CONSISTENT ZOOMOUT: Efficient Spectral Map Synchronization

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Abstract

In this paper, we propose a novel method, which we call CONSISTENT ZOOMOUT, for efficiently refining correspondences among deformable 3D shape collections, while promoting the resulting map consistency. Our formulation is closely related to a recent unidirectional spectral refinement framework, but naturally integrates map consistency constraints into the refinement. Beyond that, we show further that our formulation can be adapted to recover the underlying isometry among near-isometric shape collections with a theoretical guarantee, which is absent in the other spectral map synchronization frameworks. We demonstrate that our method improves the accuracy compared to the competing methods when synchronizing correspondences in both near-isometric and heterogeneous shape collections, but also significantly outperforms the baselines in terms of map consistency.

1. Introduction

Finding correspondences across 3D shapes is a fundamental task in geometry processing and computer graphics that enables a wide range of applications. Typically, users favor correspondences differently according to their task at hand. For instance, conformal (angle preserving) maps are suitable for texture transfer [APL15], orientation-preserving maps are desired for surface or volume parameterization [RPPSH17], and maps of low metric distortion are critical in shape retrieval [BBK06] and statistical shape analysis [ASK⁺05, HSS⁺09].

Despite the large variability of specific preferences in practice, there exist some universal principles in seeking high-quality maps between shapes. One essential requirement is that a map should be close to bijective, which allows transferring information across shapes consistently, without directional bias. More generally, map consistency is desirable in the context of shape collections. However, integrating the consistency or bijectivity constraint into objectives tailored to practical applications is often non-trivial and can lead to difficult optimization problems.

In this paper, we consider deformable 3D shape matching where the goal is to find near-isometric maps between shapes. To this end, many works have been proposed to promote consistency (i.e., bijectivity) in the pairwise setting [ERGB16, HO17, RPWO18, ESBC19]. Moreover, it has long been observed that consistency can play an important role in map denoising [HG13], in the context of shape collections. Stimulated by this observation, various data-driven approaches [NBCW⁺11, WHG13, CRA⁺17, HLW⁺19] have been proposed for synchronizing shapes in collections. Among these approaches, a noticeable recent trend is the use of spectral techniques, especially through the notion of functional maps [OBCS⁺12]. By using multi-scale spectral bases, functional maps encode correspondences as linear operators (small-sized matrices in practice) that transfer real-valued functions across shapes. The algebraic nature of functional maps makes this framework well-suited for map manipulation, such as composition and inversion, which in turn facilitates formulating map consistency constraints.

It is worth noting, however, that functional maps are usually expressed in low-dimensional spectral bases. Apart from the efficiency consideration, directly encoding and refining functional maps in the high-dimensional spectral spaces can be unstable and error-prone, especially in the presence of noisy initial constraints. On the other hand, the reduced dimensionality can impede recovering high-quality maps from the functional representation, due to...
the loss of details encoded in the medium and high-frequency parts of the spectral bases.

The dimensionality issue has long been a bottleneck in shape matching via functional maps. A recent framework tackles this issue by proposing ZOOMOUT refinement [MRR19], which iteratively updates maps in the spectral domain and finally allows to recover accurate point-wise correspondences from high-dimensional functional maps. Nevertheless, ZOOMOUT refinement is unidirectional, making it difficult to incorporate bijectivity constraints, let alone map consistency in a shape collection.

In this paper, we formulate a novel multi-scale synchronization approach, which can be seen as an extension of both ZOOMOUT to promote consistency in a map collection, and an extension of the basic functional maps synchronization [WHG13] to promote consistency on every leading principal sub-block of the functional map matrices. Beyond that, we further show that our formulation can be adapted to recover the underlying isometry among near-isometric shape collections with a theoretical guarantee, which is absent in the other spectral map synchronization frameworks.

Based on our formulation, we propose a practical CONSISTENT ZOOMOUT method, which gracefully incorporates map consistency constraints into a simple iterative scheme. Fig. 1 shows shapes from the SRHec'07 [GBP07] dataset, for which given the same initial maps, ZOOMOUT can fail in the presence of large non-isometric deformations, while by jointly refining maps in the collection, our CONSISTENT ZOOMOUT finds more accurate and consistent correspondences.

Our CONSISTENT ZOOMOUT can be applied to refine maps both between a pair of shapes and in the context of shape collections. We show that our pipeline achieves similar or better accuracy than that of competing methods in both near-isometric and heterogeneous shape collections, and especially outperforms the baselines in terms of consistency.

2. Related Work

Non-rigid shape matching or alignment is a core topic in geometry processing [VKZHCO11, TLC13, BCBB16]. An exhaustive review is beyond the scope of this paper. We review most closely related techniques, focusing especially on matching heterogeneous shape collections, map synchronization, and adaptive basis selection in functional map estimation.

Maps in Shape Collections While most non-rigid shape matching techniques concentrate on the pairwise setting, several methods have been proposed to find correspondences in the context of shape collections. Such approaches typically leverage cycle-consistency constraints to improve maps computed between each pair of shapes. Early methods in this domain concentrated on detecting and correcting inconsistent cycles to enforce consistency constraints [Hub02, ZKP10, NBCW11]. This can be expensive as potentially many cycles might need to be tested, and may fail in resolving local errors. More recent approaches have tried to exploit the link between cycle consistency and low-rank properties of matrices that encode maps in the entire collection [HGI13, WS13, LZ17] leading to relatively simple formulations that enjoy optimality guarantees, e.g., [HGI13]. To alleviate the computational burden of handling potentially very large matrices various approaches have been proposed using alternating minimization [ZZD15], sparse modeling [CRA17], reweighted least squares [CMG13, HLBH17], iterative factorization [ARF18, BTGT19], and relaxations based on eigen-decomposition [PS13, SSHS16] among others.

Most closely related to ours are methods in this domain that use the functional map representation [WHG13, HWG14, HAGO19, SVB19]. This representation is particularly well-suited for map synchronization first because it allows to encode maps as small size matrices in a reduced basis, and second because it naturally enables an interpretation of maps as information carriers, allowing both a rich set of regularization constraints coming from the pairwise setting [OCB17] and enforcing consistency through map re-routing via functional “latent shapes” [HGI13, HAGO19]. As a result, existing functional map-based techniques for map synchronization are particularly efficient due to the use of a compact map representation. At the same time, their expressive power, and thus the accuracy of the recovered point-wise maps, are limited as only low-frequency functions can be transferred.

In this paper we show how this limitation can be lifted using a recent spectral upscaling method [MMR19], while still benefiting from the efficiency enabled by the functional map representation.

Basis Selection for Functional Maps. Our approach is also related to basis synchronization within the functional map framework. In the pairwise setting, this has been exploited for matching both complete [KBB13, KBBV15, KGB16] and partial [LRBB17] shapes. These works aim to compute bases that both diagonalize the respective Laplacians and satisfy given (e.g., descriptor preservation) constraints. Such approaches can be particularly powerful for non-isometric shape pairs where the standard Laplace-Beltrami eigenfunctions are especially unstable. We also note a recent unpublished work in this domain [AL19] that proposes to simultaneously optimize for the basis and solve for a functional map between a pair of shapes in a joint problem using the Alternating Direction Method of Multipliers method.

Our work is different in that we jointly optimize for the bases across all shapes by computing a consistent latent basis in the collection. However, unlike other such approaches, e.g., [WHG13], crucially we also modify the size of the latent bases for progressive spectral upsampling [MMR19], which allows us to capture higher frequency functional spaces and as we show, leads to accurate and consistent maps even in challenging scenarios.

3. Preliminaries

In this paper, we assume to be given a collection of 3D shapes \( S = \{S_i\}_{i=1}^n \) represented as triangle meshes. To each shape \( S_i \) we associate a Laplacian matrix \( L_i \) discretized using the standard cotangent weight scheme [PP93, MDSB03], s.t. \( L_i = M_i^{-1} L_w \), where \( L_w \) is the cotangent weight matrix and \( M_i \) is the diagonal lumped area matrix. We denote by \( \Lambda_i \) the diagonal matrix of the first \( k \) eigenvalues of \( L_i \) and by \( \Phi_i = [\phi_i^1, \phi_i^2, \ldots, \phi_i^k] \) the matrix of the corresponding eigenfunctions, where \( \phi_i^j \) is the \( j \)-th eigenfunction (e.g., Fig. 2 shows the first few eigenfunctions of the airplanes in the top-middle). This
Figure 2: Left: we show two airplanes with different style. The patch initialization from 11 landmarks is visualized via color transfer. Middle: we show two sets of basis: the standard Laplace-Beltrami basis shown on the top, and our synchronized basis shown on the bottom. We can see that after the synchronization, the basis of the two shapes aligns much better to each other. Right: the refined maps using different basis sets visualized via color transfer. Our result (shown on the right bottom) is more accurate and smoother than the map refined by ZOOMOUT using the standard Laplace-Beltrami basis.

Eigen-decomposition admits $L_k \Phi_i = M_k \Phi_i \Lambda_i$, and the eigenfunctions are orthonormal with respect to $M_k$: $(\Phi_i)^T M_k \Phi_i = I_k$, the identity matrix of dimension $k$.

Given two shapes $S_1, S_2$ and a point-wise map $T_{21}: S_2 \to S_1$, we denote by $\Pi_{21}$ a binary matrix encoding $T_{21}$, such that, $\Pi_{21}(p, q) = 1$ if $T_{21}(p) = q$ and 0 otherwise. The two notations of point-wise maps are used interchangeably hereafter. Based on the spectral bases, functional maps can encode point-wise maps into compact matrices, namely:

$$C_{12} = (\Phi_2^i)^T \Pi_{21} \Phi_1^i,$$

(1)

which gives rise to a matrix representation of size $k \times k$ (here $^T$ indicates the pseudo inverse). A functional map transfers real-valued functions across shapes by translating the coefficients expressed in the eigenbasis. Namely, let $f$ be a coefficient vector representing a function on $S_1$ in basis $\Phi_1^i$, then the corresponding function on $S_2$ is simply given as a coefficient vector $C_{12} f$ in basis $\Phi_2^i$.

On the other hand, for any vertex $p \in S_2$, the corresponding delta function $\delta_p$ is expressed in $\Phi_2$, as $\Phi_2^i(p) = [\Phi_2^i(1), \Phi_2^i(2), \ldots, \Phi_2^i(p)], i.e.,$ the $p^{th}$ row of $\Phi_2^i$. From this point of view, $\Phi_2^i$ can be regarded as a spectral embedding of $S_2$, which represents each $p$ as a $k$-dimensional vector and the functional map $C_{12}$ plays a role of aligning spectral embeddings across different shapes. Recovering the point-wise map from a given functional map can therefore be formulated as solving the following optimization problem:

$$T_{21}(p) = \arg \min_{q \in S_1} \|C_{12} \Phi_1^i(q)^T - \Phi_2^i(p)^T\|_2, \forall p \in S_2$$

(2)

This recovery can be efficiently done through a nearest-neighbor query for each row of $\Phi_2^i$ in the space of rows of $\Phi_1^i$, transformed by $C_{12}$.

Now, given a shape collection $S$, a functional map network (FMN) $G = (V, E)$ represents a set of functional maps relating shapes in $S$. The $i^{th}$ node in $V$ corresponds to shape $S_i$, and $(i, j) \in E$ if and only if $S_i$ and $S_j$ are connected by a functional map $C_{ij}$. The consistency of $G$ is then defined as the deviation of the composition of functional maps along a cycle in $G$ from the identity $I$—ideally, $C_{i_1i_2i_3i_4 \cdots i_k} = I$, $\forall$ cycle $\{i_1, i_2, \ldots, i_k, i_1\} \in G$.

In [WHG13], the authors propose to extract a set of consistent latent bases $Y_j$ for each $S_j$ such that $C_{ij} Y_j \approx Y_j, \forall (i, j) \in E$. Note that $Y_j$ can be both thought of as functions on $S_j$ and as functional maps from some underlying latent object to $S_j$. From this point of view, $C_{ij}$ can be factored out as $Y_j X_i^{-1}$, i.e., a functional map composition from $S_i$ to the latent shape, and then to $S_j$. This latent shape is formally analyzed in [HAG019], where the authors show how to endow it with a geometric structure (measure and metric), resulting in a well-defined functional central shape, or so-called limit shape. As shown in [HAG019], although the limit shape might not admit an actual embedding in the ambient space, it is fully characterized by a canonical consistent latent basis, which, again, can be treated as functional maps from the limit shape to each $S_i$.

4. Formulation

In this section, we first formulate our basic multi-scale map synchronization approach as a variational optimization problem, then we show how this formulation can be extended to more strongly promote near-isometries in shape collections. Our formulation is closely related to that of ZOOMOUT, but effectively alleviates the directional bias of the former, giving rise to the CONSISTENT ZOOMOUT pipeline described in Section 5.

Multi-scale shape collection synchronization We consider the following multi-scale optimization problem:

$$\min_{\tilde{G} \in \mathcal{P}_{\text{col}}(G)} E_{\text{col}}(\tilde{G}), \quad (\mathcal{P}_{\text{col}})$$

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where
\[
E_{\text{col}}(\mathcal{G}) = \sum_{\{i_1, i_2, \cdots, i_p\} \in \Gamma} \sum_{k} \frac{1}{k} \| \mathbf{C}^k_{i_{p-1}i_p} \cdots \mathbf{C}^k_{i_1} - \mathbf{I}^k \|_F^2.
\]

Here \(\mathbf{C}^k_{ij}\) is the functional map of dimension \(k \times k\), and \(\mathbf{I}^k\) is the identity matrix of the same dimension, and \(\Gamma\) is the set of cycles in \(\mathcal{G}\). We denote by \(\mathcal{P}\) the set of functional maps that can be induced by some point-wise map (see Eq. (1)), and \(\mathcal{G} \in \mathcal{P}\) implies all the functional maps in \(\mathcal{G}\) belong to \(\mathcal{P}\).

Our formulation can be viewed as a natural extension to that of [WHG13] in two major ways. Firstly, in that work, the authors promote consistency for some specific fixed value of \(k\). Instead, rather than using a single arbitrary fixed \(k\) our formulation is of multiscale, encouraging each principal leading sub-block of the functional maps to be consistent. Secondly, the optimization of \(E_{\text{col}}\) is subject to \(\mathcal{G} \in \mathcal{P}\), which introduces a very strong regularization. On the other hand, [WHG13] refines cycle-consistency purely on the spectral domain (via functional maps), and only converts to point-wise maps at the last step.

Near-isometric shape collection synchronization While the formulation in Eq. (1) already provides a strong regularization on the functional map, we further extend it to more strongly promote near-isometric maps. First, we recall that in [MRR+19], the authors consider that the following optimization problem for recovering the isometry between \(S_1, S_2\):

\[
\min_{\varphi \in \mathcal{P}} E_{\text{zm}}(\mathcal{C}_{12}), \quad \text{where} \quad E_{\text{zm}}(\mathcal{C}_{12}) = \sum_{i,j} \frac{1}{k} \| (\mathbf{C}^k_{ij})^T \mathbf{C}^k_{ij} - \mathbf{I}^k \|_F^2.
\]

As demonstrated in [MRR+19], the global optimizer of Problem (Pzm) with zero error corresponds to the underlying isometry between \(S_1, S_2\), and ZOOMOUT refinement is proven to solve it efficiently. At the same time, however, this formulation is based on a specific fixed direction between a source and target shape, which can bias the results and lead to non-bijective maps if functional maps in both directions are optimized independently.

Now we show how to remove this bias not only for a given shape pair, but more generally in the context of shape collections and functional map networks. For this we observe that since isometry is defined locally (pairwise), we can regularize each \(C_{ij}\) by \(E_{\text{zm}}(\mathcal{C}_{ij})\), and on the other hand inject global consistency by incorporating \(E_{\text{col}}(\mathcal{G})\) as defined above. This leads to the following problem:

\[
\min_{\mathcal{G} \in \mathcal{P}} E_{\text{col}}(\mathcal{G}), \quad \text{(P_{col})}
\]

where
\[
E_{\text{col}}(\mathcal{G}) = \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{E}} E_{\text{zm}}(\mathcal{C}_{ij}) + E_{\text{zm}}(\mathcal{C}_{ji}) + E_{\text{col}}(\mathcal{G}).
\]

The following theorem (see proof in Appendix A) suggests that the global optimizer of \(E_{\text{col}}\) is stronger than that of \(E_{\text{zm}}\), since it promotes maps that are both isometric and consistent.

**Theorem 4.1** Given a shape collection \(S\), in which all shapes share the same non-repeated eigenvalues of Laplacian matrices. A functional map network \(\mathcal{G} \in \mathcal{P}\) satisfies \(E_{\text{col}}(\mathcal{G}) = 0\) if and only if the corresponding point-wise maps are all isometries, and are the consistent with respect to all cycles in \(\mathcal{G}\), i.e., \(\Pi_{i_1i_2} \Pi_{i_2i_3} \cdots \Pi_{i_{p-1}i_p} = I\forall \{i_1, i_2, \cdots, i_p\}\) forming a cycle.

### 5. Consistent ZOOMOut Pipeline

In this section, we propose our **Consistent ZOOMOut** pipeline for synchronizing shape collections. In particular, we design two versions tailored for solving Problem (P_{col-iso}) (**Consistent ZOOMOut-iso**) and Problem (P_{col}) (**Consistent ZOOMOut**) approximately. Obviously the latter is a relaxed version of the former, so we start with the isometric case.

#### 5.1. Consistent ZOOMOut-iso

At a high-level, we follow the same spectral upsampling scheme as ZOOMOUT – instead of optimizing the energy \(E_{\text{col}}\) across all scales, we first consider scale \(k\), optimizing for the point-wise maps among the shape collection, and then use them as an initial guess for optimizing at a higher scale \(k+1\).

However, optimizing Problem (P_{col-iso}) at scale \(k\) is still challenging since an ideal solution should simultaneously satisfy: 1) each \(C_{ij}^k \in \mathcal{G}^k\) is near orthonormal; 2) \(\mathcal{G}^k\) admits cycle-consistency, where the high-order terms are heavily entangled; 3) each \(C_{ij}^k\) corresponds to some point-wise map. To address these challenges, we propose the following three steps for approximately optimizing Problem (P_{col-iso}).

**Restricting the search space** First, we relax the original optimization problem by restricting the search space to the following subspace:

\[
\Omega = \{(\mathbf{C}^k_{ij}, \mathbf{C}^k_{ji}) \in \mathcal{P} \text{ and } C_{ij}^k = (\mathbf{C}^k_{ji})^T, \forall k \text{ and } (i,j) \in \mathcal{E}\}
\]
ALGORITHM 1: CONSISTENT ZOOMOUT Iteration

Input: An FMN $G^k$ relating a shape collection $S$, in which $C_{ij} \in \mathbb{R}^{k \times k}$.
Output: A refined FMN $G^{k+1}$

(1) For each $(i, j) \in \mathcal{E}$, if $\|C_{ij}^T C_{ij}^i - \hat{I}\|_F \leq \|C_{ij}^T C_{ij}^f - \hat{I}\|_F$, set $C_{ij}^i = (C_{ij}^i)^T$, otherwise set $C_{ij}^i = (C_{ij}^f)^T$.

# For CONSISTENT ZOOMOUT-iso only.

(2) Compute the weight matrix $\omega$ for $G^k$ via the consistency voting scheme from [NBCW⁺11]

(3) Construct a set of latent bases via Eq. (6) with $\omega$, and then apply the canonicalization proposed in [HAGO19] to obtain the CCLB $\{Y_i^k\}$ (see Appendix C for details).

(4) Let $\Psi_i = \Phi_i Y_i^k, \forall i$, and recover the point-wise maps $T_{ij}: S_i \rightarrow S_j, \forall (i, j) \in \mathcal{E}$ via Eq. (5).

(5) Encode the computed point-wise maps $T_{ij}$ via Eq. (1) using $\Phi_i^k$. This results in a new FMN $G^{k+1}$ with $C_{ij} \in \mathbb{R}^{(k+1) \times (k+1)}$.


Remark that in $\Omega$, the orthonormality terms are equivalent to those of pairwise consistency $-\forall (i, j) \in \mathcal{E}, \|\{C_{ij}^k\}^T C_{ij}^i - \hat{I}\|_F = \|C_{ij}^k C_{ij}^i - \hat{I}\|_F$.

Enforcing global consistency Secondly, we leverage the formulation of [HAGO19] to handle the global consistency, which extracts a set of canonical consistent latent bases (CCLB) $\{Y_i\}_{i=1}^p$ from $G$. As formulated in [HAGO19], the CCLB can be seen as functional maps from a well-defined central (limit) shape that are consistent with respect to $G$, i.e., ideally $C_{ij} = Y_i Y_j^T, \forall (i, j) \in \mathcal{E}$. The global consistency follows from $C_{ij} = \cdots C_{i12} C_{i1} = Y_i Y_{i,1}^T Y_{i,1} Y_{i,2}^T \cdots Y_{i,p} Y_{i,p}^T = I, \forall (i, j, \ldots, p) \in \mathcal{E}$.

Solving for the point-wise maps On the one hand, the search restriction turns the orthonormality terms into pairwise consistency terms; on the other hand, we drop all the high-order (i.e., $\geq 3$-cycle) consistency terms by incorporating the CCLB in the same spirit as [HG13]. Together, this leads to a simplified energy that consists of pairwise consistency terms along edges in $\mathcal{E}$, along with constraints introduced in the first two steps. For simplicity we consider a shape pair, arriving at the following optimization:

$$\min_{\Pi_{ij}, \hat{\Pi}_{ij}} \|\Phi_i^k Y_i^k - \hat{I}\|_F^2 + \|C_{ij}^k C_{ij}^i - \hat{I}\|_F^2, \quad (P_{\text{single}})$$

s.t. $C_{ij}^k = (\Phi_i^k)^T \Pi_{ij} \Phi_j^k, C_{ij}^i = (\Phi_i^k)^T \Pi_{ij} \Phi_j^k$,

$C_{ij}^f = Y_i^f Y_i^f, C_{ij}^i = Y_i^i Y_i^i, C_{ij}^* = Y_i^* Y_i^*.$

The two independent representations (via Eq. (1) and the CCLB decomposition) of $C_{ij}^k$ in the constraint allow us to decouple $\Pi_{ij}$ and $\hat{\Pi}_{ij}$ during optimization. In particular, we obtain the following theorem.

Theorem 5.1 If $G^k \in \Omega$ and admits CCLB decomposition: $C_{ij}^k = Y_i Y_i^T, \forall (i, j) \in \mathcal{E}$, then under appropriate regularization, the optimal solution of Problem $(P_{\text{single}})$ is given by:

$$\Pi_{ij} = \arg \min_{\Pi} \|\Phi_i^k Y_i^k - \Phi_j^k Y_j^k\|_F^2,$$

$$\hat{\Pi}_{ij} = \arg \min_{\hat{\Pi}} \|\Phi_i^k Y_i^k - \Phi_j^k Y_j^k\|_F^2.$$ 

Theorem 5.1 leads to the following simple procedure of computing $\Pi_{ij}$, which reduces to nearest neighbour searches of each row of $\Phi_i^k Y_i^k$ among the rows of $\Phi_j^k Y_j^k$.

$$T_{ij}(p) = \arg \min_{q \in \mathbb{R}^k} \|\Phi_i(q)^T - \Phi_i(p)^T\|_F^2, \forall p \in S_i, \quad (5)$$

where $\Psi_i = \Phi_i Y_i^k$ and $\phi_i = \Phi_i Y_i^k$. As we demonstrate in Section 5.4, this novel point-wise map conversion procedure leads to increased robustness while removing the directional bias, compared to the one used in [OCB⁺17, MRR⁺19] (c.f., Eq. (2)).

Overall pipeline Putting the above together, we propose our spectral upsampling scheme CONSISTENT ZOOMOUT-iso, which takes as input an FMN $G^k$:

1. Restrict $G^k$ into $\Omega$, such that $C_{ij}^k = (C_{ij}^k)^T, \forall (i, j) \in \mathcal{E}$.
2. Compute CCLB $\{Y_i\}$ of $G^k$.
3. Compute point-wise maps according to Eq. (5), and then convert to $G^{k+1}$ via Eq. (1).
4. Set $k = k + 1$ and repeat until $k$ hits the given upper bound.

In Alg. 1, we summarize a single iteration of the practical implementation of CONSISTENT ZOOMOUT-iso, including the restriction Step (1) and the additional weighting that we use via the consistency voting [NBCW⁺11]. We refer reader to Section 5.3 for further details.

5.2. CONSISTENT ZOOMOUT

In fact solving Problem $(P_{\text{net}})$ is easier than the above one: since now the orthonormality terms are dropped, the only constraints are global consistency and compatibility between point-wise maps and functional maps. Following the same argument in Section 5.1, the algorithm of CONSISTENT ZOOMOUT is the same as Alg. 1, but skips the first step of search space restriction.

5.3. Implementation Details

Consistency voting for FMN Given a FMN $G^k$, the consistency of the CCLB is enforced by the following optimization, proposed originally in [WHG13]:

$$Y = \arg \min_{Y} \sum_{(i, j) \in \mathcal{E}} \omega_{ij} \|C_{ij} Y_i - Y_j\|_F^2,$$

s.t. $Y^T = n I^k, Y = [Y_1; Y_2; \ldots; Y_p]$.

Here $\omega_{ij}$ is the weight assigned to each functional map $C_{ij}$, reflecting the relative confidence (the higher, the more confident). Often the initial maps vary widely in quality, especially in the presence of large deformations in the collection. It is thus natural to
assign larger weights to the “good” maps, so that the extracted latent bases are less perturbed by the noisy maps. In this paper, following the approach proposed in [OBCS*12], we adapt the consistency voting scheme introduced in [NBCW*11]. This scheme outputs a distance-like measure \( d_{ij} \) to each \( C_{ij} \in \mathcal{G}^{2} \). We then obtain a weight matrix \( \omega \) by letting \( \omega_{ij} = \exp(-d_{ij}^2/2\sigma^2) \), where \( \sigma \) is the median of all \( d_{ij}^2 \). The consistency voting is conducted through all the iterations, since the FMN is consistently updated. On the other hand, this scheme is efficient since it only involves a linear optimization after light computation for consistency evaluation of functional maps along 3-cycles in \( \mathcal{G}^{2} \).

**Acceleration techniques** First of all, we notice that our pipeline is highly parallelizable in the recovery of point-wise maps in each iteration, which gives a considerable boost in practice. Beyond that, several strategies are proposed in [MRR*19] to accelerate ZOOMOUT as well as improve its scalability. Our CONSISTENT ZOOMOUT benefits from the strategies immediately. Among those, the subsampling strategy is critical in our implementation. Namely, we only maintain the conversion between functional and point-wise maps among a set of subsampled vertices and only compute the dense point-wise maps in the final step as output. This strategy is especially useful in the scenarios where the shape collection is large, or the input shapes are of high complexity.

**Network Topology** In theory, our method can handle input \( \mathcal{G} \) with arbitrary topology as long as being connected. Though, it is observed in practice that a denser FMN is more robust to the noise present in initialization. By default, we only maintain the maps, either point-wise or functional ones, that are present in the initial \( \mathcal{G} \) through the refinement (thus the topology of \( \mathcal{G} \) is unchanged). Finally, via Eq. (5), we can output all the pairwise maps, regardless of it being present in the initialization or not.

### 5.4. CONSISTENT ZOOMOUT for Pairwise Shape Matching

While our framework is geared towards synchronizing maps in shape collections, it can naturally accommodate shape pairs as a special case. We have observed that the resulting method is more robust to challenging input than ZOOMOUT by promoting bijectivity and exploiting maps in both directions.

For instance, in Fig. 2, we consider refining maps between two airplanes with different styles from the SHREC’07 dataset [GBP07]. The rough patch-based initialization is shown in the bottom-left via color transfer. As shown in the top-middle, the Laplace-Beltrami bases of the shapes demonstrate distinctive modes, due to the geometric difference. As a consequence, ZOOMOUT fails to produce accurate and smooth maps (as shown in the top-right).

In contrast, CONSISTENT ZOOMOUT handles the non-isometric deformations more gracefully and produces a better map as shown in the bottom-right. This is thanks to two factors: 1) CONSISTENT ZOOMOUT is capable of refining maps in both directions simultaneously in a coupled manner; 2) the limit shape formulation exploited by CONSISTENT ZOOMOUT makes the corresponding spectral embeddings of the shapes more comparable – as shown in the bottom-middle, facilitating the point-wise map computation.

We demonstrate more examples in Fig. 3 and Fig. 4, where the initial maps, obtained via a set of sparse landmarks, are shown in the respective top row. Due to the large geometric difference between the target shapes and the source shape, ZOOMOUT produces noisy maps with evident discontinuities, while the results of CONSISTENT ZOOMOUT are consistently more accurate and smoother.

### 6. Results

In this section, we first describe different baseline methods and the datasets that we used for comparison. We then provide multiple quantitative and qualitative results in Section 6.1 and 6.2. In the end, we analyze and discuss the results in Section 6.3.

**Baselines.** In our experiments, we compare our method to different baselines, which can be categorized into two groups 1) computing maps in a collection of shapes, or 2) computing pairwise maps.

- **Collection:** we mainly compare to the following two methods that synchronize maps in a collection of shapes.
  - Functional-Map Network (FN) [HWG14]: is a state-of-the-art map synchronization framework that employs low-rank matrix recovery with the functional map representation.
  - ICSM [NBCW*11]: as briefly introduced in Section 5.3, ICSM is an approach based on consistency voting that refines a network of maps by replacing inconsistent maps with compositions of more consistent ones. We implement the version adapted to functional map framework as in [OBCS*12].

- **Pairwise:** we also show some comparison to the pairwise map refinement techniques including:
  - Iterative Closet Point (ICP) [OBCS*12]: this is the standard ICP registration applied in the spectral domain for map refinement.
  - Product Manifold Filter (PMF) [VLR*17] solves for a map based on a series of linear assignment formulations.
  - Reversible Harmonic Maps (RHM) [ESBC19] proposes a bidirectional geodesic Dirichlet energy to regularize the maps.
Figure 5: Accuracy evaluation of our method and baselines on 7 categories of the SHREC’07 dataset. We compare our result and that of FN [HWG14] and ICSM [NBCW’11]. The curves read the fraction (y-axis) of computed correspondences that fall within certain (normalized) geodesic distance to the ground-truth ones (x-axis). The numbers in the legends show the average error. Our method achieves the best results in all the categories and overall at least 26.2% improvement over the baselines.

- **BCICP** [RPWO18] uses some heuristics to improve the smoothness, bijectivity, and coverage of the maps.
- **ZOOMOUT** [MRR’19] applies an upsampling strategy in the spectral domain to refine the maps. This is the current state-of-the-art method in near-isometric shape matching.

**Datasets.** We use the following datasets from various sources to evaluate our method.

- **SHREC’07:** this dataset consists of 20 categories of shapes including humans, animals, and man-made objects. Each category has 20 shapes in different triangulation. Each shape within the same category has a sparse set of landmarks for accuracy evaluation. For each tested category, we evaluated all the pairwise maps.
- **Remeshed FAUST & SCAPE:** The FAUST [BRLB14] and the SCAPE [ASK’05] dataset consist of multiple human shapes that are near-isometric to each other with the same triangulation, which makes it easy to overfit for some refinement methods. Therefore, in our setting, we remeshed those human shapes independently such that different shapes have different triangulation and different number of vertices. For both datasets, we compare different methods on more than 100 shape pairs.
- **SHREC’19:** this dataset collected 44 different human shapes from 11 independent datasets with very different connectivity and mesh resolution. Each shape is aligned to the SMPL model [LMR’15] and thus dense ground-truth correspondences are given for accuracy evaluation. We tested on 430 shape pairs as in [MMR’19].

**Metrics.** In our tests, we mainly measure the accuracy w.r.t. the given ground-truth, the consistency error, and the runtime of the computed maps from different baselines.

- **Accuracy:** we measure the geodesic distance from the mapped vertex to the given ground-truth as the accuracy evaluation.
- **Bijectivity/Consistency:** with the computed maps $T_i$, from shape $S_i$ to shape $S_j$, we take the compound map $T_{ij} = T_j \circ T_i$ as a map from $S_i$ to itself. We then measure the Euclidean distance between this compound map to the identity map as the consistency or bijectivity error.
- **Runtime:** we also evaluate the average runtime per shape pair for different baselines.

**Initialization & Parameters.** As our method is one of map synchronization, it requires a set of approximate initial maps as input. We provide the details on the exact procedure for initialization along with all of the parameters used in our implementation in Appendix D. We will release a complete implementation of our method upon acceptance.

6.1. Synchronizing Heterogeneous Shape Collections

We first apply our algorithm, **CONSISTENT ZOOMOUT**, on heterogeneous shape collections. In particular, we consider the SHREC’07 dataset and mainly compare to the shape collection matching methods including FN and ICSM. We tested on 7 categories of SHREC’07 including Armadillo, FourLeg, Teddy, Hand, Cup, Human, and Airplane. The cumulative matching error per category is reported in Fig. 5 where in the legend we report the average
error across 380 shape pairs for each category and each method. We also include a summary of all the tested categories in Fig. 5.

Specifically, we achieved 26.2% improvement in matching accuracy w.r.t. the best baseline averaged over 7 categories. In Fig. 6 we show a qualitative comparison of the Cup category. We can see that even though the accuracy curve in Fig. 5 does not reveal a significant improvement of our method over the other two methods, our results are actually more accurate, smoother, and more consistent. Finally, regarding runtime, our method on average takes 0.59s per map in the refinement, while FN takes 0.50s and ICSM takes 0.79s on average. The statistics are collected over 7 categories, including 2433 maps.

Remark that we also achieved 84.3% improvement in map consistency w.r.t. the best baseline. We refer readers to Appendix E for more detailed results, as well as some qualitative comparison on map consistency.

6.2. Synchronizing Near-isometric Shape Collections

In this part, we test our CONSISTENT ZOOMOUT-iso for synchronizing near-isometric shape collections including SCAPE, FAUST and SHREC’19. Besides the baselines used in Section 6.1, we introduce three more: our CONSISTENT ZOOMOUT and two hybrid baselines, which apply ZOOMOUT refinement on top of the maps synchronized by FN and by ICSM.

We report the results on the three different datasets in Table 1, and in Fig. 7 we demonstrate a qualitative comparison on map consistency. Overall, we conclude that:

- Our CONSISTENT ZOOMOUT-iso achieves the best accuracy across all tests, and the best consistency in two out of three.
- As shown in the initialization row of Table 1, the initialization quality of FAUST (sparse) test is relatively lower than the other two. In this case, we can see that most of the pairwise refinement baselines struggle to produce good results, except for BCICP. On the other hand, by leveraging the consistency regularization across the whole collection, CONSISTENT ZOOMOUT achieves already slightly better result than BCICP, while being about 500× faster.
- Moreover, our CONSISTENT ZOOMOUT-iso improves the performance upon CONSISTENT ZOOMOUT by 16%, which suggests the effectiveness of our specified formulation for near-isometric collections.
- We observe that our method outperforms the baselines for collection synchronization, FN, ICSM, by a large margin across all tests. That is still true even after their outputs are further refined by ZOOMOUT.
- Unlike BCICP, PMF, our method does not enforce the point-wise map consistency explicitly, while achieving better or comparable performance in the bijectivity evaluation. It is also worth noting that our method indeed promotes global consistency among shape collections, instead of merely in map bijectivity.

6.3. Discussion and Analysis

- Our results highlight that conducting map refinement in the context of shape collections is beneficial. This is especially true when the input maps are noisy (e.g., the test on FAUST in Section 6.2), or the shapes undergo significant deformations (see, e.g., Fig. 1).
- Similar to our method, the two baselines on map synchronization are both designed to promote the cycle-consistency of functional maps among shape collections. As mentioned in Section 4, the strength of our method comes mainly from the fact that 1) we take a multi-scale approach, while the baselines process the functional maps at a fixed scale all the time; 2) the baselines promote only the consistency of functional maps, which not necessarily corresponds to high-quality point-wise maps. On the other hand, our method relates to both map representations, leading to much more accurate and consistent results.
- It is worth noting, however, our method will be affected if the...
Table 1: Near-isometric Datasets Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Methods/Metrics</th>
<th>SCAPE (dense)</th>
<th>FAUST (sparse)</th>
<th>SHREC'19</th>
<th>Runtime (s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Acc. ($\times 10^{-5}$)</td>
<td>Bij. ($\times 10^{-5}$)</td>
<td>Acc. ($\times 10^{-5}$)</td>
<td>Bij. ($\times 10^{-5}$)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Initialization</td>
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<td>35.3</td>
<td>99.2</td>
<td>108.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICP</td>
<td>32.6</td>
<td>20.5</td>
<td>58.6</td>
<td>50.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RHM</td>
<td>33.6</td>
<td>13.7</td>
<td>56.4</td>
<td>25.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PMF (1k)</td>
<td>98.0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>101.5</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BCICP (5k)</td>
<td>27.9</td>
<td>8.8</td>
<td>34.0</td>
<td>8.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ZOOMOUT</td>
<td>27.0</td>
<td>13.8</td>
<td>45.9</td>
<td>36.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FN</td>
<td>38.1</td>
<td>33.4</td>
<td>114.5</td>
<td>122.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICSM</td>
<td>33.4</td>
<td>21.2</td>
<td>71.2</td>
<td>70.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FN + ZOOMOUT</td>
<td>27.2</td>
<td>18.9</td>
<td>36.5</td>
<td>28.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICSM + ZOOMOUT</td>
<td>27.2</td>
<td>19.2</td>
<td>45.9</td>
<td>38.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ours</td>
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<td>6.6</td>
<td>33.4</td>
<td>8.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ours-iso</td>
<td>22.5</td>
<td>5.3</td>
<td>28.0</td>
<td>6.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure 7: We demonstrate the bijectivity of the resulting maps from various baselines and our method. In the top row, we compare the texture transferred from $S_1$ to itself via the map composition going through $S_2$ in the second row, i.e. $T_{S_1} \circ T_{S_2}$ (and similarly for $S_2$ in the bottom row). Under perfect bijectivity, the map composition should be an identity map. It is then evident that our method significantly outperforms the collection map refinement baselines and even achieves comparable results with the frameworks aiming to optimize for bijectivity in the pairwise setting. Compared to them, our method is far more efficient (see Table 1) and without any specific pairwise refinement.

given initial maps are heavily inaccurate and inconsistent, especially in the presence of symmetries. Fig. 8 shows some qualitative results of the Teddy class from SHREC’07 dataset (see the quantitative result in Fig. 5). When the initial maps are partially symmetrical or even wrong, our method fails to correct all maps but instead returned twisted maps. We also refer readers to Appendix F for the results of the more challenging Ants class.

7. Conclusion and limitations

In this paper, we proposed an efficient map synchronization method, CONSISTENT ZOOMOUT. Our method is based on a multi-scale functional map consistency energy and results in a simple iterative upsampling scheme in practice. Our method results in high-accuracy maps, compared to various often sophisticated baselines in different settings, but also significantly improves the map consistency, without any additional post-processing.
Figure 8: Qualitative results of the Teddy shapes from the SHREC’07 dataset, where the corresponding quantitative evaluations are shown in Fig. 5. In this example, the initial BIM maps are not accurate enough. For example, some shapes are mapped from left to right, back to front, or even foot to head. Starting from this challenging initialization, our method returns twisted maps, where the bodies are correctly mapped but the legs are consistently mapped from left to right. On the other hand, the results of the baseline methods are less consistent (see, for example, how the ears are mapped in ICSM) than ours, while either being noisy (FN) or suffering from multiple symmetries (ICSM).

Figure 9: CONSISTENT ZOOMOUT can utilize the collection information to refine the initial maps with large outliers. In this example, the initial maps computed on the armadillo pairs involve left-to-right ambiguity, partial shape distortions, and large errors. Our method can avoid these errors by enforcing the circle consistency and produce high-quality refined maps.

Our method still possesses a few limitations. First, as mentioned in Section 6.3, our method’s performance depends on the quality of the initial maps. Also, since the canonical consistent latent basis formulation assumes implicitly that bijective maps exist across the shape collection, our method cannot provide theoretical guarantees on processing collections of partial shapes (though, interestingly, as shown in Fig. 9, our method works well with armadillos having missing parts). In the future, we also plan on improving scalability by better exploiting its potential for parallelization.

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References


Appendix A: Proof of Theorem 4.1

Proof We let $\Pi_{ij}, \Pi_j$ be respectively the point-wise maps corresponding to $C_{ij}, C_j$.

First, if $E_{\text{col}-\text{iso}}(\hat{g}) = 0$, then $\forall (i, j) \in \mathcal{E}, E_{\text{FZM}}(C_{ij}) = 0$ and $E_{\text{FZM}}(C_j) = 0$. Following Theorem 4.1 of [MRR’19], $\Pi_{ij}, \Pi_j$ are isometries between $S_i, S_j$. Regarding the consistency argument, in the complete cotangent Laplacian basis, we have

$$I = C_{ij}, i, j, C_{i-1,j}, \ldots, C_{i, j-1} = \Pi_{ij} C_{ij} \Pi_{ij}^{-1}, \ldots, \Pi_{ij} C_{ij},$$

for any cycle $\{i_1, i_2, \ldots, i_p\} \in \mathcal{G}$, which proves that $E_{\text{col}-\text{iso}}(\hat{g})$ implies cycle consistency as well.

Now we prove the converse, if $\Pi_{ij}, \Pi_j$ are isometries and $\Pi_{ij} C_{ij} \Pi_{ij}^{-1}, \ldots, \Pi_{ij} C_{ij}$ holds for any cycle in $\mathcal{G}$, then $E_{\text{col}-\text{iso}}(\hat{g}) = 0$.

Again, according to Theorem 4.1 of [MRR’19], since $\Pi_{ij}, \Pi_j$ are isometries, then

$$\sum_{(i, j) \in \mathcal{E}} E_{\text{FZM}}(C_{ij}) + E_{\text{FZM}}(C_j) = 0. \quad (7)$$

Now we prove the consistency terms also vanish. Following Theorem 4.1 of [MRR’19], $C_{ij}^p, C_j^p$ are both diagonal and orthonormal matrices, which implies that the non-zero entries of them are either 1 or −1. On top of that, by the definition of functional maps (Eq. (1)), we have

$$\Pi_{ij} C_{ij}^p = C_j^p \Pi_{ij}. \quad (8)$$

Without loss of generality, we assume that $\{1, 2, 3\}$ forms a cycle
in \( \mathcal{G} \), then according to Eq. (8):

\[
\Phi_i^k C_{2i} C_{3i} C_{1i} = \Pi_{12} \Phi_i^k C_{2i} C_{3i}
\]

\[
= \Pi_{12} \Pi_{12} \Phi_i^k C_{1i} = \Pi_{12} \Pi_{12} \Phi_i^k C_{1i} = \Phi_i^k
\]

which implies that \( C_{2i} C_{3i} C_{1i} = I_k \), and similarly we can prove all the cycle-consistency terms vanish, i.e., \( E_{col-isomorphic}(\mathcal{G}) = 0 \).

**Appendix B: Proof of Theorem 5.1**

**Proof** We prove the follow equality:

\[
\|\Pi_{ij} \Phi_i^k Y_i - \Phi_j^k Y_j\|^2 \leq \|C_{2i} C_{3j} - I\|^2 + \|(I - \Phi_j^k \Phi_i^k) (\Pi_{ij} \Phi_i Y_i - \Phi_j Y_j)\|^2
\]

(9)

where \( A \) is the mass matrix of \( S_i \).

According to the constraints and Eq. (1), we have:

\[
\|C_{2i} C_{3j} - I\|^2 + \|(I - \Phi_j^k \Phi_i^k) (\Pi_{ij} \Phi_i Y_i - \Phi_j Y_j)\|^2
\]

(10)

(1) We first prove that

\[
\|\Phi_j^k\|^2 \Pi_{ij} \Phi_i^k Y_i (Y_j^T)^T - I\|^2 = \|\Phi_j^k\|^2 \Pi_{ij} \Phi_i^k Y_i - Y_j^T\|^2
\]

According to the constraint, \( C_{ij} = (C_{ji})^T \), then according to the construction of the CLB, we have

\[
Y_j Y_i = (Y_i Y_j)^T
\]

\[
\Rightarrow Y_j Y_i = (Y_i Y_j)^T Y_i^T
\]

(11)

Note that Eq. (11) holds for any \( i, j \), and that \( \sum Y_i Y_i = nI \) by the construction of CCLB, one can conclude that \( Y_j Y_i = I, i = 1, \ldots, n \), which implies Eq. (10).

(2) Once Eq. (10) is proven, we borrow the following equation proven in [MRR*19]:

\[
\|X\|^2 = \|B^T X\|^2 + \|(I - BB^T) X\|^2
\]

where \( B^T A = I \), i.e., \( B^T = B^{-1} A \). We then let \( X = \Pi_{ij} \Phi_i^k Y_i - \Phi_j^k Y_j \) and \( B = \Phi_j^k \), finishing the proof.

**Appendix C: Computing CCLB**

We give a brief overview of the details for computing CCLB, which is used in step 3 of Alg. 1. Given an FMN \( \mathcal{G} \) and the corresponding weight matrix \( \omega \) computed via the consistency voting [NBCW*11], we follow the formulation of [WHG13] and construct the following block-wise matrix \( W \) of size \( nk \times nk \):

\[
W_{i,j} = \begin{cases} 
\sum_{(i,j) \in G} \omega_{ij} (I + C_{ij} C_{ji}) & \text{if } i = j, \\
- \omega_{ij} C_{ij} + \omega_j C_{ij} & \text{otherwise.}
\end{cases}
\]

(12)

We then perform an eigen-decomposition on \( W \) to compute the smallest \( k \) eigenvectors and stack them into a \( nk \times k \) matrix \( Y \). Letting \( Y = [Y_1; Y_2; \ldots; Y_n] \), as proven in [WHG13], this is the optimal solution for Eq. (6).

Now, in order to obtain the CCLB formulated in [HAG019], we let \( E = \sum Y_i^T \Lambda_i \) and do eigen-decomposition on \( E \), yielding \( EU = UA \). Finally, the CCLB is obtained by letting \( \tilde{Y} = YU \). Note that, for simplicity, we denote by \( Y_i \) the CCLB in our main paper directly.

**Appendix D: Initialization & Parameters**

**Initialization.**

In our tests, we used the same initialization for different baseline methods.

- **SHREC’07**: for the tests involving this dataset, we always use the maps computed using BIM [KLF11] as initialization.
- **SCAPE (dense)**: we pick 18 shapes from this dataset, and use a learning-based framework, SURFMNet [RS019], to compute the densely pairwise maps as initialization.
- **FAUST (sparse)**: we use the provided maps in [RPWO18], which contains 300 pairs of maps among the whole 100 shapes.
- **SHREC’19**: we use the provided maps in [MMR*19] as initialization, which are computed from 5 given landmarks.

**Parameters.** Throughout all the experiments, we use the same set of parameters except for the way of augmenting dimension of functional maps: For computing the canonical consistent latent basis, we consistently use the first \( \{0.9k\} \) canonical consistent latent basis, where \( k \) is the dimension of functional maps at current iteration. We use Euclidean farthest point sampling starting from a random seed point, and always sample 1000 vertices from each shape in the collection through all experiments. The intermediate refinement iterations are maintained only among the sampled points, and dense point-wise maps are only computed at the output stage.

In Section 6.1, we augment the dimension of functional maps from 30 \times 30 to 80 \times 80 with step size of 2, while in Section 6.2, we augment from 20 \times 20 to 100 \times 100 with step size of 5.

**Appendix E: Consistency Evaluation of Results on SHREC’07**

We plot in Fig. 10 the accumulative consistency error curves for each of the 7 categories we evaluated. It is evident that the bijectivity of our results outperform that of the baselines by a large margin.

Beyond the quantitative evaluation above, we also select the category of Hands and compare the cycle-consistency of the maps from different methods qualitatively in Fig. 12. Specifically, for a shape collection \( \{S_i\} \) with the computed maps \( T_{k-1,k} \) from \( S_k \) to \( S_k \), we compute the compound map \( T_{11}^{(k)} \) in a circle of \( k \) shapes by \( T_{11}^{(k)} = T_{1k} \circ T_{k-1,k} \circ \ldots \circ T_{23} \circ T_{12} \), which is a map from \( S_1 \) to itself (see the top-left for an example). Then we visualize the maps \( T_{11}^{(k)} \) with different \( k \), ranging from 2 shapes to 20 shapes (the whole shape collection), we compare the cycle consistency of the our maps to those obtained from other baselines. We can see that,
even though the input maps are highly inconsistent, our method can achieve consistent maps in a shape collection. As a comparison, even though the baseline methods FN and ICSM use circle consistency to regularize the map quality, the final maps are not in a consistent manner. Moreover, when compare to the pair-wise refinement baseline ZOOMOUT, we can see that when the initial maps are inaccurate and inconsistent, the pair-wise refinement method can barely work, while the collection-based refinement method can still work.

Appendix F: Failure Case due to Symmetry

Fig. 11 shows some example ant pairs, where we can see that the initial maps have mixed symmetries and wrong matches between the legs and the antennas. In this case, our method can produce more accurate maps. However, the symmetry is not fully corrected.
Figure 12: Qualitative comparison of cycle-consistency of various map syntionization/refinement results (see text for details).