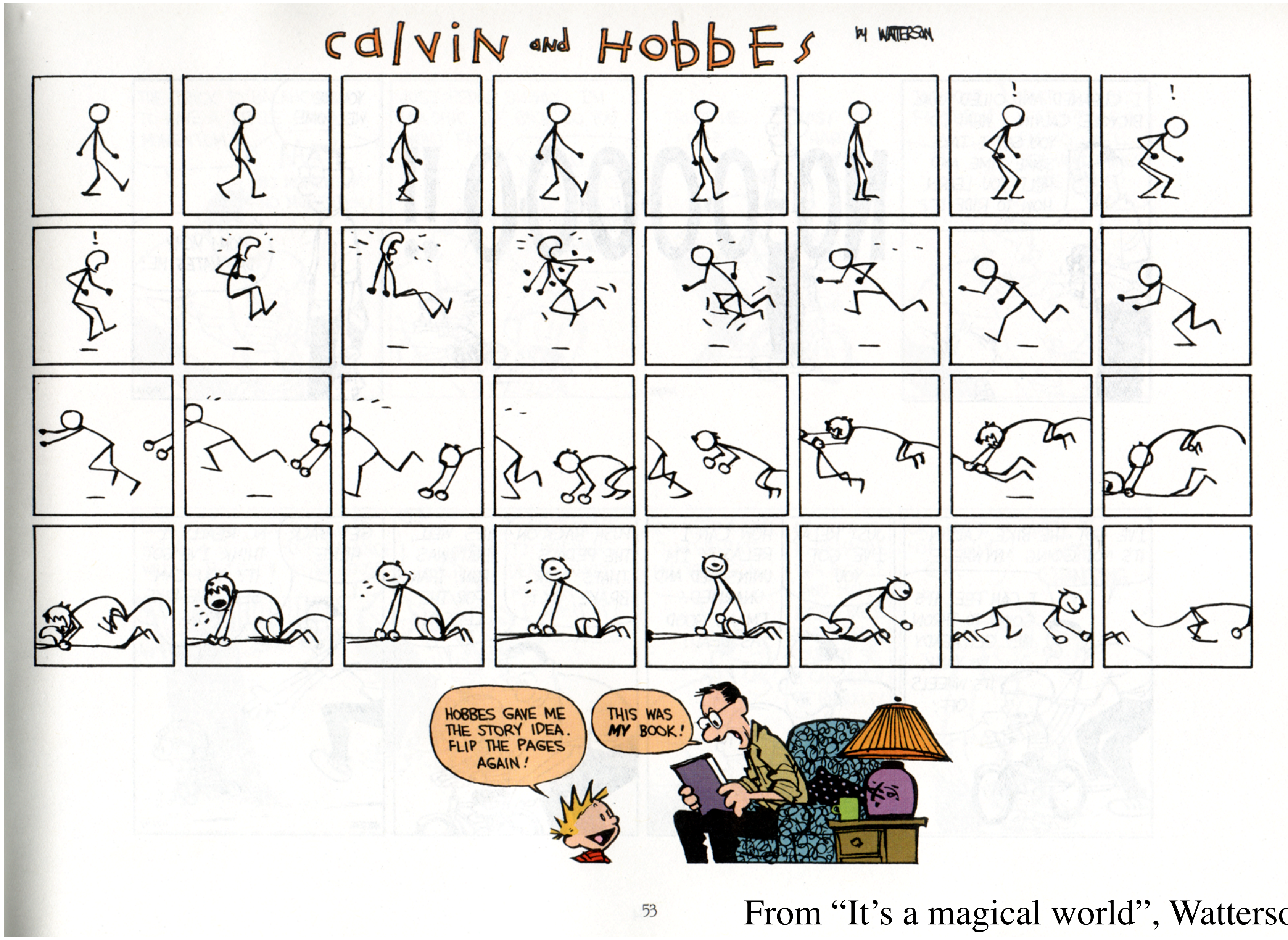
Animation

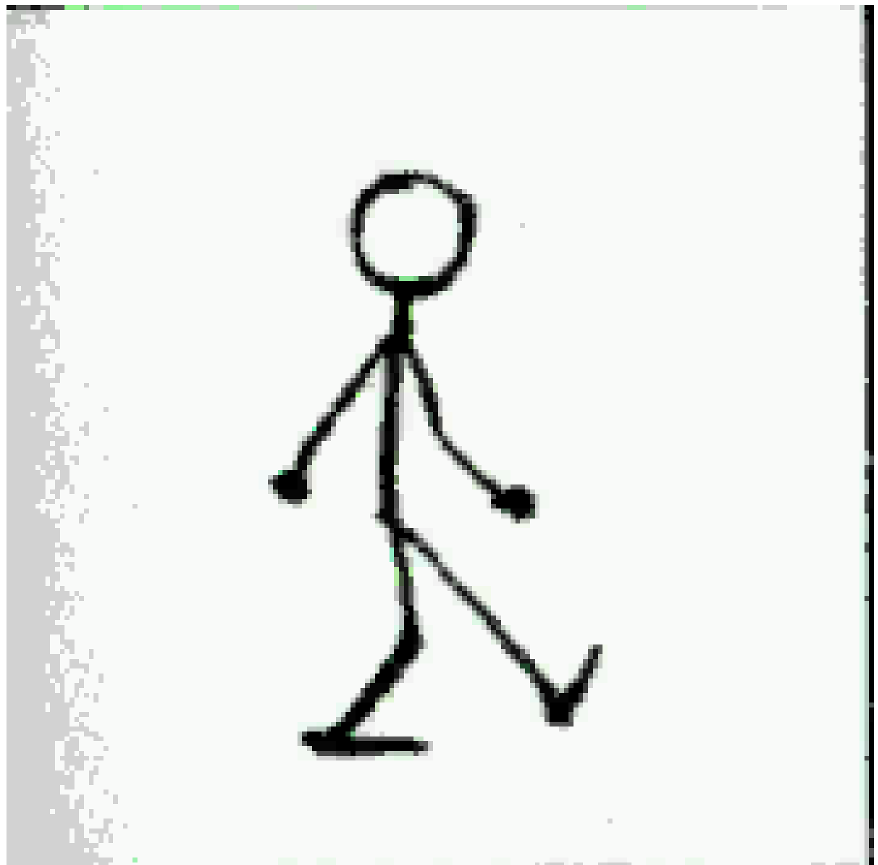
- Persistence of vision:
  - The visual system smoothes in time. This means that images presented to the eye are perceived by the visual system for a short time after they are presented. In turn, this means that if images are shown at the right rate (about 20-30 Hz will do it), the next image replaces the last one without any perceived blank space between them.
- Visual closure:
  - a sequence of still images is seen as a motion sequence if they are shown quickly enough - i.e. smooth motion between positions is inferred

Keyframing



From "It's a magical world", Watterson, 1996

Result



Basic techniques

- Keyframing:
  - generate frames by drawings, interpolate between drawings
- Stop motion:
  - put model in position, photograph, move, photograph, etc.
- Compositing:
  - generate frames as mixtures of video sequences
- Morphing:
  - mix video sequences while modifying shapes
- Procedural animation:
  - use some form of procedural description to move object

Keyframing - issues

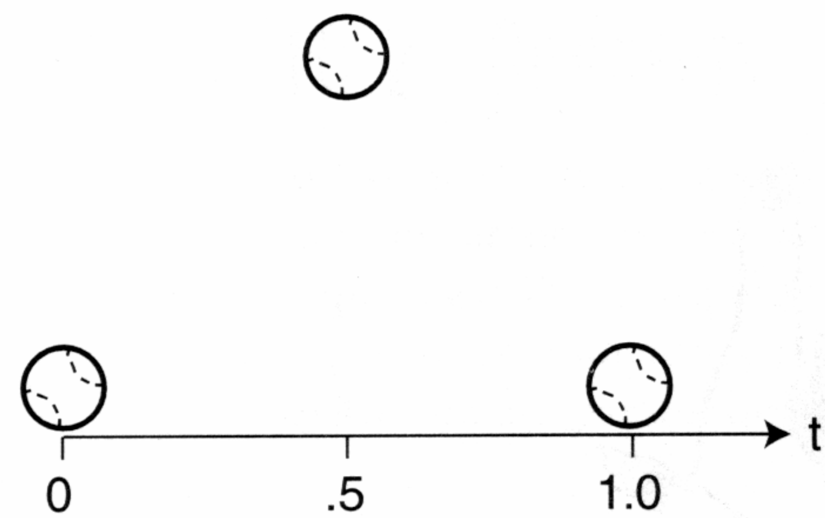


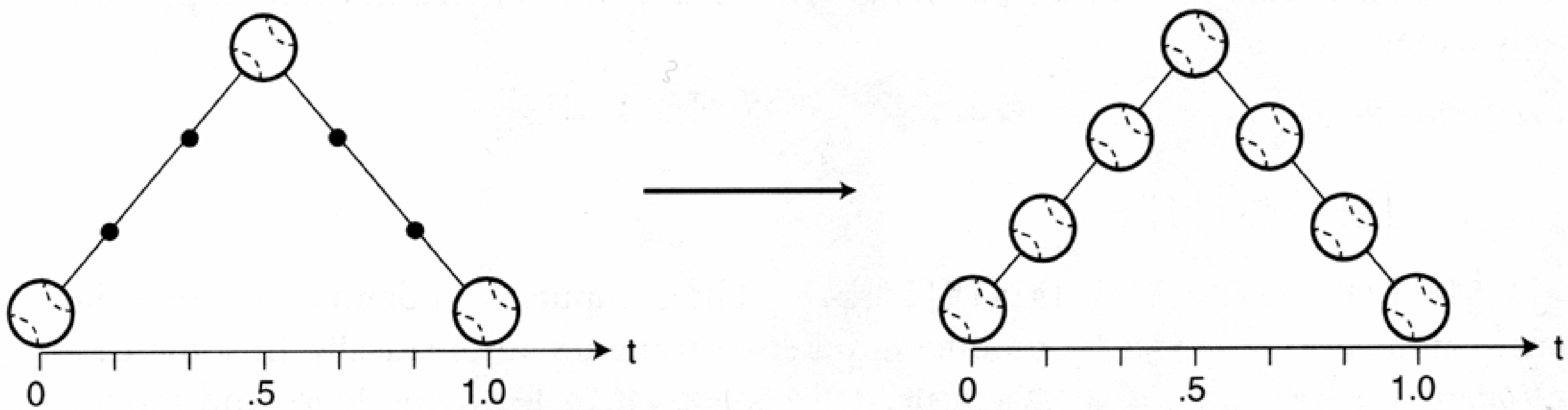
Figure 10.4 Three keyframes. Three keyframes representing a ball on the ground, at its highest point, and back on the ground.

- Generating frames by hand is a huge burden -- 1hr of film is 3600x24 frames
- Skilled artists generate key frames, inbetweeners generate inbetween frames
- Changes are hideously expensive
- Natural interpolation problem -- interpolate various variables describing position, orientation, configuration of objects

From "The computer in the visual arts", Spalter, 1999

Linear interpolation

Figure 10.5 **Inbetweening with linear interpolation.** Linear interpolation creates inbetween frames at equal intervals along straight lines. The ball moves at a constant speed. Ticks indicate the locations of inbetween frames at regular time intervals (determined by the number of frames per second chosen by the user).



From “The computer in the visual arts”, Spalter, 1999

More complex interpolation

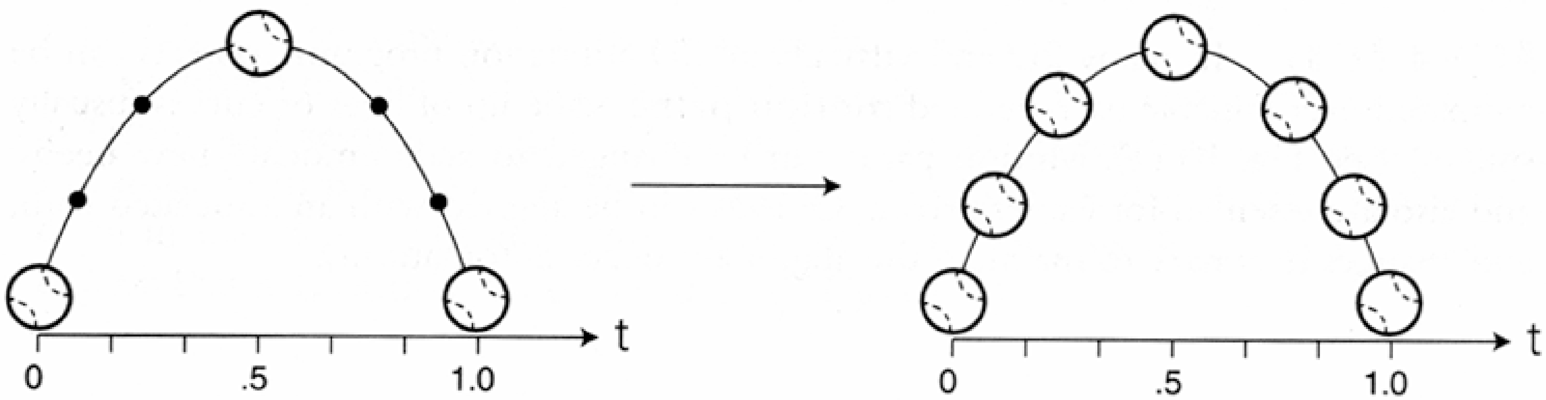


Figure 10.9 Inbetweening with nonlinear interpolation. Nonlinear interpolation can create equally spaced inbetween frames along curved paths. The ball still moves at a constant speed. (Note that the three keyframes used here and in Fig. 10.10 are the same as in Fig. 10.4.)

From “The computer in the visual arts”, Spalter, 1999

Modify the parameter, too

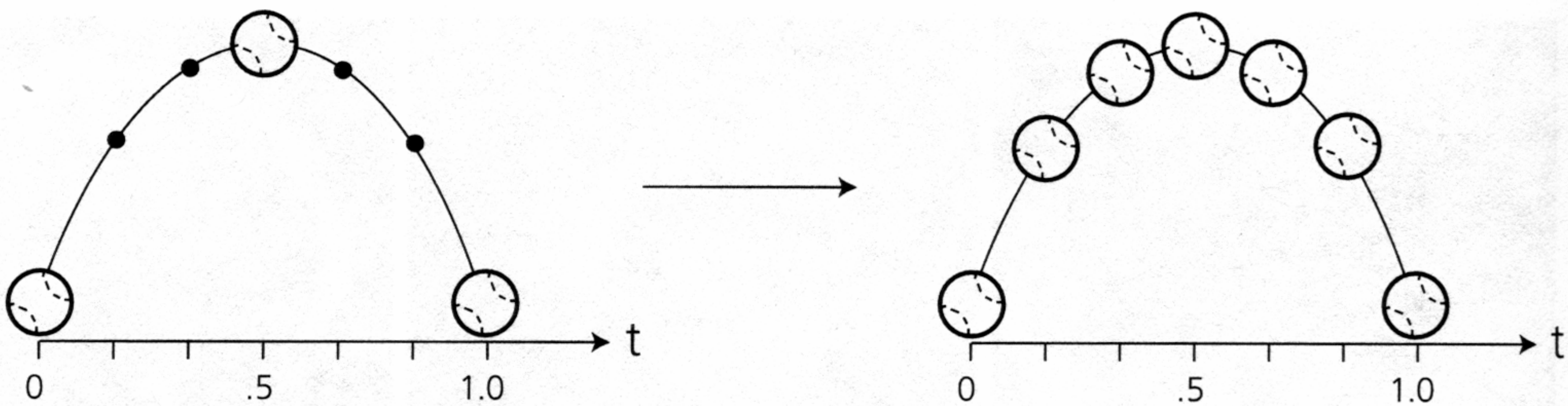
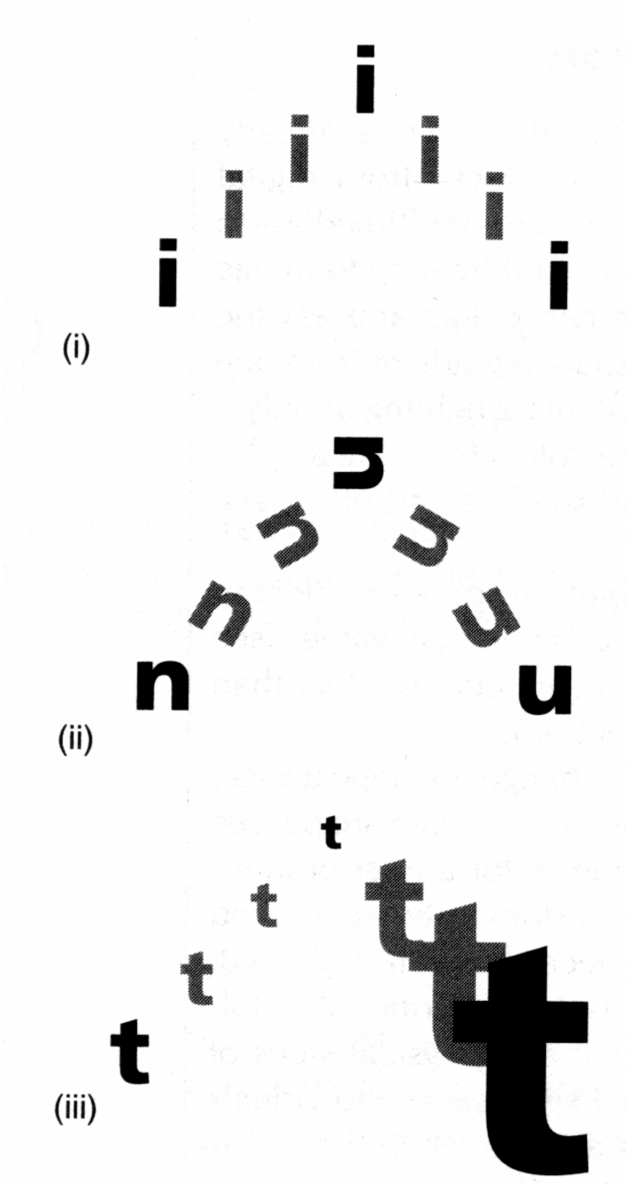


Figure 10.10 Inbetweening with nonlinear interpolation and easing. The ball changes speed as it approaches and leaves keyframes, so the dots indicating calculations made at equal time intervals are no longer equidistant along the path.

A use for parameter continuous interpolates here.
Notice that we don't necessarily need a physical ball.

From "The computer in the visual arts", Spalter, 1999

A variety of variables can be interpolated

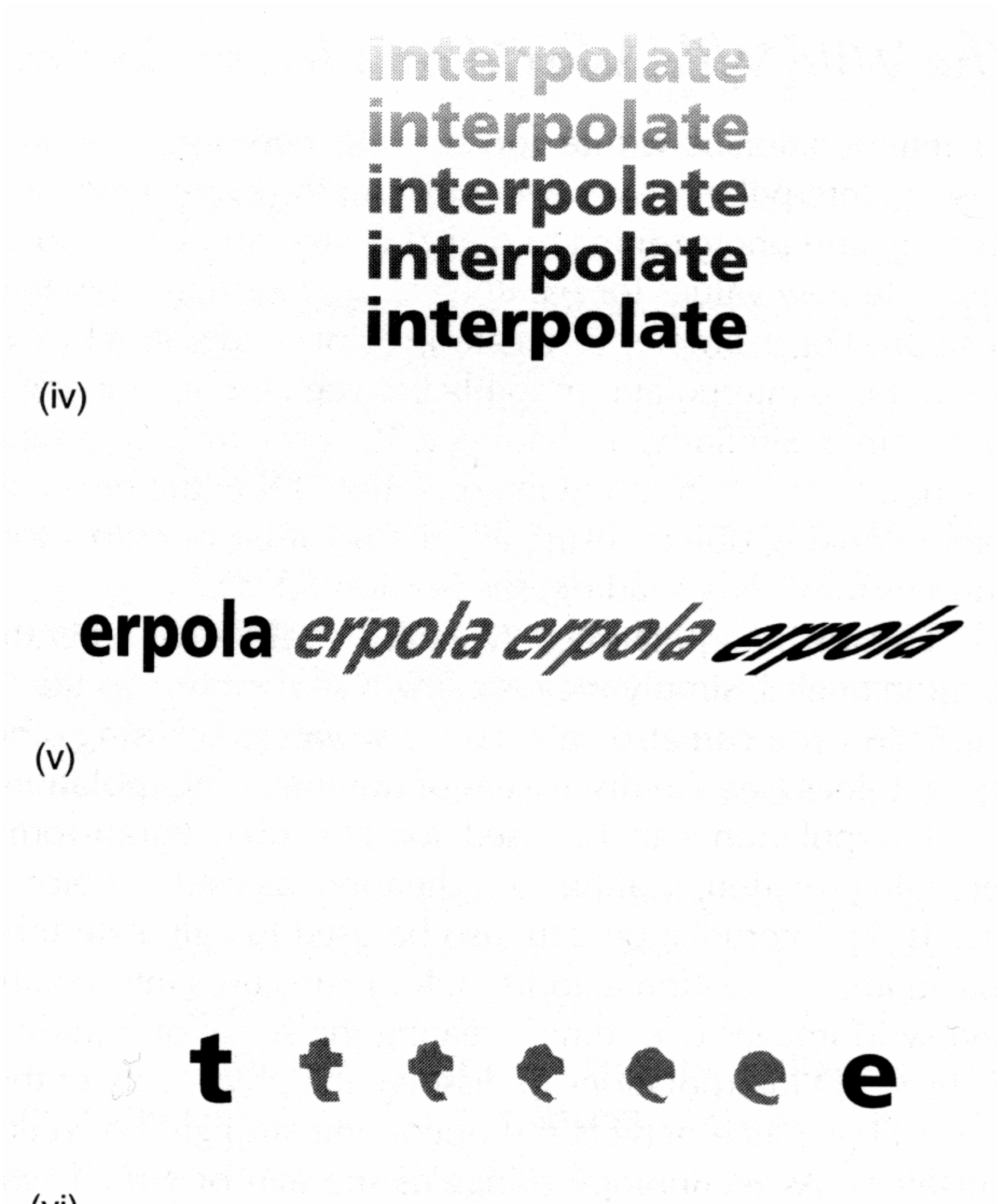


Position

Position and orientation

Position and scale

From "The computer in the visual arts", Spalter, 1999

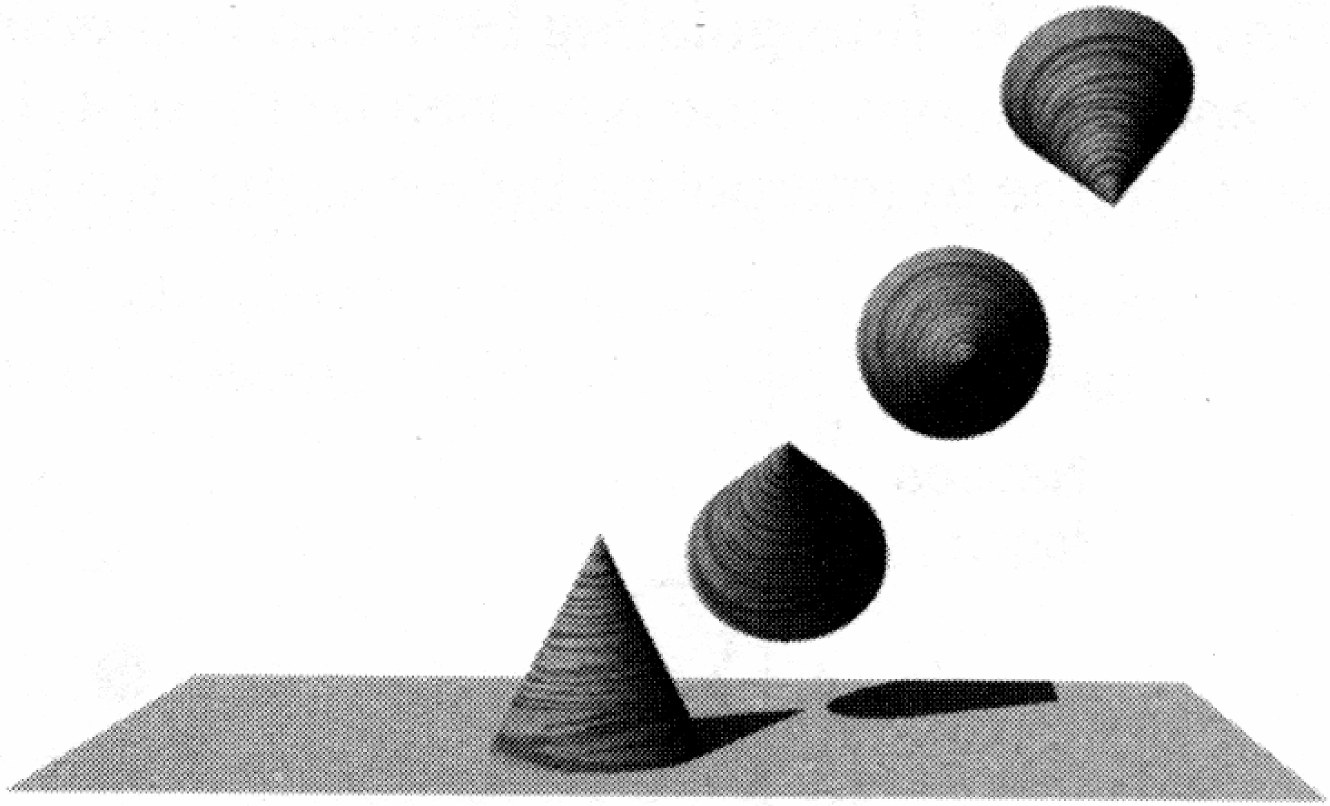


Grey-level

Shea
r

Shap
e

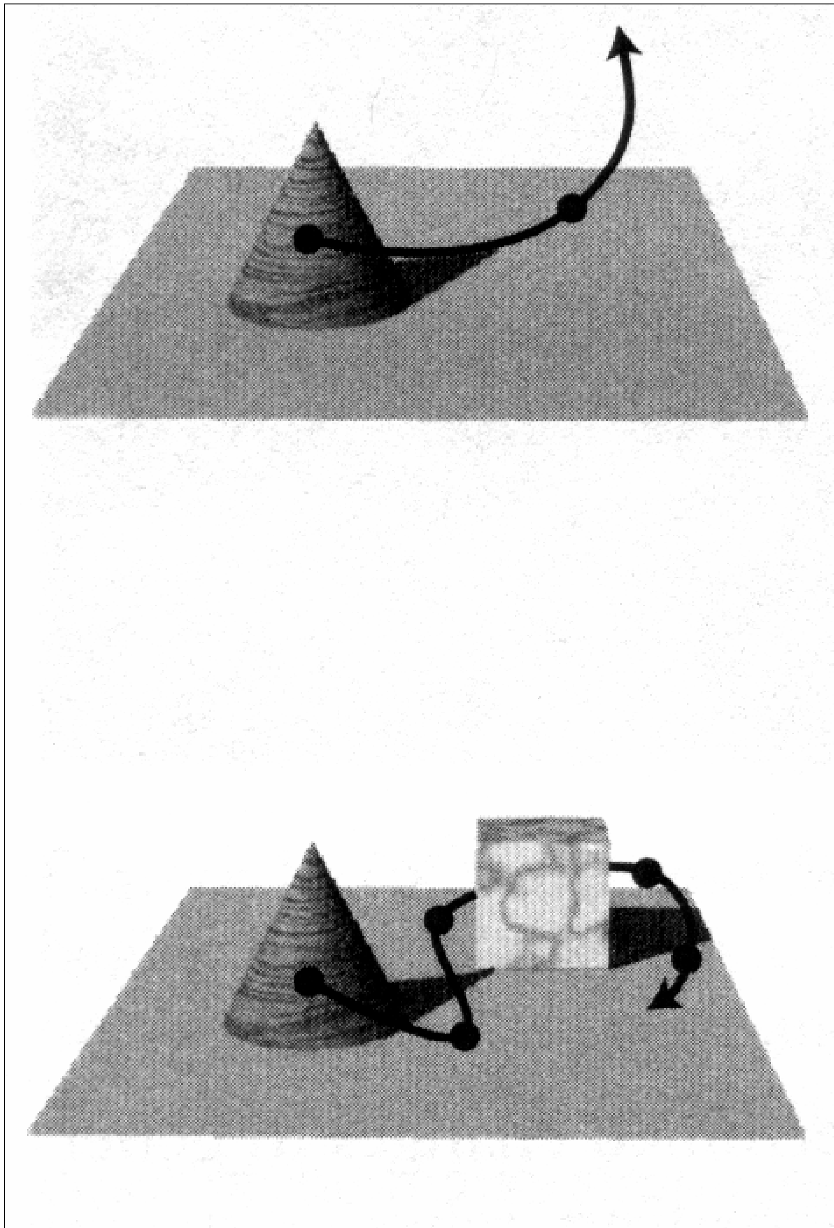
From “The computer in the visual arts”, Spalter, 1999



Position and orientation:

note that the position travels along a motion path

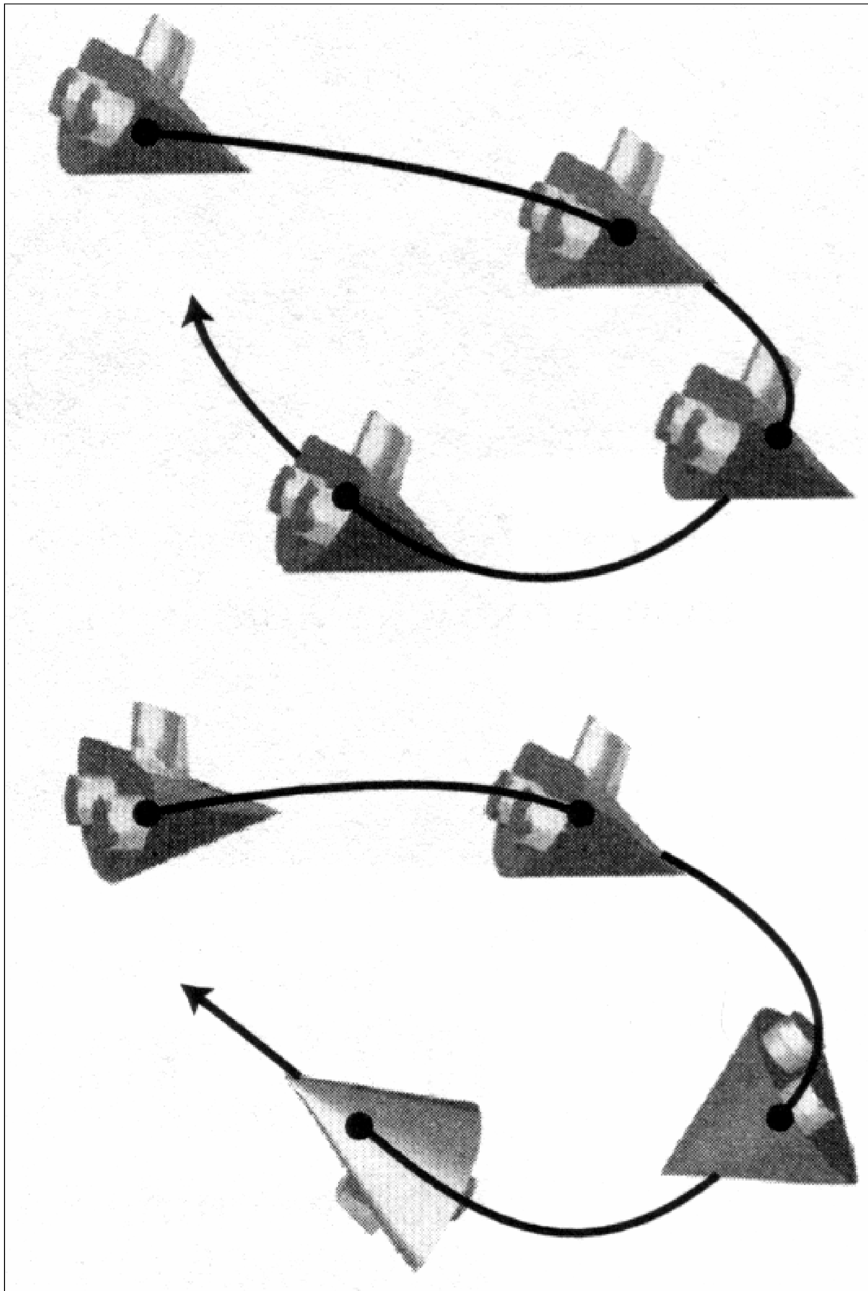
From “The computer in the visual arts”, Spalter, 1999



Various path specifications:

perhaps by interactive process;
two issues:
building the path
where are the keyframes?

From “The computer in the visual arts”, Spalter, 1999

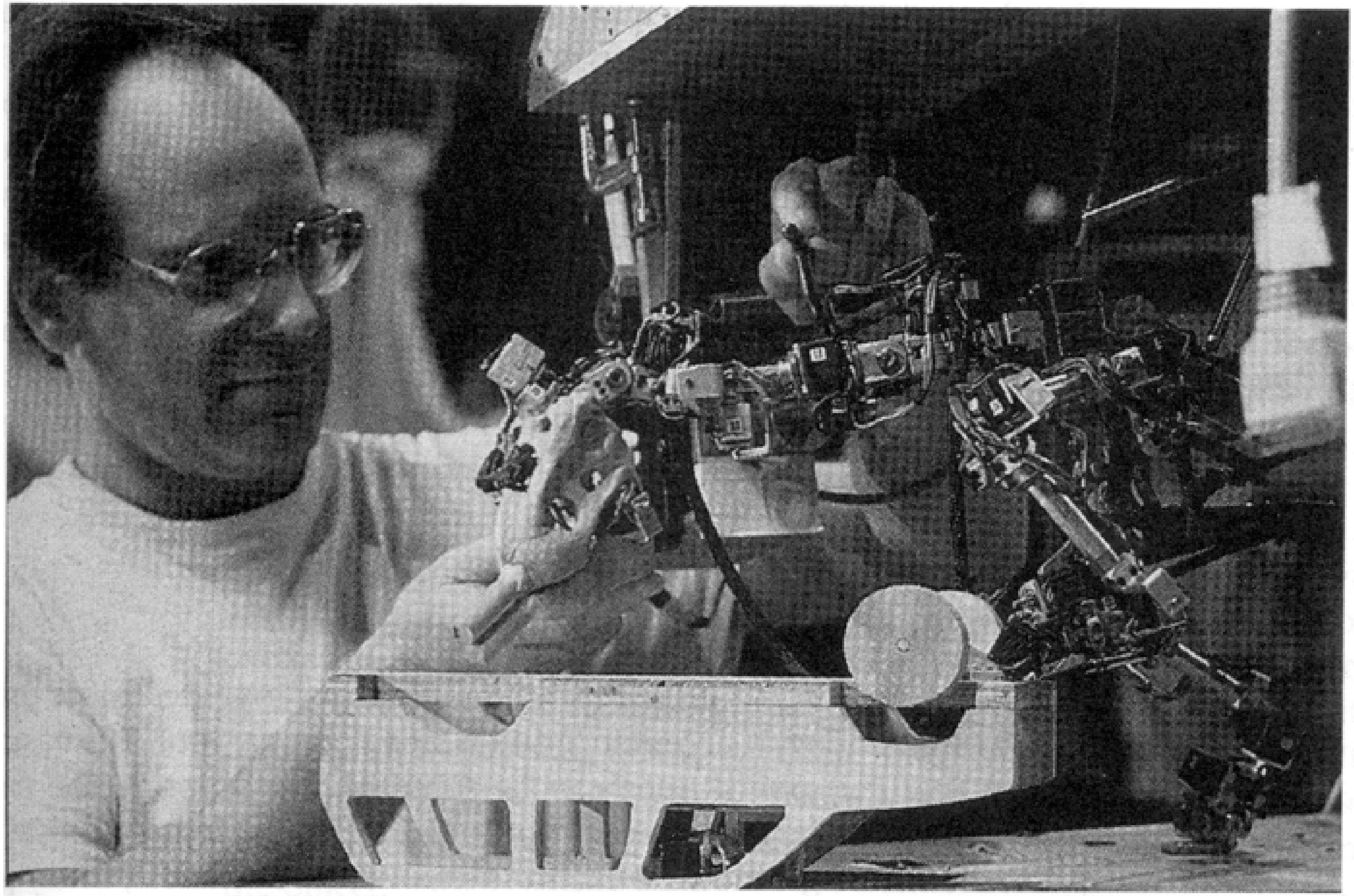


Interpolating orientation gives greater realism. Notice that the tangent to the motion path gives a great cue to the orientation of the object.

From “The computer in the visual arts”, Spalter, 1999

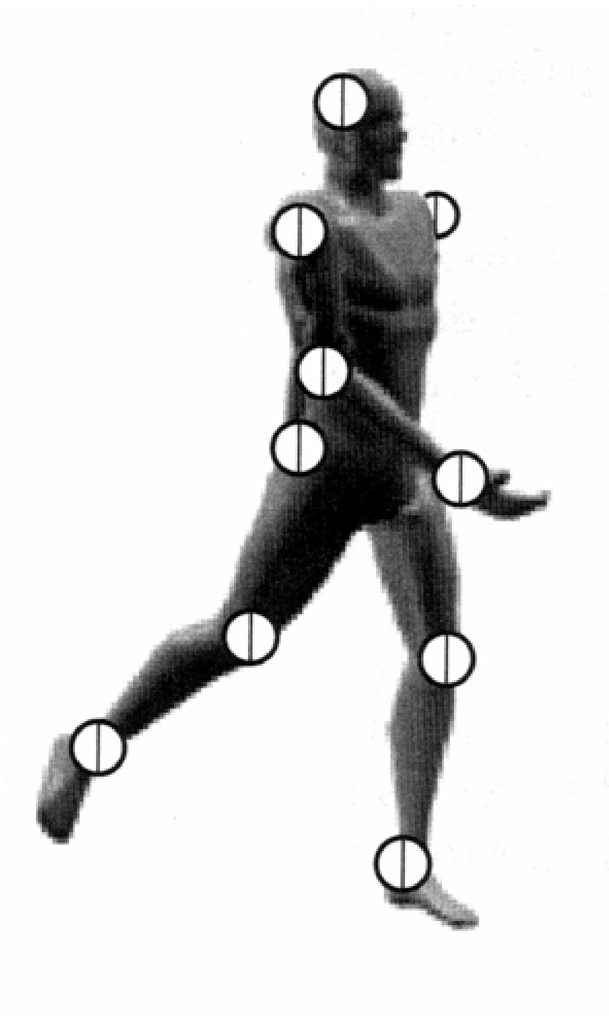
Stop motion

- Very important traditional animation technique
- Put model in position, photograph, move, photograph, etc. e.g. “Seven voyages of Sinbad”, “Clash of the titans”, etc.
  - Model could be
    - plastic
    - linkage
    - clay, etc.
- Model work is still very important e.g. “Men in Black”
- Computerizing model work is increasingly important
  - issue: where does configuration of computer model come from?

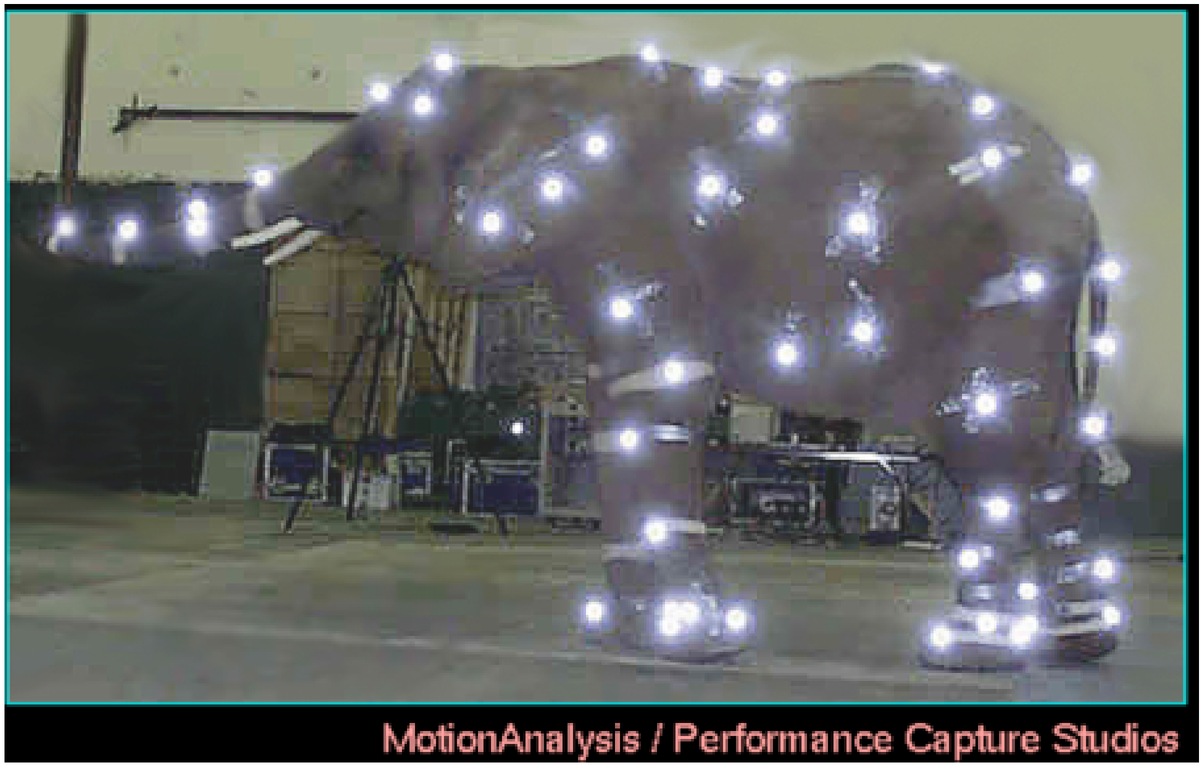


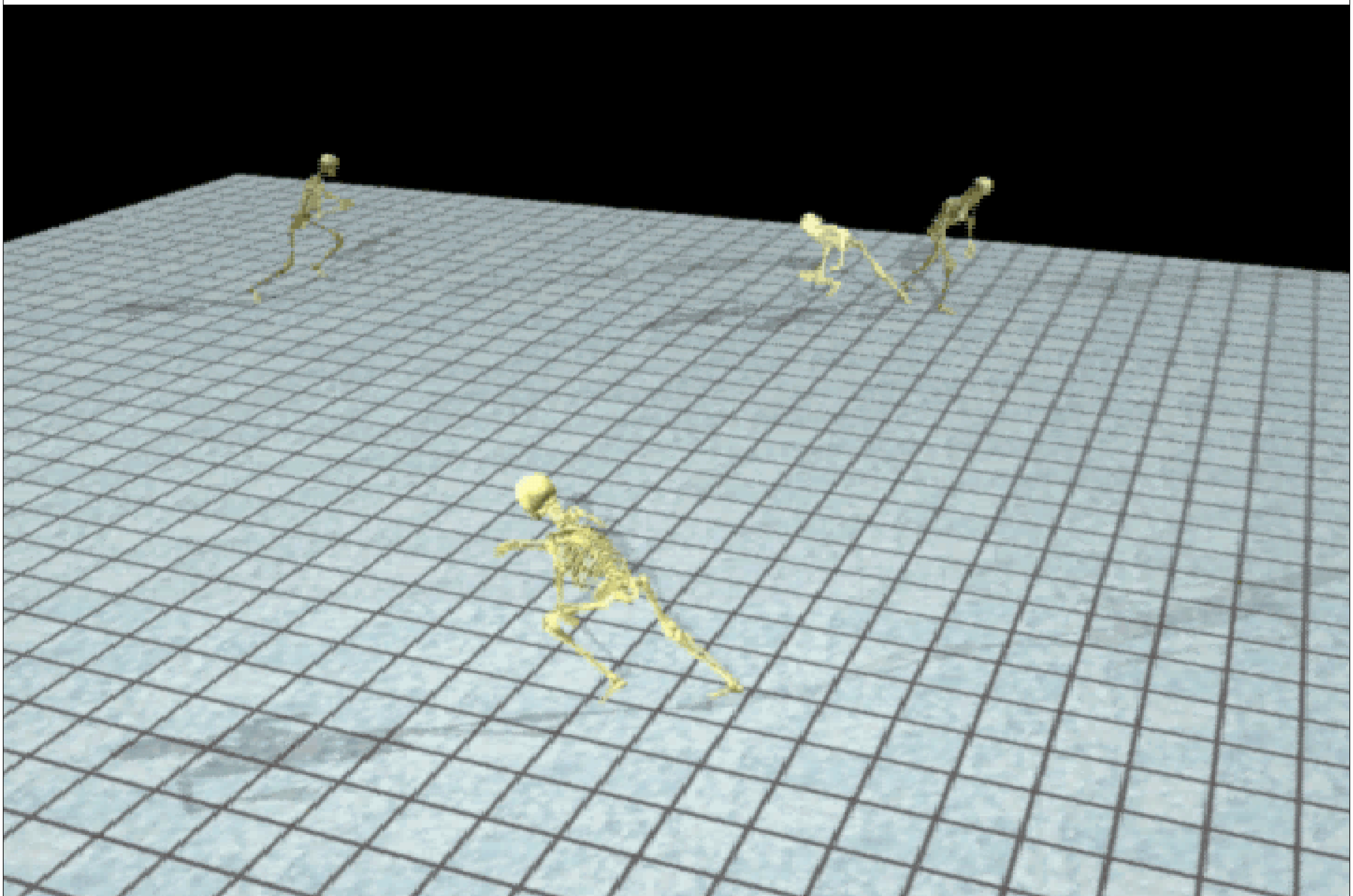
From “The computer Image”,Watt and Policarpo, 1998

Motion capture



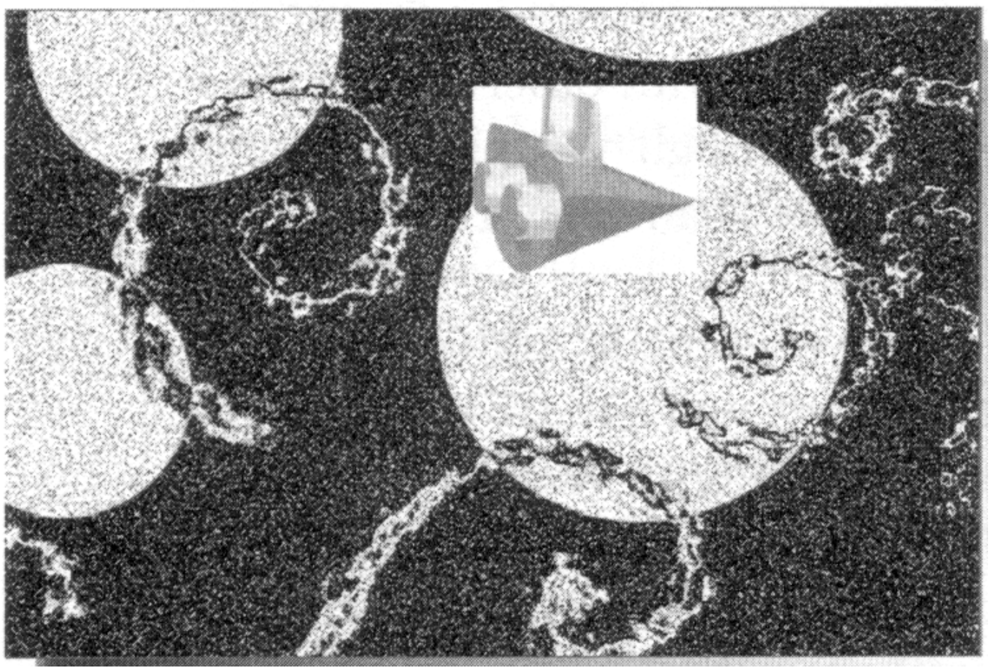
- Instrument a person or something else, perhaps by attaching sensors
- Measure their motion
- Link variables that give their configuration to variables that give configuration of a computer model


MotionAnalysis / Performance Capture Studios



Compositing

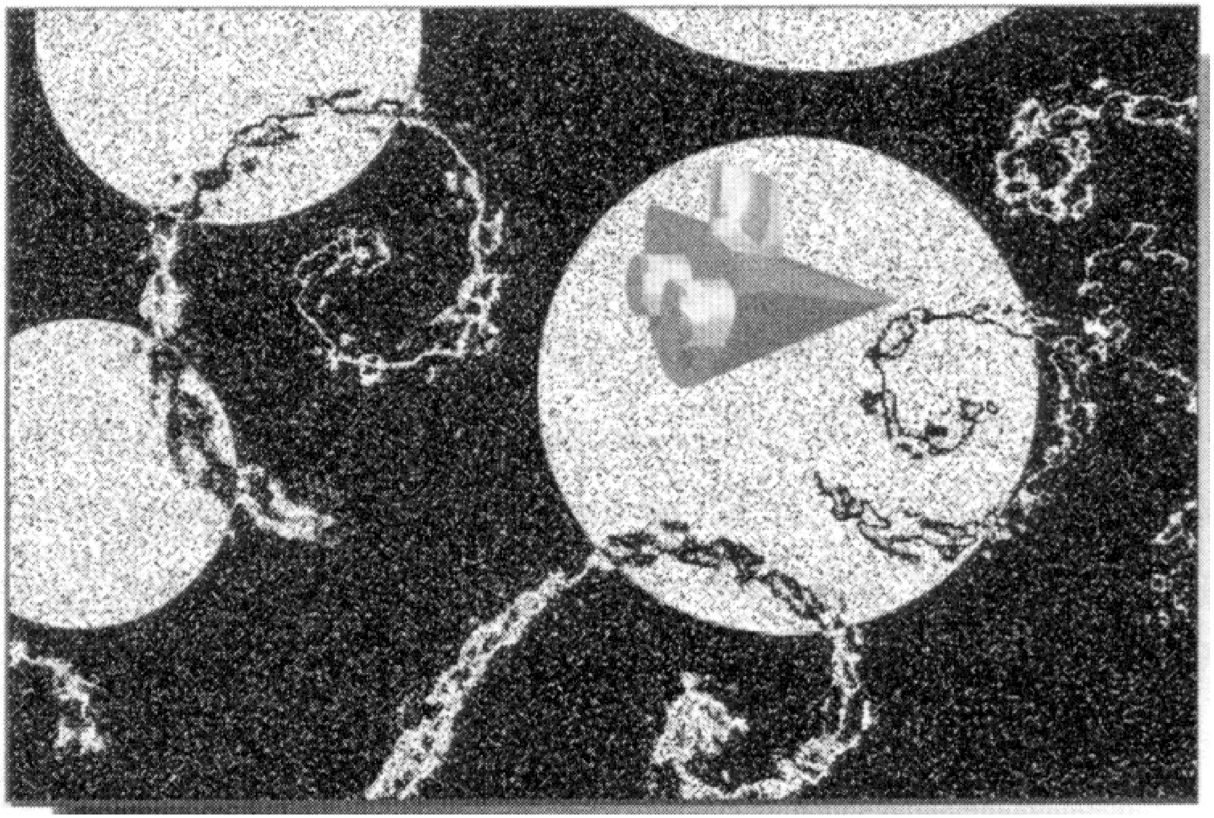
- Overlay one image/film on another
  - variety of types of overlay



Simple overlay - spaceship pixels replace background pixels

From “The computer in the visual arts”, Spalter, 1999

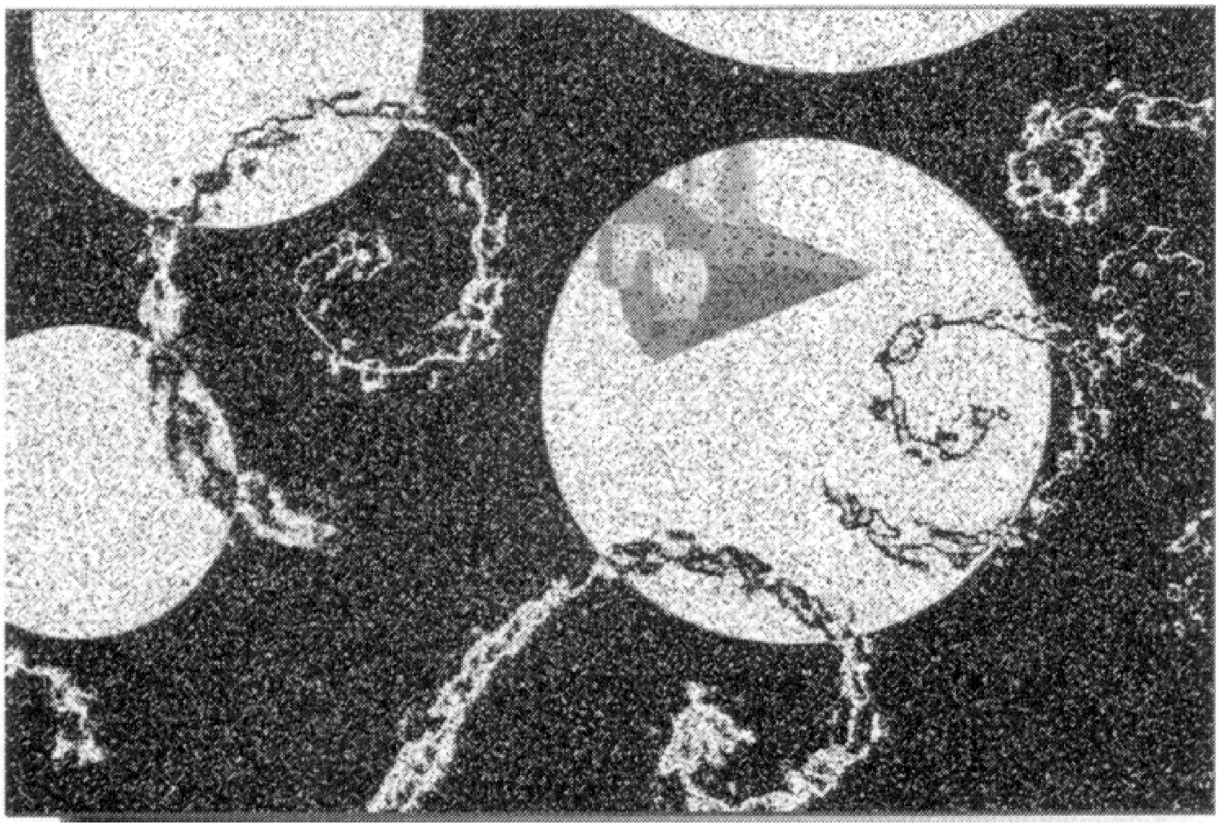
Compositing



Spaceship pixels replace background pixels if they are not white (white is “dropped out”)

From “The computer in the visual arts”, Spalter, 1999

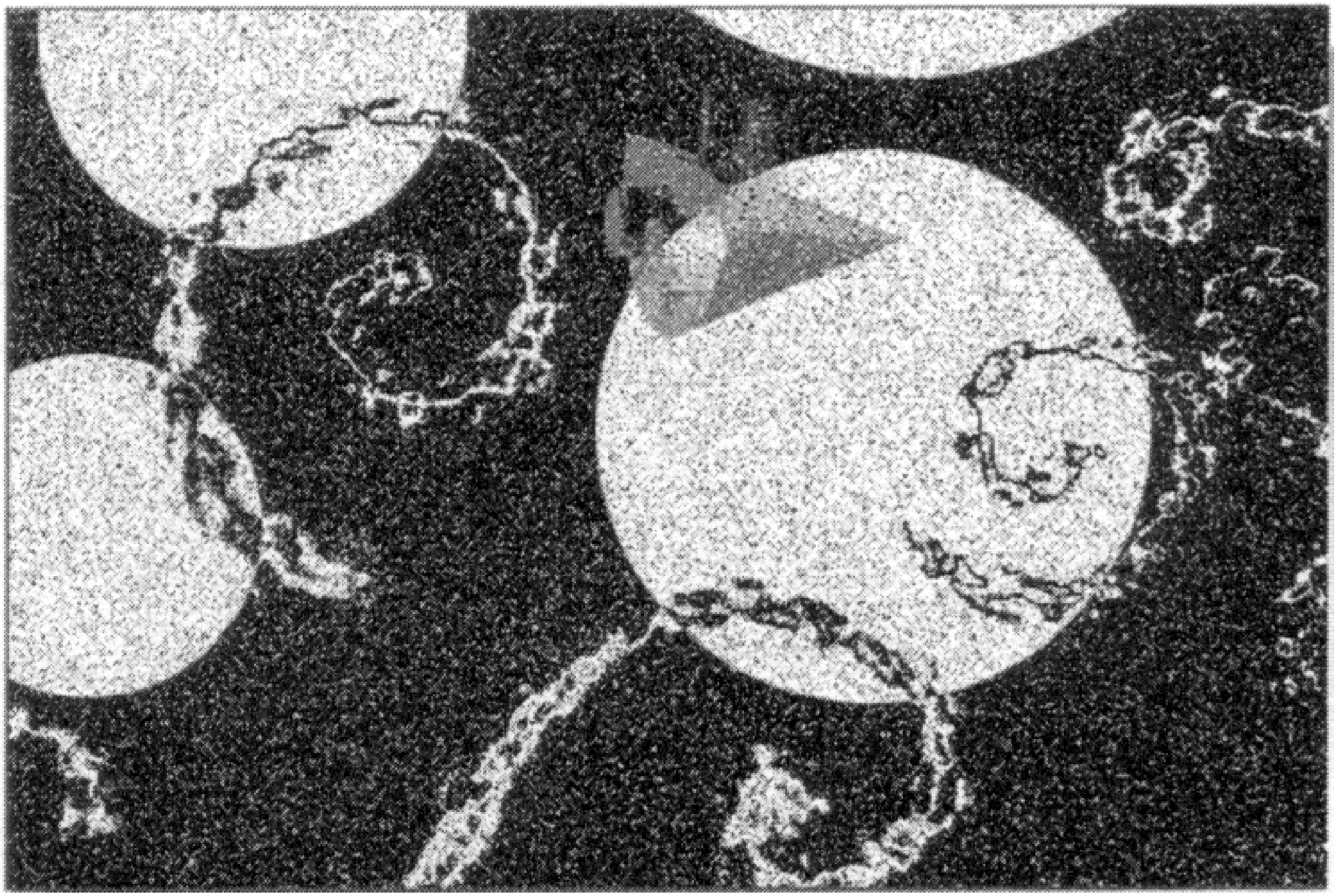
Compositing



Spaceship pixels replace background pixels if they are darker

From “The computer in the visual arts”, Spalter, 1999

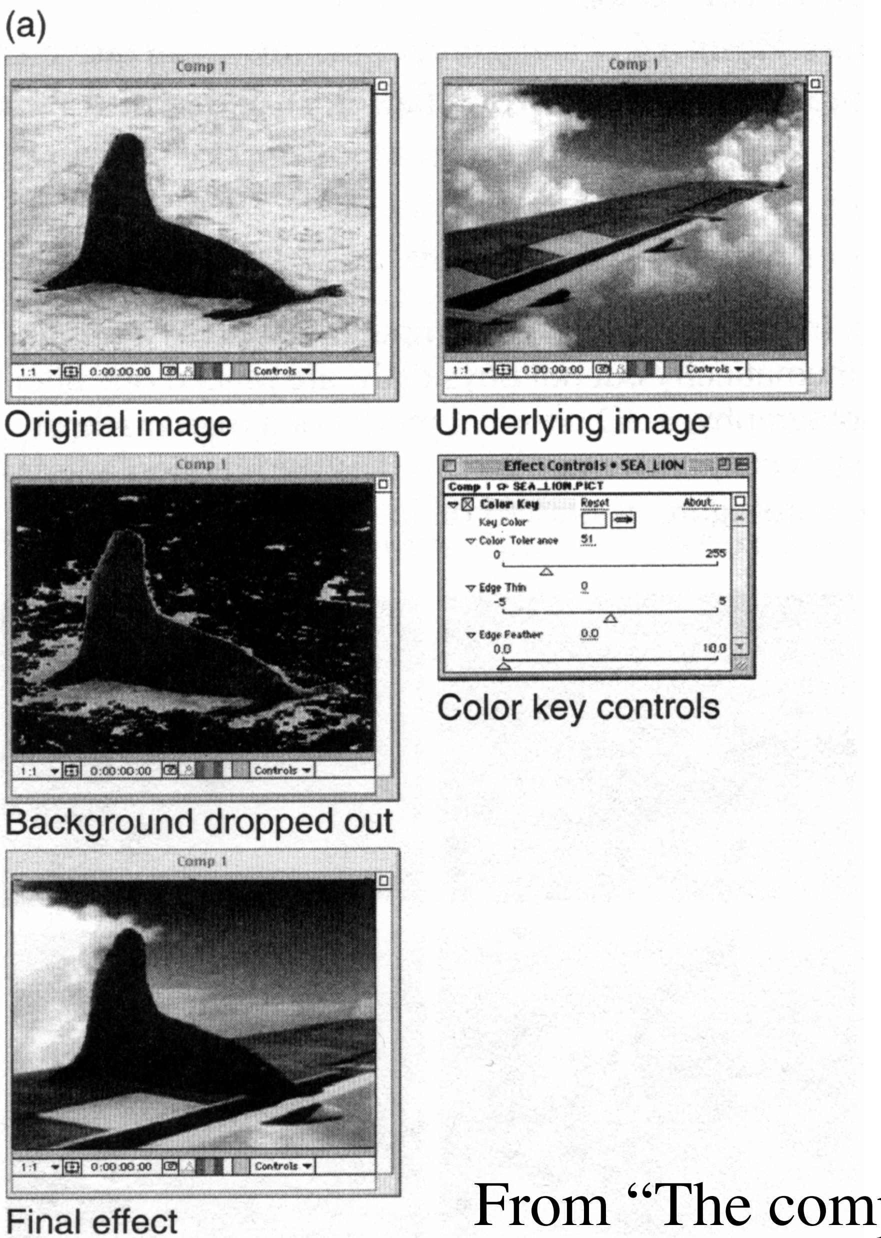
Compositing



Light areas are more transparent - blending

From “The computer in the visual arts”, Spalter, 1999

Compositing

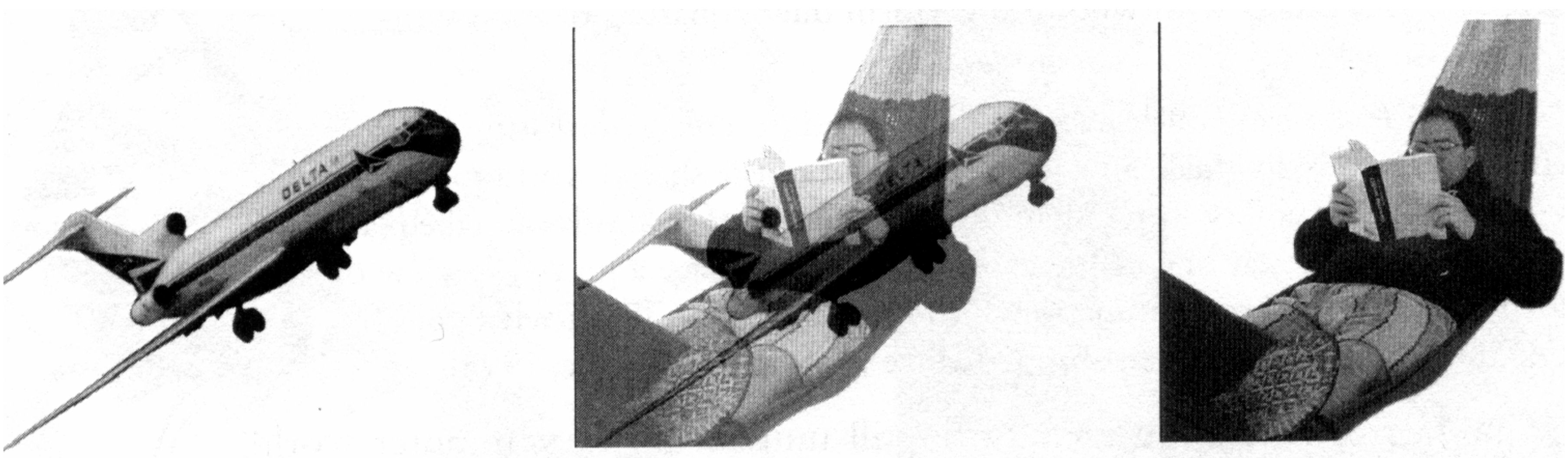


- Note that human intervention might be required to remove odd pixels, if the background doesn't have a distinctive colour
- One can buy sets of images which have been segmented by hand.

From "The computer in the visual arts", Spalter, 1999

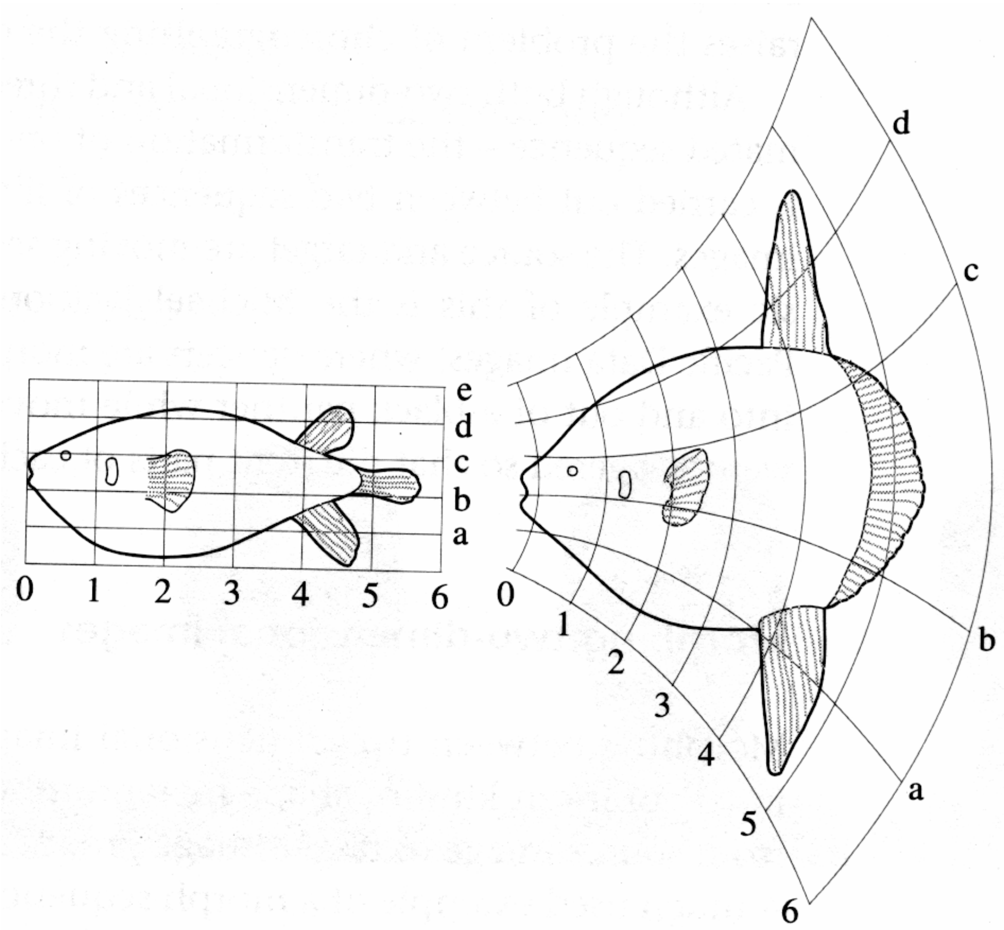
Morphing

- Simple blending doesn't work terribly well for distinct shapes
- Idea: map the one shape to the other, while blending



From "The computer Image", Watt and Policarpo, 1998

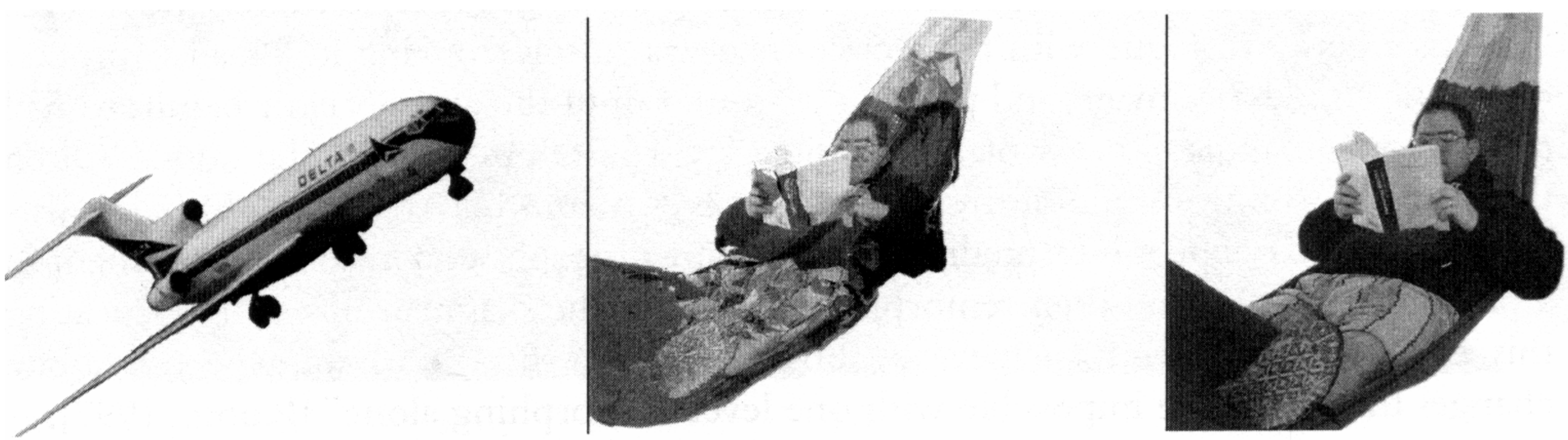
Morphing



From “On growth and Form”, D’Arcy Thompson

Morphing

- Another use for the deformation encoding shown earlier
- From “The computer Image”,
- Watt and Policarpo, 1998



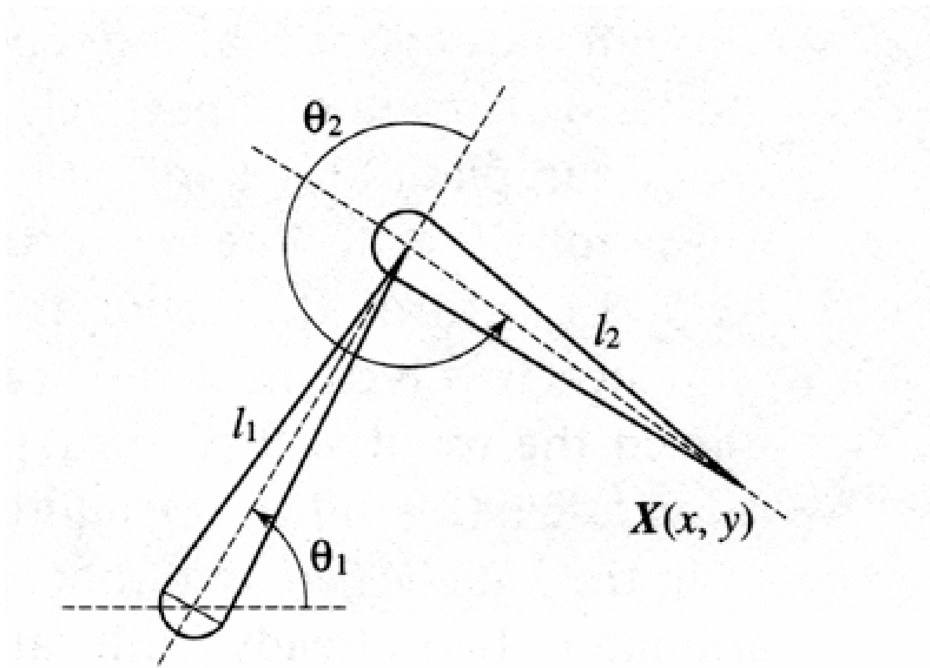
Morphing


(a) (b) (c) (d) (e)

From “The computer Image”,
Watt and Policarpo, 1998

Procedural animation

- Kinematics
  - the configuration of a chain given its state variables
  - e.g. where is the end of the arm if angles are given?
- Inverse kinematics
  - the state variables that yield the configuration
  - e.g. what angles put the end of the arm here?

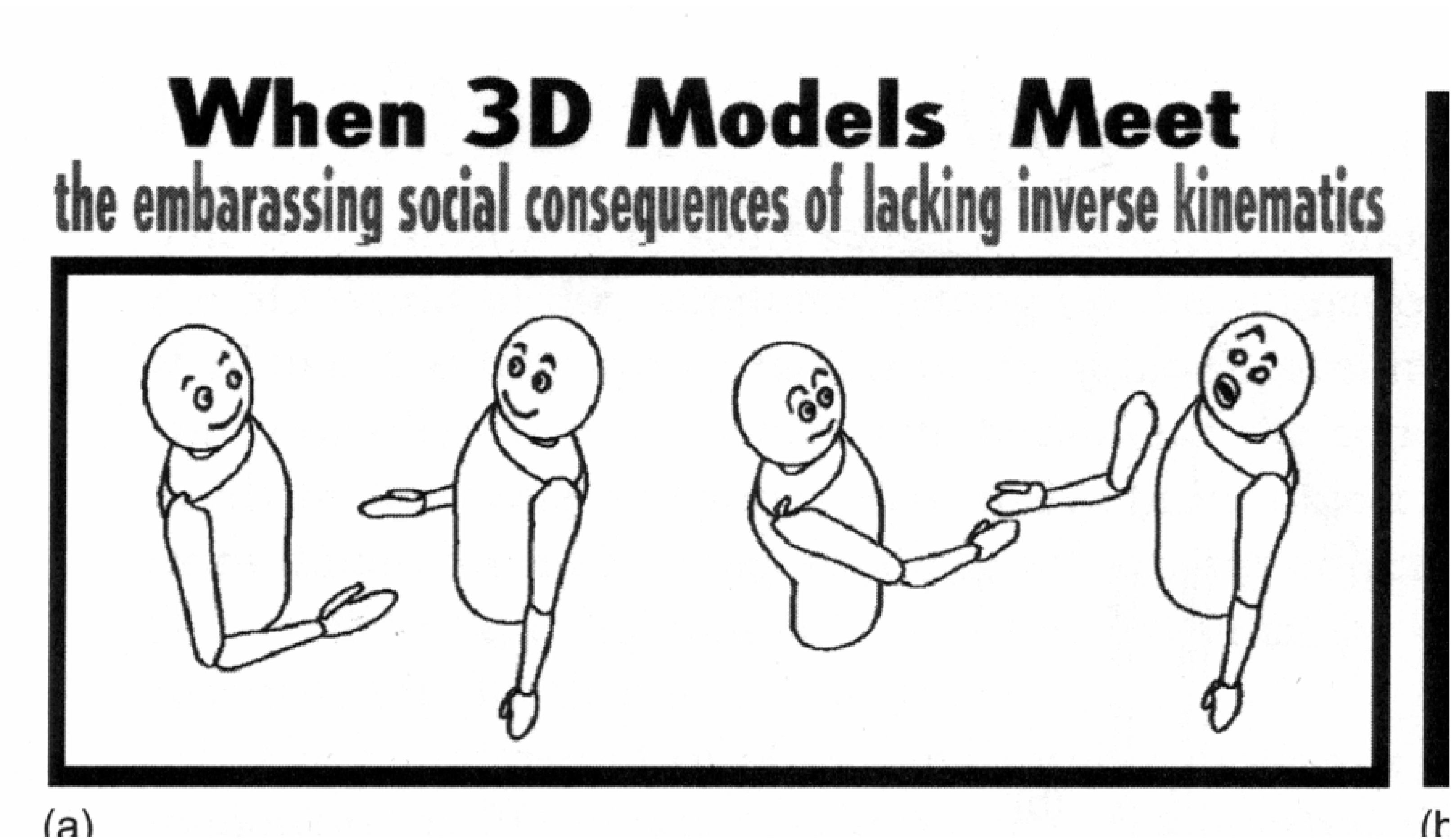


From “The computer Image”,

Inverse Kinematics

From “The computer Image”, Watt and Policarpo, 1998

Inverse Kinematics



From “The computer in the visual arts”, Spalter, 1999

Inverse kinematics

- Endpoint position and orientation is:

$$\underline{e}(\underline{\theta})$$

- Central Question: how do I modify the configuration variables to move the endpoint in a particular direction?

$$\delta\underline{e} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial e_1}{\partial \theta_1} & .. & \frac{\partial e_1}{\partial \theta_k} \\ .. & .. & .. \\ \frac{\partial e_6}{\partial \theta_1} & .. & \frac{\partial e_6}{\partial \theta_k} \end{pmatrix} \delta\underline{\theta} = J\delta\underline{\theta}$$

- J is the Jacobian
- If rank(J) < 6, then
  - some movements aren't possible
  - or more than one movement results in the same effect
- If k>6 then the chain is redundant
  - more than one set of variables will lead to the same configuration

Procedural animation

- Generate animations using procedural approach
  - e.g. “Slice and dice” existing animations to produce a more complex animation
  - e.g. use forward kinematics and a hierarchical model (doors swinging in our original hierarchical model)
  - e.g. construct a set of forces, etc. and allow objects to move under their effects.
    - particle models
    - waves
    - collision and ballistic models
    - spring mass models
    - control - flocking, etc.

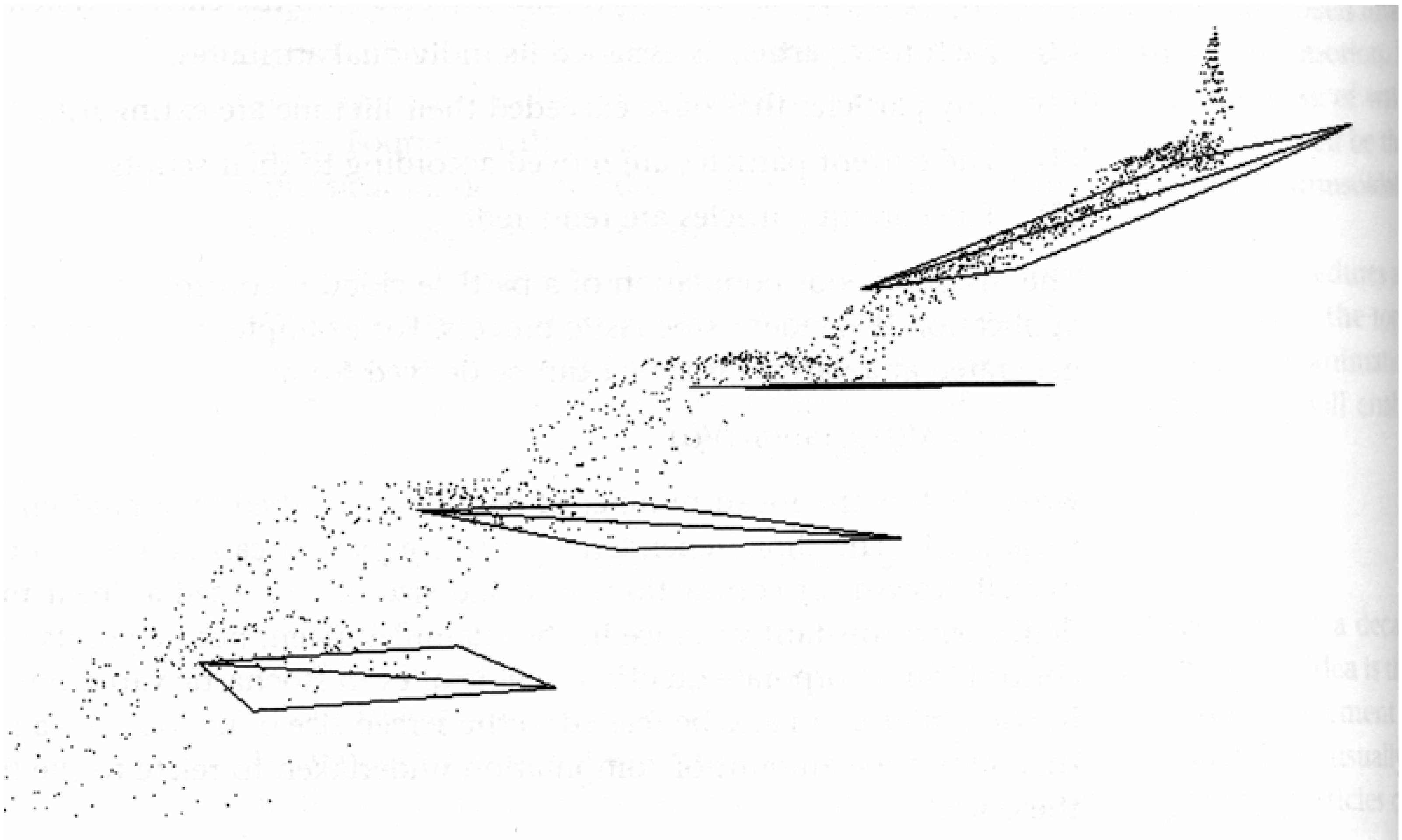
Dynamics - Particle systems

- There is a source of particles
  - move under gravity, sometimes collisions
  - sometimes other reactions
- Example: fireworks
  - particles chosen with random colour, originating randomly within a region, fired out with random direction and lasting for a random period of time before they expire
    - or explode, generating another collection of particles,etc
- Example: water
  - very large stream of particles, large enough that one doesn't see the gap
- Example: grass
  - fire particles up within a tapered cylinder, let them fall under gravity, keep a record of the particle's trail.

Particle explosion

Animation science: http://www.anisci.com/main.html

Particle water

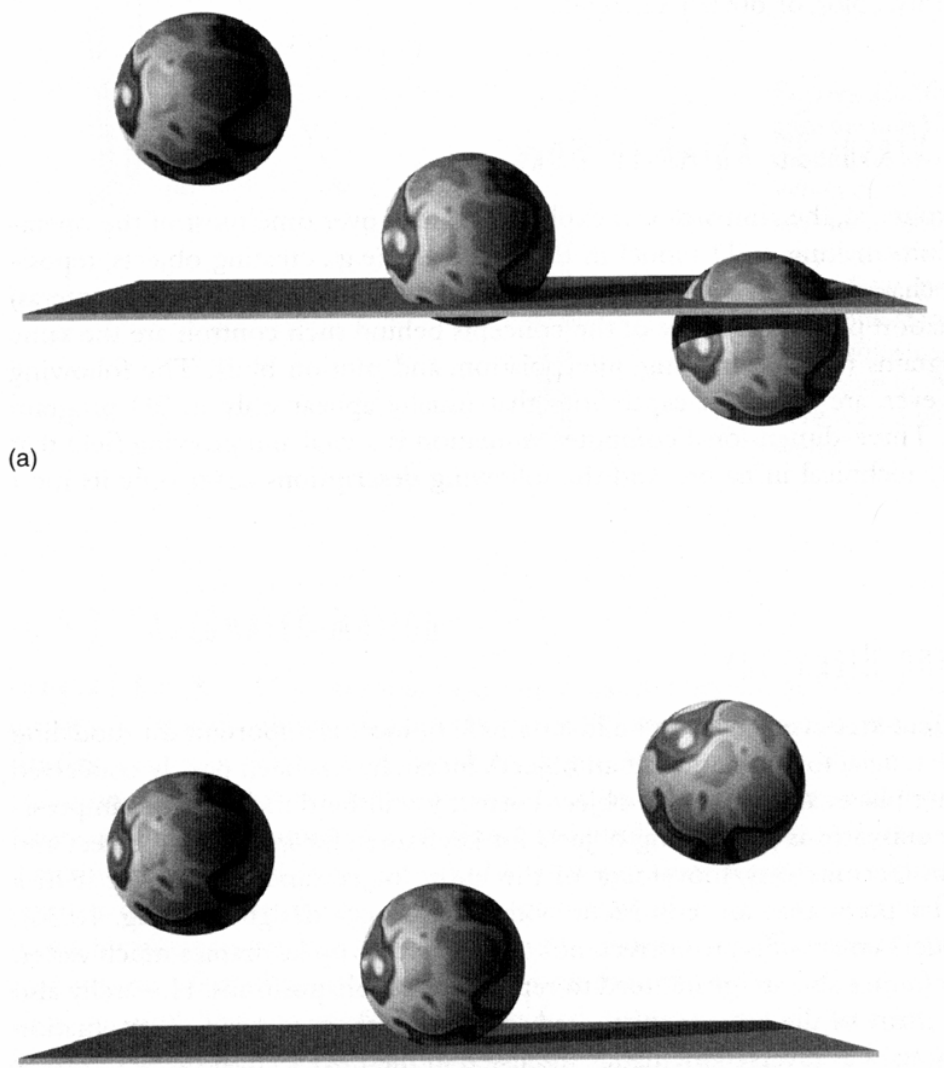


Particle Torch

Now replace particle centers with small blobs of colour in the image plane

http://www.arch.columbia.edu/manuals/Softimage/3d_learn/GUIDED/PARTICLES/p_first.htm

Collisions


(a)

(b)

- Natural dynamic model - objects move freely under gravity till they collide
- Collisions with point particles are easy
- Collisions with more complex shapes are not
  - spheres are an exception
  - hierarchy helps
- For accurate simulation of physical dynamics, it is essential to identify the first collision.

Dynamics - Springs and Masses

- Objects are modelled as a line/grid/lattice of masses
- Masses are connected by linear springs
- Energy in a linear spring is $k(l-l_r)$^2
  - here k is the spring constant and l_r is the rest length
- This yields system of differential equations for the state of the object (position and velocity of the masses)
- Objects can be controlled by changing rest lengths of springs

Spring mass fish

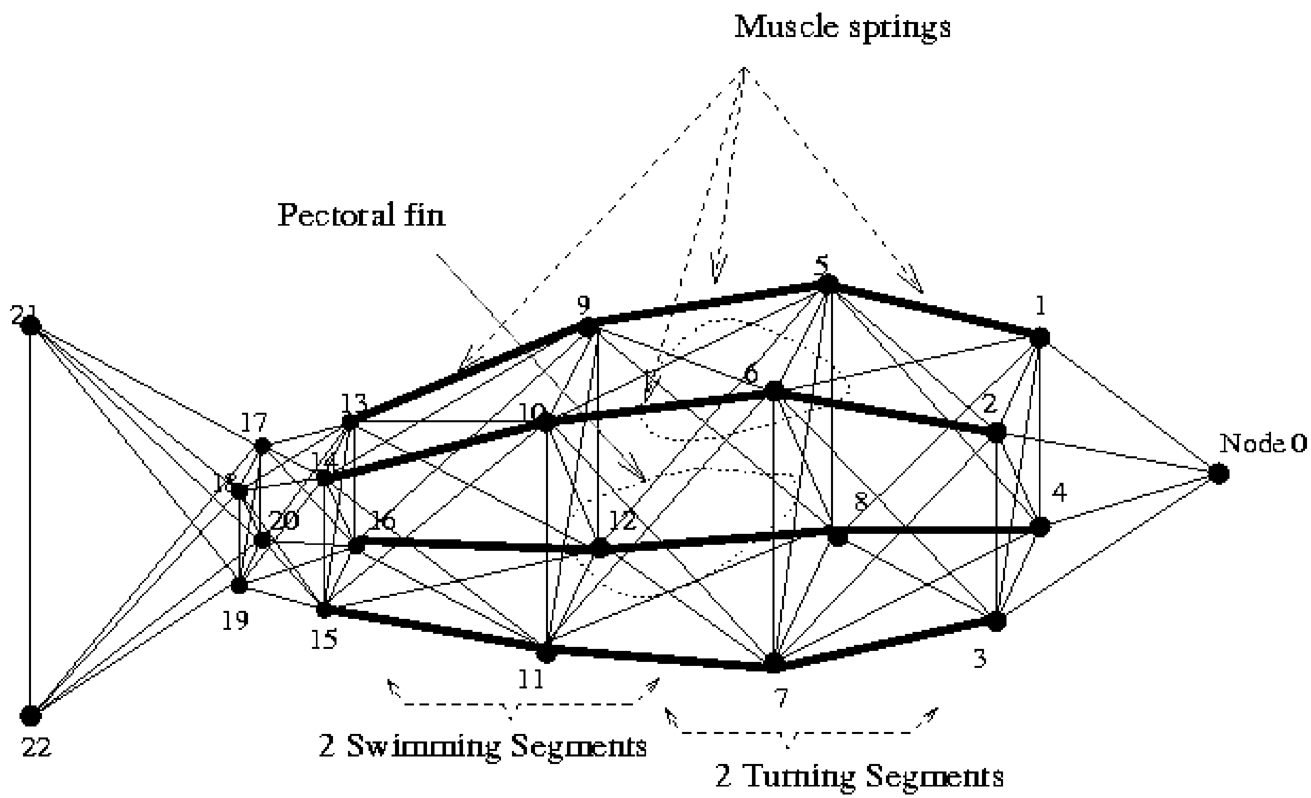


Figure 4.1: The biomechanical fish model. Black dots indicate lumped masses. Lines indicate deformable elements at their natural, rest lengths.

Due to Xiaoyuan Tu, http://www.dgp.toronto.edu/people/tu

Spring Mass fish swimming

Dynamics - more interesting dynamics

- Solid mechanics
  - fractures, sound, etc
  - springs and masses don't work well
- Deforming objects
  - jelly
  - cloth (hard)
  - muscle
  - skin
  - hair

Procedural animation - flocking

- We'd like objects to move in schools and not hit things.
- Abstraction - particle with a steerable rocket.
- 3 goals
  - Separation: steer to avoid crowding local flockmates.
  - Alignment: steer towards the average heading of local flockmates.
  - Cohesion: steer to move toward the average position of local flockmates.
- Each generates a separate acceleration request
- How to accelerate?
  - weighted sum
    - but there is a limited amount of acceleration available
  - accumulate acceleration in priority order until vector is too long, then trim back the last component.

Boids

http://www.red.com/cwr/boids.html

Random offsets and subdivisions

- Subdivision using random offsets gives quite good terrain models
- Trick:
  - mesh rough model of terrain
  - subdivide, applying random offsets, but limiting the distance between the offset and the original model
  - Gives a terrain that “looks familiar”

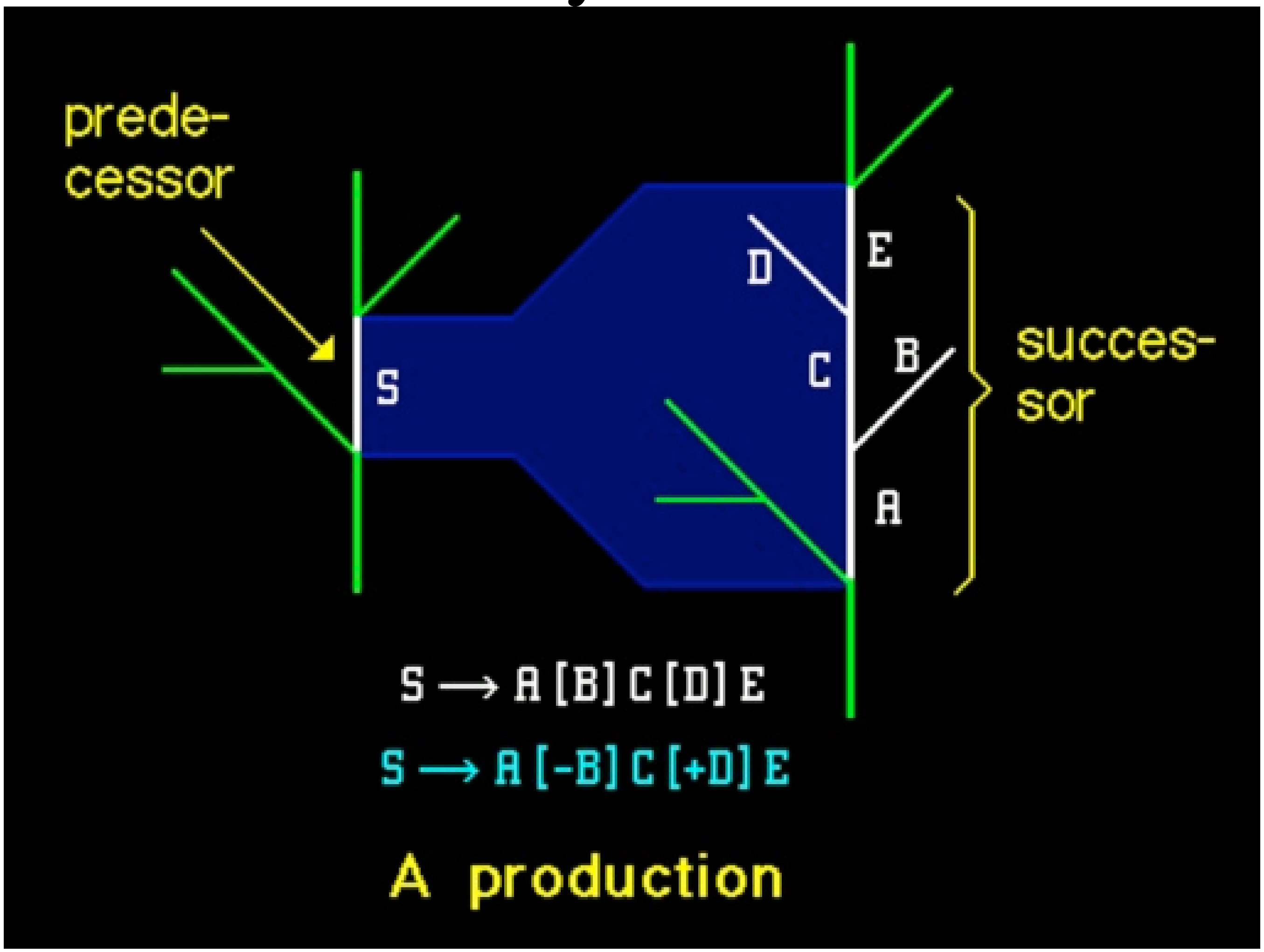
Procedural modelling

- Seashells
- Plants
- Terrain

Fractal Terrains

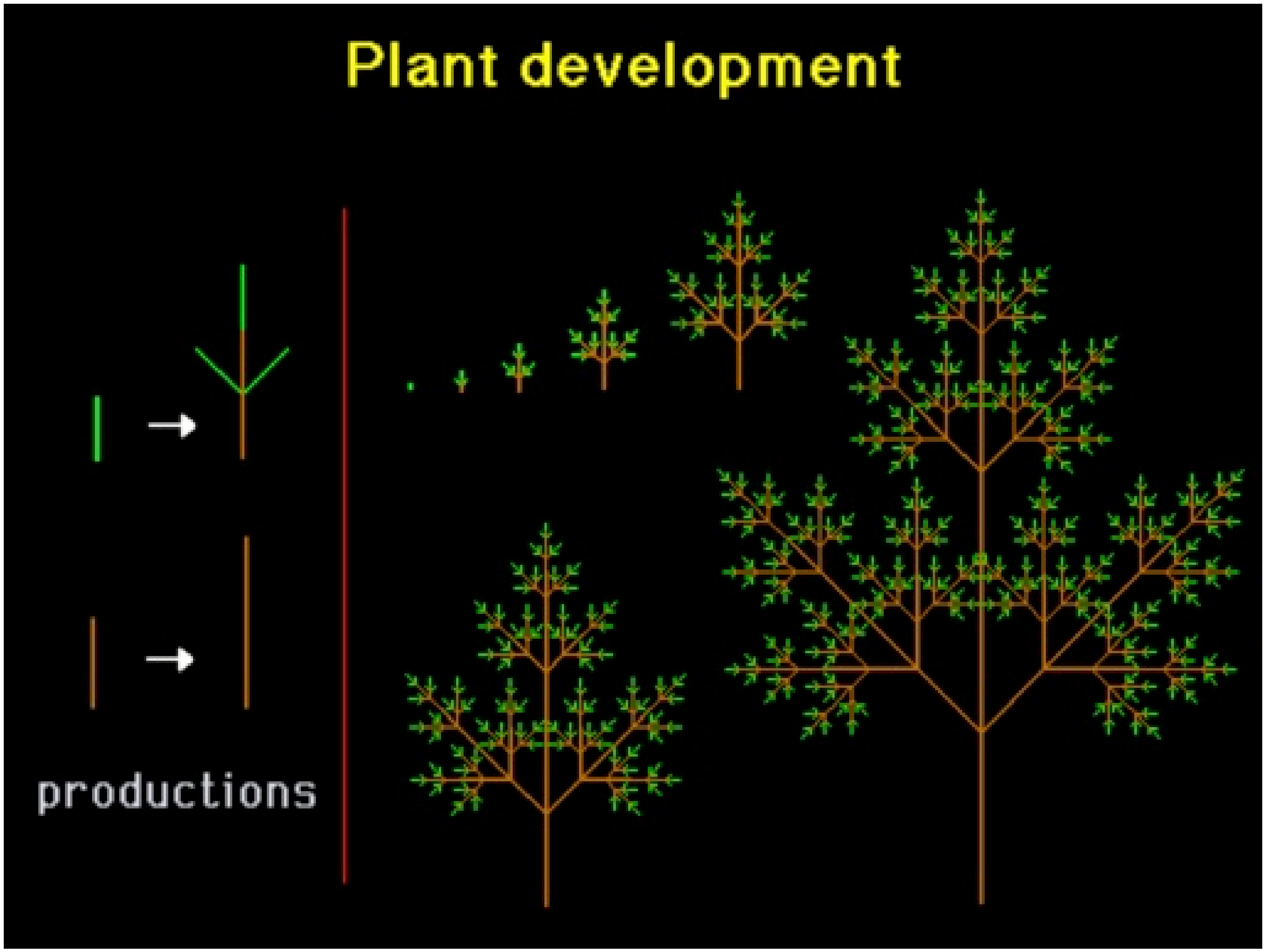
http://members.aol.com/maksoy/vistfrac/sunset.htm

L-Systems



Prusinkiewicz, Hammel, Mech http://www.cpsc.ucalgary.ca/projects/bmv/vmm/title.html

L-Systems

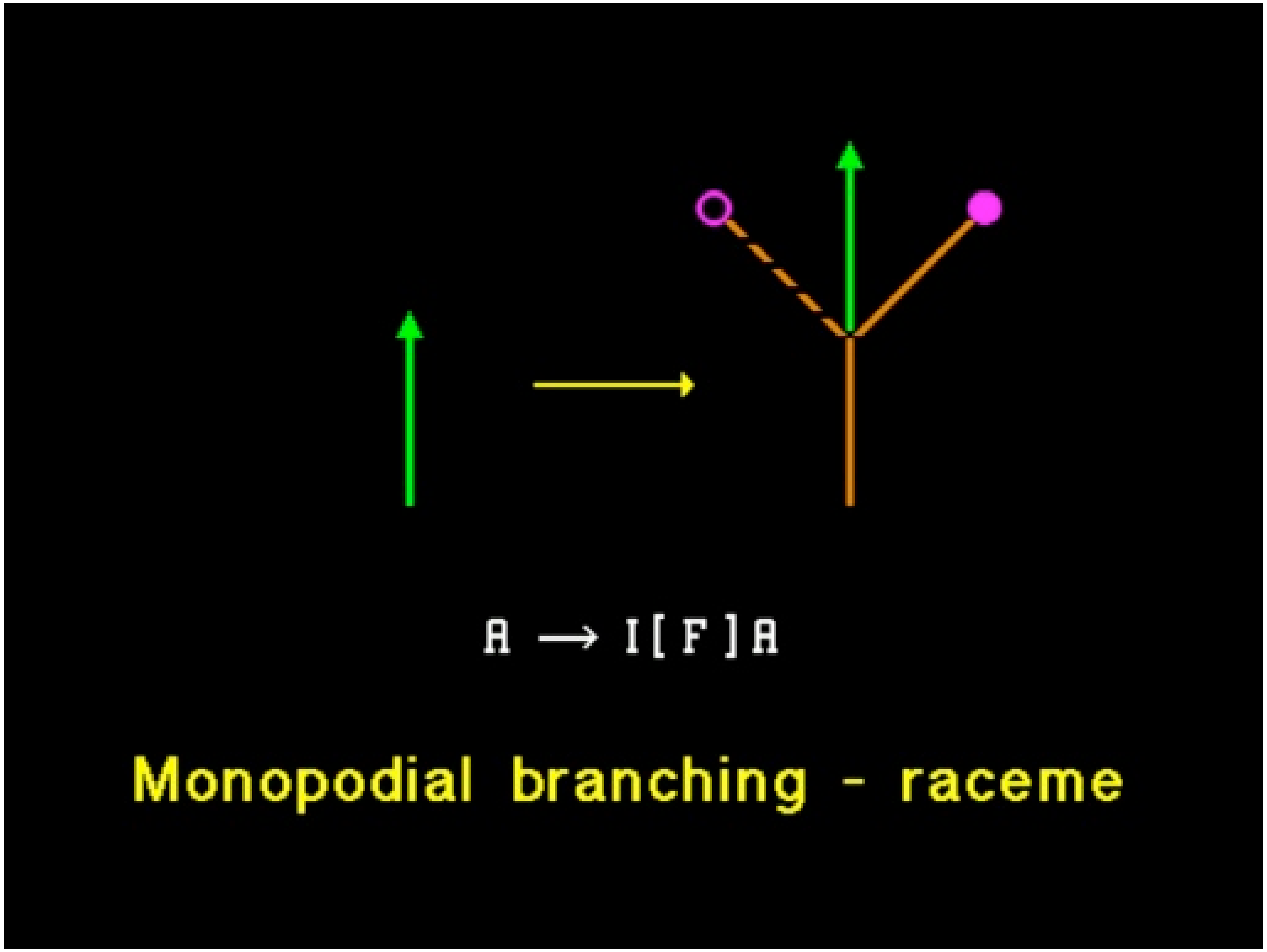


Prusinkiewicz, Hammel, Mech http://www.cpsc.ucalgary.ca/projects/bmv/vmm/title.html

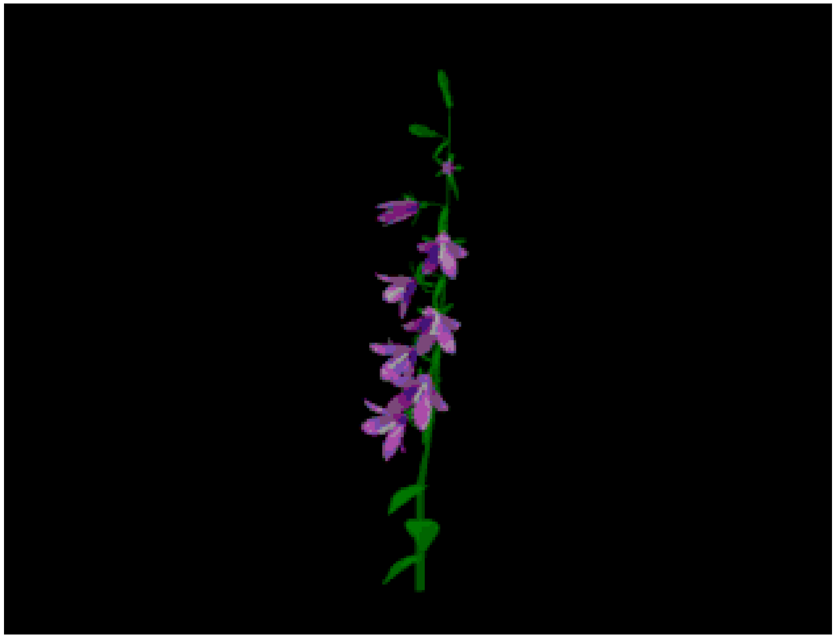
L-System plant growing

Prusinkiewicz, Hammel, Mech http://www.cpsc.ucalgary.ca/projects/bmv/vmm/title.html

Flowers at side branches

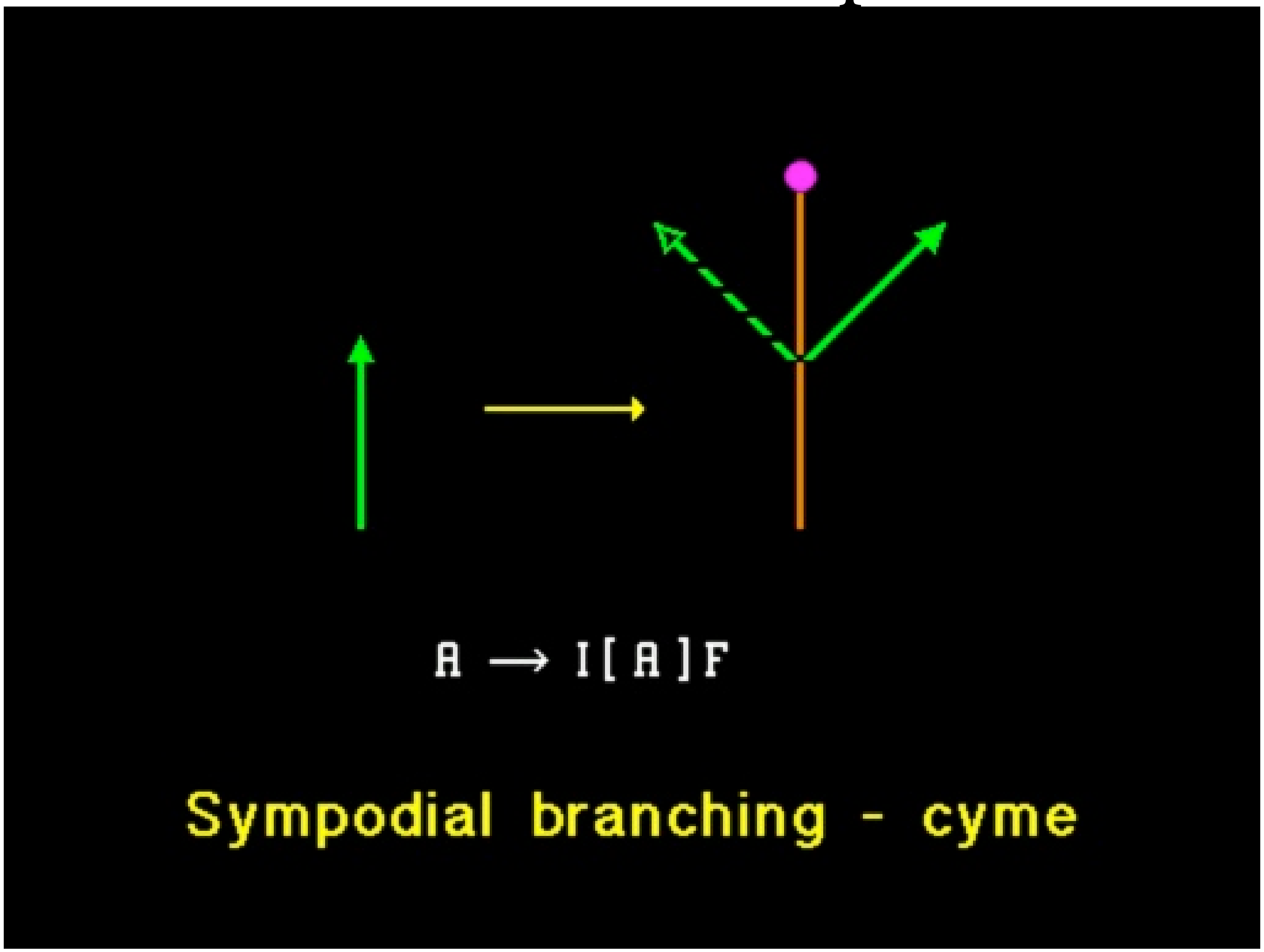


Prusinkiewicz, Hammel, Mech http://www.cpsc.ucalgary.ca/projects/bmv/vmm/title.html

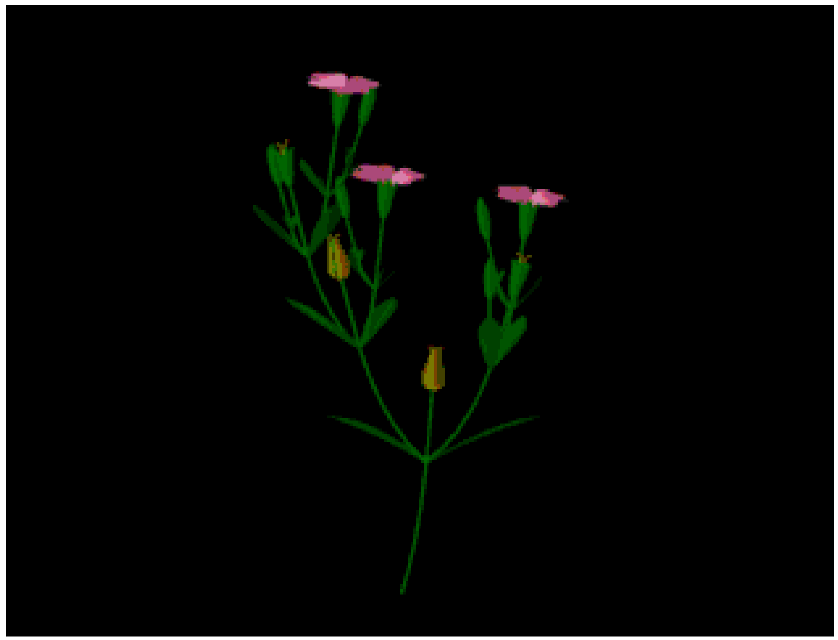


Prusinkiewicz, Hammel, Mech http://www.cpsc.ucalgary.ca/projects/bmv/vmm/title.html

Flowers at the apex

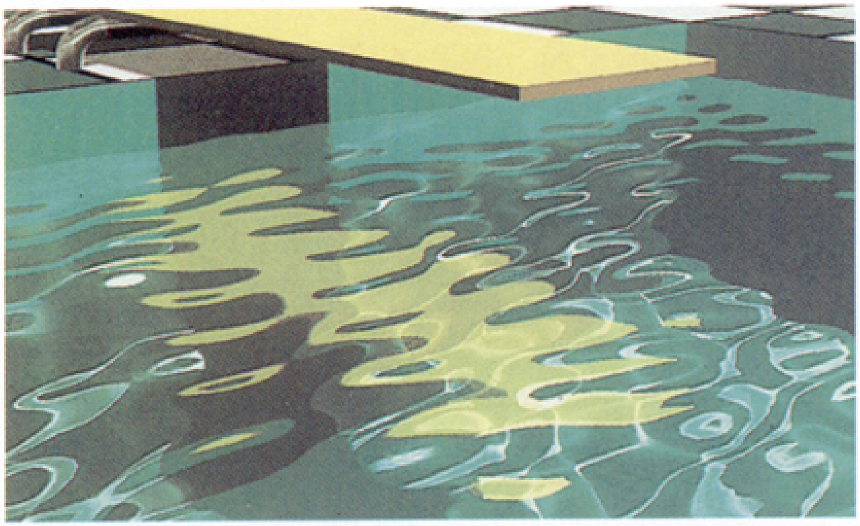


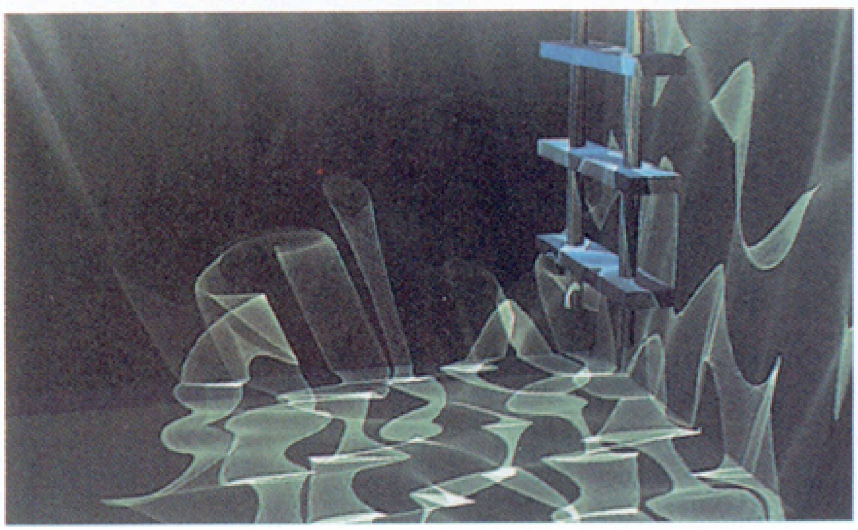
Prusinkiewicz, Hammel, Mech http://www.cpsc.ucalgary.ca/projects/bmv/vmm/title.html



Prusinkiewicz, Hammel, Mech http://www.cpsc.ucalgary.ca/projects/bmv/vmm/title.html

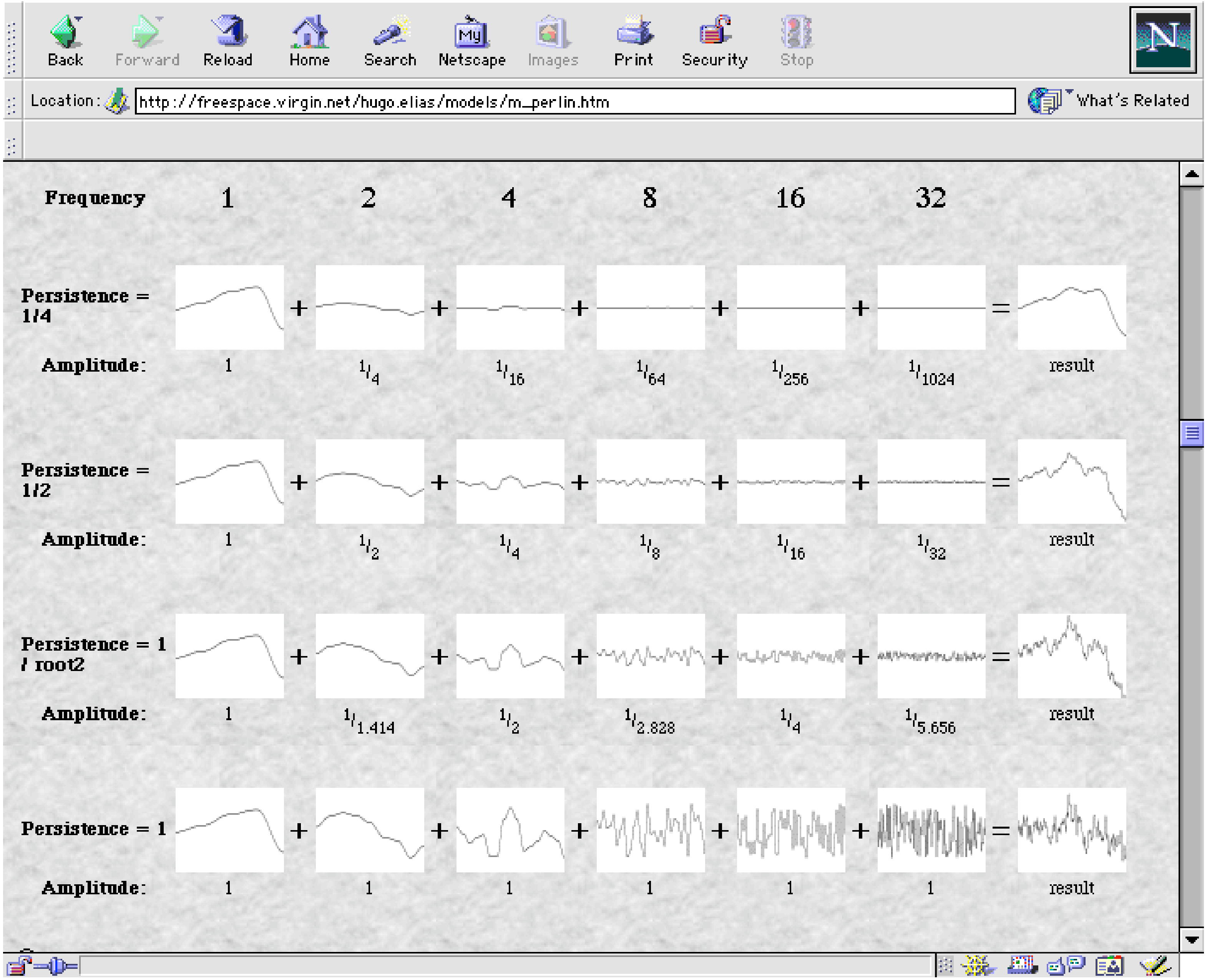
Procedural waves

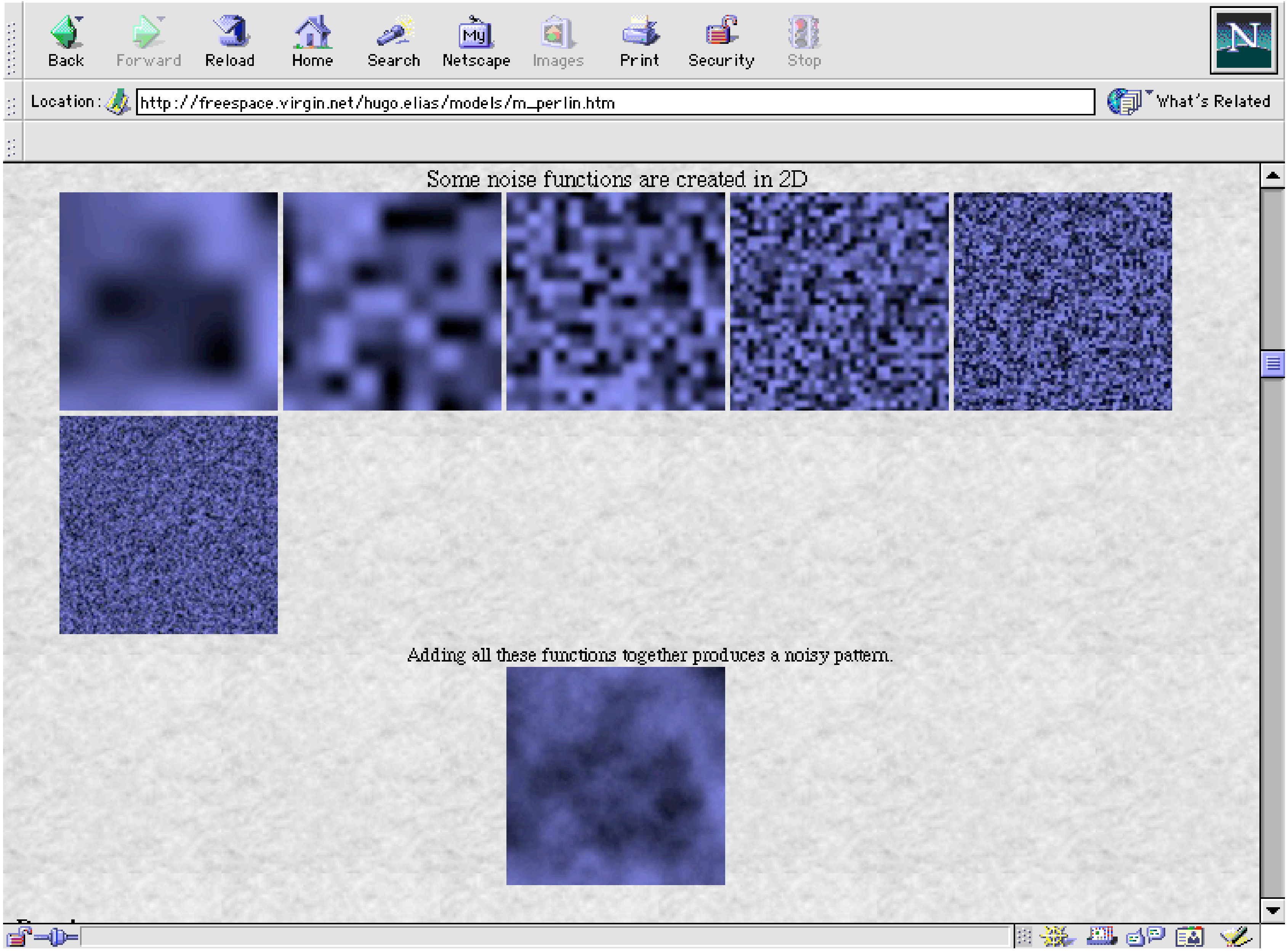




Turbulence/Perlin noise

- Many natural textures look like noise or "smoothed" noise (marble, flames, clouds, terrain, etc.)
- Issue:
  - obtain the right kind of smoothing
- Strategy:
  - construct noise functions at a variety of scales
    - do this by drawing samples from a random number generator at different spacings
  - form a weighted sum
- Usually:
  - space the noise in octaves (i.e. interelement spacing goes as $(1/2)^i$ - this means frequency goes as 2^i)
  - amplitude in sum goes as p^i, where p is a parameter called persistence.
  - persistence is commonly 2^i
- 3D Turbulence yields animations for clouds, fog, flames


Back
Forward
Reload
Home
Search
Netscape
Images
Print
Security
Stop
Location: http://freespace.virgin.net/hugo.elias/models/m_perlin.htm
What's Related
Frequency
1
2
4
8
16
32
Persistence = 1/4
Amplitude:
1
1/4
1/16
1/64
1/256
1/1024
result
Persistence = 1/2
Amplitude:
1
1/2
1/4
1/8
1/16
1/32
result
Persistence = 1 / root2
Amplitude:
1
1/1.414
1/2
1/2.828
1/4
1/5.656
result
Persistence = 1
Amplitude:
1
1
1
1
1
1
result


Back
Forward
Reload
Home
Search
Netscape
Images
Print
Security
Stop
Location: http://freespace.virgin.net/hugo.elias/models/m_perlin.htm
What's Related
Some noise functions are created in 2D
Adding all these functions together produces a noisy pattern.

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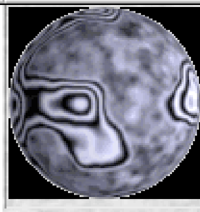
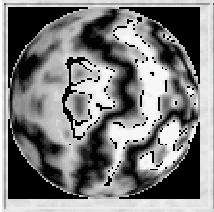
Location: http://freespace.virgin.net/hugo.elias/models/m_perlin.htm What's Related



To create more interesting and complicated textures, you should try mixing several Perlin functions. This texture was created in two parts. Firstly a Perlin function with low persistence was used to define the shape of the blobs. The value of this function was used to select from two other functions, one of which defined the stripes, the other defined the blotchy pattern. A high value chose more of the former, a low value more of the latter. The stripes were defined by multiplying the first Perlin Function by some number (about 20) then taking the cosine.



A marbly texture can be made by using a Perlin function as an offset to a cosine function.

```
texture = cosine( x + perlin(x,y,z) )
```

Very nice wood textures can be defined. The grain is defined with a low persistence function like this:

```
g = perlin(x,y,z) * 20
grain = g - int(g)
```

The very fine bumps you can see on the wood are high frequency noise that has been stretched in one dimension.

```
bumps = perlin(x*50, y*50, z*20)
if bumps < .5 then bumps = 0  else bumps = 1t
```

References

Procedural textures: **http://developer.intel.com/drg/mmx/appnotes/proctex.htm**
Intel Developer Site article about using the new MMX technology to render Perlin Noise in real time.

Ken Perlin's Homepage: **http://mrl.nyu.edu/perlin/**
I assume the person responsable for Perlin Noise. He has an interesting page with lots of useful links to texturing and modeling

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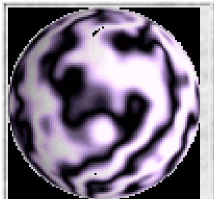
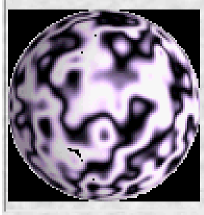
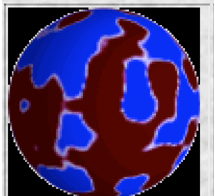
Location: http://freespace.virgin.net/hugo.elias/models/m_perlin.htm What's Related

The following textures were made with 3D Perlin Noise

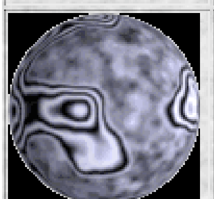




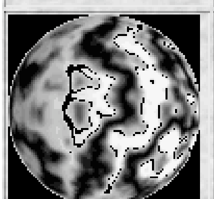
Standard 3 dimensional perlin noise. 4 octaves, persistence 0.25 and 0.5



Low persistence. You can create harder edges to the perlin noise by applying a function to the output.



To create more interesting and complicated textures, you should try mixing several Perlin functions. This texture was created in two parts. Firstly a Perlin function with low persistence was used to define the shape of the blobs. The value of this function was used to select from two other functions, one of which defined the stripes, the other defined the blotchy pattern. A high value chose more of the former, a low value more of the latter. The stripes were defined by multiplying the first Perlin Function by some number (about 20) then taking the cosine.



A marbly texture can be made by using a Perlin function as an offset to a cosine function.

```
texture = cosine( x + perlin(x,y,z) )
```

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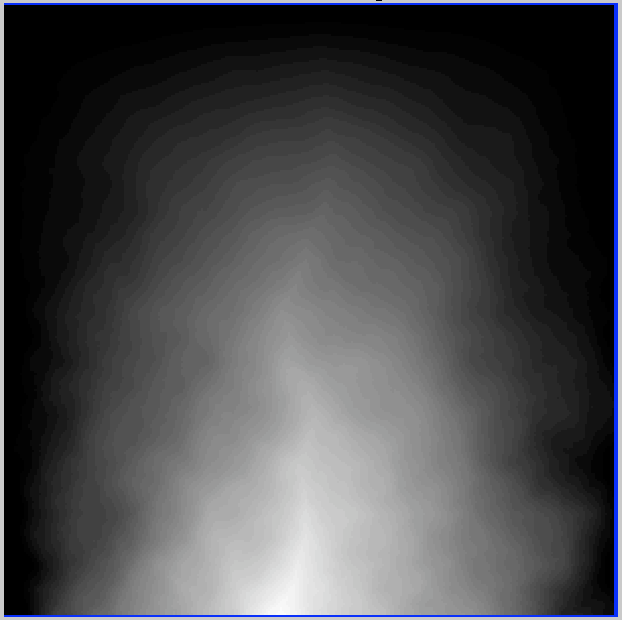
Location: http://www.cs.wpi.edu/~matt/courses/cs563/talks/noise/noise.html What's Related

Flames: Compute intensity of point based on distance from center in x. Scale it based on distance in y. Add turbulence. Use 3-D turbulence to animate. Here is an example of a flame with added turbulence.

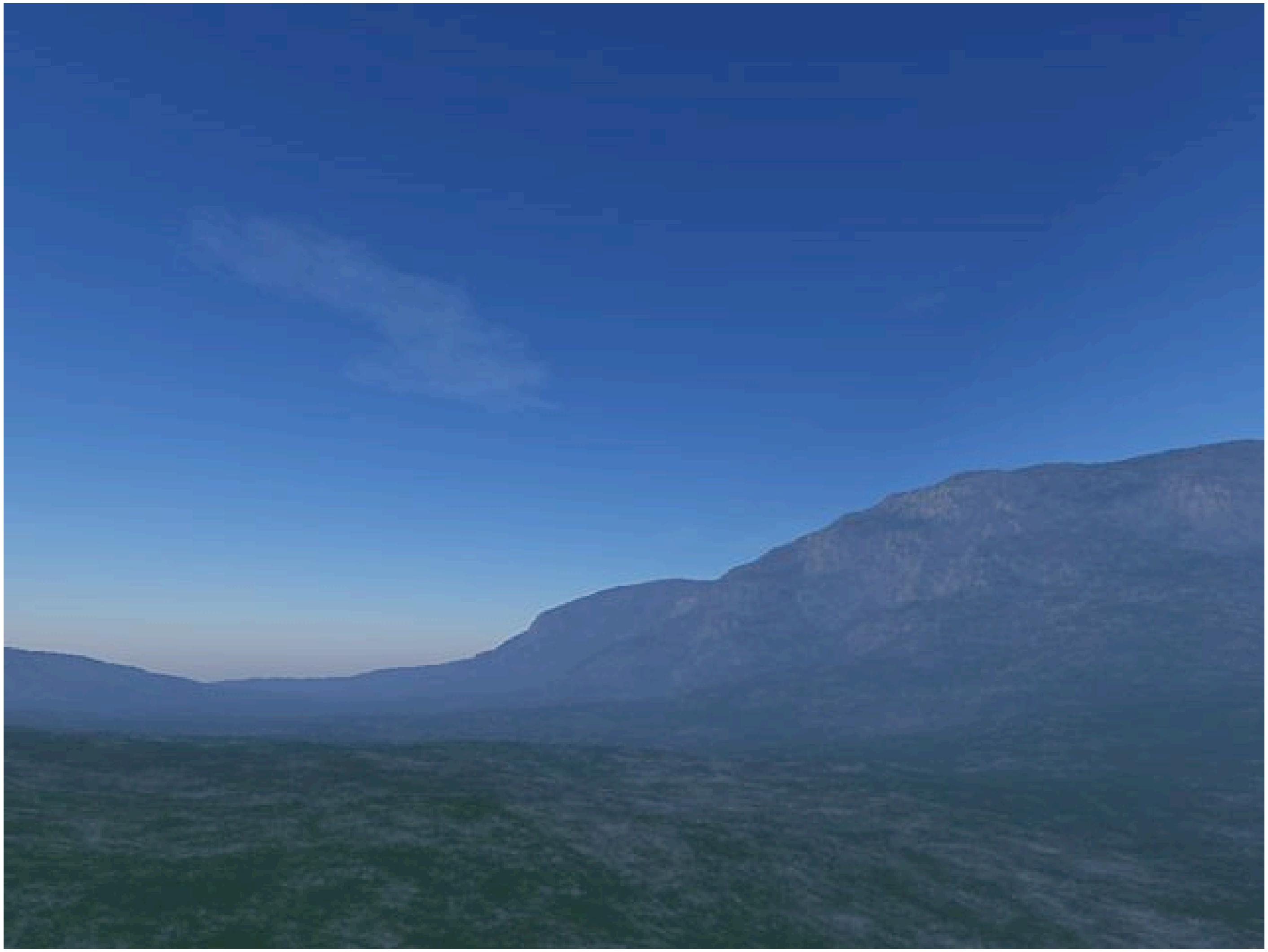


Conclusions

- Lots of interesting effects can be gained by adding turbulence
- Need to play with degree and scale to get most realistic images
- Ties together a lot of topics in graphics (fractals, texture, color, curves)

Back

matt@cs.WPI.EDU
Tue Apr 25 11:51:57 EDT 1995



Terrain, clouds generated using procedural textures and Perlin noise
http://www.planetside.co.uk/ -- tool is called Terragen

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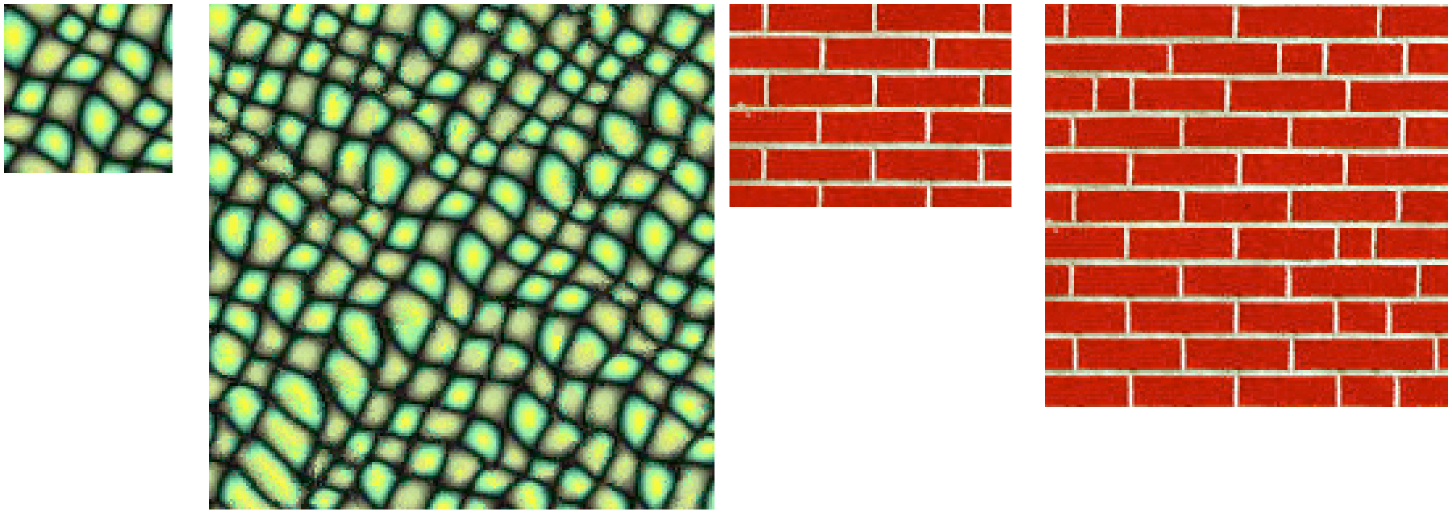
Procedural texture synthesis

- Example: Markov synthesis of text
- Use image as a source of examples
  - Choose pixel values by matching neighbourhood, then filling in
  - Matching process
    - look at pixel differences
    - count only synthesized pixels



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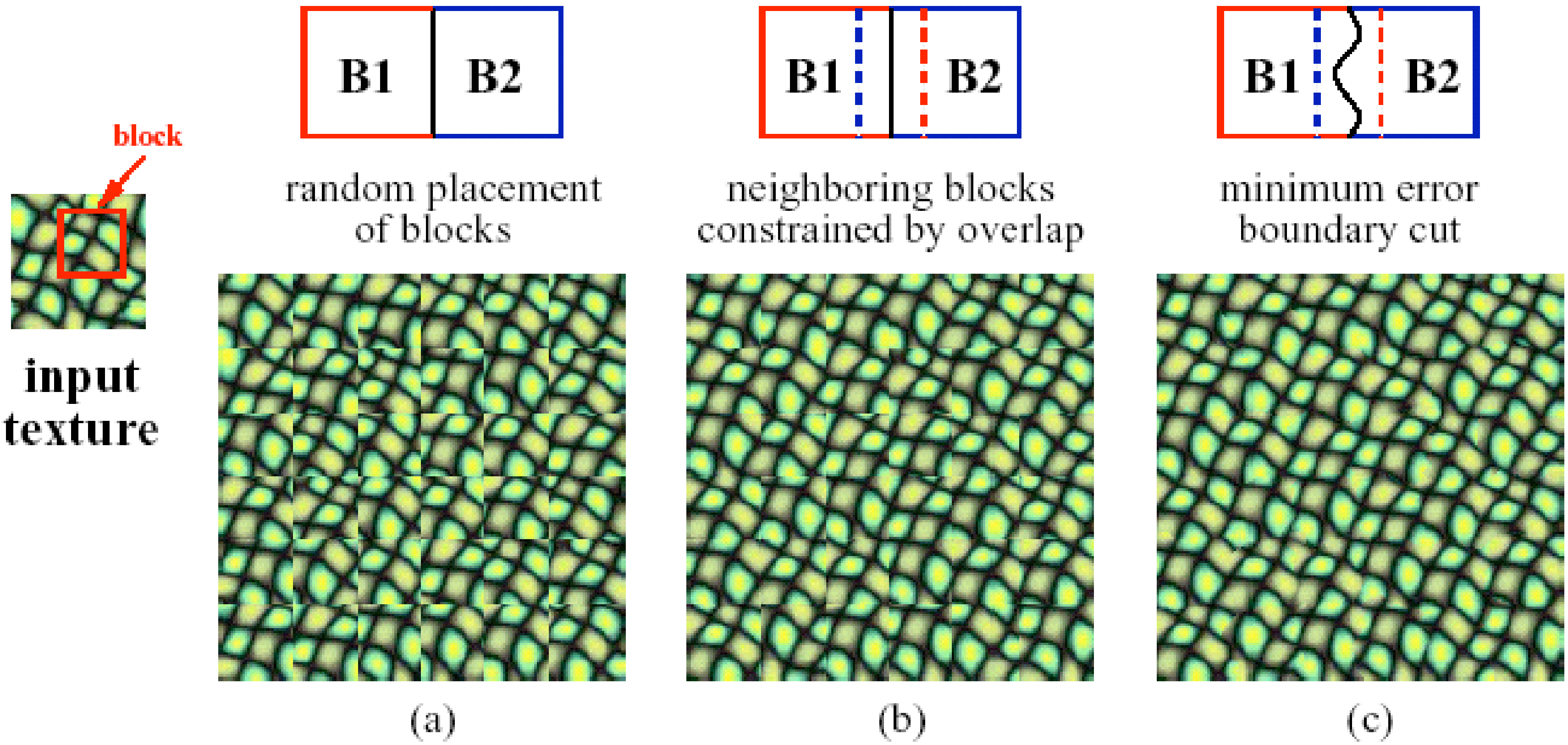
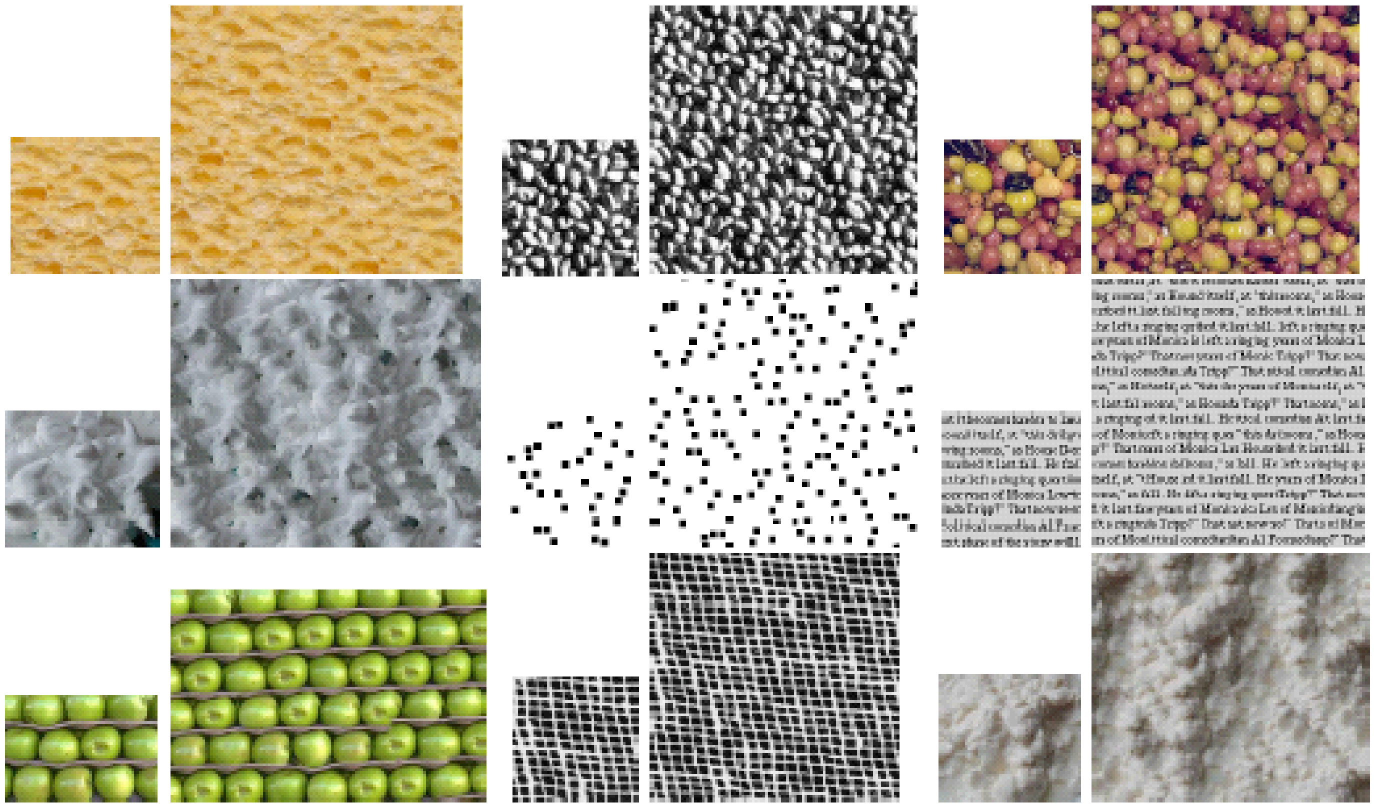


From “Image quilting for texture synthesis and transfer”, Efros and Freeman, SIGGRAPH 2001



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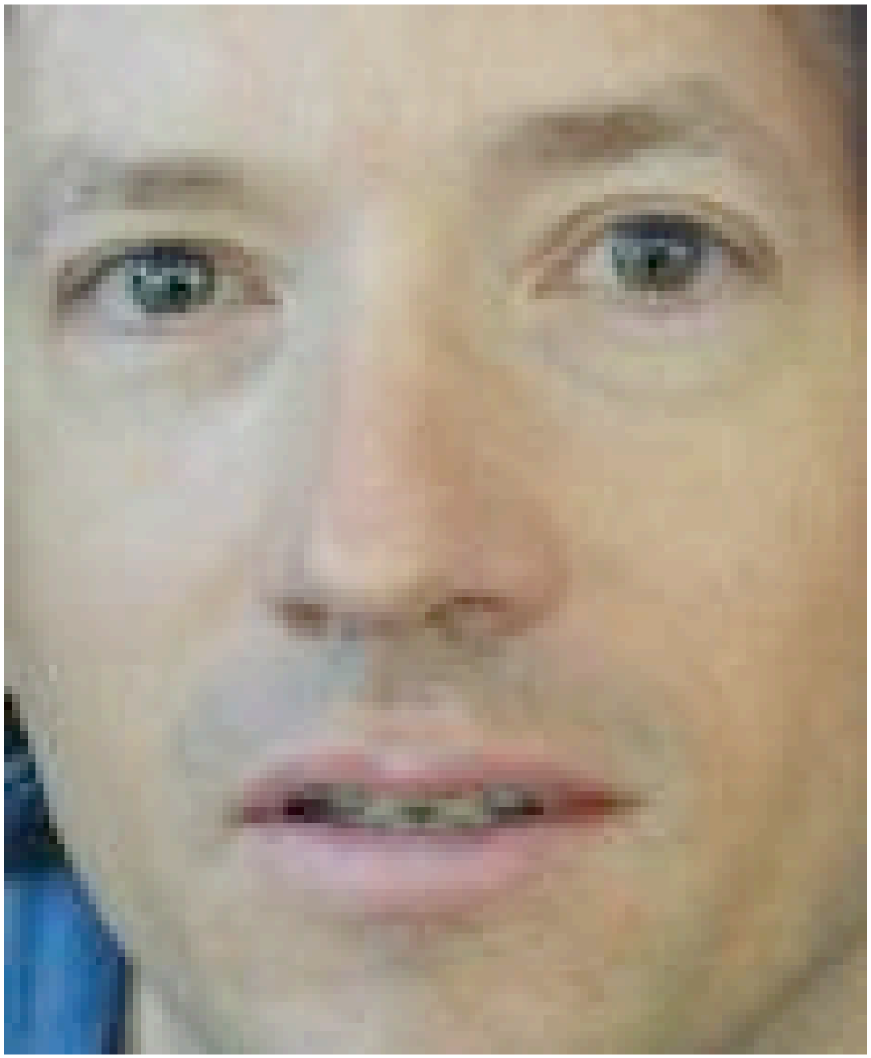

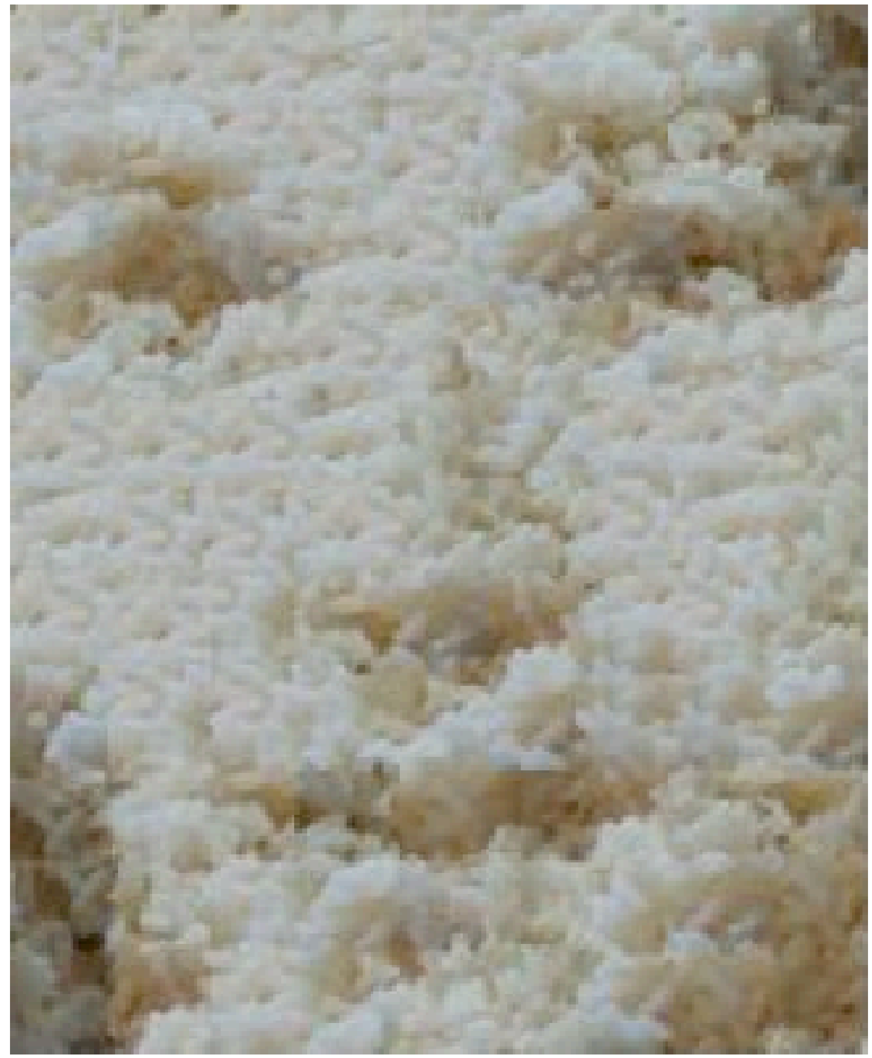

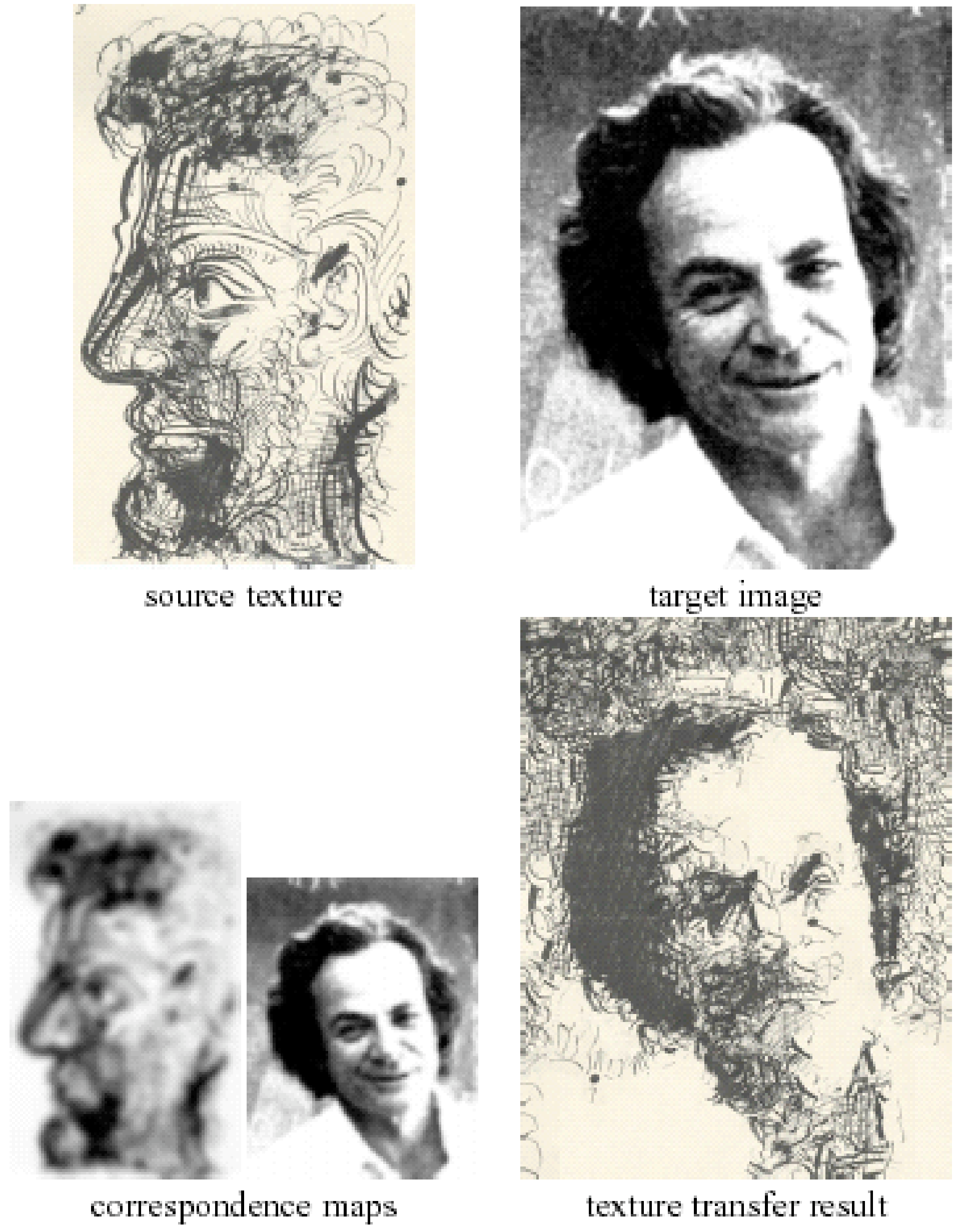

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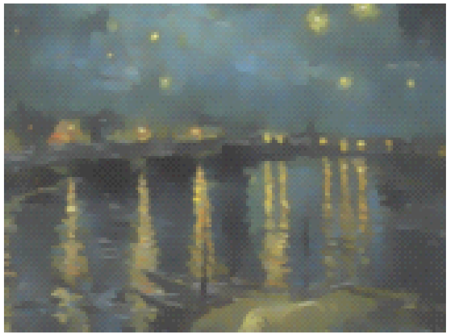

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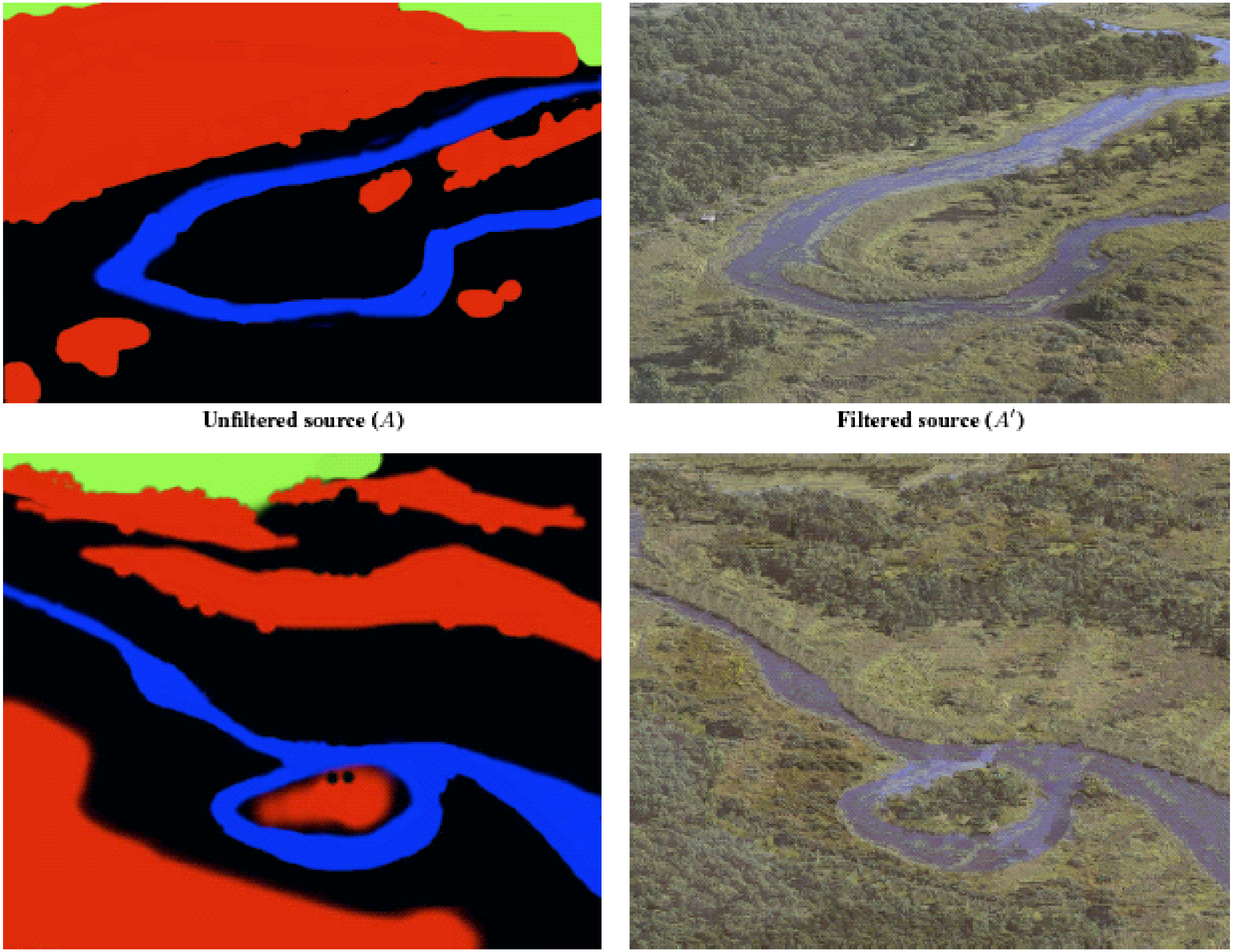

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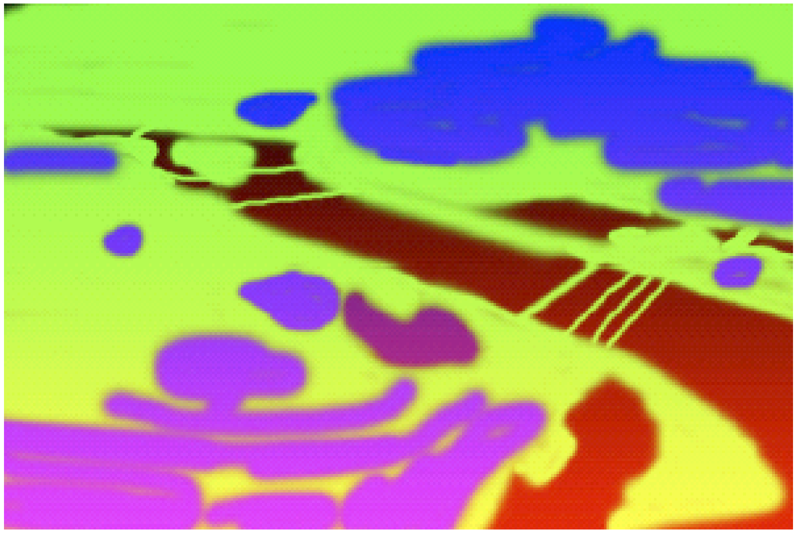
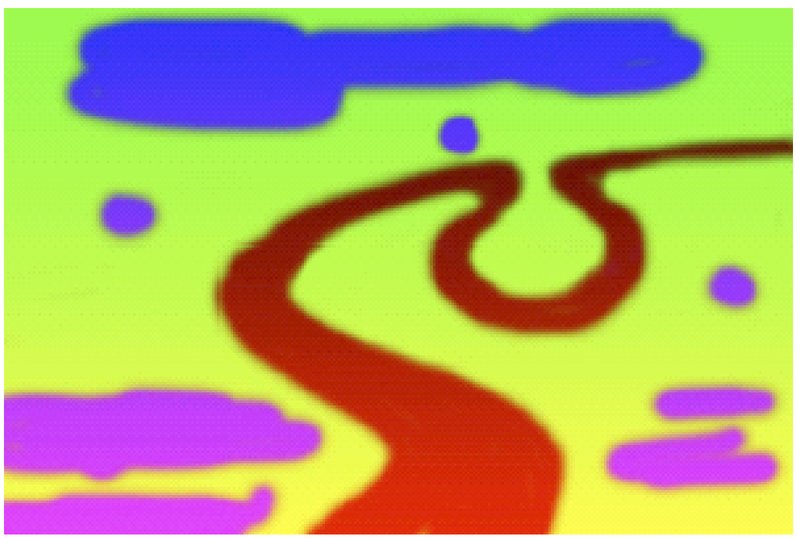


Unfiltered source (A)

Filtered source (A')



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