Technische Universität Kaiserslautern

Master Thesis

Improved Normal Inference from Calibrated Illuminated RGBD Images

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Augmented Vision
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Declaration of Authorship

I, Jingyuan Sha, declare that this thesis titled, "Improved Normal Inference from Calibrated Illuminated RGBD Images" and the work presented in it are my own. I confirm that:

- This work was done wholly or mainly while in candidature for a research degree at this University.
- Where any part of this thesis has previously been submitted for a degree or any other qualification at this University or any other institution, this has been clearly stated.
- Where I have consulted the published work of others, this is always clearly attributed.
- Where I have quoted from the work of others, the source is always given. With the exception of such quotations, this thesis is entirely my own work.
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Signed:

Date:

"Thanks to my solid academic training, today I can write hundreds of words on virtually any topic without possessing a shred of information, which is how I got a good job in journalism."

Dave Barry

TECHNISCHE UNIVERSITÄT KAISERSLAUTERN

Abstract

Faculty Name
German Research Center for Artificial Intelligence

Master of Science

Improved Normal Inference from Calibrated Illuminated RGBD Images

by Jingyuan Sha

The Thesis Abstract is written here (and usually kept to just this page). The page is kept centered vertically so can expand into the blank space above the title too...

Acknowledgements

The acknowledgments and the people to thank go here, don't forget to include your project advisor...

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List of Abbreviations

I	Grayscale Image Matrix (Height × Width × 1)
L	Light Map Matrix (Height × Width × 3)
N	Normal Map Matrix (Height × Width × 3)
V	Vertex Map Matrix (Height × Width × 3)
X	Input Matrix (Height × Width × Channels)
Y	Output Matrix (Height × Width × Channels)
w	Width of Matrix
h	Height of Matrix

List of Symbols

$[AB]$	concatenation between A and B
$\oplus$	element-wise multiplication
$\cdot$	dot product

To ...

Chapter 1

Introduction

Surface normal is an important property of a surface with many applications, like surface reconstruction, shadings generation and other visual effects. However, the calculation of surface normal in many tasks is not as straightforward as simply the cross-product of two plane vectors. Especially in the task of real-world object digitalization, the surface is usually hardly to be mathematically described in equations due to the elaborate details on the objects. Instead, it is common to use a group of points to describe the object surface, which is a memory economical solution to save the fine detail of the objects and also can be easier measured by 3D scanners. Therefore the task is converted to the normal inference based on the surface point, and the most of the case, the result surface normal is merely an approximation.

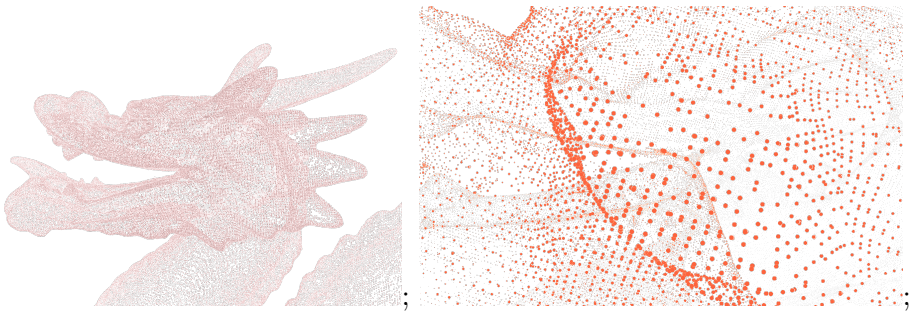


FIGURE 1.1: Left: A part of the point cloud of the dragon model. Right: The zoom in of the left point cloud.

Apart from this, due to the application scenarios, the working principle of scanners are various, which consequently produce point cloud structures in different forms. For the scanners without positions recording, the point cloud acquired after scanning is unstructured. In this case, every 3D point can be captured by different capture position, and neighbors are not defined by capture time. It increases the difficulty and computation for the neighbor based normal inference approaches. Furthermore, since the lack of inherent structure, the normal can hardly be inferred by the parallel approaches.

However, for the scanner with calibrated camera, a structured point cloud can be captured. One example is the depth camera. It captures the RGB-D images for the object, which includes the standard RGB image with depth information of each pixel. After camera calibration, a corresponding point cloud can be calculated based on the depth map and camera matrix. It gives the advantage that a structured point cloud is mapped directly based on the same capture position from a 2D depth map, the neighbor information of each point is identical to the corresponding pixel in the 2D depth map. It provides a better view for the normal inference task since the neighbor information can be considered as an important reference. Besides the point cloud, which is one piece of information can be used for normal reference, the

RGB image also leaves the trace of surface normal. If assume object surface is diffuse and the light coming from a knowing direction , the brightness of the object surface is proportional to the surface normal, which is known as Lambertian surface. It indicates the normal inference task can also utilize the relationship between surface normal and light reflection to further rectify the inferred normal map with knowing light source. Therefore, the illuminated calibrated RGB-D image provides as a good input for normal inference tasks. Unfortunately, in the actual situation, the depth maps captured by the sensors are only semi-dense, which is mainly caused by optical noises and the reflections in dark and shinny areas. Consequently, it disrupts the robustness of the normal inference methods. Median filters can be used for the sparse missing pixels, however, for the case of huge missing holes in the depth map, it produces just a paltry result. Thus a reasonable guess is required for missing areas.

Deep learning based methods provides multiple possible solutions for the challenges mentioned above. First, to deal with the noised input, deep learning based methods already have the solution for the similar tasks like image inpainting and depth density enhancement, which base on the noised image as input to predict the clean and fully dense output with or without original meanings. Therefore, it can be a help for noise in the depth map. Besides, the network of deep learning model can also handle the structured point cloud as a single input and infer the corresponding normal all together, which is very time economical comparing to the approaches like neighbor based methods. In addition, the multi-stages training architectures provide a way to consider both depth map and texture image as the input to predict the surface normals, which not only consider the point cloud but also the add the lambertian reflection as a further constraint.

In this work, we focus on the normal inference based on a semi-dense depth map with RGB image using deep learning based approaches. Specifically, the missing pixels in the depth map is filled up by the gated convolution and propagate in a customized UNet with skipping connections. The output of the training model is directly the surface normal corresponding the input depth map. The grayscale image is used to further improve the estimation accuracy. For the training work, a dataset named "synthetic50-5" is created including 55 high resolution point clouds from internet, as shown in Appendix A. The point clouds provide with the high accurate normals, which can be used as the ground truth of the training work. Most of the models have elaborate details with high curvatures but also contain smooth surfaces. The trained model is evaluated on both synthetic dataset as well as the real dataset captured from RGB-D cameras. A series of metrics have been used for qualitative evaluation. The model is shown to achieve a remarkably better prediction accuracy at a low computational cost compared to the standard approaches for semi-dense point clouds.

The structure of the thesis is as follows, Chapter 1 is the introduction of the whole work. Chapter 2 briefly discusses the related work about normal inference. Chapter 3 is the main approaches of this work. Chapter 4 introduces the created dataset for the training work. Chapter 5 is the description of the experiments and the evaluation of the models. Chapter 6 is the conclusion of the whole thesis.

Chapter 2

Related Work

Due to the different of data structures, the point clouds can be grouped into types, structured point cloud based and unstructured point cloud based. The first case contains the neighbor information of each point together with a depth map or RGB image, the second case does not contain any neighbor information which has to be further calculated.

Structured Point Cloud Based The relevant methods derive the surface normals based on spatial relationship, which utilizes the neighbor information for estimation. These methods performs well with a well-chosen window size. However, the drawbacks are that the algorithm is highly noise sensitive. It is weak in handling missing pixels, which is a common issue in the input data. The earlier methods usually use optimized methods. Holzer et al., 2012 proposed method to use local neighbors with an interest parameter p and compute the eigenvectors of the corresponding covariance matrix. They also smooth the depth data in order to handle the noise of depth image. The drawbacks are, as mentioned in the paper, the normals error go up when point depths change severely. Klasing et al., 2009 did a comparison among the optimization-based methods.

Unstructured Point Cloud Based For the unstructured point cloud, the neighbor information of each point is usually unknown. K-nearest neighbor (KNN) is a common algorithm for neighbor searching. With knowing this information, the neighbor based approaches can be used as a second step. However, KNN-method merely based on the Euclidean distance in the 3D space. Therefore, the points of the other surfaces but in a close distance will also be considered as neighbors. To ease this problem, Ben-Shabat, Lindenbaum, and Fischer, 2019 proposed a method based on unstructured point cloud with selecting the optimal scale around each point for normal estimation. To calculate the normals of multiple points in parallel Zhou et al., 2021 processes a series of overlapping patches for normal estimation.

Deep learning based methods take single RGB image or RGB-D image as the input for normal estimation. It has a strong relationship with the depth inference tasks, two benchmarks are highly used in these area. (Silberman et al., 2012 and Uhrig et al., 2017) Based on the input of training model, the methods can be roughly divided as follows:

Depth Based Depth map contains the spatial information of the object surface, which is very important for the normal inference task. However, the depth map captured by depth sensors are usually with missing pixels and holes on dark, shinny or transparent regions.(Silberman et al., 2012). To overcome the missing pixels, Yang, Kim, and Park, 2012 proposed a depth hole filling method using the depth distributions of neighboring regions. Knutsson and Westin, 1993 introduced normalized

convolution dealing with missing or uncertain data for convolution operation. It uses a binary mask to distinguish missing data and integrate it into the convolution operation. Eldesokey, Felsberg, and Khan, 2020a applied it and use normalized convolution layers in their networks, which aims to reconstruct the missing pixels from the sparse depth map sensed by cameras. Eldesokey et al., 2020 proposed an input confidence estimation network to estimate the confidence instead of using a binary mask. However, the relevant papers are only using 1 channel data as model input, which didn't discussed the case for the multiple-channel data as input, such as RGB image, or structured point cloud. Hua and Gong, 2018 further integrated RGB image as the guidance to deal with the missing pixels in the depth map.

RGB based RGB based methods predict the depth map diretly from single RGB image. Eigen, Puhrsch, and Fergus, 2014 proposed a two staged network for depth map prediction based on RGB image, which consider the global features and the local features respectively. Laina et al., 2016 employed Residual Network for the feature extraction and further designed a upsampling part which replace the fully-connected layer with the unpolling layers. Fouhey, Gupta, and Hebert, 2013 proposed a method to learn discriminative and geometrically informative primitives from RGBD images, which is further used to recover the surface normals of a scene from a single image. Qi et al., 2018 uses ResNet (He et al., 2015) to infer a coarse surface normal based on RGB image, and further refine it with the help of depth map based on the methods based on Fouhey, Gupta, and Hebert, 2013. Li et al., 2022 proposed a method achieved state of art in NYUv2 Dataset (Silberman et al., 2012), which adaptively generate information to predict depth maps based on RGB image.

RGB-D based Zeng et al., 2019 based on UNet architecture for normal estimation using RGB-D image as input. The RGB image and depth map are in the separate branches and imply a fusion module in four sections of the network to concatenate two branches. It also considers the confidence of the values in depth map.

Chapter 3

Approaches

The normal inference task estimate the surface normal of a 3D object. There are two main approach to solve the task. Geometry based approach estimate the surface normal of an object based on the geometry principle. Point cloud is a common surface geometry information which samples the surface point position in 3D space. Another approach is photometric stereo based approach, which utilizes a set of images under different illumination conditions. In this chapter, geometry and photometric stereo based approach are introduced separately, then a deep learning based approach using geometry information is proposed. In the end, as the main work of the thesis, another deep learning method is proposed based on both geometry and photometric stereo information.

3.1 Geometry based normal estimation

3.1.1 Approach

The geometry based normal estimation uses point cloud of the object surface as input. Given a structured point cloud $V^{W\times H\times 3}$ to estimate the normal map $N^{W\times H\times 3}$, where each normal $\mathbf{n}^{3\times 1}$ at point $\mathbf{v}^{3\times 1} \in N$ is a unit vector with its direction point outward of the surface and perpendicular to the tangent plane of the surface at point $\mathbf{p}^{3\times 1}$.

The idea behind the neighbor based method is to fit a plane Π using the k neighbors $\mathbf{p}_1, ..., \mathbf{p}_k \in \mathbb{R}^3$ of the point $\mathbf{p}$, calculate the normal $\tilde{\mathbf{n}}$ of the plane.

It is under the assumption that the point and its neighbors are located in the same plane. This is usually not hold for the most of the surface, but if k in a suitable scale and point cloud is dense enough, it is enough to get an accurate and sharp result. As shown in Figure **??**.

Specifically, it is not necessary to find the exact plane equation to solve the normal. Instead, the normal can be derived based on an equation system. The normal $\tilde{\mathbf{n}}$ of plane Π is perpendicular to all the vector on the plane Π, we can construct k vectors on plane Π use k neighbors $\mathbf{p}_1, ..., \mathbf{p}_k \in \mathbb{R}^3$ of point $\mathbf{p}$. For the simplicity, we can choose $\mathbf{p}_1$ as the base point, then $k-1$ vectors can be construct as follows

$$\mathbf{v}_i = \mathbf{p}_1 - \mathbf{p}_i \quad \text{for } i = 2, ..., k \tag{3.1}$$

and each of them satisfied $\mathbf{v}_i \cdot \tilde{\mathbf{n}} = 0$. Then, the equation system can be constructed as

$$A \cdot \mathbf{n} = 0 \tag{3.2}$$

where $A \in \mathbb{R}^{(k-1)\times 3}$ is the vector matrix vertically stacked by $\mathbf{v}_1, ..., \mathbf{v}_{k-1}$. In order to avoid trivial solution, one more constraint should be added

$$\|\mathbf{n}_{3\times 1}\|_2^2 = 1$$

which also let the normal to be a unit vector.

To calculate a valid normal, at least 3 points are required to construct, i.e. $k >= 3$. For the sake of robust, more points can be used to reduce the measuring error. For the case $k > 3$, since the surface vectors are actually not in the same plane, the equation system is likely over-determined . Then the equation system mentioned above can be converted to follow optimization problem

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & \|A\mathbf{n}\|^2 \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \|\mathbf{n}\|^2 = 1 \end{aligned} \tag{3.3}$$

which can be solved by singular value decomposition(SVD). Let the decomposition of

$$A = U\Sigma V^T$$

The solution i.e. normal is the last column of V.

At last, all the normals should point ot view point $\mathbf{s}$, thus the direction of a normal should be inverted if

$$\mathbf{n} \cdot (\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{s}) > 0 \tag{3.4}$$

Repeat the procedure for all the points in the point cloud to get the entire normal map.

3.1.2 Evaluation

The neighbor based method can predict the normal map in a good way when the given point cloud is dense, as shown in Figure **??**. It can successfully predict the smooth surface of the dragon object, especially the flakes and the tails of the dragon.

However, it failed in the areas such as hindleg, horn and the mouth, which consists mainly by sharp edges. This is because the neighbors points in these area do not hold the assumption of coplanarity well, the normals of these neighbors can be very different. The neighbor based method is depended on a well-chosen parameter k.

FIGURE 3.1: Normal map of a dragon object predicted by neighbor based method. k=2, angle error=5 **Left**: ground-truth normal map **Middle**: predicted normal map, **Right**: Error map

Figure **??** shows the evaluation on different k values. When $k = 1$, the average error of the whole image is the lowest one, most of the normals are close to the ground-truth but the outline edges, which are the areas that surface normal changed extremely sever. For the case $k = 2$, the sharp edges are more smooth and cause more error, like the eyes area of the dragon. Compare to the first case, the outline edge error goes better. Most of the edge errors are reduced when $k = 2$, since more neighbor points join the evaluation and it reduces the effect of outliers. However, for the area of horn outline, hindleg outline, the error goes worse. In this case, most of

the neighbors of these points are outliers and thus failed this approach. $k = 3$ and $k = 4$ further increase the angle errors based on $k = 2$.

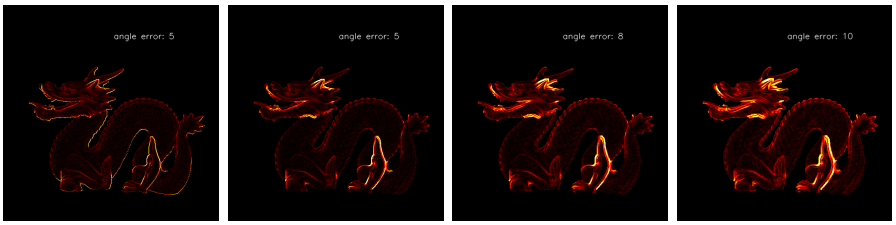


FIGURE 3.2: Error map of neighbor based method with different k values. From left to right, $k = 1, 2, 3, 4$ separately.

The performance of neighbor based method is good enough for a well chosen k. However, for the case of noised point cloud as input, this approach will broken, since the noise will failed the neighbor assumption and also reduce the number of possible neighbors of each point for a fixed k.

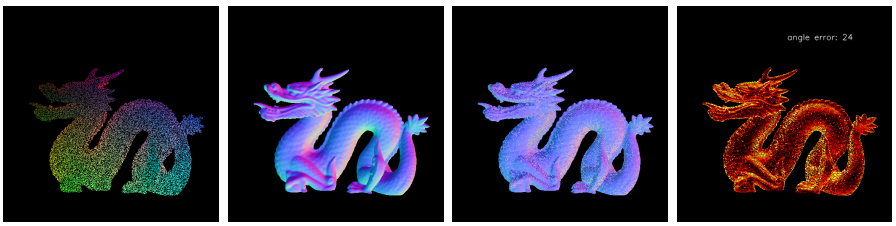


FIGURE 3.3: Evaluation of neighbor based method on a noised dragon model

3.2 Photometric Stereo

Photometric stereo was initially introduced by **photometric-stereo**, which estimates the surface normal of the object by observing the object in the same position but under different illuminated scenes. It based on the fact that the light reflected by a surface is dependent on the surface normal and the light direction.

3.2.1 Approaches

Given an image I, it can be decomposed in to two parts, the reflectance R and the shading S,

$$I = R \oplus S$$

where $\oplus$ denotes the element-wise product. This decomposition of the image is based on the intrinsic image model, which proposed by Barrow and Tenenbaum, 1978. It interprets the observed image into reflectance image and the shading image. As shown in Figure 3.4

The equation can be further decomposed based on different surface models. If assume the object surfaces are Lambertian surfaces, i.e. the surface which reflect light in all directions, the shading image can be decomposed as the product of the radiance of incoming light L_0, the cosine of the angle of incidence, which is the dot product of the surface normal N and the light source direction L.

$$I = \rho \odot (L_0 \mathbf{L} \cdot \mathbf{N})$$

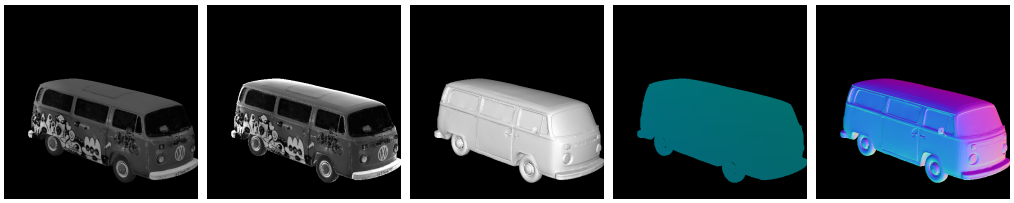


FIGURE 3.4: Intrinsic image analysis of the bus object. From left to right, original image, reflectance image, shading image, light image, normal image

note that the surface normal N and light direction L are unit vectors thus they have only two degrees of freedom.

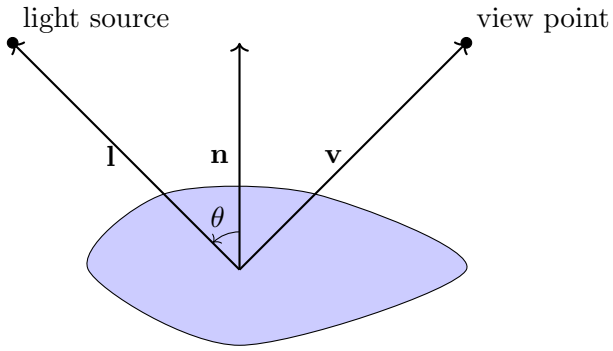


FIGURE 3.5: The surface normal, source light direction and the view point direction, where θ denotes the angle between light direction and the normal.

The equation can be further rearranged as follows

$$I = \mathbf{g} \cdot \mathbf{L} = (L_0 \rho \odot \mathbf{N}) \cdot (\mathbf{L})$$

The shape from shading method employed the equation mentioned above to predict the both surface albedo ρ and the normal $\mathbf{N}$ with knowning light source direction $\mathbf{L}$. More specifically, a set of k image for the same scene have been captured based on different light projections. Then, for each pixel (x, y) in the image, an equation system can be set up

$$\begin{pmatrix} L_1^T \\ L_2^T \\ \cdots \\ L_k^T \end{pmatrix} g(x,y) = \begin{pmatrix} I_1(x,y) \\ I_2(x,y) \\ \cdots \\ I_3(x,y) \end{pmatrix}$$

for the simplicity, L_i^T for $1 \leq i \leq k$ denotes the light direction at position (x, y) in the image k The equation can be solved based on least square methods. Since normal $N(x, y)$ is unit vector, thus we have

$$\|g(x,y)\|_2 = \|L_0 \rho(x,y) N(x,y)\|_2 = L_0 \rho(x,y)$$

Then the normal can be obtained as follow

$$N(x,y) = \frac{g(x,y)}{L_0 \rho(x,y)}$$

In another word, the surface normal including the albedo can be obtained directly based on a set of images and light directions.

3.3 Gated Convolution neural network for surface normal estimation

Recently, deep learning based method achieved a great succeed for image processing. (Redmon and Farhadi, 2018, Tan, Pang, and Le, 2019) These network architectures use a batch of RGB / Grayscale images as input and are employed for classification problems. Usually, the images are convoluted with a convolution layer and downsampling with pooling layers. The outputs of the network consist of a single value to represent the index of the corresponding class (Tan, Pang, and Le, 2019) or with a set of values to represent the position of bounding boxes.(Redmon and Farhadi, 2018). However, in many other vision tasks, like normal map inference, the output is demanded as the same shape as the input. Instead of predicting one or several classes for the whole input matrix, the class for each pixel requires for prediction. In this case, the traditional network architecture is not suitable anymore.

It is worth to noticed that, the output of normal inference CNN model is not one or several labels but an entire image or normal map with same size. Recently,Ronneberger, Fischer, and Brox, 2015 proposed an architecture called UNet for biomedical image segmentations. The architecture is shown in Figure **??**.The first half network is a usual classification convolutional network, the second half replace the pooling layers and traditional fc layers in the traditional CNNs to upsampling layers, thus in the end of the second half, the output is able to back to the input size. The proposed network can successfully assigned each pixel a class for segmentation tasks. Under this symmetric network, an input image is downsampled 4 times and upsampled 4 times. Output image has exactly the same size as input image. The downsampling and upsampling both have large number of feature channels, which guarantee the network propagates the information to higher resolution layers.

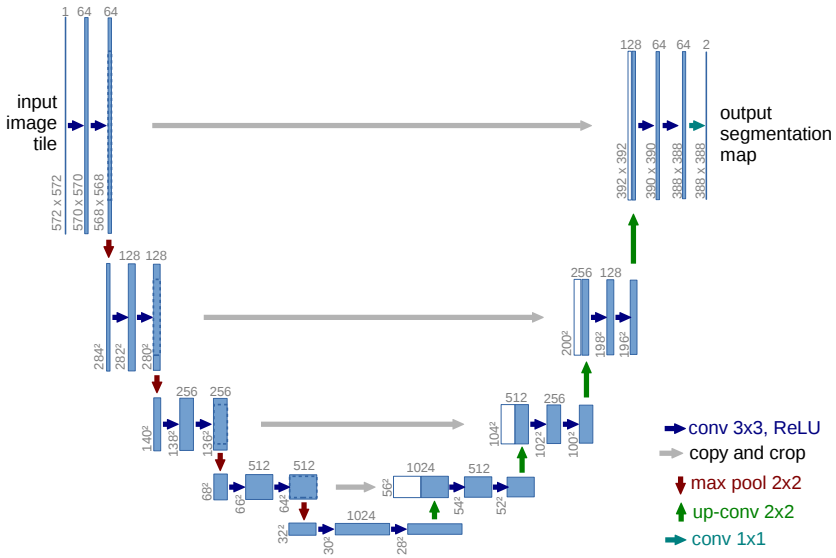


FIGURE 3.6: The structure of UNet. Ronneberger, Fischer, and Brox, 2015

The UNet is based on standard convolution layers to construct the network. This is reasonable for image processing task with full-dense input, since no missing pixels

exist. However, for the input of noised point cloud, the valid and invalid pixels will be treated equally if we still perform standard convolution layers. Since the aim of the network is not learning the pattern of noise, but the noise with eternally changing patterns will confuse the network, and it fails the normal inference, a mask is required to distinguish two kinds of pixels.

Eldesokey, Felsberg, and Khan, 2020b use binary mask to indicate valid pixels, and further use normalized convolution to predict the output. The normalized convolution is shown as follows

$$O(x,y) = \begin{cases} \dfrac{\Sigma_i^k \Sigma_j^k W(i,j) \cdot I(x-i, y-j) \cdot M(x-i, y-j)}{\Sigma_i^k \Sigma_j^k W(i,j) \cdot M(x-i, y-j)}, & \text{if } \sum_i^k \sum_j^k M(i,j) > 0 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \tag{3.5}$$

where k is the kernel size, (x, y) is the position in input, (i, j) is the displacement in kenel, M is the corresponding mask. A binary mask uses 1 to indicate valid pixels and 0 otherwise. $\odot$ denotes element-wise multiplication.

Normalized convolution layer added the weight to the mask. However, a initialization for the mask is still required, and the propagation of the mask remain a tricky task.

3.3.1 Gated Convolution

Oord et al., 2016 proposed a gated activation unit to model more complex interactions comparing to standard CNN layers, which mainly inspired by the multiplicative units exist in Long Short-Term Memory proposed by Hochreiter and Schmidhuber, 1997 and Rated Recurrent Unit (GRU) proposed by Cho et al., 2014. Yu et al., 2018 employed the same gated unit solving for the free-form image inpainting task. The proposed network use 3 channel RGB images as input and estimate the missing pixels.

The structure is shown in Figure 3.7. Instead of using a mask as input to indicate valid pixels, it employs a standard convolution layers to learn this mask directly from data. The valid pixels are then activated by a Sigmoid function. Then it imply element-wise multiplication with the feature map. Formally, the gated convolution is described as follows, the layer with input size (N, C_{in}, H, W) and output size $(N, C_{out}, H_{out}, W_{out})$:

$$o(N_i, C_{o_j}) = \sigma\Big(\sum_{k=0}^{C_{in}-1} w_g(C_{o_j}, k) \star i(N_i, k) + b_g(C_{o_j})\Big) * \phi\Big(\sum_{k=0}^{C_{in}-1} w_f(C_{o_j}, k) \star i(N_i, k) + b_f(C_{o_j})\Big) \tag{3.6}$$

where ϕ is LeakyReLU function, σ is sigmoid function, thus the output values are in range $[0, 1]$, $\star$ is the valid 2D cross-correlation operator, N is batch size, C denotes a number of channels, H is a height of input planes in pixels, and W is width in pixels, $w(C_{o_j}, k)$ denotes the weight of j-th output channel corresponding k-th input channel, $i(N_i, k)$denotes the input of i-th batch corresponding k-th input channel, $b(C_{o_j})$ denotes the bias of j-th output channel.

3.3.2 Architecture

Based on the implementation mentioned above, the architecture roughly follows on UNet proposed by Ronneberger, Fischer, and Brox, 2015, as shown in Figure 3.8.

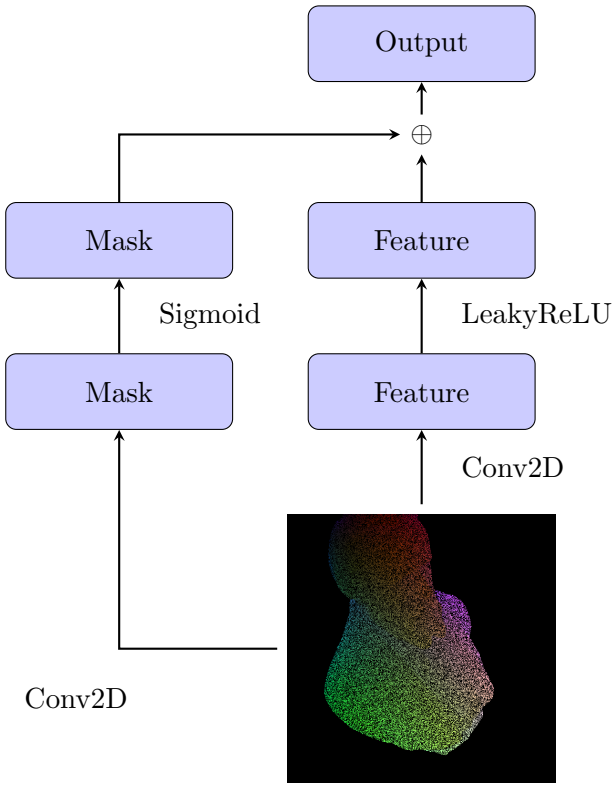


FIGURE 3.7: Gated Convolution Layer, where ⊕ denotes element-wise multiplication.

In order to describe the network in a common way, the parameters of the network are represented by letters. The network is constructed by a downsampling part and a upsampling part. In the downsampling part, the input is the $X \in \mathbb{R}^{w \times w \times ch}$. The input matrix goes through 3 downsampling layer blocks, each block has two gated convolution layers with stride (1,1) and an extra gated convolution layers with stride (2,2) as a downsampling operation. The total three times downsamplings extract the geometry features X_v from input matrix X (represented as a regression function f)

$$f : X \rightarrow X_f$$

After the feature extraction, the network upsampling the feature map 3 times to get the output matrix Y. Each upsampling consists of an interpolation operation uses nearest neighboring interpolations for resolution upsamling, then a concatenate layer that concatenate the interpolated result and the corresponding high resolution feature map $X_{df_1,df_2,...}$ from the downsampling part. This is also called skip connection. In the last, a gated convolution layer is utilized to reduce the channel size to fit the next upsampling block. After the three times upsampling, two standard convolution layer is added in the last without activation function to predict the surface normal. The whole upsampling branch can be represented as a regression function n,

$$n : X_v, X_{df_1,df_2,...} \rightarrow N$$

All the convolution layers in the network use same kernel size 3×3.

One of the key feature of the network is the output has the same size as the input. This is achieved by the (1,1) padding and the same channel number in the convolution layers. Thus the surface normal can be achieved 1-1 estimation. Another

key point of the network is the robustness of the noise. The network takes semi-dense matrix as input then predicts the fully-dense matrix as output. The last feature is the multi-purpose using scenarios. In the description, no specific input type has been indicated. In this thesis, two application scenarios have been verified. The first is the missing-pixel estimation but with out the transformation of the style of the input matrix, which takes the semi-dense matrix as input and simply fill the missing pixels in the output. The second is the missing pixel estimation with style-transferred of the matrix. In this case, the network takes the semi-dense matrix as input, the output matrix is fully-dense but each pixel has the different meaning as the input. Actually, the first scenario can be consider as the specially case of the second scenario which the style of output and the input remain the same. The network is test in Chapter **??**, which is shown the good performance on noise filtering task and also the normal surface estimation task.

3.3.3 Loss Function

L1 Loss L1 loss, also known as absolute error loss, which calculates the absolute difference between the prediction and the ground truth. It leads to the median of the observations.

$$L_1(\tilde{y} - y) = |\tilde{y} - y|$$

L2 Loss The standard loss function for optimization in regression problems is the L2 loss, also known as squared error loss, which minimize the squared difference between a prediction and the actual value. It leads to the mean of the observations.

$$L_2(\tilde{y} - y) = \|\tilde{y} - y\|_2^2$$

Masked L2 Loss with penalty for outliers(mask-l2) The background pixels of the input data are not considered in the normal inference task, they are saved as black pixels in the input data. These pixels should not considered in the loss function, i.e. invalid pixels. Therefore, a valid mask is required to distinguish the background and the main object. Specifically, using a matrix with the same width and height as the output, for each pixel, 0 is invalid, 1 is valid. Furthermore, depends on the specific task, the output should be constraint in a range. For normal output, the range is $[-1, 1]$. Thus for the outliers out of this range, a outlier mask can be applied to give them a penalty.

$$\begin{aligned} l(x, y) &= L = \{l_1, ..., l_N\}^T \\ l_{n \in N} &= \|mask_{obj} \odot mask_{ol} \odot (\tilde{y}_n - y_n)\|_2^2 + \|mask_{obj} \odot mask_{nol} \odot (\tilde{y}_n - y_n)\|_2^2 \end{aligned} \tag{3.7}$$

where x is input, y is target, N is the batch size.$mask_{obj}$ is the mask of the object, i.e. 1 means it is an pixel on the object, 0 is an pixel on the background. $mask_{ol}$ is the mask for the outliers, i.e. 1 means outliers, 0 means non outlier, $mask_{nol}$ is exactly the inverse of $mask_{ol}$. p is the penalty of the outliers, it is set as 1.4.

Reversed Huber Loss Owen, 2007 proposed Reversed Huber loss to combine both L1 and L2 loss. L1 loss is for small values whereas L2 for large values

$$\mathcal{B}(y) = \begin{cases} |y| & |y| \leq c \\ \dfrac{y^2 + c^2}{2d} & |x| > c \end{cases} \tag{3.8}$$

where $c = 0.2 \max(|\tilde{y} - y|)$.

3.4 Guided normal inference using GCNN

The guided normal inference takes the light direction and the image into consideration. It is under the assumption that the scene image I is captured by a calibrated camera, i.e. knowing the intrinsic K and extrinsic camera matrix $[R|t]$, and a the light position (s_x, s_y, s_z) of the single light source. The geometry based approach inference the surface normal from the point cloud, whereas the photometric stereo inference the surface normal from a set of calibrated illuminated images. The idea behind this chapter is that improve the geometry based approach with the help of one calibrated illuminated image. Since the calibrated illuminated image contains the information about the surface feature, it is supposed to help the geometry approach in a proper way. Based on this idea, two networks are proposed in this section.

3.4.1 Light Map

The light map L can be derived from vertex map V and the light source position s. As shown in Figure 3.5, the incoming light direction is a vector point from light source to the surface point, therefor it can be calculated as follows

$$L(x, y) \quad = \frac{V(x, y) - (s_x, s_y)}{\|V(x, y) - (s_x, s_y)\|_2} \tag{3.9}$$

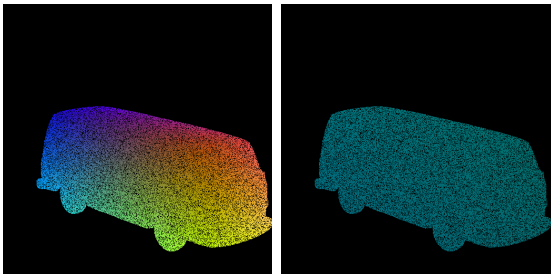


FIGURE 3.9: The light map calculated from vertex map and the light source

where (s_x, s_y) is the light source position and V is the vertices, both (s_x, s_y) and V are with respect to the camera space. The light direction map L is normalized since only the direction of the light is considered. Using the equation above for all the pixels in the point cloud can obtain the corresponding light map, which is a matrix with same size as point clouds. However, it is important to note that due to the exist noise in the vertex map, the getting light map is only semi-dense, as shown in Figure 3.9.

3.4.2 VIL Net

Based on above implementations, we propose a light and image guided network called Vertex-Image-Light Network (VIL-Net). The structure is basically derived from GCNN model as mentioned in 3.3, which is shown in Figure **??**.

As mentioned in the name, the **VIL**-Net utilizes **V**ertex map, **L**ight map and **I**mage map to accomplish the normal inference task.

The network can be consider in two parts. The first part extracts the feature maps from the input data. It deals with two kinds of input, the vertex map $X_1 \in \mathbb{R}^{w \times h \times 3}$, and the concatenation of light and image map $X_2 \in \mathbb{R}^{w \times h \times 4}$. The network extracts the geometry features X_v from vertex map X_1 (represented as a regression function v)

$$v : X_1 \rightarrow X_v$$

and the photometric features X_l from image and the light map X_2 (represented as a regression function l)

$$l : X_2 \rightarrow X_l$$

where the two encoders have the same network architecture based on the downsampling part of GCNN model. After the feature extraction, 2 extra layers are added: 1, a concatenate layer is added to fuse the vertex feature, and the image and light map feature getting from the encoder. 2, a fused feature map is predicted from all the feature maps base on a single gated convolution layer. (represented as a regression function m)

$$m : [X_v X_l] \rightarrow X_f$$

Then the network interpolates the feature maps X_f 3 times using interpolation and gated convolution layers to inference the normal map N. Meanwhile, the skip connections fuse the high resolution features $X_{df_1,df_2,...}$ from the downsampling part during the upsamplings. The upsampling is represented as a regression function n:

$$n : X_f, X_{df_1,df_2,...} \rightarrow N$$

With the help of an extra image-light encoder, the network gained more information of the object surface, which is supposed to predict the surface normal more accurate. In this scenario, the output is still the surface normal, thus the training loss can be the same as GCNN model.

3.4.3 Trip-Net

We propose a light and image guided network called Triple-pipe-gated-Network (Trip-Net), which employs the GCNN architecture three times to accomplish the normal inference task. The architecture is shown in Figure 3.10.

The network has three pipes combined with one main pipe and two side pipes. Each pipe deals with different task. The main pipe deals with the geometry information, which takes the vertex map as the input and used to predict the surface normal. The light map is fed into a side pipe and used to extract the light feature. The network forwards the features to the main pipe as a supplementary information for the normal estimation. The image pipe takes the image as the input and extracts the image features then forward the features to the main pipe as well. The supplementary pipes provide the illumination information which helps the main pipe to refine the inferred normals.

Side-Pipe(Light)

The task of light pipe in the network is to predict the light feature from the photometric information using the light direction in the scene, which is calculated from the point cloud and the light position. The light map also inherits the noise from the point cloud, which lead to a semi-dense input map. Therefore this side pipe utilizes gated convolution layers for feature map extraction to handle the missing values. The input vertex map is downsampled three times in this part. Each downsampling utilizes three gated layers, the first two layers have stride (1,1) and the third one has stride (2,2) to reduce the feature scale. In the upsampling part, the network also has three times upsampling as a symmetric design. In each upsampling, it first uses nearest neighbor interpolation algorithms to expend the feature map size. Then it concatenates the corresponding feature map from the downsampling part. In the last, the feature map goes through a gated convolution layer to reduce the channel size.

Side-Pipe(Image)

The task of image pipe in the network is to predict the image feature. This pipe is a collaborate pipe with the light pipe. The architect is the same as light map pipe but only the input is the image matrix.

Main-Pipe(Vertex)

The task of vertex pipe in the network is to predict the normal map directly. The input is vertex map converted from point cloud. The downsampling part is still the same as the other two pipes. The different part is the upsampling, which has to consider the information coming from the other two pipes. After the downsampling, a concatenation layer fused the corresponding feature map from the other two pipes, then it takes 3 times upsampling. Each upsampling consists of 5 layers: 1, a interpolation layer to double size the resolution using nearest neighboring interpolation algorithm, 2, a gated layer to reduce the channel size to 1/3 of itself in order to fit the corresponding feature map in the downsampling part, 3, a concatenation layer to fuse the output with the corresponding feature map in the downsampling part, 4, a gated layer to reduce the channel size to 1/2, 5, a concatenation layer to fuse the corresponding upsamling feature map from the other two pipe altogether with the feature map in current pipe. These 5 layers consider both the information from other pipes and also keeps the high resolution from the downsampling part. A gated convolution layer is added afterwards to reduce the channel size and extra two standard convolution layers are used to predict the final surface normal map.

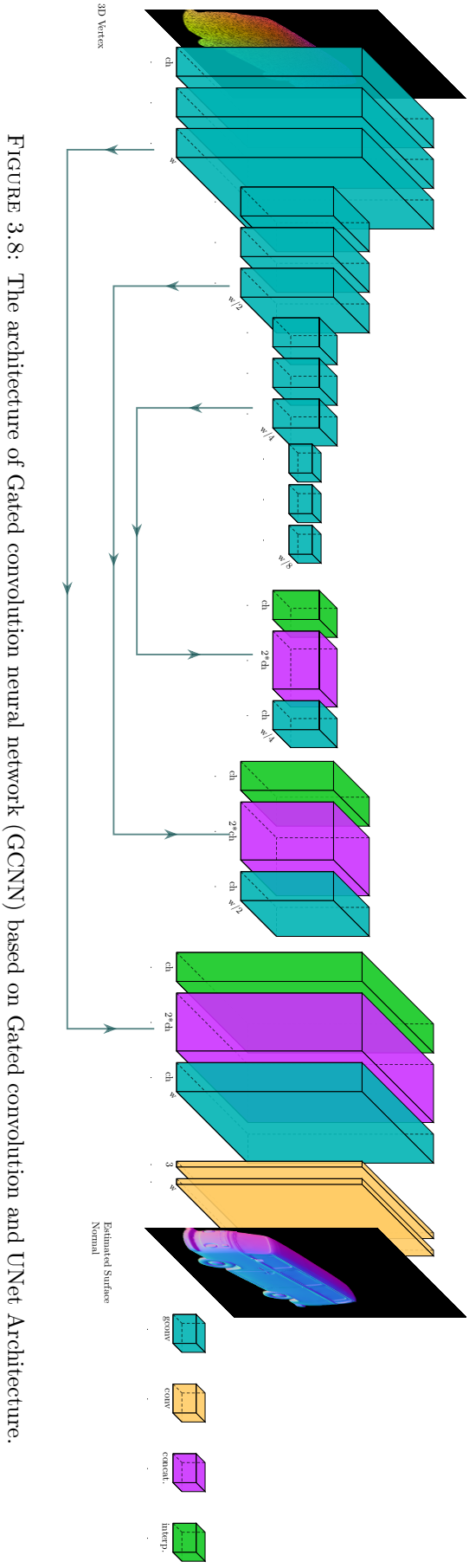


FIGURE 3.8: The architecture of Gated convolution neural network (GCNN) based on Gated convolution and UNet Architecture.

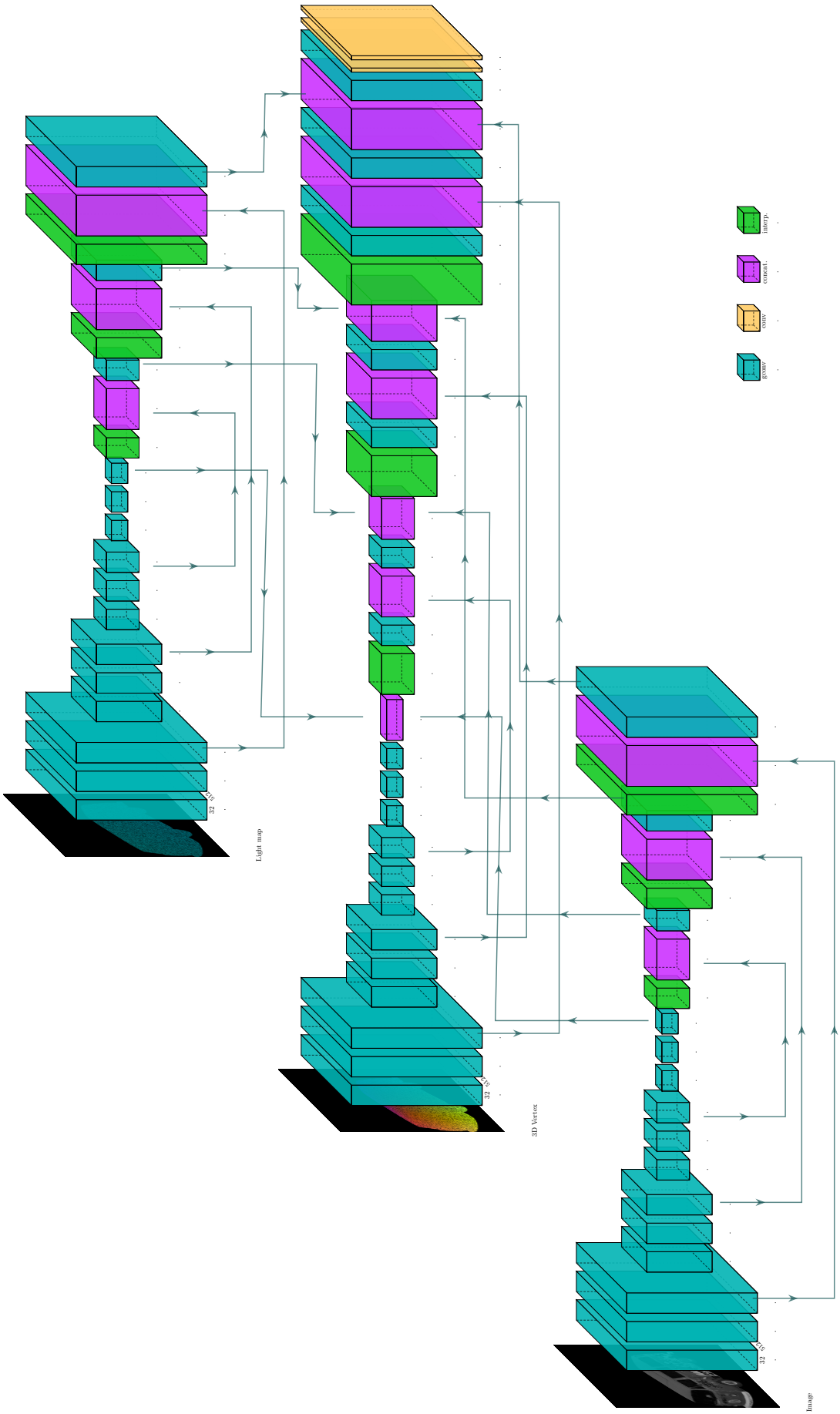


FIGURE 3.10: The architecture of Trig-Net

Chapter 4

Dataset

4.1 Synthetic Dataset

To train a deep learning model with supervised learning scheme, a dataset should require two principles, truth-worthy ground-truth and comprehensive scenarios. The depth map captured by Kinect is not satisfied the first requirement since it is usually semi-dense with a number of missing pixels, as shown in Figure **??**. Therefore, a more elaborate depth map is required for the training work. In this thesis, a dataset called "synthetic50-5" is created for the training works.

4.1.1 Resource

The Stanford 3D Scanning Repository n.d., McGuire, 2017, McGuire, n.d. and *Smithsonian 3D Digitization* n.d. published a set of point cloud dataset on the internet for computer vision task research. These point clouds are scanned from real objects using high resolution scanners like Cyberware 3030 MS+ and calibrated with post processing. Each objects has been scanned for hundreds of times for an exhaustive completion for the origin objects, which is up to millions points. (*The Stanford 3D Scanning Repository* n.d.). The dense point clouds makes the normal inference task trivial since the neighbor based method performs good enough for these kind of task. Some of the point cloud even equipped with pre-computed normal map based on more advanced methods. They all provides the accurate ground-truth for the supervised learning method.

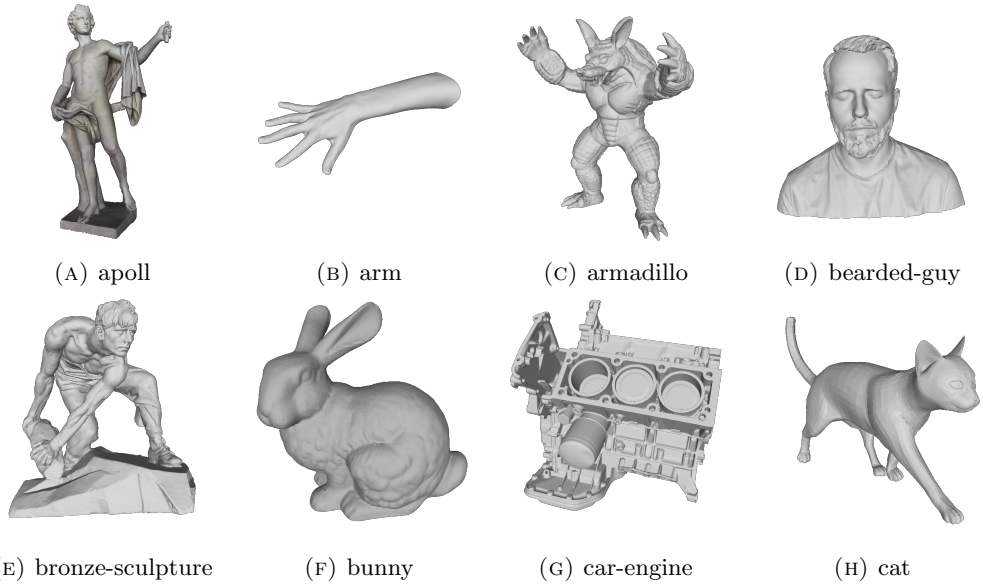
The "synthetic50-5", is a datset with 50 point clouds as training set and 5 point clouds as test set. The dataset is created base on the work of this thesis and using for normal inference task. Figure **??** gives the illustrations of some objects. Appendix A gives a full version of dataset models.

4.1.2 Synthesize Scenes using Unity

In order to fit the using scenario of Kinect as much as possible, the dataset consists of the generated synthetic 3D scenes via Unity, which is a game engine using for 3D games creation.

In the synthetic scenes from engine, the object is placed on a cylinder platform, which is lighted by a directional light nearby. A camera focus on the platform and captured the scene. The layout in the game engine is shown in Figure 4.2. In order to simulate more scenarios, the positions of the camera and directional light are randomly changed in each new scene. For 50 training objects, 1000 scenes are generated and each scene is saved in 3 kinds of resolutions $512 \times 512 \times 3$, $256 \times 256 \times 3$ and $128 \times 128 \times 3$.

The main advantage using generated scene is the availability of complete information. The depth map can be captured in a loss-free way. The corresponding normal



(A) apoll (B) arm (C) armadillo (D) bearded-guy

(E) bronze-sculpture (F) bunny (G) car-engine (H) cat

FIGURE 4.1: Point clouds scanned by high resolution scanners

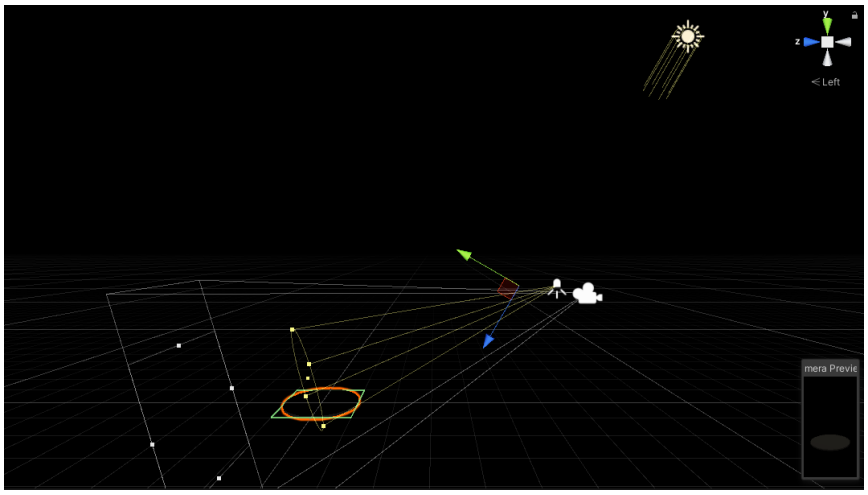


FIGURE 4.2: The layout of synthetic scenes generation in Unity.

map can also be safely considered as ground truth. And the scale of the dataset is easy to control.

For each scene, following information is recorded

A depth map D is captured by a depth camera in Unity, which is a 1 channel image that contains the information relating to the distance of the surfaces of the scene objects from a viewpoint. It can be saved as a 16-bit grayscale image, i.e. each pixel in range $0-65535$. The grayscale image can be used as guided normal inference task and also as a readable scene for human. The gray-color is converted from RGB color based on following equation

$$gray : \frac{r+2g+b}{4}$$

The normal map is the tangent surface normal, which is saved in 32-bit RGB color image. The surface normal (n_x, n_y, n_z) and its corresponding RGB color (R, G, B)

TABLE 4.1: The information saved for each scene in "synthetic50-5".

Data	**Size**
Depth map	$512 \times 512 \times 3$
Depth range	2×1
Grayscale Image	$512 \times 512 \times 1$
Normal Map	$512 \times 512 \times 3$
Light Position	3×1
Camera Intrinsic Matrix	3×3
Camera Extrinsic Matrix	3×4

can be converted based on following equation:

$$n_x = \frac{R}{255} * 2 - 1$$
$$n_y = \frac{G}{255} * 2 - 1$$
$$n_z = 1 - \frac{B}{255} * 2$$

If consider the relation between Lambertian reflection and normal direction, the light source can be used to calculate the reflect direction of each point. The camera intrinsic and extrinsic matrix helps point cloud calculation.

It is necessary to point out again that "synthetic50-5" aiming to rebuild the using scenarios of Kinect, where all types of the generated data files shown in Table 4.1 are also the same format of the Kinect data.

4.1.3 Convert to Point Cloud

The depth map can be converted to 3D vertex point cloud as the input of the normal inference model.

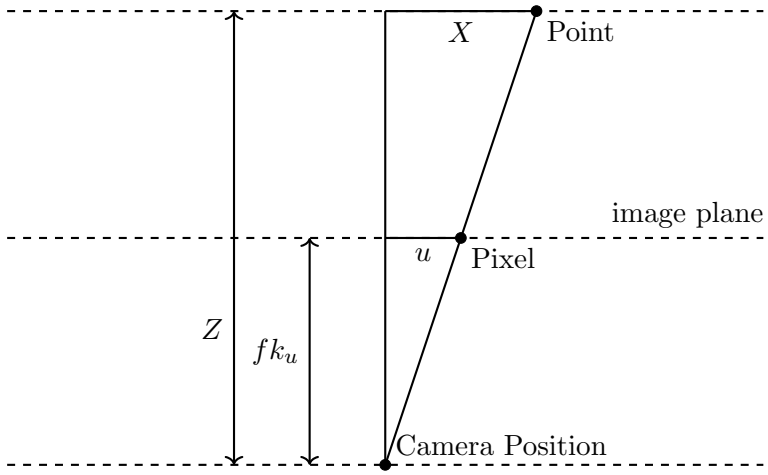


FIGURE 4.3: Convert depth to point in camera coordinate system

Consider a 3-dimensional Euclidean space. Use z axis denotes the depth. The x and y axes perpendicular with each other. For a pixel (u, v) on depth map, its depth

$D(u, v)$ is the Z component of the corresponding point $P_C = (X, Y, Z)$ in camera coordinate system. The X and Y can be calculated based on the triangle similarity

$$X = \frac{uZ}{fk_u}$$
$$Y = \frac{vZ}{fk_v}$$

where fk_u, fk_v is the focal length in pixels align u and v axes. Converted a point from camera coordinate system to world coordinate system, using extrinsic matrix R and t

$$P_W = P_C R + t$$

4.1.4 Point Cloud Normalization

The sizes of each training object are various, whereas it should be as an invariant value for the training model. Thus the normalization is required before feed training objects into the models. The range of each axis is shown in Figure **??**. Table 4.2 gives a quantitative measurement of corresponding average values.

The normalization has been performed as follows. First translate the points to the original point as close as possible, then choose the range value of one axis as a scale factor, normalize the points to unit vectors. The equation is shown as follows

$$X_n = \frac{X - \min(X)}{s}$$
$$Y_n = \frac{Y - \min(Y)}{s}$$
$$Z_n = \frac{Z - \min(Z)}{s}$$

where s is a scale factor,

$$s = \max(X) - \min(X)$$

It is calculated as the range in X axis, but theoretically can be used by Y or Z axes as well.

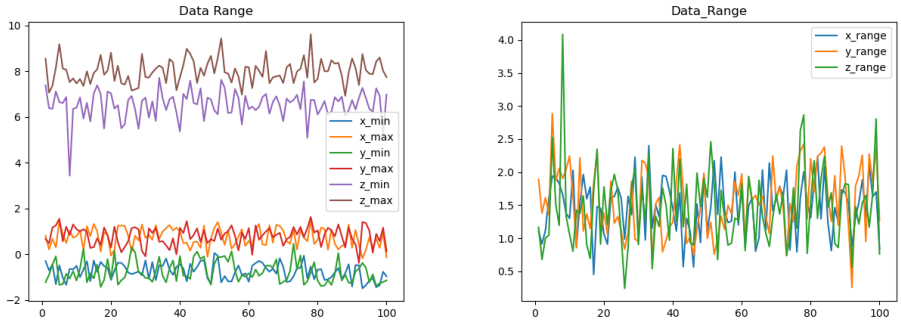


FIGURE 4.4: Left: Extreme value in 3 axis; Right: Vertex range in 3 axis

TABLE 4.2: The fluctuation of extreme values and their ranges in 100 random training items.

Axis	Scale	Min	Max
X	1.48	-0.75	0.73
Y	1.56	-0.76	0.80
Z	1.47	6.53	8.00

TABLE 4.3: The structure of a single tensor in the dataset.

Name	Content
input-tensor	Vertex Image Light Direction
output-tensor	GT-Normal Image GT-Light-Direction
Light position	light position
Camera Matrix	K,R,t
Depth Range	minDepth, maxDepth

4.1.5 Noise

The raw depth maps captured by Kinect usually have missing pixels. Therefore, the "synthetic50-5" dataset adds a similar properties. As shown in Figure **??**. the depth map has missing pixels distributed all around the scene. Correspondingly, an uniformly distributed pixel-delete noise is used for noise simulation. Furthermore, a parameter μ is used to control the intensity of noise, it denotes the μ-percent pixel dropoff. For example, $\mu - 10$ means removes 10% pixels randomly. For each scene, the noising operation based on a random μ in a range $[0, 50]$, therefore some scenes have more missing pixels and some have less. The random noise intensity also enables the model to learn scenarios not only with noise, but also with minor noise or even without noise. Figure 4.5 shows the noise effect on different μ.

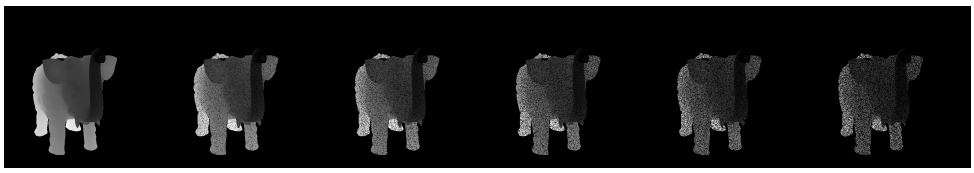


FIGURE 4.5: Noise-intensity on $\mu{-}0, \mu{-}10, \mu{-}20, \mu{-}30, \mu{-}40, \mu{-}50,$. Object Name: elephant-zun-lid.

4.1.6 Fit to PyTorch

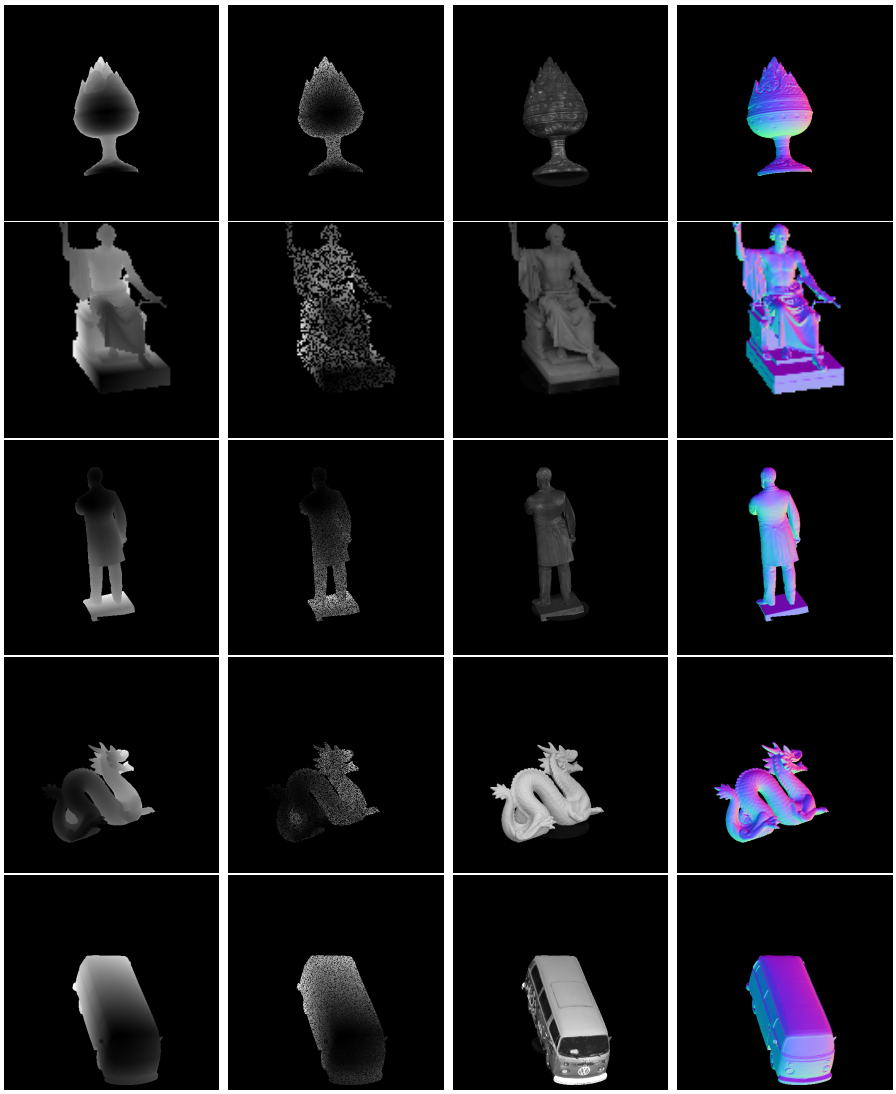
In order to saving the training time, the dataset is compressed in PyTorch format. The structure of a single item is shown in Table 4.3.

Chapter 5

Experiments

5.1 Training Details

The approaches are trained on dataset "synthetic-50-5" as mentioned in Chapter 4 with 3000 scenes. Each scene has a depth map with dimension $128 \times 128\times$ in height, width and channel, an image with dimension $128 \times 128 \times 1$. The depth map is converted to 3D vertex map as introduced in Chapter 4. The light map is calculated based on vertex map and the known light position. We create a tensor in PyTorch that includes vertex map, image and the light direction for each scene and considered it as one training case. Thus 3000 scenes has corresponding 3000 training cases. Each scene has a corresponding ground-truth normal map for loss calculation and the evaluation.



(A) Depth Map (B) Add noise (C) Image (D) Normal

FIGURE 5.1: Some of the test scenes during the training. From top to bottom, baoshanlu, Washington, Garfield, Dragon, Bus

The training processes are evaluated in every epochs with 29 evaluation scenes that model never seen before, which contains the 5 different objects in the "synthetic-50-5" test set. Figure 5.1 shows some of the test scenes during the training work. Note that the position of objects are not placed naturally on the stage but with a random rotation in X, Y, Z axes, respectively.

The training pipeline use batch size 8, Adam optimizer (Kingma and Ba, 2014), learning rate start from 1×10^{-3}, learning schedule [8,1000], learning decay factor 0.5. The model is trained with PyTorch 1.10.0a0, CUDA 11.4.1, GPU with single NVIDIA GEFORCE RTX 3090. It takes 14 hours to train GCNN and 35 hours to train the Trip-Net. We terminate the training when the evaluation on the test dataset converged.

5.2 GCNN model based on Geometry Information

The GCNN model is the base model of the whole thesis. The architecture is described in 3.3. We use a single GCNN to estimate the surface normal based on geometry

information. It uses vertex map as input to estimate the corresponding tangent surface normal map.

In order to verify the applicability of UNet architecture and Gated Convolution layer for the normal inference task, two similar models are created. We replace all of the gated layer to standard convolution layers in the network but keeps all of the other settings same in model "CNN". It is used to verify the performance the gated convolution layers. As mentioned in chapter 3, the gated layer is designed to deal with noised input. Since all of the vertex map in the dataset has been added noise, the GCNN is supposed to over-perform "CNN". Another model called "NOC" is designed to verify the skip connection in the UNet, which simply removes the skip connections in the network but keeps other settings same. Is is designed to show the validation of skip connections. Figure 5.2 shows the training history on BerHu Loss. The GCNN approach achieves a lower loss from start to the end of the training.

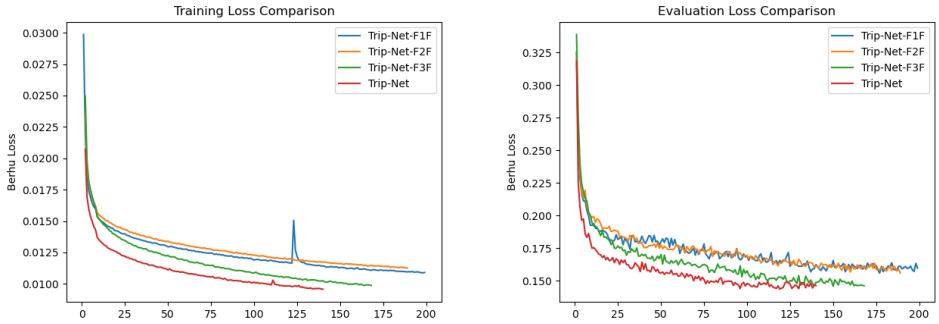


FIGURE 5.2: The training history of GCNN model. The line chart records the training BerHu loss of the model GCNN, NOC and CNN. The left shows the training loss history whereas the right one shows the evaluation loss history.

5.3 Trip-Net model based on Calibrated Illuminated RGB-D Image

The Trip-Net model uses three times GCNN architecture with 4 times fusions, which is more difficult to train. It takes the calibrated illuminated RGB-D images as input to estimate the surface normal map. For the sake of comparison, we take the GCNN model as a baseline, to observe the beneficial of illuminated information using with Trip-Net architecture. Since it is more complicate than GCNN, we also explored the optimum fusion times of the Trip-Net to see any possibility for the model simplification. A set of similar models have been trained with same settings but different fusion times, denotes by Trip-Net-FxF, where x denotes the fusion times. We evaluate the fusion times from 1 to 4. For the learning rate. we set $1e-3$. It goes well with GCNN model but lead to loss explosion in Trip-Net. Thus we set a learning rate schedule with an extra decay step at epoch 8. The decay factor is 0.5. The batch size is chosen as 8.

Figure 5.3 shows the training history of these models on BerHu Loss. As shown in the loss figure, all of the four models has a reasonable learning rate. Trip-Net with four times fusion converges faster than others and also achieve a lower loss. Trip-Net-F3F converges slower than Trip-Net but achieved to a similar evaluation loss.

The evaluation loss in Trip-Net-F1F and Trip-Net-F2F are relative higher than 3 or 4 times fusions model.

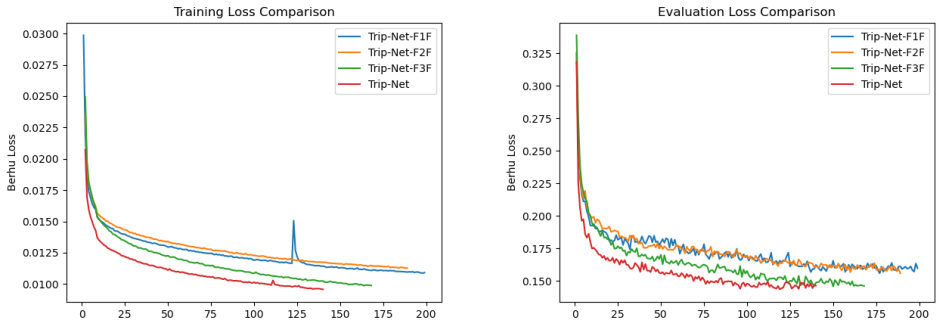


FIGURE 5.3: The training history of Trip-Net model. The line chart records the training BerHu loss of the model Trip-Net, Trip-Net-F1, Trip-Net-F2, Trip-Net-F3, GCNN.

However, the sacrifice of accuracy gives a relatively lighter model. Since we remove the fusions between different pipes, the corresponding upsampling layers in the image and light pipes can also be removed. The model can be trained faster and the size is reduced as well. Table **??** gives a comparison of the size and training time among different models.

Model	**#Total**	**V-P**	**L-P**	**I-P**	**Size /MB**	**Time /h**
Trip-Net-F1F	88	40	24	24	106	9.82
Trip-Net-F2F	92	40	26	26	137	7.35
Trip-Net-F3F	96	40	28	28	167	7.35
Trip-Net	100	40	30	30	198	9.15
GCNN	32	32	0	0	46	2.18

TABLE 5.1: Model information. Columns V-P, L-P and I-P represent the number of convolution layers in vertex pipe, light pipe and image pipe respectively. Note that one gated convolution layer is constructed with 2 standard layers, thus it is counted as 2.

5.4 Evaluation

Based on metrics proposed by Fouhey, Gupta, and Hebert, 2013, 6 different metrics are used for evaluation. Note that the input vertex map is only semi-dense. One of the benefit of GCNN architecture is the robust to the noisy input, thus in the evaluation, all the points including missing points in the input vertex map are taken into account.

Average Angle Error Metric The metric calculate the average angle error for each point between the inferred normal and ground-truth normal.

Median Angle Error Metric The metric calculate the median angle error of all the point in the normal map.

5 Degree Error Metric The metric calculate the percentage of the predicted normals that has error less than 5 degrees comparing to ground-truth.

11.5 Degree Error Metric The metric calculate the percentage of the predicted normals that has error less than 11.5 degrees comparing to ground-truth.

22.5 Degree Error Metric The metric calculate the percentage of the predicted normals that has error less than 22.5 degrees comparing to ground-truth.

30 Degree Error Metric The metric calculate the percentage of the predicted normals that has error less than 30 degrees comparing to ground-truth.

We evaluate the trained models on "synthetic-50-5". 5 objects are considered in the test dataset. They are: *Baoshanlu*, *Bus*, *Dragon*, $Garfield$, and $Washington$. Each object has 20 scenes with total 100 scenes for 5 objects. The test objects do not exist in the training dataset. We evaluate all the presented models on the test dataset, in order to fit them in one table, the name of each models are simplified. SVD model use SVD optimization method, NOC model is the no skip connection version of $GCNN$, CNN is the CNN version of $GCNN$. $F1$, $F2$, $F3$,$F4$ means the fusion times in the Trip-Net.

Among all the columns, the most important models are $GCNN$ (depth map based) and $F4$ (calibrated illuminated RGB-D image based), which is the core result of this thesis. When evaluate the $GCNN$ models, we can take SVD model as baseline, NOC and CNN are used to verify the performance of $GCNN$ model. When evaluate the $F1 - F4$ models, we can take $GCNN$ model as baseline.

Object	#	**SVD**	**GCNN**	**NOC**	**CNN**	**F1**	**F2**	**F3**	**F4**
Baoshanlu	20	35.66	11.09	13.58	15.55				9.82
Bus	20	31.93	7.79	8.95	11.93				7.32
Dragon	20	39.57	10.60	15.29	16.03				7.35
Garfield	20	39.69	10.20	12.50	14.46				9.15
Washington	20	42.83	13.43	17.59	18.71				12.13

Table 5.2: Average Angle Error of the evaluation dataset.

Object	#	**SVD**	**GCNN**	**NOC**	**CNN**	**F1**	**F2**	**F3**	**F4**
Baoshanlu	20	34.06	8.86	10.82	13.25				7.62
Bus	20	34.14	4.44	5.02	8.69				4.01
Dragon	20	36.43	7.62	11.10	13.26				5.06
Garfield	20	37.60	6.40	8.90	11.31				5.81
Washington	20	36.89	7.64	11.38	13.64				6.76

Table 5.3: Median Angle Error of the evaluation dataset.

Object	#	**SVD**	**GCNN**	**NOC**	**CNN**	**F1**	**F2**	**F3**	**F4**
Baoshanlu	20	0.01	0.25	0.18	0.11				0.31
Bus	20	0.00	0.56	0.50	0.23				0.59
Dragon	20	0.00	0.31	0.17	0.10				0.50
Garfield	20	0.00	0.41	0.27	0.14				0.45
Washington	20	0.00	0.38	0.26	0.10				0.41

Table 5.4: Percent of error less than 5 degree of the evaluation dataset.

Object	#	SVD	GCNN	NOC	CNN	F1	F2	F3	F4
Baoshanlu	20	0.03	0.62	0.52	0.41				0.69
Bus	20	0.05	0.81	0.78	0.65				0.83
Dragon	20	0.02	0.69	0.51	0.40				0.82
Garfield	20	0.03	0.72	0.62	0.51				0.75
Washington	20	0.02	0.62	0.50	0.40				0.66

TABLE 5.5: Percent of error less than 11.5 degree of the evaluation dataset.

Object	#	SVD	GCNN	NOC	CNN	F1	F2	F3	F4
Baoshanlu	20	0.18	0.90	0.84	0.79				0.92
Bus	20	0.26	0.93	0.91	0.89				0.94
Dragon	20	0.14	0.90	0.79	0.80				0.95
Garfield	20	0.13	0.89	0.86	0.84				0.91
Washington	20	0.14	0.81	0.72	0.72				0.84

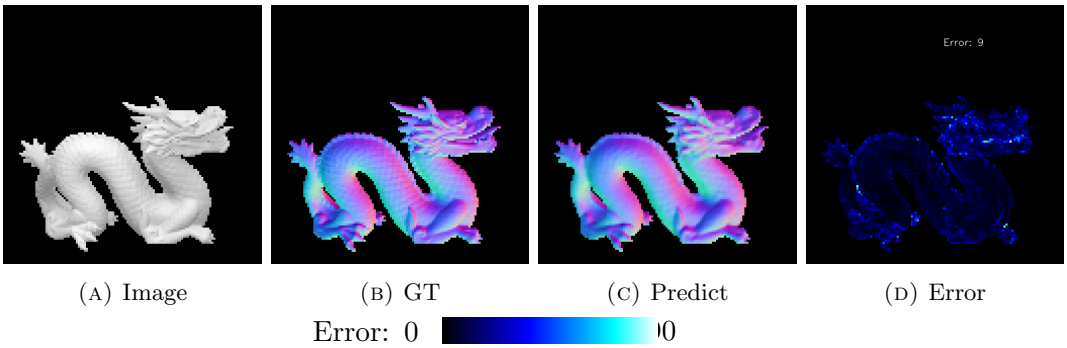
TABLE 5.6: Percent of error less than 22.5 degree of the evaluation dataset.

Object	#	SVD	GCNN	NOC	CNN	F1	F2	F3	F4
Baoshanlu	20	0.37	0.96	0.93	0.90				0.97
Bus	20	0.43	0.96	0.94	0.93				0.96
Dragon	20	0.30	0.95	0.88	0.90				0.98
Garfield	20	0.27	0.94	0.92	0.91				0.95
Washington	20	0.28	0.88	0.81	0.82				0.90

TABLE 5.7: Percent of error less than 30 degree of the evaluation dataset.

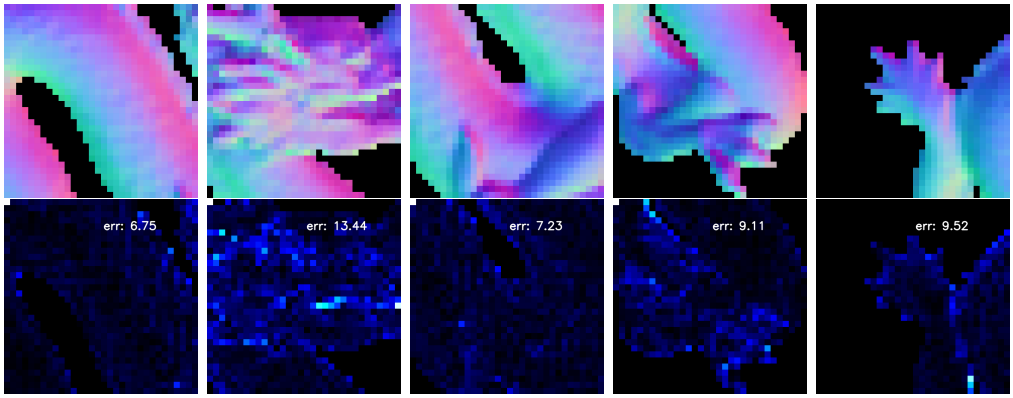
5.5 Visualization evaluation on GCNN model

A qualitative evaluation on object "dragon" is shown in Figure 5.4. As shown in the figure, GCNN model achieved a mean angle error in 9 degrees on this dragon object. The image has an overall good performance on the whole object. A closer evaluation is shown in Figure 5.5, the normal accuracy especially good on the smooth surface, like the body area. In the same case, NOC model as shown in Figure 5.6 has a overall worse normal than GCNN model in the smooth area. CNN model keeps the skip connection thus gives a sharper result than NOC model, however, the overall smooth part of the model is still worse than GCNN. Besides, the sharp area like the hindleg, the head of dragon object, CNN model gives a much brighter error map (which lead to a higher angle error).



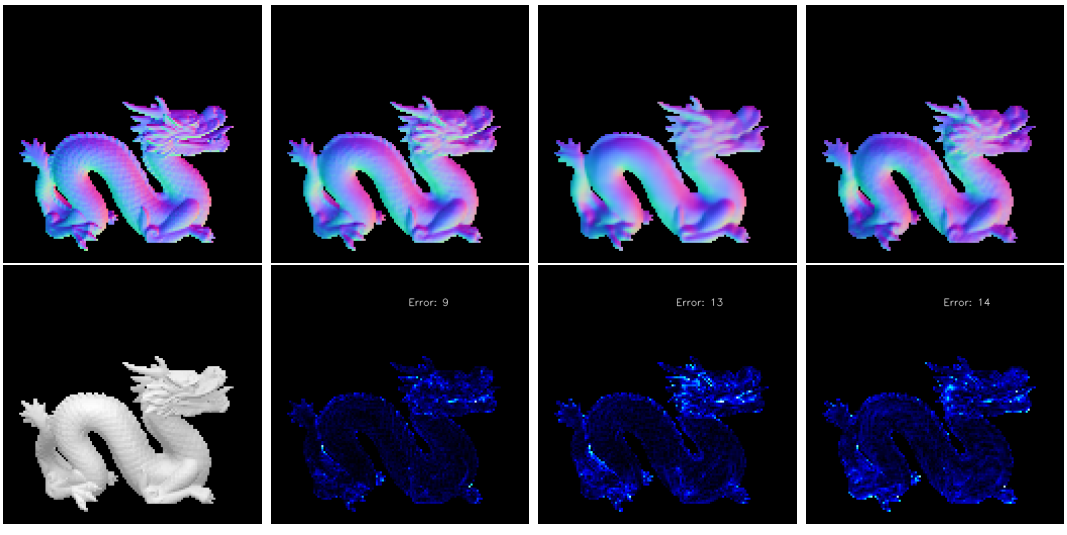
(A) Image (B) GT (C) Predict (D) Error

FIGURE 5.4: Normal inference based on GCNN. Test image has resolution 128×128



(A) Scale (B) Head (C) Foreleg (D) Hindleg (E) Tail

FIGURE 5.5: Zoom in of some regions of Dragon object. The first row is surface normal, the second row is the corresponding errors. Zoom-in normal map corresponding 32×32 points in the original matrix.



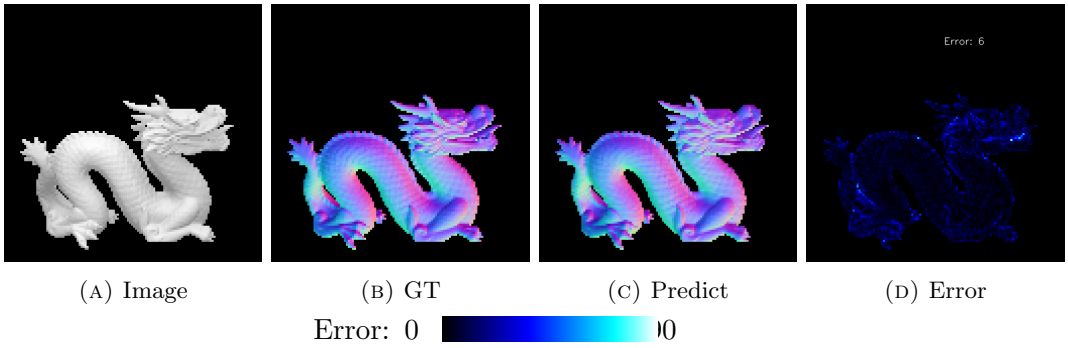
(A) GT (B) GCNN (C) NOC (D) CNN

FIGURE 5.6: Comparison of GCNN model with no skip connection version(NOC) and standard convolution layer only version (CNN). The second row is the corresponding mean average degree error.

5.6 Surface Normal Inference based on Calibrated Illuminated RGBD images

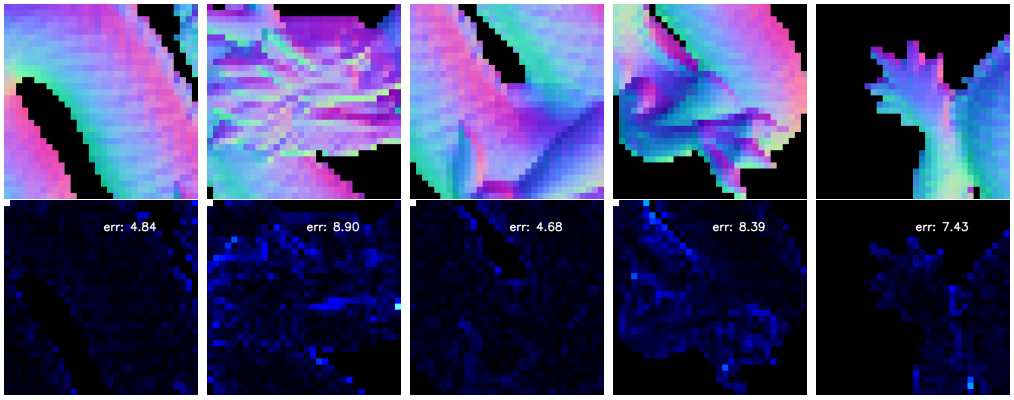
For the approach using illuminated calibrated RGBD image, the task is undertaken by Trip-Net introduced in **??**. The qualitative evaluation is shown in figure 5.7. In order to show the effectiveness of added illuminated information, the training settings for all the models are exact the same. We also use the same input as we did in GCNN evaluation. The error of Trip-Net is 6 degree whereas the GCNN is 9.

As shown in the figure 5.8, the scale on the dragon body is much easier to detect and close to the ground-truth. The head region gives a sharper edge prediction. All of the five sampled zoom-in regions in the Trip-Net has a better performance than GCNN.



(A) Image (B) GT (C) Predict (D) Error

FIGURE 5.7: Normal inference based on Trip-Net. Test image has resolution 128×128



(A) Scale (B) Head (C) Foreleg (D) Hindleg (E) Tail

FIGURE 5.8: Zoom in of some regions of Dragon object. The first row is surface normal, the second row is the corresponding errors. Zoom-in normal map corresponding 32×32 points in the original matrix.

5.7 More Comparison

Figure 5.9 gives more visualization on model SVD, GCNN and Trip-Net. Figure 5.10 is the corresponding zoom-in visualization.

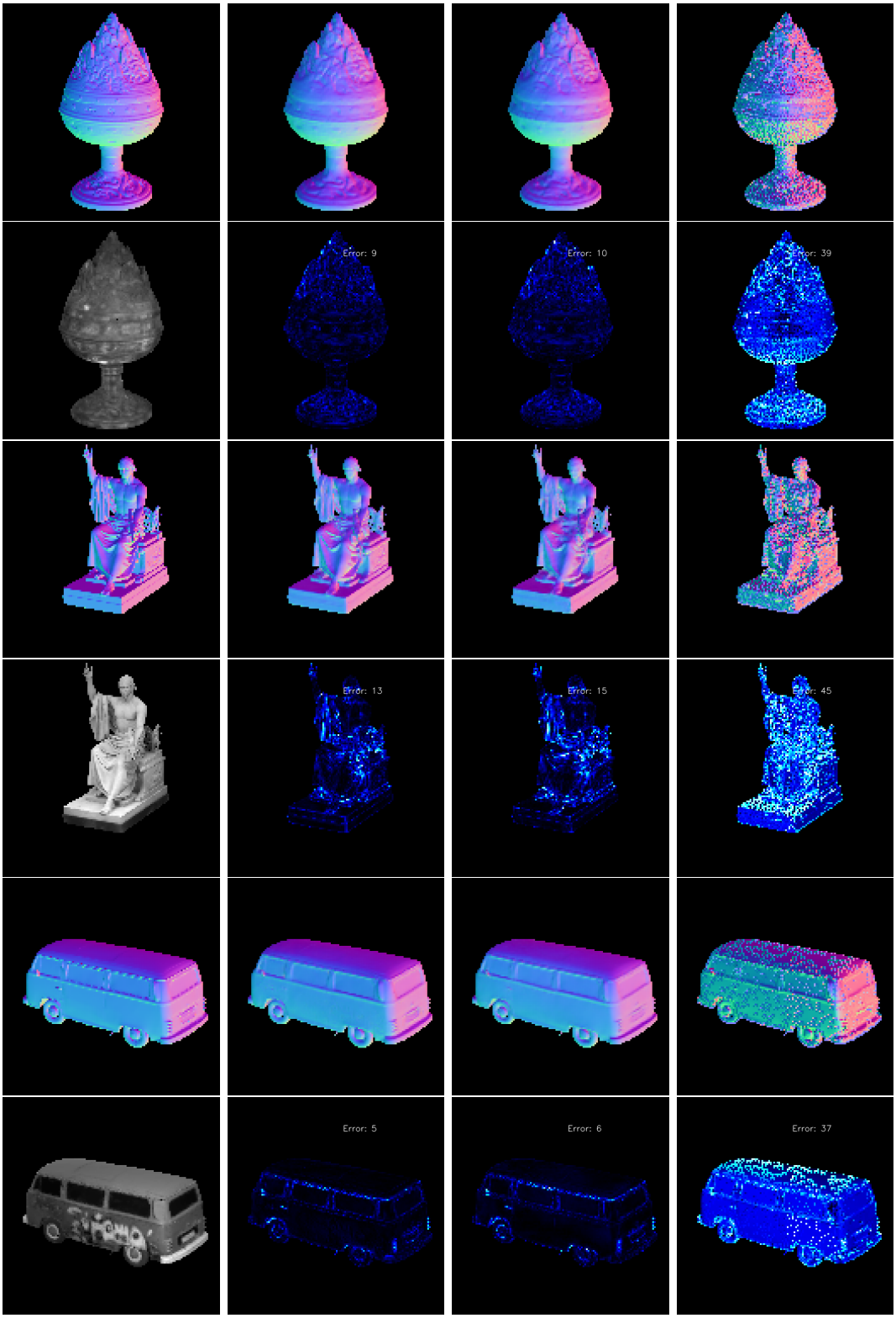
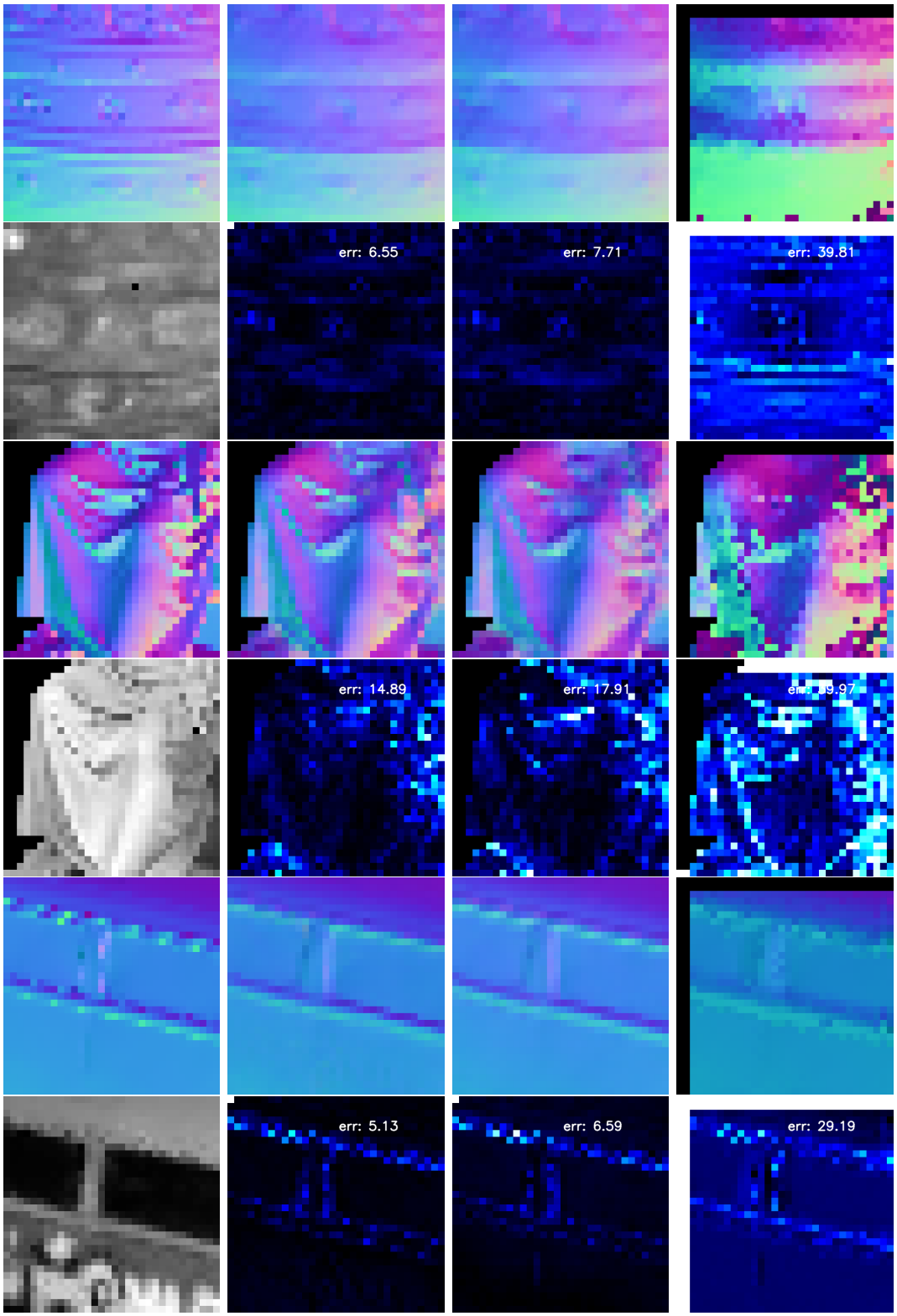


FIGURE 5.9: Evaluation on objects Baoshanlu, Washington statue, Bus(from top to bottom).



(A) GT (B) Trip-Net (C) GCNN (D) SVD

FIGURE 5.10: Zoom in of the center region of the objects in Figure 5.9

Chapter 6

Conclusion

Gated convolution neural network...

Appendix A

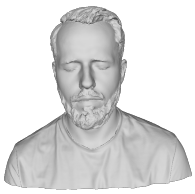
Dataset

A.1 Dataset

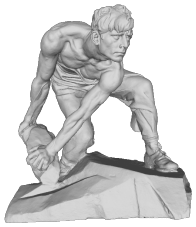
(A) apoll

(B) arm

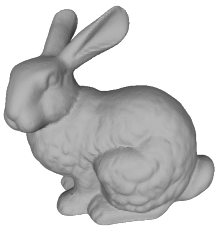
(C) armadillo



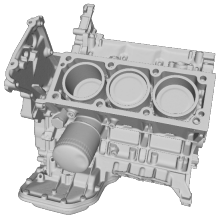
(D) bearded-guy



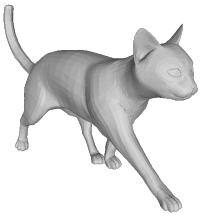
(E) bronze-sculpture



(F) bunny



(G) car-engine



(H) cat

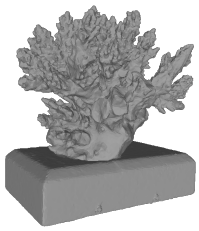
(I) side-chair

(J) chair2

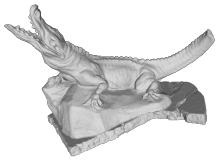
(K) chandelier

(L) Christmas-bear

(M) classic-side-table



(N) coral



(O) crocodile-statue

(P) Diane

(Q) Dresdner-knabe

(R) fantasy-dragon

(S) fox-skull

(T) Garuda and Vishnu

(U) giraffe-skull

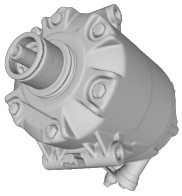
(V) green-hat

(W) happy-budda

(X) heart-pendant

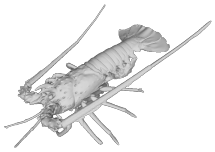
FIGURE A.1: Point clouds in training dataset A

(A) indonesian-statue

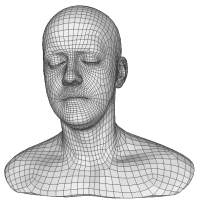


(B) industrial-compressor

(C) kylix



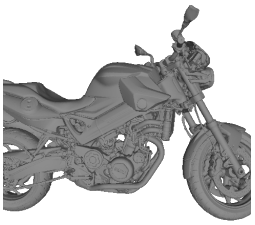
(D) lobster



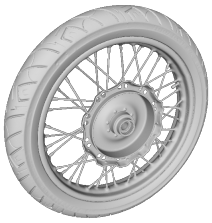
(E) head

(F) Lu-Yu

(G) Maitreya

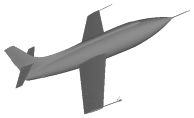


(H) motorbike



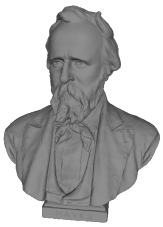
(I) motorcycle-wheel

(J) Pan



(K) plane

(L) elkins-refrigerator

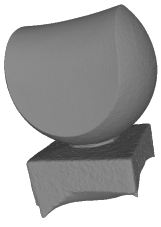


(M) Rutherford

(N) statue-dragonfly-tamer

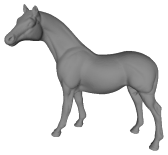
(O) Tiger

(P) transmission



(Q) universe

(R) Vestalin



(S) Zebra

(T) elephant-zun-base

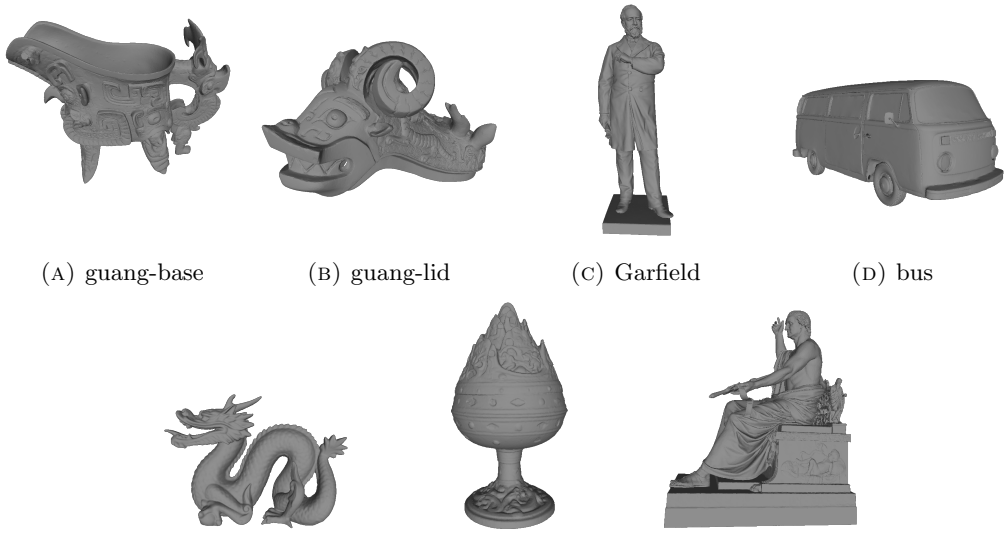
(U) elephant-zun-lid

(V) cosmic-budda

(W) fangyi-base

(X) fangyi-lid

FIGURE A.2: Point clouds in training dataset B



(A) guang-base (B) guang-lid (C) Garfield (D) bus

(E) dragon (F) baoshanlu (G) Washington

FIGURE A.3: Point clouds in training dataset C

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