

# 3D Photography using Context-aware Layered Depth Inpainting

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<https://shihmengli.github.io/3D-Photo-Inpainting>

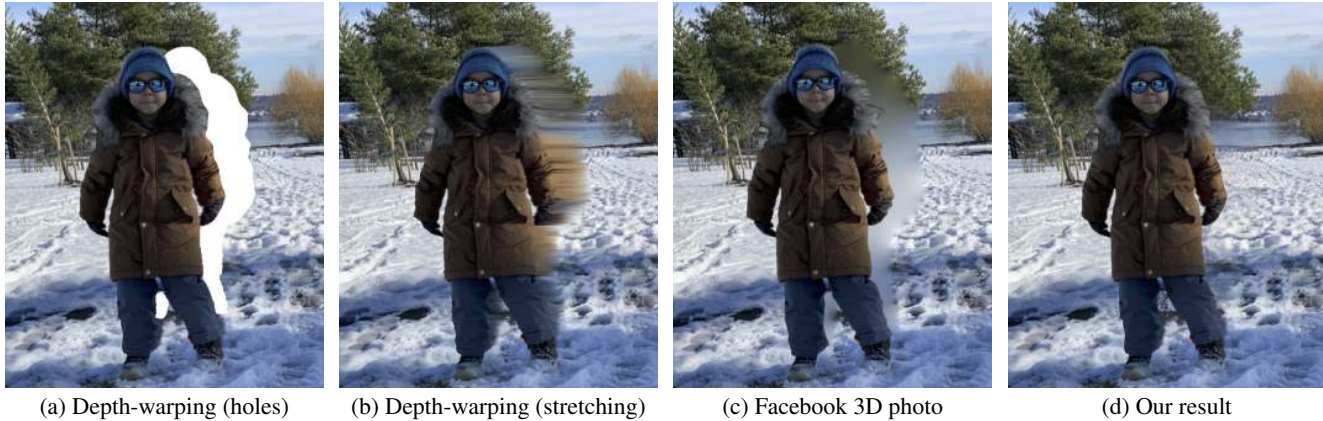


Figure 1. **3D photography from a single RGB-D image.** Naïve methods either produce holes (a) or stretch content (b) at disocclusions. Color and depth inpainting using diffusion is better, but provides a too smooth appearance (c). Our approach is capable of synthesizing new color/depth texture and structures, leading to more photorealistic novel views (d).

## Abstract

We propose a method for converting a single RGB-D input image into a 3D photo — a multi-layer representation for novel view synthesis that contains hallucinated color and depth structures in regions occluded in the original view. We use a Layered Depth Image with explicit pixel connectivity as underlying representation, and present a learning-based inpainting model that synthesizes new local color-and-depth content into the occluded region in a spatial context-aware manner. The resulting 3D photos can be efficiently rendered with motion parallax using standard graphics engines. We validate the effectiveness of our method on a wide range of challenging everyday scenes and show less artifacts compared with the state of the arts.

## 1. Introduction

3D photography—capturing views of the world with a camera and using image-based rendering techniques for novel view synthesis—is a fascinating way to record and reproduce visual perception. It provides a dramatically more immersive experience than old 2D photography: almost lifelike in Virtual Reality, and even to some degree on normal flat displays when displayed with parallax.

Classic image-based reconstruction and rendering tech-

niques, however, require elaborate capture setups involving many images with large baselines [17, 59, 26, 45, 19, 12], and/or special hardware (e.g., Lytro Immerge, Facebook Manifold camera<sup>1</sup>).

Recently, we have seen work to make capture for 3D photography more effortless by using cell phone cameras and lowering baseline requirements [17, 18]. In the most extreme cases, novel techniques such as Facebook 3D Photos<sup>2</sup> now just require capturing a *single snapshot* with a dual lens camera phone, which essentially provides an RGB-D (color and depth) input image.

In this work we are interested in rendering novel views from such an RGB-D input. The most salient features in rendered novel views are the disocclusions due to parallax: naïve depth-based warping techniques either produce gaps here (Figure 1a) or stretched content (1b). Recent methods try to provide better extrapolations.

Stereo magnification [72] and recent variants [52, 39] use a fronto-parallel multi-plane representation (MPI), which is synthesized from the small-baseline dual camera stereo input. However, MPI produces artifacts on sloped surfaces. Besides, the excessive redundancy in the multi-

<sup>1</sup><https://facebook360.fb.com/2018/05/01/red-facebook-6dof-camera/>

<sup>2</sup><https://facebook360.fb.com/2018/10/11/3d-photos-now-rolling-out-on-facebook-and-in-vr/>

plane representation makes it memory and storage inefficient and costly to render.

Facebook 3D Photos use a layered depth image (LDI) representation [48], which is more compact due to its sparsity, and can be converted into a light-weight mesh representation for rendering. The color and depth in occluded regions are synthesized using heuristics that are optimized for fast runtime on mobile devices. In particular it uses an isotropic diffusion algorithm for inpainting colors, which produces overly smooth results and is unable to extrapolate texture and structures (Figure 1c).

Several recent learning-based methods also use similar multi-layer image representations [7, 56]. However, these methods use “rigid” layer structures, in the sense that every pixel in the image has the same (fixed and predetermined) number of layers. At every pixel, they store the nearest surface in the first layer, the second-nearest in the next layer, etc. This is problematic, because across depth discontinuities the content within a layer changes abruptly, which destroys locality in receptive fields of convolution kernels.

In this work we present a new learning-based method that generates a 3D photo from an RGB-D input. The depth can either come from dual camera cell phone stereo, or be estimated from a single RGB image [30, 28, 13]. We use the LDI representation (similar to Facebook 3D Photos) because it is compact and allows us to handle situations of arbitrary depth-complexity. Unlike the “rigid” layer structures described above, we explicitly store connectivity across pixels in our representation. However, as a result it is more difficult to apply a *global* CNN to the problem, because our topology is more complex than a standard tensor. Instead, we break the problem into many local inpainting sub-problems, which we solve iteratively. Each problem is locally like an image, so we can apply standard CNN. We use an inpainting model that is conditioned on *spatially-adaptive* context regions, which are extracted from the local connectivity of the LDI. After synthesis we fuse the inpainted regions back into the LDI, leading to a recursive algorithm that proceeds until all depth edges are treated.

The result of our algorithm are 3D photos with synthesized texture and structures in occluded regions (Figure 1d). Unlike most previous approaches we do not require pre-determining a fixed number of layers. Instead our algorithm adapts by design to the local depth-complexity of the input and generates a varying number of layers across the image. We have validated our approach on a wide variety of photos captured in different situations.

## 2. Related Work

**Representation for novel view synthesis.** Different types of representations have been explored for novel view synthesis, including light fields [15, 29, 2], multi-plane images [72, 52, 39], and layered depth images [48, 55, 7, 56, 17, 18, 6, 42]. Light fields enable photorealistic rendering of novel views, but generally require many input images

to achieve good results. The multi-plane image representation [72, 52, 39] stores multiple layers of RGB- $\alpha$  images at fixed depths. The main advantage of this representation is its ability to capture semi-reflective or semi-transparent surfaces. However, due to the fixed depth discretization, sloped surfaces often do not reproduce well, unless an excessive number of planes is used. Many variants of layered depth image representations have been used over time. Representations with a fixed number of layers everywhere have recently been used [7, 56], but they do not preserve locality well, as described in the previous section. Other recent work [17, 18] extends the original work of Shade et al. [48] to explicitly store connectivity information. This representation can locally adapt to any depth-complexity and can be easily converted into a textured mesh for efficient rendering. Our work uses this representation as well.

**Image-based rendering.** Image-based rendering techniques enable photorealistic synthesis of novel views from a collection of posed images. These methods work best when the images have sufficiently large baselines (so that multi-view stereo algorithms can work well) or are captured with depth sensors. Recent advances include learning-based blending [19], soft 3D reconstruction [45], handling reflection [49, 26], relighting [63], and reconstructing mirror and glass surfaces [59]. Our focus in this work lies in novel view synthesis *from one single image*.

**Learning-based view synthesis.** CNN-based methods have been applied to synthesizing novel views from sparse light field data [23] or two or more posed images [12, 19, 4]. Several recent methods explore view synthesis from a single image. These methods, however, often focus on a specific domain [53, 60], synthetic 3D scenes/objects [73, 43, 54, 6, 7, 11], hallucinating only one specific view [61, 68], or assuming piecewise planar scenes [32, 34].

Many of these learning-based view synthesis methods require running a forward pass of the pre-trained network to synthesize the image of a given viewpoint. This makes these approaches less applicable to display on resource-constrained devices. Our representation, on the other hand, can be easily converted into a textured mesh and efficiently rendered with standard graphics engines.

**Image inpainting.** The task of image inpainting aims to fill missing regions in images with plausible content. Inspired by the success of texture synthesis [9, 8], *example-based methods* complete the missing regions by transferring the contents from the known regions of the image, either through non-parametric patch-based synthesis [58, 1, 5, 20] or solving a Markov Random Field model using belief propagation [25] or graph cut [46, 27, 16]. Driven by the progress of convolutional neural networks, *CNN-based methods* have received considerable attention due to their ability to predict semantically meaningful contents that are not available in the known regions [44, 51, 21, 65, 66]. Recent efforts include designing CNN architectures to better handle holes with irregular shapes [33, 67, 64] and two-

stage methods with structure-content disentanglement, e.g., predicting structure (e.g., contour/edges in the missing regions) and followed by content completion conditioned on the predicted structures [41, 62, 47].

Our inpainting model builds upon the recent two-stage approaches [41, 62, 47] but with two key differences. First, unlike existing image inpainting algorithms where the hole and the available contexts are *static* (e.g., the known regions in the entire input image), we apply the inpainting *locally* around each depth discontinuity with *adaptive* hole and context regions. Second, in addition to inpaint the color image, we also inpaint the depth values as well as the depth discontinuity in the missing regions.

**Depth inpainting.** Depth inpainting has applications in filling missing depth values where commodity-grade depth cameras fail (e.g., transparent/reflective/distant surfaces) [35, 70, 36] or performing image editing tasks such as object removal on stereo images [57, 40]. The goal of these algorithms, however, is to inpaint the depth of the *visible surfaces*. In contrast, our focus is on recovering the depth of the *hidden surface*.

**CNN-based single depth estimation.** CNN-based methods have recently demonstrated promising results on estimating depth from a single image. Due to the difficulty of collecting labeled datasets, earlier approaches often focus on specific visual domains such as indoor scenes [10] or street view [14, 71]. While the accuracy of these approaches is not yet competitive with multi-view stereo algorithms, this line of research is particularly promising due to the availability of larger and more diverse training datasets from relative depth annotations [3], multi-view stereo [30], 3D movies [28] and synthetic data [42].

For cases where only one single color image is available, we obtain the depth estimate through a pre-trained depth estimation model [30, 28]. Removing the dependency on stereo or multiple images as input makes our method more widely applicable to all the existing photos.

### 3. Method

**Layered depth image.** Our method takes as input an RGB-D image (i.e., an aligned color-and-depth image pair) and generates a *Layered Depth Image* (LDI, [48]) with inpainted color and depth in parts that were occluded in the input.

An LDI is similar to a regular 4-connected image, except at every position in the pixel lattice it can hold any number of pixels, from zero to many. Each LDI pixel stores a color and a depth value. Unlike the original LDI work [48], we explicitly represent the local connectivity of pixels: each pixel stores pointers to either zero or at most one direct neighbor in each of the four cardinal directions (left, right, top, bottom). LDI pixels are 4-connected like normal image pixels within smooth regions, but do not have neighbors across depth discontinuities.

LDIs are a useful representation for 3D photography, be-

cause (1) they naturally handle an arbitrary number of layers, i.e., can adapt to depth-complex situations as necessary, and (2) they are sparse, i.e., memory and storage efficient and can be converted into a light-weight textured mesh representation that renders fast.

The quality of the depth input to our method does not need to be perfect, as long as discontinuities are reasonably well aligned in the color and depth channels. In practice, we have successfully used our method with inputs from dual camera cell phones as well as with estimated depth maps from learning-based methods [30, 28].

**Method overview.** Given an input RGB-D image, our method proceeds as follows. We first initialize a trivial LDI, which uses a single layer everywhere and is fully 4-connected. In a pre-process we detect major depth discontinuities and group them into simple connected *depth edges* (Section 3.1). These form the basic units for our main algorithm below. In the core part of our algorithm, we iteratively select a depth edge for inpainting. We then *disconnect* the LDI pixels across the edge and only consider the background pixels of the edge for inpainting. We extract a local *context region* from the “known” side of the edge, and generate a *synthesis region* on the “unknown” side (Section 3.2). The synthesis region is a contiguous 2D region of *new* pixels, whose color and depth values we generate from the given context using a learning-based method (Section 3.3). Once inpainted, we merge the synthesized pixels back into the LDI (Section 3.4). Our method iteratively proceeds in this manner until all depth edges have been treated.

#### 3.1. Image preprocessing

The only input to our method is a single RGB-D image. Every step of the algorithm below proceeds fully automatically. We normalize the depth channel, by mapping the min and max disparity values (i.e.,  $1/\text{depth}$ ) to 0 and 1, respectively. All parameters related to spatial dimensions below are tuned for images with 1024 pixels along the longer dimension, and should be adjusted proportionally for images of different sizes.

We start by lifting the image onto an LDI, i.e., creating a single layer everywhere and connecting every LDI pixel to its four cardinal neighbors. Since our goal is to inpaint the occluded parts of the scene, we need to find *depth discontinuities* since these are the places where we need to extend the existing content. In most depth maps produced by stereo methods (dual camera cell phones) or depth estimation networks, discontinuities are blurred across multiple pixels (Figure 2c), making it difficult to precisely localize them. We, therefore, sharpen the depth maps using a bilateral median filter [37] (Figure 2d), using a  $7 \times 7$  window size, and  $\sigma_{\text{spatial}} = 4.0$ ,  $\sigma_{\text{intensity}} = 0.5$ .

After sharpening the depth map, we find discontinuities by thresholding the disparity difference between neighboring pixels. This results in many spurious responses, such as isolated speckles and short segments dangling off longer



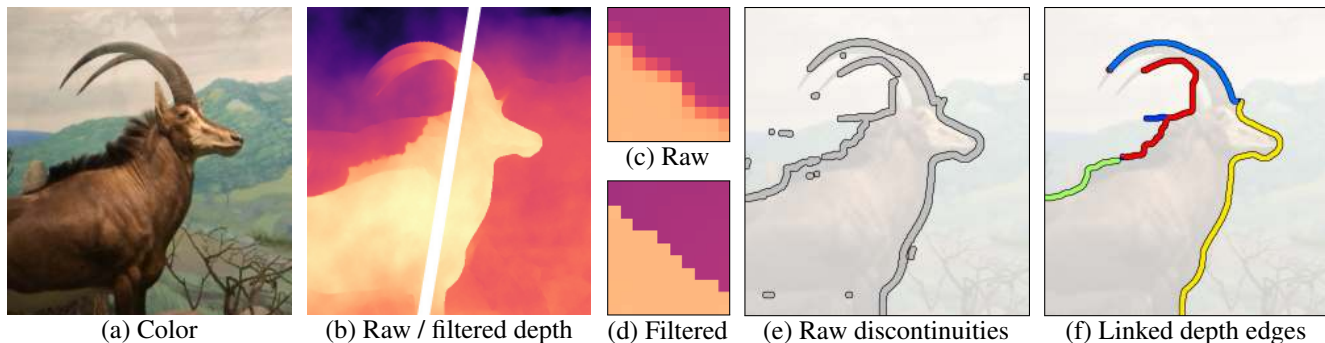


Figure 2. **Preprocessing.** Preprocessing of the color and depth input (a-b). We use a bilateral median filter to sharpen the input depth maps (c-d), detect raw discontinuities using disparity thresholds (e), and clean up spurious threshold responses and link discontinuities into connected depth edges (f). These linked depth edges form the basic unit for our inpainting process.

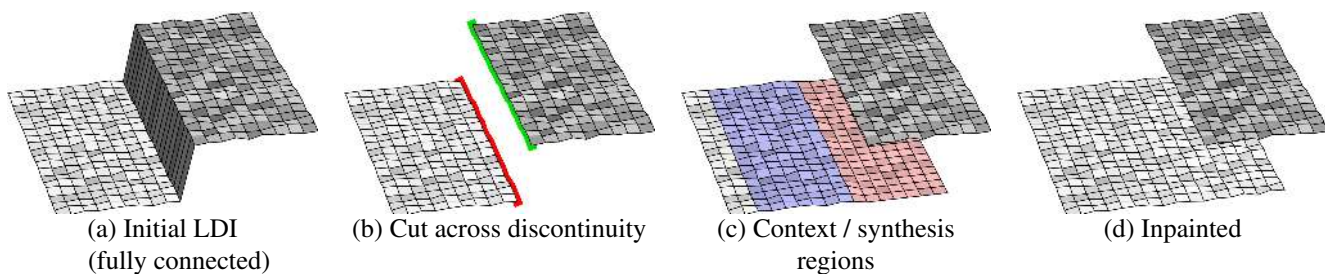


Figure 3. **Conceptual illustration of the LDI inpainting algorithm.** (a) The initial LDI is fully connected. A depth edge (discontinuity) is marked in gray. (b) We first cut the LDI pixel connections across the depth, forming a foreground silhouette (green) and a background silhouette (red). (c) For the background silhouette we spawn a context region (blue) and a synthesis region (red) of new LDI pixels. (d) The synthesized pixels have been merged into the LDI.



Figure 4. **Context/synthesis regions.** Context regions (blue) and synthesis regions (red) for three example connected depth edges (black) from Figure 2(f).

edges (Figure 2e). We clean this up as follows: First, we create a binary map by labeling depth discontinuities as 1 (and others as 0). Next, we use connected component analysis to merge adjacent discontinuities into a collection of “linked depth edges”. To avoid merging edges at junctions, we separate them based on the local connectivity of the LDI. Finally, we remove short segments (< 10 pixels), including both isolated and dangling ones. We determine the threshold 10 by conducting five-fold cross-validation with LPIPS [69] metric on 50 samples randomly selected from RealEstate10K training set. The final edges (Figures 2f) form the basic unit of our iterative inpainting procedure, which is described in the following sections.

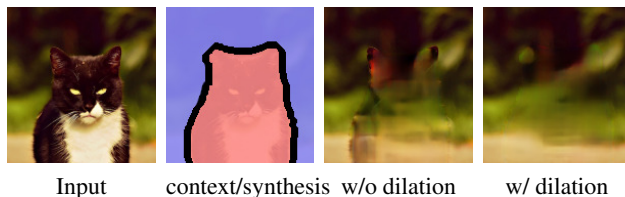


Figure 5. **Handling imperfect depth edges.** As the detected imperfect edges may not align well around occlusion boundaries, we dilate the synthesis region by 5 pixels. This strategy helps reduce artifacts in the inpainted regions.

### 3.2. Context and synthesis regions

Our inpainting algorithm operates on one of the previously computed depth edges at a time. Given one of these edges (Figure 3a), the goal is to synthesize new color and depth content in the adjacent occluded region. We start by disconnecting the LDI pixels across the discontinuity (Figure 3b). We call the pixels that became disconnected (i.e., are now missing a neighbor) *silhouette* pixels. We see in Figure 3b that a foreground silhouette (marked green) and a background silhouette (marked red) forms. Only the background silhouette requires inpainting. We are interested in extending its surrounding content into the occluded region.

We start by generating a *synthesis region*, a contiguous region of *new* pixels (Figure 3c, red pixels). These are essentially just 2D pixel coordinates at this point. We initialize the color and depth values in the synthesis region

using a simple iterative flood-fill like algorithm. It starts by stepping from all silhouette pixels one step in the direction where they are disconnected. These pixels form the initial synthesis region. We then iteratively expand (for 40 iterations) all pixels of the region by stepping left/right/up/down and adding any pixels that have not been visited before. For each iteration, we expand the context and synthesis regions alternately and thus a pixel only belong to either one of the two regions. Additionally, we do not step back *across* the silhouette, so the synthesis region remains strictly in the occluded part of the image. Figure 4 shows a few examples.

We describe our learning-based technique for inpainting the synthesis region in the next section. Similar techniques [33, 41] were previously used for filling holes in images. One important difference to our work is that these image holes were always fully surrounded by known content, which constrained the synthesis. In our case, however, the inpainting is performed on a connected layer of an LDI pixels, and it should only be constrained by surrounding pixels that are directly connected to it. Any other region in the LDI, for example on other foreground or background layer, is entirely irrelevant for this synthesis unit, and should not constrain or influence it in any way.

We achieve this behavior by explicitly defining a *context region* (Figure 3c, blue region) for the synthesis. Our inpainting networks only considers the content in the context region and does not see any other parts of the LDI. The context region is generated using a similar flood-fill like algorithm. One difference, however, is that this algorithm selects actual LDI pixels and follows their connection links, so the context region expansion halts at silhouettes. We run this algorithm for 100 iterations, as we found that synthesis performs better with slightly larger context regions. In practice, the silhouette pixels may not align well with the actual occluding boundaries due to imperfect depth estimation. To tackle this issue, we dilate the synthesis region near the depth edge by 5 pixels (the context region erodes correspondingly). Figure 5 shows the effect of this heuristic.

### 3.3. Context-aware color and depth inpainting

**Model.** Given the context and synthesis regions, our next goal is to synthesize color and depth values. Even though we perform the synthesis on an LDI, the extracted context and synthesis regions are locally like images, so we can use standard network architectures designed for images. Specifically, we build our color and depth inpainting models upon image inpainting methods in [41, 33, 62].

One straightforward approach is to inpaint the color image and depth map independently. The inpainted depth map, however, may not be well-aligned with respect to the inpainted color. To address this issue, we design our color and depth inpainting network similar to [41, 62]: we break down the inpainting tasks into three sub-networks: (1) edge inpainting network, (2) color inpainting network, and (3) depth inpainting network (Figure 6). First, given the con-

text edges as input, we use the edge inpainting network to predict the depth edges in the synthesis regions, producing the inpainted edges. Performing this step first helps infer the *structure* (in terms of depth edges) that can be used for constraining the *content* prediction (the color and depth values). We take the concatenated inpainted edges and context color as input and use the color inpainting network to produce inpainted color. We perform the depth inpainting similarly. Figure 7 shows an example of how the edge-guided inpainting is able to extend the depth structures accurately and alleviate the color/depth misalignment issue.

**Multi-layer inpainting.** In depth-complex scenarios, applying our inpainting model once is not sufficient as we can still see the hole through the discontinuity created by the *inpainted* depth edges. We thus apply our inpainting model until no further inpainted depth edges are generated. Figure 8 shows an example of the effects. Here, applying our inpainting model once fills in missing layers. However, several holes are still visible when viewed at a certain viewpoint (Figure 8b). Applying the inpainting model one more time fixes the artifacts.

**Training data generation.** For training, our proposed model can be simply trained on any image dataset without the need of annotated data. Here, we choose to use MSCOCO dataset [31] for its wide diversity in object types and scenes. To generate the training data for the inpainting model, we create a synthetic dataset as follows. First, we apply the pre-trained MegaDepth [30] on the COCO dataset to obtain pseudo ground truth depth maps. We extract context/synthesis regions (as described in Section 3.2) to form a pool of these regions. We then randomly sample and place these context-synthesis regions on *different* images in the COCO dataset. We thus can obtain the ground truth content (RGB-D) from the *simulated* occluded region.

### 3.4. Converting to 3D textured mesh

We form the 3D textured mesh by integrating all the inpainted depth and color values back into the original LDI. Using mesh representations for rendering allows us to quickly render novel views, without the need to perform per-view inference step. Consequently, the 3D representation produced by our algorithm can easily be rendered using standard graphics engines on edge devices.

## 4. Experimental Results

In this section, we start with describing implementation details (Section 4.1). We then show visual comparisons with the state-of-the-art novel view synthesis methods (Section 4.2). We refer to the readers to supplementary material for extensive results and comparisons. Next, we follow the evaluation protocol in [72] and report the quantitative comparisons on the RealEstate10K dataset (Section 4.3). We present an ablation study to justify our model design (Section 4.4). Finally, we show that our method works well with

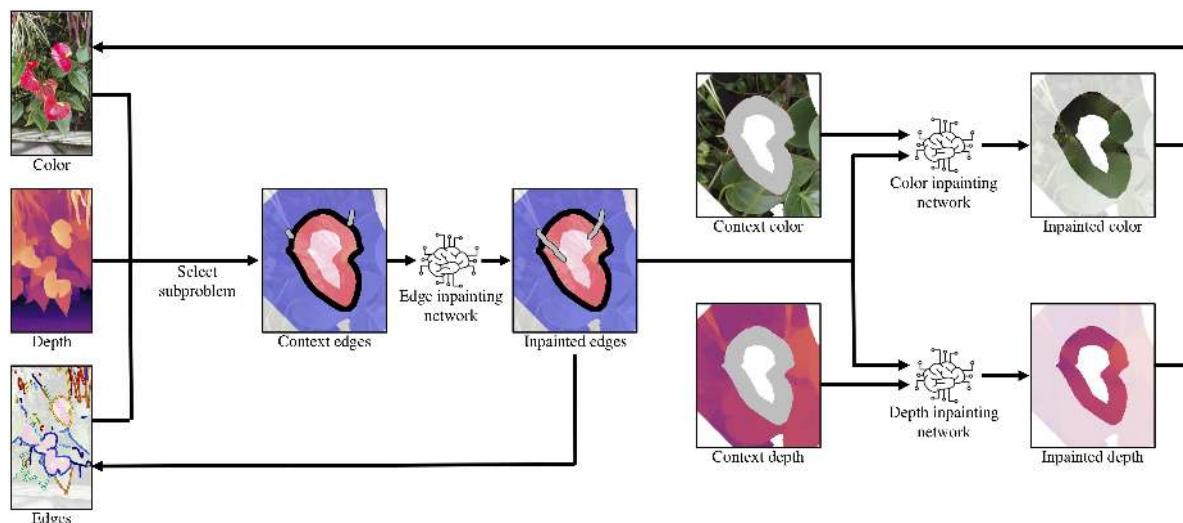


Figure 6. **Context-aware color and depth inpainting.** Given the color, depth, the extracted and linked depth edges as inputs, we randomly select one of the edges as a subproblem. We start with inpainting the depth edge in the synthesis region (red) using an *edge inpainting network*. We then concatenate the inpainted depth edges with the context color together and apply a *color inpainting network* to produce the inpainted color. Similarly, we concatenate the inpainted depth edges with the context depth and apply a *depth inpainting network* to produce the inpainted depth.

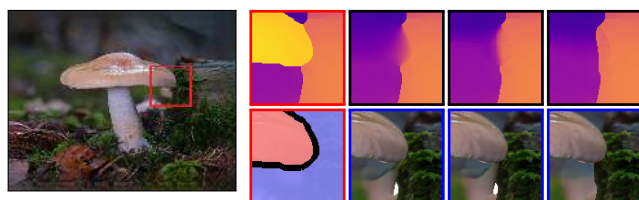


Figure 7. **Effect of depth inpainting.** Edge-guided depth inpainting produces more accurate structure inpainting, particularly for depth-complex regions (e.g., T-junctions). **Blue box:** synthesized novel view.

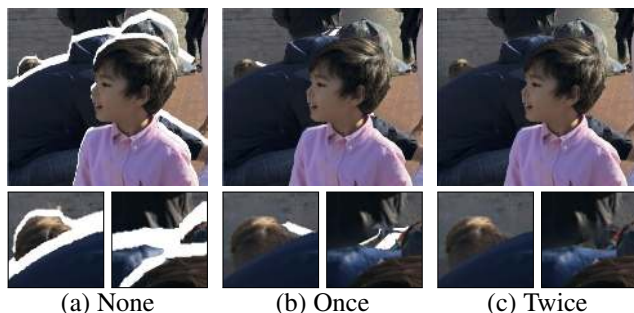


Figure 8. **Multi-layer inpainting.**

depth maps from different sources (Section 4.5). Additional details and visual comparisons can be found in our supplementary material.

#### 4.1. Implementation details

**Training the inpainting model.** For the edge-generator, we follow the hyper-parameters in [41]. Specifically, we train the edge-generator model using the ADAM optimizer [24] with  $\beta = 0.9$  and an initial learning rate of

0.0001. We train both the edge and depth generator model using the context-synthesis regions dataset on the MS-COCO dataset for 5 epochs. We train the depth generator and color image generator for 5 and 10 epochs, respectively.

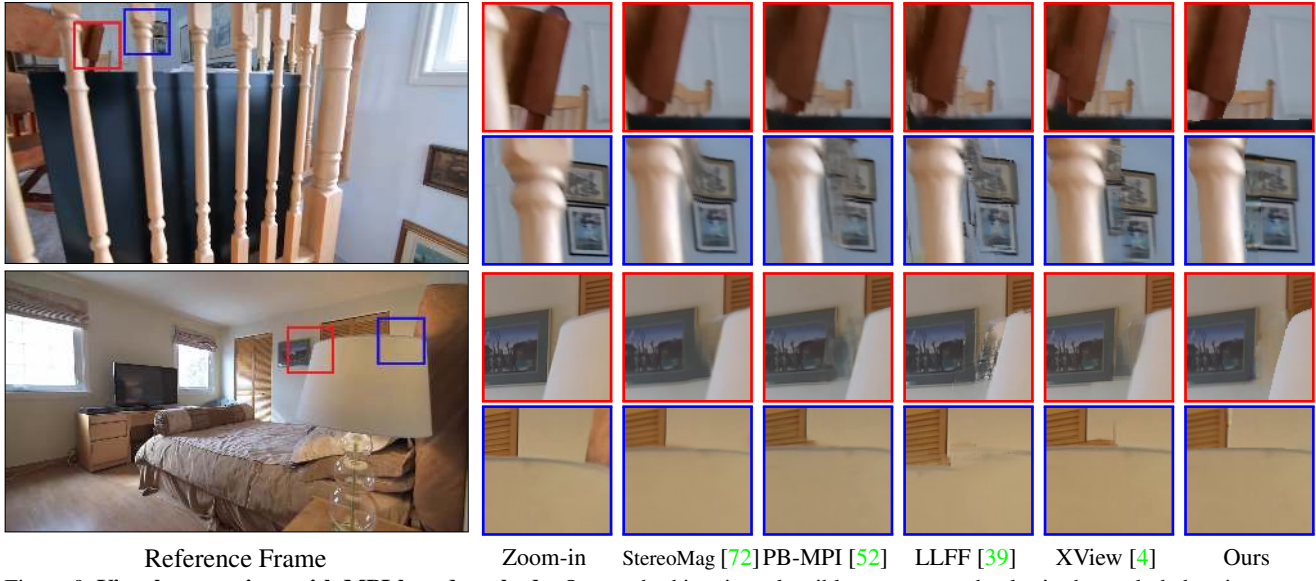
**Inpainting model architecture.** For the edge inpainting network, we adopt the architecture provided by [41]. For the depth and color inpainting networks, we use a standard U-Net architecture with partial convolution [33]. Due to the space limitation, we leave additional implementation details (specific network architecture, the training loss and the weights for each network) to the supplementary material. We will make the source code and pre-trained model publicly available to foster future work.

**Training data.** We use the 118k images from COCO 2017 set for training. We select at most 3 pairs of regions from each image to form the context-synthesis pool. During training, we sample one pair of regions for each image, and resize it by a factor between [1.0, 1.3].

#### 4.2. Visual comparisons

**Comparisons with methods with MPI representations.** We compare our proposed model against MPI-based approaches on RealEstate10K dataset. We use DPSNet [22] to obtain the input depth maps for our method. We render the novel views of MPI-based methods using the pre-trained weights provided by the authors. Figure 9 shows two challenging examples with complex depth structures. Our method synthesizes plausible structures around depth boundaries; on the other hand, stereo magnification and PB-MPI produce artifacts around depth discontinuities. LLFF [38] suffers from ghosting effects when extrapolating new views.





Reference Frame      Zoom-in      StereoMag [72]      PB-MPI [52]      LLFF [39]      XView [4]      Ours

Figure 9. **Visual comparison with MPI-based methods.** Our method inpaints plausible structure and color in the occluded region.

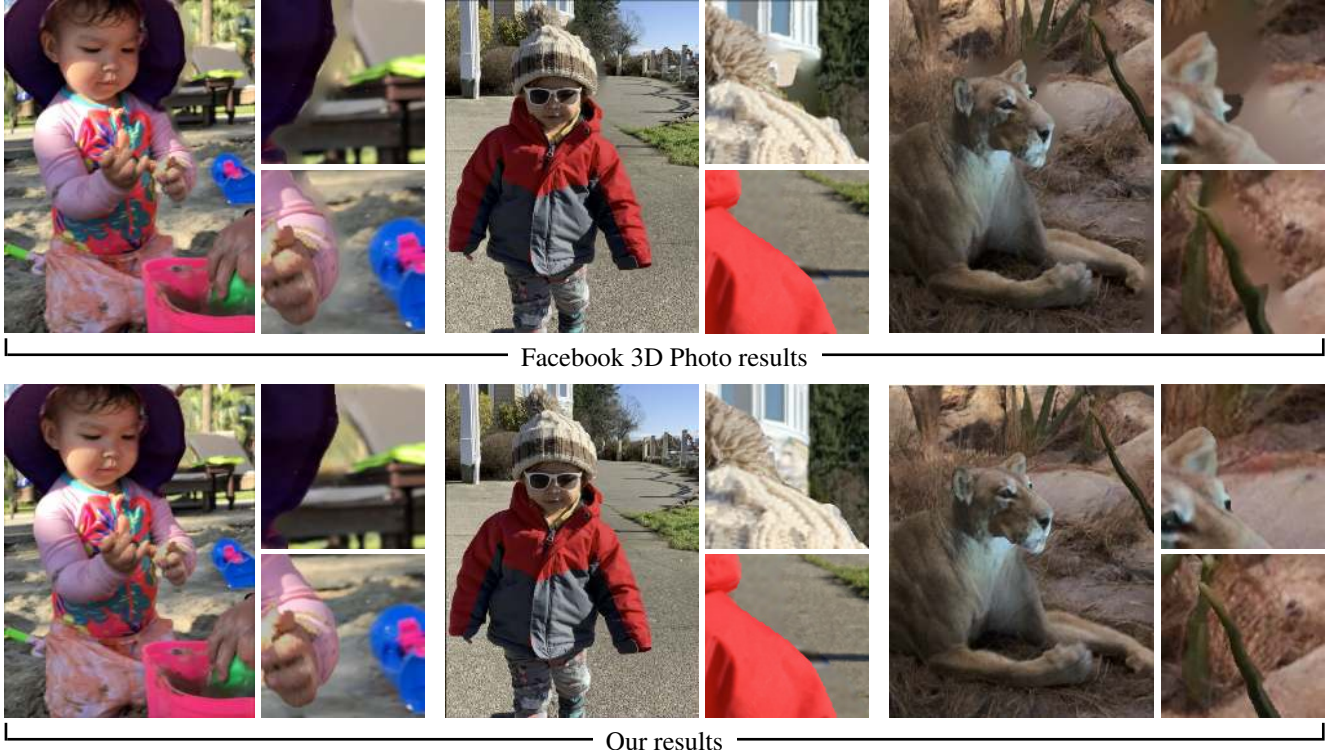


Figure 10. **Visual comparison to Facebook 3D Photos.** Our approach fills plausible textures and structures at disocclusions.

**Comparisons with Facebook 3D photo.** Here, we aim to evaluate the capability of our method on photos taken *in the wild*. We extract the color images and the corresponding depth maps estimated from an iPhone X (with dual camera lens). We use the same set of RGB-D inputs for both Facebook 3D photo and our algorithm. Figure 10 shows the view synthesis result in comparison with Facebook 3D photo. The diffused color and depth values by the facebook

3D photo algorithm work well when small or thin occluded regions are revealed at novel views. These artifacts, however, become clearly visible with larger occluded regions. On the other hand, our results in general fills in the synthesis regions with visually plausible contents and structures.

Table 1. **Quantitative comparison** on the RealEstate10K dataset.

Methods	SSIM $\uparrow$	PSNR $\uparrow$	LPIPS $\downarrow$
Stereo-Mag [72]	<b>0.8906</b>	26.71	0.0826
PB-MPI [52]	0.8773	25.51	0.0902
LLFF [39]	0.8062	23.17	0.1323
Xview [4]	0.8628	24.75	0.0822
Ours	0.8887	<b>27.29</b>	<b>0.0724</b>

Table 2. **Using depth edge as guidance improves the results.** Blue: results in disoccluded regions.

Methods	SSIM $\uparrow$	PSNR $\uparrow$	LPIPS $\downarrow$
Diffusion	0.8665 (0.6237)	25.95 (18.91)	0.084
Inpaint w/o edge	0.8665 (0.6247)	25.96 (18.94)	0.084
Inpaint w/ edge (Ours)	0.8666 (0.6265)	25.97 (18.98)	0.083

Table 3. **Using color inpainting model gives better perceptual quality.** Our dilation heuristic further boosts the performance. Blue: results in disoccluded regions.

Methods	SSIM $\uparrow$	PSNR $\uparrow$	LPIPS $\downarrow$
Diffusion	0.8661 (0.6215)	25.90 (18.78)	0.088
Inpaint w/o dilation	0.8643 (0.5573)	25.56 (17.14)	0.085
Inpaint w/ dilation (Ours)	0.8666 (0.6265)	25.97 (18.98)	0.083

### 4.3. Quantitative comparisons

We evaluate how well our model can extrapolate views compared to MPI-based methods [52, 72, 4, 39]. We randomly sample 1500 video sequences from RealEstate10K to generate testing triplets. For each triplet, we set  $t = 10$  for target view, so that all the methods need to extrapolate beyond the source ( $t = 0$ ) and reference ( $t = 4$ ) frame. We use DPSNet [22] to generate the input depth maps required for our model. We quantify the performance of each model using SSIM and PSNR metrics between the synthesized target views and the ground truth. As these metrics do not capture the perceptual quality of the synthesized view, we include LPIPS [69] metric to quantify how well does the generated view align with human perception. For PB-MPI, we set the number of depth layers to 64 as it yields the best result. We report the evaluation results in Table 1. Our proposed method performs competitively on SSIM and PSNR. In addition, our synthesis views exhibit better perceptual quality, as reflected in the superior LPIPS score.

### 4.4. Ablation study

We conduct ablation studies to see how each of our proposed components contribute to the final performance. We first verify the effectiveness of *edge-guided depth inpainting*. We sample 130 triplets from our testing sequences, evaluate the inpainted color on both the entire image and disoccluded regions, and report the numbers in Table 2. The results show that our proposed edge-guided inpainting leads to minor improvement in numerical metrics. Next, we ex-

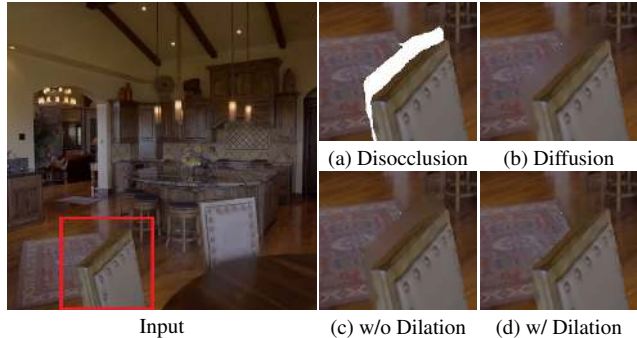


Figure 11. **Color inpainting leads to better visual quality.**

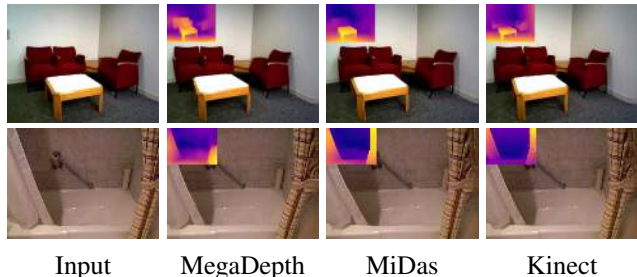


Figure 12. **Our method works with various sources of depth map.** We show the depth estimates on the top-left of novel views.

amine the efficacy of our *color inpainting* model following the same procedure described above. We present the performance in both entire image and occluded regions in Table 3. We observe that our proposed model yields better perceptual quality. Figure 11 shows an example.

### 4.5. Handling different depth maps

We test our method using depth maps generated using different approaches (Figure 12). We select images from SUNRGBD [50] dataset, and obtain the corresponding depth maps from three different sources: 1) depth estimated with MegaDepth [30], 2) MiDas [28] and 3) Kinect depth sensor. We present the resulting 3D photos in Figure 12. The results show that our method can handle depth maps from different sources reasonably well.

## 5. Conclusions

In this paper, we present an algorithm for creating compelling 3D photography from a single RGB-D image. Our core technical novelty lies in creating a completed layered depth image representation through context-aware color and depth inpainting. We validate our method on a wide variety of everyday scenes. Our experimental results show that our algorithm produces considerably fewer visual artifacts when compared with the state-of-the-art novel view synthesis techniques. We believe that such technology can bring 3D photography to a broader community, allowing people to easily capture scenes for immersive viewing.

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