

Smooth Skinning Decomposition with **Rigid** Bones

Binh Huy Le and Zhigang Deng

UNIVERSITY of **HOUSTON**

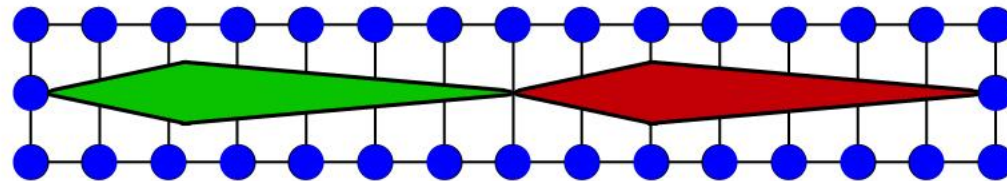
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Motivation

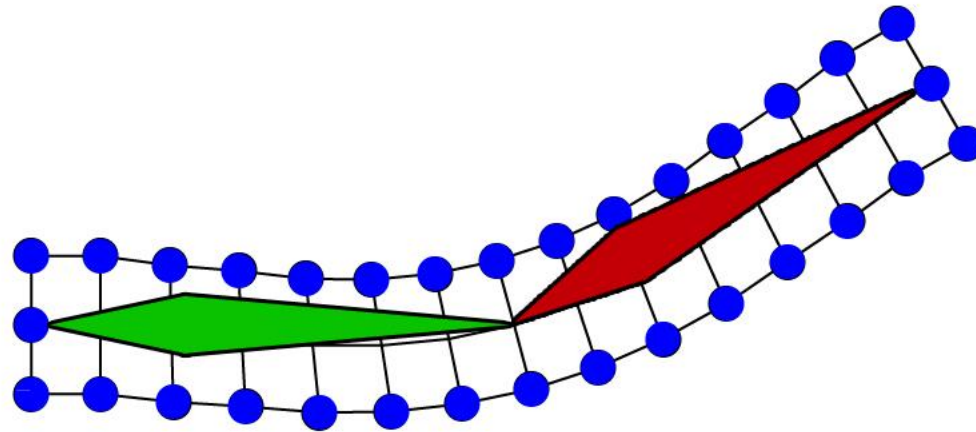
Linear Blend Skinning (LBS)

- A.k.a. skeleton subspace deformation, enveloping, vertex blending, smooth skinning, bones skinning, etc.



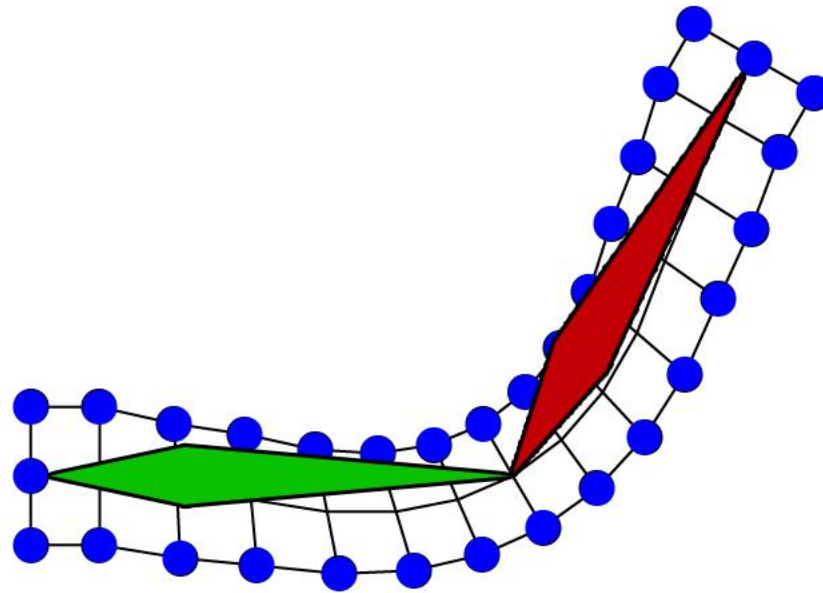
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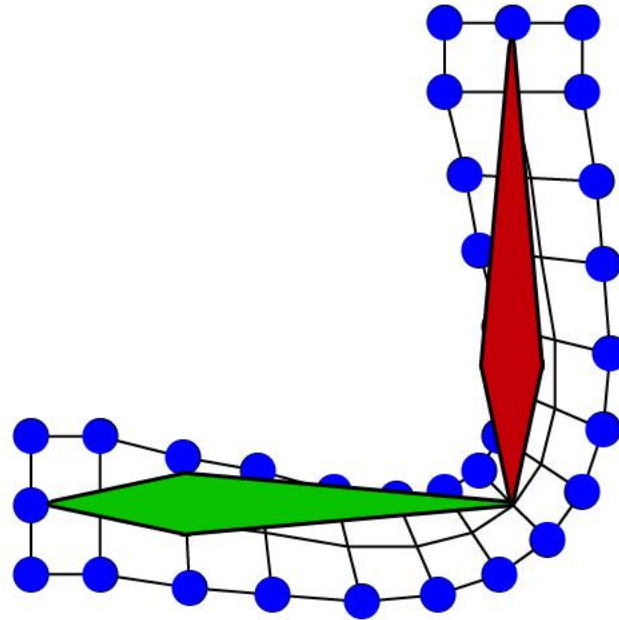
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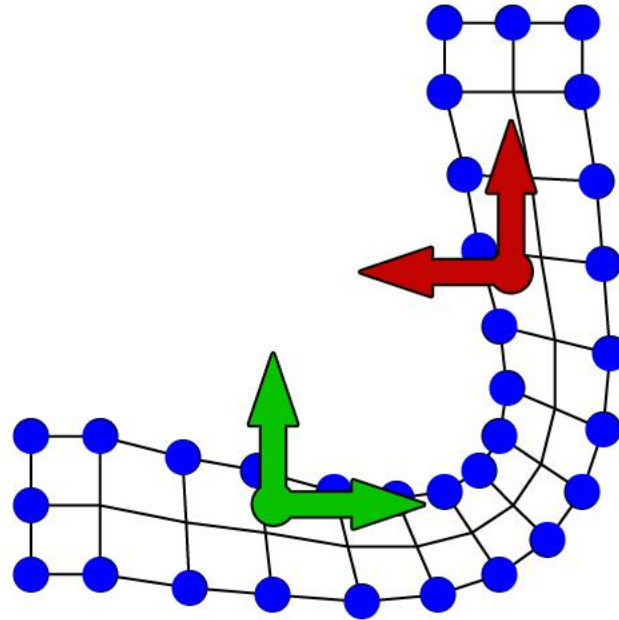
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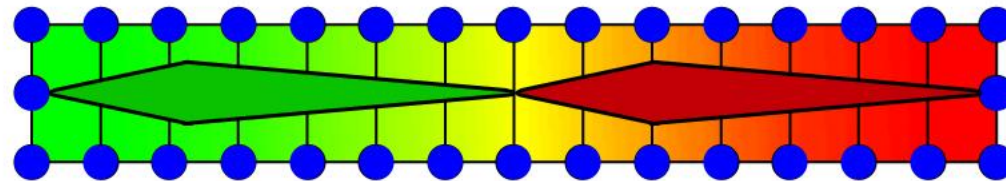
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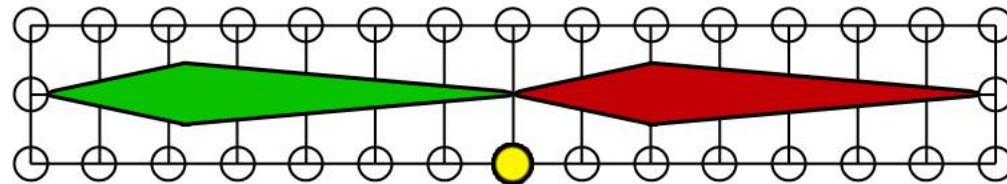
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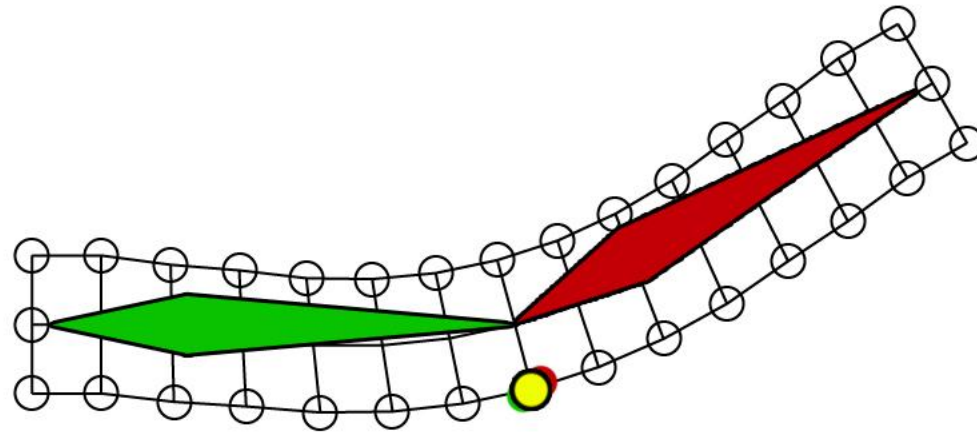
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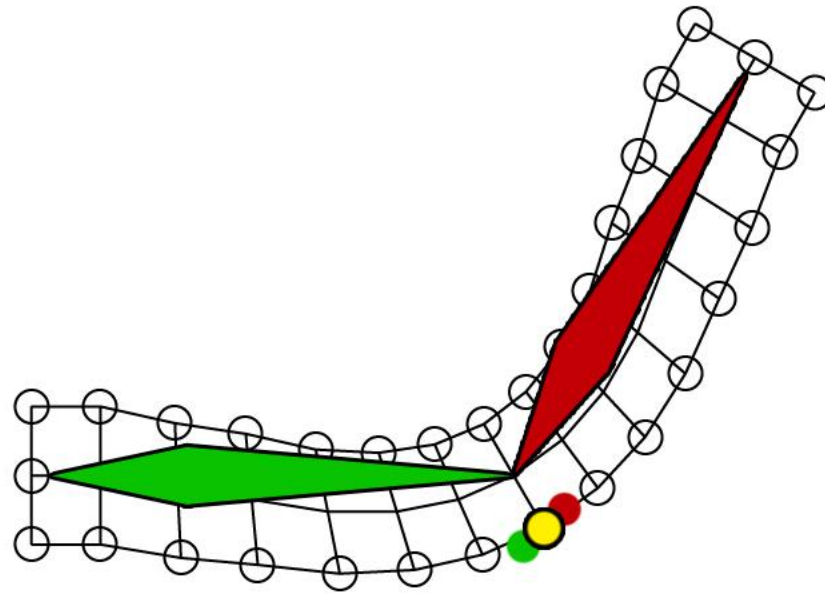
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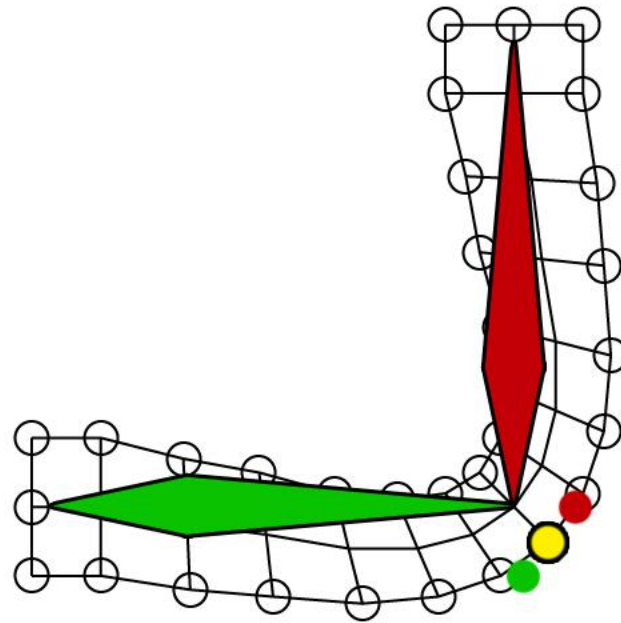
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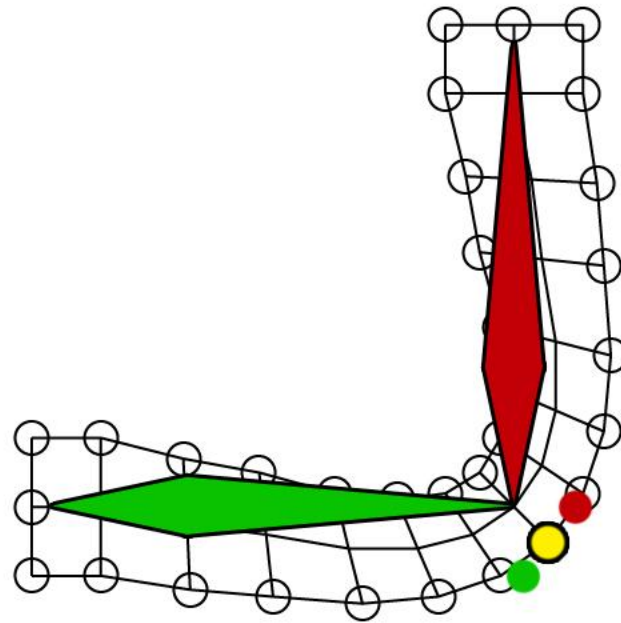
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Linear Blend Skinning (LBS)

- A.k.a. skeleton subspace deformation, enveloping, vertex blending, smooth skinning, bones skinning, etc.



Number of bones

$$v_i = \sum_{j=1}^{|B|} w_{ij} (R_j p_i + T_j)$$

Rest pose

Weight

Bone rotation

Bone translation

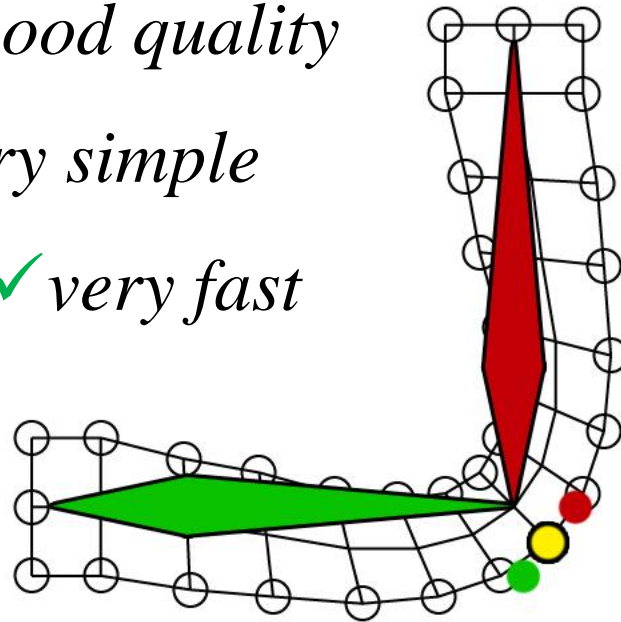
Linear Blend Skinning (LBS)

- A.k.a. skeleton subspace deformation, enveloping, vertex blending, smooth skinning, bones skinning, etc.

✓ *fairly good quality*

✓ *very simple*

✓ *very fast*



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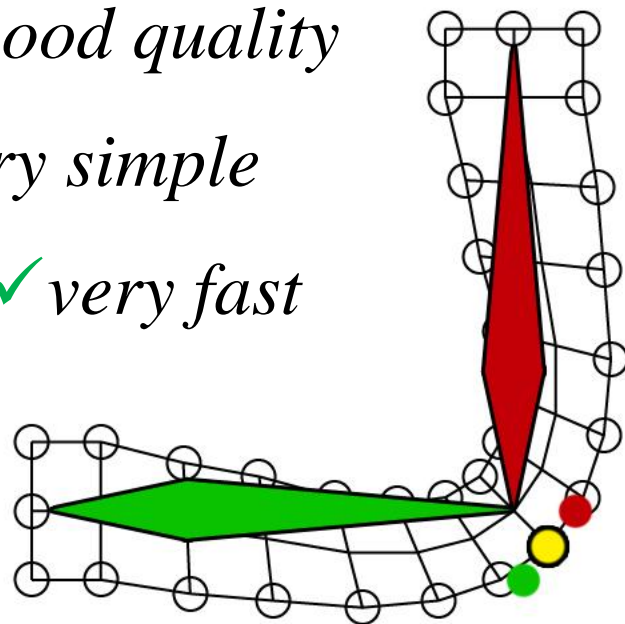
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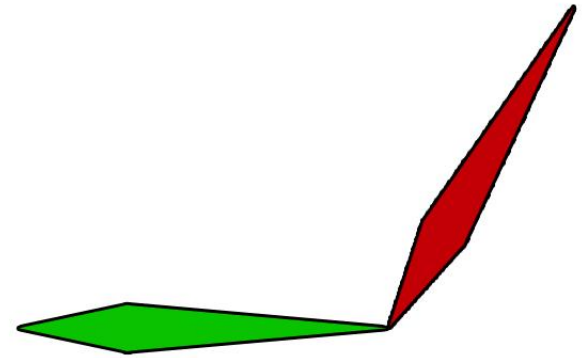
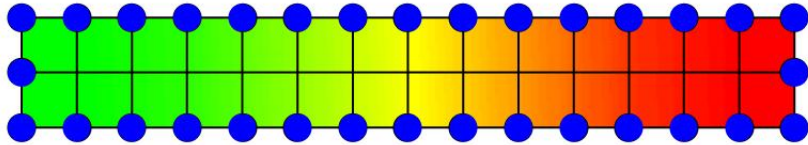
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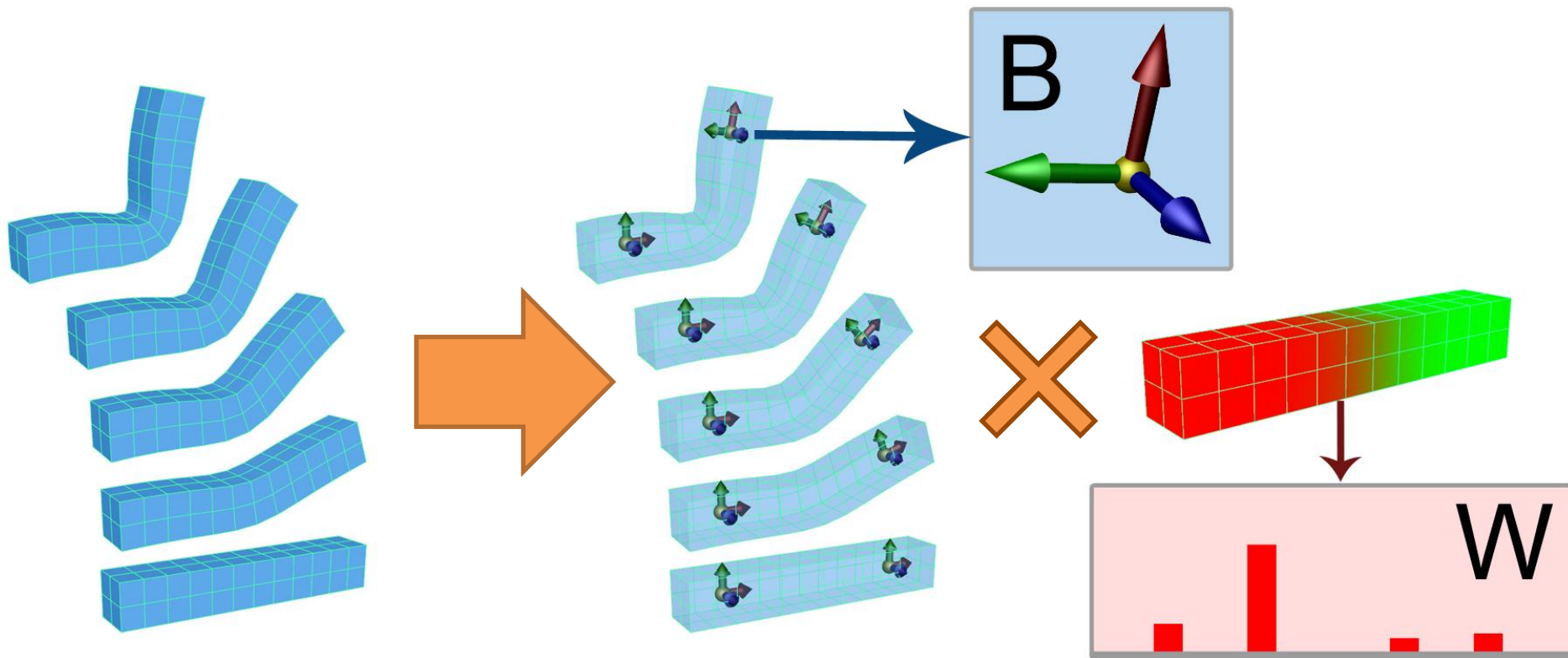
➔ *most popular
skinning model*

Linear Blend Skinning (LBS)

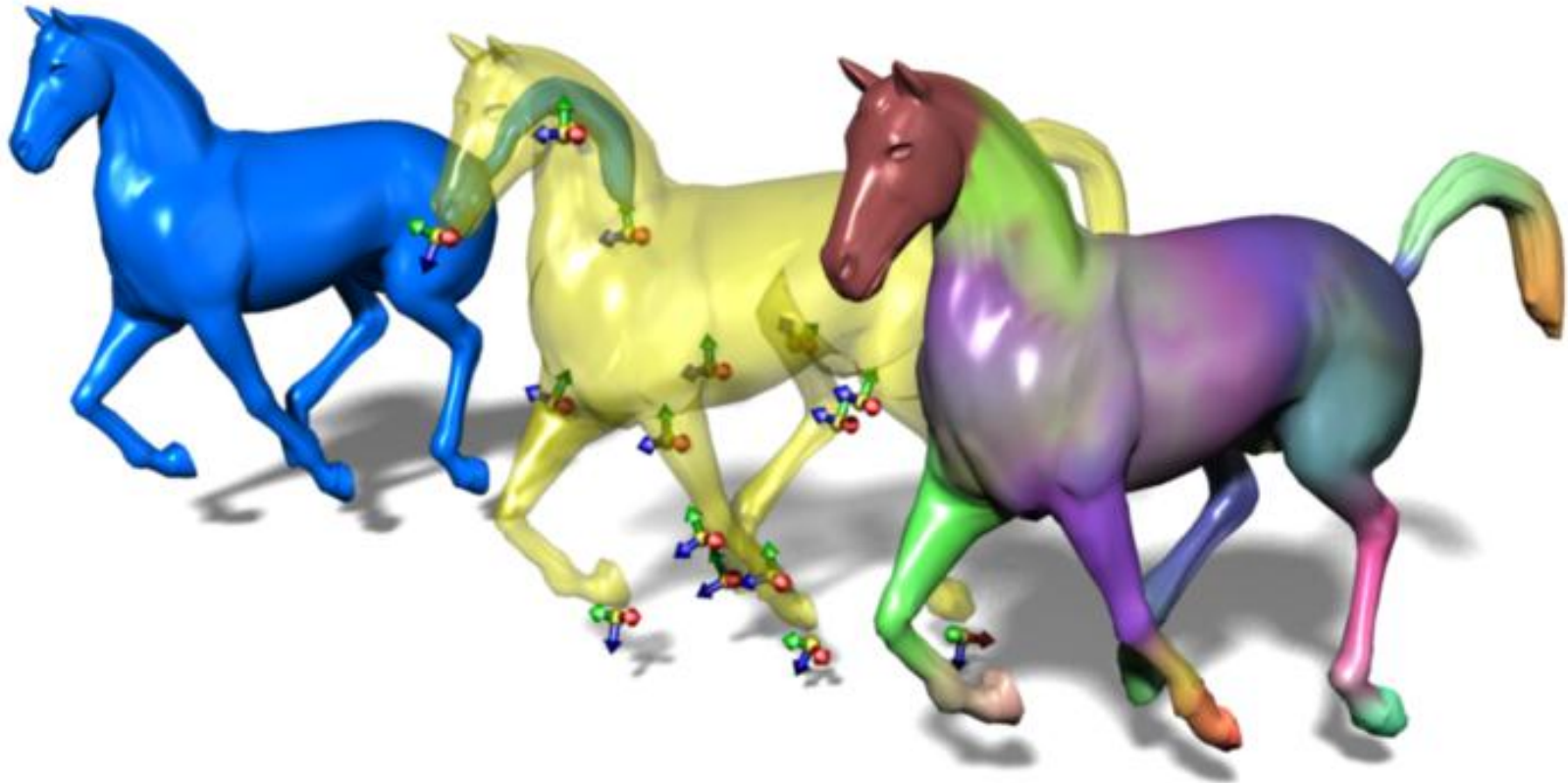


Skinning Decomposition

Skinning Decomposition



Skinning Decomposition



Applications

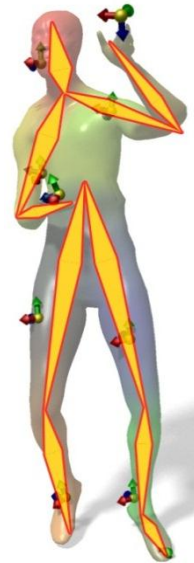
- Rigging, animation editing



Performance capture seq.



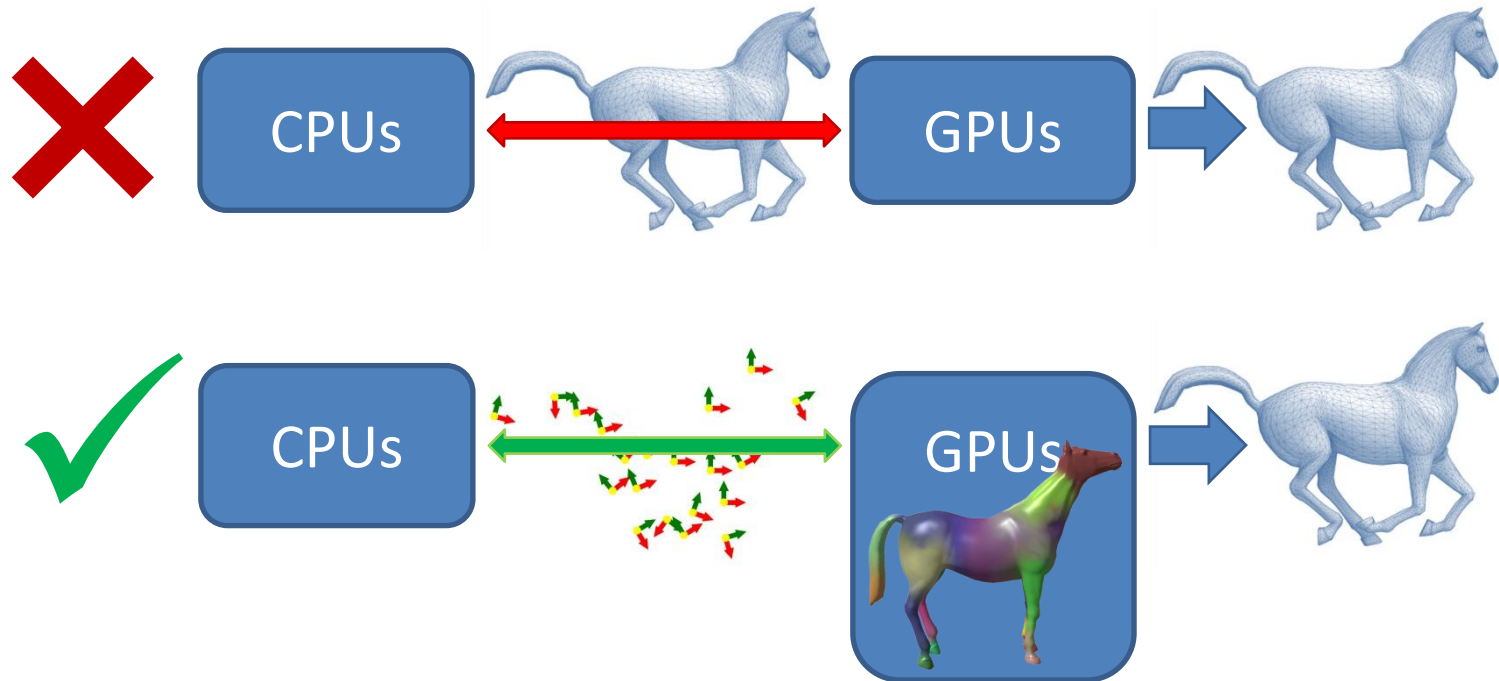
Skinning
Decomposition



Skeleton
Extraction

Applications

- Rigging, animation editing
- Compression, hardware accelerated rendering



Applications

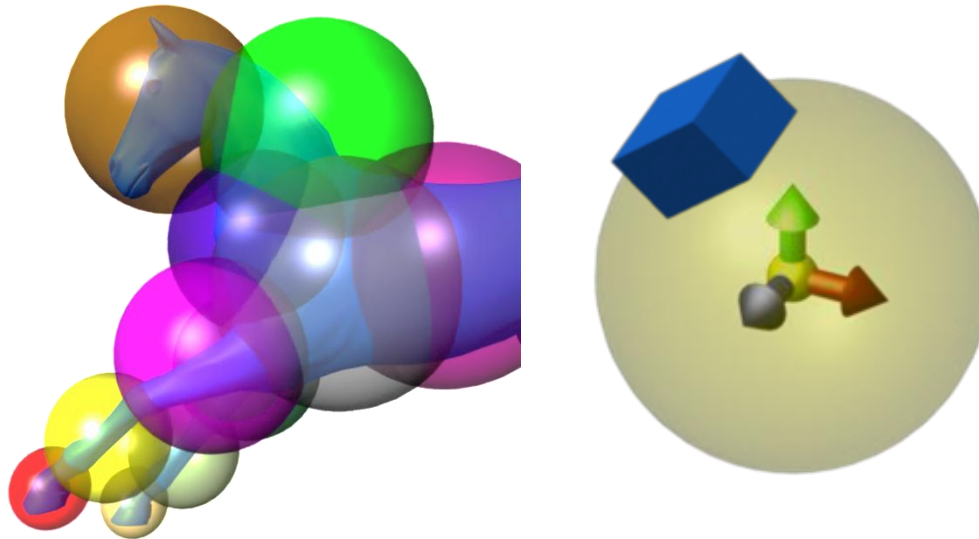
- Rigging, animation editing
- Compression, hardware accelerated rendering
- Segmentation, meshes simplification



Skinning Weights

Applications

- Rigging, animation editing
- Compression, hardware accelerated rendering
- Segmentation, meshes simplification
- Collision detection



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Skinning Decomposition

Smooth Skinning Decomposition with **Rigid** Bones

Input: Example poses

Output: Linear Blend Skinning model

- Sparse, convex weights
- **Rigid bone transformations**
- No skeleton hierarchy

Smooth Skinning Decomposition with **Rigid** Bones

Input: Example poses

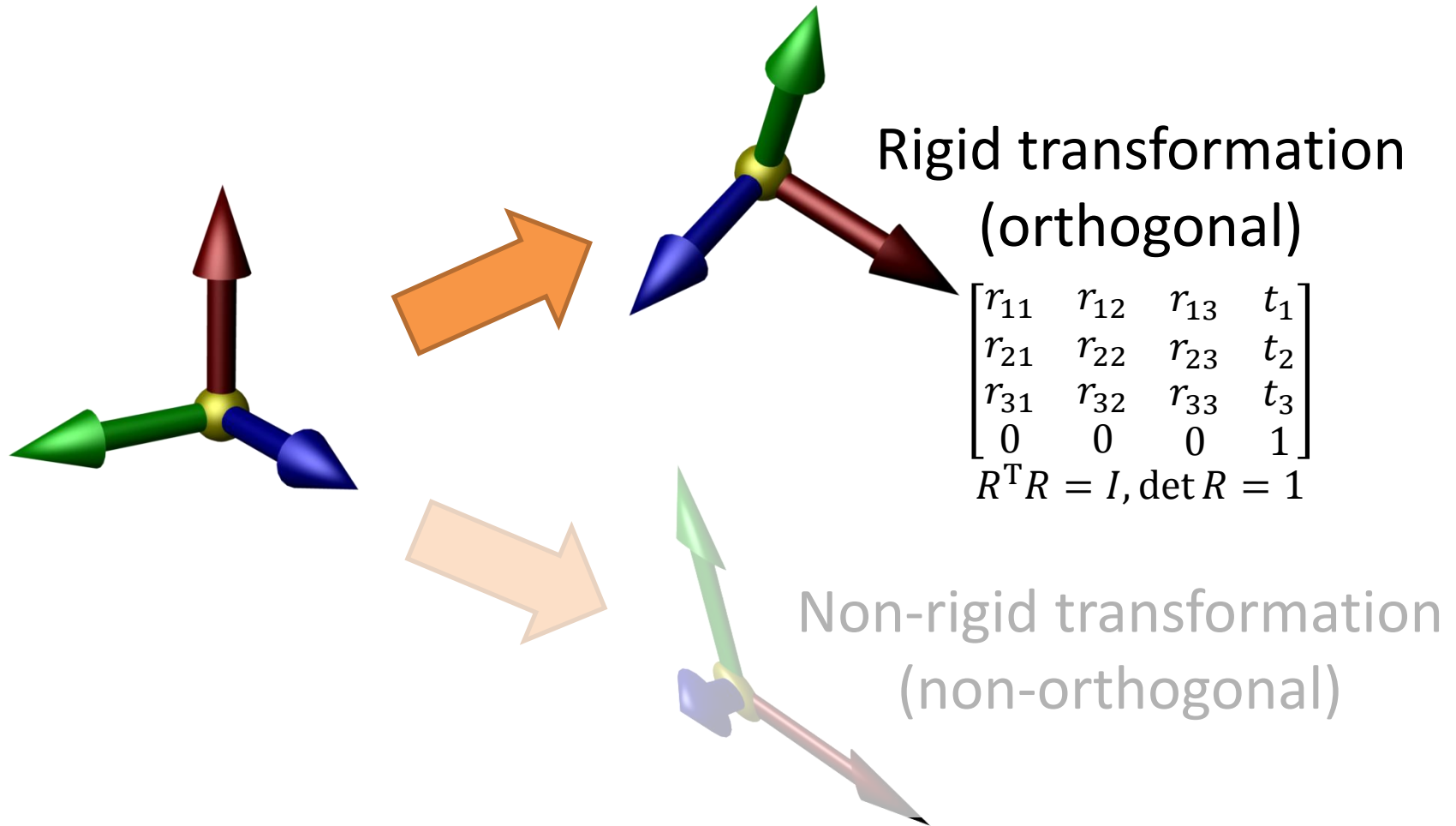
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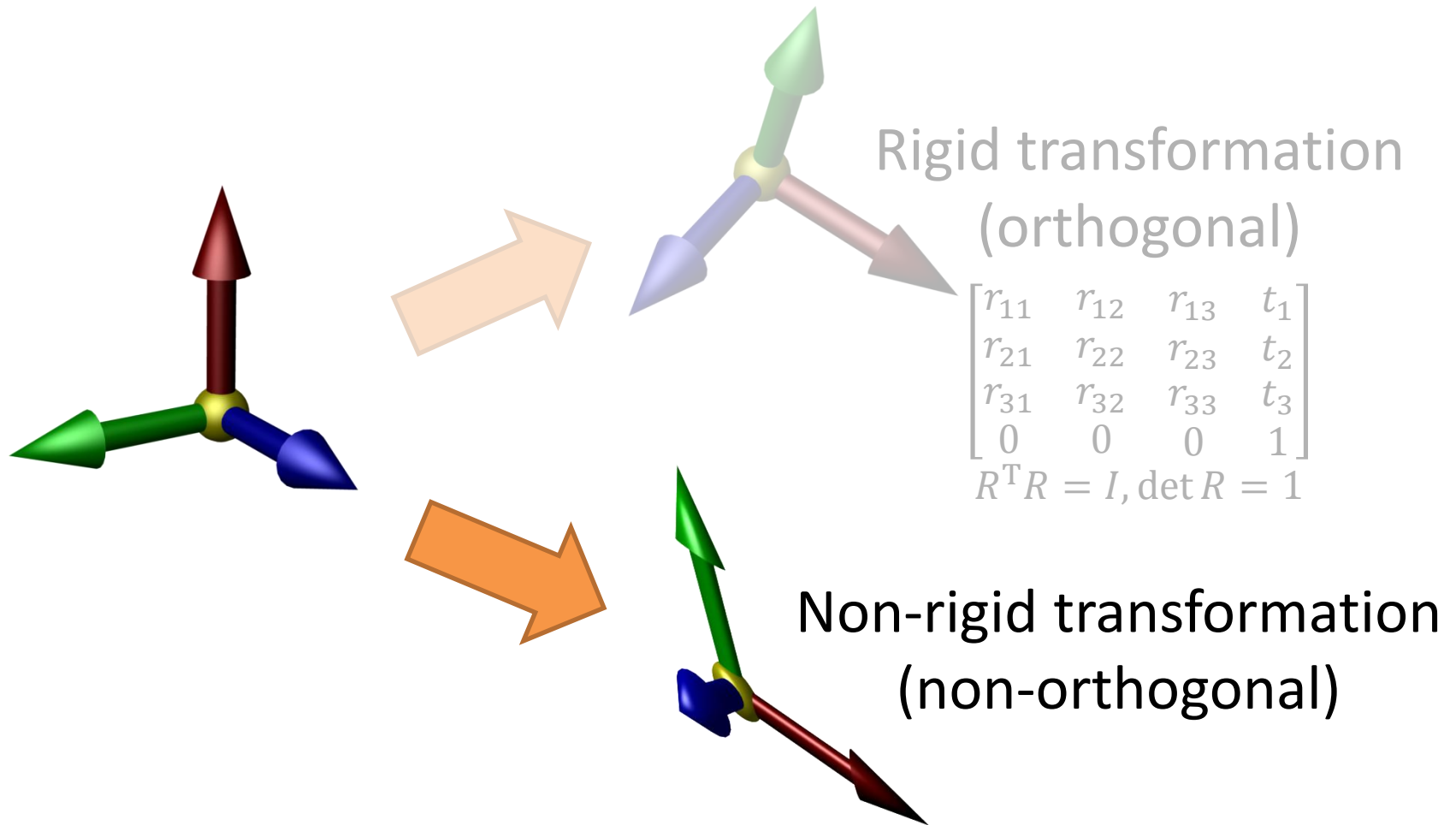
Goals:

- ✓ Approximate highly deformation models
- ✓ Fast performance
- ✓ Simple implementation

Rigid Bones v.s. Flexible Bones

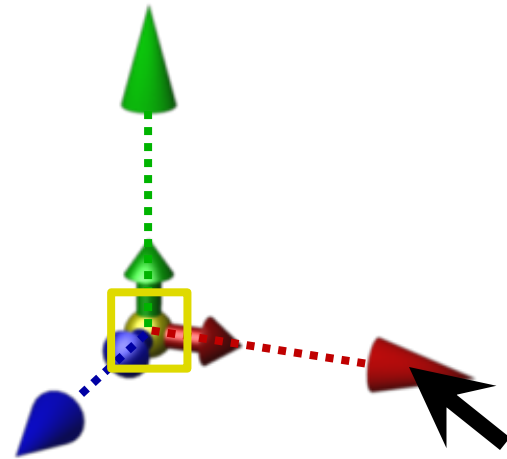
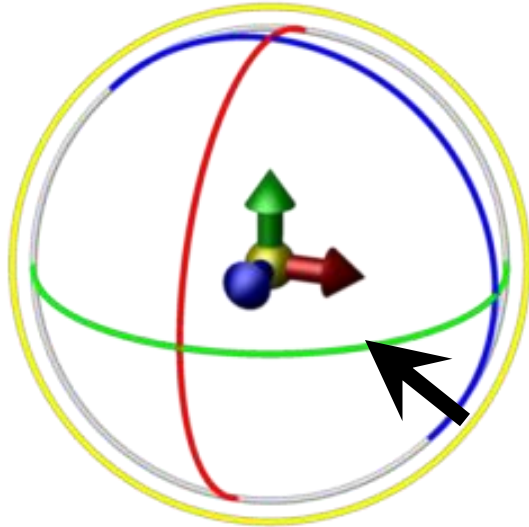


Rigid Bones v.s. Flexible Bones



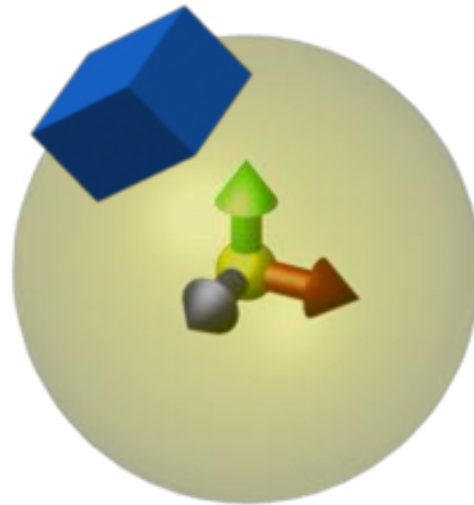
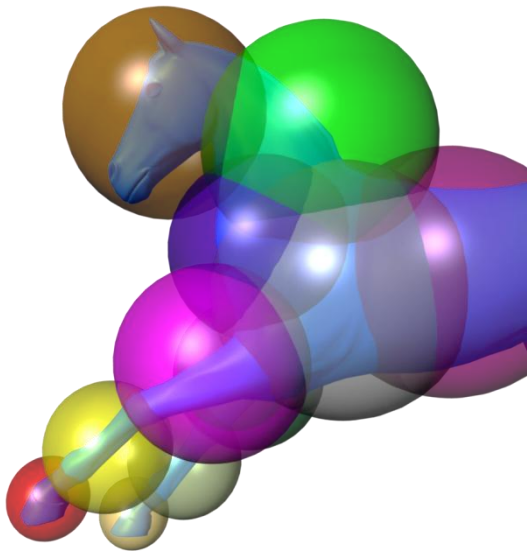
Benefits of Rigid Bones

- ✓ Animation editing

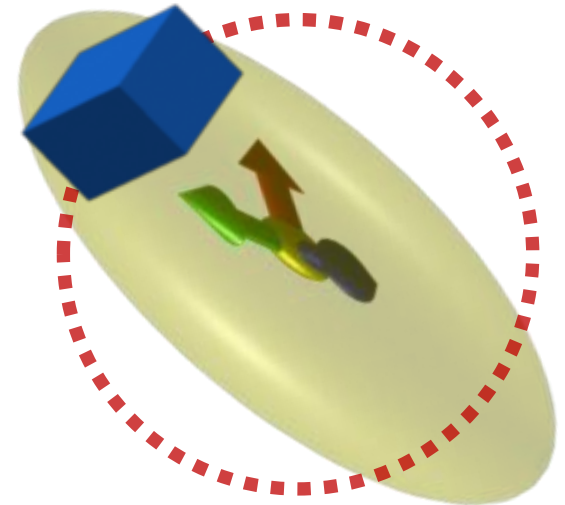


Benefits of Rigid Bones

- ✓ Animation editing
- ✓ Collision detection



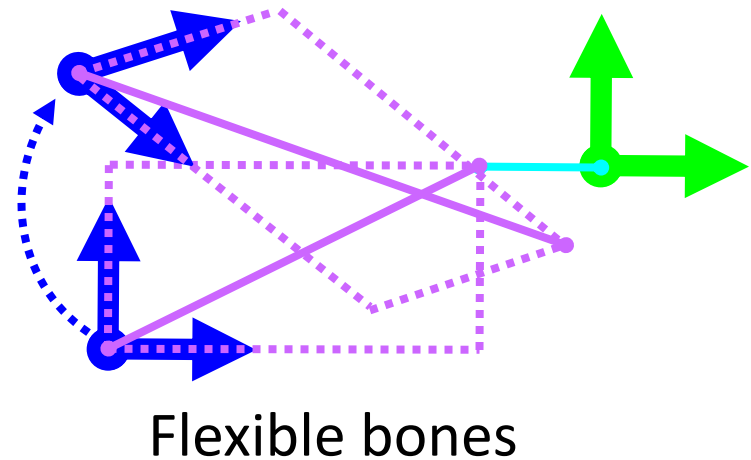
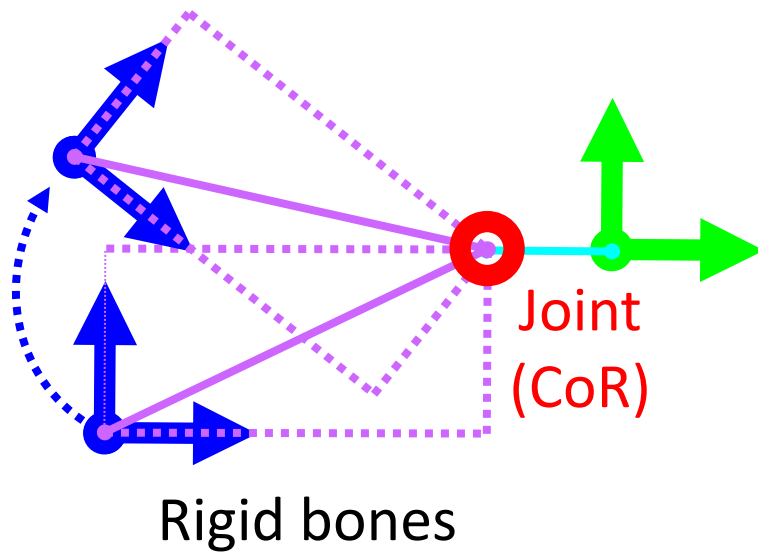
Rigid bone



Flexible bone

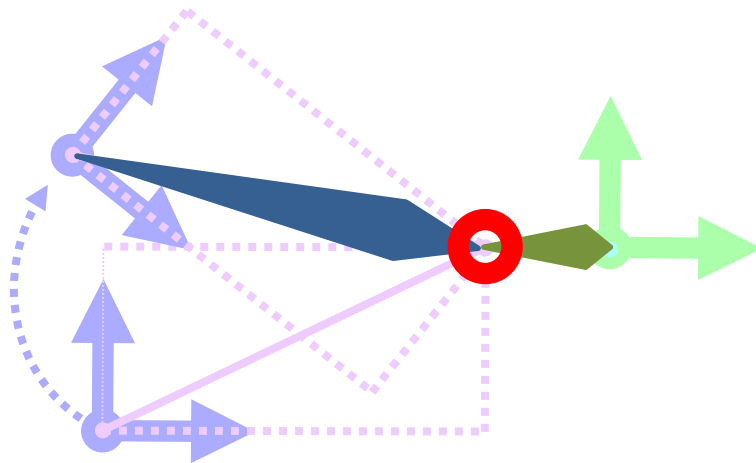
Benefits of Rigid Bones

- ✓ Animation editing
- ✓ Collision detection
- ✓ Skeleton extraction

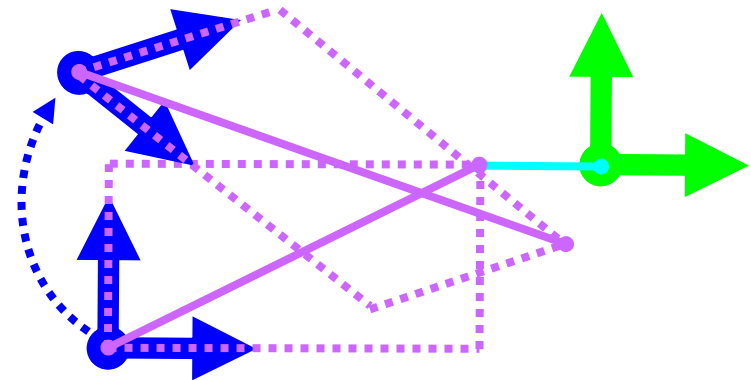


Benefits of Rigid Bones

- ✓ Animation editing
- ✓ Collision detection
- ✓ Skeleton extraction



Rigid bones



Flexible bones

Benefits of Rigid Bones

- ✓ Animation editing
- ✓ Collision detection
- ✓ Skeleton extraction
- ✓ Compact representation

$$(r_1, r_2, r_3, t_1, t_2, t_3)$$

v.s.

$$\begin{bmatrix} r_{11} & r_{12} & r_{13} & t_1 \\ r_{21} & r_{22} & r_{23} & t_2 \\ r_{31} & r_{32} & r_{33} & t_3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Rigid bone
6 DOFs

Flexible bone
12 DOFs

Benefits of Rigid Bones

- ✓ Animation editing
- ✓ Collision detection
- ✓ Skeleton extraction
- ✓ Compact representation

Rigid Bones

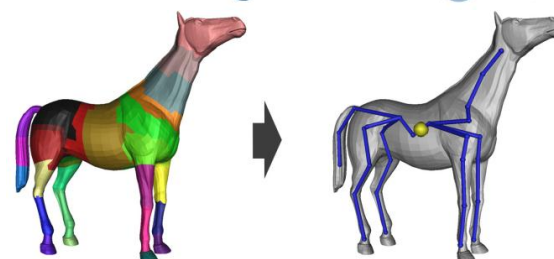
Previous Work

- Cluster triangles with similar deformations to get bones, then optimize skinning weights

- Skinning Mesh Animations [James and Twigg 2005]

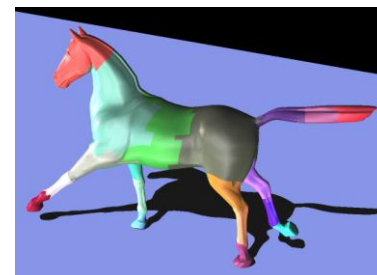


- Example-Based Skeleton Extraction [Schaefer and Yuksel 2007]



- Automatic Conversion of Mesh Animations into Skeleton-based Animations [de Aguiar et al. 2008]

✗ Not consider skin blending,
only good for nearly articulated models



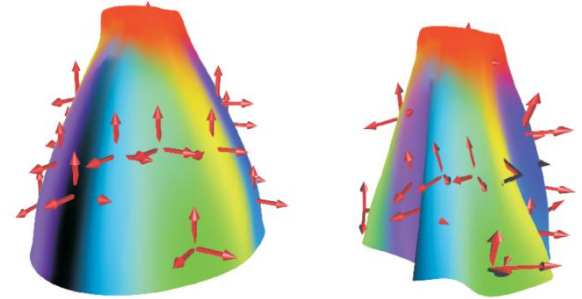
Previous Work

- Joint optimize bone transformations and skinning weights

- Fast and Efficient Skinning of Animated Meshes

[Kavan et al. 2010]

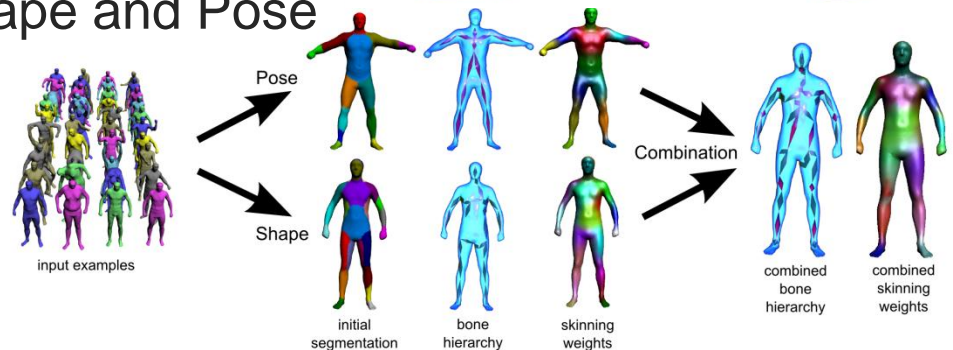
- ✓ Linear solvers
- ✗ Flexible bones



- Learning Skeletons for Shape and Pose

[Hasler et al. 2010]

- ✓ Rigid bones
- ✗ Non linear solver



✓ Good approximation of highly deformable models

⚠ Non-convex optimization, possibly with non-linear constraints

Smooth Skinning Decomposition with **Rigid** Bones

[Le and Deng 2012]

- ✓ Rigid bones
- ✓ Highly deformable models
- ✓ Linear solvers

Problem Formulation

$$\min_{w, R, T} E = \min_{w, R, T} \sum_{t=1}^{|t|} \sum_{i=1}^{|V|} \left\| v_i^t - \sum_{j=1}^{|B|} w_{ij} (R_j^t p_i + T_j^t) \right\|^2$$

Subject to: $w_{ij} \geq 0, \forall i, j$

Approximation Error

$$\sum_{j=1}^{|B|} w_{ij} = 1, \forall i$$

$$|\{w_{ij} | w_{ij} \neq 0\}| \leq |K|, \forall i$$

$$R_j^{t \top} R_j^t = I, \det R_j^t = 1, \forall t, j$$

Problem Formulation

$$\min_{w, R, T} E = \min_{w, R, T} \sum_{t=1}^{|t|} \sum_{i=1}^{|V|} \left\| v_i^t - \sum_{j=1}^{|B|} w_{ij} (R_j^t p_i + T_j^t) \right\|^2$$

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↓
Skinning Weights

Problem Formulation

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Bone Transformations

Problem Formulation

$$\min_{w, R, T} E = \min_{w, R, T} \sum_{t=1}^{|t|} \sum_{i=1}^{|V|} \left\| v_i^t - \sum_{j=1}^{|B|} w_{ij} (R_j^t p_i + T_j^t) \right\|^2$$

Subject to: $w_{ij} \geq 0, \forall i, j$ \rightarrow Non-negativity

$$\sum_{j=1}^{|B|} w_{ij} = 1, \forall i \rightarrow \text{Affinity}$$

$$|\{w_{ij} | w_{ij} \neq 0\}| \leq |K|, \forall i \rightarrow \text{Sparseness}$$

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Problem Formulation

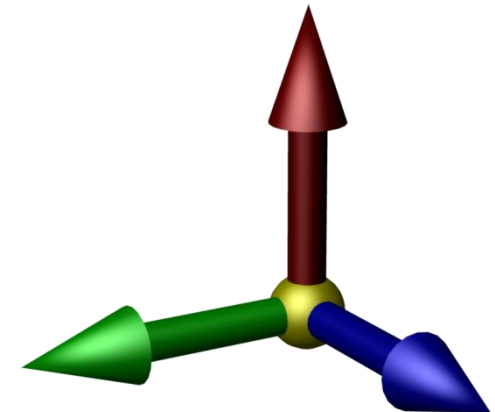
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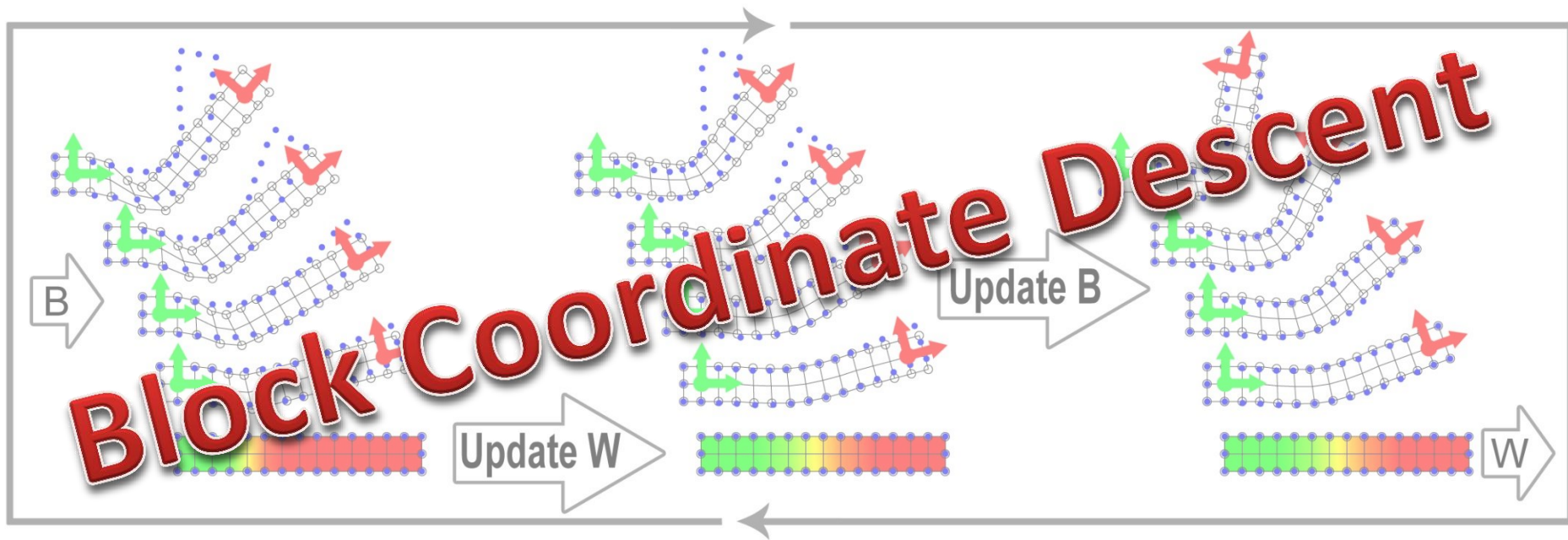


→ Orthogonal

! Non-linear

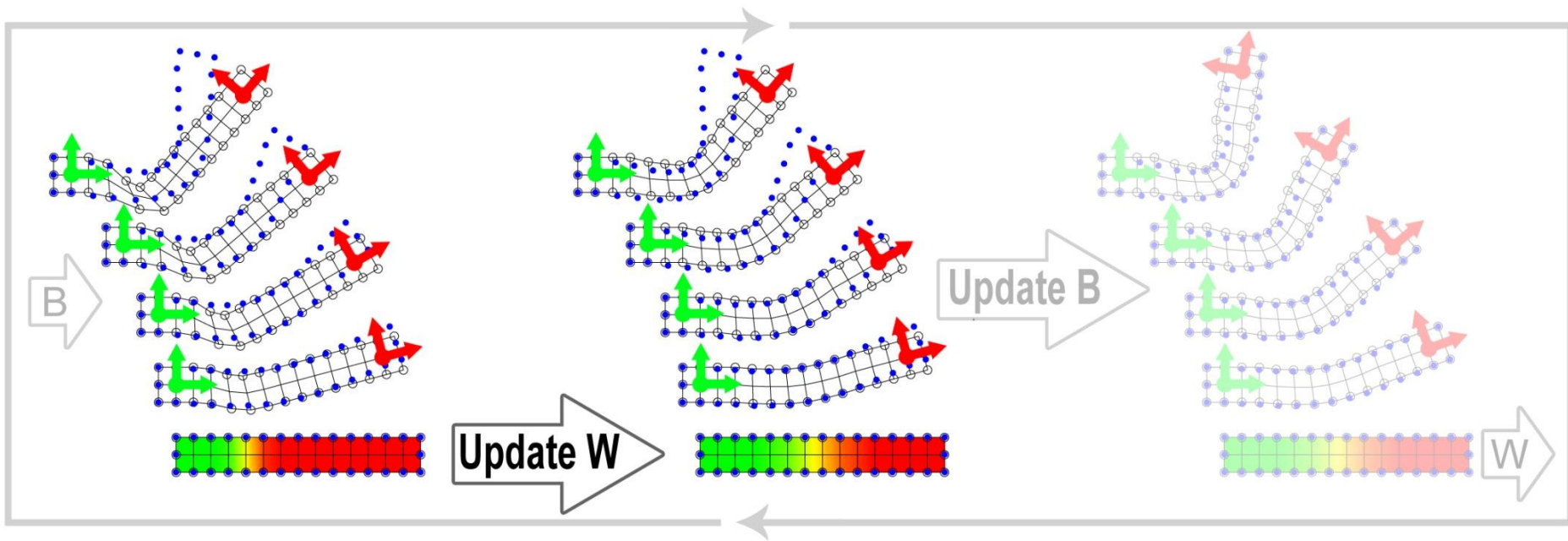
Skinning Decomposition Algorithm

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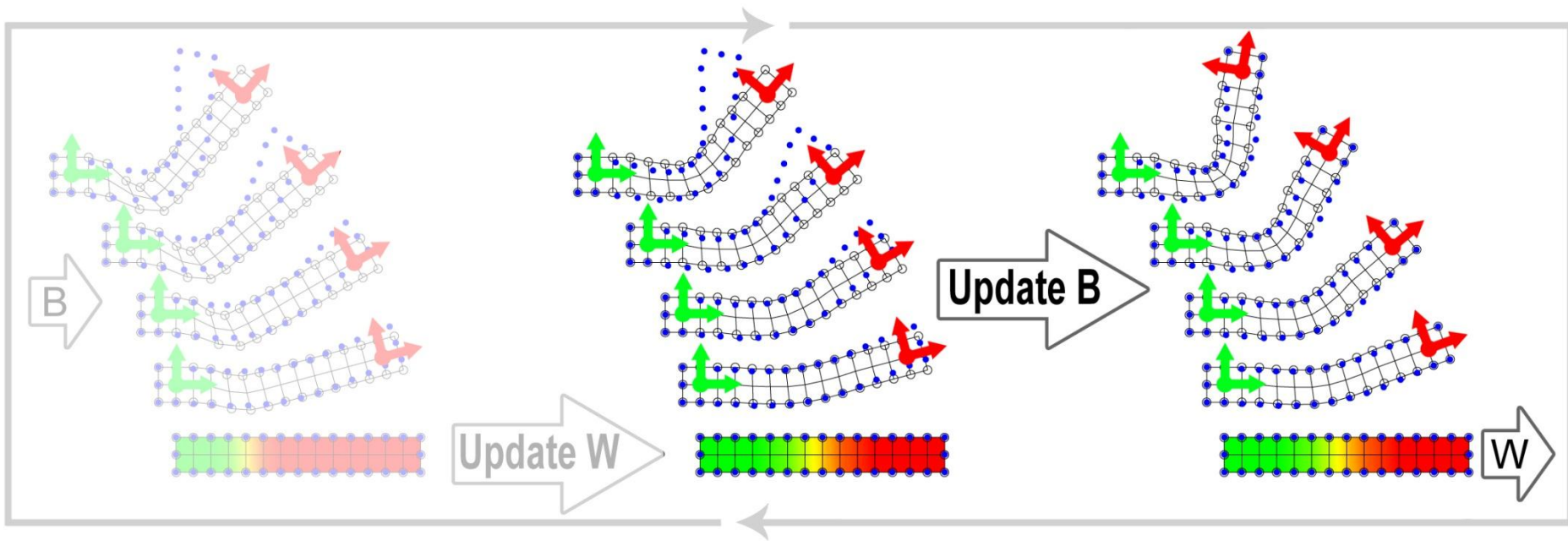
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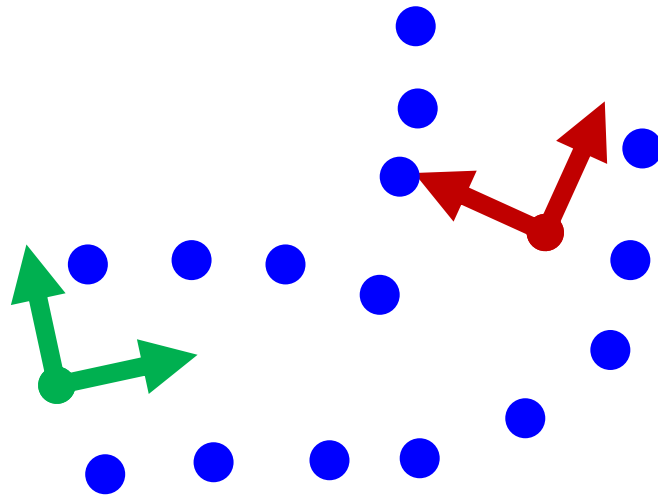
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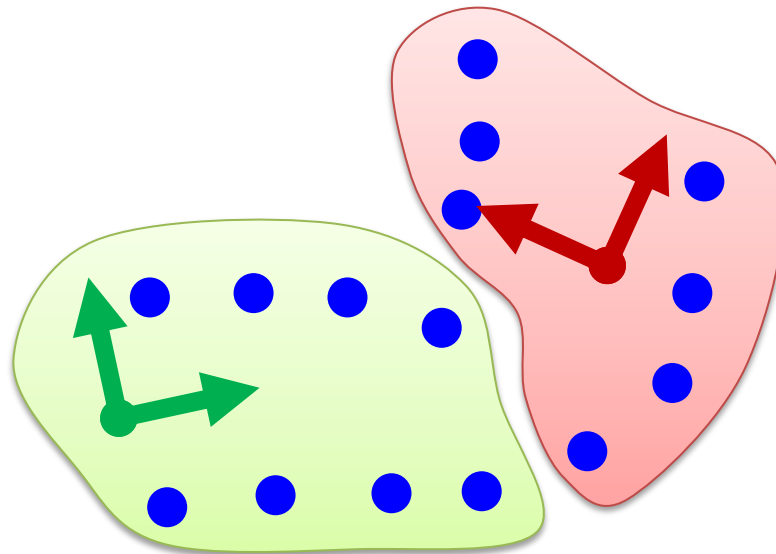
Initialization

- No blending (rigid binding): each vertex is driven by exactly one bone
- Assign $|V|$ vertices into $|B|$ clusters
- K-means clustering



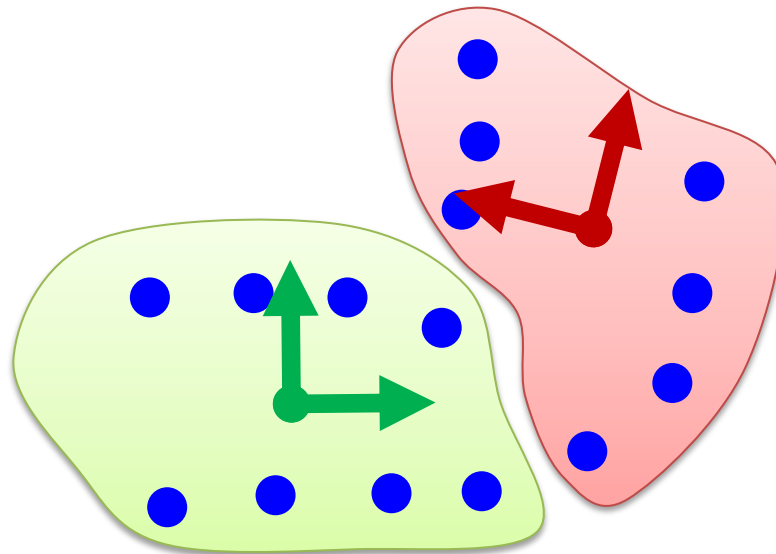
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Skinning Weights Solver

- Per vertex solver: Constrained Linear Least Squares

$$W_i^T = \arg \min_x \|Ax - b\|^2$$

Subject to: $x \geq 0$

$$\|x\|_1 = 1$$

$$\|x\|_0 \leq |K|$$

Skinning Weights Solver

- Per vertex solver: Constrained Linear Least Squares

$$W_i^\top = \arg \min_x \|Ax - b\|^2$$

Subject to: $x \geq 0$ \longrightarrow Bound Constraint

$\|x\|_1 = 1$ \longrightarrow Equality Constraint

$$\|x\|_0 \leq |K|$$

- Active Set Method [Lawson and Hanson]
 - Pre-compute LU factorization of $A^\top A$ and $A^\top b$
 - Pre-compute QR decomposition of $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & \cdots & 1 \end{bmatrix}^\top$

Skinning Weights Solver

- Per vertex solver: Constrained Linear Least Squares

$$W_i^T = \arg \min_x \|Ax - b\|^2$$

Subject to: $x \geq 0$

$$\|x\|_1 = 1$$

$$\|x\|_0 \leq |K| \rightarrow \text{Sparseness Constraint}$$

- Weight pruning of bones with small contribution

$$e_{ij} = \|w_{ij}(R_j^t p_i + T_j^t)\|^2$$

Keep $|K|$ bones with largest e_{ij} and solve the LS again

Bone Transformations Solver

- Per example pose solver:

$$\min_{R^t, T^t} E^t = \min_{R^t, T^t} \sum_{i=1}^{|V|} \left\| v_i^t - \sum_{j=1}^{|B|} w_{ij} (R_j^t p_i + T_j^t) \right\|^2$$

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Bone Transformations Solver

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Subject to: $R_j^{t\top} R_j^t = I, \det R_j^t = 1$



Levenberg-Marquardt optimization



Optimized solution

✗ Slow



Absolute Orientation (a.k.a. Procrustes Analysis)

[Kabsch 1978; Horn 1987]



Fast

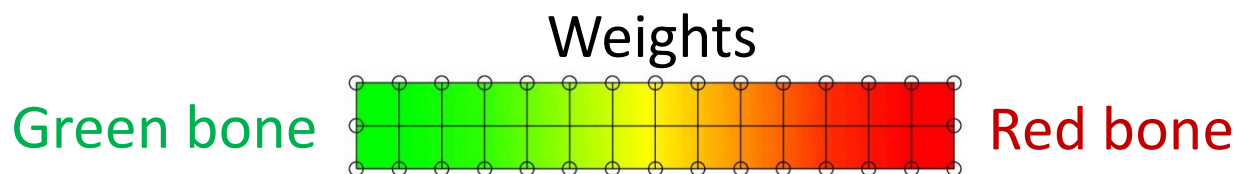
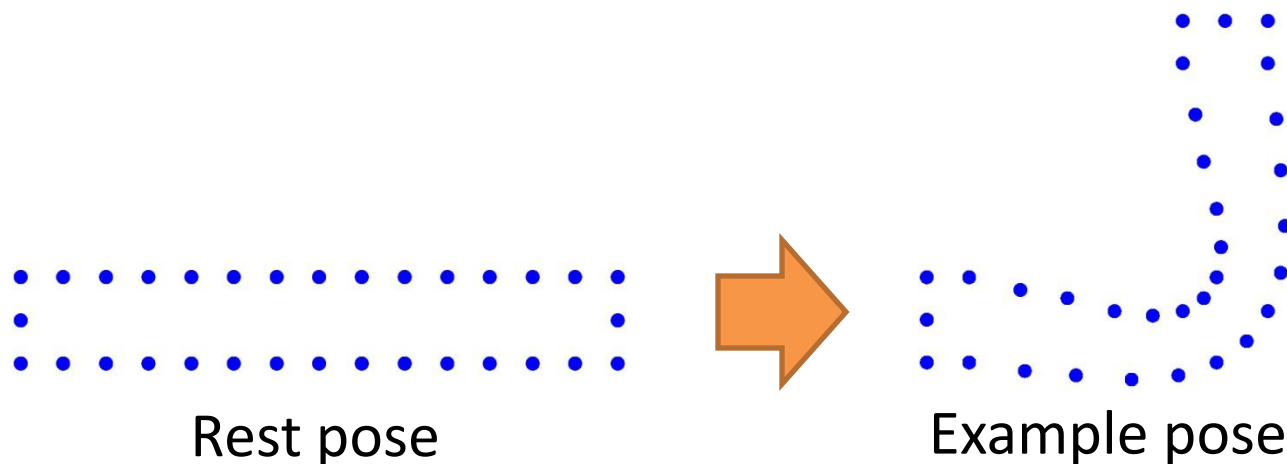
✗ Approximate solution

Bone Transformations Solver

- Our solution: Solve bone transformation **one-by-one** to minimize the deformation residual of remaining bones
 - ✓ Linear solver, fast, and simple
 - ✓ Near optimized solution

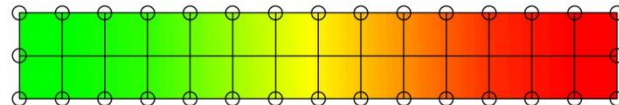
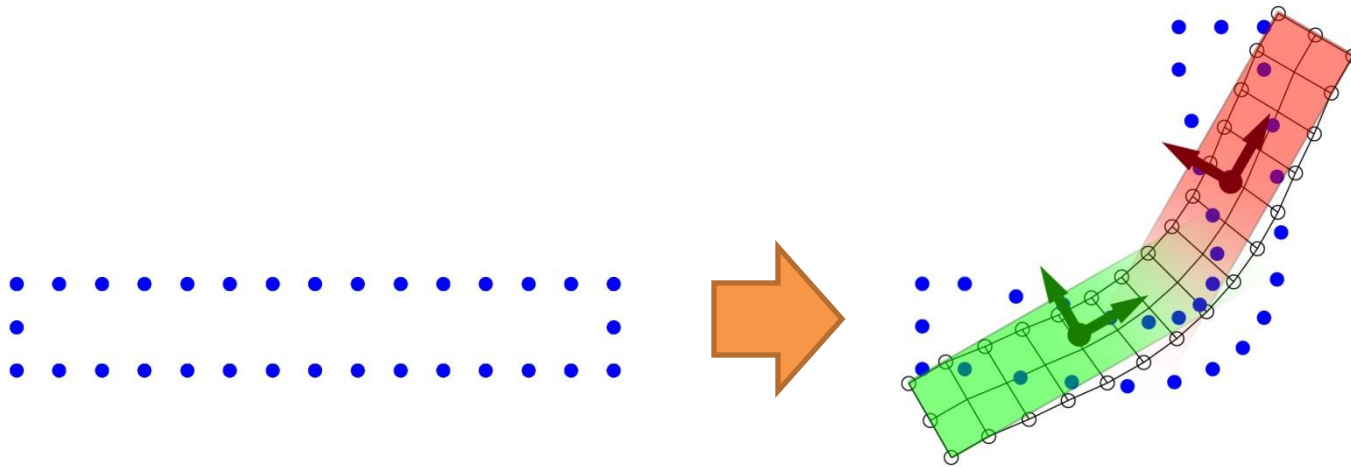
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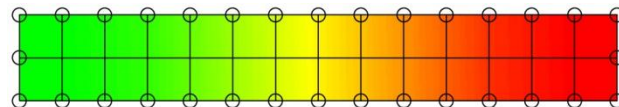
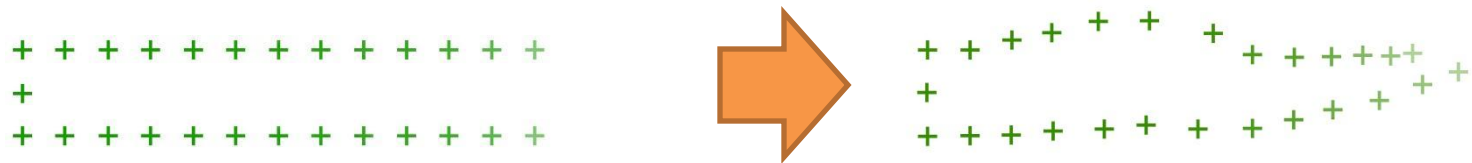
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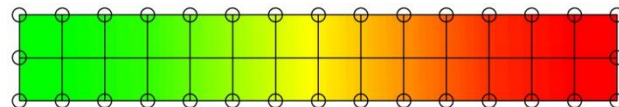
Bone Transformations Solver

- Our solution: Solve bone transformation **one-by-one** to minimize the deformation residual of remaining bones



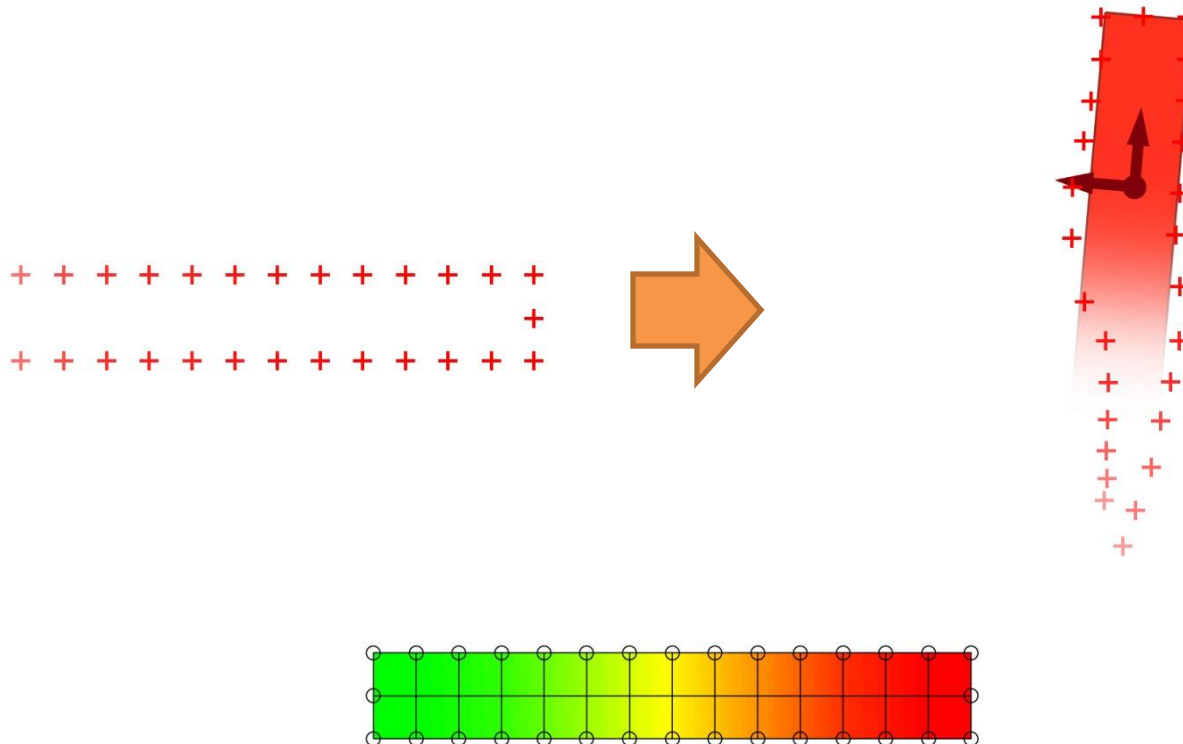
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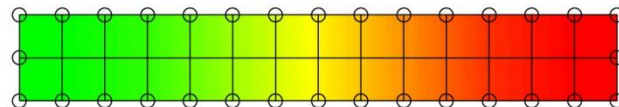
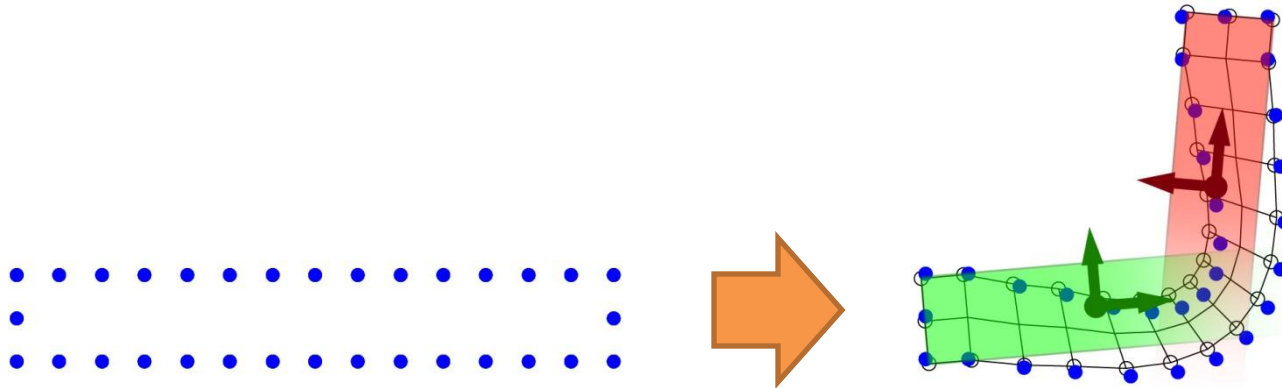
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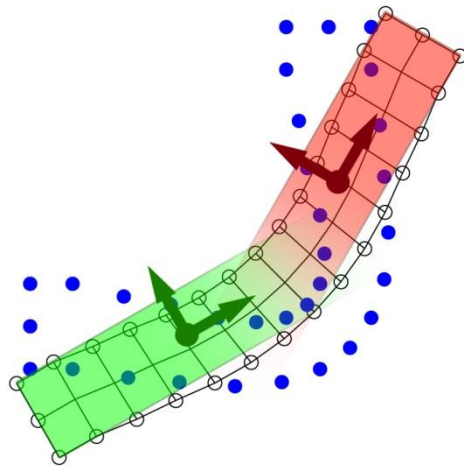
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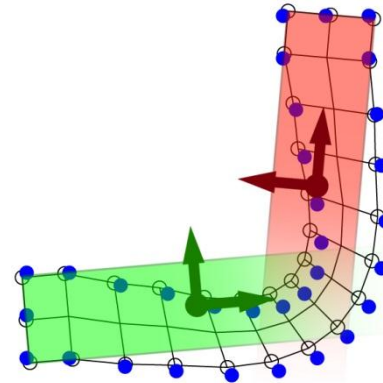


Bone Transformations Solver

- Our solution: Solve bone transformation **one-by-one** to minimize the deformation residual of remaining bones



Before



After

Bone Transformations Solver

- The residual q_i^t for bone \hat{j}

$$E^t = \left\| v_i^t - \sum_{j=1}^{|B|} w_{ij} (R_j^t p_i + T_j^t) \right\|^2$$

$$E_{\hat{j}}^t = \sum_{i=1}^{|V|} \left\| \underbrace{v_i^t - \sum_{j=1, j \neq \hat{j}}^{|B|} w_{ij} (R_j^t p_i + T_j^t)}_{q_i^t} - \boxed{w_{i\hat{j}} (R_{\hat{j}}^t p_i + T_{\hat{j}}^t)} \right\|^2$$

Bone Transformations Solver

- The residual q_i^t for bone \hat{j}

$$E^t = \left\| v_i^t - \sum_{j=1}^{|B|} w_{ij} (R_j^t p_i + T_j^t) \right\|^2$$

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Bone \hat{j} out

- Now find rigid transformation

$$p_i \xrightarrow{(R_{\hat{j}}^t, T_{\hat{j}}^t)} q_i^t$$

Bone Transformations Solver

- Remove the translation

$$\begin{aligned}\bar{p}_i &= p_i - p_* \\ \bar{q}_i^t &= q_i^t - w_{i\hat{j}} q_*^t\end{aligned}$$

Center of Rotation:

$$p_* = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{|V|} w_{i\hat{j}}^2 p_i}{\sum_{i=1}^{|V|} w_{i\hat{j}}^2}$$

$$q_*^t = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{|V|} w_{i\hat{j}} q_i^t}{\sum_{i=1}^{|V|} w_{i\hat{j}}^2}$$

- Calculate the rotation by Singular Value Decomposition

Compare Equations

- Remove the translation

Our method	Weighted Absolute Orientation
$\bar{p}_i = p_i - p_*$ $\bar{q}_i^t = q_i^t - w_{i\hat{j}} q_*^t$	$\bar{p}_i = p_i - p_*$ $\bar{q}_i^t = q_i^t - q_*^t$
Center of Rotation:	Center of Rotation:
$p_* = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{ V } w_{i\hat{j}}^2 p_i}{\sum_{i=1}^{ V } w_{i\hat{j}}^2}$	$p_* = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{ V } w_{i\hat{j}} p_i}{\sum_{i=1}^{ V } w_{i\hat{j}}}$
$q_*^t = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{ V } w_{i\hat{j}} q_i^t}{\sum_{i=1}^{ V } w_{i\hat{j}}^2}$	$v_*^t = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{ V } w_{i\hat{j}} v_i^t}{\sum_{i=1}^{ V } w_{i\hat{j}}}$

Why there are differences?

Compare Equations

Our method	Weighted Absolute Orientation
$E^t = \left\ v_i^t - \sum_{j=1}^{ B } w_{ij} (R_j^t p_i + T_j^t) \right\ ^2$ <p style="text-align: center;">↑</p>	$E^t = \sum_{j=1}^{ B } \sum_{i=1}^{ V } w_{ij} \left\ v_i^t - (R_j^t p_i + T_j^t) \right\ ^2$ <p style="text-align: center;">↑</p>

Different objective functions!

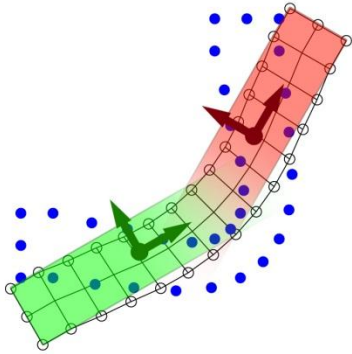
Compare Equations

Our method	Weighted Absolute Orientation
$E^t = \left\ v_i^t - \underbrace{\sum_{j=1}^{ B } w_{ij} (R_j^t p_i + T_j^t)}_{\text{Bone blending}} \right\ ^2$	$E^t = \sum_{j=1}^{ B } \sum_{i=1}^{ V } w_{ij} \left\ v_i^t - \underbrace{(R_j^t p_i + T_j^t)}_{\text{No blending}} \right\ ^2$

Different objective functions!

Toy Example

Our method

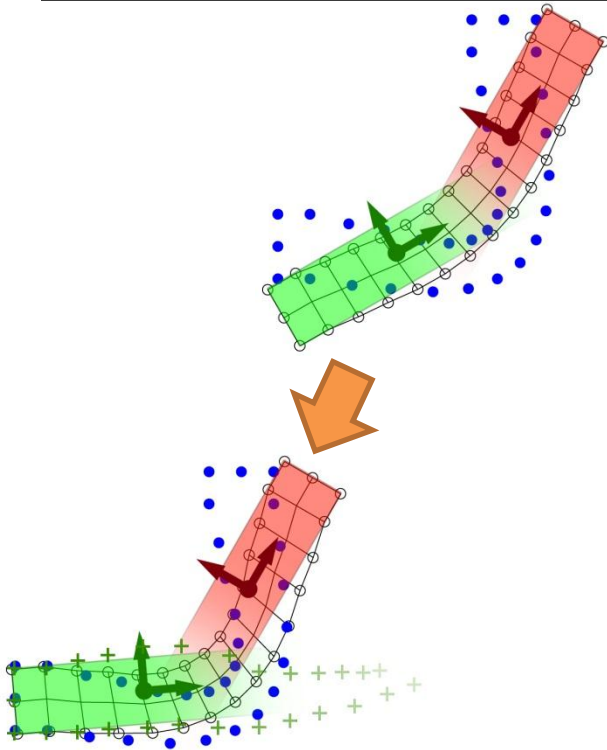


Weighted Absolute Orientation

Toy Example

Our method

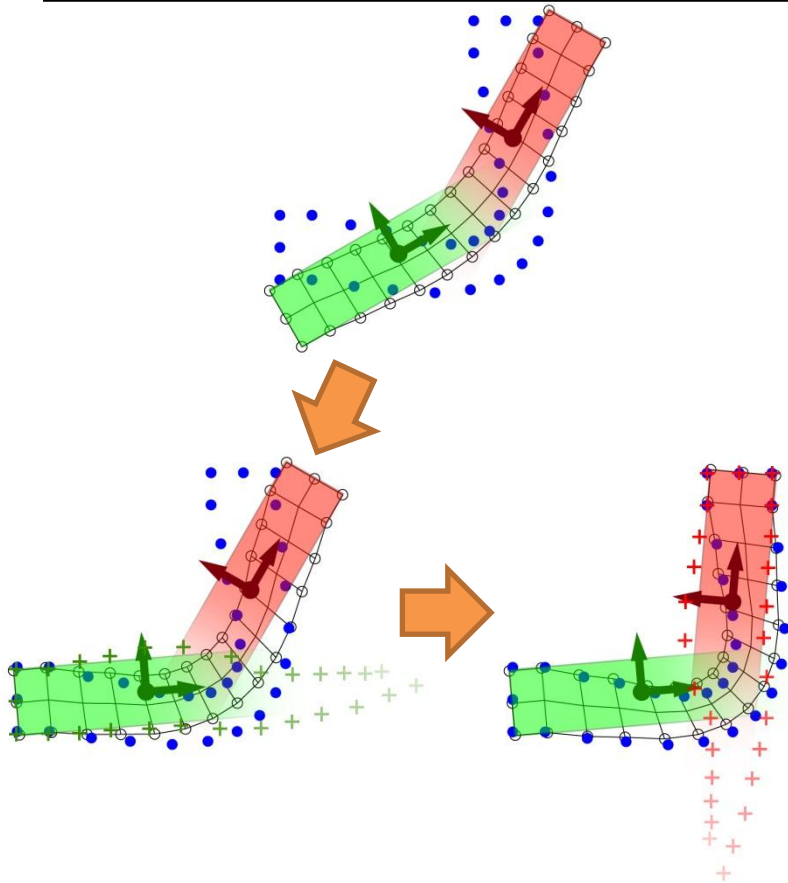
Weighted Absolute Orientation



Toy Example

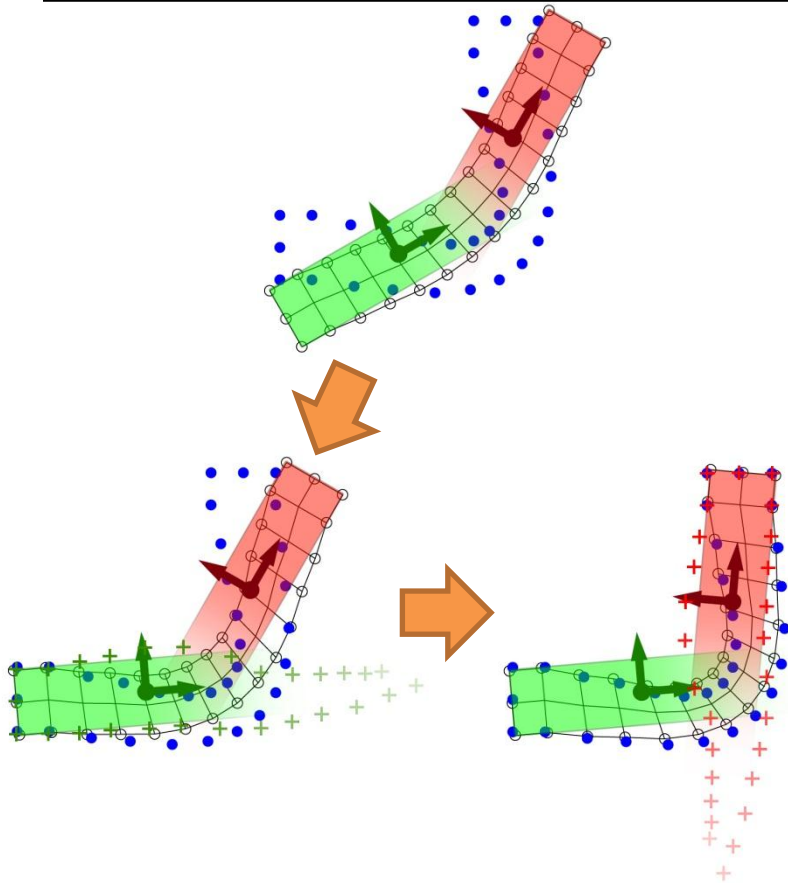
Our method

Weighted Absolute Orientation

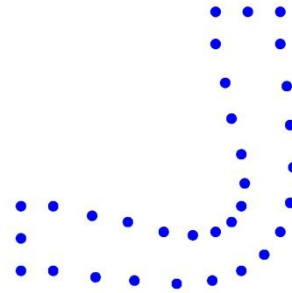


Toy Example

Our method

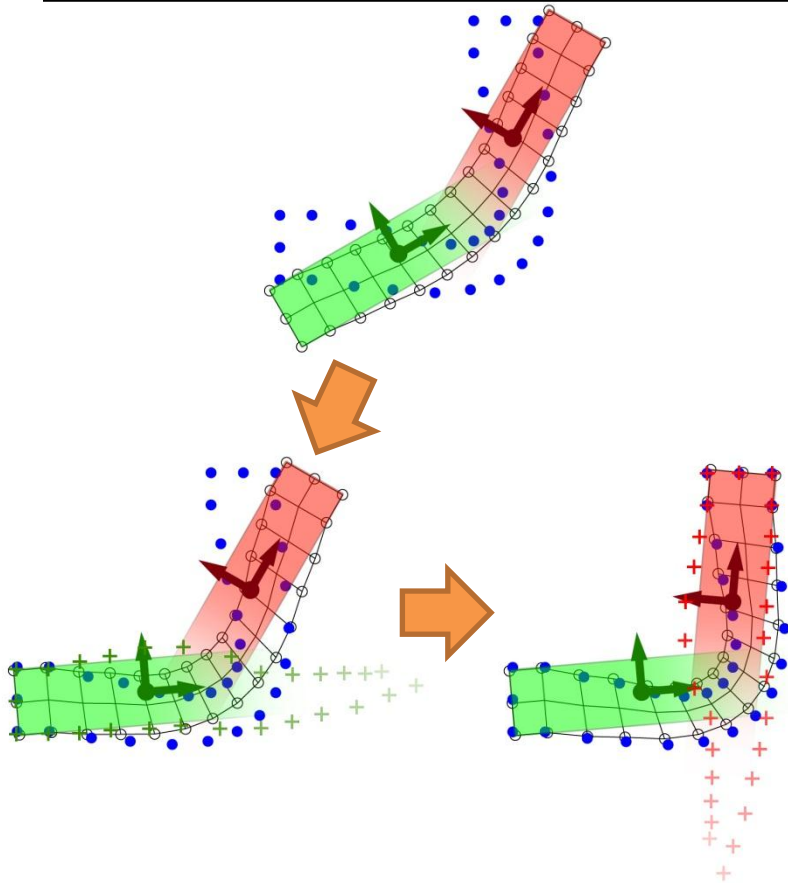


Weighted Absolute Orientation

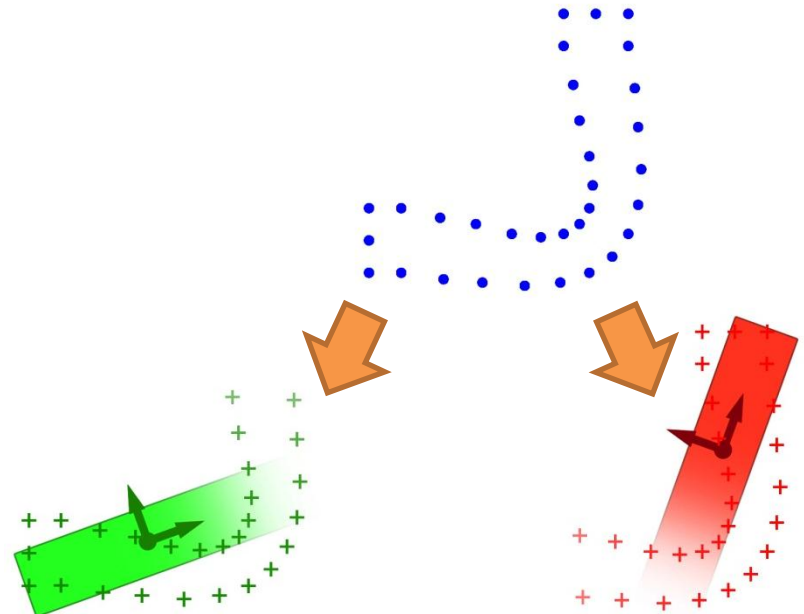


Toy Example

Our method

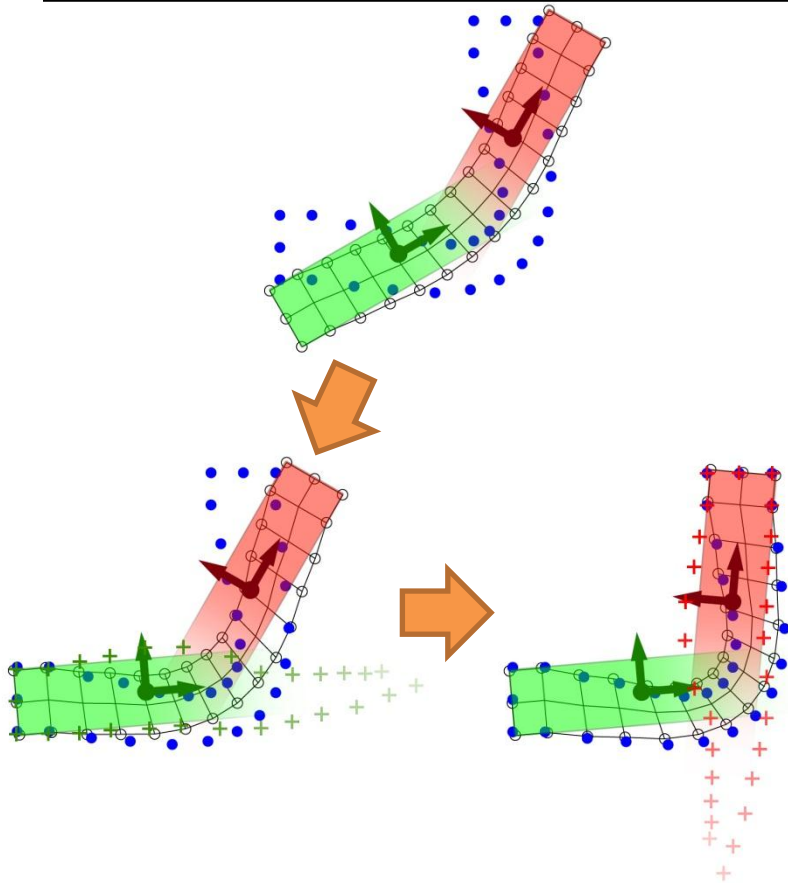


Weighted Absolute Orientation

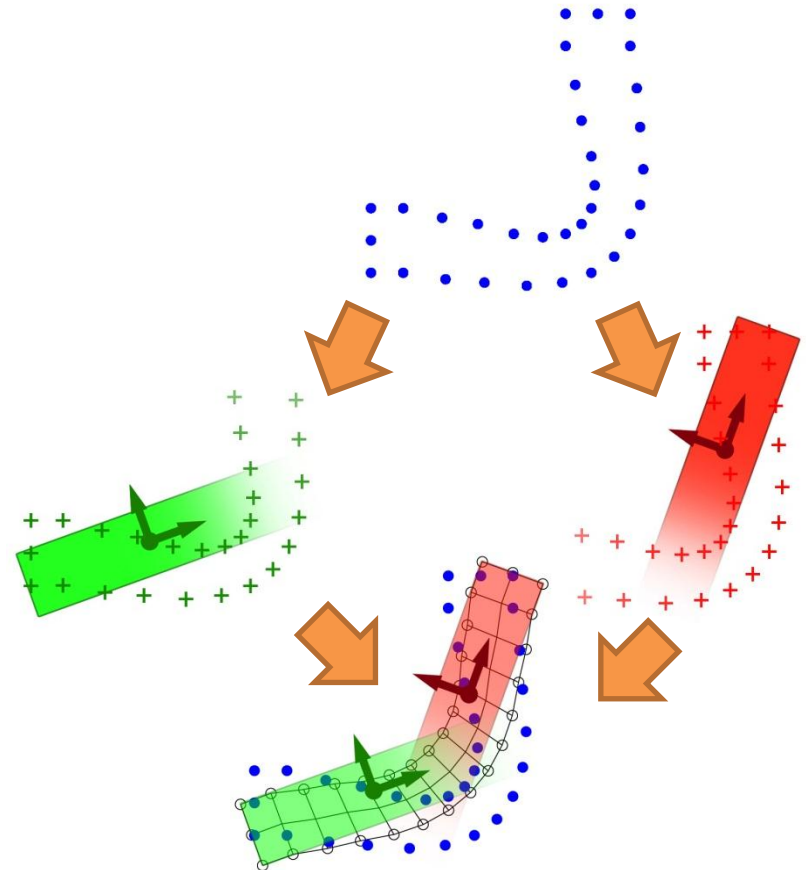


Toy Example

Our method



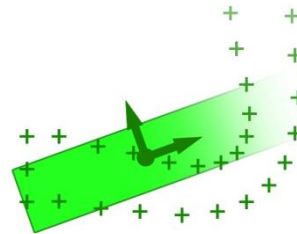
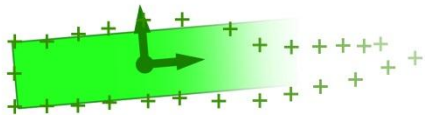
Weighted Absolute Orientation



Toy Example

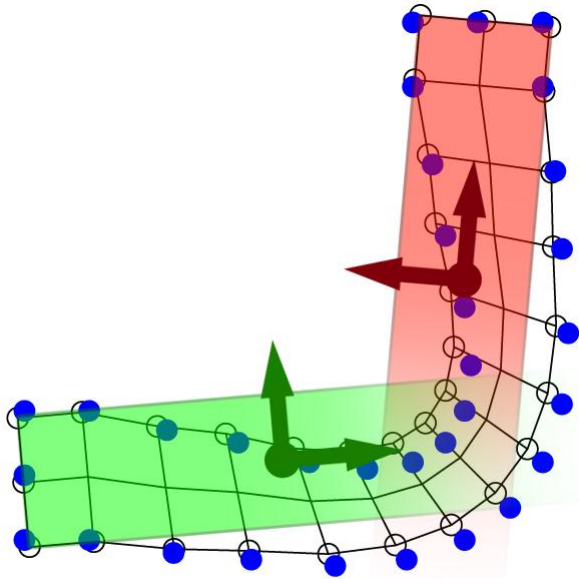
Our method

Weighted Absolute Orientation

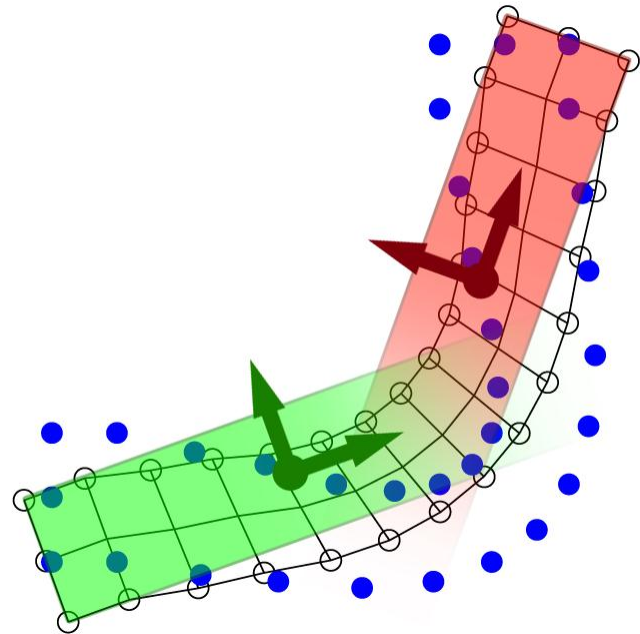


Toy Example

Our method



Weighted Absolute Orientation



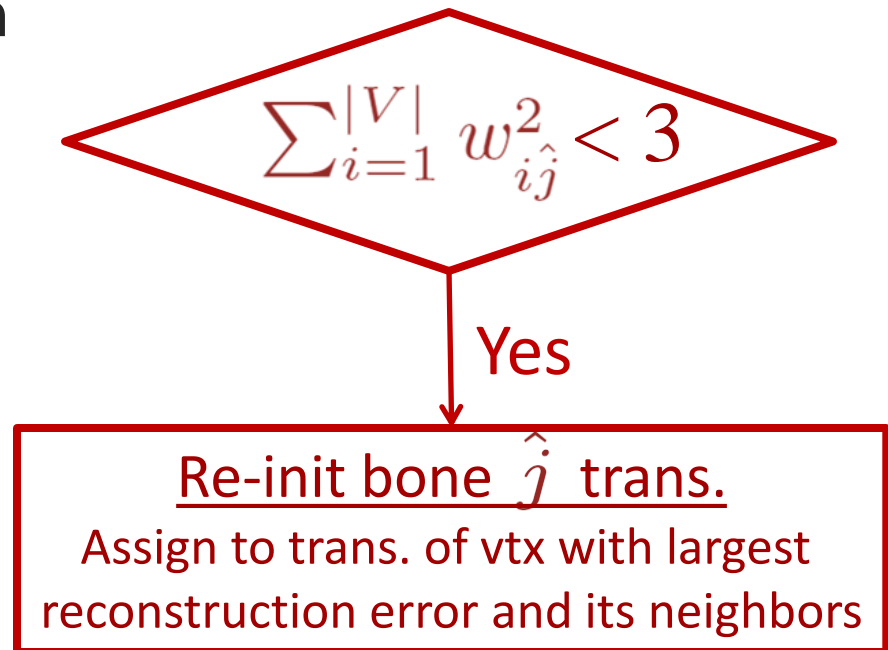
Bone Transformations Re-Initialization

- Recall: Center of Rotation

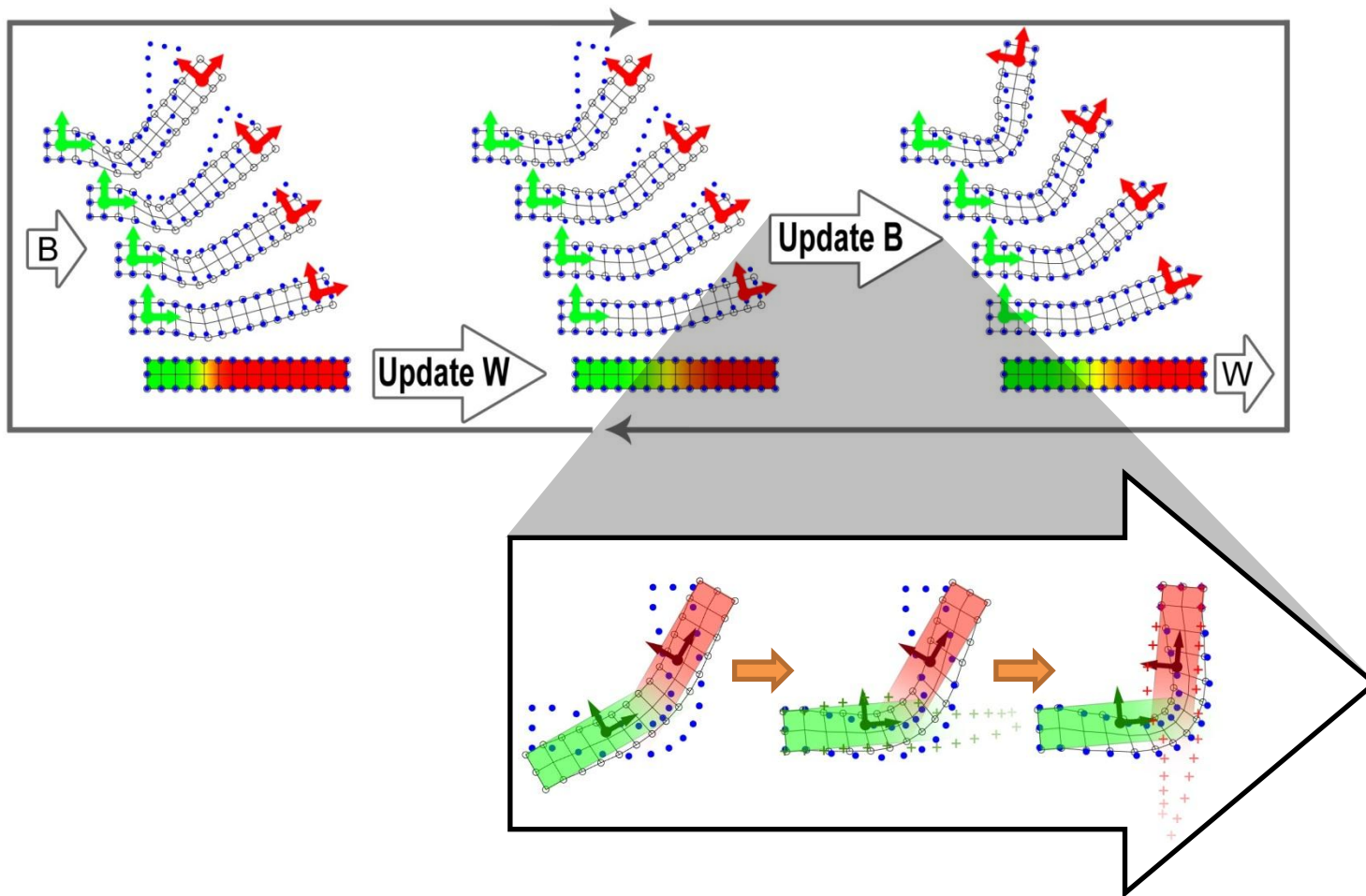
$$p_* = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{|V|} w_{i\hat{j}}^2 p_i}{\sum_{i=1}^{|V|} w_{i\hat{j}}^2}$$

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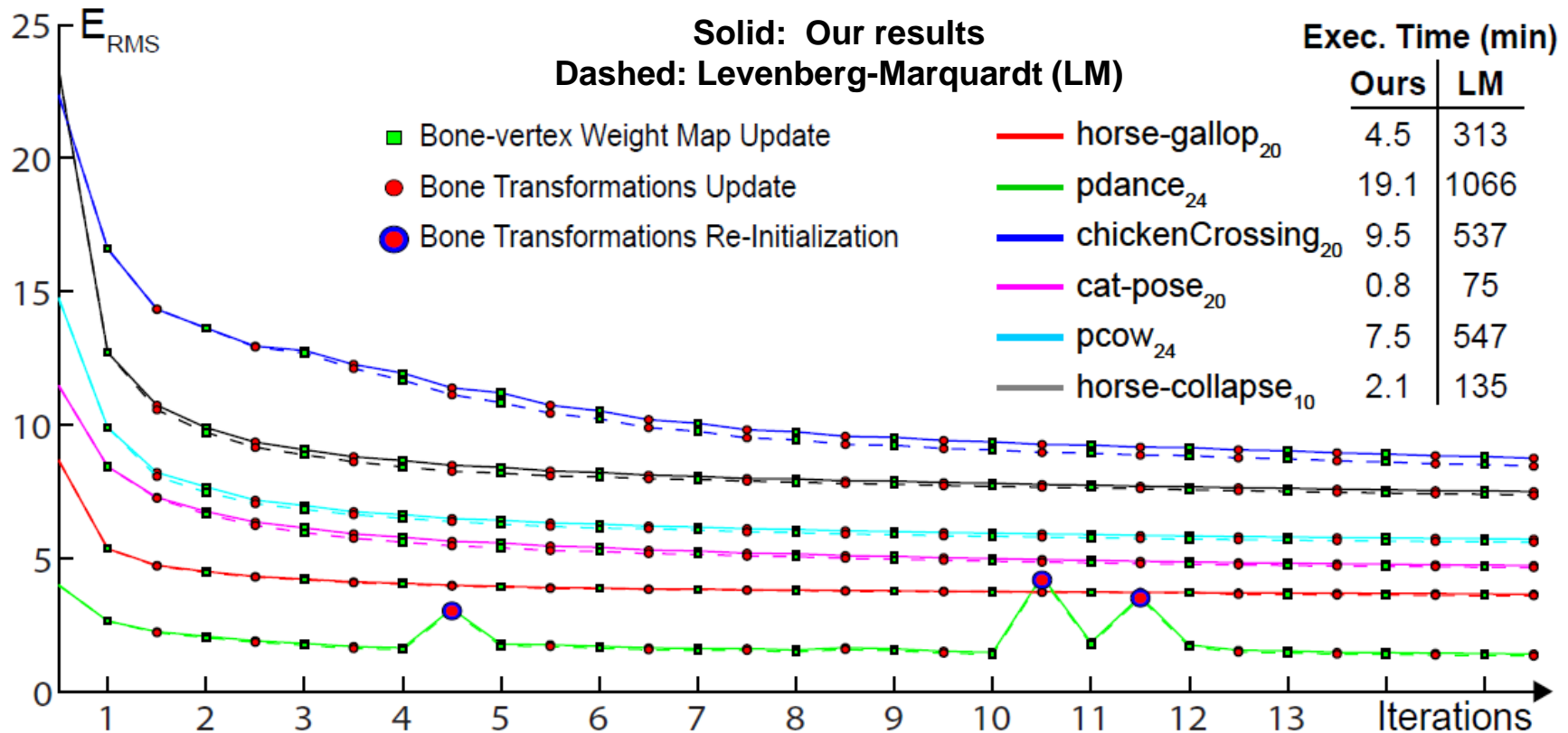
- Improve stability
- Jump out of local minimums



Summary of Our Algorithm

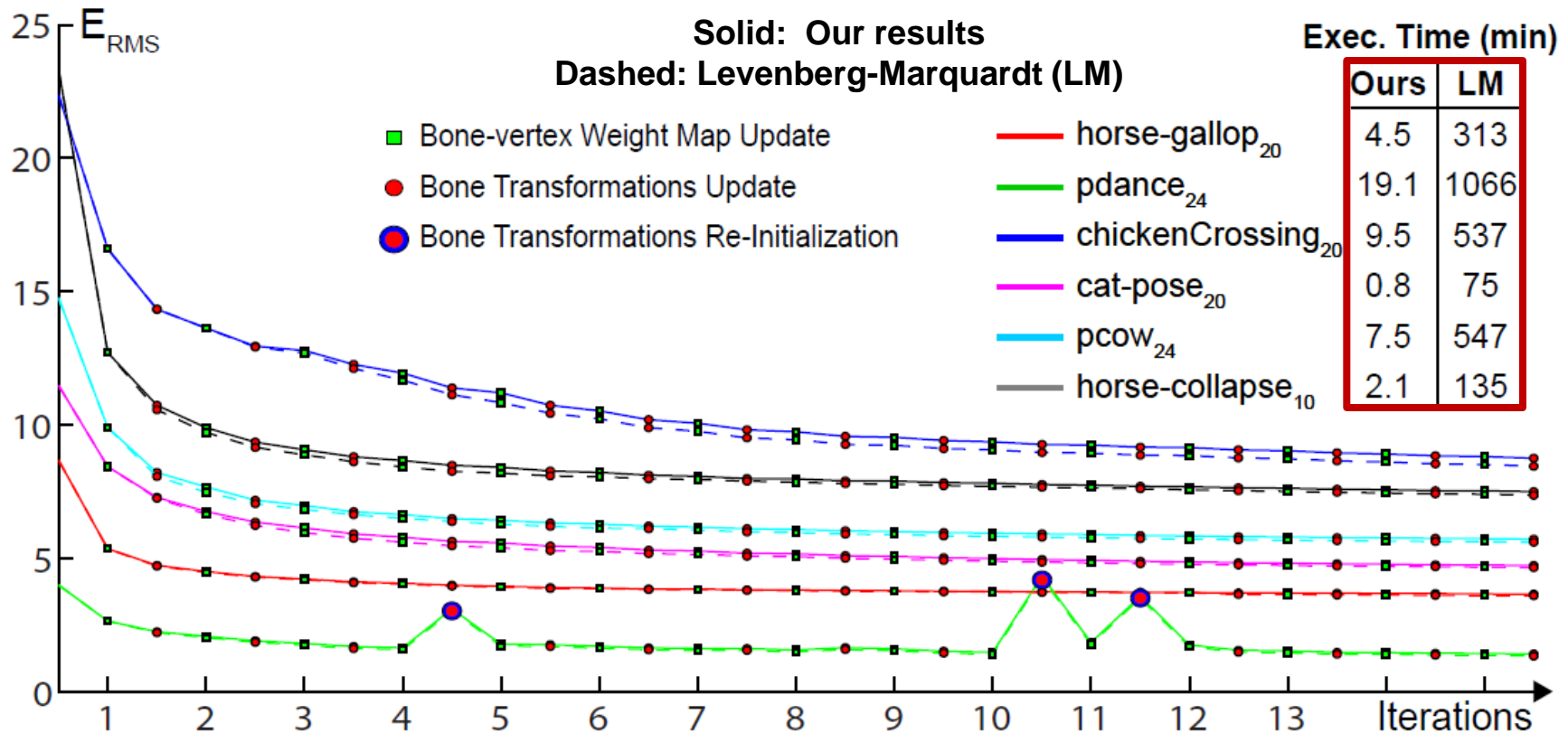


Convergence



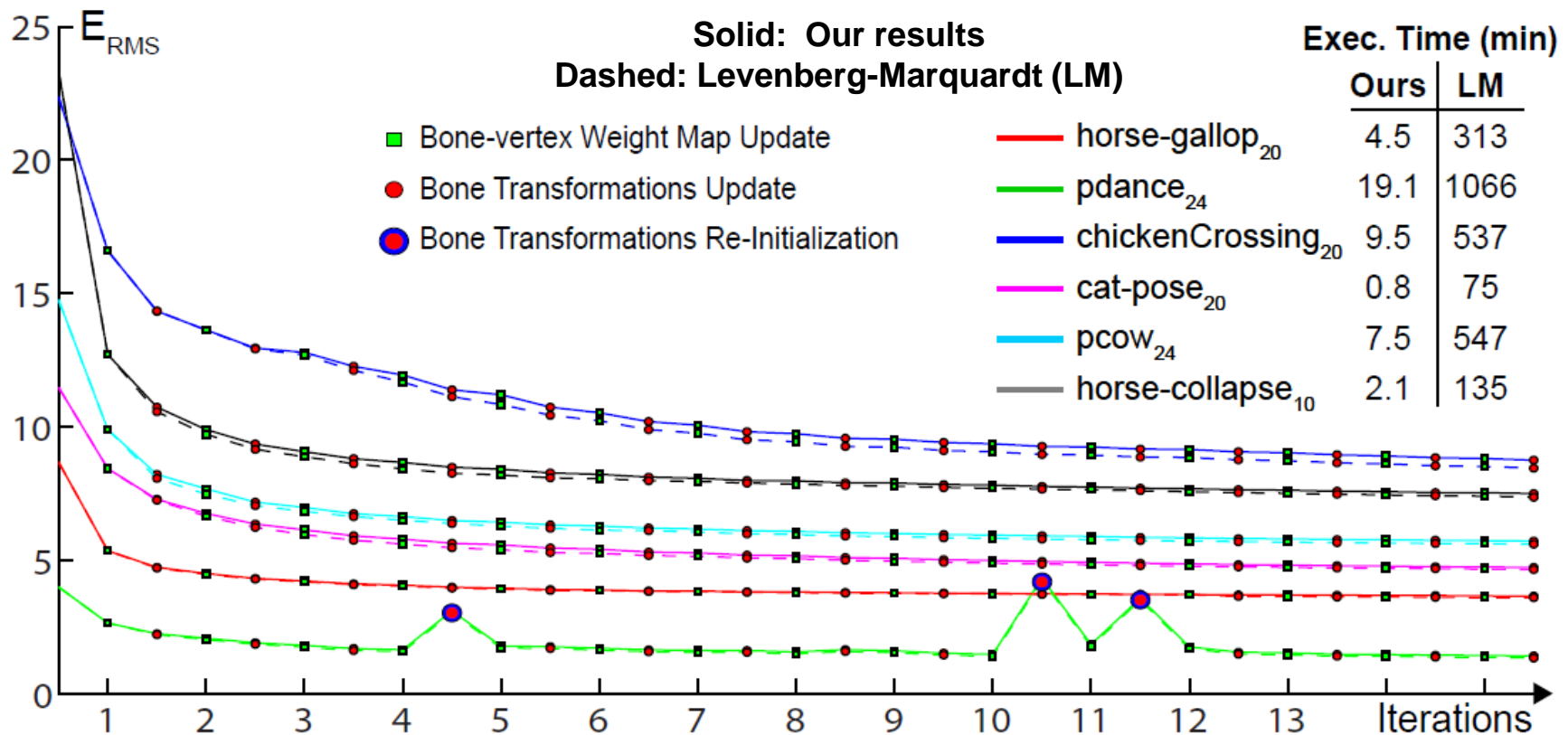
- Error decreases monotonically (without re-init bone transformations)

Convergence



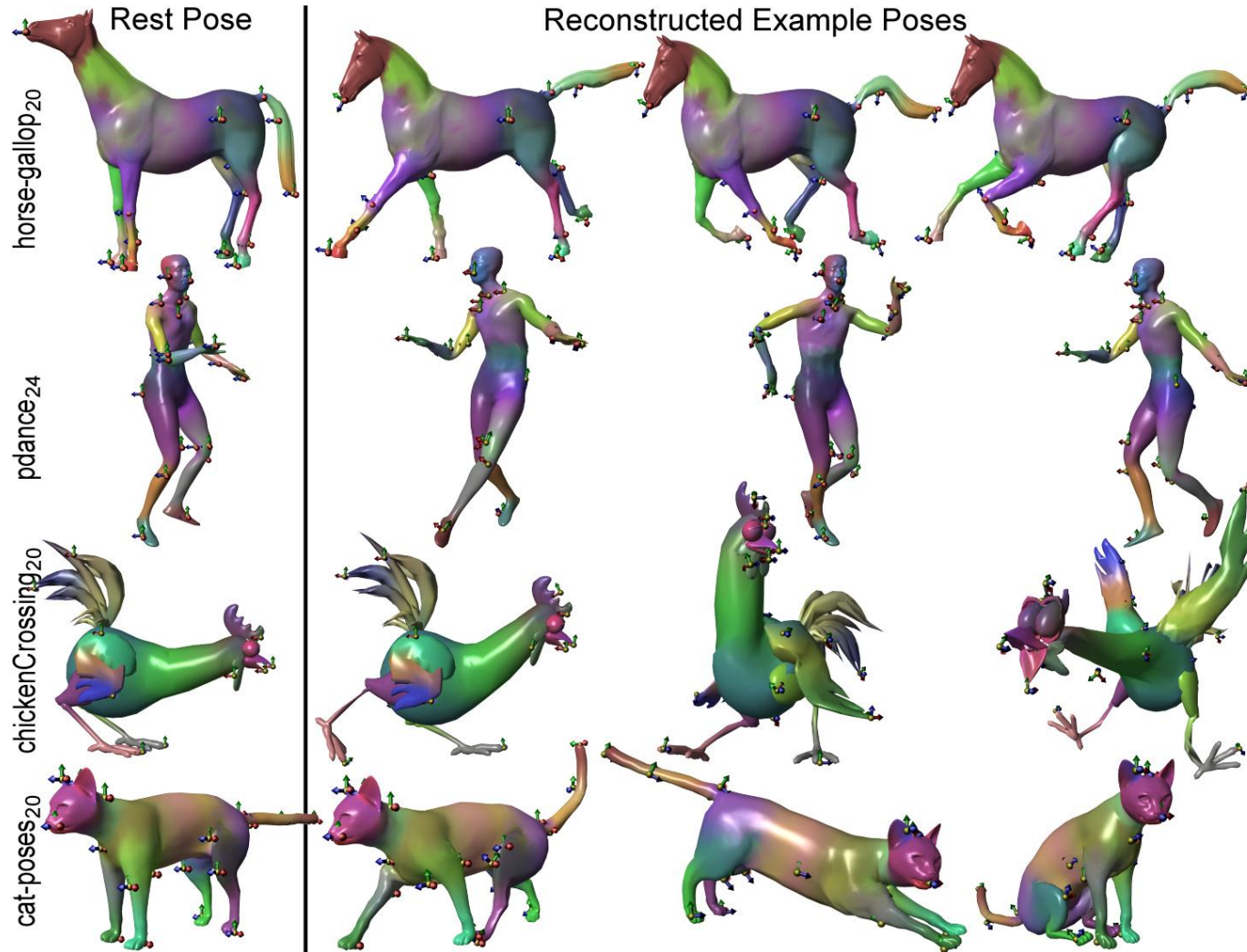
- Error decreases monotonically (without re-init bone transformations)
- Our algorithm converges much faster than LM (~50 times)

Convergence

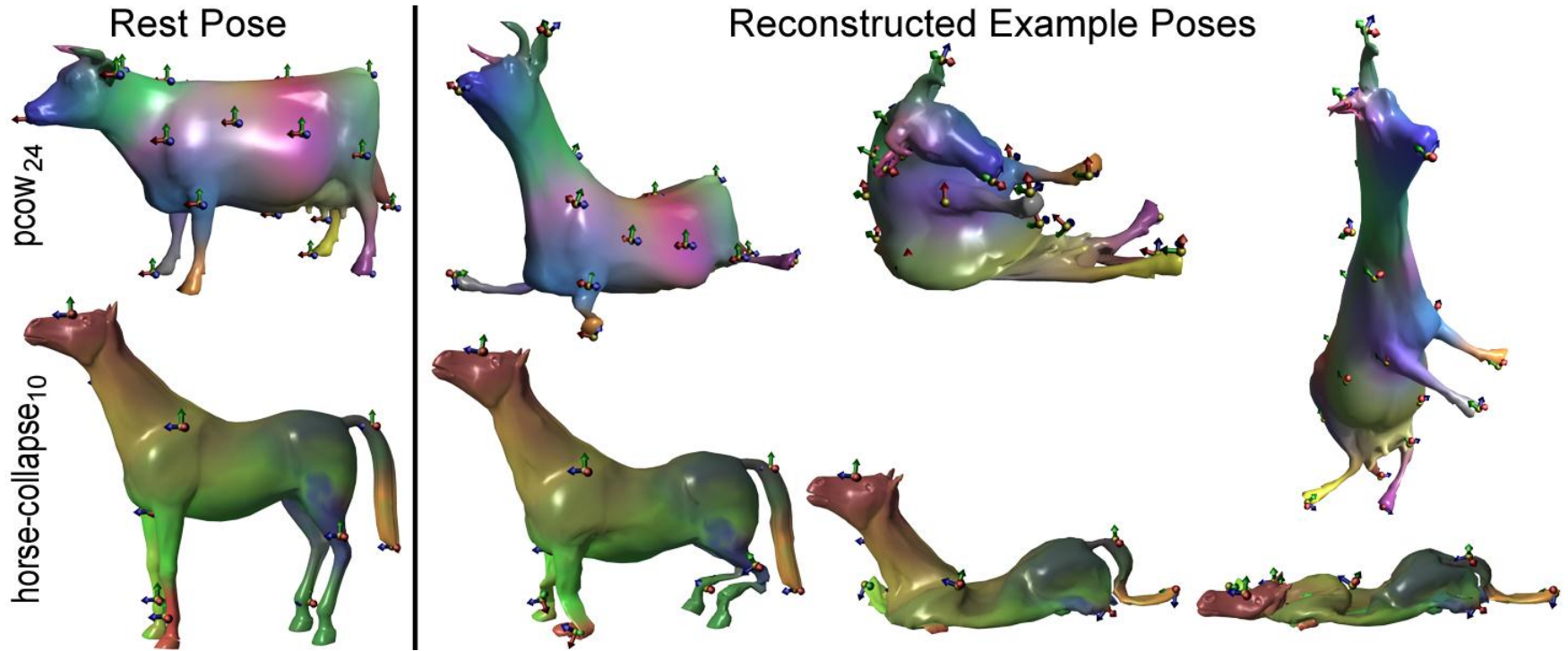


- Error decreases monotonically (without re-init bone transformations)
- Our algorithm converges much faster than LM (~50 times)
- One pass is enough for bone transformations update

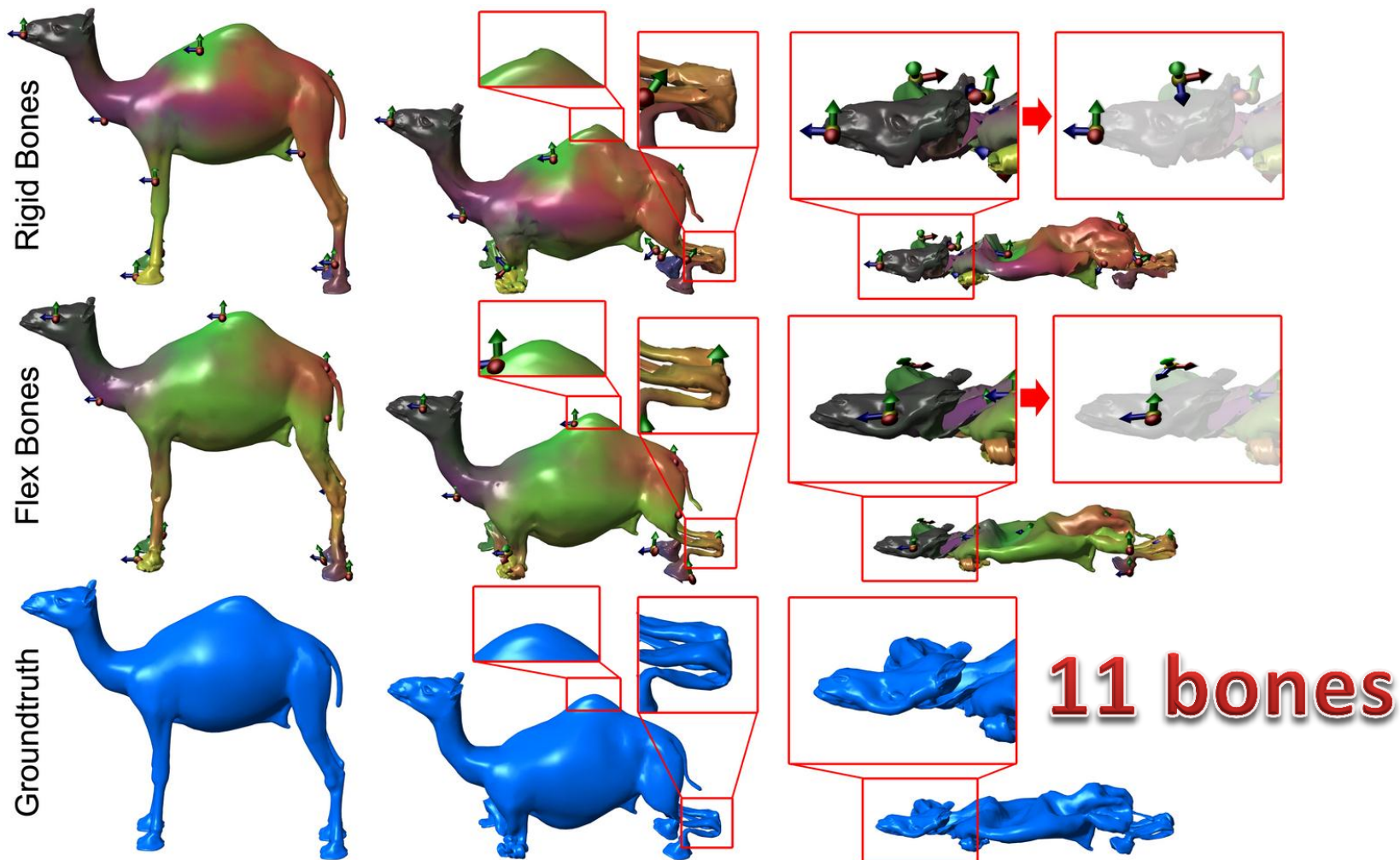
Results – Articulated models



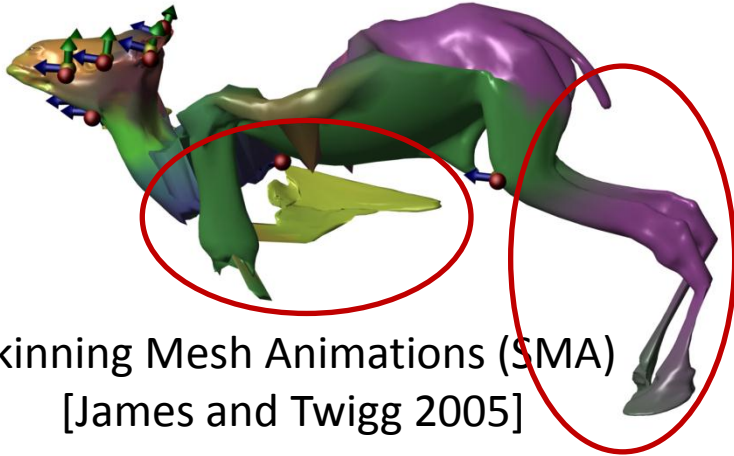
Results – Highly deformable models



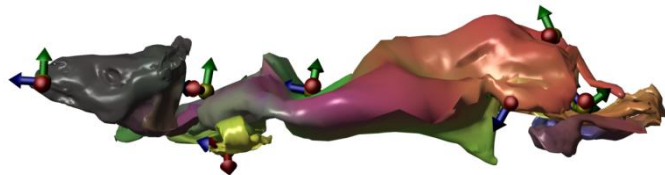
Rigid Bones vs. Flexible Bones



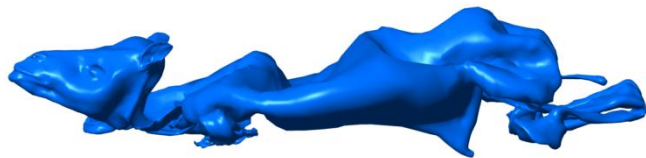
Comparison



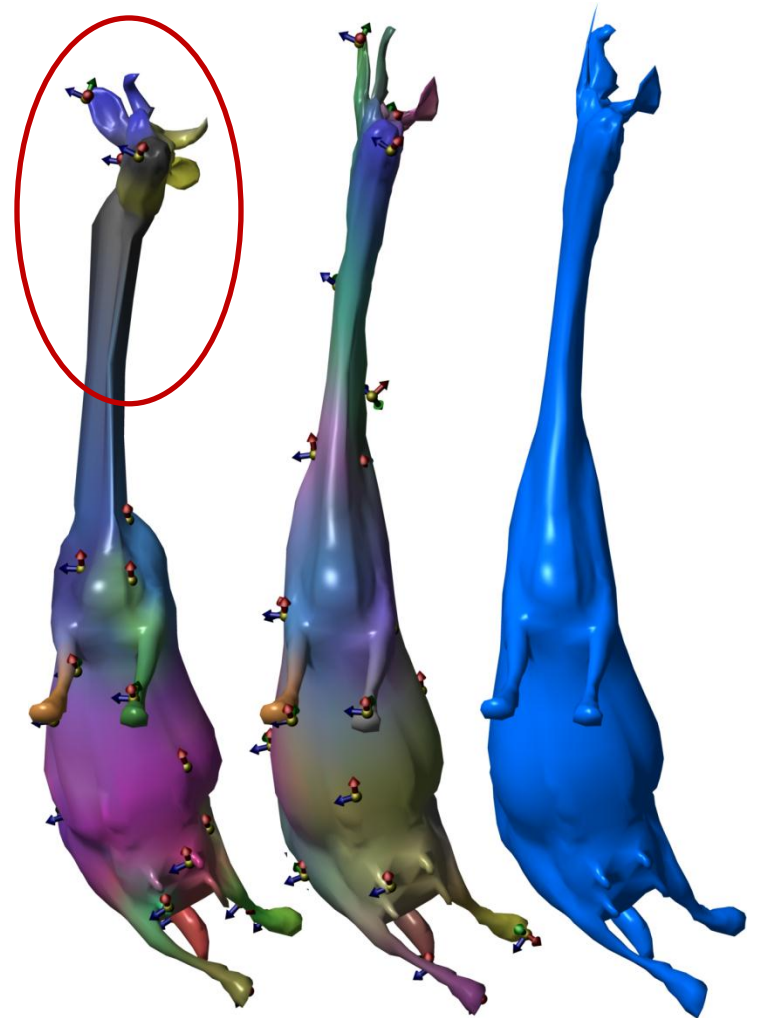
Skinning Mesh Animations (SMA)
[James and Twigg 2005]



Our method



Ground truth



SMA

Ours

Ground truth

Comparison

Dataset _[No. of bones]	Approximation error E_{RMS}			Execution time (minutes)		
	SMA	LSSP	SSDR	SMA	LSSP	SSDR
camel-collapse ₁₁	125.3 (4)	-	5.4(1.7)	13.8	-	7.4
cat-poses ₂₅	8.5 (3.1)	6.2(3.3)	3.4(1.4)	0.7	371.7	1.5
chickenCrossing ₂₈	12.5 (4.2)	6.2(5.1)	8.1(5.4)	14.1	1165.4	24
horse-gallop ₃₃	9.5 (1.5)	12.5(4.6)	2.2(1.1)	3.8	911	9.8
lion-poses ₂₁	62.8 (5.7)	7.7(3.9)	4.4(2.2)	0.6	360.2	0.8
pcow ₂₄	24.8 (13.2)	7.2(6.7)	5.7(4.8)	3.8	564.5	8.9
pdance ₂₄	3.8 (1.6)	3.4(2.3)	1.3(0.8)	22	2446.8	28.3

SMA: Skinning Mesh Animations [James and Twigg 2005]

LSSP: Learning Skeletons for Shape and Pose [Hasler et al. 2010]

SSDR: Smooth Skinning Decomposition with Rigid Bones (our method)

Result in parentheses: rank-5 EigenSkin correction [Kry et al. 2002]

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We are about 100 times faster!

Conclusion

Linear Blend Skinning Decomposition Model

- Convex, sparse weights
- ✓ Rigid bone transformations
- ✓ Iterative bone transformation linear solvers
 - ✓ Nearly optimized, working well with highly deformation models
 - ✓ Fast
 - ✓ Simple

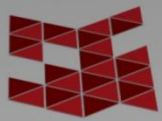
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- ✓ Rigid bone transformations
- ✓ Iterative bone transformation linear solvers
 - ✓ Nearly optimized, working well with highly deformation models
 - ✓ Fast
 - ✓ Simple
- ✗ Considering skeleton hierarchy
- ✗ Utilizing other information: Mesh topology or anatomy

Acknowledgements

- NSF IIS-0915965
- Vietnam Education Foundation (VEF)
- Google and Nokia for research gifts
- Robert Sumner, Jovan Popovic, Hugues Hoppe, Doug James, and Igor Guskov for publishing the mesh sequences
- Anonymous reviewers for giving insightful comments



SIGGRAPH
ASIA 2012

SMOOTH SKINNING
DECOMPOSITION
with **RIGID** BONES

BINH HUY LE and ZHIGANG DENG
UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON

INPUT

BONE TRANSFORMATIONS

WEIGHT MAP