# **Supplemental Material for BallGAN**

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We provide the following supplementary materials:

- A Background design choice
- B Effectiveness of background representation
- C Ablation of the losses
- D Implementation details
- E User study
- F Evaluation protocols
- G Detailed qualitative comparison
- H More comparison with EG3D
- I Detailed multi-view comparison
- J Uncurated samples

### A. Background design choice

This section explains the rationale why our background has a spherical shape rather than anything else. Notably, our goal is not to accurately model the geometry of the background, but rather to ensure that the integrity of the foreground of interest is not compromised. To ensure that the background is taken into consideration from all possible angles, it is imperative that the background encompasses the camera sphere. For instance, a planar background fails to cover the background when the camera rotates beyond 90° from its normal vector.

Even if the view frustum can account for the entire background, any abrupt changes in gradient or inconsistencies in distances from the camera can engender unstable learning.



Figure S1: **Background should be modeled spherical rather than cubic.** While the edges of the cube are reflected in the rendered images (*Initial*), the sphere has no such artifacts in the rendered images. While the cubic background fails to produce plausible images, our spherical background produces sensible backgrounds (*Trained*).



Figure S2: Effectiveness of our spherical background on single scene overfitting scenario. The sole foreground rendering and depth map demonstrates our spherical background is beneficial for capturing foreground geometry

To analyze the background effect, we trained BallGAN-S on the CompCars dataset with various complex background representations that occupy a significant portion of the image, using only different representations of the background such as sphere and cube, in Figure S1. The cube background does not converge. Therefore, the sphere background is the only reasonable choice for background representation.

#### **B.** Effectiveness of background representation

In this section, we demonstrate the effect of our spherical background representation, which enhances the focus on the foreground. We verify the efficacy of our background representation through a single-scene overfitting (SSO) experiment, in which we overfit a 3D model to a single scene captured by multi-view images, namely lf-basket [49]. We use the vanilla NeRF [26] for the foreground, and keep the spherical background representation. In other words, NeRF++ and Ours differ only in the background representation.

As shown in Figure S2, NeRF++ does not clearly distinguish between foreground and background, and the estimated depth is erroneous, e.g., the table has a lower depth at the deepest end. In contrast, our approach clearly sepa-

configuration				
	$\mathcal{L}_{\mathrm{fg}}$	$\mathcal{L}_{ ext{bg}}$	FID	
stage 1	-	-	7.87	
	1	-	6.82	
	-	1	7.88	
	1	1	6.13	

Table S1: **Ablation study on regularization.** This ablation study is conducted with batch size 16 due to the resource shortage. FIDs do not match the main results.

rates foreground and background and better estimates foreground depth. Thus, our design demonstrates effectiveness in focusing resources on learning foreground 3D geometry.

# C. Ablation of the losses

We conduct ablation studies to evaluate the impact of each regularization on image quality. Table S1 shows the effects of our foreground and background regularization. Applying the foreground density loss  $\mathcal{L}_{fg}$  improves FID. The background transmittance regularization  $\mathcal{L}_{bg}$  not only facilitates a clearer separation between foreground and background but also enhances FID score.

#### **D.** Implementation details

**BallGAN** Our implementation mostly follows the official implementation of EG3D<sup>1</sup> including training hyperparameters, dual discrimination, pose-conditioning on discriminator, two-stage training, equalized learning rates [19], a mini-batch standard deviation layer at the end of the discriminator [19], exponential moving average of the generator weights, a non-saturating logistic loss [13], and R1 regularization [25] with  $\gamma = 1$ . We also use the same camera intrinsic parameters and FFHQ preprocessing from EG3D.

The weights of the foreground density output layer are initialized to zero to guarantee the contribution of the background at the beginning of the training. Figure S3 illustrates the architecture for the background representation. A fivelayer  $1 \times 1$  convolutional network maps the positional encoding  $\zeta$  of a background point to a feature vector. The style code from an eight-layer MLP, i.e., the mapping network, modulates the weights of the convolutions  $g_{w_{b^{\sigma}}}$ . The background representation mapping network shares the same design as the mapping network in StyleGAN2 [22]. The number of channels of the intermediate features are in Table S2. The last layer has a sigmoid clamping from MipNeRF [2] as in the foreground neural render of EG3D. We use the positional encoding of L = 10 on the background's 2D spherical coordinates. View direction is not considered for our background representation.



Figure S3: Background architecture

	input channel	output channel	
PE	2	40	
$\mathbf{g}_{\mathbf{w}_{\mathrm{bg}}}^{1}$	40	64	
$\mathbf{g}_{\mathbf{w}_{bg}}^2$	64	64	
$\mathbf{g}_{\mathbf{w}_{bg}}^{3}$	64	64	
$\mathbf{g}_{\mathbf{w}_{bg}}^4$	64	64	
$\mathbf{g}_{\mathbf{w}_{bg}}^{5}$	64	32	

Table S2: **Detail of background network.** *PE* means positional encoding  $\zeta$ , not a layer.

On FFHQ, we schedule the coefficient of the foreground density loss  $\lambda_{fg}$  to exponentially grow from 0 to 0.25 and the coefficient of the background transmittance regularization  $\lambda_{bg}$  to exponentially grow from 0 to 1 in the first stage. We set the coefficients  $\lambda_{fg} = 1$  and  $\lambda_{bg} = 0.5$  in the second stage.

For AFHQv2-Cats, we start from the weights pretrained on FFHQ for the first step and fine-tune them on AFHQv2-Cats as done in EG3D. We set  $\lambda_{fg} = \lambda_{bg} = 0$  to let the foreground better capture the fine details such as whiskers.

**BallGAN-S** BallGAN-S is a variant using StyleNeRF as a baseline instead of EG3D. We add the same background network on top of the official StyleNeRF implementation<sup>2</sup>. We set  $\lambda_{fg} = 0.25$  and  $\lambda_{bg} = 0$ .

**Competitors** In the comparison experiments, we reported the best FIDs among the available sources: reported, official checkpoints, and official training code. We used the official training codes as-is to reproduce FIDs if the official repository does not provide the checkpoints<sup>3456</sup>.

StyleNeRF, StyleSDF, EpiGRAF, and VolumeGAN do not provide training guidelines for AFHQv2-cats [8]. For StyleNeRF and StyleSDF, we adopted the same training settings as used for AFHQv2 training, given that AFHQv2-cats constitutes a subset of AFHQv2. For VolumeGAN, we followed the same settings as Cats [51] in pi-gan, including

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>https://github.com/NVlabs/eg3d

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>https://github.com/facebookresearch/StyleNeRF

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>https://github.com/genforce/volumegan

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>https://github.com/universome/epigraf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup>https://github.com/royorel/StyleSDF

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup>https://github.com/AustinXY/GIRAFFEHD

	FFHQ 512 <sup>2</sup>			FFHQ other res.
	reported	reproduced	official ckpt.	reported
GRAM	-	-	-	$(256^2) 29.8$
MVCGAN	13.4	-	21.3	
VolumeGAN	-	15.7	-	$(256^2)$ 9.1
StyleSDF	-	19.5	-	$(256^2)$ 11.5
EpiGRAF	9.9	-	-	$(256^2) 9.7$
EG3D	4.7	4.7	-	
GIRAFFE-HD	-	6.4	-	$(1024^2) 10.13$
StyleNeRF	13.2	-	10.5	
Ours	5.64			

Table S3: **FIDs of competitors from various sources.** We report the best FID among the reported, reproduced and official checkpoint for each model with  $512^2$  resolutions in Table 3.



Figure S4: User study.

FOV, ray's near/far distances, and camera pose sampling distribution. For EpiGRAF, we employed the landmark detector<sup>7</sup> used in EG3D to label camera poses, while following the guidelines from the EpiGRAF's official repository for other training settings. The FOV and ray's near/far distances used in EpiGRAF are almost identical to those in pi-gan.

For GIRAFFE-HD on CompCars, we applied transferlearning from the official checkpoint for  $256^2$  resolution to  $512^2$  resolution following the authors' guidelines. We trained the model until it achieved the FID reported in the original paper. Table S3 provides the FIDs we obtained from various sources.

### E. User study

We asked 57 participants to choose the best model in terms of foreground separation and consistency. We prepared the following questionnaire for our user study in Figure S4. We randomly sampled ten scenes from each method and rendered foregrounds in seven different viewing directions; the entire samples are shown in §F. Then we asked 57 participants to answer two questions: (1:Foreground Separation) Which set of foreground fully includes the whole person (or cat) and excludes the background? (2 : Foreground Consistency) Which set of foregrounds is consistent across different views?

Figure S4 shows that ours outperforms competitors by a large margin with respect to both criteria. See §F for how we prepared images for the user study.

#### **F.** Evaluation protocols

We mostly follow the evaluation protocols of EG3D[5]. Below enumerates the protocols.

**Real image inversion** We use the same configuration of EG3D for pivotal tuning inversion [33].

**ID** ID measures the cosine similarity of the ArcFace embedding [9] between different views of the same scene. For each method, we generate 1000 random scenes in pairs of random poses from the training dataset pose distribution. Then we compute the average.

**Pose** Pose computes the difference between the intended (input) pose and the synthesized pose, implying how accurately the input poses are reflected in the rendered poses. We sample 1000 latent codes and render them in varying yaws and estimate the resulting yaws with a pre-trained face reconstruction model [10]. Instead of random yaws, we remove the stochasticity of the evaluation by specifying nine yaw angles evenly separated in [-0.9rad, 0.9rad].  $\pm 0.9$ rad covers the [0.3, 99.7] percentile of the training dataset's yaw distribution. We report a mean absolute error (L1) instead of L2 distance to equally capture the error near zero.

**Depth** Depth measures the difference between the underlying 3D geometry (volume-rendered depth) and the rendered image. We consider depth maps of rendered images in frontal views of 1000 samples estimated by a pre-trained 3D face reconstruction model [10] as pseudo ground truth. The depth maps are normalized to compute their mean squared error.

**Foreground separation** We describe the procedure to obtain the foreground image used in §4.1. Although our goal is to compare the separation of foreground and background in the 3D space, it is prohibitive to visualize the separation in 3D space on paper or screen. Therefore, we visualize by separately synthesizing the foreground scene for each method. Note that GIRAFFE-HD produces extra alpha masks in 2D space. We visualize their foreground part with their alpha masks to demonstrate their best performance. Their foreground densities are only in the central region of the image canvas, and their aggregated densities do not match the shape of the salient object. For StyleNeRF, the foreground densities along the ray do not sum to one, *i.e.*, the foreground is semi-transparent. Therefore, we manually searched for a density threshold that best divides

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup>https://github.com/kairess/cat\_hipsterizer



Figure S5: Foreground separation examples. The densities along a ray do not sum to one in GIRAFFE-HD and StyleNeRF. Hence, we apply postprocessing to compare their full potential for separation. Ours does not require such postprocessing. The rightmost column shows zoomedin images of red box regions for detailed comparison.



Figure S6: **Comparison of foreground and background separation with EpiGRAF backbone** NeRF++ BG struggles on hair, shoulder, and cat. Our BG excels in all cases.

the foreground region for each image. Ours do not require such workarounds as the foreground densities aggregate to one along the rays well on the foreground regions. Figure \$5 provides examples.

#### G. Detailed qualitative comparison

We only visualize the foreground meshes in Figure 8, Figure 10, Figure S7, and Figure 6 for methods that separately model on foreground and background. Figure 1, Fig-



Figure S7: **3D geometry comparison between EG3D and BallGAN** 

ure 2 and Figure 9 show the full 3D scene, including both foreground and background. As EG3D does not separate foreground and background, the full 3D geometry is visualized on all mesh figures.

However, we only visualize the foreground mesh of StyleNeRF in Figure 9 as we discover that the background densities of StyleNeRF are close to zero, thus negligible. Yet, the background appears on rendered images of StyleNeRF as the last sample on the background ray is set to have an alpha value of 1 before volume rendering, i.e., the alpha value for the last sample is tweaked to 1 regardless of the actual density produced by the background NeRF.

Despite the sole visualization of foreground mesh for StyleNeRF in Figure 9, densities accountable for background is noticeable on StyleNeRF's mesh for AFHQv2-Cats. This shows the case of the background being erroneously modeled through the foreground.

EpiGRAF employs NeRF++'s inverse sphere parameterization for the background, the same as StyleNeRF. Figure S6 shows a comparison between our background representation and NeRF++ when using EpiGRAF as the backbone. The term "with NeRF++" refers to the original EpiGRAF, while "with Ours" indicates the model where our sphere background representation is applied to EpiGRAF's foreground representation. Except for the background representation, all settings remain the same and adhere to the guidelines provided in the official repository.

In FFHQ, EpiGRAF with Ours separates the FG cleaner. On the Cats [51] dataset, which contains a significant amount of fine-grained details, EpiGRAF with NeRF++ fails to separate the FG and BG, whereas EpiGRAF with Ours shows clear separation.



cutting from the backside of mesh (b) 3D comparison of cutting mesh for EG3D

Figure S8: **Difficulty of separating foreground in EG3D** (a) The background cannot be removed by thresholding density, i.e., the foreground is cut off before the background is fully removed. (b) As the background wall has a concave shape and is not always behind the foreground, clipping with depth tends to carve out the foreground before full background removal.

# H. More comparison with EG3D

EG3D does not separately model foreground and background. Figure S7 highlights the drawback of this representation for learning 3D scenes. The ears and hair in 3D space are attached to the background. Some parts of the hair are flat and lack curls. In contrast, ours separates the hair from the background and correctly models the 3D geometry of the hair that matches the 2D observation.

Figure **S8** shows that foreground separation is not straightforward in EG3D's 3D space. Thresholding the density or carving the mesh from the back does not correctly separate the foreground, and damages the facial/hair regions first. This demonstrates that the foreground and background must be perfectly separated at the representation level.

# I. Detailed multi-view comparison

Figure S9a and Figure S9b provide qualitative comparisons with varying camera poses. As FFHQ dataset mainly consists of frontal views, the competitors produce artifacts or show multi-view inconsistency. On the other hand, Ball-GAN produces images that are multi-view consistent and free from artifacts even in extreme camera poses.

# J. Uncurated samples

Figure **S10** provides uncurated samples of our method.



(a) Multi-view comparison with varying pitches



(b) Multi-view comparison with varying yaws

Figure S9: **Multi-view comparison in various poses on FFHQ.** Percentile for camera pitch and yaw in training distribution are shown on the left side of **a** and below for **b**.



(a) Uncurated samples of FFHQ.



(b) Uncurated samples of AFHQv2-Cats.



(c) Uncurated samples of CompCars.

Figure S10: Uncurated samples on the FFHQ, AFHQv2-Cats, and CompCars. Camera poses are randomly chosen from each training distribution. a and b show outputs of BallGAN. c is outputs from BallGAN-S.

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