

*The Waisman Laboratory  
for Brain Imaging and Behavior*



University of Wisconsin  
**SCHOOL OF MEDICINE  
AND PUBLIC HEALTH**

# Weighted Fourier Analysis and Shape Parameterization

Moo K. Chung

Department of Biostatistics and Medical Informatics  
Waisman Laboratory for Brain Imaging and Behavior  
University of Wisconsin-Madison

[www.stat.wisc.edu/~mchung](http://www.stat.wisc.edu/~mchung)

# STAT768/BMI768

## Statistical Methods for Medical Image Analysis

Data/Image Visualization

Multivariate Analysis

Hilbert and Fourier Methods

Fixed and Mixed-Effect Models

Logistic Regression/Classification

Multiple Comparisons/Power Analysis

Regression/Statistical Inference on Manifolds

Everything you will see in today's lecture

Textbook: **Computational Neuroanatomy: The Methods**,  
Moo K. Chung, World Scientific Publishing 2012.





# Acknowledgments



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Department of Brain and Cognitive Sciences  
Seoul National University



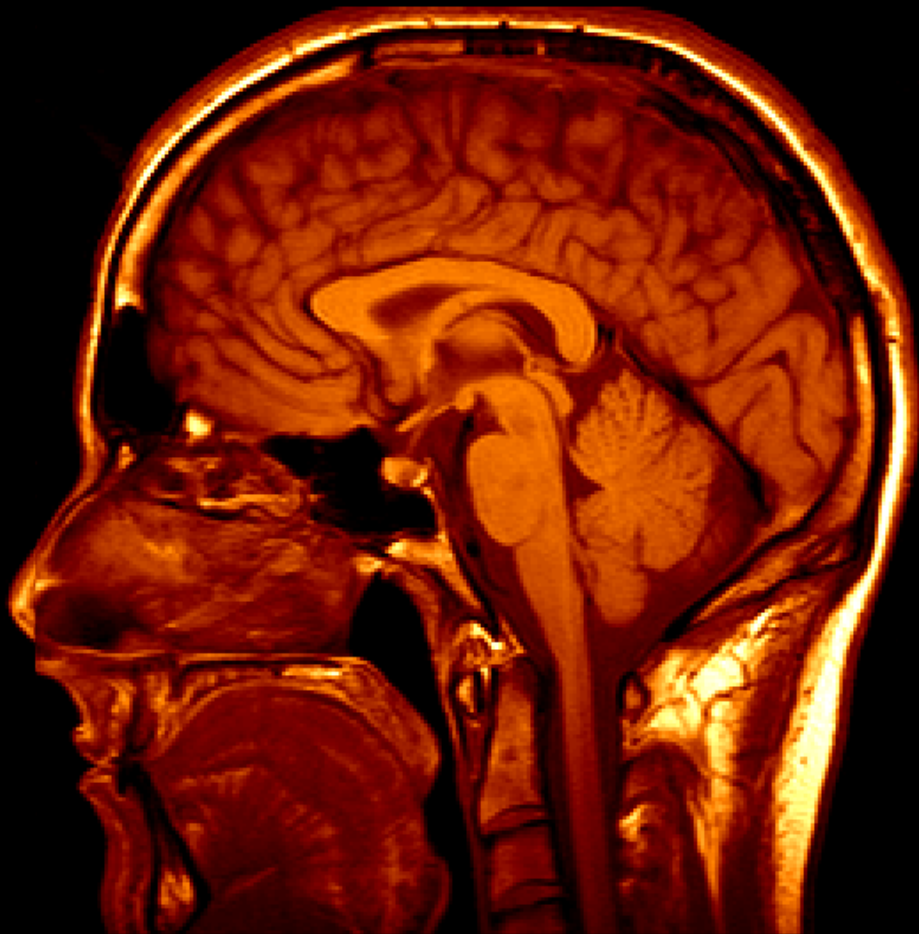
Houri Vorperian  
Vocal Tract Laboratory, Waisman Center  
University of Wisconsin-Madison



# Motivation



# 3 Tesla Magnetic Resonance Imaging



1 brain image  
=  $200 \times 200 \times 100$  array  
= 4million measurements

# Cortical geometry

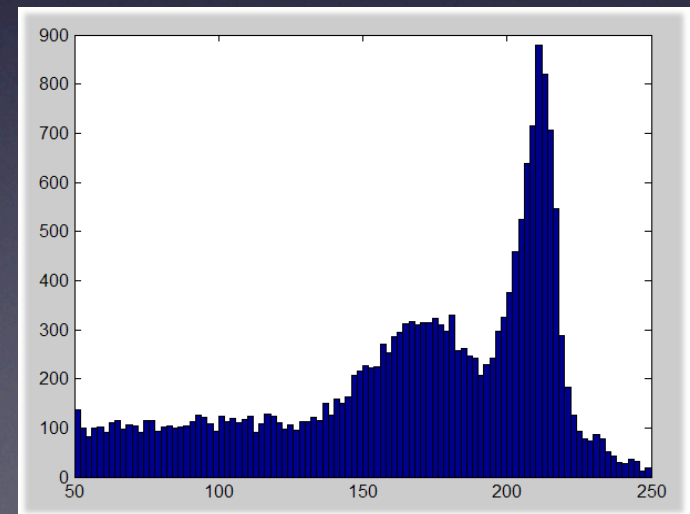
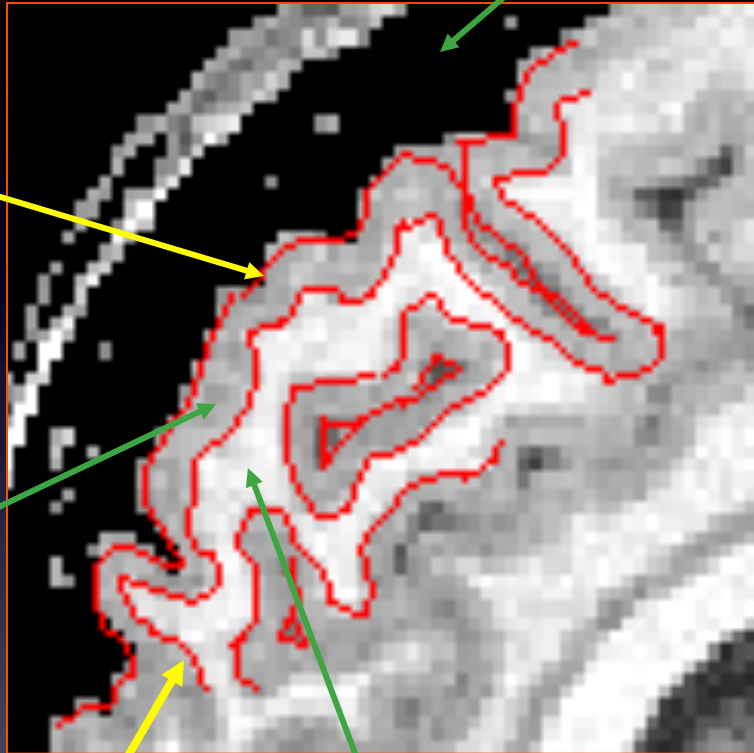
Cerebral Spinal Fluid (CSF)

Outer  
Cortical  
Surface

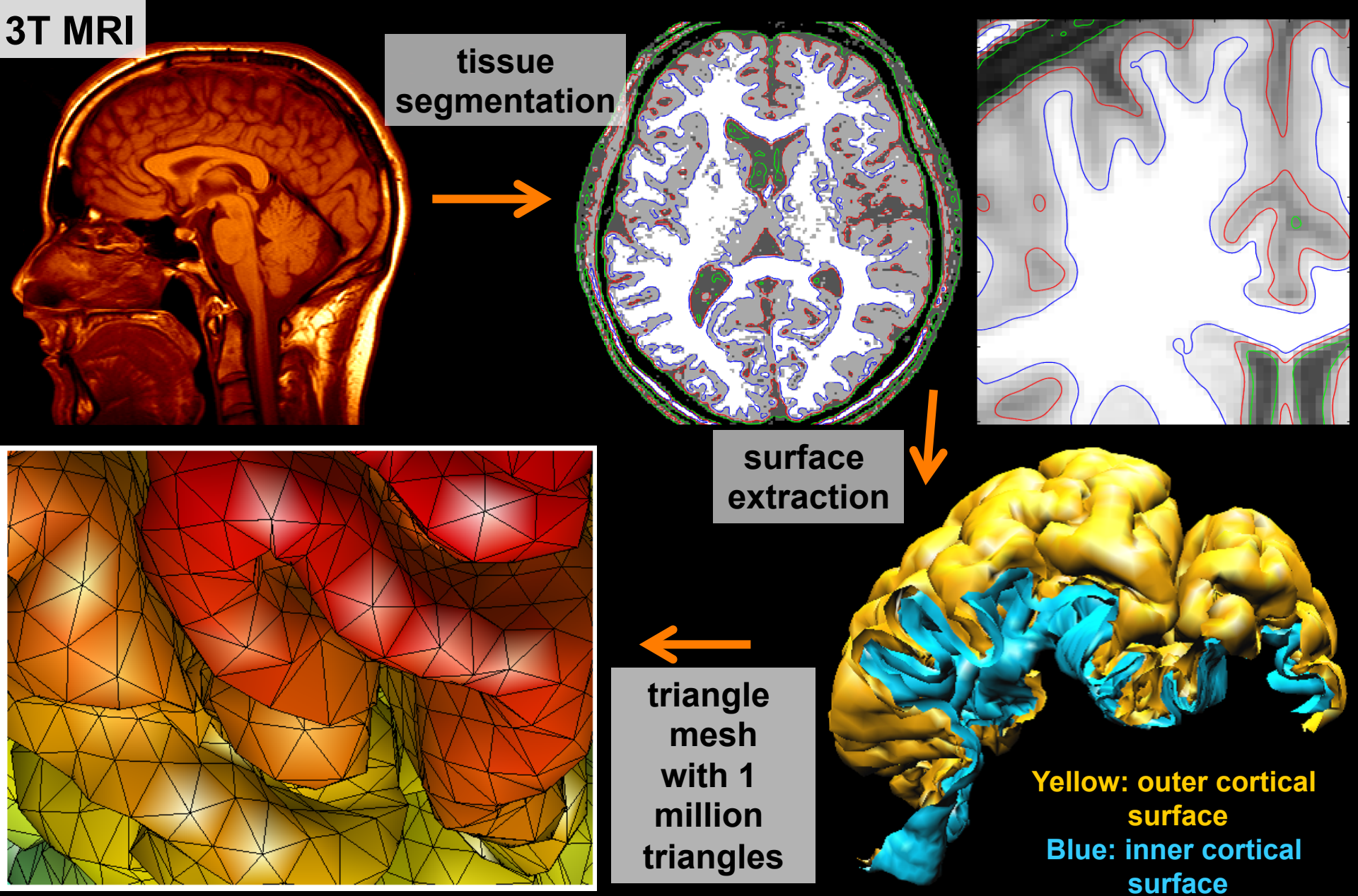
Gray  
Matter

Inner  
Cortical  
Surface

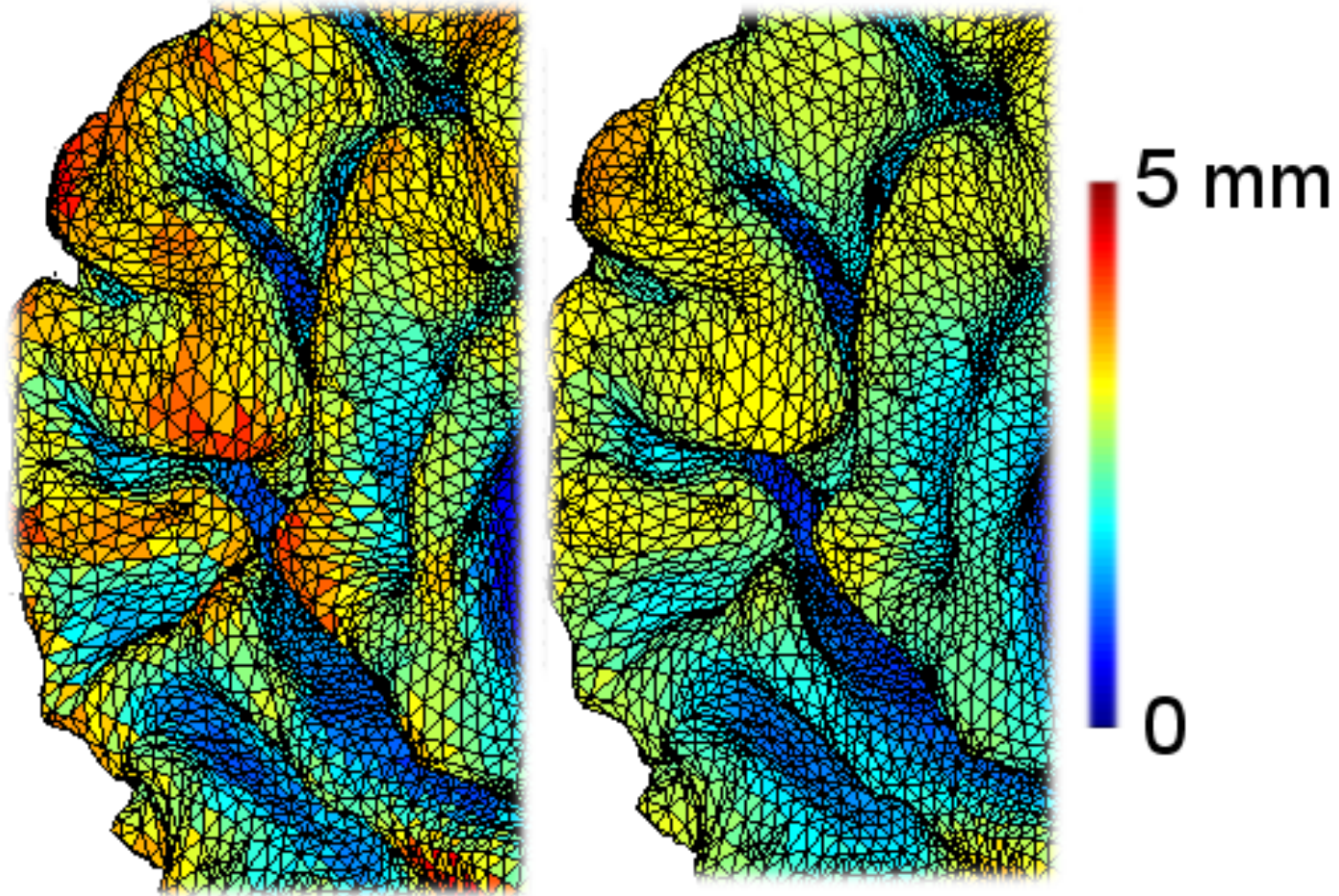
White  
Matter







# Noise in measurement



noise cortical  
thickness

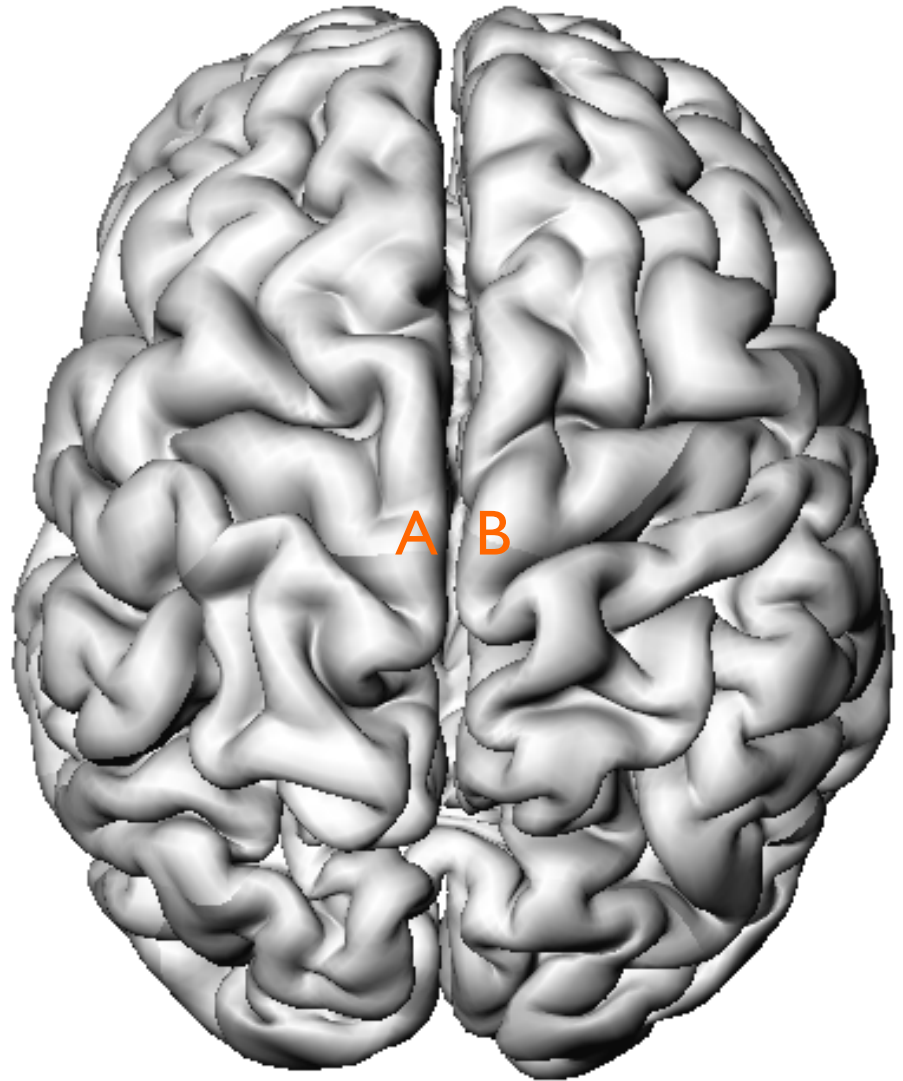
after smoothing



3D Gaussian kernel  
smoothing will blur  
measurements  
between A and B.

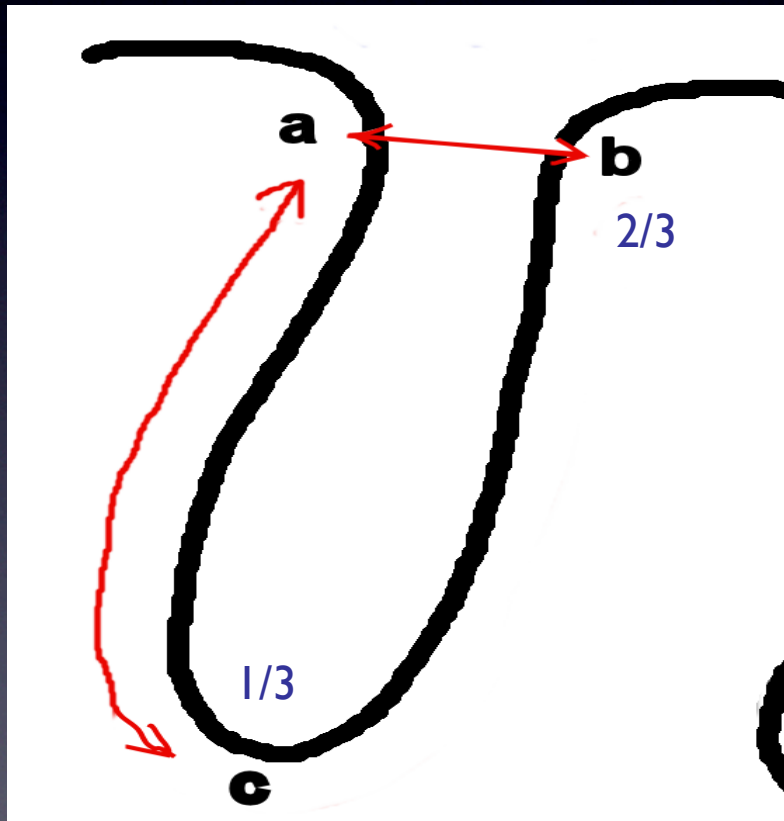


Need to smooth  
along the surface.

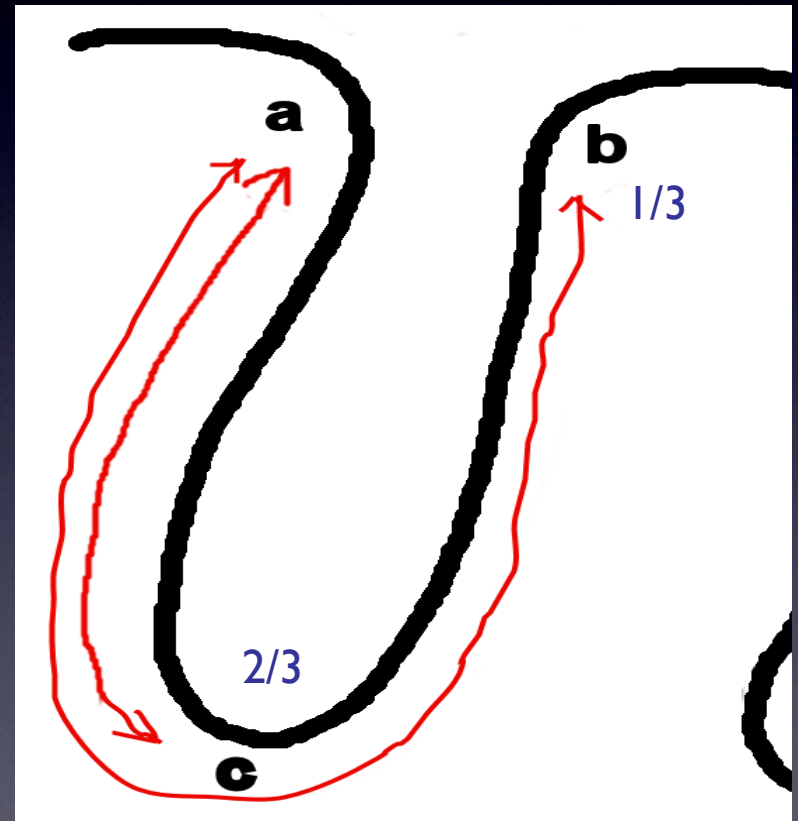


# Assigning smoothing kernel weights

Due to curved geometry, the shortest distance between two points is not a straight line. So we may incorrectly assign less weights to closer observations.



3D volume based kernel weighting



2D surface based kernel weighting



# Cortical surface smoothing techniques from my group

Chung et al., 2001 NeuroImage 13S:96

Chung et al., 2003 CVPR 467-473

Chung et al., 2005 NeuroImage 25:1256-65

Chung et al., 2005 IPMI 627-638

Chung et al., 2007 IEEE TMI 26:566-581

Chung et al., 2008 IEEE TMI 27:1143-1151

Seo et al., 2010 MICCAI 505-512

Kim et al., 2012 MMBIA

# Diffusion smoothing

Chung et al., 2001 NeuroImage 13S:96

Chung et al., 2003 CVPR 467-473



# Heat Kernel Smoothing by approximating Gaussian kernel

Chung et al., 2005 NeuroImage 25:1256-65  
Chung et al., 2005 IPMI 627-638

# Weighted Fourier

requires mapping to a sphere

Chung et al., 2007 IEEE TMI 26:566-581

Chung et al., 2008 IEEE TMI 27:1143-1151



# Heat Kernel Smoothing via Laplace-Beltrami eigenfunctions

Seo et al., 2010 MICCAI 505-512

Kim et al., 2011 PSIVT 36-47

# Sparse Smoothing via Laplace-Beltrami eigenfunctions

Kim et al., 2012 MMBIA



# Polynomial model for surfaces

# Parameterization using polynomials

$$f(p) = \beta_0 \phi_0(p) + \beta_1 \phi_1(p) + \cdots + \beta_k \phi_k(p)$$

We use  $\{1, p, p^2, p^3, p^4, \dots\}$  as a basis.

Parameters are estimated using the least squares method.



# Estimating Fourier coefficients

- For each point  $p_i$ , we have measurement  $f(p_i)$ .
- Corresponding Fourier series:

$$f(p_i) = \beta_0 \phi_0(p_i) + \beta_1 \phi_1(p_i) + \cdots + \beta_k \phi_k(p_i)$$

- Matrix form:

$$F = \Phi \beta$$

$$\beta = (\Phi' \Phi)^{-1} \Phi' F$$

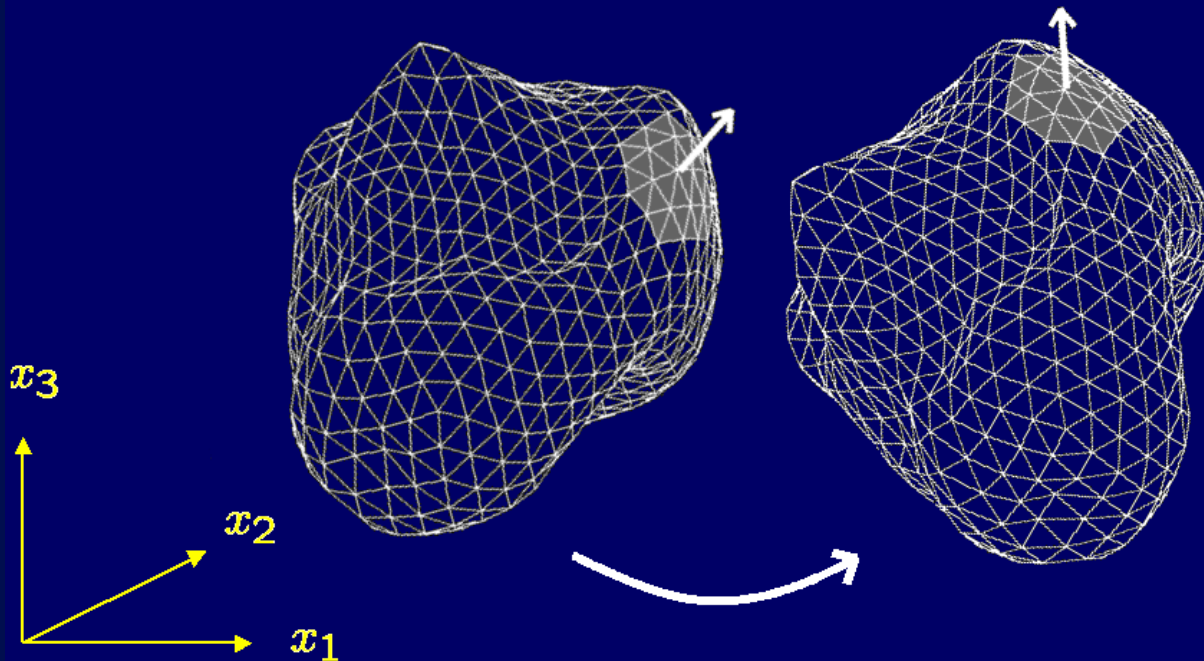
- This is a nontrivial linear problem if  $k$  is huge.

*Exercise. Solve this problem with MATLAB when  $n, k > 1$  million*  
*Answer: attend BMI768*

# Surface Parameterization via quadratic surface

Global: tensor splines, SPHARM  
Local: quadratic surface fitting

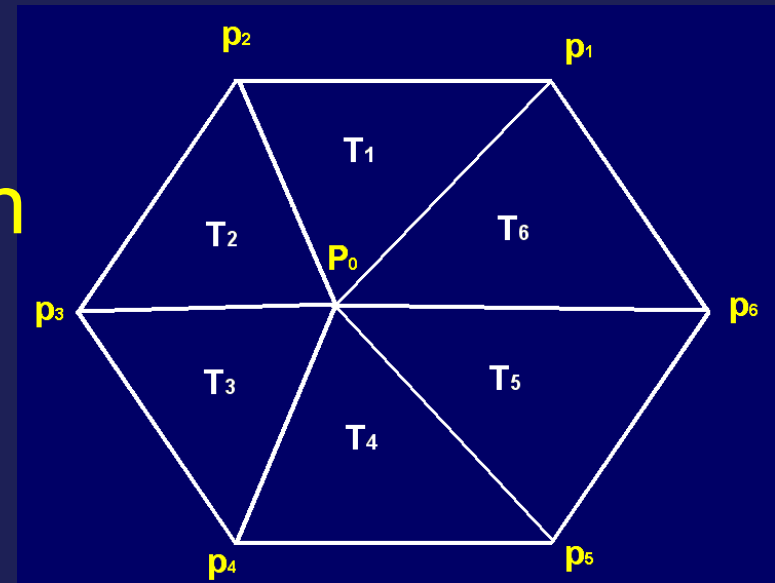
$$X(u^1, u^2) = \begin{pmatrix} x_1(u^1, u^2) \\ x_2(u^1, u^2) \\ x_3(u^1, u^2) \end{pmatrix}$$



$$s(u^1, u^2) = \beta_1 u_1 + \beta_2 u_2 + \beta_3 u_1^2 + 2\beta_4 u_1 u_2 + \beta_5 u_2^2 + \dots$$

# Polynomial regression on irregular triangular mesh

$$Y = X\beta$$



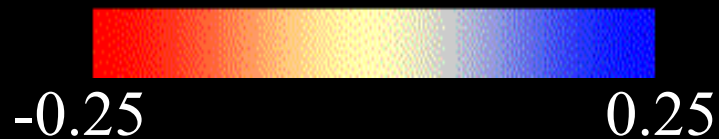
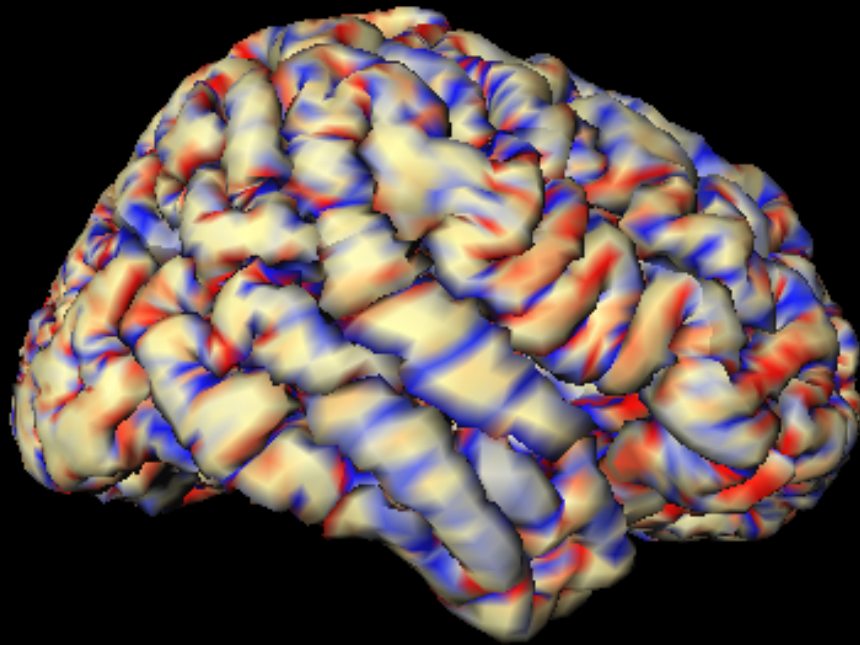
$$\begin{pmatrix} u_1^3 \\ u_2^3 \\ \vdots \\ u_m^3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} u_1^1 & u_1^2 & (u_1^1)^2 & u_1^1 u_1^2 & (u_1^2)^2 \\ u_2^1 & u_2^2 & (u_2^1)^2 & u_2^1 u_2^2 & (u_2^2)^2 \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ u_m^1 & u_m^2 & (u_m^1)^2 & u_m^1 u_m^2 & (u_m^2)^2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \beta_1 \\ \beta_2 \\ \vdots \\ \beta_m \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\hat{\beta} = (X'X)^{-1}X'Y$$

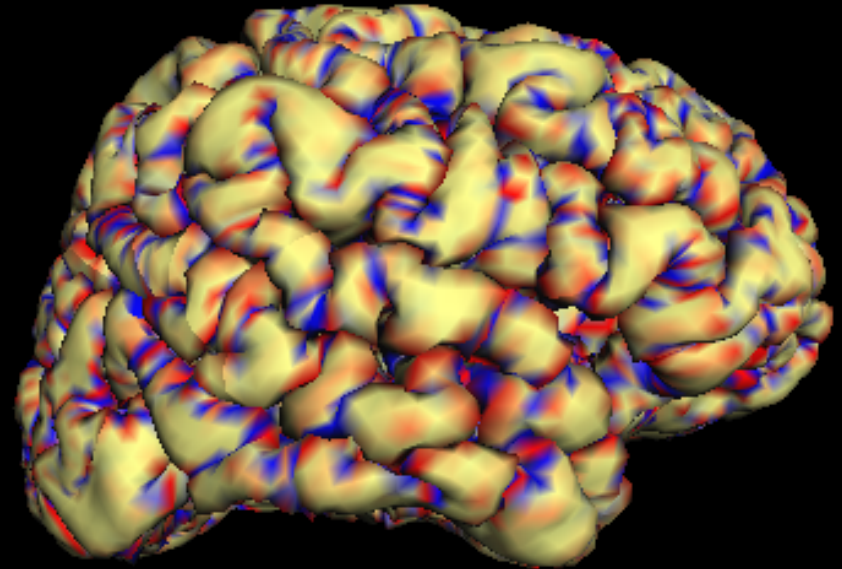


# Curvature estimation from polynomial fit

Mean Curvature



Gaussian Curvature

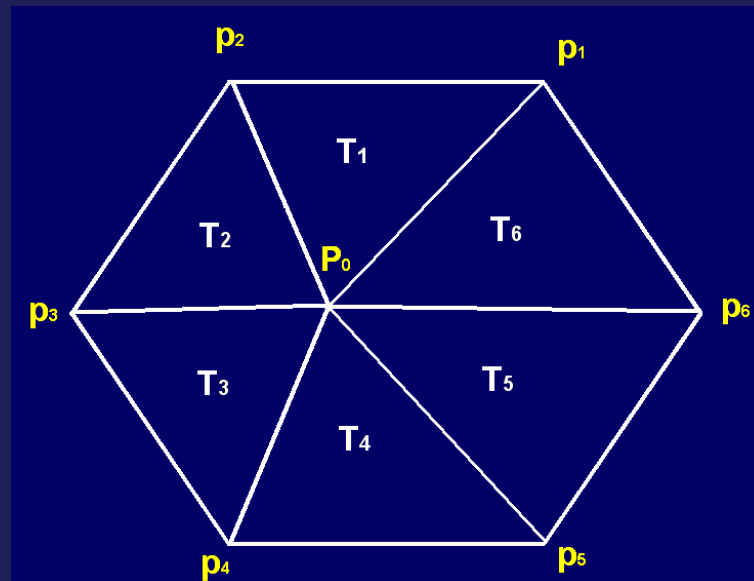


*Exercise. Compute curvatures for brain surfaces. This is not an easy problem. Due to high noise, you won't be able to display this type of smooth curvature maps.*

# Laplace-Beltrami Operator

$$\Delta_X F = \frac{1}{|g|^{1/2}} \sum_{i,j=1}^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial u^i} \left( |g|^{1/2} g^{ij} \frac{\partial F}{\partial u^j} \right)$$

Estimating differential operator on manifolds



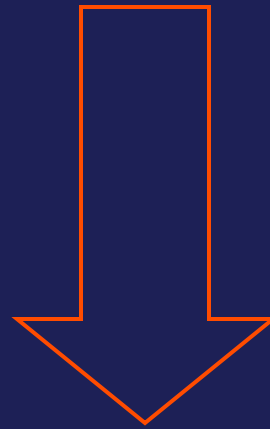
$$\widehat{\Delta} F(p_0) = w_0 F(p_0) + w_1 F(p_1) + \cdots + w_m F(p_m)$$

## Estimation via conformal transformation

$$s(u^1, u^2) = \beta_1 u_1 + \beta_2 u_2 + \beta_3 u_1^2 + 2\beta_4 u_1 u_2 + \beta_5 u_2^2 + \dots$$

Laplace-Beltrami  
operator is invariant

$$g = \begin{pmatrix} 1 + \beta_1^2 & \beta_1 \beta_2 \\ \beta_1 \beta_2 & 1 + \beta_2^2 \end{pmatrix}$$



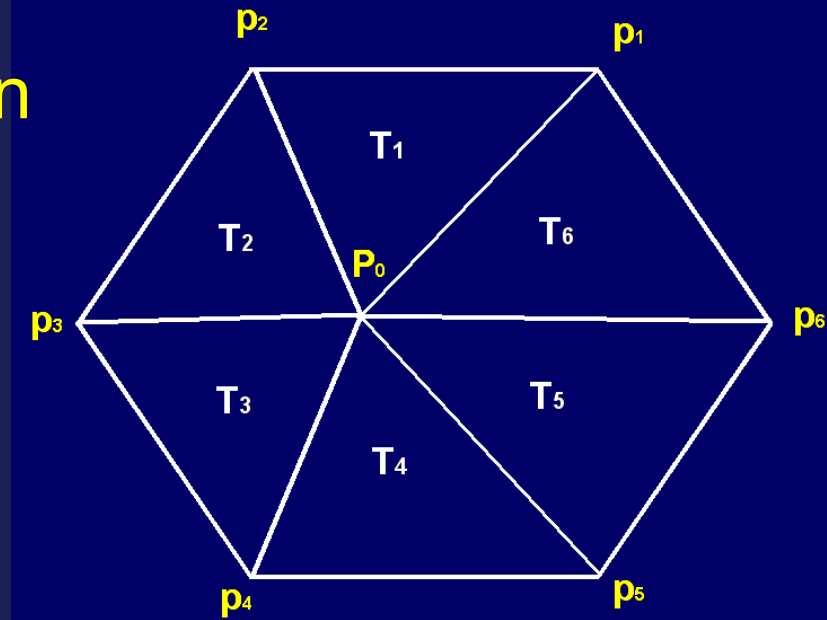
$$s(v^1, v^2) = \gamma_1 (v^1)^2 + \gamma_2 v^1 v^2 + \gamma_3 (v^2)^2 + \dots$$

$$g = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\Delta_X = \frac{1}{\lambda} \left( \frac{\partial^2}{\partial^2 u^1} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial^2 u^2} \right)$$



# Estimating the planar Laplacian on irregular triangular mesh



$$Y = X\beta$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} F(p_1) - F(p_0) \\ F(p_2) - F(p_0) \\ \vdots \\ F(p_m) - F(p_0) \end{pmatrix} =$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} v_1^1 & v_1^2 & (v_1^1)^2 & v_1^1 v_1^2 & (v_1^2)^2 \\ v_2^1 & v_2^2 & (v_2^1)^2 & v_2^1 v_2^2 & (v_2^2)^2 \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ v_m^1 & v_m^2 & (v_m^1)^2 & v_m^1 v_m^2 & (v_m^2)^2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial F(p_0)}{\partial v^1} \\ \frac{\partial F(p_0)}{\partial v^2} \\ \frac{\partial^2 F(p_0)}{\partial (v^1)^2} \\ \frac{\partial^2 F(p_0)}{\partial v^1 \partial v^2} \\ \frac{\partial^2 F(p_0)}{\partial (v^2)^2} \end{pmatrix}$$

# Diffusion smoothing

Chung et al., 2001 NeuroImage 13S:96

Chung et al., 2003 CVPR 467-473

# Diffusion smoothing

Diffusion equation

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial t} = \Delta f, \quad f(x, t = 0) = X(x)$$



$$\sigma = \sqrt{2t}$$

Heat kernel smoothing

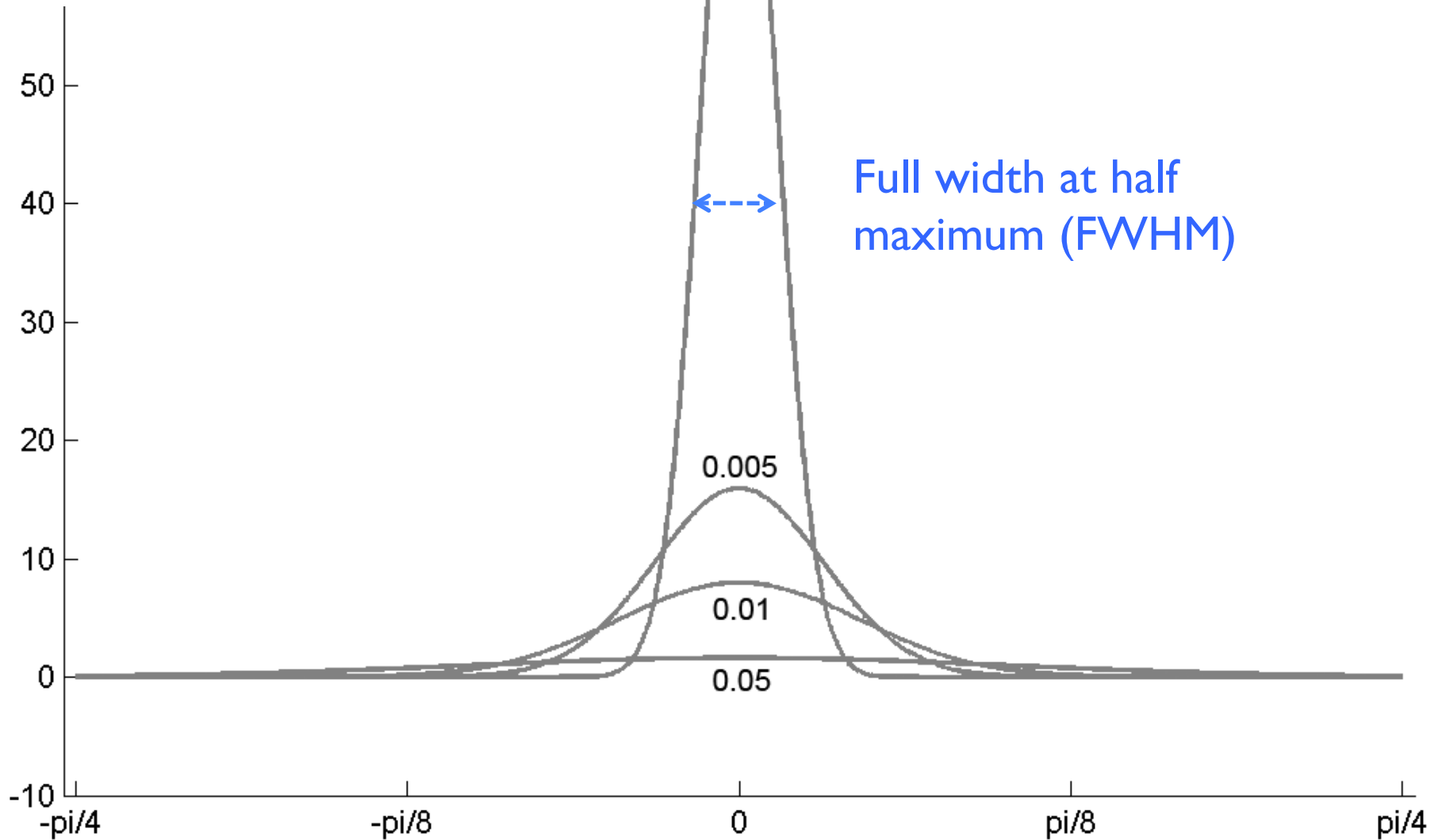
$$f = K_{\sigma} * X$$



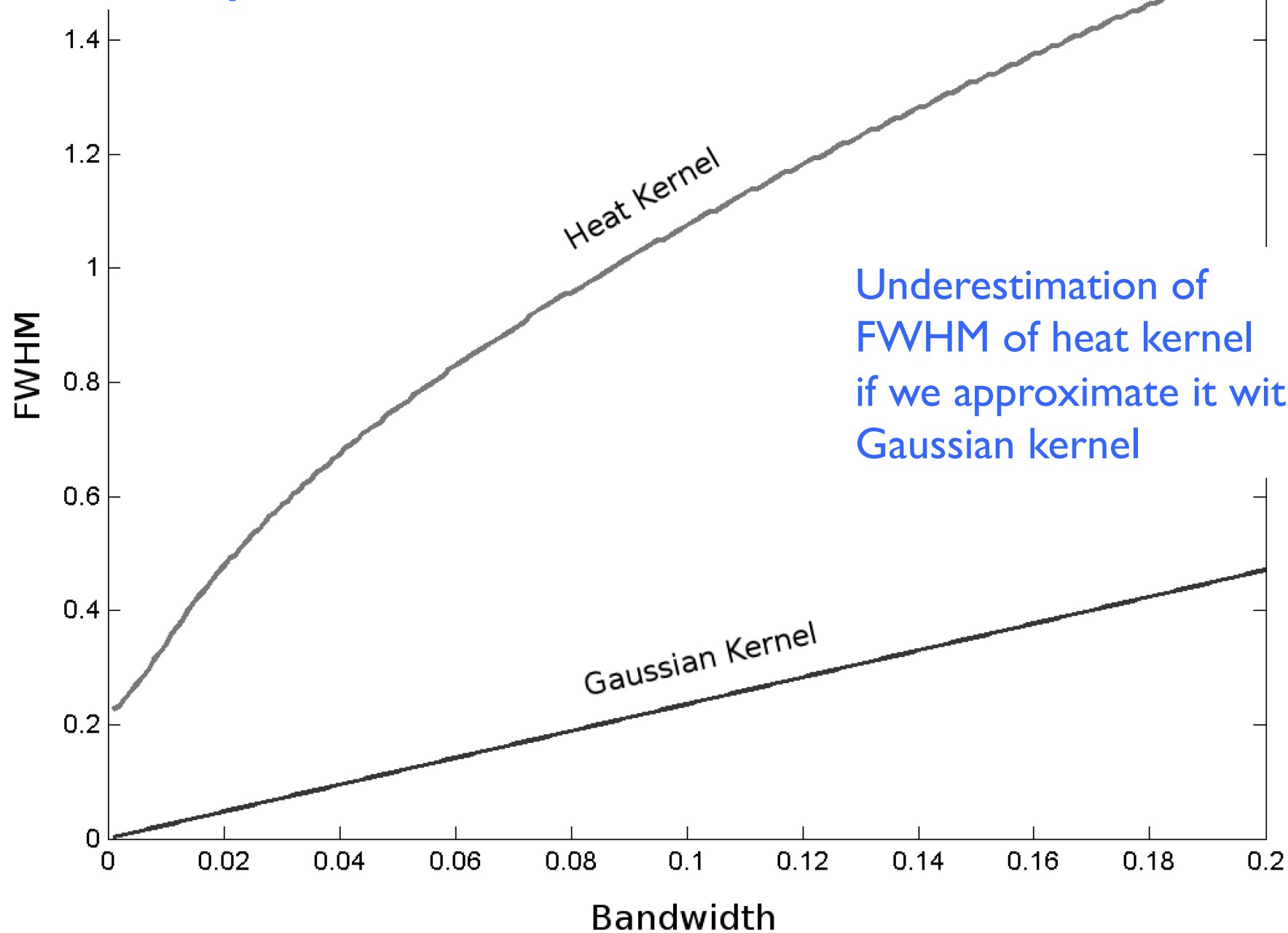
# On unit sphere

70

Heat kernel shape is different  
from Gaussian kernel shape



# On unit sphere

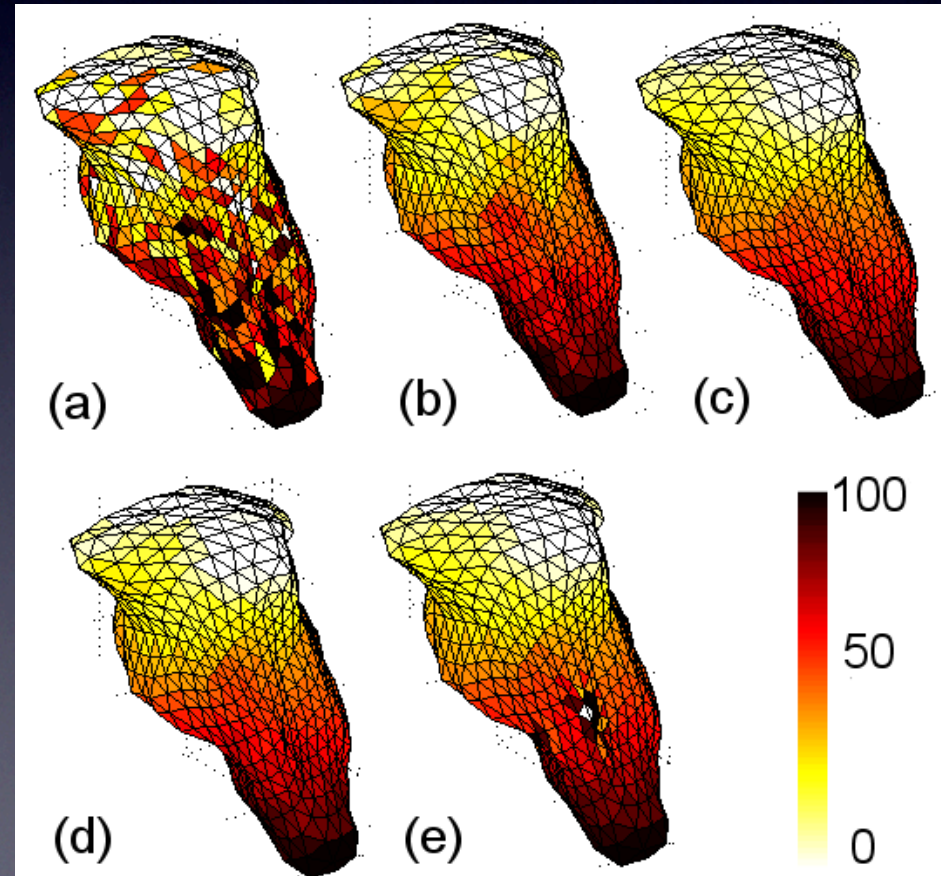


# Diffusion equation approaches

*Andrade et al. 2001* -- Quadratic polynomial fitting

*Chung et al. 2001* -- Cotan formulation

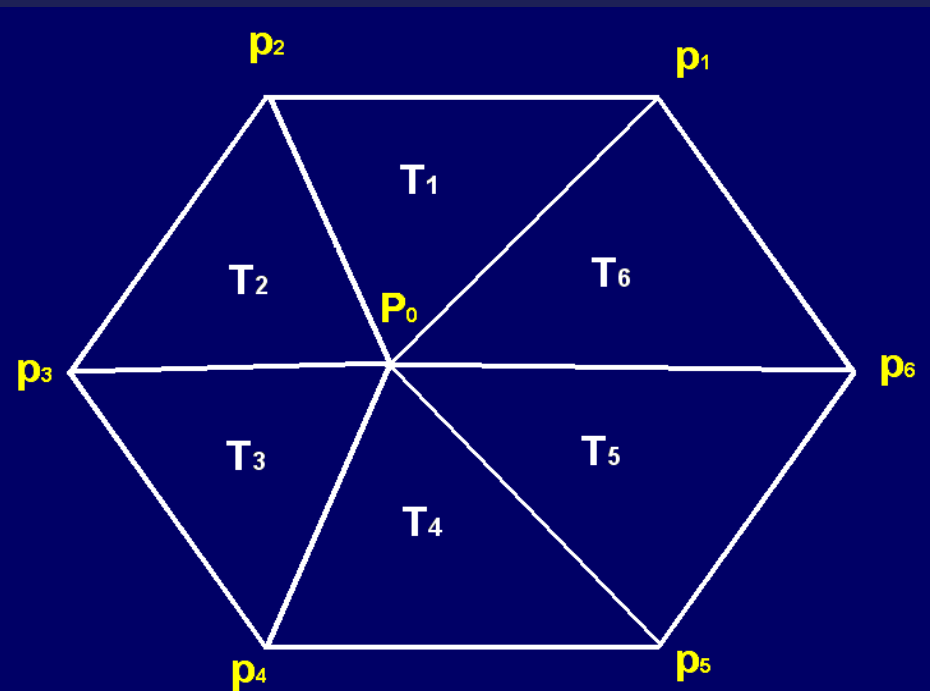
- Need to discretize PDF
- Possible numerical instability in the forward Euler scheme





# FEM-based cotan formulation for LB-operator

$$\Delta_X F = \frac{1}{|g|^{1/2}} \sum_{i,j=1}^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial u^i} \left( |g|^{1/2} g^{ij} \frac{\partial F}{\partial u^j} \right)$$



$$w_i = \frac{\cot \theta_i + \cot \phi_i}{\sum_{i=1}^m |T_i|}$$

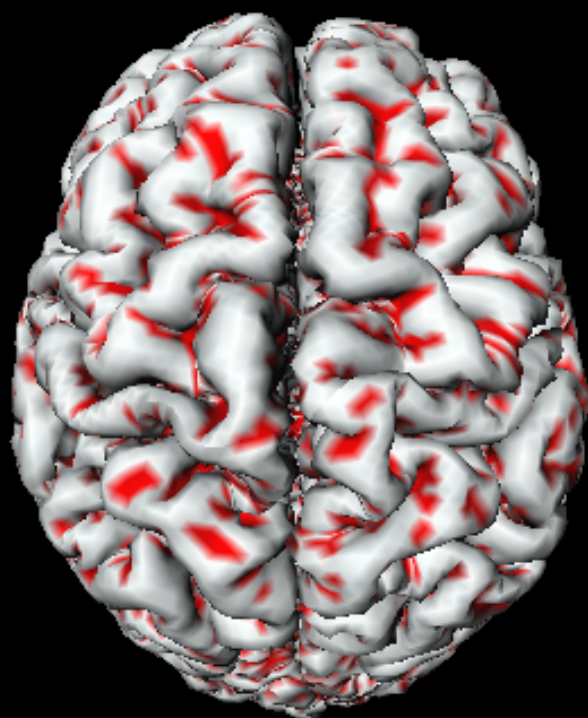


*Chung et al., 2001,  
OHBM, 2003 CVPR.*

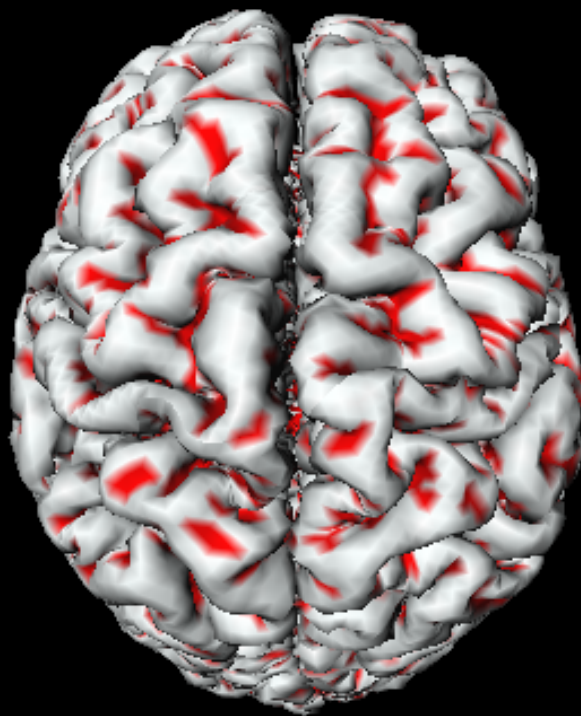
$$\hat{\Delta} F(p_0) = w_0 F(p_0) + w_1 F(p_1) + \dots + w_m F(p_m)$$

*Lopez-Perez et al,  
2004, ECCV.*

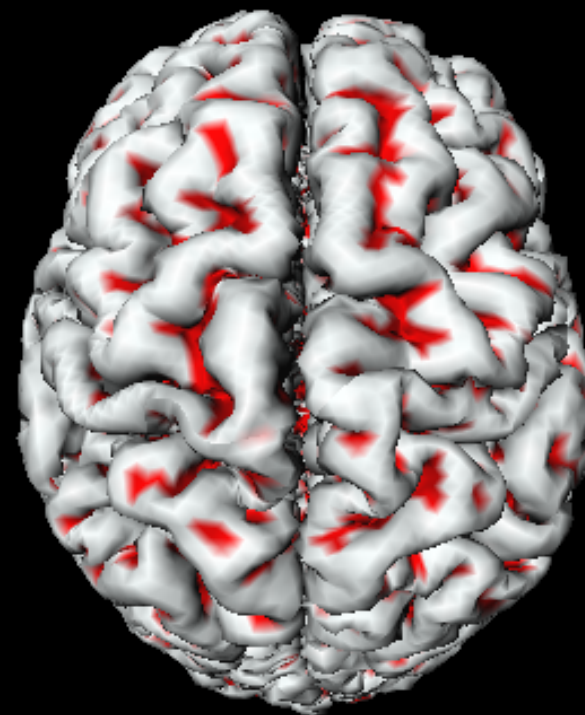
# 5mm FWHM Diffusion Smoothing



mean curvature



20 iterations



100 iterations

# Heat Kernel Smoothing by approximating Gaussian kernel

Chung et al., 2005 NeuroImage 25:1256-65  
Chung et al., 2005 IPMI 627-638



# Approximating heat kernel with Gaussian kernel

Parametrix expansion (*Rosenberg, 1997*):

$$K_{\sigma}(p, q) = \frac{1}{(4\pi\sigma)^{1/2}} e^{-\frac{d^2(p, q)}{4\sigma}} [1 + O(\sigma^2)]$$

For small bandwidth and close  $p$  and  $q$ ,  
heat kernel collapses to Gaussian kernel.

# Iterative kernel smoothing

Most widely used cortical smoothing approach  
Implemented in almost all brain imaging tools  
SurfStat, FreeSurfer, AFNI

$$K_{k\sigma} * f = \underbrace{K_{\sigma} * \cdots * K_{\sigma}}_{k \text{ times}} * f$$



## Studies that used MATLAB tools given in *Chung et al. Neurolmage (2005)*

Between 2006-2007:

cortical curvatures (Luders, 2006; Gaser, 2006)

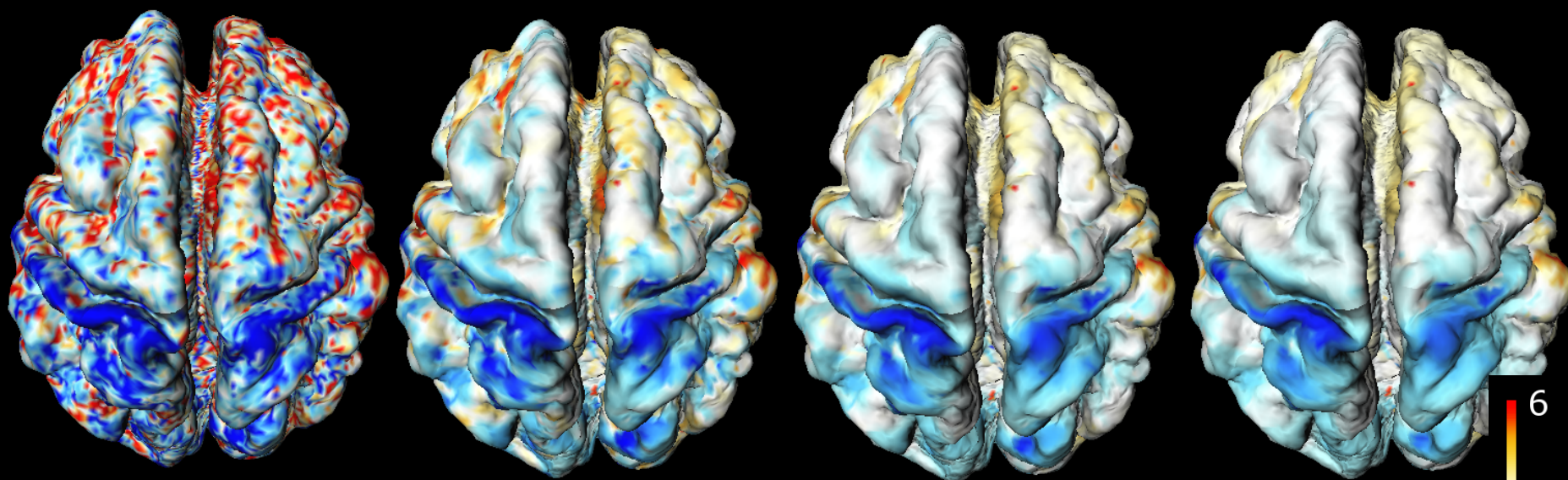
cortical thickness (Luders, 2006; Bernal-Rusiel, 2008)

hippocampus shape (Shen, 2006; Zhu, 2007)

magnetoencephalography (Han, 2007)

functional-MRI (Hagler, 2006; Jo, 2007)



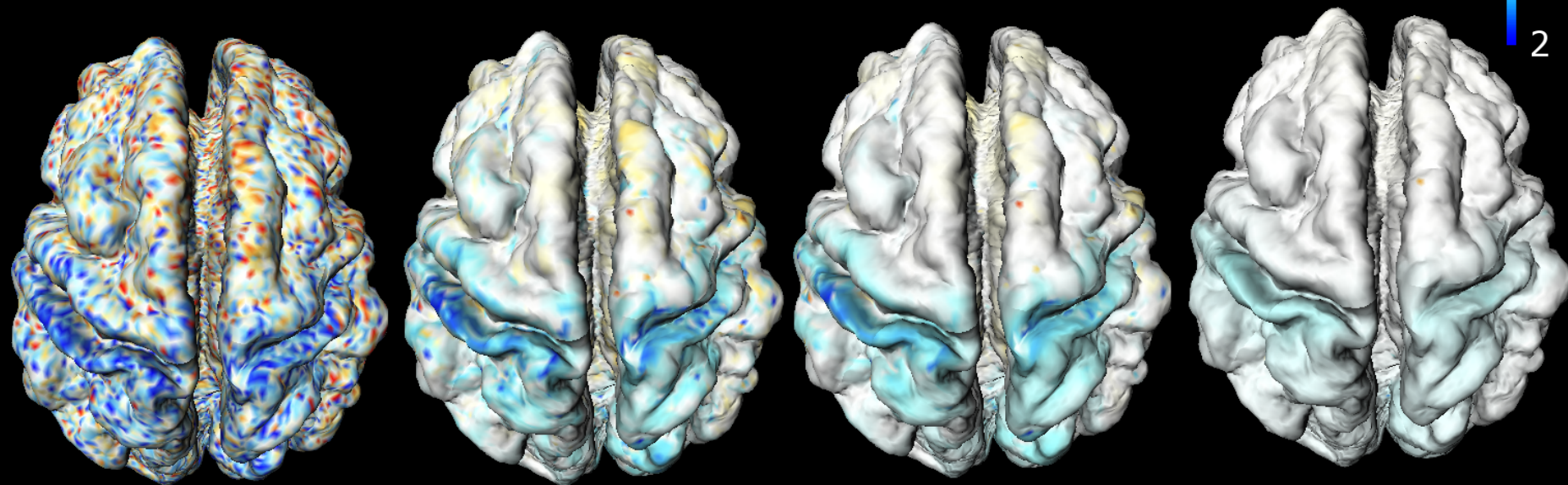
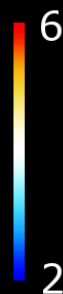


Subject 1

20

100

200



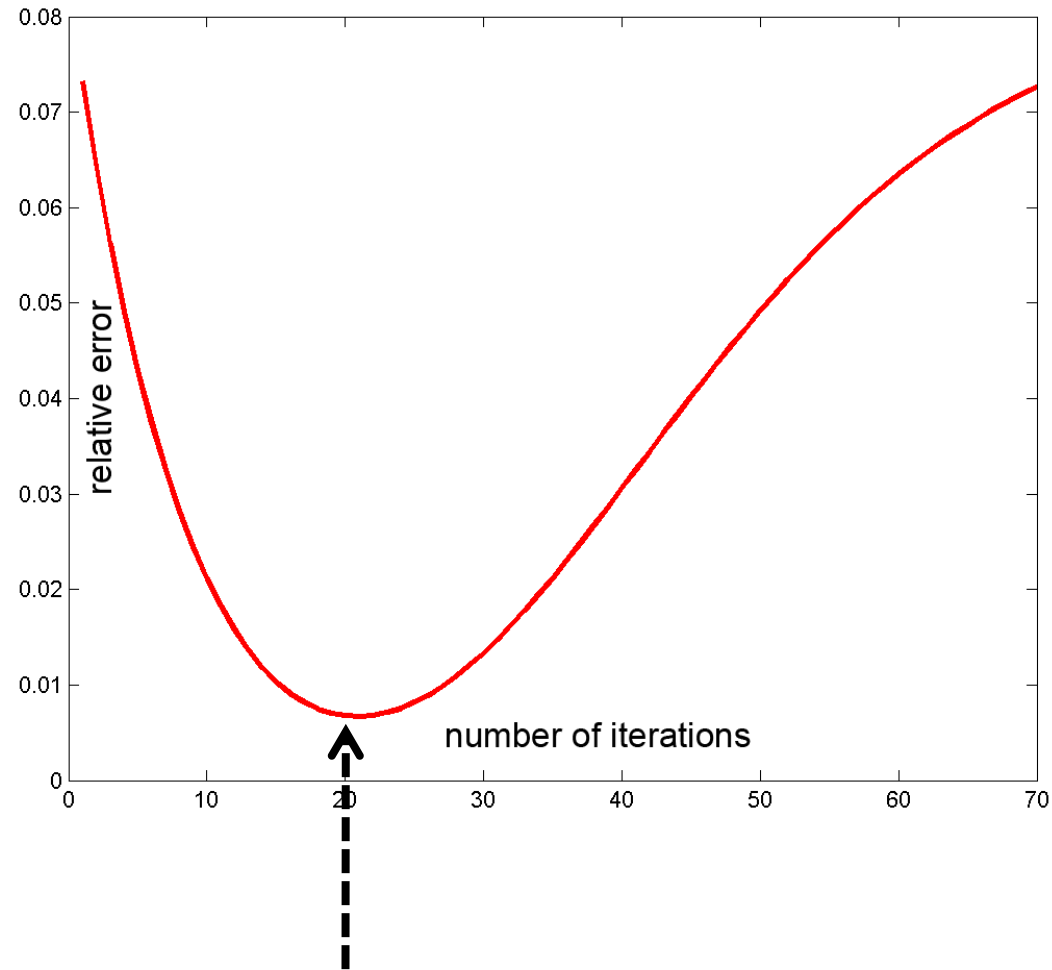
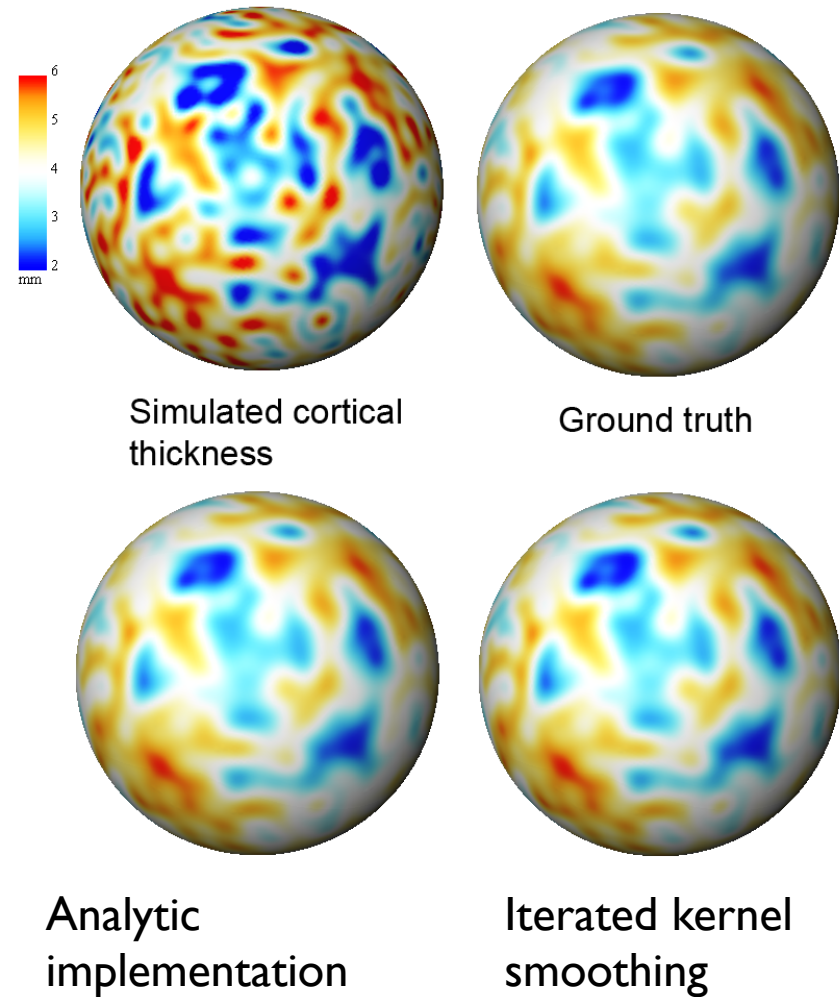
Simulation

20

200

5000

# Iteration does not converge well



Iterated kernel smoothing error 0.0067



# Weighted Fourier

requires mapping to a sphere

Chung et al., 2007 IEEE TMI 26:566-581

Chung et al., 2008 IEEE TMI 27:1143-1151



# Spherical harmonic (SPHARM) representation

It is a technique for parameterizing anatomical boundaries using the spherical harmonic basis.

The surface coordinates  $x, y, z$  are expressed as a linear combination of basis functions. For instance,

$$x(p) = \sum_{j=0}^k \beta_j \psi_j(p)$$

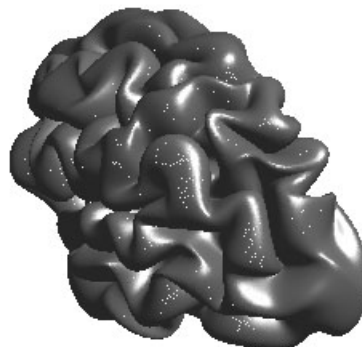
# FreeSurfer results



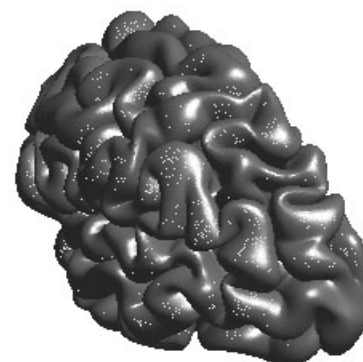
0



10



20



30



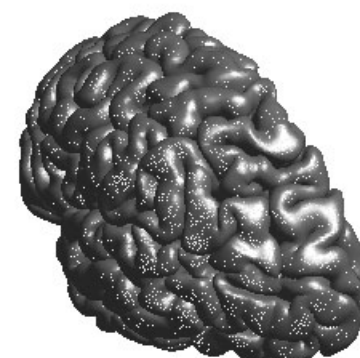
40



50



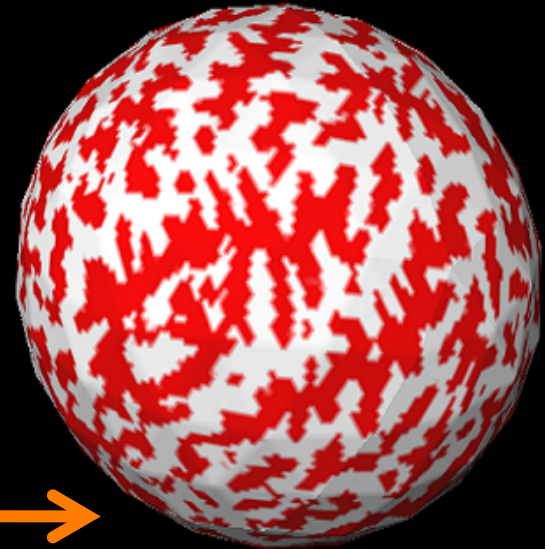
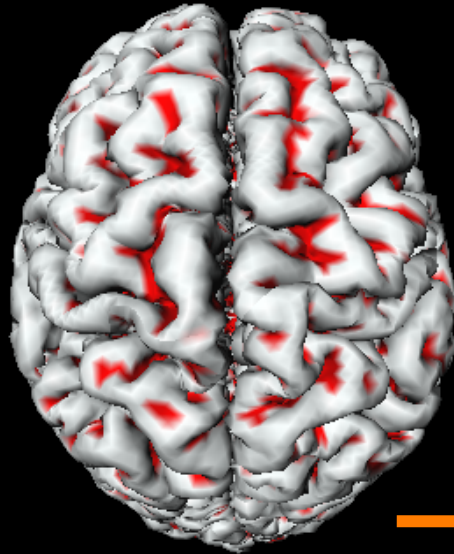
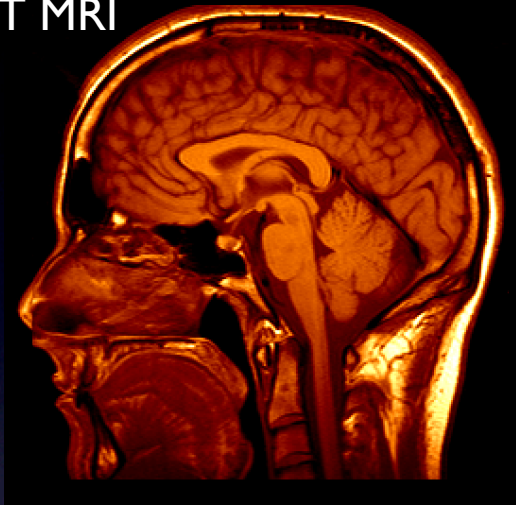
60



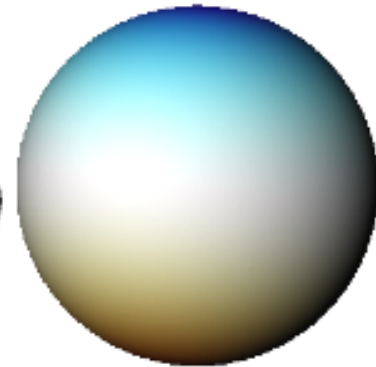
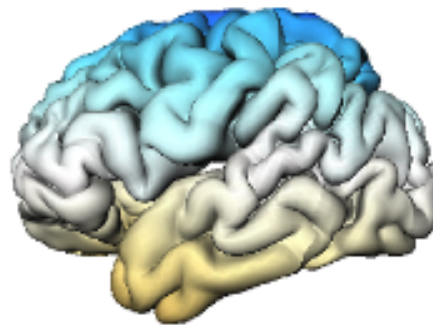
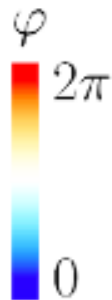
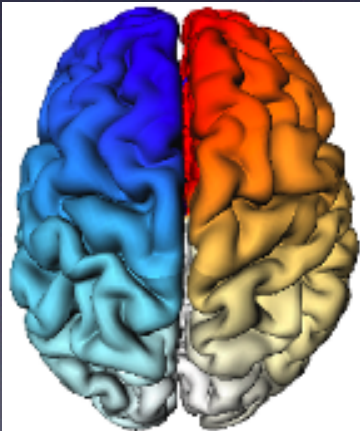
70

# Cortical surface flattening

3T MRI



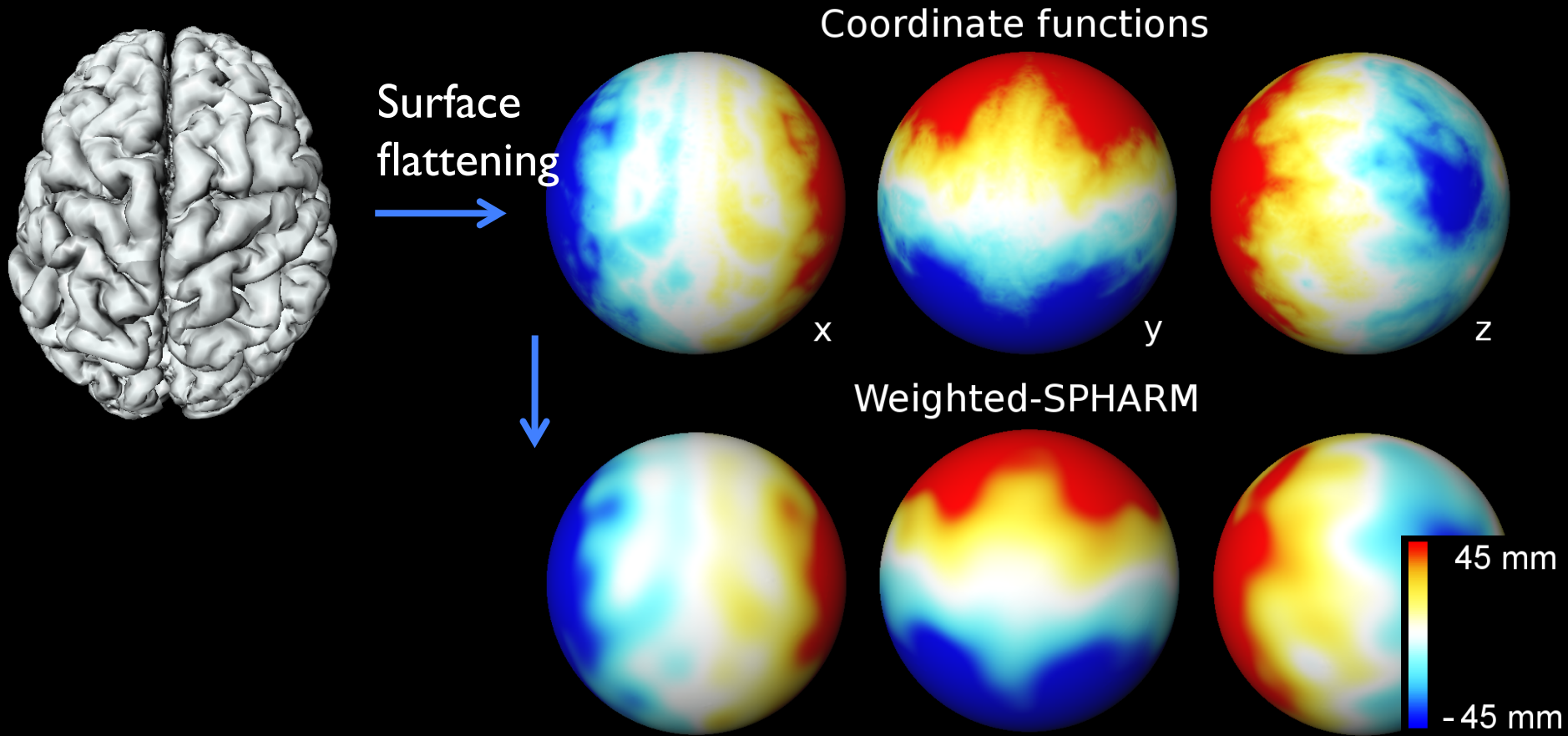
Deformable surface algorithm  
(McDonalds et al., 2001)



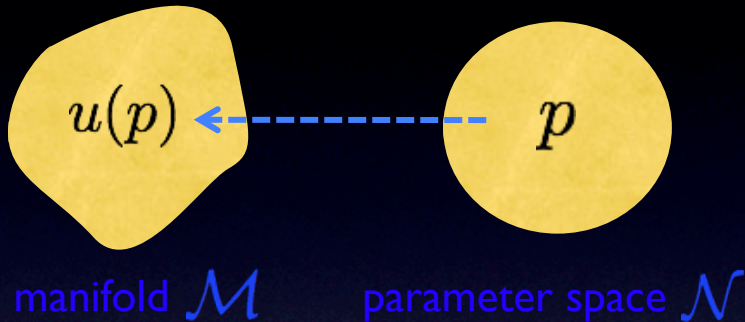
Euler angle based coordinate system



# Map coordinate functions to a unit sphere



# Smoothing in manifold



Anatomical manifold  $\mathcal{M} \in \mathbb{R}^d$



Parameter space  $\mathcal{N} \in \mathbb{R}^m$

Hilbert space  $L^2(\mathcal{N})$  with inner product

$$\langle g_1, g_2 \rangle = \int_{\mathcal{N}} g_1(p) g_2(p) \mu(p)$$

Self-adjoint operator  $\mathcal{L}$

Basis function

$$\langle \mathcal{L}g_1, g_2 \rangle = \langle g_1, \mathcal{L}g_2 \rangle \longrightarrow \mathcal{L}\psi_j = \lambda_j \psi_j$$



# PDE, series expansion, kernel smoothing

$t$  = scale, bandwidth,  
diffusion time

Input signal



PDE:  $\partial_t g + \mathcal{L}g = 0, g(p, t = 0) = f(p)$



Analytic representation

Weighted eigenfunction  
expansion

$$g(p, t) = \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} e^{-\lambda_j t} \langle f, \psi_j \rangle \psi_j(p)$$

Kernel smoothing

$$= \int_{\mathcal{N}} K_t(p, q) f(q) d\mu(q)$$



## Spherical harmonics

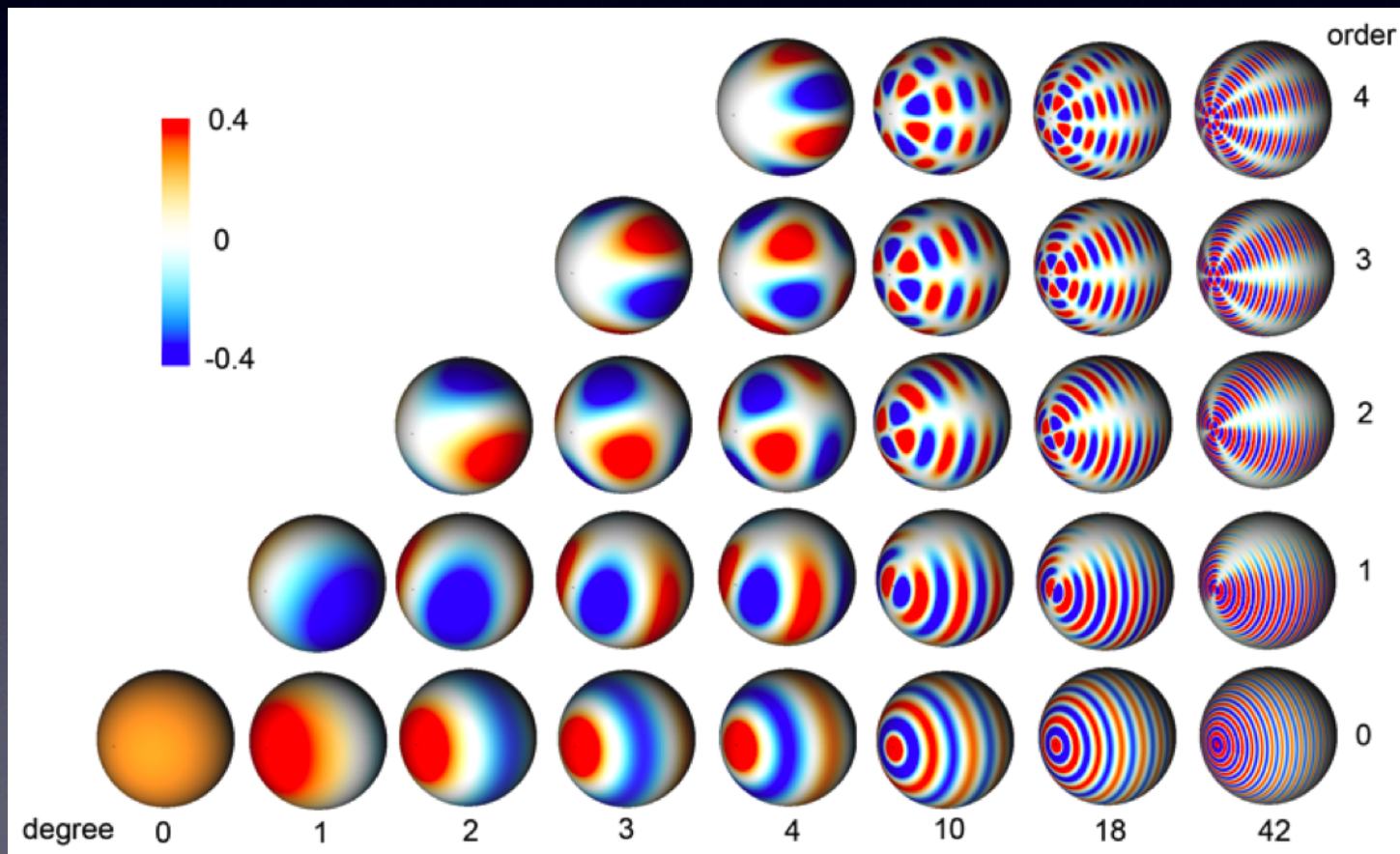
$Y_{lm}$  is called the *spherical harmonic* of degree  $l$  and order  $m$ .

$$Y_{lm} = \begin{cases} c_{lm} P_l^{|m|}(\cos \theta) \sin(|m|\varphi), & -l \leq m \leq -1, \\ \frac{c_{lm}}{\sqrt{2}} P_l^0(\cos \theta), & m = 0, \\ c_{lm} P_l^{|m|}(\cos \theta) \cos(|m|\varphi), & 1 \leq m \leq l, \end{cases}$$

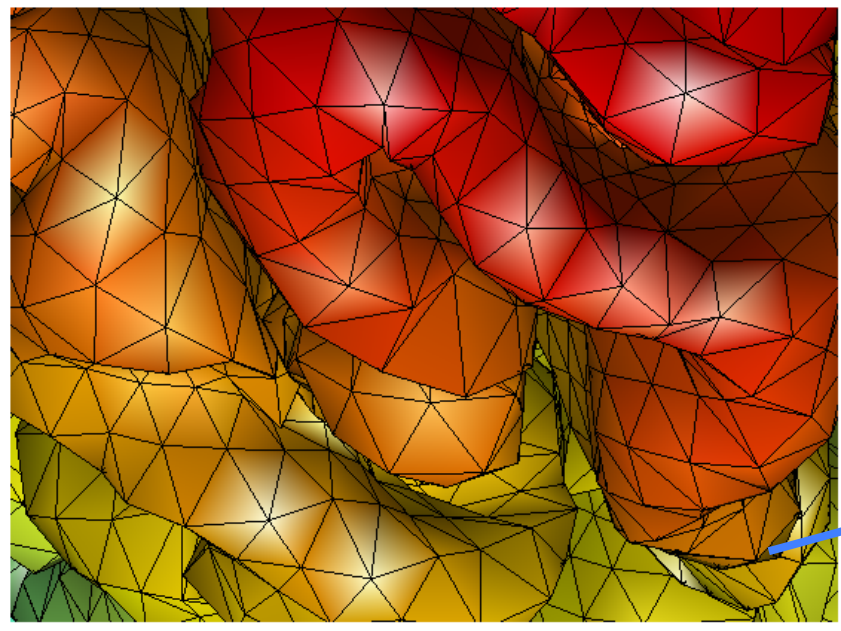
where  $c_{lm} = \sqrt{\frac{2l+1}{2\pi} \frac{(l-|m|)!}{(l+|m|)!}}$  and  $P_l^m$  is the associated Legendre polynomials of order  $m$ .

# Spherical harmonic of degree $l$ and order $m$

$$Y_{lm} = \begin{cases} c_{lm} P_l^{|m|}(\cos \theta) \sin(|m|\varphi), & -l \leq m \leq -1, \\ \frac{c_{lm}}{\sqrt{2}} P_l^0(\cos \theta), & m = 0, \\ c_{lm} P_l^{|m|}(\cos \theta) \cos(|m|\varphi), & 1 \leq m \leq l, \end{cases}$$



# Least squares estimation of Fourier coefficients



$i$ -th vertex

$$f(p_i) = \sum_{j=0}^k \beta_j \psi_j(p_i)$$



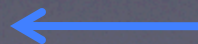
$$\mathbf{f} = (f(p_1), \dots, f(p_n))'$$

$$\boldsymbol{\beta} = (\beta_0, \dots, \beta_k)'$$

$$\mathbf{Y} = \begin{bmatrix} \psi_0(p_1) & \cdots & \psi_k(p_1) \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \psi_0(p_n) & \cdots & \psi_k(p_n) \end{bmatrix}$$



$$\boldsymbol{\beta} = (\mathbf{Y}'\mathbf{Y})^{-1}\mathbf{Y}'\mathbf{f}$$



$$\mathbf{f} = \mathbf{Y}\boldsymbol{\beta}$$



- For measurements  $f(p_1), f(p_2), \dots, f(p_n)$ , ( $n > 46,000$ ), we set up normal equations:

$$f(p_i) = \sum_{l=0}^k \sum_{m=-l}^l \beta_{lm} Y_{lm}(p_i).$$

← *i*-th mesh vertex

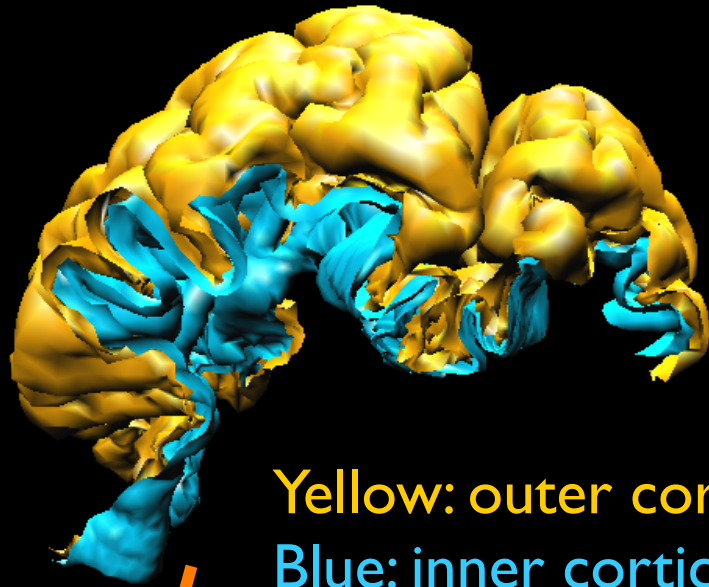
- Matrix form:

$$\underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} f(p_1) \\ f(p_2) \\ \vdots \\ f(p_n) \end{pmatrix}}_{\mathbf{F}} = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} Y_{00}(p_1) & Y_{1-1}(p_1) & Y_{10}(p_1) & \cdots & Y_{kk}(p_1) \\ Y_{00}(p_2) & Y_{1-1}(p_2) & Y_{10}(p_2) & \cdots & Y_{kk}(p_2) \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ Y_{00}(p_n) & Y_{1-1}(p_n) & Y_{10}(p_n) & \cdots & Y_{kk}(p_n) \end{pmatrix}}_{\mathbf{Y}} \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} \beta_{00} \\ \beta_{1-1} \\ \vdots \\ \beta_{kk} \end{pmatrix}}_{\boldsymbol{\beta}}$$

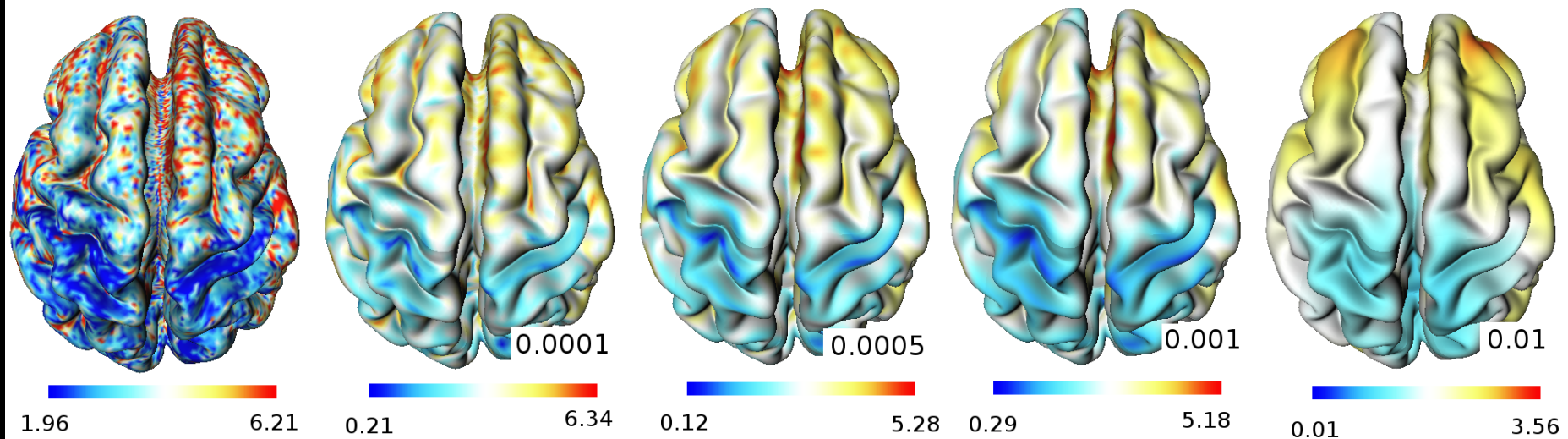
**40962 x 7000**

Estimation:  $\hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}} = (\mathbf{Y}'\mathbf{Y})^{-1}\mathbf{Y}'\mathbf{F}$ .

# Weighted-SPHARM of cortical thickness



Yellow: outer cortical surface  
Blue: inner cortical surface



# Determining the optimal degree via stepwise forward model selection framework

Consider the following  $(k - 1)$ -th degree model

$$f(p_i) = \sum_{l=0}^{k-1} \sum_{m=-l}^l e^{-\lambda(l+1)\sigma} f_{lm} Y_{lm}(p_i) + \epsilon(p_i), \quad i = 1, \dots, n$$

where  $\epsilon$  are Gaussian random variables. Testing if the  $k$ -th degree model is better than the previous  $(k - 1)$ -th degree model can be done by testing

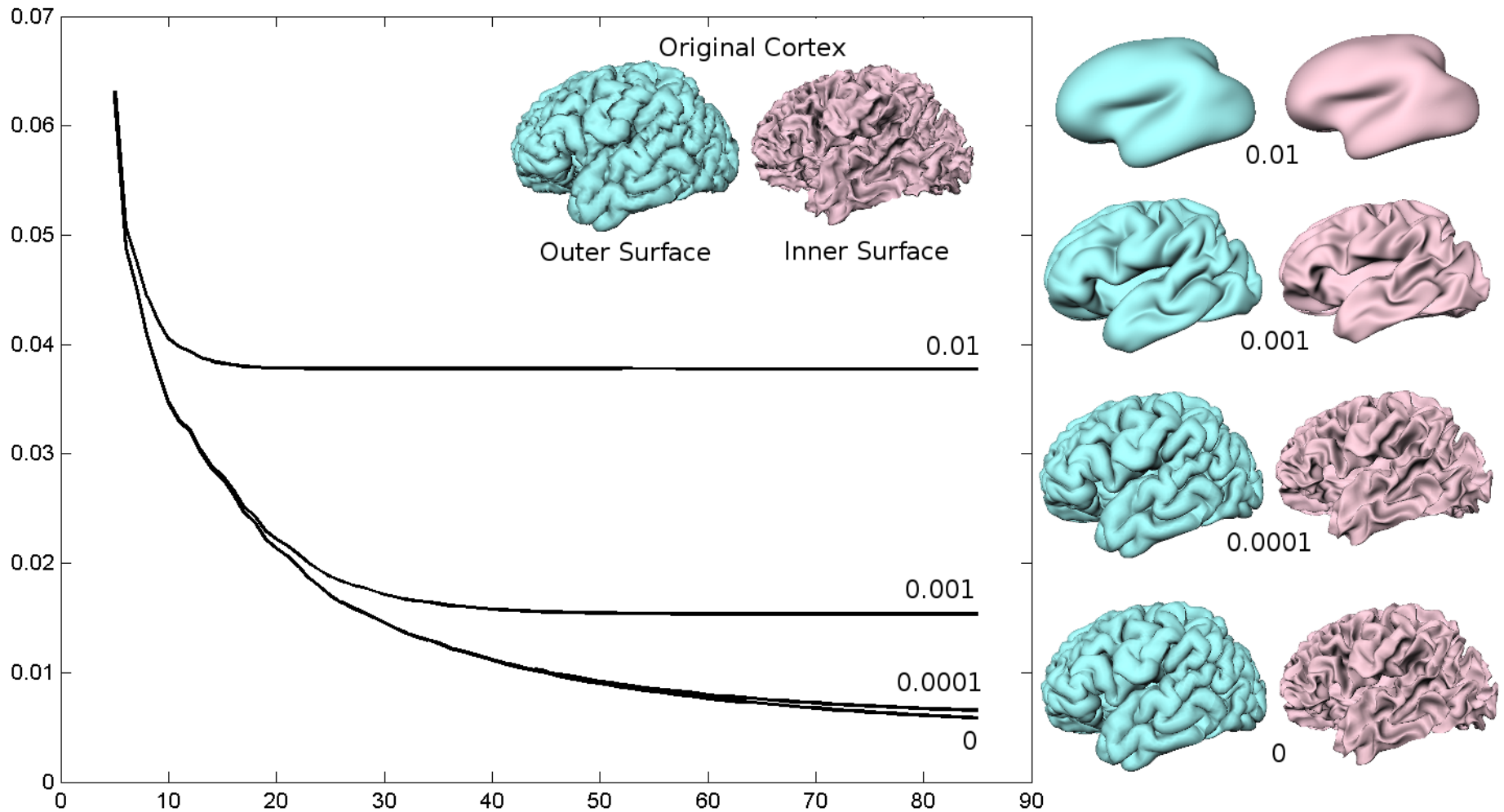
$$H_0 : f_{km} = 0 \text{ for all } -k \leq m \leq k.$$

Then under the null hypothesis, the test statistic is

$$F = \frac{(\text{SSE}_{k-1} - \text{SSE}_k)/(2k + 1)}{\text{SSE}_{k-1}/(n - (k + 1)^2)} \sim F_{2k+1, n-(k+1)^2}$$



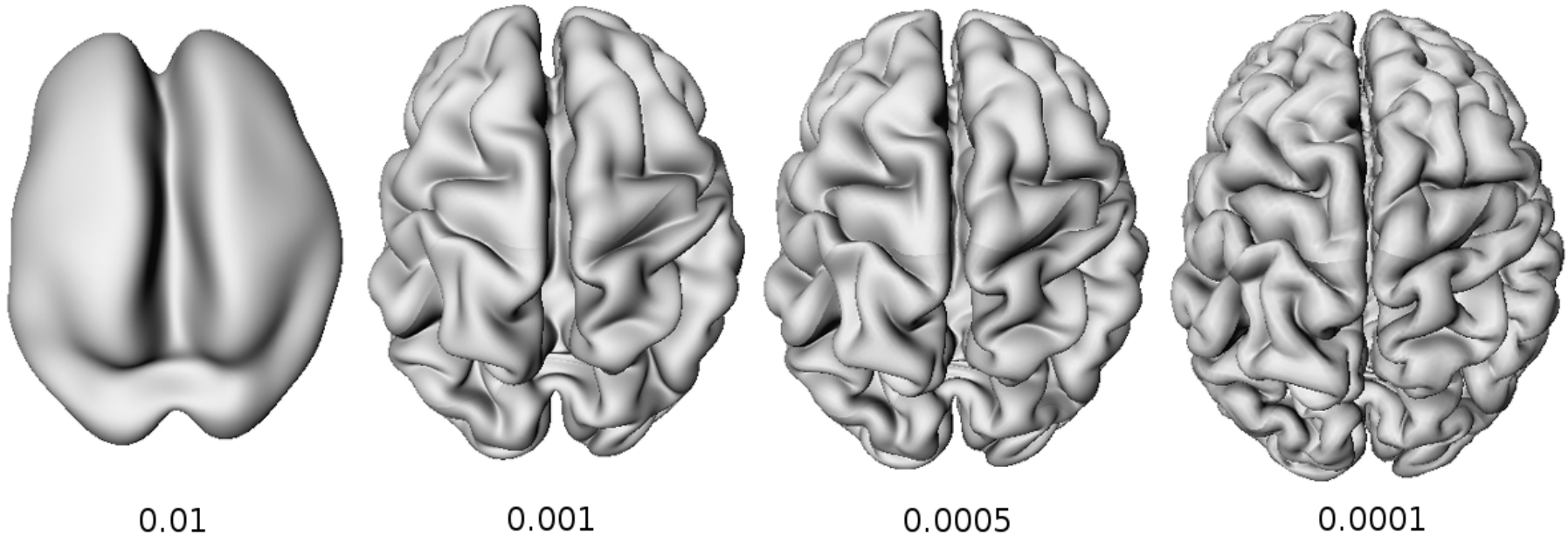
# Weighted-SPHARM at the 80<sup>th</sup> degree for different bandwidth



Root mean squared error (RMSE)

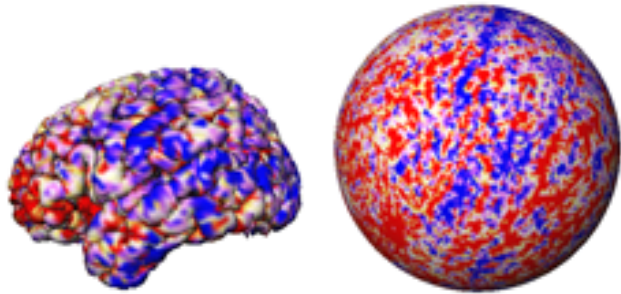
= error between original surface and weighted-SPHARM

# Weighted-SPHARM at different bandwidth



- The degree is selected automatically.
- The only free parameter in the model is the bandwidth.

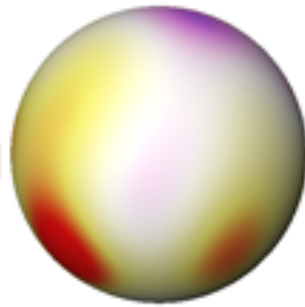
# Weighted-SPHARM of cortical thickness



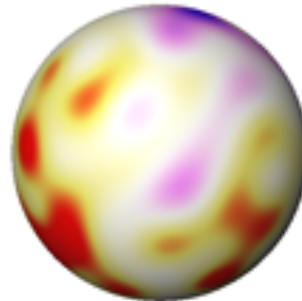
$$\sum_{l=1}^k e^{-l(l+1)\sigma} \sum_{m=-l}^l f_{lm} Y_{lm}$$



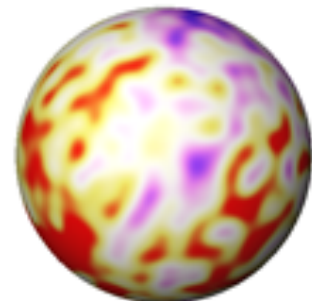
k=1



7



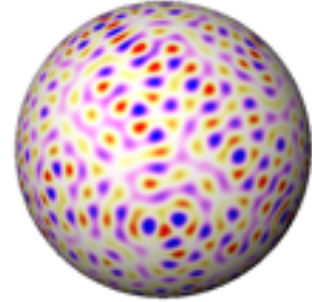
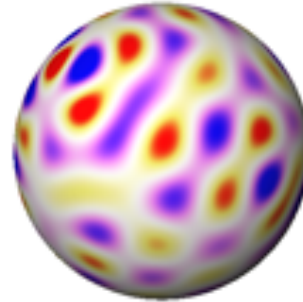
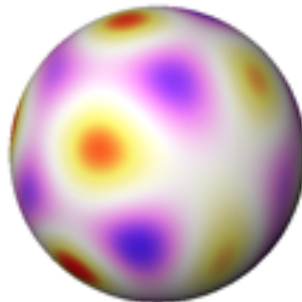
14



42

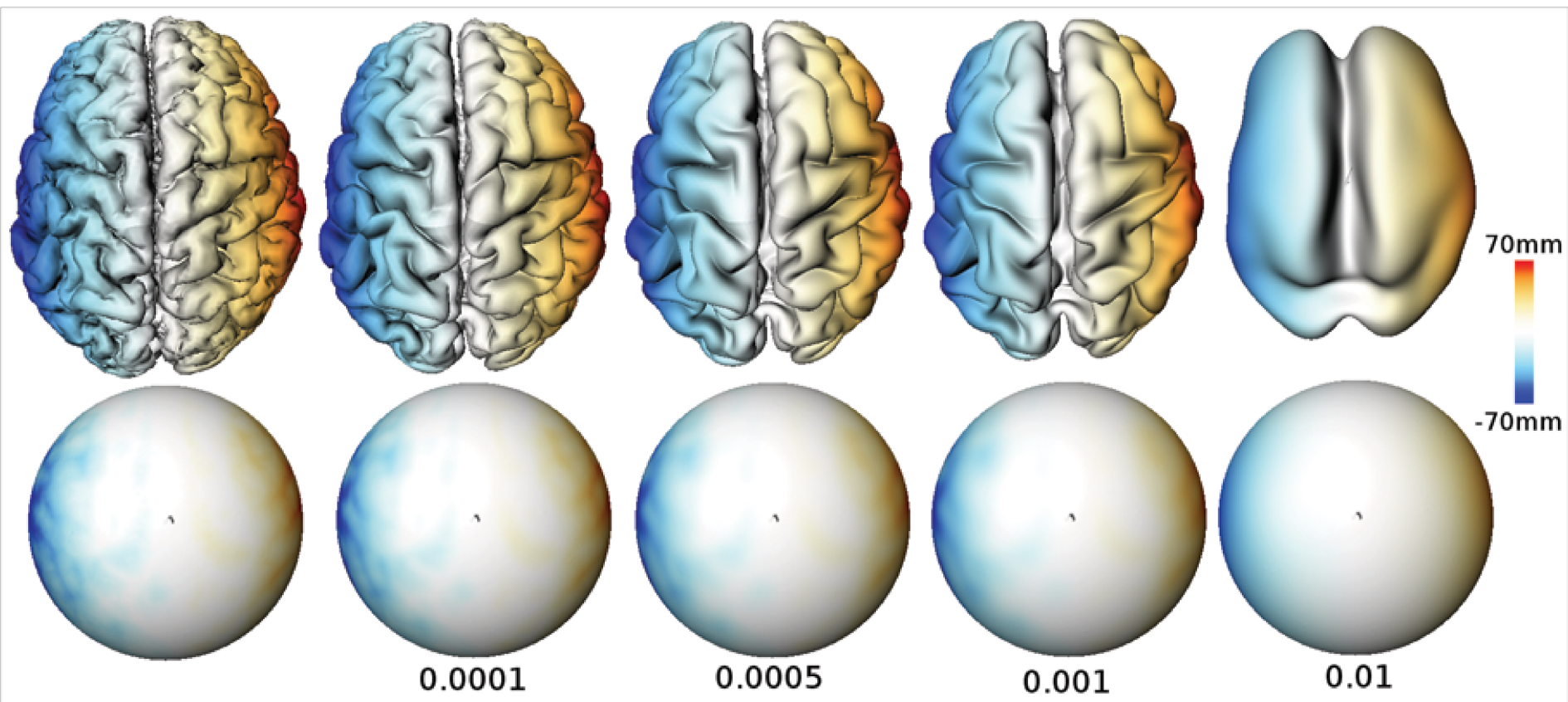


$$\sum_{m=-k}^k f_{km} Y_{km}$$



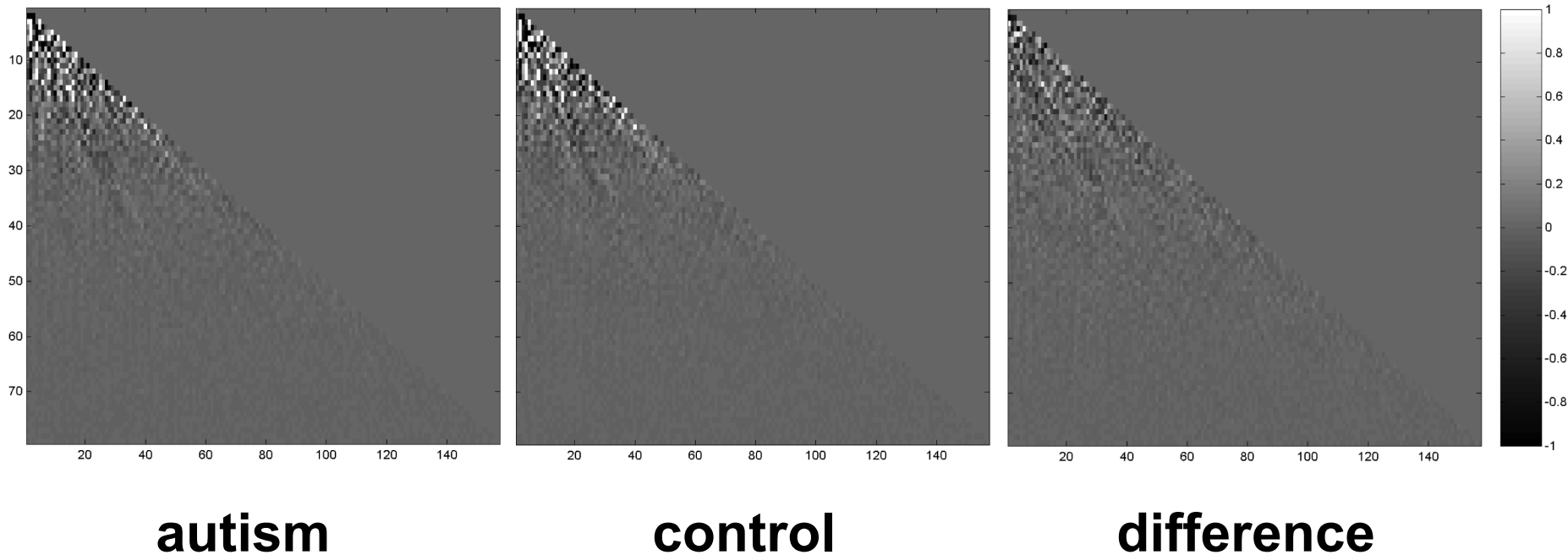


# Weighted spherical harmonic representation of cortical surface



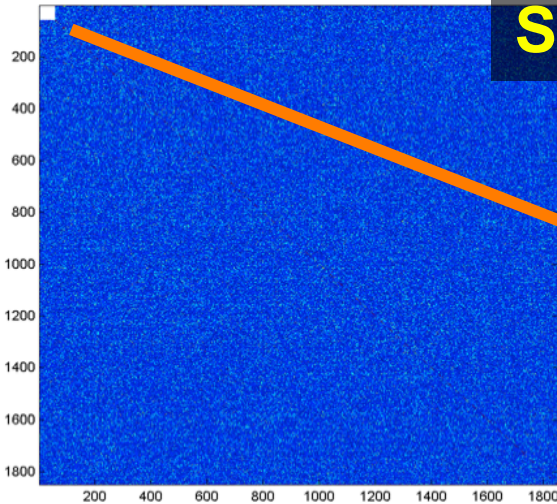
Color scale: X-coordinate function

# 78th degree SPHARM representation

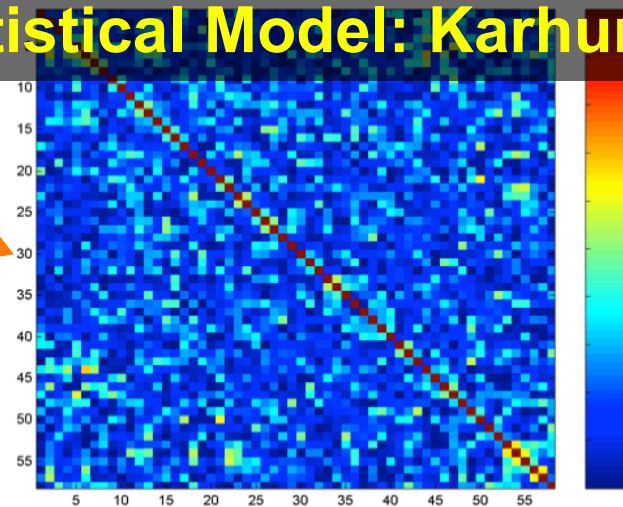


The coefficients are treated as a multivariate measure and feed into classification techniques.

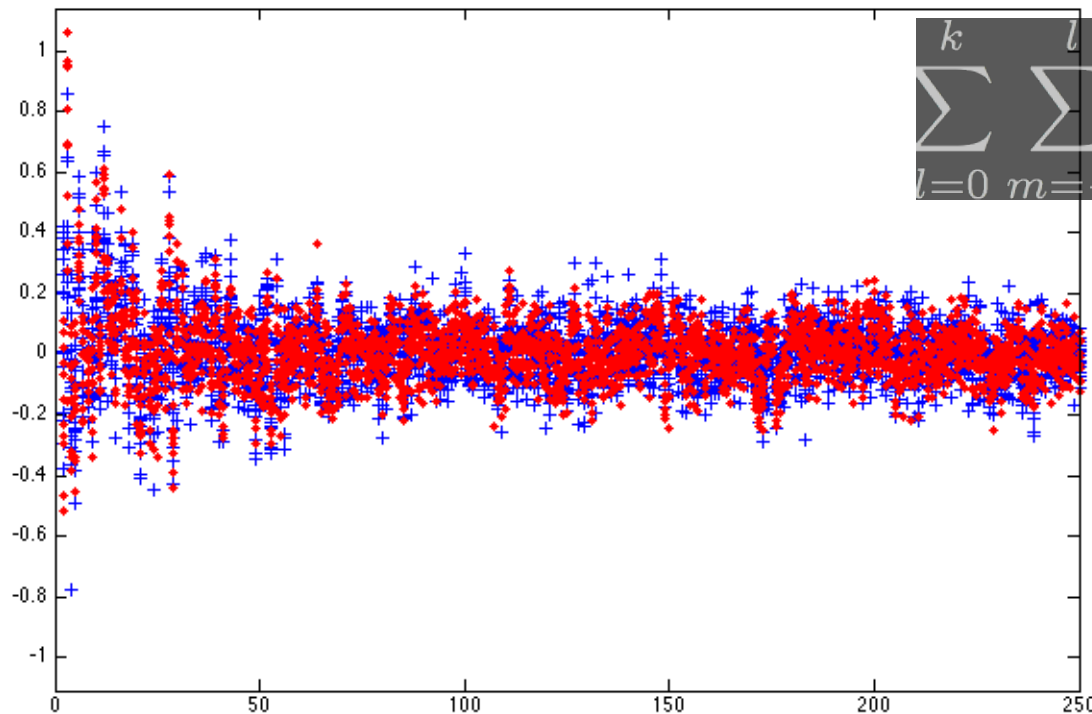
# Statistical Model: Karhunen-Loeve expansion



Cross correlations



uncorrelated normal

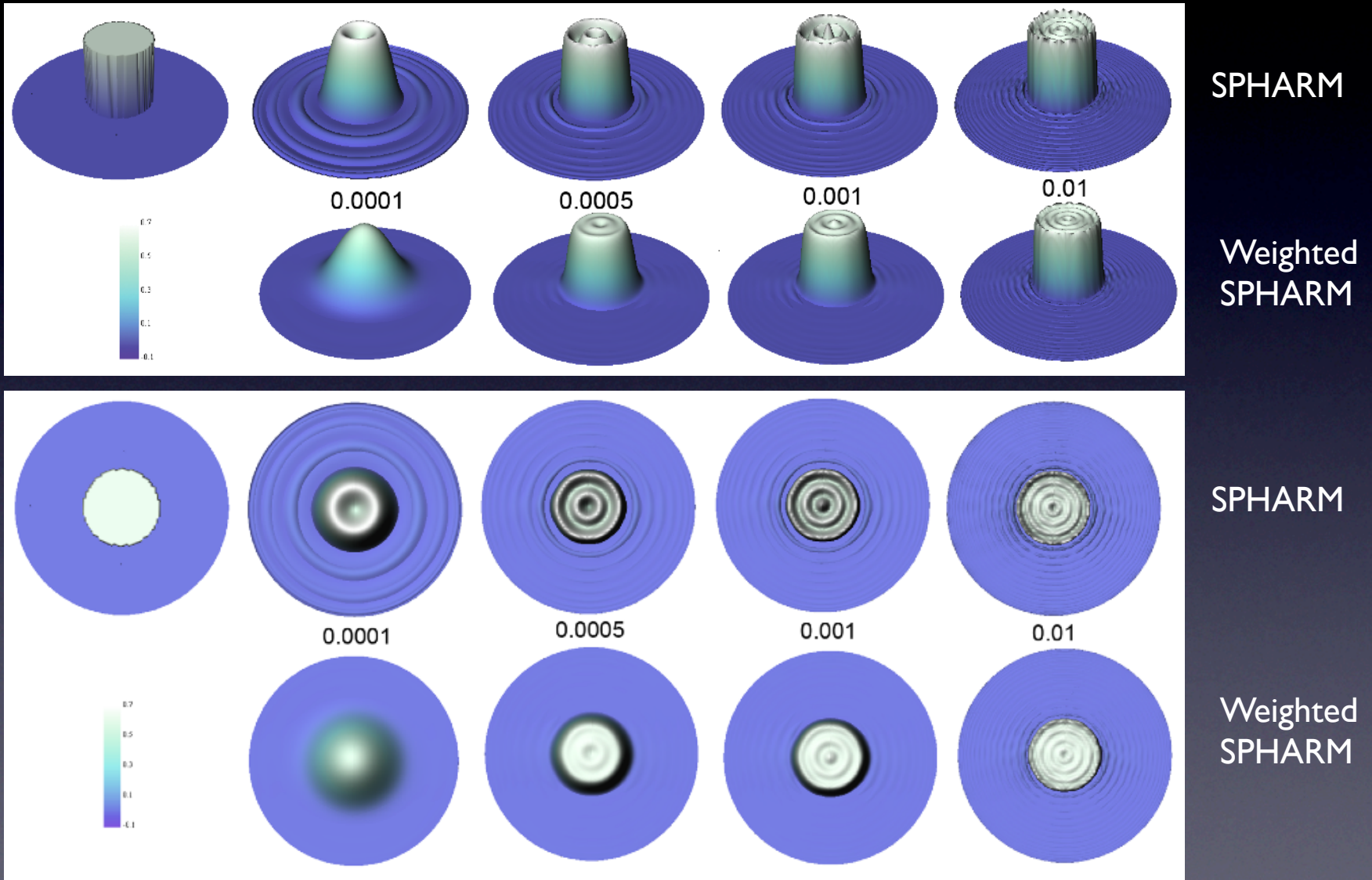


$$\sum_{l=0}^k \sum_{m=-l}^l e^{-l(l+1)t} \langle f, Y_{lm} \rangle Y_{lm}(\theta, \varphi)$$

Classification ?  
Discrimination?

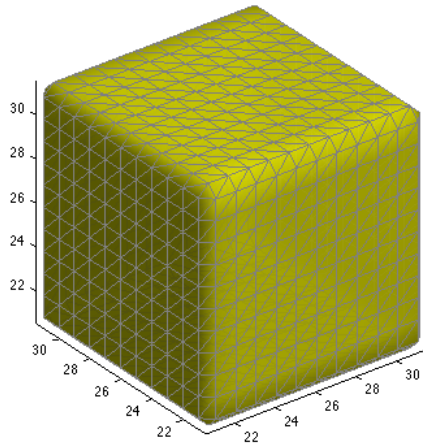


# Gibbs phenomenon on hat shaped surface

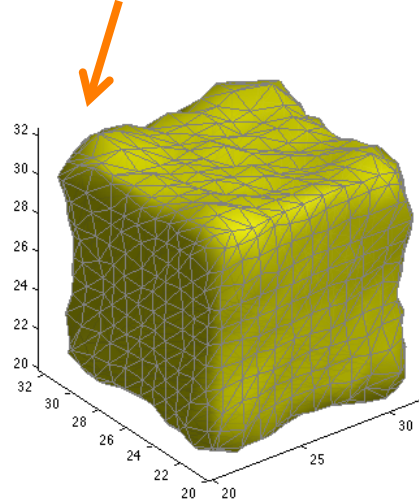


# Gibbs phenomenon (ringing artifacts) on surface

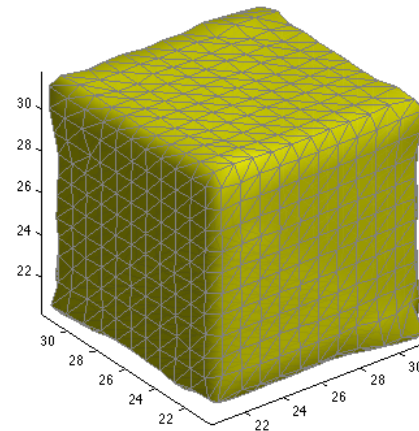
Severe distortion at low degree



Cube

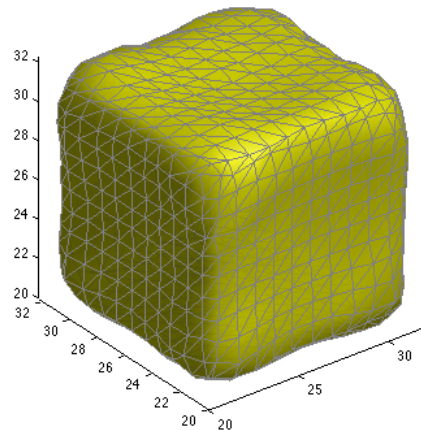


$k=42 \quad \sigma=0$

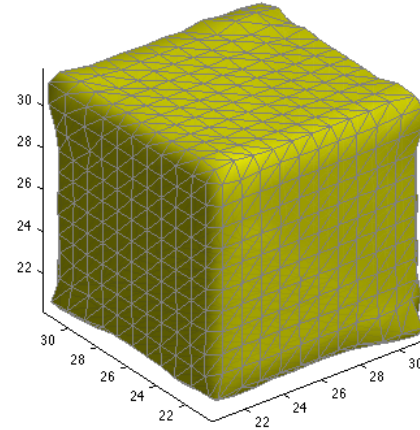


$k=78 \quad \sigma=0$

SPHARM



$k=42 \quad \sigma=0.001$



$k=78 \quad \sigma=0.0001$

Exponentially  
Weighted  
SPHARM

# Heat Kernel Smoothing via Laplace-Beltrami eigenfunctions

Seo et al., 2010 MICCAI 505-512

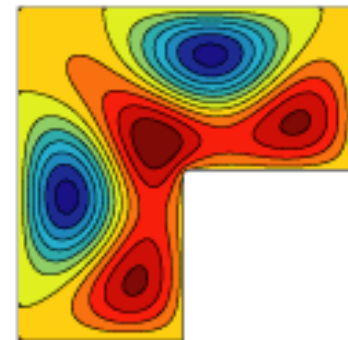
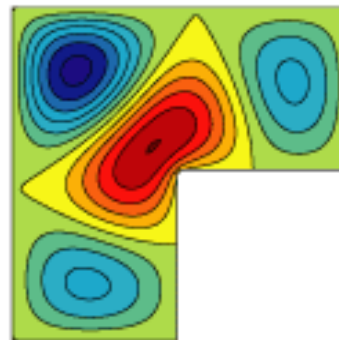
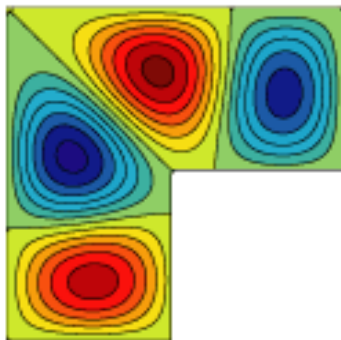
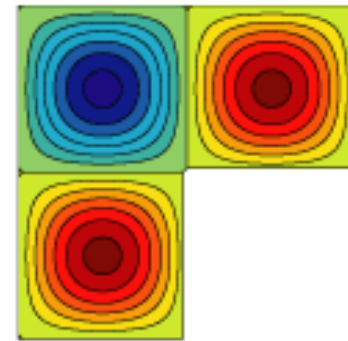
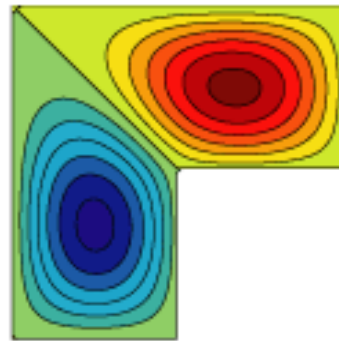
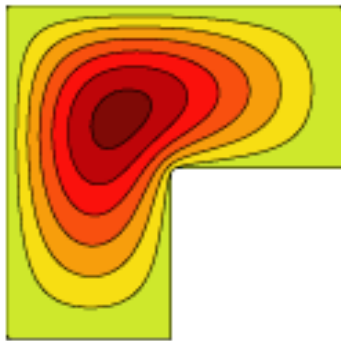
Kim et al., 2011 PSIVT 36-47



# Eigenfunctions of Laplace-Beltrami operator

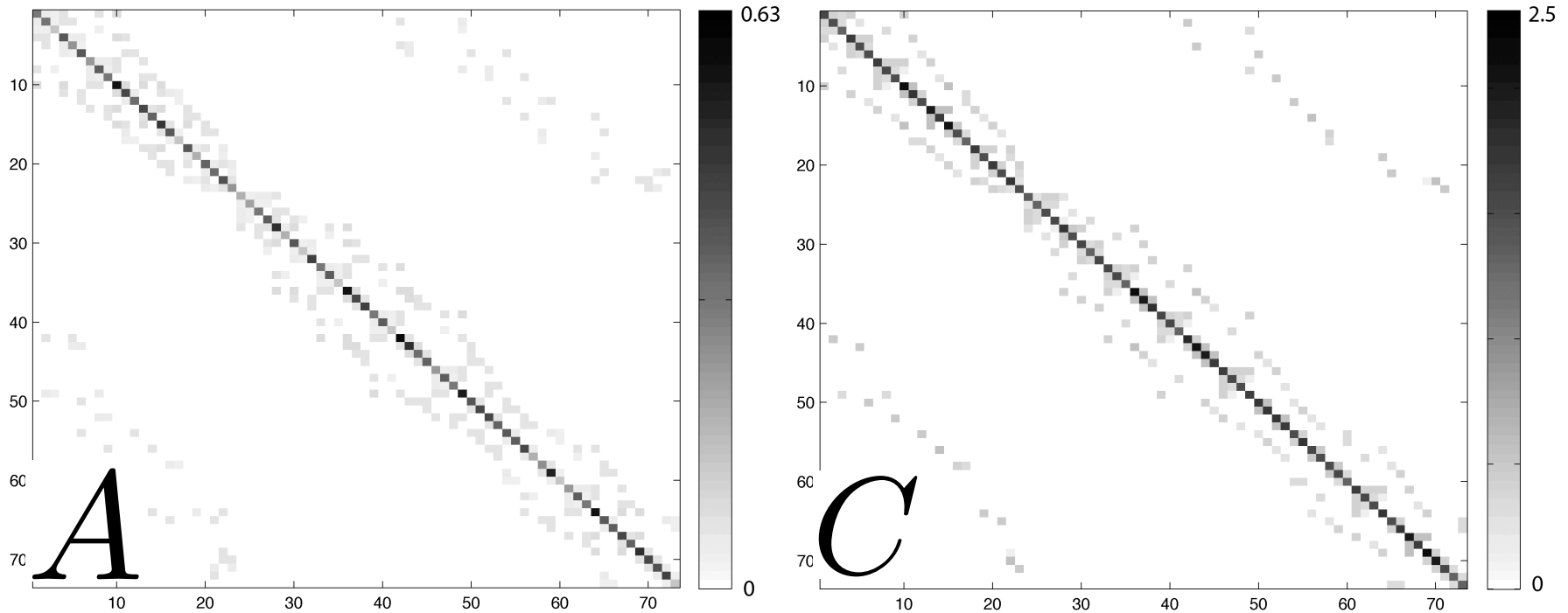
Helmholtz equation

$$\Delta \psi_j = \lambda_j \psi_j$$



# Generalized eigenvalue problem via cotan discretization

*Qiu et al., 2006, TMI*

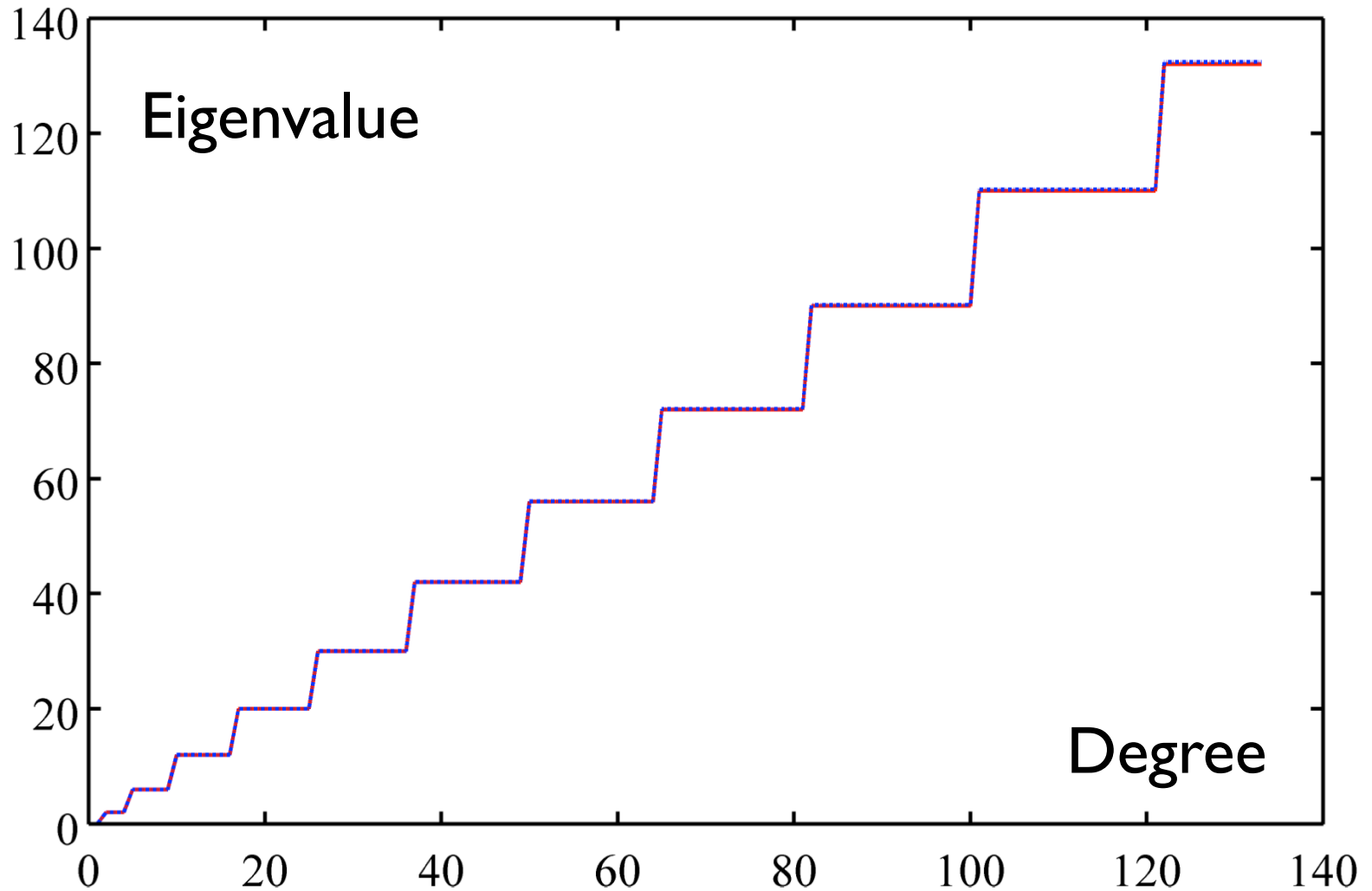


$$\Delta f = \lambda f \longrightarrow C\psi = \lambda A\psi$$

*MATLAB code:*

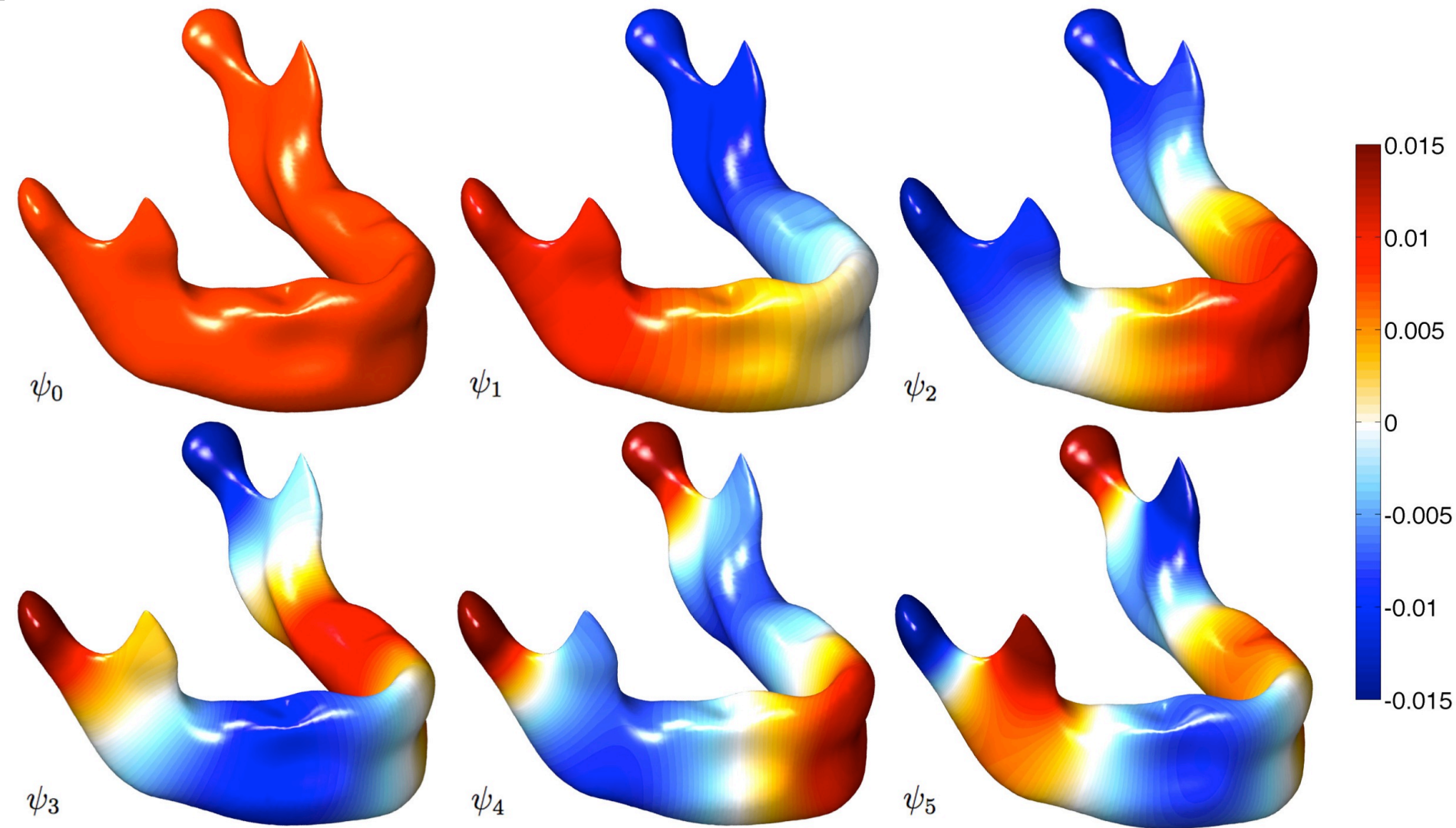
<http://brainimaging.waisman.wisc.edu/~chung/lb>

# Validation on a unit sphere

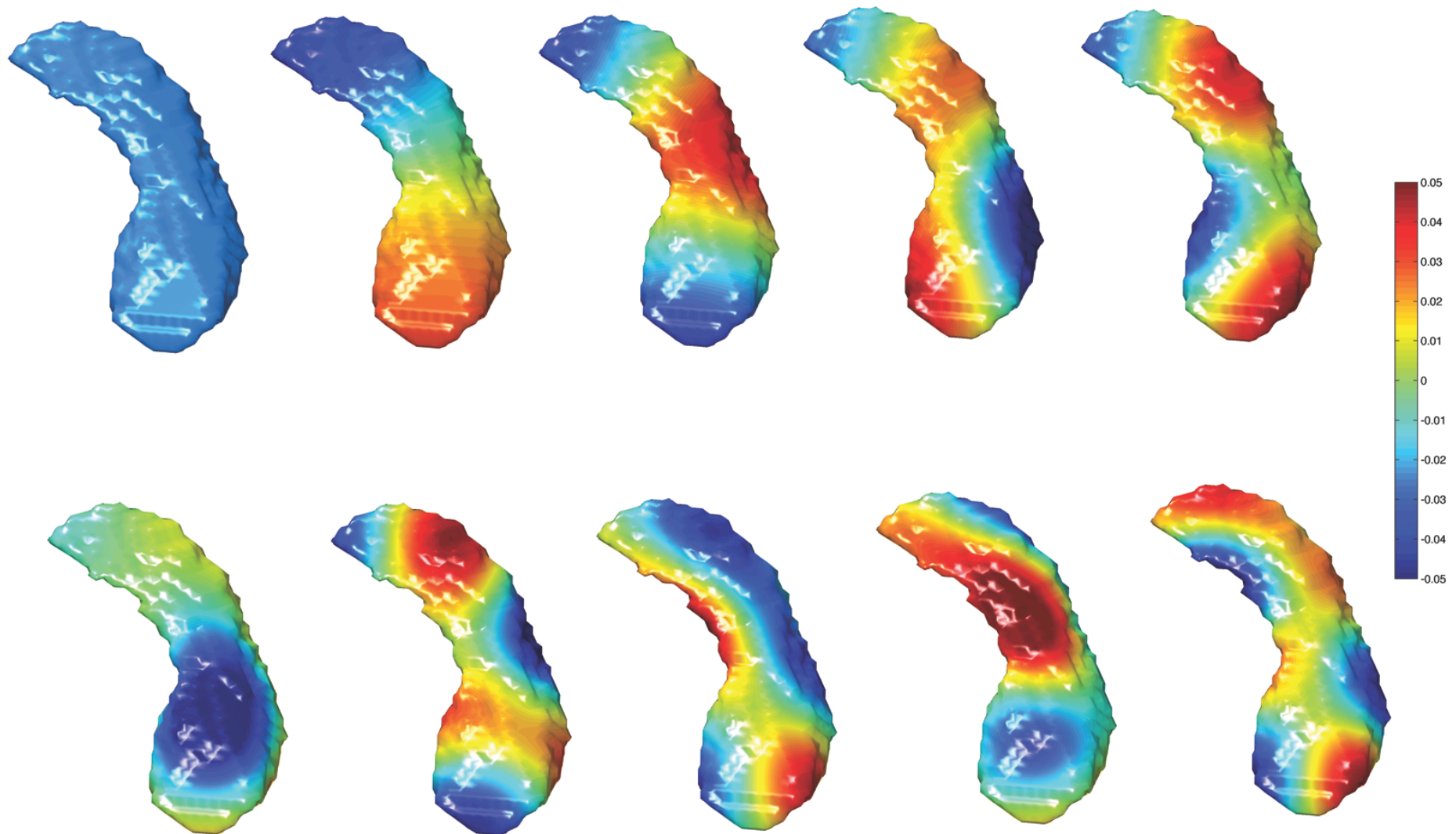




# Orthonormal basis on mandible



# First 10 orthonormal basis on left hippocampus



# Diffusion via heat kernel smoothing

Diffusion equation  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial t} = \Delta f, \quad f(x, t = 0) = X(x)$


$$\sigma = \sqrt{2t}$$

Heat kernel smoothing  $f = K_\sigma * X$

$$K_\sigma(p, q) = \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} e^{-\lambda_j \sigma} \psi_j(p) \psi_j(q)$$

*Chung et al., 2005 NeuroImage*  
*Seo et al., 2010 MICCAI*

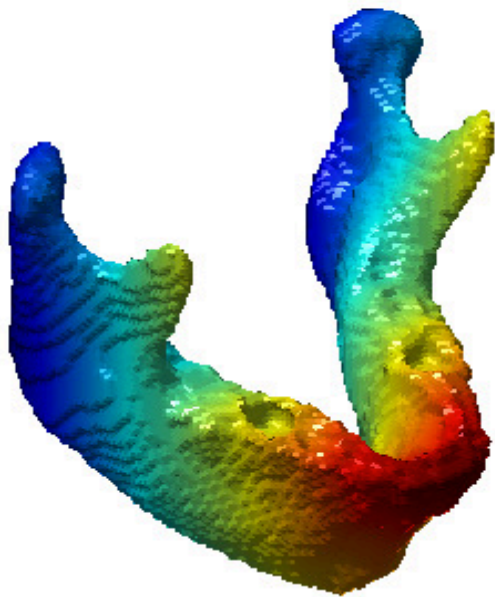


# Heat kernel smoothing on manifold

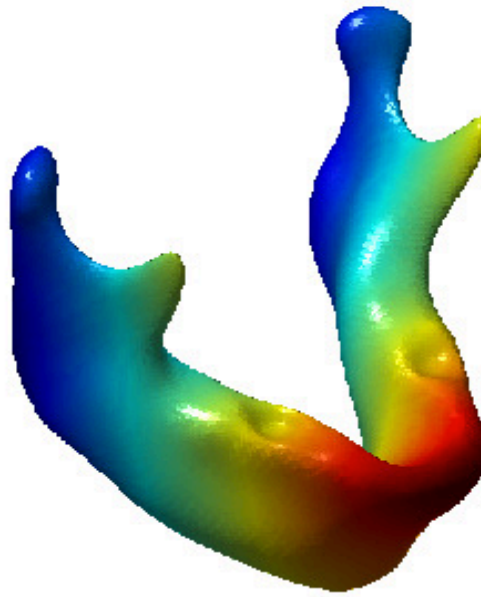
Heat kernel:

$$K_t(p, q) = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} e^{-\lambda_i t} \psi_i(p) \psi_i(q)$$

$$K_t * f = \int_{\mathcal{M}} K_t(p, q) f(q) dq$$

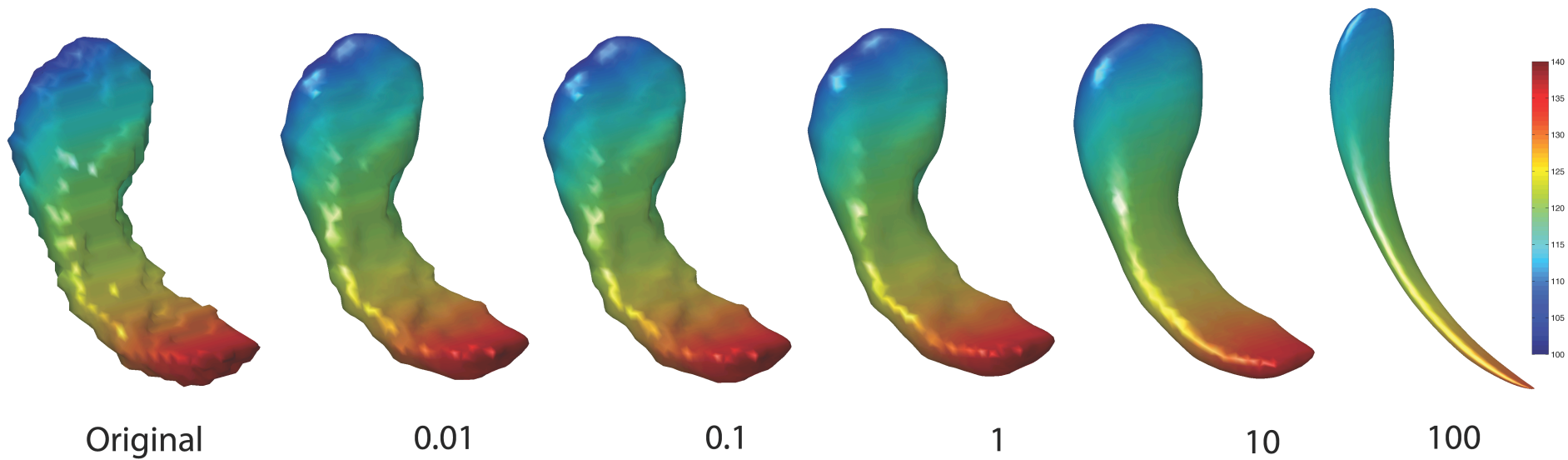


X-coordinate on  
mandible surface



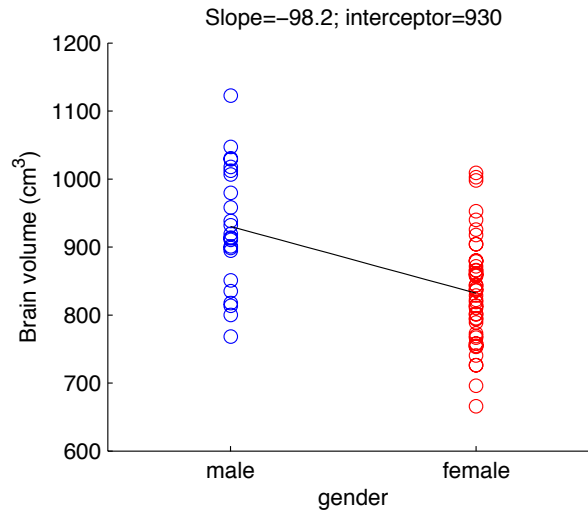
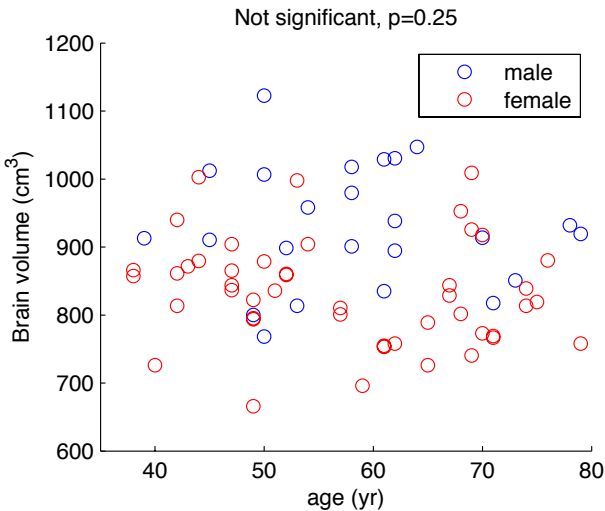
smoothed with bandwidth 10  
and 1269 eigenfunctions

# Heat kernel smoothing of hippocampus



# Applications

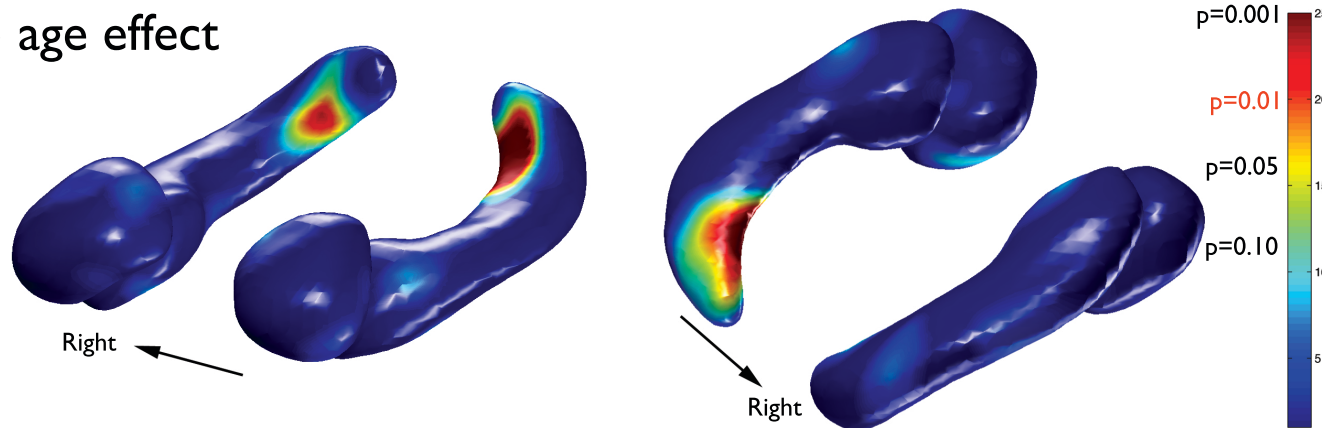




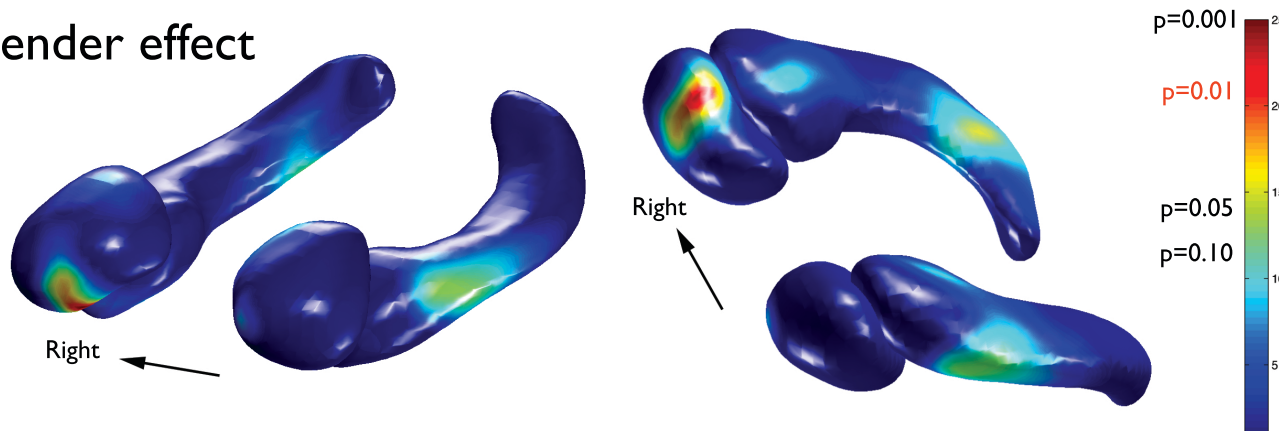
Heat kernel smoothing applied in testing the effect of age and gender on hippocampus and amygdala shape

Normal subjects between 38 and 79 years

a) age effect



b) gender effect

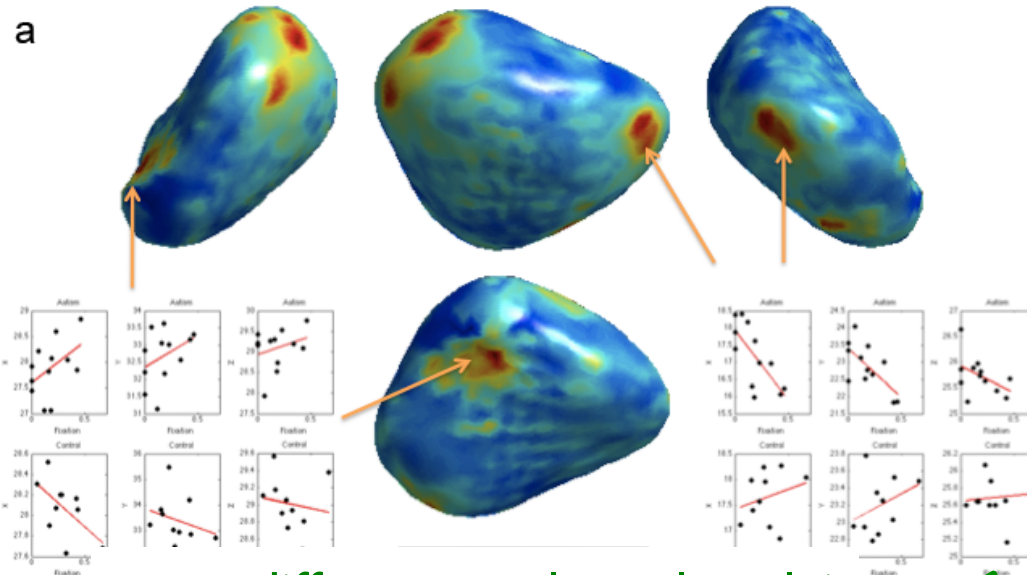


*Kim et al, 2011 PISVT*

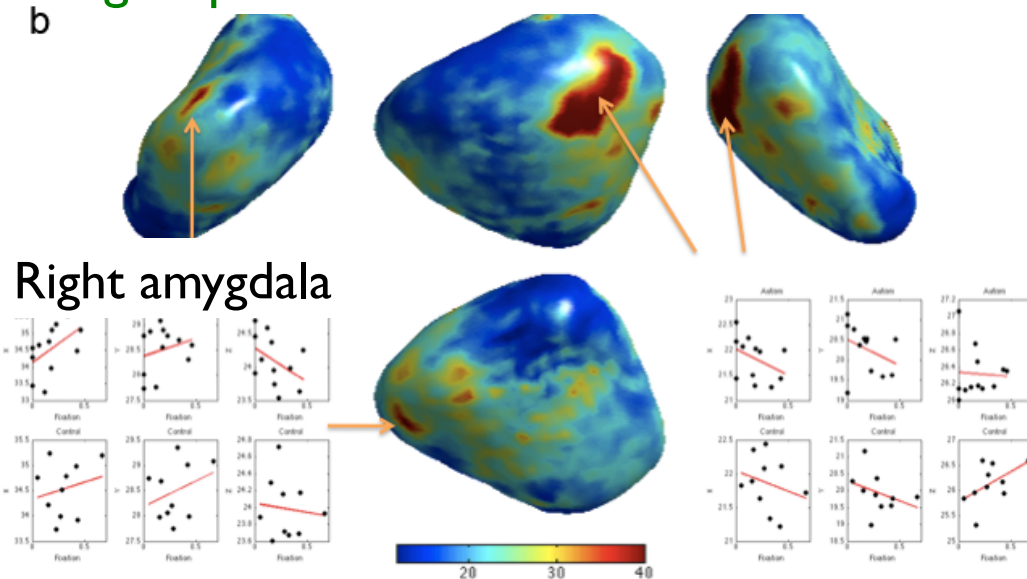
# Amygdala surface model in autism

*Chung et al., Neuroimage 2010*

## Left amygdala



group difference at lateral nuclei



## Right amygdala

2 (Emotion)  $\times$  2 (Orientation)

Neutral

Emotional



Straight-ahead



Quarter-turned

Correlating facial emotion discrimination task response and amygdala shape in autism

# Effect of family income on hippocampus growth

86 teens from high income family ( $> \$75000$ )

mean age =  $12 \pm 4$  years

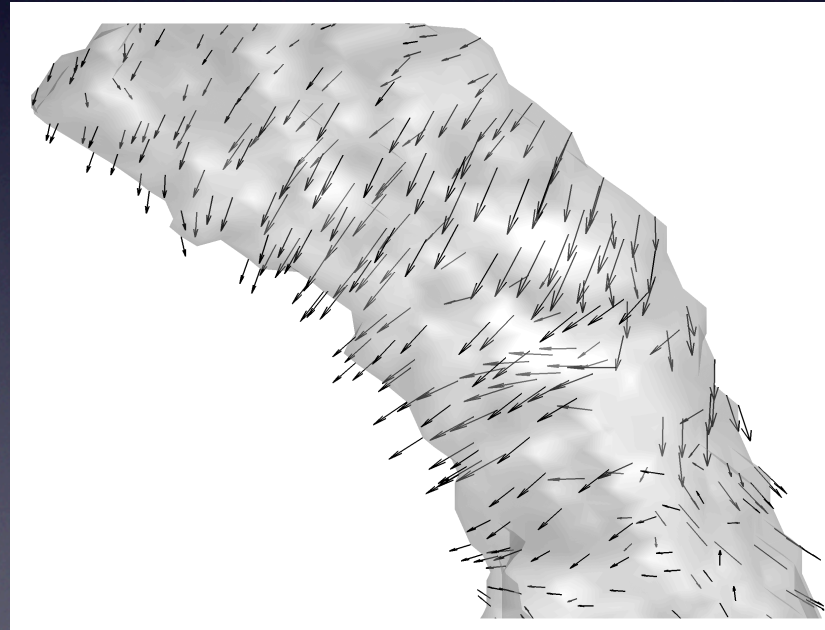
38 teens from low income family ( $< \$35000$ )

mean age =  $12 \pm 4$  years old

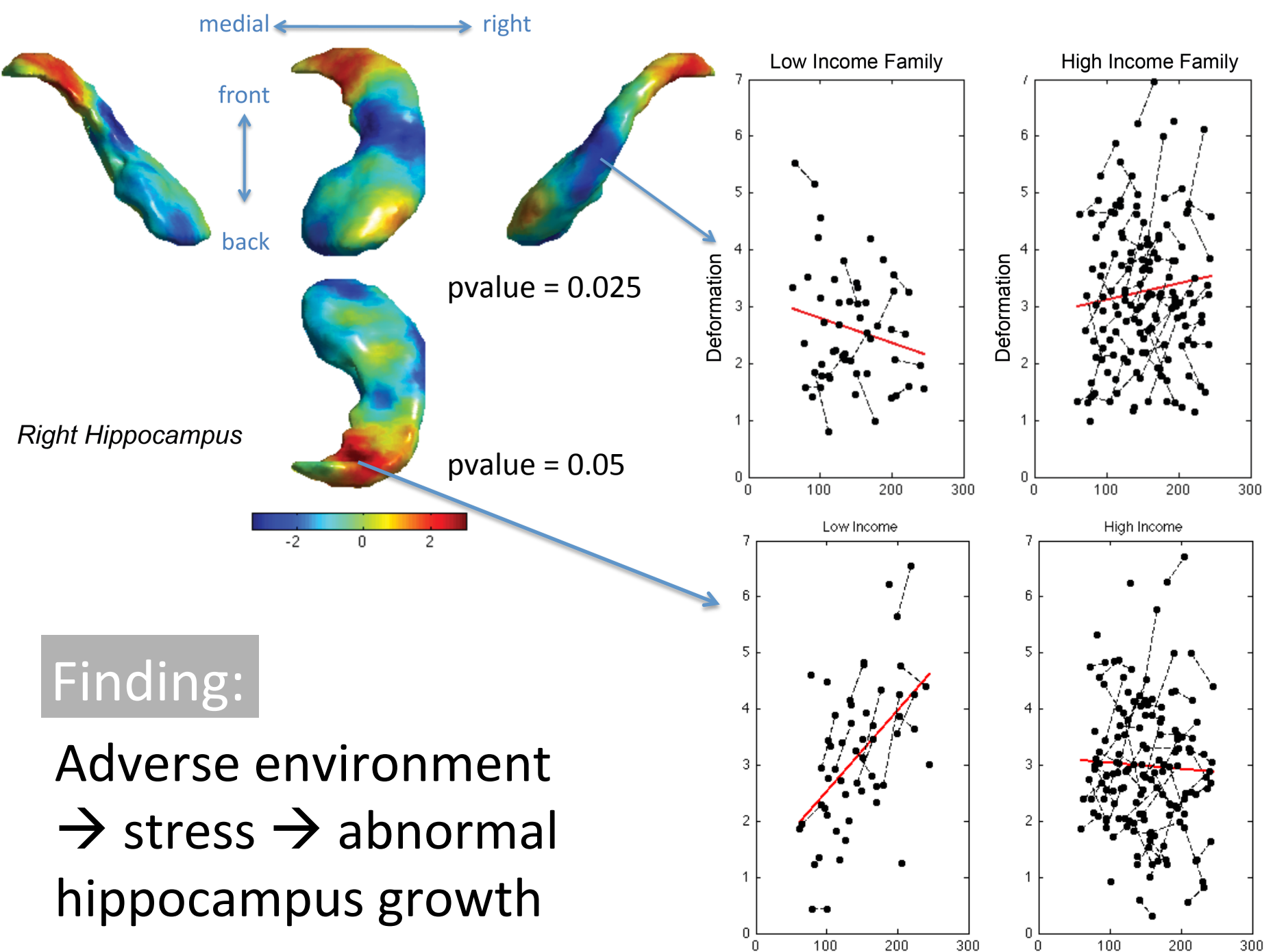
*Each subject has multiple scans*

Mixed effect longitudinal model:

displacement = age + gender + group + age\*group







# Thank you

Papers & MATLAB codes  
(computation, visualization  
etc.) can be downloaded from

[www.stat.wisc.edu/~mchung](http://www.stat.wisc.edu/~mchung)