



FFTs in Graphics and Vision

Fast Alignment of Spherical Functions



Outline

- Math Review
- Fast Rotational Alignment



Review

Recall 1:

We can represent any rotation R in terms of the triplet of Euler angles (θ, ϕ, ψ) , with the correspondence defined by:

$$R(\theta, \phi, \psi) = R_y(\theta) \cdot R_z(\phi) \cdot R_y(\psi)$$

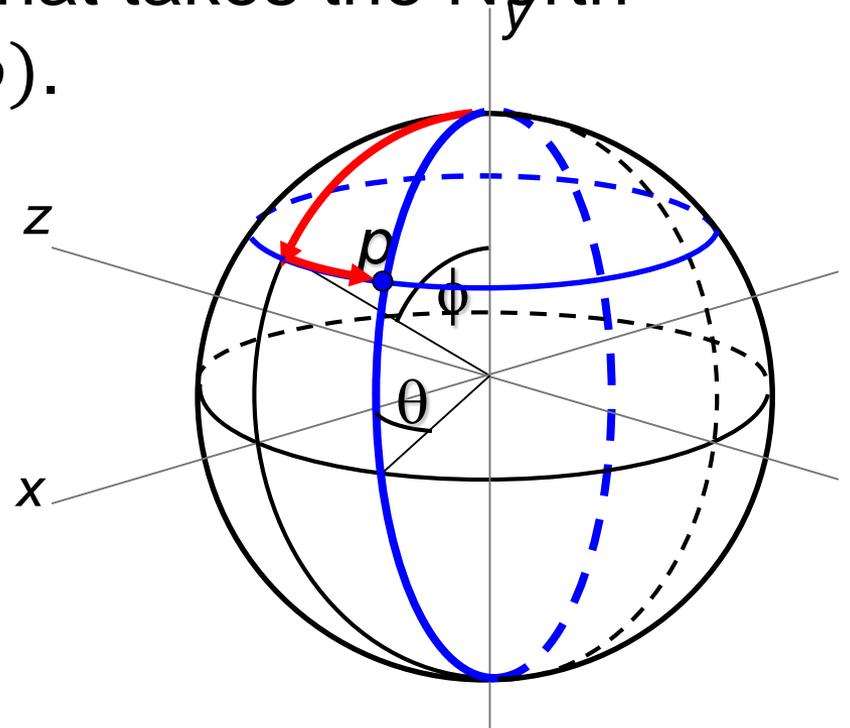
where $R_y(\alpha)$ is the rotation about the y -axis by an angle of α , and $R_z(\beta)$ is the rotation about the z -axis by an angle of β .



Review

Recall 2:

If we express a rotation in terms of its Euler angles (θ, ϕ, ψ) , then the angles (θ, ϕ) correspond to the rotation that takes the North pole to the point $p = \Phi(\theta, \phi)$.





Review

Recall 3:

If we represent a rotation R in terms of the Euler angles (θ, ϕ, ψ) , then the inverse of R can be represented by the Euler angles $(-\psi, -\phi, -\theta)$:

$$\begin{aligned} R^{-1}(\theta, \phi, \psi) &= \left(R_y(\theta) \cdot R_z(\phi) \cdot R_y(\psi) \right)^{-1} \\ &= R_y^{-1}(\psi) \cdot R_z^{-1}(\phi) \cdot R_y^{-1}(\theta) \\ &= R_y(-\psi) \cdot R_z(-\phi) \cdot R_y(-\theta) \end{aligned}$$

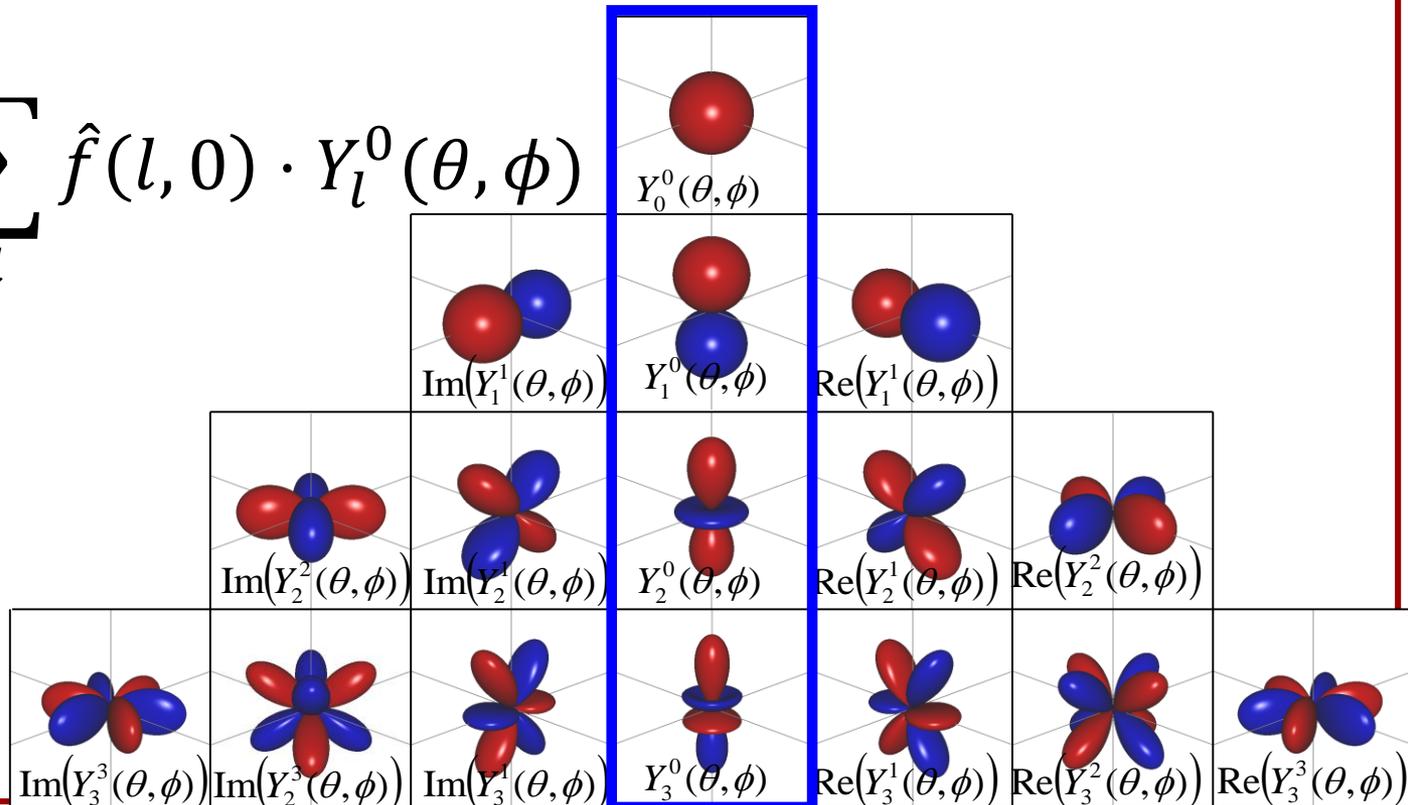


Review

Recall 4:

A function f is axially symmetric about the y -axis if and only if it is composed entirely of the zonal harmonics:

$$f(\theta, \phi) = \sum_l \hat{f}(l, 0) \cdot Y_l^0(\theta, \phi)$$





Review

Recall 5:

Rotating the spherical harmonic Y_l^m about the y -axis by an angle of α is equivalent to multiplying it by $e^{-im\alpha}$.

Expressing the spherical harmonic in terms of the associated Legendre polynomials, we get:

$$Y_l^m(\theta, \phi) = P_l^m(\cos \phi) \cdot e^{im\theta}$$



Review

Recall 5:

Rotating the spherical harmonic Y_l^m about the y -axis by an angle of α is equivalent to multiplying it by $e^{-im\alpha}$.

So rotating by α about the y -axis gives:

$$\begin{aligned}\rho_{R_y(\alpha)}(Y_l^m)(\theta, \phi) &= Y_l^m(\theta - \alpha, \phi) \\ &= P_l^m(\cos \phi) \cdot e^{im(\theta - \alpha)} \\ &= e^{-im\alpha} \cdot P_l^m(\cos \phi) \cdot e^{im\theta} \\ &= e^{-im\alpha} \cdot Y_l^m(\theta, \phi)\end{aligned}$$



Review

Recall 6:

If f is axially symmetric about the y -axis, then a rotation of f by a rotation with Euler angles (θ, ϕ, ψ) is independent of the value of ψ :

$$\begin{aligned} R_{R(\theta, \phi, \psi)}(f) &= \rho_{R_y(\theta)} \cdot \rho_{R_z(\phi)} \cdot \rho_{R_y(\psi)}(f) \\ &= \rho_{R_y(\theta)} \left(\rho_{R_z(\phi)} \left(\rho_{R_y(\psi)}(f) \right) \right) \\ &= \rho_{R_y(\theta)} \left(\rho_{R_z(\phi)}(f) \right) \end{aligned}$$



Review

Recall 7:

Given a spherical function f of frequency l :

$$f = \sum_{m=-l}^l \hat{f}(l, m) \cdot Y_l^m$$

correlating f with a zonal harmonic of frequency l is equivalent to multiplying f by a scalar:

$$\langle f, \rho_{R(\theta, \phi, \psi)}(Y_l^0) \rangle = \sqrt{\frac{4\pi}{2l+1}} f(\theta, \phi)$$



Review

Recall 8:

Given spherical functions f and g , if g is axially symmetric about the y -axis, we can compute the correlation of f with g in $O(N^2 \log^2 N)$.

In terms of the spherical harmonic decomposition, this equation becomes:

$$\text{Dot}_{f,g}(R) = \langle f, \rho_R(g) \rangle$$

\Downarrow

$$\text{Dot}_{f,g}(\theta, \phi, \psi) = \left\langle \sum_l \sum_{m=-l}^l \hat{f}(l, m) \cdot Y_l^M, \rho_{R(\theta, \phi, \psi)} \left(\sum_l \hat{g}(l, 0) \cdot Y_l^0 \right) \right\rangle$$



Review

Recall 8:

Given spherical functions f and g , if g is axially symmetric about the y -axis, we can compute the correlation of f with g in $O(N^2 \log^2 N)$.

By the conjugate linearity and the fact that harmonics of degree l form a sub-representation:

$$\text{Dot}_{f,g}(\theta, \phi, \psi) = \left\langle \sum_l \sum_{m=-l}^l \hat{f}(l, m) \cdot Y_l^M, \rho_{R(\theta, \phi, \psi)} \left(\sum_l \hat{g}(l, 0) \cdot Y_l^0 \right) \right\rangle$$

⇓

$$\text{Dot}_{f,g}(\theta, \phi, \psi) = \sum_l \sum_{m=-l}^l \hat{f}(l, m) \cdot \overline{\hat{g}(l, 0)} \langle Y_l^M, \rho_{R(\theta, \phi, \psi)}(Y_l^0) \rangle$$



Review

Recall 8:

Given spherical functions f and g , if g is axially symmetric about the y -axis, we can compute the correlation of f with g in $O(N^2 \log^2 N)$.

Which simplifies to:

$$\text{Dot}_{f,g}(\theta, \phi, \psi) = \sum_l \sum_{m=-l}^l \hat{f}(l, m) \cdot \overline{\hat{g}(l, 0)} \langle Y_l^m, \rho_{R(\theta, \phi, \psi)}(Y_l^0) \rangle$$

⇓

$$\text{Dot}_{f,g}(\theta, \phi, \psi) = \sum_l \sum_{m=-l}^l \hat{f}(l, m) \cdot \overline{\hat{g}(l, 0)} \cdot \sqrt{\frac{4\pi}{2l+1}} \cdot Y_l^m(\theta, \phi)$$



Review

Recall 8:

$$\text{Dot}_{f,g}(\theta, \phi, \psi) = \sum_l \sum_{m=-l}^l \hat{f}(l, m) \cdot \overline{\hat{g}(l, 0)} \cdot \sqrt{\frac{4\pi}{2l+1}} \cdot Y_l^m(\theta, \phi)$$

So we can compute the correlation by:

- Computing the spherical harmonic transforms.
 $O(N^2 \log N)$
- Scaling the (l, m) -th harmonic coefficient of f by the $(l, 0)$ -th coefficient of g times $\sqrt{4\pi/2l+1}$.
 $O(N^2)$
- Computing the inverse transform.
 $O(N^2 \log^2 N)$



Outline

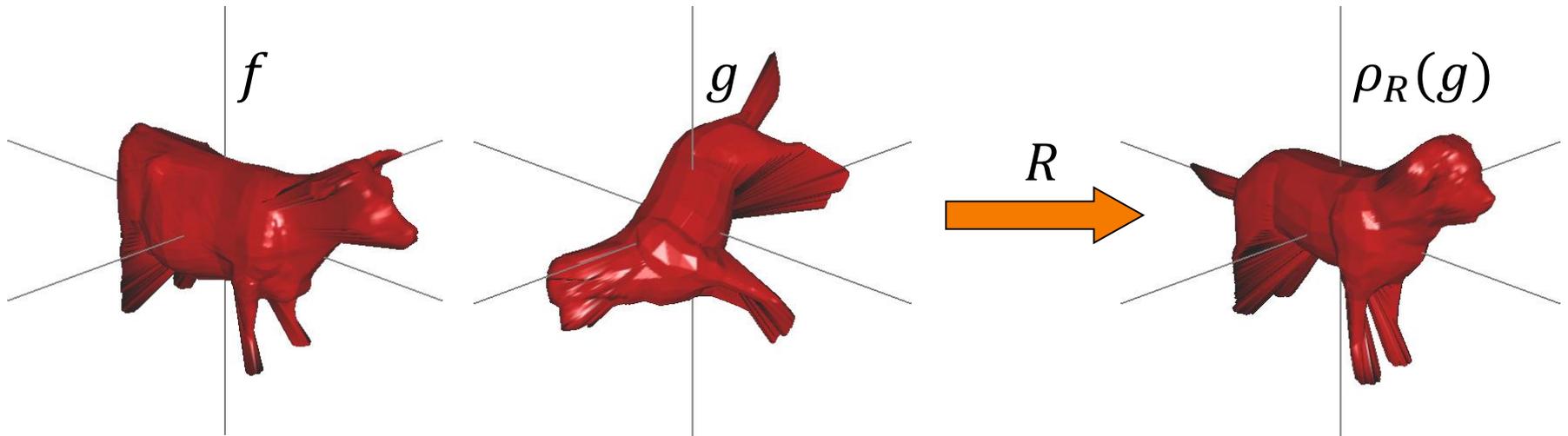
- Math Review
- Fast Rotational Alignment



Goal

Given two spherical functions f and g , we would like to find the rotation R that aligns g to f :

$$R = \arg \min_{R \in SO(3)} \|f - \rho_R(g)\|^2$$

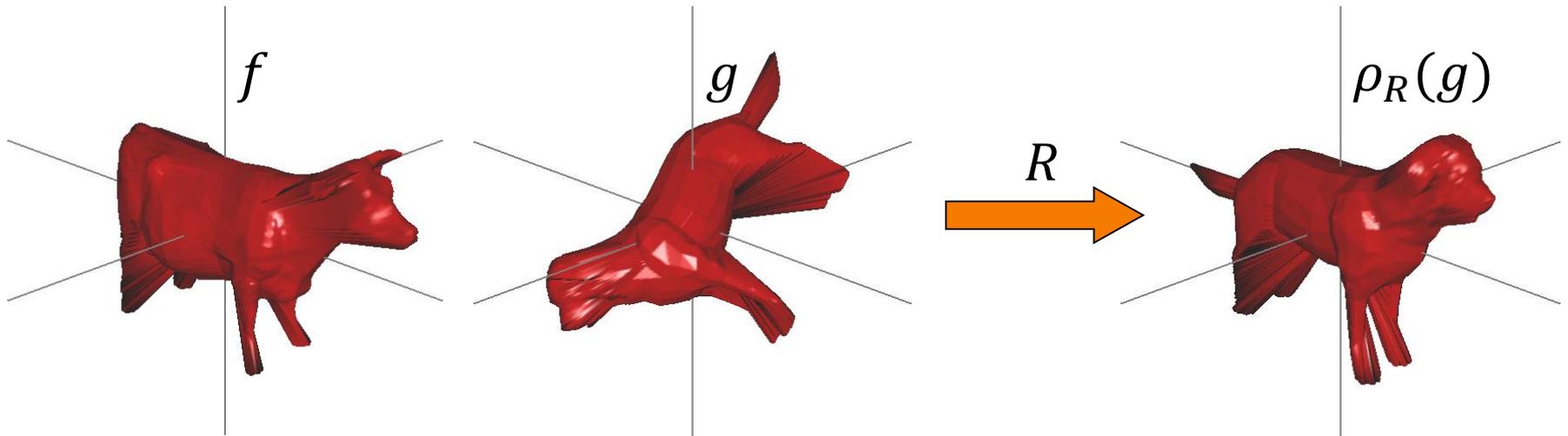




Approach

We had shown that finding the rotation minimizing the difference is equivalent to finding the rotation maximizing the correlation:

$$R = \arg \max_{R \in SO(3)} \langle f, \rho_R(g) \rangle$$





Approach

Solving for the aligning rotation can be done by computing the function on the space of rotations:

$$\text{Dot}_{f,g}(R) = \langle f, \rho_R(g) \rangle$$

and finding the rotation maximizing this function.



Approach

Brute Force:

If the resolution of the spherical grid is N , then we can find the optimal rotation in $O(N^5)$ time by:

- For each of $O(N^3)$ rotations
 - ▣ Compute the appropriate $O(N^2)$ dot-product



Approach

Fast Spherical Correlation:

Using the Wigner D -Transform, we can implement this in $O(N^3 \log^2 N)$ time by:

- Get the spherical harmonic coefficients of f and g .
 $O(N^2 \log N)$
- Cross multiply the coefficients within each frequency to get the Wigner D -coefficients.
 $O(N^3)$
- Perform the inverse Wigner D -Transform to get the value of the correlation at every rotation.
 $O(N^3 \log^2 N)$



Efficiency

Although the Wigner D -Transform provides an algorithm that is faster than brute force, for many applications, a cubic algorithm is still be too slow.



Efficiency

Although the Wigner D -Transform provides an algorithm that is faster than brute force, for many applications, a cubic algorithm is still be too slow.

What we would like is an algorithm for aligning two functions that is on the order of the size of the spherical functions (i.e. quadratic in N).



Efficiency

Example:

For database retrieval, we would like to minimize the amount of work that needs to be done online.

We can afford to do a lot of work on a per-model basis in pre-processing, but we can't spend too much time aligning pairs of models for matching.

Princeton 3D Model Search Engine - Microsoft Internet Explorer provided by Verizon Online

Princeton Shape Retrieval and Analysis Group
3D Model Search Engine

[Text & 2D Sketch](#) [Text & 3D Sketch](#) [File Compare](#) [Research](#) [Contact Us](#) [Links](#) [FAQ](#) [Main](#)

Search results in database [espona], 1000 models (click on a thumbnail for more information on that model)

Next page (17 - 32) search type: [similar shape], results: 100

Next page (17 - 32) Something didn't work? [Let us know!](#)

Opening http://shape.cs.princeton.edu/search/sketch.cgi



Efficiency

Observation:

In using the Wigner D -Transform, we obtain the alignment error at every rotation.

All we want is the single, optimal rotation.



Parameter Optimization

Given a function $F(x, y)$, we would like to find the parameters (x_0, y_0) at which F is maximal:

$$(x_0, y_0) = \arg \max_{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2} (F(x, y))$$

We can find the parameters (x_0, y_0) by searching over the entirety of the parameter domain to find the parameters at which F is maximal.

This would require a search over a large space of parameters.



Parameter Optimization

Parameter Splitting:

Given a function $F(x, y)$, we would like to find the parameters (x_0, y_0) at which F is maximal:

$$(x_0, y_0) = \arg \max_{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2} (F(x, y))$$

Instead, we can try to decompose the problem of optimization into two parts:

- First, find the optimal value for x_0 , and then
- Holding x_0 fixed, find the optimal value for y_0 .

This way, we trade one search over a large space, for two searches over smaller spaces.



Parameter Optimization

Parameter Splitting:

To do this, we need to define a 1D function $G(x)$ with the property that if (x_0, y_0) maximizes $F(x, y)$ then x_0 maximizes $G(x)$.

$$(x_0, y_0) = \arg \max_{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2} (F(x, y))$$

⇓

$$x_0 = \arg \max_{x \in \mathbb{R}} (G(x))$$

$$y_0 = \arg \max_{y \in \mathbb{R}} (F(x_0, y))$$



Parameter Optimization

Application to Rotational Alignment:

To find the optimal alignment, we would like to find the Euler angles $(\theta_0, \phi_0, \psi_0)$ that maximize the correlation:

$$(\theta_0, \phi_0, \psi_0) = \arg \max_{(\theta, \phi, \psi)} \left\langle f, \rho_{R_y(\theta) \cdot R_z(\phi) \cdot R_y(\psi)}(g) \right\rangle$$



Parameter Optimization

Application to Rotational Alignment:

Instead of trying to optimize over all three parameters simultaneously, we can optimize over two of the parameters, and then fixing the two optimal parameters, optimize over the third:

$$(\theta_0, \phi_0) = \arg \max_{(\theta, \phi)} (G(\theta, \phi))$$

$$\psi_0 = \arg \max_{\psi} \left\langle f, \rho_{R_y(\theta_0) \cdot R_z(\phi_0) \cdot R_y(\psi)}(g) \right\rangle$$



Parameter Optimization

Application to Rotational Alignment:

To define the function $G(\theta, \phi)$ we choose a function that represents correlation information related to rotations defined by θ and ϕ .

Specifically, if we let h be the component of g that is axially symmetric about the y -axis:

$$h(\theta, \phi) = \sum_l \hat{g}(l, 0) \cdot Y_l^0(\theta, \phi)$$

we can define:

$$G(\theta, \phi) = \langle f, \rho_{R(\theta, \phi, 0)}(h) \rangle$$



Parameter Optimization

Application to Rotational Alignment:

$$G(\theta, \phi) = \langle f, \rho_{R(\theta, \phi, 0)}(h) \rangle$$

The function G has two important properties:

- If g is already axially symmetric about the y -axis (i.e. $h = g$), the optimizing angles (θ_0, ϕ_0) are guaranteed to define the optimal transformation.
- Since h is axially symmetric about, we can find the optimizing angles (θ_0, ϕ_0) in $O(N^2 \log^2 N)$ using the fast spherical harmonic transform.



Parameter Optimization

Application to Rotational Alignment:

Having solved for the optimal angles (θ_0, ϕ_0) , we can solve for the optimal ψ_0 by solving:

$$\psi_0 = \arg \max_{\psi} \left\langle f, \rho_{R_y(\theta_0) \cdot R_z(\phi_0) \cdot R_y(\psi)}(g) \right\rangle$$

Since the representation is unitary, this becomes:

$$\psi_0 = \arg \max_{\psi} \left\langle \rho_{R_z(-\phi_0) \cdot R_y(-\theta_0)}(f), \rho_{R_y(\psi)}(g) \right\rangle$$

In terms of the spherical harmonics coefficients:

$$\psi_0 = \arg \max_{\psi} \left\langle \rho_{R_z(-\phi_0) \cdot R_y(-\theta_0)}(f), \sum_l \sum_{m=-l}^l \hat{g}(l, m) \cdot \rho_{R_y(\psi)}(Y_l^m) \right\rangle$$



Parameter Optimization

Application to Rotational Alignment:

Using the fact that a rotation of the spherical harmonic Y_l^m about the y -axis by an angle of α corresponds to multiplication by $e^{-im\alpha}$:

$$\psi_0 = \arg \max_{\psi} \left\langle \rho_{R_z(-\phi_0) \cdot R_y(-\theta_0)}(f), \sum_l \sum_{m=-l}^l \hat{g}(l, m) \cdot \rho_{R_y(\psi)}(Y_l^m) \right\rangle$$

⇓

$$\psi_0 = \arg \max_{\psi} \left\langle \rho_{R_z(-\phi_0) \cdot R_y(-\theta_0)}(f), \sum_l \sum_{m=-l}^l \hat{g}(l, m) \cdot e^{-im\psi} \cdot Y_l^m \right\rangle$$



Parameter Optimization

Application to Rotational Alignment:

Thus, to find ψ_0 , we need to maximize:

$$\sum_l \sum_{m=-l}^l \left\langle \rho_{R_z(-\phi_0) \cdot R_y(-\theta_0)}(f), \hat{g}(l, m) \cdot Y_l^m \right\rangle e^{im\psi}$$

But this is just an expression for a function of ψ as a sum of complex exponentials.

So we can get the values at every angle ψ by computing the inverse Fourier transform.



Parameter Optimization

Application to Rotational Alignment:

Thus, we can align to spherical function f and g in $O(N^2 \log^2 N)$ time by:

- Correlating f with the component of g that is axially symmetric about the y -axis

$$O(N^2 \log^2 N)$$

- Getting the Fourier coefficients of the function in ψ

$$O(N^2 \log N)$$

- Computing the inverse Fourier transform

$$O(N \log N)$$

- Finding the ψ maximizing the function

$$O(N)$$

Parameter Optimization

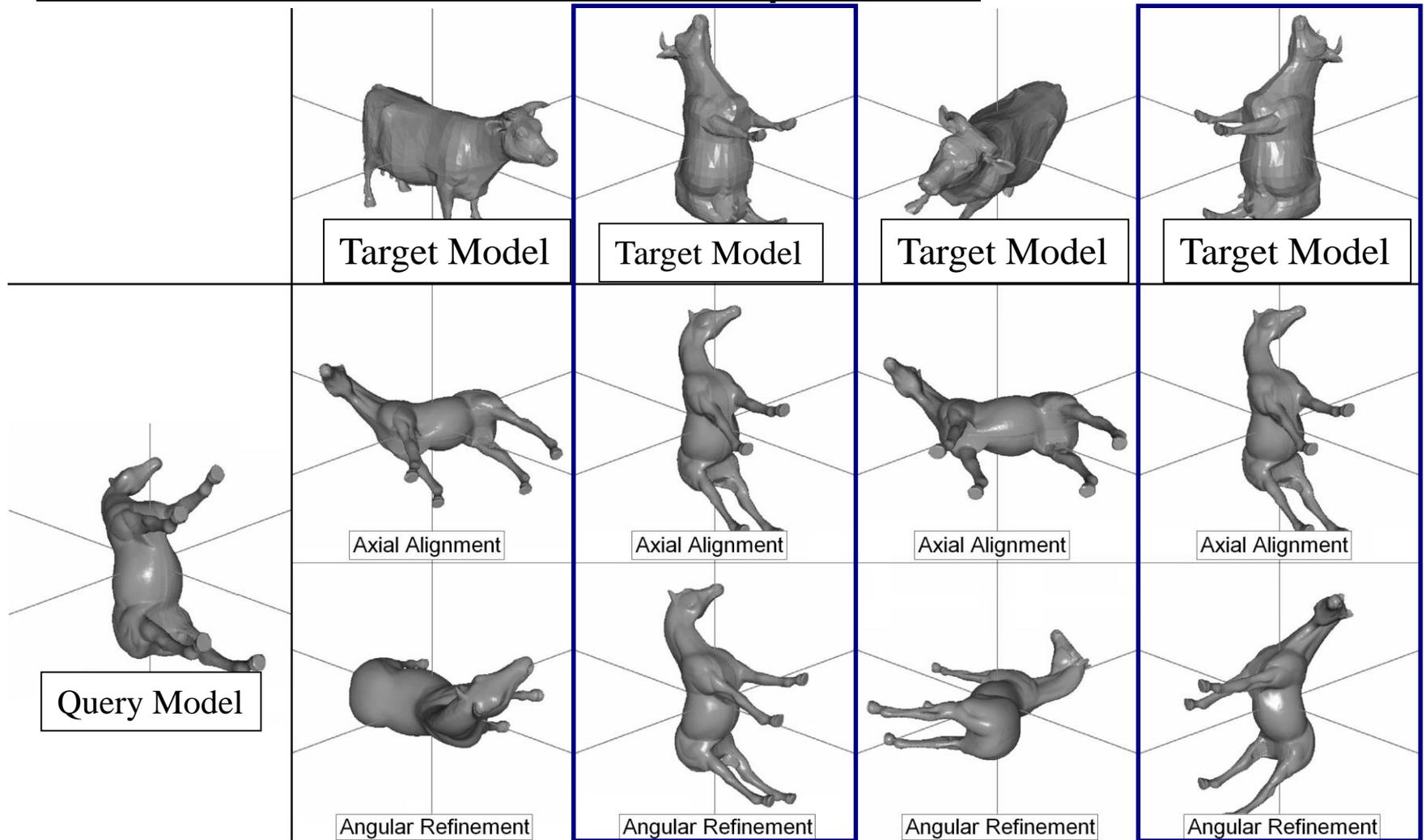


How well does this work in practice?



Parameter Optimization

How well does this work in practice?





Parameter Optimization

How well does this work in practice?

The quality of this method depends on how well $G(\theta, \phi)$ captures the behavior of the (θ, ϕ) components of the rotational alignment.

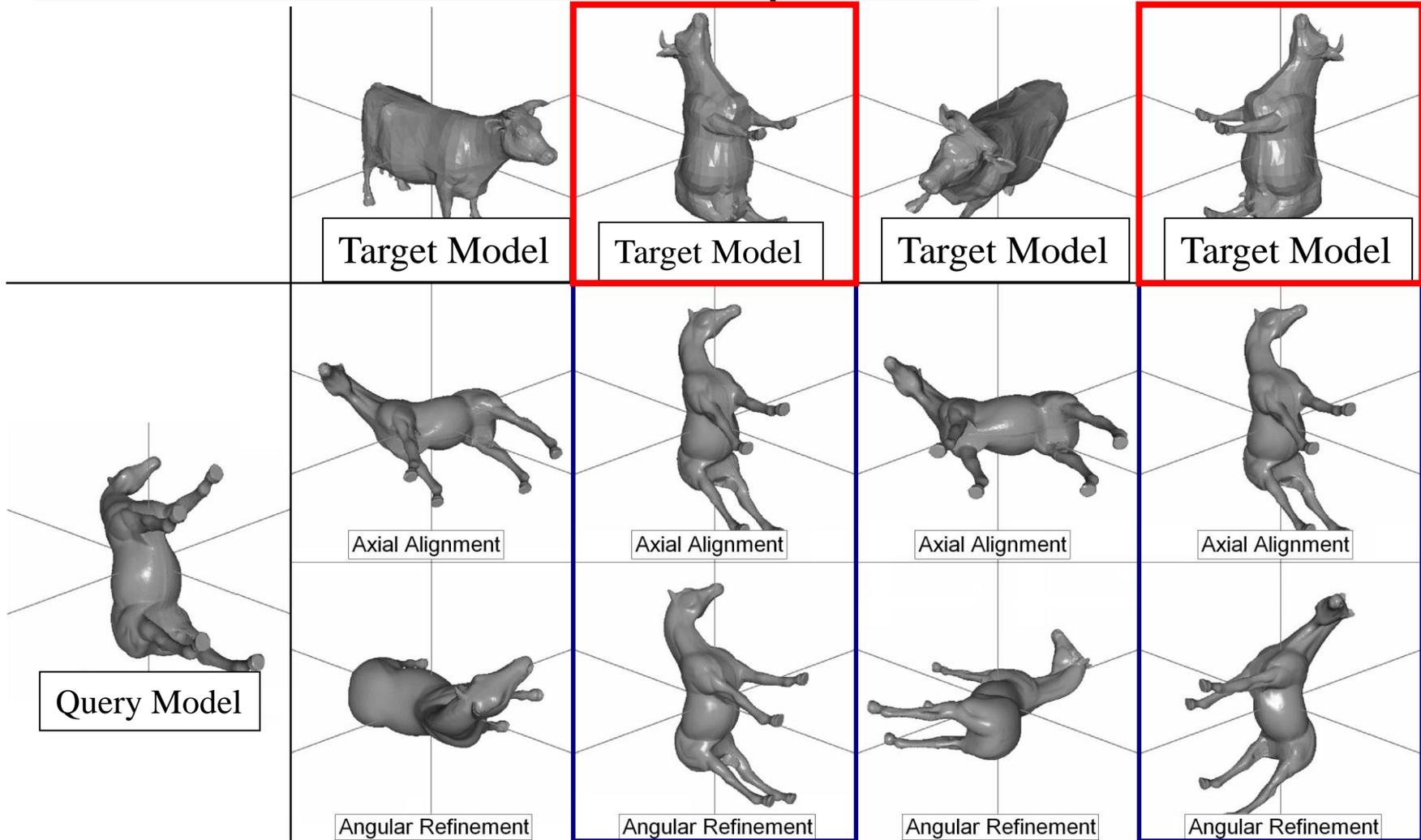
When we optimize $G(\theta, \phi)$, we are looking for the rotation that best aligns the y -axially symmetric component of g to the function f .

So if the function g is (nearly) axially symmetric about the y -axis, the method will perform well.



Parameter Optimization

How well does this work in practice?





Parameter Optimization

How well does this work in practice?

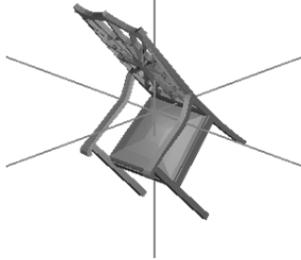
We can leverage this observation by performing a pre-processing step in which we align the function g so that the axis with maximal axial symmetry gets mapped to the y -axis.



Parameter Optimization

How well does this work in practice?

Pre-Processing



Run-Time

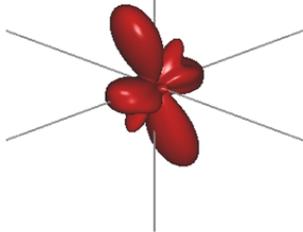
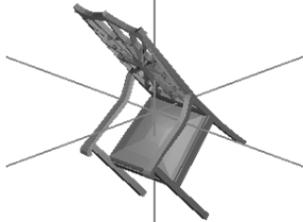


Parameter Optimization

How well does this work in practice?

Pre-Processing

Run-Time



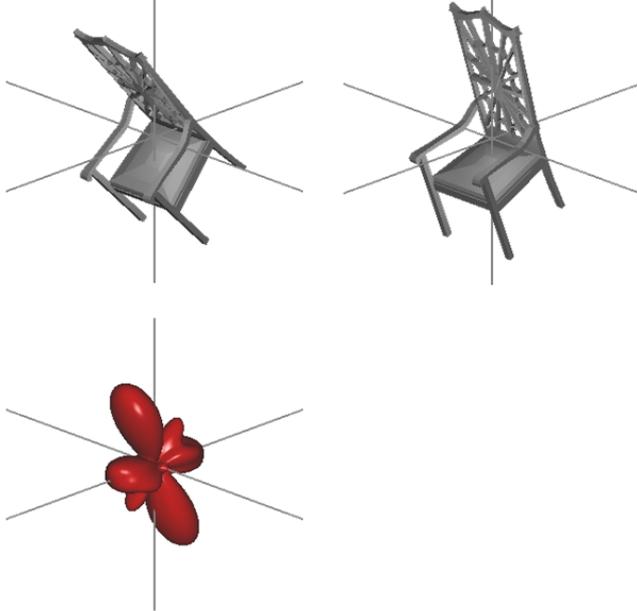


Parameter Optimization

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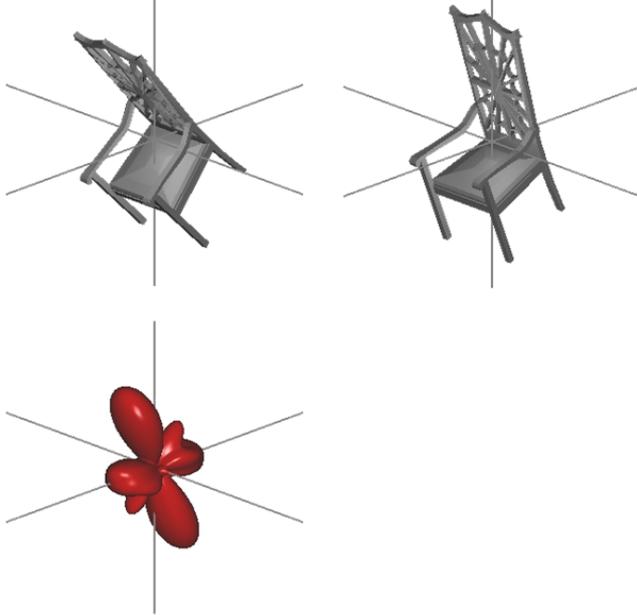




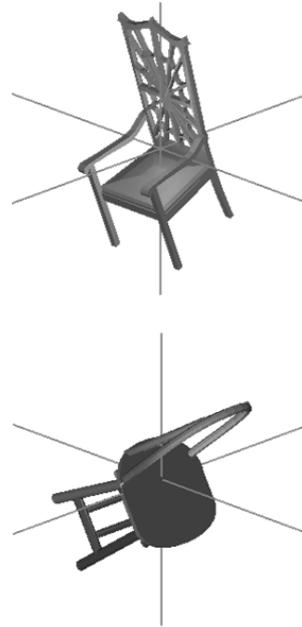
Parameter Optimization

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Pre-Processing



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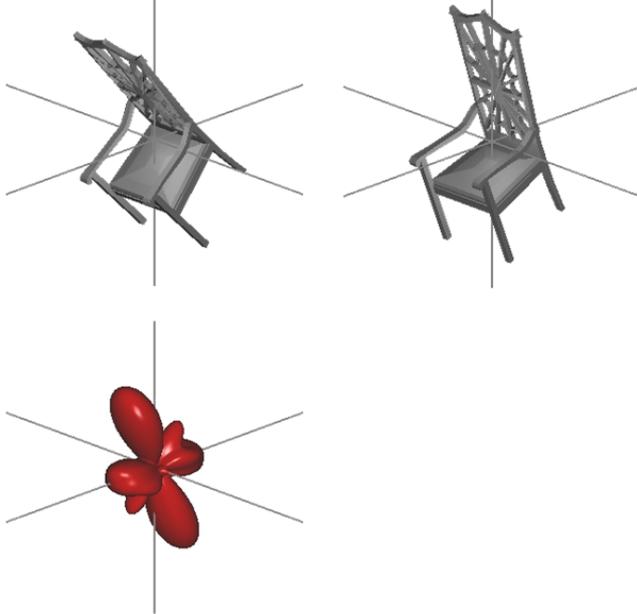




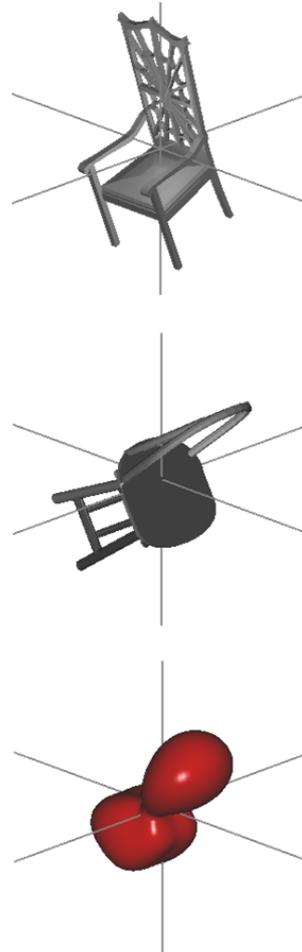
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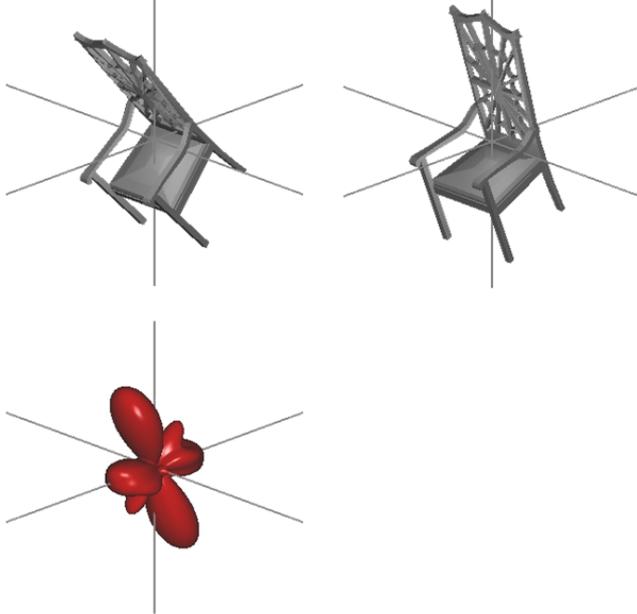




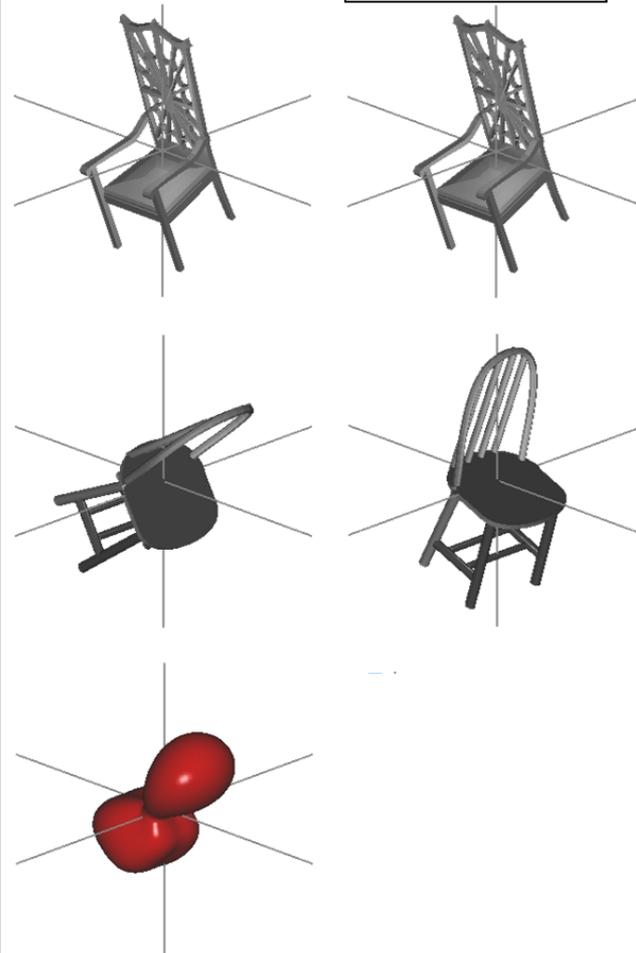
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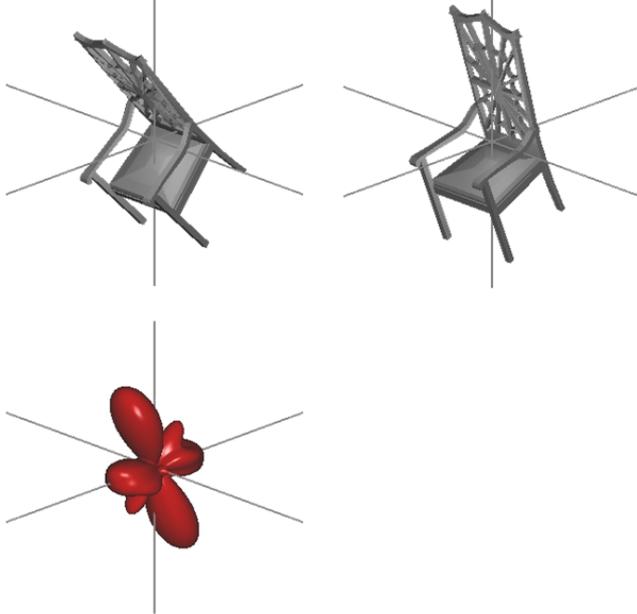




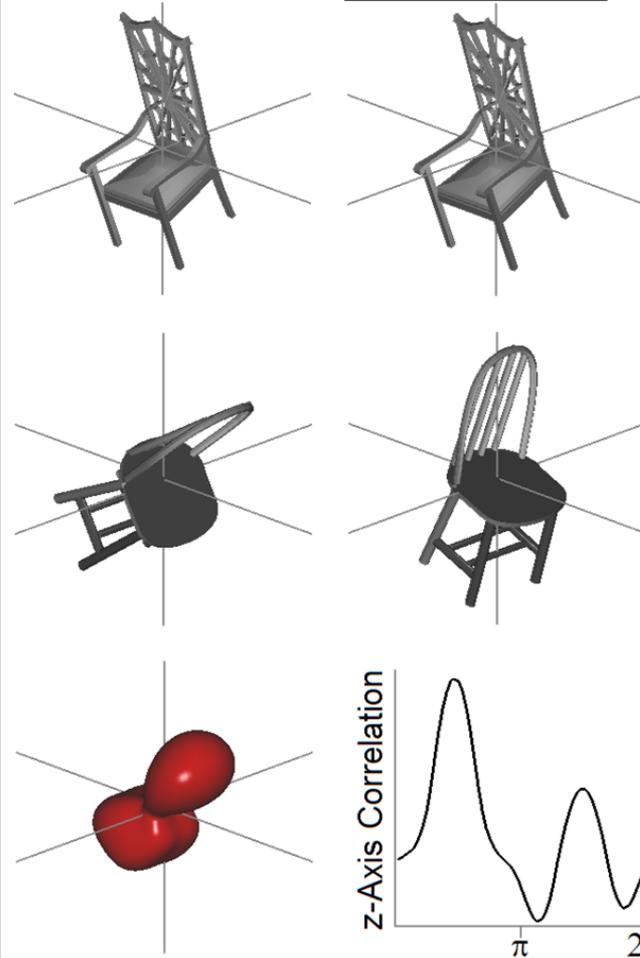
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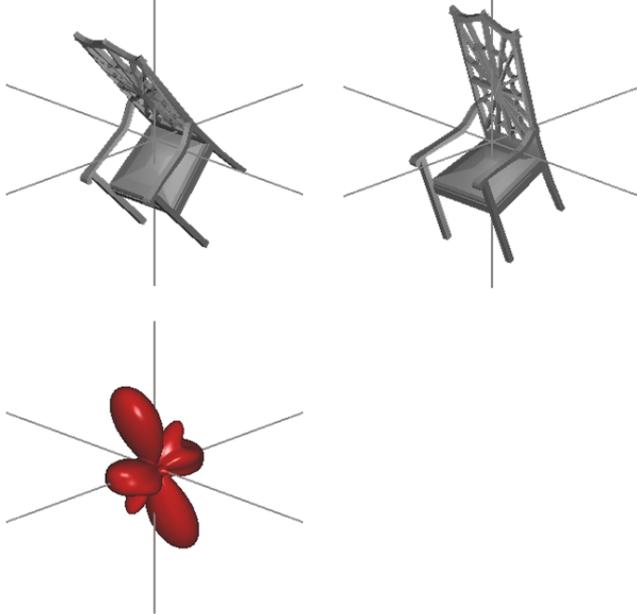




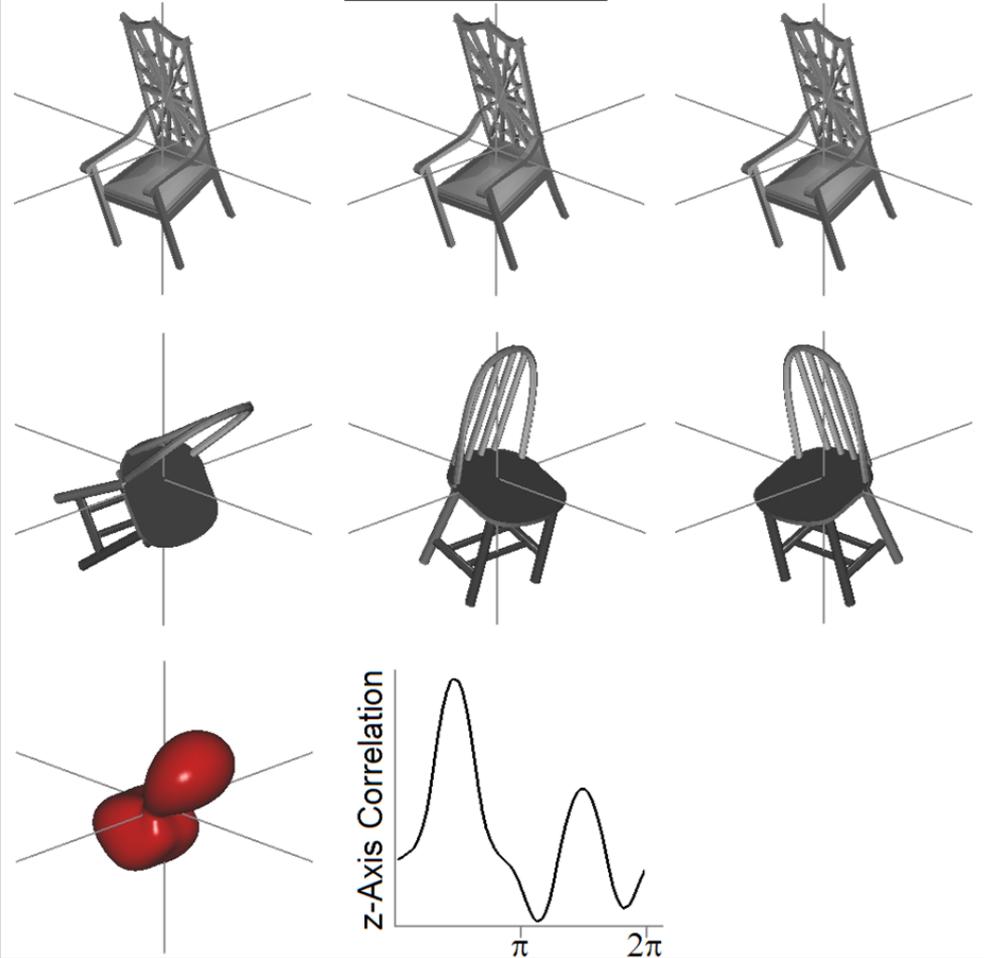
Parameter Optimization

How well does this work in practice?

Pre-Processing



Run-Time





Parameter Optimization

Performance:

In order to perform the alignment we need to pre-align the models so that their major axis of axial symmetry is aligned with the y -axis.



Parameter Optimization

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In order to perform the alignment we need to pre-align the models so that their major axis of axial symmetry is aligned with the y -axis.

- ⊗ This requires computing the axial symmetry descriptor which takes $O(N^3 \log^2 N)$



Parameter Optimization

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- ☑ This needs to be done on a per-model basis so this can be done offline.



Parameter Optimization

Performance:

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- ☒ This requires computing the axial symmetry descriptor which takes $O(N^3 \log^2 N)$
- ☑ This needs to be done on a per-model basis so this can be done offline.

The online running time of the alignment algorithm remains $O(N^2 \log^2 N)$