

# *Advanced 3D Graphics*

## *Part 1: Creative AI*

### *Week 2: Extension to Virtual Worlds* *(continued)*

**Marie-Paule Cani**



# *In this course*

## *How to create, animate & control virtual worlds?*

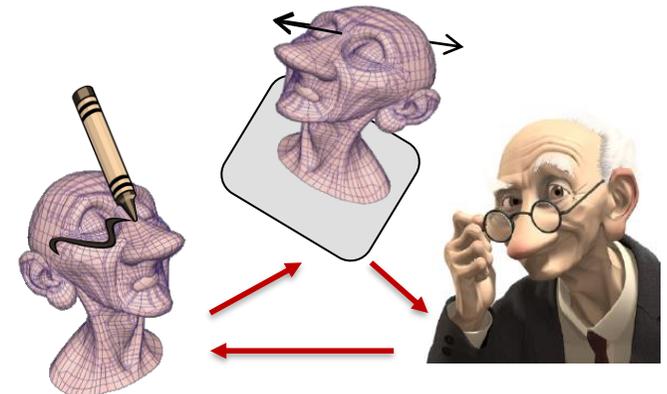
### *Methodology*

- A. Procedural modeling → **Indirect control**
- B. Layered models for animation ↑
- C. **Expressive design ?**



### *Reminder: Expressive 3D modeling*

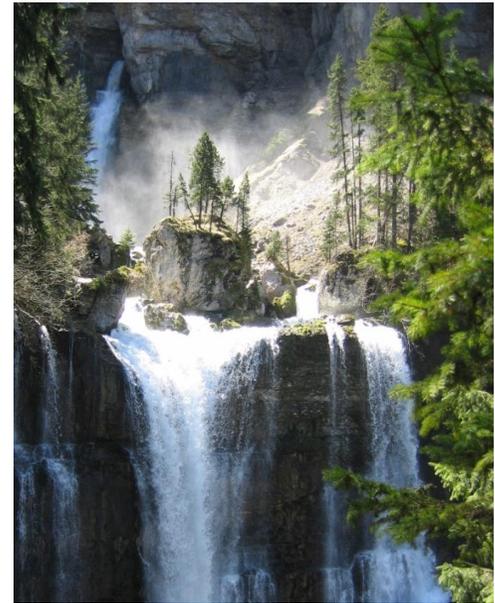
- Gesture-based control
- Knowledge in the models  
... from priors or learnt !



- A. Procedural modeling
- B. Layered animation
- C. Expressive design

## *Virtual Worlds Main challenges*

- Huge numbers of elements, all different
- Multiple rules to maintain
  - Shapes: geology, biology, statistics
  - Motion: dynamics, mass preservation
- Complex interactions & time-evolution
  - Water with terrain
  - Ecosystems with resources



### *Expressive creation and control?*

- How can we combine knowledge with user control?  
Case studies : terrains, streams & falls, vegetation...



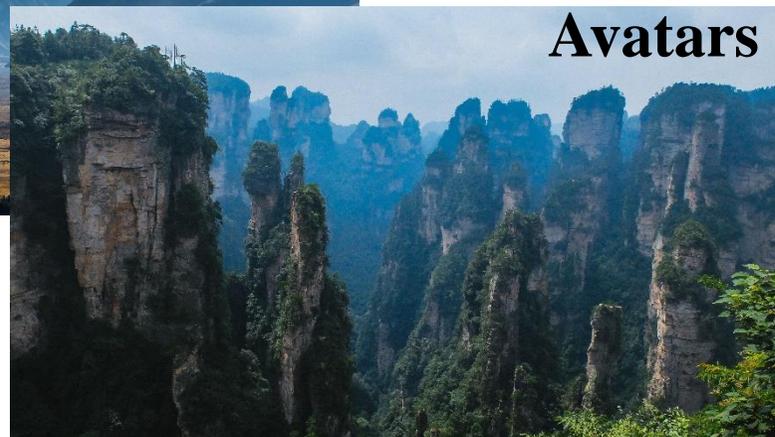
- A. Procedural modeling
- B. Layered animation
- C. Expressive design

# *Case 1 : Terrains*

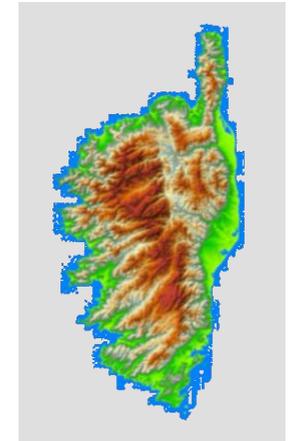
## *First person authoring?*

### Challenges

- Complex shape, geophysical rules
- To be designed from a specific viewpoint



Editing a highmap?  
Not applicable!



Hightmap = 2D  
grid with altitudes



- A. Procedural modeling
- B. Layered animation
- C. Expressive design

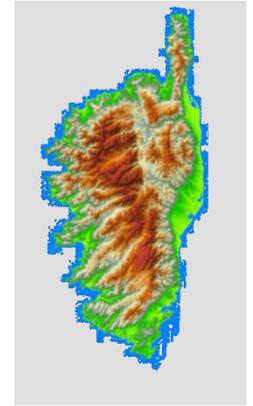
# *Case 1 : Terrains*

## *First person authoring?*

### Challenges

- Complex shape, geophysical rules
- To be designed from a specific viewpoint!

Editing a  
highmap not  
applicable.  
→

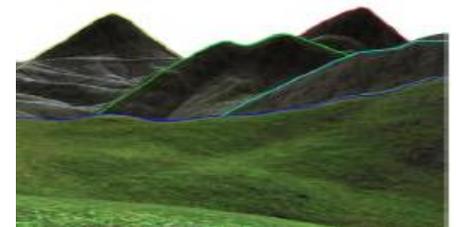


### Key ideas

- Draw silhouettes from the view-point of interest
- Deformation of an existing, detailed terrain!

### Extend sketch-based modeling

- Complex sketches
- Non planar silhouettes
- Use silhouettes as deformers!



- A. Procedural modeling
- B. Layered animation
- C. Expressive design

# Case 1 : Terrains

## Analyzing complex sketches

### Sweeping algorithm [Tasse 2014]

- From left to right, compute relative depth

Input strokes

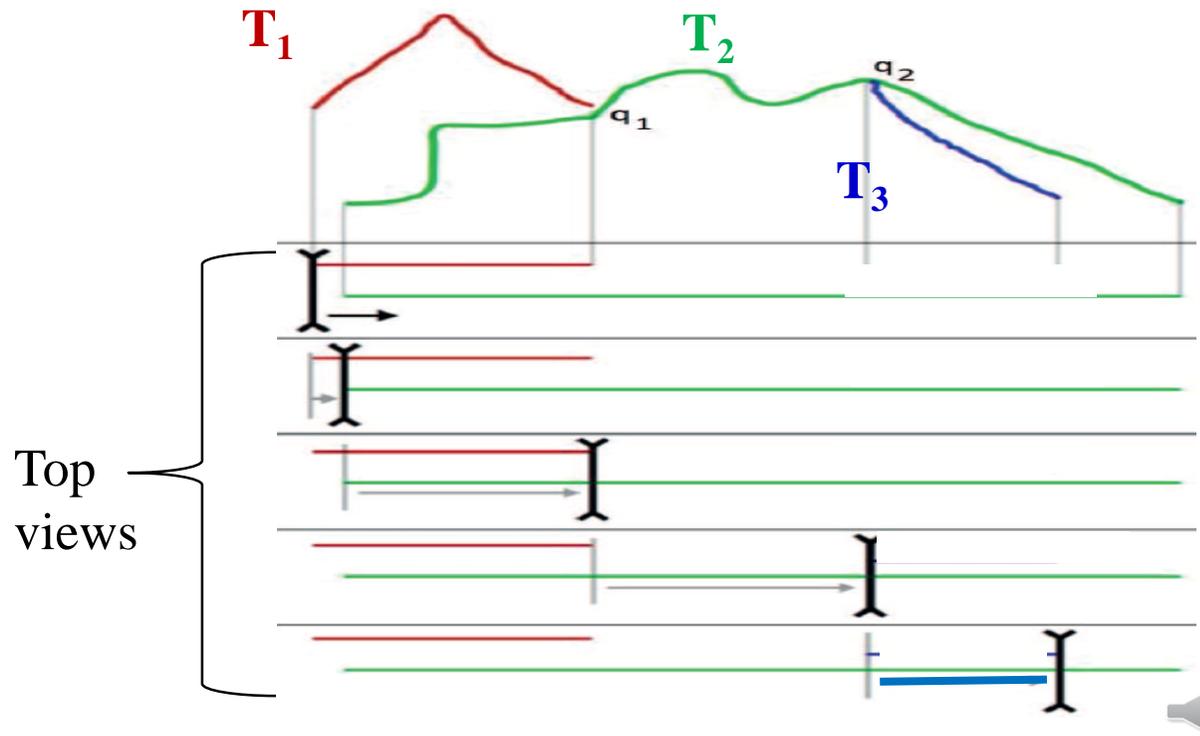
Start with  $T_1$   $T_2$

$T_1$  behind  $T_2$

End  $T_1$

$T_3$  in front of  $T_2$

End  $T_3$



- A. Procedural modeling
- B. Layered animation
- C. Expressive design

## *Case 1 : Terrains*

### *Matching strokes & terrain features*

#### **Precompute terrain features**

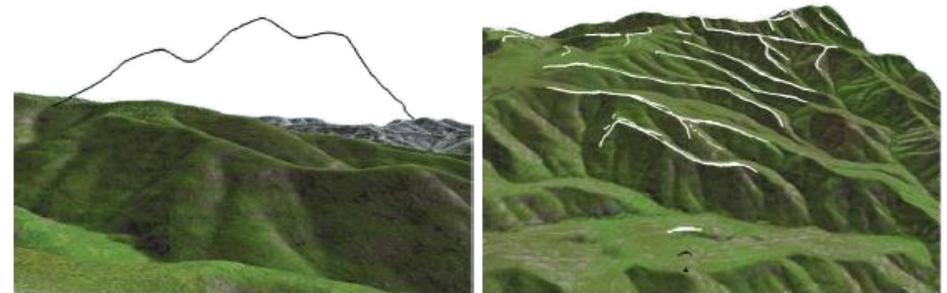
- Silhouettes & ridges

#### **For each pair (stroke, feature)**

- Compute deformation cost from viewpoint of interest

#### **Branch & Bound matching**

- Preserve order, favor closest



(a) User sketch

(b) Feature detection



#### **Diffuse elevation changes to match strokes (Multi-grid Poisson solver)**

- Lower unwanted silhouette if needed, and iterate

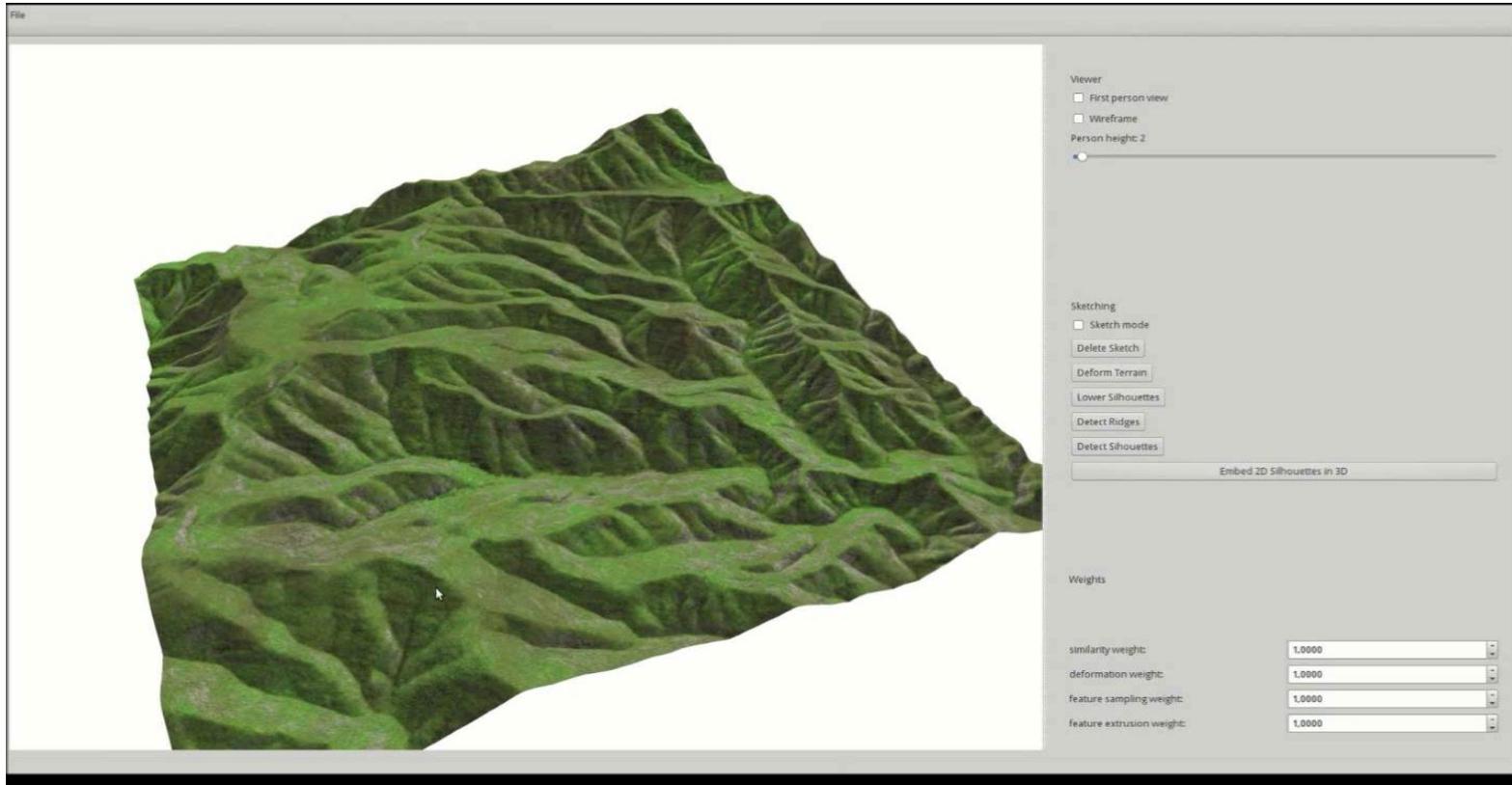


- A. Procedural modeling
- B. Layered animation
- C. Expressive design

*[Tasse 2014]*

## *Case 1 : Terrains*

### *First person authoring*



No guarantee of any geomorphological consistency !



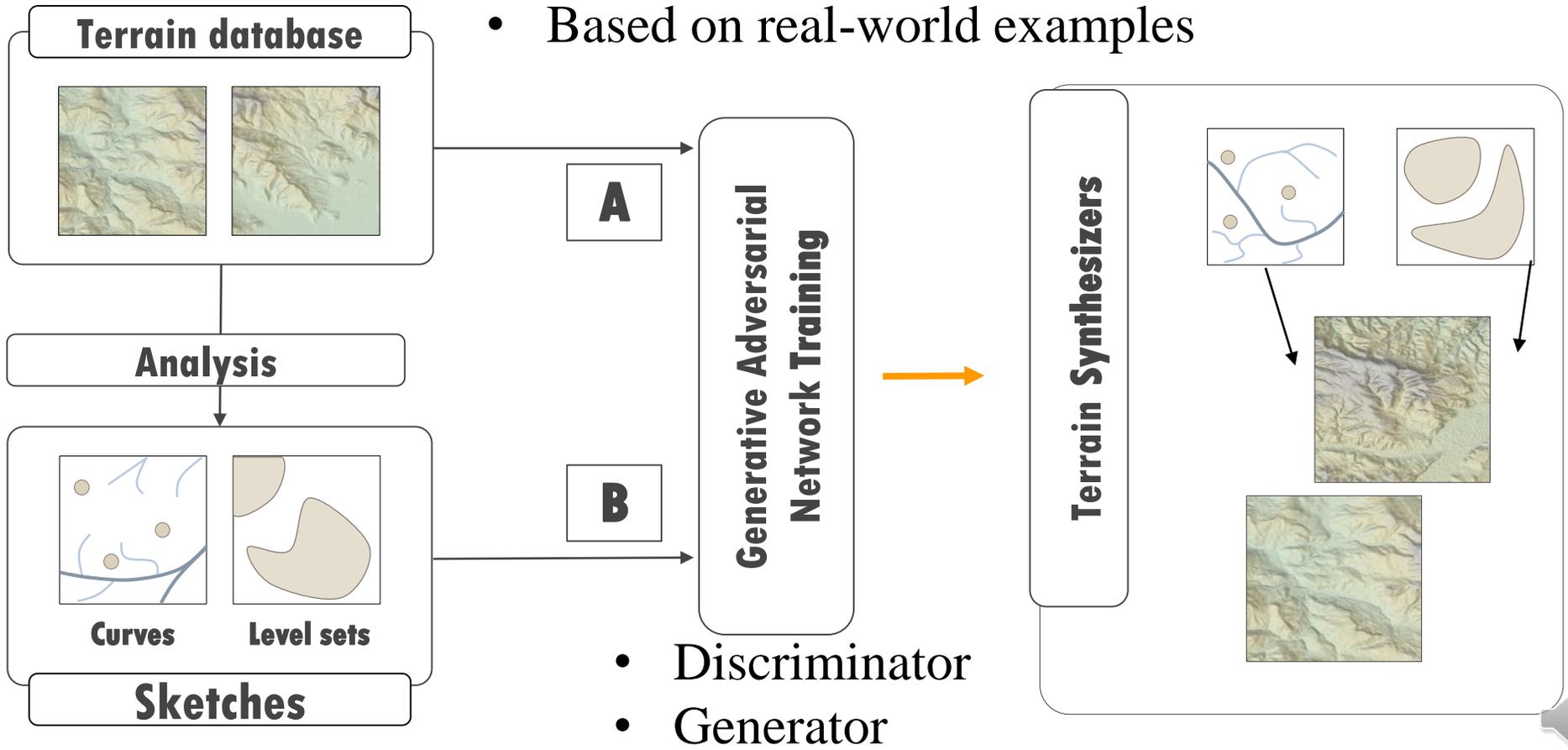
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# Case 1 : Terrains

## Deep sketch-based modeling

[Guérin2017]

- Adversarial neural network (generator, discriminator)
- Based on real-world examples

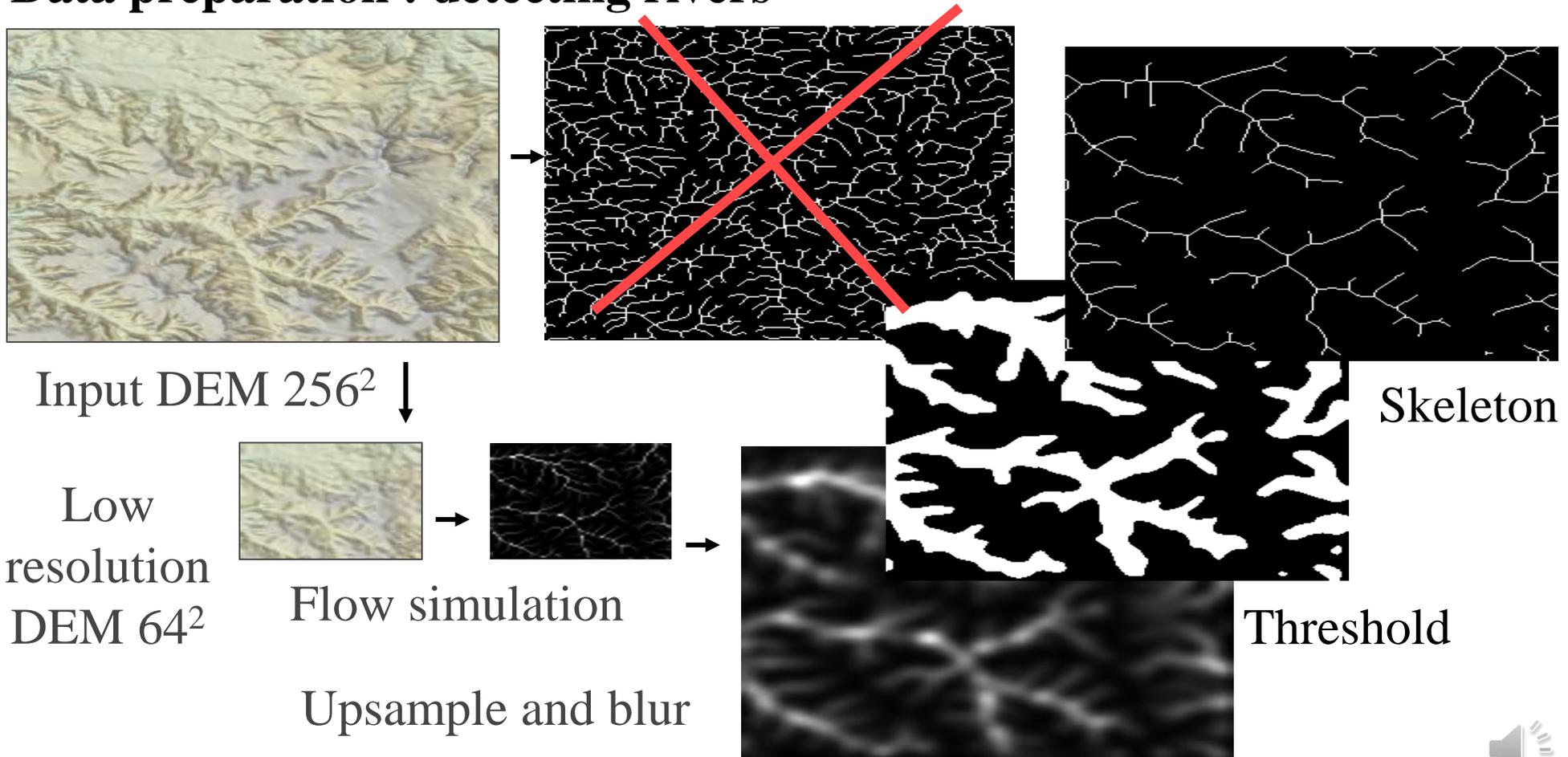


# Case 1 : Terrains

[Guérin2017]

## Deep sketch-based modeling

### Data preparation : detecting rivers

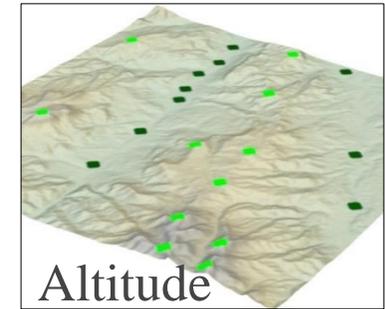
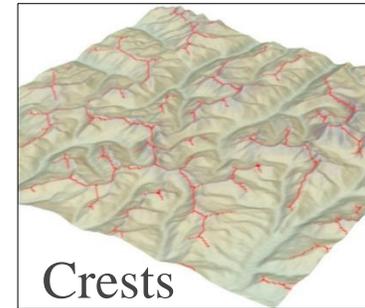
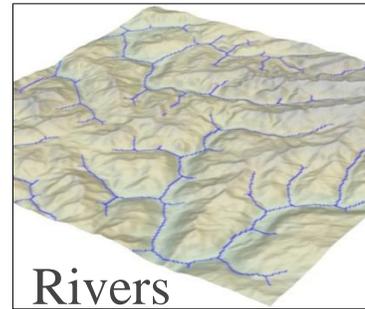


# Case 1 : Terrains

[Guérin2017]

## Deep sketch-based modeling

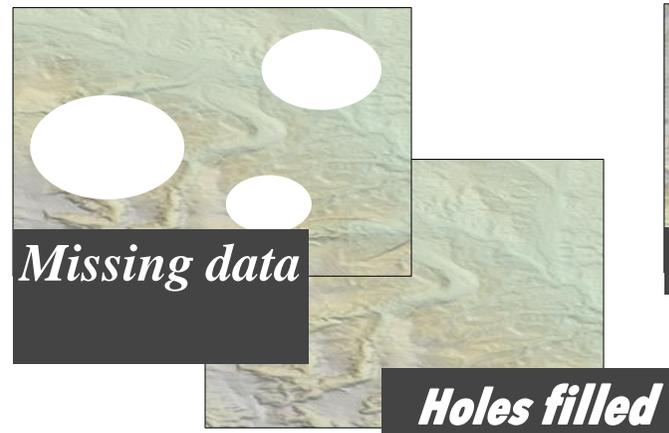
- Data preparation



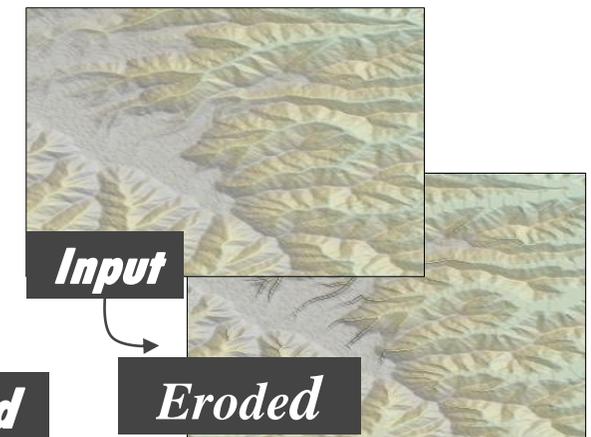
- Several synthesizers



Level-set



Eraser



Erosion

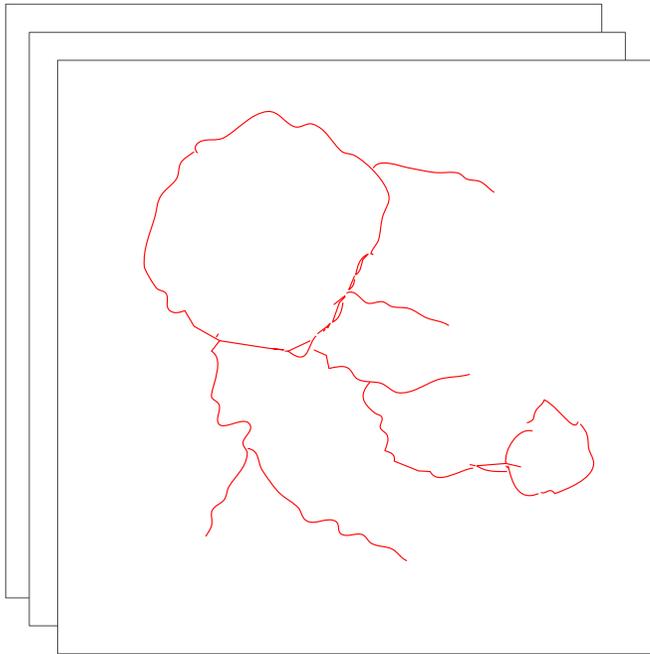


- A. Procedural modeling
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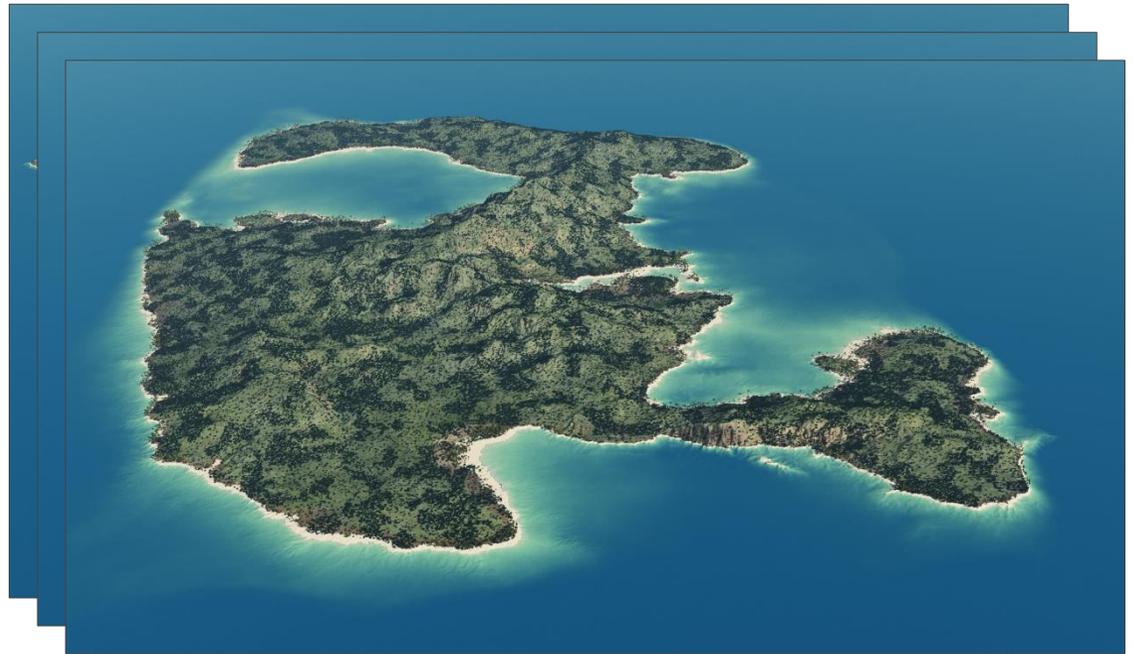
# *Case 1 : Terrains*

## *Deep sketch-based modeling*

***Sketch***



***Generated terrain***

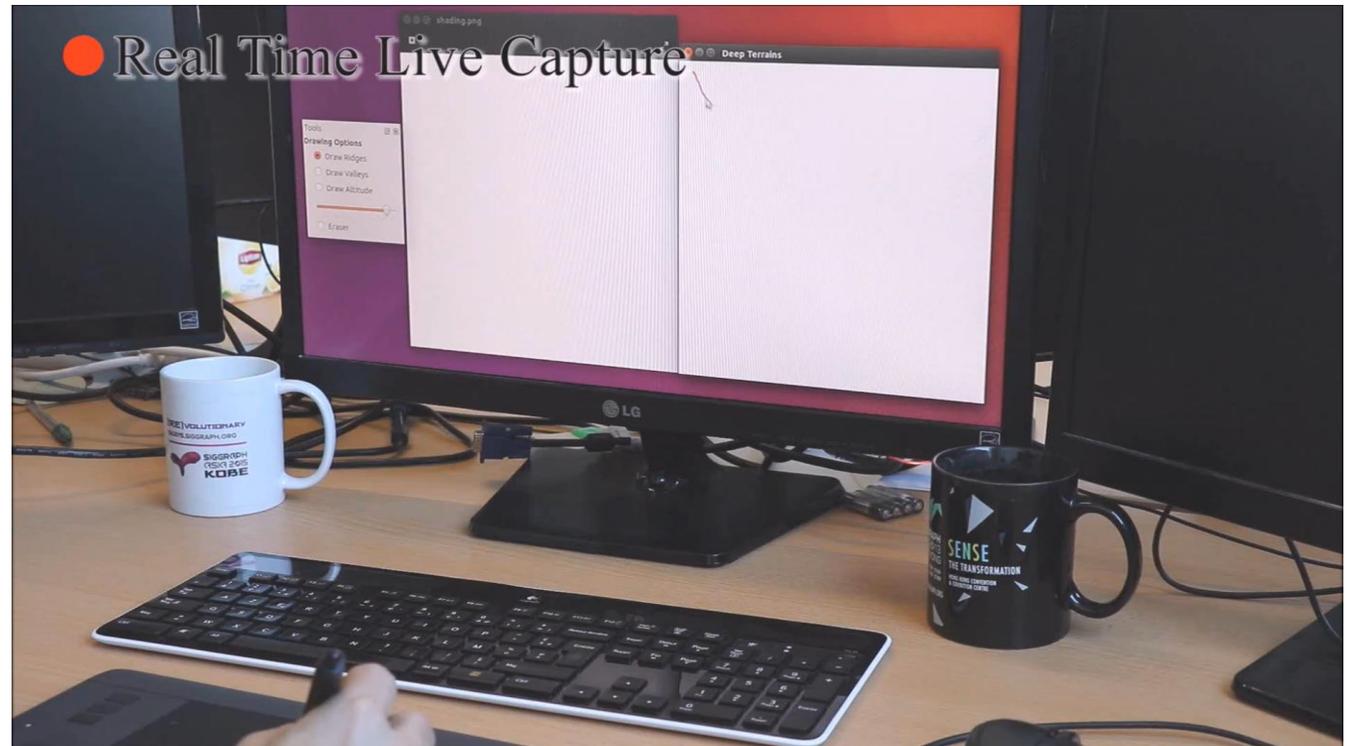
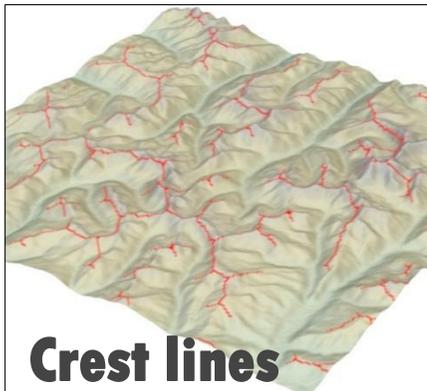
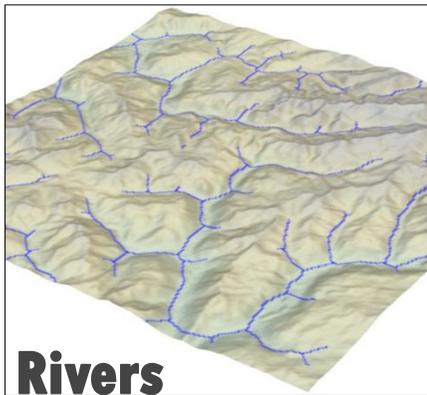


- A. Procedural modeling
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# *Case 1 : Terrains*

## *Deep sketch-based modeling*

Synthetic examples, Adversarial networks (generator, discriminator)



[Guérin 2017]

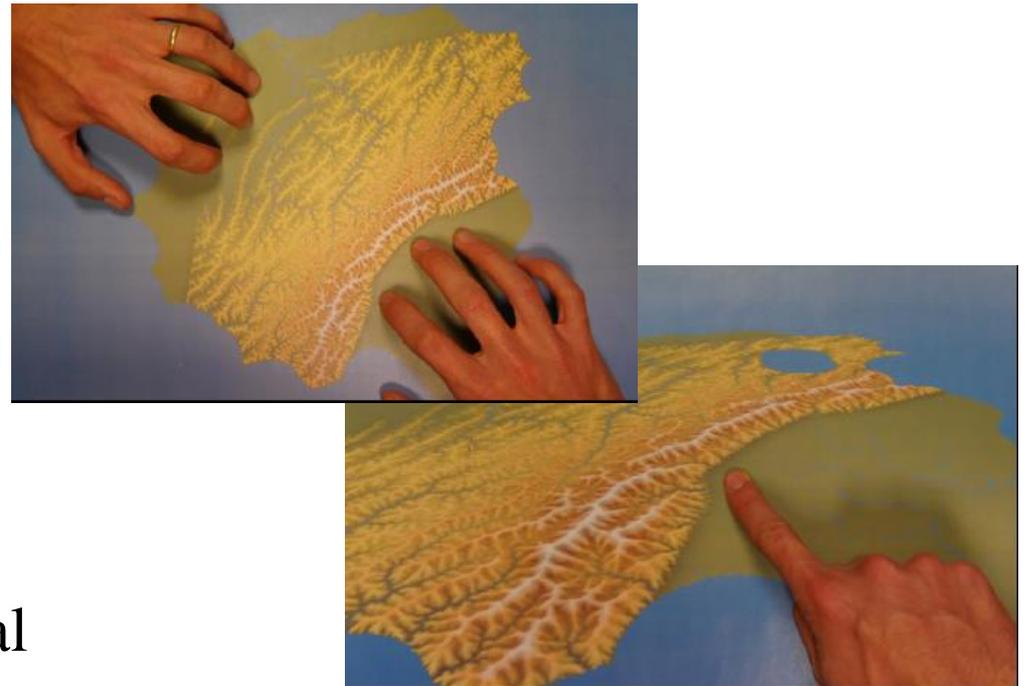
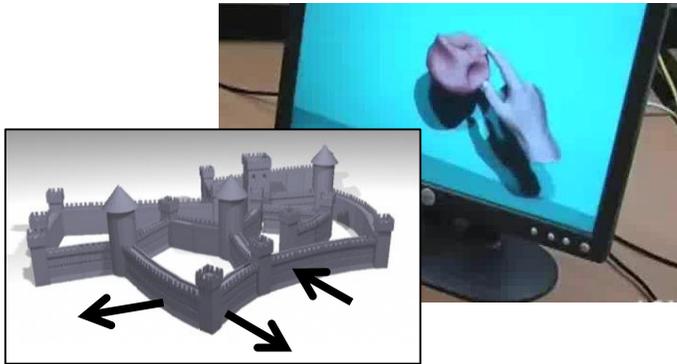


- A. Procedural modeling
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## *Case 1 : Terrains*

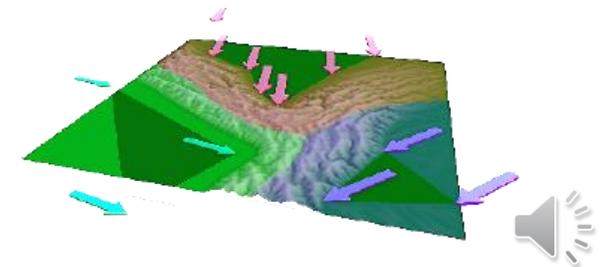
# *Sculpt them as if they were clay?*

### *Inspiration: virtual clay*



### *Sculpting terrains?*

- Earth crust is a specific material
  - use knowledge from geology
- 2D hand interaction is sufficient!
  - Can define shape and speed of tectonic plates



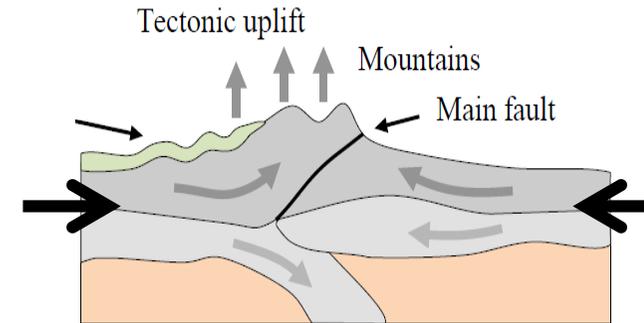
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## Case 1 : Terrains

# *Sculpt them as if they were clay?*

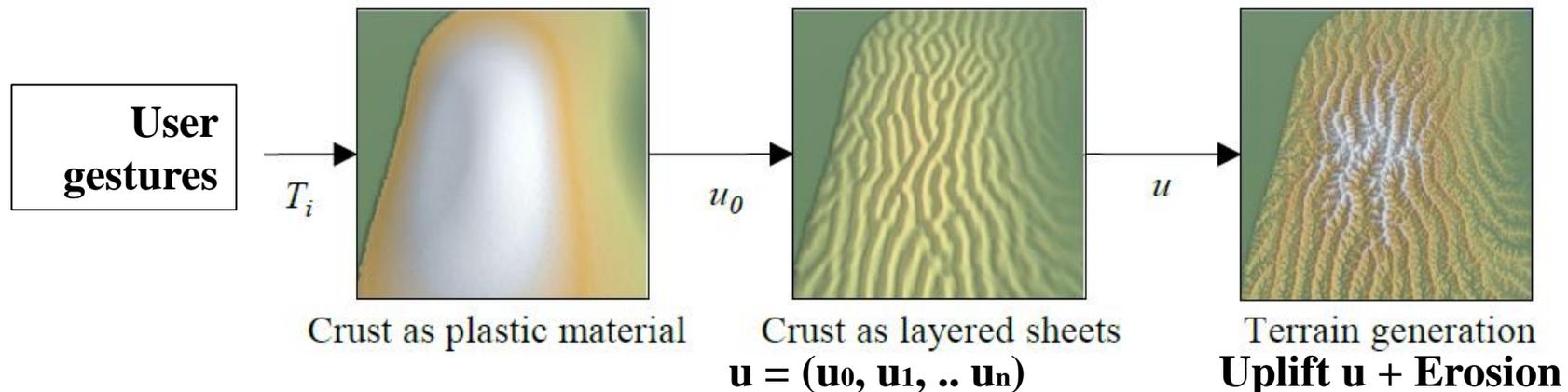
### *Layered model for earth crust [Cordonnier 2017]*

- Constant volume : thickens when compressed
- Sheets of rocks : folds of various wavelengths
- Erosion while mountains grow



### *Solution*

- A **layered model** that decouples these phenomena



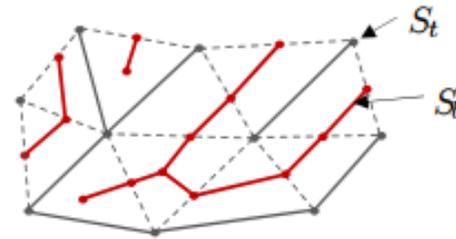
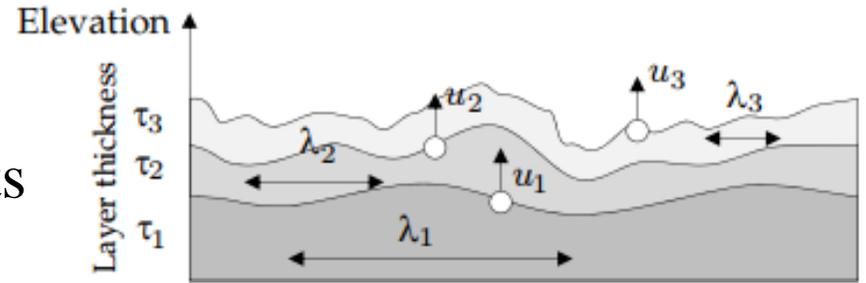
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## Case 1 : Terrains

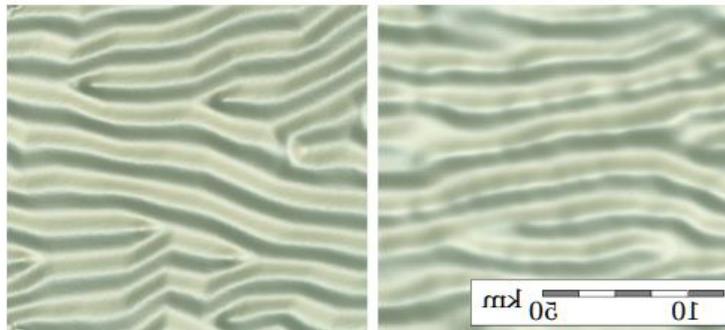
*Sculpt them as if they were clay?*

### *Procedural folding behavior*

- Fct of thickness & viscosity of sheets
- Can be computed procedurally!



Procedural modeling of  
fold skeletons over a mesh



Simulation in  
Geomorphology

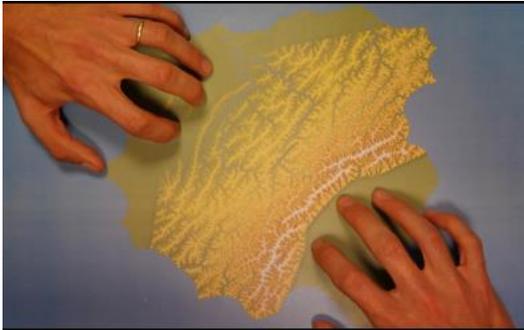


- A. Procedural modeling
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*[Cordonnier 2017]*

## *Case 1 : Terrains*

### *« Sculpting mountains »*



- A. Procedural modeling
- B. Layered animation
- C. Expressive design

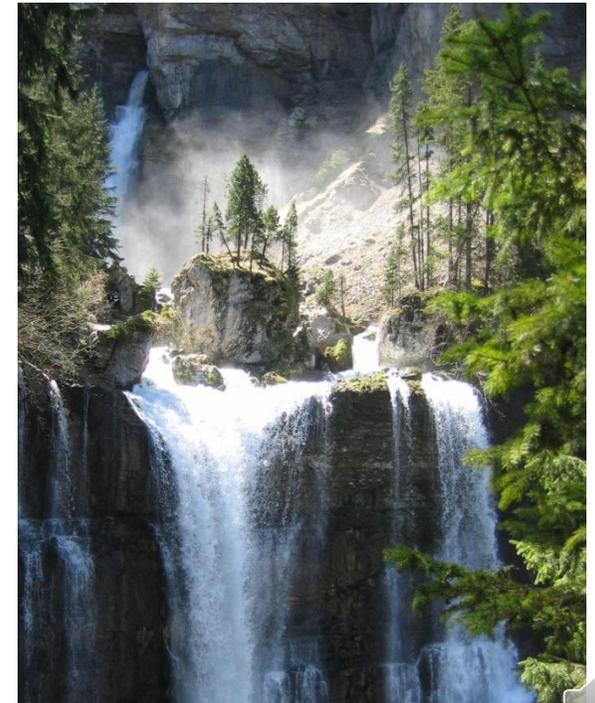
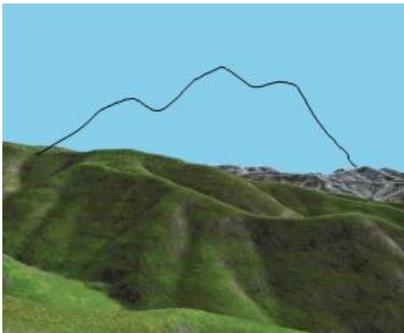
## *Case 2: Streams & waterfalls*

### *Combining knowledge and control?*

#### *Challenges*

- Stream types & trajectories uniquely dictated by terrain slope
- But the user would like control!
- Flow consistency should be maintained

**Editing mountains? ... too indirect!**



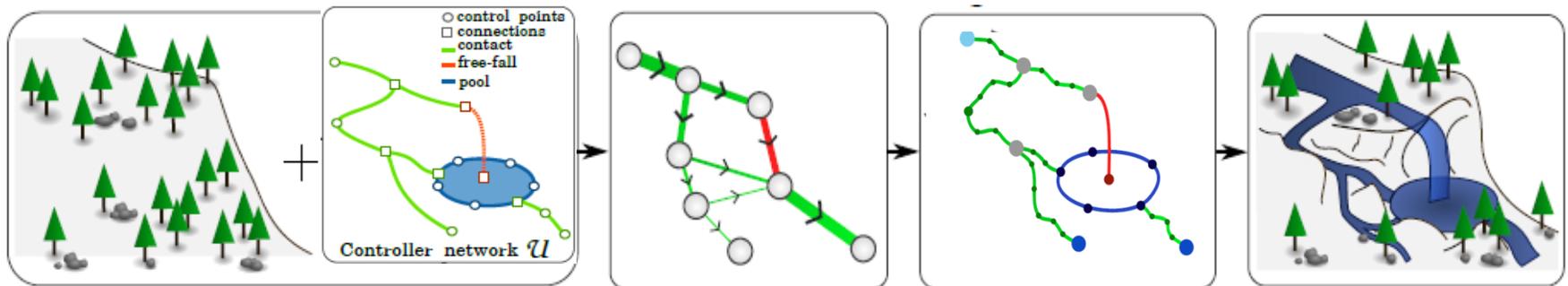
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## *Case 2: Streams & waterfalls*

### *Leave the rivers sculpt the terrain!*

**Solution: interleave control & generation**

1. The user sketches a network
2. Consistent flows are computed
3. The users selects a refinement type
4. The terrain deforms & details are added



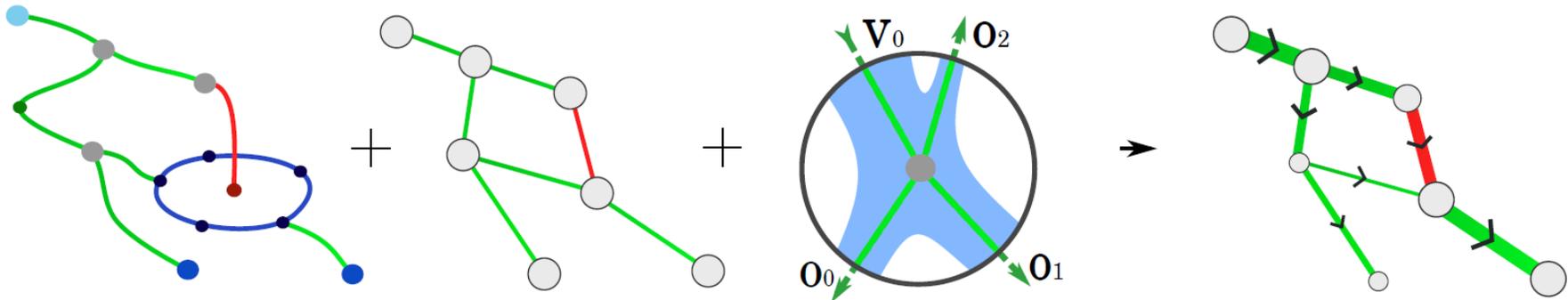
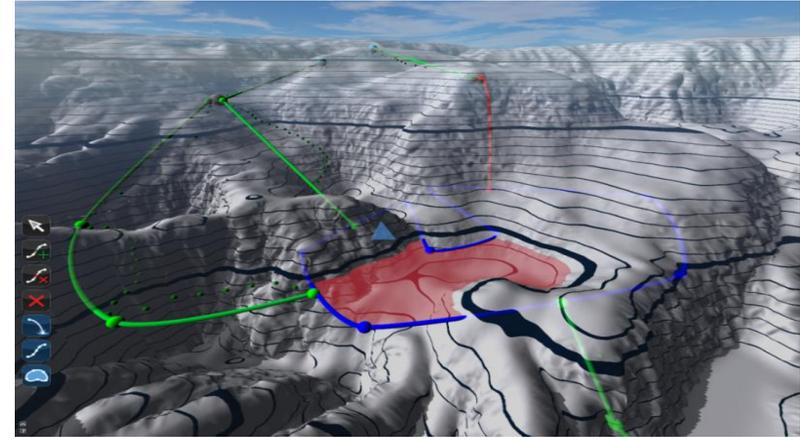
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# Case 2: Streams & waterfalls

## Combining knowledge and control?

### Inter-leave user control & rules

1. User sketch
  - Slope consistency control
  - Terrain lowered if needed
2. Consistent flow computations

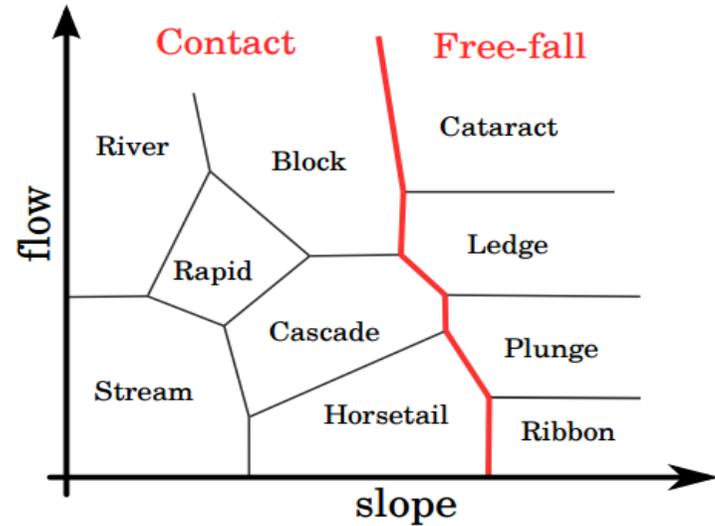
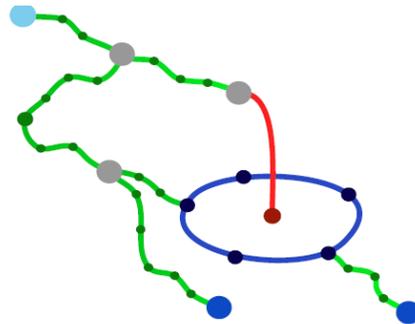
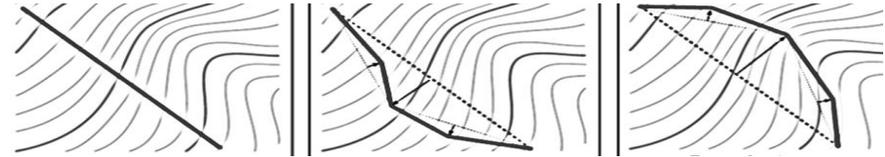


- A. Procedural modeling
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# *Case 2: Streams & waterfalls*

## *Combining knowledge and control?*

- 3. User selects trajectory refinement
  - Flow-based or terrain-based
- 4. Consistent fall-type computed



stream    river    rapid    cascade    horsetail    block    cataract    ledge    plunge    ribbon



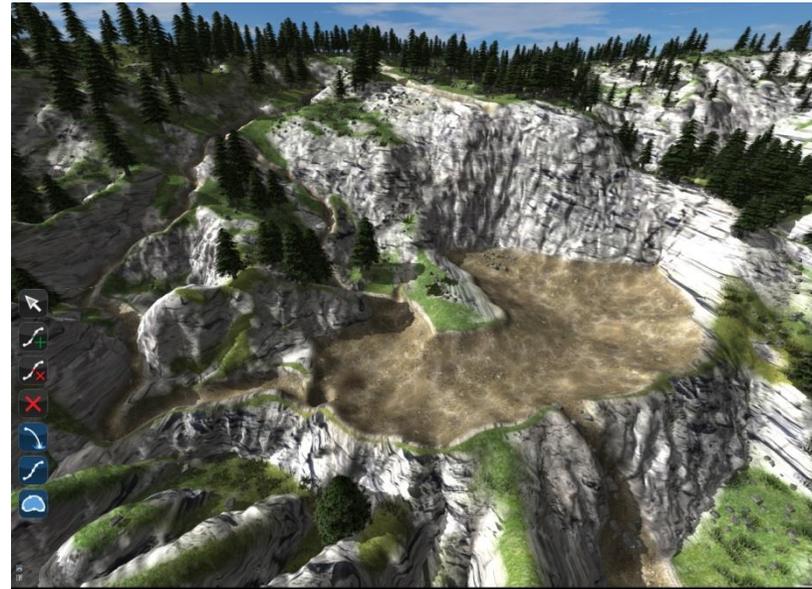
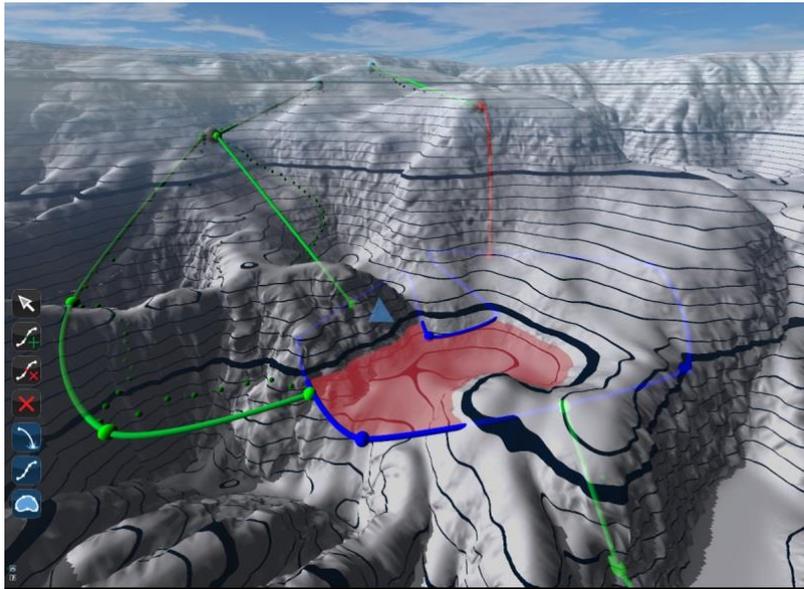
- A. Procedural modeling
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## *Case 2: Streams & waterfalls*

### *Combining knowledge and control?*

*The waterfall « sculpts » the terrain*

- Displacement constraints are propagated
- Procedural details are added (rocks, trees, 2D flows, etc)

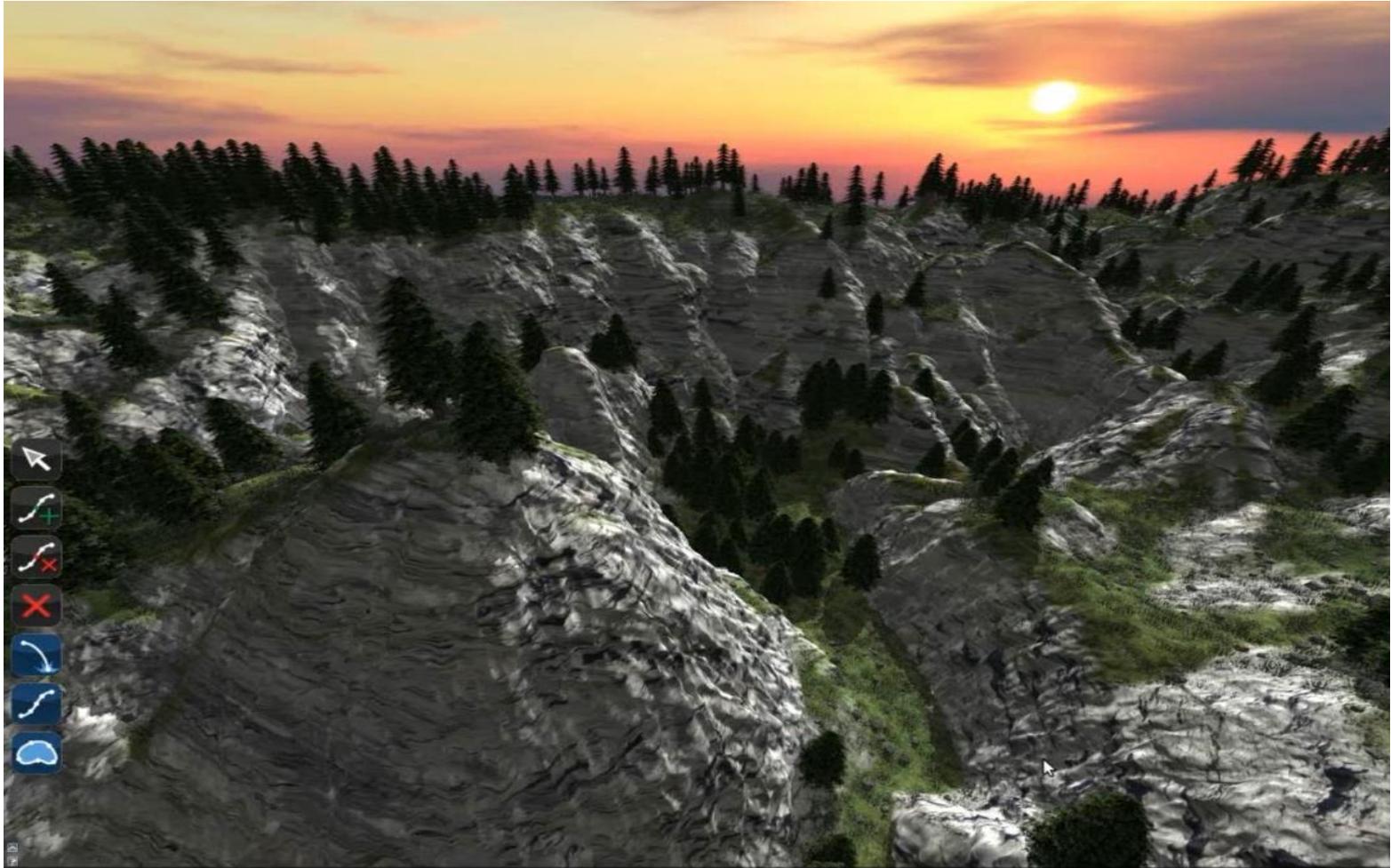


- A. Procedural modeling
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## *Case 2: Streams & waterfalls*

### *Results*

*[Emilien 2015]*



- A. Procedural modeling
- B. Layered animation
- C. Expressive design

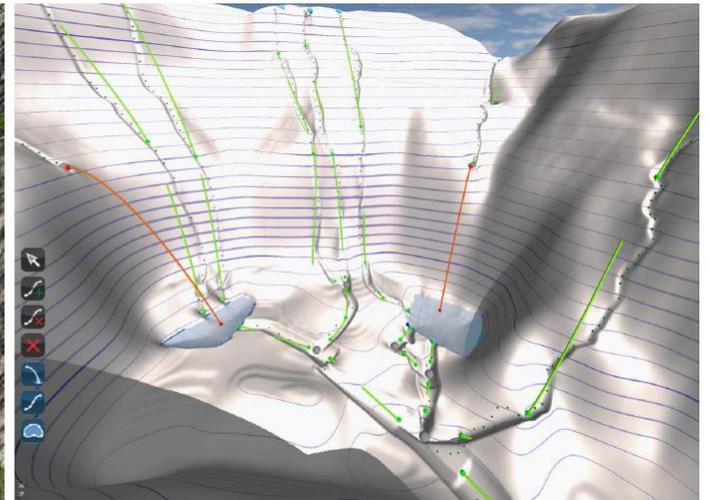
## *Case 2: Streams & waterfalls Validation*

### *Creation on a real waterfall: The Iron Hole (La Réunion)*

- Modeling time < 10 min
- Generation time < 1 sec



Photo @Serge Gélabert



- A. Procedural modeling
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## *Case 3: Vegetation*

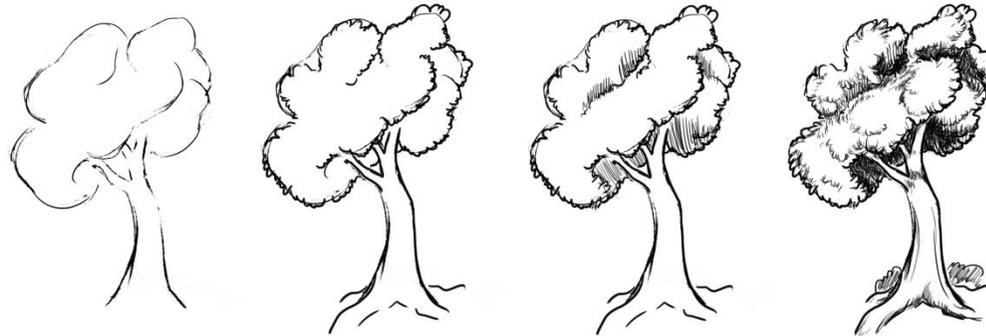
# *Sketch-based modeling of a tree*

### *Challenges*

- Need to control a specific shape
- Too many branches for interactive modelling!
- Distributions matching laws from biology



### *Inspiration*



### *Idea*

Combine multi-resolution sketches with procedural generation!



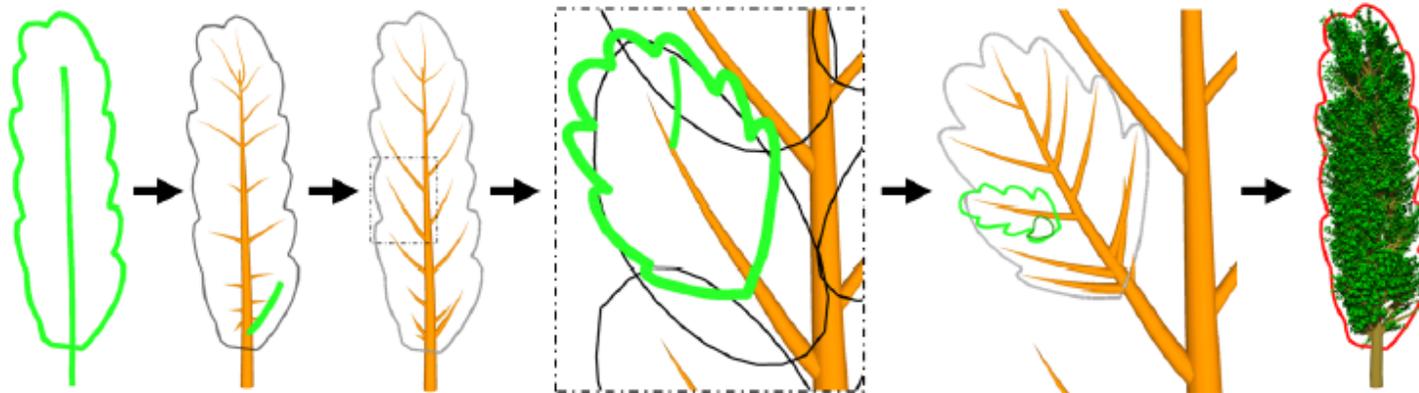
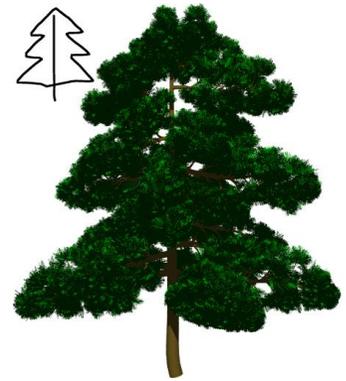
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## *Case 3: Vegetation*

### *Sketch-based modeling of a tree*

#### *Idea of solution [Wither 2009]*

- Structure from silhouette!
- Use rules from botanic, statistics, perception to:
  - Infer sub-structures
  - Adapt branching style
  - Extend branches to 3D

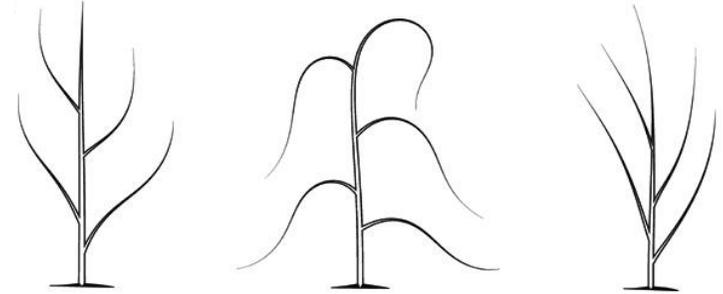
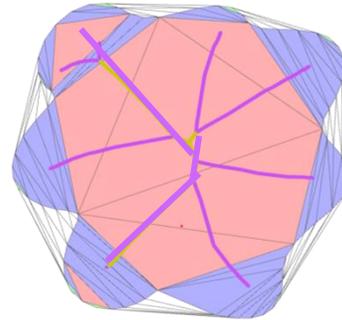


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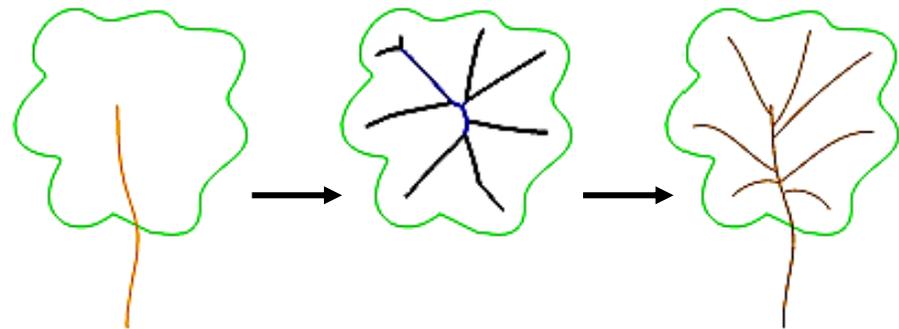
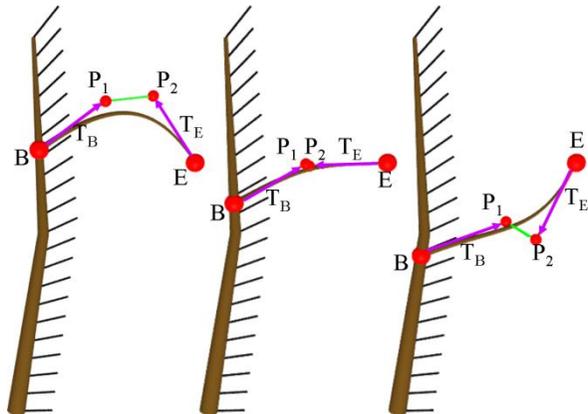
# Case 3: Vegetation

## Sketch-based modeling of a tree

- Silhouette analysis
  - Medial axis?
  - Add knowledge on branching arrangements
  - Find shortest branch



*Knowledge on branching rules*

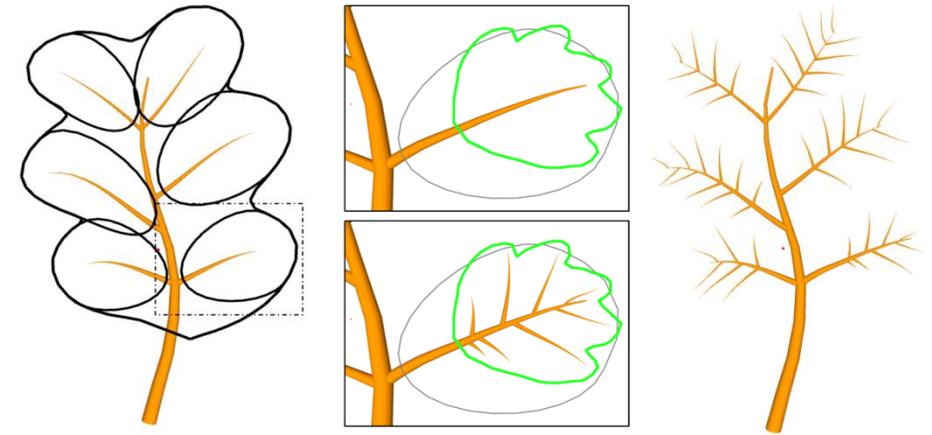
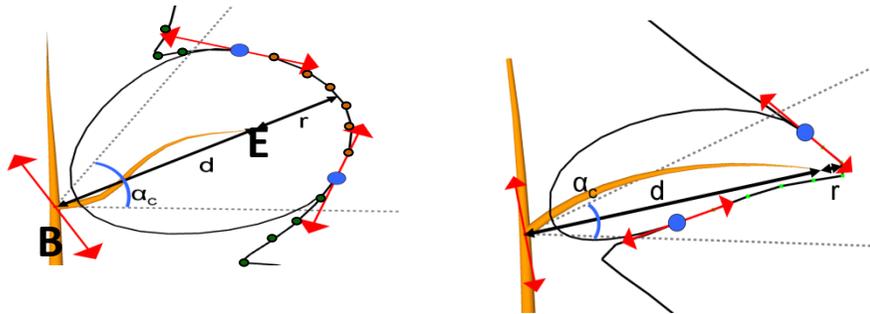


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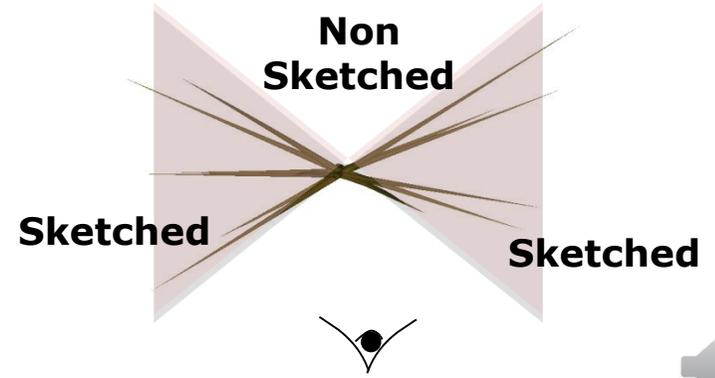
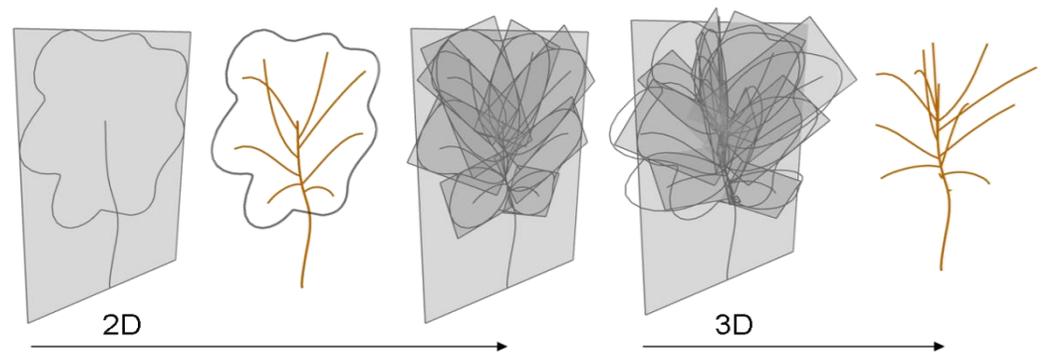
# *Case 3: Vegetation*

## *Sketch-based modeling of a tree*

- Inferring substructures



- Inferring 3D branch distribution



- A. Procedural modeling
- B. Layered animation
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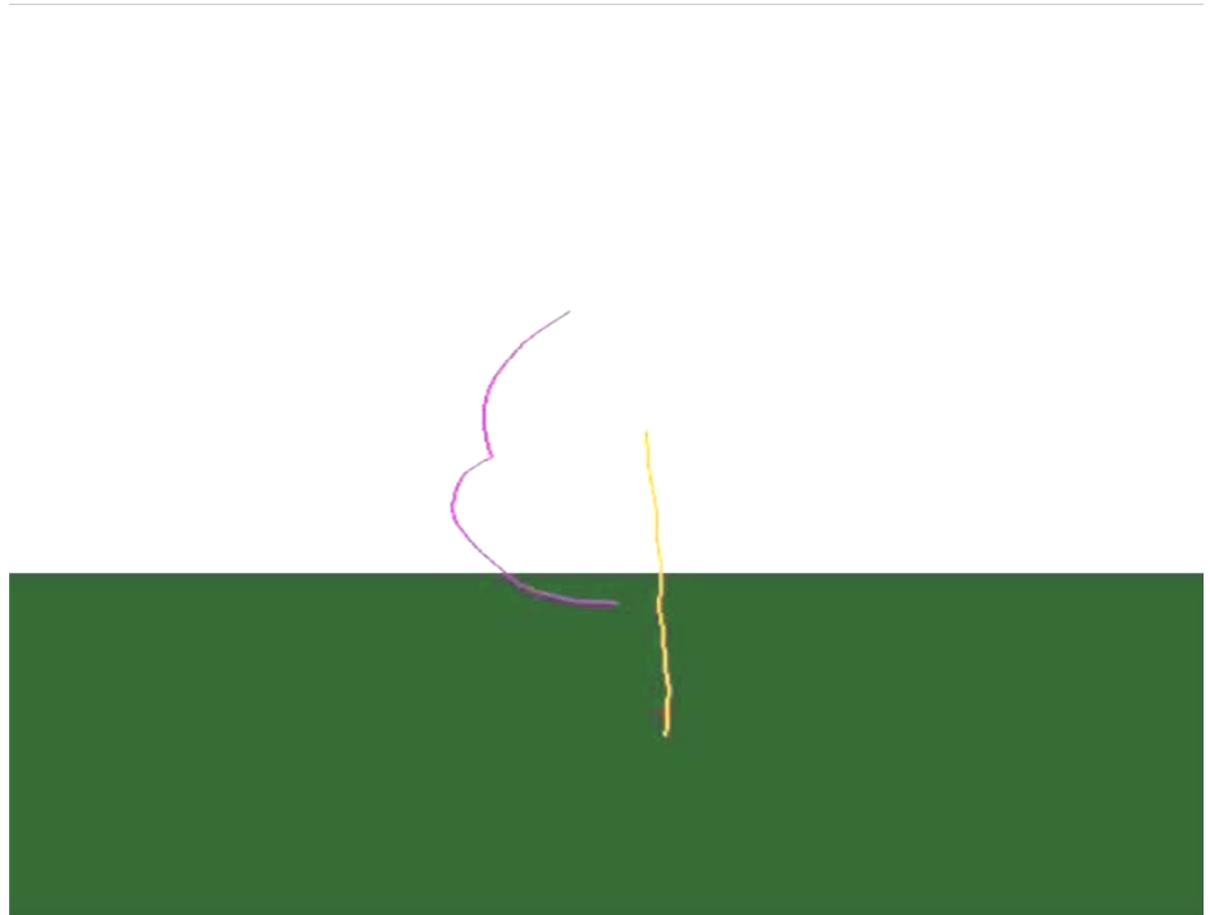
## *Case 3: Vegetation*

### *Sketch-based modeling of a tree*



**Eucalyptus**

*[Wither 2009]*



- A. Procedural modeling
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## Case 3: Vegetation

# Populating virtual worlds with distributions

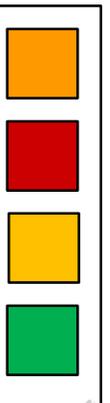
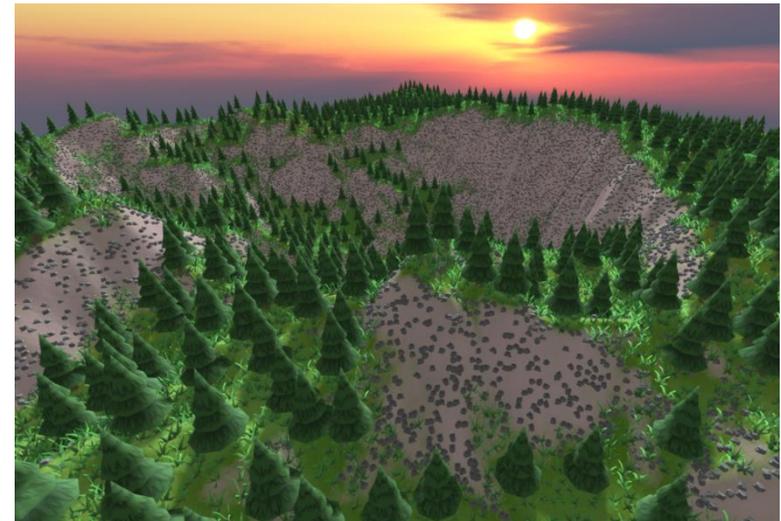
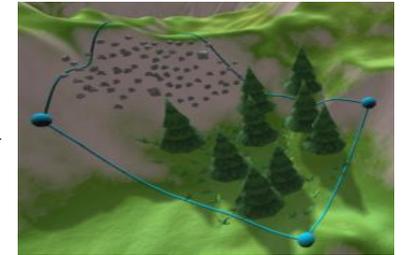
**Color** = {Statistics on distributions} (trees, stones ...)

- ✓ Learnt from examples
- ✓ Correlated with terrain slope
- ✓ Stored in a « palette »

### A variety of tools

- Pipette (learn new “color”)
- Copy or Brush (transfer!)
- Gradient (blend colors)
- Move & deform content

User-designed  
exemplar →



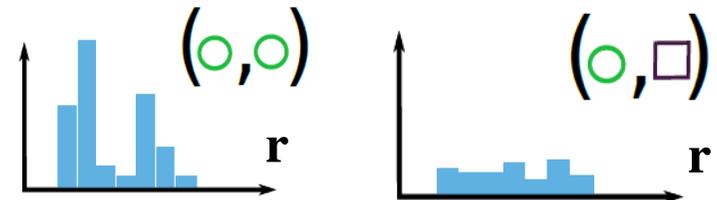
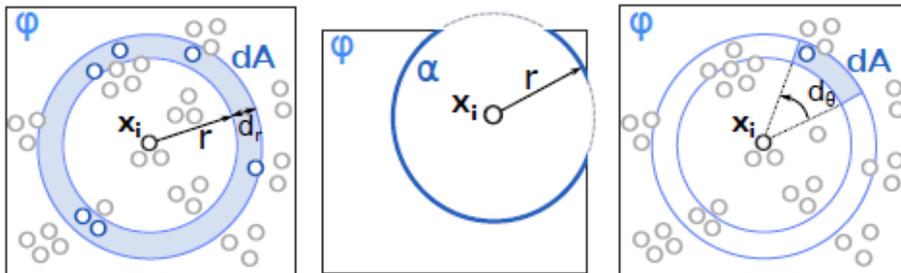
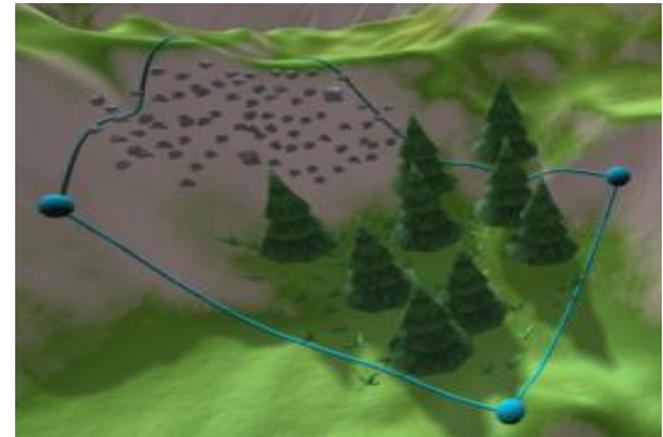
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- B. Layered animation
- C. Expressive design

## Case 3: Vegetation

# Populating virtual worlds with distributions

### Learning and synthesis

- Point processes (trees, stones...)
- Improvement
  - Robustness to small samples
  - Angular histograms
  - Correlation with terrain slope

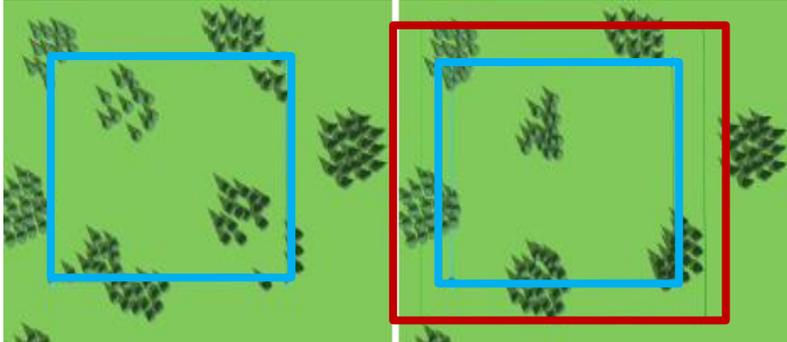


- A. Procedural modeling
- B. Layered animation
- C. Expressive design

## Case 3: Vegetation

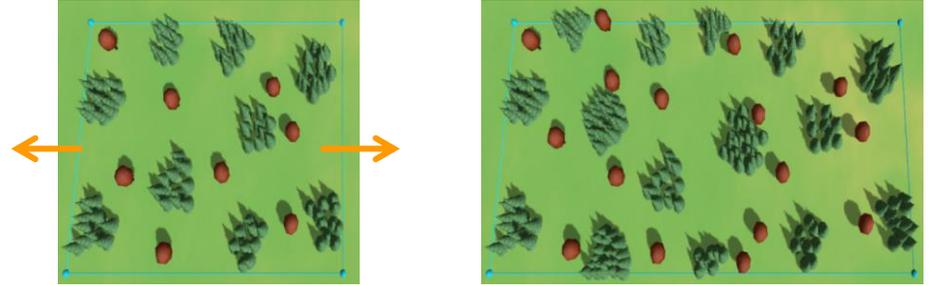
### Populating virtual worlds with distributions

- Copy-paste : influence region



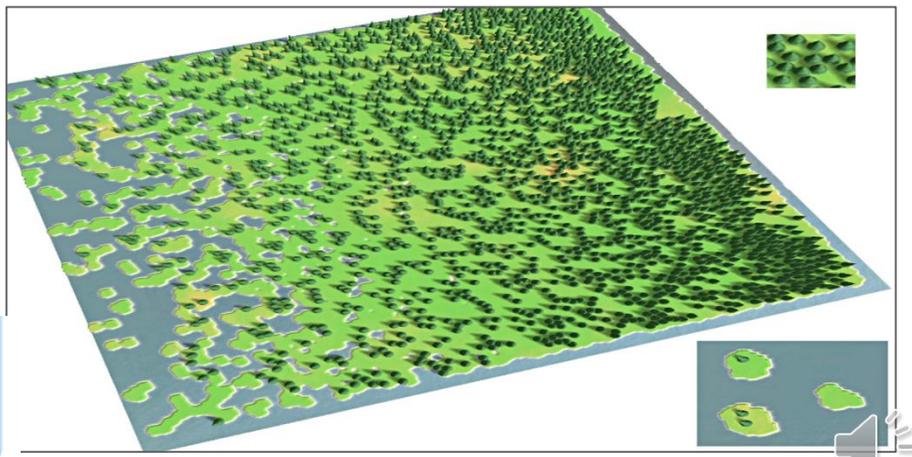
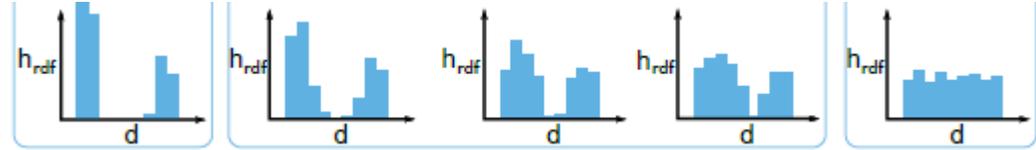
Without / With influence zone

Deformation (seam carving)



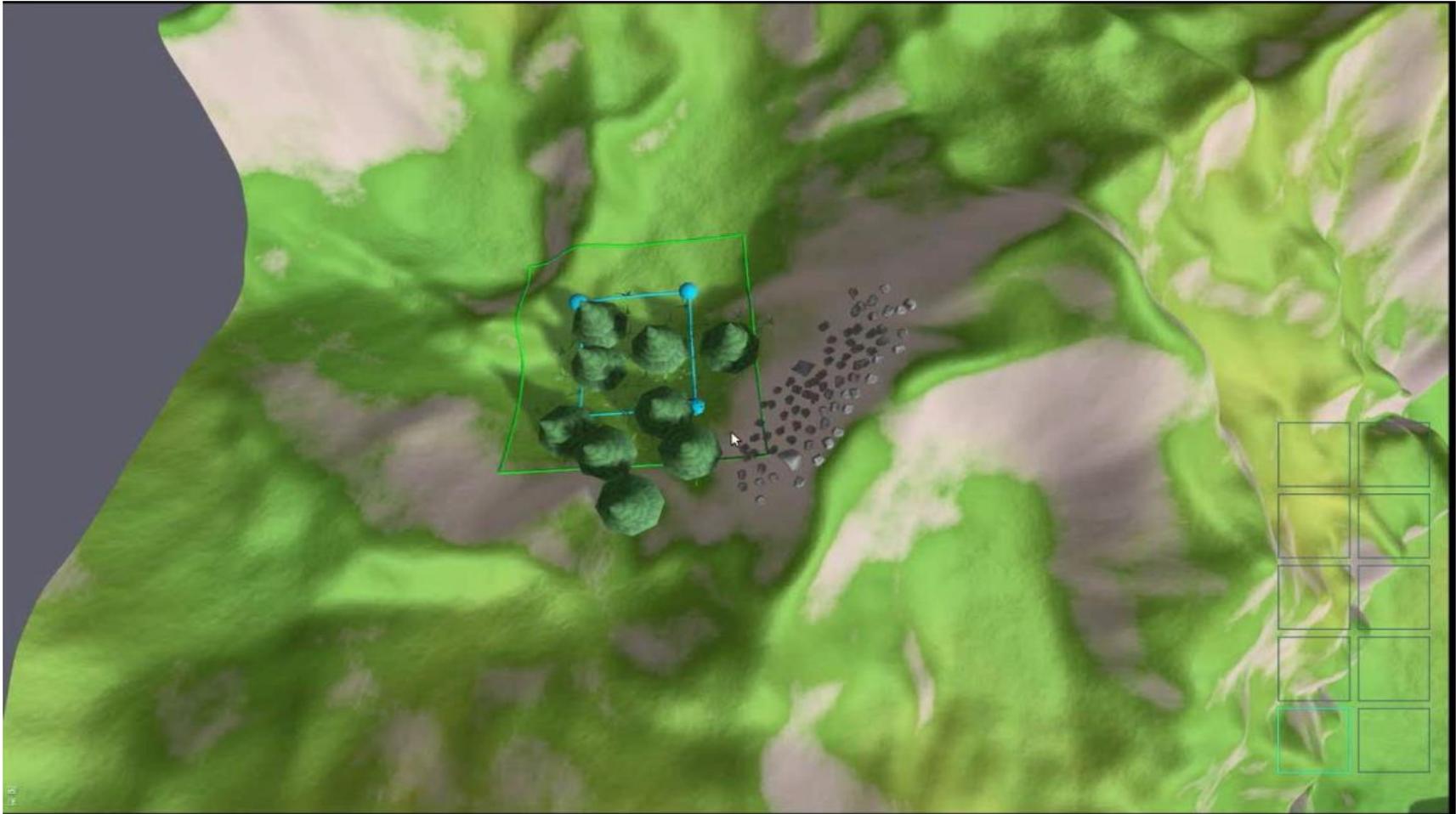
- Gradient tool

Optimal mass transport



# *Case 3: Vegetation*

## *Populating virtual worlds with distributions*



**“World-brush”** [Emilien 2015]



- A. Procedural modeling
- B. Layered animation
- C. Expressive design

## *Case 3: Vegetation*

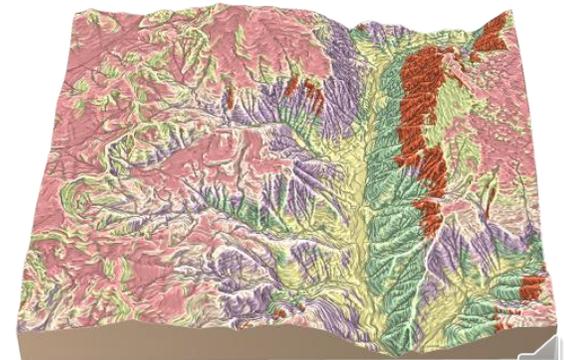
# *Learning from Ecosystem simulation?*

**Challenge :** Consistent vegetation + user control



**Idea: Combine world-brush with simulation!**

- Multi-dimensional terrain clustering
- Sand-box simulations for each cluster
- Learn statistics and synthesis in the clusters
- High-level brushes: age, density...



- A. Procedural modeling
- B. Layered animation
- C. Expressive design

## *Case 3: Vegetation*

### *Learning from Ecosystem simulation?*

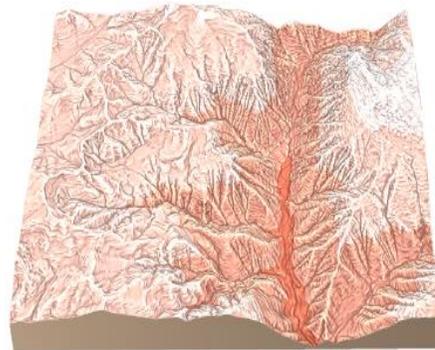
#### *Terrain clustering*

- Resource maps

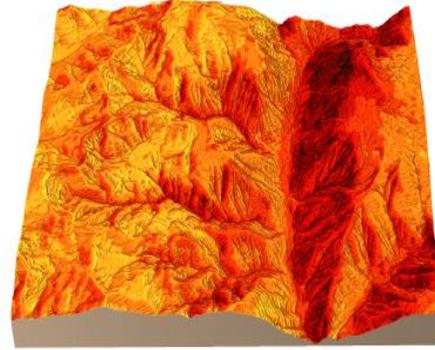
Input: DEM,  
altitude, latitude,  
precipitations...

- Resulting clusters

K\_means clustering  
with 6-10 clusters



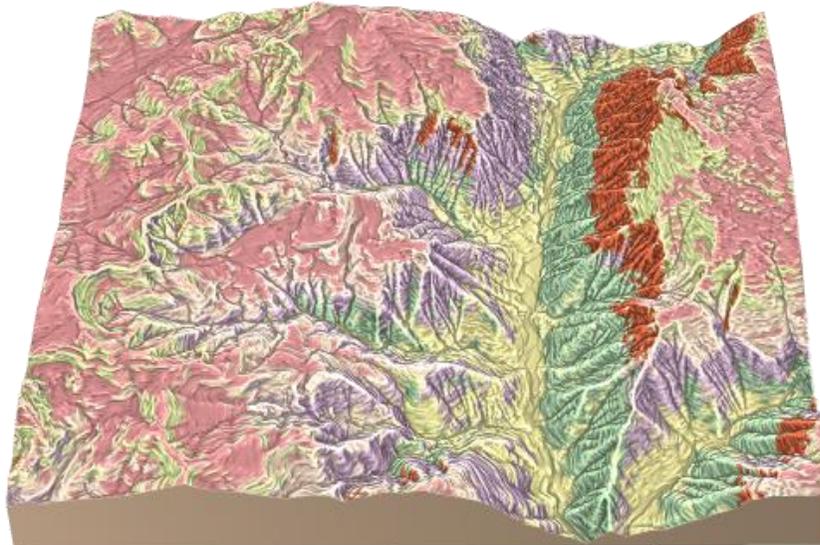
Temperature



Sunlight



Moisture



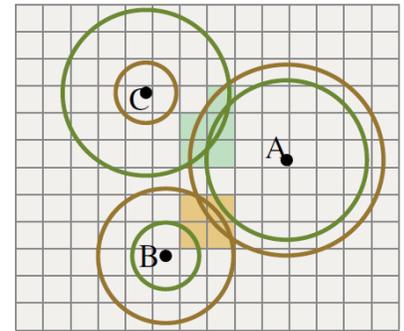
- A. Procedural modeling
- B. Layered animation
- C. Expressive design

## *Case 3: Vegetation*

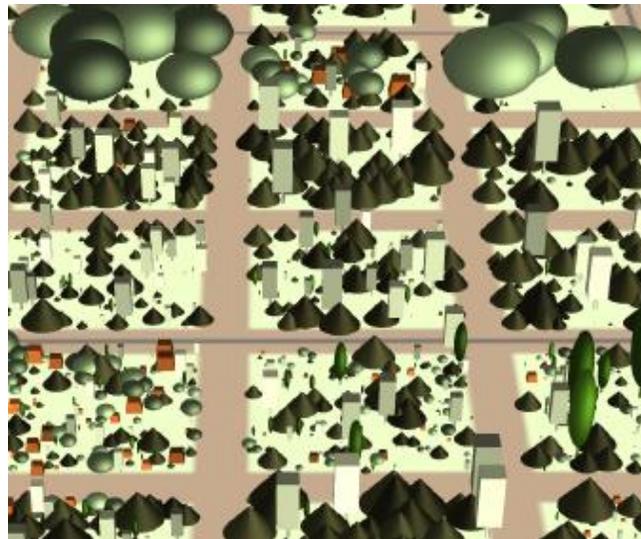
### *Learning from Ecosystem simulation?*

**Sand-box simulations:** 100x100m per cluster

- Plants modeled as pairs of circles
  - canopy and roots
- They compete in cells where they overlap



Resulting ecosystems



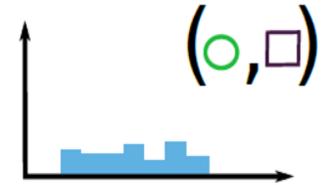
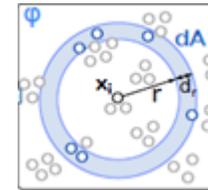
- A. Procedural modeling
- B. Layered animation
- C. Expressive design

## Case 3: Vegetation

# Learning from Ecosystem simulation?

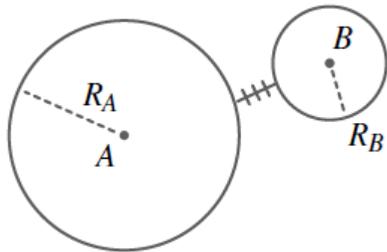
### Learning statistics: Disc processes!

- Position and canopy size are correlated
- 2D histograms would be too costly

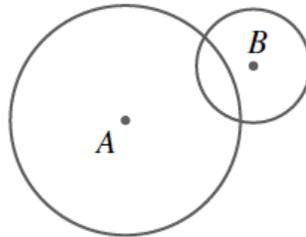


→ Analyze distributions of possibly overlapping discs

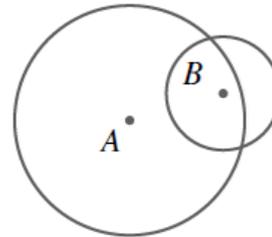
**Solution:** Measure distance between discs + 3 « overlap » bins



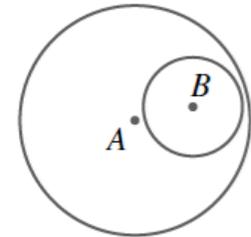
No shading



lest than half



more than half



fully shaded



- A. Procedural modeling
- B. Layered animation
- C. Expressive design

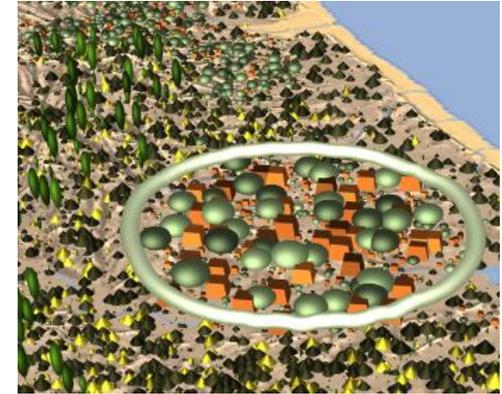
## Case 3: Vegetation

### *Interactive editing: Semantic brushes*

**Goal:** Combining consistency and control

#### **Semantic brushes**

- Local action of humans, animals, fire
- Ex: age, density, re-planting other species



#### **African savannah**

- without



- with destruction (fire & animals)

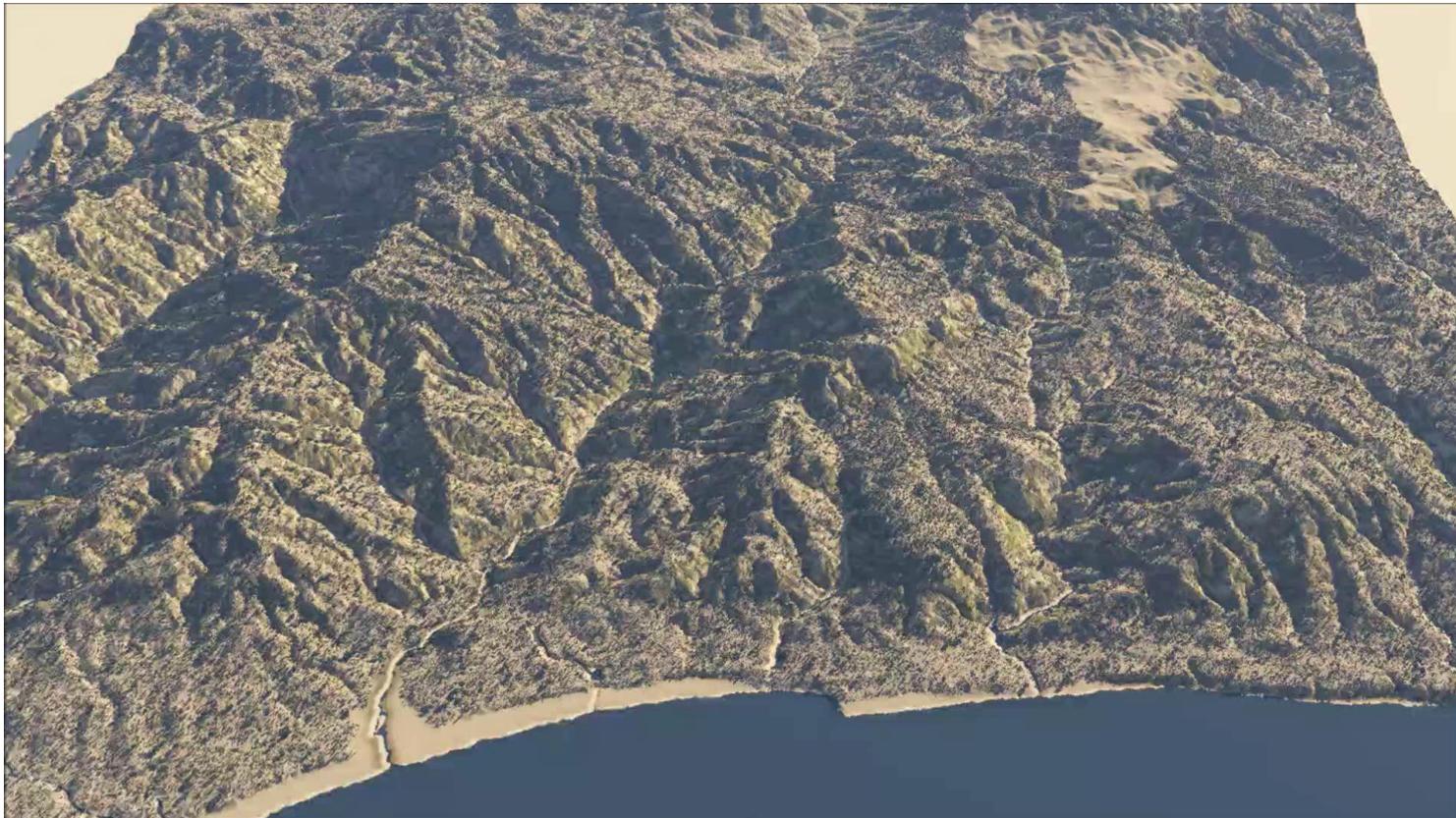


- A. Procedural modeling
- B. Layered animation
- C. Expressive design

## *Case 3: Vegetation*

# *Learning from Ecosystem simulation*

**EcoBrush** [*Gain 2017*]



- A. Procedural modeling
- B. Layered animation
- C. Expressive design

# Pair correlation function

[Öztireli 2012]

## Continuous model for distributions

Distribution represented by

- A density
- A normalized function

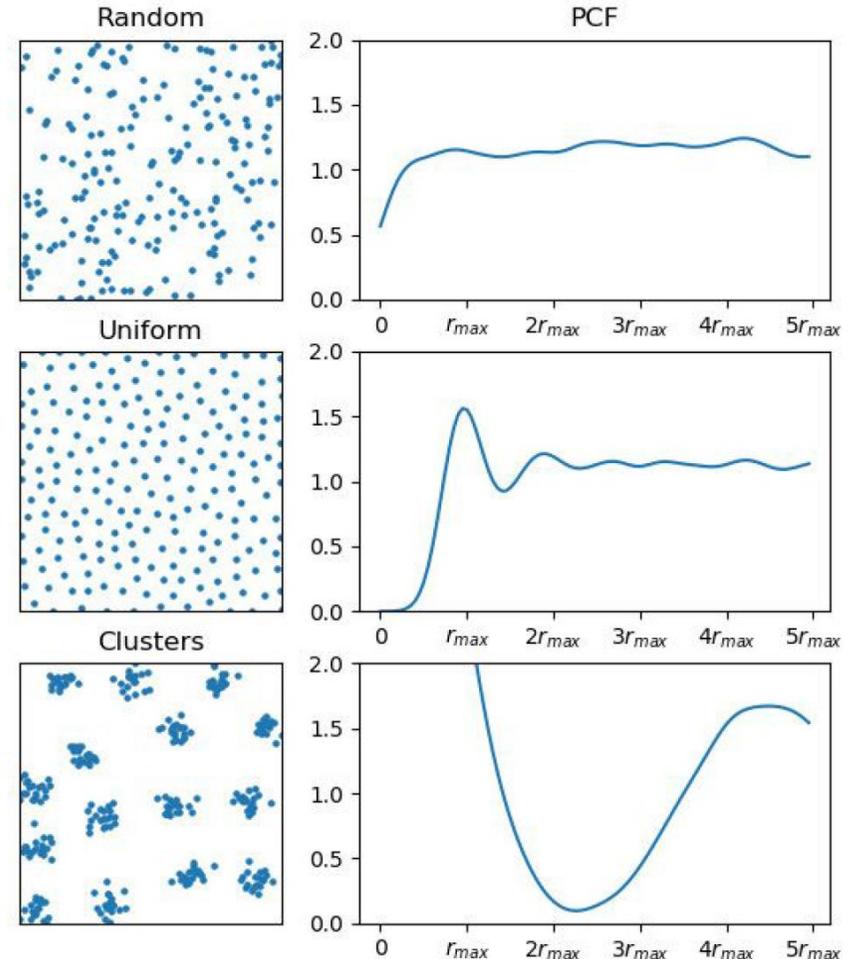
$$\text{PCF}(r) = \frac{1}{A_r n^2} \sum_{i \neq j} k_{\sigma}(r - d_{ij})$$

Normalization

Gaussian

Area of ring at distance  $r$   
 Distances normalized by  $r_{\max}$

- Easier interpretation
- Accurate synthesis thanks to gradient descent



1. *Knowledge*
2. *Gesture-based control*
3. *Learning*

# *Challenge*

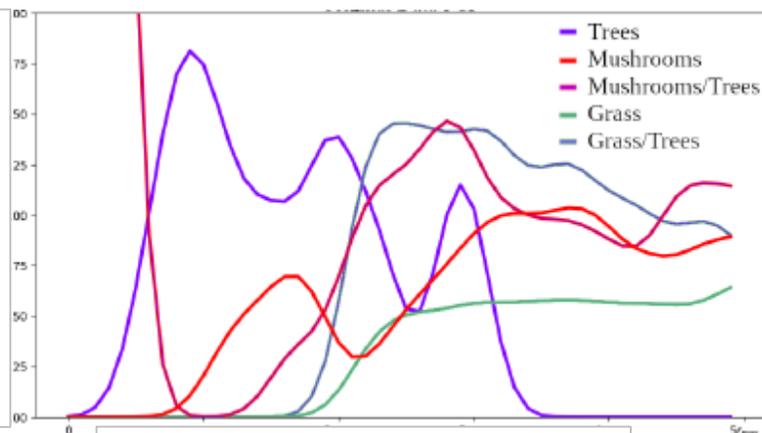
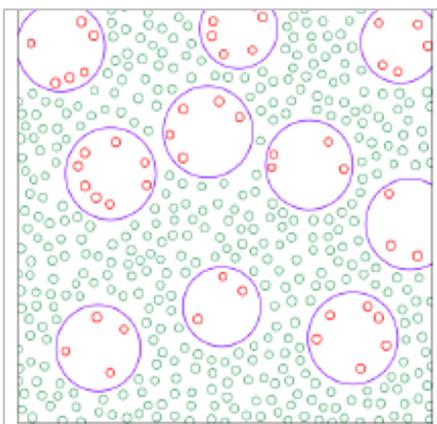
## *Learning disc distributions!*



Input



Output



Pair correlation functions



[*Ecormier-Nocca, Eurographics 2019*]

# *Conclusion*

## *3D modeling & simulation of virtual worlds*

- Specific needs: realism /consistency, user control !
- Methodology to handle complexity
  - Procedural generation (prior or learnt knowledge)
  - Layered models: Hierarchy of coupled, minimal models
- Authoring tools – “Expressive modeling”, “Creative AI”
  - Interleave user control & automatic generation of consistent details
  - User interaction : Sketching, sculpting, providing examples
- Perceptual validation + User studies for design tools



# References

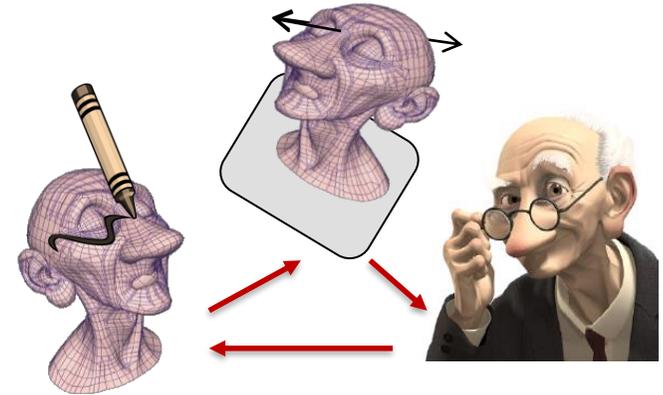
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# *Conclusion : Creative AI Systems that help users in creative tasks*

## « Expressive modeling »

- Gesture-based design
- Knowledge in the models  
From priors or learnt



## Extension to Virtual Worlds

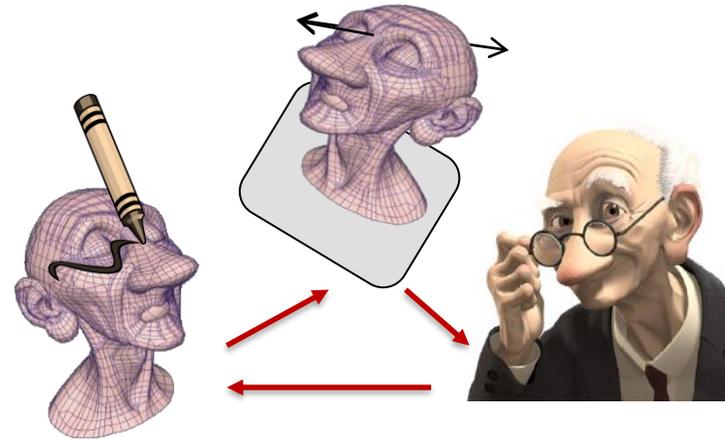
- Control to the user
- Knowledge to the system



# *Specificities of AI for creative tasks*

## **AI to ease human creation**

- Control to the user
- Smart models to help
  - Interpreting user gestures
  - Maintaining constraints
  - Handling repetitive details



## **Different ways to use AI**

- Modeling prior knowledge (rules, ontologies, expert systems)
- Learning from examples: **Small user data / Synthetic examples**
  - Advantages: Control on training data & no human slave!

