

# Differentiable Volumetric Rendering: Learning Implicit 3D Representations without 3D Supervision

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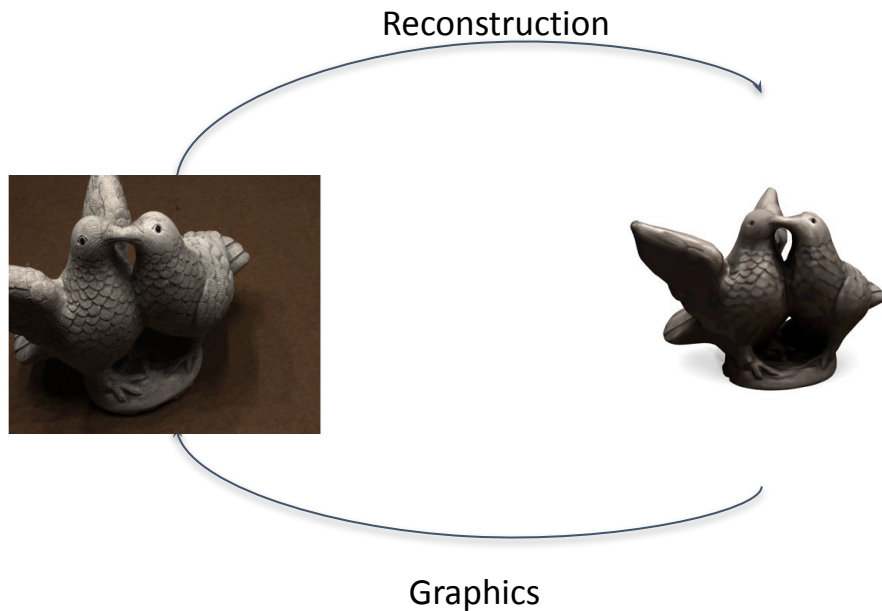


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# Main Problem

3D reconstruction without 3D supervision

- Generate a **full 3D model**
  - Implicit function
- Train only with **single RGB images**
  - + Camera intrinsics and extrinsics
  - + Object masks

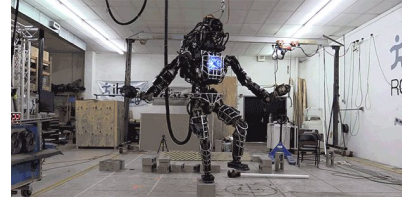


# Motivation

Why do we want a 3D model as opposed to just rendering?

Real world is 3D -> interaction requires a model

- Robotic applications
- Autonomous driving



# Motivation

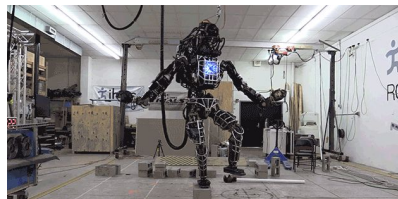
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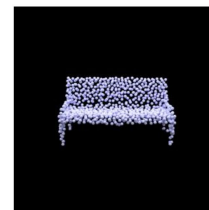
- Robotic applications
- Autonomous driving

- Why Implicit representations?

- Infinite resolution with fixed footprint
- Perfect surface rendering without template



Voxel (Choy et al. 2016)



Point Cloud (Fan et al. 2017)



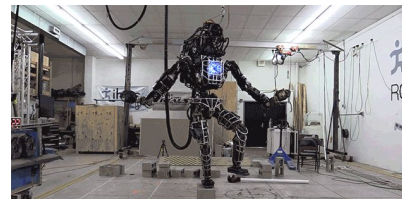
Mesh (Groueix et al. 2017)

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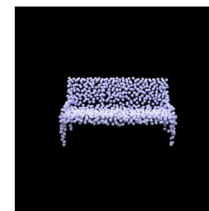


- Why Implicit representations?

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Voxel (Choy et al. 2016)



Point Cloud (Fan et al. 2017)



Mesh (Groueix et al. 2017)

- Why unsupervised?

- Real world 3D supervision is not easy to gather



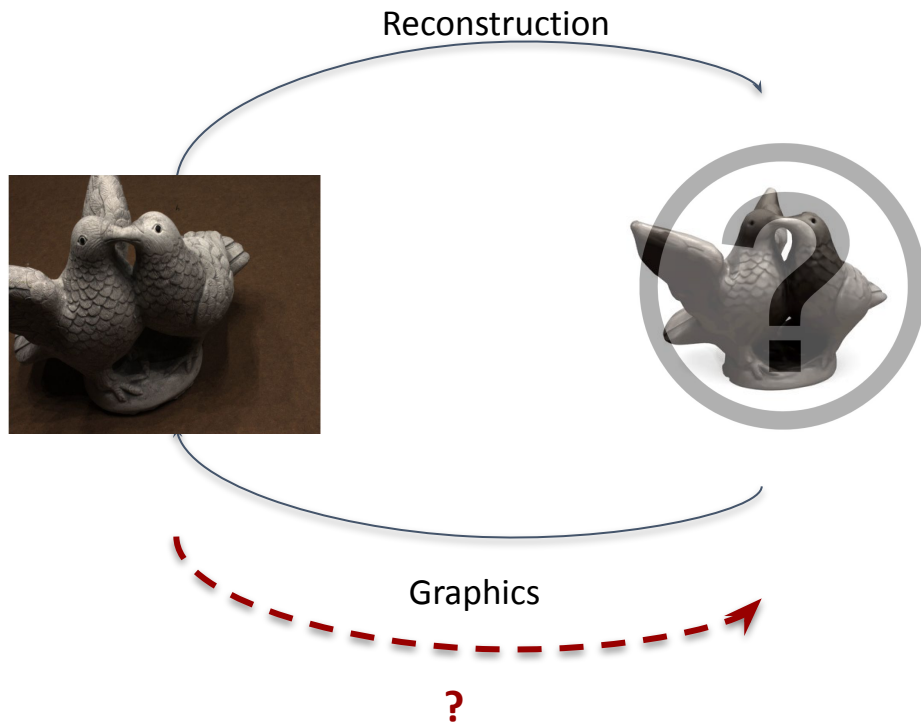
# Why is it hard and not already solved?

## Unsupervised Implicit Model:

- Requires good regularizers.
- Requires rendering back to image.
- Previous work mainly focused on shape and ignored texture.

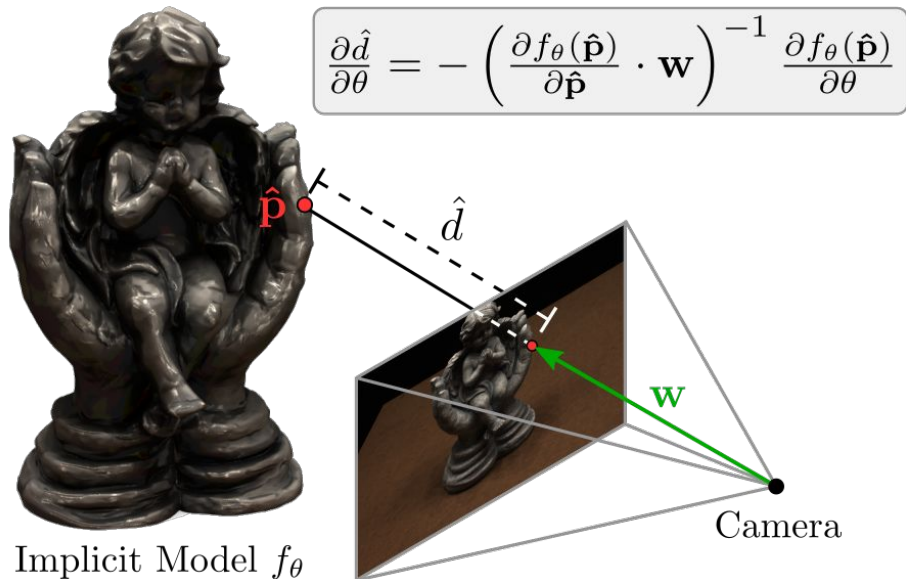
## Unsupervised **Implicit Model**:

- Gradient through an implicit function rendering (ray tracing) was costly, infeasible, inaccurate.



# Contributions

1. Novelty (method)
  - a. They propose an **analytic derivation** for the gradient of the implicit function rendering.
  - b. Their model incorporates **texture** as well as shape.
2. Results
  - a. **SOTA** on unsupervised Shapenet.
  - b. **Realistic** dataset results.

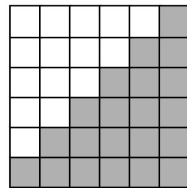


# General Background: Implicit Function

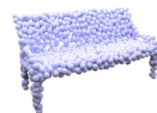
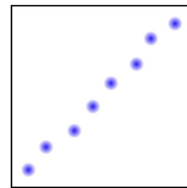
The **Surface** is modeled as the **Root** of a parametric function.

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

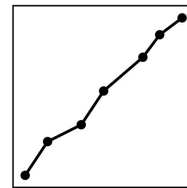
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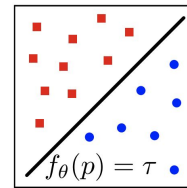
Voxel



Point  
Cloud



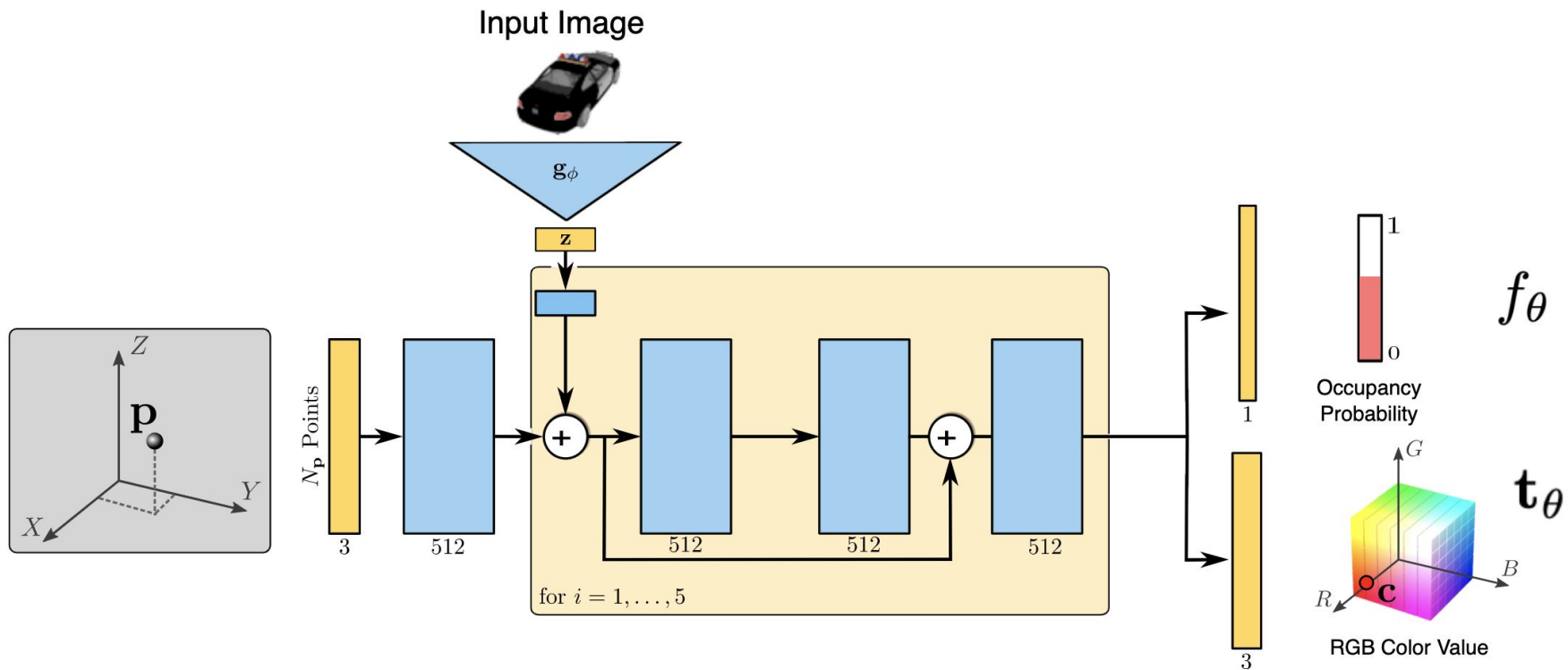
Mesh



Implicit  
Function



# Implicit Function Architecture



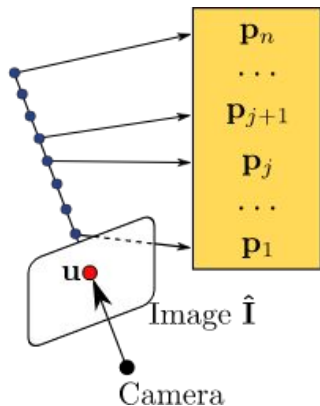
# Rendering with an Implicit function

Why  $f_\theta$  is a 3D model?

Given  $f_\theta$  we can render it from any camera viewpoint.

How?

Ray tracing!



Take  $n$  equidistant candidate points that would be projected to  $u$  for this camera angle.

$$\mathbf{r}(d) = \mathbf{r}_0 + d\mathbf{w}$$

$$\mathbf{p}_j^{\text{ray}} = \mathbf{r}(j\Delta s + s_0)$$

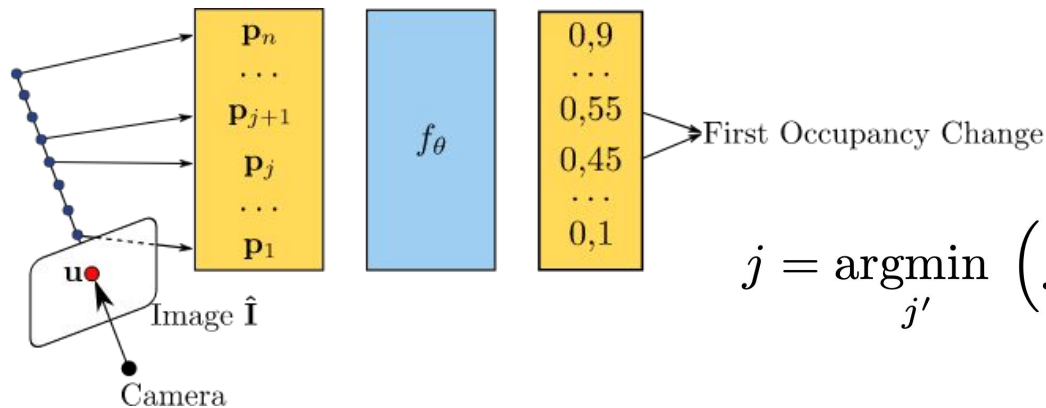
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$$j = \operatorname{argmin}_{j'} \left( f_\theta(\mathbf{p}_{j'+1}^{\text{ray}}) \geq \tau > f_\theta(\mathbf{p}_{j'}^{\text{ray}}) \right)$$

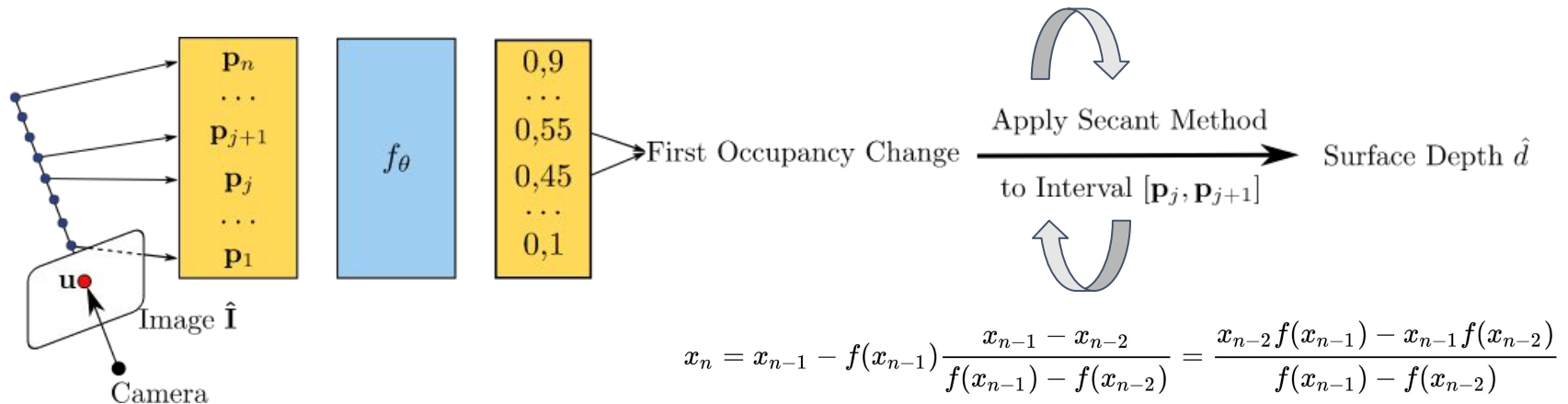
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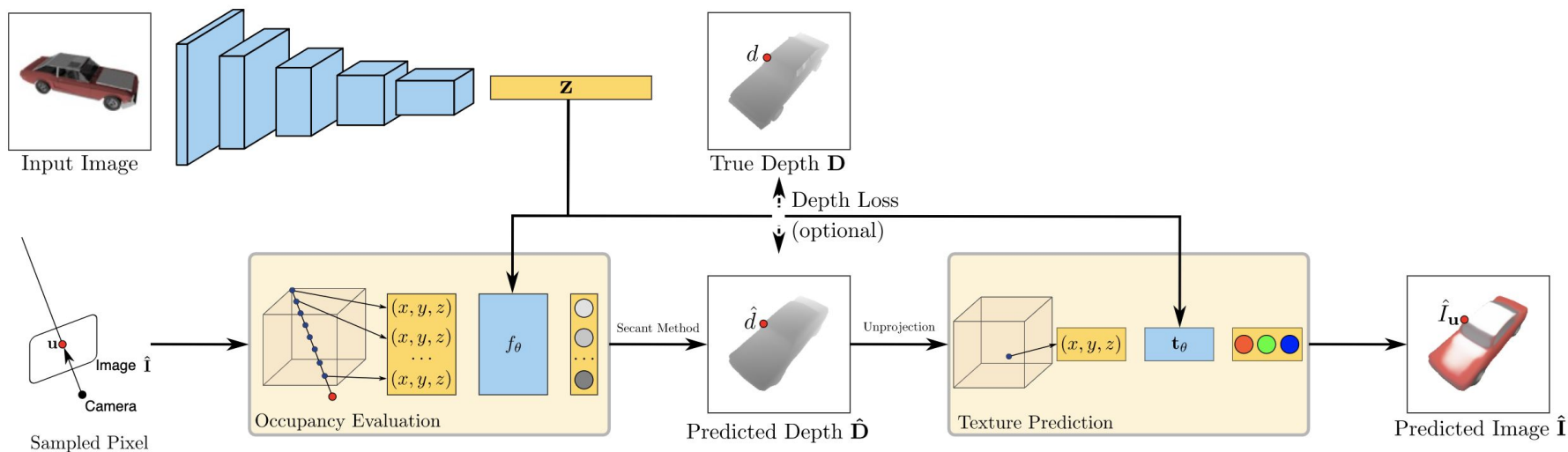
How?

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# Method overview

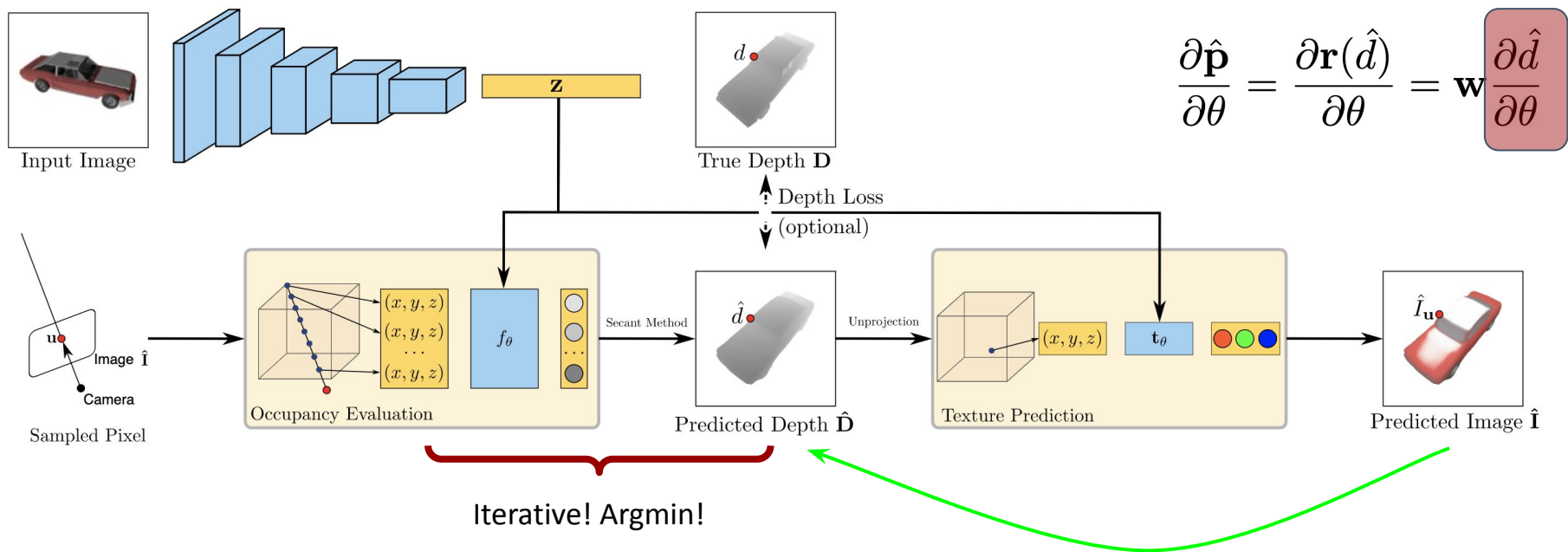
How to use implicit rendering for image autoencoding?



# What is the issue?

How to backpropagate efficiently?!

$$\frac{\partial \hat{\mathbf{I}}_{\mathbf{u}}}{\partial \theta} = \frac{\partial \mathbf{t}_{\theta}(\hat{\mathbf{p}})}{\partial \theta} + \frac{\partial \mathbf{t}_{\theta}(\hat{\mathbf{p}})}{\partial \hat{\mathbf{p}}} \cdot \frac{\partial \hat{\mathbf{p}}}{\partial \theta}$$



# Main contribution: Analytical Derivation

Observation: Gradients only needs to be calculated at the surface:  $f_{\theta}(\hat{\mathbf{p}}) = \tau$

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$$f_{\theta}(\hat{\mathbf{p}}) = \tau$$

Chain Rule!

$$\frac{\partial f_{\theta}(\hat{\mathbf{p}})}{\partial \theta} + \frac{\partial f_{\theta}(\hat{\mathbf{p}})}{\partial \hat{\mathbf{p}}} \cdot \frac{\partial \hat{\mathbf{p}}}{\partial \theta} = 0$$

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$$\frac{\partial f_{\theta}(\hat{\mathbf{p}})}{\partial \theta} + \frac{\partial f_{\theta}(\hat{\mathbf{p}})}{\partial \hat{\mathbf{p}}} \cdot \mathbf{w} \frac{\partial \hat{d}}{\partial \theta} = 0$$



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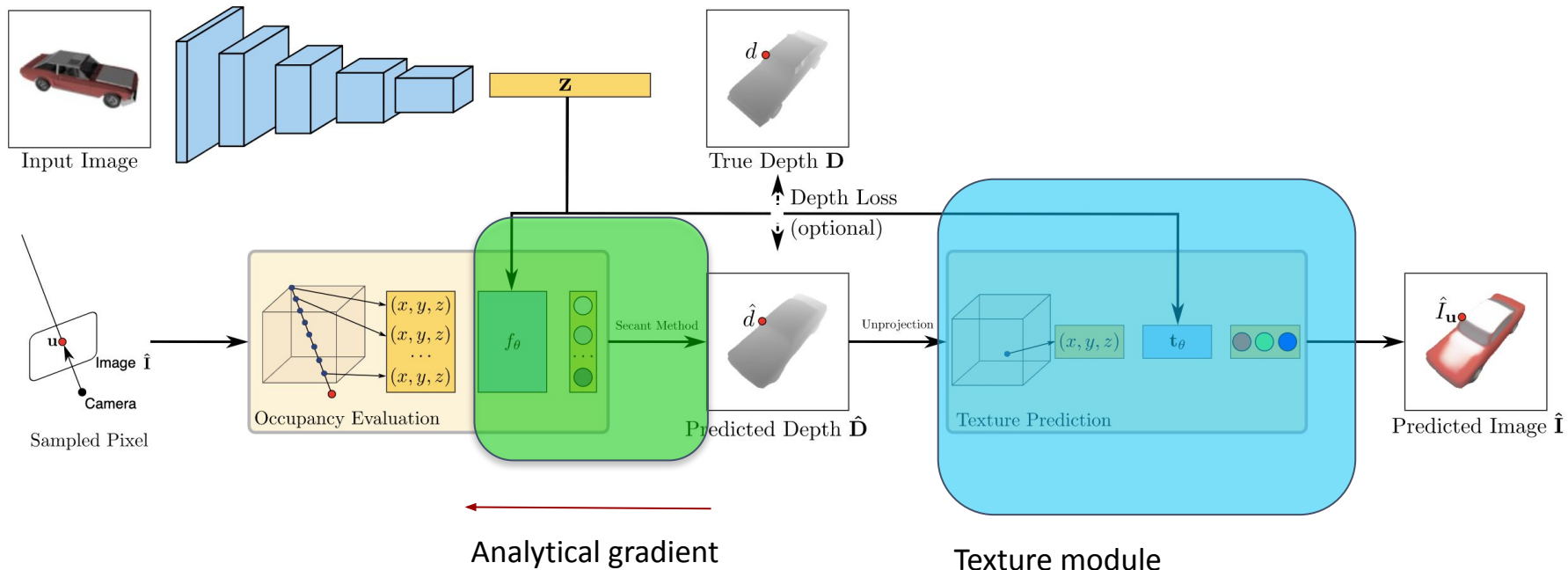
$$\frac{\partial f_{\theta}(\hat{\mathbf{p}})}{\partial \theta} + \frac{\partial f_{\theta}(\hat{\mathbf{p}})}{\partial \hat{\mathbf{p}}} \cdot \frac{\partial \hat{\mathbf{p}}}{\partial \theta} = 0$$

Chain Rule!

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$$\frac{\partial \hat{d}}{\partial \theta} = - \left( \frac{\partial f_{\theta}(\hat{\mathbf{p}})}{\partial \hat{\mathbf{p}}} \cdot \mathbf{w} \right)^{-1} \frac{\partial f_{\theta}(\hat{\mathbf{p}})}{\partial \theta}$$

# Main contribution



# Experimental Results: qualitative ShapeNet

Input      SoftRas      Ours ( $\mathcal{L}_{RGB}$ )      Pixel2Mesh      Ours ( $\mathcal{L}_{Depth}$ )

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# Experimental Results: Chamfer Distance on ShapeNet

category	2D Supervision			2.5D Supervision		3D Supervision		
	DRC (Mask) [79]	SoftRas [44]	Ours ( $\mathcal{L}_{RGB}$ )	DRC (Depth) [79]	Ours ( $\mathcal{L}_{Depth}$ )	3D R2N2 [13]	ONet [48]	Pixel2Mesh [80]
airplane	0.659	<b>0.149</b>	0.190	0.377	<b>0.143</b>	0.215	<b>0.151</b>	0.183
bench	-	0.241	<b>0.210</b>	-	<b>0.165</b>	0.210	<b>0.171</b>	0.191
cabinet	-	0.231	<b>0.220</b>	-	<b>0.183</b>	0.246	<b>0.189</b>	0.194
car	0.340	0.221	<b>0.196</b>	0.316	<b>0.179</b>	0.250	0.181	<b>0.154</b>
chair	0.660	0.338	<b>0.264</b>	0.510	<b>0.226</b>	0.282	<b>0.224</b>	0.259
display	-	0.284	<b>0.255</b>	-	<b>0.246</b>	0.323	0.275	<b>0.231</b>
lamp	-	<b>0.381</b>	0.413	-	<b>0.362</b>	0.566	0.380	<b>0.309</b>
loudspeaker	-	0.320	<b>0.289</b>	-	<b>0.295</b>	0.333	0.290	<b>0.284</b>
rifle	-	<b>0.155</b>	0.175	-	<b>0.143</b>	0.199	0.160	<b>0.151</b>
sofa	-	0.407	<b>0.224</b>	-	<b>0.221</b>	0.264	0.217	<b>0.211</b>
table	-	0.374	<b>0.280</b>	-	<b>0.180</b>	0.247	<b>0.185</b>	0.215
telephone	-	<b>0.131</b>	0.148	-	<b>0.130</b>	0.221	0.155	<b>0.145</b>
vessel	-	<b>0.233</b>	0.245	-	<b>0.206</b>	0.248	0.220	<b>0.201</b>
mean	0.553	0.266	<b>0.239</b>	0.401	<b>0.206</b>	0.277	0.215	<b>0.210</b>

# Experimental Results: Qualitative DETU

Compared with Poisson surface reconstruction (sPSR) on mesh based approaches with a trimming of 5 or 7.



(a) Colmap 5



(b) Colmap 7

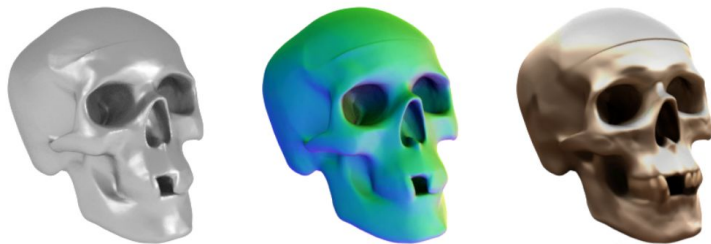


(c) Ours

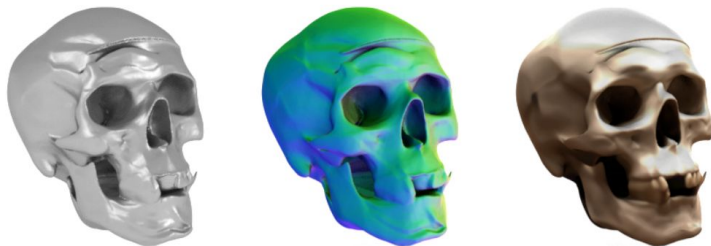
# Experimental Results: Quantitative DETU

	Trim Param.	Chamfer- $L_1$
Tola [78] + sPSR	0	1.826
Furu [18] + sPSR	0	1.517
Colmap [67] + sPSR	0	<b>1.303</b>
Camp [9] + sPSR	0	1.441
Tola [78] + sPSR	5	1.399
Furu [18] + sPSR	5	1.311
Colmap [67] + sPSR	5	<b>1.091</b>
Camp [9] + sPSR	5	1.331
Tola [78] + sPSR	7	0.910
Furu [18] + sPSR	7	0.839
Colmap [67] + sPSR	7	<b>0.733</b>
Camp [9] + sPSR	7	1.092
Ours ( $\mathcal{L}_{\text{RGB}}$ )	-	0.907
Ours ( $\mathcal{L}_{\text{RGB}} + \mathcal{L}_{\text{Depth}}$ )	-	<b>0.782</b>

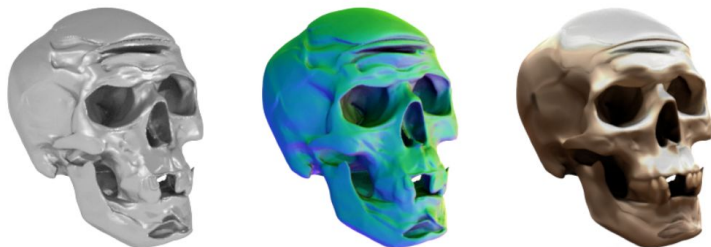
# Effect of adding a surface smoothness loss



(a) Our model ( $\mathcal{L}_{RGB}$ ) with  $\lambda_2 = 1$



(b) Our model ( $\mathcal{L}_{RGB}$ ) with  $\lambda_2 = 0.1$



(c) Our model ( $\mathcal{L}_{RGB}$ ) with  $\lambda_2 = 0$ .

# Effect of adding a supervised Depth signal



(a) Colmap [17] + sPSR



(b) Ours ( $\mathcal{L}_{RGB}$ )



(c) Ours ( $\mathcal{L}_{RGB} + \mathcal{L}_{Depth}$ )



# Effect of number of samples

Input

16 Samples

32 Samples

64 Samples

128 Samples



# Discussion of results

- On both of datasets they **outperform previous unsupervised methods**.
  - So implicit functions are superior models to Voxel, point clouds and Mesh based models.
- They do not have any **real world scene examples** from Autonomous Driving or Game Engines that simulate those.
  - So they have not bridged the gap between real world (background, multiple objects)
  - and synthetic data yet.
  - It is only object centric reconstruction.



# Critique / Limitations / Open Issues

- Relying on **camera intrinsics and object masks** could be as unrealistic as having 3D model or depth maps.
  - Add canonicalization, unsupervised alignment?
  - Add compositionality?
- They fail on narrow/sharp geometrics.
  - Smarter ray tracing? A prior? Part decomposition?



# Contributions (Recap)

- Successful 3D unsupervised reconstruction
- Scalable to real world interactive domains (only object level)
- Better Chamfer Distance and scalability to real world images
- Key insight: integrate texture, use analytical derivatives

