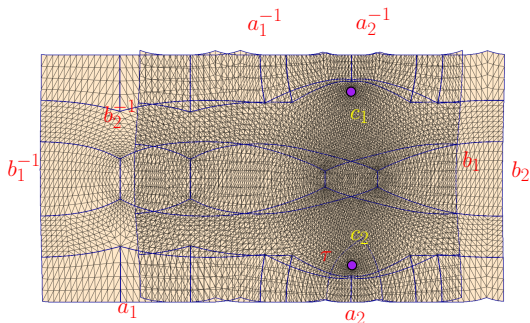
The surface is sliced along  $a_1, b_1, a_2, b_2, \tau$ , and integrate  $\omega$  to obtain  $\mu : S \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$

$$\mu(q) = \int_p^q \omega,$$

its branch covers the plane, the branching points are zeros of  $\omega$ ,  $c_1, c_2$ .



(a). cuts

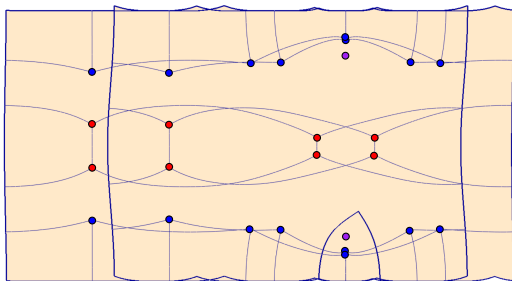
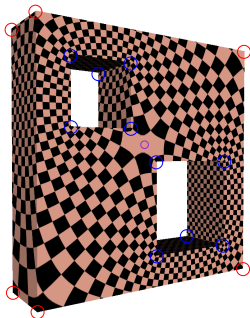


(b). conformal fattening

# Genus Two Polycube Surface Example

Suppose  $p_i$ 's are **zeros (degree 5)**,  $q_j$ 's are **poles (degree 3)**,  $c_k$ 's are **branch points**, then we have

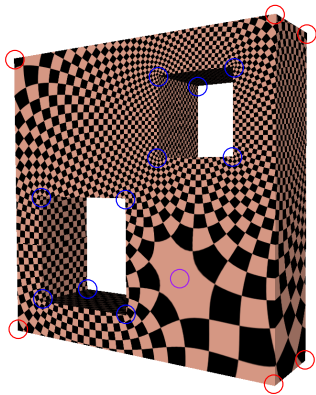
$$\sum_{i=1}^{16} \mu(p_i) - \sum_{j=1}^8 \mu(q_j) = 4 \sum_{k=1}^2 \mu(c_k).$$



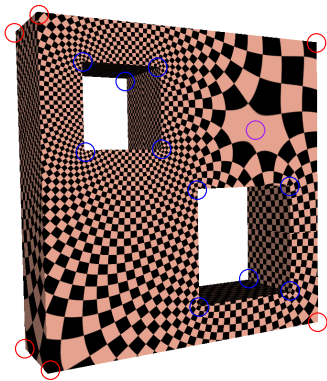


# Genus Two Polycube Surface Example

Suppose  $S$  is a genus two polycube surface,  $\omega$  is a holomorphic one-form. The red circles show the poles (degree 3), the blue circles show the zeros (degree 5), the purple circles the zeros of  $\omega$ .



(a). front view

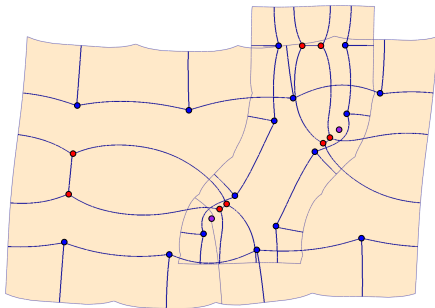
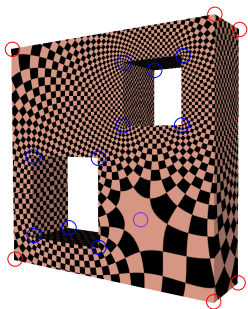


(b). back view

# Genus Two Polycube Surface Example

Suppose  $p_i$ 's are **zeros (degree 5)**,  $q_j$ 's are **poles (degree 3)**,  $c_k$ 's are **branch points**, then we have

$$\sum_{i=1}^{16} \mu(p_i) - \sum_{j=1}^8 \mu(q_j) = 4 \sum_{k=1}^2 \mu(c_k).$$



# Computational Algorithm

## Jacobi Map Algorithm

- 1 Compute the fundamental group  $\pi_1(S, p)$  of the surface;
- 2 Compute the cohomology group basis  $H_1(S, \mathbb{Z})$
- 3 Compute the harmonic form group basis  $H_\Delta(S, \mathbb{R})$ ;
- 4 Compute the holomorphic 1-form group basis  $\Omega^1(S)$ ;
- 5 Compute the Period Matrix of the surface.

## T-Mesh Generation Algorithm

- 1 Compute the singularity configuration by optimizing Abel-Jacobi condition;
- 2 Compute the flat cone metric using discrete surface Yamabe flow;
- 3 Compute the motorcycle graph;
- 4 Partition the surface into patches along the motorcycle graph, each patch is conformally flattened onto a quadrilateral;

# Algorithm Pipeline

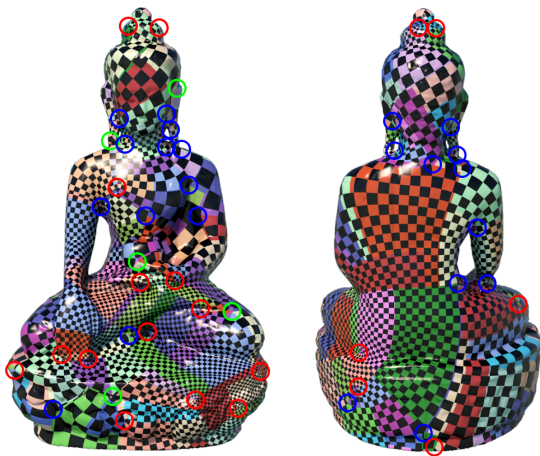
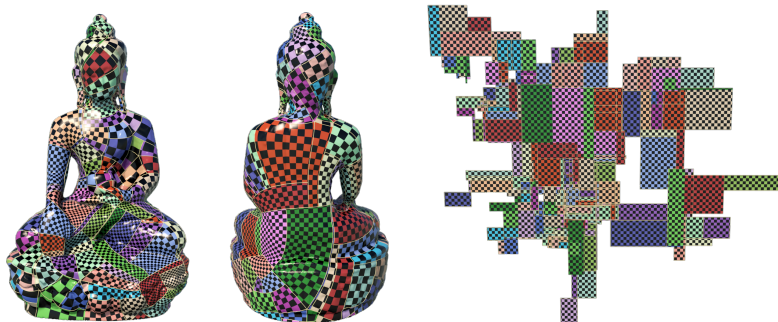


Figure: Step 1. Compute the singularities by optimizing Abel-Jacobi condition.

# Algorithm Pipeline

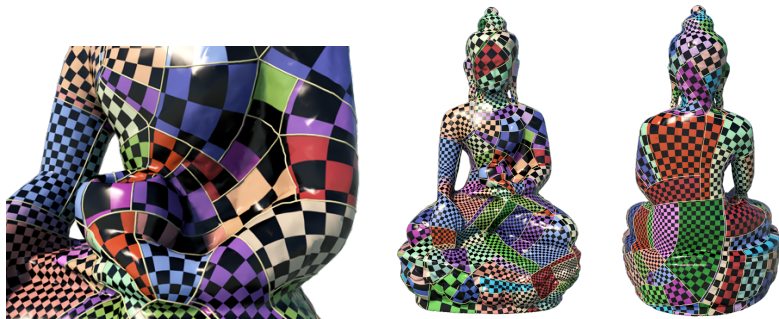


**Figure:** Step 2. Compute the flat cone metric using surface Ricci flow, and compute the motorcycle graph.



**Figure:** Step 3. Partition the surface into patches, each patch is conformally flattened onto a quadrilateral.





**Figure:** Step 4. Construct quad-meshes on each patch, with consistent boundary condition and adjust the width and the height of each quadrilateral.

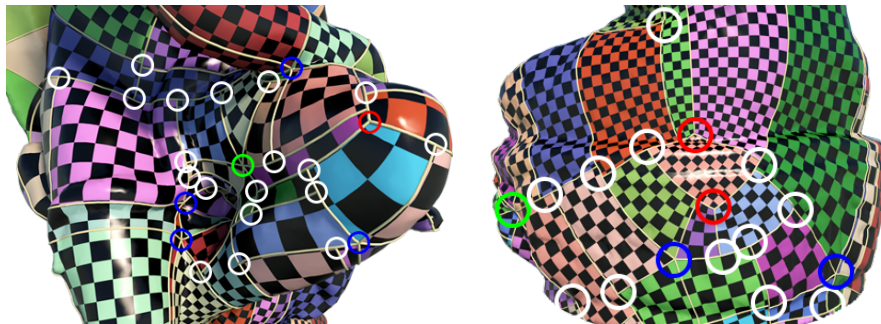


Figure: Singularities, white: T-junctions, blue: valence 5, green: valence 6, red :valence 3.

# T-Meshes

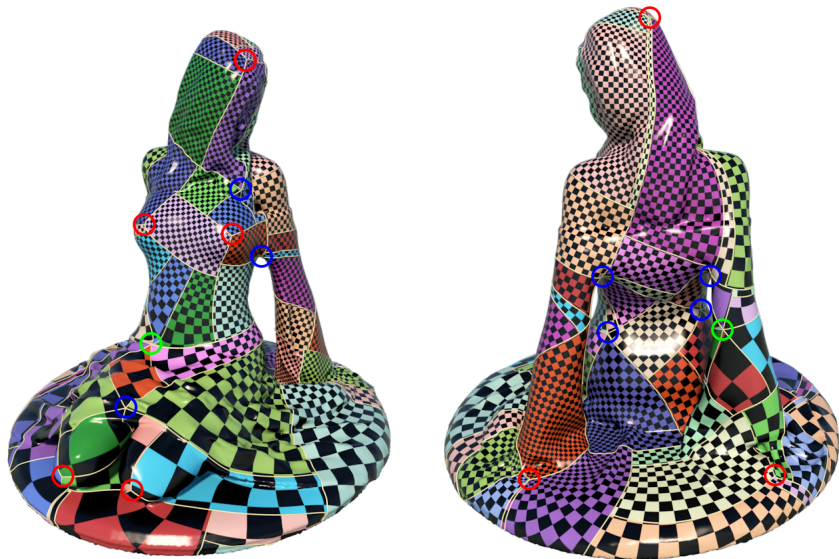
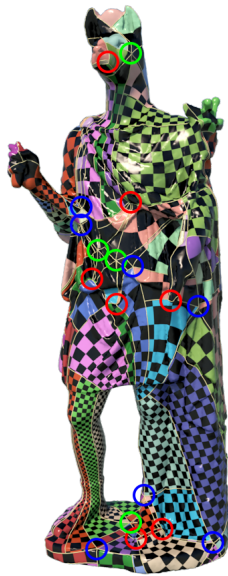
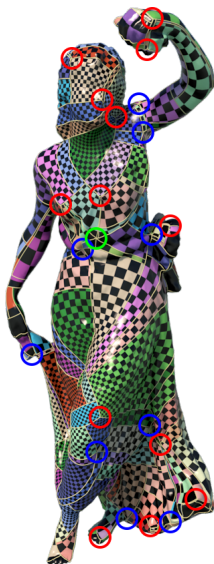
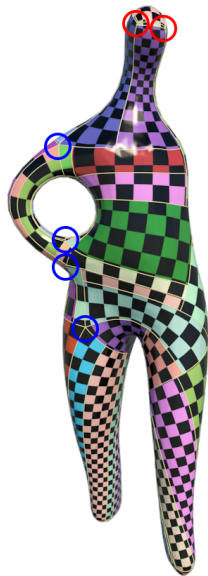
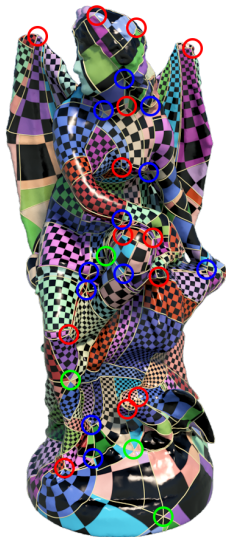


Figure: Singularities and T-Mesh of the Loveme model.

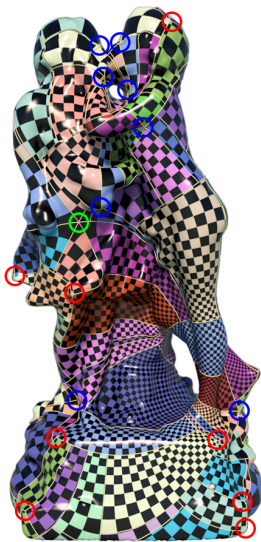
# T-Meshes



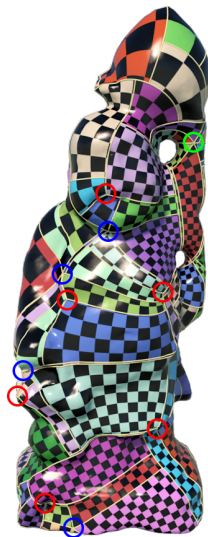
# T-Meshes



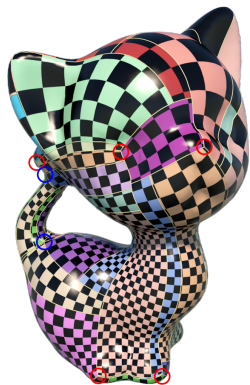
Witch model



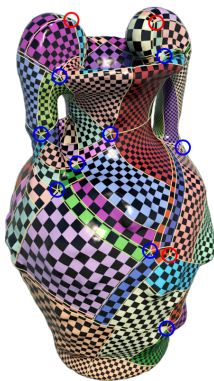
Kiss model



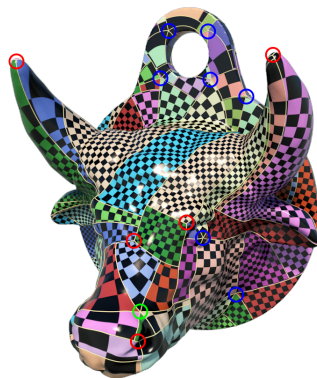
Monk model



(a) Kitten model

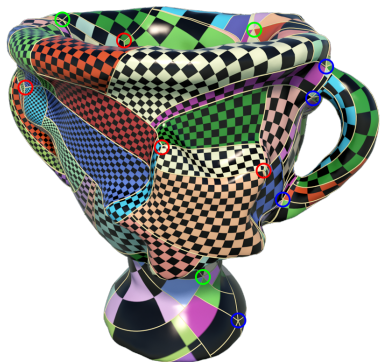


(b) Amphora model

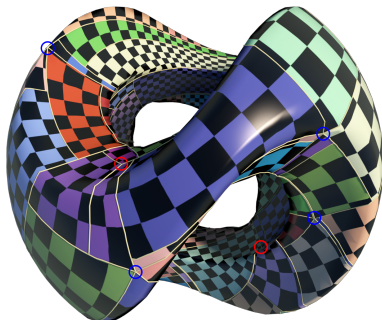


(c) Bull head

Figure: Singularities and T-Meshes of various surfaces.



Star cup model



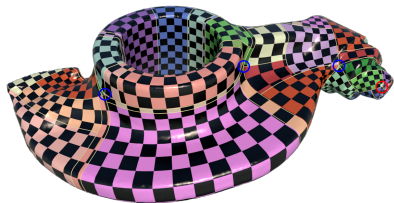
Sculpture model

Figure: Singularities and T-Meshes of high genus surfaces.

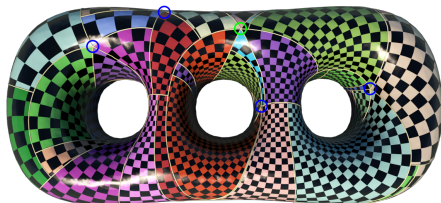


Figure: The motorcycle graph and T-mesh of the genus 3 kiss model.





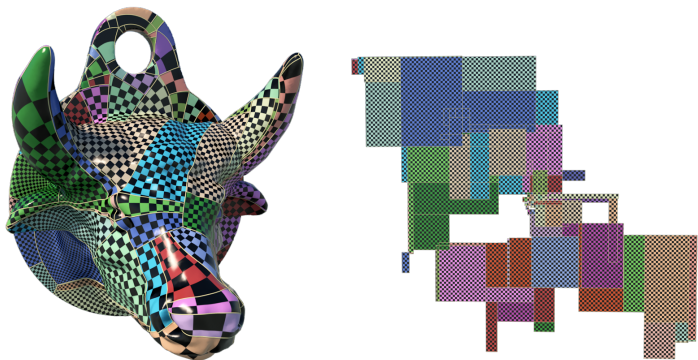
Rocker arm



3 holes surface

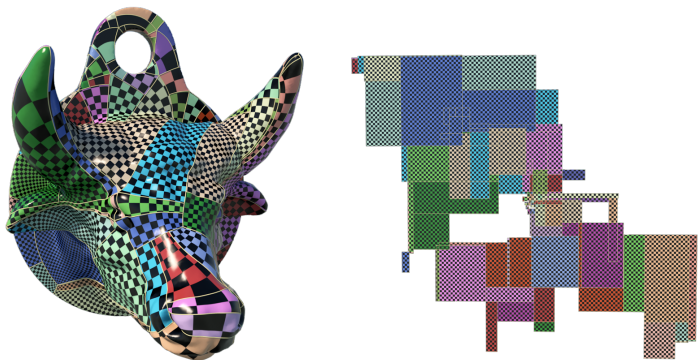
Figure: Singularities and T-Meshes of high genus surfaces.

# T-Mesh to Quad-Mesh



1. Puncture the surface at the singularities, isometrically immerse the universal covering space of the punctured surface obtain a fundamental polygon.

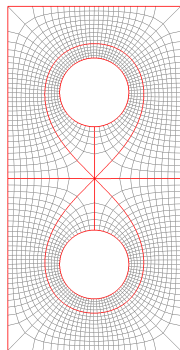
# T-Mesh to Quad-Mesh



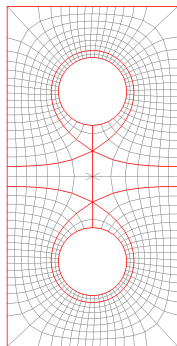
2. Deform the fundamental polygon, such that the translation components of all deck transformations are rational.

# Quad-meshing Experimental Results

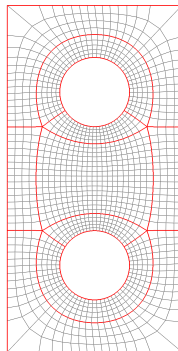
# Quad-Meshes



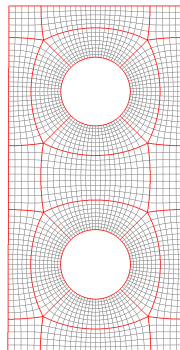
1 zero



2 zeros



4 zeros



8 zeros

Figure: Quad-meshes of a planar domain with two holes.

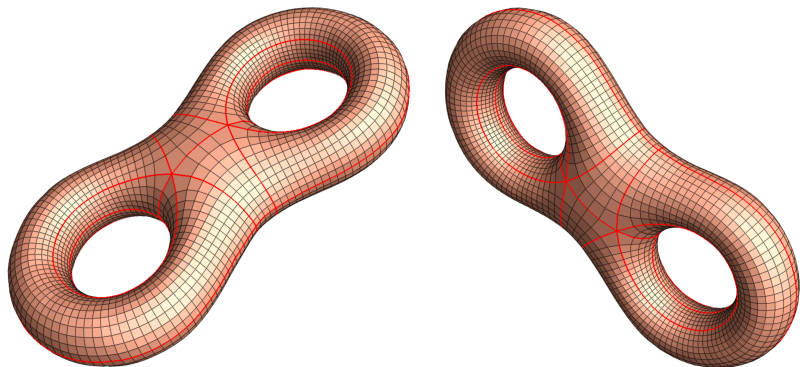


Figure: A quad-mesh of a genus two surface with 4 zeros.

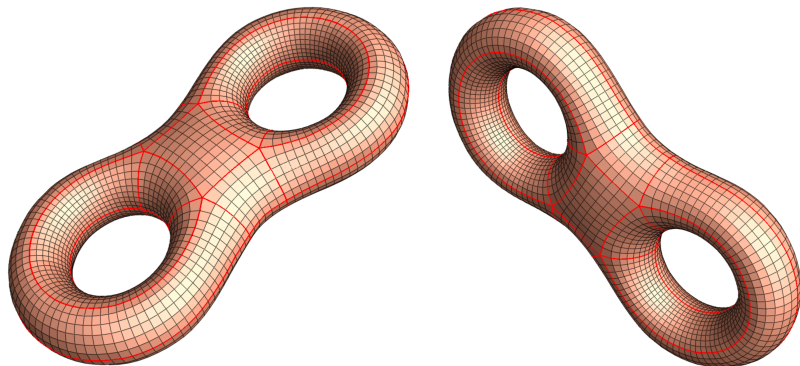
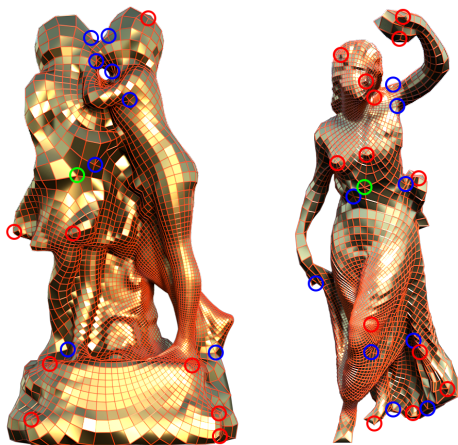


Figure: A quad-mesh of a genus two surface with 8 zeros.



(a). genus 3

(b). genus 1

Figure: Quad-Meshes.



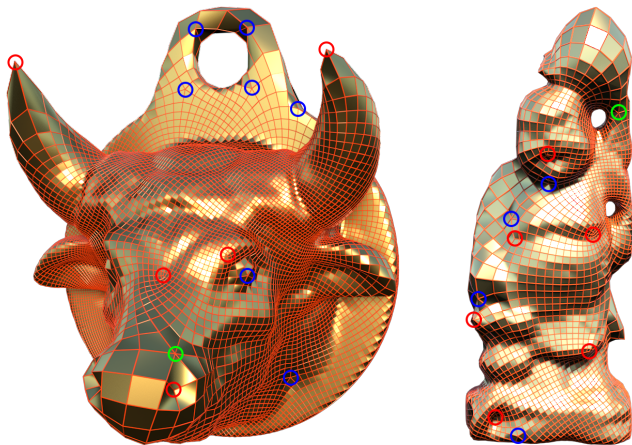


Figure: Quad-Meshes.

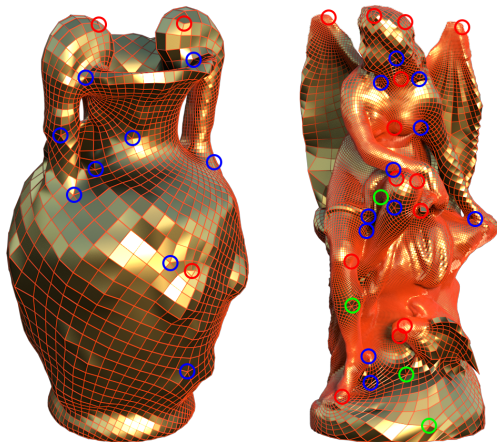
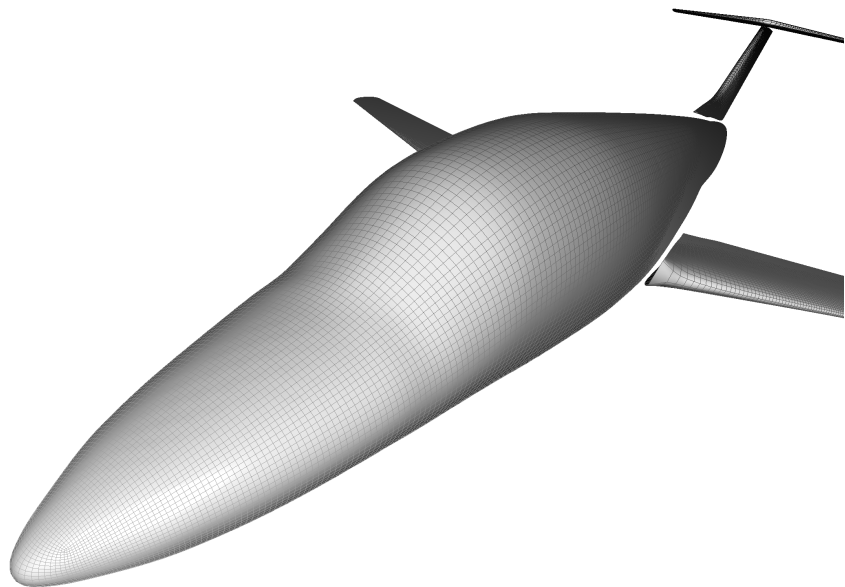
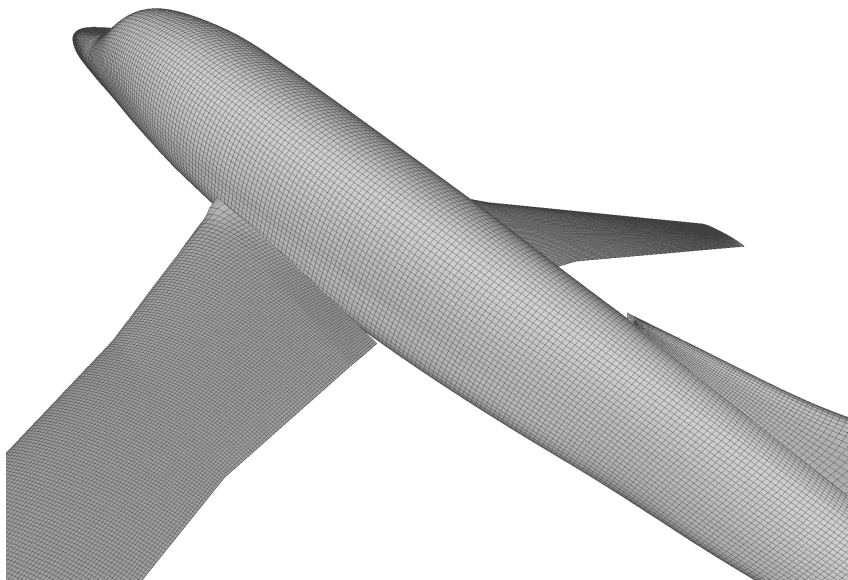


Figure: Quad-Meshes.

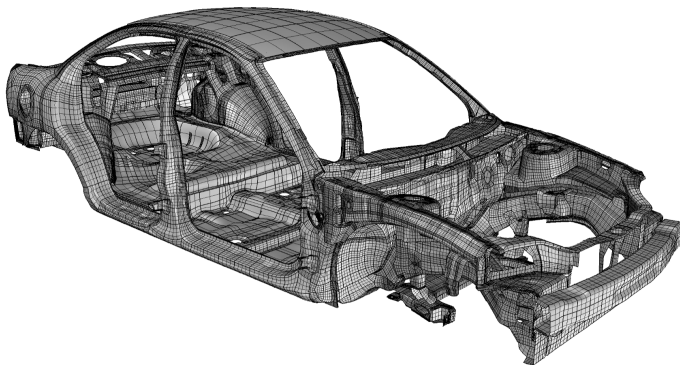
# Quad-Meshes



# Quad-Meshes



# Spline Surfaces for IGA



**Figure:** Dodge Neon model represented as bicubic set of NURBS splines (joint work with Tom Hughes and K. Sheperd).

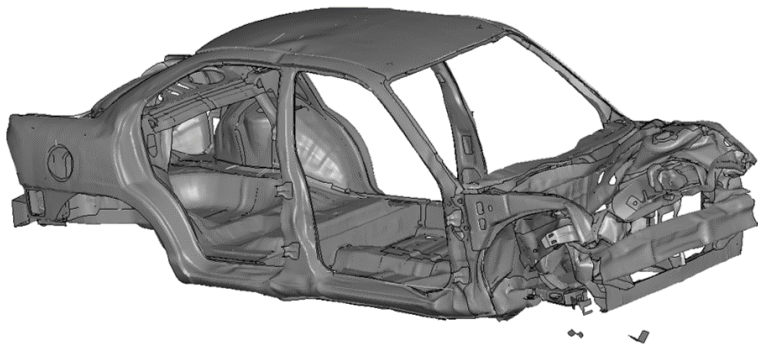


Figure: Crash analysis with Beta-CAE.

# Automatically Generated Quad-Mesh

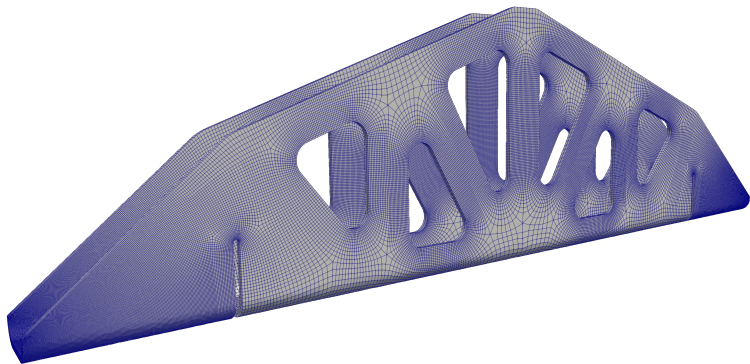


Figure: Devcom Stiffeners Bottom.

# Automatically Generated Quad-Mesh

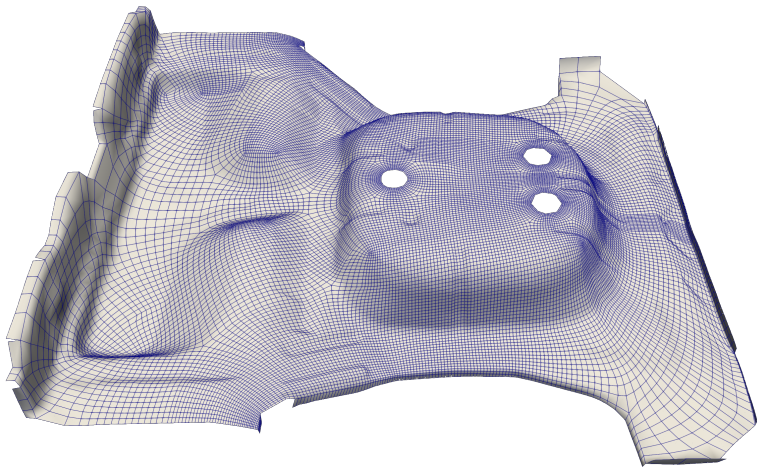


Figure: Floor board.



# Automatically Generated Quad-Mesh

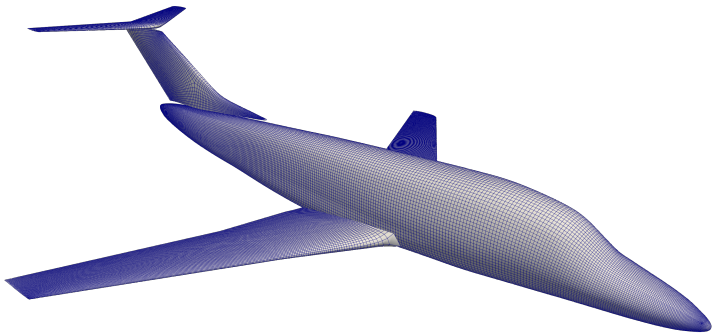


Figure: Air plane.

# Automatically Generated Quad-Mesh

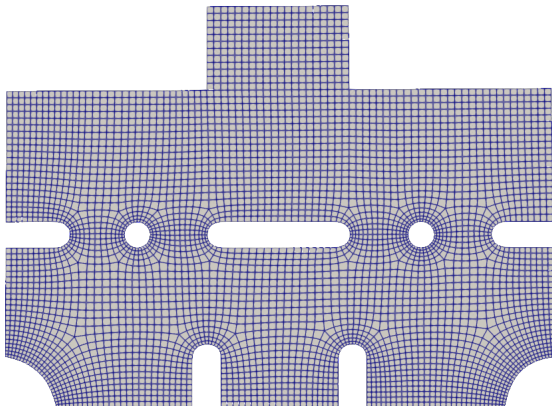


Figure: Industrial part.

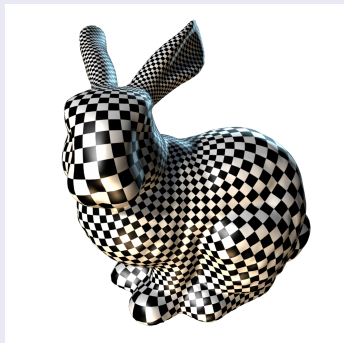
- Xiaopeng Zheng, Yiming Zhu, Wei Chen, Na Lei, Zhongxuan Luo, Xianfeng Gu. **Quadrilateral Mesh Generation III : Optimizing Singularity Configuration Based on Abel-Jacobi Theory**. Computer Methods in Applied Mechanics and Engineering (CMAME), 2021.
- Na Lei, Xiaopeng Zheng, Zhongxuan Luo, Feng Luo and Xianfeng Gu, **Quadrilateral Mesh Generation II: Meoromorphic Quartic Differentials and Abel-Jacobi Condition**, Computer Methods in Applied Mechanics and Engineering (CMAME), 366(2020), 112980.
- Wei Chen, Xiaopeng Zheng, Jingyao Ke, Na Lei, Zhongxuan Luo; Xianfeng Gu, **Quadrilateral Mesh Generation I : Metric Based Method**, Computer Methods in Applied Mechanics and Engineering, Volume 356, Pages 652-668, 2019.

- Na Lei, Xiaopeng Zheng, Zhongxuan Luo, David Xianfeng Gu, **Quadrilateral and hexahedral mesh generation based on surface foliation theory II**. Computer Methods in Applied Mechanics and Engineering, Volume 321, Pages 406-426, July 2017.
- Na Lei, Xiaopeng Zheng, Jian Jiang, Yu-Yao Lin, David Xianfeng Gu, **Quadrilateral and hexahedral mesh generation based on surface foliation theory**. Computer Methods in Applied Mechanics and Engineering. Volume 316, Pages 758-781, April 2017.
- Emil Saucan and Xianfeng Gu. **Classical and Discrete Differential Geometry**, Publisher: CRC Press Taylor & Francis Group, POSTS & TELECOM Press 22 December 22, 2022. DOI: 10.1201/9781003350576. ISBN: 978-1-032-3907-8.

- 1 Bridge quadrilateral meshes and meromorphic quartic differentials; A global section of a holomorphic line bundle (4-th power of the cotangent bundle);
- 2 Singularities of a quad-mesh correspond to the divisor of the differential, which satisfies the Abel-Jacobi condition; characteristic class of the holomorphic line bundle;
- 3 T-mesh/Quad-mesh generation based on Abel-Jacobi condition and discrete surface Yamabe flow;

# Thanks

For more information, please email to [gu@cs.stonybrook.edu](mailto:gu@cs.stonybrook.edu).



# Thank you!