



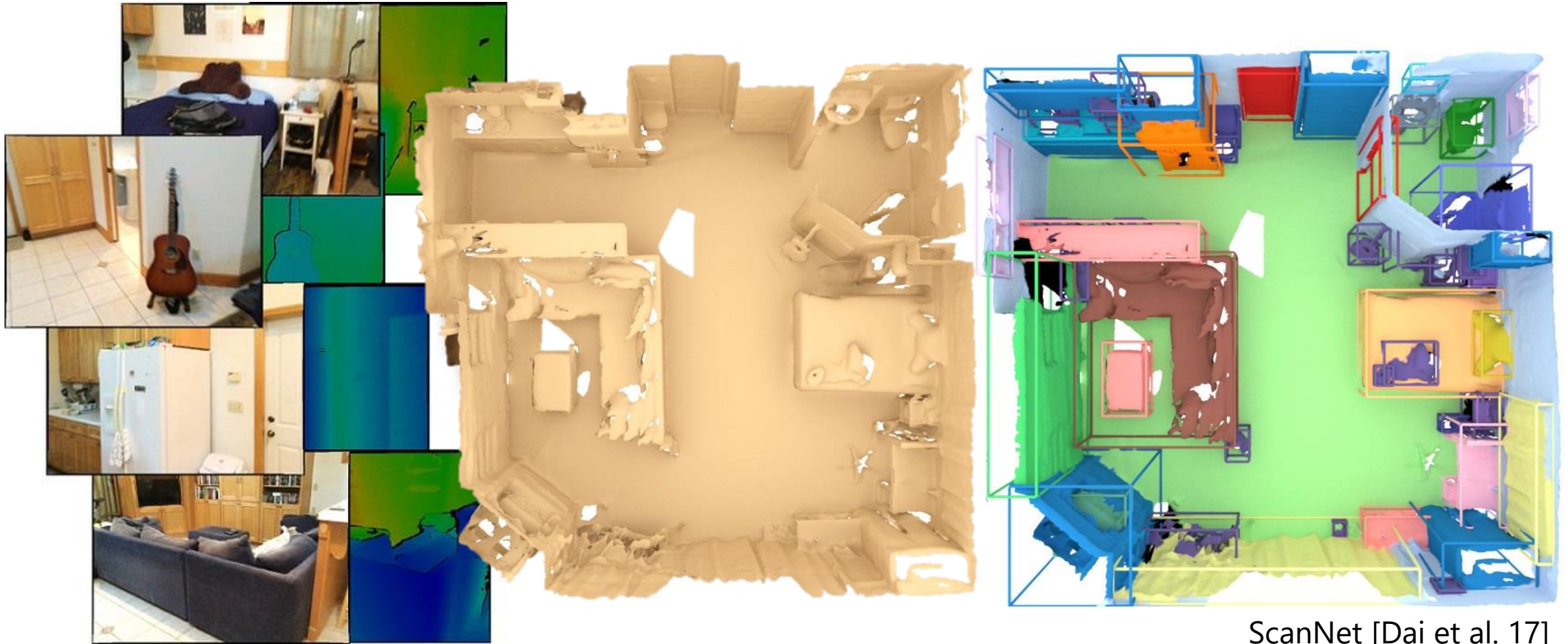
# Shapes: Alignment, Descriptors, Similarity

Prof. Angela Dai

*M. Sc. Yujin Chen, M. Sc. Can Guemeli*

# Brief Recap

# Machine Perception of Real-World Environments



ScanNet [Dai et al. 17]

# *We perceive and interact* with a 3D world



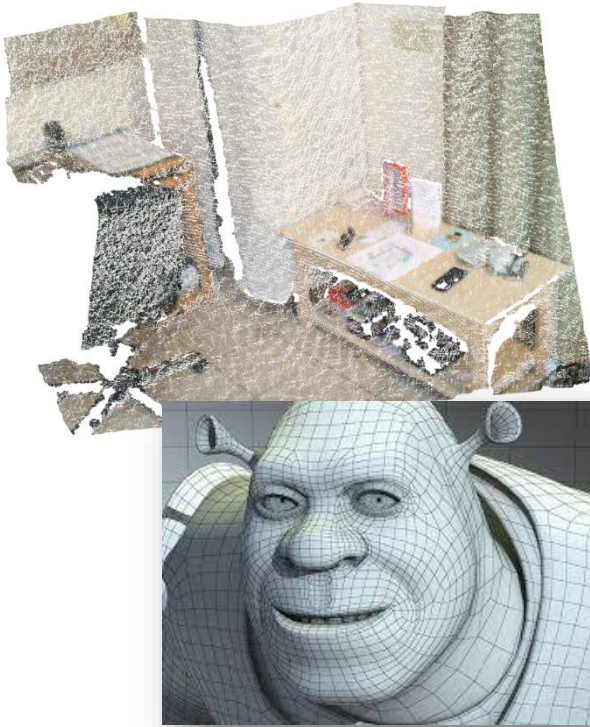
ASIMO, Honda



Star Trek TNG (Phantasms)



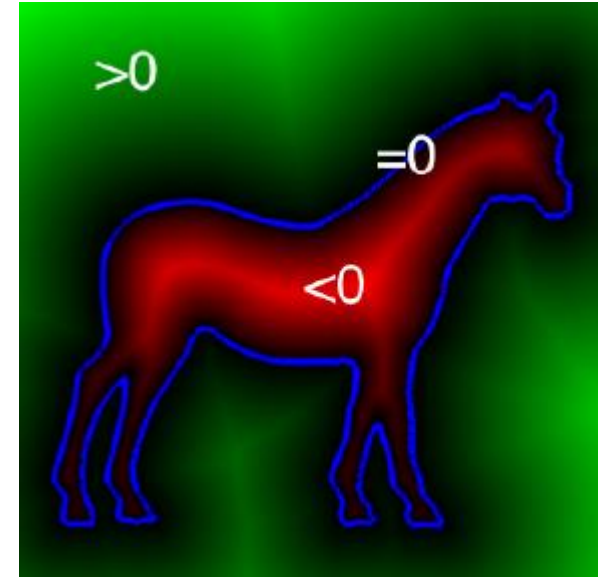
# How to represent 3D?



Discrete:  
Meshes,  
Point Samples



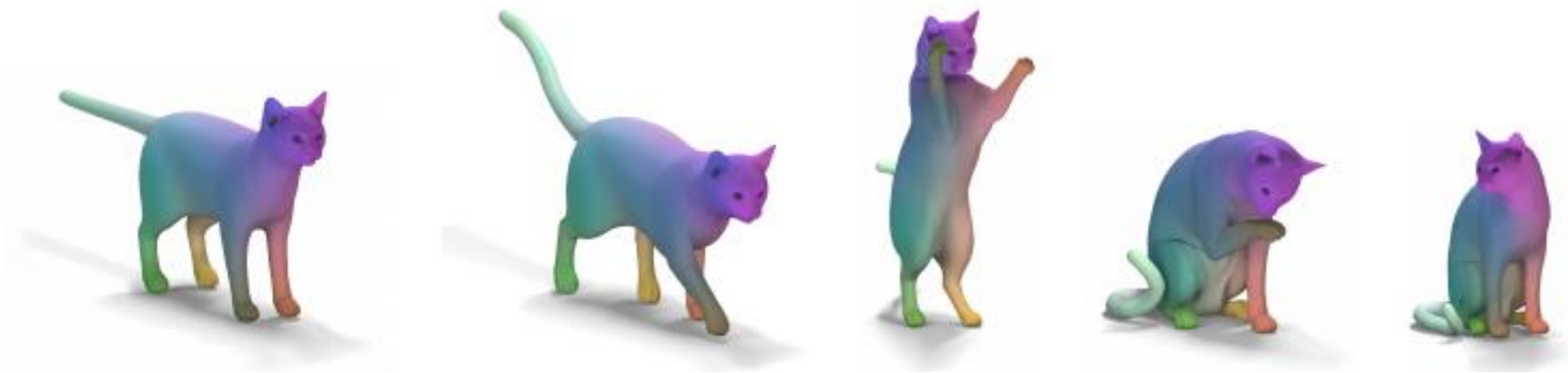
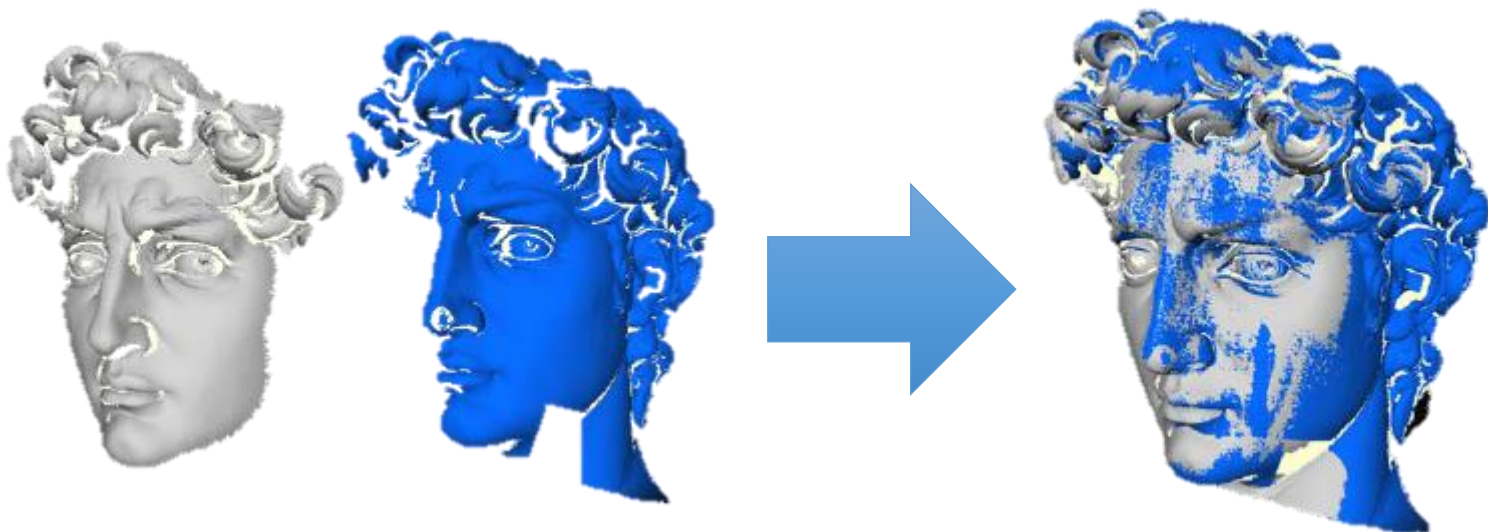
Parametric



Implicit:  
Distance Fields

# All about shapes

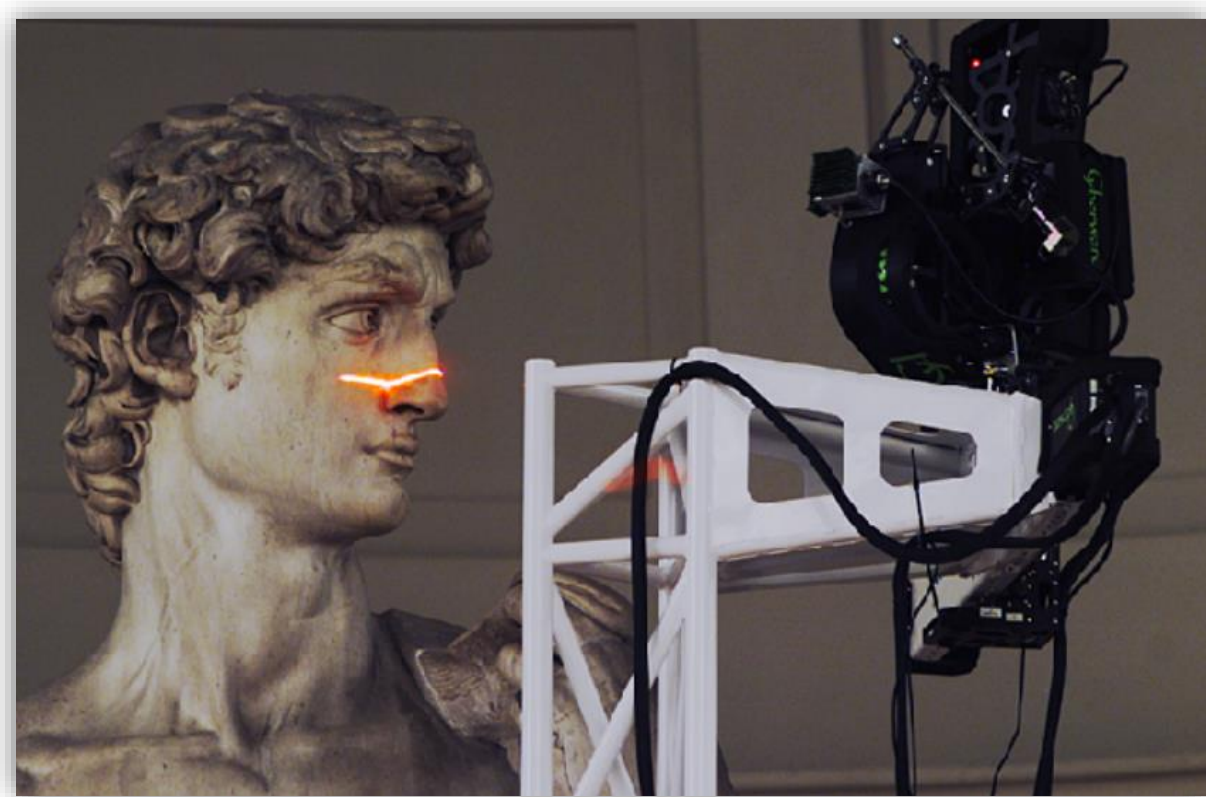
- Alignment
- Correspondences
- Descriptors





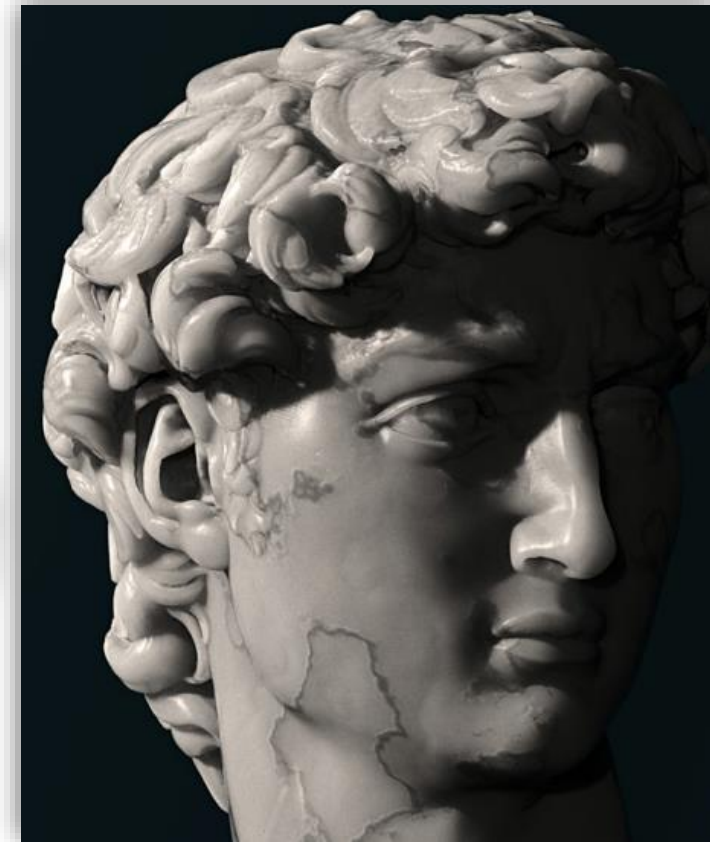
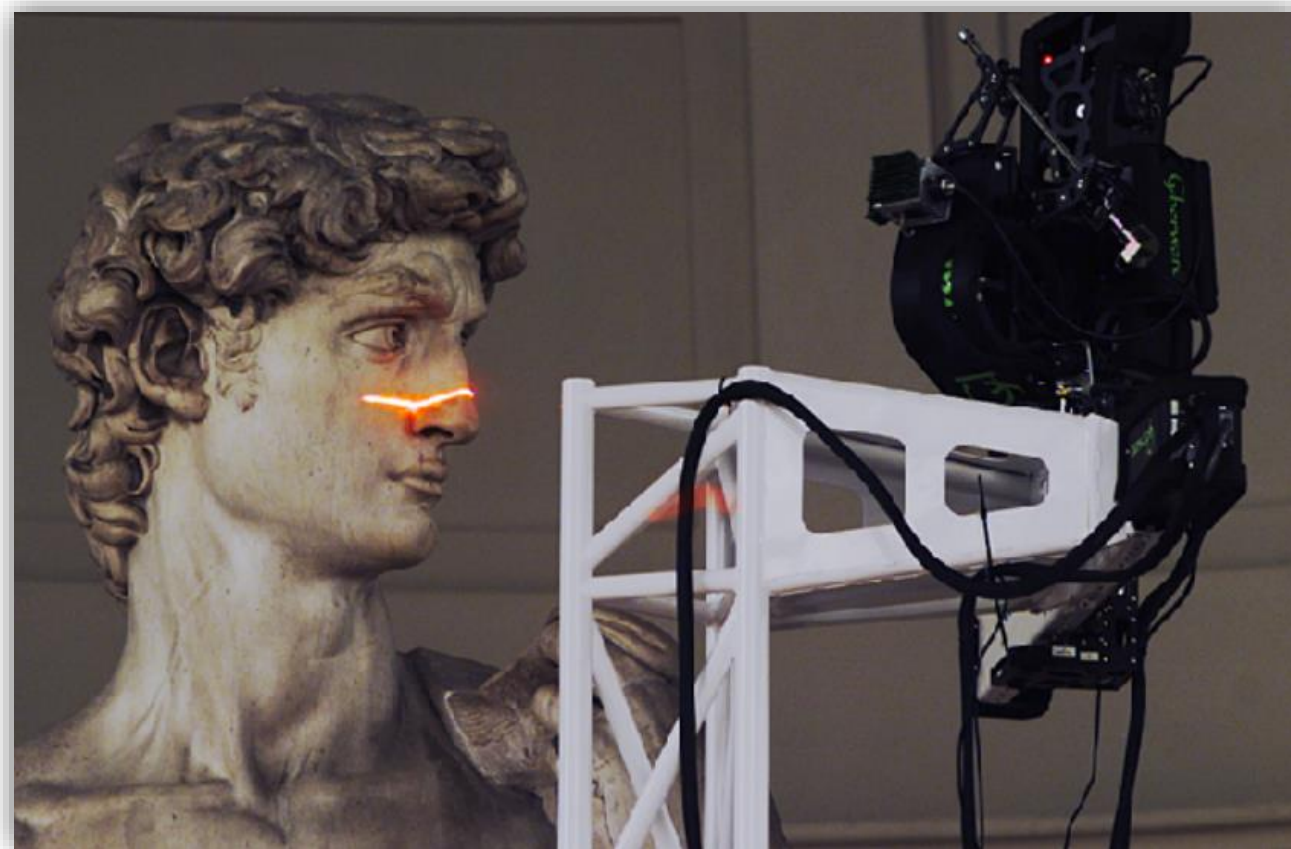
# Shape Acquisition

- 3D Scanning and Motion Capture (IN2354)



# 3D Alignment

- Many applications, e.g., 3D scanning, SLAM





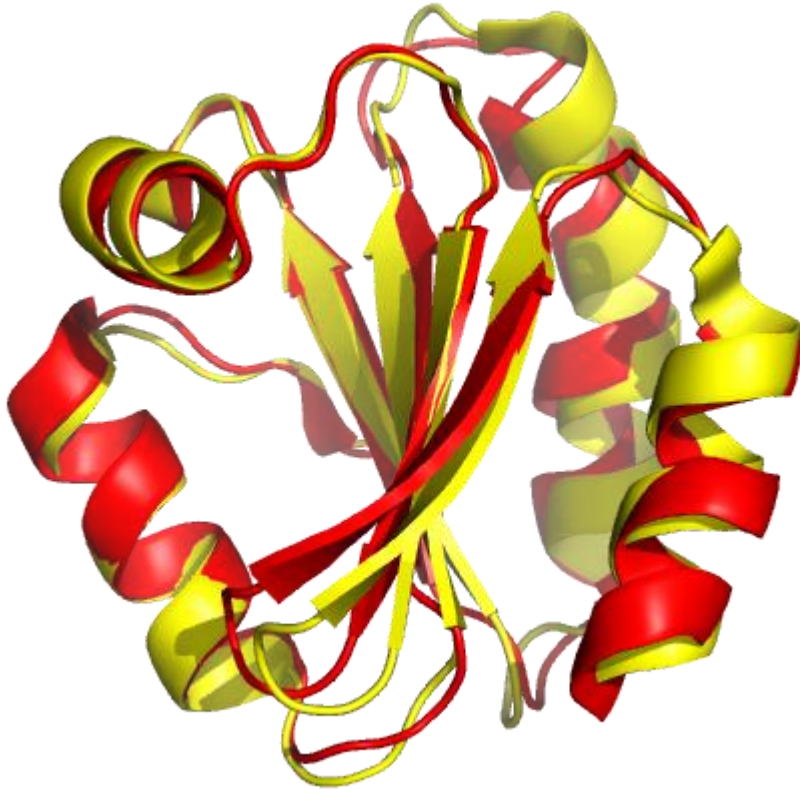
# 3D Alignment

- Many applications, e.g., 3D scanning, SLAM



# 3D Alignment

- Many applications

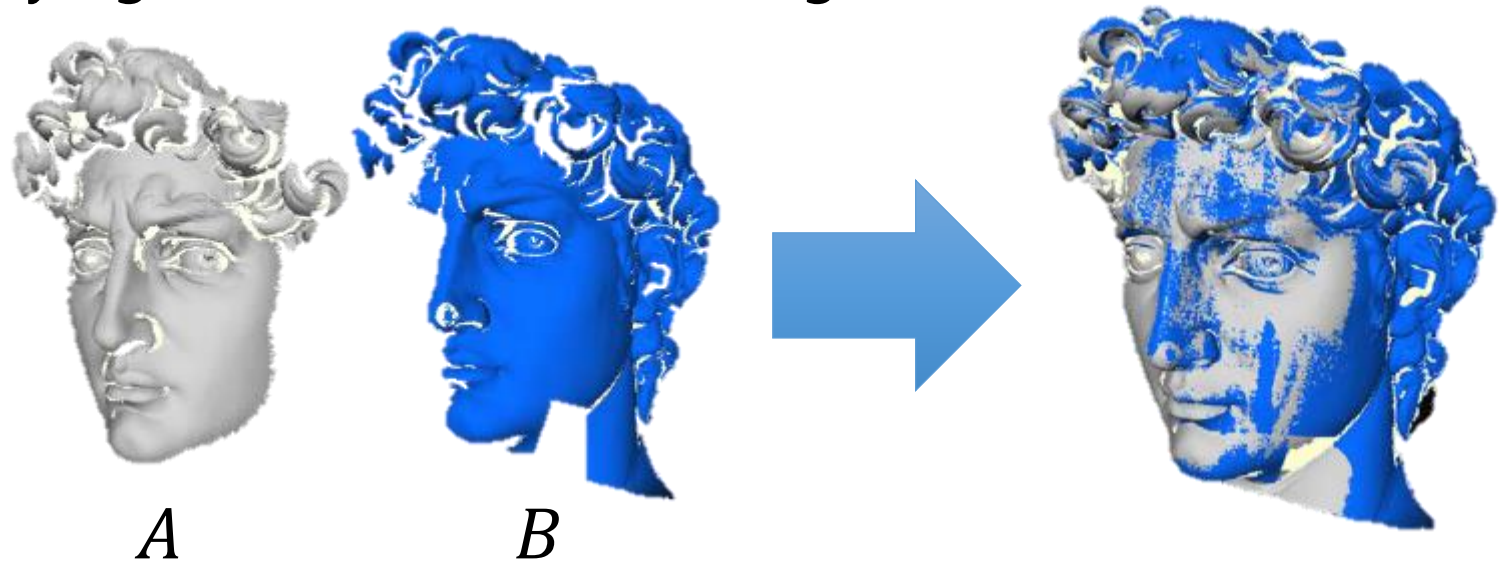


Protein Structure Alignment:

- (red) from humans
- (yellow) from fly *Drosophila melanogaster*.

# 3D Alignment (Registration)

- Input:
  - 2 shapes  $A$  and  $B$  with partial overlap
- Problem:
  - Register  $B$  to  $A$  by rigid transform, minimizing distance between  $A$  and  $B$





# Shape Distance

- Measure of success for registration problem

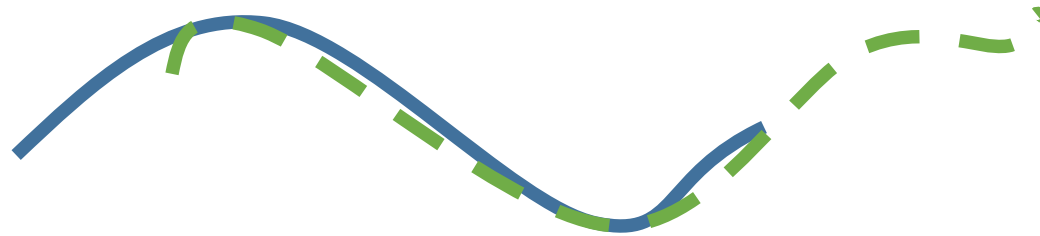
$$\min_T \delta(A, T(B))$$

$T$ : rigid transform to bring  $B$  to  $A$

- Fundamental for shape similarity, classification, general machine learning losses

# How to evaluate 3D distance?

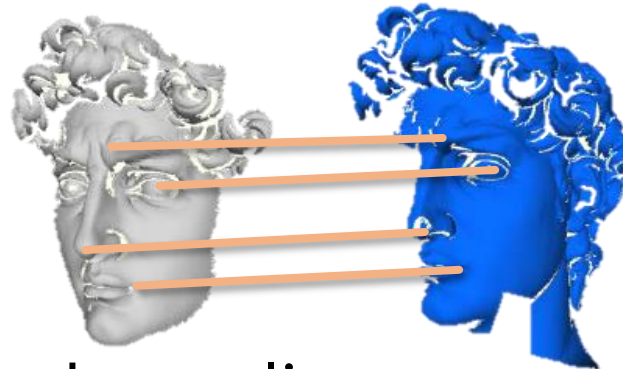
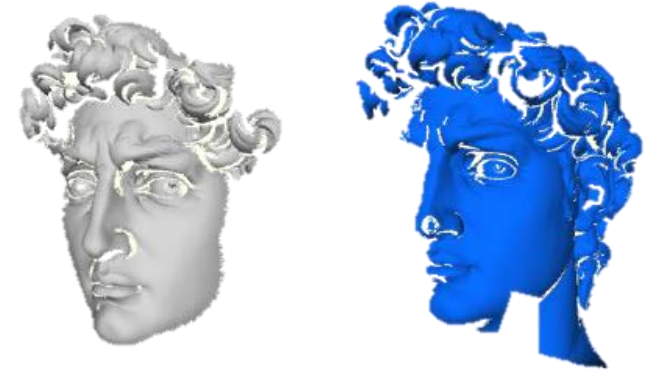
- What about common function norms, e.g.,  $\ell_2$ ?
  - We don't have correspondences across 3D structures, shapes
- Should support partial matches



- Trade-off between support size and aggregated distance
- Distance for partial matches not a metric

# Alignment Estimation

- Given shapes  $A$  and  $B$
- Establish correspondences between  $A$  and  $B$



- Find optimal transform that best aligns correspondences together, based on a distance measure



# Transform Estimation

- Degrees of freedom
- Rigid motion has 6 degrees of freedom (3 rotation, 3 translation)
- Typically estimate with more correspondences -> overdetermined problem
- More general transforms -> more degrees of freedom, e.g., nonrigid deformations

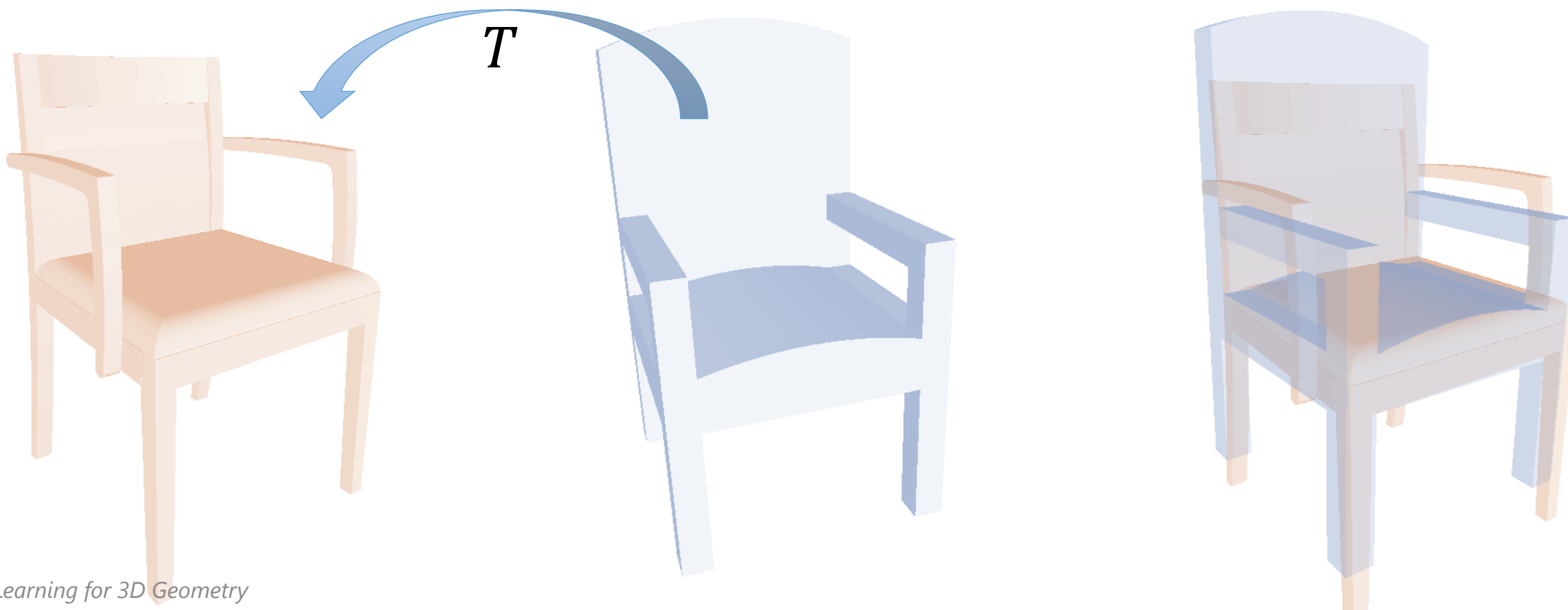


# Alignment Challenges

- Correspondence Estimation
  - Combinatorial search
- Transform Estimation
  - Transforms can be non-linear
- Difficult optimization -> look for good features, low-dimensional transforms

# Rigid 3D Alignment

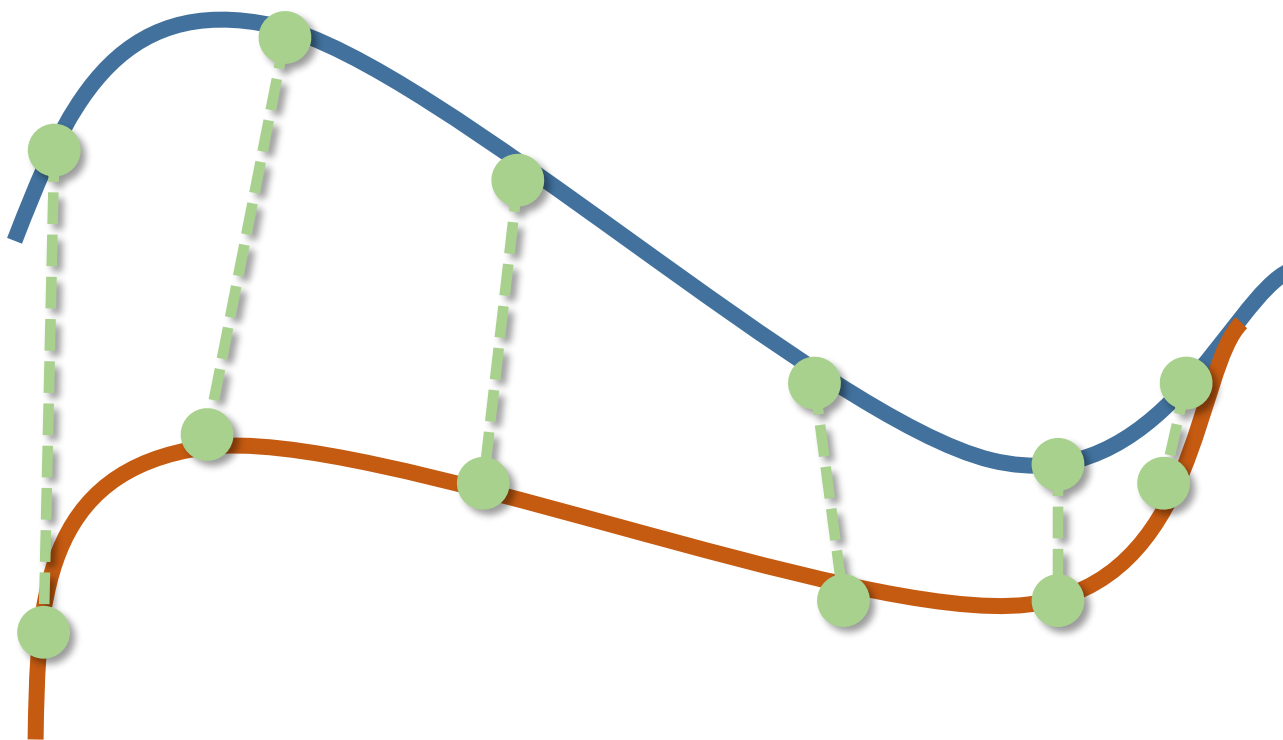
- Find 6DoF rigid transform that best aligns shapes, even if the shapes are different





# Rigid 3D Alignment (Given Correspondences)

- Given correspondences  $\{x_i\}, \{y_i\} \in \mathbb{R}^3$
- Find rigid transform  $\mathbf{R}, t$  that minimizes  $\sum_{i=1}^N \|\mathbf{R}x_i + t - y_i\|_2^2$



Solved as *orthogonal Procrustes problem* in 1966



# Rigid 3D Alignment (Given Correspondences)

$$\min_{\mathbf{R}, t} \sum_{i=1}^N \|\mathbf{R}x_i + t - y_i\|_2^2$$

- How to solve for  $\mathbf{R}, t$ ?
- Consider coordinate system centered at the mean of the  $x_i$

$$\min_{\mathbf{R}, t} \underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^N \|t - y_i\|_2^2}_{\text{translation part}} - 2 \underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^N \langle \mathbf{R}x_i, y_i \rangle}_{\text{rotation part}}$$

# Rigid 3D Alignment (Given Correspondences)

$$\min_{\mathbf{R}, t} \sum_{i=1}^N \|t - y_i\|_2^2 - 2 \sum_{i=1}^N \langle \mathbf{R} x_i, y_i \rangle$$

- Translation:  $t = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N y_i$  (align centroids)
- Remove translation by mean-centering:

$$\bar{x} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N x_i \quad \bar{y} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N y_i \quad X = [x_0 - \bar{x}, \dots, x_n - \bar{x}]^T \quad Y = [y_0 - \bar{y}, \dots, y_n - \bar{y}]^T$$

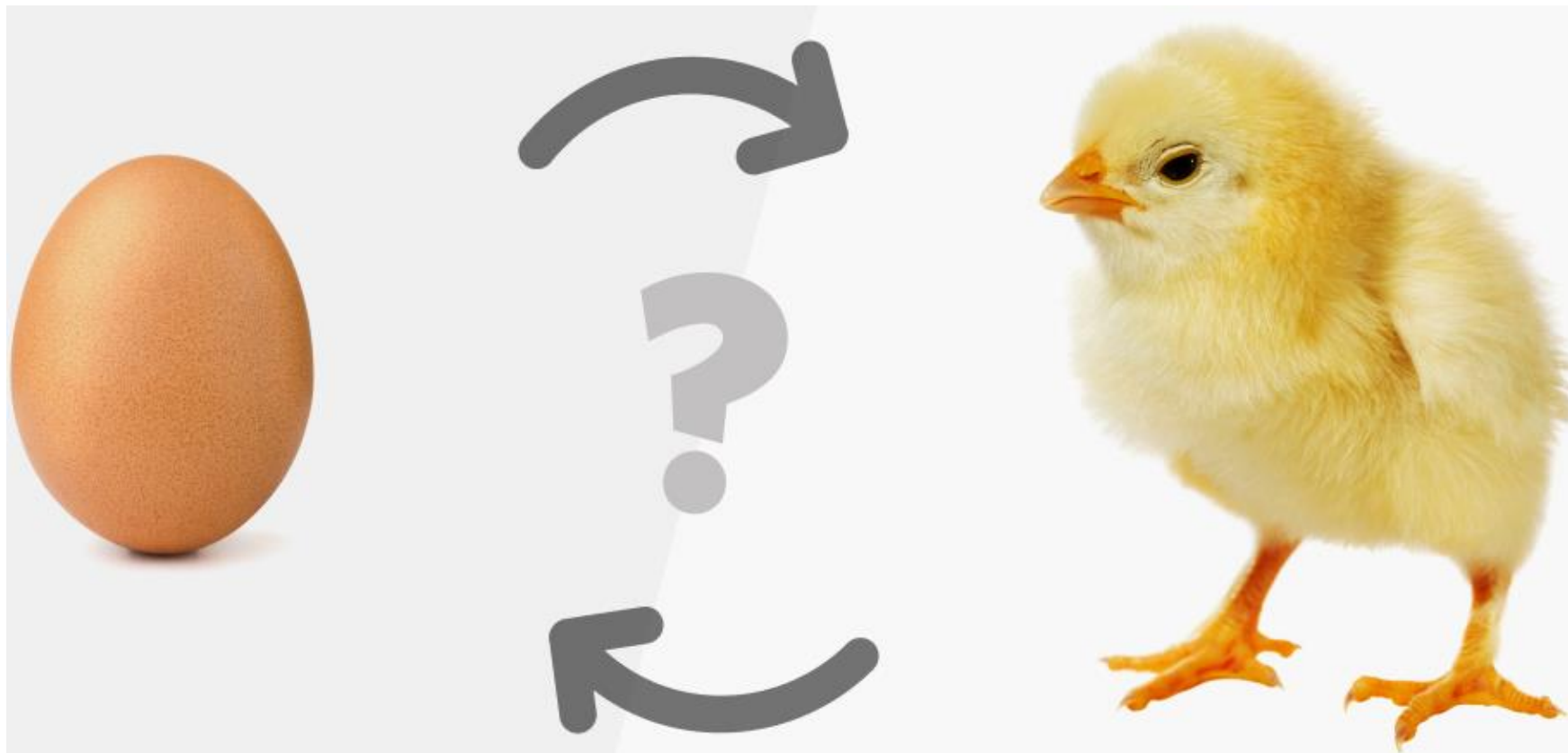
	$N$
3	$X$
	$Y$

- Compute SVD:  $XY^T = UDV^T \leftarrow 3 \times 3$  matrix
- Define  $S = \begin{cases} I, & \text{if } \det(U) \det(V) = 1 \\ \text{diag}(1, \dots, 1, -1) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$

$$R = USV^T$$



# How to get correspondences?

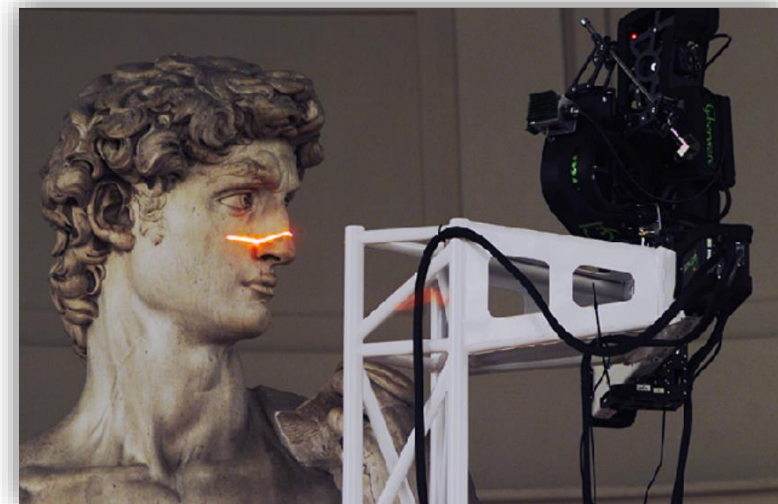
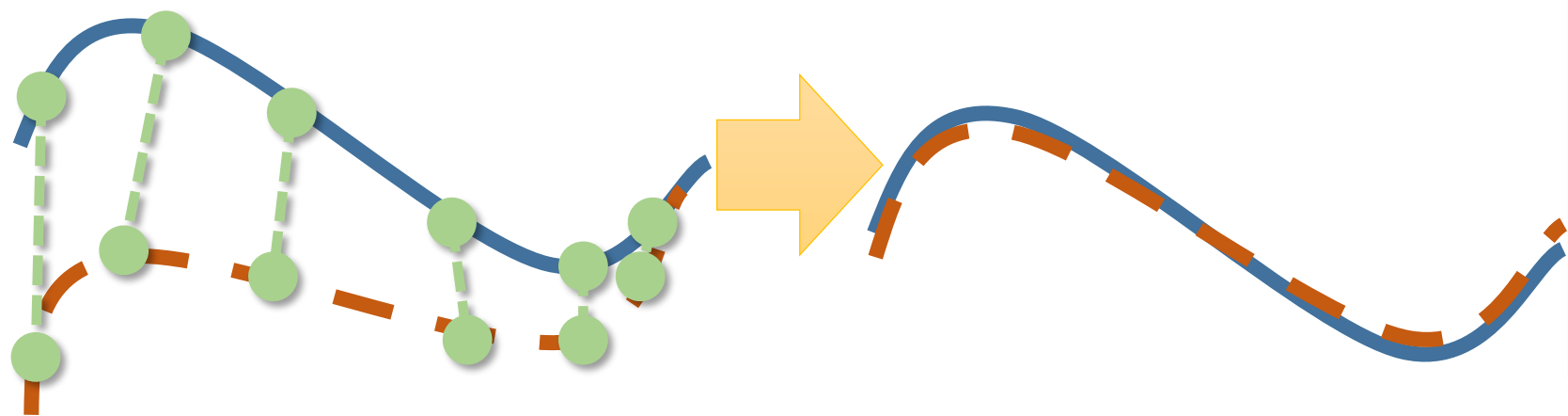


# How to get correspondences?

- Iterate between finding correspondences and solving for the best transform for those correspondences
  - Iterative Closest Points (ICP)
- Various methods to explicitly match features (handcrafted or learned), which can also be refined with ICP

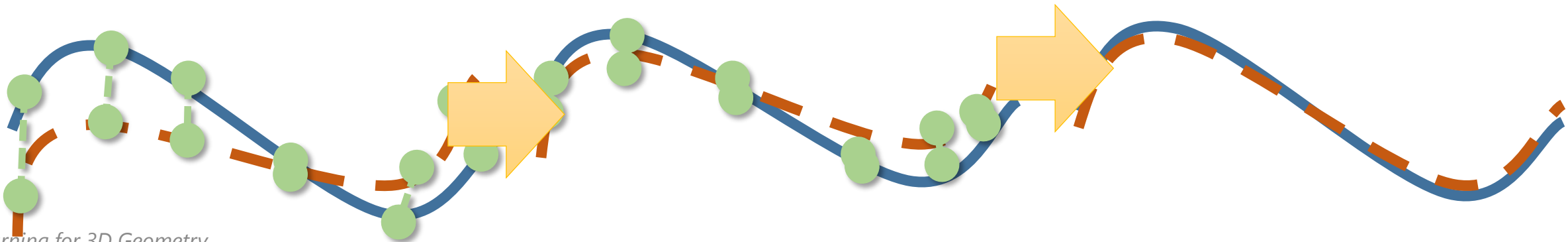
# Iterative Closest Points (Besl and McKay '92)

- Developed for aligning 3D shapes
- Nice analysis: *Efficient variants of the ICP algorithm* (Rusinkiewicz and Levoy 2001)

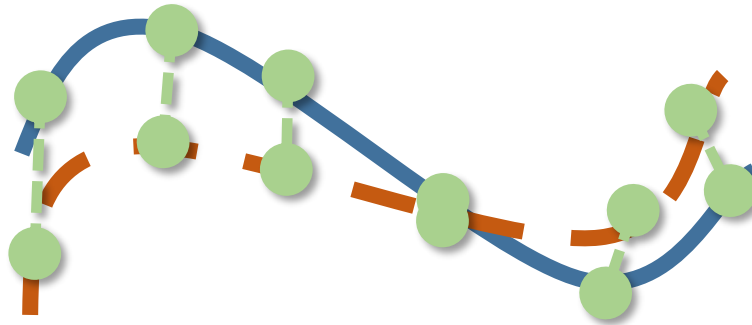


# Iterative Closest Points

- How to find correspondences?
- Assume that closest points correspond
- Align the  $P_a$  points to their closest  $P_B$  neighbors; repeat
- Converges if starting positions are "close enough"



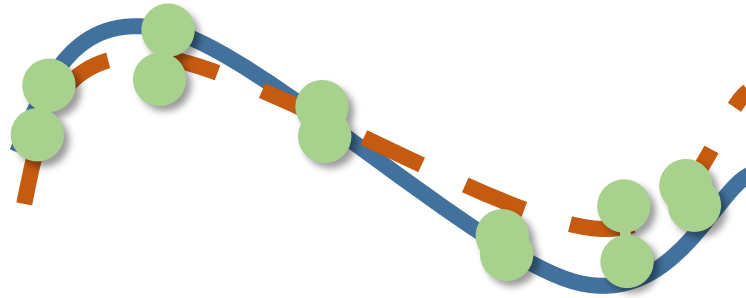
# Iterative Closest Points



- Given a pair of shapes,  $A$  and  $B$
- Iterate:
  - Find corresponding points  $P_A$  and  $P_B$  based on proximity
  - Find optimal transform  $\mathbf{R}, t$  minimizing  $\operatorname{argmin}_{\mathbf{R}, t} \sum_i \|\mathbf{R}x_i + t - y_i\|_2^2$
  - Apply optimized  $\mathbf{R}, t$

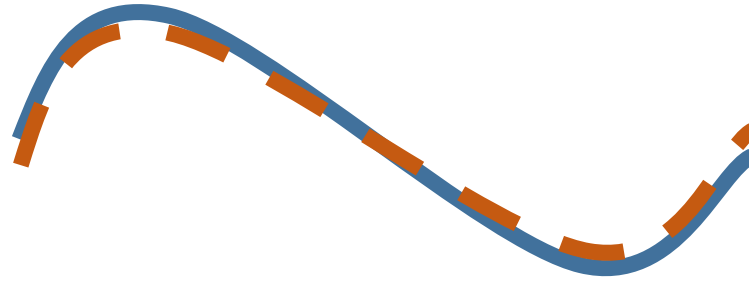


# Iterative Closest Points



- Given a pair of shapes,  $A$  and  $B$
- Iterate:
  - Find corresponding points  $P_A$  and  $P_B$  based on proximity
  - Find optimal transform  $\mathbf{R}, t$  minimizing  $\operatorname{argmin}_{\mathbf{R}, t} \sum_i \|\mathbf{R}x_i + t - y_i\|_2^2$
  - Apply optimized  $\mathbf{R}, t$

# Iterative Closest Points




- Given a pair of shapes,  $A$  and  $B$
- Iterate:
  - Find corresponding points  $P_A$  and  $P_B$  based on proximity
  - Find optimal transform  $\mathbf{R}, t$  minimizing  $\operatorname{argmin}_{\mathbf{R}, t} \sum_i \|\mathbf{R}x_i + t - y_i\|_2^2$
  - Apply optimized  $\mathbf{R}, t$

# ICP: Runtime Analysis

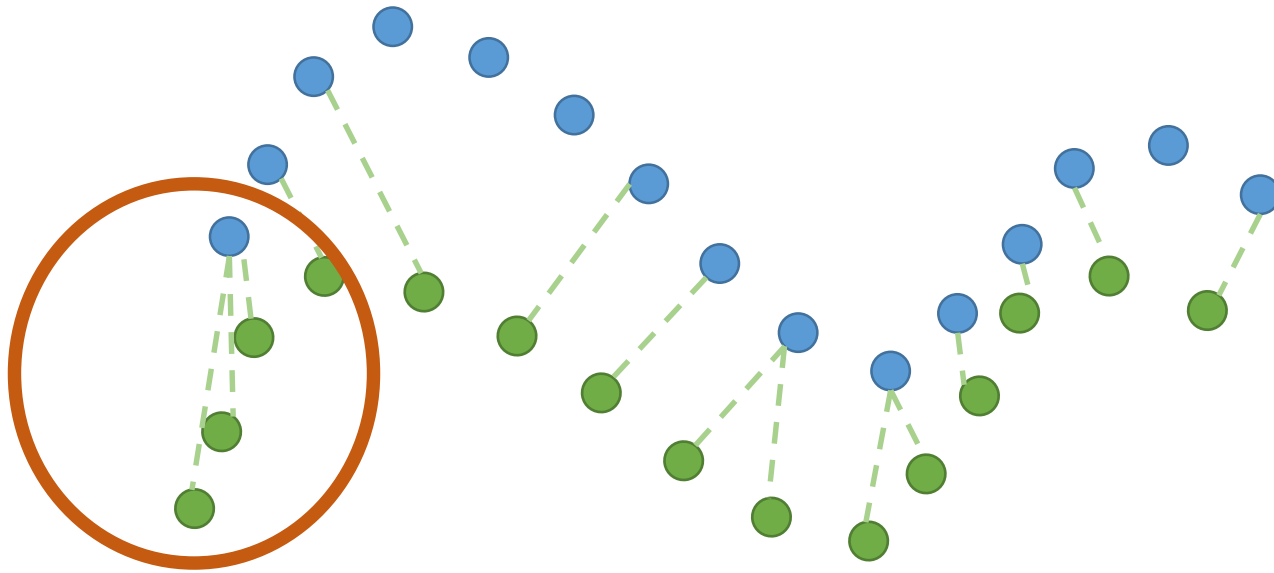
- Each iteration:
  - Find closest points:
    - $O(N_B)$  per point
    - $O(N_B * N_A)$  total
  - Compute optimal alignment:  $O(N_A)$
  - Update scene  $O(N_A)$
- Speed up with fast or approximate nearest-neighbor data structures, e.g., *kd*-tree

# ICP Analysis

- 
- Selection of points
  - Matching correspondences
  - Weighting correspondences
  - Rejecting outlier correspondences
  - Assigning error metric to the current transform
  - Minimizing error metric w.r.t transform

# ICP Analysis

- How to select correspondences?



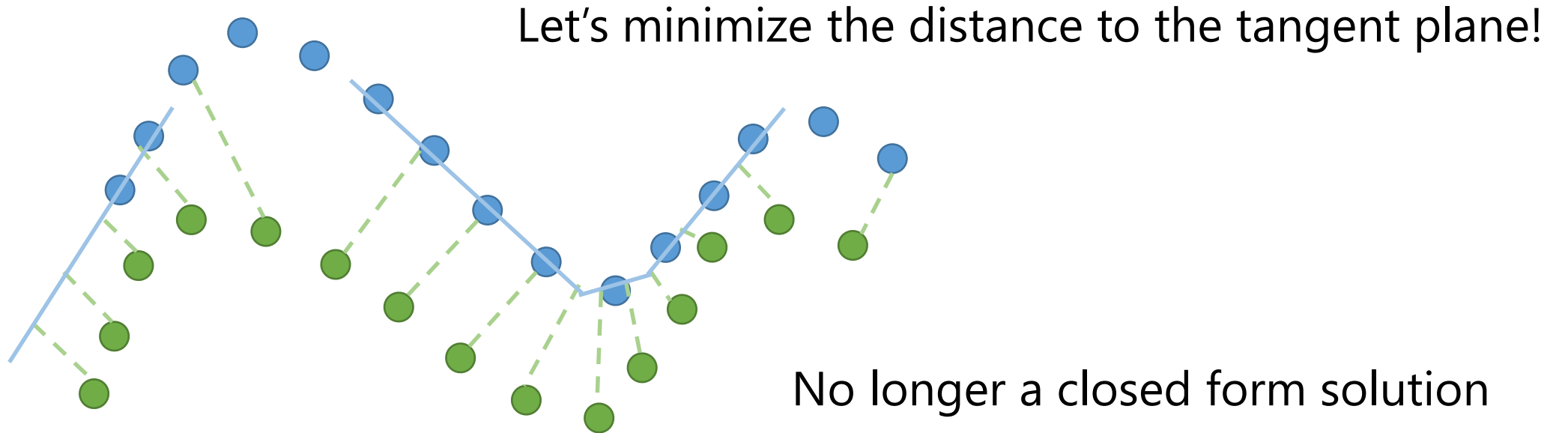
But: Uneven Sampling

Ideally, 1:1 correspondences



# ICP Analysis

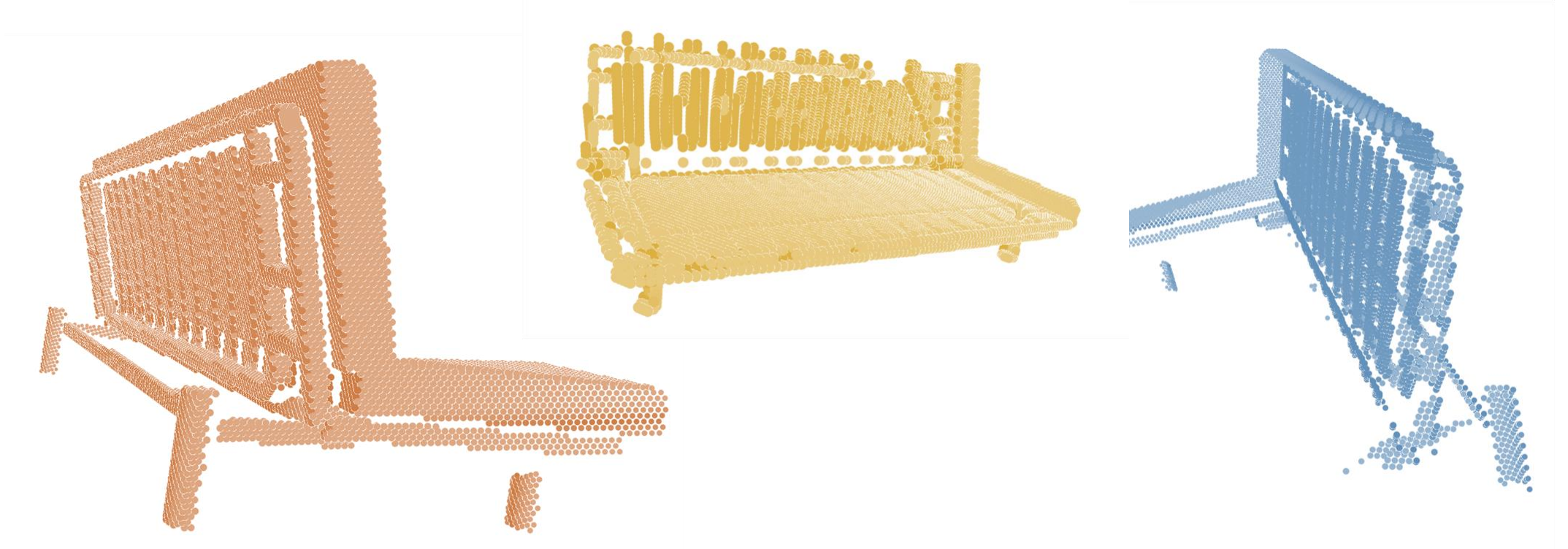
- How to select correspondences?



In practice: faster convergence than point-point ICP

# Global Registration

- Given shapes in arbitrary positions, find the alignments



- Often approximate – to be refined (e.g., by ICP)

# Global Registration

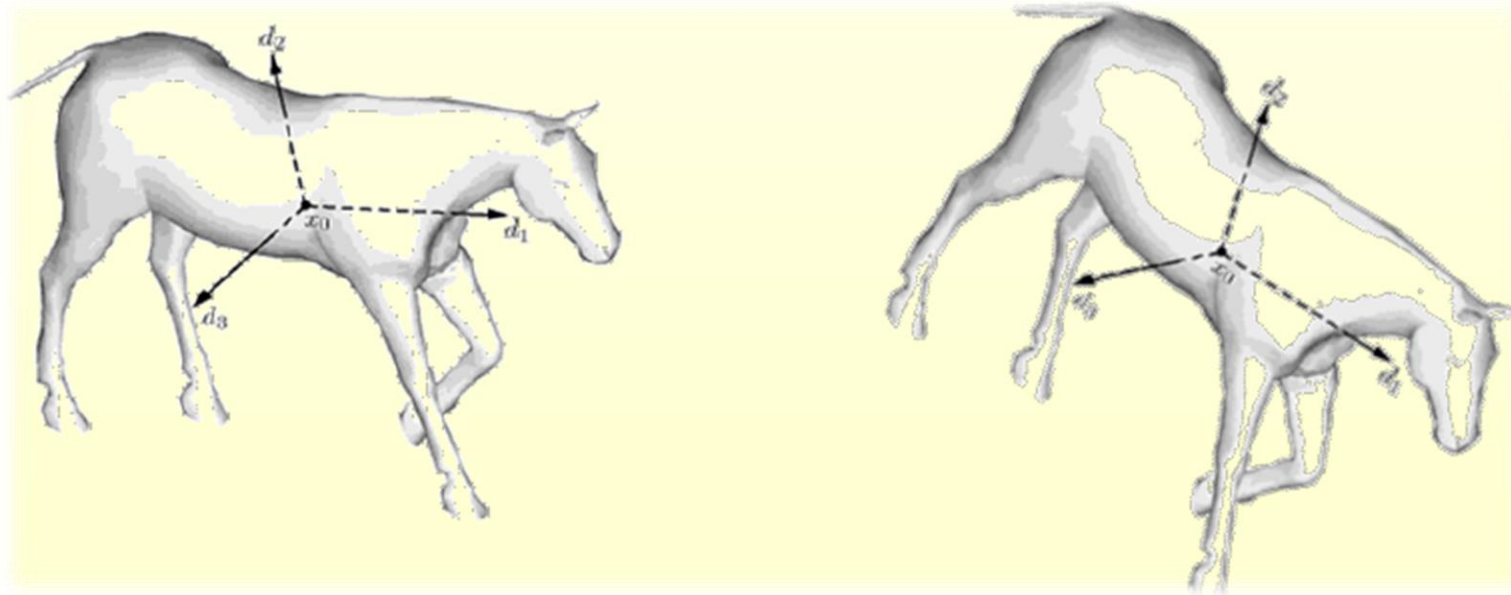
- Various Approaches
  - Exhaustive Search
  - Normalization
  - Random Sampling
  - Invariance

# Global Registration: Exhaustive Search

- Compare all alignments
  - Sample space of possible initial alignments
  - Find alignment at which models are closest
  - (Refine with ICP)
- Can find optimal result
- Can be unnecessarily slow
- Often intractable for larger degrees of freedom (e.g., non-rigid deformations)

# Global Registration: Normalization

- If: only a handful of initial configurations

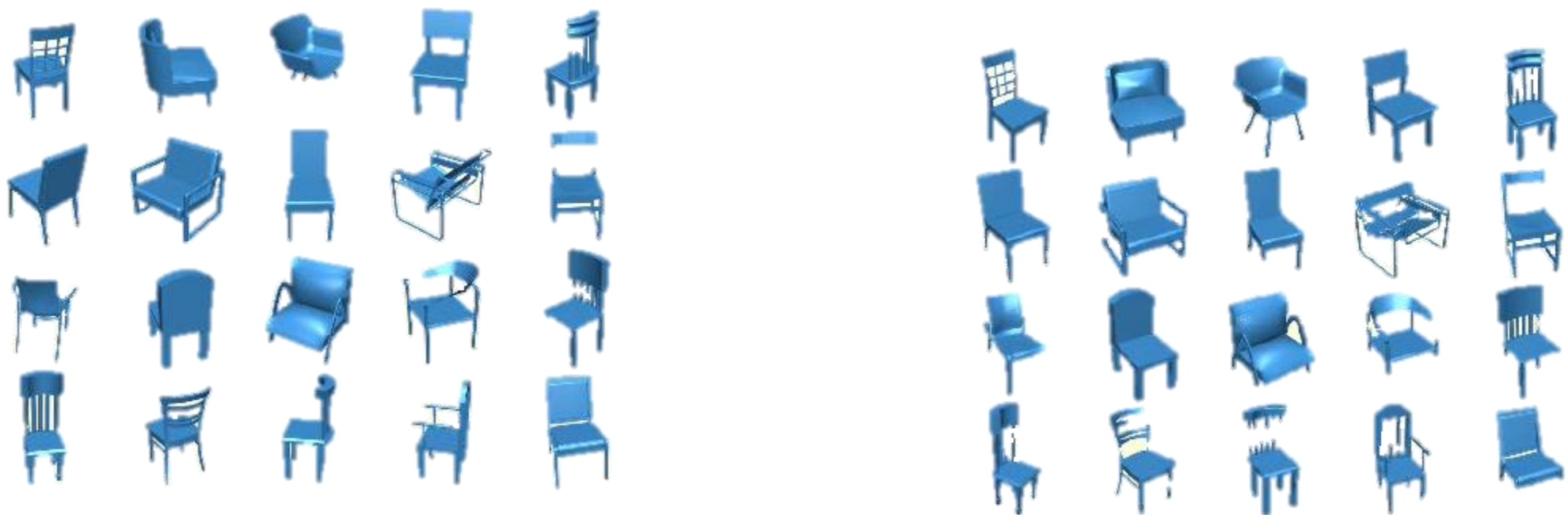


- Center all shapes at the origin and use PCA to find the principal directions



# Global Registration: Normalization

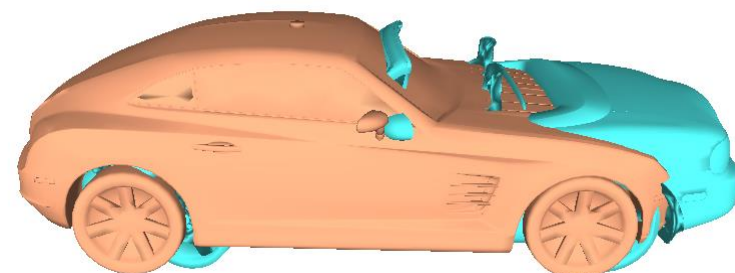
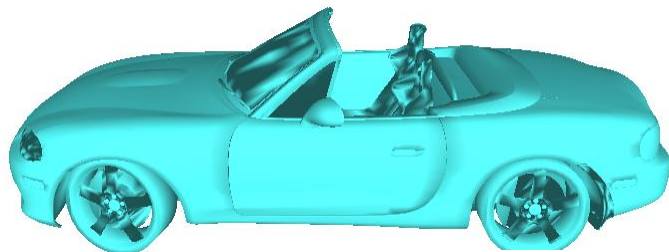
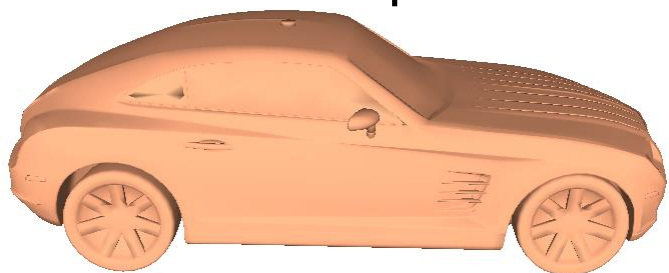
- Align a collection of shapes



- Works well for complete shapes with no noise

# Global Registration: Normalization

- Problems with PCA:
  - Principal axes not consistently oriented



- Unstable axes:



- Partial Similarity

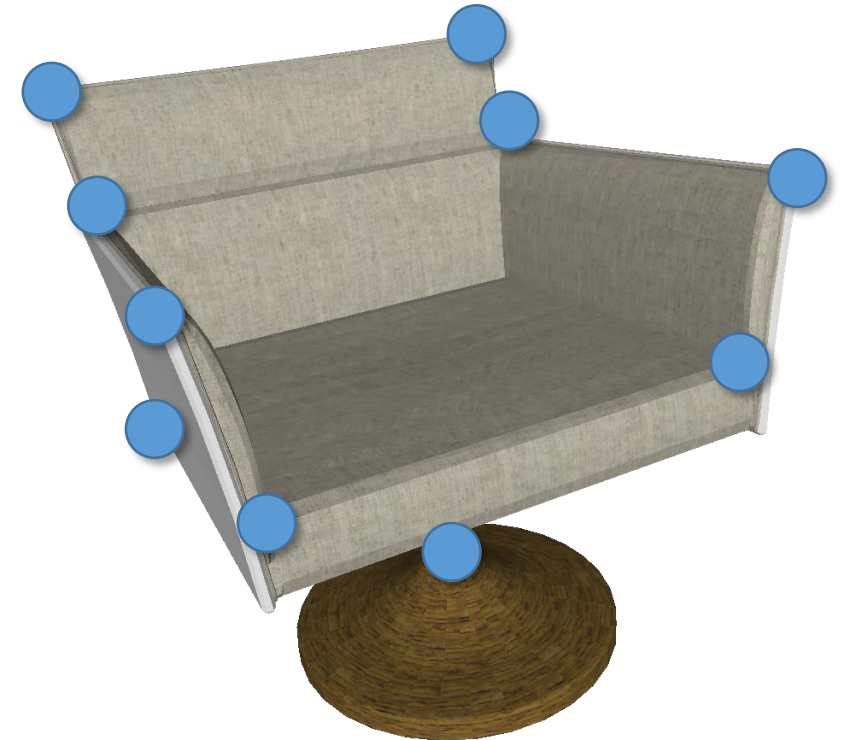


# Global Registration: Random Sampling

- RANSAC
- Iterate:
  - Pick random pair of  $n$  (3 for rigid) points on both shapes
  - Estimate alignment, and check for error
- Guess and verify

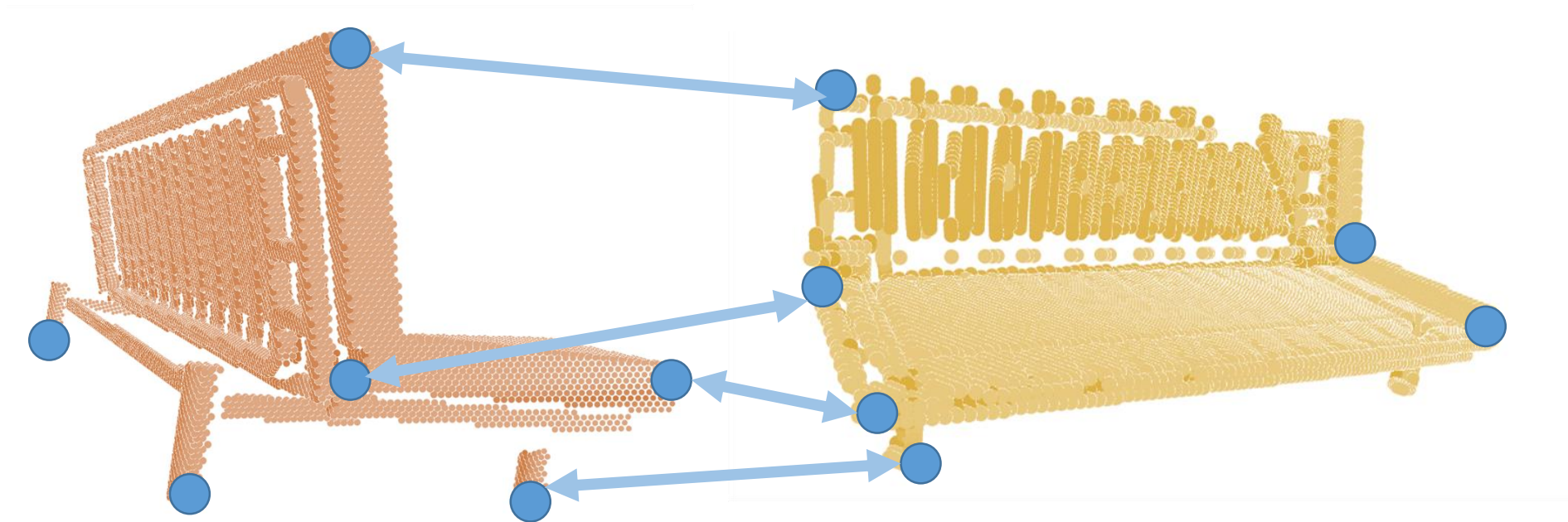
# Global Matching: Invariant Features

- Characterize shape with properties that are invariant under the desired transform
- Often trade-off: invariance vs informative
- Identify salient feature points
- Compute informative descriptors



# Matching Feature Points

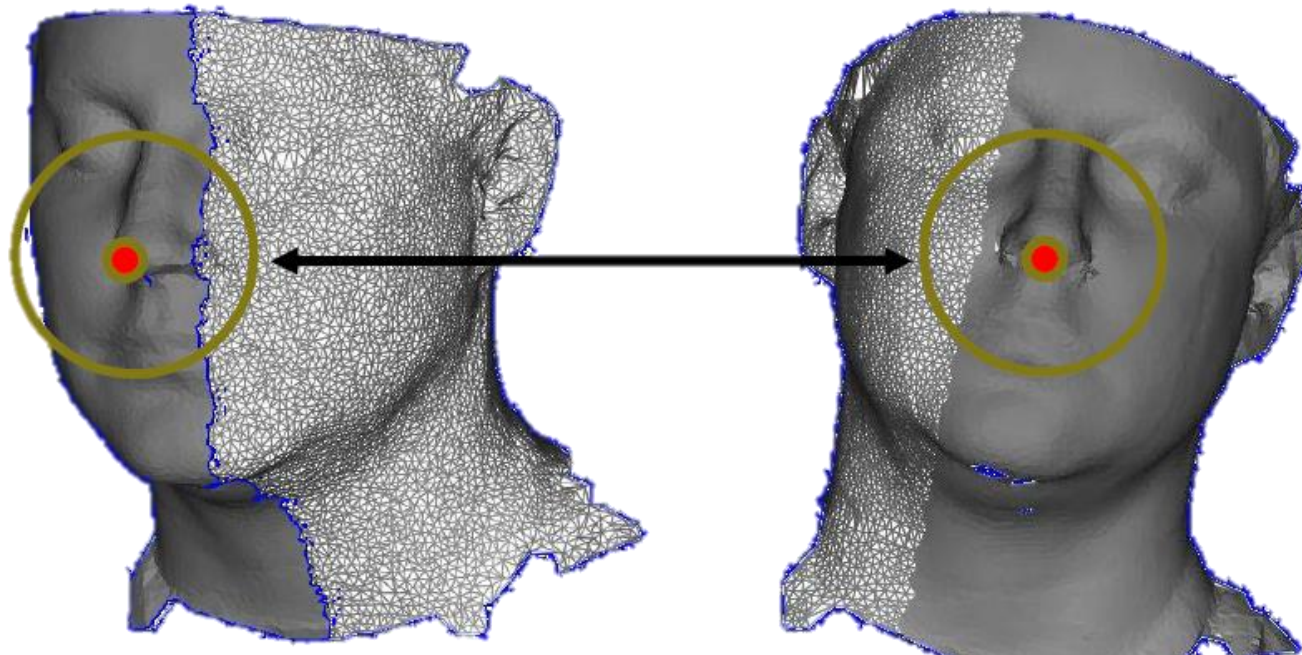
- Find feature points on each shape
- Establish correspondences
- Compute transform that aligns correspondences





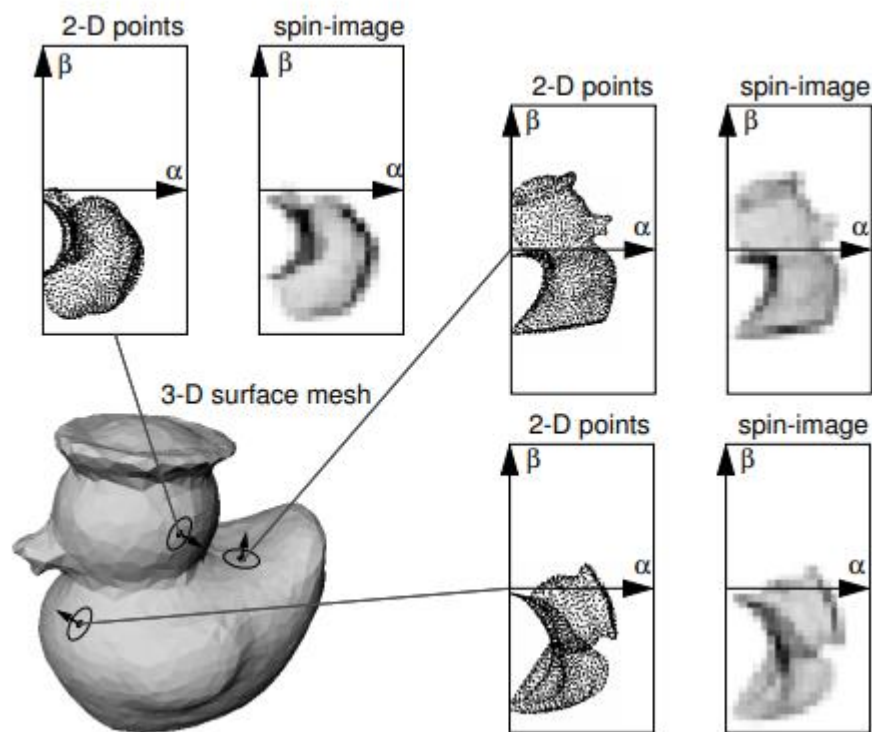
# How to establish correspondence?

- When do two points on different shapes/scans represent the same feature?
- Are the surrounding regions similar?

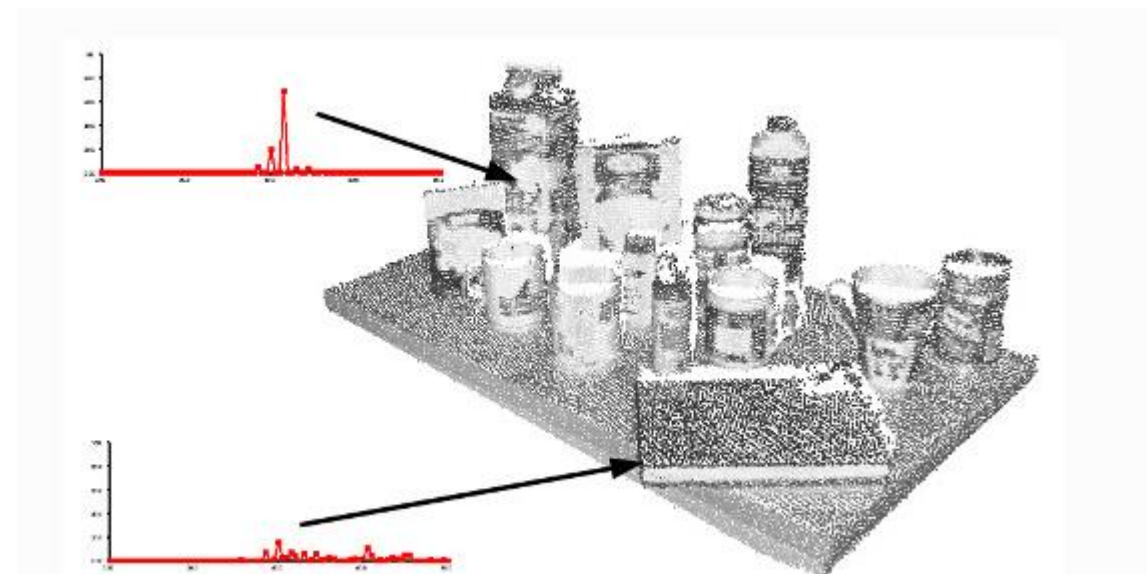


Feature  
descriptors  
summarize  
surrounding  
regions

# Shape Descriptors



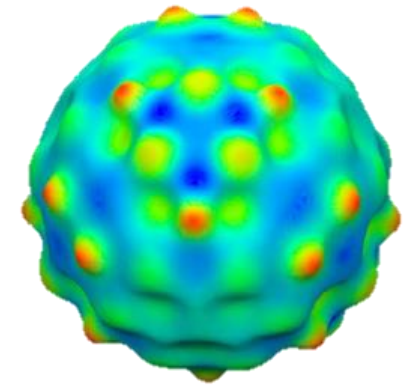
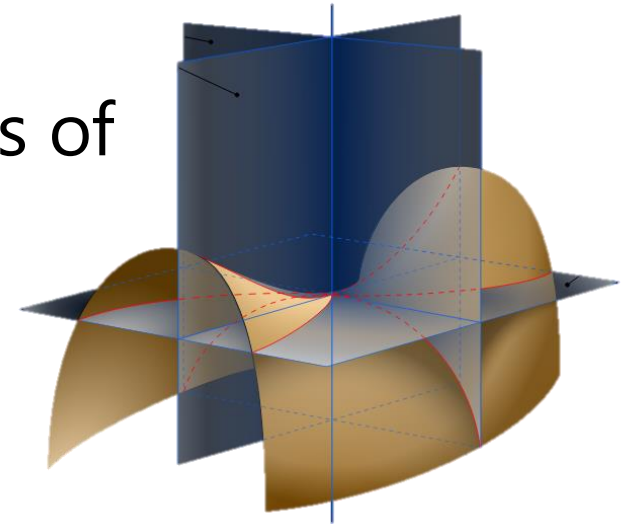
Spin Images [Johnson and Hebert '99]



(Fast) Point Feature Histograms [Rusu et al. '09]

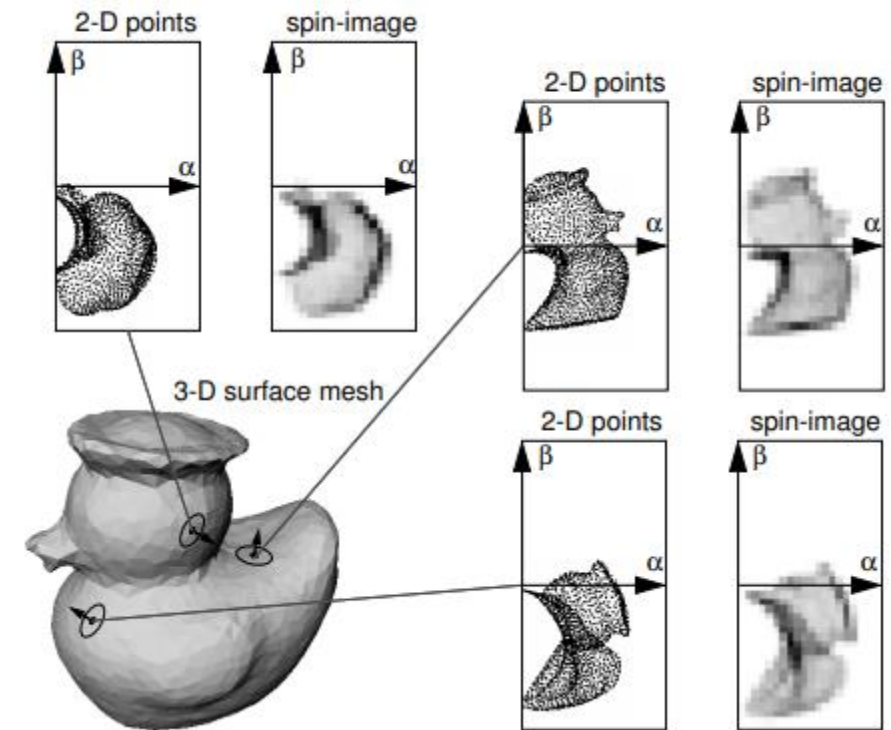
# Classical Descriptors

- Curvature
- Differential features describe characteristics of surrounding surface
- Differential features can be noisy on meshes and real-world captured data



# Classical Descriptors: Spin Images

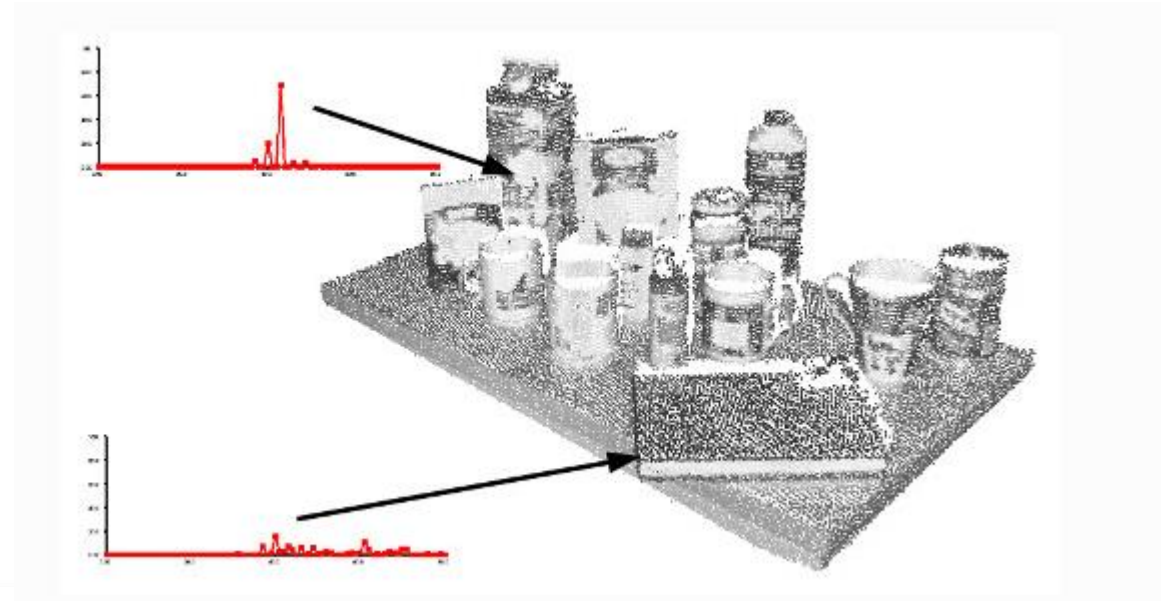
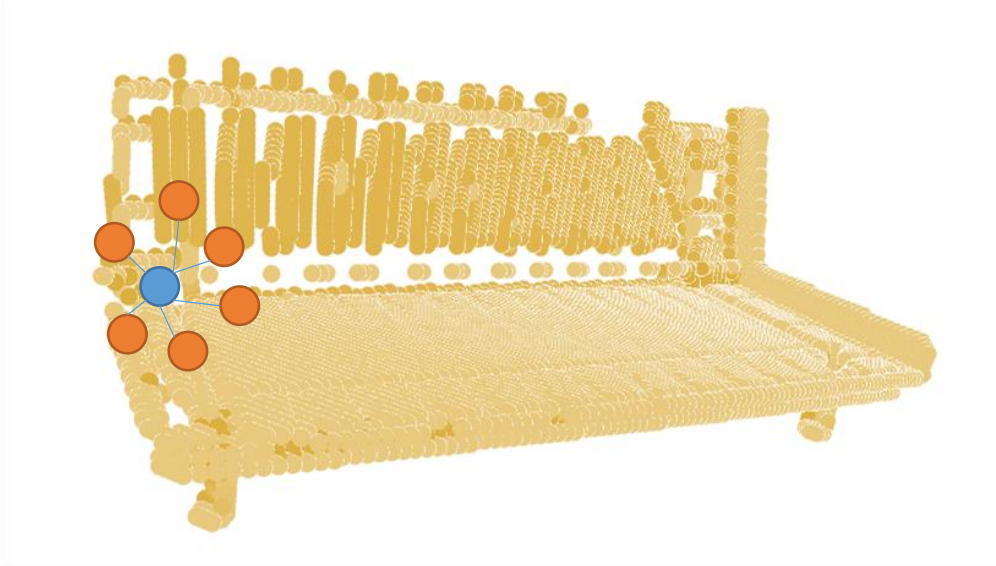
- Create image associated with neighborhood of a feature point
- "Spin" image along point normal
- Collect contributions of each other point by their distance to tangent and distance to normal
- 2D spin image comparison



Spin Images [Johnson and Hebert '99]

# Classical Descriptors: Point Feature Histograms

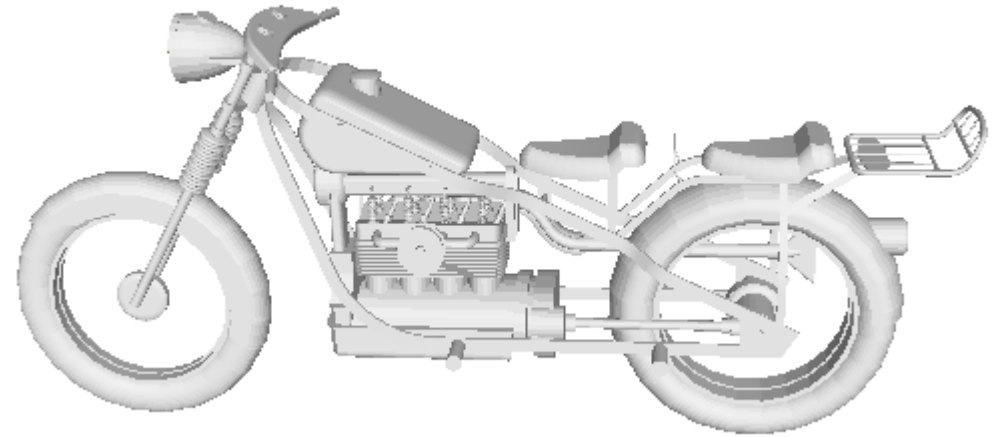
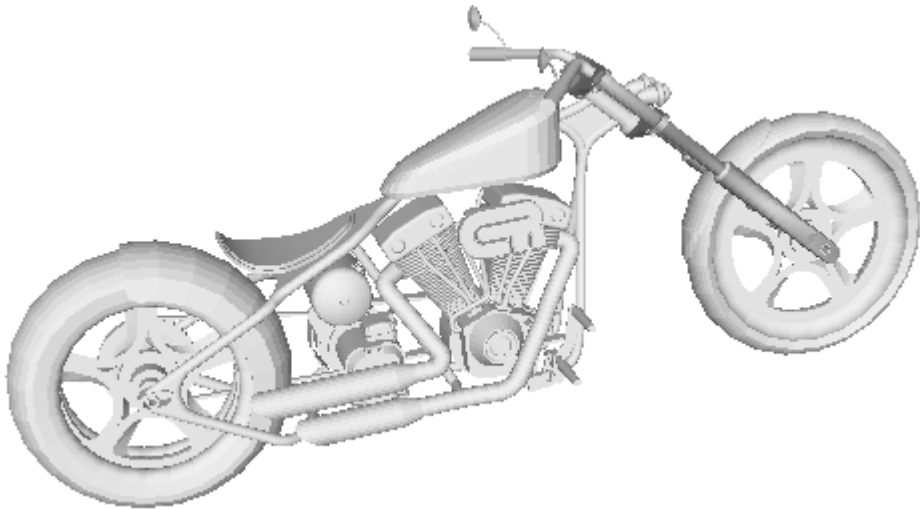
- For a point  $p$  find its  $k$  neighbors  $\{q_i\}$
- Compute histogram from tuples of  $\{(p, q_i)\}$  based on distances, normal, optionally curvature etc.





# Global Shape Similarity

- Do two 3D models represent the same or similar shapes?

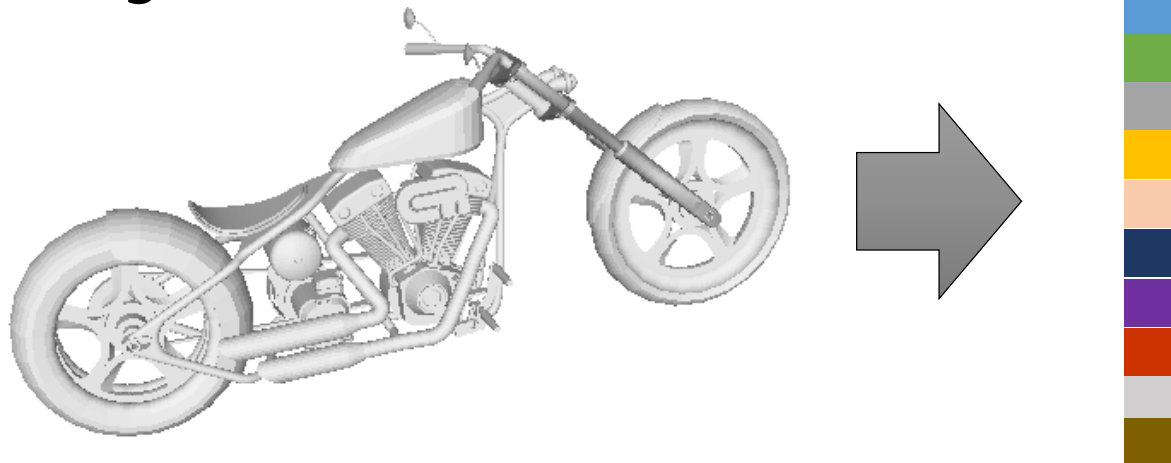


3D models can have different representations, tessellations, topologies, etc.



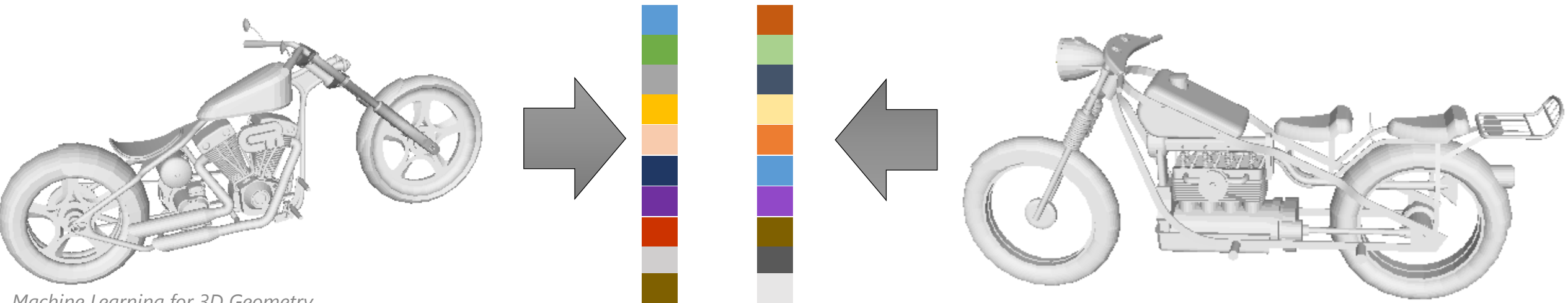
# Global Shape Similarity

- Do two 3D models represent the same or similar shapes?
- Represent each model by a shape descriptor
  - Structured, abstraction of a 3D model
  - Captures salient shape information
  - Typically a high-dimensional vector



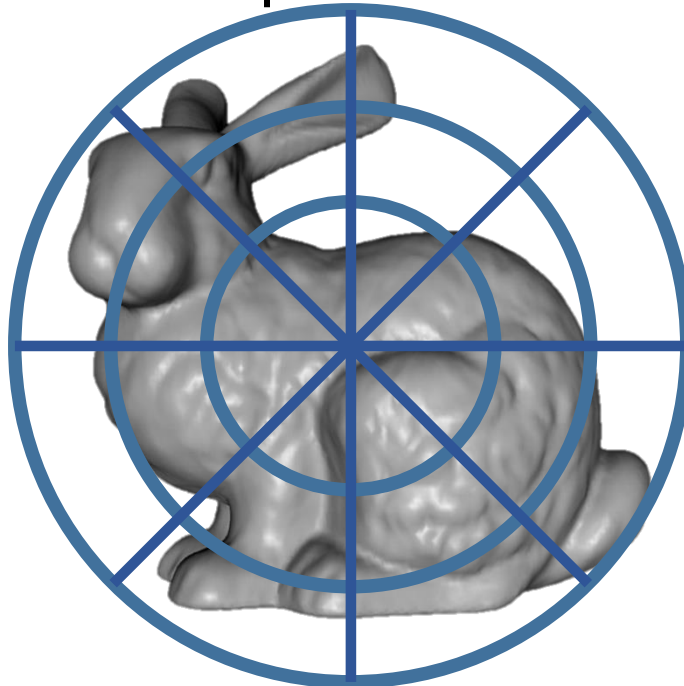
# Global Shape Similarity

- Do two 3D models represent the same or similar shapes?
- Represent each model by a shape descriptor
- Compare shapes by comparing descriptors



# Global Shape Descriptors

- Simple descriptor: Shape Histograms
- Store histogram of how much surface area resides within different concentric shells in space



# Global Shape Descriptors

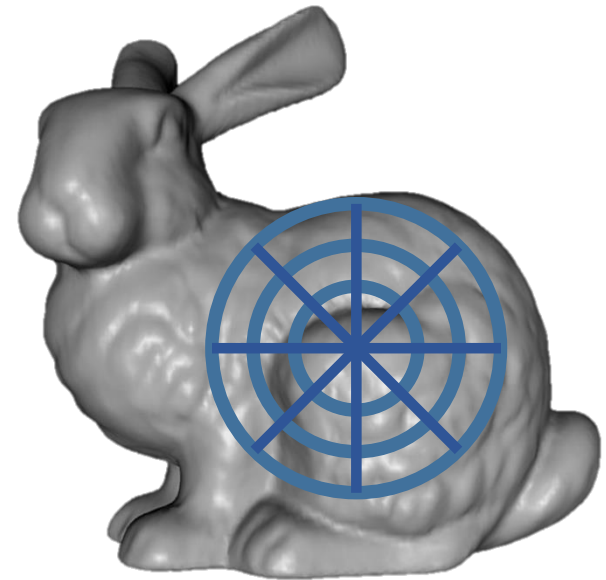
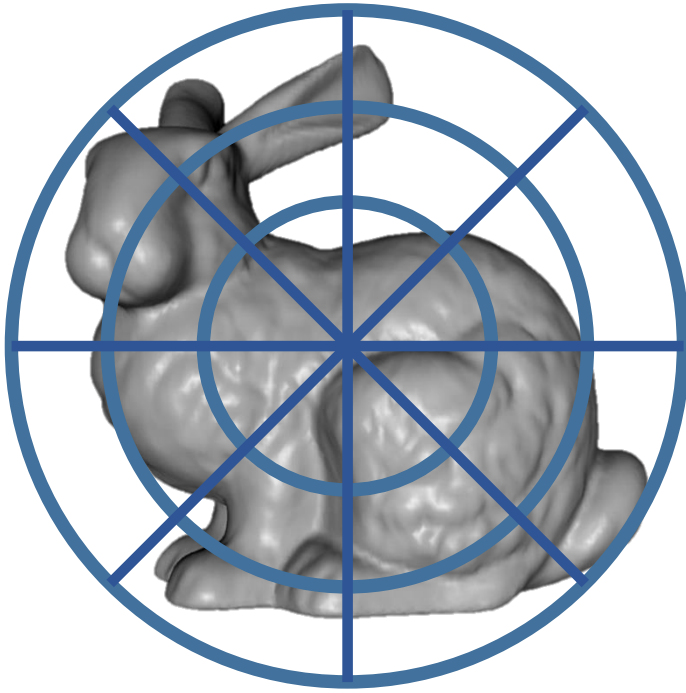
- Should be invariant to rigid transforms of the shapes (rotation, translation)



- Compute descriptors at the optimal alignment of shapes

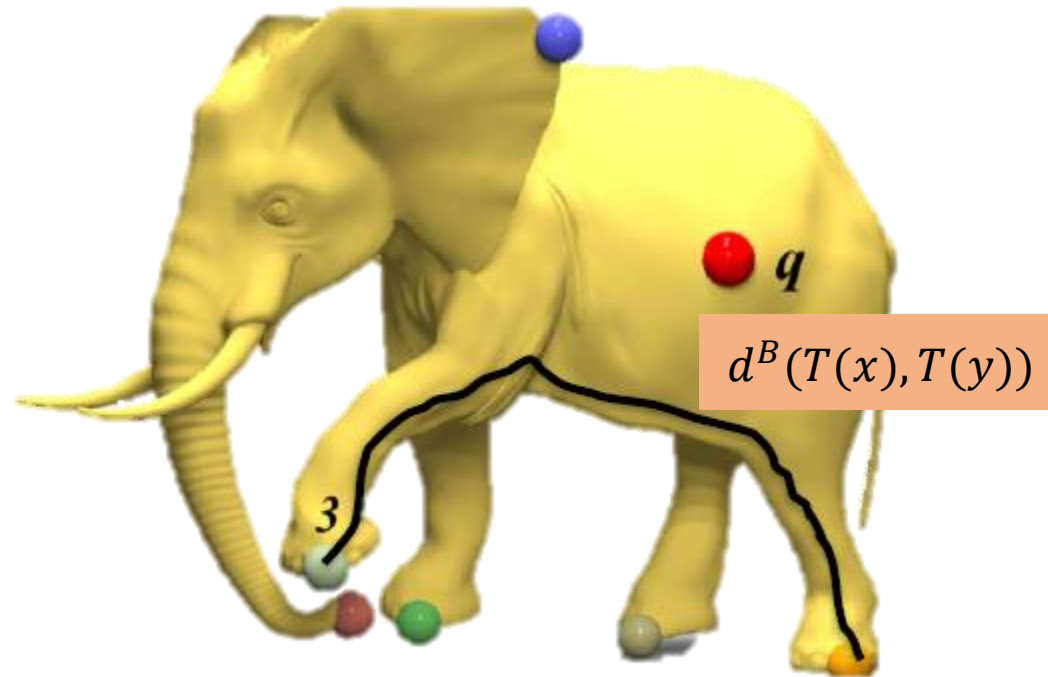
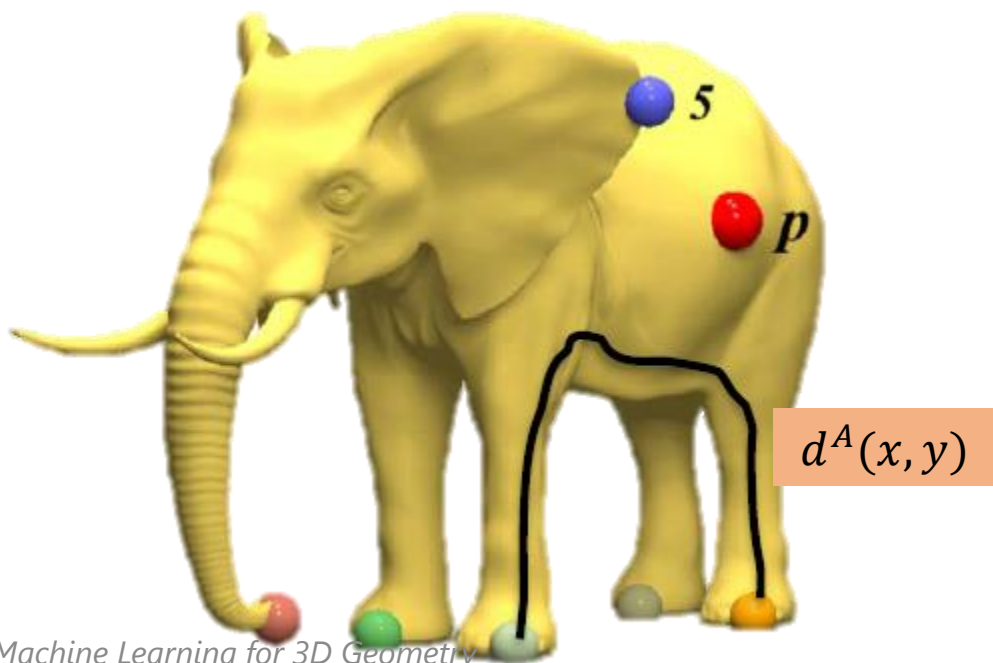
# Global -> Local Descriptors

- Center and restrict around local region



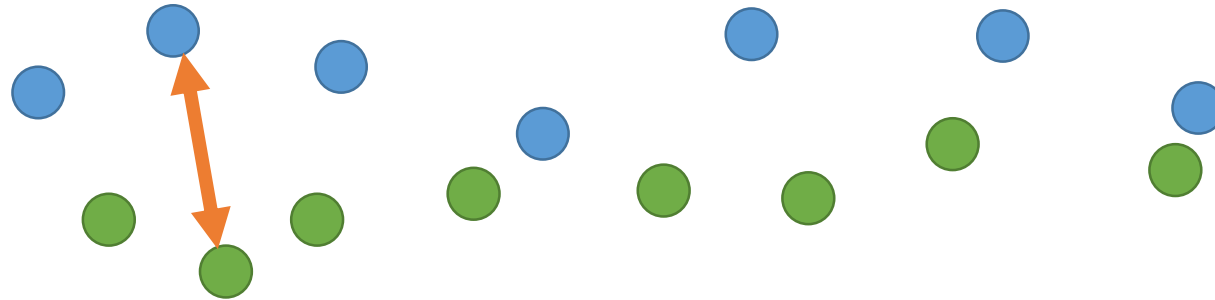
# Non-Rigid Shape Matching

- Consider near-isometric cases
- Find correspondences that preserve intrinsic (geodesic) distances on the shapes



# Measuring intrinsic shape similarity

- Gromov-Hausdorff distance
- Hausdorff distance: maximin
  - Maximum of all minimum distances between two sets of points

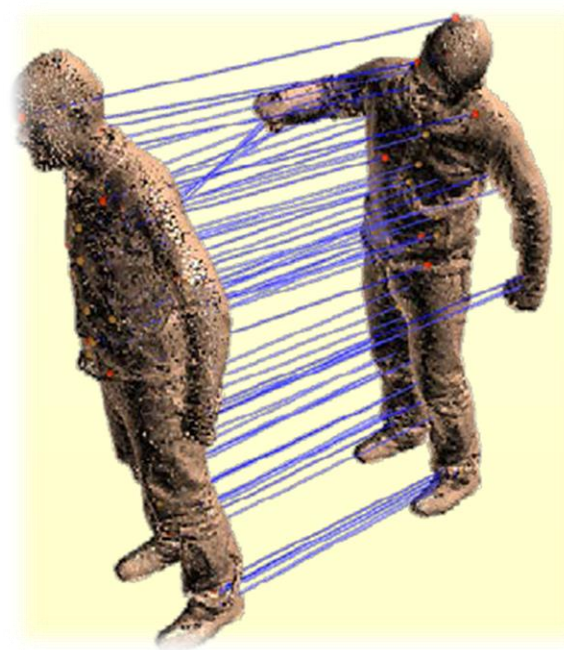
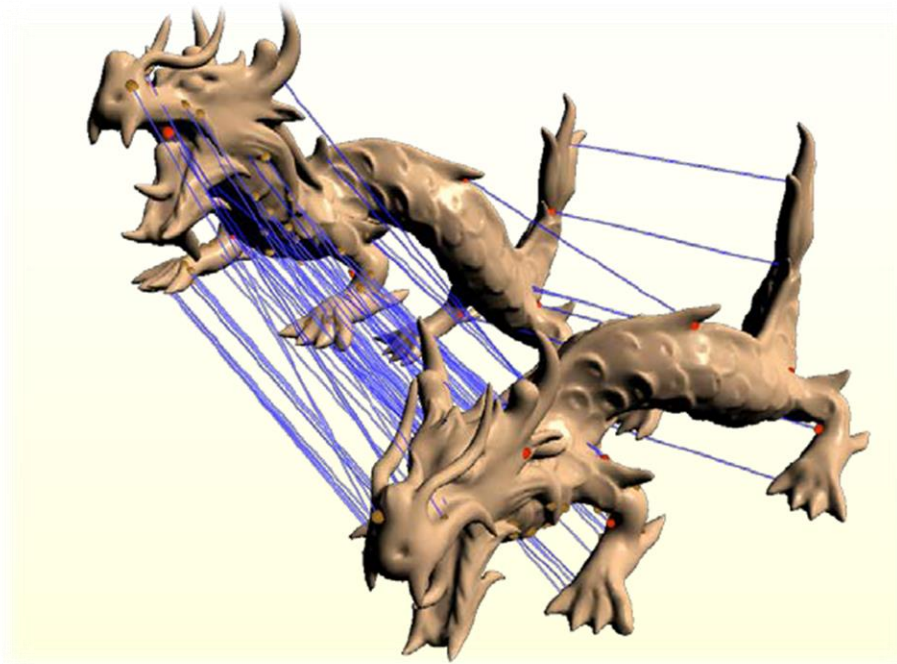


- Gromov-Hausdorff: infimum of all Hausdorff distances over mappings or correspondences
  - Over all correspondences -> difficult to compute!



# Near isometries preserve local structure

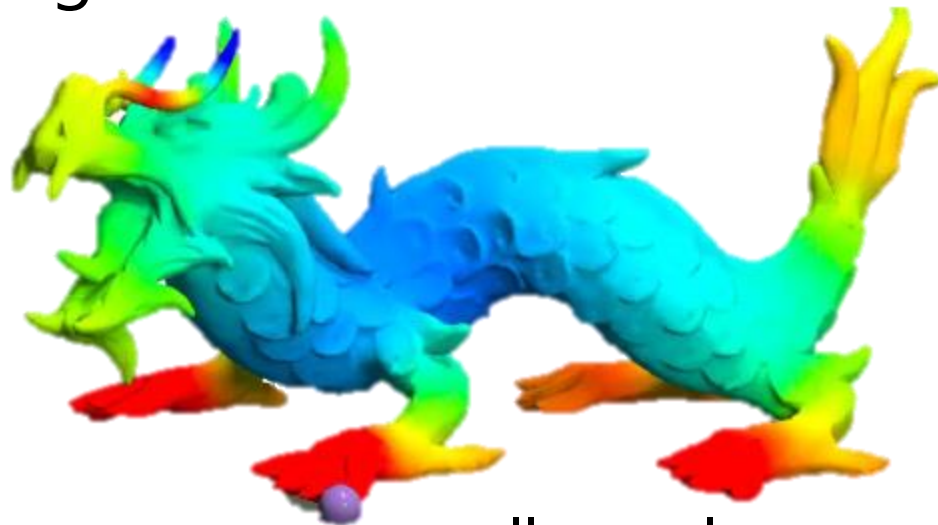
- Optimal alignment can be defined, but difficult to compute
- Define descriptors of local regions -> establish good mappings



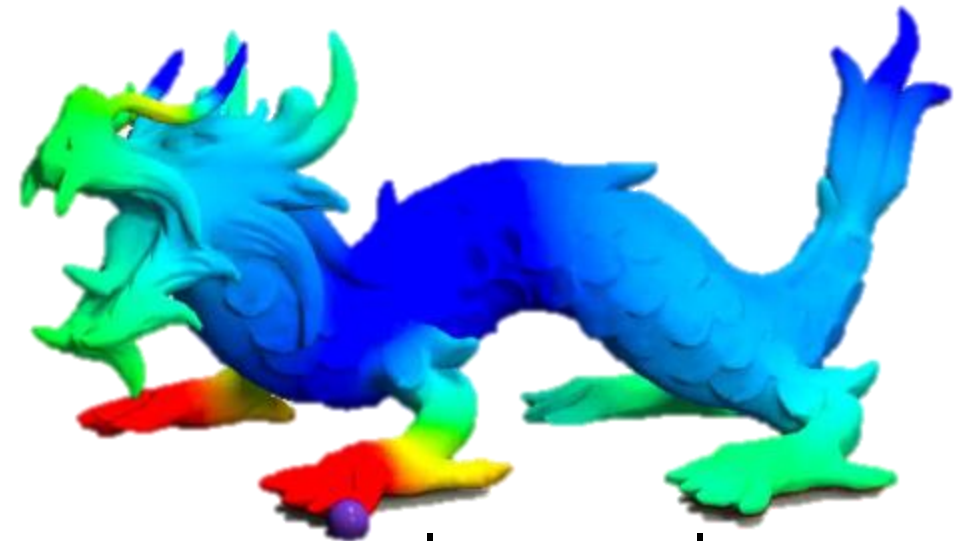
How large  
should a local  
region be?

# Scale for local features?

- Given a point on a shape, find other points with similar neighborhoods



smaller scale



larger scale

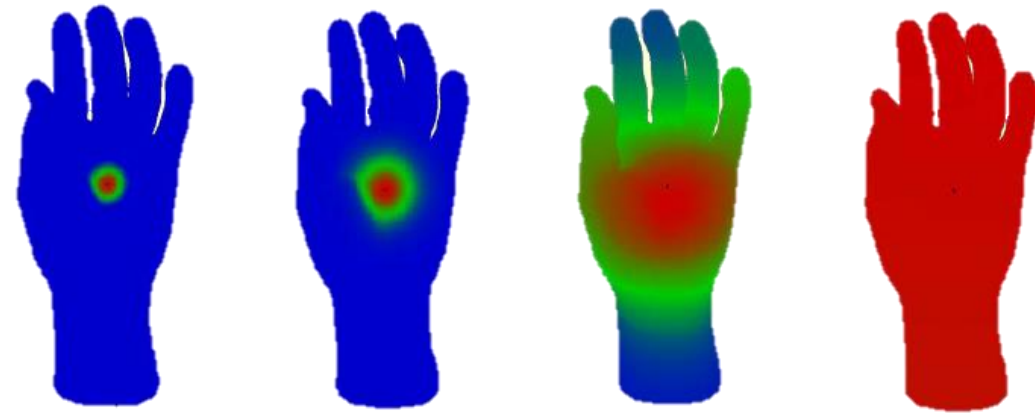
- How to meaningfully compare neighborhoods at different scales?

# Heat kernel signature

- Spectral shape analysis
- Heat kernel  $k_t(x, y)$ : amount of heat transferred from  $x$  to  $y$  in time  $t$

$$f(x, t) = \int_M k_t(x, y) f(y) dy$$

- Invariant under isometric deformations
- Multi-scale description



- In practice: can be difficult to apply to real scenarios (noisy, partial data)

# Shape Search

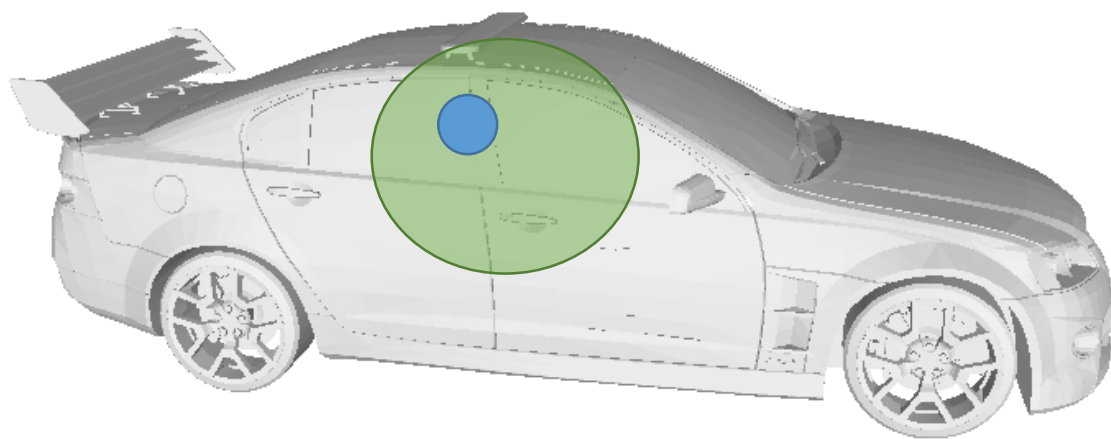




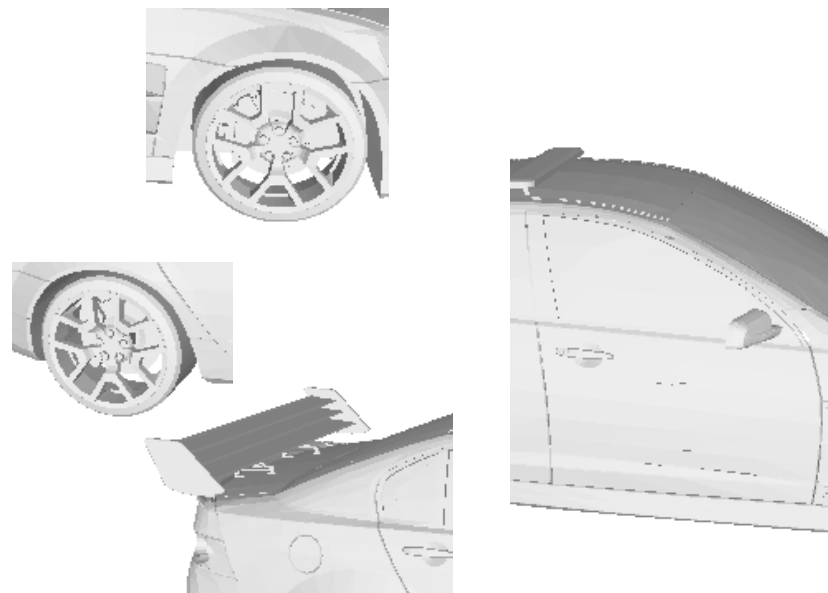
# Shape Search: Bag of Words



# Geometric Words



Features + Descriptors



Parts

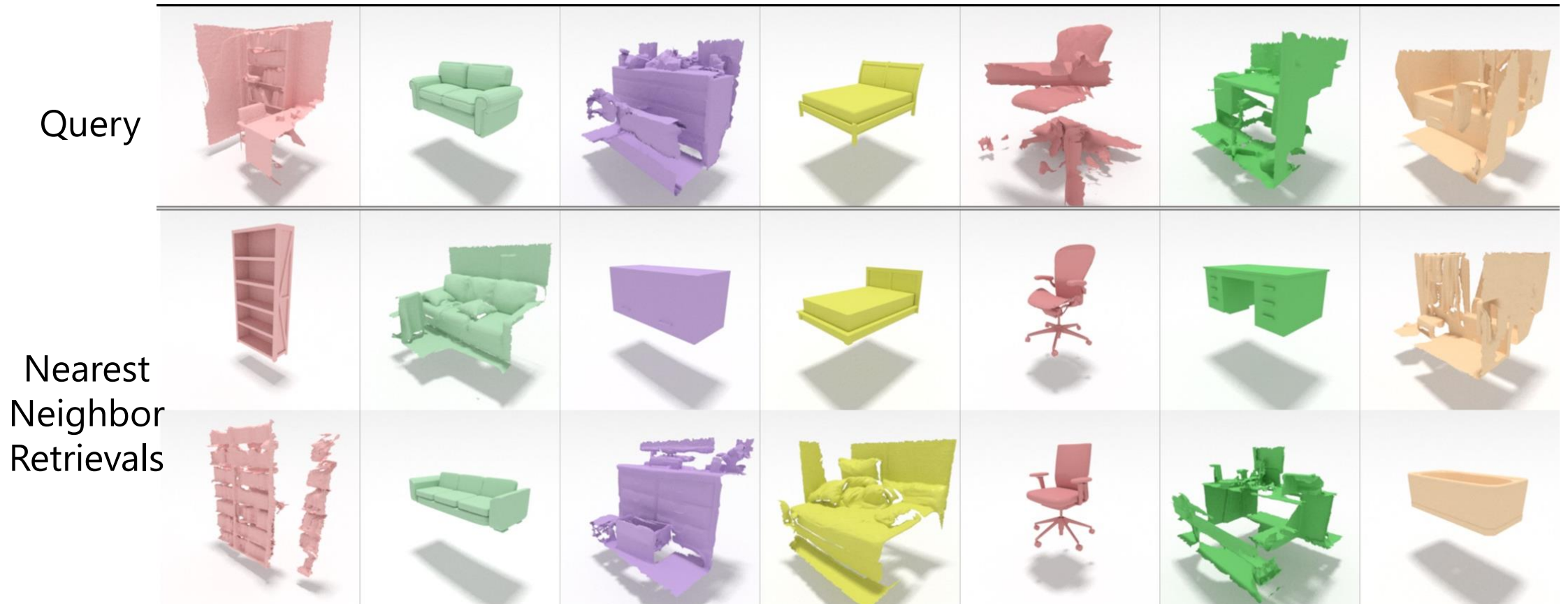
# Shape Search

- Retrieval through descriptor space





# Learned Shape Search



[Dahnert et al. '19]

# Additional references

- Efficient variants of the ICP algorithm [Rusinkiewicz et al. '01]
  - [http://www.pcl-users.org/file/n4037867/Rusinkiewicz\\_Efficient\\_Variants\\_of\\_ICP.pdf](http://www.pcl-users.org/file/n4037867/Rusinkiewicz_Efficient_Variants_of_ICP.pdf)
- Sparse Principal Component Analysis [Zou et al '16]
  - [https://web.stanford.edu/~hastie/Papers/spc\\_jcgs.pdf](https://web.stanford.edu/~hastie/Papers/spc_jcgs.pdf)