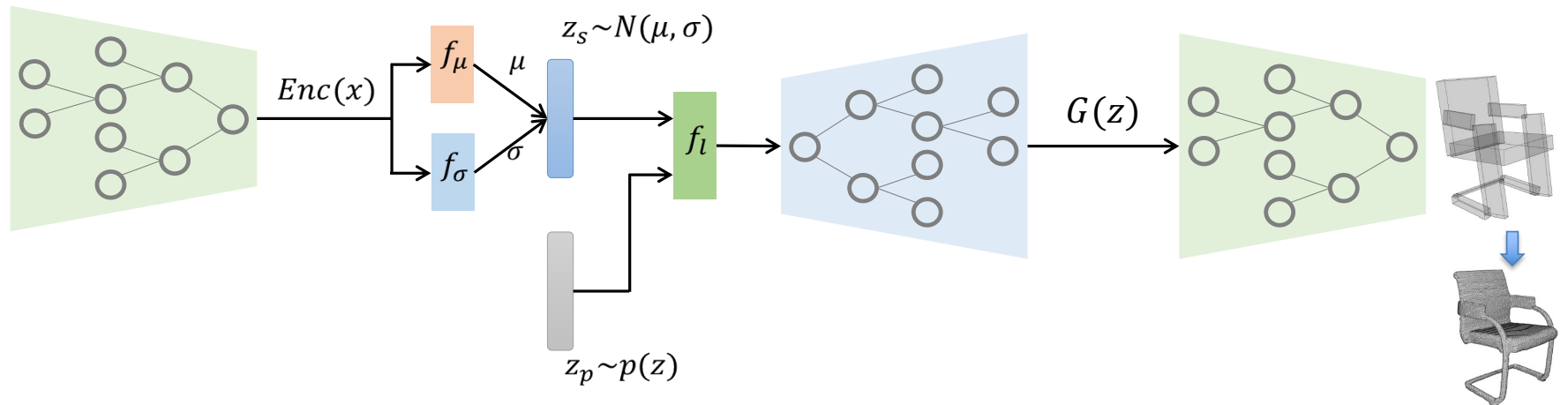


# Learning to Generate 3D Shapes



**Richard Zhang**

CMPT 464/764, Lecture 13

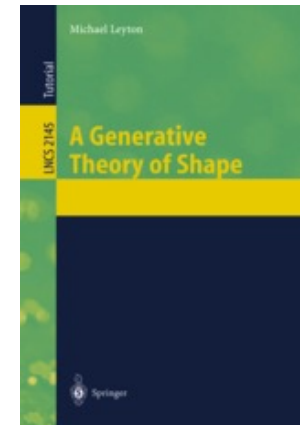
# Generative models

---

- Models that describe and **enable generation of intended outcomes**, e.g., images, 3D shapes, or scenes sharing some commonalities
  - Procedural models, probabilistic sampling, genetic algorithms, etc.
- A good model should produce **diverse** yet **plausible** results

The interesting question is how to **recover/infer/learn a generative model** from a given set of outcomes

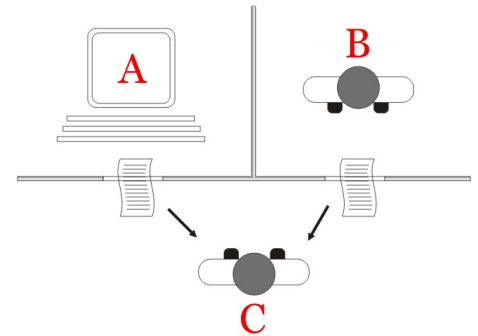
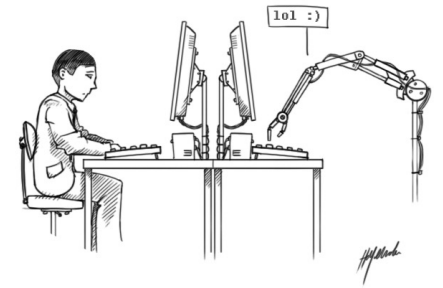
That is, to solve the **inverse modeling** problem



# Learning to generate is at the heart of AI

*When does a machine become “human”?*

- **Turing Test (1950):** machine’s ability to make human-like conversation (“passed” in 2014)



# Learning to generate is at the heart of AI

---

*When does a machine become “human”?*

*What really separates humans from machines is not the ability to make human-like conversation (the [Turing Test](#)), but the ability to be [creative](#) or be [original](#)!*

- [Lovelace Test](#): test machine’s creativity
  - To craft a story, painting, 3D shape, or virtual scene
  - How to judge it: when the machine’s creator cannot explain machine’s creation

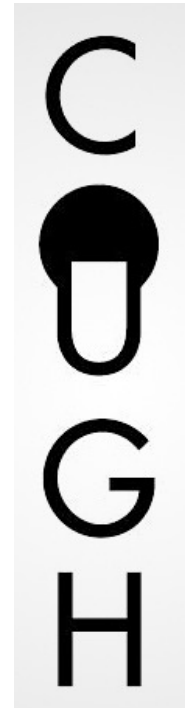
[Bringsjord, Bello, and Ferrucci, 2001]



Ada Lovelace (1815 – 1852)

# Creativity is hard

---



# Take a step back: from create to generate

---

- To just **generate** without requiring creative outcome
- To imitate (i.e., **learn from examples**) without being original
- Goals: plausibility, realism/quality, and diversity
  - Much recent success on synthesizing speech/face/natural images

# Remarkable progress on image generation

---

- Progressive GAN (Generative Adversarial Network) [Nvidia, 2016/17]



- BigGAN [Google Deepmind, 2018/19]



400 x 267 image resolution, using class conditionals

# Our focus: neural generation of **3D shapes**

---

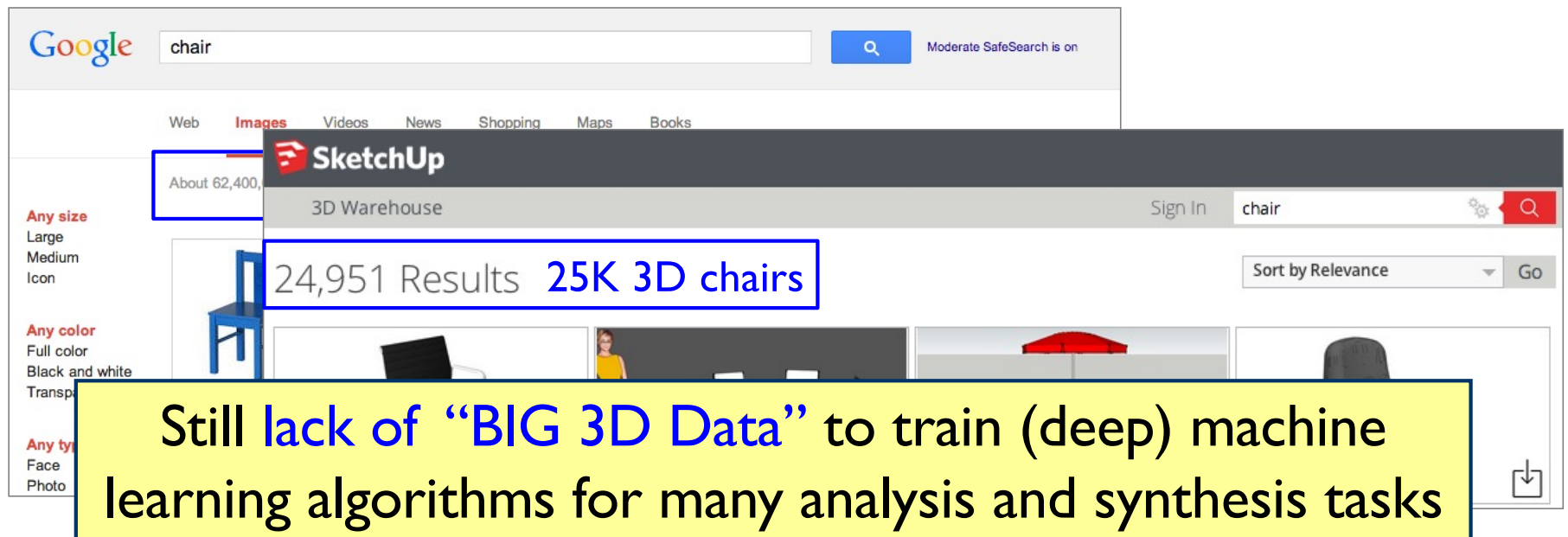


There are some **unique challenges** to training deep neural networks (DNNs) for 3D shape generation and reconstruction ...



# Challenge #1: 3D data challenge

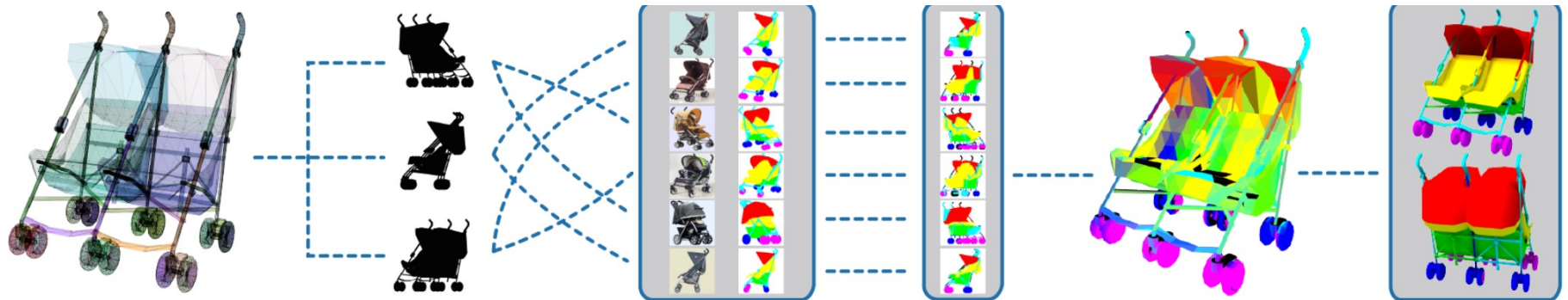
- Acquisition of and interaction with 3D contents are hard



The image shows a Google search for "chair" with the "Images" tab selected. The search results are dominated by a SketchUp 3D Warehouse listing. A blue box highlights the text "24,951 Results 25K 3D chairs". A yellow box at the bottom contains the text: "Still lack of 'BIG 3D Data' to train (deep) machine learning algorithms for many analysis and synthesis tasks".

# Useful ideas to address 3D data challenge

- Projective analysis: use annotated images to train 3D tasks

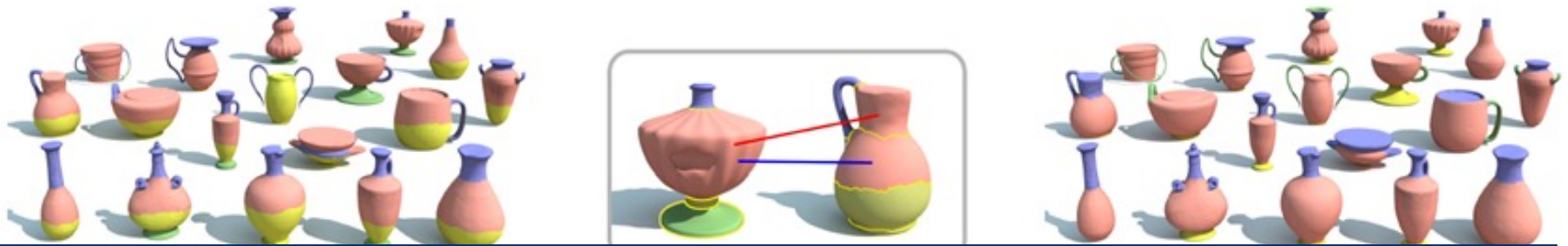


Projective Analysis for 3D Shape Segmentation [Wang et al. SIG Asia 2013]

# Useful ideas to address 3D data challenge

---

- Projective analysis: use annotated images to train 3D tasks
- Minimizing user annotations: **active learning**



**Unsupervised** or **weakly supervised learning**: more challenging, more interesting, and less data bias (learns essence of problem?)

## Challenge #2: affordance and functionality

---

- Why would we design and generate a 3D object?
  - Not just to look at it, but to **use it!** Not enough to just “look right”



## Challenge #2: affordance and functionality

- Why would we design and generate a 3D object?
  - Not just to look at it, but to use it! Not enough to just “look right”
  - It is not about *what* it is, e.g., to have the right parts and be recognizable by a CNN, but **what it can do and can afford ...**



The ultimate goal is not appearance, but **functionality!**  
Generated 3D shapes/scenes need to **function properly**

CNN with max pooling

# Learning functionality is challenging

---

- Functionality is **contextual**: defined by **interactions** between a 3D object and other objects, the agents, e.g., humans



# Learning functionality is challenging

---

- Functionality is **contextual**: defined by **interactions** between a 3D object and other objects, the agents, e.g., humans
  - **Interaction contexts** harder to collect, describe, and generate
  - Considerably less 3D data have functionality annotations
  - How to define a “differentiable functionality loss”?

# Most fundamental: representation challenge

---

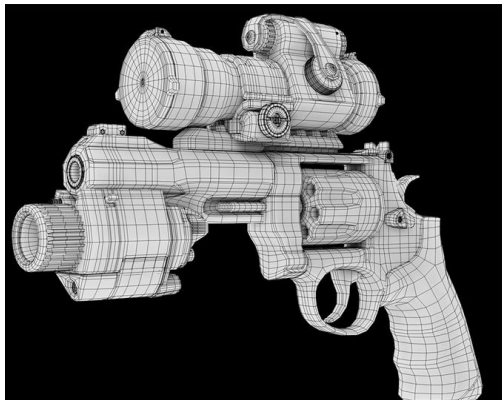
- Unlike images or speech, there is **no universally accepted representation or encoding** for 3D shapes



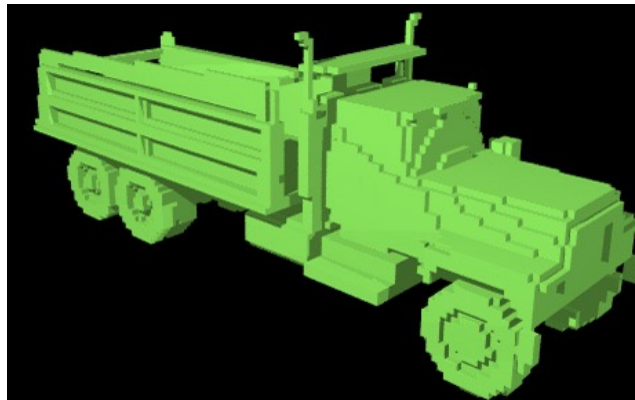
# Challenge #3: representation challenge

---

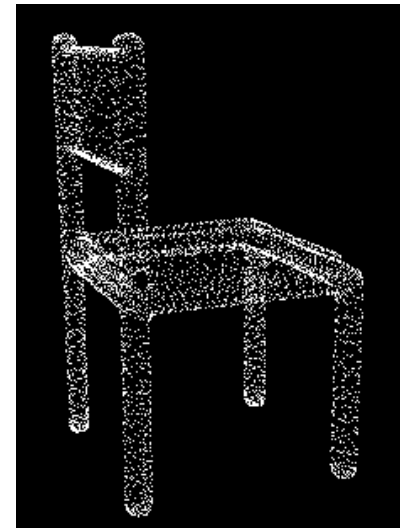
- Unlike images or speech, there is **no universally accepted representation or encoding** for 3D shapes
- Alternatives: low-level representations



**Mesh:** a set of triangles



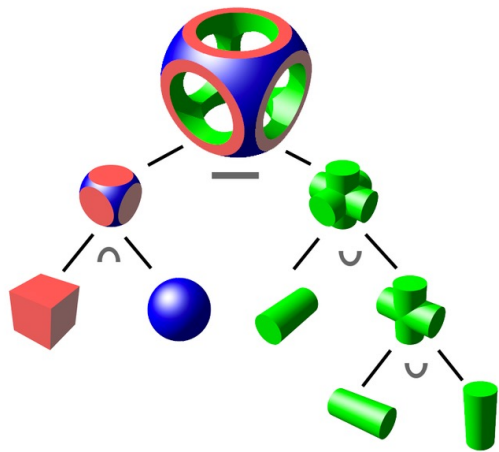
**Volume:** a grid of voxels



**Point cloud:** a set of points<sub>17</sub>

# Challenge #3: representation challenge

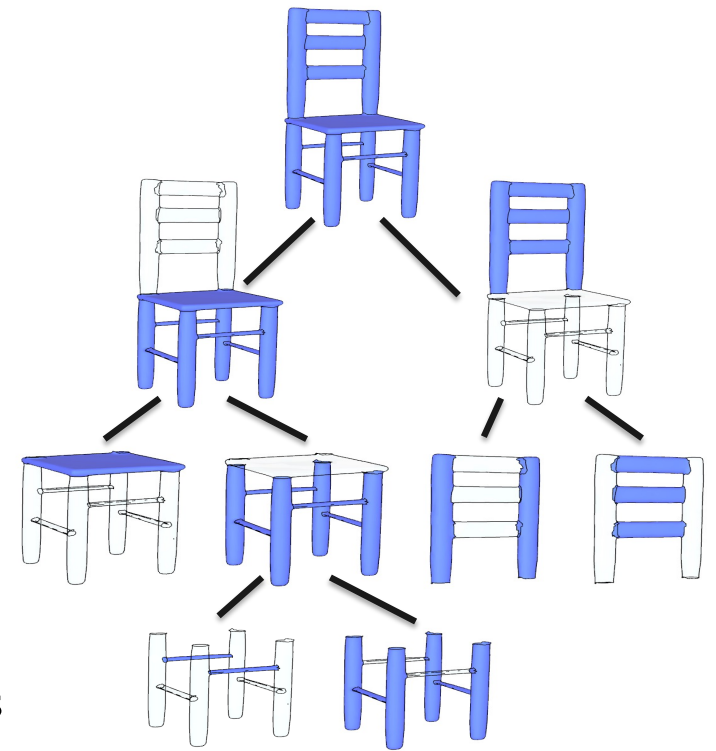
- Higher-level representations



Procedural: e.g., CSG rep



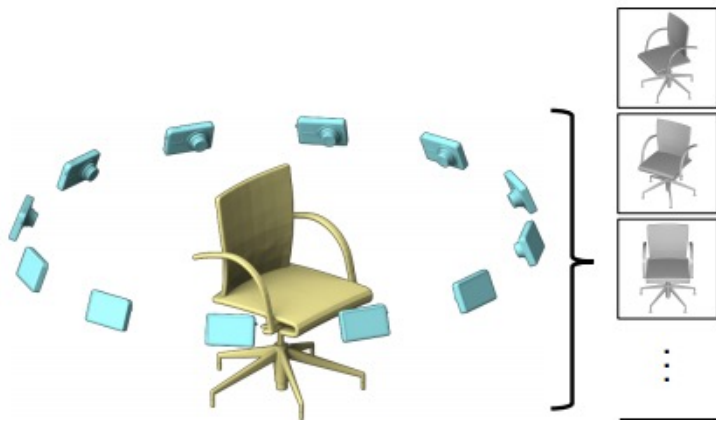
Structural: a set of parts



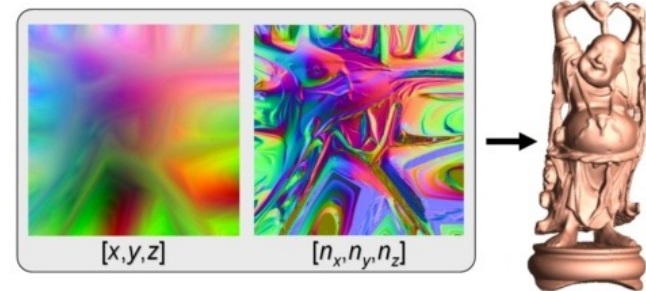
Hierarchical  
organization of parts

# Challenge #3: representation challenge

- Parameterized representation through mapping



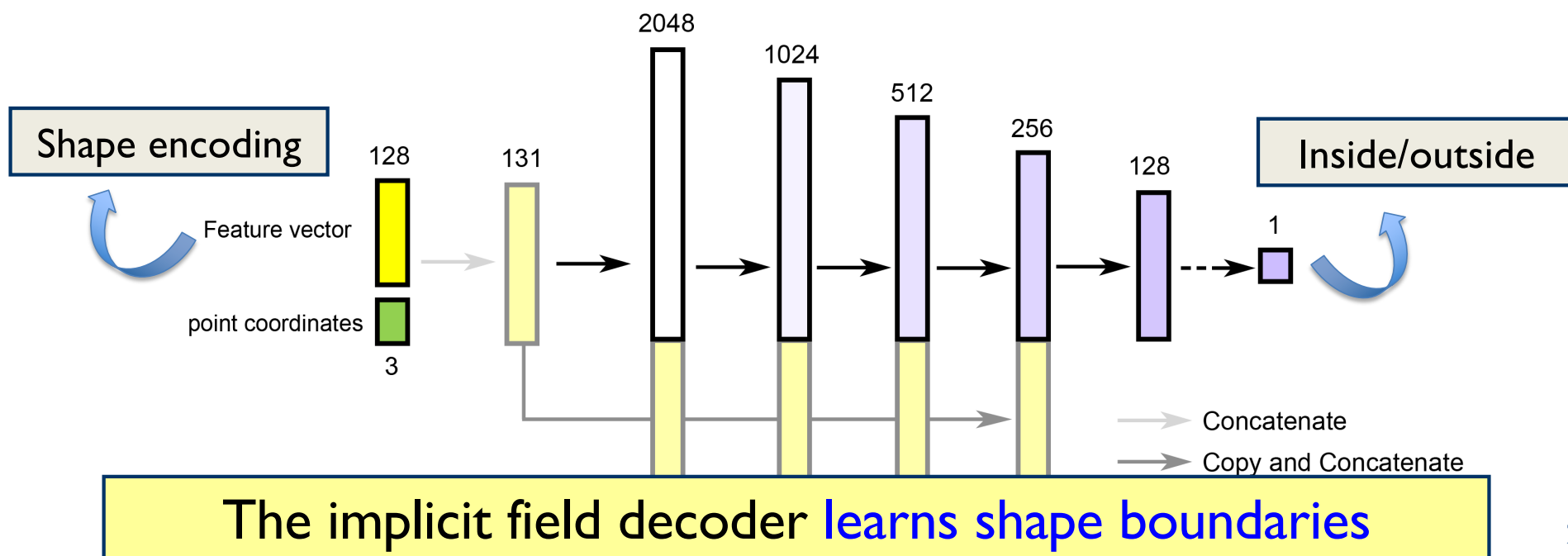
Multi-view images  
in MVCNN [Su et al. 2015]



Geometry images [Sinha et al. 2016]

# Recent wave of neural models for implicit reps

- Learn mapping from a 3D point  $(x, y, z)$  to **inside/outside status** or **signed distance function (SDF)** with respect to a 3D shape



How has 3D shape generation been done?

# Traditional modeling paradigms in graphics

---

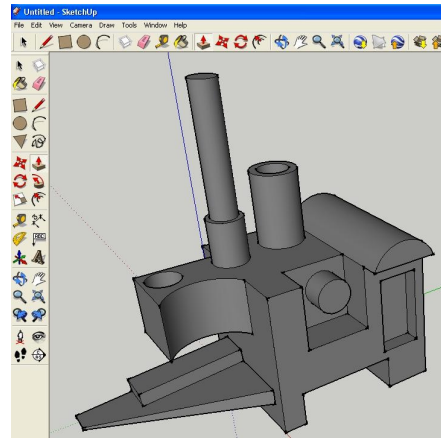
- **Model-driven** and **interactive** (human-in-the-loop)
- Human defines/influences the rules/procedures

# Traditional modeling paradigms in graphics

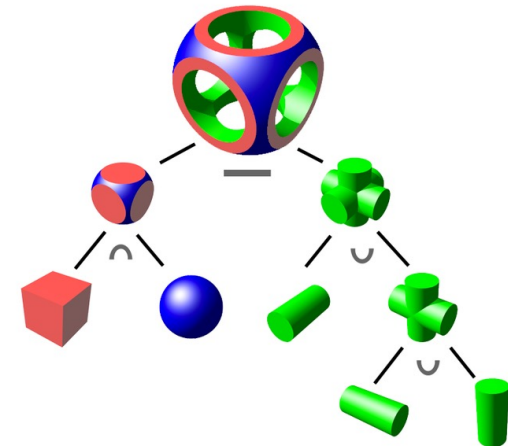
- **Model-driven** and **interactive** (human-in-the-loop)
- Human defines/influences the rules/procedures
- Examples:



Sketch-based modeling  
[Igarashi et al. SIG 1999]



+Extrusion (SketchUp)



Procedural modeling

**Can machines learn to generate 3D shapes?**



# Where does the machine learn from?

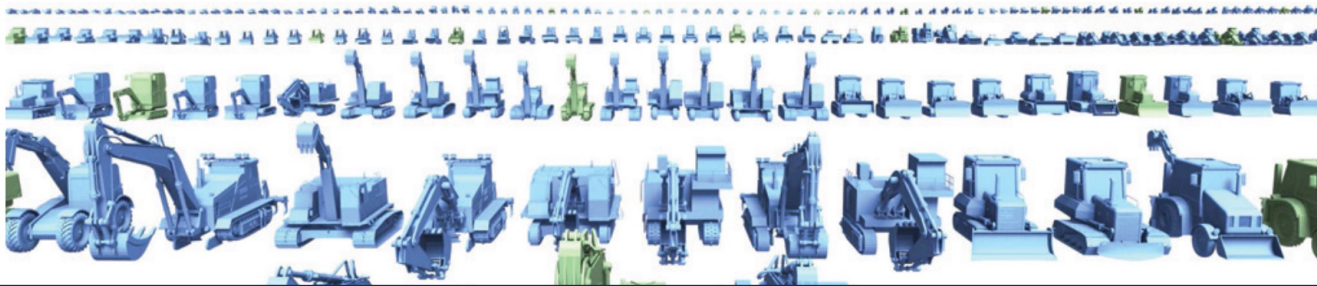
---

- Learn model generation **from data or examples**
- Shifting from model-driven to **data-driven**
- Two basic **model generation paradigms**

# Paradigm #1: “more of the same”

---

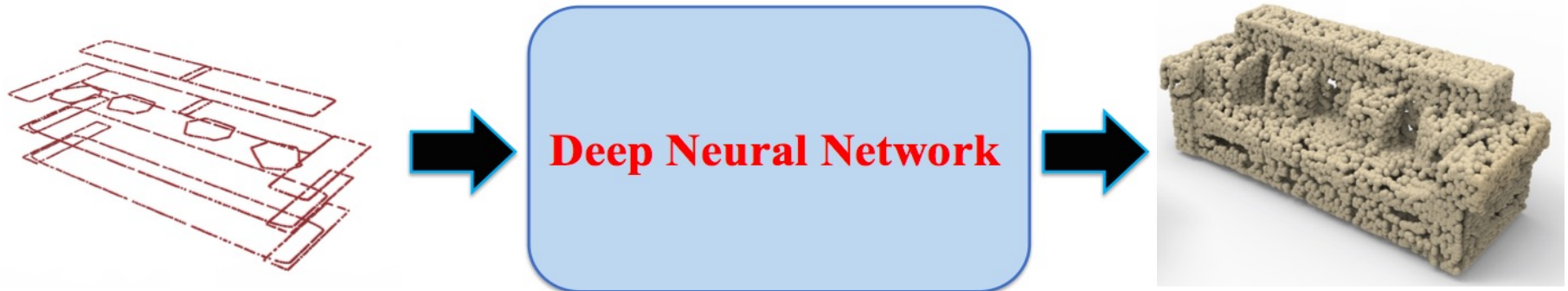
- Input: set of examples with commonality, e.g., all tractors
- Learn to generate **more of the “same”** (but with **novelty**)



Key: learn a **space** or **manifold** or **distribution** spanned by the examples. Then **sample** or **traverse** the space to generate novel 3D shapes.

## Paradigm #2: “generate from X”

- Input: sets of examples from **two domains** X and Y
- Learn to generate target 3D shapes in Y from inputs in X

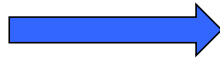
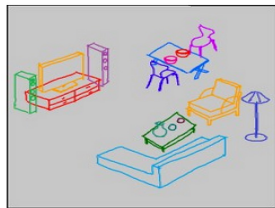


Key: learn a **mapping** or **regression** model

# Approaches to “generate from X”

- Earlier data-driven methods: [retrieve-and-adjust](#)

Sketch-to-scene



[Xu et al. SIG 2013]

# Approaches to “generate from X”

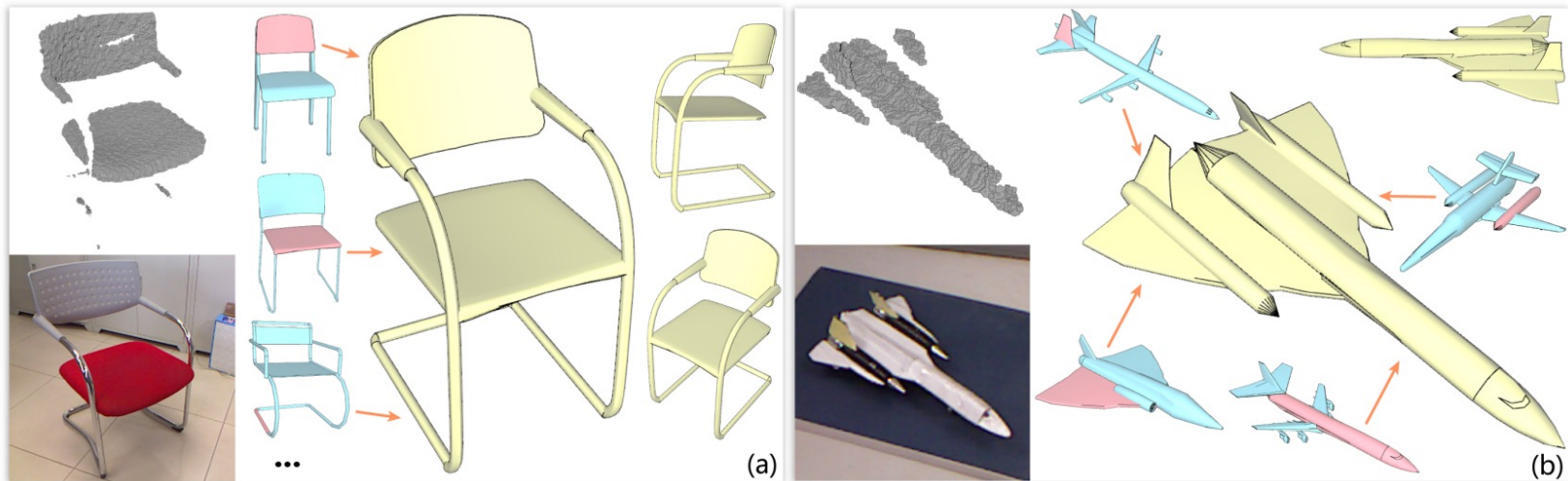
- 3D model generation from a single photograph



[Xu et al. SIG 2011]

# Approaches to “generate from X”

- Model generation from single depth scan + RGB image
- 3D model built by **assembling parts from different shapes**



[Shen et al. SIG Asia 2012]

# Retrieve-and-adjust approaches

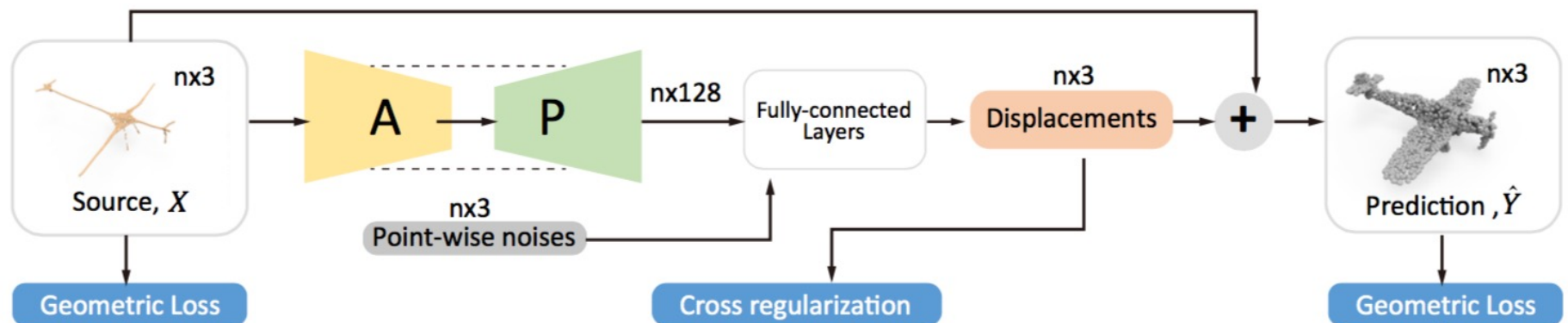
- **Similarity-driven** retrieval followed by fitting and assembly
- Program does not really learn a general mapping
- **Lack of novelty**: generations do not deviate too much from database models



[Xu et al. SIG 2012]

# Deep learning based methods

- Example: learn a **general-purpose, non-linear mapping** between two point sets, trained with **paired data**

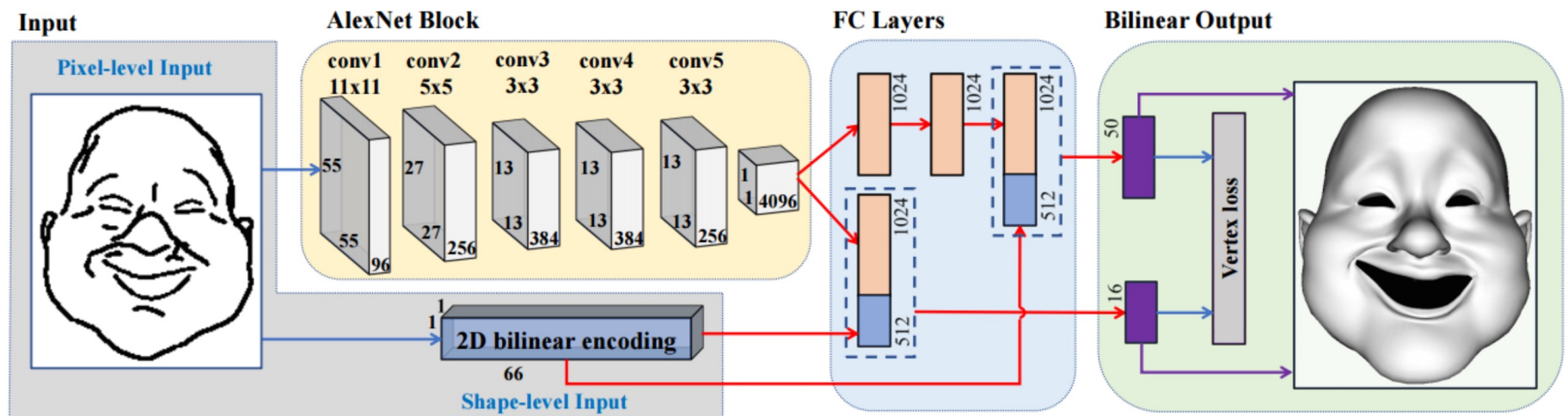


P2P-NET [Yin et al. SIG 2018]



# Another example: DeepSketch2Face

- Also trained with **paired data**: sketches and face meshes



DeepSketch2Face [Han et al. SIG 2017]

# New challenge: unpaired training data

- Only available data are examples from domains X and Y
- Examples in X and Y are **not matched up**
- A more **general** setting as paired data can be unavailable



Photograph

???  
→



Monet



Van Gogh

CycleGAN [Zhu et al. ICCV 2017] 34

# “Shooting two birds with one stone”

---

- With **same framework**, train **two mappings simultaneously**
- Two translators ( $X \rightarrow Y$  and  $Y \rightarrow X$ ): **duals** and form a **cycle**

# “Shooting two birds with one stone”

---

- With same framework, train two mappings simultaneously
- Two translators ( $X \rightarrow Y$  and  $Y \rightarrow X$ ): duals and form a cycle
- Map from  $X$  to  $Y$  and back to  $X$ : loss to be measured in **only one domain**, e.g., a **cycle consistency loss**

Exciting new direction: **unsupervised** or **weakly supervised domain translation** with unpaired data. Most works on image-to-image translation and mainly **style transfer**.

# LOGAN: unpaired shape-shape transform

LOGAN: Unpaired Shape Transform in Latent Overcomplete Space



LOGAN [Yin et al. SIG Asia 2019]



Domain A

Domain B



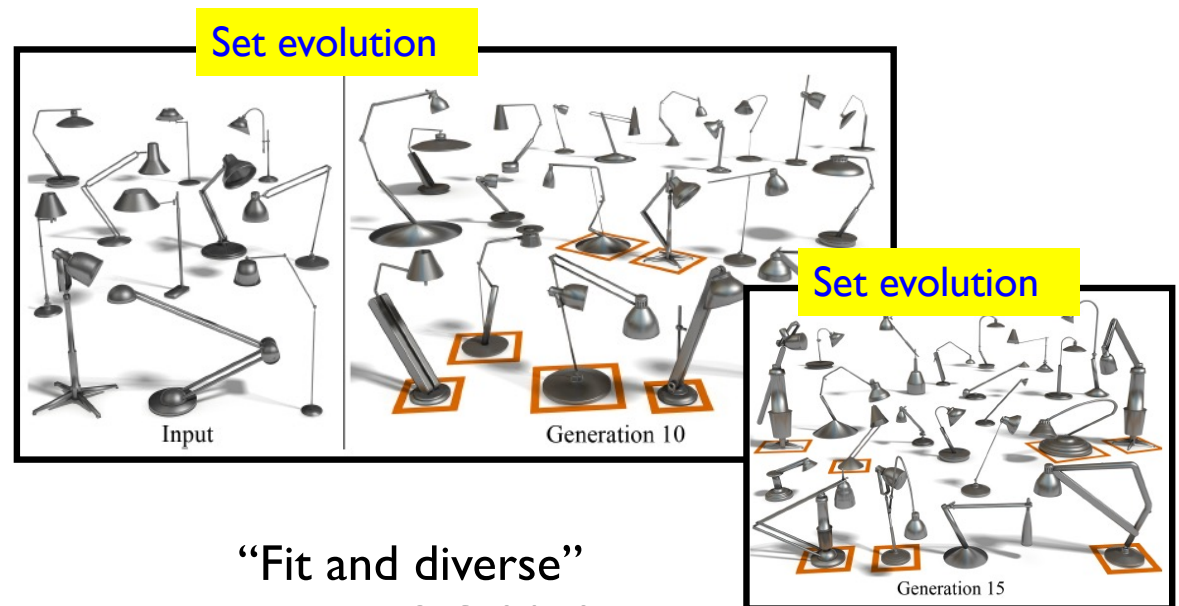
Style or content completely determined by the two input domains

# Approaches to “more of the same”

- Earlier methods: **mix-and-match** or **part (re-)composition**



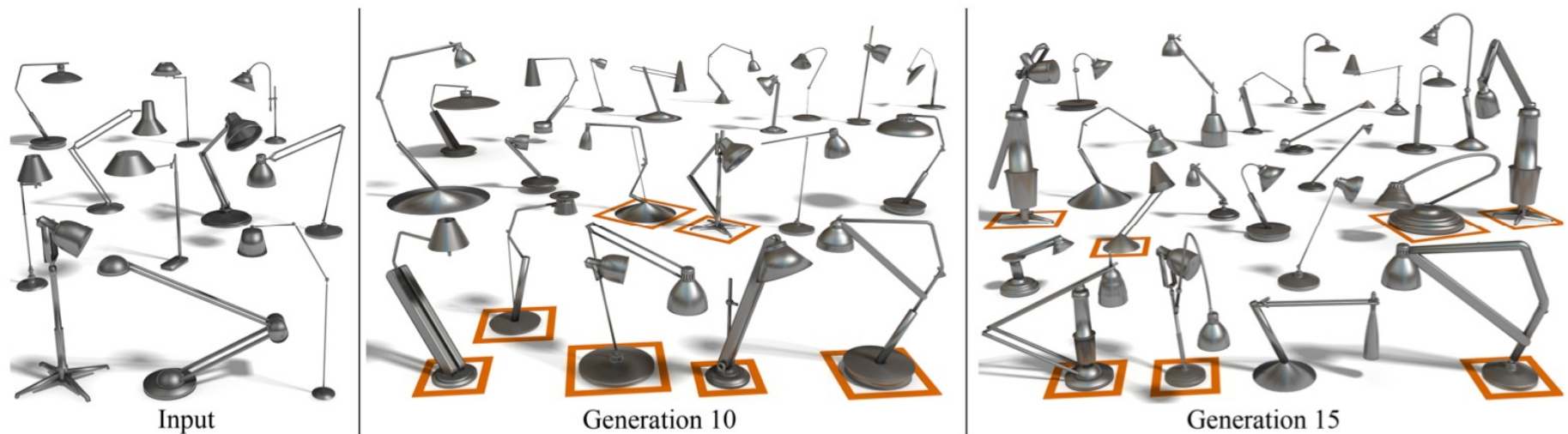
Modeling by example  
[Funkhouser et al. 2004]



“Fit and diverse”  
[Xu et al. SIG 2012]

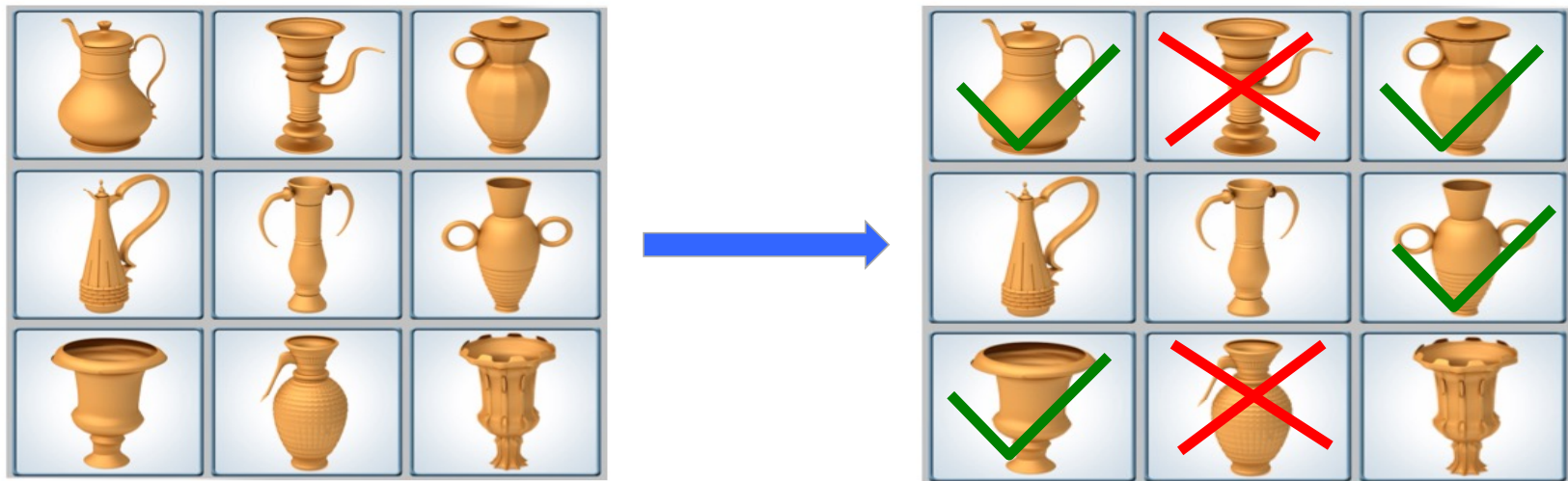
# “Fit and diverse” for creative modeling

- Evolves an entire set of 3D models to obtain generations of fit and diverse new offsprings



# “Fit and diverse” for creative modeling

- **Creativity:** machines stochastically generate models
- **Control:** by humans operating on a “design gallery”





# Creative 3D modeling: evolution

---

- **Fit = plausibility**, e.g., from chairs to chair-like shapes
- **Diversity = “surprising”** designs to not stuck in an elite population — the elites do not survive well

# Creative 3D modeling: evolution

---

- Fit = plausibility, e.g., from chairs to chair-like shapes
- Diversity = “surprising” designs to not stuck in an elite population — the elites do not survive well
- Executed via **stochastic cross-over** (part exchange)



# Mix-and-match approaches

---

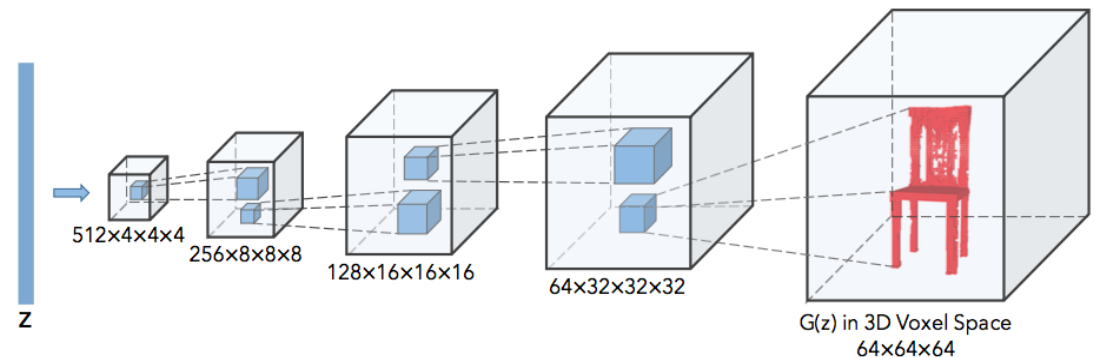
- **Similarity-driven part substitution** within a shape collection
- Machine does not really learn any space/manifold



“Fit and diverse” [Xu et al. SIG 2012]

# 3D generative adversarial network (3D-GAN)

- 3D shape as **voxels**: combine volumetric CNN and GAN
- **Generator** maps 200D latent vector to  $64 \times 64 \times 64$  volume
- **Discriminator** classifies real objects vs. generator outputs



3D-GAN [Wu et al. NIPS 2016]

# 3D-GAN results

Generate novel shapes

3D volumetric shapes generated from random latent vectors

Closest examples

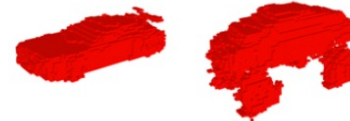
Gun



Chair

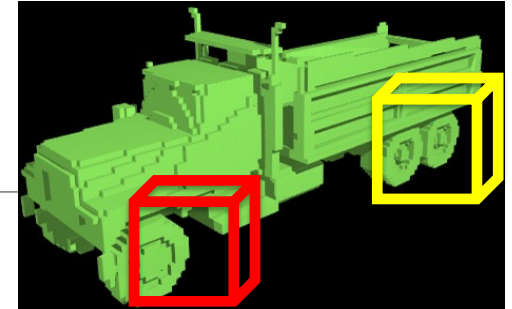


Car



“More of the same”: fooling the discriminator = making the generated outputs **similar to training examples**

# 3D-GAN



- Volumetric CNN is **not structure-aware**
- Results: **low-res “blobs”** of voxels; **no clean separation** of object parts; **not reusable** for subsequent modeling

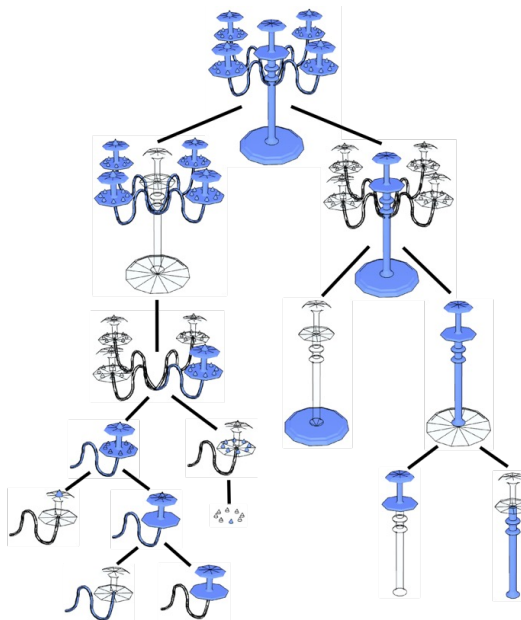


- In real life, 3D objects are not build at voxel (but **part**) level
  - Think IKEA furniture or most current manufacture process

# Symmetry hierarchies (SYMH)

[Wang et al. EG 2011]

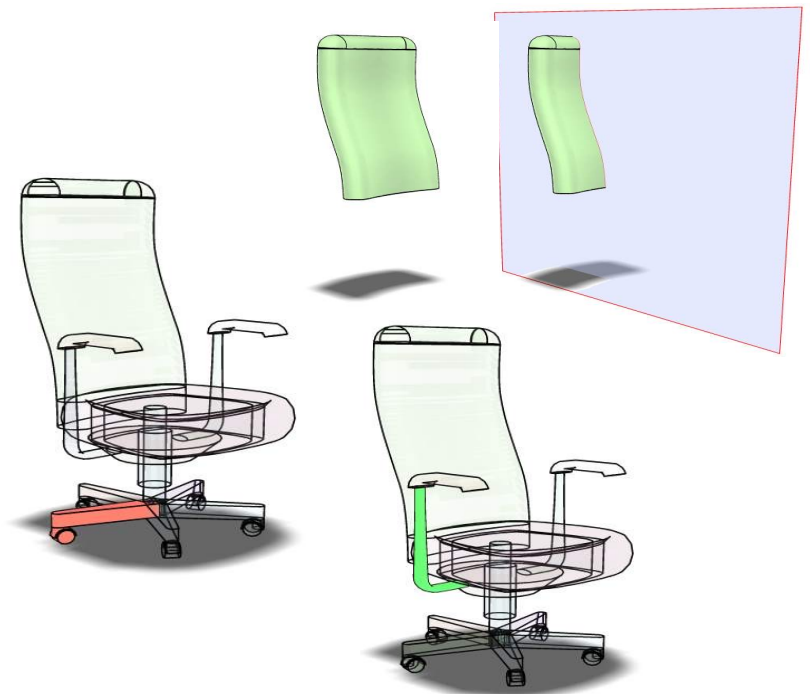
**Symmetry hierarchy:** symmetry guides **grouping and assembly** of shape parts to form a meaningful **hierarchical** part organization.



# SYMH construction



Part segmentation

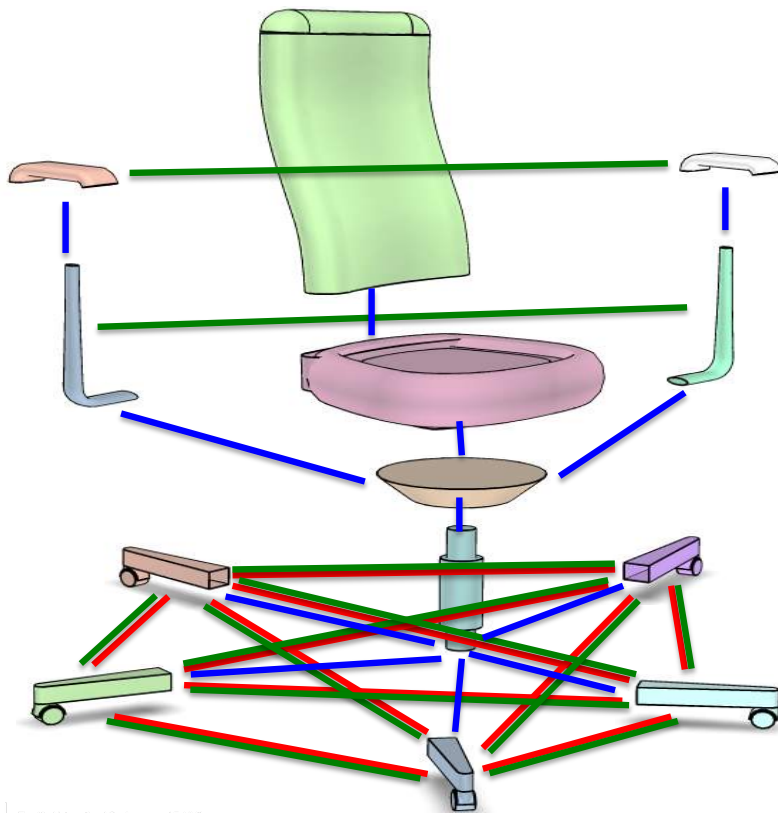


Symmetry detection



# Initial graph

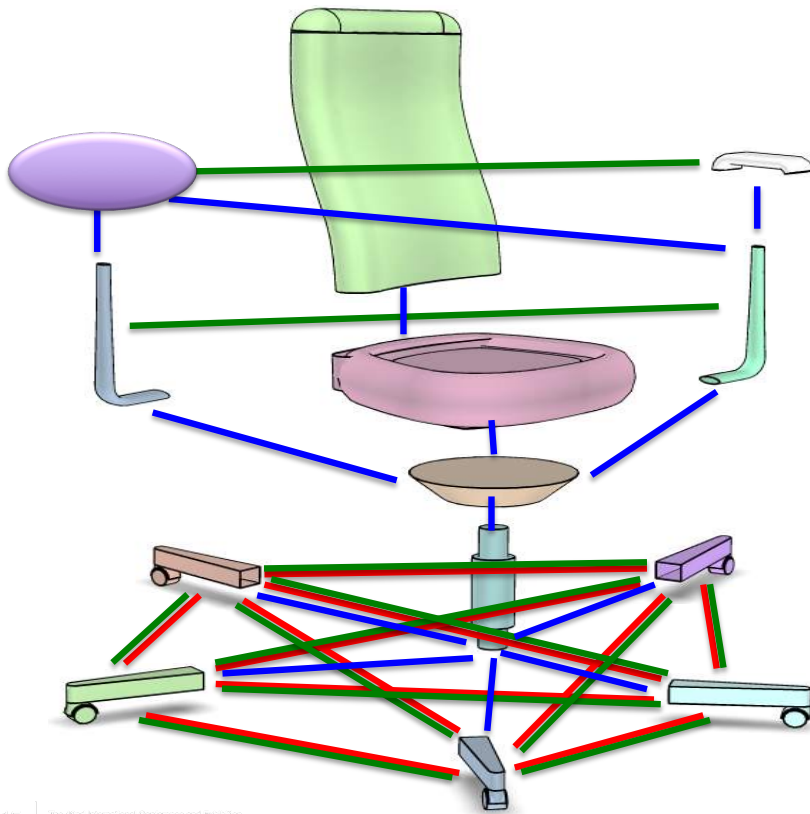
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- Rotational symmetry
- Reflection symmetry
- Connectivity

# Bottom-up graph contraction

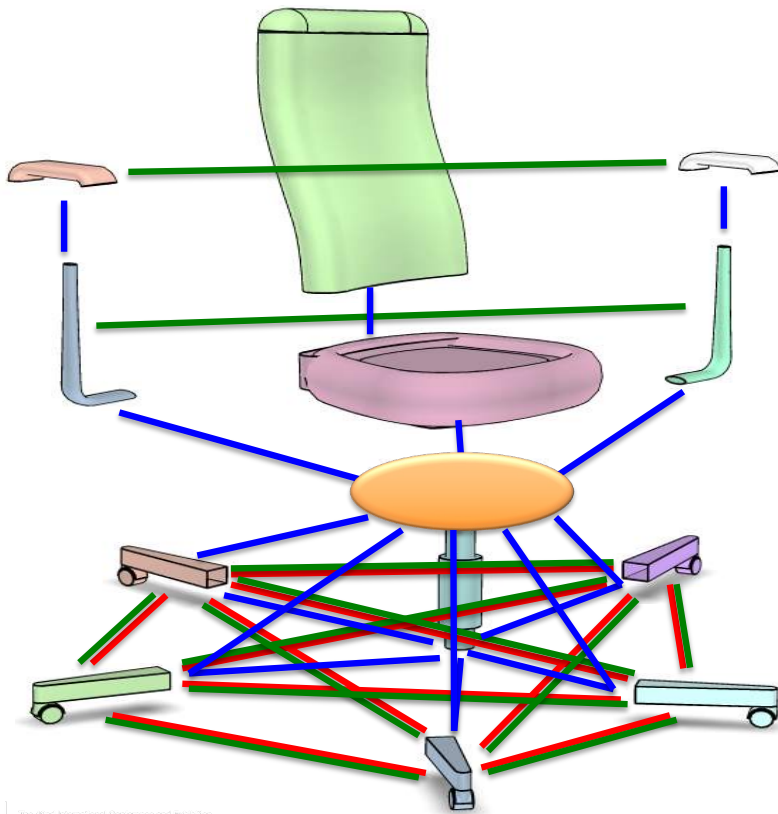
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Two operations:  
Grouping by symmetry

# Bottom-up graph contraction

---



Two operations:

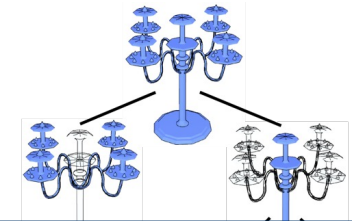
Grouping by symmetry

Assembly by proximity

# SYMH: a fundamental shape representation

---

- **Structure-aware**: hierarchical part organization
- **Functionality-aware** (just a bit): symmetric parts tend to perform the same function
- **Decouples structure and (part) geometry**



Can SYMH be **generative**?

A good idea: with SYMH, we can decouple the learning and generation of shape structure and part geometry

## Can neural nets (NNs) be trained to learn SYMH?

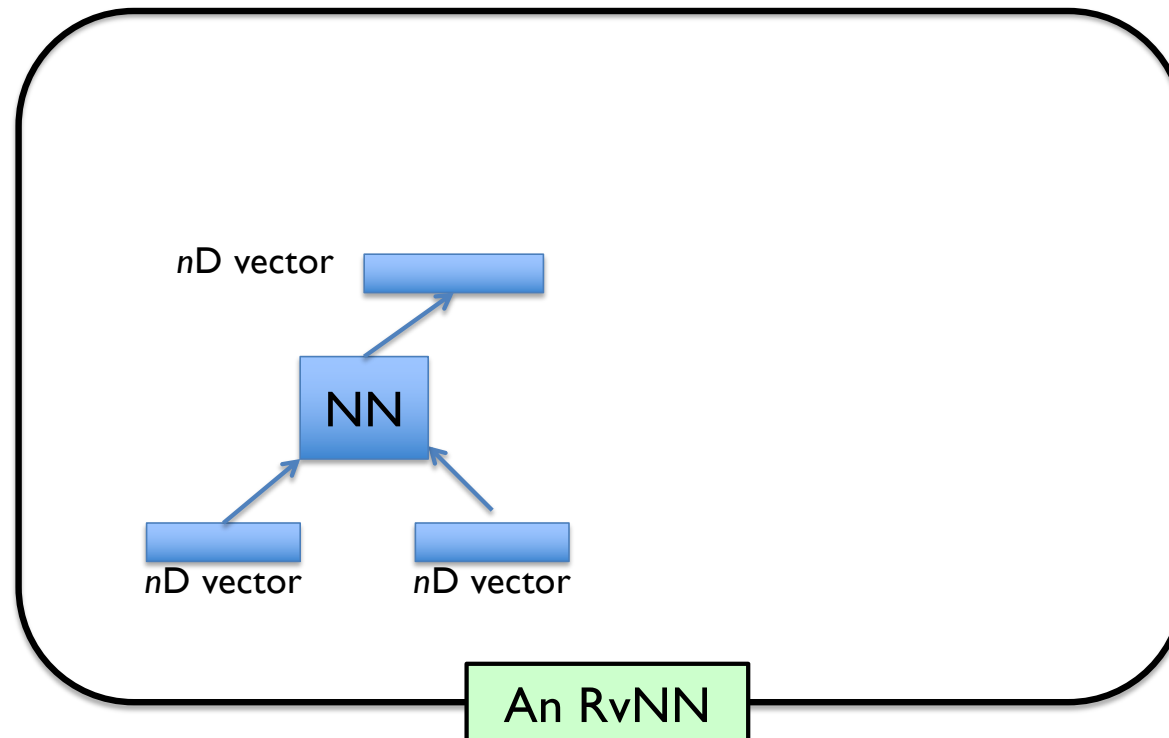
---

- Can we **encode** or “**vectorize**” SYMHs for NN processing?
- Can traditional convolutional NNs work for SYMHs?

SYMH is a **structural** shape representations (an organization of parts). We need a different kind of NN.

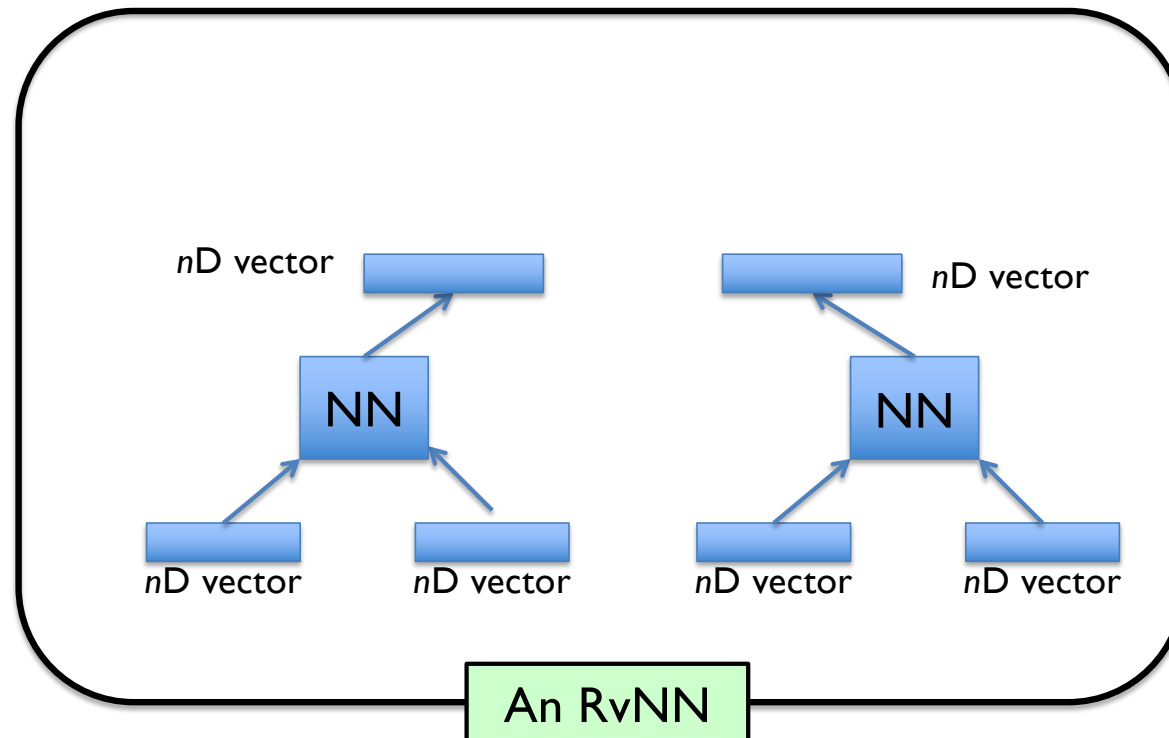
# Recursive neural network (RvNN $\neq$ Recurrent NN)

- A **tree** structure where **each node is a neural network**



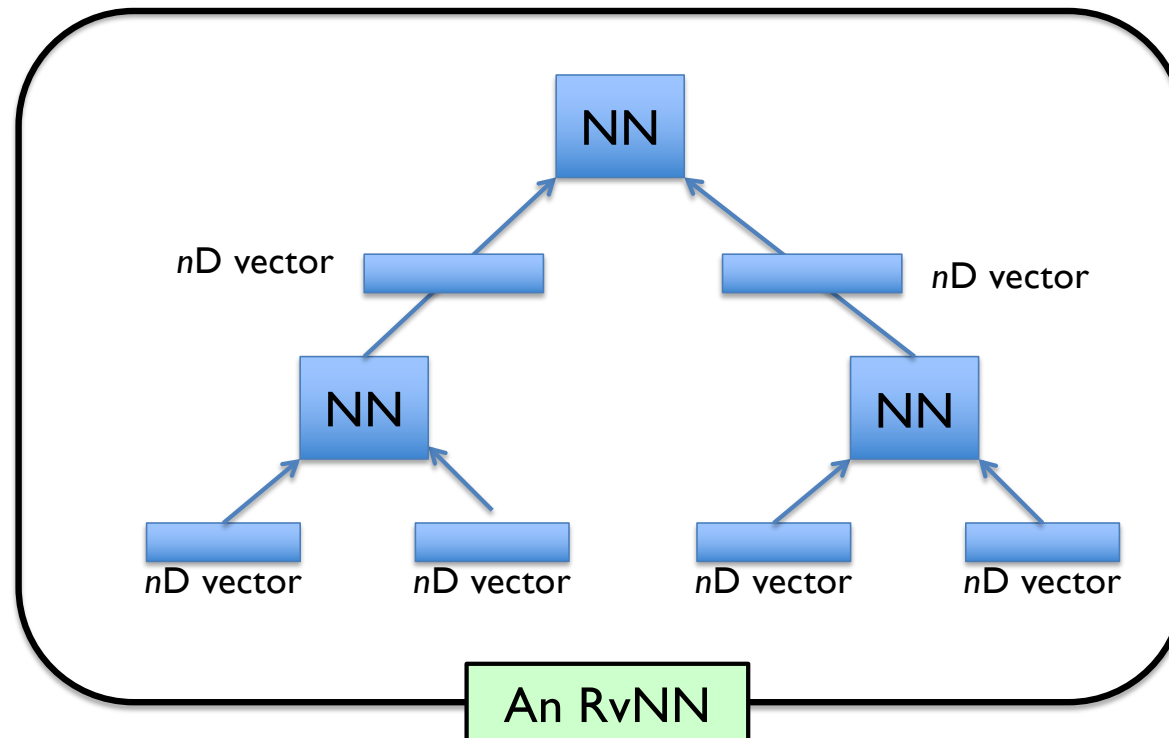
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# Recursive neural network (RvNN $\neq$ Recurrent NN)

- A **tree** structure where **each node is a neural network**



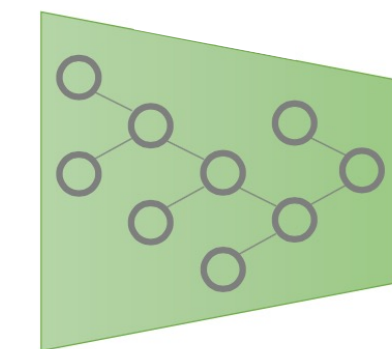


# Learn SYMH using RvNNs

---

- A shape structure is represented by an **arrangement of boxes**
- Each box is encoded as a fix-dim vector: **leaves** of the SYMH

Box  
arrangement

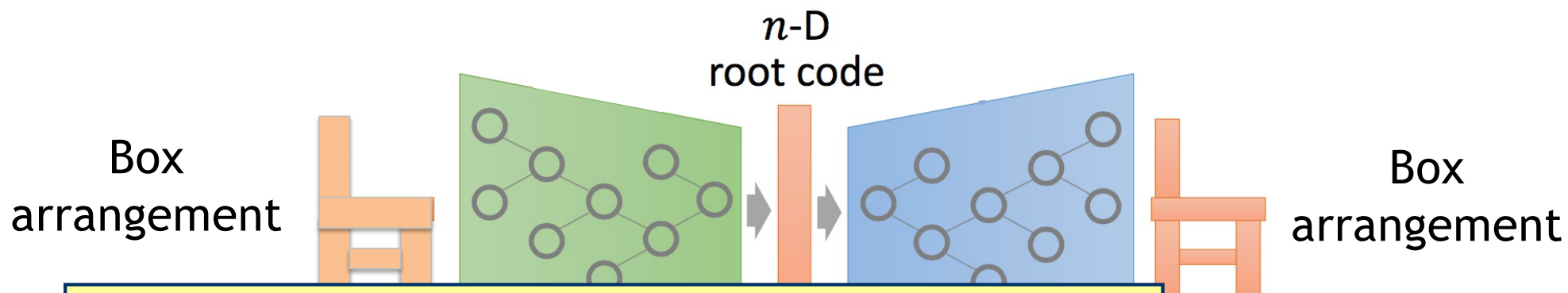


RvNN

How to define the network loss?

## RvNNs into recursive autoencoder (RAE)

- RAE encoder turns box arrangements into a root code, recursively
- RAE decoder turns a code into a SYMH, recursively
- Network loss is the **reconstruction loss** summed over boxes

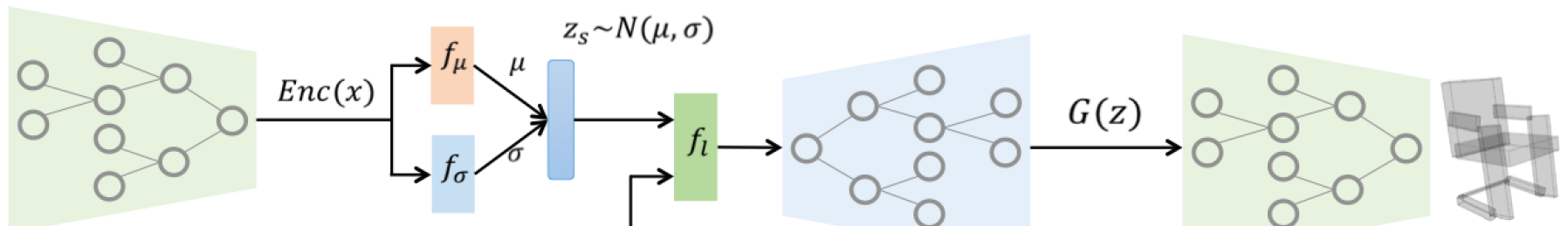


RAE decoder can be refined into a **generative model**, allowing generation of new SYMHs

[Li et al. SIG 2017]

# Generative Recursive Autoencoder: GRASS

- Change AE loss to GAN loss to learn a manifold of plausible codes
- Part geometry is learned by yet another neural network
- Generation: sample root code  $\rightarrow$  SYMH  $\rightarrow$  fills in part geometry

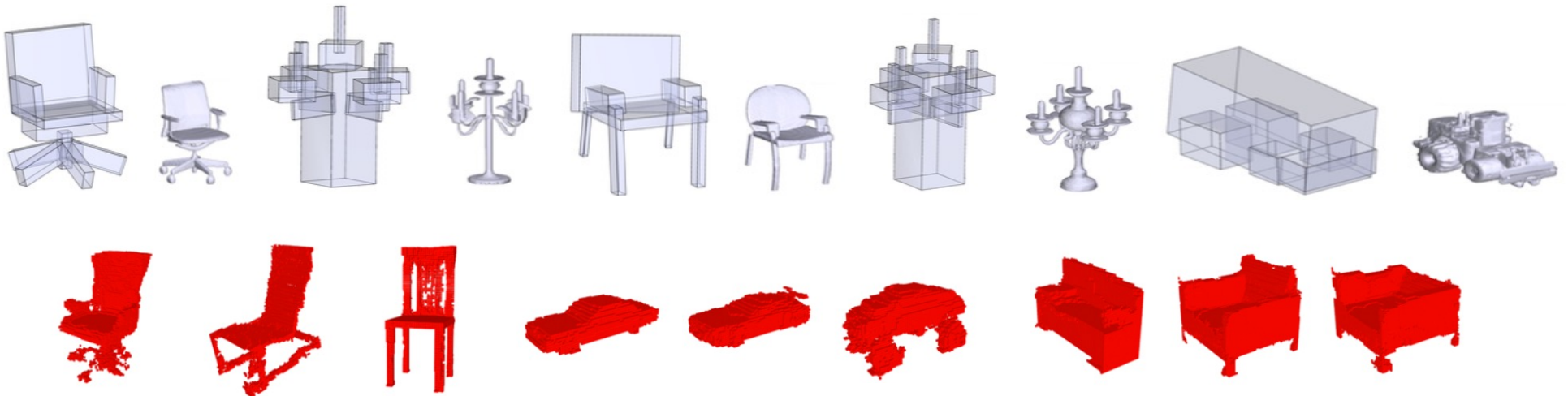


Key idea again: **de-couple** generation of shape structures (SYMHs) and generation of shape geometries.

# 3D shape generation results

[Li et al. SIG 2017]

- First neural network to learn multi-attribute structural graphs
- Coarse-to-fine synthesis: structure-aware; high-res; clean parts



Results from voxel-based 3D-GAN [Wu et al. NIPS 2016]

# Main works covered

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[Wang et al. 2011] Yanzhen Wang, Kai Xu, Jun Li, Hao Zhang, Ariel Shamir, Ligang Liu, Zhiqian Cheng, and Yueshan Xiong, “Symmetry Hierarchy of Man-Made Objects”, *Eurographics* 2011.

[Chen and Zhang 2019] Zhiqin Chen and Hao Zhang, “Learning Implicit Fields for Generative Shape Modeling”, submitted to *CVPR* 2019.

[Xu et al. 2012] Kai Xu, Hao Zhang, Daniel Cohen-Or, and Baoquan Chen, “Fit and Diverse: Set Evolution for Inspiring 3D Shape Galleries”, *SIGGRAPH* 2012.

[Li et al. 2017] Jun Li, Kai Xu, Siddhartha Chaudhuri, Ersin Yumer, Hao Zhang, and Leonidas Guibas, “GRASS: Generative Recursive Autoencoders for Shape Structures”, *SIGGRAPH* 2017.

[Yi et al. 2017] Zili Yi, Hao Zhang, Ping Tan, and Minglun Gong, “DualGAN: Unsupervised Dual Learning for Image-to-Image Translation”, to appear in *ICCV* 2017.

[Li, Patil, et al. 2018] Manyi Li, Akshay Gadi Patil, Kai Xu, Siddhartha Chaudhuri, Owis Khan, Ariel Shamir, Changhe Tu, Baoquan Chen, Daniel Cohen-Or, and Hao Zhang, “GRAINS: Generative Recursive Autoencoder for INdoor Scenes”, *accepted with minor revision, ACM TOG* 2019.

[Yin et al. 2018] Kangxue Yin, Hui Huang, Daniel Cohen-Or, and Hao Zhang, “P2P-NET: Bi-Directional Point Displacement Net for Shape Transform”, *SIGGRAPH* 2018.

[Yin et al. 2019] Kangxue Yin, Zhiqin Chen, Hui Huang, Daniel Cohen-Or, and Hao Zhang, “LOGAN: Unpaired Shape Transform in Latent Overcomplete Space”, *SIGGRAPH Asia* 2019.