



# Modeling Plant Life in Computer Graphics

## Introduction

Siggraph 2016 Course

Sören Pirk, Bedrich Benes, Takashi Ijiri, Yangyan Li,  
Oliver Deussen, Baoquan Chen, Radomír Měch



# Course Summary

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An introduction to plant modeling

and

recent advances in plant modeling in computer graphics.



# Course Motivation

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Recent years have seen a lot of progress in vegetation modeling

We focus on the following three areas

- 1) Procedural and biological modeling
- 2) Reconstruction and inverse procedural modeling
- 3) User-assisted models



# Requirements

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- The course is 1.5 hours long
- No previous knowledge of biology is required
- Requires basics of basic algebra and calculus
- Knowledge about geometric modeling is a plus



# Presenters

- Bedrich Benes Purdue University, USA
- Oliver Deussen University of Konstanz, Germany
- Sören Pirk Stanford University, USA
- Baoquan Chen Shandong University, China
- Radomír Měch Adobe Systems, Inc., USA
- Takashi Ijiri Ritsumeikan University, Japan
- Yangyan Li Stanford University, USA



# Modeling Plant Life in Computer Graphics

## Overview

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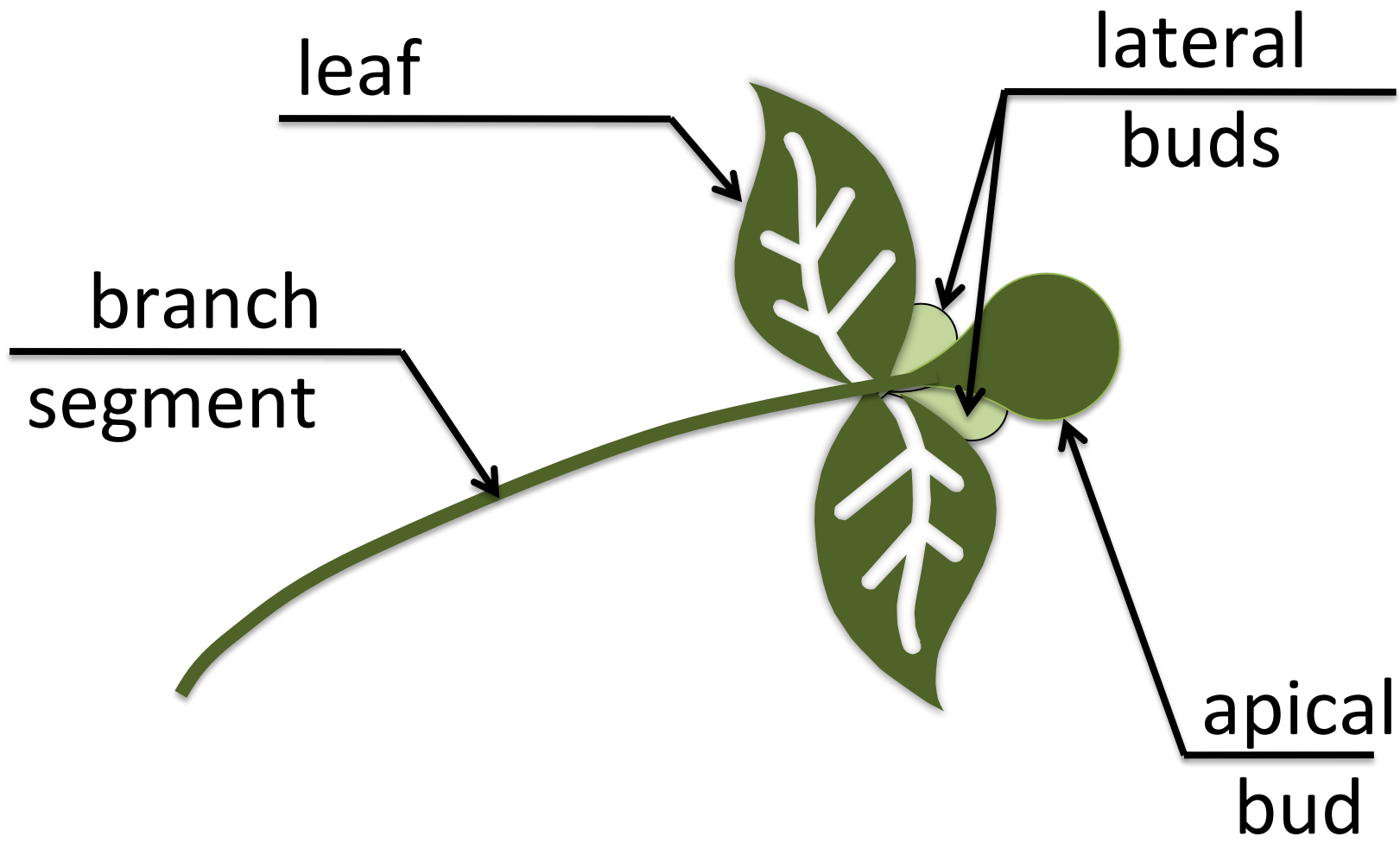


# Plants in Computer Graphics

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- Biologically-based simulations
- Plant is a modular system – basic elements (leaves, internodes, etc.)
- Ecosystems consider entire plant communities (a plant is a module)
- Plant geometry is the result of **interaction of the modules**

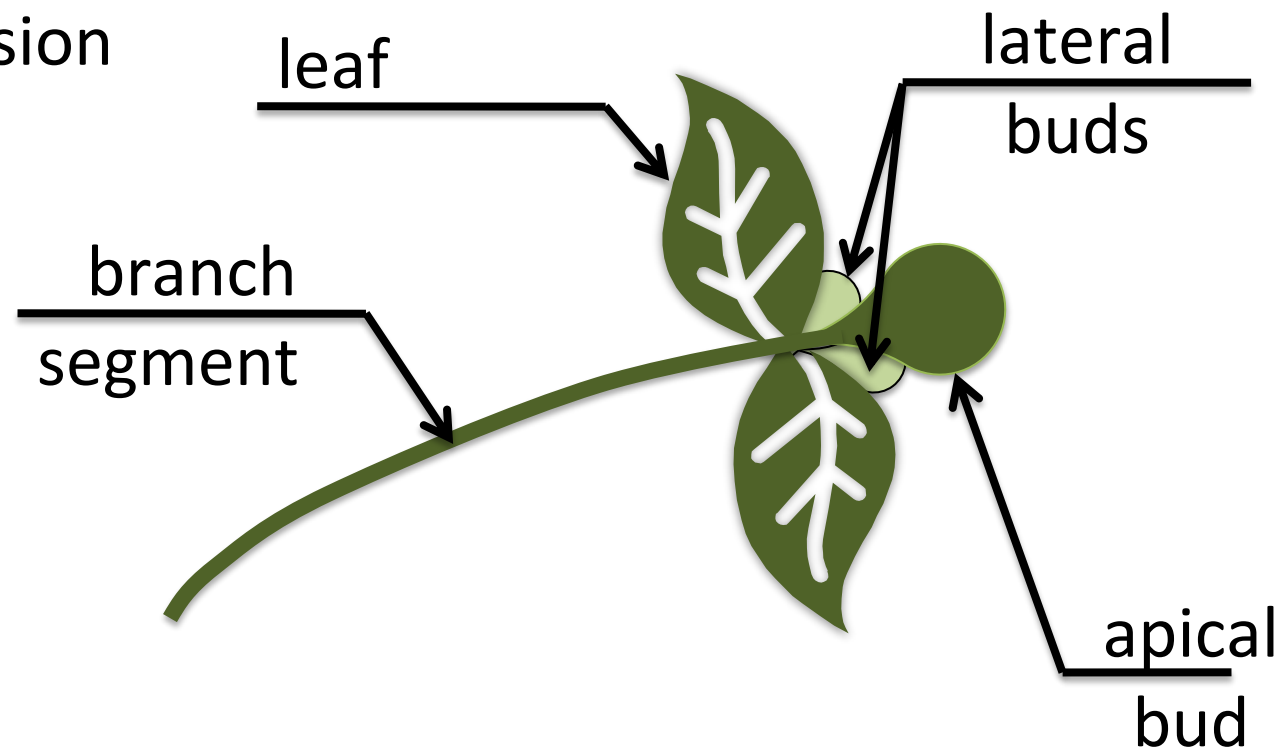
# Plant Modules



# Plant Growth

- Growth is biologically-based
- Uses plant modules to control the growth
- Primary growth – apex extension

- Apical bud
- Lateral buds
  - Initially dormant
  - Activated after some time

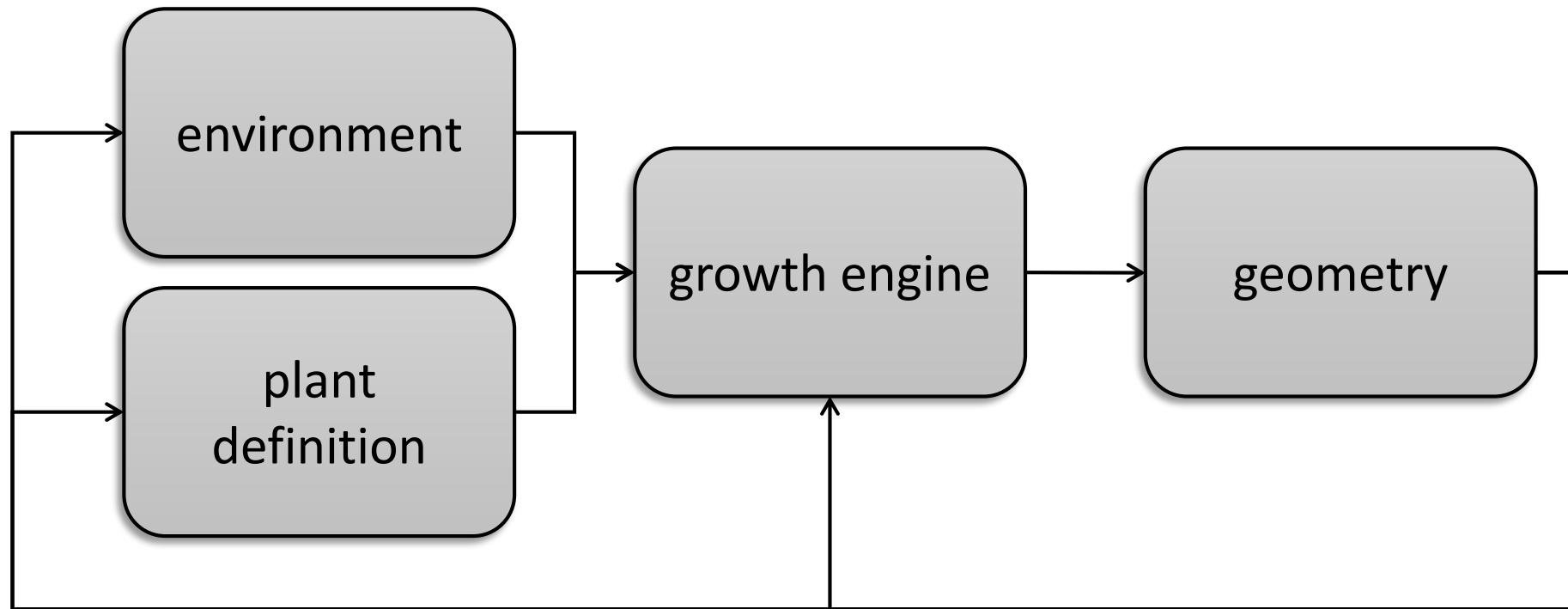


# Plant Growth

- Secondary growth (cambial growth)
- Branch is getting thicker
- Annual rings formation



# Generic Plant Modeling System





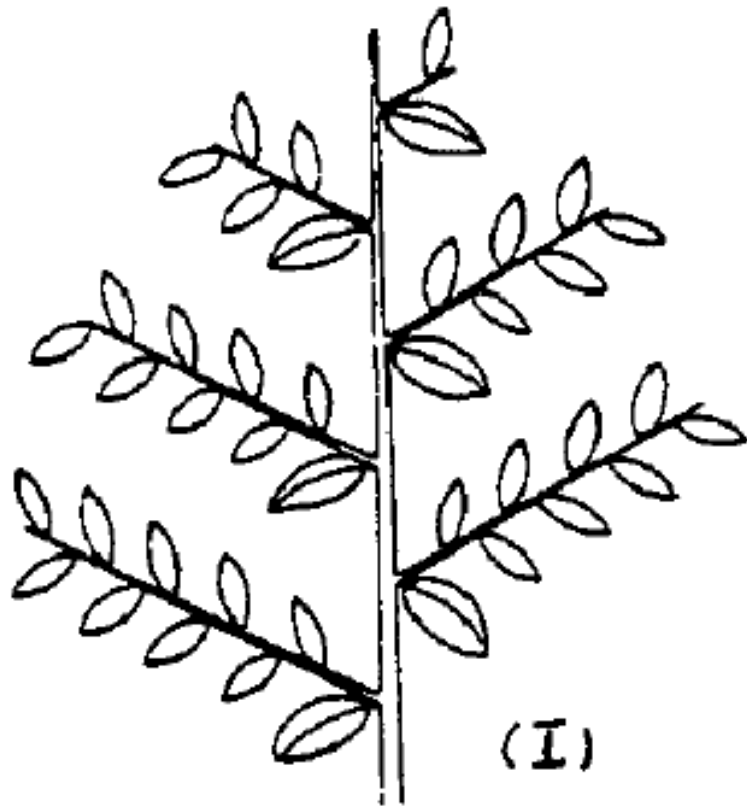
# Plant Definition

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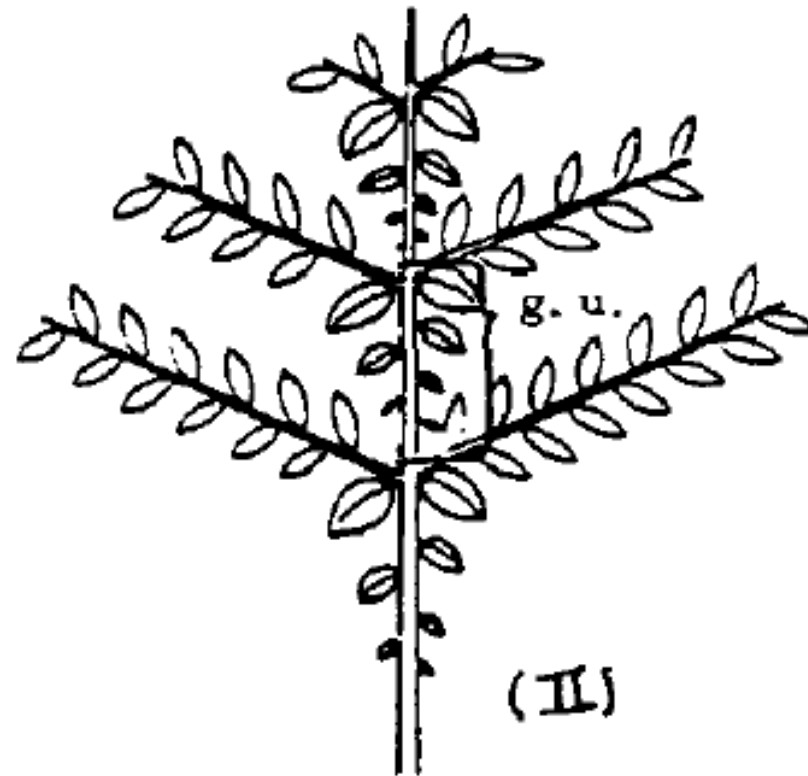
- Ramification (branching)
- Biological model
- Bud lifespan
- Plant sensitivity to external impetus



# Ramification



Continuous



Rhythmic

Image from (de Reffye et al 1988)

# Axis (branch) order

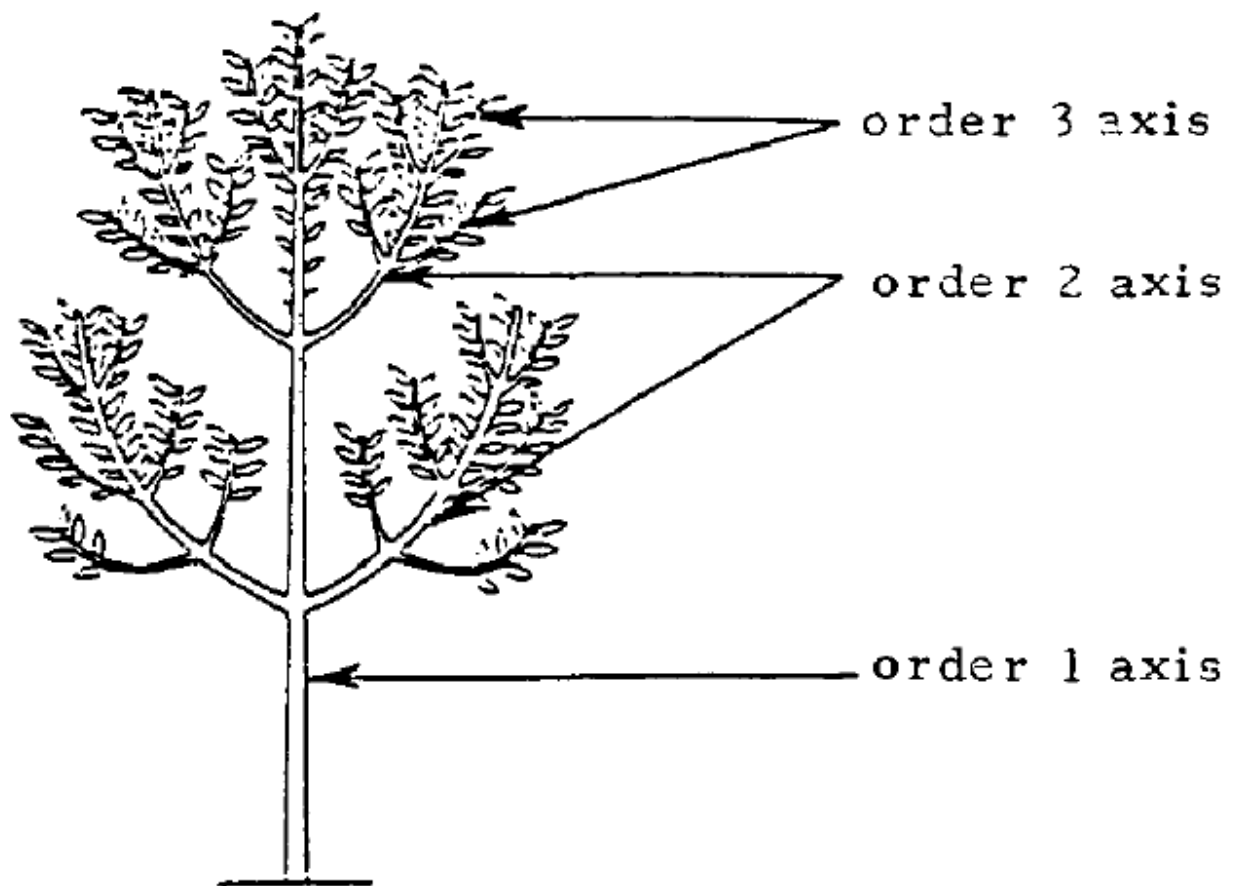
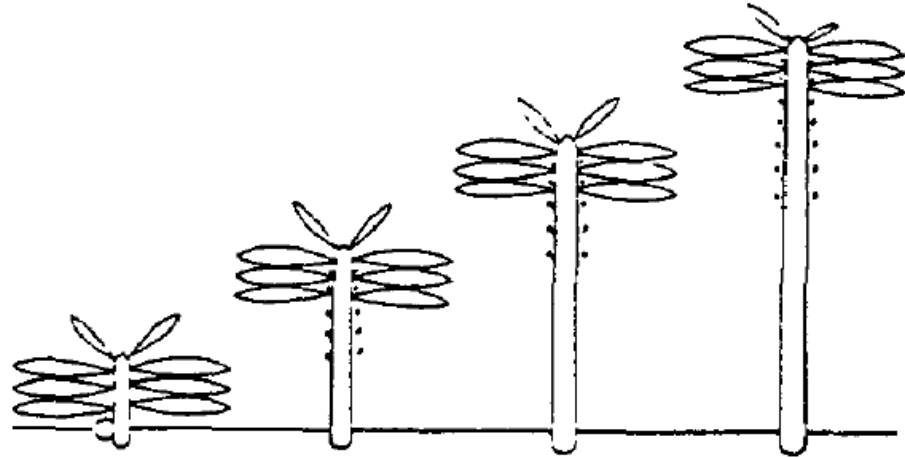
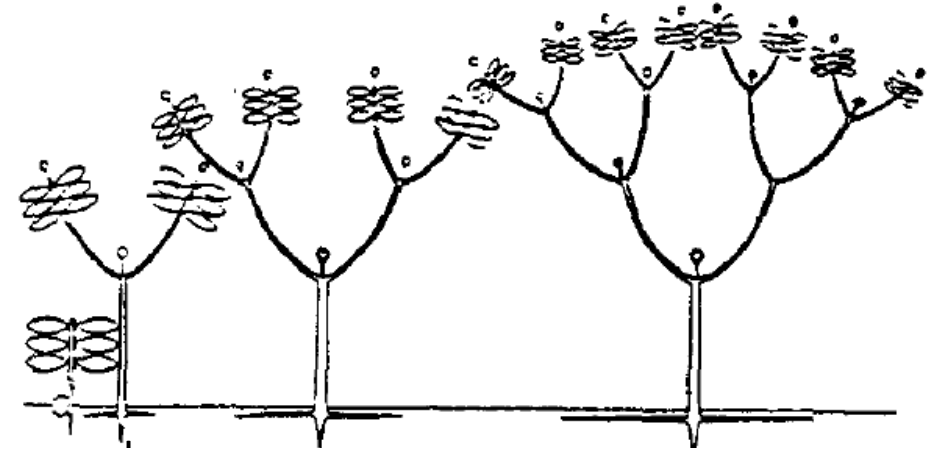


Image from (de Reffye et al 1988)

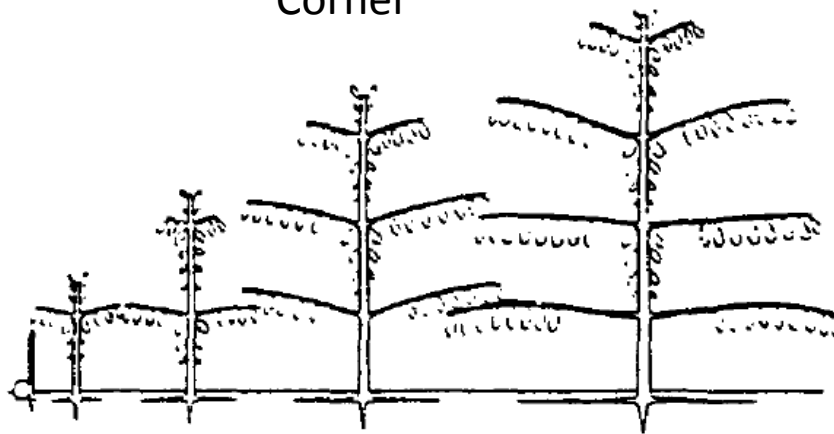
# Biological Model



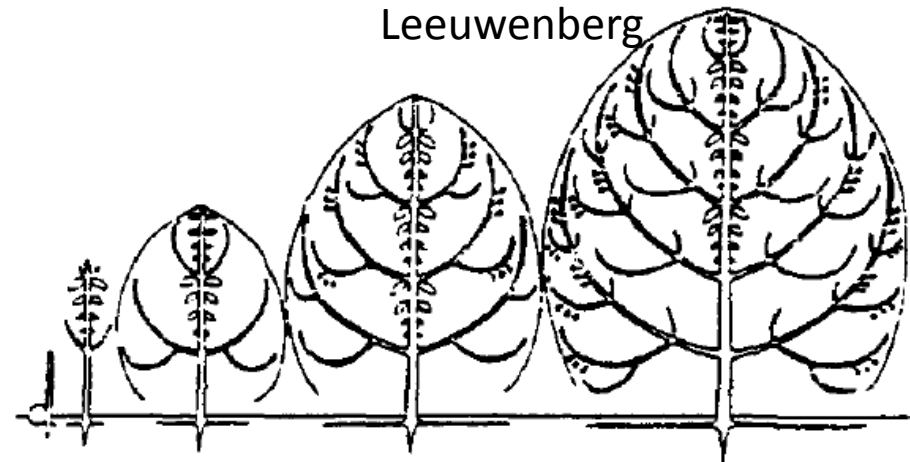
Corner



Leeuwenberg



Massart



Rauh

# Light and Phototropism

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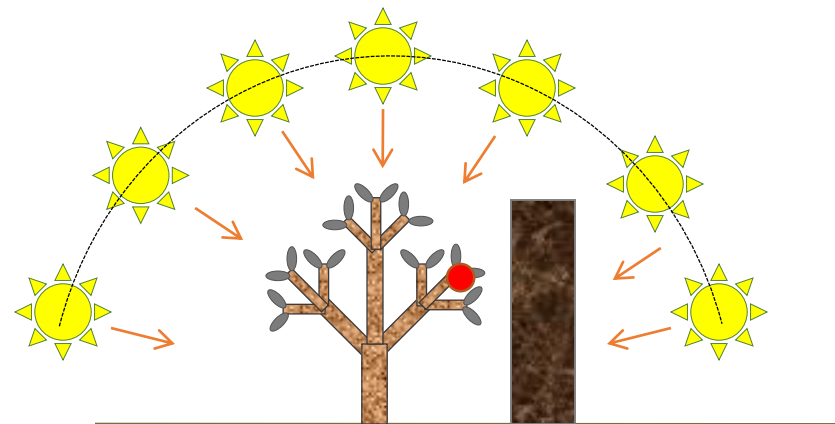
- plant growth is driven by buds (“plant engines”)
- each bud evaluates its illumination
- determines the brightest spot (bending)
- % of illuminated buds on a branch determines its fate

# Illumination

- Phototropism
  - Branches tend to grow toward the light
  - Calculate the total illumination on a bud  $i$

$$E_i = n_i / m$$

- $n_i$  – no. of positive samples
- $m$  – no. of all samples
- Find the brightest spot
  - Bend the direction



# Light and Phototropism

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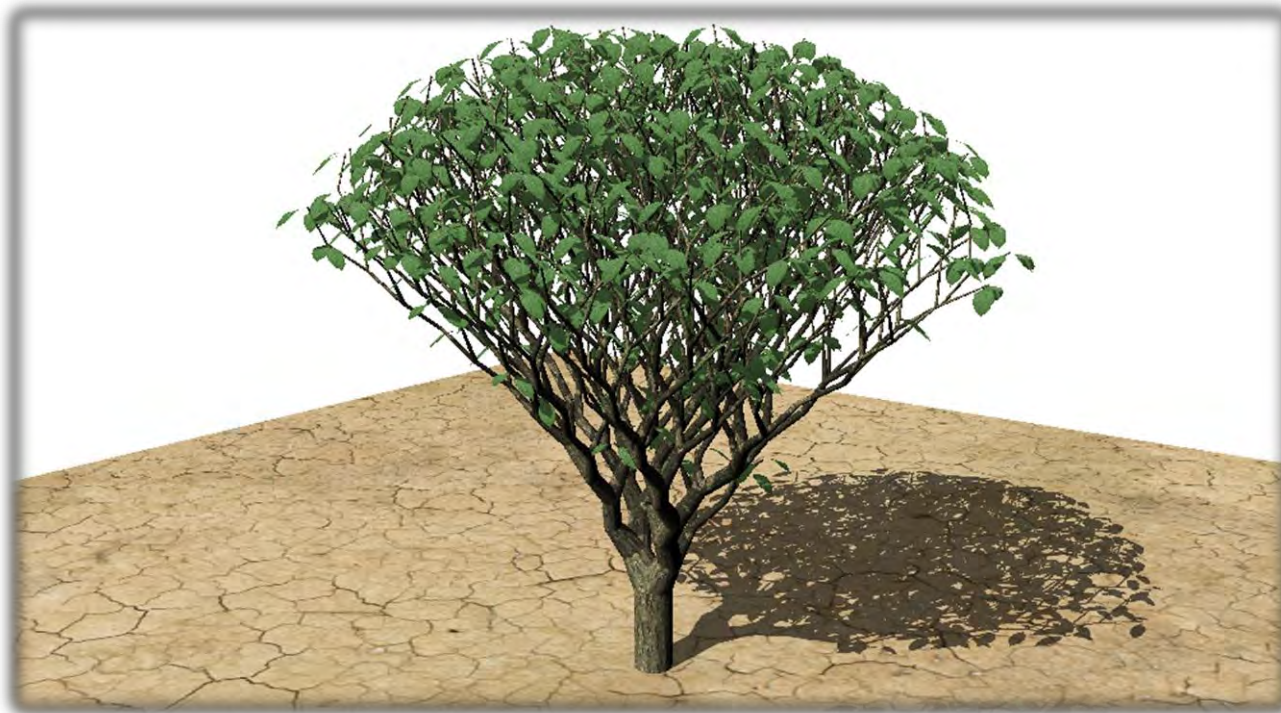




# Gravity

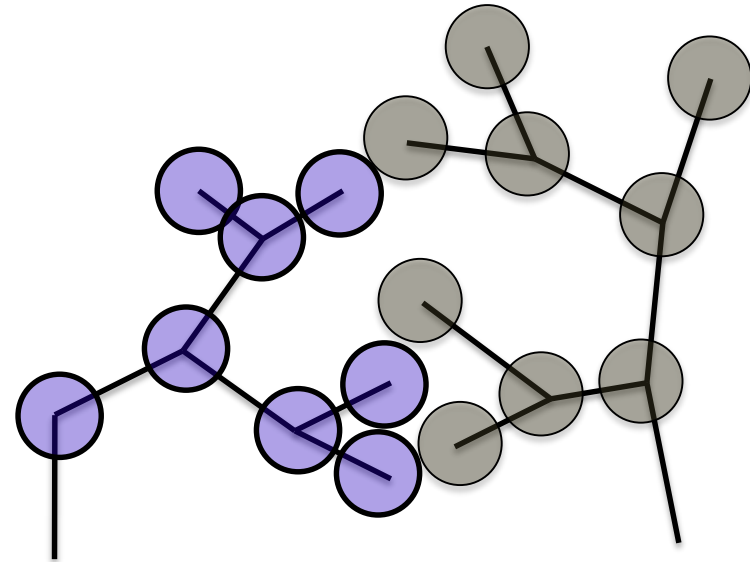
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- Gravitropism
  - Branches tend to grow against gravity



# Competition for Resources

- Branches tend to avoid each other
- Honda model [Honda67]
  - A buds has a sphere of interest
  - Two spheres cannot overlap
  - If two spheres collide – do something





# Competition for Resources

- a small ecosystem fighting for space on bud level



# Competition for Resources

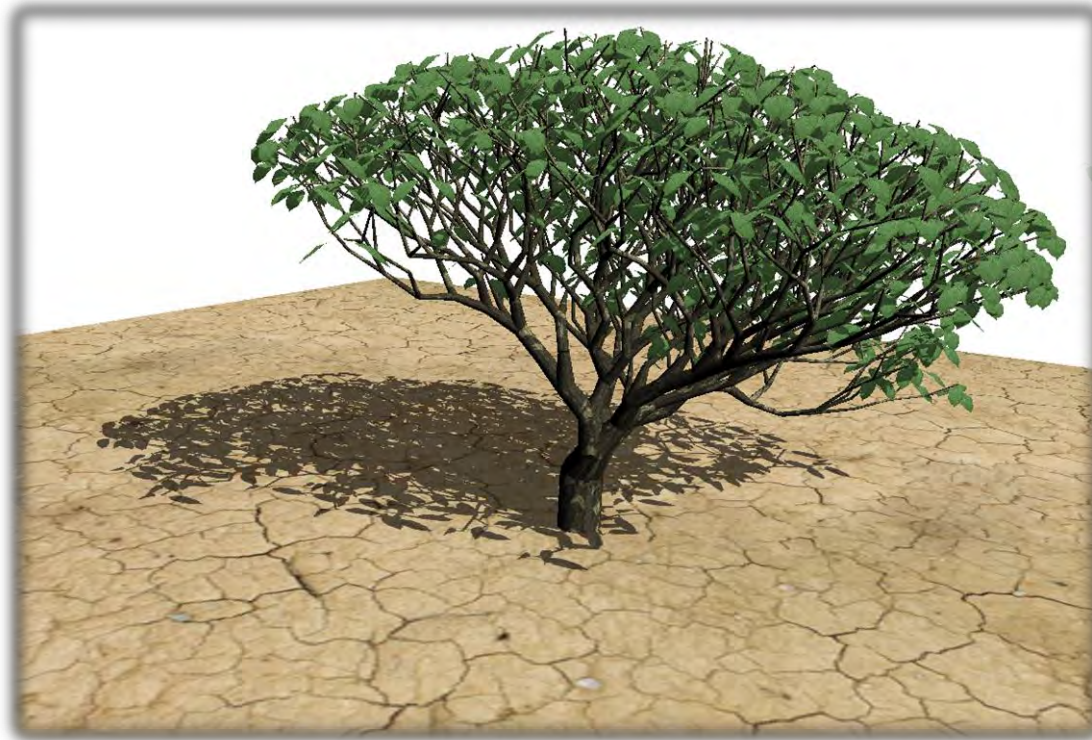
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# Competition for Space

- Branches compete for space



# Competition for Resources

- at the level of an ecosystem

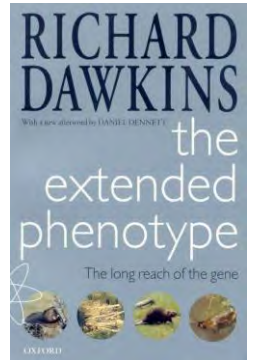


image from  
Palubicki, W., Horel, K., Longay, S.,  
Runions, A., Lane, B., Měch, R.,  
and Prusinkiewicz, P., (2009) Self-  
organizing tree models for image  
synthesis. ACM Trans. Graph. 28,  
3, Article 58 (July 2009), 10 pages.

# Ecosystems

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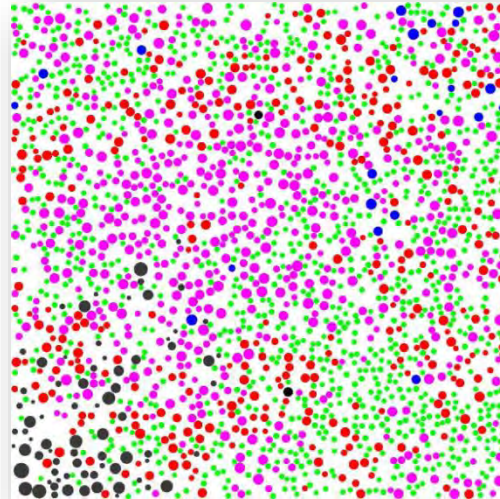
- A module, so far, was a part of a plant
- An entire plant can be thought of as a module
- Plants compete for resources (Extended Phenotype – Dawkins)
- Result of the competition are ecosystems



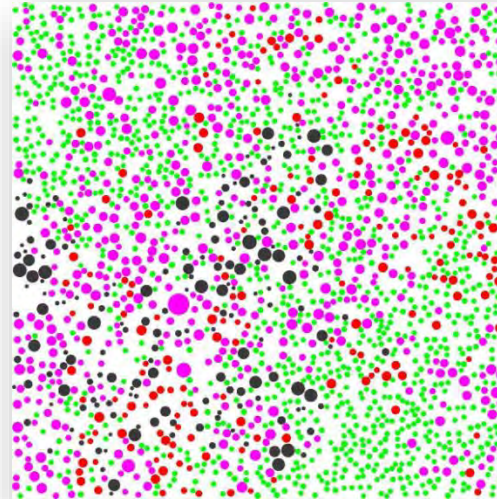


# Ecosystems

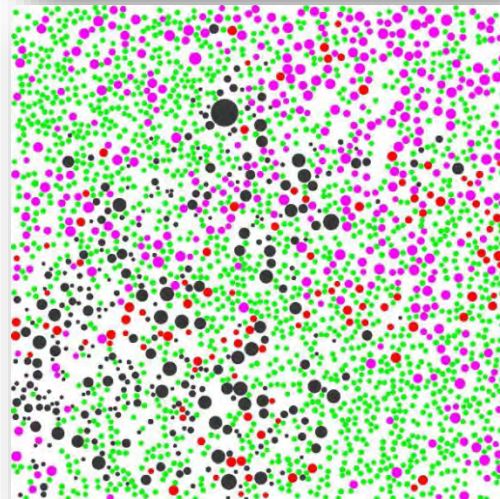
25 years



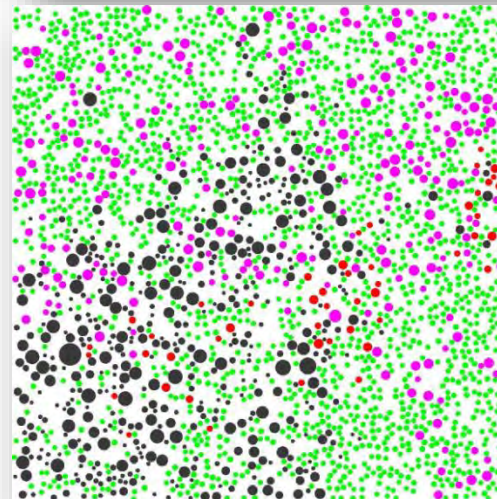
75 years



100 years



125 years







# Urban Ecosystems





# Cambial (Secondary) Growth

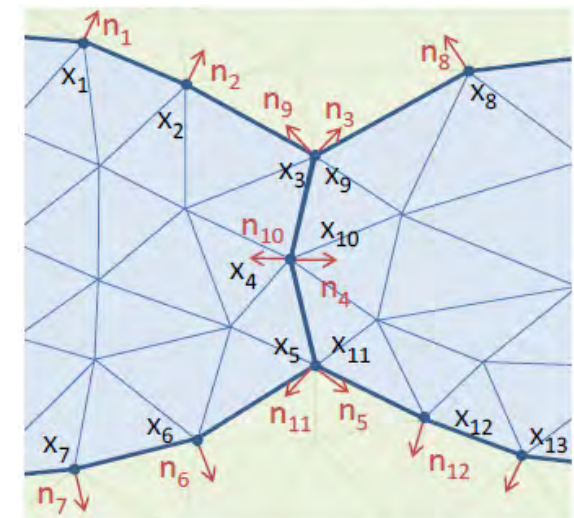
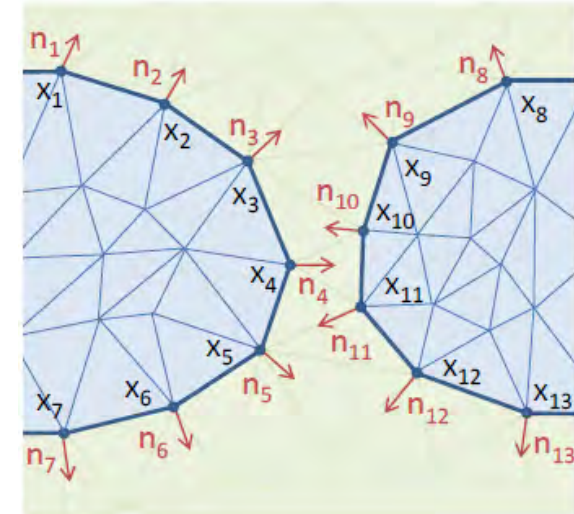
Kratt, J., Spicker, M., Guayaquil, A., Fiser, M., Pirk, S., Deussen, O., Hart, J.C., and Benes, B., (2015) Woodification: User-Controlled Cambial Growth Modeling in Computer Graphics Forum (Proceedings of Eurographics 2015), 33 (2), 361-372 (DOI=10.1111/cgf.12566)





# Cambial (Secondary) Growth

- Uses deformable simplicial complexes
- Propagate vertices based on growth function
- Detection of collisions and self-intersections
- Adds cracks



# Cambial (Secondary) Growth

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# Used References

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- Benes, B., Andryscio, N., and Stava, O., (2009) *Interactive Modeling of Virtual Ecosystems*, in EG Workshop on Natural Phenomena, pp. 9-16
- Benes, B., Massih, M-A., Jarvis, P., Aliaga, D.G., and Vanegas, C., (2011) *Urban Ecosystem Design*, in Proceedings of I3D, pp: 167-174
- de Reffye, P.; Edelin, C.; Françon, J.; Jaeger, M. & Puech, C. (2988) *Plant models faithful to botanical structure and development*, in SIGGRAPH Computer Graphics, ACM, 1988, 22, 151-158
- Palubicki, W., Horel, K., Longay, S., Runions, A., Lane, B., Měch, R., and Prusinkiewicz, P., (2009) *Self-organizing tree models for image synthesis*. ACM Trans. Graph. 28, 3, Article 58 (July 2009), 10 pages.
- Kratt, J., Spicker, M., Guayaquil, A., Fiser, M., Pirk, S., Deussen, O., Hart, J.C., and Benes, B., (2015) *Woodification: User-Controlled Cambial Growth Modeling in Computer Graphics Forum (Proceedings of Eurographics 2015)*, 33 (2), 361-372 (DOI=10.1111/cgf.12566)

# Modeling Plant Life in Computer Graphics

## Environmental Response

Siggraph 2016 Course

Sören Pirk, Bedrich Benes, Takashi Ijiri, Yangyan Li,  
Oliver Deussen, Baoquan Chen, Radomír Měch



# Overview

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## Environmental response [20 minutes]

- Real-time sensitivity of tree models (**Pirk**)
- Capturing growth response (**Pirk**)
- Physics response to wind (**Pirk**)

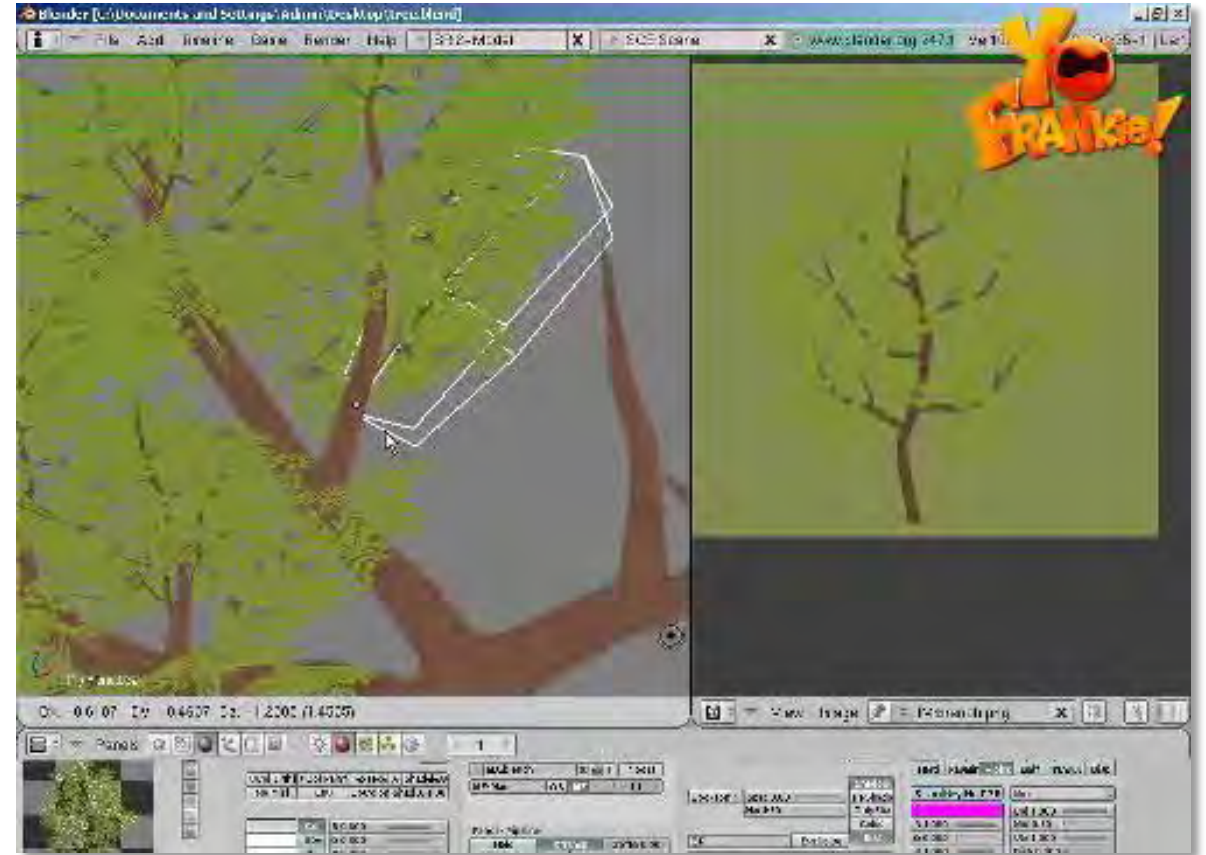
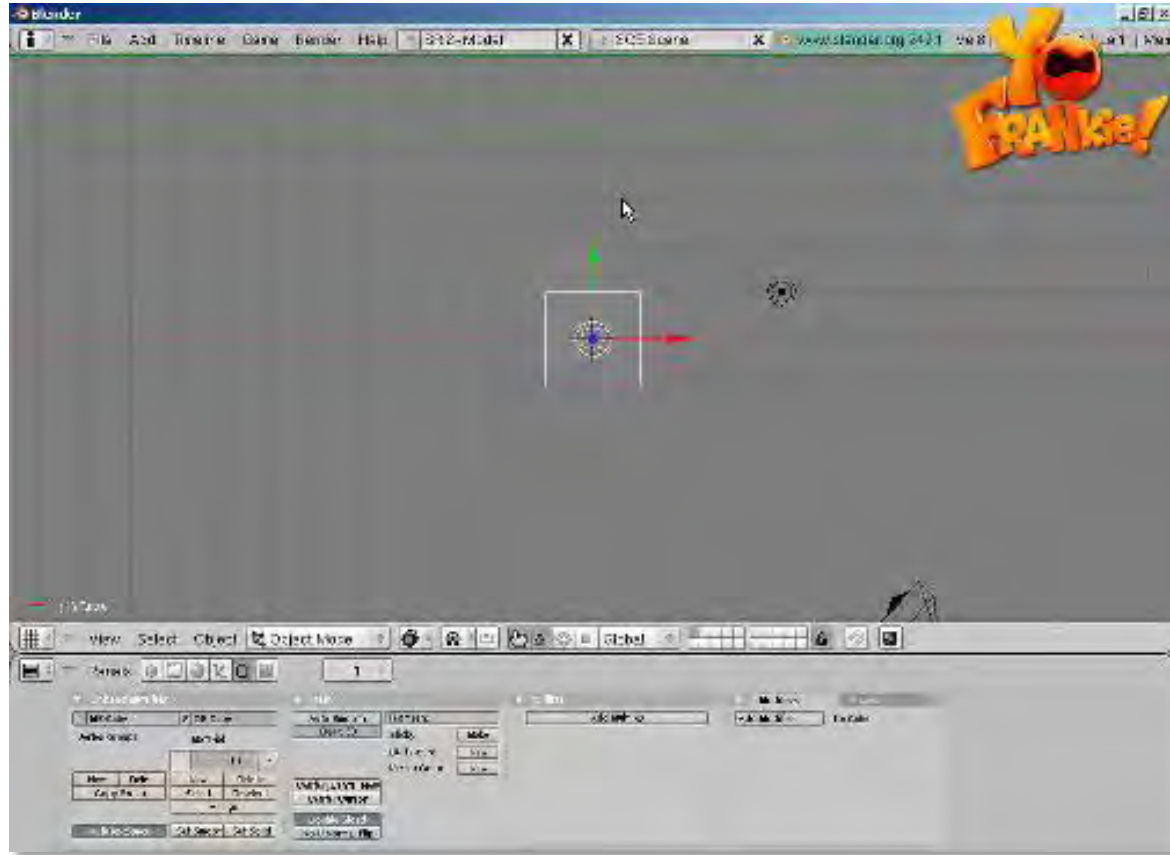


# Tree models are static

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# 3D Tree Modeling



Pablo Vazquez - <http://vimeo.com/2956756>

# Plastic Trees: Interactive Self-Adapting Botanical Tree Models

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Pirk, S., Stava, O., Kratt, J., Said, M. A. M., Neubert, B., Mech, R., Benes, B., Deussen, O.  
**Plastic trees: interactive self-adapting botanical tree models.**  
ACM Trans. on Graph. 31, 4, 50:1–50:10, 2012.



# Environment Aware Trees

## Automatic modification of 3D tree models



# Skeletal Graph

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## Skeletal Graph

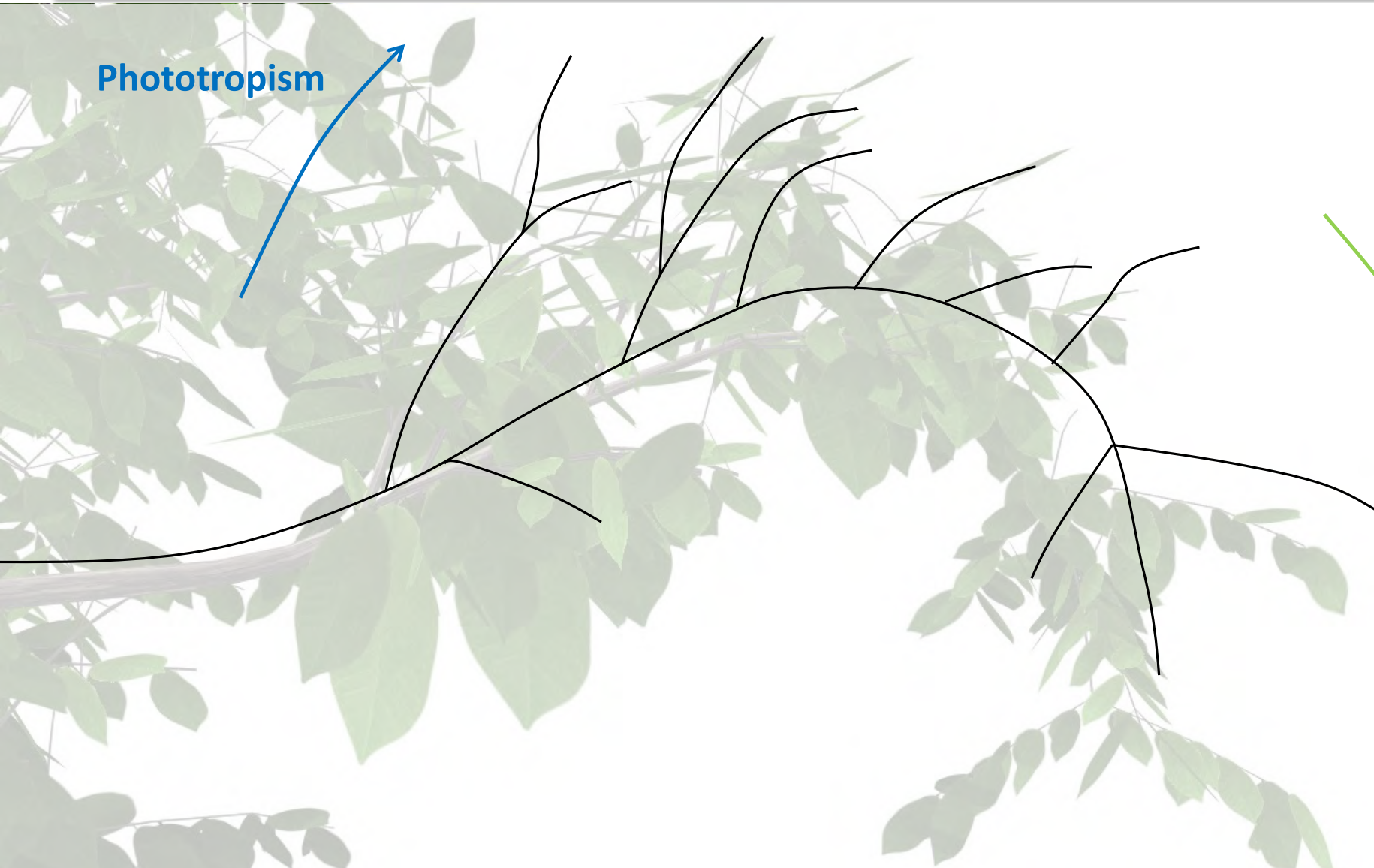
- Branch Age
- Growth Rate

# Tree Analysis - Tropisms

Phototropism

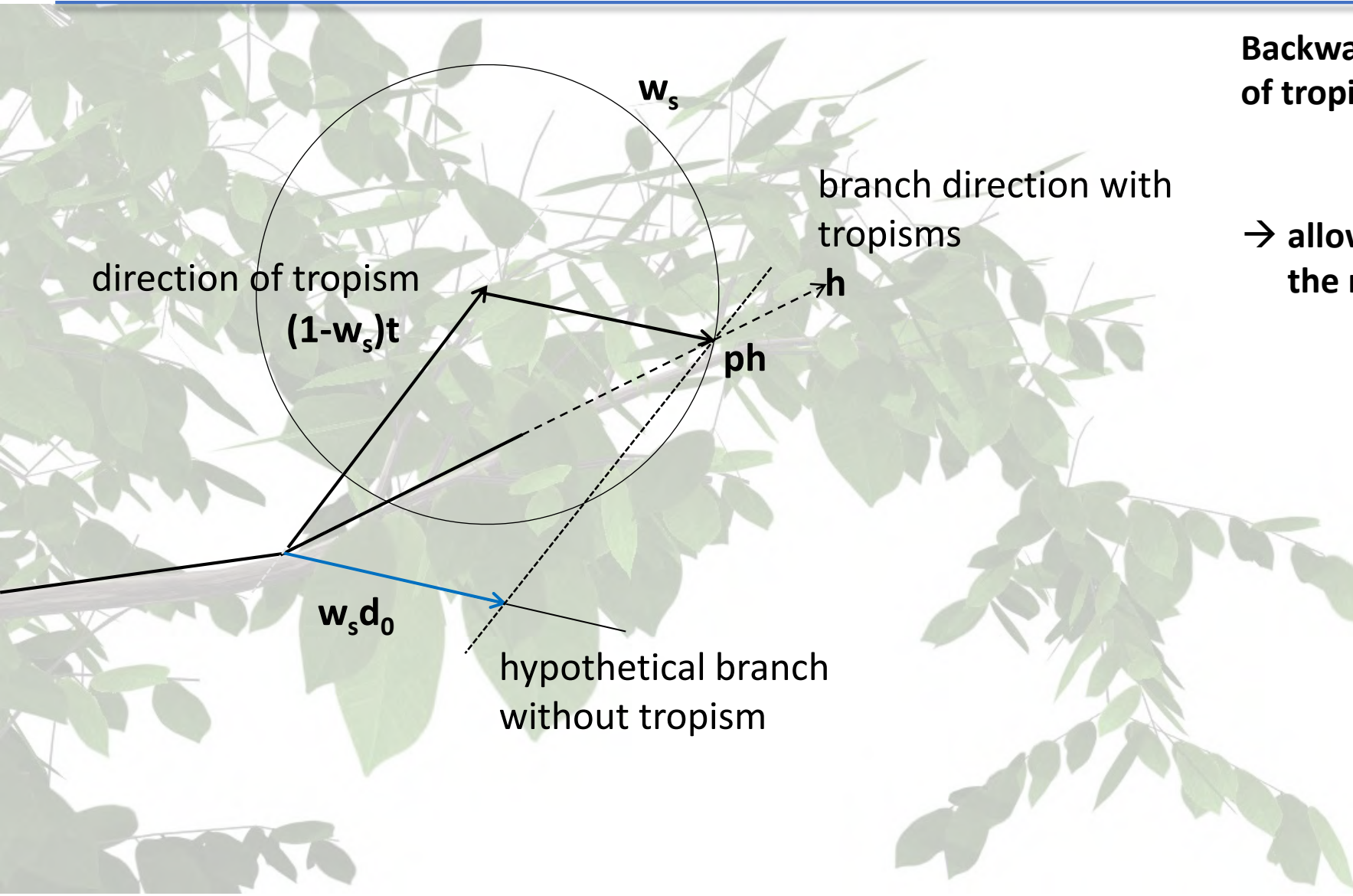


Gravitropism





# Inverse Tropism



**Backward modeling to estimate influence of tropisms to the original model**

**→ allows to apply tropisms triggered by the new environment**

# Dynamic Interaction - Bending

**New Direction**

$$\vec{h} = w_s \vec{d}_0 + (1 - w_s) \frac{\sum w_\tau \vec{t}_\tau}{\sum w_\tau}$$

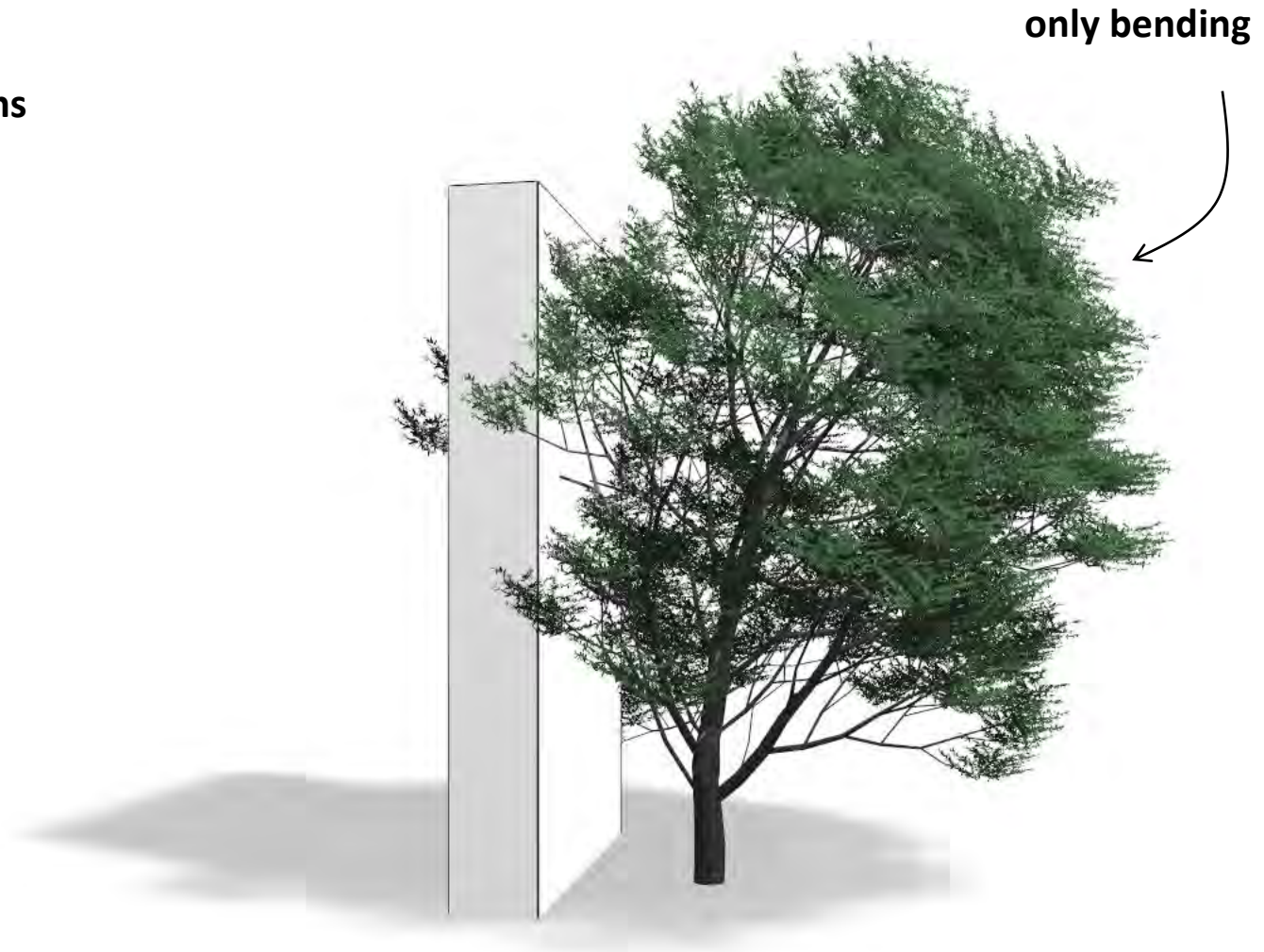
new direction

start weight

normalized direction

weights of tropisms

combination of tropisms



Transformations represent changes in the tree growth.

# Dynamic Interaction - Pruning

Approach similar to [Palubicki et al. 2009]

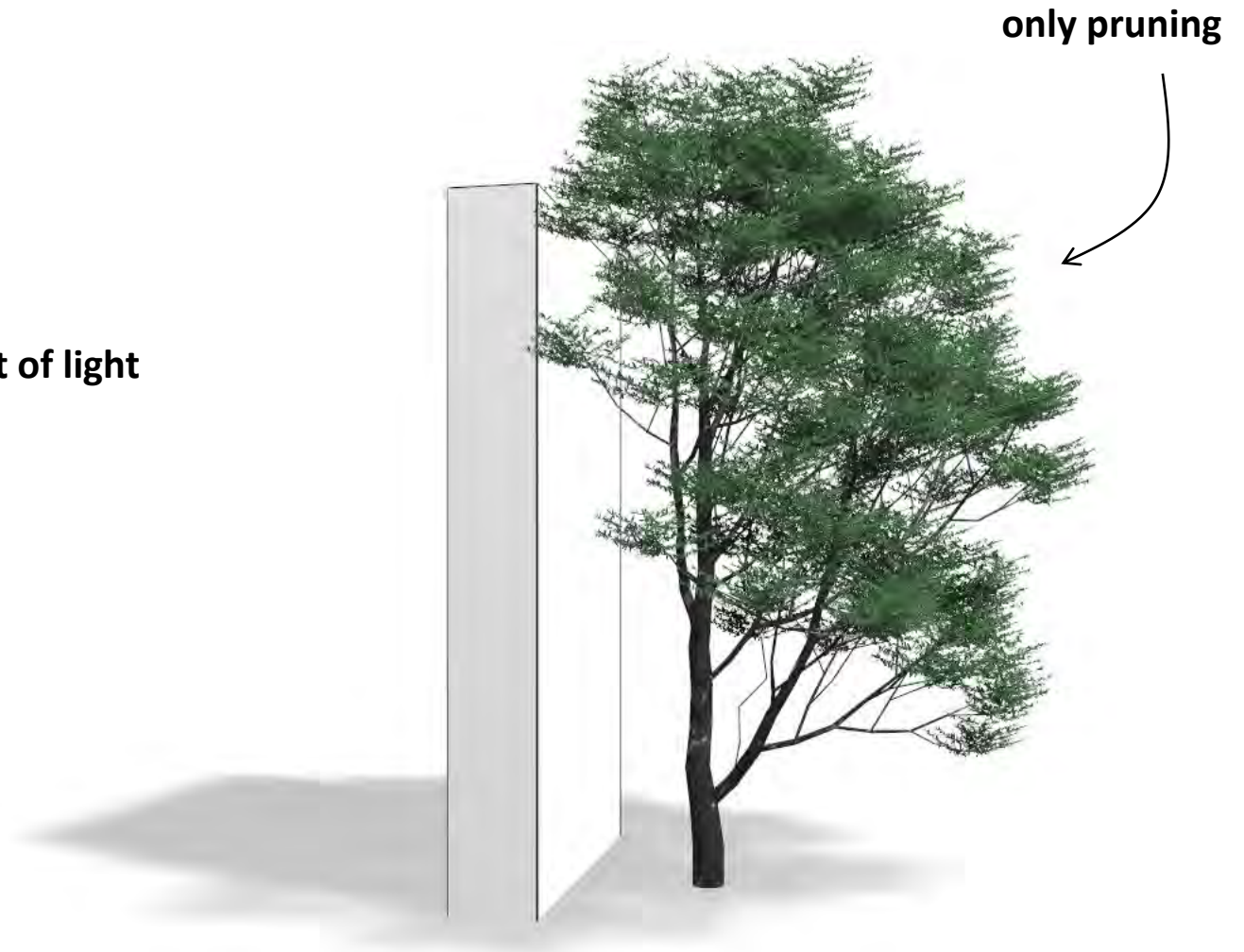
Amount of Light received by the leaf-cluster.

$$\varphi_{t_s} = \sum_{c \in C_s} 2\pi r_c^2 i_c$$

← amount of resources (light)  
 ← radius of a given cluster  
 ← normalized amount of light

$l_t$ : sum of distances

Branch is pruned when ratio  $\varphi_{t_s}/l_t < thres$



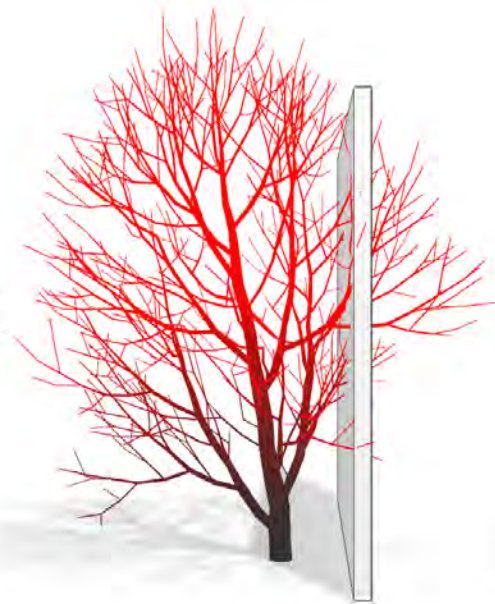


# Tree/Obstacle Interaction

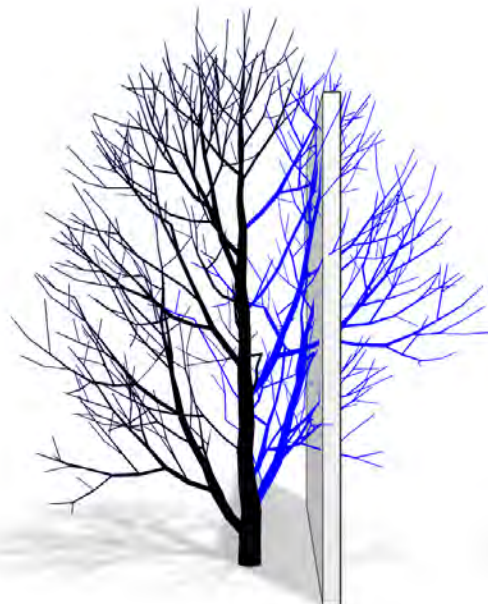
Original Model



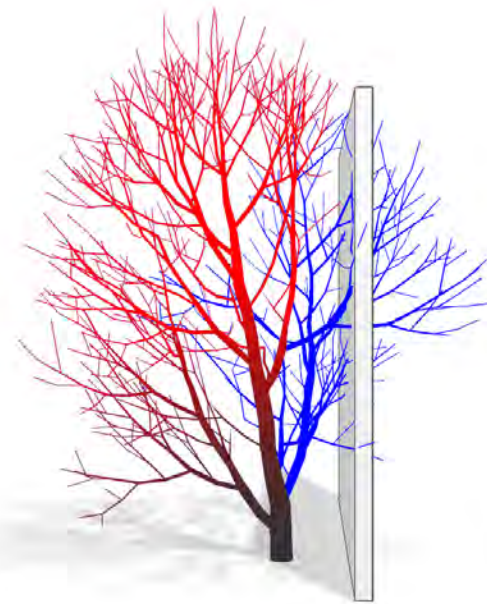
Bending



Pruning



Bending + Pruning



Result





# Tree/Tree-Interaction



# Bending/Pruning Result

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/harveydogson/4095300141/>



<http://www.flickr.com/photos/jlwhitfield1/2731012752/>





# Tree/Tree-Interaction

Static Models



Bending and Pruning



Strong Pruning

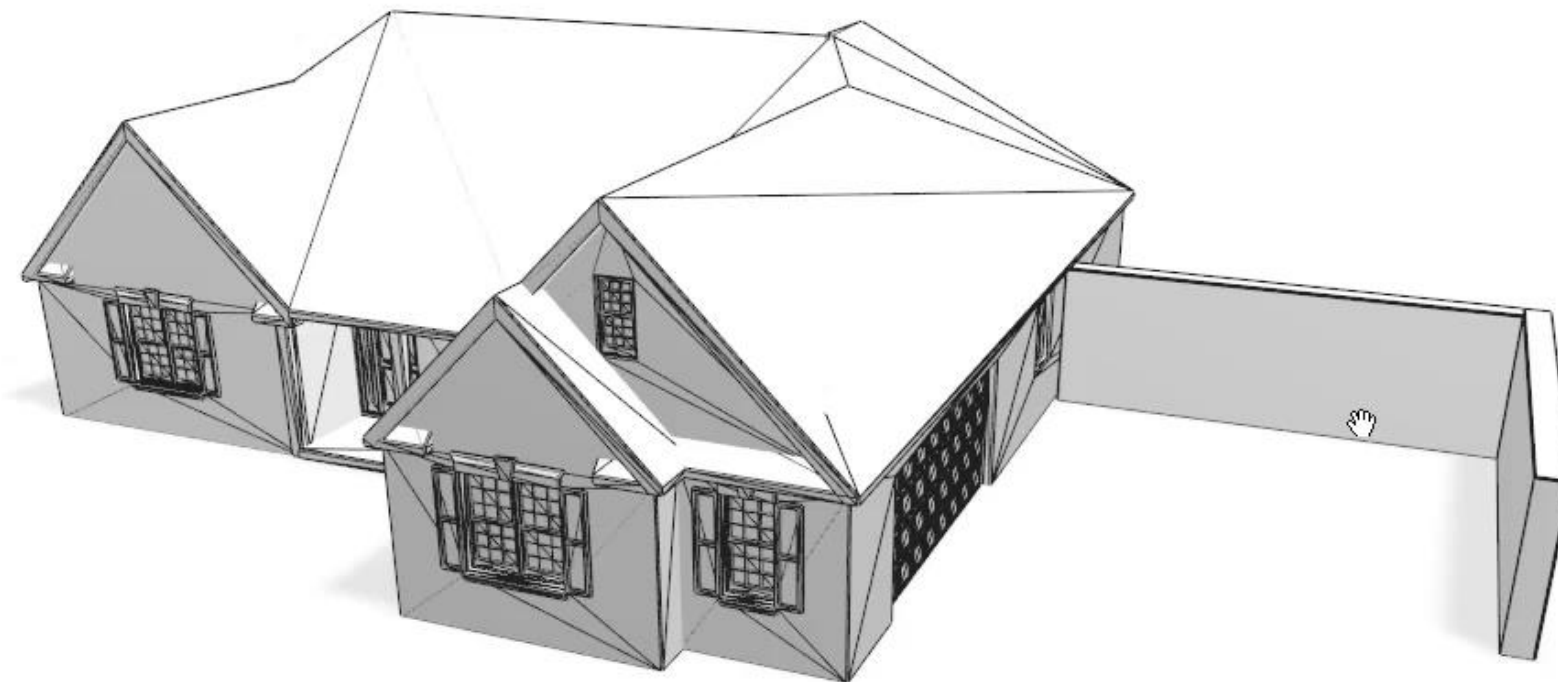


Exaggerated Bending



# Editing

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# Capturing and Animating the Morphogenesis of Polygonal Tree Models

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Pirk, S., Niese, T., Deussen, O., Neubert, B.

**Capturing and animating the morphogenesis of polygonal tree models.**

ACM Trans. on Graph. 31, 6, 169:1–169:10, 2012.



# Continuous Animations of Growth

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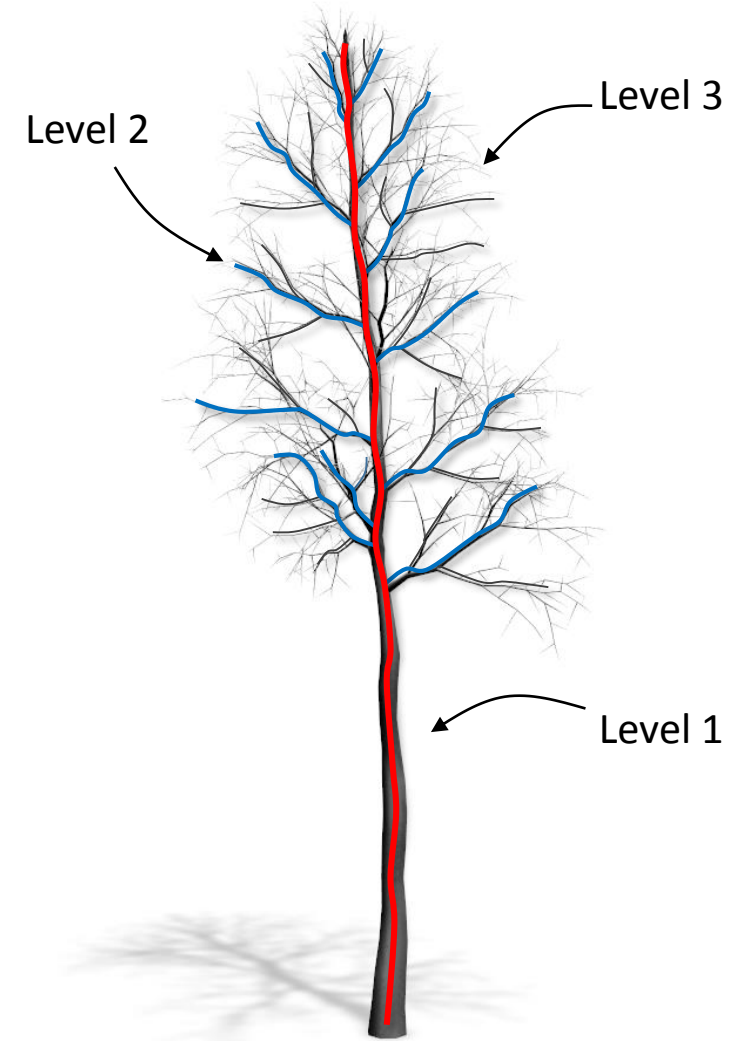
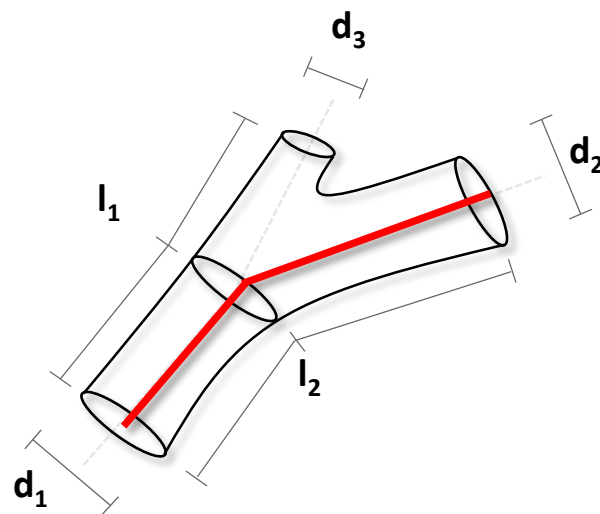


# Gravelius Order

Ordering method for identifying hierarchies.

Determine main trunk based on angle between branches.

Also considering length and thickness of a branch.





# Pipe Model Theory

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[Shinozaki et al. 1964]

Plant forms emerge from vascular systems.

Assembly of leaf units connecting the leaves to the root.

Provides us with branch radii.

# Angle/Radii Interpolation



## Angle Interpolation

Current Angle

Initial Angle

$$\vartheta_{\alpha} = \frac{\alpha_i - \alpha_{init}}{\Delta t}$$

Angular Velocity

Duration

## Radii Interpolation

Child Radii

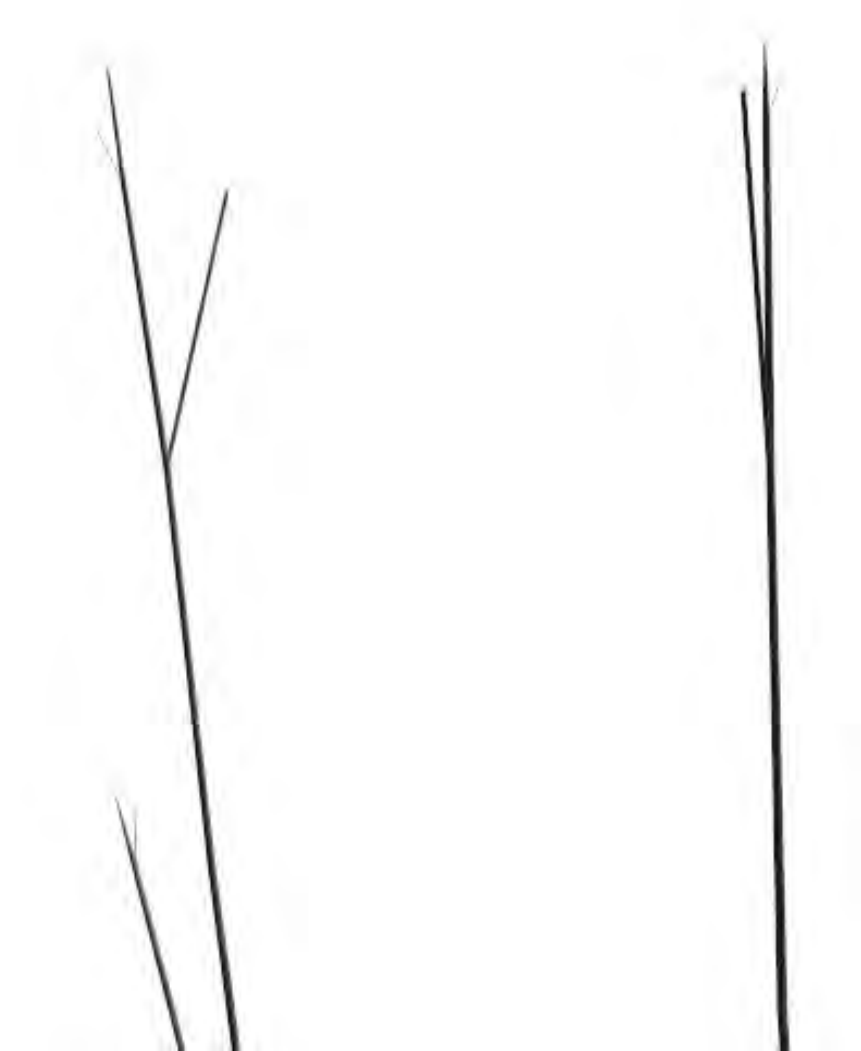
Power Law of Branching

$$r_p = \left( \frac{\sum r_i^u}{b^p} \right)^{\frac{1}{u}}$$

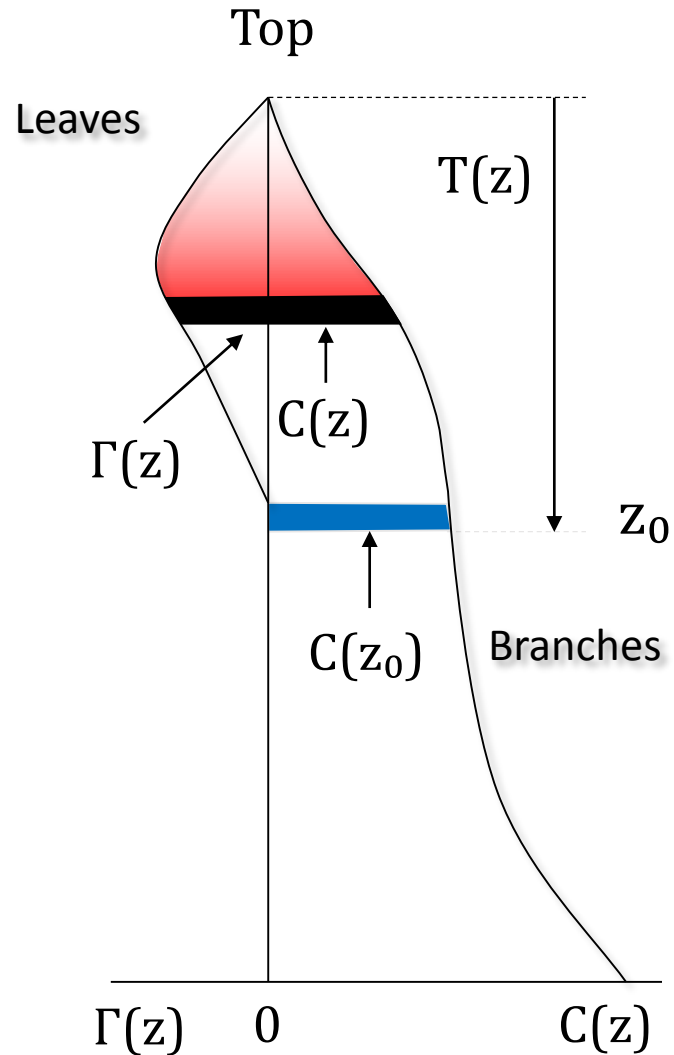
Current Radius

Original Model Coefficient

# Angle/Radii Interpolation



# Profile Diagram



Similar Among Plant Communities.

Represents vertical distribution of leaves.

Distribution of leaves needs to be consistent.

→ Tells us where geometry is missing.

→ How to measure densities?

[Chiba 1990, Chiba 1991]



# Measuring Densities

## Stratified Clipping (STC)

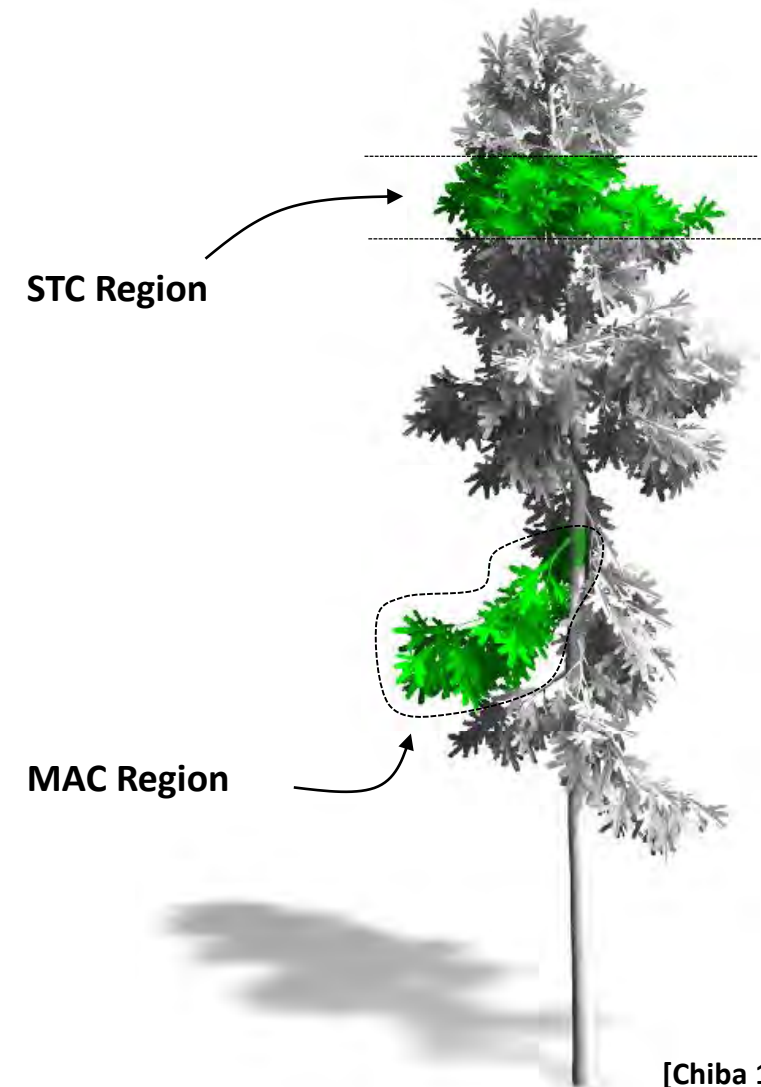
Vertical range of the tree is selected.

All branches and leaves in this region are used for measuring biomass.

## Main Axis Cutting (MAC)

Part of the main axis is selected.

All branches and leaves attached to this part are used for measuring biomass.



# Crown Ratio

Add geometry where no information was available in the original model.

Remove geometry during animation to maintain plausibility and to eventually reach the input.

**Crown Ratio**

**Overlap Region**



# Growth-based Editing



Individual Growth  
of Branches





## Windy Trees: Modeling Stress Response for Developmental Tree Models

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Pirk, S., Niese, T., Hädrich, T., Benes, B., and Deussen. O.

**Windy trees: computing stress response for developmental tree models.**

ACM Trans. Graph. 33, 6, Article 204 ,11 pages, 2014.



# Tree/Wind Interaction

Render the Possibilities  
**SIGGRAPH**2016



# Wind as Developmental Factor



**Alex Bamford**



**Rich Price**



**Walberth Mascarenha**



**Fedderica Gentile**



# Windy Trees



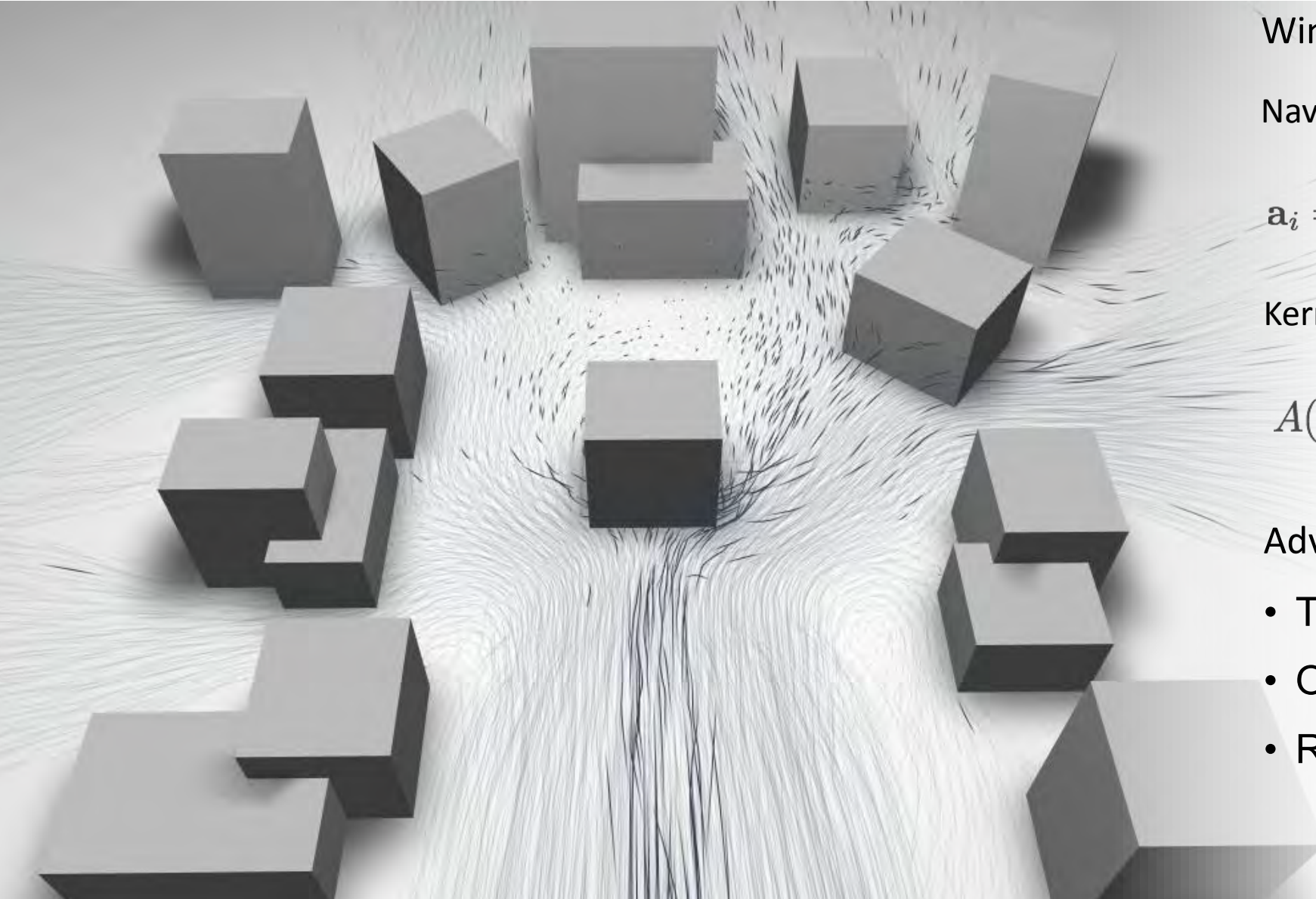
# Growth Model

- Pipe Model Theory
- Gravelius Order
- Branching Angles
- Branch Radii
- Growth Rate





# Smoothed Particle Hydrodynamics (SPH)



## Wind Simulation

Navier Stokes - Acceleration

$$\mathbf{a}_i = \frac{d\mathbf{v}_i}{dt} = \frac{-\nabla p + \mu \nabla^2 \mathbf{v} + \rho \mathbf{g}}{\rho_i}$$

Kernel Smoothing Function

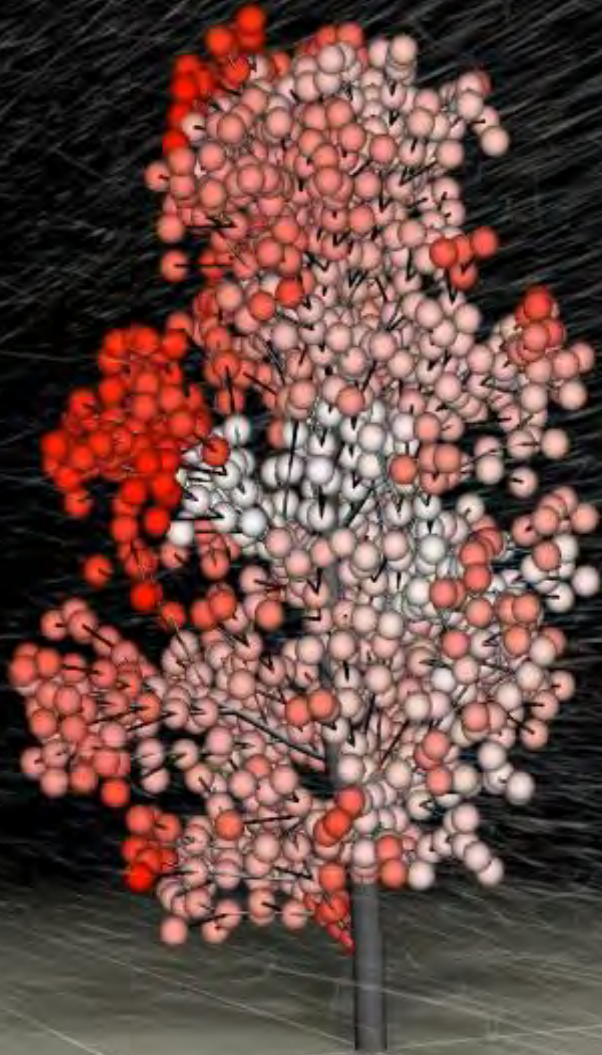
$$A(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{j=1}^N \frac{m_j}{\rho_j} A_j W(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_j, h)$$

Advantages

- Tracking of individual collisions
- Occlusion handling (wind shadow)
- Real-time simulation

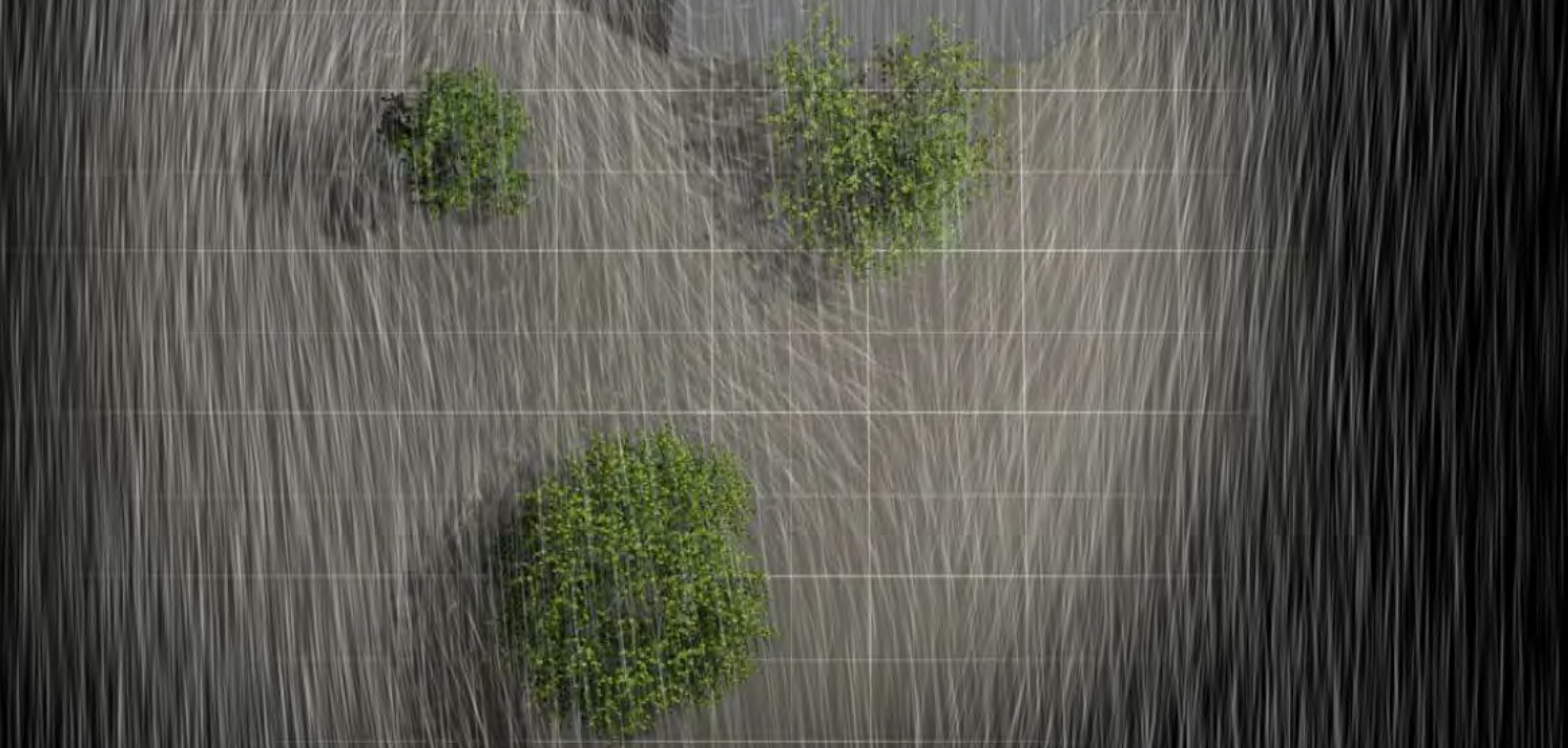


# Sensor Particles





# Two-Way Coupling



# Force Model for Branches

Torque

$$N = I \frac{d\omega}{dt}$$

Moment of Inertia (rod)

$$I = \frac{mr^2}{3}$$

$$F_W = S_b \sigma v$$

Wind Force

$$D = -(\hat{\omega} \times \hat{e}) \mu \omega |\omega|$$

Damping Force

$$\mathbf{F} = \mathbf{F}_W + \mathbf{R} + \mathbf{D} + \mathbf{P} + \mathbf{L}$$

Restoration Force

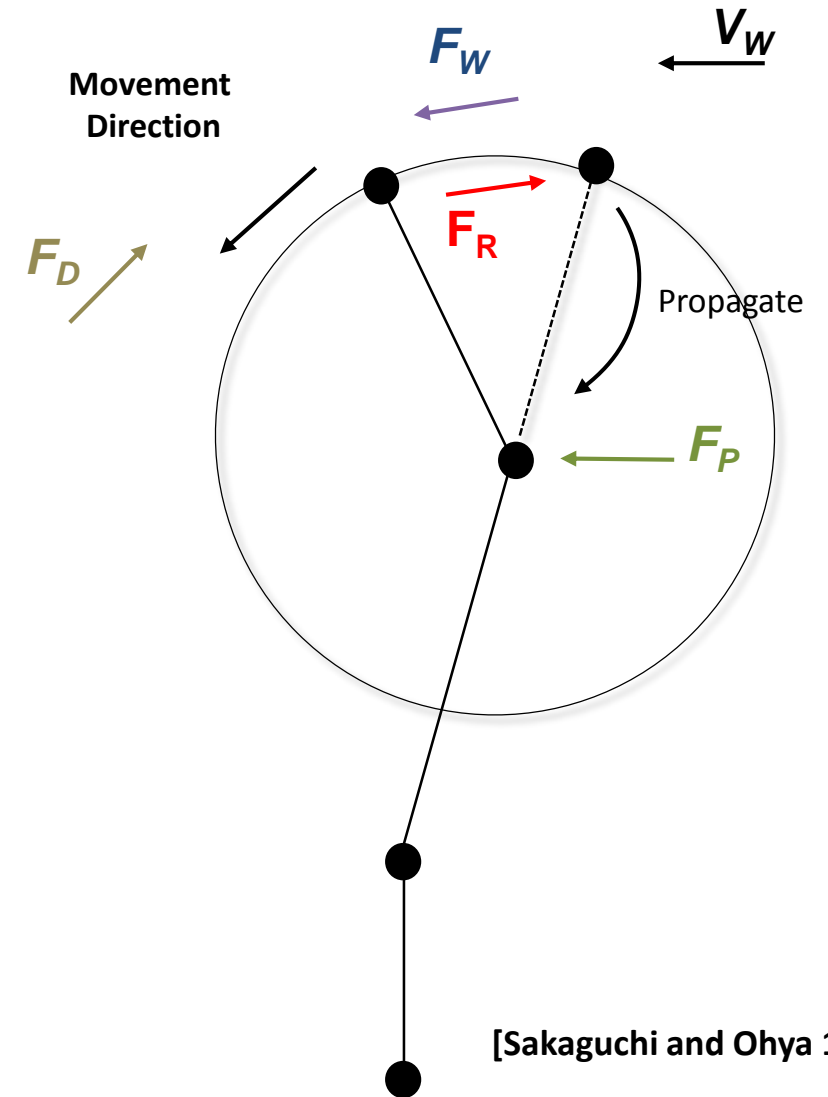
$$R = d_r k \alpha$$

Propagation Force

$$P_{i-1} = - \sum k_i F_{Ri}$$

Leaf Force

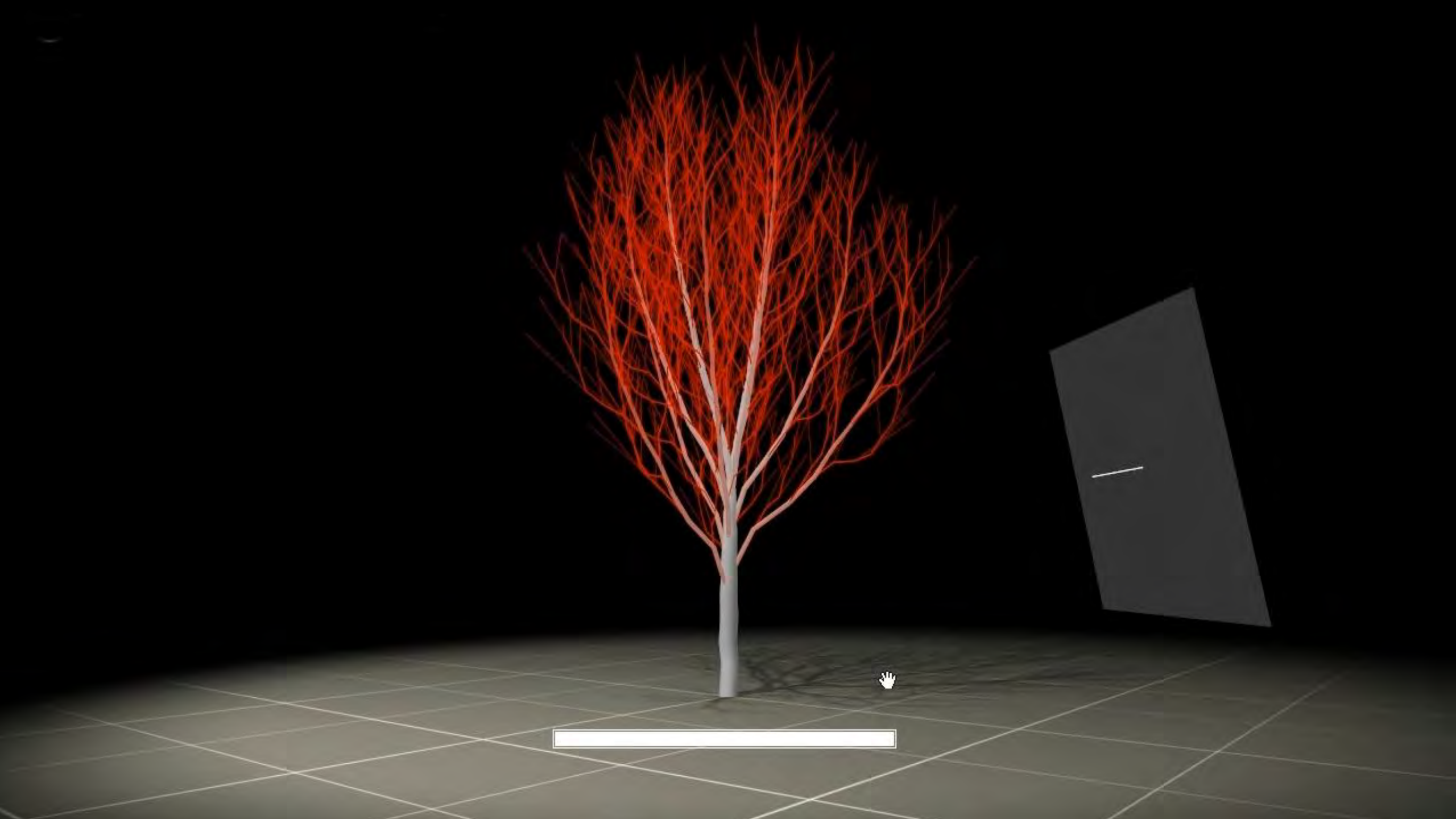
$$L = S_l \sigma v c$$



[Sakaguchi and Ohya 1999]







# Breaking of Branches

- Branch breaks when the acting forces exceed a certain level of stress
- Wood is a highly inhomogeneous material
- Approximating Young's Modulus and Hook's law

Young's Modulus Coefficient

Bending Moment

Stress

$$\sigma = \frac{4cM}{3\pi r^2}$$

Stress (Young's Modulus)

$$\sigma_{max} = d^3 p$$

Material Property

Branch Radius

Branch Thickness

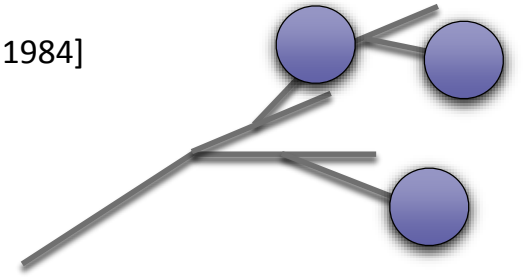




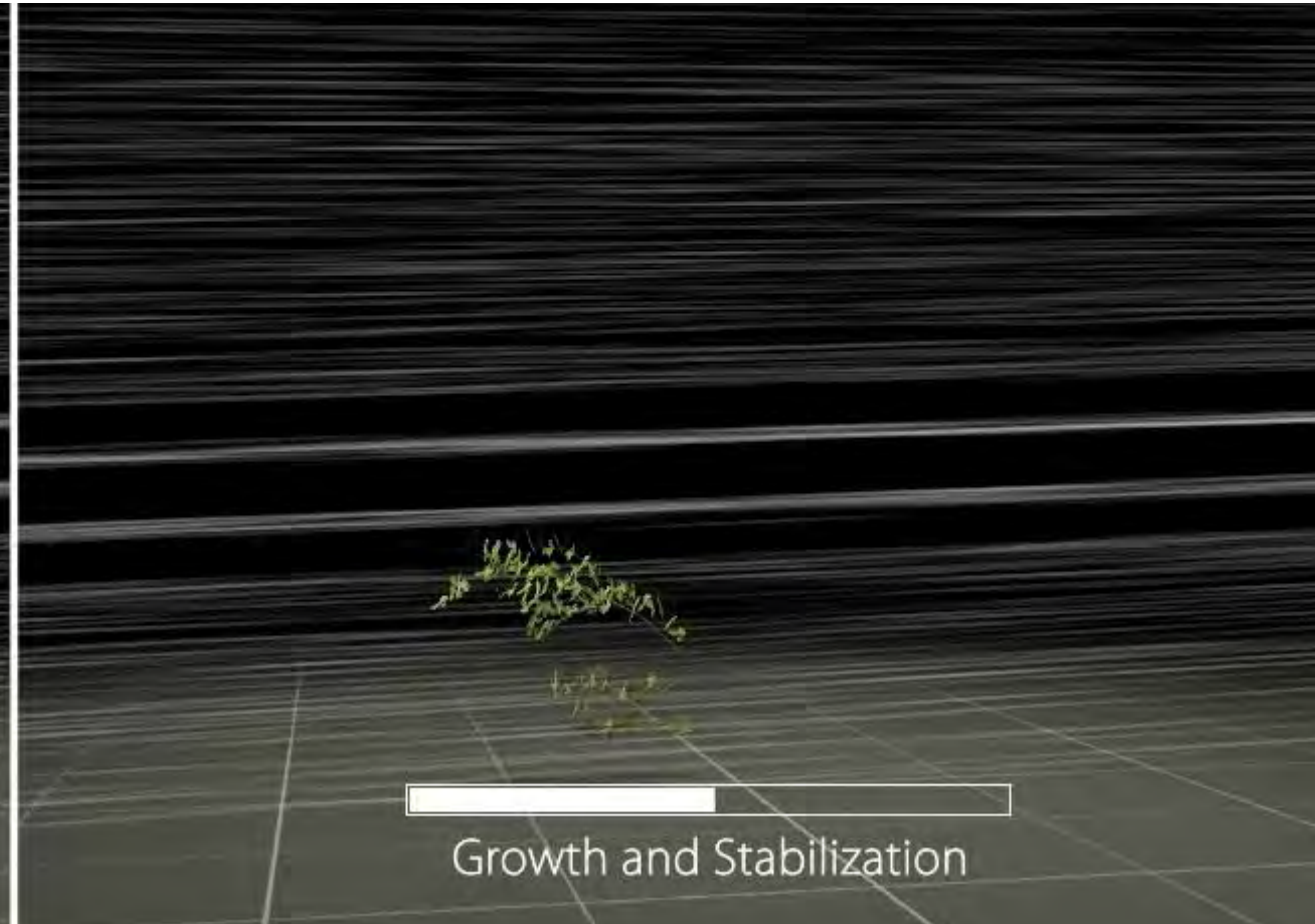
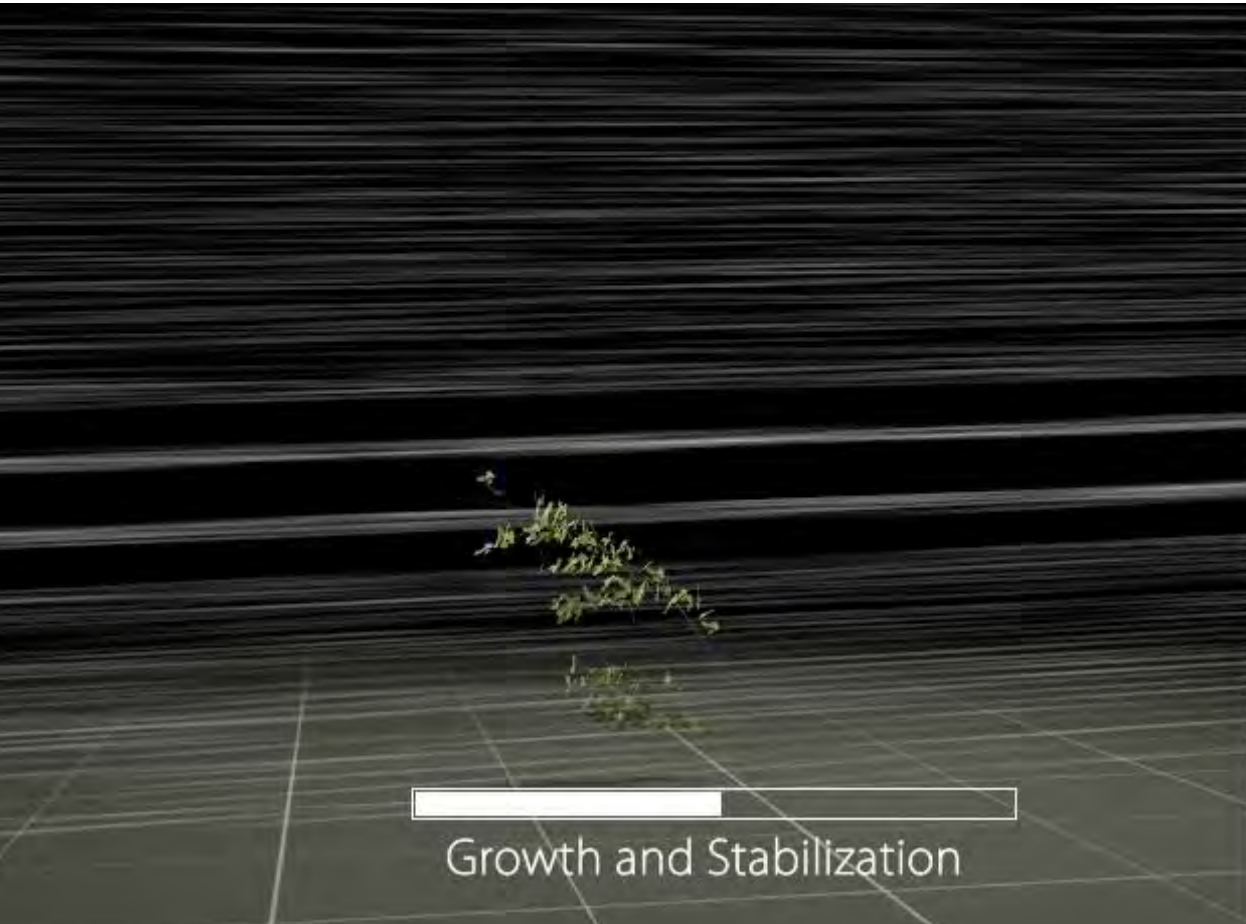
# Bud Abrasion and Drying

- Wind dries out or abrades buds
- Detect particles and neighboring branches
- User-defined threshold to terminate buds

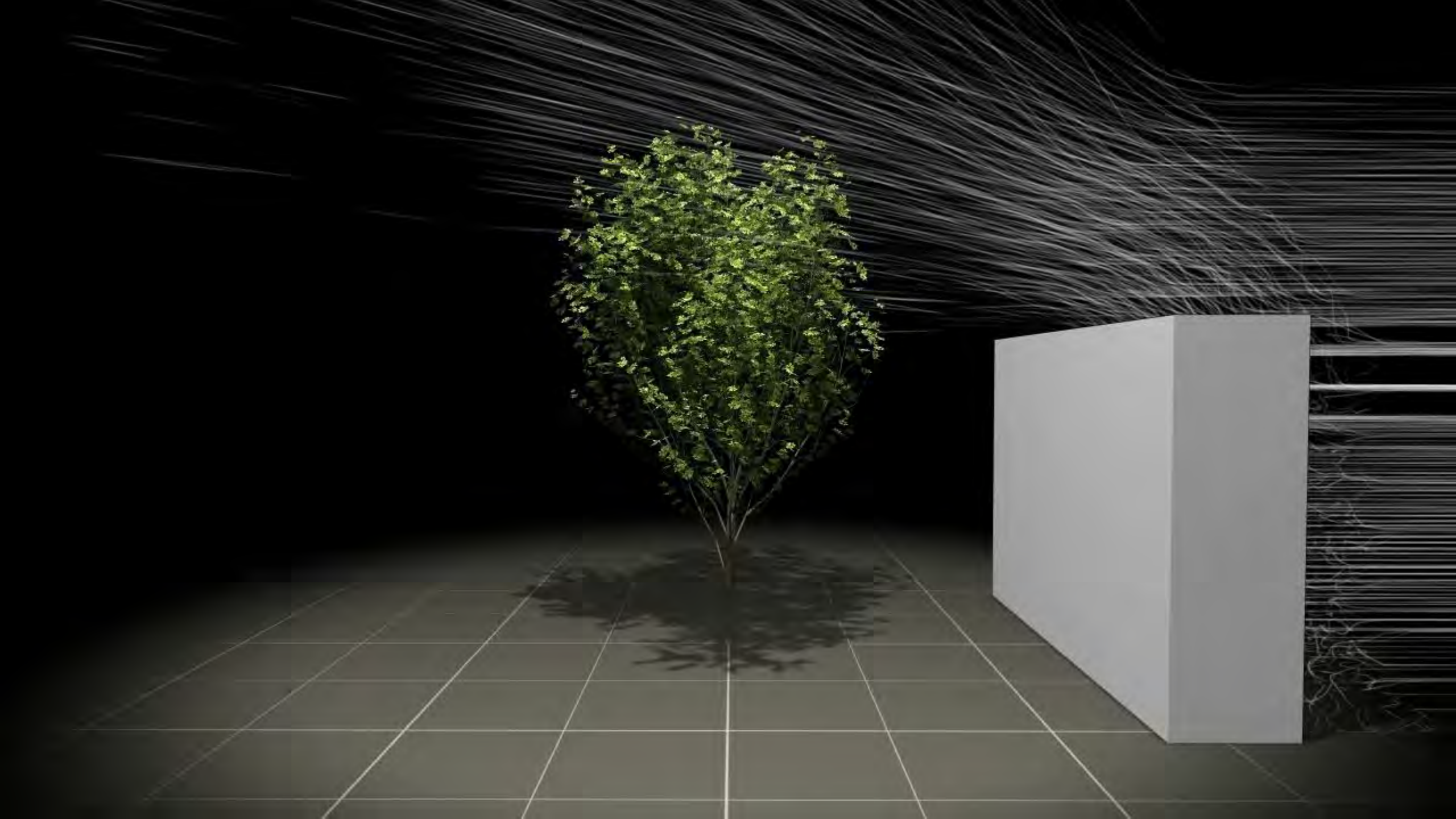
[Putz and Parker 1984]

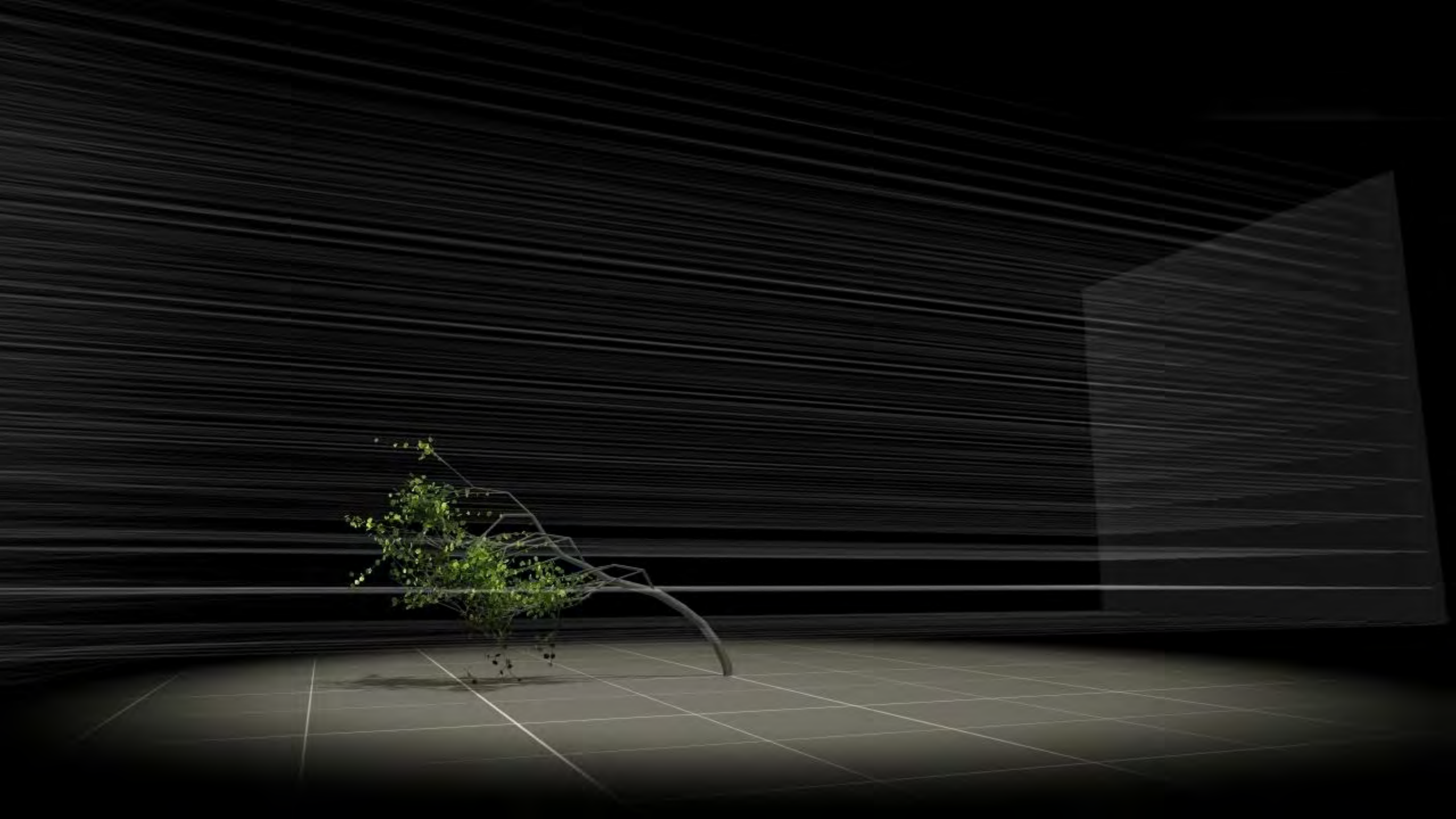


Off On











5 x faster



# Modeling Plant Life in Computer Graphics

## Reconstruction and Inverse Procedural Modeling

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Oliver Deussen, Baoquan Chen, Radomír Měch





# Overview

## Reconstruction and Inverse Procedural Modeling [30 minutes]

- From CT scans, flowers (**Ijiri**)
- From point sets (**Pirk, Chen**)
- Inverse Procedural Modeling (**Mech, Benes**)

# Flower Modeling via X-ray Computed Tomography

- Takashi Ijiri, Shin Yoshizawa, Hideo Yokota, Takeo Igarashi. **Flower Modeling via X-ray Computed Tomography**, ACM Trans. Graph. Volume 33, Issue 4, Article No. 48, July 2014.



# Background

Flower and plant modeling is important topic in CG

- CG Scene design / Simulation / Electric encyclopedia

Flower modeling is difficult



Many free-form components



Occluded structure

# Goal- Reconstruct complicated and realistic flowers

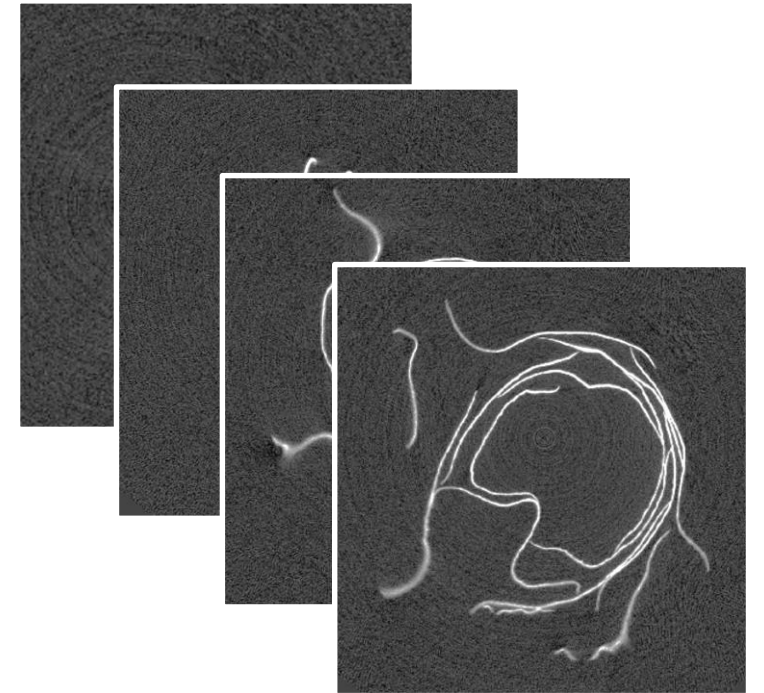
## Approach Use X-ray CT



Fix a sample on a tube



Scan the sample by industrial CT  
Matsusada precision:  *$\mu$ Ray8700*



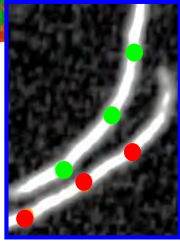
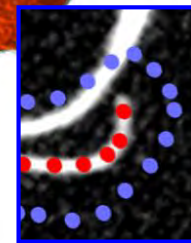
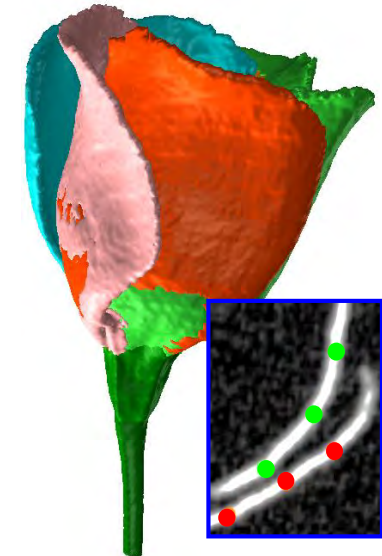
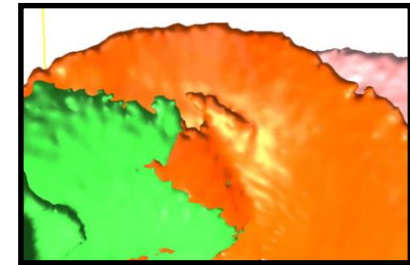
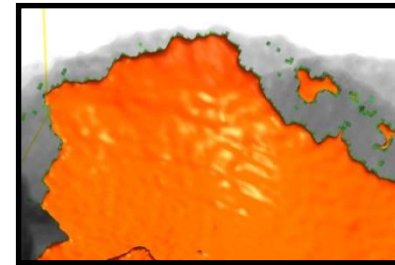
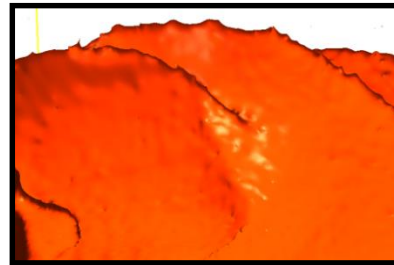
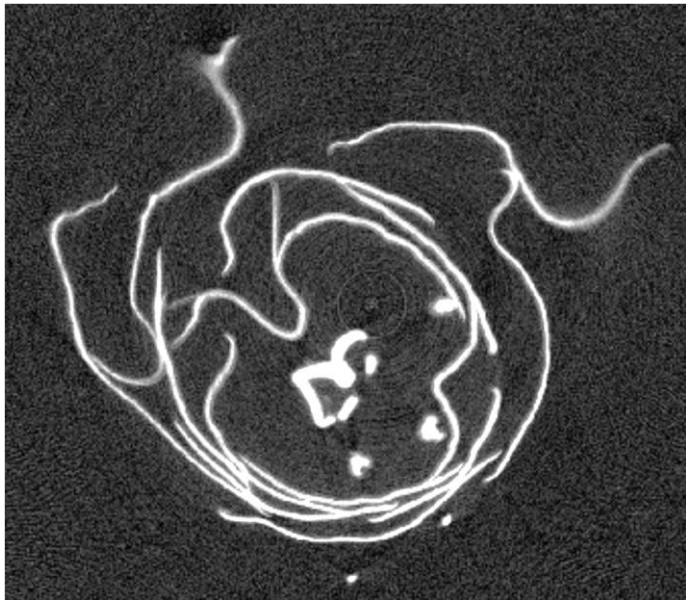
Obtain occlusion-free  
flower CT volume image



# Challenge – Segment volume into flower components

## Flower components

- Thin shapes
- Similar CT intensity
- Contact one another



**Iso surface**

[Lorensen et al 1987]

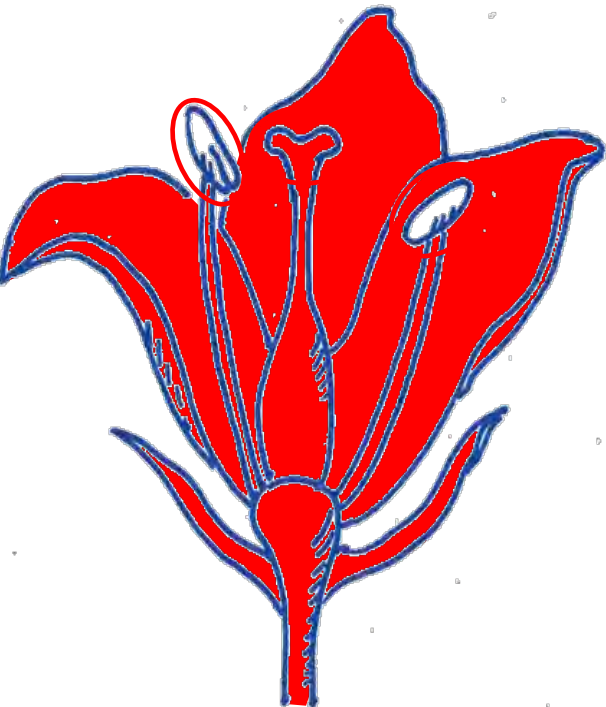
**Graph Cut**

[Boykov et al 2001]

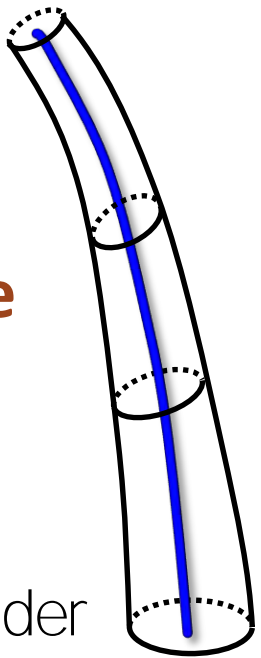
**Region Grow**

[Adms 1994]

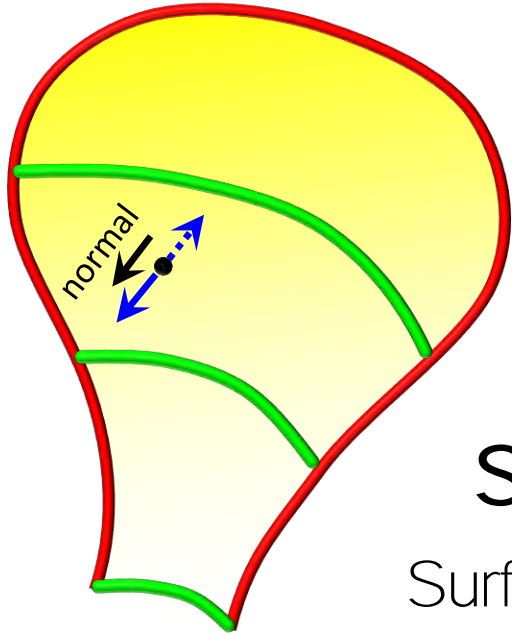
# Key idea – Approximate flower components with simple **primitives**



**Pistils**  
**Stamens**  
**Receptacle**  
**Stem**  
**shaft**



Curved cylinder  
radius varies along axis

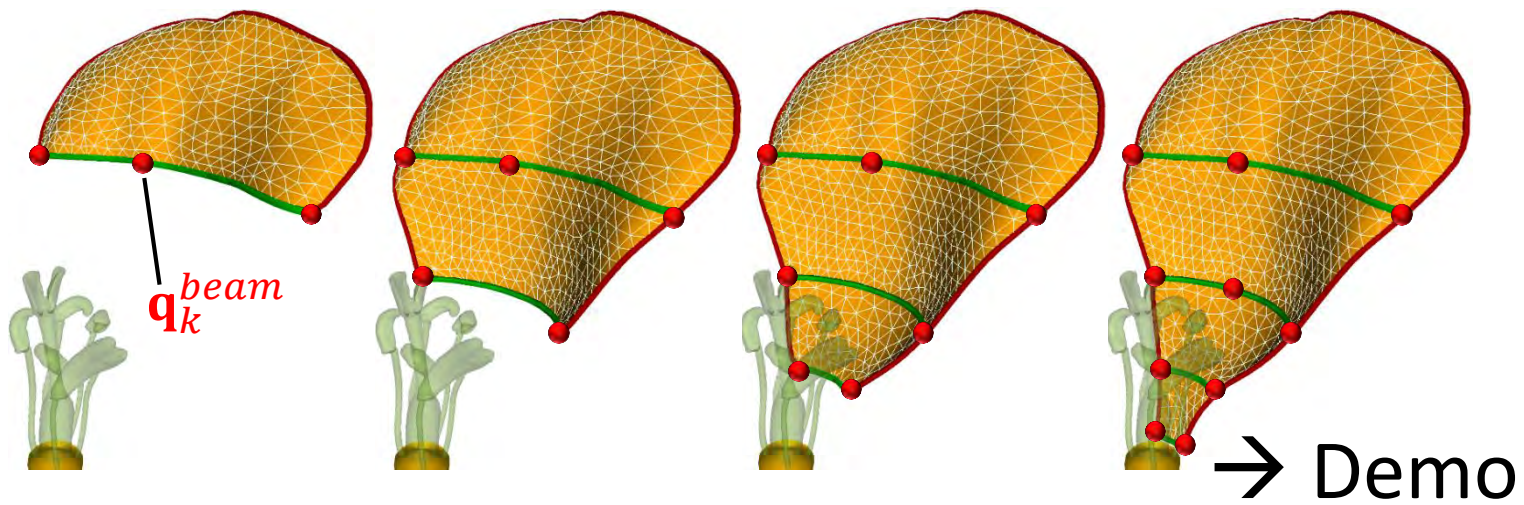
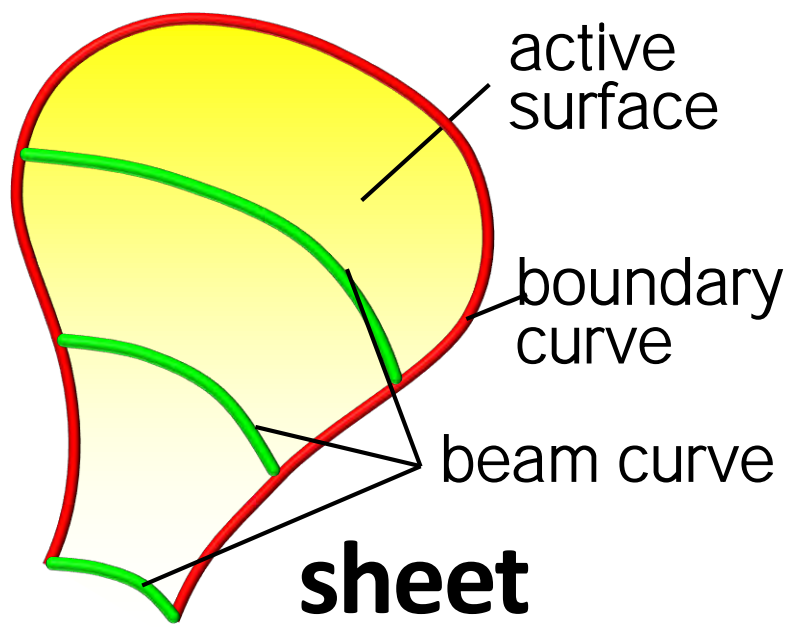


**Petals**  
**Sepals**  
**sheet**

Surface with  
adaptive thickness

Present a UI to place primitives  
Present novel active curve/surface to fit primitives

# Modeling Petals & Sepals



Petal often appears as a curve on a horizontal cross section

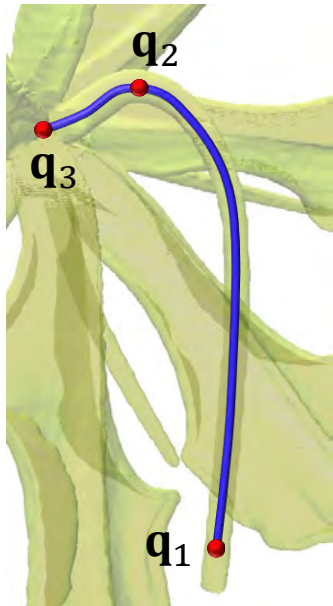
The user places CPs on a curve of the target petal  
→ Beam/boundary curves & active surface is computed



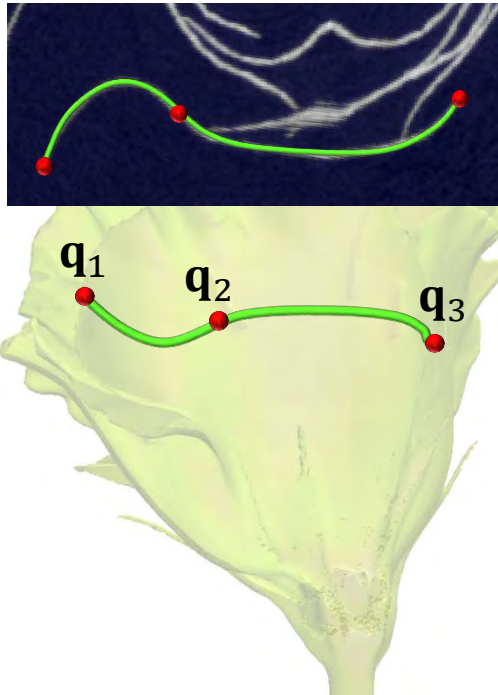
# Active curves $\mathbf{C}(t)$

Interpolate CPs ( $\mathbf{q}_1, \mathbf{q}_2, \dots, \mathbf{q}_M$ ) smoothly

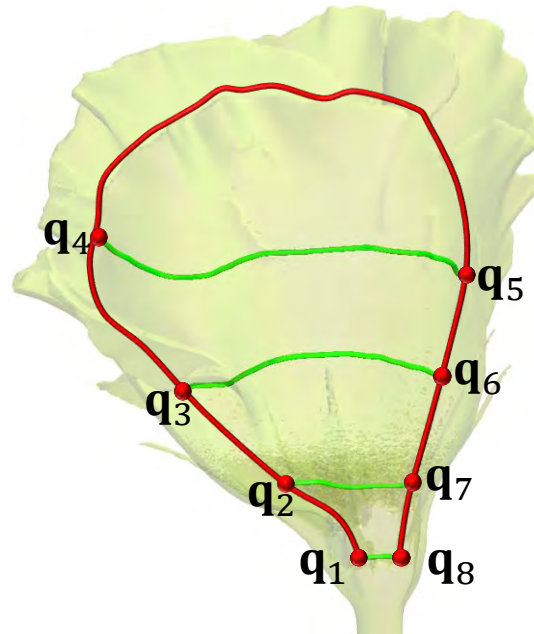
Trace their targets regions



Shaft axis



Beam

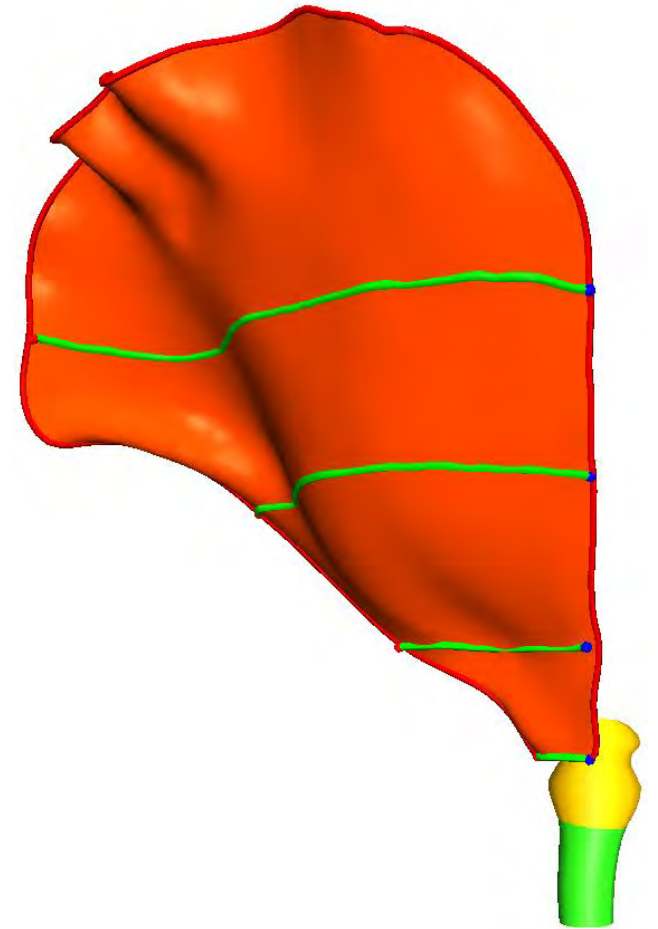


Boundary

# Active surface $\mathbf{S}(u, v)$

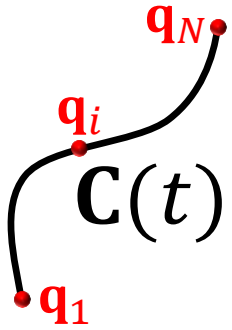
Interpolate curve network

Trace target region





# Active curves / surface energies



$$E_c = \int_{\Omega_c} \frac{1}{2} |\mathbf{C}''(t)|^2 + \alpha |\mathbf{C}'(t)^T \mathcal{M}(\mathbf{C}(t)) \mathbf{C}'(t)| dt$$

Smoothing effects

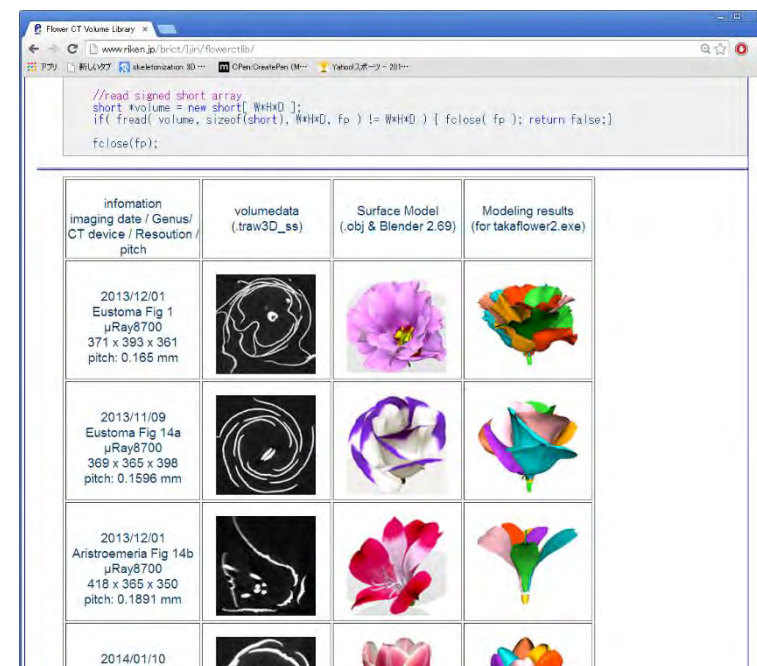


$$E_s = \int \int_{\Omega_s} \frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{S}_{uu}^2 + 2\mathbf{S}_{uv}^2 + \mathbf{S}_{vv}^2) + \beta |\mathbf{B}\mathbf{S}_u \times \mathbf{B}\mathbf{S}_v| dudv$$

# Results

Present a flower modeling method via X-ray CT scanner

Achieved to reconstruct flowers with complicated structures



Our CT volumes are available  
Google “**Flower CT volume library**”

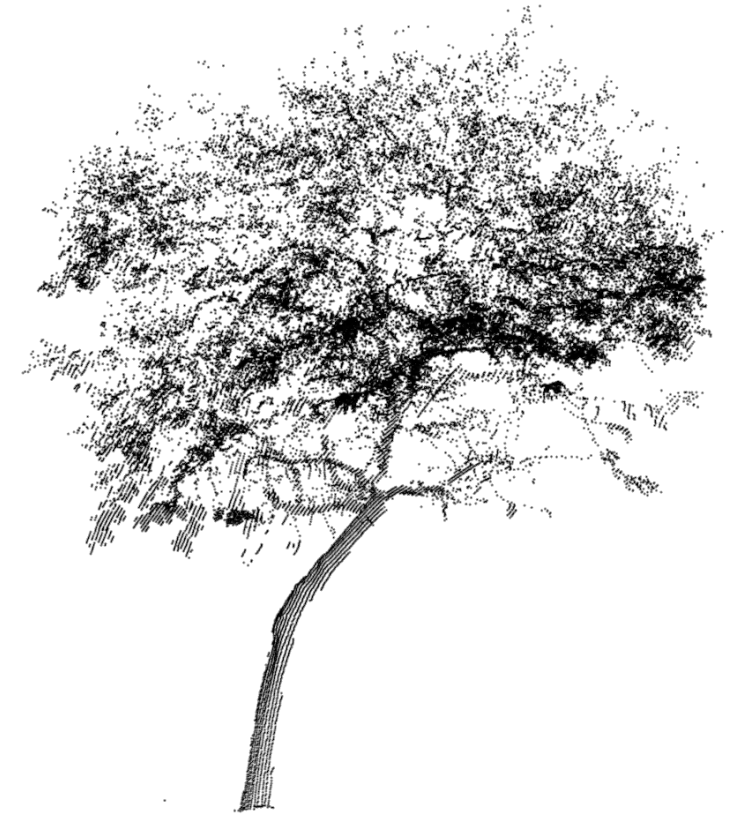
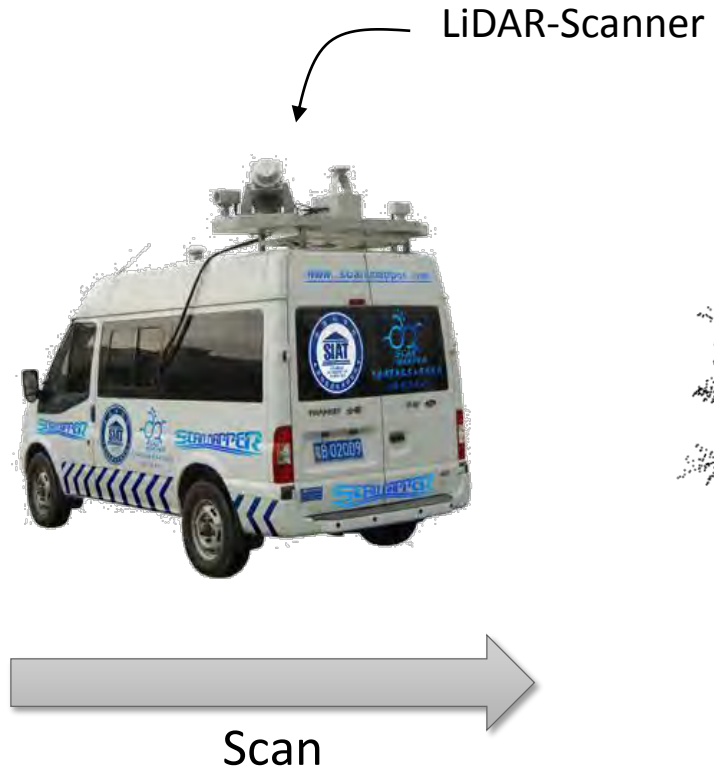
# Texture-lobes for tree modelling

- Livny, Y., Pirk, S., Cheng, Z., Yan, F., Deussen, O., Cohen-Or, D., Chen, B. (2011) **Texture-lobes for tree modeling**. ACM Trans. Graph. 30, 4, 53:1–53:10.

# Reconstruction of Urban Scenes



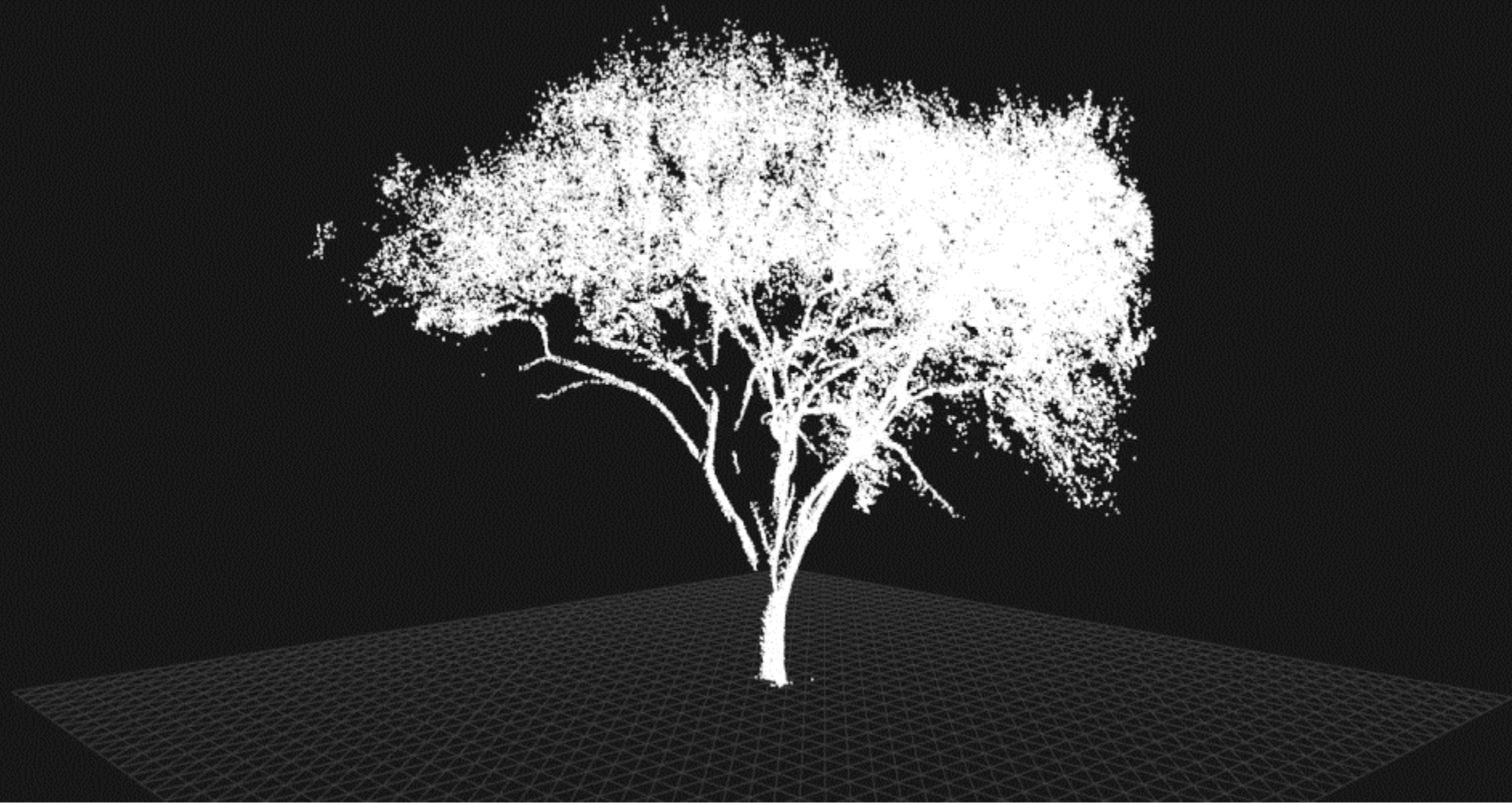
Real Tree



3D Point Cloud



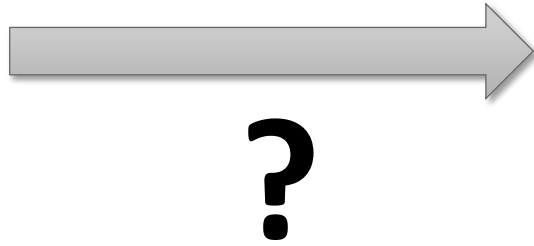
# 3D Point Sets



# From Point Sets to Meshes



3D Point Cloud



3D Tree Model



# A Tree is Complex



Human visual bandwidth is limited → abstraction

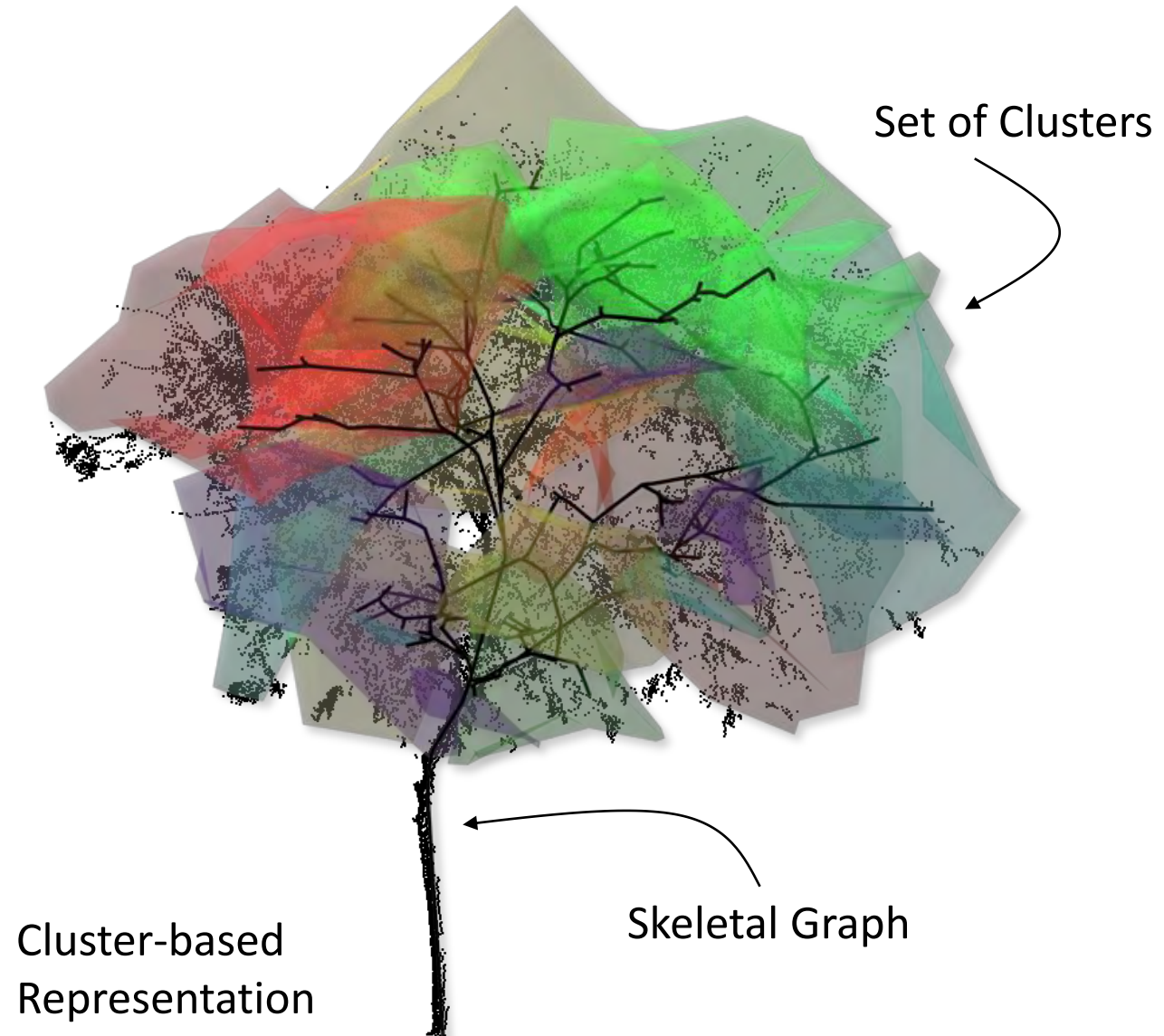
# Cluster-based Representation

Separate leaf-points and branch-points.

Minimum-weight spanning tree over the input.

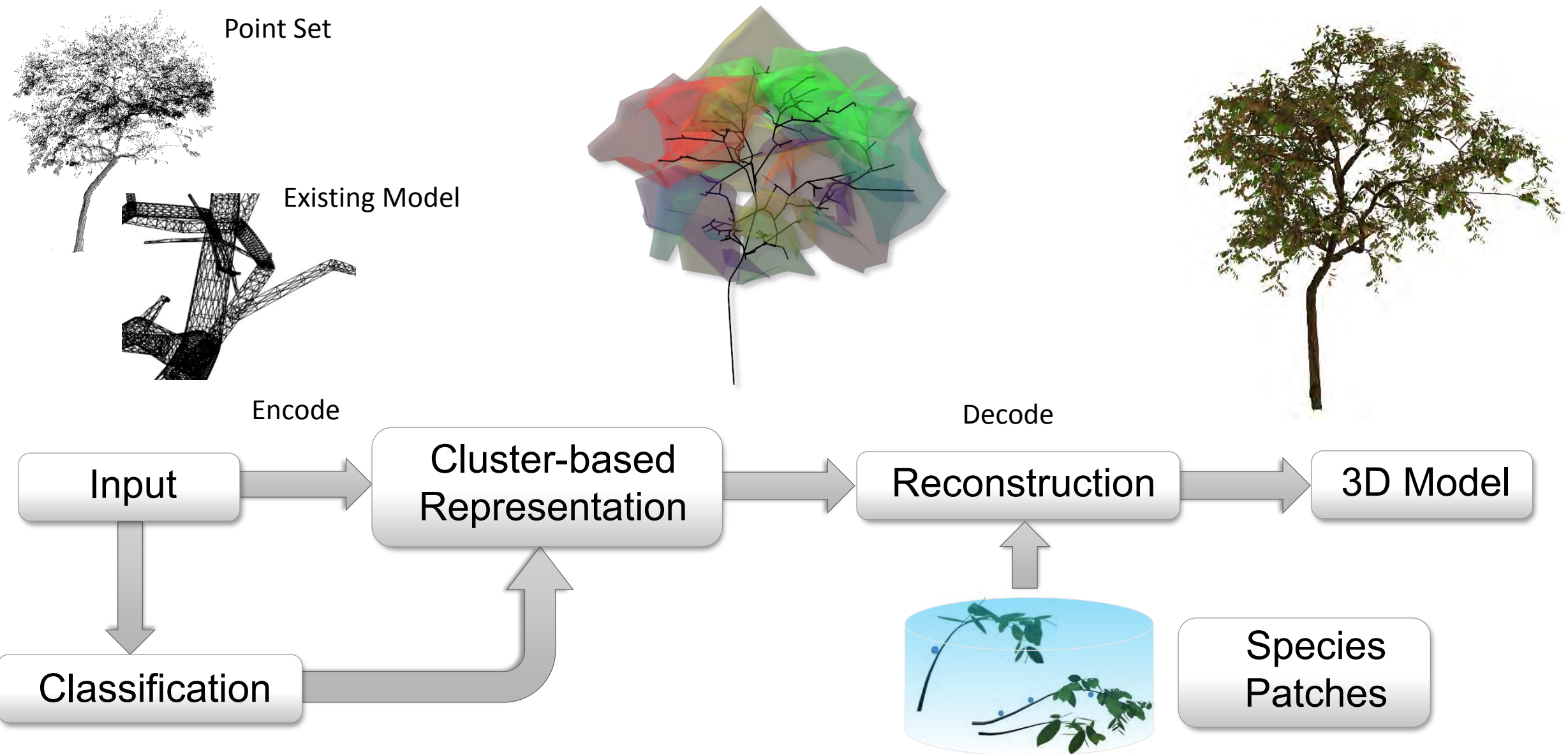
Determine thickness of branches based on allometric rules.

[Livny et al. 2011]





# Pipeline



# Resource Requirements



Cluster-based Representation

+

~100 kB



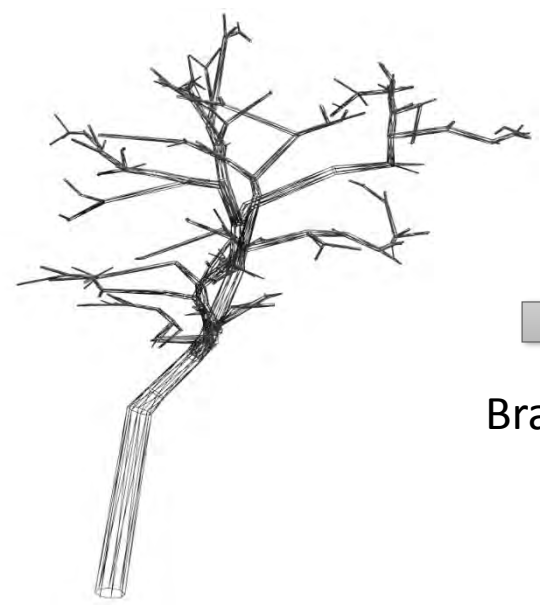
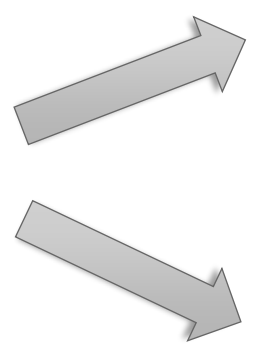
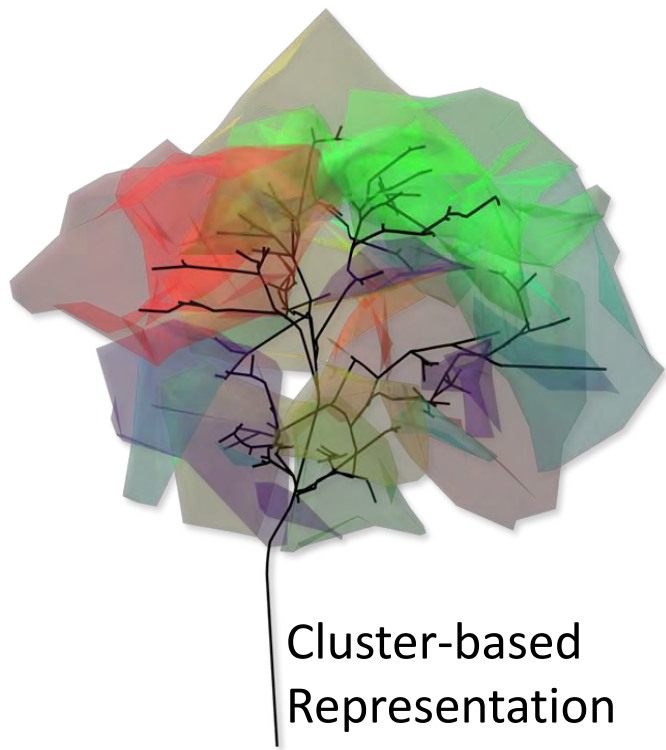
Species Information

=

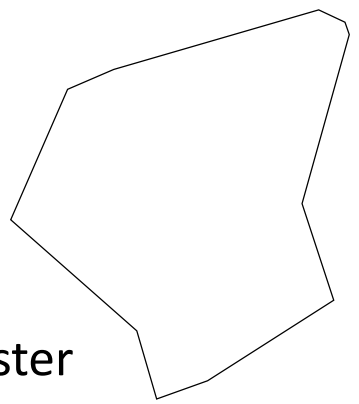


Reconstruction

# Reconstruction



Branch Mesh

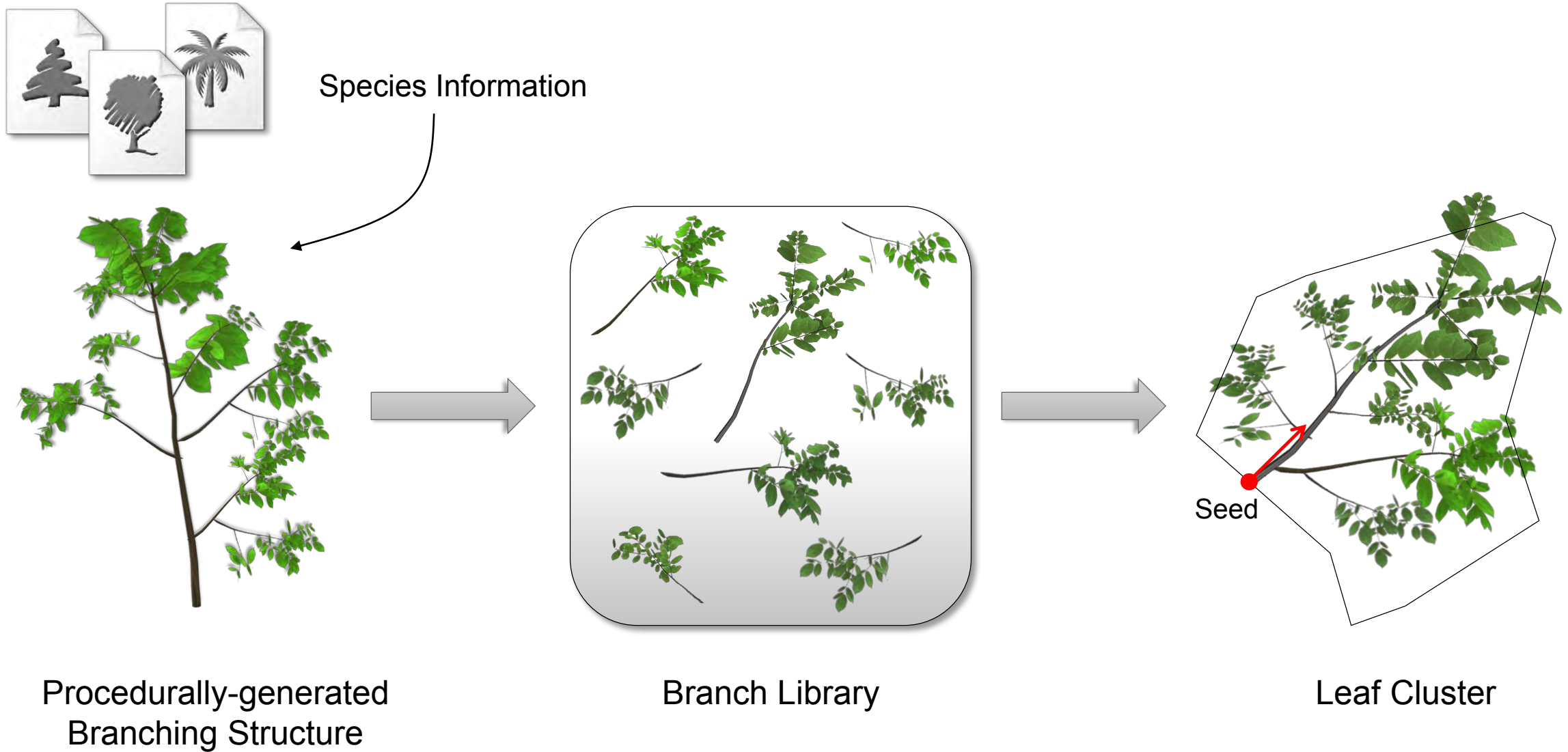


Twigs + Leaves



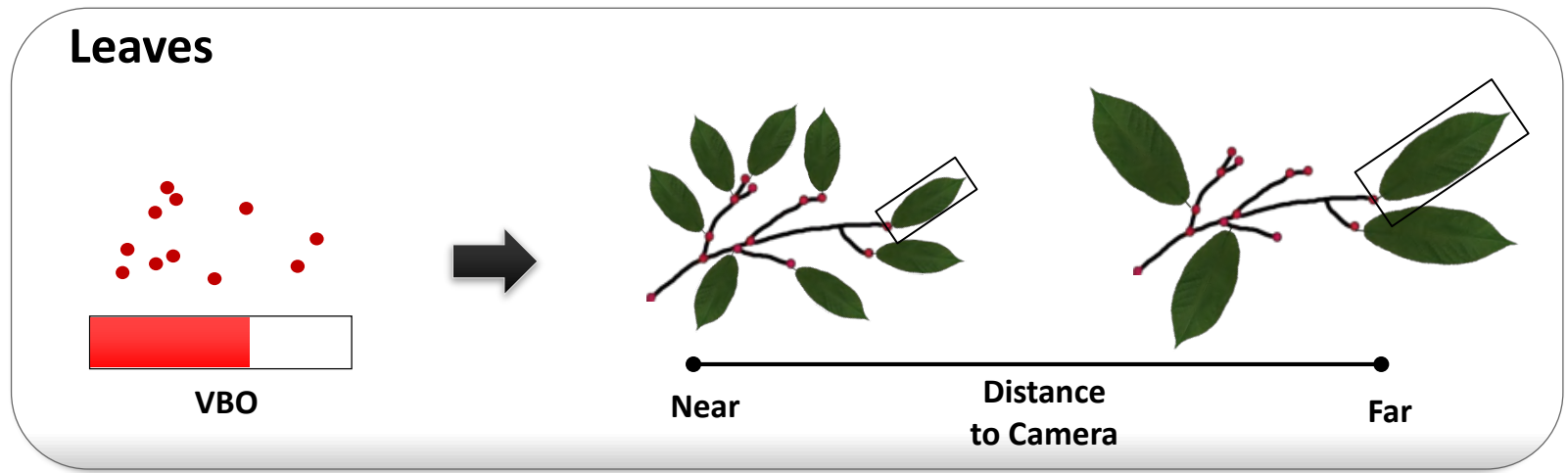
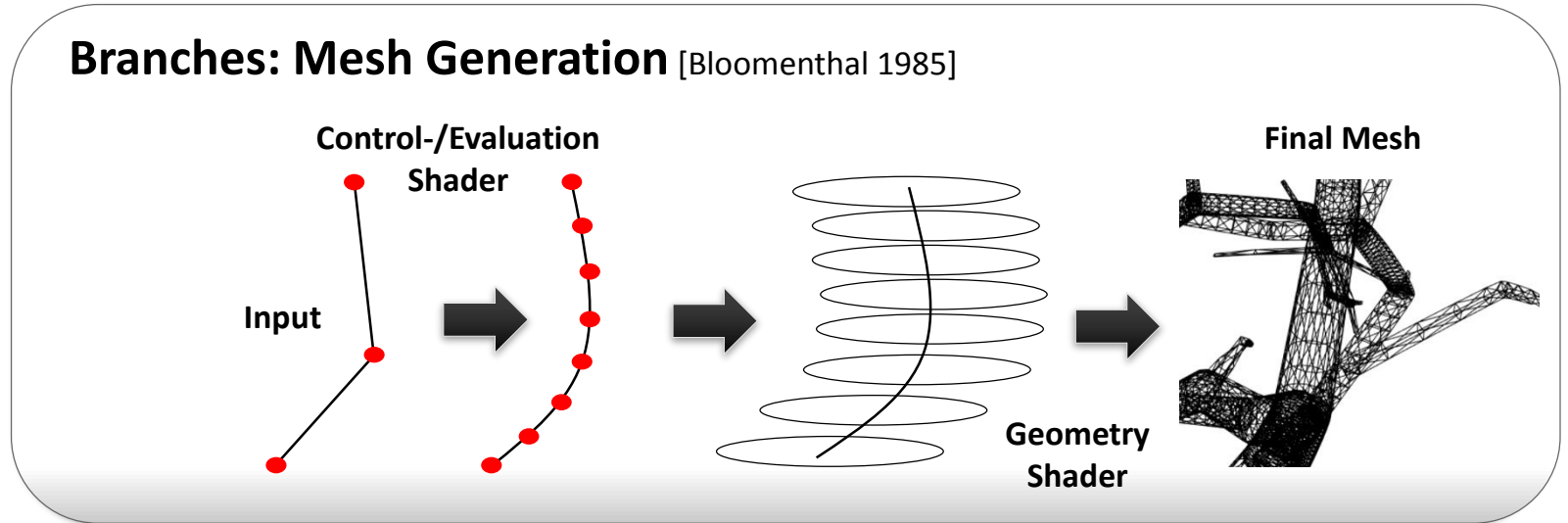
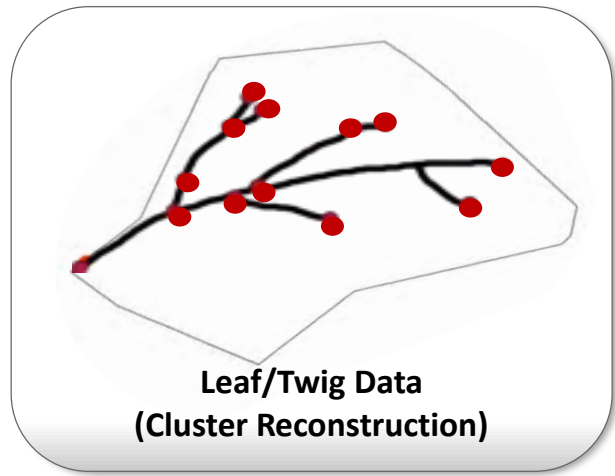
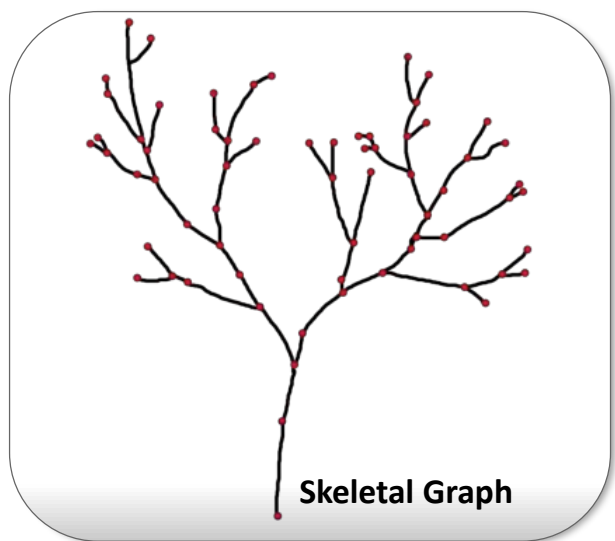


# Geometry Synthesis





# Mesh Construction



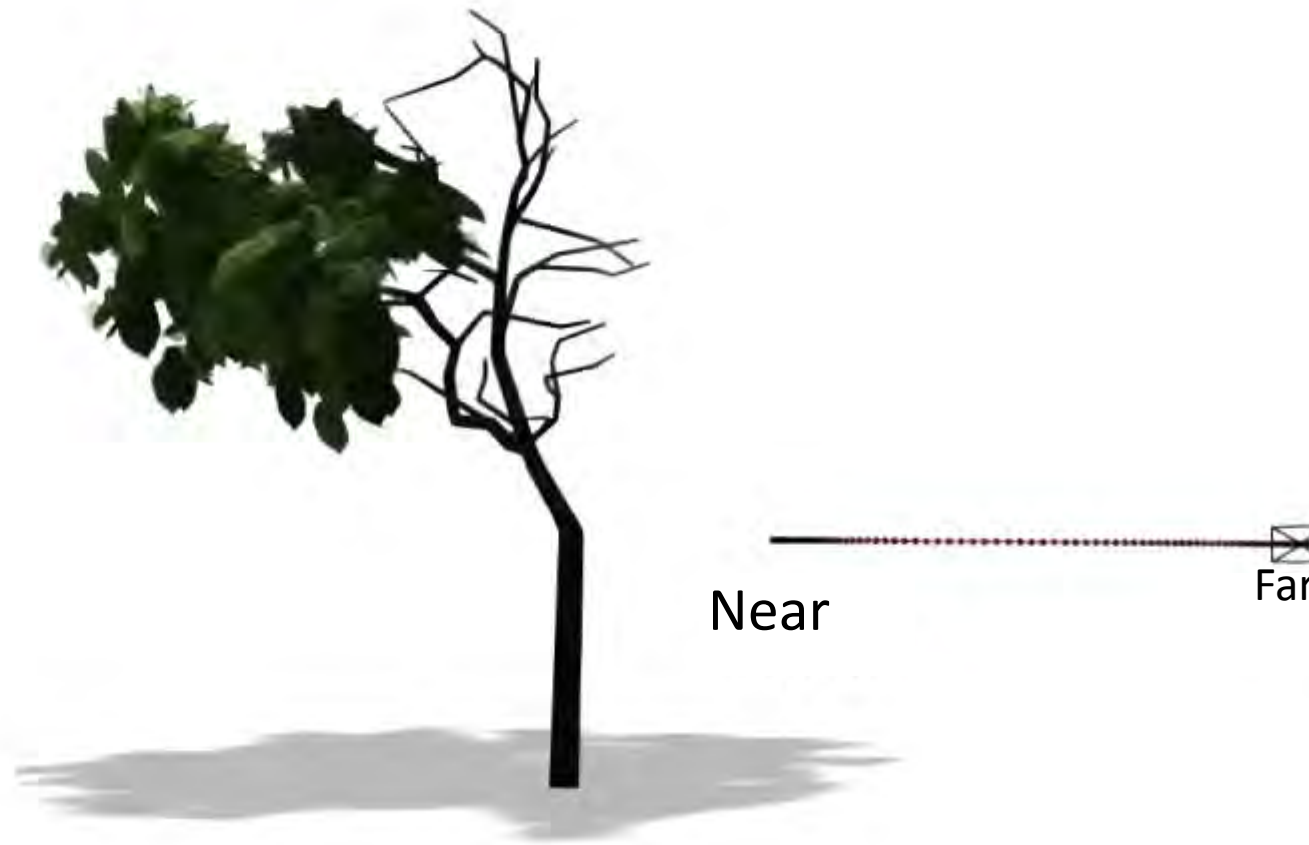
CPU | GPU

# Dynamic Level of Detail

[Cook et al. 2007]

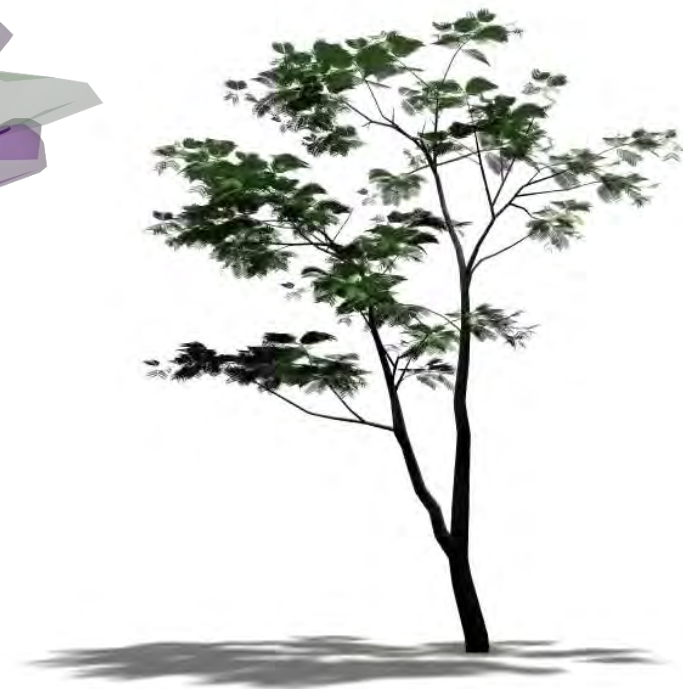
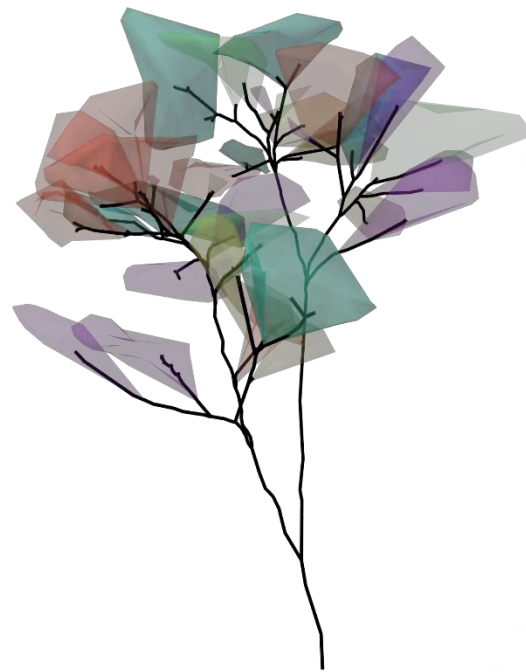


Camera View



Object View

# Results: Delonix





# Urban Reconstruction





# Analyzing Growing Plants from 4D Point Cloud Data

- Li, Y. Fan, X., Mitra, N. J., Chamovitz, D., Cohen-Or, D., Chen, B. (2013). **Analyzing growing plants from 4D point cloud data.** *ACM Trans. Graph.* 32, 6, Article 157

# Time-lapse images of growing plants



Video courtesy to [Neil Bromhall](#) on Youtube: [Sycamore seedling growing time lapse](#)<sub>1</sub>



# Time-lapse of 3D Point Cloud (4D Point Cloud)



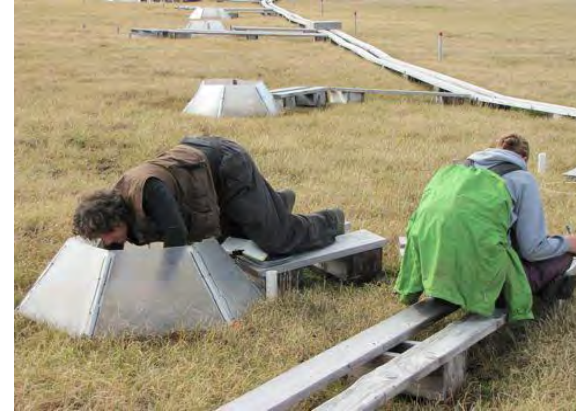
Day 12



# Charactering Plant Growth (1)

- Quantitative properties
  - Area, volume, etc.
  - Better in organ level

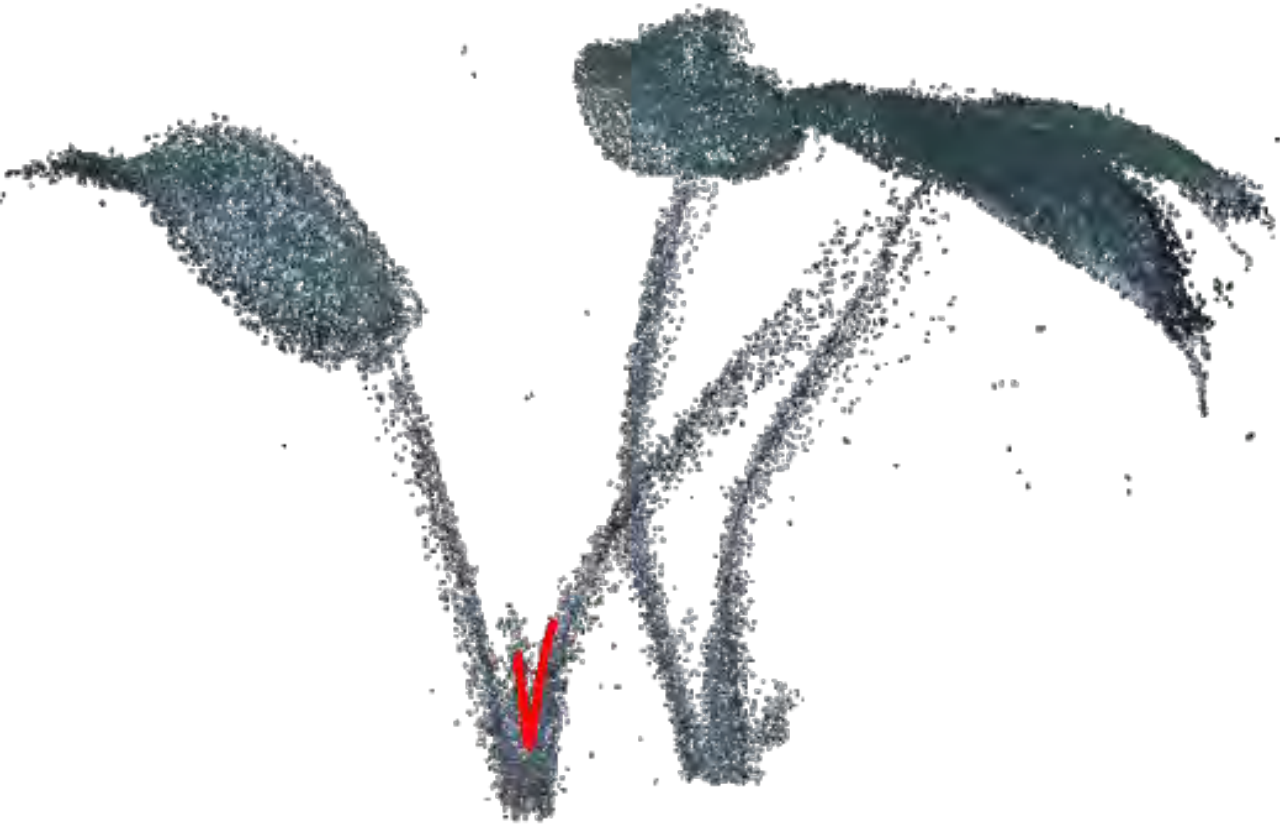
Huge amount of work!!!





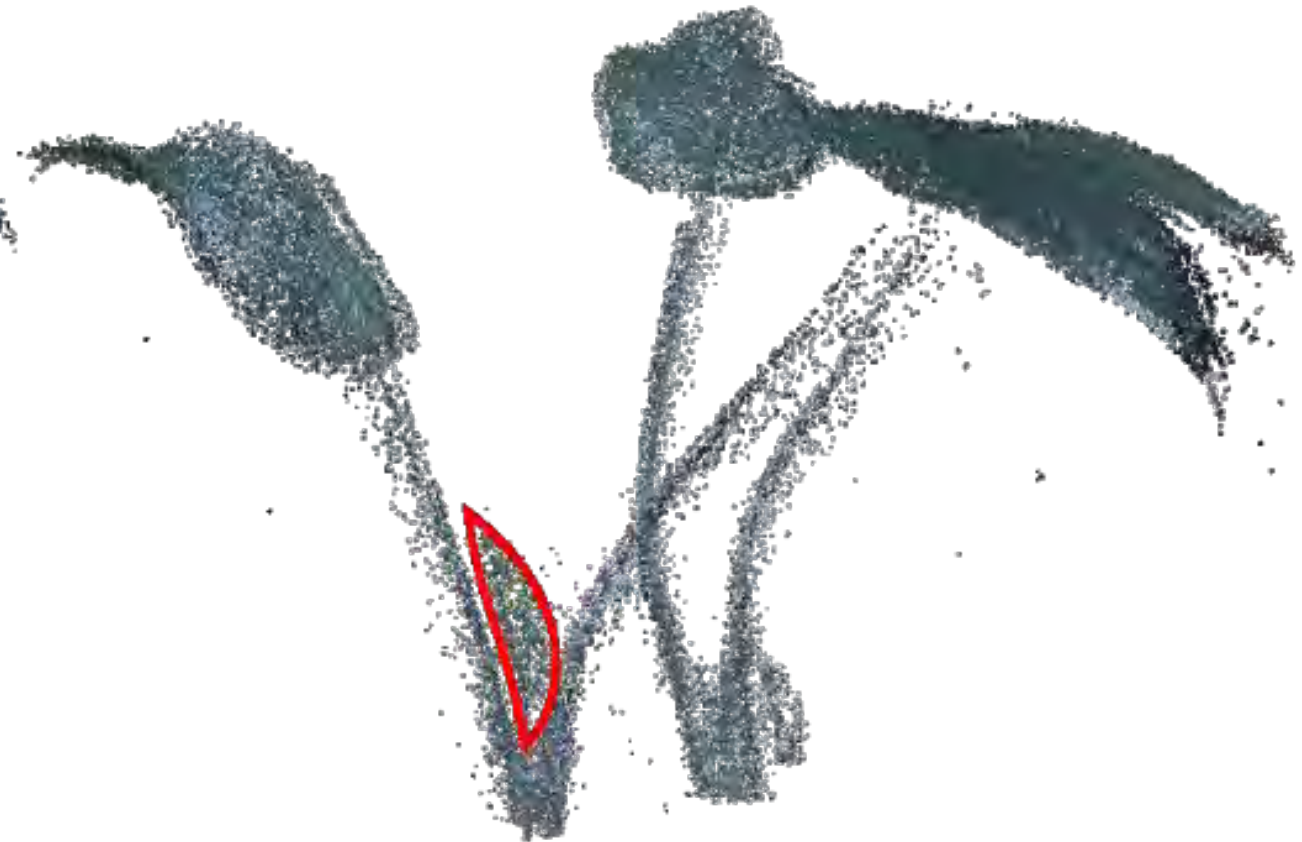
# Charactering Plant Growth (2)

- Growth events (qualitative changes)



Day 33

Bifurcation



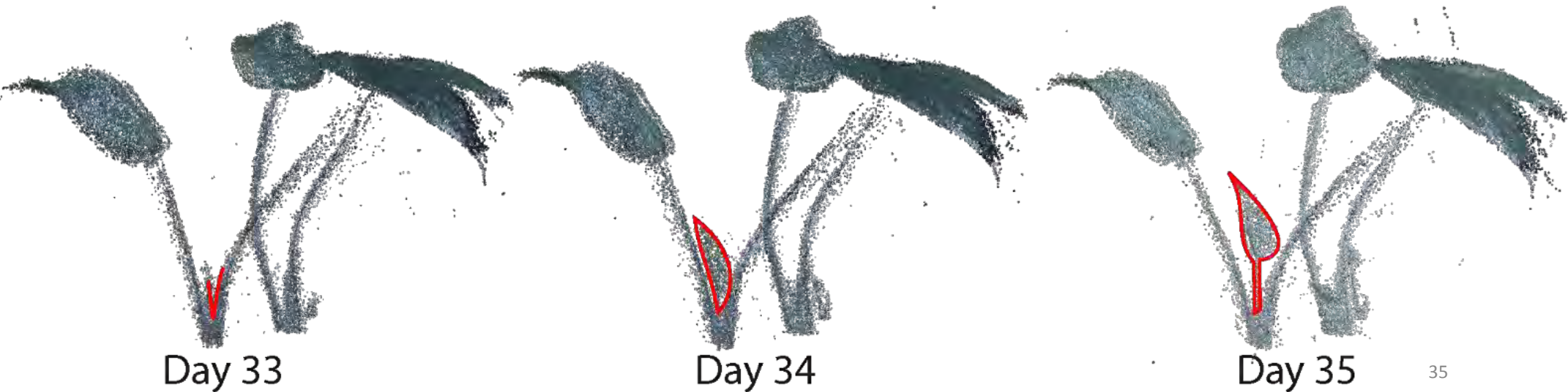
Day 34

Budding

# Challenges

- Large deformation (violating incompressibility assumption)
- Large topology change
- No shape template

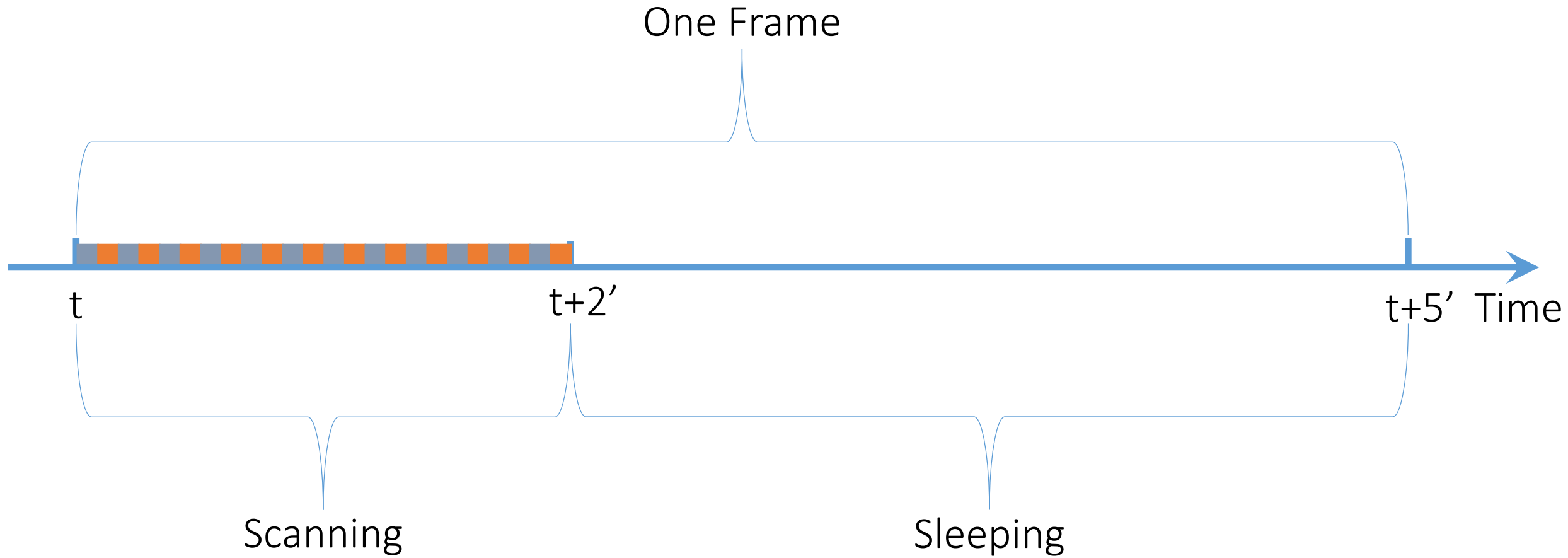
- Growth events
  - Subtle start (ending)
  - Similar, but not same
  - Ambiguities



# Scanning system (1)



# Scanning system (2)



- structured light capturing
- turn table rotation ( $30^\circ$ )

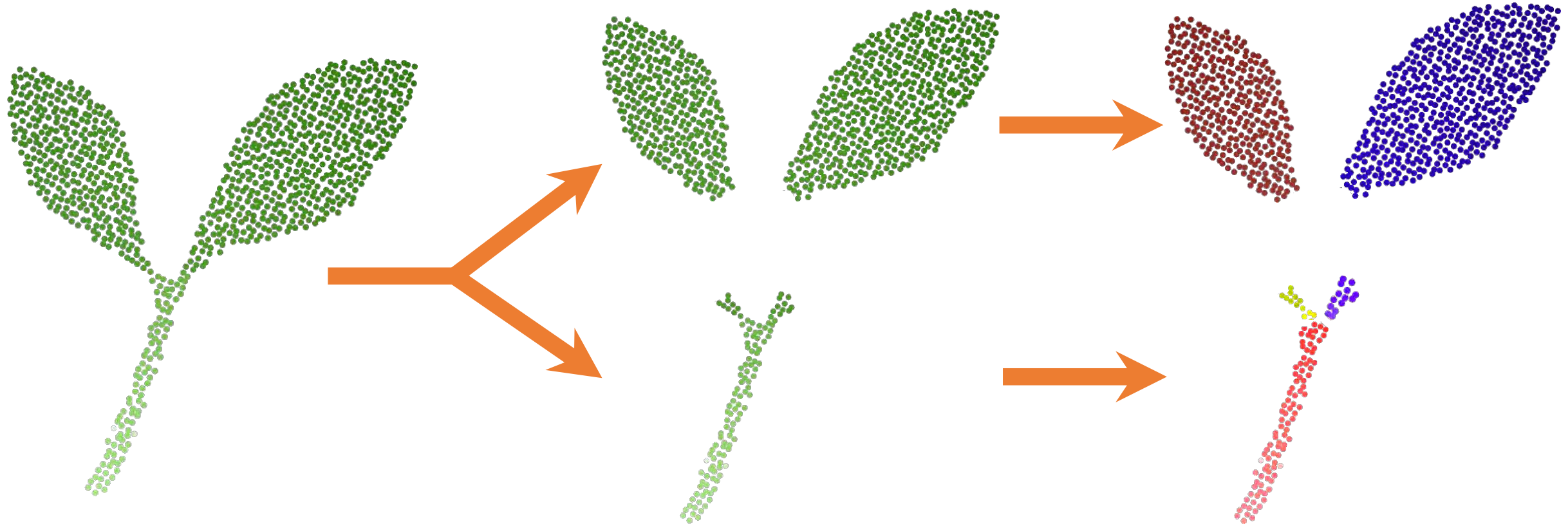


Detecting growth events → counting organ number



Counting organ number → point cloud segmentation

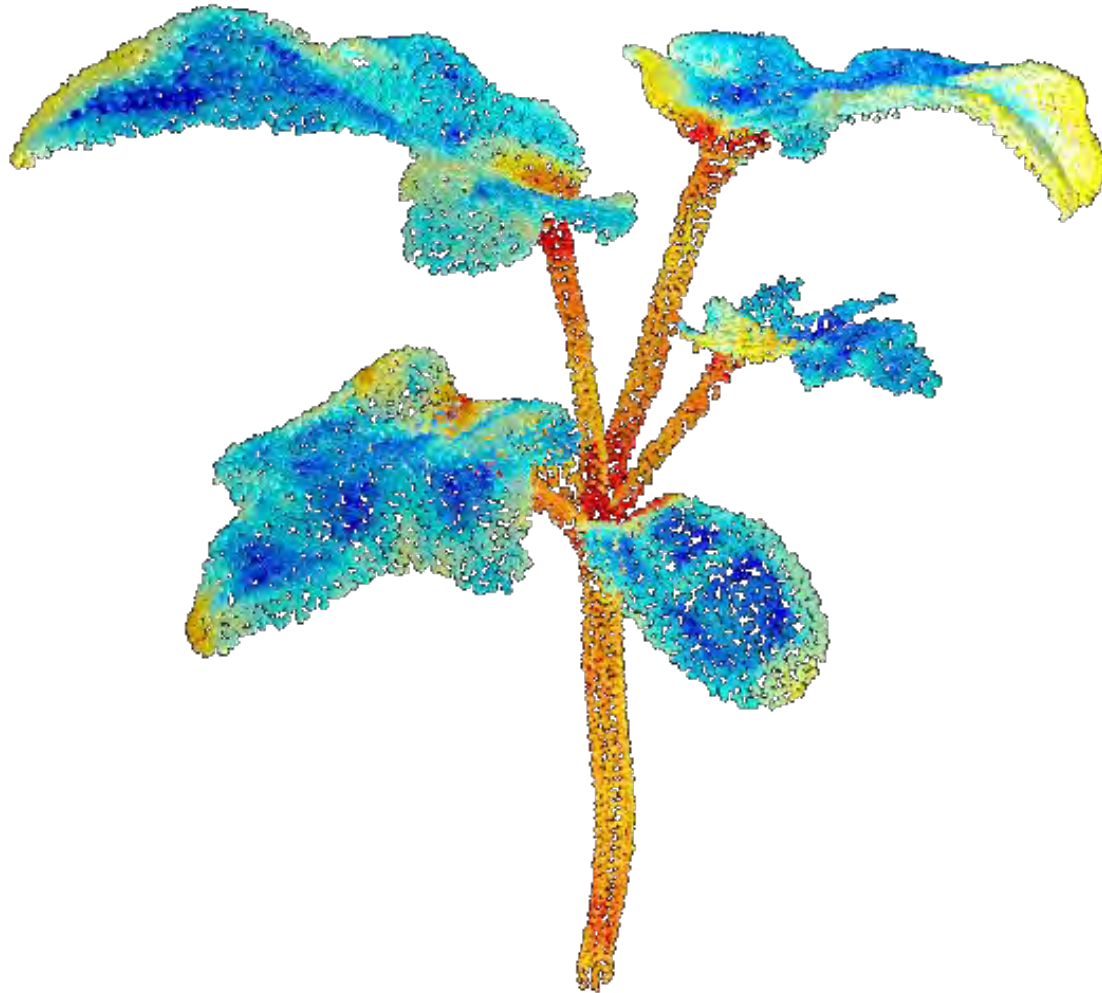
# Algorithm pipeline: Two-stage Segmentation



Leaf-stem classification  
**Binary** labelling problem

Individual organ segmentation  
**Multi-labelling** problem

# Leaf-stem classification: discriminative feature



Leaves are more “flat”!

Find  $f_B: P^t \rightarrow \{L, S\}$

$$f_B(p^t) = \begin{cases} S, & \text{if } C(p^t) > t \\ L, & \text{if } C(p^t) \leq t \end{cases}$$

Curvature  $C(p^t)$  of Plant Points



Mature leaves are more “flat” than stems.

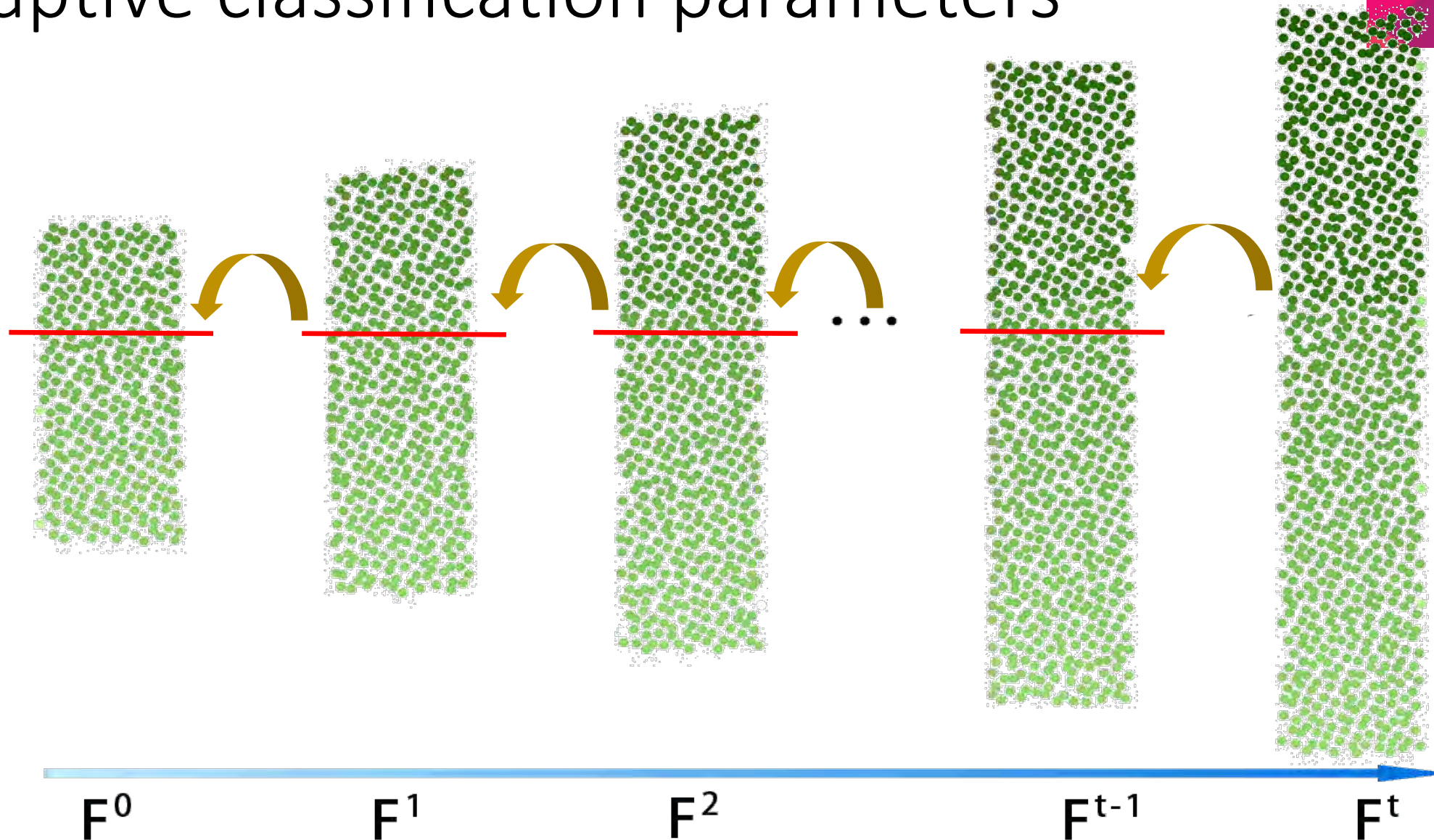
New leaves can be less “flat” than some stems.



$$f_B(p^t) = \begin{cases} S, & \text{if } C(p^t) > t \\ L, & \text{if } C(p^t) \leq t \end{cases}, t \text{ has to be adaptive!}$$

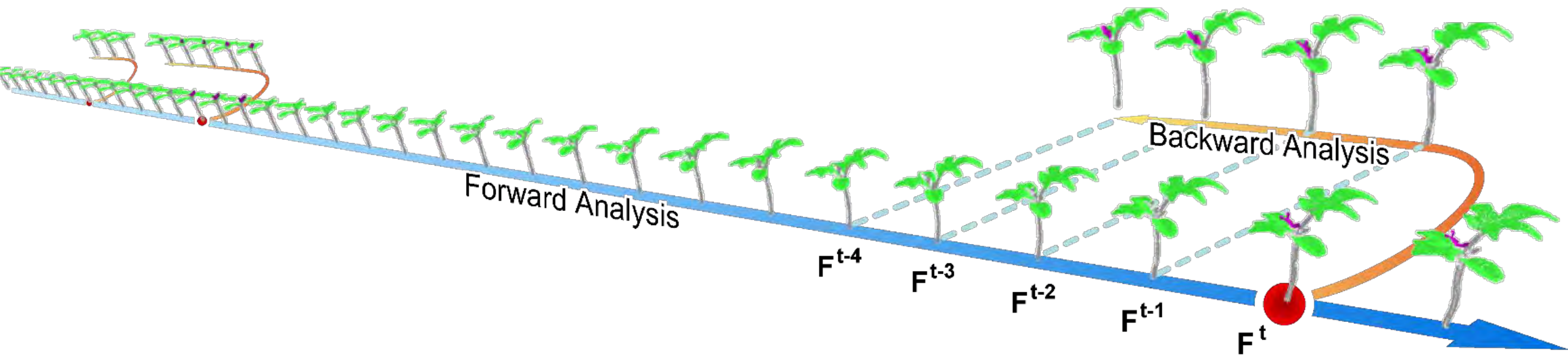


# Adaptive classification parameters



Growing leaf and stem in the feature space

# Fwd-bwd analysis: bring back information from future



- Fwd analysis: detecting strong evidences
- Bwd analysis: smarter with the “after-effect”

# Leaf-stem classification: MRF with known labels



Find  $f_B: P^t \rightarrow \{L, S\}$ , that minimizes

$$E(f_B) = \sum_{p^t \in P^t} D_{p^t}(f_B(p^t)) + \sum_{p^t, q^t \in N_{pt}} V(f_B(p^t), f_B(q^t)),$$

where  $N_{pt} = \{(p^t, q^t) \in \text{Delaunay}(P^t): |p^t - q^t| < 3\text{mm}\}$ .

# Leaf-stem classification: data term (1)

$$D_{p^t}(L) = \begin{cases} \max(R(p^t) - R(L_{l_*}^{t\pm 1}), 0), & \text{if } \Phi > 0 \\ R(p^t) - \mathfrak{R}_L, & \text{if } \Phi = 0 \end{cases}$$

$$D_{p^t}(S) = \begin{cases} \max(R(S_{s_*}^{t\pm 1}) - R(p^t), 0), & \text{if } \Phi > 0 \\ \mathfrak{R}_S - R(p^t), & \text{if } \Phi = 0 \end{cases}$$

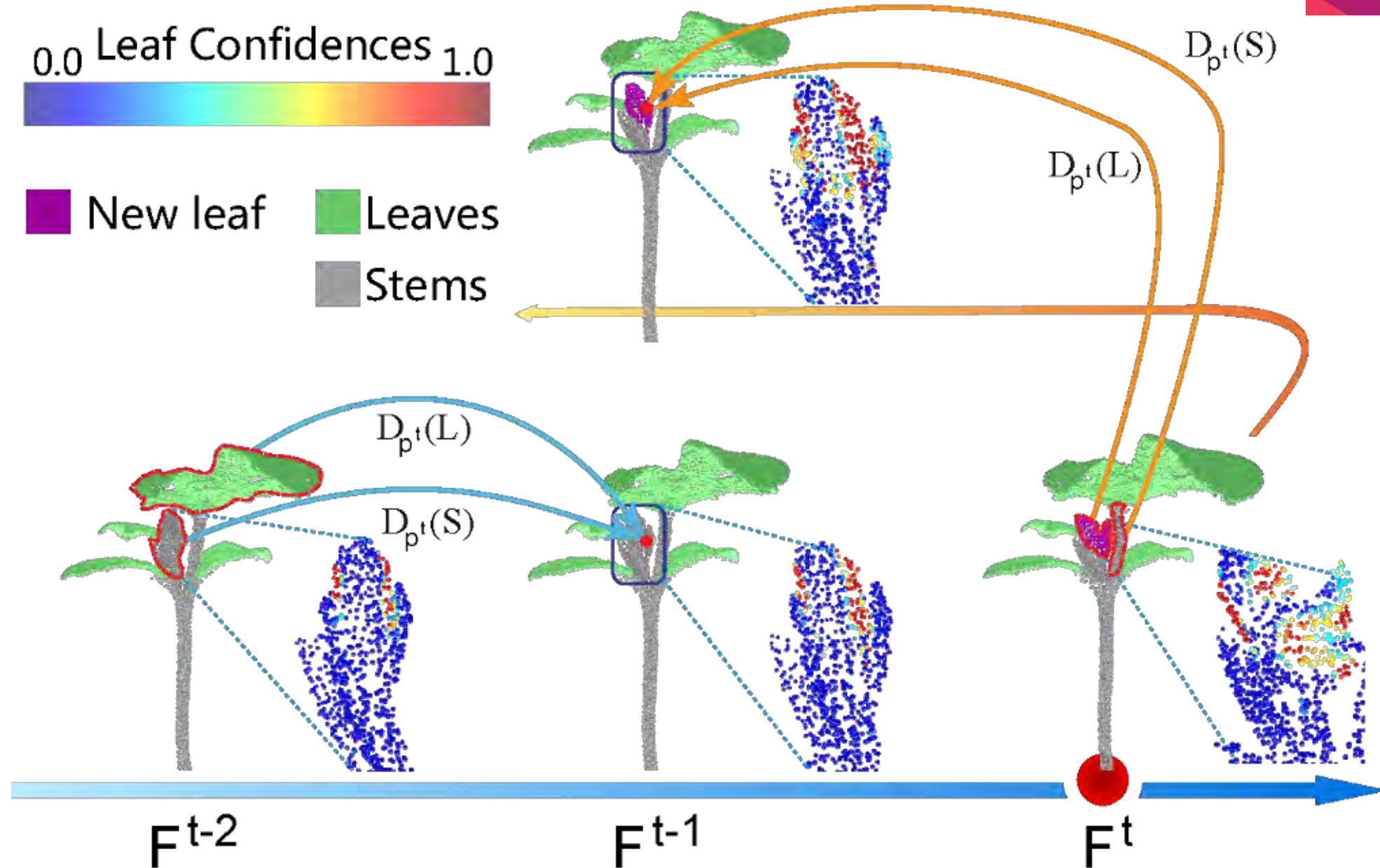
where  $\Phi = |\{L_l^{t\pm 1}\}| \times |\{S_s^{t\pm 1}\}|$ .

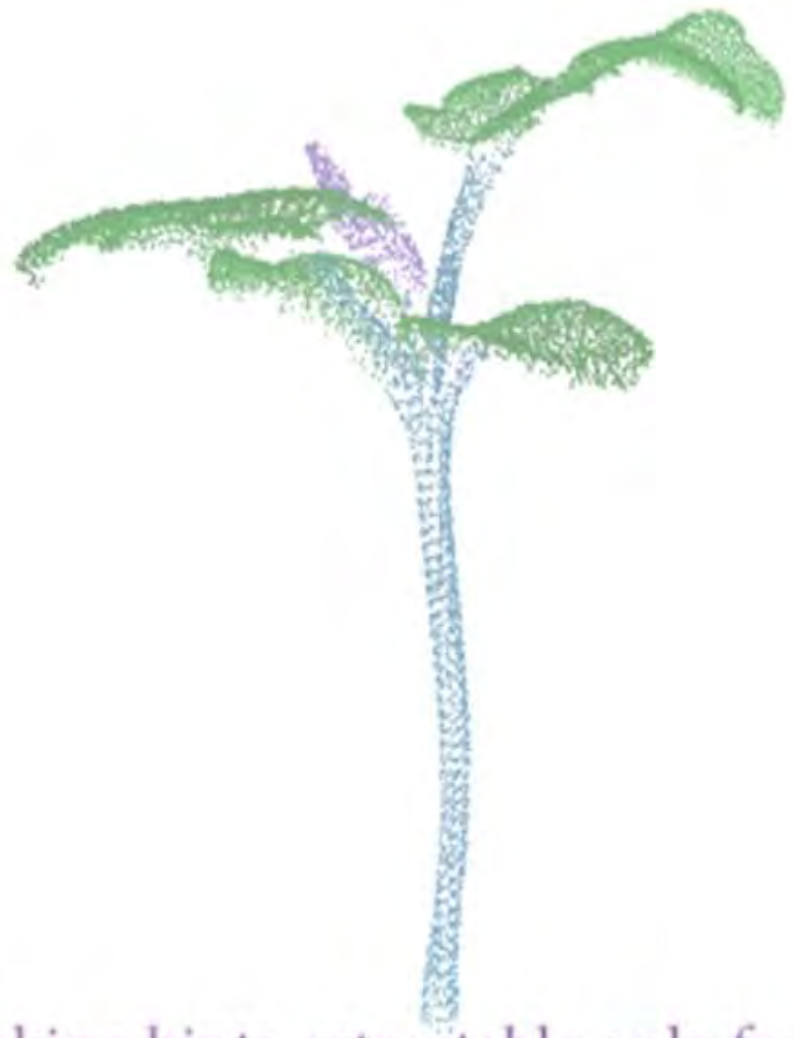


- **Spatial** and **temporal** adaption.
- Rarely relies on **global parameters**.



# Leaf-stem classification: data term (2)

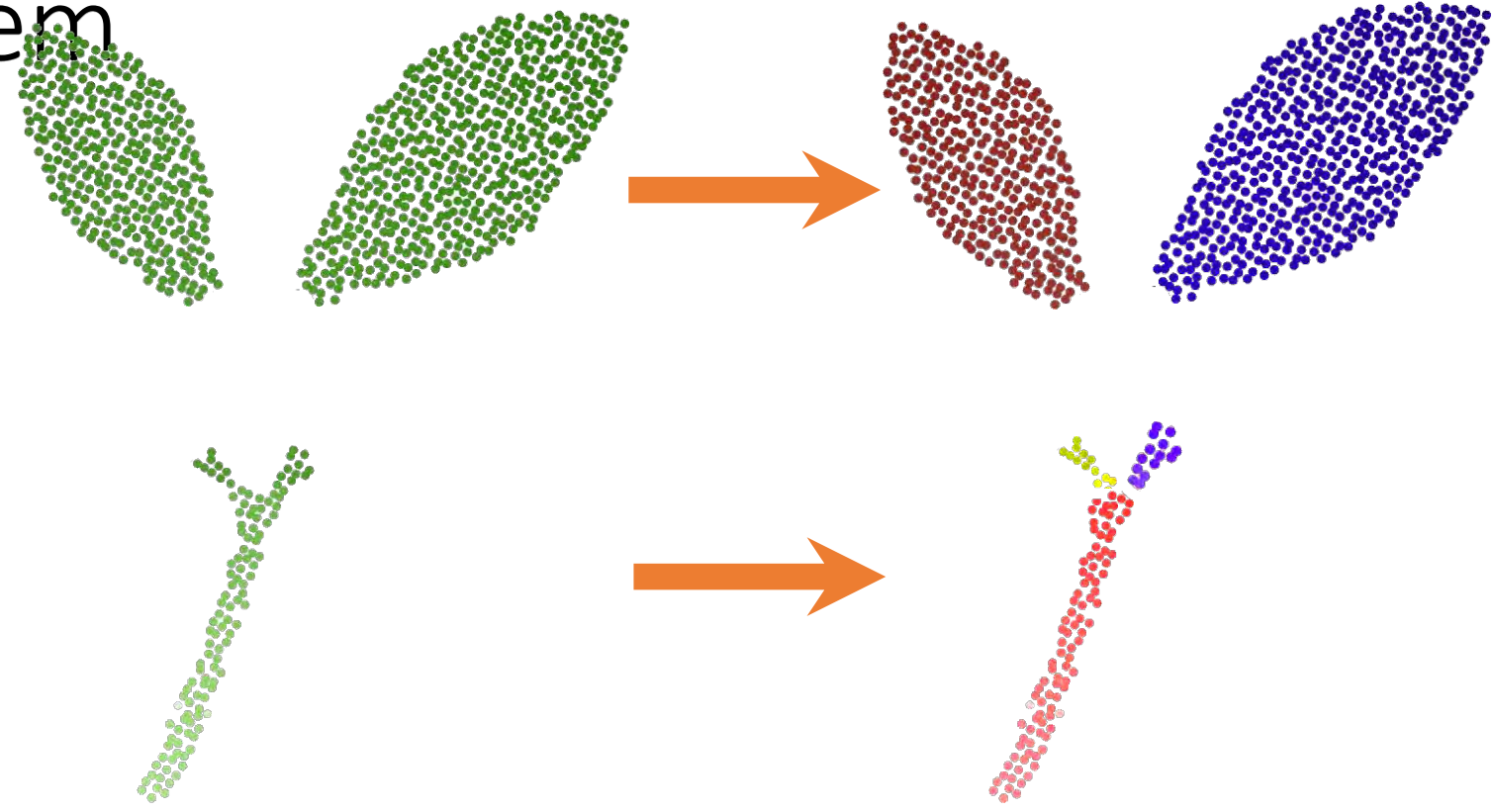




**backward** taking hints extractable only from future sequences

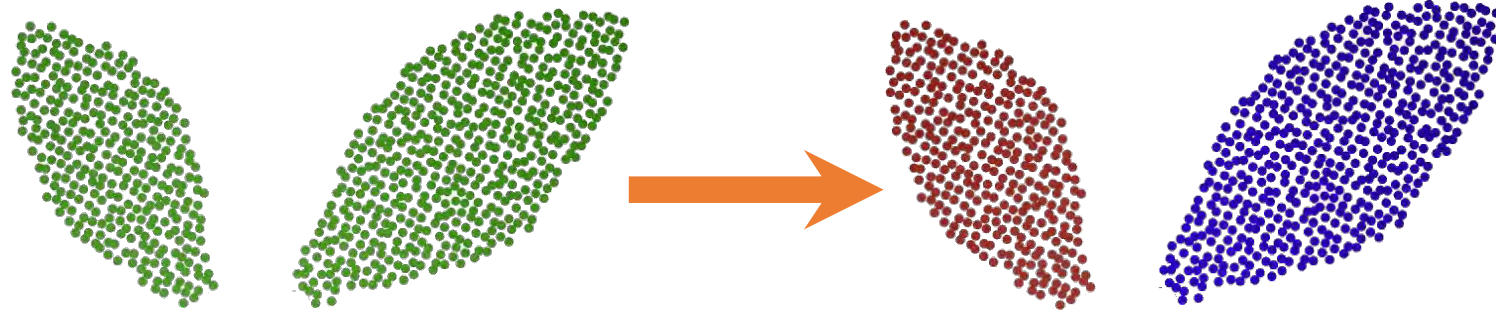


# Individual organ segmentation: Multi-labelling problem



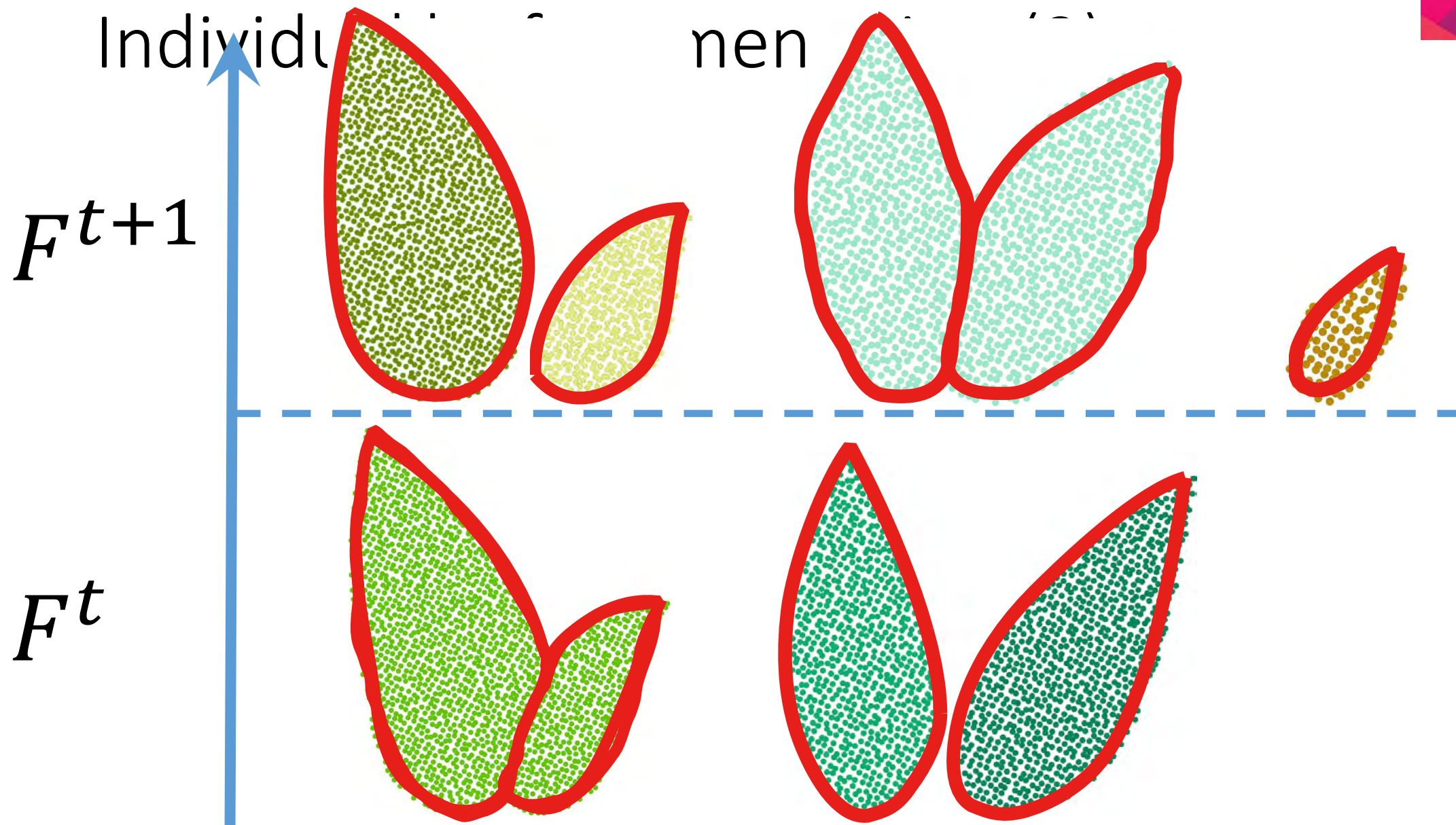
Label hypothesis generation + MRF optimization

# Individual leaf segmentation (1)

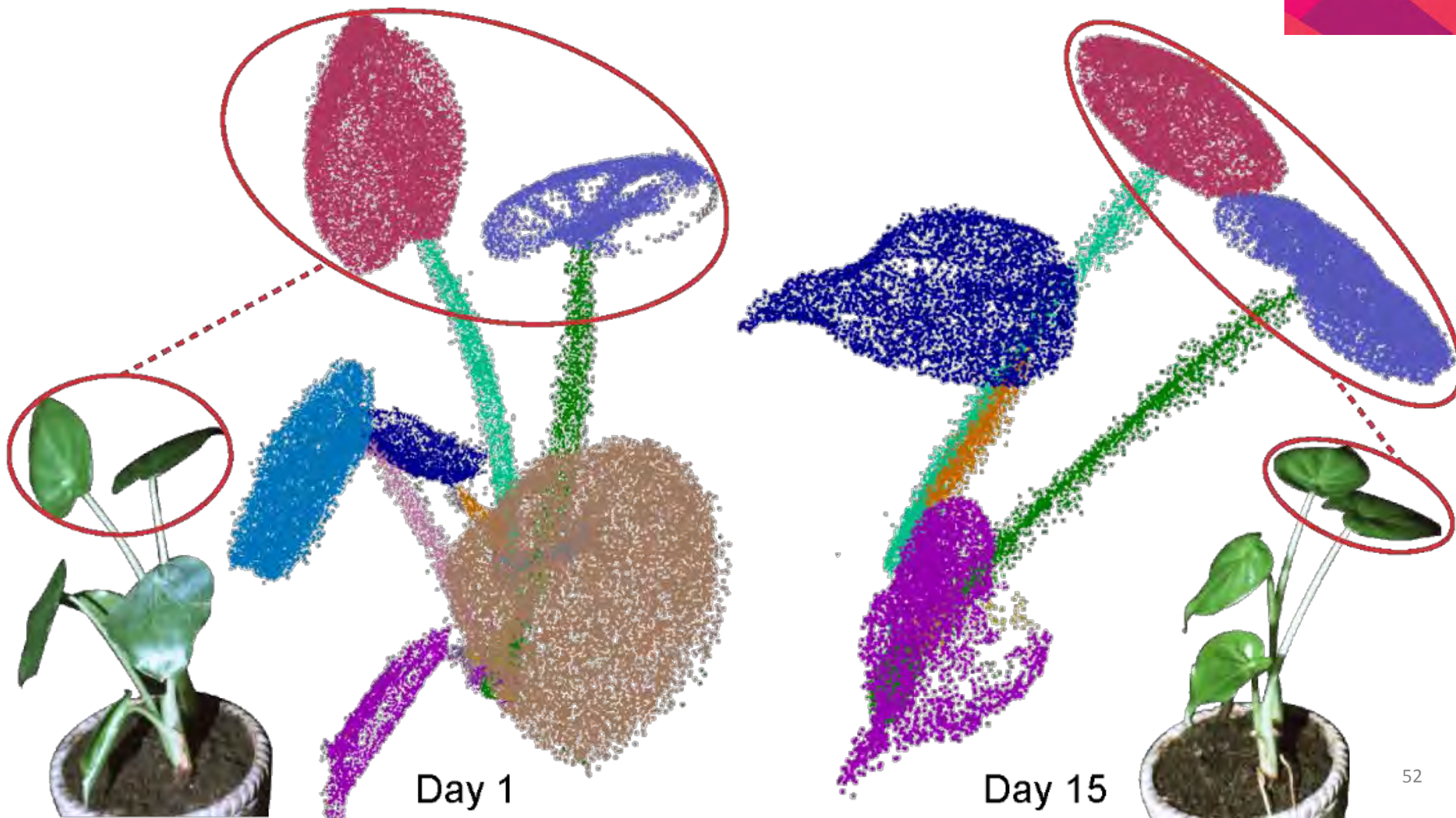


Individual leaf = one connected component  
(true, if the leaves don't touch each other)

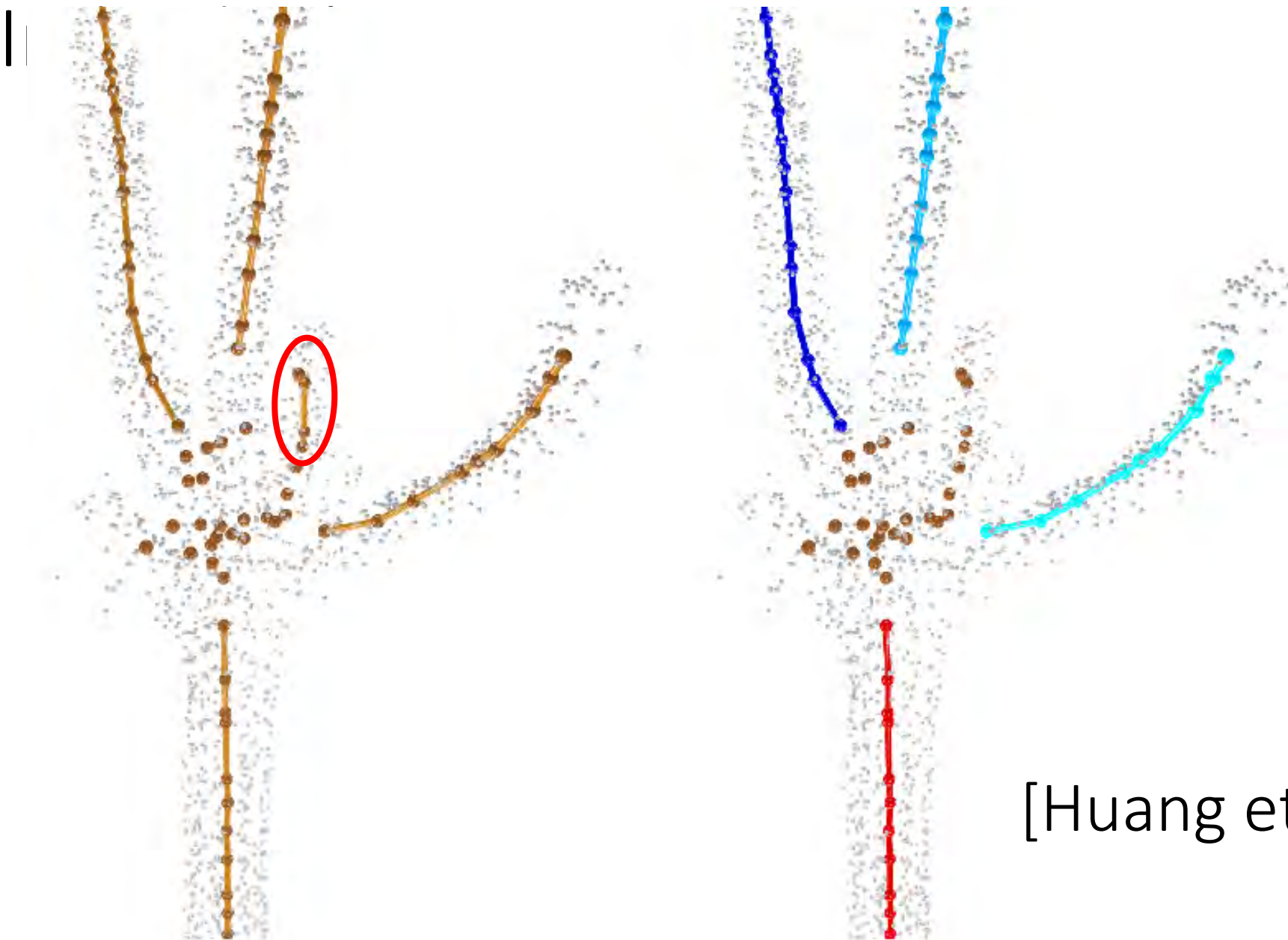




# Transfer leaf information over time







[Huang et al. 2013]

[Dishlia]



Day 1



[Segmentation for Simulation]

(using simulator from [Zhao and Barbič 2013])



# [Organ Properties for Simulation]



# [Synthesizing Live Plants]



captured plant growth

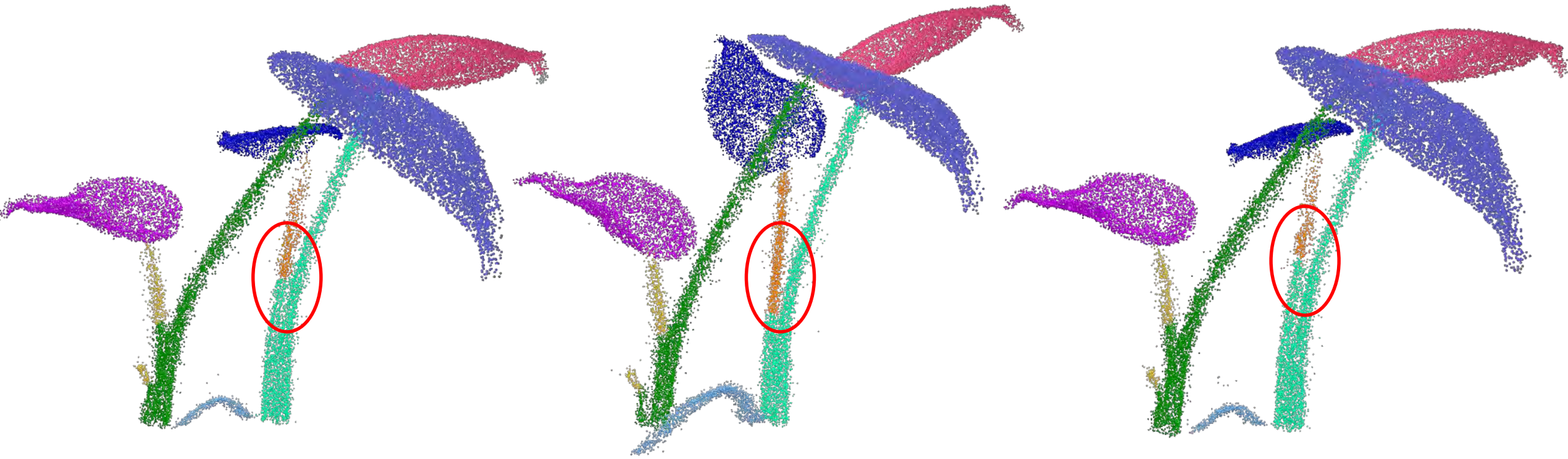


synthesized plant growth





# Future work: quantitative analysis



An important constraint is missing here:  
the volume of each organ should change gradually!

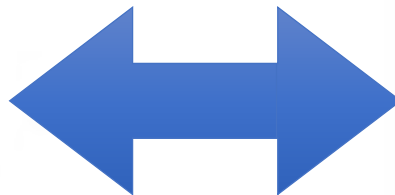
# Inverse Procedural Modeling of Trees

- Stava, O., Pirk, S., Kratt, J., Chen, B., Měch, R., Deussen, O., & Benes, B. (2014). ***Inverse procedural modeling of trees***. In Computer Graphics Forum (Vol. 33, No. 6, pp. 118-131).

# Procedural Modeling



?



```
Angle={COUNT} : set angle used by '+' and '-' below to 360/{COUNT}
Angle {COUNT} : set angle used by '+' and '-' below to 360/{COUNT}

Axiom={COMMANDS} : set starting set of commands to {COMMANDS}
Axiom {COMMANDS} : set starting set of commands to {COMMANDS}

{COUNT}+ : turn left {COUNT} times. if {COUNT} is omitted, use 1
{COUNT}- : turn right {COUNT} times. if {COUNT} is omitted, use 1

| : turn 180 degrees or the largest possible turn < 180 degrees

f : draw a line using the current direction/length
g : move forward instead of drawing

\{ANGLE} : turn left {ANGLE} degrees
/{ANGLE} : turn right {ANGLE} degrees

d : draw a line using the current direction/length
m : move forward instead of drawing

[ : save state (position, angle, size, etc.)
] : restore state

! : reverse the meaning of '+' and '-' and '\' and '/'

@{SCALE} : multiply the current line length by {SCALE}
@q{SCALE} : multiply the line length by the square root of {SCALE}
@I{SCALE} : multiply the line length by the reciprocal of {SCALE}

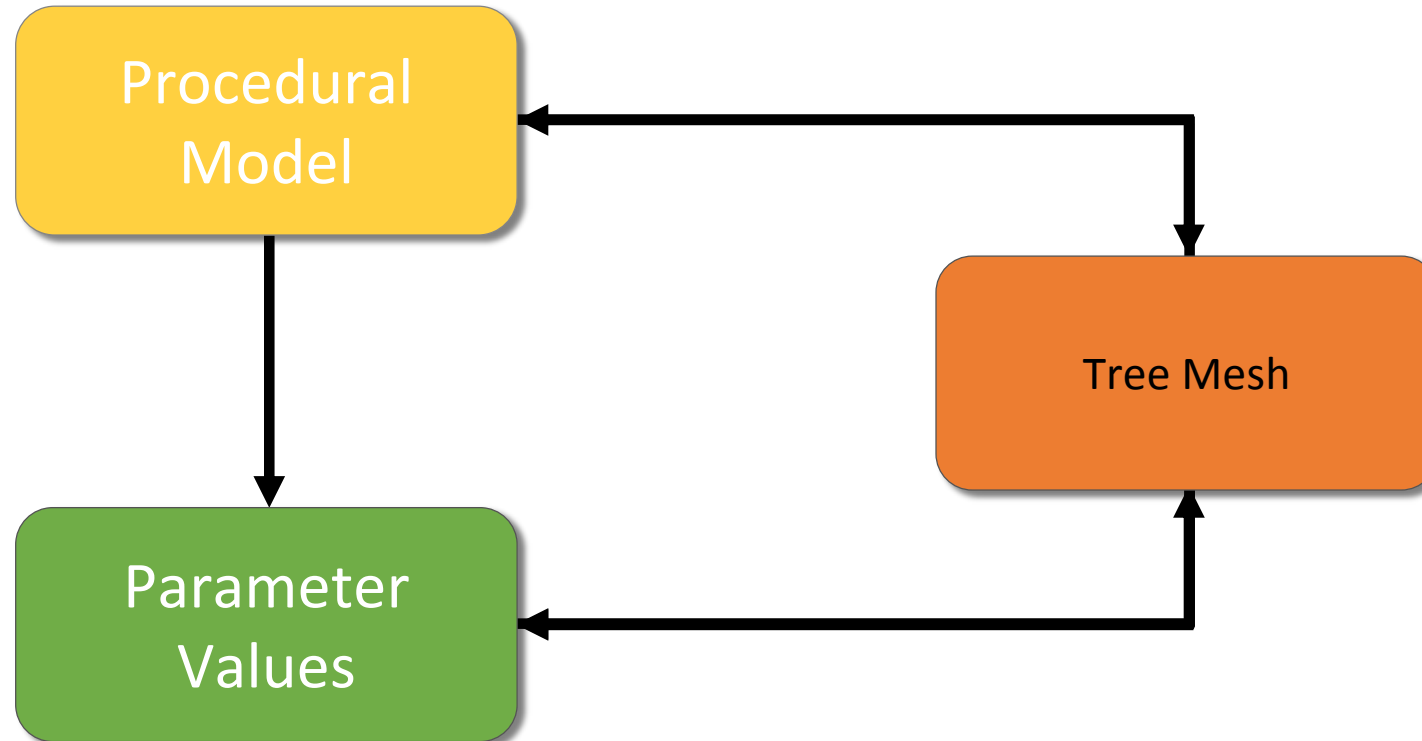
c{INDEX} : set color map index to {INDEX}

<{COUNT} : increment color map index by {COUNT}
>{COUNT} : decrement color map index by {COUNT}

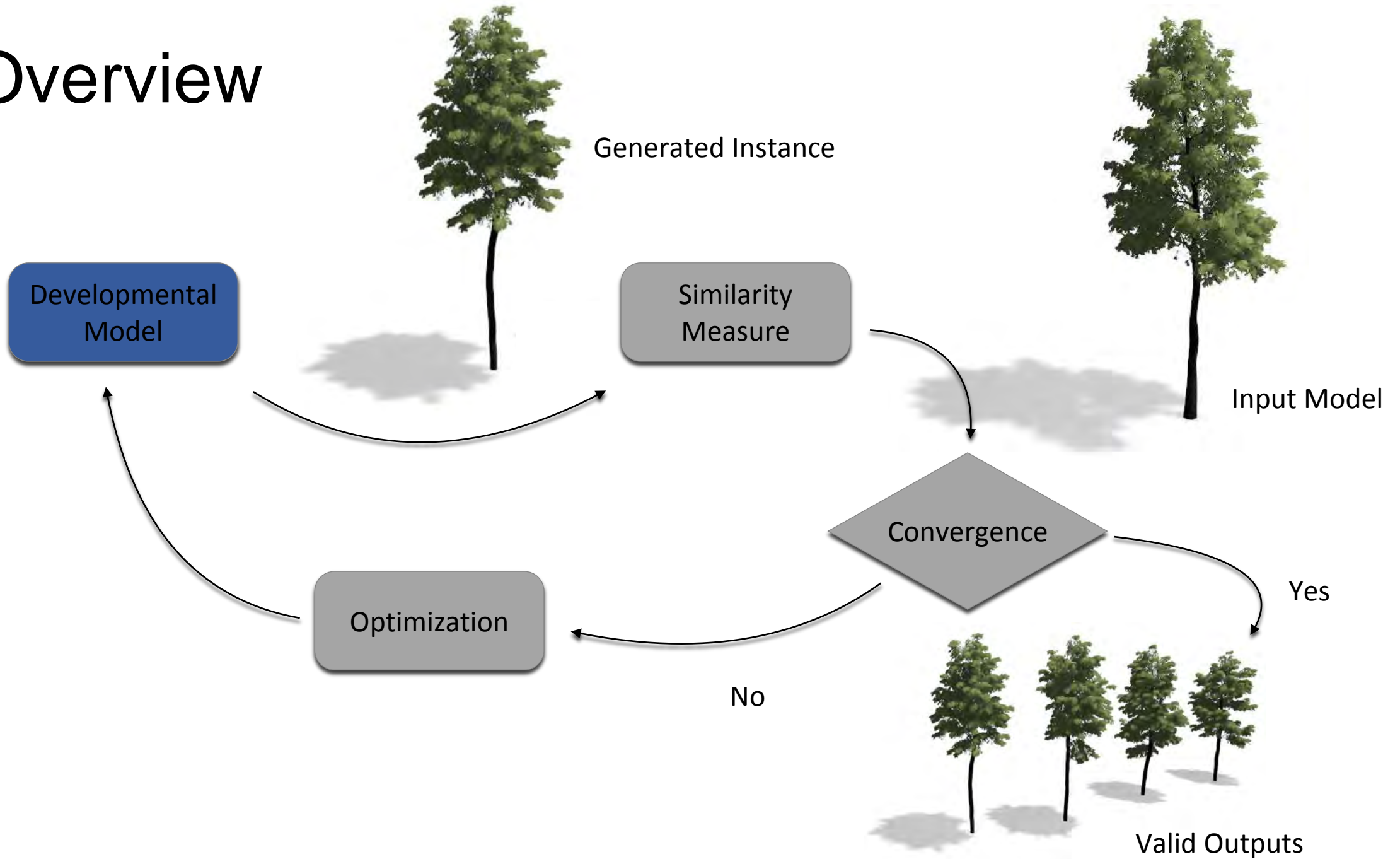
{LETTER}={COMMANDS} : associate {COMMANDS} with character {LETTER}
```



# Procedural Modeling

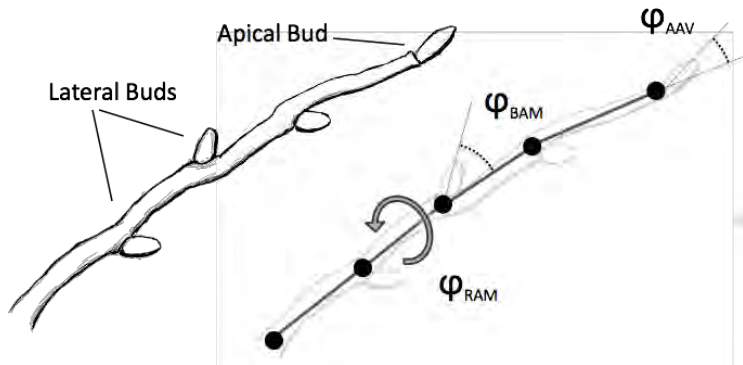


# Overview



# Developmental Model

- Captures new biological findings [Cline et al. 2006, Cline et al. 2009]
- Geometric, environmental and bud fate parameters
- Patch-based foliage modeling [Livny et al. 2011]





# Developmental Model



## Geometric Params

Growth Rate  
Internode Length  
Internode Angle Factor  
Apical Control Level  
Apical Dominance Factor

...

## Environment Params

Gravitropism  
Phototropism  
Pruning Factor  
Low Branch Pruning Factor  
Gravity-bending Strength

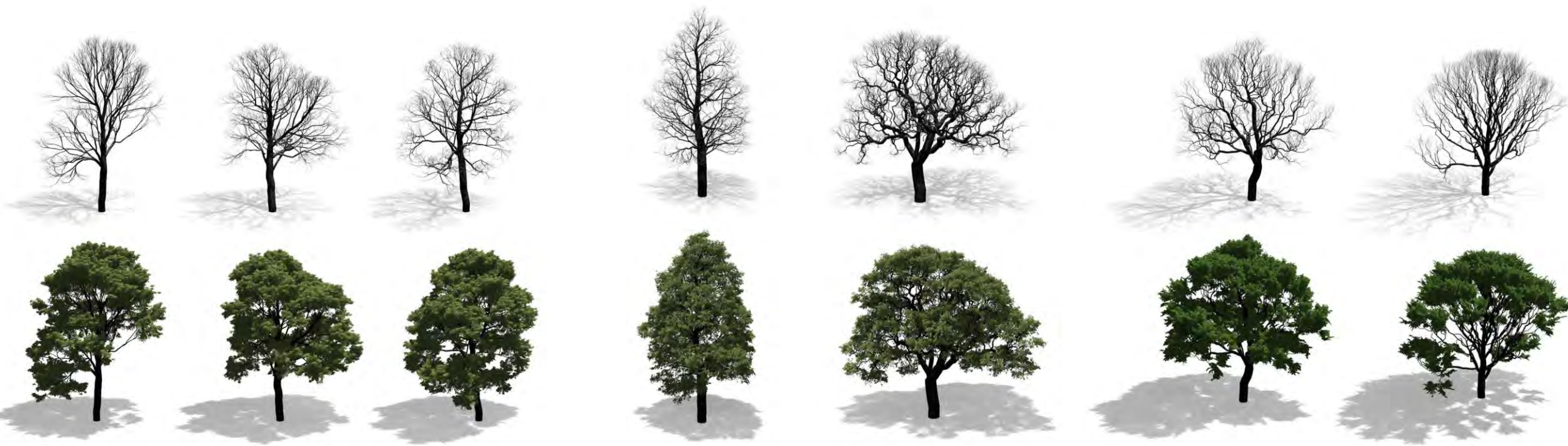
...

## Bud Fate Params

Apical Angle Variance  
Number of Lateral Buds  
Branching Angle Mean and Variance  
Roll Angle and Variance  
Apical and Lateral Light Factor

...

# Developmental Model



Increasing Branching Angle

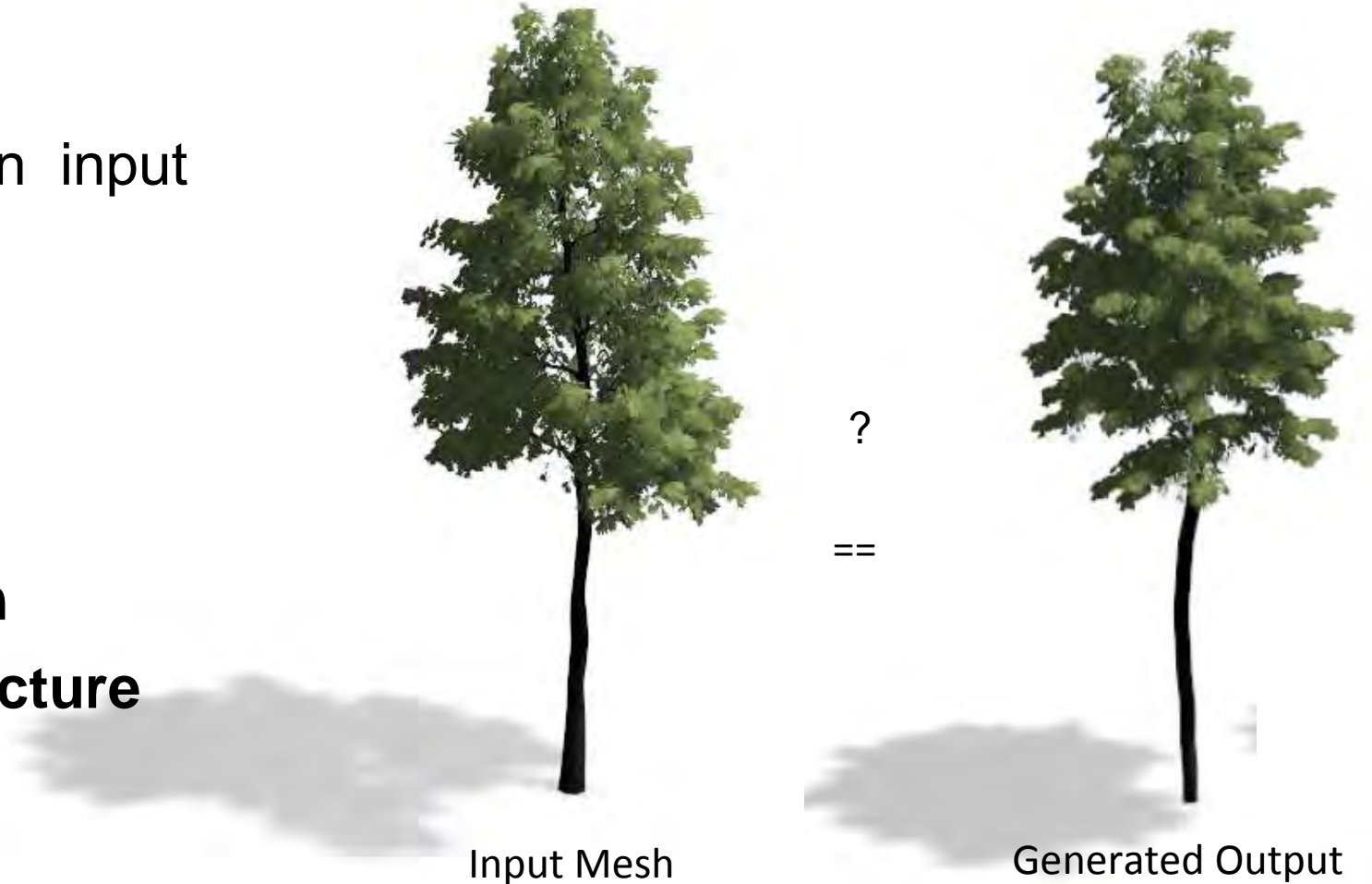
Decreasing Apical Control

Decreasing Apical Dominance

# Optimization

- Find parameters for developmental model
- Maximize similarity between input and generated instance
- What does similar mean?

**Fitness function based on geometry, shape and structure**

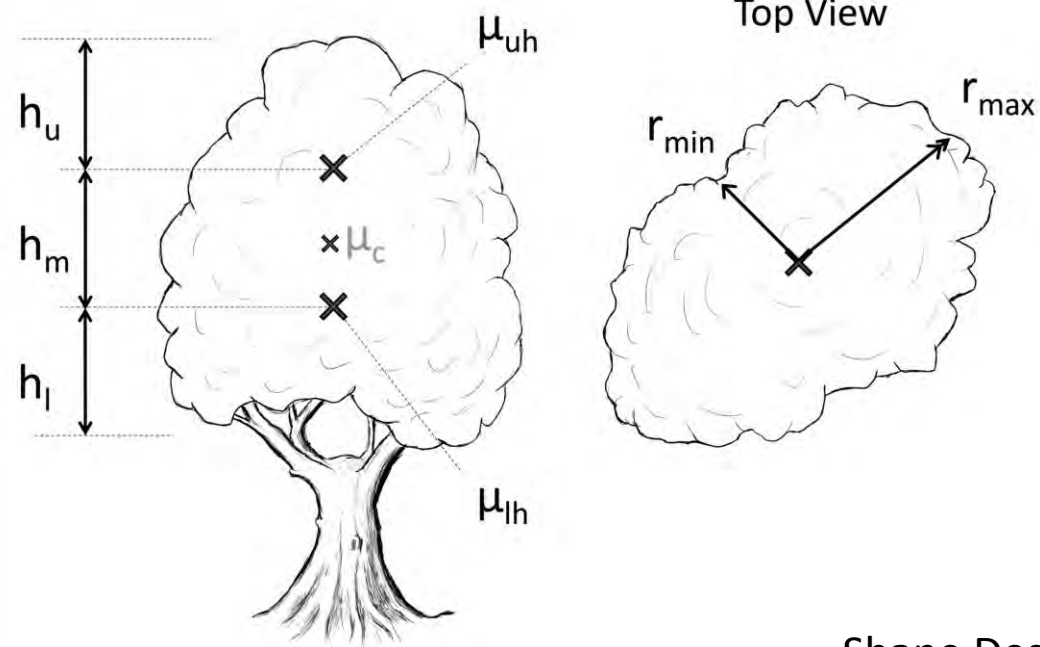




# Shape Distance

- Crown shape affected by distribution of branches
- Divide tree into slabs to capture variance
- Compute shape descriptors for each slab:

**Height, radius, principal directions, leaf-branch density**



Shape Descriptors

Difference of descriptors

$$\delta_{\lambda_{S,i}} = 1 - \exp\left(-\frac{(\lambda_{S,i}(\tau_1) - \lambda_{S,i}(\tau_2))^2}{2\sigma_{\lambda_{S,i}}^2}\right)$$

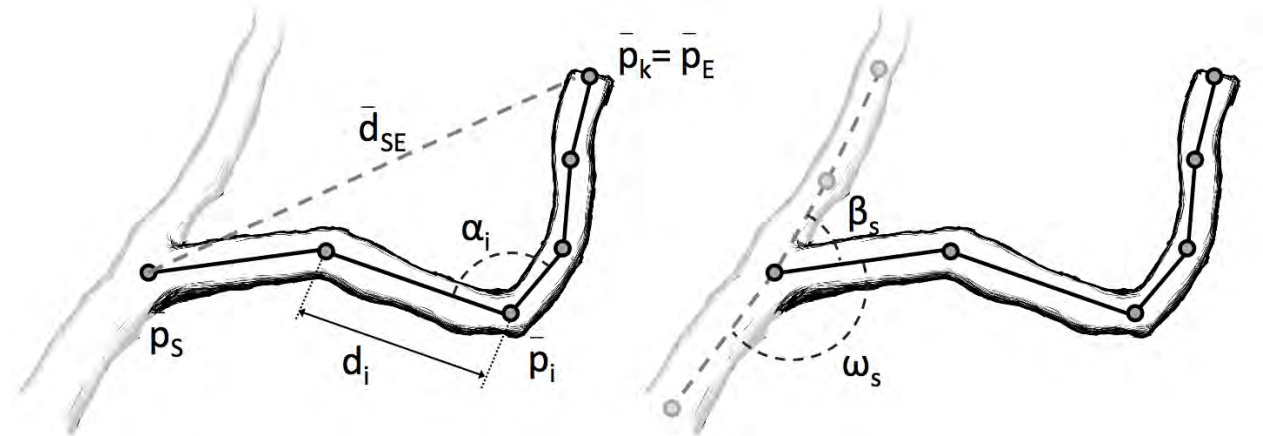
Normalization Factor



# Geometric Distance

- Statistics of branch geometry computed from the tree graph
- Sample weight based on length and thickness of a branch
- Descriptors are defined as mean and variance of these samples

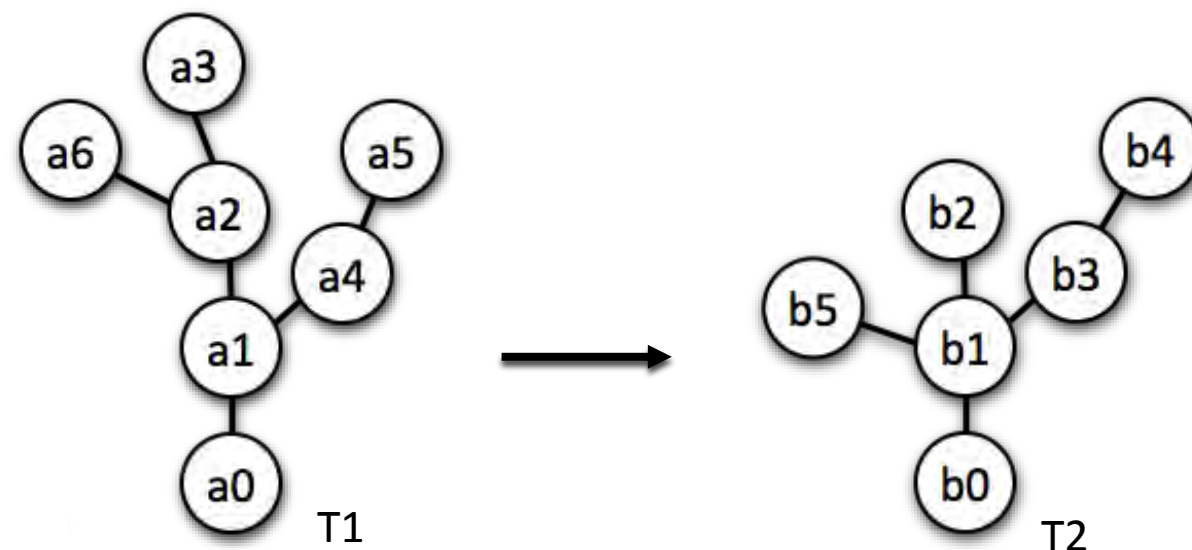
| Name          | Formula                     |
|---------------|-----------------------------|
| Length        | $\sum_{i=1}^k d_i$          |
| Thickness     | $\max_{\forall d_i} t_i$    |
| Deformation   | $\sum_{i=1}^{k-1} \alpha_i$ |
| Straightness  | $\frac{ d_{SE} }{b_L}$      |
| Slope         | $\angle \bar{d}_{SE}$       |
| Sibling Angle | $\beta_S$                   |
| Parent Angle  | $\omega_S$                  |



# Structural Distance

[Zhang 1996, Ferraro and Godin 2000]

- Transform graph T1 into graph T2
- Costs for transforming the nodes (edit distance)
- Possible transformations: **assign, insert, delete**
- Quickly loses accuracy when geometric resolution differs

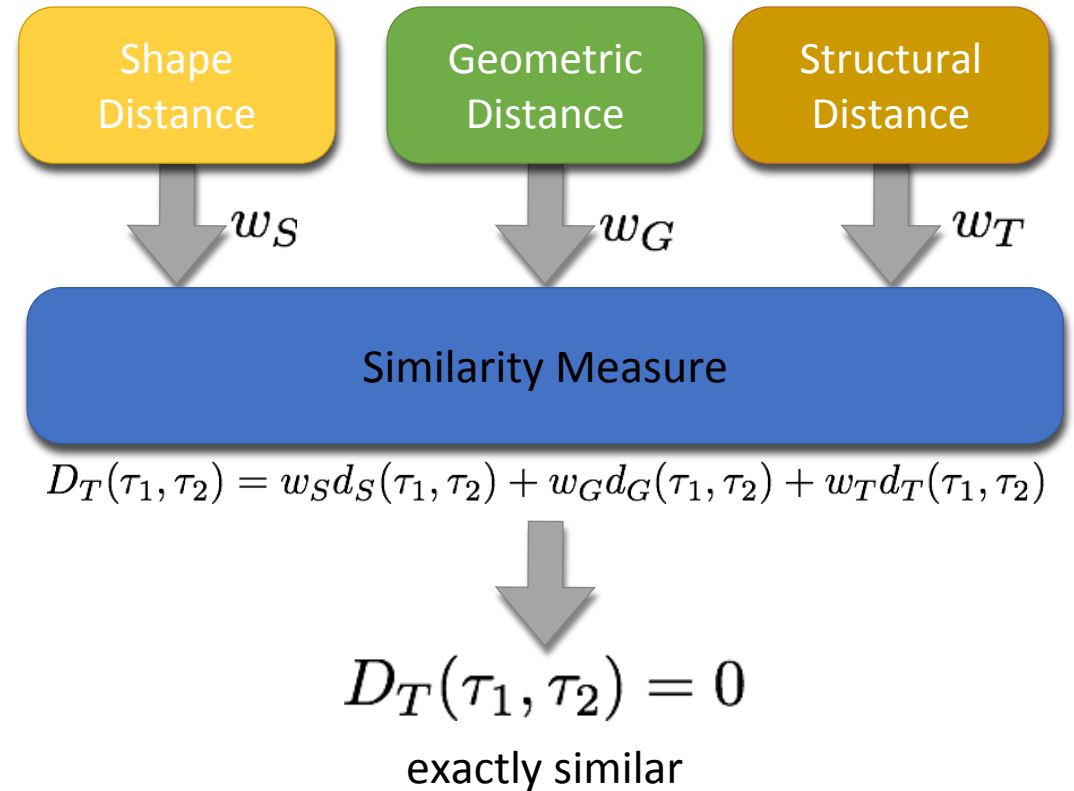


$$d_T(\tau_1, \tau_2) = \frac{d_N(t_1, t_2)}{2 \max(d_N(t_1, \varepsilon), d_N(\varepsilon, t_2))}$$

Labels and arrows in the diagram:  
- "Trees" points to  $\tau_1$  and  $\tau_2$ .  
- "Edit distance" points to  $d_N(t_1, t_2)$ .  
- "Structure-based distance" points to  $d_T(\tau_1, \tau_2)$ .  
- "Roots" points to  $\varepsilon$ .

# Similarity Measure

- The sum of shape-, geometry and structure-based distances
- Corresponding weights for each distance ( $w_S$ ,  $w_G$ ,  $w_T$ )
- Results generated with equal weight

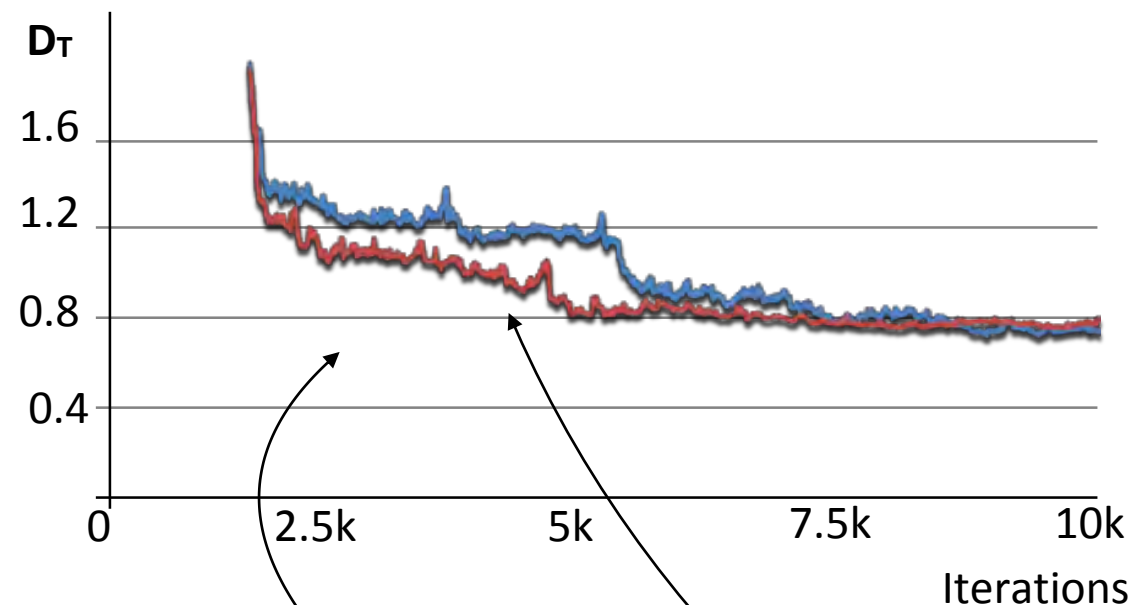


# Optimization of Parameters

- Find parameter set that generates „similar enough“ tree models
- Simulated annealing
- Stochastic sampling based on Metropolis-Hastings
- Solve approximate optimization problem:

$$\operatorname{argmin}_{\bar{\varphi}_{\mathcal{M},t}} \left( \sum_{\omega_j} D_T (\tau^r, \tau^{\mathcal{M}}(\omega_j)) \right)$$

[Metropolis et al. 1953]





# Performance

LiDAR

t[min]:  
43  
nodes:  
359



Xfrog

t[min]: 270  
nodes:  
2307



L-System

t[min]:  
12  
nodes:  
464



LiDAR

t[min]:  
85  
nodes:  
587



# Results



# Environment





# Interpolation of Parameters





# Different Species







# Modeling Plant Life in Computer Graphics

## User-assisted Modeling

Siggraph 2016 Course

Sören Pirk, Bedrich Benes, Takashi Ijiri, Yangyan Li,  
Oliver Deussen, Baoquan Chen, Radomír Měch



# Overview

- User-Assisted Plant Modeling [10 minutes]
  - Interactive Flower Modeling (**Ijiri**)
  - Sketch-based Tree Modeling (**Ijiri**)





# Introduction

## Plants and Trees

- Free form curves and surfaces
- Highly repetitive structures

## For modeling them

- Free form components
- Local structures
- Overall shapes

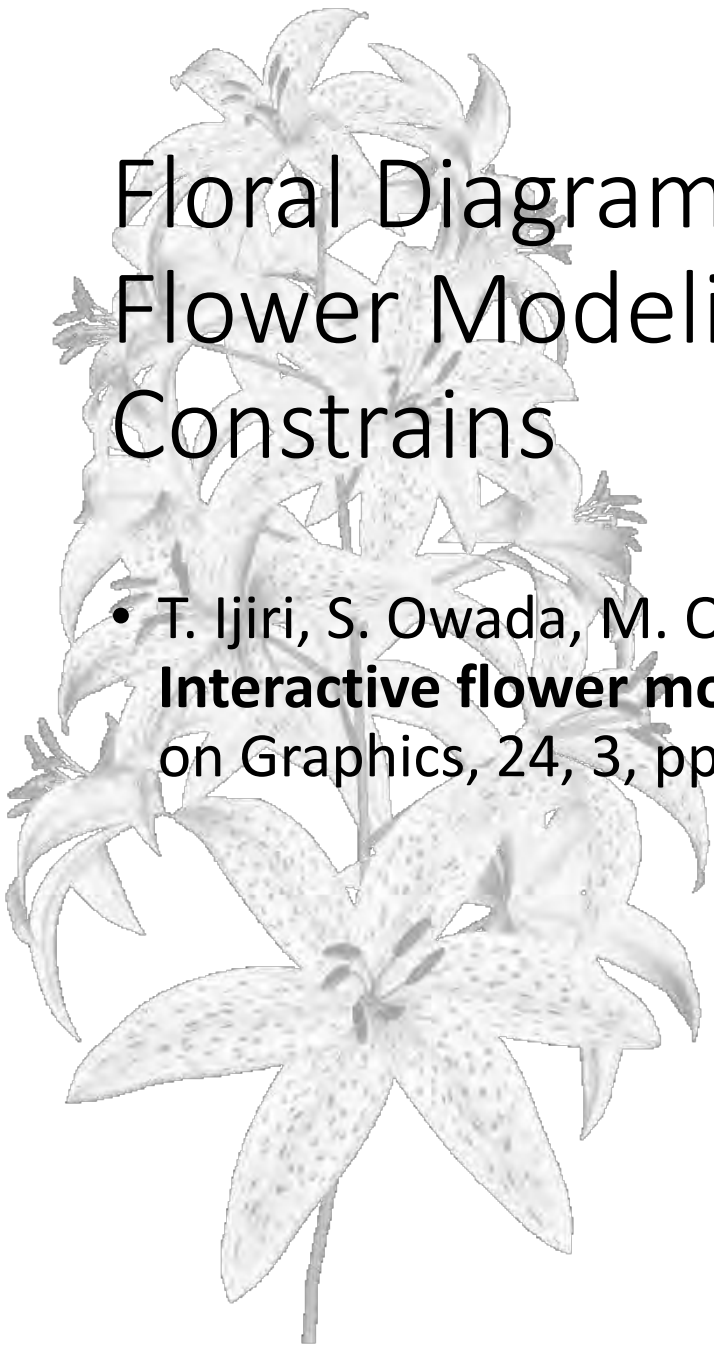
→ Sketch is well suited





# Floral Diagrams and Inflorescences: Interactive Flower Modeling Using Botanical Structural Constrains

- T. Ijiri, S. Owada, M. Okabe, and T. Igarashi: **Floral diagrams and inflorescences: Interactive flower modeling using botanical structural constraints.** Transactions on Graphics, 24, 3, pp. 720-726, 2005.



# Background

Flower Modeling is difficult



Many free form components

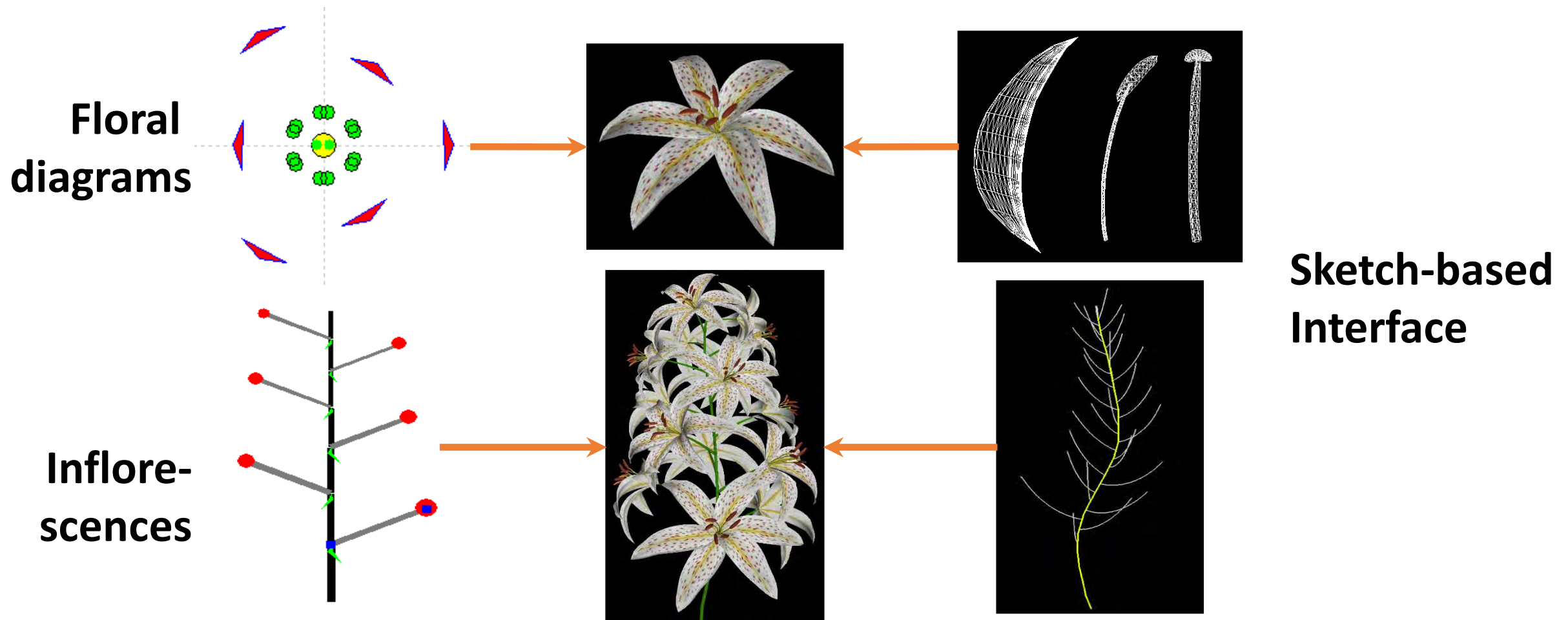


Structure specific to species

Goal : Easy-to-use interactive flower modeling framework

# Key idea

- Separate “structural specification” and “Geometry modeling”

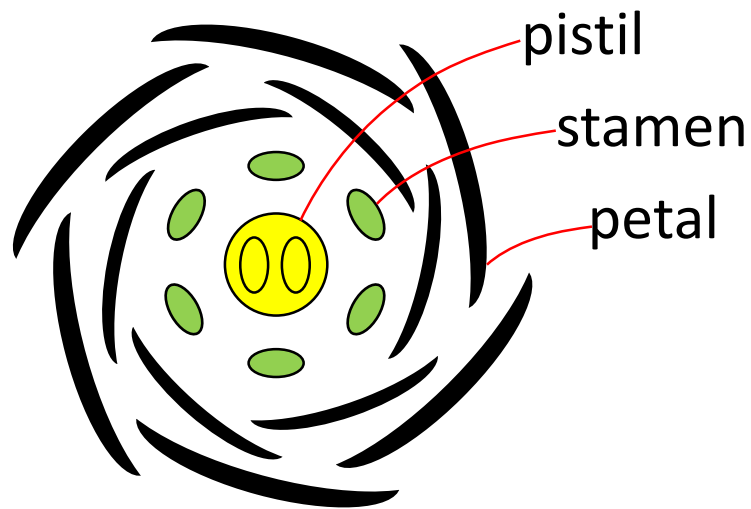




# Design editor by using botanical representation

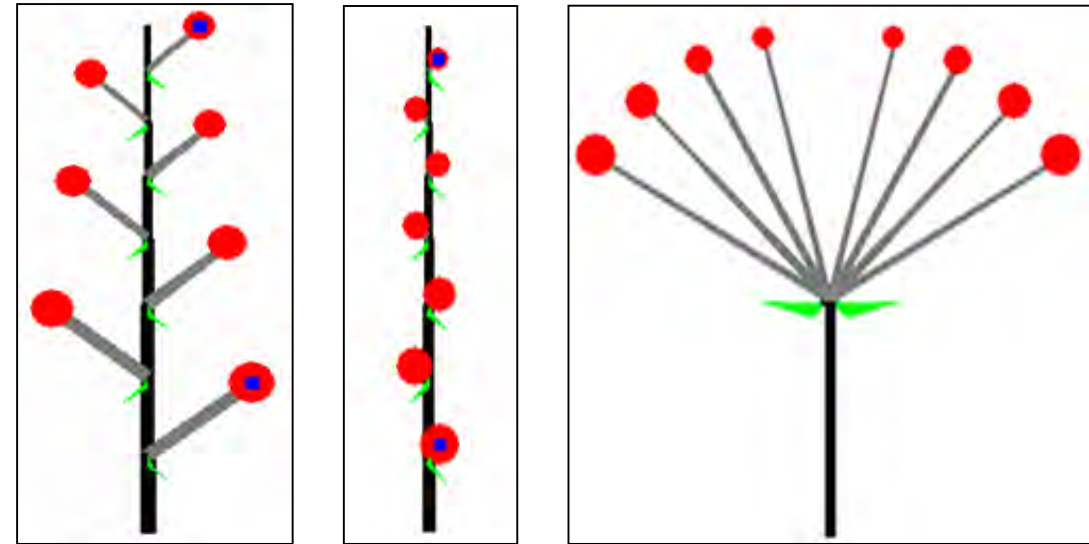
## Floral Diagrams

Arrangement of flower components



## Inflorescences

A branch bearing a lot of small flowers



[Bell. Plants form, *Timber press*, 1991]

→ Design structure editors based on them

# Modeling process (Demo)





# Summary

Easy to use flower modeling tool

Divide modeling process

- + structure editing

- + geometry modeling

# The Sketch L-System: Global Control of Tree Modeling using Free-form Strokes

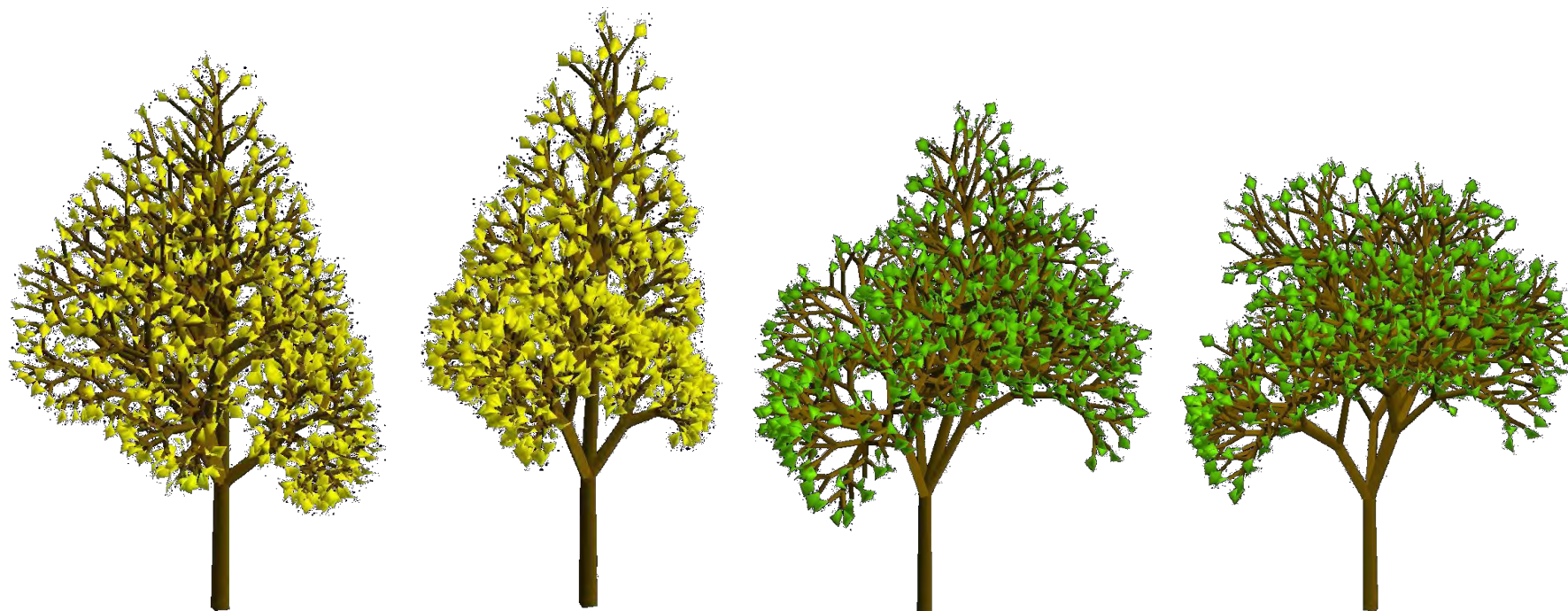
- Ijiri T., Owada S., Igarashi T.: **The sketch L-system: Global control of tree modeling using free-form strokes.** In Smart Graphics 2006, Vol. Volume 4073 of *Lecture Notes in Computer Science*, Springer, pp. pp.138-146.





# Our Goal

- Easy-to-use tree modeling framework
- Large **variations** of trees with a little effort



# Our idea

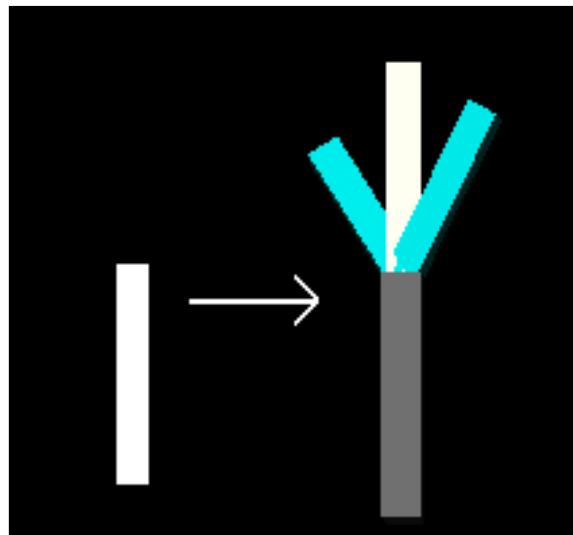
Combine two frameworks !!

- L-System → Describe complicated branching structures
- Sketch → Specify global appearance

|                  | L-System | Sketch |
|------------------|----------|--------|
| Detail structure | Good     | Bad    |
| Overall Shape    | Bad      | Good   |

# Introduce two elements to L-System

- Interaction module
  - Its growing direction is decided by the stroke
- Sketch interface for controlling growth of L-System
  - Central axis & depth of recursion



Interaction module

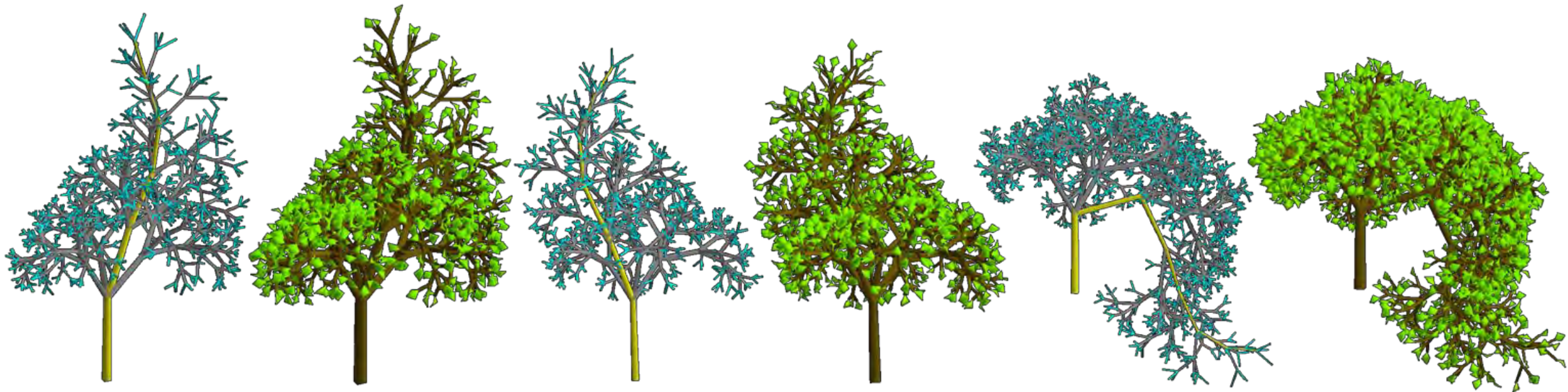


Sketch interface



# Summary

- Combined sketch and L-system
- Large variation of trees with a little effort
- Only a simple trial and many future work
  - Specify overall shapes, Specify the shape of 2<sup>nd</sup> branches





# Conclusion : user assisted modeling

- **Sketch based Interface** : global shapes
- **Procedural approach** : local structures
- **Their combination becomes powerful tool for plant modeling**

Many sketch based plant modeling tools appear

## **Sketch-based tree modeling**

[Longay et al. SBIM 2012]

[Wither et al. 2009]

[Chen et al. SIGGRAPH ASIA 2008]

[Okabe et al. EuroGraphics 2005]

## **Sketch-based plant modeling**

[Anastacio et al. CG 2005]

## **Sketch-based Ornament modeling**

[LU et al. SIGGRAPH 2014]

[MECH and MILLER, JCGT, 2012]

# Additional references

## Sketch based tree modeling

LONGAY, S., RUNIONS, A., BOUDON, F., AND PRUSINKIEWICZ, P. Treesketch: Interactive procedural modeling of trees on a tablet. In Proc. SBIM, 107–120, 2012

Jamie Wither, Frederic Boudon, Marie-Paule Cani, Christophe Godin. Structure from silhouettes: a new paradigm for fast sketch-based design of trees. Computer Graphics Forum, Wiley, 28 (2), pp.541-550, 2009

Xuejin Chen, Boris Nerburt, Ying-Qing Xu, Oliver Deussen, Sing Bing Kang. Sketch-Based Tree Modeling Using Markov Random Field. ACM Siggraph Asia and Transaction on Graphics, Vol. 27, No. 5, 2008

OKABE, M., OWADA, S., AND IGARASHI, T. Interactive design of botanical trees using freehand sketches and example based editing. Comput. Graph. Forum 24, 3, 487–496, 2005.

## Sketch-based plant modeling

ANASTACIO, F., PRUSINKIEWICZ, P., AND SOUSA, M. Sketch-based parameterization of L-systems using illustration inspired construction lines and depth modulation. Comput. Graph. 33, 4, 440–451, 2009

## Sketch-based Ornament modeling

LU, J., BARNES, C., WAN, C., ASENTE, P., MECH, R., AND FINKELSTEIN, A. Decobrush: Drawing structured decorative patterns by example. ACM Transactions on Graphics, 2014.

MECH, R., AND MILLER, G. The Deco framework for interactive procedural modeling. Journal of Computer Graphics Techniques (JCGT) 1, 1 (Dec), 43–99, 2012.

# Modeling Plant Life in Computer Graphics

## Conclusion

Siggraph 2016 Course

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# What did we learn?

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- **Introduction to vegetation modeling** in computer graphics.
- **Plant anatomy, plant growth, and environmental response** as a way to model plant geometry.
- Environmental response algorithms, such as **space colonization and self-organizing model**.





# What did we learn?

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- Algorithms for tree and flower **reconstruction from various data sources**, such as point sets, images, videos and CT.
- **Inverse Procedural Modeling** of Trees.
- **Sketch-based interface** for plant modeling.





# Open problems

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## 1. Modeling

*Can we algorithmically describe a shape of a plant?*

## 2. Controllability

*How can an artist generate a plant with a desired shape?*

## 3. Evaluation

*How can we say the model is real?*

## 4. Reconstruction

*How can we get a model from a real-world sample?*



# Q&A

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**Course material available at:**

**<http://goo.gl/PaJjy4>**