

# Transforming Unstructured Hair Strands into Procedural Hair Grooms

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# Hair Reconstruction



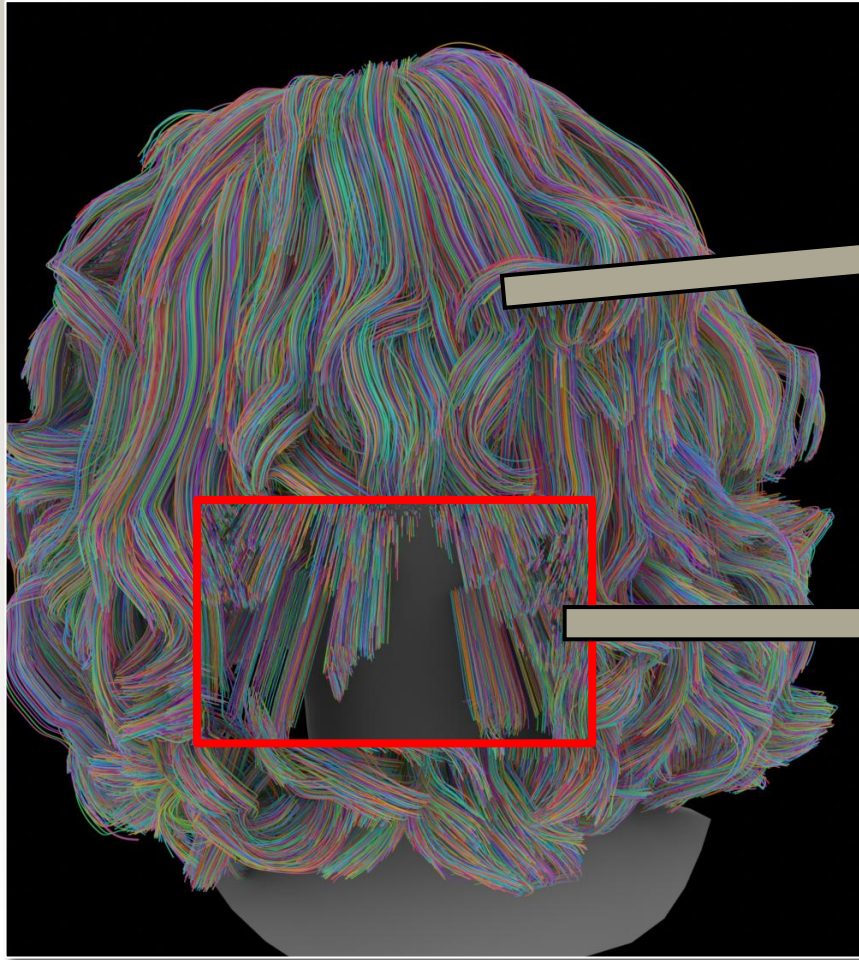
Video



3D Hair Strands



# Hair Reconstruction



3D Hair Strands

100k unstructured  
strands

Poor inner hair  
structure

Difficult to edit!

Difficult to simulate!

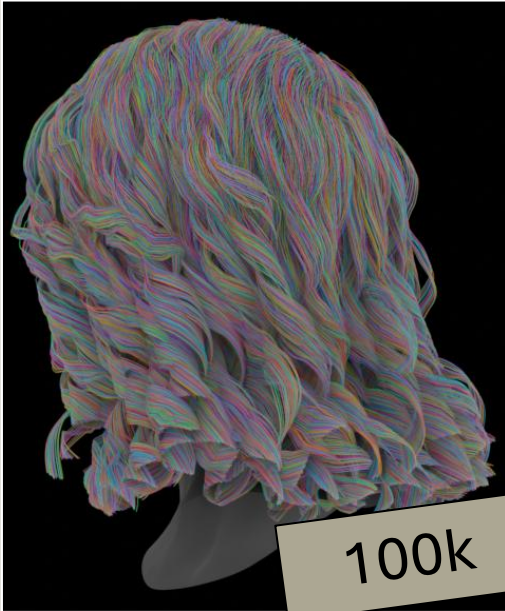
# Procedural Editing



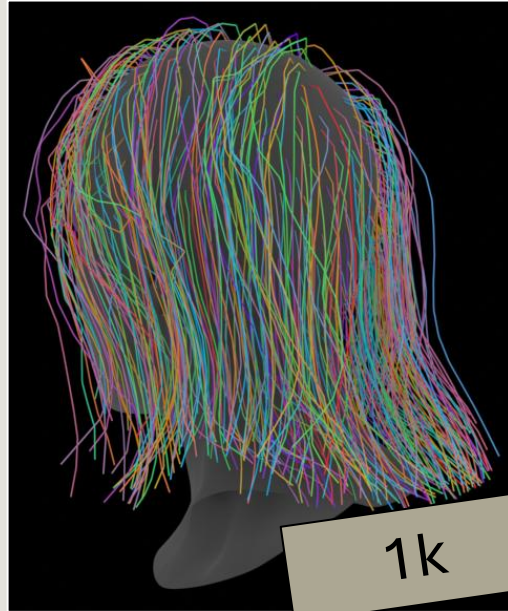
# Artist-designed Procedural Grooms

Hard to Edit

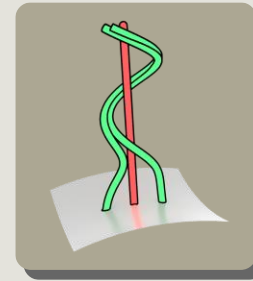
Easy to Edit, Guaranteed Structure



Unstructured  
Strands



Guide Strands



Procedural  
Operators



Procedural  
Groom



# Our Paper: Unstructured Strands to Procedural Grooms

Input



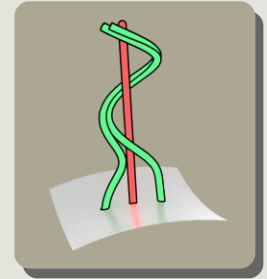
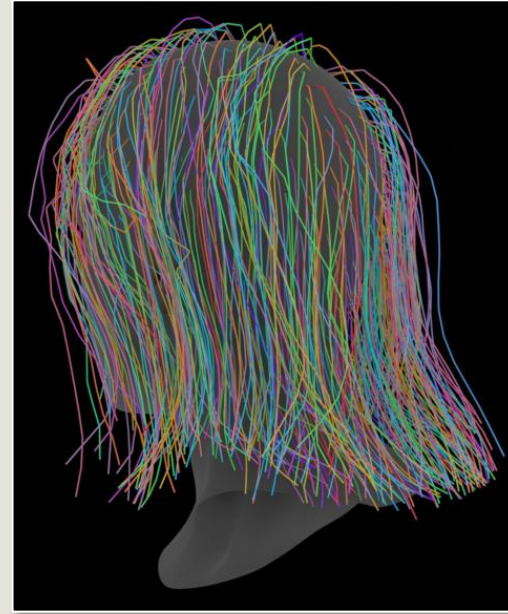
Unstructured  
Strands

No training  
data needed!



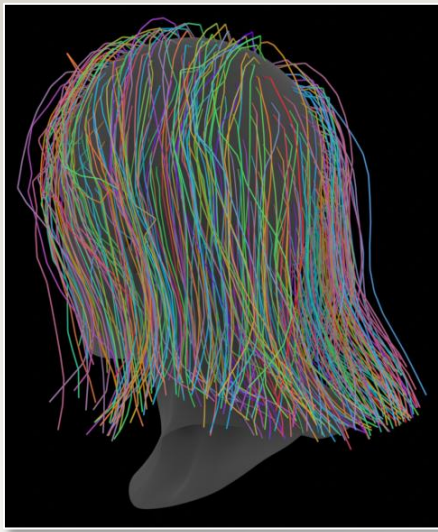
Optimization

Outputs

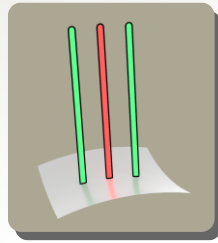
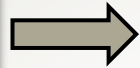


Procedural  
Groom

# Our Procedural Grooming Pipeline



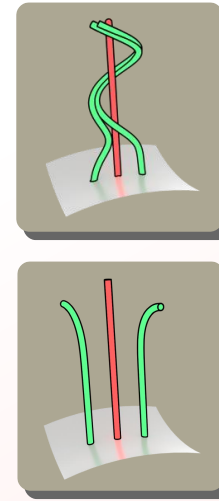
Guide Strands



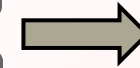
Instancing



Instantiated  
Strands

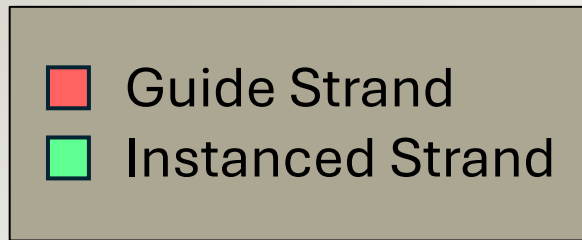


Procedural  
Operators

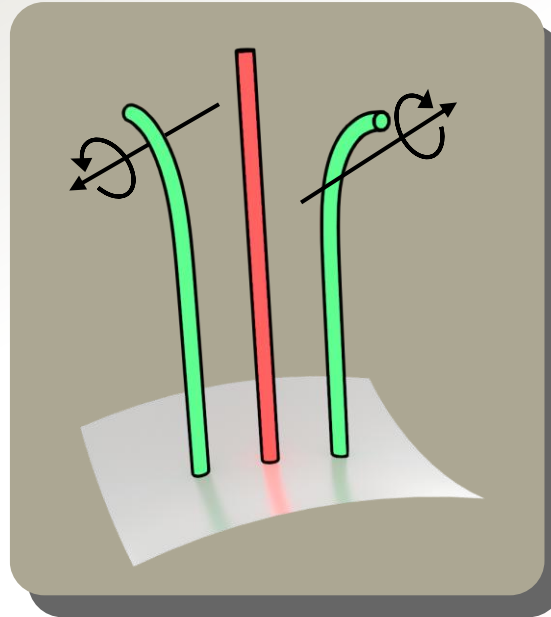


Procedural  
Groom

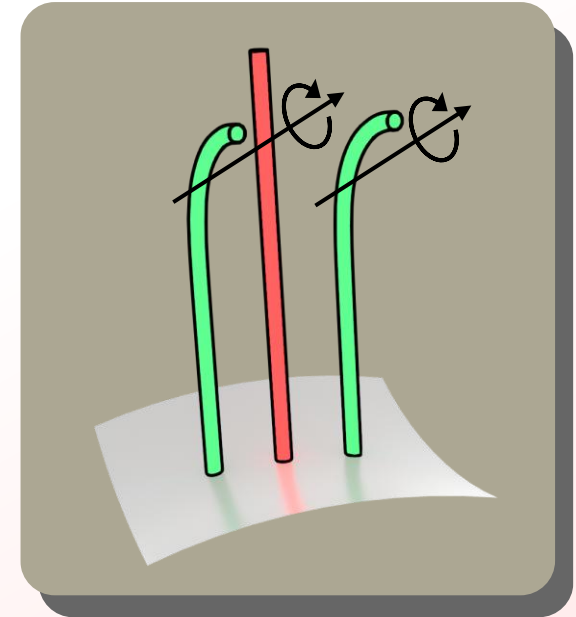
# Operators Apply Random Variations to Different Strands



Bend:  
 $\theta$  degrees  
around axis  $v$



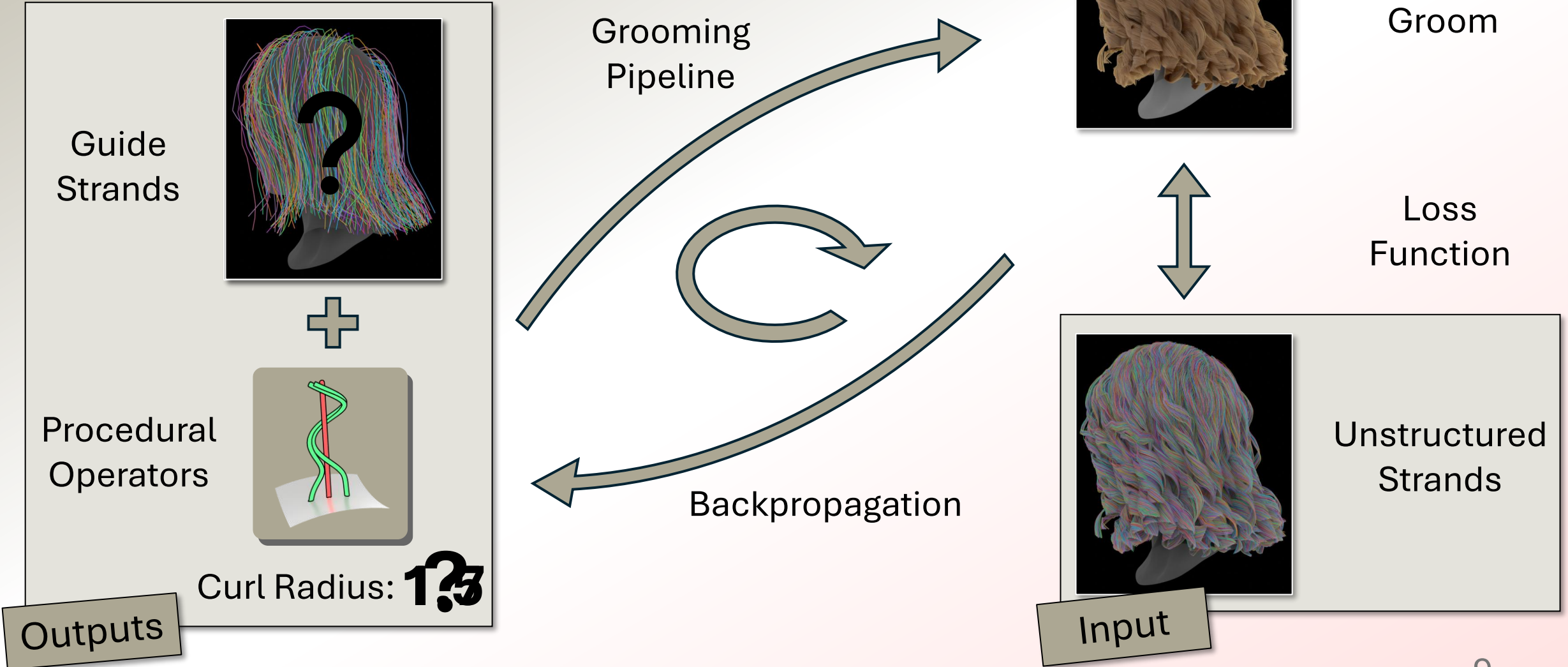
✓ With Random  
Axis Variation



✗ Without Random  
Axis Variation



# Optimization Task

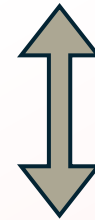


# Loss Function

“**Distance**” between  
unstructured strands  
and procedural groom?



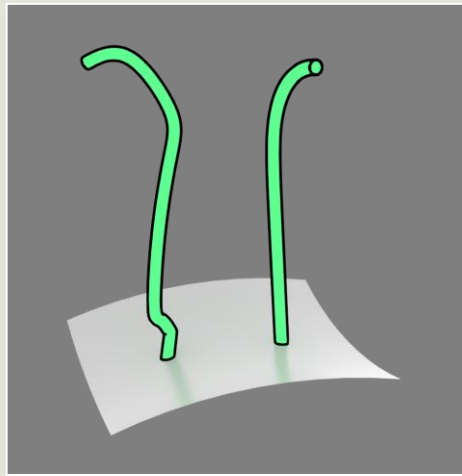
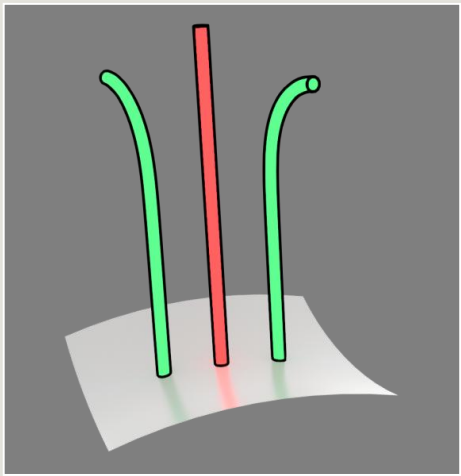
Procedural  
Groom



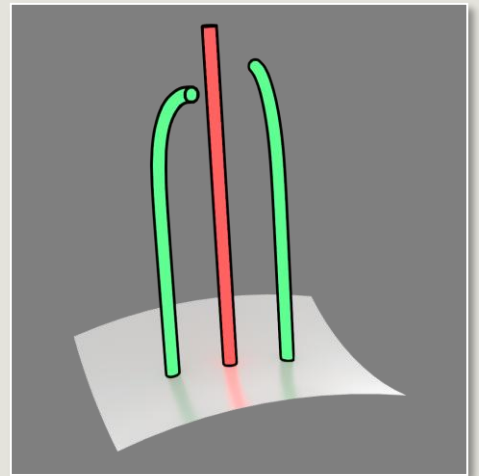
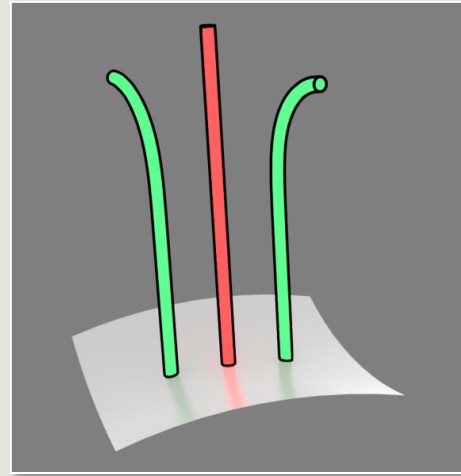
Unstructured  
Strands

# Distance is Hard

Correct parameters  $\neq$  Same strands!



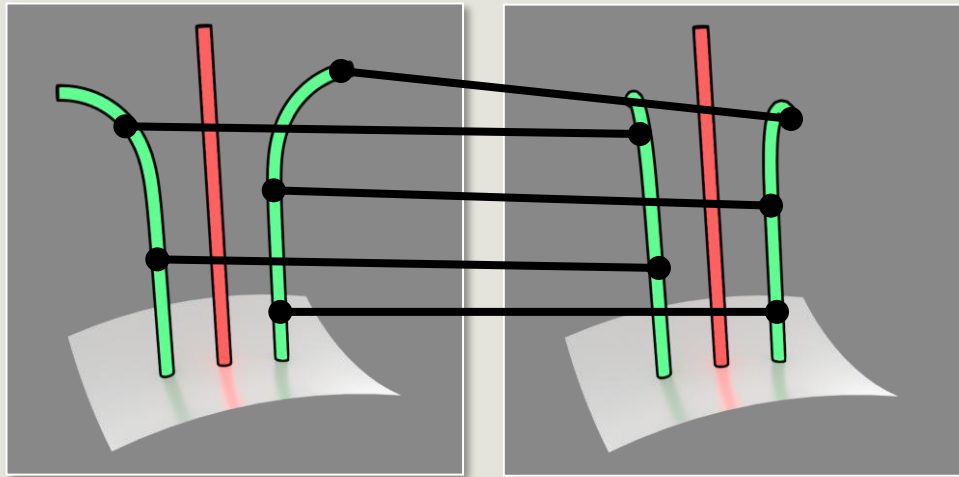
Cannot be represented  
using 1 guide + bend



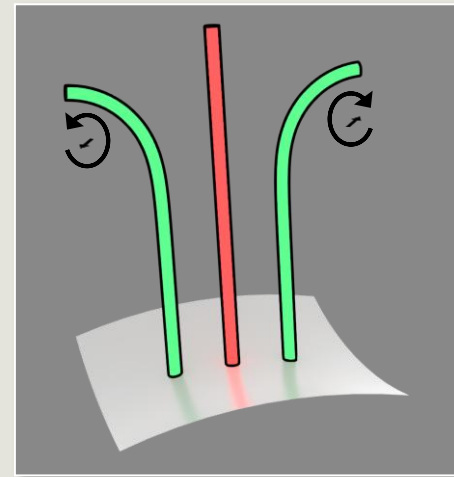
Same bend angle,  
Different random axis



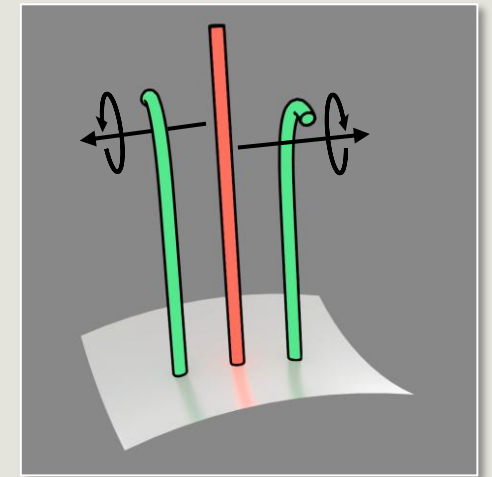
# Naïve Distance Gives Incorrect Parameters



Distance between  
corresponding points on strands



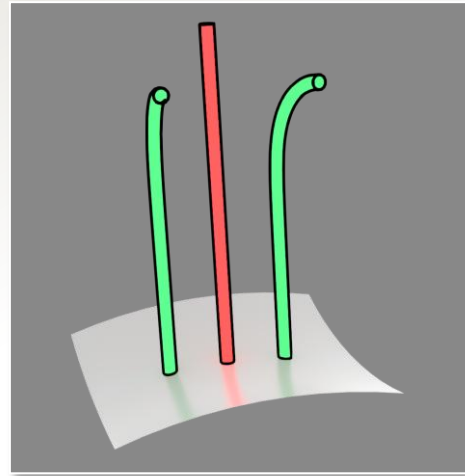
Target Strands



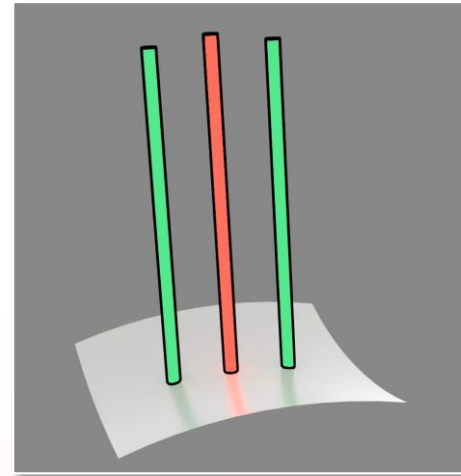
Optimized

# Guide and Operator Ambiguity

Bend in  
Operator



Target Strands

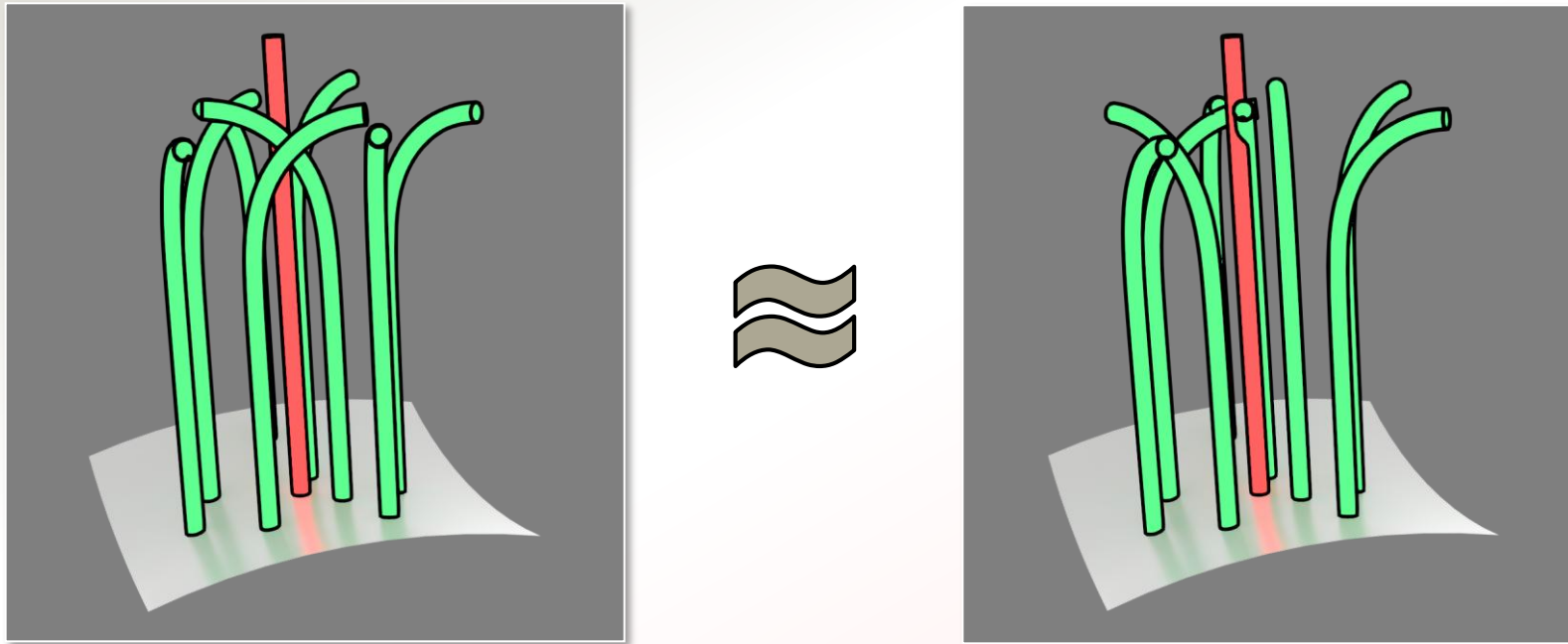


Optimized

Bend in  
Guides

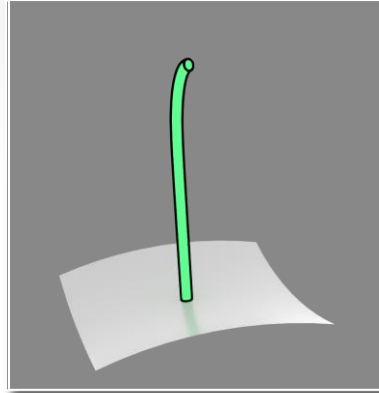
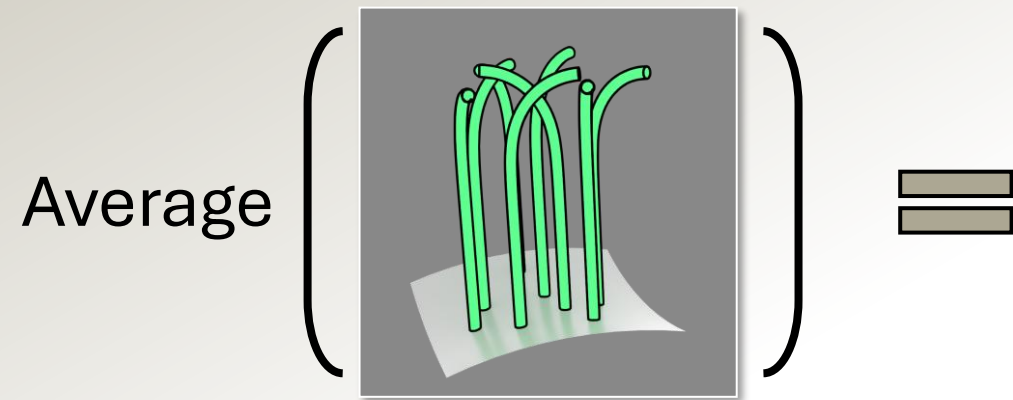


# Key Idea: Look At Many Strands Together

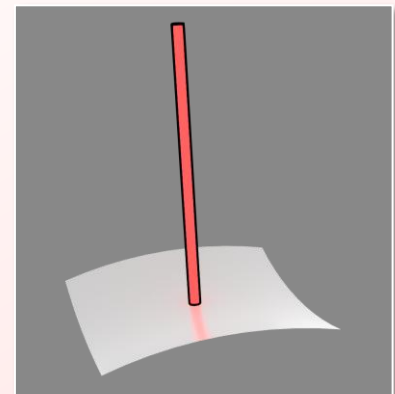
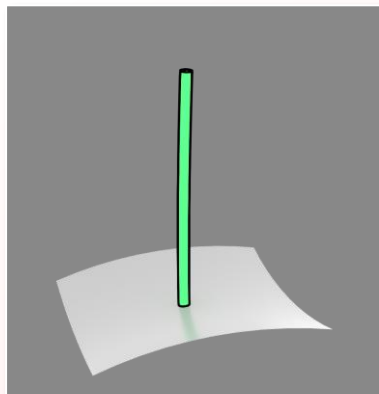




# Guide Strands: Our Initialization



Assume  
guides are  
smooth



# Guide Strands: Our Refinement

$$\text{Loss} \approx \left( \text{Average} \left( \text{Image 1} \right) - \text{Average} \left( \text{Image 2} \right) \right)^2$$

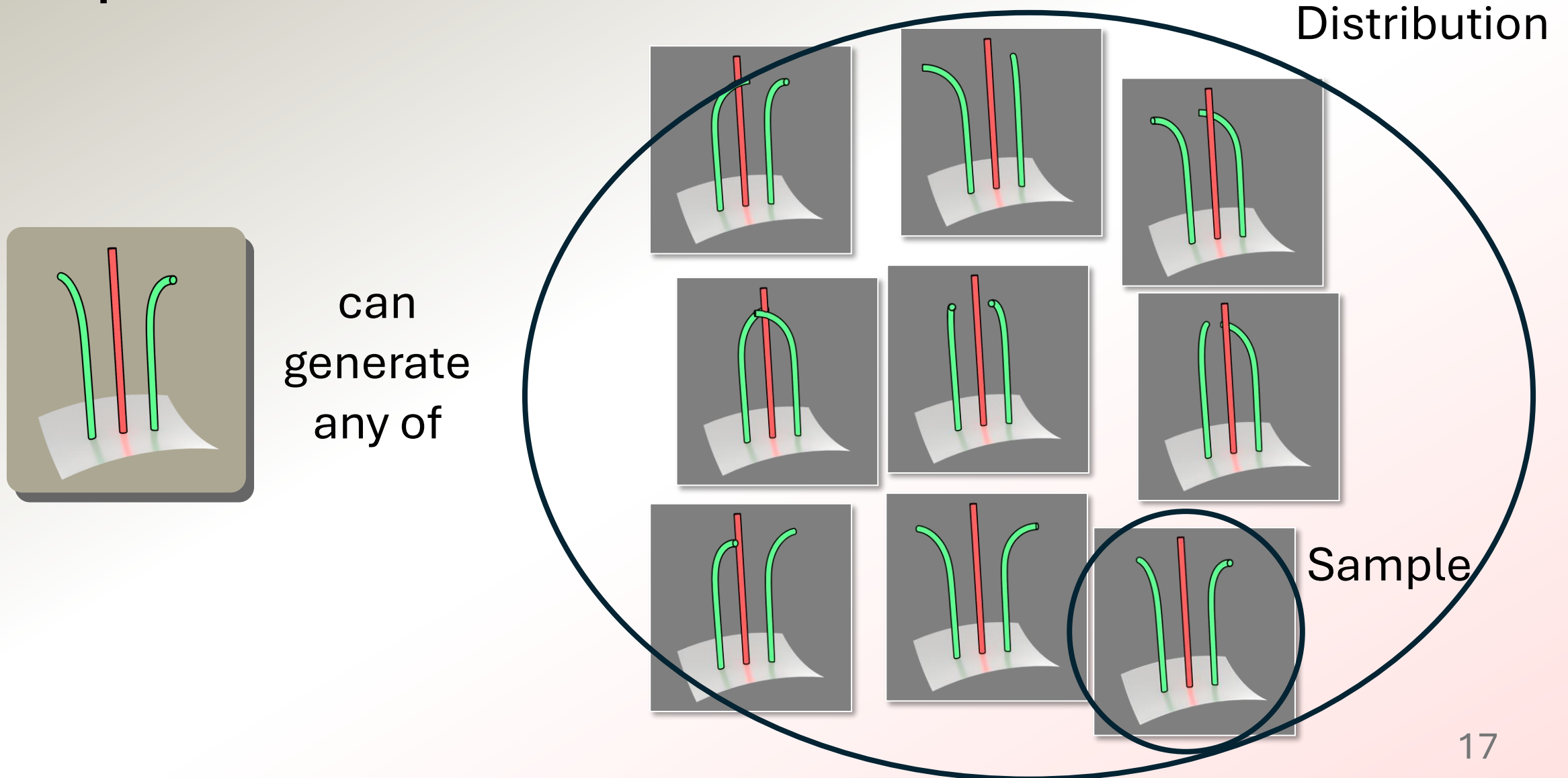
The diagram illustrates the loss function for Guide Strands. It shows the squared difference between the averages of two images. Both images depict a set of green strands on a gray surface. The strands in the second image appear slightly more refined or smoothed compared to the first.

With  
smoothness  
using

Smoothing through curvature reparameterization  
[Crane et al. 2013]

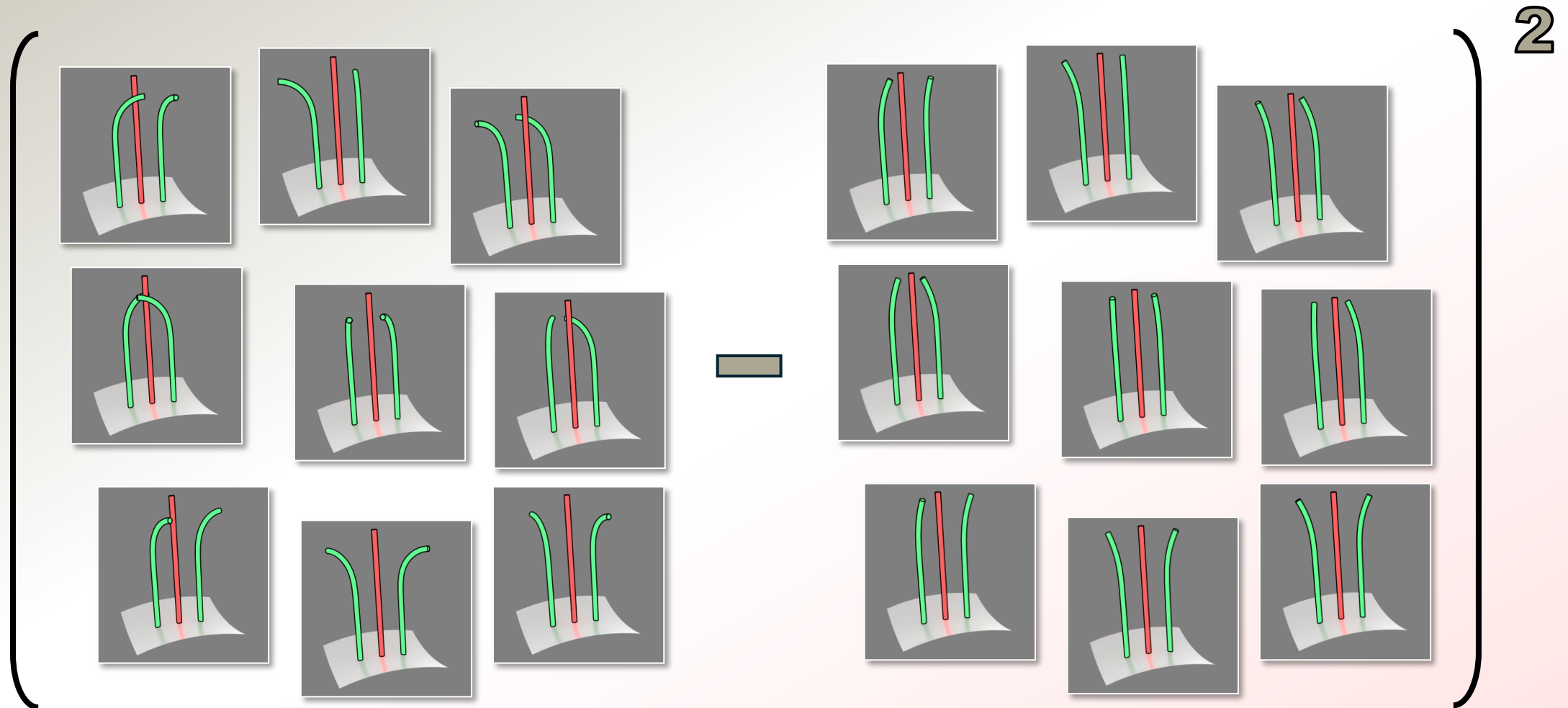
Edge-aware gradient filtering  
[Chang, Yang, Belhe et al. 2024]

# Operators: Strand Distributions





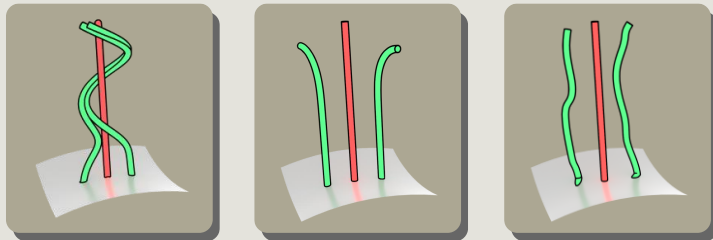
# Operators: Distance Between Strand Distributions



# Operators: Our Loss Functions

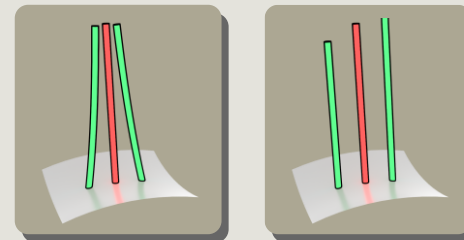
$$\left( \text{Distribution} \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{[Image of a set of green curves on a surface]} \end{array} \right) - \text{Distribution} \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{[Image of a set of green curves on a surface]} \end{array} \right) \right)^2$$

## Shape Operators



*Sliced Wasserstein Loss*

## Correlation Operators

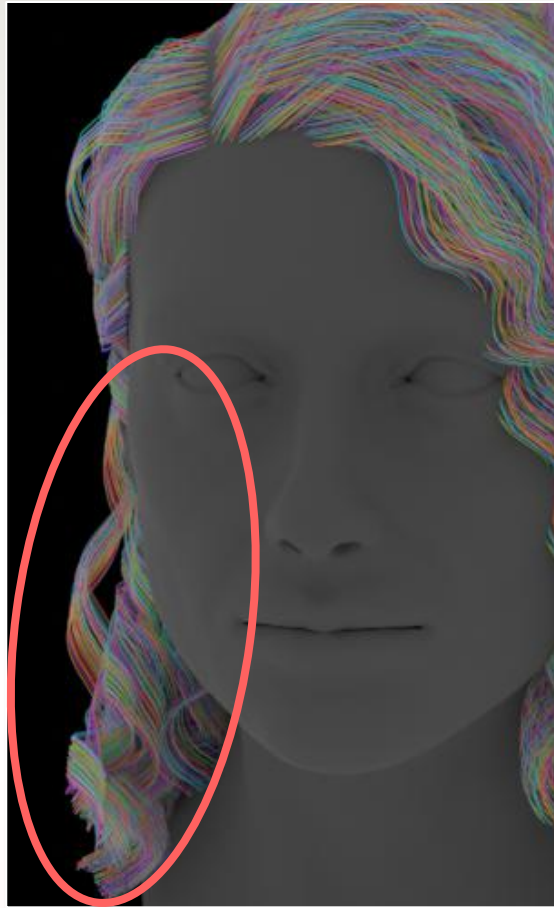


*Determinantal Point Process Loss*

# Results: Our Loss Gives Accurate Parameters



Target Groom



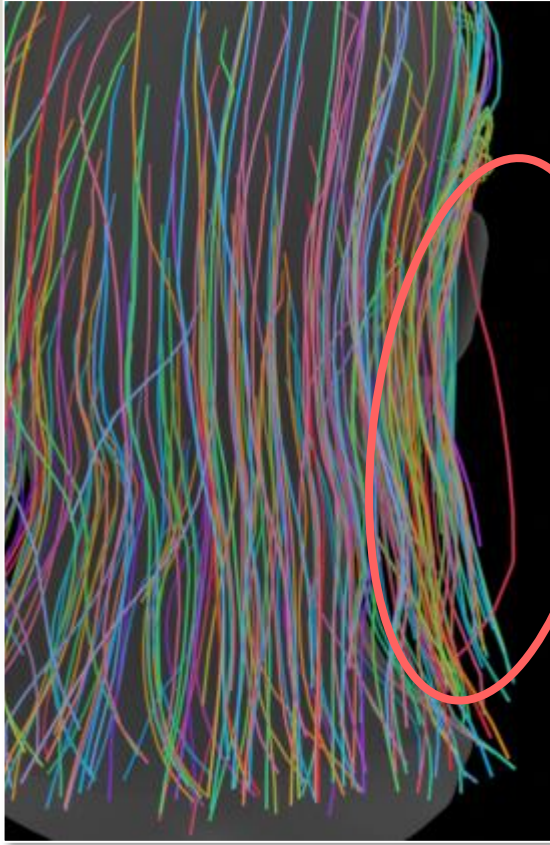
Our Groom



Naïve Loss



# Results: Our Loss Gives Accurate Guides



Target Guides



Our Guides



Naïve Loss

# Editing

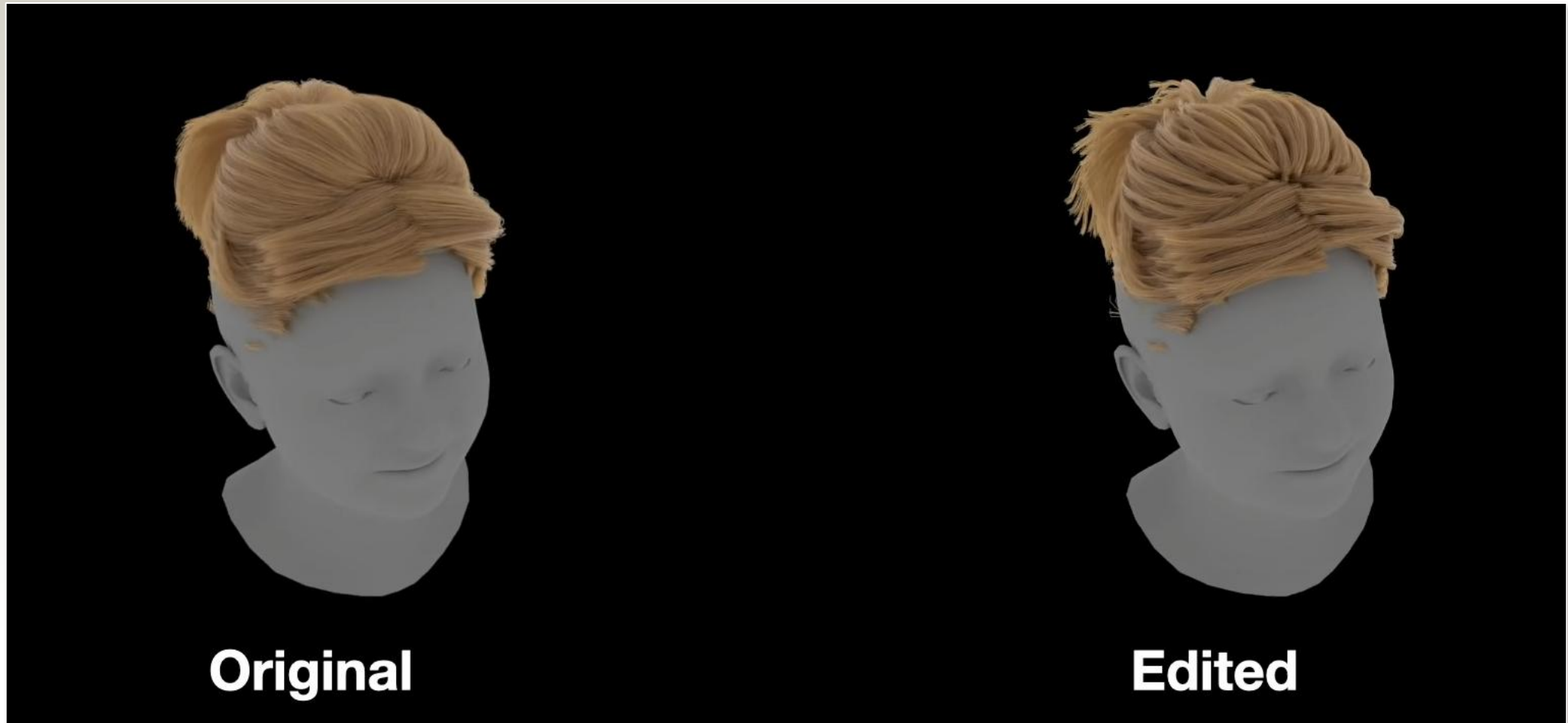


# Transforming Real Hair



< 15 min to  
optimize on  
RTX 4090

# Editing Real Hair





# Simulation



# Thanks!



- Procedural grooms enable editing of real hair
- Open questions on selecting operators,
- Extending to production grooming pipelines

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Code: [github.com/facebookresearch/iphg](https://github.com/facebookresearch/iphg)

