



# Unity 技术开放日

UNITY OPEN DAY

# 高灵活度、低美术成本的水体渲染系统

王骁建

Graphics Programmer @ Unity TA Team

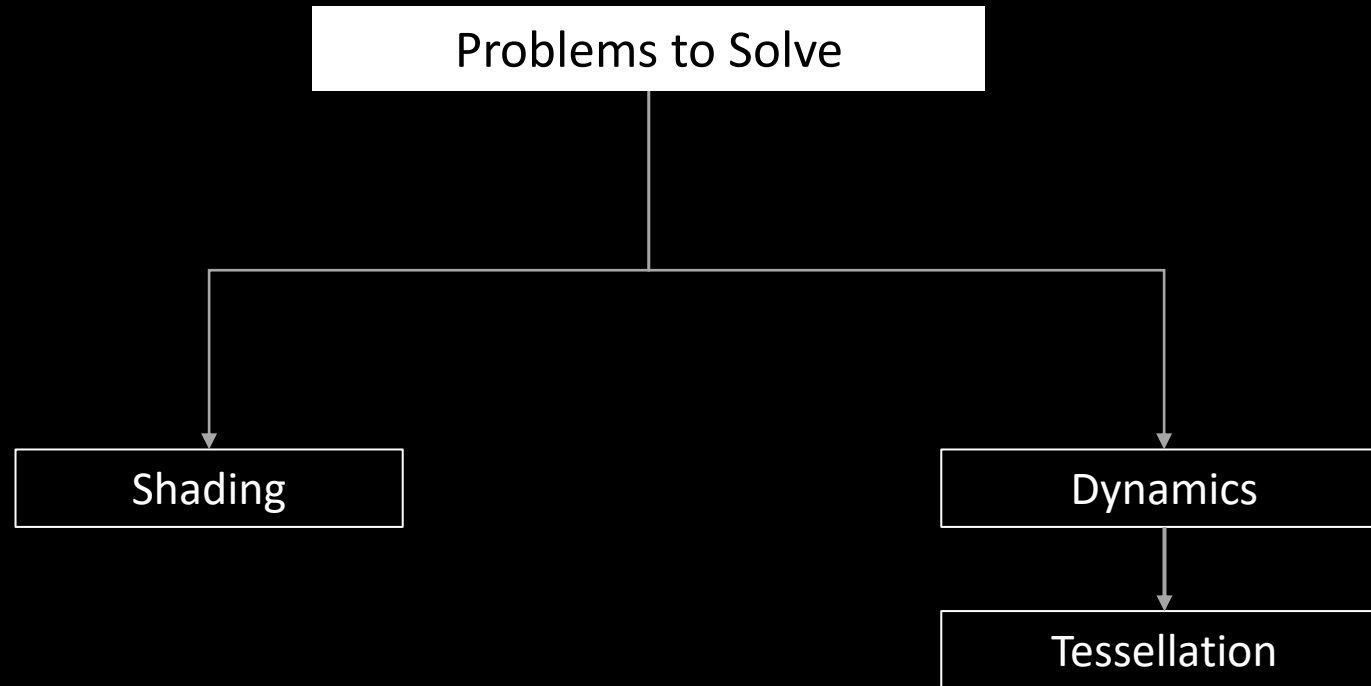
Diverse Appearance

Drastic Motion

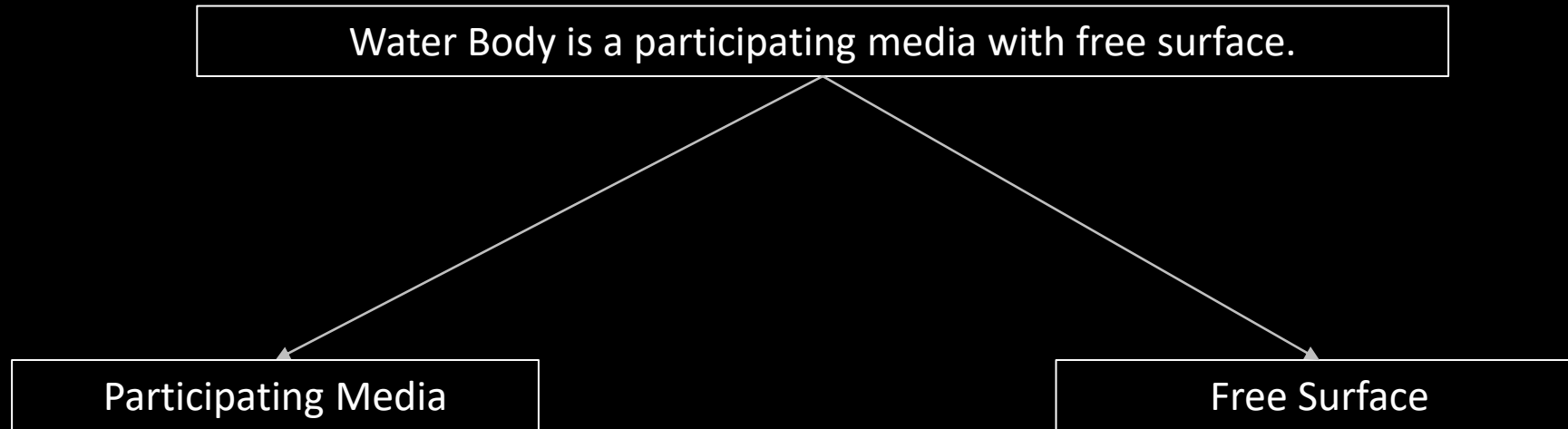
Complex Optical Behavior

Highly Detailed

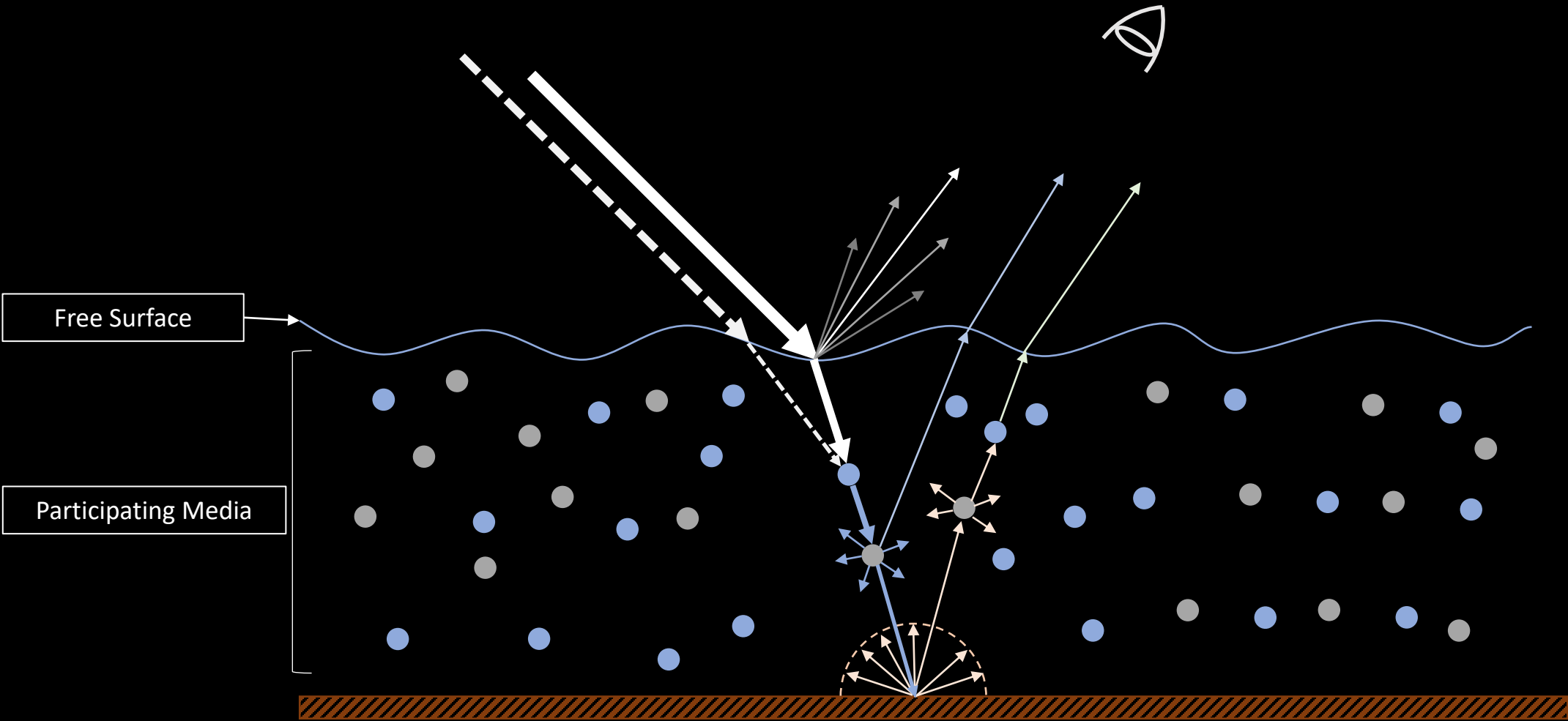
# Water Rendering



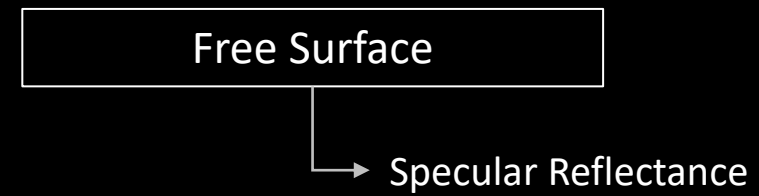
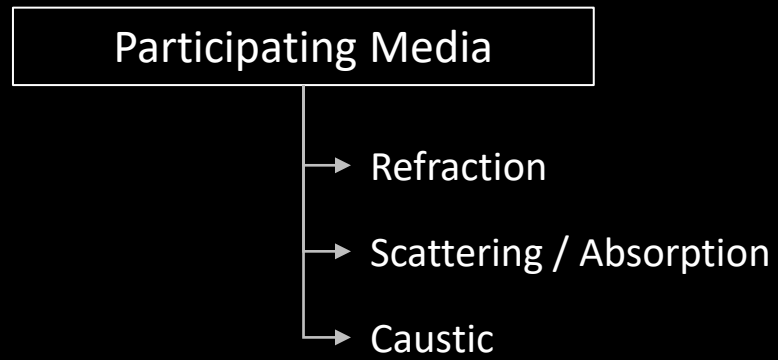
# Shading



# Water Lighting Behavior



# Shading



Original Scene







Refraction



Absorption



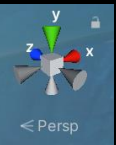
Scattering



# Screen Space Reflection



Reflection Probe



# Specular Lighting



Caustics



# Shading

Debris



Foam

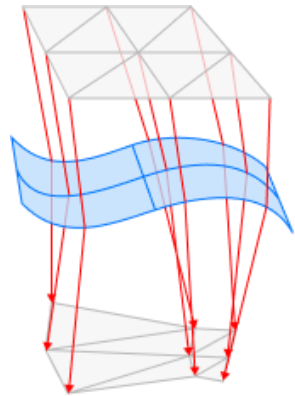


Decal





# Realtime Caustics

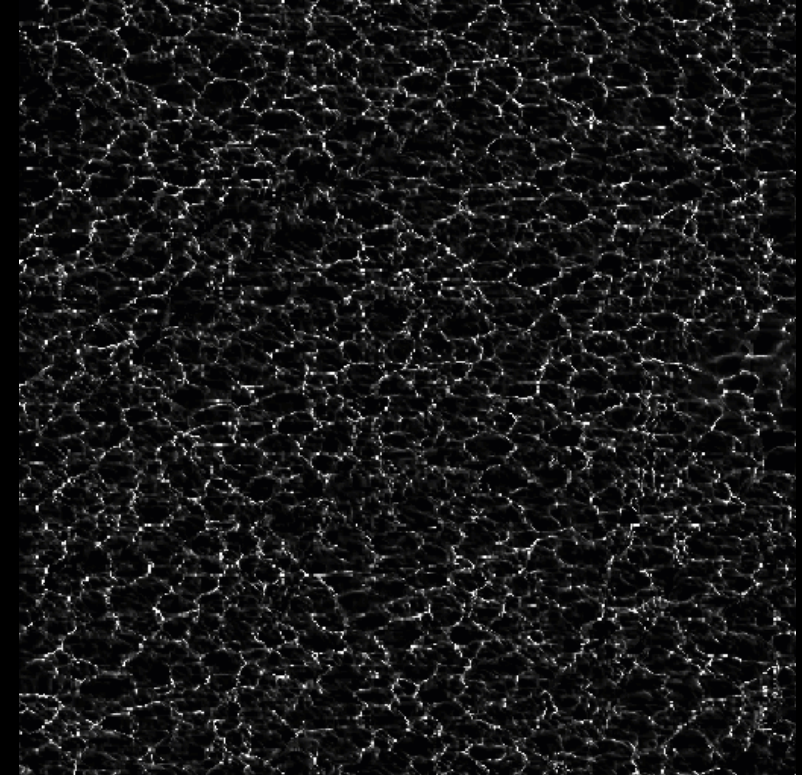
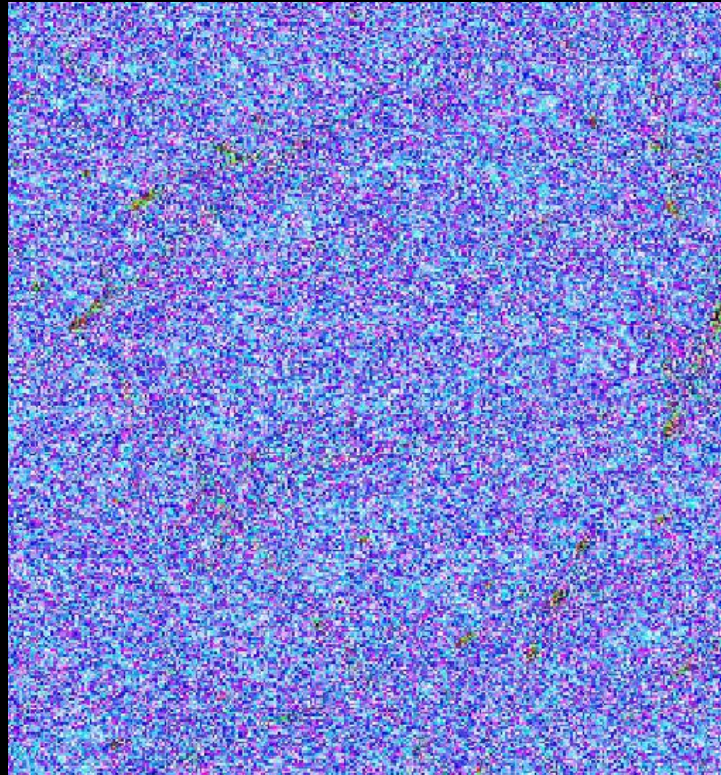


Use a mesh for the light wavefront

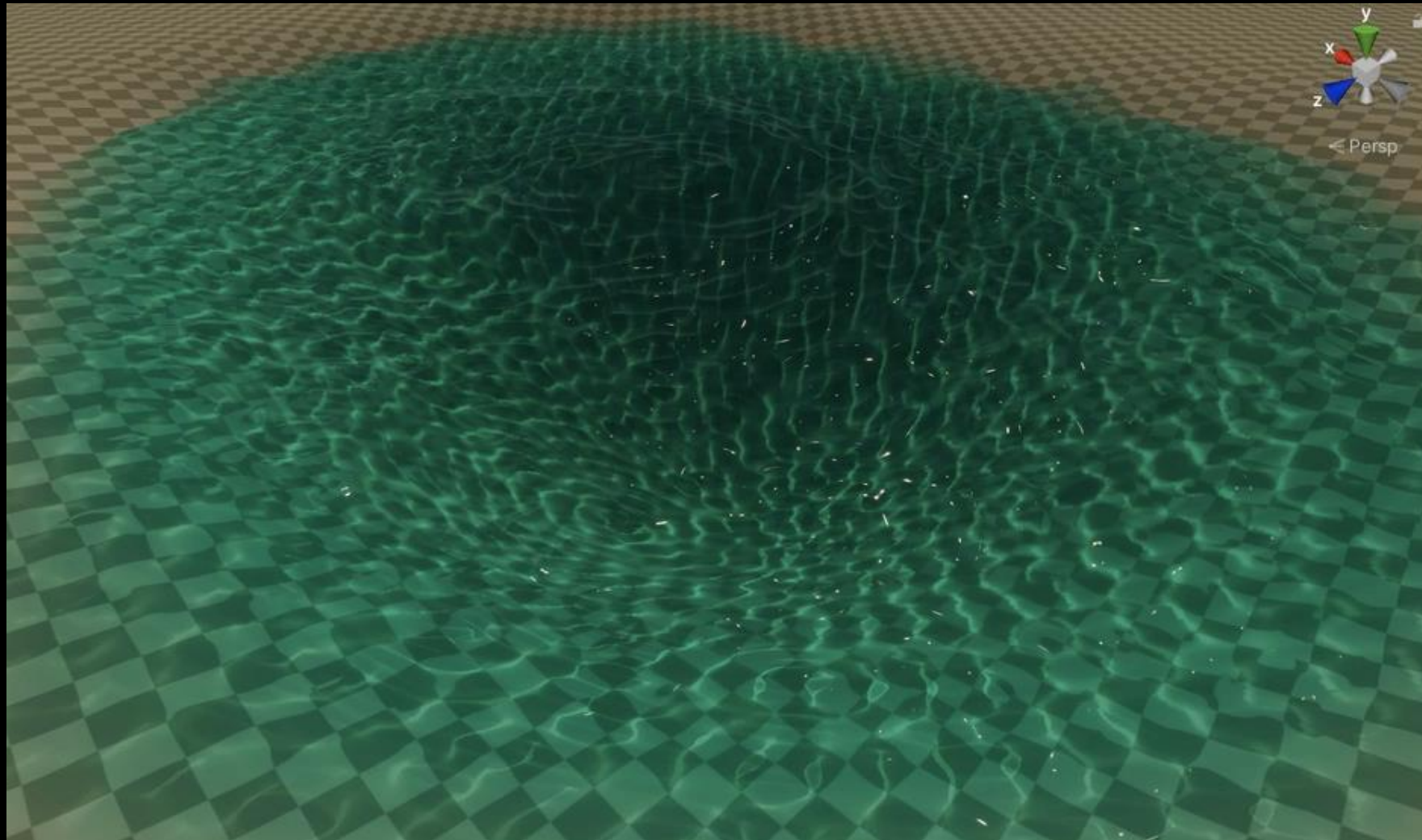
Refract vertices through the surface

Intersect rays with the ground plane

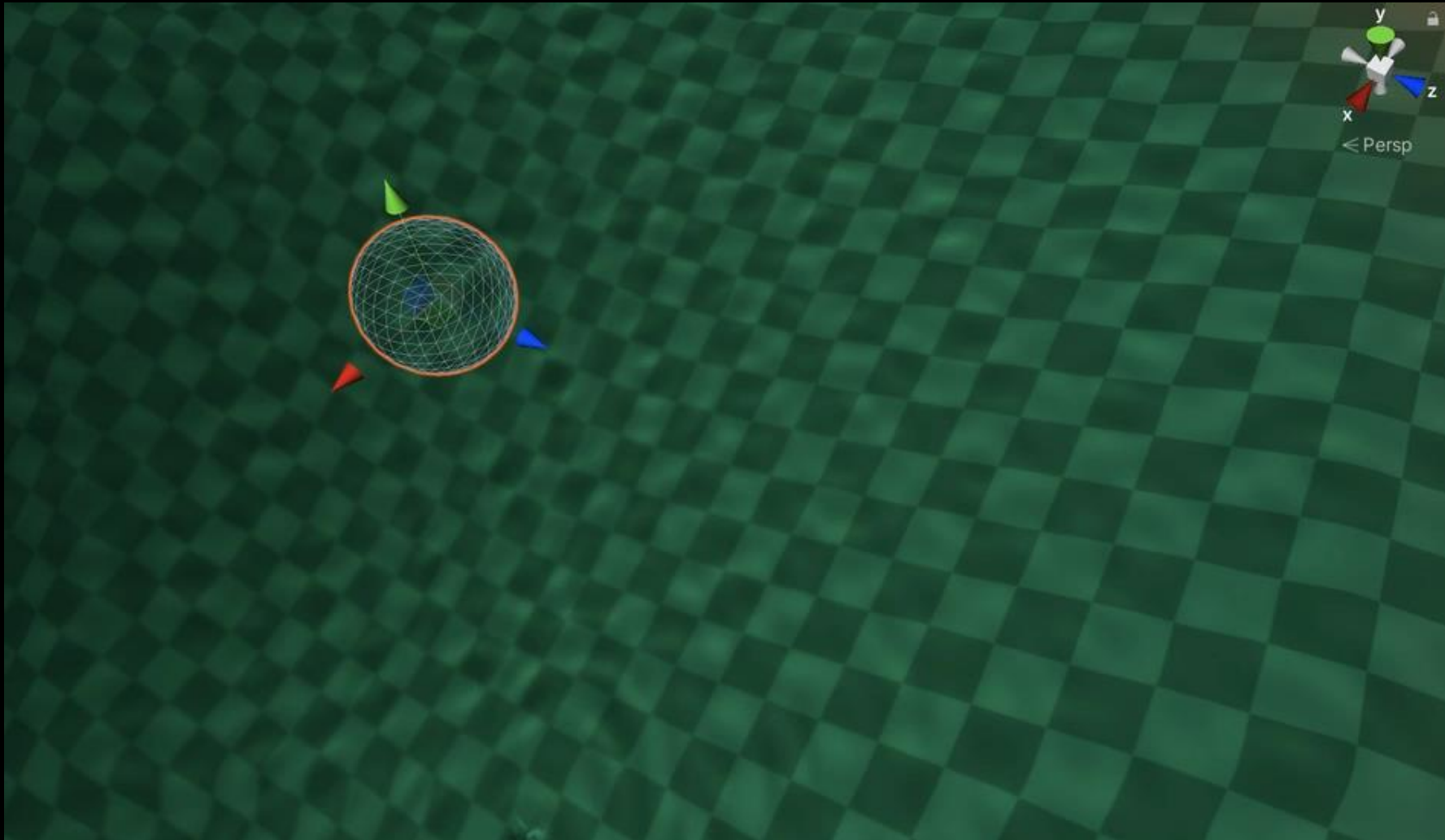
[Evan W. 2016]




# Realtime Caustics

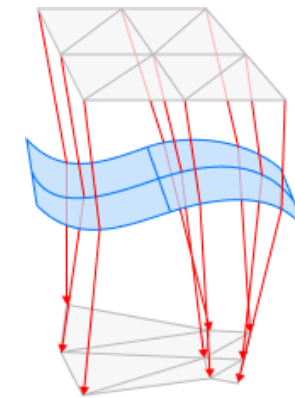


# Realtime Caustics



# Realtime Caustics

```
85 float3 posWS = mul(float4(posNDC, 1), shadowToWorld);
86 float3 posWSUp = mul(float4(posNDCUp, 1), shadowToWorld);
87 float3 posWSRight = mul(float4(posNDCRight, 1), shadowToWorld);
88
89 float3 posWSRefracted = RefractVertex(posWS, normalWS, L, refractionDepth);
90 float3 posWSUpRefracted = RefractVertex(posWSUp, normalWSUp, L, refractionDepth);
91 float3 posWSRightRefracted = RefractVertex(posWSRight, normalWSRight, L, refractionDepth);
92
93 float area = TriangleArea(posWS, posWSUp, posWSRight);
94 float areaRT = TriangleArea(posWSRefracted, posWSUpRefracted, posWSRightRefracted);
95  output.caustic = float3(area, areaRT, 0);
```



Use a mesh for the light wavefront

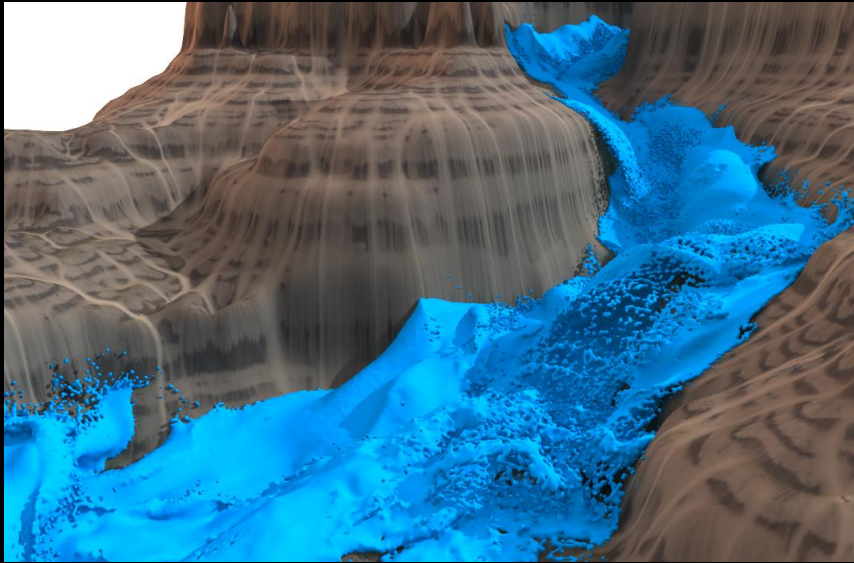
Refract vertices through the surface

Intersect rays with the ground plane

[Evan W. 2016]

# Dynamics

Partial Differential Equation Based

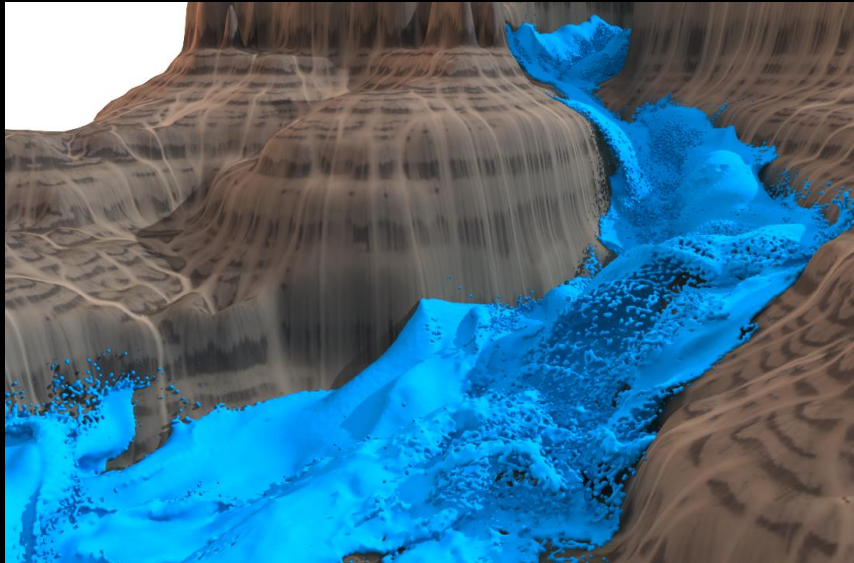


Spectrum Based



# Dynamics

## Partial Differential Equation Based



Solve the Navier-Stokes Equation  
Eularian/Lagrangian

### Pros

- Physically Correct
- Rich Appearance
- Fully Dynamic
- .....

### Cons

- Too expensive to be real-time

# Dynamics

## Spectrum Based



Select a group of frequency  
Propagate them by some rules

### Pros

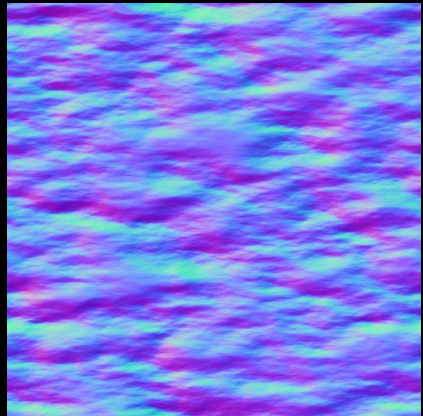
- Faaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaast!
- Better artistic control
- Rich appearance also can be achieved

Critical

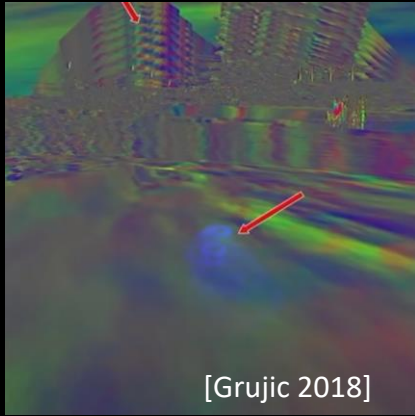
### Cons

- Static
- Need a lot of artist's work

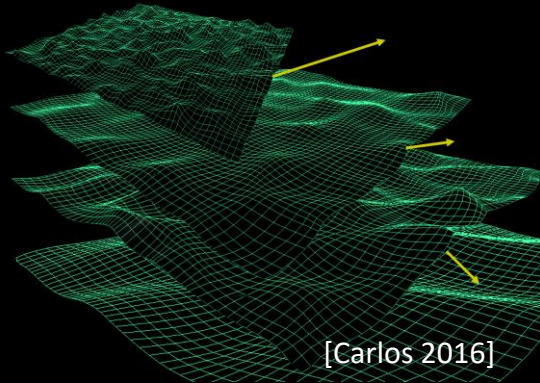
# Spectrum Based Water Dynamics



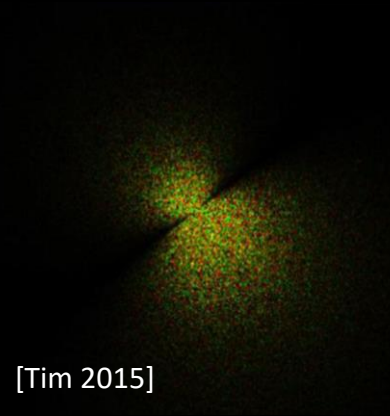
Classic Normal Map



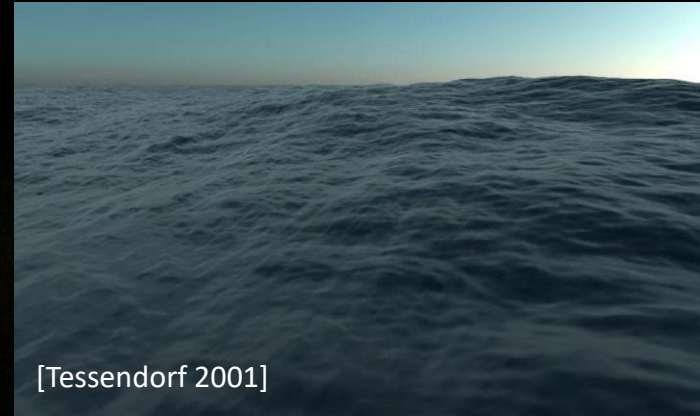
[Grujic 2018]  
Pre-made Multiple Frequency Displacement



[Carlos 2016]

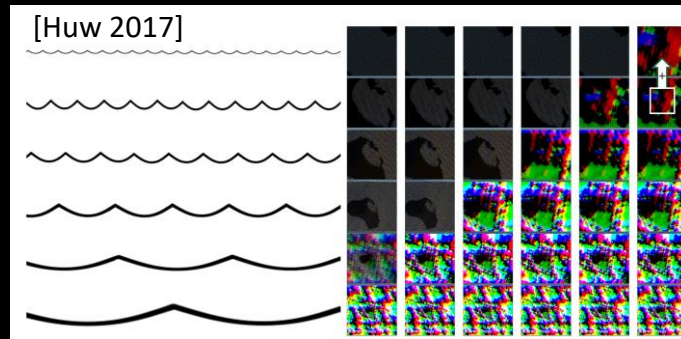


[Tim 2015]

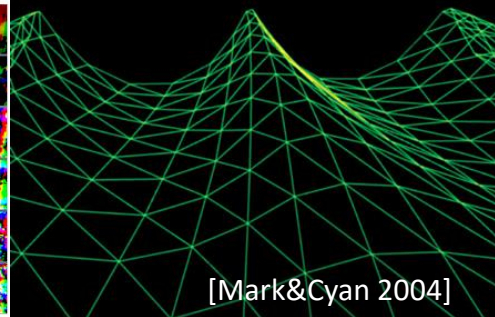


[Tessendorf 2001]

Oceanography Spectrum + iFFT



[Huw 2017]



[Mark&Cyan 2004]

Trochoidal/Gerstner Wave Composition

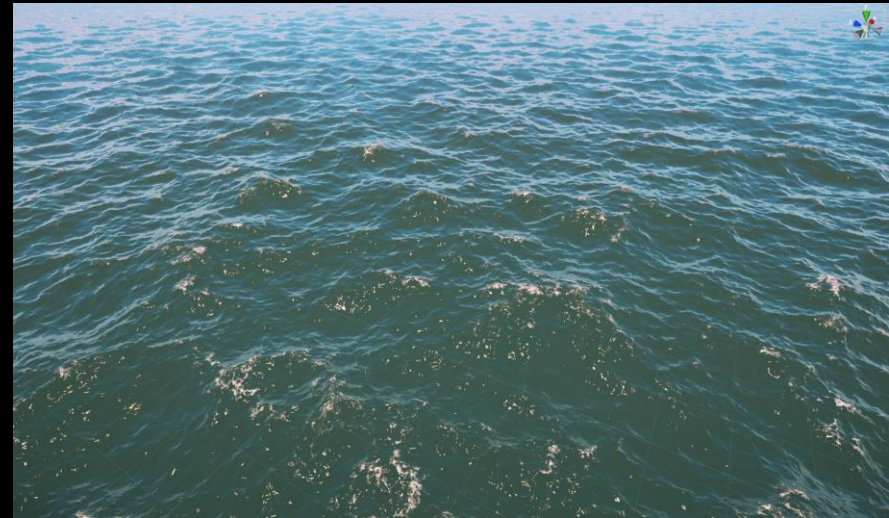


# Spectrum Based Water Dynamics

Multiple Frequency Gerstner wave for finite water body



FFT for Infinite Ocean



# FFT for Infinite Ocean



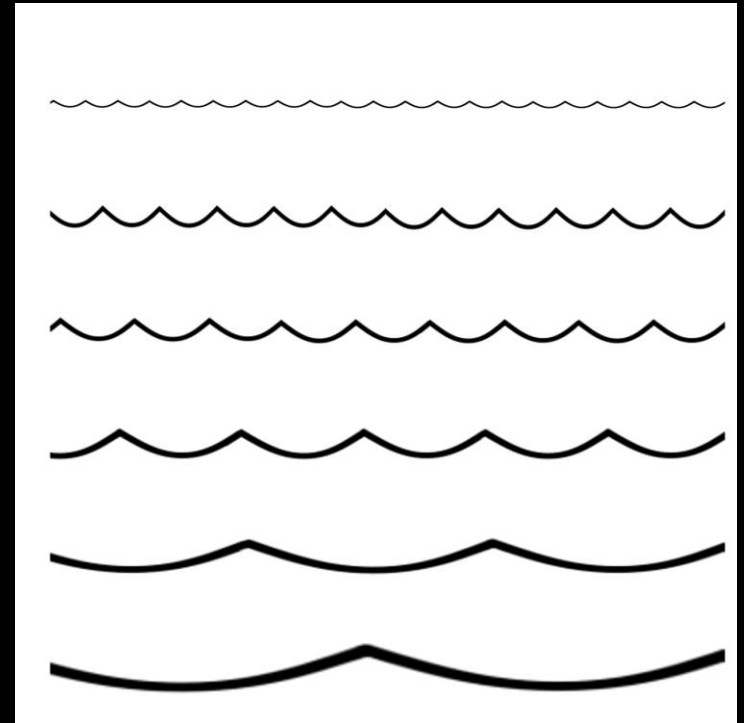
- Wind force driven spectrum
- Cascade approach to avoid tiling artifact
- Highly Detailed

# Gerstner Wave Composition

## for finite water body

### Why?

- Intuitive
- Easy to get same result on both CPU and GPU
- More artistic control
- No texture asset needed for wave displacement



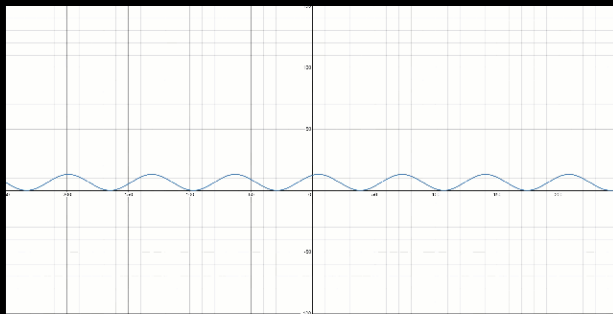
[Huw 2017]

# Gerstner Wave

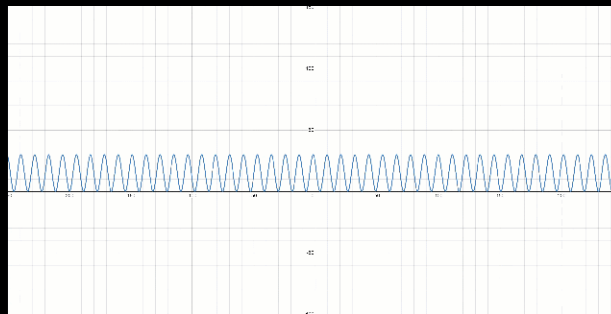
$$y = A \cos\left(\frac{2\pi}{L} \cdot x_0 - \omega t\right)$$

$$x = x_0 + Q A \sin\left(\frac{2\pi}{L} \cdot x_0 - \omega t\right)$$

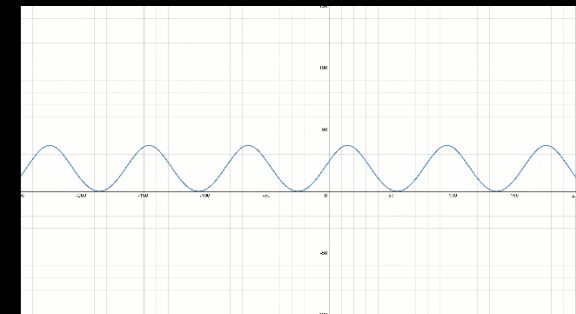
Amplitude



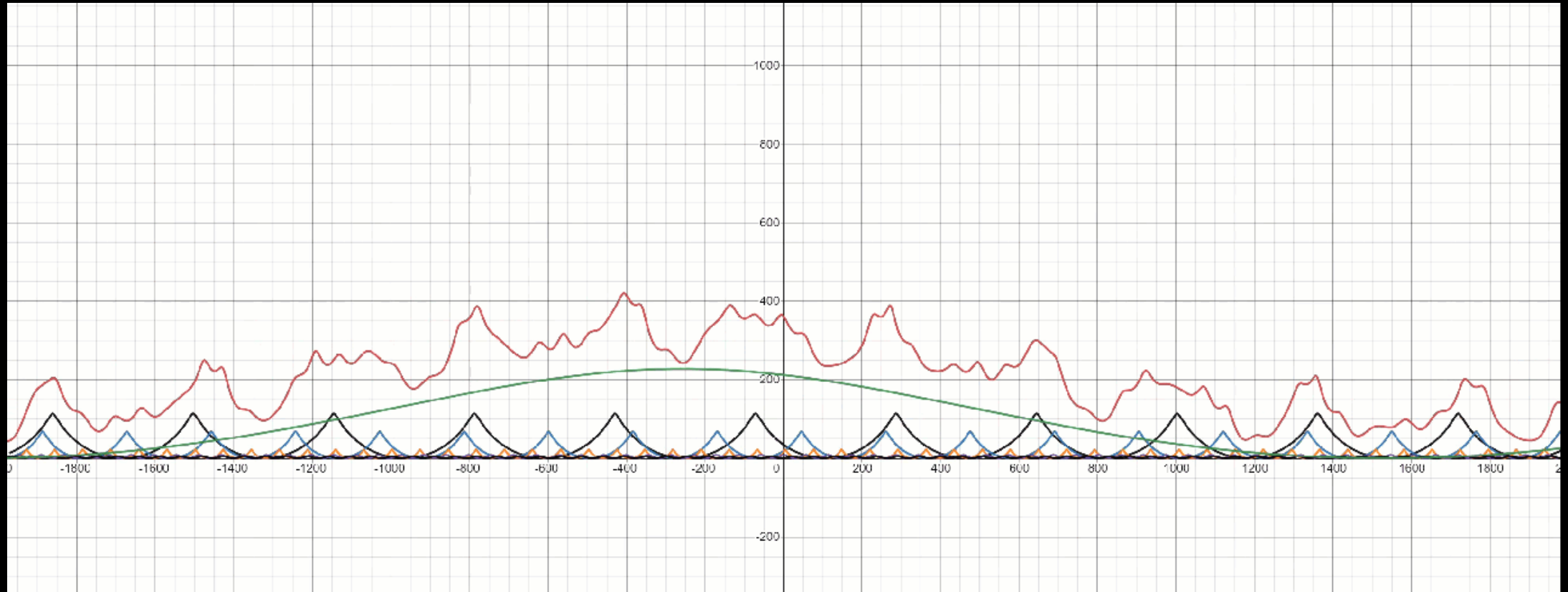
Wavelength



Steepness



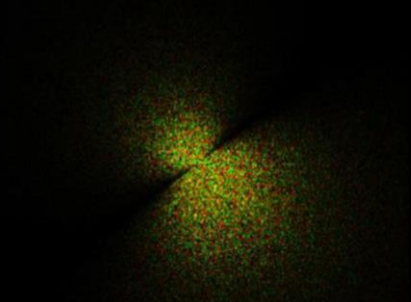
# Multi-Frequency Gerstner Wave Composition




6 Gerstner Wave Summation

# Multi-Frequency Gerstner Wave Composition

How to extend it to 2D plane ?



[Tim 2015]



[Epic 2020]

# Multi-Frequency Gerstner Wave Composition

What about rivers ?

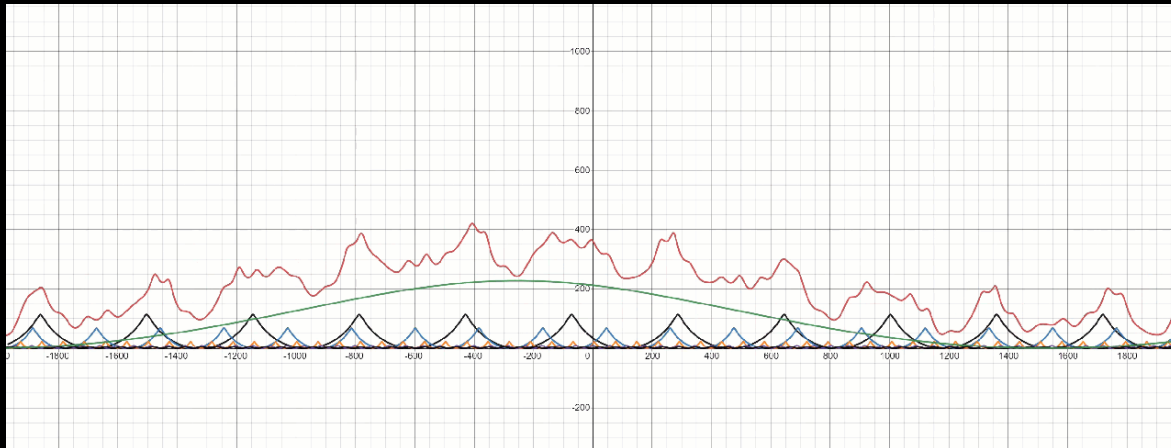
River needs **FLOW MAPS**



# Multi-Frequency Gerstner Wave Composition

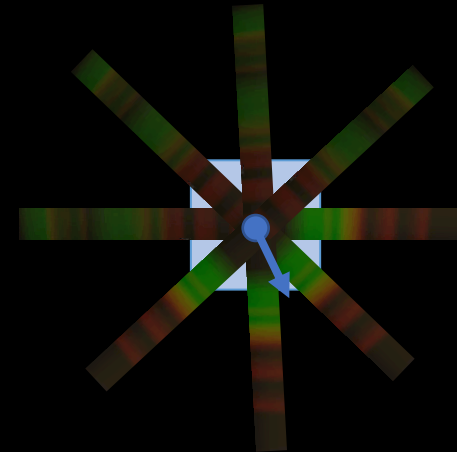
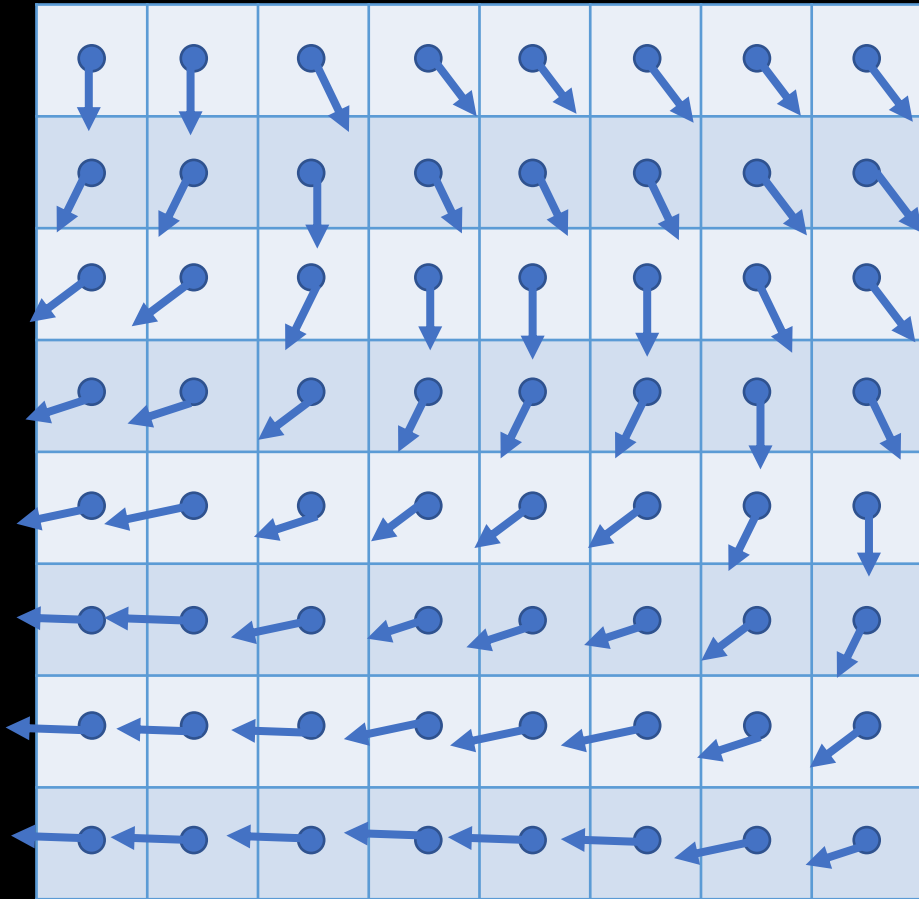
1D Wave Profile + Direction Spreading Function

[Stefan J. 2018]



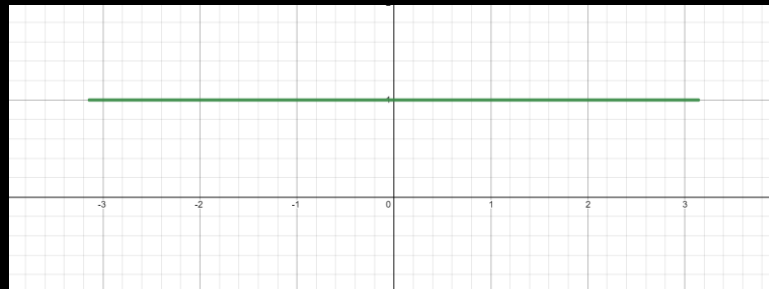
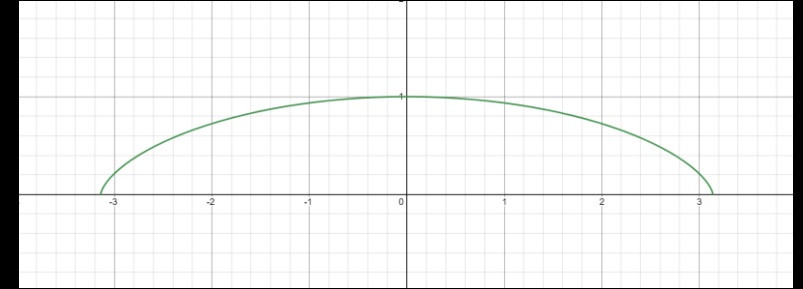
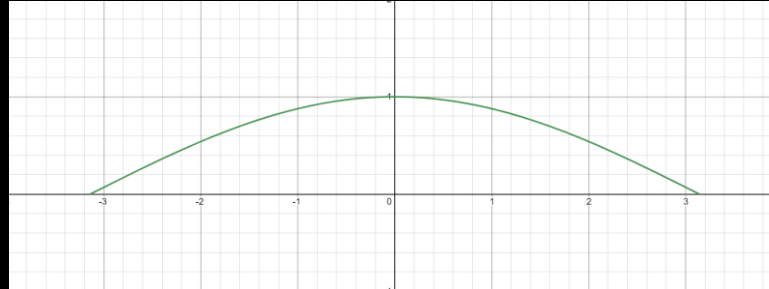
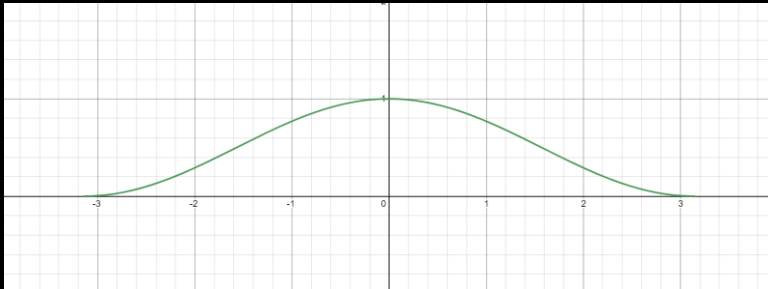


# Multi-Frequency Gerstner Wave Composition



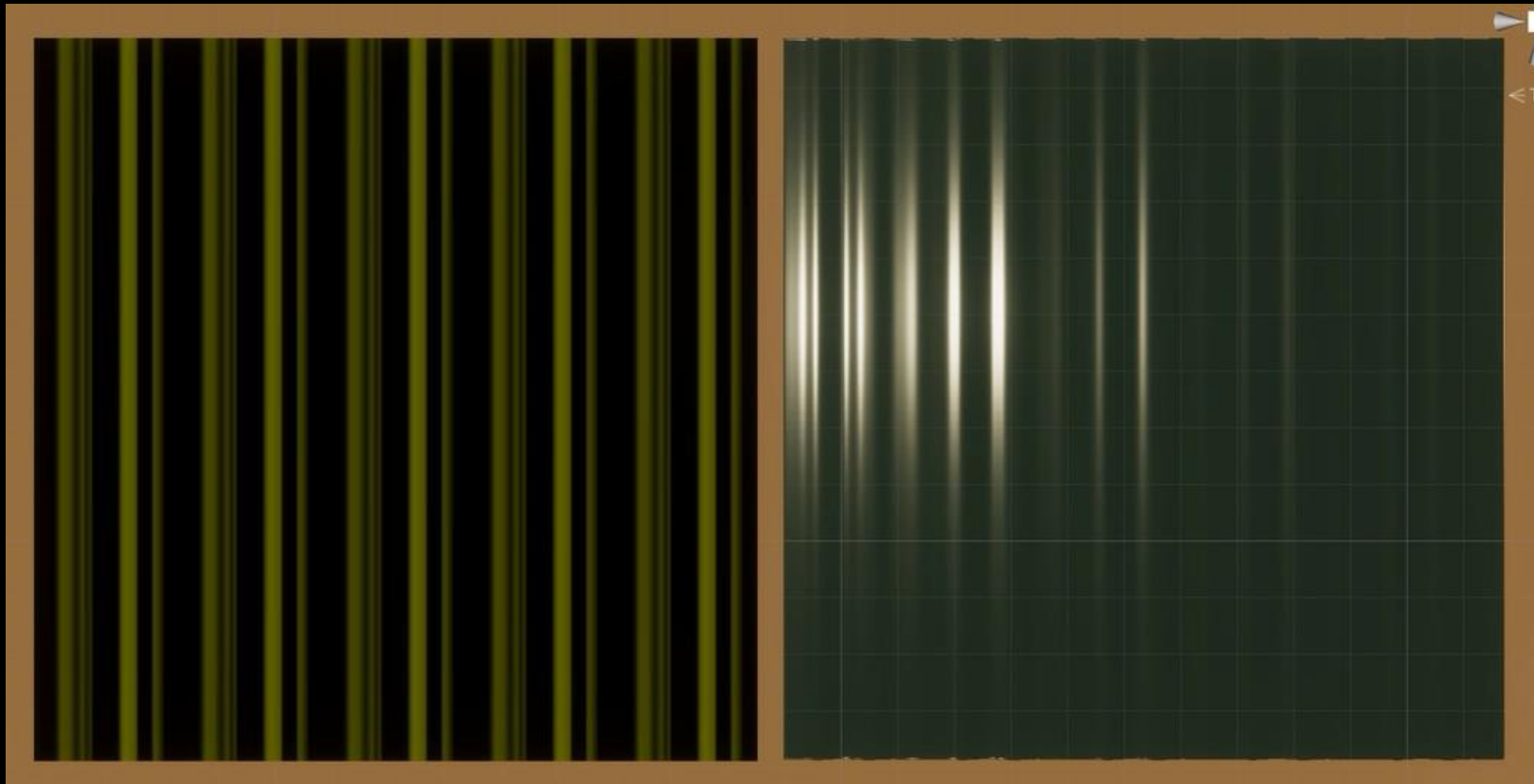
# Multi-Frequency Gerstner Wave Composition

## Direction Spreading Function



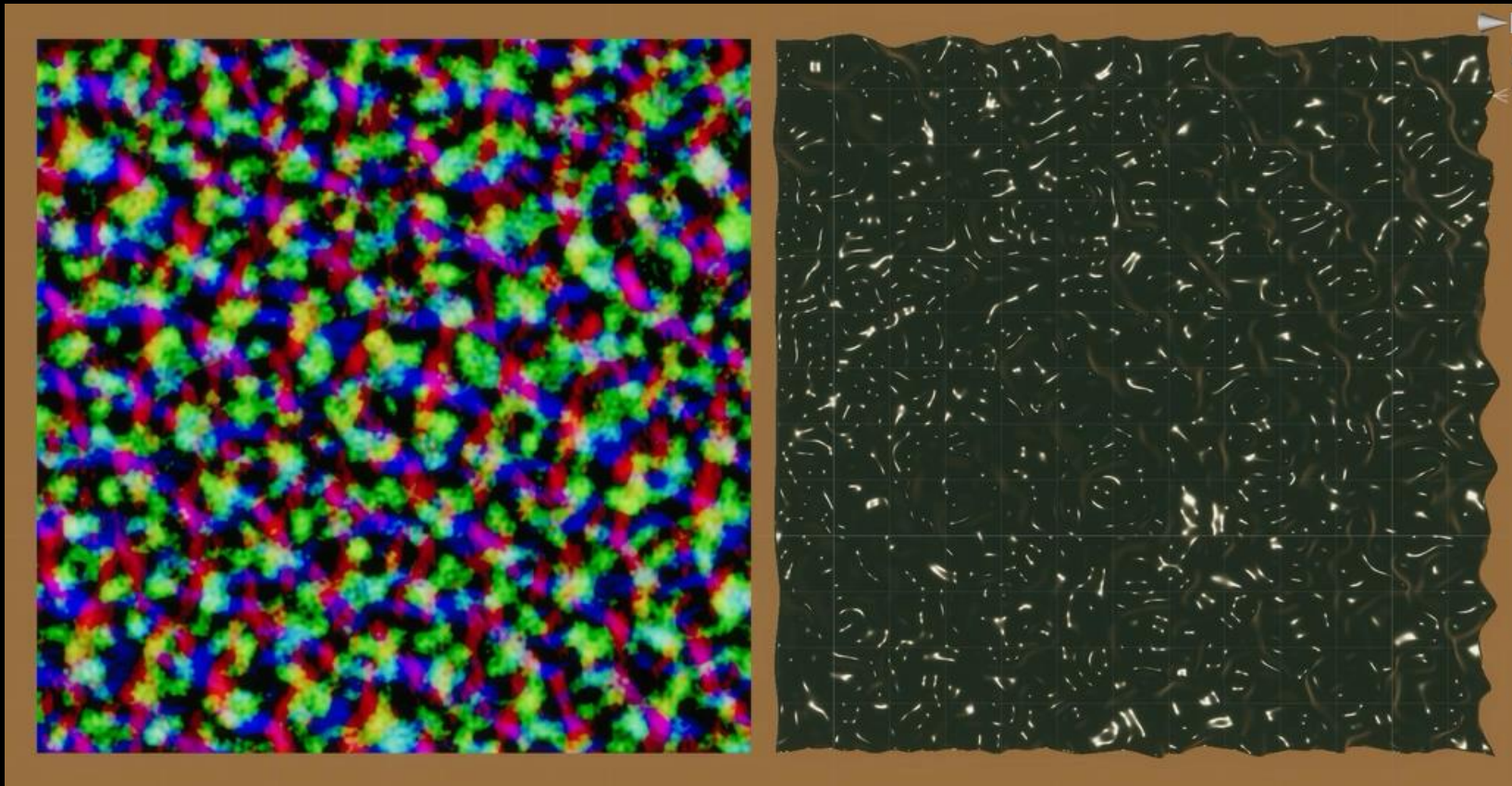
# Multi-Frequency Gerstner Wave Composition

## 1D Wave Profile



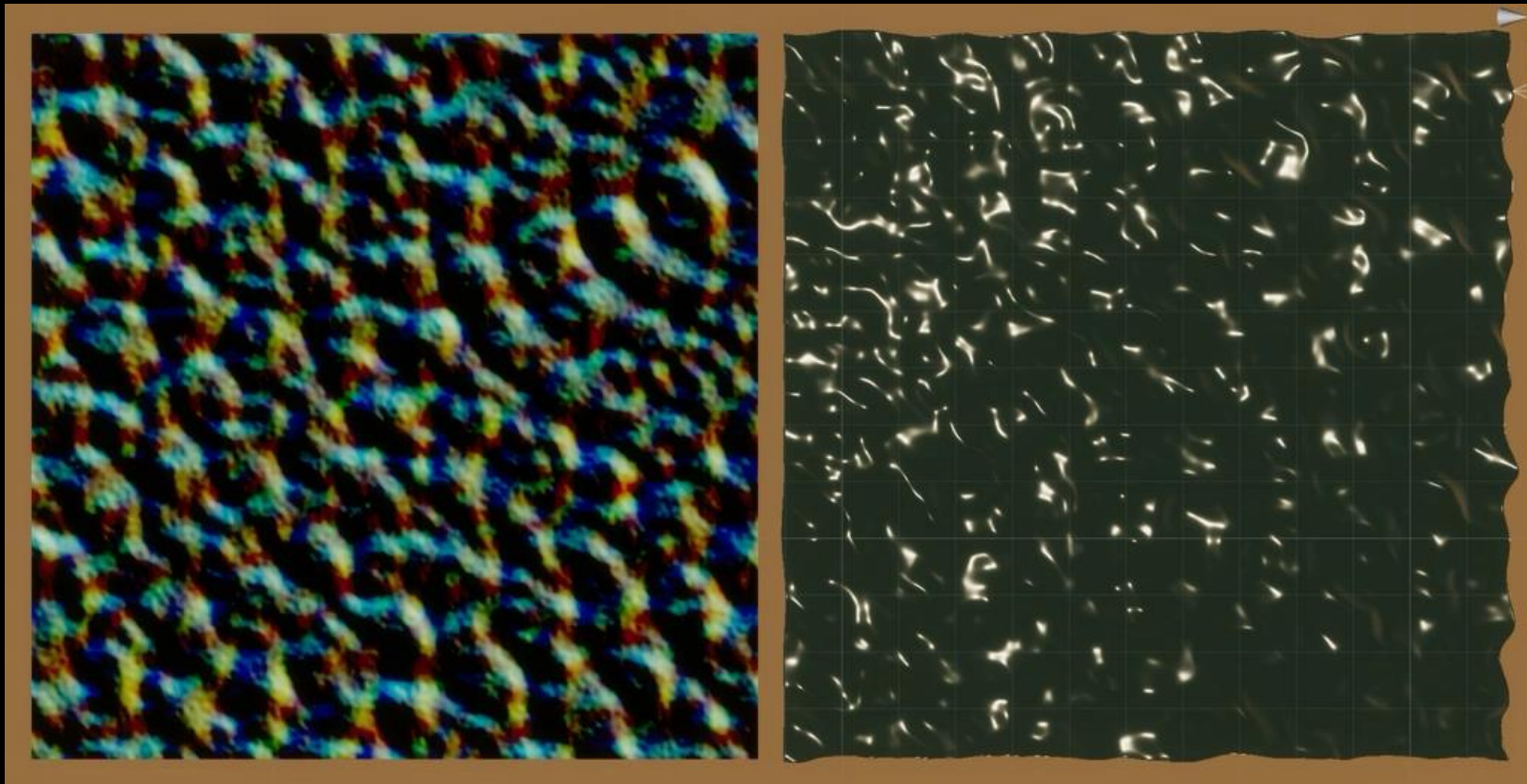
# Multi-Frequency Gerstner Wave Composition

Integration

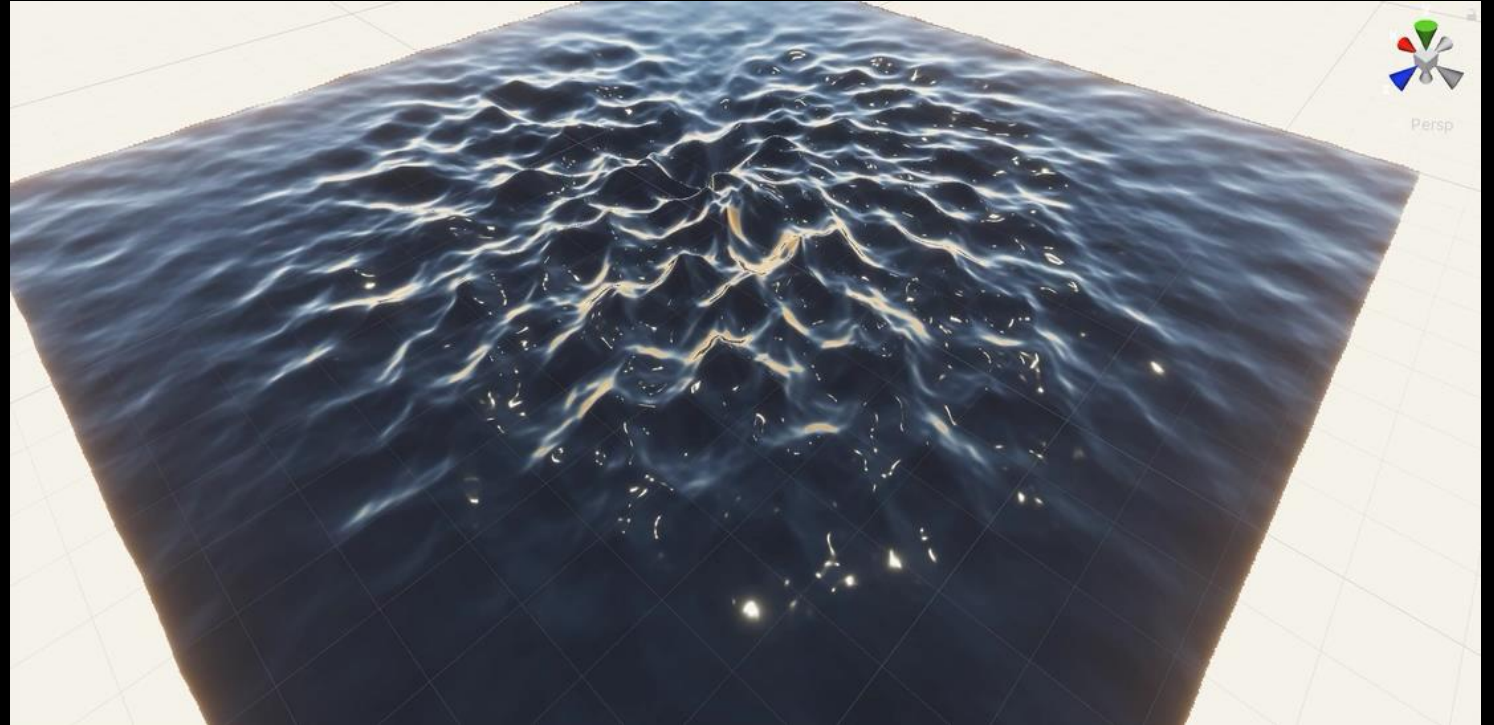
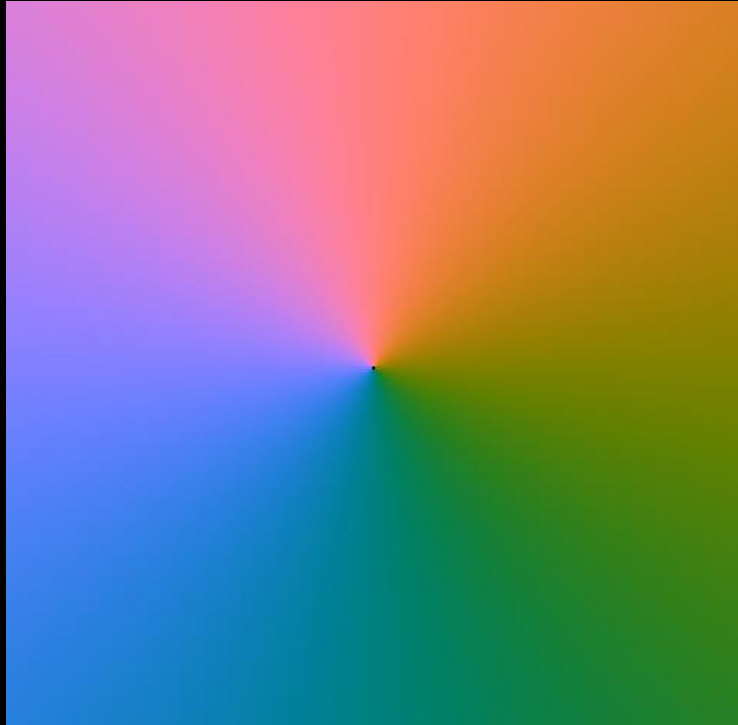


# Multi-Frequency Gerstner Wave Composition

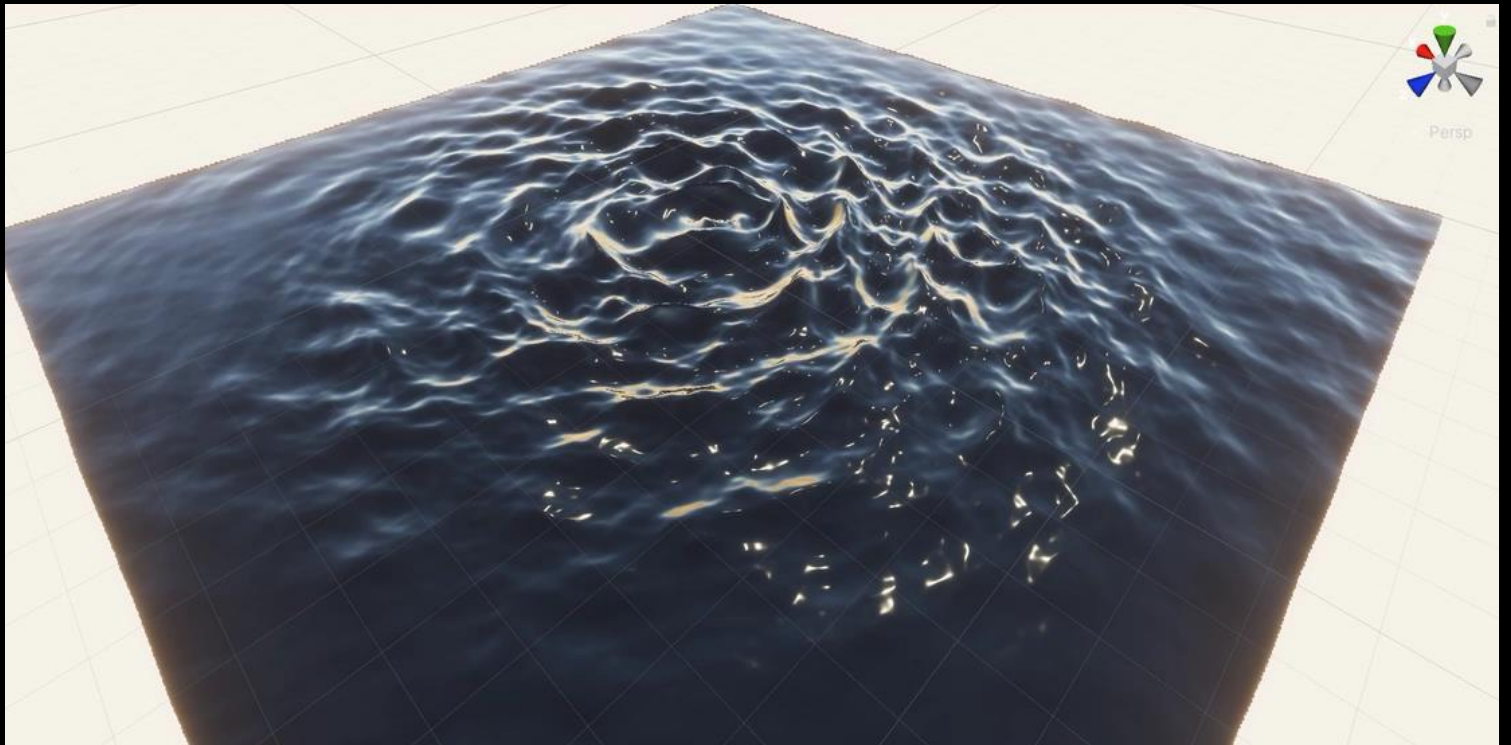
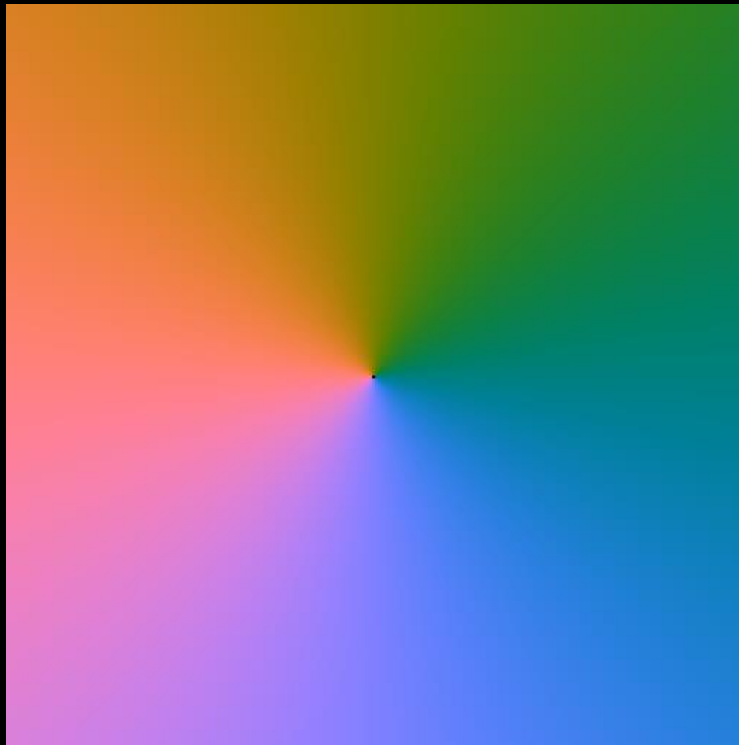
## Direction Spreading



# Multi-Frequency Gerstner Wave Composition



# Multi-Frequency Gerstner Wave Composition



# Flow Map Generation

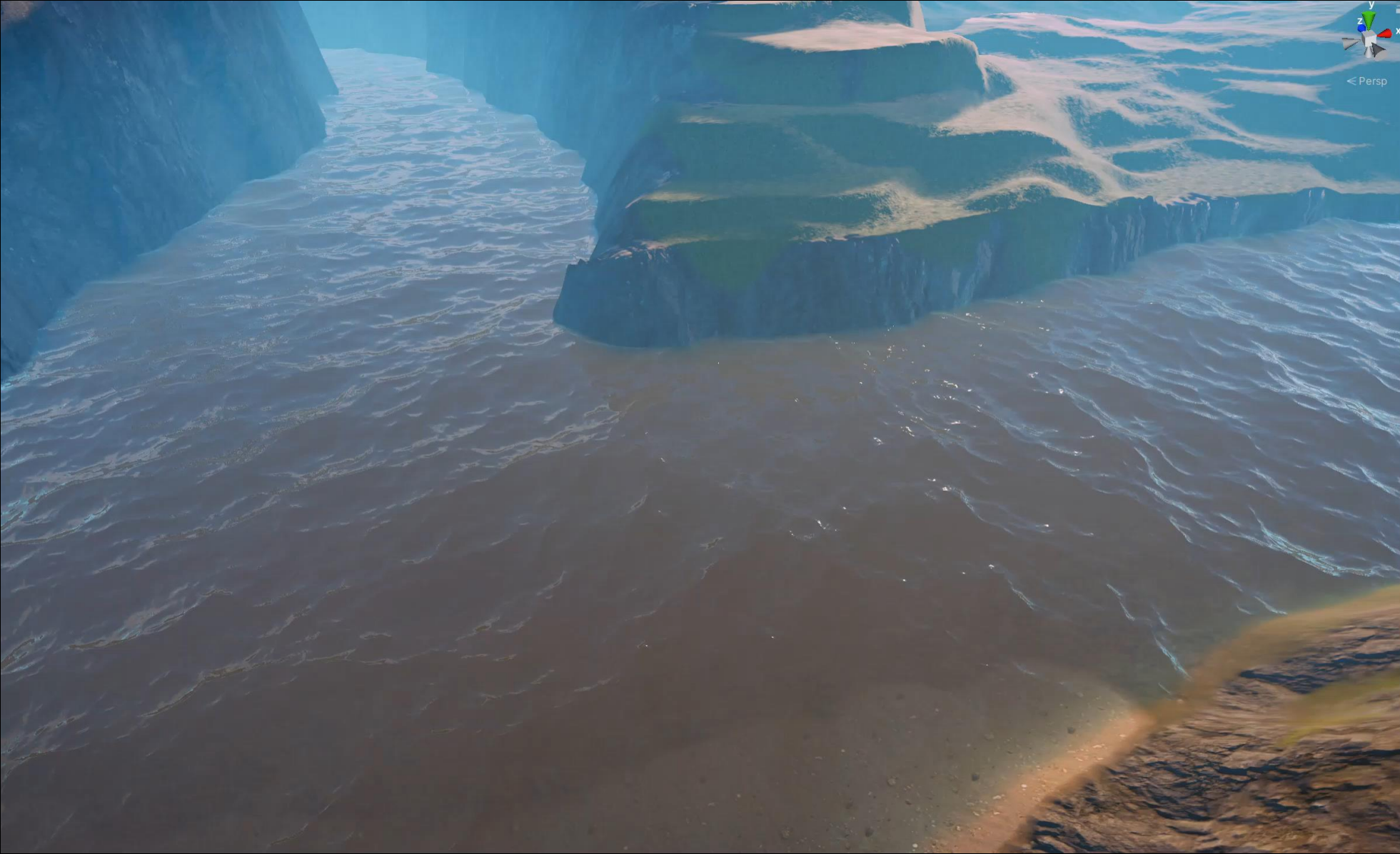
In-engine Simulation

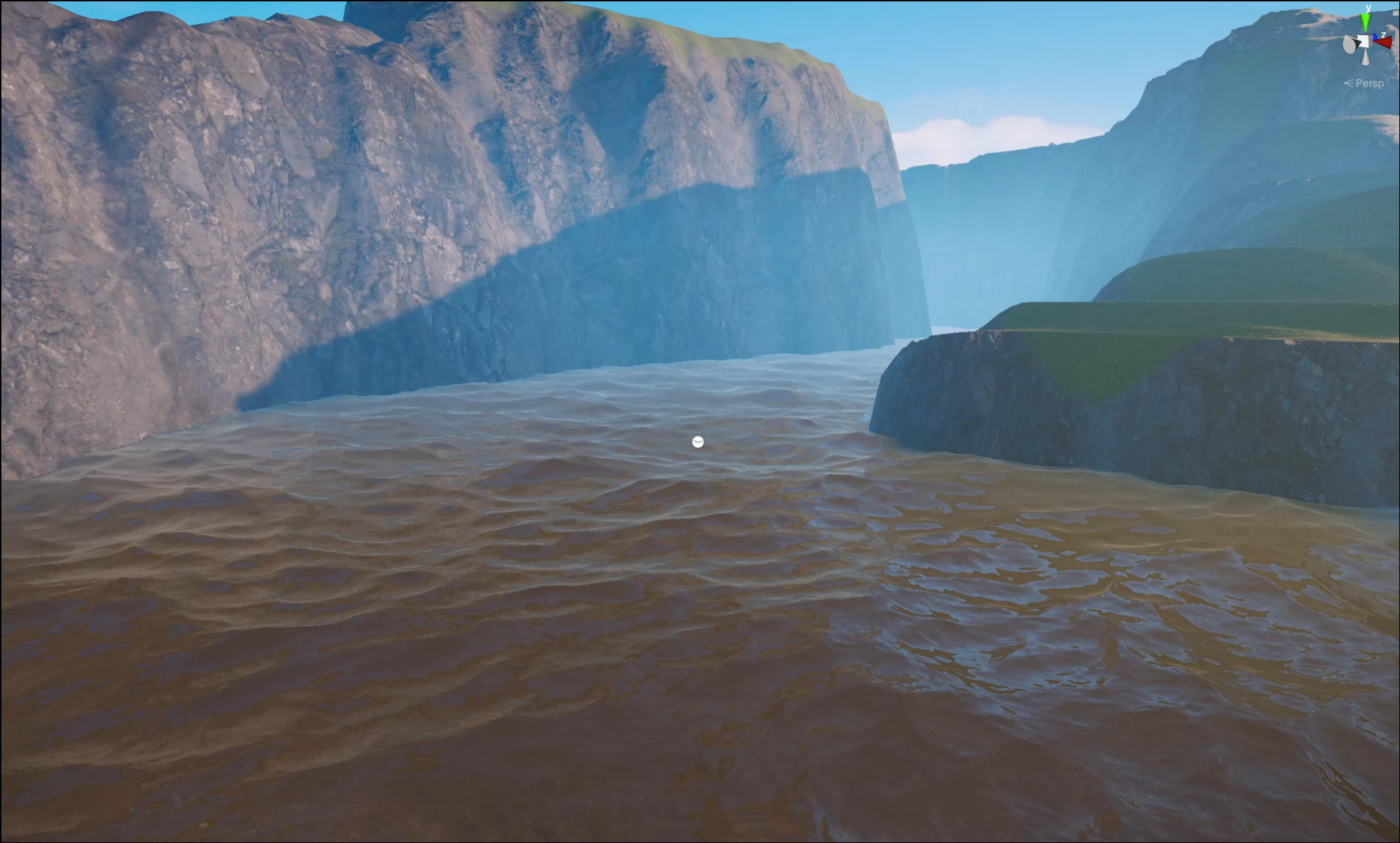
LBM Based

DCC Tools

Houdini  
Photoshop  
Etc.

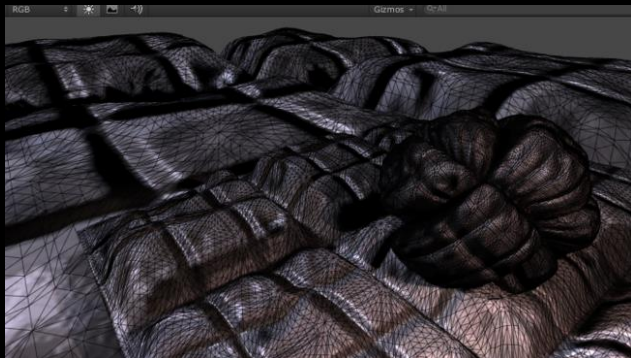




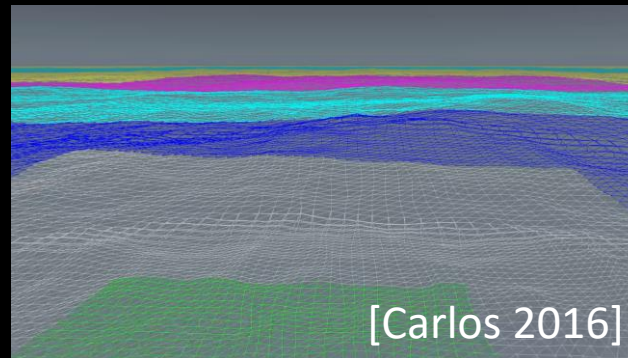


# Tessellation

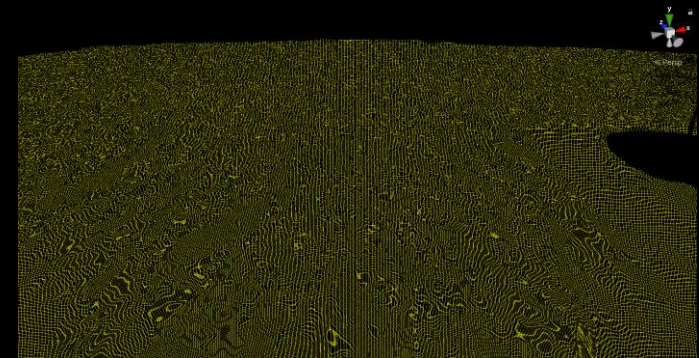
Hardware Tessellation



Cascade Grid

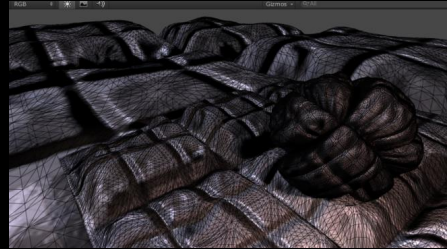


Screen Space Tessellation



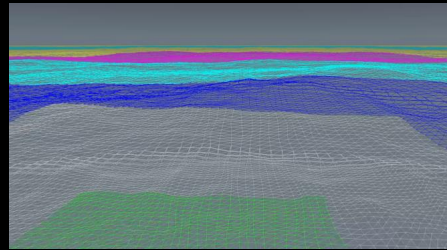
# Tessellation

## Hardware Tessellation



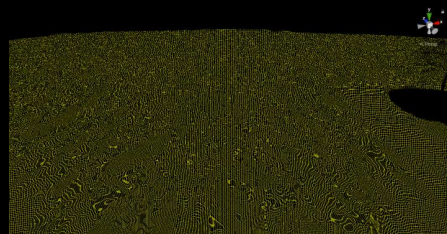
- GPU
- Manually control density
- Traditional Art Pipeline

## Cascade Grid



- CPU & GPU
- Manually control density
- Extra Art Pipeline

## Screen Space Tessellation

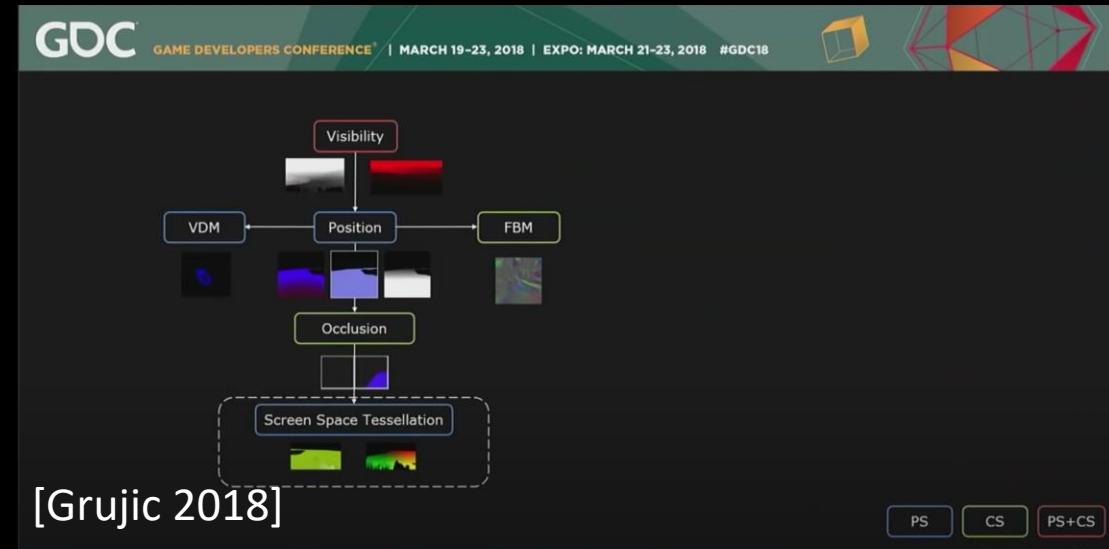


- GPU
- Costant density in screen space
- Traditional Art Pipeline

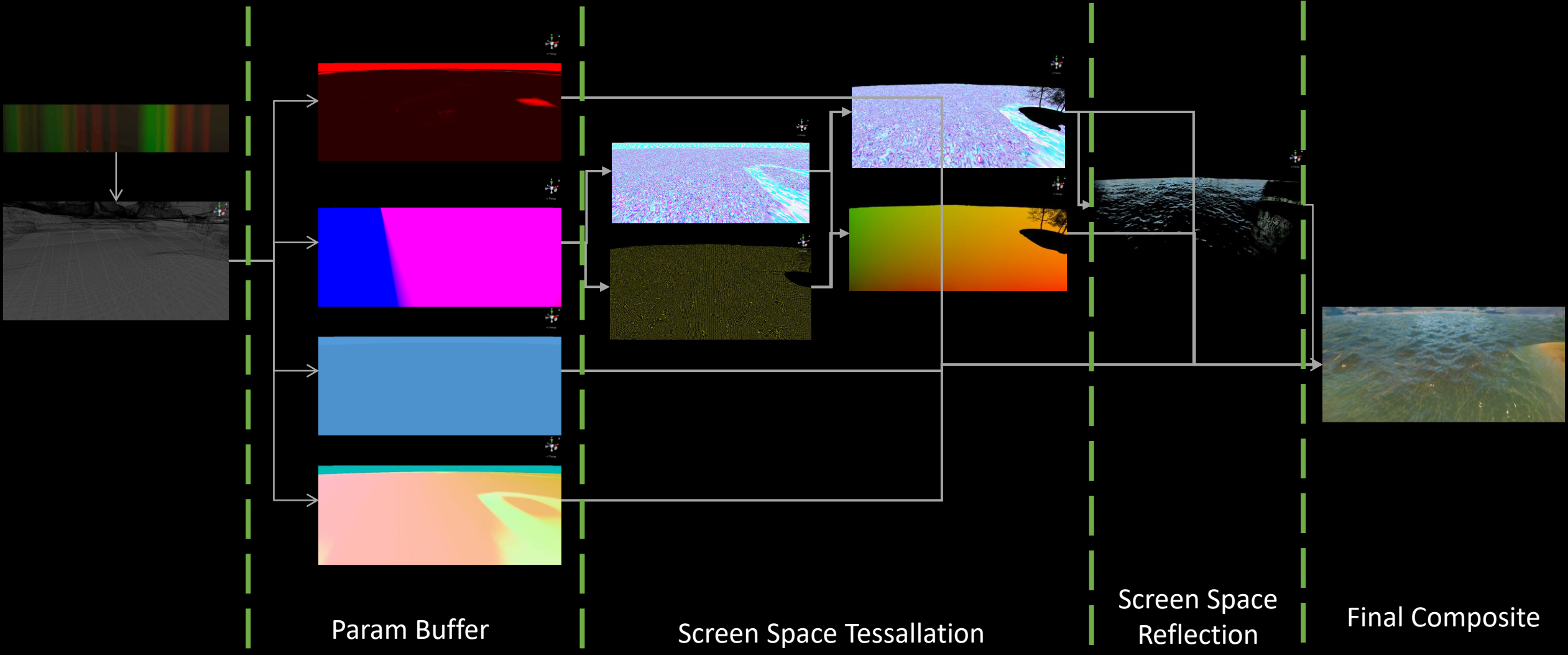
# Screen Space Tessellation Based Water Render Pipeline

Pretty Similar to [Grujic 2018]

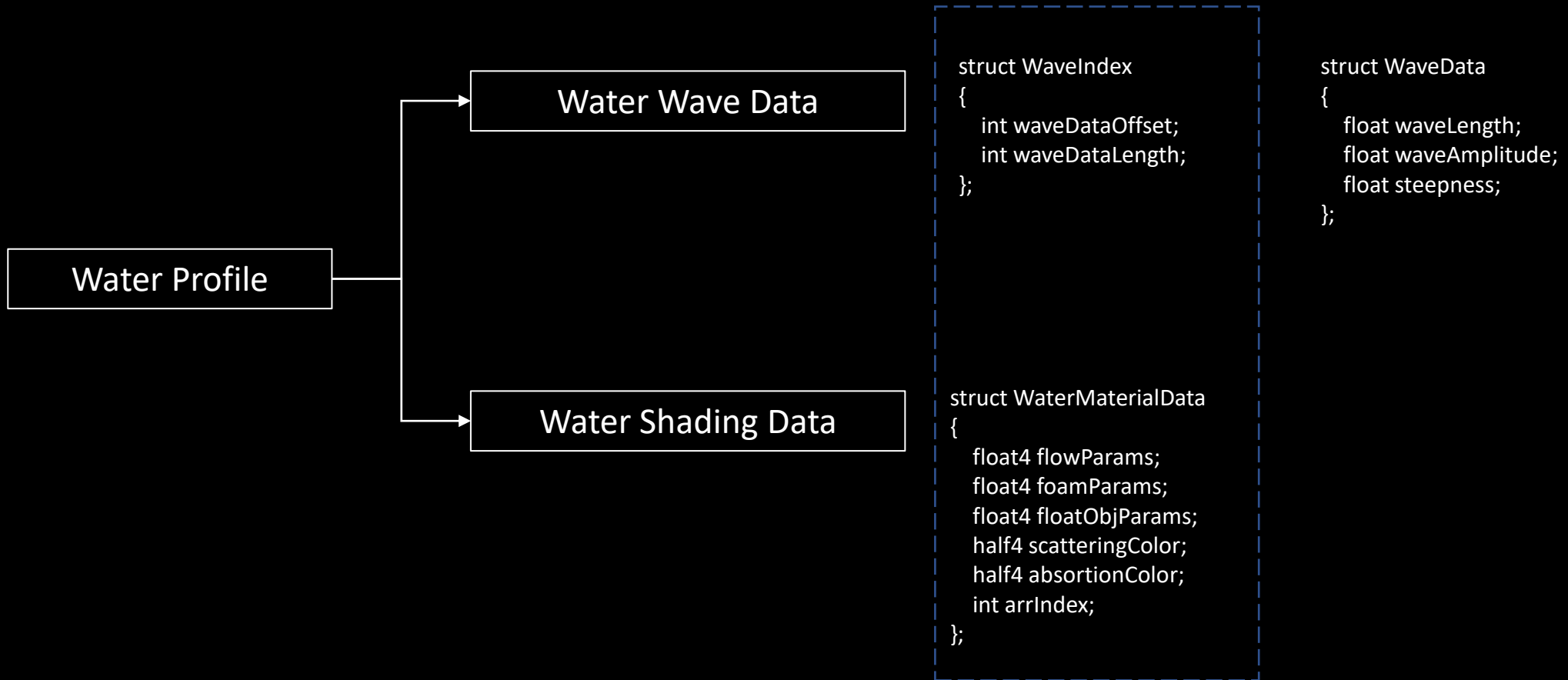
Deferred Shading Pipeline



# Screen Space Tessellation Based Water Render Pipeline



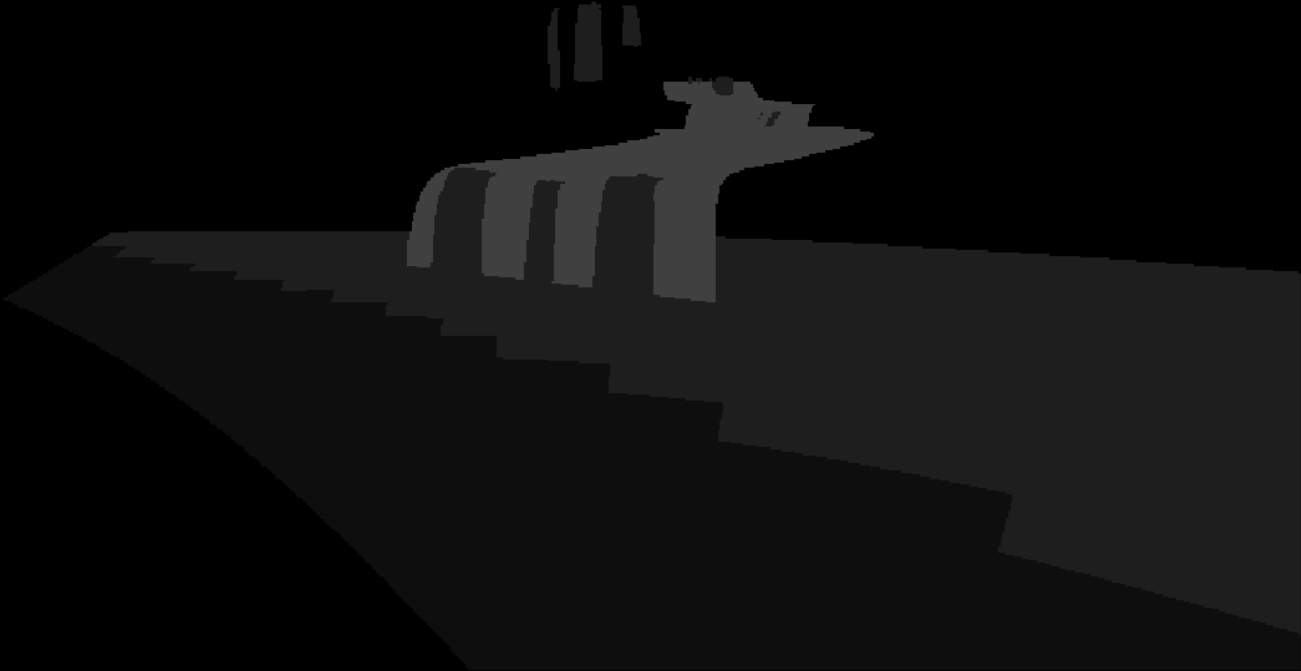
# Water Data







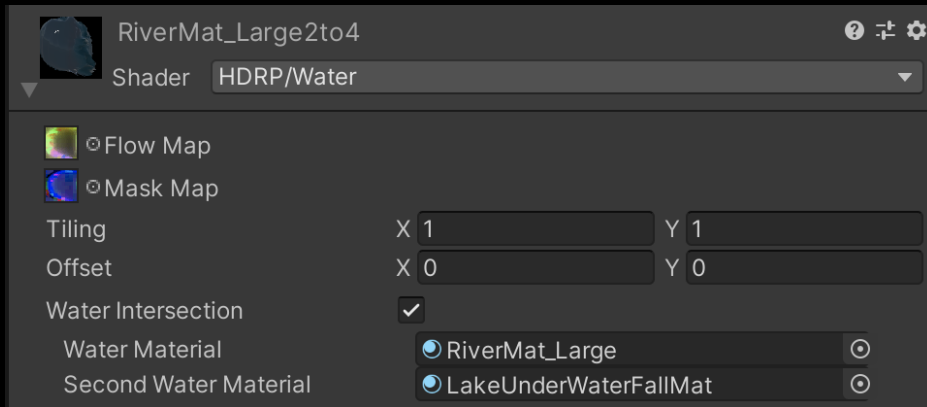
# Water Data



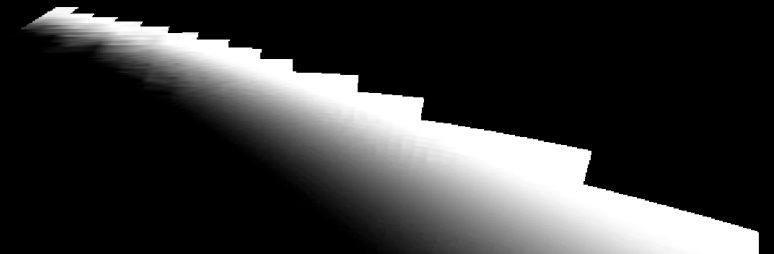
Water Profile ID

# Water Intersection

Water Intersection Mask



Support both water - water and water – ocean intersection



# Pack Water Profile ID to Param Buffer

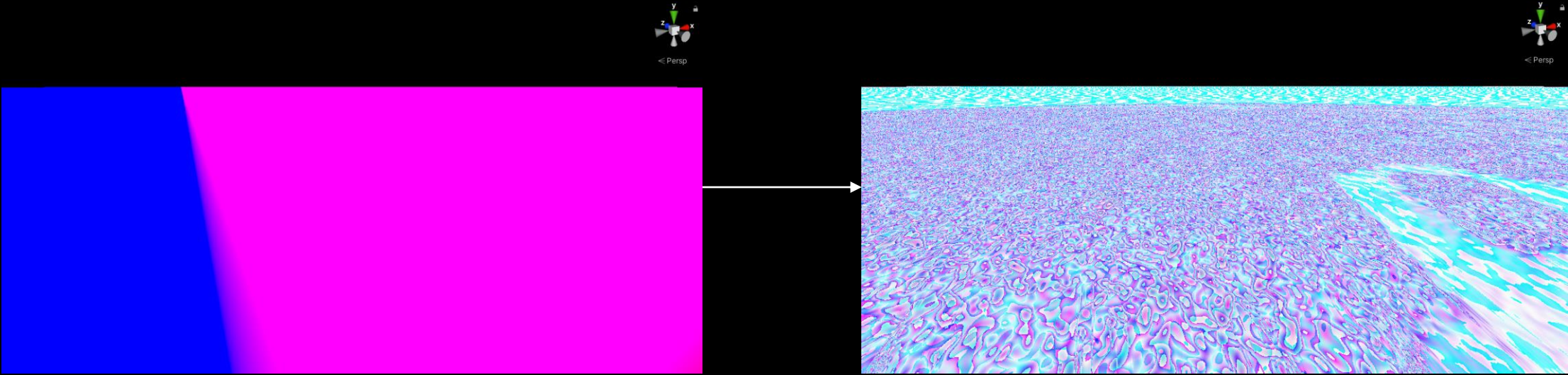
```
void EncodeIntoWaterBuffer(WaterSurfaceData data, out float4 outWaterBuffer0, out float4 outWaterBuffer1, out float3 outWaterBuffer2, out float4 outWaterBuffer3)
{
    // This encode normalWS and PerceptualSmoothness into GBuffer1
    outWaterBuffer0 = float4(data.masks.rgb, PackIntInt8Bit(i0: data.profileId, i1: data.profileId1, maxi: 16));
    outWaterBuffer1 = float4(data.positionWS, 1);
    outWaterBuffer2 = data.bakedGI;
    outWaterBuffer3 = data.flowDir;
}
```

Support both water - water and water – ocean intersection

# Water Intersection



# Water Normal Generation



Why?

# Water Normal Generation

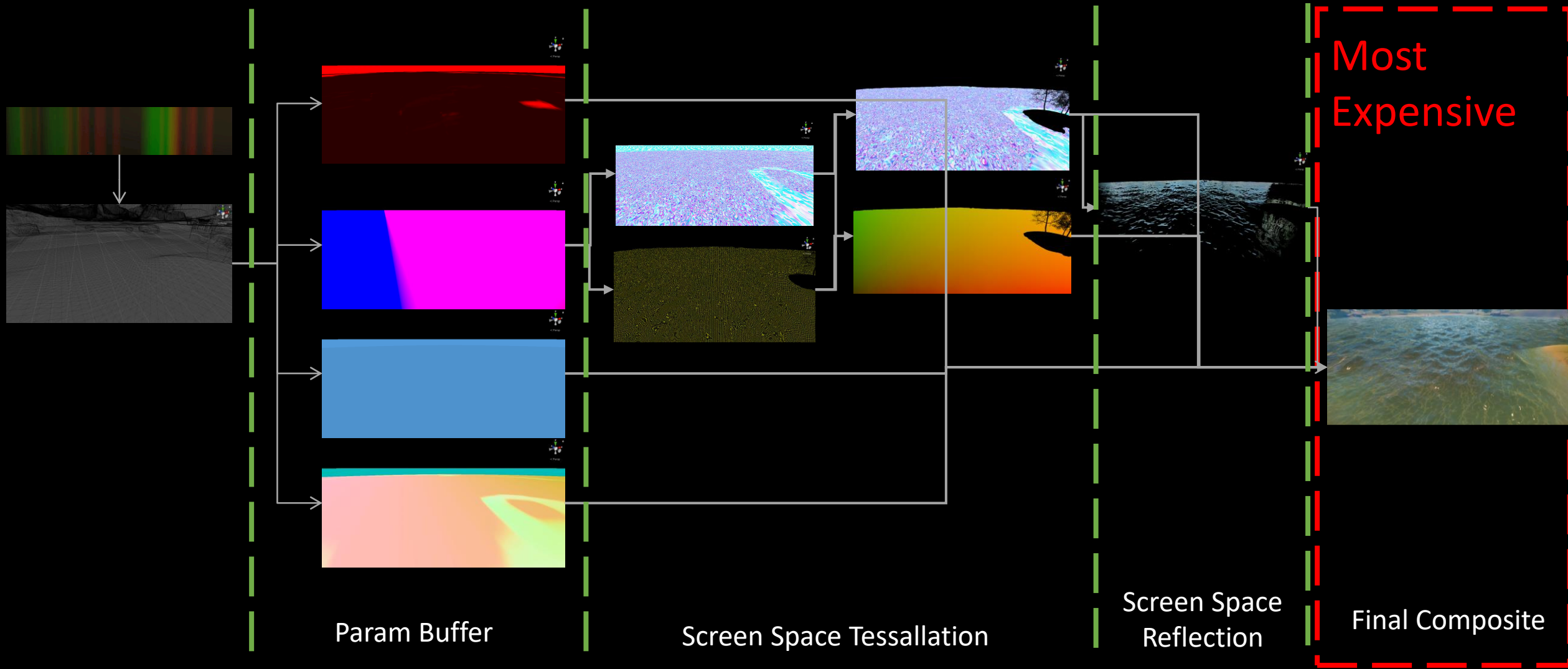
Gerstner Wave Profile + Flow Map

← Difficult to solve analytically

Other effect like shore wave



# Optimization



# Optimization



Final Composite

- Evaluate scattering/absorption
- Evaluate foam with flow
- Evaluate caustic
- Evaluate full lighting
- Composite with scene



# Optimization

Very poor occupancy on PS4 – 10%

Lots of compute buffer read

Light data buffer

Reflection probe data buffer

Water material data buffer

Etc.

Complicated light calculation

PBR lighting

Scattering lighting

Area lights

# Optimization

Full screen pixel pass to indirect compute pass

GPU scalarization

- Light data scalarization

- Water material data scalarization

1D wave profile





# References

[Grujic 2018] Water Rendering in “Far Cry 5”

[Carlos 2016] Rendering Rapids in Uncharted 4

[Tim 2015] Ocean simulation and rendering In War Thunder

[Tessendorf 2001] Simulating Ocean Water

[Mark&Cyan 2004] Effective Water Simulation from Physical Models

[Huw 2017] Crest: Novel Ocean Rendering Techniques in an Open Source Framework

[Jean-Philippe 2018] River Editor: Water Simulation in Real-Time

[Jean, Axel, Yixin 2020] Rendering the Hellscape of Doom Eternal

[Epic 2020] Building Worlds in ‘Fortnite’ With Unreal Engine

[Stefan J. 2018] Water Surface Wavelets

[Evan W. 2016] Rendering Realtime Caustics in WebGL

The image features a dark, starry background with a prominent, glowing nebula or galaxy structure. The colors range from deep purple and blue to bright cyan and green, creating a vibrant, ethereal atmosphere. The word "THANKS" is centered in a clean, white, sans-serif font.

THANKS