

# The Animation Presentation

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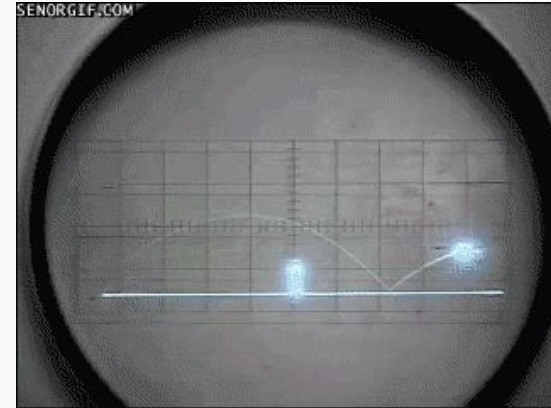


# Table of Contents

- History
- Modern Industry Standards
- Common problems
- Toolkits
  - Comparison
- C4D -> Unity Demo

# History - Oscilloscope

- Tennis for Two
- Pong
- Space War

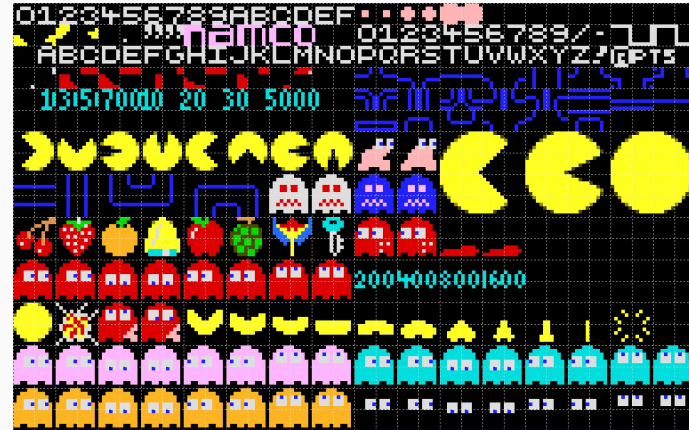


# History - 2D Sprites

- Sprite sheets were used to switch out different sprites to create the illusion of movement
- This method was commonly used in old arcade machines, Atari (1975), the Nintendo Entertainment system (NES) (1983), Super NES (SNES)(1990), and the Sega Genesis (1989)



# History - 2D Sprites

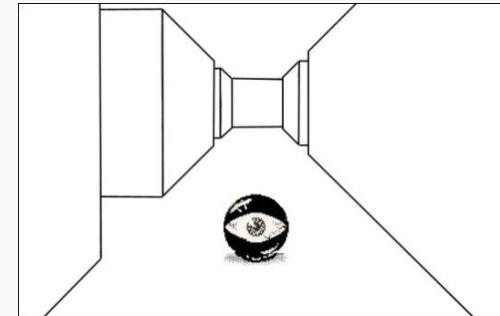


# History - 2D Sprites



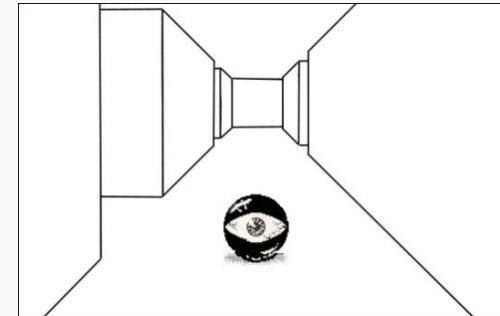
# History - Early 3D Graphics

- Maze War (1974)
- Star Wars (1983)
- Wolfenstein 3d (1992)
- Doom (1993)



# History - Early 3D Graphics

- Added depth perception to a lot of games, but the animation was still done using sprites





# History - 3D Graphics

- 3D graphics and animation were greatly popularized throughout the 90s
- Sony Playstation released in 1994
- Nintendo 64 released in 1996



# History - 3D Graphics



# History - 3D Graphics

- Several 3D modeling and animation software were released
  - Autodesk 3DS Max (1990) and Autodesk Maya (1998) which both became industry standard for many games
- Geforce 256 released 1999
  - Introduction of Graphical Processing Unit (GPU)

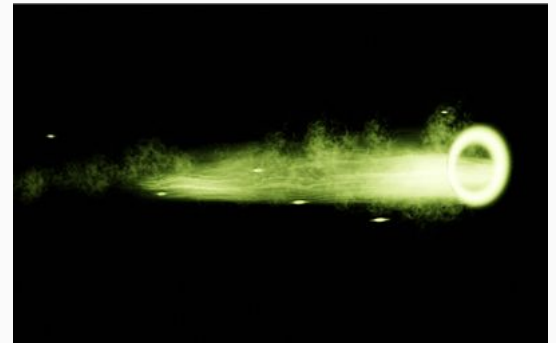
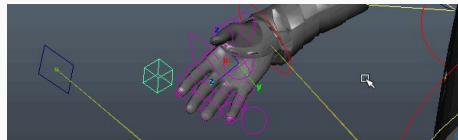
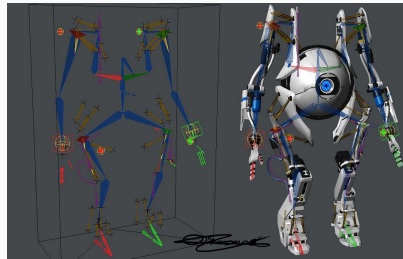


AUTODESK®  
3DS MAX®



# History - 3D Graphics

- Rather than switching out sprites, computers now generated the position of vertices in virtual 3d space and would move them to create the illusion of animation
- 3D software introduced several new techniques including:
  - Keyframing
  - Particle Systems
  - Rigging
  - Realistic Physics Engines



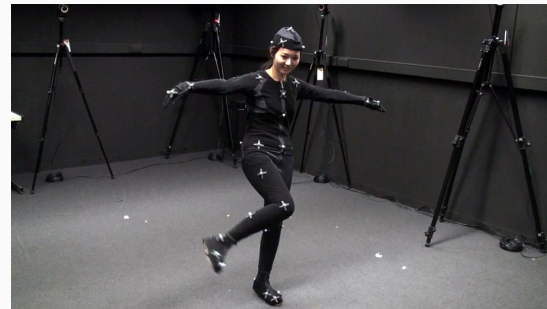
# History - Motion Capture (MOCAP)

- Star Wars - The Phantom Menace (1999)
- Sinbad - Beyond the Veil of Mists (2000)
- Final Fantasy - The Spirits Within (2001)
- The Fellowship of the Ring (2001)

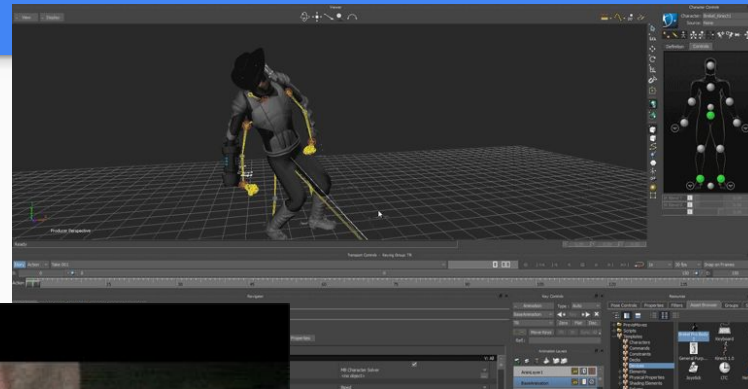


# History - Motion Capture (MOCAP)

- Locates points in a controlled real world space and maps them to equivalent locations in a virtual 3d space



# History - Motion Capture (MOCAP)



# Modern Industry Standards for games

- Create Animations in 3D modeling/Animation software
  - Autodesk 3DS Max (released 1990)
  - Cinema4d (released 1993)
  - Autodesk Maya (released 1998)
  - Blender (released 1995)
    - Mostly used for personal projects
- Import animations into game engine
- Add game logic to transition between animations

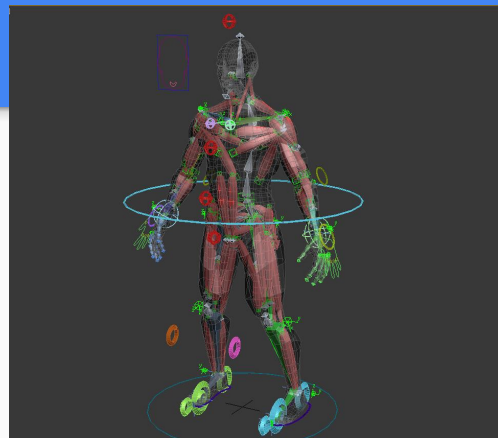


# BAD ANIMATION



# We Take For Granted What Makes a Good Animation

- Animation requires precision
  - from all angles!
  - differs from movies
- Animation requires detail
  - models often have well over 100,000 vertices and polygons
  - animations must be able to successfully manipulate each of these to avoid looking amateurish
  - Animations don't just have to be good - they need to make the character come to life; "pop"



# What Can Go Wrong?

- **Bad rigging**
  - Rig - hierarchical set of bones; the “skeleton” of character
  - If the skeleton isn't correct, how does your animation have hope?
- **Poor modeling**
  - A poor model will lead to deformations when animating
  - As aforementioned, good models have a massive number of vertices
- **Good animation isn't easy!**

# Sometimes, the Animation Isn't Even the Real Problem

- Original Pokemon - Safari zone spinning steps glitch



# The Definition of “Bad Animation” has grown

- Depending on available technology, “bad animation” is subjective
  - Early games: bad spritesheets?
  - Modern games: Poor models, rigging, etc.
- In some cases, developers have their “hands tied” when animating

# Technology Was at One Time an Excuse

- In the past, games were affected by platform constraints
  - Madden 2005 (DS) - Graphics Engine
  - “the athletes are extremely basic geometry and move with a robotic stiffness “ -IGN
  - 4th best DS game of 2004! At least they tried

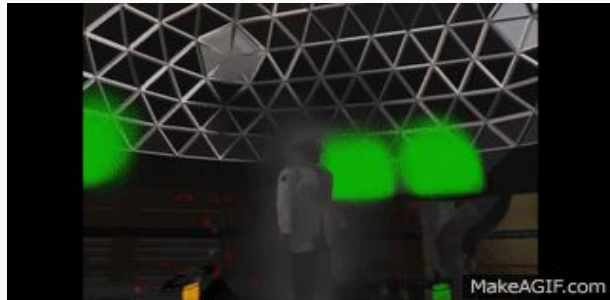


# Modern Games Have Created Lofty Standards

- Great animation in popular games
  - Batman: Arkham City, The Last of Us
- In Batman: Arkham Asylum, Batman's cape took over 700 animations and 2 years to make!
- These games thus used as the measuring stick
  - Even when perhaps they shouldn't be!
  - Everything else held under a microscope
  - Thus, the "modern" definition of bad animation is much different than in the past

# What are byproducts of bad animation?

- People don't take your game seriously
  - Country Justice: Revenge of the Rednecks
- The game loses its immersive aspect
  - "Survival horror"
- It can affect gameplay
  - GTA 5 "stuck in position" glitch





# Lastly, What Went Wrong?

- Resident Evil:
  - Run button tapped as fast as possible
  - Animation of walking up / down stairs skipped
- GTA5:
  - Before character can leave animation, they freeze when they enter car
  - they remain in that state when they exit
- Country Justice: Revenge of the Rednecks:
  - They followed through on their idea to make a game

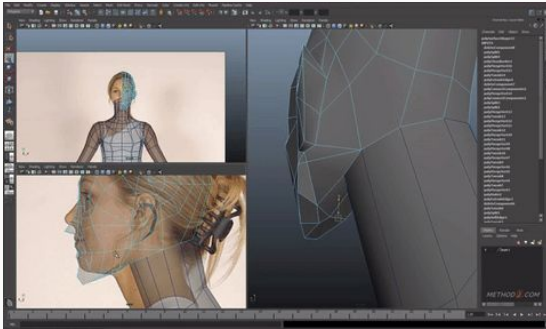
# Standard Toolkits

- Maya, 3ds Max, Cinema 4D, Blender
- Similarities:
- Modeling, rigging, animating, and rendering tools
- Simulation tools
- Texturing tools

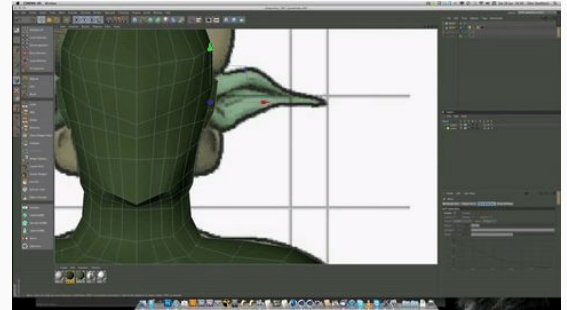


# Modeling

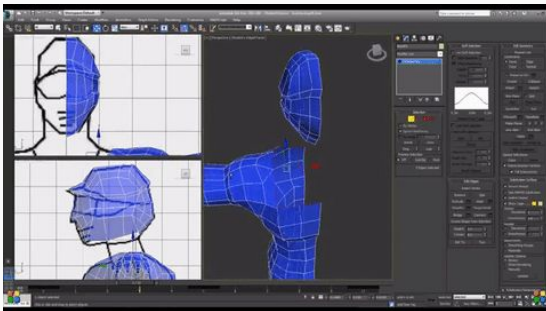
Maya



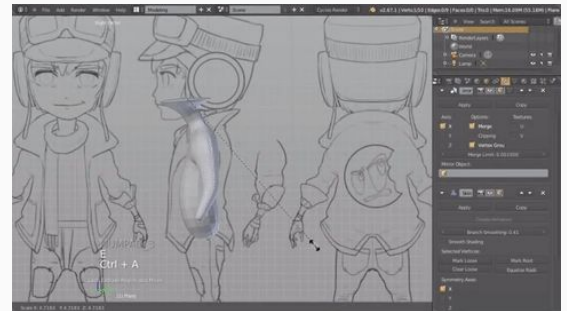
C4D



3ds Max

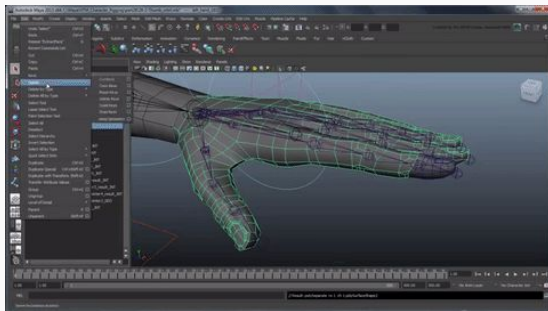


Blender



# Rigging

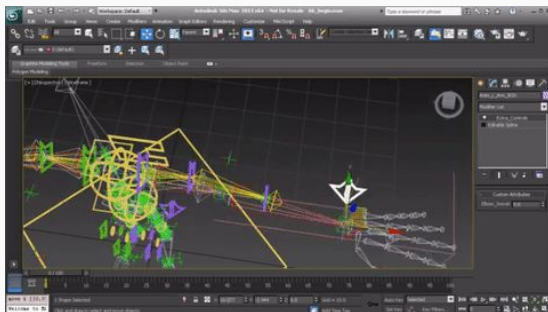
Maya



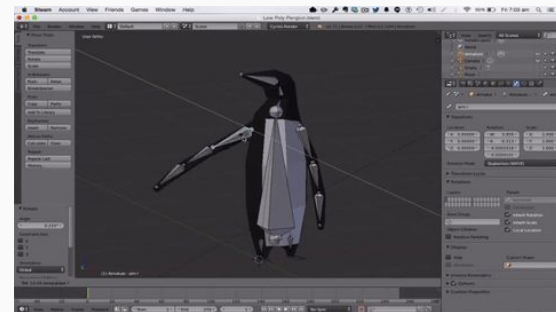
C4D



3ds Max



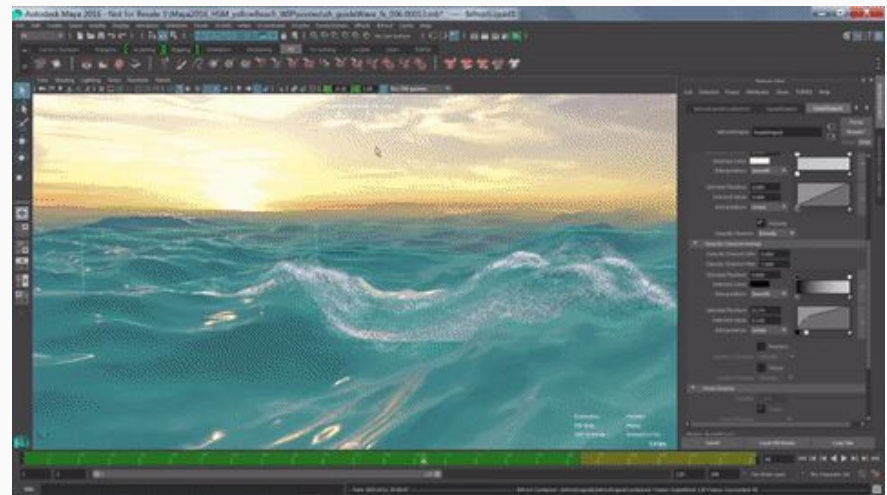
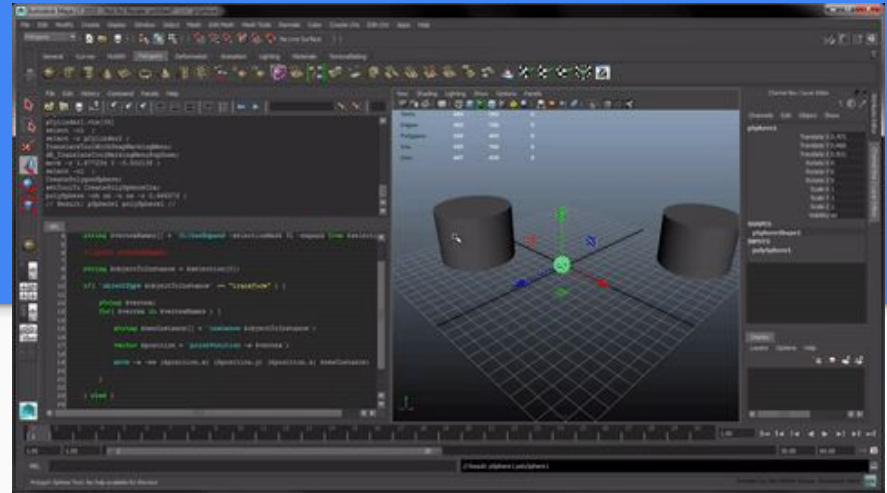
Blender



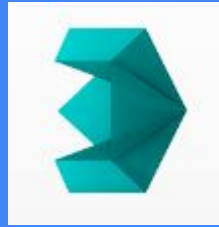
# Maya



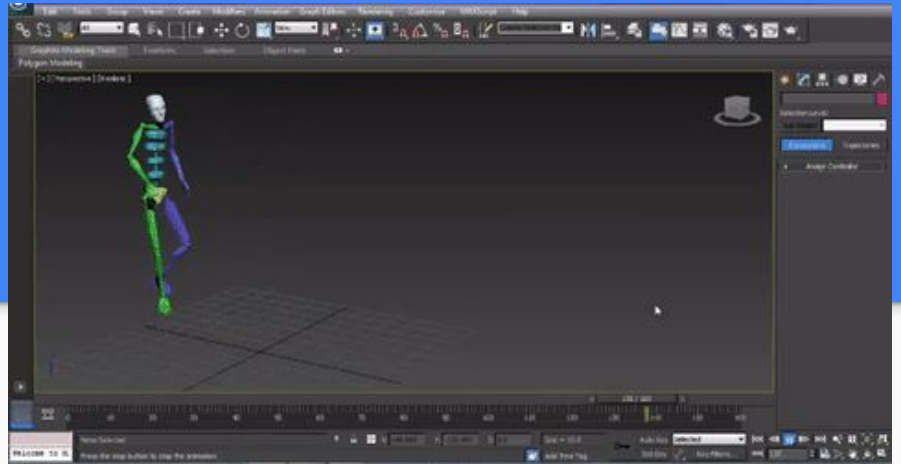
- Developer: Autodesk, Inc.
- Originally released in 1998
- Compatible OS: Windows, Mac, Linux
- Proprietary (\$185 monthly)
- Key features: Fluid Effects, Bifrost, Classic Cloth, Fur, nHair, Maya Live, nCloth, nParticle, MatchMover, Composite, Camera Sequencer, Maya Embedded Language



# 3ds Max



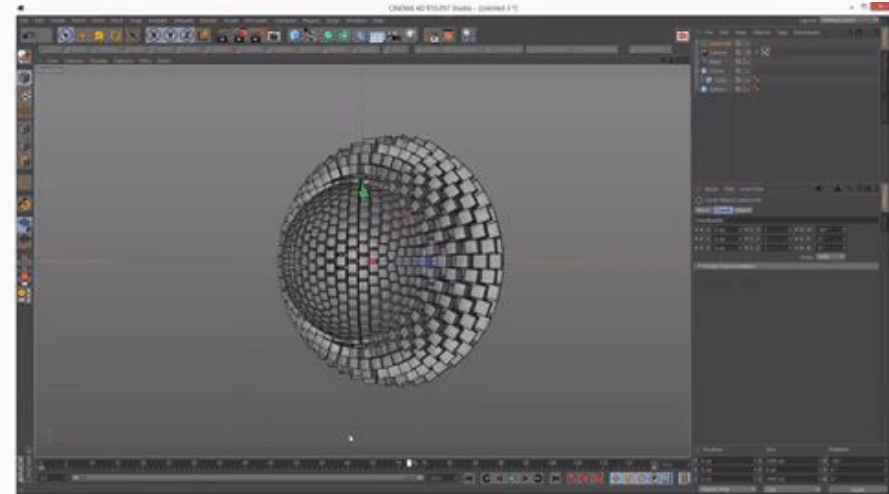
- Developer: Autodesk, Inc.
- Originally released in 1990
- Compatible OS: Windows
- Proprietary (\$185 monthly)
- Key features: MAXScript, Character Studio, Scene Explorer, Texture assignment/editing, Constrained animation, Skinning, Integrated Cloth solver, Integration with Autodesk Vault



# Cinema 4D



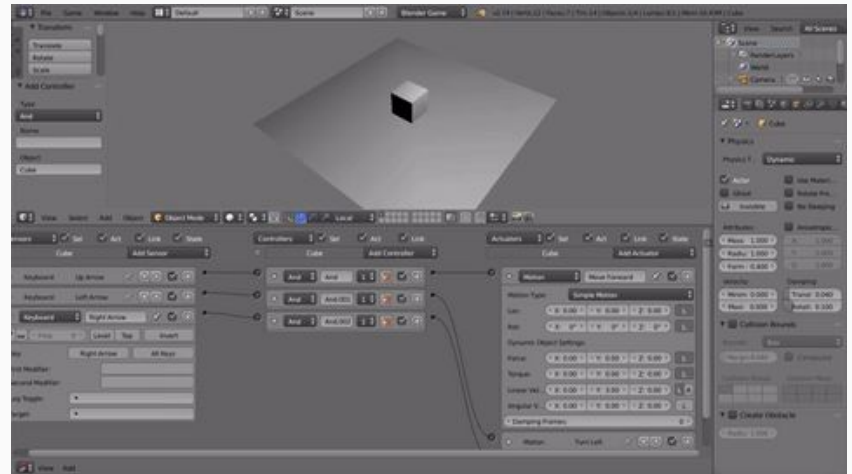
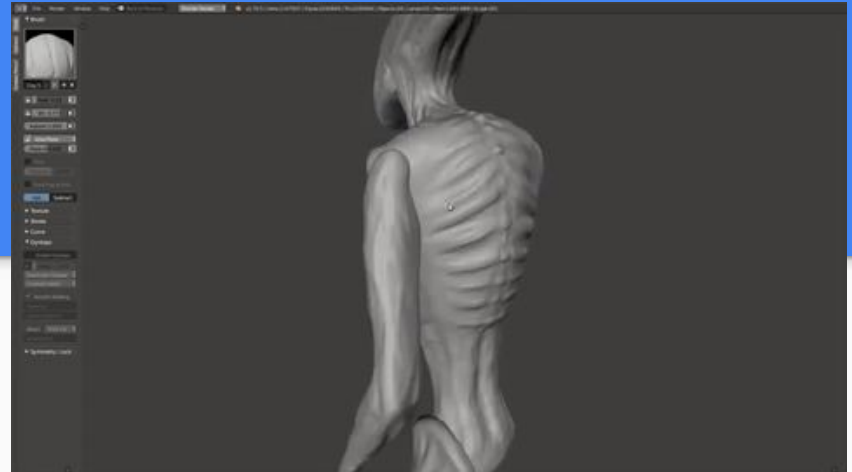
- Developer: Maxon
- Originally released in 1993
- Compatible OS: Windows, Mac, Linux
- Proprietary (\$3,695)
- Key features: Advanced Render, BodyPaint 3D, Dynamics, Hair, MOCCA, MoGraph, NET Render, PyroCluster, Sketch & Toon, Thinking Particles, Xpresso



# Blender



- Developer: Blender Foundation
- Originally released in 1995
- Compatible OS: Windows, Mac, Linux
- Free and open-source
- Key Features: B-mesh, internal render engine, Cycles, Keyframed animation tools, Simulation tools, particle system, Python scripting, Blender Game Engine, node-based compositor, Procedural and node-based textures





# Examples

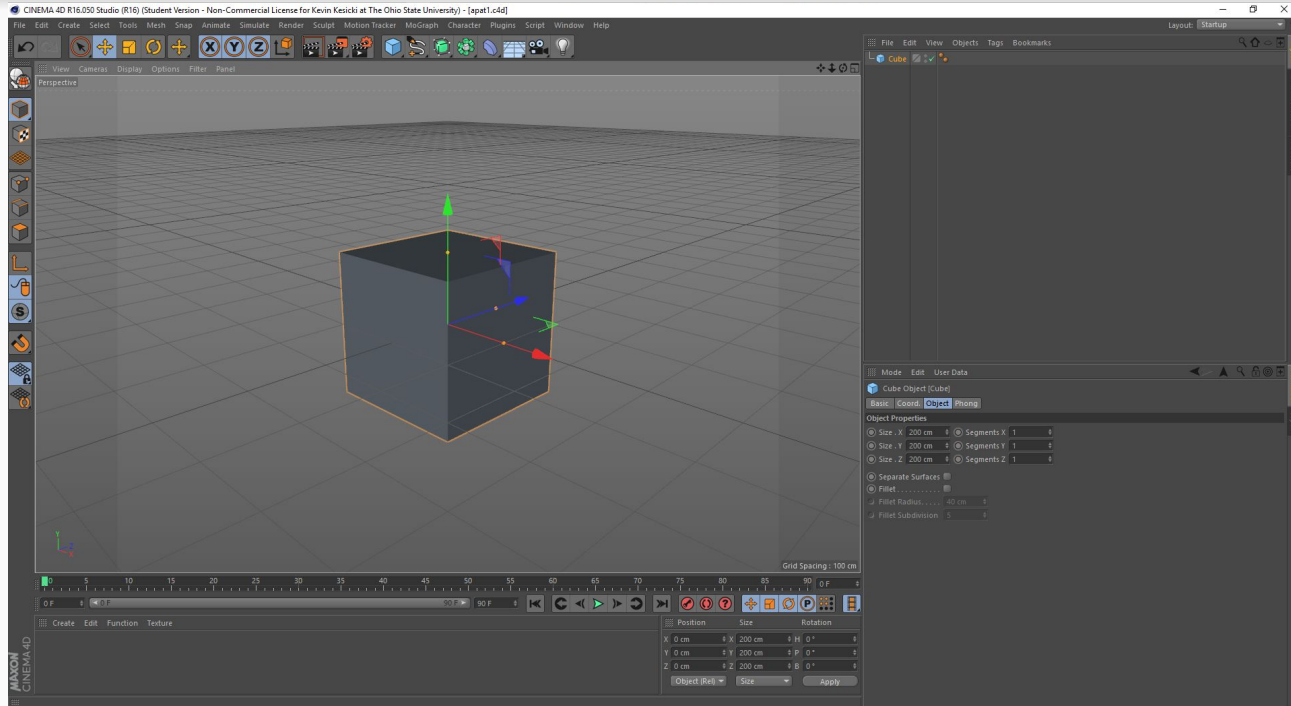
Autodesk Maya and 3ds Max reel 2014: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HmGU4cLxBo>



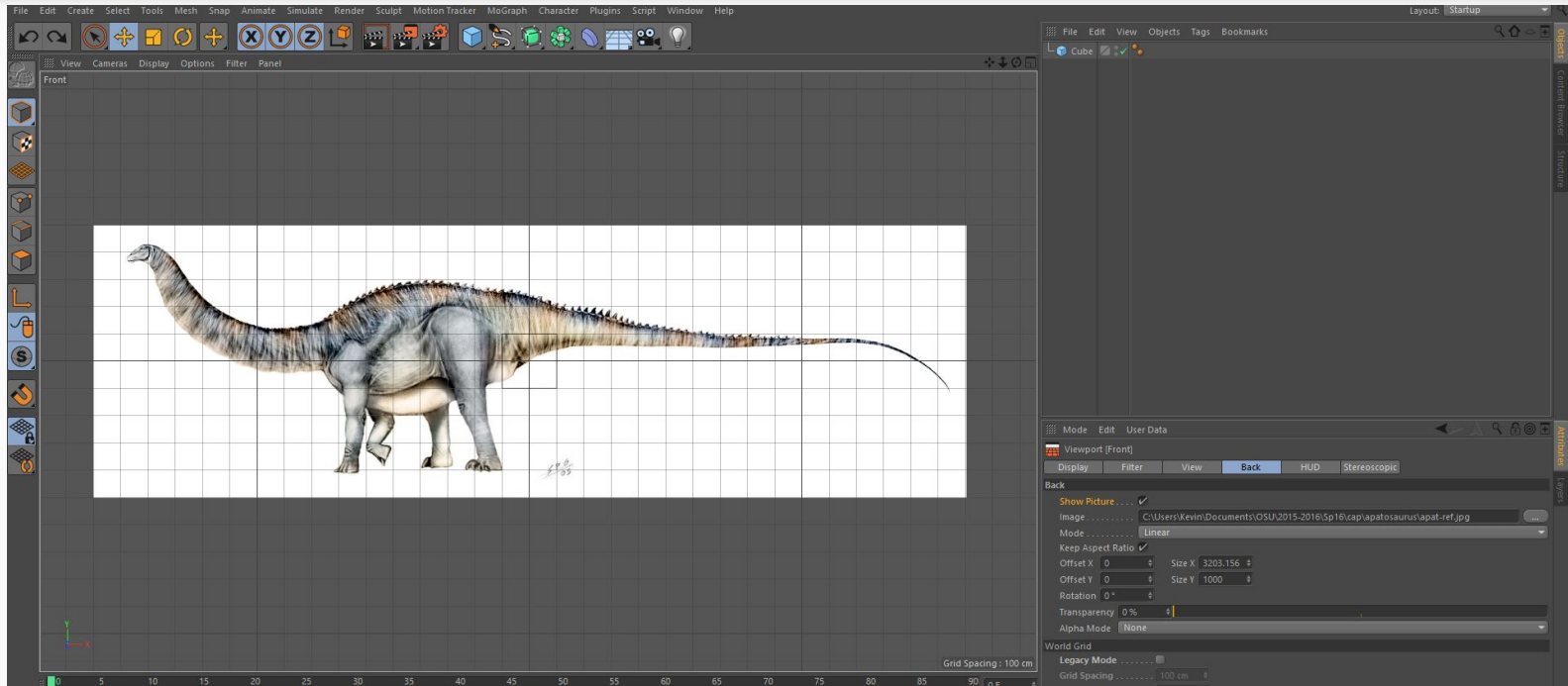
# Conclusion

- Maya tends to be considered the most complicated, but is one of the most used in industry
- Maya and 3ds Max are both widely used, both developed by Autodesk, Maya more complicated but better for animation
- Cinema 4D is considered easier to learn than the Autodesk packages but is still pretty widely used
- Blender is free and open source so it is one of the most popular for personal, hobbyist, and indie developer use
- Pretty much any modeling and animation can be done in any of these, it mostly comes down to personal preference

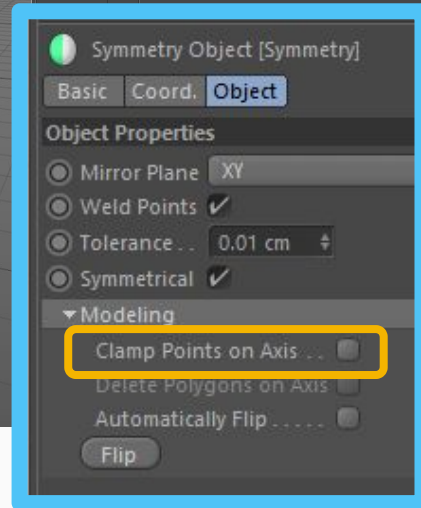
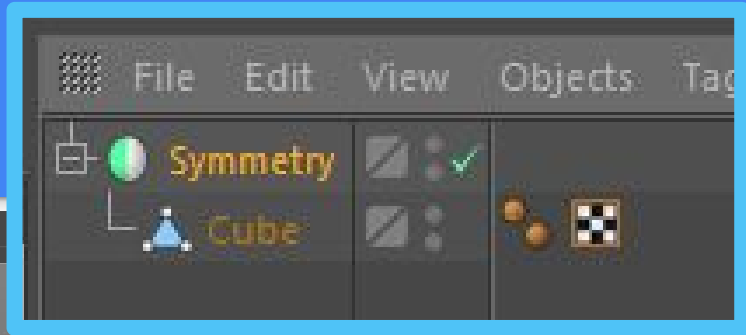
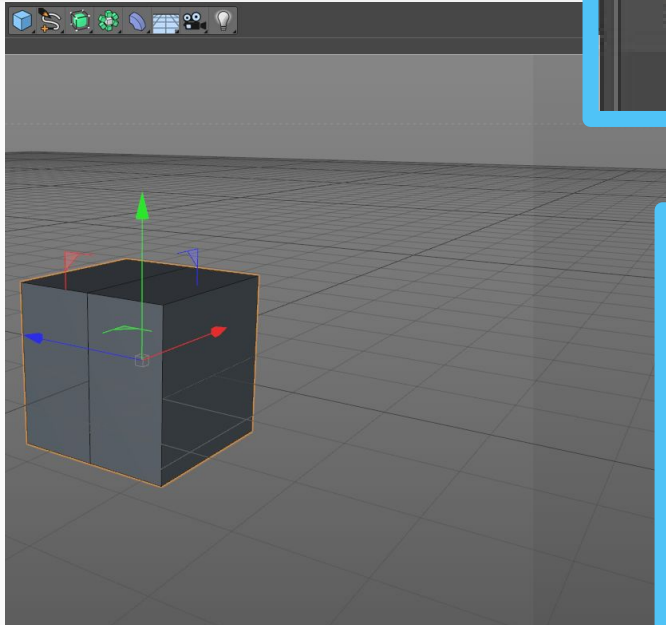
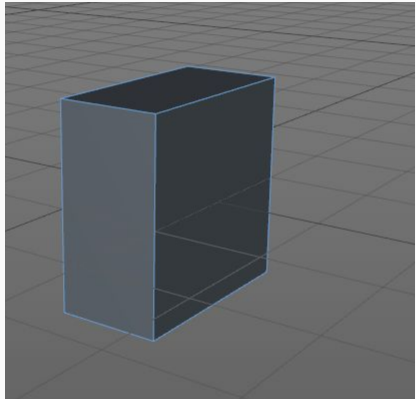
# C4D Demo



# C4D Demo - Reference Image

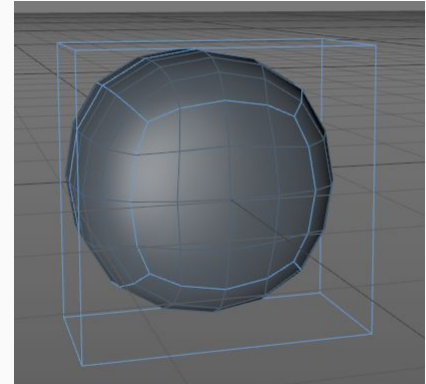
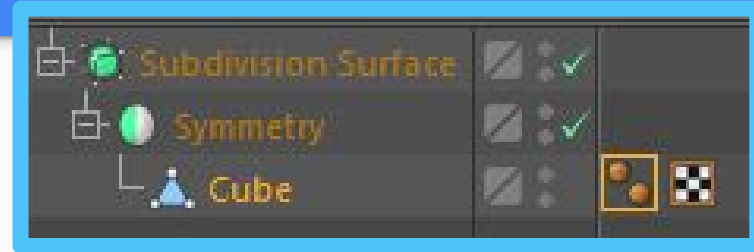


# C4D Demo - Symmetry

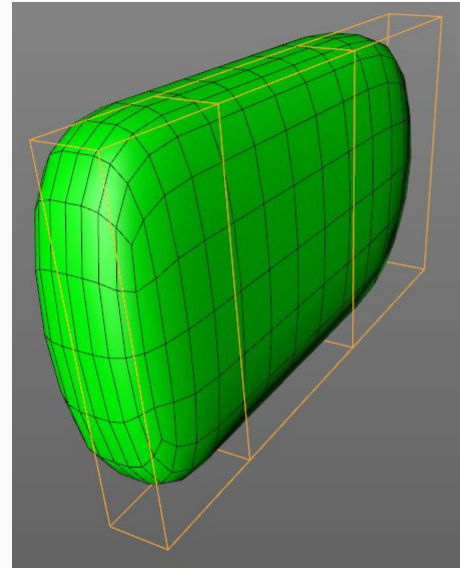
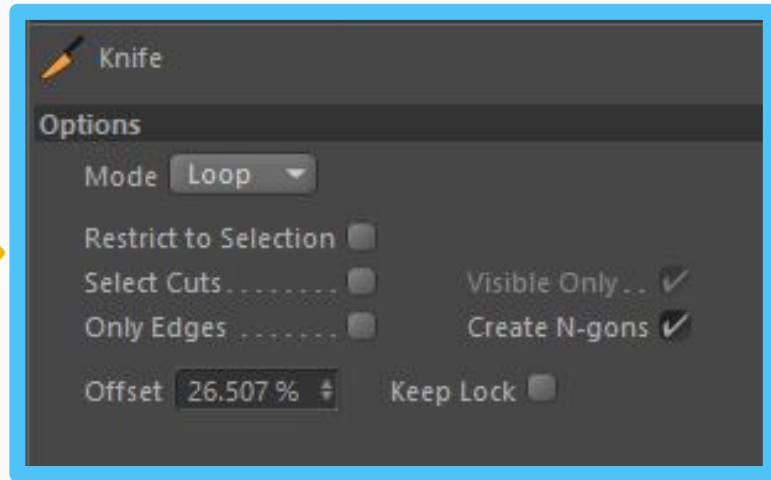
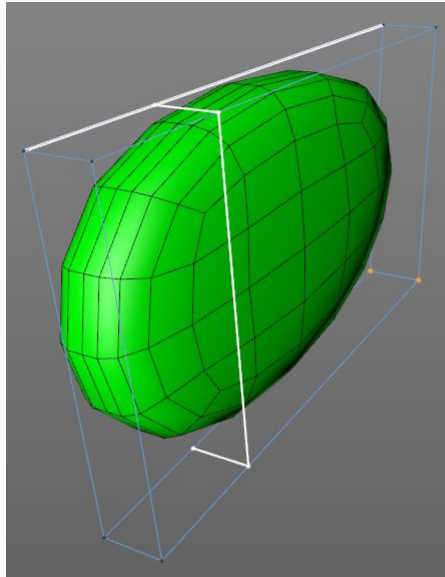


# C4D Demo - Subdivision Surface

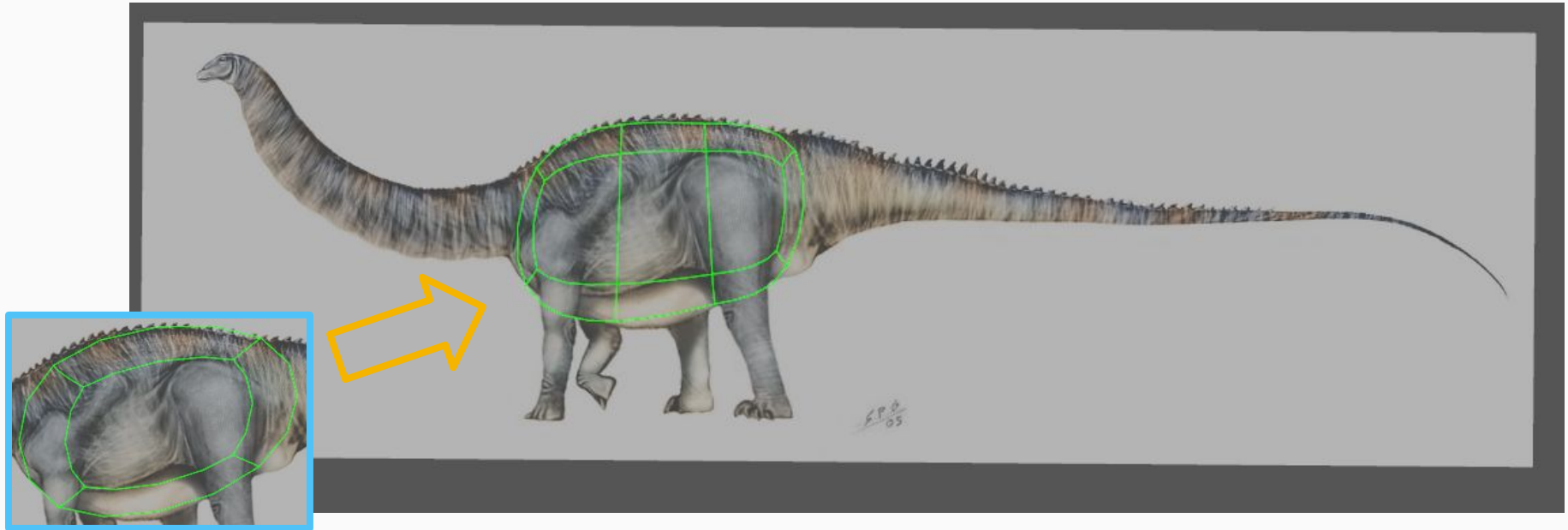
- Catmull - Clark for C4D
  - **face point** created for each original polygon
    - avg of every point in the polygon
  - **edge point** created for each old edge
    - avg of original edge midpoint + two adjacent face points
  - **vertex points** created
    - each original vertex has  $n$  points sharing it
    - $(n-3)/n * (\text{old vertex})$   
 $+ (1/n) * (\text{avg of face points for adjoining polys})$   
 $+ (2/n) * (\text{avg of midpoint edges adjoining the old vertex})$



# C4D Demo - Knife Tool

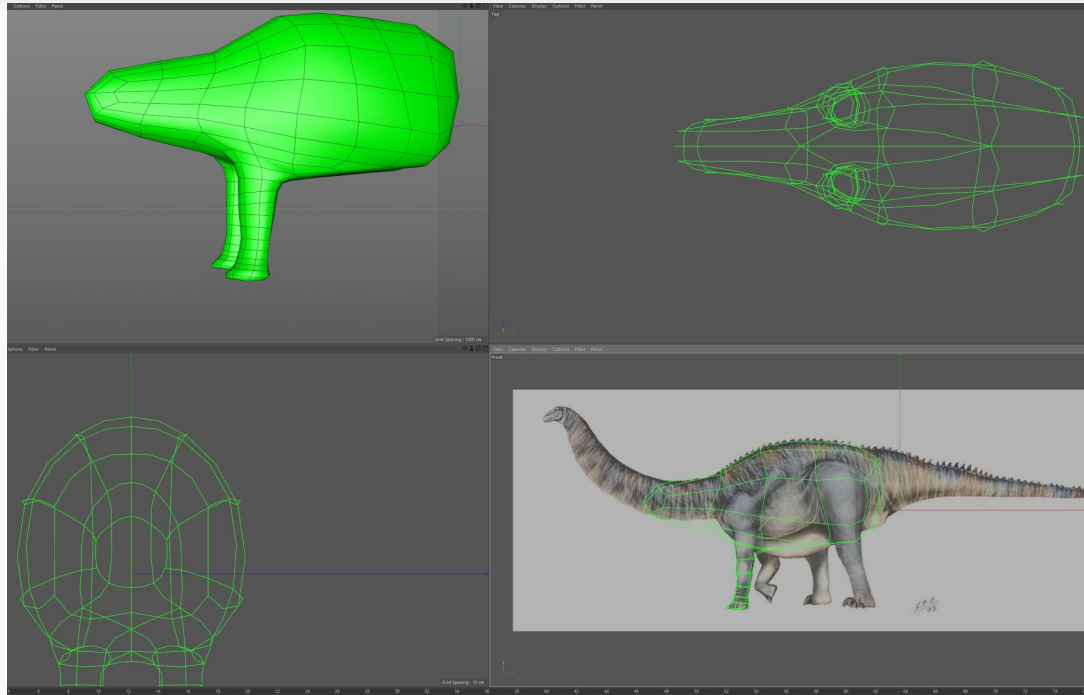


# C4D Demo - More Polys, More Detail

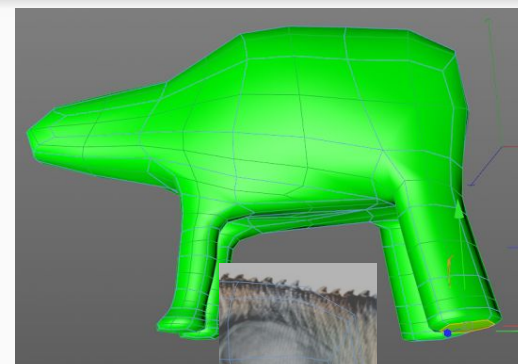
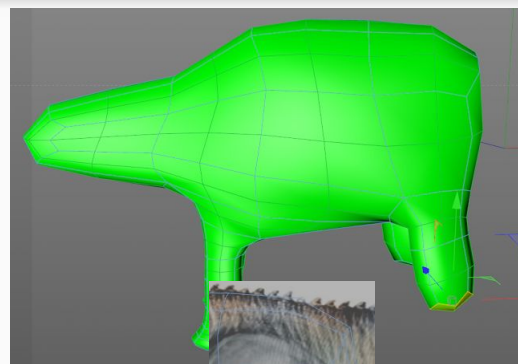
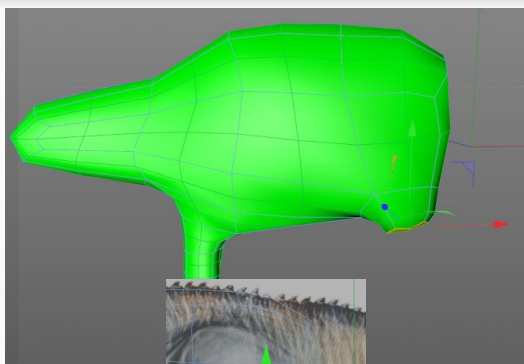




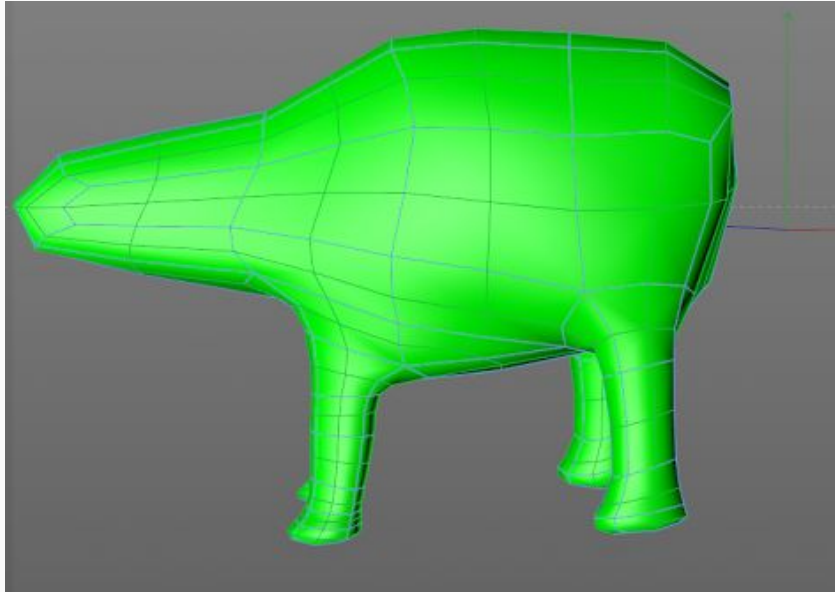
# C4D Demo - Extrusion



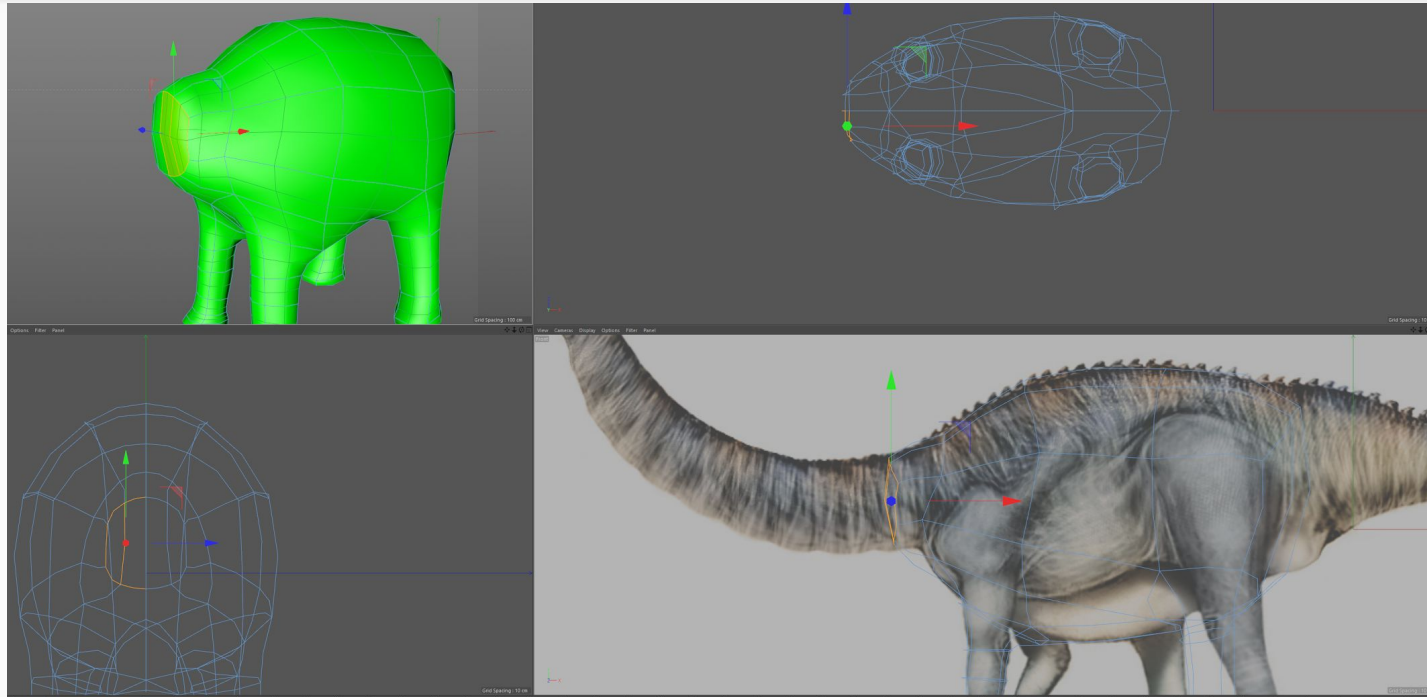
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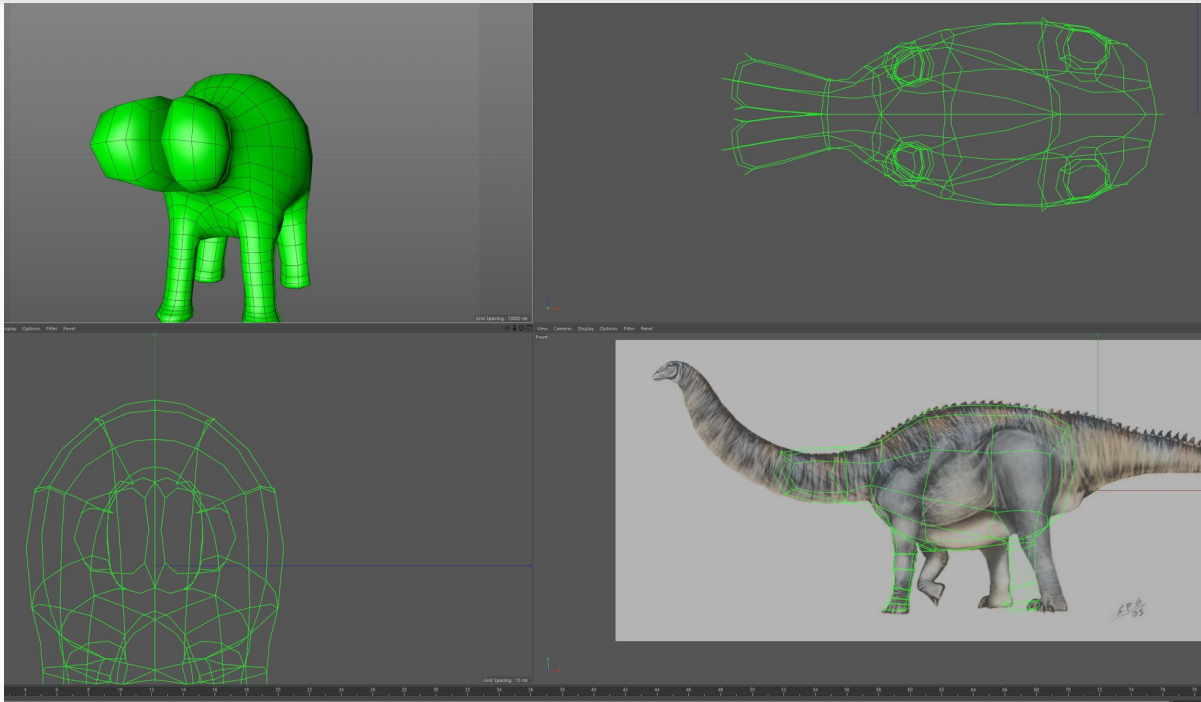
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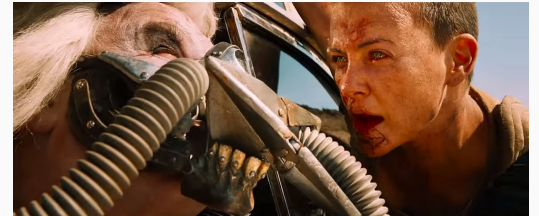
# C4D Demo - Extrusion OOPS!



**REMEMBER ME???**

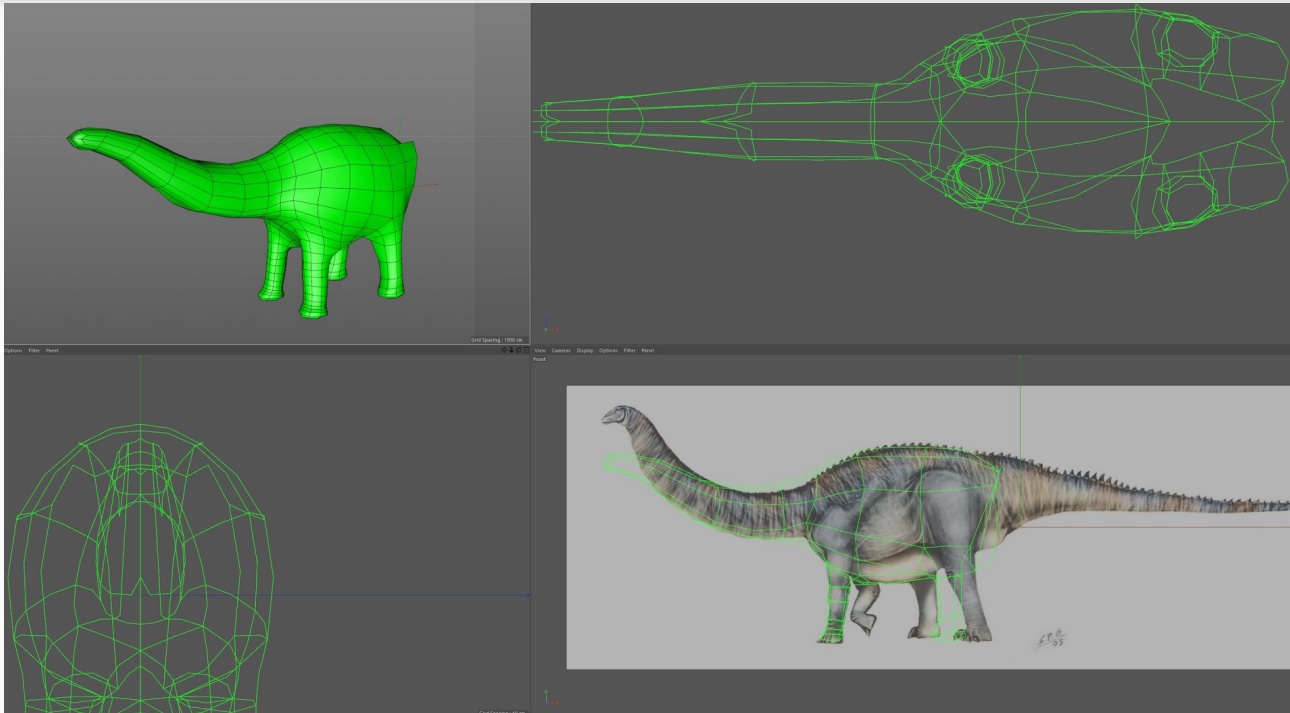
▼ Modeling

Clamp Points on Axis

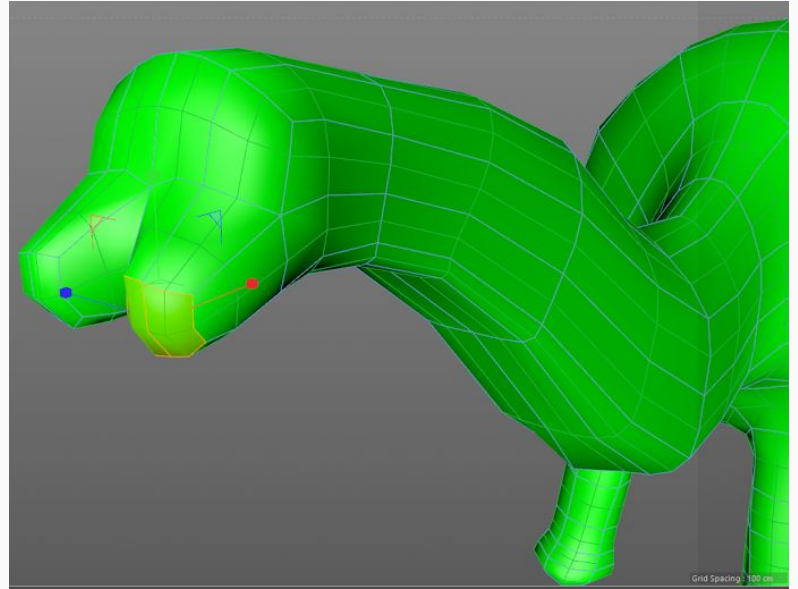
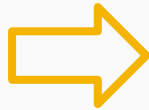
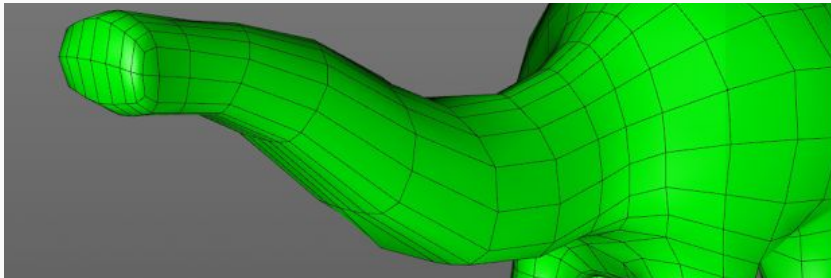
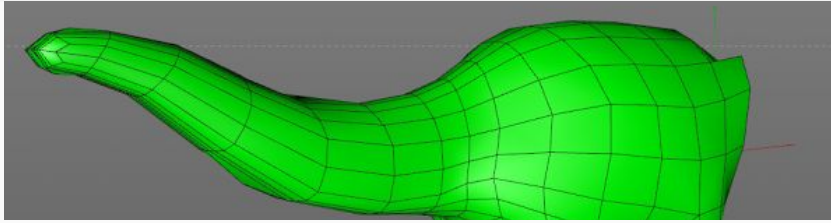


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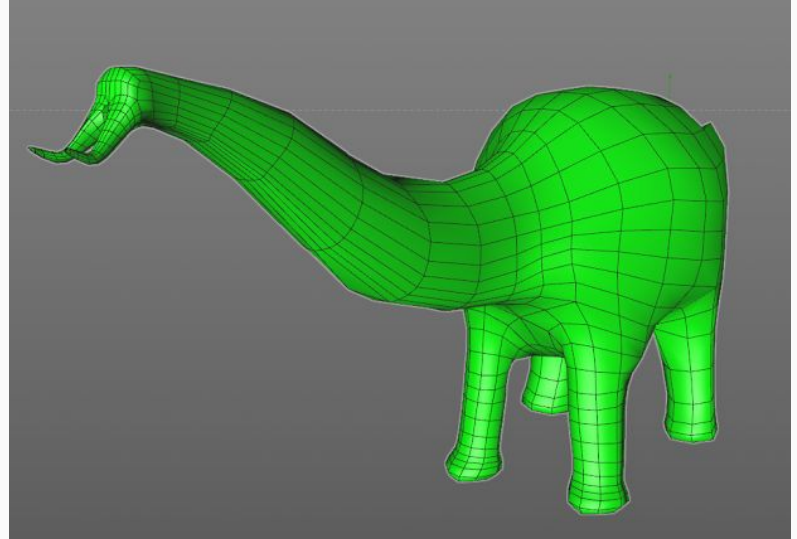
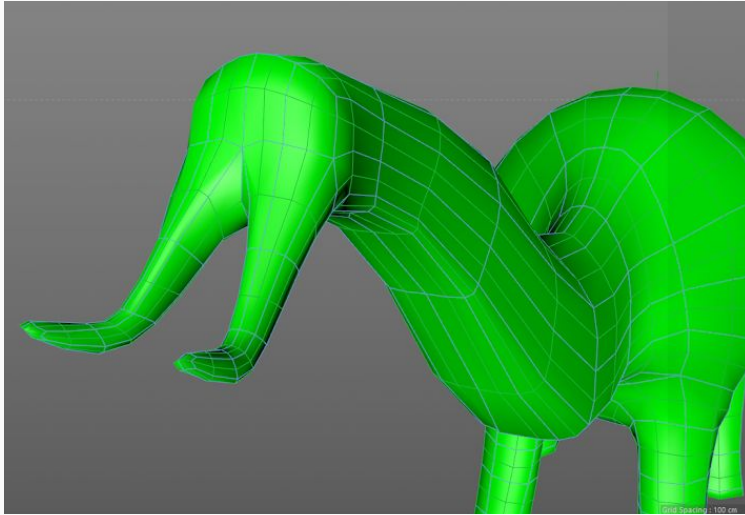
# C4D Demo - Neck Extrusion



# C4D Demo - Head

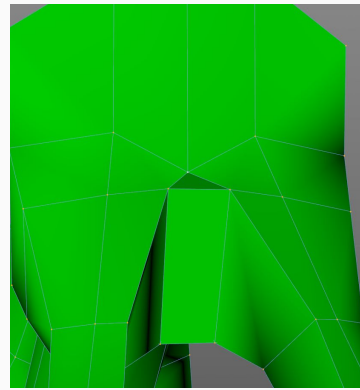
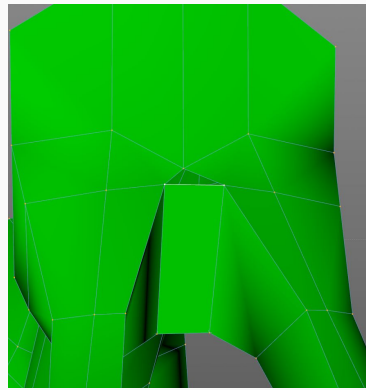
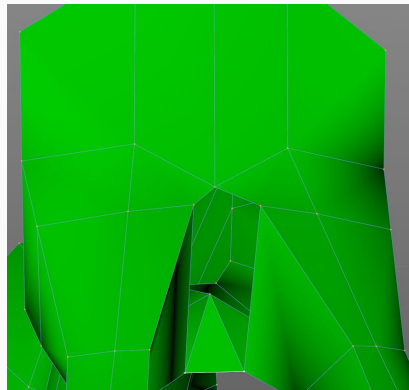
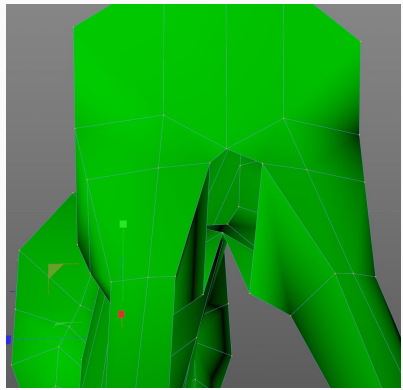


# C4D Demo - Mammoth Monster

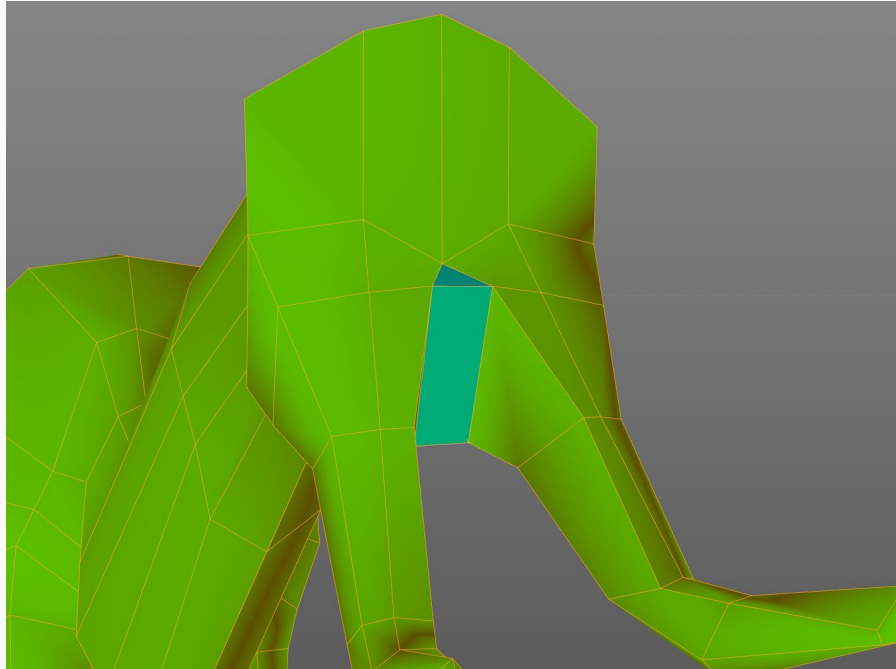




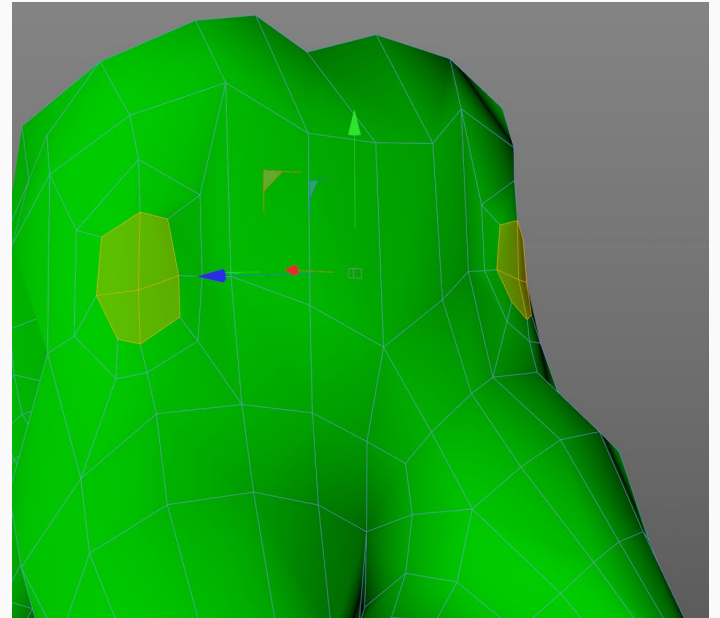
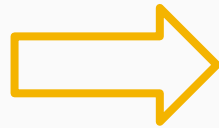
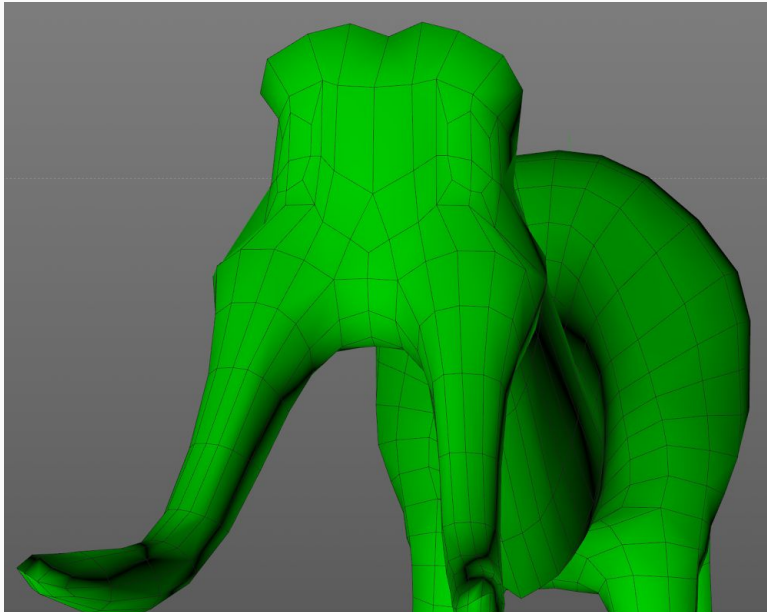
# C4D Demo - Bridge Tool



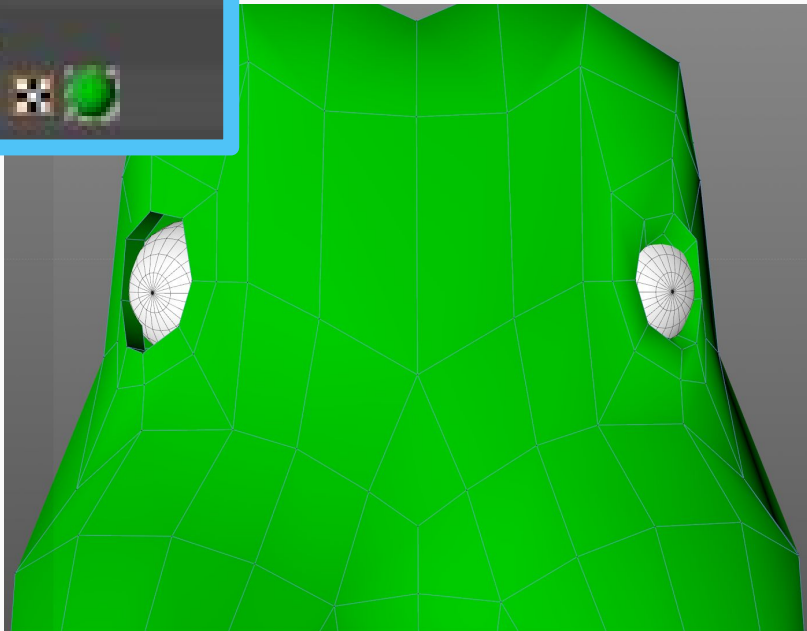
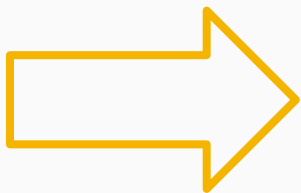
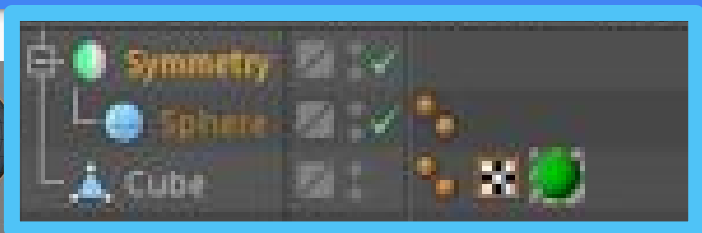
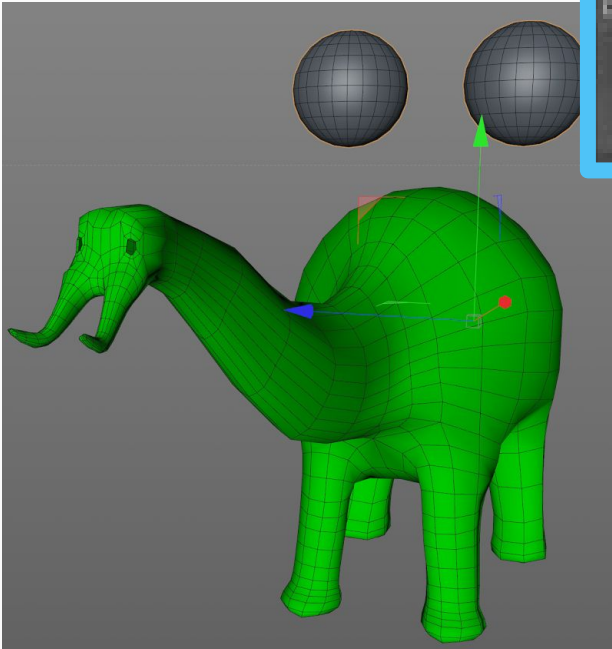
# C4D Demo - Normals



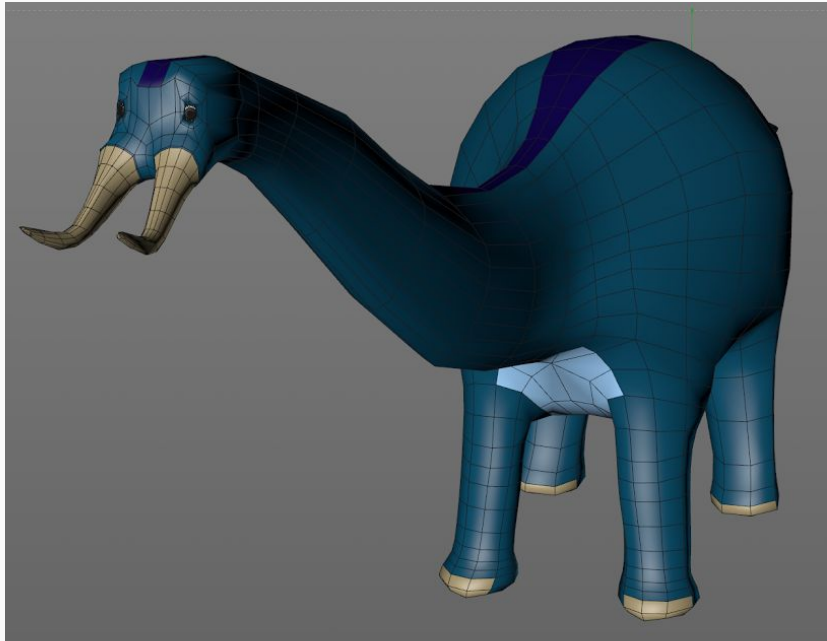
# C4D Demo -Extrude Inner



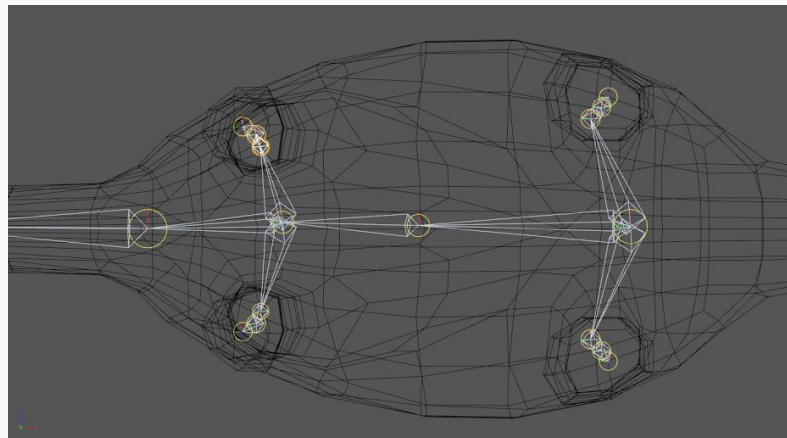
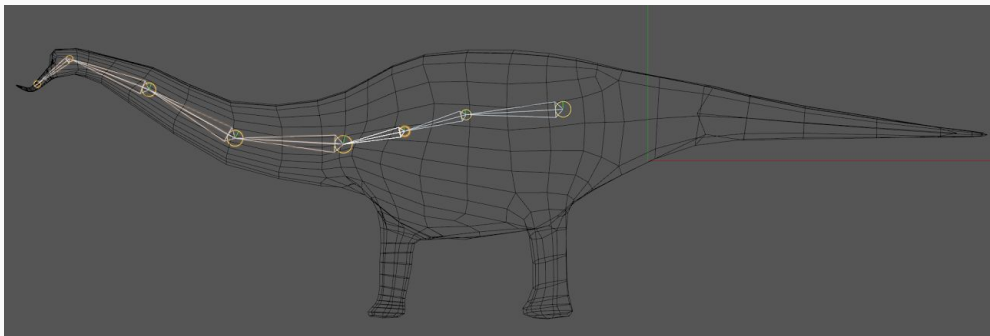
# C4D Demo - Eyes



# C4D Demo - Color



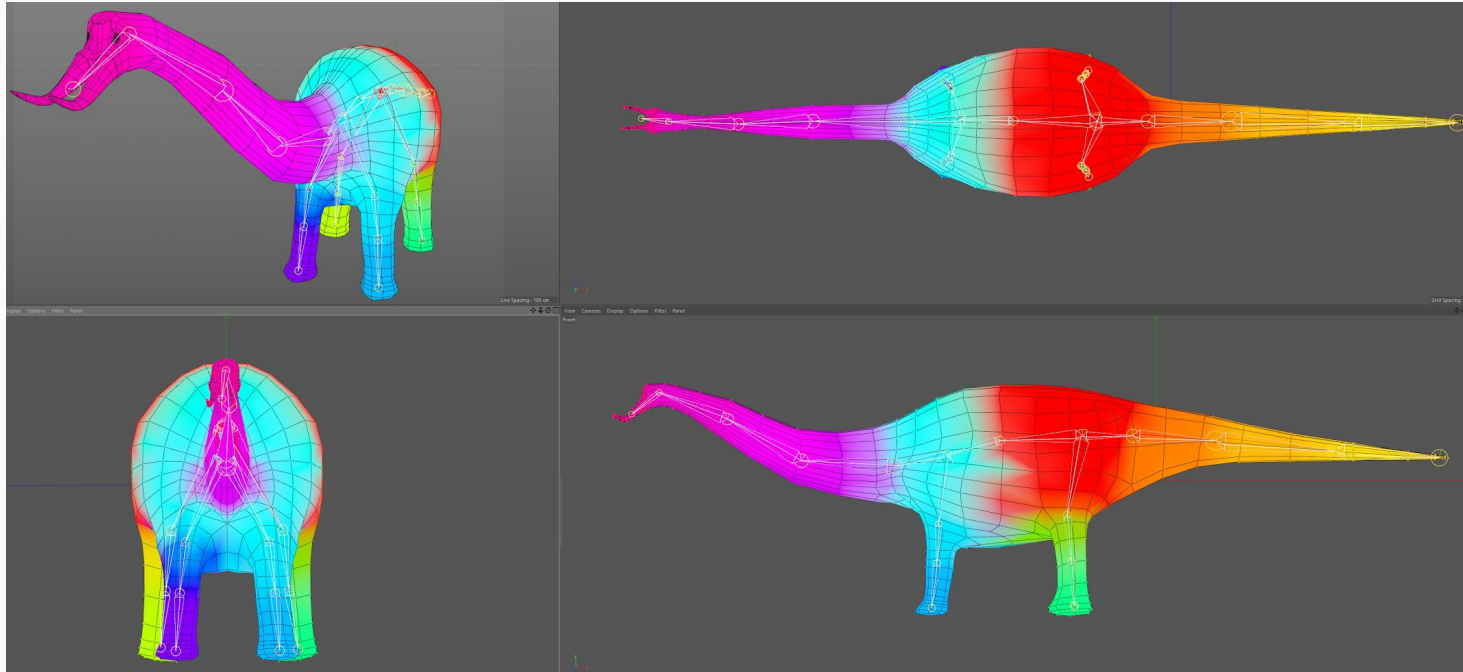
# C4D Demo - Rigging



# C4D Demo - “Skeleton”

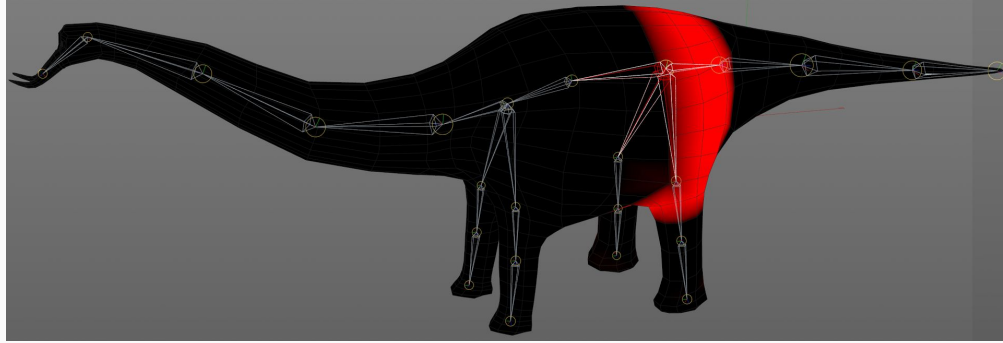
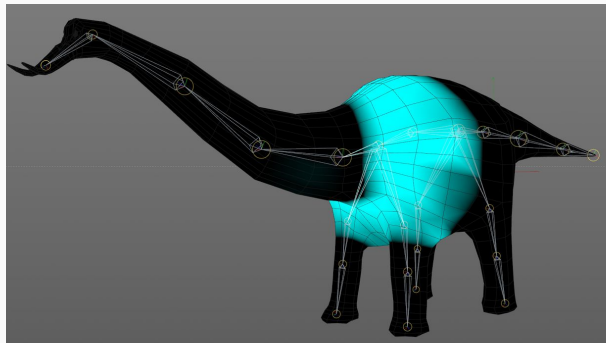
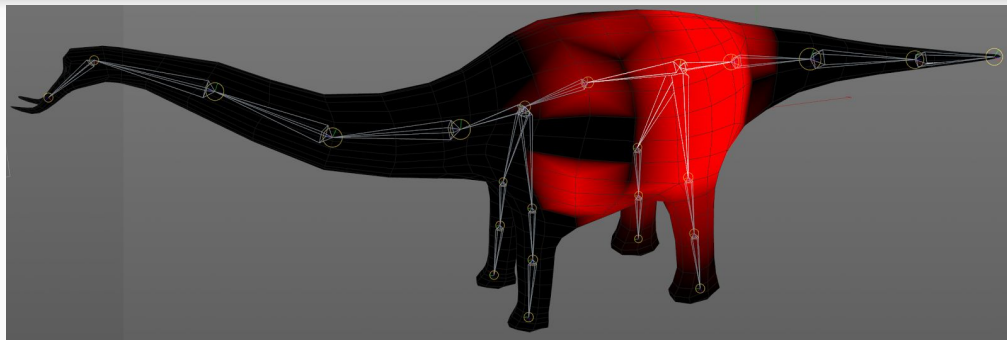
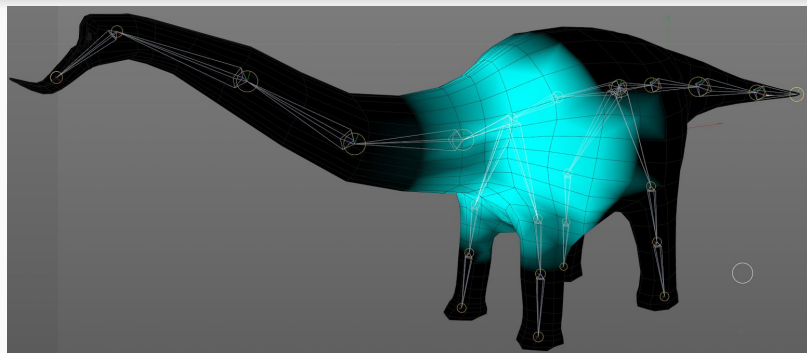


# C4D Demo - Weight Painting

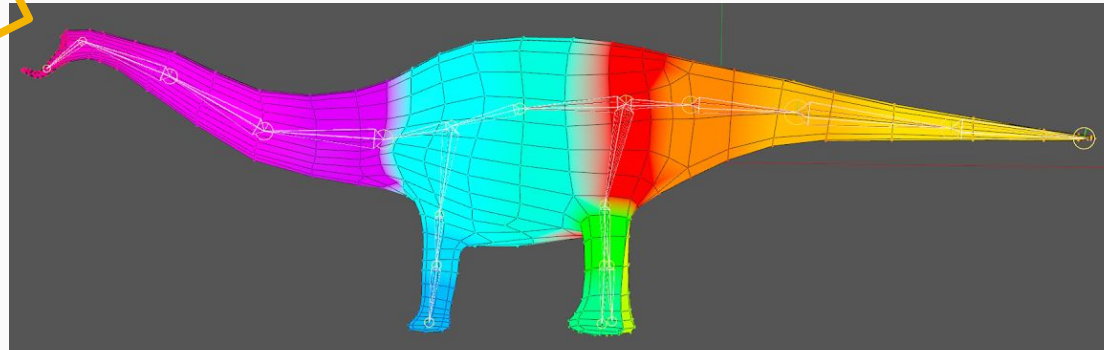
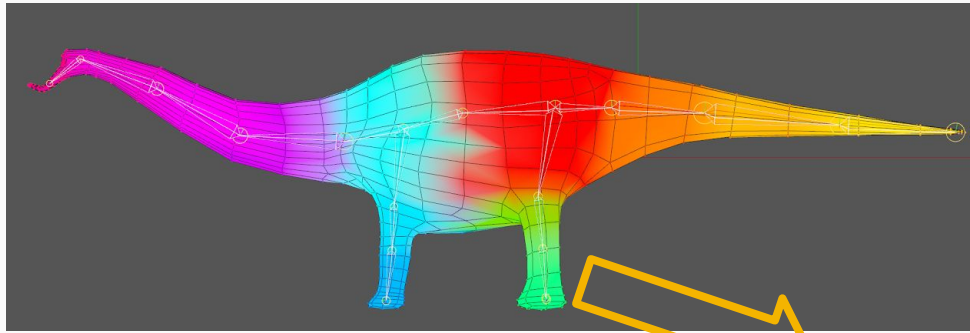




# C4D Demo - Weight Painting



# C4D Demo - Weight Painting

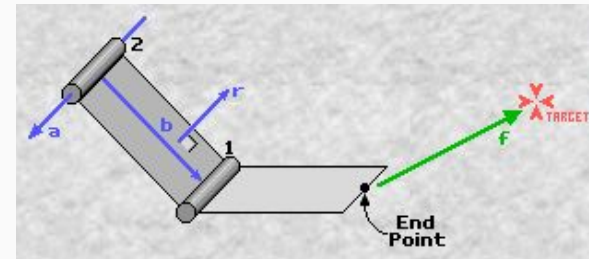
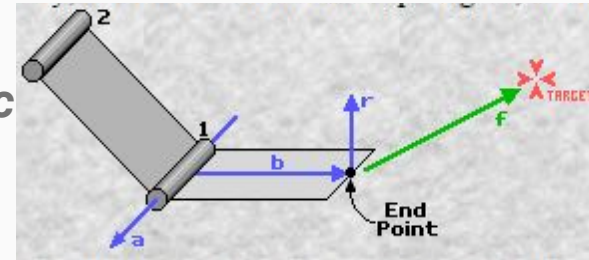


# Inverse Kinematics (IK Spline)

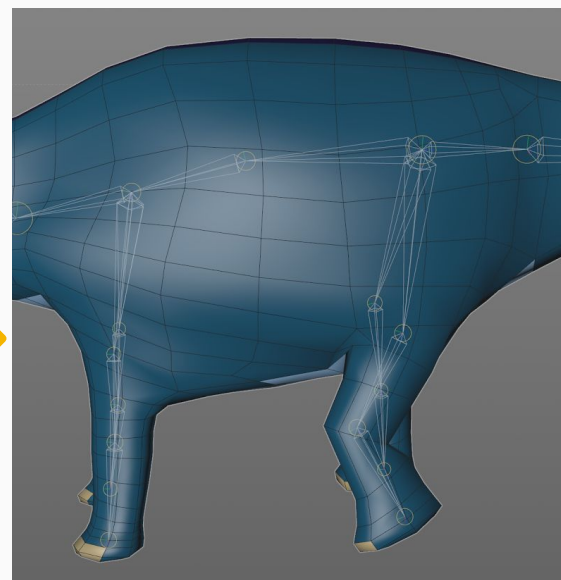
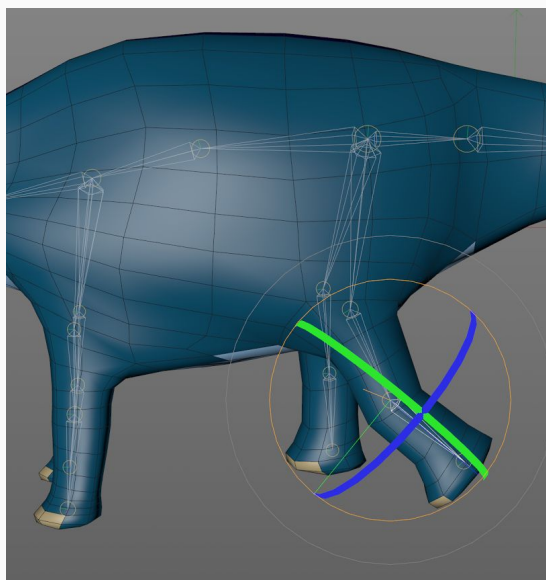
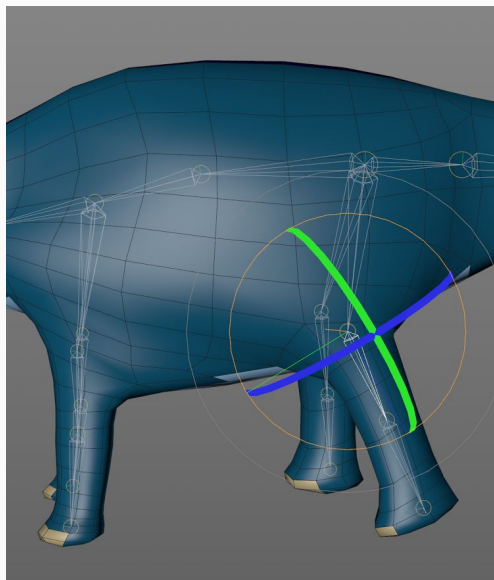
- “The process of calculating the position in space of the end of a linked structure, given the angles of all the joints.

- $mag(f) * SinVect(a,f) * SinVect(b,f) * sign(CosVect(r,f)) * c$

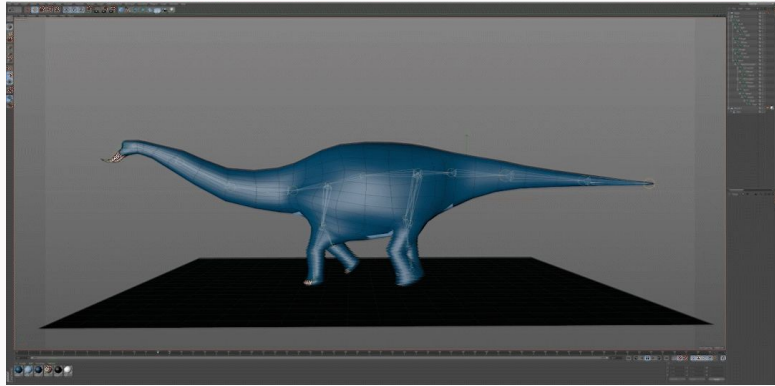
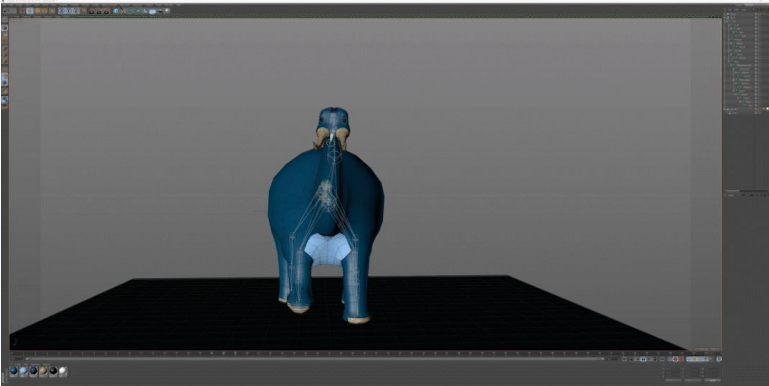
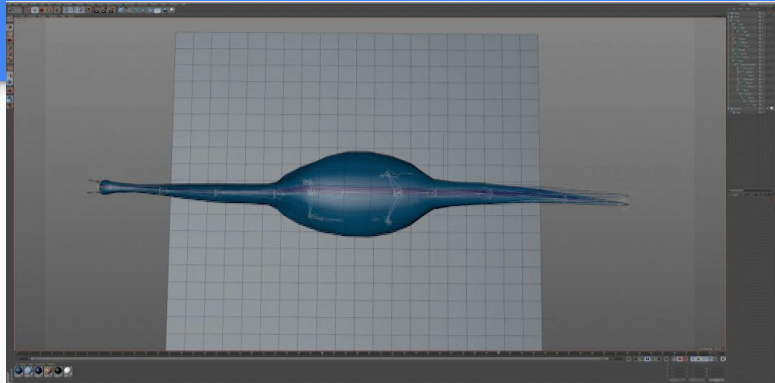
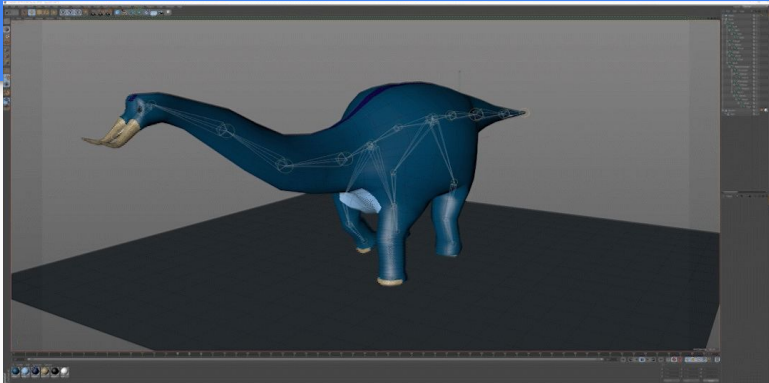
- $a$  = Axis of Joint
- $b$  = Vector representing the Bone
- $r$  = Orthogonal vector to Plane  $ab$
- $f$  = Vector from Endpoint to Target (“force vector”)
- $c$  = Scalar Constant
- $SinVect(x,y)$  = sine of the angle between vectors  $x$  &  $y$
- $CosVect(x,y)$  = cosine of the angle between vectors  $x$  &  $y$
- $sign(x)$  = sign of  $x$  (positive, negative, or zero)



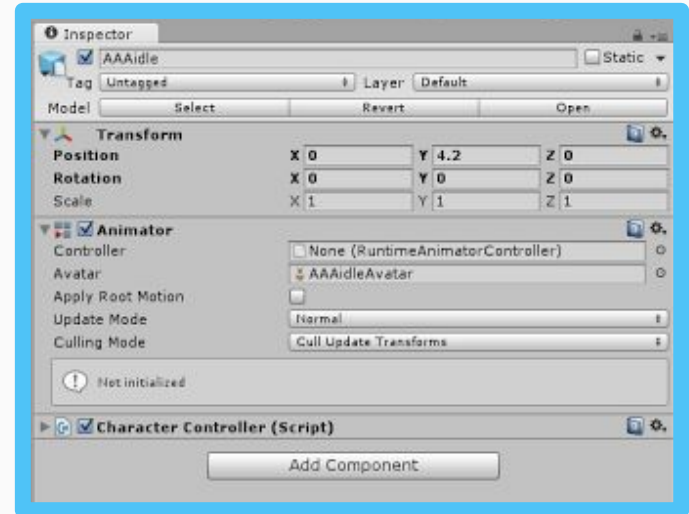
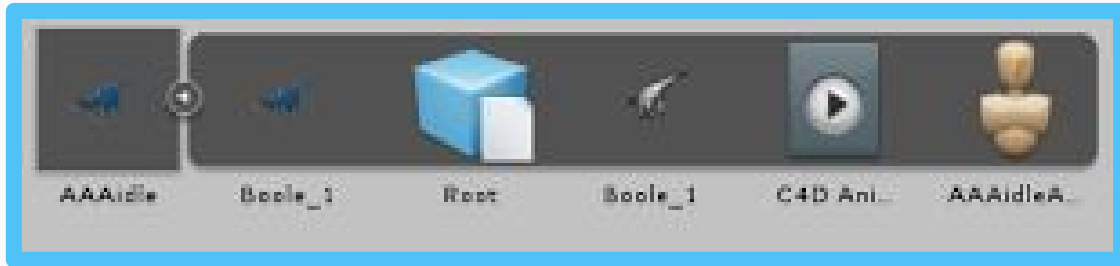
# C4D Demo - FK Spline (Forward Kinematics)



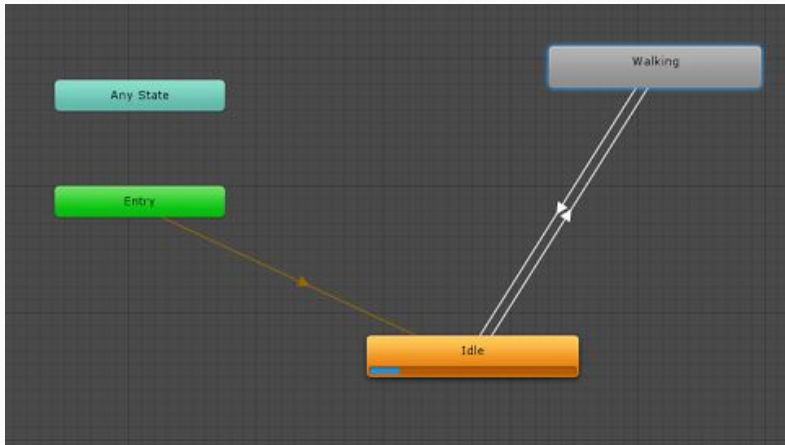
# C4D Demo - Walk Cycle



# C4D Unity Demo - Importing Assets

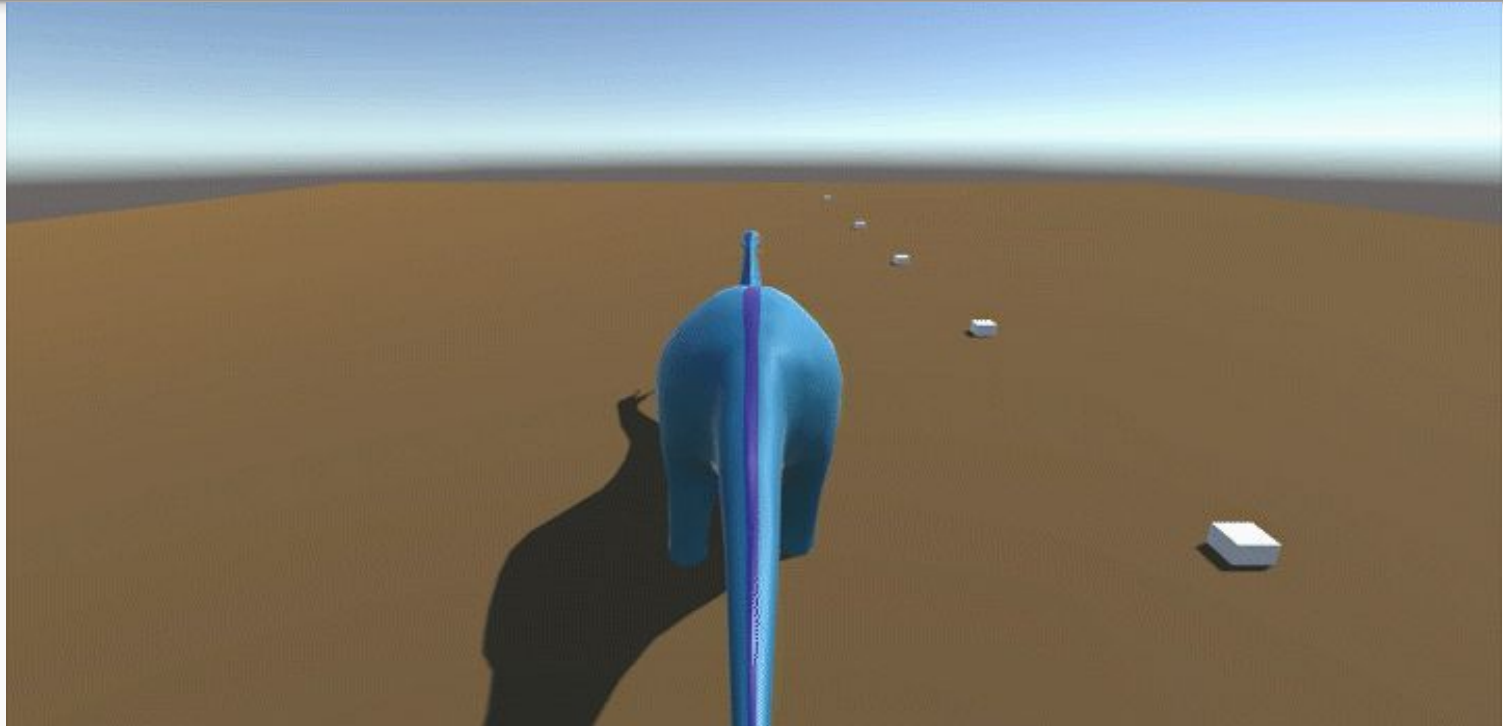


# C4D Unity Demo - Animation Controller



```
1 using UnityEngine;
2 using System.Collections;
3
4 public class CharacterController : MonoBehaviour {
5
6     static Animator anim;
7
8     public float speed = 0.5F;
9     public float rotationSpeed = 10.0F;
10
11     void Start()
12     {
13         anim = GetComponent<Animator>();
14     }
15
16     void Update()
17     {
18         float translation = Input.GetAxis("Vertical") * speed;
19         float rotation = Input.GetAxis("Horizontal") * rotationSpeed;
20         translation *= Time.deltaTime;
21         rotation *= Time.deltaTime;
22         transform.Translate(translation, 0, 0);
23         transform.Rotate(0, rotation, 0);
24
25         if (translation != 0 || rotation != 0)
26         {
27             anim.SetBool("isWalking", true);
28         }
29         else
30         {
31             anim.SetBool("isWalking", false);
32         }
33     }
34 }
```

# C4D Unity Demo - Animated Character





# Resources

- <http://www.computerhistory.org/timeline/graphics-games/>
- History of Computer Animation
  - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LzZwiLUVaKg>
- History of 3D in video games
  - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hTehcvSgyWI>
- [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Computer\\_animation](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Computer_animation)
- Subdivision Surfaces
  - <http://www.holmes3d.net/graphics/subdivision/>
- Inverse Kinematics
  - [http://freespace.virgin.net/hugo.elias/models/m\\_ik.htm](http://freespace.virgin.net/hugo.elias/models/m_ik.htm)

# Resources (Cont.)

- Madden 2005 review <http://www.ign.com/games/madden-nfl-2005/nds-692538>
- Complex model taken from TurboSquid
- Videos taken from YouTube
- Batman: Arkham Asylum <http://uproxx.com/gammasquad/15-fascinating-facts-may-know-batman-arkham-asylum/>

# Resources (Cont.)

- Maya
  - [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Autodesk\\_Maya](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Autodesk_Maya)
  - [http://www.autodesk.com/products/maya/overview-dts?s\\_tnt=69290:1:0](http://www.autodesk.com/products/maya/overview-dts?s_tnt=69290:1:0)
- 3ds Max
  - [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Autodesk\\_3ds\\_Max](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Autodesk_3ds_Max)
  - [http://www.autodesk.com/products/3ds-max/overview-dts?s\\_tnt=69291:1:0](http://www.autodesk.com/products/3ds-max/overview-dts?s_tnt=69291:1:0)
- C4D
  - [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cinema\\_4D](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cinema_4D)
  - <http://www.maxon.net/products/cinema-4d-studio/who-should-use-it.html>
- Blender
  - [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blender\\_%28software%29](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blender_%28software%29)
  - <https://www.blender.org/>
- Some Comparisons (of many)
  - <http://blog.digitaltutors.com/3ds-max-vs-maya-is-one-better-than-the-other/>
  - <http://blog.digitaltutors.com/3ds-max-maya-lt-blender-3d-software-choose-asset-creation/>
  - <http://blog.digitaltutors.com/cinema-4d-3ds-max-motion-graphics/>

Questions?