



# Solid Modeling: a cousin of PM

CS535

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(slides based on Ajay Joneja, HKUST)

# Solid Modeling



History:

CNC: ~1950

Mainframe Computers: ~1960's

BREP: 1970 (Baumgart)

CSG: 1974 (Ian Braid)

# Computerized Drafting



## *Advantages:*

Saves on storage/retrieval;  
Easy modification, update;

## *Shortcomings:*

Can't analyse the  
strength, shape,  
geometry, weight  
center of mass, center of inertia

Popular Commercial tools: AutoCAD, CADKEY...

# Constructive Solid Geometry (CSG)



Introduced: Ian Braid (Cambridge University, ~74)

Concepts:

Primitives: small set of shapes

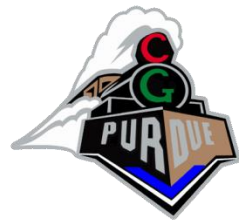
Transformations: scaling, Rotation, Translation

Set-theoretic Operations Union, Intersection, Difference

[ *Euler operators* ]

Combinations of these → Solid part

# Euler operators



$\cup^*$  (regular union)

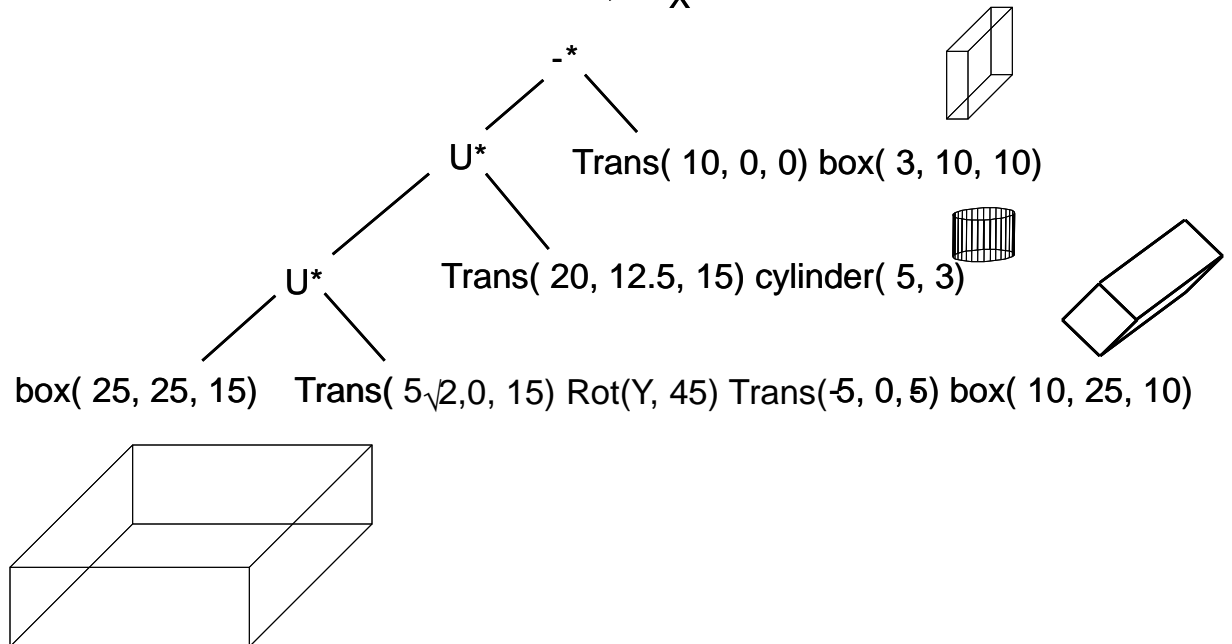
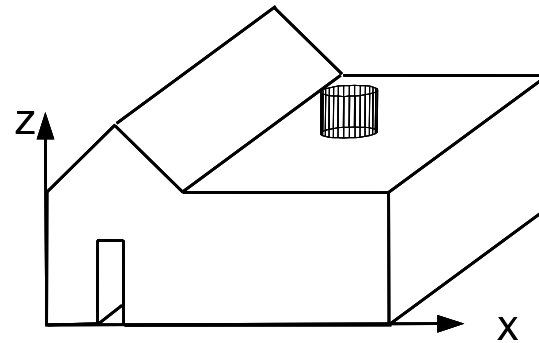
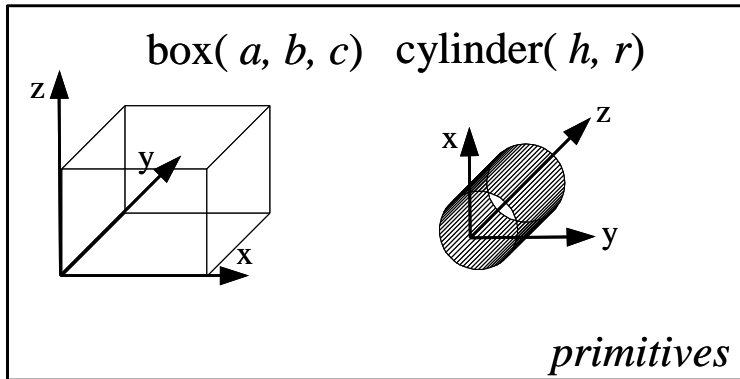
$-^*$  (regular difference)

$\cap^*$  (regular intersection)

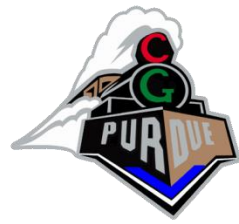
**CSG Tree:**

Sequence of operators  $\rightarrow$  design

# Examples of CSG



# Questions:



Can we use a different set of primitives ?

Is the CSG representation unique ?

[how to determine if two solids are identical ?]

# Regularized operators



Is the set of 3D solids is closed with respect to  $( \cup, -, \cap )$ ?

closure of a set  $S: kS$

interior of a set  $S: iS$

$$A \cup^* B = k i ( A \cup B )$$

$$A -^* B = k i ( A - B )$$

$$A \cap^* B = k i ( A \cap B )$$

Why is closure over operations important?

uniform data structures



# Regularized Euler Operators

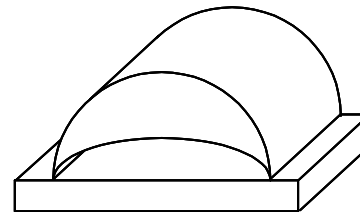
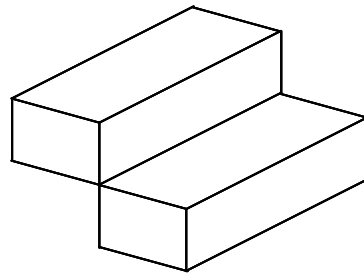
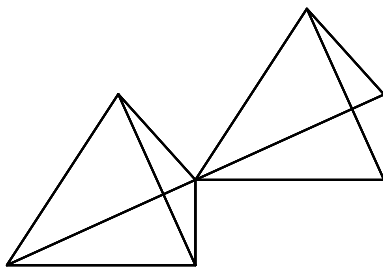


Maintain solid as a *regular 2-Manifold*

2-Manifold regular solids

Open neighborhood of each point is similar to an open disc

Non 2-Manifold:



# Problems with CSG



Non-Unique representation

Difficulty of performing analysis for some tasks

# BREP (Boundary REPresentation)



What entities define the

Boundary of a solid ?

Boundary of surfaces?

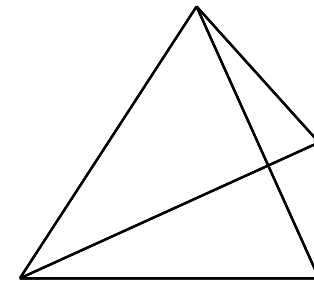
Boundary of curves (edges) ?

Boundary of points ?

# BREP

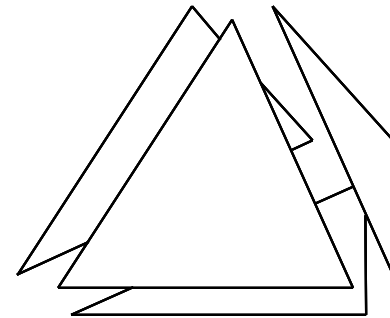


Boundary of a solid...



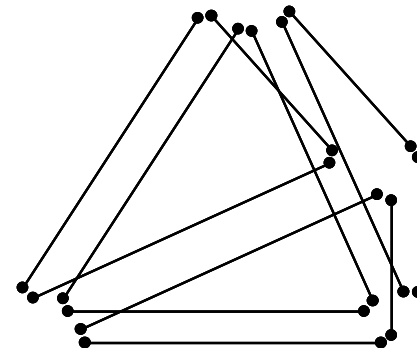
(a) Solid: bounded, connected subset of  $E^3$

Boundary of surfaces...



(b) Faces: boundary of solid  
bounded, connected subsets of Surfaces

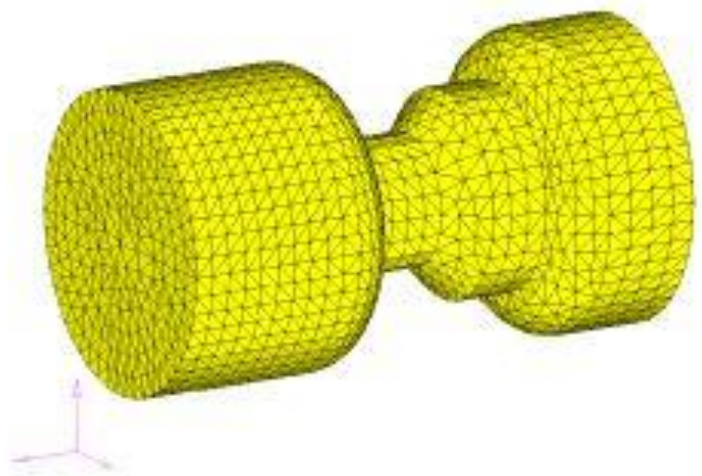
Boundary of curves (edges)...



(c) Edges: boundary of faces  
bounded, connected subsets of curves

BREP:

Polyhedral models



# Using a Boundary Model



Compute Volume, Weight

Compute Surface area

Point inside/outside solid

Intersection of two faces

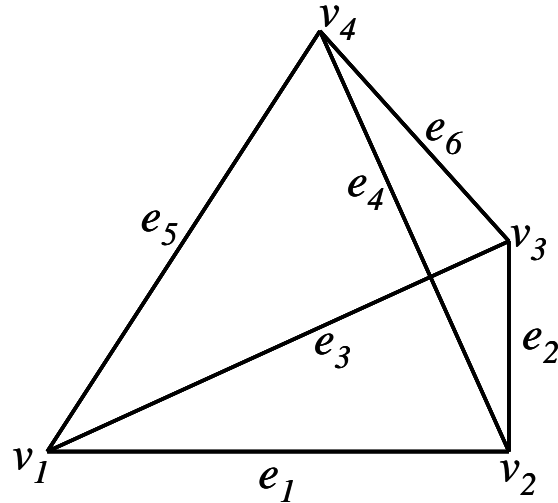
...

# An Edge-Based Model



*Faces:*

$f_1$	$e_1$	$e_4$	$e_5$
$f_2$	$e_2$	$e_6$	$e_4$
$f_3$	$e_3$	$e_5$	$e_6$
$f_4$	$e_3$	$e_2$	$e_1$



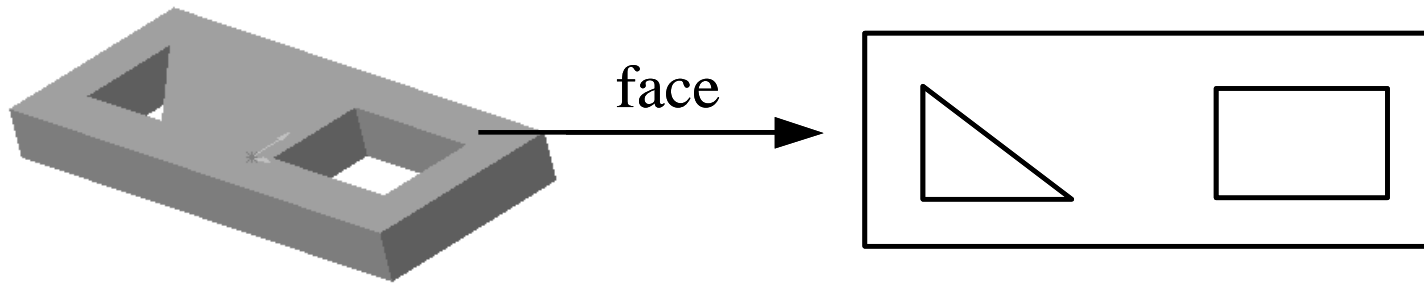
*Edges:*

$e_1$	$v_1$	$v_2$
$e_2$	$v_2$	$v_3$
$e_3$	$v_3$	$v_1$
$e_4$	$v_2$	$v_4$
$e_5$	$v_1$	$v_4$
$e_6$	$v_3$	$v_4$

*Vertices:*

$v_1$	$x_1$	$y_1$	$z_1$
$v_2$	$x_2$	$y_2$	$z_2$
$v_3$	$x_3$	$y_3$	$z_3$
$v_4$	$x_4$	$y_4$	$z_4$
$v_5$	$x_5$	$y_5$	$z_5$
$v_6$	$x_6$	$y_6$	$z_6$

# Edge-Based Models: *inefficient algorithms*



Compute Surface Area:

1. Identify Loops
2. Compute area of each loop
3. Compute area of face



# The Winged-Edge Data Structure



Efficient implementation of often-used algorithms

Area of Face

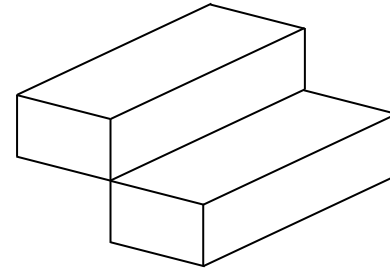
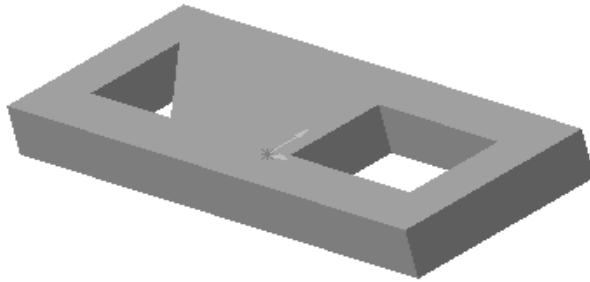
Hidden surface removal

Find neighbor-faces of a face

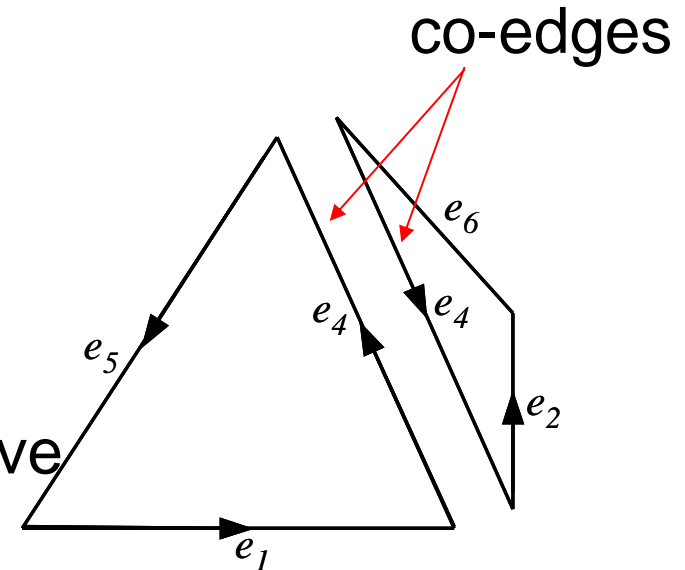
# Observations



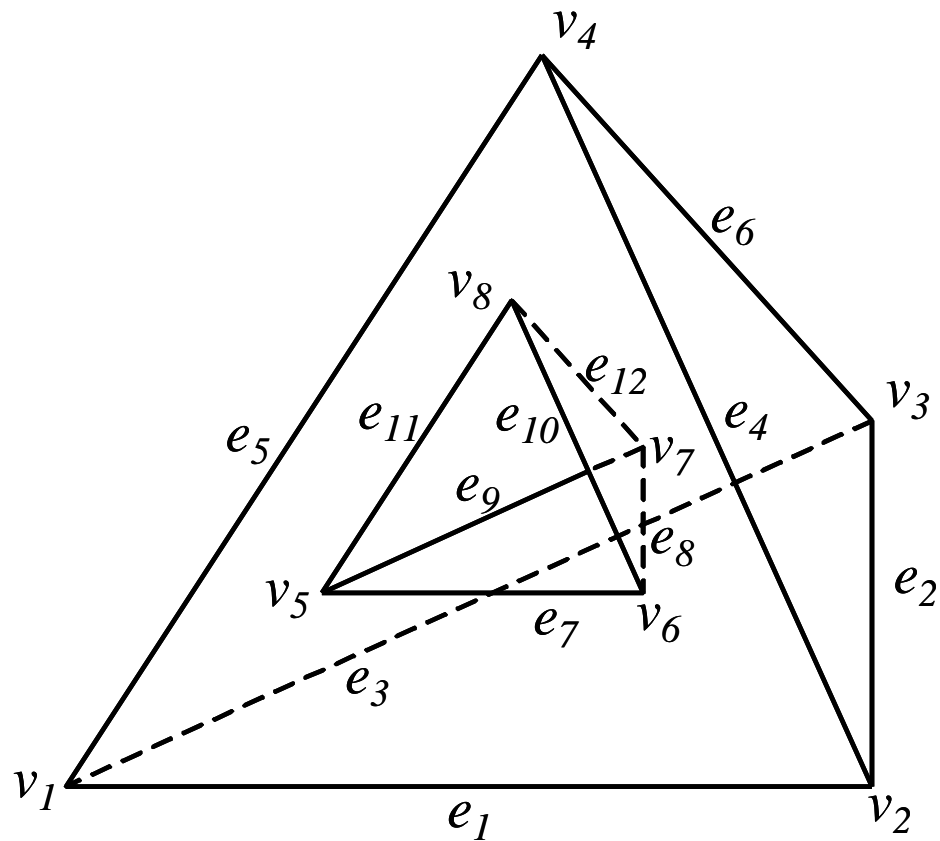
2-Manifold => Each edge is shared by exactly 2 faces



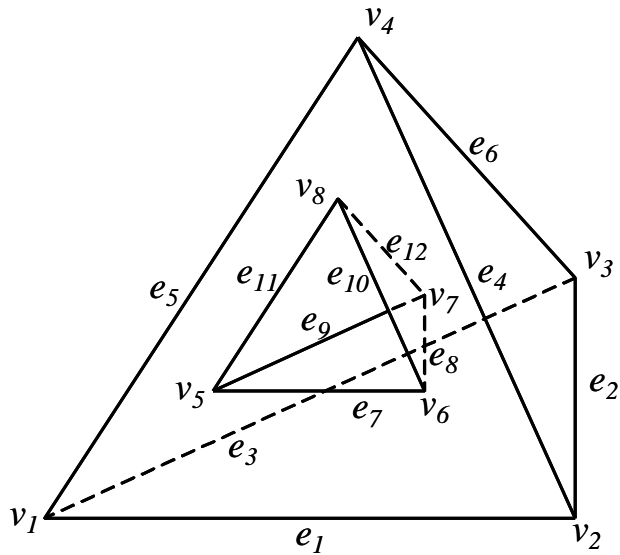
Face CCW convention =>  
Each edge is once +ve, once -ve



# BREP Example



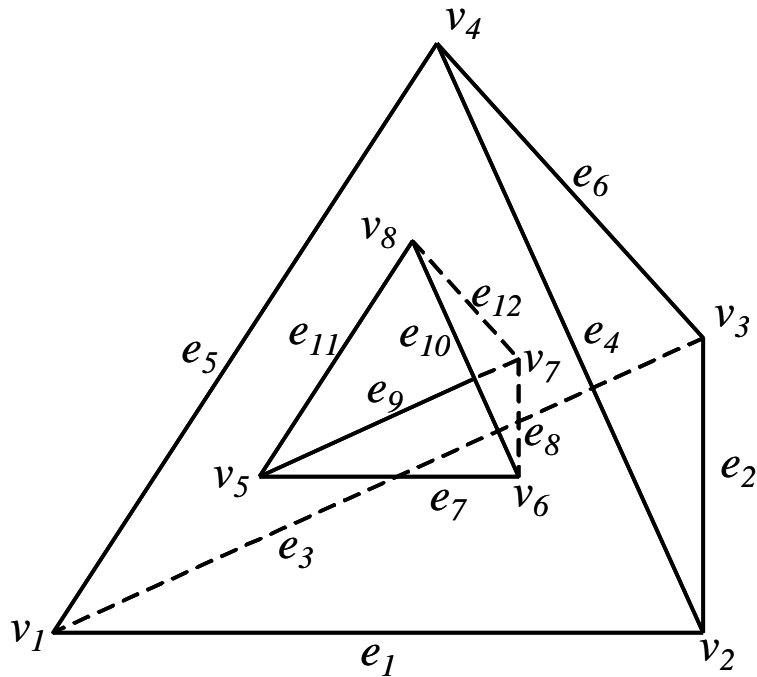
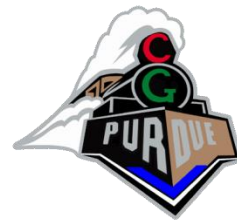
# BREP Example



*Vertices:*

$v_1$	$x_1$	$y_1$	$z_1$
$v_2$	$x_2$	$y_2$	$z_2$
$v_3$	$x_3$	$y_3$	$z_3$
$v_4$	$x_4$	$y_4$	$z_4$
$v_5$	$x_5$	$y_5$	$z_5$
$v_6$	$x_6$	$y_6$	$z_6$
$v_7$	$x_7$	$y_7$	$z_7$
$v_8$	$x_8$	$y_8$	$z_8$

# BREP Example..

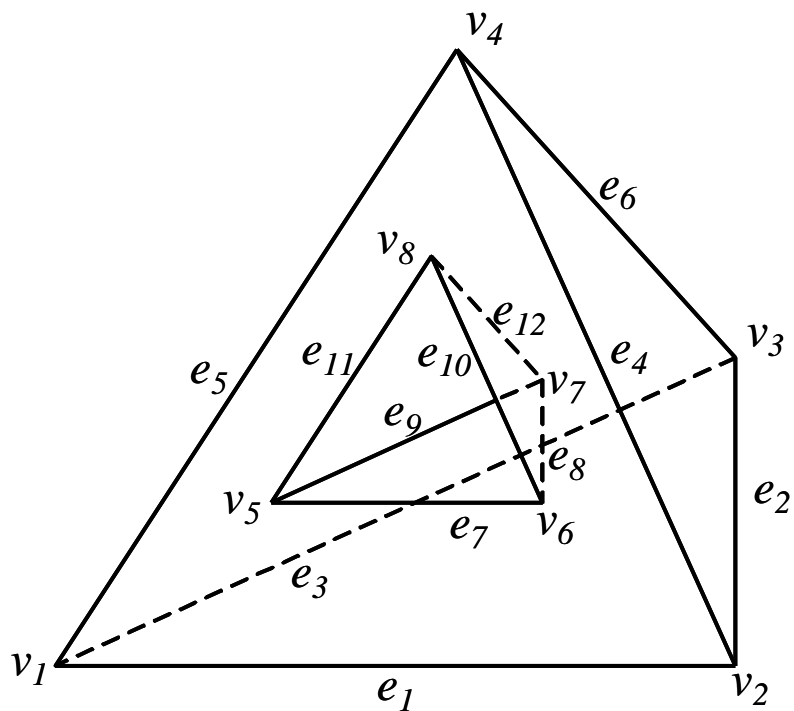


*Edges:*

$e_1$	$v_1$	$v_2$
$e_2$	$v_2$	$v_3$
$e_3$	$v_3$	$v_1$
$e_4$	$v_2$	$v_4$
$e_5$	$v_1$	$v_4$
$e_6$	$v_3$	$v_4$
$e_7$	$v_5$	$v_6$
$e_8$	$v_6$	$v_7$
$e_9$	$v_7$	$v_5$
$e_{10}$	$v_6$	$v_8$
$e_{11}$	$v_5$	$v_8$
$e_{12}$	$v_7$	$v_8$



# BREP Example...



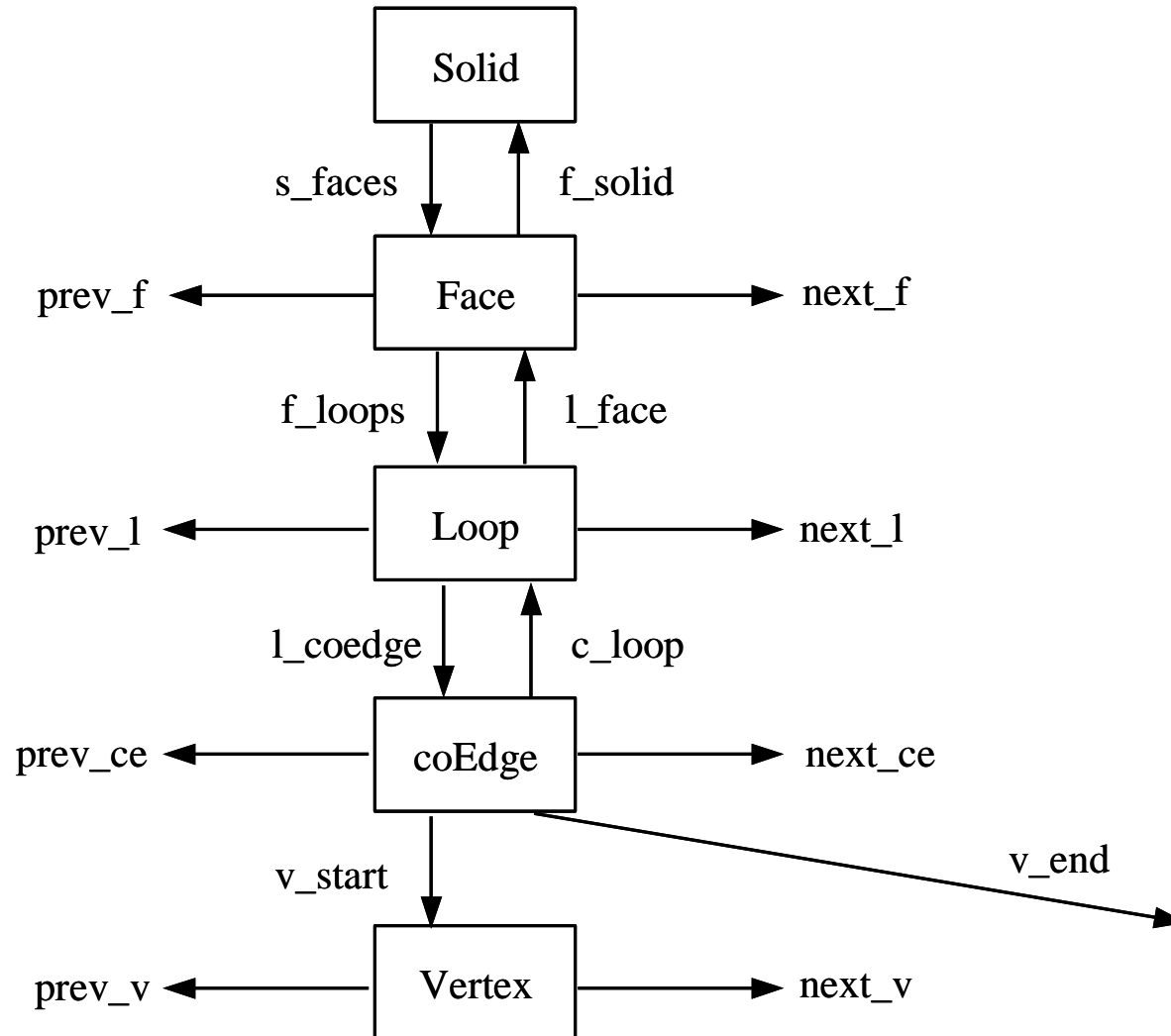
## Faces:

$f_1$	$l_1$	$l_2$
$f_2$	$l_3$	
$f_3$	$l_4$	
$f_4$	$l_5$	
$f_5$	$l_6$	
$f_6$	$l_7$	
$f_7$	$l_8$	

## Loops:

$l_1$	$+e_1$	$+e_4$	$-e_5$
$l_2$	$-e_7$	$+e_{11}$	$-e_{10}$
$l_3$	$+e_2$	$+e_6$	$-e_4$
$l_4$	$+e_5$	$-e_6$	$+e_3$
$l_5$	$-e_1$	$-e_3$	$-e_2$
$l_6$	$+e_7$	$+e_8$	$+e_9$
$l_7$	$+e_{10}$	$-e_{12}$	$-e_8$
$l_8$	$-e_{11}$	$-e_9$	$+e_{12}$

# BREP: Winged edge data structure



# BREP or CSG ?



Using: CSG is more intuitive

Computing: BREP is more convenient

Modern CAD Systems:

CSG for GUI (feature tree)

BREP for internal storage and  
API's



# BREP: non-polyhedral models?



Same Data Structure, plus

For each edge, store equation

For each curved face, store equation

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Why do we need to learn all this ?

(a) To anticipate when an operation will fail

(b) To allow us to write API's



# CSG

- “InverseCSG: Automatic Conversion of 3D Models to CSG Trees”

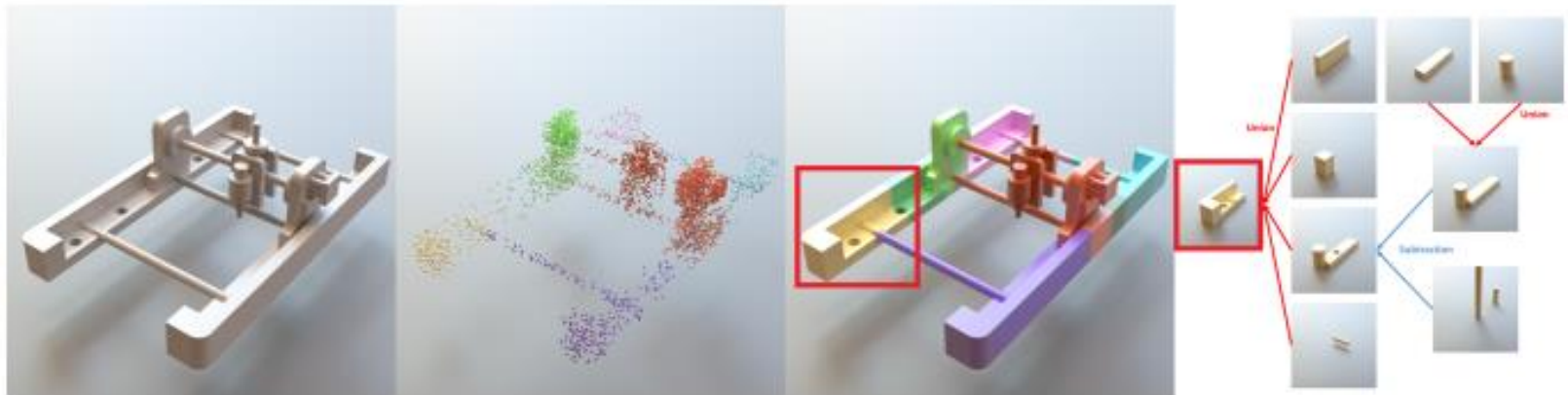


Fig. 1. We provide a system that takes as input a mesh file (left) and outputs its constructive solid geometry (CSG) representation. The three key ideas are a) use of carefully designed point samples to guide a purely discrete search problem (points, middle left), b) a divide-and-conquer algorithm to segment problems to ensure success (colors, middle left), and c) use of program synthesis techniques to solve the hard discrete search problem in each segment. The output CSG structure (middle right) correctly infers over 50 solid primitives and 18 boolean operators. A part of the solution (red box) is extracted for demonstration (right).