

# 3D representations in machine learning

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GEO1004:  
3D modelling of the built environment

<https://3d.bk.tudelft.nl/courses/geo1004>

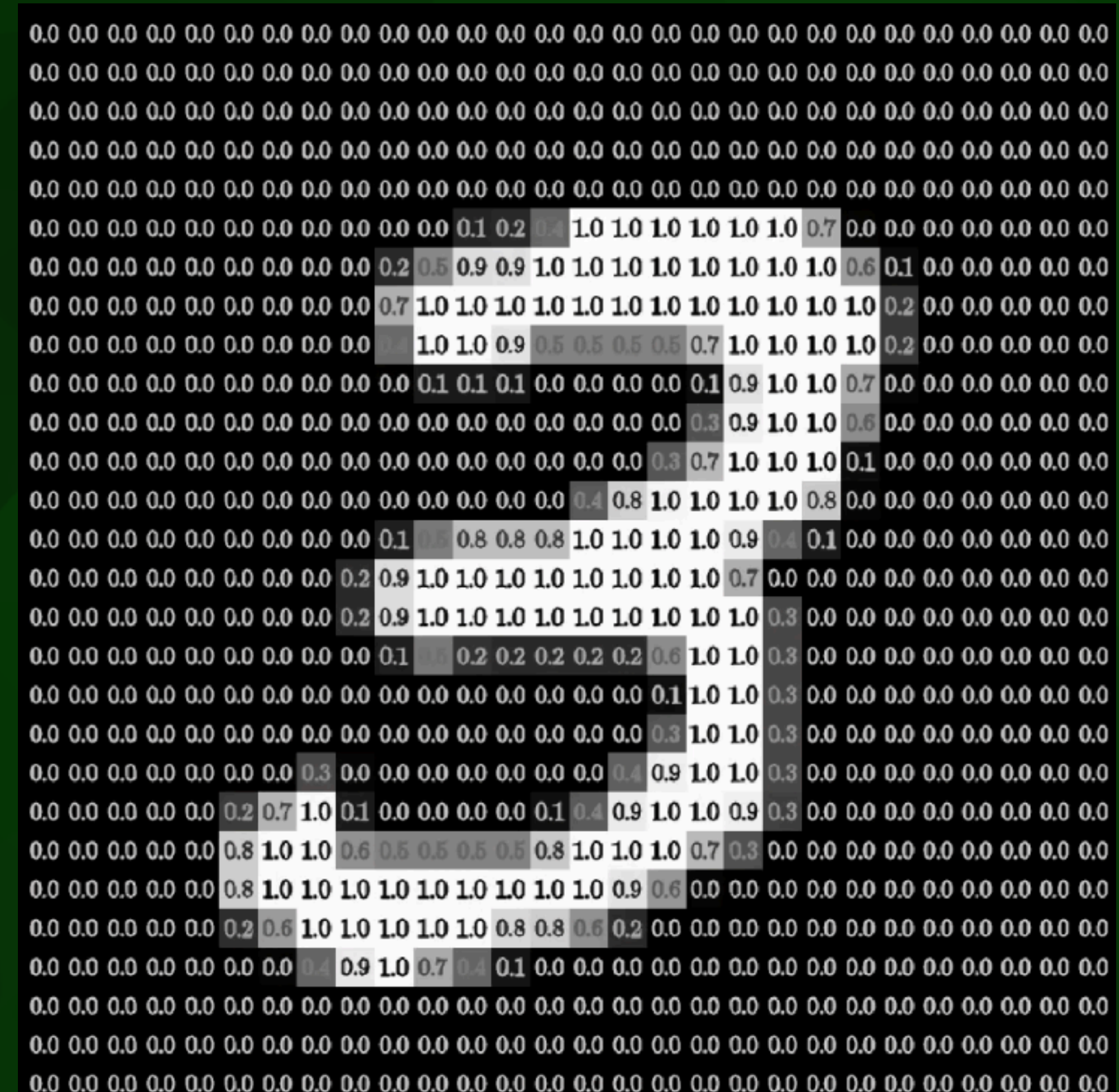


3D geoinformation

Department of Urbanism  
Faculty of Architecture and the Built Environment  
Delft University of Technology

# What is ML / DL?

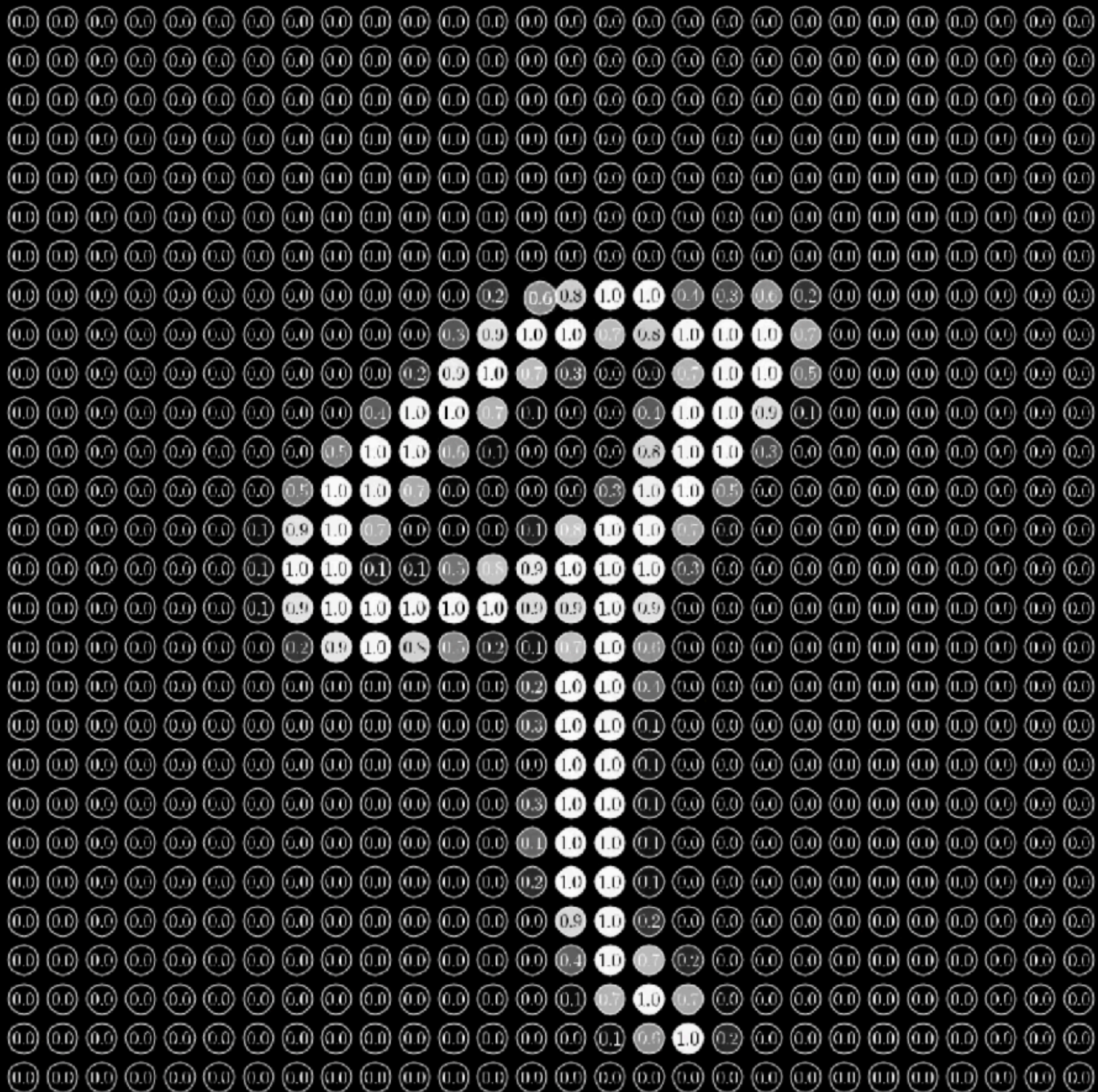
- Instead of explicitly programming rules to solve a problem...
- use a system that attempts to learn these rules automatically using a large data set where the problem has been solved (training data).
- Many such systems: regression, support vector machines (SVMs), decision trees, neural networks, clustering, principal component analysis (PCA), etc.



# What is ML / DL?

- Traditional machine learning: manually design features that meaningfully represent the characteristics of the data, then pass on the features for each data point to the system
- Deep learning: pass the data as-is to a more complex system (deep neural network) which attempts to learn the features of the data on its own

28

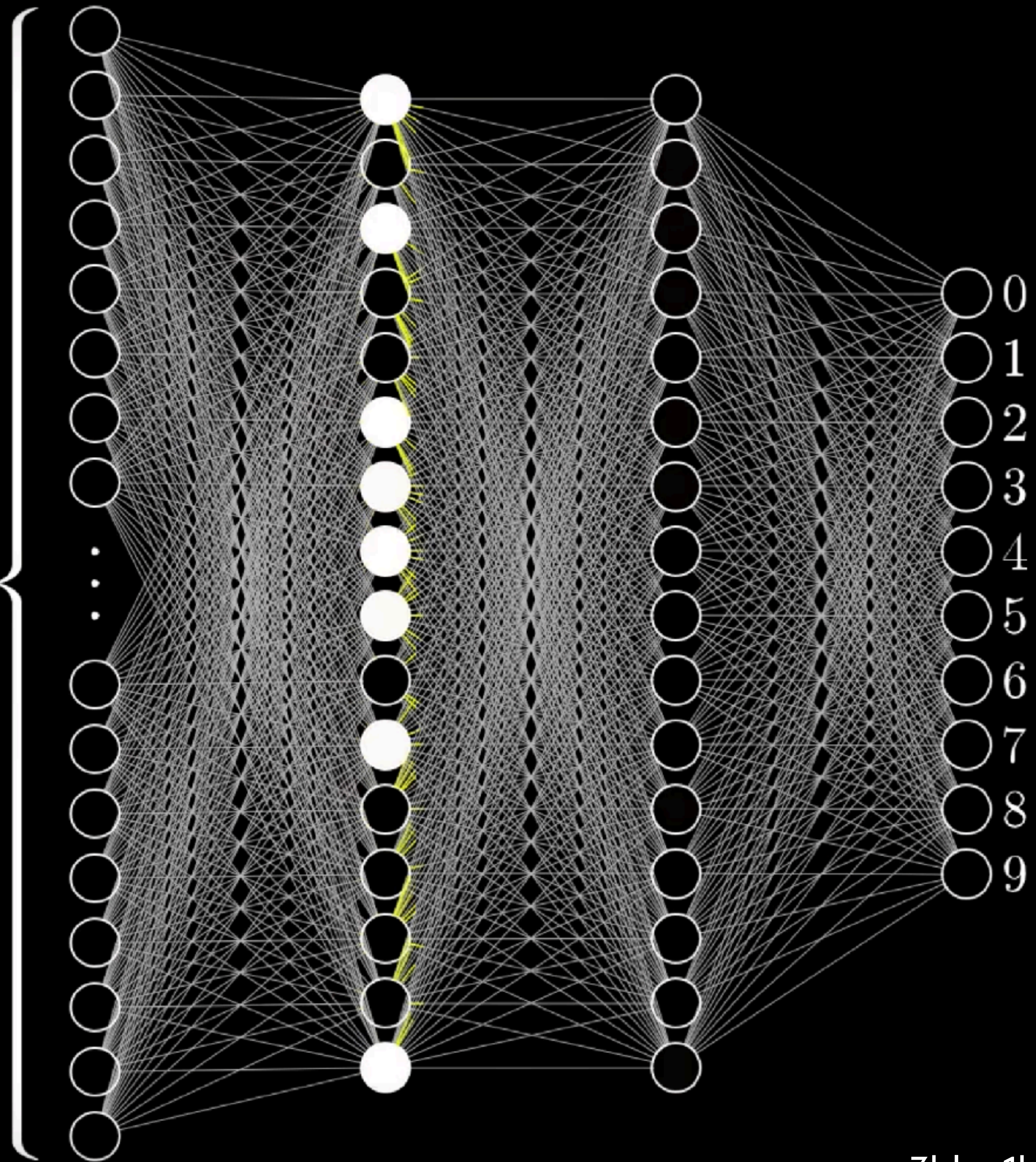


$$28 \times 28 = 784$$

28



784



# Successes of ML / DL

- Face and object recognition, e.g. finding pictures of certain people in your phone
- Speech recognition and natural language, e.g. AI assistants
- Translation between languages
- Playing certain games, e.g. classical board games
- Fraud detection, e.g. detecting suspicious card payments
- (Hand)writing recognition, e.g. digitising books

# ML / DL with 2D geodata

- Extracting features from imagery, e.g. buildings, roads, vegetation, etc.
- Pattern recognition, e.g. image classification, clustering features, etc.
- Weather / climate predictions, e.g. temperature or rain for next day
- Routing, e.g. finding optimal routes for different transport modes

What about 3D geodata?



# What makes 3D difficult?

- Voxels: very large sizes for good resolution -> methods for images don't work as well
  - Trees: complex structure -> usually not suitable for ML / DL
- Point clouds: very large sizes, no explicit structure
- Meshes: easy to modify vertices but topology not so much -> problems with geometric errors or watertightness

# Today's lecture

- Three very different approaches to deal with 3D data:
  - Machine learning with 3D features
  - Neural networks for point clouds
  - Implicit field representations

# 3D building metrics for urban morphology

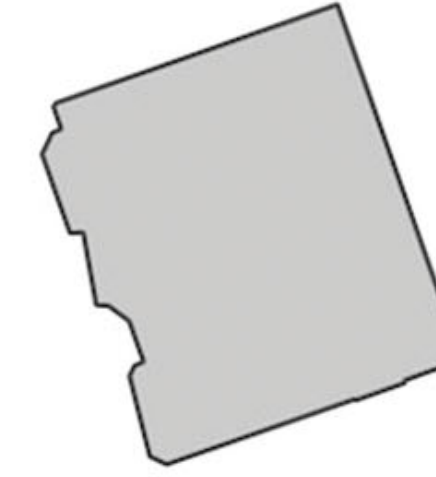
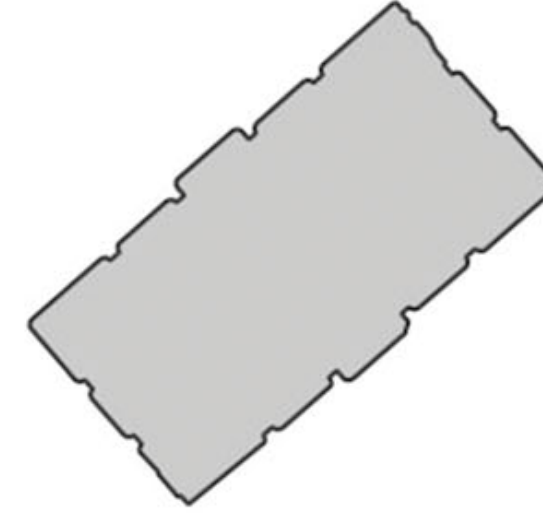
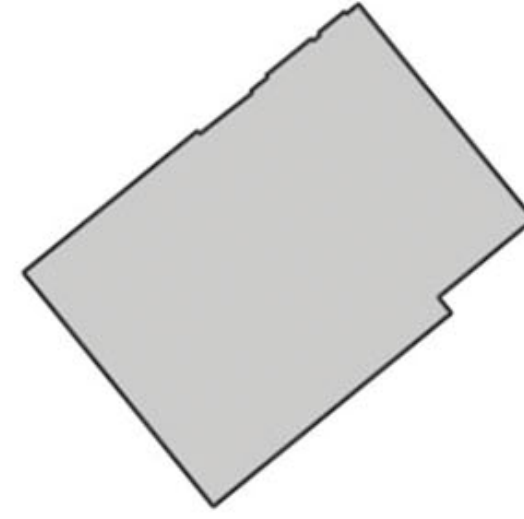
## Situation



## 2D metrics

From footprints

0 10 m



Similar values

Area

302

289

288

Convexity (2D)

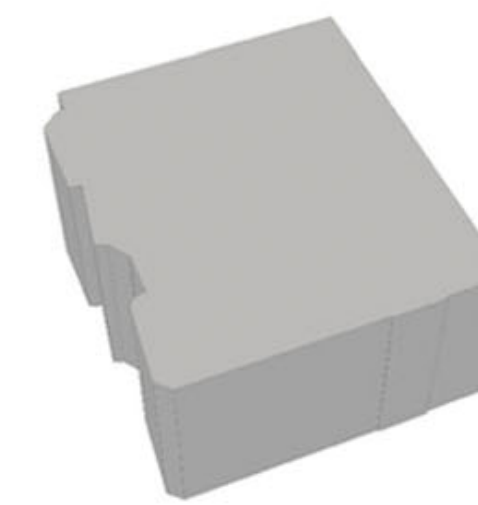
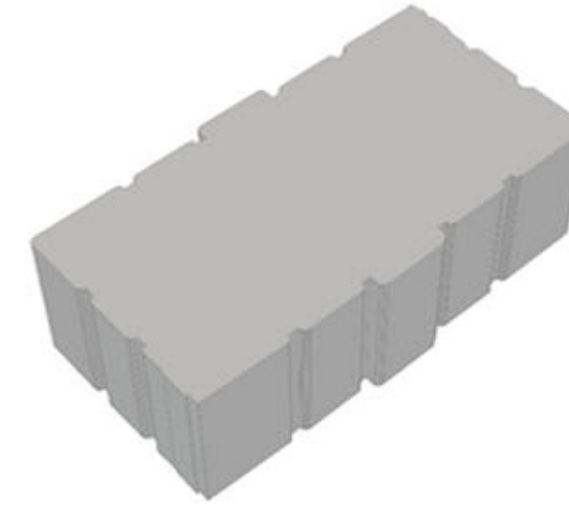
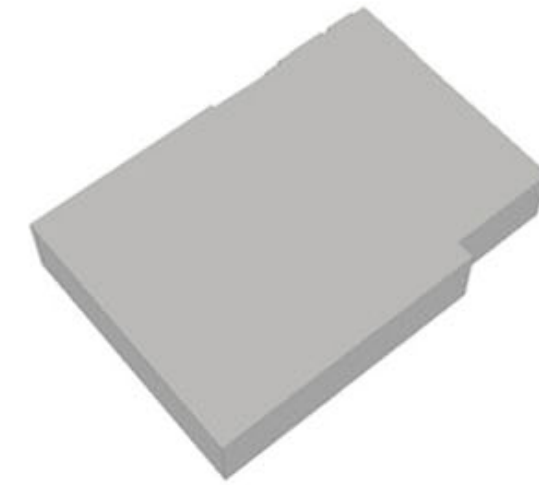
0.987

0.960

0.976

## 2.5D metrics

From attributes or  
block 3D models



Unique metrics

Similar values

Height

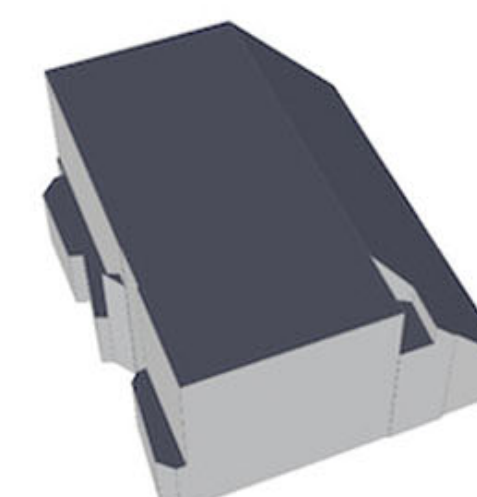
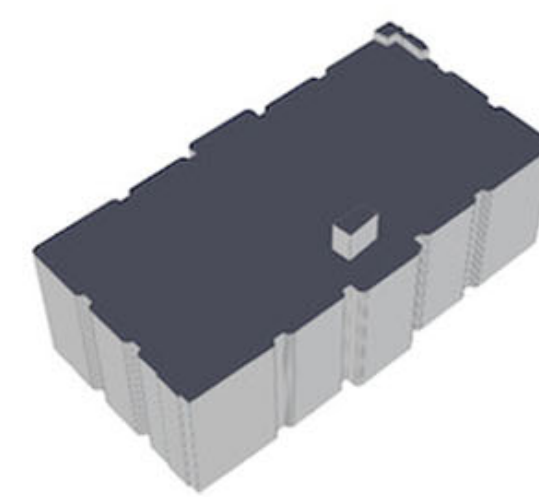
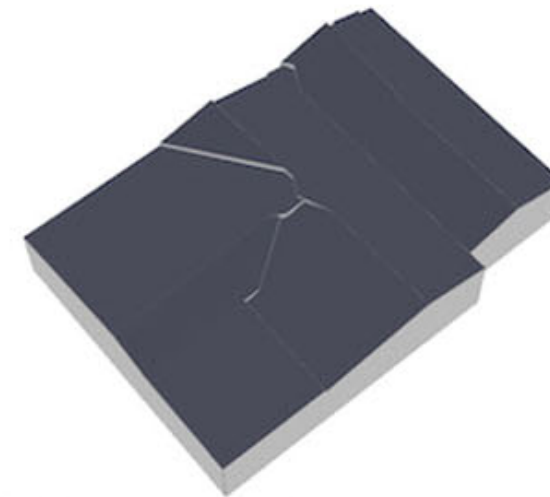
4.2

9.3

9.1

## 3D metrics (our work)

From 3D models of  
higher levels of detail



Unique metrics

Convexity (3D)

0.904

0.872

0.956

**Table 1.** Metrics are computed per building based on category.

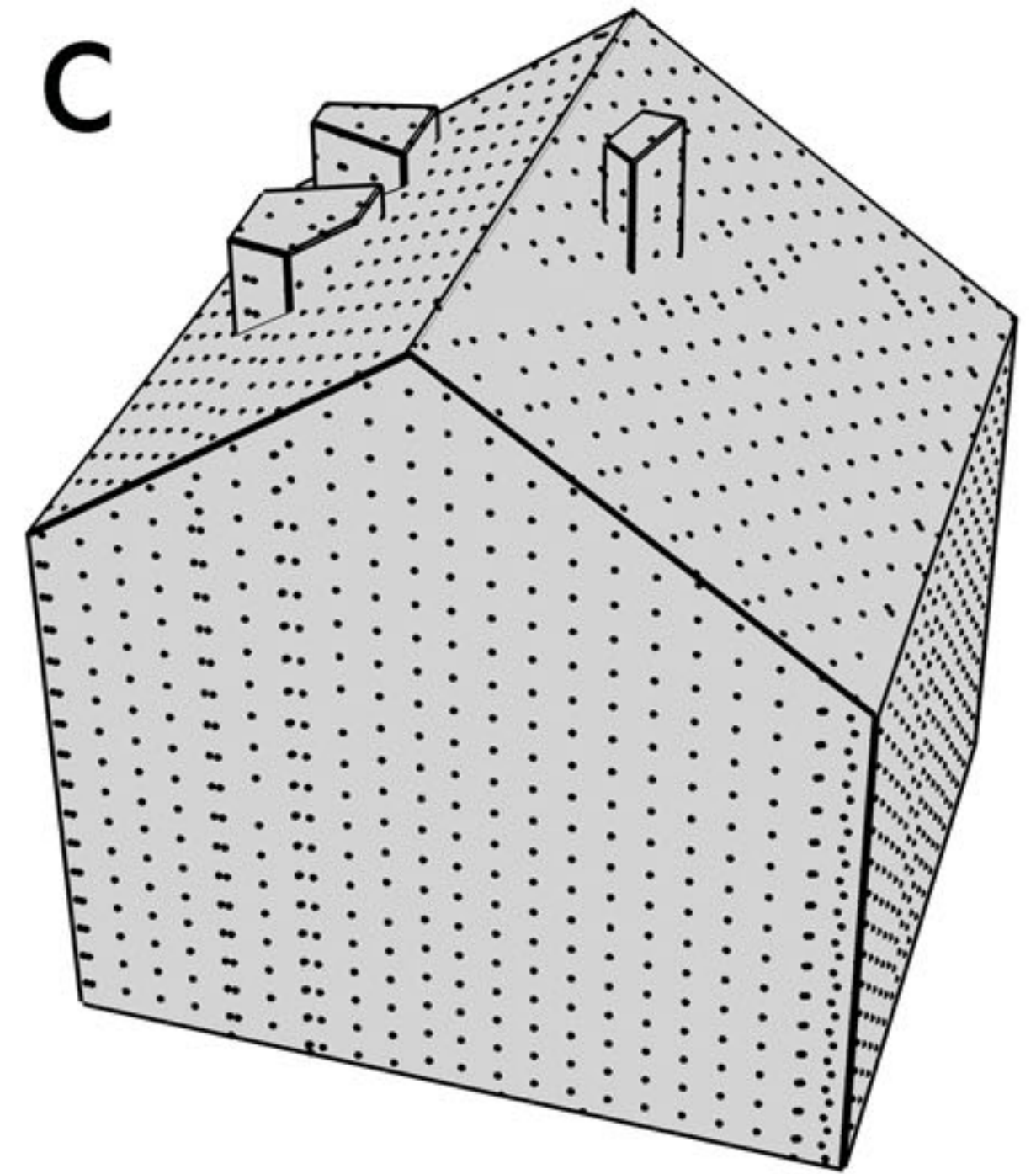
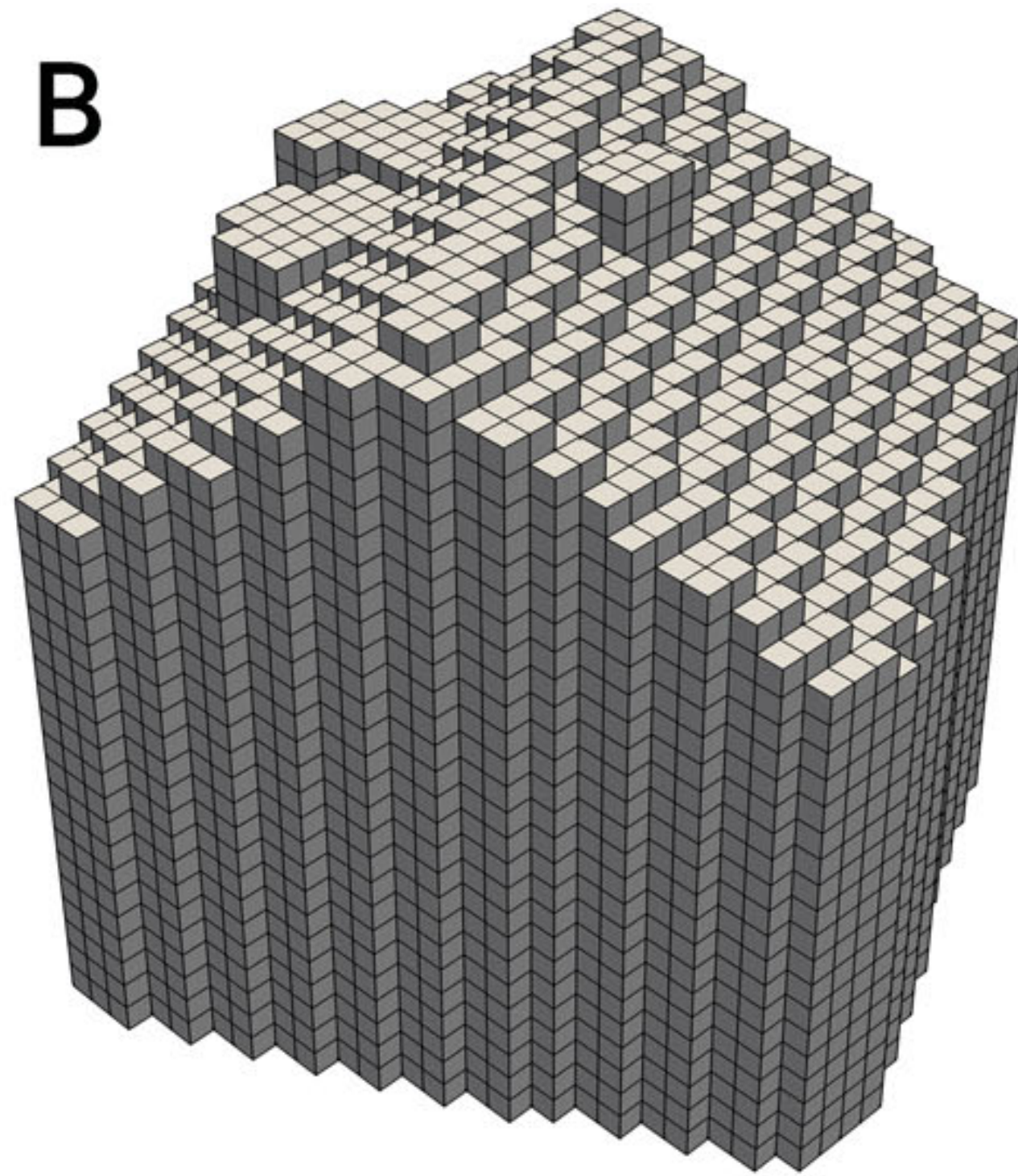
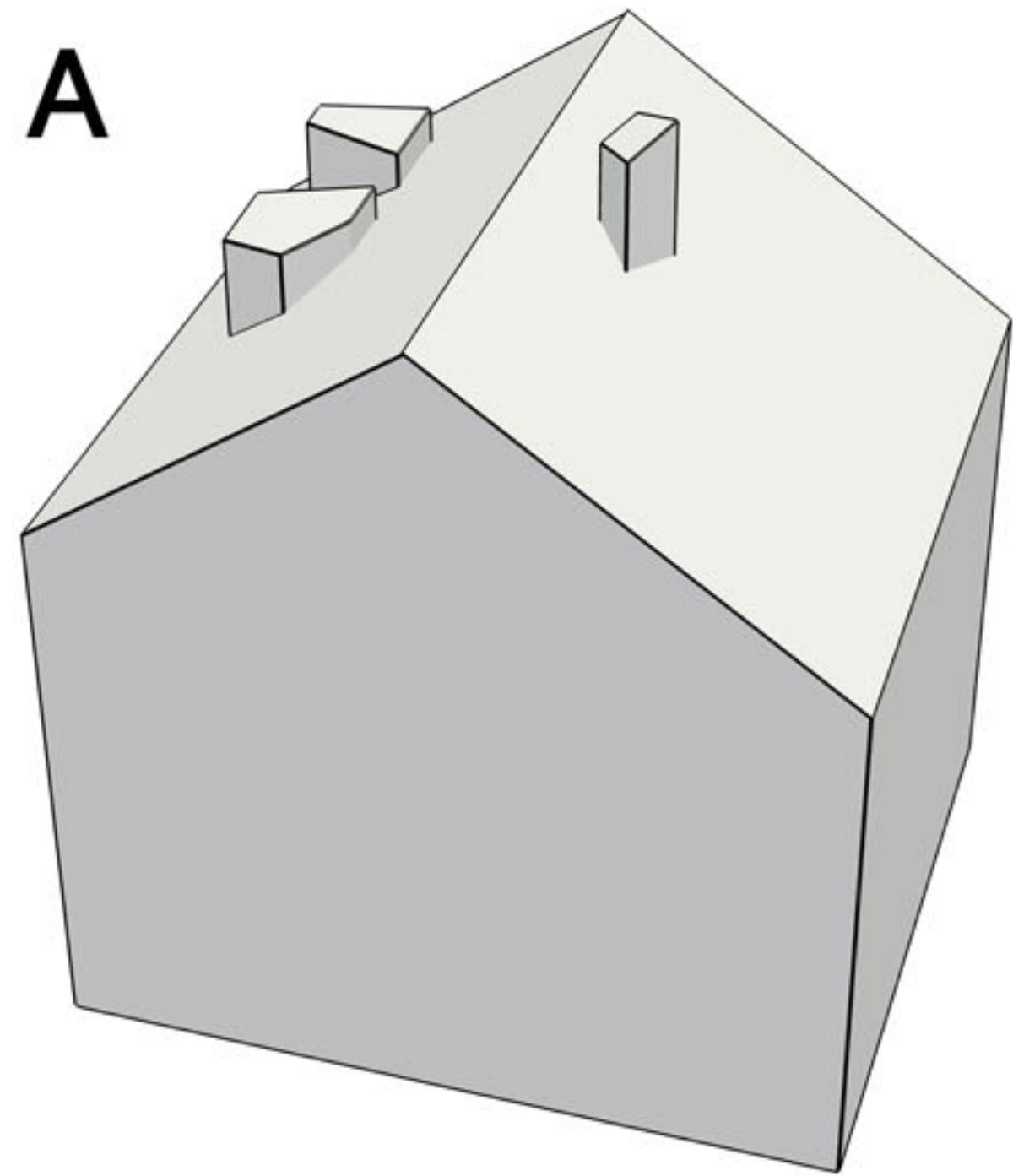
Geometric properties	Number of vertices, Number of surfaces, Number of vertices by semantic type (i.e. ground, roof, wall), Number of surfaces by semantic type (i.e. ground, roof, wall), Min/Max/Range/Mean/Median/Std/Mode height
Derived properties	Footprint perimeter, Volume, Volume of convex hull, Volume of Object-Oriented Bounding Box, Volume of Axis-Oriented Bounding Box, Volume of voxelised building, Length and width of the Object-Oriented Bounding Box, Surface area, Surface area by semantic surface, Horizontal elongation, Min/Max vertical elongation, Form factor
Spatial distribution	Shared walls, Nearest neighbour
Space indices (see <a href="#">Table 3</a> )	Circularity/Hemisphericity*, Convexity 2D/3D*, Fractality 2D/3D*, Rectangularity/Cuboidness*, Squareness/Cubeness*, Cohesion 2D/3D*, Proximity 2D/3D <sup>+</sup> , Exchange 2D/3D <sup>+</sup> , Spin 2D/3D <sup>+</sup> , Perimeter/Circumference*, Depth 2D/3D <sup>+</sup> , Girth 2D/3D <sup>+</sup> , Dispersion 2D/3D <sup>x</sup> , Range 2D/3D*, Equivalent Rectangular/Cuboid*, Roughness <sup>x</sup>





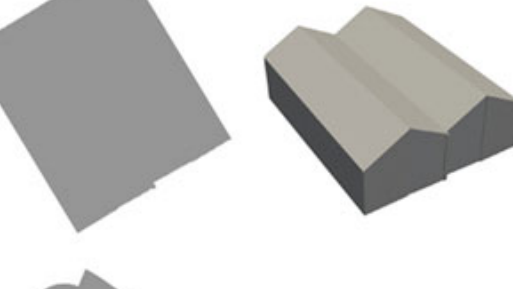













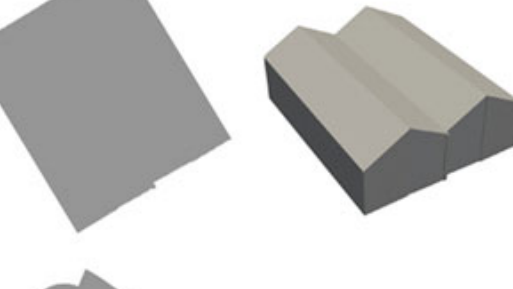








\*Formula-based index, size-independent by definition.

<sup>+</sup>Index based on interior grid points (discretised), normalised.

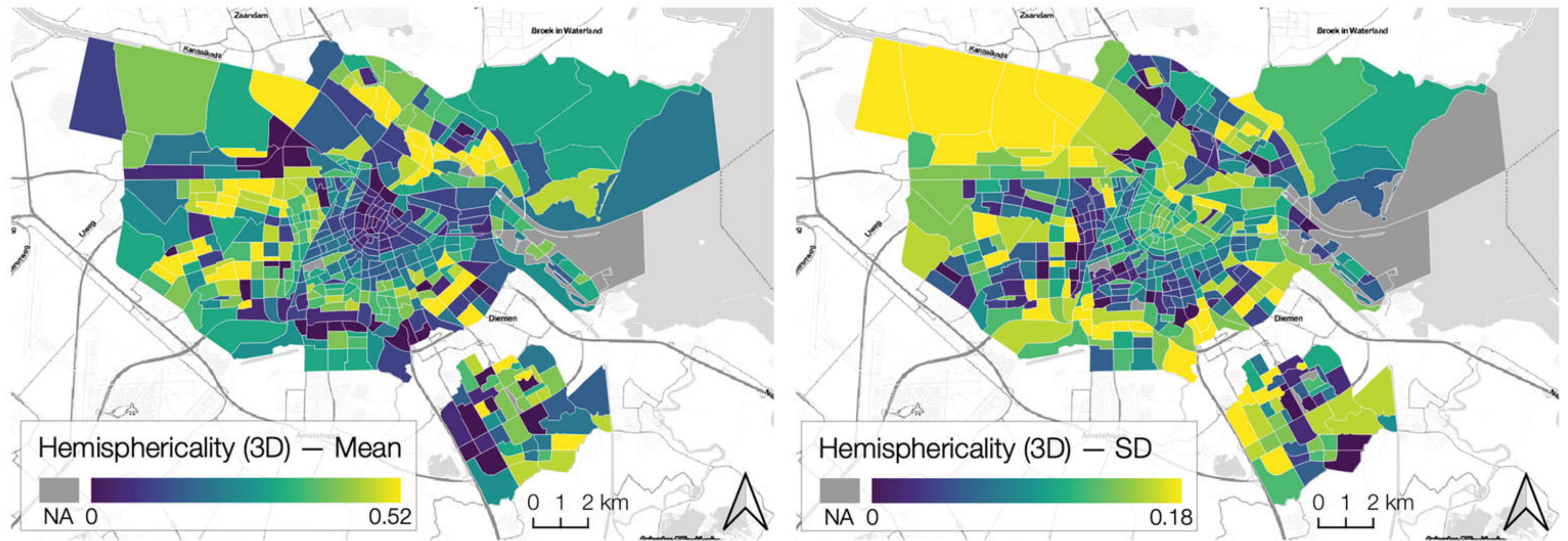
<sup>x</sup>Index based on surface grid points (discretised), normalised.

	2D	3D
Circularity/ Hemisphericality	It measures the area deviation between a polygon and its equal-perimeter circle. Circle is generally assumed as the most compact shape.	It measures the volume deviation between a polyhedron and its equal-area hemisphere. A hemisphere was selected to represent the space above ground.
Convexity	It measures the area deviation between a polygon and its convex hull. Thus, it reveals a polygon's degree of being curved inward or outward.	It measures the volume deviation between a polyhedron and its convex hull. Thus, it reveals a building's degree of being curved inward or outward.
Fractality	It measures the edge roughness or smoothness. Based on Wentz (2010).	It measures the surface roughness or smoothness.
Rectangularity/ Cuboidness	It measures the area deviation between a polygon and its minimum area bounding rectangle. Thus, it reveals a polygon's degree of being curved inward.	It measures the volume deviation between a polyhedron and its minimum volume bounding box. Thus, it reveals a polyhedral's degree of being curved inwards.
Squareness/ Cubeness	It measures the perimeter deviation between a polygon and its equal-area square.	It measures the surface area deviation between a polyhedron and its equal-volume cube.
Cohesion	It is a measure of overall accessibility from all points to others within a polygon.	It is a measure of overall accessibility from all points to others within a polyhedron.
Proximity	It is a measure of overall accessibility from all inner points to the centre of a polygon.	It is a measure of overall accessibility from all inner points to the centre of a polyhedron.



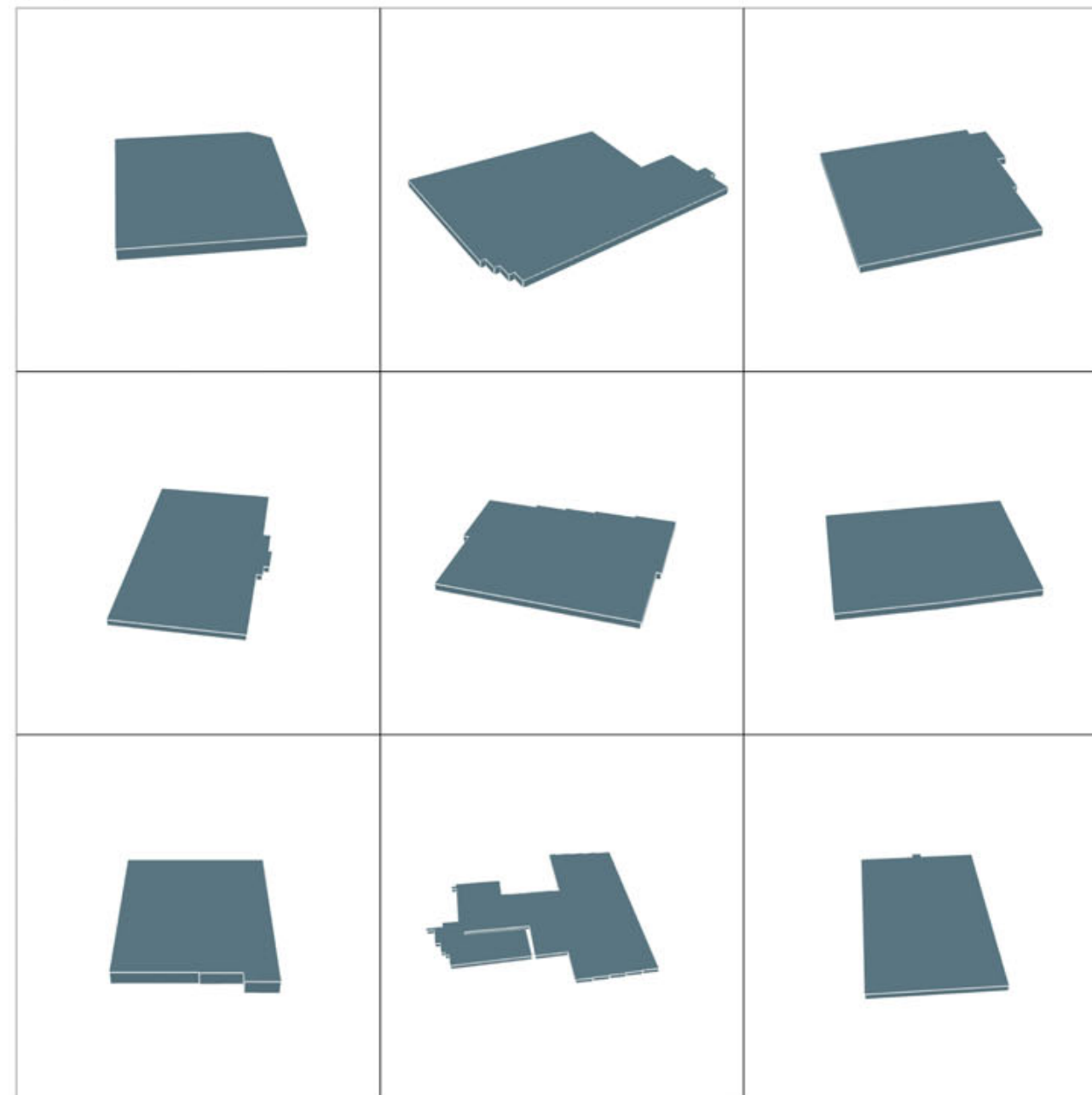
				B1	B2	B3	B4	B5	B6	B7	B8	B9	B10	B11	B12	B13	B14			
				2D																
<b>B1</b>		<b>B8</b>		Circularity	0.52	0.51	0.76	0.83	0.48	0.28	0.91	0.29	0.46	0.72	0.64	0.51	0.39	0.20		
				Convexity	0.92	0.90	0.99	0.98	0.94	0.86	0.98	0.73	0.84	0.98	0.94	0.80	0.86	0.68		
<b>B2</b>		<b>B9</b>		Fractality	0.43	0.45	0.36	0.21	0.24	0.32	0.32	0.32	0.28	0.40	0.31	0.30	0.30	0.32		
				Rectangularity	0.85	0.81	0.99	0.92	0.74	0.69	0.79	0.58	0.83	0.96	0.89	0.61	0.72	0.58		
<b>B3</b>		<b>B10</b>		Squareness	0.81	0.81	0.98	1.03	0.78	0.60	1.08	0.61	0.76	0.96	0.90	0.80	0.70	0.50		
				Equivalent rectangularity	0.92	0.90	0.99	1.03	0.78	0.60	1.08	0.61	0.77	0.98	0.90	0.82	0.73	0.54		
<b>B4</b>		<b>B11</b>		Proximity	0.82	0.83	0.98	0.99	0.99	0.98	1.00	0.84	0.91	0.95	0.98	0.85	0.92	0.67		
				Exchange	0.68	0.68	0.90	0.92	0.93	0.90	0.98	0.75	0.81	0.83	0.92	0.74	0.78	0.53		
<b>B5</b>		<b>B12</b>		Spin	0.61	0.61	0.94	0.97	0.97	0.94	1.00	0.71	0.81	0.88	0.95	0.69	0.80	0.43		
				Perimeter	0.72	0.71	0.87	0.91	0.69	0.53	0.96	0.54	0.68	0.85	0.80	0.71	0.62	0.45		
<b>B6</b>		<b>B13</b>		Depth	0.67	0.67	0.88	0.91	0.88	0.84	0.97	0.52	0.67	0.83	0.85	0.64	0.74	0.41		
				Girth	0.56	0.60	0.82	0.84	0.83	0.92	0.90	0.51	0.58	0.70	0.79	0.52	0.67	0.44		
<b>B7</b>		<b>B14</b>		Dispersion	0.70	0.70	0.90	0.93	0.93	0.91	0.98	0.75	0.79	0.84	0.91	0.74	0.79	0.56		
				Range	0.59	0.59	0.79	0.87	0.87	0.85	0.97	0.73	0.73	0.75	0.78	0.63	0.71	0.54		
				3D																
				Roughness	0.70	0.69	0.82	0.85	0.49	0.29	0.93	0.29	0.50	0.80	0.67	0.57	0.43	0.21		
<b>B8</b>		<b>B9</b>		Hemisphericality	0.42	0.43	0.41	0.15	0.17	0.29	0.52	0.28	0.20	0.44	0.21	0.30	0.25	0.14		
				Convexity	0.88	0.89	0.91	0.23	0.67	0.85	0.94	0.58	0.59	0.87	0.85	0.74	0.55	0.49		
<b>B9</b>		<b>B10</b>		Fractality	0.32	0.33	0.31	0.25	0.21	0.23	0.24	0.23	0.22	0.30	0.24	0.21	0.23	0.27		
				Cuboidness	0.62	0.60	0.83	0.17	0.43	0.64	0.70	0.42	0.52	0.70	0.73	0.48	0.27	0.30		
<b>B10</b>		<b>B11</b>		Cubeness	0.88	0.90	0.87	0.44	0.49	0.68	1.00	0.66	0.54	0.90	0.56	0.71	0.62	0.42		
				Equivalent cuboidness	0.96	0.97	0.96	0.61	0.57	0.90	1.01	0.69	0.57	0.93	0.64	0.76	0.64	0.66		
<b>B11</b>		<b>B12</b>		Proximity	0.83	0.83	0.78	0.32	0.68	0.76	0.96	0.76	0.73	0.89	0.69	0.75	0.78	0.41		
				Exchange	0.71	–	0.57	0	–	0.48	0.89	–	–	0.78	–	0.52	–	0.14		
<b>B12</b>		<b>B13</b>		Spin	0.65	0.66	0.58	0.10	0.46	0.55	0.91	0.56	0.51	0.78	0.43	0.51	0.56	0.15		
				Circumference	0.71	0.72	0.70	0.36	0.39	0.55	0.81	0.53	0.44	0.73	0.45	0.57	0.5	0.34		
<b>B13</b>		<b>B14</b>		Depth	0.59	0.59	0.55	0.32	0.40	0.55	0.79	0.5	0.43	0.63	0.32	0.51	0.49	0.30		
				Girth	0.55	0.55	0.43	0.40	0.37	0.34	0.80	0.47	0.44	0.64	0.30	0.36	0.44	0.30		
<b>B14</b>						Dispersion	0.79	0.79	0.74	0.40	0.73	0.71	0.93	0.75	0.69	0.85	0.63	0.69	0.71	0.47
						Range	0.57	0.60	0.60	0.32	0.57	0.58	0.80	0.59	0.54	0.65	0.47	0.50	0.51	0.28
				Roughness	0.87	0.87	0.91	3.54	0.43	0.84	0.79	0.63	0.47	0.77	0.58	0.79	0.65	1.03		
				Form factor	1.11	1.04	2.04	8.87	2.75	2.55	1.04	1.55	0.83	0.98	0.49	0.58	1.84	4.65		



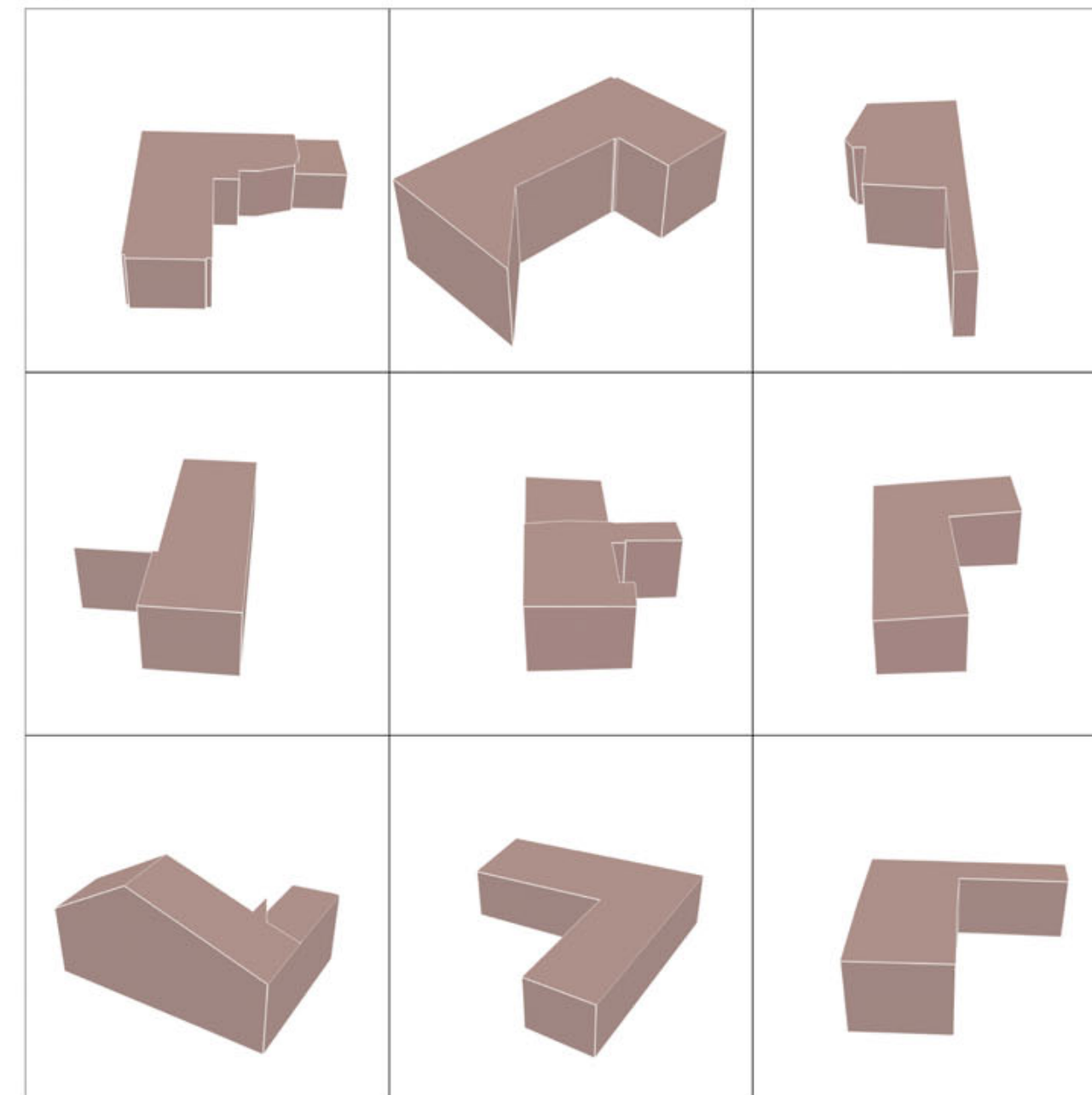


**Figure 5.** The 3D urban form of a city. Aggregations of one of the 3D metrics (*hemisphericity*) at the level of the administrative neighbourhoods (*buurt*) of the municipality of Amsterdam—mean as a measure of central tendency (left); and another one (standard deviation) indicating its dispersion within each area (right). The maps highlight the difference between the historical city centre with the well-known canal houses (ranking low on the *hemisphericity* index) and the newer neighbourhoods. The administrative boundaries and the basemap are courtesy of Statistics Netherlands, Stamen, and OpenStreetMap contributors.

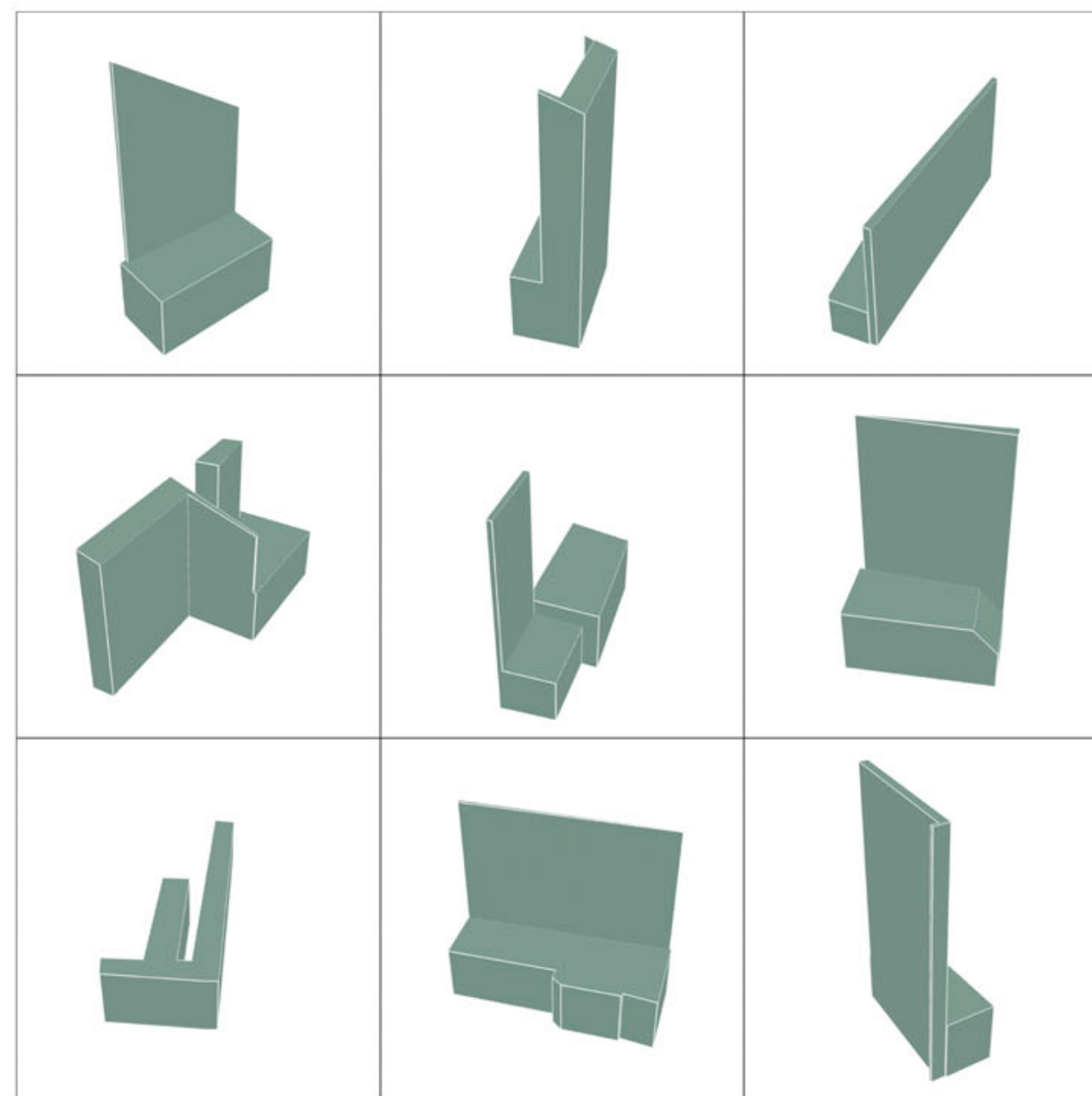
(a)



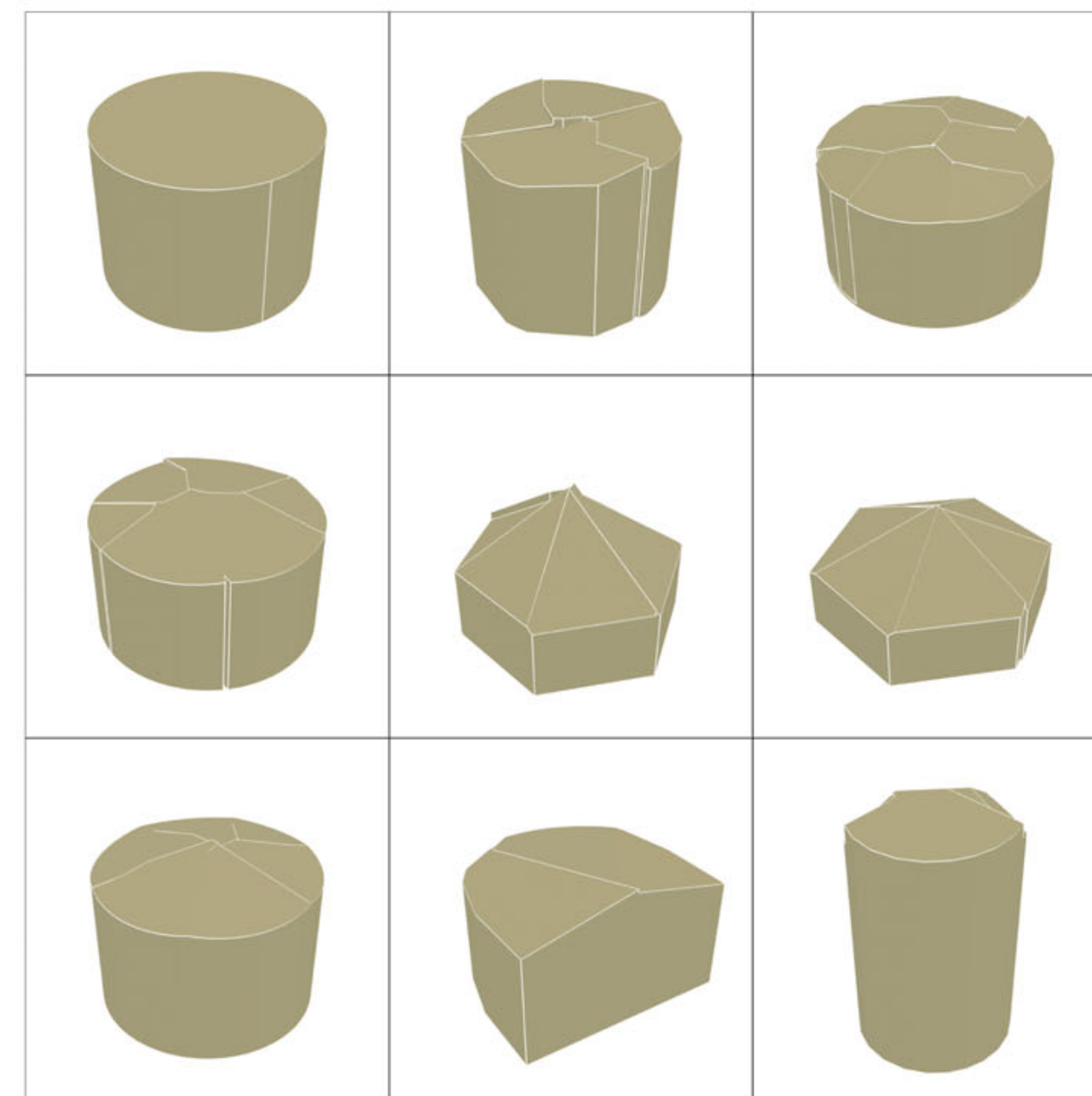
(b)



(c)

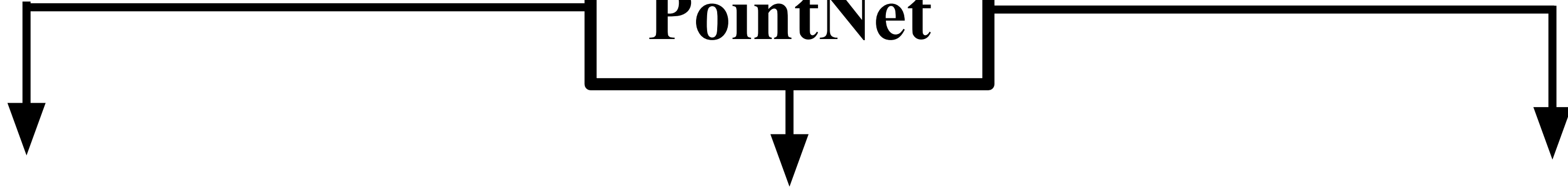


(d)



# PointNet: Deep Learning on Point Sets for 3D Classification and Segmentation

**PointNet**

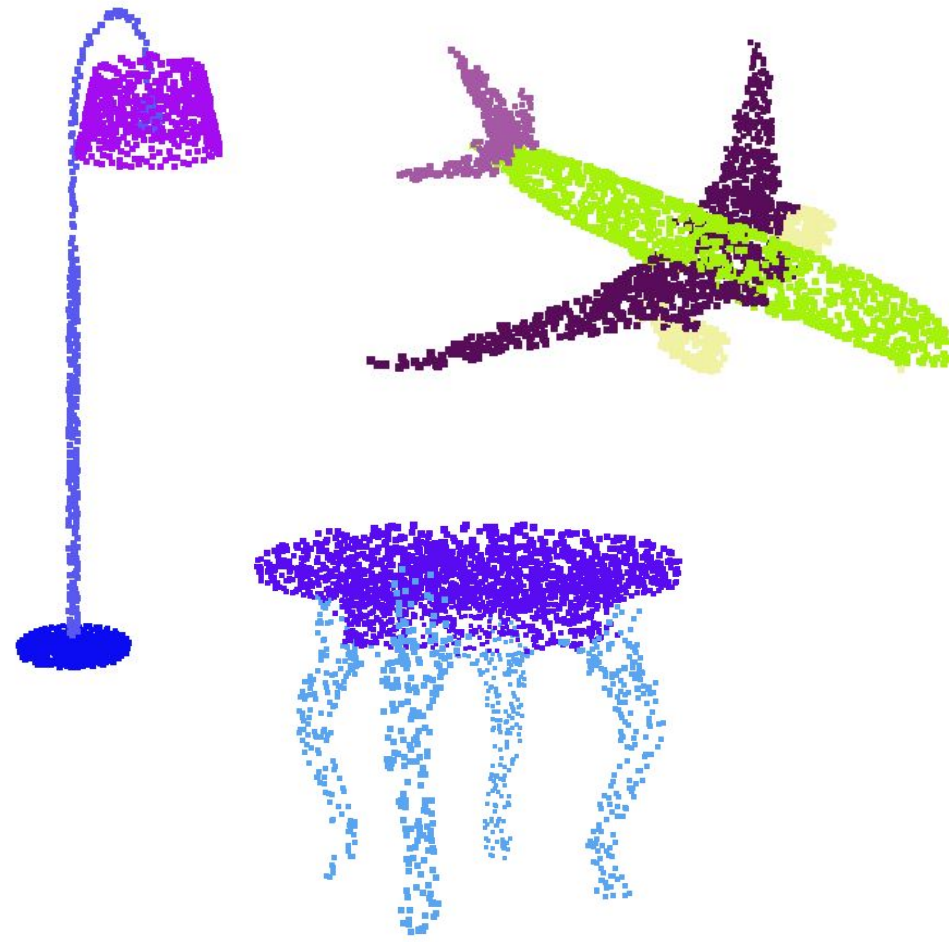


mug?

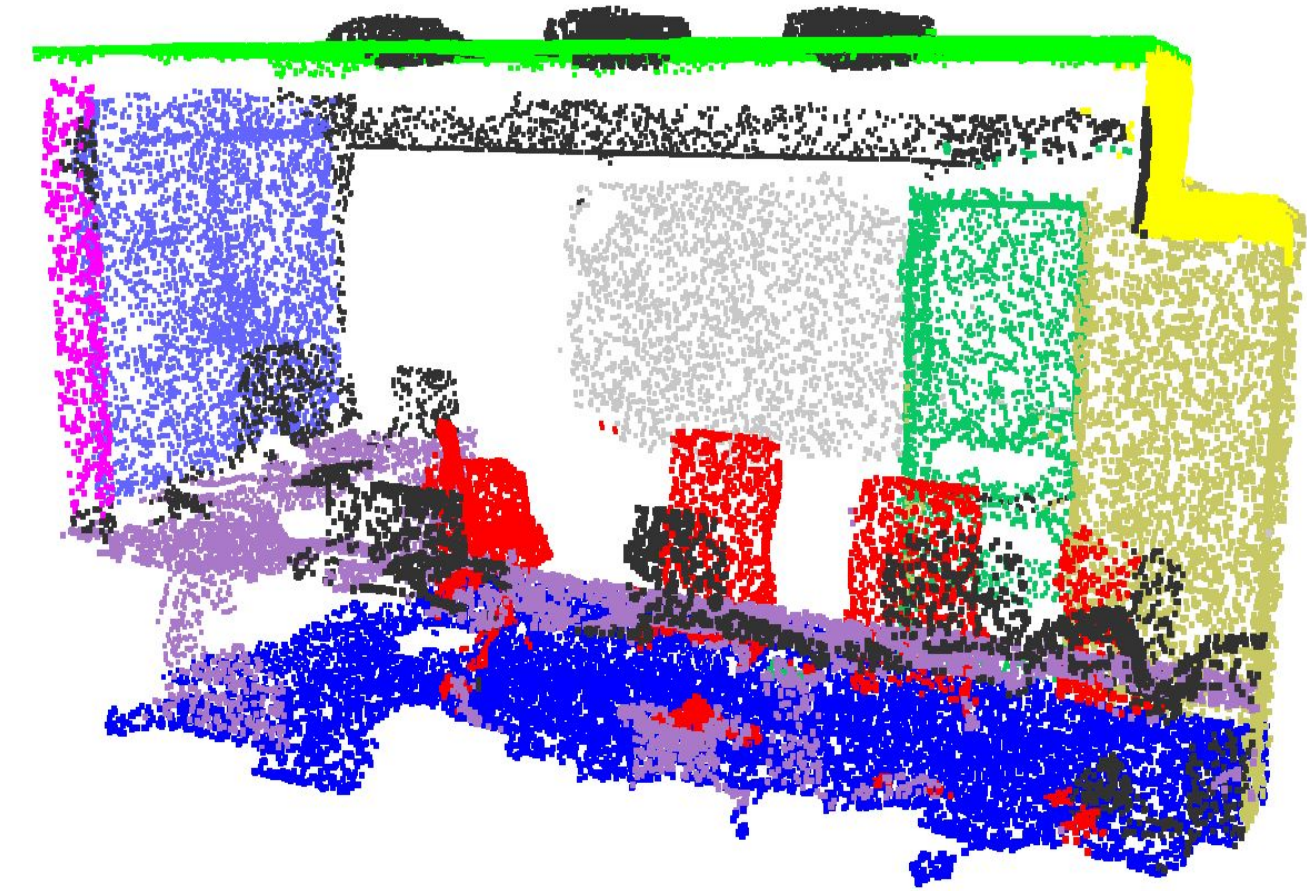
table?

car?

Classification



Part Segmentation

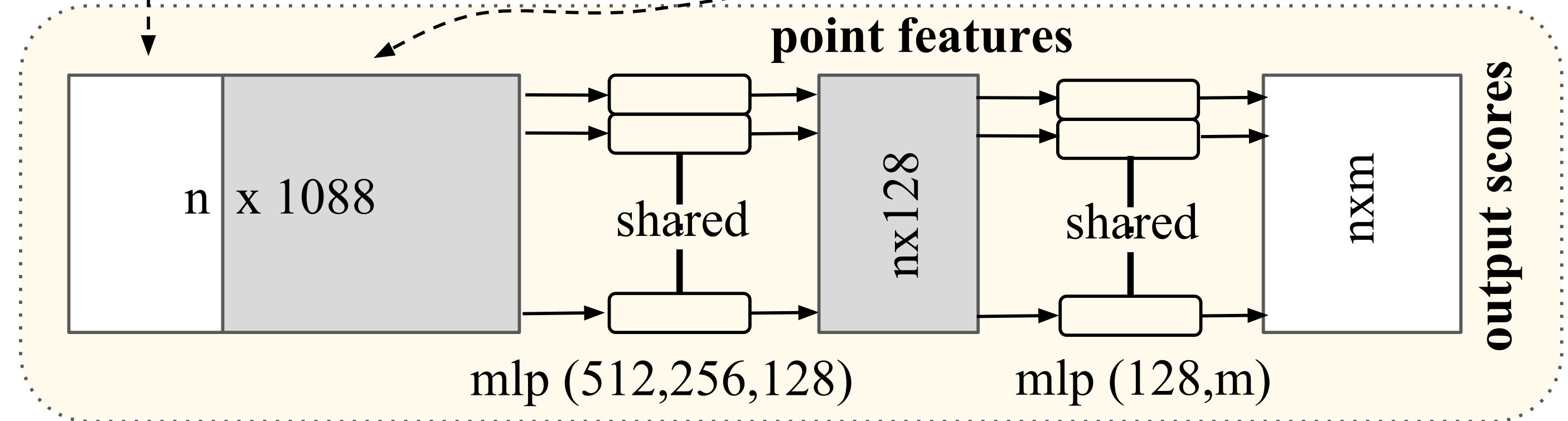
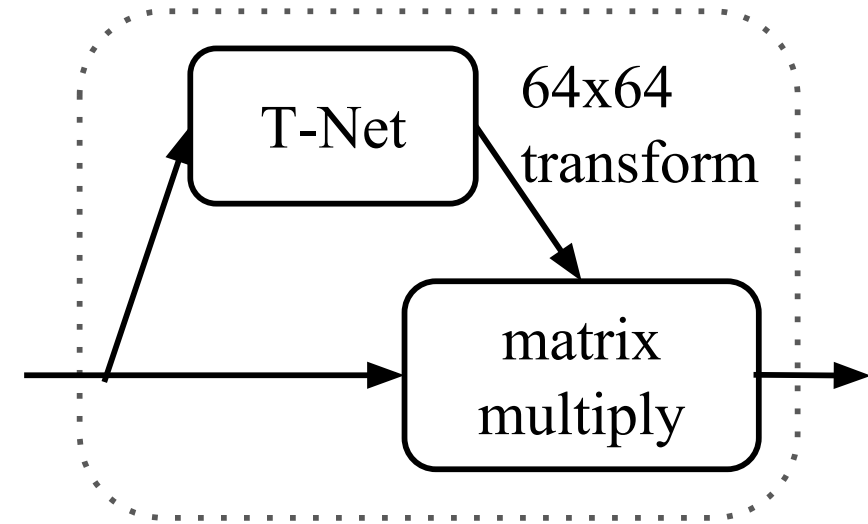
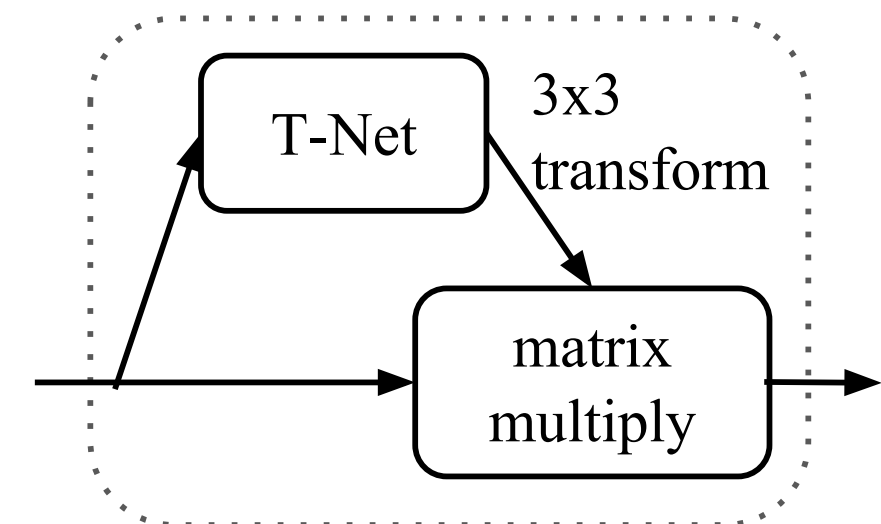
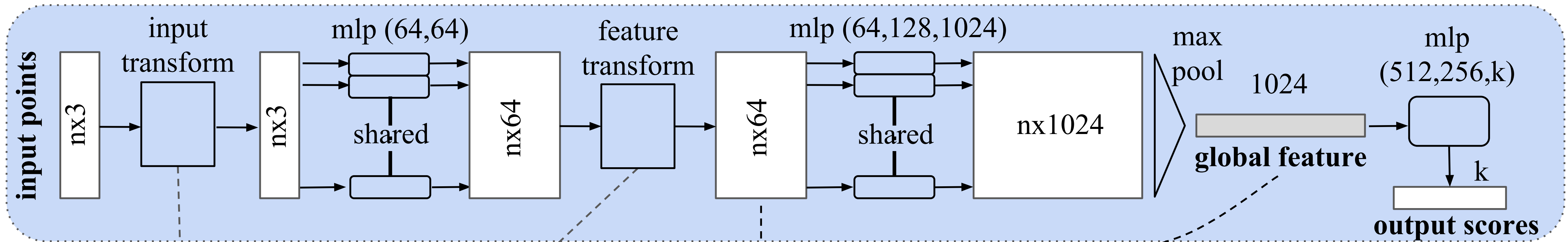


Semantic Segmentation

# Point clouds vs. neural networks

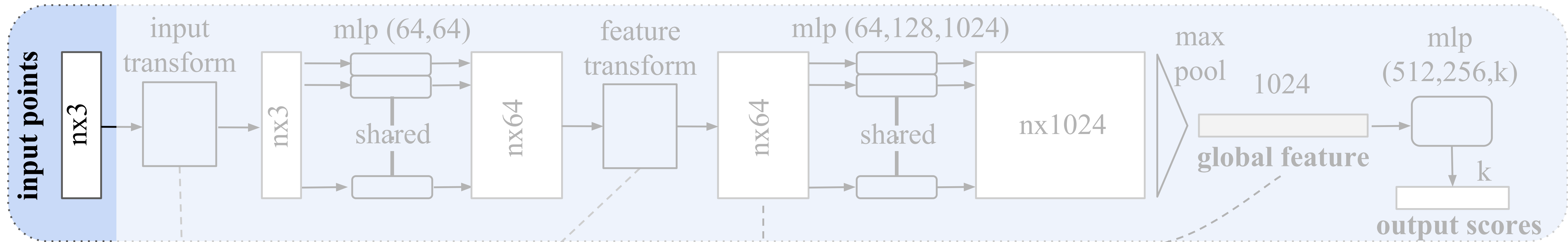
- Unordered: reordering points in a point cloud shouldn't affect the result
- Transformation invariance: rotating or translating a point cloud shouldn't affect the result
- Local structure: points need to be analysed together with other nearby points (not in isolation)

### Classification Network

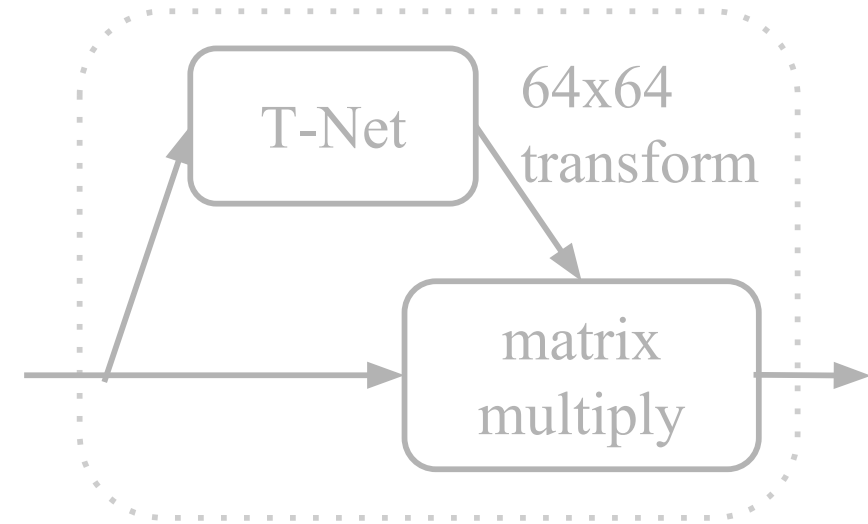
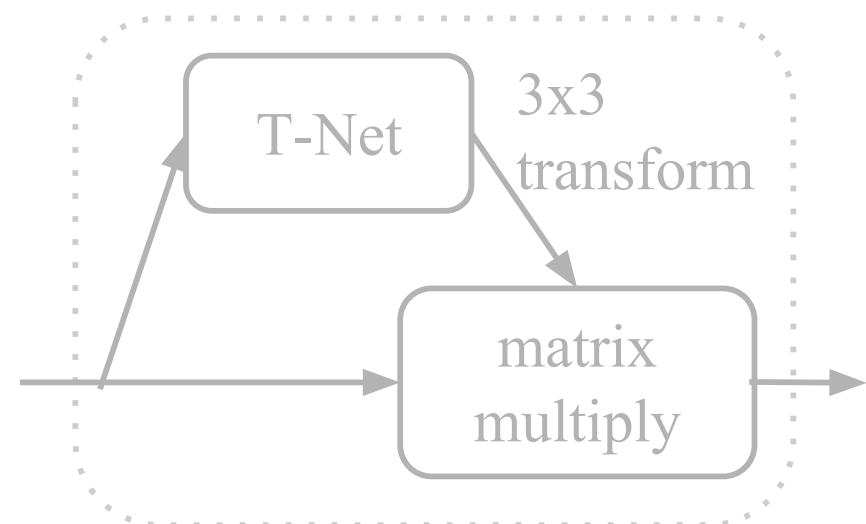


### Segmentation Network

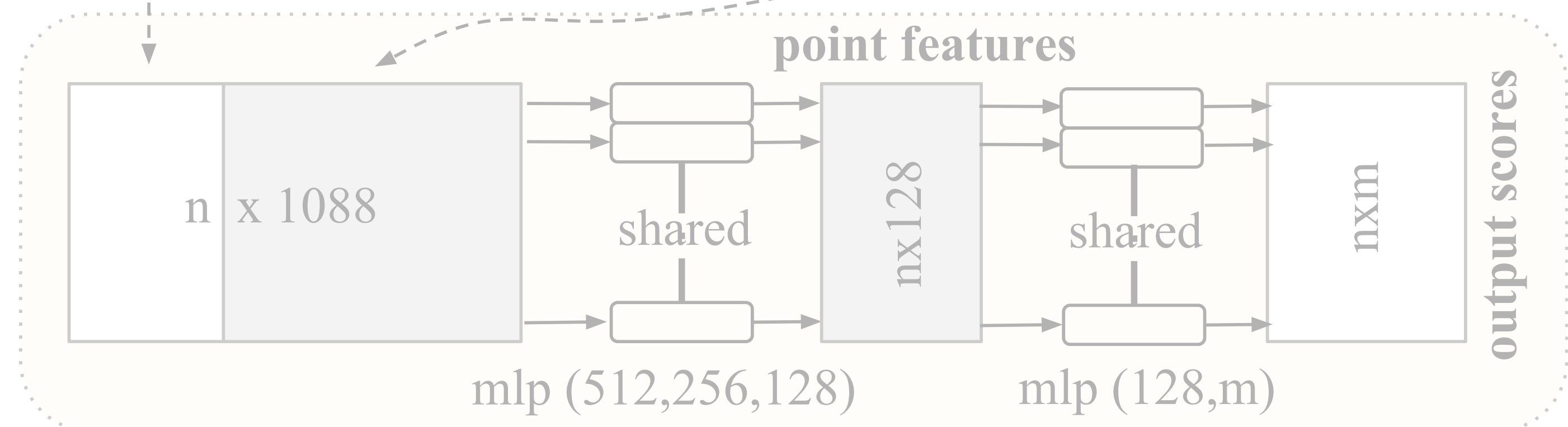
### Classification Network



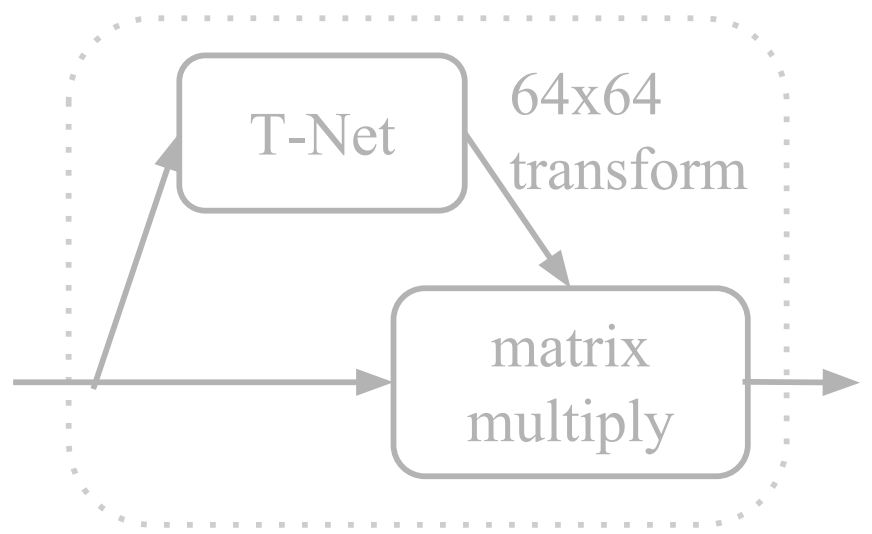
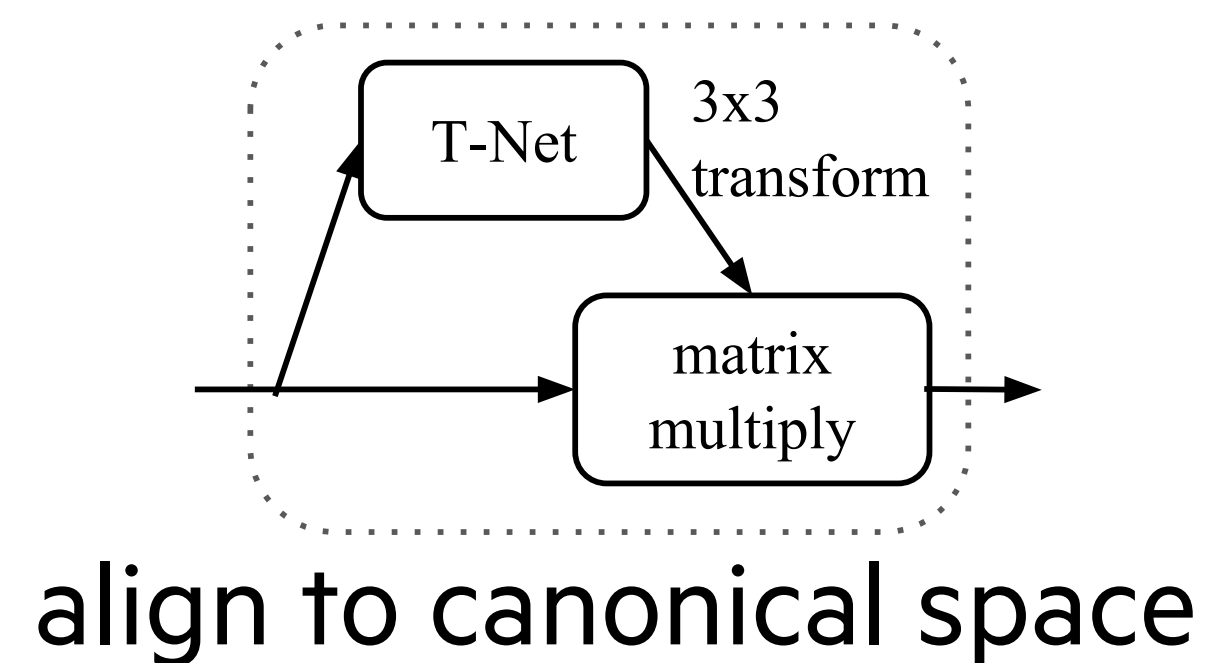
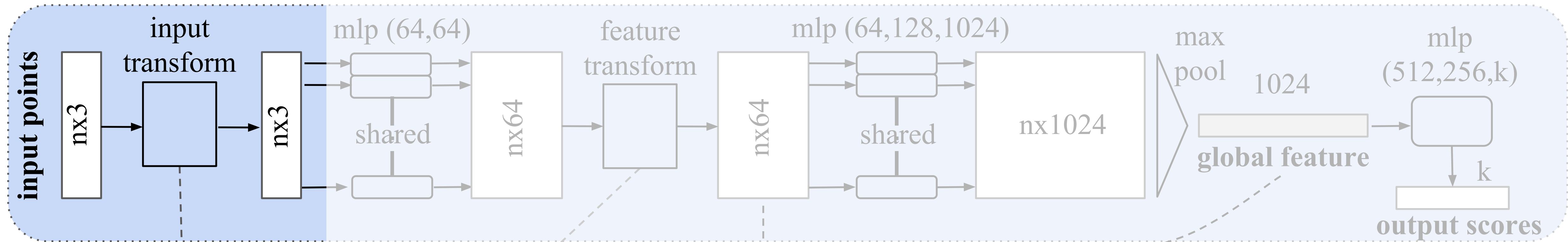
$n$  input points (x, y, z)



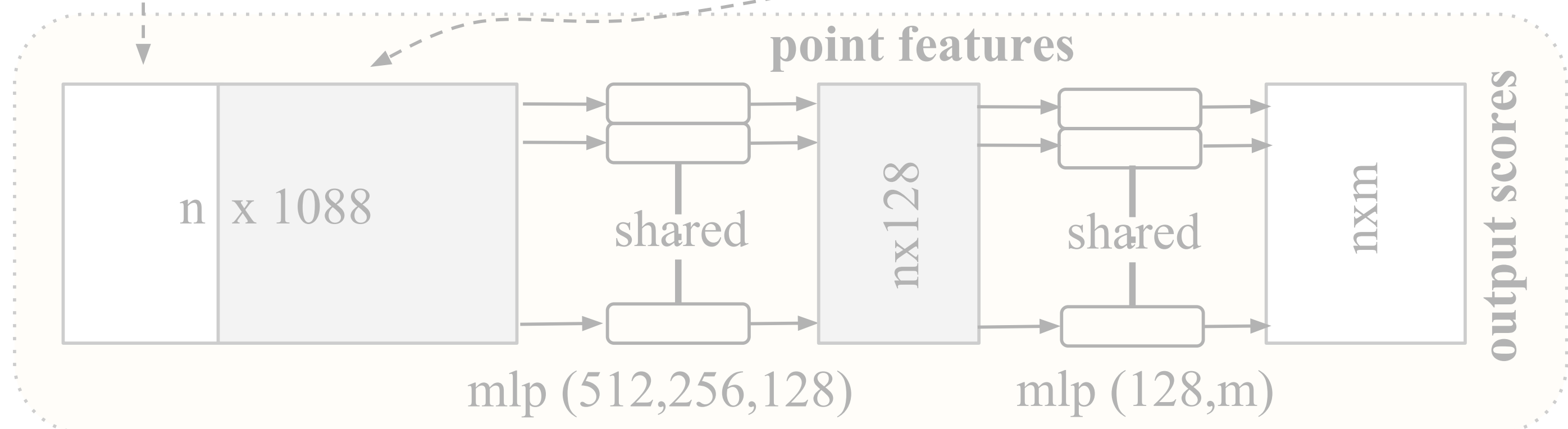
### Segmentation Network



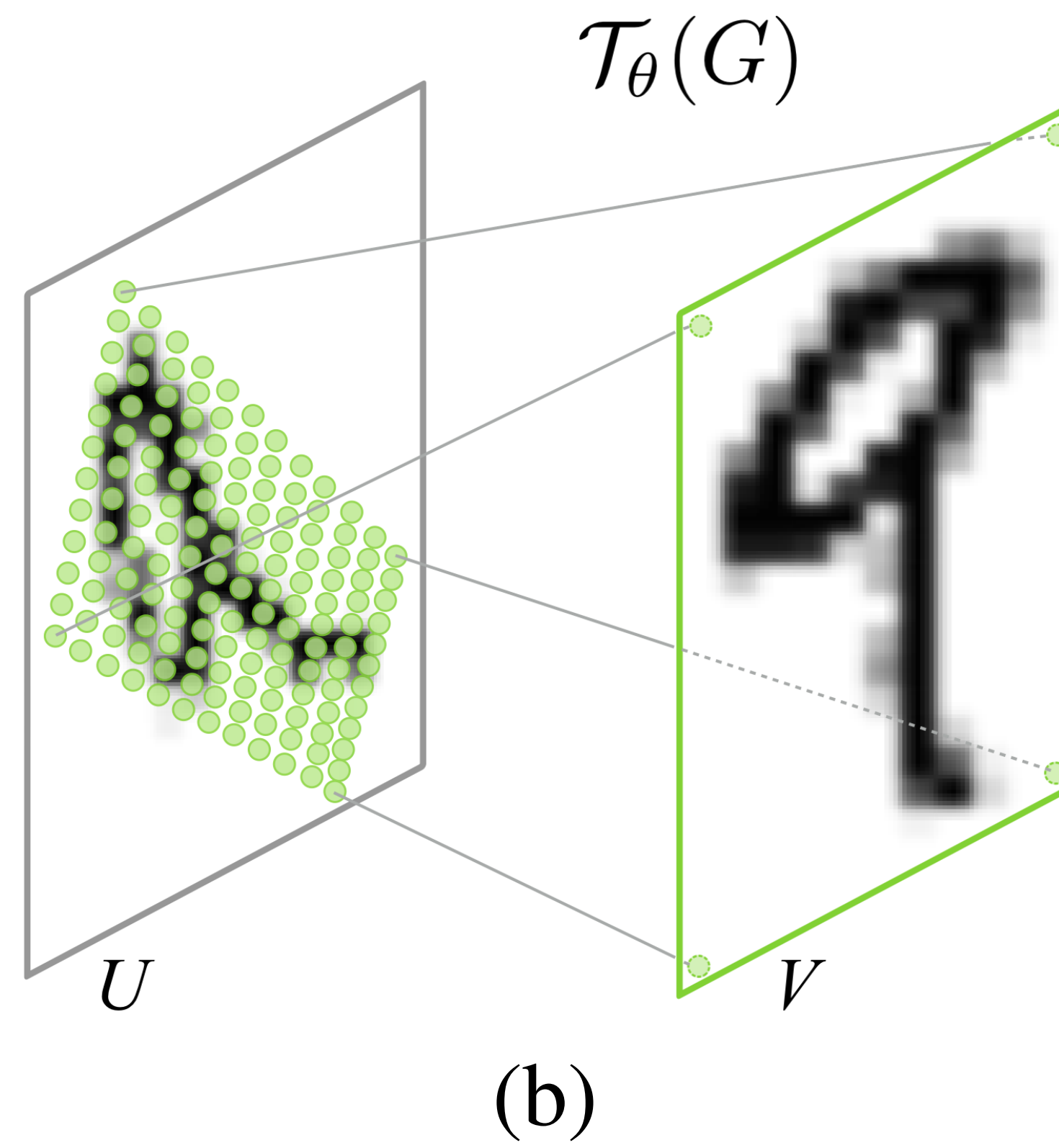
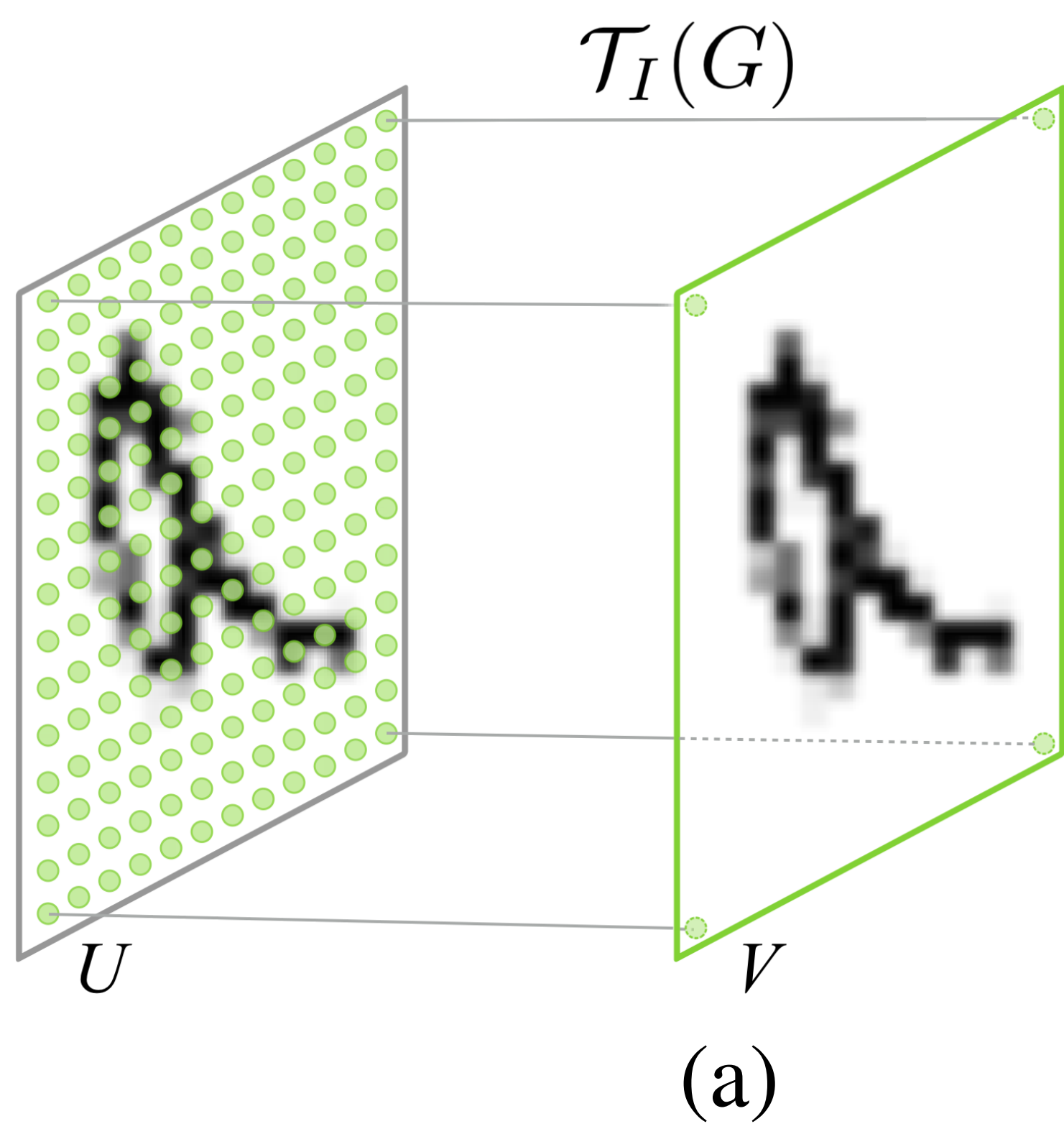
*Classification Network*



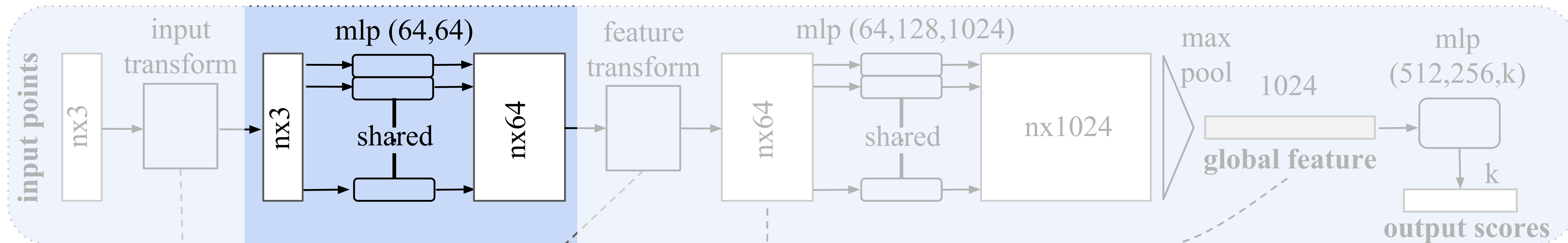
*Segmentation Network*



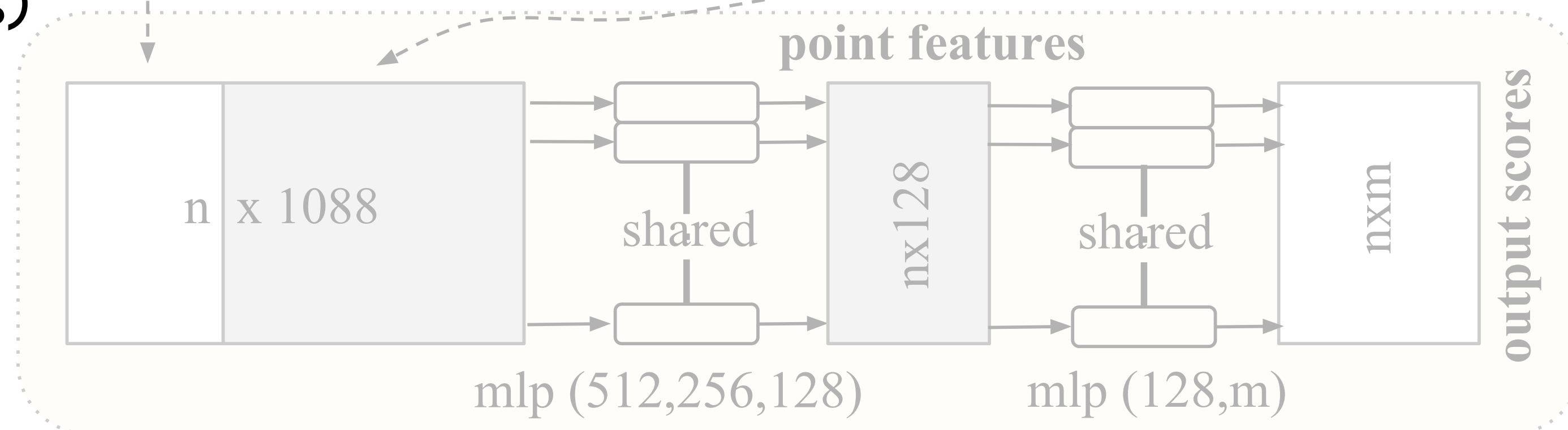
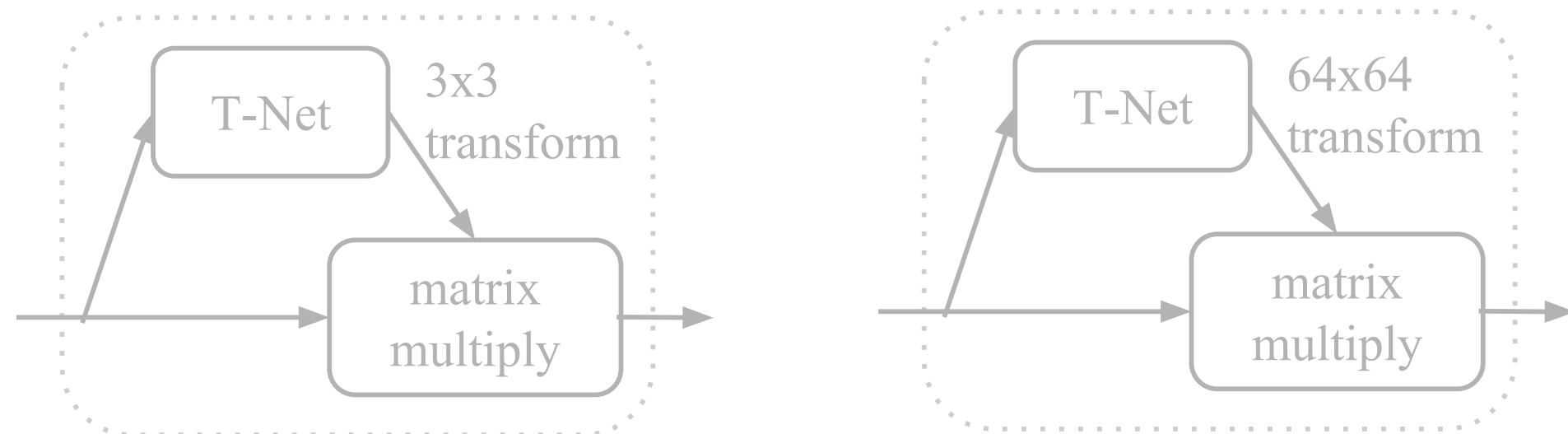




# small neural network to learn local structure

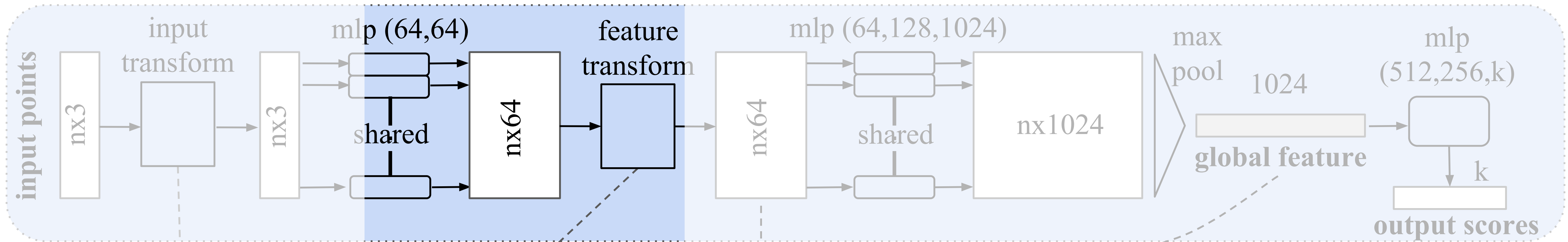


$n$  points in 64D space (local features)

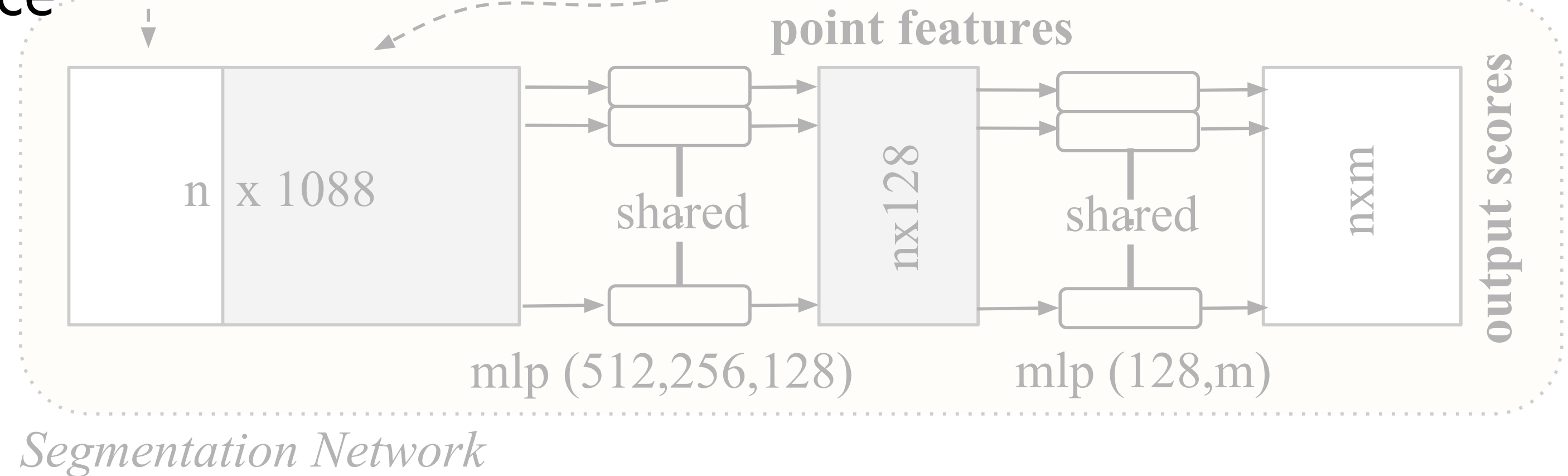
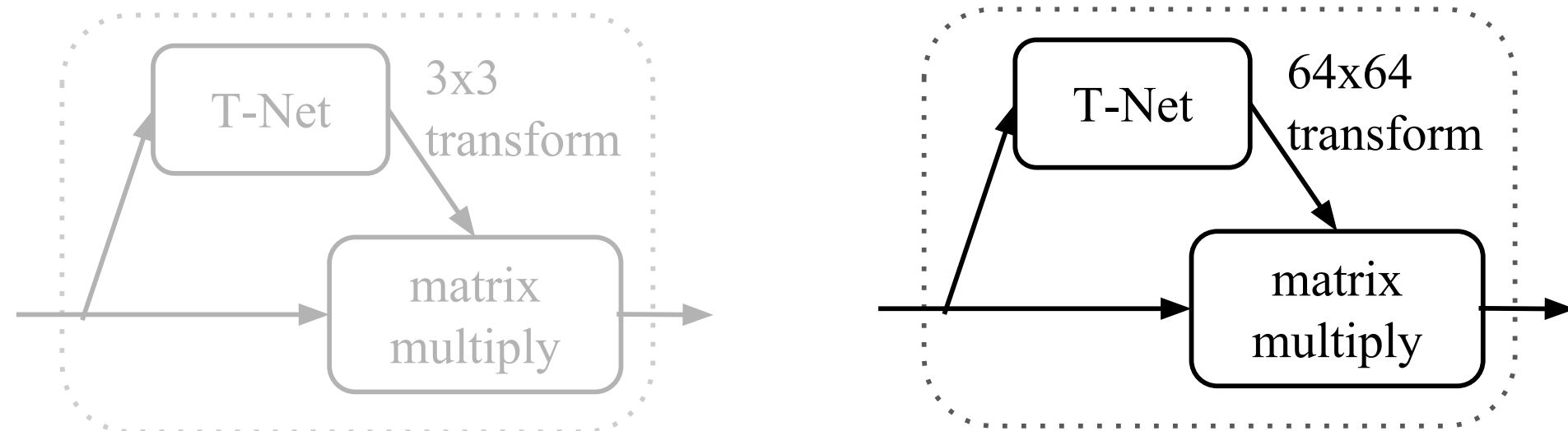


Segmentation Network

### Classification Network

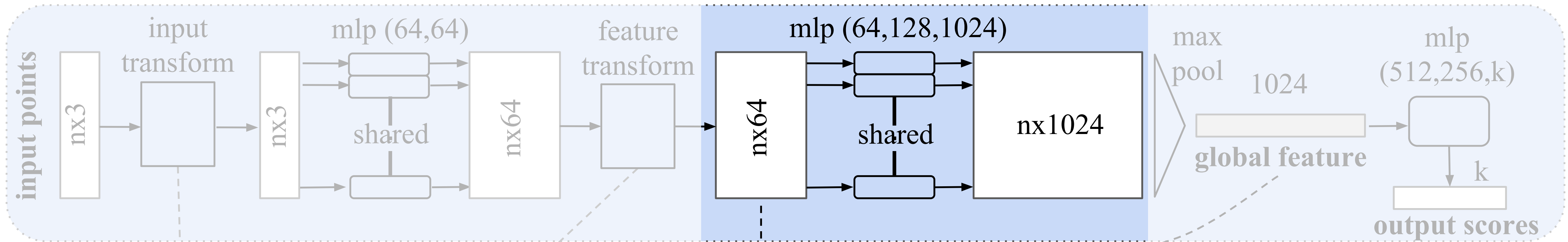


align to canonical space

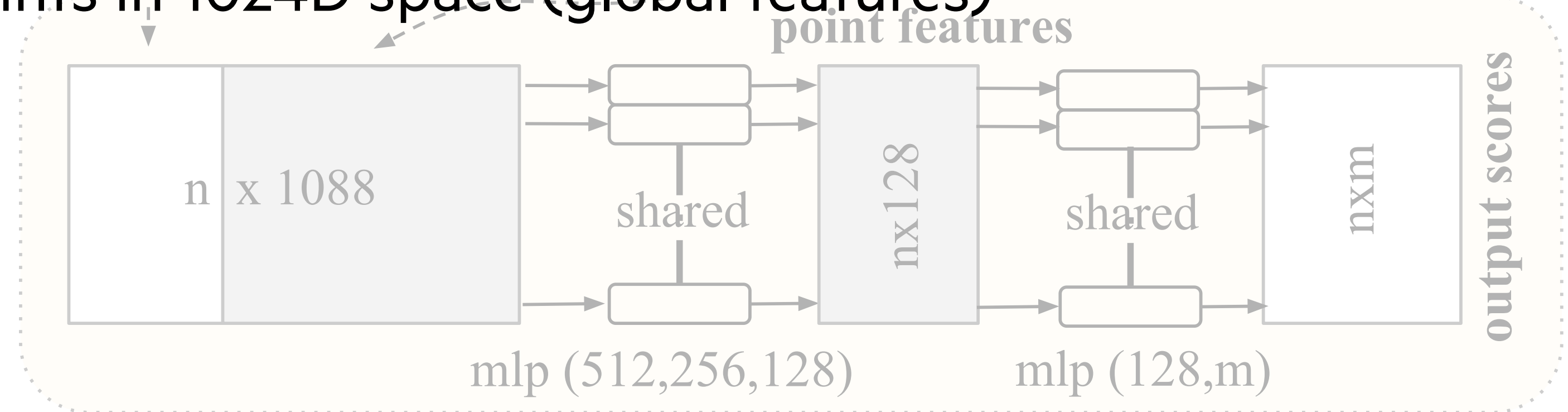


# deep network for complex features

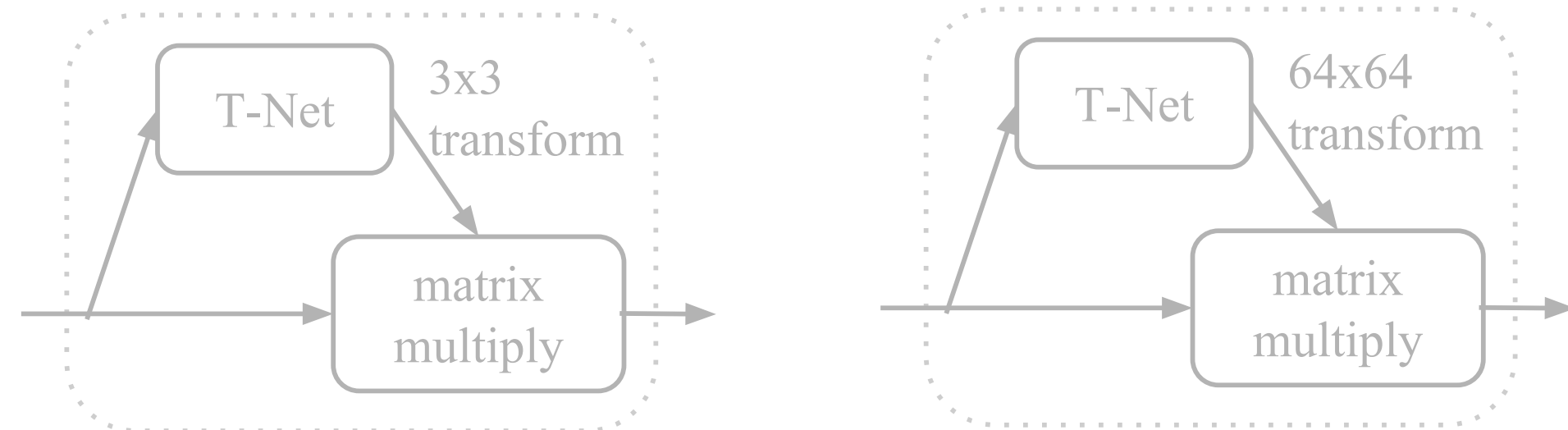
## Classification Network



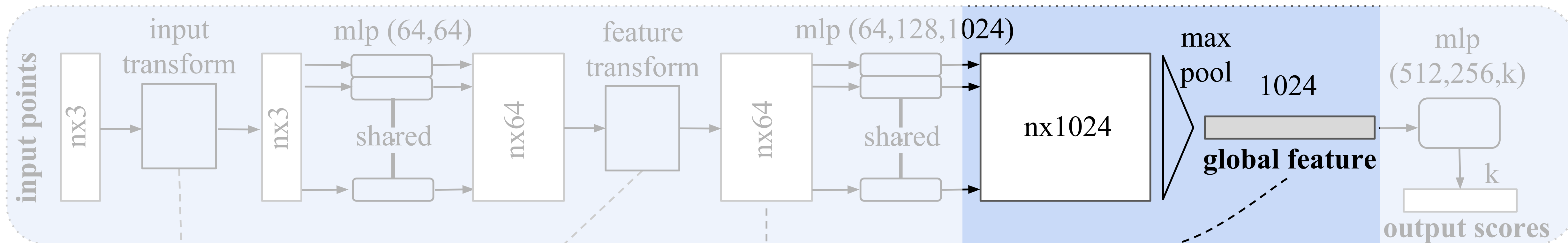
$n$  points in 1024D space (global features)



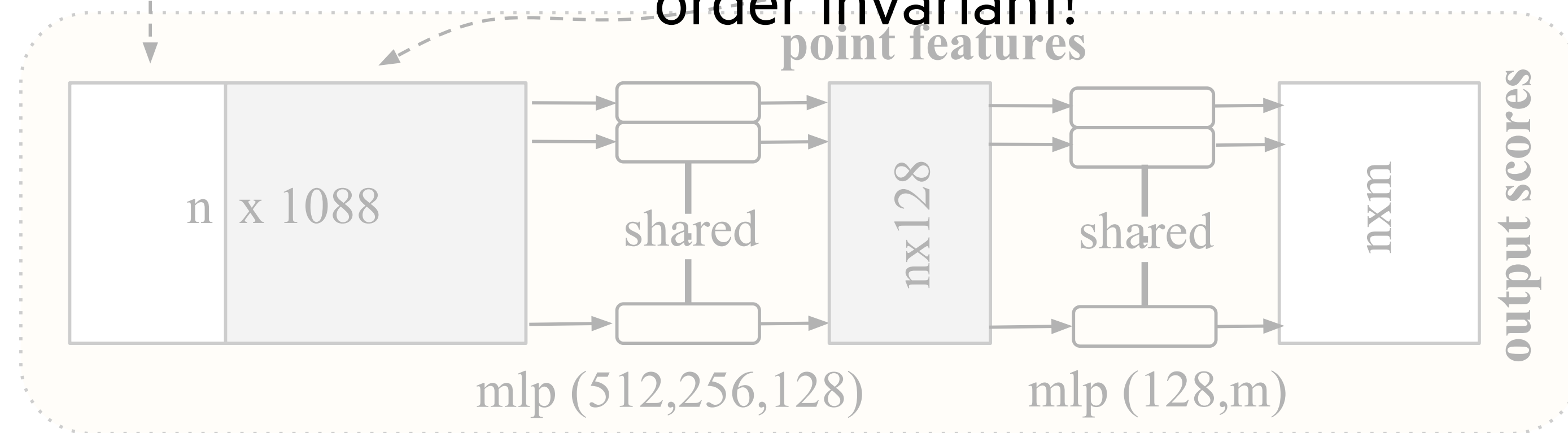
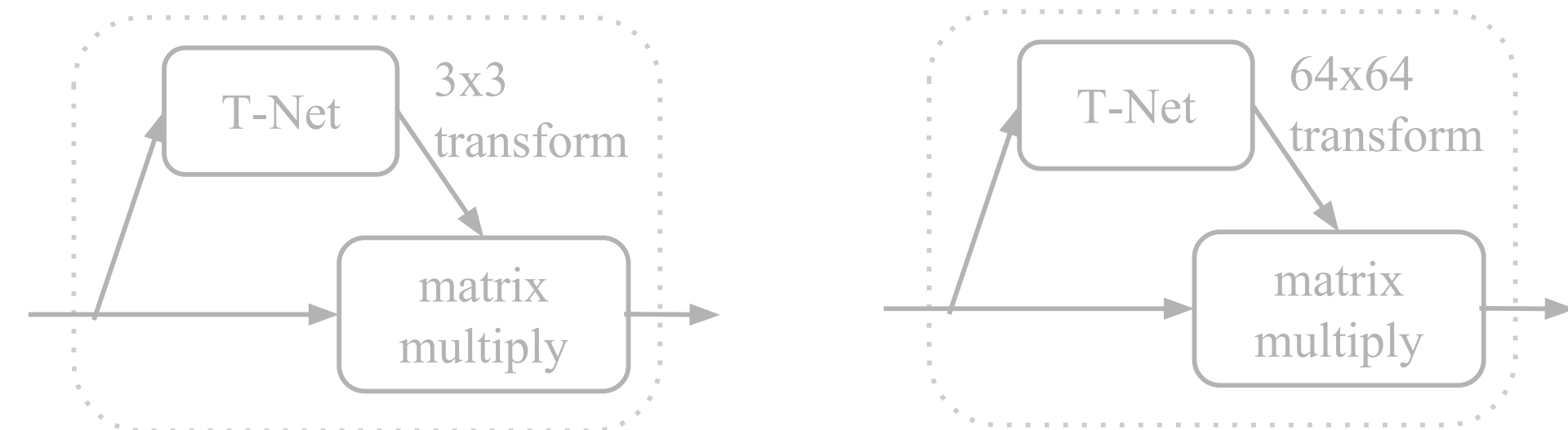
## Segmentation Network



*Classification Network*



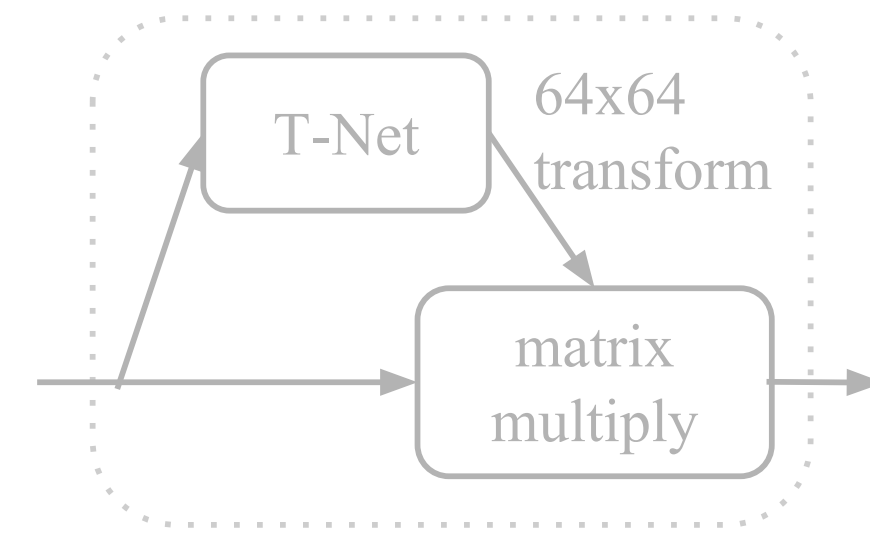
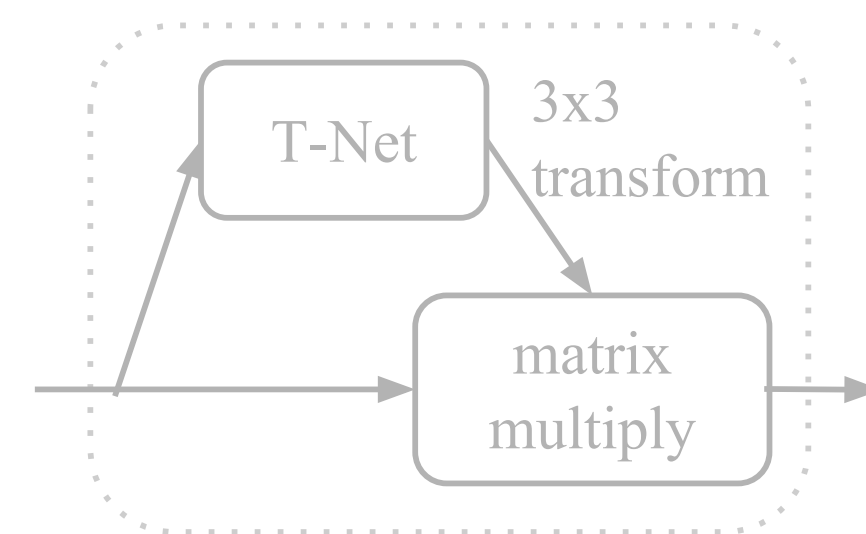
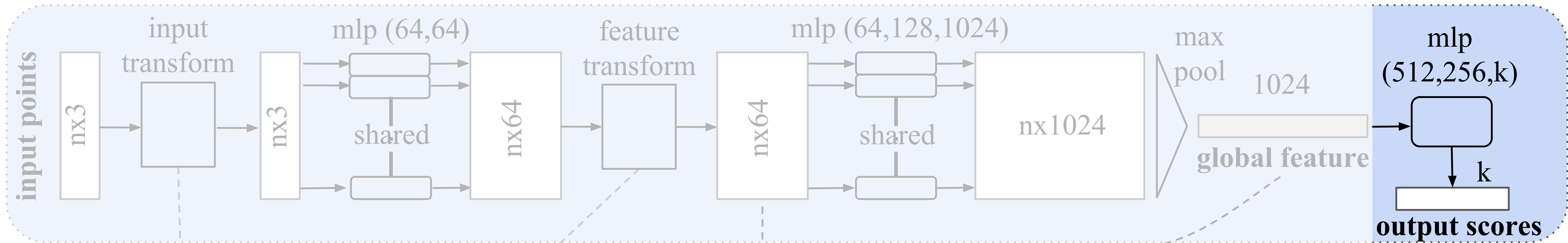
**order invariant!**



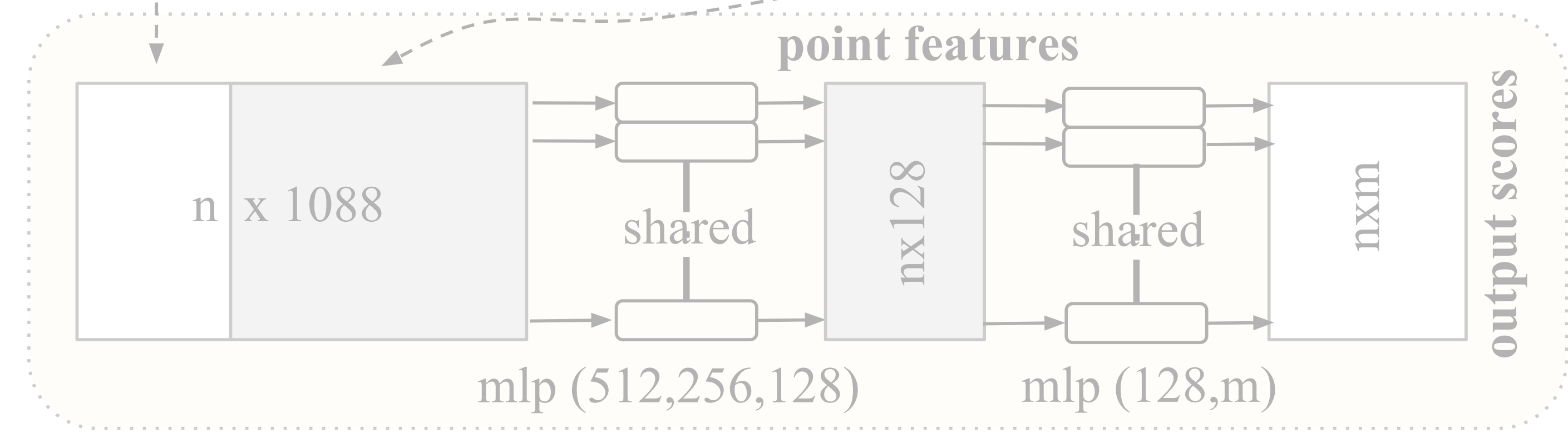
*Segmentation Network*

network to reduce features to k class scores

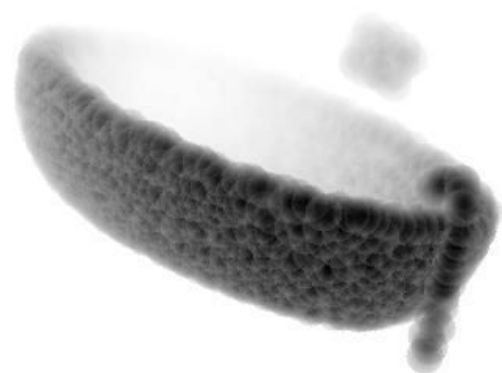
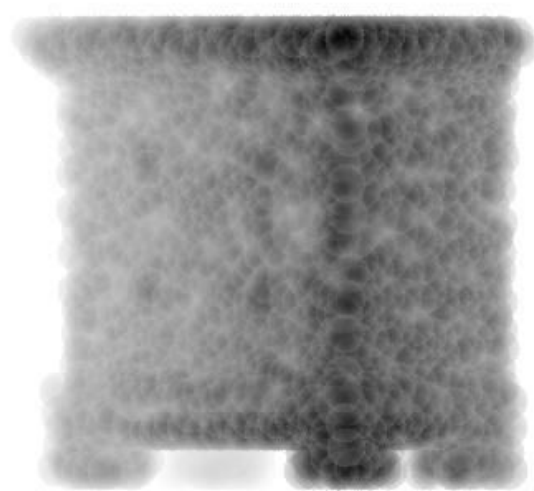
*Classification Network*



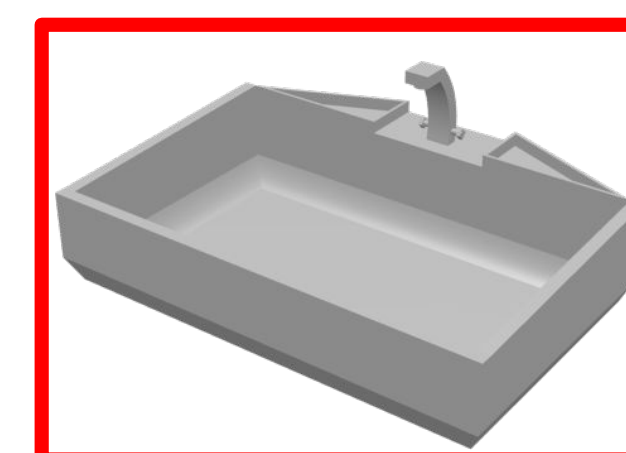
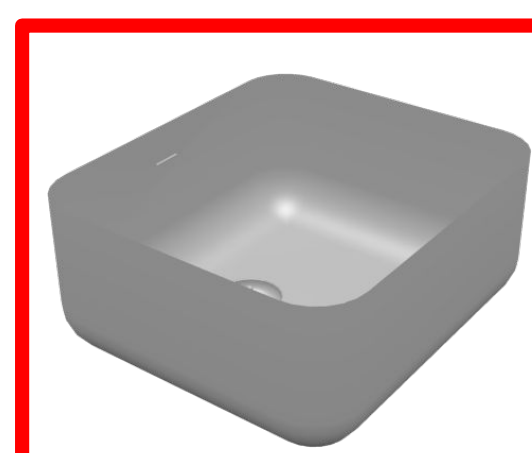
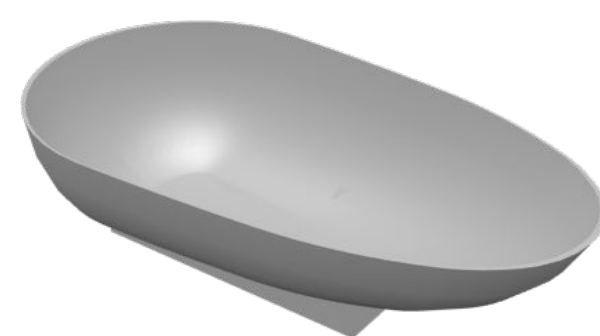
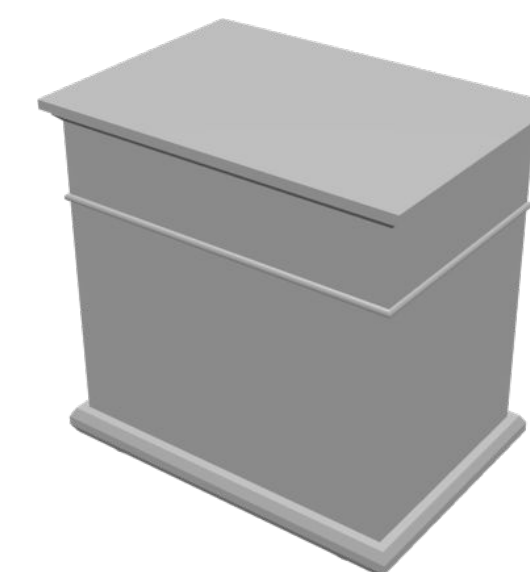
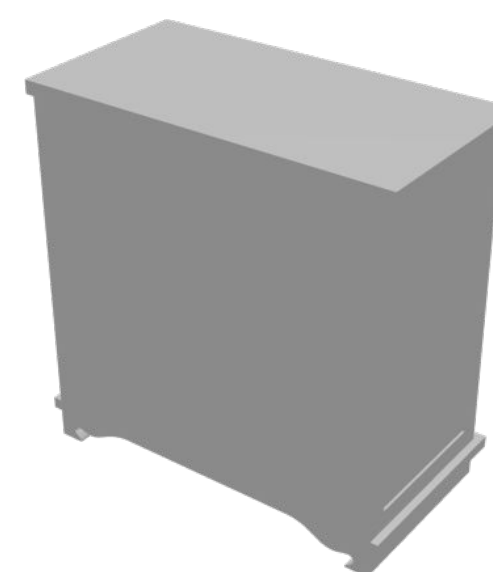
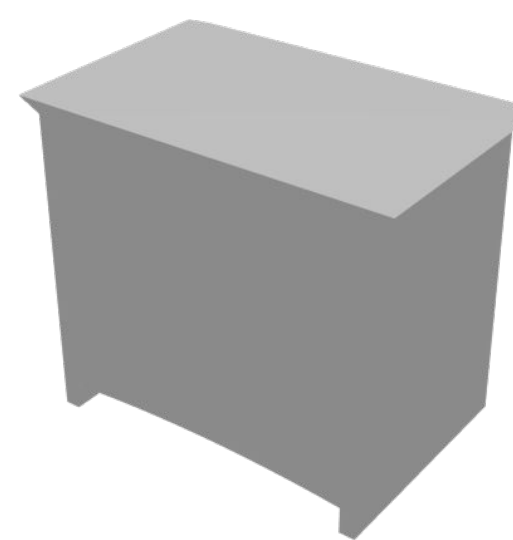
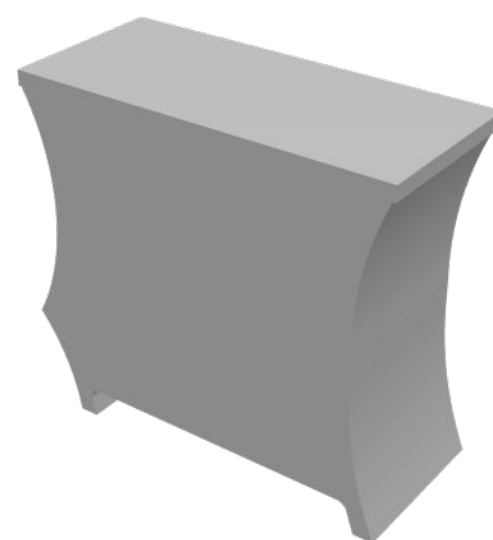
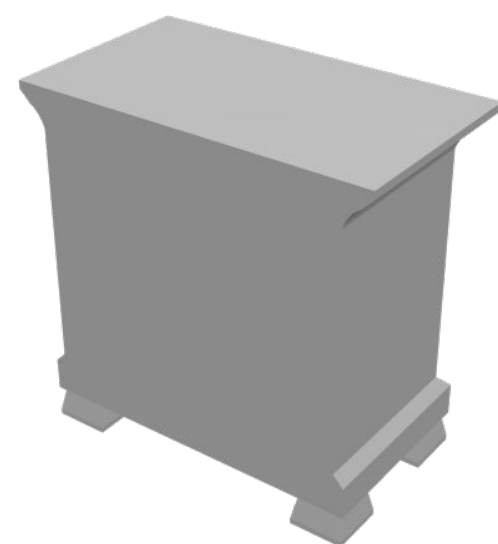
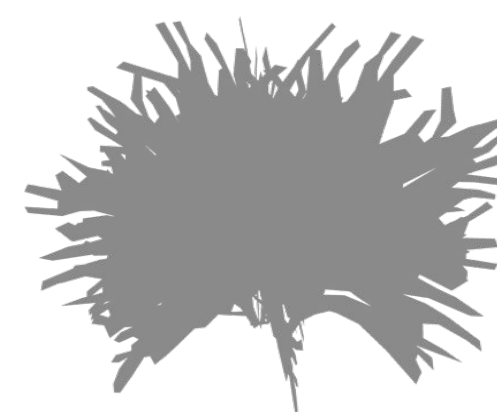
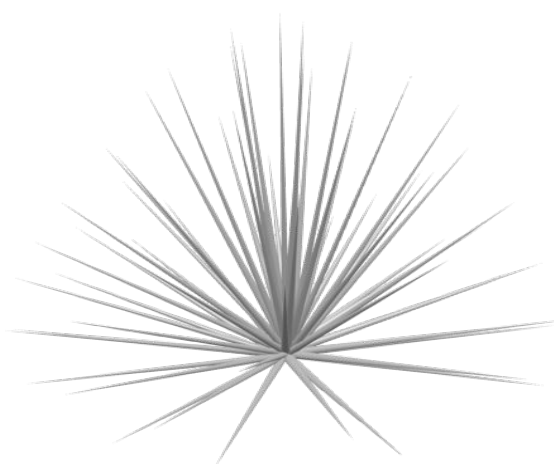
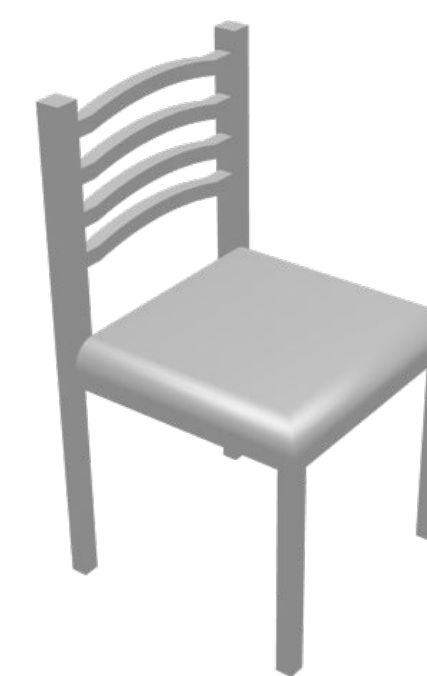
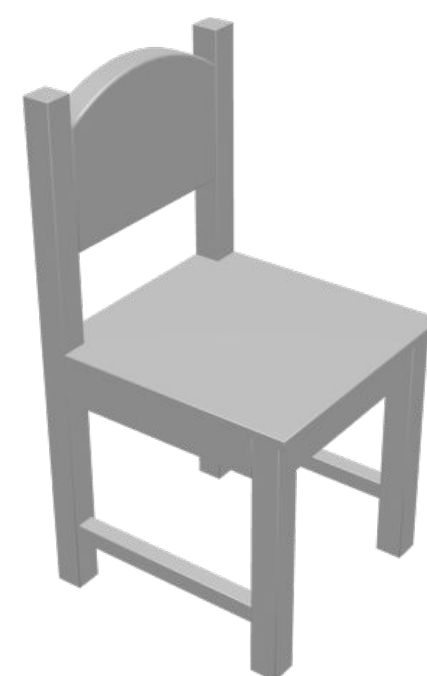
*Segmentation Network*

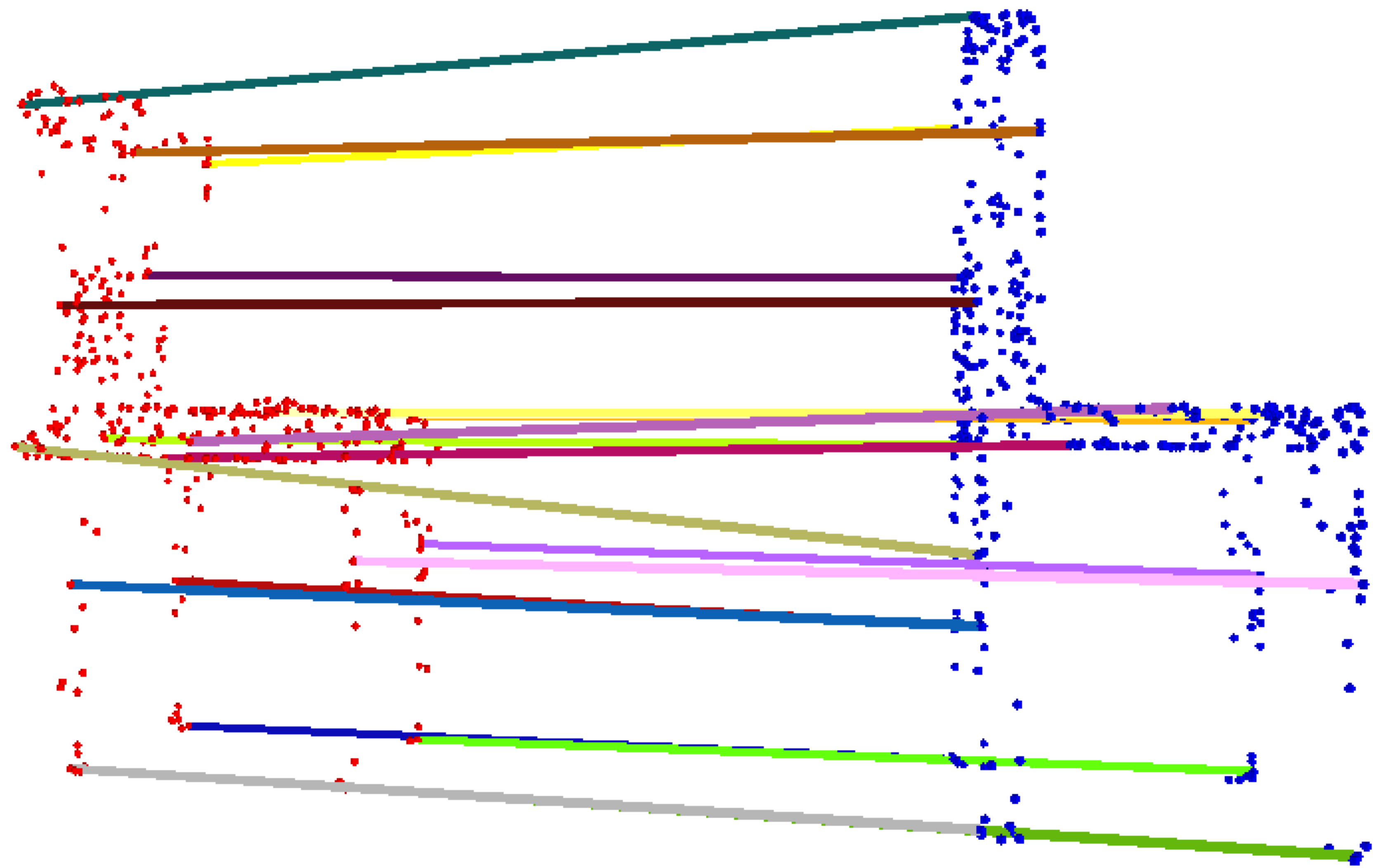


Query  
Point Cloud



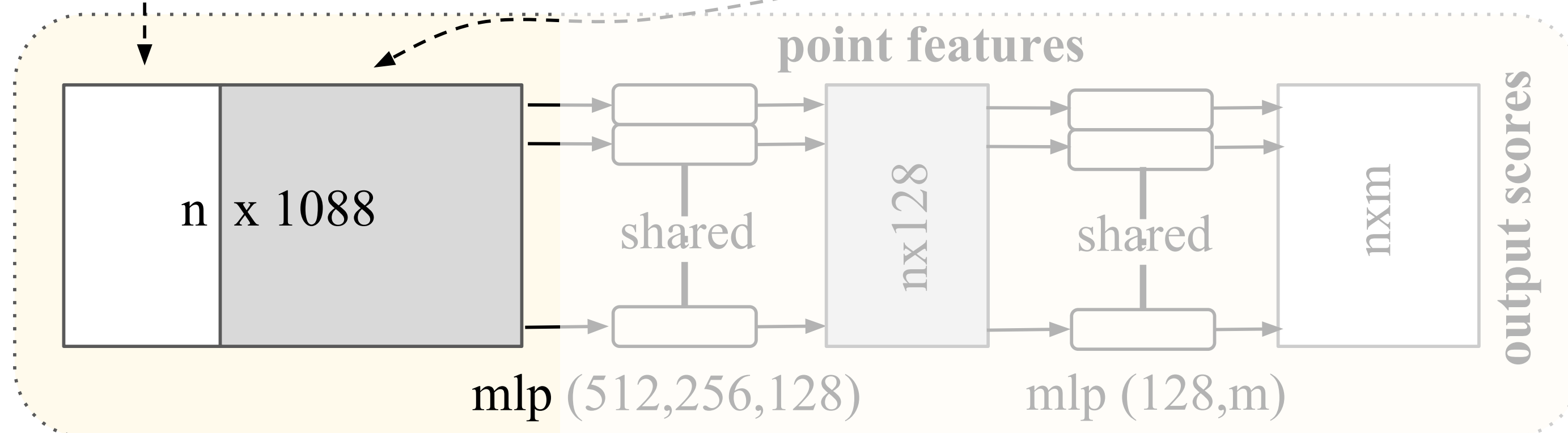
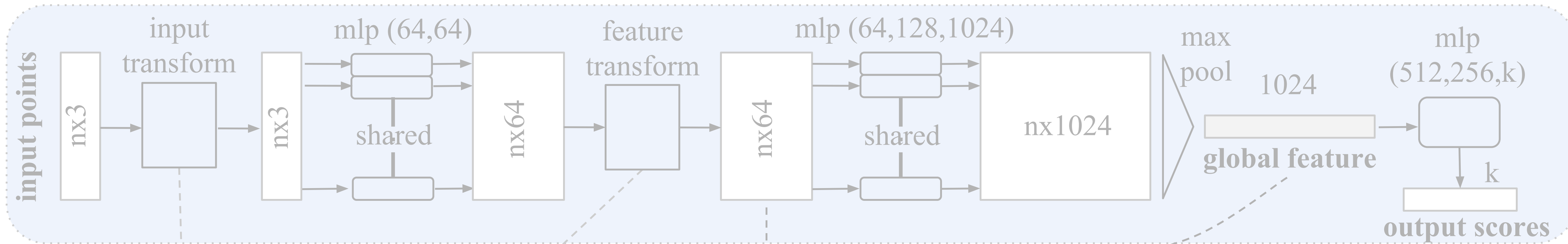
Top-5 Retrieval CAD Models



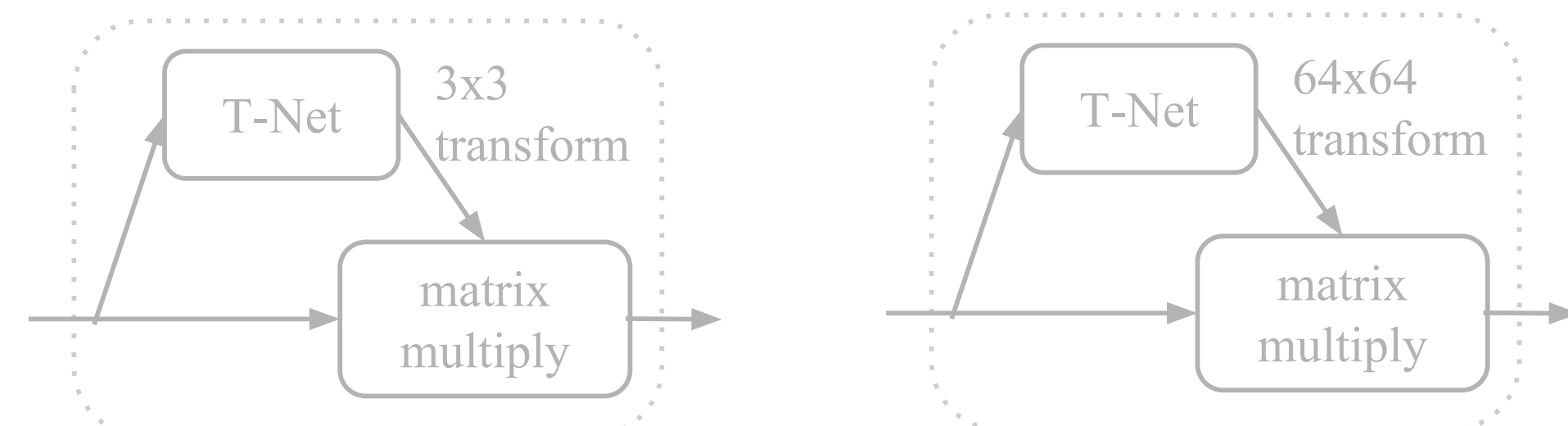




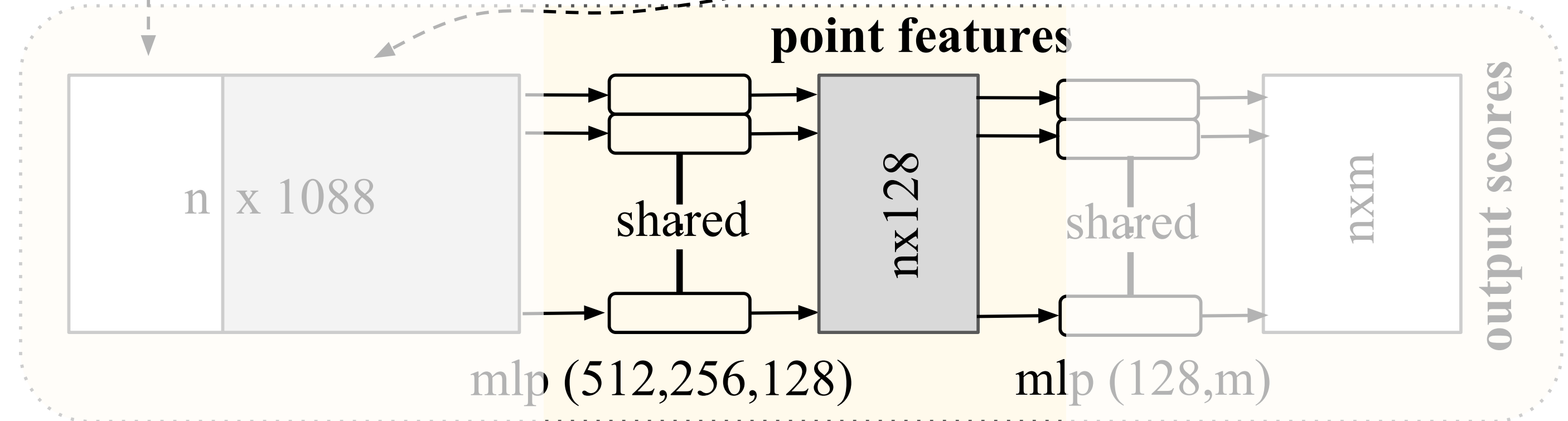
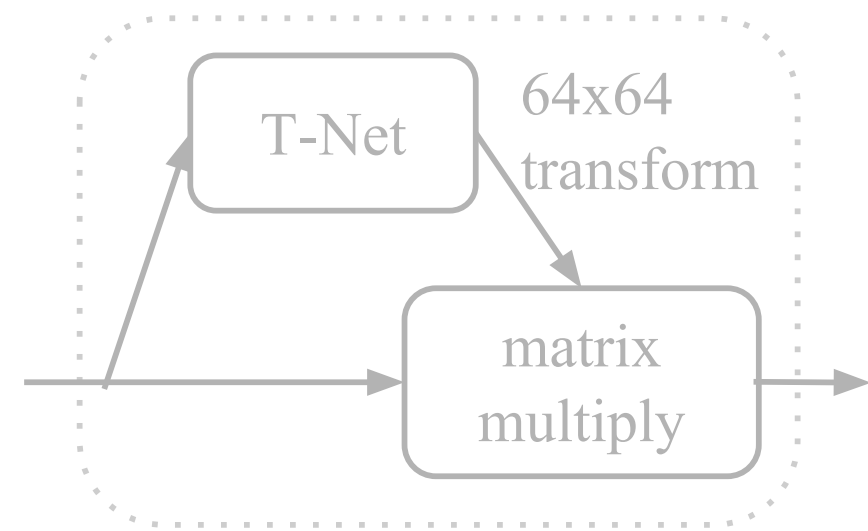
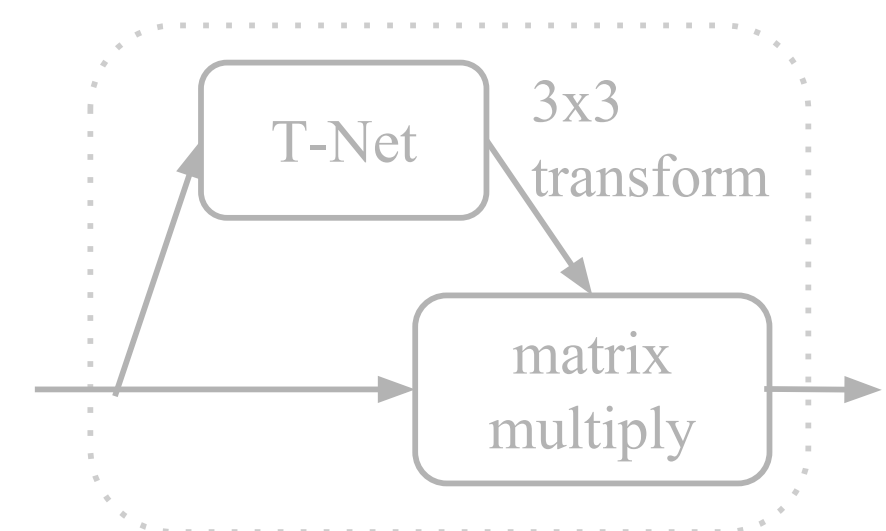
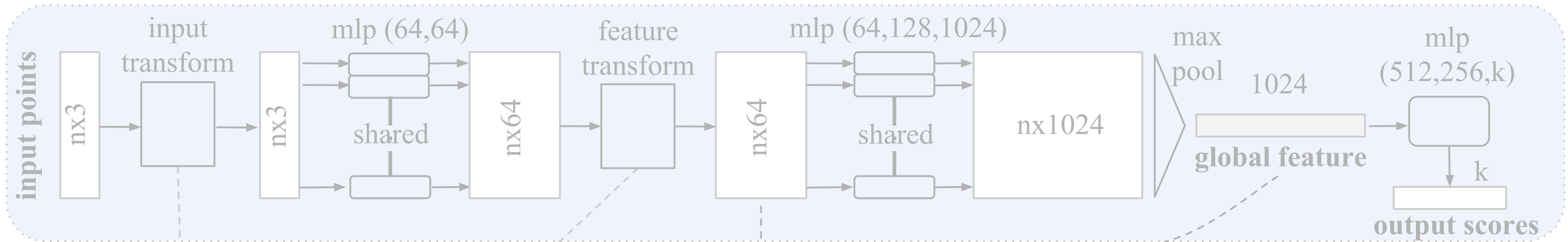
### Classification Network



for n points: local +  
global features

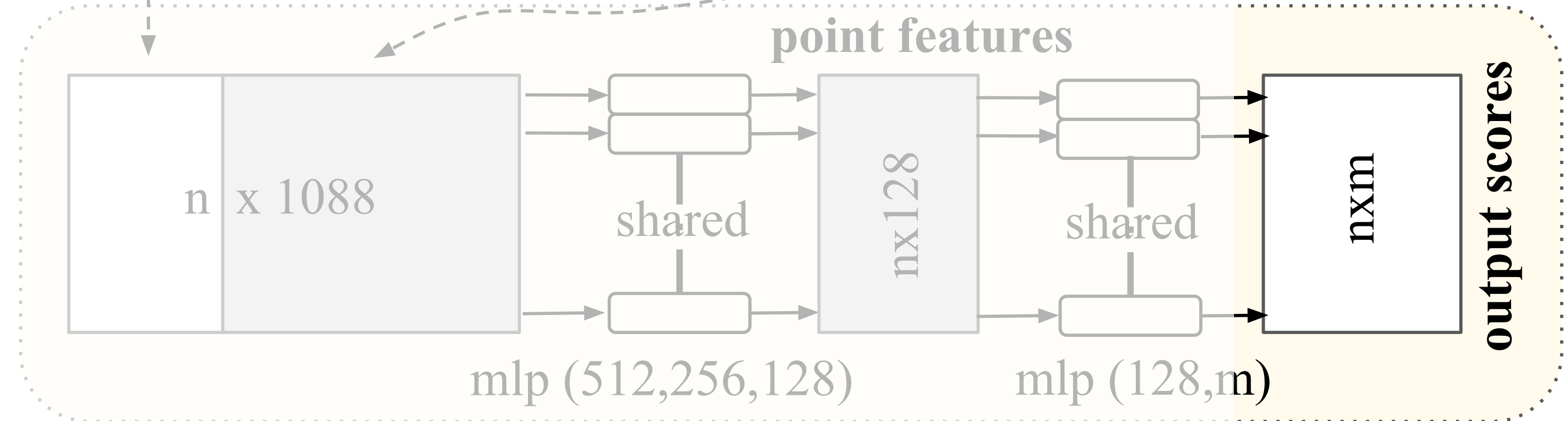
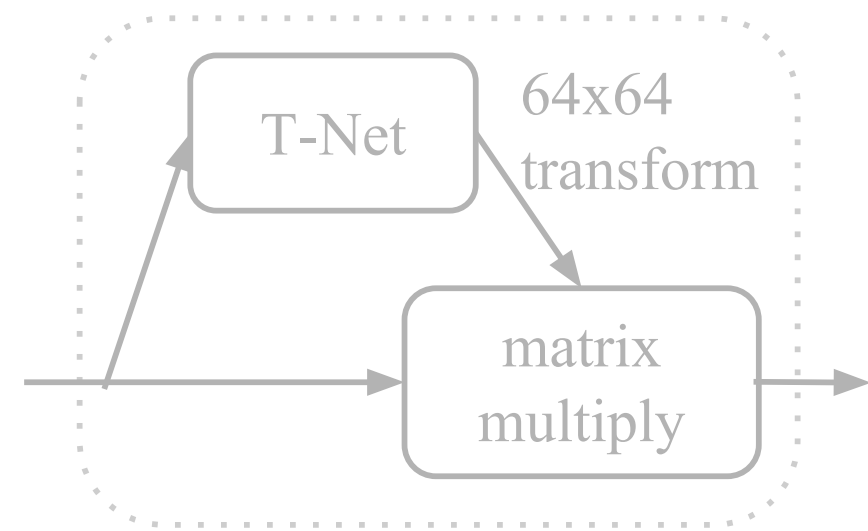
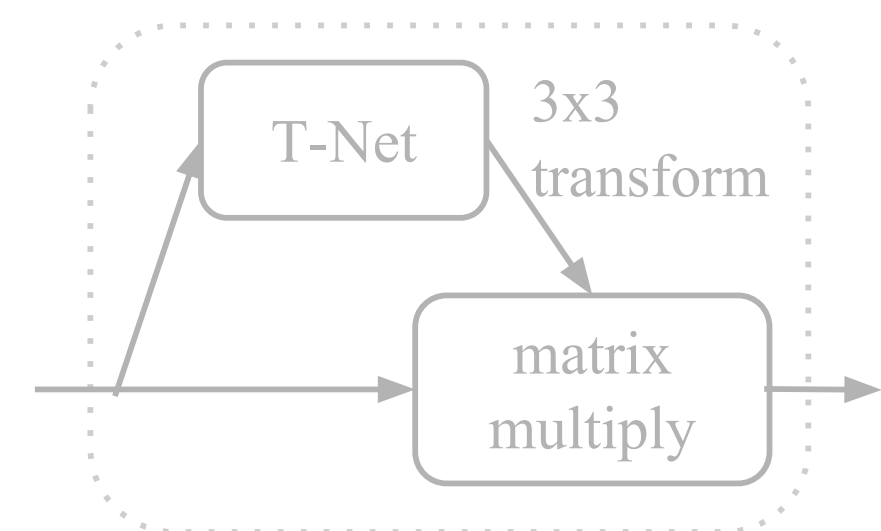
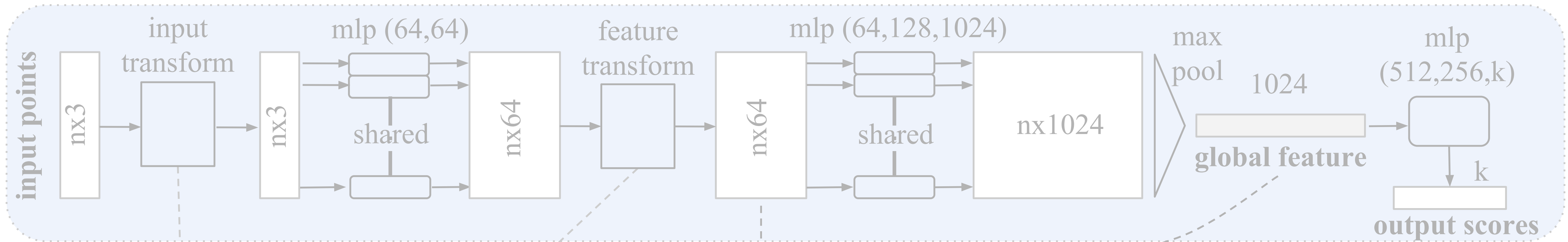


### Classification Network



Segmentation Network for n points: 128 features

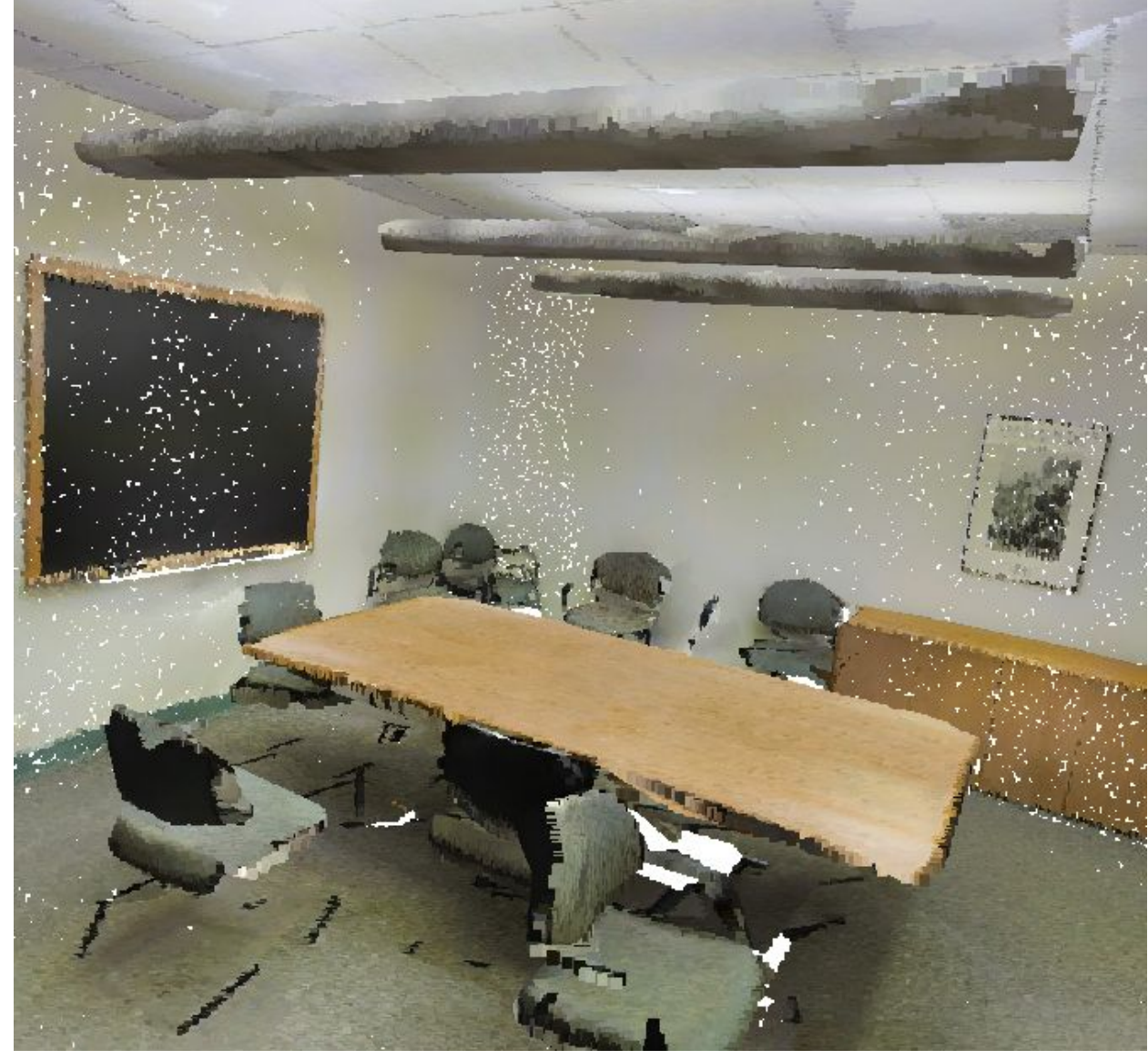
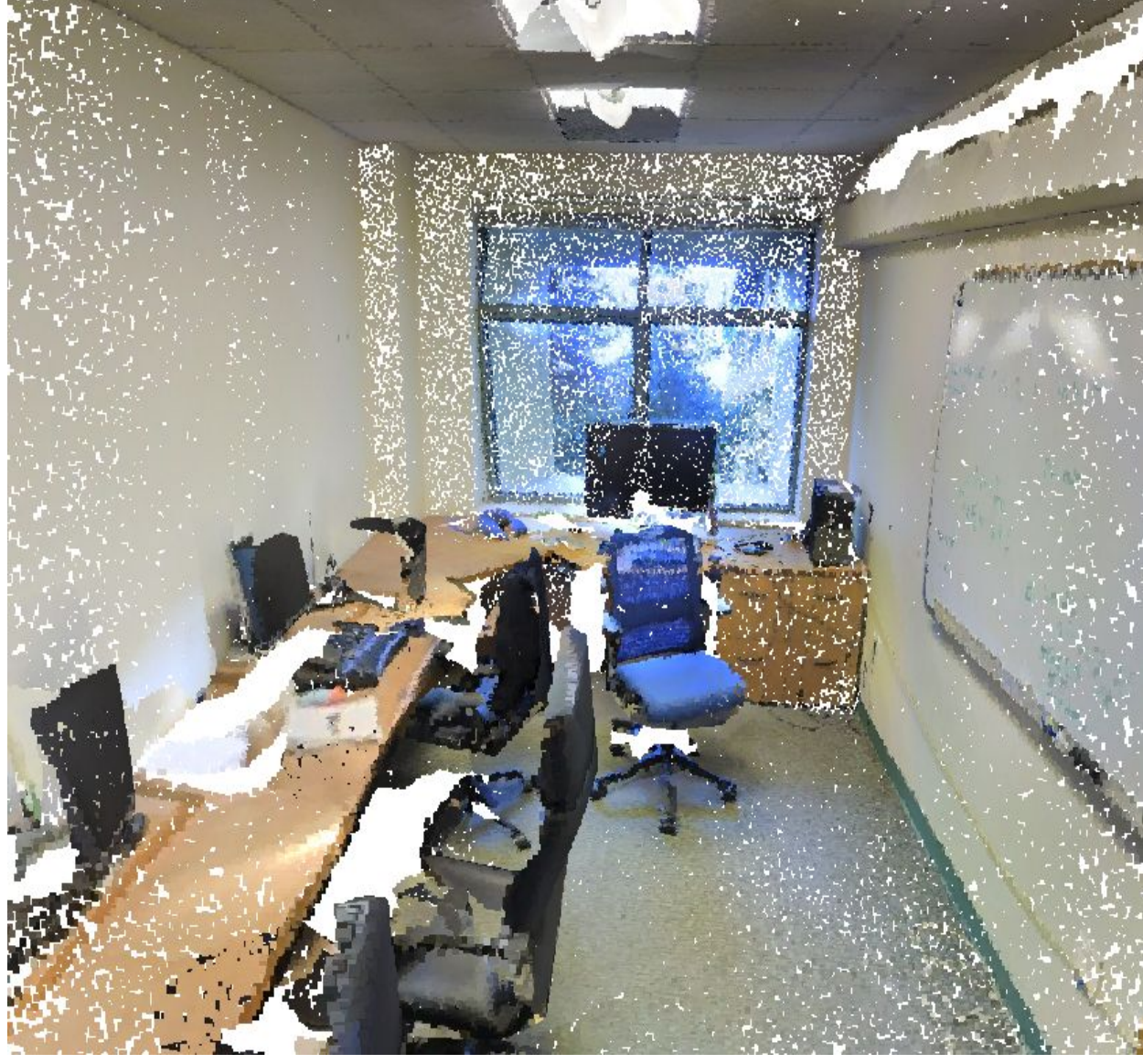
*Classification Network*



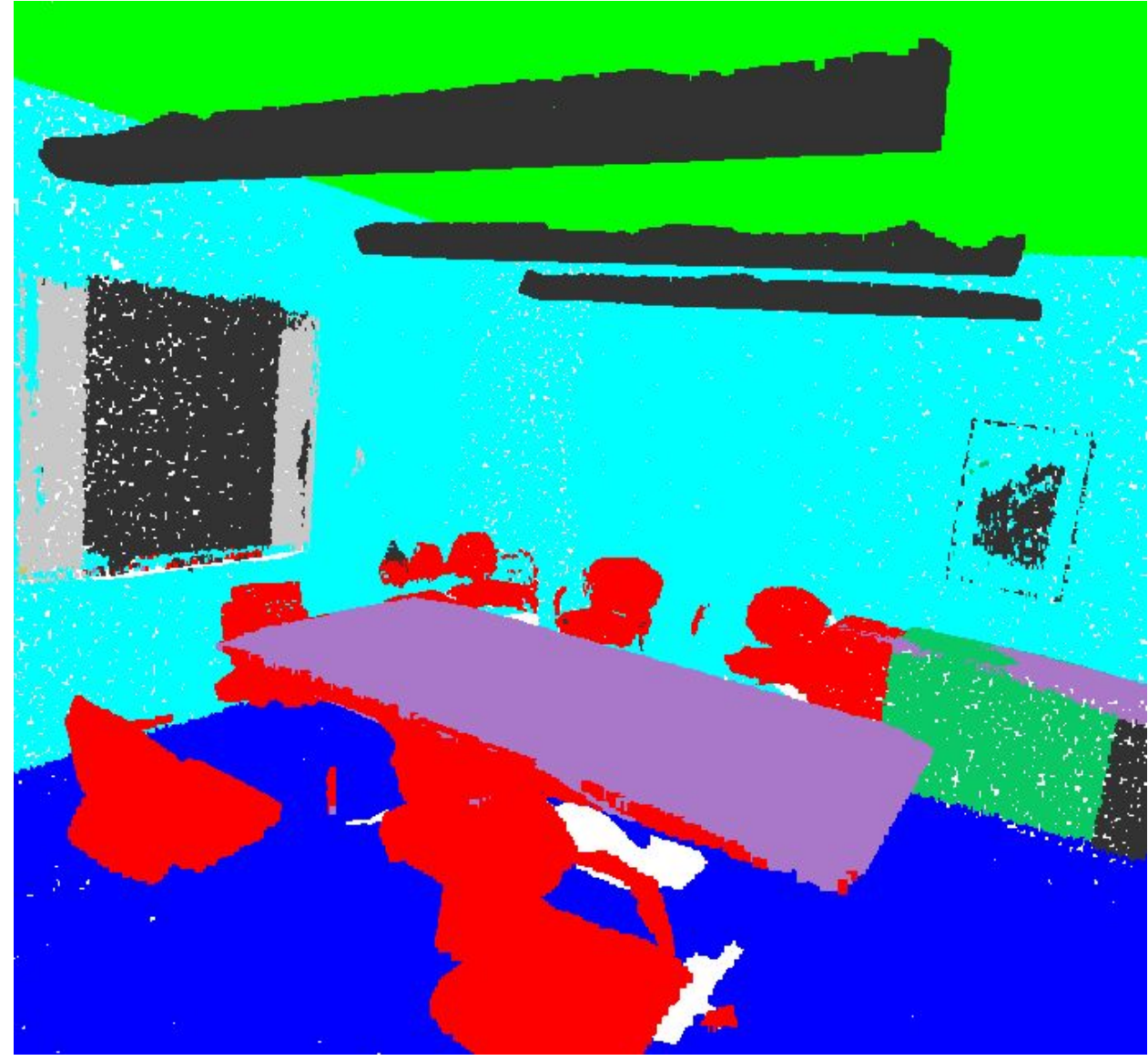
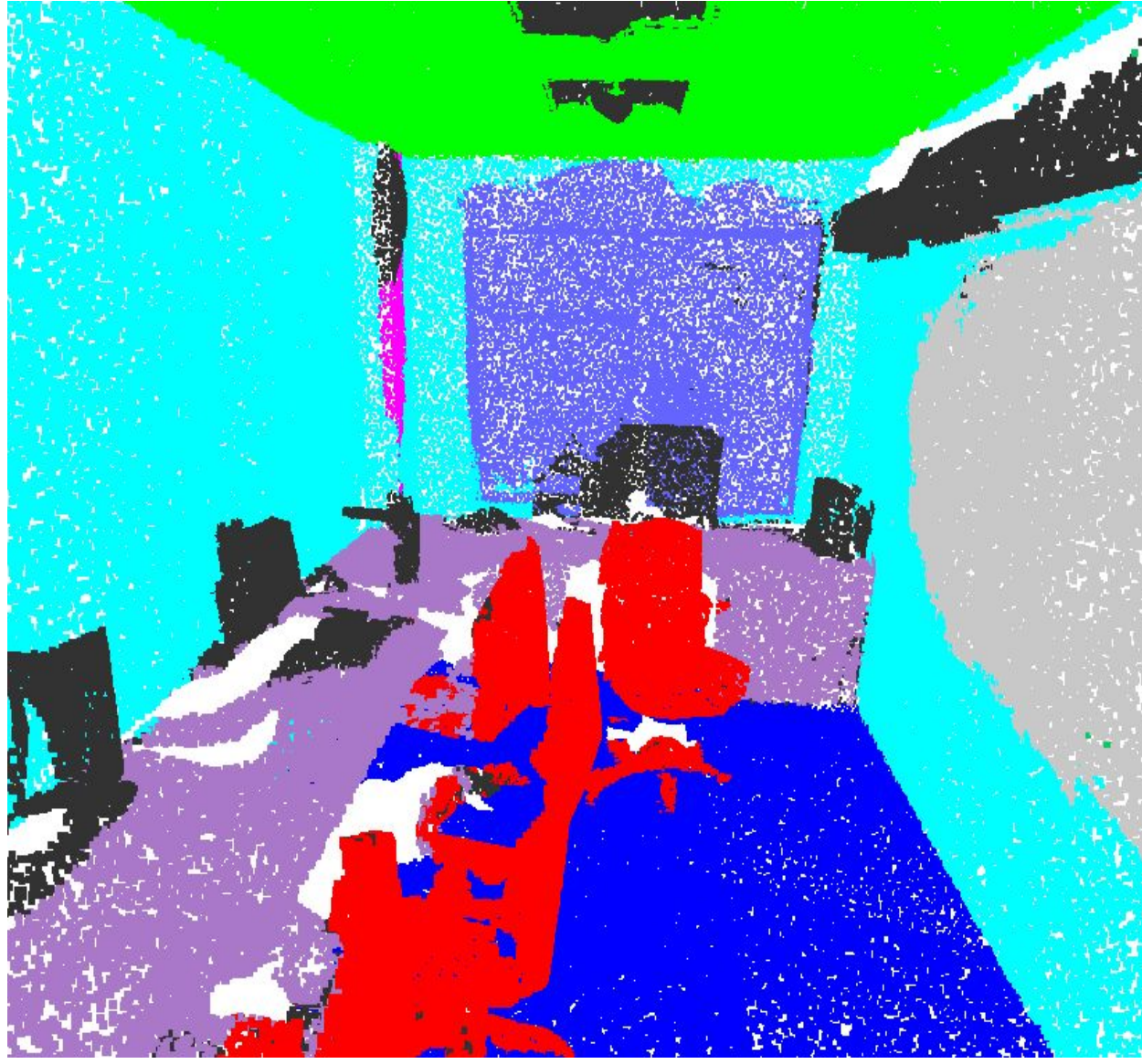
*Segmentation Network*

for  $n$  points:  
 $m$  class scores

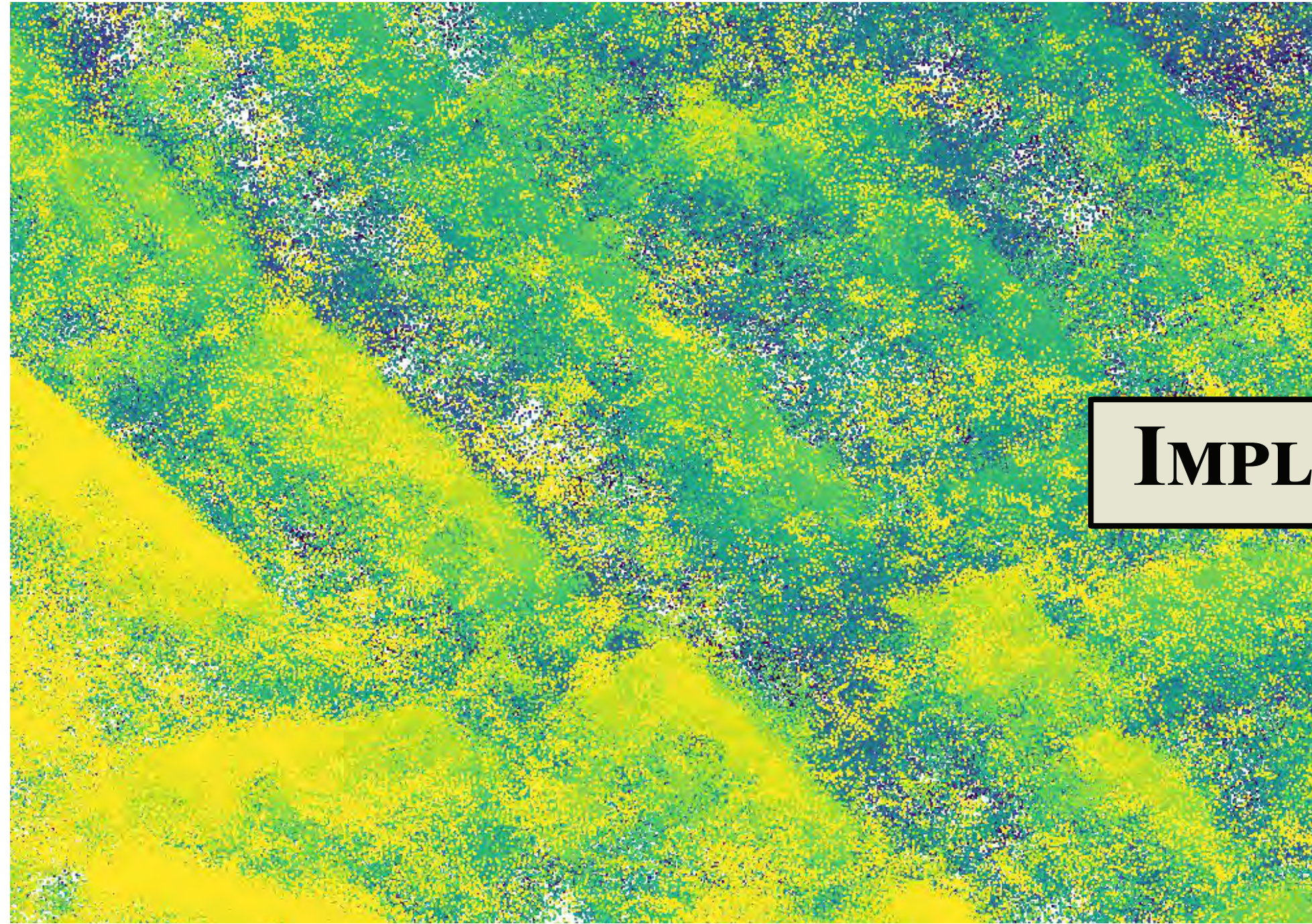
Input



Output

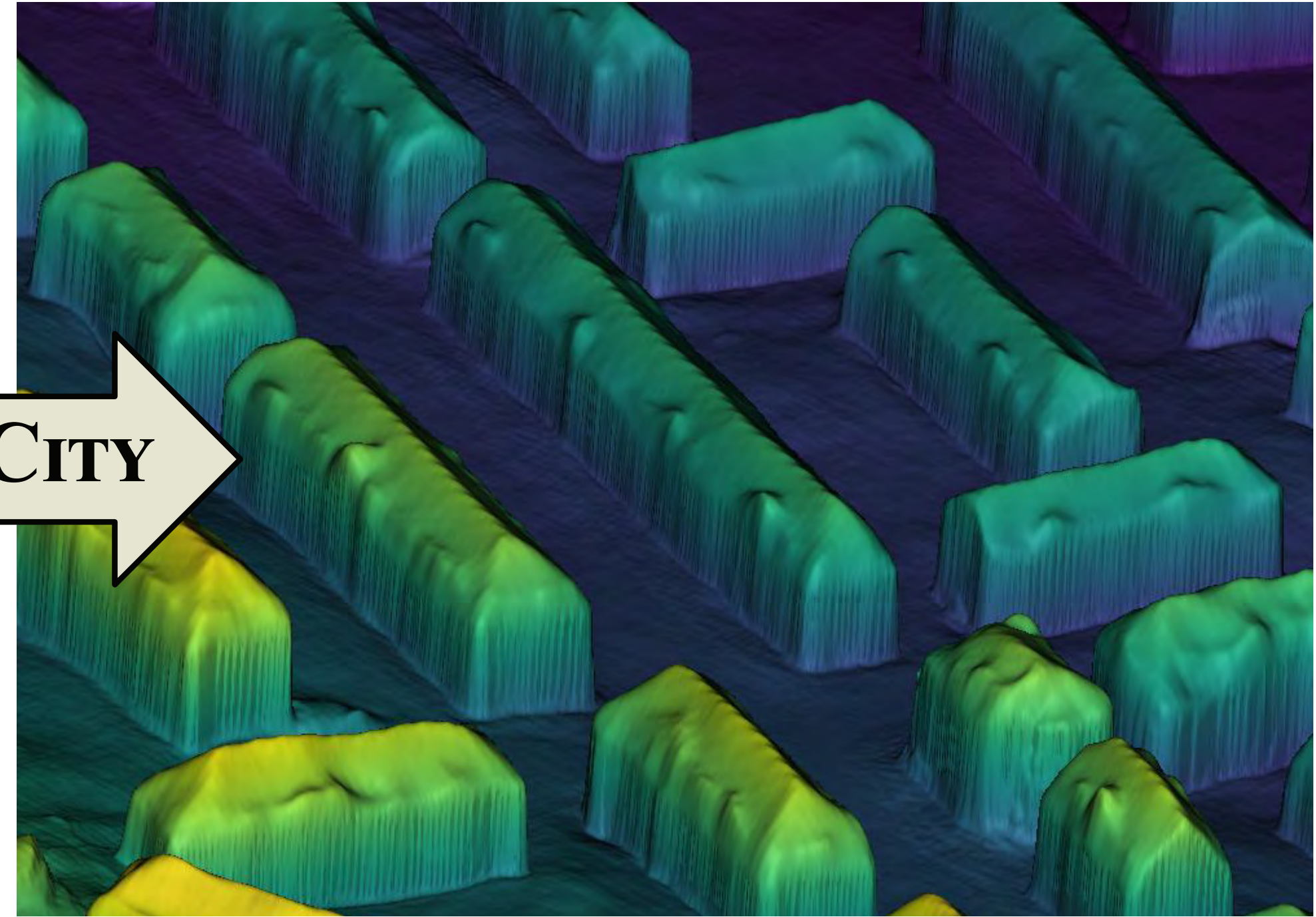


ImpliCity: City modeling from satellite images with deep occupancy fields

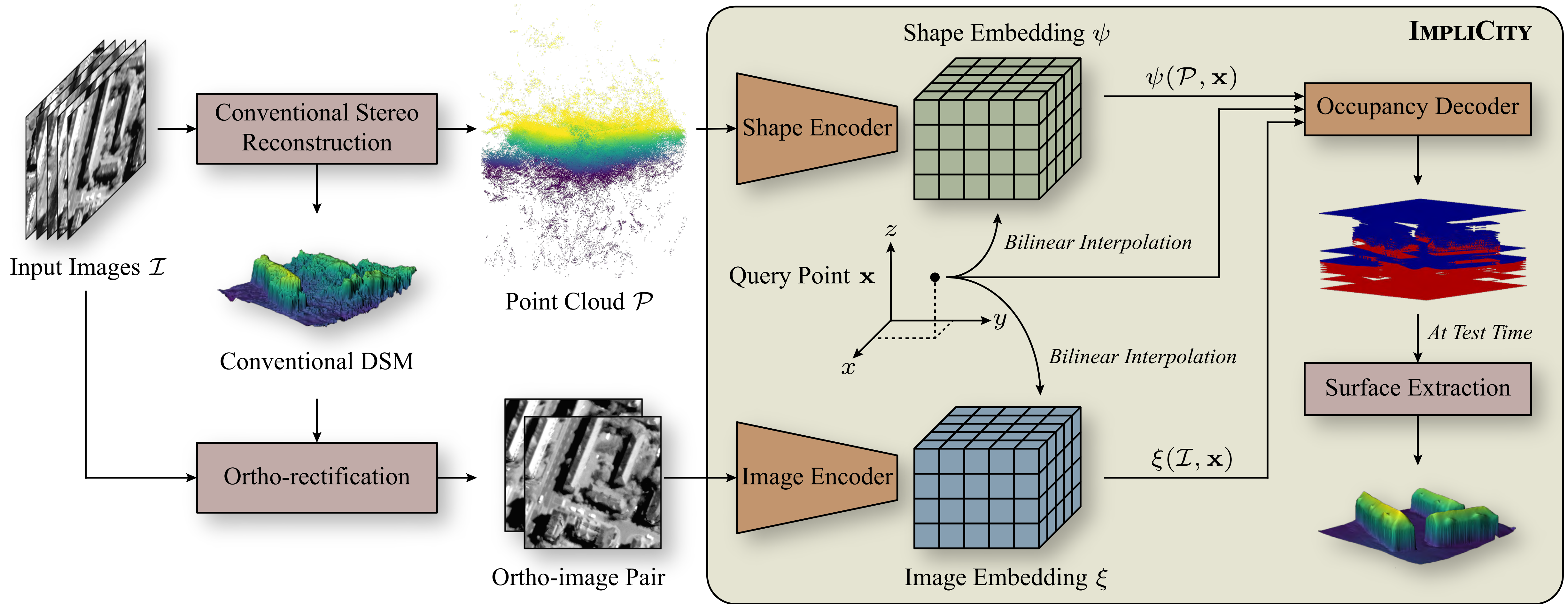


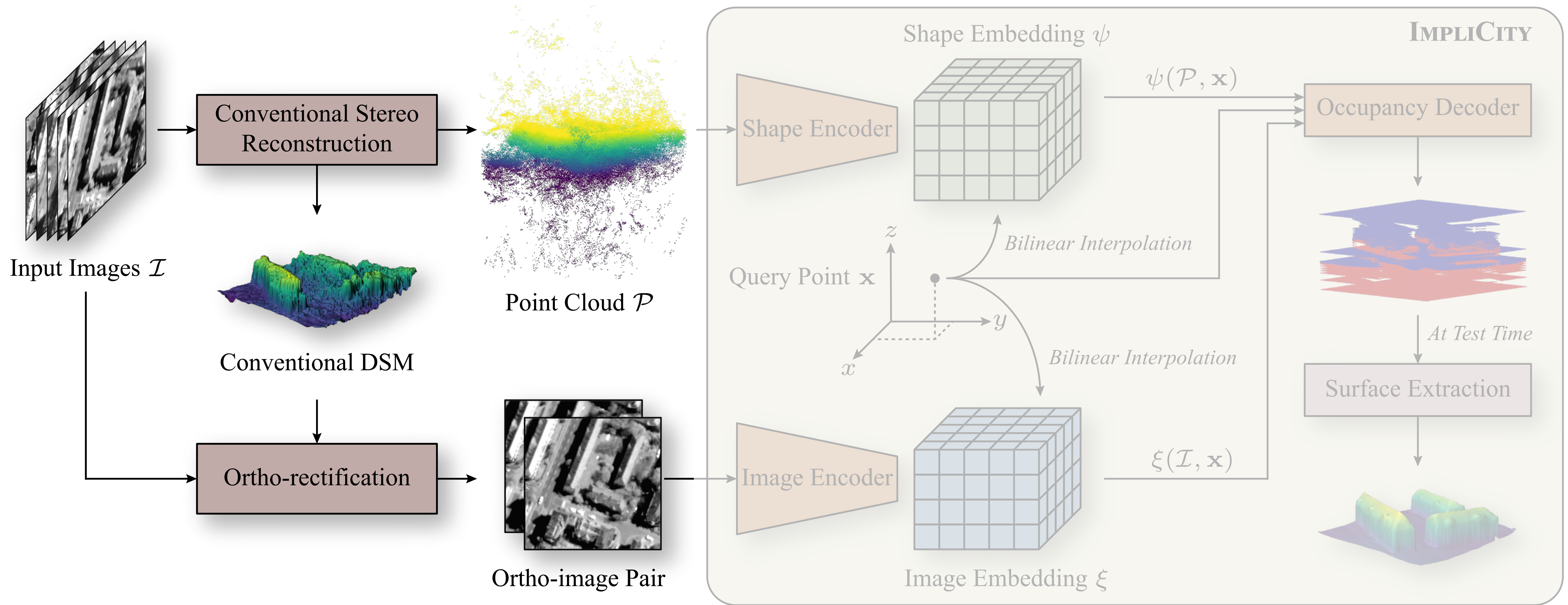
PC from satellite imagery

IMPLICIT



DSM

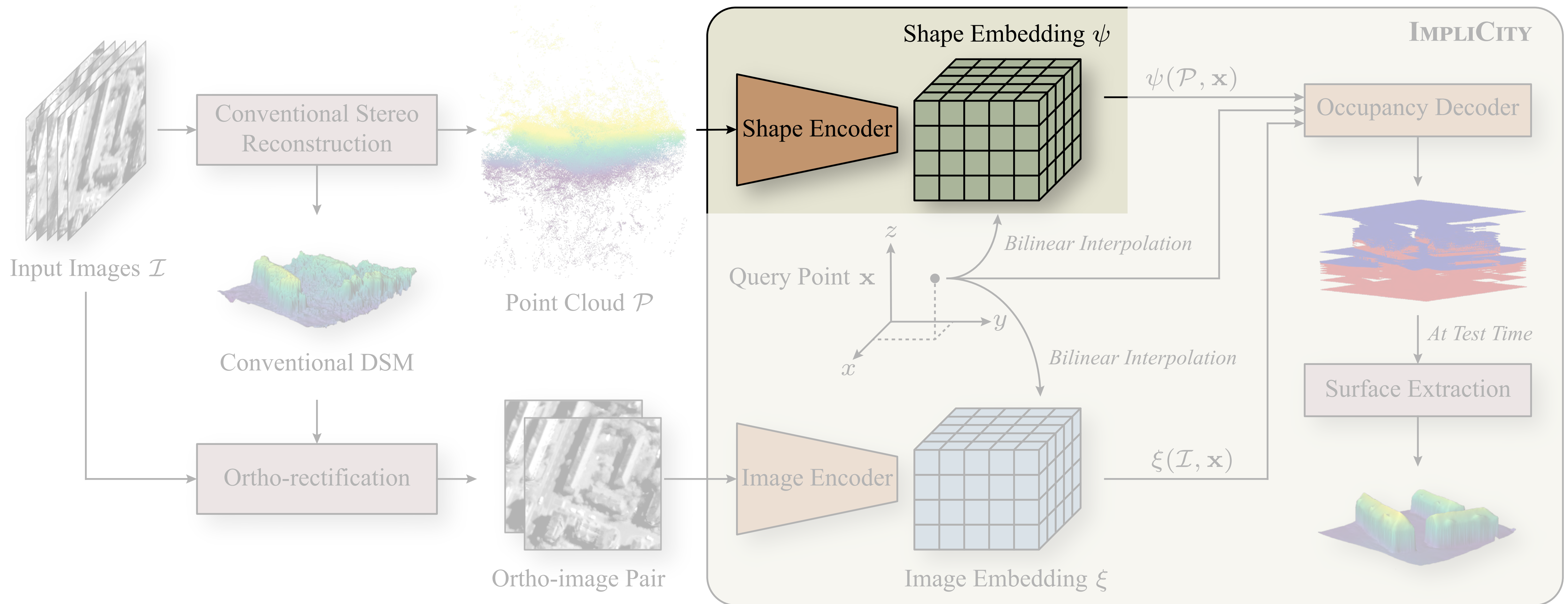


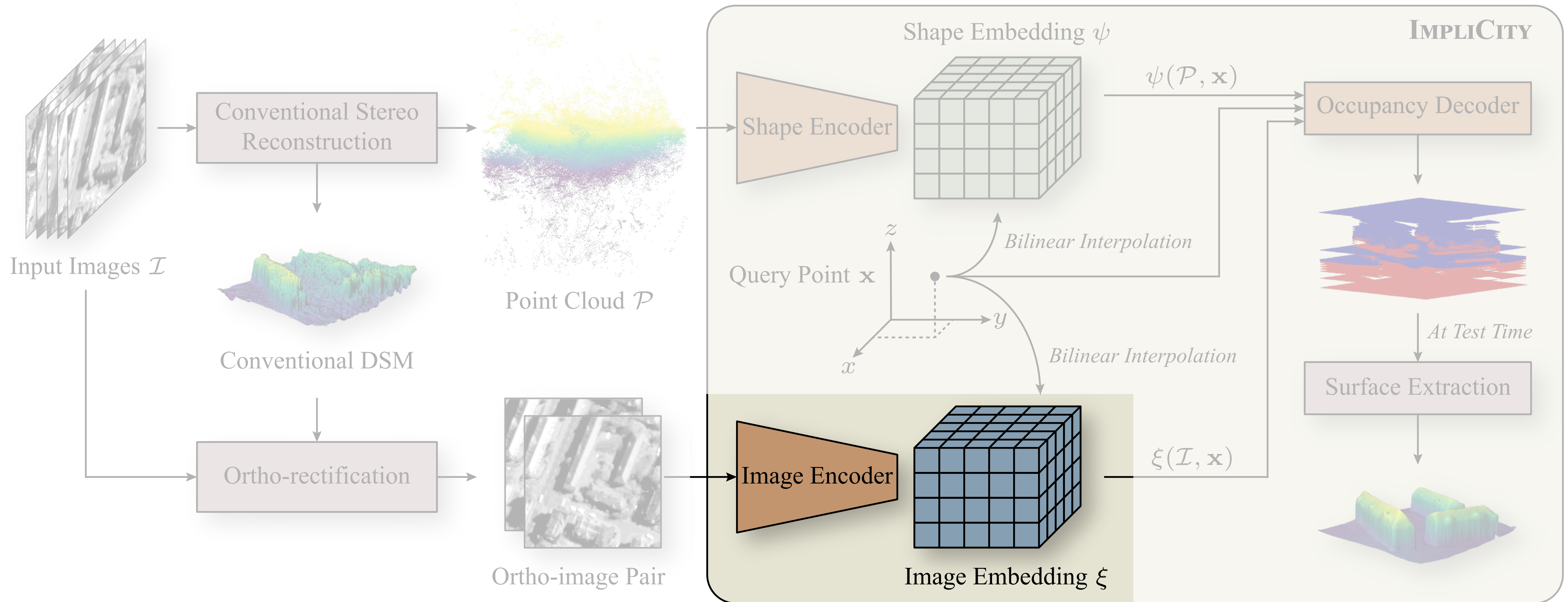


traditional PC creation, DSM  
reconstruction & orthorectification

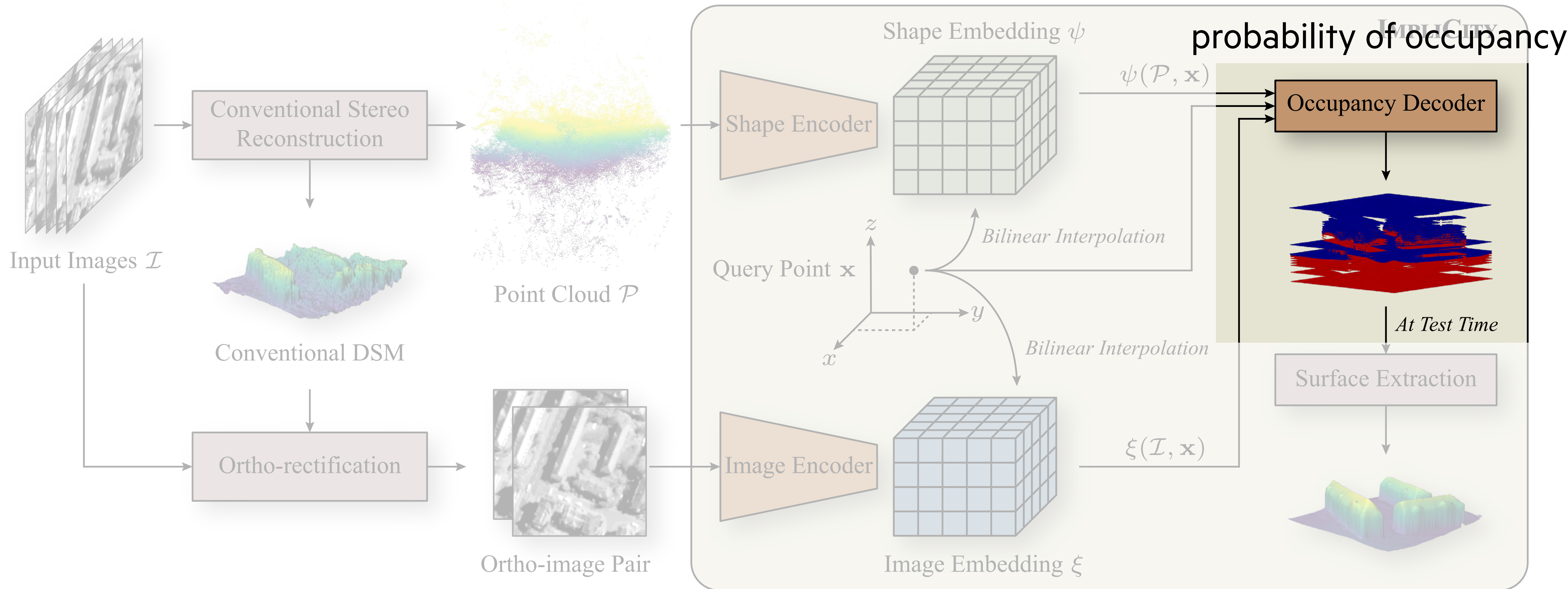


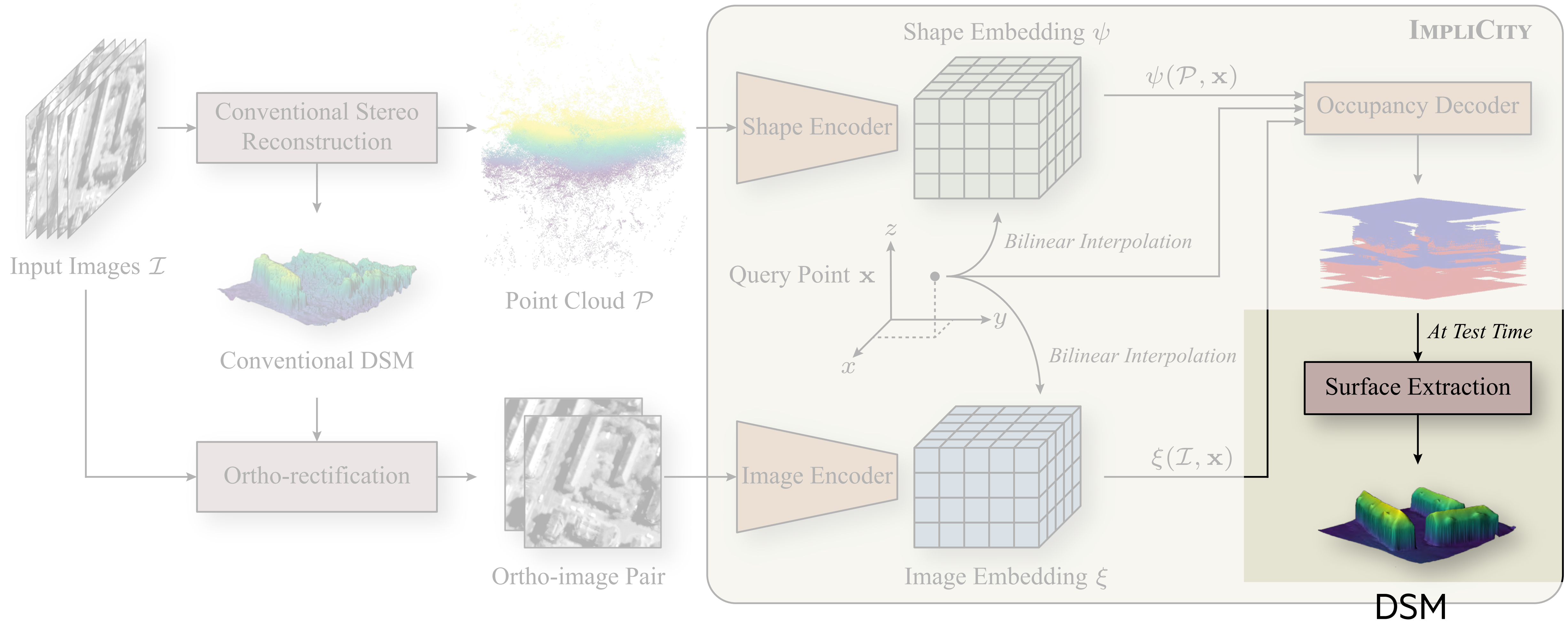
# network to compute point features (based on PointNet)



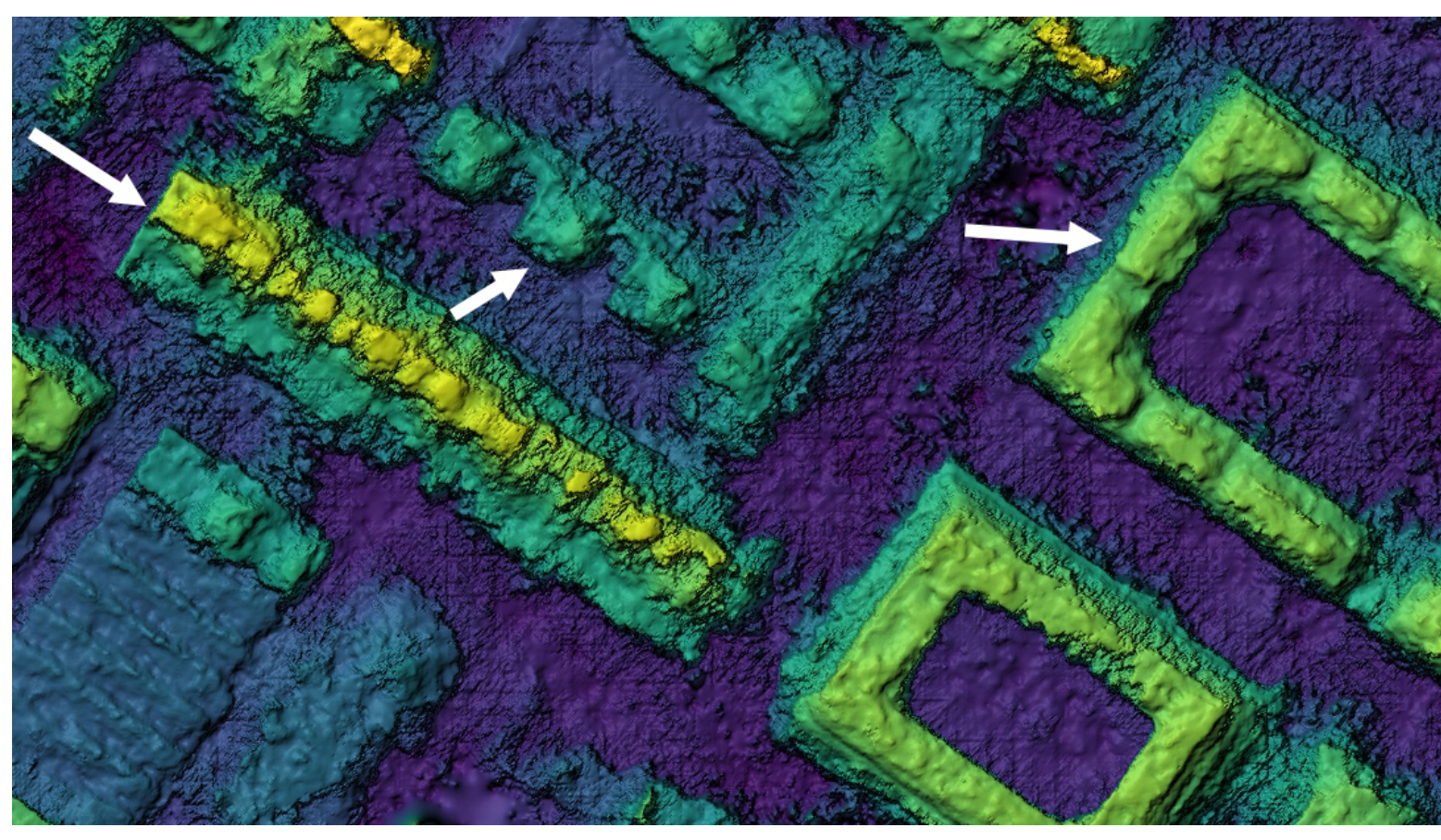
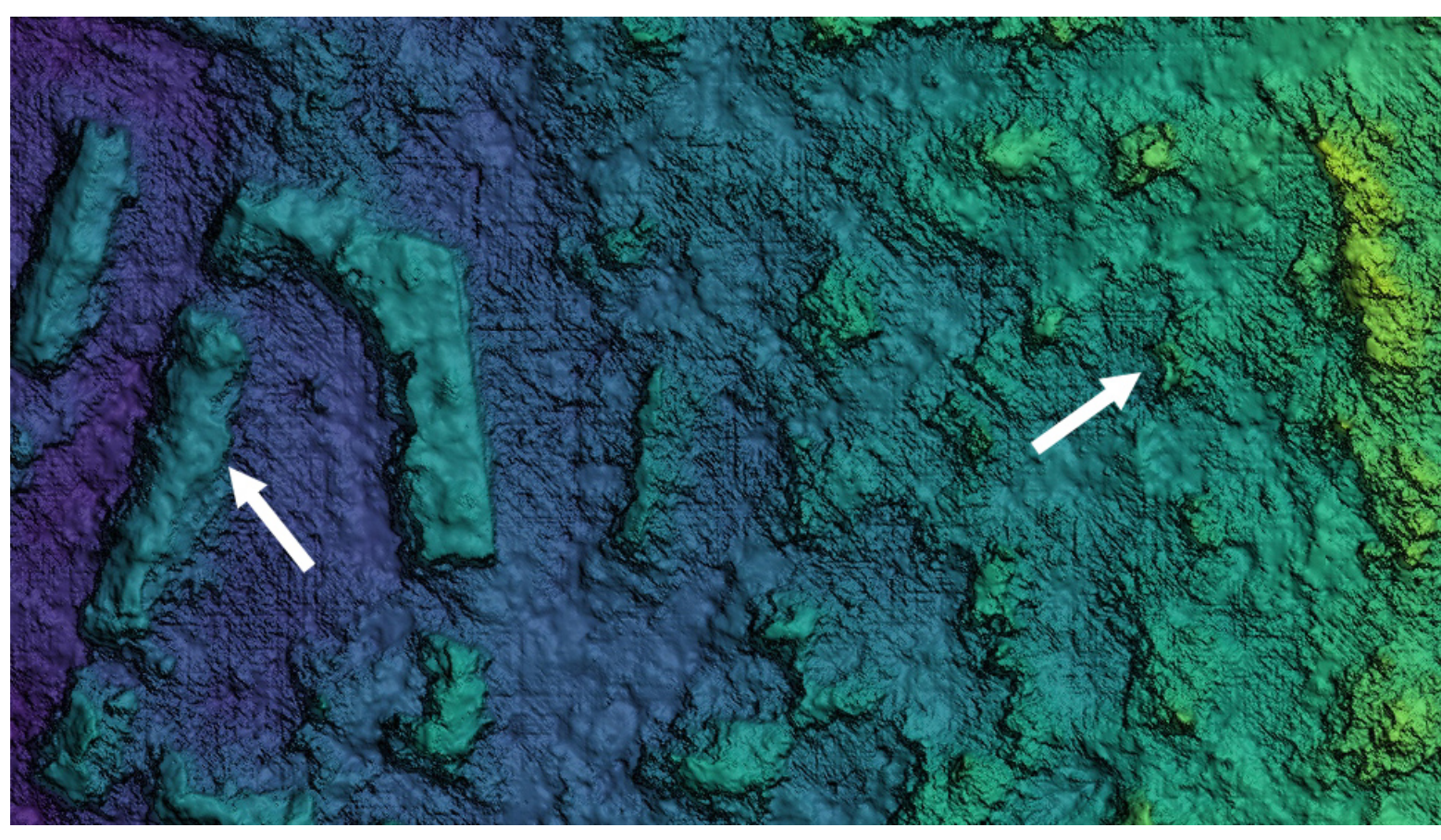
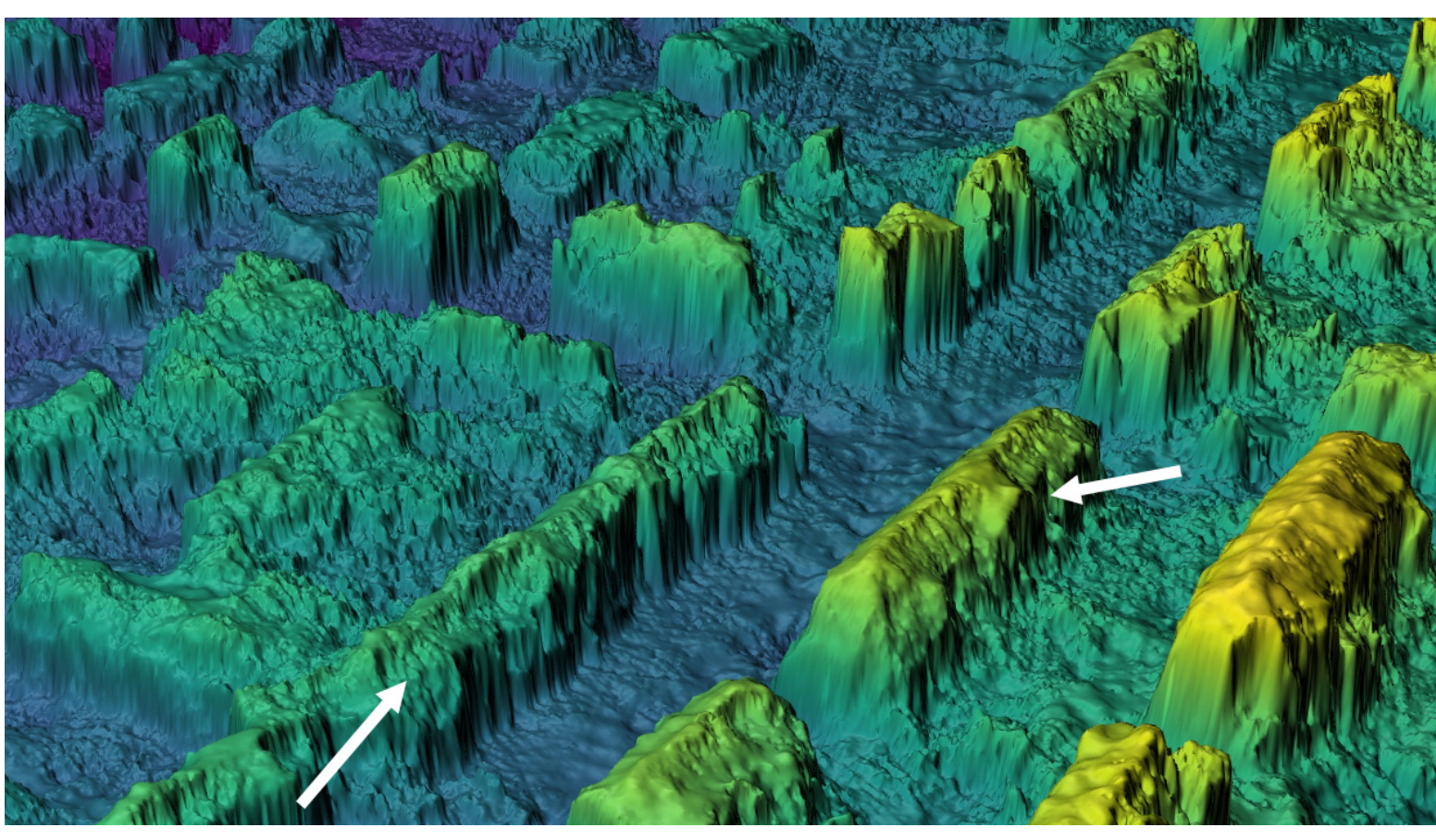


network to compute pixel features  
(based on PointNet)

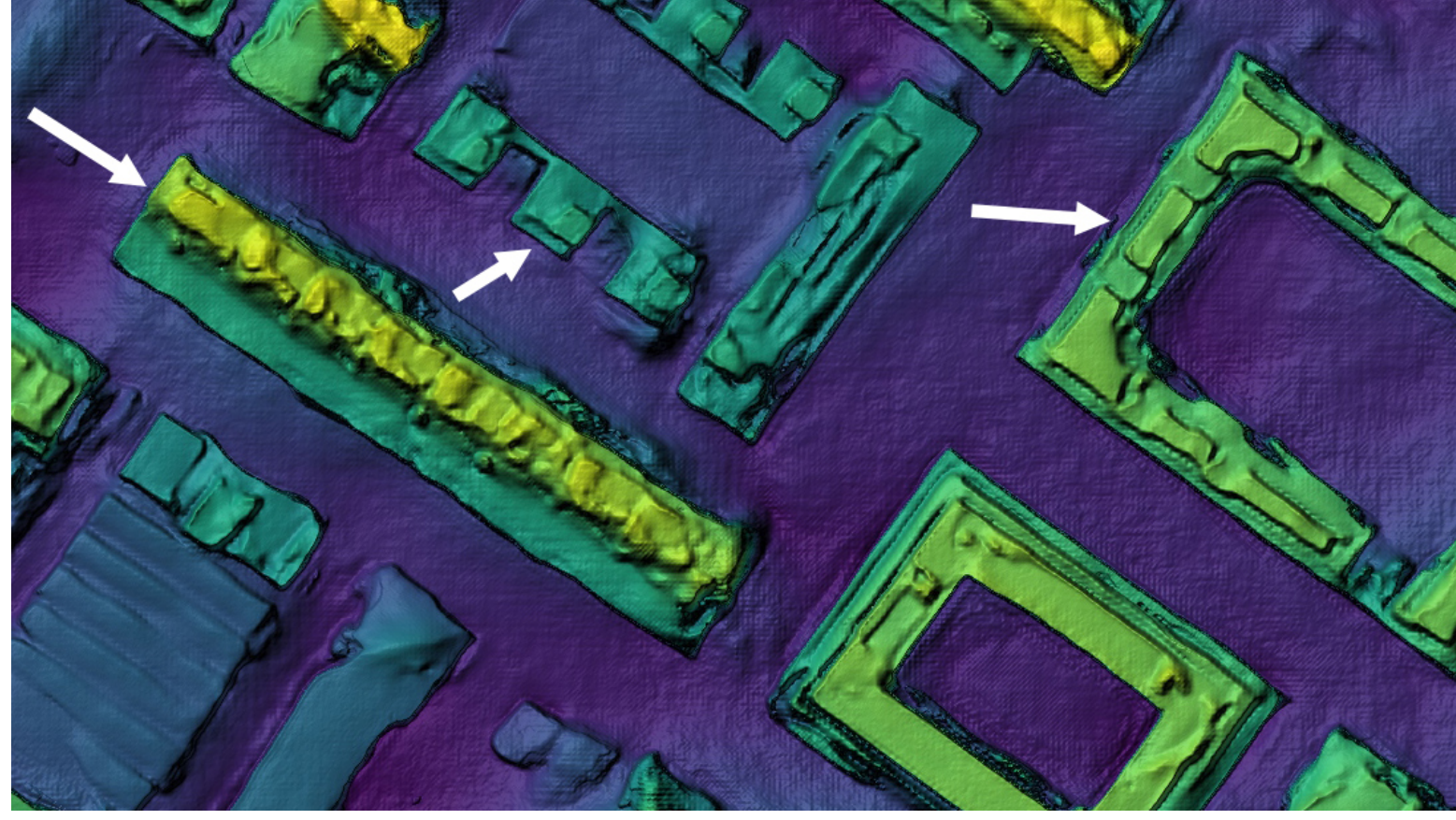
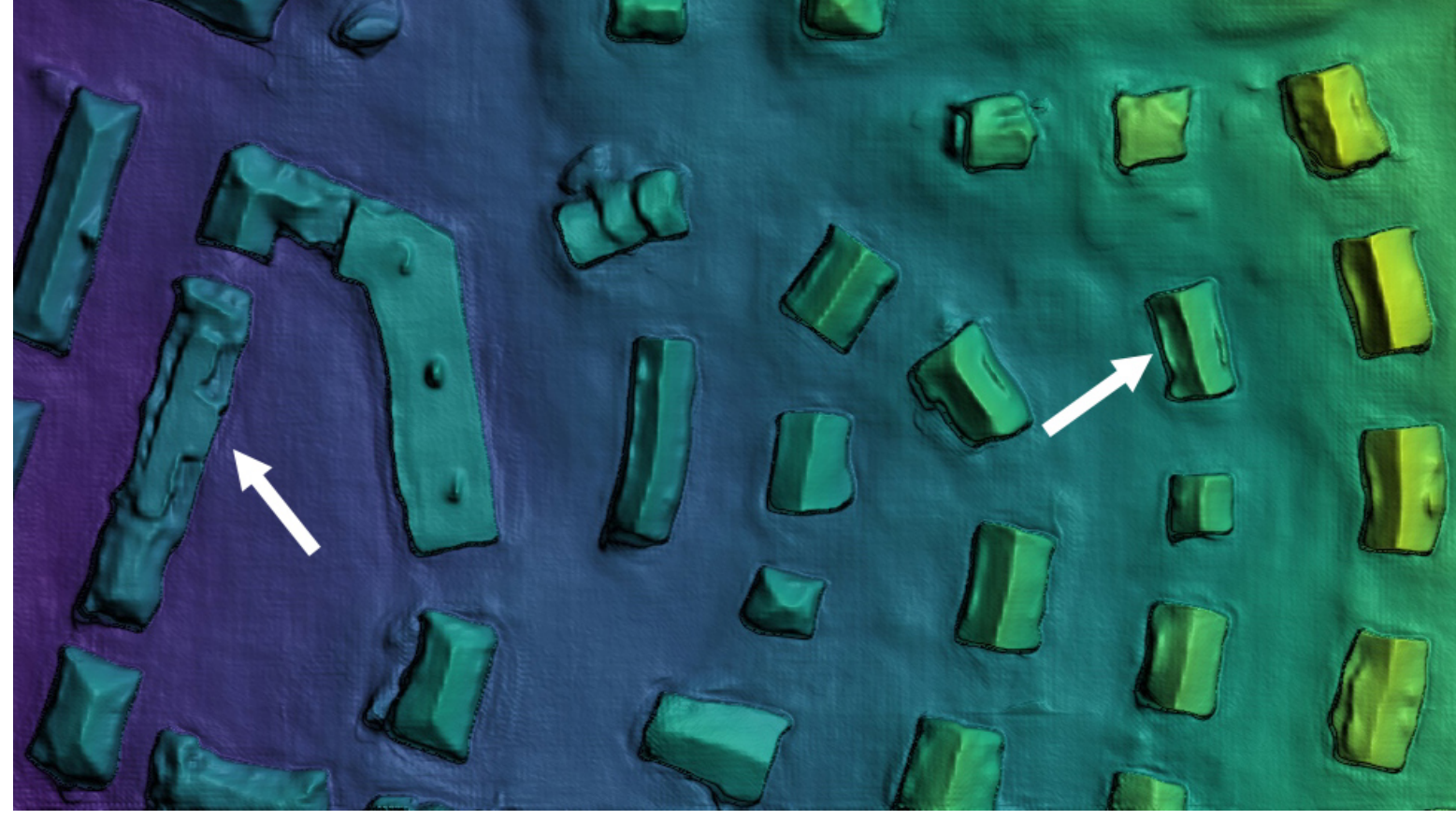
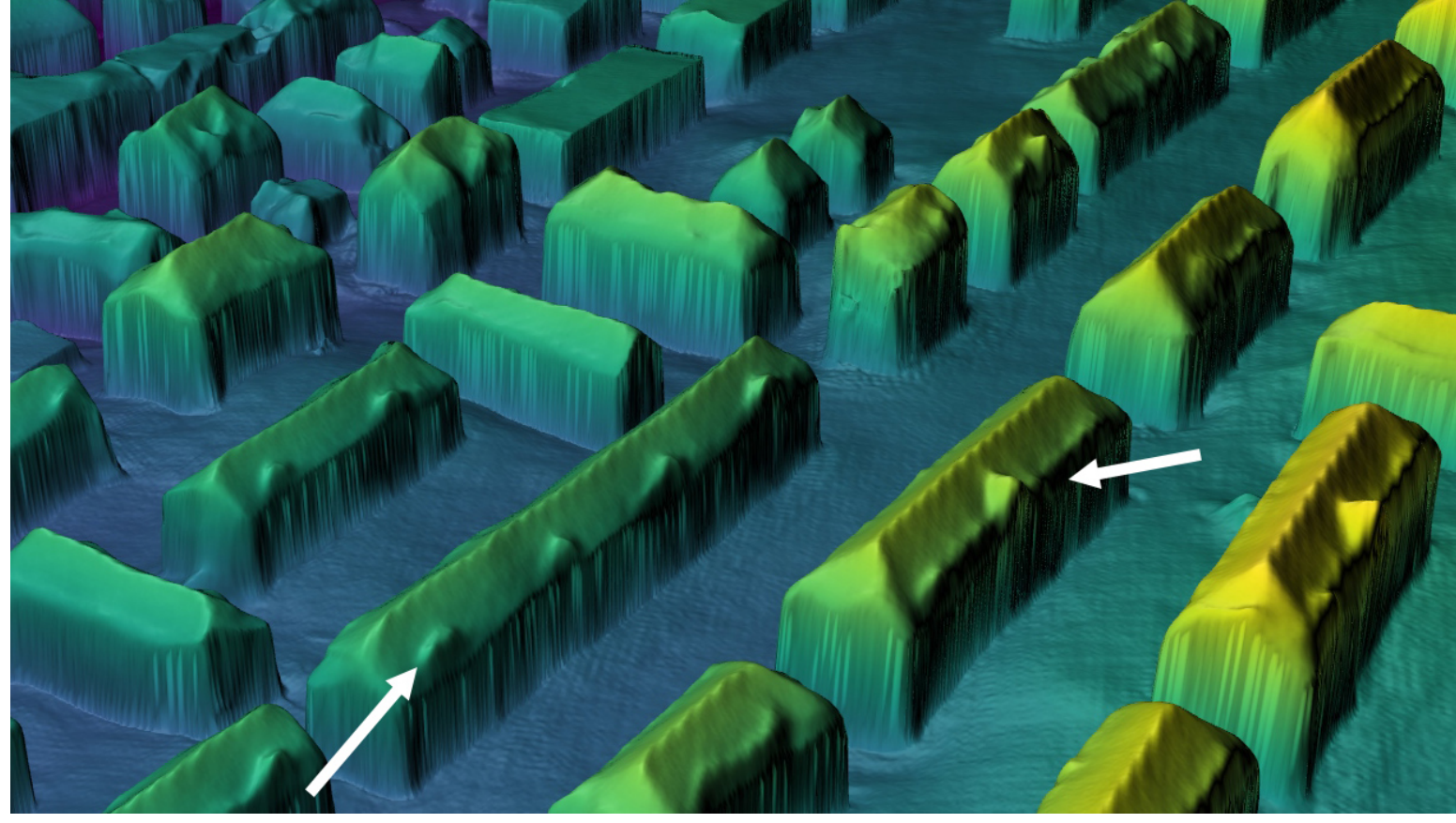




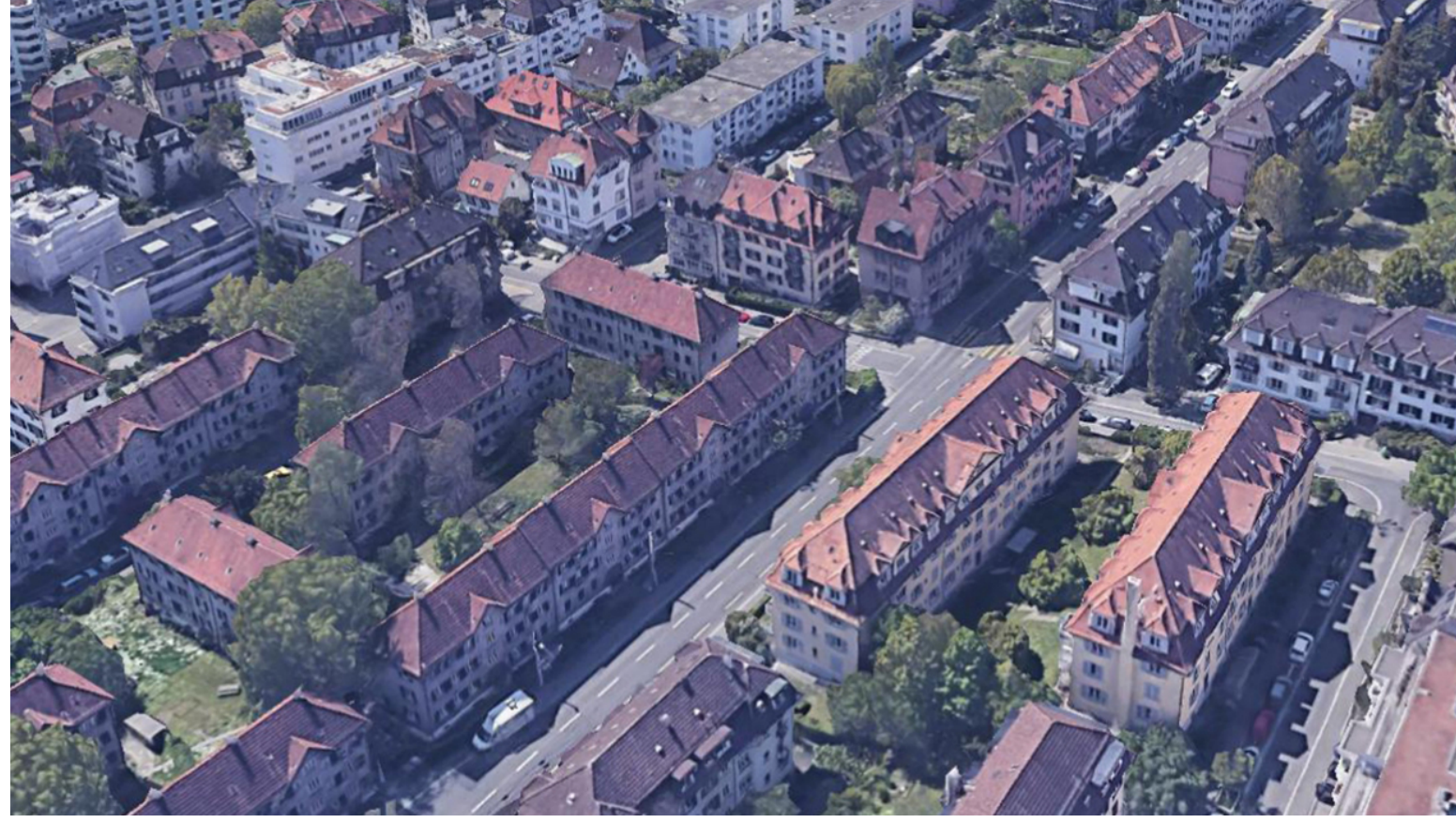
Conventional DSM



IMPLICIT-city  
(ours)



Google Earth view



Some thoughts on ML/DL with 3D

# What to do next?

1. Today:
  - Start with Homework 3 (BIM to Geo using voxels)
  - Study for final exam (Lessons 1.1-6.2)
2. Wednesday: overview applications (1st hour) and help (2nd hour)
3. Thursday: help session with Dimitris

<https://3d.bk.tudelft.nl/courses/geo1004>



3D geoinformation

Department of Urbanism  
Faculty of Architecture and the Built Environment  
Delft University of Technology



# References

- Anna Labetski, Stelios Vitalis, Filip Biljecki, Ken Arroyo Ohori & Jantien Stoter (2023). 3D building metrics for urban morphology, *International Journal of Geographical Information Science*, 37:1, 36-67.
- Charles R. Qi, Hao Su, Kaichun Mo & Leonidas J. Guibas (2017). PointNet: Deep Learning on Point Sets for 3D Classification and Segmentation, *CVPR 2017*.
- Max Jaderberg, Karen Simonyan, Andrew Zisserman & Koray Kavukcuoglu (2015). Spatial Transformer Networks, *Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems* 28.
- Corinne Stucker, Bingxin Ke, Yuanwen Yue, Shengyu Huang, Iro Armeni & Konrad Schindler (2022). ImpliCity: City Modeling from Satellite Images with Deep Implicit Occupancy Fields, *ISPRS Ann. Photogramm. Remote Sens. Spatial Inf. Sci.*, V-2-2022, 193-201.