

Deep Scene Understanding from Images

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Monocular Depth Estimation

“Given a single RGB image as input, predict a dense depth map for each pixel”

Monocular Depth Estimation - Motivation

- Using two or more cameras to triangulate the depth of the scene, although it increases the accuracy, it also adds more complexity: the cameras have to be **constantly recalibrated** due to the movement of the autonomous car or robot.
- Monocular techniques are an attractive solution for all those **low-cost** or **portable applications** where the use of multiple cameras would be **too costly** or **cumbersome**



AR/VR



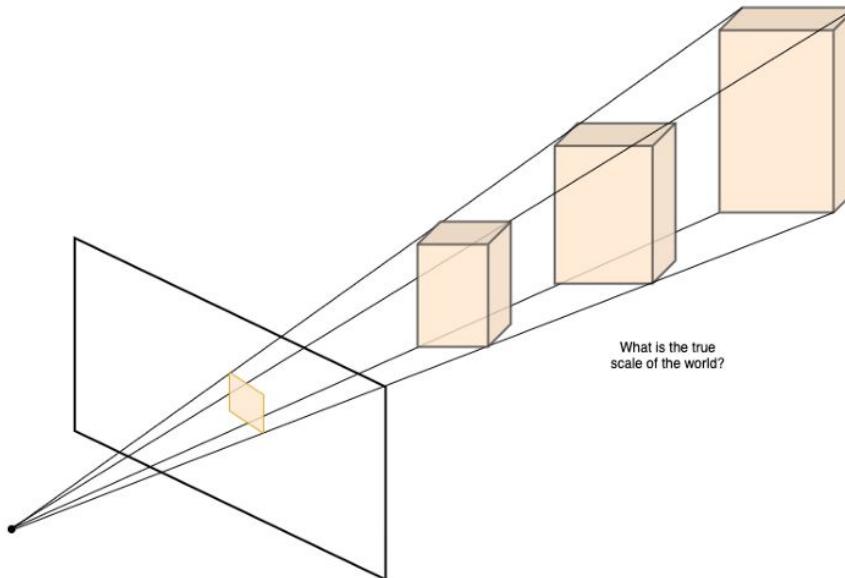
Surveillance System



Medical Application

Perspective Projection

- The **image formation** process deals with mapping a 3D space onto a 2D space
- Indeed, the mapping is **not a bijection**
- Estimating depth from a single image is an **ill-posed** problem



Perceiving 3D from 2D

- Humans excel at this task



Perceiving 3D from 2D

- Meaningful monocular cues:
 - ❑ **Linear Perspective**



“Linear perspective is a depth cue that utilizes the fact that lines converge in the distance. That is, **parallel lines** will get “closer together” or **narrower** as they appear farther from the viewer.”

Perceiving 3D from 2D

- Meaningful monocular cues:
 - ❑ Linear Perspective
 - ❑ **Relative Size**



“Closer objects appears *larger* than objects further away. Therefore, if two objects are expected to be the same size, then the larger object will appear closer”

Perceiving 3D from 2D

- Meaningful monocular cues:
 - ❑ Linear Perspective
 - ❑ Relative Size
 - ❑ **Interposition**



“Interposition involves objects that appear to be coming inbetween the viewer and another object. If an object is interfering with, or overlapping the sight of the second object, it is perceived closer”

Perceiving 3D from 2D

- Meaningful monocular cues:
 - Linear Perspective
 - Relative Size
 - Interposition
 - Texture Gradient**



*“When you’re looking at an object that extends into the distance, such as a grassy field, the **texture** becomes less and less apparent the farther it goes into the distance”*

Perceiving 3D from 2D

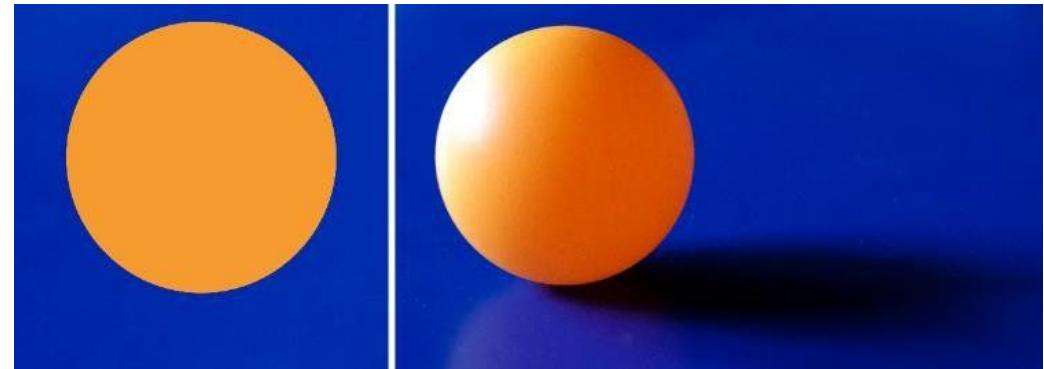
- Meaningful monocular cues:
 - Linear Perspective
 - Relative Size
 - Interposition
 - Texture Gradient
 - Height in plane**



*“In a picture, objects that are **further** from the viewer appear **higher** in the visual field. Likewise, **lower** objects suggest that they are **closer** to the viewer.”*

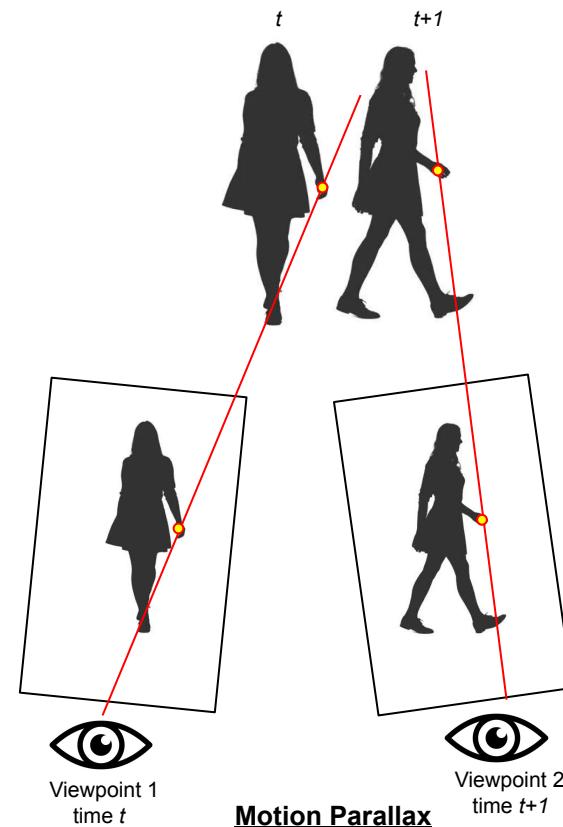
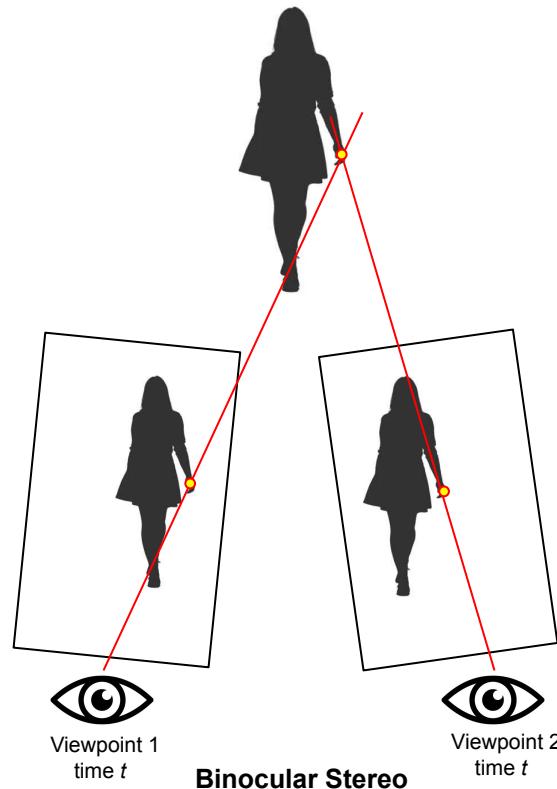
Perceiving 3D from 2D

- Meaningful monocular cues:
 - Linear Perspective
 - Relative Size
 - Interposition
 - Texture Gradient
 - Height in plane
 - Light and Shadow**



*“Patterns of **light** and **dark** can create the illusion of a three dimensional figure. This concept can be useful in judging distance.”*

- Additional powerful depth cues arise when a scene is viewed from multiple vantage points



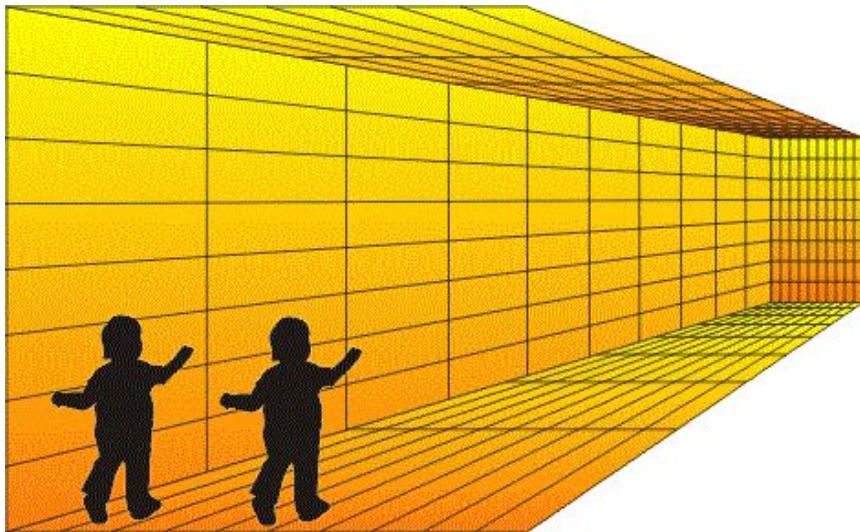
Optical illusions

- Monocular cues don't always help:



Optical illusions

- Ponzo illusion (human mind judges an object's size based on its background)



<https://www.eruptingmind.com/depth-perception-cues-other-forms-of-perception/>



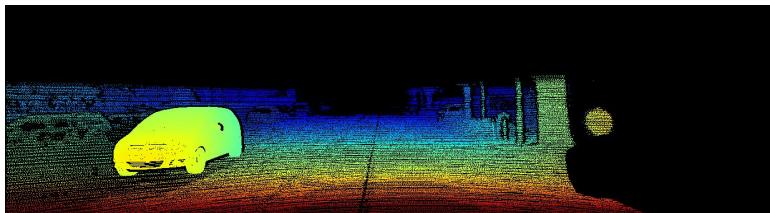
<https://www.moillusions.com/these-3-cars-are-same-in-size/>

Depth Estimation in Monocular Images

In Computer Vision, existing solutions to depth estimation from a single image usually rely on **deep learning** based approaches:

- **Supervised**
 - ground-truth depth data (RGB-D cameras, 3D laser scanners)
- **Semi-Supervised**
 - sparse ground-truth depth + image reconstruction
- **Self-Supervised**
 - image reconstruction (from monocular videos/stereo pairs/stereo sequences)
- **Proxy-Supervised**
 - depth labels extracted using external methods

Depth Estimation in Monocular Images



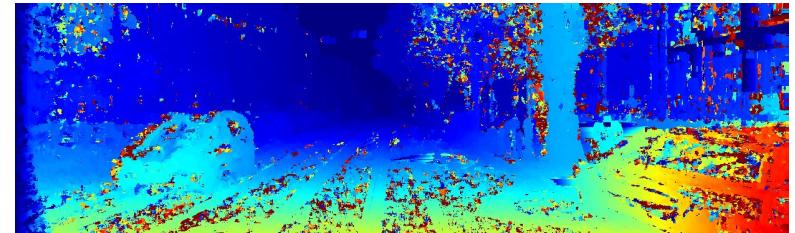
Supervised (e.g. filtered LiDAR)



Semi-Supervised (raw LiDAR + images)



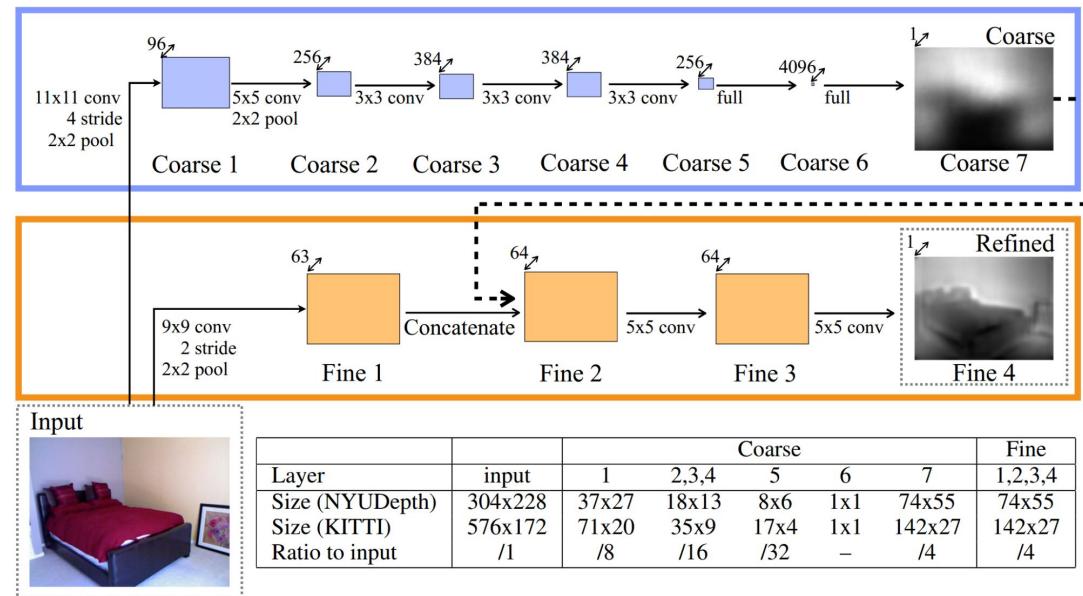
Self-Supervised (e.g. video or stereo)



Proxy-Supervised (e.g. SGM)

Depth Map Prediction from a Single Image using a Multi-Scale Deep Network (Eigen, 2014)

- Neural network with two components:
 1. one that first estimates the **global structure** of the scene
 2. a second that refines it using **local information**
- Trained with ground-truth depth labels



Unsupervised Learning of Depth and Ego-Motion from Video (Zhou, 2017)

- Depth from **monocular images** and **ego motion**
- **Self-supervised** learning framework
- **End-to-end** learning approach



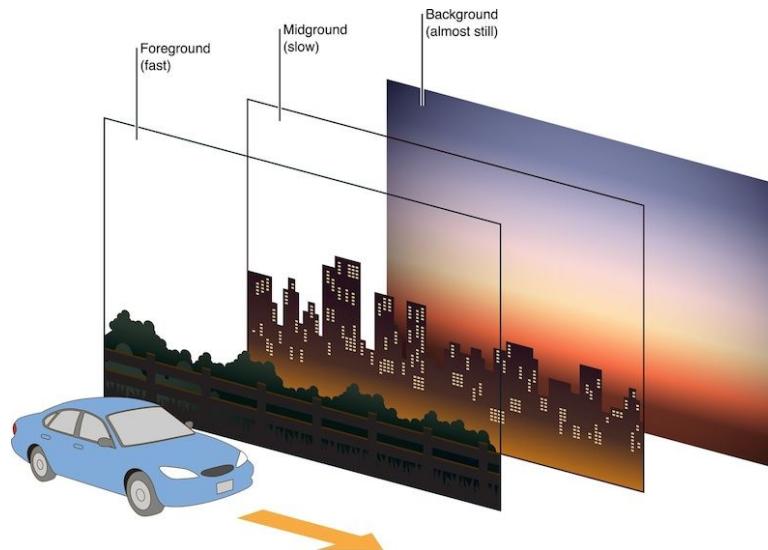
Video Sequence



Source Code: <https://github.com/tinghuiz/SfMLearner>

Motion Parallax

- When an observer **translates** relative to their visual environment, the **relative motion** of objects at different distances (motion parallax) provides a powerful cue to three-dimensional scene structure.



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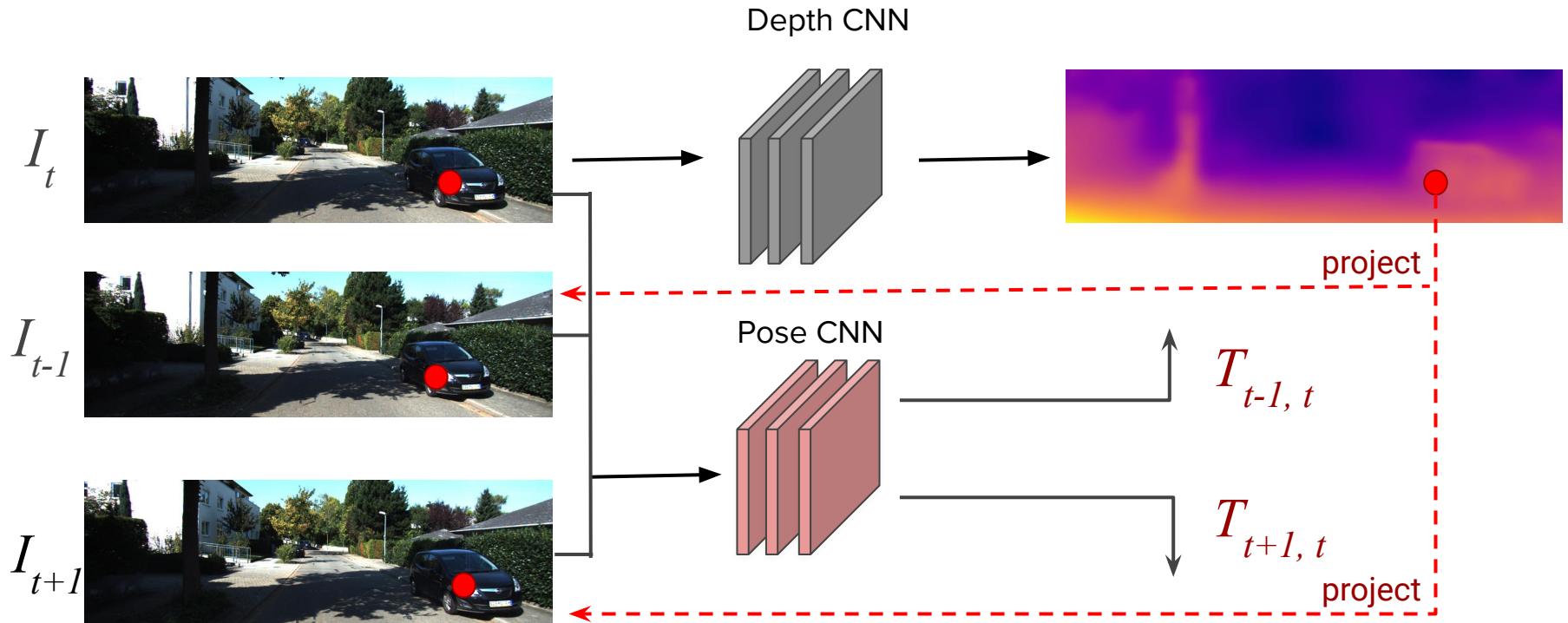


The buildings appear to move more slowly

Unsupervised Learning of Depth and Ego-Motion from Video (Zhou, 2017)

- **Novel view synthesis** as key supervision signal
- Given one input view of a scene, synthesize a new image of the scene seen from a difference camera pose
- It is possible to synthesize a target view given:
 - **Depth** (for that image)
 - **Pose**
 - **Visibility** in a nearby view

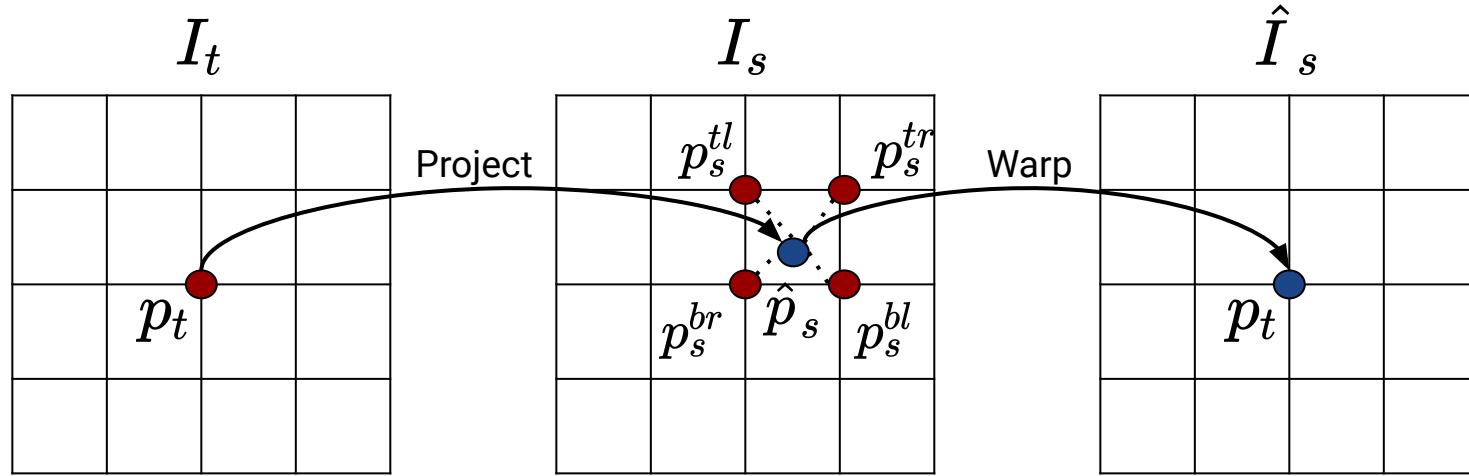
View Synthesis as Supervision



Assumptions

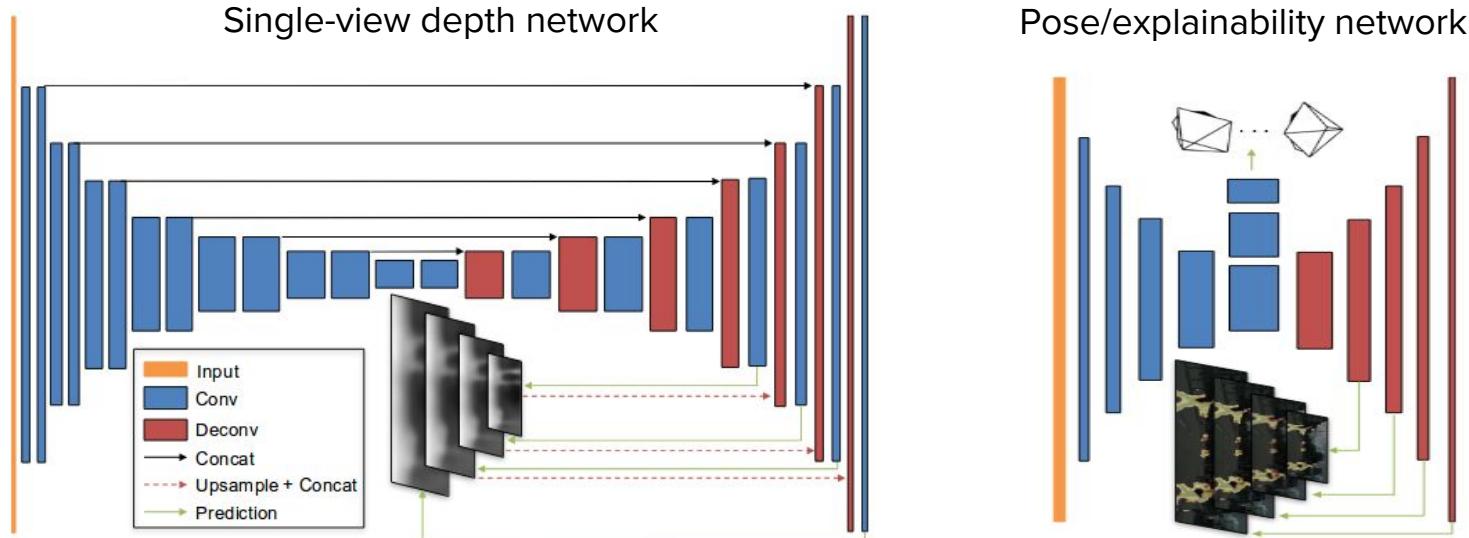
- The view synthesis formulation implicitly assumes:
 - Sufficient **illumination** in the environment
 - The scene is **static** without moving objects
 - Sufficient **motion parallax** in successive frames
 - Sufficient scene **overlap** between consecutive frames
 - There is **no occlusion** between the target view and the source views
 - The surface is **Lambertian**
- To improve the robustness:
 - *Explainability prediction network*

Differentiable depth image-based rendering (Jaderberg, 2015)



$I(\hat{p}_s) = \text{bilinear interpolation of 4 neighbors}$

Network Architecture



View synthesis loss

$$\mathcal{L}_{vs} = \sum_{\langle I_1, \dots, I_N \rangle \in \mathcal{S}} \sum_p \hat{E}_s(p) |I_t(p) - \hat{I}_s(p)|$$

Total loss

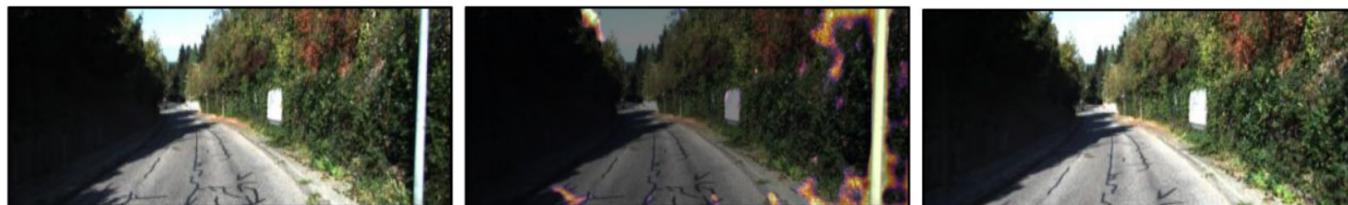
$$\mathcal{L}_{final} = \sum_l \mathcal{L}_{vs}^l + \lambda_s \mathcal{L}_{smooth}^l + \lambda_e \sum_s \mathcal{L}_{reg}(\hat{E}_s^l)$$

Explainability prediction

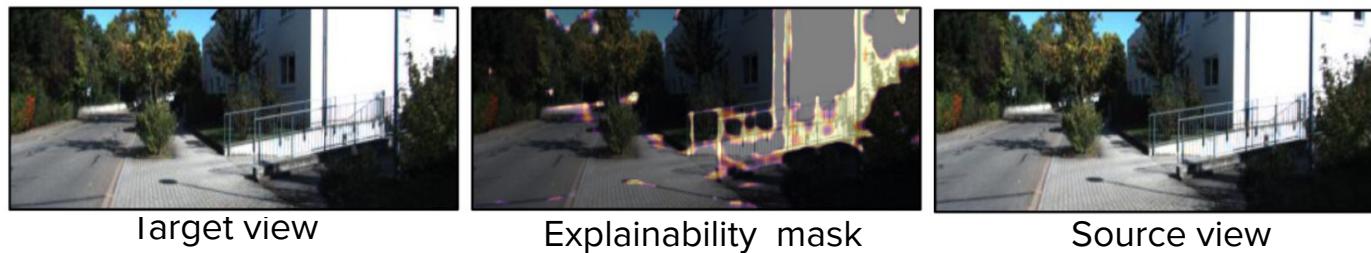
- Dynamic objects



- Visibility/Occlusion



- Thin Structures



Network's belief in where direct view synthesis will be successfully modeled for each target pixel

Out-Of-View Pixels

- Out-of-view pixels due to **egomotion** at image boundaries



Time t

Out-Of-View Pixels

- Out-of-view pixels due to **egomotion** at image boundaries



Time $t+1$

Out-Of-View Pixels

- Out-of-view pixels due to **egomotion** at image boundaries



Time $t+1$

Out-Of-View Pixels

- The effect of out-of-view pixels can be reduced by **masking** such pixels in the reprojection loss. However, it **does not** handle **occluded regions** in the image



Time t



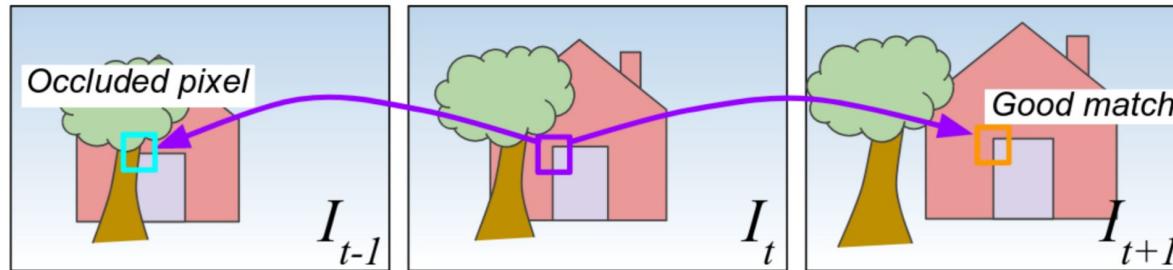
Warped Image



Mask

Handling Occlusions

- When the camera moves points in the scene that are visible in one frame may become **occluded** in another, and viceversa



$$pe(\boxed{\text{pink}}, \boxed{\text{green}}) = \frac{\boxed{\text{blue}}}{\text{error}}$$
$$pe(\boxed{\text{pink}}, \boxed{\text{orange}}) = \frac{\boxed{\text{blue}}}{\text{error}}$$

Baseline: $\text{avg}(\boxed{\text{blue}}, \boxed{\text{blue}}) = \boxed{\text{blue}} \quad \times$

Ours: $\min(\boxed{\text{blue}}, \boxed{\text{blue}}) = \boxed{\text{blue}} \quad \checkmark$

Static and “Car-following” scenarios

- **Moving objects** and/or a **stationary camera** are an issue when training a single-image depth network on monocular video sequences
- If the moving object has the **same speed** and **direction** as the camera, then the reprojection error is low, i.e. a depth of infinity for that object.



Stationary camera (no parallax)

Static and “Car-following” scenarios

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Car following scenario

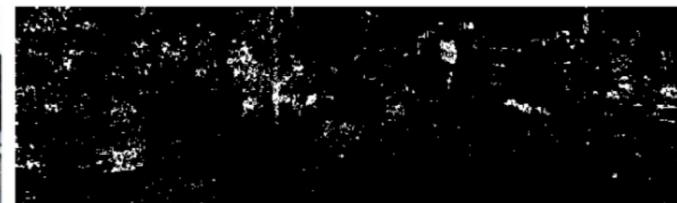
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Static and “Car-following” scenarios

- **Auto-masking** as simple method that filters out pixels which **do not change** appearance from one frame to the next in the sequence

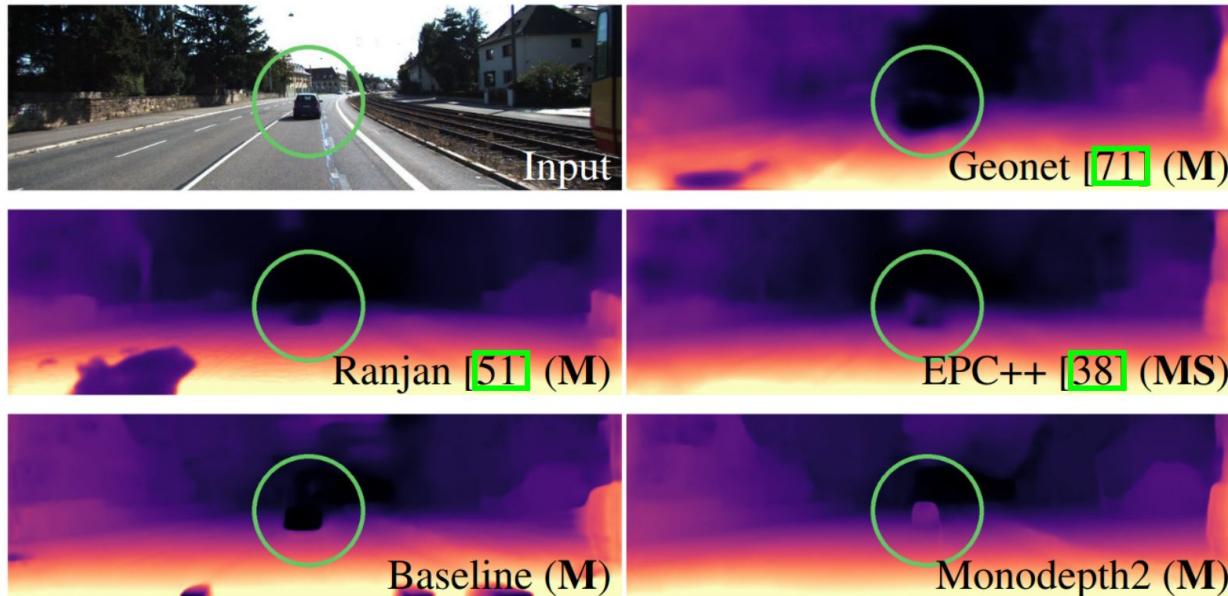


$$\mu = \left[\min_{ij} pe(I_t^{ij}, \hat{I}_s^{i,j}) < \min_{ij} pe(I_t^{ij}, I_s^{ij}) \right]$$

pe:per-pixel minimum

Static and “Car-following” scenarios

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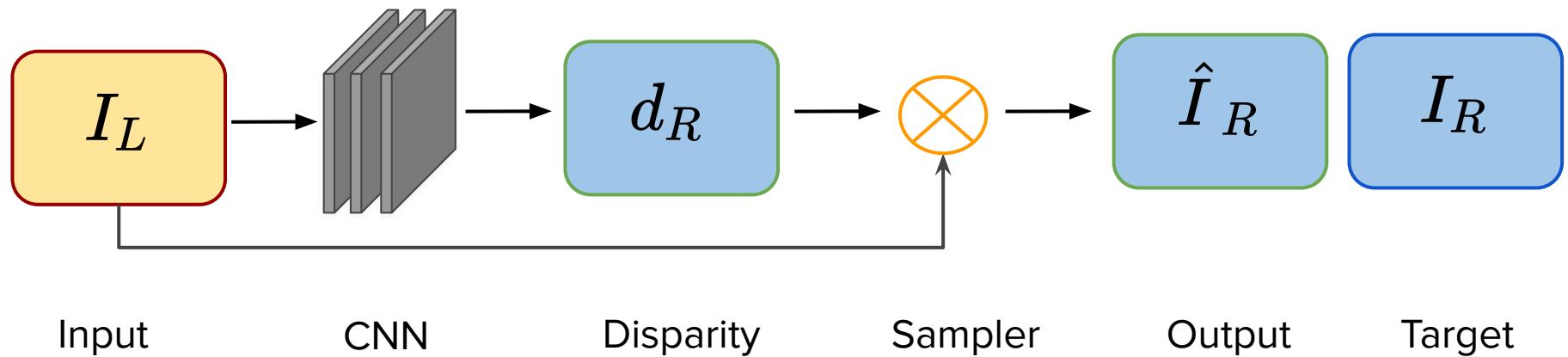


Unsupervised Monocular Depth Estimation with Left-Right Consistency (Godard, 2018)

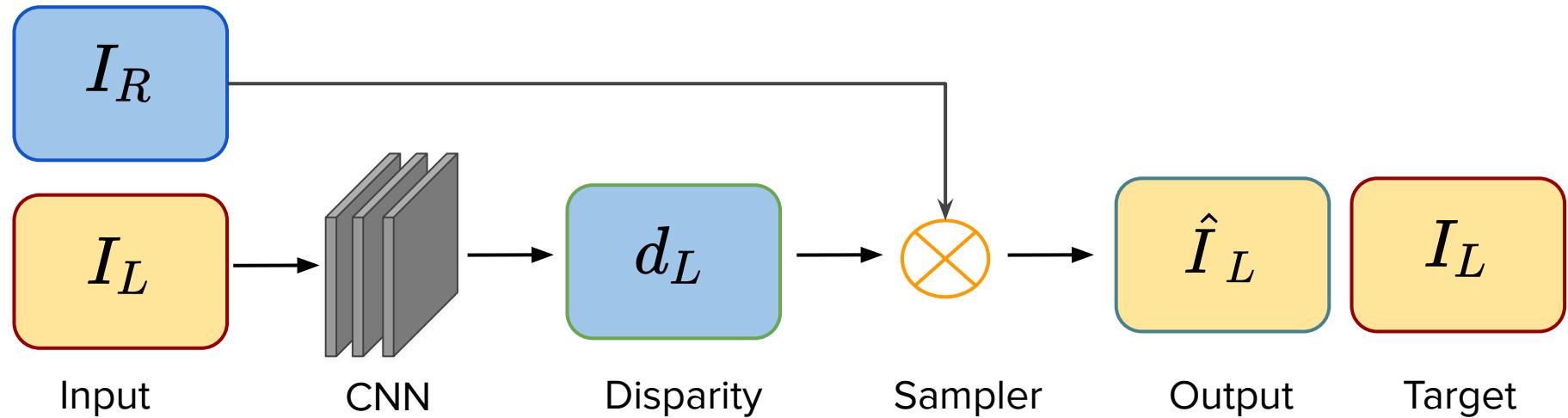
- Given a **calibrated stereo pair** at training time, the goal is to find a dense correspondence field (**disparity**) that, when applied to the left/right image, would enable to reconstruct the right/left image
- Given the predicted disparity, the baseline and the focal length, we can trivially recover the depth as:

$$z = \frac{bf}{d}$$

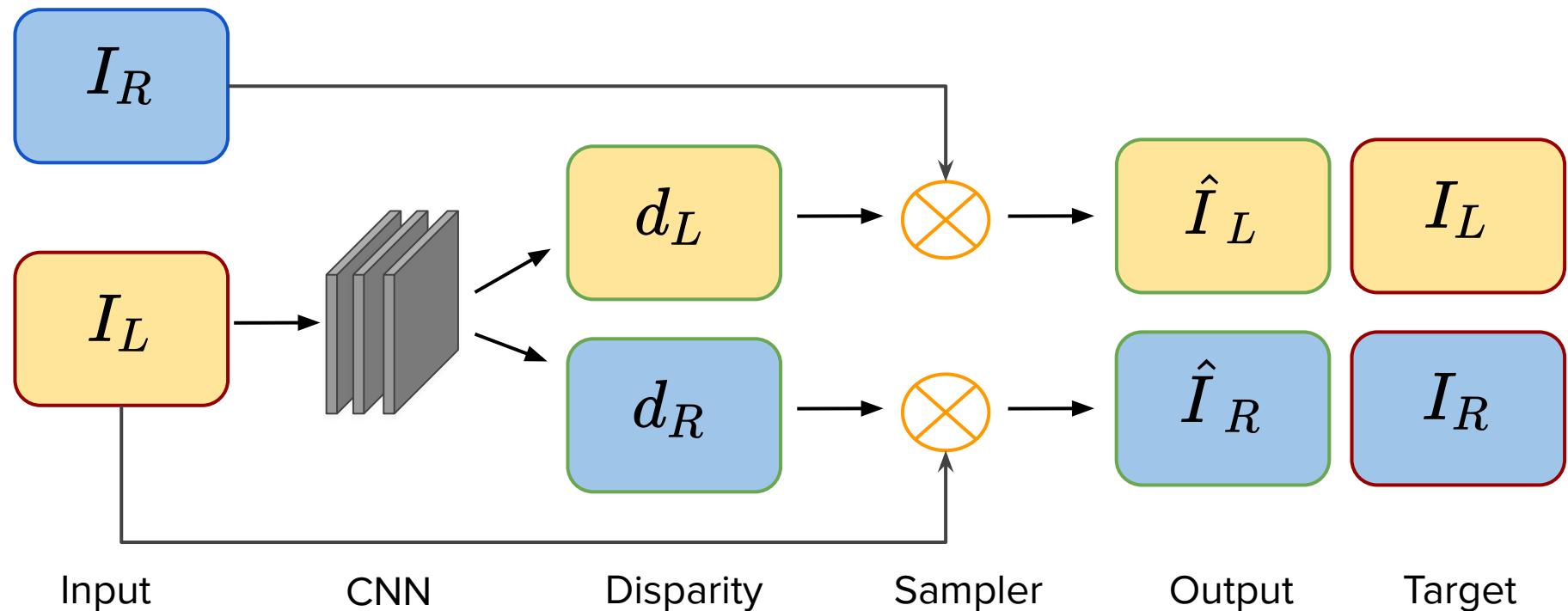
Naive approach



No Left-Right Consistency



Left-Right Consistency



Training Loss

Based on three comparison measurements: i) luminance ii) contrast and iii) structure

- Appearance Matching loss

$$\mathcal{L}_{ap}^l = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{ij} \alpha \frac{1 - SSIM(I_{ij}^l, \hat{I}_{ij}^l)}{2} + (1 - \alpha) \|I_{ij}^l - \hat{I}_{ij}^l\|$$

- Disparity Smoothness Loss

$$\mathcal{L}_{ds}^l = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{ij} |\partial_x d_{ij}^l| e^{-\|\partial_x I_{ij}^l\|} + |\partial_y d_{ij}^l| e^{-\|\partial_y I_{ij}^l\|}$$

- Left-Right Disparity Consistency Loss**

$$\mathcal{L}_{lr}^l = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{ij} |d_{ij}^l - d_{ij+d_{ij}^l}^r|$$

- Total Loss

$$\mathcal{L}_s^l = \alpha_{ap} (\mathcal{L}_{ap}^l + \mathcal{L}_{ap}^r) + \alpha_{ds} (\mathcal{L}_{ds}^l + \mathcal{L}_{ds}^r) + \alpha_{lr} (\mathcal{L}_{lr}^l + \mathcal{L}_{lr}^r)$$

Limitations for training on stereo images using image riprojection only

- Leveraging for training on stereo imagery yields state-of-the art performance
- In this way, the depth representation learned by the network is affected by artifacts in specific image regions (occlusions)



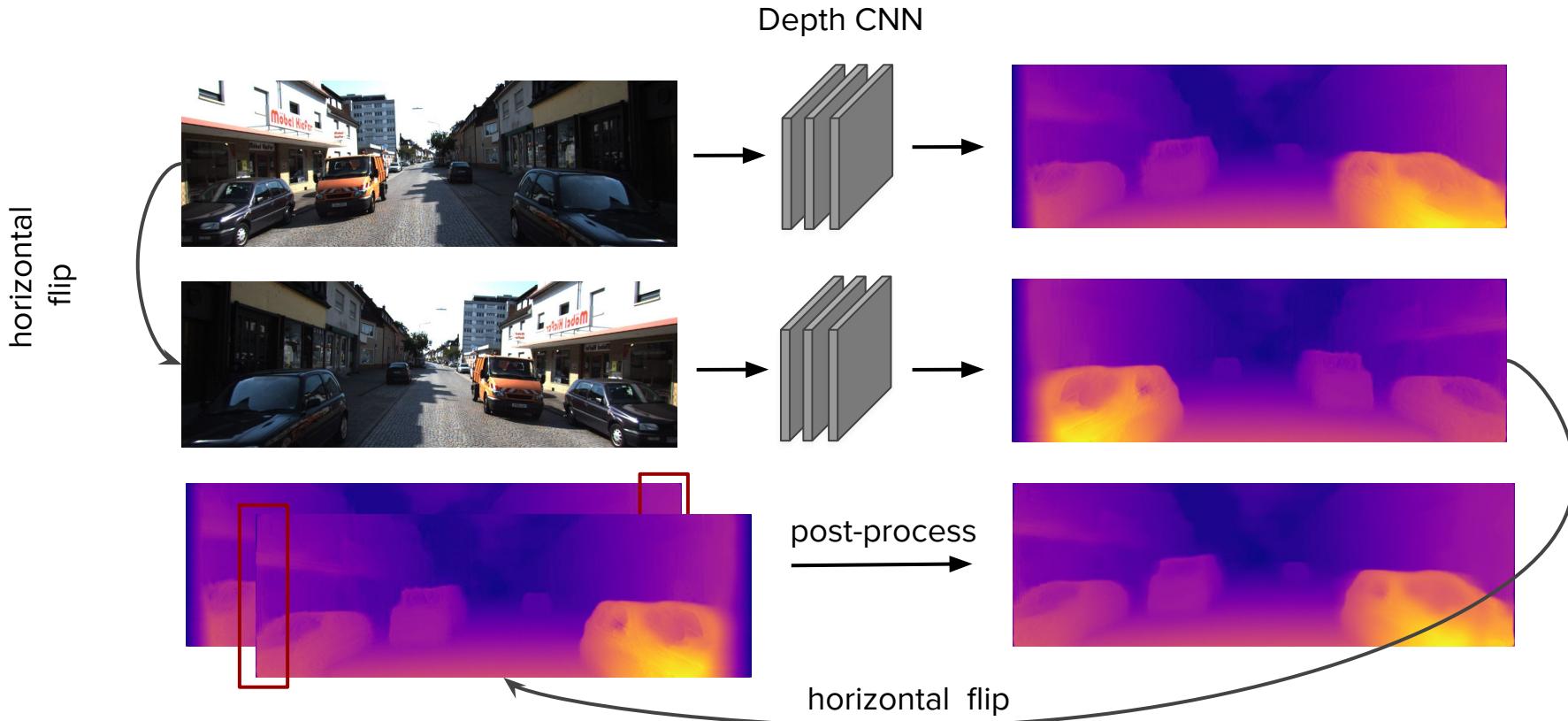
- Post-processing partially compensates for these artifacts, but it requires a double forward of the input image

Post-processing



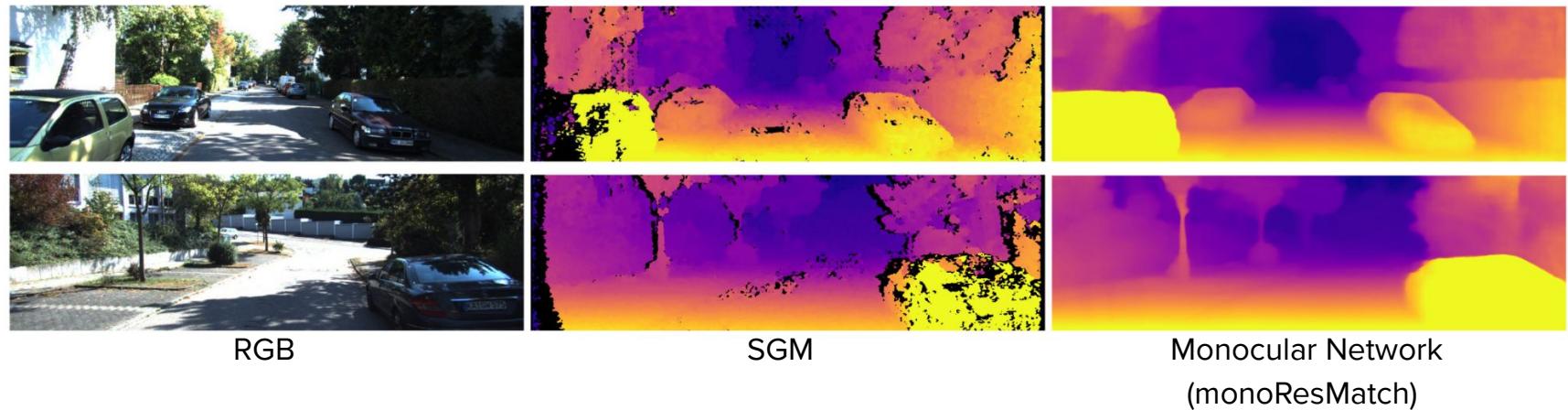
- This way, the depth representation learned by the network is affected by **artifacts** in specific image regions **inherited from the stereo setup** (e.g., the left border using the left image as the reference and in occluded areas).
- A **post-processing** step partially compensates such artifacts

Post-processing



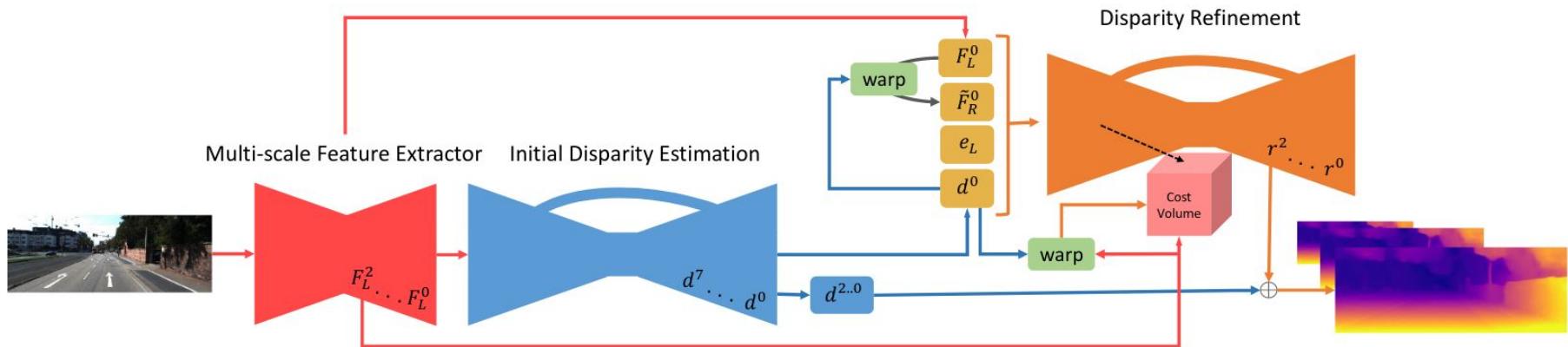
Learning monocular depth estimation infusing traditional stereo knowledge (Tosi, 2019)

- **Proxy** annotation through traditional stereo algorithms enables more accurate monocular depth estimation keeping a self-supervised approach



Network Architecture

- A novel end-to-end architecture trained to estimate depth from a monocular image leveraging a virtual stereo setup

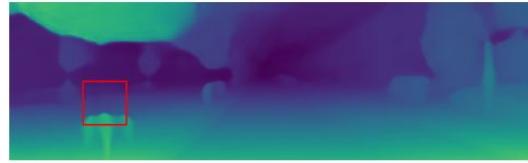


Self-Supervised Monocular Depth Hints (Watson, 2019)

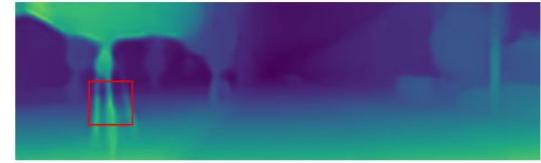
- Existing self-supervised regression methods can struggle during training to find the **global optimum** when minimizing photometric reprojection loss
- **Depth hints** as depth suggestions to enhance an existing photometric loss function
- Depth hints can offer a more plausible reprojection
- Depth hints are only used, when needed, to **guide** the network out of the **local minima**



Training Image



Without Depth Hints



With Depth Hints

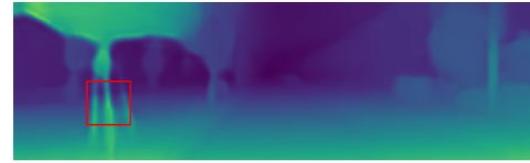
— 1m



Training Image



Without Depth Hints



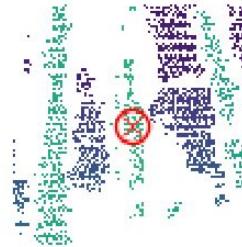
With Depth Hints



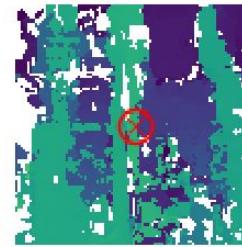
Image Patch



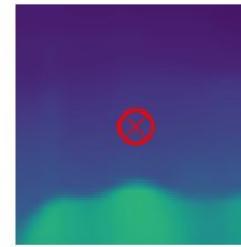
Other View



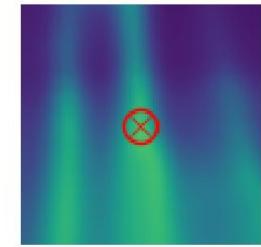
LiDAR



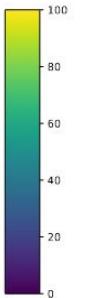
Fused SGM



Without Depth Hints



With Depth Hints



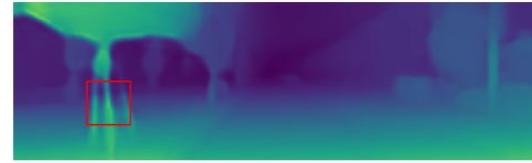
Colormap



Training Image



Without Depth Hints



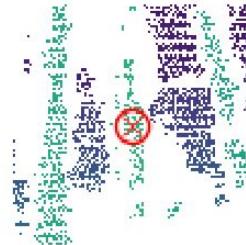
With Depth Hints



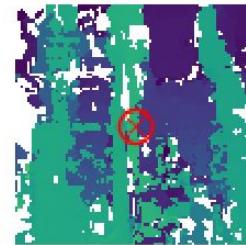
Image Patch



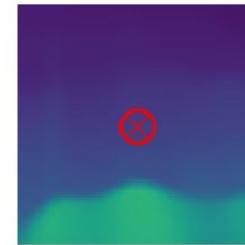
Other View



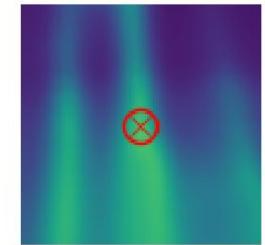
LiDAR



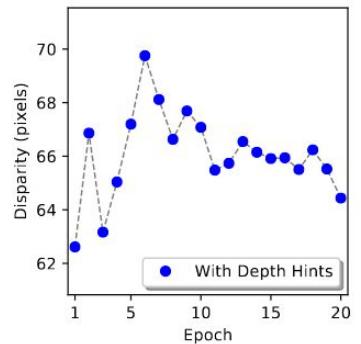
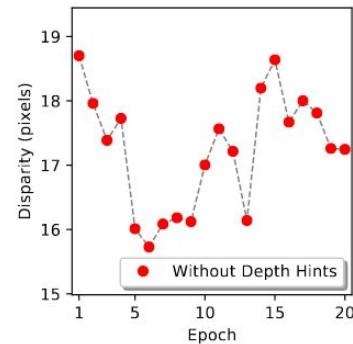
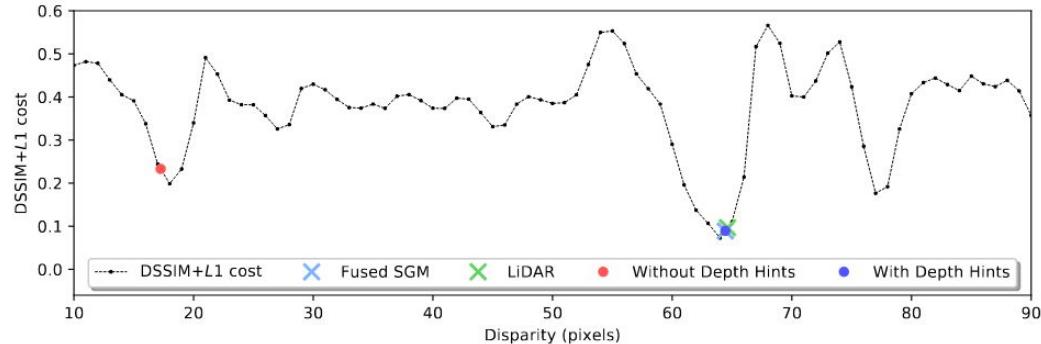
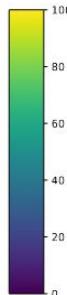
Fused SGM



Without Depth Hints



With Depth Hints



- The goal is to optimize a given algorithm's existing loss, and to **consult** a pixel's depth hint only when the reprojection loss can be improved upon
- Total training loss

$$\mathcal{L} = \begin{cases} l_r(d_i) + l_s^{\text{logL1}}(d_i, h_i), & \text{if } l_r(h_i) < l_r(d_i). \\ l_r(d_i), & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

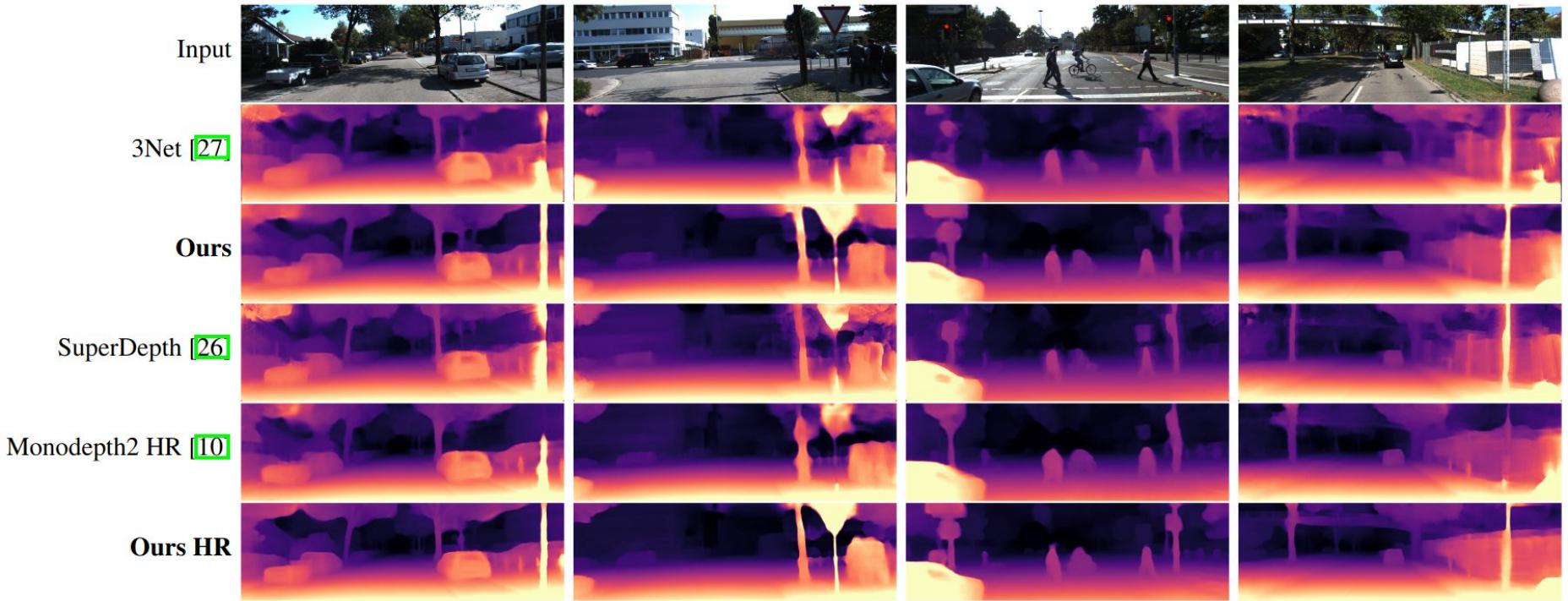
where

$$l_s^{\text{logL1}}(d_i, d'_i) = \log(1 + |d_i - d'_i|)$$

$$l_r(d_i) = \alpha \frac{1 - \text{SSIM}(I_i, \tilde{I}_i)}{2} + (1 - \alpha) |I_i - \tilde{I}_i|$$

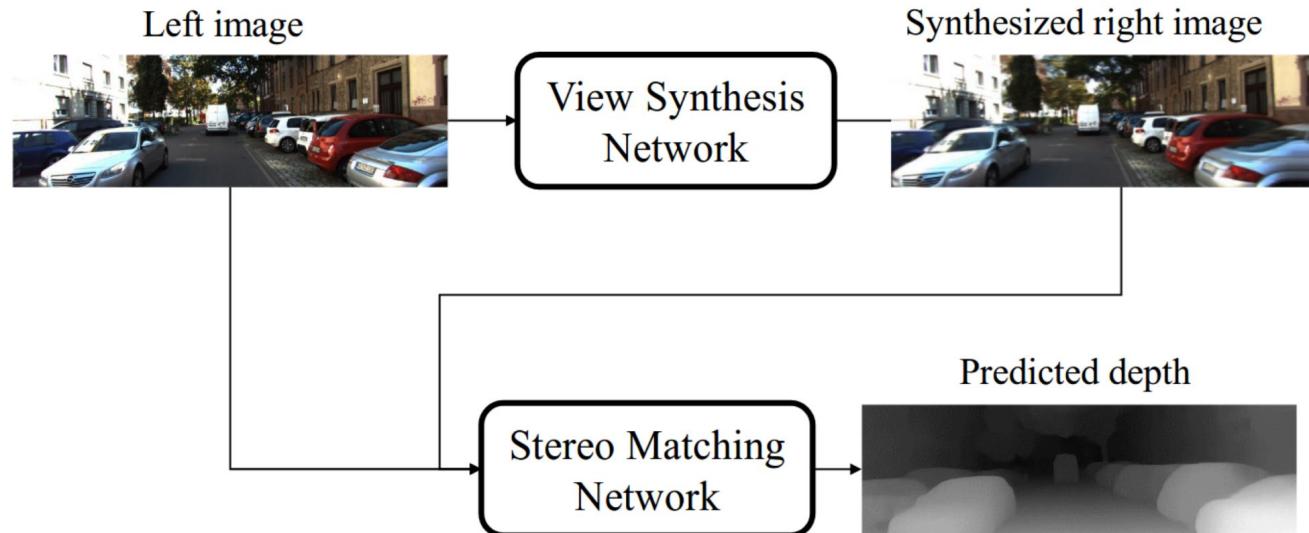
- Depth Hints extracted using a traditional stereo algorithm (e.g. SGM) on rectified **stereo pairs**

Qualitative Results

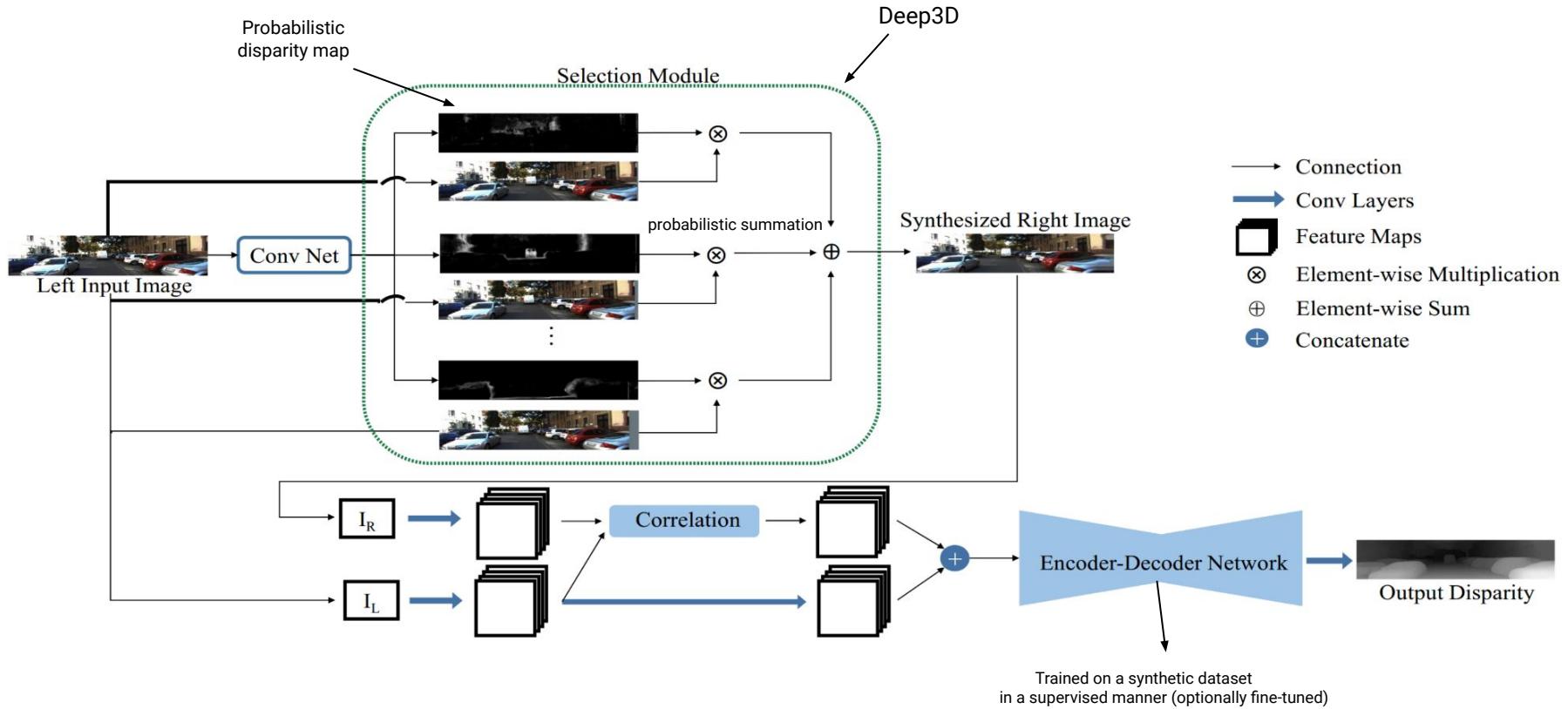


Single View Stereo Matching (Luo, 2018)

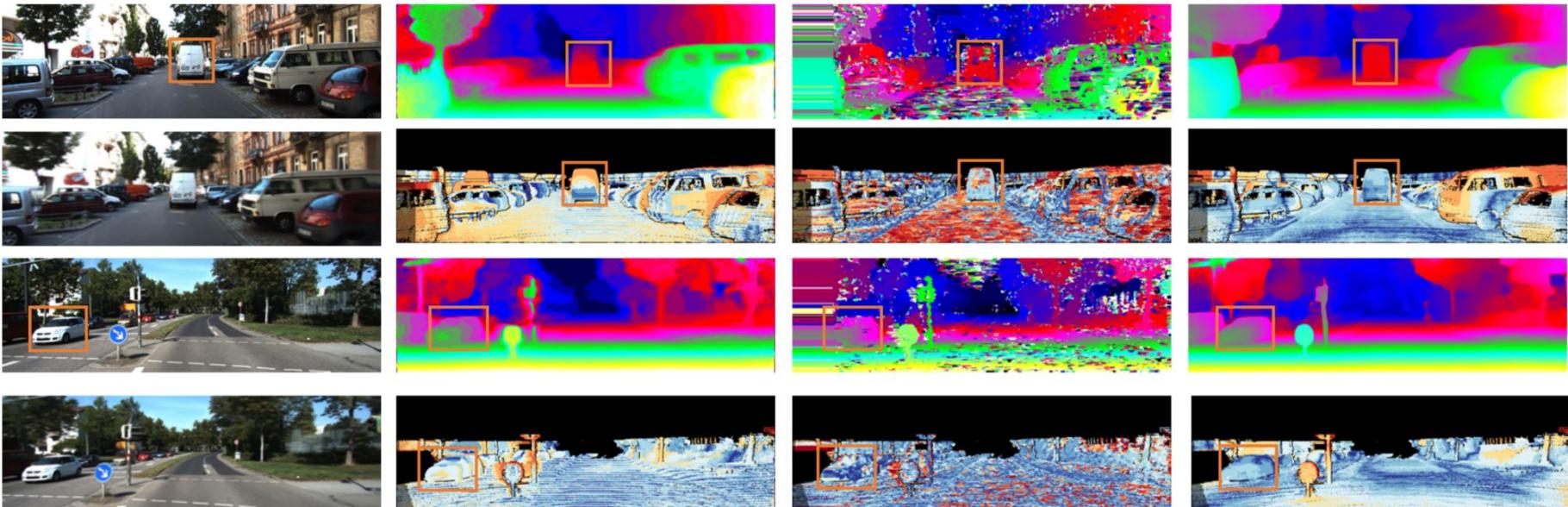
- Monocular depth estimation problem can be reformulated as two sub-problems, a **view synthesis** procedure followed by **stereo matching**



Framework



Qualitatives on the KITTI Benchmark



Input Image

Godard et al.

OCV-BM

Single-View Stereo (SVS)

Towards Robust Monocular Depth Estimation: Mixing Datasets for Zero-shot Cross-dataset Transfer (MiDaS) [7]



<https://github.com/intel-isl/MiDaS>

How to obtain more training data?

- Deep learning methods have recently driven significant progress in the monocular depth estimation task.
- **RGB + Depth** as the best solution for training single-view deep learning based models but they are difficult to collect
- However, we need **training data** that captures the diversity of the visual world in order to obtain models that are effective across a **variety of scenarios**
- The key challenge is to acquire such data at sufficient scale

- Novel ways to train robust monocular depth estimation models that are expected to perform across diverse environments
- Experiments with **five diverse training datasets** (ReDWeb, MegaDepth, WSVD, DIML Indoor), including a new massive data source: **3D movies**. Each single dataset comes with its own characteristics and has its own biases and problems
- Tools that enable mixing multiple datasets during training, even if their annotations are incompatible

| Dataset | Indoor | Outdoor | Dynamic | Video | Dense | Accuracy | Diversity | Annotation | Depth | # Images |
|-------------|--------|---------|---------|-------|-------|----------|-------------|------------|------------------|----------|
| DIML Indoor | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | Medium | Medium | RGB-D | Metric | 220K |
| MegaDepth | | ✓ | (✓) | | (✓) | Medium | Medium | SfM | No scale | 130K |
| ReDWeb | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | Medium | High | Stereo | No scale & shift | 3600 |
| WSVD | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Medium | High | Stereo | No scale & shift | 1.5M |
| 3D Movies | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Medium | High | Stereo | No scale & shift | 75K |

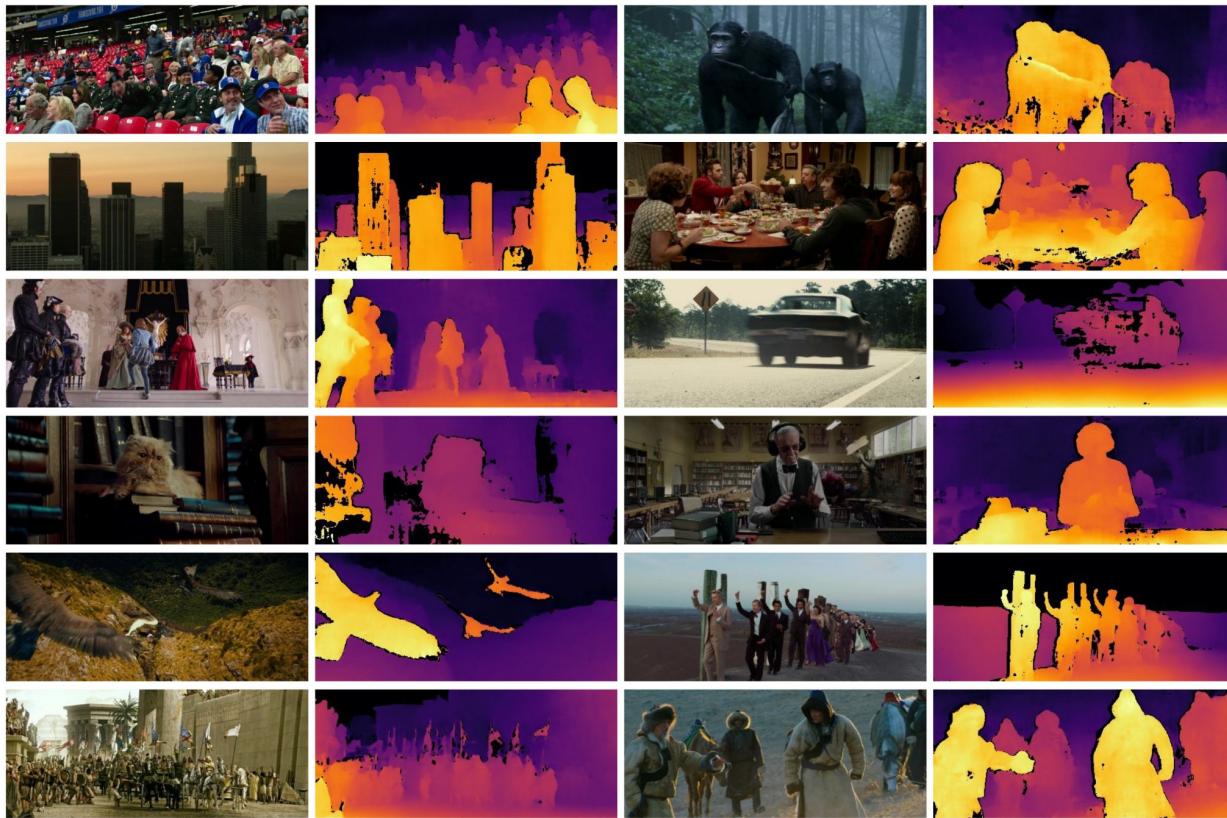
Depth from 3D movies - Challenges

- The primary objective when producing stereoscopic film is providing a visually pleasing viewing experience while avoiding discomfort for the viewer: **disparity range is limited** and depends on both artistic and psychophysical considerations
- Focal lengths, baseline and convergence angle between the cameras of the stereo rig are **unknown** and vary between scenes
- In contrast to the standard stereo case, stereo pairs in movies usually contain both **positive** and **negative** disparities to allow objects to be perceived either in front or behind the screen
- Movies have **varying aspect ratios**, resulting in black bars on the top and bottom of the frame

Depth from 3D movies - Disparity Extraction

- To alleviate these problems, an **optical flow network** is applied to the stereo pairs
- The **horizontal component** of the flow as a proxy for disparity
- Optical flow **naturally handle** both positive and negative disparities
- **Left-right consistency check** and mark pixels with a disparity difference of more than 2 pixels as invalid.
- Other filtering procedures:
 - Frames are rejected if more than 10% of all pixels have a vertical disparity >2 pixels
 - Detect pixels that belong to sky regions using a pre-trained semantic segmentation model
 - Center crop to remove black bars

Depth from 3D movies



Training on Diverse Data - Challenges

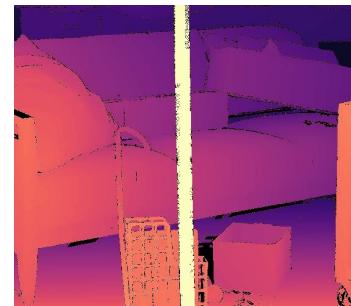
1. Inherently different representations of depth: **Direct vs Inverse Depth**
2. **Scale ambiguity:** for some data (eg. depth from MVS), depth is only given up to an unknown scale
3. **Shift ambiguity:** some datasets provide disparity only up to an unknown scale and global disparity shift (e.g. 3D movies)



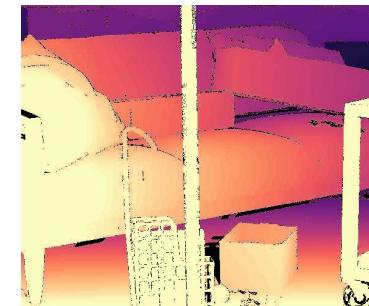
Reference Image



Direct depth



Inverse depth



Inverse depth + Shift ambiguity

Scale and shift invariant losses

- Prediction in disparity space

d : prediction
 d^* : groundtruth

\hat{d} : scaled and shifted prediction
 \hat{d}^* : scaled and shifted groundtruth
 ρ : loss function

$$\mathcal{L}_{ssi}(\hat{d} - \hat{d}^*) = \frac{1}{2M} \sum_{i=1}^M \rho(\hat{d}_i - \hat{d}_i^*)$$

- Two strategies for alignment

1. **Least square criterion + mean squared error** (not robust for outliers)

estimators of scale and shift

$$(s, t) = \underset{(s,t)}{\operatorname{argmin}} \sum_{i=1}^M (sd_i + t - d_i^*)^2$$

s and t efficiently determined in closed form

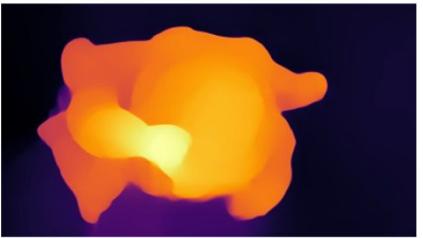
2. **Robust estimators of scale and shift + absolute deviation**

$$\hat{d} = \frac{d - t(d)}{s(d)} \quad \hat{d}^* = \frac{d^* - t(d^*)}{s(d^*)}$$

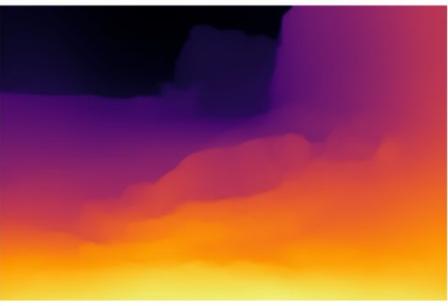
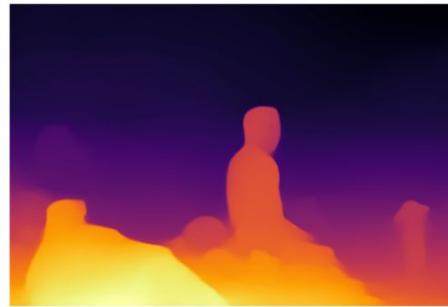
prediction and gt scaled to have zero translation and unit scale

$$s(d) = \frac{1}{M} \sum_{i=1}^M |d - t(d)| \quad t(d) = \text{median}(d)$$

Qualitative Examples

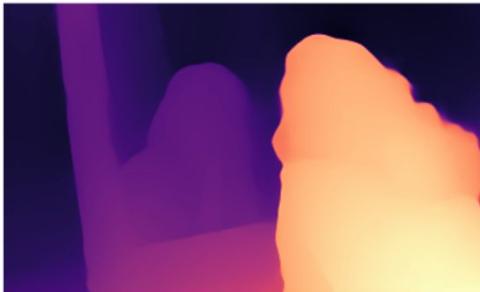


Qualitatives on Paintings and Drawings



Failure Cases

- Paintings, photos, and mirrors are often not recognized as such
- The model fails to recover the ground plane, likely because the input image was **rotated** by 90 degrees (data augmentation can be helpful)



Boosting Monocular Depth Estimation Models to High-Resolution (Miangoleh, CVPR 2021)



<http://yaksoy.github.io/highresdepth/>

Observations

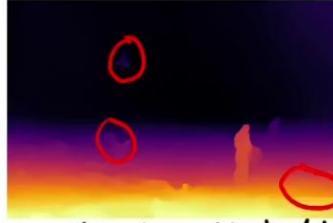
- Depth maps extracted from standard monocular networks are well below one-megapixel resolution and often lack fine-grained details, which limits their practicality
- Practical constraints such as available GPU memory, lack of diverse high-resolution datasets, and the receptive field size of CNN's limit the potential of current methods
- The output characteristics of monocular depth estimation networks change with the resolution of the input image:
 - **Low Resolution:** the estimations have a **consistent structure** while lacking high-frequency details
 - **High Resolution:** the high-frequency details are captured much better while the structural consistency of the estimated depth gradually degrades

The Strange Effects of Resolution

Original



Low Resolution



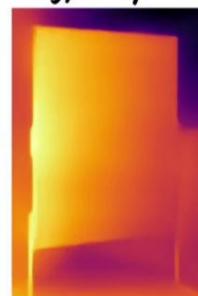
missing/incomplete birds!

Hi: Resolution

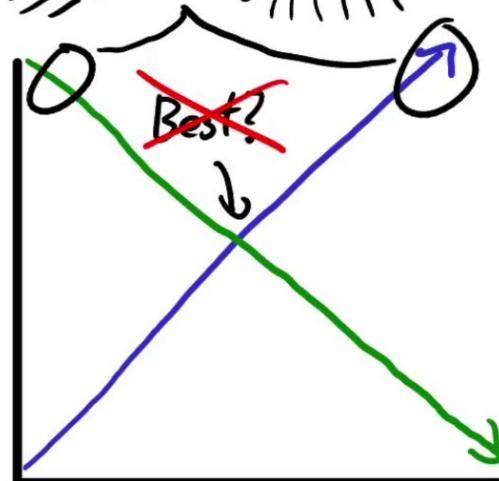


the birds
are
back!

Structure
is broken



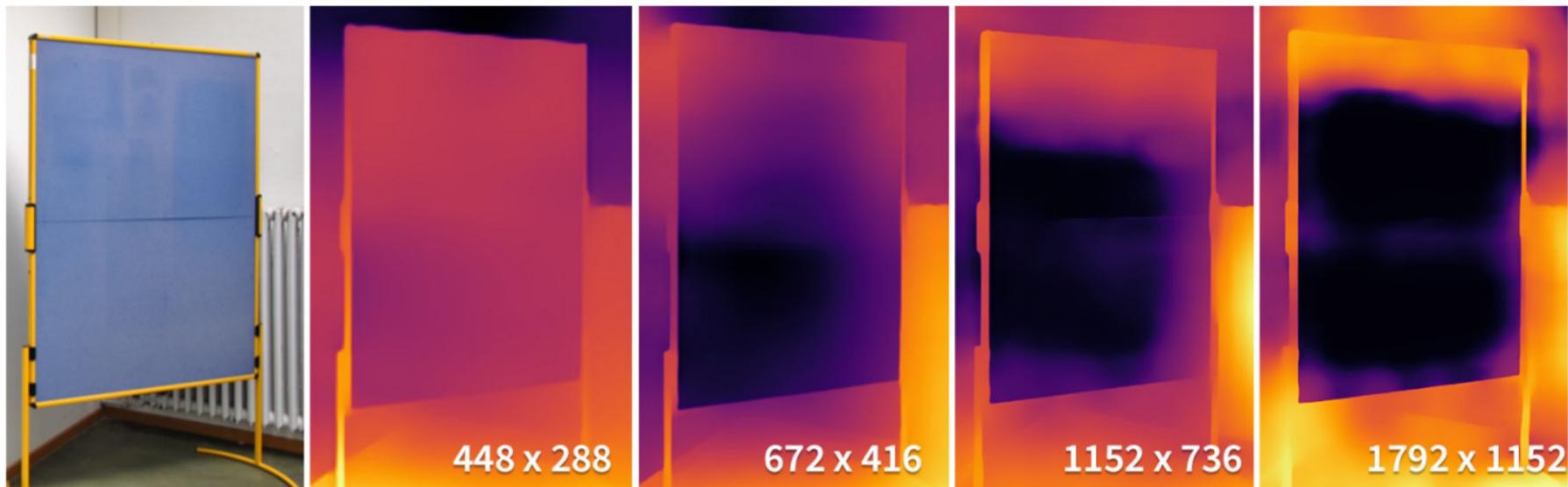
Get best of both worlds!



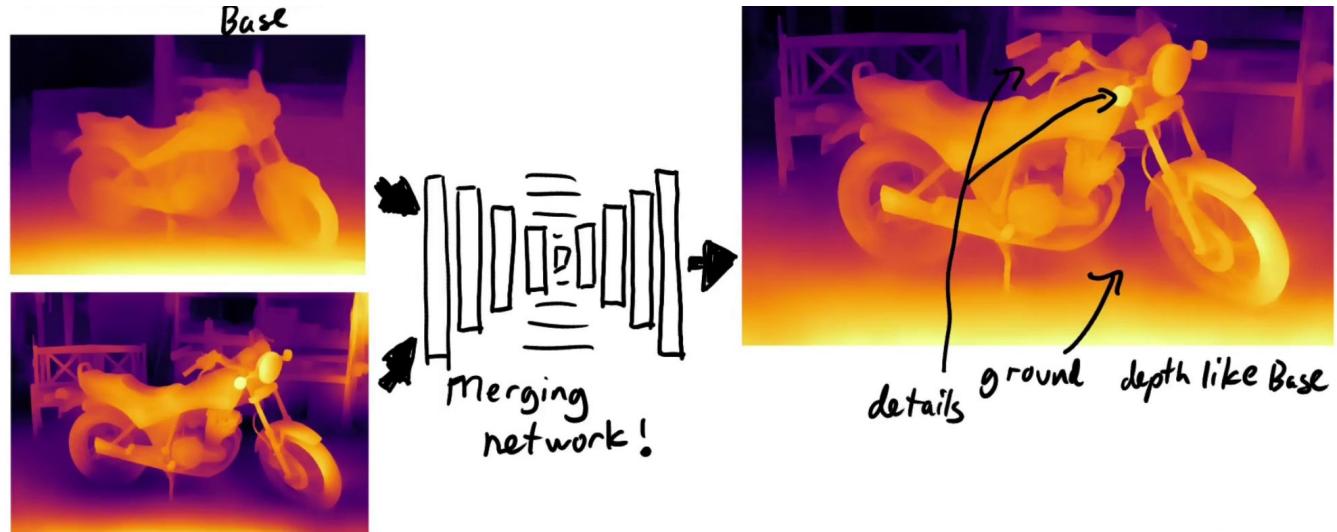
Resolution
Structural Consistency
Details

- This is mainly due to the limited capacity and the limited receptive field size of the network.

- As the resolution increases starting from the receptive field size of 448, the network again progressively degrades the accuracy
- The maximum resolution at which the network will be able to generate a consistent structure depends on the distribution of the contextual cues in the image



Framework

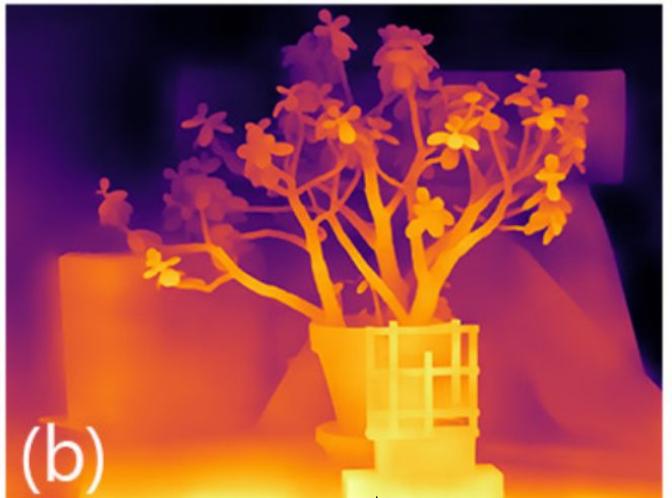
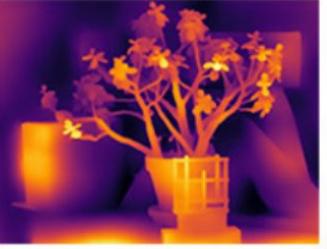
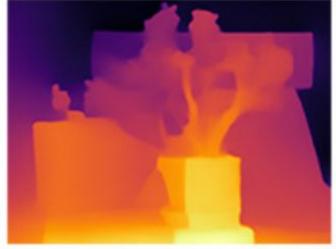


- A **double-estimation framework** that merges two depth estimations for the same image at different resolutions to generate a result with high-frequency details while maintaining the structural consistency
- Generate multi-megapixel depth maps with a high level of detail using a pre-trained model (e.g., MiDAS)

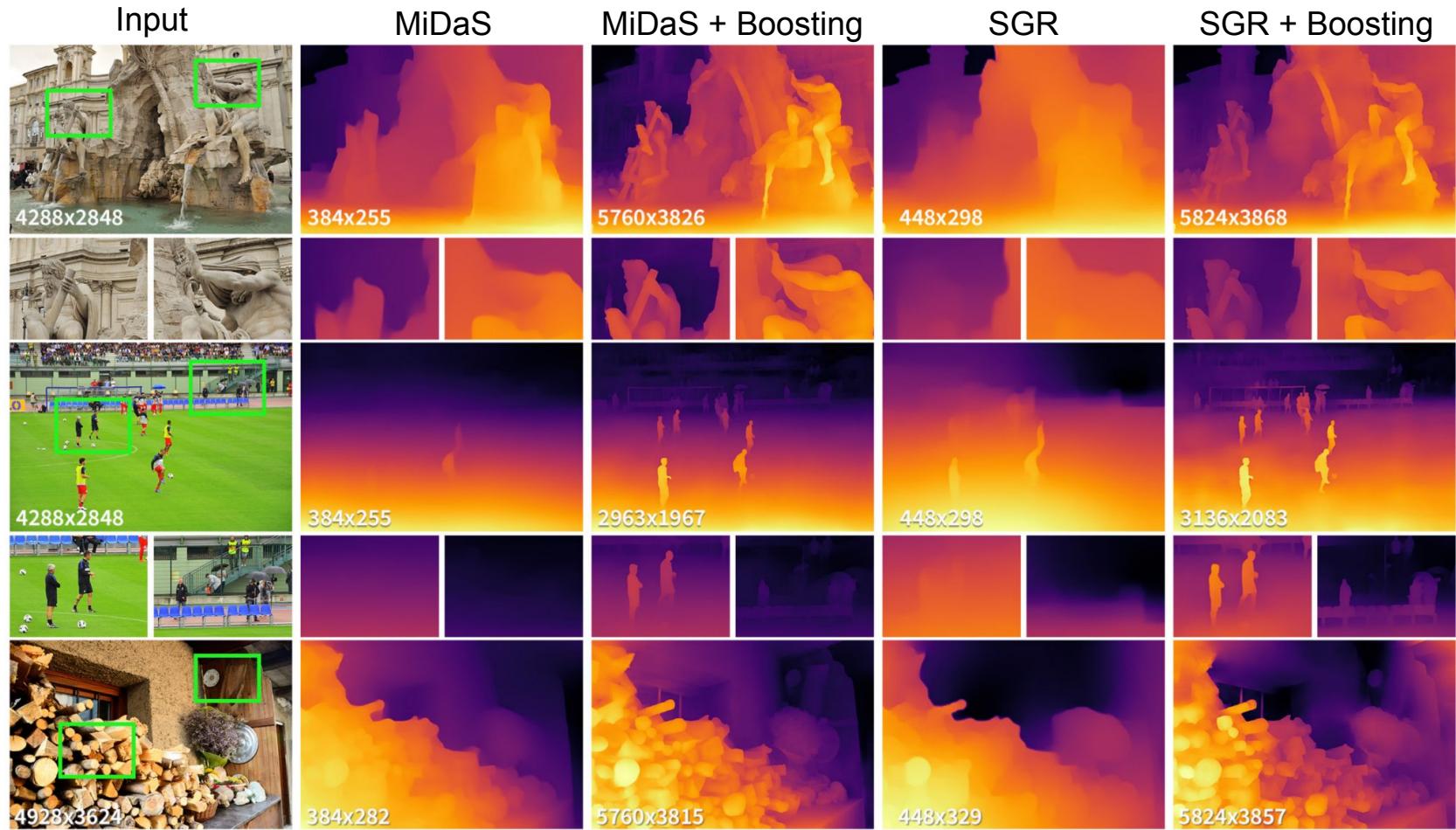


From low-res

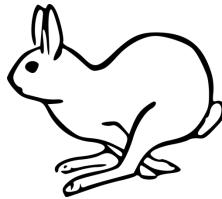
From high-res



Merged



Can we run such systems everywhere?



High-end GPU (i.e. nVidia Titan X)

Power hungry (250 Watt) - nearly 30 fps (\sim 0.035s per frame)



Average CPU (i.e., Intel i7)

Lower energy requirements (\sim 90 Watt)

Less than 2 fps (\sim 0.60s per frame)



Embedded CPU (i.e., Raspberry Pi 3)

Extremely low consumption (\sim 3,5 Watt)

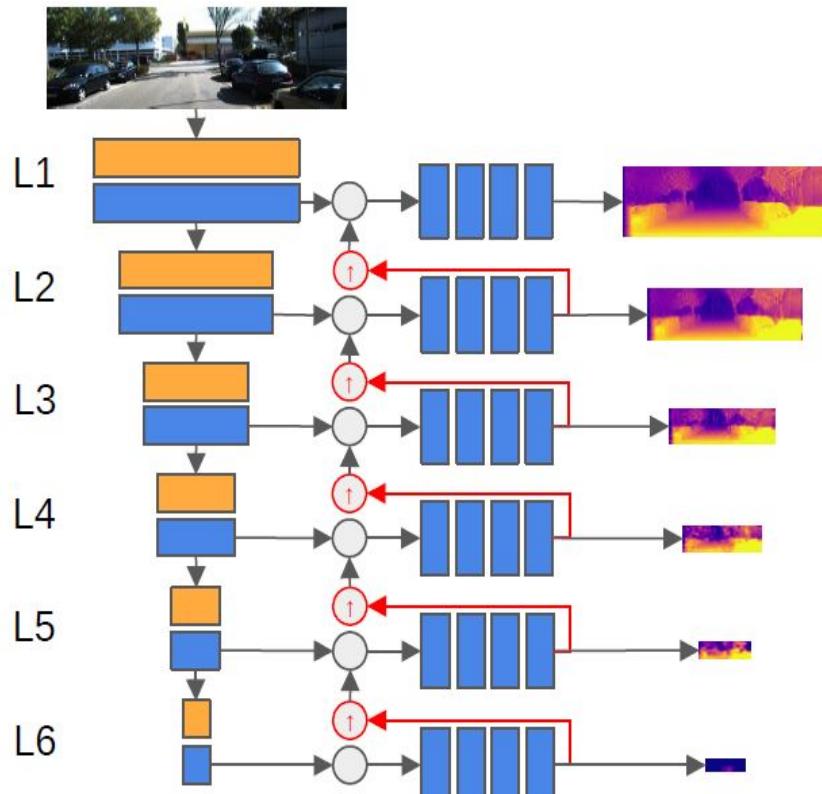
Incredibly SLOW (\sim 10s per frame)

Towards real-time unsupervised monocular depth estimation on CPU (Poggi, 2018/2022)

- Current architectures for monocular depth estimation are **very deep** and **complex**; for these reasons they require dedicated hardware such as high-end and power-hungry GPUs.
- This fact precludes to infer depth from a single image in many interesting applications fields characterized by **low-power constraints** (e.g. UAVs, wearable devices, ...)

PyDNet

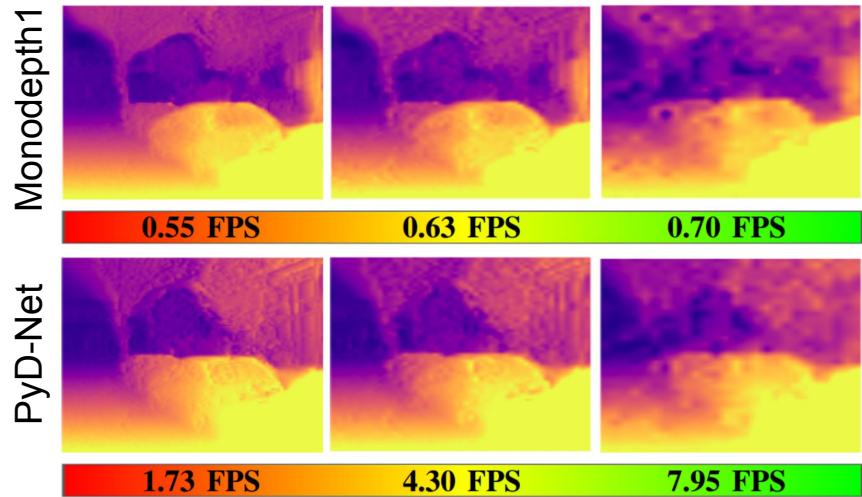
- Shallow, **pyramidal features** encoder
- **Coarse-to-fine** strategy: depth is estimated from lower to higher resolution by lightweight decoders
- Each decoder outputs depth, so as we can **early stop** to trade accuracy for efficiency
- About **6% complexity** compared to Godard et al., CVPR 2017 (1.9M vs 31,6M params)
- **Self-supervised** training as Godard et al., CVPR 2017



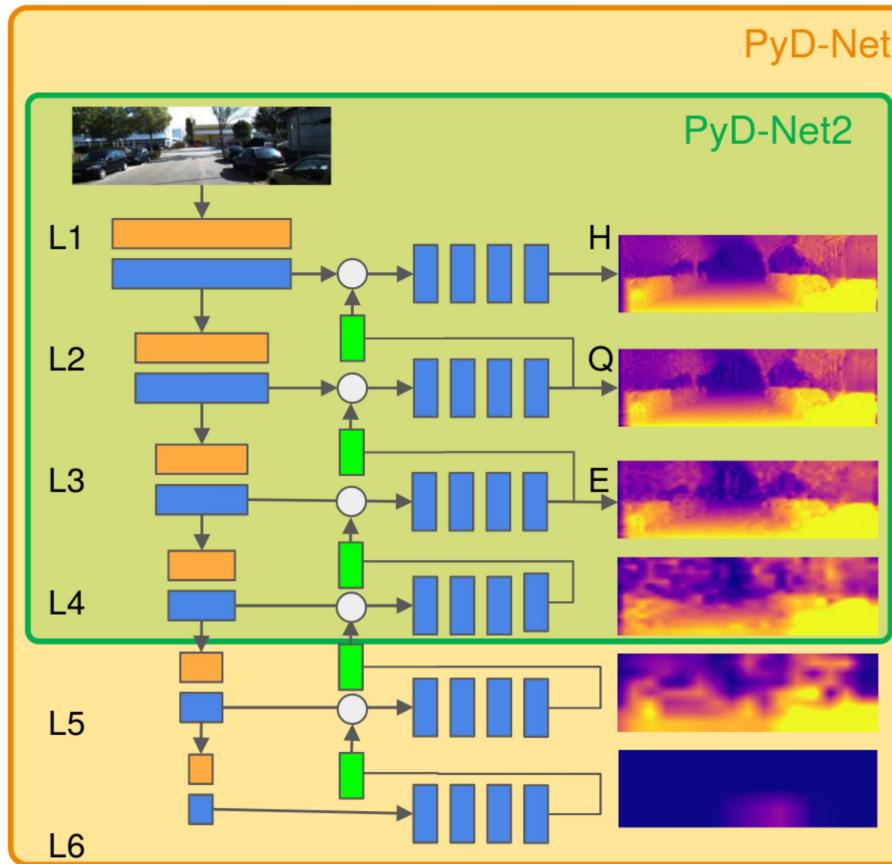
PyDNet

| | Power | 250+ [W] | 91+ [W] | 3.5 [W] |
|-------------------|-------|----------|----------|----------------|
| Model | Res. | Titan X | i7-6700K | Raspberry Pi 3 |
| Godard et al. [2] | F | 0.035 s | 0.67 s | 10.21 s |
| Godard et al. [2] | H | 0.030 s | 0.59 s | 8.14 s |
| PyD-Net | H | 0.020 s | 0.12 s | 1.72 s |
| Godard et al. [2] | Q | 0.028 s | 0.54 s | 6.72 s |
| PyD-Net | Q | 0.011 s | 0.05 s | 0.82 s |
| Godard et al. [2] | E | 0.027 s | 0.47 s | 5.23 s |
| PyD-Net | E | 0.008 s | 0.03 s | 0.45 s |

- Runtime on the ARM Cortex A57 embedded CPU of the NVIDIA Jetson Nano



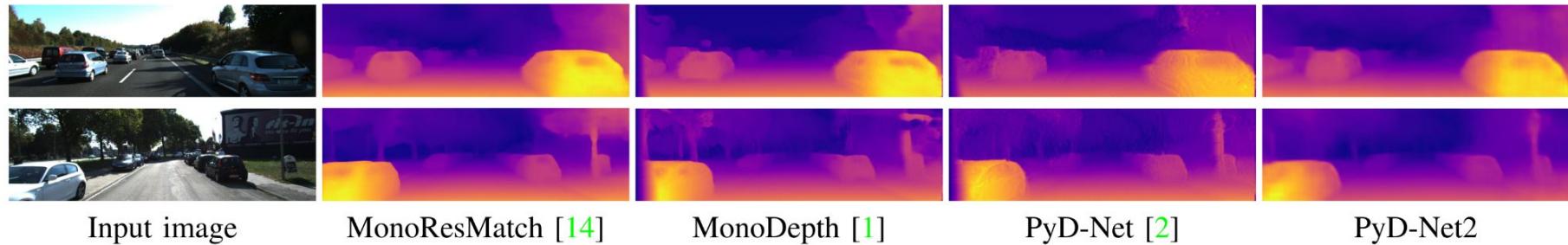
PyDNet2



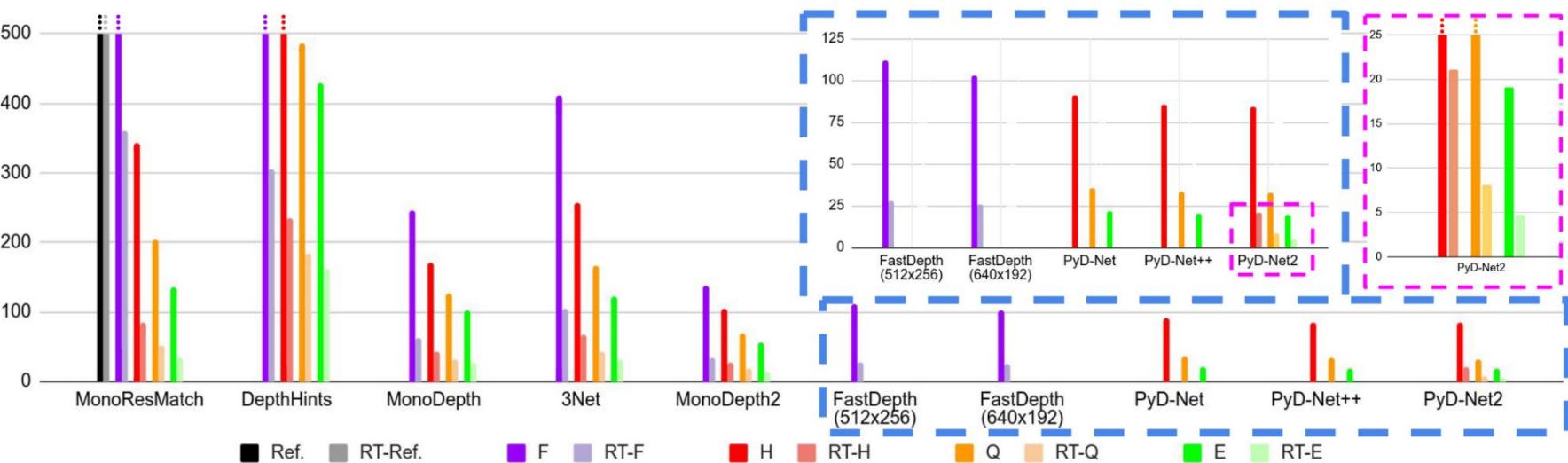


Quantitative results on the KITTI dataset

| Method | Image Res. | Training | SGM | Pars. | Lower is better | | | | Higher is better | | | FPS |
|-------------------|------------|----------|-----|-------------|-----------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------|
| | | | | | Abs Rel | Sq Rel | RMSE | RMSE log | $\delta < 1.25$ | $\delta < 1.25^2$ | $\delta < 1.25^3$ | |
| DepthHints [15] | 1024×320 | I+K | ✓ | 35M | 0.097 | 0.733 | 4.445 | 0.186 | 0.889 | 0.962 | 0.981 | 36.23 |
| MonoResMatch [14] | 1280×384 | CS+K | ✓ | 43M | 0.098 | 0.711 | 4.433 | 0.189 | 0.888 | 0.960 | 0.980 | 12.53 |
| MonoDepth [1] | 512×256 | CS+K | | 31M | 0.124 | 1.076 | 5.311 | 0.219 | 0.847 | 0.942 | 0.973 | 77.20 |
| 3Net [11] | 512×256 | CS+K | | 48M | 0.117 | 0.905 | 4.982 | 0.210 | 0.856 | 0.948 | 0.976 | 56.23 |
| MonoDepth2 [13] | 640×192 | I+K | | 15M | <u>0.109</u> | <u>0.873</u> | <u>4.960</u> | <u>0.209</u> | <u>0.864</u> | <u>0.948</u> | <u>0.975</u> | 133.51 |
| PyD-Net [2] | 512×256 | CS+K | | 1.9M | 0.146 | 1.291 | 5.907 | 0.245 | 0.801 | 0.926 | 0.967 | 203.96 |
| PyD-Net2 | 640×192 | CS+K | ✓ | 0.7M | <u>0.127</u> | <u>1.059</u> | <u>5.259</u> | <u>0.218</u> | <u>0.834</u> | <u>0.942</u> | <u>0.974</u> | 280.74 |
| PyD-Net2-RT | 320×96 | CS+K | ✓ | 0.7M | 0.145 | 1.260 | 5.773 | 0.236 | 0.797 | 0.925 | 0.970 | 370.92 |

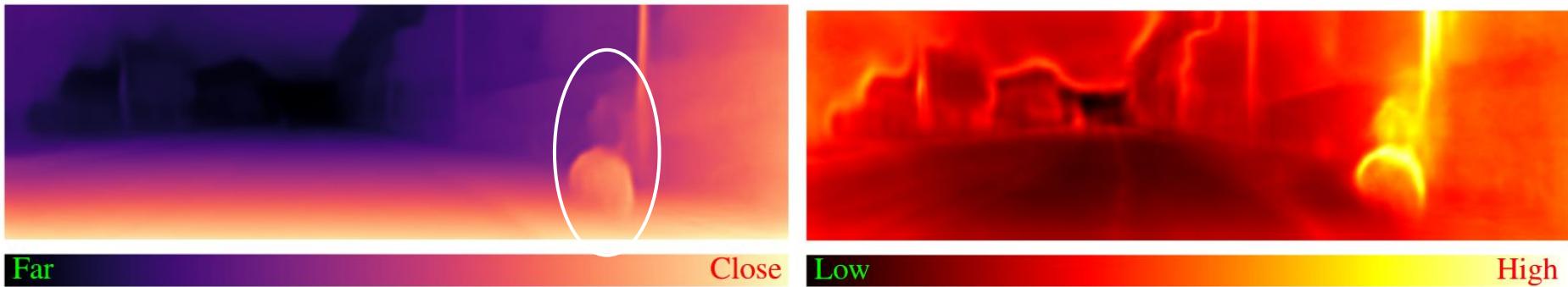


Memory Footprint



- **RAM usage** for all models, testing on i7 CPU

How much can we trust Self-supervised Monocular Depth Estimation?



On the uncertainty of self-supervised monocular depth estimation (Poggi, 2020)

- As for other perception strategies, it is essential to find out **failure cases** in monocular depth estimation networks
- The erroneous perception of distance to pedestrians or other vehicles might have **dramatic consequences**
- The ill-posed nature of depth-from-mono perception task makes this eventuality much more likely to occur compared to scene geometry (e.g. depth from multiple views)

Depth-from-mono Uncertainties

- **Empirical Estimation:** aims at encoding uncertainty empirically by measuring the variance between a set of all possible network configuration (**epistemic uncertainty**)
 - Dropout Sampling
 - Bootstrapped Ensemble
 - Snapshot Ensemble
- **Predictive Estimation:** these methods produce uncertainty estimates that are function of network parameters and the input image (**aletoric heteroscedastic uncertainty**)
 - Log-Likelihood Maximization
 - Self-Teaching
 - Learning Reprojection
- **Bayesian Estimation:** uncertainty estimates by either placing distributions over model weights, or by learning a direct mapping to probabilistic outputs

Conclusion and Discussion

- **Deep learning** based methods (CNNs) demonstrated a strong ability to accurately estimate dense depth maps from a single image
- **Self-supervised** methodologies to overcome the lack of ground truth depth data (stereo or videos at training time)
- Depth known up to a **scale factor** (except some situations, e.g. stereo)
- Although the great advances in this field, mono solutions are much **less reliable** than stereo/multi-view stereo approach (no geometry)
- **High-resolution** estimation is still an open-problem but great advances for **real-time performances** suited for many applications
- The problem of the **domain shift** is even more evident w.r.t deep learning based solutions for stereo