



### Motivation: Interactive Mixed Reality

- Photorealistic rendering
- Fast rendering
- Dynamic (4D)
- 4D reconstruction from **monocular** video
- Online 4D reconstruction



(https://www.ikea.com/global/en/newsroom/innovation/ikea-launches-ikea-place-a-new-app-that-allows-people-to-virtually-place-furniture-in-their-home-170912/)



(https://pokemongolive.com/de/)



# 3D Gaussian Splatting [Kerbl 2023]

- √ Photorealistic rendering
- √ Fast rendering
- X Dynamic (4D)
- **X** 4D reconstruction from **monocular** video
- **X** Online 4D reconstruction



(https://repo-sam.inria.fr/fungraph/3d-gaussian-splatting/)

## Dynamic 3D Gaussians [Luiten 2024]

- √ Photorealistic rendering
- √ Fast rendering
- ✓ **Dynamic** (4D)
- **X** 4D reconstruction from **monocular** video
- ✓ Online 4D reconstruction

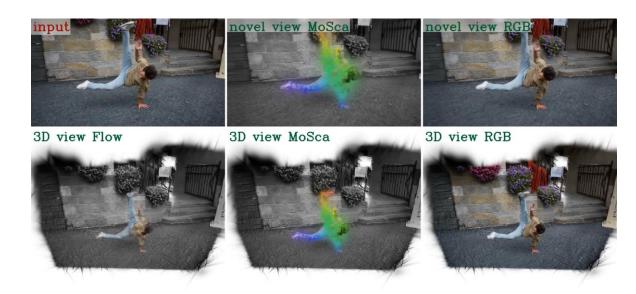


(https://dynamic3dgaussians.github.io/)



## MoSca [Lei 2024]

- √ Photorealistic rendering
- √ Fast rendering
- ✓ **Dynamic** (4D)
- ✓ 4D reconstruction from **monocular** video
- **X** Online 4D reconstruction



(https://www.cis.upenn.edu/~leijh/projects/mosca/)

### Goal: Online Monocular Dynamic Gaussian Splatting

- ✓ Photorealistic rendering
- √ Fast rendering
- ✓ **Dynamic** (4D)
- ✓ 4D reconstruction from **monocular** video
- ✓ **Online** 4D reconstruction

How?



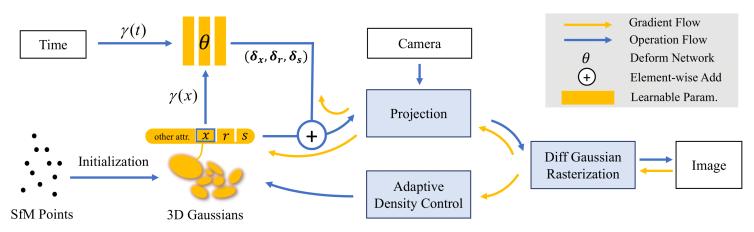
#### Codebase: MonoGS [Matsuki 2024]

- Gaussian-based SLAM system
- Accurate tracking and mapping
- Multi-process structure:
  - Frontend: online camera tracking, keyframe detection
  - Backend: multiview mapping + camera refinement (BA)
- Assumes static scene



(https://rmurai.co.uk/projects/GaussianSplattingSLAM/)

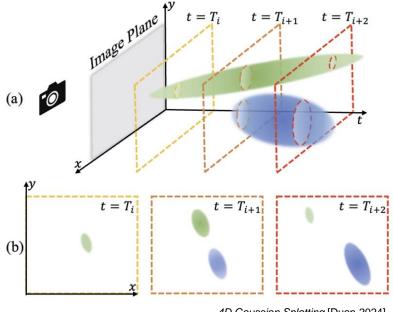
- Option 1: Canonical Space + Deformation Field
  - Gaussians anchored in shared canonical space
  - MLP to encode dense deformation field
  - + Most common
  - + Straightforward to implement
  - Struggles with complex deformations (e.g. Topological changes)
  - Slow optimization
  - Catastrophic forgetting



Deformable 3D Gaussians [Yang 2024] (https://ingra14m.github.io/Deformable-Gaussians/)



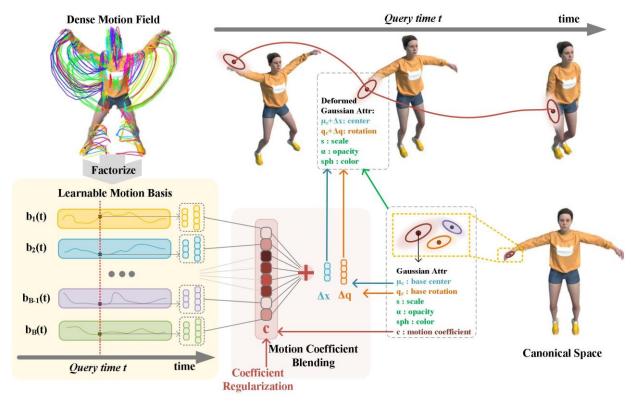
- Option 2: 4D Gaussians
  - Extends 3DGS to a 4th dimension of time
  - Gaussians can appear transiently
  - Straightforward to implement
  - Does not represent dynamic parts of scene with consistent set of Gaussians
    - → Hard to maintain temporal consistency in appearance and geometry



4D Gaussian Splatting [Duan 2024]



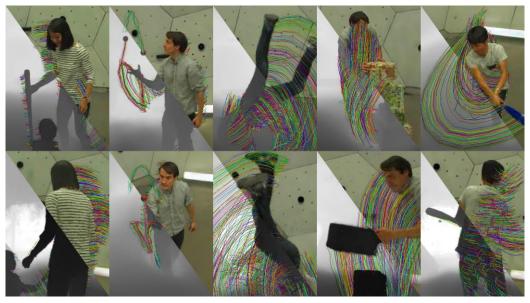
- Option 3: Gaussian Trajectory Decomposition
  - Decomposes each Gaussian's trajectory into combination of fixed or learnable bases
  - + Leverages **low-rank** nature of Gaussian dynamics
  - Compressed representations of Gaussian dynamics → Compromised accuracy



DynMF [Kratimenos 2024] (https://agelosk.github.io/dynmf/)



- Option 4: Direct Gaussian Tracking
  - o Introduced in *Dynamic 3D Gaussians* [Luiten 2024]
  - Optimizes motion of each Gaussian separately
  - + Fast optimization
  - + Uncompressed representation of Gaussian dynamics
  - Requires sufficient multiview coverage
  - We adapt it to monocular setup by introducing various priors to regularize optimization!

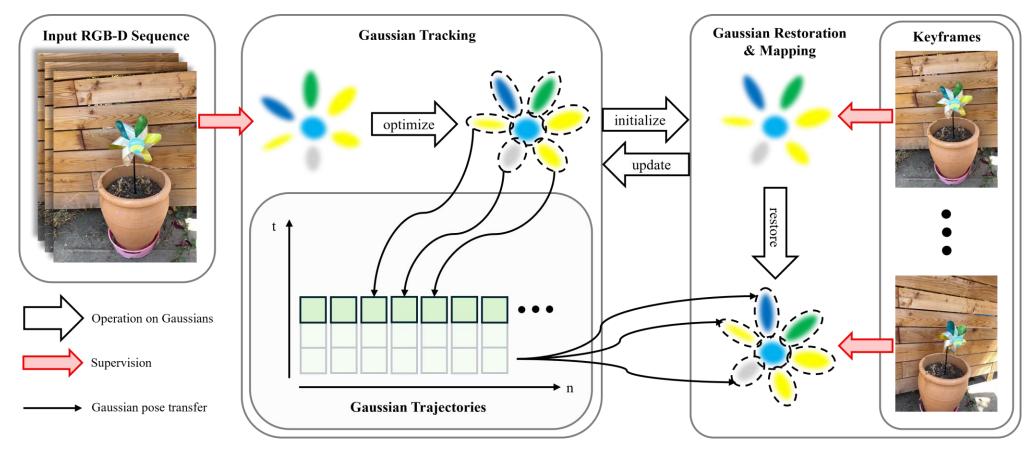


Dynamic 3D Gaussians [Luiten 2024] (https://github.com/JonathonLuiten/Dynamic3DGaussians)



#### **Method Overview**

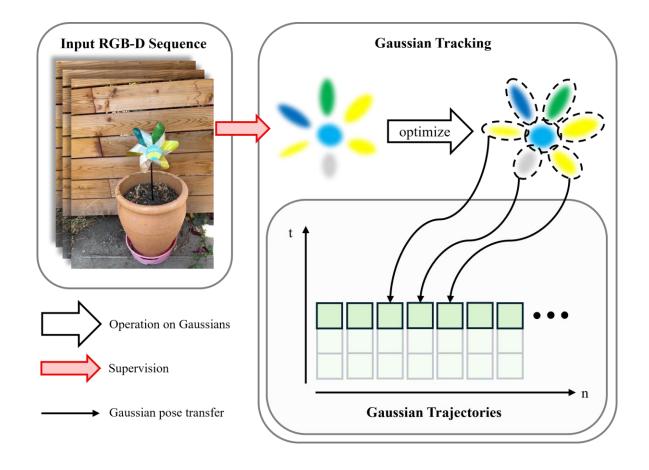
- Assumptions: RGB-D input, known camera poses (applies to all experiments)
- Frontend: Gaussian Tracking using every new-coming frame
- Backend: Gaussian Restoration & Mapping using keyframes





### Gaussian Tracking

- Gaussian pose (center position + orientation) optimized through RGB-D supervision and various regularizations
- Gaussian Trajectories: Record of all Gaussian poses at every frame up to the current one





## Loss Functions: RGB-D supervision

Photometric rerendering loss:

$$\mathcal{L}_{ ext{pho}} = ||I(\mathcal{G}, m{T}) - I_{ ext{obs}}||_1$$

Depth rerendering loss:

$$\mathcal{L}_{ ext{depth}} = \| D(\mathcal{G}, oldsymbol{T}) - D_{ ext{obs}} \|_1$$

• Following MonoGS, with  $\lambda_{pho} = 0.9$ :

$$\mathcal{L}_{RGB-D} = \lambda_{pho} \mathcal{L}_{pho} + (1 - \lambda_{pho}) \mathcal{L}_{depth}$$

### Loss Functions: Optical Flow Prior

- Use optical flow estimated by RAFT [Teed 2020] as pseudo-GT
- Render forward and backward optical flow from Gaussians at frame t-1 and frame t:
  - Contribution of each Gaussian:

$$\hat{f}_{ ext{fwd}}^i = \mathbf{J}_t^i \boldsymbol{\mu}_t^i - \mathbf{J}_{t-1}^i \boldsymbol{\mu}_{t-1}^i$$
 $\hat{f}_{ ext{bwd}}^i = \mathbf{J}_{t-1}^i \boldsymbol{\mu}_{t-1}^i - \mathbf{J}_t^i \boldsymbol{\mu}_t^i$ 

o alpha-blending:

$$\hat{f}_{\text{fwd}}(\boldsymbol{u}) = \sum_{i=1}^{N} \hat{f}_{\text{fwd}}^{i} \alpha_{t-1}^{i}(\boldsymbol{u}) \prod_{j=1}^{i-1} (1 - \alpha_{t-1}^{j}(\boldsymbol{u}))$$

$$\hat{f}_{\text{bwd}}(\boldsymbol{u}) = \sum_{i=1}^{N} \hat{f}_{\text{bwd}}^{i} \alpha_{t}^{i}(\boldsymbol{u}) \prod_{j=1}^{i-1} (1 - \alpha_{t}^{j}(\boldsymbol{u}))$$

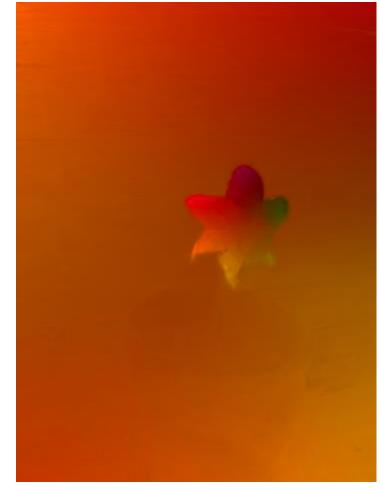


Example of rendered optical flow

## Loss Functions: Optical Flow Prior

- Reused native CUDA-optimized rasterizer for acceleration
- Optical flow loss as L1 error between rendered and RAFTestimated flow:

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{flow}} = \|\hat{f}_{\text{fwd}} - f_{\text{fwd}}\|_{1} + \|\hat{f}_{\text{bwd}} - f_{\text{bwd}}\|_{1}$$



Example of rendered optical flow



We follow *Dynamic 3D Gaussians* [Luiten 2024] to incorporate 3 physically-based priors:

Local-rigidity loss → kNN Gaussians move while following rigid-body transformation:

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{rigid}} = \frac{1}{k|\mathcal{S}|} \sum_{i \in \mathcal{S}} \sum_{j \in \text{knn}_{i;k}} w^{i,j} \left\| (\boldsymbol{\mu}_{t-1}^{j} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{t-1}^{i}) - \mathbf{R}_{t-1}^{i} \mathbf{R}_{t}^{i-1} (\boldsymbol{\mu}_{t}^{j} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{t}^{i}) \right\|_{2}$$

$$w^{i,j} = \exp\left(-\lambda_{w} \left\| \boldsymbol{\mu}_{t-1}^{j} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{t-1}^{i} \right\|_{2}^{2}\right)$$

$$t-1$$

$$k_{i,t-1} \sum_{\mu_{j,t-1}} \mu_{j,t-1} j \left\| t \sum_{\mu_{i,t}} x_{\mu_{j,t}} \mu_{j,t} j \right\|_{2}$$

$$k_{i,t-1} \sum_{\mu_{i,t-1}} \mu_{i,t-1} j \left\| v \right\|_{2} \propto \mathcal{L}_{i,j}^{rigid}$$

Dynamic 3D Gaussians [Luiten 2024]



We follow *Dynamic 3D Gaussians* [Luiten 2024] to incorporate 3 physically-based priors:

Local-rigidity loss → kNN Gaussians move while following rigid-body transformation:

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{rigid}} = \frac{1}{k|\mathcal{S}|} \sum_{i \in \mathcal{S}} \sum_{j \in \text{knn}_{i:k}} w^{i,j} \left\| (\boldsymbol{\mu}_{t-1}^j - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{t-1}^i) - \mathbf{R}_{t-1}^i \mathbf{R}_t^{i-1} (\boldsymbol{\mu}_t^j - \boldsymbol{\mu}_t^i) \right\|_2$$

Local-rotation similarity loss → kNN Gaussians maintain similar rotations:

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{rot}} = \frac{1}{k|\mathcal{S}|} \sum_{i \in \mathcal{S}} \sum_{j \in \text{knn}_{i+k}} w^{i,j} \left\| \boldsymbol{q}_t^j \boldsymbol{q}_{t-1}^{j-1} - \boldsymbol{q}_t^i \boldsymbol{q}_{t-1}^{i-1} \right\|_2$$

We follow *Dynamic 3D Gaussians* [Luiten 2024] to incorporate 3 physically-based priors:

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$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{rot}} = \frac{1}{k|\mathcal{S}|} \sum_{i \in \mathcal{S}} \sum_{j \in \text{knn}_{i:k}} w^{i,j} \left\| \boldsymbol{q}_t^j \boldsymbol{q}_{t-1}^{j-1} - \boldsymbol{q}_t^i \boldsymbol{q}_{t-1}^{i-1} \right\|_2$$

• **Local-isometry loss** → Distances between kNN Gaussians remain consistent:

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{iso}} = \frac{1}{k|\mathcal{S}|} \sum_{i \in \mathcal{S}} \sum_{j \in \text{knn}_{i:t}} w^{i,j} \left| \left\| \boldsymbol{\mu}_{t-1}^{j} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{t-1}^{i} \right\|_{2} - \left\| \boldsymbol{\mu}_{t}^{j} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{t}^{i} \right\|_{2} \right|$$

We follow *Dynamic 3D Gaussians* [Luiten 2024] to incorporate 3 physically-based priors:

Local-rigidity loss → kNN Gaussians move while following rigid-body transformation:

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{rigid}} = \frac{1}{k|\mathcal{S}|} \sum_{i \in \mathcal{S}} \sum_{j \in \text{knn}_{i:k}} w^{i,j} \left\| (\boldsymbol{\mu}_{t-1}^j - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{t-1}^i) - \mathbf{R}_{t-1}^i \mathbf{R}_t^{i-1} (\boldsymbol{\mu}_t^j - \boldsymbol{\mu}_t^i) \right\|_2$$

Local-rotation similarity loss → kNN Gaussians maintain similar rotations:

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{rot}} = \frac{1}{k|\mathcal{S}|} \sum_{i \in \mathcal{S}} \sum_{j \in \text{knn}_{i;k}} w^{i,j} \left\| \boldsymbol{q}_t^j \boldsymbol{q}_{t-1}^{j-1} - \boldsymbol{q}_t^i \boldsymbol{q}_{t-1}^{i-1} \right\|_2$$

Local-isometry loss → Distances between kNN Gaussians remain consistent:

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{iso}} = \frac{1}{k|\mathcal{S}|} \sum_{i \in \mathcal{S}} \sum_{j \in \text{knn}_{i:k}} w^{i,j} \left| \left\| \boldsymbol{\mu}_{t-1}^{j} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{t-1}^{i} \right\|_{2} - \left\| \boldsymbol{\mu}_{t}^{j} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{t}^{i} \right\|_{2} \right|$$

Total physically-based loss:

$$\mathcal{L}_{phys} = \lambda_{rigid} \mathcal{L}_{rigid} + \lambda_{rot} \mathcal{L}_{rot} + \lambda_{iso} \mathcal{L}_{iso}$$

### Loss Functions: Motion Sparsity Regularization

L1 regularization on all Gaussian motions to enforce sparsity (i.e. Most Gaussians stay static)

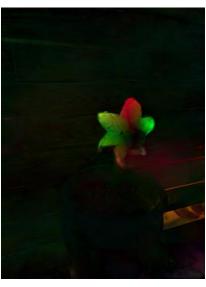
$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{sparse}} = \|\Delta \tilde{\boldsymbol{p}}_t\|_1, \ \Delta \tilde{\boldsymbol{p}}_t = [\Delta \tilde{\boldsymbol{p}}_t^1, \Delta \tilde{\boldsymbol{p}}_t^2, \dots, \Delta \tilde{\boldsymbol{p}}_t^{|\mathcal{G}|}]$$

$$\Delta \tilde{\boldsymbol{p}}_t^i = \begin{bmatrix} \Delta \boldsymbol{\mu}_t^i \\ \lambda_{\boldsymbol{q}} \Delta \boldsymbol{q}_t^i \end{bmatrix}, \\ \underbrace{\Delta \boldsymbol{\mu}_t^i}_{\text{Positional change}}, \\ \underbrace{\boldsymbol{\mu}_t^i - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{t-1}^i, \Delta \boldsymbol{q}_t^i}_{\text{Positional change}} = \boldsymbol{q}_t^i - \boldsymbol{q}_{t-1}^i$$

**Concatenation** → **unified sparsity pattern** for both positional and rotational changes



Rendered image



Positional changes



Rotational changes

## Loss Functions: Motion TV Regularization

2D total variation (TV) regularization on rasterized Gaussian translational motions

- → Piecewise constant motion fields
- Rasterize Gaussian translational motions into 2D via alpha-blending (native CUDA rasterizer):

$$\Delta \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\text{2D}}(\boldsymbol{u}) = \sum_{i=1}^{N} \Delta \boldsymbol{\mu}_{t}^{i} \alpha_{t-1}^{i}(\boldsymbol{u}) \prod_{j=1}^{i-1} (1 - \alpha_{t-1}^{j}(\boldsymbol{u}))$$

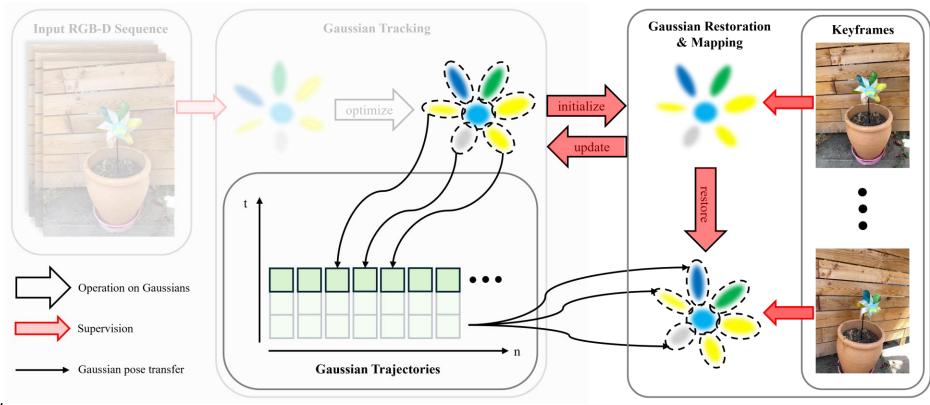
2D TV regularization term given as:

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{TV}} = \sum_{u,v} \left| \frac{\partial \Delta \mu_{\text{2D}}(u)}{\partial u} \right| + \left| \frac{\partial \Delta \mu_{\text{2D}}(u)}{\partial v} \right|$$

#### Gaussian Restoration & Mapping

Following MonoGS, every time frontend detects a new keyframe, it requests a keyframe update:

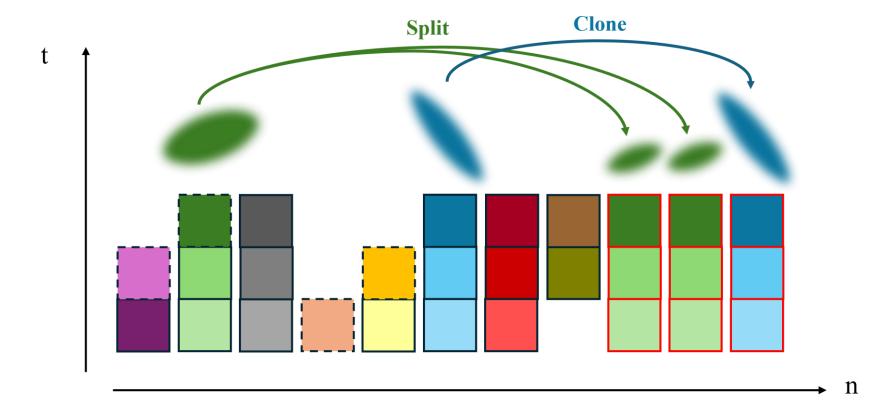
- 1. Frontend sends latest Gaussian attributes & Gaussian trajectories at selected keyframes to backend
- 2. Backend restores Gaussian poses at past keyframes based on latest Gaussians
- 3. Backend performs motion-aware multiview mapping
- 4. Backend updates frontend with refined Gaussian attributes & trajectories





#### Gaussian Trajectory Inheritance

- During Gaussian restoration, temporal correspondences can be missing because of densification (splitting / cloning)
- To resolve this, we let "child" Gaussians inherit trajectories of their "parents"
- Enables restoration of any past frame without loss of density





## Motion-Aware Multiview Mapping

- Restored Gaussians share all attributes except for position & orientation with latest Gaussians
  - → Temporal consistency of Gaussian appearance
- Similarly to MonoGS, we introduce **isotropic regularization** to prevent overly elongated Gaussians:

$$\mathcal{L}_{ ext{iso}} = \sum_{i=1}^{|\mathcal{G}|} \left\| oldsymbol{s}^i - ar{oldsymbol{s}}^i \cdot oldsymbol{1} 
ight\|_1$$

Overall mapping process can be formulated as:

$$\min_{\substack{oldsymbol{T}_{k}, oldsymbol{p}_{k}, oldsymbol{\mathcal{G}},\ orall k \in \mathcal{W}}} \sum_{k \in \mathcal{W}} \mathcal{L}_{ ext{RGB-D}}^{k} + \lambda_{ ext{iso}} \mathcal{L}_{ ext{iso}}$$

#### Experiments: Dynamic Replica

- Dynamic Replica [Karaev 2023] is a synthetic indoor scene dataset with moving humans or animals
- Selected 5 scenes with significant motions
- Used modalities: RGB (left), depth, optical flow



(https://dynamic-stereo.github.io/)

## Dynamic Replica: Qualitative Evaluation

Our method tracks motion / deformation better













GT MonoGS (w/ GT camera poses)

MonoDy-GS (ours)

#### Dynamic Replica: Quantitative Evaluation

- Metrics: PSNR, SSIM, LPIPS, evaluated online every fifth frame of training images, averaged across sequence
- MonoDy-GS achieves superior rendering quality over MonoGS for all scenes

Method	Metric	3c30ce	<b>7bf8c1</b>	216ba3	75643c	b907d5	Avg.
MonoGS [5]	PSNR [dB]↑	19.85	22.95	21.78	21.97	17.06	20.72
	SSIM ↑	0.822	0.858	0.876	0.901	0.728	0.837
	$LPIPS \downarrow$	0.268	0.222	0.207	0.181	0.345	0.245
Ours	PSNR [dB]↑	22.43	27.96	23.55	24.50	19.83	23.66
	SSIM ↑	0.850	0.927	0.900	0.916	0.804	0.879
	LPIPS ↓	0.222	0.114	0.148	0.155	0.269	0.182



## Experiments: TUM RGB-D (Dynamic Scenes)

- TUM RGB-D [Sturm 2012] is a **real-world** dataset involving motion blur
- Selected 2 sequences with **moving people**: sitting\_halfsphere & walking\_halfsphere
- Used modalities: RGB, depth

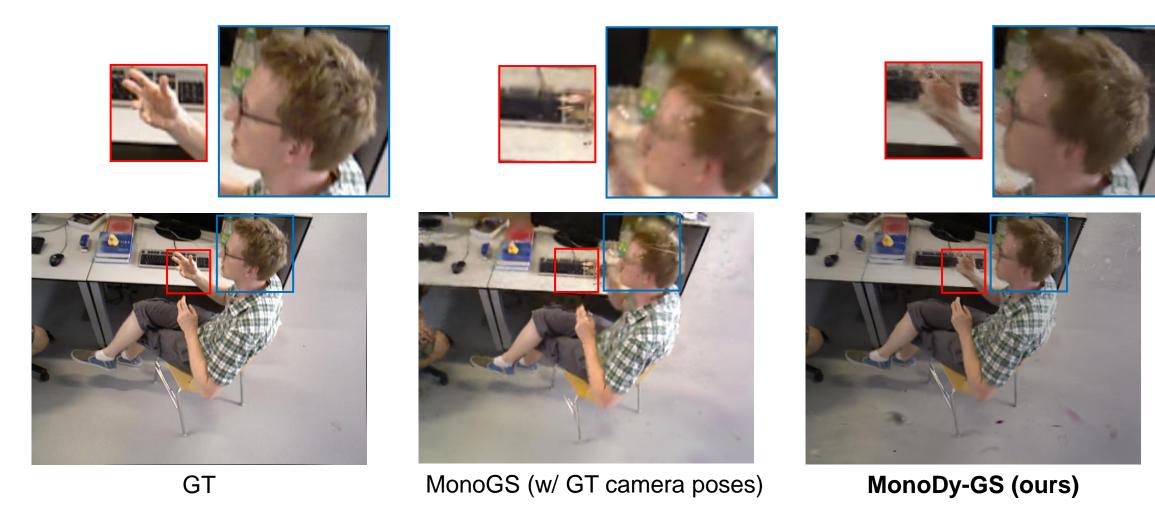


Example image from sitting\_halfsphere



#### TUM RGB-D: Qualitative Evaluation

Our method tracks the hand & head motion better and retains finer details



#### TUM RGB-D: Quantitative Evaluation

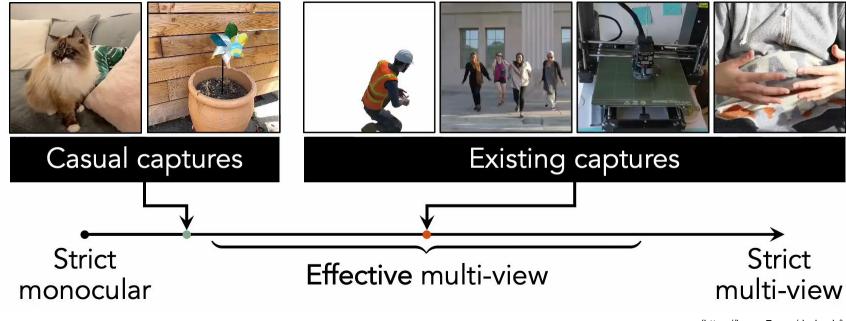
- Metrics: PSNR, SSIM, LPIPS, evaluated online every fifth frame of training images, averaged across sequence
- MonoDy-GS achieves superior rendering quality over MonoGS for both scenes

Method	Metric	$sitting\_halfsphere$	walking_halfsphere	Avg.
MonoGS [5]	PSNR [dB]↑	14.10	12.72	13.41
	SSIM ↑	0.481	0.417	0.449
	$LPIPS \downarrow$	0.528	0.558	0.543
	PSNR [dB]↑	19.70	14.92	17.31
Ours	SSIM ↑	0.680	0.496	0.588
	LPIPS ↓	0.350	0.497	0.423



#### Experiments: Dycheck iPhone

- Dycheck iPhone [Gao 2022] is a real-world dataset emulating casual captures using an iPhone
- Challenging: Fast scene motion relative to camera motion ( $\bar{v}_{\rm camera} \approx 0.2 \bar{v}_{\rm scene}$ )
  - → minimal multiview cues for dynamic parts
- Provides validation videos captured from fixed viewpoints → Novel View Synthesis quality evaluation
- Selected 5 scenes with smaller drifts in GT camera poses
- Used modalities: RGB, depth





# Dycheck iPhone: Qualitative Evaluation (NVS)

Both MonoGS & MonoDy-GS fail to follow the fast motion of the person





GT

MonoGS (w/ GT camera poses)

MonoDy-GS (ours)



## Dycheck iPhone: Quantitative Evaluation (NVS)

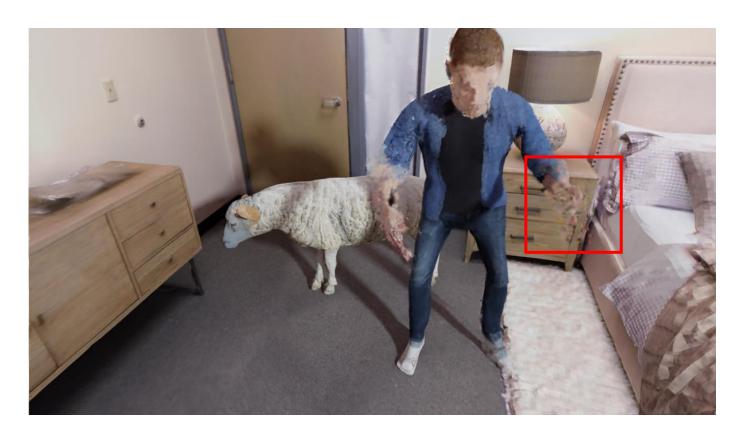
- NVS from fixed viewpoints
- Metrics: mPSNR, mLPIPS (averaged over covisible areas)
- Evaluated only **once per scene** after processing the entire sequence to maximize multiview coverage
- Our method is only almost on par with, or even slightly worse on average than MonoGS
- MonoDy-GS is still incapable of capturing faster scene motion relative to the camera motion because
  of the lack of effective multiview cues

Method	Metric	apple	block	paper-windmill	space-out	spin	Avg.
MonoGS [5]	mPSNR [dB]↑	22.61	14.91	14.63	14.90	16.81	16.77
	mLPIPS $\downarrow$	0.378	0.435	0.350	0.402	0.277	0.368
Ours	mPSNR [dB] ↑	23.09	13.83	14.51	15.42	13.81	16.13
	mLPIPS $\downarrow$	0.370	0.463	0.345	0.385	0.384	0.389



## Limitations: Poor Spatial and Temporal Motion Consistency

- Fast motions often lead to "torn-up" effect
- Gaussian tracking from monocular input severely underconstrained
- Potential solution: Low-parametric representations





#### Limitations: Poor Geometry

- Geometry often overfit to recent training views
  - → Even with perfect motion consistency, rendering quality can still suffer from viewpoint sensitivity
- Potential solution: Surface normal priors to better constrain geometry



GT



MonoDy-GS novel-view rendering

#### **Future Work**

- Explore low-parametric representations of Gaussians to better organize & constrain Gaussian motions
- Adapt to **pure monocular** setup using off-the-shelf depth estimators
- Make use of surface normals for better geometry
- Try robust visual features such as DINOv2 [Oquab 2023]



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### **ETH** zürich

