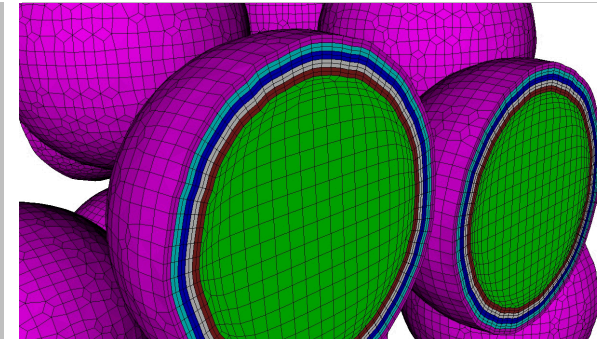
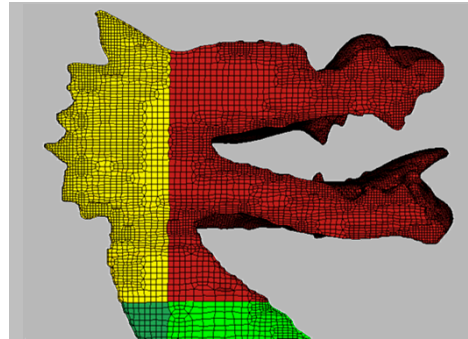
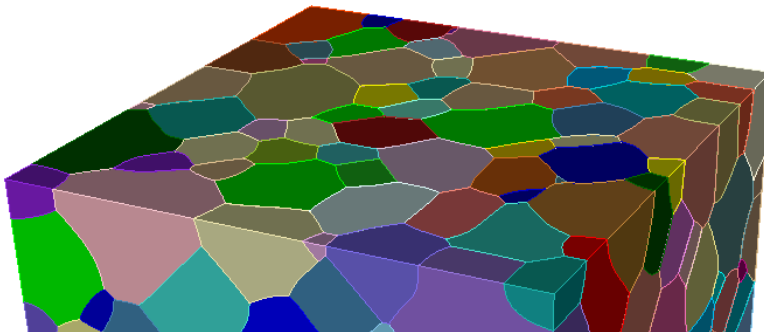


Advances in Grid-Based All-Hex Mesh Generation for High Performance Computing

Steven J. Owen



SIAM Conference on
Computational Science and Engineering



February 27-March 3, 2017
Hilton Atlanta, Atlanta, Georgia, USA

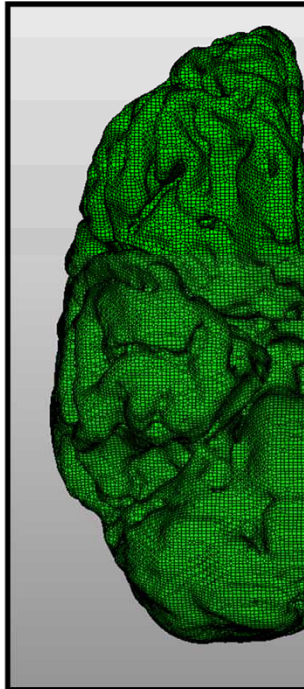
Advances in Grid-Based All-Hex Mesh Generation for High Performance Computing

Steven J. Owen



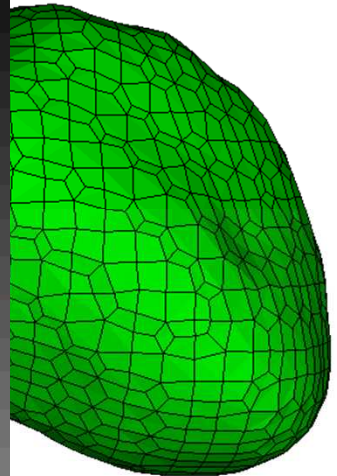
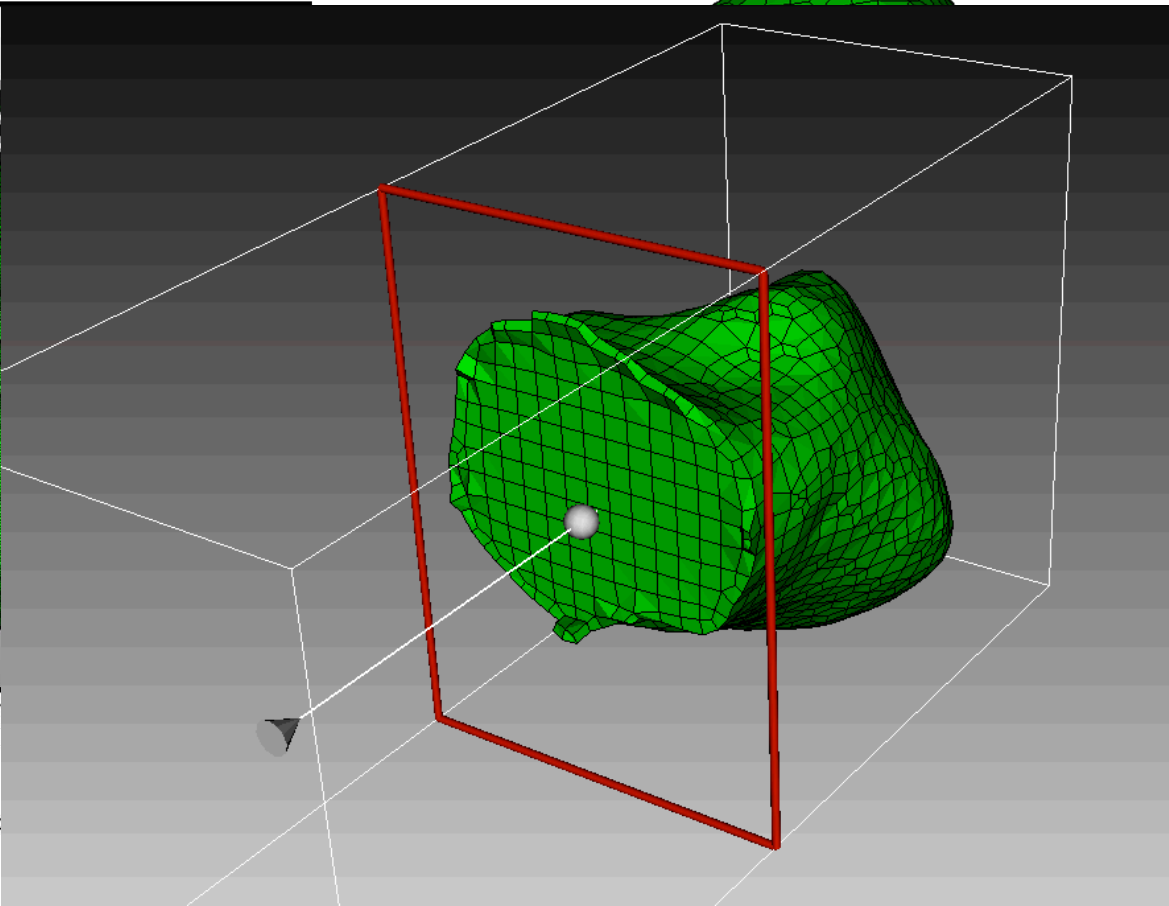
Sandia National Laboratories is a multi-mission laboratory managed and operated by Sandia Corporation, a wholly owned subsidiary of Lockheed Martin Corporation, for the U.S. Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration under contract DE-AC04-94AL85000. SAND NO. 2011-XXXXP

Sculpt Examples

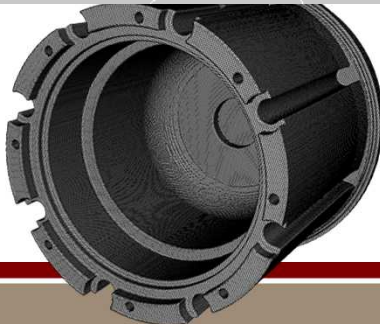
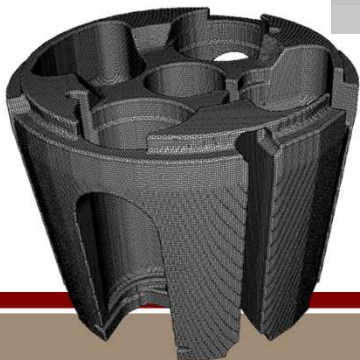


STL MRI Brain Model, Courtesy
Brigham Young University,

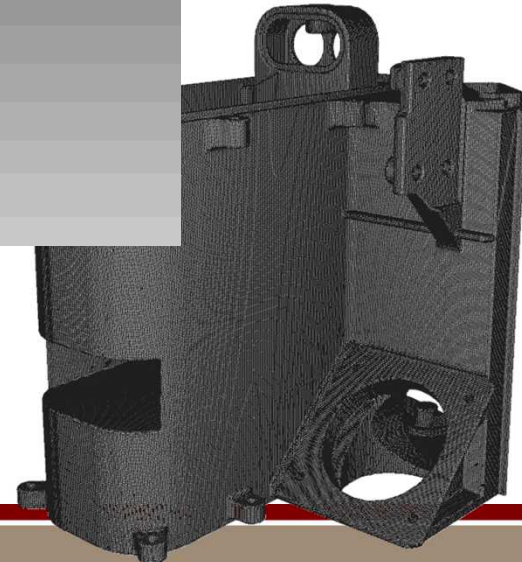
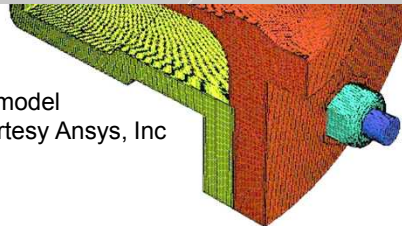
Mechanical Component Model
Used with Permission



Component Model

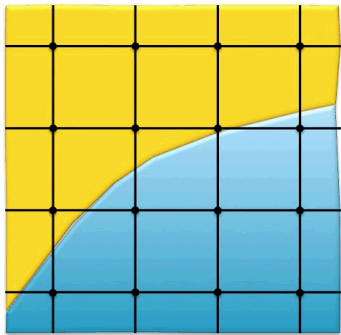


V2 model
courtesy Ansys, Inc

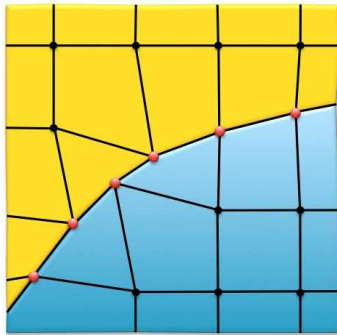


Sculpt Procedure

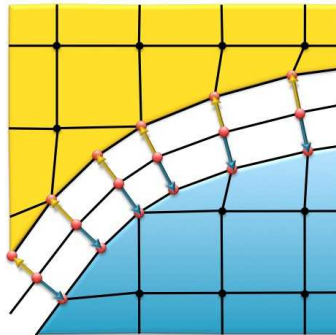
Overlay Grid Procedure used by Sculpt



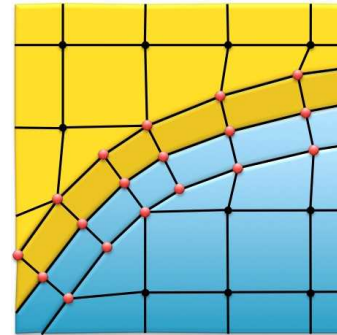
Cartesian
Grid overlaid
on geometry



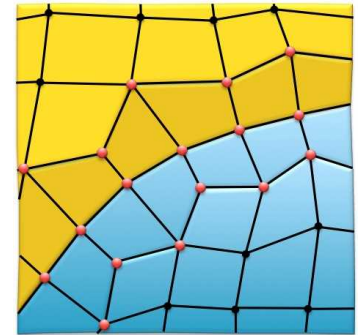
Nearby
nodes
projected to
boundaries



Mesh pulled
away from
the
boundaries

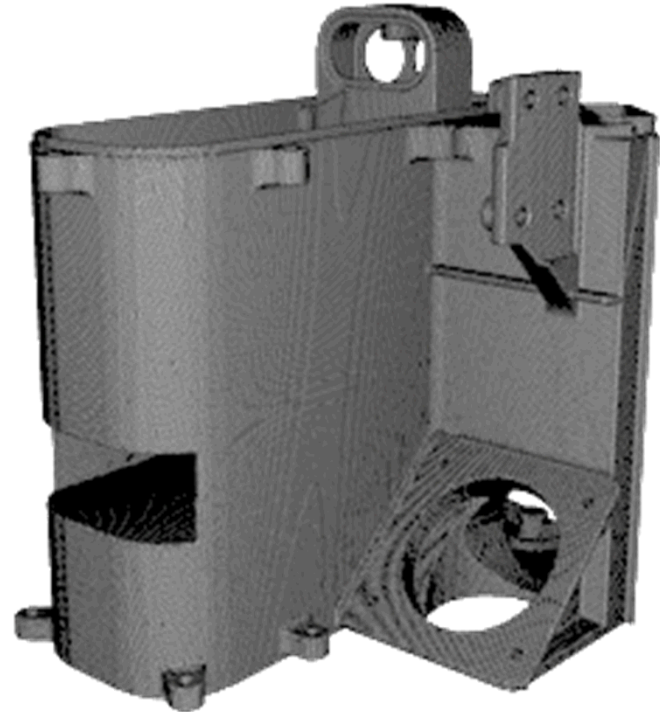
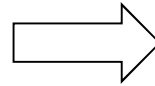
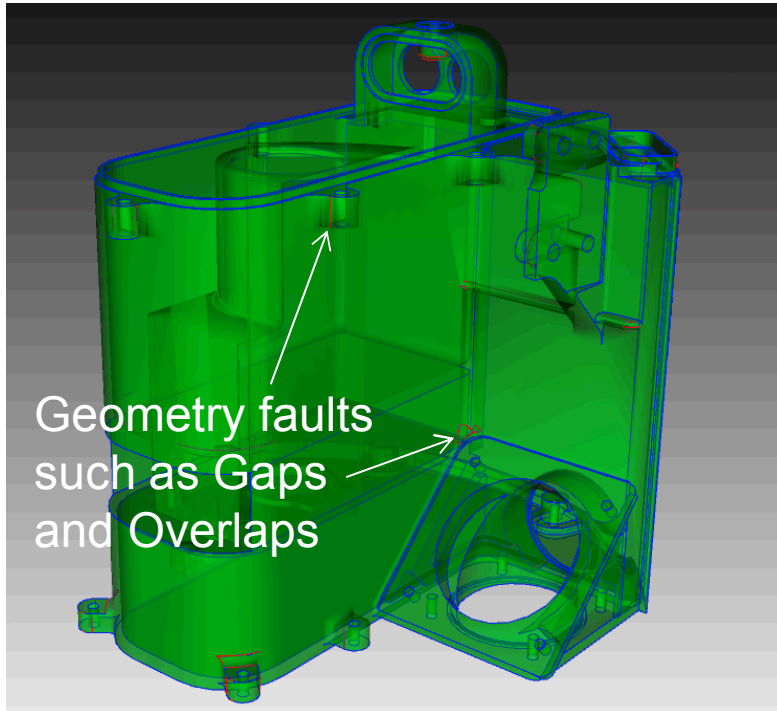


And Layer of
hexes
inserted

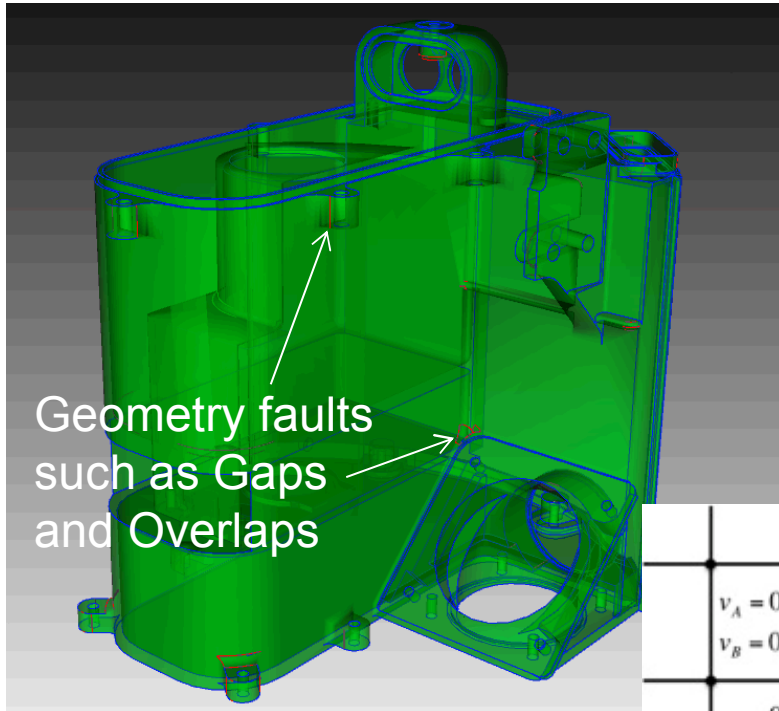


Smoothing
performed to
improve
element
quality

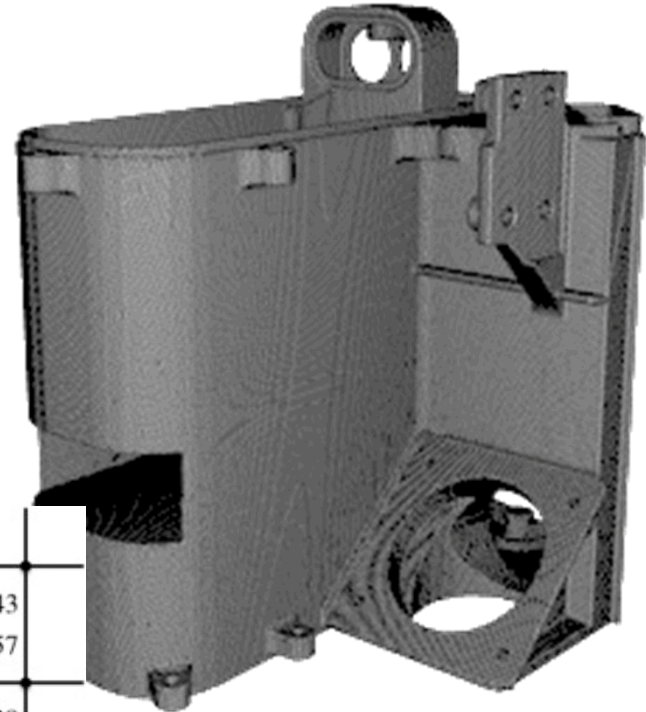
Sculpt Application



Sculpt Application

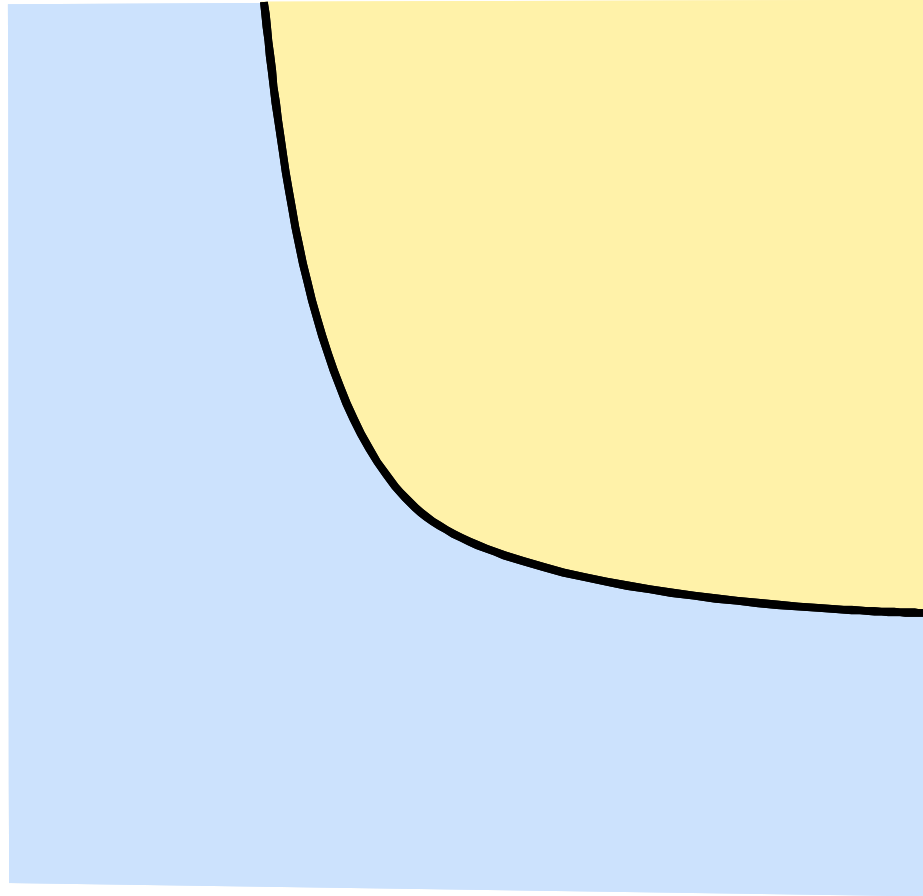


	$v_A = 0.73$ $v_B = 0.27$	$v_A = 0.41$ $v_B = 0.59$	$v_A = 0.43$ $v_B = 0.57$
	$v_A = 0.00$ $v_B = 1.00$	$v_A = 0.55$ $v_B = 0.45$	$v_A = 0.38$ $v_B = 0.62$
	$v_A = 0.00$ $v_B = 1.00$	$v_A = 0.79$ $v_B = 0.21$	$v_A = 1.00$ $v_B = 0.00$

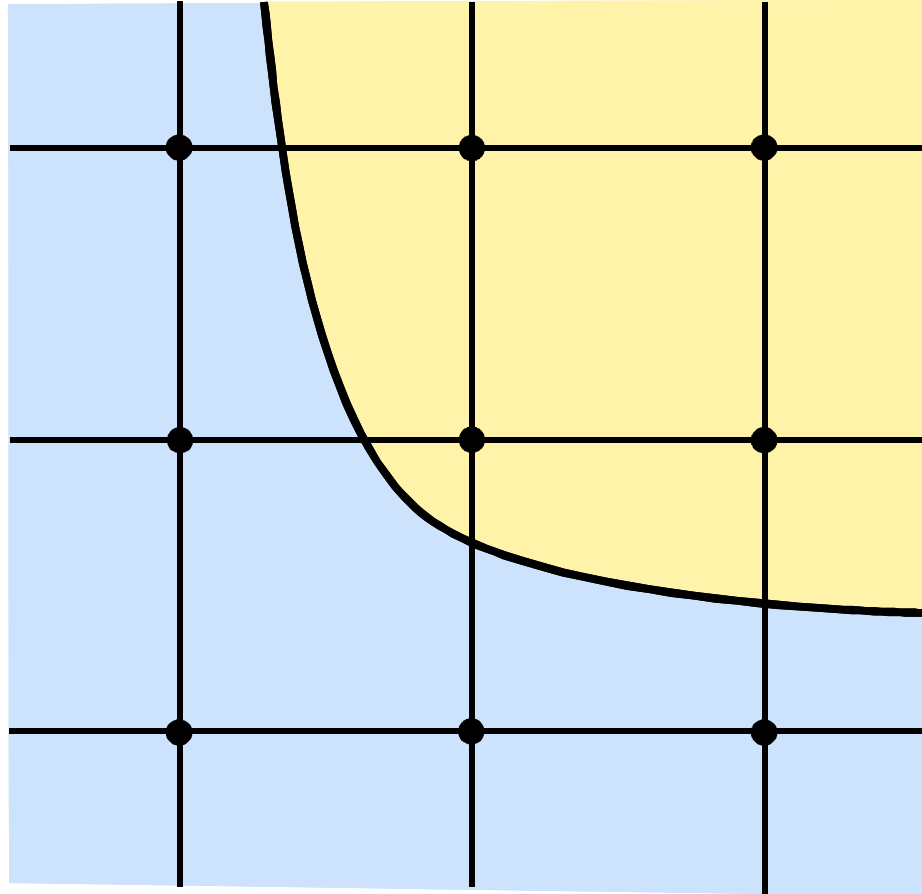


Geometry is first converted to “Volume Fraction” Data before meshing.

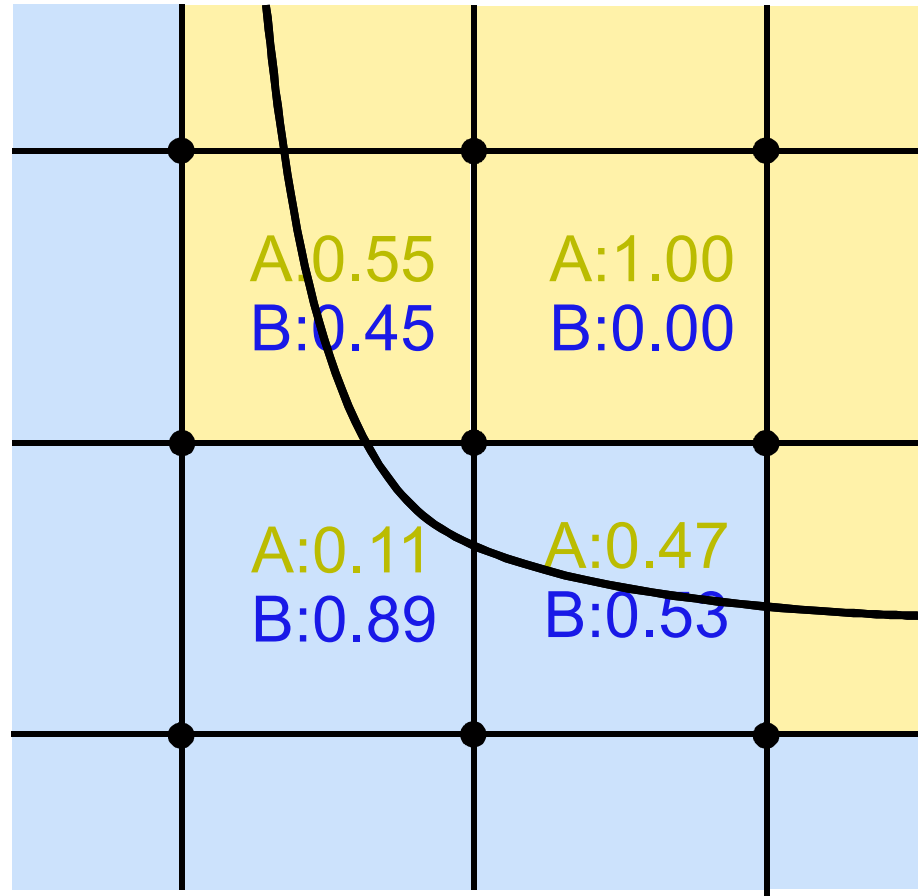
Interface Approximation



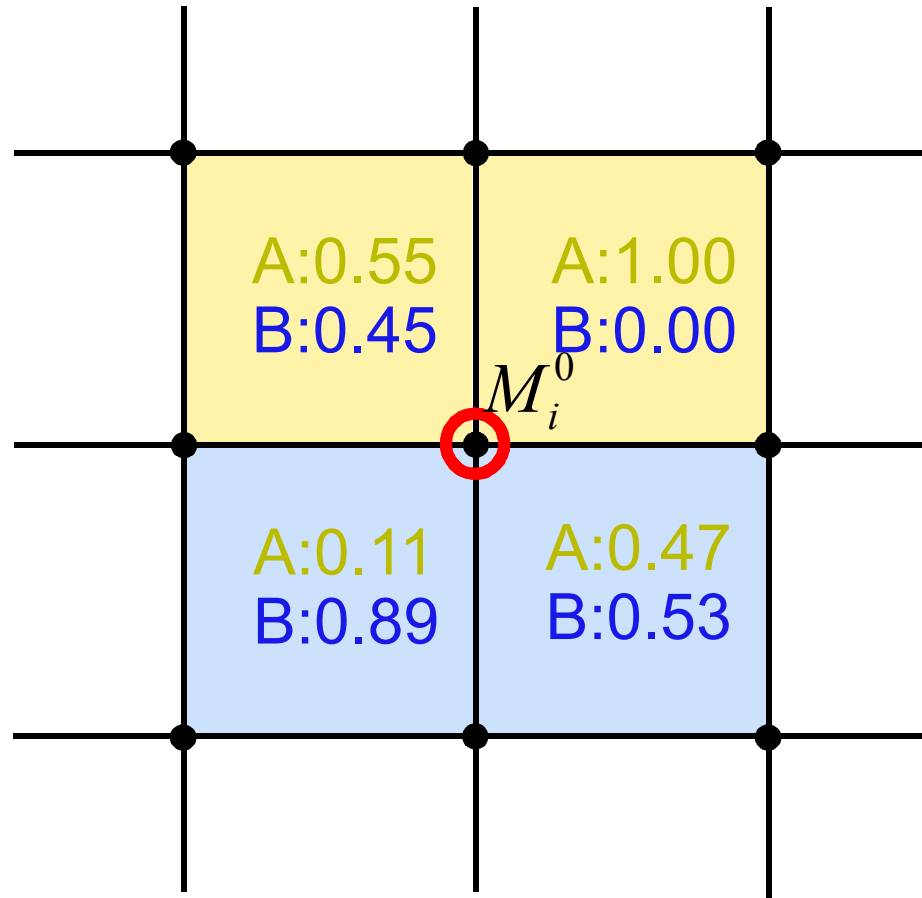
Interface Approximation



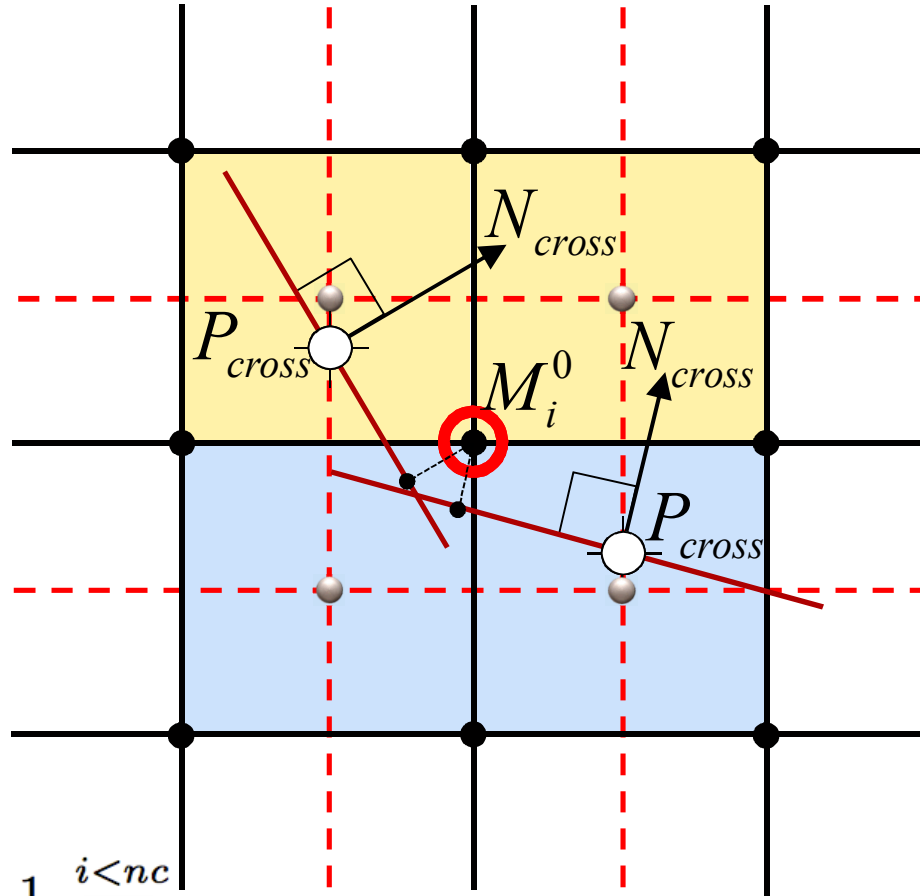
Interface Approximation



Interface Approximation



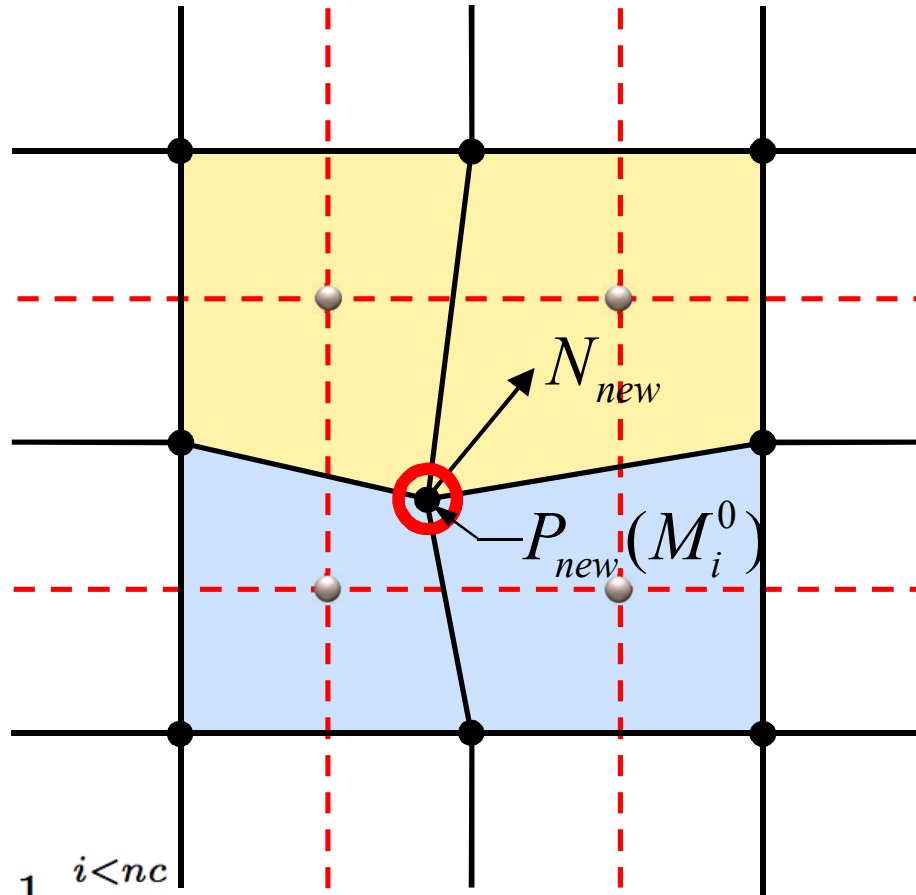
Interface Approximation



$$P_{new} = \frac{1}{nc} \sum_{i=0}^{i < nc} P_0 - (N_{cross})_i \cdot (P_0 - (P_{cross})_i) \times (N_{cross})_i$$

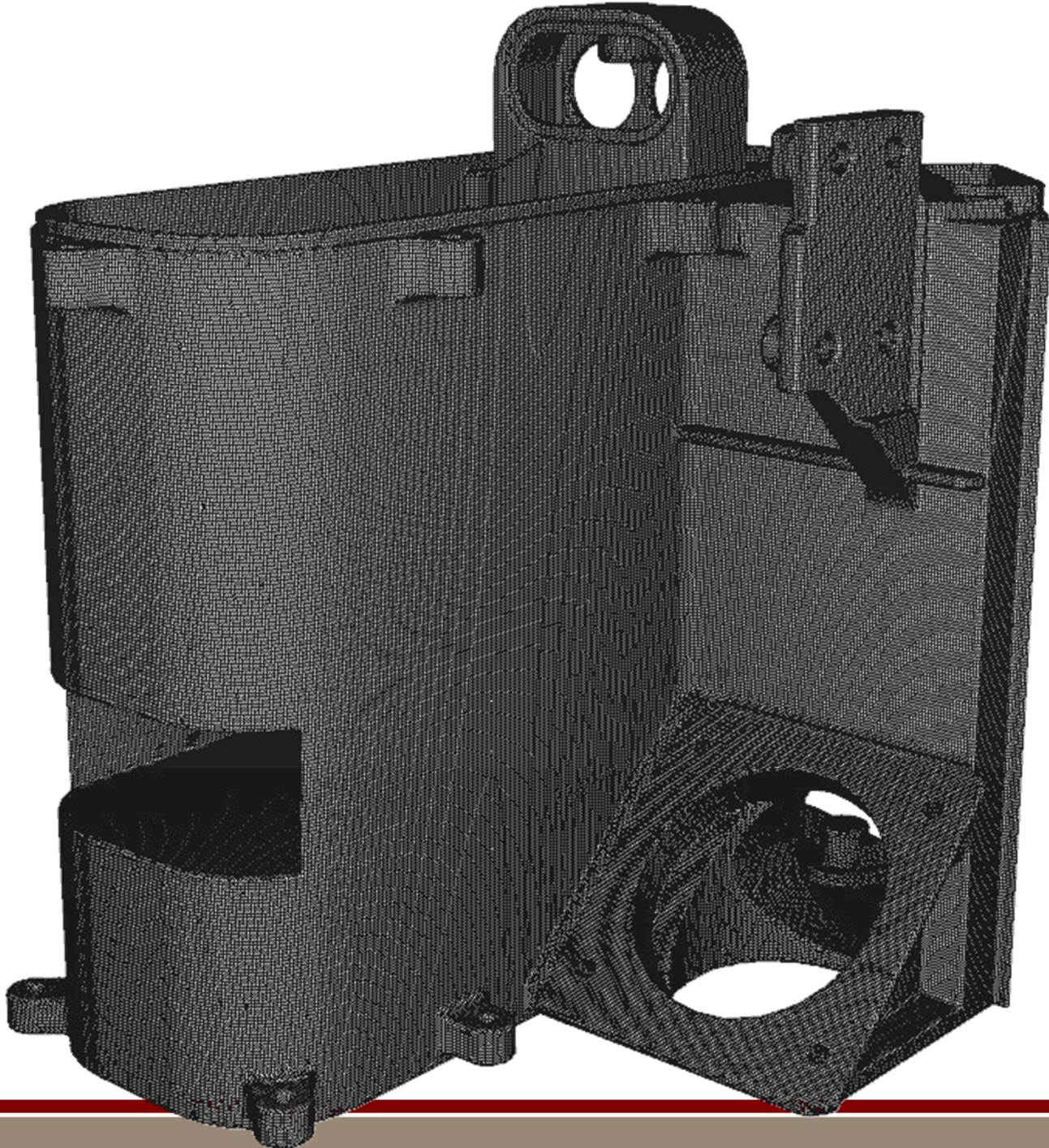
$$(N_{new})_n = \left| \sum_{i=0}^{i < nc_n} (N_{cross})_i \right|$$

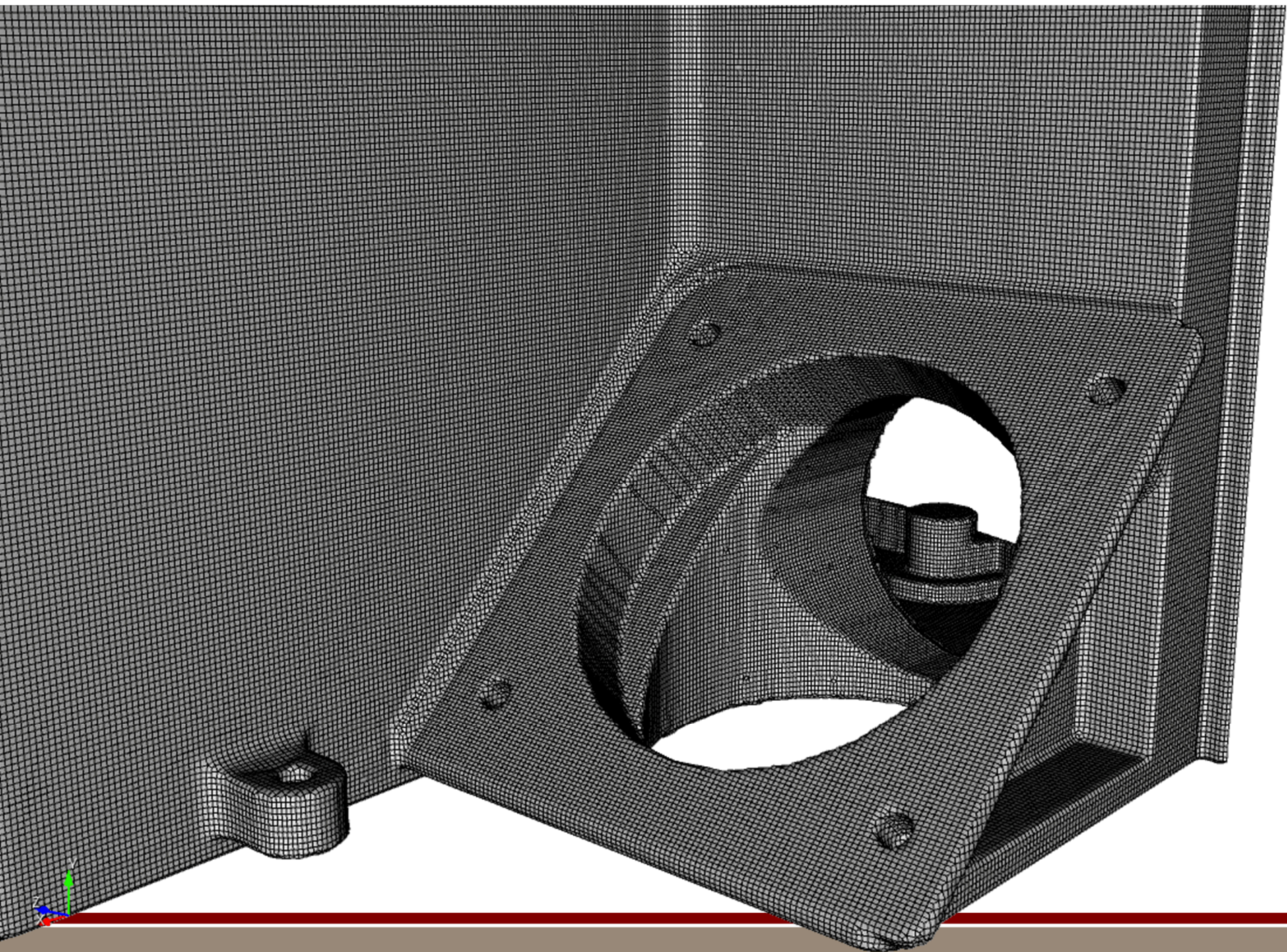
Interface Approximation

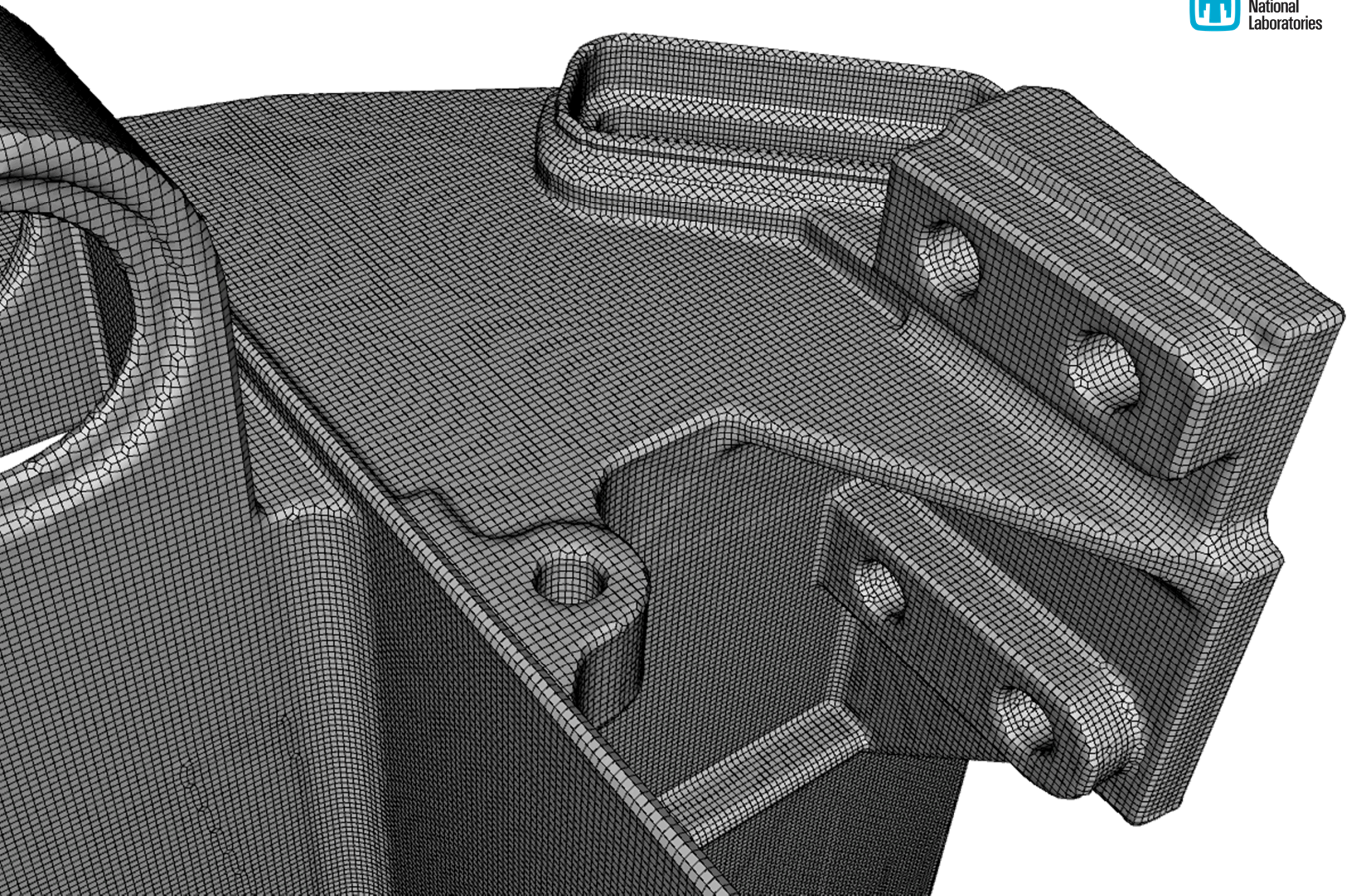


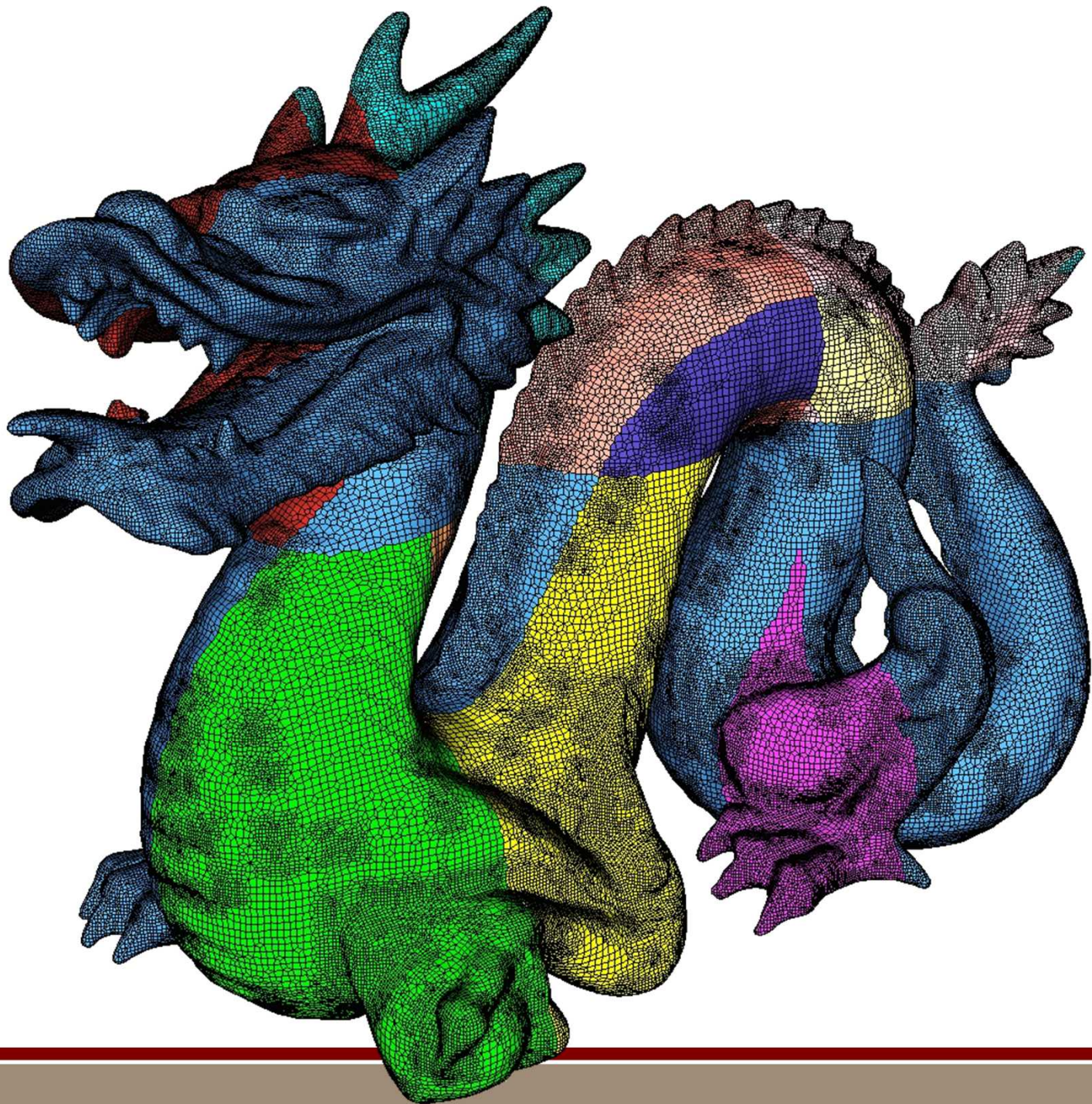
$$P_{new} = \frac{1}{nc} \sum_{i=0}^{i < nc} P_0 - (N_{cross})_i \cdot (P_0 - (P_{cross})_i) \times (N_{cross})_i$$

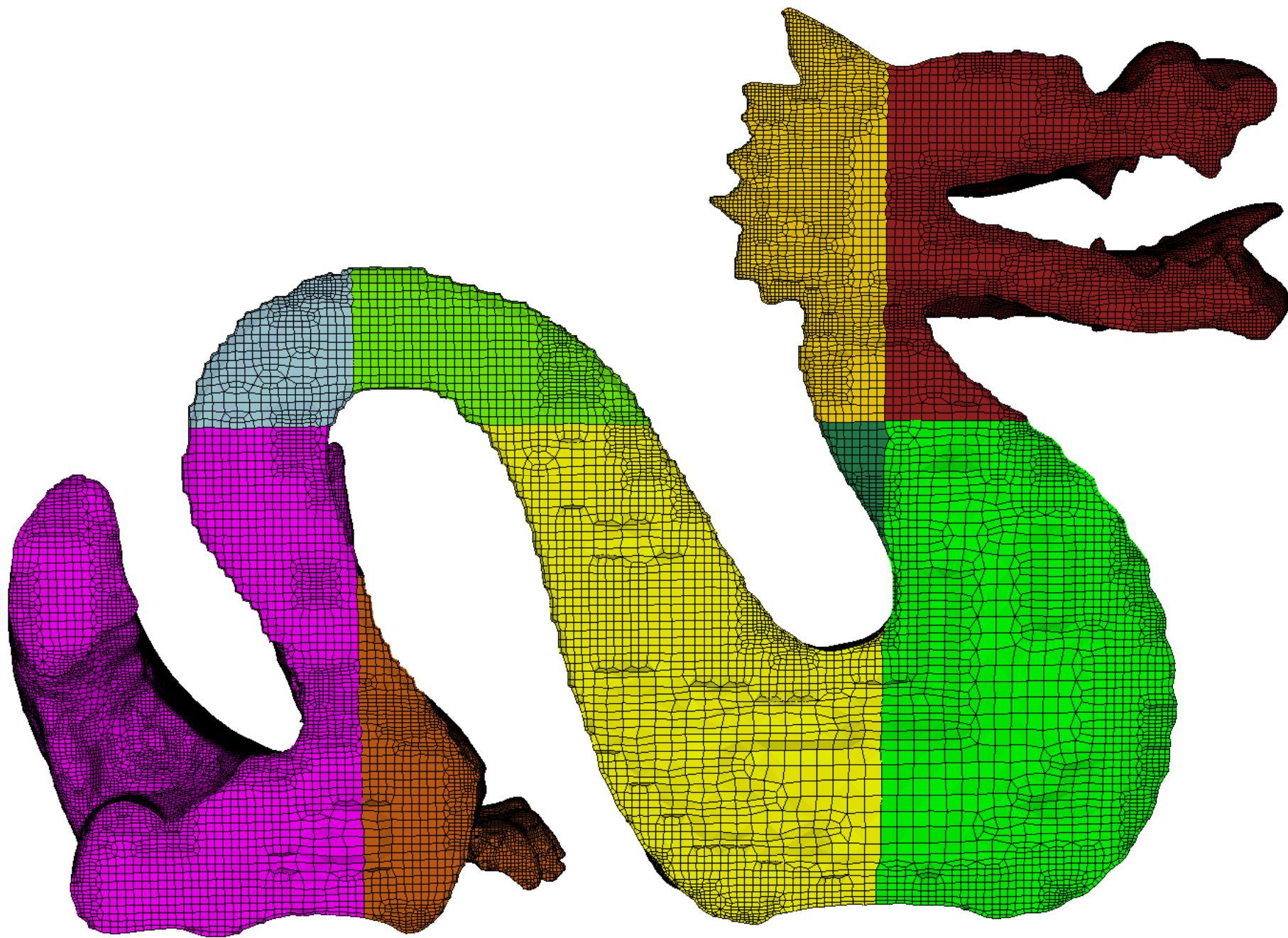
$$(N_{new})_n = \left| \sum_{i=0}^{i < nc_n} (N_{cross})_i \right|$$

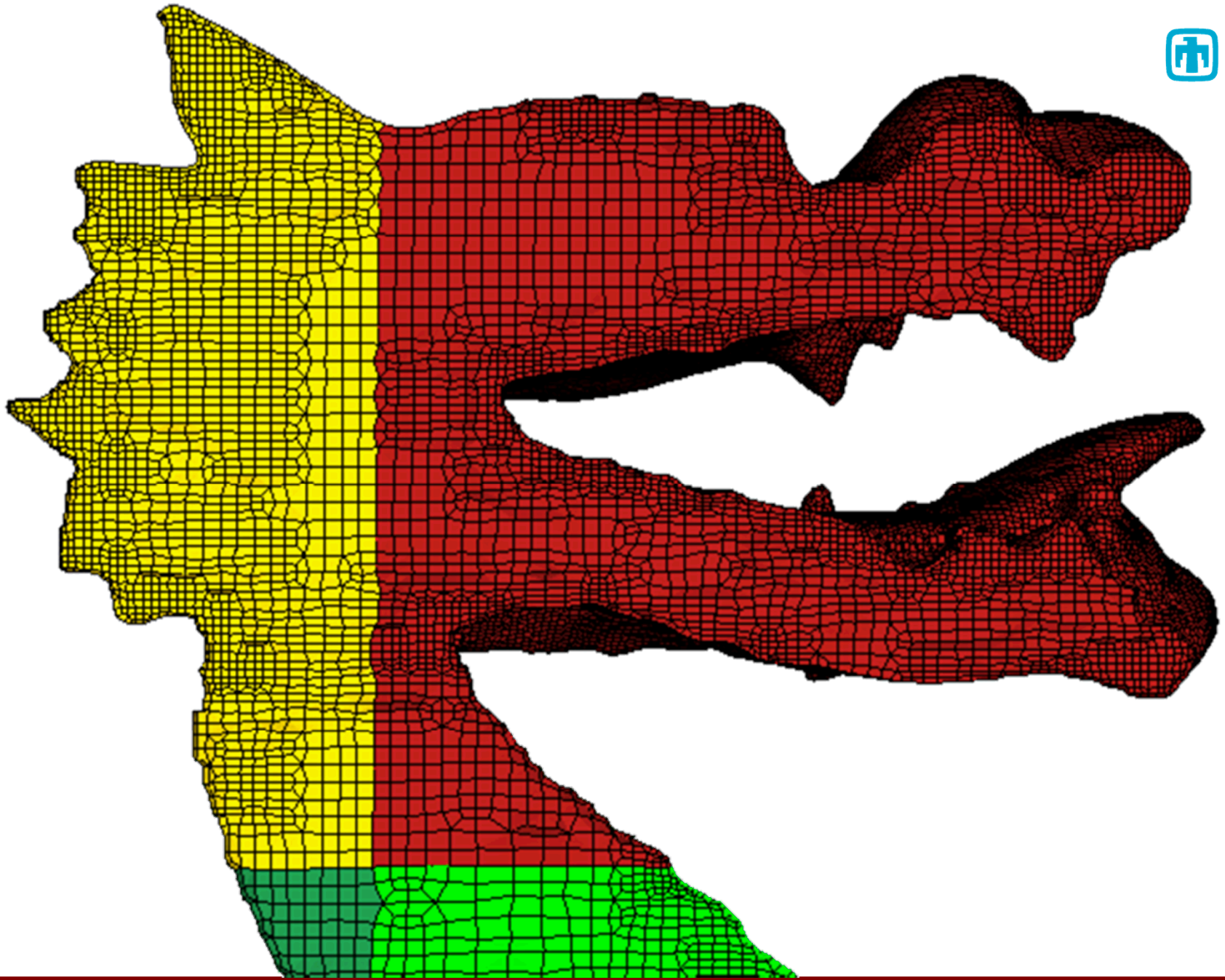


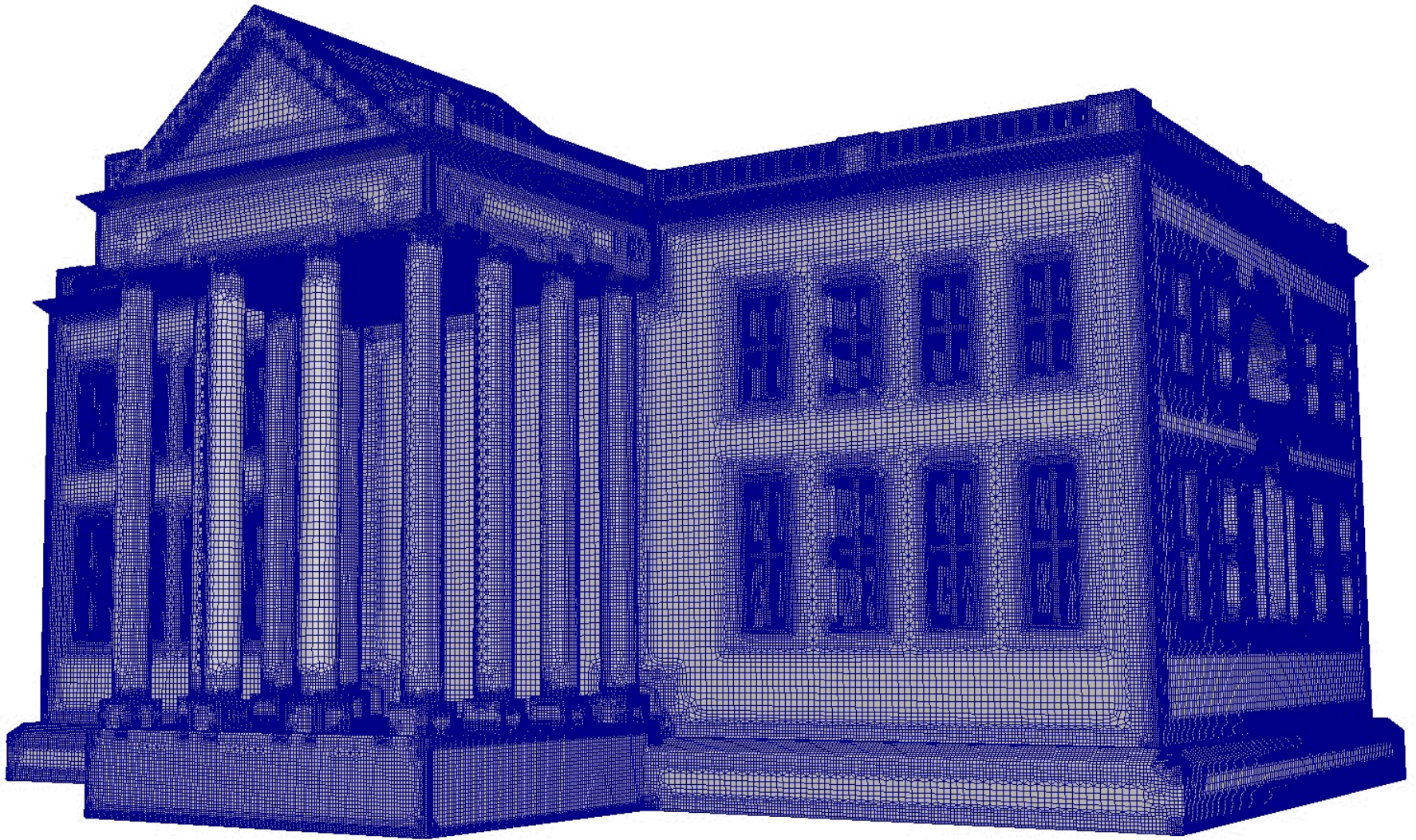


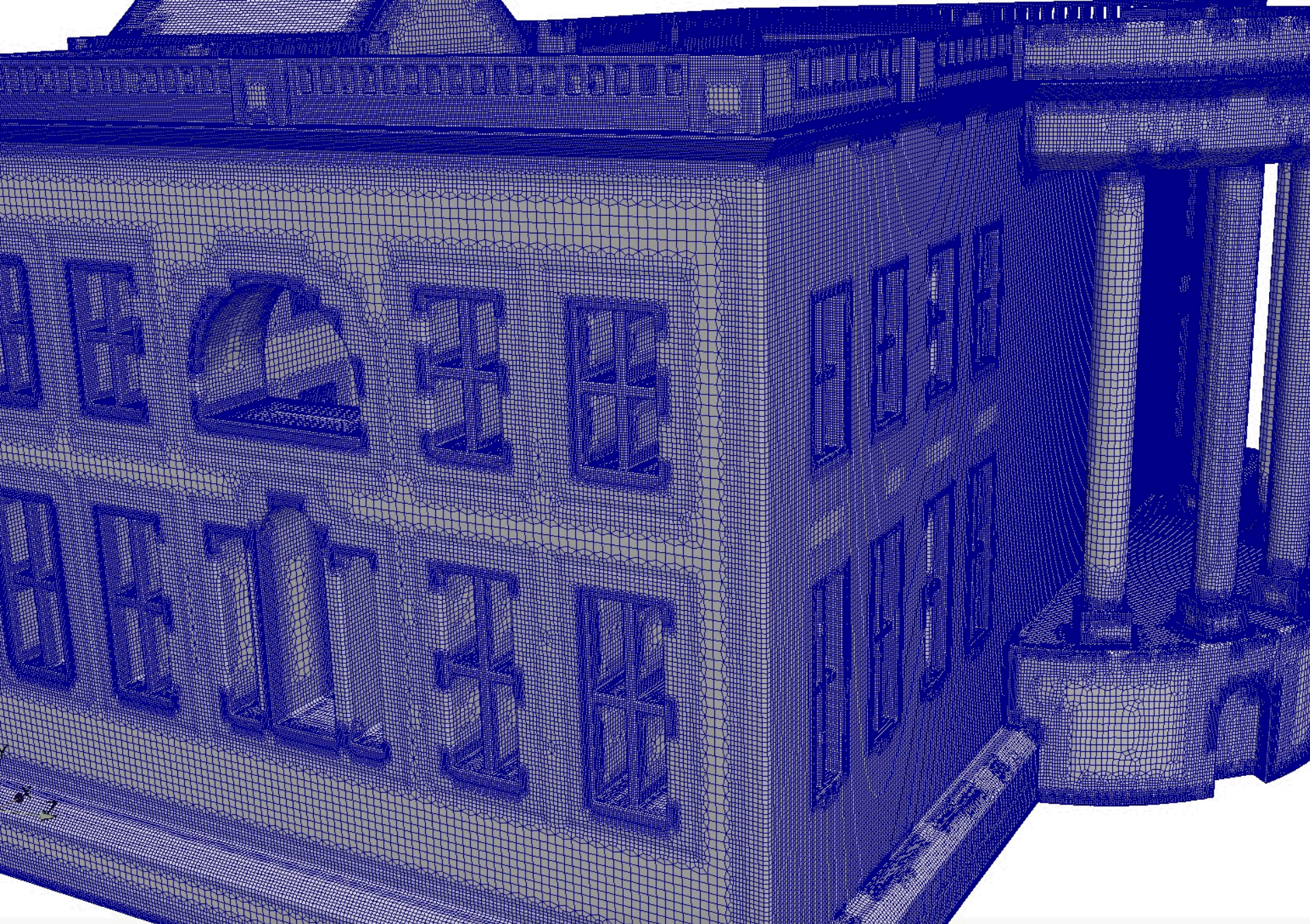


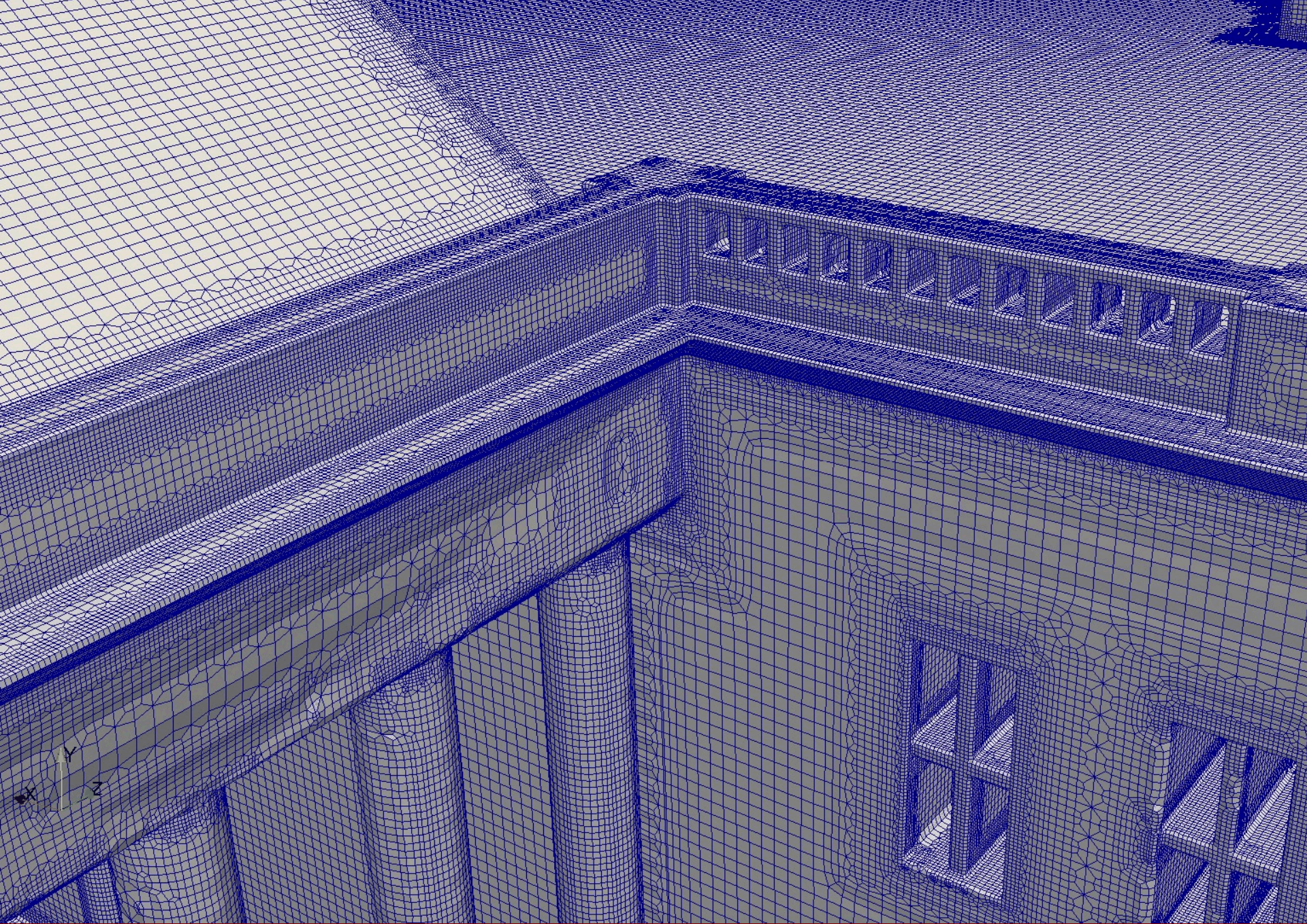




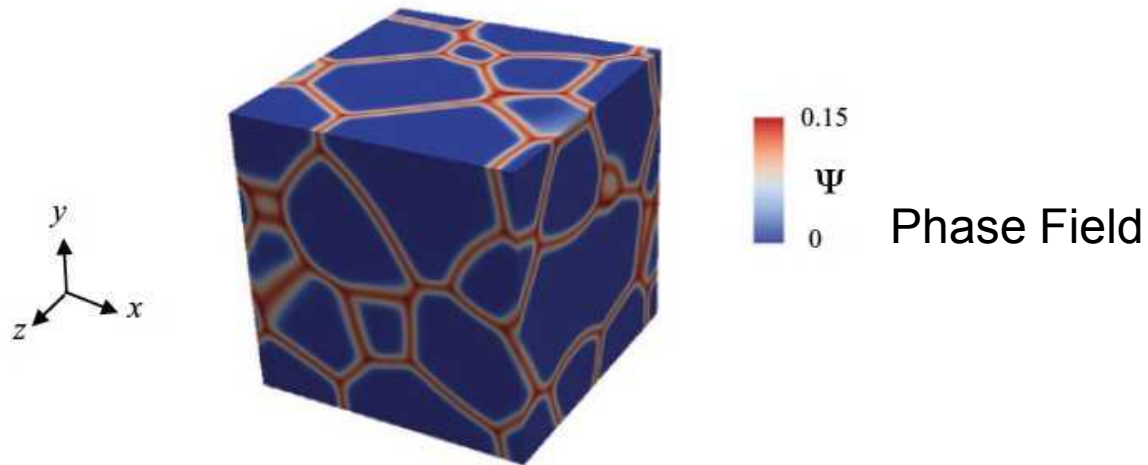




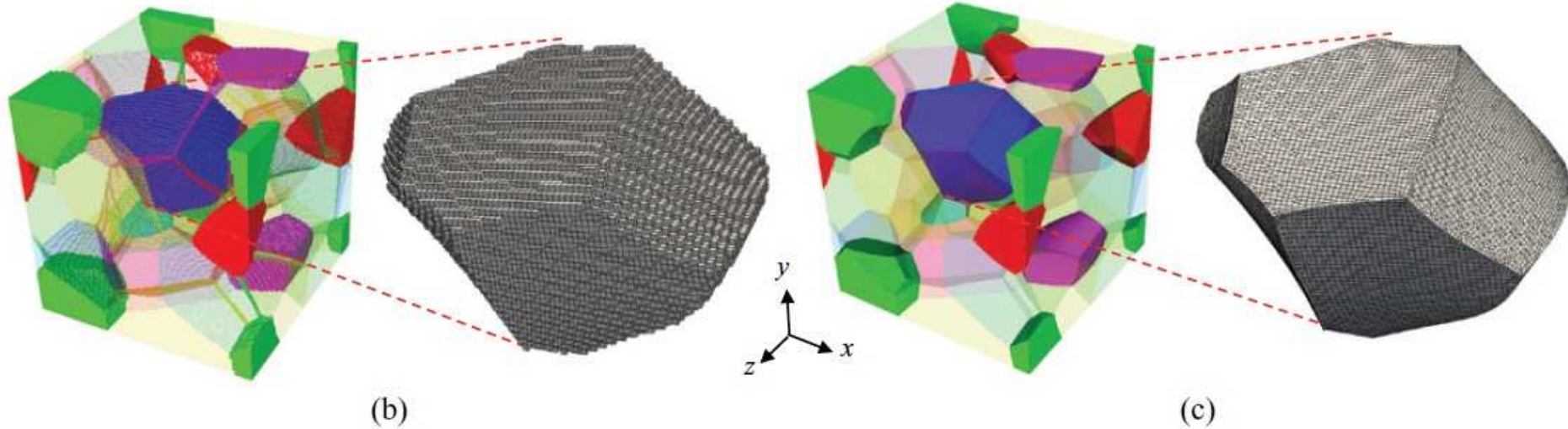




Hex Meshing Microstructures



(a)

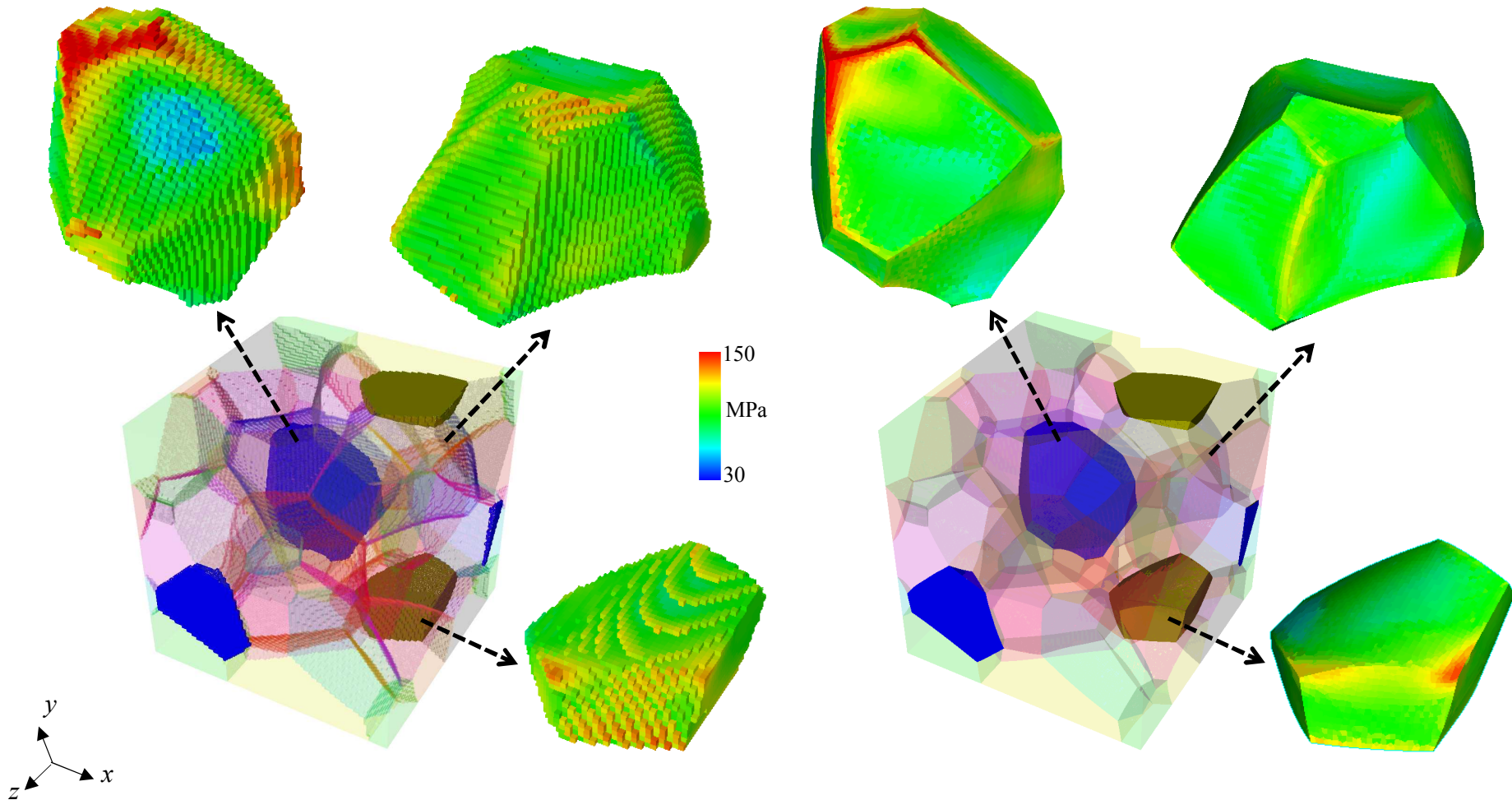


Voxelated Mesh

Sculpt Mesh

Hex Meshing Microstructures

Predicted von Mises stress fields



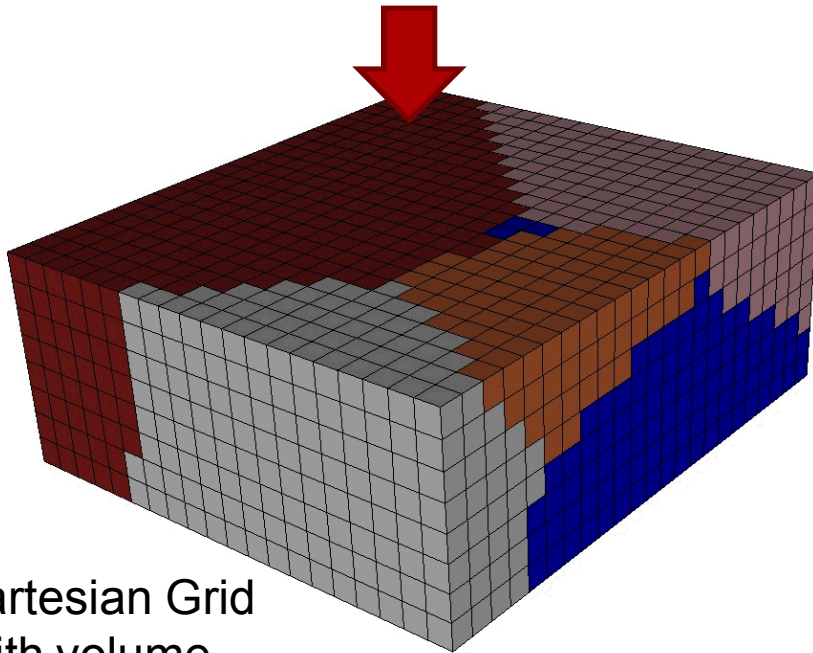
Voxelated Mesh

Sculpt Mesh

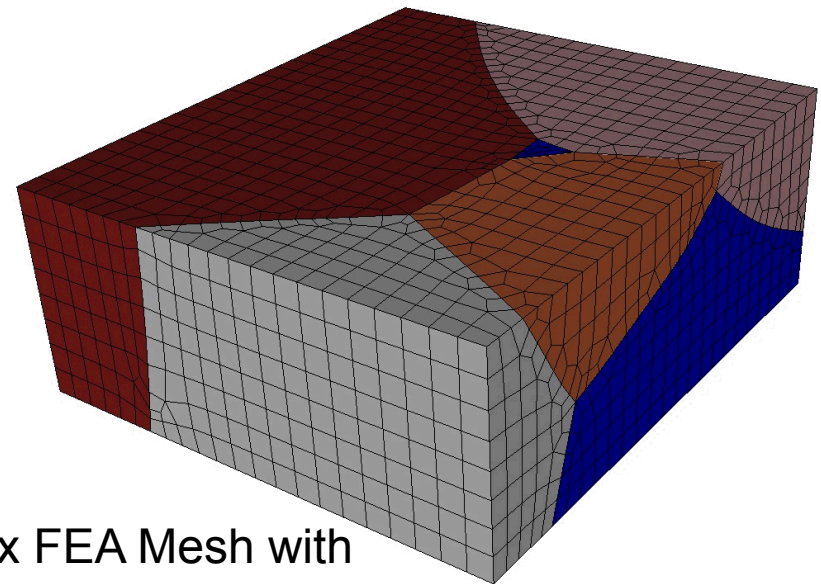
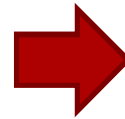
Hex Meshing Microstructures

```
TITLE = triple line system
VARIABLES = x y z, phi_1, phi_2, phi_3
ZONE i = 2 , j = 2 , k = 2
0.0000      0.0000      0.0000      0.5000      0.5000      0.0000
1.0000      0.0000      0.0000      0.3333      0.3333      0.3334
0.0000      1.0000      0.0000      1.0000      0.0000      0.0000
1.0000      1.0000      0.0000      0.0000      1.0000      0.0000
0.0000      0.0000      1.0000      0.2000      0.4000      0.4000
1.0000      0.0000      1.0000      0.6000      0.1000      0.3000
0.0000      1.0000      1.0000      0.0000      0.0000      1.0000
1.0000      1.0000      1.0000      0.9000      0.0000      0.1000
```

Microstructures
volume fractions
file (ascii)

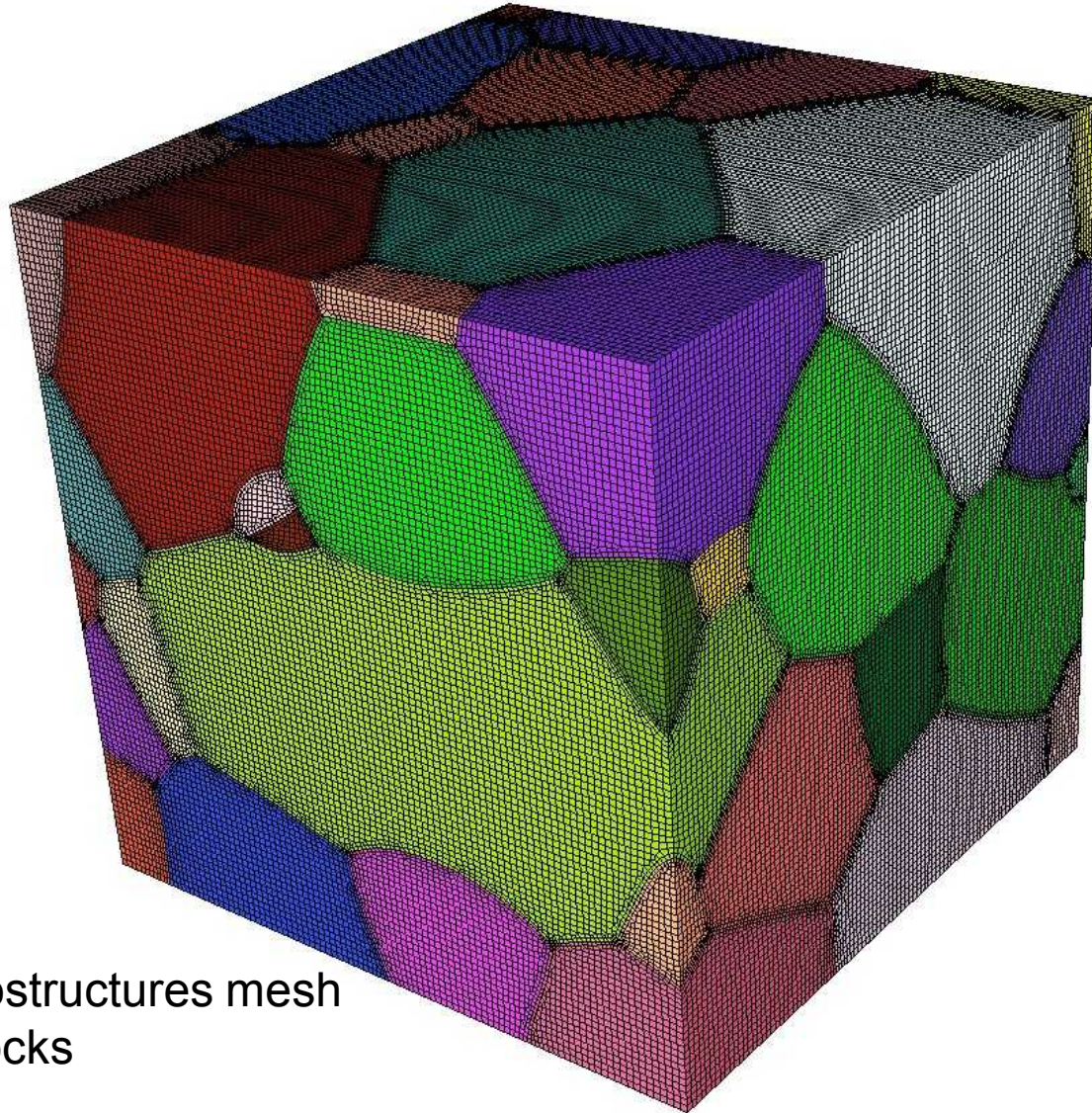


Cartesian Grid
With volume
fraction scalar
fields



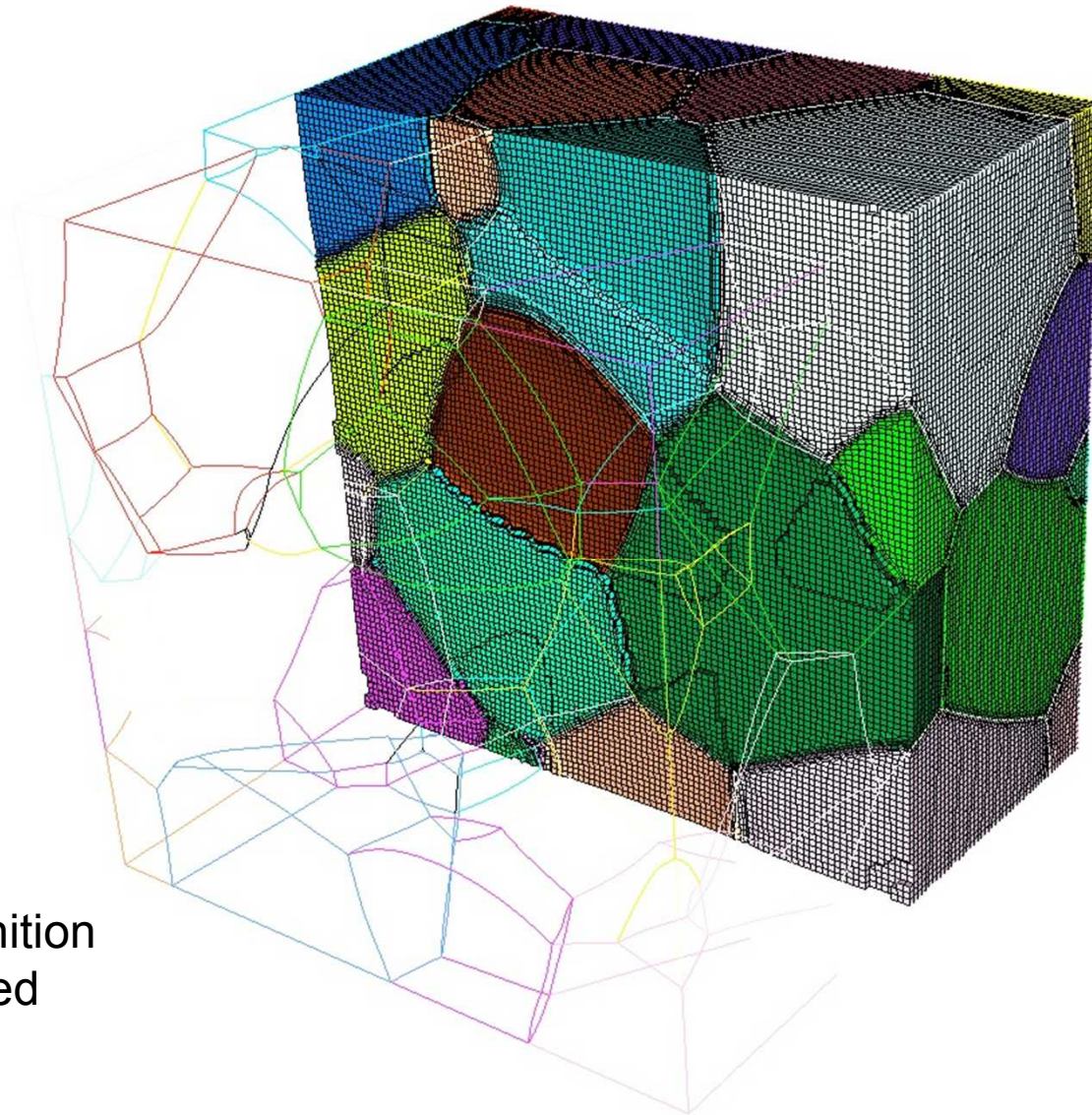
Hex FEA Mesh with
conformal/smooth
interfaces

Hex Meshing Microstructures



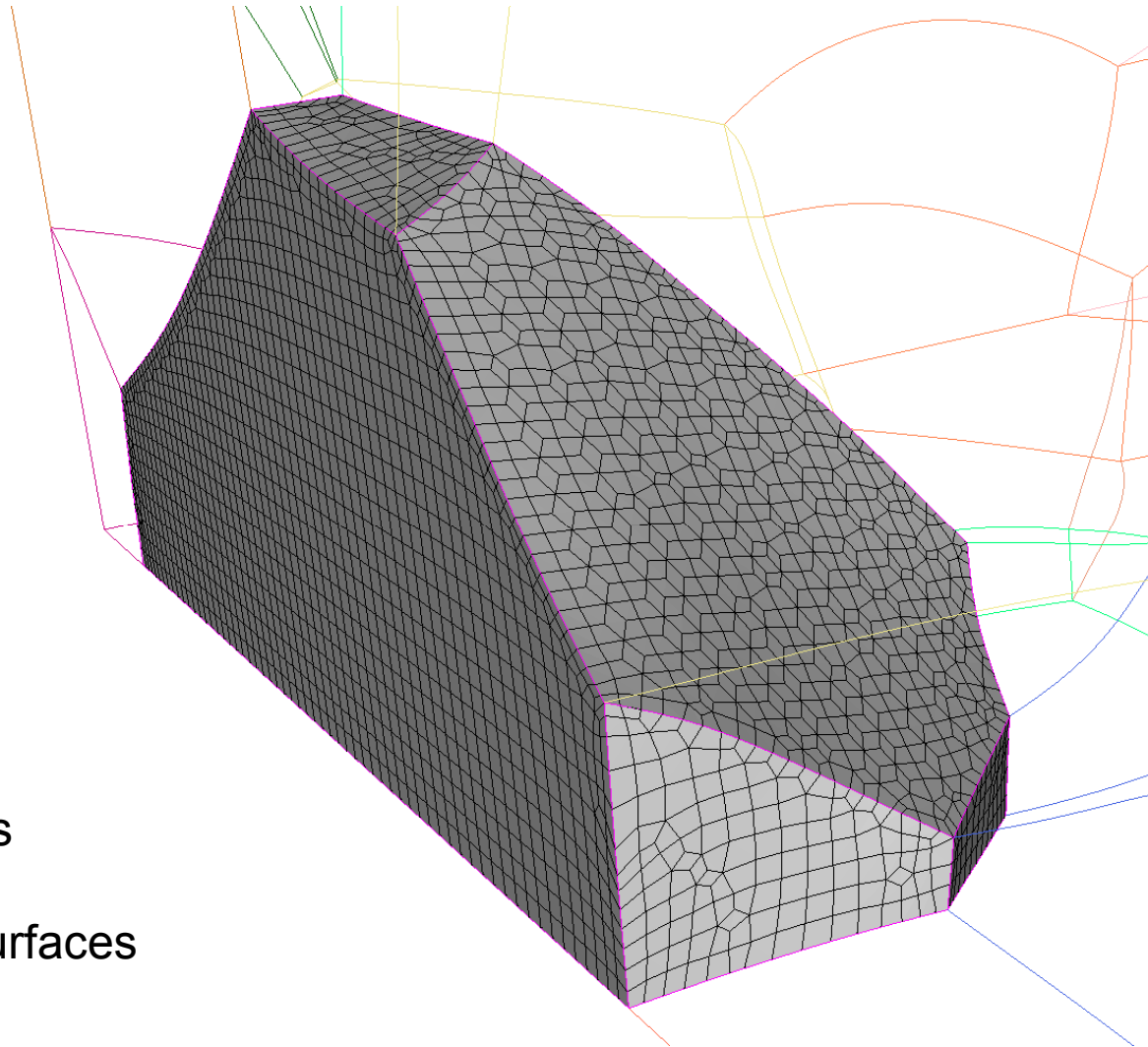
Example Microstructures mesh
16 material blocks
1.35M hexes

Hex Meshing Microstructures



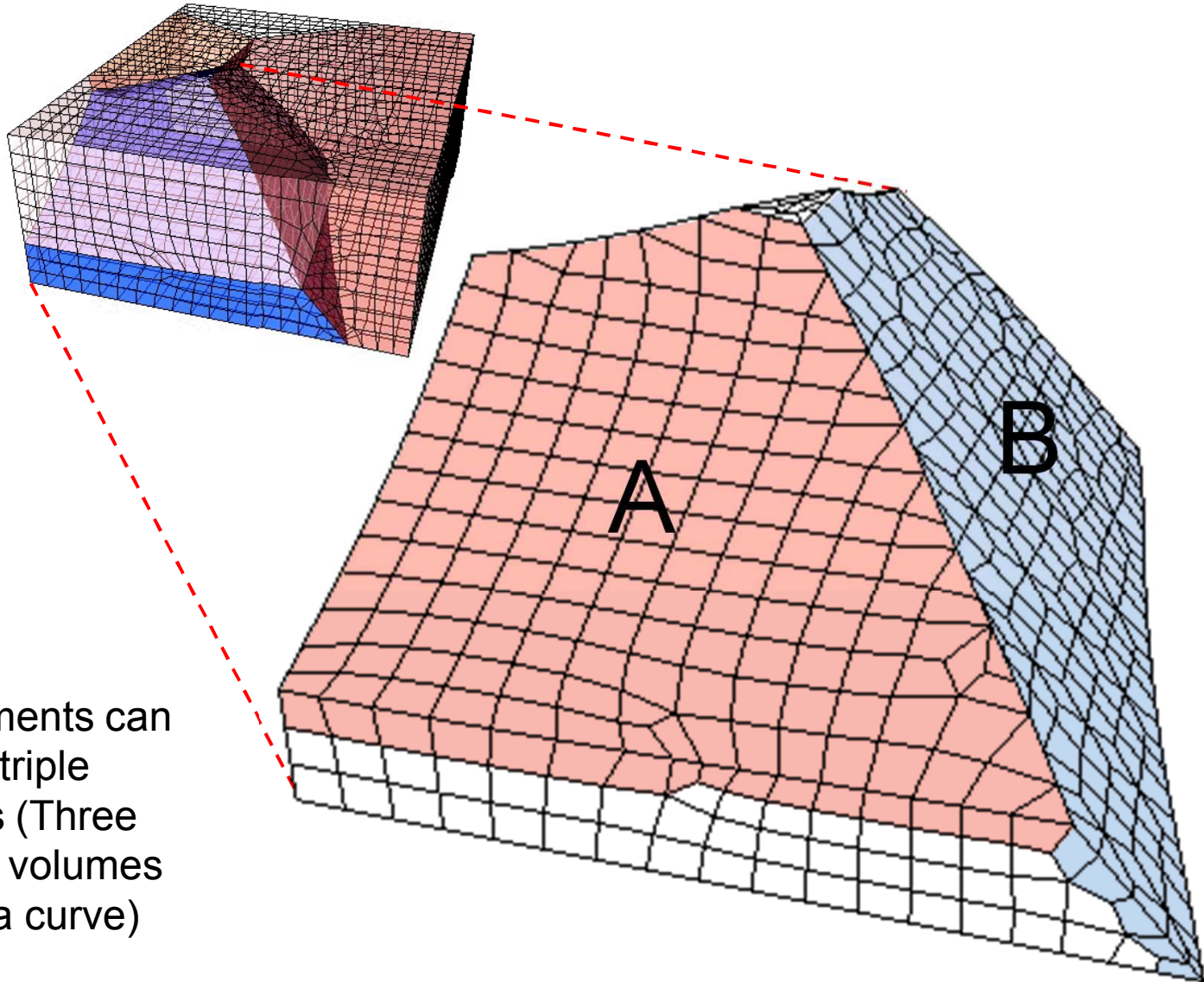
Geometry definition
(B-rep) extracted
from Interface
reconstruction

Hex Meshing Microstructures



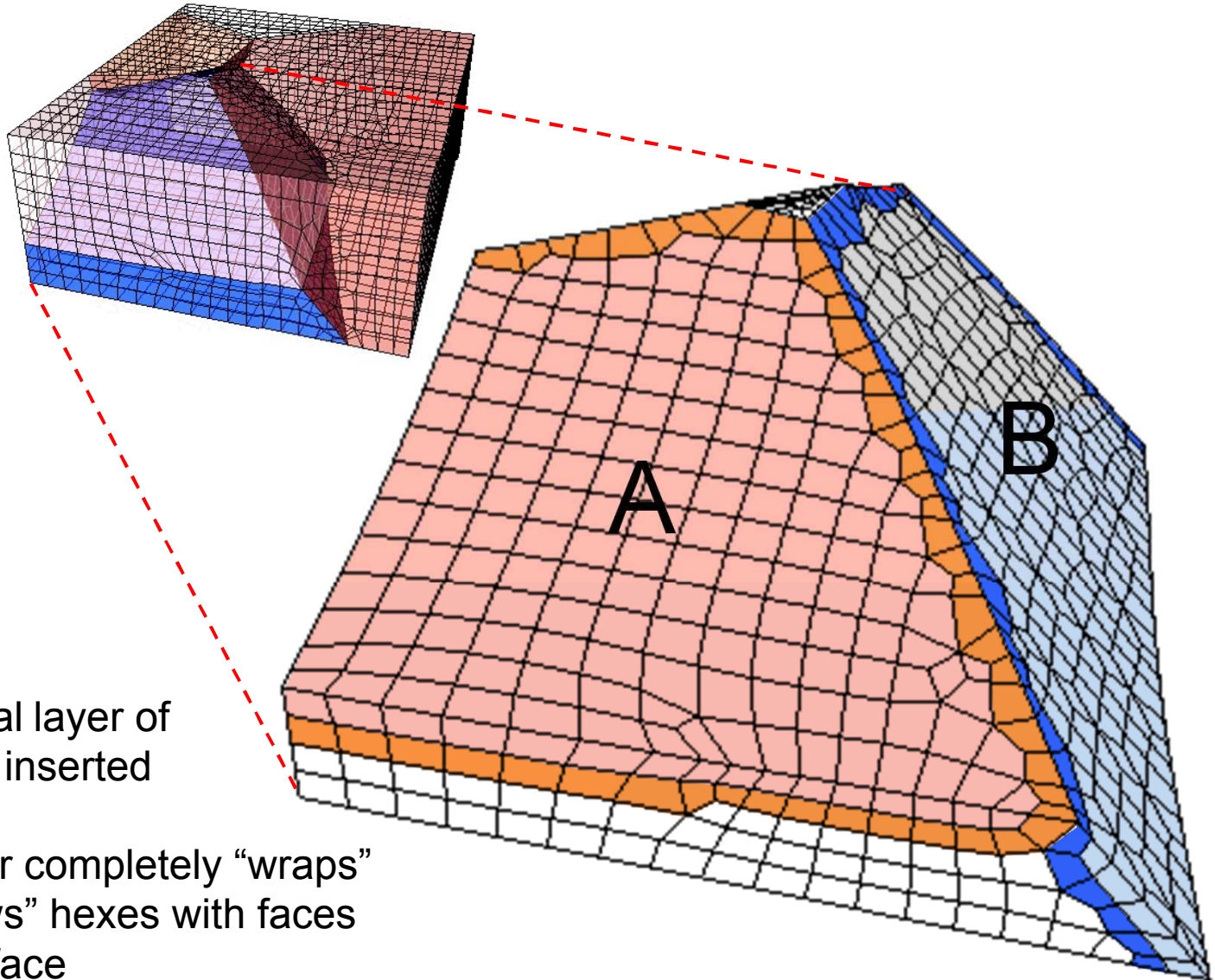
Boundary hexes
inserted, nodes
smoothed on surfaces
and volumes

Hex Meshing Microstructures



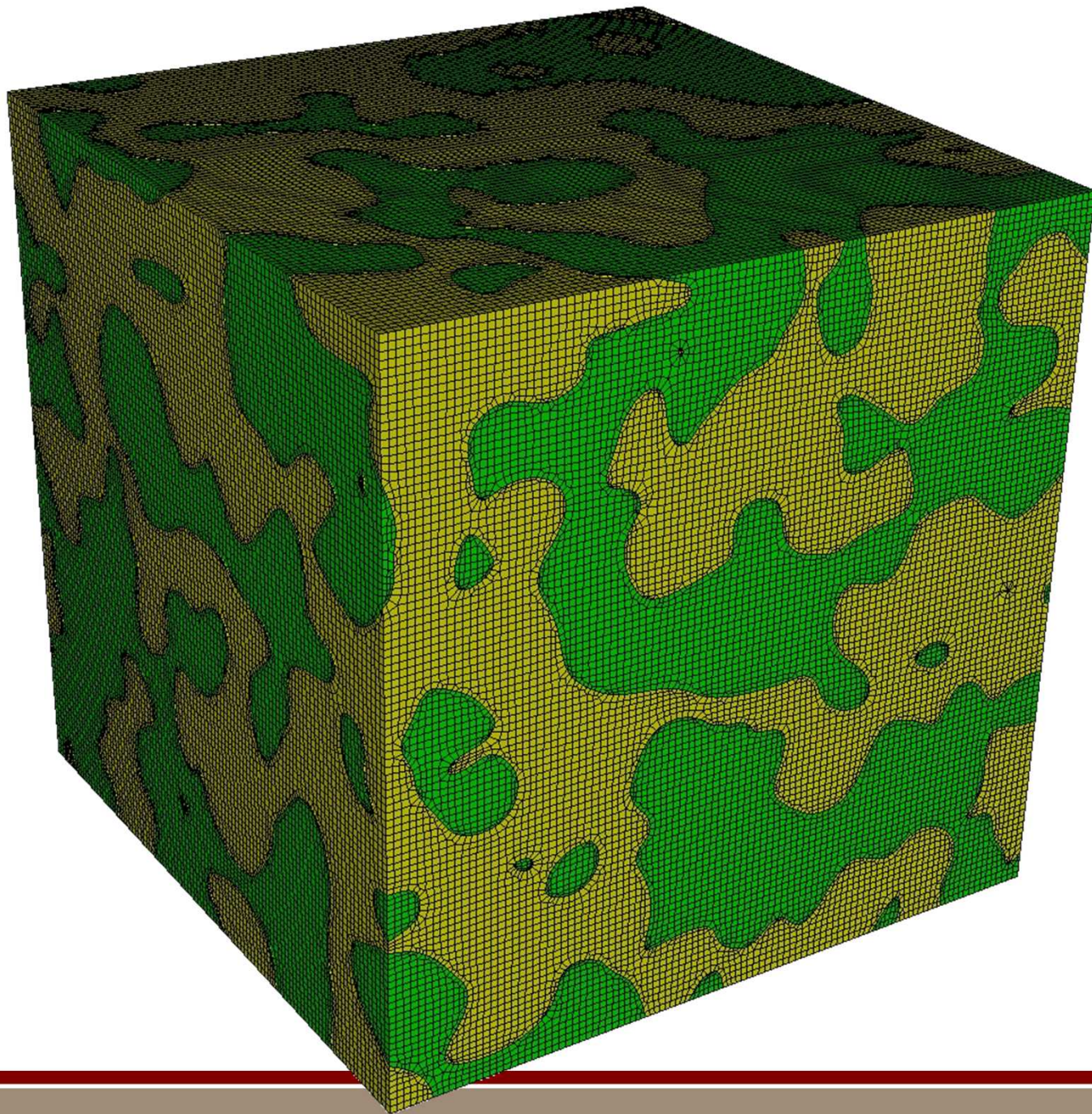
Bad elements can
result at triple
junctions (Three
adjacent volumes
meet at a curve)

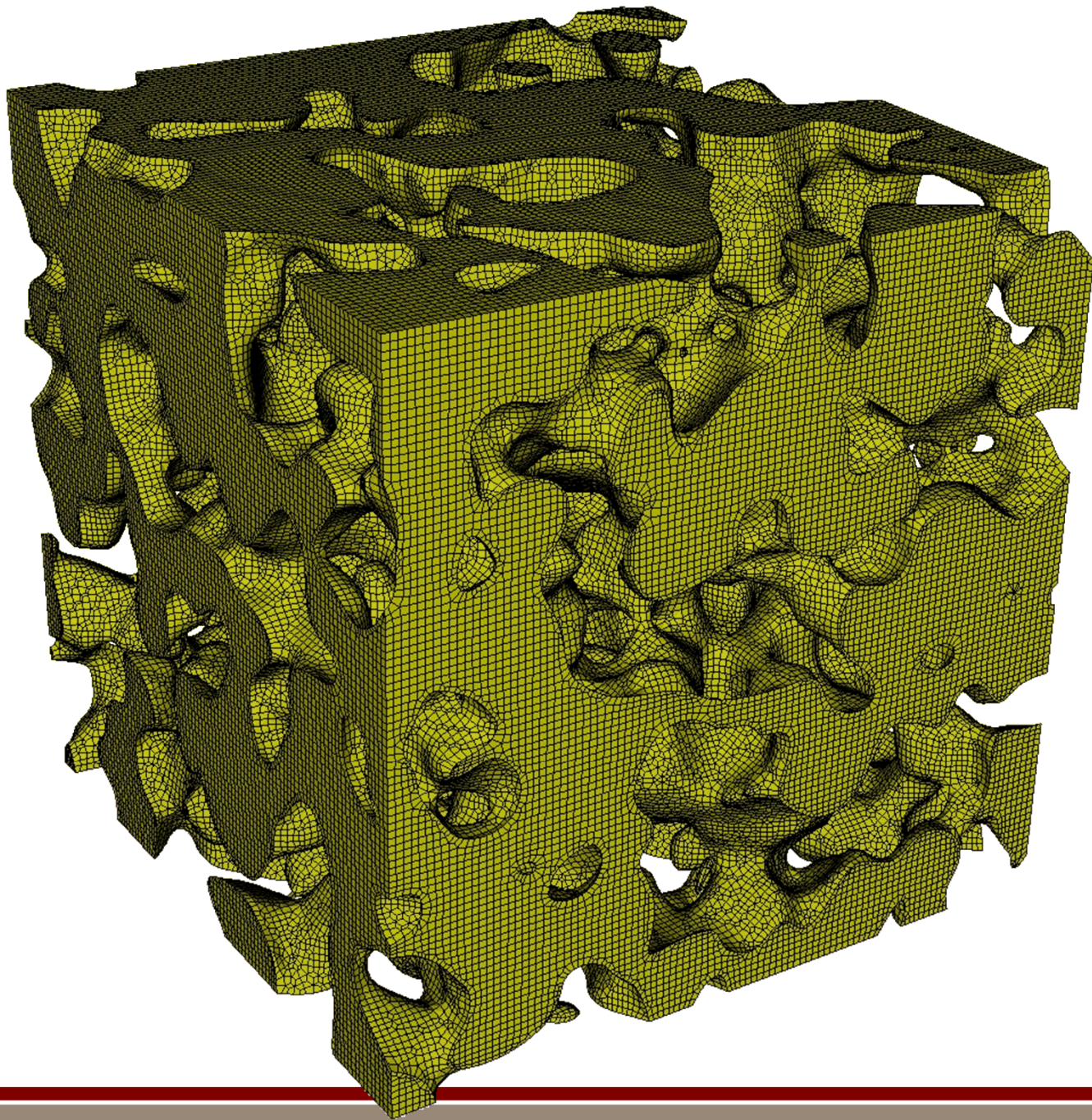
Hex Meshing Microstructures

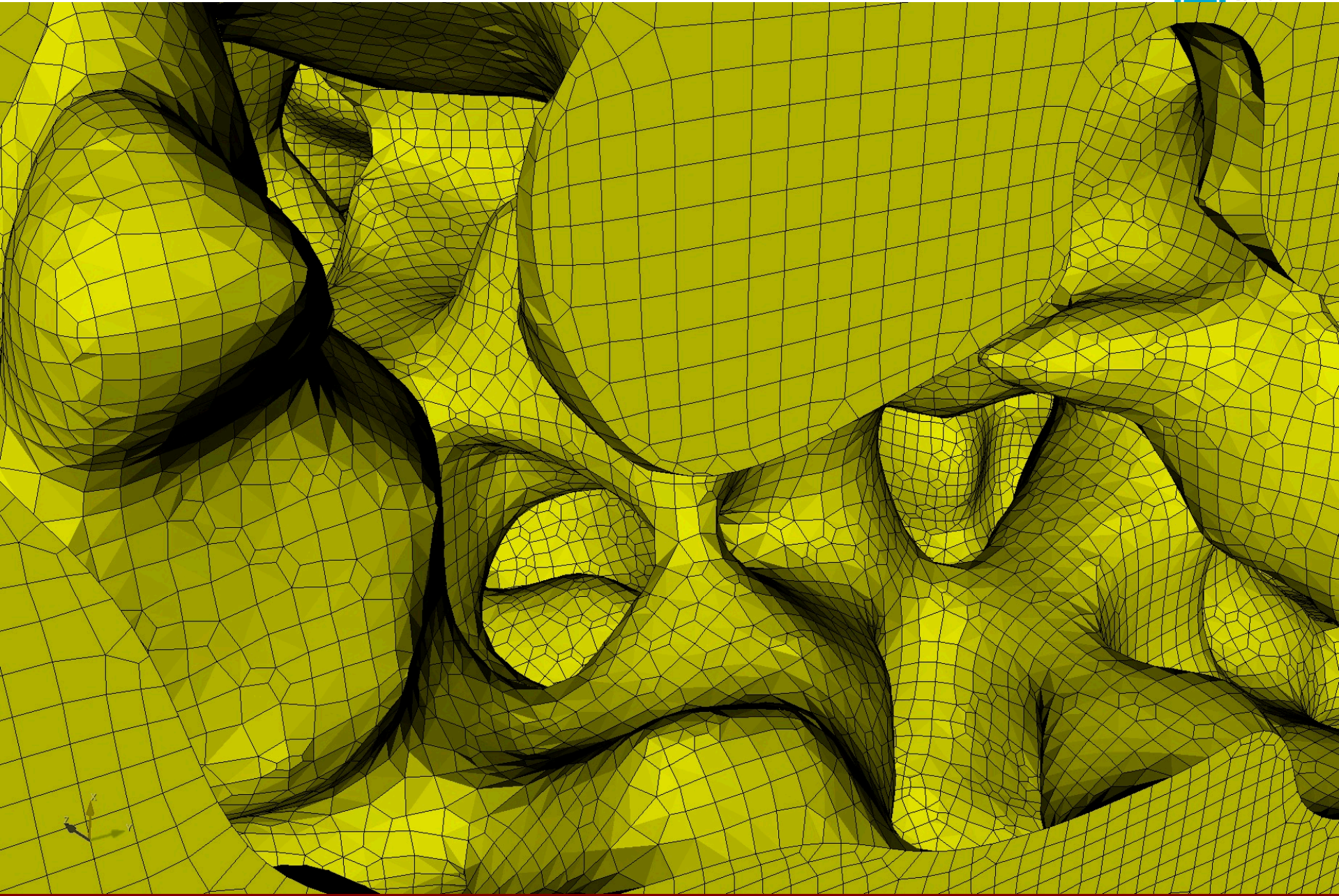


Additional layer of
hexes is inserted

Hex layer completely “wraps”
or “pillows” hexes with faces
on a surface

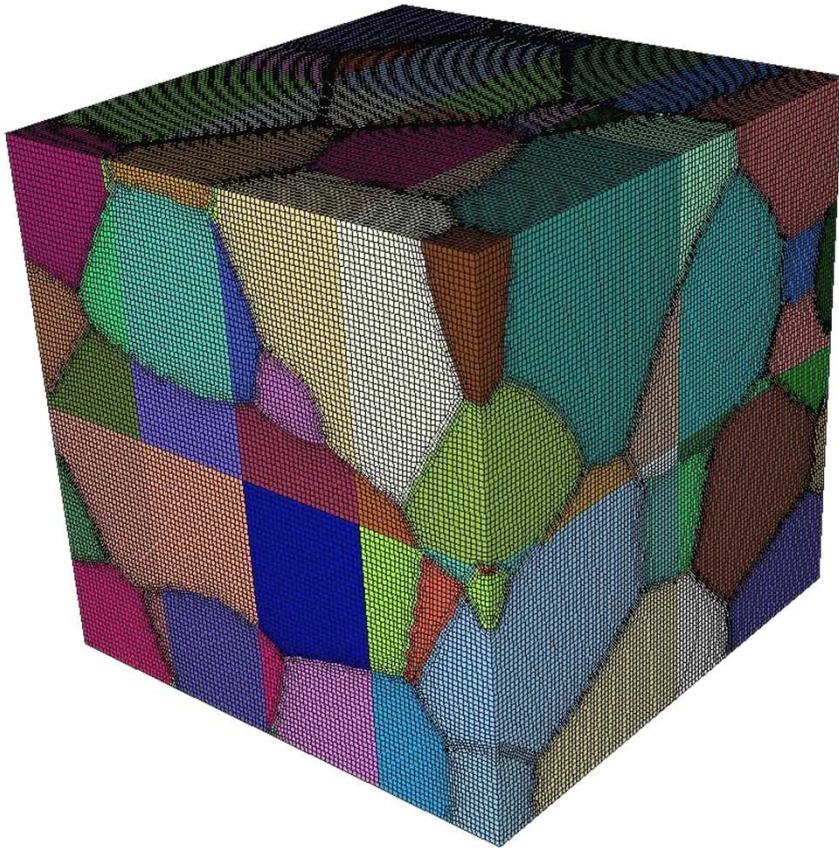




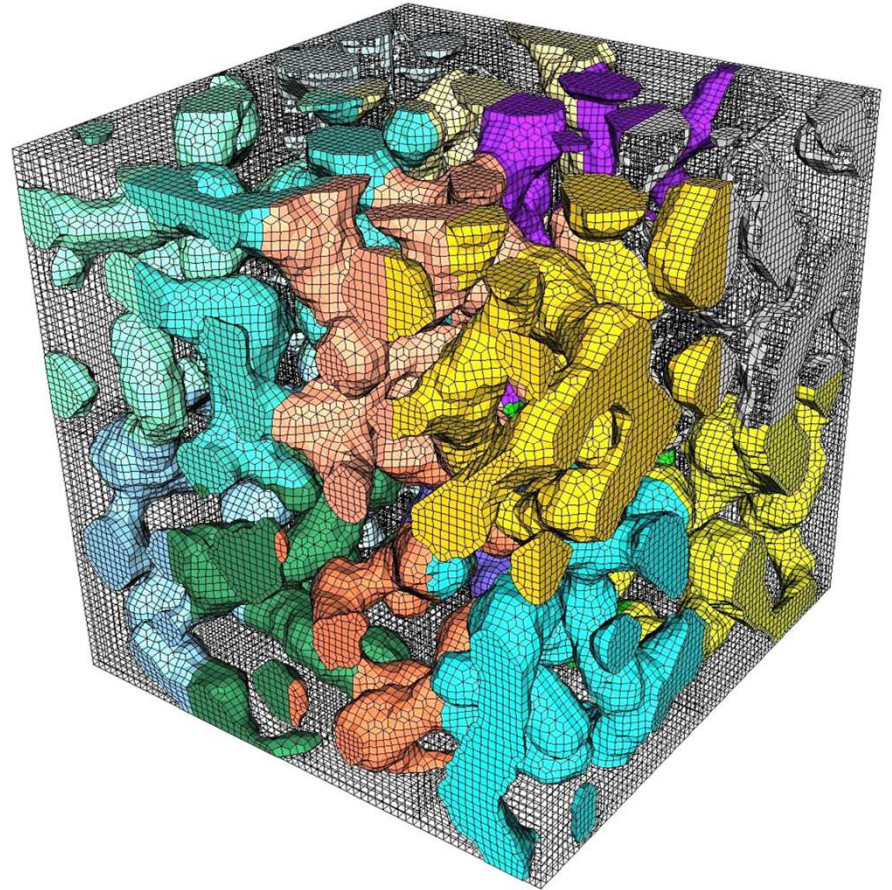


Hex Meshing Microstructures

Examples



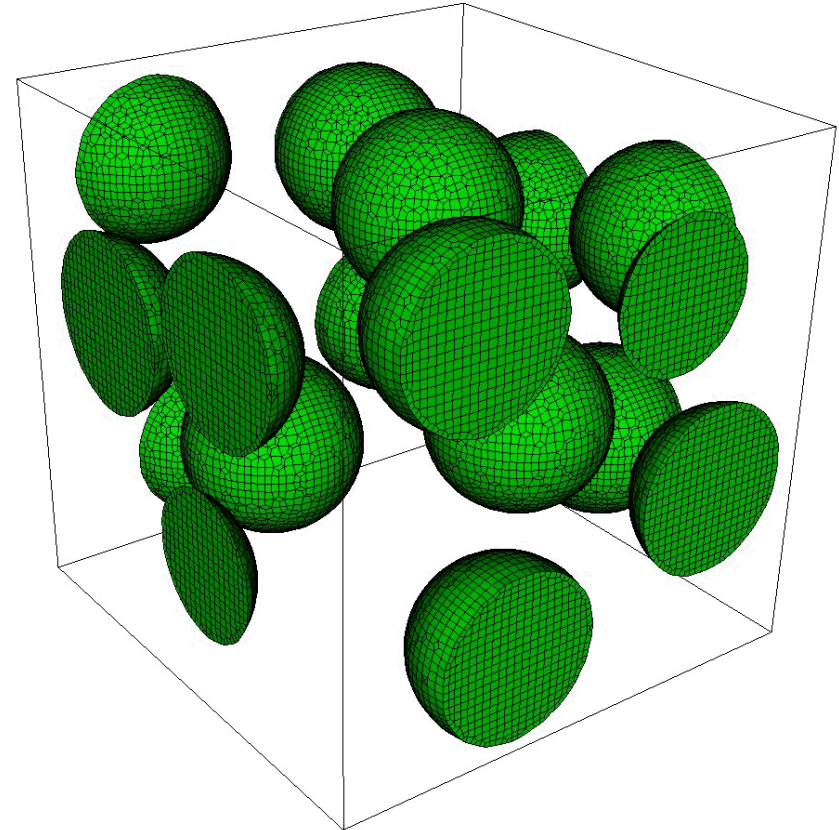
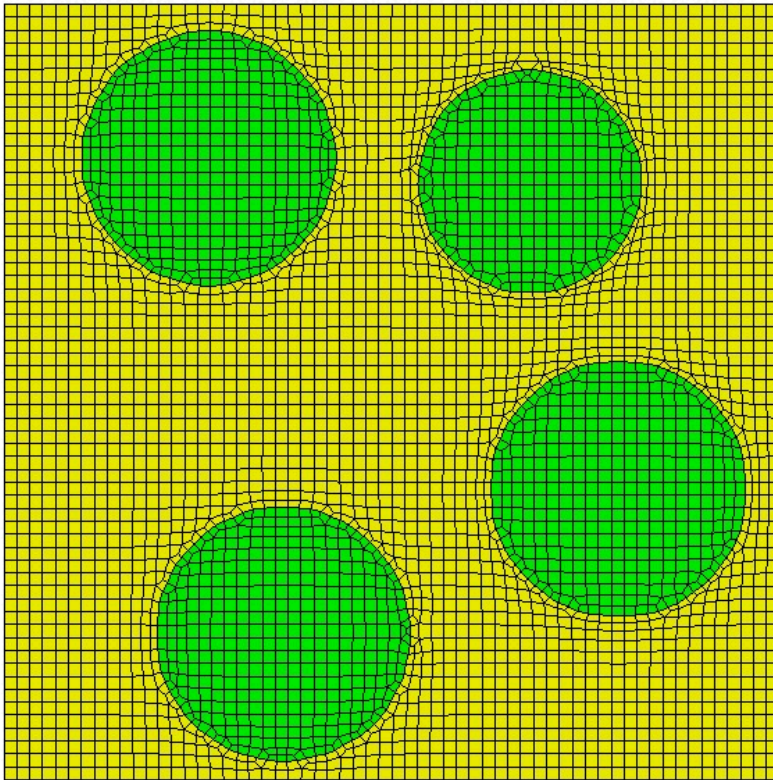
Microstructures with multiple unique volumes. 16 processors



2 phase model. 16 processors

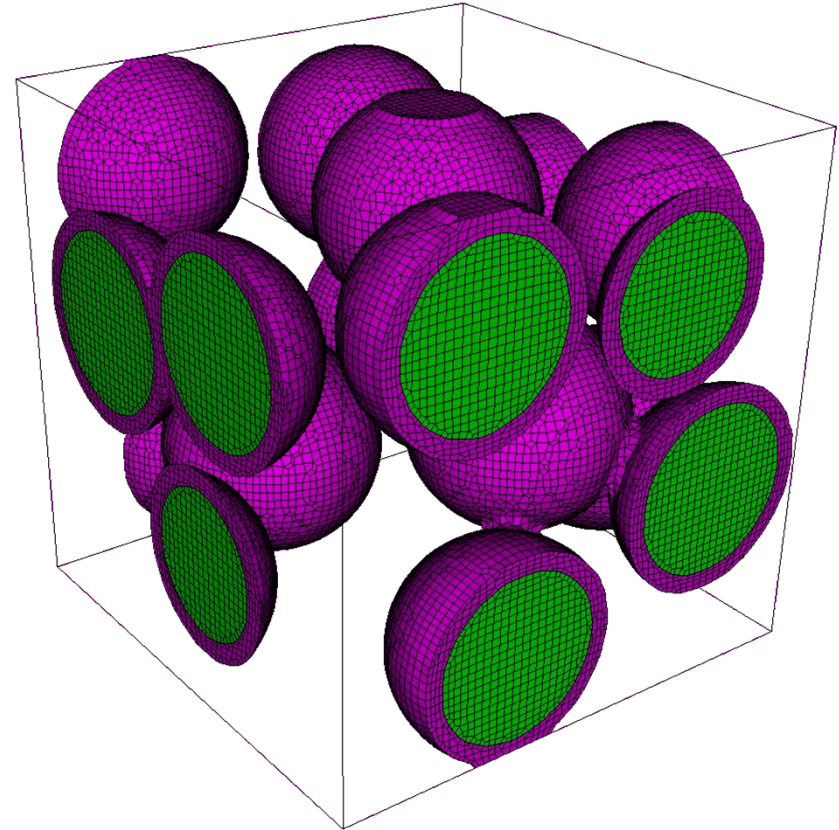
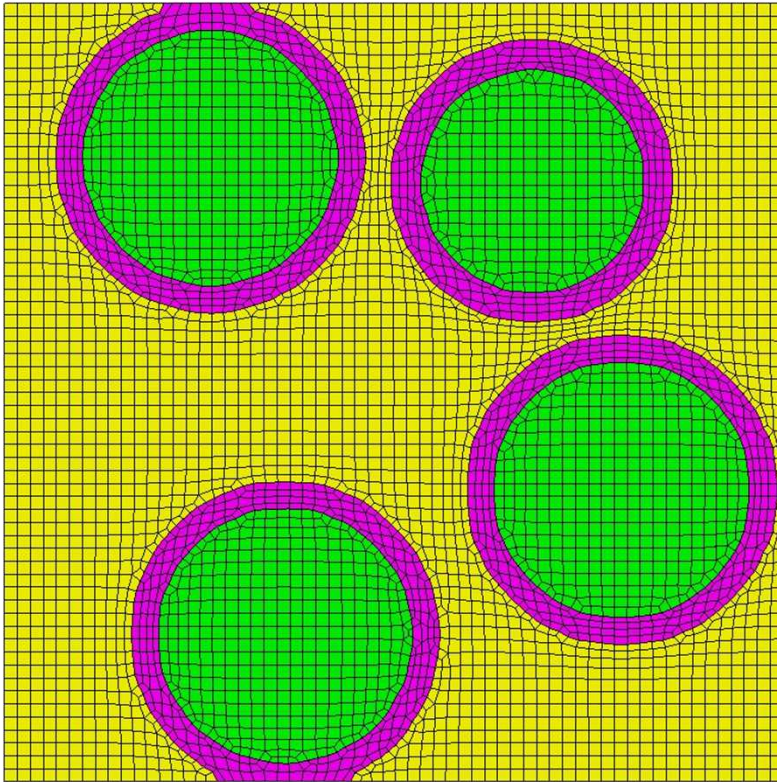
Example

Spherical particles



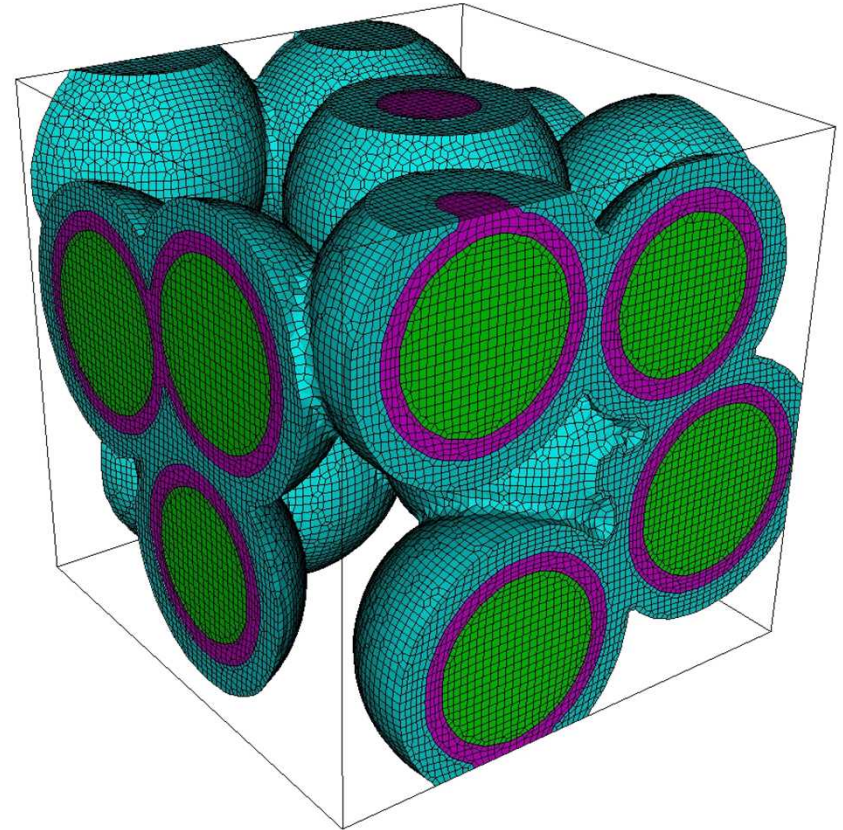
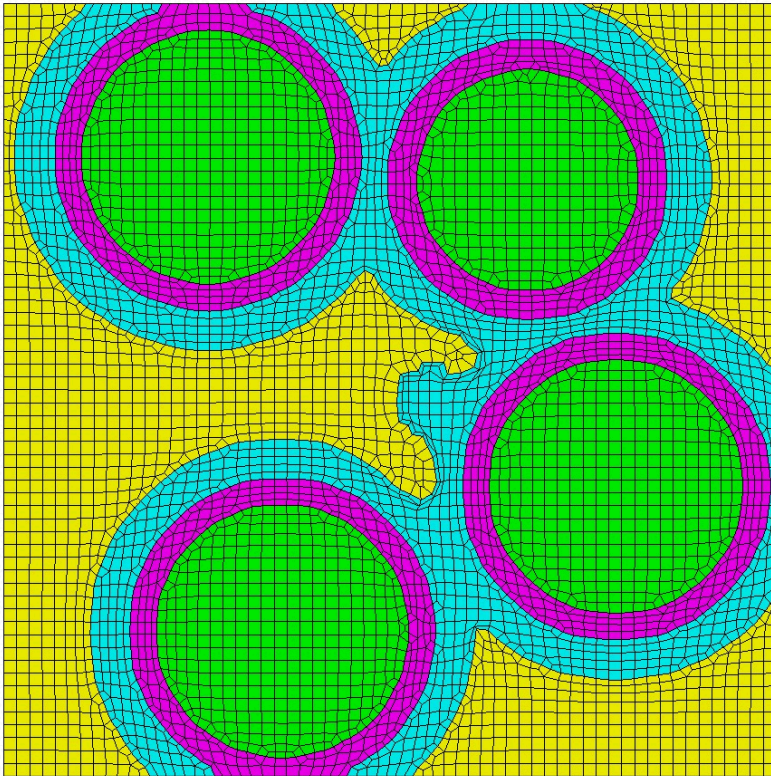
Example

Spherical particles



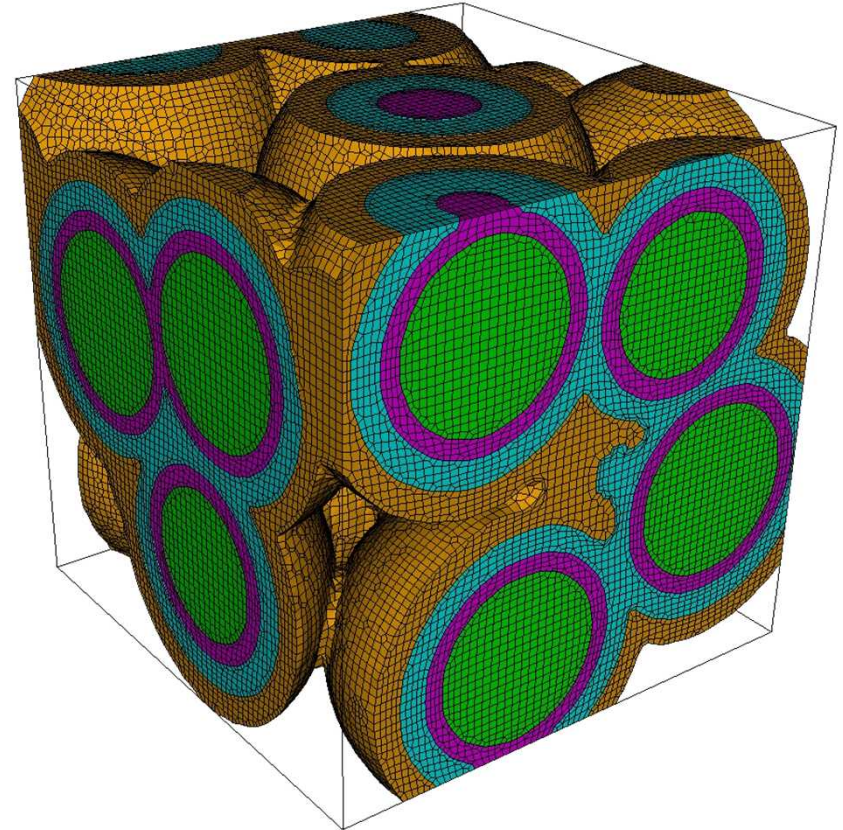
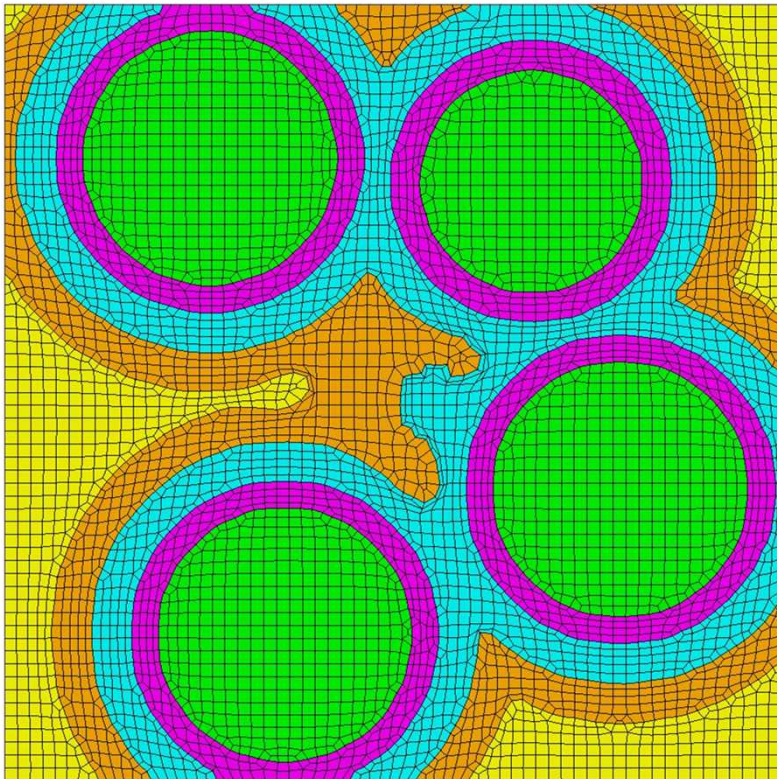
Example

Spherical particles



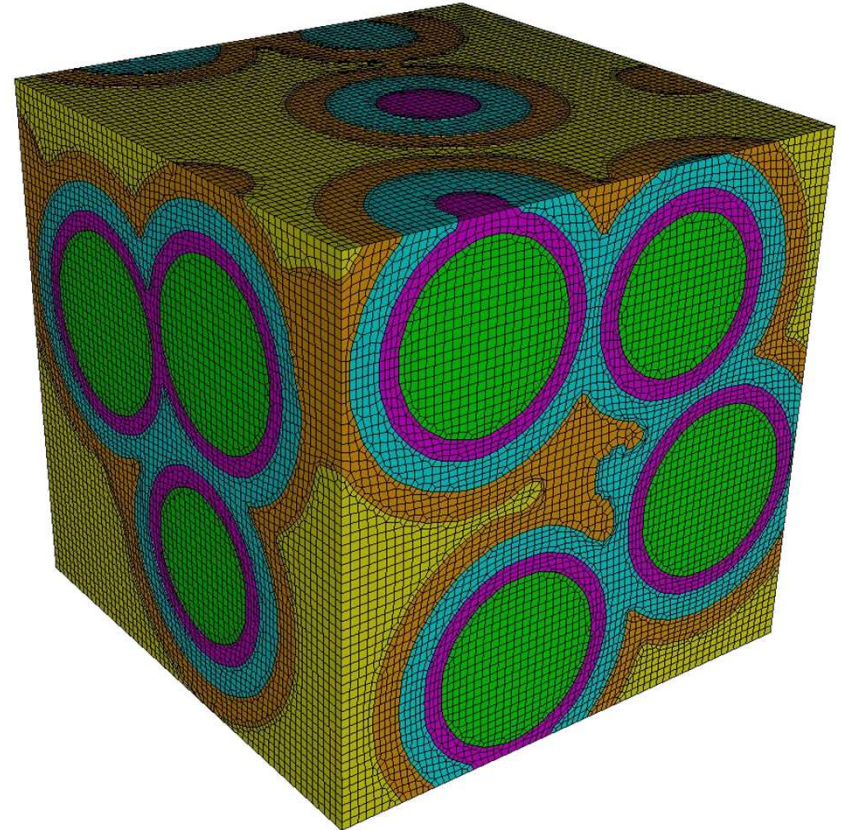
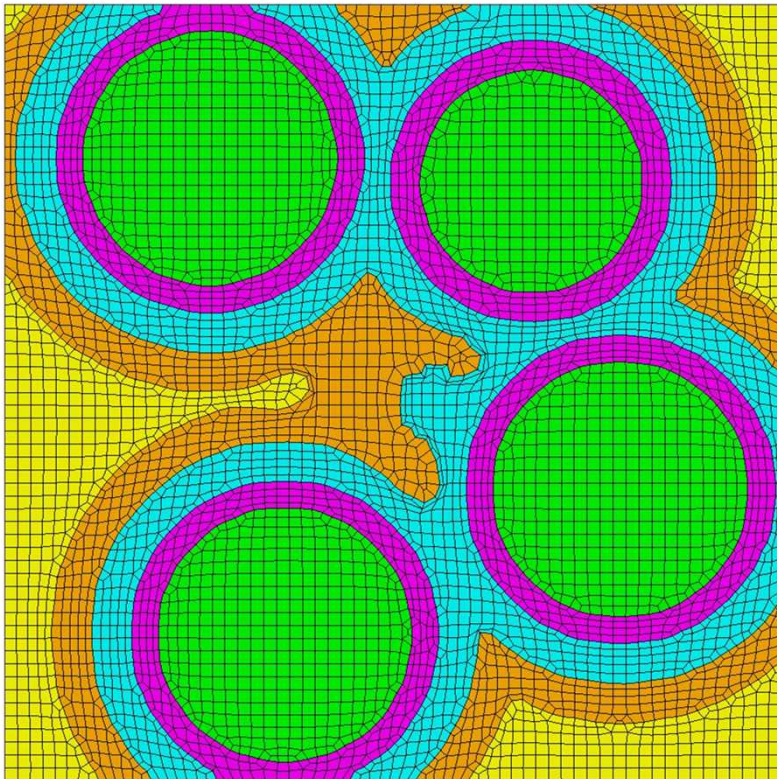
Example

Spherical particles

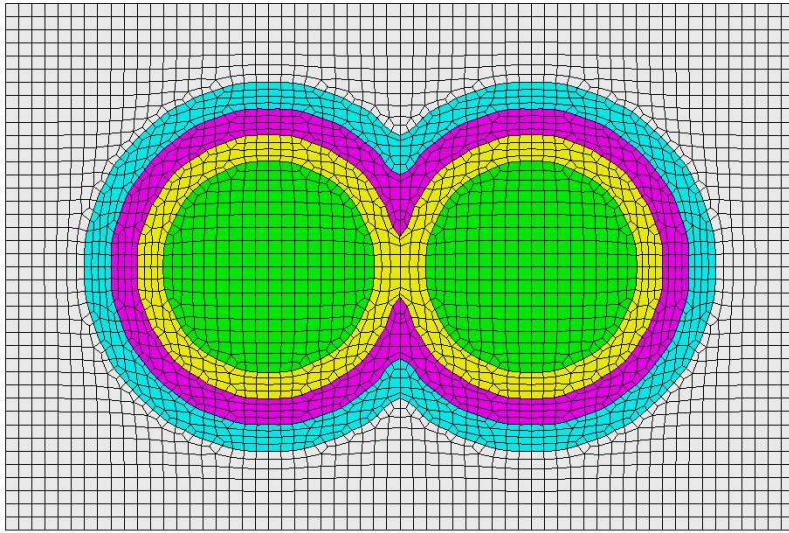


Example

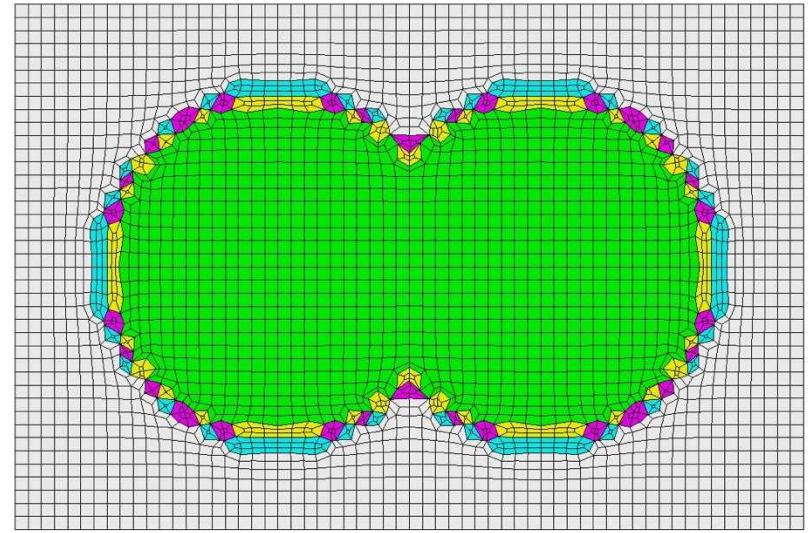
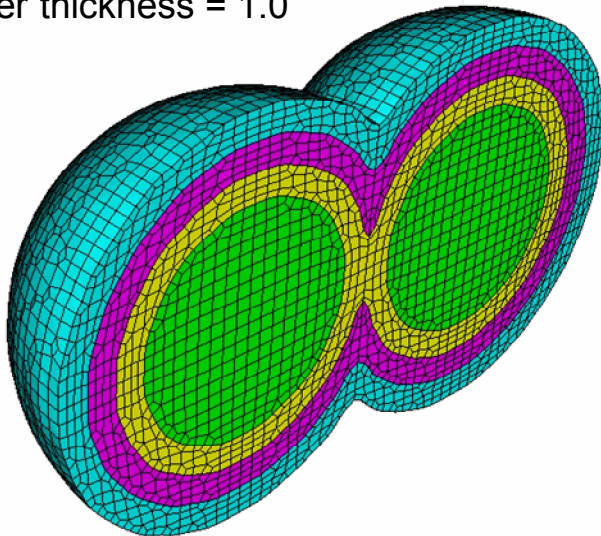
Spherical particles



Resolving Features



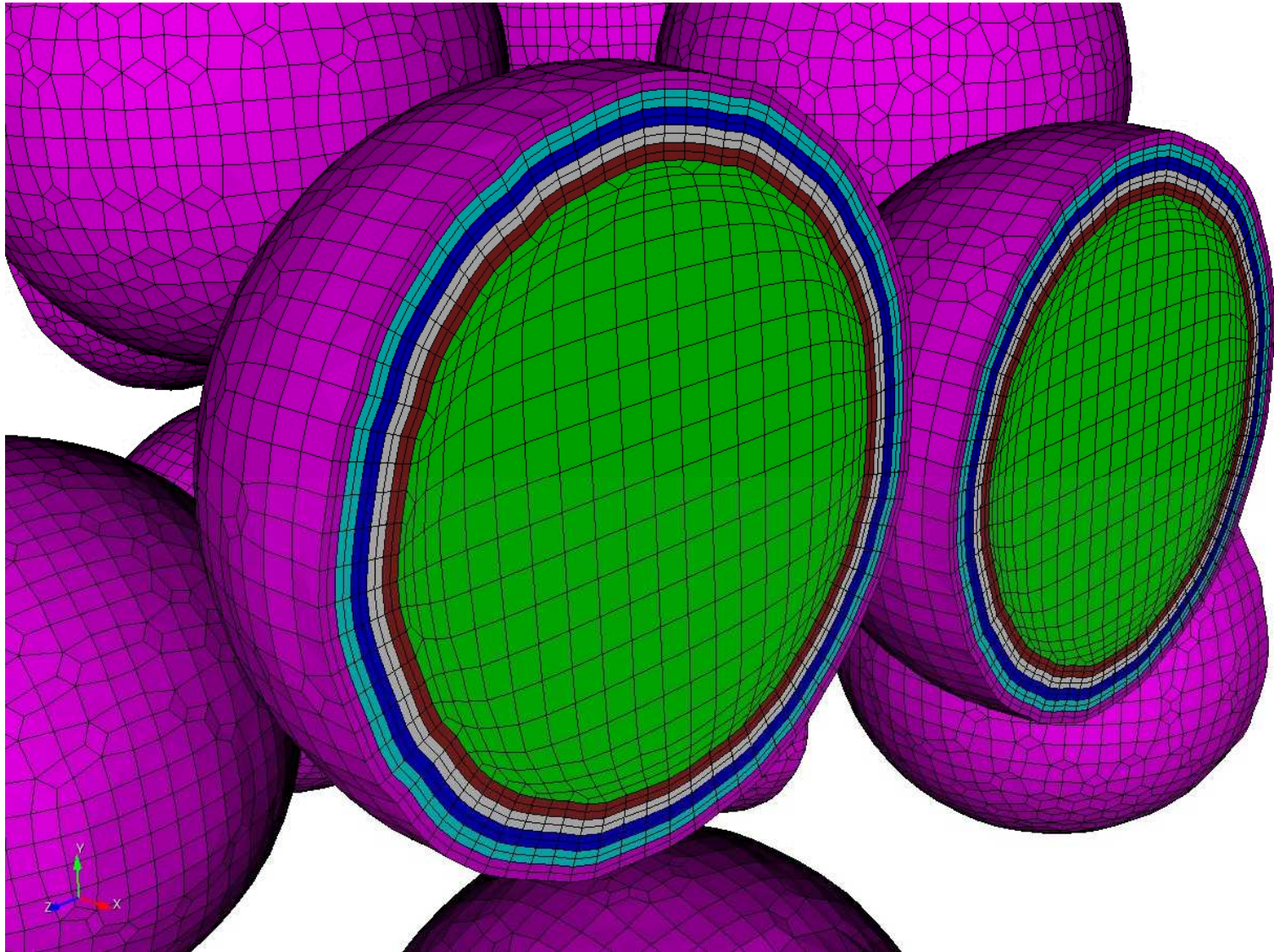
Layer thickness = 1.0



Layer thickness = 0.25

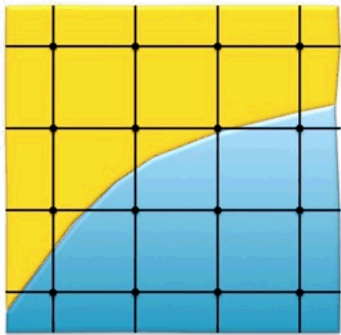
Features must be at least 2-3X
the cell size or definition may be
lost

Boundary Layer Insertion

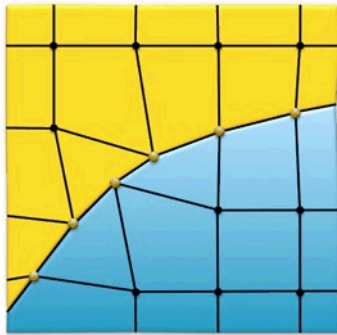


Boundary Layer Insertion

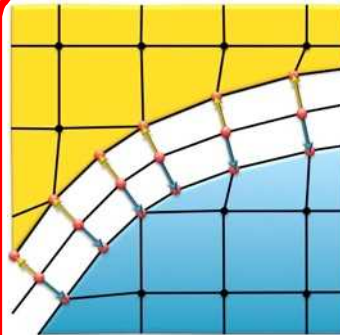
Overlay Grid Procedure used by Sculpt



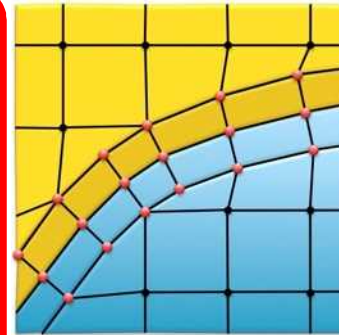
Cartesian
Grid overlaid
on geometry



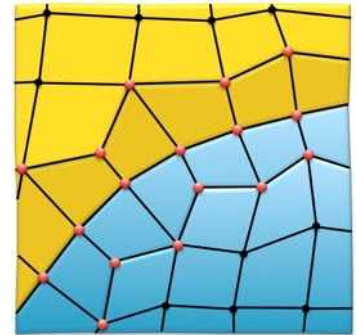
Nearby
nodes
projected to
boundaries



Mesh pulled
away from
the
boundaries

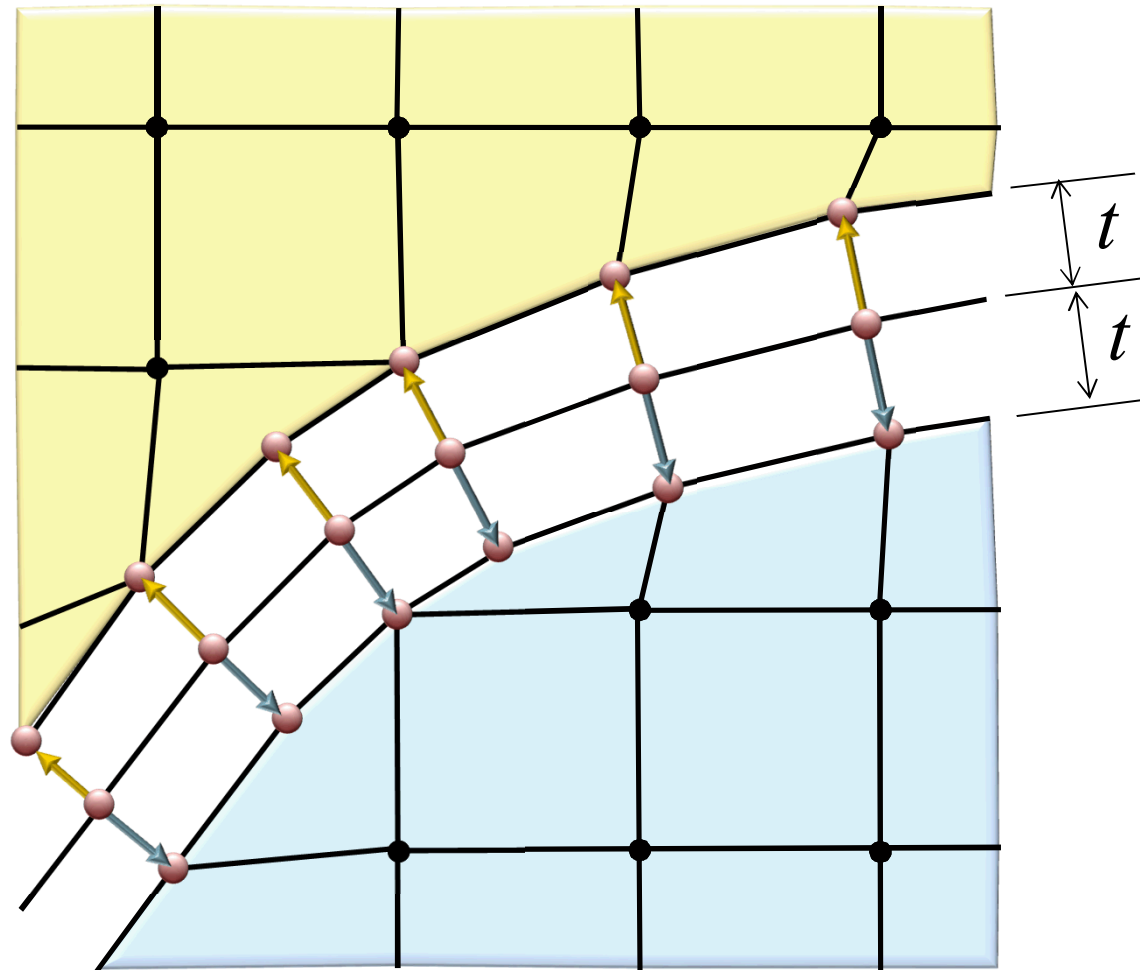


And Layer of
hexes
inserted

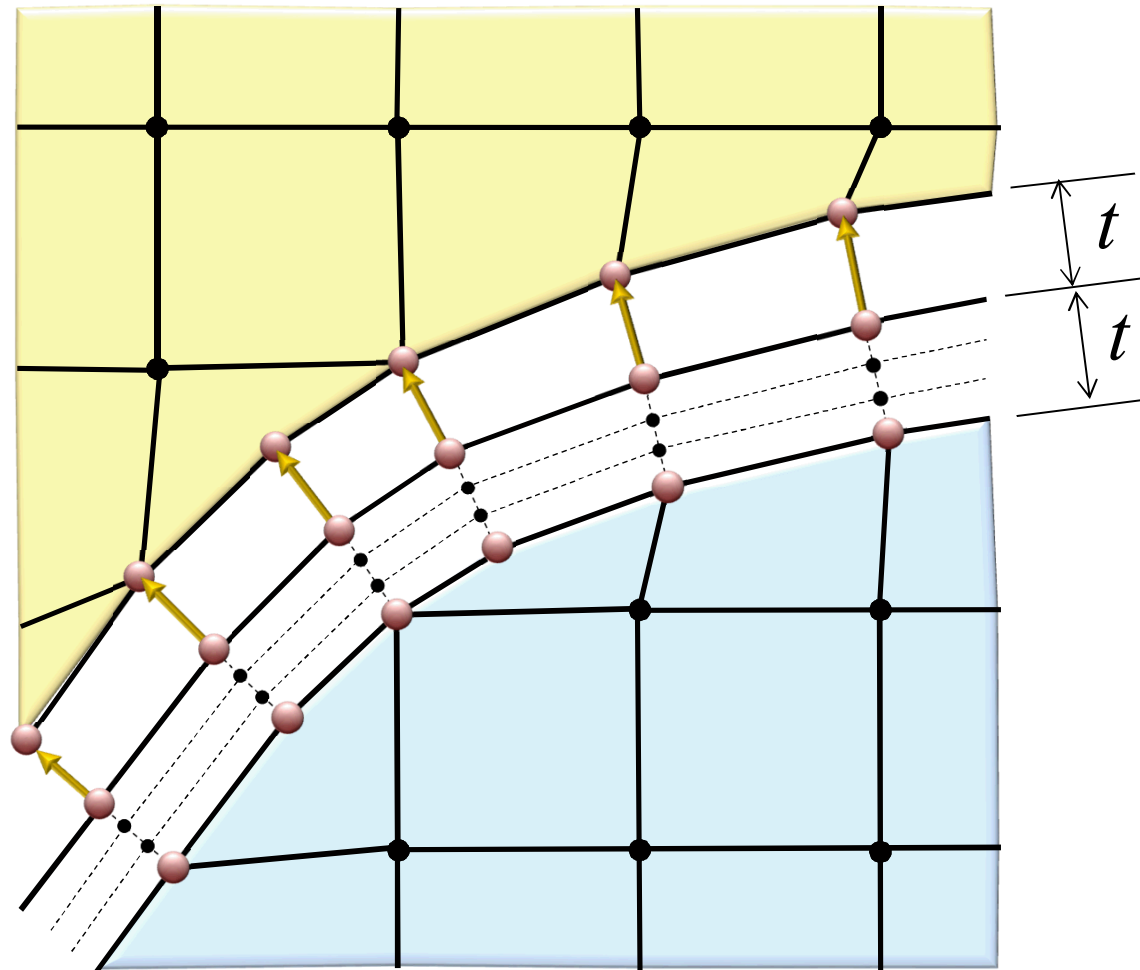


Smoothing
performed to
improve
element
quality

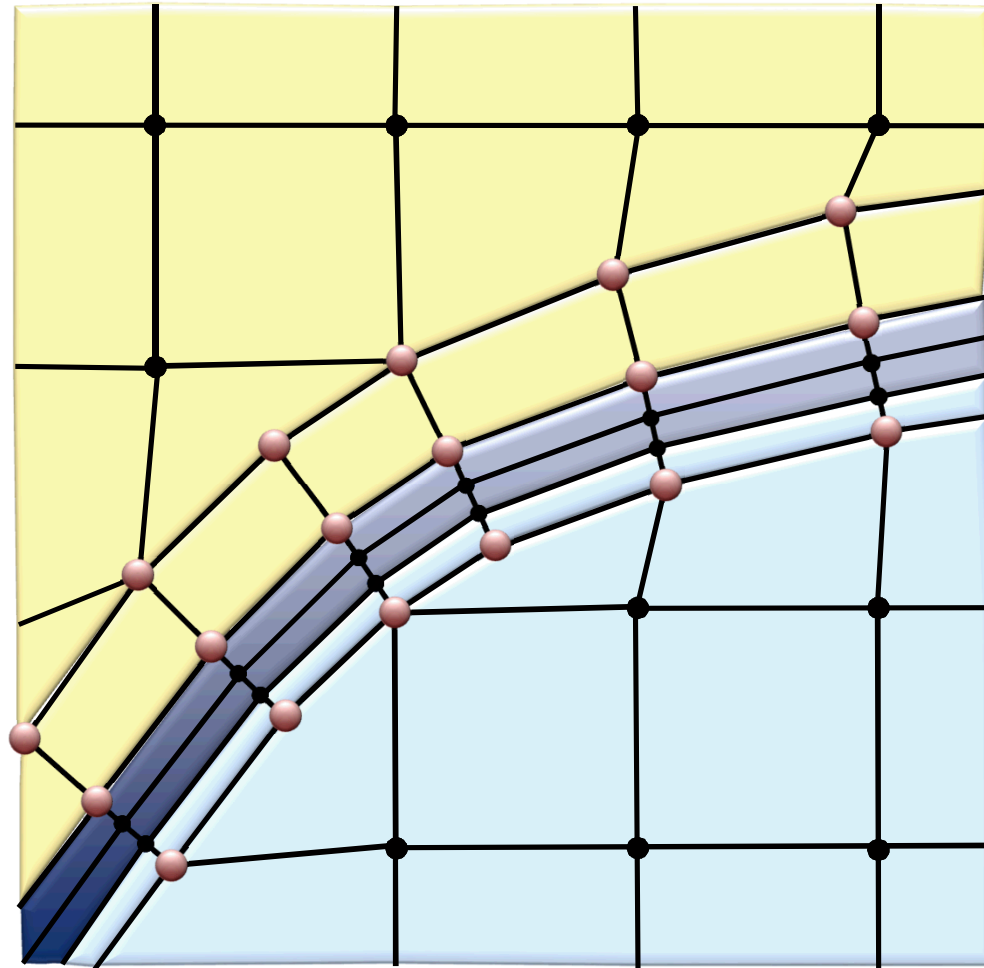
Boundary Layer Insertion



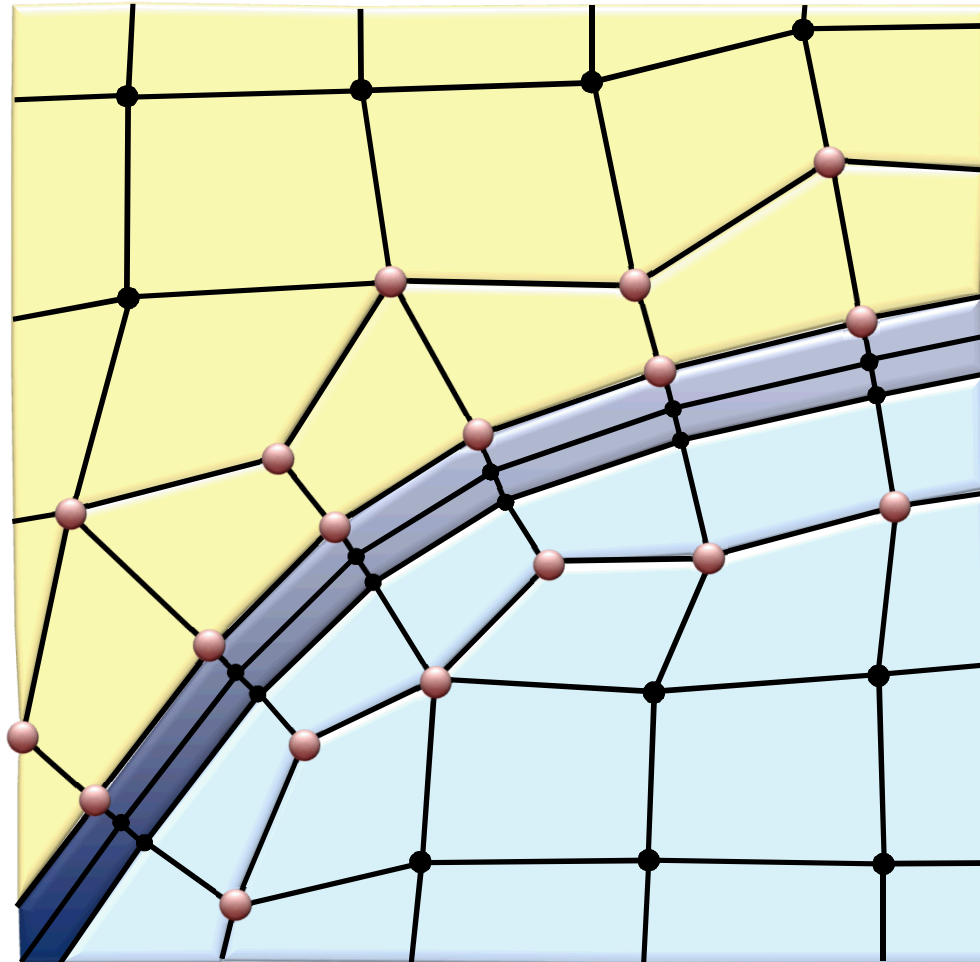
Boundary Layer Insertion



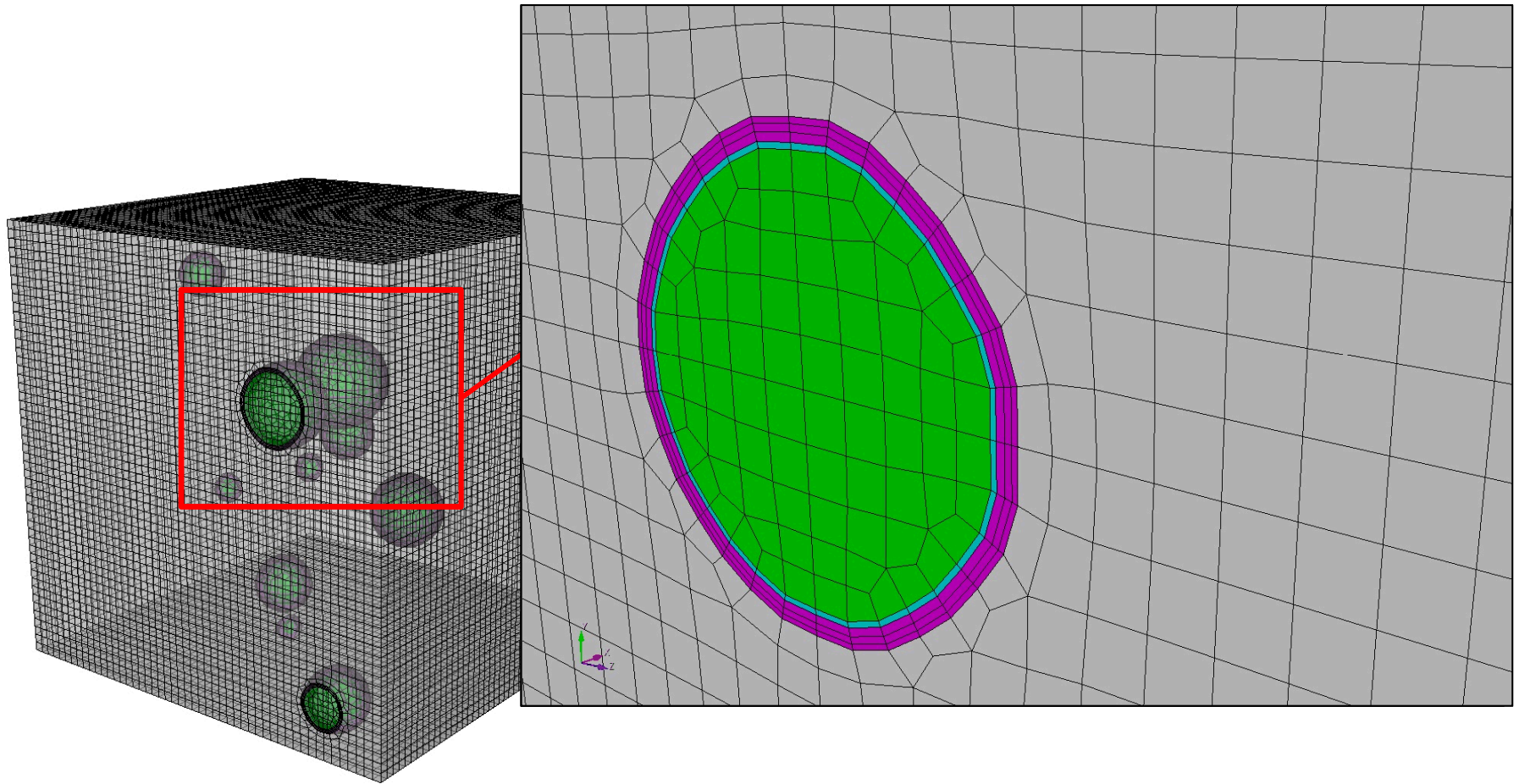
Boundary Layer Insertion



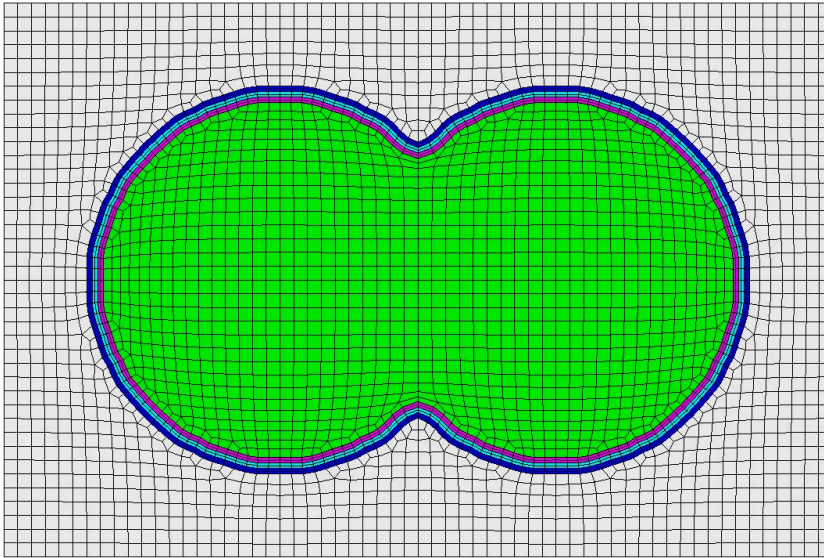
Boundary Layer Insertion



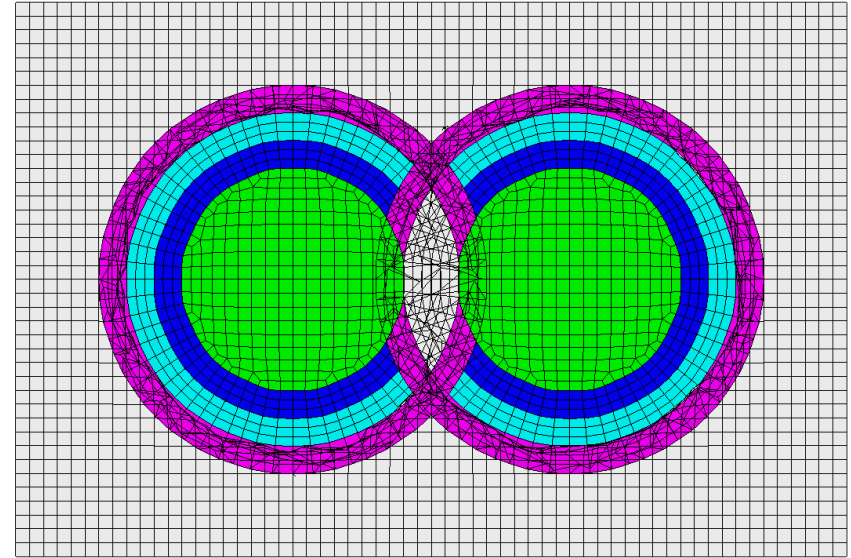
Boundary Layer Insertion



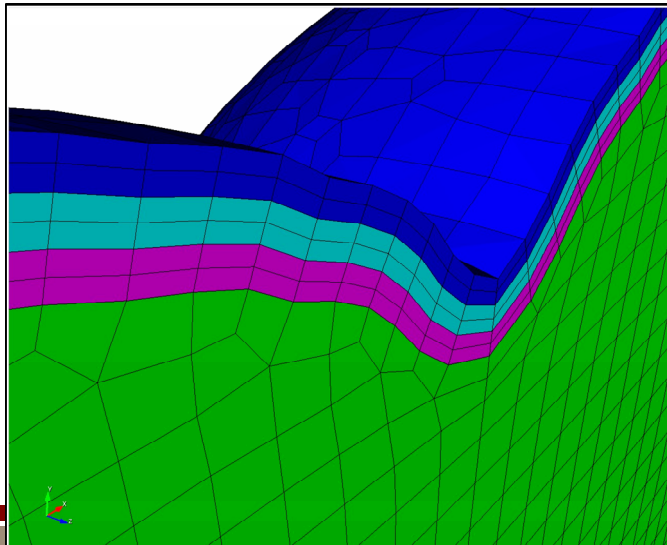
Boundary Layer Insertion



Valid mesh produced with multiple thin boundary layers



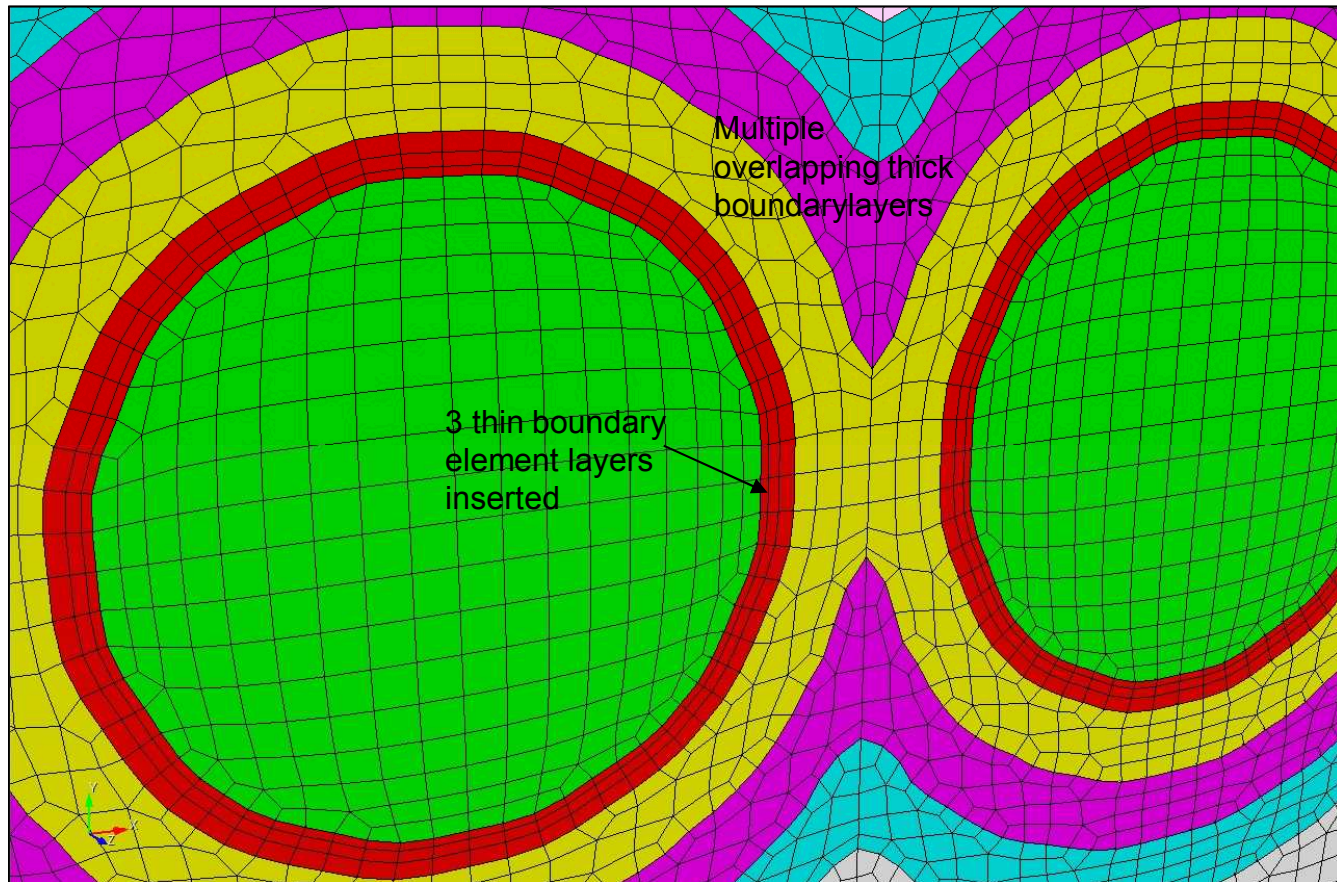
Invalid mesh shown with overlapping thick boundary layers



Not well suited to
thick/overlapping layers

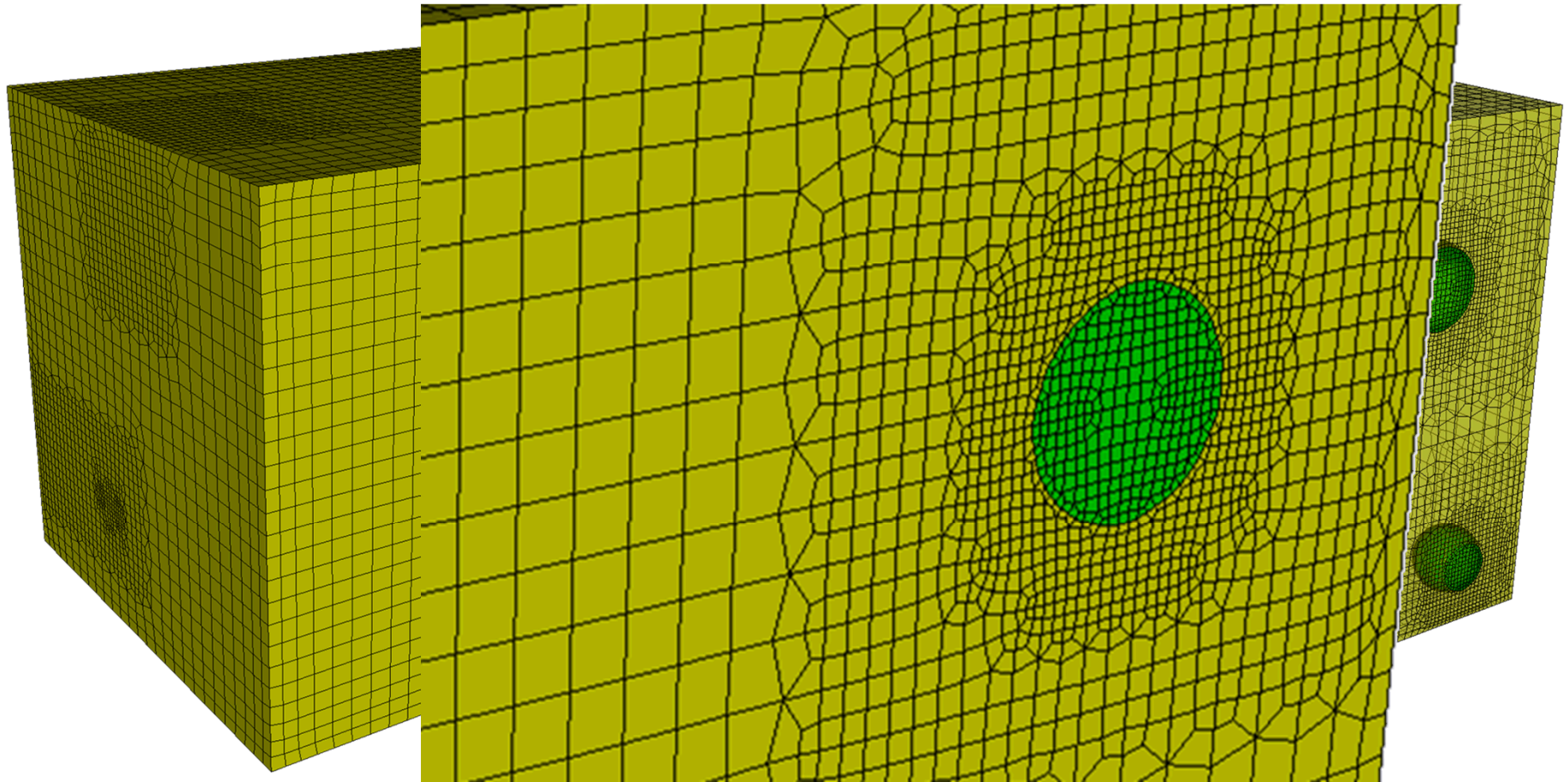
Requires significant smoothing
to push away surrounding cells
that are displaced by boundary
layers

Boundary Layer Insertion

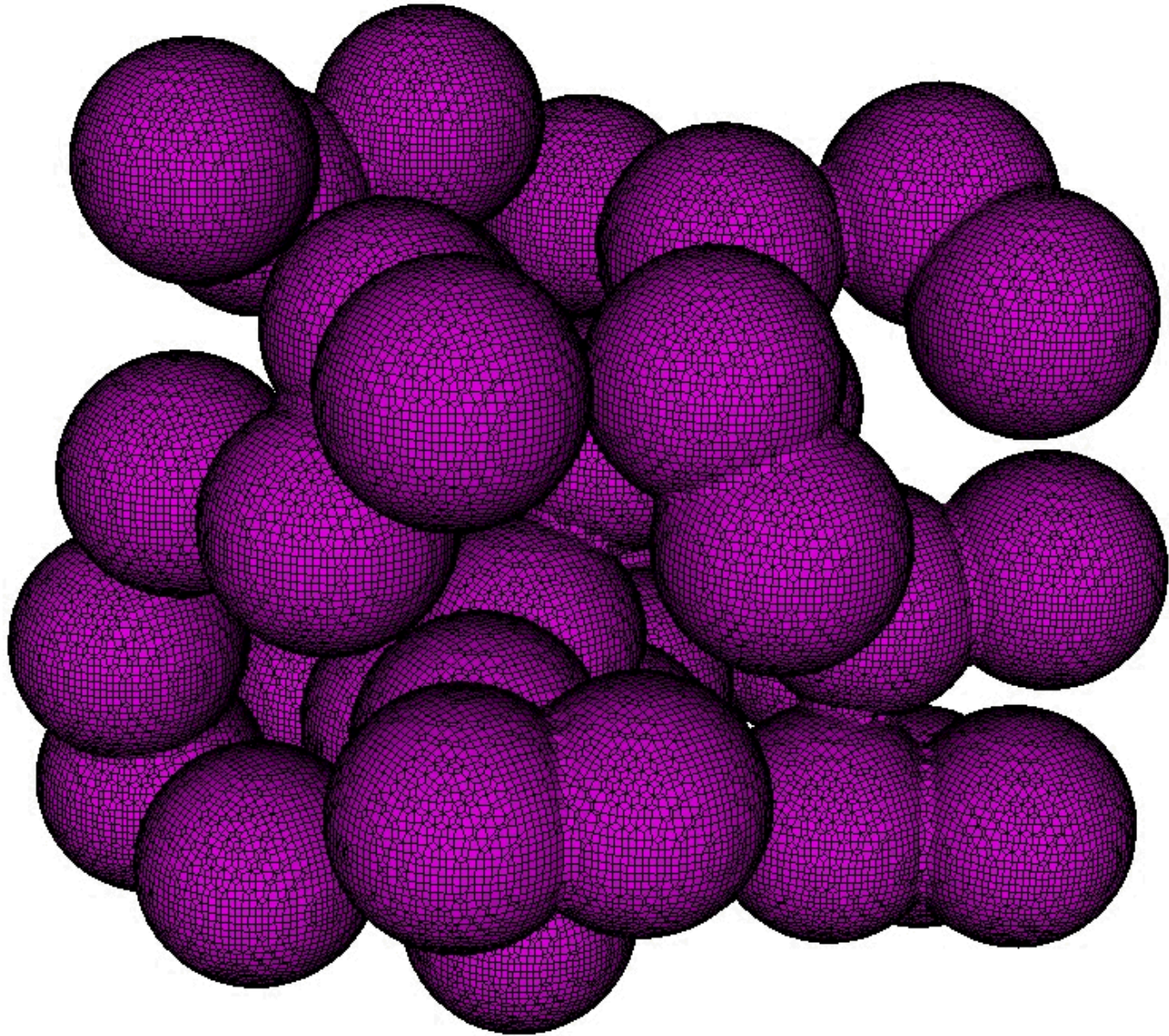


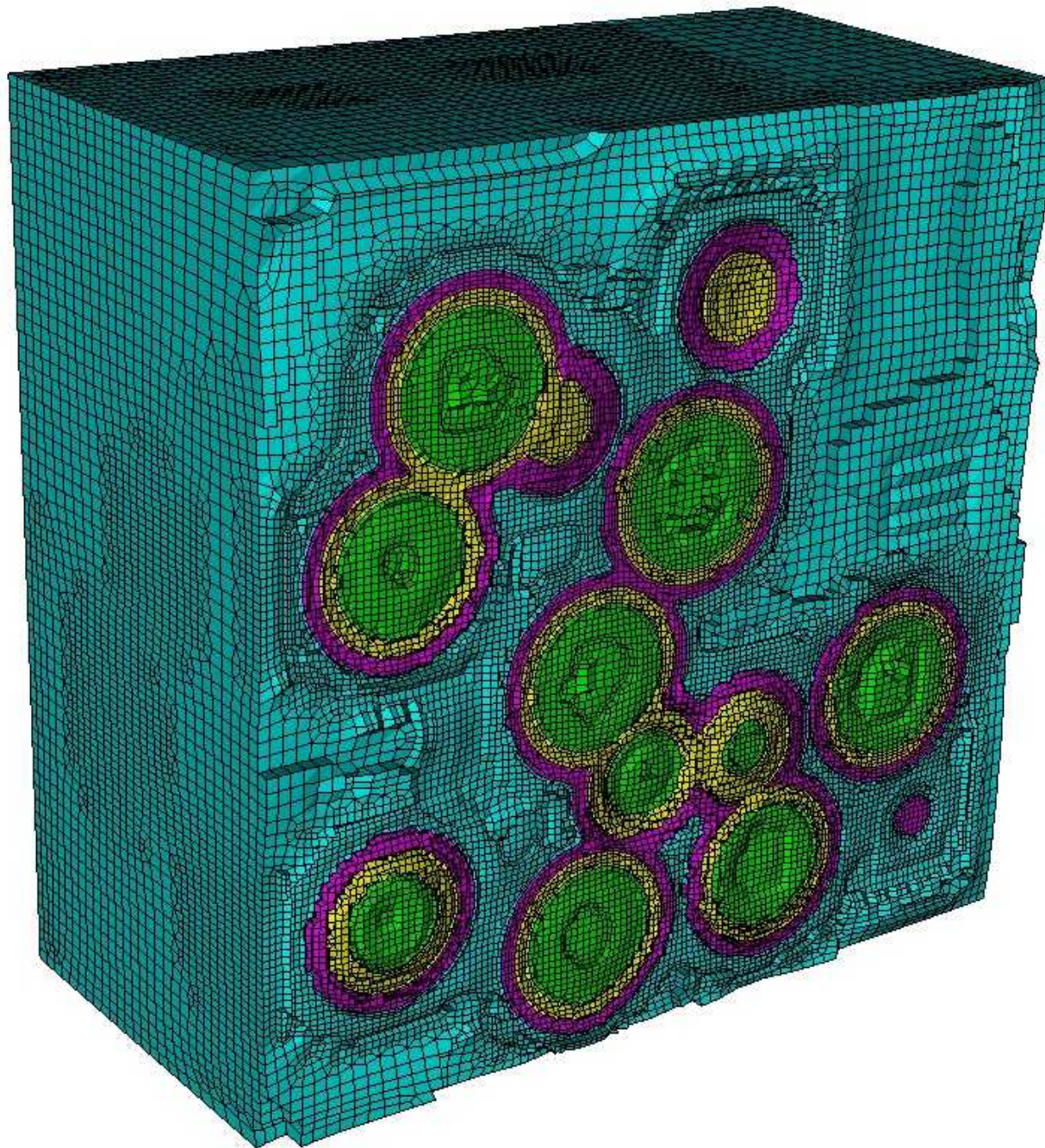
Thin boundary layers inserted with thicker layers built with interface reconstruction

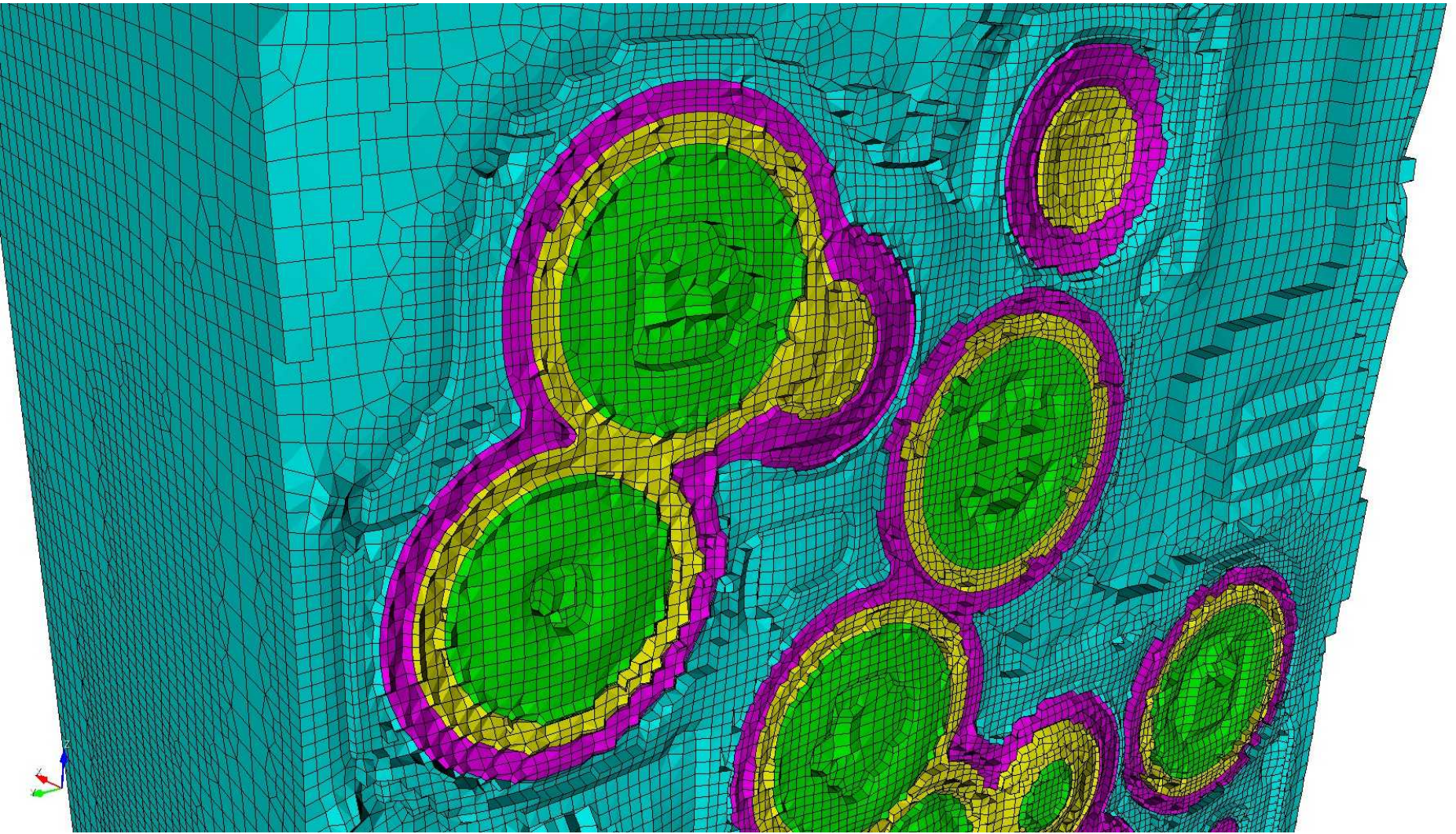
Adaptive Hex



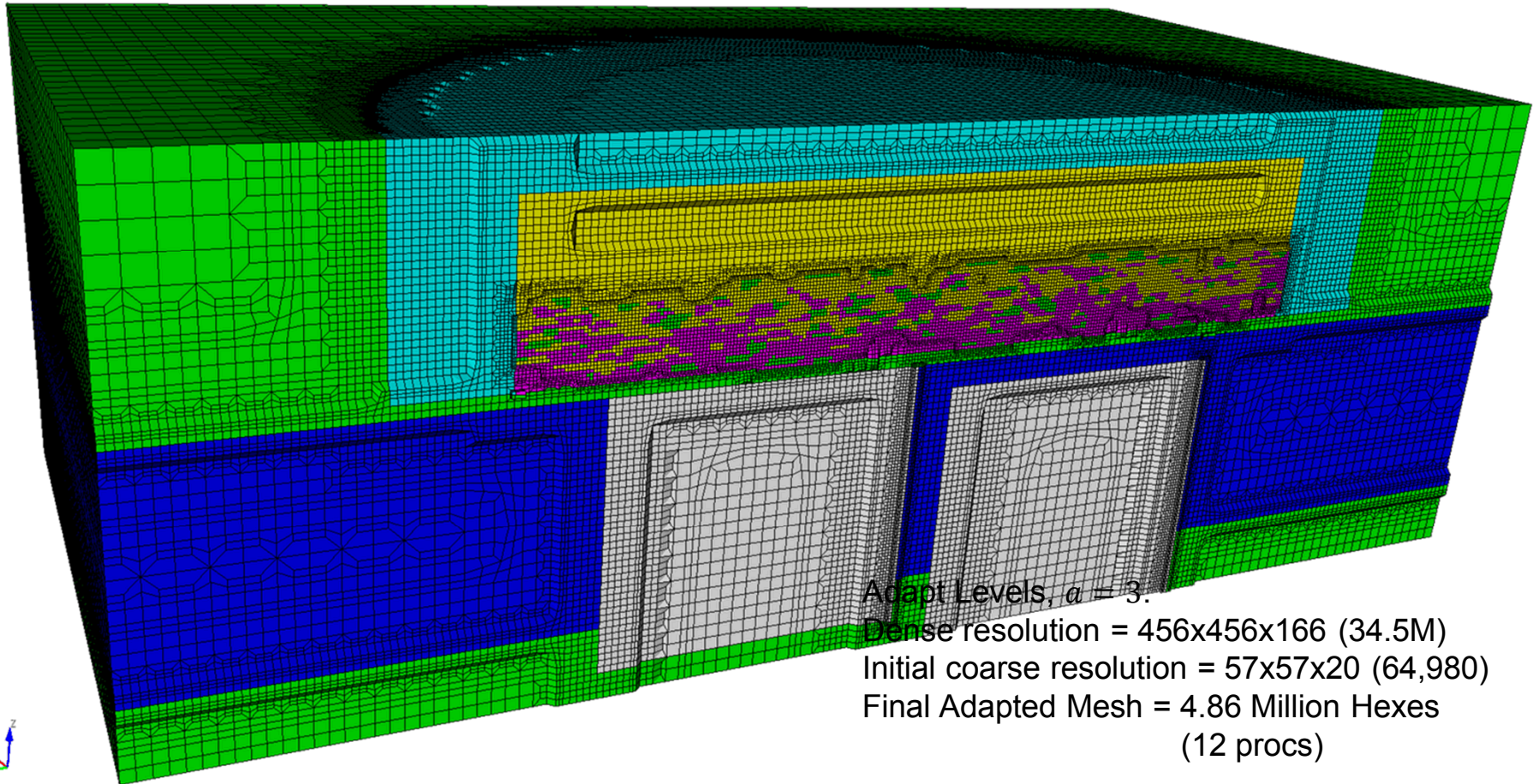
Base Cartesian grid is automatically refined to resolve geometric features







Adaptive Hex



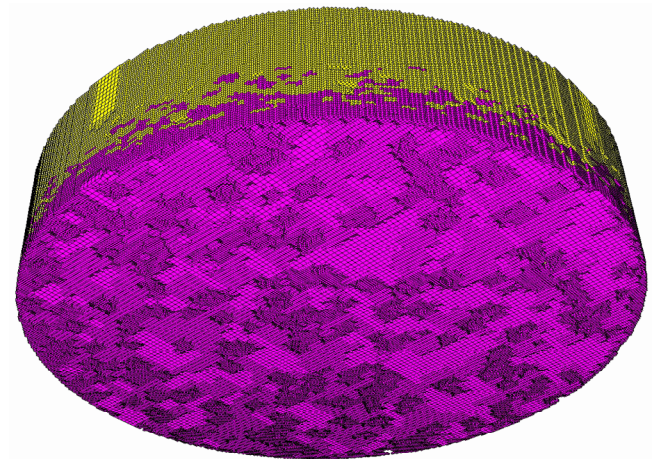
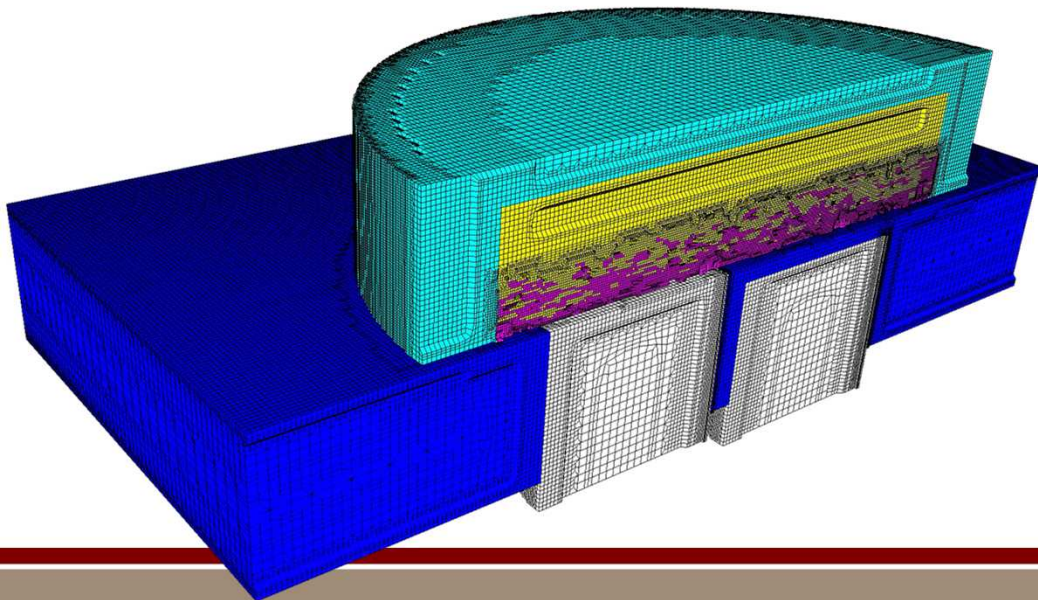
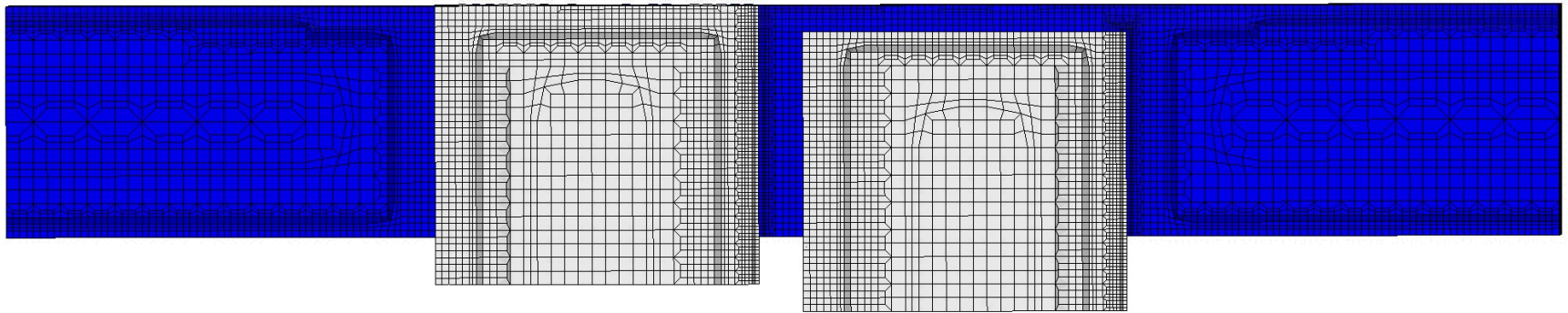
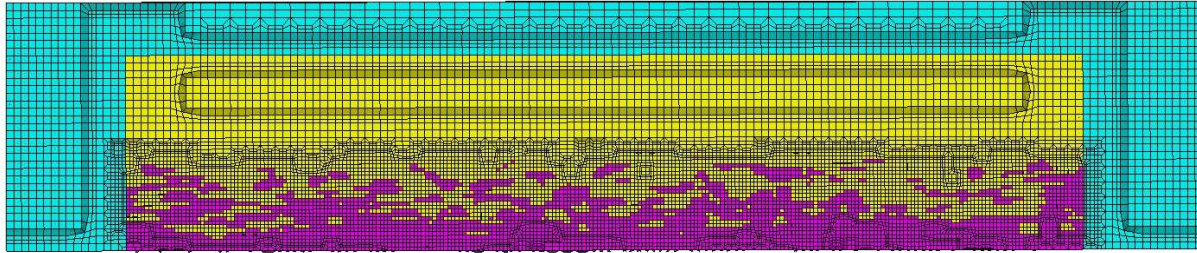
Adapt Levels, $a = 3$.

Dense resolution = $456 \times 456 \times 166$ (34.5M)

Initial coarse resolution = $57 \times 57 \times 20$ (64,980)

Final Adapted Mesh = 4.86 Million Hexes
(12 procs)

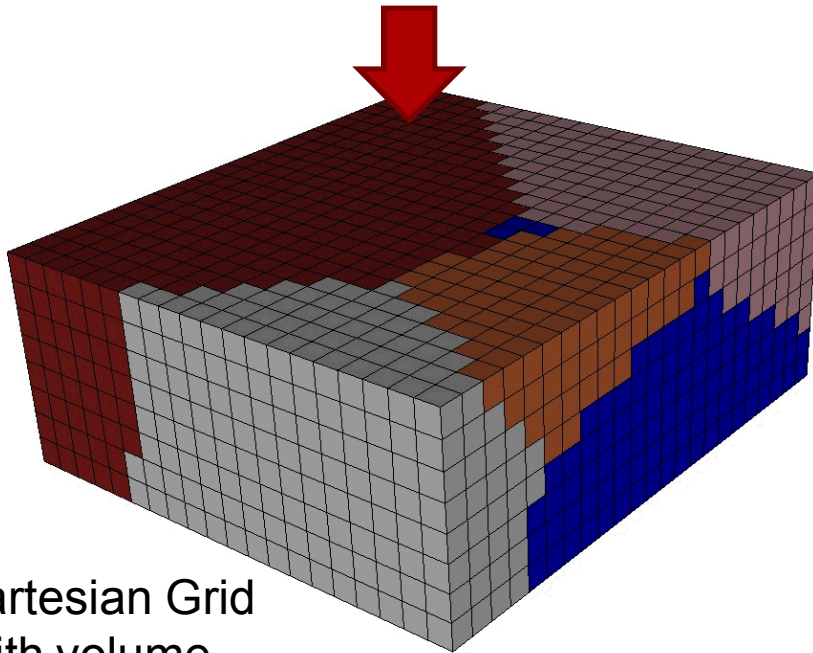
Adaptive Hex



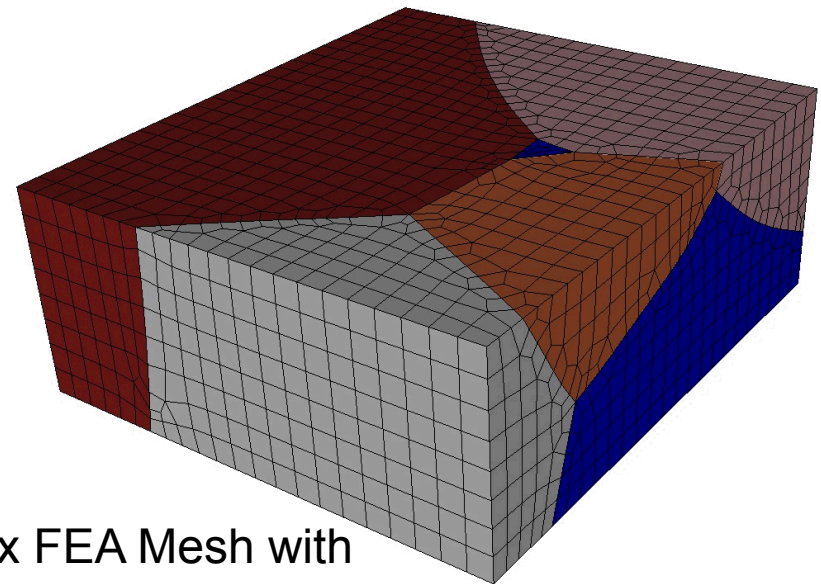
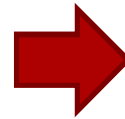
Tet Meshing Microstructures

```
TITLE = triple line system
VARIABLES = x y z, phi_1, phi_2, phi_3
ZONE i = 2 , j = 2 , k = 2
0.0000      0.0000      0.0000      0.5000      0.5000      0.0000
1.0000      0.0000      0.0000      0.3333      0.3333      0.3334
0.0000      1.0000      0.0000      1.0000      0.0000      0.0000
1.0000      1.0000      0.0000      0.0000      1.0000      0.0000
0.0000      0.0000      1.0000      0.2000      0.4000      0.4000
1.0000      0.0000      1.0000      0.6000      0.1000      0.3000
0.0000      1.0000      1.0000      0.0000      0.0000      1.0000
1.0000      1.0000      1.0000      0.9000      0.0000      0.1000
```

Microstructures
volume fractions
file (ascii)



Cartesian Grid
With volume
fraction scalar
fields

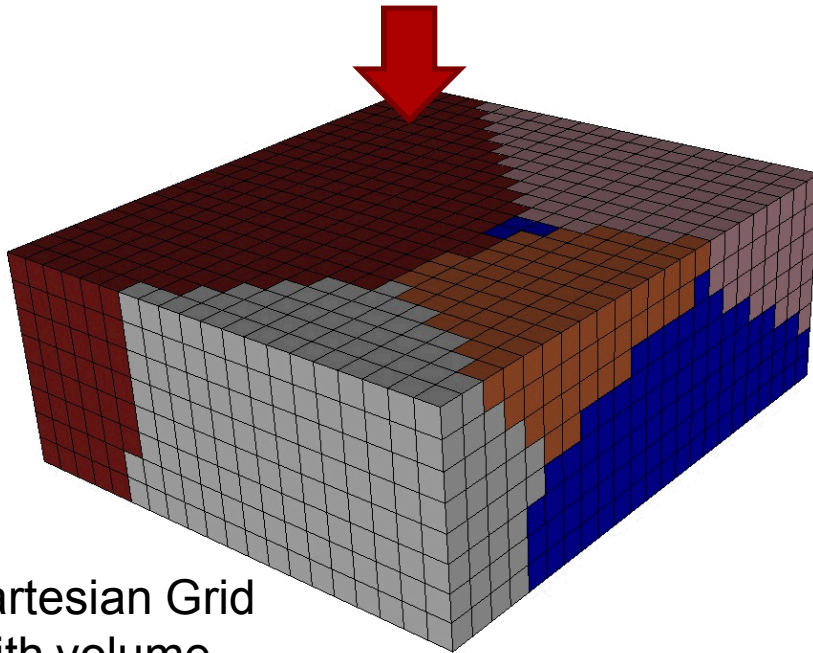


Hex FEA Mesh with
conformal/smooth
interfaces

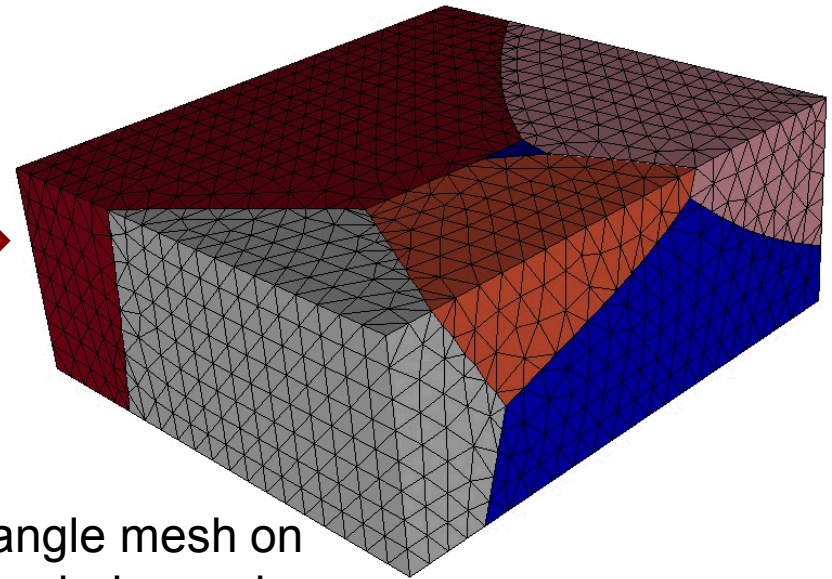
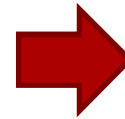
Tet Meshing Microstructures

```
TITLE = triple line system
VARIABLES = x y z, phi_1, phi_2, phi_3
ZONE i = 2 , j = 2 , k = 2
0.0000      0.0000      0.0000      0.5000      0.5000      0.0000
1.0000      0.0000      0.0000      0.3333      0.3333      0.3334
0.0000      1.0000      0.0000      1.0000      0.0000      0.0000
1.0000      1.0000      0.0000      0.0000      1.0000      0.0000
0.0000      0.0000      1.0000      0.2000      0.4000      0.4000
1.0000      0.0000      1.0000      0.6000      0.1000      0.3000
0.0000      1.0000      1.0000      0.0000      0.0000      1.0000
1.0000      1.0000      1.0000      0.9000      0.0000      0.1000
```

Microstructures
volume fractions
file (ascii)

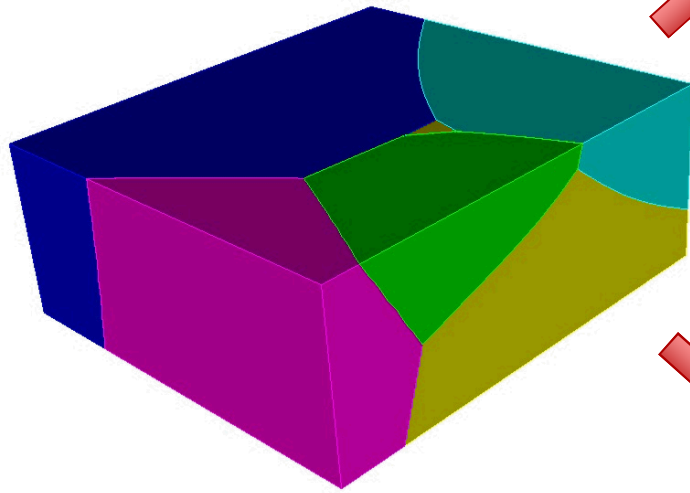


Cartesian Grid
With volume
fraction scalar
fields

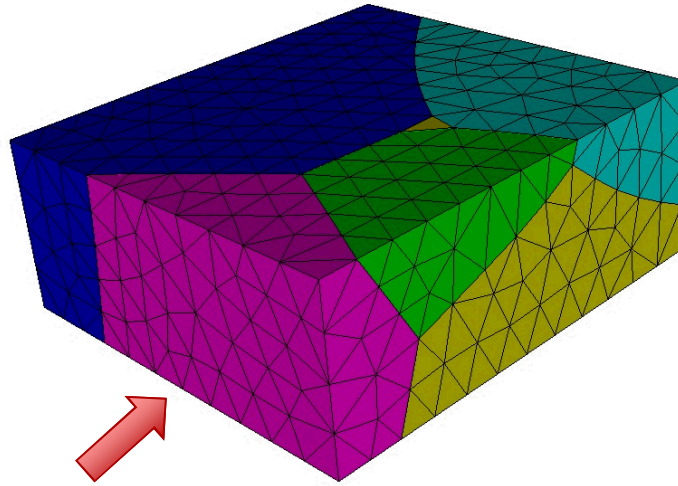


Triangle mesh on
boundaries and
interfaces

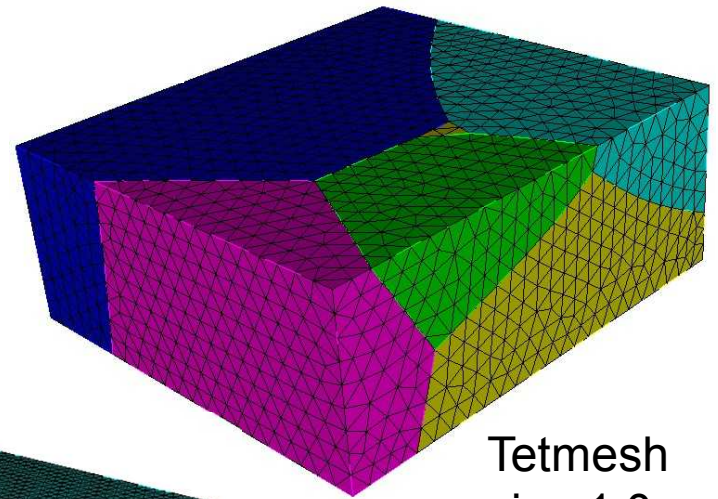
Objective: Generate
tets at various
resolutions from
same geometry
definition



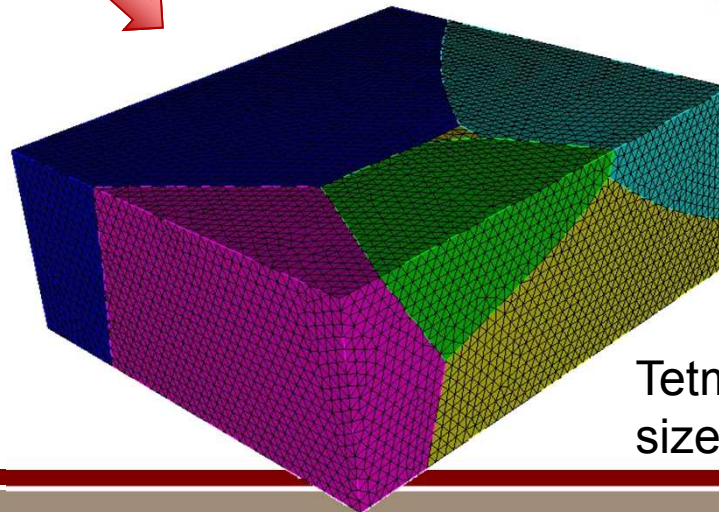
Mesh-Based
Geometry



Tetmesh
size 2.0

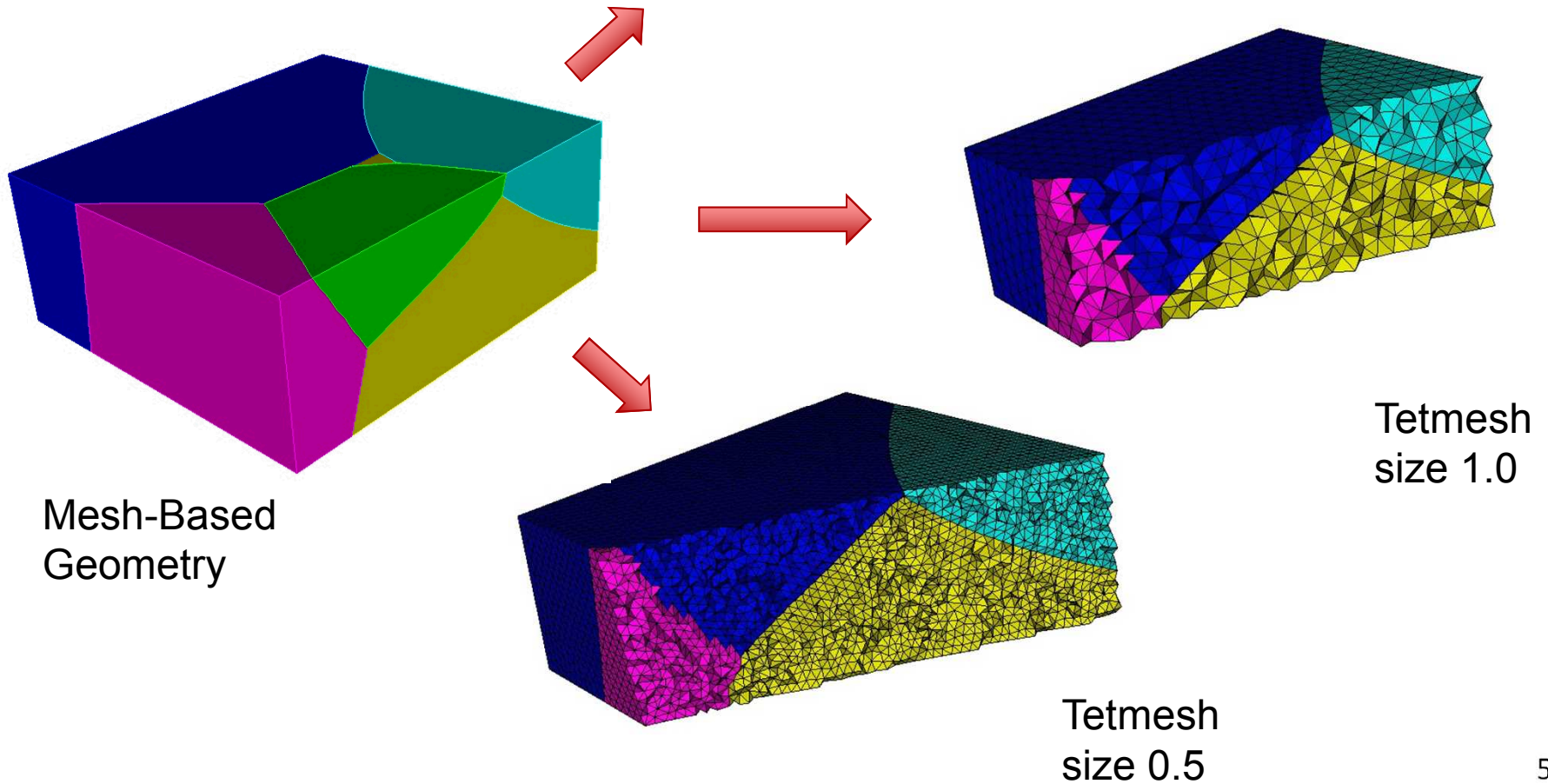


Tetmesh
size 1.0



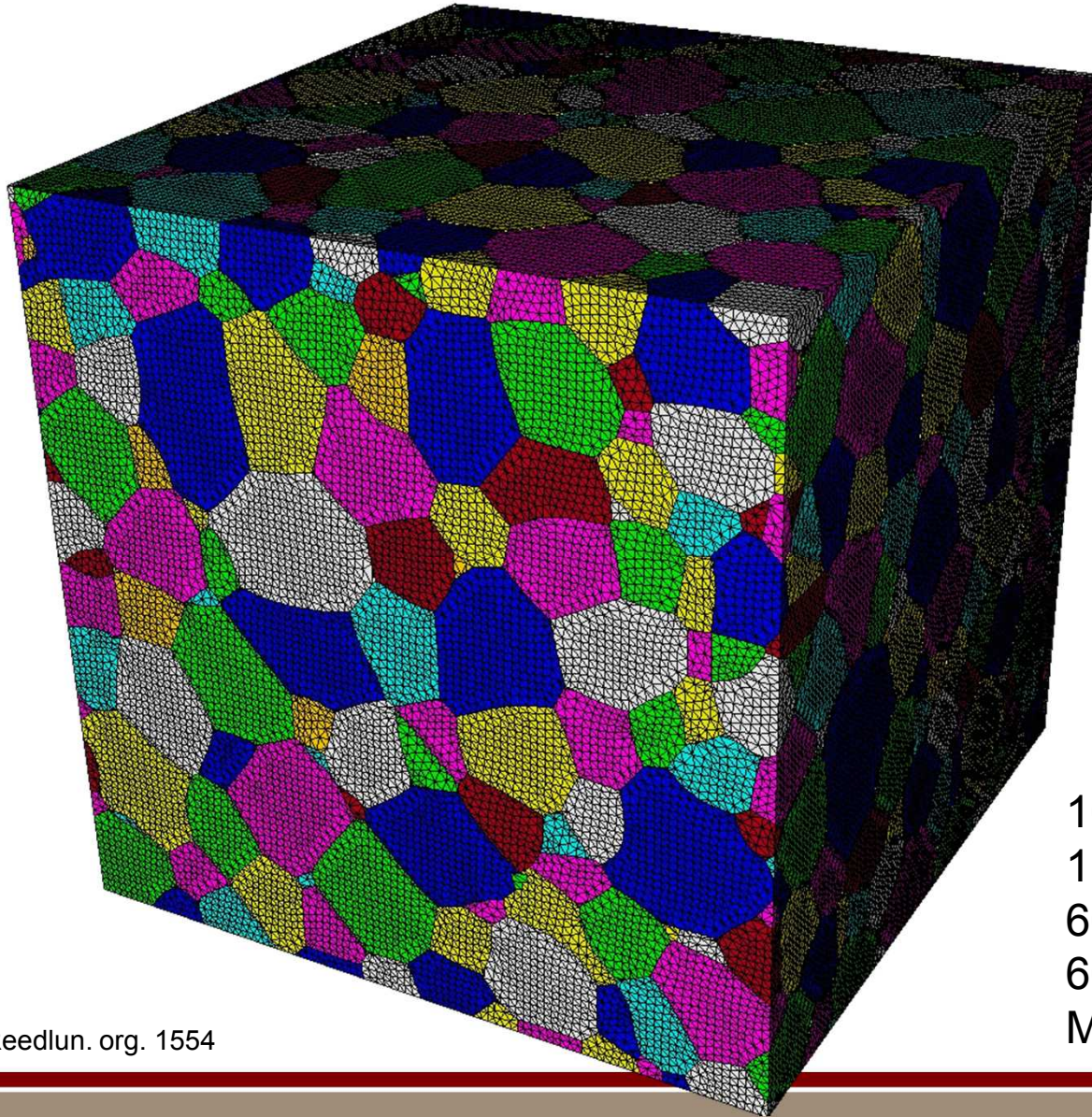
Tetmesh
size 0.5

Objective: Generate
tets at various
resolutions from
same geometry
definition



Tet Meshing Microstructures

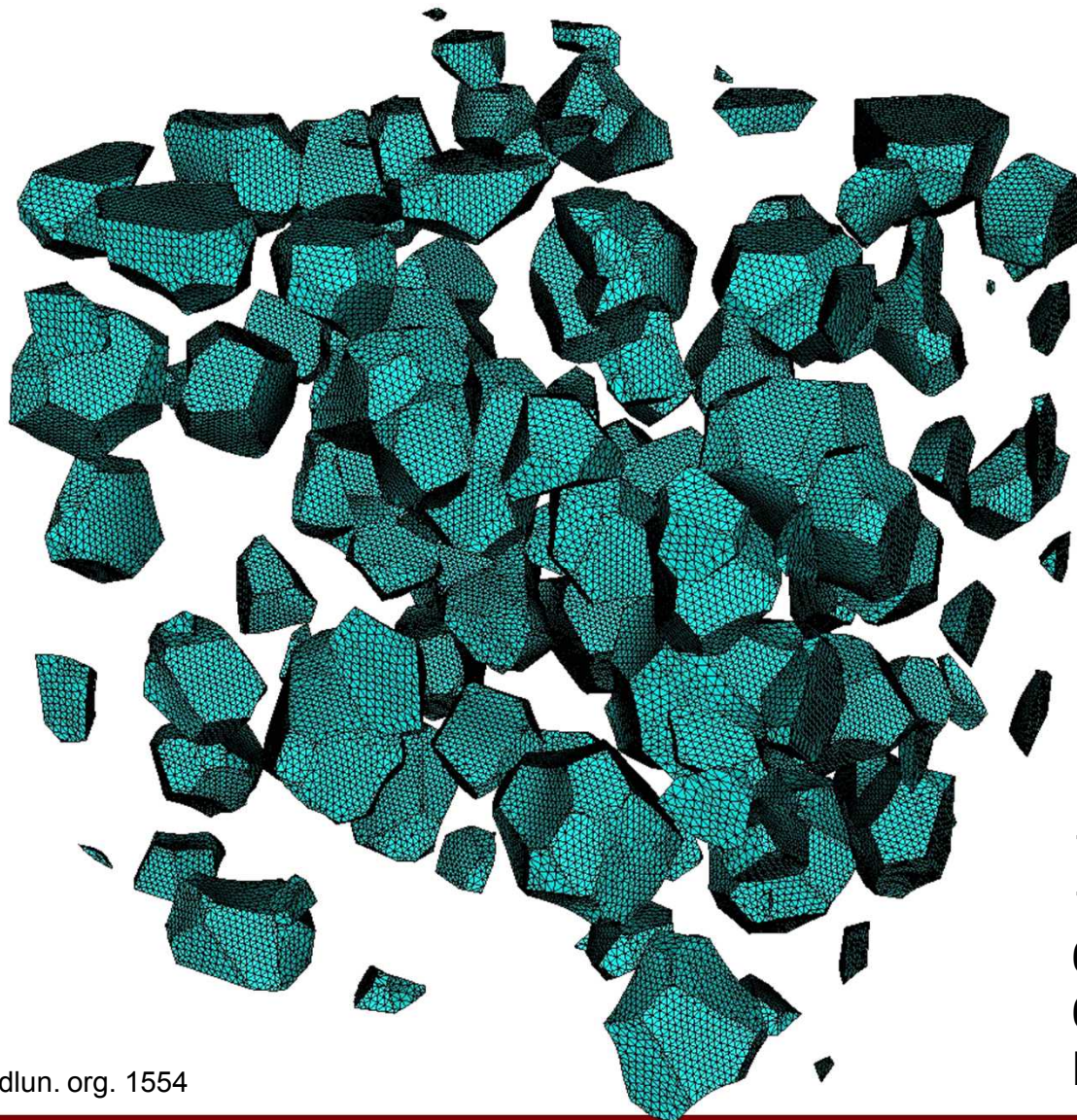
Example



100x100x100 cells
1.35M Triangles
600+ volumes
60 sec. on 1 proc.
Min SJ = 0.0004

Tet Meshing Microstructures

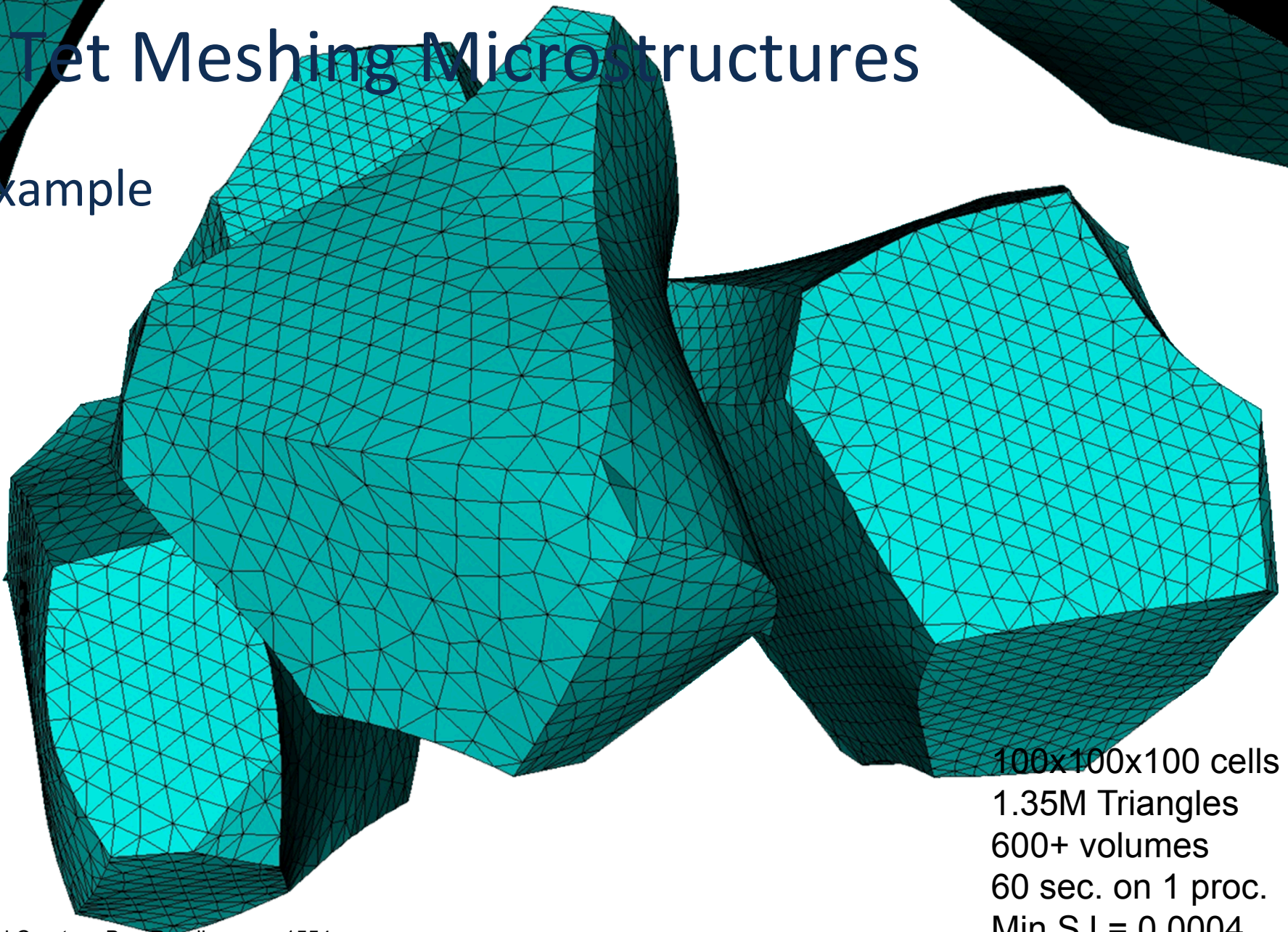
Example



100x100x100 cells
1.35M Triangles
600+ volumes
60 sec. on 1 proc.
Min SJ = 0.0004

Tet Meshing Microstructures

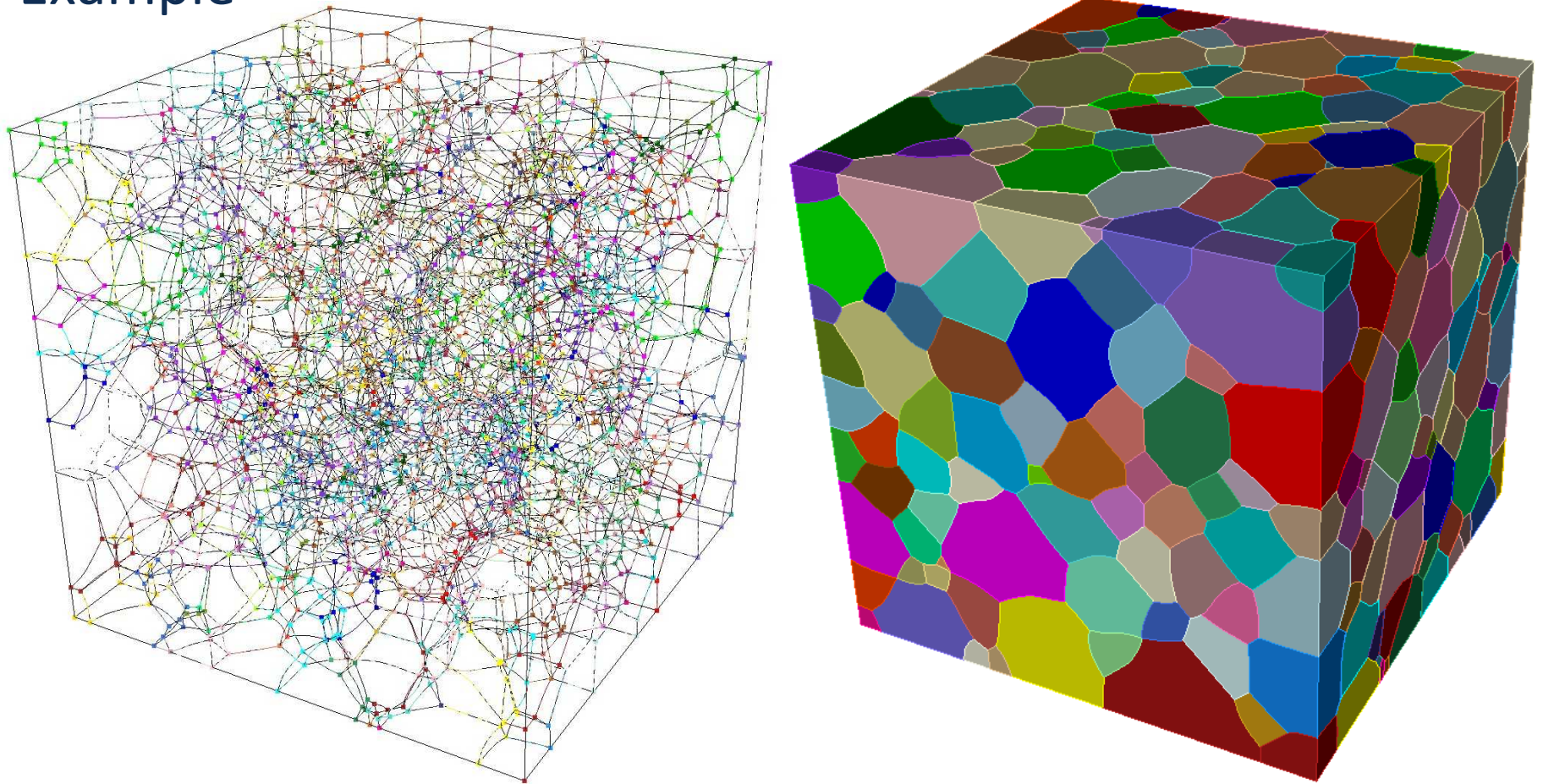
Example



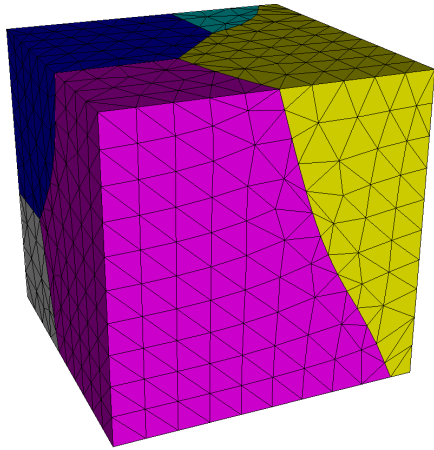
100x100x100 cells
1.35M Triangles
600+ volumes
60 sec. on 1 proc.
Min SJ = 0.0004

Tet Meshing Microstructures

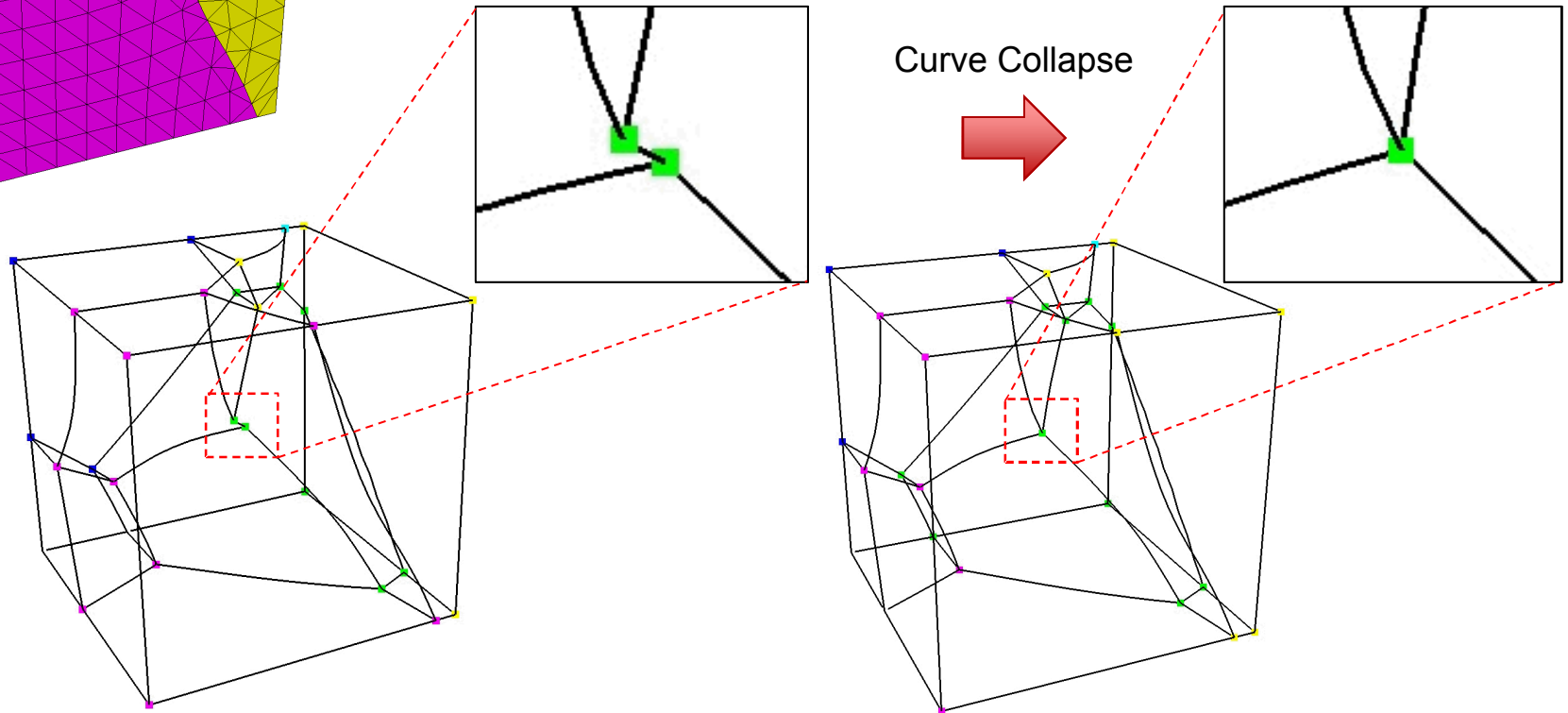
Example



Curve/Surface Collapse



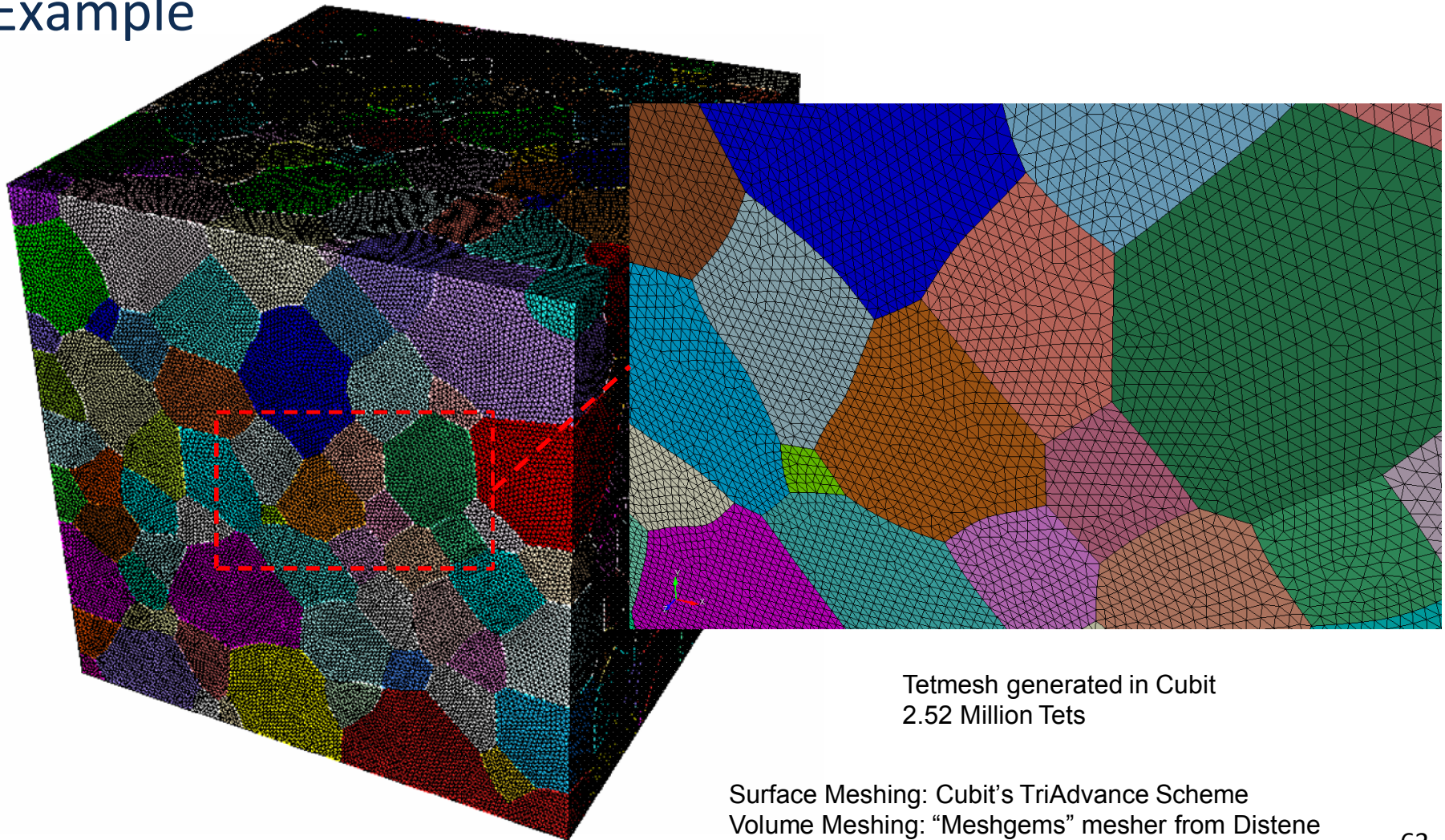
Collapses performed following geometry construction and triangle meshing



1. **Small curves:** exactly one triangle edge
2. **Small surfaces:** 2 curves each with 2 triangle edges

Tet Meshing Microstructures

Example



Tetmesh generated in Cubit
2.52 Million Tets

Surface Meshing: Cubit's TriAdvance Scheme
Volume Meshing: "Meshgems" mesher from Distene