Neural Scene Representations for 3D Reconstruction









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Who Am I?

1992 – 2015: Live and study in China 🚰

2015 – 2017: Master in Europe

- Internship at
 Internship at
- Master thesis at

2018 – 2019: Research Engineer in Singapore

2019 – Now: PhD Student at ETH Zurich 🚺 & MPI 🌔

- With <u>Marc Pollefeys</u> and <u>Andreas Geiger</u>
- Internship at



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https://pengsongyou.github.io/

Agenda

- 3D Scene Representations
- [ECCV'20] Convolutional Occupancy Networks
- [NeurIPS'21] Shape As Points: A Differentiable Poisson Solver
- [arXiv'21]: NICE-SLAM: Neural Implicit Scalable Encoding for SLAM

3D Representations



• Traditional Explicit Representations ⇒ **Discrete**

Neural Implicit Representations



3D Representations



- Traditional Explicit Representations ⇒ **Discrete**
- Neural Implicit Representations ⇒ Continuous

Structure of neural implicit representations:



Input \mathbf{x}

Structure of neural implicit representations:



Input \mathbf{x}

• Global latent code \Rightarrow overly smooth geometry

Structure of neural implicit representations:



Input \mathbf{x}

- Global latent code \Rightarrow overly smooth geometry
- Fully-connected architecture \Rightarrow no translation equivariance

Implicit models work well for **simple objects** but poorly on **complex scenes**:



How to reconstruct large-scale 3D scenes with neural implicit representations?

Convolutional Occupancy Networks











Convolutional Occupancy Networks

Songyou Peng



Michael Niemeyer



Lars Mescheder



Marc Pollefeys



Andreas Geiger



Main Idea



Main Idea



• **3D Volume Encoder**: Use a local PointNet to process input, volumetric feature encoding

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- **3D Volume Encoder**: Use a local PointNet to process input, volumetric feature encoding
- **3D Volume Decoder**: Processed by 3D U-Net, query features via trilinear interpolation
- Occupancy Readout: Shallow occupancy network $f_{\theta}(\cdot)$

Main Idea - 2D



- 2D Plane Encoder: Use a local PointNet to process input, project onto 3-canonical planes
- 2D Plane Decoder: Processed by U-Net, query features via bilinear interpolation
- Occupancy Readout: Shallow occupancy network $f_{\theta}(\cdot)$



Results

Object-Level Reconstruction



Training Speed



Training Speed



• Trained and evaluated on synthetic rooms





Input

GT Mesh

• ONet fails on room-level reconstruction





Input

ONet

• SPSR requires surface normals, output is noisy





Input

SPSR (Screened Poisson Surface Reconstruction)

• Our method preserves better details





Input

Ours

Large-Scale Reconstruction

Results on Matterport3D

- Fully convolutional model
- Trained on synthetic crops
- Sliding-window evaluation
- Scale to any scene size



Large-Scale Reconstruction

Scene size: 15.7m x 12.3m x 4.5m

Results on Matterport3D

- Fully convolutional model
- Trained on synthetic crops
- Sliding-window evaluation
- Scale to any scene size



Conclusions

- ConvONet allows for scaling to large-scale scenes
- ConvONet generalizes well from synthetic to real scenes
- ConvONet trains faster than original ONet

Limitations

- Slow inference due to dense grid evaluation
- Difficult to initialize











Shape As Points A Differentiable Poisson Solver





Chiyu "Max" Jiang

Yiyi Liao



Michael Niemeyer



Marc Pollefeys



Andreas Geiger



3D Representations



Traditional Explicit Representations

- Discrete
- Fast inference

3D Shape Representations



Neural Implicit Representations

- Continuous, watertight
- Slow inference
- Difficult to initialize

Mescheder, Oechsle, Niemeyer, Nowozin and Geiger: Occupancy Networks: Learning 3D Reconstruction in Function Space. CVPR, 2019

3D Shape Representations



Shape As Points (SAP) - Hybrid Representation

- ➡ Discrete (Oriented point clouds) ⇒ Continuous (Implicit indicator grid)
- Fast inference
- Easy initialization

Differentiable Poisson Solver



Intuition of Poisson Equation

$$\nabla^2 \chi := \nabla \cdot \nabla \chi = \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}$$



Shape

$$\begin{array}{c|c} & & & \\ \hline \chi & & \\ \chi & & \\ \hline \chi & & \\ \chi & & \\ \hline \chi & & \\ \chi$$

Point Normals

 \mathbf{V}

Our Poisson Solver

$$\nabla^2 \chi := \nabla \cdot \nabla \chi = \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}$$

• **Discretization** allows to invert the divergence operator

$$\chi = (\nabla^2)^{-1} \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}$$

- **Spectral methods** to solve the Poisson equation efficiently
 - Derivatives of signals in spectral domain are computed analytically
 - Fast Fourier Transform (FFT) are highly optimized on GPUs/TPUs
 - Only 25-line code

$$\tilde{\mathbf{v}} = \text{FFT}(\mathbf{v}) \longrightarrow \tilde{\chi} = \tilde{g}_{\sigma,r}(\mathbf{u}) \odot \frac{i\mathbf{u} \cdot \tilde{\mathbf{v}}}{-2\pi \|\mathbf{u}\|^2} \longrightarrow \chi' = \text{IFFT}(\tilde{\chi})$$

SAP for Optimization-based 3D Reconstruction
Input an initial oriented point cloud

(noisy / incomplete observations)



P









Pipeline - Backward Pass



$$rac{\partial \mathcal{L}_{\mathrm{CD}}}{\partial \mathbf{p}} = rac{\partial \mathcal{L}_{\mathrm{CD}}}{\partial \mathbf{p}_{\mathrm{mesh}}} rac{\partial \mathbf{p}_{\mathrm{mesh}}}{\partial \chi} rac{\partial \chi}{\partial \mathbf{p}}$$





Points and Normals











Unoriented Point Clouds

GT Mesh





Unoriented Point Clouds

Point2Mesh

Runtime: 62 mins





Unoriented Point Clouds



Runtime: 30 mins





Unoriented Point Clouds

SAP

Runtime: ~6 mins





SPSR

Runtime: ~9 sec

SAP

Runtime: ~6 mins

Can we further leverage the **differentiability** of the Poisson solver for **deep neural networks**?

SAP for Learning-based 3D Reconstruction















Inputs



Inputs















R2N2 15 ms



AtlasNet 25 ms







ConvONet 327 ms





Inputs





ConvONet 327 ms Ours 64 ms



Benefit of Geometric Initialization

Chamfer distance over the training process

Iterations	10K	50K	100K	200K	Best
ConvONet	0.082	0.058	0.055	0.050	0.044
Ours	0.041	0.036	0.035	0.034	0.034

SAP converges much faster!

Conclusions

- SAP is interpretable, lightweight and guarantees HQ watertight meshes
- SAP is also topology agnostic, enables fast inference
- Our Poisson solver is **differentiable** and **GPU-accelerated**

Limitation: Cubic memory requirements limits SAP for small scenes





Neural Radiance Field (NeRF) Heat

Learning Scene Textures



Mildenhall, Srinivasan, Tancik, Barron, Ramamoorthi, Ng: <u>NeRF: Representing Scenes as Neural Radiance Fields for View Synthesis</u>. ECCV 2020

Neural Radiance Field (NeRF)



Mildenhall, Srinivasan, Tancik, Barron, Ramamoorthi, Ng: NeRF: Representing Scenes as Neural Radiance Fields for View Synthesis. ECCV 2020

KiloNeRF: Speeding up NeRF with Thousands of Tiny MLPs

Christian Reiser, Songyou Peng, Yiyi Liao, Andreas Geiger

ICCV 2021



UNISURF: Unifying Neural Implicit Surfaces and Radiance Fields for Multi-View Reconstruction

Michael Oechsle, Songyou Peng, Andreas Geiger

ICCV 2021 (Oral)



Given an RGB-D sequence, jointly represent **geometry & color**?

What if the camera poses are also unknown?

Neural Implicit Representations

for

Simultaneous Localization and Mapping (SLAM)

NICE-SLAM Neural Implicit Scalable Encoding for SLAM

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(* equal contribution)

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iMAP



- First dense SLAM system that uses a neural scene representationUse a single fully-connected network to represent the entire scene
- Low-quality geometry, fail in larger scenes

Sucar, Liu, Ortiz, Davison: <u>iMAP: Implicit Mapping and Positioning in Real-Time</u>. ICCV 2021

NICE-SLAM



Hierarchical grid-based encoding

High-quality scene geometry & camera tracking on large-scale scene

Local updates -> No forgetting problem for geometry


Input RGB







Input Depth

Input RGB



Input Depth

Input RGB

Input Depth



Input RGB



Reformulate the volume rendering equation along each ray as [1]:

$$\hat{D}^f = \sum_{i=1}^N w_i^f d_i, \quad \hat{I} = \sum_{i=1}^N w_i^f \mathbf{c}_i$$

 $w_{i}^{f} = o_{\mathbf{p}_{i}} \prod_{j=1}^{i-1} (1 - o_{\mathbf{p}_{j}})$

Input Depth



Input RGB



[1] Oechsle, Peng, Geiger: UNISURF: Unifying Neural Implicit Surfaces and Radiance Fields for Multi-View Reconstruction. ICCV 2021



Input Depth



Input RGB





Results ScanNet Dataset

6X SPEED

00000000

iMAP

NICE-SLAM



FLO	$Ps [\times 10^{3}] \downarrow T$	Fracking [ms]↓	Mapping [ms]↓
iMAP [42]	443.91	101	448
NICE-SLAM (Ours)	104.16	47	130

Computations & Runtime

Results Large Apartment with Multiple Rooms



Residual

2X SPEED





Conclusion

- Hierarchical Encoding + Implicit decoders -> Scalable scene representations
- Show decent results on large indoor scenes
- Do not have forgetting problems

Limitation

- Geometry & colors are OK, but far from satisfactory
- Camera tracking is worse than traditional methods
- Cannot scale up to outdoor scenes

Thank You!

ConvONet ECCV'20 (Spotlight)



Shape As Points NeurIPS'21 (Oral)



NICE-SLAM arXiv'21





https://pengsongyou.github.io/conv_onet



https://pengsongyou.github.io/sap



https://pengsongyou.github.io/nice-slam