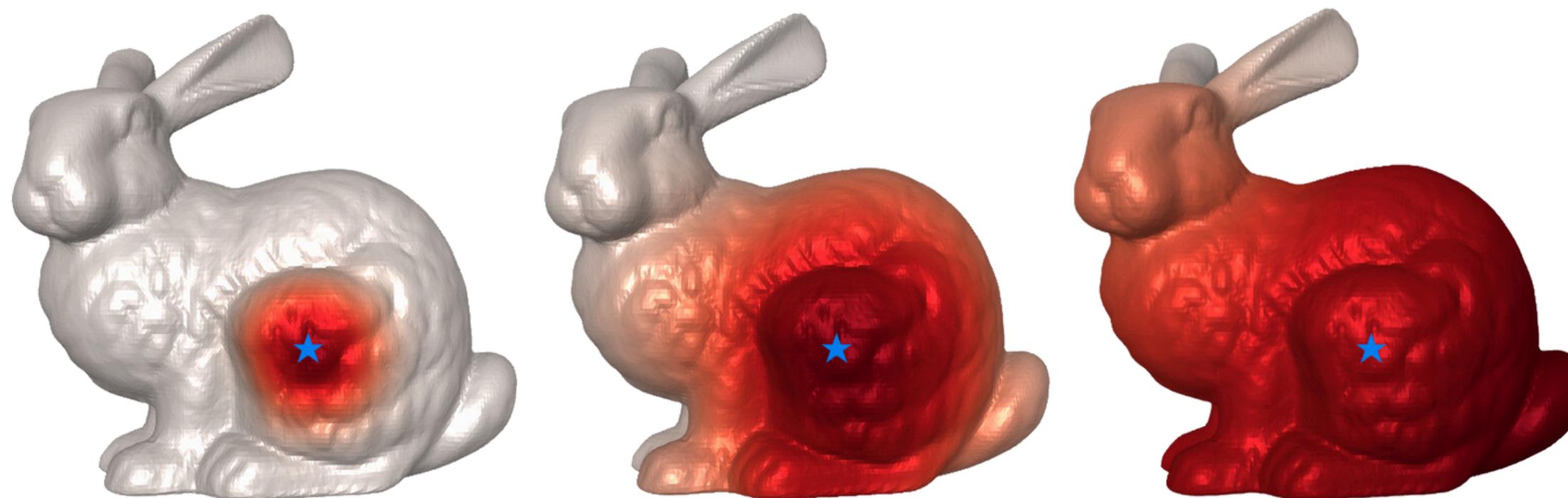


# GEOMETRIC DATA ANALYSIS

Louis Martinez, Géraud Ilincă, Hadrien Levéchin

## DiffusionNet: Discretization Agnostic Learning on Surfaces



NICHOLAS SHARP, Carnegie Mellon University, University of Toronto, SOUHAIB ATTAIKI, LIX, École Polytechnique,  
KEENAN CRANE, Carnegie Mellon University, MAKS OVSJANIKOV, LIX, École Polytechnique

# Context and Previous approach

## Quite well resolved

- Rigid transformation invariance
- Permutation invariance

## Not yet resolved

- Sampling Invariance
- Data structure Invariance

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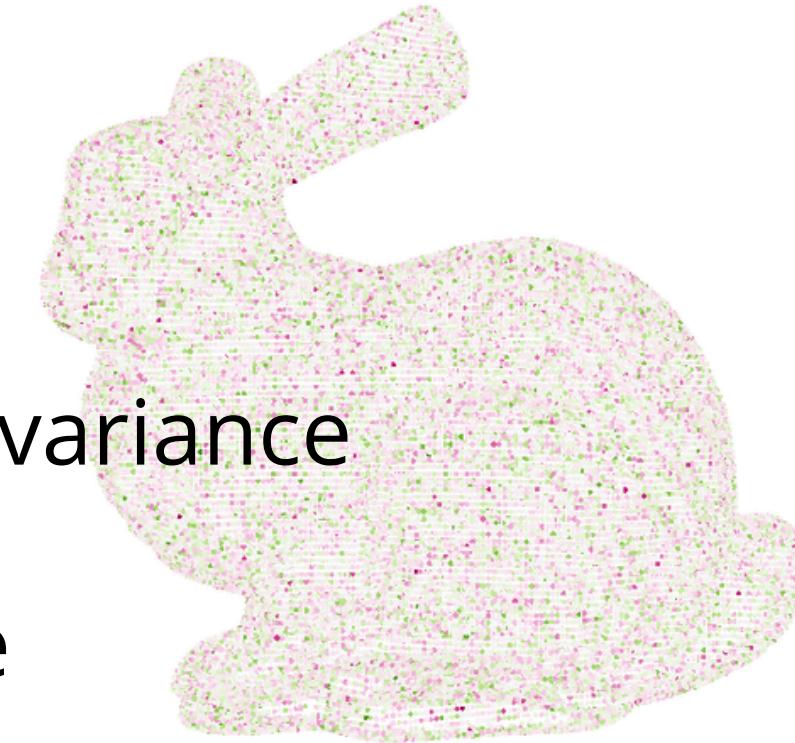
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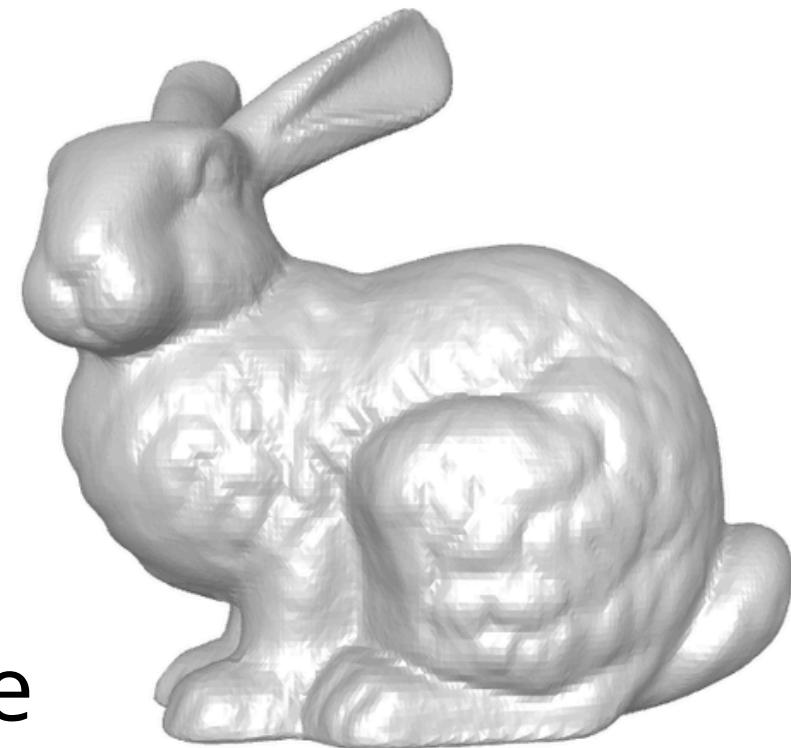
Quite well resolved

- Rigid transformation invariance
- Permutation invariance



Not yet resolved

- Sampling Invariance
- Data structure Invariance



# Agnosticity



Ground truth

Prediction

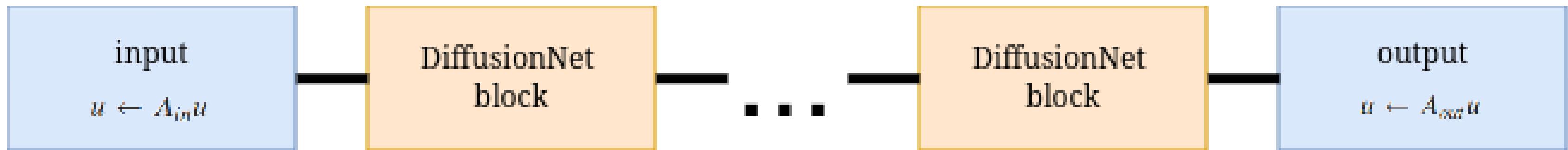
Representation

Resolution

Sampling

# Architecture

## DiffusionNet Block



# Spatial Diffusion

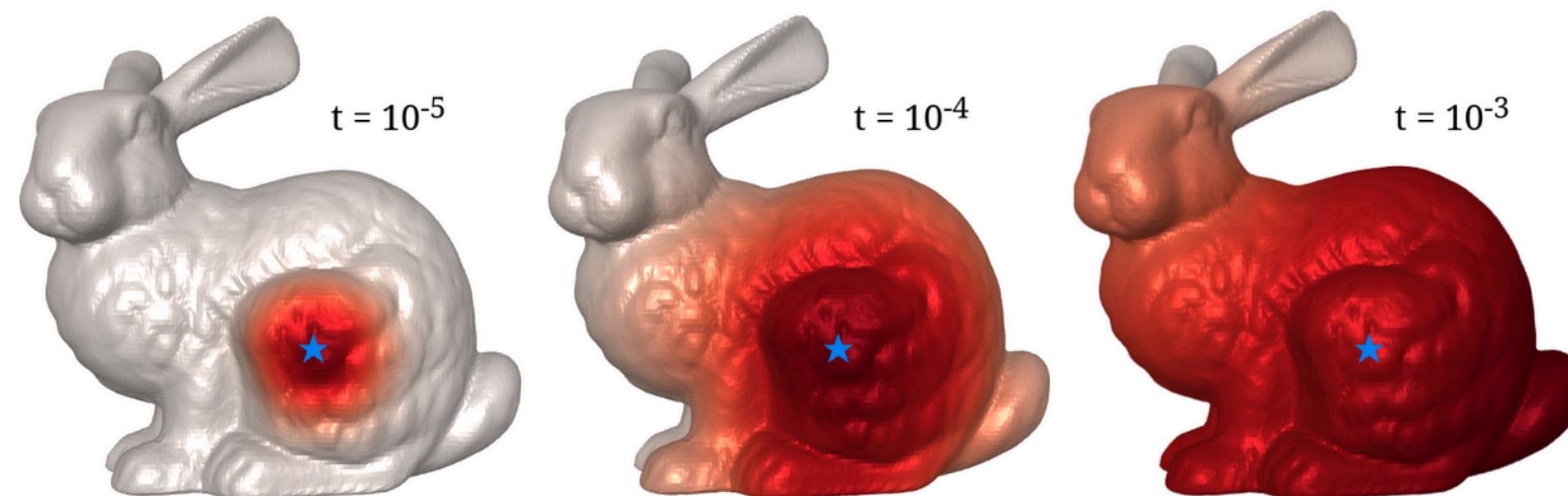
- **Why?** Allows to build reliable descriptors regardless of the representation
- Derived from the Heat Equation

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \Delta u$$

scalar field defined on the surface

Laplace-Beltrami operator

↳ Well defined on surfaces

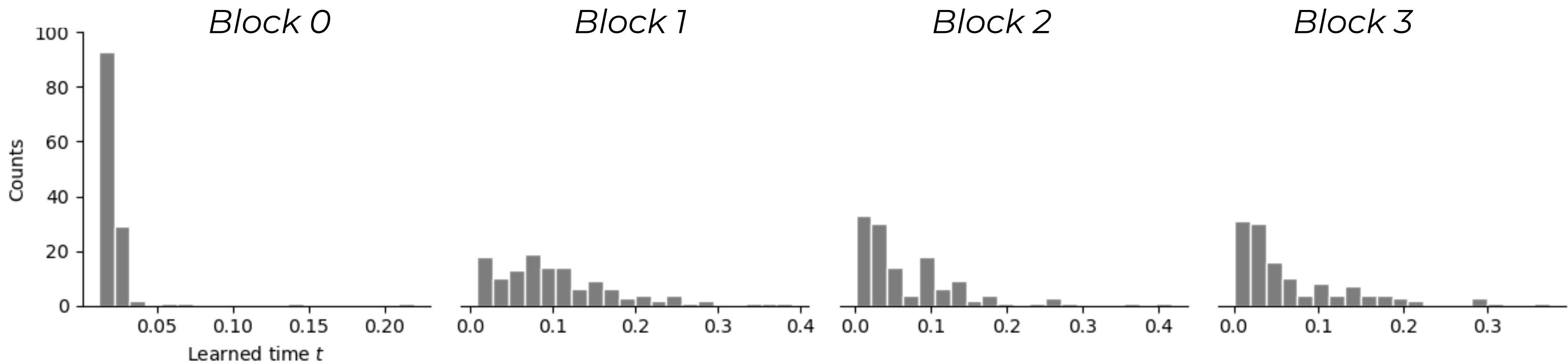


# Learned Diffusion

- **Key idea:** One learnable time parameter per channel
  - Enables local and global information sharing on the surface
  - Optimized during training

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- **Key idea:** One learnable time parameter per channel
  - Enables local and global information sharing on the surface
  - Optimized during training
- Similar to receptive field in CNNs



# Evaluating Diffusion

- Backward Euler

↳ Straightforward and simple

↳ Implies solving a large per channel system

$$h_t(u) := (M + tL)^{-1}Mu$$

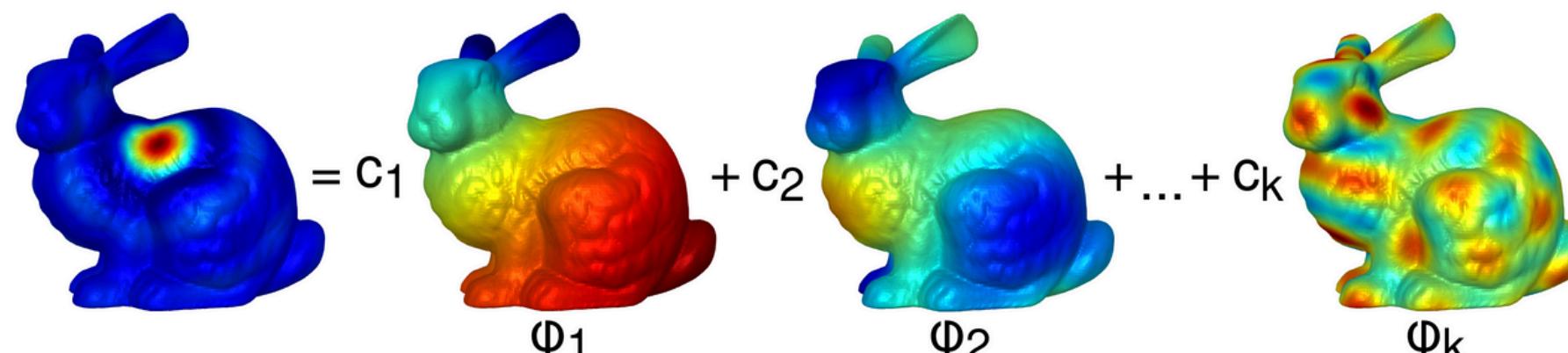
# Evaluating Diffusion

- Backward Euler
  - ↳ Straightforward and simple
  - ↳ Implies solving a large per channel system

$$h_t(u) := (M + tL)^{-1}Mu$$

- Laplacian Eigenbasis
  - ↳ Diffusion evaluated in closed form
  - ↳ Computationally cheaper
  - ↳ Small approximation error

$$h_t(u) := \Phi \begin{bmatrix} e^{-\lambda_0 t} \\ e^{-\lambda_1 t} \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix} \odot (\Phi^T Mu)$$



Not a spectral method

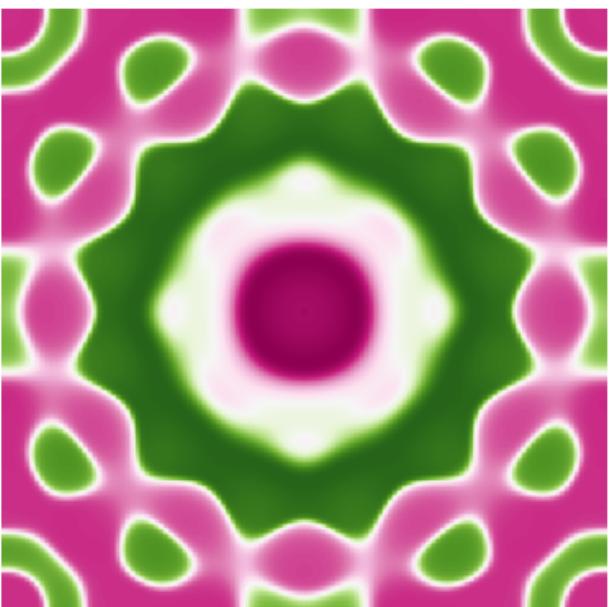
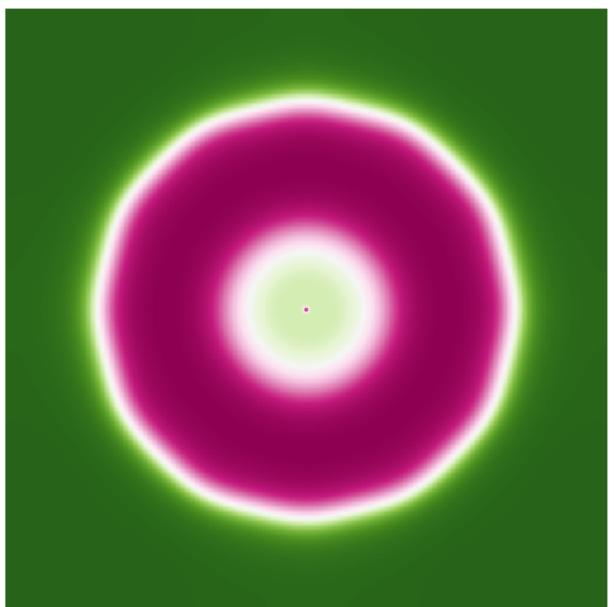
# Spatial Gradient Features (SGF)

LEMMA

Radially Symmetric Filters

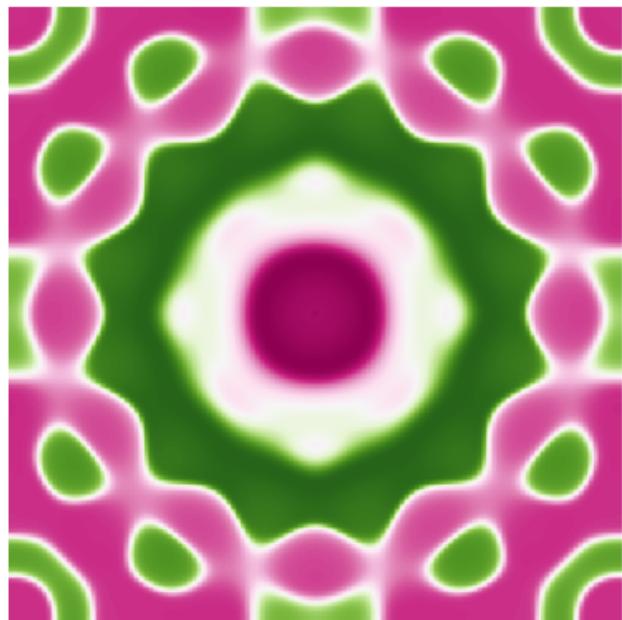
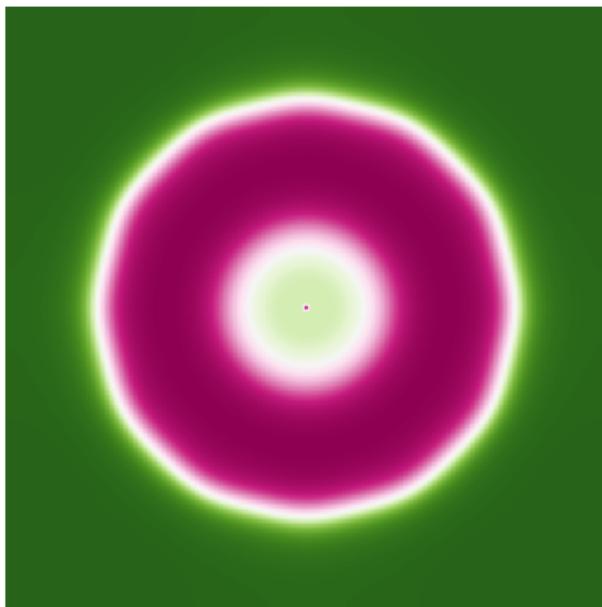


Diffusion + Pointwise MLP

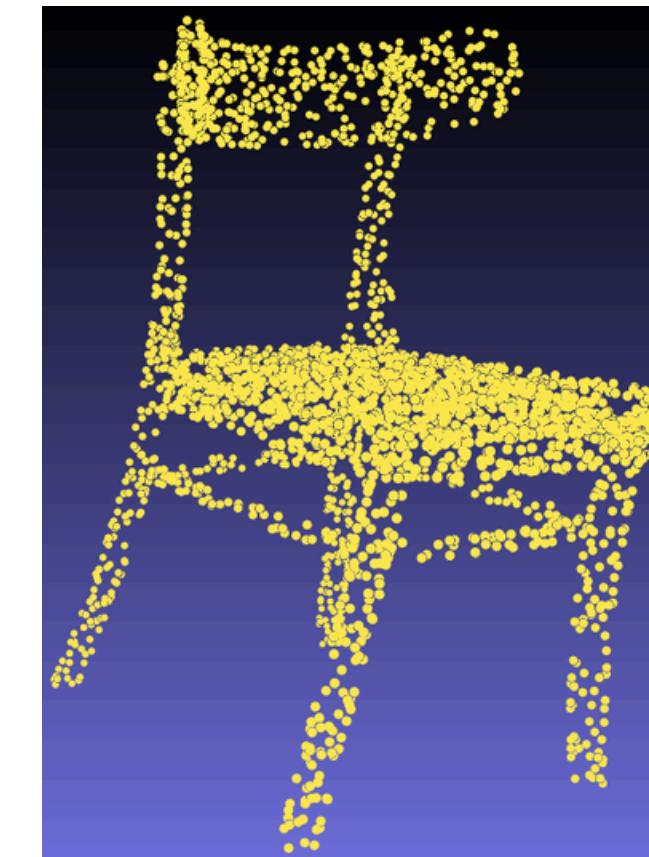


# Spatial Gradient Features (SGF)

LEMMA  
Radially Symmetric Filters  
 $\subset$   
Diffusion + Pointwise MLP



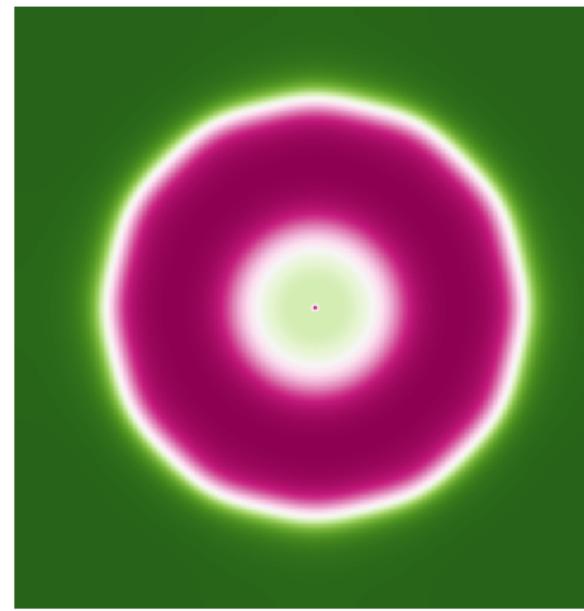
**Restrictive !**



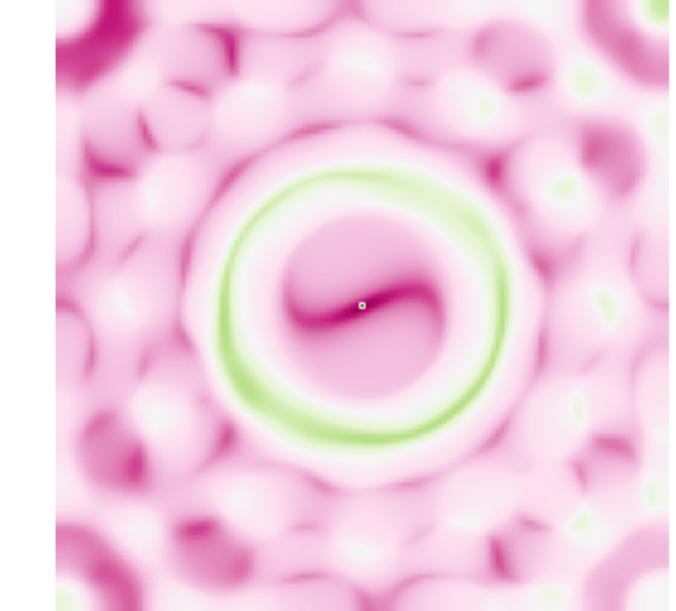
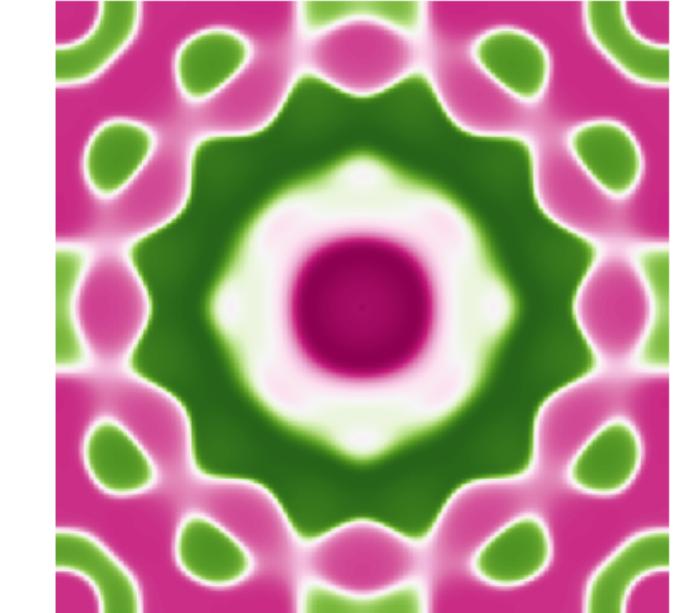
# Spatial Gradient Features (SGF)

LEMMA  
Radially Symmetric Filters  
C  
Diffusion + Pointwise MLP

Without  
SGF

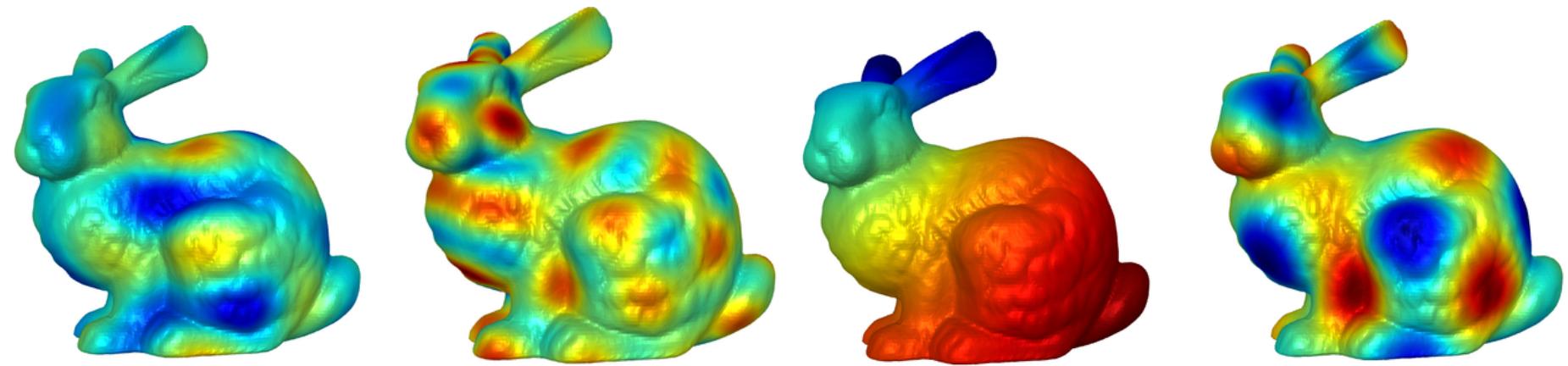


With  
SGF



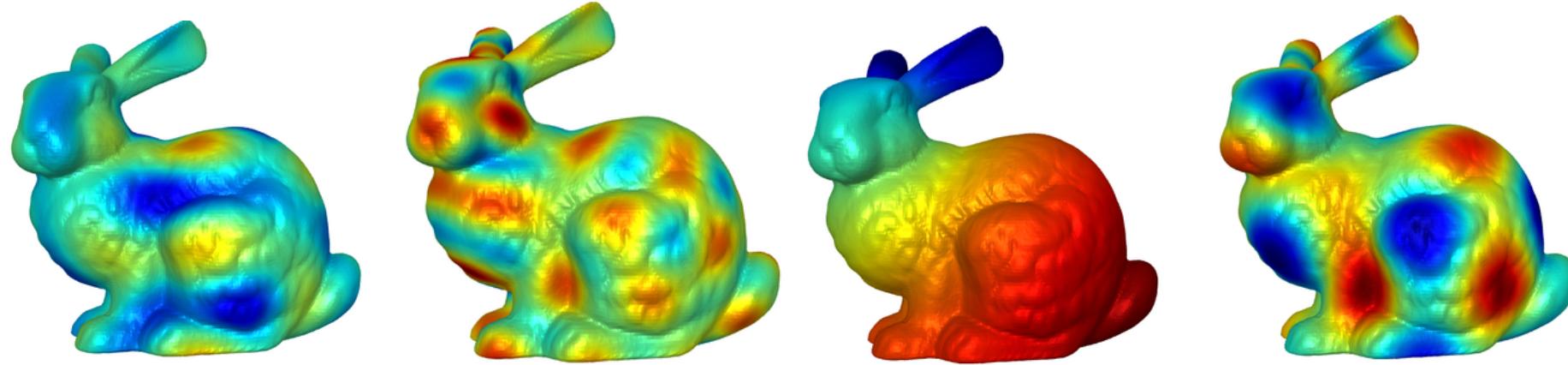
# Spatial Gradient Features

- Compare relative directional information contained in each feature

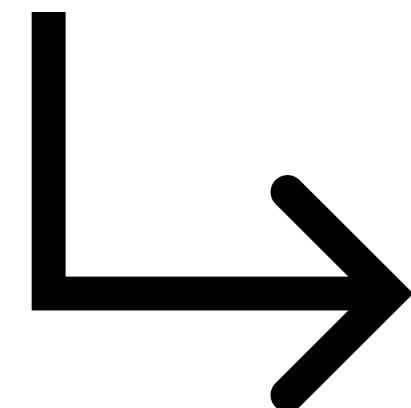


# Spatial Gradient Features

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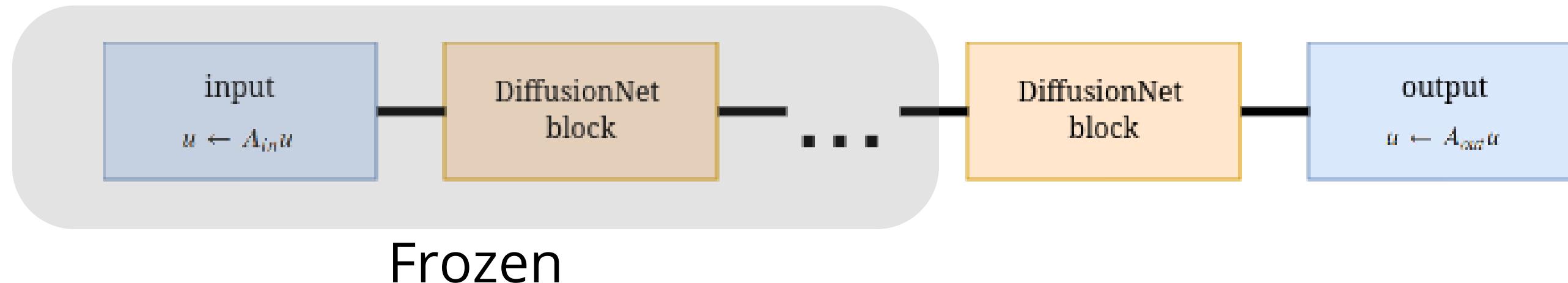
$$g_j = \sum_{i=1}^D \langle \nabla f_j(p) \mid R_{i,j} \cdot \nabla f_i(p) \rangle$$



- Invariant to global shape rotation
- Invariant to the choice of local bases
- Computationnaly efficient

# Transferability and limitations

- Weak transferability of the learned representations
  - Pretraining on ShapeNet classification → 98% accuracy on validation set
  - Features extraction on SHREC'11 classification → 10% accuracy



- Struggles on more challenging datasets (Objaverse)
  - Several connected components per sample
  - Classification task : 60% Accuracy on validation set



# DiffusionNet block

