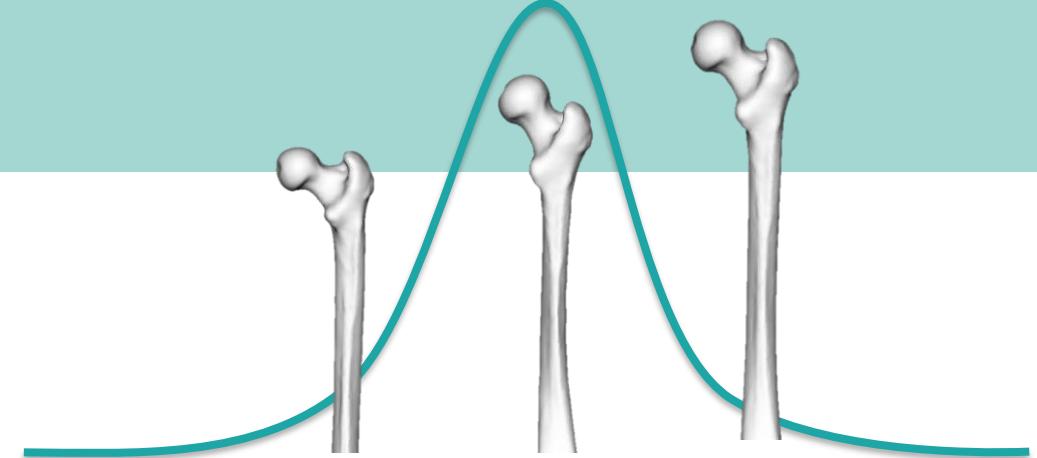


# Modelling the human anatomy using Gaussian processes

Marcel Lüthi, Graphics and Vision Research Group, University of Basel

Special Interest Group on Gaussian Processes – 9. June 2021

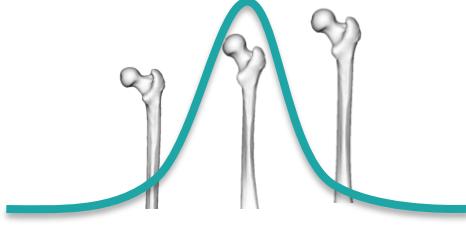


# Statistical shape models



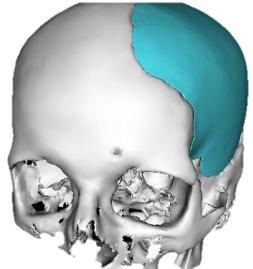
Animations: Jasenko Zivanov

# Applications of Statistical Shape Models



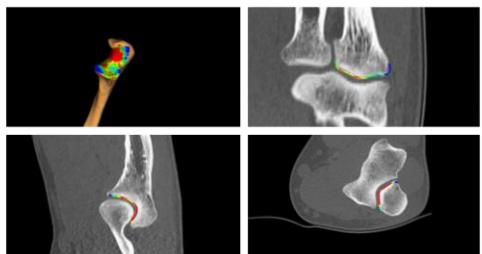
## Data generation

- Testing on representative population data
- Training data generation for deep learning



## Implant design

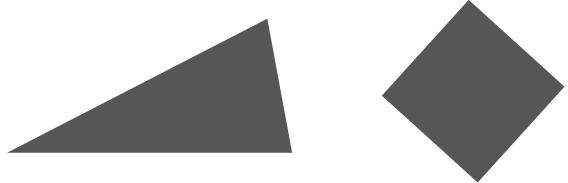
- Find best fitting shape to match anatomy



## Shape and Image analysis

- Computer aided diagnosis
- Surgery planning
- Statistical inferences on populations

# Outline

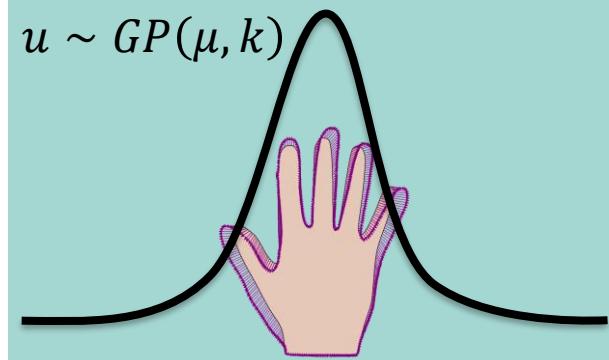


## Introduction

- Shapes and shape models

## Main part

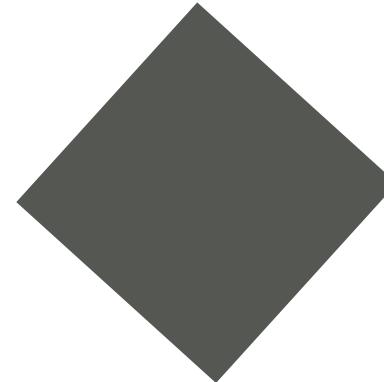
- Modelling shape variations using Gaussian processes
- Inference using the Analysis-by-synthesis paradigm



## Demo application

- Designing a patient specific implant

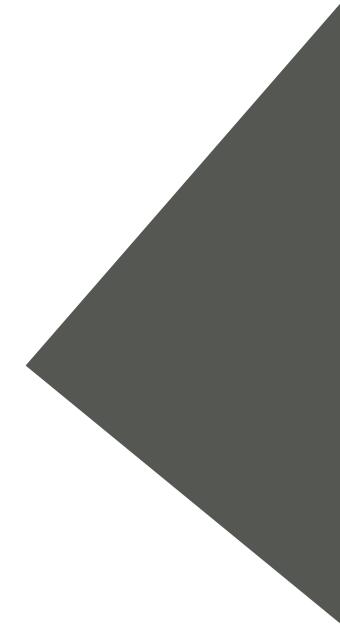
# What is a shape?



## Classical definition

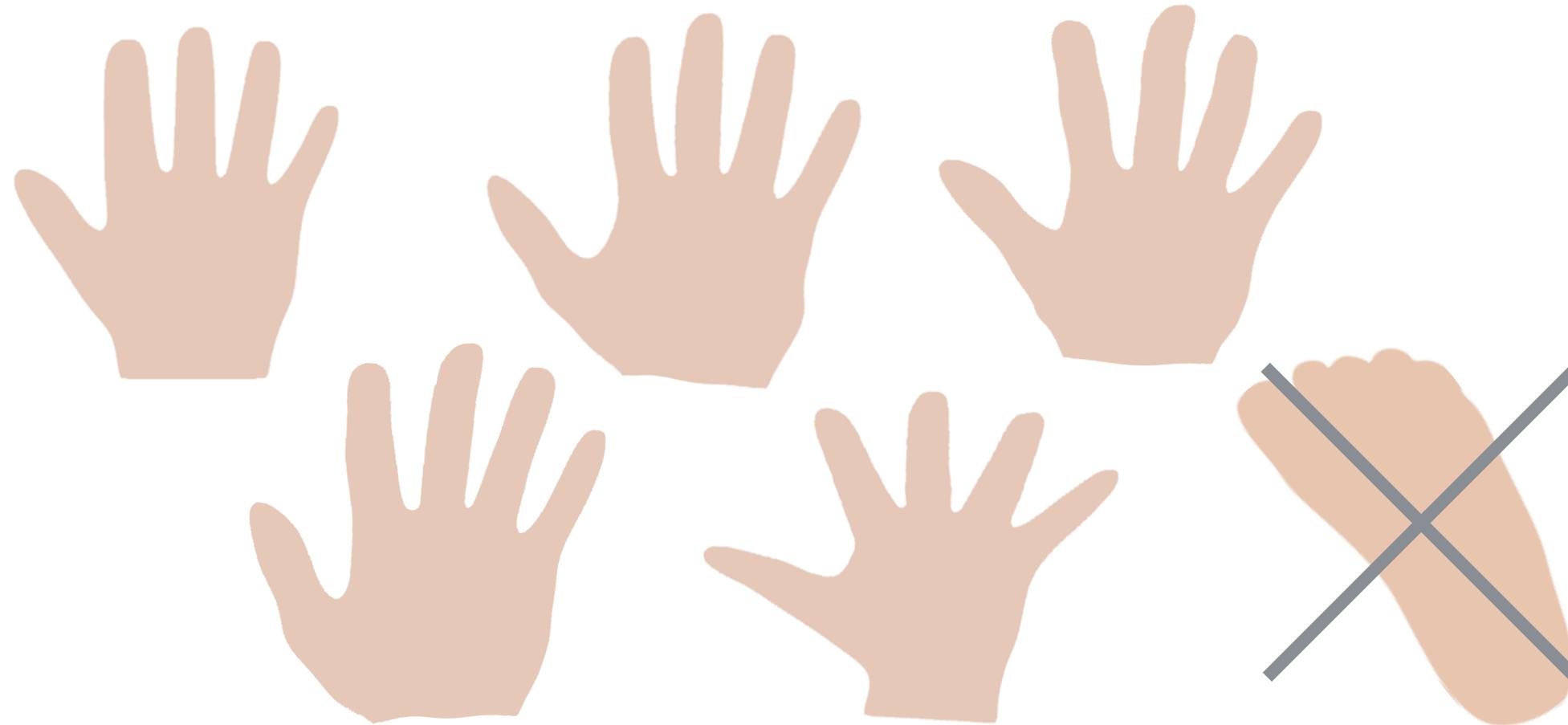
All geometrical information that remains when **location**, **scale** and **rotational effects** are filtered out from an object.

# Shape families



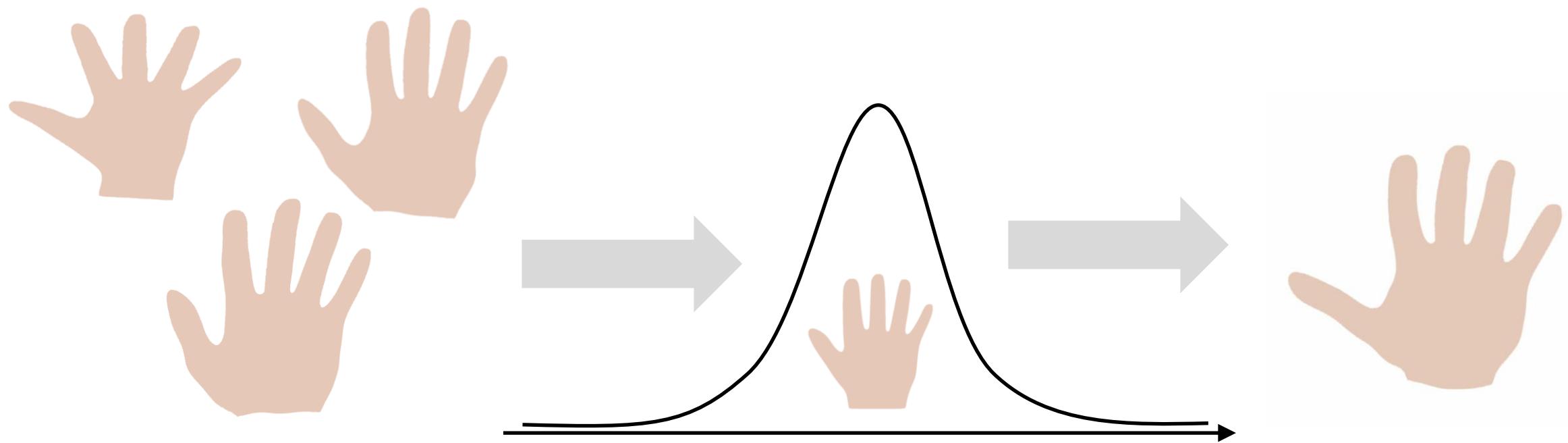
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# Shape families

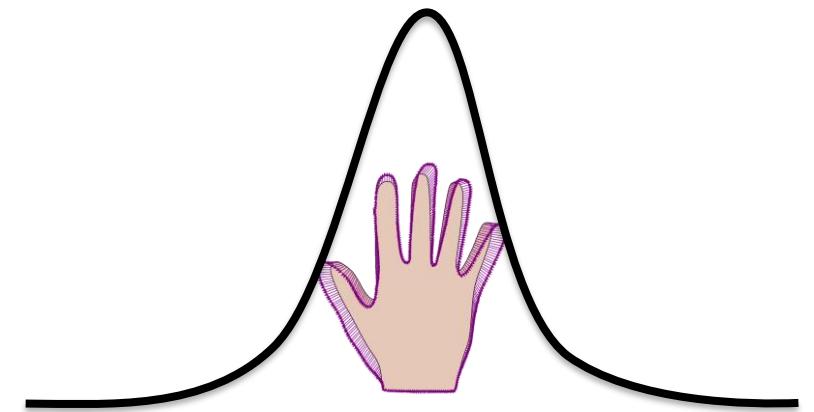


# Shape families: Statistical shape models

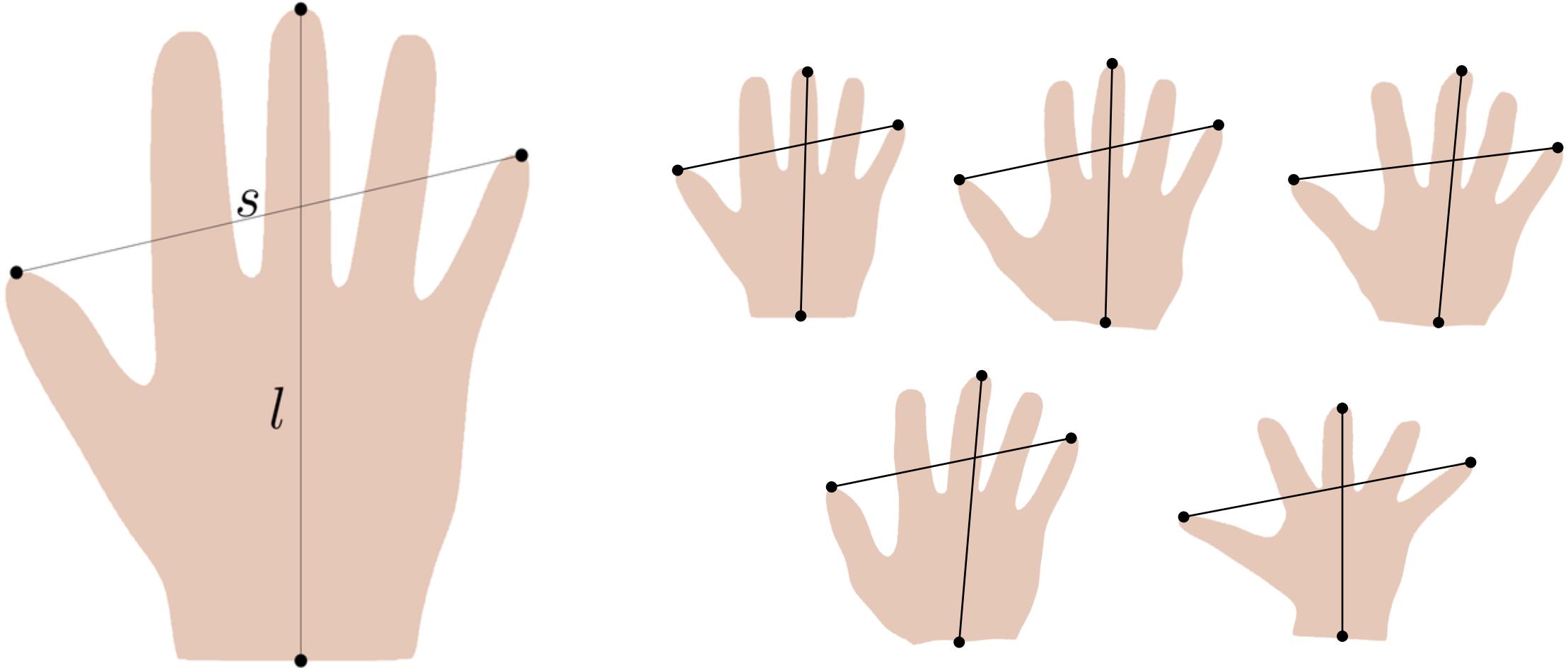
Example shapes



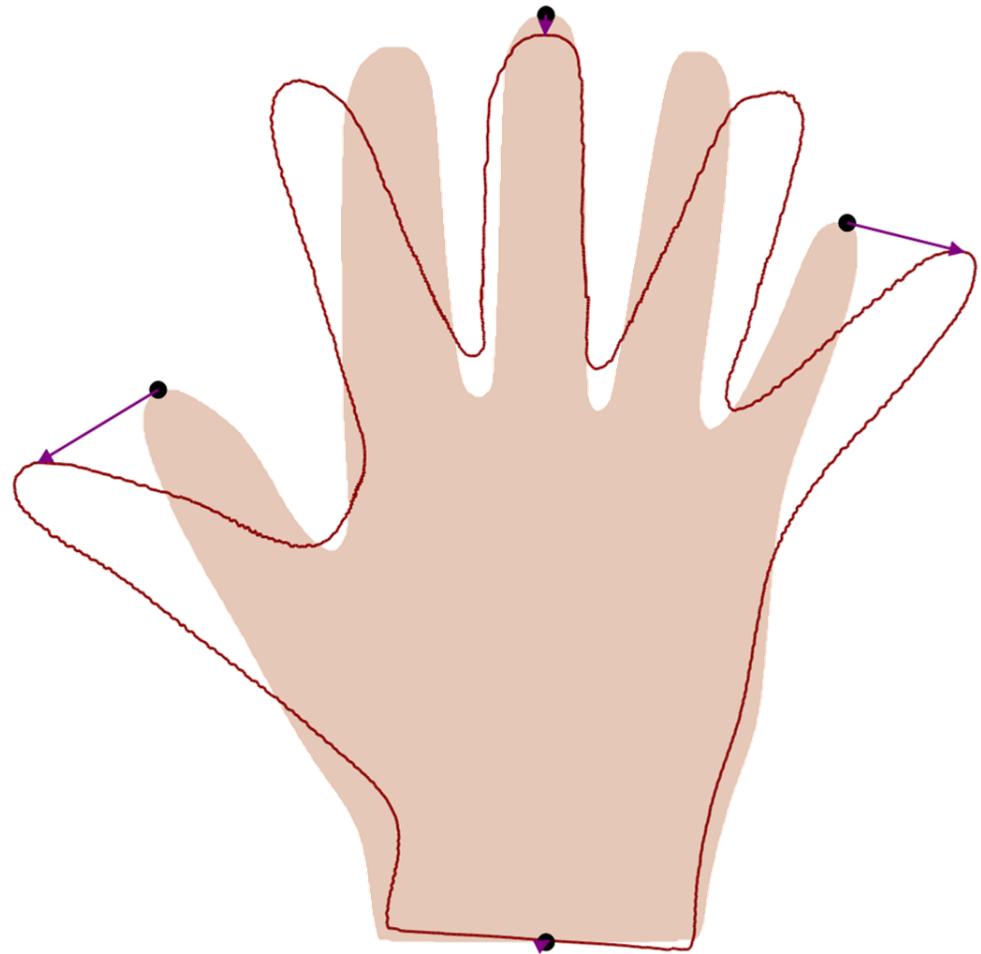
# Modelling shape variations using Gaussian processes



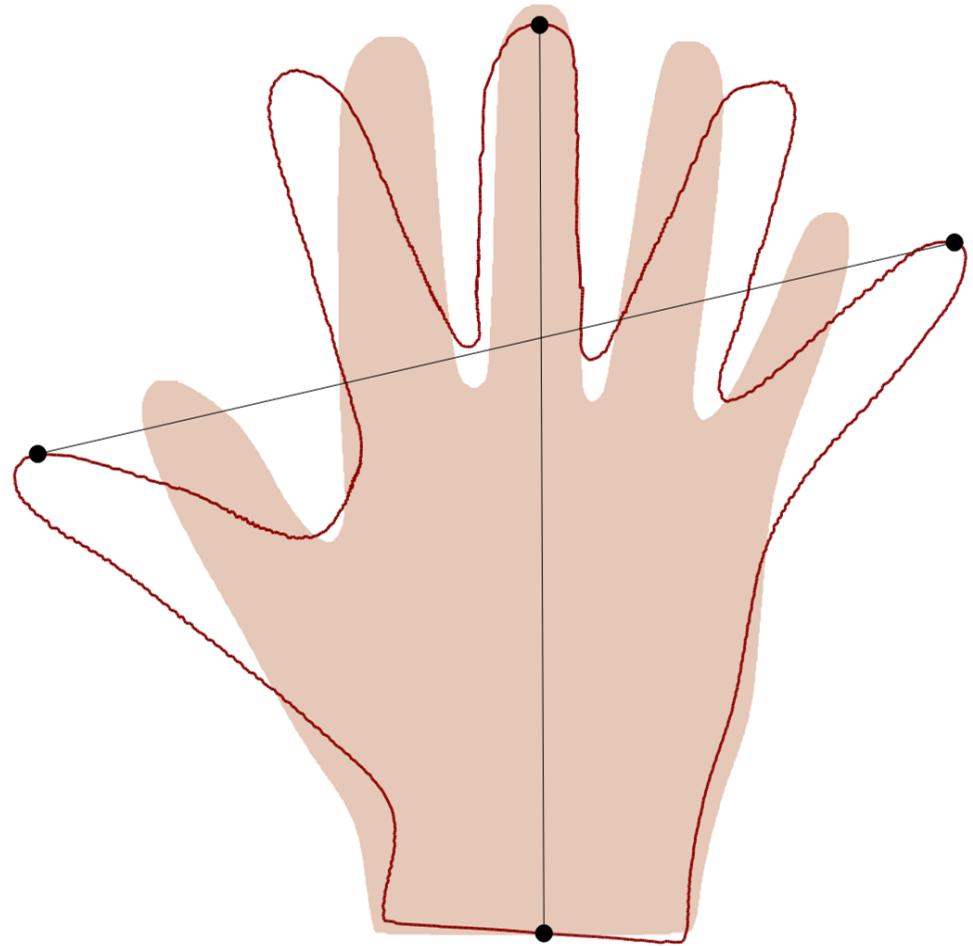
# Measurements



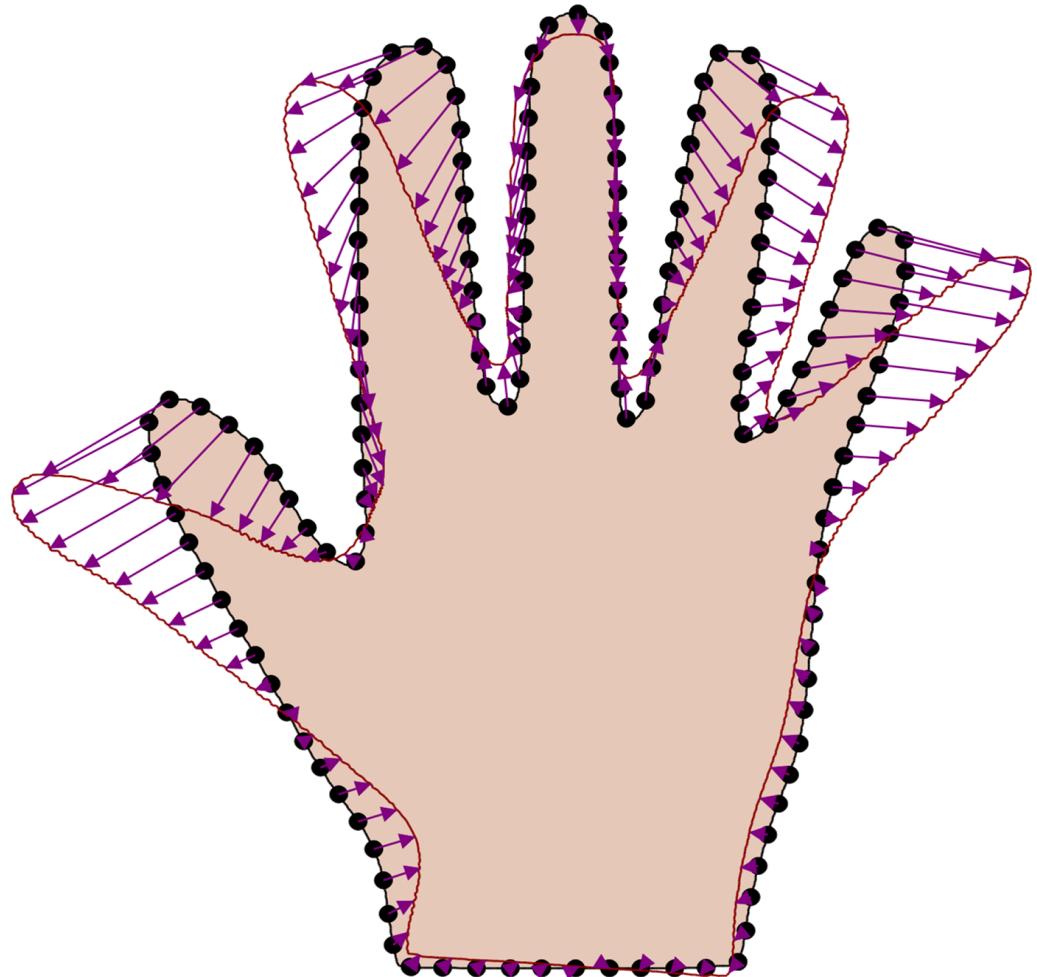
## Shape changes as deformations



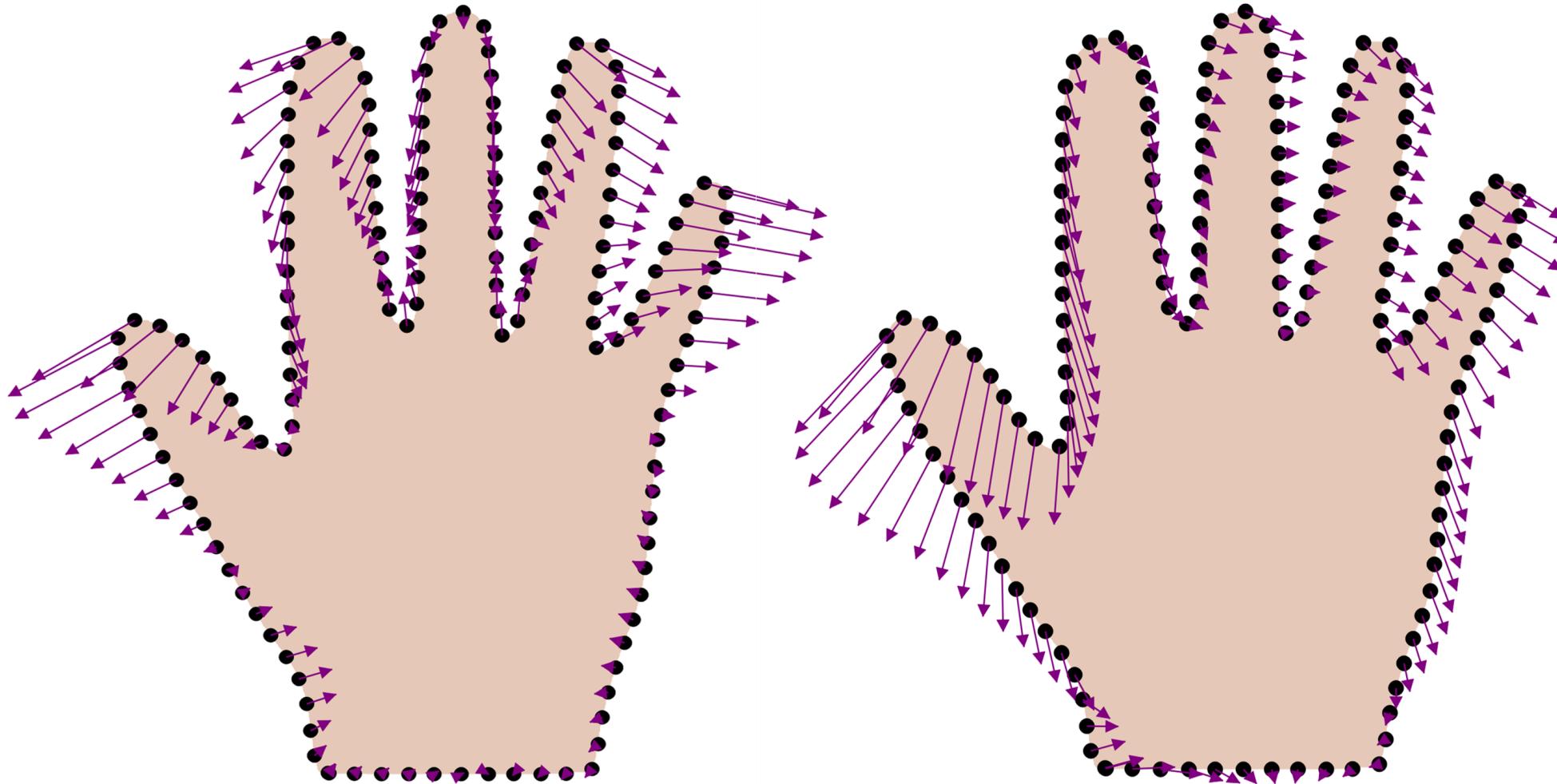
## Shape changes as deformations



# Shape changes as deformations



# Shape changes as deformations



# Shape changes as deformations

Set of points defining a reference shape:

$$\Gamma_R = \{x \mid x \in \mathbb{R}^2\}$$

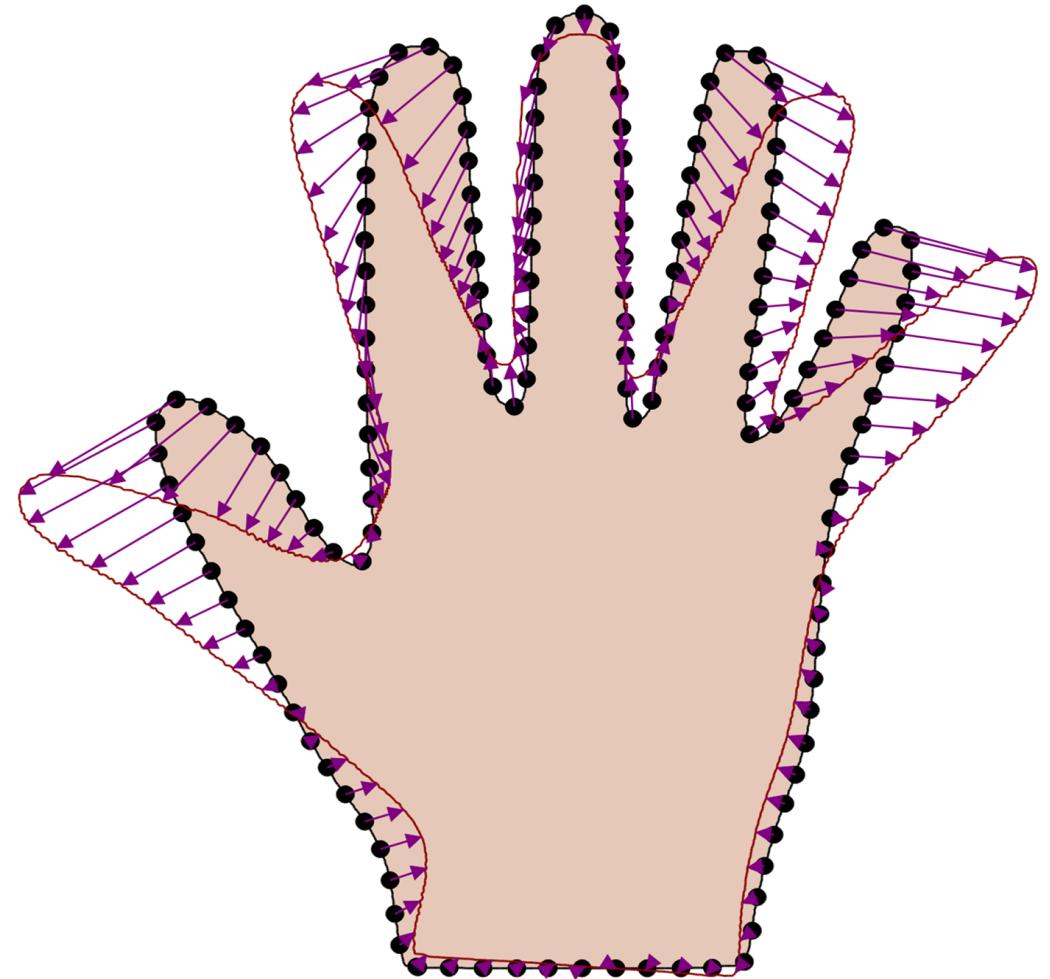
Vector field modelling the deformations

$$u : \Gamma_R \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$$

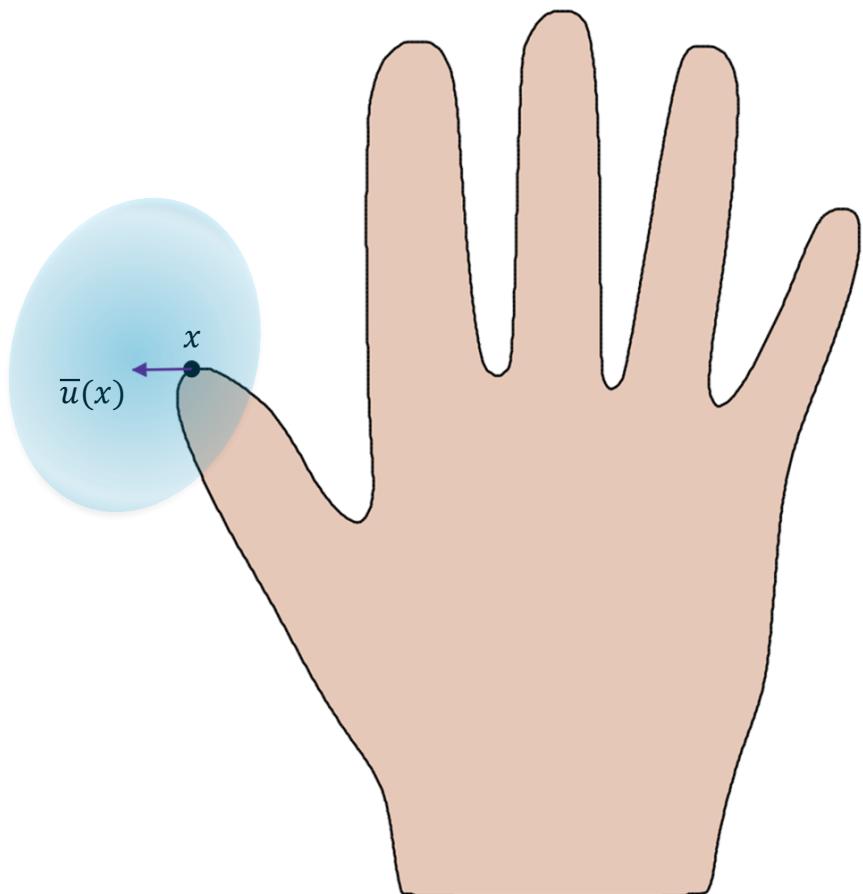
Shape defined by deformation field  $u$

$$\Gamma = \{x + u(x) \mid x \in \Gamma_R\}$$

*Our task: Model plausible deformation fields  $u$ !*

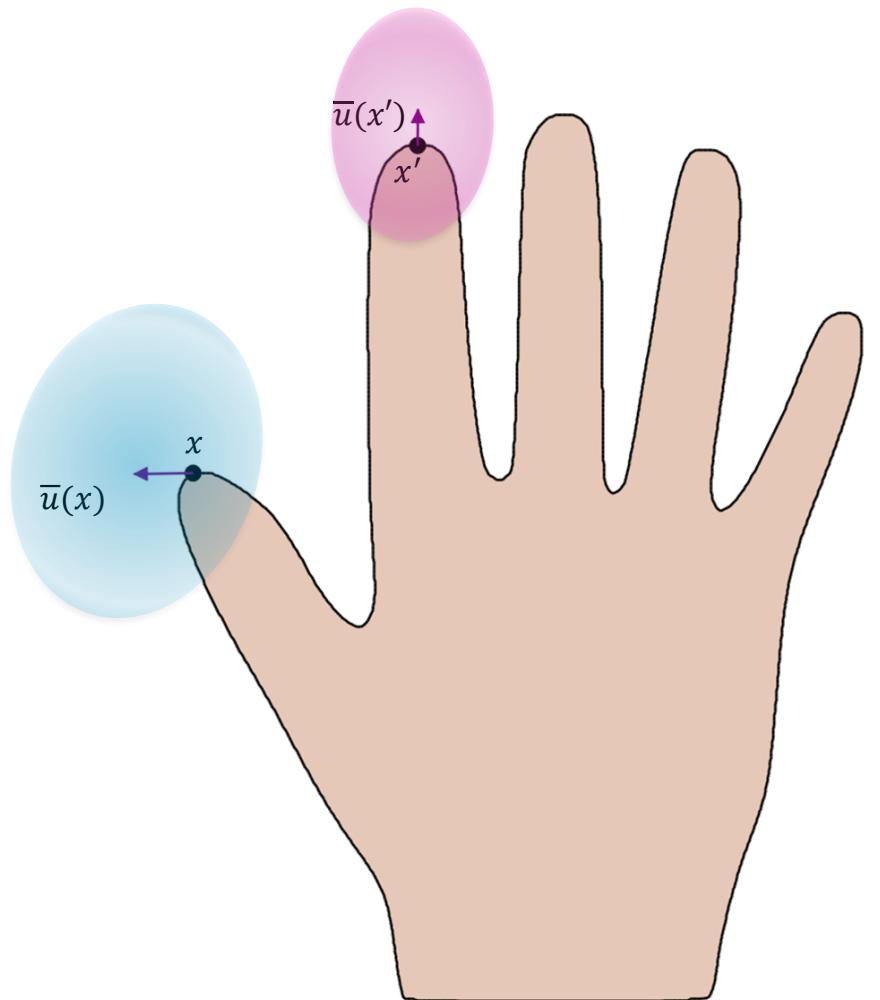


## Modelling possible deformations



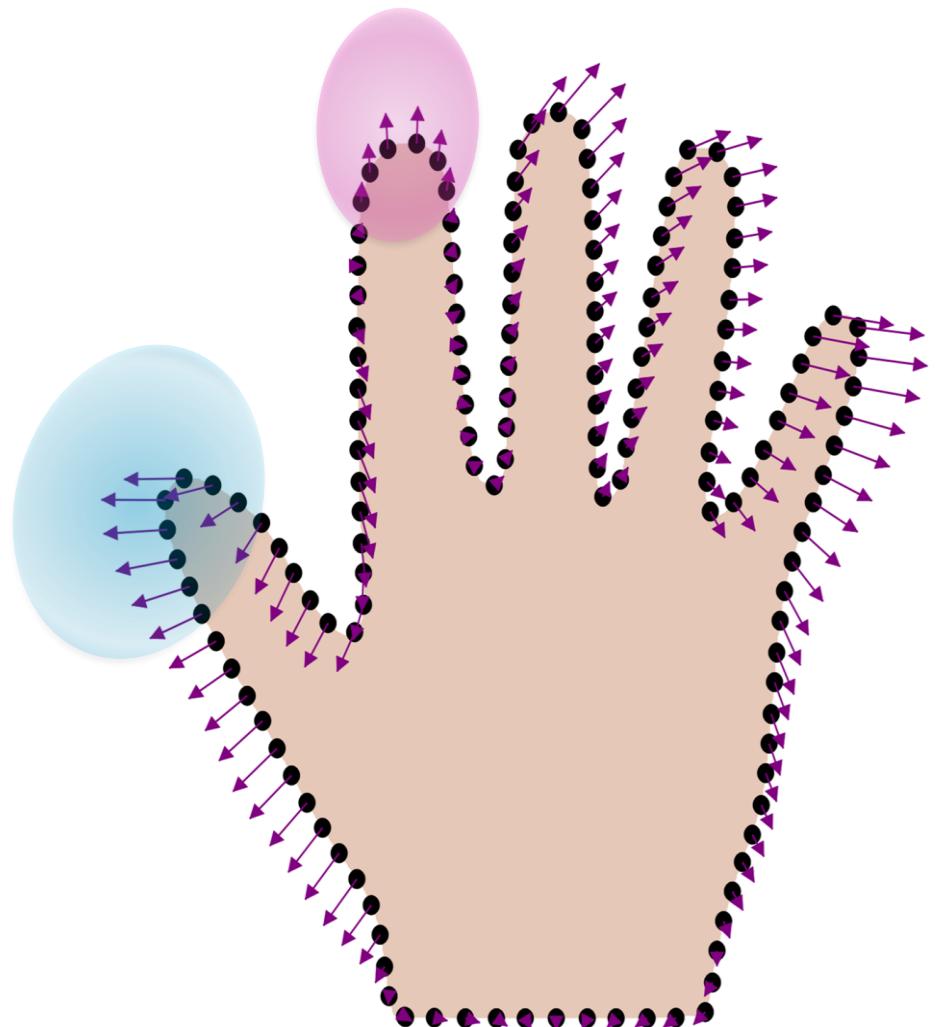
$$u(x) = \begin{pmatrix} u_1(x) \\ u_2(x) \end{pmatrix}$$
$$\sim N \left( \begin{pmatrix} \bar{u}_1(x) \\ \bar{u}_2(x) \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} \Sigma_{11}(x) & \Sigma_{12}(x) \\ \Sigma_{21}(x) & \Sigma_{22}(x) \end{pmatrix} \right)$$

## Modelling possible deformations



$$\begin{pmatrix} u(x) \\ u(x') \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} u_1(x) \\ u_2(x) \\ u_1(x') \\ u_2(x') \end{pmatrix} \sim N \left( \begin{pmatrix} \bar{u}_1(x) \\ \bar{u}_2(x) \\ \bar{u}_1(x') \\ \bar{u}_2(x') \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} \Sigma_{11}(x, x) & \Sigma_{12}(x, x) & \Sigma_{11}(x, x') & \Sigma_{12}(x, x') \\ \Sigma_{21}(x, x) & \Sigma_{22}(x, x) & \Sigma_{21}(x, x') & \Sigma_{22}(x, x') \\ \Sigma_{11}(x', x) & \Sigma_{12}(x', x) & \Sigma_{11}(x', x') & \Sigma_{12}(x', x') \\ \Sigma_{21}(x', x) & \Sigma_{22}(x', x) & \Sigma_{21}(x', x') & \Sigma_{22}(x', x') \end{pmatrix} \right)$$

# Modelling possible deformations



## Idea

Define

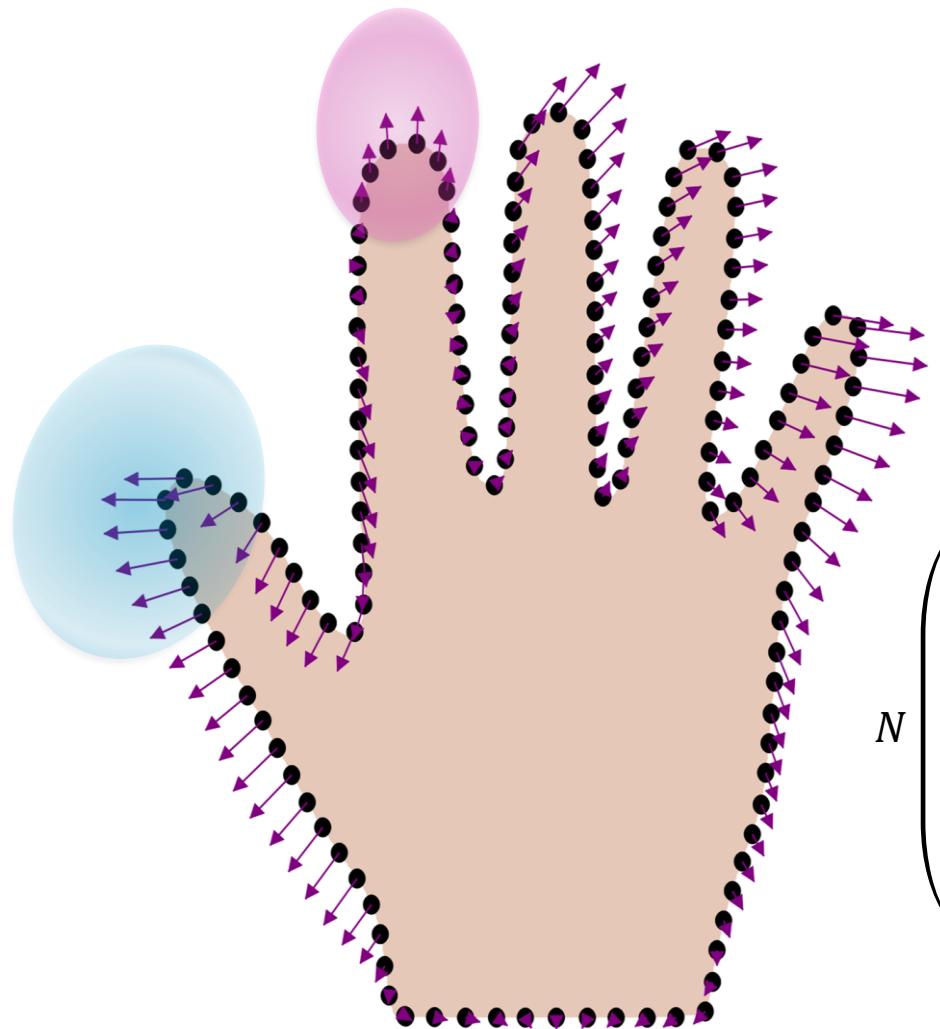
- Mean function:  $\mu: \Gamma_R \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$
- Covariance function:  $k: \Gamma_R \times \Gamma_R \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{2 \times 2}$

For any finite set  $\Gamma_R$  we can define  $u \sim N(\vec{\mu}, K)$ , with

$$\vec{\mu} = (\mu(x))_{x \in \Gamma_R}$$

$$K = (k(x, x'))_{x, x' \in \Gamma_R}$$

# Modelling possible deformations



$$N \left( \begin{pmatrix} \vdots \\ u(x) \\ \vdots \\ u(x') \\ \vdots \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} \vdots \\ \mu_1(x) \\ \mu_2(x) \\ \vdots \\ \mu_1(x') \\ \mu_2(x') \\ \vdots \end{pmatrix} \right) = \begin{pmatrix} \vdots \\ u_1(x) \\ u_2(x) \\ \vdots \\ u_1(x') \\ u_2(x') \\ \vdots \end{pmatrix} \sim \begin{pmatrix} \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ k_{11}(x, x) & k_{12}(x, x) & \cdots & k_{11}(x, x') & k_{12}(x, x') & \cdots & \vdots \\ k_{21}(x, x) & k_{22}(x, x) & \cdots & k_{21}(x, x') & k_{22}(x, x') & \cdots & \vdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ k_{11}(x', x) & k_{12}(x', x) & \cdots & k_{11}(x', x') & k_{12}(x', x') & \cdots & \vdots \\ k_{21}(x', x) & k_{22}(x', x) & \cdots & k_{21}(x', x') & k_{22}(x', x') & \cdots & \vdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \end{pmatrix}$$

## Formal definition

A Gaussian process

$$p(u) = GP(\mu, k)$$

is a probability distribution over functions

$$u : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$$

such that **every finite restriction** to function values

$$u_X = (u(x_1), \dots, u(x_n))$$

is a **multivariate normal distribution**

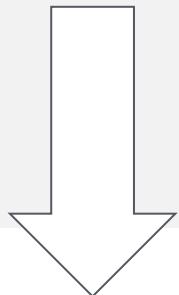
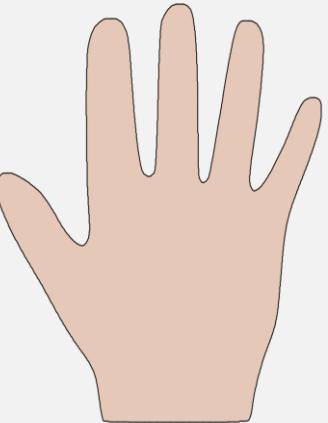
$$p(u_X) = N(\mu_X, k_{XX}).$$

It is completely specified by a mean function  $\mu$  and covariance function (or kernel)  $k$ .

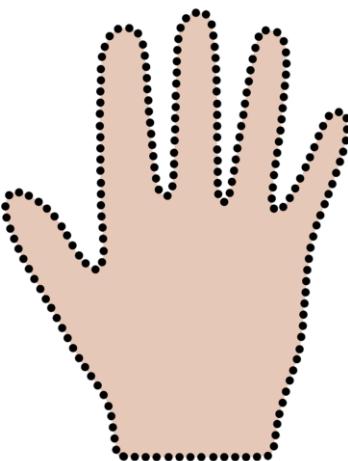
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# Model continuously – compute discretely

Continuous representation:  
 $GP(\mu, k)$

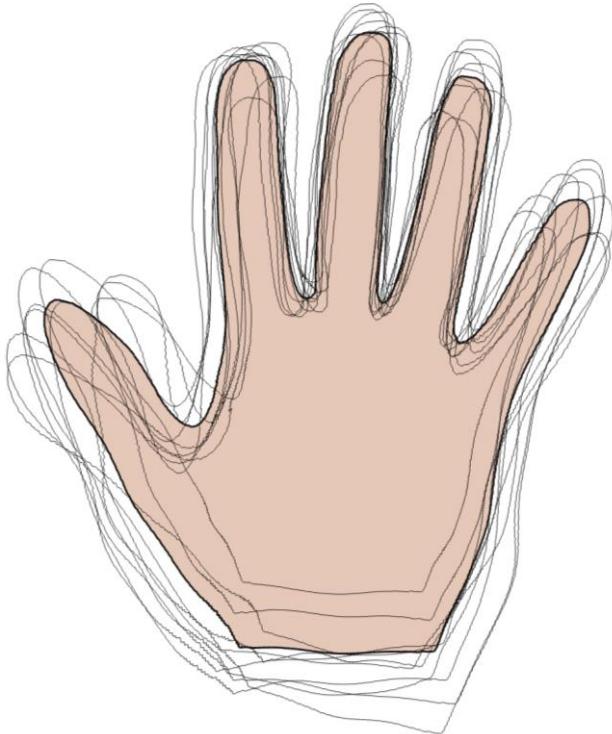


Discrete representation:  
 $N(\mu, K)$



## The mean function

$\mu: \Gamma_R \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$  defines how the average deformation looks like



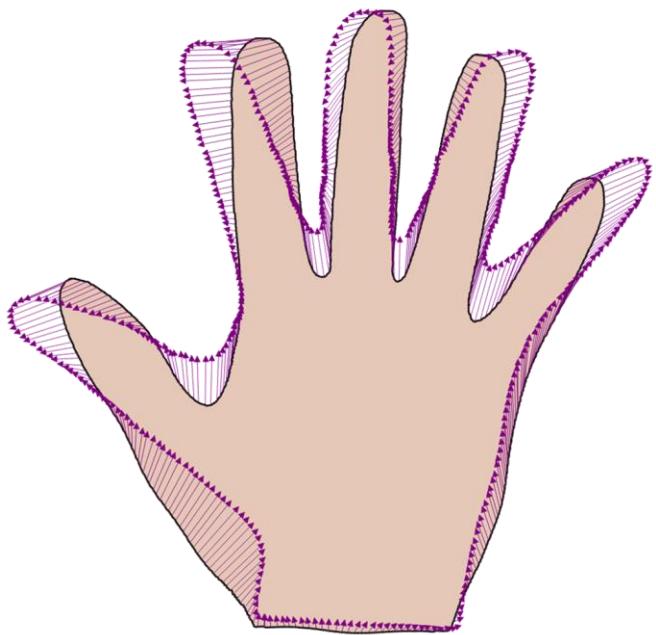
Usual assumption:

- The reference shape is an average shape.

$$\mu(x) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

# The covariance function

$k: \Gamma_R \times \Gamma_R \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$  Defines characteristics of the deformations fields



Usual assumption

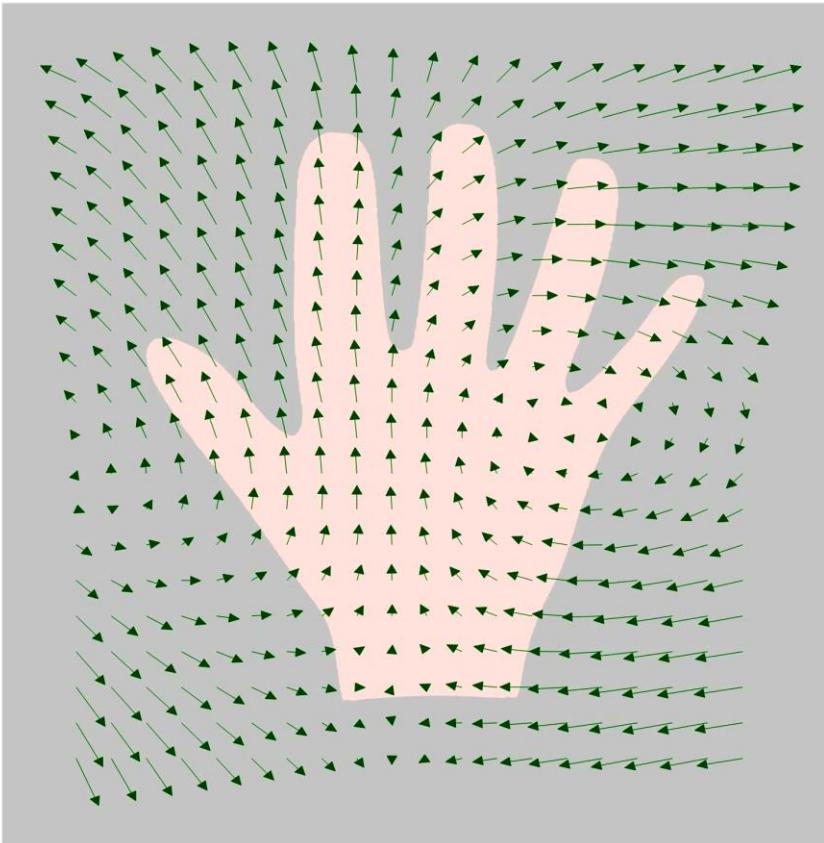
- deformation fields are smooth

*Example covariance function*

*Squared exponential covariance function (Gaussian kernel)*

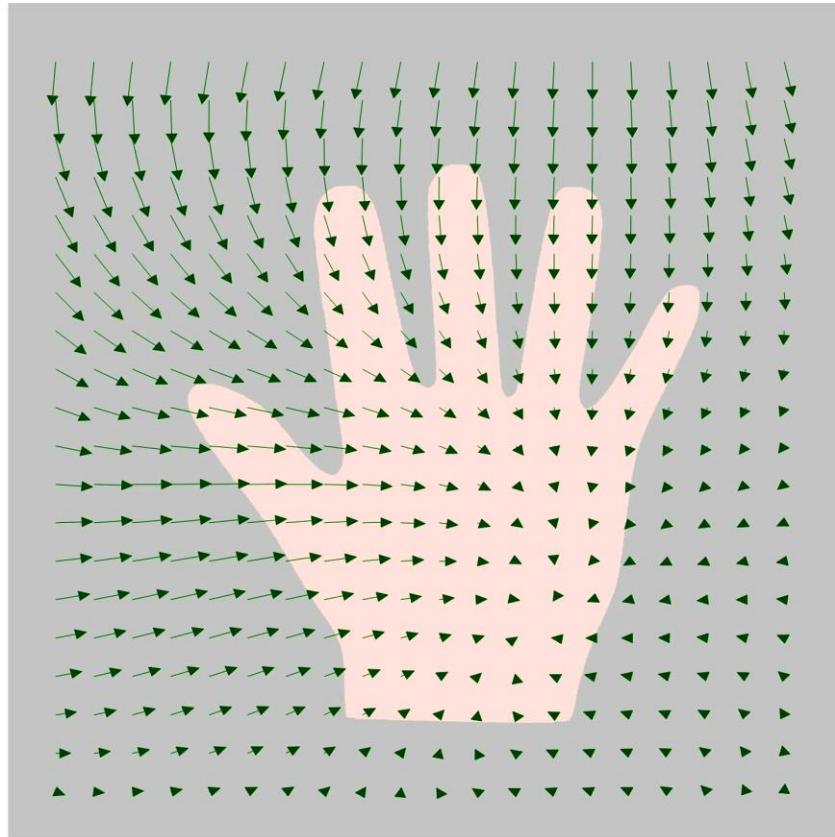
$$k(x, x') = \begin{pmatrix} s_1 \exp\left(-\frac{\|x - x'\|^2}{\sigma_1^2}\right) & 0 \\ 0 & s_2 \exp\left(-\frac{\|x - x'\|^2}{\sigma_2^2}\right) \end{pmatrix}$$

# A model for smooth deformations



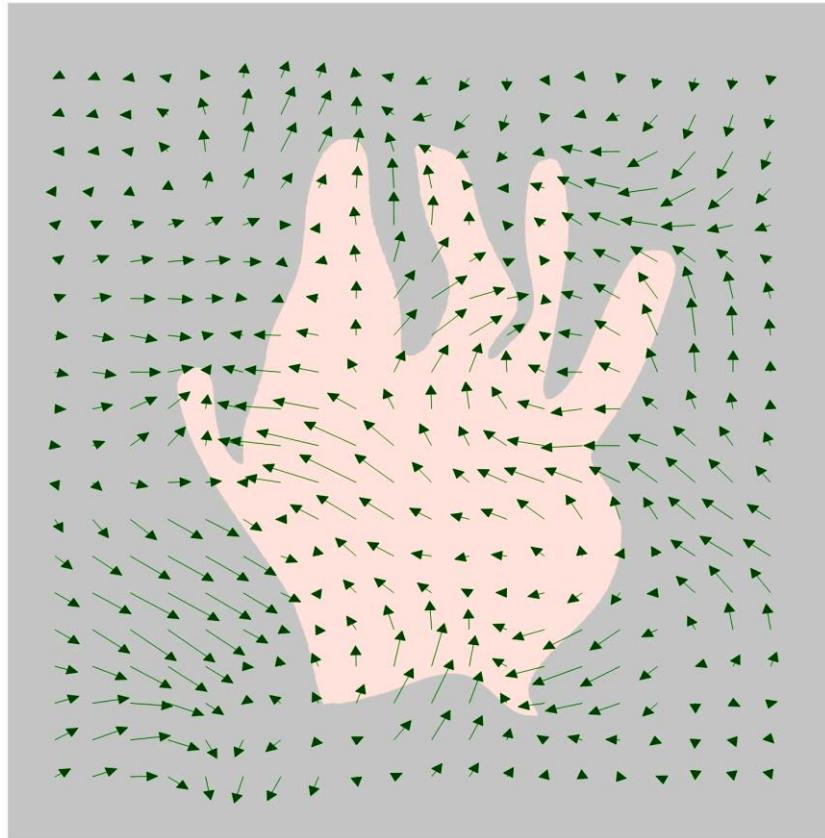
$$s_1 = s_2 \text{ large}, \quad \sigma_1 = \sigma_2 \text{ large}$$

# A model for smooth deformations



$$s_1 = s_2 \text{ small}, \quad \sigma_1 = \sigma_2 \text{ large}$$

# A model for smooth deformations



$$s_1 = s_2 \text{ large}, \quad \sigma_1 = \sigma_2 \text{ small}$$

---

# Combining kernels

Rules for constructing kernels

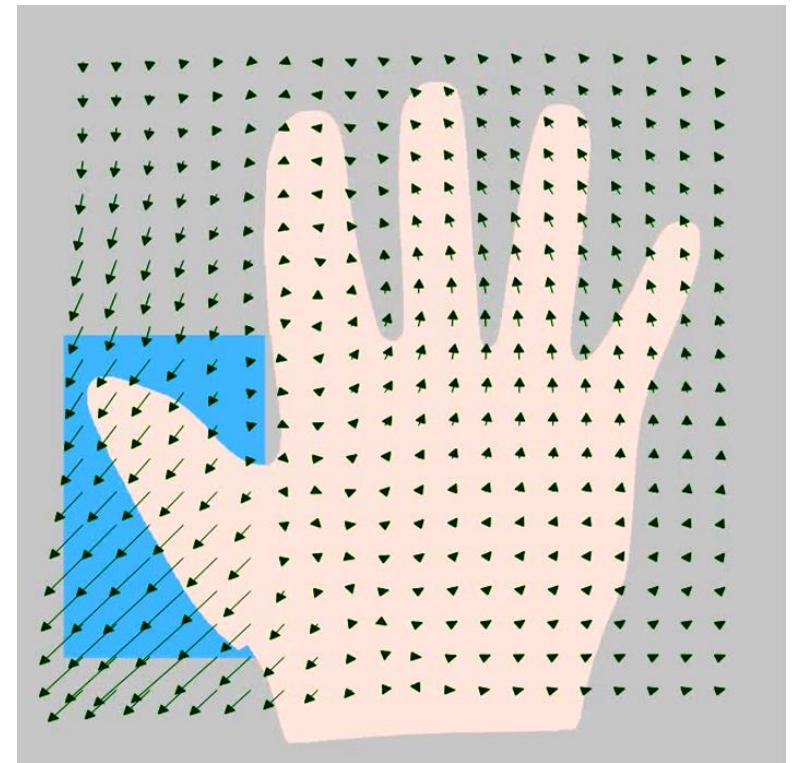
1.  $k(x, x') = k_1(x, x') + k_2(x, x')$
2.  $k(x, x') = \alpha k_1(x, x'), \alpha \in \mathbb{R}_+$
3.  $k(x, x') = k_1(x, x') \odot k_2(x, x')$
4.  $k(x, x') = f(x) f(x')^T, f: X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$
5.  $k(x, x') = B^T k(x, x') B, B \in \mathbb{R}^{r \times d}$



# Combining kernels

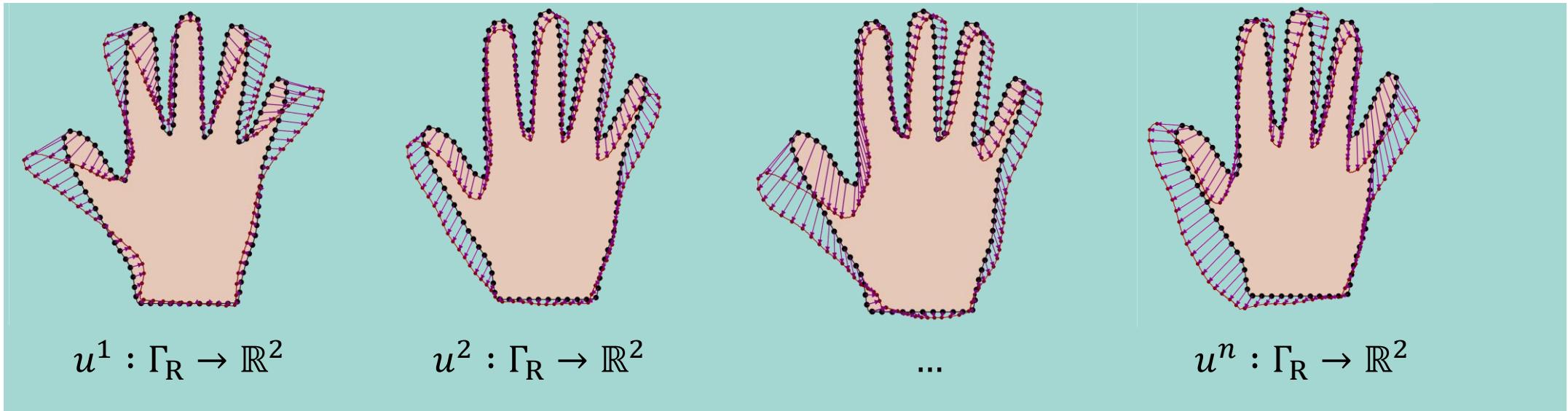
Rules for constructing kernels

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5.  $k(x, x') = B^T k(x, x') B, B \in \mathbb{R}^{r \times d}$



# Statistical shape models

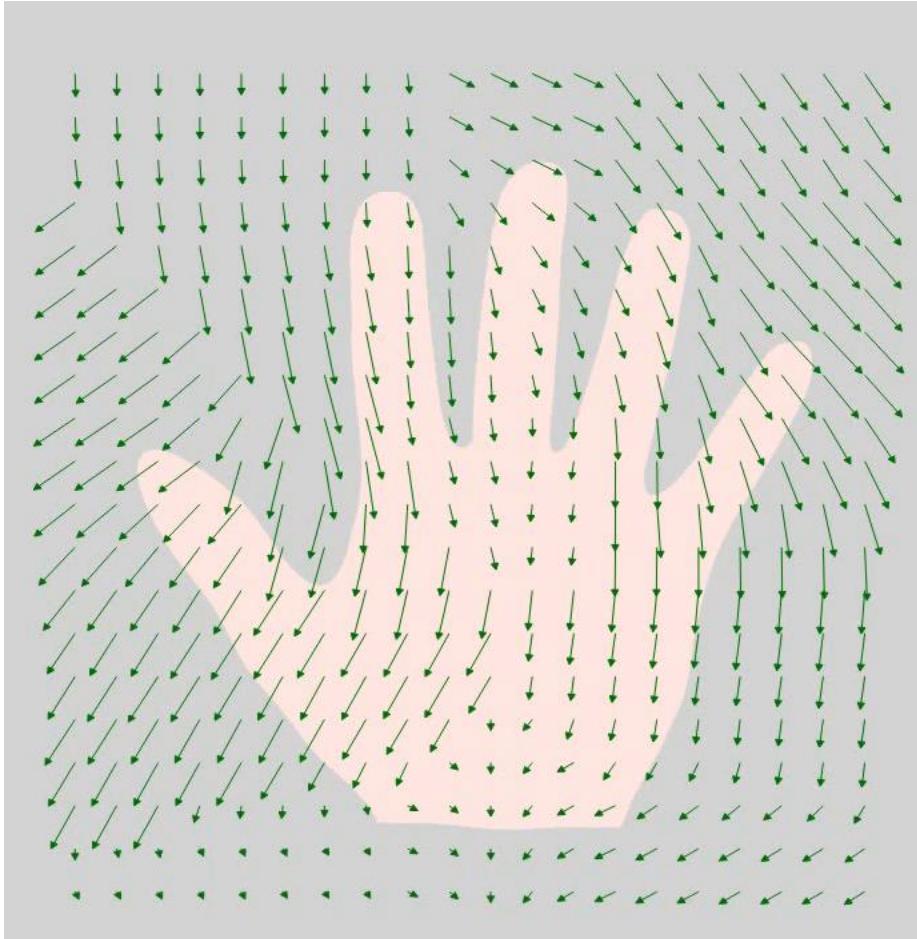
**Idea:** Models are learned from example deformation fields



$$\mu(x) = \bar{u}(x) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n u^i(x)$$

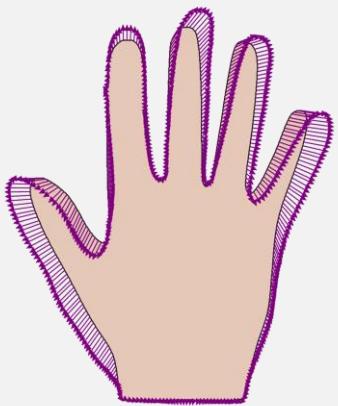
$$k(x, x') = \frac{1}{n-1} \sum_i^n (u^i(x) - \bar{u}(x))(u^i(x') - \bar{u}(x'))^T$$

# Statistical shape models



# Finite observations revisited

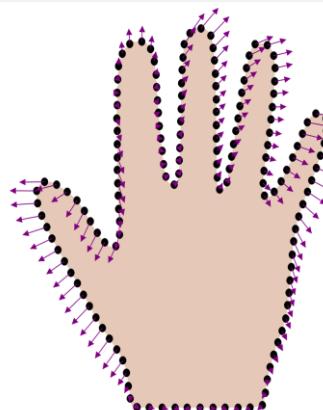
Continuous  
representation



$GP(\mu, k)$

Too Large for real  
3D shapes

Discrete  
representation



$$N \left( \begin{pmatrix} \mu_1(x_1) \\ \mu_2(x_1) \\ \vdots \\ \mu_1(x_n) \\ \mu_2(x_n) \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} k_{11}(x_1, x_1) & k_{12}(x_1, x_1) & \dots & k_{11}(x_1, x_n) & k_{12}(x_1, x_n) \\ k_{21}(x_1, x_1) & k_{22}(x_1, x_1) & \dots & k_{21}(x_1, x_n) & k_{22}(x_1, x_n) \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ k_{11}(x_n, x_1) & k_{12}(x_n, x_1) & \dots & k_{11}(x_n, x_n) & k_{12}(x_n, x_n) \\ k_{21}(x_n, x_1) & k_{22}(x_n, x_1) & \dots & k_{21}(x_n, x_n) & k_{22}(x_n, x_n) \end{pmatrix} \right)$$

# The Karhunen-Loève expansion

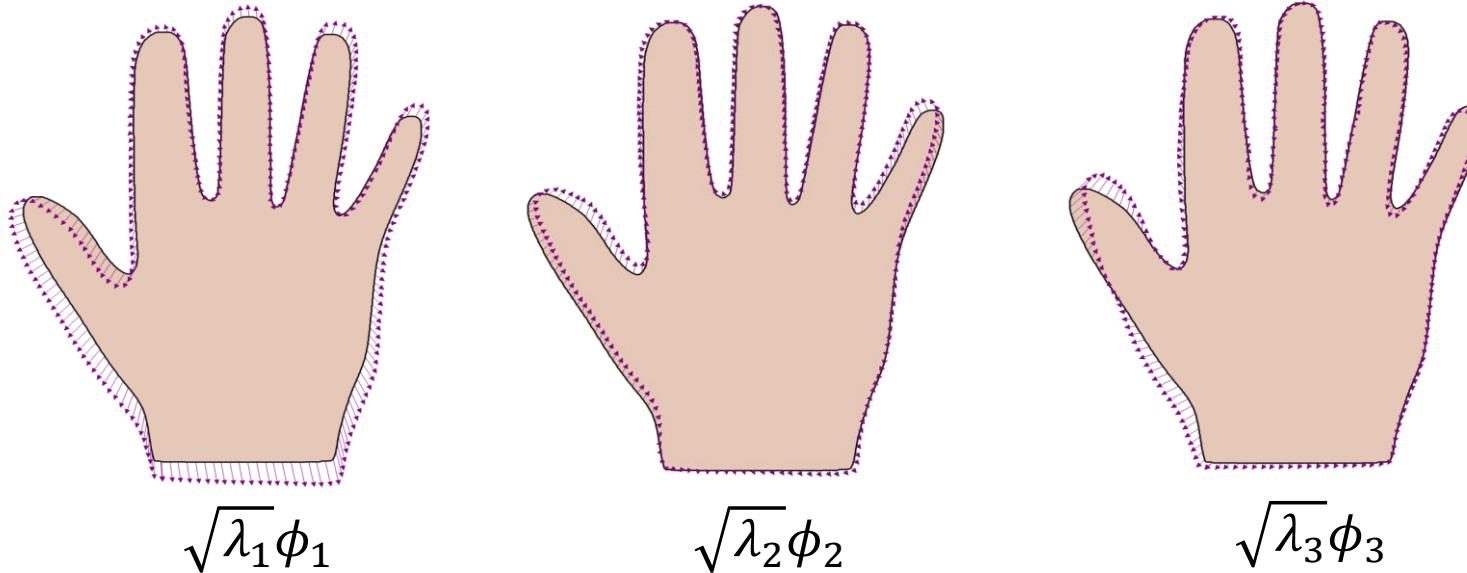
We can write

$$u \sim GP(\mu, k)$$

as

$$u \sim \mu + \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \alpha_i \sqrt{\lambda_i} \phi_i, \quad \alpha_i \sim N(0, 1)$$

$\phi_i$  is the Karhunen-Loève basis and  $\lambda_i$  a scaling factor



## Low-rank approximation

Approximation of rank  $r$

$$u \sim \mu + \sum_{i=1}^{\textcolor{teal}{r}} \alpha_i \sqrt{\lambda_i} \phi_i, \quad \alpha_i \sim N(0, 1)$$

Any deformation  $u$  is determined by the coefficients

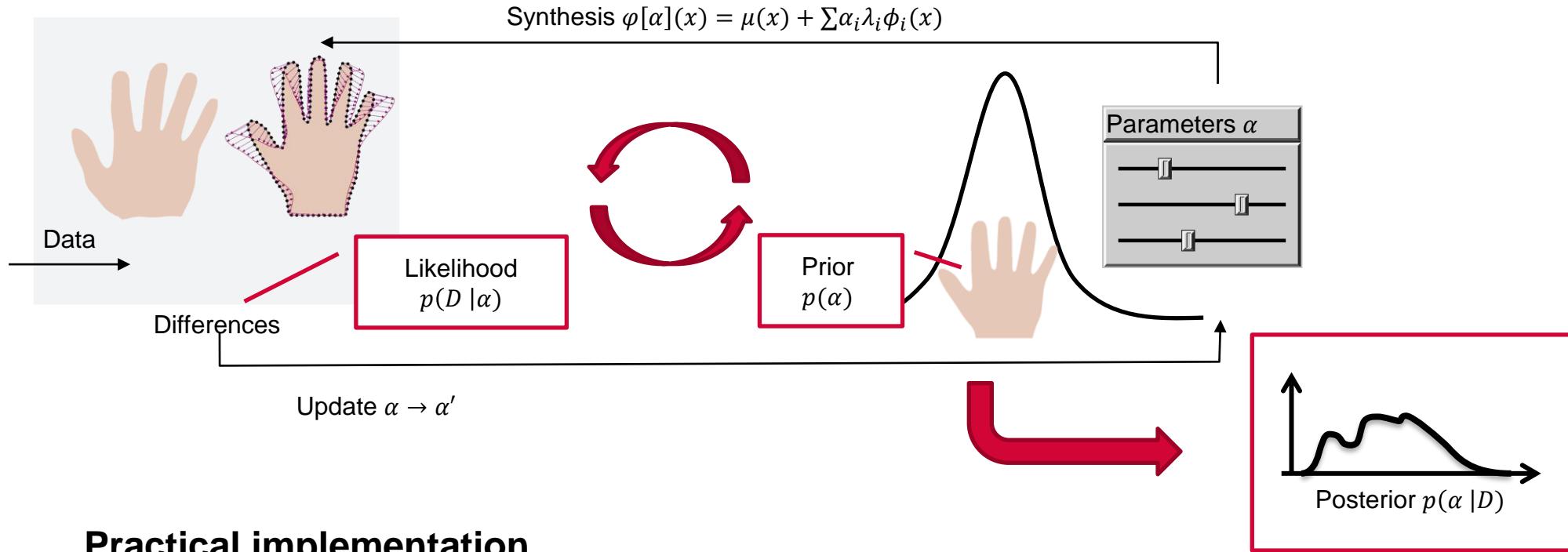
$$\alpha = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_r)$$

$$p(u) = p(\alpha) = \prod_{i=1}^r \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp(-\alpha_i^2/2)$$

*Parametric nonparametrics*

- *We use GPs as a modelling tool, and not because of infinite basis functions.*

# Inference: Analysis-by-Synthesis



## Practical implementation

- Metropolis-Hastings sampling

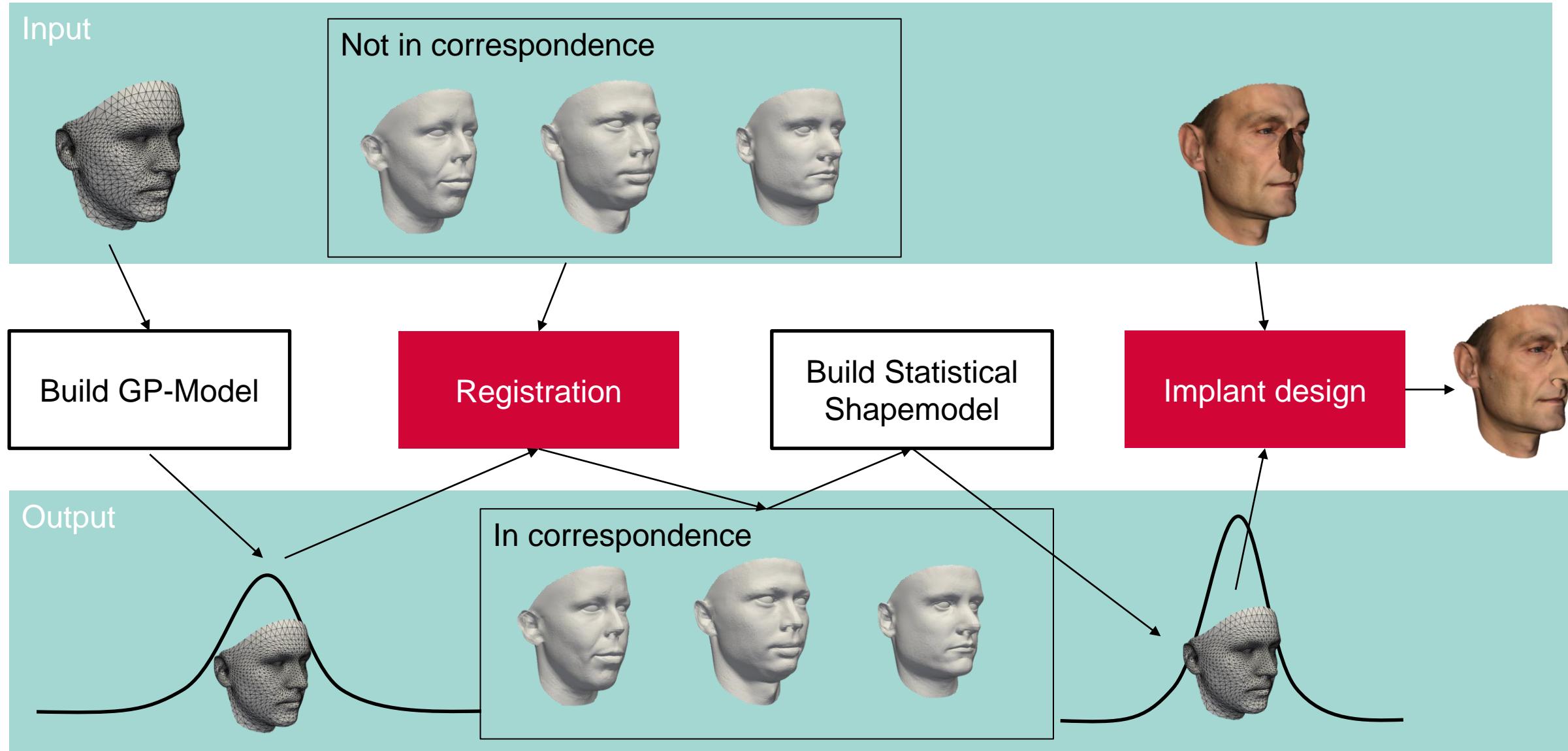
# **Demo**

## **Designing an implant**

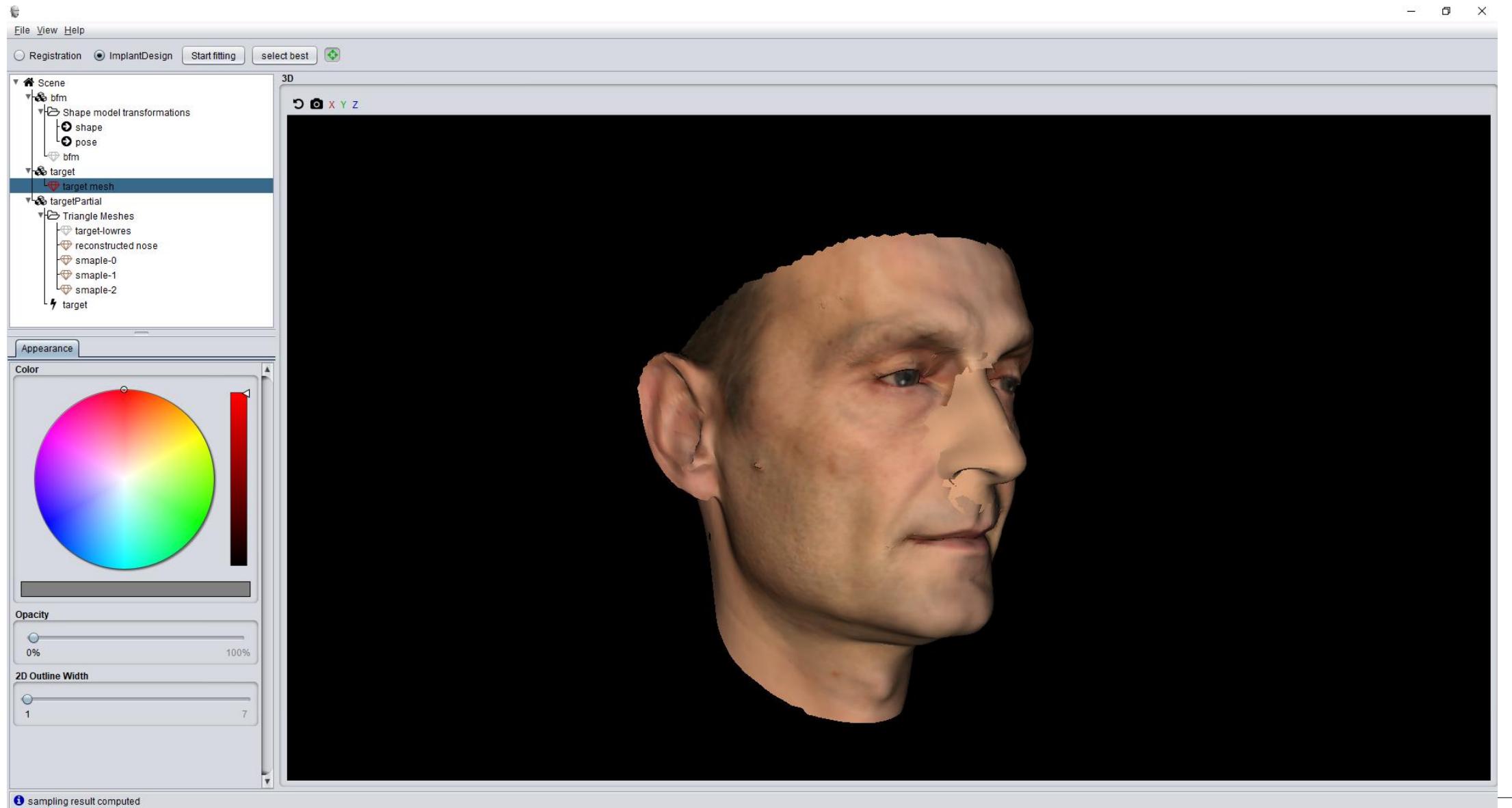


Image: Jasenko Zivanov

# Workflow



# Demo



# References

## Contact

[marcel.luethi@unibas.ch](mailto:marcel.luethi@unibas.ch)

## Graphics and Vision Research Group

<http://gravis.dmi.unibas.ch/>

## Open Source Software

[www.scalismo.org](http://www.scalismo.org)

## Theory

- Lüthi, M., Gerig, T., Jud, C., & Vetter, T. (2017). Gaussian process morphable models. *IEEE transactions on pattern analysis and machine intelligence*
- Schönborn, S., Egger, B., Morel-Forster, A., & Vetter, T. (2017). Markov chain monte carlo for automated face image analysis. *International Journal of Computer Vision*, 123(2), 160-183.

# Questions?

