



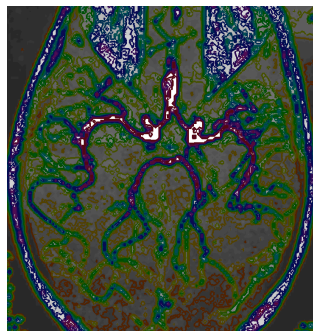
# Controlled-Topology Filtering

Yotam Gingold  
& Denis Zorin

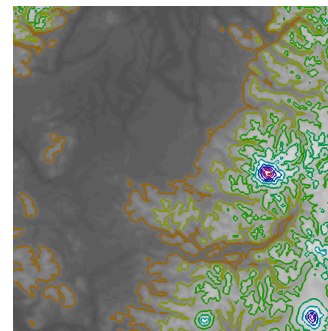
# Motivation

Many applications require extraction of isolines & isosurfaces (contours) from scalar functions

- MRI, CT, terrain data, scientific computing



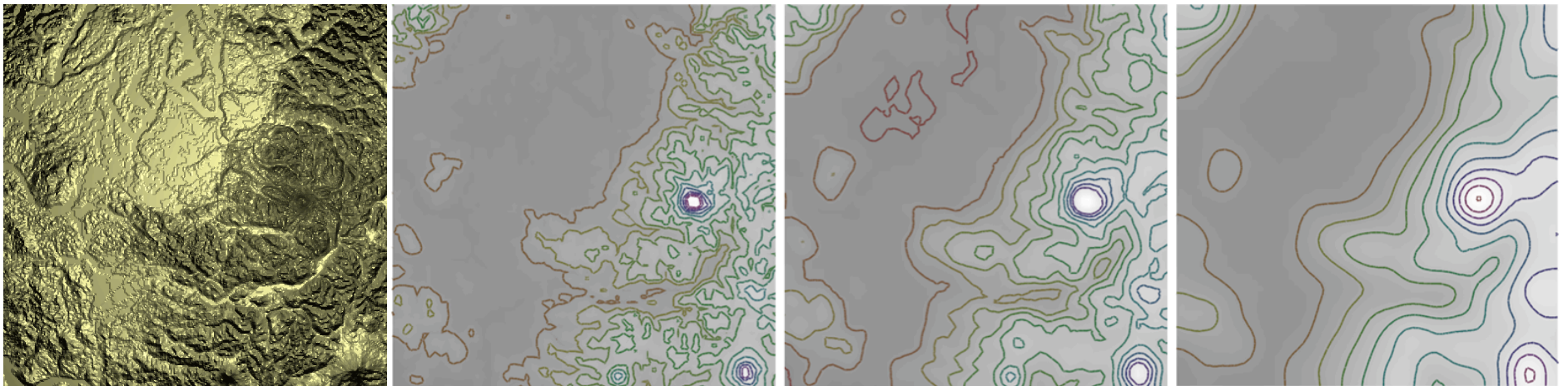
**Cow CT Scan**



**Puget Sound**

# Motivation

Want to filter (smooth, sharpen) all contours at once



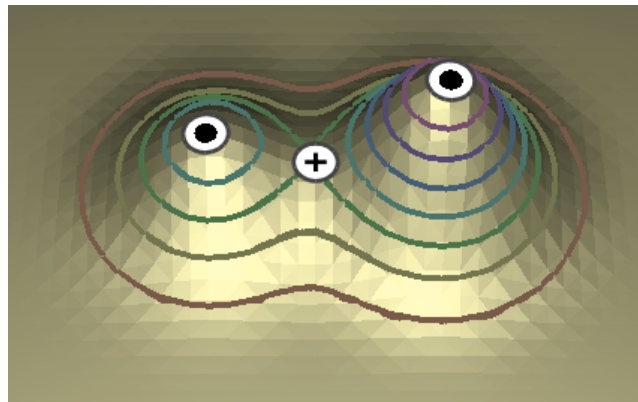
- Downsampling
- Noise reduction

# Contour-line topology

Number of contours at all isovalues

- In 2D fields, value can be height

Topology changes occur when value equals value of a critical point (min, max, saddle)

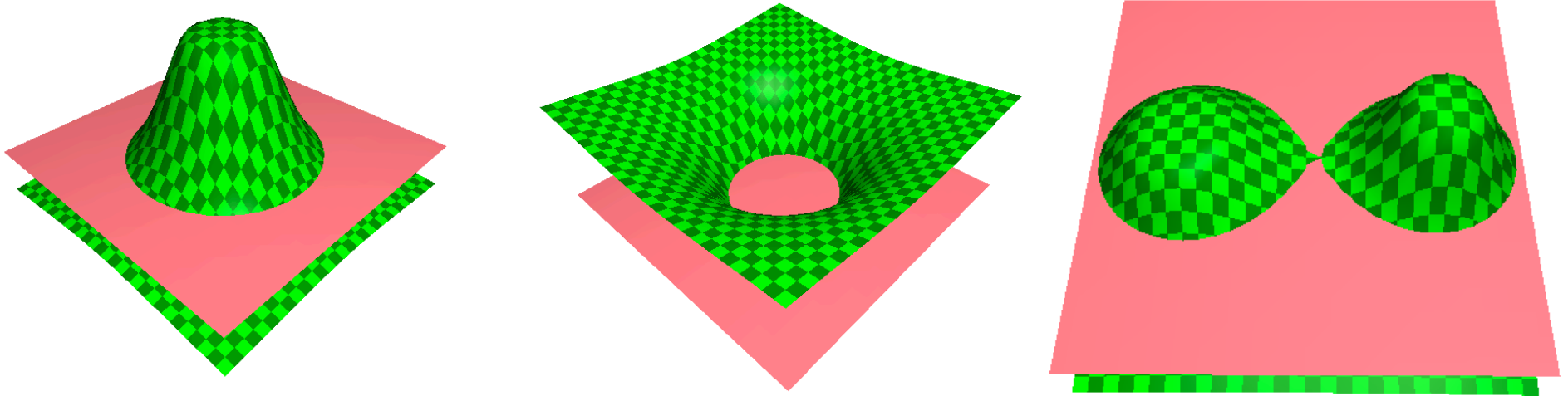




# Critical Points

Maxima and minima correspond to hills and valleys

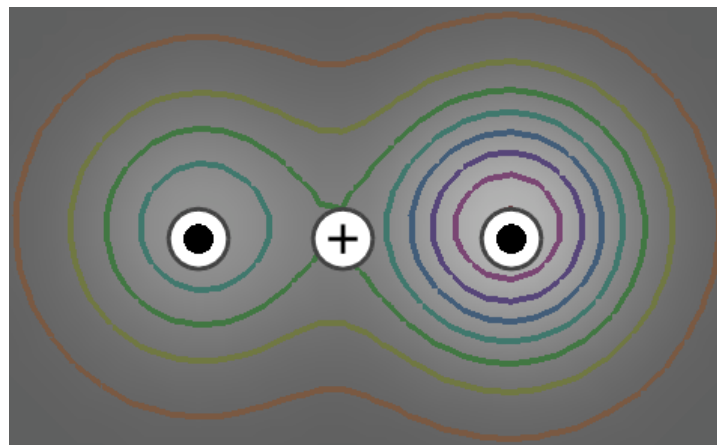
Saddles join two hills or valleys



# Features

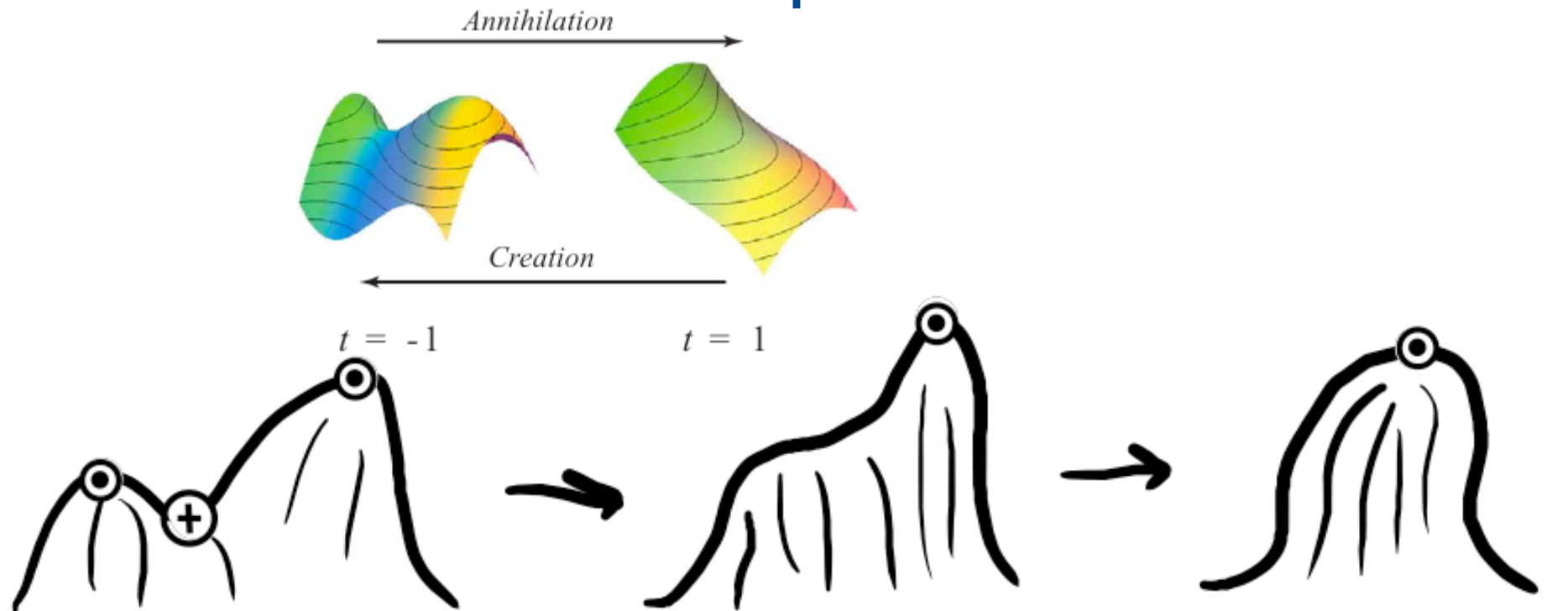
Correspond to critical contours passing through saddles

- A saddle divides a contour in two
- The interior of a contour containing an unpaired extremum is a feature



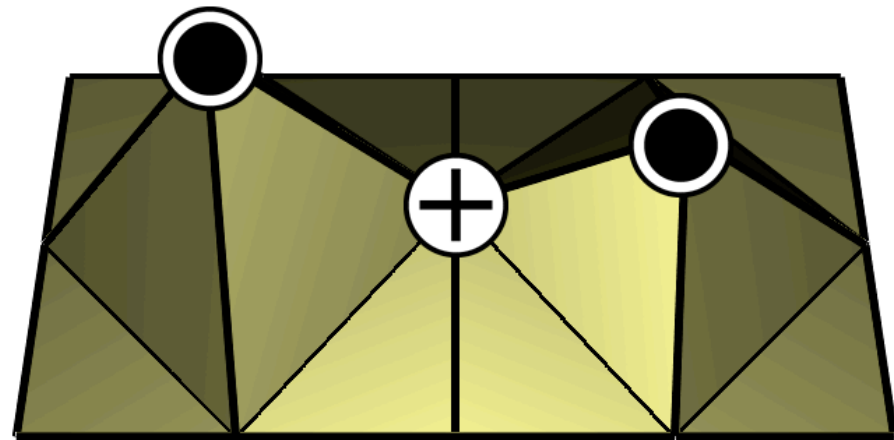
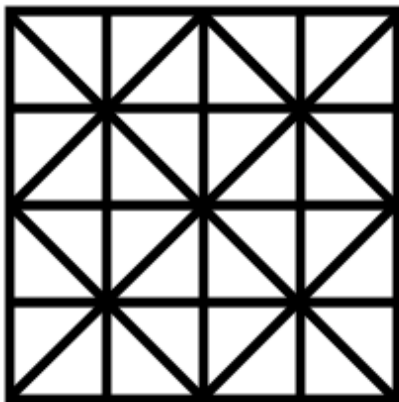
# Topological Events

Features appear/disappear in saddle-min/max pairs



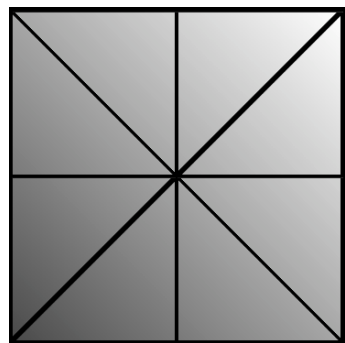
# Piecewise linear data

- Scalar values defined on a regular grid
- Simplicial mesh guarantees critical points only at vertices
- Some complex critical points can be stable

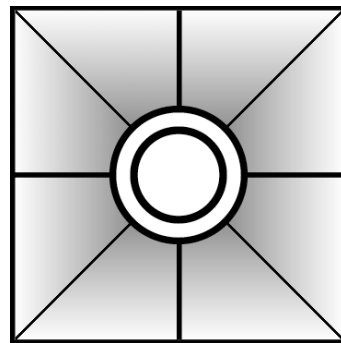


# Piecewise linear data

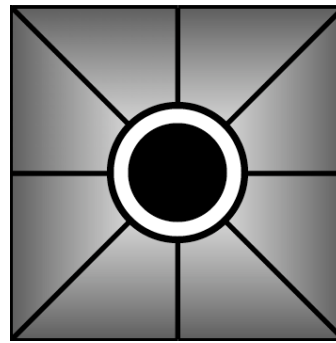
Find critical points by comparing value with neighbors



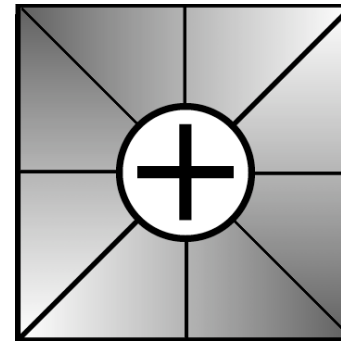
**regular**



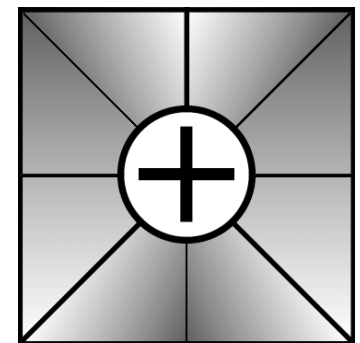
**min**



**max**



**saddle  
(simple)**



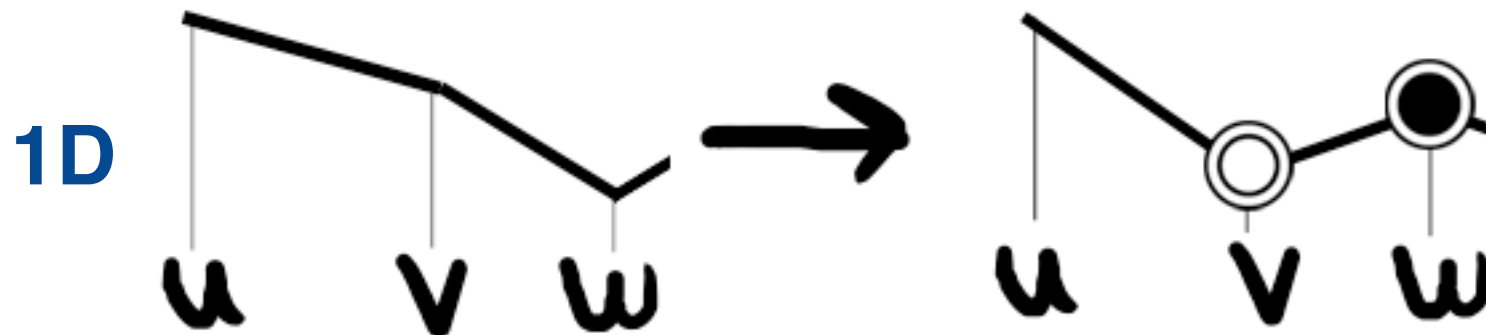
**saddle  
(monkey)**

- Break ties with arbitrary, consistent perturbation

# PL topological events

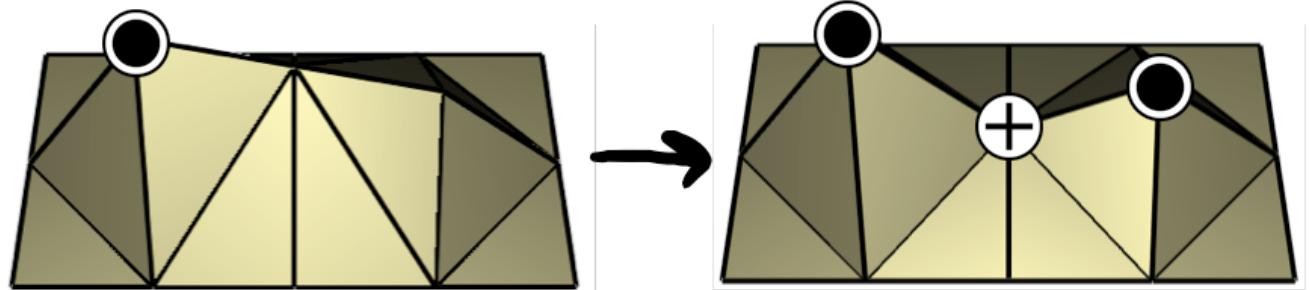
Only happens when 2 adjacent vertices change relative height

- The edge *flips* relative to equality

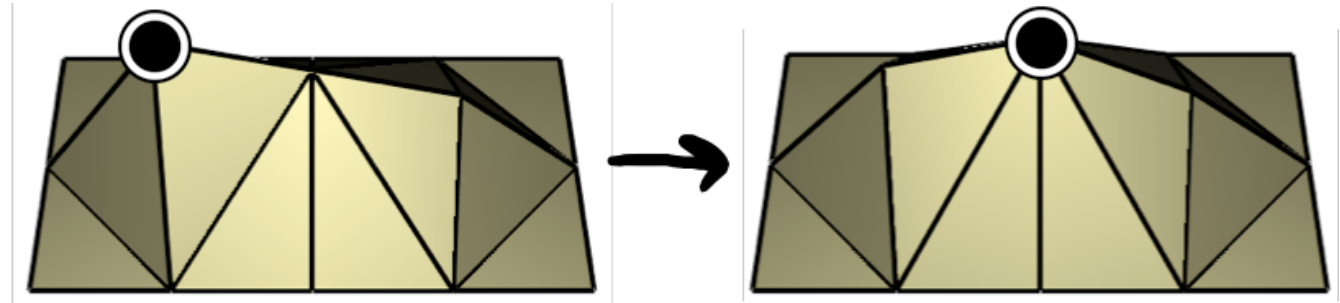


# PL topological events

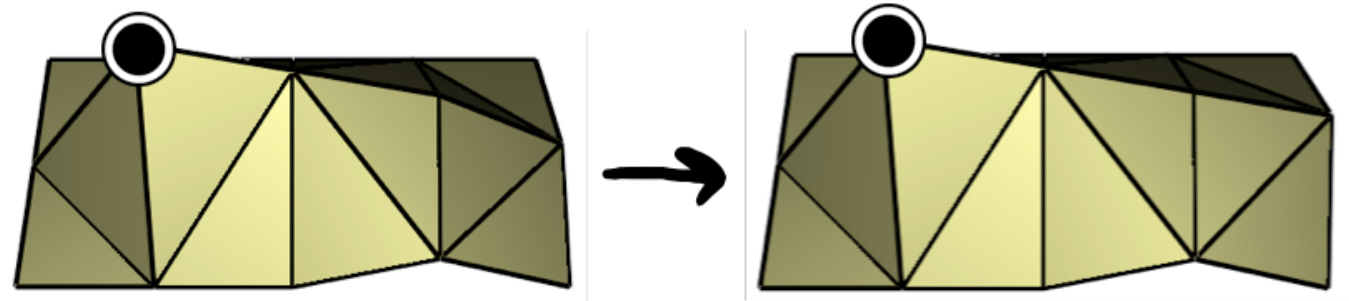
Merge/Split



Move



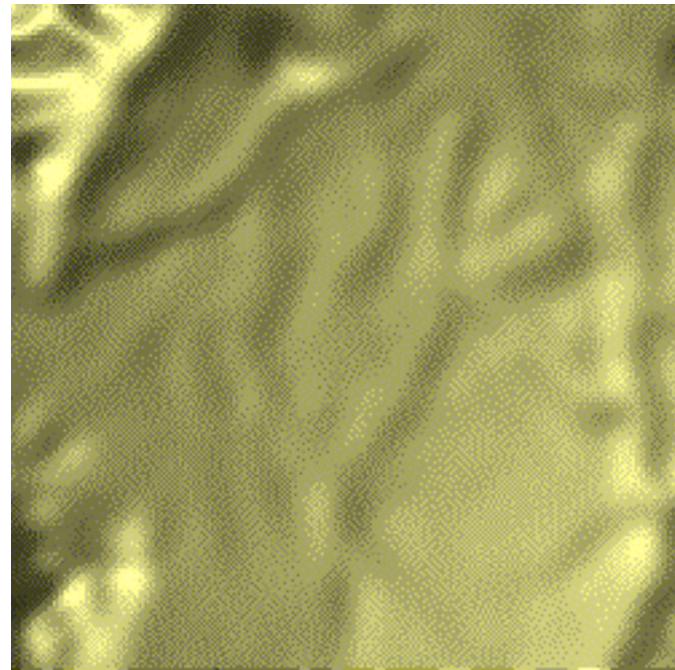
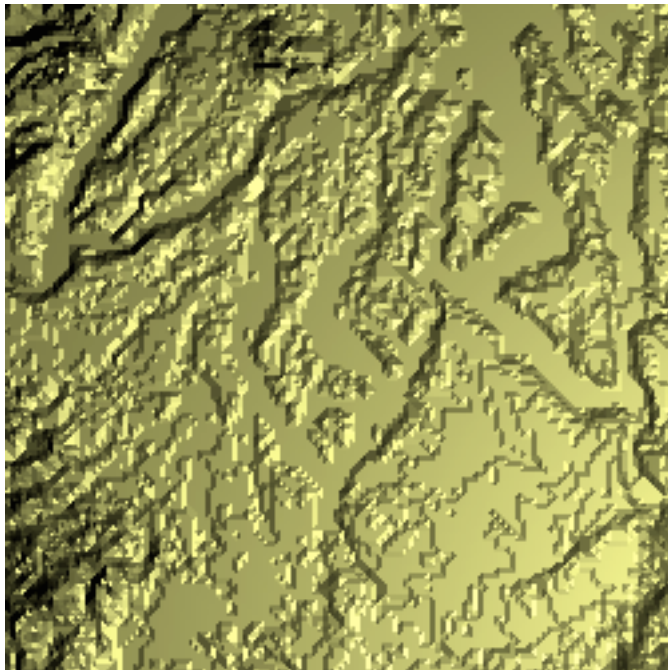
Nothing





# Laplacian Smoothing

$$I_t = \Delta I$$



# Laplacian Smoothing

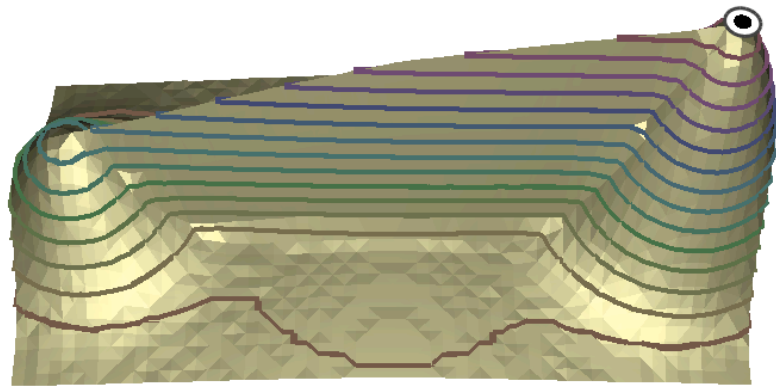
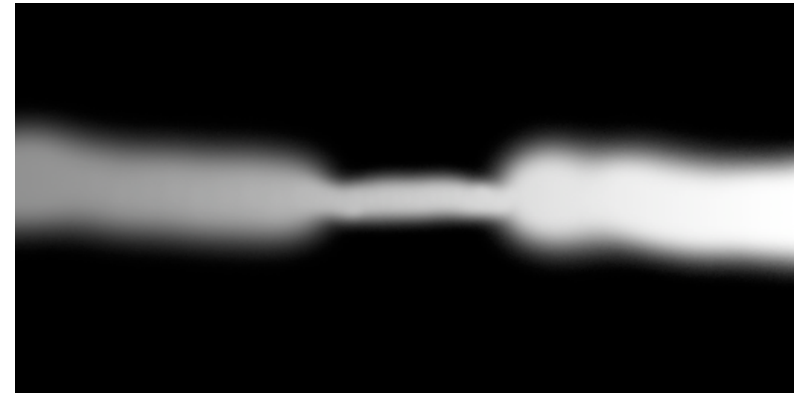
Can create features

Ridge Bridge

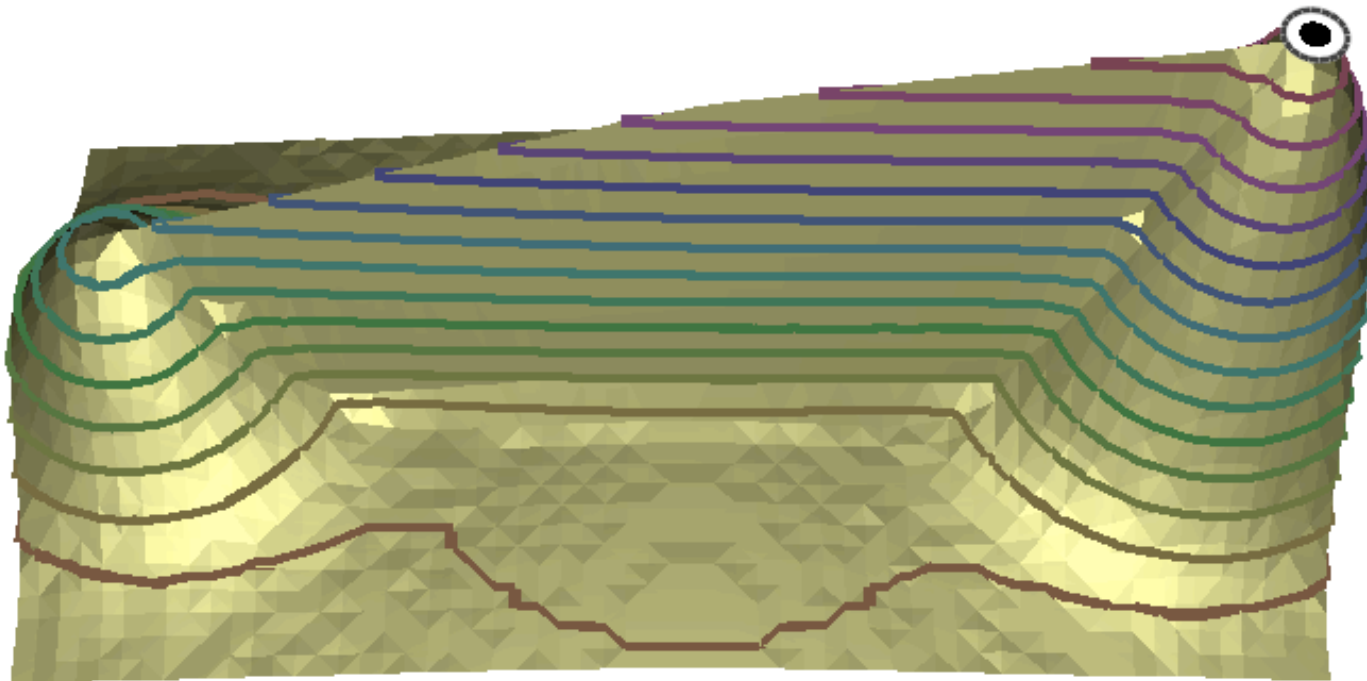


as in

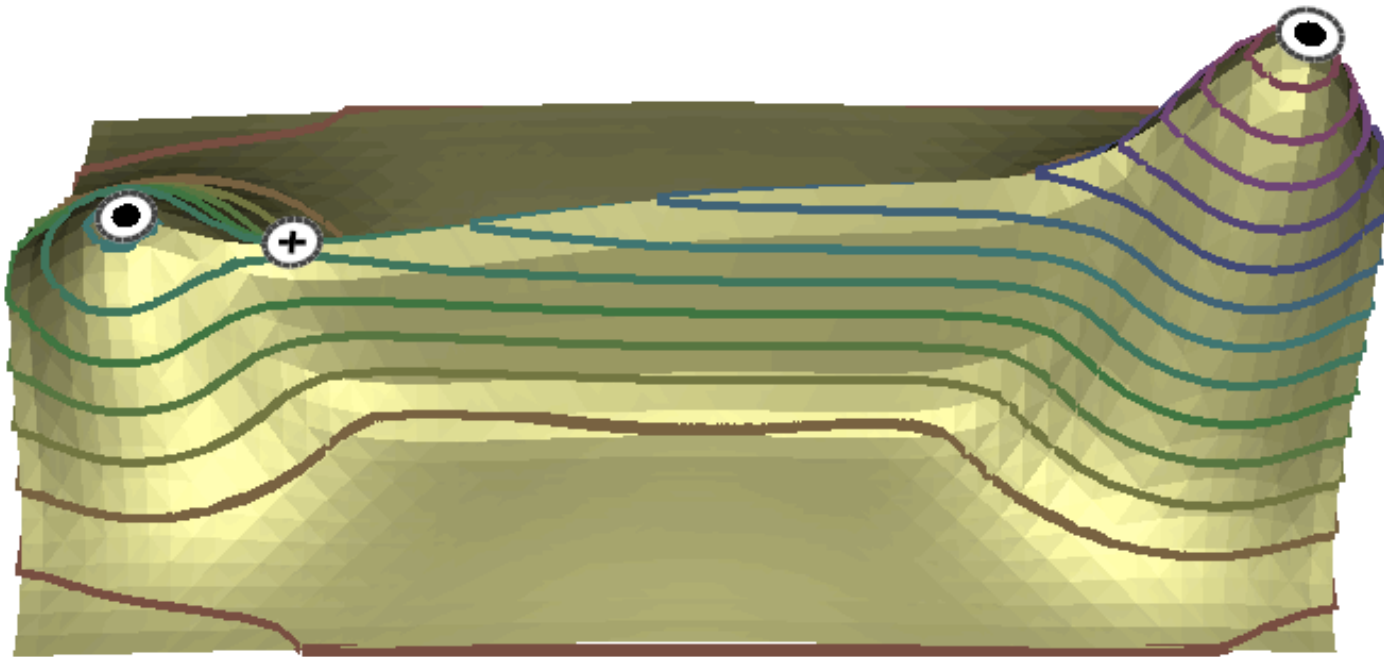
blood vessels



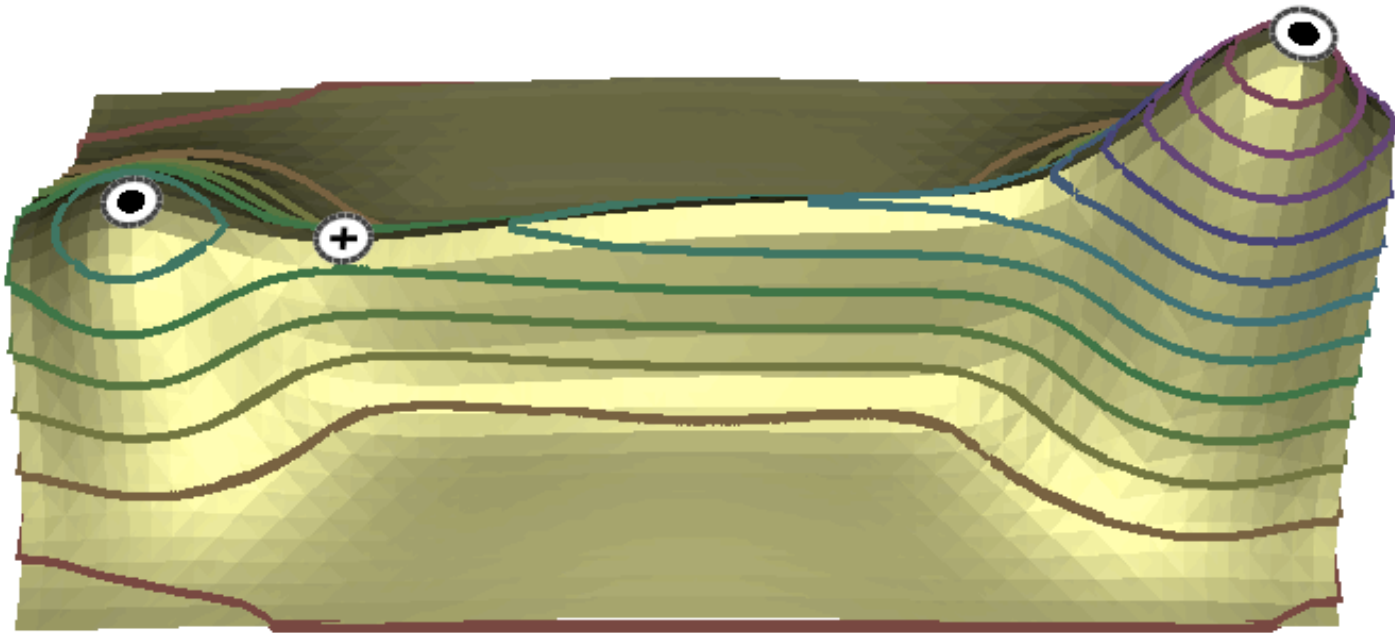
# Ridge Bridge ( $t = 0.0$ )



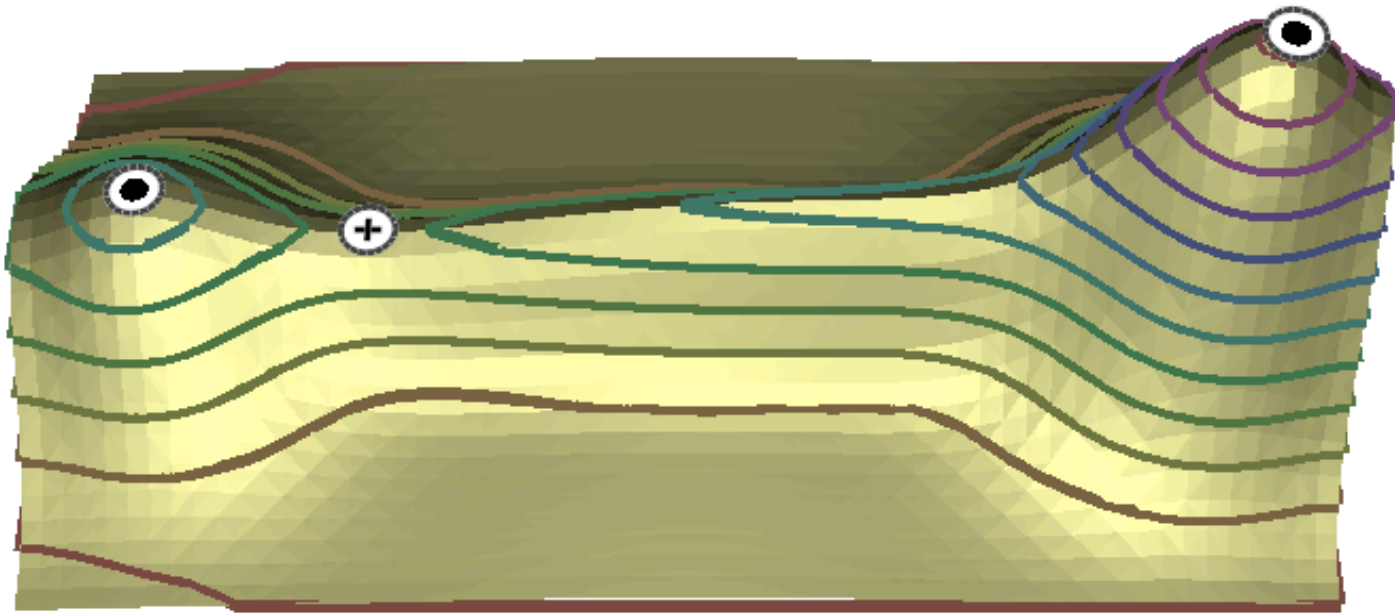
# Ridge Bridge (3.5)



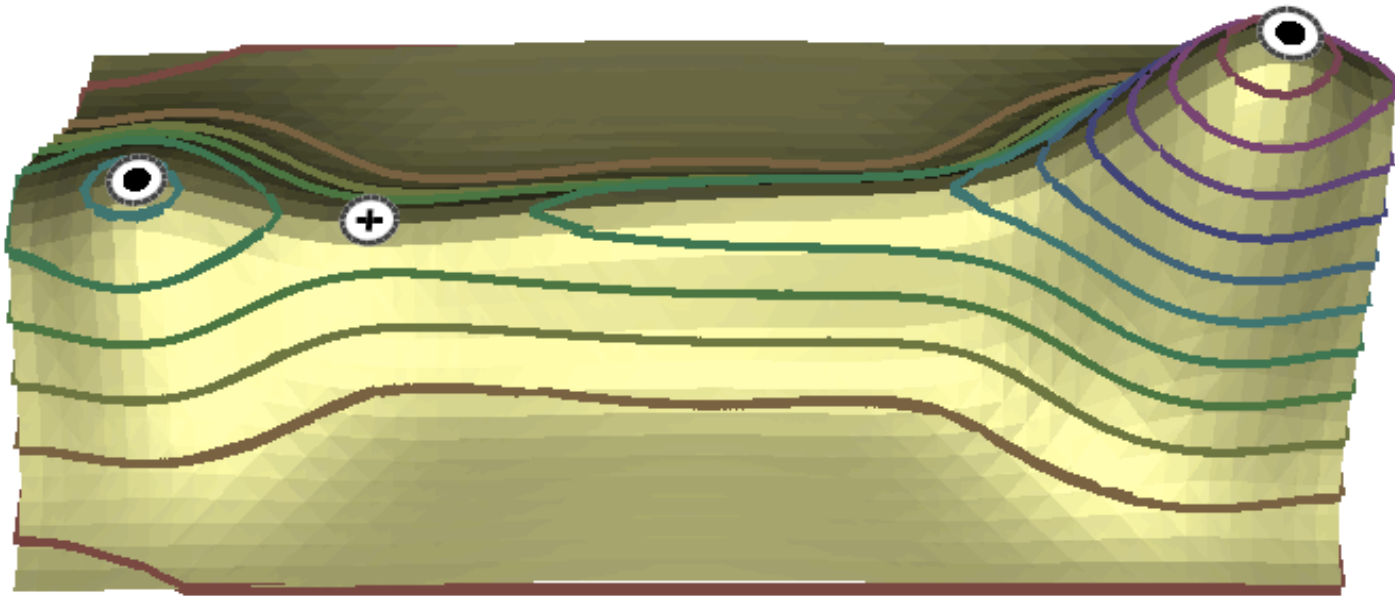
# Ridge Bridge (7.0)



# Ridge Bridge (10.5)

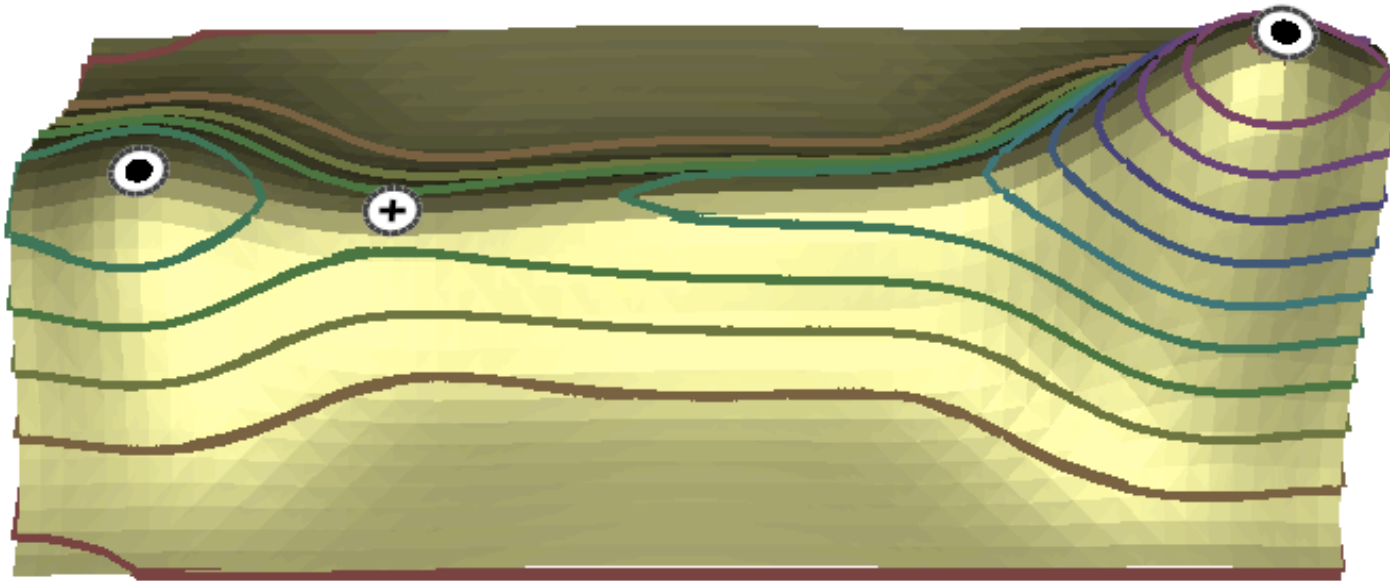


# Ridge Bridge (14.0)





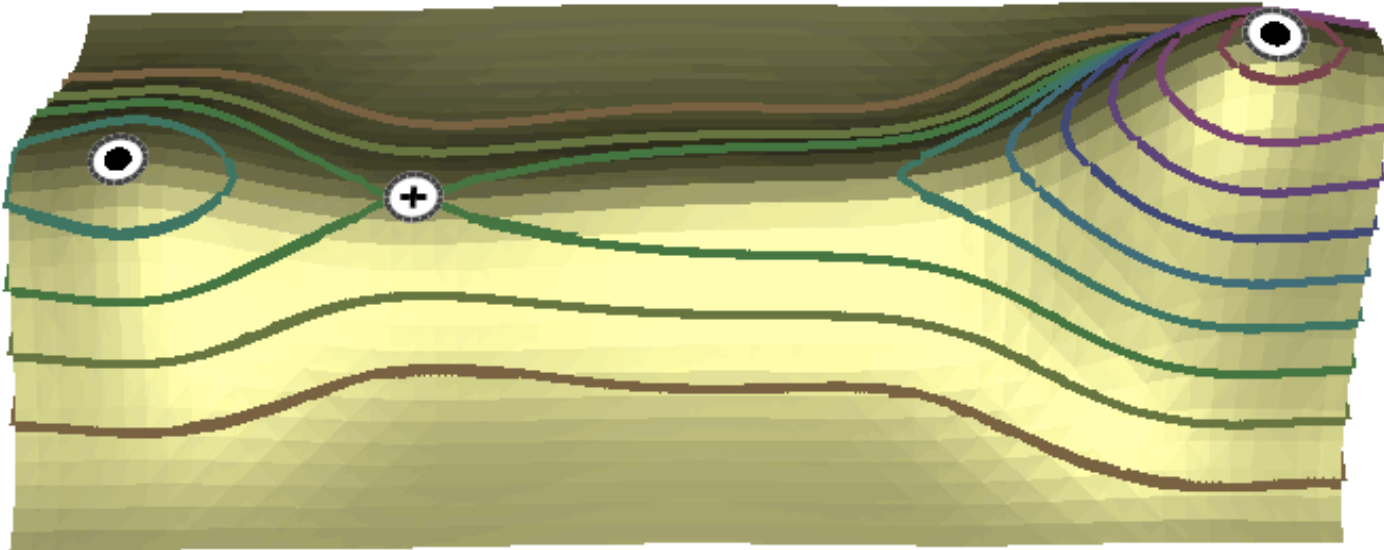
# Ridge Bridge (17.5)



# Ridge Bridge (21.0)



# Ridge Bridge (24.5)



# Ridge Bridge (28.0)



# Ridge Bridge (28.0)



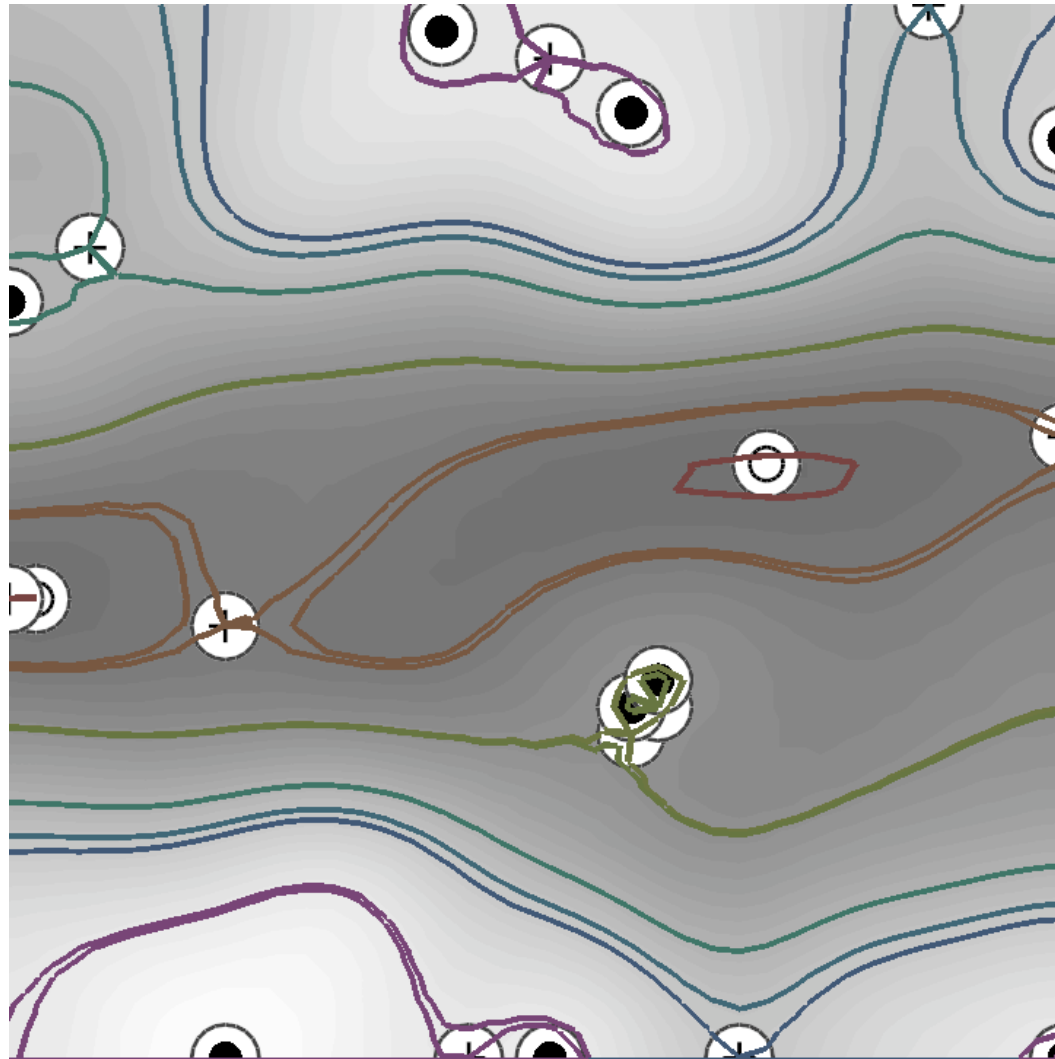
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# Ridge Bridge (28.0)



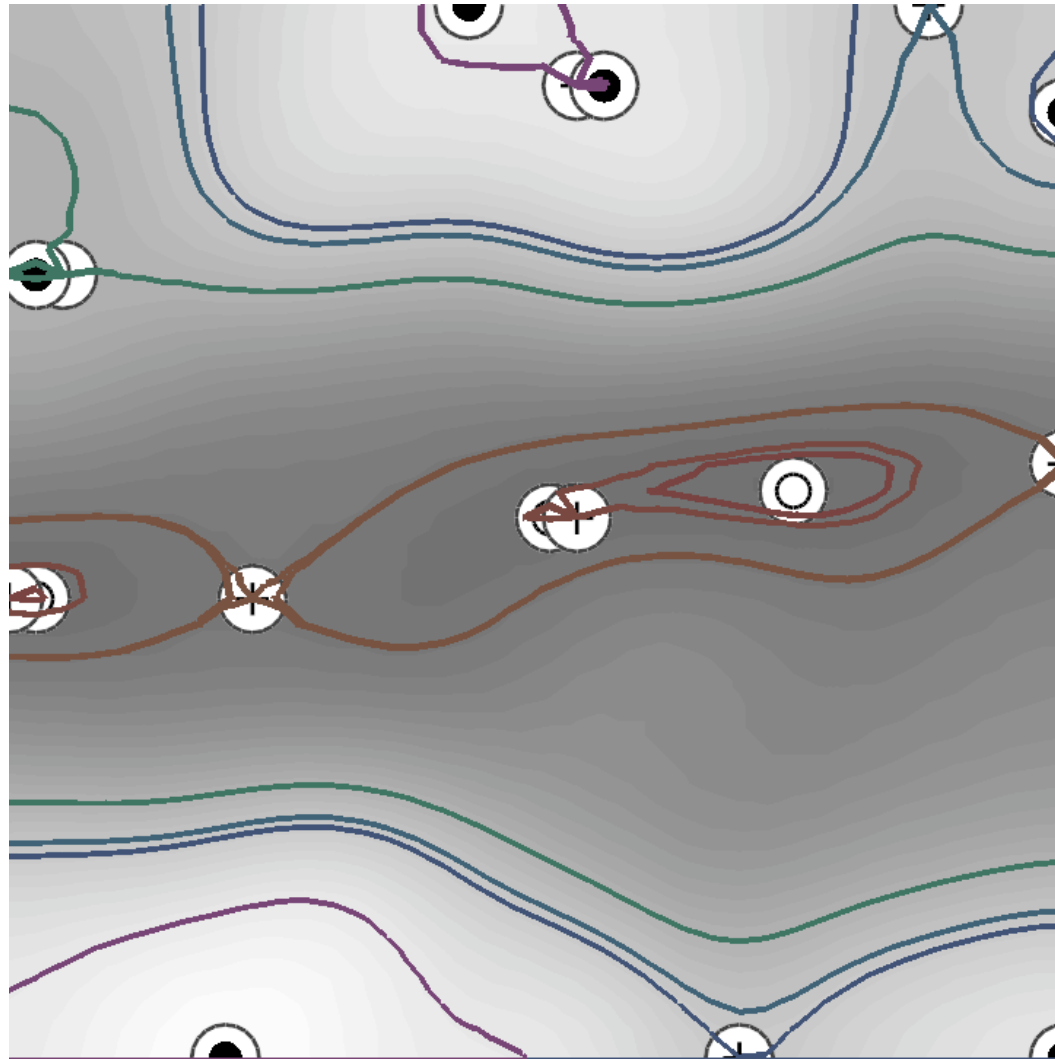
3/3

# Puget Sound (3.5)

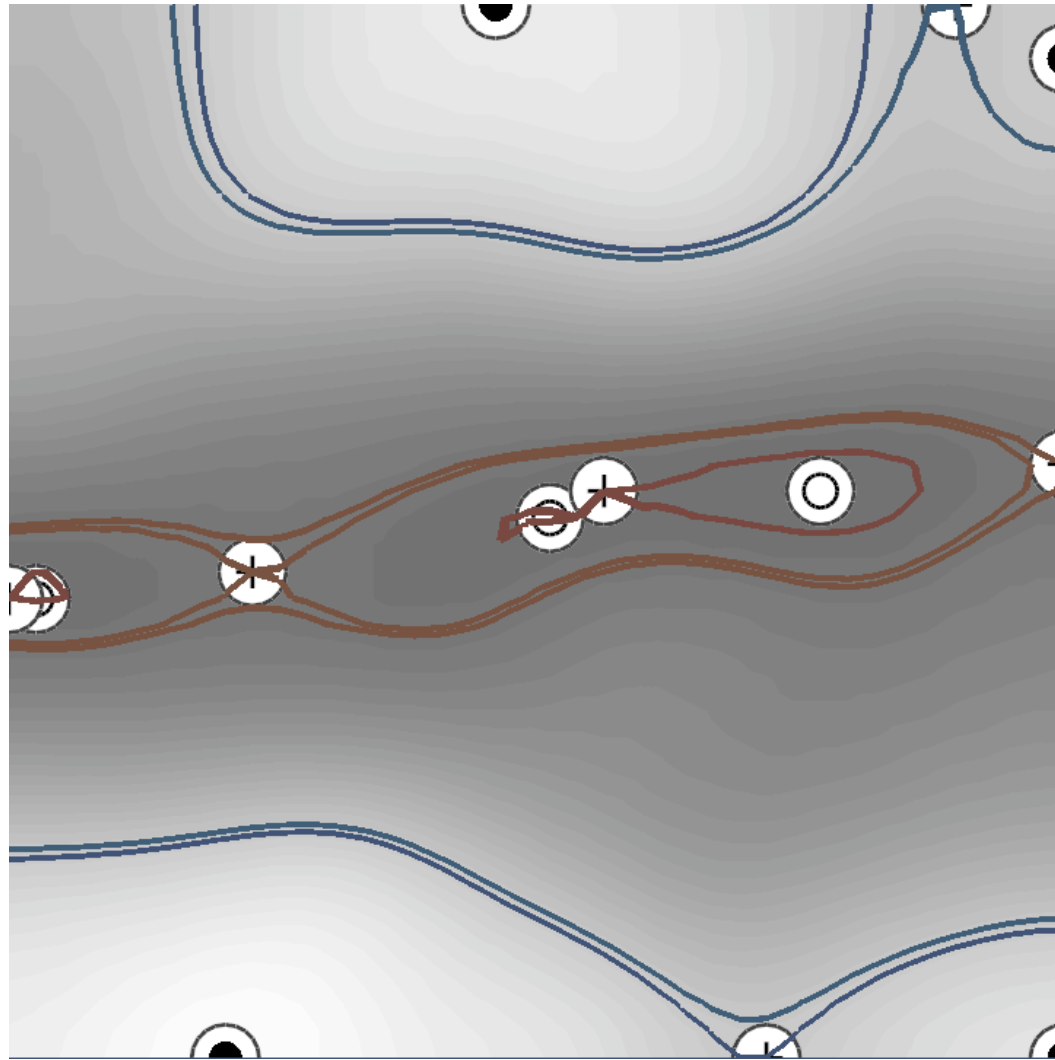




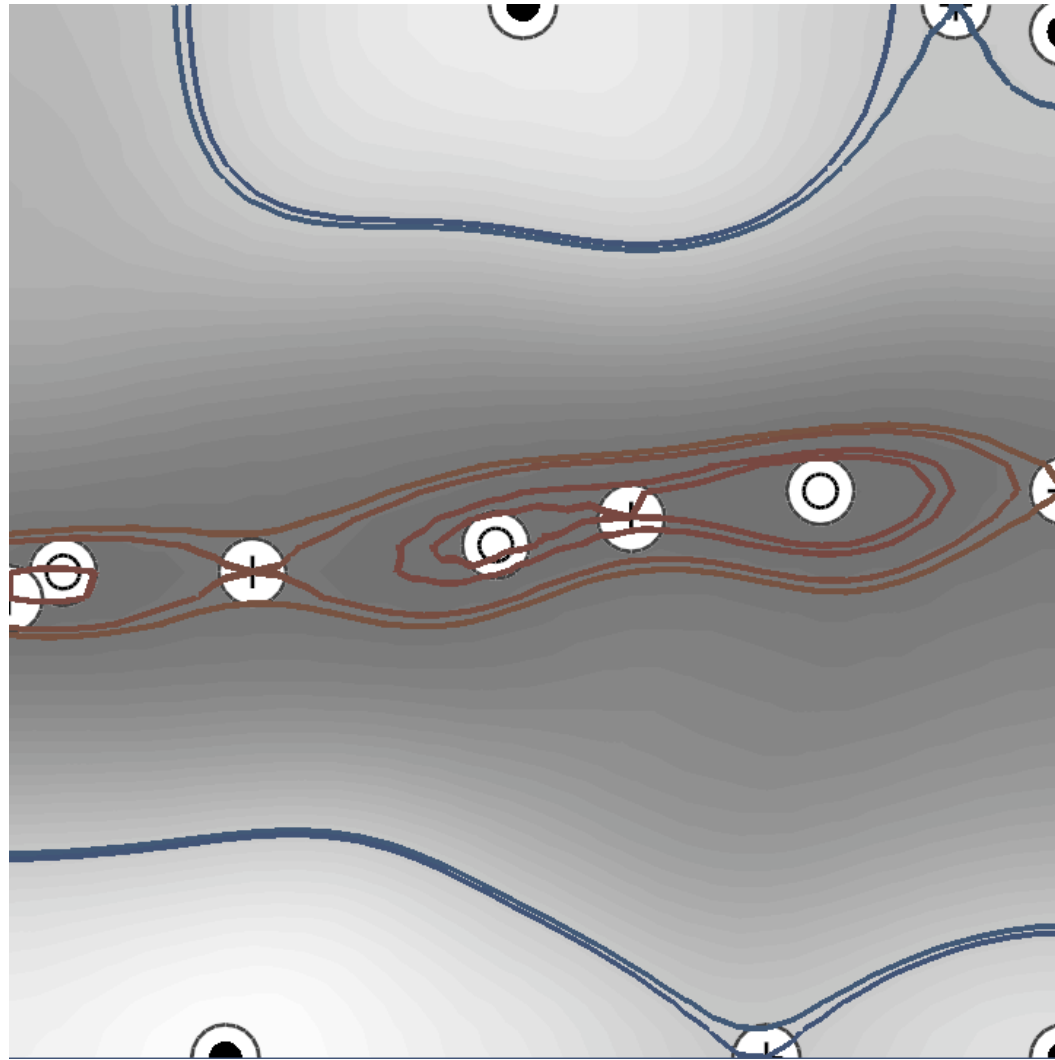
# Puget Sound (8.4)



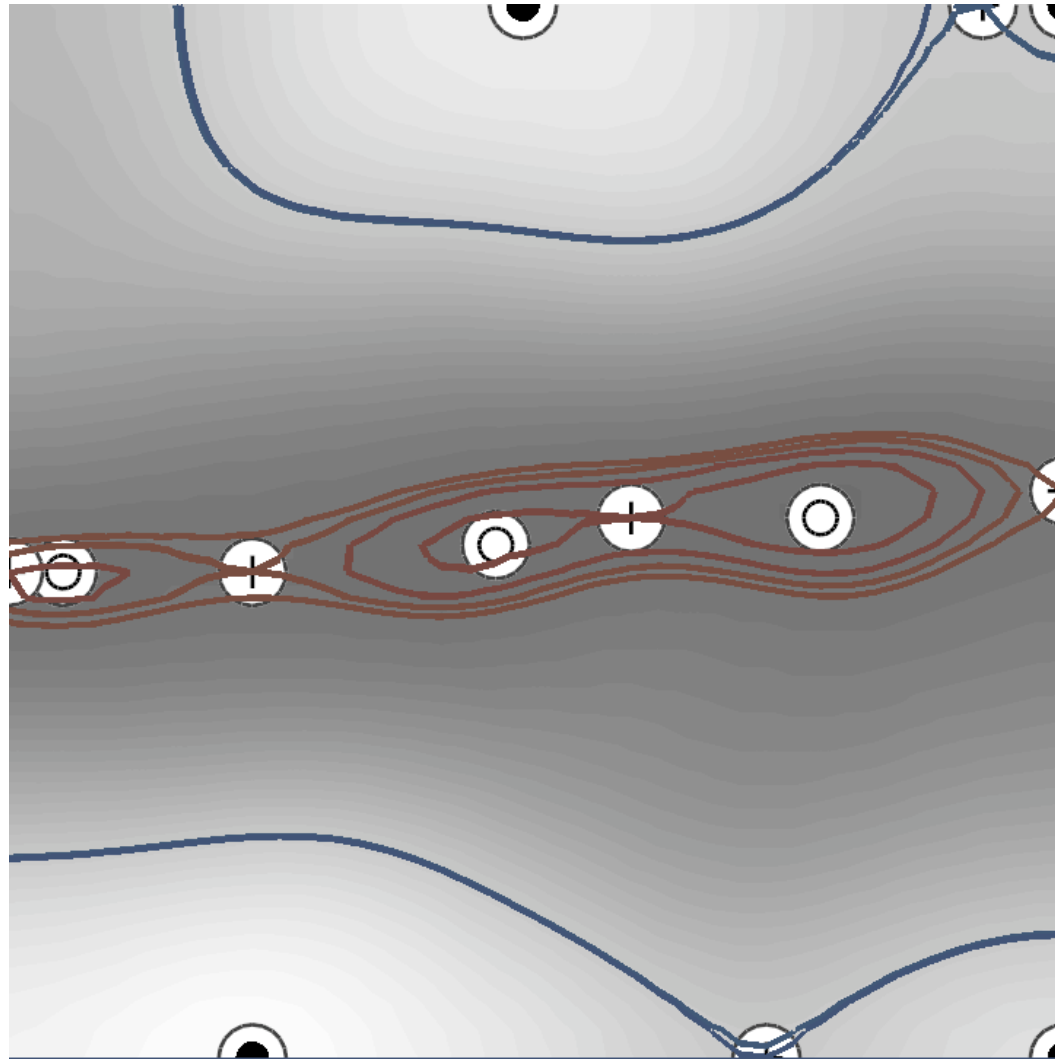
# Puget Sound (13.3)



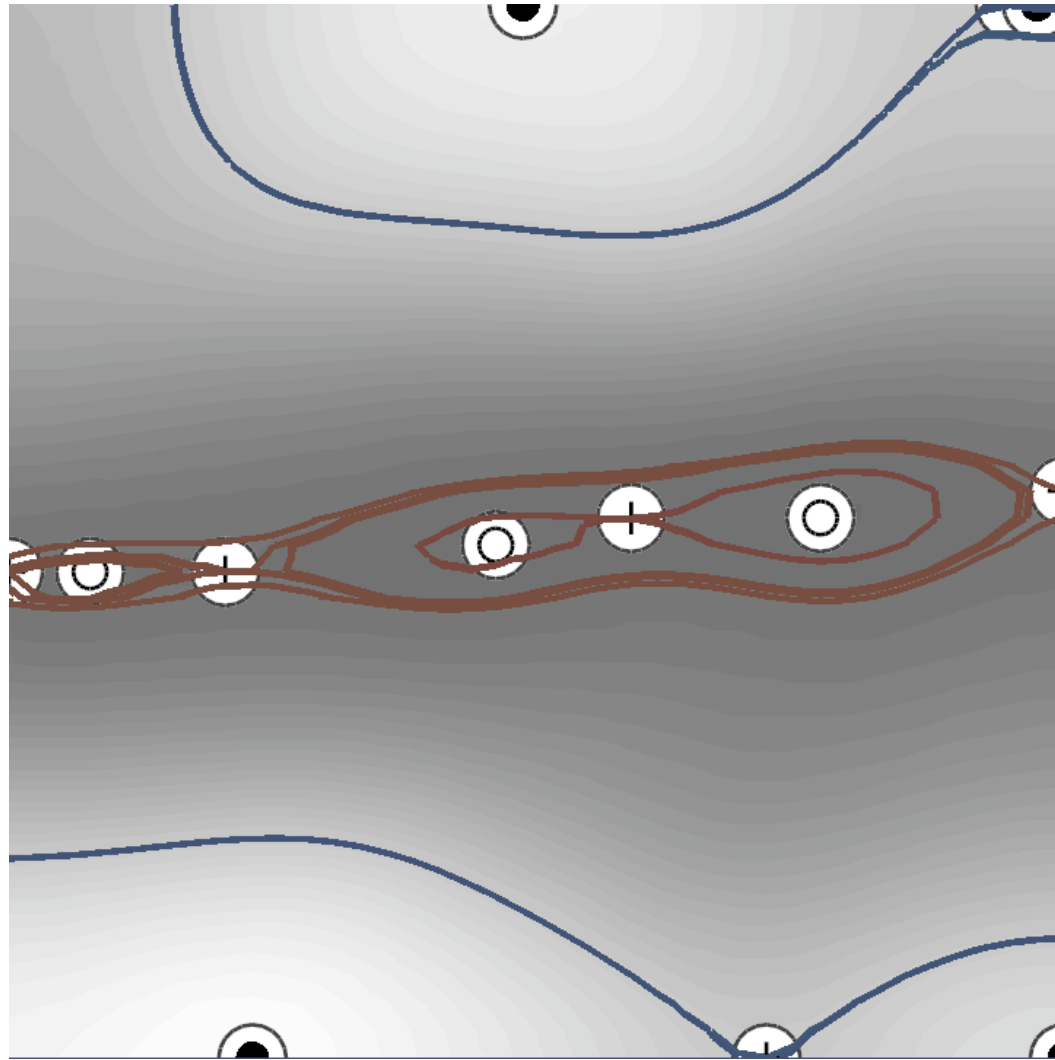
# Puget Sound (18.2)



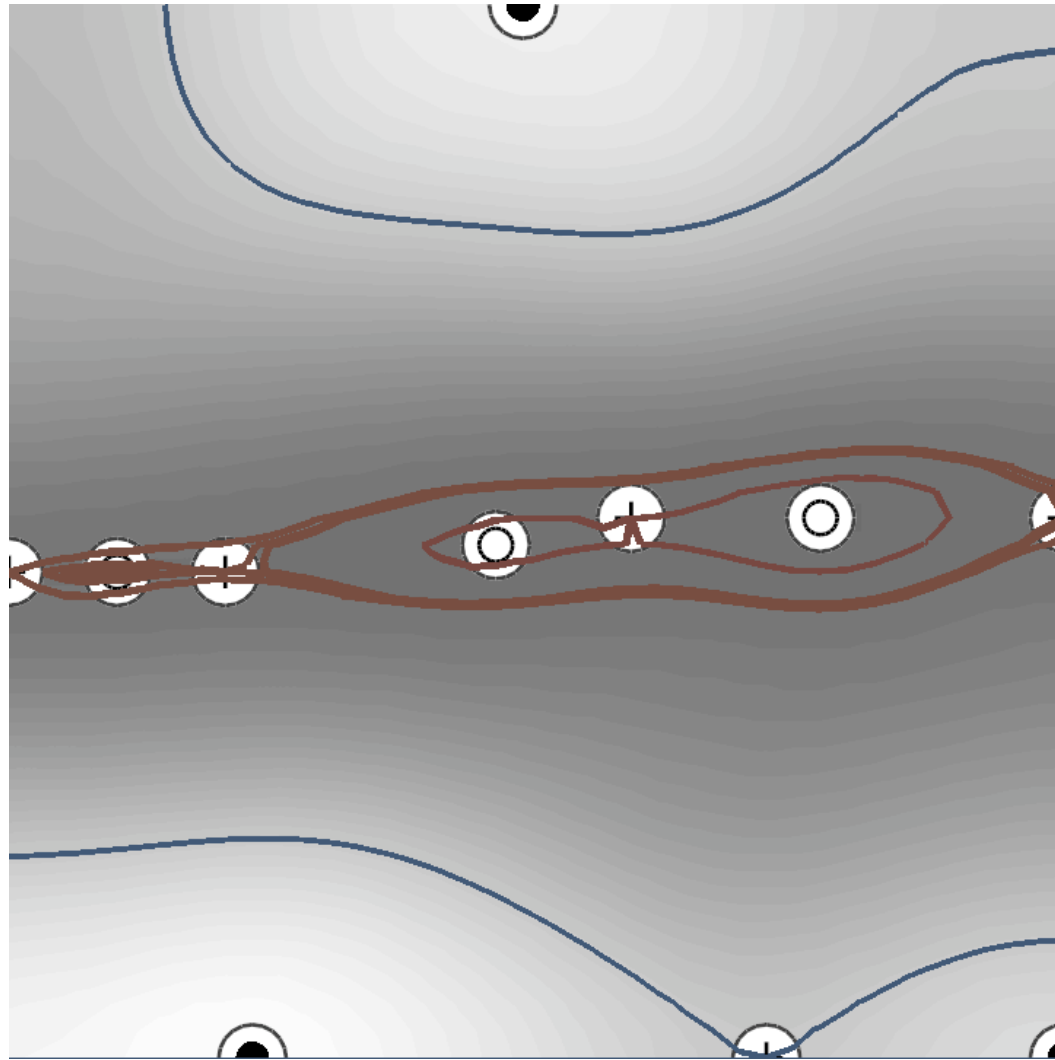
# Puget Sound (23.1)



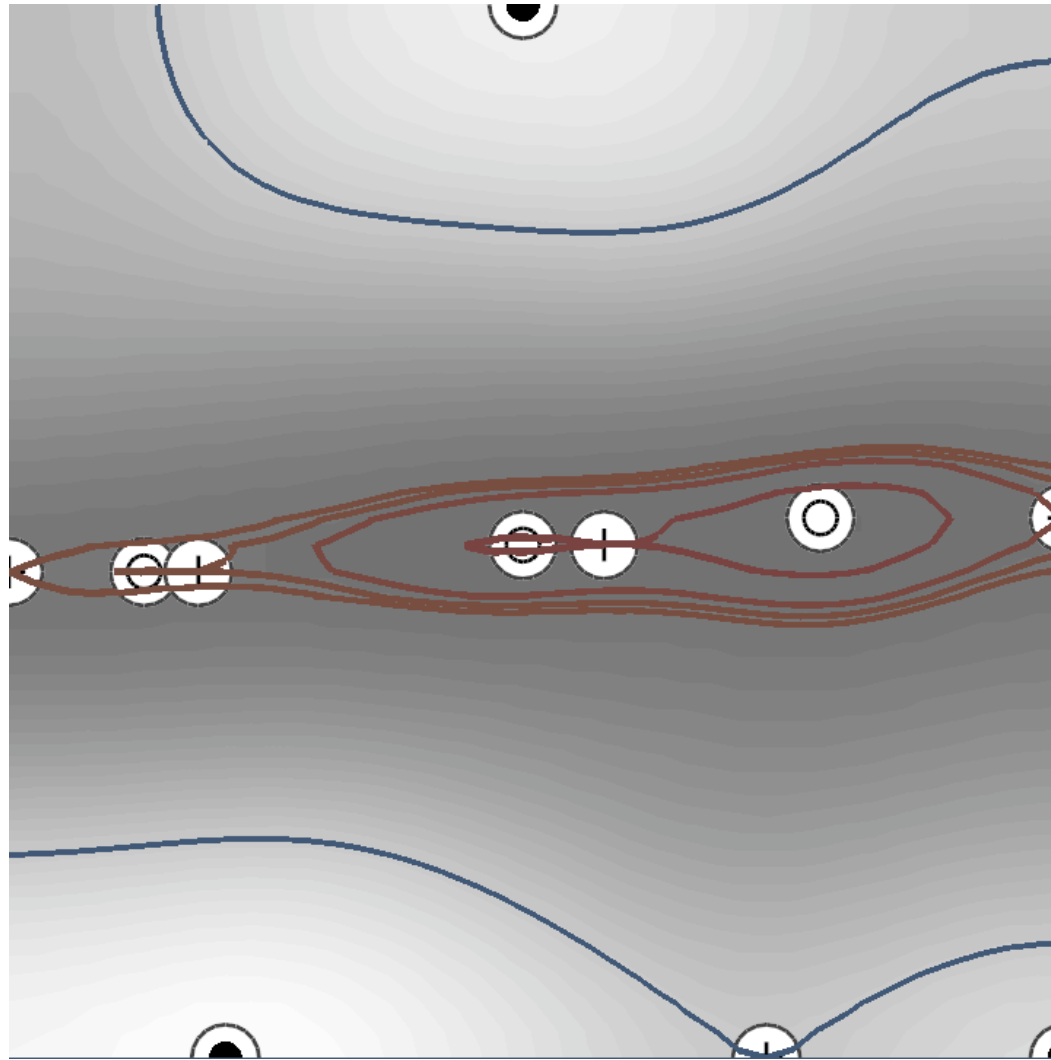
# Puget Sound (28.0)



# Puget Sound (32.9)

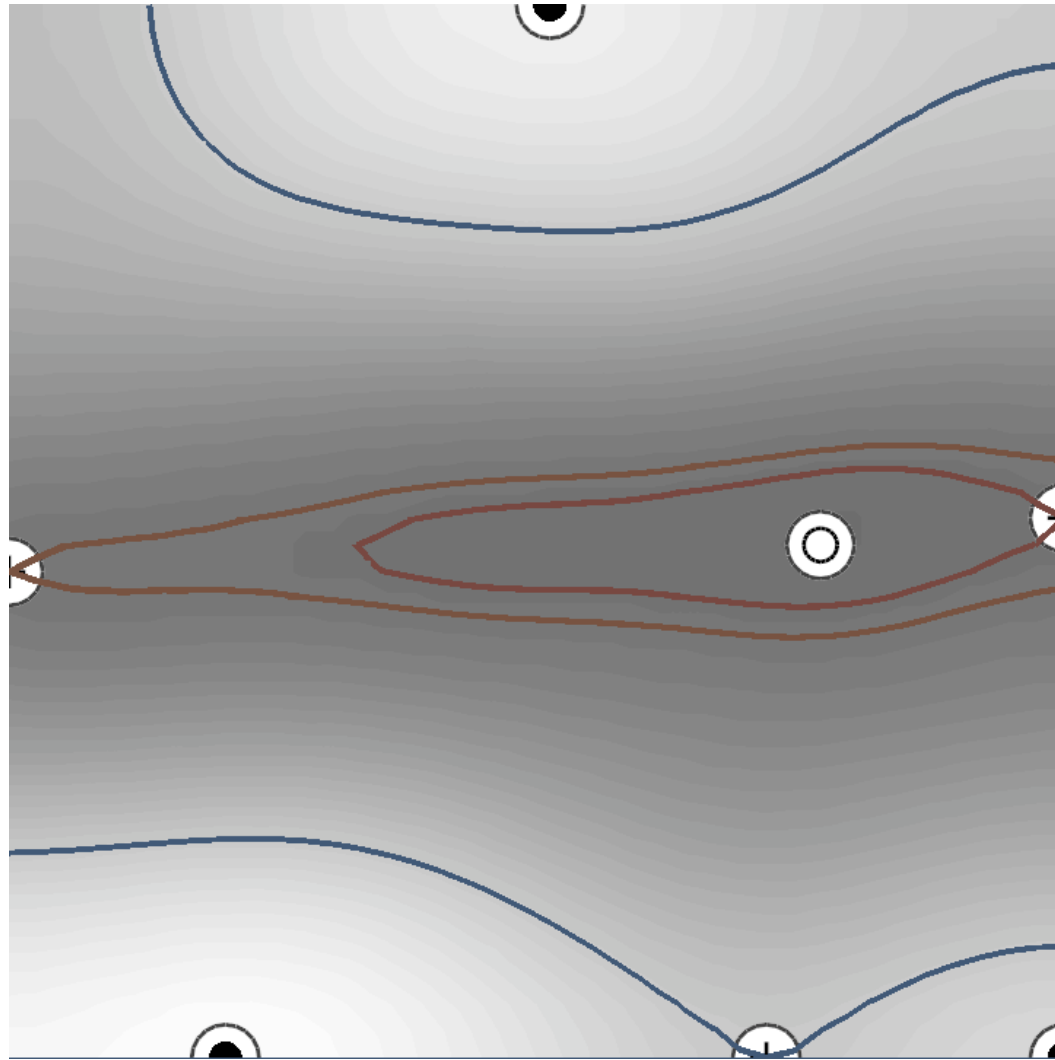


# Puget Sound (37.8)

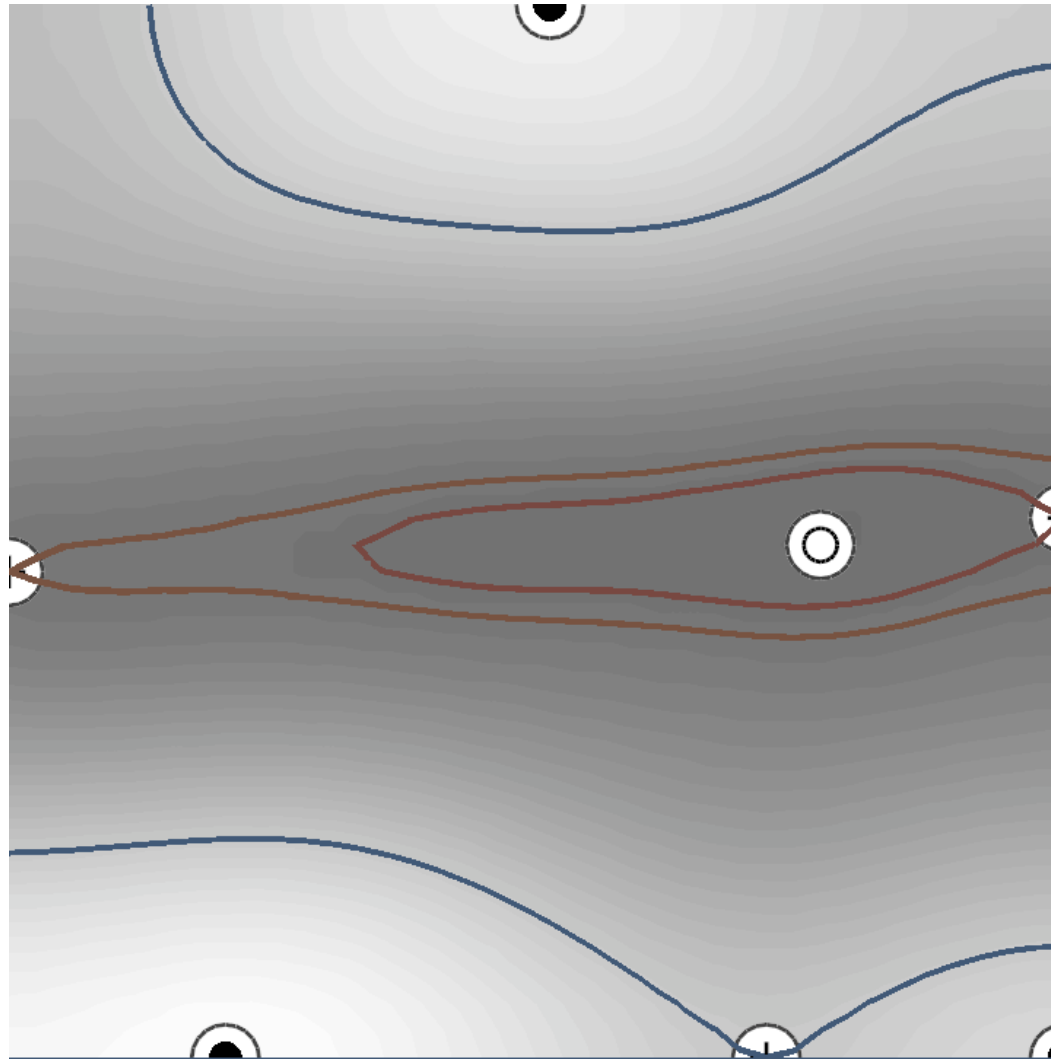




# Puget Sound (42.7)

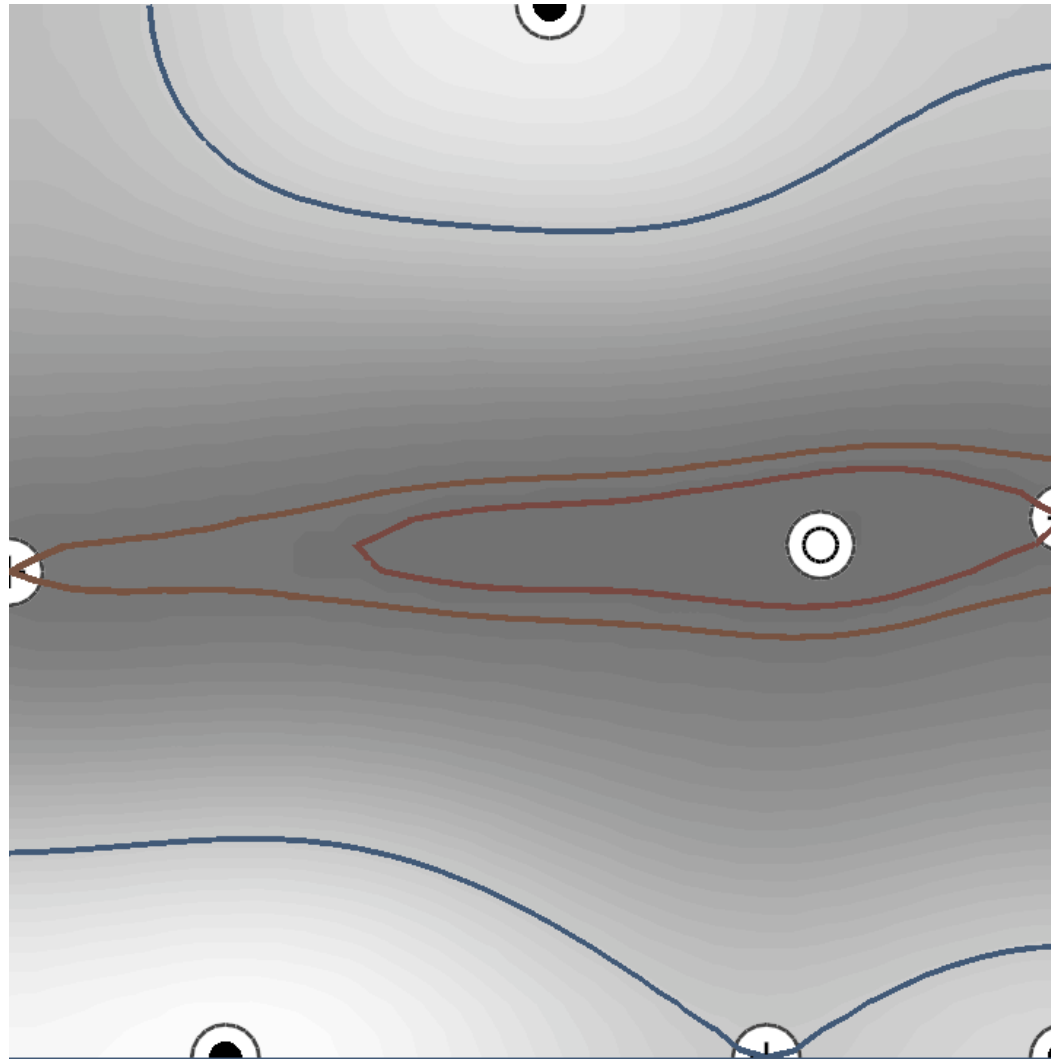


# Puget Sound (42.7)



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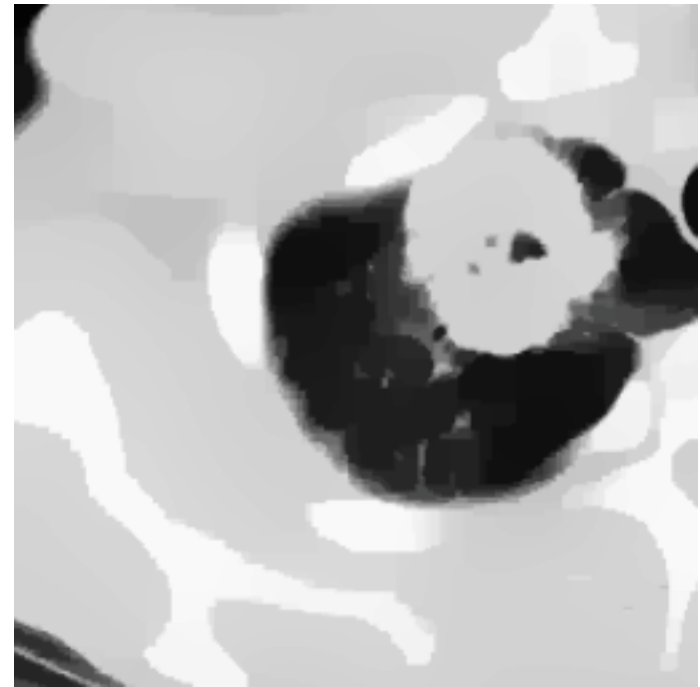
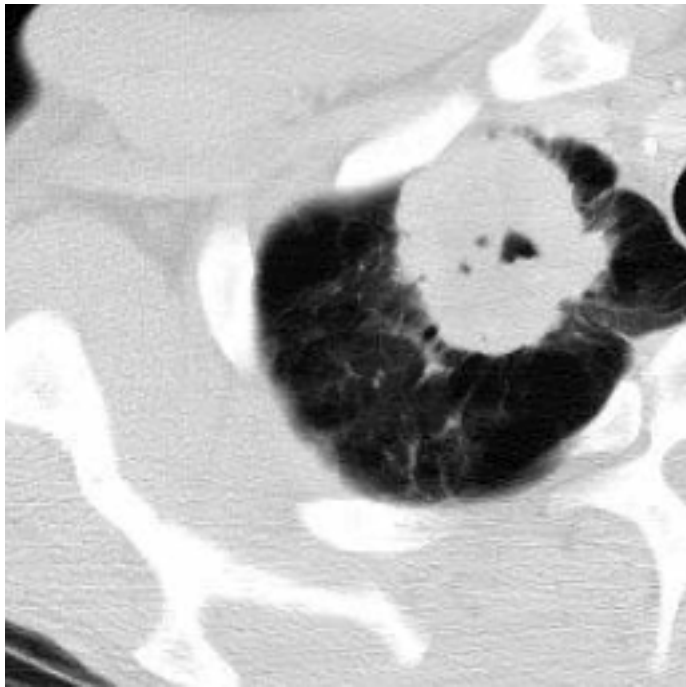
# Puget Sound (42.7)



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# Anisotropic Smoothing

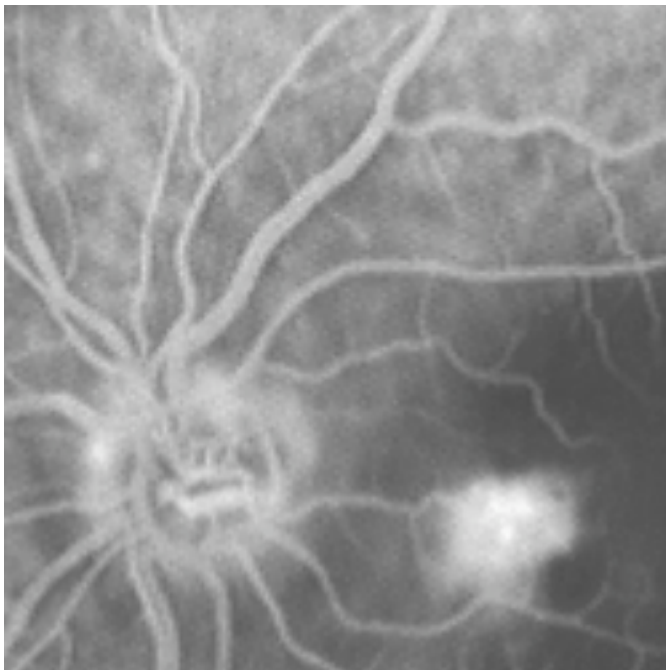
$$I_t = c(x, y, t)\Delta I + \nabla c \cdot \nabla I$$



- Can also create features

# Sharpening

$$I_t = I_0 - \textit{smoothed}(I)$$



- Don't want to create or destroy features

# Algorithm

1. Obtain proposed values from the filter function
2. Identify edge flips and sort in time
3. Detect and prevent disallowed events
4. Goto step 1

# 1. Obtain proposed values

$$\bar{p}_{l+1} = F(\Delta t, p_l)$$

Proposed  
values at  
step  $l+1$

Filter  
function

Step size

Current  
values at  
step  $l$

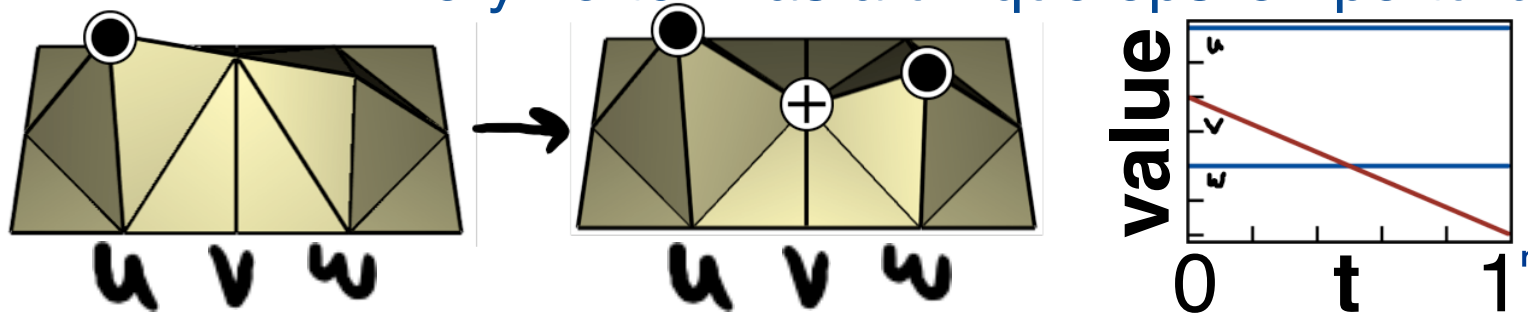
## 2. Identify flips and sort

Function values change linearly  
from  $p_l$  to  $\bar{p}_{l+1}$

- An edge between adjacent vertices flips at most once
- Must resolve flip time exactly

Otherwise vertex ordering becomes cyclic

Every vertex has a unique epsilon perturbation

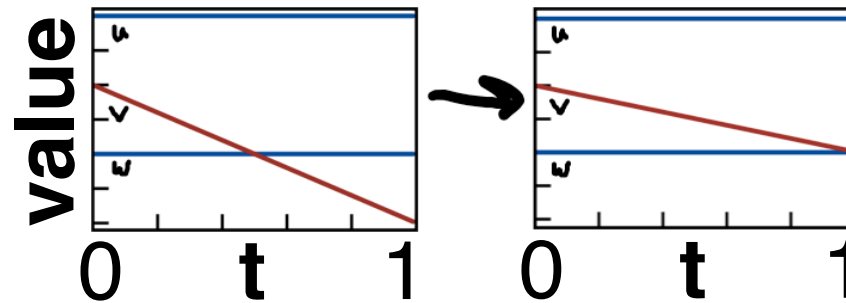




### 3. Detect & prevent disallowed events

#### Process events in order

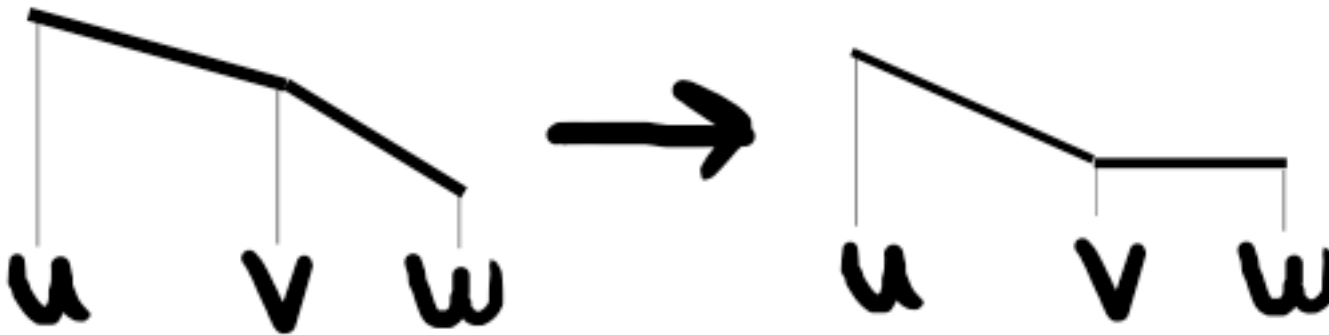
- If we reach a disallowed event between vertices  $(v, w)$ , set  $\bar{p}(v), \bar{p}(w)$  to values infinitesimally before the event



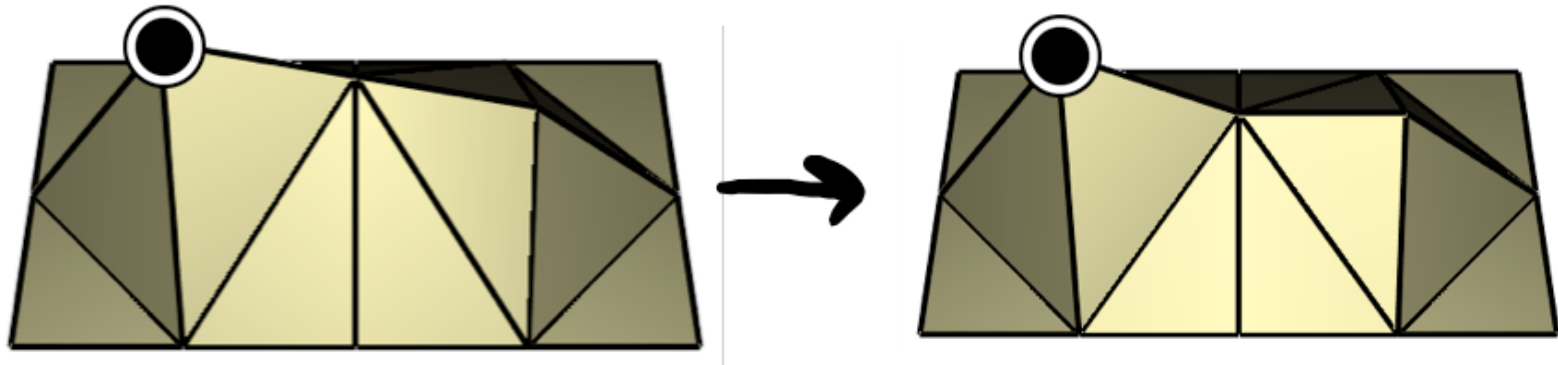
- Must re-identify events involving  $v, w$
- May need to rewind the event queue

### 3. Detect & prevent disallowed events

1D:



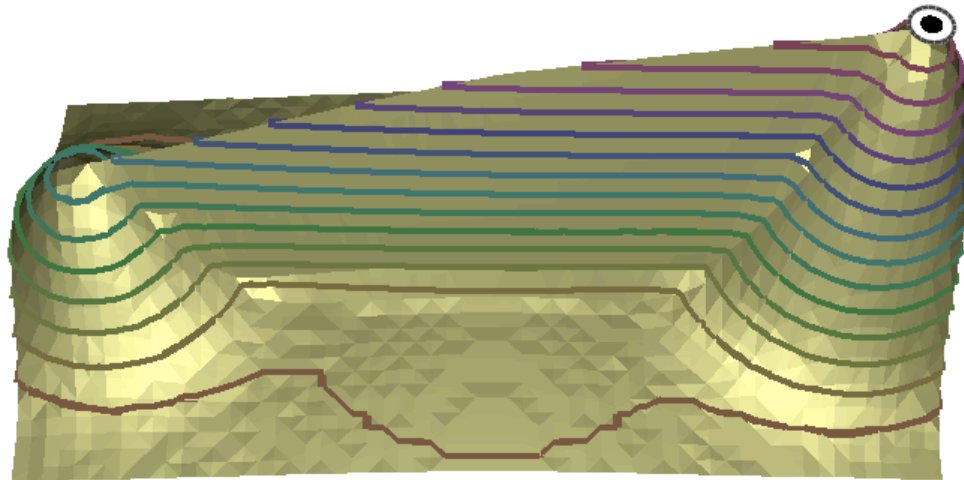
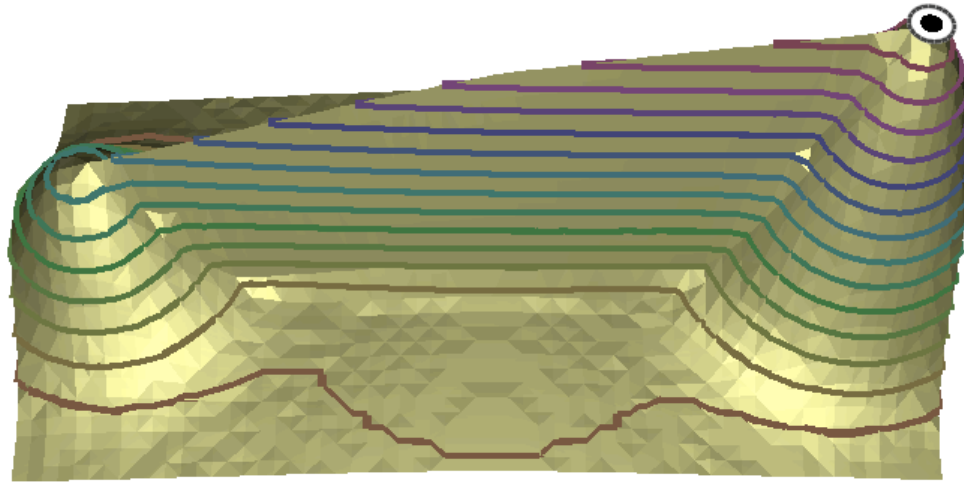
2D:



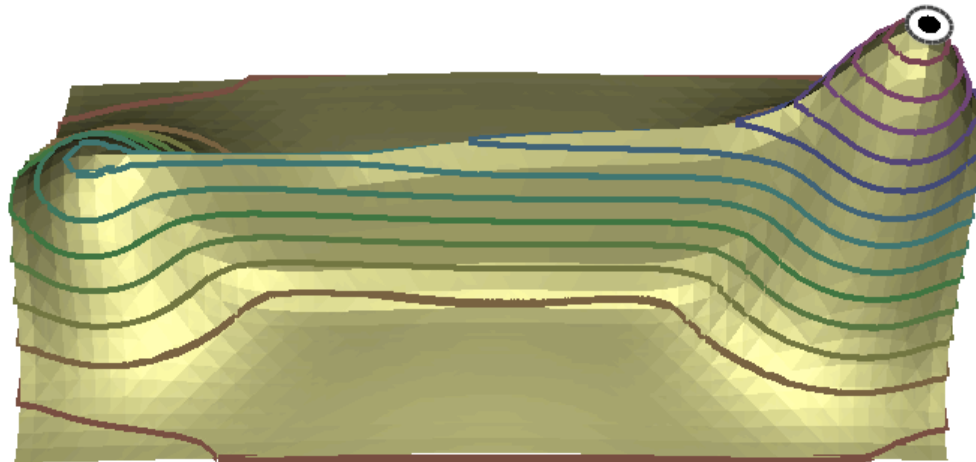
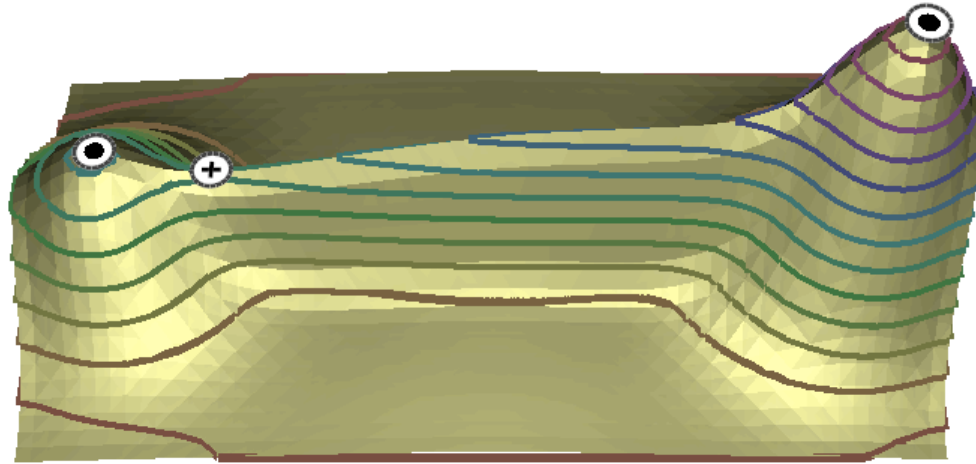
# Algorithm

1. Obtain proposed values from the filter function
2. Identify edge flips and sort in time
3. Detect and prevent disallowed events
4. Goto step 1

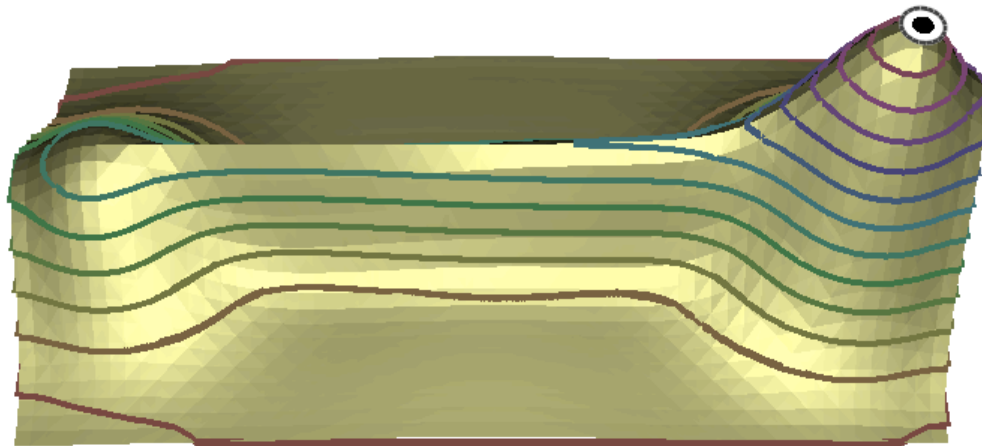
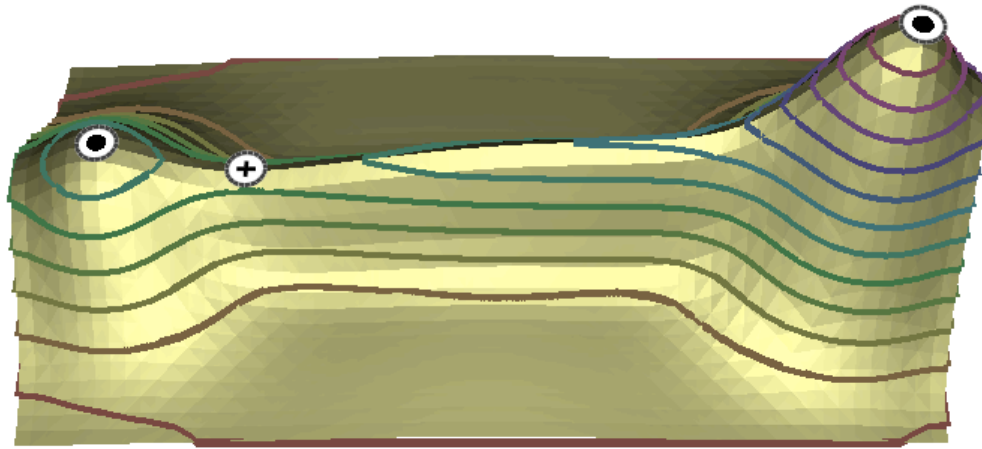
# Results: Ridge Bridge (0.0)



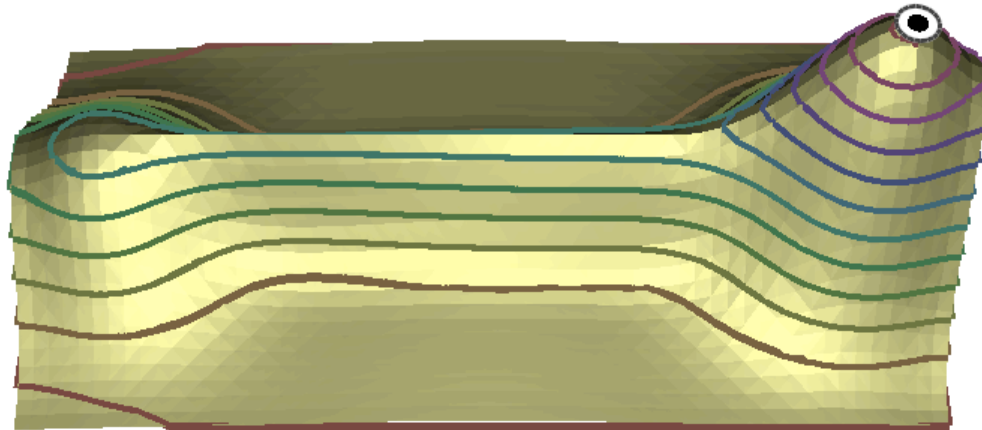
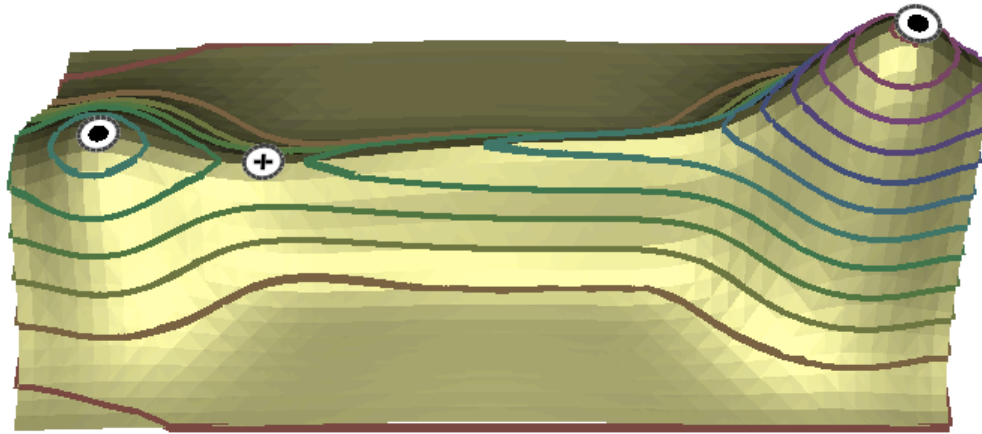
# Results: Ridge Bridge (3.5)



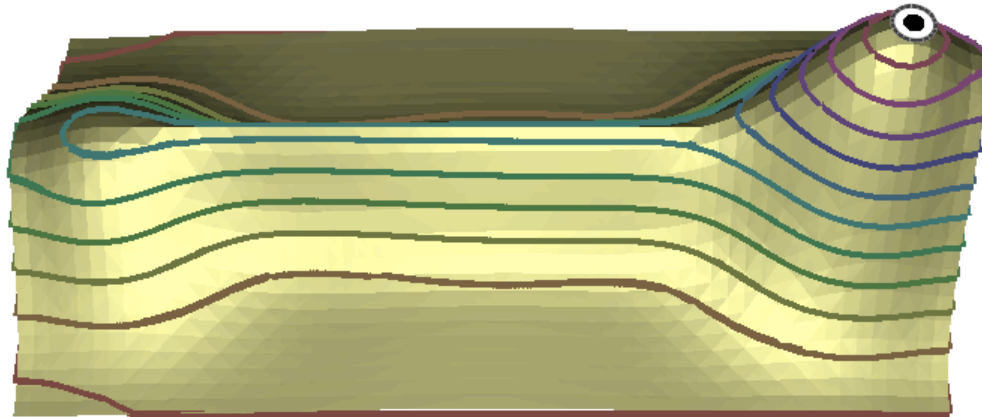
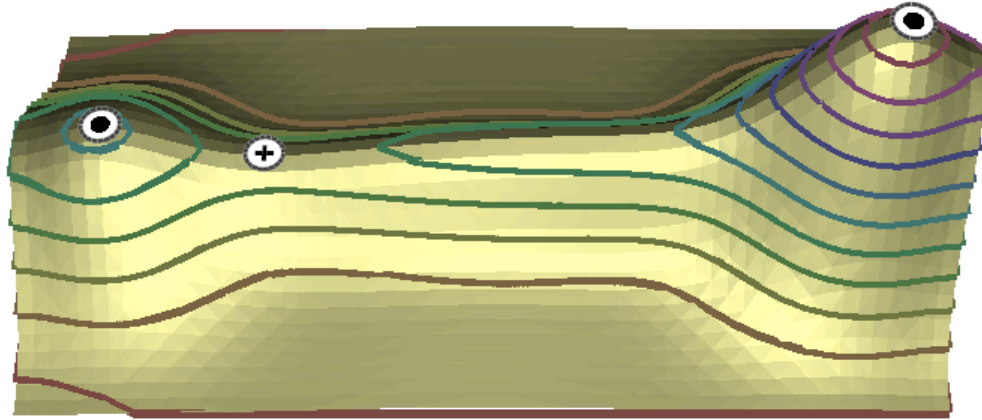
# Results: Ridge Bridge (7.0)



# Results: Ridge Bridge (10.5)

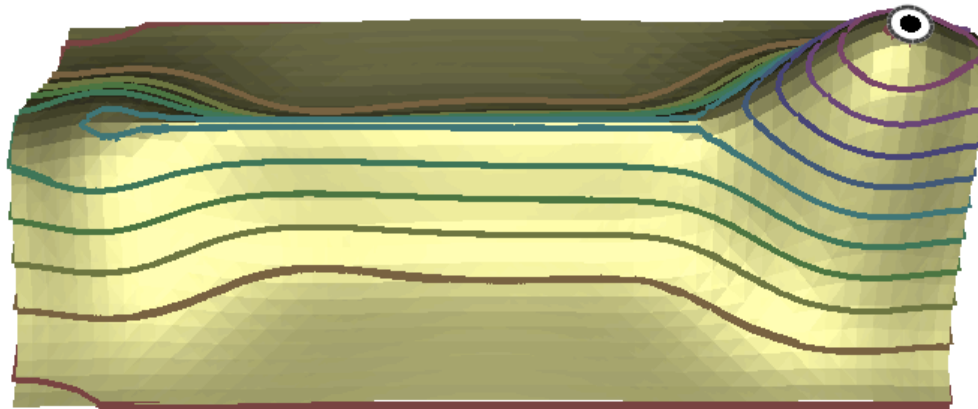
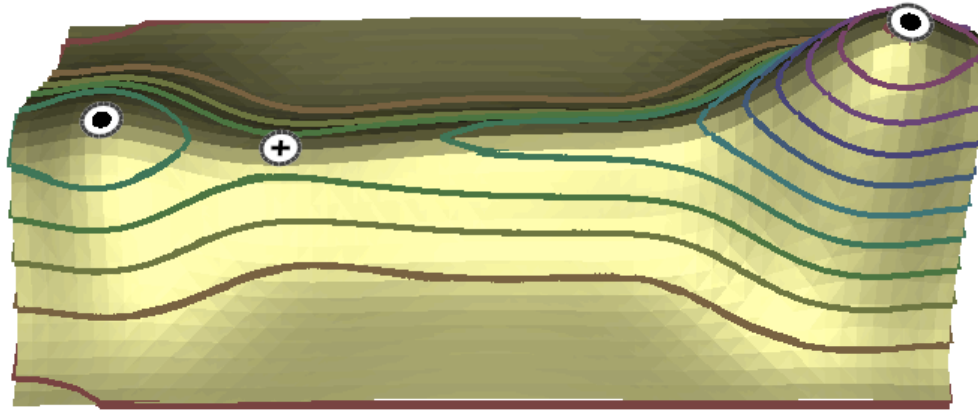


# Results: Ridge Bridge (14.0)

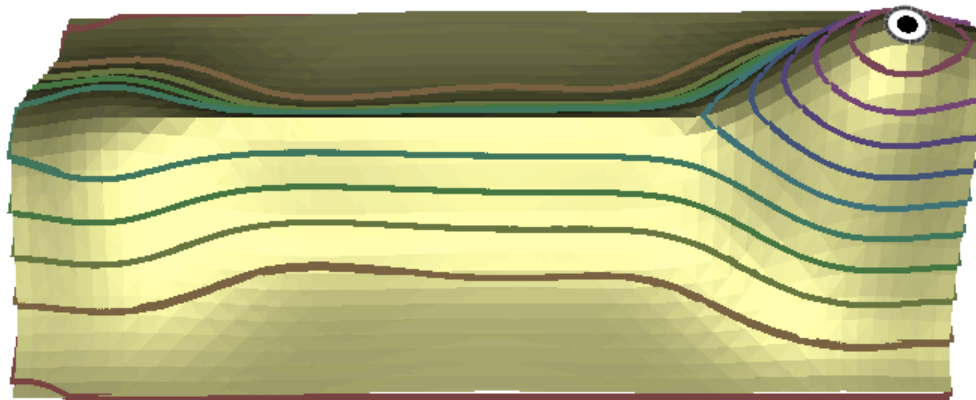




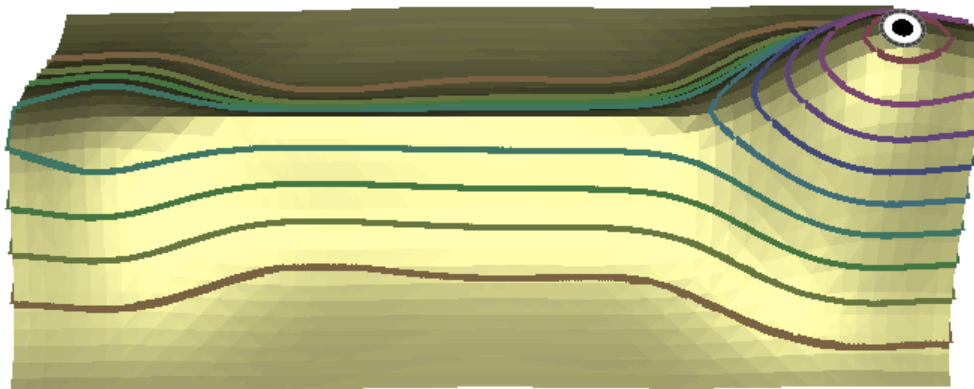
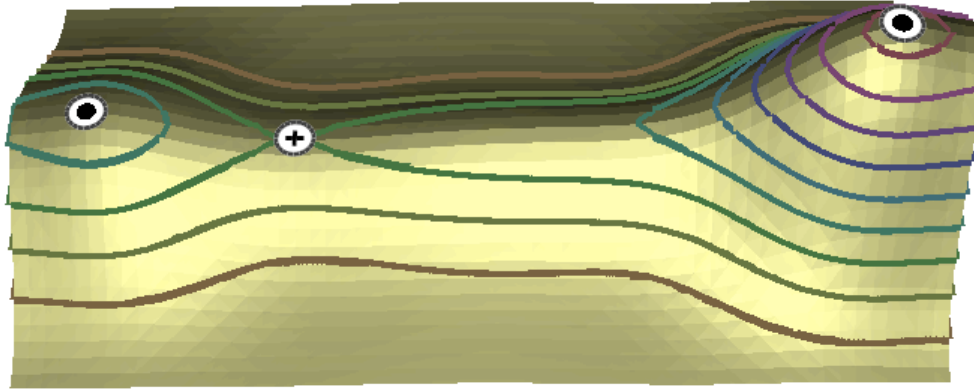
# Results: Ridge Bridge (17.5)



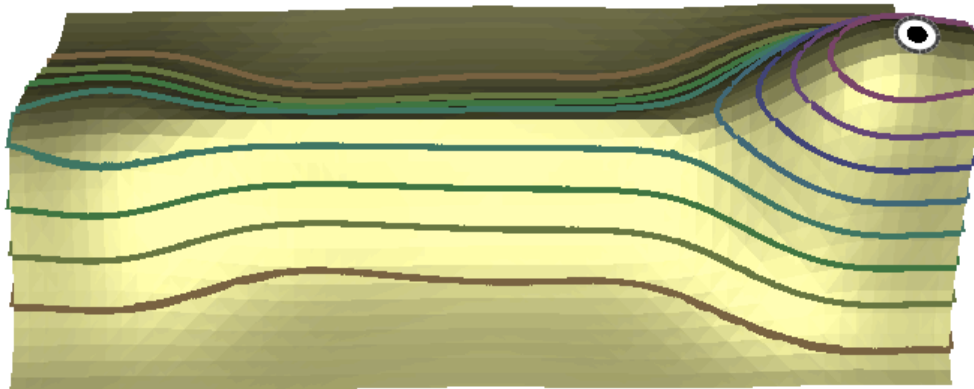
# Results: Ridge Bridge (21.0)



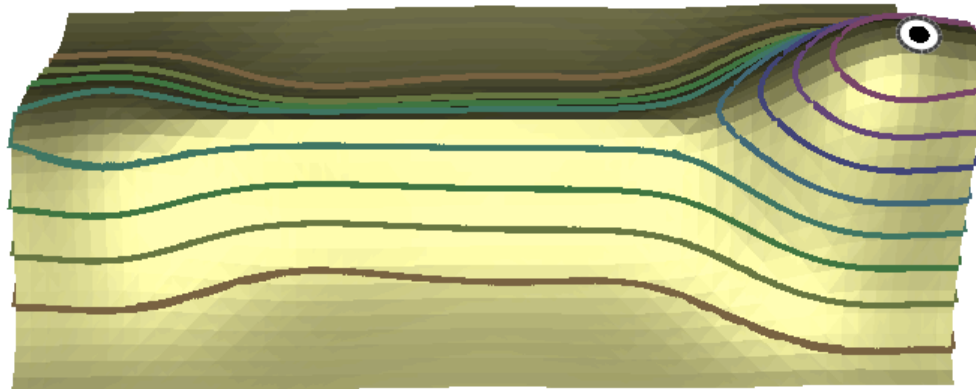
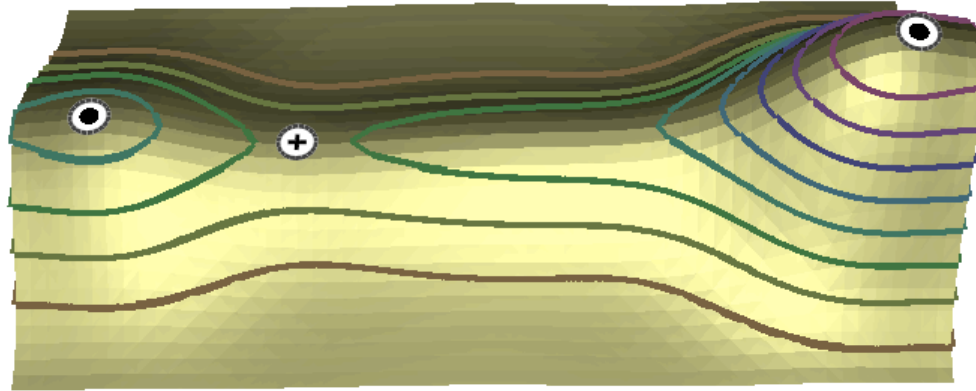
# Results: Ridge Bridge (24.5)



# Results: Ridge Bridge (28.0)

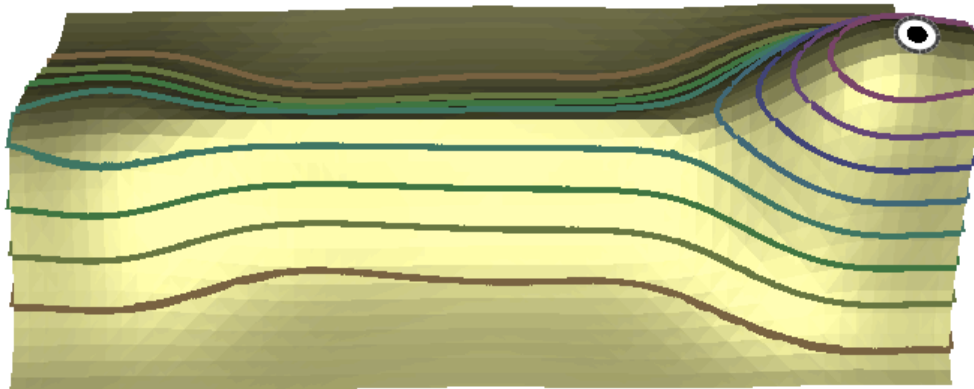


# Results: Ridge Bridge (28.0)



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# Results: Ridge Bridge (28.0)

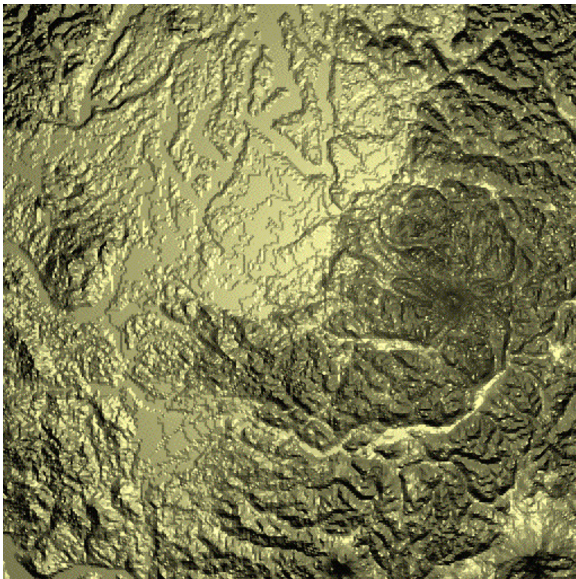


3/3

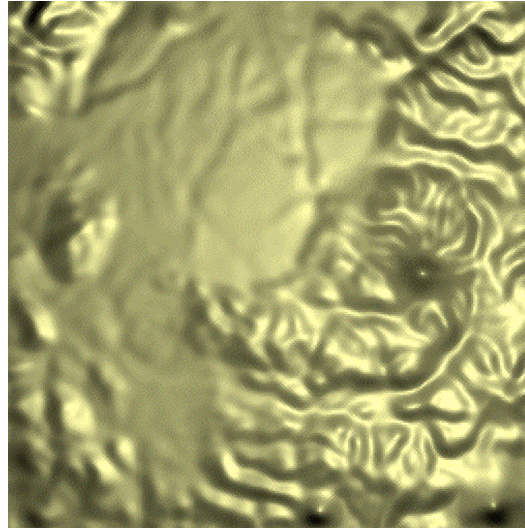


# Results: Laplacian Smoothing

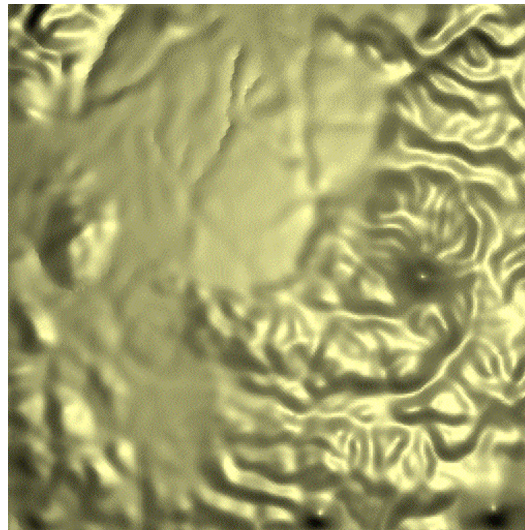
original



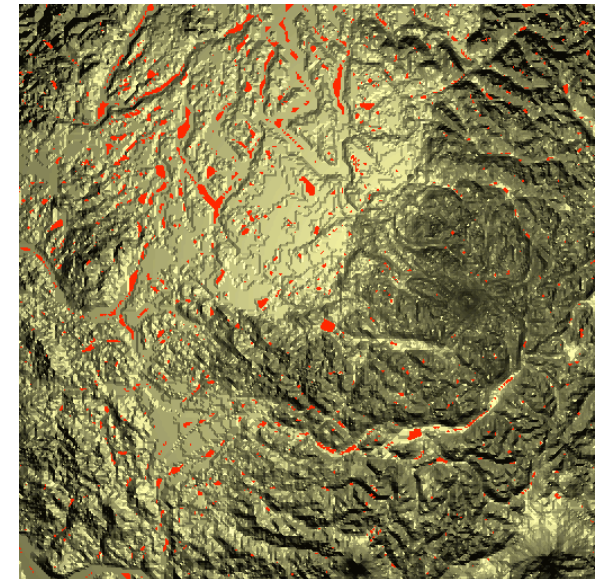
uncontrolled



controlled

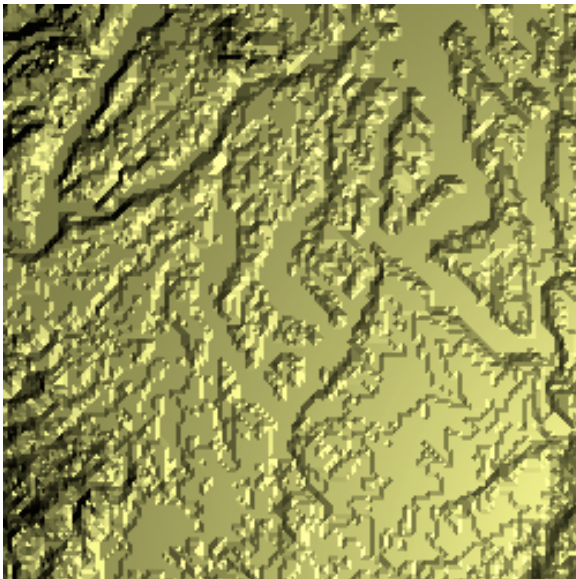


suppressed

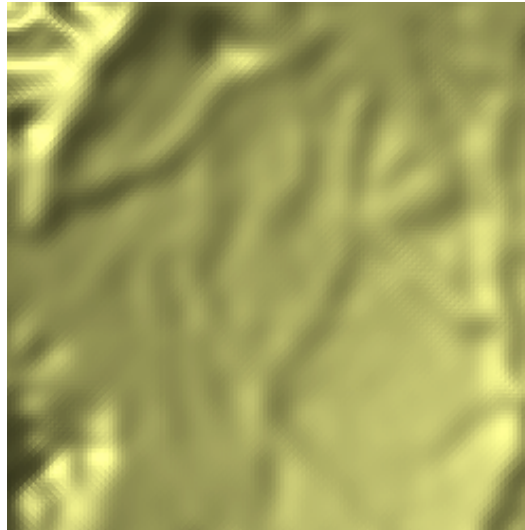


# Results: Laplacian Smoothing

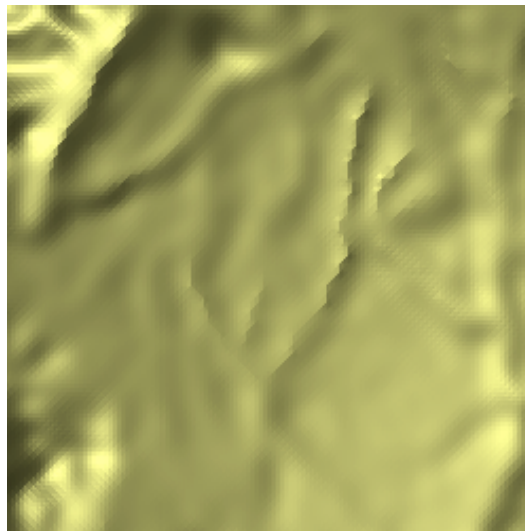
original



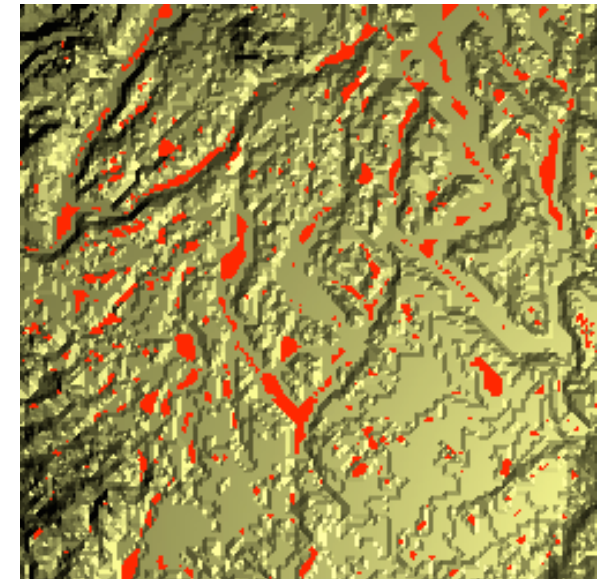
uncontrolled



controlled



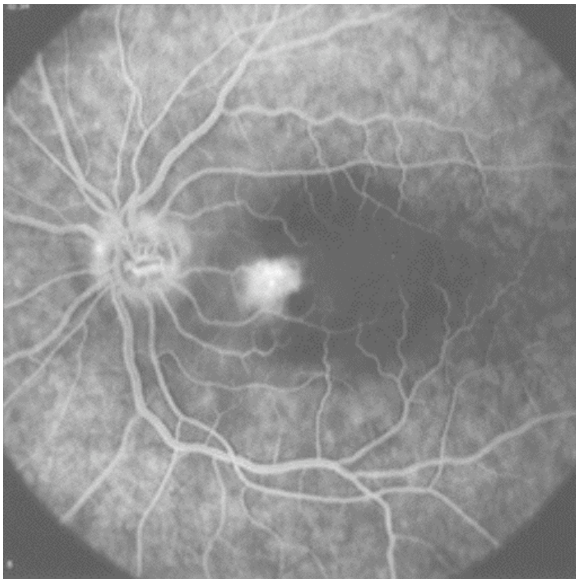
suppressed



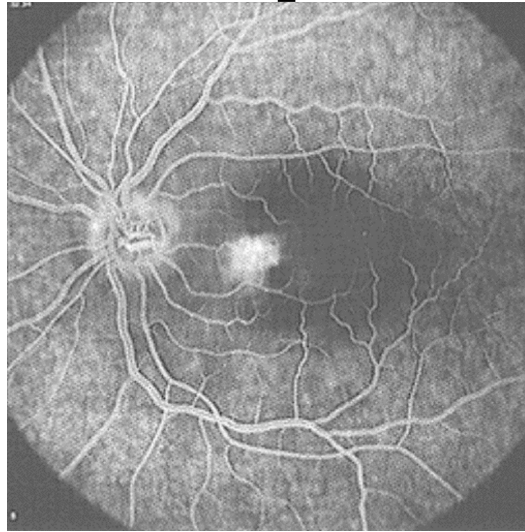


# Results: Sharpening

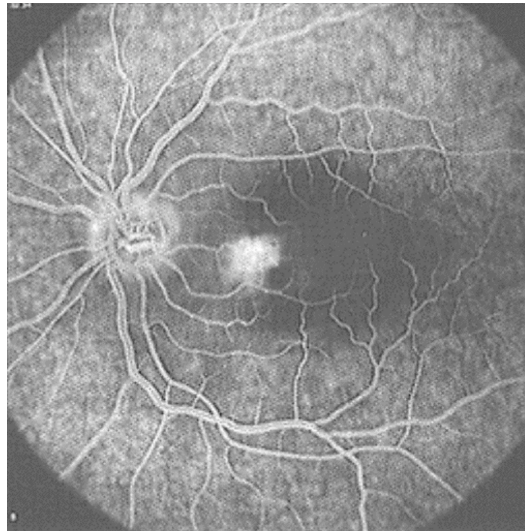
original



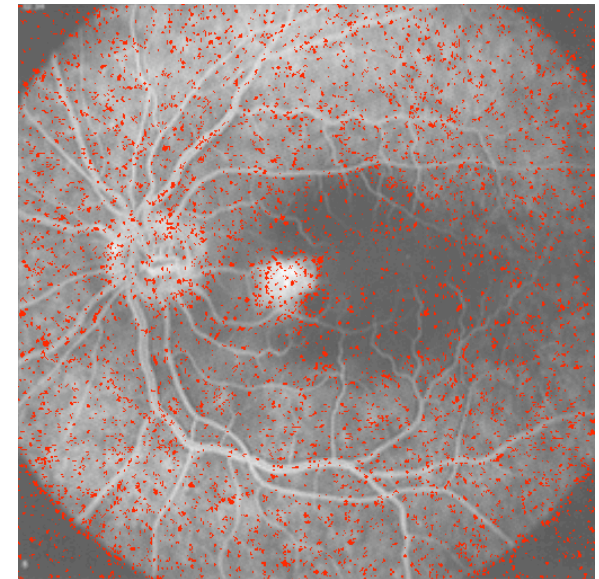
uncontrolled



controlled

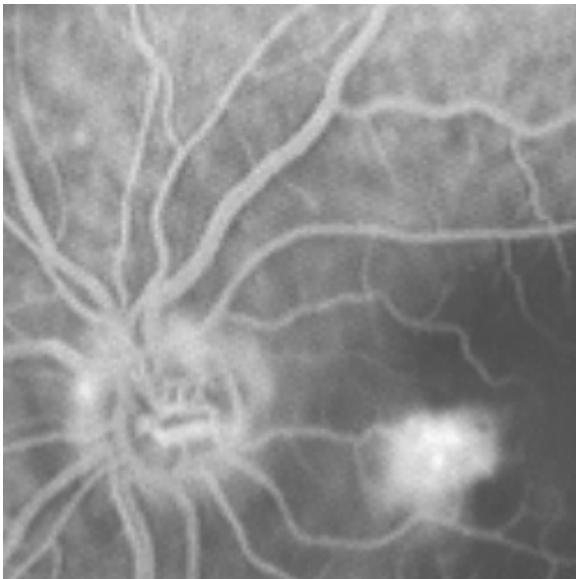


suppressed



# Results: Sharpening

original



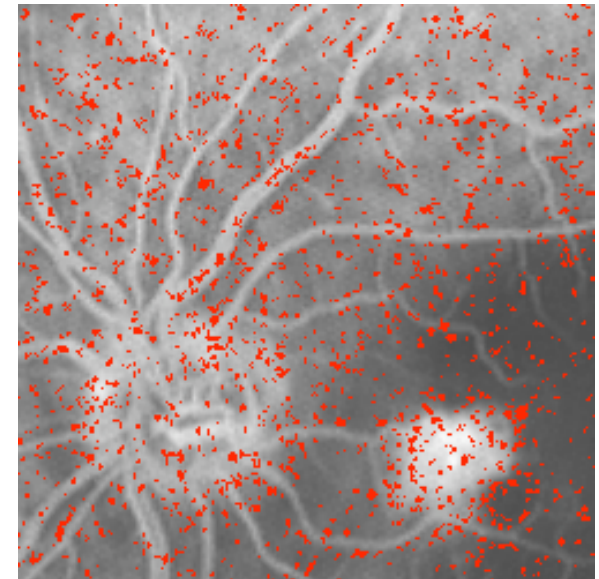
uncontrolled



controlled

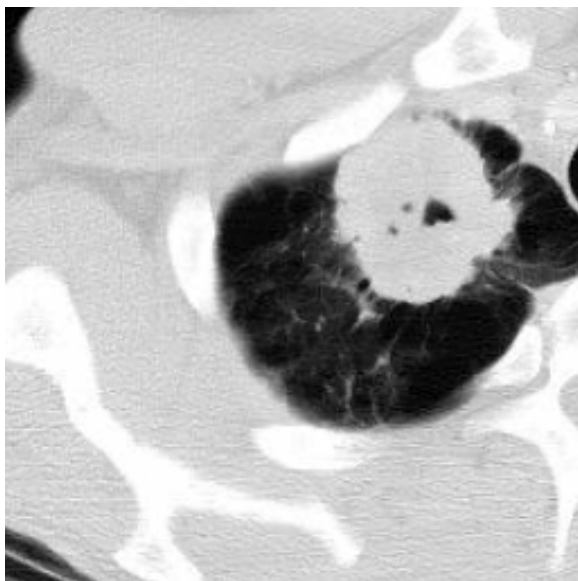


suppressed

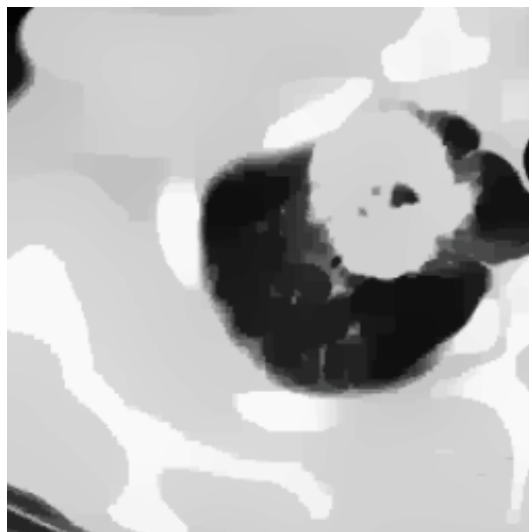


# Results: Anisotropic Smoothing

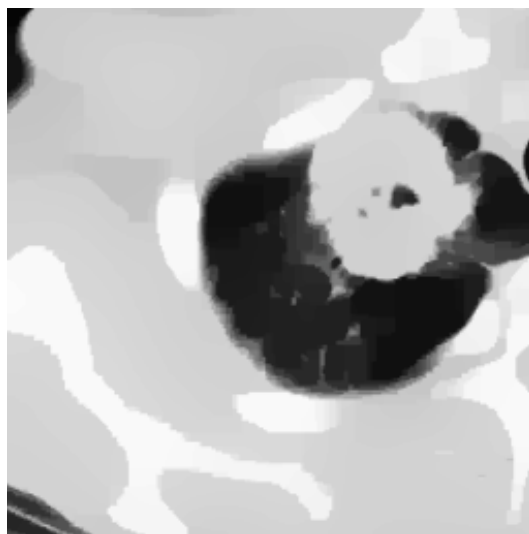
original



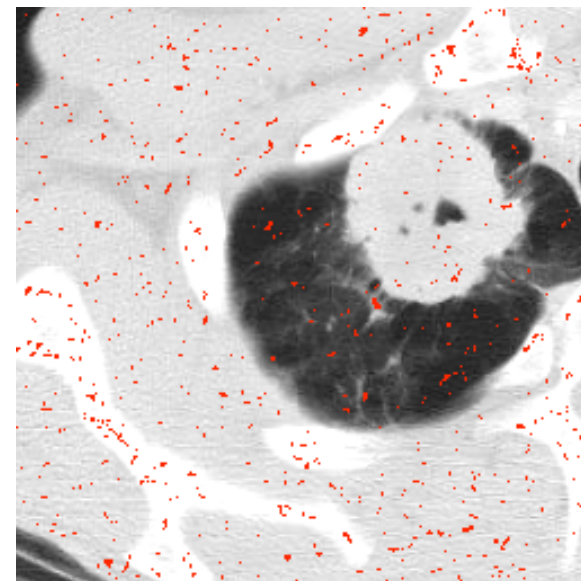
uncontrolled



controlled

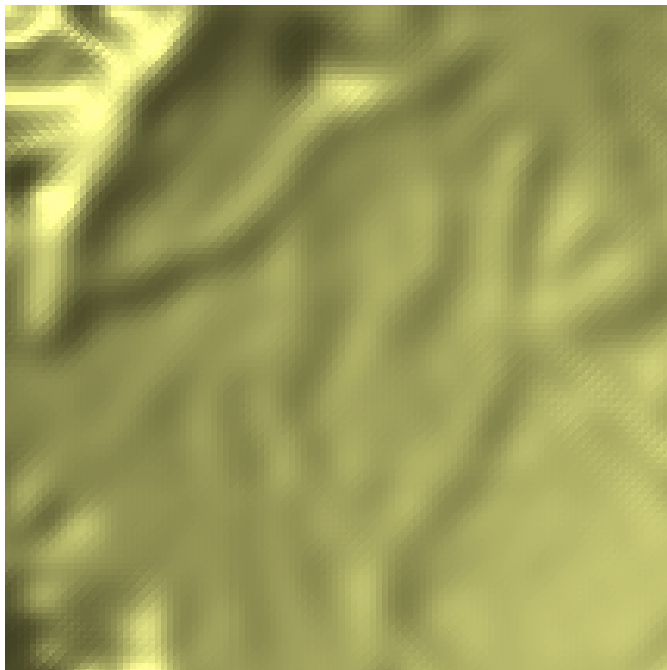


suppressed

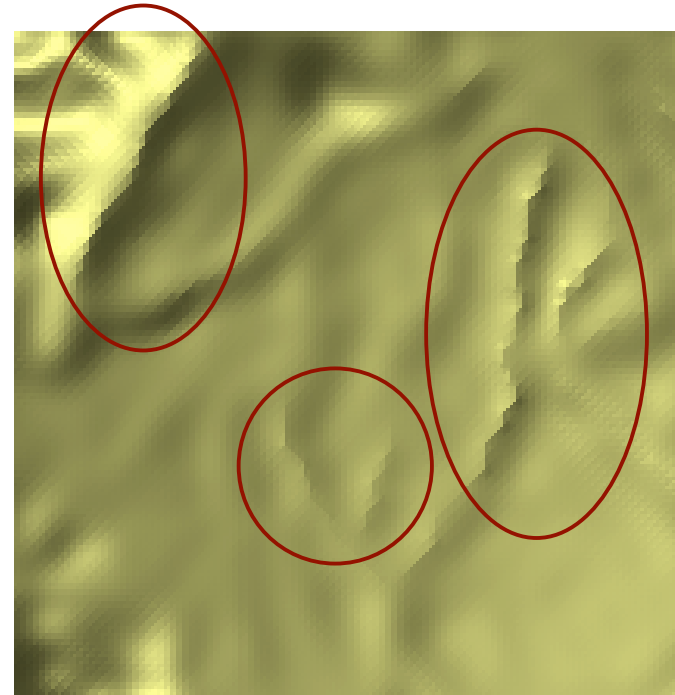


# Local artifacts

Due to slowing time



**uncontrolled**



**controlled**

# No progress guarantee

Terminate when proposed values same as current

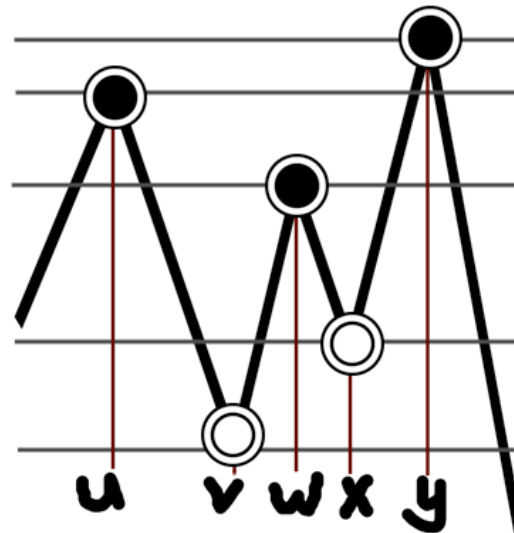
Never saw topology control prevent progress everywhere



# Results: Persistence

- Measures the importance of a feature
- Common measure is difference in value between an extremum and its paired saddle
- We can track the time it takes for an extremum (and its paired saddle) to be annihilated under smoothing

1D:



# Results: Persistence

Cow CT Scan



Difference  
in value



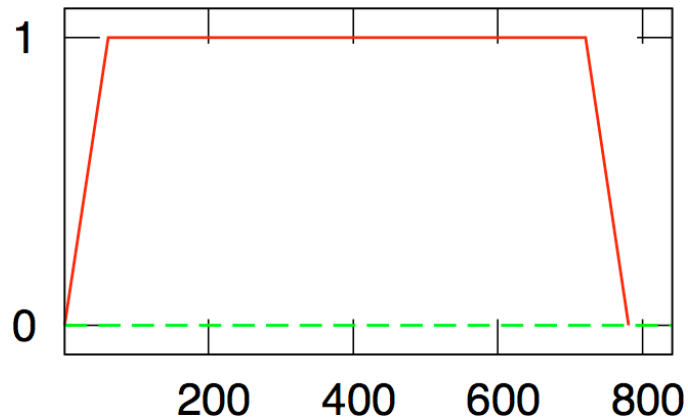
Anisotropic  
diffusion lifetime



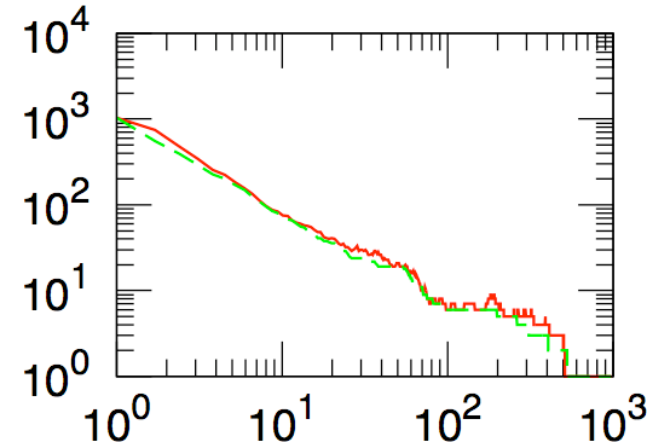
Features shaded black

# Critical Points Over Time

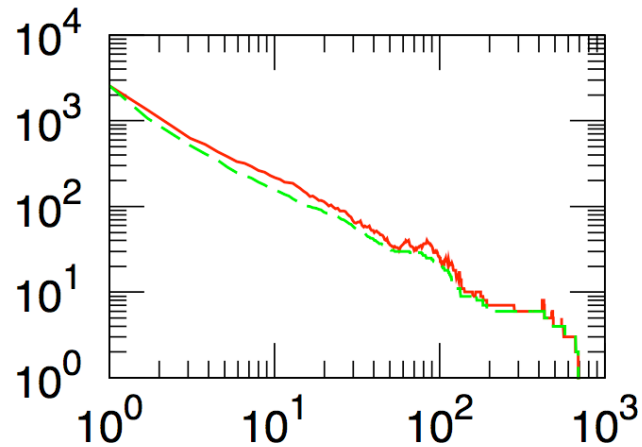
Ridge Bridge



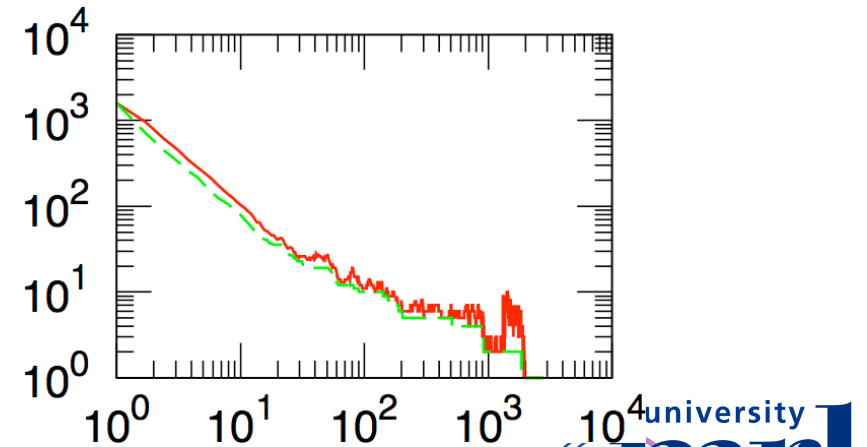
Random



Cow CT Scan



Puget Sound





# Performance

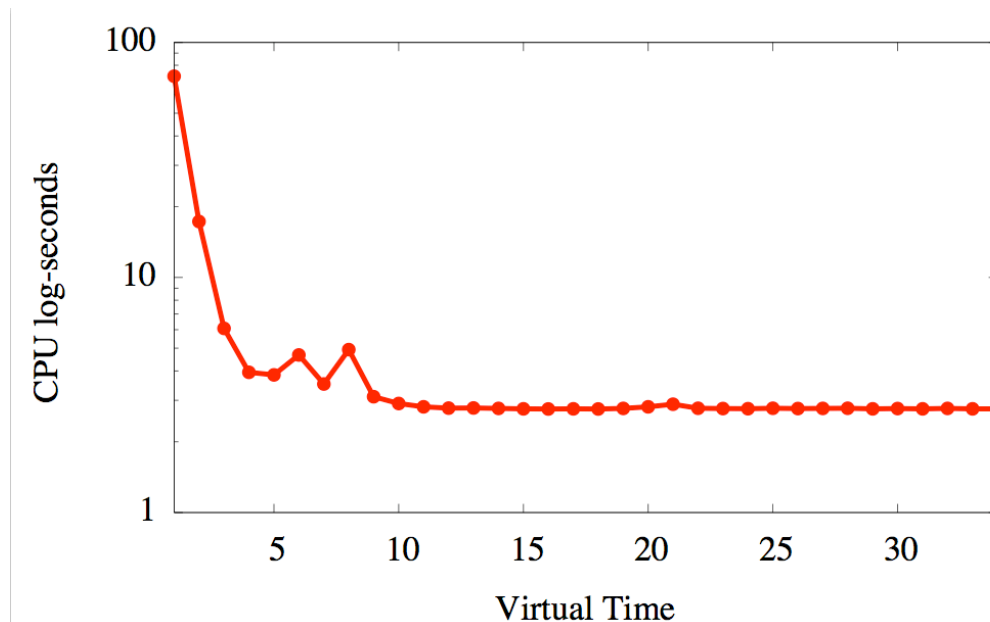
Performance related to number of edge flips and number of undesired topological events

Roughly corresponds to number of critical points

# Performance

Laplacian smoothing Puget Sound to one global maximum is 2.2x slower

44% of the time is spent in the first 3 steps



# Future Work

Extend to 3D

Predict disallowed events to  
distribute undesired artifacts

# Conclusion

A simple algorithm that controls topology changes when filtering

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Denis Zorin <dzorin@mrl.nyu.edu>

Thanks to: Chris Wu, Chee Yap, Adrian Secord,  
NYU CS Colleagues, and the reviewers



**Fin**

# Filters


Discrete Laplacian smoothing  
(diffusion)

Sharpening

$$p_L^{l+1}(v) = p^l(v) + \Delta t \sum_{edges(v,w)} (p^l(w) - p^l(v))$$

Discrete Anisotropic smoothing  
([Perona and Malik 1990])

---

$$p_{AD}^{l+1}(v) = p^l(v) + \Delta t \sum_{edges(v,w)} \frac{p^l(w) - p^l(v)}{1 + \|p^l(w) - p^l(v)\|^2 / k^2}$$


# Feature

Sweep a plane down. Notice how at a maximum a new contour is born! Notice how it merges with another contour at a saddle!

Same with minimums and sweeping upwards!

# Feature

Hills and valleys until it gets  
complicated -- max and mins  
(pics from original slide)



# Feature

## Sweep a plane down data set

- Maximum creates a contour
- Minimum creates a contour
- Saddle merges two contours
- Talk to denis to get terminology consistent

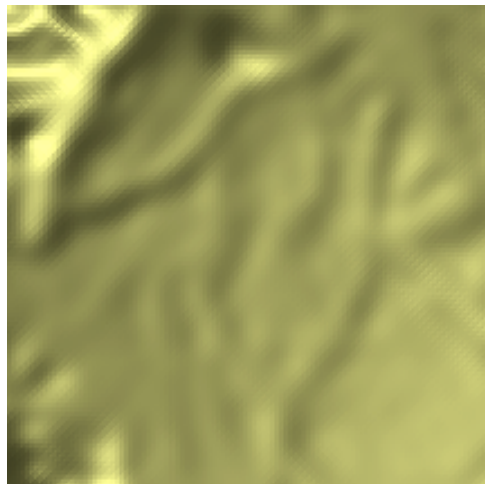
# Feature

The set of contours from an extremum until the saddle which merges the contours with another extremum's contours, as we sweep a plane upwards/downwards

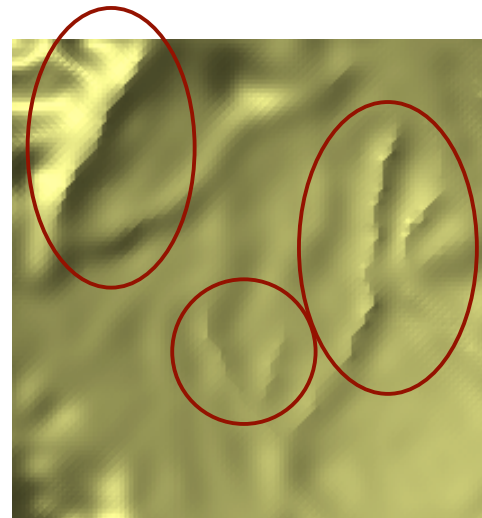
Single contour component from appearance at max/min until merger with another component at saddle as isovalue decreases/increases

# No guaranteed progress

Terminate when proposed values same as current  
Can topology control prevent progress everywhere?  
Locally:



uncontrolled



controlled

# Critical Points Over Time

