



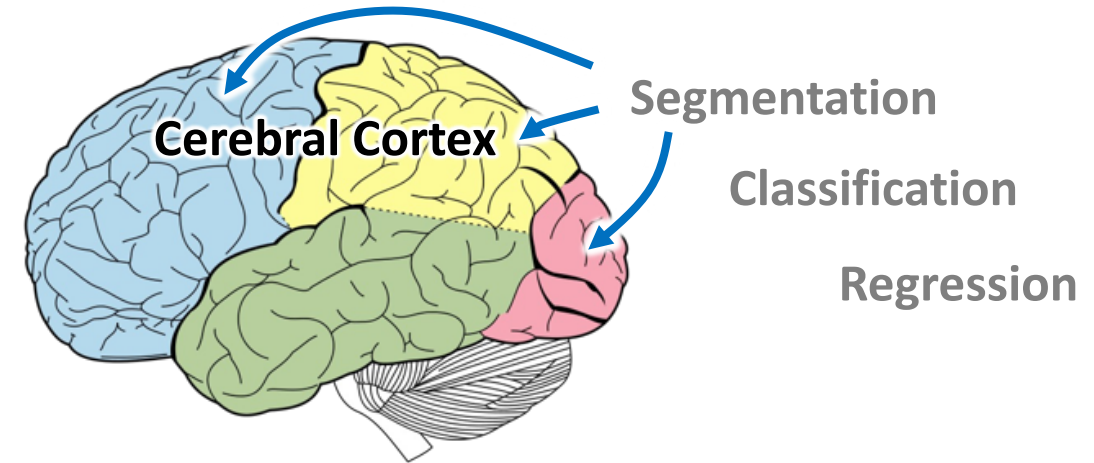
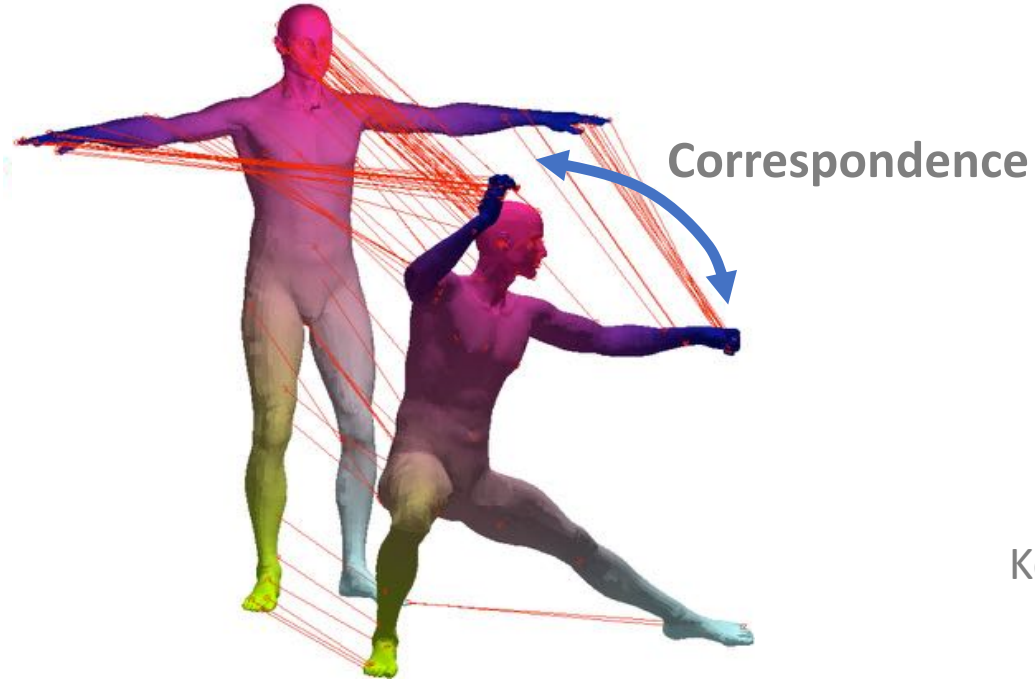
# **Geometric Deep Learning** **in Medical Imaging**

*Prof. Hervé Lombaert, ETS Montreal*

*Spring School on Deep Learning for Medical Imaging 2023*

# Geometry & Machine Learning

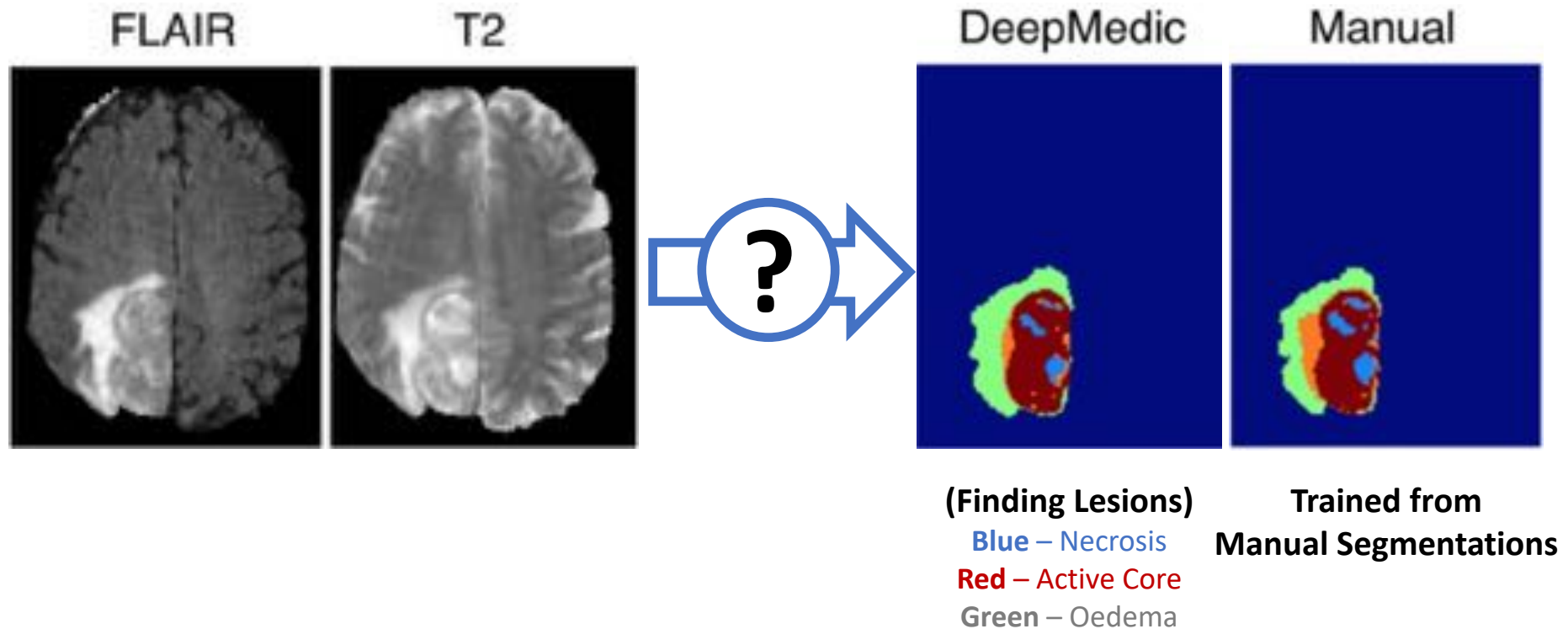
- How to exploit **Shapes & Geometry** for learning complex data?



Key role in cognition, planning & perception

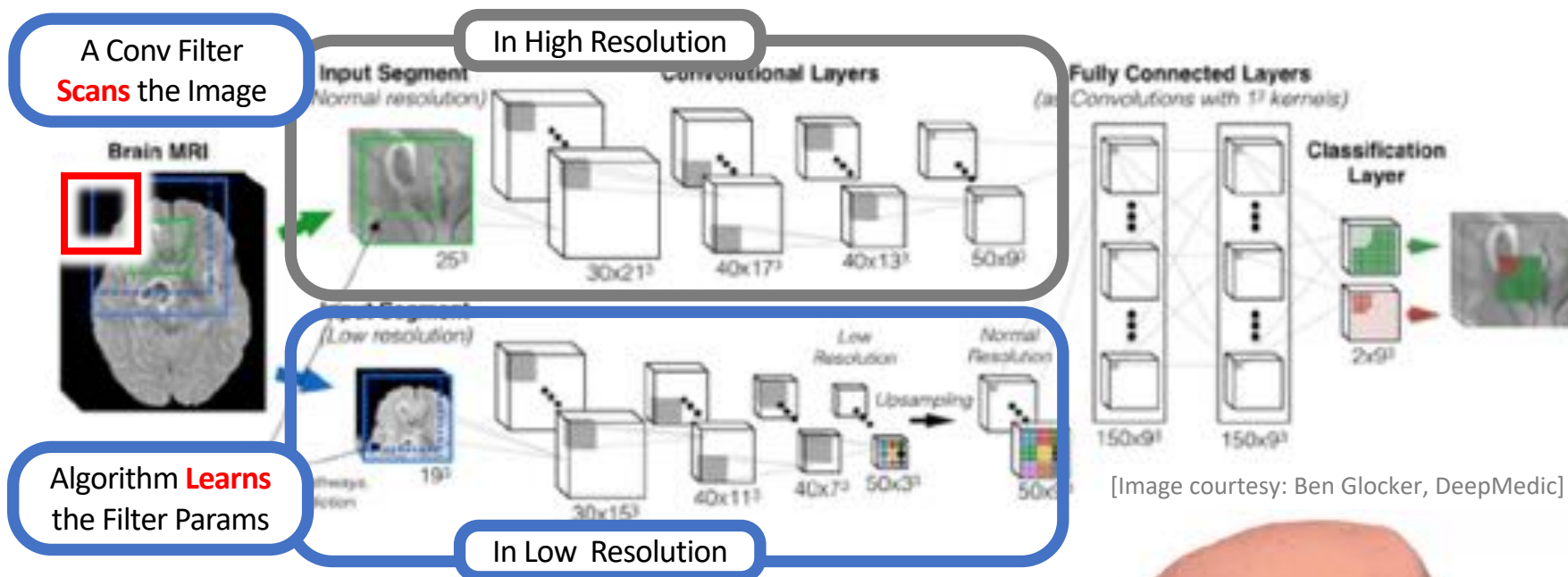
# Segmentation on Medical Images

- One Example – Finding **Lesions** on Brain MRIs



# Segmentation on Medical Images

- Conv Nets (CNNs) on Images



## Many works on CNN Segmentations

- Zikic et al, 2014
- Pereira et al, 2015
- Prasson et al, 2013
- Roth et al, 2014
- Ciresan et al, 2013
- Dolz et al, 2018
- Litjens et al, 2017 – and more

One issue

- Konneberger et al, 2015
- Zhao et al, 2018





1

2

3

4

5

6

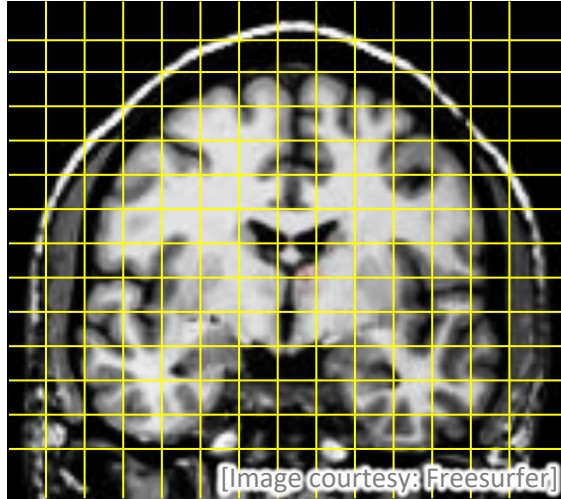
7

# From Images to Surfaces

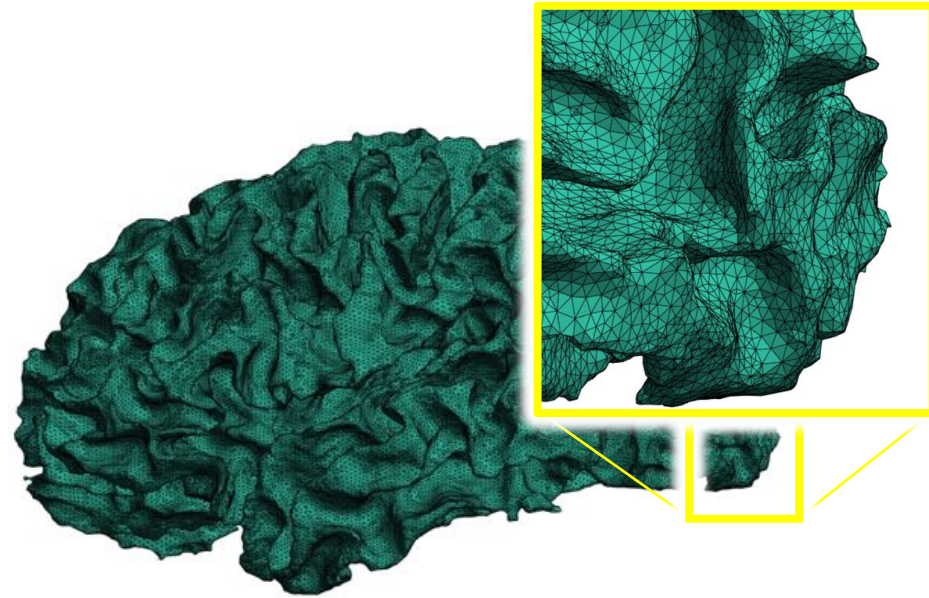
Why a need to work on Surfaces?

# Images **vs** Surfaces

- Algorithms **rely** on an **Image Grid**

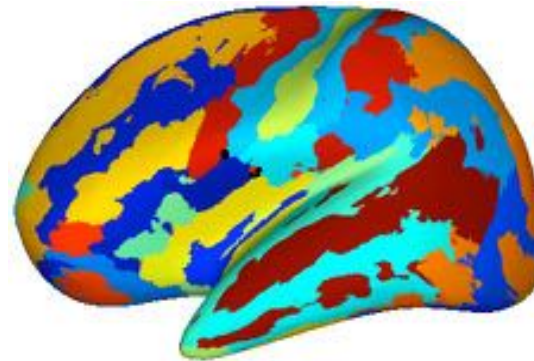


**Point Coordinates**  
defined as  $(x,y,z)$  Coordinates

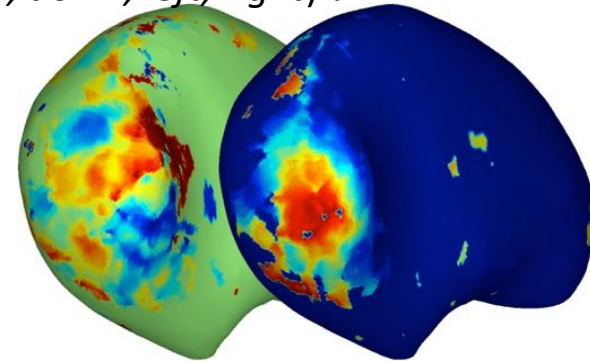


**Neuroimaging – Data is often on surfaces**  
where is  $(up, down, left, right)$  ?

**Why Learning**  
**on Surfaces?**



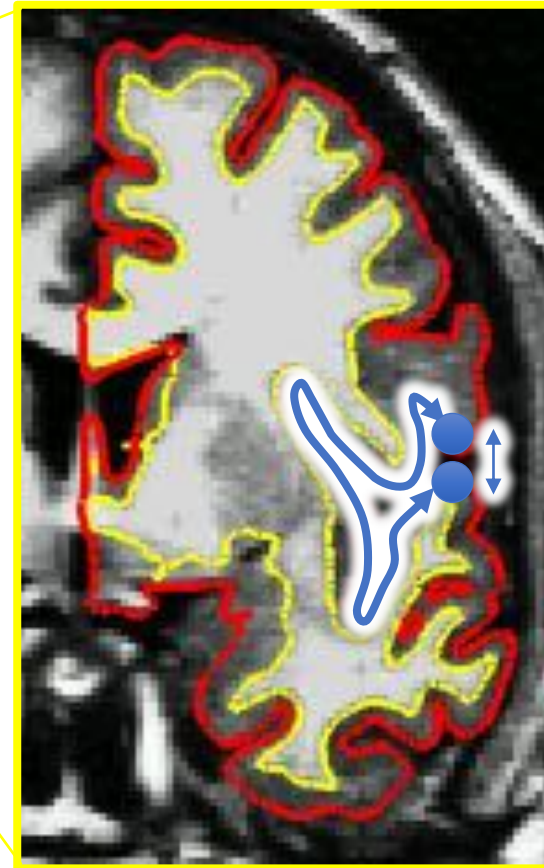
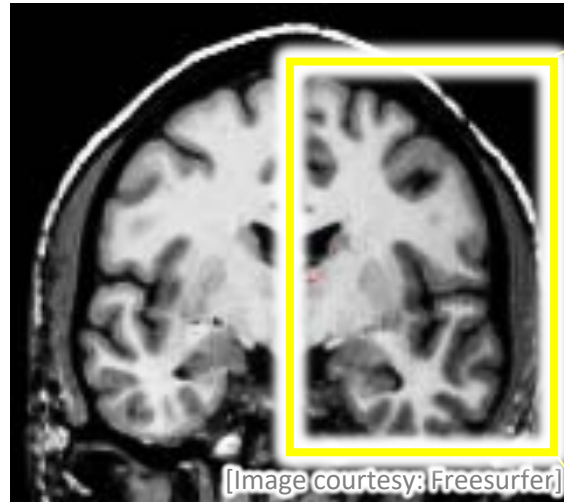
**Cortical Parcellation**



**Functional Imaging**

# Images **vs** Surfaces

- Exploiting the **Surface Geometry**



## Problem:

Points **Close** in volume

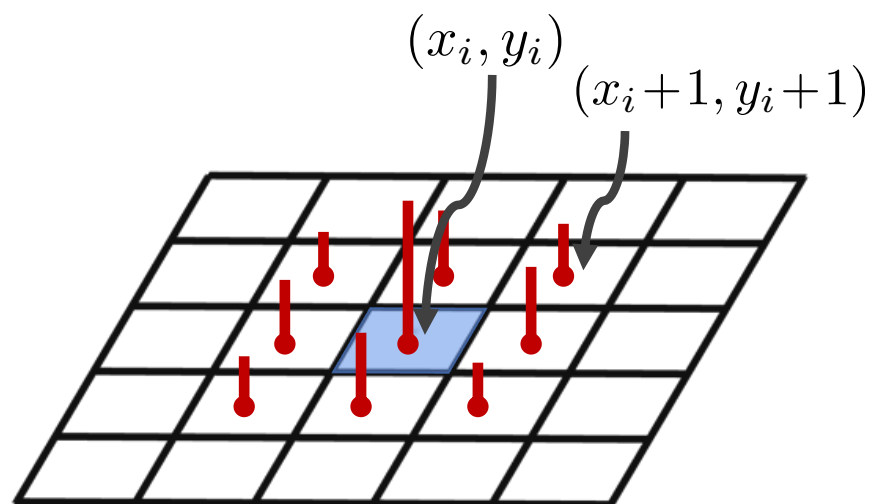
– but – **Far away** on the cortex

**Confusing** for a learning algorithm

**How to Learn  
on Surfaces?**

# Convolutions on Surfaces

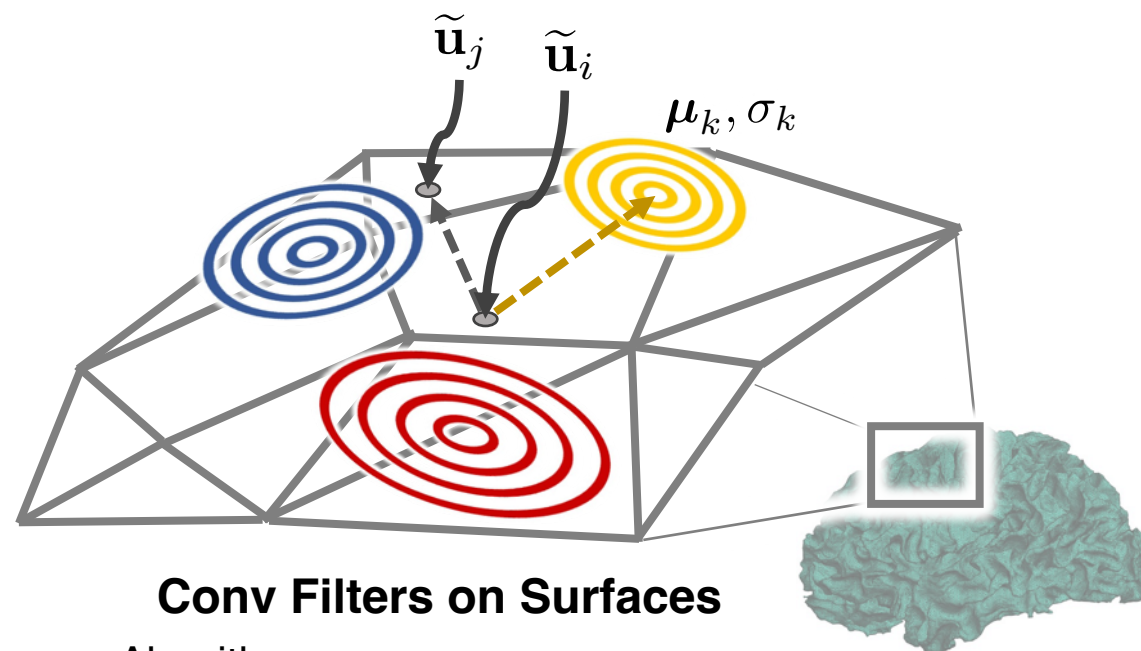
- Defining Kernels on **Curved Spaces**



**Conv Filter on a Grid**

Algorithm:

- **Learns** the Filter parameters (the red bars)
- Supposes neighbors are **on a grid**



**Conv Filters on Surfaces**

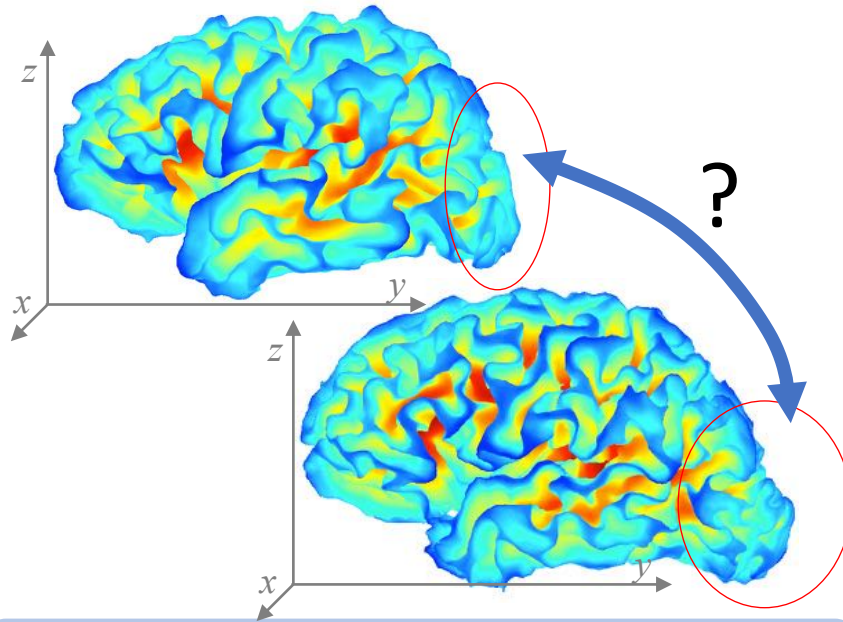
Algorithm:

- **Learns** the Filter parameters ( $\mu$ 's and  $\sigma$ 's)
- Requires **Graph Neighborhoods**

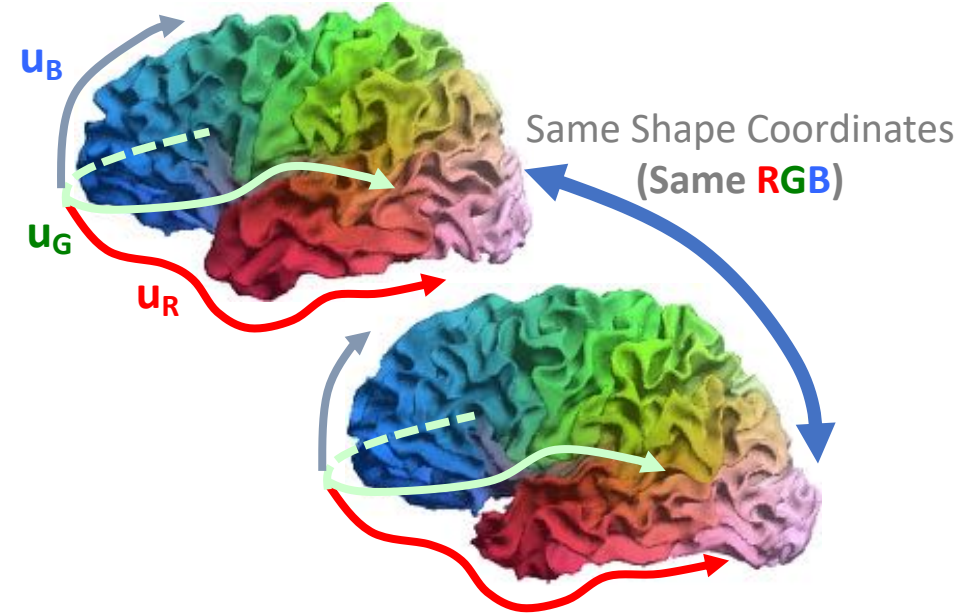


# Parameterization – Euclidean **vs** Spectral Coordinates

**Cartesian Coordinates** versus **Shape (Spectral) Coordinates**



**Cartesian Coordinates**  
Equivalent Points → **May NOT Overlap in Space**

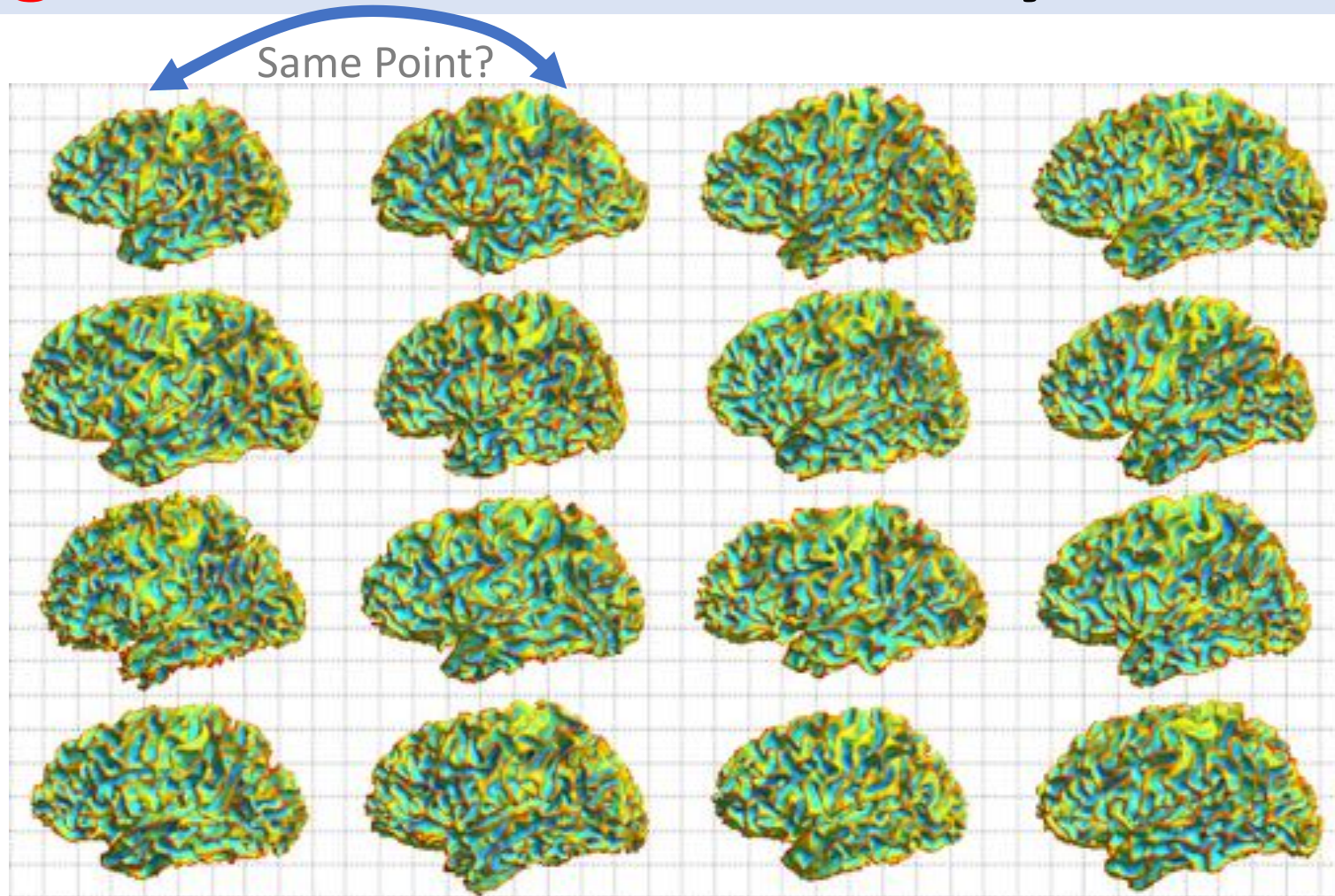


**Shape Coordinates**  
Equivalent Points → **Similar Shape Characteristics**

**Core Idea**  
Use **Shape Coordinates** for Matching

Reuter, IJCV (2009)  
Niethammer, Reuter, Wolter, Bouix, Peinecke, Koo, Shenton, MICCAI (2007)  
Qiu, Bitouk, Miller, TMI (2006)  
Shi, Lai, Wang, Pelletier, Mohr, Sicotte, Toga, TMI (2014)  
Germanaud, Lefevre, Toro, Fischer, Dubois, Hertz, Mangin, Neuroimage (2012)

# Challenge – Anatomical Variability



Complex Shapes, **Highly variable**

How to find **point correspondences**?

# Challenge – Anatomical Variability

## One Related Problem – *Matching Points between Brains*

### Flowing Surfaces

- Costly (CPU, mesh size)

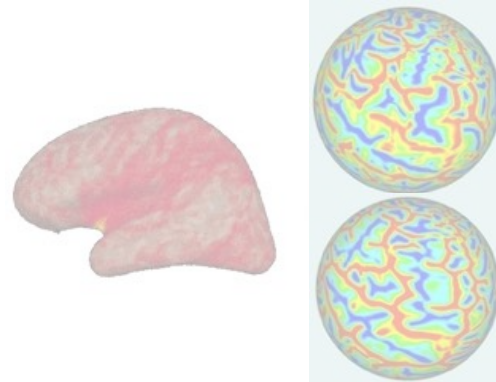


(LDDMM and variants)

$$E(v) = \int_0^1 |v_t|^2 dt + \int_0^1 |I \circ \phi_t^{-1}(y) - J(y)|^2 dy$$

### Sphere Inflations

- Costly (3 to 4 hours)

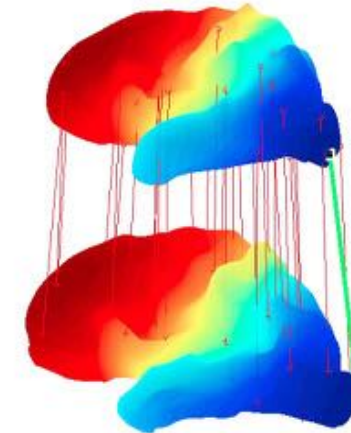


(FreeSurfer, Spherical Demons)

$$\phi^{(t)} = c^{(t)} \circ \exp(v^{(t)}) \text{ on } S^2$$

### Spectral Matching

- ✓ Fast (Few seconds)
- ✓ Accurate (as FreeSurfer)



Proposal → Fast, as Accurate

Dense Point Correspondence  
**300k+ meshes**

Beg, Miller, Trouvé, Younes, IJCV (2005)

Fischl, Sereno, Tootell, Dale, HBM (1999)

Yeo, Sabuncu, Vercauteren, Ayache, Fischl, Golland, TMI (2010)

**Lombaert, Grady, Polimeni, Cheriet, PAMI (2013)**



# Background on Spectral Shape Analysis

How to Represent and Exploit Surfaces?



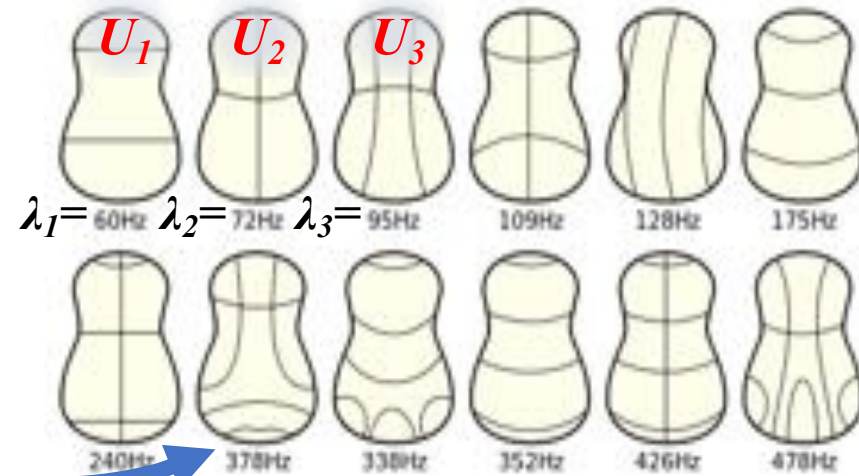
# Spectral Signature

Vibration patterns *governed by Shape*



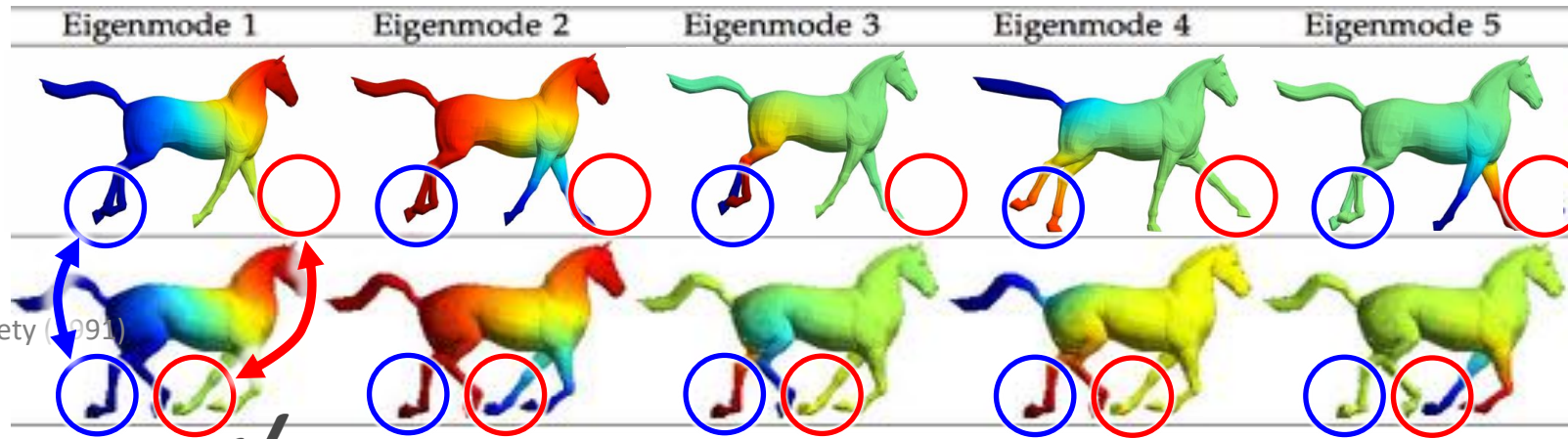
# Spectral Signature

Shape Vibration → Unique intrinsic Shape Signature



*Spectral Decomposition*

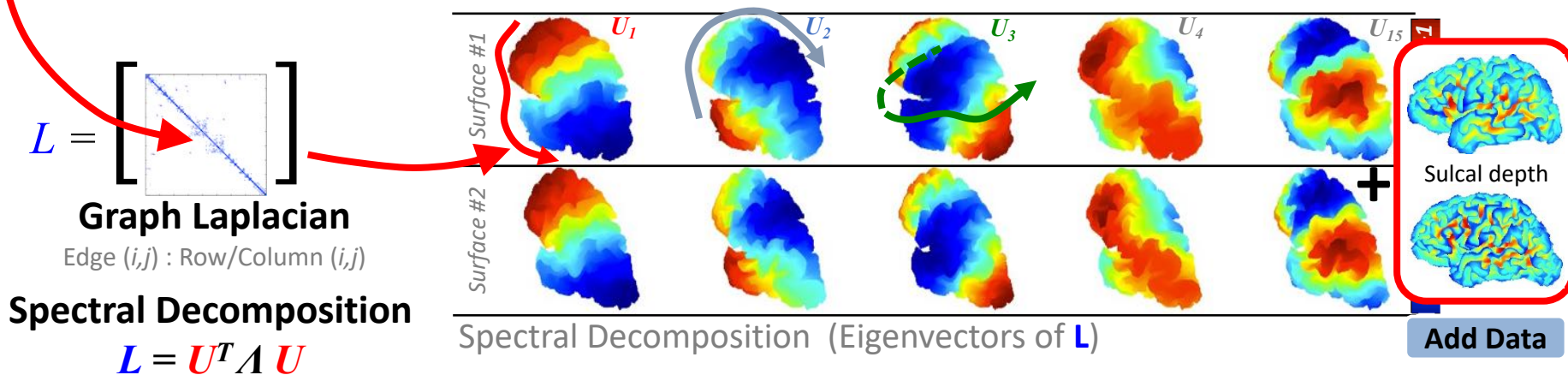
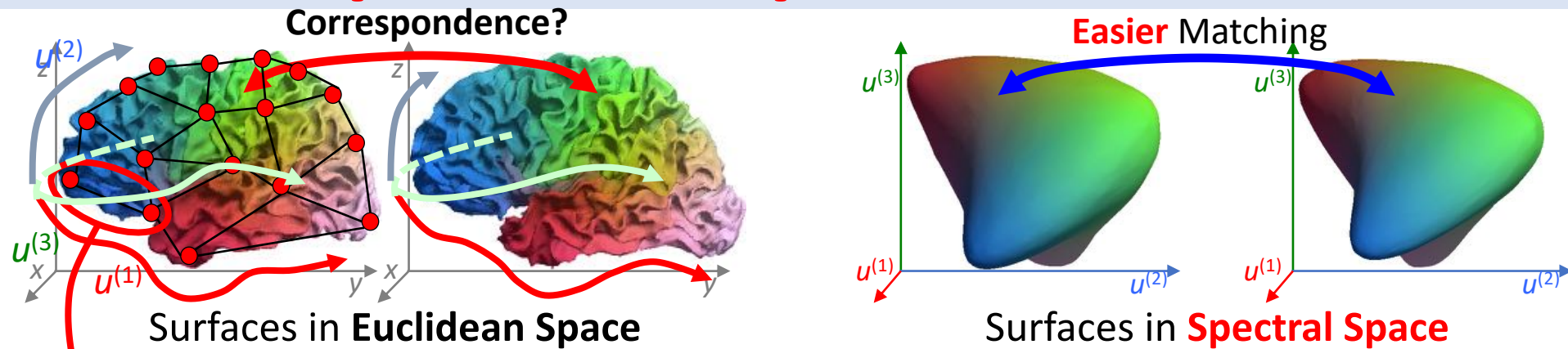
*Spectral Signature*



✓ Good: Equivalent Points → Same (shape) Spectral Coordinates

Umeyama, PAMI (1988)  
 Scott & Longuet-Higgins, Royal Society (1991)  
 Shapiro & Brady, IVC (1992)  
 Mateus, CVPR (2008)  
 Jain & Zhang, ICSMA (2006)  
 Reuter *et al.*, MICCAI (2007), CAD (2009)  
 Ovsjanikov *et al.*, SIGGRAPH (2012)  
**Lombaert, Grady, Polimeni, Cheriet, IPMI (2011), PAMI (2012)**

# Method – Spectral Shapes



**Energy:**

$$\phi(v_i) = \operatorname{argmin}_{\phi(v_i) \in B} \|D_A(v_i) - D_B(\phi(v_i))\|^2 +$$

**Data Term**

**Spatial Term**

**Nearest Neighbor Search** between vectors  $[D_A U_A]$  &  $[D_B U_B]$

Lombaert, Ayache, IPMI (2015)

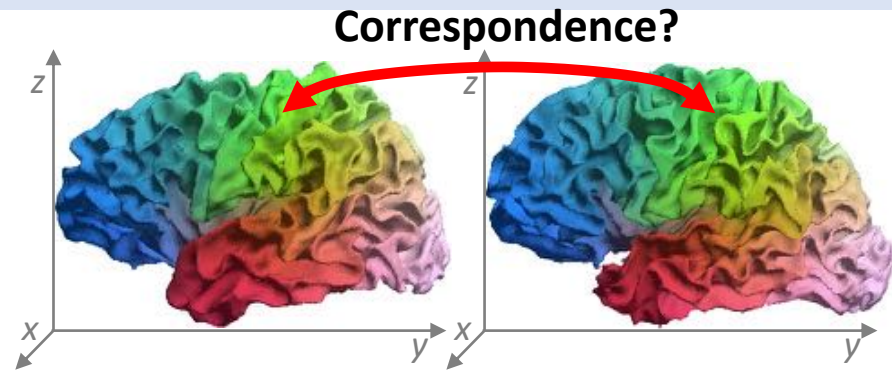
Lombaert, Sparring, Siddiqi, IPMI (2013)

Lombaert, Grady, Pennec, Ayache, Cheriet, ECCV (2012), IJCV (2014)

Lombaert, Grady, Polimeni, Cheriet, IPMI (2011), PAMI (2012)

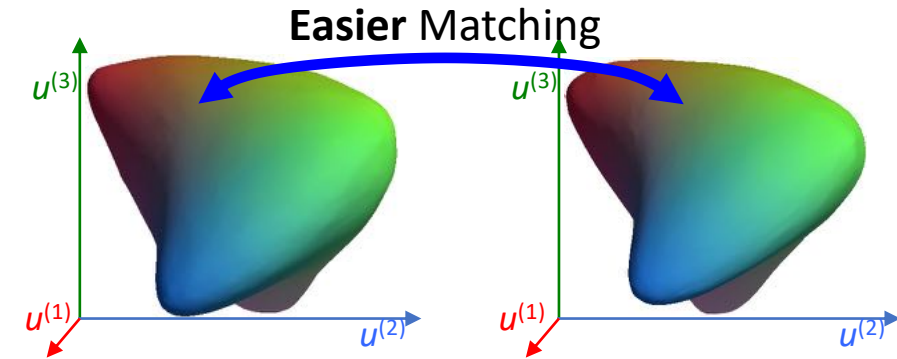


# Method – Spectral Shapes



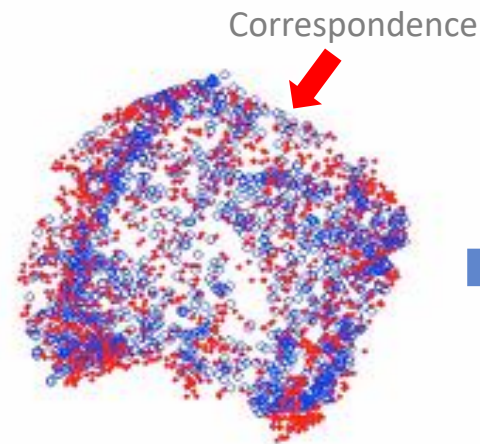
Surfaces in **Euclidean Space**

✗ Before (FreeSurfer): CPU (3-4hrs)



Surfaces in **Spectral Space**

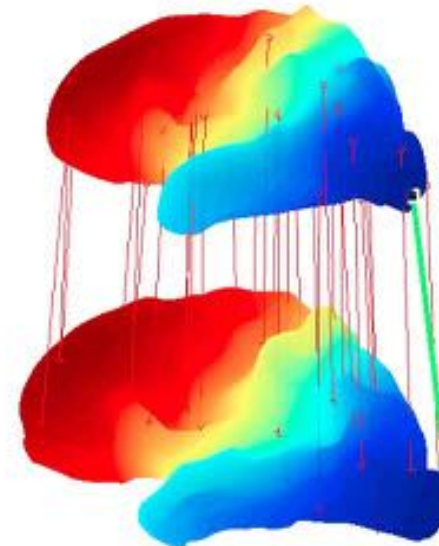
✓ After (Spectral Matching): < 1 min



**Spectral Matching**

Surface 1 in *Red*

Surface 2 in *Blue*



**Point-to-point Correspondence**

300K nodes, < 1 min

Lombaert, Ayache, IPMI (2015)

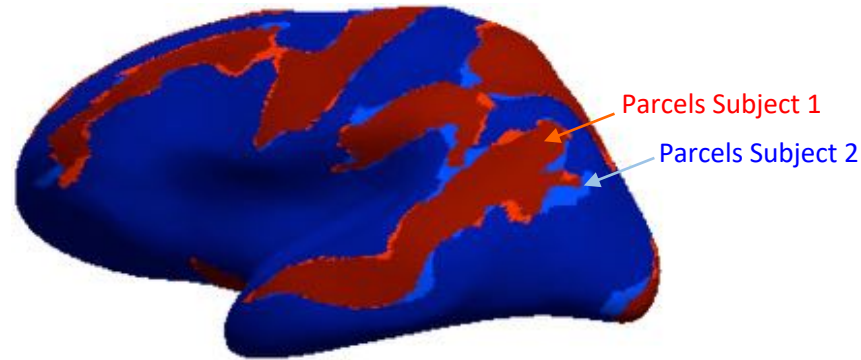
Lombaert, Sporring, Siddiqi, IPMI (2013)

Lombaert, Grady, Pennec, Ayache, Cheriet, ECCV (2012), IJCV (2014)

Lombaert, Grady, Polimeni, Cheriet, IPMI (2011), PAMI (2012)

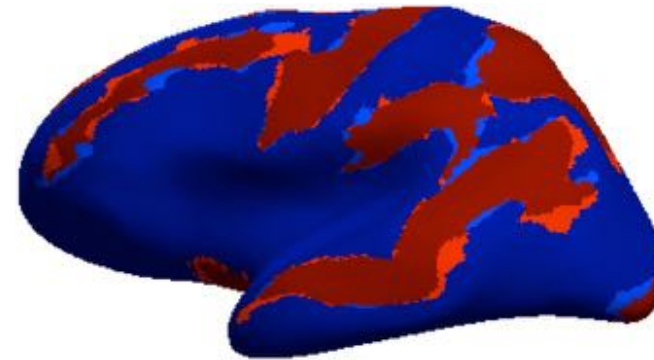


# Comparison with State-of-the-Art



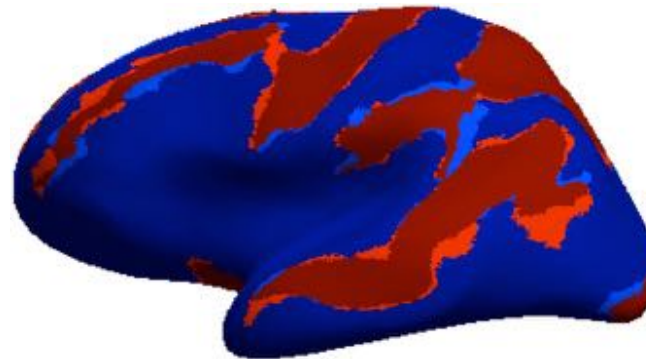
**FreeSurfer**

✓ Average Dice = **0.84** ( $\pm 0.08$ )  
✗ **2hrs + 1hrs** for one matching  
*(inflation) (matching)*



**Spherical Demons**

✓ Average Dice = **0.85** ( $\pm 0.07$ )  
✗ **2hrs + 3mins** for one matching  
*(inflation) (matching)*



**Spectral Matching**

Average Dice = **0.83** ( $\pm 0.08$ )  
**<1min** for one matching  
*(total)*

Fischl, Sereno, Tootell, Dale, HBM (1999)

Yeo, Sabuncu, Vercauteren, Ayache, Fischl, Golland, TMI (2010)

**Lombaert, Ayache, IPMI (2015)**

**Lombaert, Sporring, Siddiqi, IPMI (2013)**

**Lombaert, Grady, Pennec, Ayache, Cheriet, ECCV (2012), IJCV (2014)**

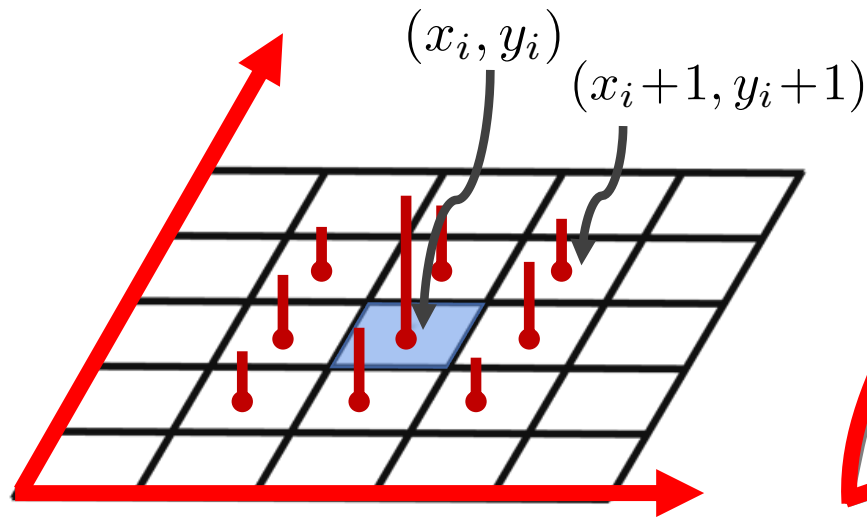
**Lombaert, Grady, Polimeni, Cheriet, IPMI (2011), PAMI (2012)**

# Learning?

## Moving Learning to the Spectral Domain

# Convolutions on Surfaces

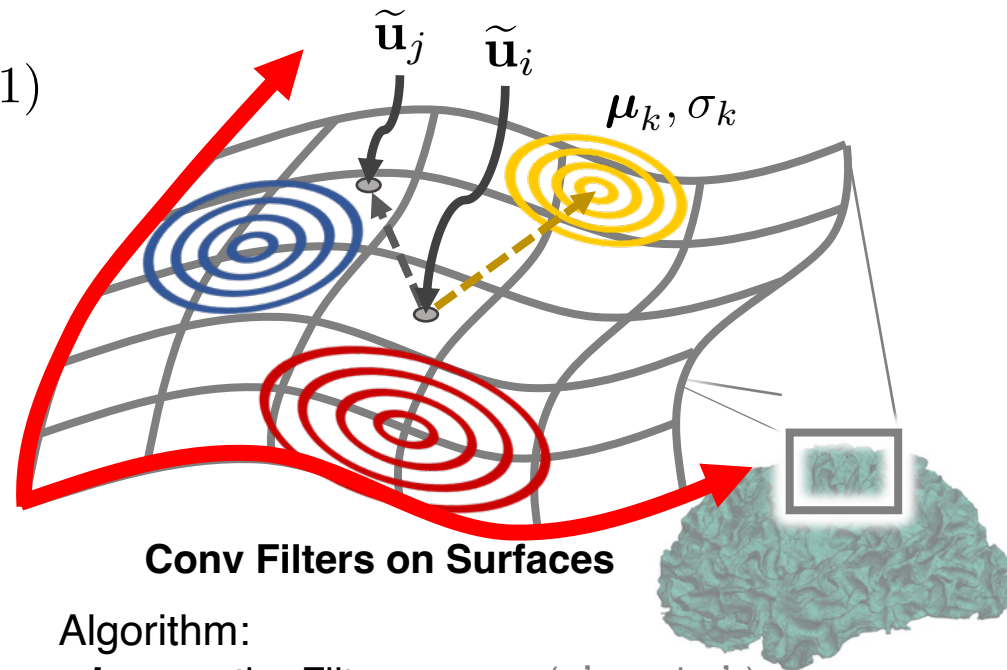
- Defining Kernels on **Curved Spaces**



Conv Filter on a Grid

Algorithm:

- **Learns** the Filter params (the red bars)
- Assumes neighbors are **on a grid**



Conv Filters on Surfaces

Algorithm:

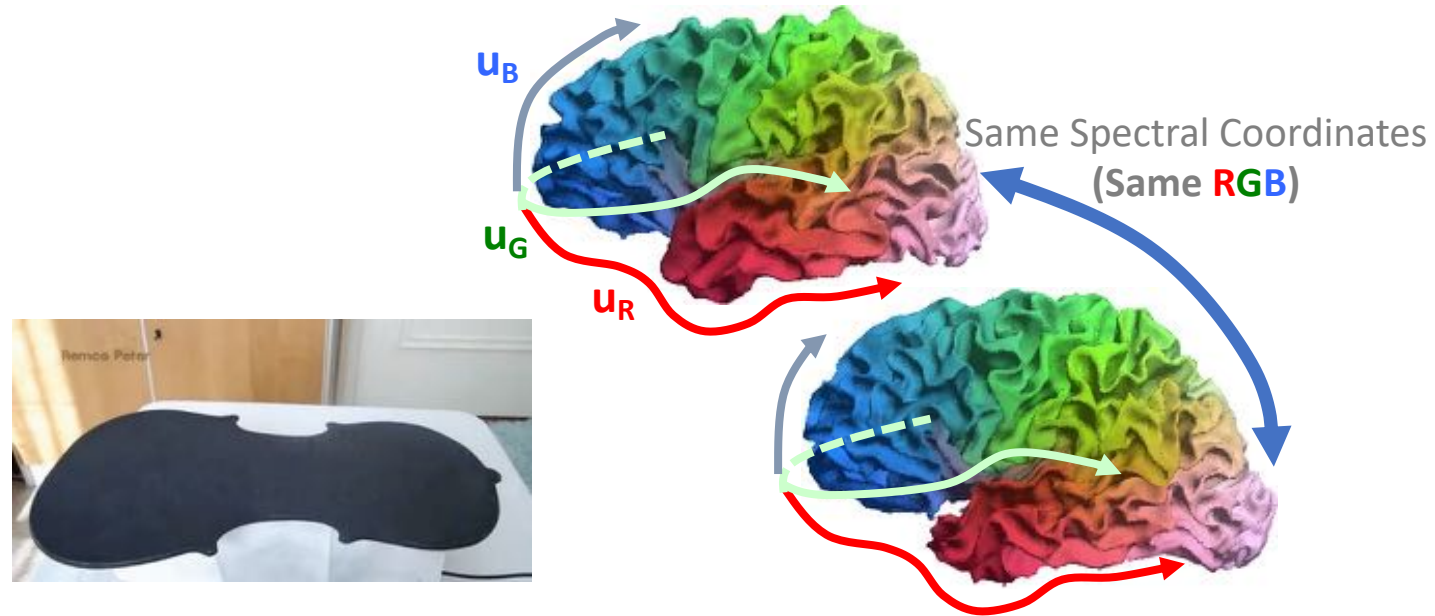
- **Learns** the Filter params ( $\mu$ 's and  $\sigma$ 's)
- Requires **Graph Neighborhoods**

Intrinsic Shape Parameterization

# Intrinsic Surface Parameterization

- **Spectral Coordinates**

- an Intrinsic Surface Parameterization

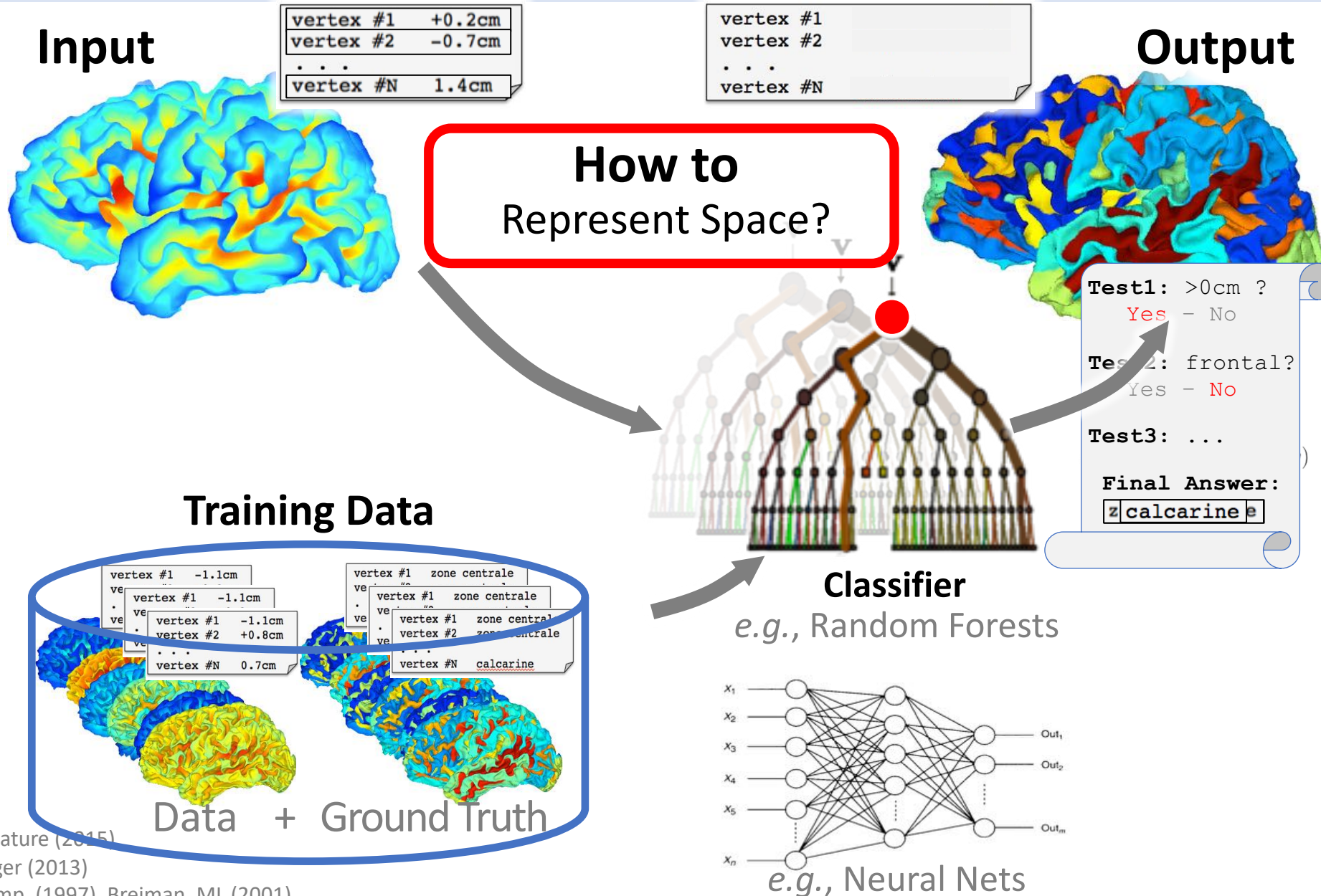


**Spectral Coordinates**  
Equivalent Points → **Similar Shape Characteristics**



# Approach: Learning on Surfaces

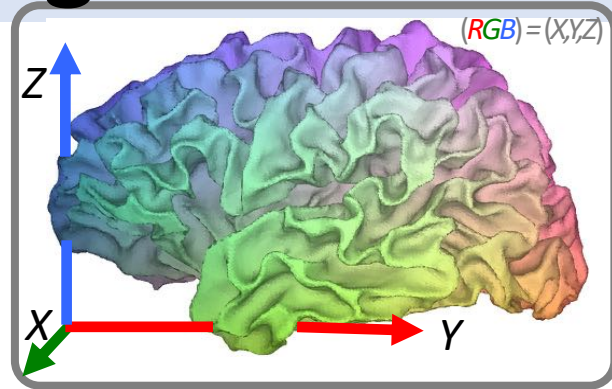
[Lombaert MICCAI'15]



LeCun, Bengio, Hinton, Nature (2015)  
Criminisi, Shotton, Springer (2013)  
Amit, Geman, Neural Comp. (1997), Breiman, ML (2001)

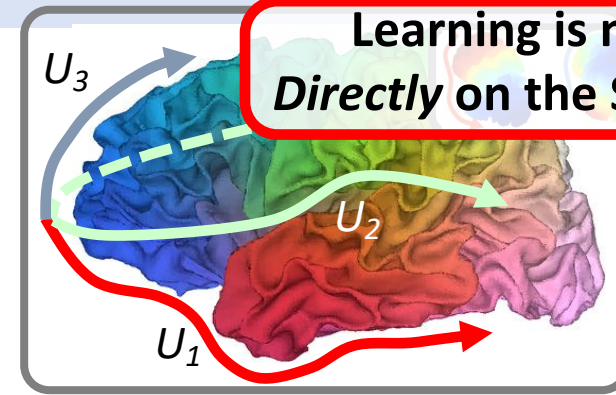
# Learning on Surfaces

[Lombaert MICCAI'15]



## Standard Euclidean Forests

Based on Euclidean Coordinates



Learning is now  
Directly on the Surface

## Spectral Forests

Spectral Coordinates **is Geometry Aware**

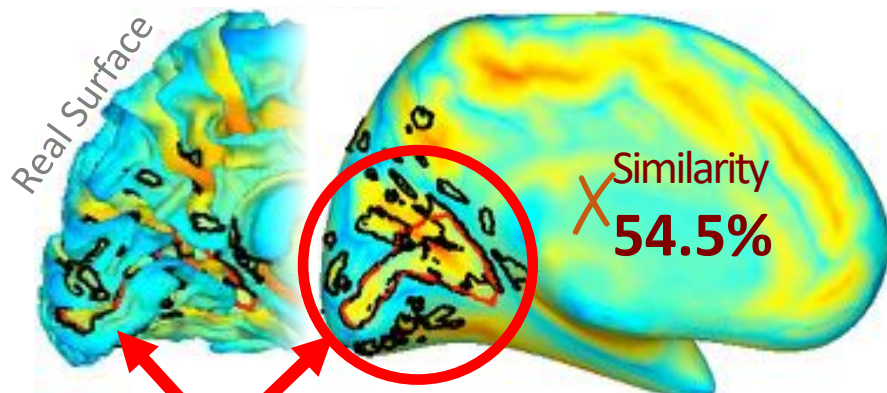
$$v = [\text{Data}, \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{z}]$$

Simple Change

$$v = [\text{Data}, \mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3]$$

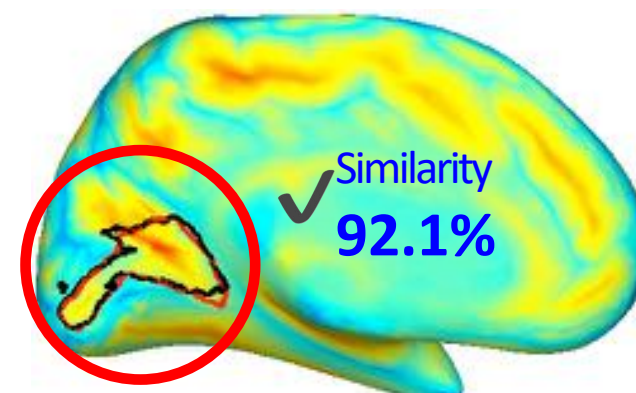
vertex #1	-1.1cm	(pos)	0.1, 12.4, 1.3
vertex #2	+0.8cm	(pos)	8.2, 1.3, 7.4
⋮			
vertex #N	+0.7cm	(pos)	9.8, 19.7, 8.9

vertex #1	-1.1cm	(s.pos)	0.7, -0.2, 0.3
vertex #2	+0.8cm	(s.pos)	0.8, -0.1, 0.4
⋮			
vertex #N	+0.7cm	(s.pos)	0.9, 0.8, 0.9



Visual Cortex (Red)

Reason: Ignore  
Complex Geometry

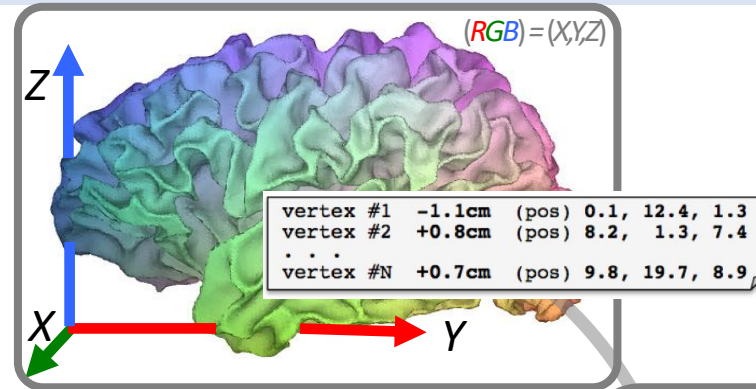


Reason: Learning exploits  
the **geometry** of the shape



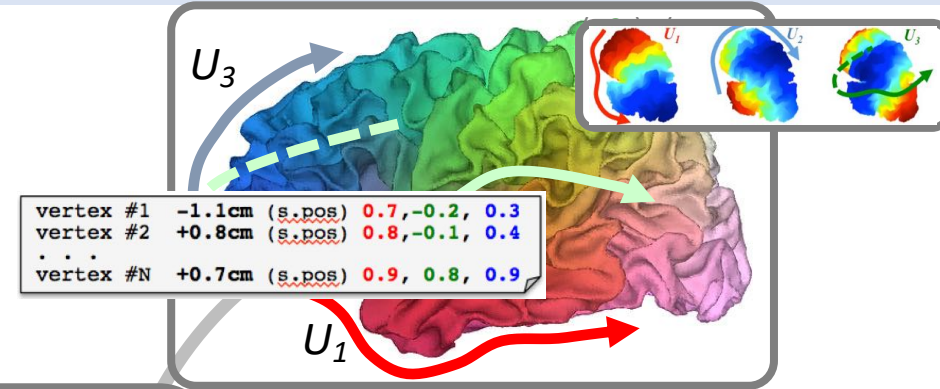
# Application: Learning on Surfaces

[Lombaert MICCAI'15]



## Standard Forests

Spatial Representation is extrinsic



## Spectral Forests

Learning is *Directly* on the surface

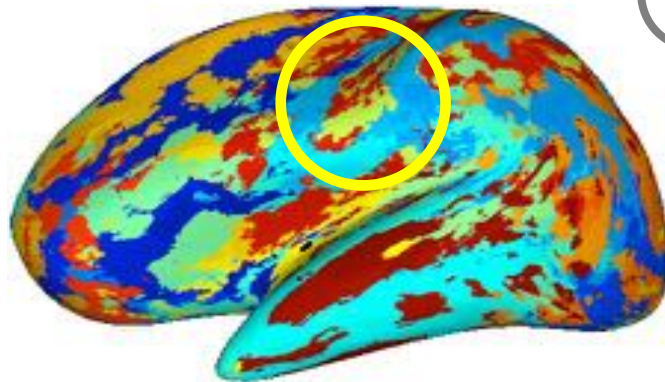
**X Ignore the Geometry**  
(Complex Shapes of surfaces)

vertex #1	zone centrale
vertex #2	zone centrale
...	
vertex #N	calcarine

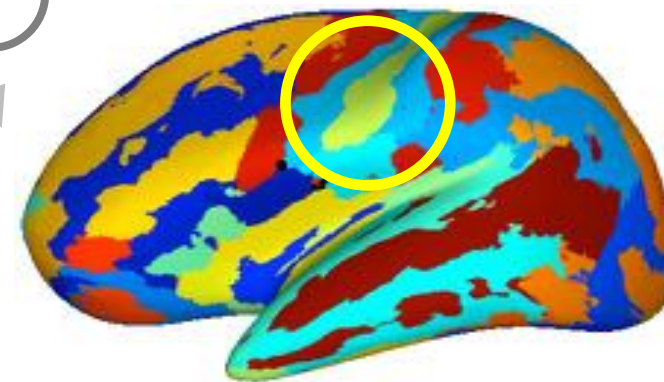
## Classifier

Random Forests

**Now Geometry Aware**  
(Learning directly on surfaces)



Avg. Dice = **31.0%** ( $\pm 15.5$ )  
Avg. Dist. = 5.80mm ( $\pm 4.24$ , max 38.02)



Avg. Dice = **77.6%** ( $\pm 11.41$ )  
Avg. Dist. = 2.02mm ( $\pm 1.67$ , max 17.56)

**Complete Segmentation**  
(77 regions)

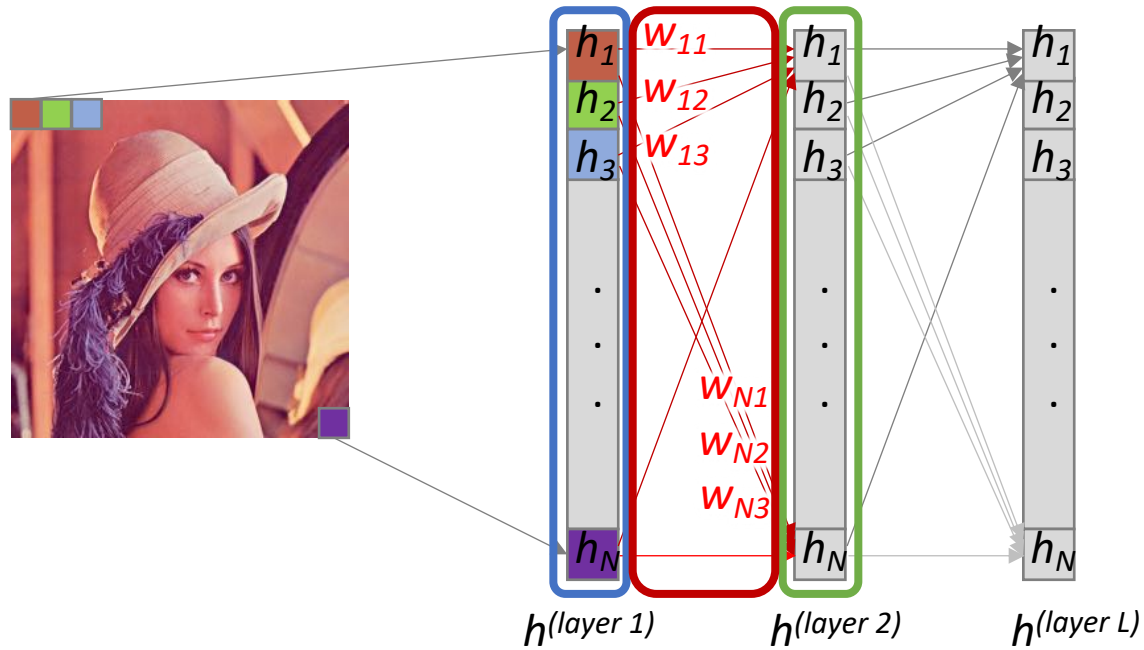


# Background on Geometric Deep Learning

How to Learn on Graph Node Data?



# Neural Network on Images

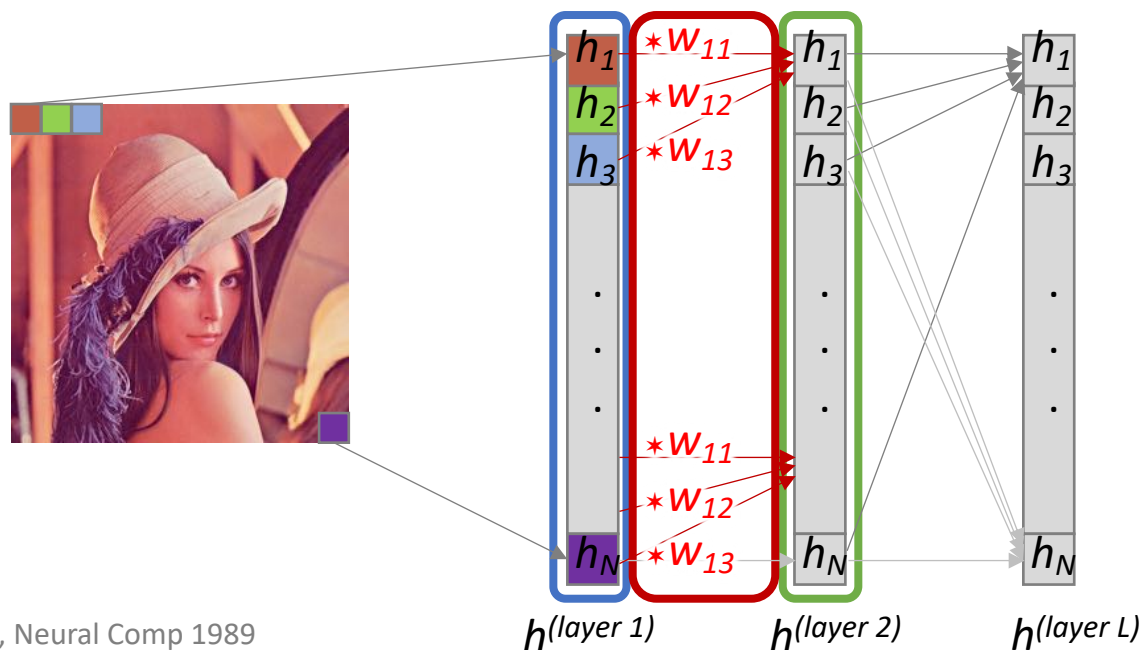
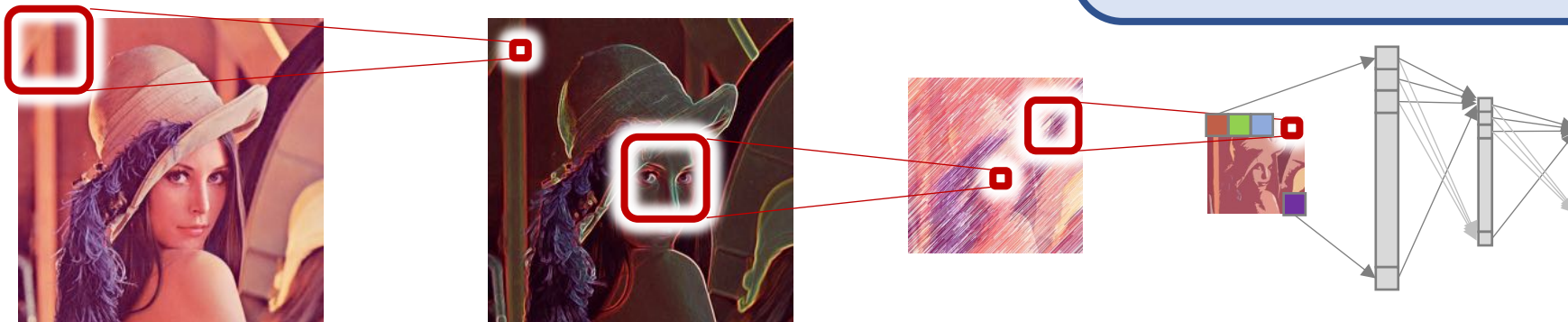


$$h_i^{(l+1)}(x) = \sigma \left( \sum_{j=1}^N h_j^{(l)}(x) \cdot w_{ij} \right)$$

**Problem if** image content **moves**  
**X** No invariance to **translation**

# Convolutions on Images

One Solution: Let's **move** along the image  
 ✓ **Invariance** to translation



**Convolution**

$$h_i^{(l+1)}(x) = \sigma \left( \sum_{j=1}^N (h_j^{(l)} \star w_{ij}) (x) \right)$$

Well defined on Images  
**How** to do this **on Graphs?**

# Convolutions on Graphs

- Remember: Convolutions and **Fourier**
  - Convolution in Euclidean space  $\leftrightarrow$  Multiplication in Fourier Space

$$\mathcal{F}\{f \star g\} = \mathcal{F}\{f\} \cdot \mathcal{F}\{g\}$$

An image      A conv filter

**How** to use such **filters on Graph?**

# Spectral Convolutions on Graphs

- Approximation of **conv. filter** with Chebyshev Polynomials

$$\boxed{f \star g} = \mathcal{F}^{-1}\{\mathcal{F}\{f\} \cdot \mathcal{F}\{g\}\}$$
$$= \Phi(\Phi^T \mathbf{g}) \odot (\Phi^T \mathbf{f}) \quad \text{In Fourier Space, matrix notation}$$

$$= \Phi \operatorname{diag}(\mathcal{F}\{g\}) \Phi^T \mathbf{f}$$

$\operatorname{diag}(\mathcal{F}\{g\})$  expressed in terms of  $\lambda$

$$= \Phi \operatorname{diag}(\mathcal{F}\{g(\lambda)\}) \Phi^T \mathbf{f}$$

$\mathcal{F}\{g(\lambda)\}$  approximated with Chebyshev Polynomials:

$$\approx \Phi \operatorname{diag} \left( \sum_{k=0}^K \theta_k T_k(\lambda) \right) \Phi^T \mathbf{f} \quad \mathcal{F}\{g(\lambda)\} = \sum_{k=0}^K \theta_k T_k(\lambda)$$

insert  $L$  with  $U \hat{g}(\lambda) U^T = \hat{g}(U \lambda U^T) = \hat{g}(L)$

$$= \sum_{k=0}^K \theta_k T_k(L) \mathbf{f}$$

simplification with First-order Chebyshev

$$\approx \theta_0 \mathbf{f} - \theta_1 D^{-\frac{1}{2}} A D^{-\frac{1}{2}} \mathbf{f}$$

simplification with single parameter

$$\theta = \theta_0 = -\theta_1$$

$$\approx \theta \left( I + D^{-\frac{1}{2}} A D^{-\frac{1}{2}} \right) \mathbf{f}$$

Easy Convolution **on Graphs**



# Spectral Convolutions on Graphs

- **Simple** Convolution via Graph Laplacians

$$f \star g = \sum_{k=0}^K \theta_k T_k(L) \mathbf{f}$$

$$\approx \theta_0 \mathbf{f} - \theta_1 D^{-\frac{1}{2}} A D^{-\frac{1}{2}} \mathbf{f}$$

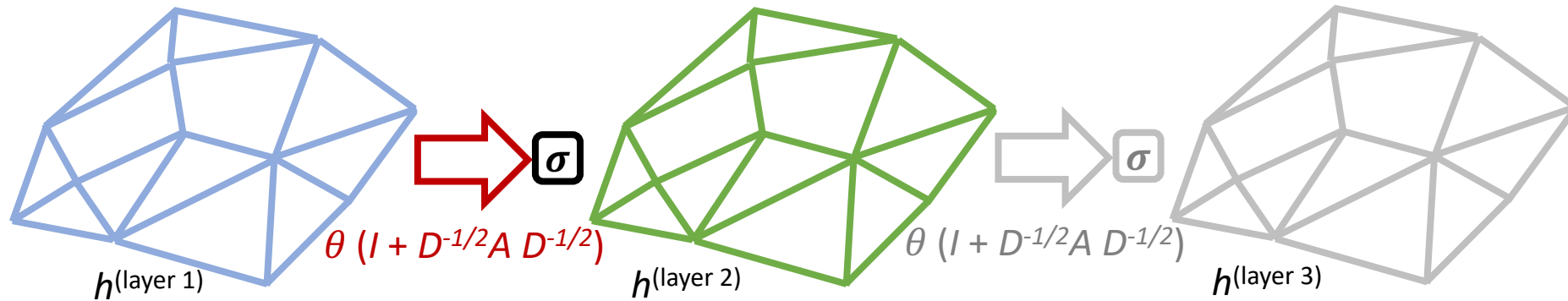
$$\approx \theta \left( I + D^{-\frac{1}{2}} A D^{-\frac{1}{2}} \right) \mathbf{f}$$

Easy Convolution **on Graphs**

$$h_i^{(l+1)}(x) = \sigma \left( \sum_{j=1}^N \left( h_j^{(l)} \star w_{ij} \right) (x) \right)$$

$$h_i^{(l+1)}(x) = \sigma \left( \theta h_i^{(l)}(x) + \theta \frac{1}{\sqrt{d_i}} \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} a_{ij} \frac{1}{\sqrt{d_j}} h_j^{(l)}(x) \right)$$

**Simple** Convolution Layer

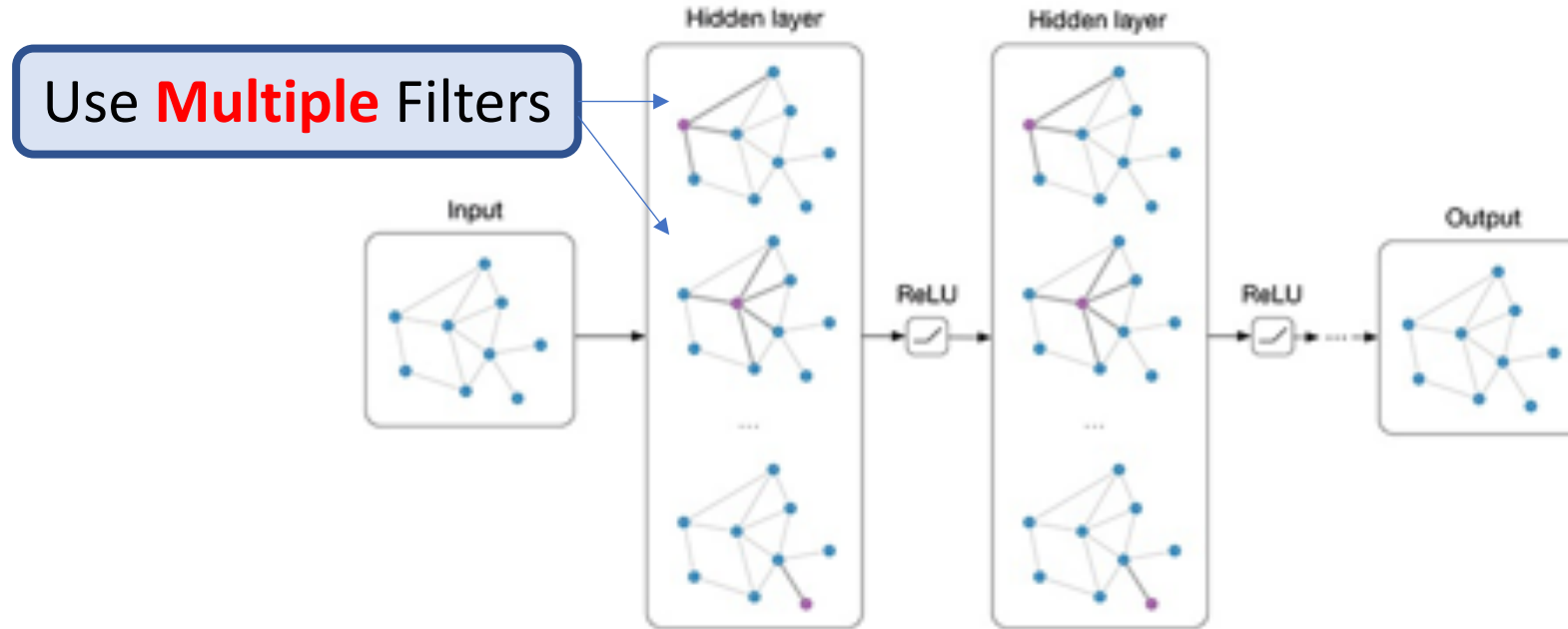


**Too Simple for Fun Kernels?**

Hammond *et al*, Harmonic Anal 2011  
 Defferrard *et al*, NeurIPS 2016  
 Kipf, Welling, ICLR 2017  
 Bruna *et al*, ICML 2014  
 Duvenaud *et al*, NeurIPS 2015  
 Levie *et al*, ICLR 2018

# Spectral Convolutions on Graphs

- Exploits **Graph Laplacian** and Convolutions over **Graph Neighbors**



[Image Courtesy: Kipf, GCN, 2016]

## Problem:

- Need for **Richer** kernels
- Constrained to **Fixed** Graph Structure

Hammond *et al*, Harmonic Anal 2011

Bruna *et al*, ICML 2014

Defferrard *et al*, NeurIPS 2016

Duvenaud *et al*, NeurIPS 2015

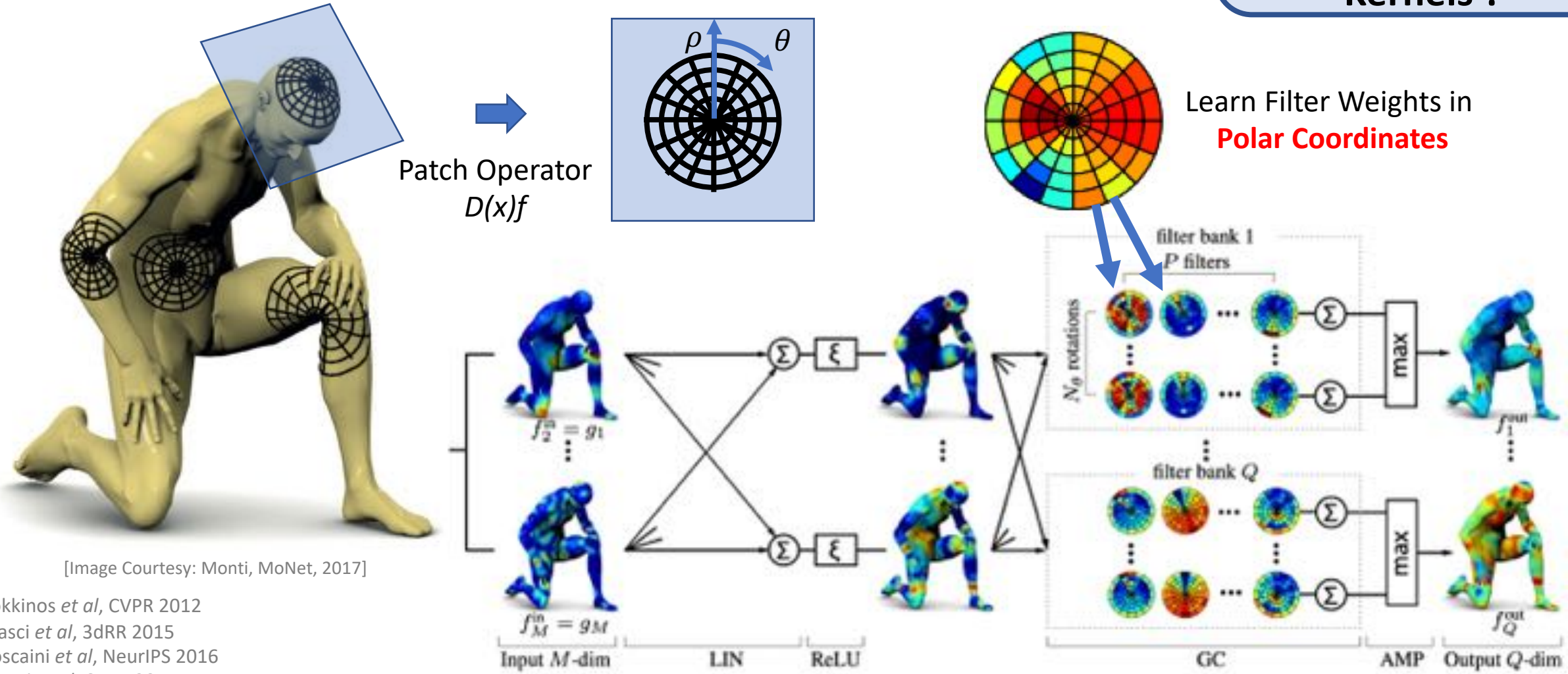
Kipf, Welling, ICLR 2017

Levie *et al*, ICLR 2018

# Spatial Convolutions on Graphs

- Richer **Filters** on **Tangent Planes** of Manifolds

How to **Parameterize** **Kernels** ?



[Image Courtesy: Monti, MoNet, 2017]

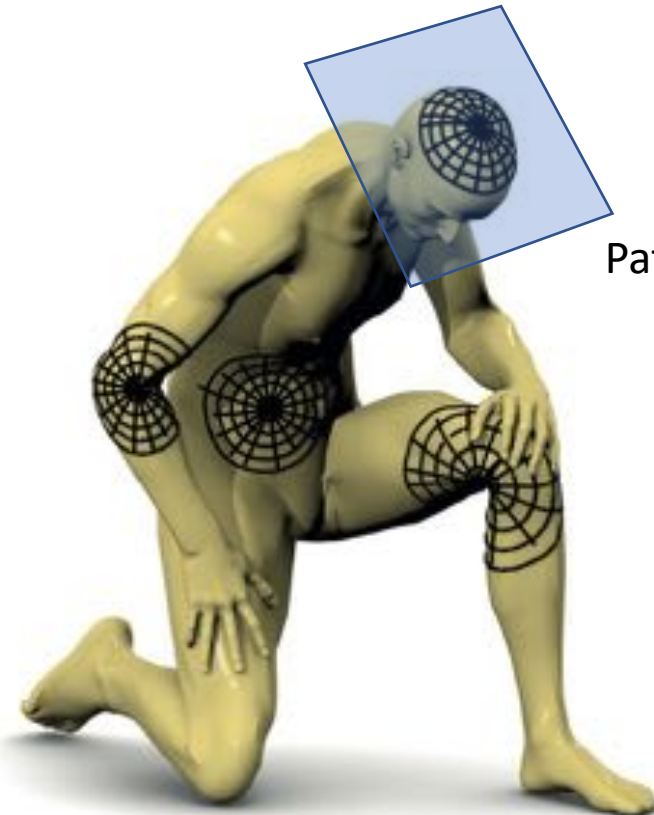
- Kokkinos *et al*, CVPR 2012
- Masci *et al*, 3dRR 2015
- Boscaini *et al*, NeurIPS 2016
- Monti *et al*, CVPR 2017
- Fey *et al*, CVPR 2018

[Image Courtesy: Masci, Geodesic CNN, 2015]

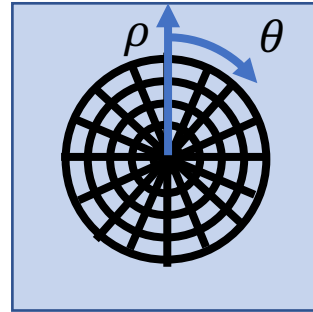
# Spatial Convolutions on Graphs

- Richer **Kernels** on **Tangent Planes** of Manifolds

Patch **Orientation?**  
Patch **Construction?**



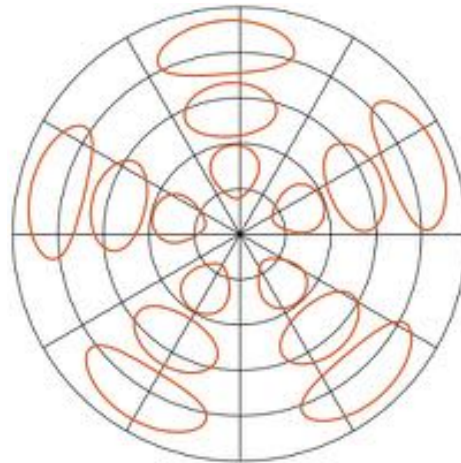
Patch Operator  
 $D(x)f$



Learn Kernel Parameters

$$h_i^{(l+1)}(x) = \sigma \left( \sum_{j=1}^{N_i} h_j^{(l)} * w_{ij}(x) \right)$$

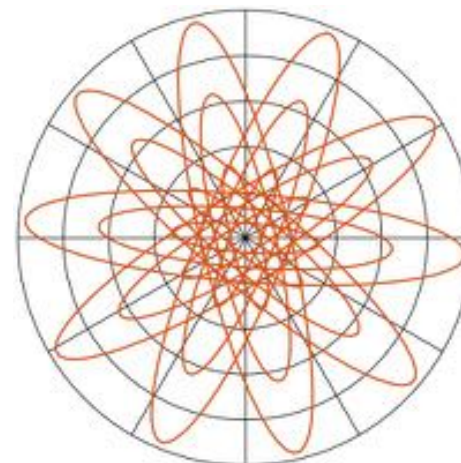
Richer Kernels on Shapes



$$w(u) = \exp \left( -\frac{1}{2} (u - \mu_{\rho, \theta})^T \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_{\rho} & \\ & \sigma_{\theta} \end{pmatrix}^{-1} (u - \mu_{\rho, \theta}) \right)$$

**Geodesic CNN**

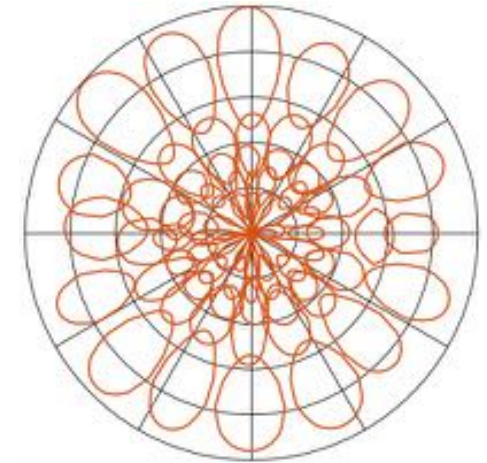
[Masci et al, 3dRR 2015]



$$w(u) = \exp \left( -tu^T R \begin{pmatrix} \alpha & \\ & 1 \end{pmatrix}^{-1} R^T u \right)$$

**Anisotropic GCNN**

[Boscaini et al, NeurIPS 2016]



$$w(u) = \exp \left( -\frac{1}{2} (u - \mu_{\rho, \theta})^T \Sigma_{\rho, \theta}^{-1} (u - \mu_{\rho, \theta}) \right)$$

**Mixture of Gaussians GCNN**

[Monti et al, CVPR 2017]

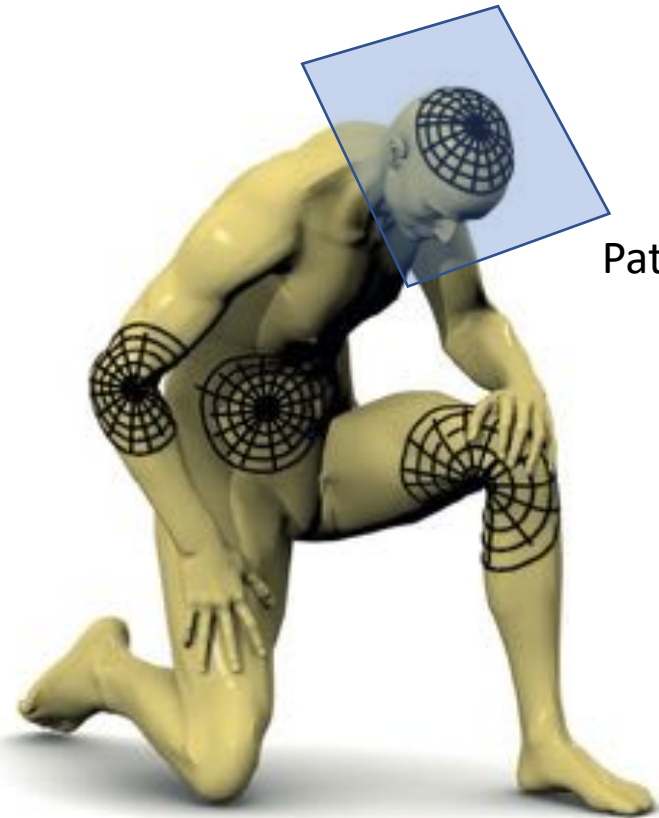
[Image Courtesy: Monti, MoNet, 2017]

- Kokkinos et al, CVPR 2012
- Masci et al, 3dRR 2015
- Boscaini et al, NeurIPS 2016
- Monti et al, CVPR 2017
- Fey et al, CVPR 2018



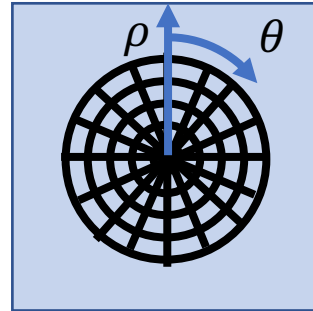
# Spatial Convolutions on Graphs

- Construction of Polar Patches



[Image Courtesy: Monti, MoNet, 2017]

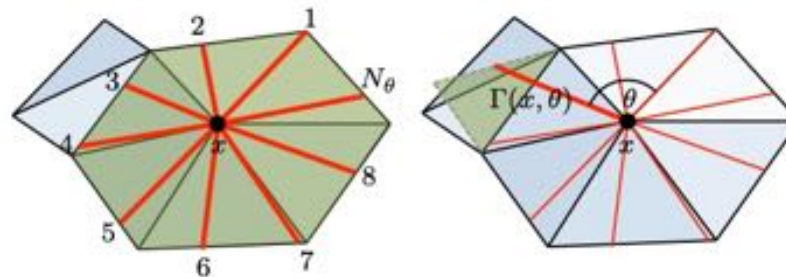
Patch Operator  
 $D(x)f$



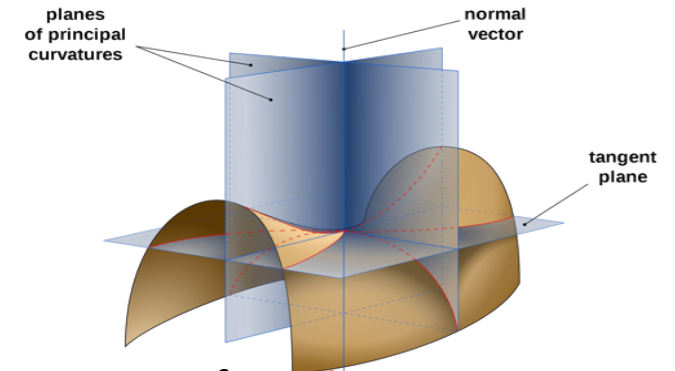
**Costly,  
Arbitrary?**

**Patch Construction?**

**Patch Orientation?**



**Geodesic** Polylines across triangles



Lines of **Maximum Curvature**

Kokkinos *et al*, CVPR 2012  
Masci *et al*, 3dRR 2015  
Boscaini *et al*, NeurIPS 2016  
Monti *et al*, CVPR 2017  
Fey *et al*, CVPR 2018

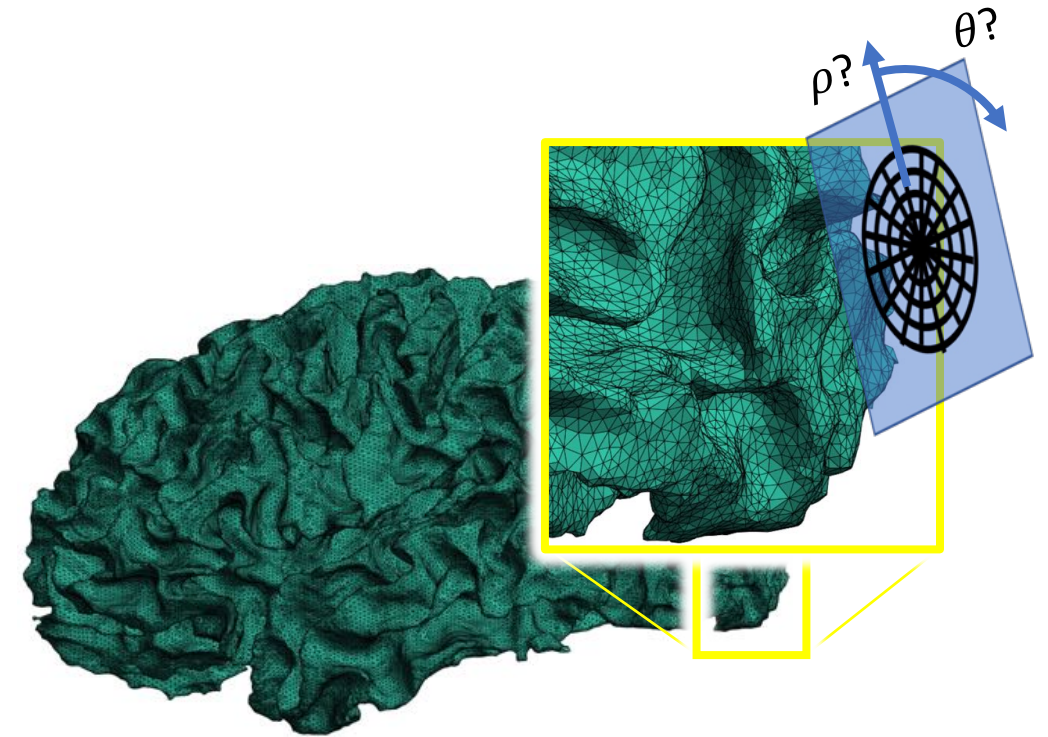
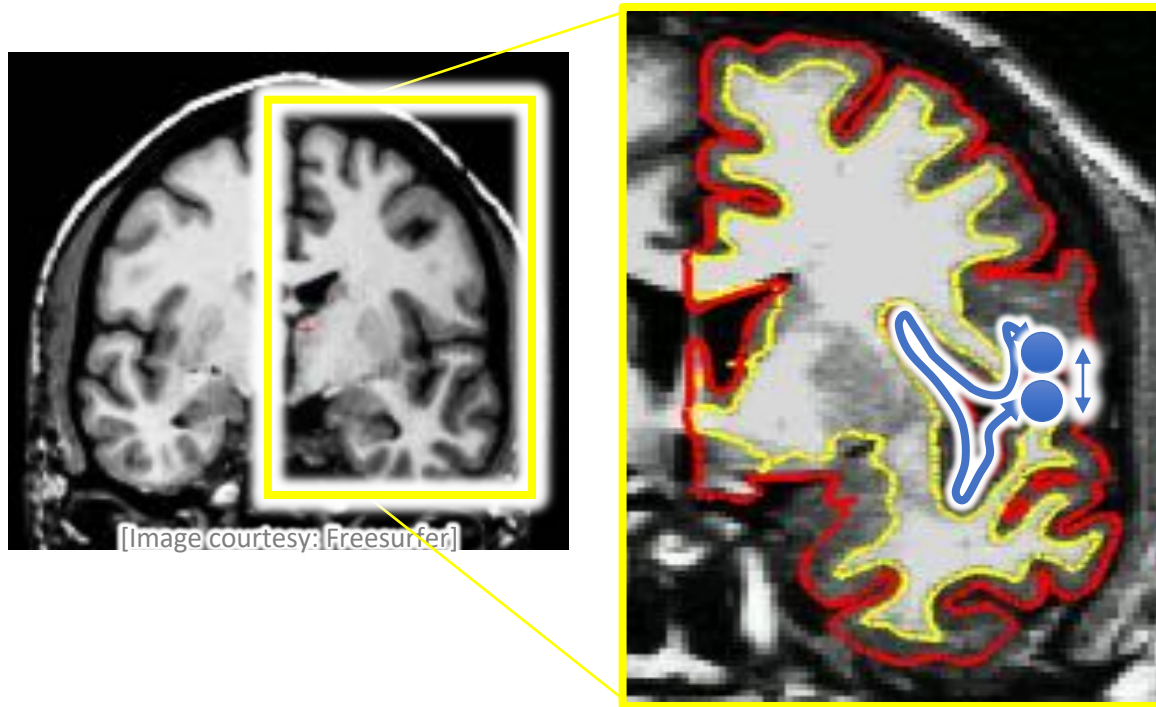


# Limitations of Geometric Deep Learning

What is preventing Generalization to Arbitrary Surfaces?

# Challenges in Medical Imaging

- **Geometrical Complexity** of Surfaces



Surfaces – How to Create & Navigate patches  
*(where is 'up' in a sulcus?)*

## Problem – Convolutions in Image Space

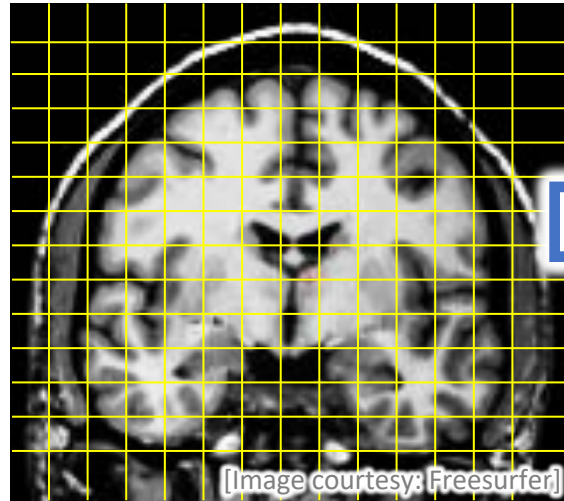
- **Distance Ambiguity**
- Volumes –vs– **Surfaces**
- **Confusing** for Learning Algorithms

## Problem – Convolutions in Mesh Space

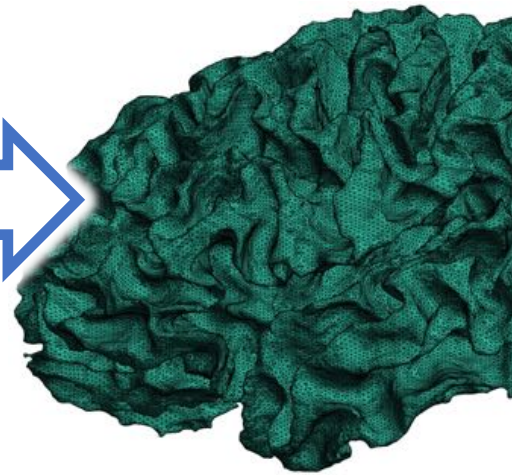
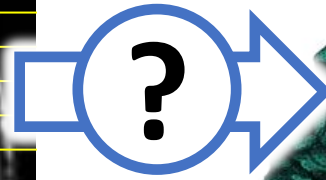
- Patch construction
- **Highly folded** surfaces
- **Confusing** for Learning Filters

# Challenges in Medical Imaging

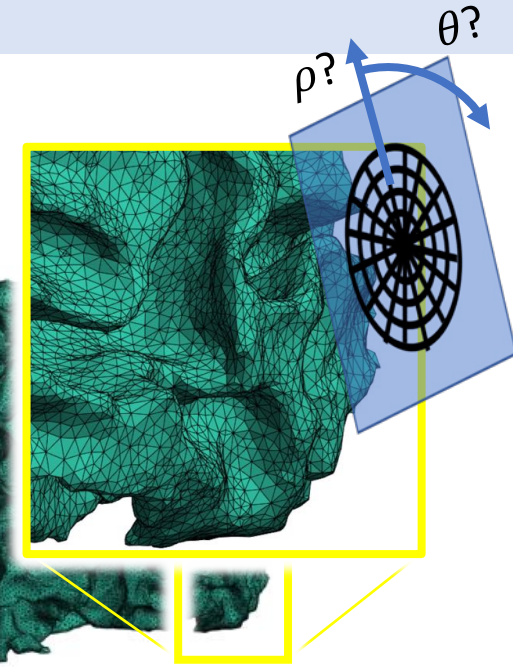
- Representation of **Mesh Coordinates**



**Point Coordinates**  
defined as  $(x,y,z)$  Coordinates



**Mesh Coordinates?**  
 $(x,y,z); (\rho, \theta)$  inadequate in Euclidean Space

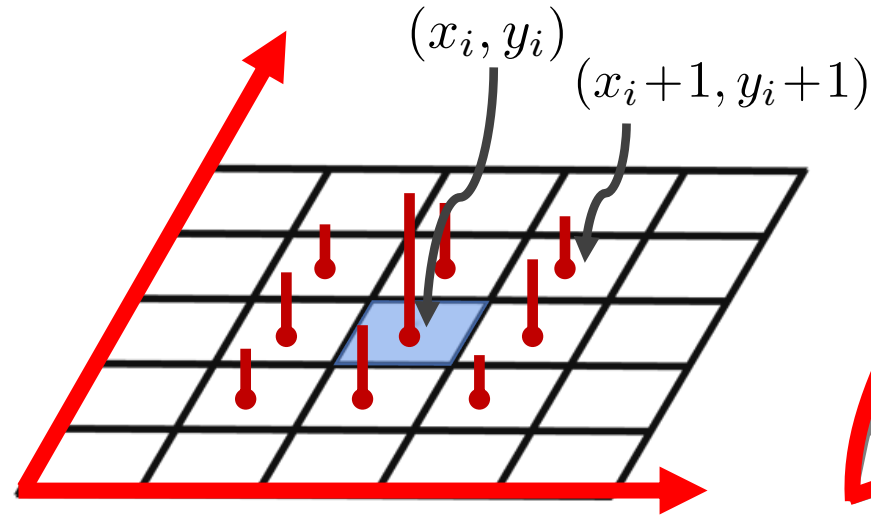


**Mesh Coordinates**  
**Inadequate in Euclidean Space**



# Challenges in Medical Imaging

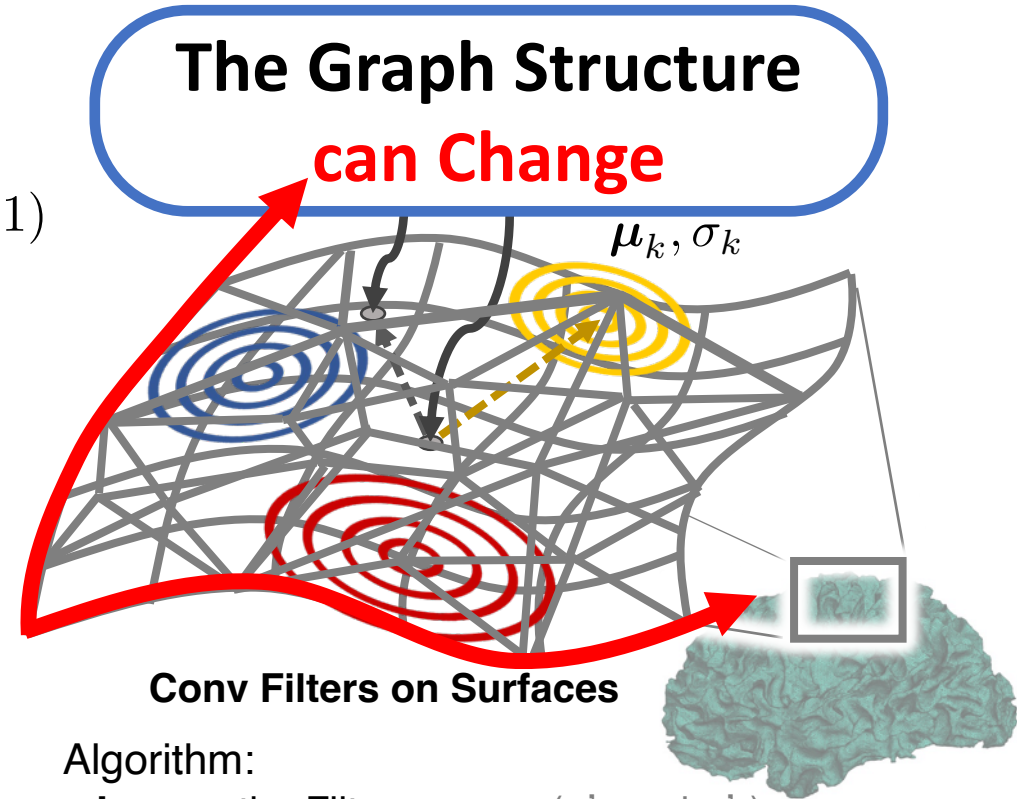
- Varying Mesh **Triangulations**



Conv Filter on a Grid

Algorithm:

- **Learns** the Filter params (the red bars)
- Supposes neighbors are **on a grid**



Conv Filters on Surfaces

Algorithm:

- **Learns** the Filter params ( $\mu$ 's and  $\sigma$ 's)
- Requires **Graph Neighborhoods**

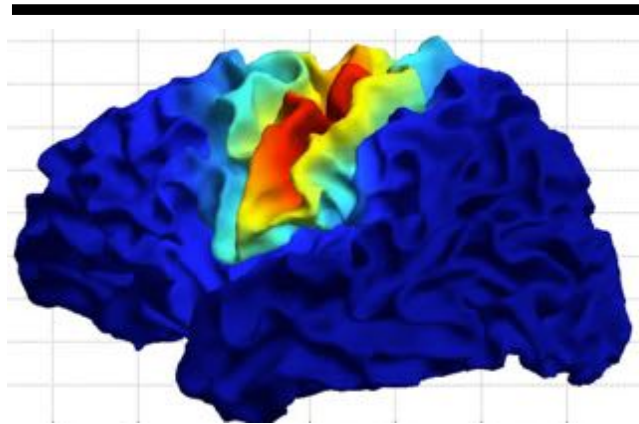
How to **Parameterize**  
a Brain Surface?

# Challenge – Images vs Surfaces

## Convolution



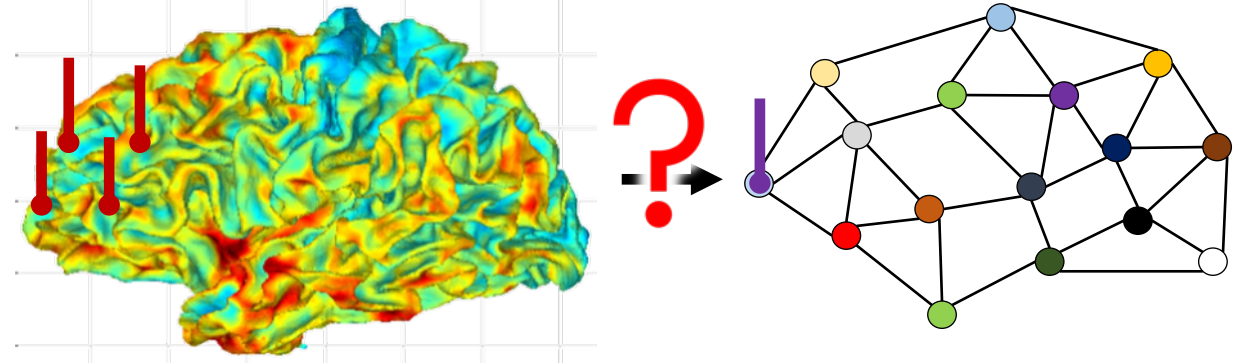
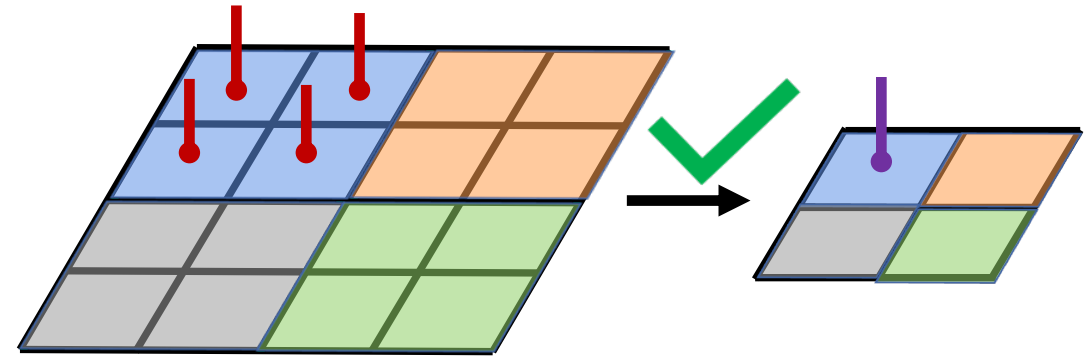
on images



on surfaces



## Pooling

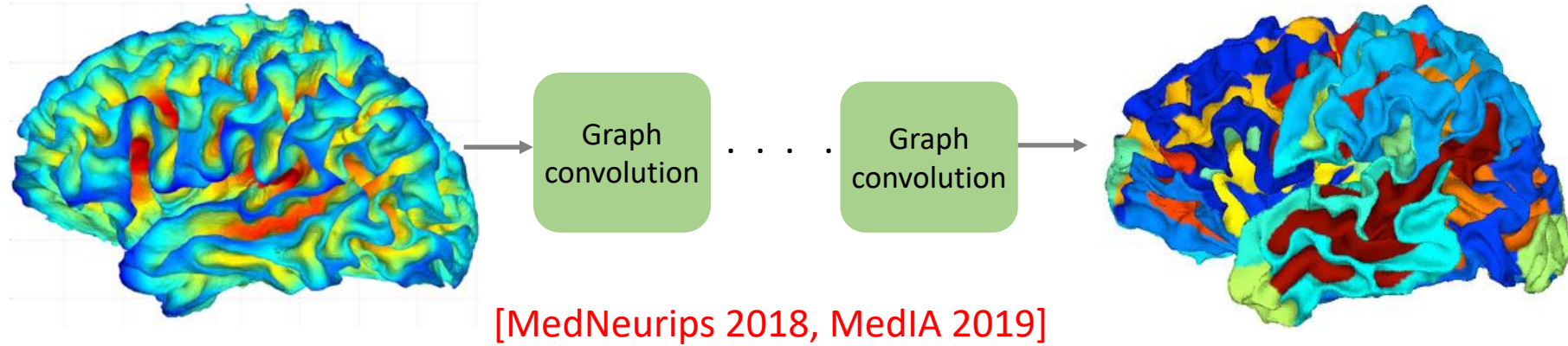


How to learn **on** surfaces?

# Graph Networks – Two Contributions

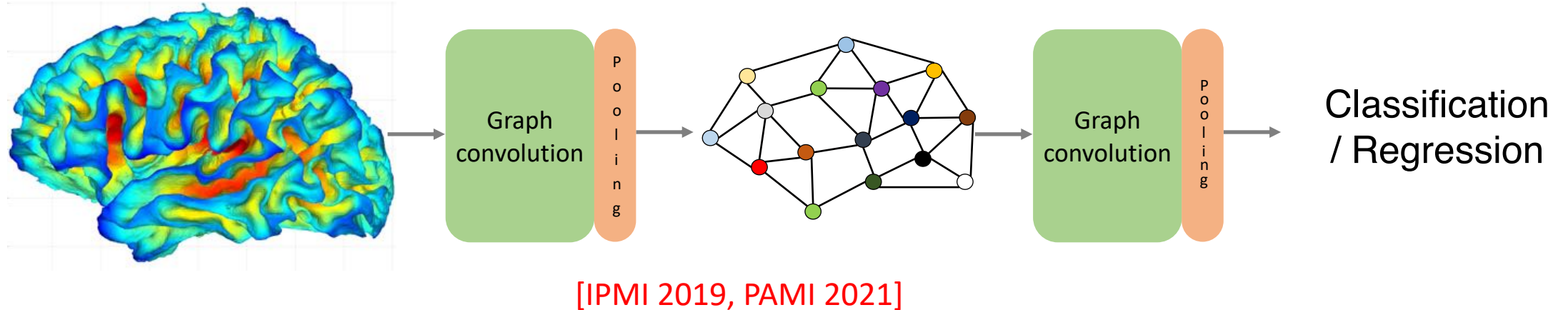
## Graph Convolutions on Spectral Embeddings for Cortical Surface Parcellation

(1)



## Learnable Pooling in Graph Convolutional Networks for Brain Surface Analysis

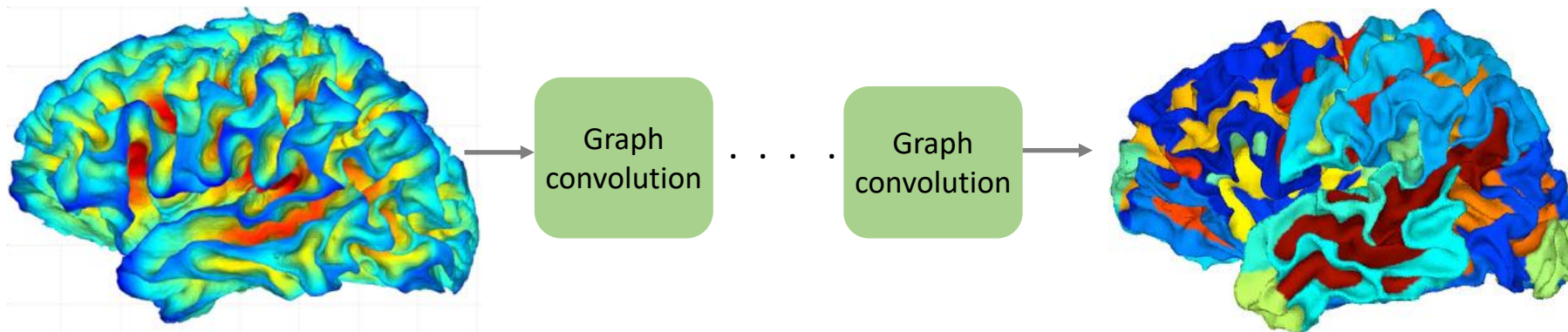
(2)



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# One Contribution: Localized **Graph Convolutions**

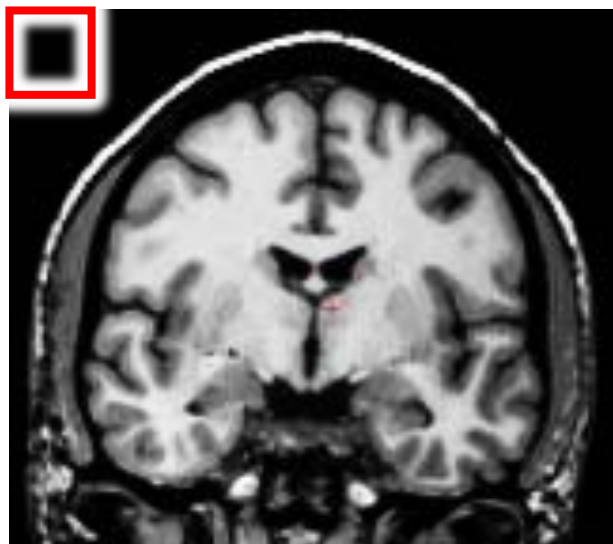
How to Navigate Graph Convolutions on Arbitrary Surfaces?



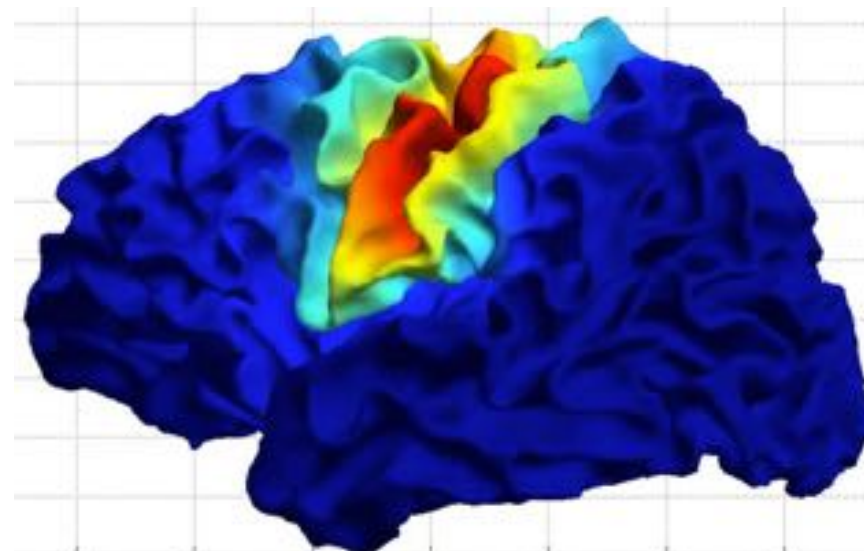


# Convolutions on Surfaces

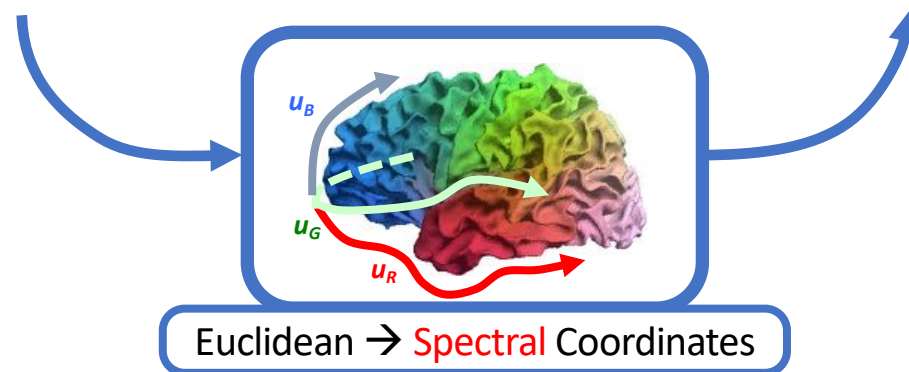
- Convolutions on Spectral Embeddings



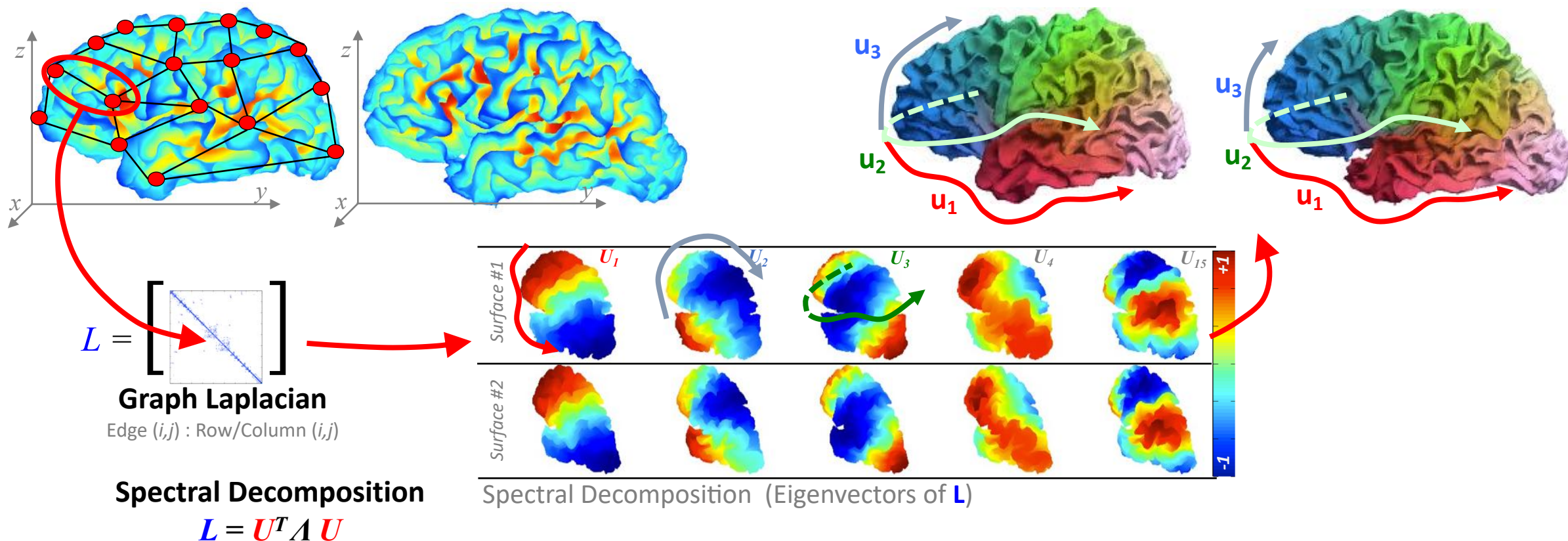
Convolution on an Image



Graph Convolution on a Brain Surface

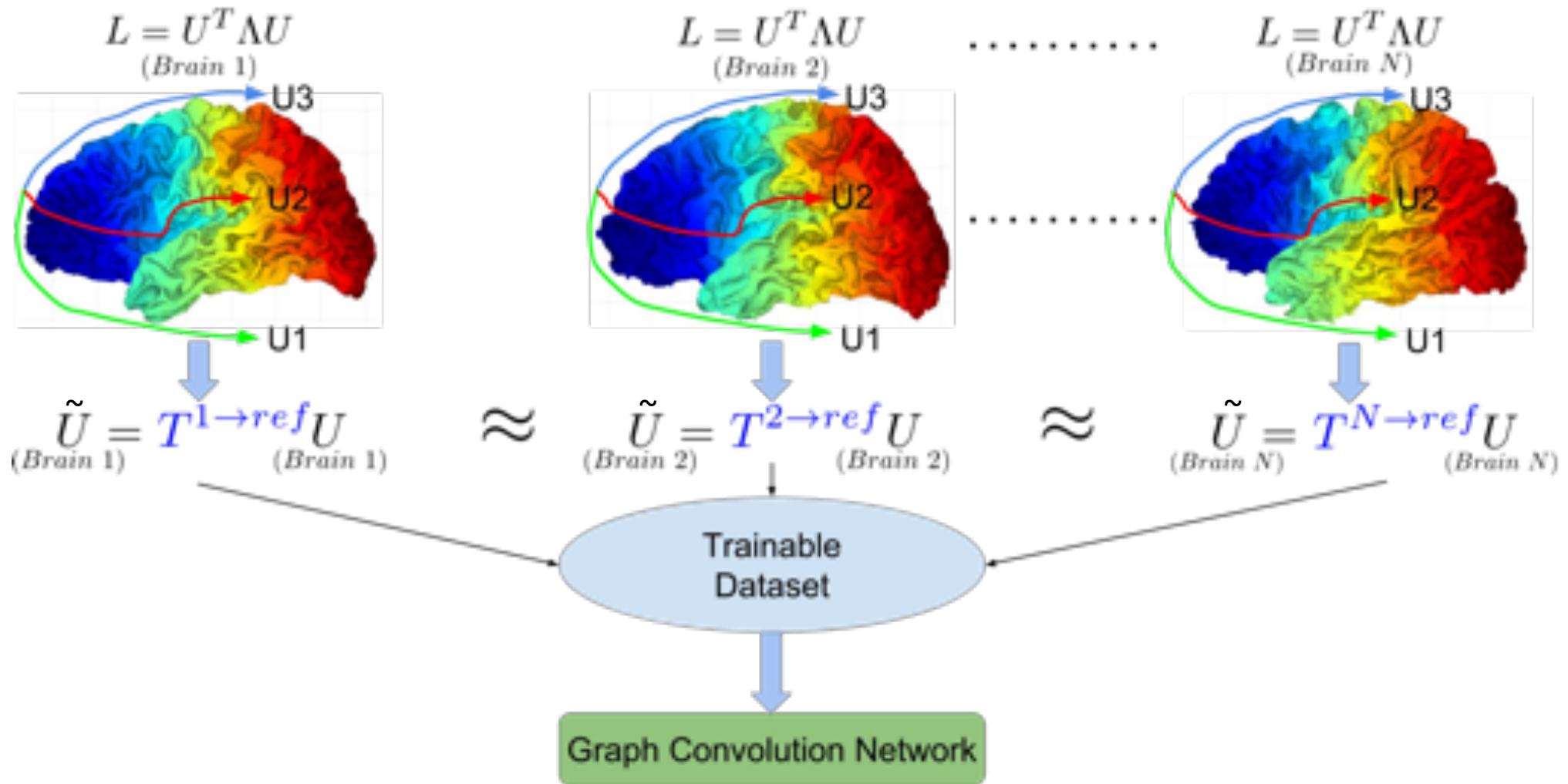


# Spatial Information as Spectral Encoding



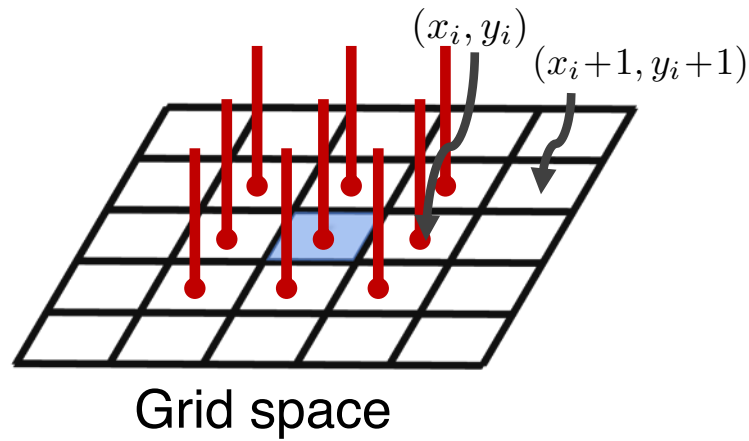
**Problem:** Spectral bases are **ambiguous to rotation**

# Spectral Alignment



# Extension of 2D convolutions to irregular grids

## Standard convolution on regular grid:



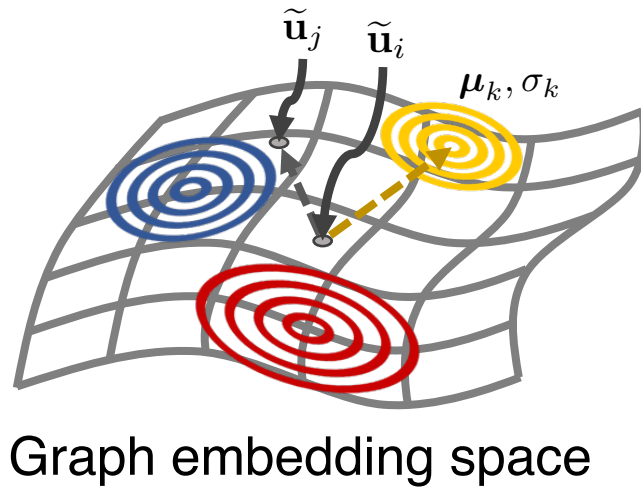
Convolution kernel weights

$$z_{ip}^{(l)} = \sum_{q=1}^{M_l} \sum_{k=-K_l}^{K_l} w_{pqk}^{(l)} \cdot y_{i+k,q}^{(l)} + b_p^{(l)}$$

$$y_{ip}^{(l+1)} = f(z_{ip}^{(l)})$$

Input feature map  
Non-linear activation (ReLU)

## Geometric convolution for embedded graphs:



Neighbor nodes on mesh

$$z_{ip}^{(l)} = \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} \sum_{q=1}^{M_l} \sum_{k=1}^{K_l} w_{pqk}^{(l)} \cdot y_{jq}^{(l)} \cdot \varphi(\hat{\mathbf{u}}_i, \hat{\mathbf{u}}_j; \Theta_k^{(l)}) + b_p^{(l)}$$

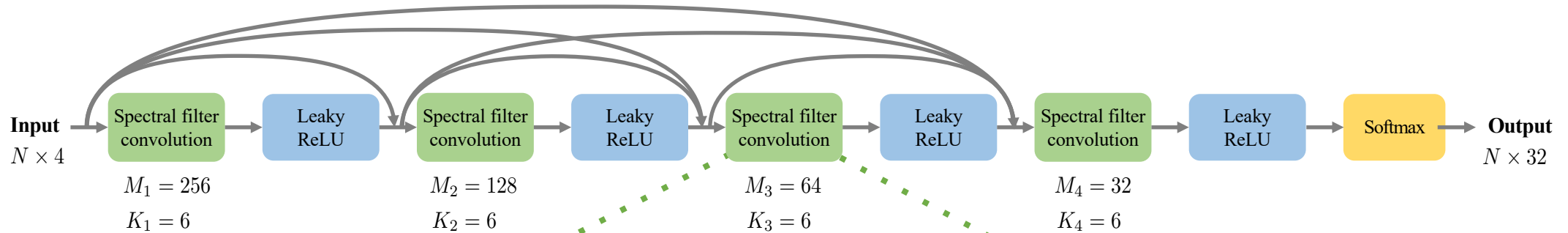
Parameters are learned

$$\varphi(\hat{\mathbf{u}}_i, \hat{\mathbf{u}}_j; \mu_k, \sigma_k) = \exp(-\sigma_k \|(\hat{\mathbf{u}}_j - \hat{\mathbf{u}}_i) - \mu_k\|^2)$$

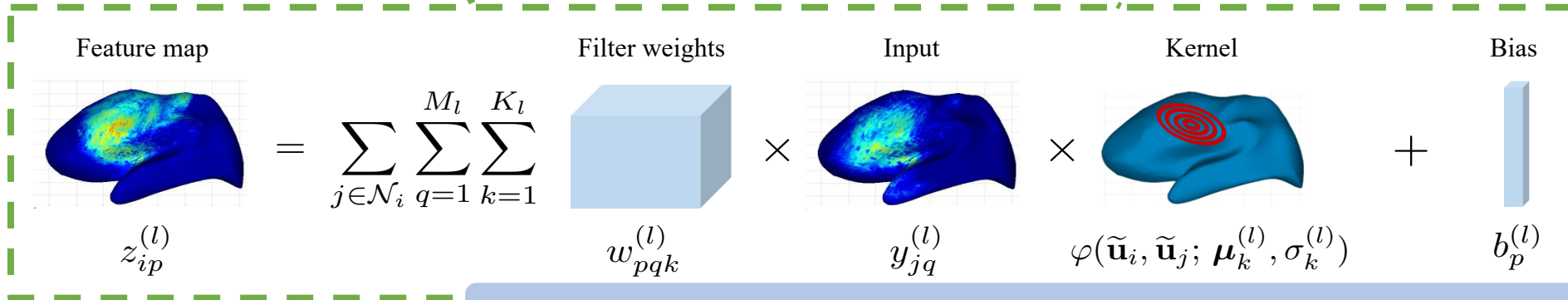


# Spectral Graph Conv Net – Architecture

- Enables **classical architectures** on brain surfaces
  - Operating in the **Spectral Domain** (not the grid Domain)

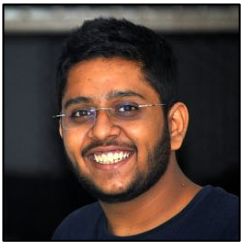


## Convolution block



Features and Filters are now in the Spectral Domain

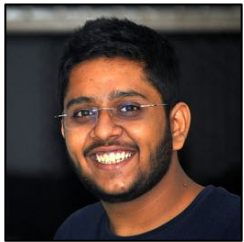
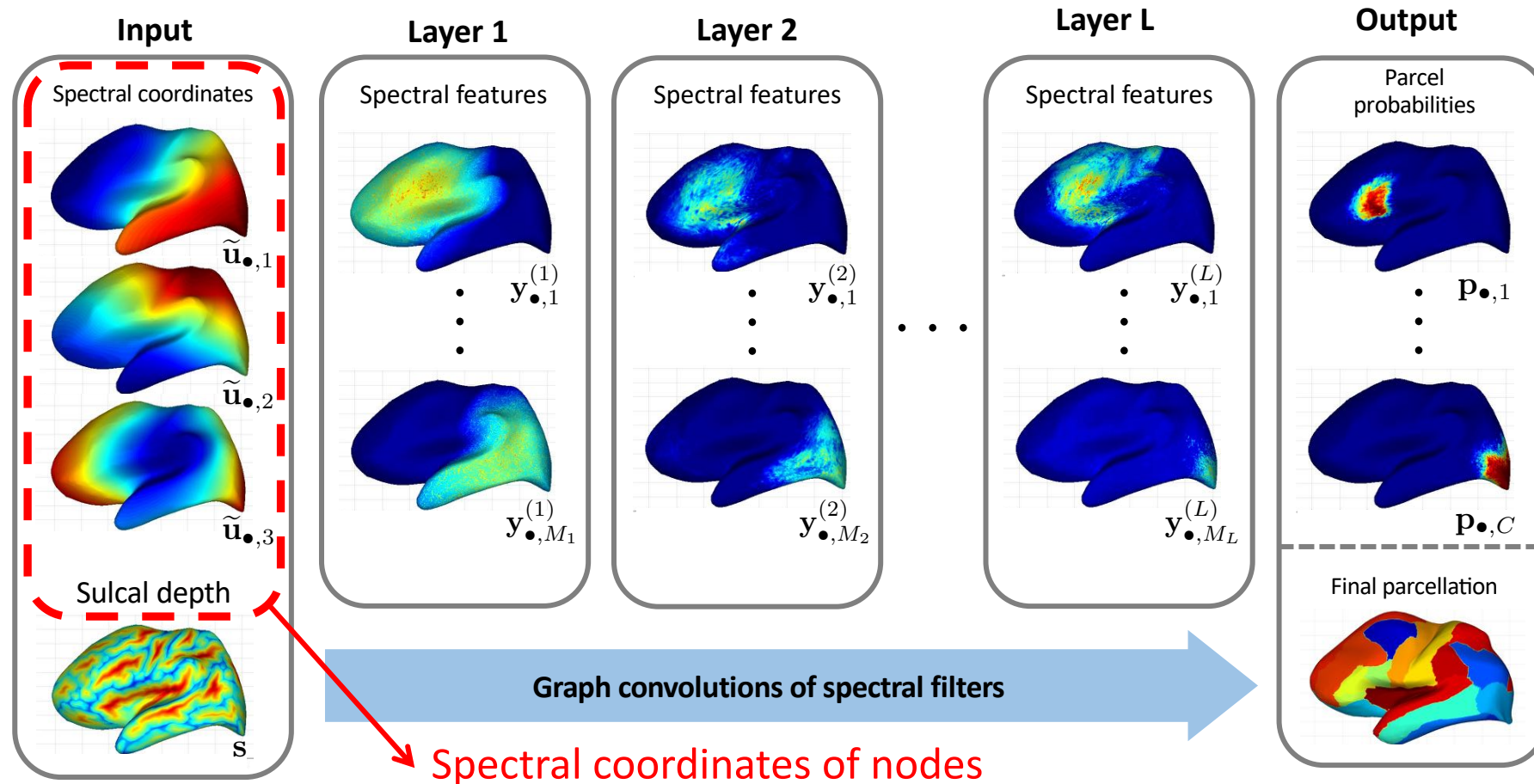
**Learning is now  
Directly on the Surface**



Karthik Gopinath, PhD Student – *Mostly his work*  
Gopinath et al, 2018

# Spectral Graph Conv Net – Feature Maps

- The Spectral Network – *illustrated*



**Karthik Gopinath**, PhD Student – *Mostly his work*

Gopinath *et al*, 2018

# Spectral Graph Conv Net – Loss Function

Function to optimize:

Cross Entropy

$$E(\Theta) = - \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{c=1}^C s_{ic} \cdot \log p_{ic}(\Theta)$$

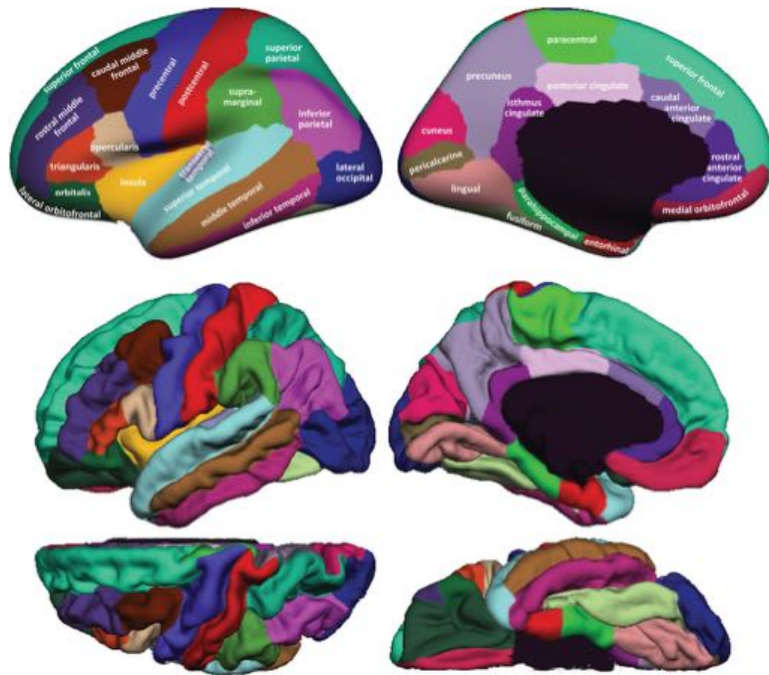
Ground truth labels

Predicted probabilities

$$\Theta = \{w_{pqk}^{(l)}, b_p^{(l)}, \Theta_k^{(l)}\}$$

To Learn: Kernel weights, bias, parameters  $(\mu, \sigma)$

# Experiments and Results

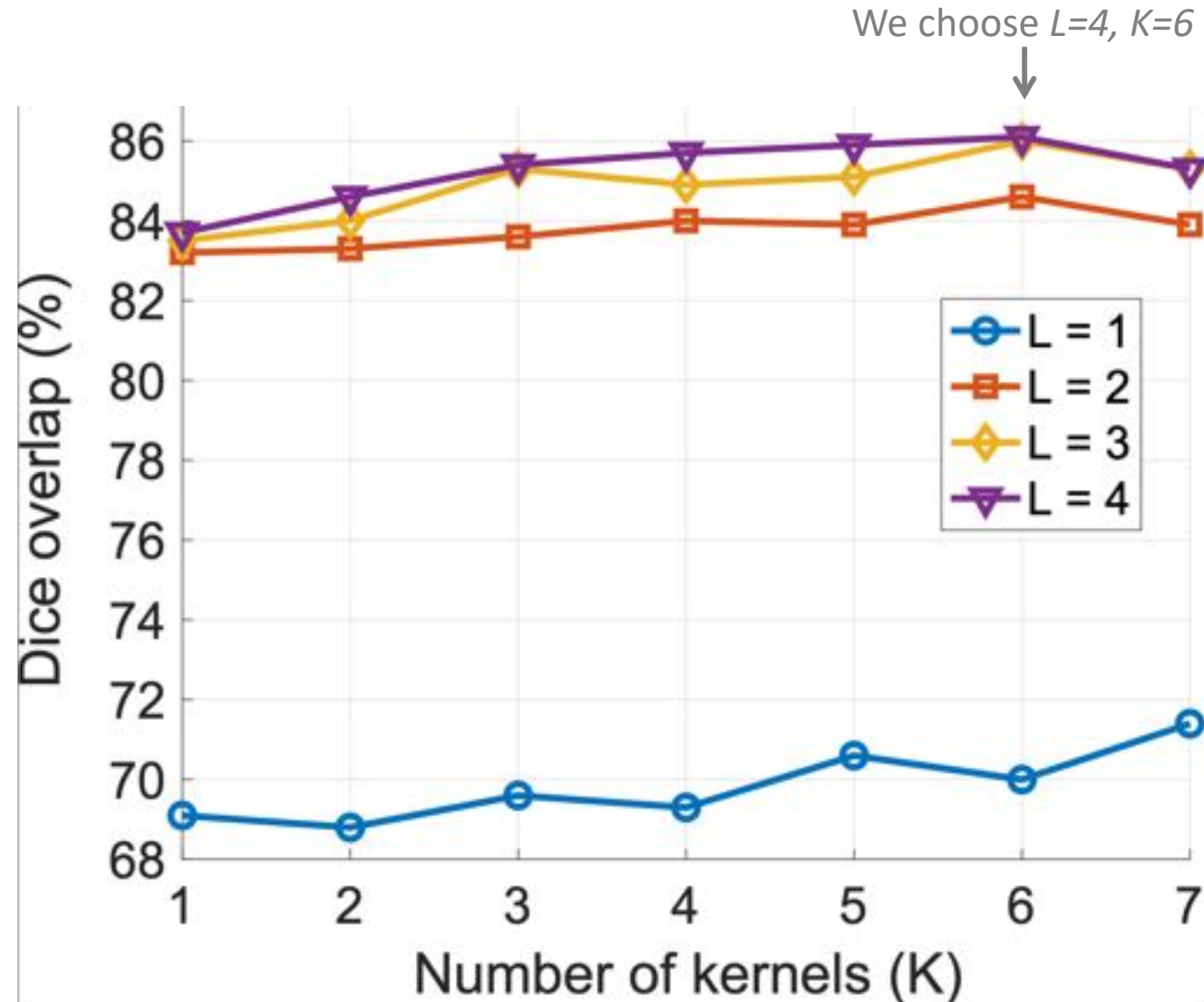


## MindBoggle dataset :

- **101 subjects**, seven different sites
- Meshes – from 102K to **185K vertices**
- 32 **manually** labeled parcels

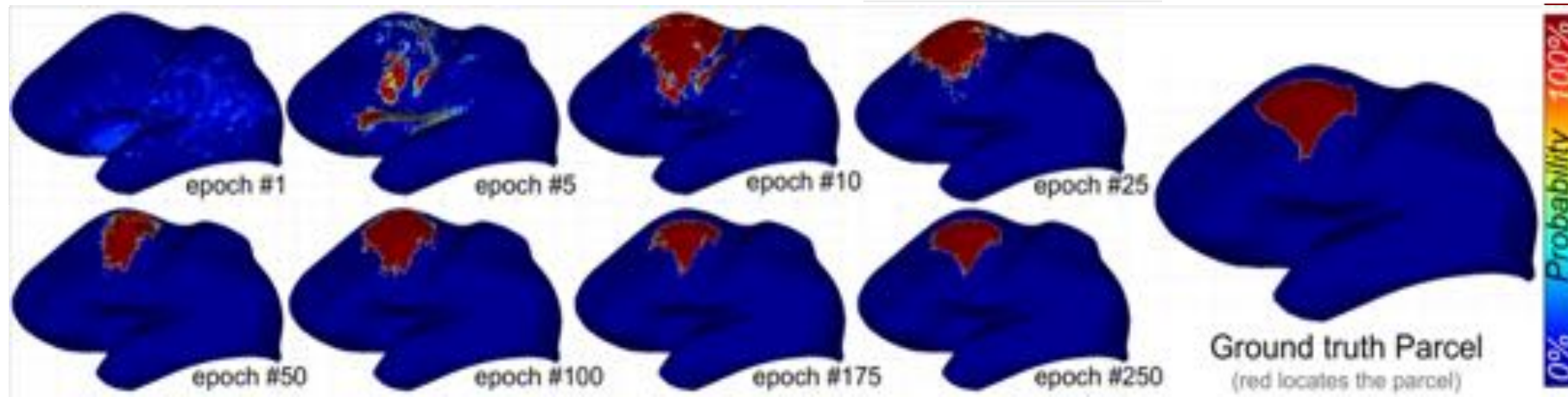


# Spectral Graph Conv Net – Hyper-parameter Selection



# Spectral Graph Conv Net – Training Iterations

- Training a feature map – **Its evolution**
  - Towards resembling **observed cortical parcels**



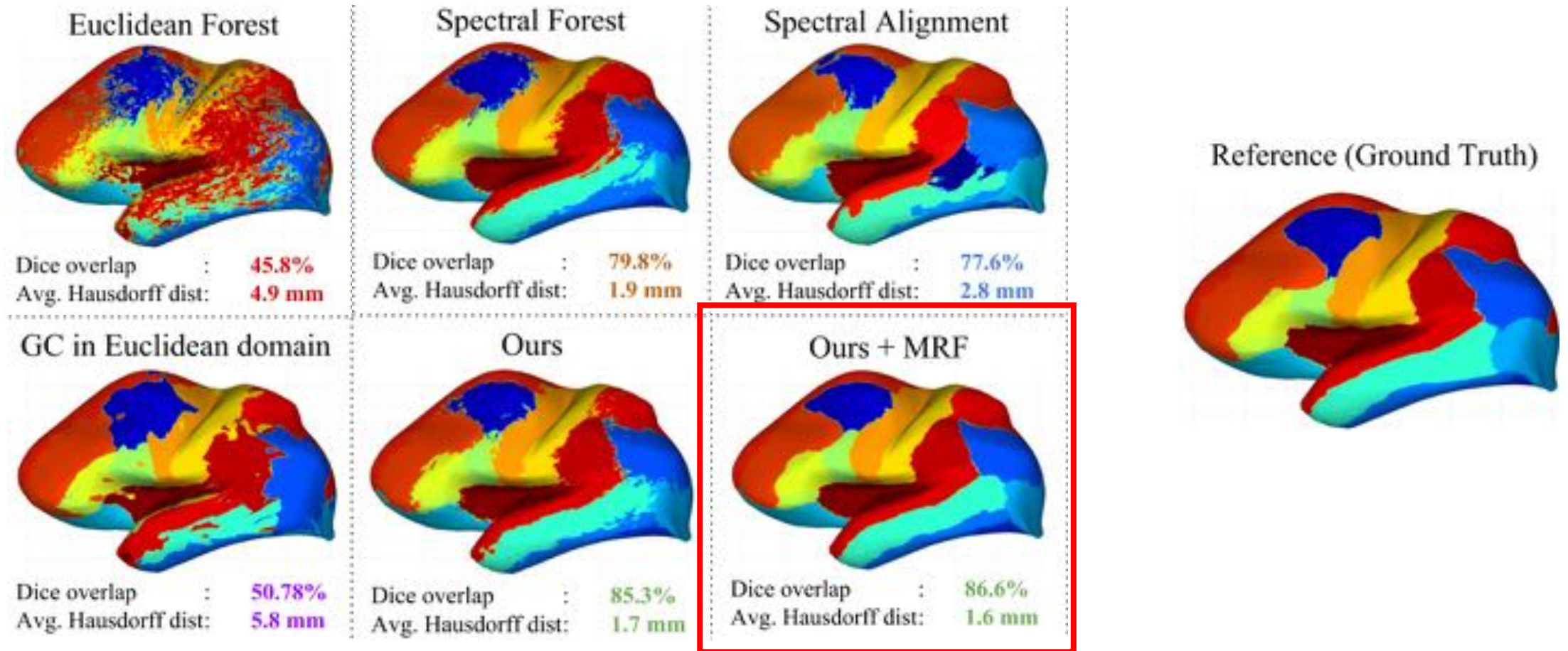
# Spectral Graph Conv Net – Results for Parcellation

- Quantitative Results (86.6% vs FS: 84.4%)

Method	Dice overlap (%)	Accuracy (%)	Avg. Hausdorff (mm)
Euclidean forest	45.87 ± 8.74	49.26 ± 8.32	4.97 ± 1.11
GC on Euclidean	50.78 ± 10.78	54.24 ± 10.33	5.82 ± 1.66
Spectral alignment	77.67 ± 3.65	81.87 ± 3.39	2.87 ± 0.47
Spectral forest	79.89 ± 2.62	81.94 ± 2.54	1.97 ± 0.40
FreeSurfer	84.39 ± 1.91	85.19 ± 1.98	2.11 ± 0.29
Ours	85.37 ± 2.36	86.97 ± 2.43	1.75 ± 0.35
Ours + MRF	<b>86.61 ± 2.45</b>	<b>88.08 ± 2.47</b>	<b>1.66 ± 0.44</b>

# Spectral Graph Conv Net – Results for Parcellation

- Qualitative Results (86.6% vs FS: 84.4%)



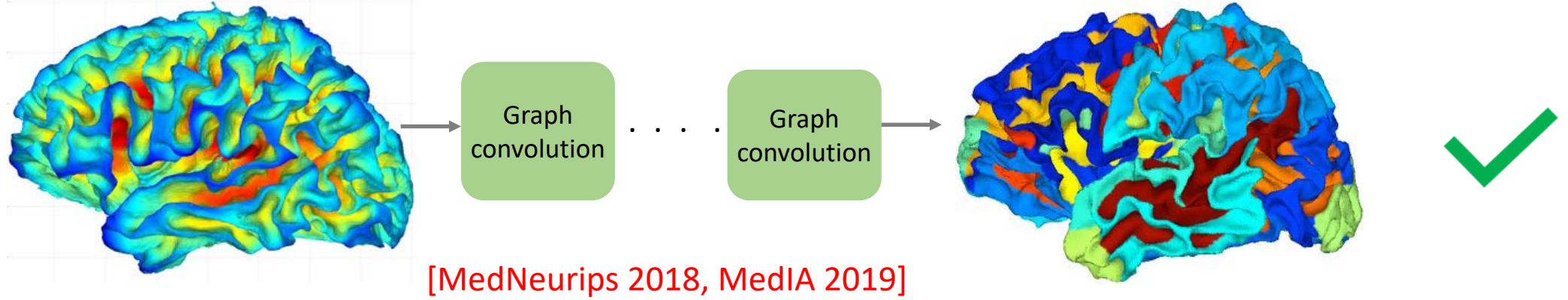
**Advantage:** Only 18 seconds per subject VS hours for FreeSurfer



# Contributions: Graph Conv

## Graph Convolutions on Spectral Embeddings for Cortical Surface Parcellation

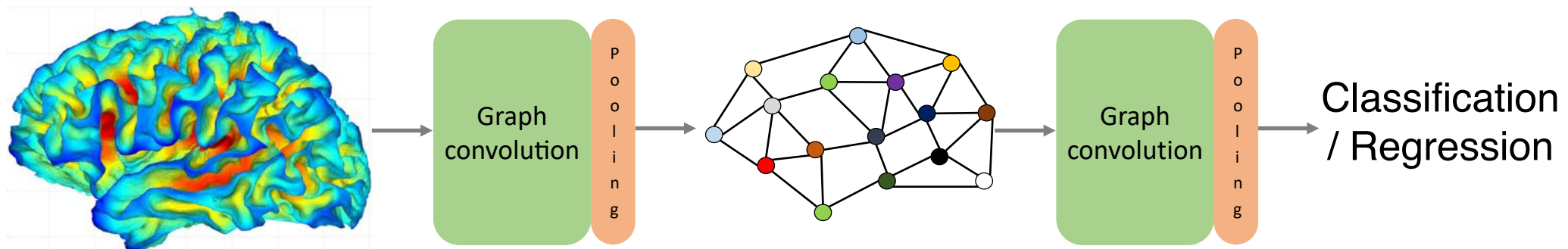
(1)



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# One Contribution: Learnable **Graph Pooling**

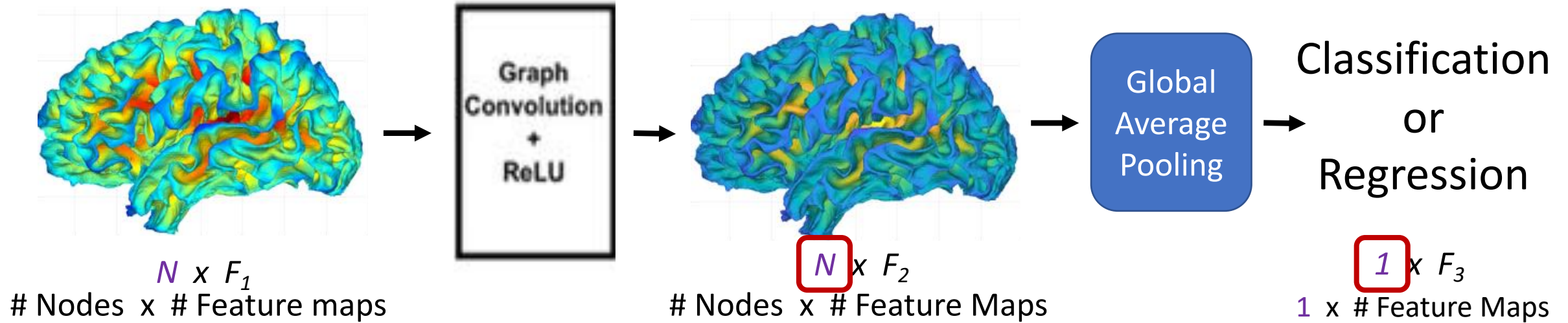
How to Learn Graph Pooling Patterns on Arbitrary Surfaces?



# Related Work – Global Average Pooling

- Pool from  $N$  nodes to  $1$  node

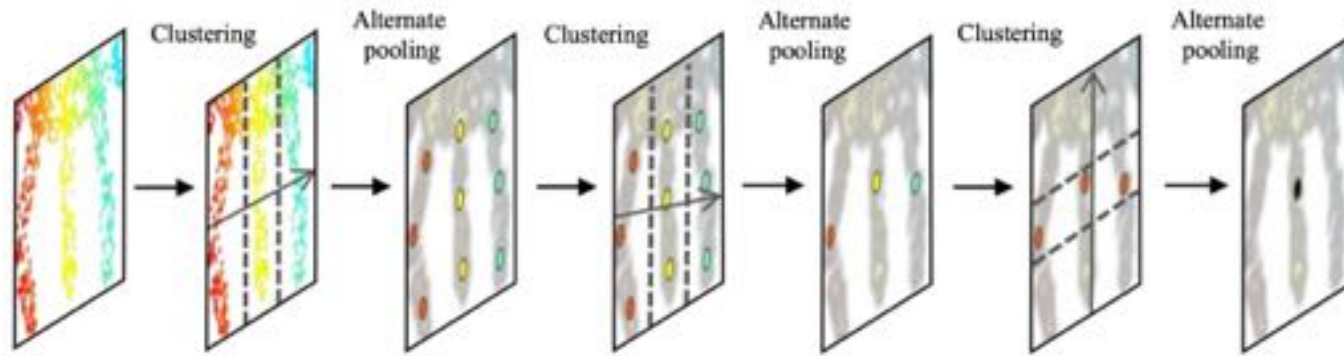
How to Pool from  $N^{(\text{layer 1})}$  to  $N^{(\text{layer 2})}$  nodes?



Considers all nodes equally  
*(whole brain is 1 cluster)*

**Loss** of shape information  
when pooling

# Related Work – Hierarchical Differentiable Pooling



Cluster with Spectral K-Means

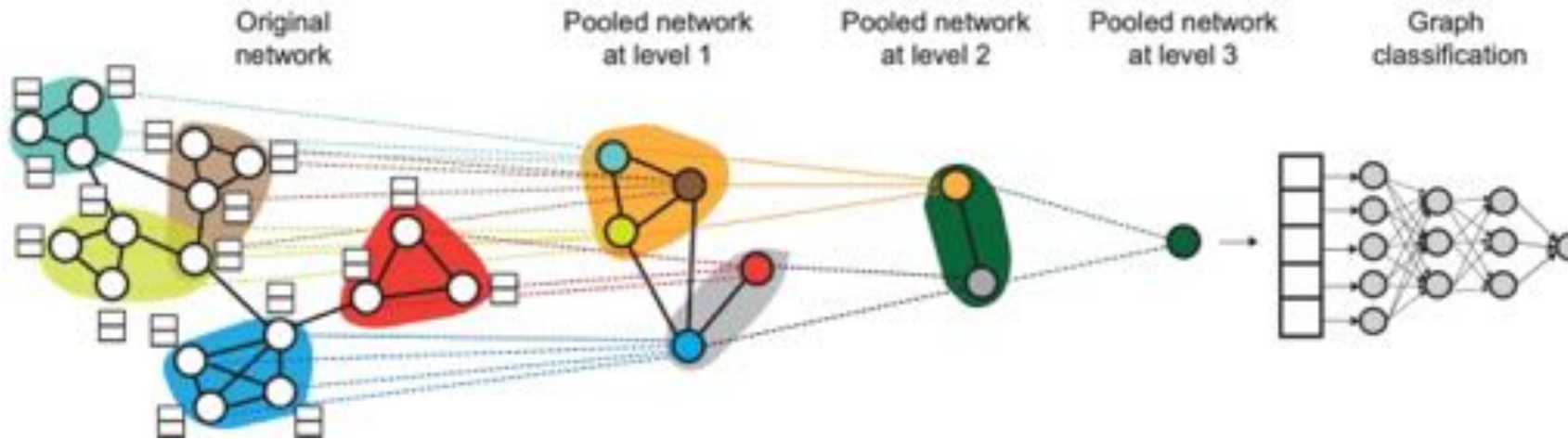
Wang *et al*, ECCV 2018

Fixed number of cluster nodes

Nodes lacking intrinsic localization

Learn node-cluster assignments

Ying *et al*, NeurIPS 2018

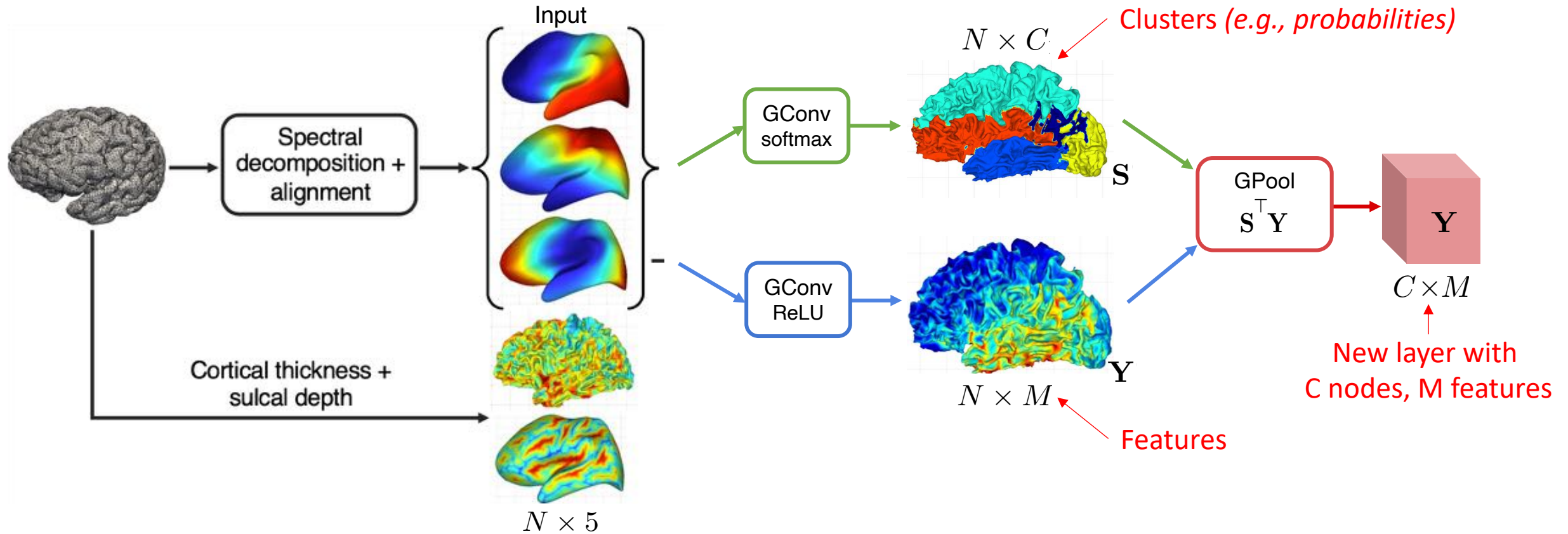




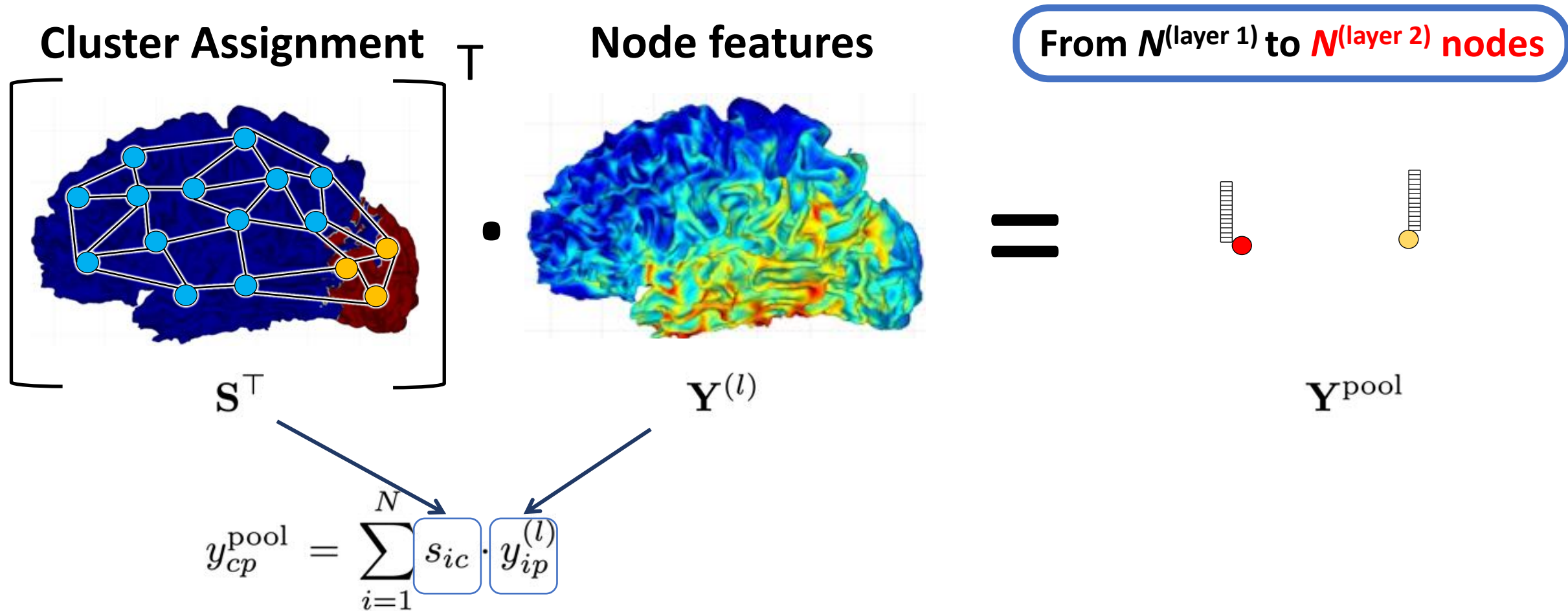
# Proposed: **Learnable** Graph Pooling

Uses **two** paths

1. Node to Cluster Assignment
2. Node features

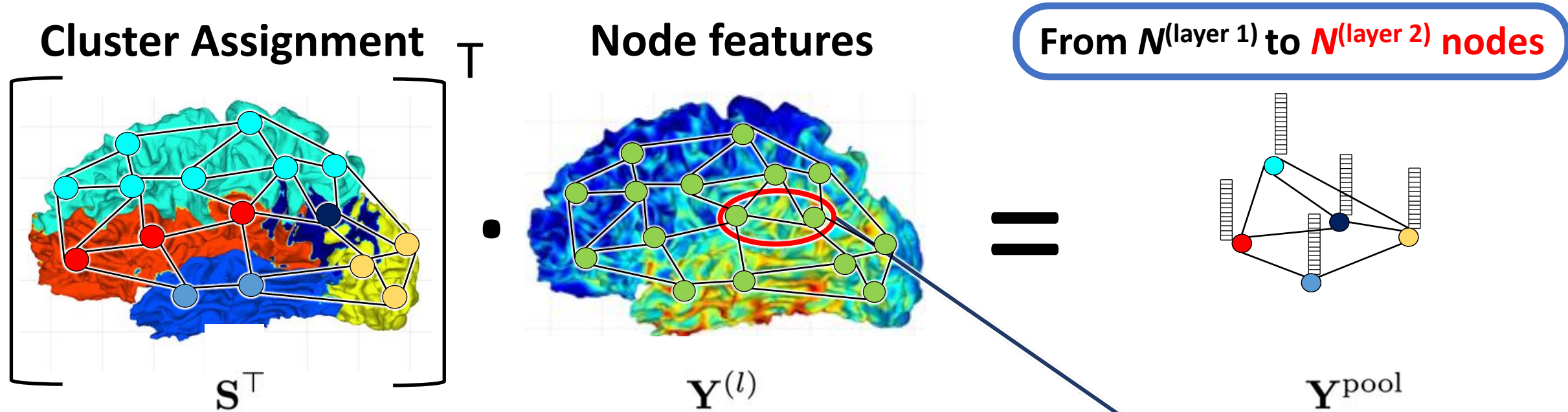


# Learnable Graph Pooling – Building Nodes



Expected convolution value over a cluster

# Learnable Graph Pooling – Building Edges



$$y_{cp}^{\text{pool}} = \sum_{i=1}^N s_{ic} \cdot y_{ip}^{(l)}$$

Expected *convolution value* over a cluster

$$a_{cd}^{\text{pool}} = \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=1}^N s_{ic} \cdot s_{jd} \cdot a_{ij}$$

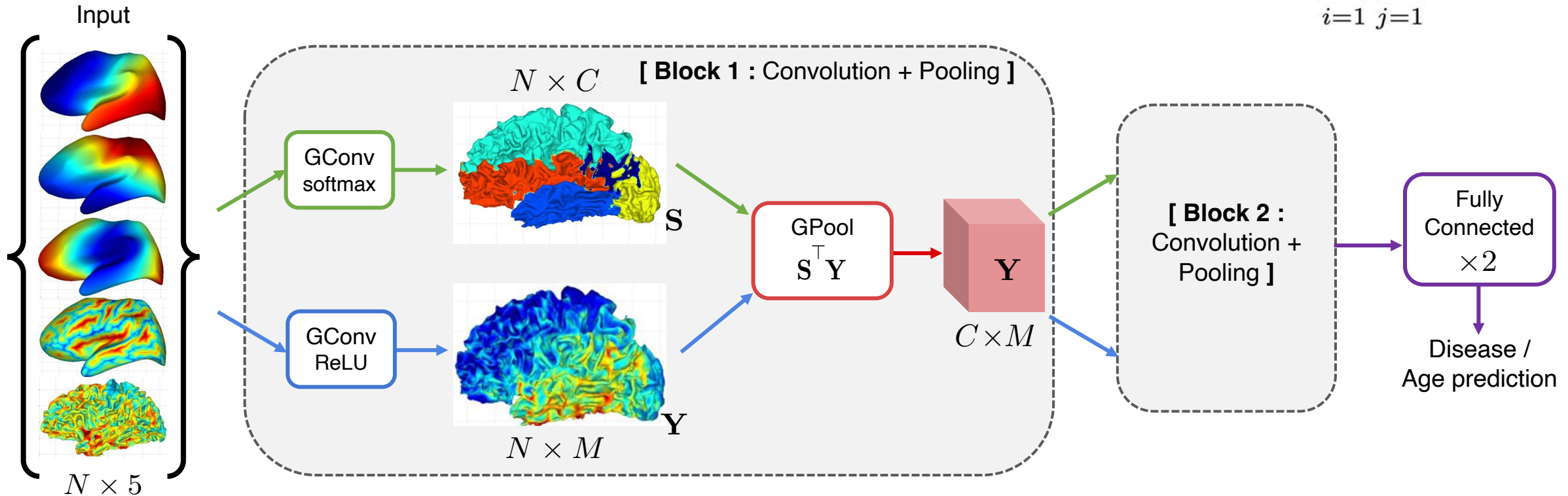
Expected *edge weight* between clusters (c,d)

# Learnable Graph Pooling – Multiple Layers

- Adding [ Conv+Pool ] Blocks

New Node Value: 
$$y_{cp}^{\text{pool}} = \sum_{i=1}^N s_{ic} \cdot y_{ip}^{(l)},$$

New Edge Weight: 
$$a_{cd}^{\text{pool}} = \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=1}^N s_{ic} \cdot s_{jd} \cdot a_{ij}$$





# Learnable Graph Pooling – Loss Function

Function to optimize:

$$\mathcal{L}(\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \mathcal{L}_{\text{out}}(\boldsymbol{\theta}) + \alpha \mathcal{L}_{\text{reg}}(\mathbf{S}(\boldsymbol{\theta}))$$



Cross-Entropy /  
Mean square error



Regularization loss

to obtain spatially regular clusters

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{reg}}(\mathbf{S}) = \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=1}^N a_{ij} \cdot \|\mathbf{s}_i - \mathbf{s}_j\|^2 = \text{tr}(\mathbf{SLS}^\top)$$

Avoids issues of [Ying *et al*, 2018]:

- **Hard training** of pooling path,
- Spurious **local minima**

# Experiments and Results



## Datasets:

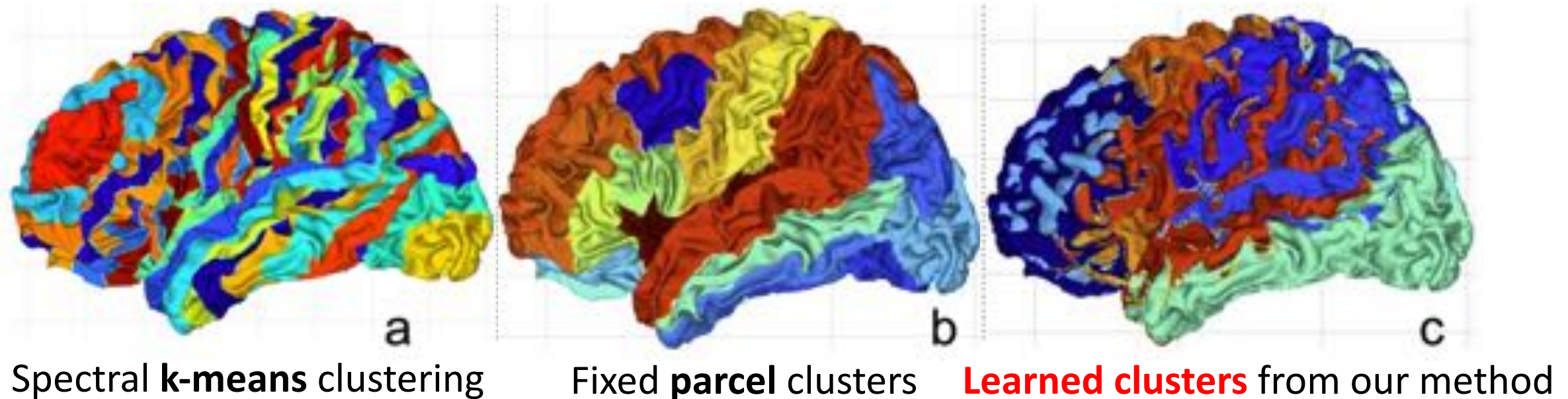
- ADNI: 731 brains
- MindBoggle: 101 brains

## Experiments:

- Pooling comparison
- Disease classification
- Age prediction

# Comparison of **Different Pooling** Methods

- **Pooled Clusters** from Subject-sex Classification



# Comparison of **Different Pooling** Methods

- **Pooled Clusters** from Subject-sex Classification

<b>Pooling method</b>	<b>Mean <math>\pm</math> Std.</b>
Global Average Pooling	60.76 $\pm$ 3.62
Fixed Parcellation Pooling	64.59 $\pm$ 7.84
Spectral Clustering Pooling	67.94 $\pm$ 4.97
Top-k pooling	78.94 $\pm$ 3.32
<b>Learnable Pooling (ours)</b>	<b>84.21 <math>\pm</math> 3.72</b>

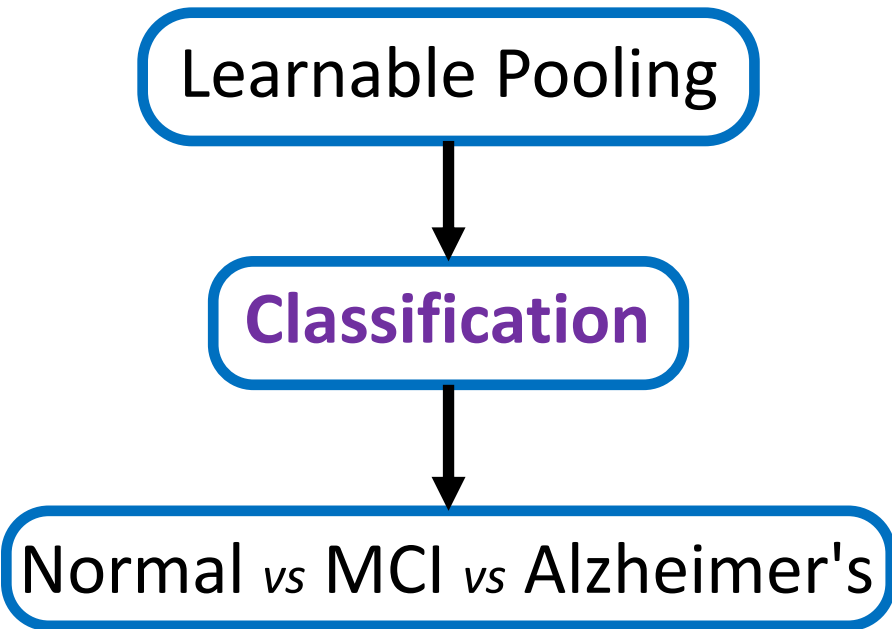
**Geometry**-based Pooling  
improves Sex Classification



# Learnable Pooling – Results for Disease Classification

- **Dataset:** 731 FreeSurfer Brain Surfaces from ADNI

Average accuracy for disease classification



	Baseline*	Ours <b>without</b> spectral features	Ours <b>with</b> spectral features
Features	Cortical thickness + Sulcal Depth	Cortical thickness + Sulcal Depth	<b>Spectral + Cortical thickness + Sulcal Depth</b>
NC vs MCI	63 ± 4	63.71 ± 5.72	<b>70.79 ± 6.40</b>
MCI vs AD	65 ± 6	74.03 ± 8.63	<b>76.92 ± 4.78</b>
NC vs AD	80 ± 5	76.00 ± 6.06	<b>89.33 ± 4.30</b>

\*C. Ledig *et al*, 2014  
Pointwise information,  
No neighborhood

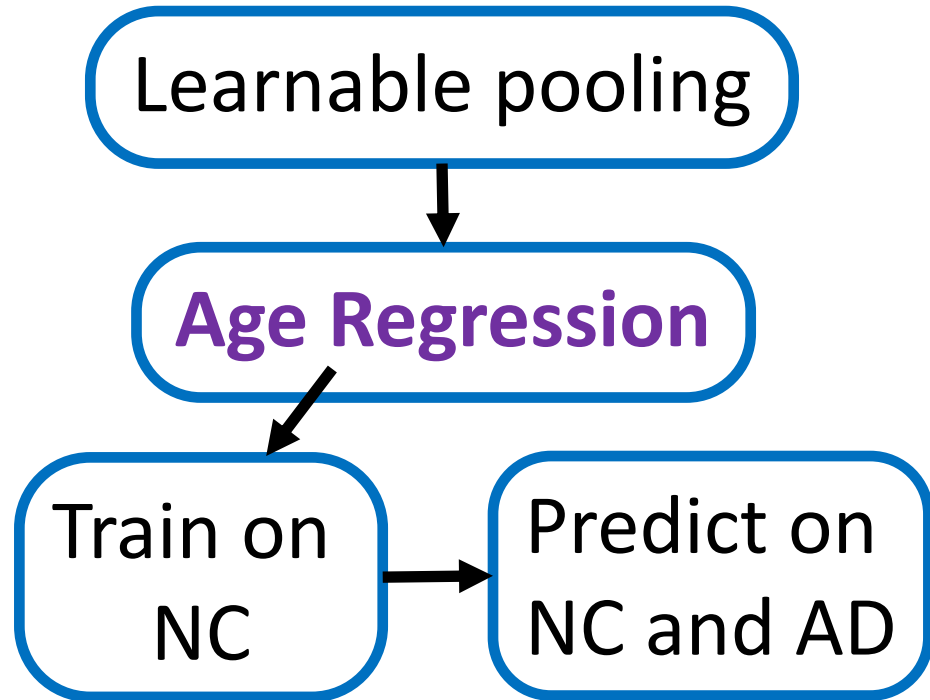
Learnable Graph Pooling,  
No geometrical information

Learnable Graph Pooling,  
With geometrical information

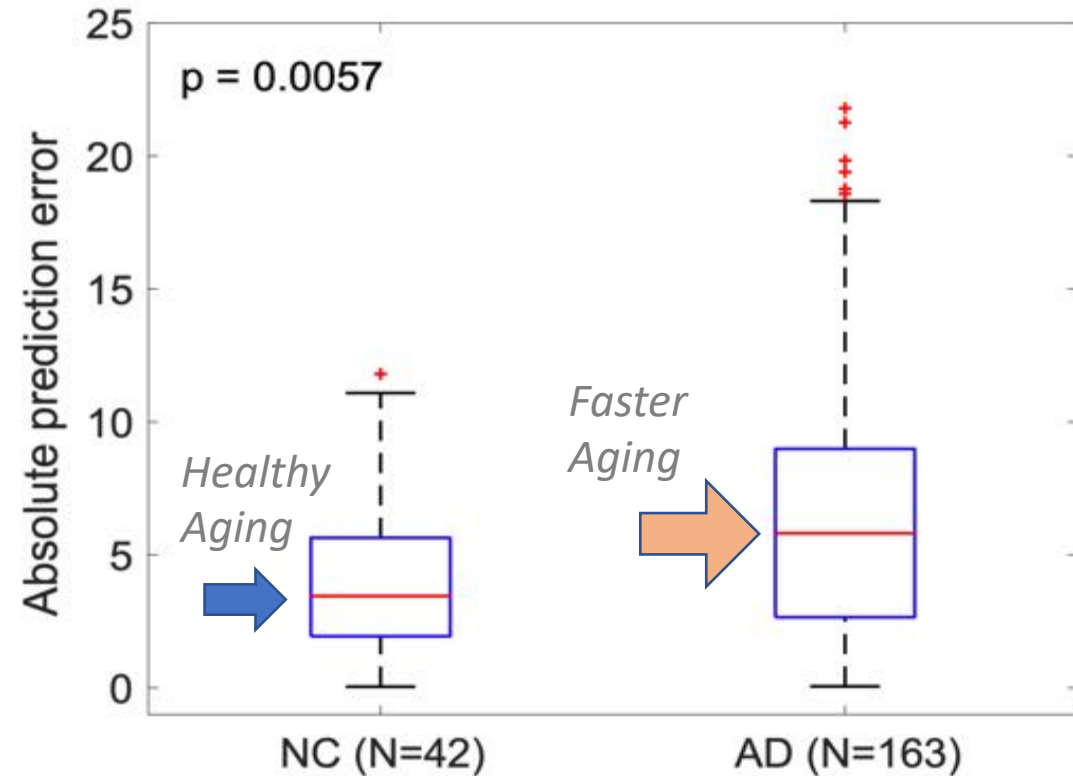
**Geometry-based Pooling**  
improves Alzheimer's Classification

# Learnable Pooling – Results for Brain **Age Prediction**

- **Assumption:** Can our model be used as a biomarker for AD?
- **Prediction** of Alzheimer's age (or **Geometry age**) **differs** from Healthy



Train on Healthy (NC)  
Predict Age *from Geometry*  
↔ if age is good -> Healthy  
↔ if **faster aging** -> Alzheimer's

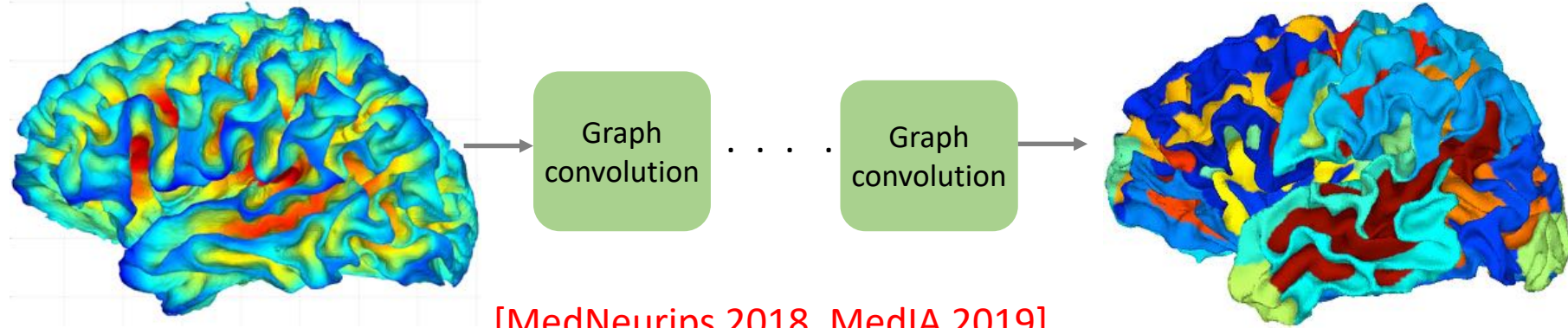


**Geometry-age** of Alzheimer's Subjects  
**Deviates from Normal Aging**

# Contributions: Graph Conv + Pooling

## Graph Convolutions on Spectral Embeddings for Cortical Surface Parcellation

(1)

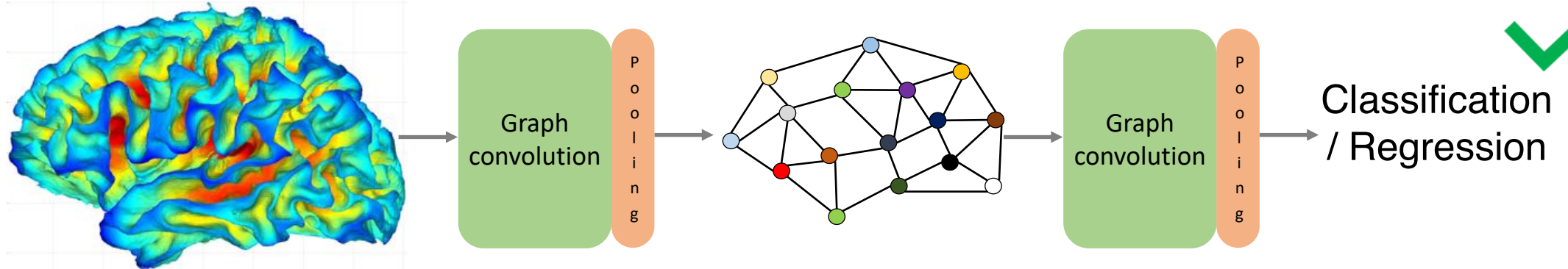


[MedNeurips 2018, MedIA 2019]



## Learnable Pooling in Graph Convolutional Networks for Brain Surface Analysis

(2)



[IPMI 2019, TPAMI 2021]





# Conclusion: Rethinking **Learning on Surfaces**

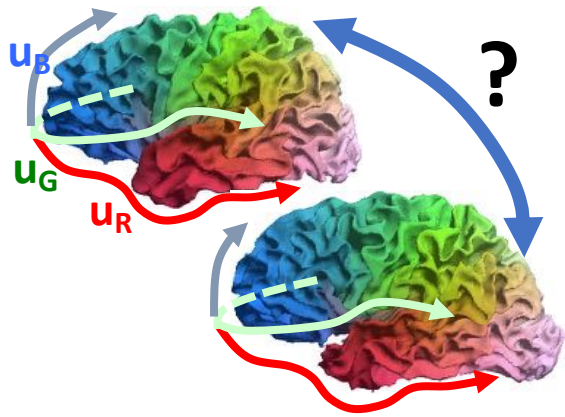
Use Spectral Shape Embeddings



# Conclusions

1

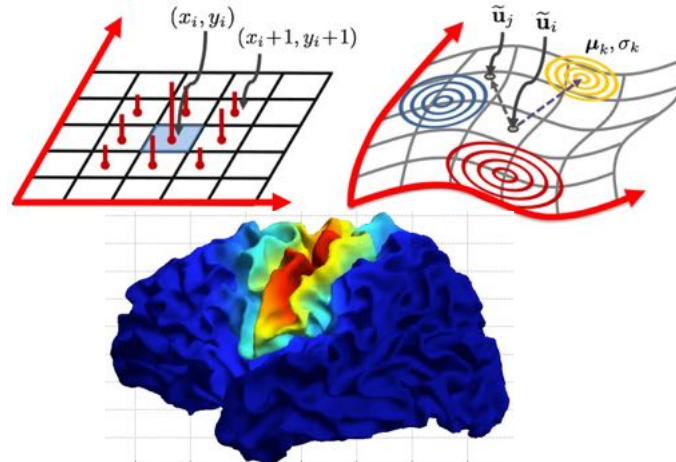
## Spectral Parameterization



*Intrinsic Shape Coordinates*

2

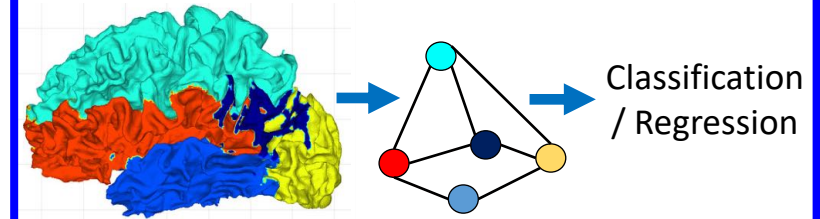
## Spectral Graph Convolution



*Conv Nets on Brain Surfaces*

3

## Spectral Graph Pooling



*Geometry-based Pooling*

## Take Home Message

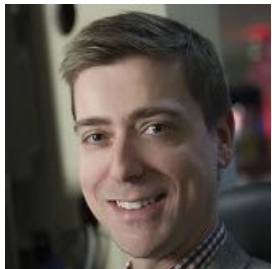
- **Graph Convolution + Pooling** on Surfaces,
  - ↳ **Easier** with **Spectral Shapes**
    - **Simple – Fast** Operations on Surfaces
    - **Direct** Learning on Surface
  - Limitations: Same Mesh Topology

### PAPERS

- [PAMI 2021] Learnable **Pooling** in Graphs
- [IPMI 2019] Graph Convolution **Pooling**
- [MedIA 2018] **Graph Convolutions**



Dr. Karthik Gopinath



Prof. Christian Desrosiers



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