

Section IV

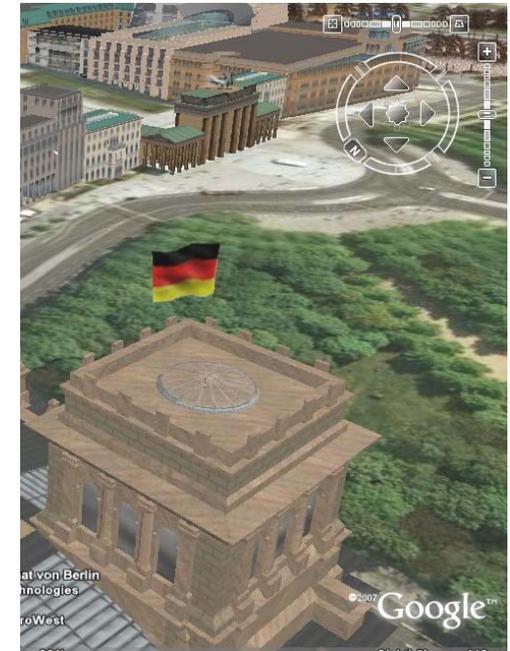
CityGML in Detail – Part 2

Prof. Dr. Thomas H. Kolbe

Institute for Geodesy and Geoinformation Science
Berlin University of Technology
kolbe@igg.tu-berlin.de

May 2008

EduServ6 Course on CityGML



This is copyrighted material. It is not allowed to distribute copies or parts of these slides and the video clips without the written consent of the author.

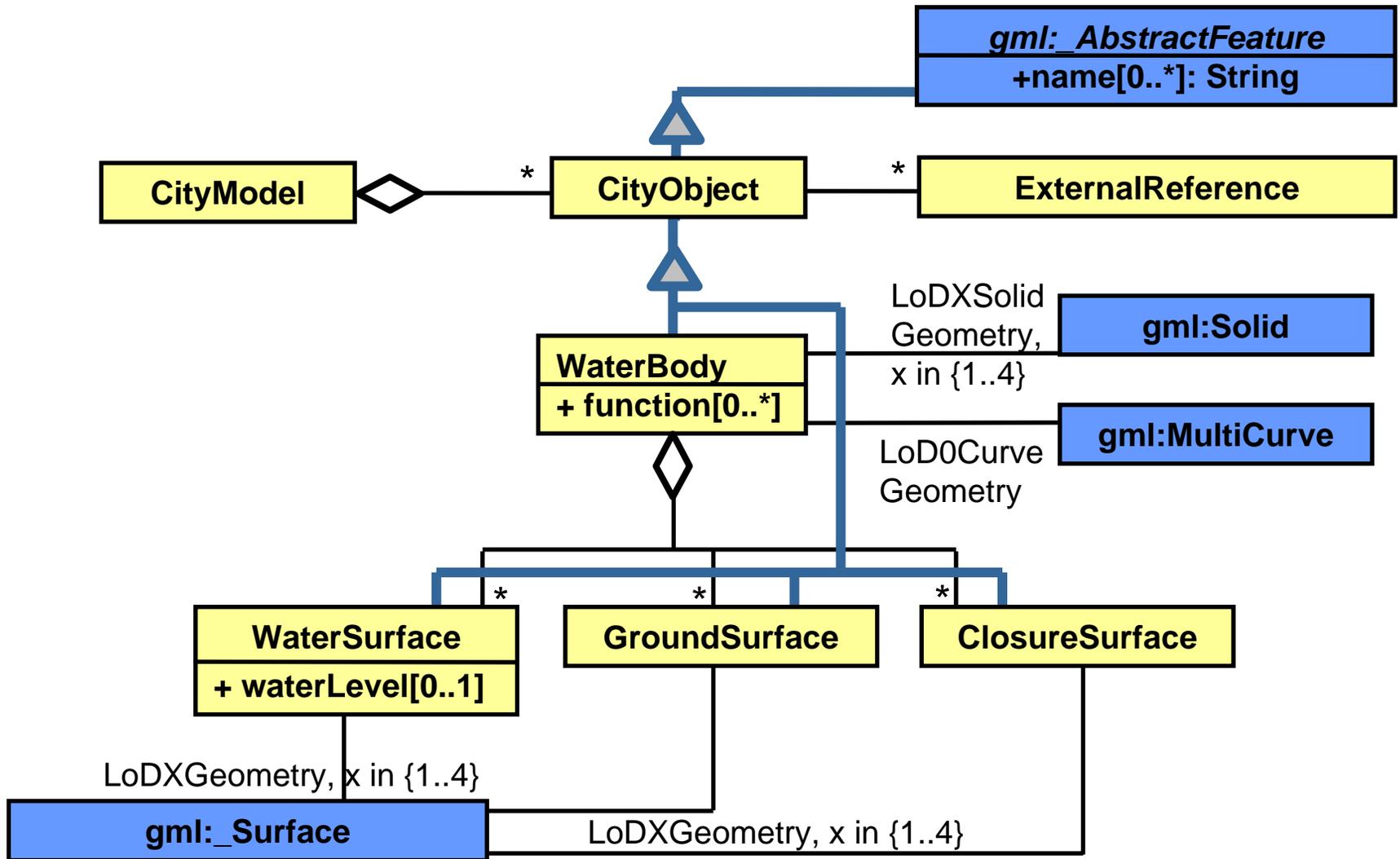
Please note, that the presentation also contains third-party copyrighted material used with permission.

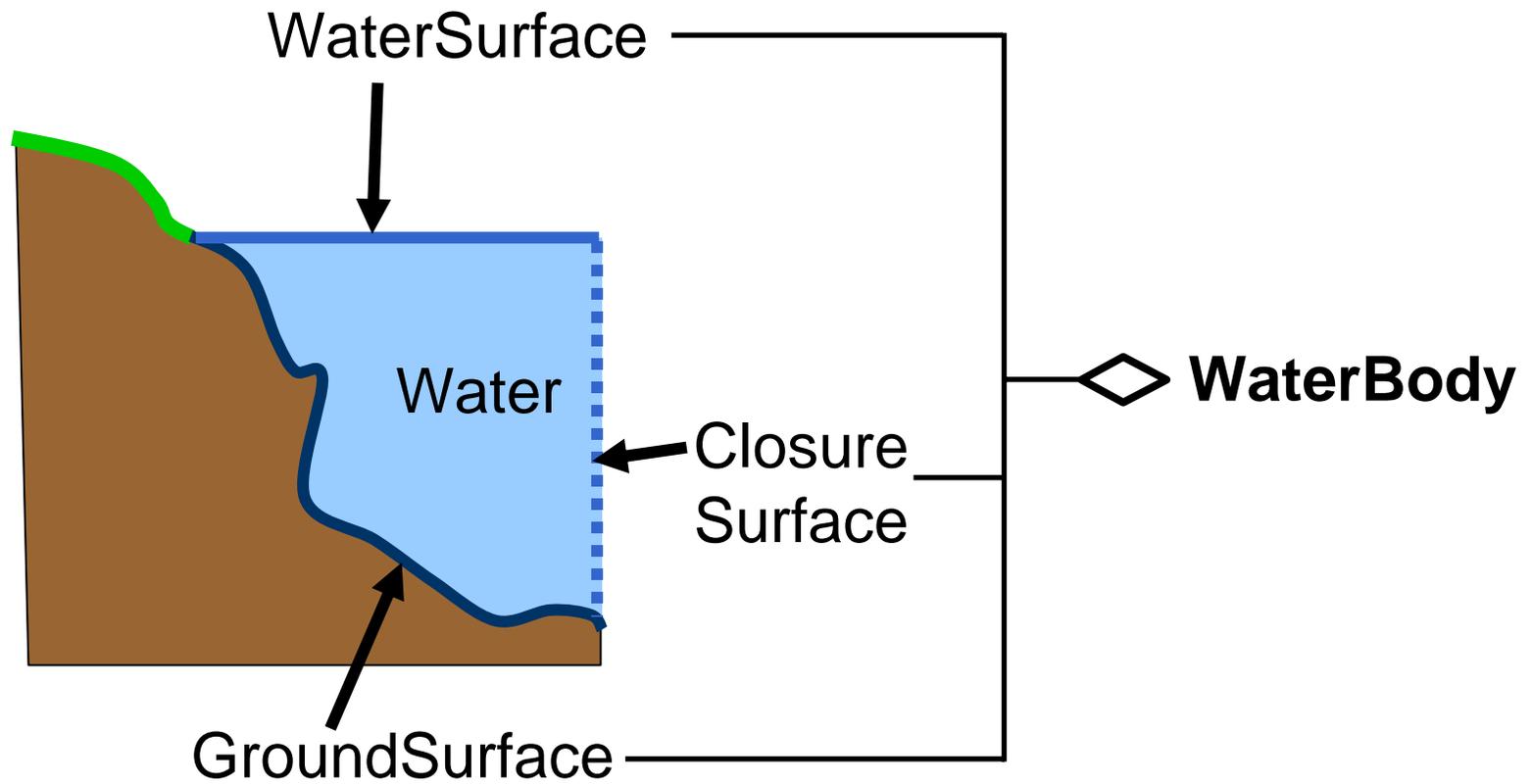
- ▶ Section I
 - Introduction: Urban Information Modelling
 - CityGML Overview and Status
 - OGC Geography Markup Language (GML)
- ▶ Section II
 - Further GML Concepts and Application Modelling
- ▶ Section III – CityGML Details, Part 1
- ▶ Section IV – CityGML Details, Part 2
- ▶ Section V
 - Extending CityGML
 - Application Examples
- ▶ Section VI
 - Relations to Other Standards



CityGML

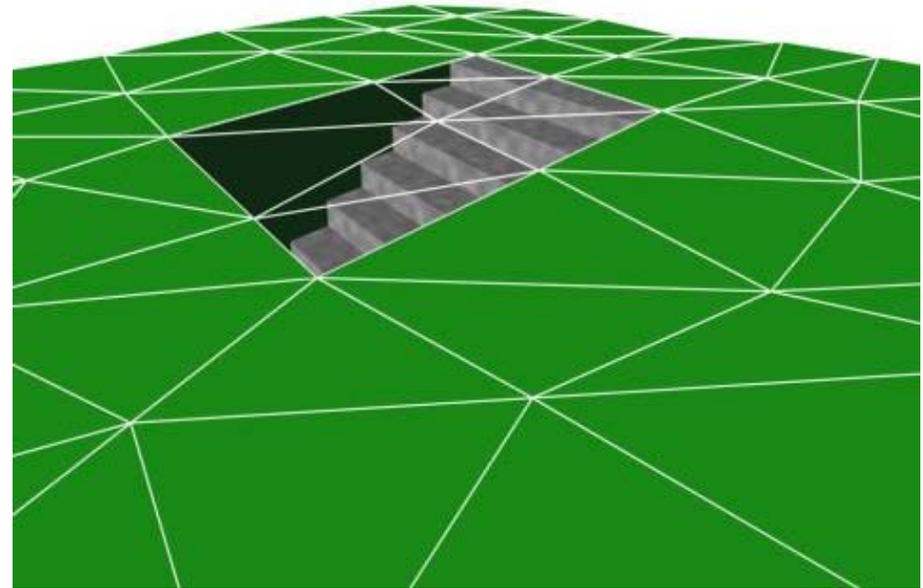
Details





„Seal open 3D objects“

- ▶ in order to be able to compute their volumes



Feature type **CityObjectGroup**

- ▶ has **arbitrary CityObjects** as members

CityObjectGroup is a CityObject

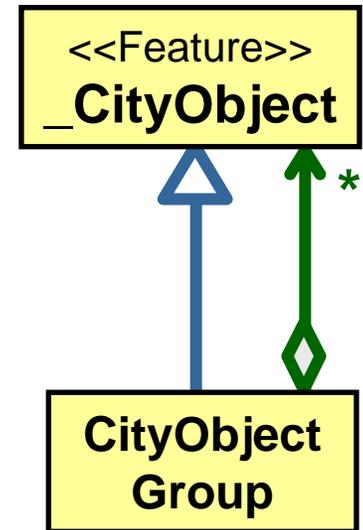
- ▶ can become again member of another group
- ▶ every member can denote its role in a group

usable for **user-defined aggregations**

- ▶ e.g. results of classifications or selection

usable also to **group CityObjects wrt. some function or area**, e.g.

- ▶ city districts, building storeys, or evacuation areas



Implicit geometries (Prototypic shapes)

- ▶ Shape of a 3D object in local coordinates
- ▶ Instancing at anchor points (+ further transformations)

Surface Materials

- ▶ Colors, Textures (adopted from X3D & COLLADA)
- ▶ Appearance information can be assigned to any surface

Both are concepts used in scene graphs

- ▶ directly transformable to VRML, X3D, U3D etc.
- ▶ however **only simple & limited extensions**
- ▶ tailored to the demand of 3D city models
- ▶ easy to support by exporting / importing applications

3D city models often contain large numbers of geoobjects of identical shape but at different locations

- ▶ Examples: trees, traffic lights, street lamps, benches, etc.

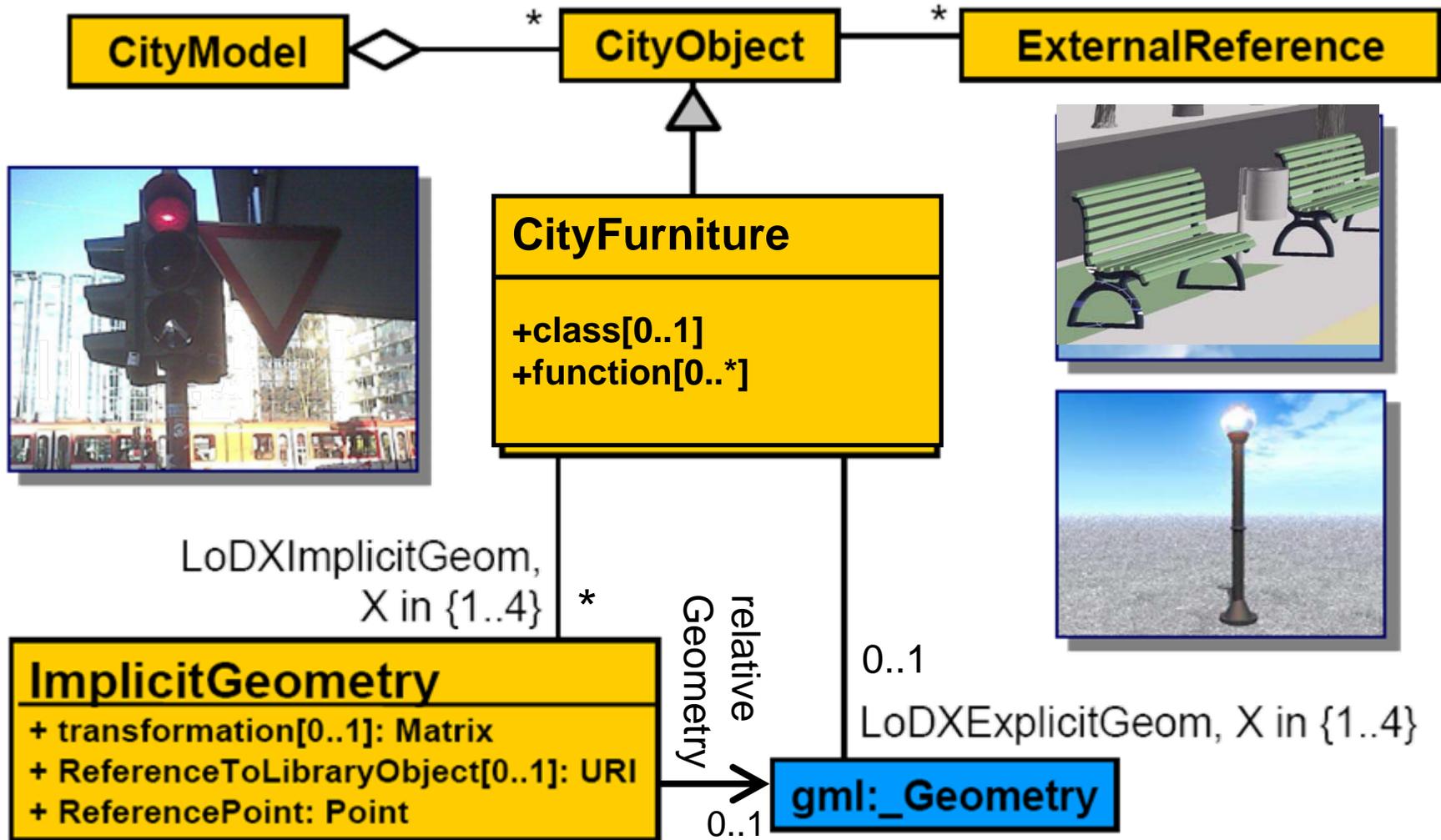
in GML3, all geometries have absolute coordinates

- ▶ every copy / instance would have to be explicitly represented

CityGML: **Implicit Geometries**

- ▶ Separation of shape definition and georeferencing (anchor point + transform.)
- ▶ Comparable to scene graph concepts

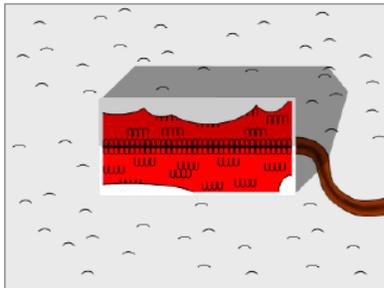
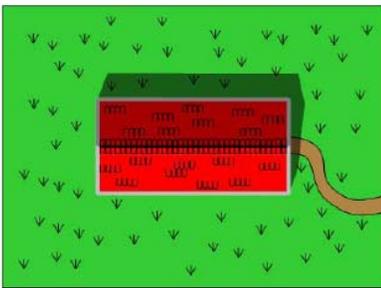


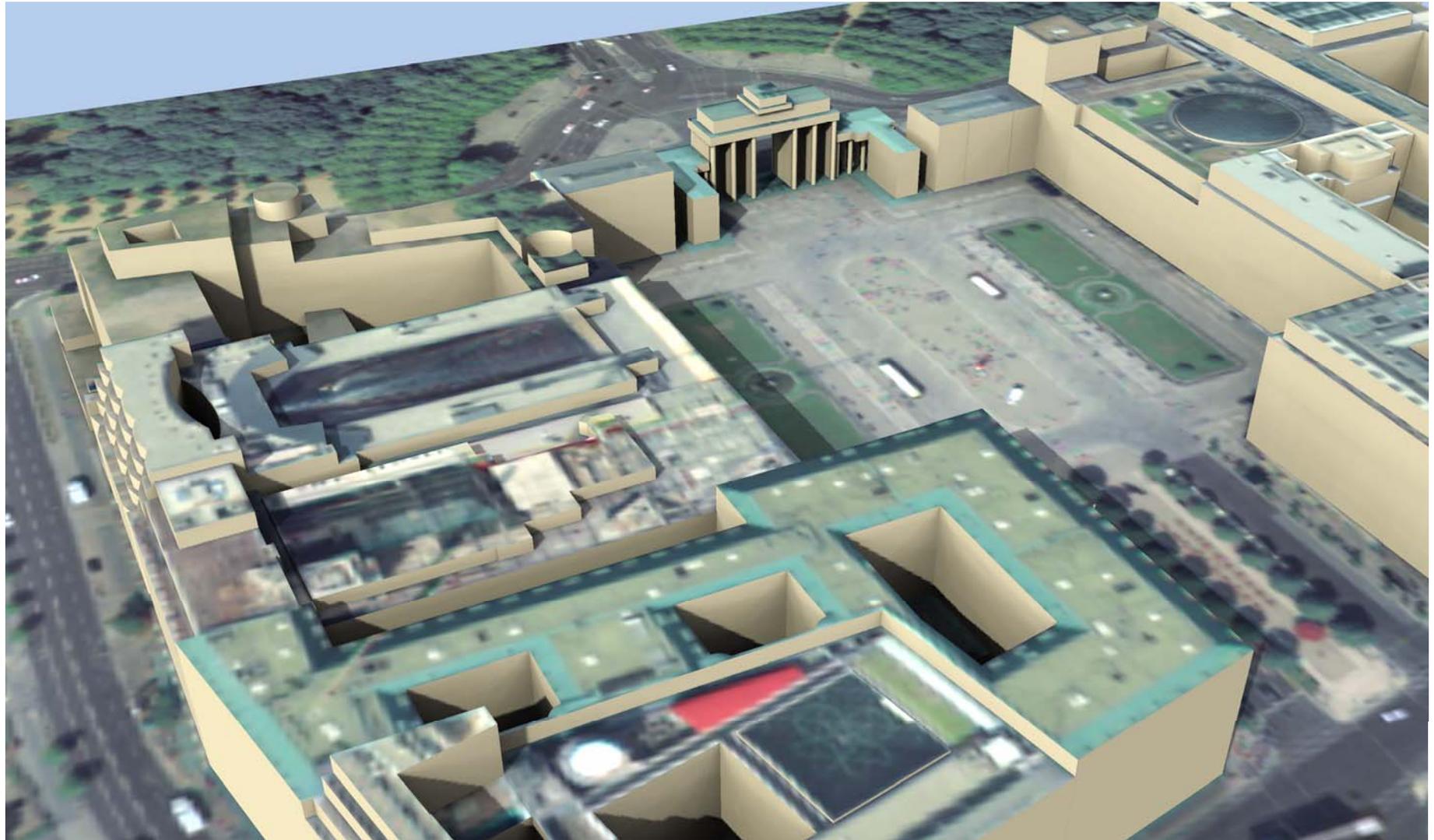


- ▶ explicit texture coordinates
- ▶ georeferenced textures
- ▶ parameterized textures
- ▶ material



- ▶ multiple appearances per object (~ themes)





Georeferenced Photography:

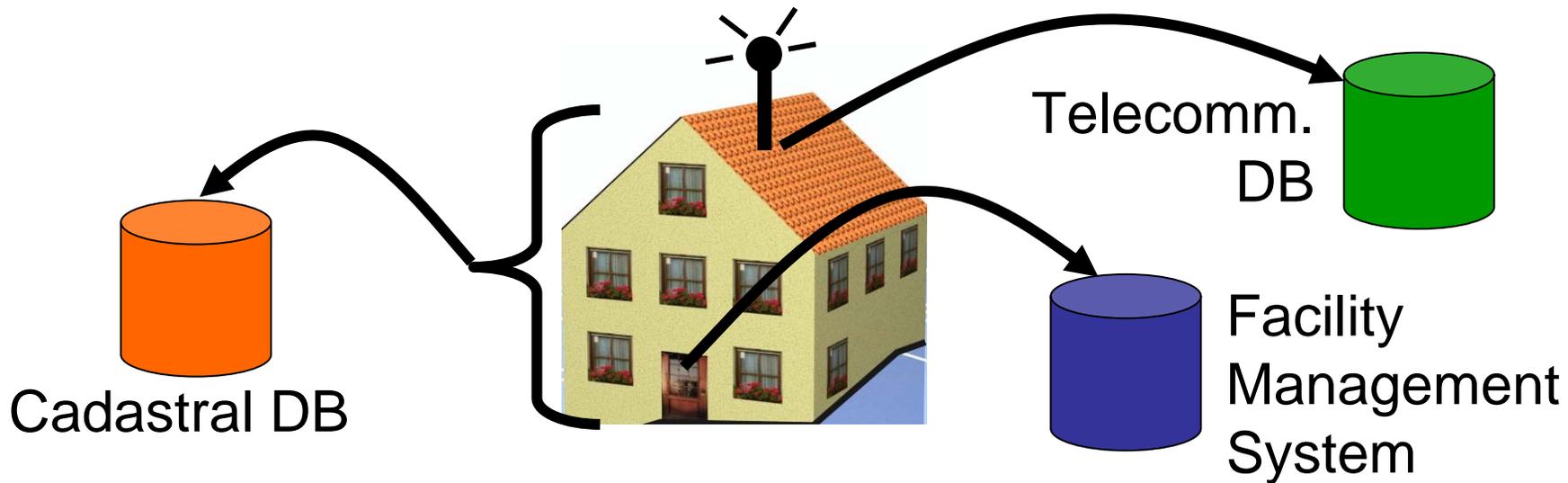


Projected onto 3D surfaces:



using *worldToTexture* parameterization

- ▶ Support for **generalization of 3D data**
 - Generalized objects are linked to the original objects on the larger scale
- ▶ Object **history**
 - Objects may have a lifespan (creation & termination date)
- ▶ Explicit **linking**
 - Every CityGML object can have an arbitrary number of links to external resources (files, objects, database entries)
- ▶ Support for spatial homogenization / integration
 - e.g. **Terrain Intersection Curves** (for integration of 3D objects with the terrain)
- ▶ Representation of **topology**



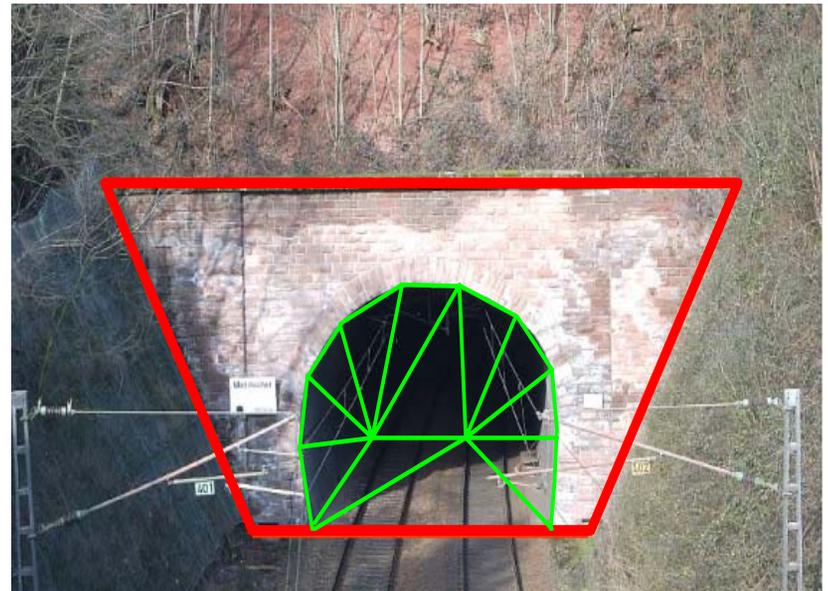
Every object (part) may have **references** to **corresponding objects** from **external resources**

Connection with external information, e.g.:

- ▶ building: link to cadastre, owner's contact information
- ▶ door, antenna: link to facility management systems

„Interface between 3D objects and the terrain“

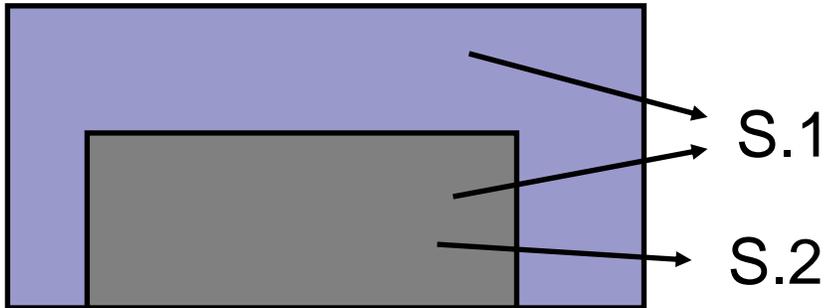
- ▶ ensure matching of object textures with the DTM
- ▶ DTM may be locally warped to fit the TIC



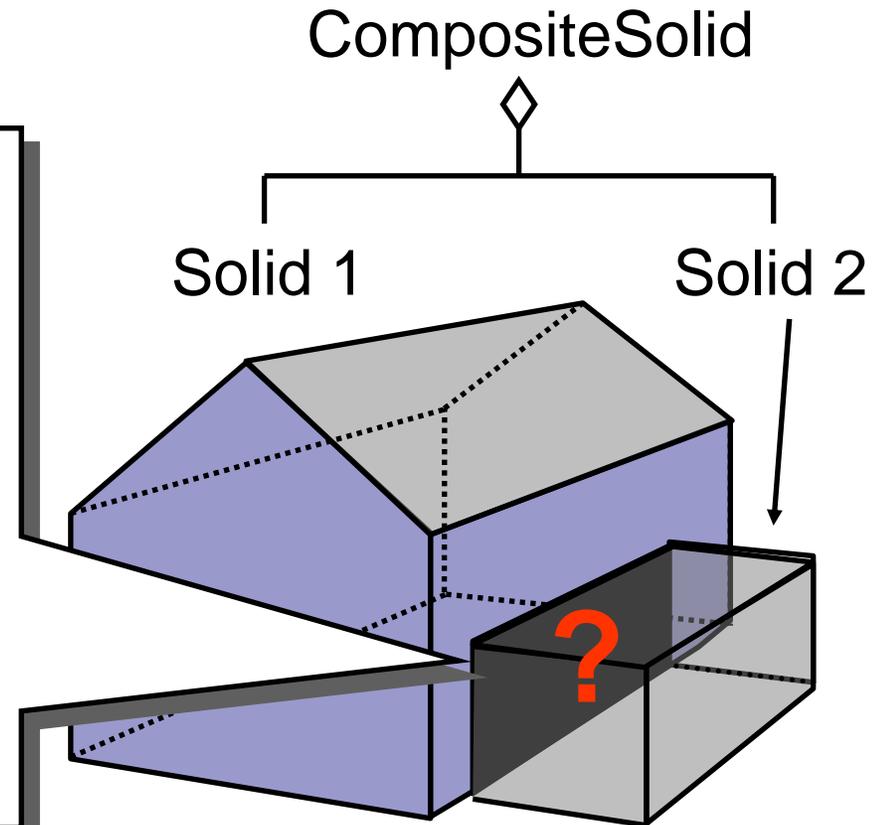
recursive aggregation

→ arbitrary depth

- Wall face should be partitioned into 2 faces



→ explicit topol. connection
- but: goes beyond B-Rep



How to allow for **flexible usage of topology**?

- ▶ until now, most 3D city models do not consider topology
- ▶ need to represent city models with geometry only

Topology model of GML3 sophisticated, but complex

- ▶ would make it necessary to implement 2 options for the representation of spatial properties

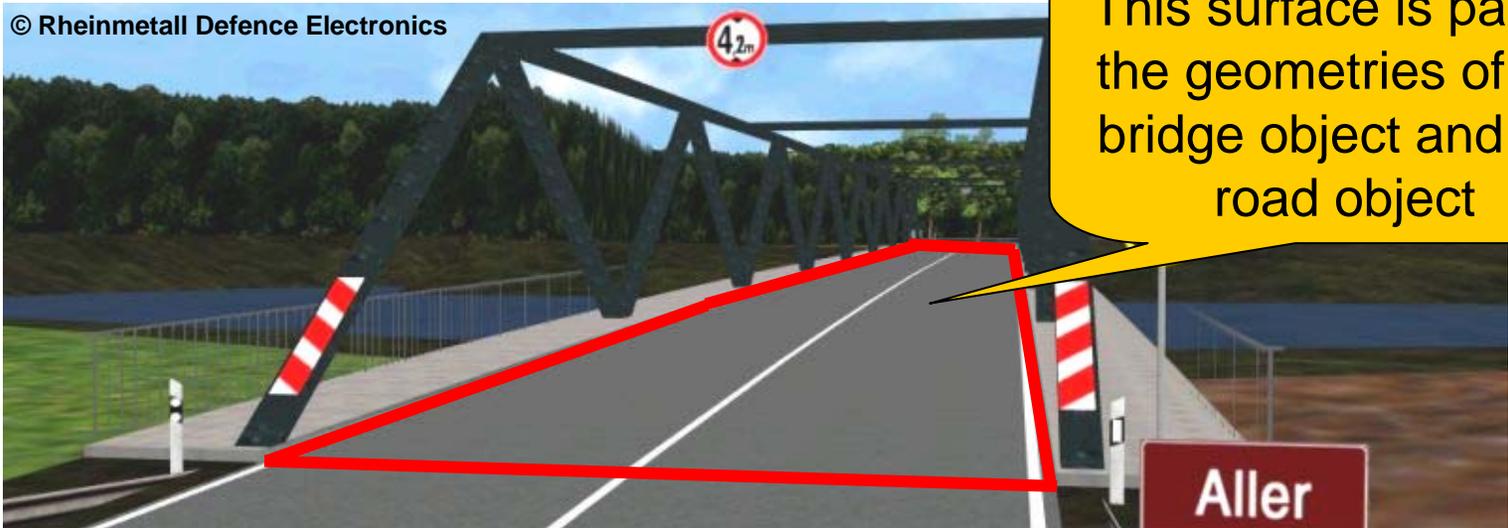
Approach in CityGML:

- ▶ **topological connections** are represented by **Xlinks**
- ▶ GML3 geometries are objects; composites/aggregates can include subgeometries by value or by reference;
- ▶ references express topological relations

Multiple referencing of geometry (components) by distinct geospatial features (from different feature classes)

- ▶ realizes topological, but also semantic relations
- ▶ redundancy free description of space and surfaces possible, thus no overlaps occur

© Rheinmetall Defence Electronics



This surface is part of the geometries of the bridge object and the road object



(Some)

CityGML Implementation Issues

- ▶ **(City)GML files** become **very large** (several GB for bigger cities)
 - file sizes can be effectively reduced by gzip compression ($\approx 10\%$)
 - but: XML validation and processing can be problematic (classical DOM parsing not feasible due to main memory limitations)
 - WFS access might have to be realized in an asynchronous way in order to avoid timeouts
- ▶ **Complex data model**
 - extensive use of OO modeling -> puts **considerable demands on the modelling power** of processing and storage components
 - Aggregation hierarchies: nested objects
 - Specialization hierarchies: inheritance of object properties

▶ XLinks

- Complex objects can be represented inline, in a self-contained way
- But: **sub-objects may be also distributed** over different files (even Web Services) and only referenced by their parent objects
- GML object referencing employs the XLink standard of the W3C

▶ Topology

- topological relations are realized by reusing (partial) geometries;
- reuse: referencing the same geometry from different objects
- referencing uses XLinks, referenced geometries need to have IDs

▶ Geometry Model

- See next slide

- ▶ **3D GML geometries** are represented as **B-Rep** with absolute (world) coordinates (but always **with CRS!**)
 - no scene graph concepts like transformation nodes
 - the CRS is (one) key to the integration of different spatial datasets
- ▶ **No generative modeling** principles like CSG, Sweep Repr.
 - Very few implicit (parametric) shape definitions (e.g. Box, TIN)
- ▶ Reusability of geometry within a dataset is limited
 - However useful to express topological connectivity of different features or semantic relations between them
- ▶ **Advantages** of the GML3 geometry model
 - easy to spatially index and manage within spatial databases and GIS; native support by Oracle, PostGIS, MySQL etc.
 - visualization (transformation to X3D) is immediate