

Hyperspherical Embedding for Point Cloud Completion

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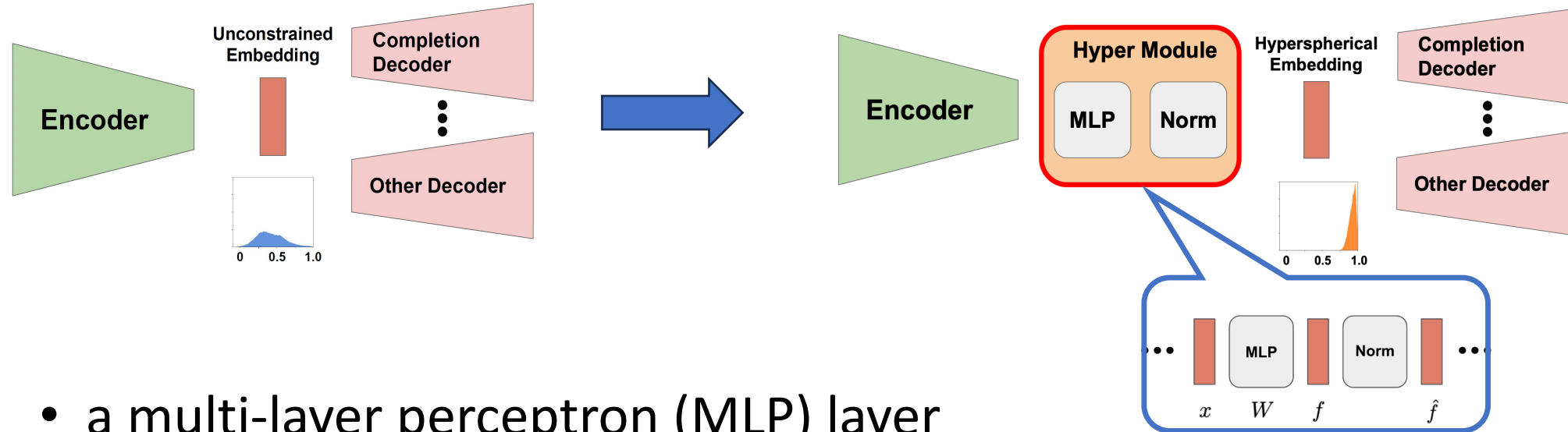
Quick View - Motivation

- Traditional Encoder-Decoder architecture for point cloud completion (*e.g.*, *FoldingNet* [Yang et al. 2018], *PCN* [Wang et al. 2018], *TopNet* [Tchapmi et al. 2019], *SnowflakeNet* [Xiang et al. 2021]) learns sparse embedding distribution, which leads to worse generalization results during testing.
- Different embedding distributions lead to optimization conflicts between point cloud completion and other semantic tasks.

Quick View – Our Solution

- ✓ Propose a **hyperspherical module**, which could be inserted into any existing Encoder-Decoder architecture for point cloud completion.
- ✓ Theoretically analyze the effects of hyperspherical embedding and empirically conduct experiments on several state-of-the-art baselines and datasets.
- ✓ Consistently improve the point cloud completion result in both single-task and multi-task learning.

Hyperspherical Module



- a multi-layer perceptron (MLP) layer
- a normalization layer

$$\hat{f} = \frac{f}{\|f\|_2}$$

$$\|f\|_2 = \sqrt{\sum_i f_i^2}$$

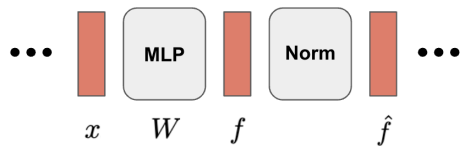
Effects of Hyperspherical Embedding

Proposition 1:

The gradient of the embedding before normalization is orthogonal to itself.

The gradient to the embedding:

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial f} = \frac{\frac{\partial L}{\partial \hat{f}} - \hat{f} \langle \frac{\partial L}{\partial \hat{f}}, \hat{f} \rangle}{\|f\|_2}$$



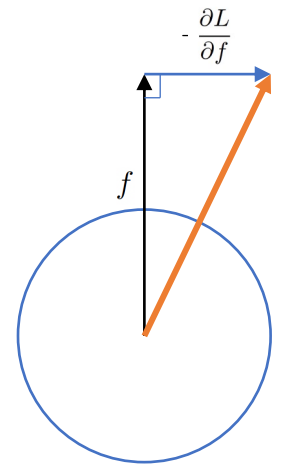
L: Loss function at optimization
 f: Embedding before normalization

$$\hat{f} = \frac{f}{\|f\|_2}$$

$$\|f\|_2 = \sqrt{\sum_i f_i^2}$$

Orthogonality proof:

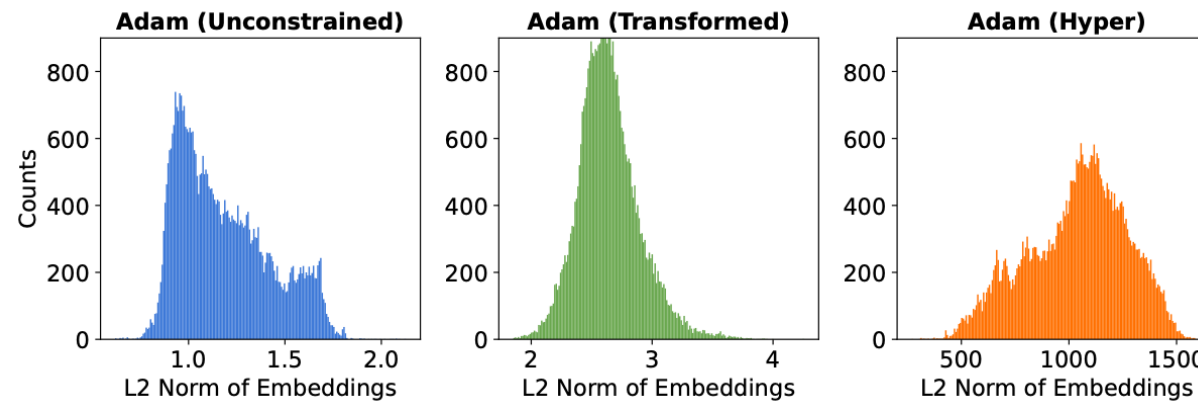
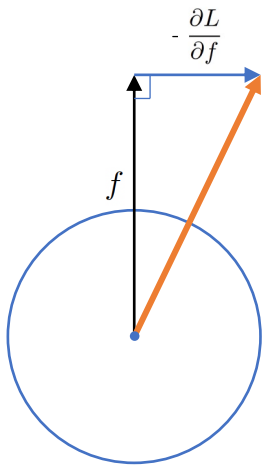
$$\begin{aligned} \langle f, \frac{\partial L}{\partial f} \rangle &= \frac{\langle f, \frac{\partial L}{\partial \hat{f}} \rangle - \langle f, \hat{f} \rangle \langle \frac{\partial L}{\partial \hat{f}}, \hat{f} \rangle}{\|f\|_2} \\ &= \frac{\langle f, \frac{\partial L}{\partial \hat{f}} \rangle - \langle \hat{f}, \hat{f} \rangle \langle \frac{\partial L}{\partial \hat{f}}, f \rangle}{\|f\|_2} \\ &= \frac{\langle f, \frac{\partial L}{\partial \hat{f}} \rangle - \langle \frac{\partial L}{\partial \hat{f}}, f \rangle}{\|f\|_2} \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$$



Effects of Hyperspherical Embedding

Proposition 2:

For standard stochastic gradient descent (SGD), the magnitude of the embedding before normalization increases at each update during training.



Norm distribution of embeddings

Effects of Hyperspherical Embedding

Proposition 3:

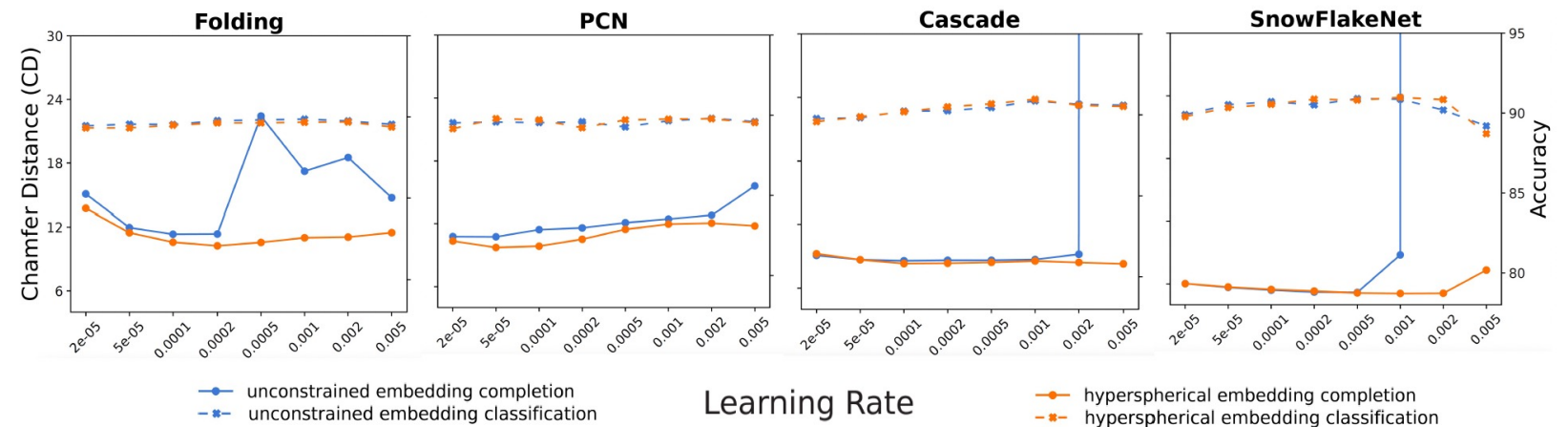
The magnitude of the gradient is inversely proportional to the norm of the embedding.

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial f} = \frac{\frac{\partial L}{\partial \hat{f}} - \hat{f} \langle \frac{\partial L}{\partial \hat{f}}, \hat{f} \rangle}{\|f\|_2}$$



$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial f} \propto \frac{1}{\|f\|_2}$$

Wider range of learning rates:

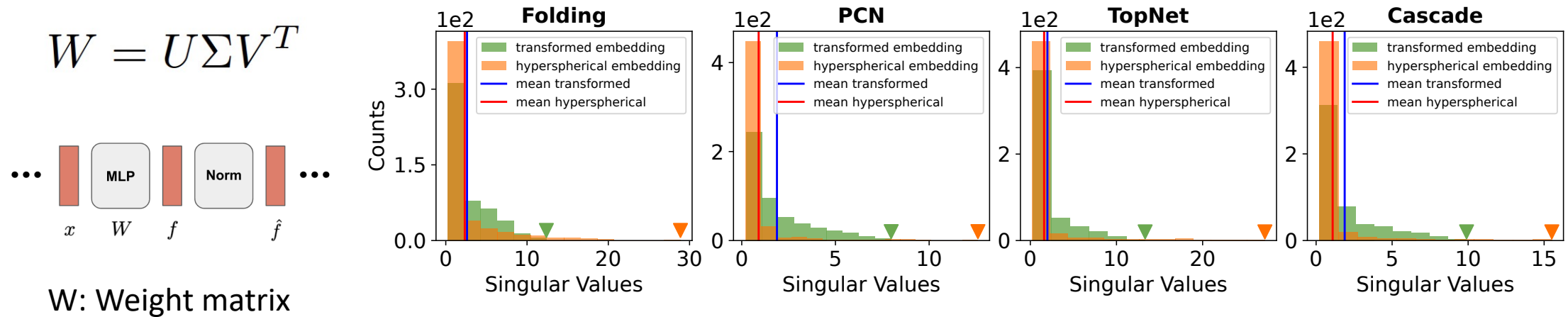


Multi-task learning on MVP dataset with different learning rates

Effects of Hyperspherical Embedding

Proposition 4:

During optimization, the increased norm of f requires a poorly conditioned weight matrix.



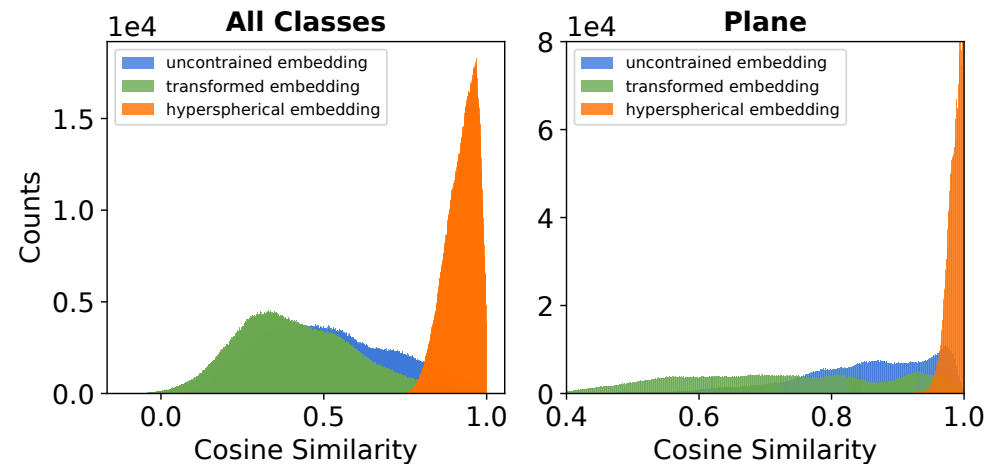
- Large singular values become larger, and small singular values become smaller.

Effects of Hyperspherical Embedding

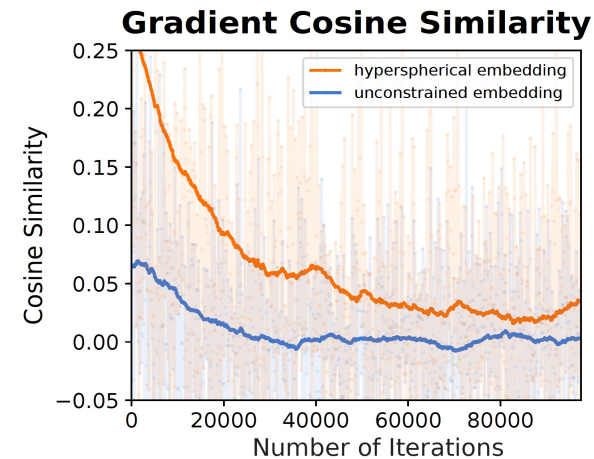
Proposition 4:

During optimization, the increased norm of f requires a poorly conditioned weight matrix.

More compact distribution:



Distributions of cosine similarity in single-task



Gradient conflicts between tasks in multitask learning during training

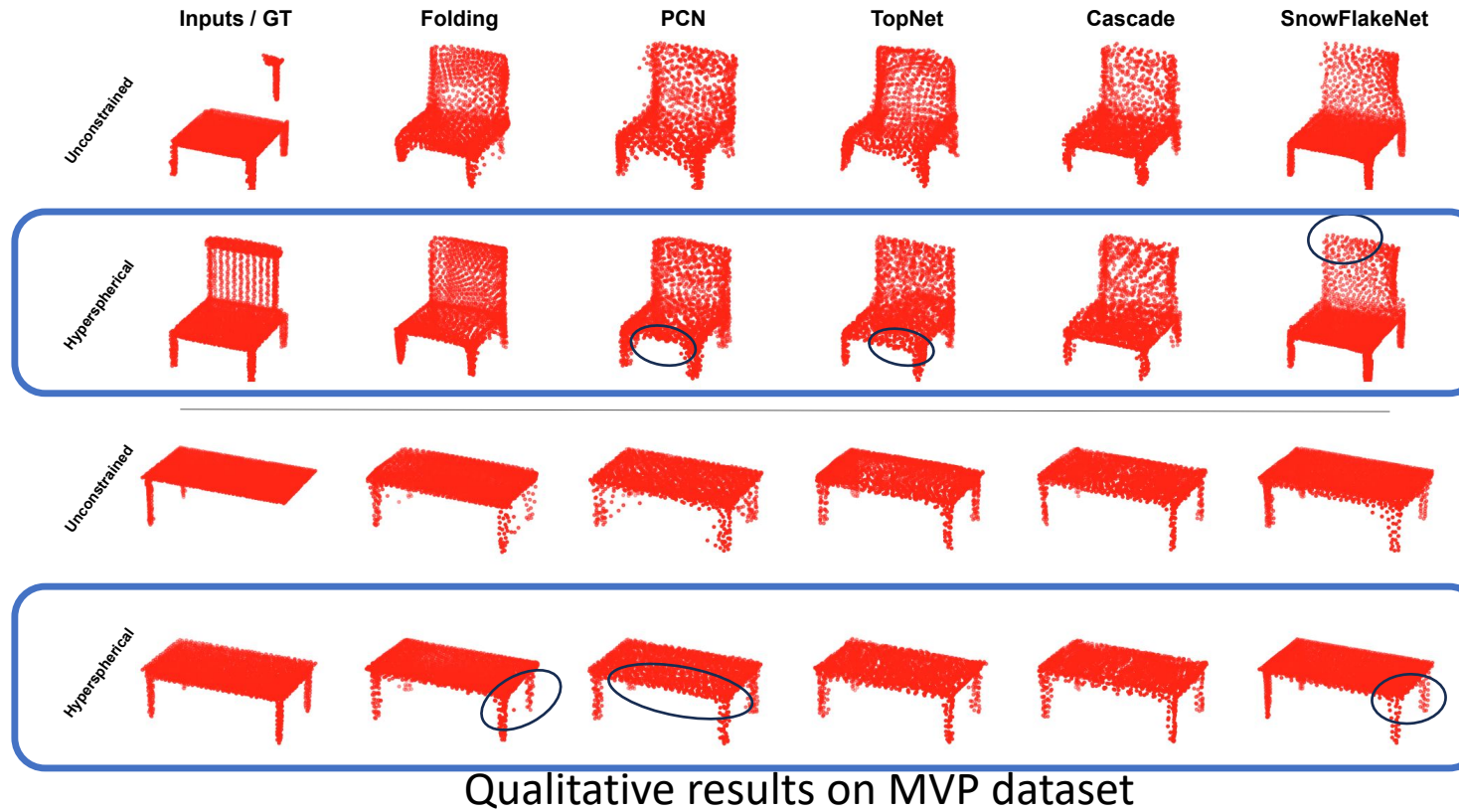
Single-task Completion

Model	plane	cabinet	car	chair	lamp	sofa	table	wcraft	bed	bench	bshelf	bus	guitar	mbike	pistol	sboard	average
Folding [39]	4.71	9.08	6.81	15.22	23.12	10.28	14.32	9.90	22.02	10.28	14.48	5.24	2.02	6.91	7.21	4.59	10.39
Folding (H)	4.48	8.82	6.68	13.79	21.44	9.66	12.98	8.57	18.93	8.96	13.44	4.95	2.03	6.43	6.22	4.20	9.47
PCN [41]	4.23	9.35	6.73	13.56	20.94	10.51	14.20	9.81	21.32	9.98	15.08	5.45	1.90	6.23	6.23	5.03	10.03
PCN (H)	4.24	9.14	6.49	13.04	22.47	10.04	12.99	8.75	18.95	9.33	13.93	5.06	1.84	6.00	5.92	4.15	9.52
TopNet [27]	4.63	9.23	6.79	14.31	19.50	10.48	14.30	9.65	20.54	10.12	15.53	5.36	2.09	6.77	7.74	4.94	10.12
TopNet (H)	4.07	9.13	6.75	13.08	19.45	10.03	12.85	8.89	19.50	9.63	14.33	5.23	2.03	6.66	6.42	3.92	9.50
Cascade [31]	2.66	8.69	6.02	10.22	13.07	8.76	9.90	6.67	16.44	7.56	11.00	4.97	1.98	4.58	4.54	2.78	7.49
Cascade (H)	2.61	8.52	5.97	9.52	12.03	8.71	9.83	6.46	15.78	7.17	11.15	4.90	1.88	4.50	4.24	2.76	7.25
SnowFlakeNet [37]	1.94	7.61	5.61	6.77	6.82	7.09	7.21	4.65	10.98	4.76	7.54	4.16	1.14	3.78	3.15	2.67	5.37
SnowFlakeNet (H)	1.89	7.26	5.36	6.50	7.59	6.72	6.63	4.67	10.39	4.39	7.37	4.03	0.95	3.60	3.15	2.84	5.21

Quantitative Results on MVP dataset (Single-task)

- Consistent improvement for all baseline models with our hyperspherical module.

Single-task Completion



- With our hyperspherical module, the completion result has less noise.

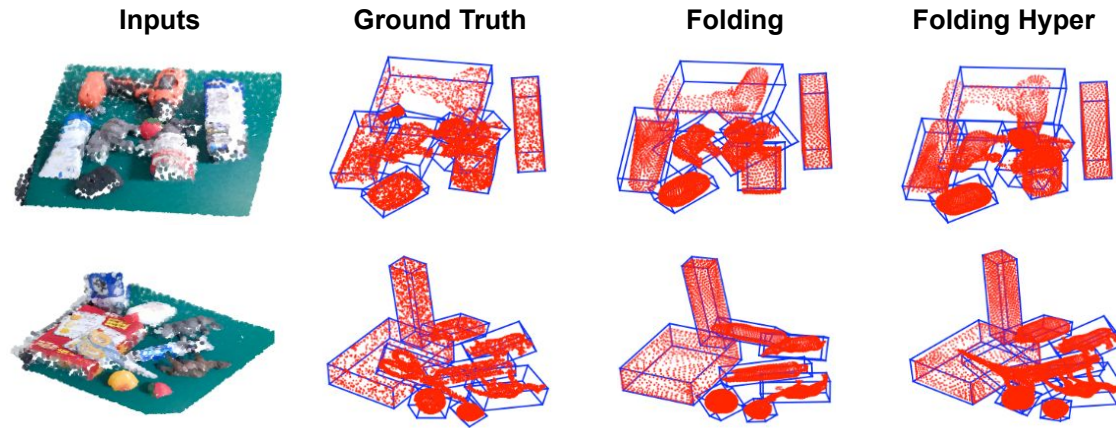
Multi-task Learning

Model	Single Task		Equal Weights		PCGrad [40]		Uncert. [11]		Weight Search		S. vs. M.
	Acc	CD	Acc	CD	Acc	CD	Acc	CD	Acc	CD	
Folding	89.68	10.39	89.77	11.37	89.67	11.21	89.81	11.22	89.12	10.45	-0.58
Folding (H)	89.91	9.47	89.63	10.26	89.77	10.13	89.51	10.07	89.43	9.40	0.74
PCN	89.62	10.03	89.58	10.75	89.41	10.75	89.33	10.77	89.26	10.37	-3.39
PCN (H)	89.55	9.52	89.79	9.73	89.56	9.58	89.69	9.58	89.78	9.45	0.74
TopNet	89.49	10.12	89.59	10.42	89.84	10.33	89.58	10.52	89.43	10.24	-1.19
TopNet (H)	89.55	9.50	89.51	9.64	89.80	9.59	89.90	9.48	89.74	8.79	7.47
Cascade	90.91	7.49	90.23	8.58	90.33	8.53	90.27	8.51	90.18	7.50	-0.13
Cascade (H)	90.51	7.25	90.19	8.32	90.02	8.18	90.32	8.32	90.48	7.22	0.41
SnowFlakeNet	90.93	5.37	90.90	5.19	90.99	5.29	90.18	5.27	90.75	5.04	6.15
SnowFlakeNet (H)	90.91	5.21	90.98	5.09	90.95	5.21	90.13	5.11	90.82	5.02	3.65

Quantitative results on MVP dataset (Multi-task)

- Consistent improvement on completion task over all multi-task methods.
- Better completion result in multi-task learning than in single-task setting.

Real World Scenarios



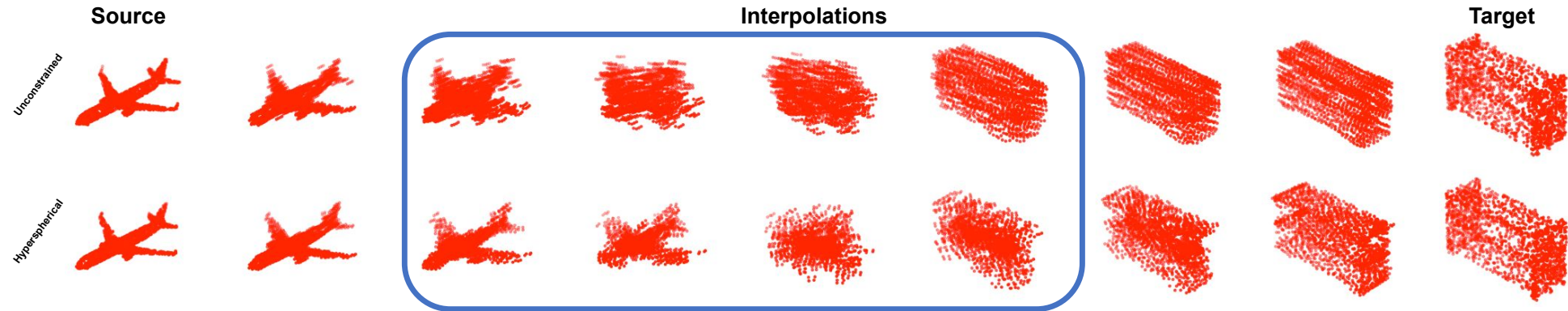
Qualitative results on GraspNet dataset

Model	mAP (0.25)	CD	Pose Acc.
Folding	70.50	0.18	52.42
Folding (H)	71.21	0.14	54.01
PCN	69.11	0.21	50.33
PCN (H)	70.93	0.15	52.39

Quantitative results on GraspNet dataset

- The proposed hyperspherical module bring consistent improvement over object detection, pose estimation and point cloud completion.

Visualize the Embedding Space



Point cloud interpolation samples in the embedding space

- The generated point clouds with hyperspherical embeddings have more clear clues from source to target shapes.

Conclusion

- We propose a **hyperspherical module** that outputs hyperspherical embeddings, which improves the performance of point cloud completion.
- We theoretically investigate the effects of hyperspherical embeddings and demonstrate that the point cloud completion benefits from them by stable training and learning a compact embedding distribution.
- We analyze training point cloud completion with other tasks and observe conflicts between them, which can be reconciled by the hyperspherical embedding.