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Volumetric Ultrasound to Surface Mesh Estimation

A UBC Data Science Club and DarkVision Competition challenge

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What is Non-Destructive Testing (NDT)?

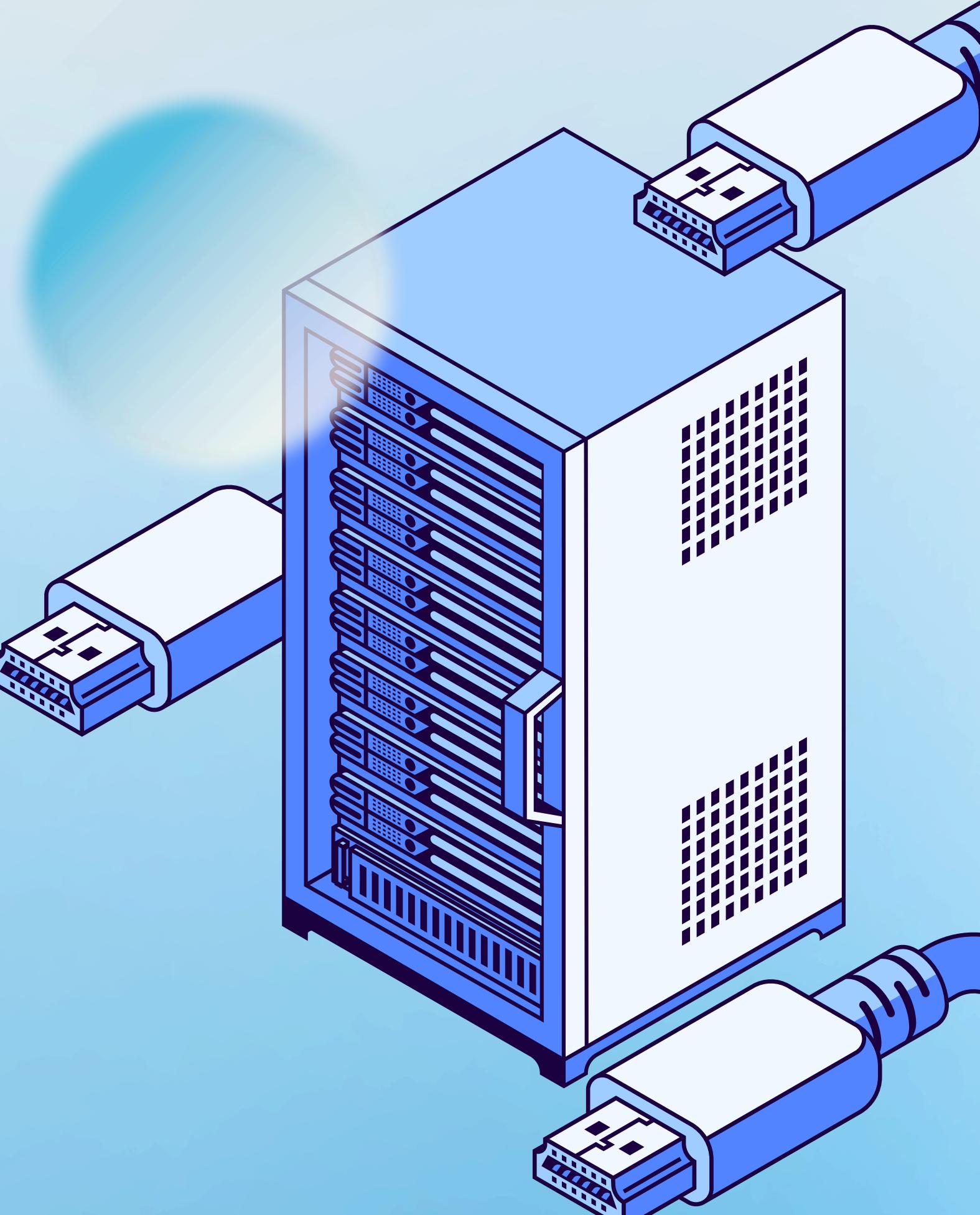
- **Purpose:** Ensure the integrity and safety of critical infrastructure like pipes, aircraft, and wind turbines.
- **Technique:** Uses ultrasonic waves for defect detection and evaluation.
- **Importance:** Saves billions annually and prevents catastrophic failures.
- **Applications:** Crack and flaw detection; Early warning for hazardous material degradation.



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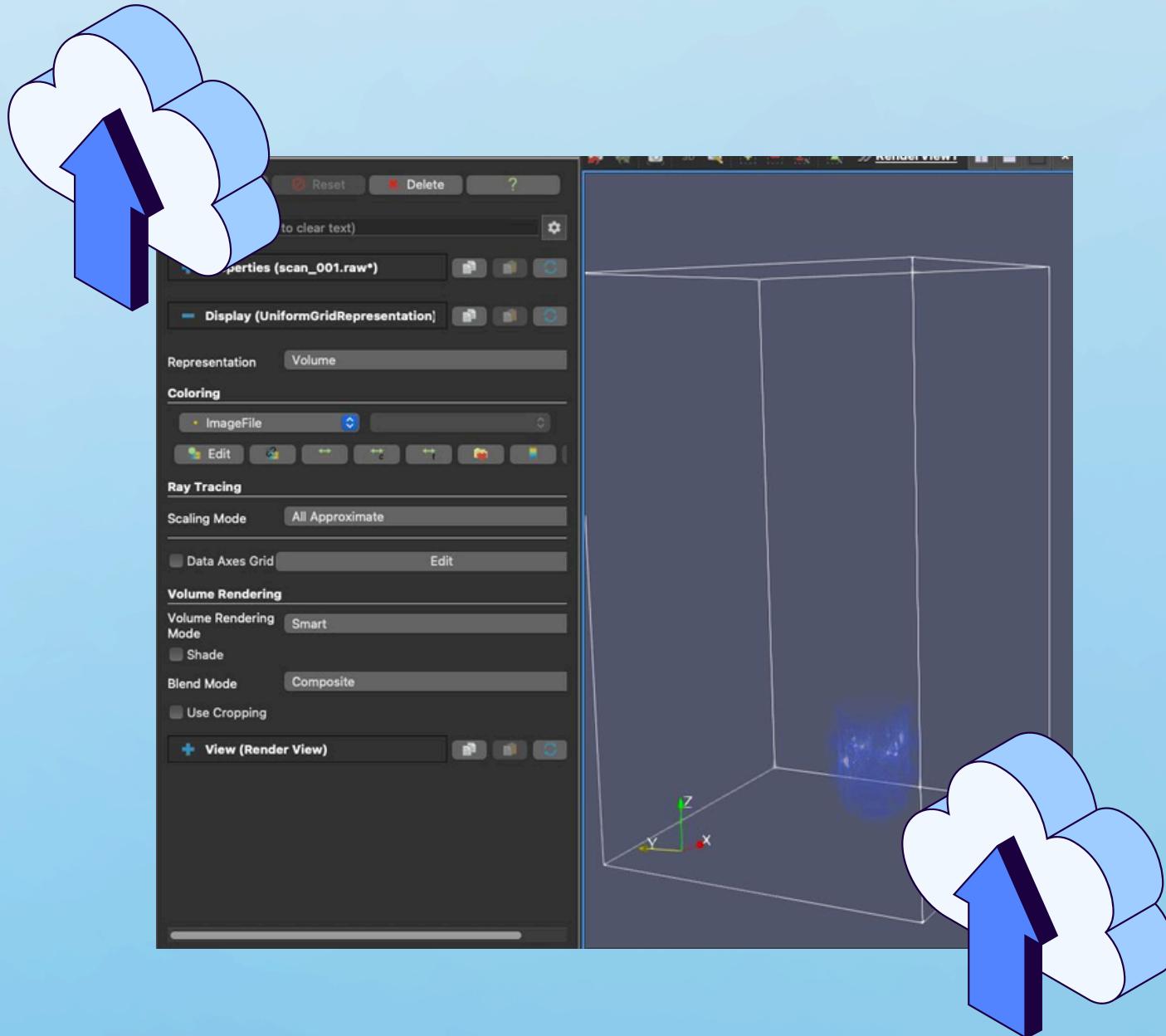
Challenge Overview

- Task: Estimate surface meshes from volumetric ultrasound scans.
- Evaluation Metrics: Chamfer Distance, Hausdorff Distance, and others.
- Focused on deep learning for ultrasound image analysis in industrial NDT.





Understanding the dataset



Training data

- 89 volumetric scans (.raw format)
- 5 manually cleaned surface meshes (.ply format)

Testing data

- 10 volumetric scans and corresponding surface meshes

Features

- Each scan contains steel pipes, possibly with objects inside the pipes or debris/ dirt at the bottom
- Metadata: 768x768x1280 resolution, origin (0, 0, 0), spacing (0.49479, 0.49479, 0.3125).



Data Preparation



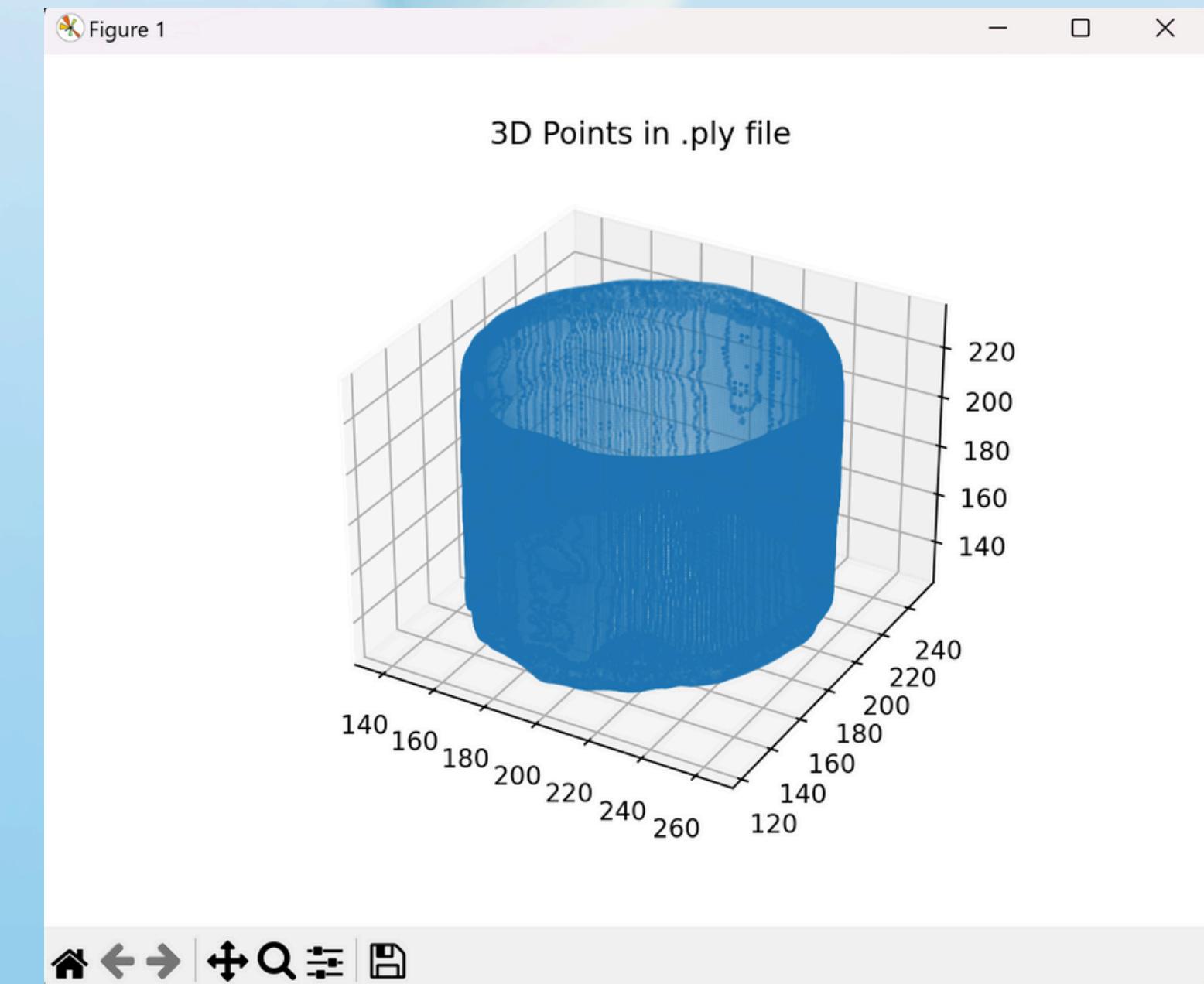
Volumes

- Normalized values to $[0, 1]$.
- Resized to $128 \times 128 \times 128$ for efficiency.
- Added channel dimension for 3D-CNN input.



Meshes

- Centered vertices.
- Normalized to fit within a unit sphere.
- Trimmed/padded to 10,000 vertices for consistency.

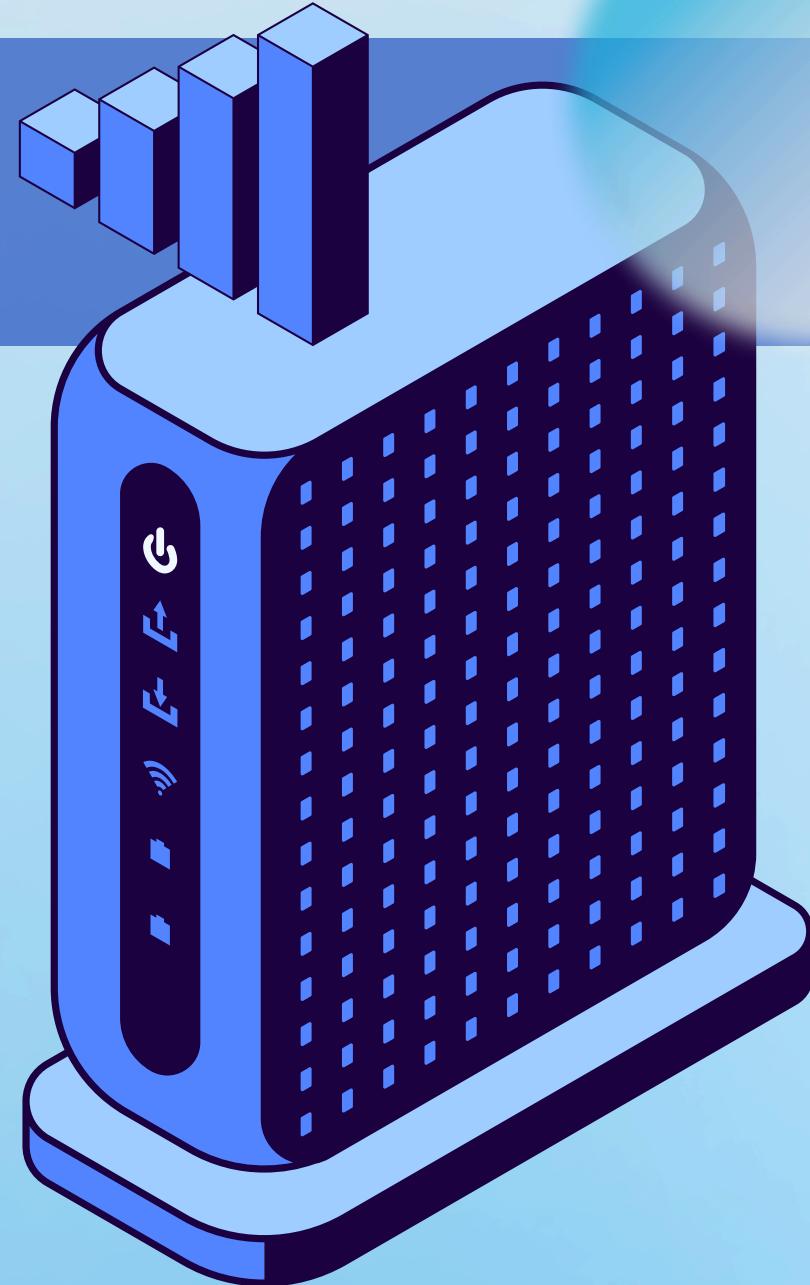




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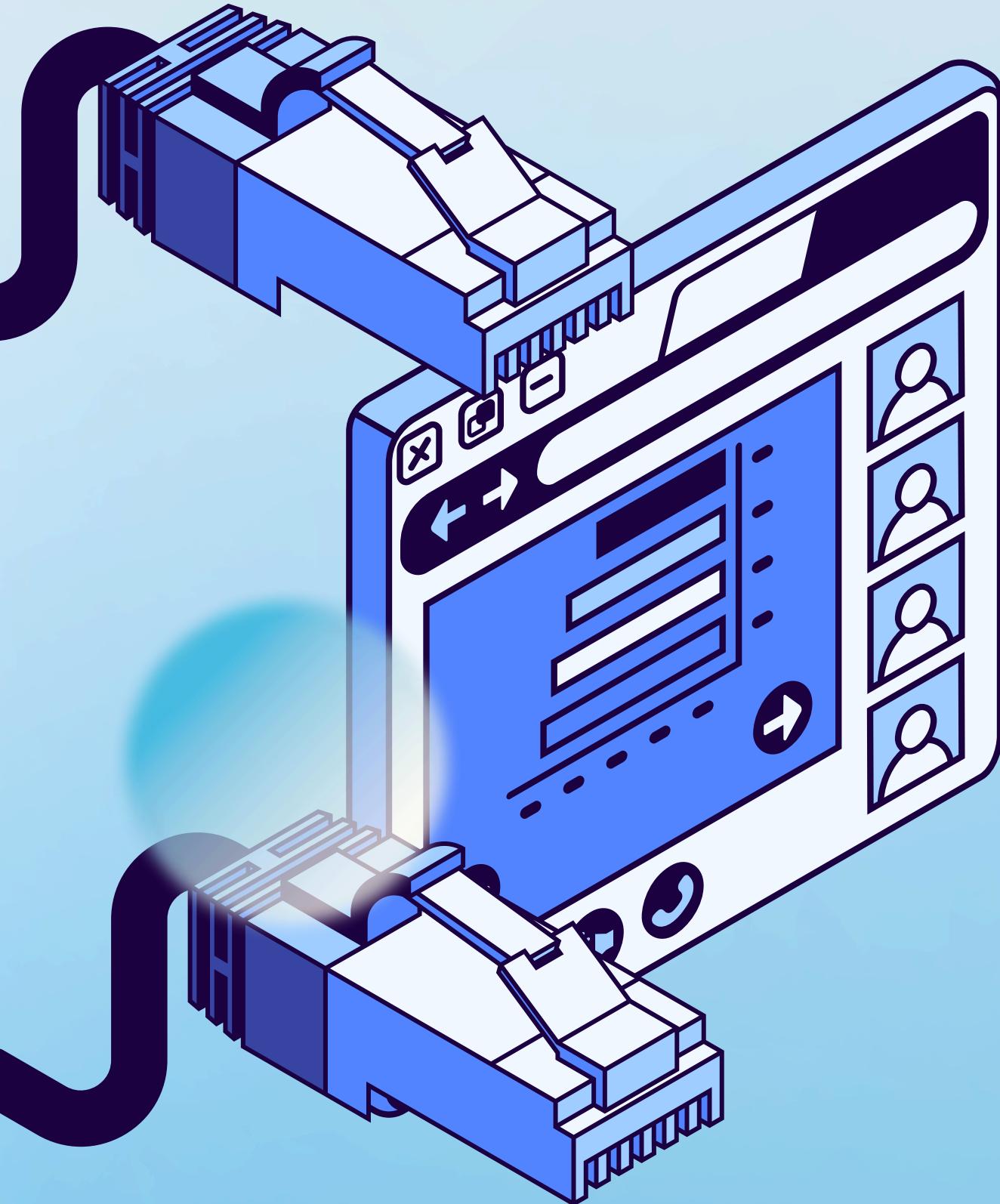
Volumetric to Mesh Model Architecture

- Backbone: 3D Convolutional Neural Network (3D-CNN)
- Head: Fully connected layers for predicting vertex coordinates
- Output: (Batch Size, 10.000, 3)





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Training Highlights

- Optimizer: Adam (Learning Rate = 1e-4).
- Loss Function: Mean Squared Error (MSE).
- Duration: 30 epochs.
- Results:
- Average Chamfer Distance: ~0.6.
- Average Hausdorff Distance: ~0.9.

$$\frac{w_1}{|P_1|} \sum_{p_{1i} \in P_1} \min_{p_{2j} \in P_2} (\|p_{1i} - p_{2j}\|_2^2) + \frac{w_2}{|P_2|} \sum_{p_{2j} \in P_2} \min_{p_{1i} \in P_1} (\|p_{2j} - p_{1i}\|_2^2)$$

$$d_H(X, Y) = \max \left\{ \sup_{x \in X} d(x, Y), \sup_{y \in Y} d(X, y) \right\},$$



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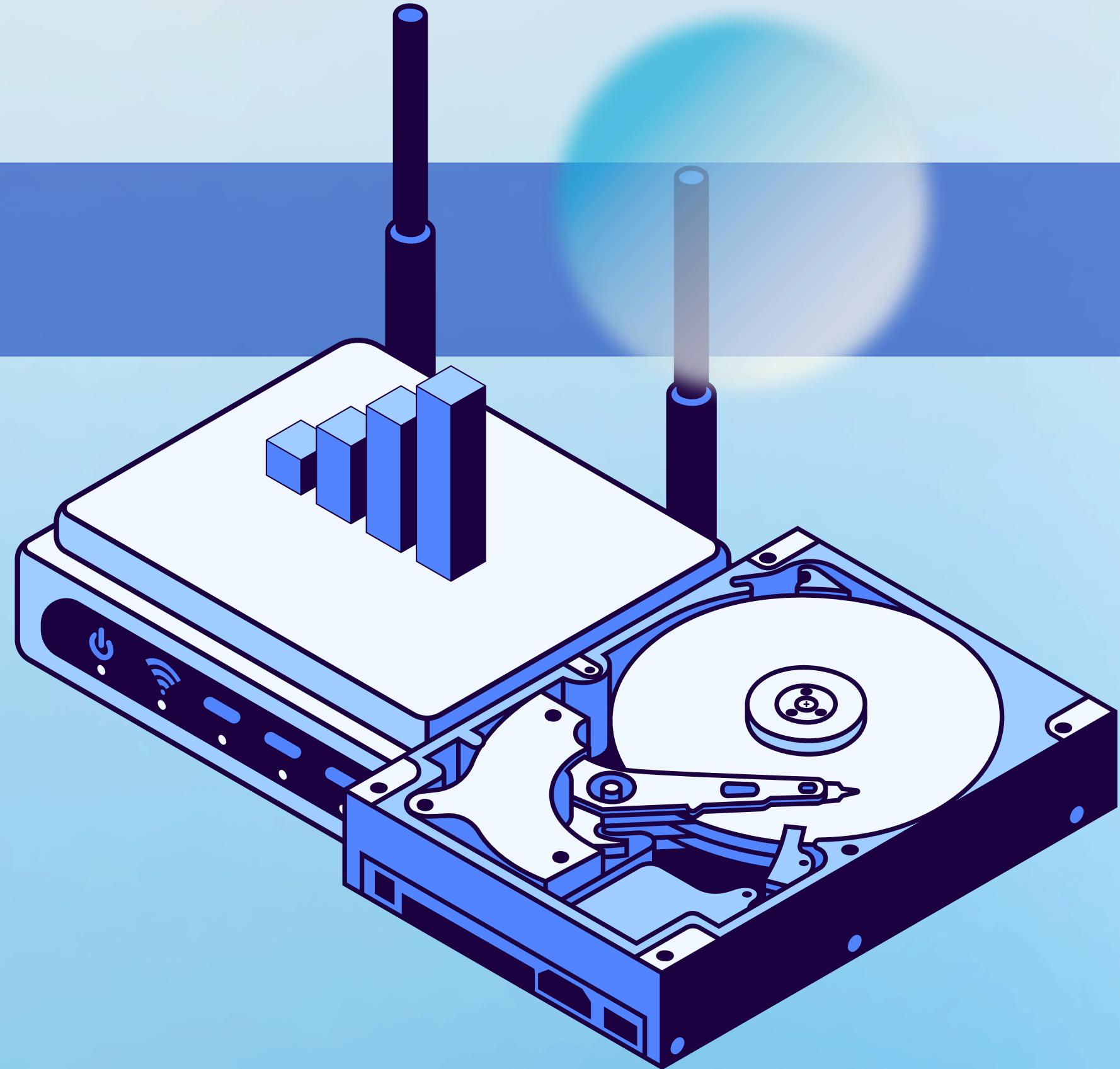
Challenges

■ Computational Limitations

- Only 1 512 GB laptop available
- Processed files individually during testing
- Unable to compute Hausdorff Distance for 1 scan due to system shutdown

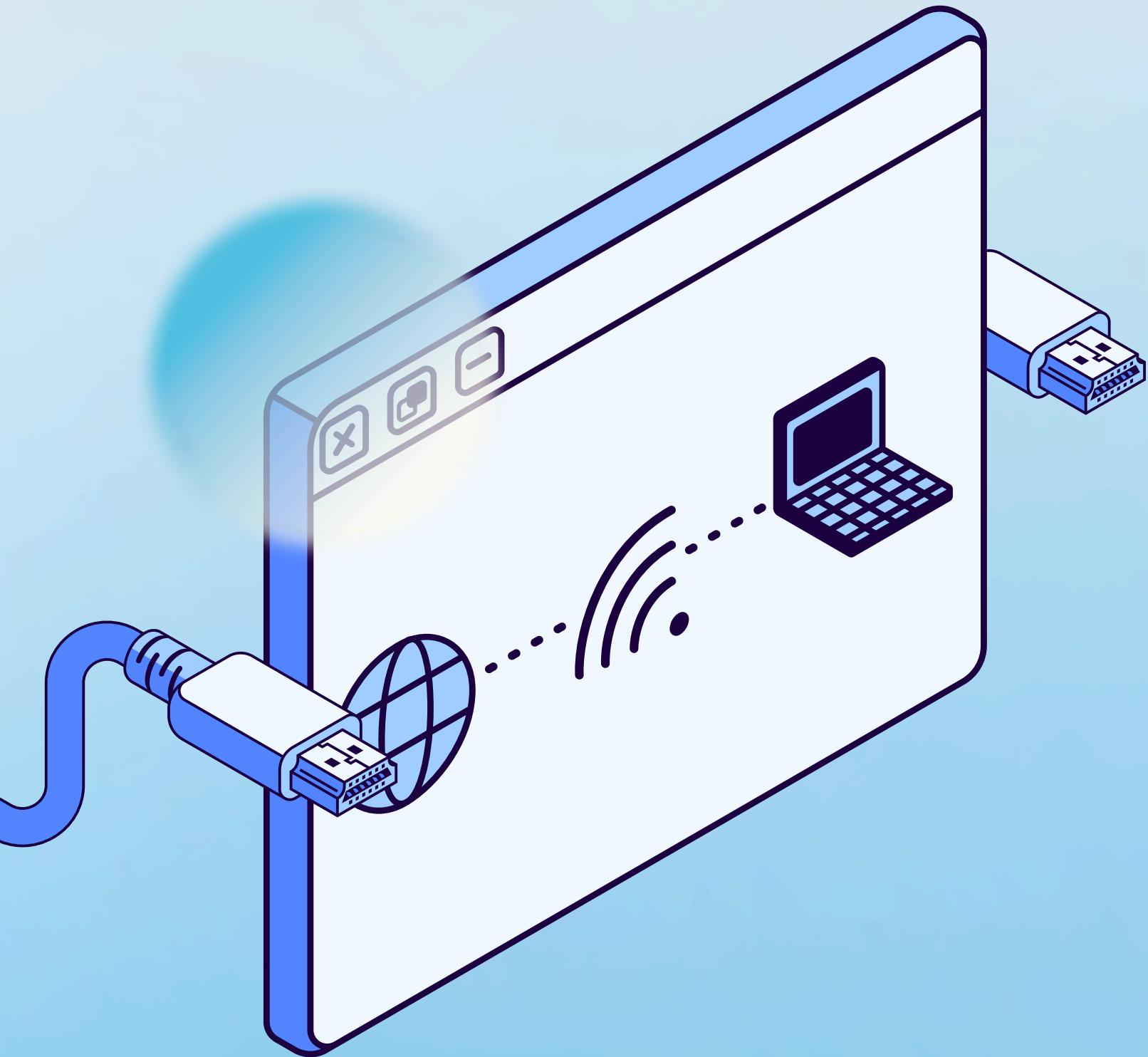
■ Future Improvements

- Increase computational resources (e.g., multiple laptops or cloud computing)
- Enhance code efficiency for batch processing





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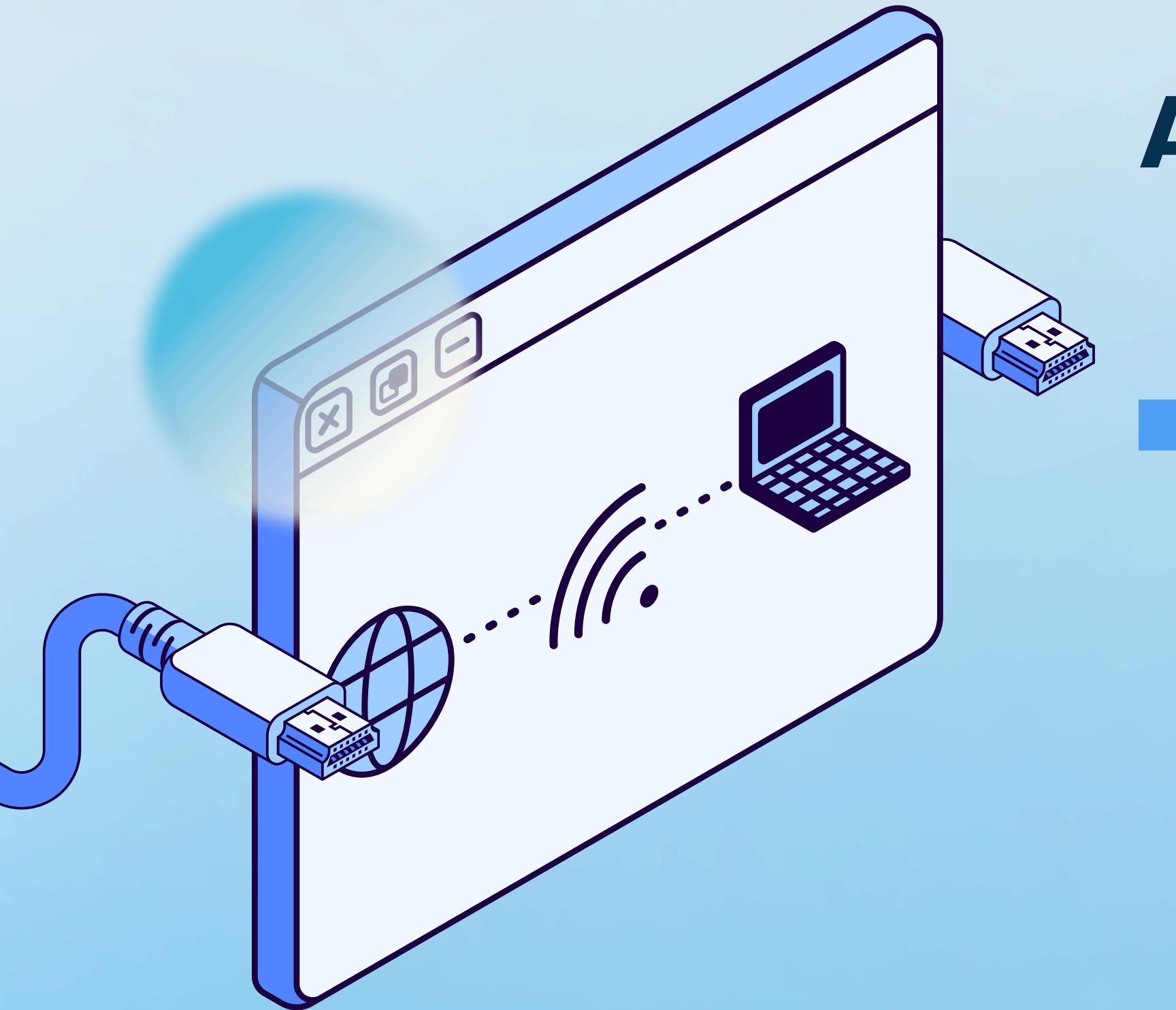


Results and Discussion

- Relative to input size and complexity, results are a starting point.
- Demonstrated feasibility of deep learning for 3D surface mesh estimation in NDT.



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Acknowledgements

- DarkVision: For providing the dataset and organizing the challenge.
- UBC Data Science Club: For hosting the competition and fostering collaboration.



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Thank You!

Get In Touch with us



GitHub repository