

# Digital Sound

**Ming C. Lin & Zhimin Ren**

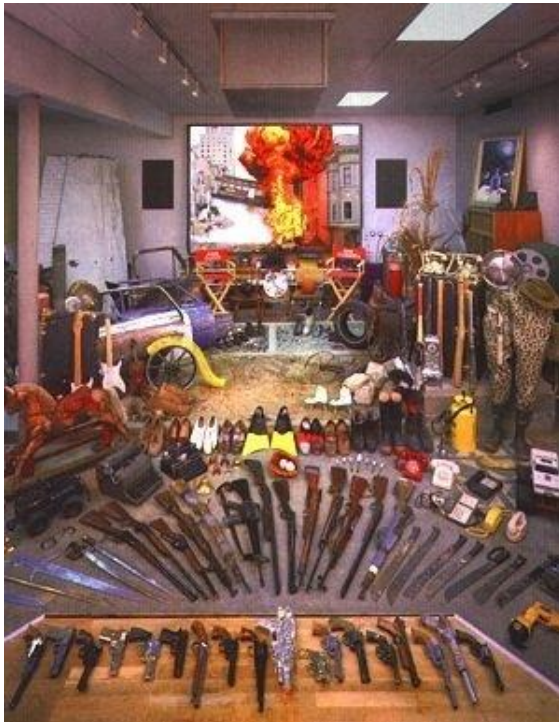
Department of Computer Science

University of North Carolina

<http://gamma.cs.unc.edu/Sound>

# How can it be done?

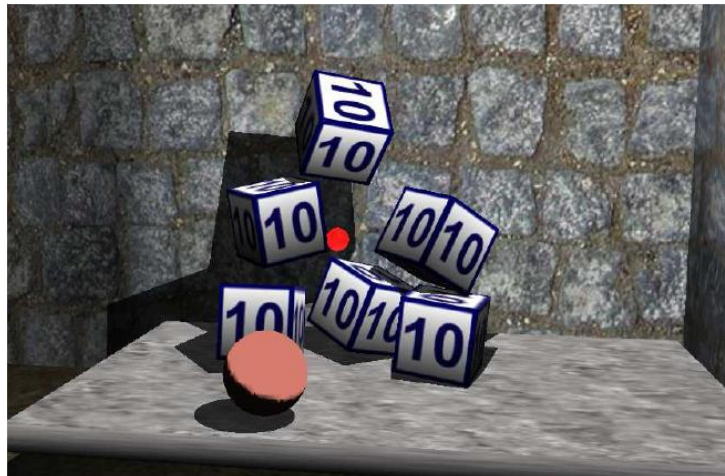
- Foley artists manually make and record the sound from the real-world interaction



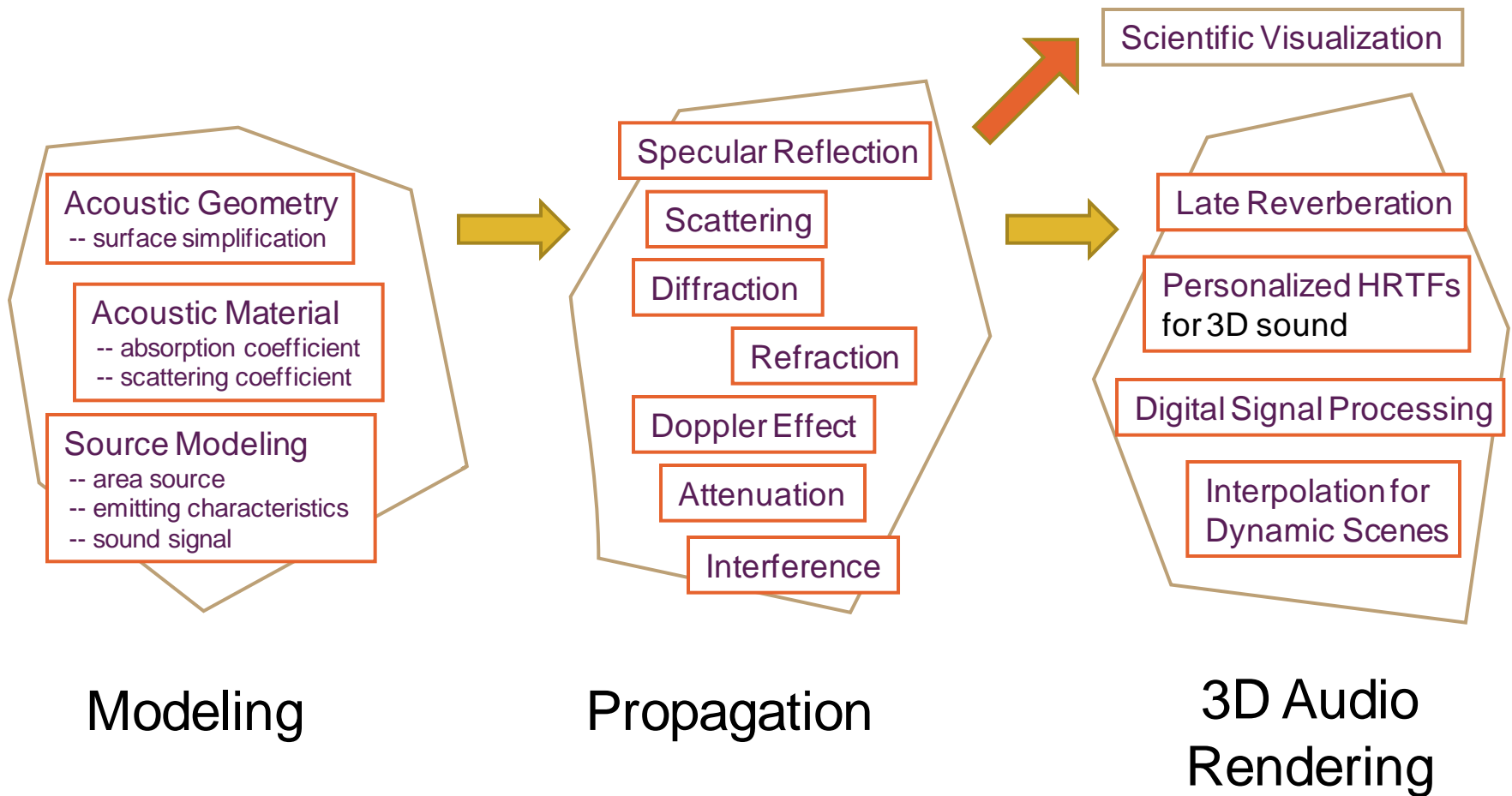
Lucasfilm Foley Artist

# How about Computer Simulation?

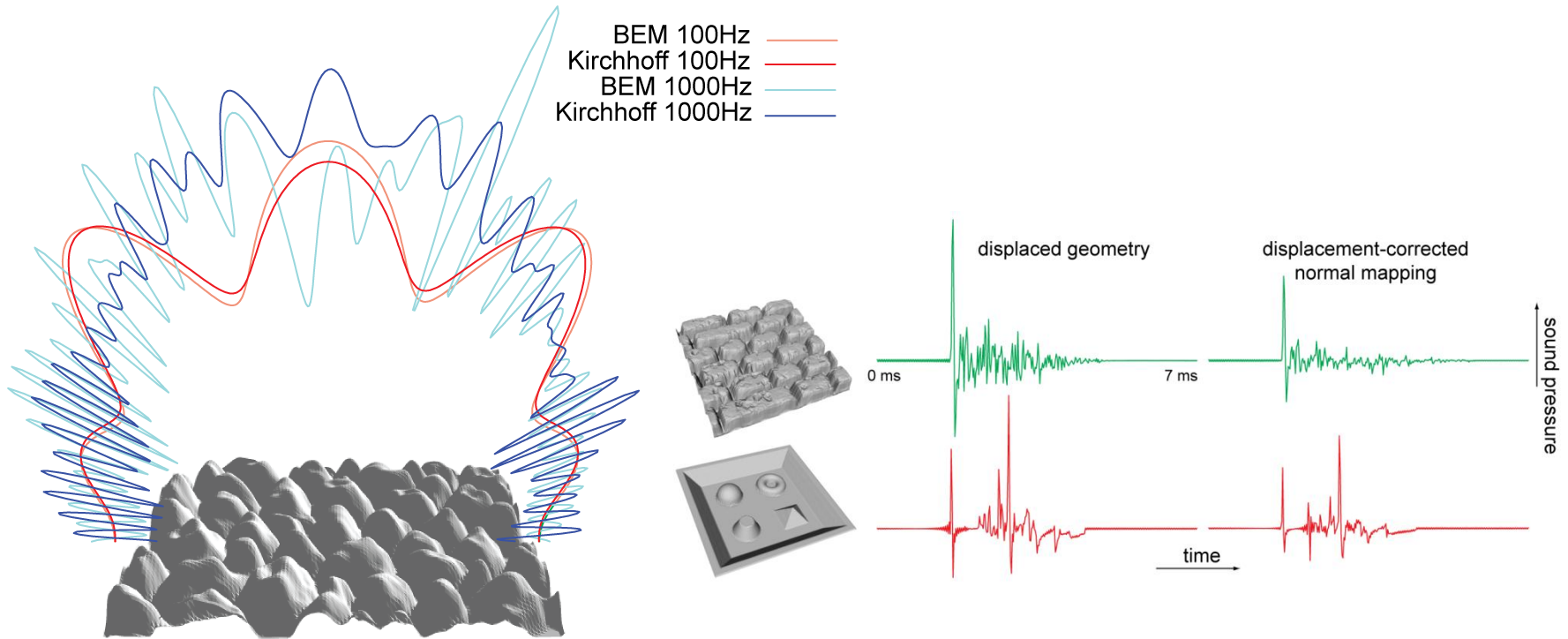
- Physical simulation drives visual simulation
  - Sound rendering can also be automatically generated via 3D physical interaction



# Sound Rendering: An Overview



# Modeling Sound Material



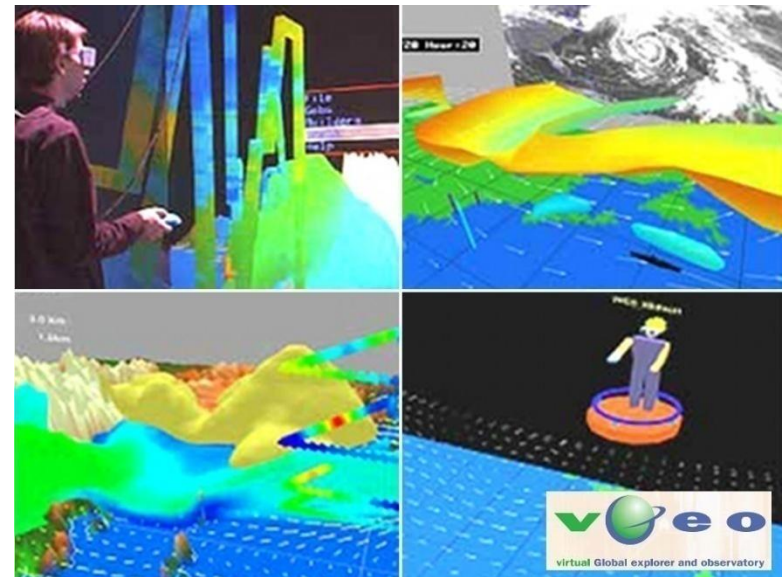
[Embrechts,2001] [Christensen,2005] [Tsingos,2007]

# Applications

- Advanced Interfaces
- Multi-sensory Visualization



Minority Report (2002)



Multi-variate Data  
Visualization

# Applications

- Games
- VR Training



Game (Half-Life 2)



Medical Personnel Training

# Applications

- Acoustic Prototyping



**Symphony Hall, Boston**

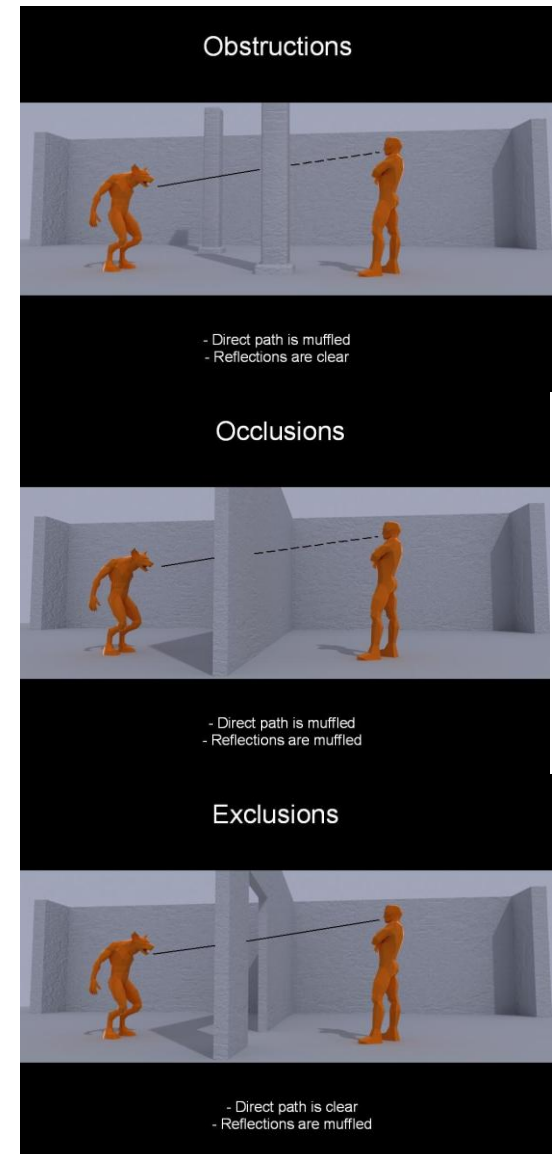


**Level Editor, Half Life**



# Sound Propagation in Games

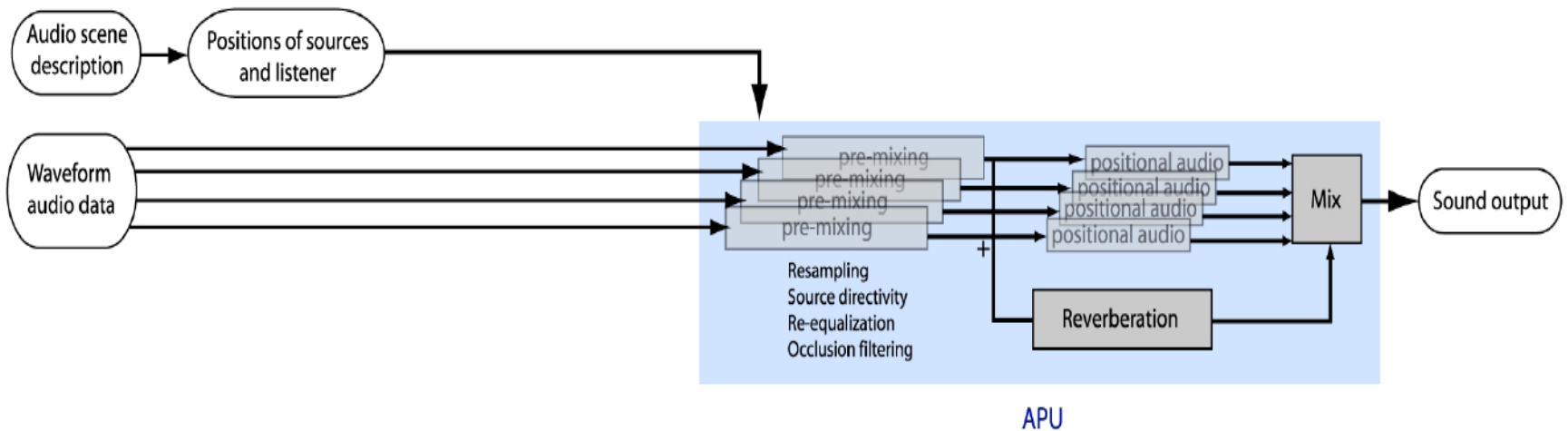
- Strict time budget for audio simulations
- Games are dynamic
  - Moving sound sources
  - Moving listeners
  - Moving scene geometry
- Trade-off speed with the accuracy of the simulation
- Static environment effects (assigned to regions in the scene)



# 3D Audio Rendering

- Main Components
  - 3D Audio and HRTF
  - Artifact free rendering for dynamic scenes
  - Handling many sound sources

## Traditional pipeline



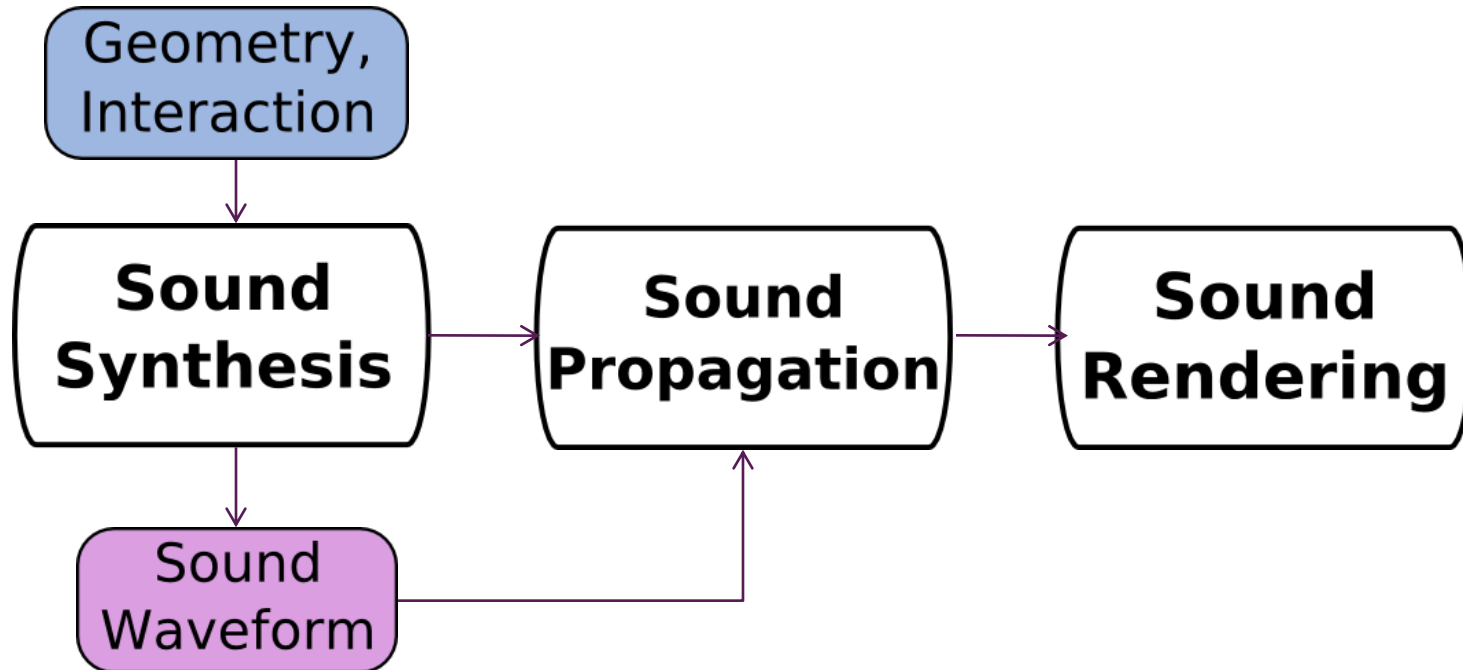
# Overview of Sound Simulation

- The complete pipeline for sound simulation
  - Sound Synthesis
  - Sound Propagation
  - Sound Rendering



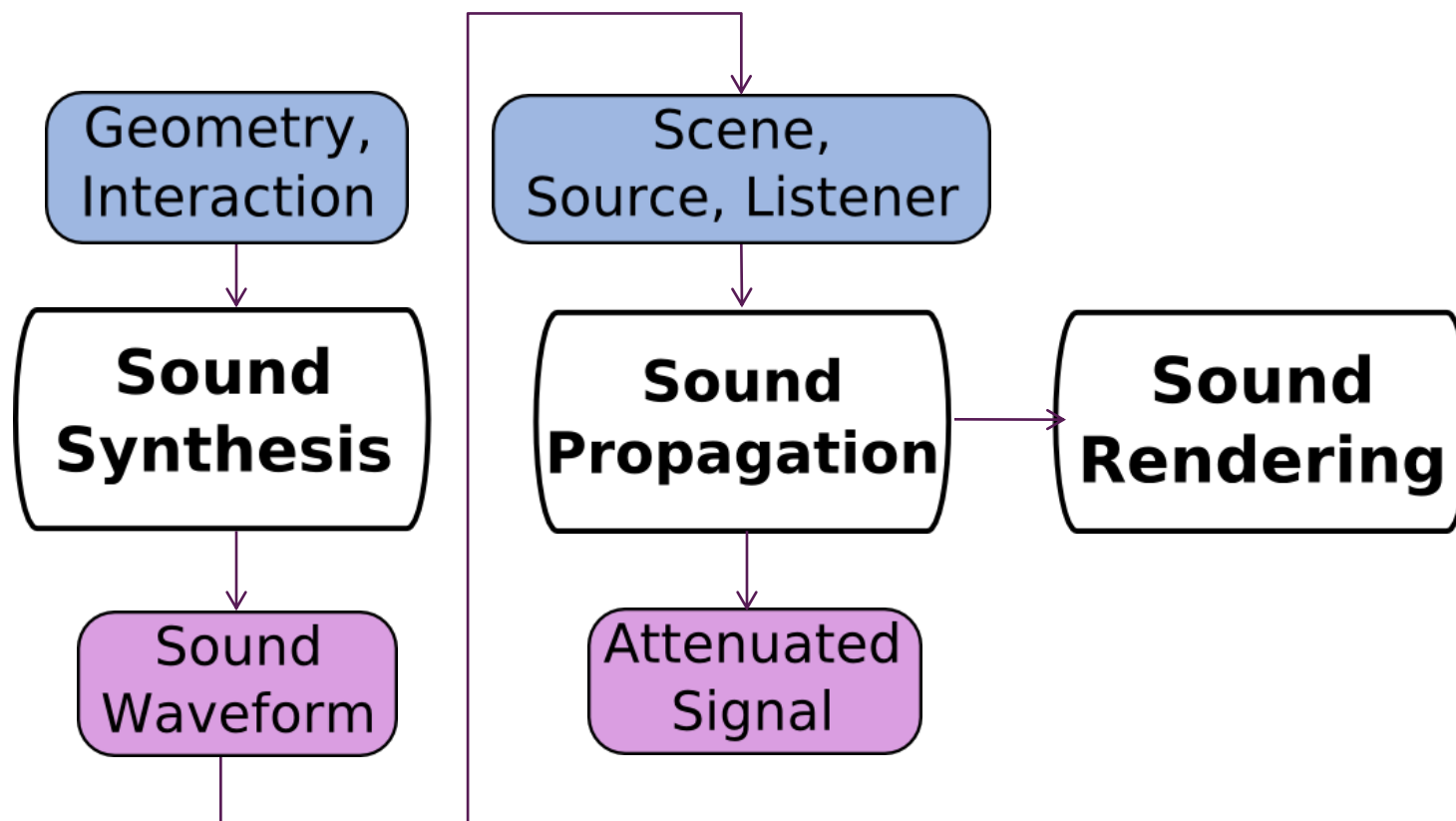
# Overview of Sound Simulation

- Sound Synthesis



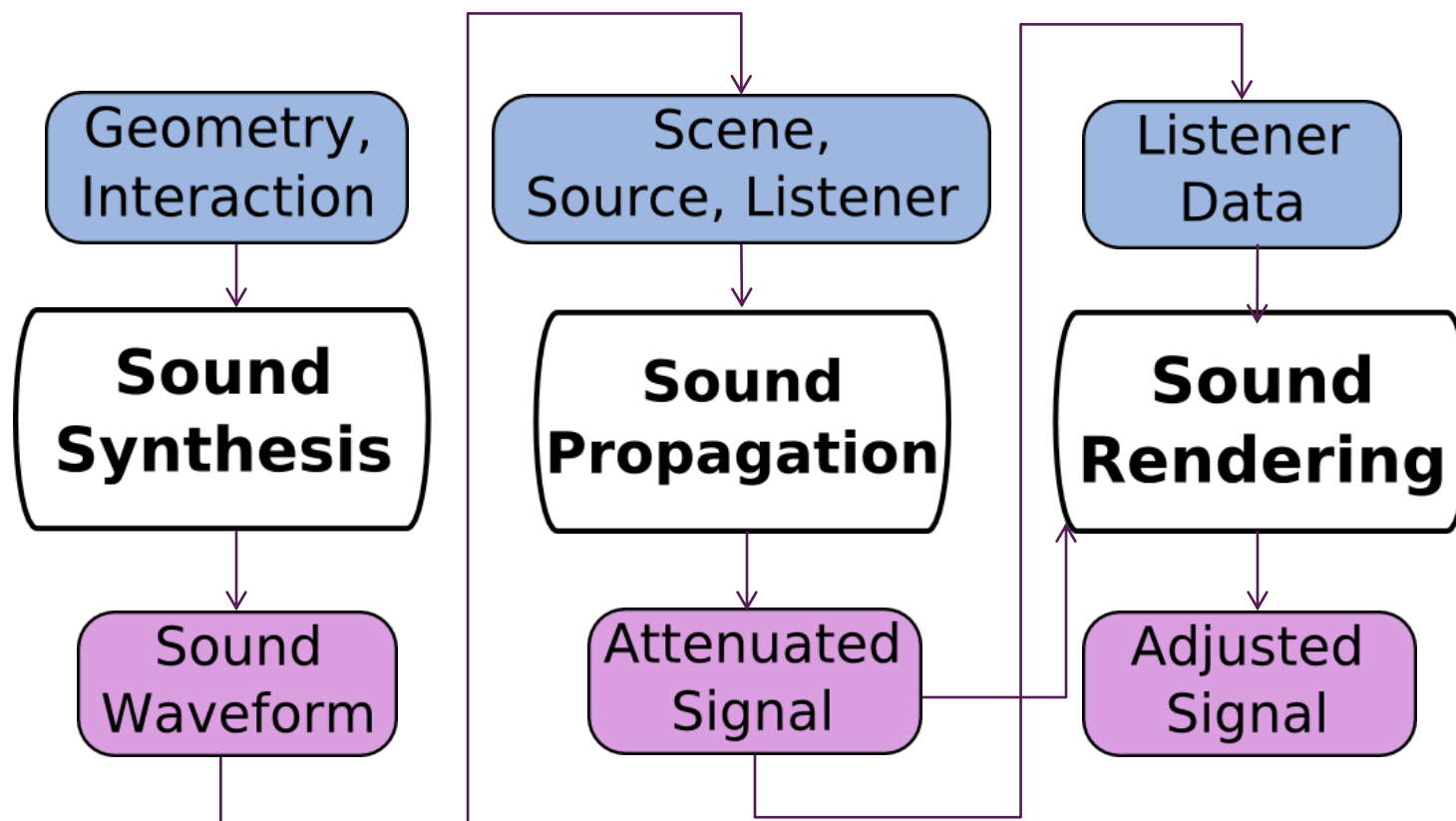
# Overview of Sound Simulation

- Sound Propagation

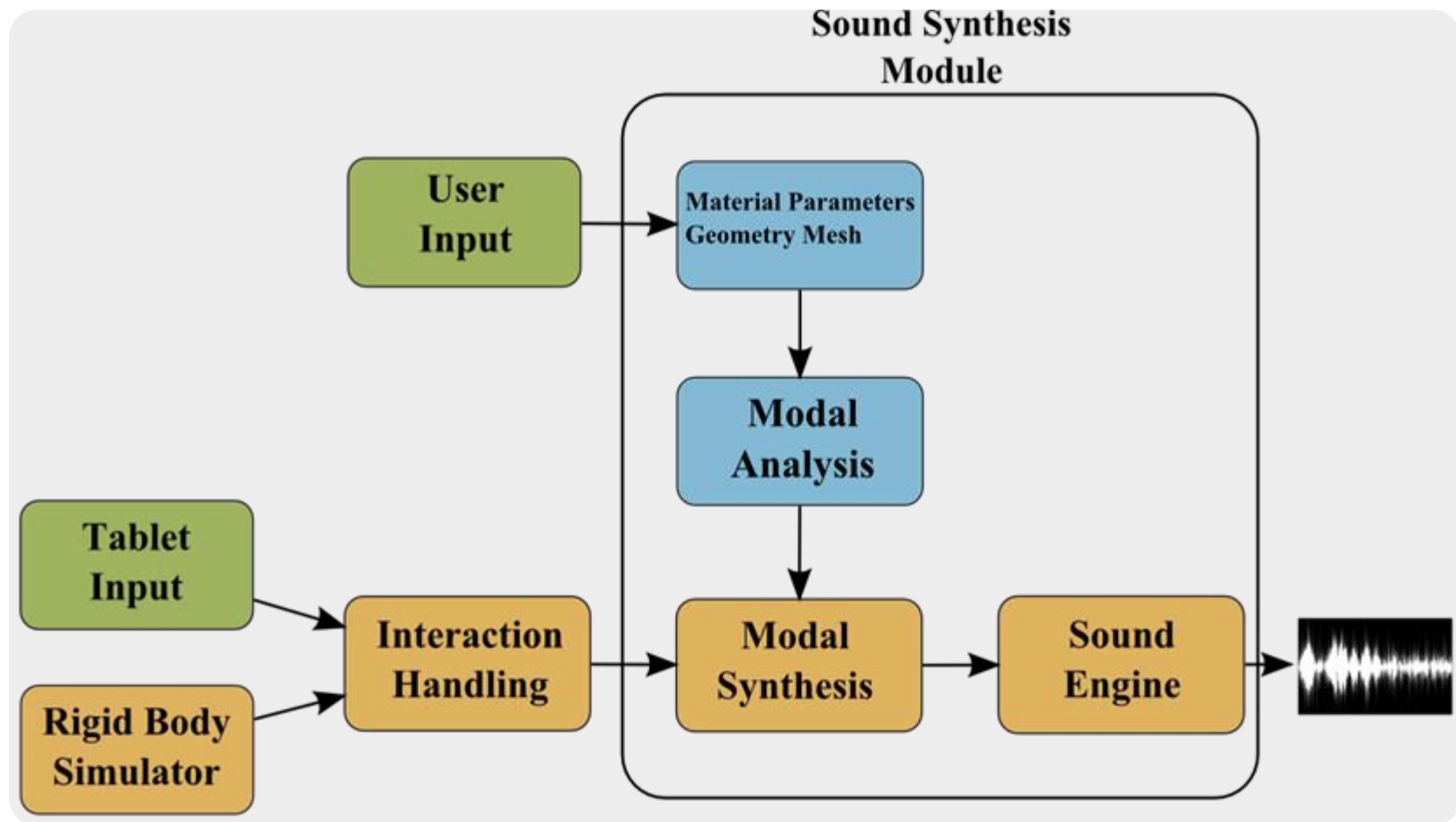


# Overview of Sound Simulation

- Sound Rendering

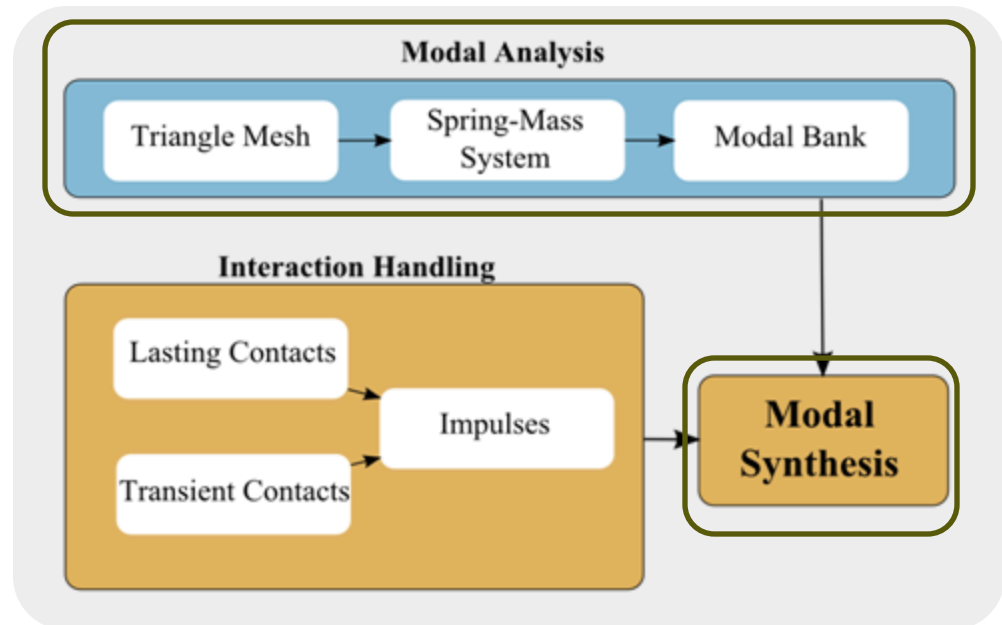


# Synthesis System Overview



# Synthesis System Overview

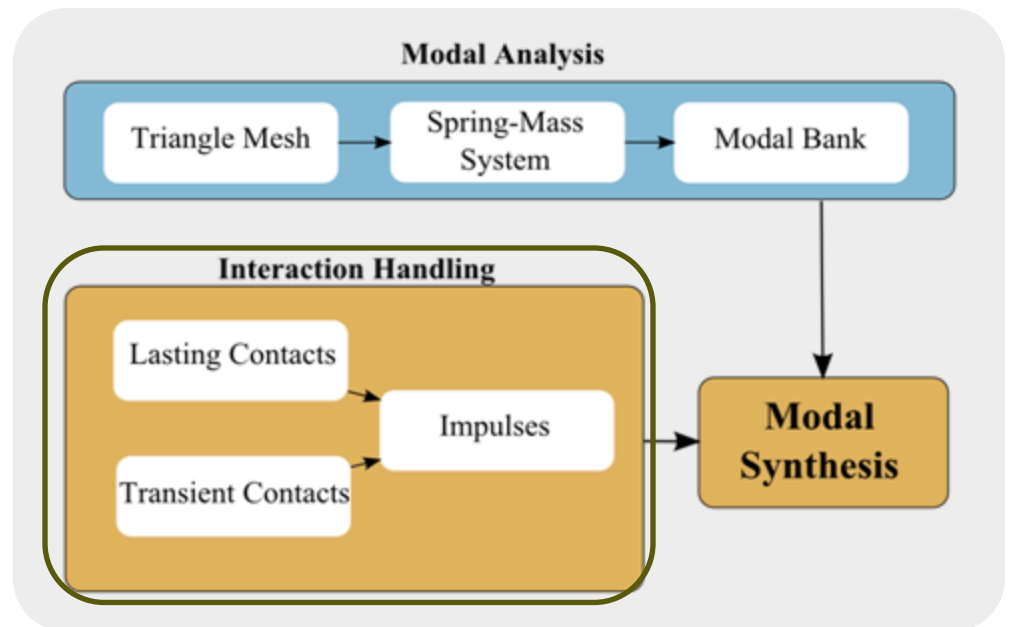
- Sound synthesis module
  - Modal Analysis: Raghuvanshi & Lin (2006)
  - Impulse response





# Synthesis System Overview

- Interaction handling module
  - State detection: lasting and transient contacts
  - Converting interactions into impulses

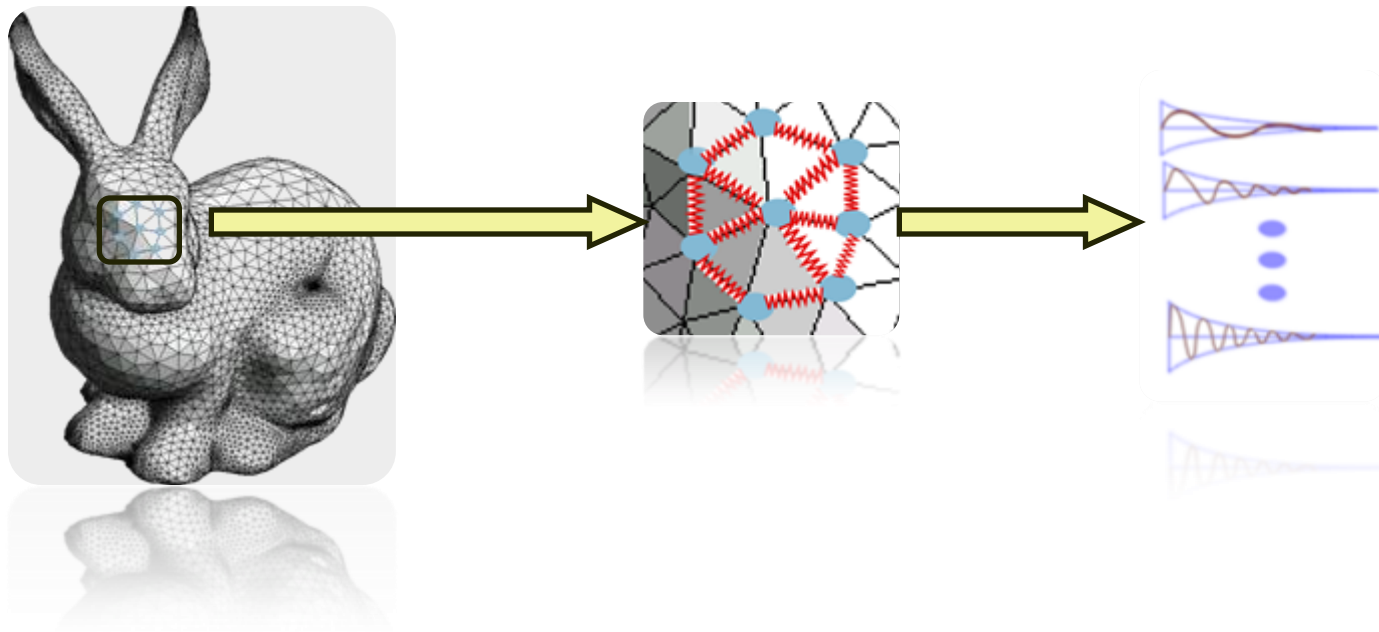


# Modal Analysis

- Deformation modeling
  - Vibration of surface generates sound
  - Sound sampling rate: 44100 Hz
  - Impossible to calculate the displacement of the surface at sampling rate
  - Represent the vibration pattern by a bank of damped oscillators (modes)
- Standard technique for real-time sound synthesis

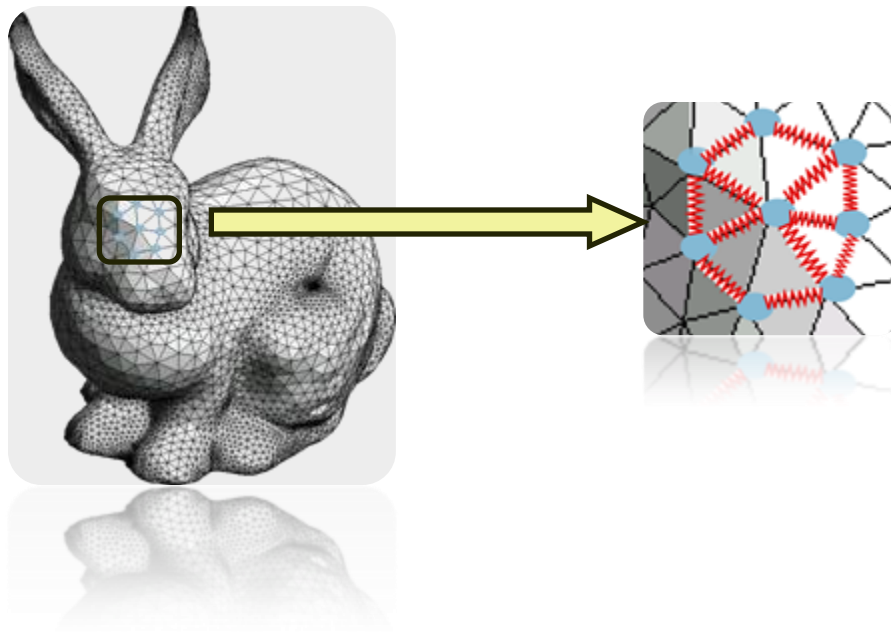
# Modal Analysis

- Discretization
  - An input triangle mesh  $\rightarrow$  a spring-mass system
  - A spring-mass system  $\rightarrow$  a set of decoupled modes



# Modal Analysis

- The spring-mass system set-up
  - Each vertex is considered as a mass particle
  - Each edge is considered as a damped spring

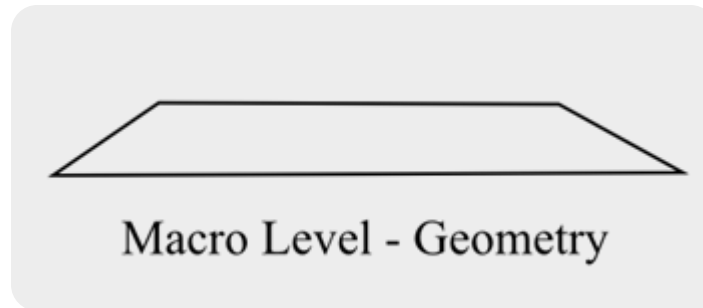


# Our Solution

- Three levels of simulation
  - Macro level: simulating the interactions on the overall surface shape
  - Meso level: simulating the interactions on the surface material bumpiness
  - Micro level: simulating the interactions on the surface material roughness

# Three-level Simulation

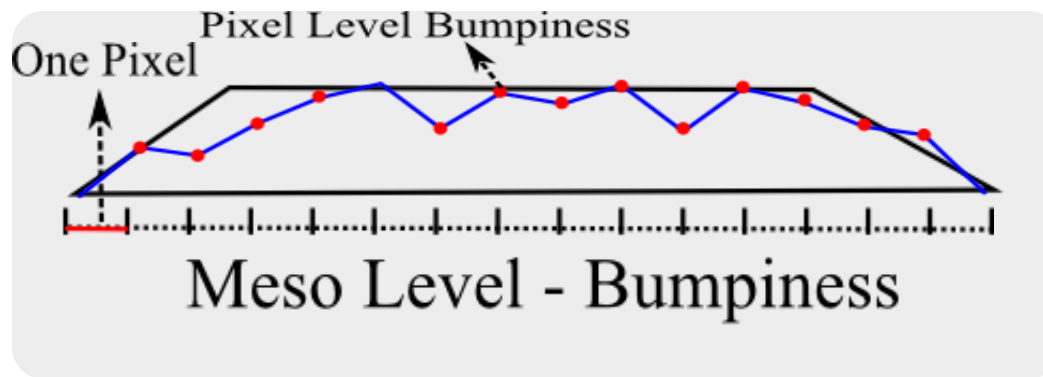
- Macro level: Geometry information
  - Update rate: 100's Hz
- Update rate does not need to be high



- The geometry information is from the input triangle mesh, and contacts are reported by collision detection in the physics engine.

# Three-level Simulation

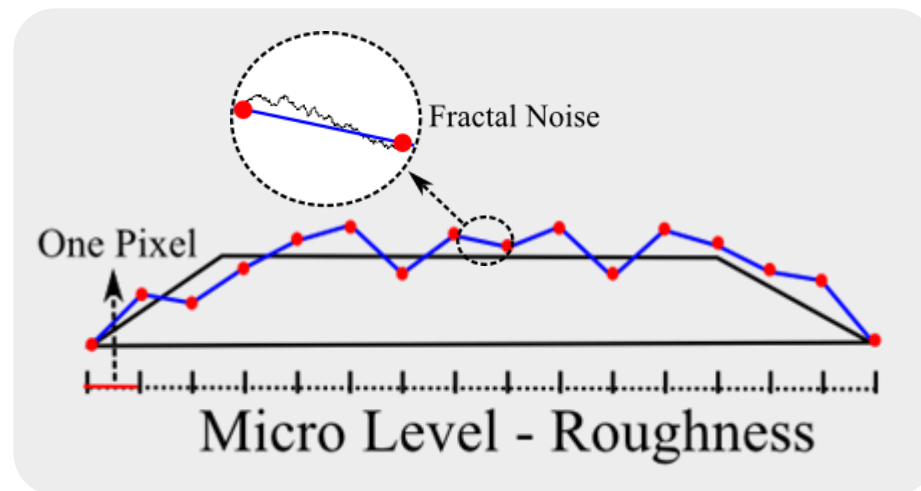
- Meso level: Bumpiness



- Bump mapping is ubiquitous in real-time graphics rendering
- Bump maps are visible to users but transparent to physics simulation

# Three-level Simulation

- Micro level simulation: Van den Doel et al. 01



- Fractal noise is used to simulate the micro-level interaction

*Live demo of only micro-level simulation enabled  
And both micro, meso, and macro-level simulation enabled*



# Three-level Simulation

- Advantages:
  - Fast and simple. Makes real-time sound synthesis driven by complex interaction possible.
  - Captures the richness of sound varying at three levels of resolution
  - Visual and auditory feedbacks are consistent

# Video Demonstration

Video

# Integration with Touch-Enabled Interfaces

- **Multi-Touch Display**
  - Camera tracking user hand gesture; sense of touch provided by display surfaces
- **Haptic Devices**
  - Existing physics engine provides sufficient information for user-object interaction

# Virtual Musical Instrument

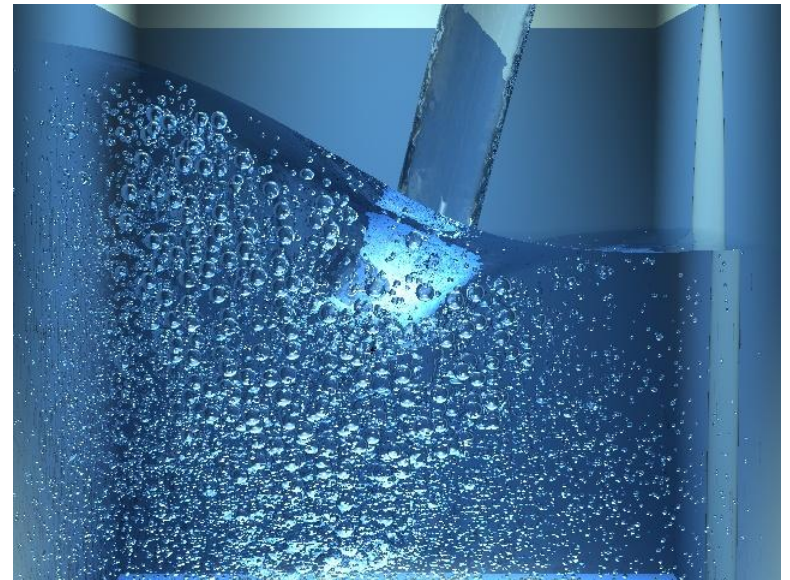
Video

# Sounding Liquids

- Work in physics and engineering literature since 1917
  - Sound generated by resonating bubbles
- *Physically-based Models for Liquid Sounds*  
(van den Doel, 2005)
  - Spherical bubble model
  - No fluid simulator coupling
    - Hand tune bubble profile

# Background (Fluid)

- Grid-based methods
  - Accurate to grid resolution
    - Bubbles can be smaller
  - Slow
  - Can be two-phase



# Background (Fluid)

- Shallow Water Equations
  - Simulate water surface
    - No breaking waves
  - Real time
  - One phase
    - Explicit bubbles



# Overview

- Generate sound from existing fluid simulation
  - Model sound generated by bubbles
- Apply model to two types of fluid simulators
  - **Particle-Grid-based**
    - Extract bubbles
    - Process spherical and non-spherical bubbles
    - Generate sound
  - **Shallow Water Equations**
    - Processes surface
      - Curvature and velocity
    - Select bubble from distribution
    - Generate sound



# Mathematical Formulations

- **Spherical Bubbles**

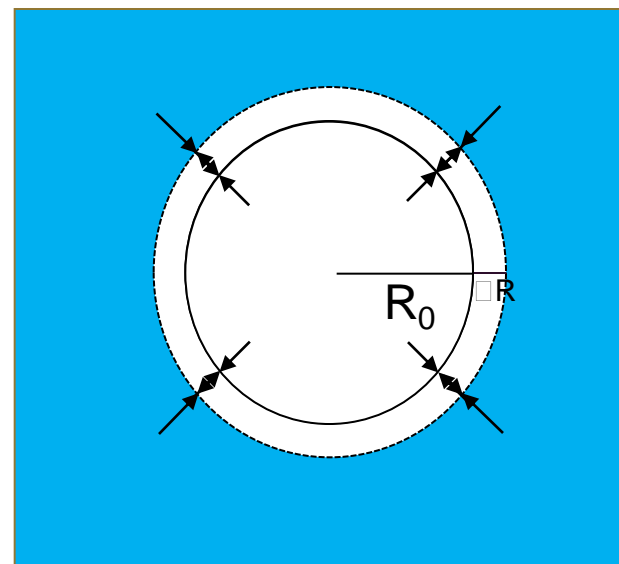
$$f_0 = \frac{1}{2\pi} \sqrt{\frac{3\gamma p_0}{\rho R_0^2}}$$

$$\tau(t) = A \sin(2\pi f(t)t) e^{-dt}$$

- **Non-spherical bubbles**

- Decompose into a spherical harmonics

$$f_n^2 \approx \frac{1}{4\pi^2} (n-1)(n+1)(n+2) \frac{\sigma}{\rho R_0^3}$$



# Video Demonstration

Video

# Summary

- Simple, automatic sound synthesis
- Applied to two fluid simulators
  - Interactive, shallow water
  - High-quality, grid based

