



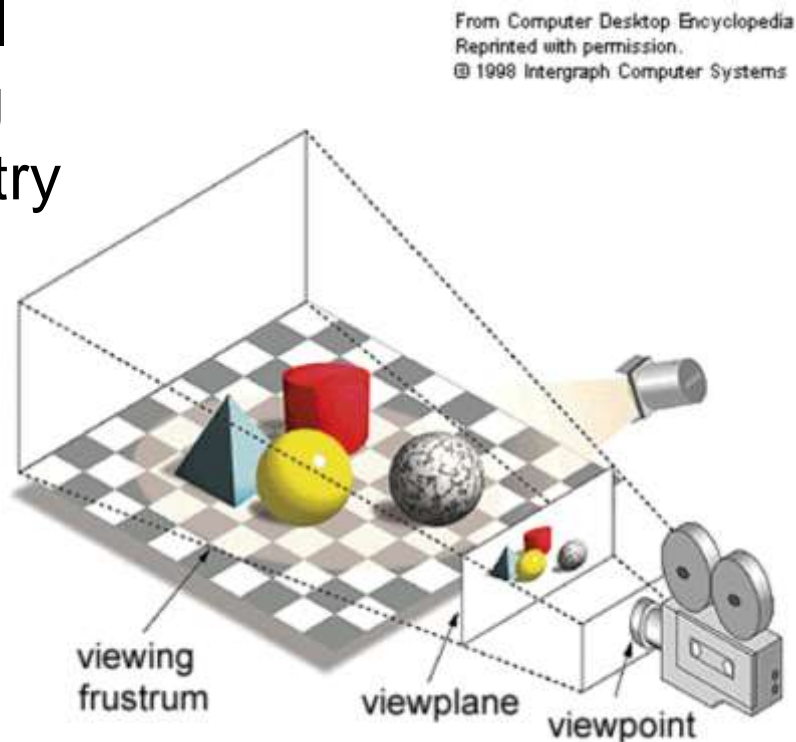
Lecture 20: Advanced Topics: Neural Rendering and Modeling

Lan Xu
SIST, ShanghaiTech
Fall, 2023

What's Rendering

3D scene

- Material
- Lighting
- Geometry
- ...



Camera Def.

- Intrinsics
- Focal length
- Principal point
- ...

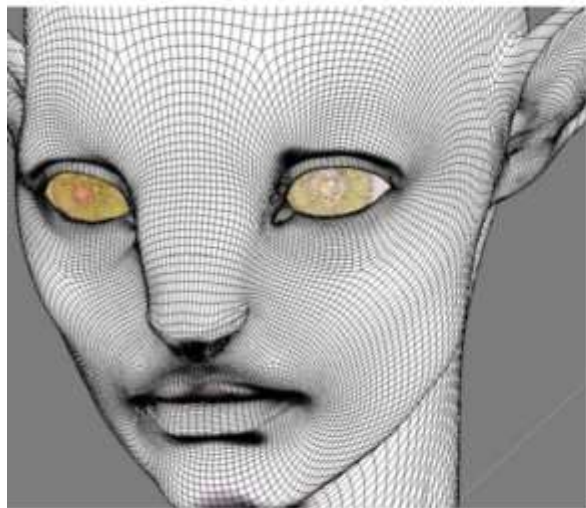
View point

- Extrinsic
- 6DoF(rot + trans)
- ...

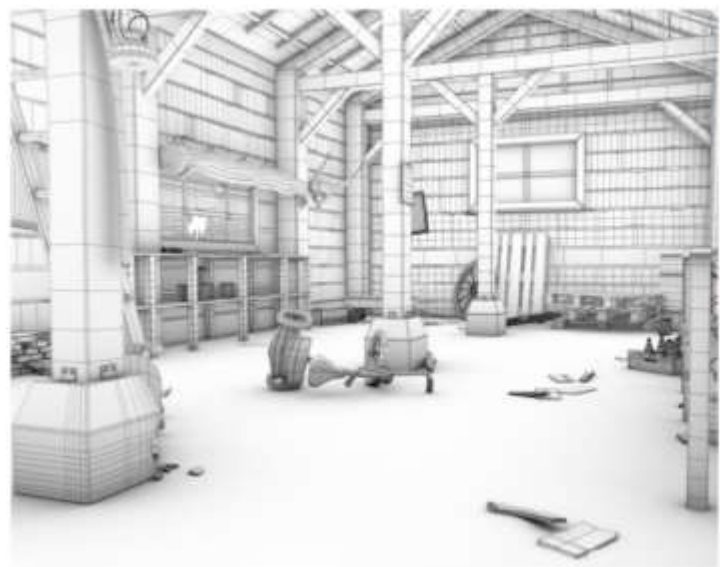
Photo-realistic Image Synthesis

- The Rendering Equation [Kajiya 86]

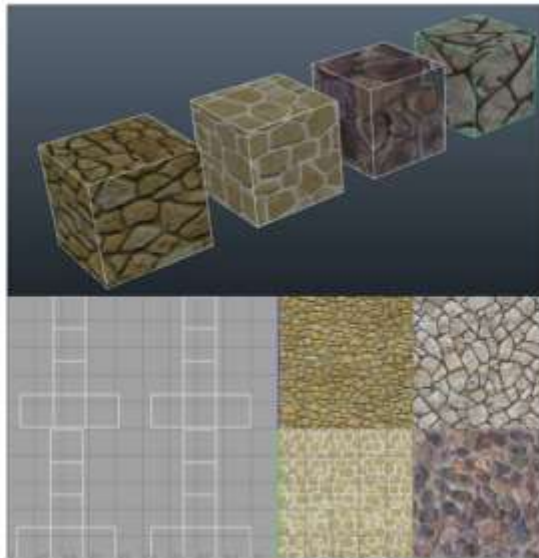
$$L_o(\mathbf{x}, \omega_o, \lambda, t) = L_e(\mathbf{x}, \omega_o, \lambda, t) + \int_{\Omega} f_r(\mathbf{x}, \omega_i, \omega_o, \lambda, t) L_i(\mathbf{x}, \omega_i, \lambda, t) (\omega_i \cdot \mathbf{n}) d\omega_i$$



Need 3D Content for Rendering



Geometry



Textures



Material & Lighting

Computer Vision for Reconstruction

- Building Rome in a day



Sameer Agarwala , Yasutaka Furukawaa , Noah Snavely, Ian Simonb , Brian Curless, Steven M. Seitz and Richard Szeliski, *Communications of the ACM*, 2011

Traditional Reconstruction

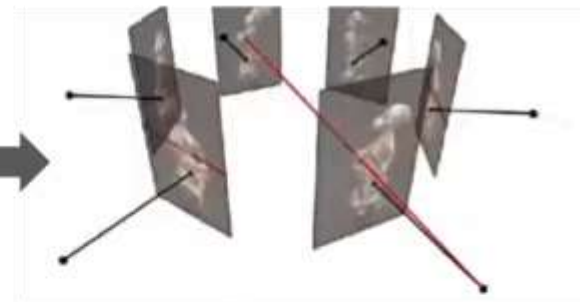
- Recall traditional reconstruction pipeline
- Take **geometry** as example



Input Images



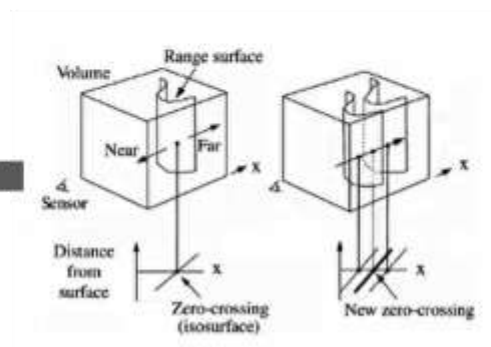
Camera Poses



Dense Correspondences



Depth Map Fusion



Depth Map Fusion



3D Reconstruction

3D Digitization

- Various tastes for CV and CG



Computer Graphics



Computer Vision

Traditional Graphics v.s Deep Learning



3D Model + Textures + Shading -> Synthetic Image



Generative Adversarial Networks



Discriminator loss

$$J^{(D)} = -\frac{1}{2} \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{x} \sim p_{\text{data}}} \log D(\mathbf{x}) - \frac{1}{2} \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{z}} \log (1 - D(G(\mathbf{z})))$$

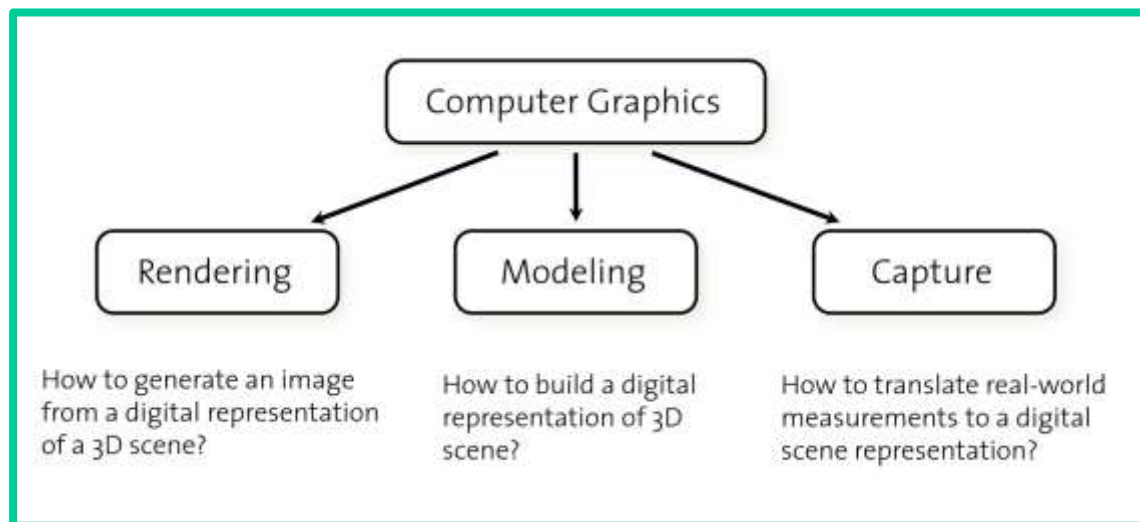
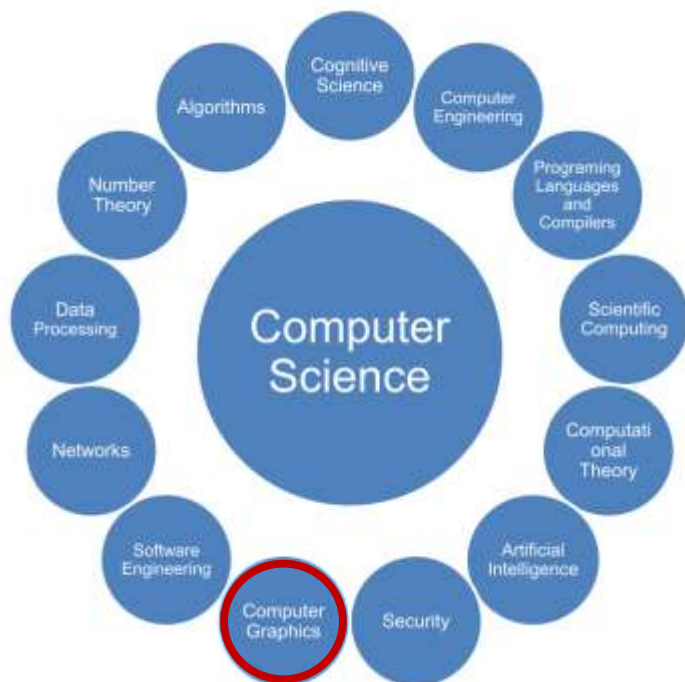
Generator loss

$$J^{(G)} = -J^{(D)}$$

7

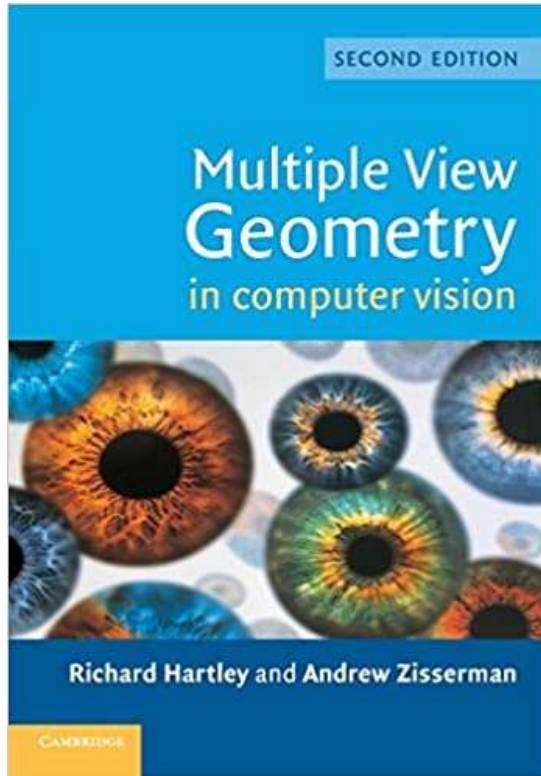
Computer Graphics?

- Both inverse process and forward process
- From **real world** to **virtual representation**, then to **vivid rendering**



Recall traditional pipeline

- Systematic knowledge with representative methods



Cambridge University Press,
March 2004.



Building Rome in a day, Sameer Agarwala , Yasutaka Furukawaa ,
Noah Snavely, Ian Simonb , Brian Curless, Steven M. Seitz and Richard
Szeliski, *Communications of the ACM*, 2011

Recall traditional pipeline

- Well-developed capture devices across the world
- Two riding horses: multi-view/photometric Stereos



Multi-camera Dome

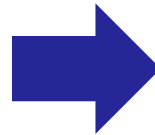
Light stage

Multi-View Stereo

Photometric Stereo

Recall traditional pipeline

- Various Applications
- Yet time-consuming → artist in-the-loop



architecture



digital twin



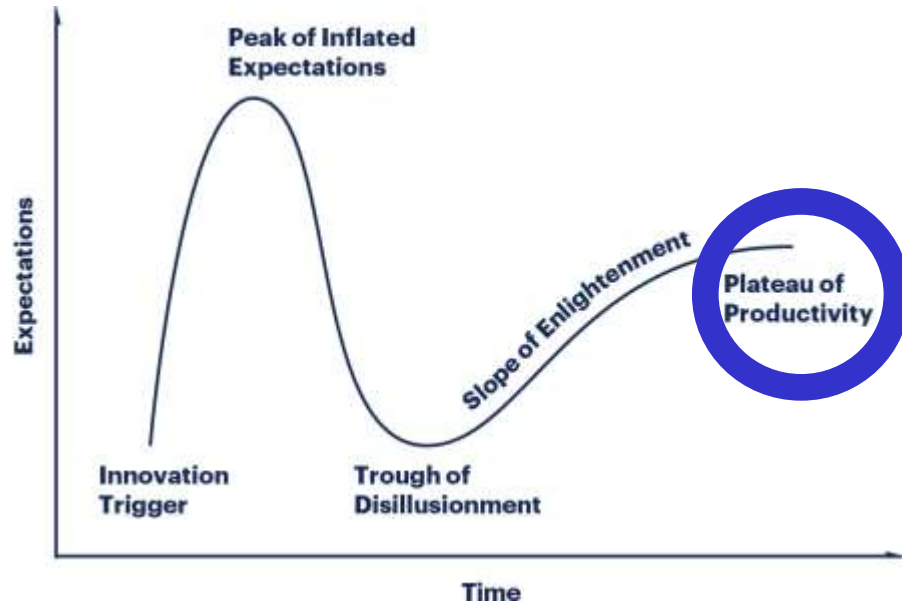
Movie



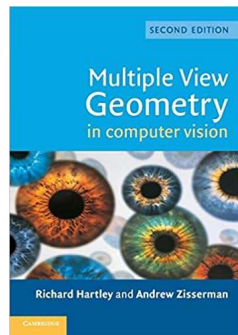
E-commerce

Recall traditional pipeline

- Traditional Pipeline: mature in the past decades



2021: Epic Games buys Capturing Reality

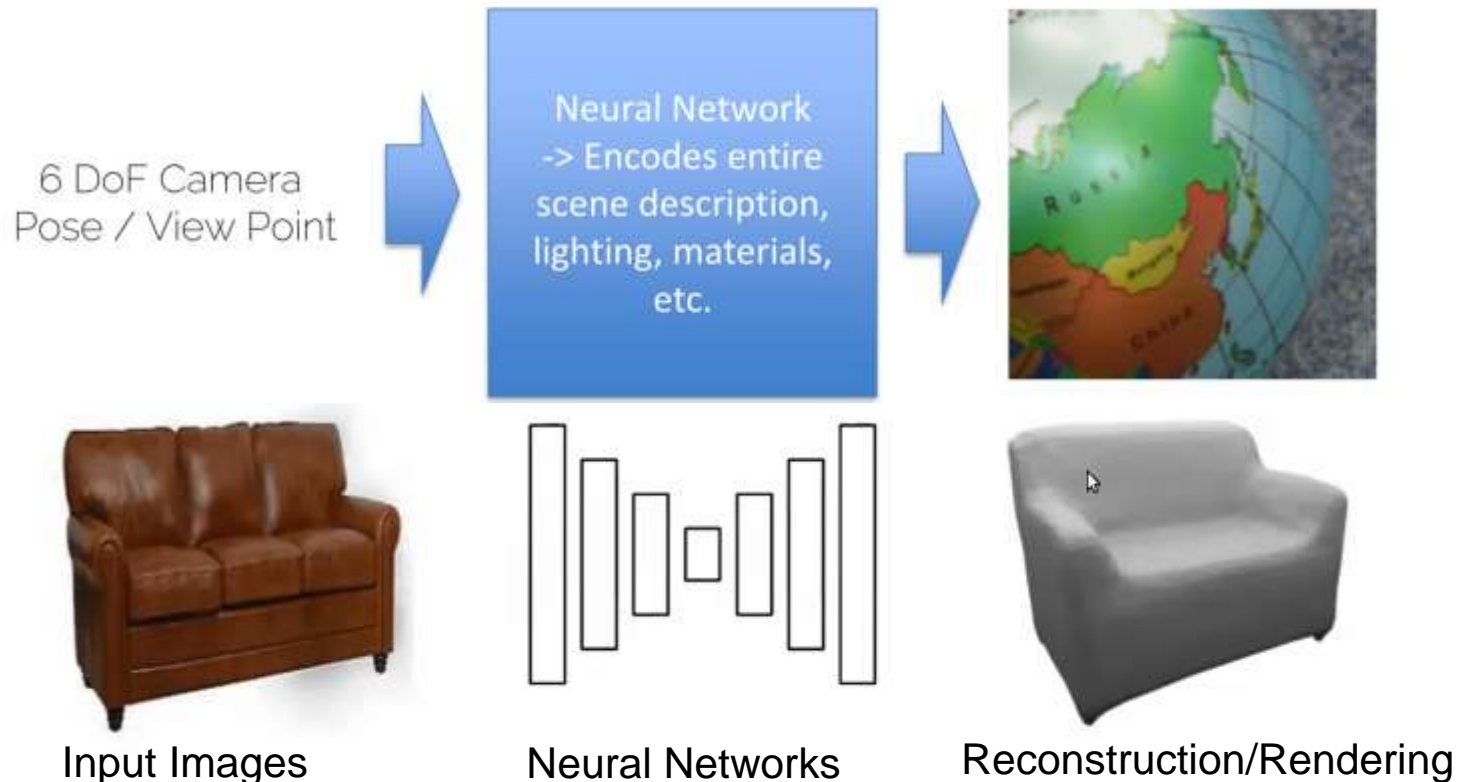


2004

Symbol

Idea of Neural Rendering

- Neural reconstruction from 2D images directly
- Novel view point synthesis



Idea of Neural Rendering

- Definition: Deep neural network for **image or video generation** that enable **explicit or implicit control** of **scene properties**

1)
Generative
networks that
synthesize raw
pixel output

2)
Output
controllable by
interpretable
paras or by
video/audio input.

3)
Illumination, camera
para., pose, geometry,
appearance, or
semantic structure
controllable

Idea of Neural Rendering

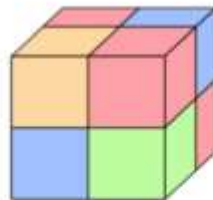
- Neural Rendering Taxonomy
- Required Data (image, video, mesh, etc.)
- Controllable Parameters (camera, pose, lighting, etc.)
- Multi-modal Synthesis
- Temporal Coherence
- **Computer Graphics Module**
- Generality
- ...

Neural Representation History

Scene
Representa
tion



Multi-Plane Images



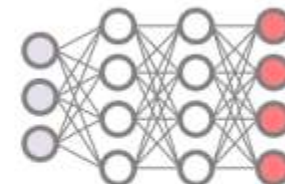
Voxelgrids



Image-based



Point Clouds



Implicit Function

Renderer

(Alpha) compositing

Volumetric
Ray-based

Rasterization


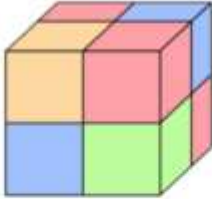


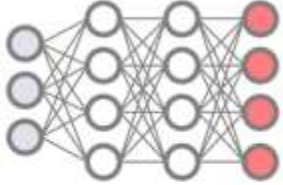
Splatting

Sphere-Traced
Volumetric


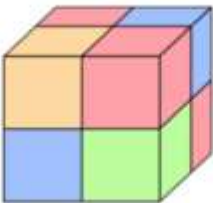

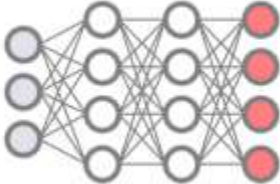
Scene Representation

Differentiable Renderer


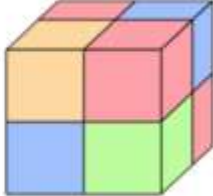


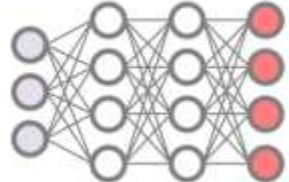
Neural Representation History

Scene Representation					
	Multi-Plane Images	Voxelgrids	Image-based	Point Clouds	Implicit Function
Renderer	(Alpha) compositing	Volumetric Ray-based	Rasterization	Splatting	Sphere-Traced Volumetric
Pros	Fast rendering High quality Generalizes				
Cons	Only 2.5D Size				

Neural Representation History

Scene Representation					
Renderer	(Alpha) compositing	Volumetric Ray-based	Rasterization	Splatting	Sphere-Traced Volumetric
Pros	Fast rendering High quality Generalizes	"True 3D" High quality			
Cons	Only 2.5D Size	No reconstruction priors Memory $O(n^3)$			

Neural Representation History

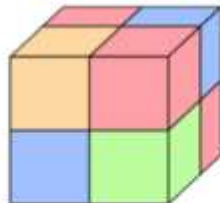
Scene Representation					
	Multi-Plane Images	Voxelgrids	Image-based	Point Clouds	Implicit Function
Renderer	(Alpha) compositing	Volumetric Ray-based	Rasterization	Splatting	Sphere-Traced Volumetric
Pros	Fast rendering High quality Generalizes	"True 3D" High quality	High quality		
Cons	Only 2.5D Size	No reconstruction priors Memory $O(n^3)$	Requires good SFM No compact representation		

Neural Representation History

Scene
Representa
tion



Multi-Plane Images



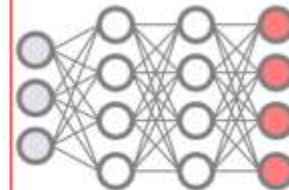
Voxelgrids



Image-based



Point Clouds



Implicit Function

Renderer

(Alpha) compositing

Volumetric
Ray-based

Rasterization

Splatting

Sphere-Traced
Volumetric

Pros

Fast rendering
High quality
Generalizes

"True 3D"
High quality

High quality

High quality

Cons

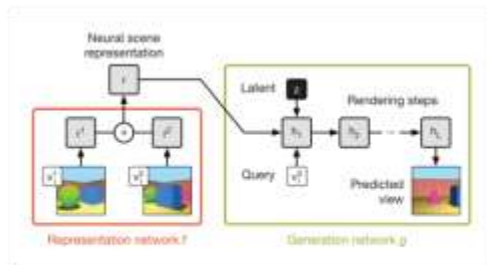
Only 2.5D
Size

No reconstruction
priors
Memory $O(n^3)$

Requires good SFM
No compact
representation

Requires good SFM

Neural Representation History

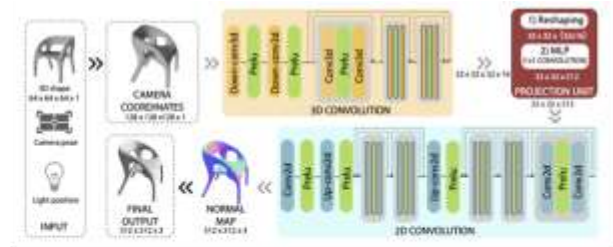


Generative Query Networks
[Eslami et al. 2018]



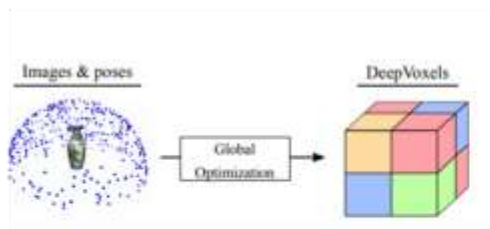
[Flynn et al., 2016; Zhou et al., 2018b;
Mildenhall et al. 2019]

Multiplane Images (MPIs)



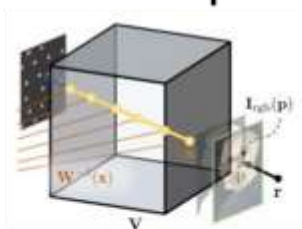
RenderNet [Nguyen-Phuoc et al. 2018]

Voxel Grids + CNN decoder



DeepVoxels
[Sitzmann et al. 2019]

Voxel Grids + Ray Marching



Neural Volumes
[Lombardi et al. 2019]



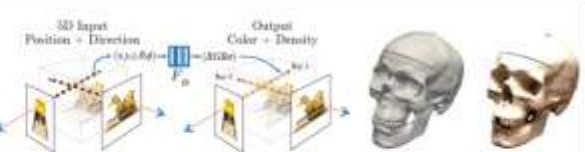
SRN

[Sitzmann et al. 2019b]



NeRF

[Mildenhall et al. 2020]



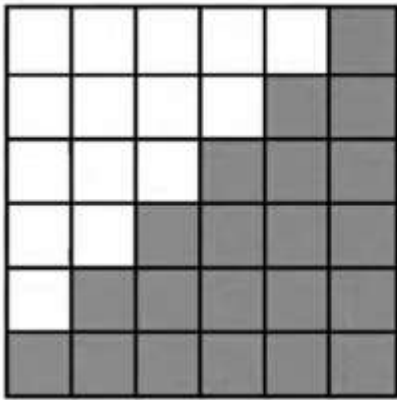
IDR

[Yariv et al. 2020]

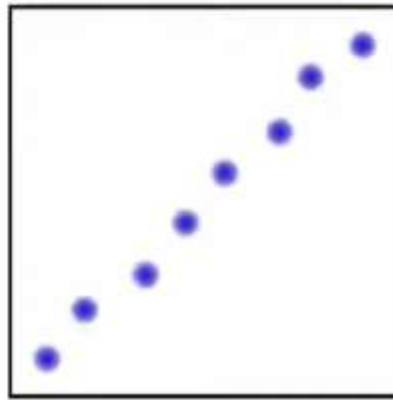
Implicit Fields

Neural Representation History

- The trend in recent years: from explicit to implicit
- Various explicit representations



Voxels



Points



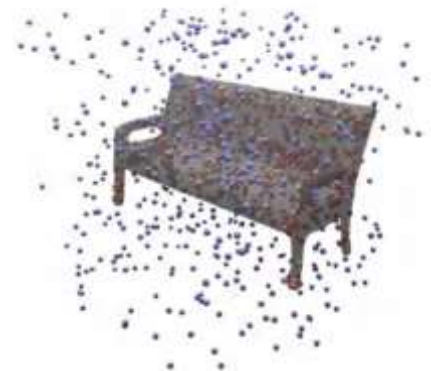
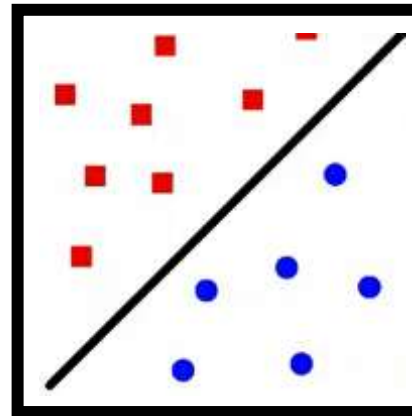
Meshes

Neural Implicit Representation

- The trend in recent years: from explicit to implicit
- Do not represent the 3D attribute explicitly
- Instead, consider a continuous manifold space, with continuous implicit attributes at the coordinates of the space

$$f_{\theta} : \mathbb{R}^3 \times \mathcal{X} \rightarrow [0, 1]$$

3D Location Condition (eg, Image) Occupancy Probability



Neural Implicit Representation

- NeRF: Neural Radiance Field
- 1) Color + Density; 2)- Positional Encoding + Volume Rendering

Representing Scenes as Neural Radiance Fields for View Synthesis, Mildenhall et al., *ECCV 2020 Oral - Best Paper Honorable Mention*

Neural Implicit Representation

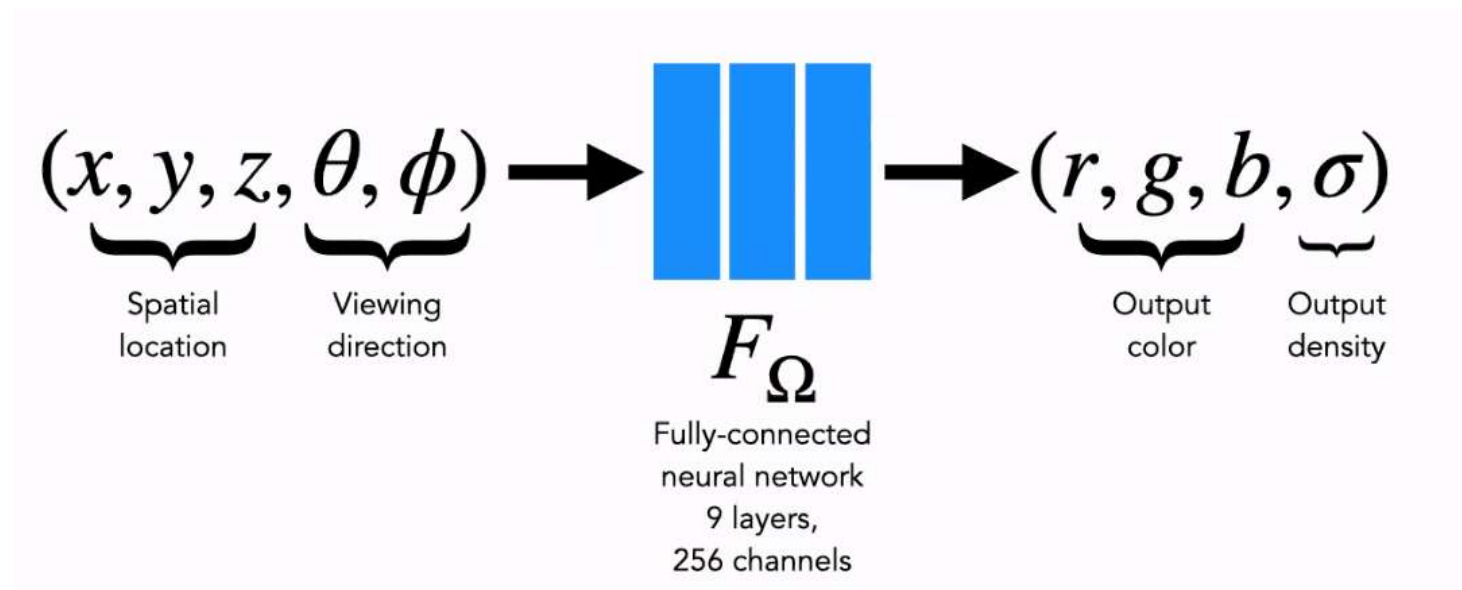
- NeRF: Neural Radiance Field
- 1) Color + Density; 2)- Positional Encoding + Volume Rendering



Representing Scenes as Neural Radiance Fields for View Synthesis, Mildenhall et al., *ECCV 2020 Oral - Best Paper Honorable Mention*

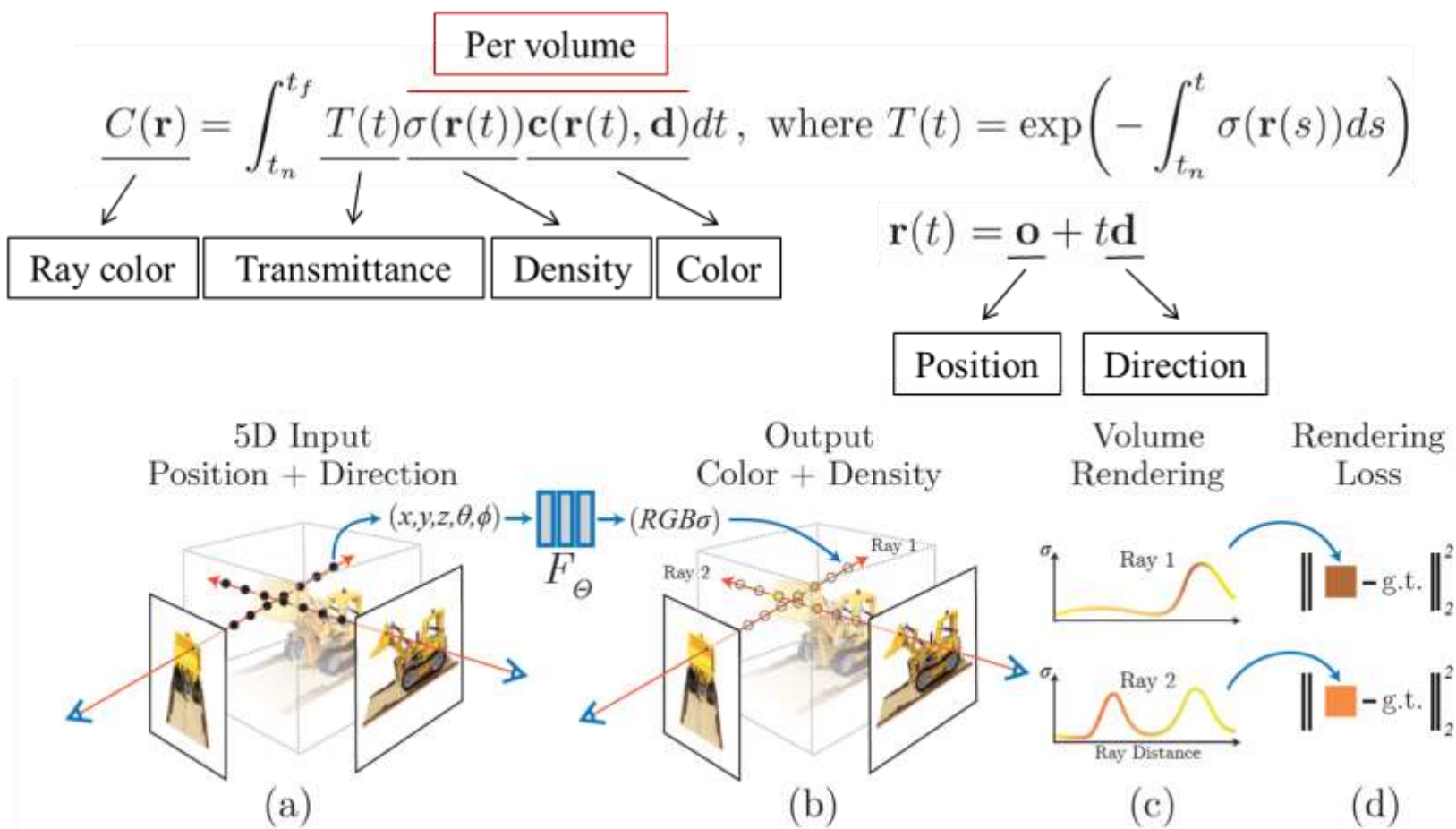
Neural Radiance Field

- A scene is a continuous 5D function



Neural Radiance Field

- Generate views with traditional **volume rendering**



Neural Radiance Field

- Generate views with traditional **volume rendering**

Rendering model for ray $r(t) = o + td$:

$$C \approx \sum_{i=1}^N T_i \alpha_i c_i$$

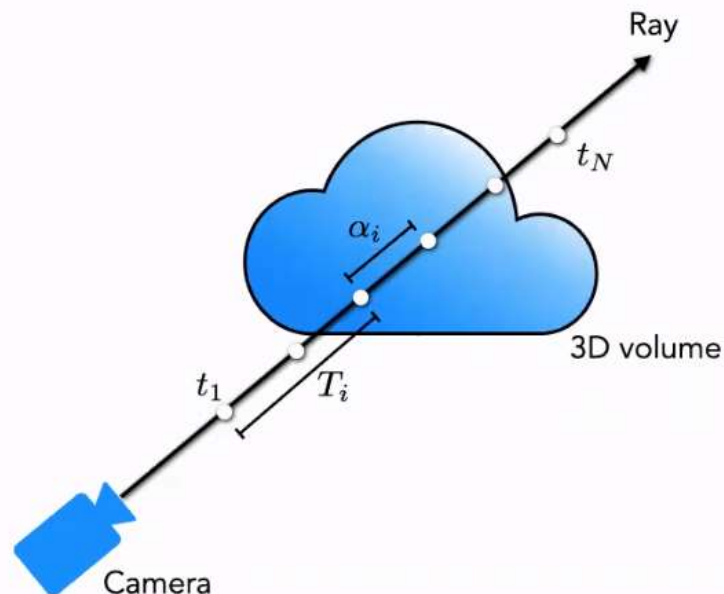
weights colors

How much light is blocked earlier along ray:

$$T_i = \prod_{j=1}^{i-1} (1 - \alpha_j)$$

How much light is contributed by ray segment i :

$$\alpha_i = 1 - e^{-\sigma_i \delta t_i}$$

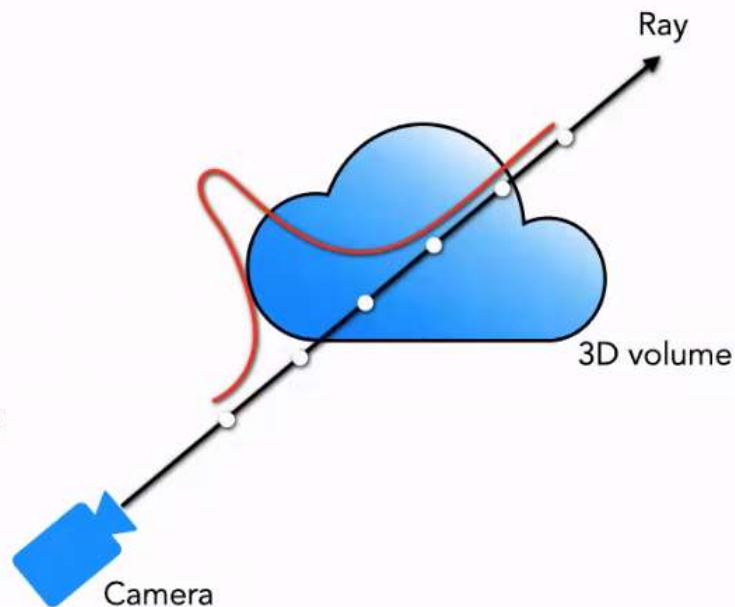


Neural Radiance Field

- Two pass rendering: **coarse**

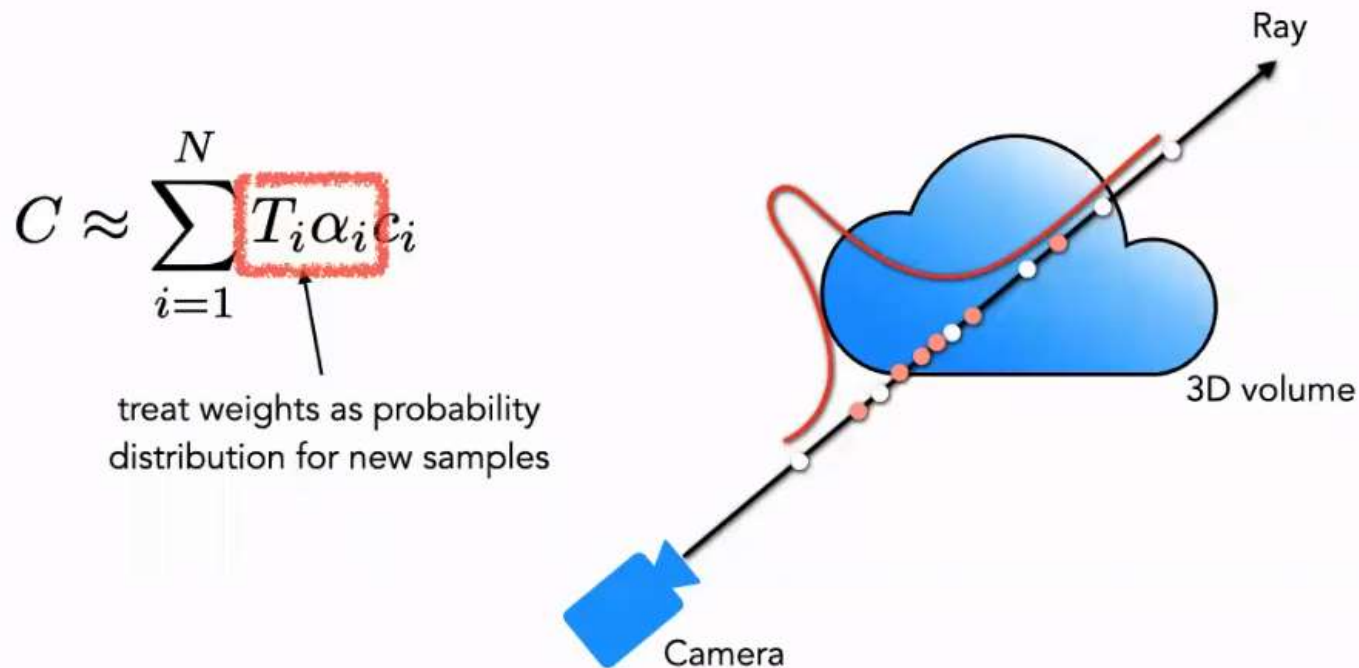
$$C \approx \sum_{i=1}^N T_i \alpha_i c_i$$

treat weights as probability distribution for new samples



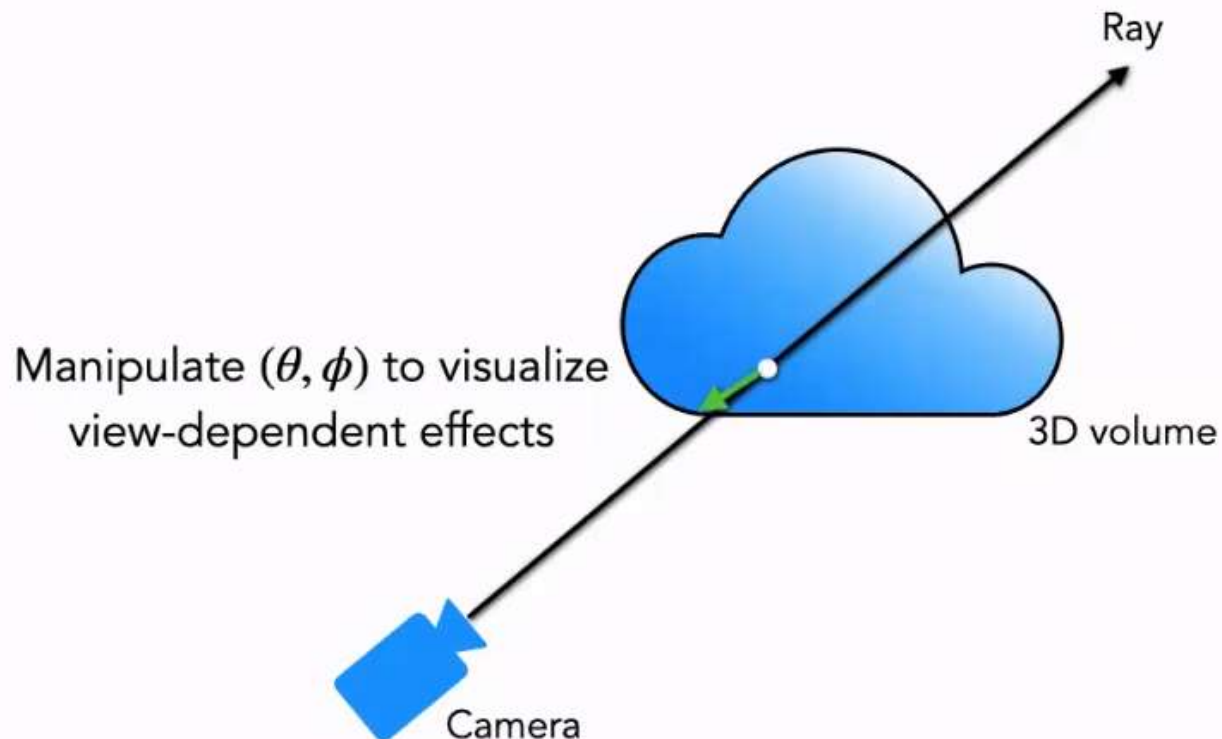
Neural Radiance Field

- Two pass rendering: **fine**



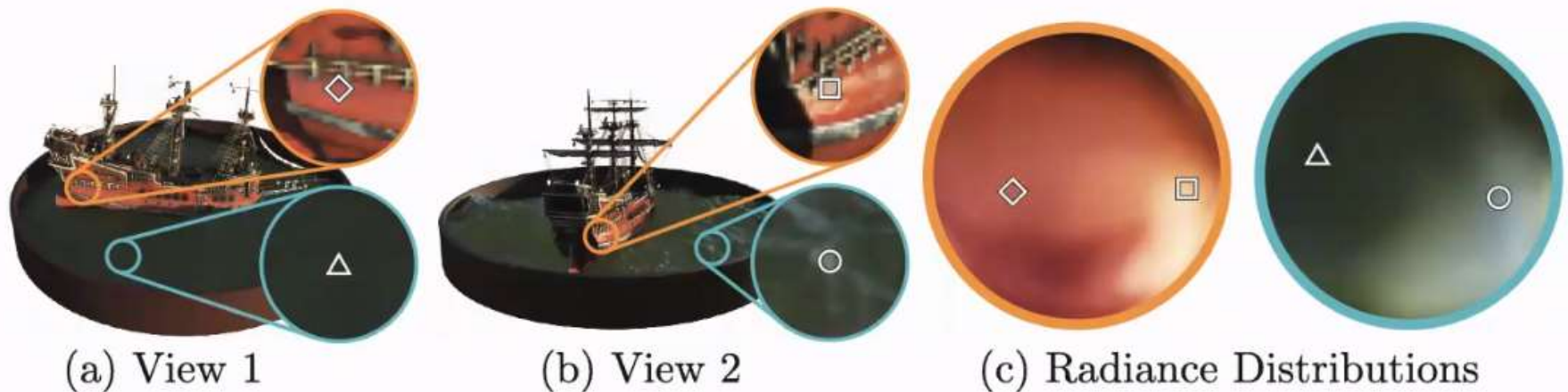
Neural Radiance Field

- Viewing directions as input



Neural Radiance Field

- Viewing directions as input



Neural Radiance Field

- Volume rendering is trivially differentiable

Rendering model for ray $r(t) = o + td$:

$$C \approx \sum_{i=1}^N T_i \alpha_i c_i$$

weights colors

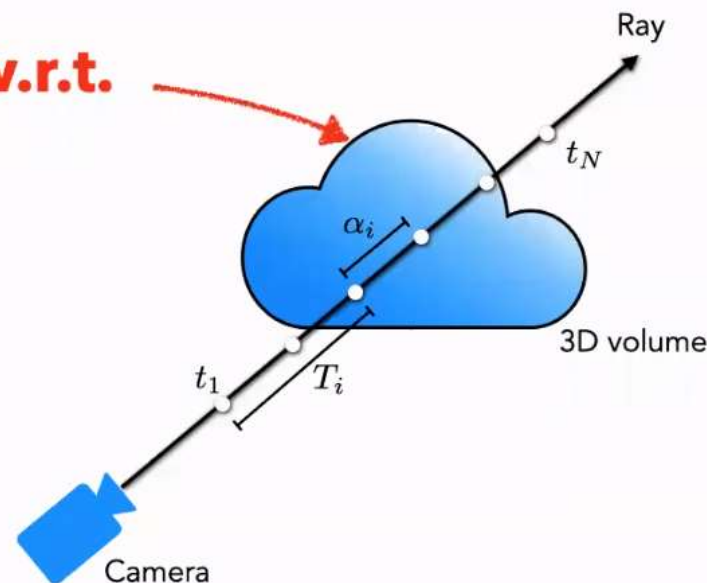
differentiable w.r.t.

How much light is blocked earlier along ray:

$$T_i = \prod_{j=1}^{i-1} (1 - \alpha_j)$$

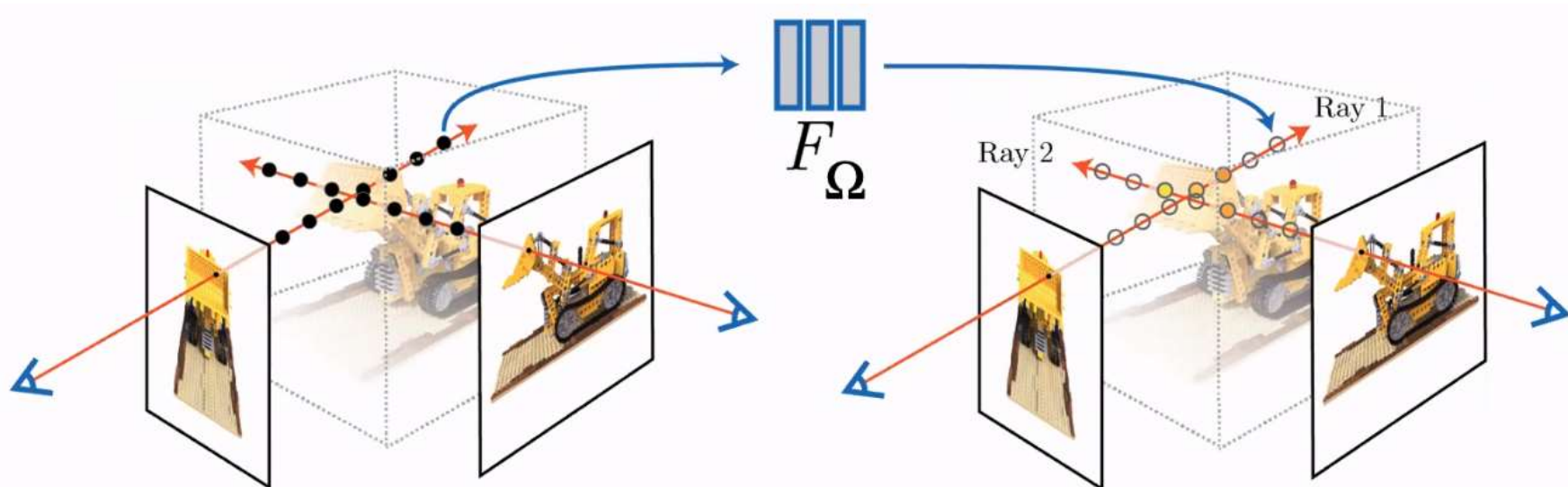
How much light is contributed by ray segment i :

$$\alpha_i = 1 - e^{-\sigma_i \delta t_i}$$



Neural Radiance Field

- Optimize with gradient descent on rendering loss



$$\min_{\Omega} \sum_i \|\text{render}^{(i)}(F_{\Omega}) - I_{\text{gt}}^{(i)}\|^2$$

Neural Radiance Field

- Positional encoding



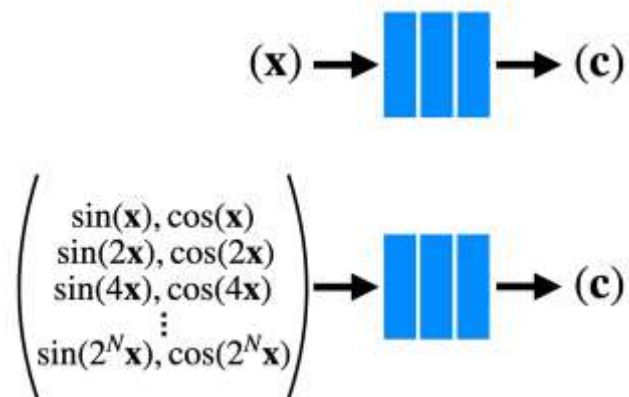
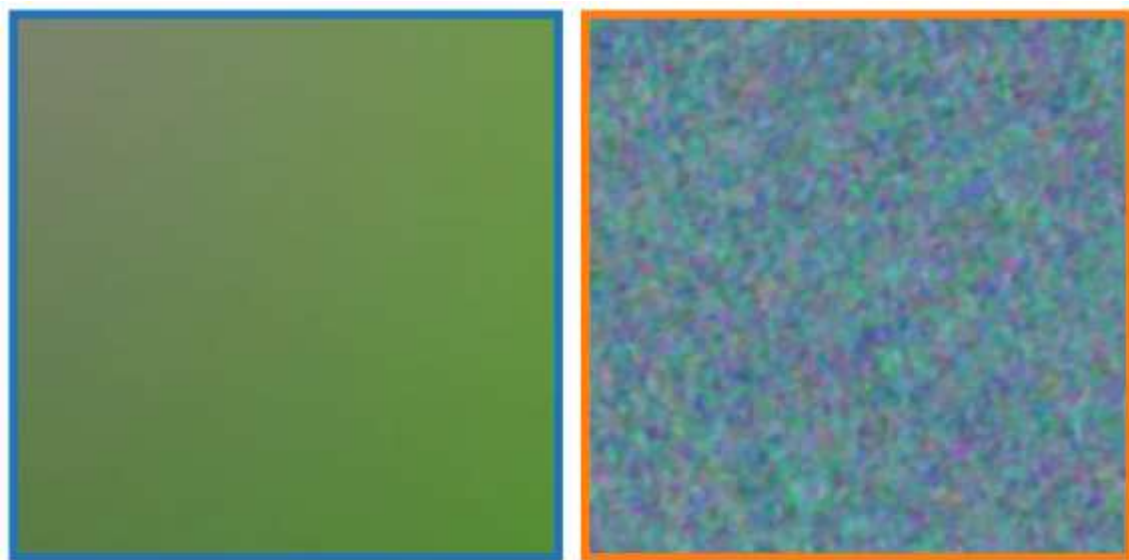
NeRF (Naive)



NeRF (with positional encoding)

Neural Radiance Field

- Positional encoding: 2D toy example



Neural Radiance Field

- Positional encoding: simple trick enable network to memorize

Ground truth image



Standard fully-connected net



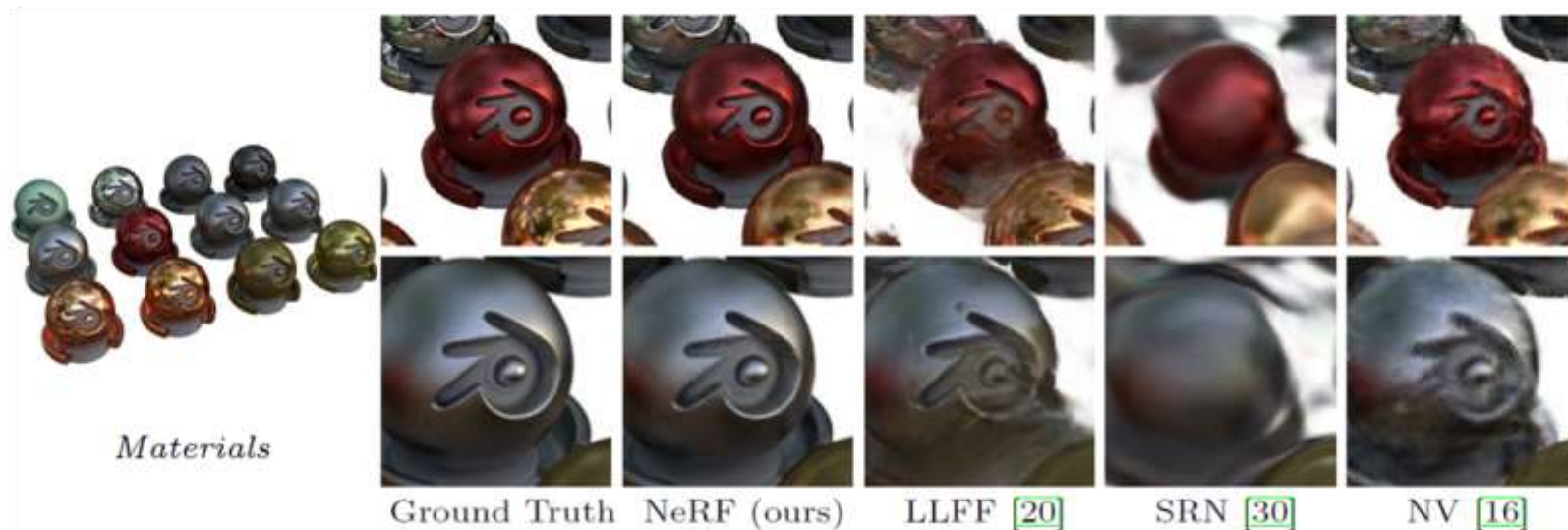
With "positional encoding"



Neural Radiance Field

■ Comparison Results

Method	Diffuse Synthetic 360° [29]			Realistic Synthetic 360°			Real Forward-Facing [20]		
	PSNR↑	SSIM↑	LPIPS↓	PSNR↑	SSIM↑	LPIPS↓	PSNR↑	SSIM↑	LPIPS↓
SRN [30]	33.20	0.986	0.073	22.26	0.867	0.170	22.84	0.866	0.378
NV [16]	29.62	0.946	0.099	26.05	0.944	0.160	-	-	-
LLFF [20]	34.38	0.995	0.048	24.88	0.935	0.114	24.13	0.909	0.212
Ours	40.15	0.998	0.023	31.01	0.977	0.081	26.50	0.935	0.250



Neural Radiance Field

- A lot of know-how within the pass years
- Re-new a lot of topics in CV/CG



Frank Dellaert

Professor, Robotics &
Computer Vision

📍 Atlanta, GA

📍 Georgia Tech

✉ Email

🐦 Twitter

🌐 LinkedIn

🏠 Github

📺 YouTube

🔍 Google Scholar

🆎 ORCID

NeRF Explosion 2020

21 minute read

📅 Published: December 16, 2020



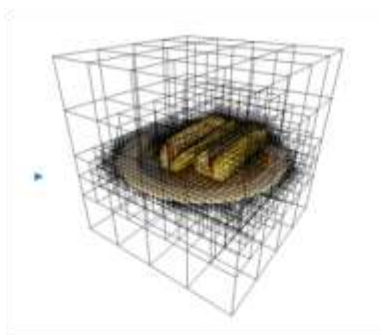
The result that got me hooked on wanting to know everything about NeRF :-).

Besides the COVID-19 pandemic and political upheaval in the US, 2020 was also the year in which **neural volume rendering** exploded onto the scene, triggered by the impressive [NeRF](#) paper by Mildenhall et al. This blog post is my way of getting up to speed in a fascinating and very young field and share my journey with you; I created it for the express intent to teach this material in a grad computer vision course. To be clear, I have not contributed to any of the papers below. I wish I had, as I stand in awe of the explosion of creative energy around this topic!

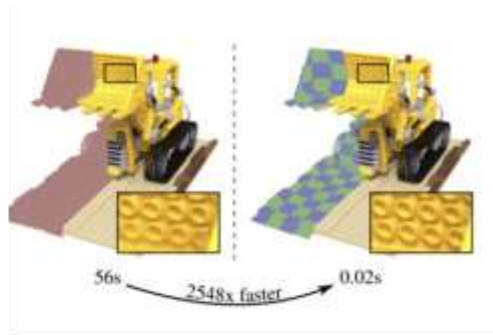
To start with some definitions, the larger field of *Neural rendering* is defined by the [excellent review paper by Tewari et al.](#) as

Powerful NeRF everywhere

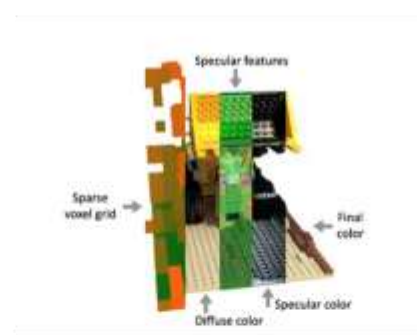
■ Fast Rendering and Fast Training



Yu et. al, 2021



Reiser et. al, 2021



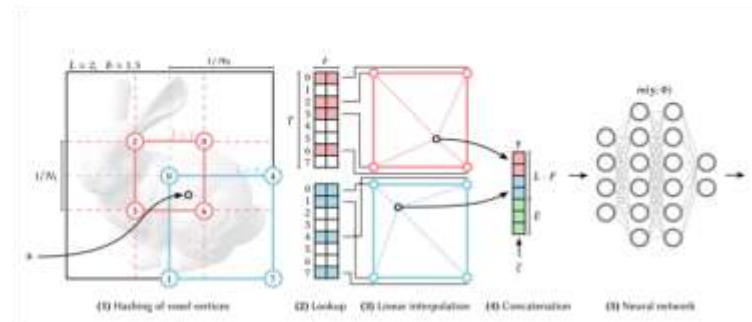
Hedman et. al, 2021



Garbin et. al, 2021



Wang et. al, 2022



Müller, et. al, 2022

Powerful NeRF everywhere

■ Dynamic Modeling



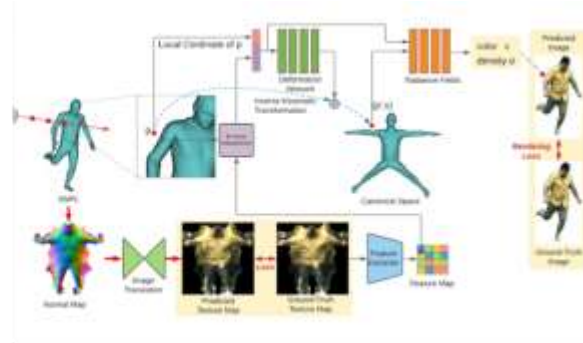
Input Input Reconstruction Novel View

Tretschk et al. 2019, Park et al. 2020, Pumarola et al. 2020, Li et al. 2020, Xian et al. 2020



Novel view synthesis

Peng et al. 2020, 2021



Liu et al. 2021



Zheng et al. 2022



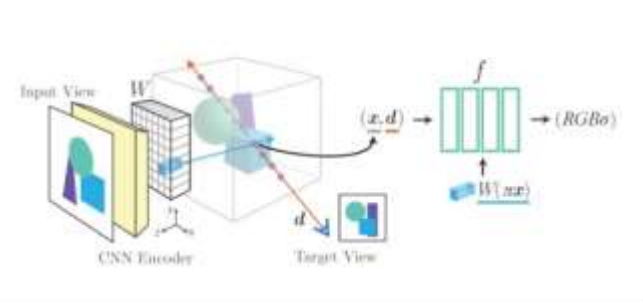
HumanNeRF [Zhao et al. 2022]



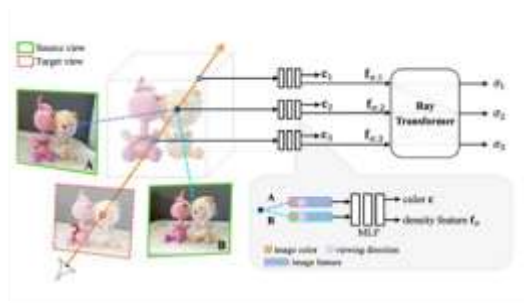
Artemis [Luo et al. 2022]

Powerful NeRF everywhere

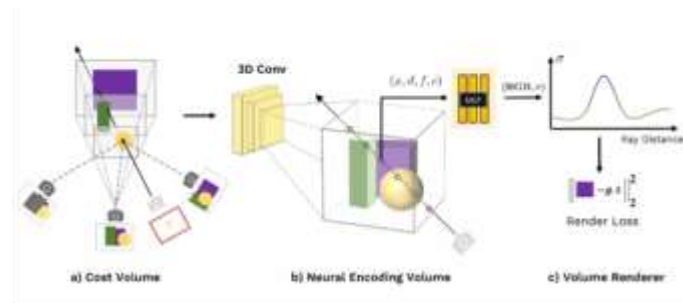
- Generalization



PixelNeRF [Yu et al. 2021]



IBRNet [Wang et al. 2021]



MVSNeRF [Chen et al. 2021]

- Pose estimation
- Relighting
- Editing and Composition

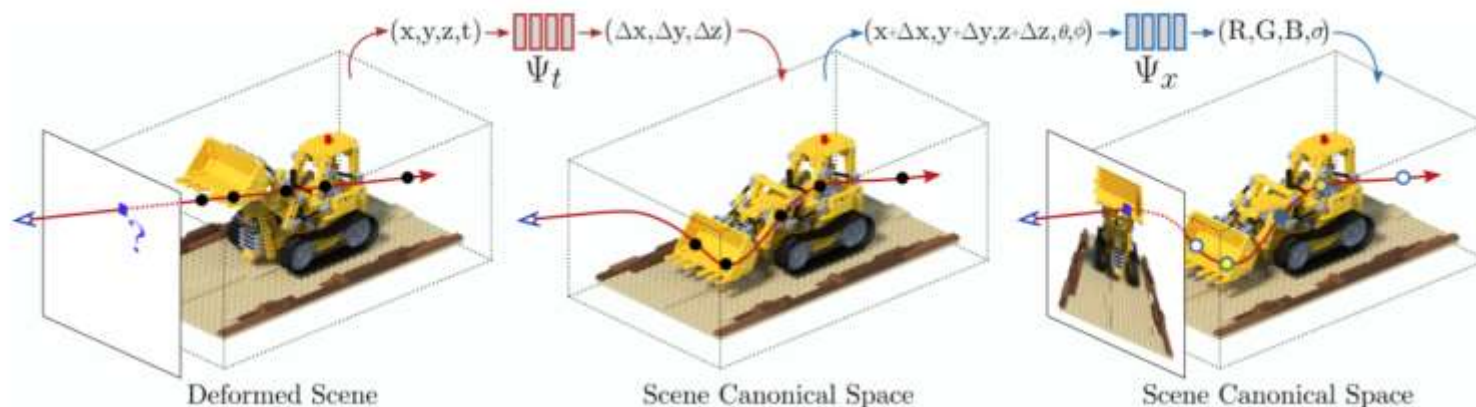
.....



Some examples of NeRF-related topics

NeRF-related examples

- Static scene → Dynamic scenes
- Conditioning to time & motion parameters



D-NeRF: Neural Radiance Fields for Dynamic Scene
Albert Pumarola, Enric Corona, Gerard Pons-Moll, Francesc Moreno-Noguer

NeRF-related examples

- Static scene → Dynamic scenes
- Conditioning to time & motion parameters

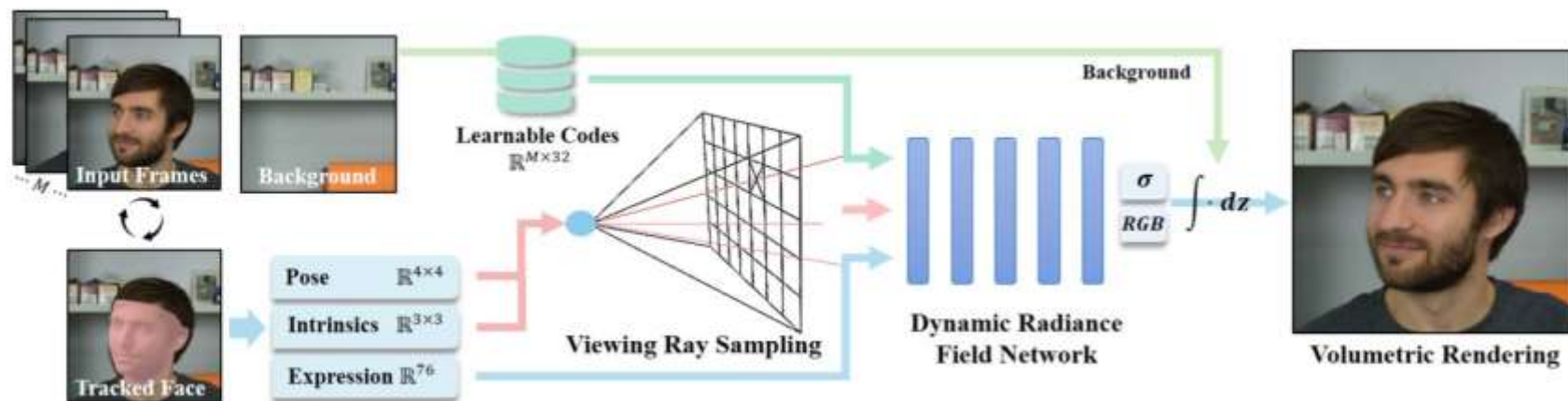
Non-Rigid Neural Radiance Fields: Reconstruction and Novel View Synthesis of a Dynamic Scene From Monocular Video

Edgar Tretschk Ayush Tewari Vladislav Golyanik
Michael Zollhöfer Christoph Lassner Christian Theobalt



NeRF-related examples

- Static scene \rightarrow Dynamic scenes
- Conditioning to time & motion parameters



NeRF-related examples

- Static scene → Dynamic scenes
- Conditioning to time & motion parameters

Dynamic Neural Radiance Fields for Monocular 4D Facial Avatar Reconstruction

Guy Gafni¹

Justus Thies¹

Michael Zollhöfer²

Matthias Nießner¹

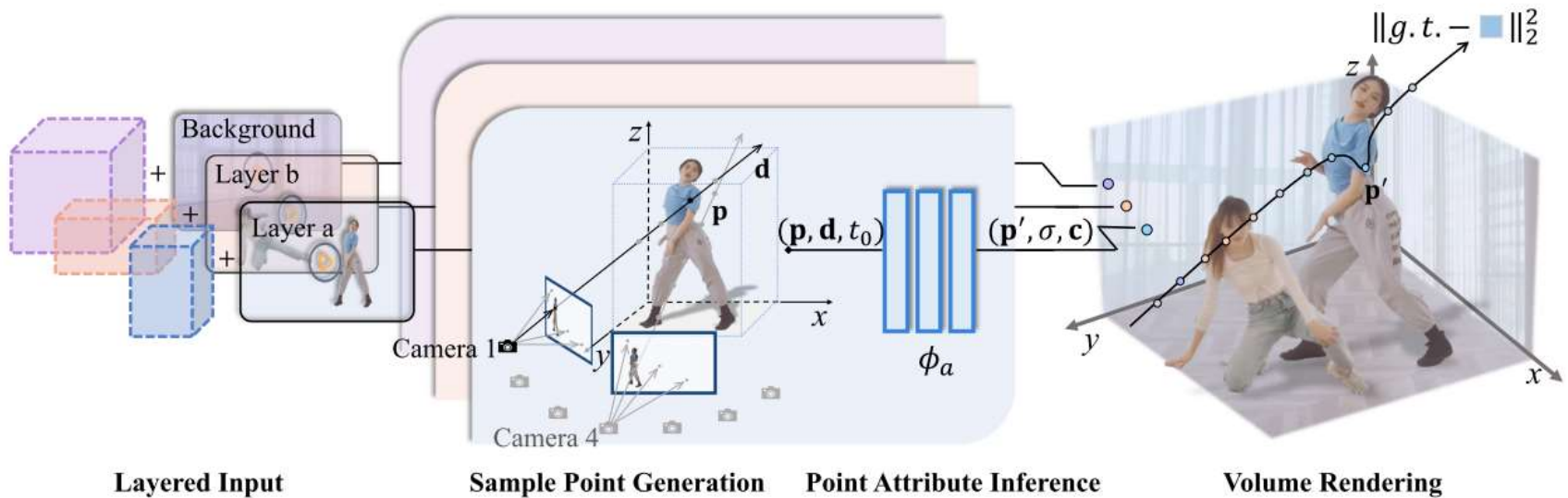
¹ Technical University of Munich

² Facebook Reality Labs



NeRF-related examples

- Static scene \rightarrow Dynamic scenes
- Conditioning to time & motion parameters
- Multi-layer representation



NeRF-related examples

- Static scene → Dynamic scenes
- Conditioning to time & motion parameters
- Multi-layer representation

Editable Free-Viewpoint Video using a Layered Neural Representation

Jiakai Zhang^{1,3}, Xinhang Liu¹, Xinyi Ye¹, Fuqiang Zhao¹, Yanshun Zhang²,
Minye Wu¹, Yingliang Zhang², Lan Xu¹, Jingyi Yu¹



上海科技大学¹
ShanghaiTech University



NeRF-related examples

- Offline inference \rightarrow Real-time inference
- Store the view-dependent attributes explicitly

PlenOctrees for Real-time Rendering of Neural Radiance Fields

Alex Yu
UC Berkeley

Ruilong Li
UC Berkeley
& USC ICT

Matt Tancik
UC Berkeley

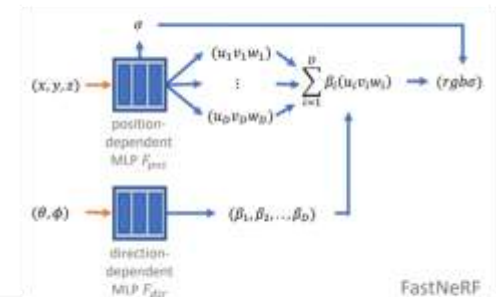
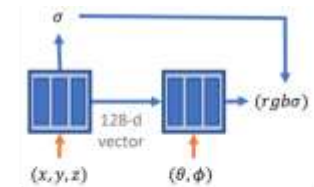
Hao Li
Pinscreen
& UC Berkeley

Ren Ng
UC Berkeley

Angjoo Kanazawa
UC Berkeley



Project website & online demo: alexxyu.net/plenotrees



NeRF with Spherical Harmonics (NeRF-SH)

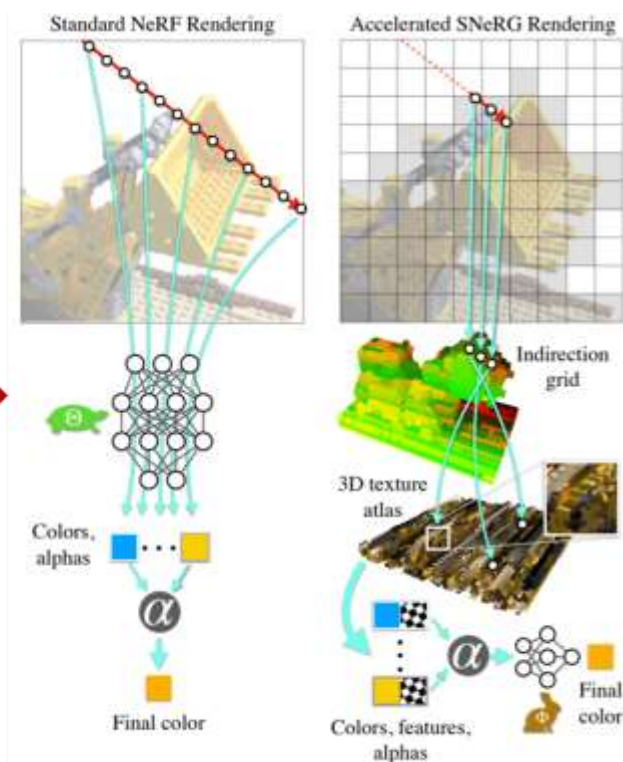
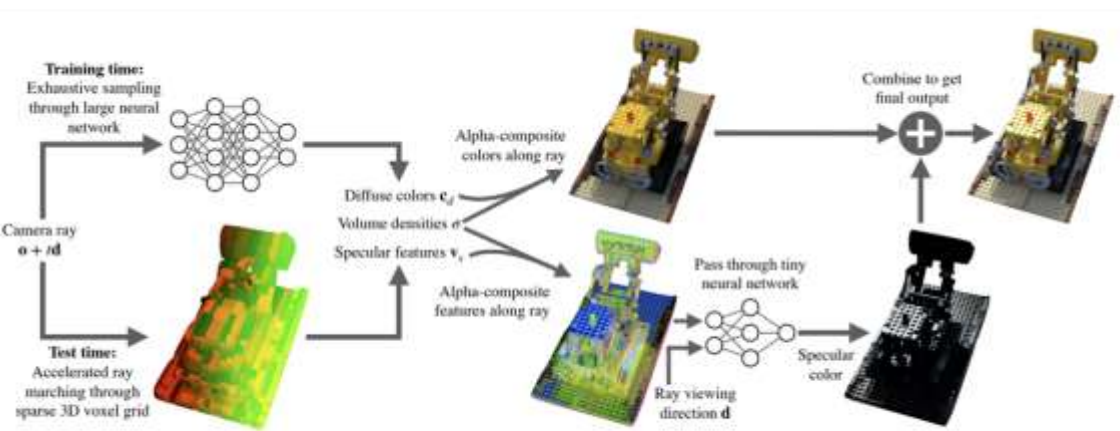


NeRF-related examples

- Offline inference \rightarrow Real-time inference
- Store the view-dependent attributes explicitly

Baking Neural Radiance Fields for Real-Time View Synthesis

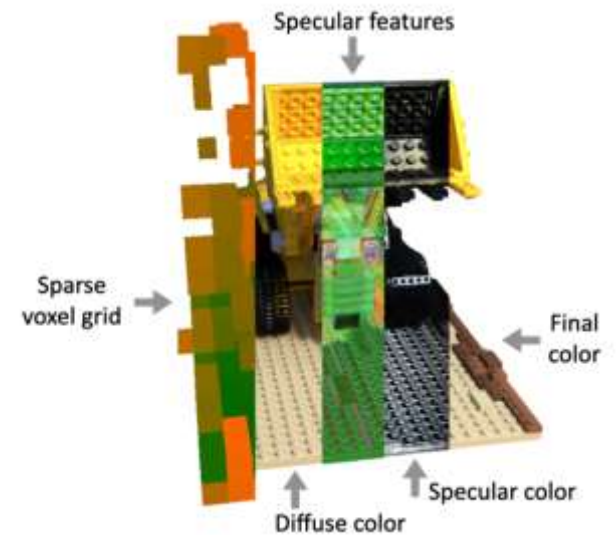
[Peter Hedman](#), [Pratul P. Srinivasan](#), [Ben Mildenhall](#), [Jonathan T. Barron](#),
[Paul Debevec](#)



NeRF-related examples

- Offline inference → Real-time inference
- Store the view-dependent attributes explicitly

Baking Neural Radiance Fields for Real-Time View Synthesis
Peter Hedman, Pratul P. Srinivasan, Ben Mildenhall, Jonathan T. Barron, Paul Debevec
Google Research

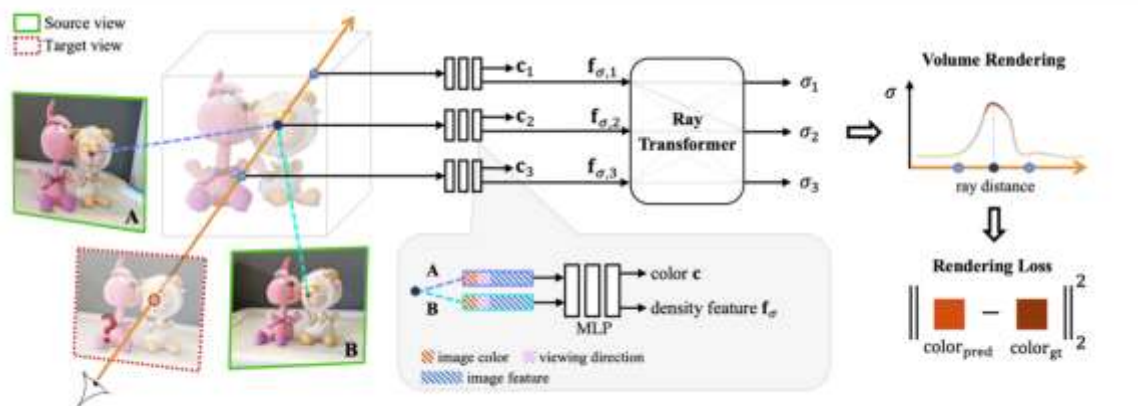


NeRF-related examples

- Per-scene training → General Scenes
- Encode category-aware features as input

IBRNet: Learning Multi-View Image-Based Rendering

[Qianqian Wang](#), [Zhicheng Wang](#), [Kyle Genova](#), [Pratul Srinivasan](#), [Howard Zhou](#),
[Jonathan T. Barron](#), [Ricardo Martin-Brualla](#), [Noah Snavely](#), [Thomas Funkhouser](#)



Even works in sparse 6 views!

NeRF-related examples

- Offline inference → Real-time inference
- Store the view-dependent attributes explicitly



Recent Observation 1: from Implicit Reconstruction to Modeling/Generation

Neural Implicit Shape Modeling

■ Recent Huge progress in 3D Generation (Lec-19)

Magic3D 18 Nov 2022



Point-E 21 Dec 2022



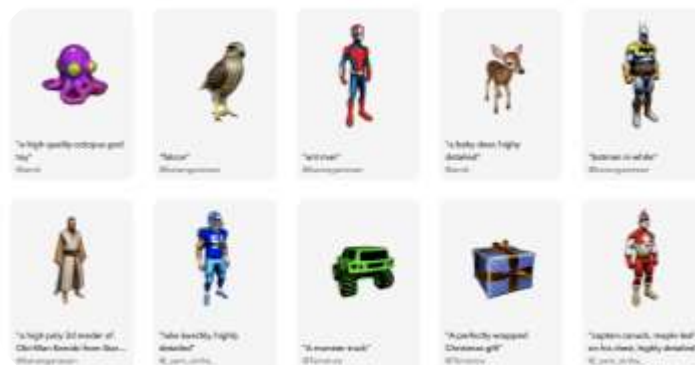
DreamFusion 29 Sep 2022



Rodin Diffusion 12 Dec 2022



Imagine 14 Dec 2022

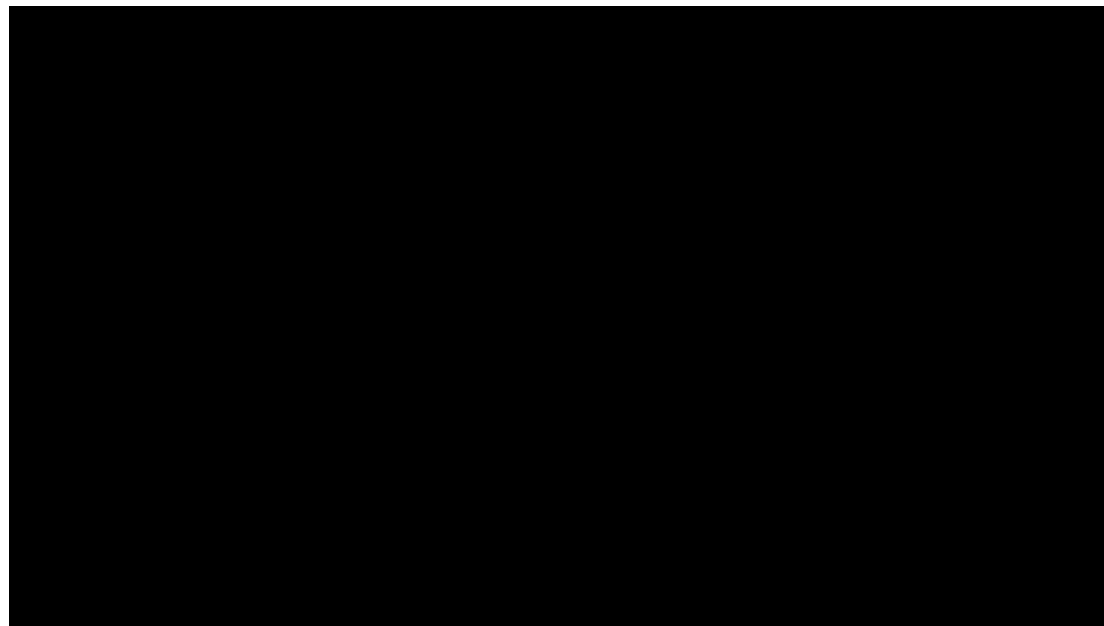
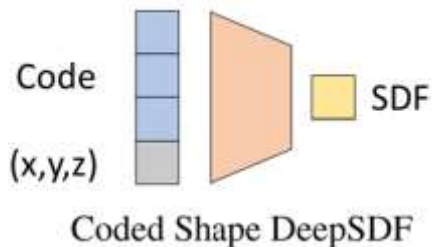


Hard to Say...



Neural Implicit Shape Modeling

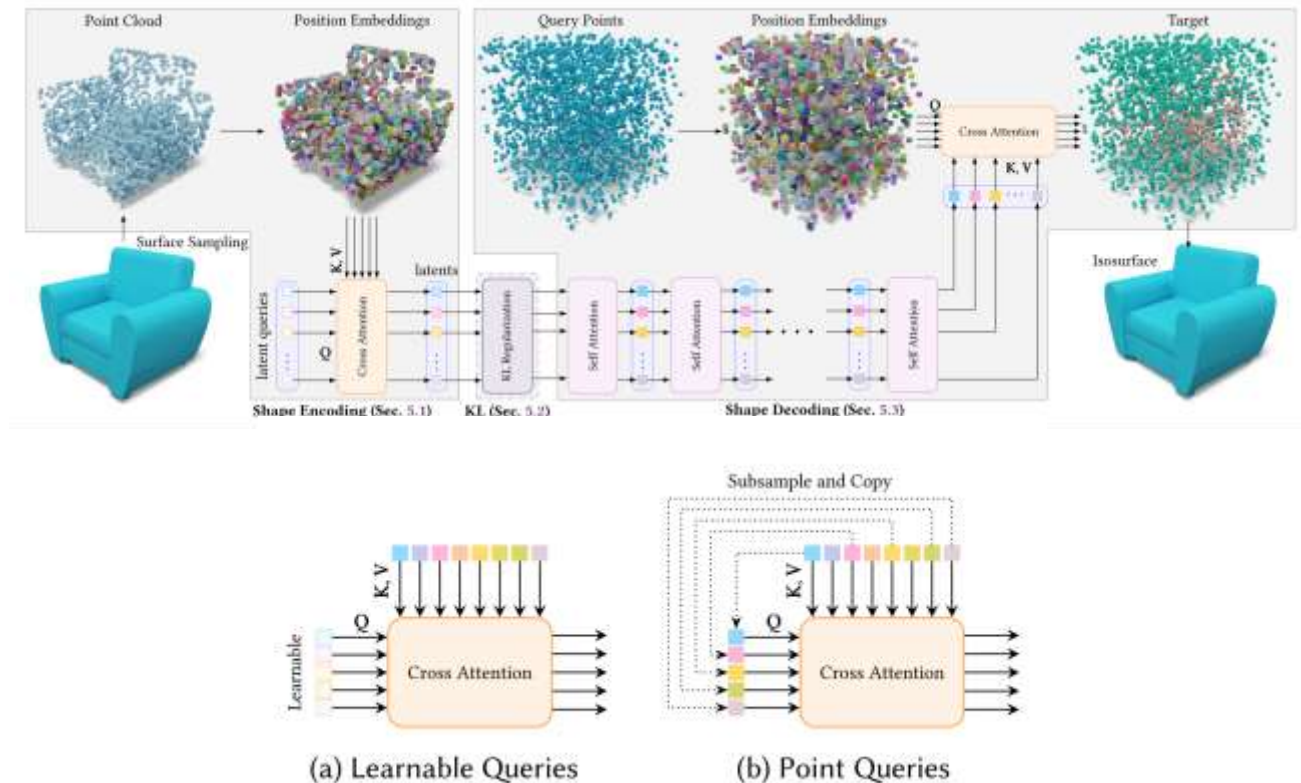
- Date back to Implicit Shape Representation for Generation



DeepSDF: Learning Continuous Signed Distance Functions
for Shape Representation, *CVPR 2019*

Neural Implicit Shape Modeling

- Recent trend: more powerful 3D shape dataset and generation model



3DShape2VecSet: A 3D Shape Representation for Neural Fields and Generative Diffusion Models, SIGGRAPH 2023

Neural Implicit Shape Modeling

- Recent trend: more powerful 3D shape dataset and generation model

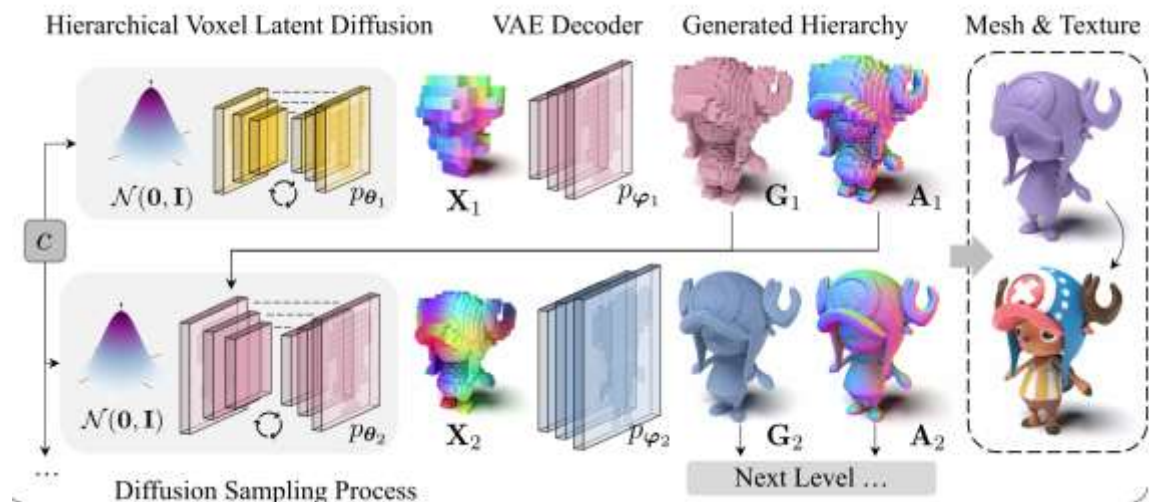
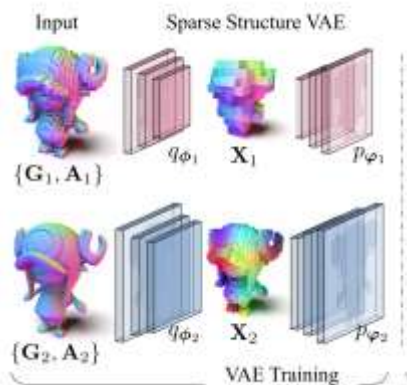


3DShape2VecSet: A 3D Shape Representation for Neural Fields and Generative Diffusion Models, SIGGRAPH 2023

Neural Implicit Shape Modeling

- Recent trend: more powerful 3D shape dataset and generation model

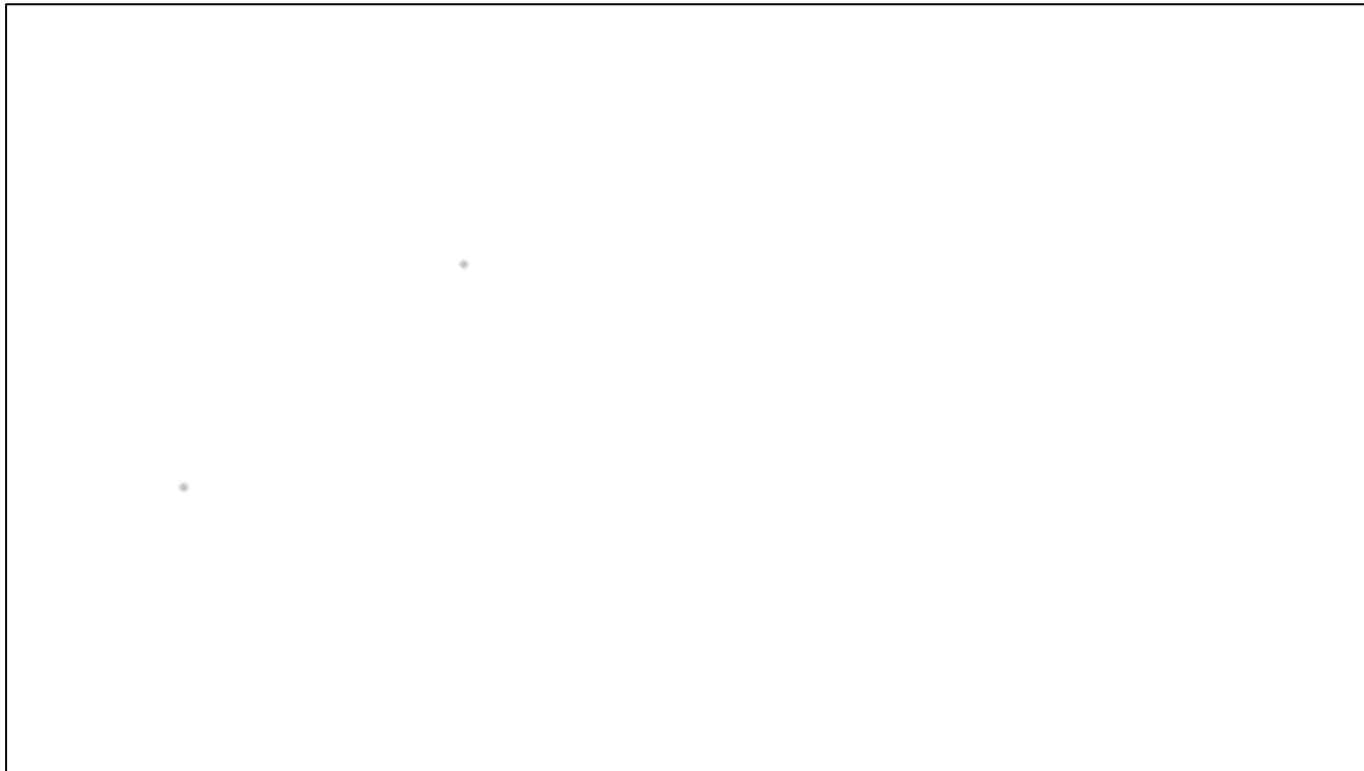
formance of our model. First, we demonstrate XCube's ability to perform unconditional object-level 3D generation using ShapeNet [5] (§ 4.1), and conditional 3D generation from category and text using Objaverse [12] (§ 4.2). Next, we showcase high-resolution outdoor scene-level 3D generation using both the Kartan City [1] and Waymo [60] datasets



Cube³: Large-Scale 3D Generative Modeling using Sparse Voxel Hierarchies, Arxiv 2023

Neural Implicit Shape Modeling

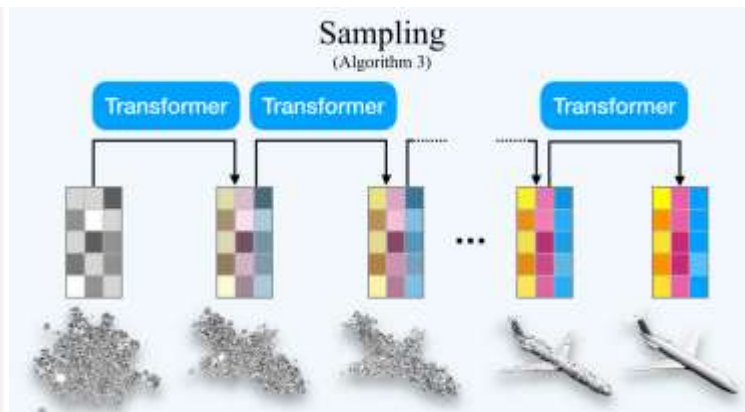
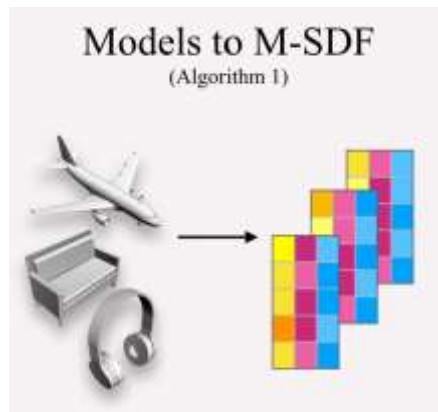
- Recent trend: more powerful 3D shape dataset and generation model



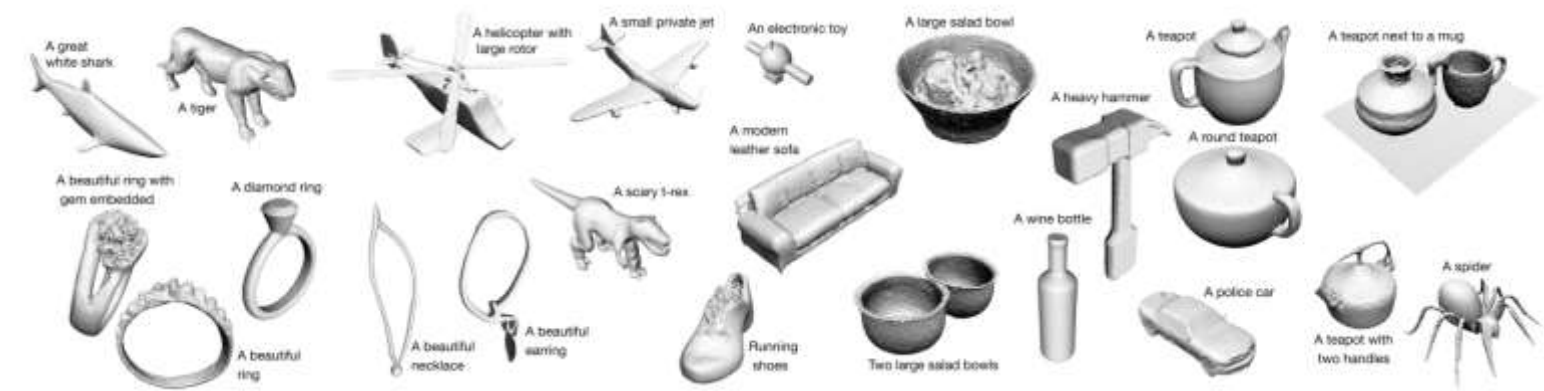
Cube³: Large-Scale 3D Generative Modeling using Sparse Voxel Hierarchies, Arxiv 2023

Neural Implicit Shape Modeling

- Recent trend: more powerful 3D shape dataset and generation model



ing c. Our transformer is built with 24 layers with 16 heads and 1024 hidden dimension, which result in a 328M parameter model. We train U^θ for 500K iterations with batch size of 1024 using the ADAM optimizer [16] and learning rate of $1e-4$ with initial warm-up of 5K iterations. We additionally perform EMA (Exponential Moving Average) to the transformer's weights. Both training were done on 8 nodes of 8 NVIDIA A100 GPUs, which takes around a week.



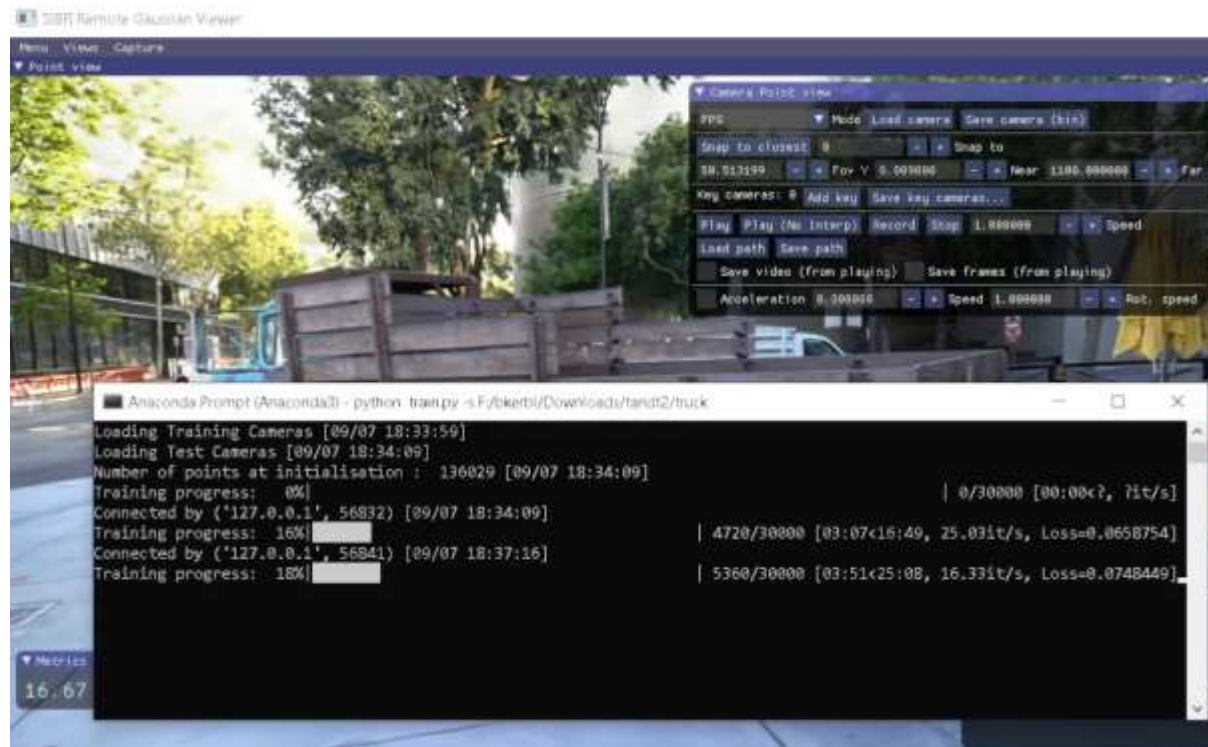
Mosaic-SDF for 3D Generative Models, arXiv 2023



Recent Key Observation 2: from Implicit to Explicit to Hybrid Representations

Neural Shape Modeling

- The recent Gaussian-splatting strikes back to explicit scenarios
- More explicit feature primitives



“3D Gaussian Splatting for Real-Time Radiance Field Rendering” , SIGGRAPH 2023

Neural Shape Modeling

- Explicit non-rigid tracking and rendering via 4D-GS

HiFi4G: High-Fidelity Human Performance Rendering via Compact Gaussian Splatting

Yuheng Jiang^{1,2} Zhehao Shen¹ Penghao Wang¹
Zhuo Su³ Yu Hong¹ Yingliang Zhang⁴
Jingyi Yu¹ Lan Xu¹

¹ShanghaiTech University ²NeuDim ³ByteDance ⁴DGene



HiFi4G: High-Fidelity Human Performance Rendering via Compact Gaussian Splatting, Arxiv 2023

Neural Shape Modeling

- Embed into SLAM systems: tracking-mapping-splating



SplaTAM from CMU/MIT



GS-SLAM from ICL

Neural Shape Modeling

- Embed into SLAM systems: tracking-mapping-splating
- Another one from Lab. of AI and Robotics (LAIR), UNIST

