

# Synchronization & Cycle Consistency *in Computer Vision*

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in collaboration with  
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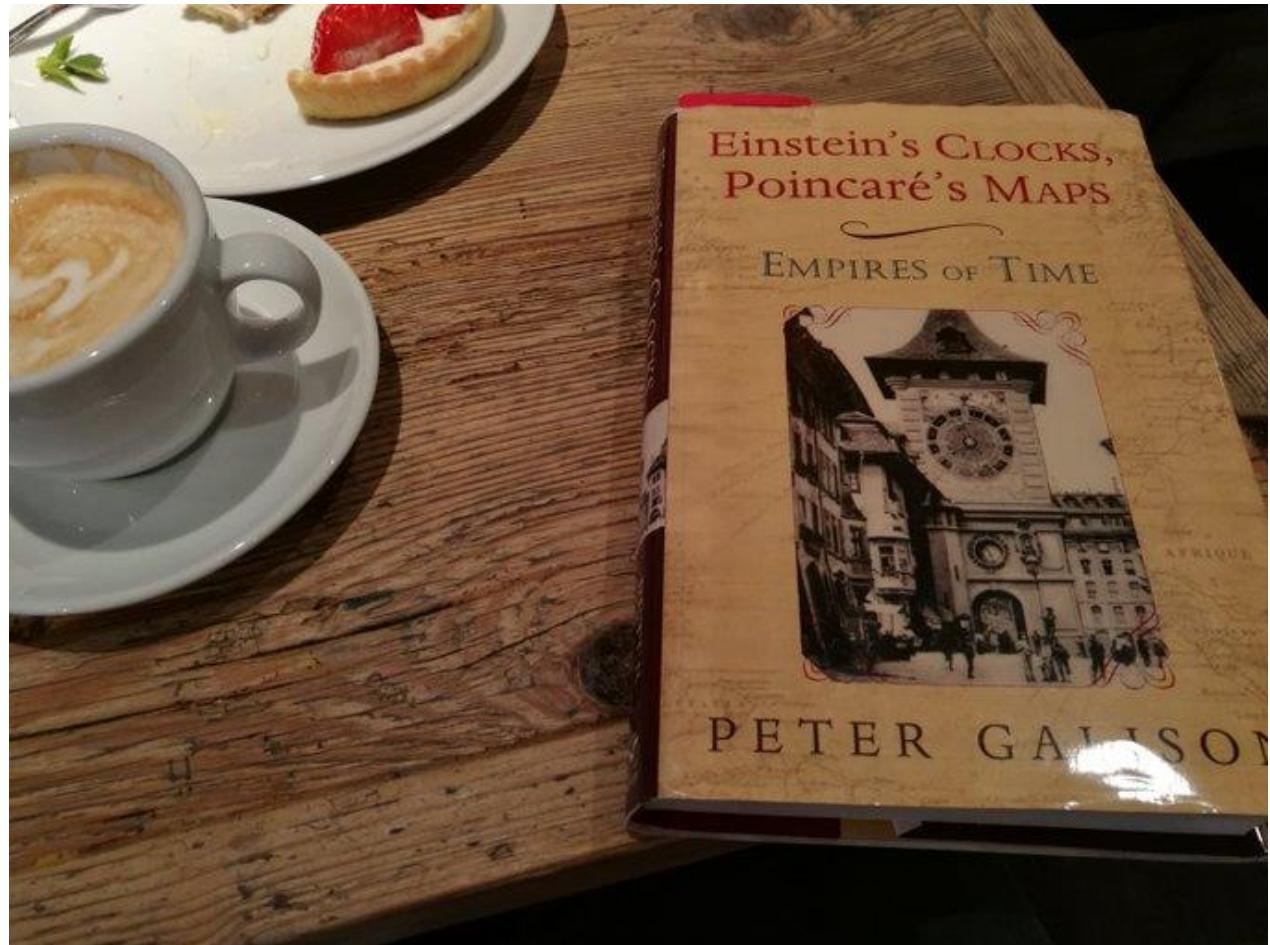


# Synchronization

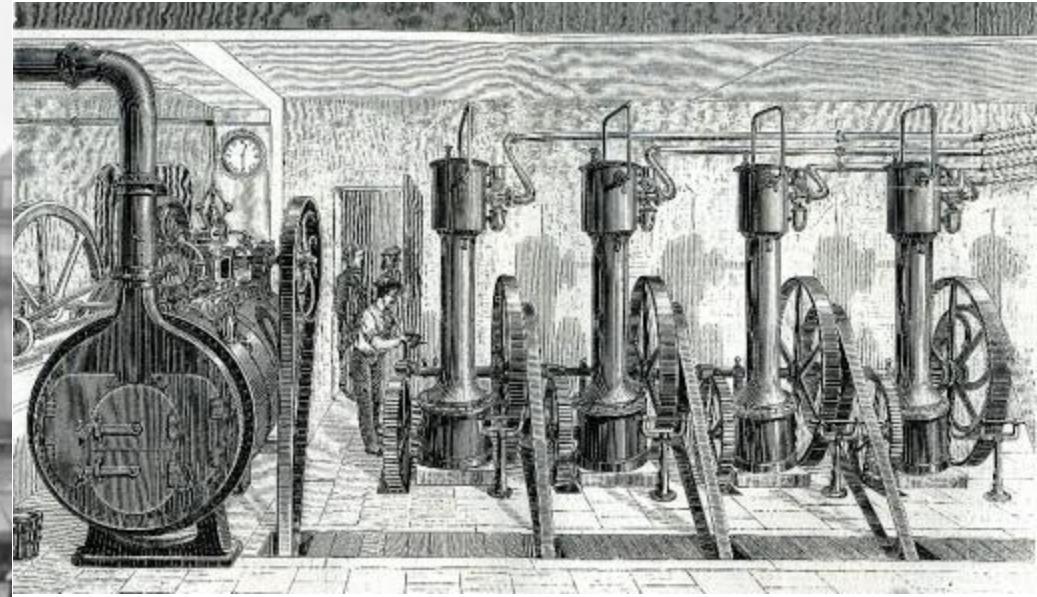
- The coordination of events to operate a system in unison
- Finding simultaneity

It all began with...

Clocks.



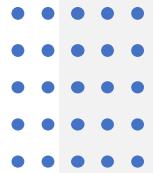
# Parisian Pneumatic Clocks



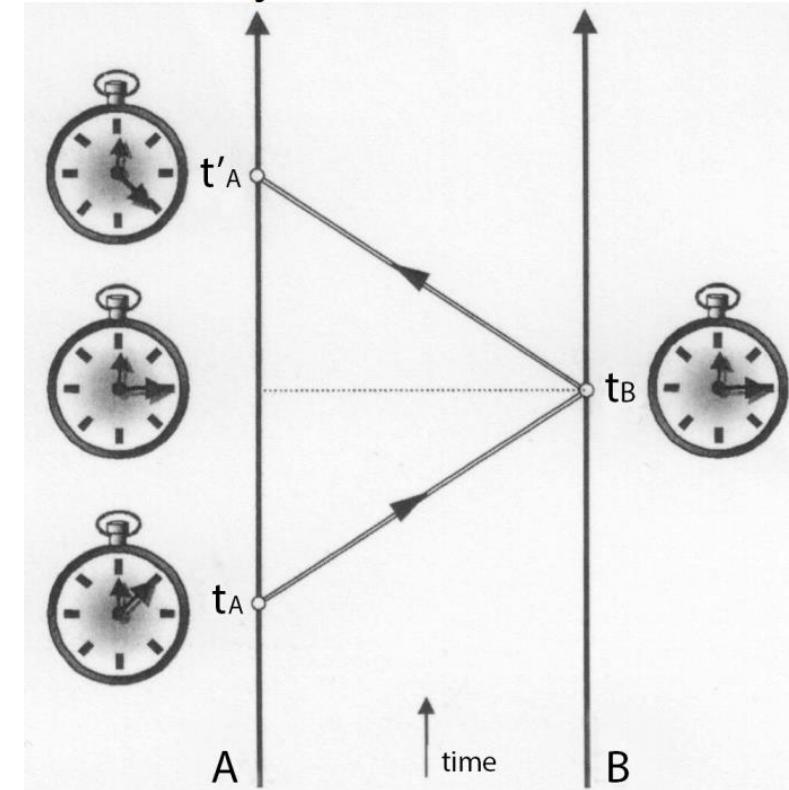
Paris Pneumatic Clock Network  
<http://www.douglas-self.com/MUSEUM/COMMS/airclock/airclock.htm>

The town of Einstein,  
Bern is no short of  
clocks.



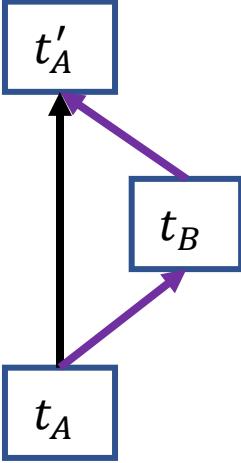


# Einstein - Poincaré Synchronization

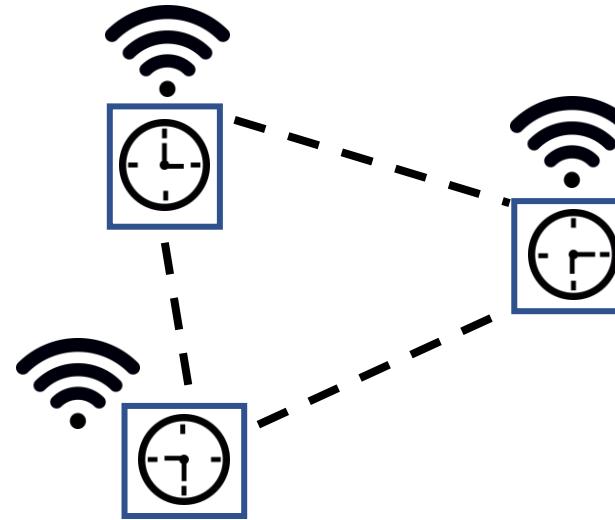


$$t_B = t_A + 1/2(t'_A - t_A)$$

# Synchronization & Cycle Consistency pre-Computer Vision



Clock Synchronization



Wireless Communication

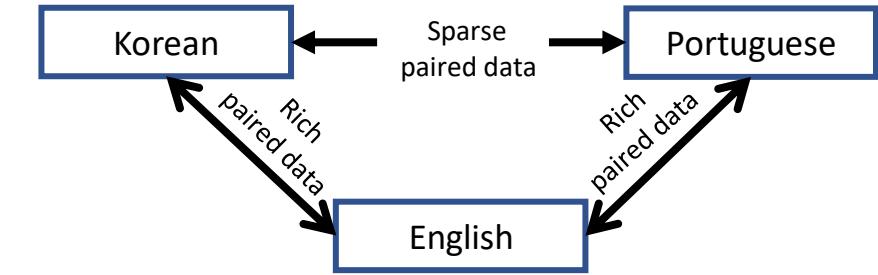


Image-to-Image Translation



# Applications of Cycle Consistency in Computer Vision

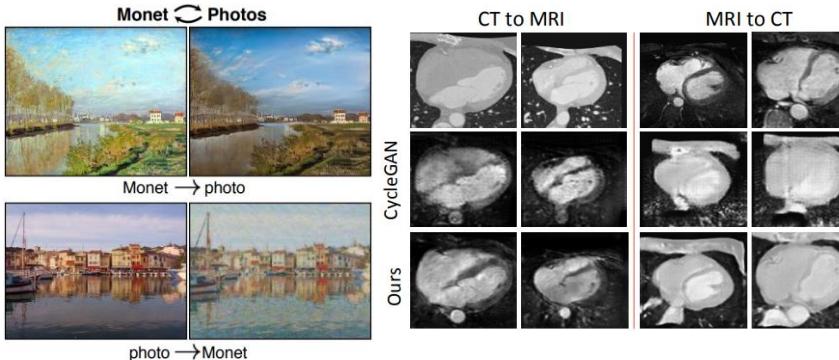
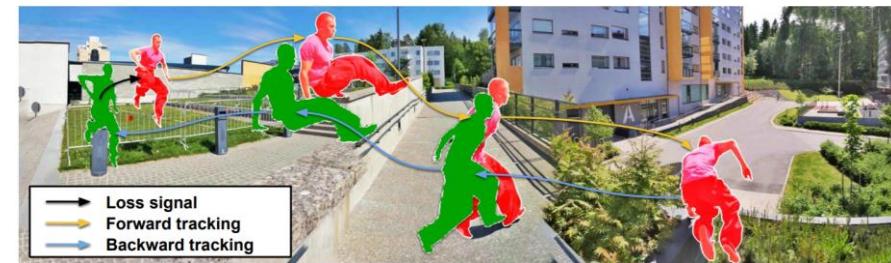


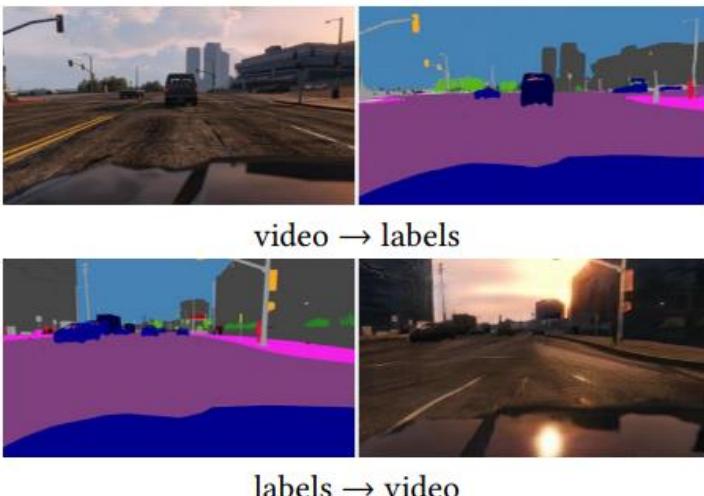
Image-to-Image Translation  
Zu et al. ICCV'17



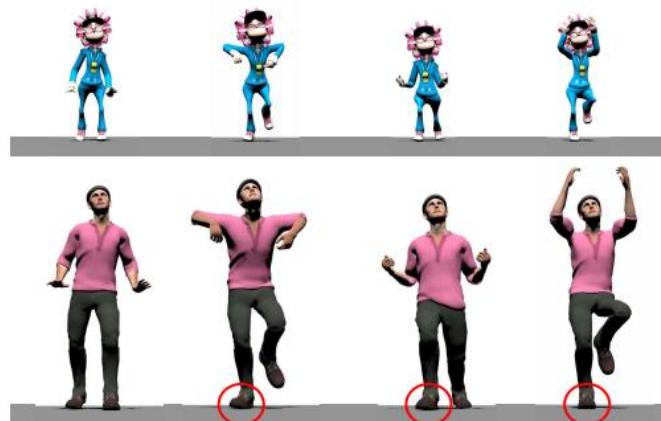
Video Understanding  
Lai & Xie BMVC'19



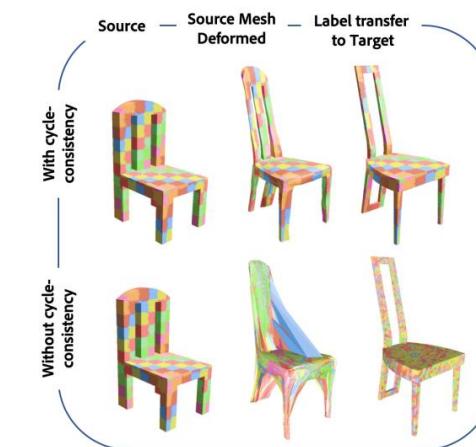
3D Geometric Registration  
Kulkarni ICCV'19



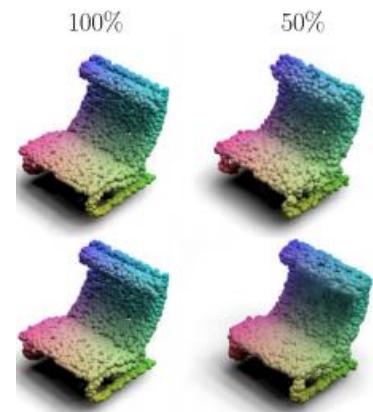
Video-to-Video Translation  
Chen et al. ACM MM'19



Motion Retargeting  
Villegas et al. '19



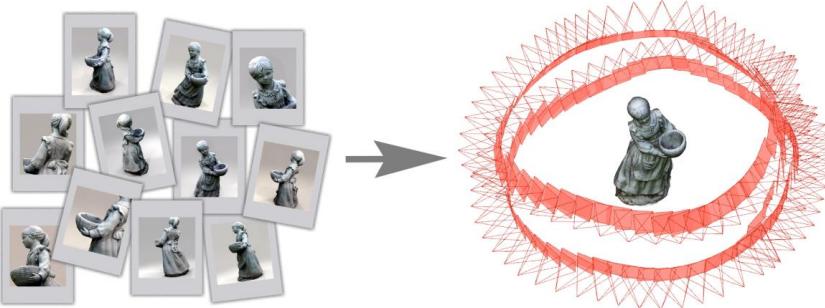
Self Supervised Deep Deformation  
Groueix Eurographics'19



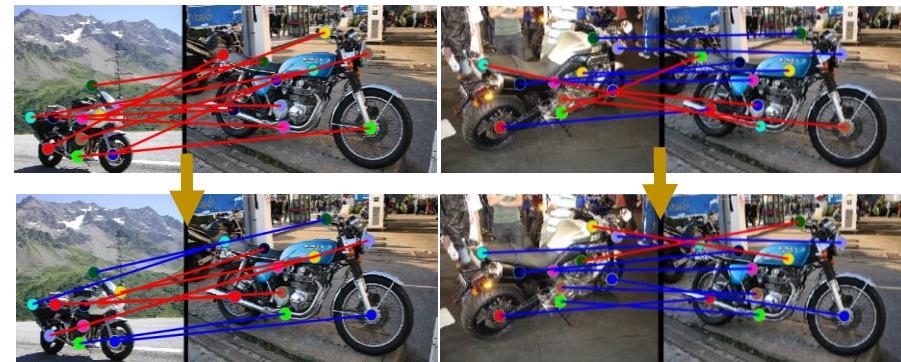
3D Generative Modeling  
Pumarola CVPR'20



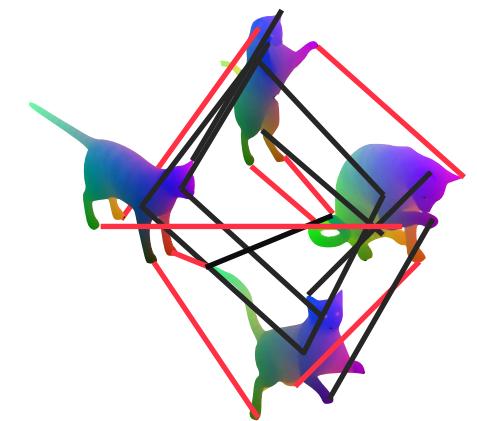
# Applications of Synchronization in Computer Vision



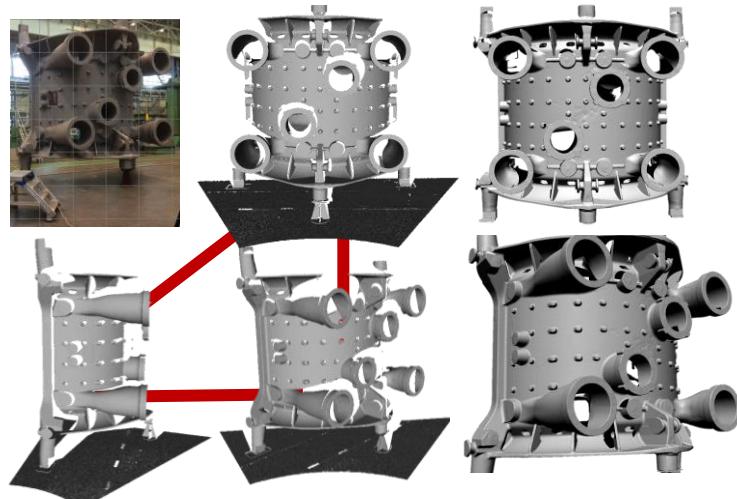
Structure from Motion  
*Bianco '18*



Feature Matching  
*Birdal et al. CVPR'19*



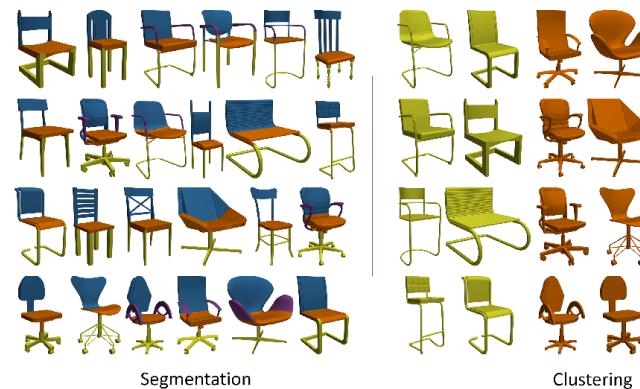
3D Shape Matching  
*Birdal et al. CVPR'19*



3D Reconstruction from Scans  
*Birdal et al. ICCV'17*



Optimized Maps



Co-Segmentation / Clustering  
*Huang ACM'19*



Simultaneous Segmentation & Registration  
*Arrigoni et al. ICCV'19*





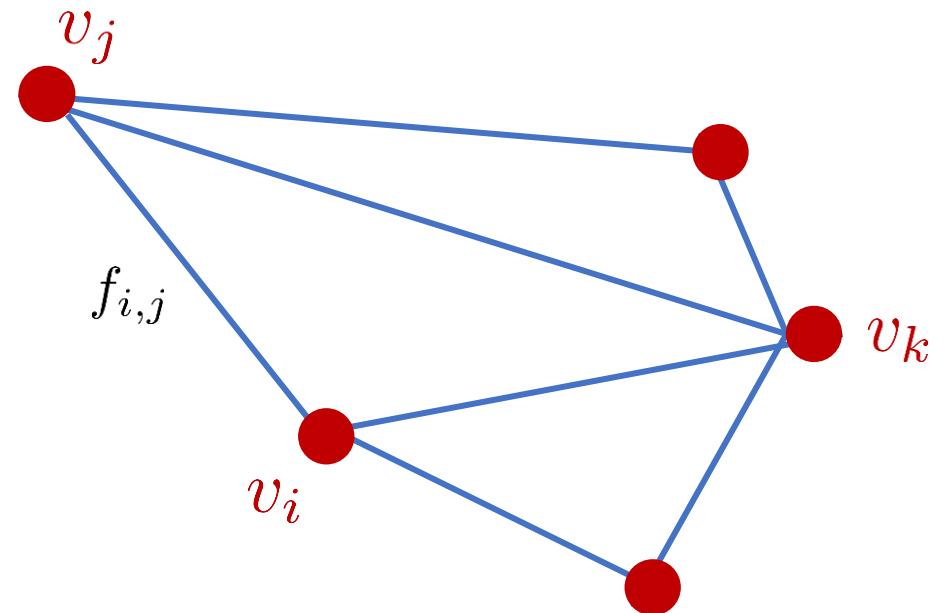
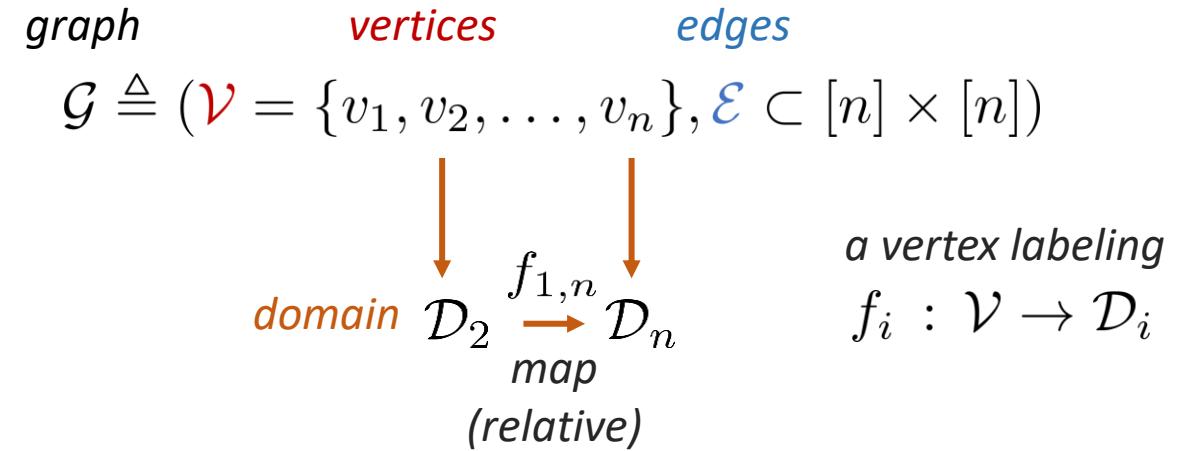
# Applications of Synchronization in Computer Vision

Villegas, Ruben, et al. "Neural kinematic networks for unsupervised motion retargetting." *Proceedings of the IEEE Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition*. 2018.

# Notation (To be filled)

A connected graph

Domain, map, labeling



# Path, Cycle, Null Cycle

**Path:**

$$p = \{(i_1, i_2), (i_2, i_3), \dots, (i_{n-1}, i_n)\} \in \mathcal{P}$$

**Cycle:**

$$c = \{(i_1, i_2), (i_2, i_3), \dots, (i_{n-1}, i_n), (i_n, i_1)\} \in \mathcal{C}$$

**Null-cycle:**

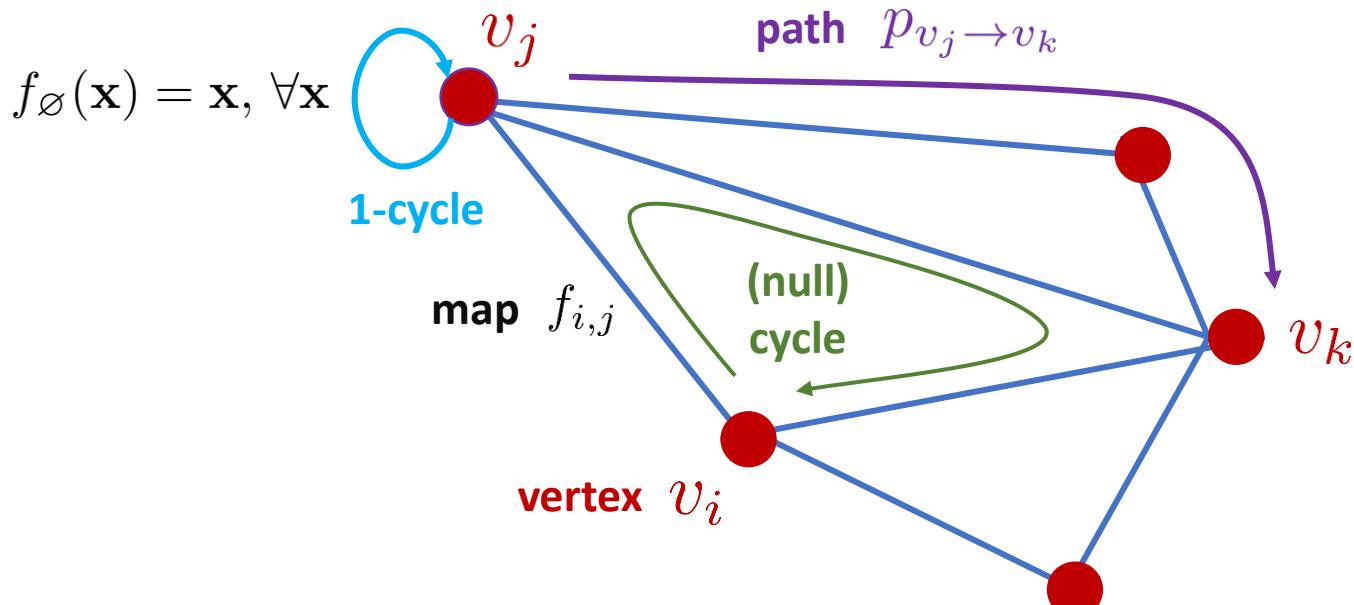
A cycle where the composition of functions lead to identity:

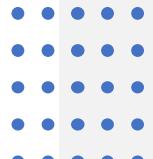
$$f_c = f_{1,2} \circ f_{2,3} \cdots \circ f_{(n-1),n} \circ f_{n,1} = f_\emptyset$$

**k-cycle:**

$$\text{1-cycle: } f_{i,i} = f_\emptyset$$

$$\text{2-cycle: } f_c = f_{i,j} \circ f_{j,i}$$





## Path Invariance (PI) & Cycle Consistency (CC)

All possible paths between  $u$  and  $v$ :

All possible path pairs:

Graph is Path Invariant if:

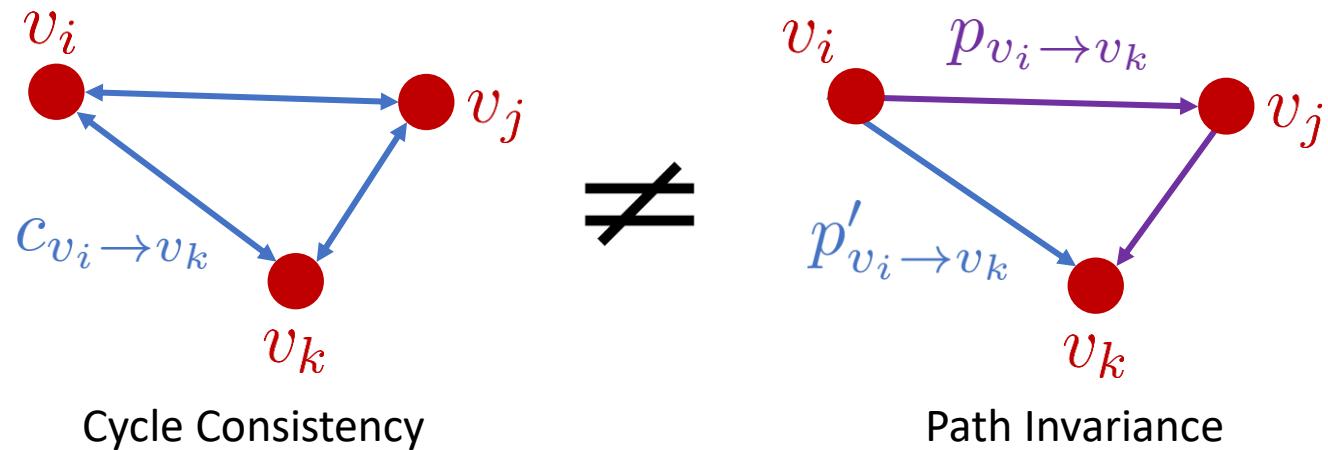
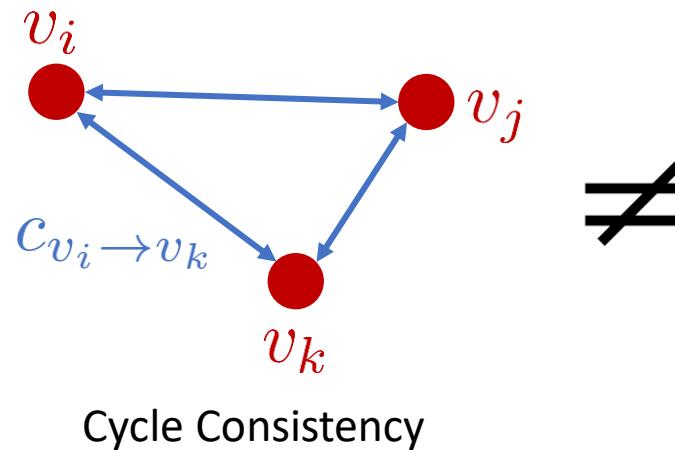
Graph is Cycle Consistent if:

$$\mathcal{G}_{\text{path}}(u, v)$$

$$\mathcal{G}_{\text{pairs}} = \bigcup_{(u,v) \in \mathcal{V}^2} \{(p, q) : p, q \in \mathcal{G}_{\text{path}}(u, v)\}$$

$$f_p = f_q \quad \forall (p, q) \in \mathcal{G}_{\text{pairs}}$$

$$f_c = f_\emptyset \quad \forall c \in \mathcal{C}$$



# Common Assumptions on $f$

## Cycle Consistency by Construction

1.  $f_{i,j}$  is assumed to be an *isomorphism* i.e.  $f_{j,i} = f_{i,j}^{-1}$ .
2.  $f_{i,j}$  are linear.
3.  $f_{i,j}$  is *group valued* i.e. relative maps are *closed, invertible* and *associative* under the group operation  $\circ$  with the existence of an identity element. Note that this induces (1).



**Consistent vertex labeling:**  $f_{i,j} = f_i \circ f_j^{-1} \quad \forall (i,j) \in \mathcal{E}$

**Simple proof:**

$$\begin{aligned}f_c &= f_{1,2} \circ f_{2,3} \circ \cdots \circ f_{(n-1),n} \circ f_{n,1} \\&= (f_1 \circ f_2^{-1}) \circ (f_2 \circ f_3^{-1}) \circ \cdots \circ (f_n \circ f_1^{-1}) \\&= f_1 \circ (f_2^{-1} \circ f_2) \circ (f_3^{-1} \circ f_3) \circ \cdots \circ (f_n^{-1} \circ f_n) \circ f_1^{-1} \\&= f_1 \circ f_1^{-1} = f_{\text{null}} \quad \forall c \in \mathcal{C}.\end{aligned}$$



# Gauge Freedom

“Conventionality of Simultaneity”

Without loss of generality the following holds for group-valued  $f$ :

$$(f_i \circ f_g) \circ (f_j \circ f_g)^{-1} = (f_i \circ f_g) \circ (f_g^{-1} \circ f_j) = f_i \circ f_j^{-1}.$$

“That light requires the same time to traverse the path A → M as for the path B → M is in reality neither a supposition nor a hypothesis about the physical nature of light, but a stipulation which I can make of my own free will in order to arrive at a definition of simultaneity ” – Albert Einstein

(“Ueber die spezielle und die allgemeine Relativitaetstheorie”, Vieweg, Braunschweig (1988))

Can fix one of the functions arbitrarily to reduce the DoF.

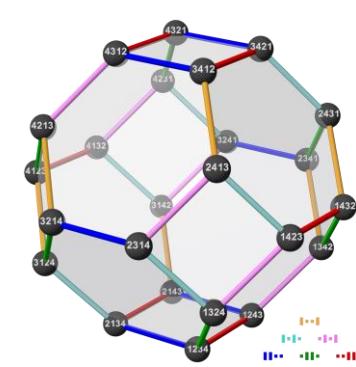


# What are those maps $f$ ?



Rotation Matrices

Zhao et al.'20



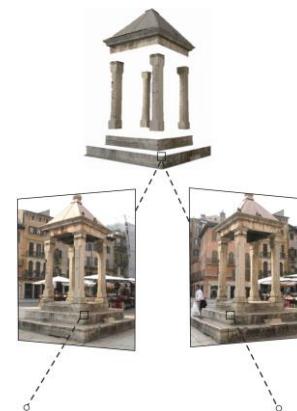
Permutations

wikipedia.org/wiki/Permutohedron



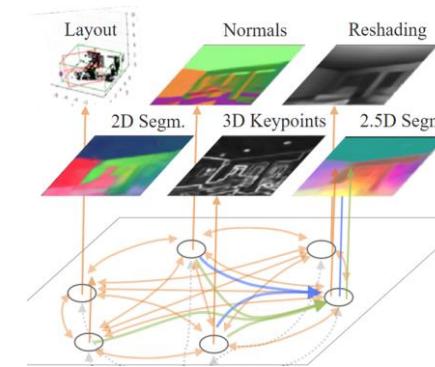
Functional Maps

Guibas '20



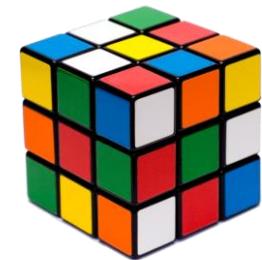
Essential Matrices

3dflow.net



Neural Networks

Zamir et al.'18

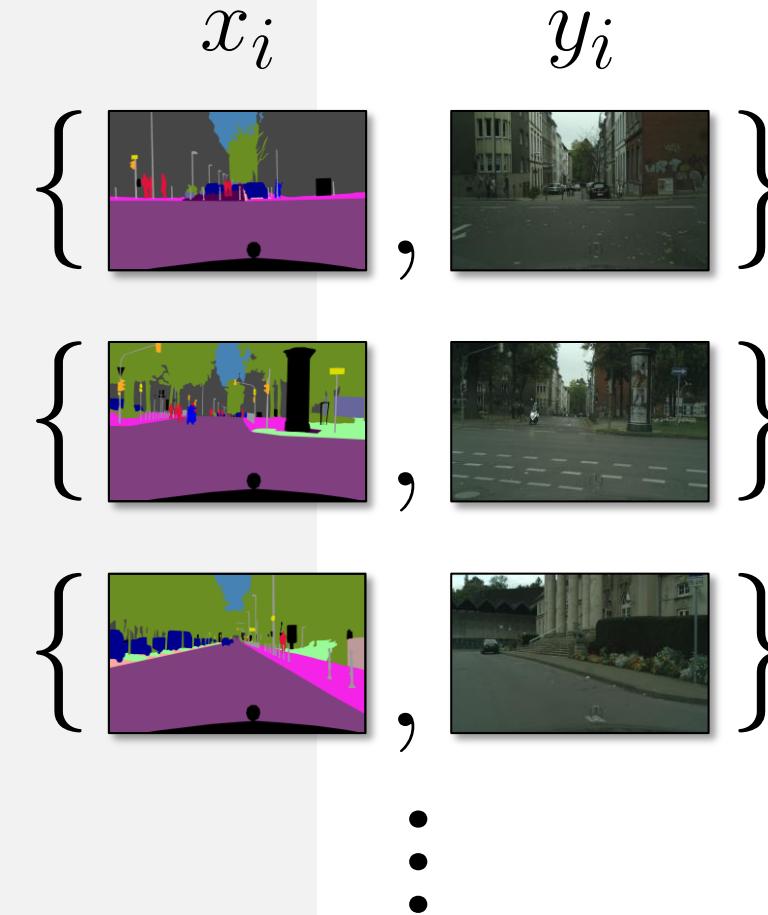


Tensor Maps

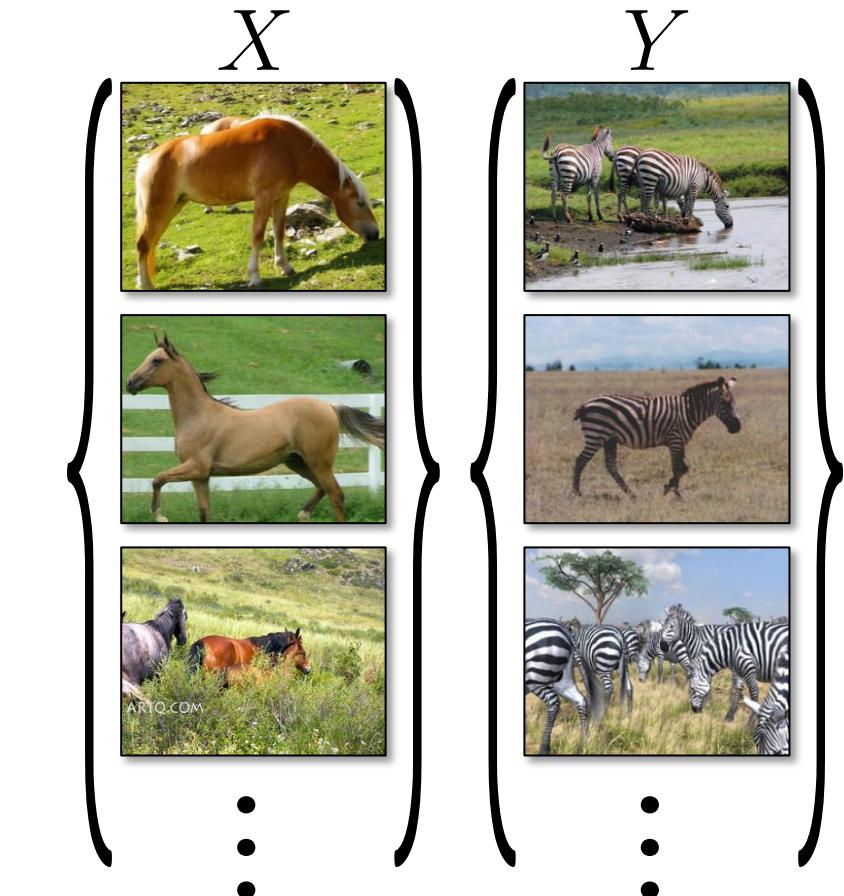
webstockreview.net

When to Use  
Path Invariance  
(PI) and Cycle  
Consistency  
(CC)

# Supervised

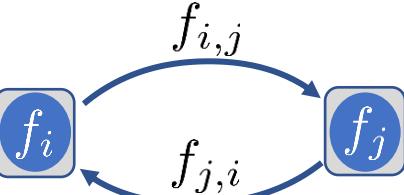
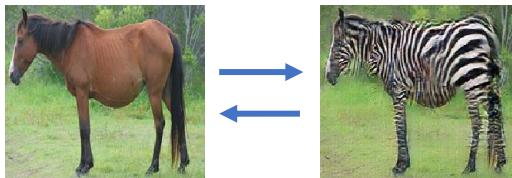


# Unsupervised

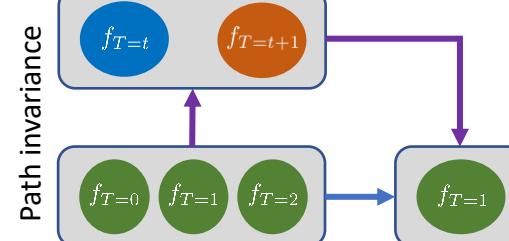
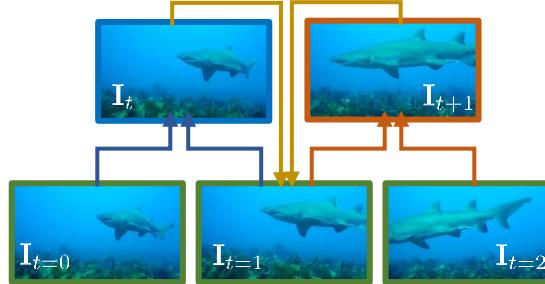


# PI & CC as Unsupervised Losses

Cycle-GAN, ICCV'17

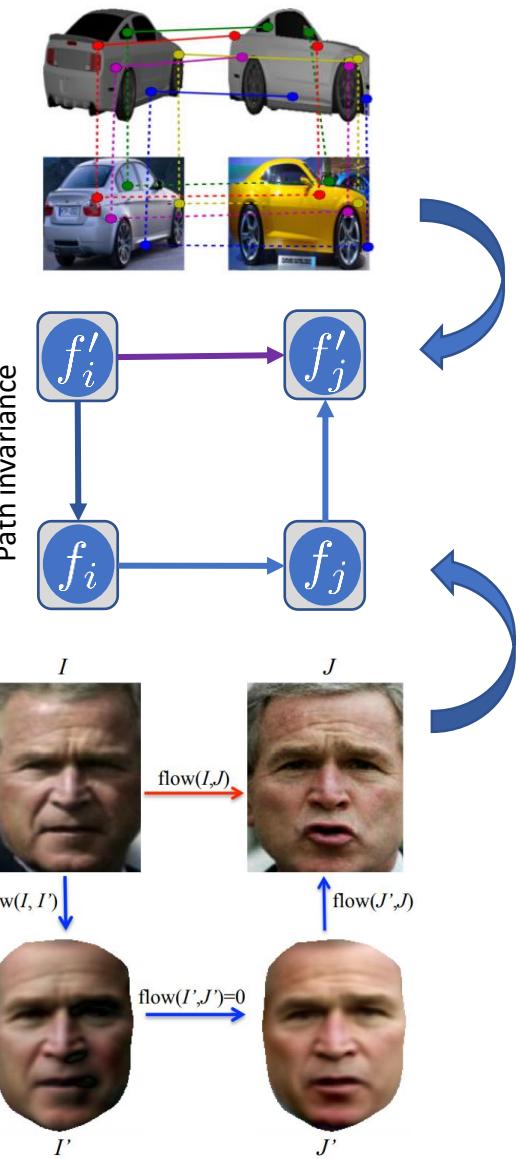


Vertex label is an image, relative map is a neural network.



Unsupervised Video Interpolation Using **Cycle Consistency**, Reda et al. ICCV 2019

Learning Dense Correspondence via 3D-guided **Cycle Consistency**, Zhou et al.



Collection Flow, Shlizerman et al.

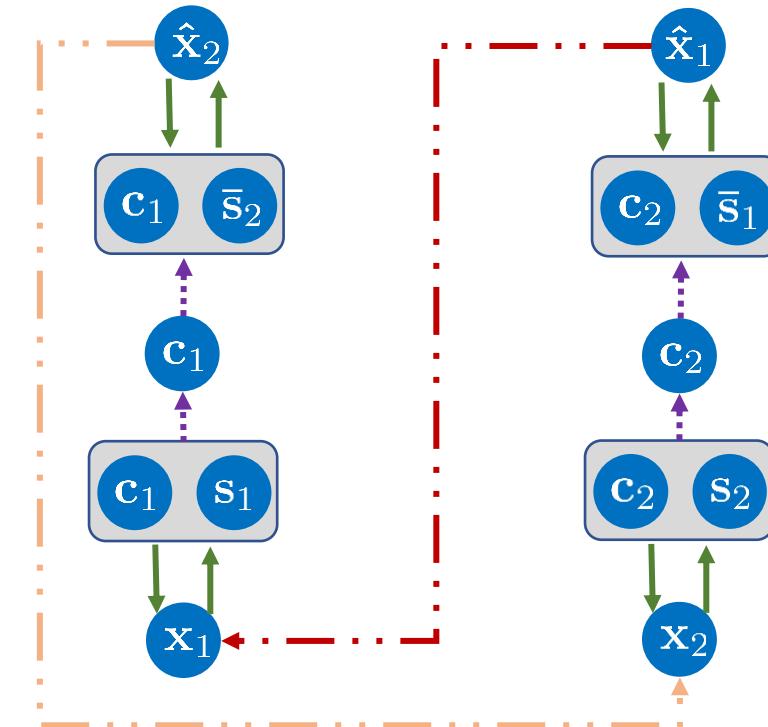
# PI & CC as Unsupervised Losses



— · · · GAN (distributional)  
— — cycle (learnt maps)

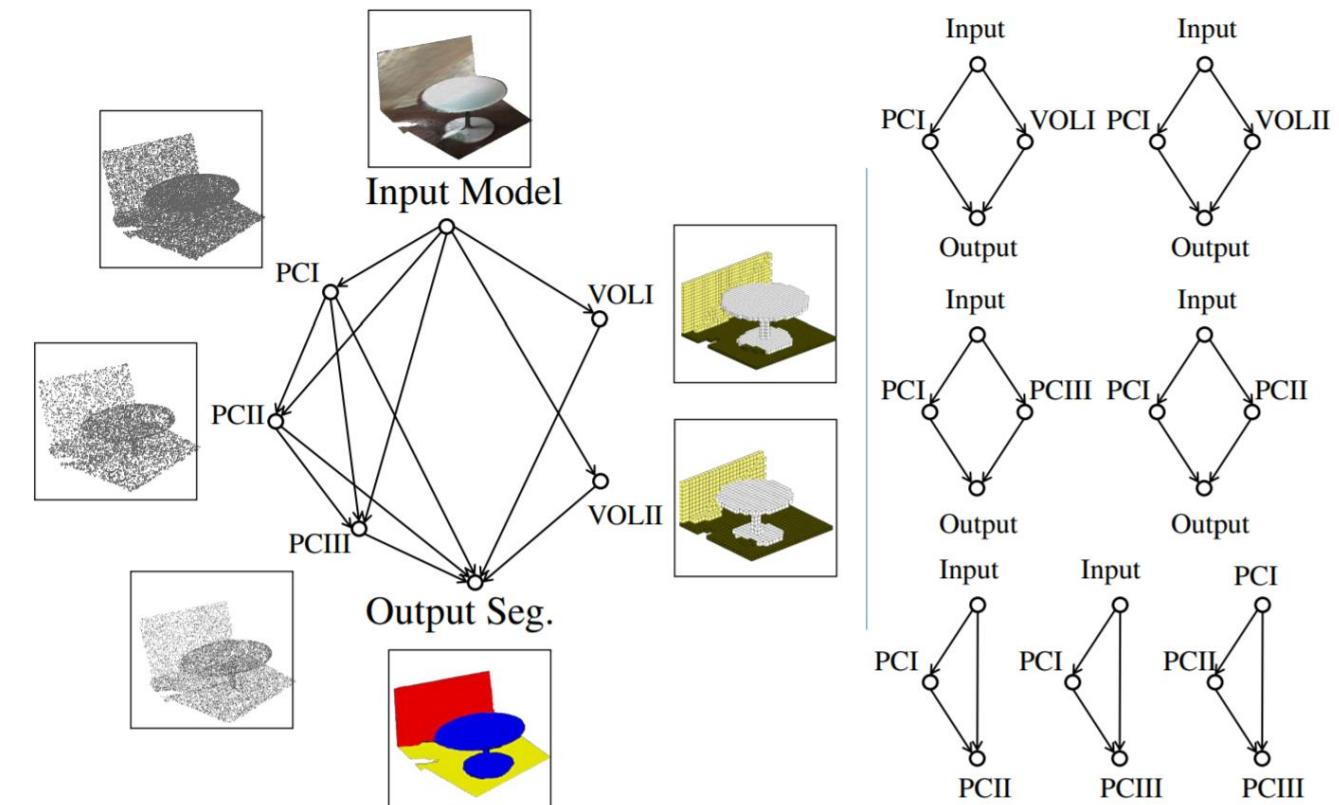
— · · · GAN (distributional)  
· · · · path (fixed maps)

x: Image    c: Content    s: Style     $\bar{s}$ : Random Style



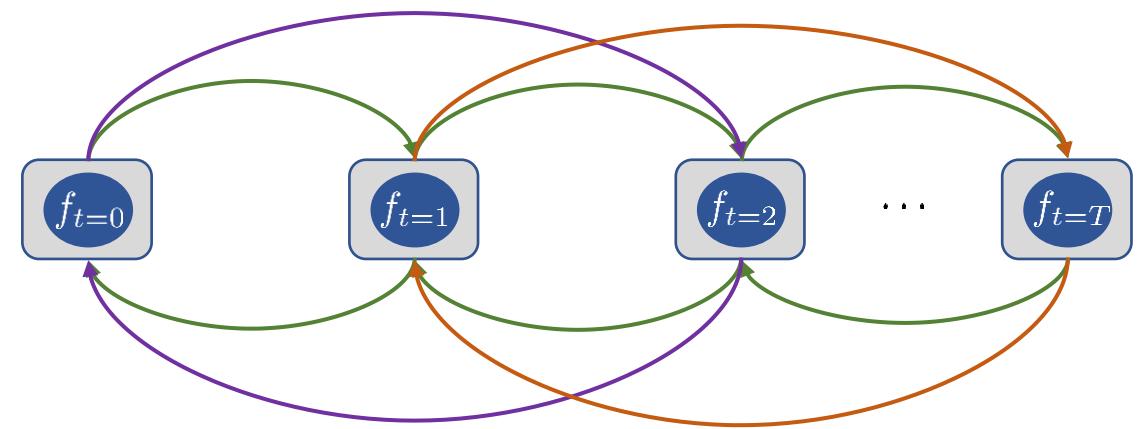
Huang, Xun, et al. "Multimodal unsupervised image-to-image translation." *Proceedings of the European Conference on Computer Vision (ECCV)*. 2018.

# PI & CC as Unsupervised Losses



Zhang, Zaiwei, et al. "Path-invariant map networks."  
*Proceedings of the IEEE Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition*. 2019.

# PI & CC as Unsupervised Losses



Wang, Xiaolong et al. "Learning correspondence from the cycle-consistency of time." *Proceedings of the IEEE Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition*. 2019.



# Synchronization

*the art of handshaking*

Given noisy relative maps  $\{f_{i,j}\}$  as observations, recover the absolute maps  $\{f_i\}$ .

*Given relative maps, find a consistent vertex labeling.*



# Synchronization

*the art of handshaking*

Naïve, over all the paths:

$$\arg \min_{\{f_k\}_k} \sum_{c \in \bar{\mathcal{C}}} \epsilon(f_c, f_\emptyset) + \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{E}} d_f(f_i \circ f_{i,j}, f_j)$$

All cycles are null.

Group valued version:

$$\arg \min_{\{f_k\}_k} \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{E}} \rho(d(f_i \circ f_j^{-1}, f_{i,j}))$$

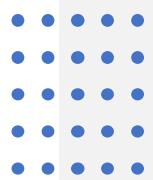
Path Invariance

Sync via path invariance:

$$\arg \min_{\{f_k\}_k} \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{E}} d_f(f_i \circ f_{i,j}, f_j) + \sum_{(p,q) \in \mathcal{B}} E\epsilon_B(f_p, f_q).$$

# Synchronization

*the art of handshaking*



Naïve, over all the paths:

Group valued version:

$$\arg \min_{\{f_k\}_k} \sum_{c \in \bar{\mathcal{C}}} \epsilon(f_c, f_\emptyset) + \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{E}} d_f(f_i \circ f_{i,j}, f_j)$$

All cycles are null.      Pairwise consistency

$$\arg \min_{\{f_k\}_k} \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{E}} \rho(d(f_i \circ f_j^{-1}, f_{i,j}))$$



# Synchronization: Algorithms

*The case of linear maps.*

$$\arg \min_{\{f_k\}_k} \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{E}} \rho(d(f_i \circ f_j^{-1}, f_{i,j})) \quad \xrightarrow{\hspace{1cm}} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{Similar to a Dirichlet energy when } \rho(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{x} \\ \text{i.e. we seek to find a \textbf{harmonic}.} \end{array}$$

**Matrix point of view for linear maps:**

- $\mathbf{F}_{i,j} \in G$  represents  $f_{i,j}$
- $\mathbf{I}$  is the identity

$$\xrightarrow{\hspace{1cm}} \mathbf{G} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{F}_{1,2} & \mathbf{F}_{1,3} & \cdots & \mathbf{F}_{1,n} \\ \mathbf{F}_{2,1} & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{F}_{2,3} & \cdots & \mathbf{F}_{2,n} \\ \cdots & \cdots & \vdots & \cdots & \cdots \\ \mathbf{F}_{n,1} & \mathbf{F}_{n,2} & \mathbf{F}_{n,3} & \cdots & \mathbf{F}_{n,n} \end{bmatrix} \succcurlyeq 0 \quad \mathbf{Z} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{F}_1 \\ \mathbf{F}_2 \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{F}_n \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{F}_1 & \mathbf{F}_2 & \cdots & \mathbf{F}_n \end{bmatrix}$$



# Synchronization: Algorithms

*The case of invertible linear maps.*

$$\arg \min_{\{f_k\}_k} \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{E}} \rho(d(f_i \circ f_j^{-1}, f_{i,j})) \quad \equiv \quad \arg \min_{\{\mathbf{F}_k \in \mathcal{M}\}_{k=1}^K} \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{E}} w_{ij} \|\mathbf{F}_i \mathbf{F}_j^{-1} - \mathbf{F}_{ij}\|_F^2$$



# Semidefinite Relaxation (SDP)

*The case of **orthogonal** linear maps.*

$$\arg \min_{\{\mathbf{F}_k \in \mathcal{M}\}_{k=1}^K} \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{E}} w_{ij} \|\mathbf{F}_i \mathbf{F}_j^{-1} - \mathbf{F}_{ij}\|_F^2 \quad \equiv \quad \arg \max_{\{\mathbf{F}_k \in \mathcal{M}\}_{k=1}^K} \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{E}} w_{ij} \text{Tr}(\mathbf{F}_i^\top \mathbf{F}_{i,j} \mathbf{F}_j)$$

*which can be re-arranged into:*

$$\max_{\mathbf{F}} \text{Tr}(\mathbf{F}^\top \mathbf{G} \mathbf{F})$$

***semi-definite relaxation:***

$$\max_{\hat{\mathbf{G}} \succcurlyeq 0, \mathbf{G}_{ii} = \mathbf{I}} \text{Tr}(\mathbf{G} \hat{\mathbf{G}}) \qquad \text{where} \qquad \hat{\mathbf{G}} = \mathbf{F}^\top \mathbf{F}$$



# Spectral Solutions

$$\max_{\mathbf{G}} \text{Tr}(\mathbf{F}^T \mathbf{G} \mathbf{F}) \text{ s.t. } \mathbf{F}^T \mathbf{F} = \mathbf{I}$$

Rayleigh Problem

*Solution is given by the eigenvectors of  $\mathbf{G}$ .*



# Optimization on Riemannian Manifolds

**Riemannian Metric :**

$\mathbf{G} = \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_{\mathcal{T}_X M} : \mathcal{T}_X M \times \mathcal{T}_X M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ . e. g. In  $\mathbb{R}^2$ ,  $G = dx^2 + dy^2$ .

**Exponential Map :**

$\exp_X : \mathcal{T}_X M \rightarrow X$  maps a tangent vector to the endpoint of a geodesic path.

**Logarithmic Map :**

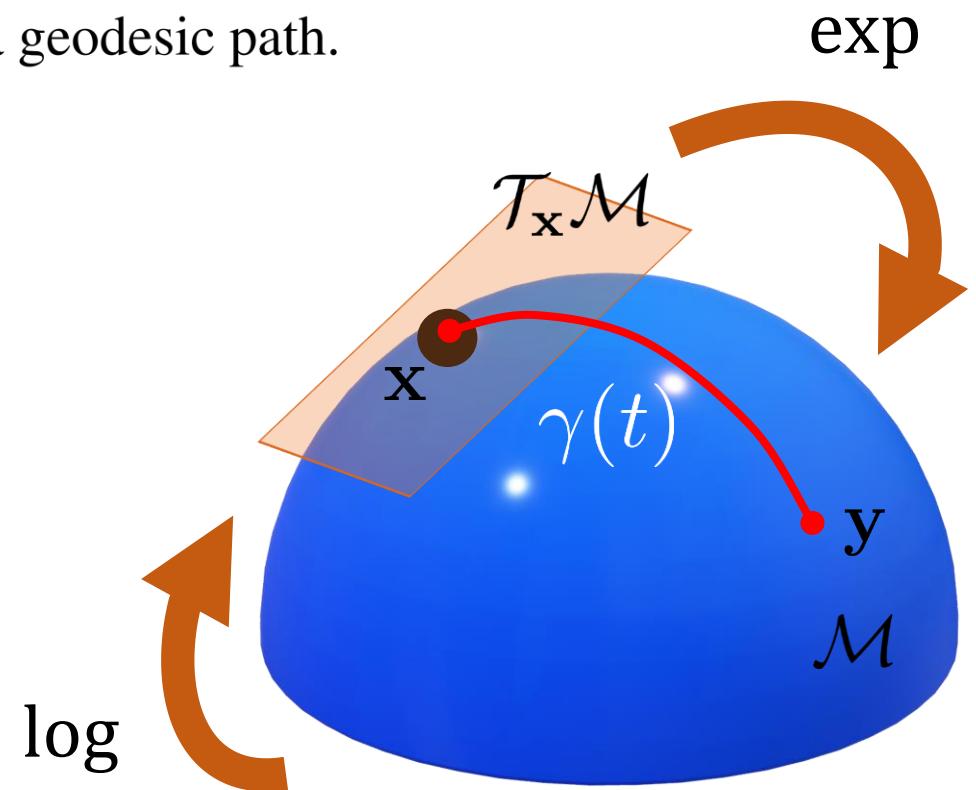
Inverse of the exponential map  $\log_X : X \rightarrow \mathcal{T}_X M$

**Isometry** is a metric-preserving deformation.

**A geodesic path**  $\gamma$  is length minimizing and constant speed

$$d(x, y) = \min l_x^y(\gamma)$$

$$\text{On } \mathcal{M} : l_x^y = \int_x^y \sqrt{G(\dot{\gamma}(t), \dot{\gamma}(t))} dt$$





# Riemannian Descent

Riemannian Manifolds + Group Structure = Lie Group

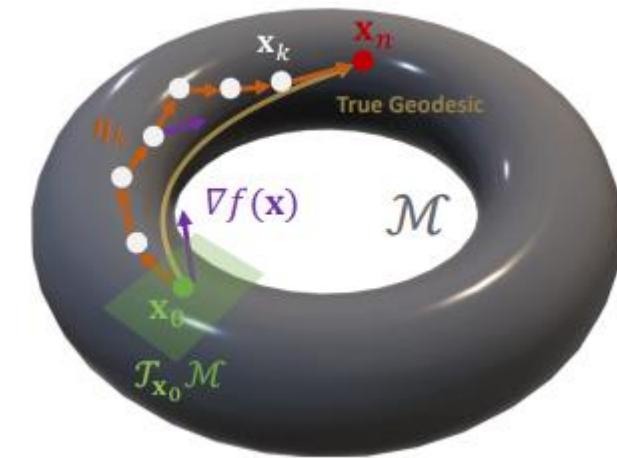
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**Algorithm 1:** General Riemannian Line Search Minimizer

---

- 1 **input:** A Riemannian manifold  $\mathcal{M}$ , a retraction operator  $R$  and initial iterate  $\mathbf{x}_k \in \mathcal{M}$  where  $k = 0$ .
  - 2 **while**  $\mathbf{x}_k$  does not sufficiently minimize  $f$  **do**
  - 3     Pick a gradient related descent direction  $\eta_k \in T_{\mathbf{x}_k} \mathcal{M}$ .
  - 4     Choose a retraction  $R_{\mathbf{x}_k} : T_{\mathbf{x}_k} \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}$ .
  - 5     Choose a step length  $\tau_k \in \mathbb{R}$ .
  - 6     Set  $\mathbf{x}_{k+1} \leftarrow R_{\mathbf{x}_k}(\tau_k \eta_k)$ .
  - 7      $k \leftarrow k + 1$ .
- 

$$\arg \min_{\{\mathbf{F}_k \in \mathcal{M}\}_{k=1}^K} \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{E}} w_{ij} \|\mathbf{F}_i \mathbf{F}_j^{-1} - \mathbf{F}_{ij}\|_F^2$$

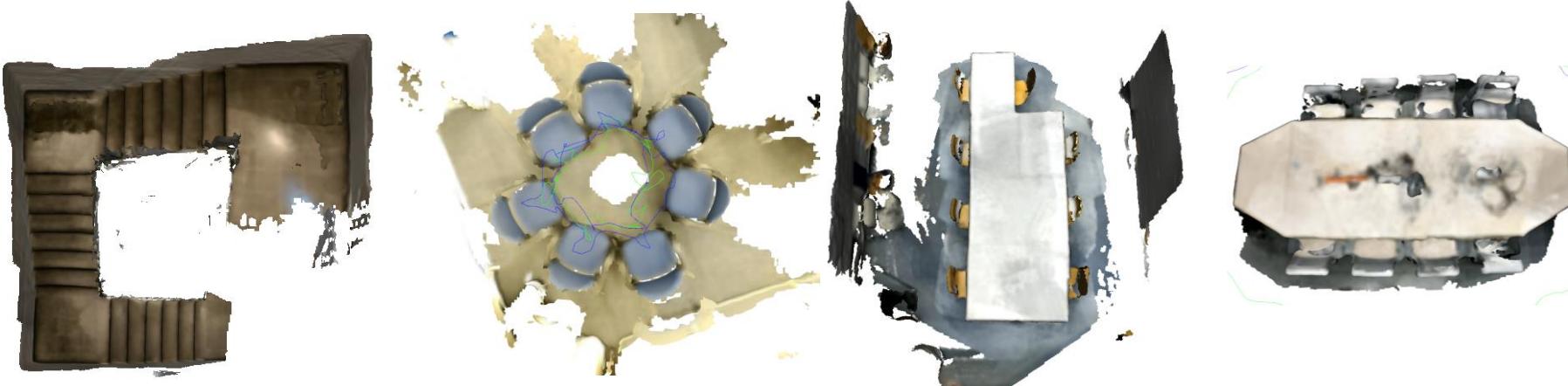




# Real life is challenging.

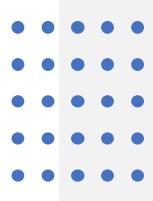


Ambiguous Views



Uncertainty

Ambiguities



# Multiple Rotation Averaging


$$M = \begin{bmatrix} R & t \\ 0^T & 1 \end{bmatrix} \in SE(3)$$

Camera  
poses form  
non-Euclidean  
parameter  
spaces

$$R \in SO(3) \quad t \in \mathbb{R}^3$$

$$\mathbf{x}' = \mathbf{Rx} + \mathbf{t}$$

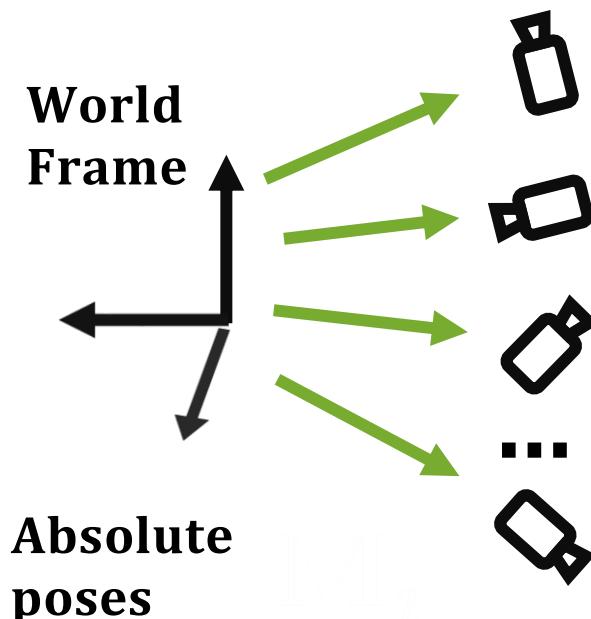
The manifold of rotations can be  
parameterized in many ways.  
We will use **quaternions**.



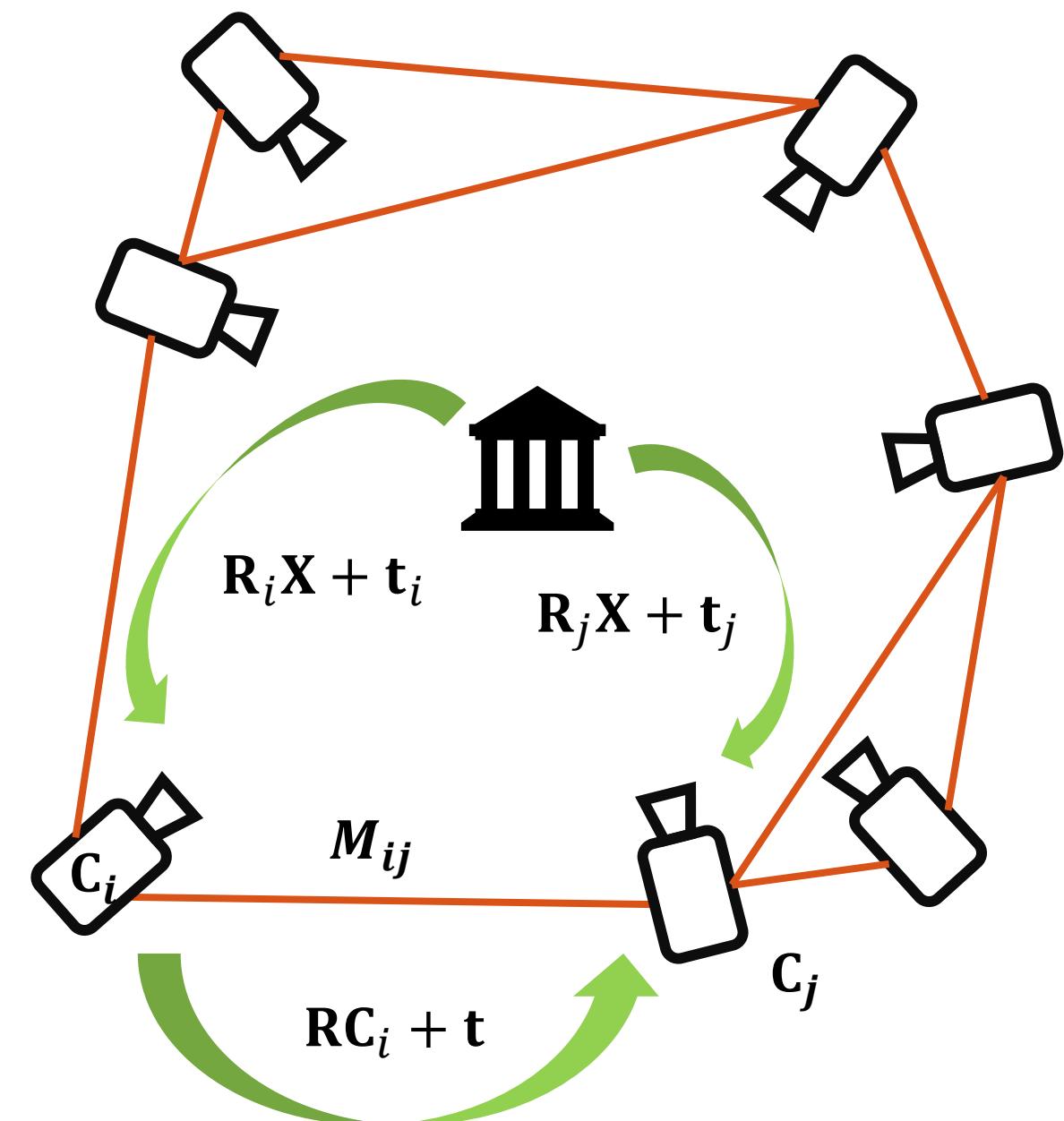
## Multiple Motion Averaging

$$M_{ij} \approx M_j M_i^{-1}, \forall i \neq j$$

(cycle consistency constraint)



+ estimate  
uncertainties





## Quaternions

- Introduced by Hamilton
- Extends complex numbers:
- Quaternions lie on a 4D unit sphere:
- Quaternions are antipodally symmetric
- Natural and good way to parameterize
- Rotate a point by quaternion:
- Quaternion distance:
- Easily relate to axis-angle:

$$\mathbf{q} = \cos\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right) + (u_x \mathbf{i} + u_y \mathbf{j} + u_z \mathbf{k}) \sin\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right)$$

$$\mathbf{q} = q_0 + q_1 \mathbf{i} + q_2 \mathbf{j} + q_3 \mathbf{k}$$

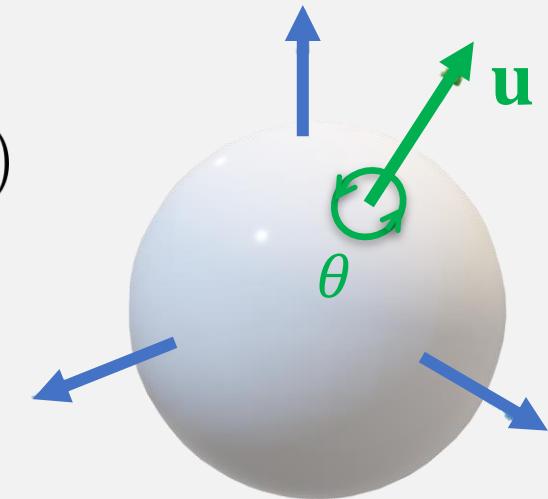
$$\|\mathbf{q}\| = 1$$

$$\mathbf{q} \equiv -\mathbf{q}$$

$$\mathbf{R} \leftrightarrow \mathbf{q}$$

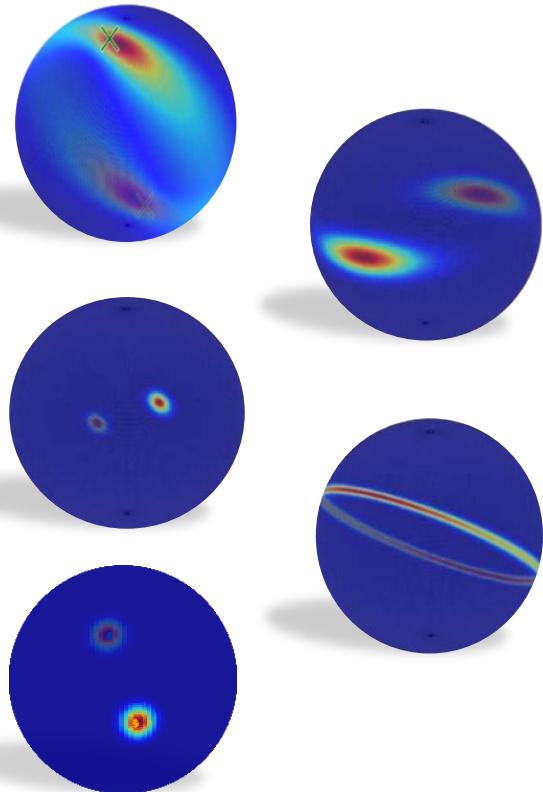
$$\mathbf{p}' = \mathbf{q} \mathbf{p} \mathbf{q}^{-1}$$

$$d(\mathbf{q}_1, \mathbf{q}_2) = 2 \arccos(|\mathbf{q}_1 \bar{\mathbf{q}}_2|)$$





# Bingham Distribution



$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{B}(\mathbf{x}; \boldsymbol{\Lambda}, \mathbf{V}) &= (1/F) \exp(\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{V} \boldsymbol{\Lambda} \mathbf{V}^T \mathbf{x}) \\ &= (1/F) \exp\left(\sum_{i=1}^d \lambda_i (\mathbf{v}_i^T \mathbf{x})^2\right)\end{aligned}$$

$$\boldsymbol{\Lambda} = \begin{bmatrix} 0, & & & \\ & \lambda_1 & & \\ & & \lambda_2 & \\ & & & \ddots \\ & & & & \lambda_{d-1} \end{bmatrix}_{d \times d}$$

$(0 \geq \lambda_1 \geq \dots \geq \lambda_{d-1})$

$$F \triangleq |S_{d-1}| \cdot {}_1F_1\left(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{d}{2}, \boldsymbol{\Lambda}\right)$$

- $\mathbf{V} \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$ : an orthogonal matrix
- $\boldsymbol{\Lambda} \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$ : *concentration matrix*, a diagonal matrix with a set of non-positive values
- $F(\boldsymbol{\Lambda})$ : the normalization constant
- A variant of zero-mean Gaussian distribution conditioned on  $\mathbb{S}^{d-1}$

Bingham, Christopher. "An antipodally symmetric distribution on the sphere." *The Annals of Statistics* (1974): 1201-1225.

# Tempered Geodesic MCMC Framework for Sampling and Optimization



## A Bayesian Formulation for Synchronization on $SE(3)$

1. The maximum a-posteriori (MAP) estimate:

$$(\mathbf{Q}^*, \mathbf{T}^*) = \arg \max_{\mathbf{Q}, \mathbf{T}} p(\mathbf{Q}, \mathbf{T} | \mathcal{D}) =$$

$$\arg \max_{\mathbf{Q}, \mathbf{T}} \left( \sum_{(i,j) \in E} \{ \log p(\mathbf{q}_{ij} | \mathbf{Q}, \mathbf{T}) + \log p(\mathbf{t}_{ij} | \mathbf{Q}, \mathbf{T}) \} + \sum_i \log p(\mathbf{q}_i) + \sum_i \log p(\mathbf{t}_i) \right),$$


2. The full posterior distribution:

$$p(\mathbf{Q}, \mathbf{T} | \mathcal{D}) \propto p(\mathcal{D} | \mathbf{Q}, \mathbf{T}) \times p(\mathbf{Q}) \times p(\mathbf{T})$$



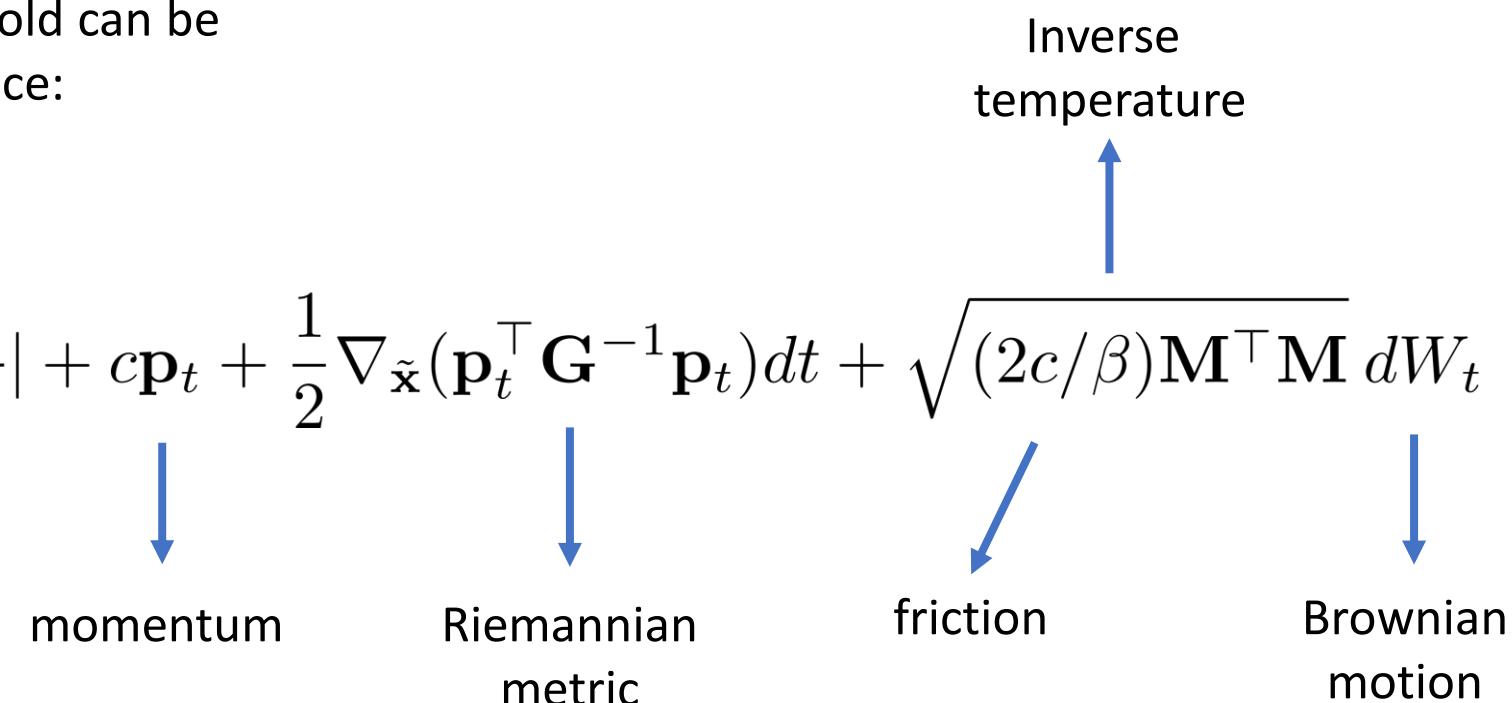
## Inference: Tempered Geodesic MCMC

Markov process on the Riemannian manifold can be simulated in the embedded Euclidean space:

$$d\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_t = \mathbf{G}(\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_t)^{-1} \mathbf{p}_t dt$$

$$d\mathbf{p}_t = -\left( \nabla_{\tilde{\mathbf{x}}} U_\lambda(\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_t) + \frac{1}{2} \nabla_{\tilde{\mathbf{x}}} \log |\mathbf{G}| + c \mathbf{p}_t + \frac{1}{2} \nabla_{\tilde{\mathbf{x}}} (\mathbf{p}_t^\top \mathbf{G}^{-1} \mathbf{p}_t) dt + \sqrt{(2c/\beta) \mathbf{M}^\top \mathbf{M}} dW_t \right)$$

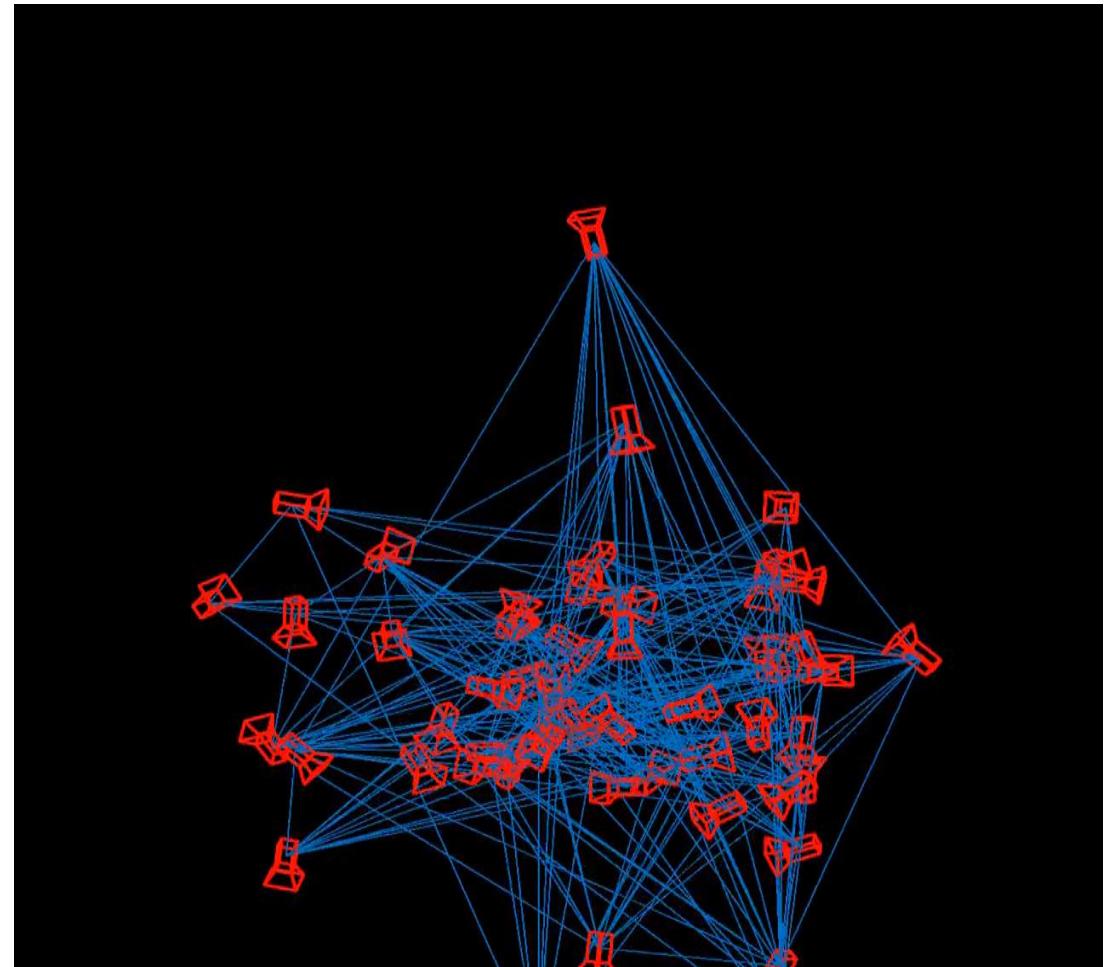
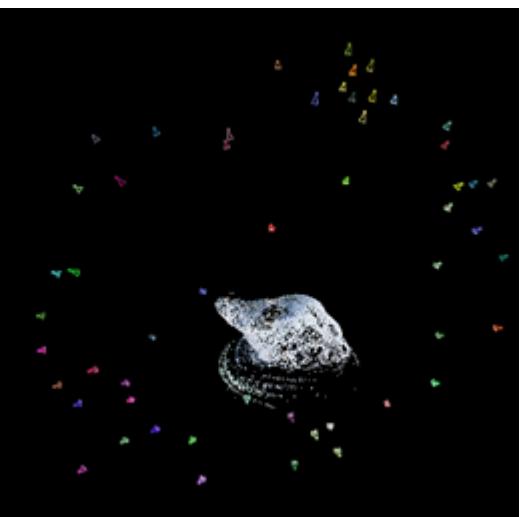
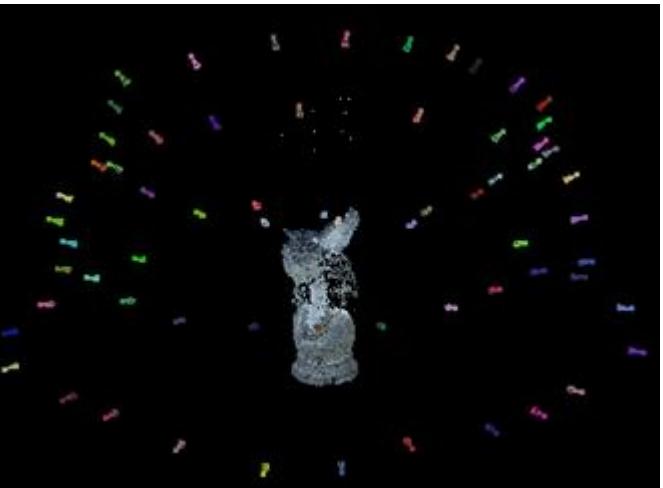
Hamiltonian Dynamics



1. Eventually, we will provide samples close to the global minimum (even when non-convex).
2. Suffers from *meta-stability phenomenon* (exponential time required).

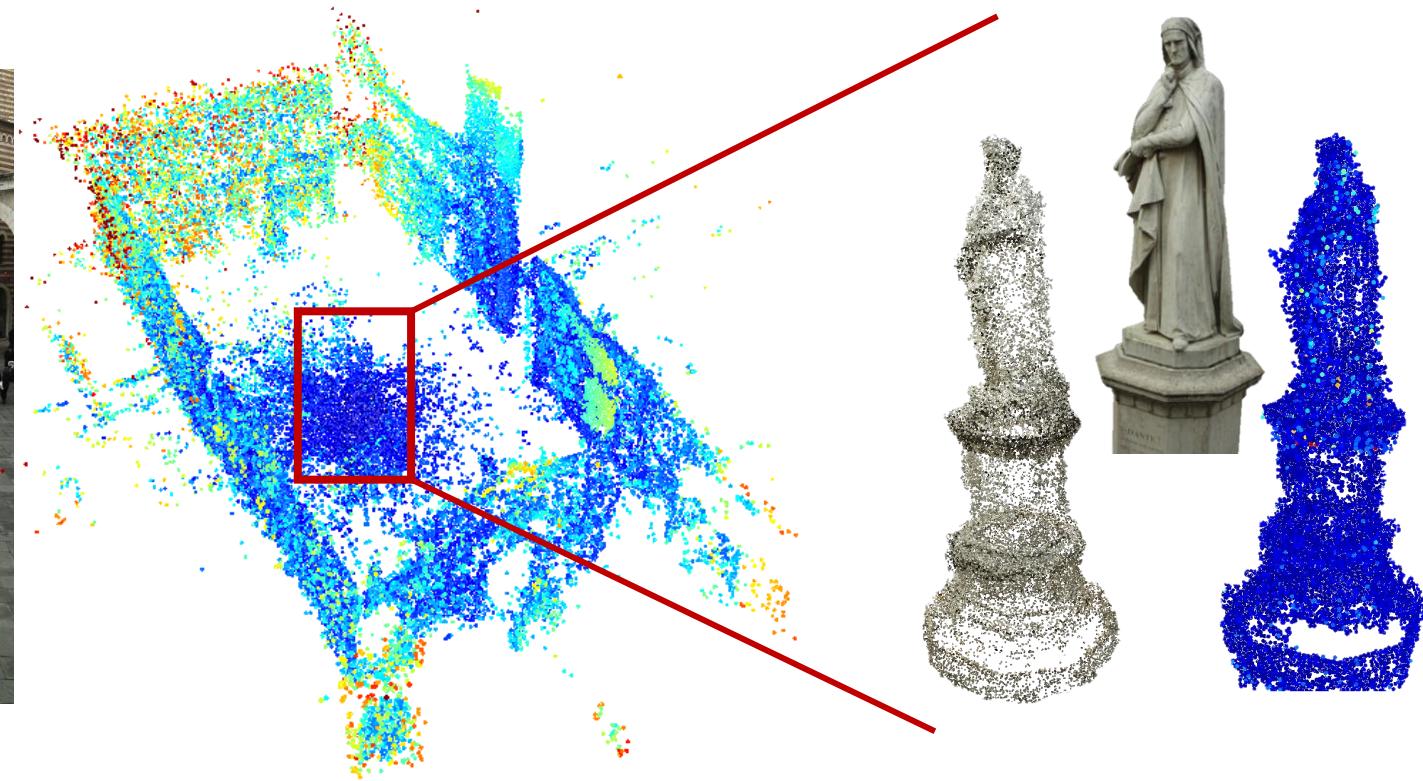


# Solving the Classical Problem





# Estimating Uncertainty

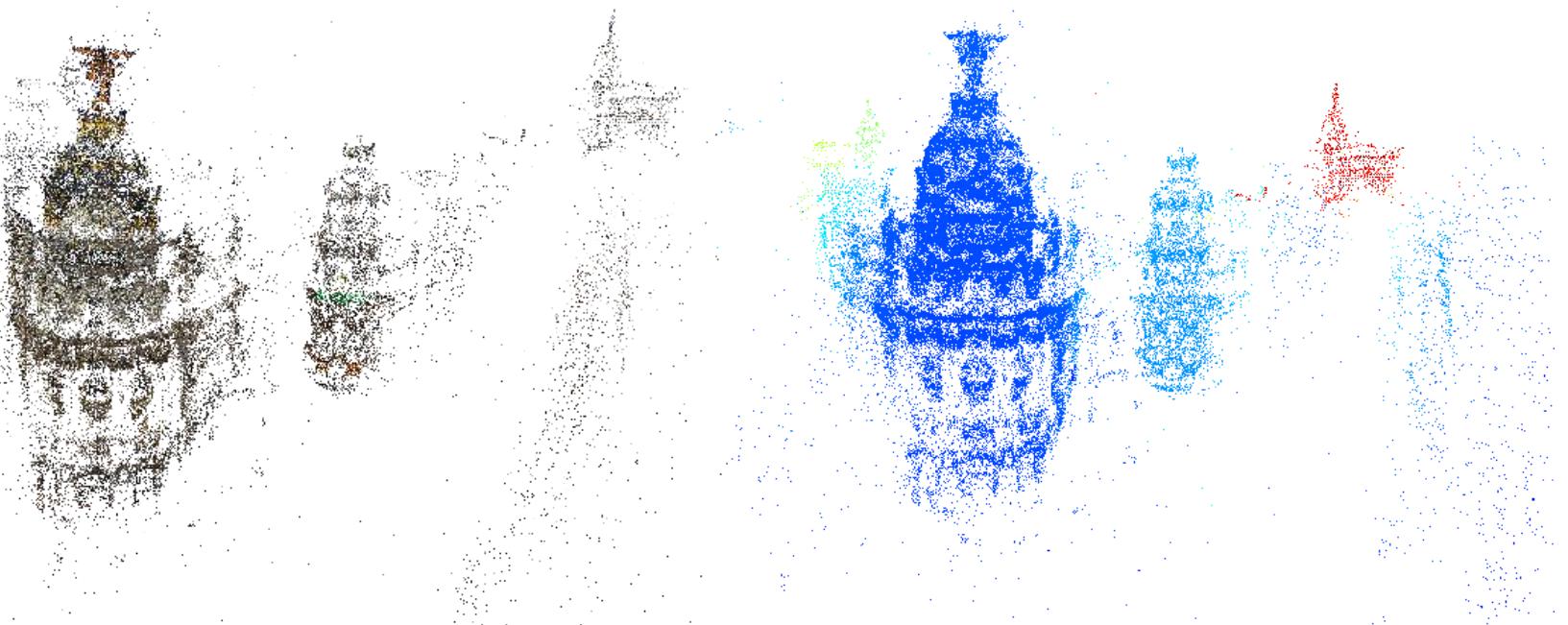




# Estimating Uncertainty



(a) Madrid Metropolis



(b) 3D Reconstruction

(c) Uncertainty Map



# A New Probabilistic Look to Synchronization

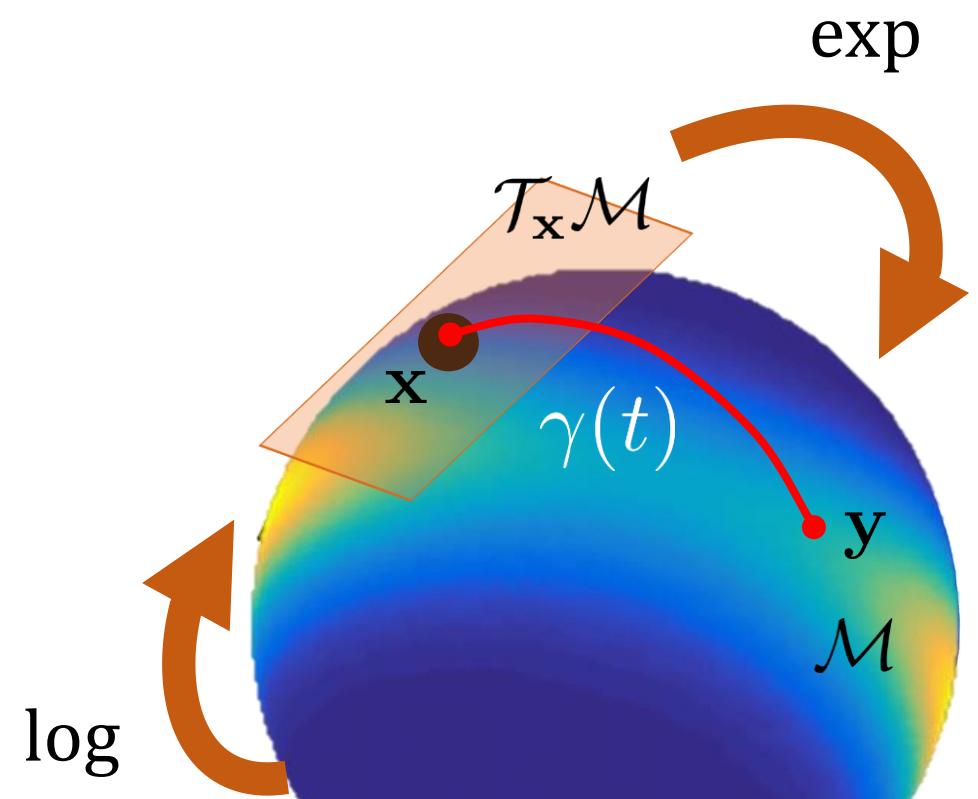
Given a Riemannian Manifold  $\mathcal{M}$

Analytical Geodesic Flow

A Suitable Probability Distribution

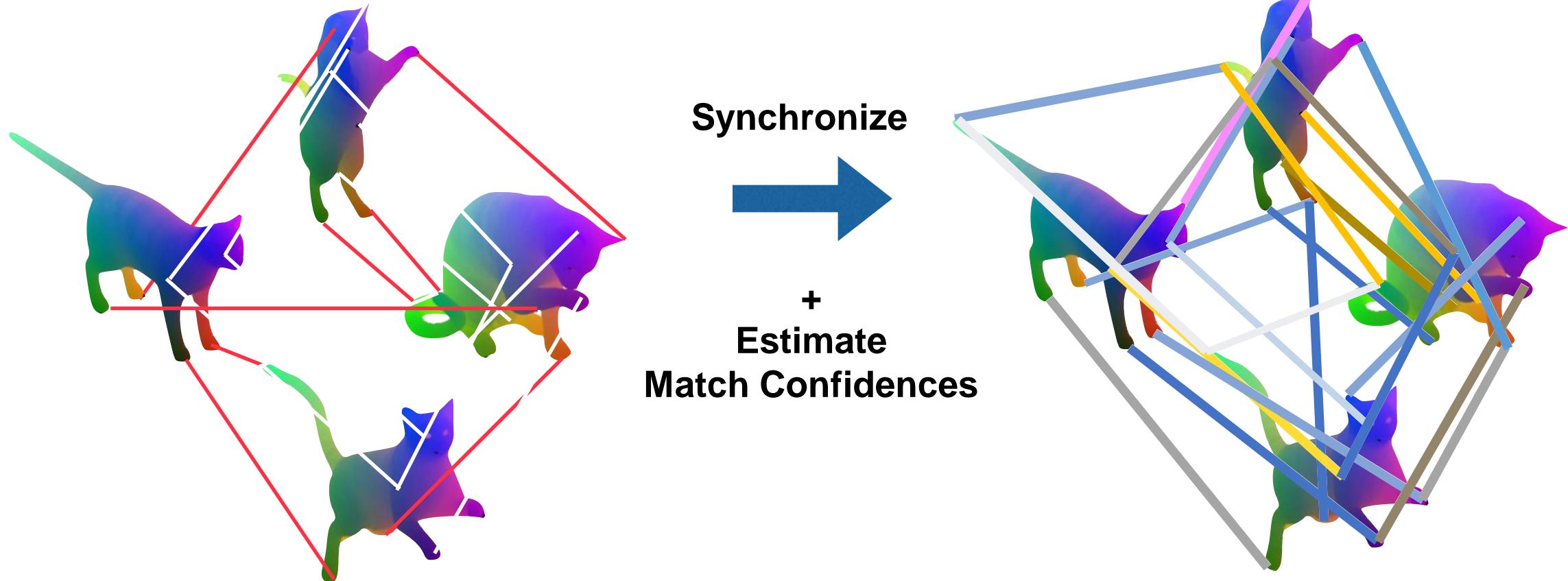


Configurable  
Sampling & Optimization





## Extension to Correspondence Synchronization (Multi-Graph Matching)



• • • • •

## Extension to Correspondence Synchronization (Multi-Graph Matching)

$$\mathbf{X}^* = \arg \min_{\mathbf{X} \in \mathcal{P}_n^N} \left\{ U(\mathbf{X}) := \sum_{(i,j) \in E} \|\mathbf{P}_{ij} - \mathbf{X}_i \mathbf{X}_j^\top\|_F^2 \right\}$$

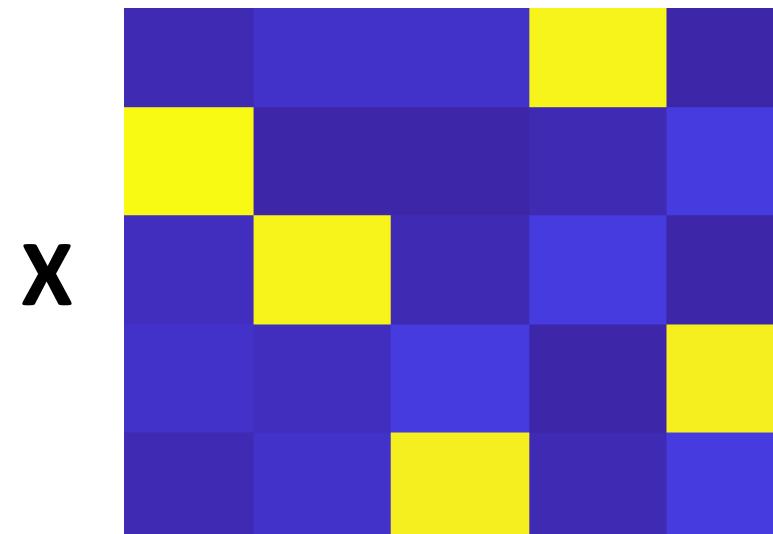
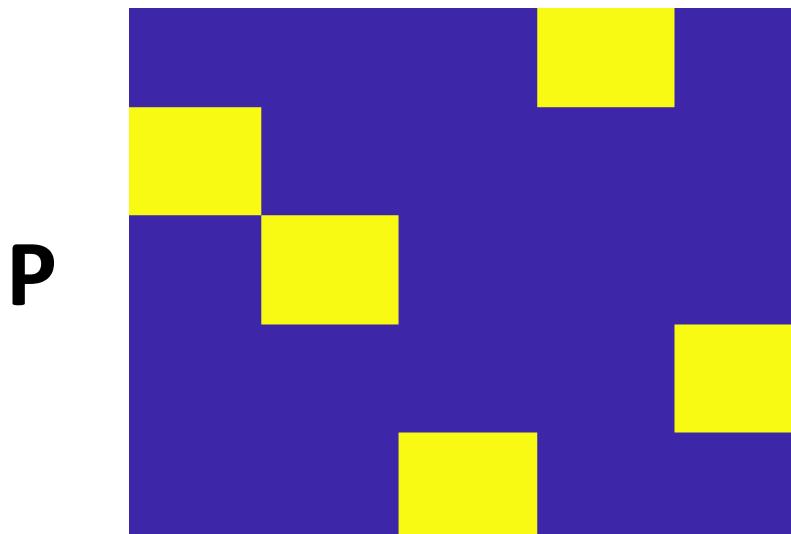
Direct optimization on permutations is difficult.

• • • • •

## Extension to Correspondence Synchronization (Multi-Graph Matching)

Relaxation onto Doubly Stochastic Matrices

$$\mathcal{DP}_n = \{ \mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}_+^{n \times n} : \sum_{i=1}^n x_{ij} = 1 \wedge \sum_{j=1}^n x_{ij} = 1 \}.$$



• • • • •

## Extension to Correspondence Synchronization (Multi-Graph Matching)

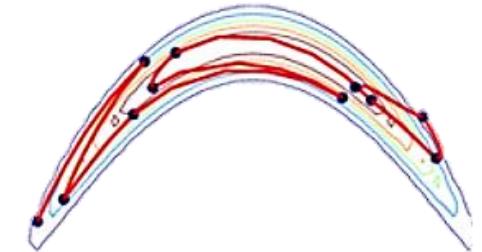
$$\mathbf{X}^* = \arg \min_{\mathbf{X} \in \mathcal{DP}_n^N} \left\{ U(\mathbf{X}) := \sum_{(i,j) \in E} \|\mathbf{P}_{ij} - \mathbf{X}_i \mathbf{X}_j^\top\|_F^2 \right\}$$

Optimize using Riemannian LBFGS

Sample using Birkhoff RLMC



# Riemannian Langevin Monte Carlo



Riemannian Metric

$$d\tilde{\mathbf{X}}_t = (-\mathbf{G}^{-1} \nabla_{\tilde{\mathbf{X}}} U_\lambda(\tilde{\mathbf{X}}_t) + \boldsymbol{\Gamma}_t) dt + \sqrt{2/\beta \mathbf{G}^{-1}} dB_t$$



Euclidean Embedding

Riemannian Correction

Brownian Motion

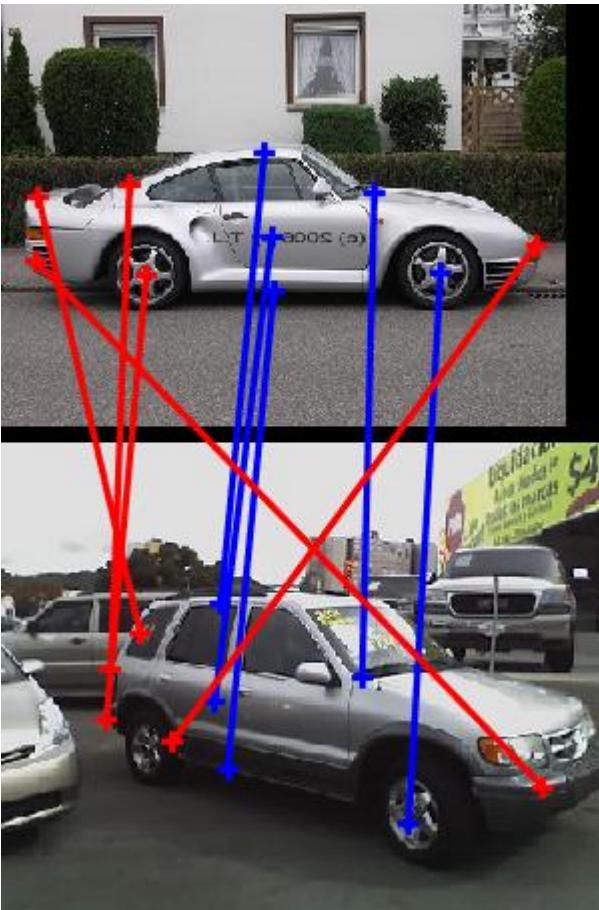
Embedded Posterior Density

$$\pi_{\mathcal{H}}(\mathbf{x}) = \pi_\lambda(\tilde{\mathbf{X}}) / \sqrt{|\mathbf{G}(\tilde{\mathbf{X}})|}$$

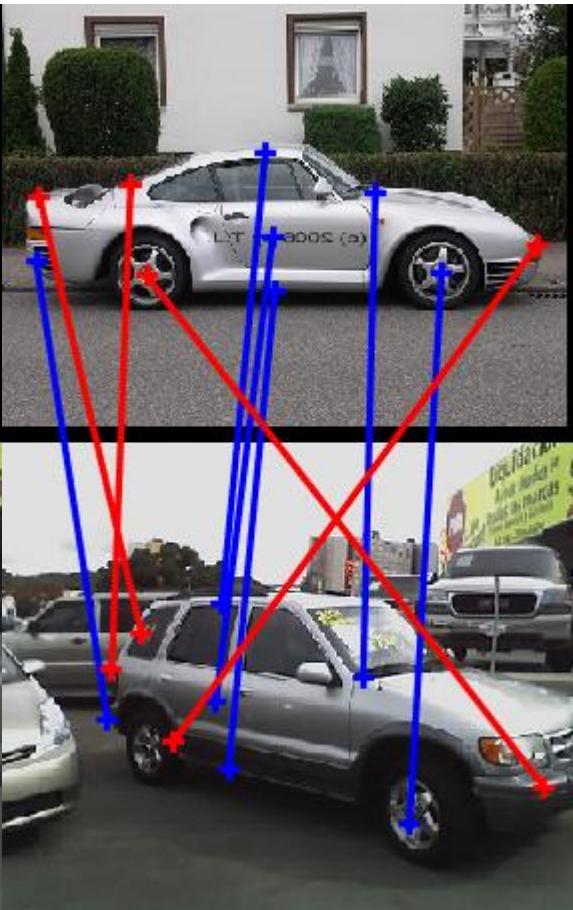


# Minimizing Objective & Estimating Uncertainty

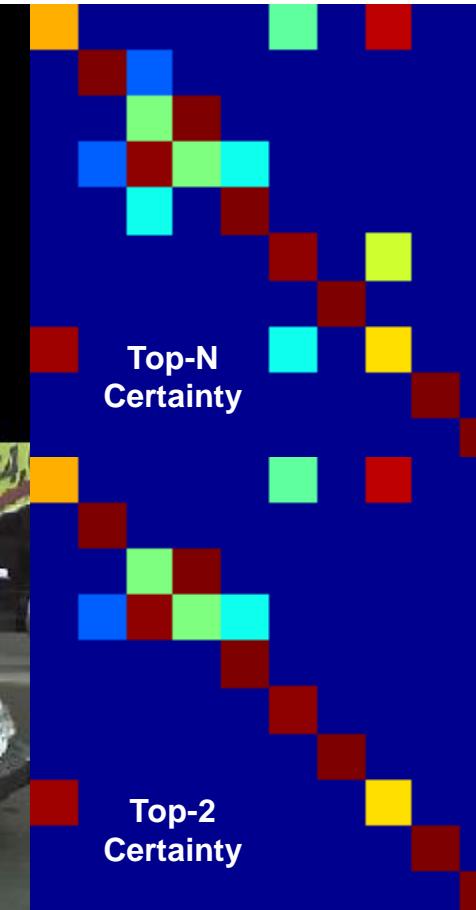
(a) Initialization



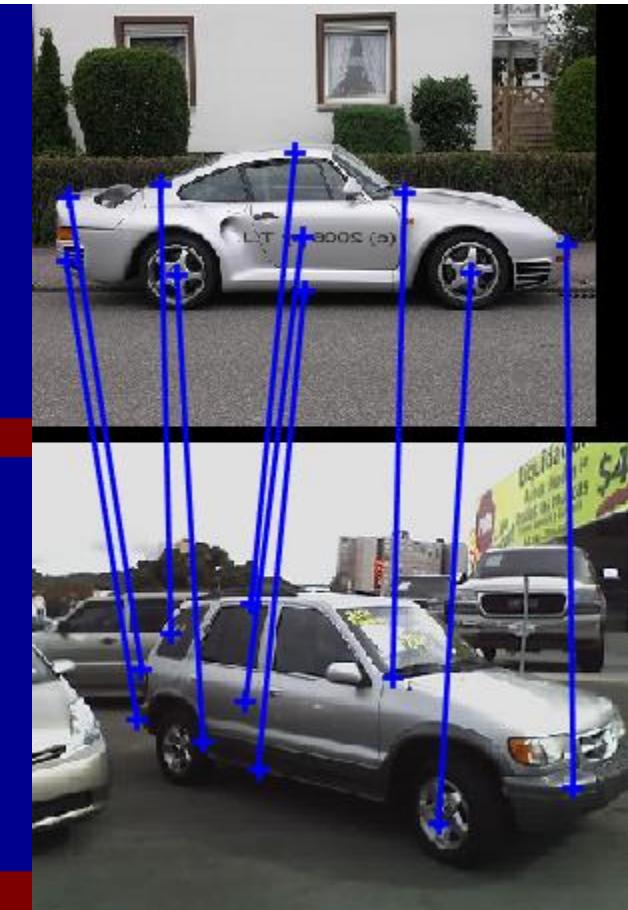
(b) Solution



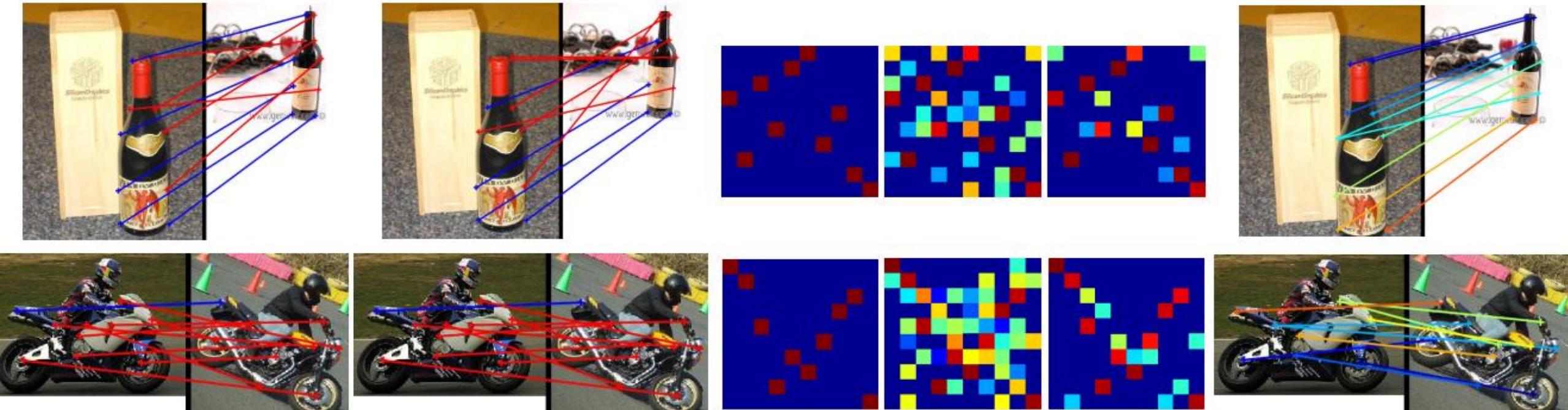
(c) Confidence



(d) Multiple Hypotheses Solution



# Minimizing Objective & Estimating Uncertainty



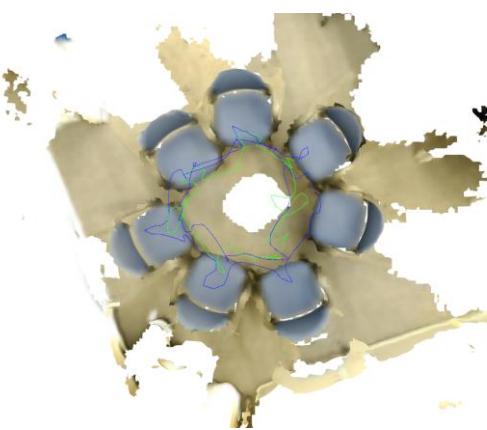
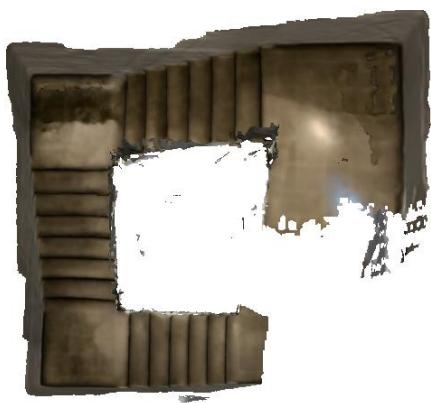
Birdal, Tolga, et al. "Probabilistic Permutation Synchronization using the Riemannian Structure of the Birkhoff Polytope" *Proceedings of the IEEE Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition*. 2019.



# Real life is challenging.



Ambiguous Views



Uncertainty



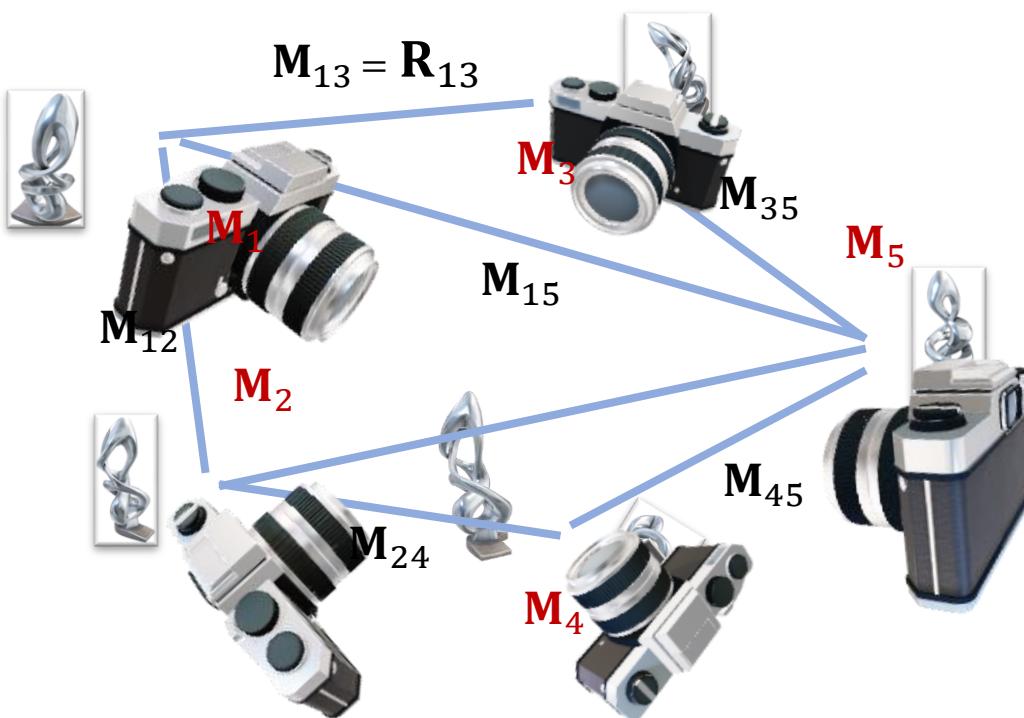
Ambiguities





# Synchronizing Distributions

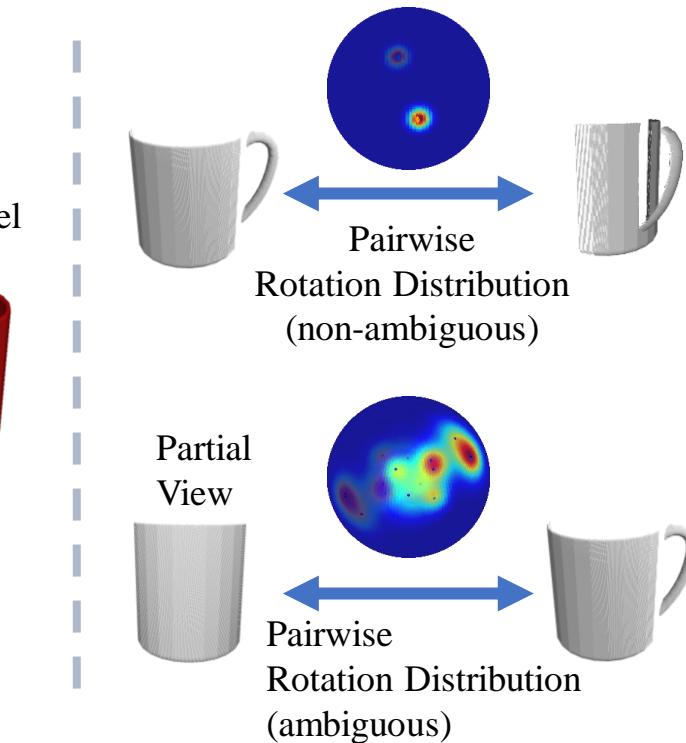
## Classical Synchronization



$M_i$ : Absolute rotation

$M_{ij}$ : Relative rotation

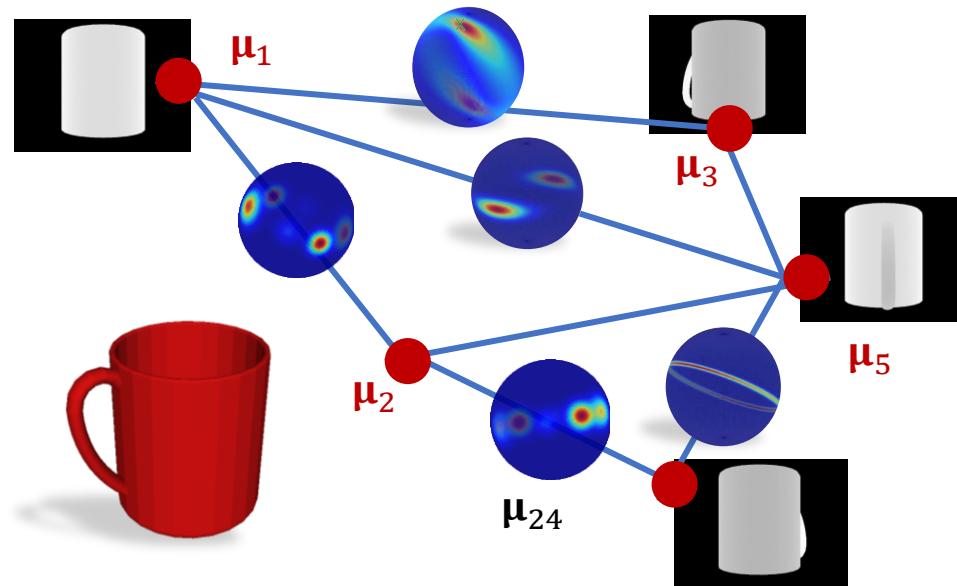
## The Ambiguity Problem





# Synchronizing Distributions = Measure Synchronization

Classical Rotation Synchronization



**relative empirical**  
probability measure

$$\mu_{ij} \triangleq \sum_{k=1}^{K_{ij}} w_{ij}^{(k)} \delta_{\mathbf{q}_{ij}^{(k)}}$$

**absolute (sought)**  
probability measure

$$\mu_i \triangleq \sum_{k=1}^{K_i} w_i^{(k)} \delta_{\mathbf{q}_i^{(k)}}$$

$$\mathbf{R}_{ij} \approx \mathbf{R}_j \mathbf{R}_i^{-1}, \forall i \neq j$$



Measure Synchronization

$$\mathcal{D}(g_{ij}(\boldsymbol{\mu}), \mu_{ij}) \rightarrow 0$$

Divergence  
(e.g.  
Wasserstein  
distance)

composition  
functions  
(relative  
rotation)

coupling  
(of absolute  
measures)

observed  
relative  
rotation

# How to Solve?

## Classical Rotation Synchronization

$$\arg \min_{\{\mathbf{R}_i\}_i} \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{E}} d_{\text{geo}}(\mathbf{R}_{ij}, \mathbf{R}_j \mathbf{R}_i^T)$$

s. t.  $\mathbf{R}_i \in SO(3), \forall i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$

Solved by many existing methods:

*Spectral, Low-rank, Riemannian descent,  
Semi-definite programming, Lie algebraic  
and etc.*

## Riemannian Measure Synchronization

$$\min_{\boldsymbol{\mu}} \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{E}} \mathcal{D}(g_{ij}(\boldsymbol{\mu}), \boldsymbol{\mu}_{ij}) + \mathcal{R}(\boldsymbol{\mu})$$

s. t.  $[w_i^1, \dots, w_i^{K_i}]^\top \in \mathcal{C}_i, \quad \forall i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$   
 $\boldsymbol{\mu}_i \in \mathbb{H}_1, \quad \forall i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$

Multiple Optimal Transport Problems  
on the Lie Group of Quaternions

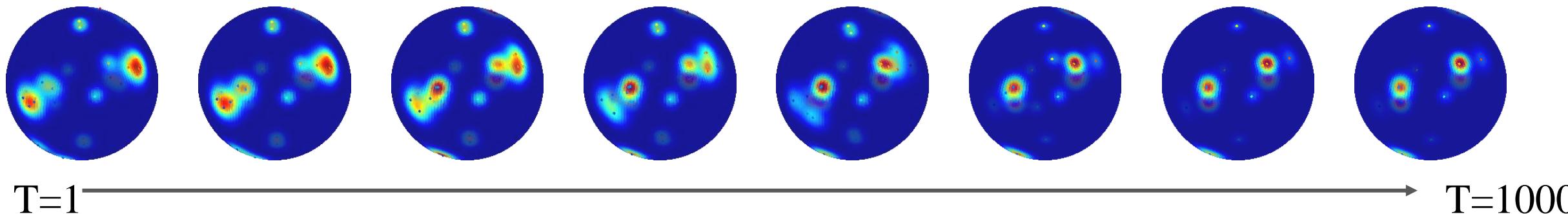


## Proposed

Riemannian Particle Gradient Descent  
via **Geodesic Sinkhorn Divergences**  
with convergence guarantees

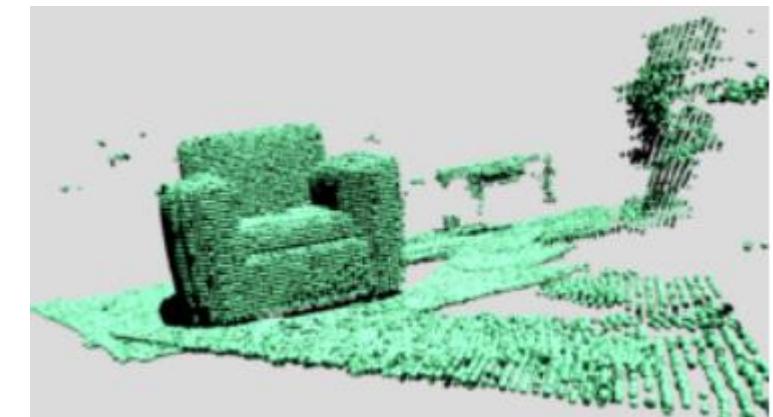
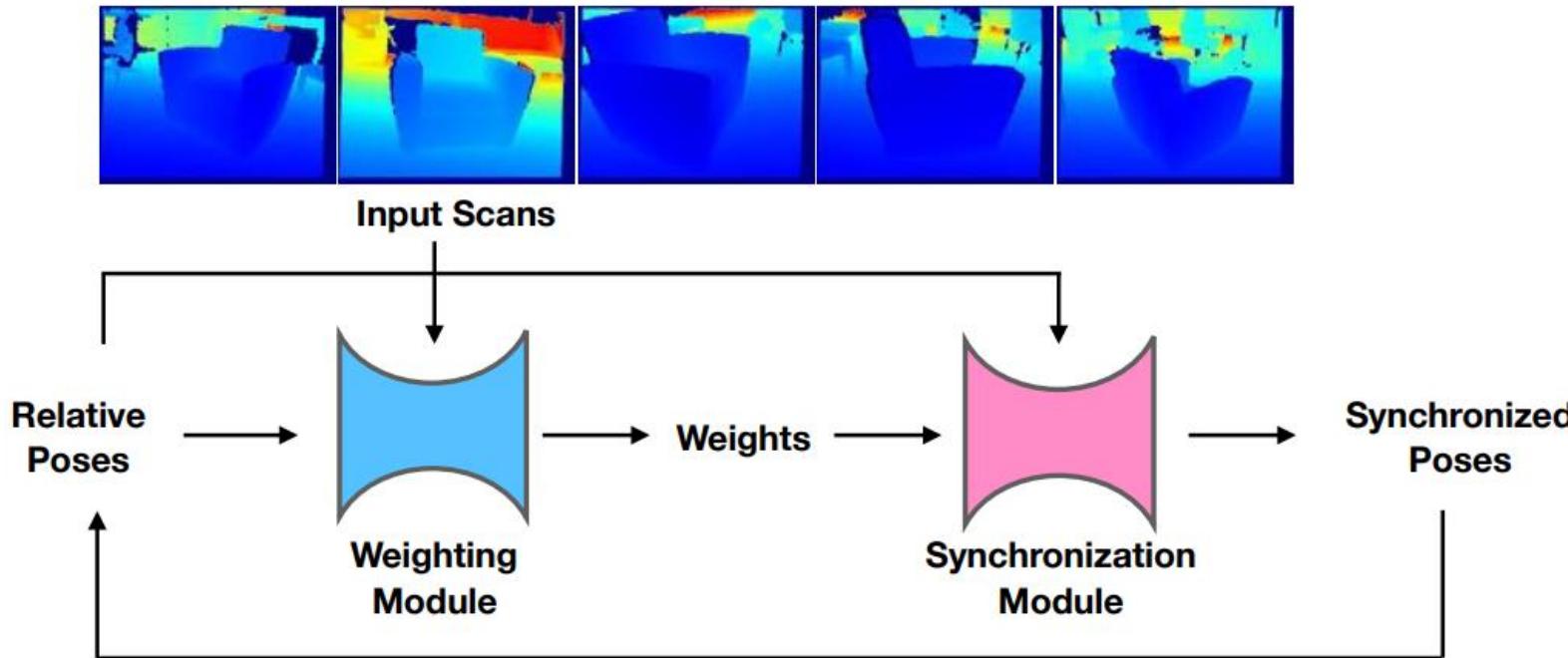


## Theoretical Guarantees



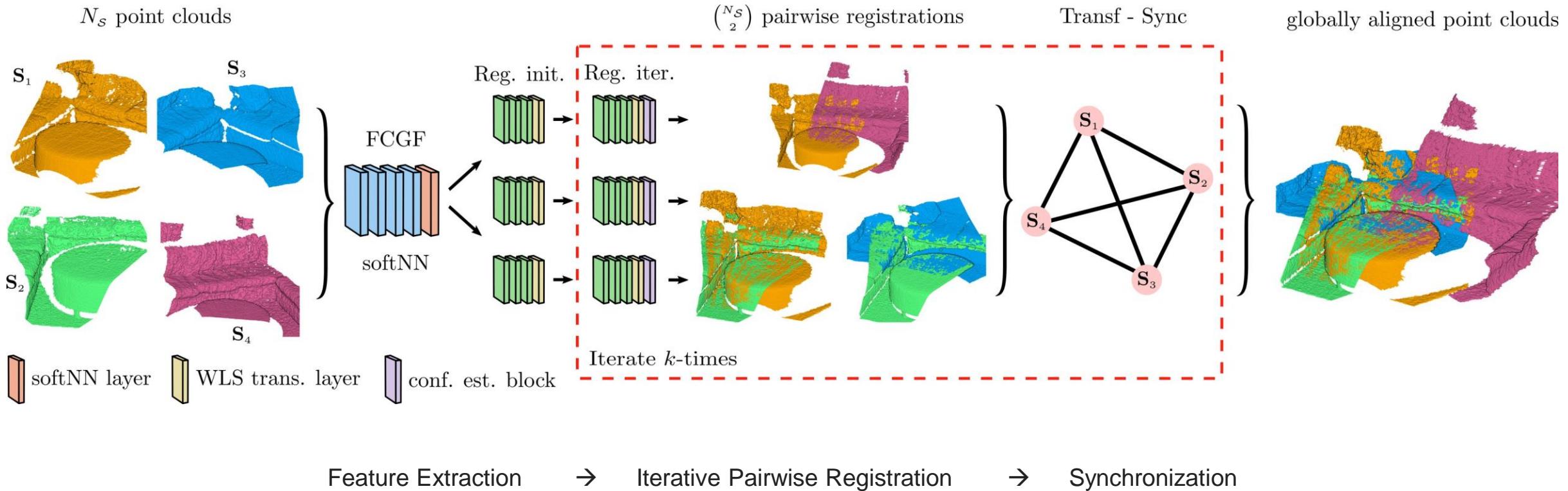
Our algorithm is shown to converge to the global solution under mild assumptions.

# Use of Differentiable Synchronization in Neural Networks





# Use of Differentiable Synchronization in Neural Networks



# Learning to Synchronize Robustly

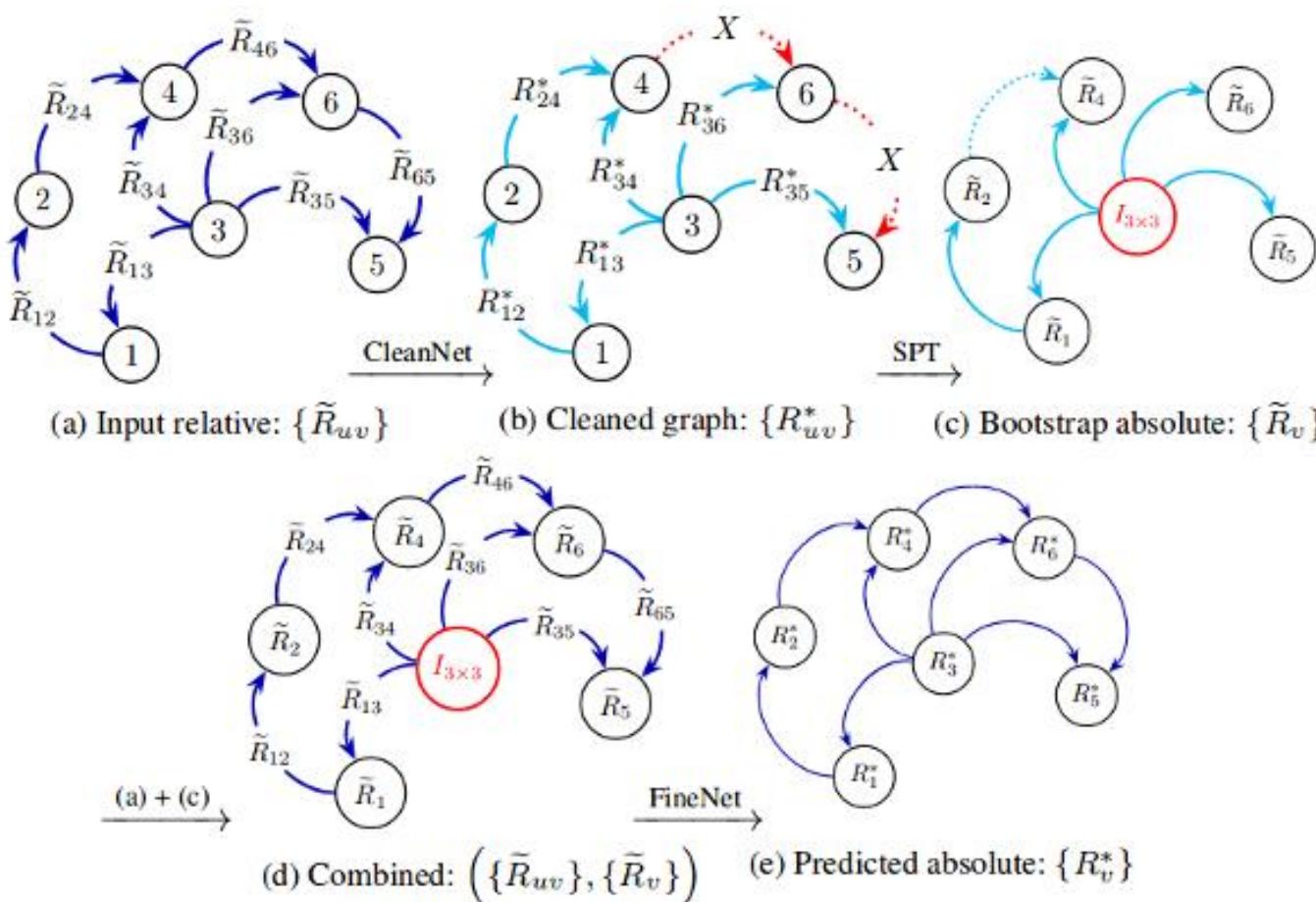
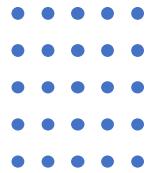


Table 2. Results of Rotation averaging on a test synthetic dataset. The average angular error on all the view-graphs in our dataset is displayed. The proposed method NeuRoRA is remarkably faster than the baselines while producing better results. NeuRoRA-v2 is a variation of NeuRoRA where the initialization from CleanNet is fine-tuned in a two-step of FineNet. There is no GPU implementations of [5] and [16] available, thus these methods are excluded from the runtime comparisons on cuda.

	Angular Error			Runtime (seconds)	
Baseline Methods	mn	md	rms	cpu	cuda
Chatterjee [5]	2.17°	1.25°	4.55	5.38s	(1×)
Weiszfeld [16]	3.35°	1.02°	9.74	50.92s	(0.11×)
Proposed Methods	mn	md	rms	cpu	cuda
CleanNet-SPT + [5]	2.11°	1.26°	4.04	5.41s	(0.99×)
CleanNet-SPT + [16]	1.74°	1.01°	<b>3.53</b>	50.36s	(0.11×)
NeuRoRA	<b>1.45°</b>	<b>0.74°</b>	<b>3.53</b>	<b>0.21s</b>	(24×)
NeuRoRA-v2	<b>1.30°</b>	<b>0.68°</b>	<b>3.28</b>	<b>0.30s</b>	(18×)
Other Methods	mn	md	rms	cpu	cuda
CleanNet-SPT	2.93°	1.47°	5.34	<b>0.11s</b>	(47×) 0.0007s
SPT-FineNet	3.00°	1.57°	6.12	<b>0.11s</b>	(47×) 0.0007s
SPT-FineNet + [5]	2.12°	1.26°	4.11	5.41s	(0.99×)
SPT-FineNet + [16]	1.78°	1.01°	3.95	50.36s	(0.11×)
NeuRoRA + [5]	2.11°	1.26°	4.04	5.51s	(0.97×)
NeuRoRA + [16]	1.73°	1.01°	<b>3.51</b>	50.46s	(0.10×)

mn: mean of the angular error, md: median of the angular error, rms: root mean square angular error, and cpu: the runtime of the method on a cpu. MethodA + MethodB: MethodB is initialized by the solution of MethodA

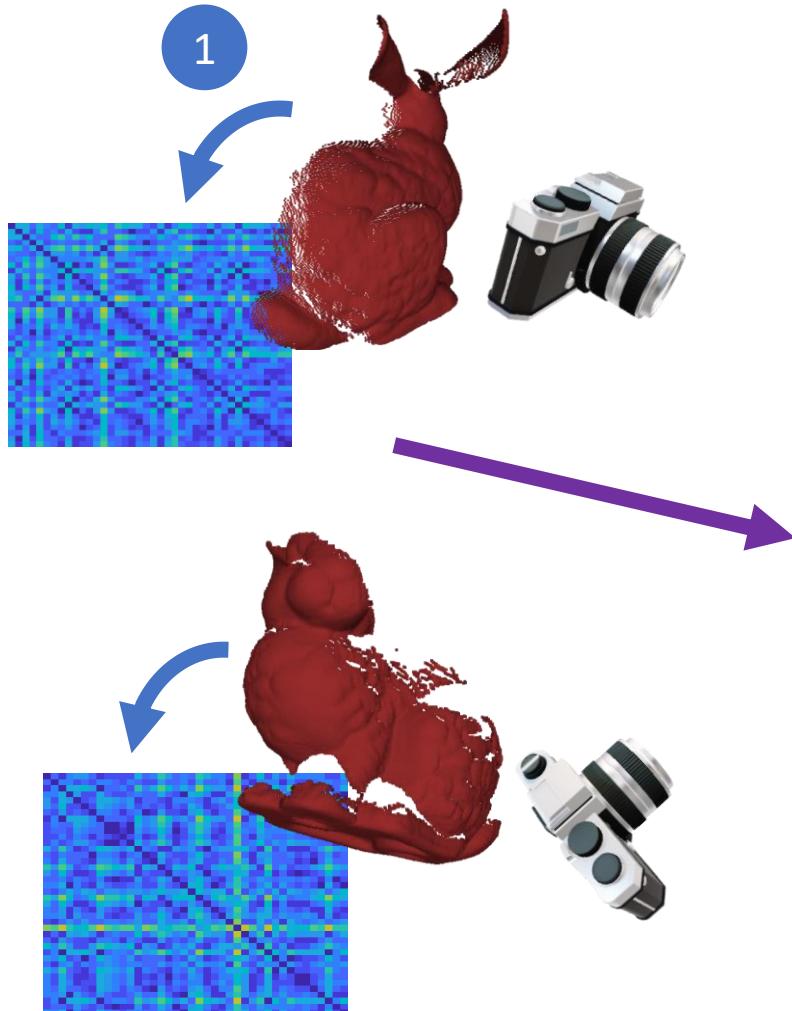


# Where to go next?

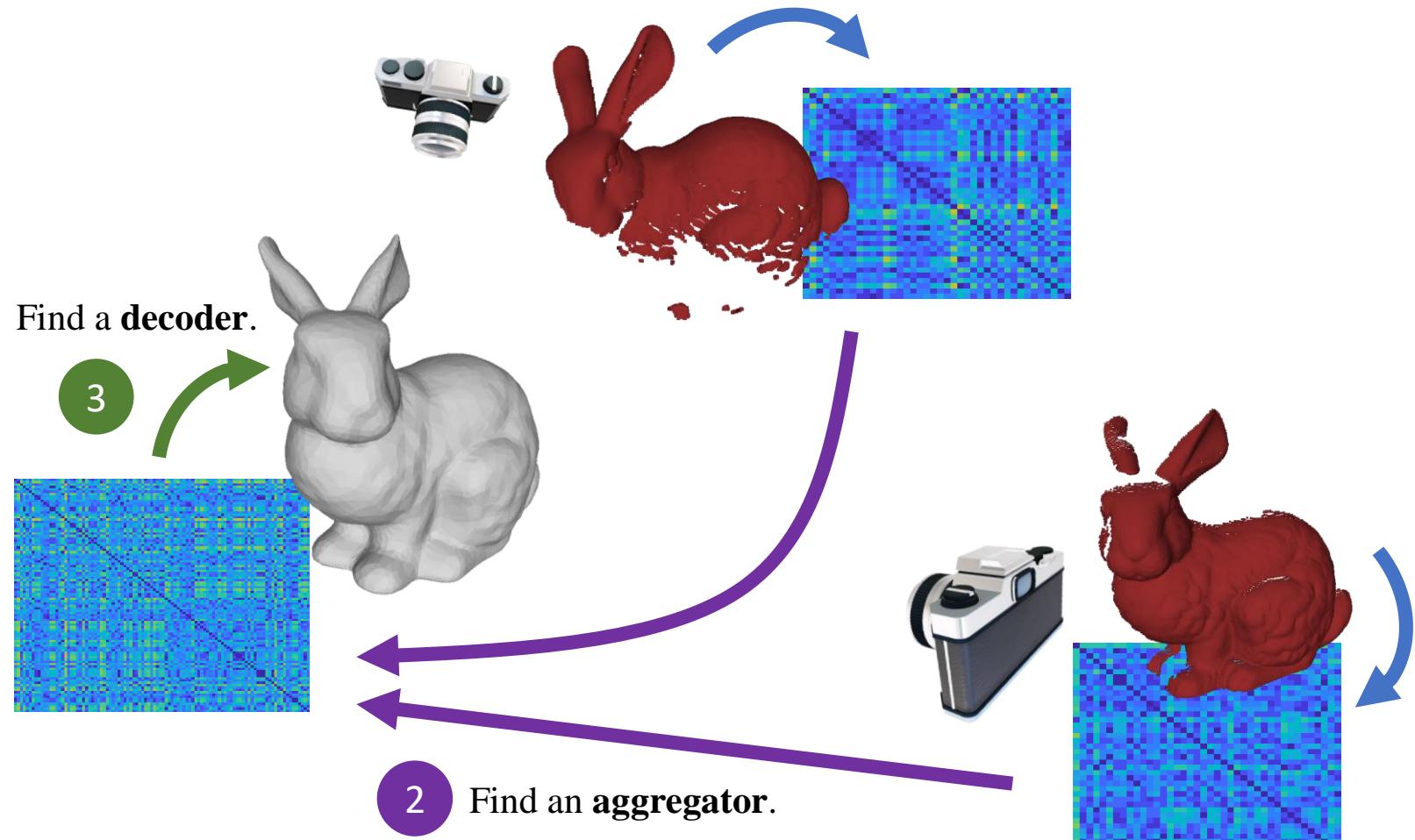
- Training Neural Networks via Synchronization
- A Complete Treatment of Uncertainty

# Synchronization without Synchronization

Find an invariant **embedding**.



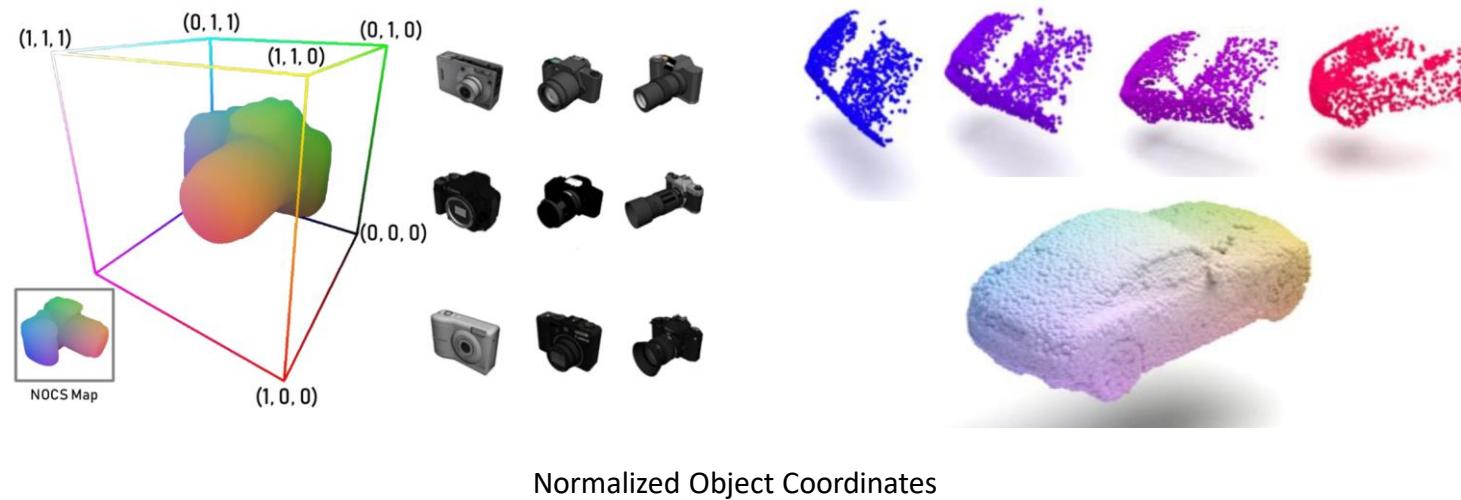
Find a **decoder**.



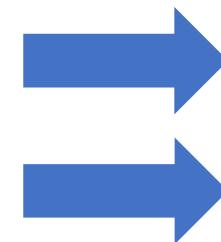
2 Find an **aggregator**.



# Synchronization without Synchronization: Canonicalizers



Canonicalization  
Synchronization

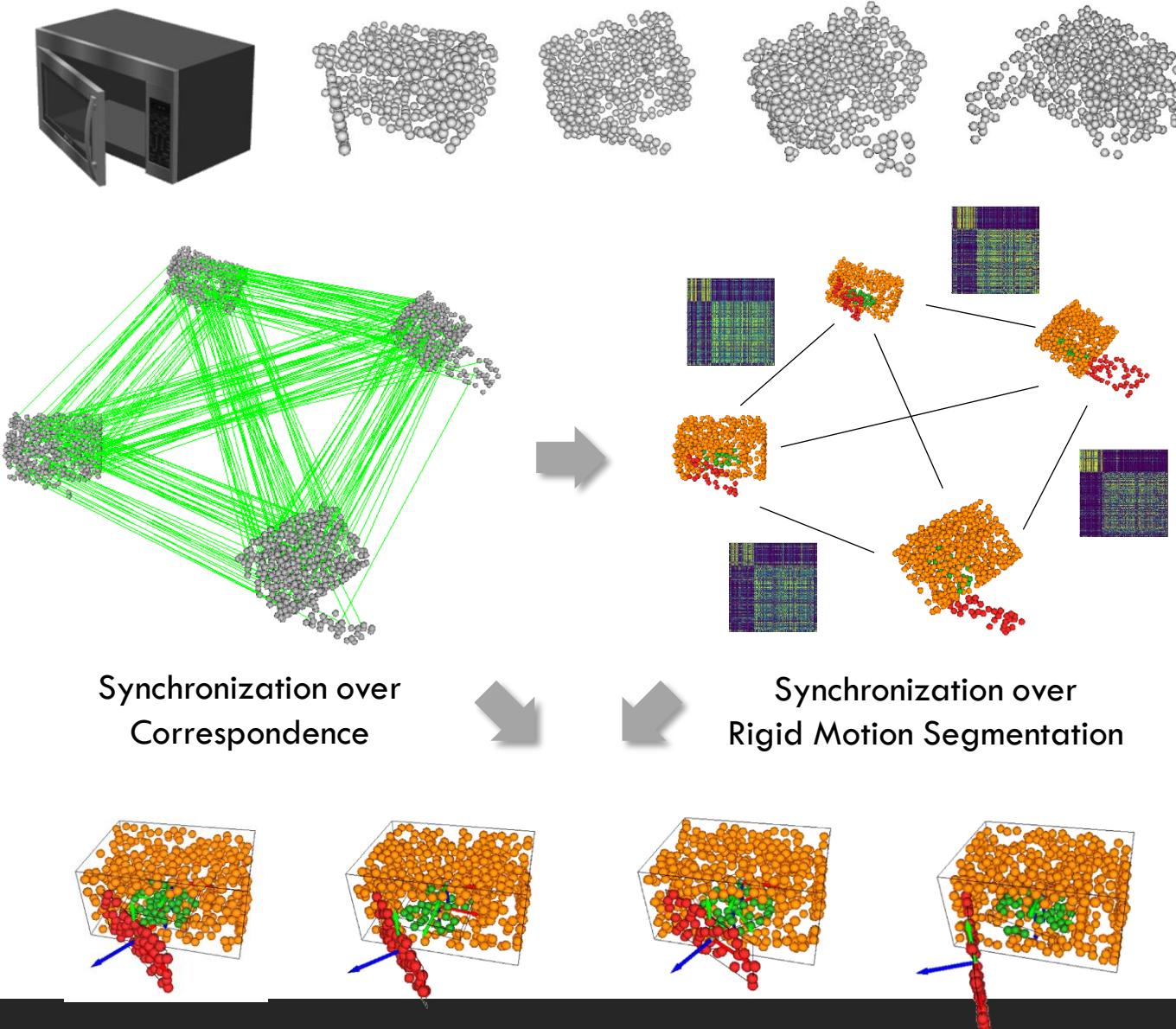


Invariance  
Equivariance?



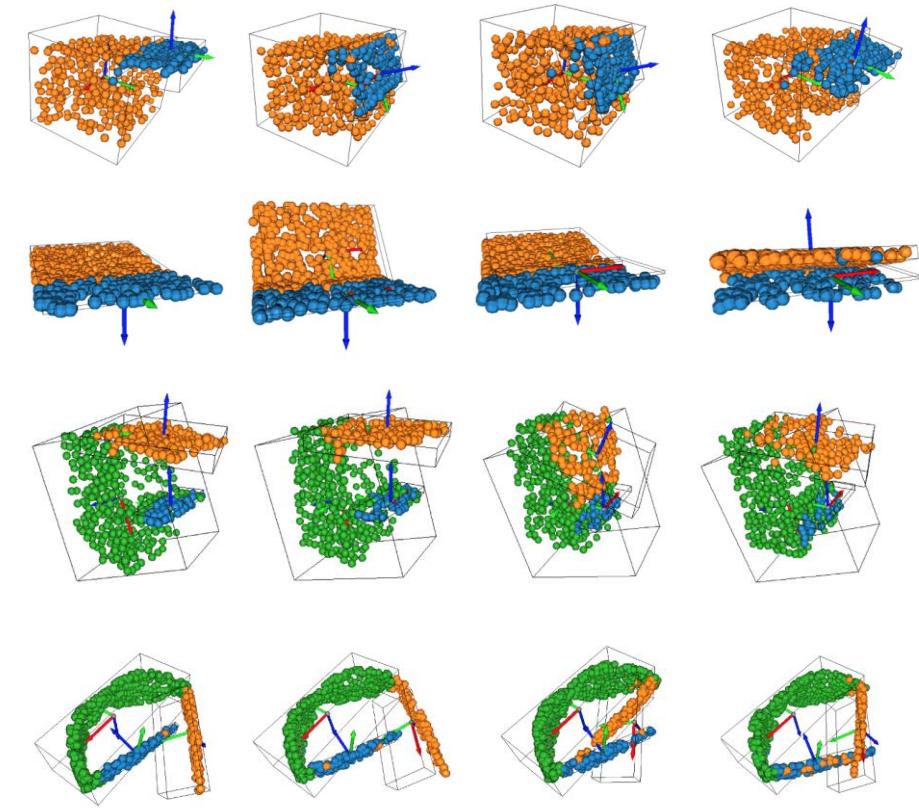
Hybrid methods?

# Dealing with Articulation: Simultaneous Synchronization of Motion and Segmentation



Motion based analysis can naturally generalize across shapes from different categories!

## Results





That's all folks.