

Neural Mesh Parameterization: DAWand and Beyond



Richard Liu¹, Vova Kim², Noam Aigerman², Rana Hanocka¹

1



2



About Me

PhD student @ UChicago 3DL Lab



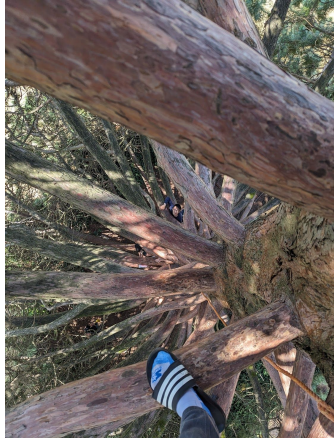
Advisor: Rana Hanocka



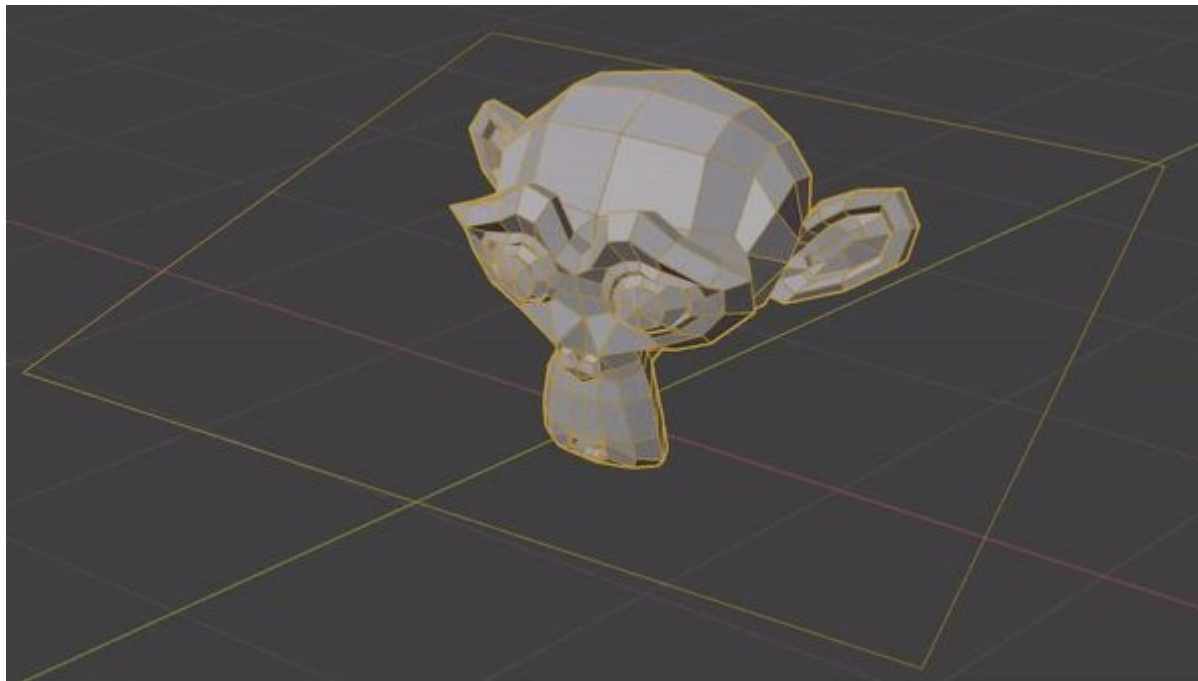
Research interests: deep/classical geometry processing, 3D vision, 3D generative AI



I Like To Climb Things



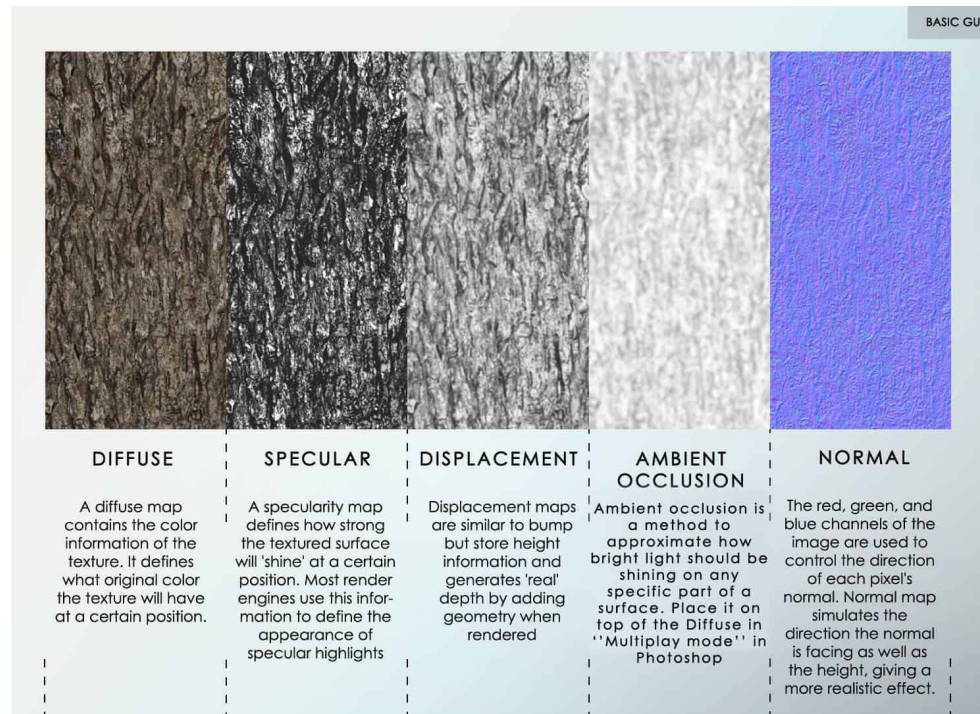
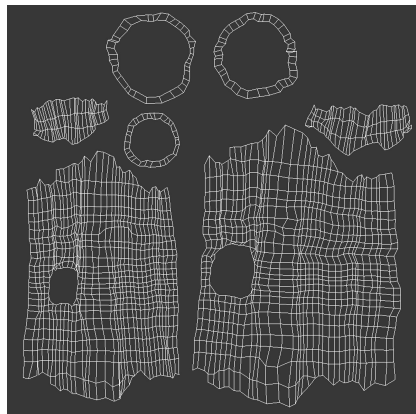
Mesh Parameterization Background



UVs are essential for 3D modeling



Original model by:
Zeljko Mihajlovic - 3D Artist



BASIC GUI

DIFFUSE

A diffuse map contains the color information of the texture. It defines what original color the texture will have at a certain position.

SPECULAR

A specular map defines how strong the textured surface will 'shine' at a certain position. Most render engines use this information to define the appearance of specular highlights

DISPLACEMENT

Displacement maps are similar to bump but store height information and generates 'real' depth by adding geometry when rendered

AMBIENT OCCLUSION

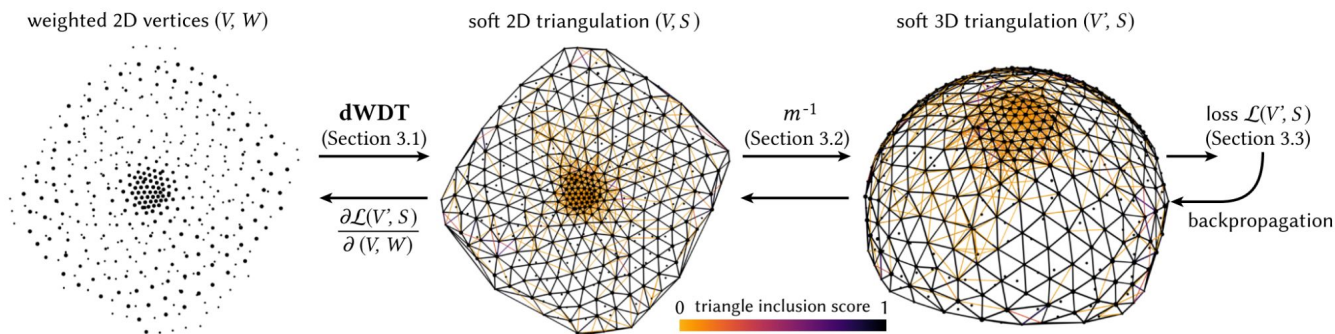
Ambient occlusion is a method to approximate how bright light should be shining on any specific part of a surface. Place it on top of the Diffuse in "Multiplay mode" in Photoshop

NORMAL

The red, green, and blue channels of the image are used to control the direction of each pixel's normal. Normal map simulates the direction the normal is facing as well as the height, giving a more realistic effect.

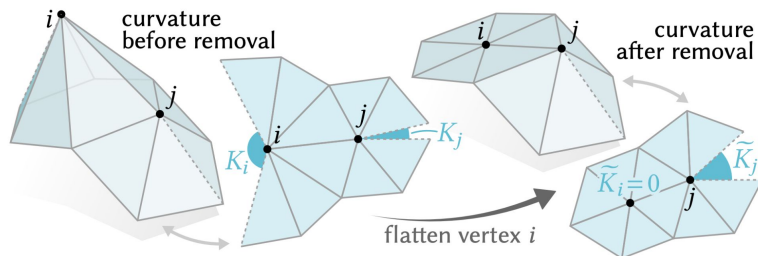
UVs are essential for 3D modeling

Remeshing



"Differentiable surface triangulation." Marie-Julie Rakotosaona, Noam Aigerman, Niloy J. Mitra, Maks Ovsjanikov, and Paul Guerrero. 2021.. ACM Trans. Graph. 40, 6, Article 267 (December 2021).

Simplification



"Surface Simplification using Intrinsic Error Metrics." Hsueh-Ti Derek Liu, Mark Gillespie, Benjamin Chislett, Nicholas Sharp, Alec Jacobson, and Keenan Crane. 2023. ACM Trans. Graph. 42, 4, Article 118 (August 2023)

Global vs Local parameterization

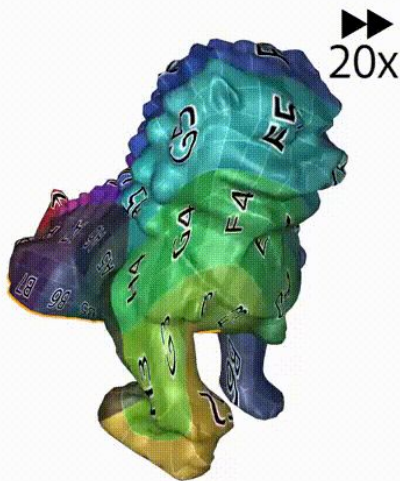
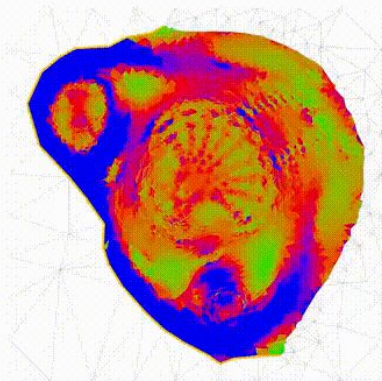
Global Parameterization

Chinese Lion Vertex #: 5036 $b_d = 4.1$

$E_d = 8.5$

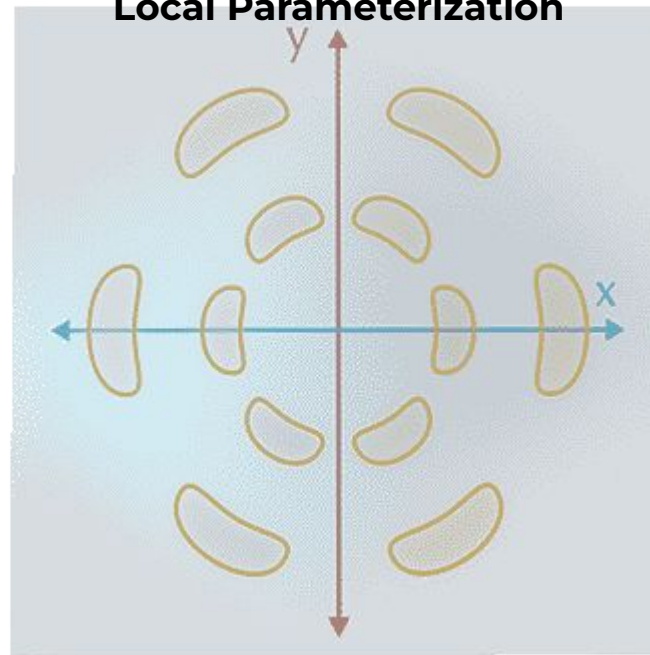


$E_d = 4.0$



Li et al. 2018, "OptCuts: Joint Optimization of Surface Cuts and Parameterization" (SIGGRAPH 2018)

Local Parameterization



R. Wiersma 2020, "CNNs on Surfaces using Rotation-Equivariant Features" (SIGGRAPH 2018)

Global vs Local parameterization

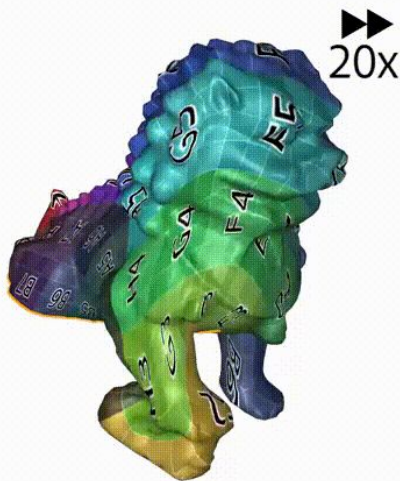
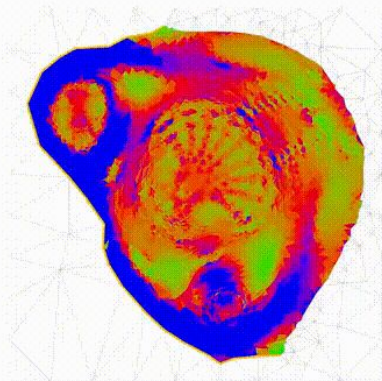
Global Parameterization

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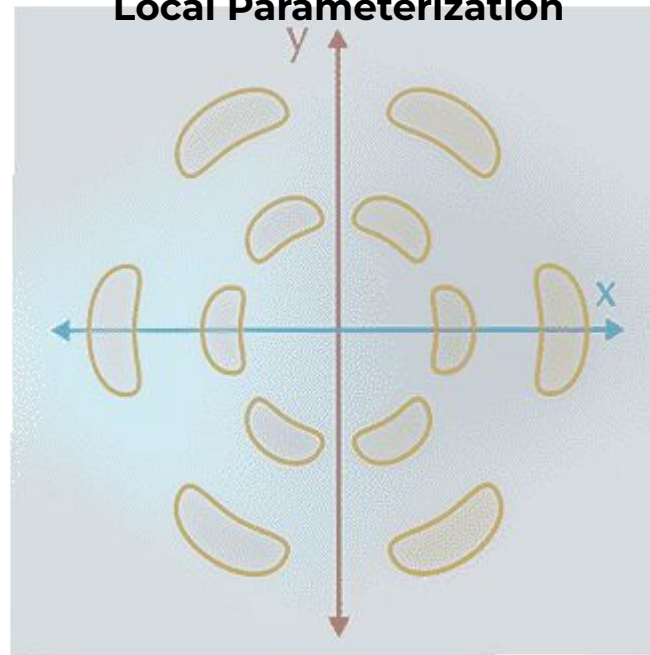


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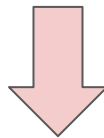
DA-Wand Motivation: Decaling



Segmentation for Parameterization Objectives

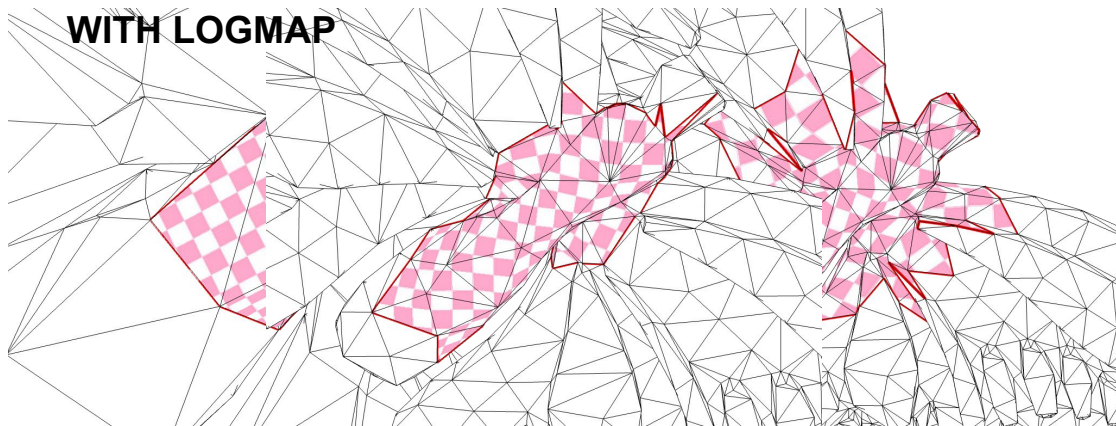


Maximize size of segmentation



Minimize parameterization distortion

**TODO: REPLACE WITH ANIMATION OF GROWING DISTORTION
WITH LOGMAP**



Parameterization distortion increases
with segmentation size

Limitations of Existing Methods

LogMaps

Segmentation stops
at high curvature
boundaries



DA-Wand



DCharts

Segmentation results in
high distortion
parameterization



DA-Wand



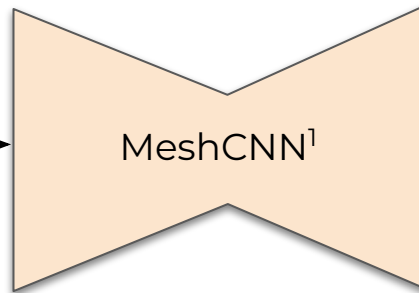
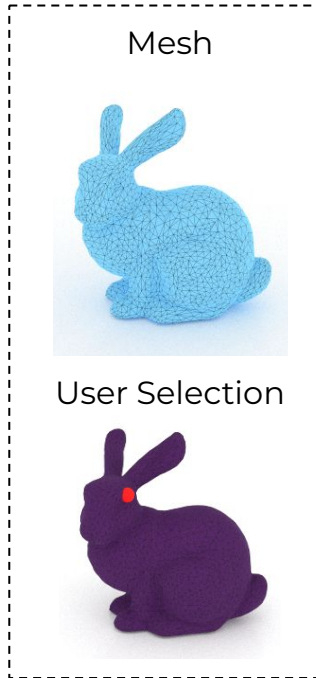
Our method learns
distortion-aware
segmentations with
a wide receptive
field.

DA-Wand Overview

Technical challenges

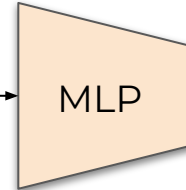
- Lack of training data
- Energy crafting
- Initialization

Input



Per-Triangle
Latents

z_T



Output

Segmentation
Probabilities



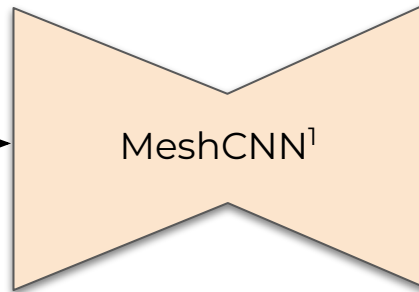
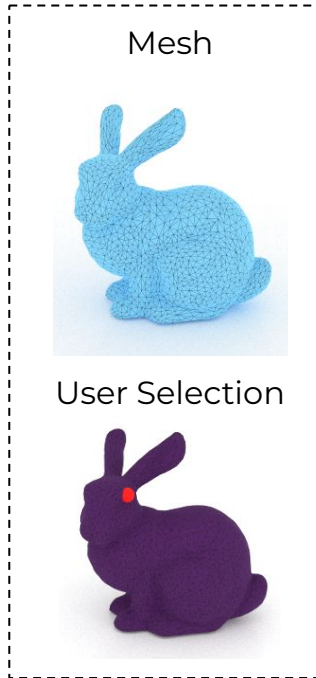
¹ Hanocka et al. 2018, "MeshCNN: A Network with an Edge" (SIGGRAPH 2019)

DA-Wand Overview

Technical challenges

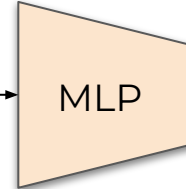
- **Lack of training data**
- Energy crafting
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Input



Per-Triangle
Latents

z_T



Output

Segmentation
Probabilities



¹ Hanocka et al. 2018, "MeshCNN: A Network with an Edge" (SIGGRAPH 2019)

DA-Wand Overview

Technical challenges

- **Lack of training data**
- Energy crafting
- Initialization

Input

Mesh



User Selection



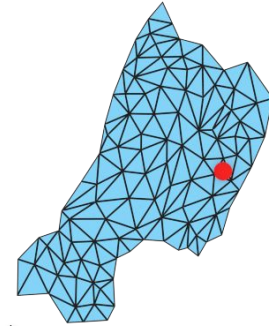
DA-Wand

Output

Segmentation
Probabilities



UV Map



**Probability-Guided
Parameterization**

Probability Guided Parameterization

Technical challenges

- **Lack of training data**
- Energy crafting
- Initialization

Input

Mesh



User Selection



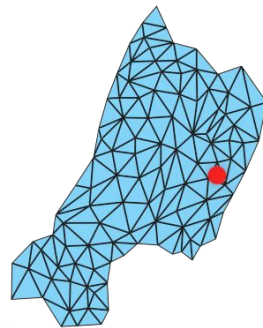
DA-Wand

Output

Segmentation
Probabilities

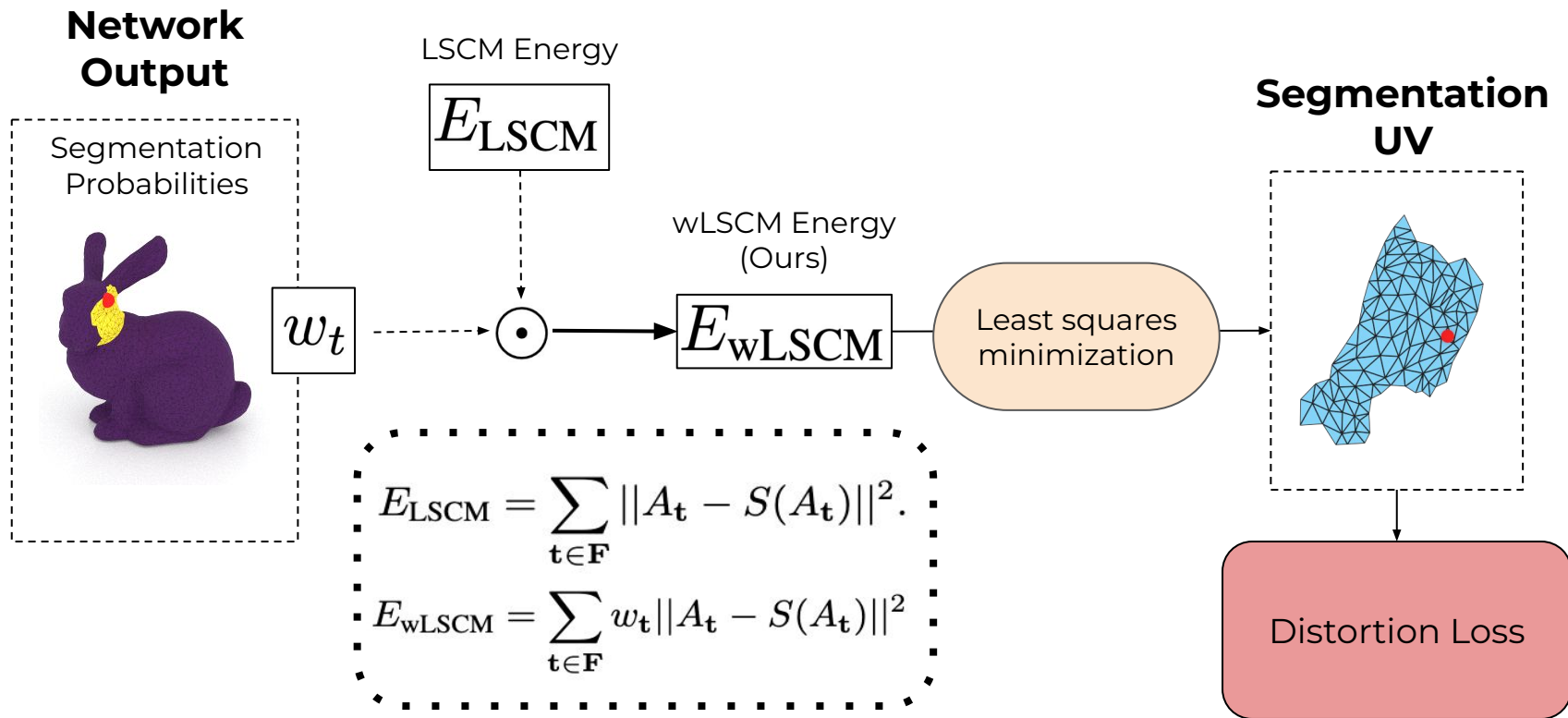


UV Map



**Probability-Guided
Parameterization**

Probability-Guided Parameterization



Probability-Guided Parameterization

$$E_{\text{LSCM}} = \sum_{\mathbf{t} \in \mathbf{F}} \|A_{\mathbf{t}} - S(A_{\mathbf{t}})\|^2.$$

$$\begin{aligned} E_{\text{LSCM}} &= \sum_{\mathbf{t} \in \mathbf{F}} \|A_{\mathbf{t}} - S(A_{\mathbf{t}})\|^2. \\ E_{\text{wLSCM}} &= \sum_{\mathbf{t} \in \mathbf{F}} w_{\mathbf{t}} \|A_{\mathbf{t}} - S(A_{\mathbf{t}})\|^2 \end{aligned}$$

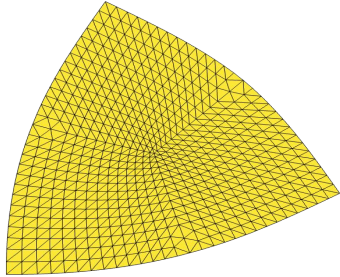
TODO: Explain all the parameters in the energy. Replace $A_{\mathbf{t}}$ with $J_{\mathbf{t}}$. Copy formula for affine transformation from paper. Add $\mathbb{R}^{2 \times 2}$ dimensions to clarify size of matrices.

Animate parameter by parameter.

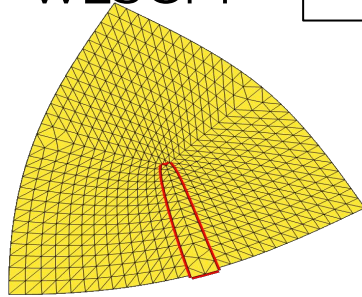
wLSCM Equivalence to LSCM

Theorem: As wLSCM weights converge to a binary segmentation, the wLSCM solution for triangles with nonzero weights converges to the LSCM solution for those triangles.

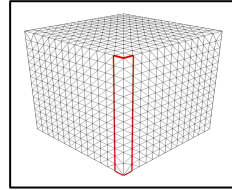
LSCM



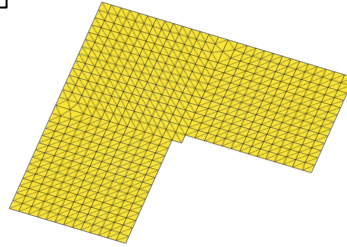
wLSCM



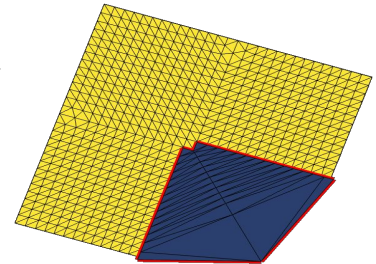
Weights = 1



LSCM



wLSCM

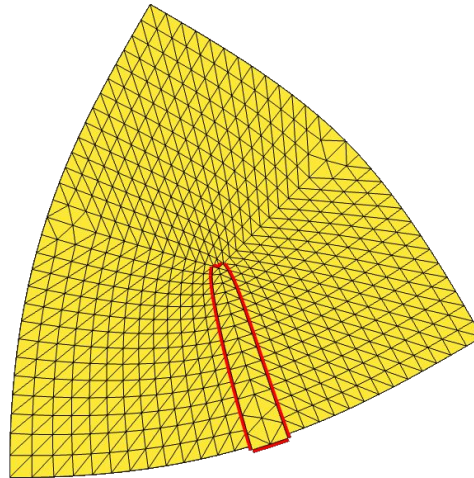
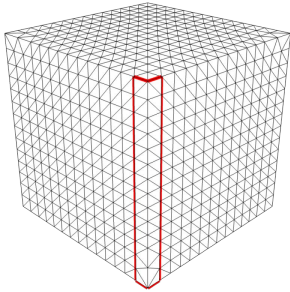


Weights = 0

wLSCM Equivalence to LSCM

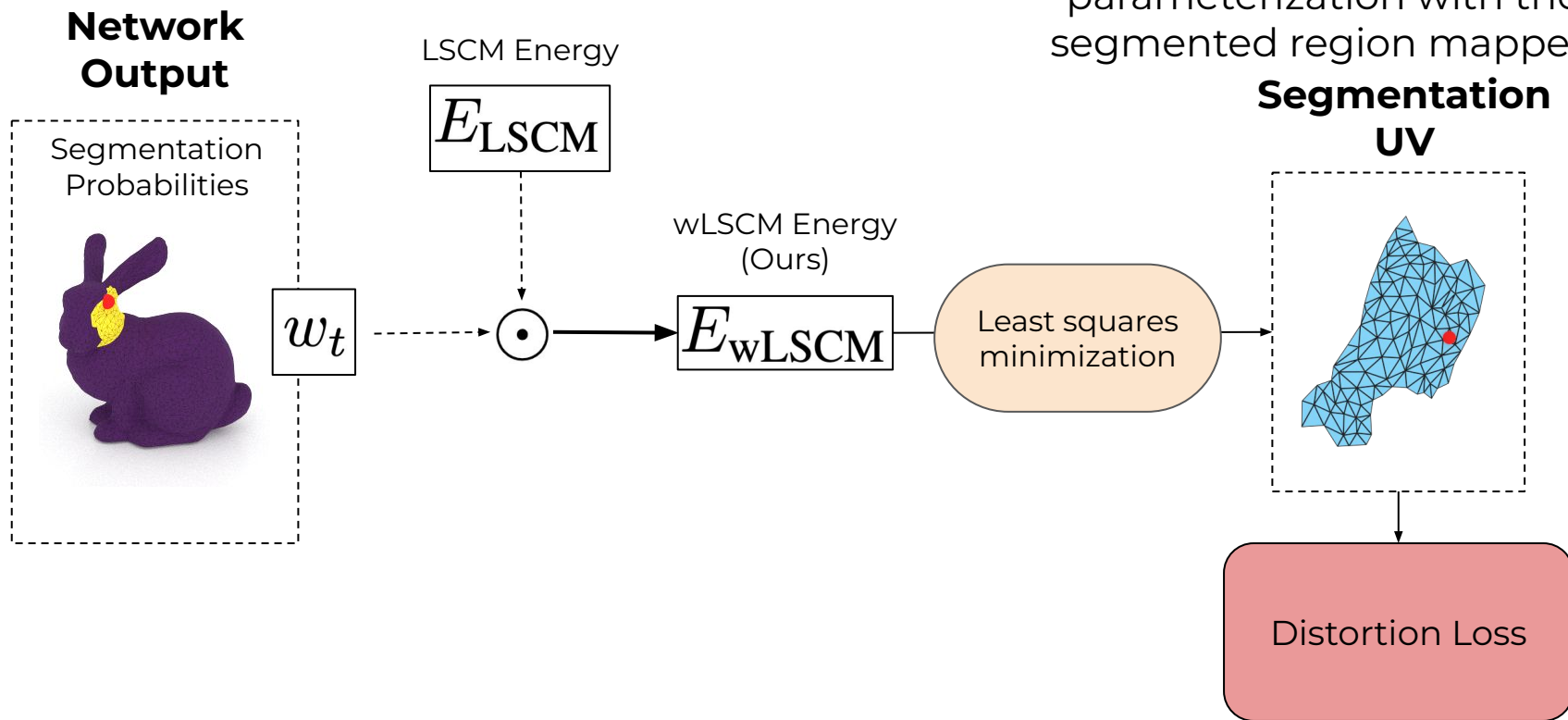
Theorem: As wLSCM weights converge to a binary segmentation, the wLSCM solution for triangles with nonzero weights converges to the LSCM solution for those triangles.

Weights: 1.0000

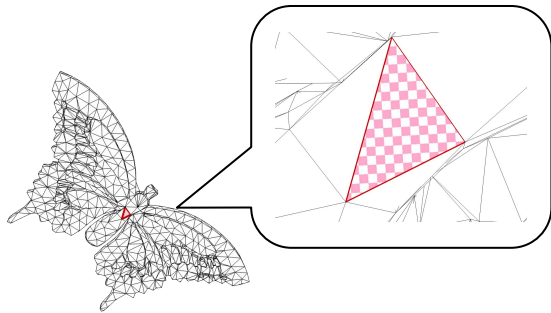


Recap: Differentiable Parameterization

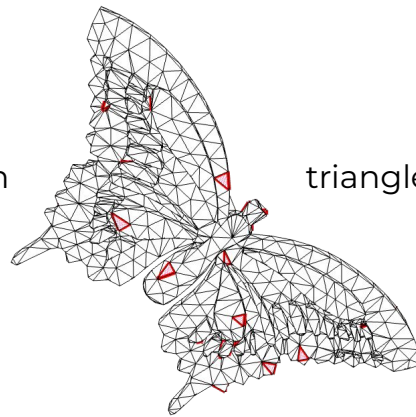
TODO: visual that shows global parameterization with the segmented region mapped



Local Minima Solutions to Segmentation Problem



single triangle: no distortion



triangle soup: no distortion

DA-Wand Technical Roadmap

Technical Challenges

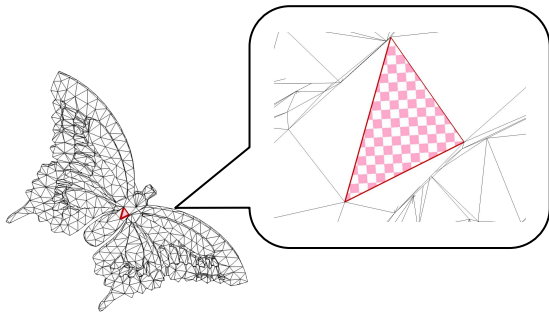
- Lack of training data
- **Energy formulation**
- Regularization
- Random initialization gives non-meaningful parameterizations
=> bad gradients

Size and Compactness Priors

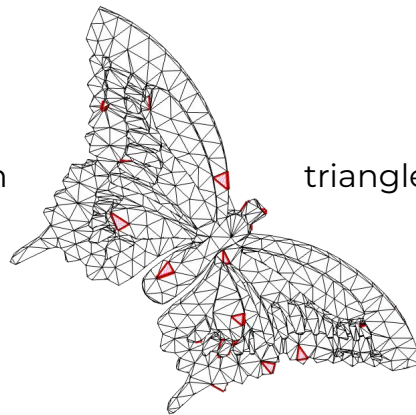
Thresholded-distortion loss: maximize # triangles underneath a given distortion threshold (TODO: thresholded-distortion loss => show parameter that controls distortion-awareness => ARAP energy for isometric optimization)

$$L^{\text{threshold}}(D) = \sum_t \frac{A_t}{\sum A_t} \left(1 - e^{-(D_t/\gamma)^\alpha}\right)$$

Smoothness loss: coplanar triangles should have same segmentation weight (TODO: show graphcuts => focuses on sharp edges/geometry aware)



single triangle: no distortion



triangle soup: no distortion

Distortion Self-Supervision Pipeline

TODO: recap the full pipeline + how to generate the self-supervised training data (sample points on natural shapes)



Q. Zhou & A. Jacobson. 2016, "Thingi10K: A Dataset of 10,000 3D-Printing Models"

DA-Wand Technical Roadmap

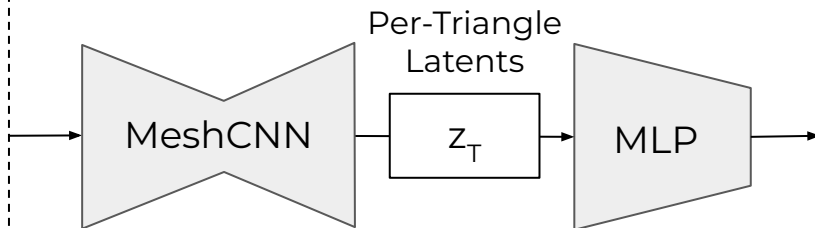
Technical Challenges

- Lack of training data
- Energy formulation
- **Random initialization gives non-meaningful parameterizations
=> bad gradients**

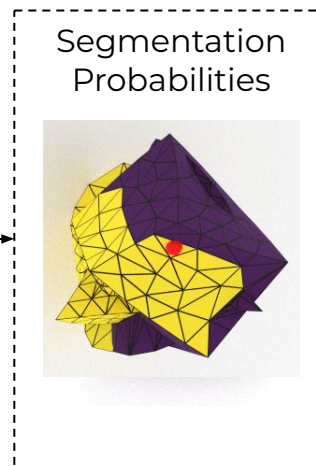
Synthetic Supervision

Synthetic Dataset

Input



Output

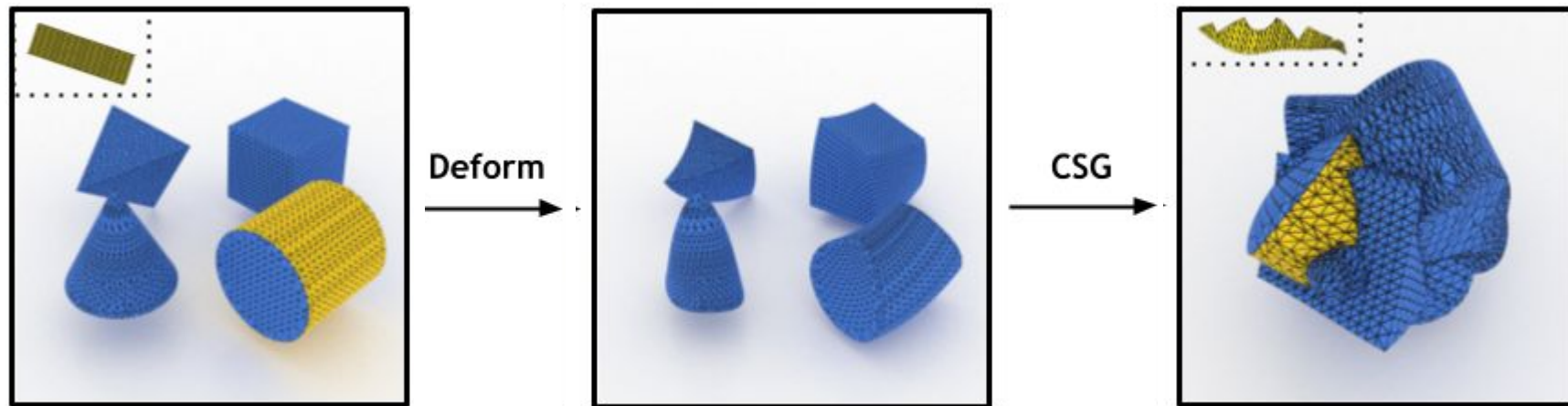


Supervision

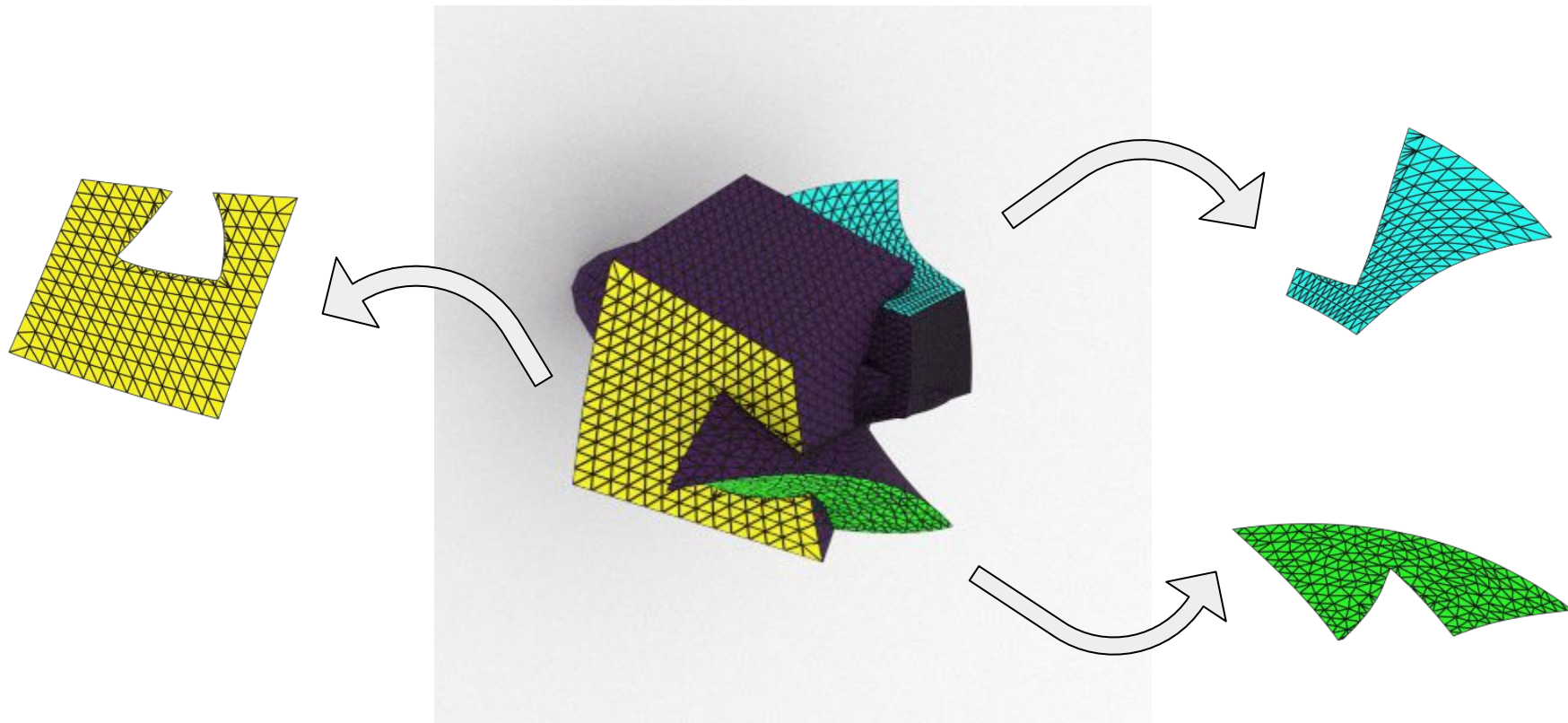


TODO: Mention hard supervision loss (BCE)

Synthetic Dataset Generation



Synthetic Segmentation Dataset



DA-Wand Pipeline Recap

Phase 1

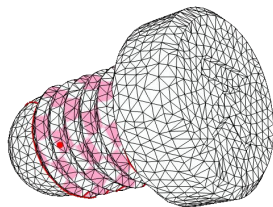
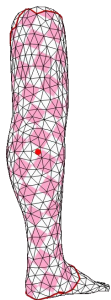
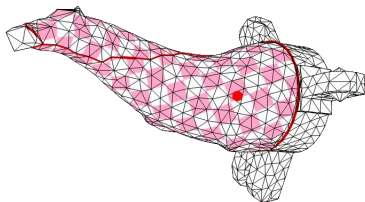
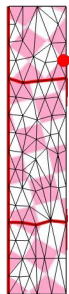
Phase 2

TODO

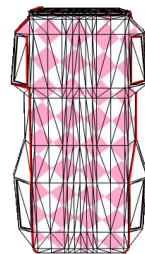
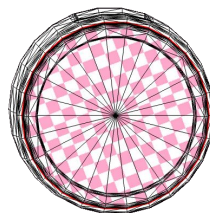
TODO

Segmentation Results

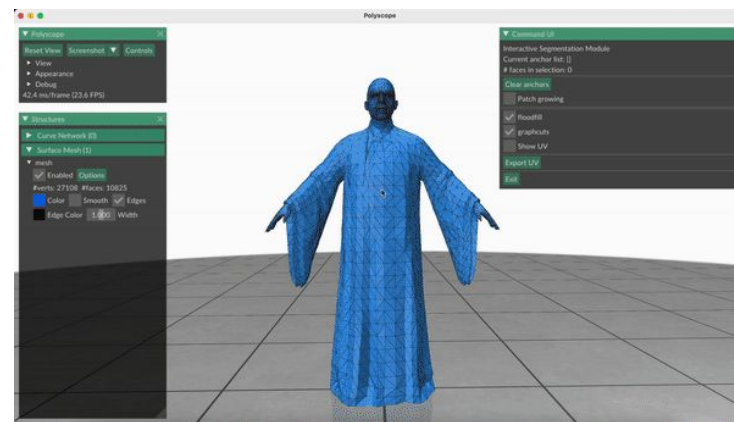
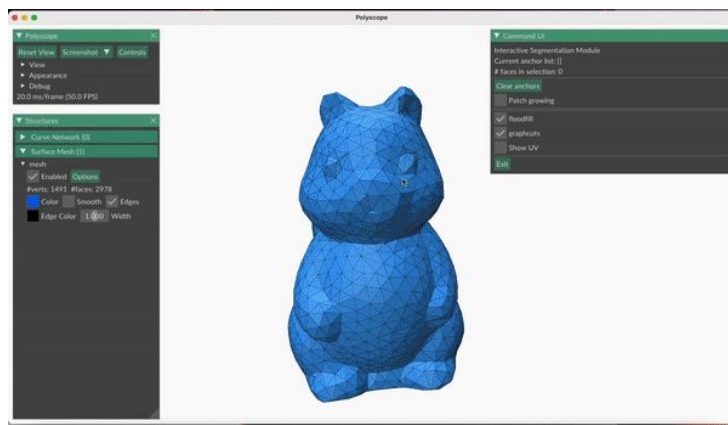
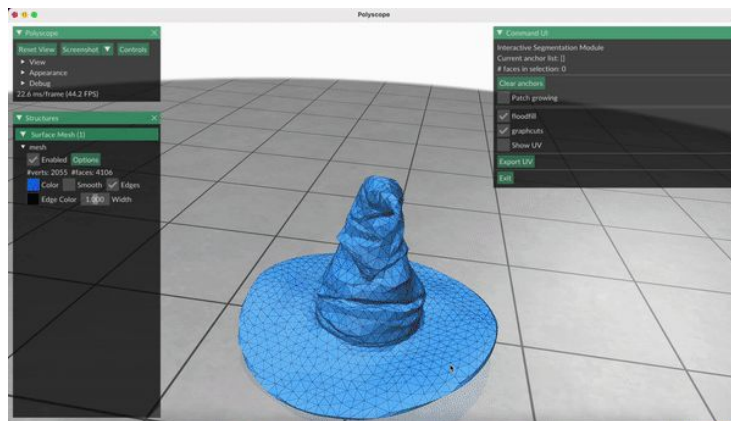
Thing10k



Parameterization Benchmark



Interactive Application



No GPU required

Summary

Motivation:

- Differentiable parameterization as a function of segmentation weights
- Unsupervised training
- Regularizing energies to enforce compactness + distortion bounds
- Data-driven to get distortion-aware segmentations
- Fully convolutional arch allows for interactive segmentation on medium-sized meshes

DA-Wand learns to solve (local)
segmentation problem

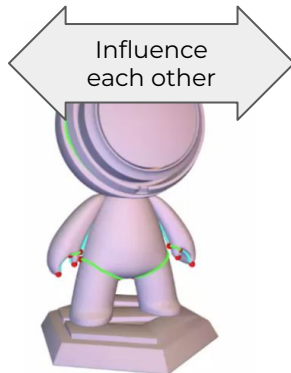


Beyond DA-Wand: Moving to Global Parameterization

Mesh parameterization involves two entangled combinatorial problems.

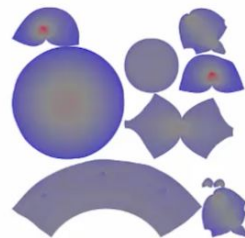
- Segmentation

- Minimize cuts i.e. discontinuities



- Flattening

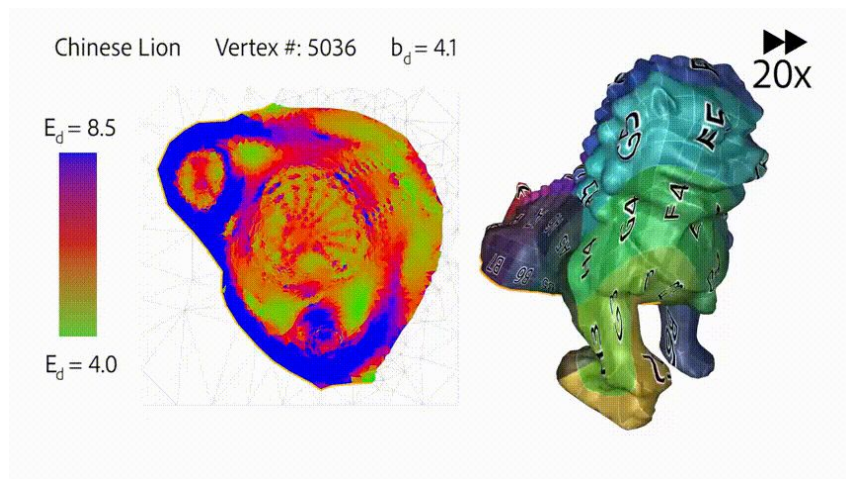
- Minimize distortion



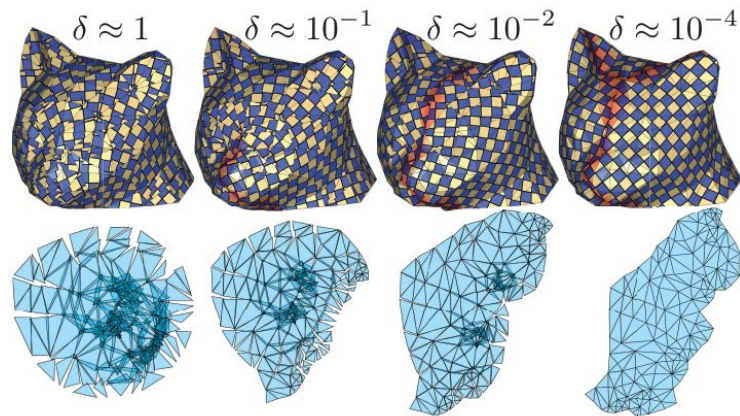
Data-driven solution
for global mesh
parameterization?

Limitations of Existing Methods

- Little to no global surface analysis
- Optimization-based: sensitive to initialization
- Tend to get stuck in local minima



Li et al. 2018, "OptCuts: Joint Optimization of Surface Cuts and Parameterization" (SIGGRAPH 2018)



Poranne et al. 2017, "Autocuts: Simultaneous Distortion and Cut Optimization for UV Mapping" (SIGGRAPH 2017)

NeuralUV: Key Idea

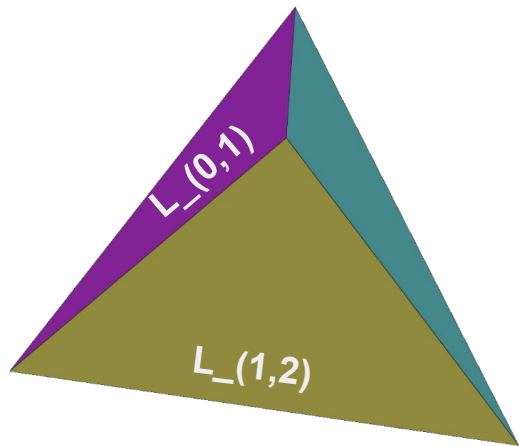
DA-Wand: injects segmentation weights into the LSCM linear system to produce a “soft” LSCM system (UV map is smooth function of segmentation prediction)

$$E_{\text{wLSCM}} = \sum_{\mathbf{t} \in \mathbf{F}} w_{\mathbf{t}} ||A_{\mathbf{t}} - S(A_{\mathbf{t}})||^2$$

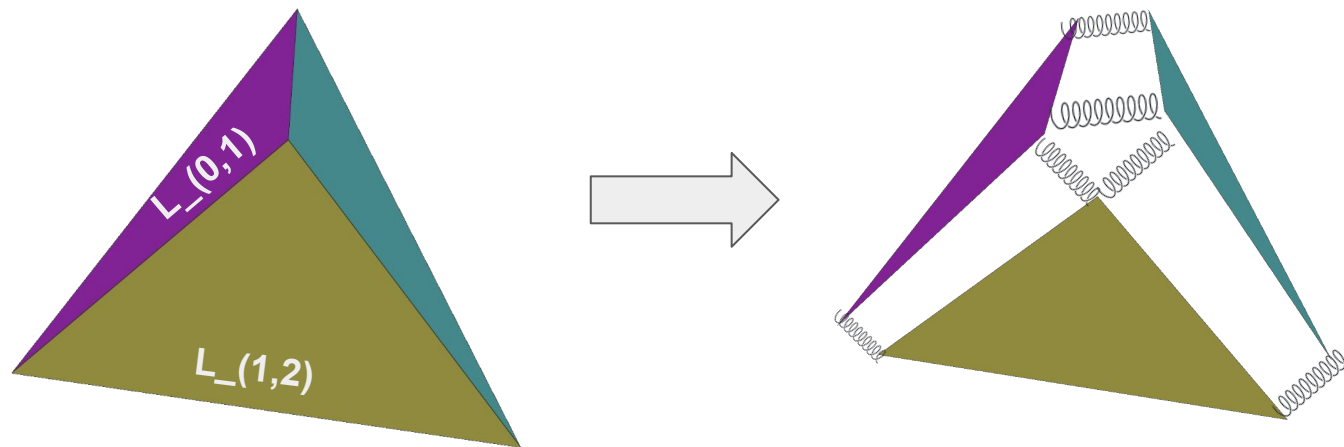
NeuralUV: injects edge cutting weights into the Poisson solve to product “soft” Poisson system. (UV map is smooth function of **edge weights** and **predicted Jacobians**).

$$\Phi^* = (\underbrace{\mathcal{L} + \mathcal{W}}_{\text{Edge weights}})^{-1} \underbrace{\mathcal{A} \nabla^T J}_{\text{Predicted Jacobians}}$$

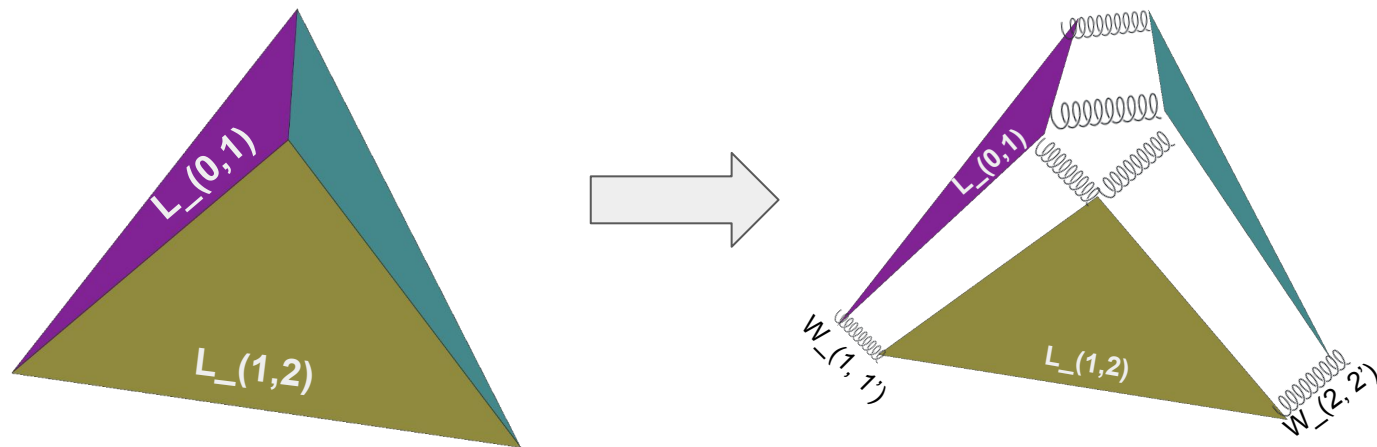
Soft Poisson



Soft Poisson



Soft Poisson



Thank you!

DA-Wand Objective Recap

Input

Mesh



User Selection



Output

Segmentation Probabilities



Output: binary segmentation probabilities

Desired Segmentation Properties

- Large
- Compact
- Distortion-aware
- User-input conditioned

Technical Challenges

- Lack of training data
- Energy crafting
- Regularization
- Random initialization gives non-meaningful parameterizations => bad gradients