

Intro

- We propose a generative two-level model that simultaneously represents 3D shapes using two levels of granularity, one for capturing fine-grained detail, the other for encoding a coarse structural decomposition.
- The two levels are tightly coupled via a shared latent space, wherein a single latent code vector decodes to two representations of the same shape. Modifications to one representation can be propagated to the other via the shared code.
- The shared latent space is learnt with a variational auto decoder (VAD). This approach
 - imposes a Gaussian prior on the latent space, which enables sampling.
 - encourages a compact latent space suitable for interpolation and optimization based manipulation.

Coarse Primitive-based shape representation.

- A SDF specifies, for every point $P = (P_x, P_y, P_z)$, the distance from that point to the nearest surface, where the sign encodes whether the point is inside or outside.
- Denote a set of N basic shape primitives by tuples:

$$\{ (c^i, \alpha^i) \mid i=1 \dots N \}$$

where c^i describes the primitive type, and $\alpha^i \in \mathbb{R}^{k^i}$ describes the attributes of the primitives.

The dimensionality k^i denotes the dof for primitive i .

The SDF of a single element i is

$$d_{c^i}(P, \alpha^i) = \text{SDF}_{c^i}(P, \alpha^i)$$

An example of a simple geometric primitive is sphere;

$$k^{\text{sphere}} = 4$$

$$\alpha^{\text{sphere}} = [c, r]$$

$c = (c_x, c_y, c_z)$ is center

r is radius

$$d_{\text{sphere}}(P, \alpha^{\text{sphere}}) = \|P - c\|_2 - r$$

- to approximate the SDF of an arbitrarily complex shape, we construct the SDF of the union of geometric elements (spheres)

$$\alpha = [\alpha^1, \dots, \alpha^N]$$

$$d_c(P, \alpha) = \min_{1 \leq i \leq N} d_{c^i}(P, \alpha^i)$$

- To train the primitive-based model, given a target space x , eg. mesh, sample pairs of 3D points P_t and their gt SDF $s_t = \text{SDF}_x(P_t)$, α can be learnt by minimizing the difference between predicted and real SDF:

$$\hat{\alpha} = \arg \min_{\alpha} \sum_t L_{\text{SDF}}(d_c(P_t, \alpha), s_t).$$

High resolution shape representation.

Same with DeepSDF. directly learn the SDF with a neural network g_ϕ :

$$g_\phi(P) \approx \text{SDF}_x(P).$$

Learning a tightly coupled Latent Space.

- We learn a two-level shape representation over an entire class of shapes $\{x_j \mid j=1 \dots M\}$ by using two representation models that share the same latent code z_j .

- For representing multiple shapes with the primitive based coarse-level representation, we parameterize α with a neural network f_θ :

$$\alpha_j = f_\theta(z_j)$$

f_θ is shared for all shapes.

For the fine-scale, we condition the neural network g_ϕ on latent code z_j :

$$g_\phi(z_j, P) \approx \text{SDF}_{x_j}(P).$$

VAD enforces a strong regularization on the latent space by representing the latent vector of each individual shape z_j with the parameters of its approximate posterior distribution (μ_j, σ_j) . \Downarrow

- We select the family of Gaussian distributions with diagonal covariance matrix as the approximate posterior of z , given shape x_j :

$$q(z \mid x=x_j) = \mathcal{N}(z; \mu_j, \sigma_j^2 \cdot \mathbf{I})$$

We apply the reparameterization trick, sampling $\epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \mathbf{I})$ and setting $z_j = \mu_j + \sigma_j \odot \epsilon$ to allow optimization of μ_j, σ_j via GD.

During training, we max. the lower bound of the marginal likelihood (ELBO) over the dataset, which is the sum over lower bound of each individual shape x :

$$\log p_{\theta, \phi}(x) \geq \mathbb{E}_{z \sim q(z|x)} [\log p_{\theta, \phi}(x|z)] - D_{\text{KL}}(q(z|x) \parallel p(z)).$$

The learnable parameters are θ, ϕ , and variational parameters $\{(\mu_j, \sigma_j) \mid j=1 \dots M\}$, that parameterize $q(z|x)$.

- Since we'd like the two representations to be tightly coupled, i.e. both assign high probability density to a shape x_j given its latent code $z_j \sim q(z|x=x_j)$, we use a mixture model:

$$p_{\theta, \phi}(x|z) = \frac{p_\theta(x|z) + p_\phi(x|z)}{2}$$

$p_\theta(x|z)$, $p_\phi(x|z)$ are the posterior distributions of coarse and fine representations.

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \log p_\theta(x|z) &= -\lambda_1 \int p(p) L_{\text{SDF}}(d_c(p, f_\theta(z)), \text{SDF}_x(p)) dp \\ \log p_\phi(x|z) &= -\lambda_2 \int p(p) L_{\text{SDF}}(g_\phi(z, p), \text{SDF}_x(p)) dp. \end{aligned} \right\}$$

Eg. above can be approximated via Monte Carlo, where p is sampled randomly from the 3D space following a specific rule $p(p)$.