

# **Laplace Operator and Heat Kernel for Shape Analysis**

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# Laplace Operator

- on  $\mathbb{R}^k$ , the standard Laplace operator:
  - $\Delta_{\mathbb{R}^k} f := \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_1^2} + \cdots + \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_k^2}$
  - $\Delta_{\mathbb{R}^k} f := \mathbf{div} \nabla f$

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  - $\Delta_{\mathbb{R}^k} f := \mathbf{div} \nabla f$
- on a Riemannian manifold  $(M, g)$ , Laplace-Beltrami operator:
  - $\Delta_M f := \mathbf{div} \nabla f$
  - $\Delta_M f := \frac{1}{\sqrt{\det g}} \sum_{i,j} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^j} (g^{ij} \sqrt{\det g} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x^i})$

# Laplace Operator

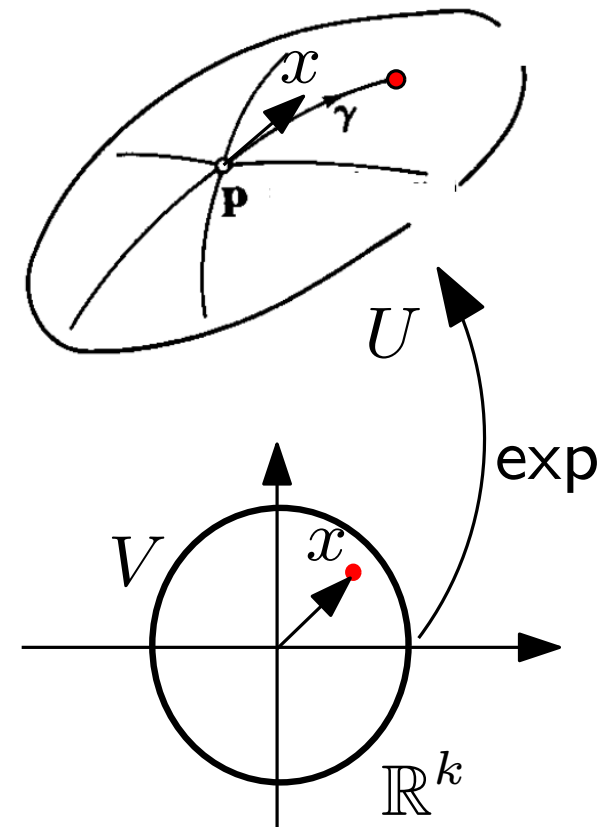
- on a Riemannian manifold, Laplace-Beltrami operator:

- Exponential map:  $\exp : V \subset \mathbb{R}^k \rightarrow U$   
by  $\exp(x) = \gamma(p, x, 1)$

- $\tilde{f}(x) = f(\exp(x))$

- $\Delta_M f := \Delta_{\mathbb{R}^k} \tilde{f} = \frac{\partial^2 \tilde{f}}{\partial x_1^2} + \cdots + \frac{\partial^2 \tilde{f}}{\partial x_k^2}$

- Laplace-Beltrami operator is invariant under the map preserving geodesics



# Eigenvalues and eigenfunctions

- $\Delta_M \phi = \lambda \phi$ 
  - For compact manifold,  $\Delta_M$  is compact
  - $0 \leq \lambda_0 \leq \lambda_1 \leq \lambda_2 \leq \cdots$ ,  $\infty$  is the only accumulating point

# Eigenvalues and eigenfunctions

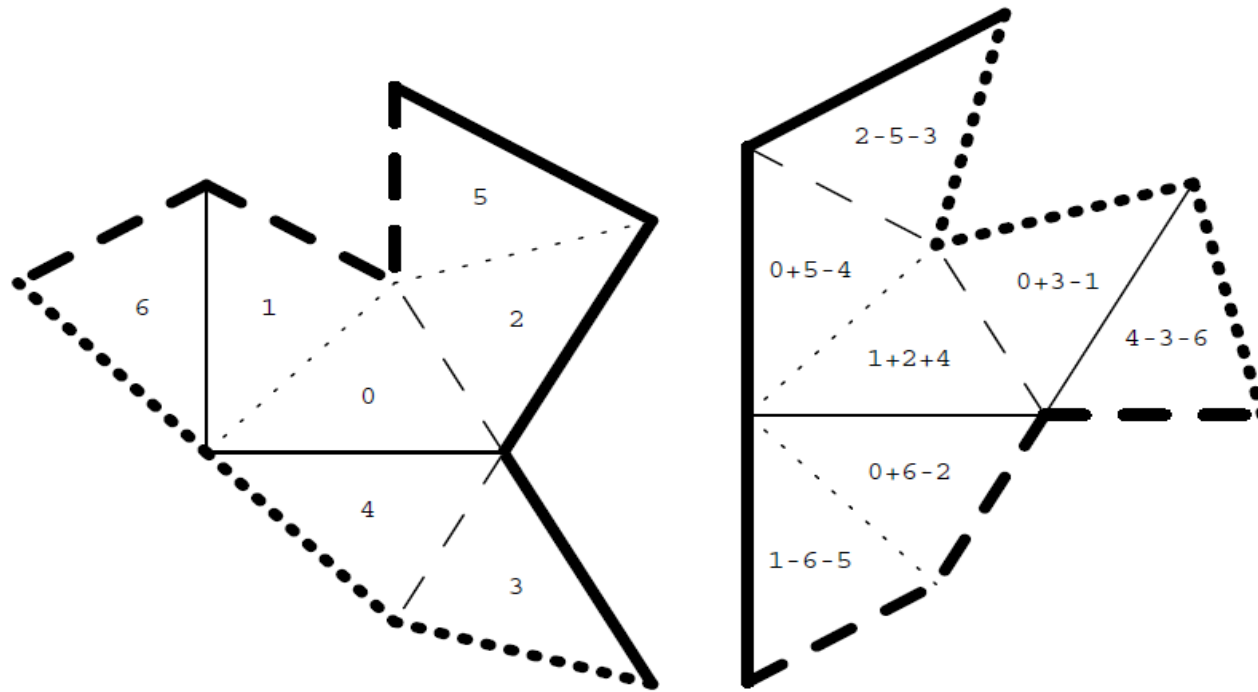
- $\Delta_M \phi = \lambda \phi$ 
  - For compact manifold,  $\Delta_M$  is compact
  - $0 \leq \lambda_0 \leq \lambda_1 \leq \lambda_2 \leq \dots$ ,  $\infty$  is the only accumulating point
- Spectrum: eigenvalues
  - $\lambda_n \sim 4\pi^2 \left( \frac{n}{w_d \text{Vol}(M)} \right)^{2/d}$  as  $n \uparrow \infty$
  - heat trace:  $\sum_i e^{\lambda_i t} = \frac{1}{(4\pi t)^{d/2}} \sum_i c_i t.$ 
    - $c_0 = \text{vol}(M), c_1 = \frac{1}{3} \int s.$

# Spectrum

- isospectrality
  - “Can you hear the shape of a drum” [Kac 1966]
  - “Does the spectrum determines the shape upto isometry

# Spectrum

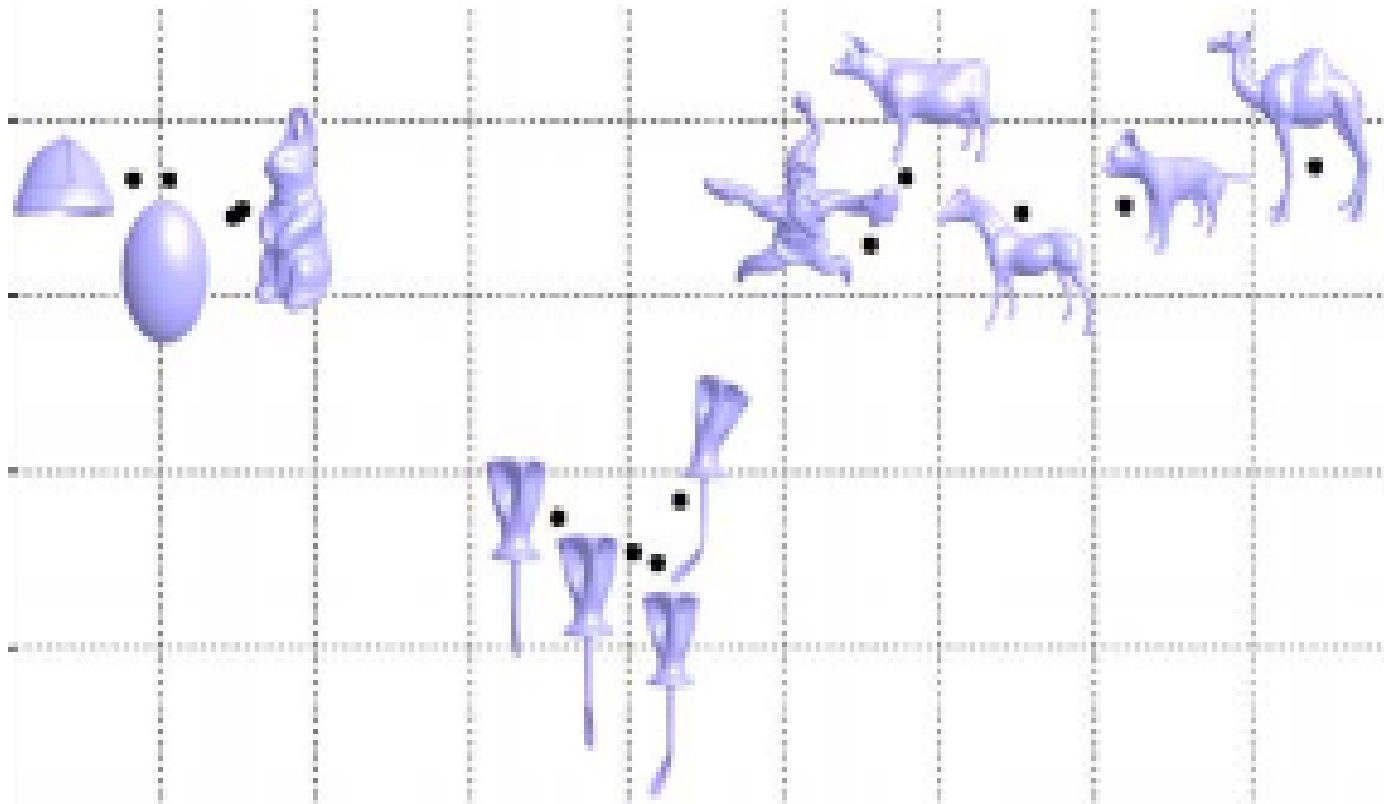
- isospectrality
  - “Can you hear the shape of a drum” [Kac 1966]
  - “Does the spectrum determines the shape upto isometry
  - negative [Gordon et al. 1992, Buser et al. 1992]





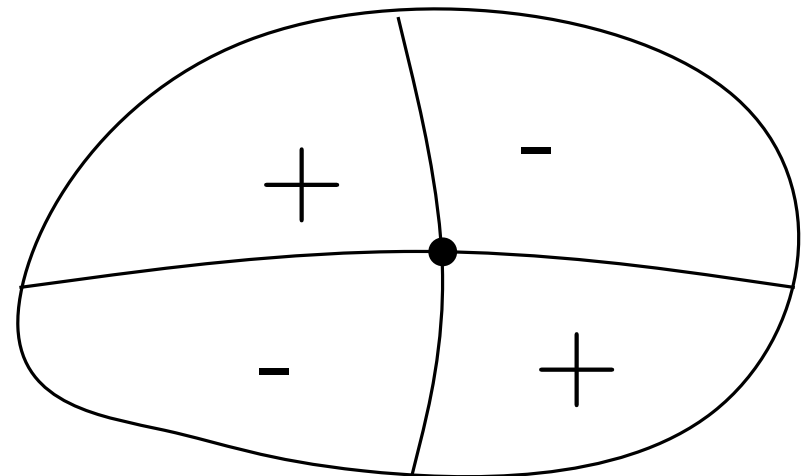
# Spectrum

- Spectrum: shape DNA [Reuter et al. 2006]



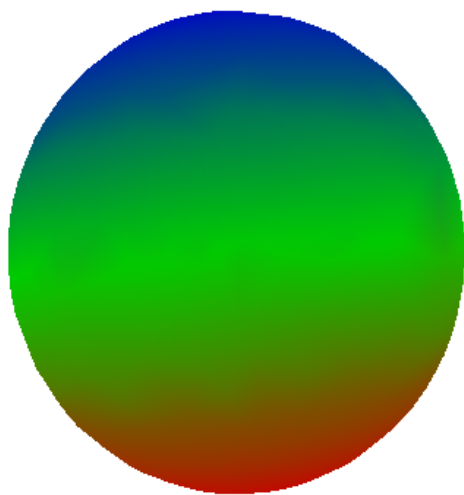
# Eigenfunctions

- $\Delta_M \phi = \lambda \phi$ ,  $(M, g)$  is  $C^\infty$ -manifold
  - nodal set:  $\phi^{-1}(0)$ ,  
nodal domain: the connected component of  $M \setminus \phi^{-1}(0)$
  - Nodal domain theorem [Courant and Hilbert 1953, Cheng 1976]: # of nodal domains of the  $i$ -th eigenfunction  $\leq i + 1$
  - Properties of Nodal Set [Cheng 1976]: Except on a closed set of lower dimension(i.e.,  $\dim < d - 1$ ) the nodal set off forms an  $(d - 1)$ -dim  $C^\infty$ -manifold.

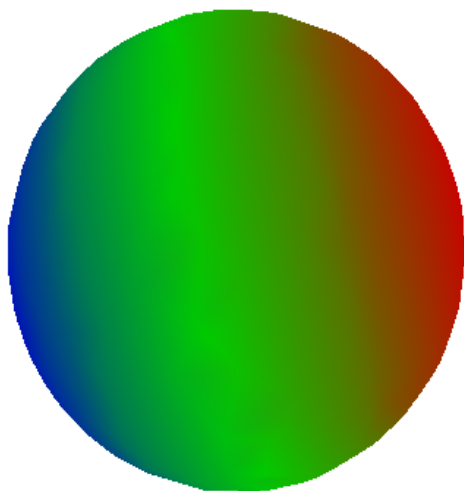


# Examples

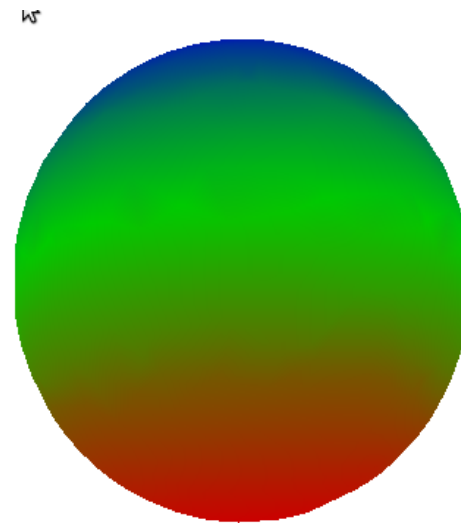
- sphere ( $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 1$ )



$$\lambda_1 = 2(1.91)$$



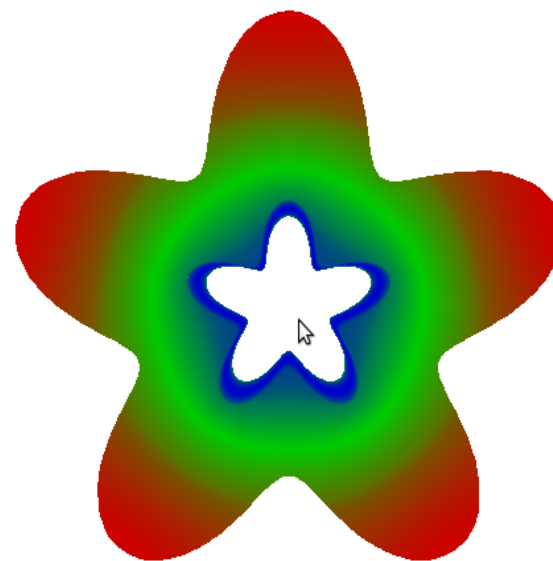
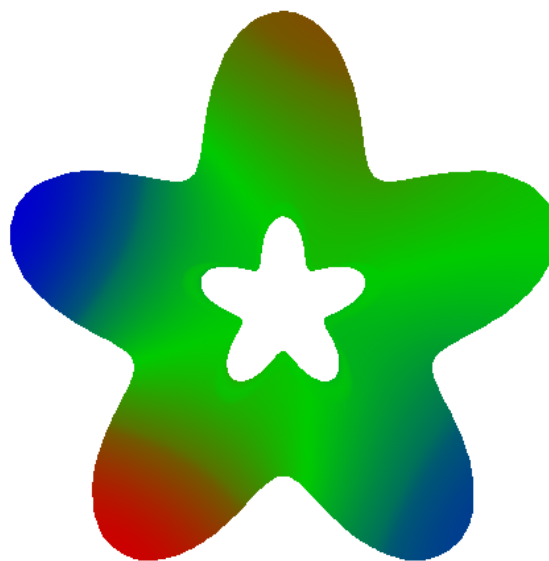
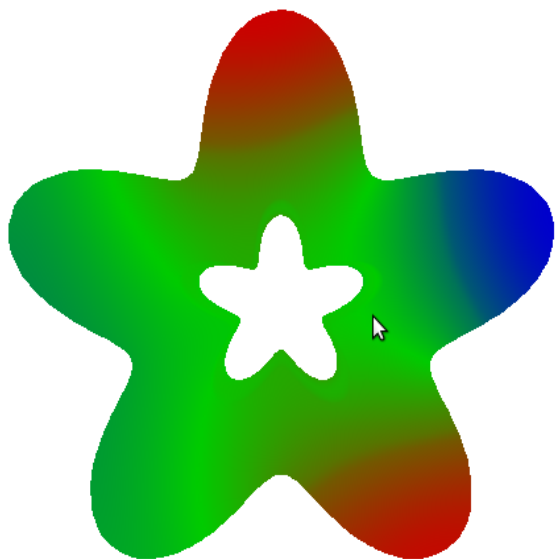
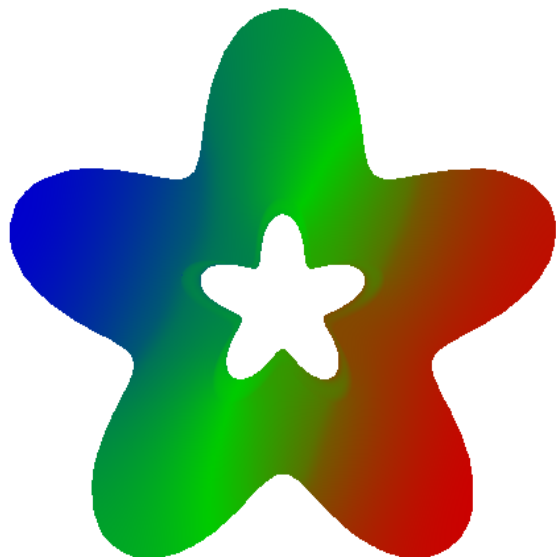
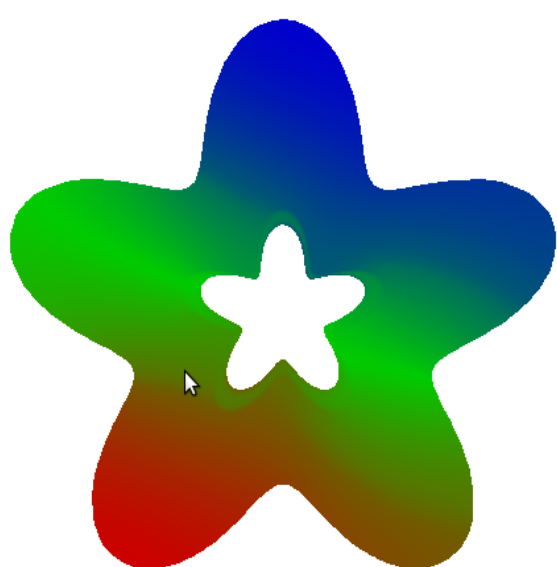
$$\lambda_2 = 2(1.92)$$



$$\lambda_1 = 2(1.93)$$

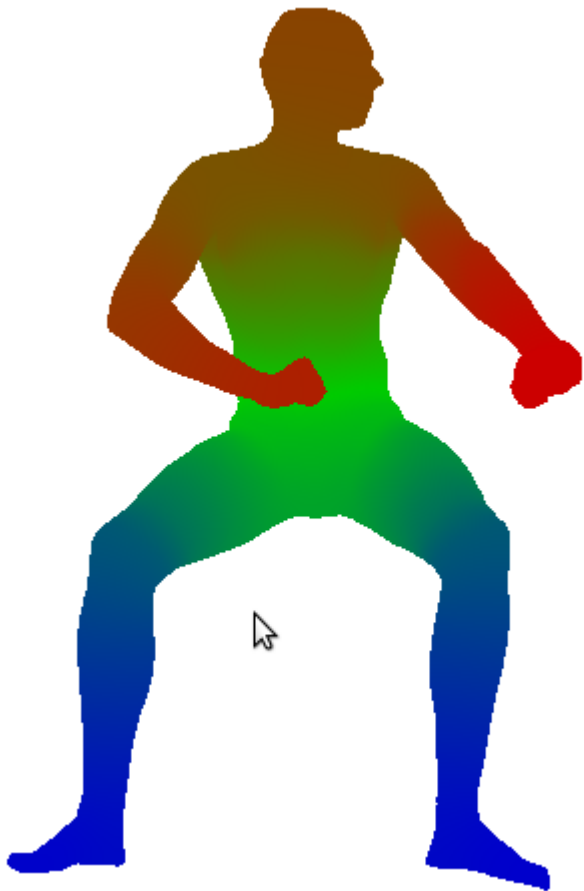
# Examples

- star



# Examples

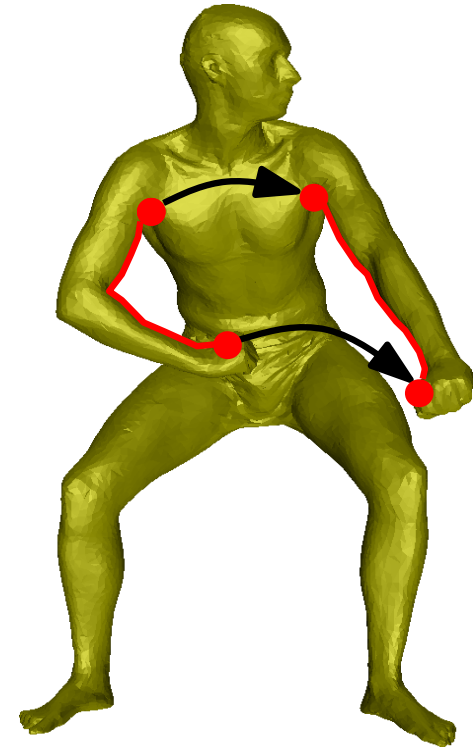
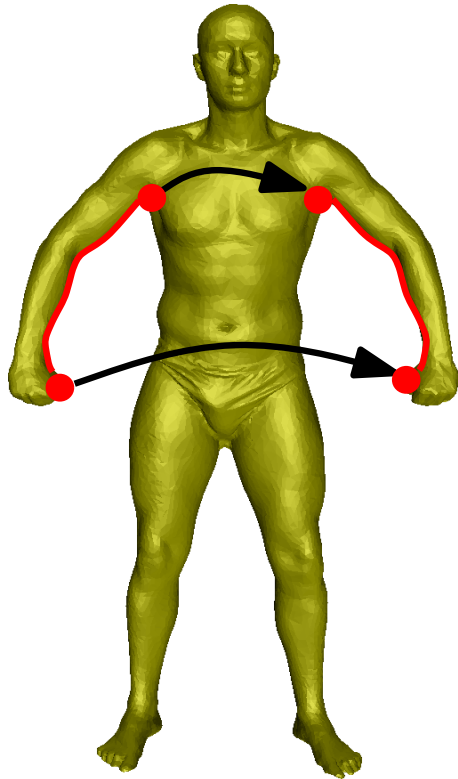
- human



# **Intrinsic Symmetry Detection**

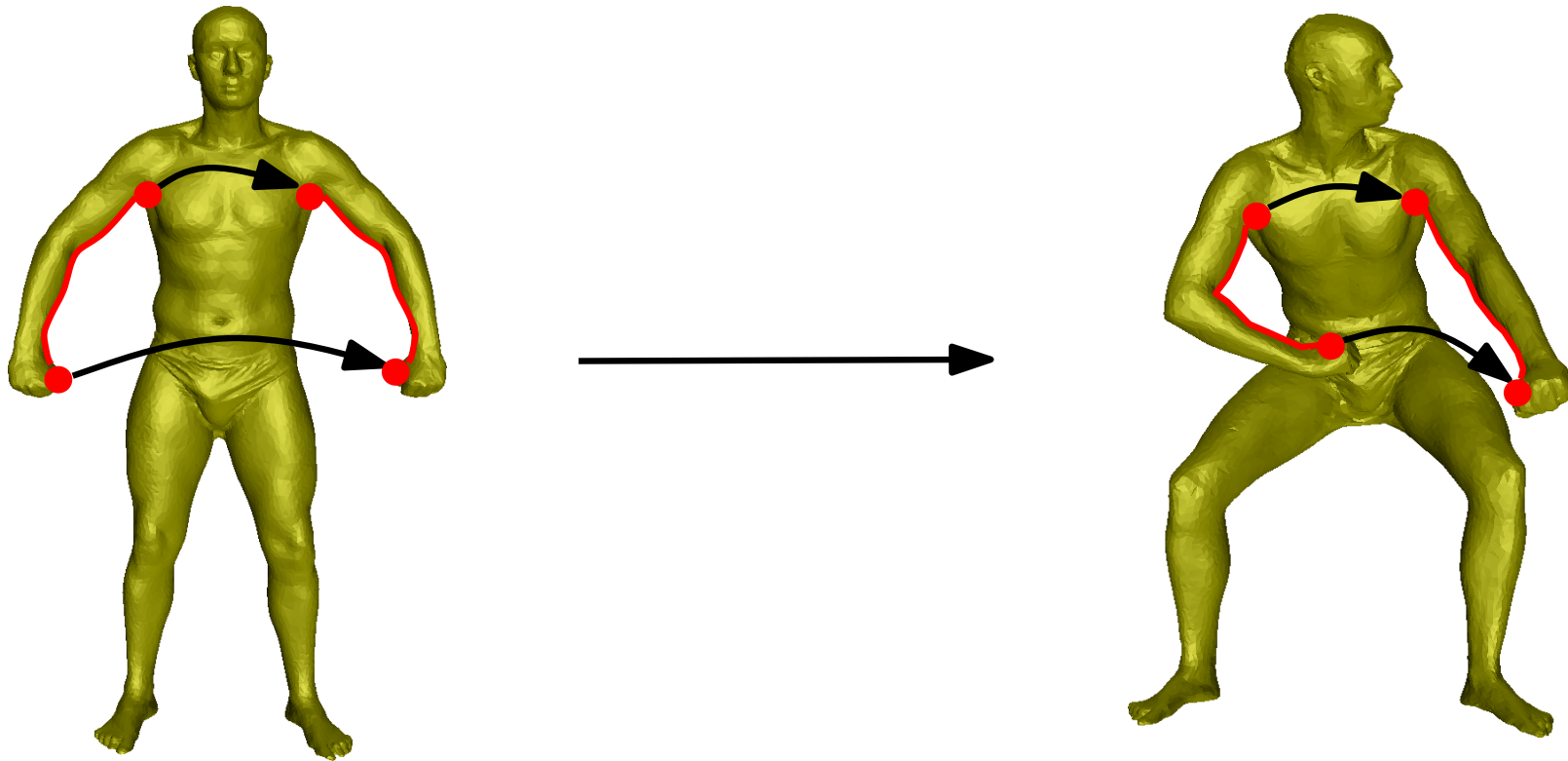
# Intrinsic Symmetry

- intrinsic symmetry: a self map preserving geodesic distances



# Intrinsic Symmetry

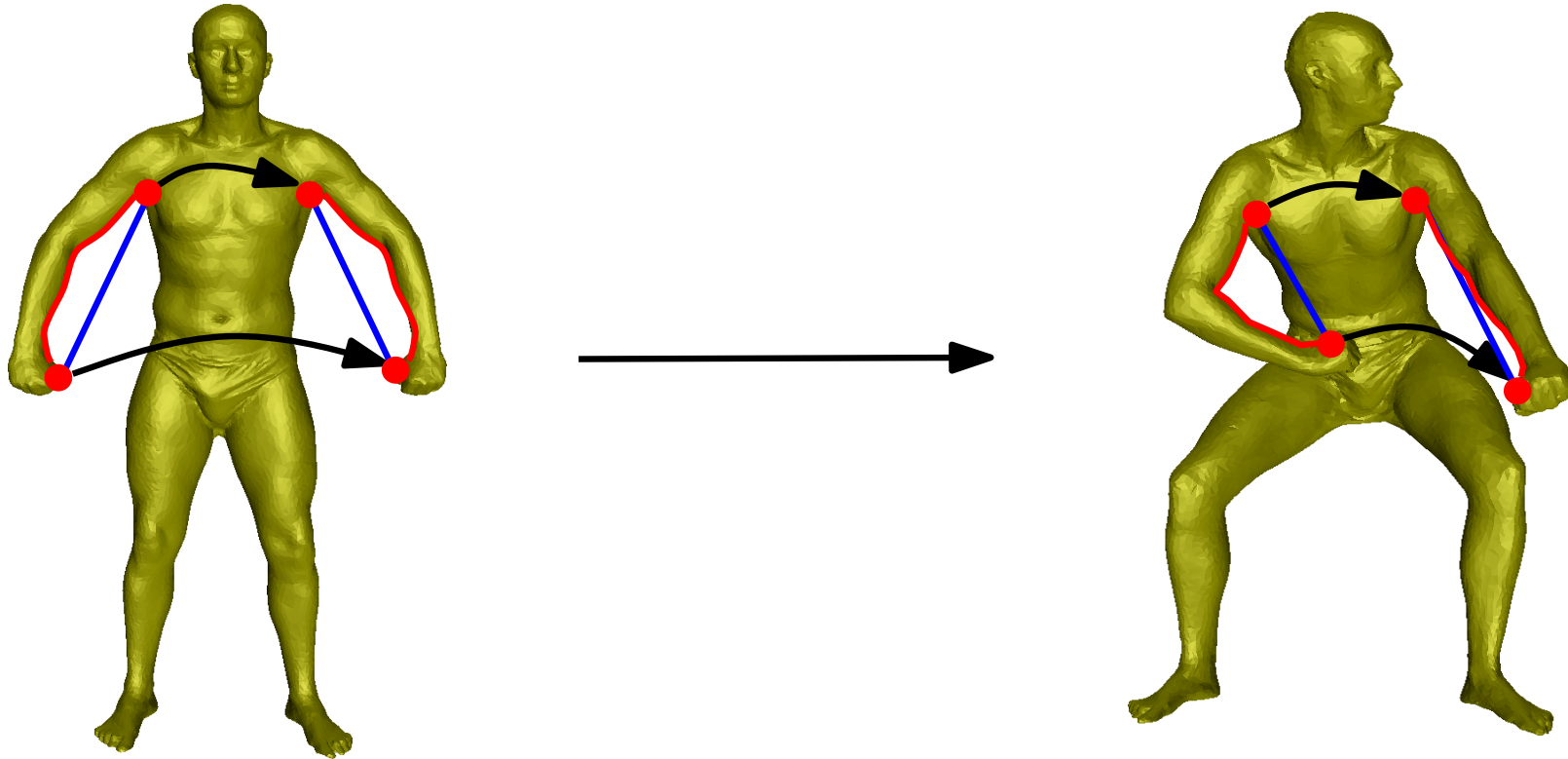
- intrinsic symmetry: a self map preserving geodesic distances
  - invariant under non-rigid transformations





# Intrinsic Symmetry

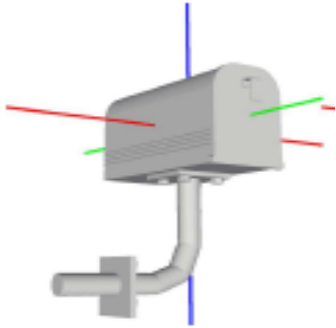
- intrinsic symmetry: a self map preserving geodesic distances
  - invariant under non-rigid transformations



- extrinsic symmetry: rotation and reflection
  - preserve Euclidean distances
  - invariant only under rigid transformations

# Related Work

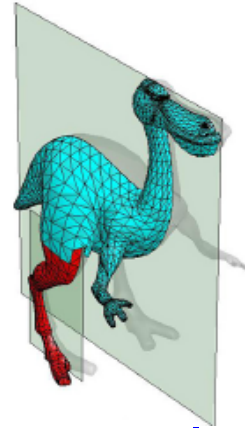
- extrinsic symmetry



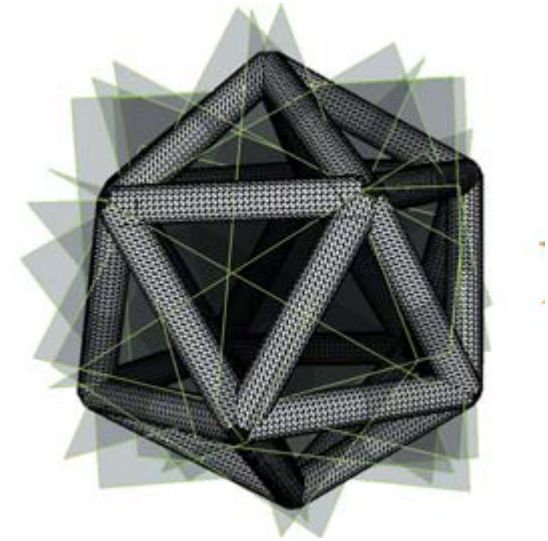
[Podolak et al. 06]



[Mitra et al. 06]



[Shimari et al. 06]



[Martinet et al. 07]

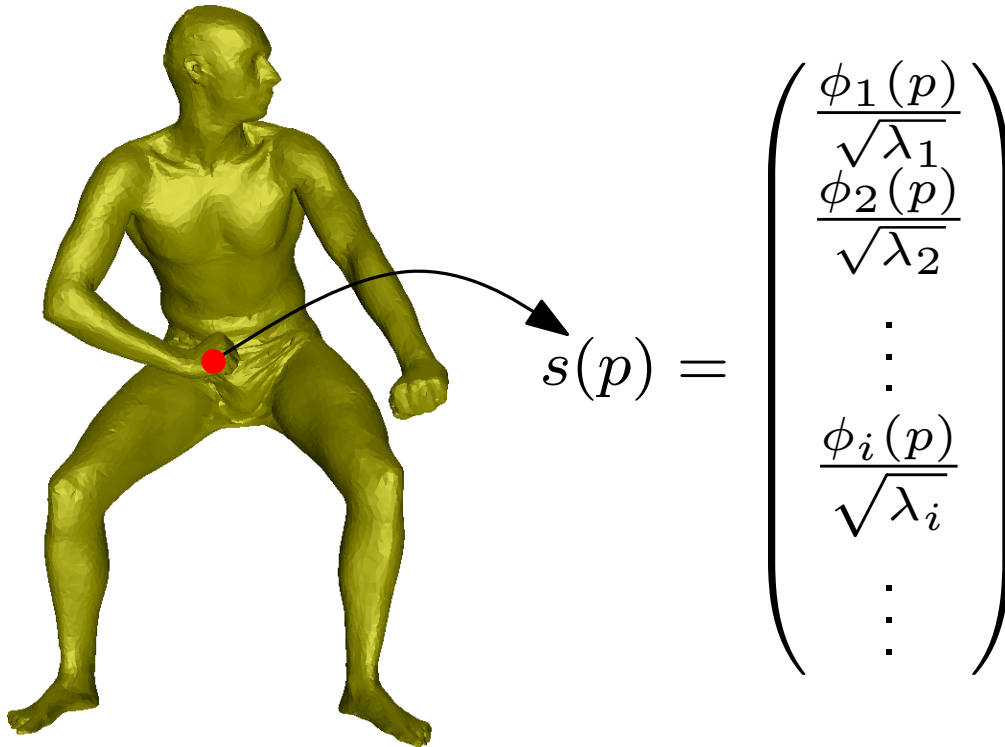
- intrinsic symmetry
  - difficulty: no simple characterization

# Global Point Signature

- our strategy: reduce intrinsic to extrinsic
- our tool: eigenfunctions  $\phi_i$  and eigenvalues  $\lambda_i$  of  $\Delta_M$

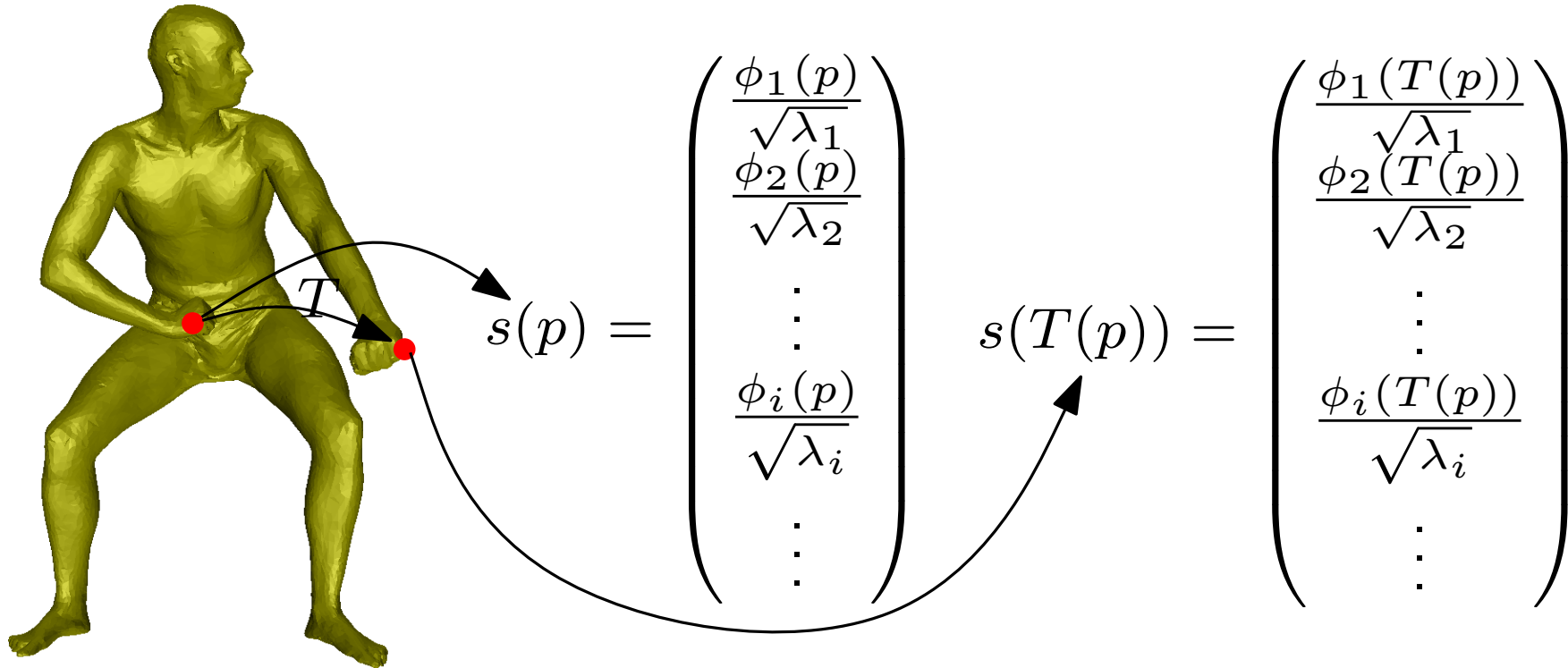
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- for each point  $p$  on  $M$ , its GPS [\[Rustamov 07\]](#)



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- relation between  $s(p)$  and  $s(T(p))$ ?

# Transforming Theorem

**Theorem:** For a compact manifold  $M$ ,  $T$  is an intrinsic symmetry **if and only if** there is a transformation  $R$  such that  $R(s(p)) = s(T(p))$  for each point  $p \in M$  and  $R$  restricting to any eigenspace is a rigid transformation.

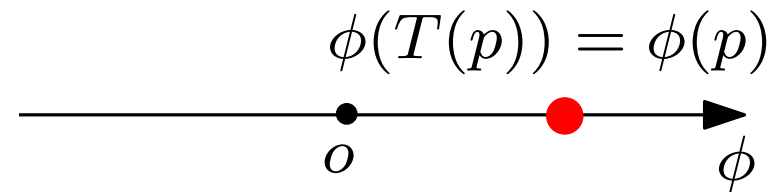
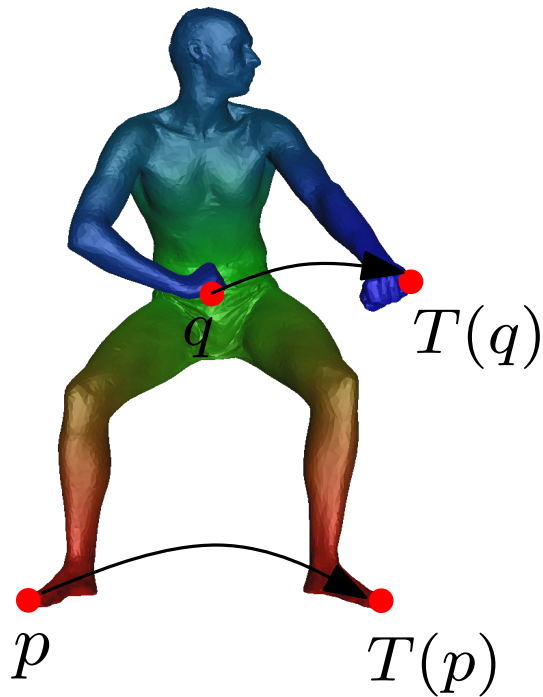
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- “only if” part

# Eigenfunctions and Intrinsic Symmetry

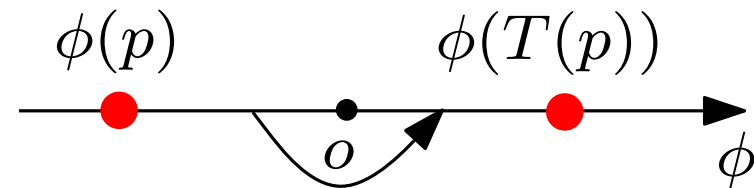
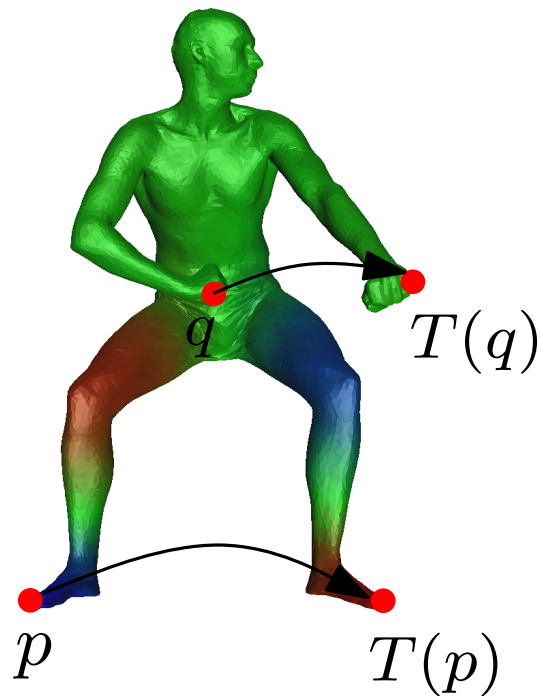
1.  $\phi = \phi \circ T$ : **positive** eigenfunction
2.  $\phi = -\phi \circ T$ : **negative** eigenfunction
3.  $\lambda$  is a repeated eigenvalue





# Eigenfunctions and Intrinsic Symmetry

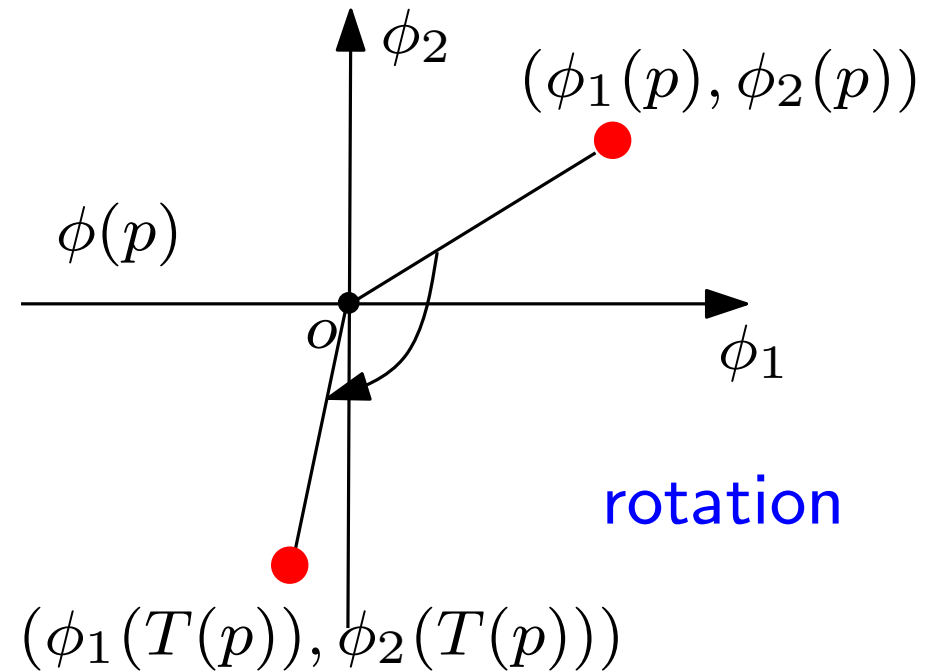
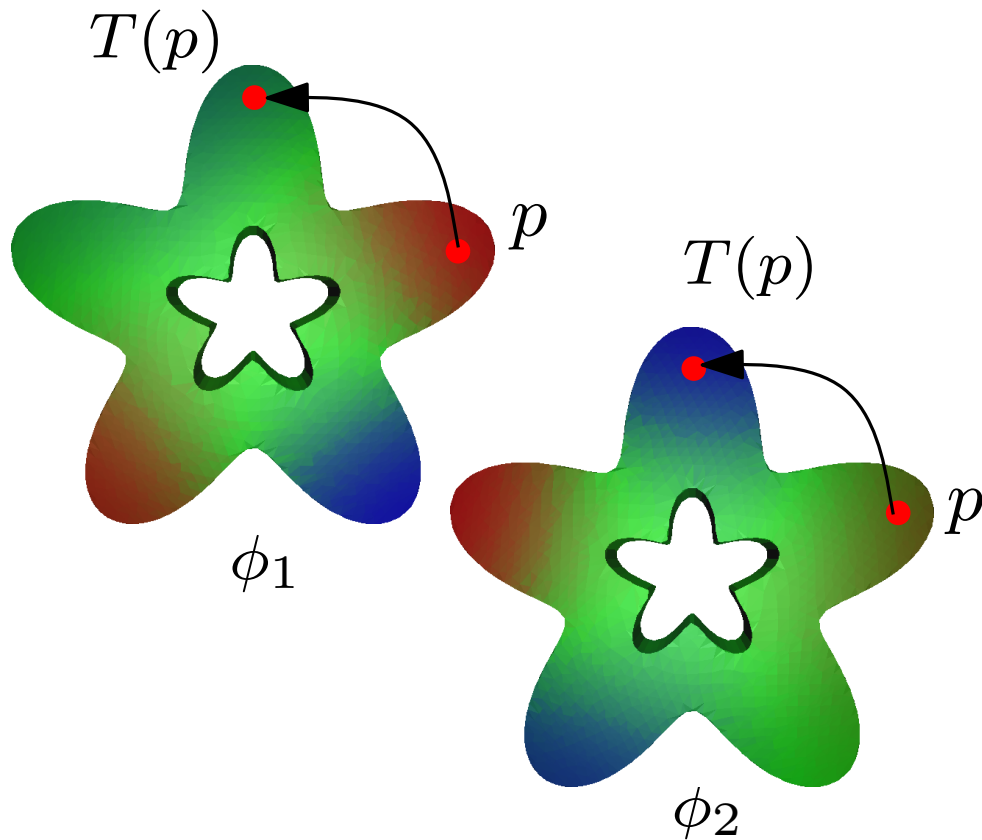
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reflection

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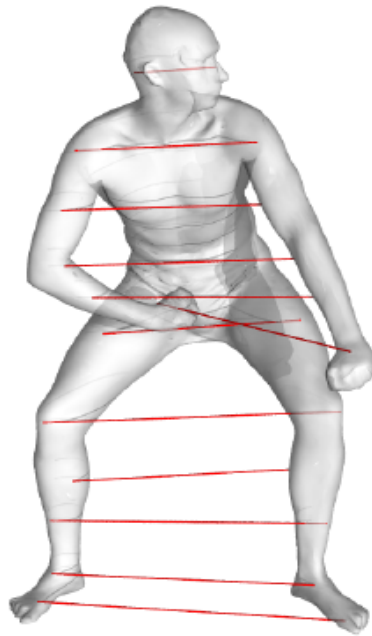
- one to one correspondence between  $T$  and  $R$ 
  - $T$  is an identity  $\Leftrightarrow R$  is an identity

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- one to one correspondence between  $T$  and  $R$ 
    - $T$  is an identity  $\Leftrightarrow R$  is an identity
  - detection of intrinsic symmetry reduced to that of extrinsic rigid transformation
    - detection of extrinsic symmetry
- [Rus07, PSG06, MGP06, MSHS06]

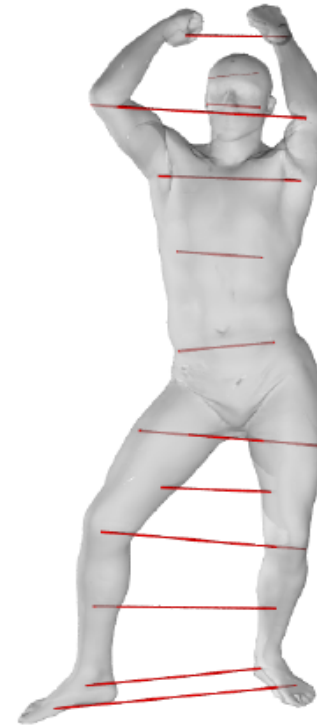
# Results



(a)



(b)



(c)

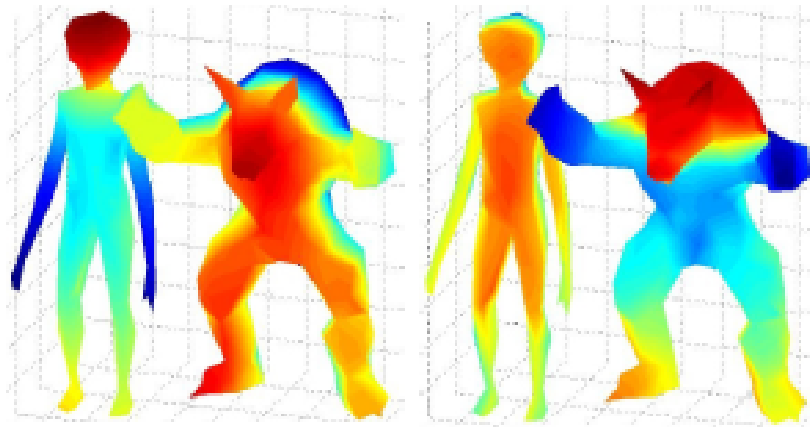
scans of a real person  
(SCAPE dataset)

# Limitation of Global Point Signature

- For any  $x$ , its GPS [Rus07]:

$$\text{GPS}_x = (\phi_1(x)/\sqrt{\lambda_1}, \phi_2(x)/\sqrt{\lambda_2}, \dots, \phi_i(x)/\sqrt{\lambda_i}, \dots)$$

- global
- not unique
  - orthonormal transformation within eigenspace
  - eigenfunction switching [GVL96]



courtesy of Jain and Zhang

# Heat Kernel Signature

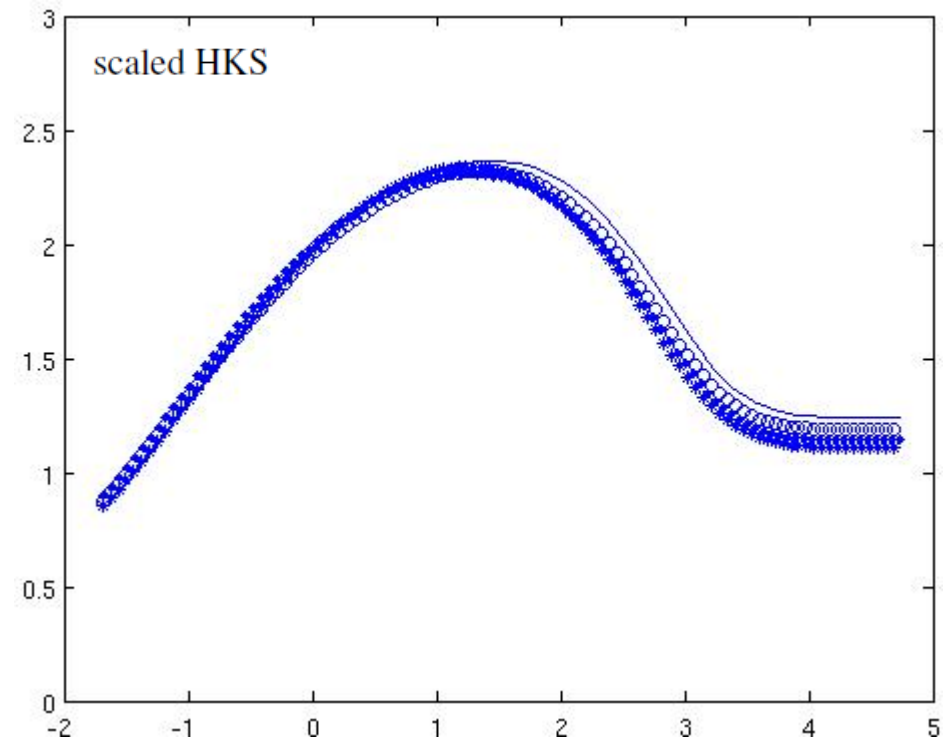
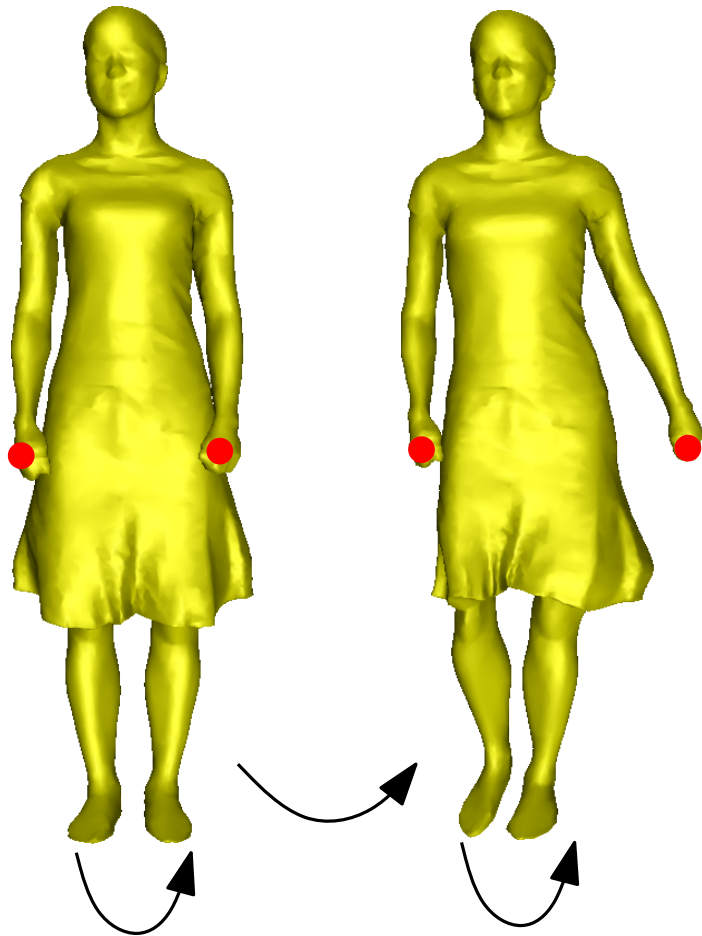


# Heat Kernel Signature

- define HKS for any point  $x$  as a function on  $\mathbb{R}^+$ :
  - $\text{HKS}_x : \mathbb{R}^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$

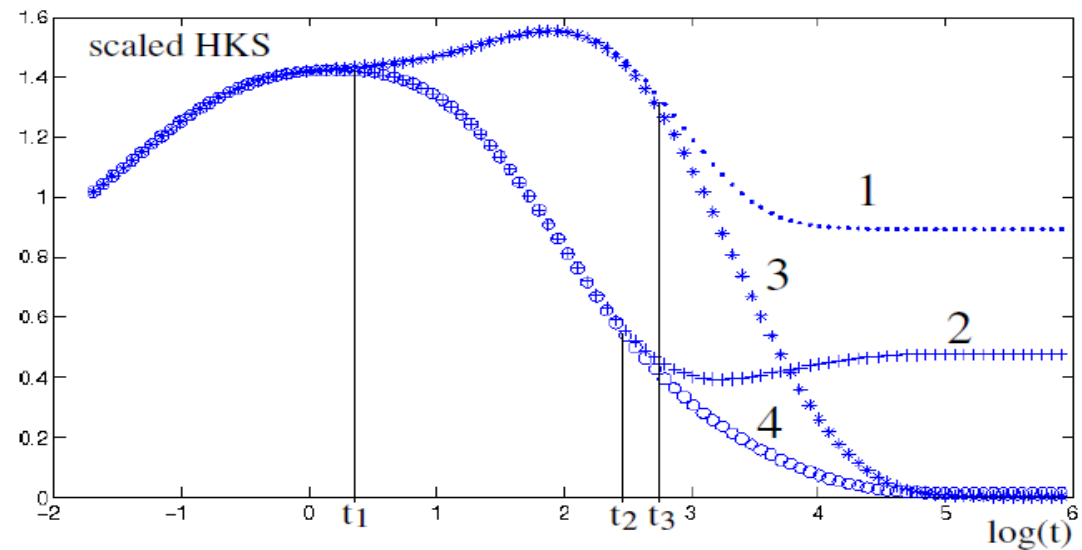
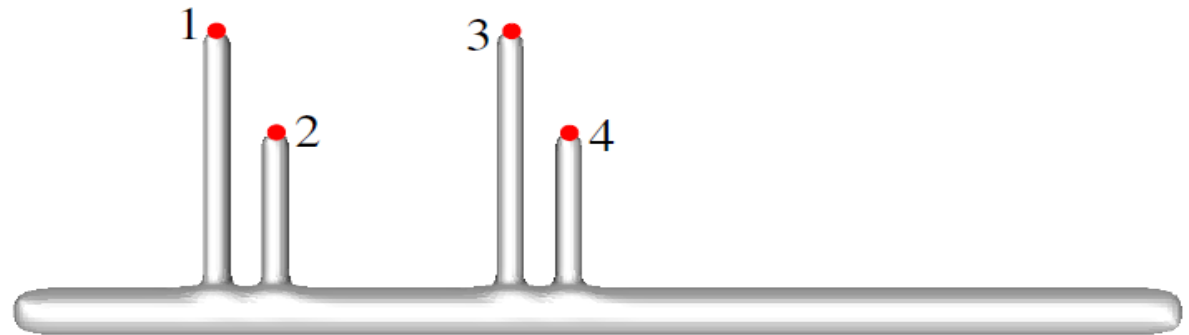
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- isometric invariant
- multi-scale

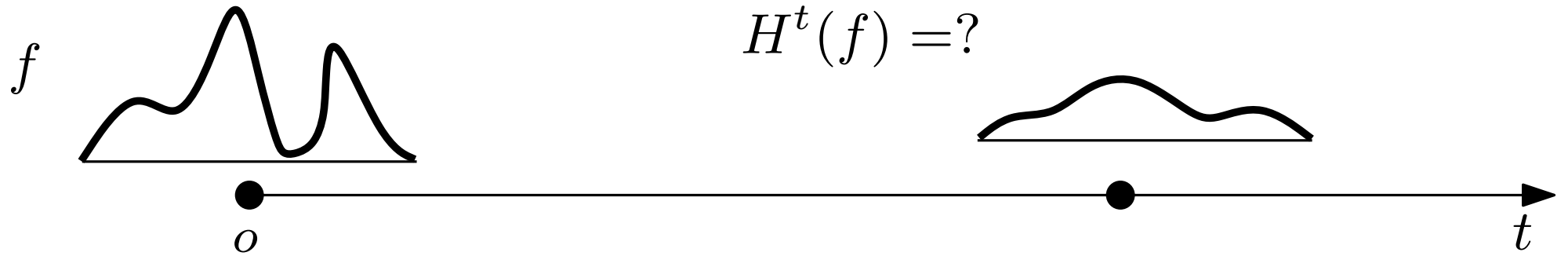


# Heat Kernel Signature

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  - $\text{HKS}_x : \mathbb{R}^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$
- isometric invariant
- multi-scale
- informative
  - $\{\text{HKS}_x\}_{x \in M}$  characterizes almost all shapes up to isometry.

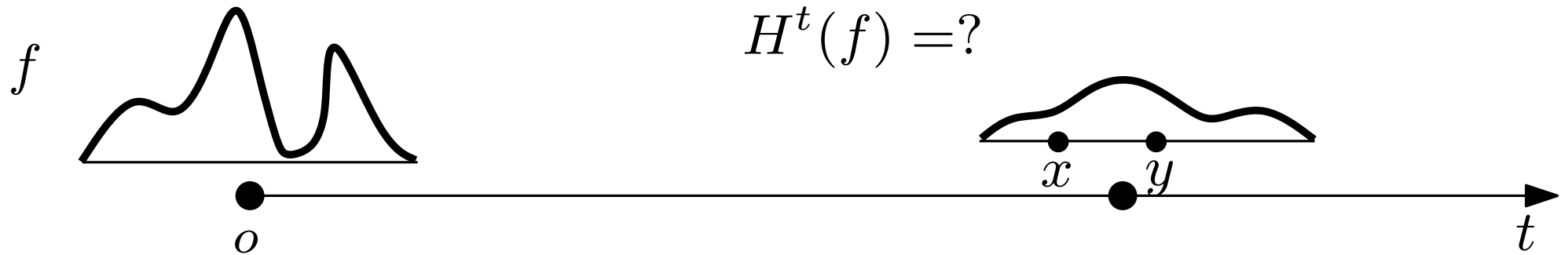
# Heat Diffusion Process

- how heat diffuses over time



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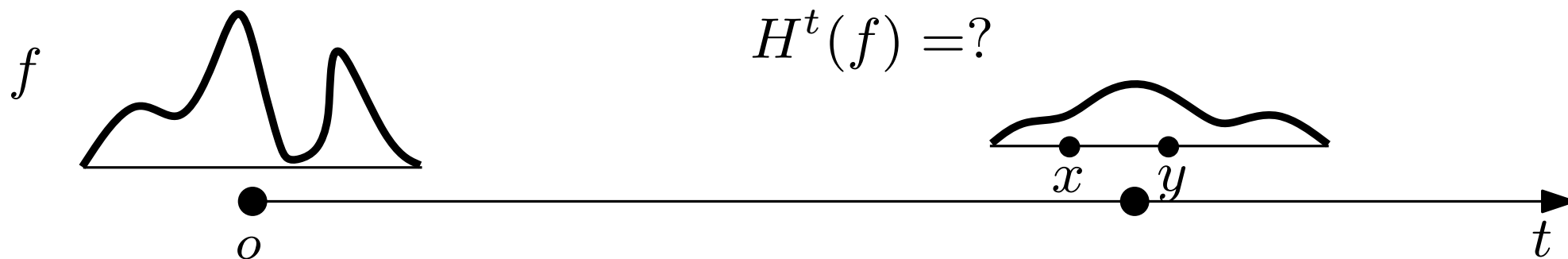
- how heat diffuses over time



- heat kernel  $k_t(x, y) : \mathbb{R}^+ \times M \times M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$ 
  - heat transferred from  $y$  to  $x$  in time  $t$
  - $H^t f(x) = \int_M k_t(x, y) f(y) dy$

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  - $k_t(x, y) = \sum_i e^{-\lambda_i t} \phi_i(x) \phi_i(y)$

# Heat Kernel

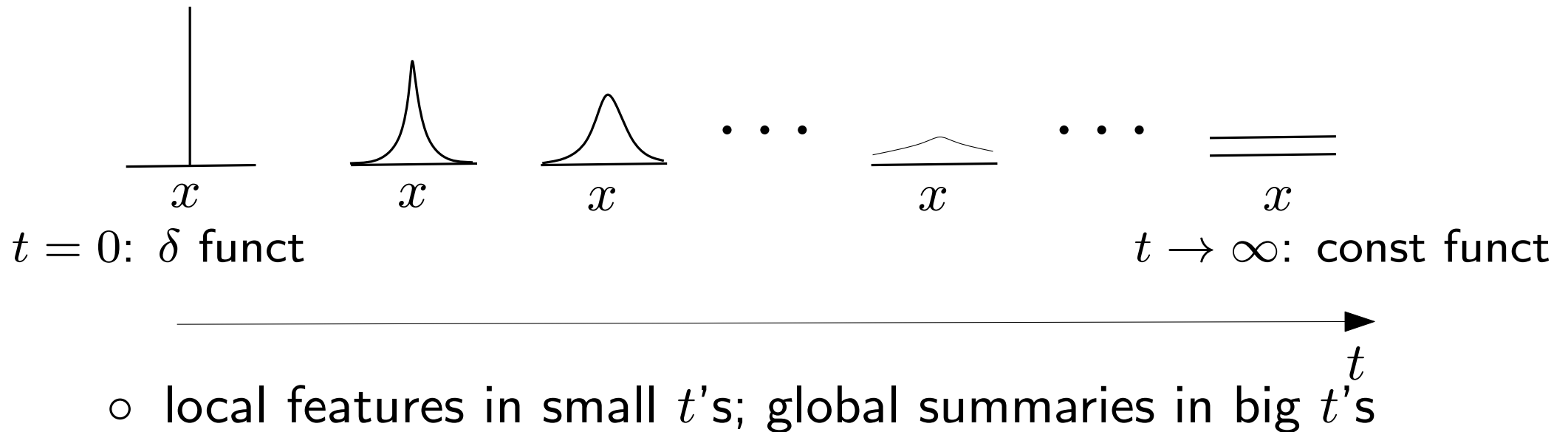
- characterize shape up to isometry
  - $T : M \rightarrow N$  is isometric iff  $k_t(x, y) = k_t(T(x), T(y))$ .
  - heat kernel recovers geodesic distances.
    - $d_M^2(x, y) = -4 \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} t \log k_t(x, y)$
  - heat diffusion process governed by heat equation.
    - $\Delta_M u(t, x) = -\frac{\partial u(t, x)}{\partial t}$
- generate a Brownian motion on a manifold.



# Heat Kernel

- multi-scale

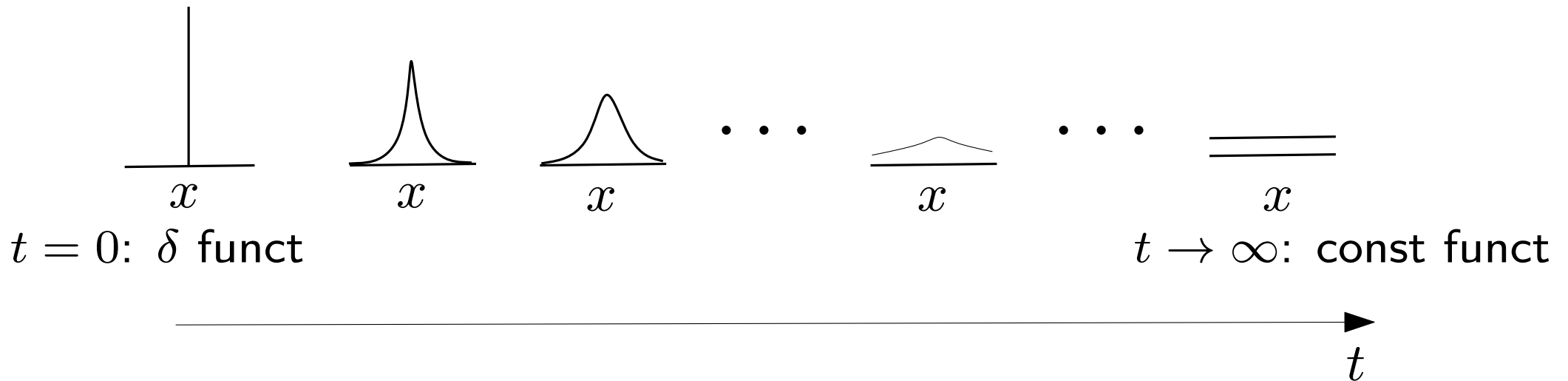
- for any  $x$ , a family of functions  $\{k_t(x, \cdot)\}_t$



# Heat Kernel

- multi-scale

- for any  $x$ , a family of functions  $\{k_t(x, \cdot)\}_t$



- local features in small  $t$ 's; global summaries in big  $t$ 's

- however,  $\{k_t(x, \cdot)\}_t$ 's complexity is extremely high

- difficult to compare  $\{k_t(x, \cdot)\}_t$  with  $\{k_t(x', \cdot)\}_t$

# Heat Kernel Signature

- HKS is the restriction of  $\{k_t(x, \cdot)\}_t$  to the temporal domain
  - $\text{HKS}_x : \mathbb{R}^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$  by  $\text{HKS}_x(t) = k_t(x, x)$

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  - isometric invariant
  - informative?

# Heat Kernel Signature

- $\{\text{HKS}_x\}_{x \in M}$  is informative

**Informative Theorem.** If the eigenvalues of  $M$  and  $N$  are not repeated, a homeomorphism  $T : M \rightarrow N$  is isometric iff  $k_t^M(x, x) = k_t^N(T(x), T(x))$  for any  $x \in M$  and any  $t > 0$ .

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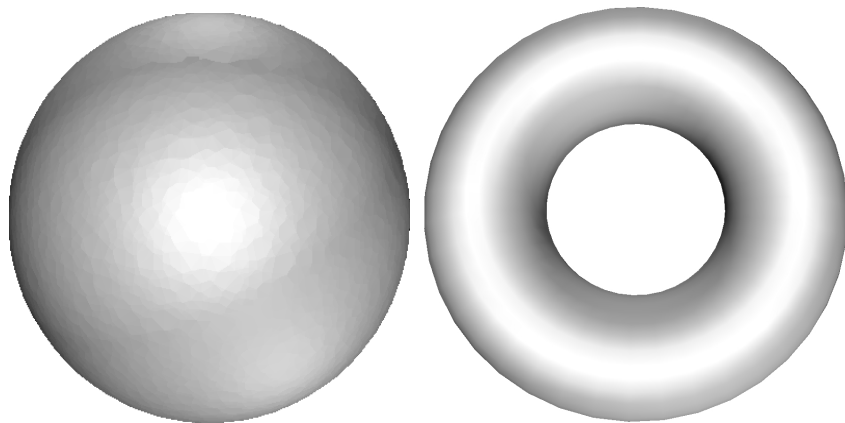
- almost all shapes have no repeated eigenvalues [BU82]

# Heat Kernel Signature

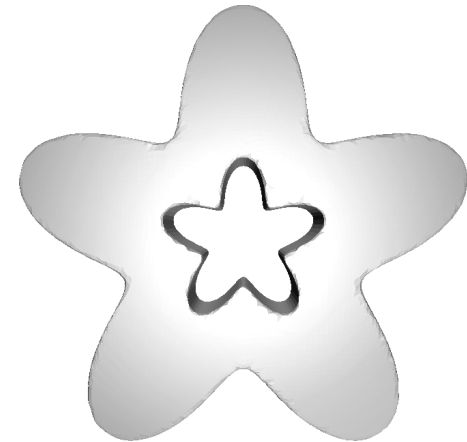
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- almost all shapes have no repeated eigenvalues [BU82]
- the theorem fails if there are repeated eigenvalues



fails!



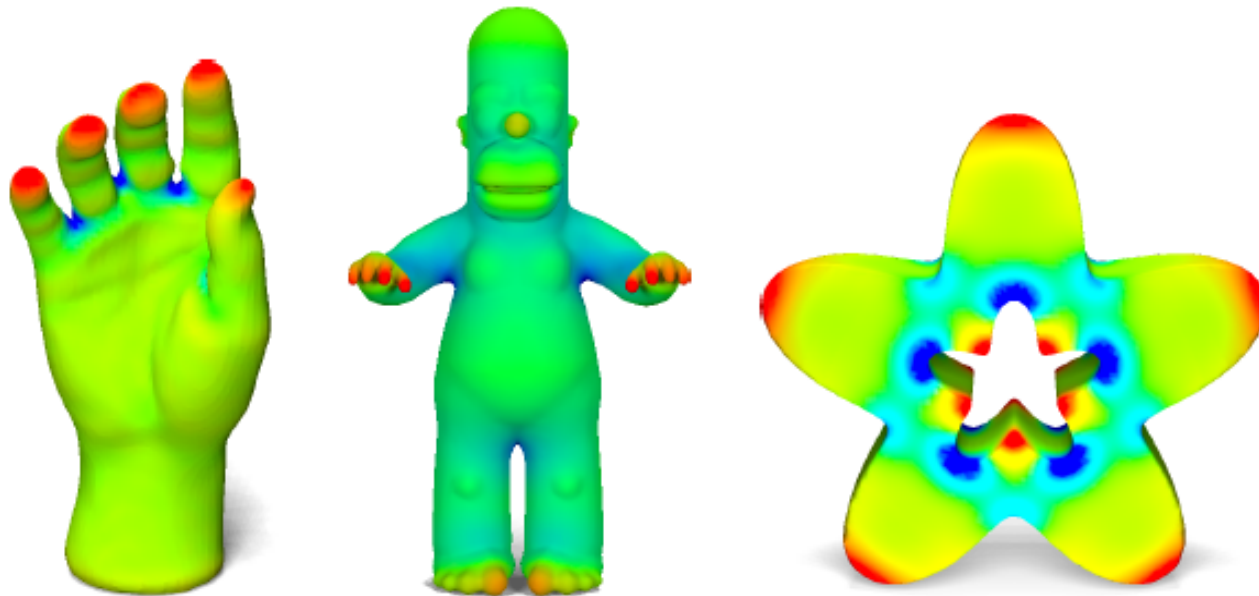
fails?



# Relation to Curvature

- the polynomial expansion of HKS at small  $t$ :

$$\text{HKS}_x(t) = k_t(x, x) = (4\pi t)^{-d/2} \left( 1 + \frac{1}{6} s(x)t + O(t^2) \right)$$



plot of  $k_t(x, x)$  for a fixed  $t$

# Relation to Diffusion Distance

- diffusion distance [Laf04]

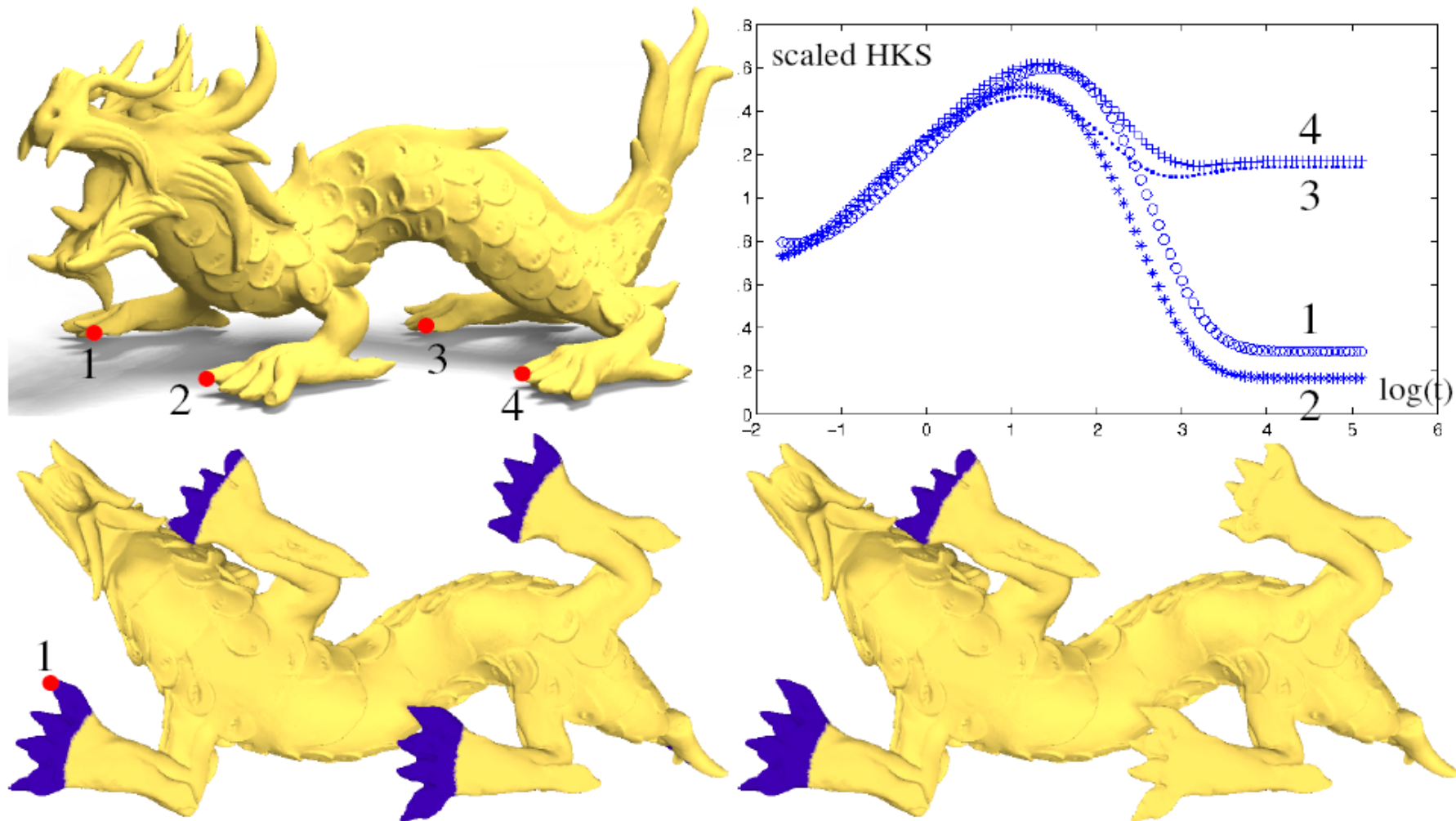
$$d_t^2(x, y) = k_t(x, x) + k_t(y, y) - 2k_t(x, y)$$

- eccentricity in terms of diffusion distance

$$\begin{aligned} ecc_t(x) &= \frac{1}{A_M} \int_M d_t^2(x, y) dy \\ &= k_t(x, x) + H_M(t) - \frac{2}{A_M}, \end{aligned}$$

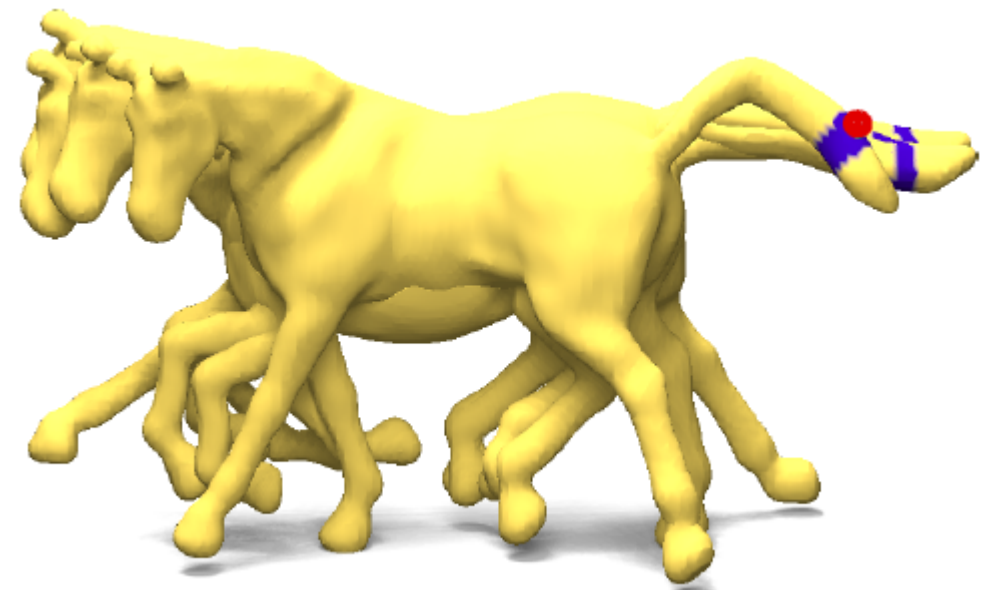
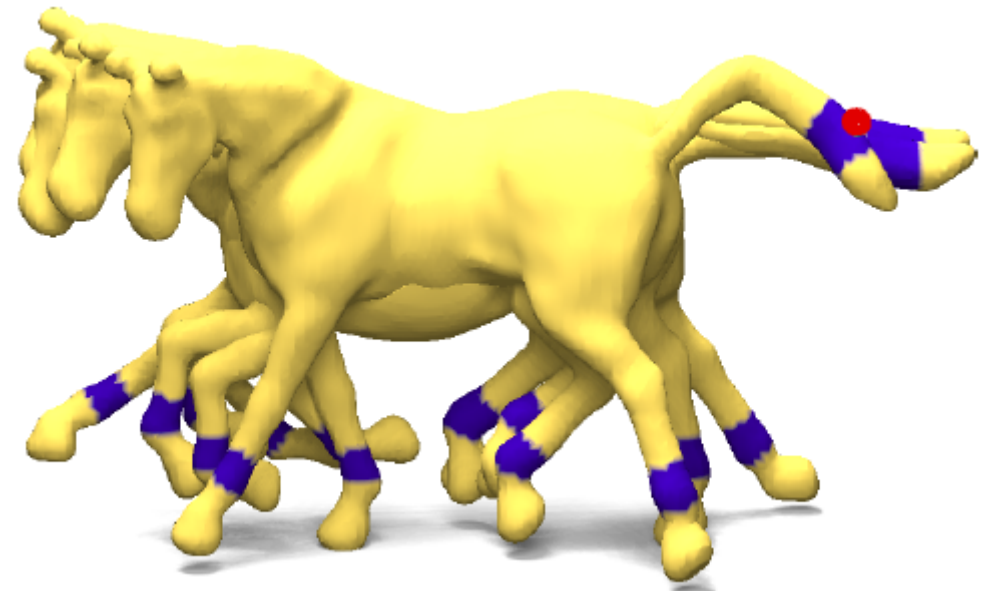
- $ecc_t(x)$  and  $k_t(x, x)$  have the same level sets, in particular, extrema points
- shape segmentation [dGGV08]

# Multi-Scale Matching



scaled HKS: 
$$\frac{k_t(x, x)}{\int_M k_t(x, x) dx}$$

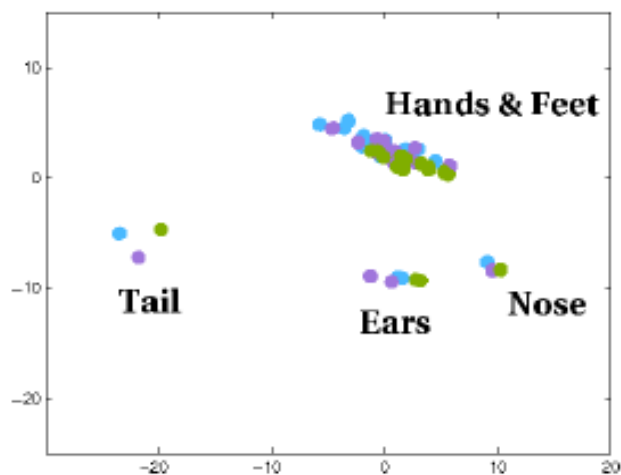
# Multi-Scale Matching



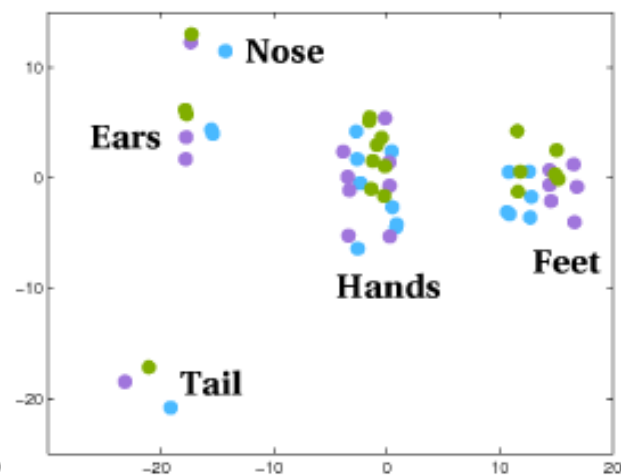
# Multi-Scale Matching



(a) maxima of  $k_t(x, x)$  for a fixed  $t$ .



(b)  $t = [0.1, 4]$

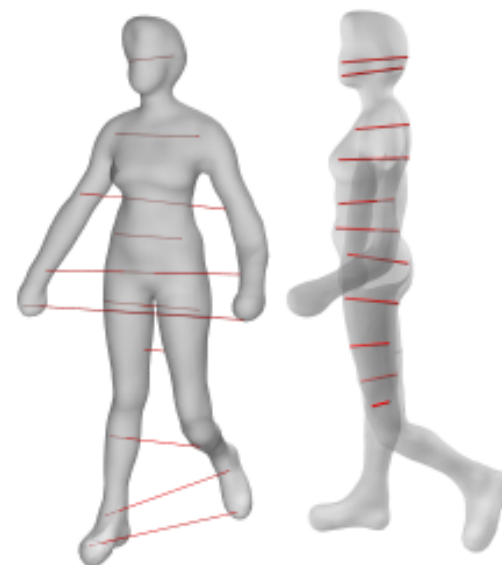
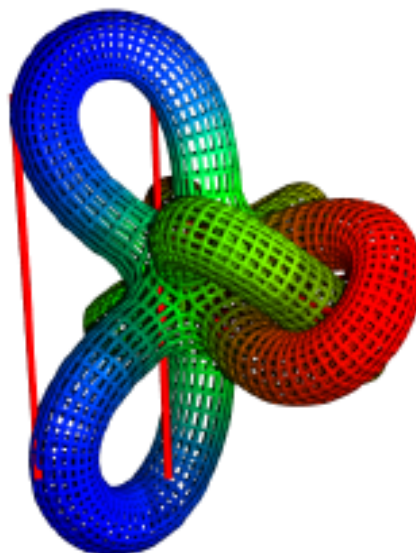
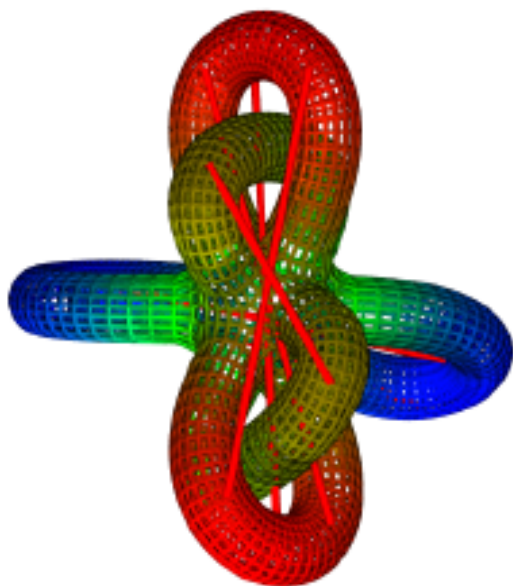
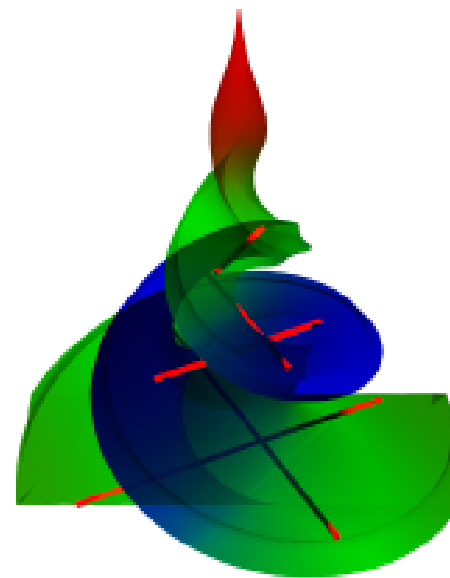
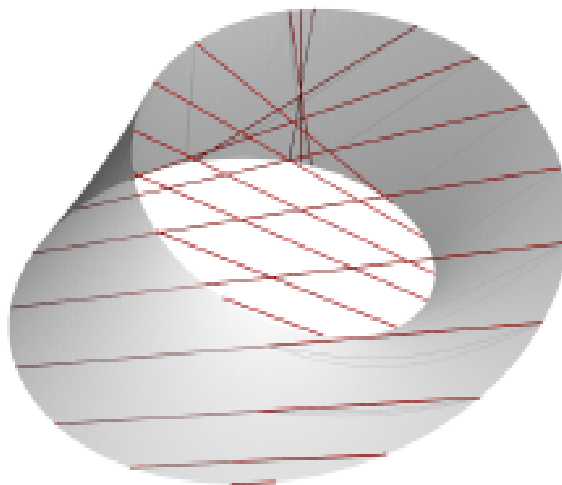
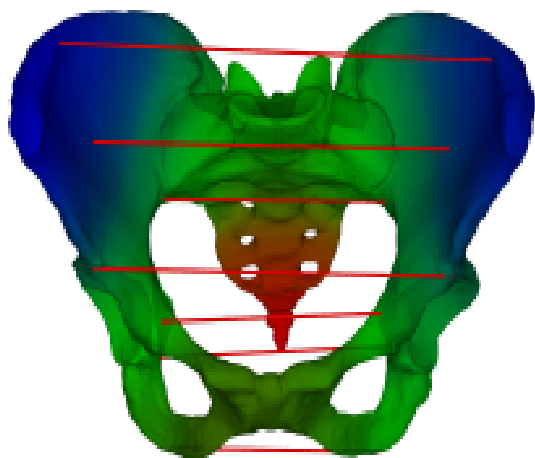


(c)  $t = [0.1, 80]$

**Thank you for your attention**

**Questions?**

# Results



# Computation

- Laplace-Beltrami Operator:

- based on its eigenfunctions and eigenvalues

$$k_t(x, y) = \sum_i e^{-\lambda_i t} \phi_i(x) \phi_i(y)$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{HKS}_x(t) = k_t(x, x) = \sum_i e^{-\lambda_i t} \phi_i^2(x)$$

- discrete case:

- build the discrete Laplace operator  $L = A^{-1}W$  [BSW08]

- solve  $W\phi = \lambda A\phi$

- compute  $\text{HKS}_x(t) = \sum_i e^{-\lambda_i t} \phi_i^2(x)$



# Page Title

- first level bulletin
  - second level bulletin
    - third level bulletin