

# Hand-Object Contact During Grasping: Capture, Analysis, and Applications

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# Research Interests

Functional Grasping

Observing Human Grasping

Hand-Object Contact

Robotic Grasping



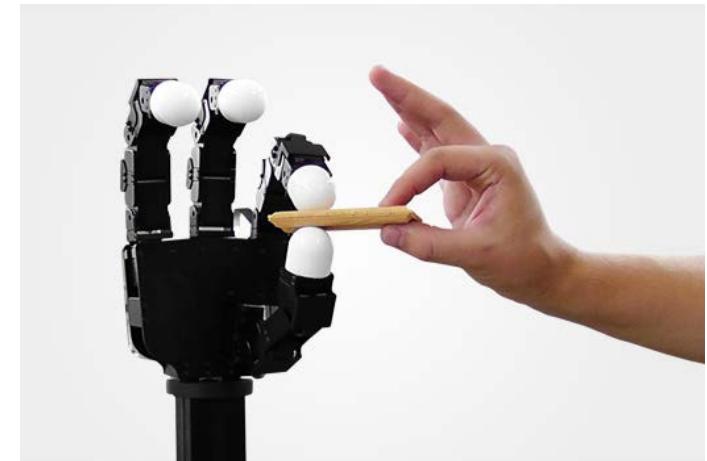
# Motivation

Understanding hands in action



contact

# Contact – Important for Physical Interactions



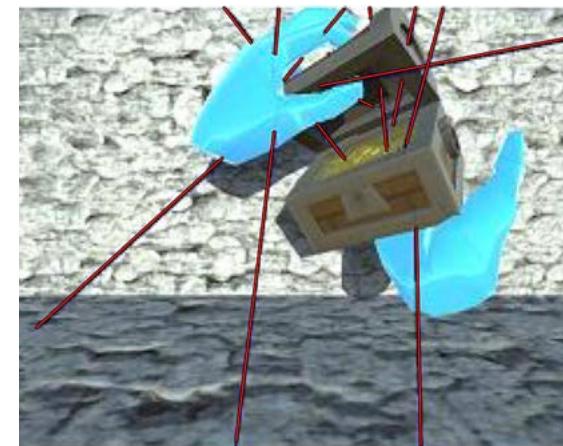
# Contact Modeling – Possible Applications

Soft robotics – simulation  
& design



[Deimel et al, IJRR '16]

Realistic VR  
Experiences



[Höll et al, VR '18]

Assistive robots,  
grasping



# Why is observing contact difficult?

- Occlusion
- Model-based approach: difficult to fit hand model to real images



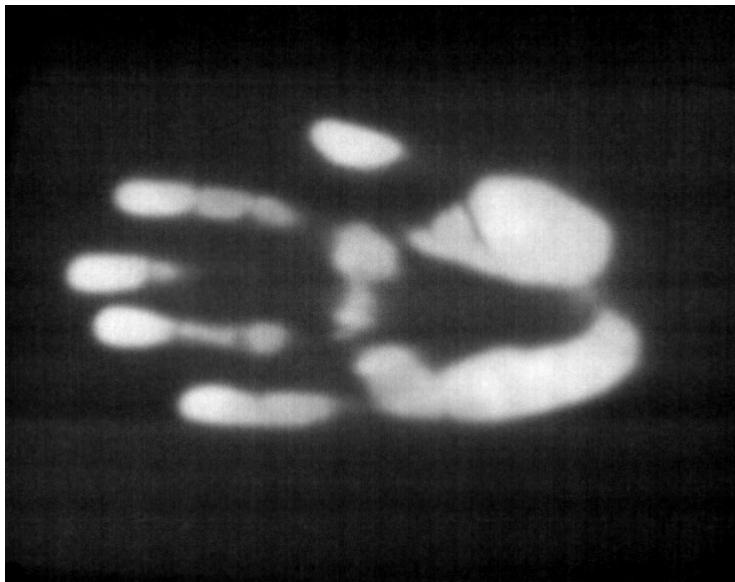
# Capturing Contact

- Pressure is exerted
- Heat is transferred
  - (in solids) conduction > convection and radiation

Higher spatial resolution

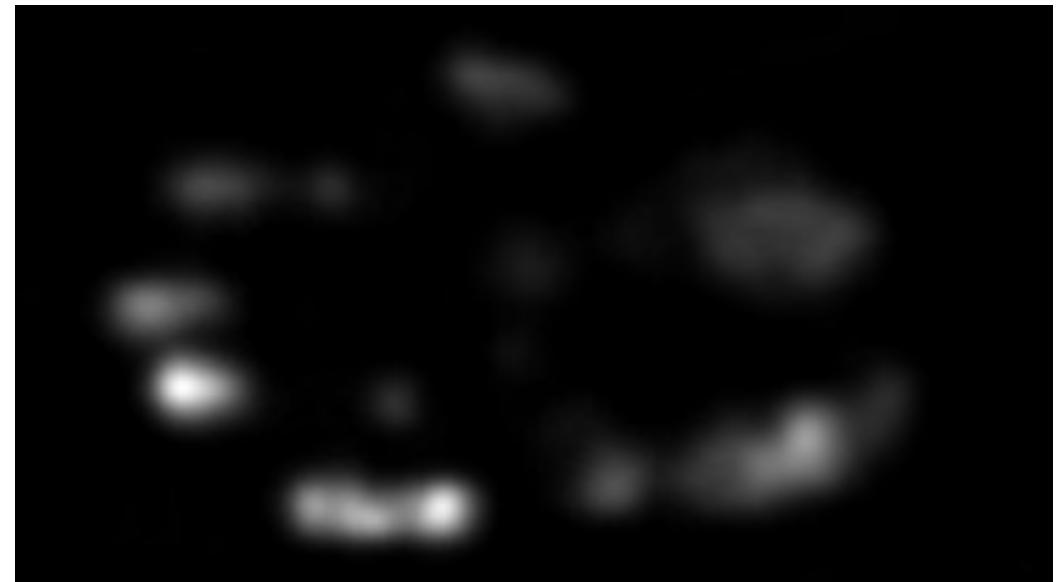
Works for arbitrary surface shapes

Non-invasive



Thermal image

Focus on actual contact pressure



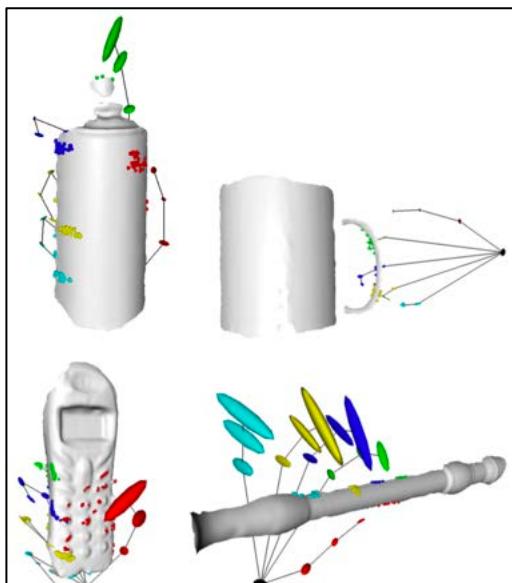
Pressure image from a Sensel Morph

# ContactDB: Analyzing and Predicting Grasp Contact via Thermal Imaging

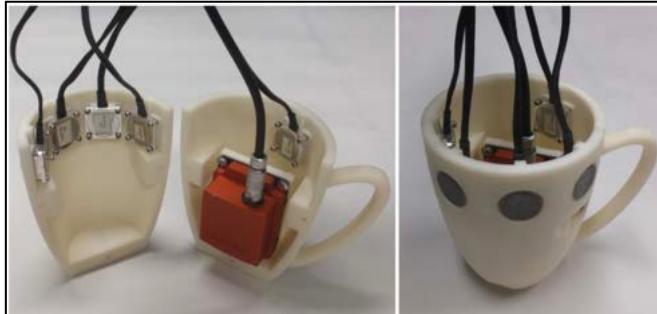
Samarth Brahmbhatt, Cusuh Ham, Charles C. Kemp, and James Hays

CVPR 2019

# Related Work



[Hamer et al, CVPR '10]



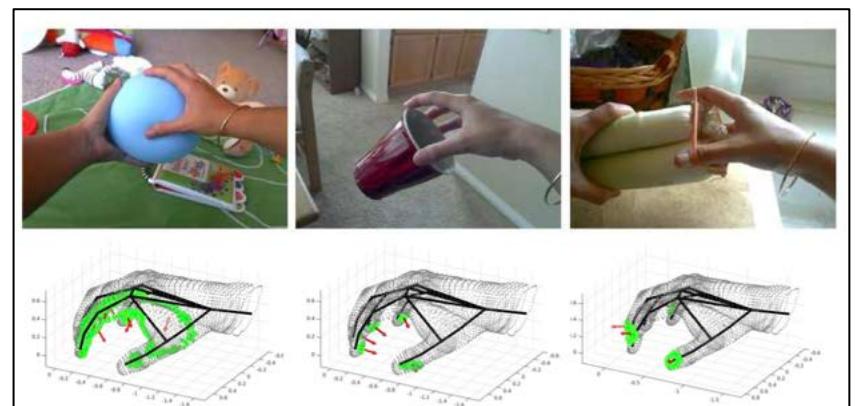
[Pham et al, T-PAMI '18]



[Bernardin et al, T-RO '05,  
Sundaram et al, Nature '19]

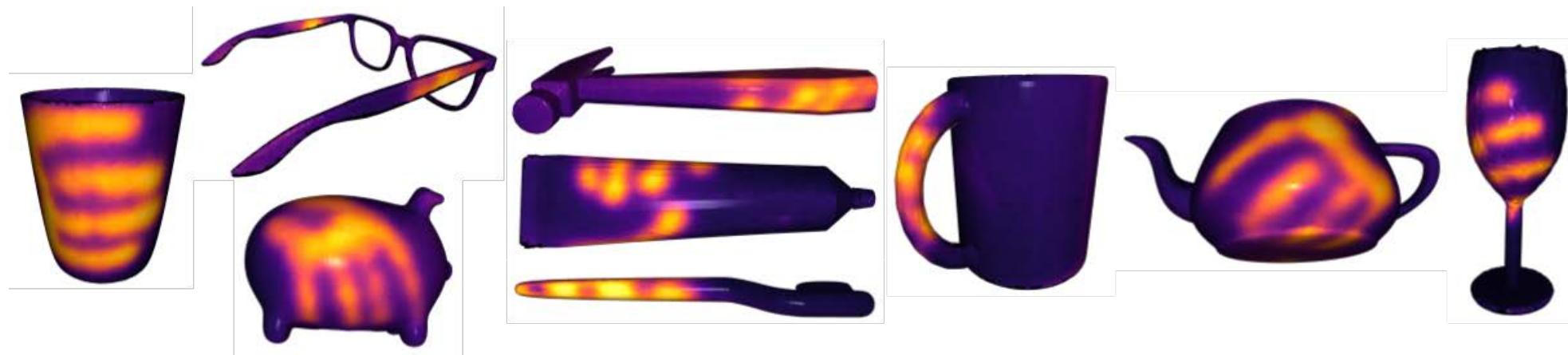


[Lau et al, SIGGRAPH '16]



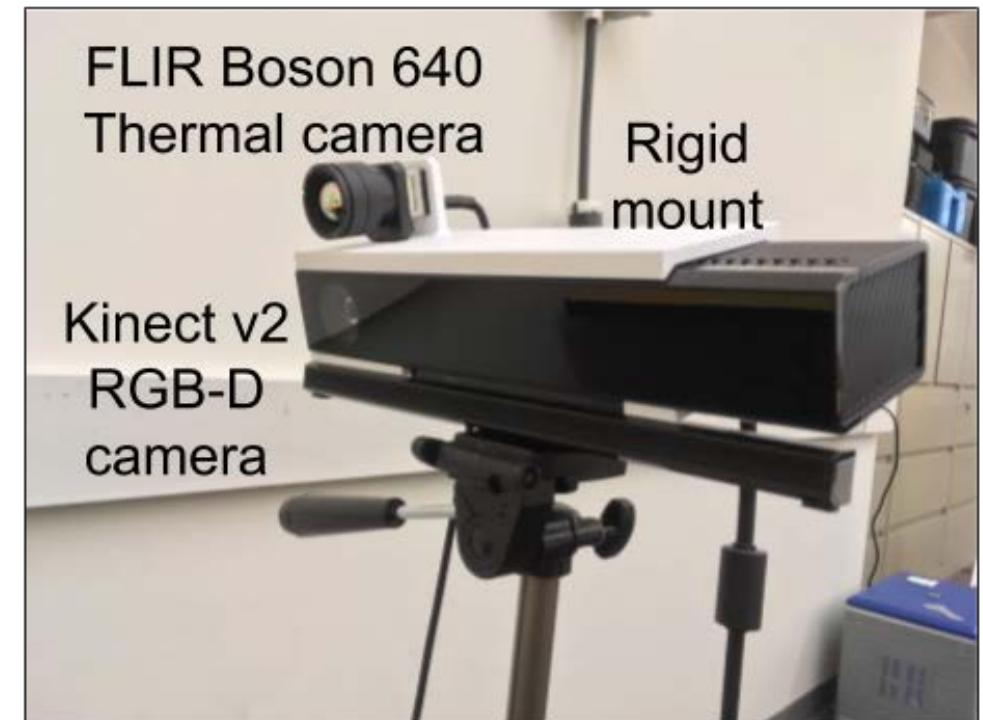
[Rogez et al, ICCV '15]

# ContactDB



# Observing Contact Through a Thermal Camera

Heat transfer from (warm) hand to object surface

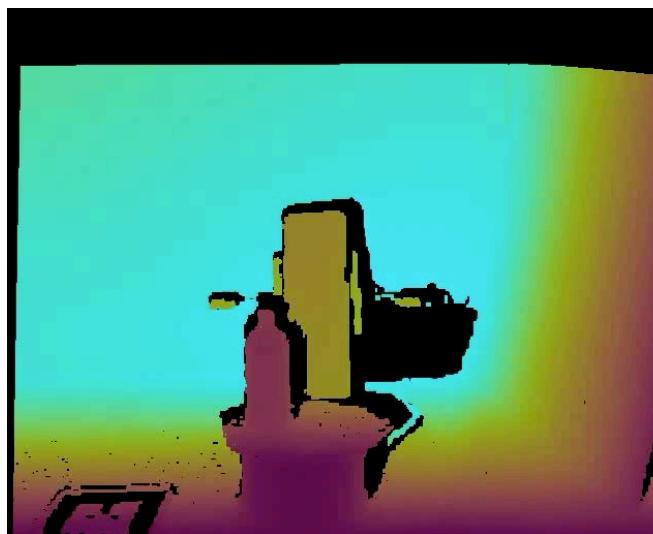


# Data Stream

RGB



Depth



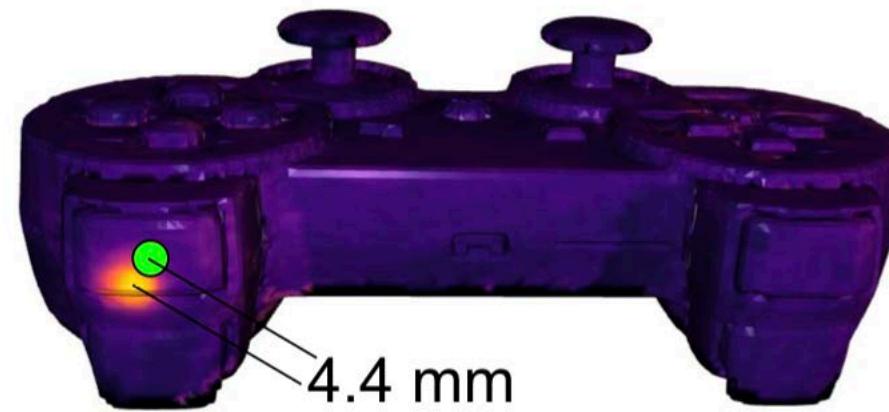
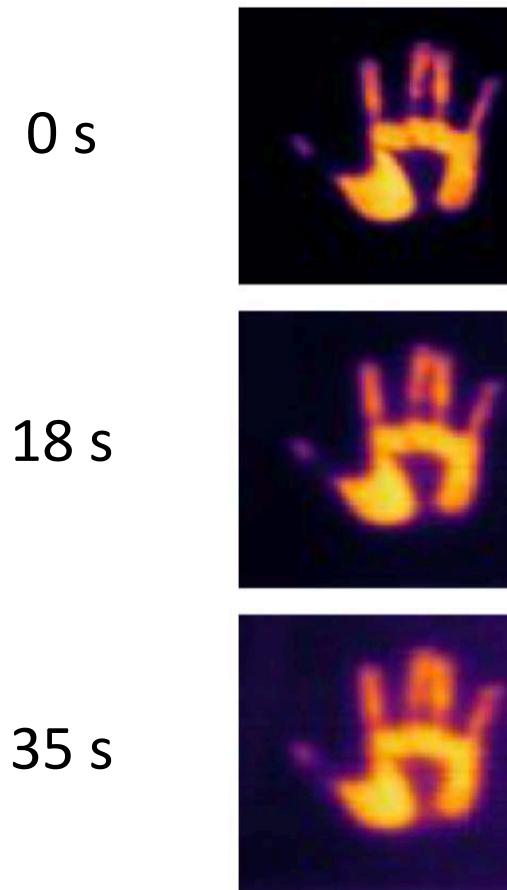
Thermal



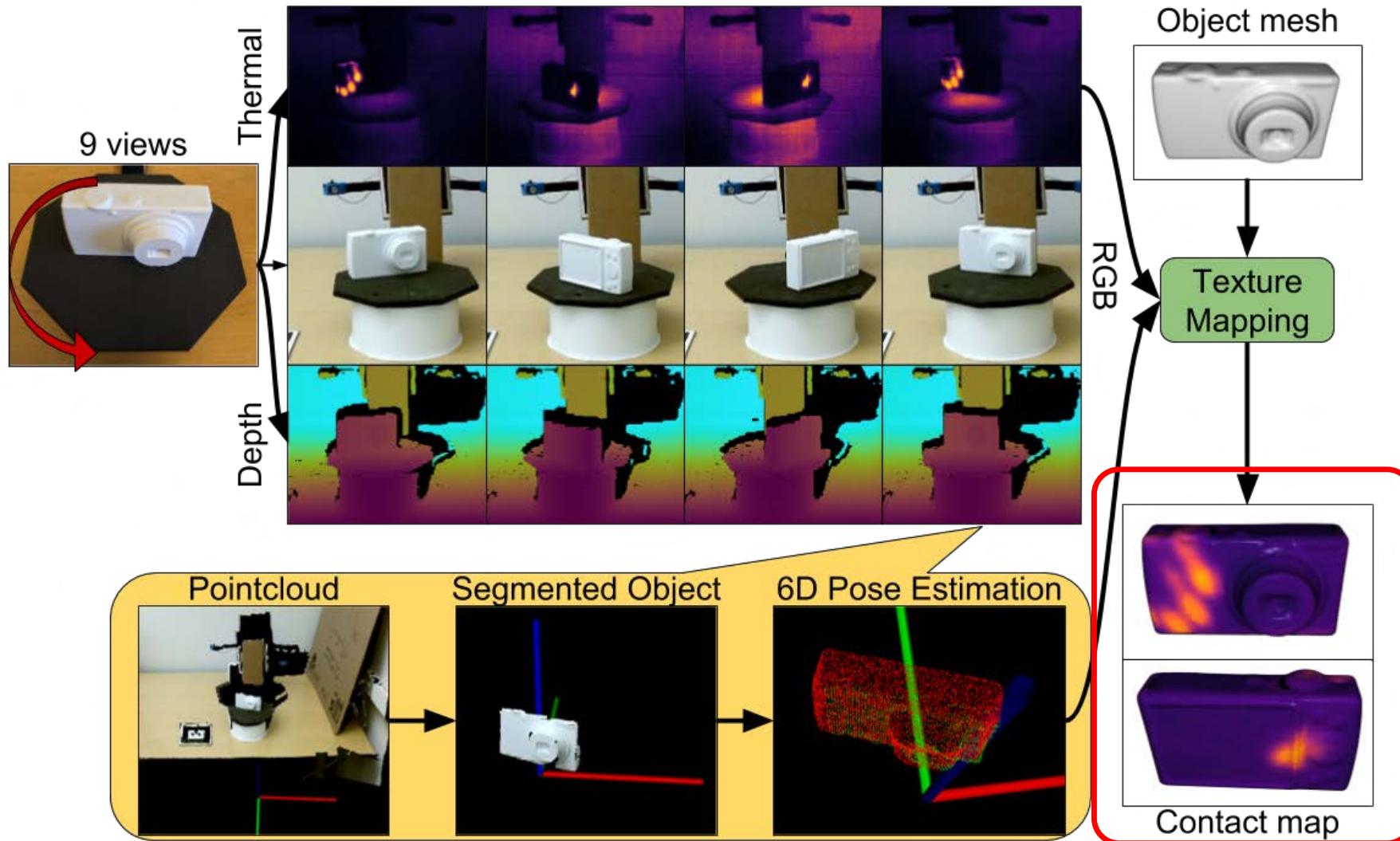
# 3D Printed Replicas of Household Objects



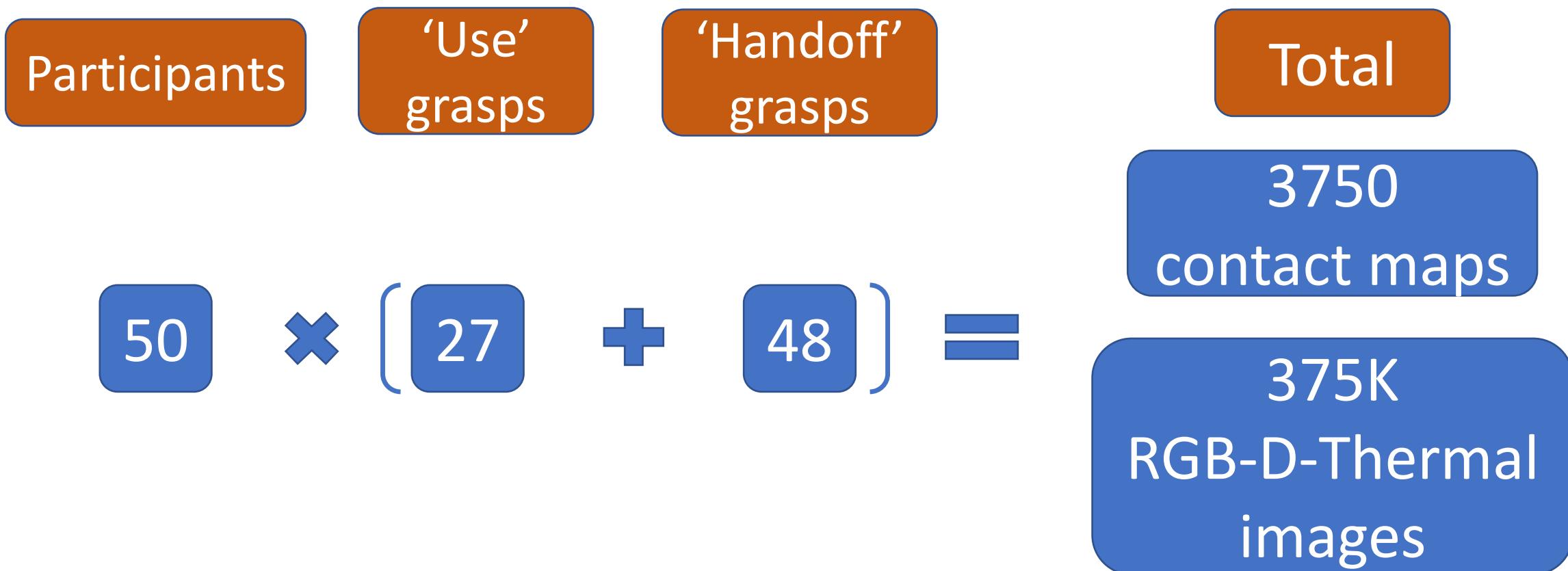
# Heat Dissipation and Texture Mapping Accuracy



# Texture Mapping to create Contact Maps



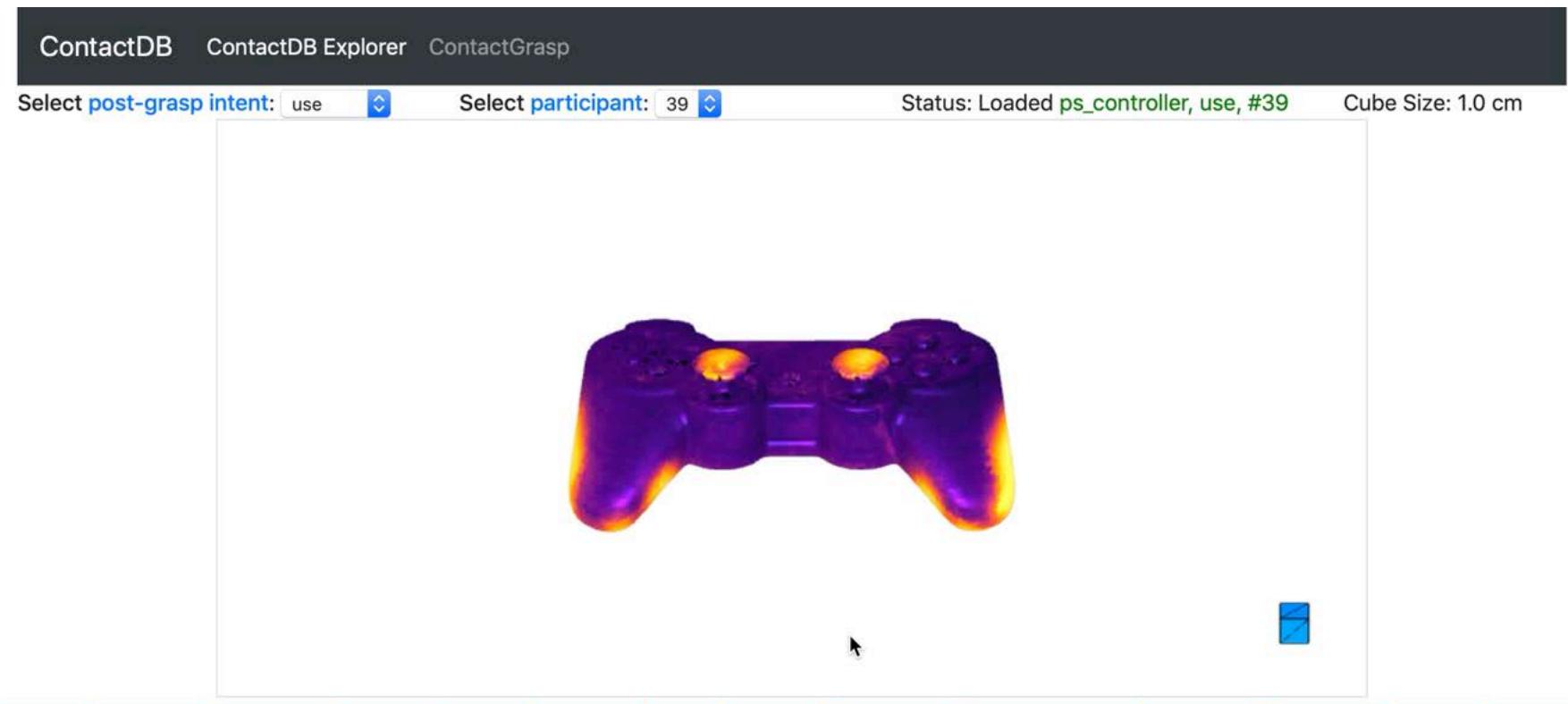
# The ContactDB Dataset





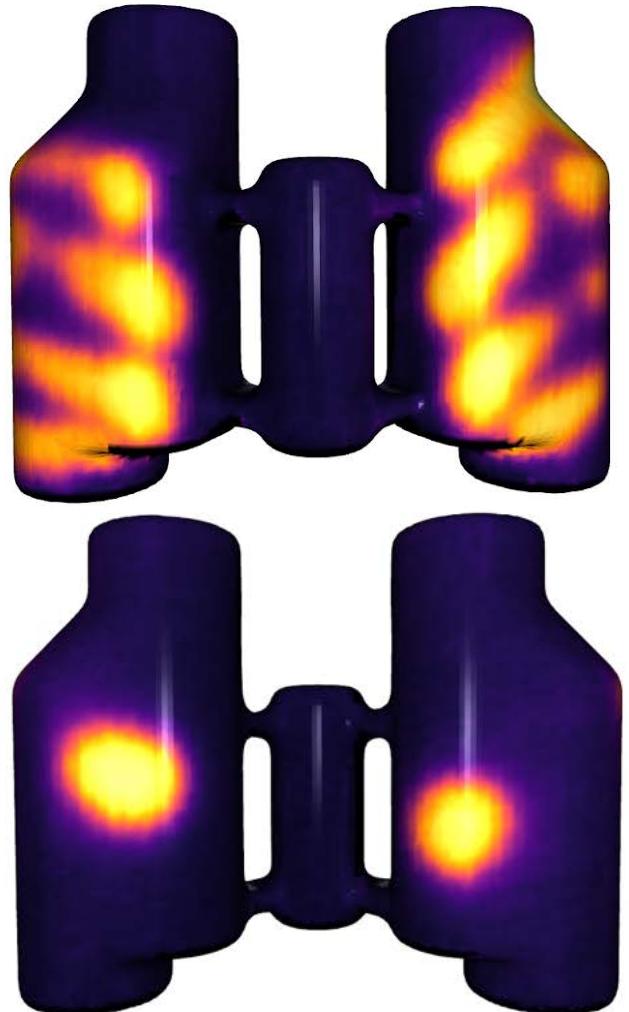
# Data, Code and Models

<https://contactdb.cc.gatech.edu>

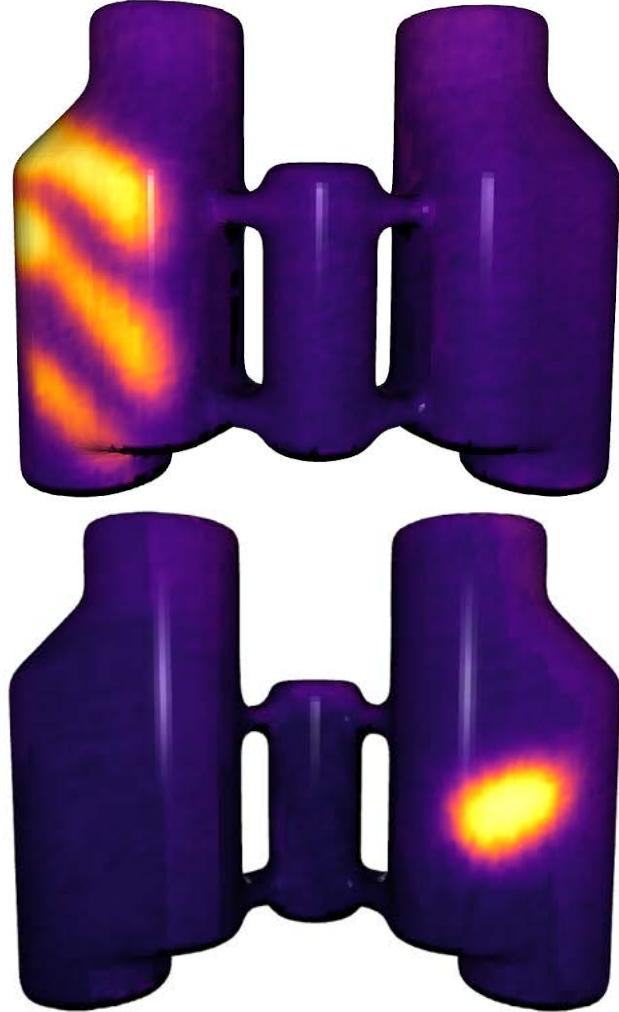


# Effect of Functional Intent

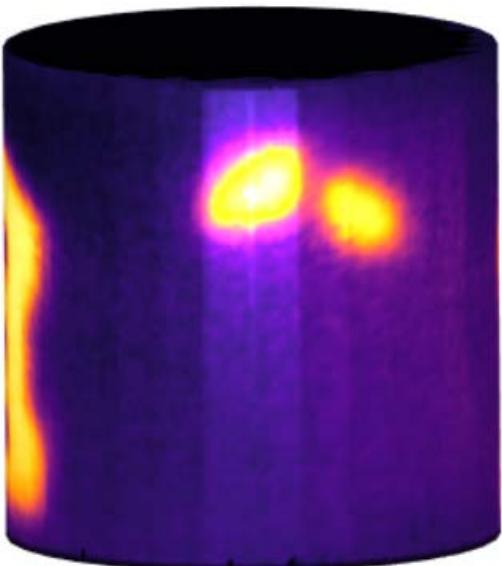
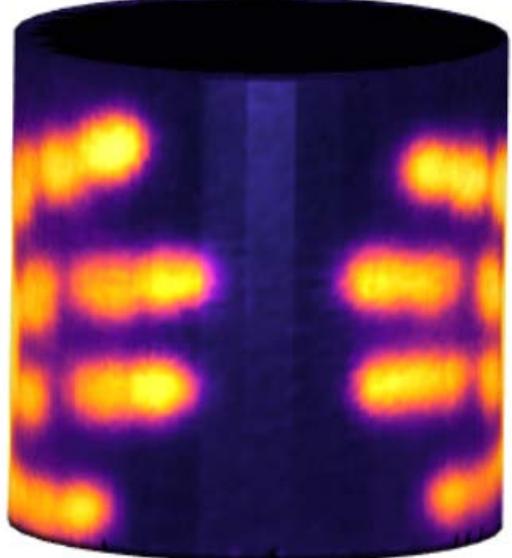
Use



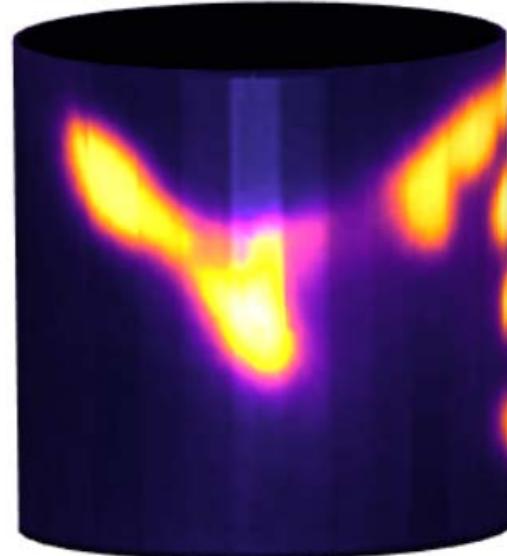
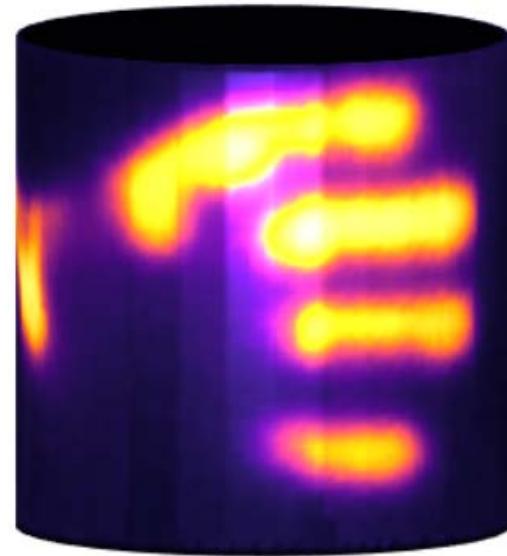
Handoff



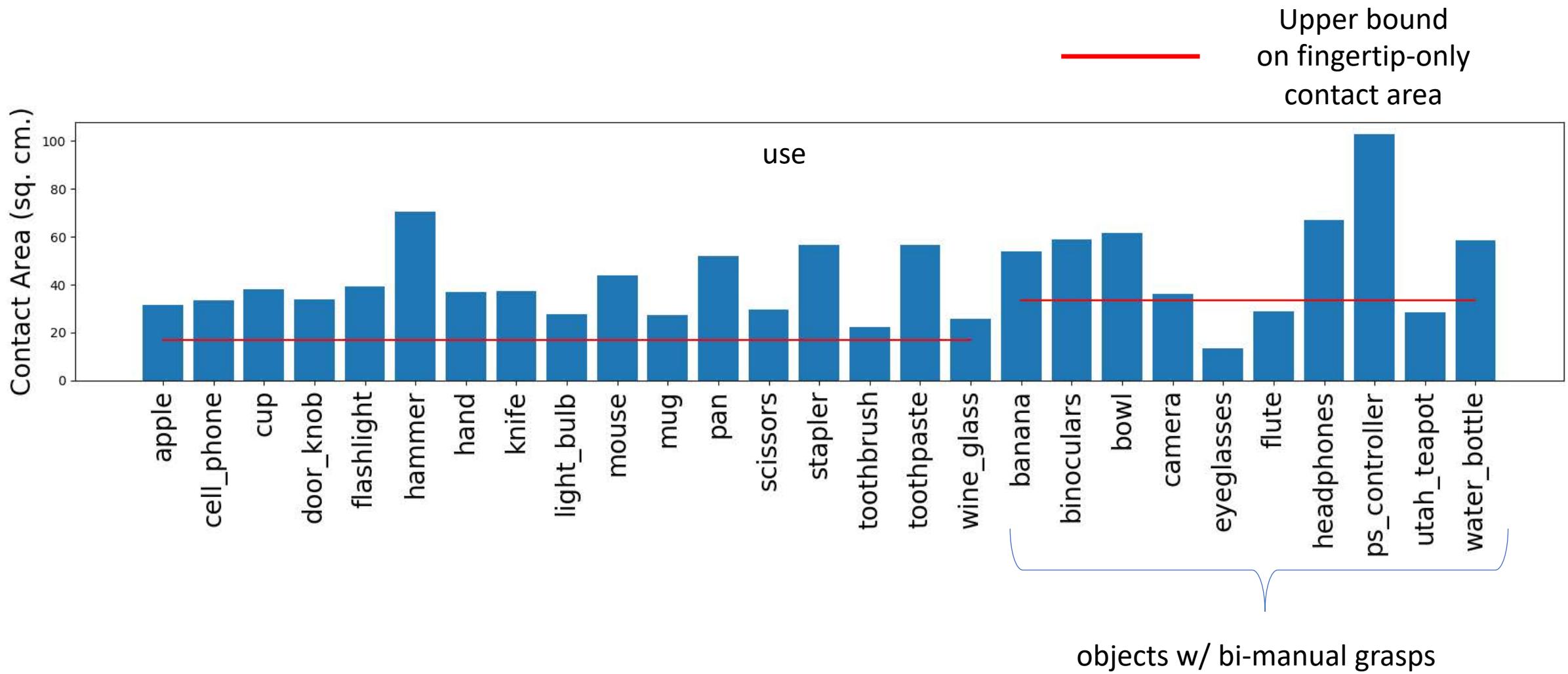
# Effect of Relative Hand Size



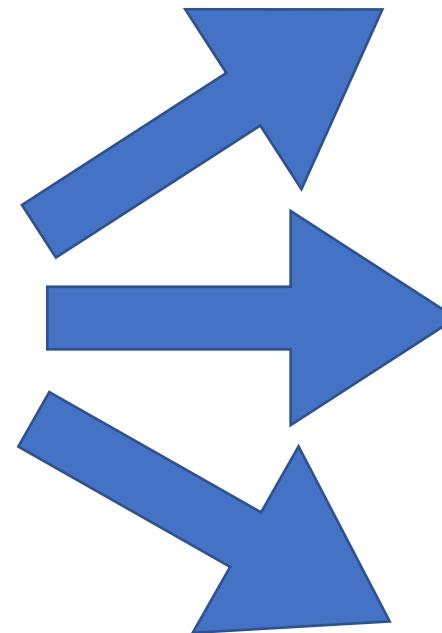
|



# How much of the contact is at fingertips?

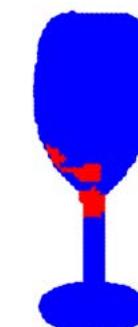
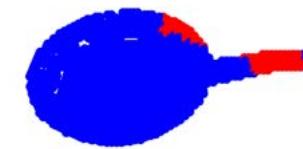
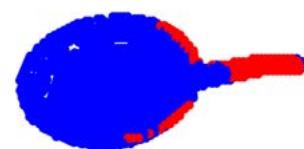
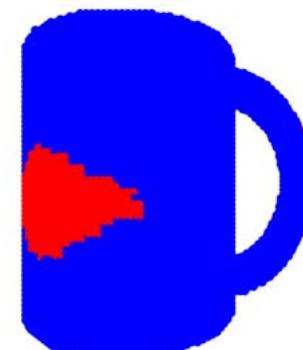
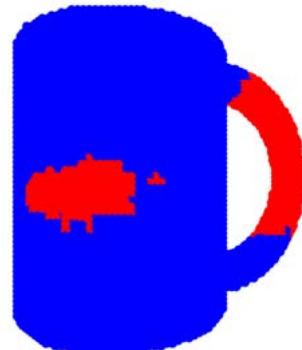
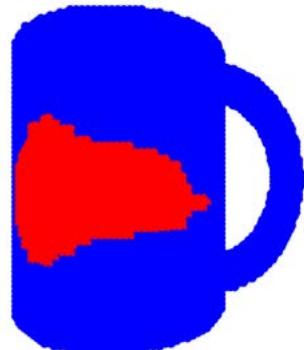


# Predicting Contact Maps from Object Shape

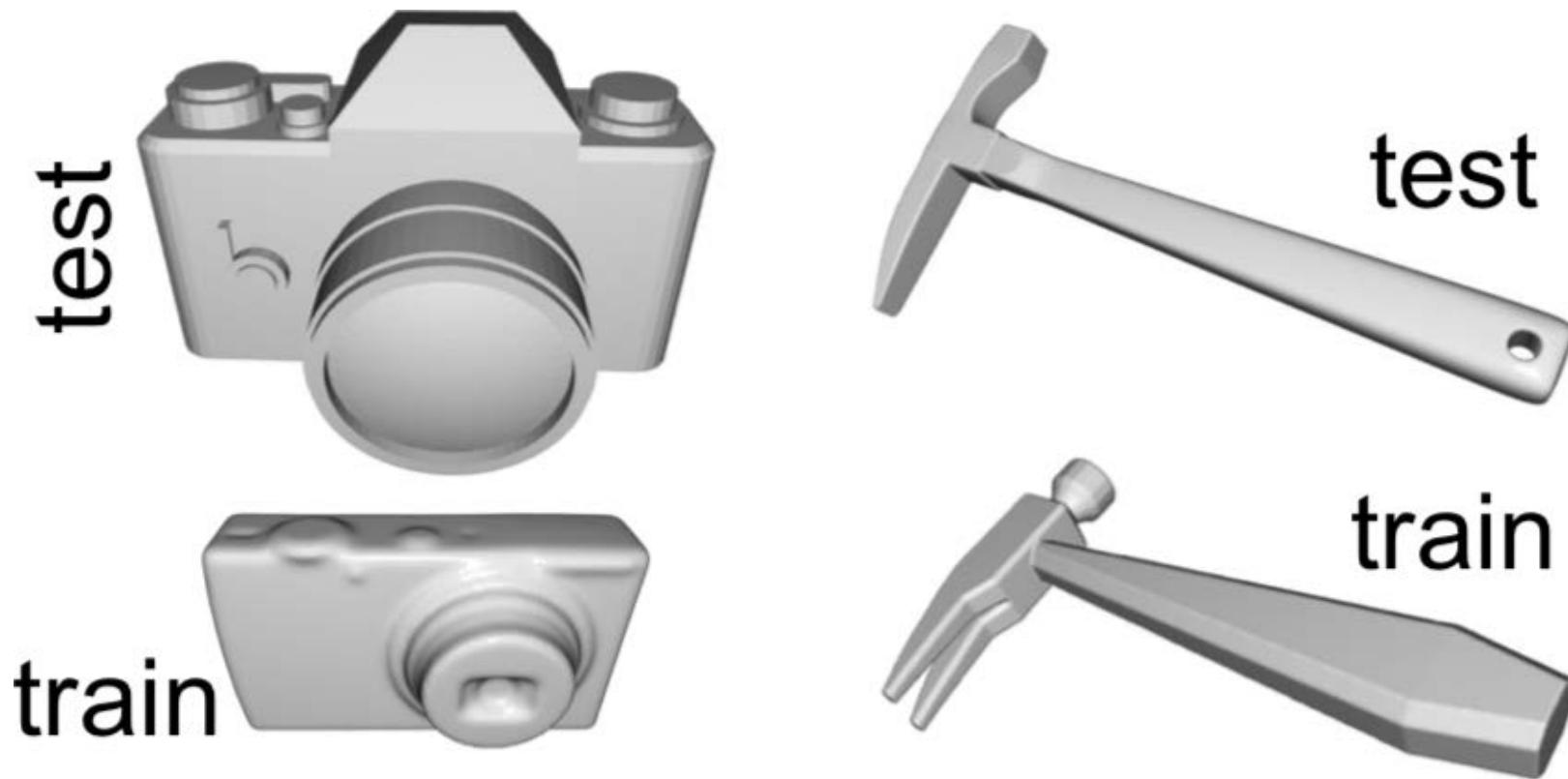


Model: “use”, DiverseNet, Voxel-grid

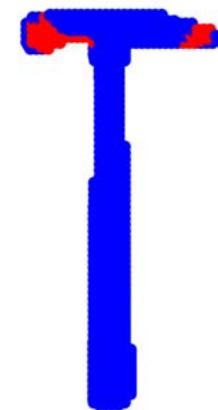
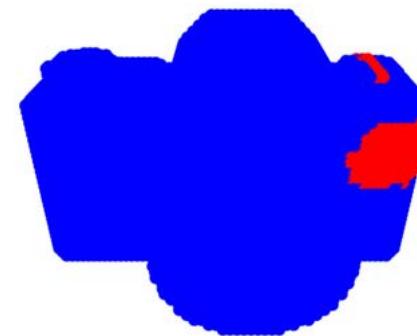
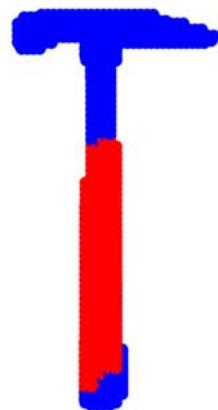
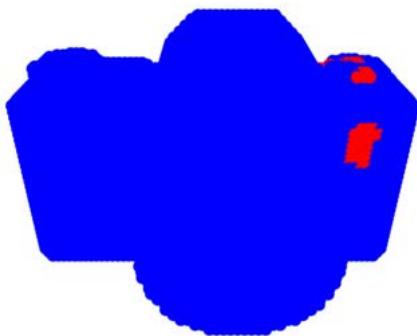
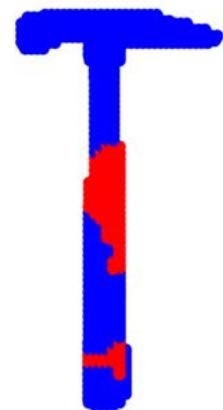
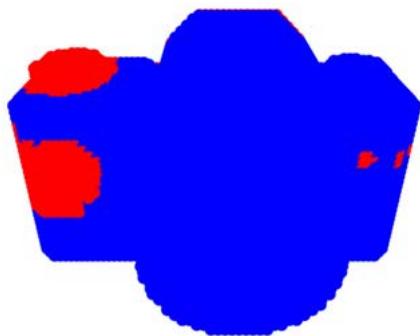
# Generalization: Unseen Object Classes



# Generalization: Unseen Object Shapes



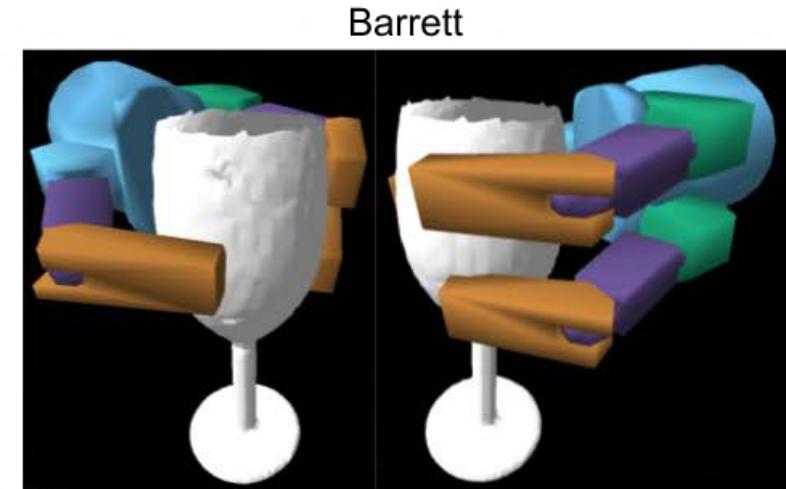
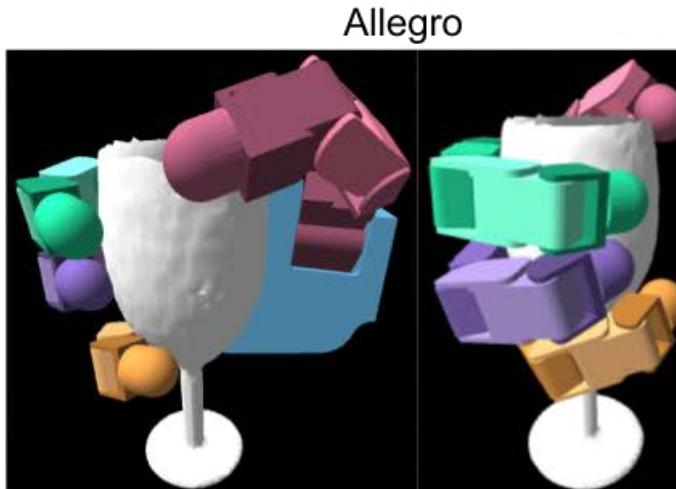
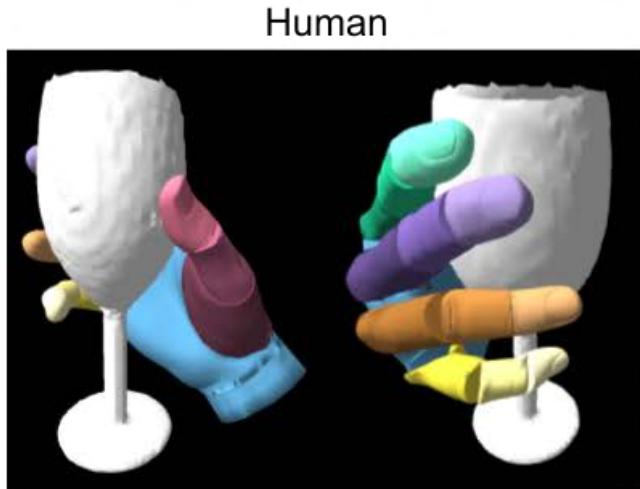
# Generalization: Unseen Object Shapes



# ContactGrasp: Functional Multi-finger Grasp Synthesis from Contact

Samarth Brahmbhatt, Ankur Handa, James Hays, and Dieter Fox

IROS 2019



# Progress in Robotic Grasping

Bin Picking



DexNet 4.0  
[Mahler et al. Science  
Robotics '19]

Functional Grasping



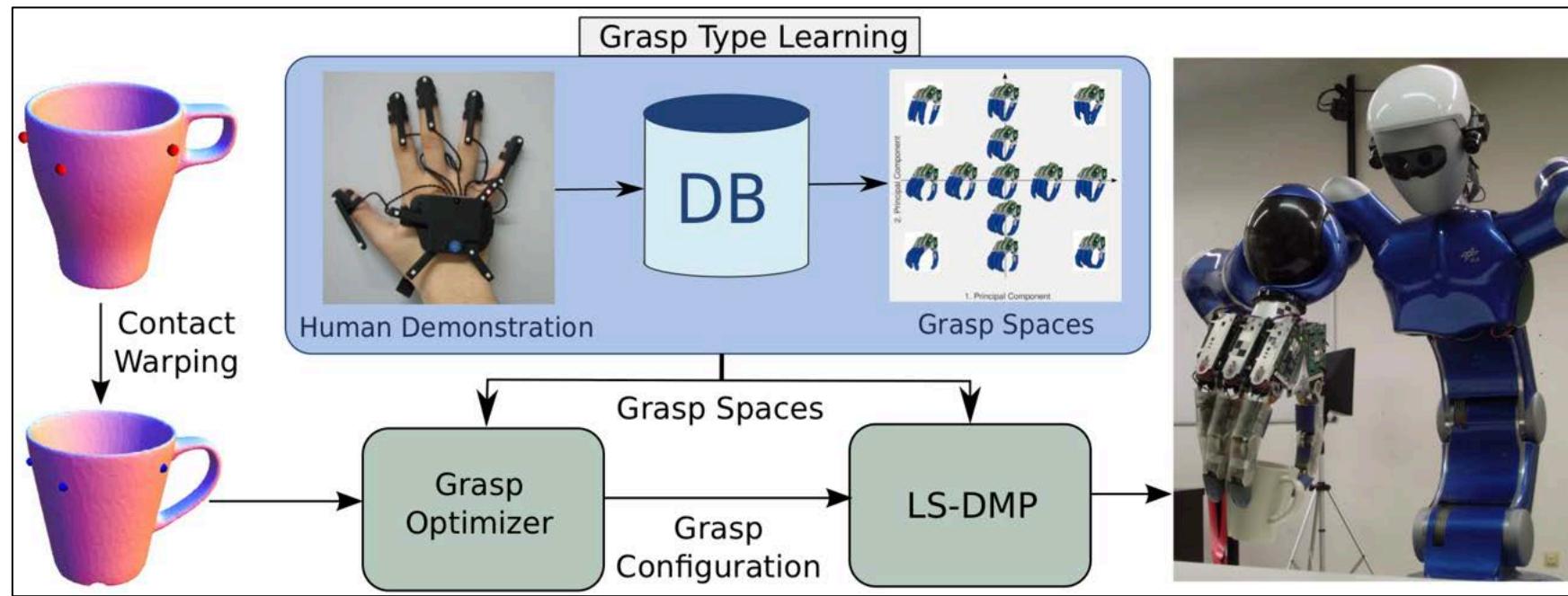
[Pinto et al. ICRA '16]

??



# Learning from Human Demonstrations: Joint Space

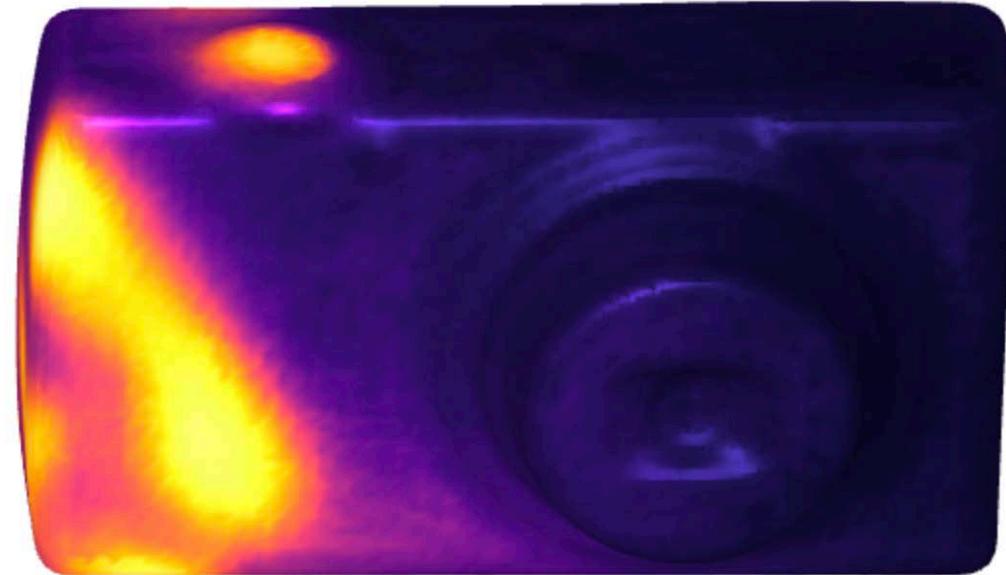
Instrumented Hands, Hard-coded transformation to target robot hand



Ben Amor et al<sup>[1]</sup>

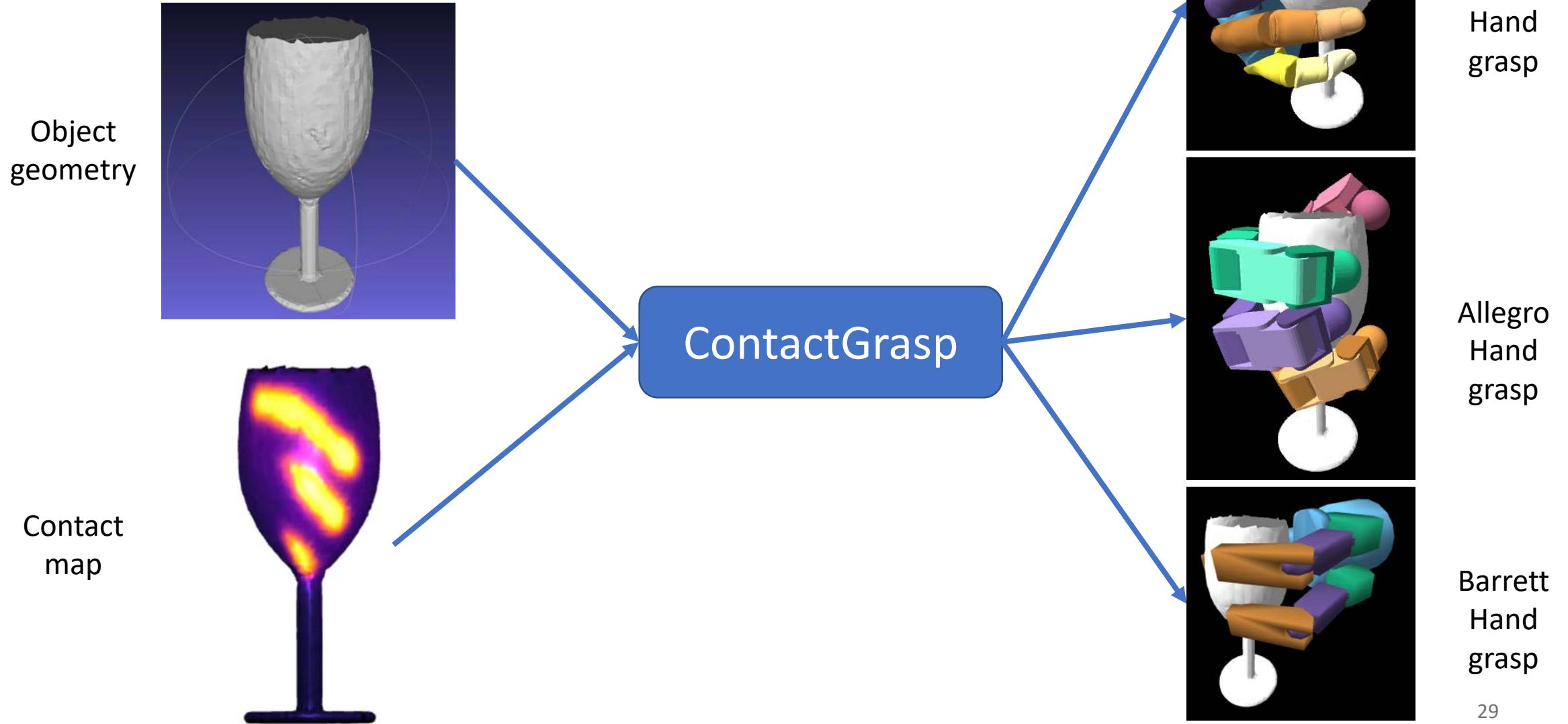
[1] Amor, Heni Ben, et al. "Generalization of human grasping for multi-fingered robot hands." 2012 IEEE/RSJ International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems. IEEE, 2012.

# Learning from Human Demonstrations: Contact Space

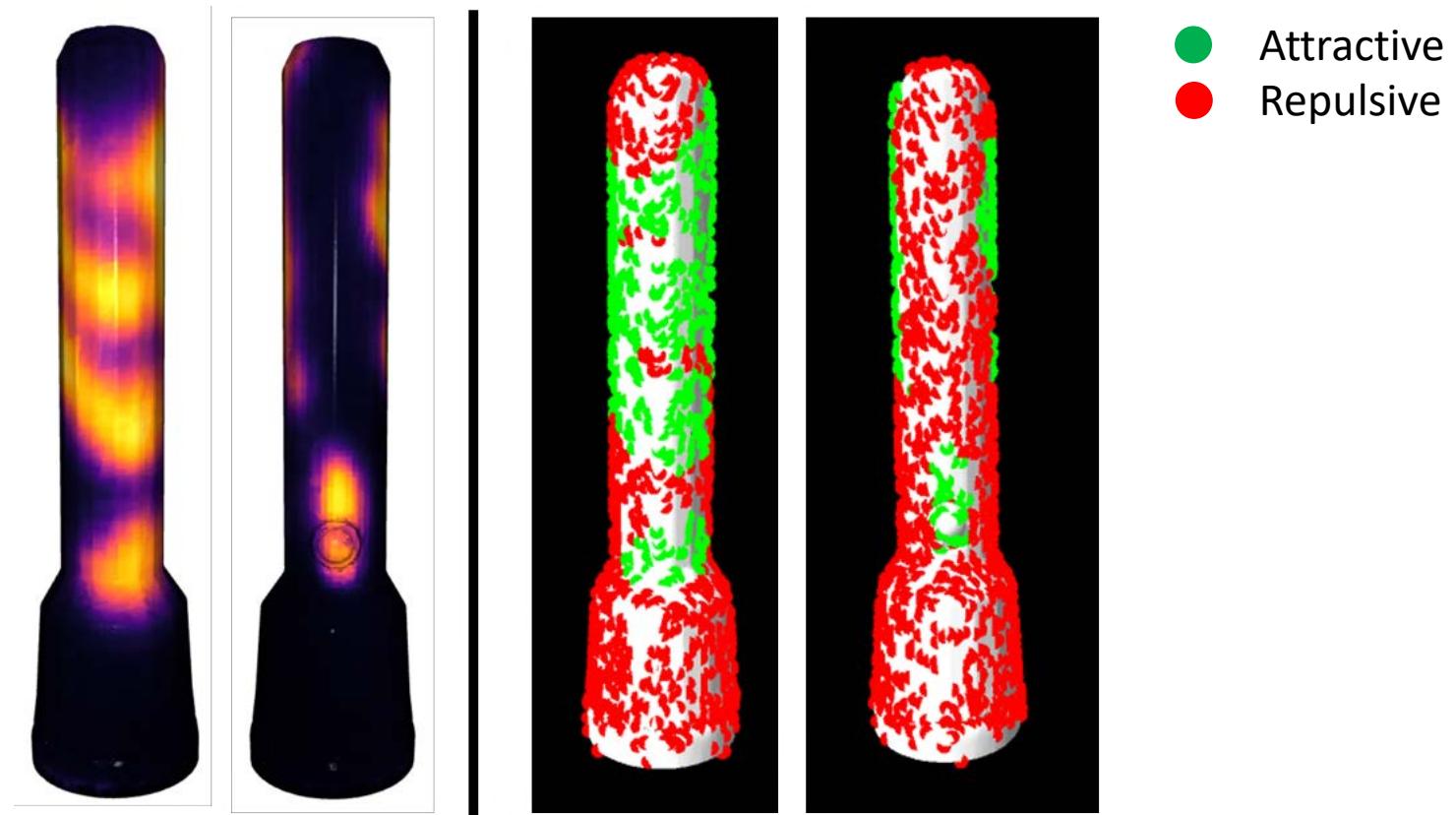


contact map

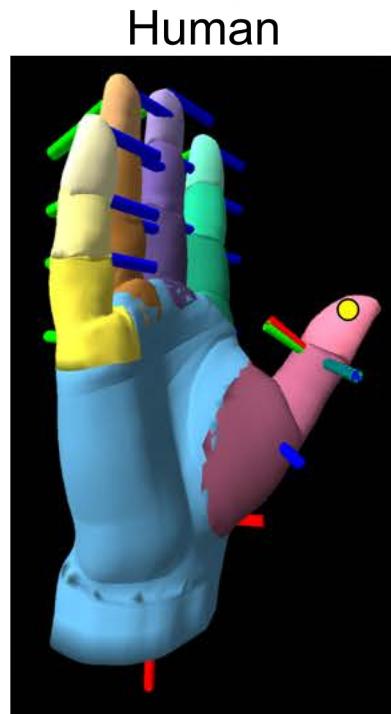
# Problem Definition



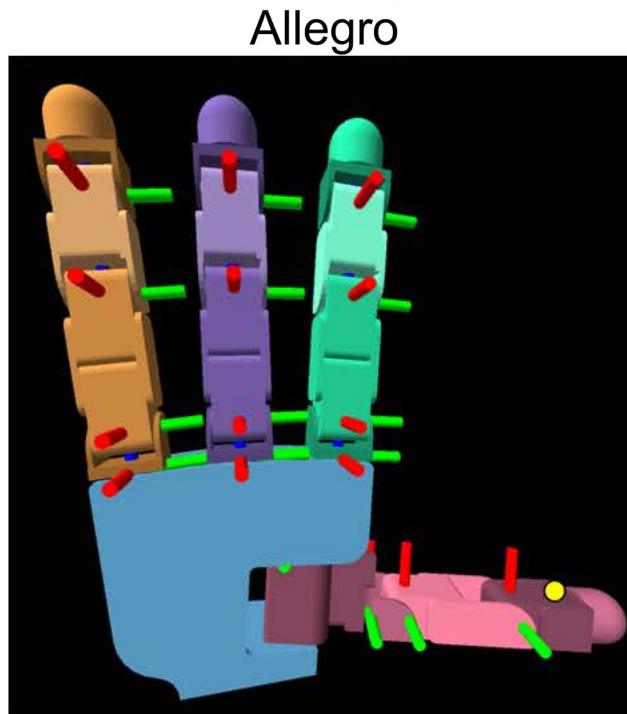
# Contact Model



# End-Effectors

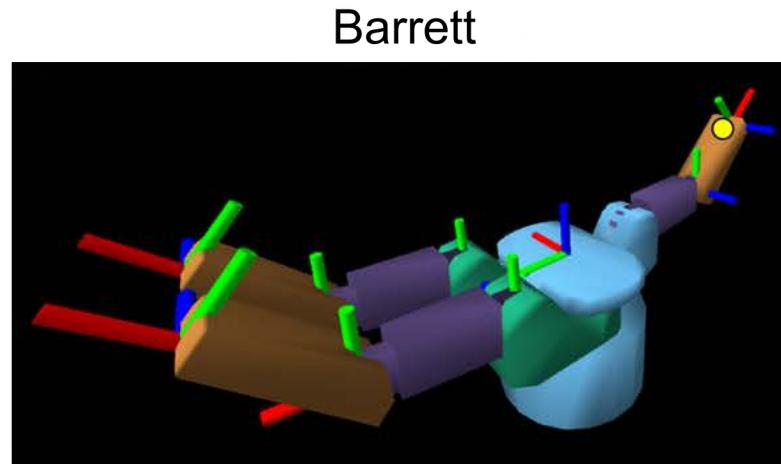


20 joints



16 joints

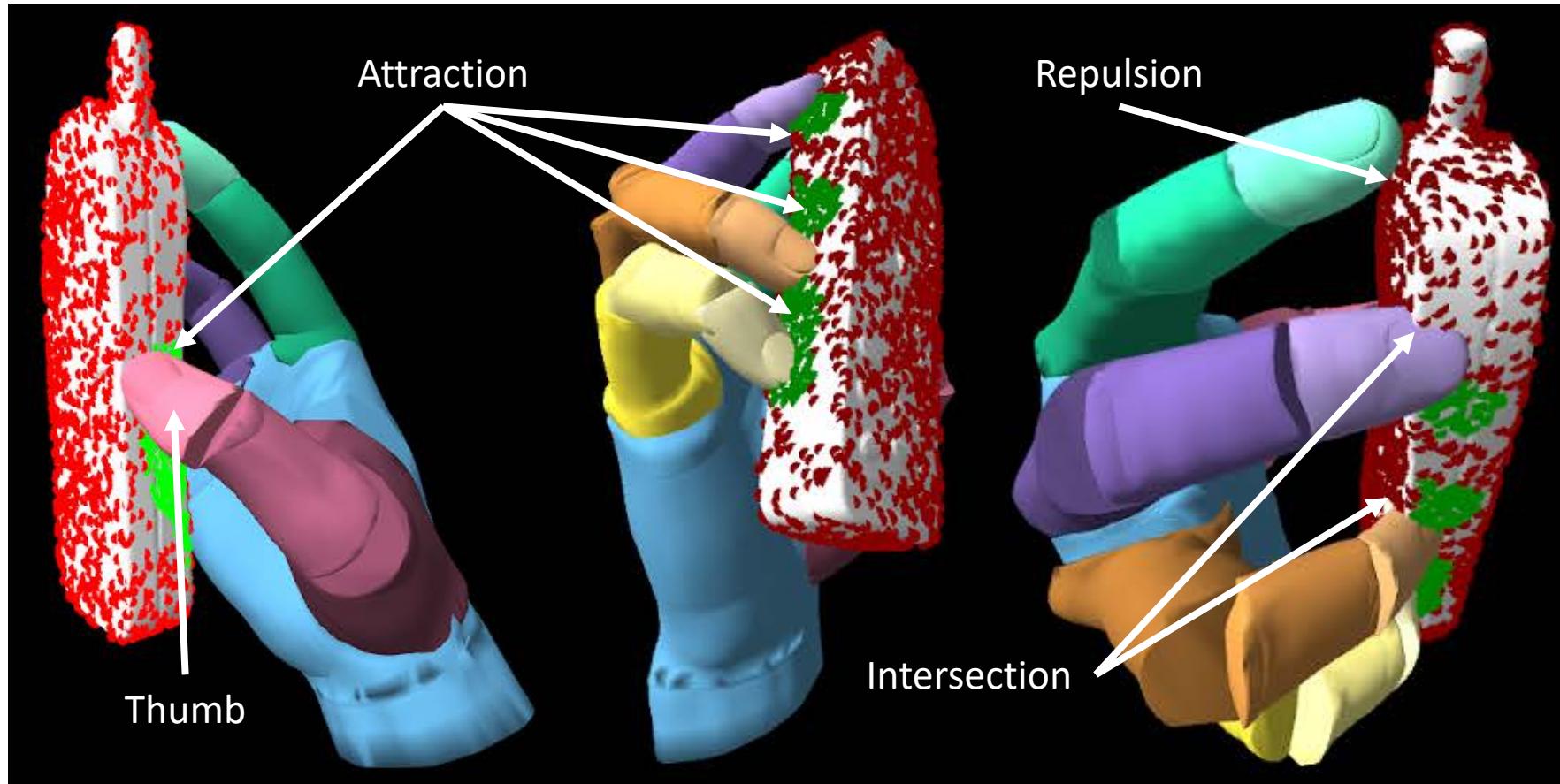
thumb contact point



4 joints

Hand pose  $\Phi = (6\text{-DOF palm pose}, \text{joint angles})$

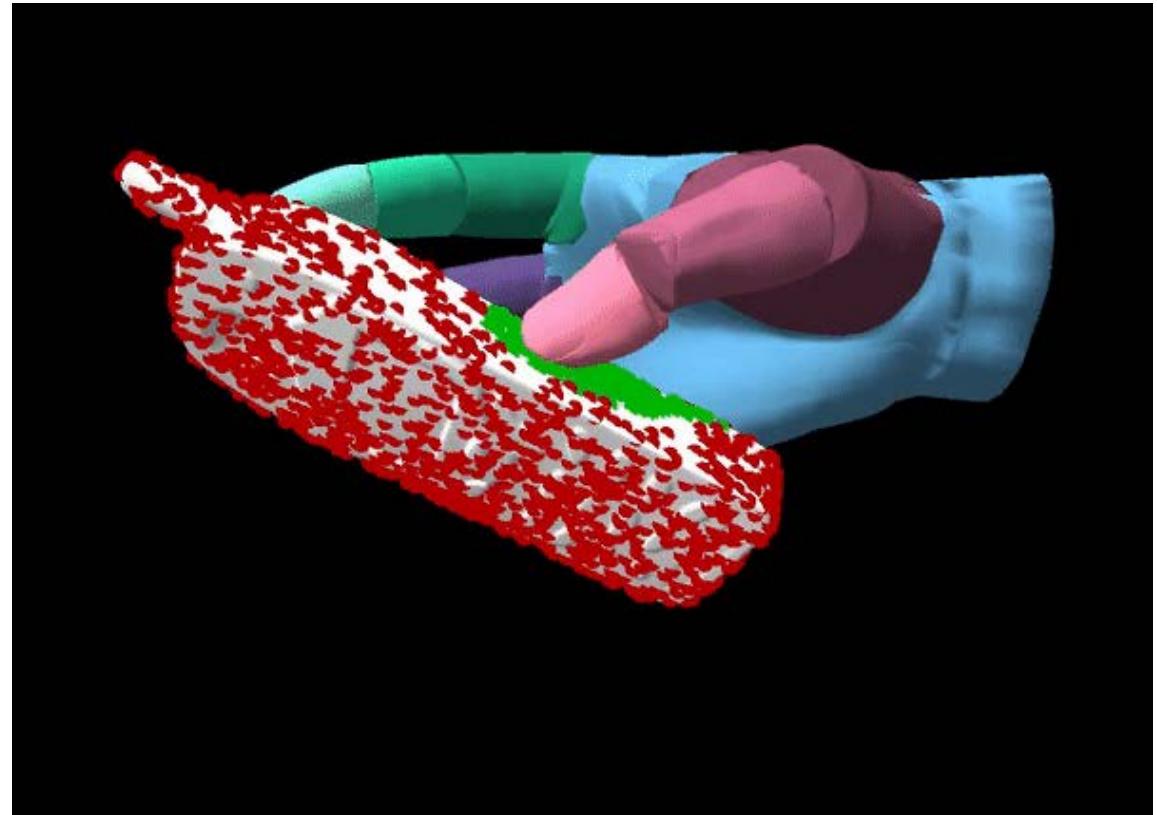
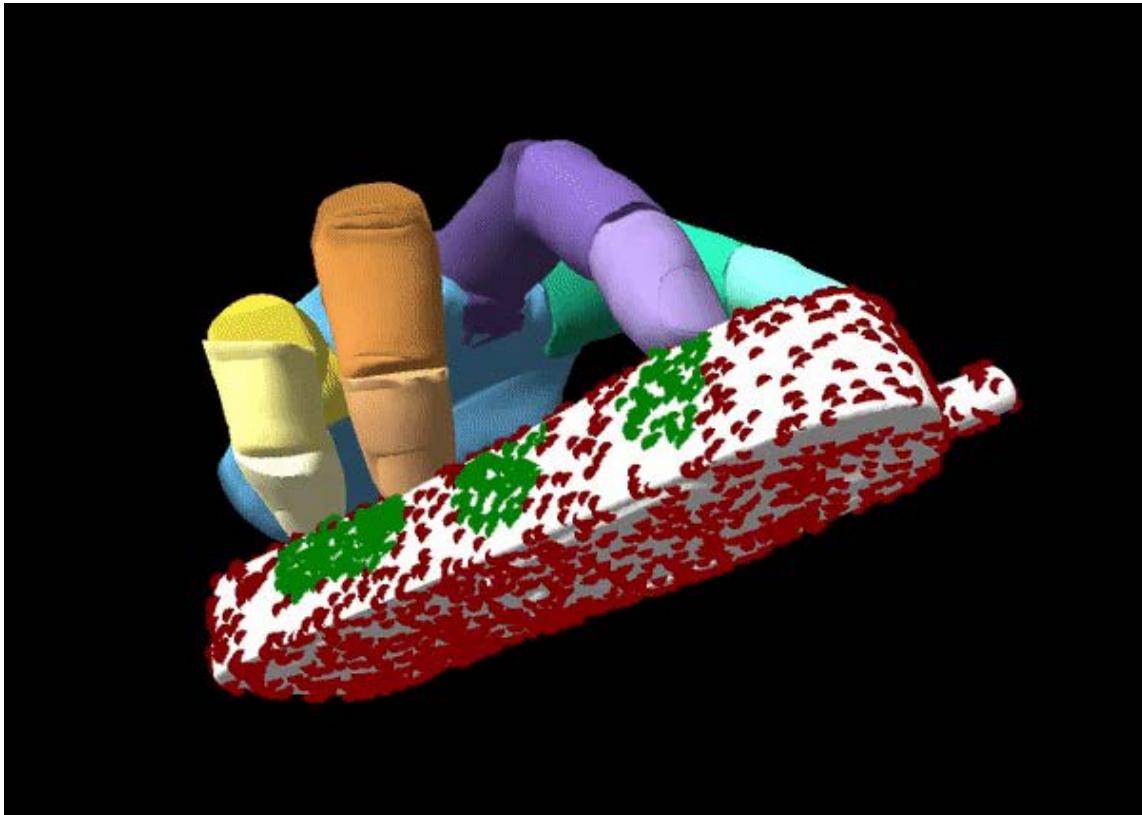
# Grasp Optimization



$$\begin{aligned} L(\Phi|\mathbf{c}) = \\ L_{grasp}(\Phi|\mathbf{c}) \\ + L_{int}(\Phi) \\ + L_{thumb}(\Phi) \end{aligned}$$

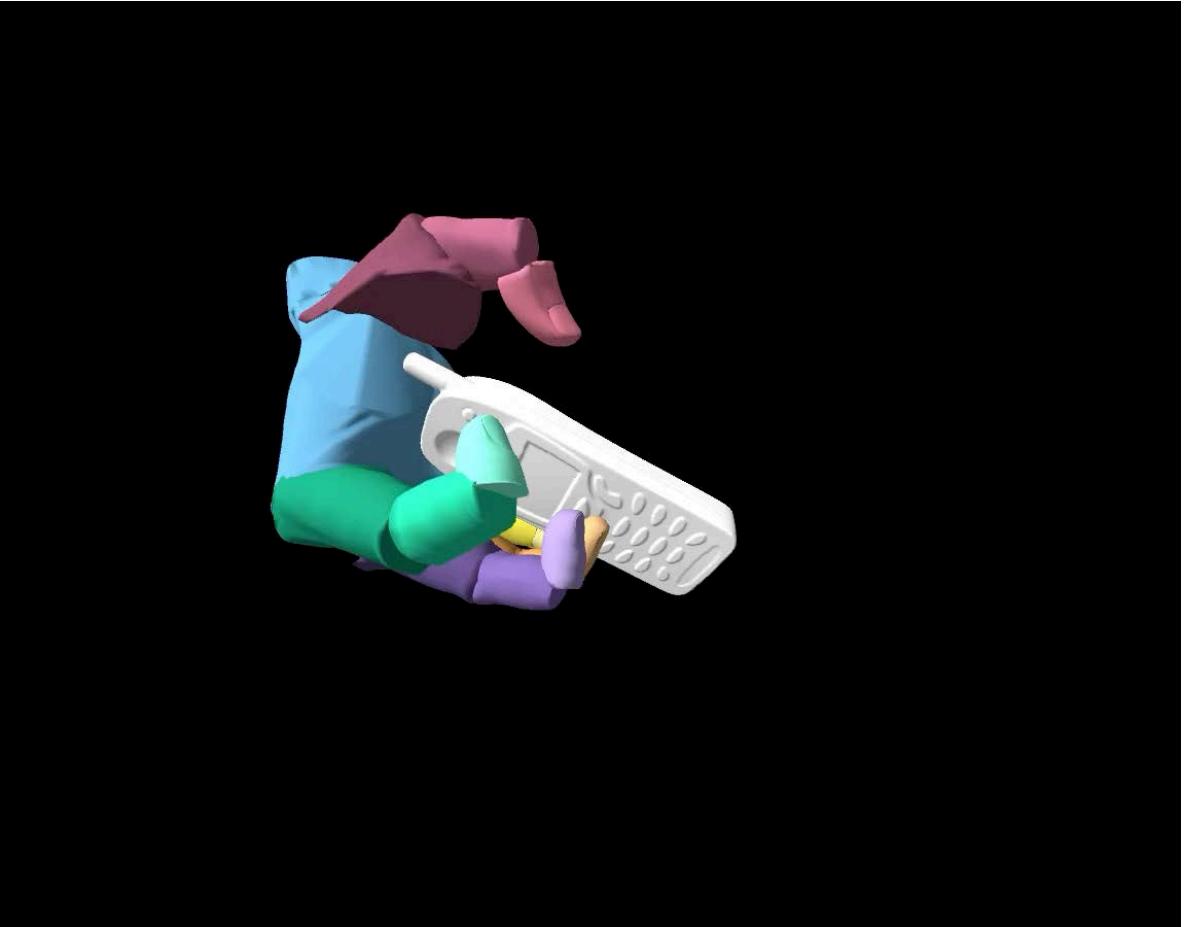
$\Phi$ : hand pose  
 $\mathbf{c}$ : contact map

# Grasp Optimization



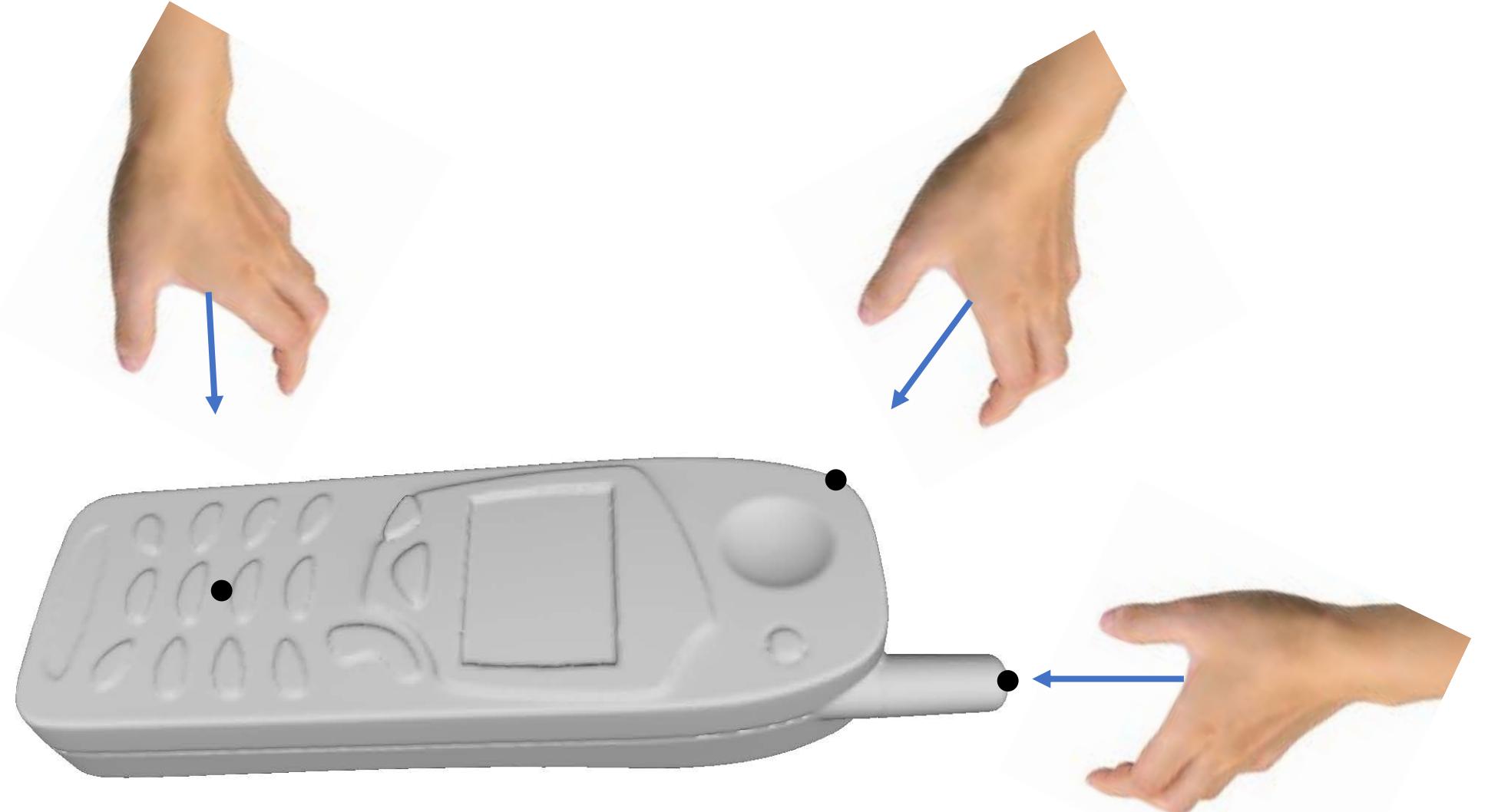
# Initializing the Optimization

- Sample grasps using the GraspIt!<sup>[1]</sup> Eigengrasp Planner



[1] “Dimensionality reduction for hand-independent dexterous robotic grasping” - Matei Ciocarlie, Corey Goldfeder, and Peter Allen – IROS ‘07

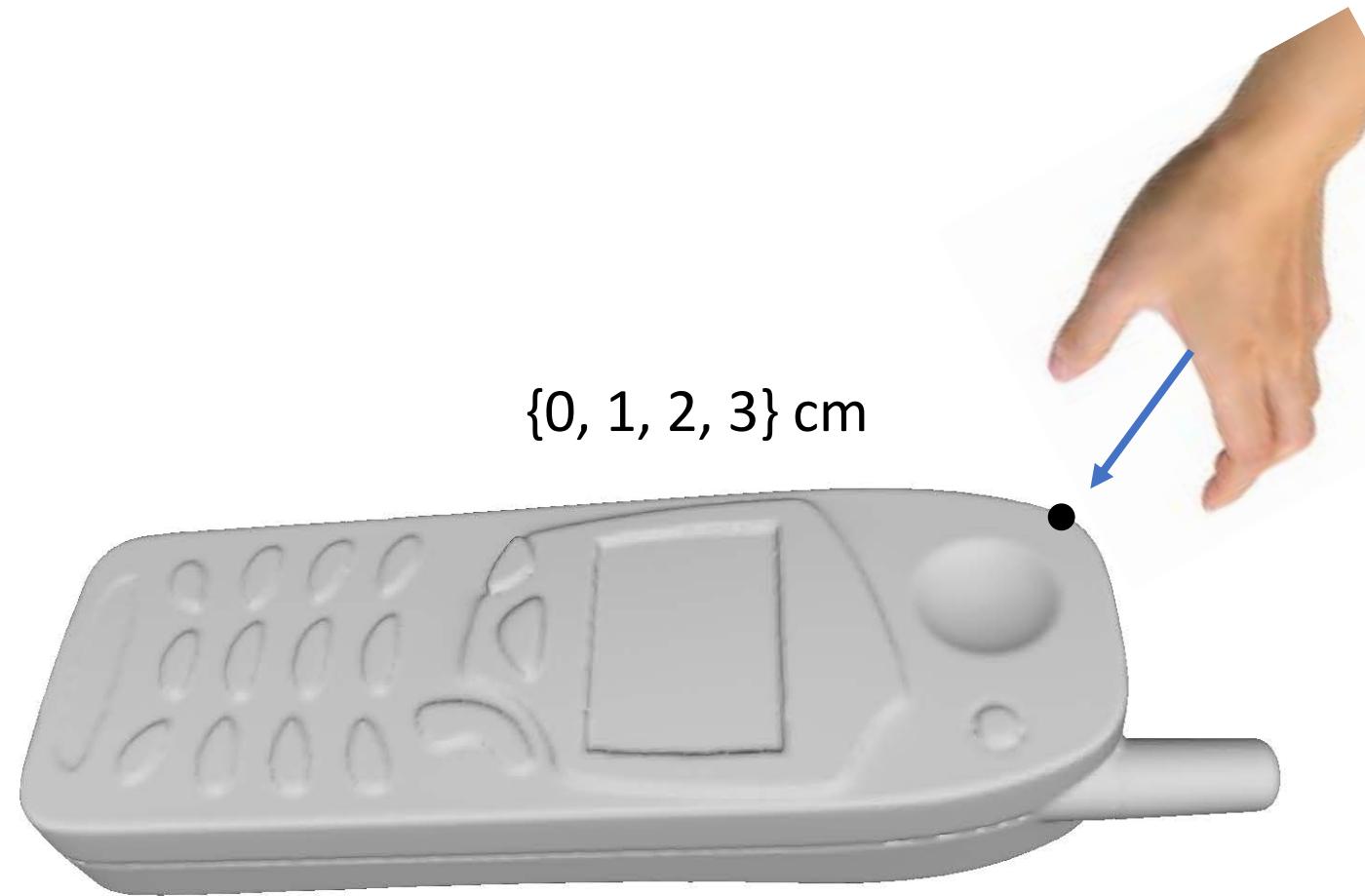
# Initializing the Optimization: Approach Point and Direction



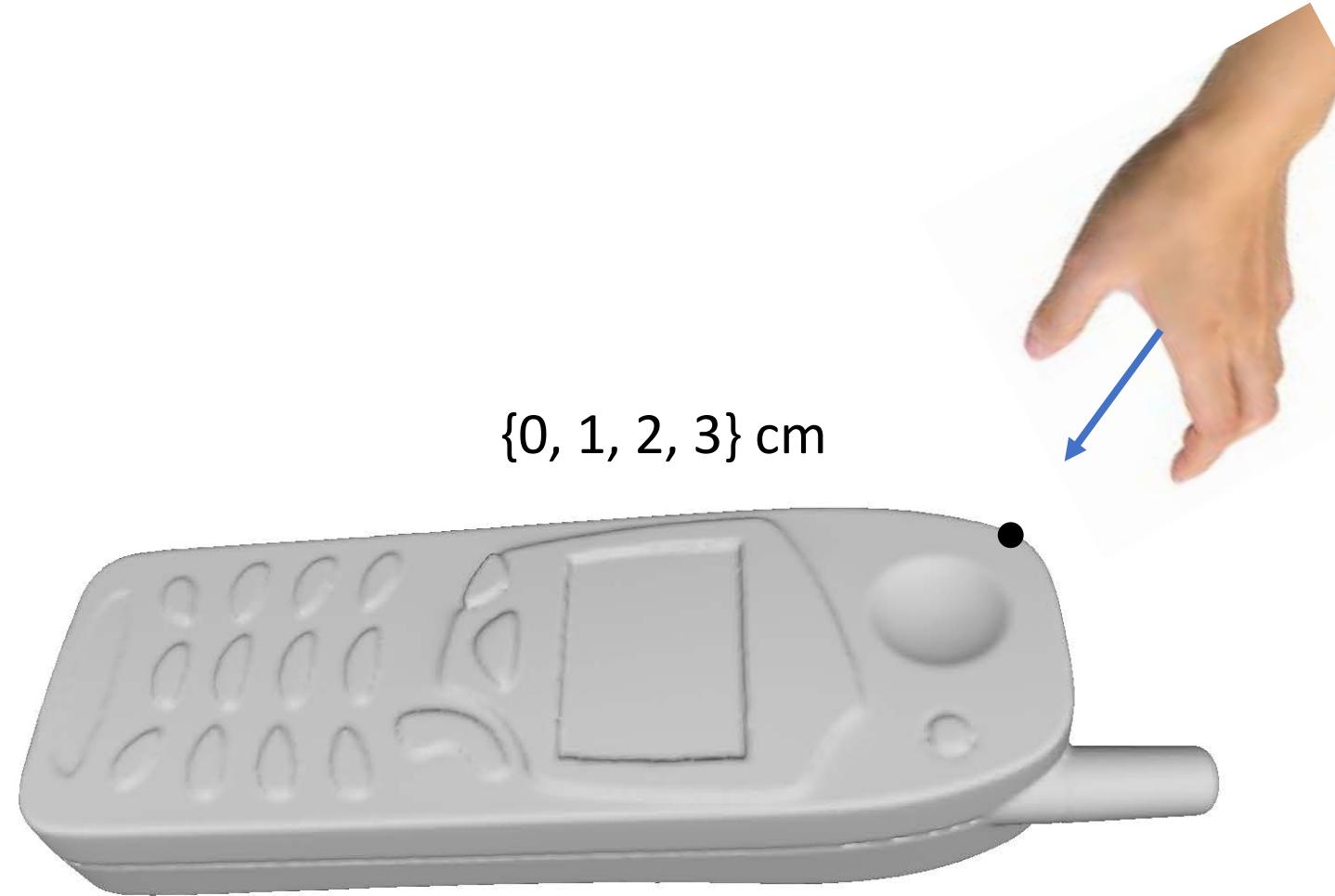
# Initializing the Optimization: Approach Roll Angle



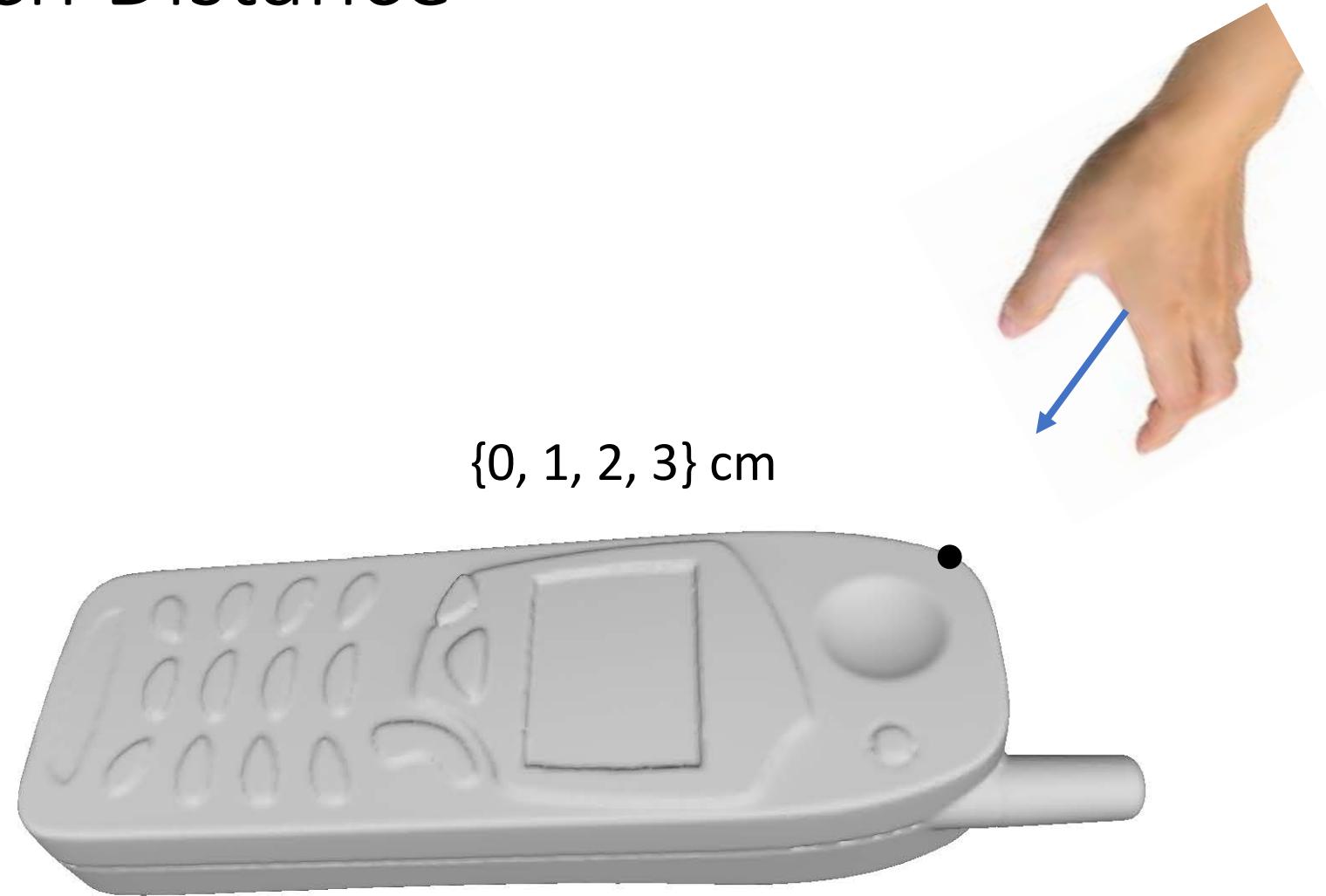
# Initializing the Optimization: Approach Distance



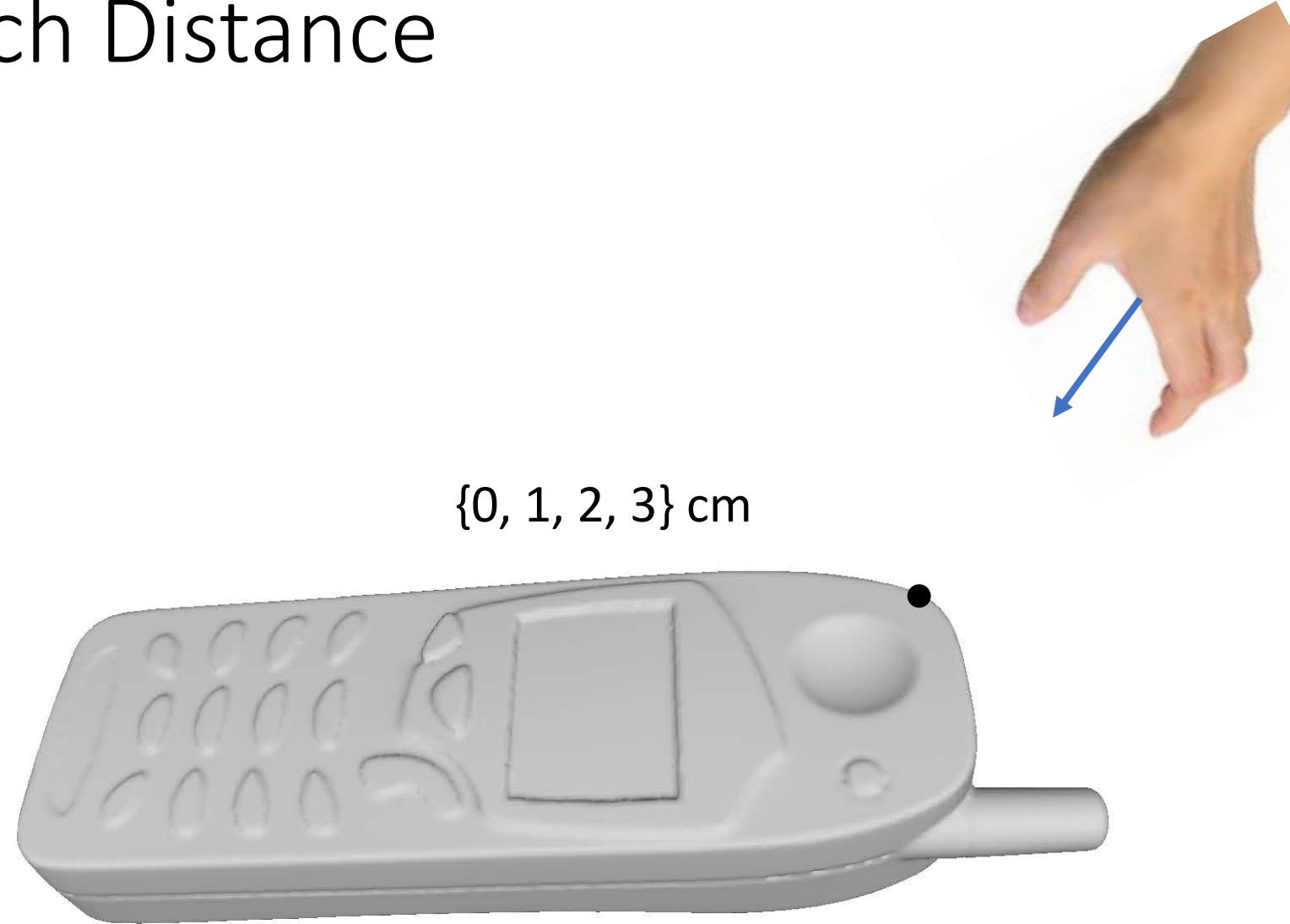
# Initializing the Optimization: Approach Distance



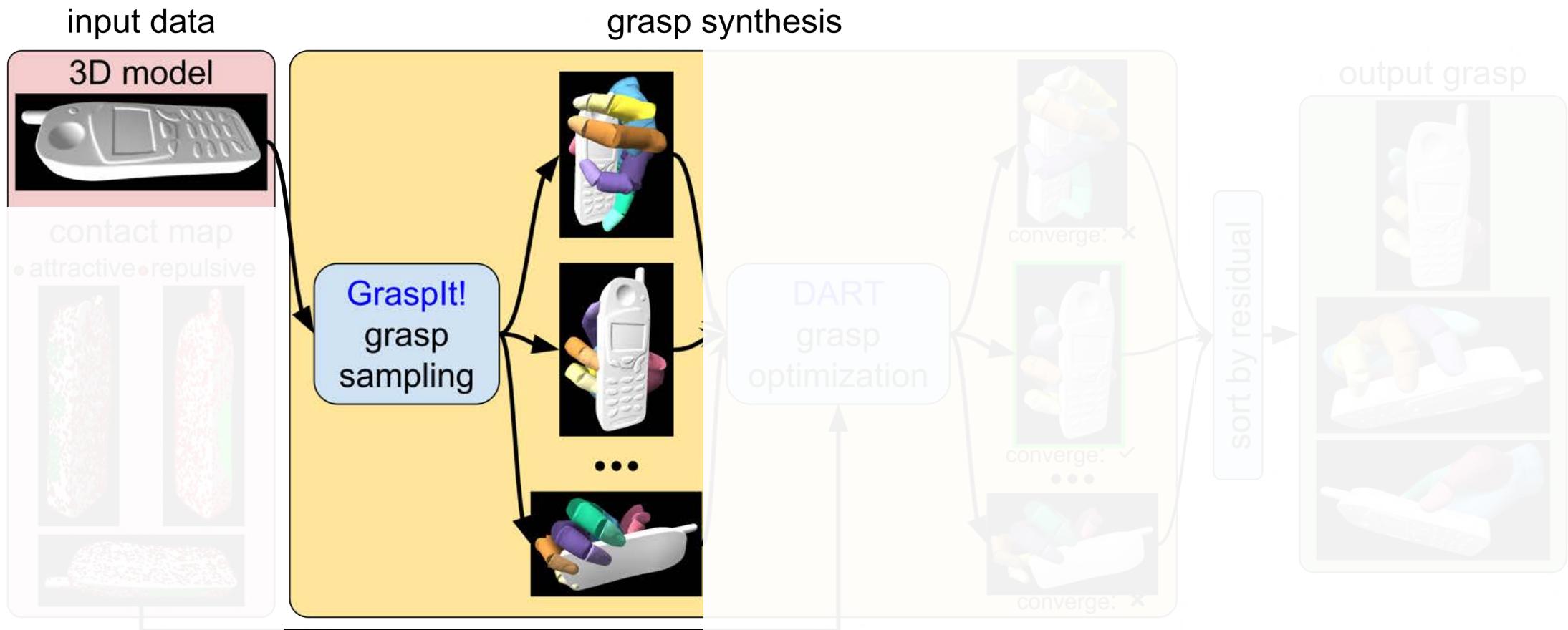
# Initializing the Optimization: Approach Distance



# Initializing the Optimization: Approach Distance

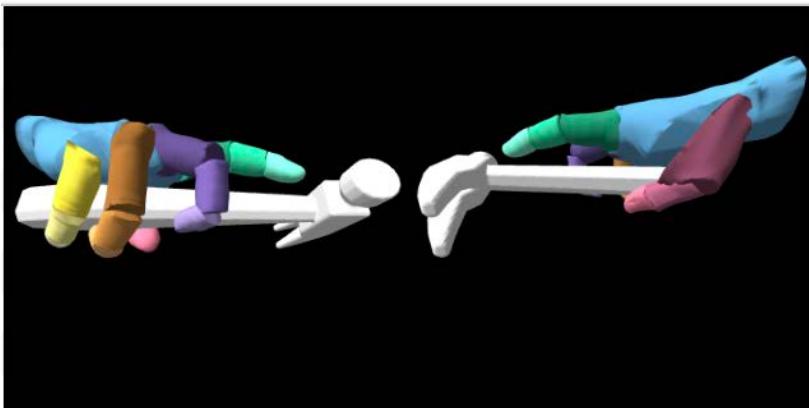


# ContactGrasp: Overview

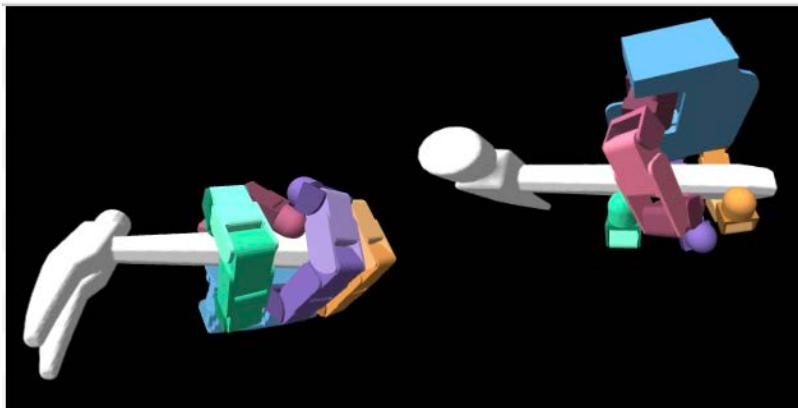


# Synthesized Grasps: Hammer

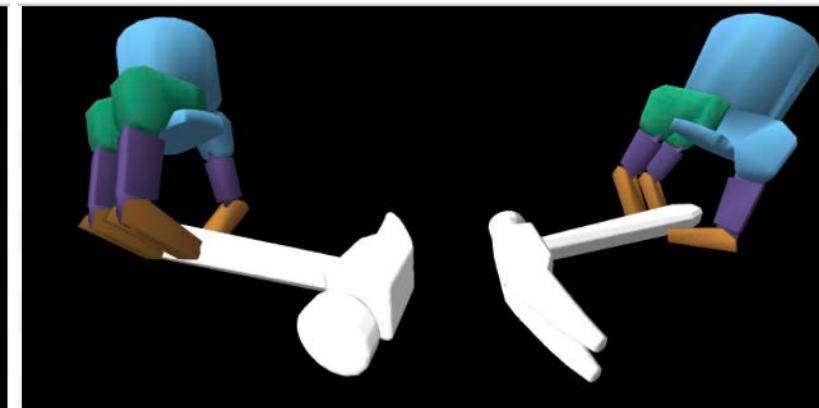
Human Hand



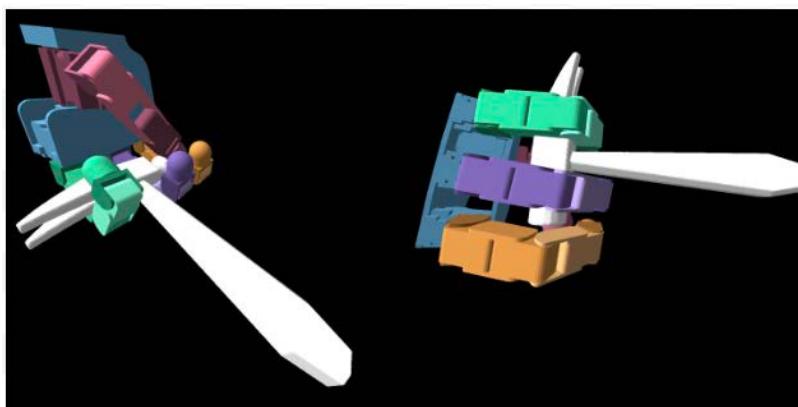
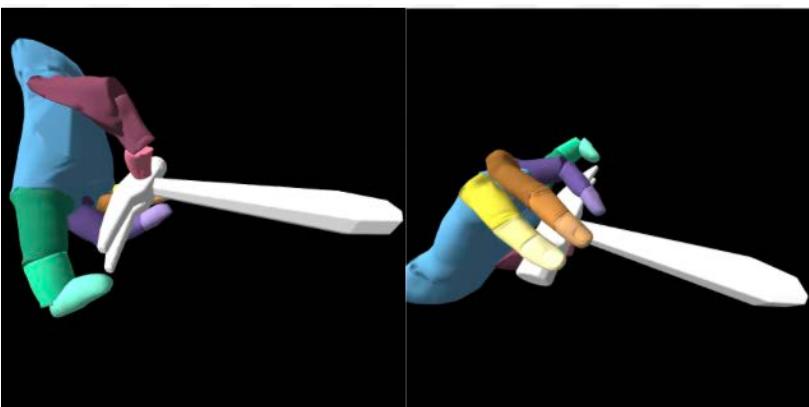
Allegro Hand



Barrett Hand



Use – Nail with

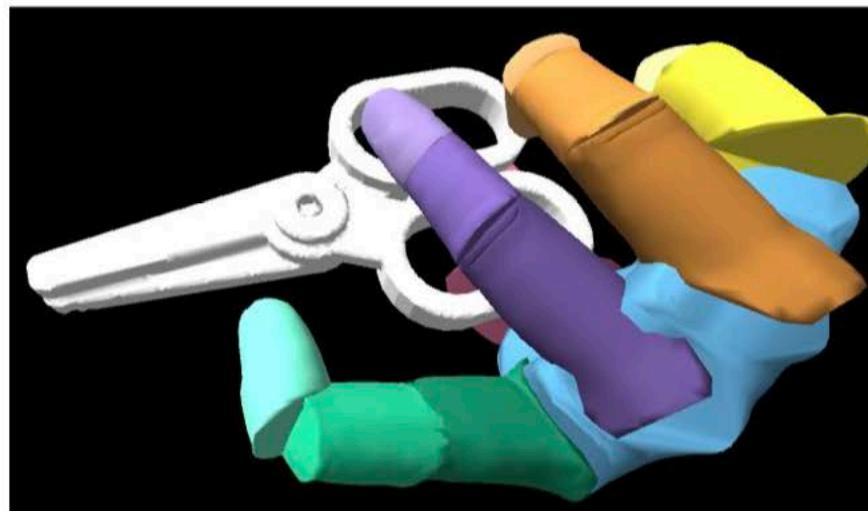
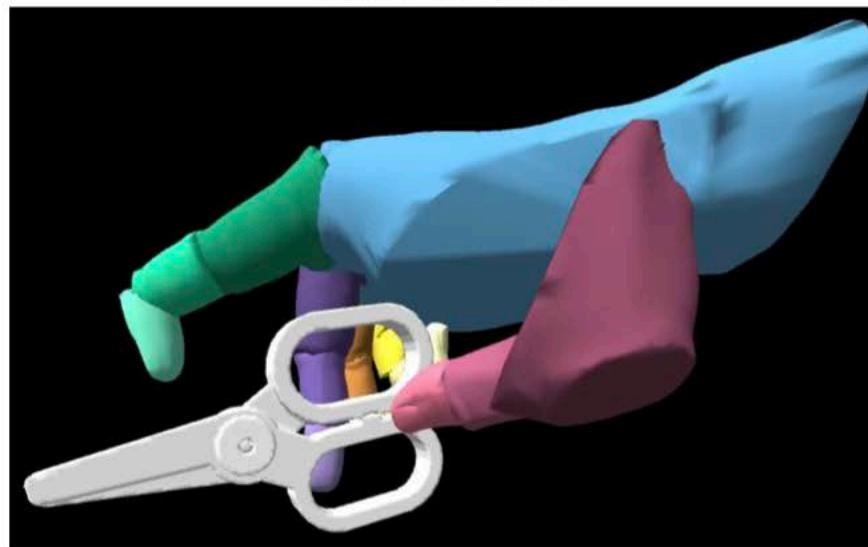


Hand-off

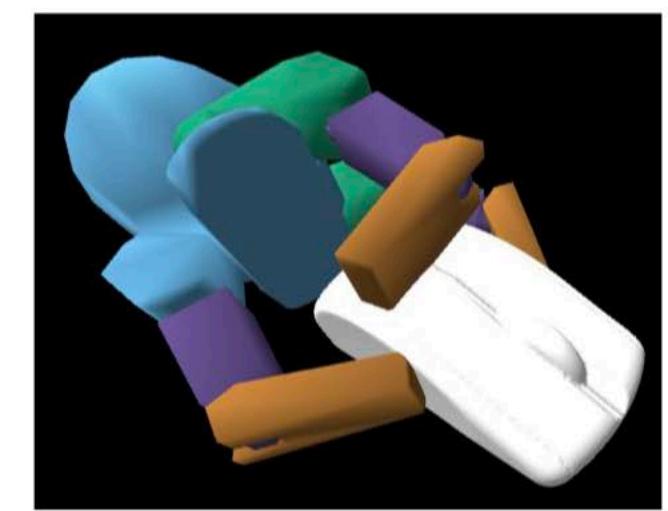
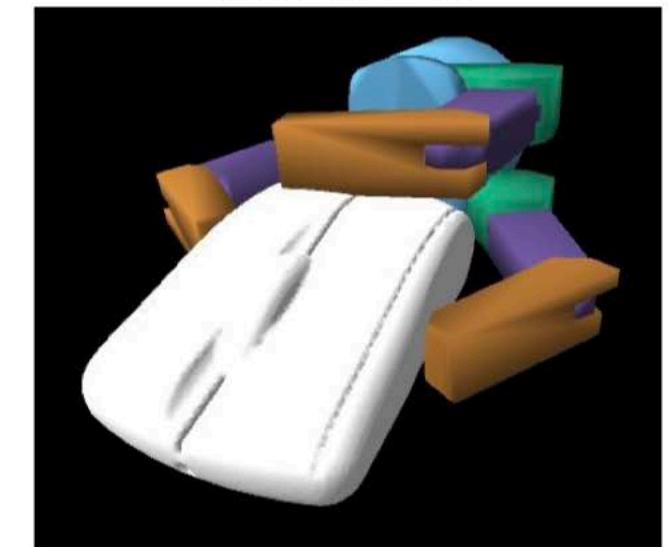


# Failure Cases

Human Hand, scissors  
intent: use



Barrett Hand, mouse  
intent: use



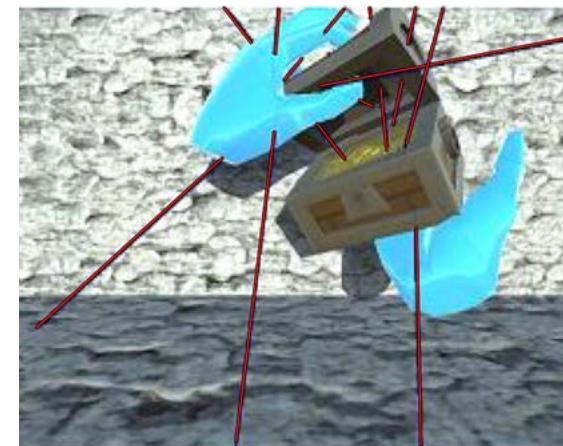
# Contact Modeling – Possible Applications

Soft robotics – simulation  
& design



[Deimel et al, IJRR '16]

Realistic VR  
Experiences



[Höll et al, VR '18]

Assistive robots,  
grasping



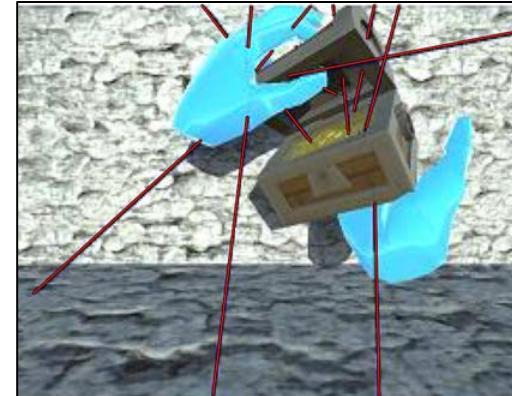
# Contact Modeling – Current Status



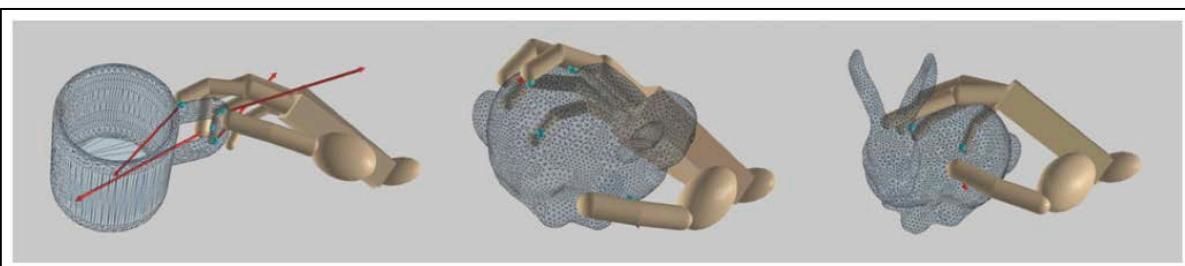
[Hampali et al, CVPR '20]



[Hasson et al, CVPR '19]



[Höll et al, VR '18]



[Ye and Liu, SIGGRAPH '12]



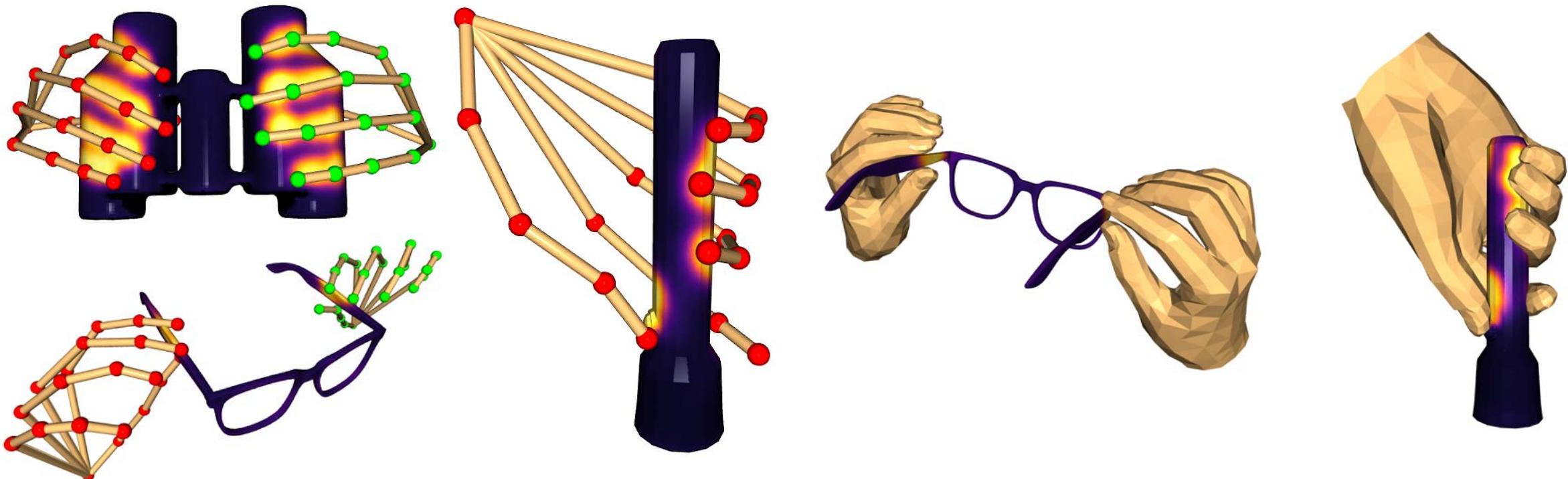
[Ehsani et al, CVPR '20]



[Hassan et al, ICCV '19]



# ContactPose Data - 3D



High-res Contact

3D Hand Joints

MANO<sup>1</sup> fits

[1] Romero, Javier, Dimitrios Tzionas, and Michael J. Black. "Embodied hands: Modeling and capturing hands and bodies together." *ACM Transactions on Graphics (ToG)* 36.6 (2017): 245.

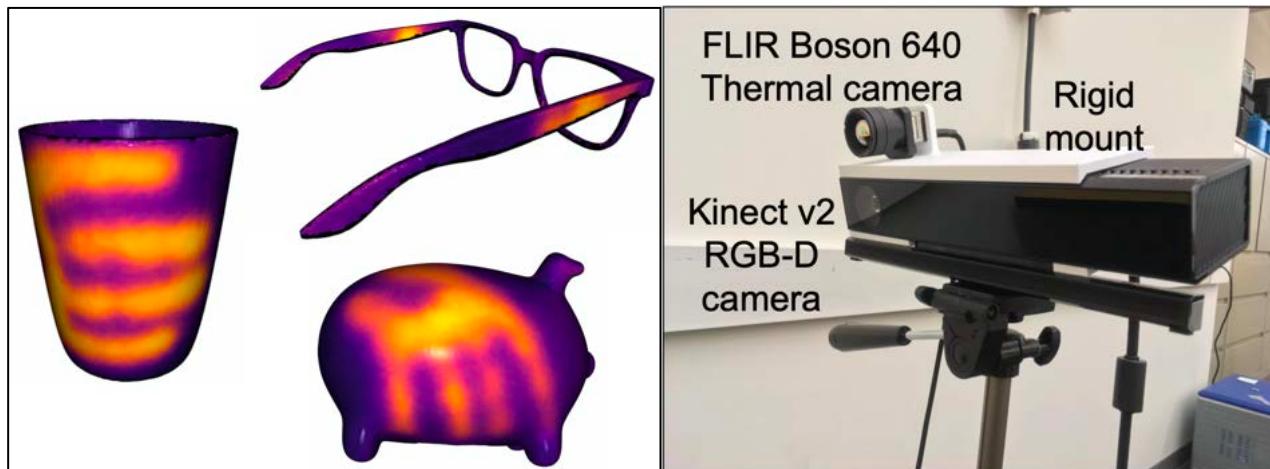
# ContactPose Data - Images



# Contributions

- Dataset that enables a rigorous study of contact modeling
  - Contact ground truth
  - RGB-D grasp images
  - 3D object models
  - Hand- and object- pose ground truth
  - Large scale, diversity
- Contact modeling experiments
  - Heuristic baselines
  - ML models

# Capture Setup – Contact



[ContactDB: Brahmbhatt et al, CVPR '19]

3D printed  
objects



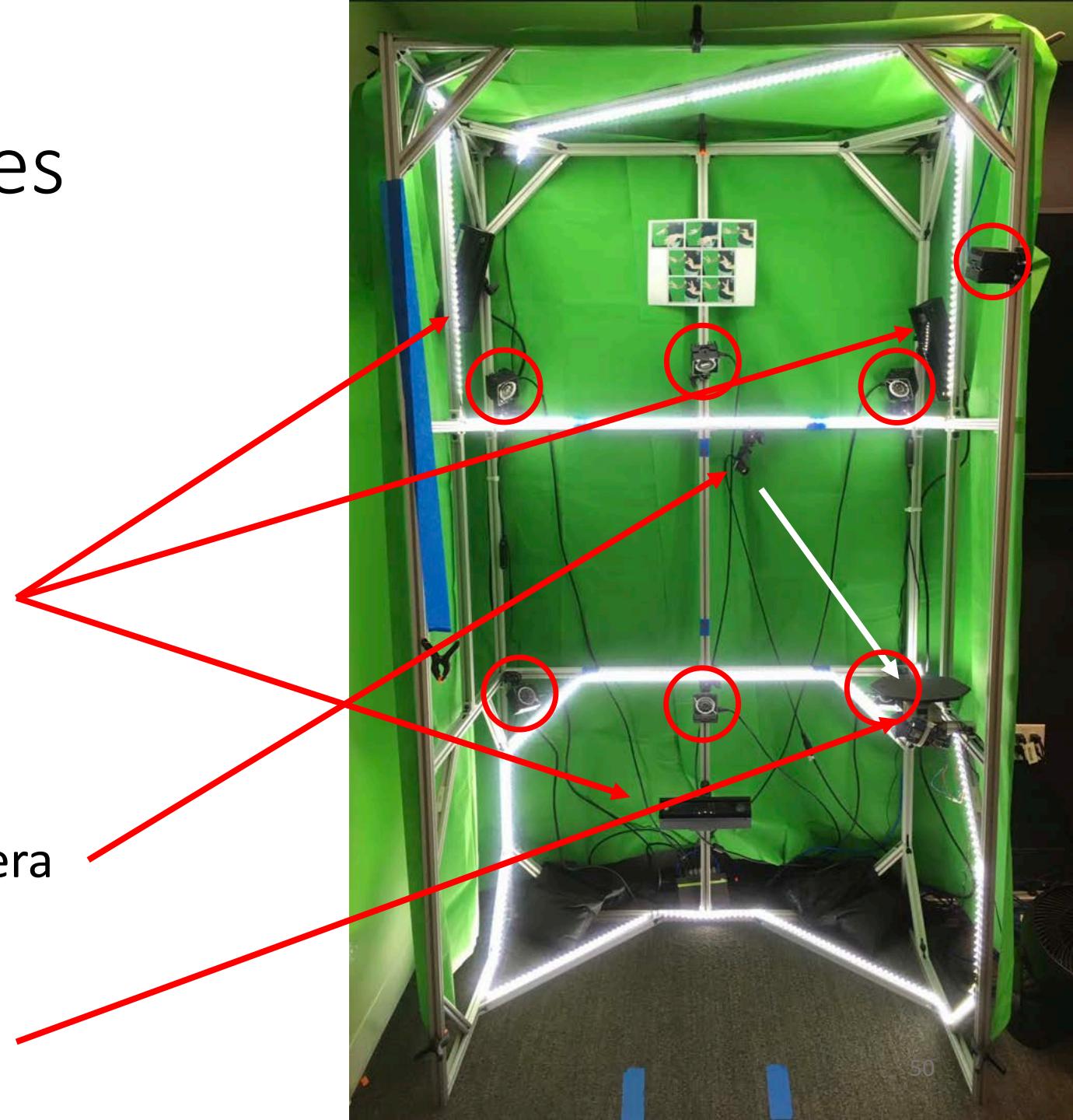
# Capture Setup – Poses

7x Optitrack cameras

3x Kinects

FLIR Boson Thermal camera

Turntable

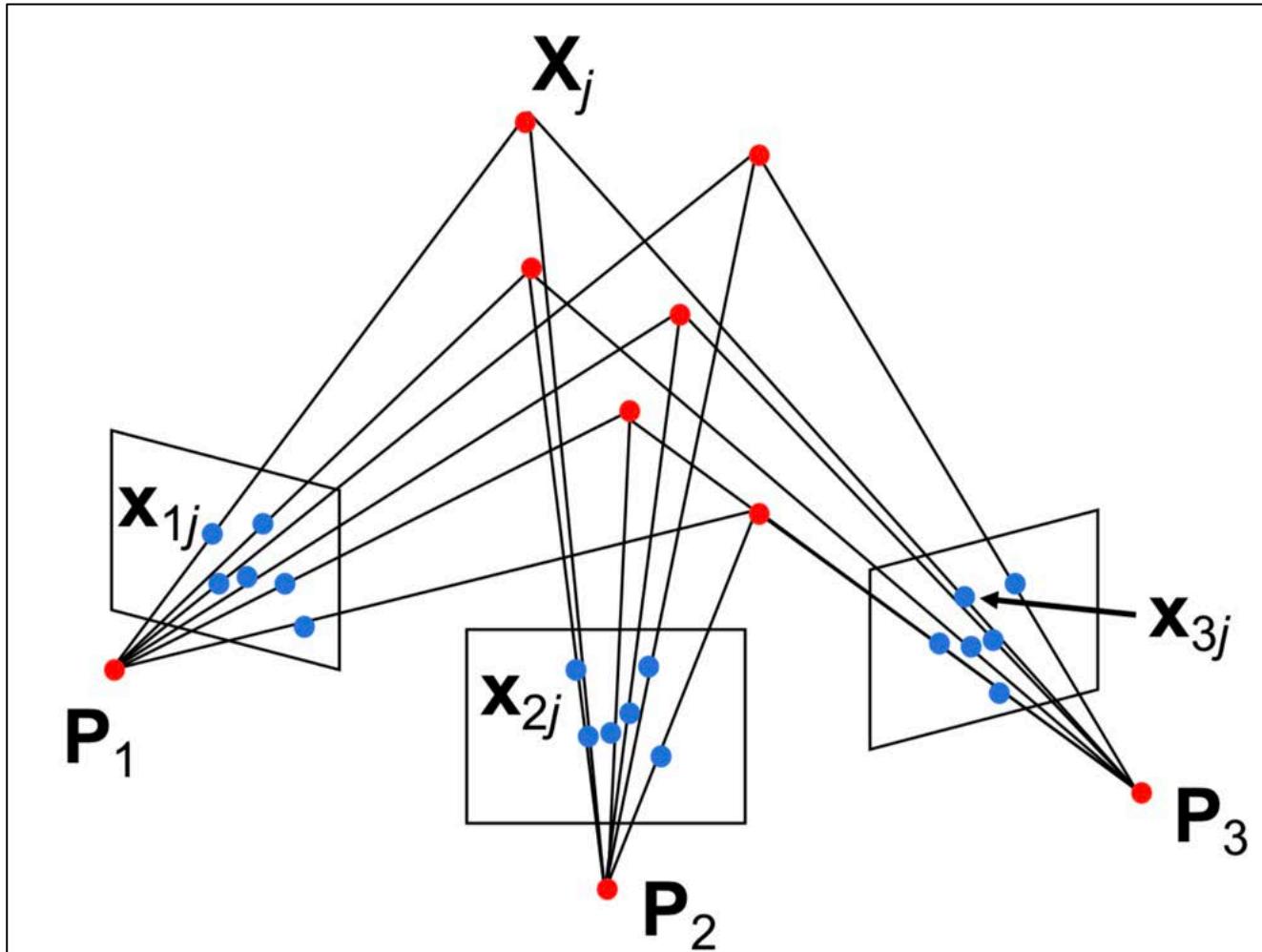


# 2D Joint Detections with OpenPose<sup>[1]</sup>

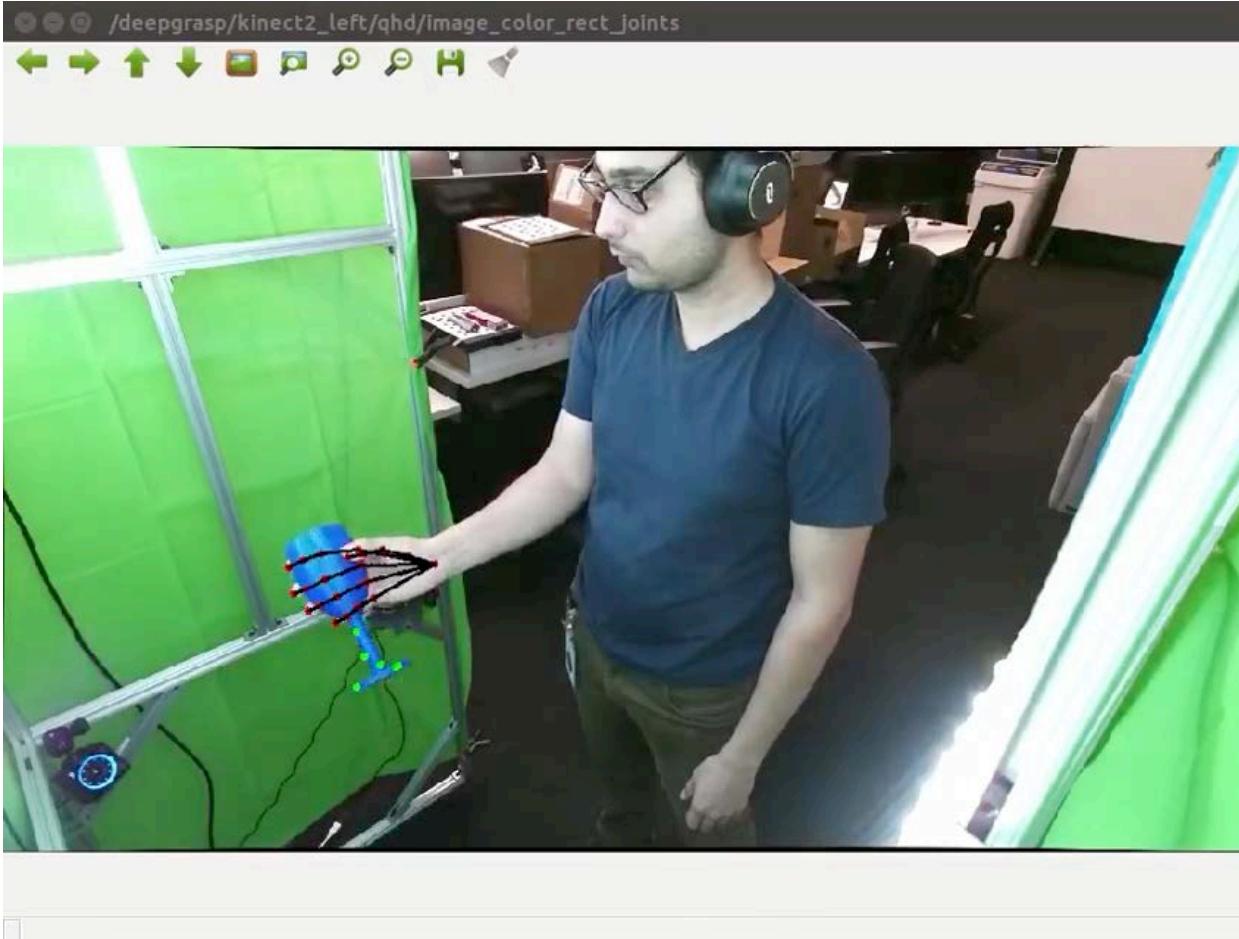


[1] “Hand Keypoint Detection in Single Images using Multiview Bootstrapping” – Tomas Simon, Hanbyul Joo, Iain Matthews, and Yaser Sheikh – CVPR 2017

# Triangulating 3D Joints from Noisy 2D Observations

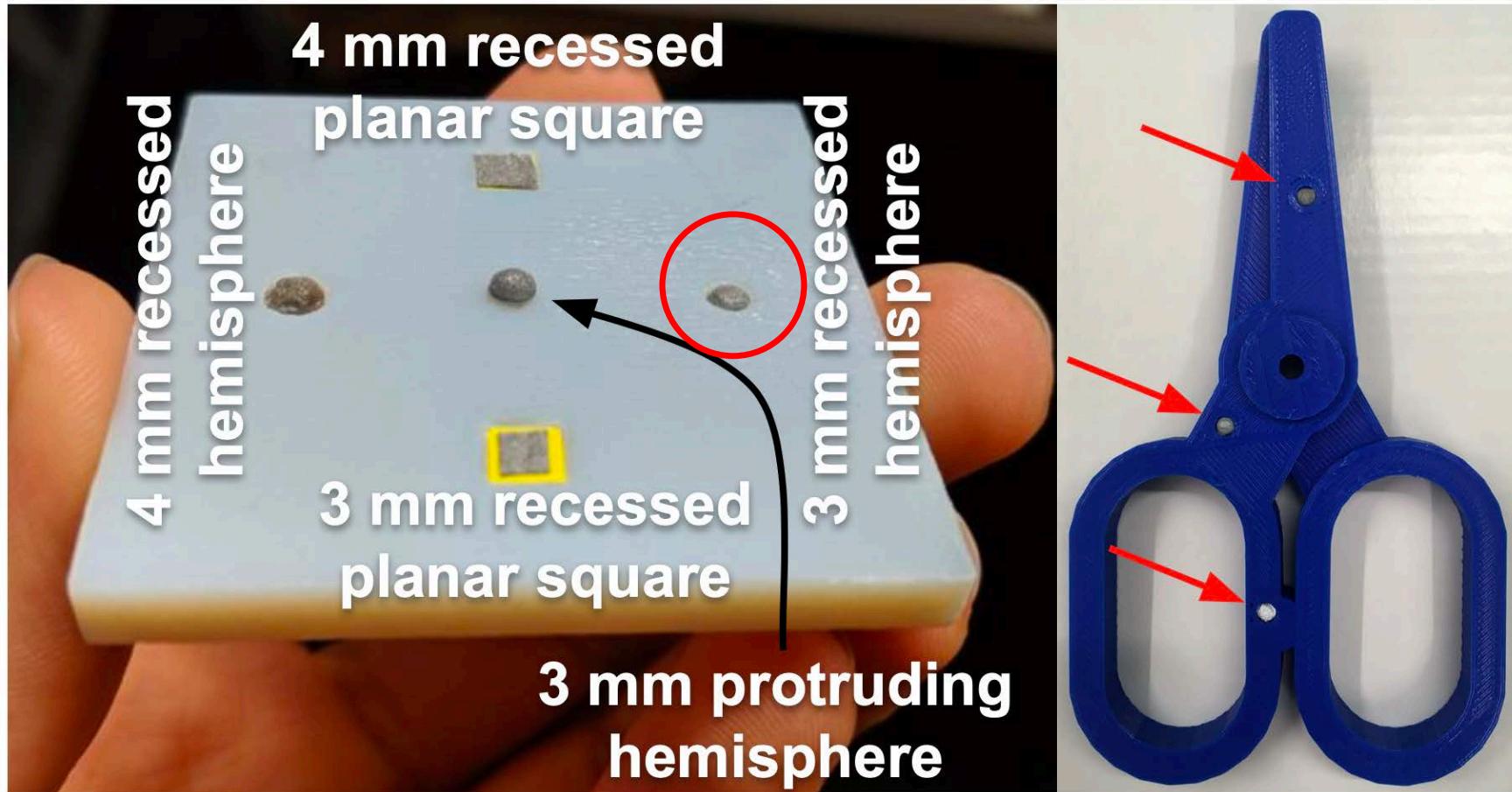


# Optimization Result

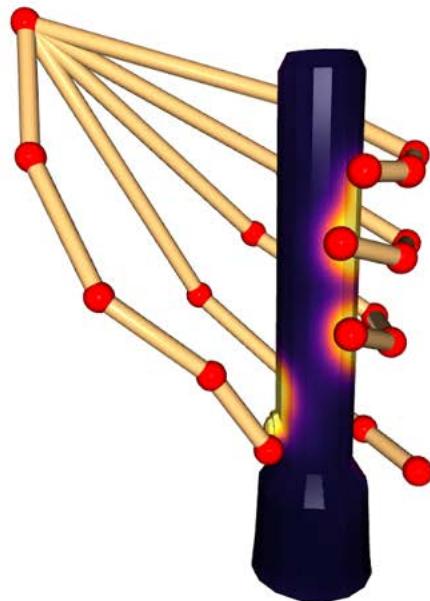


Optimization performed with GTSAM [Dellaert, Tech Report '12, <https://gtsam.org>]

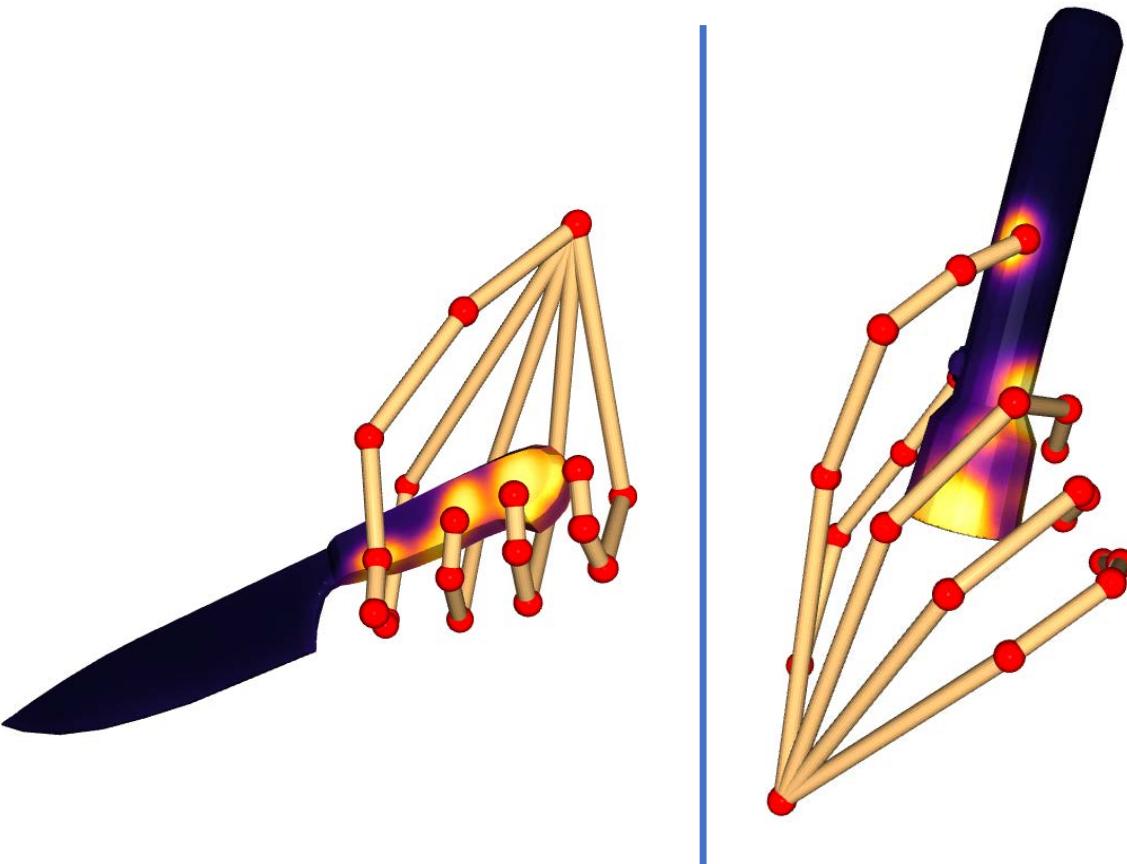
# Embedded Markers for Object Tracking



# Functional Intents

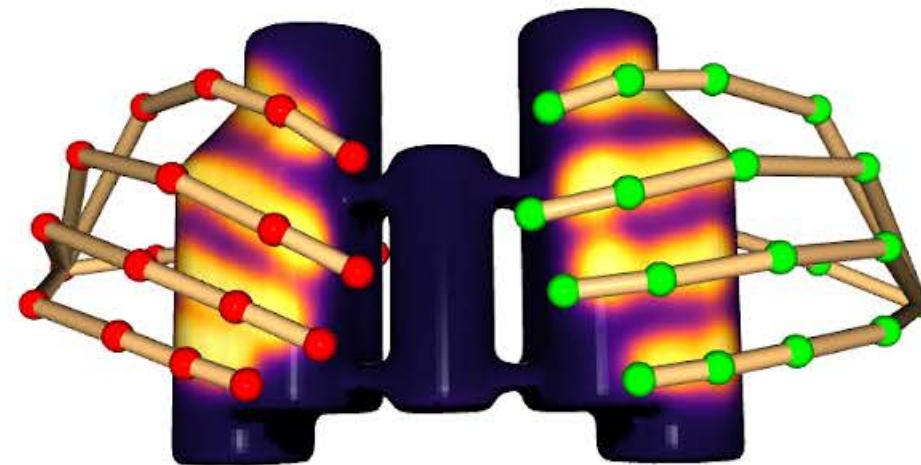
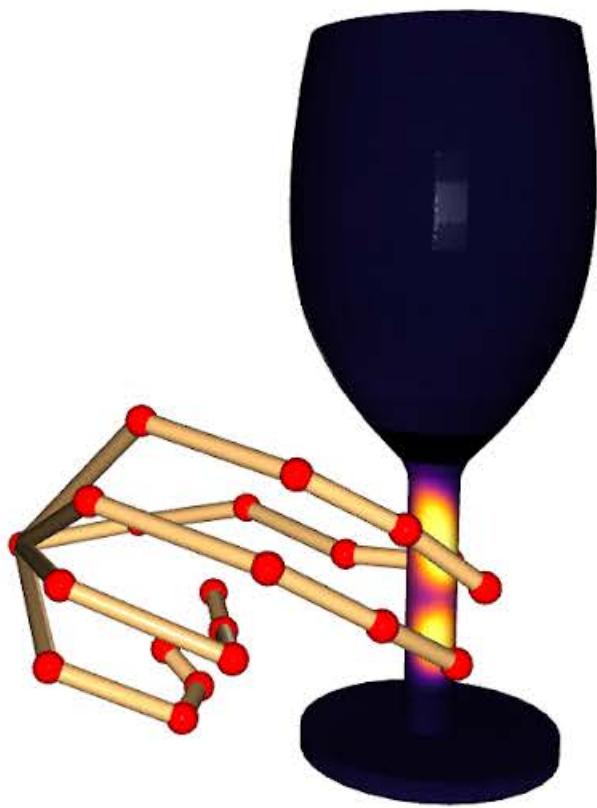


use

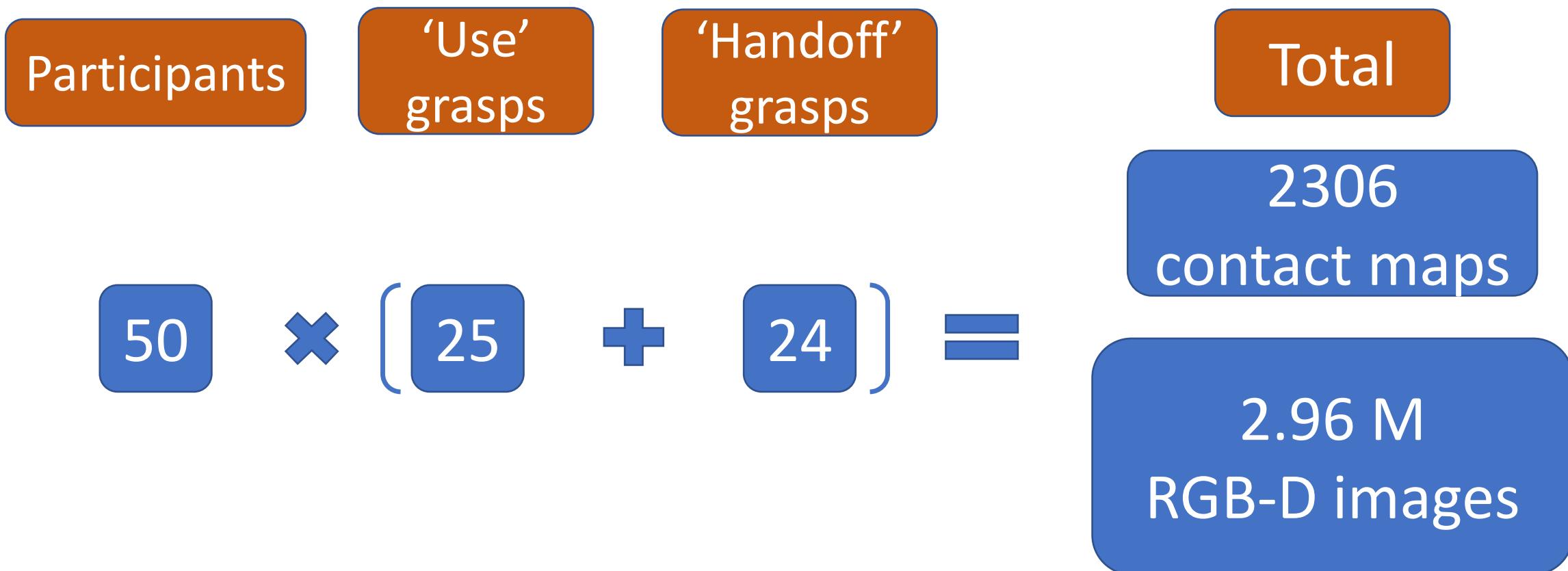


handoff

# Single-handed and Bimanual Grasps



# The ContactPose Dataset

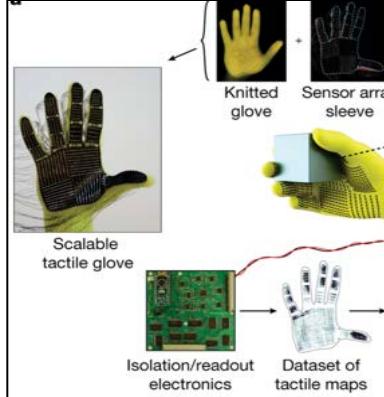


# Related Work



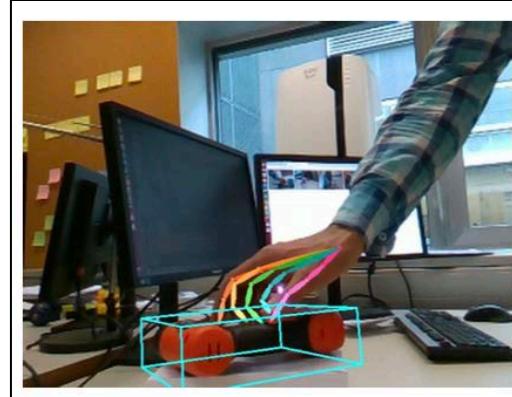
[Garcia-Hernando et al,  
CVPR '18]

object/hand pose  
object texture  
markerless | contact



[Sundaram et al,  
Nature Letters '19]

object/hand pose  
object texture  
markerless | contact



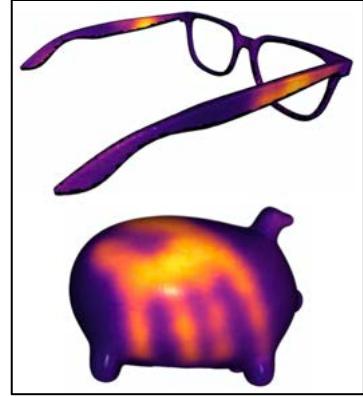
[Hampali et al,  
CVPR '20]

object/hand pose  
object texture  
markerless | contact



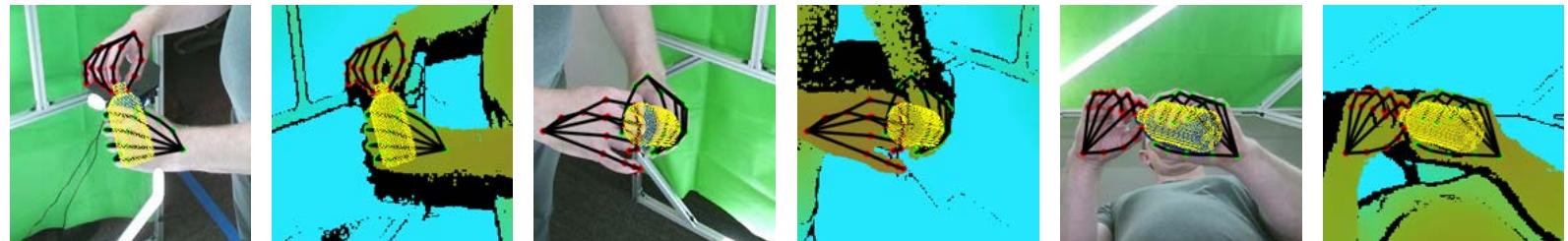
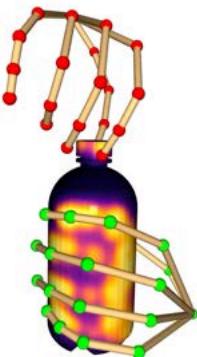
[Zimmermann et al,  
ICCV '19]

object/hand pose  
object texture  
markerless | contact



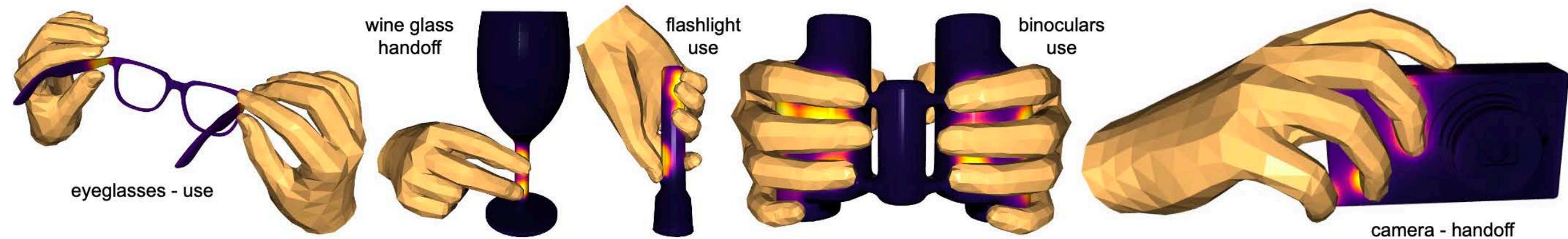
[Brahmbhatt et al,  
CVPR '19]

object/hand pose  
object texture  
markerless | contact



object/hand pose | object texture  
markerless | contact

# Parametric Hand Mesh Models (e.g. MANO<sup>[1]</sup>)

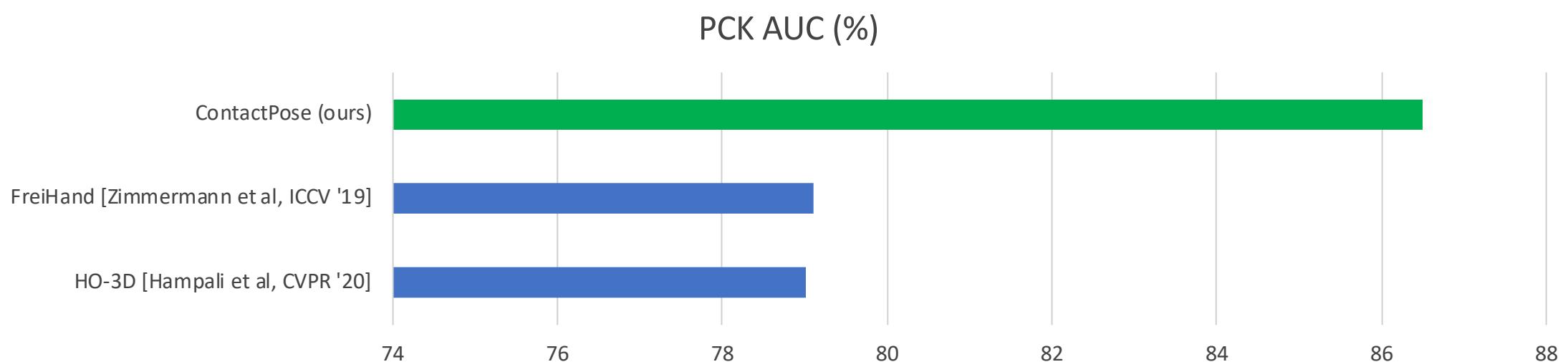
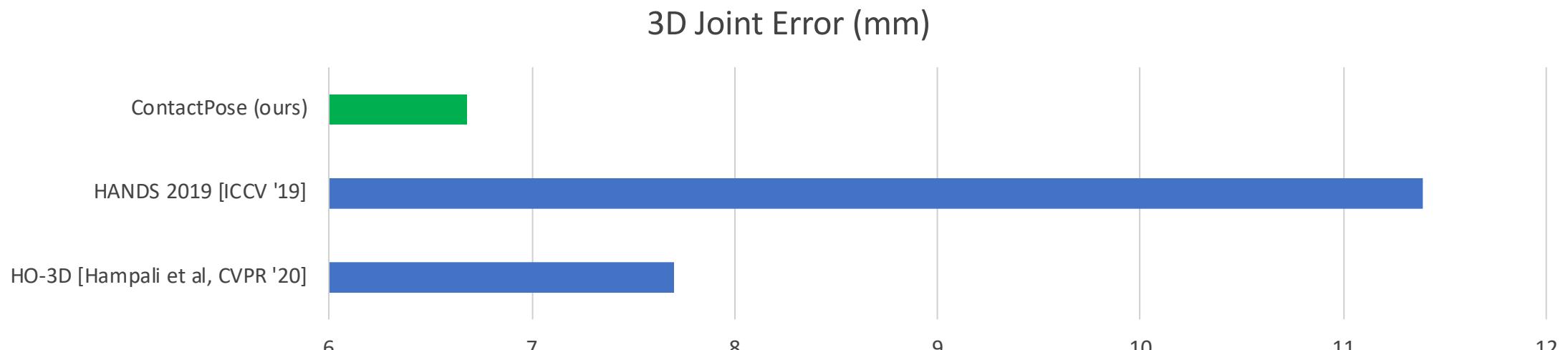


$$\beta^*, \theta^* = \arg \min_{\beta, \theta} \|J(\beta, \theta) - J^*\| + \frac{1}{\sigma} \|\beta\|$$

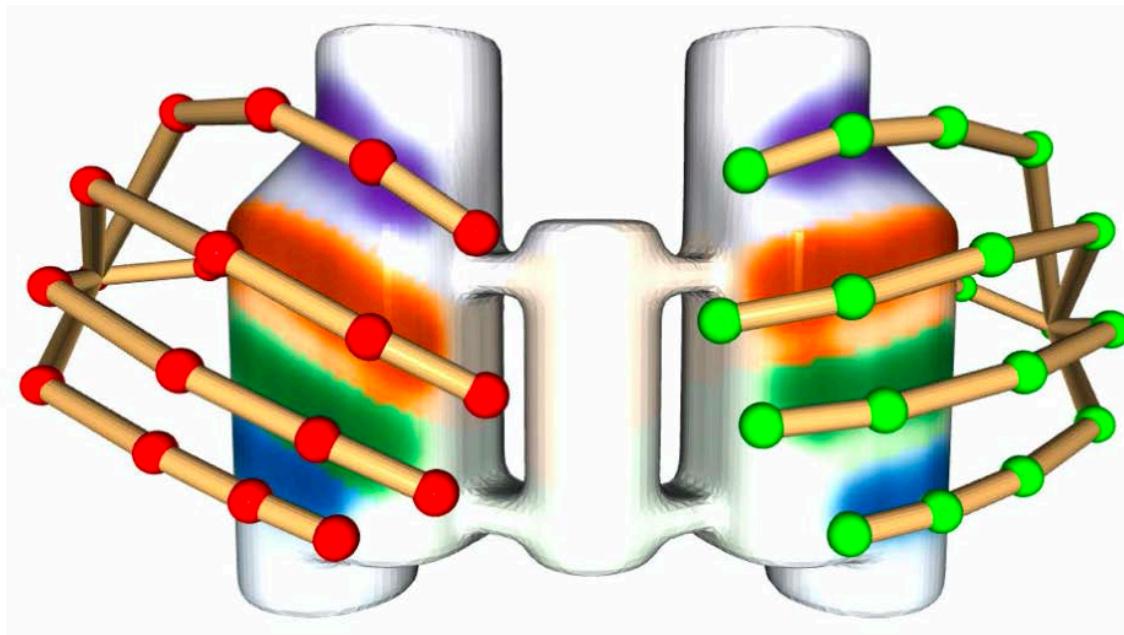
Hand shape      Hand pose

[1] Romero, Javier, Dimitrios Tzionas, and Michael J. Black. "Embodied hands: Modeling and capturing hands and bodies together." *ACM Transactions on Graphics (ToG)* 36.6 (2017): 245.

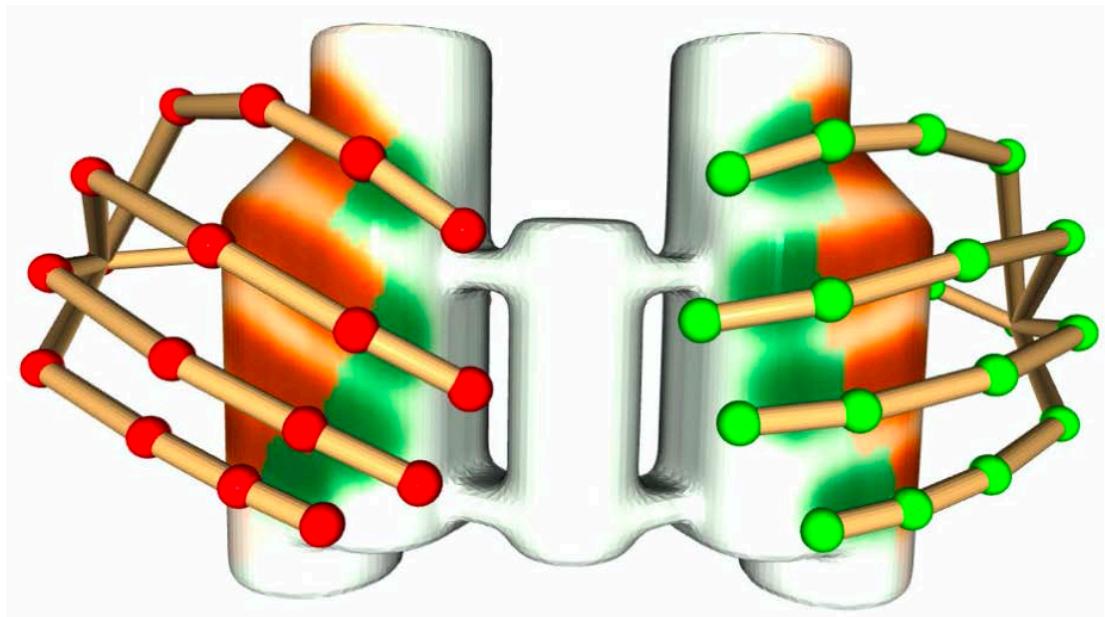
# MANO Fitting Accuracy



# Association of Contact to Hand Parts

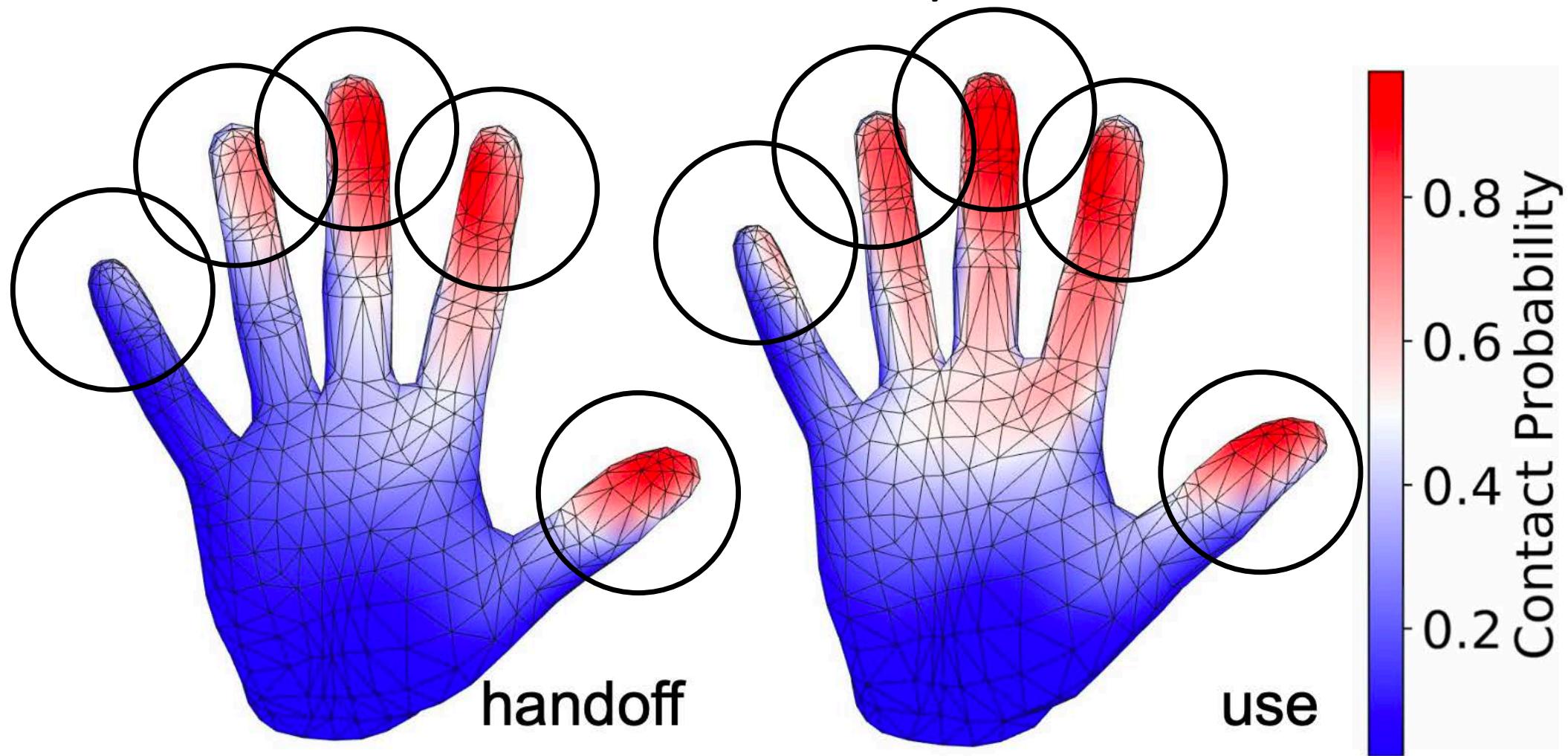


Association to fingers

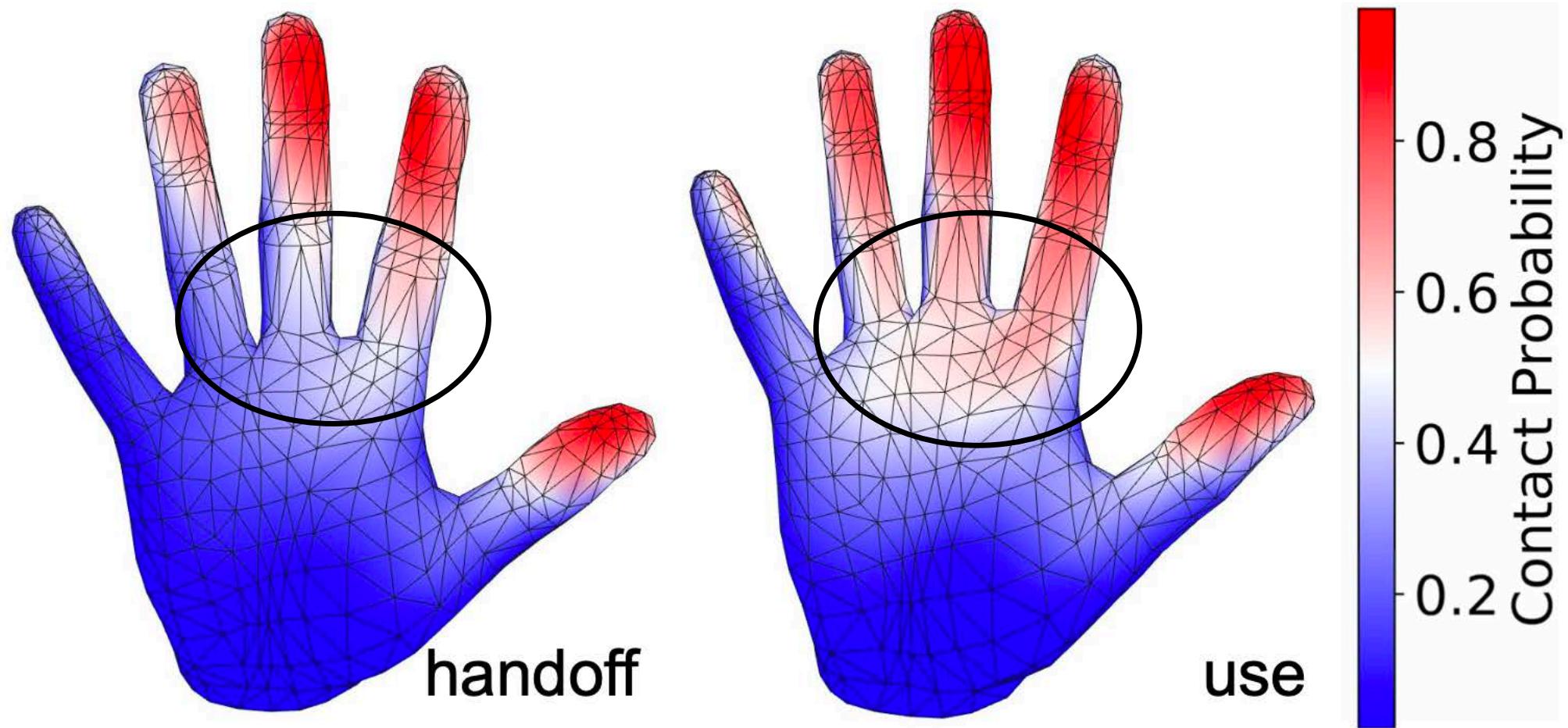


Association to phalanges

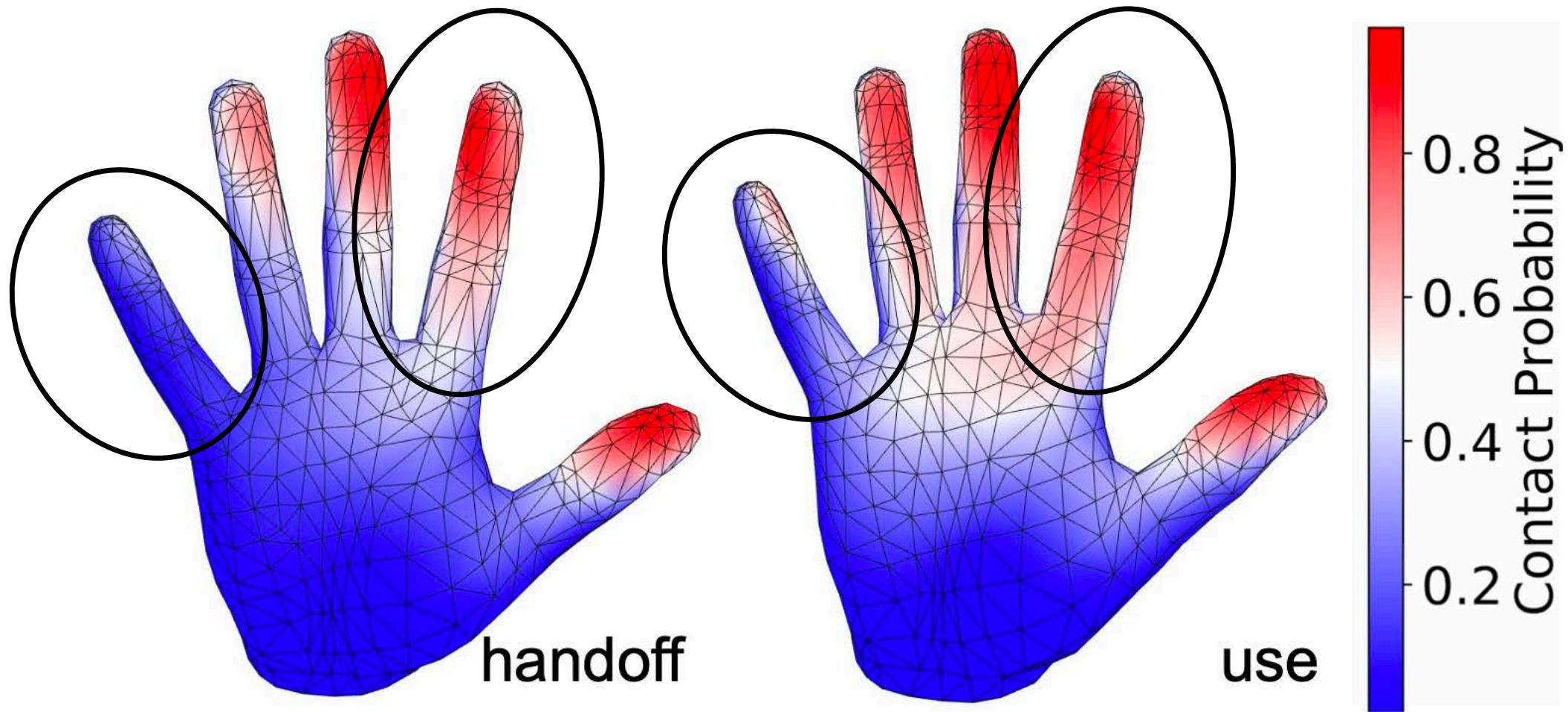
# Hand Contact Probability



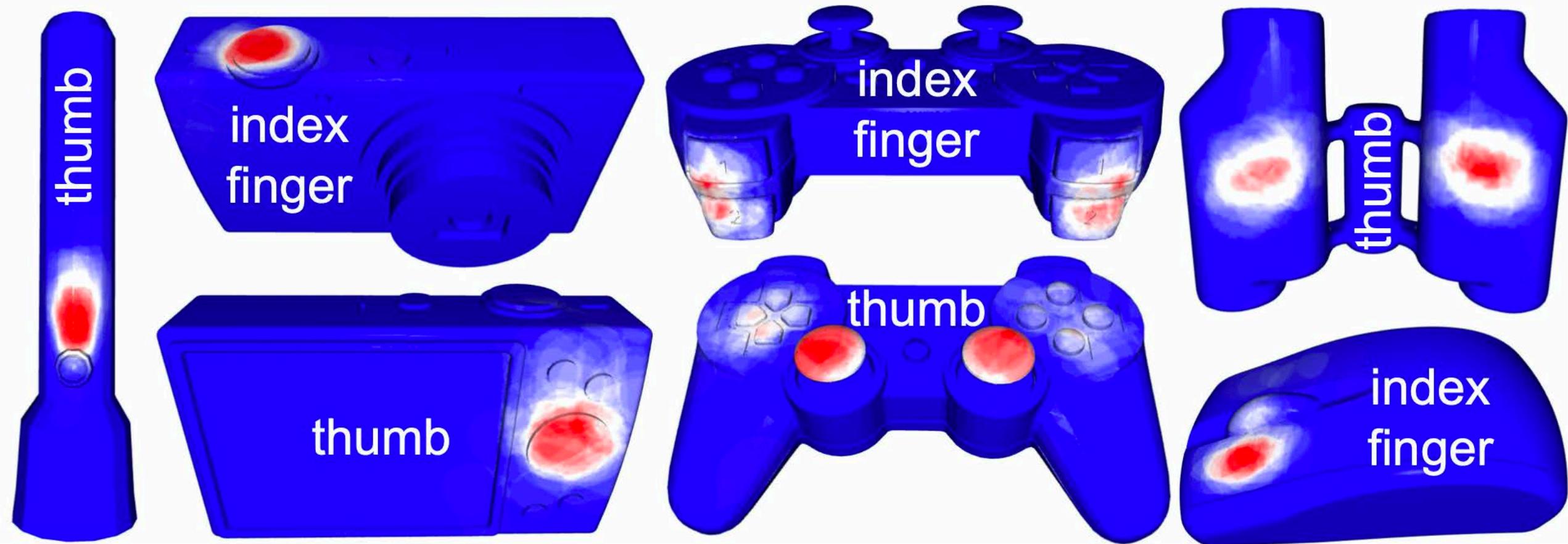
# Hand Contact Probability



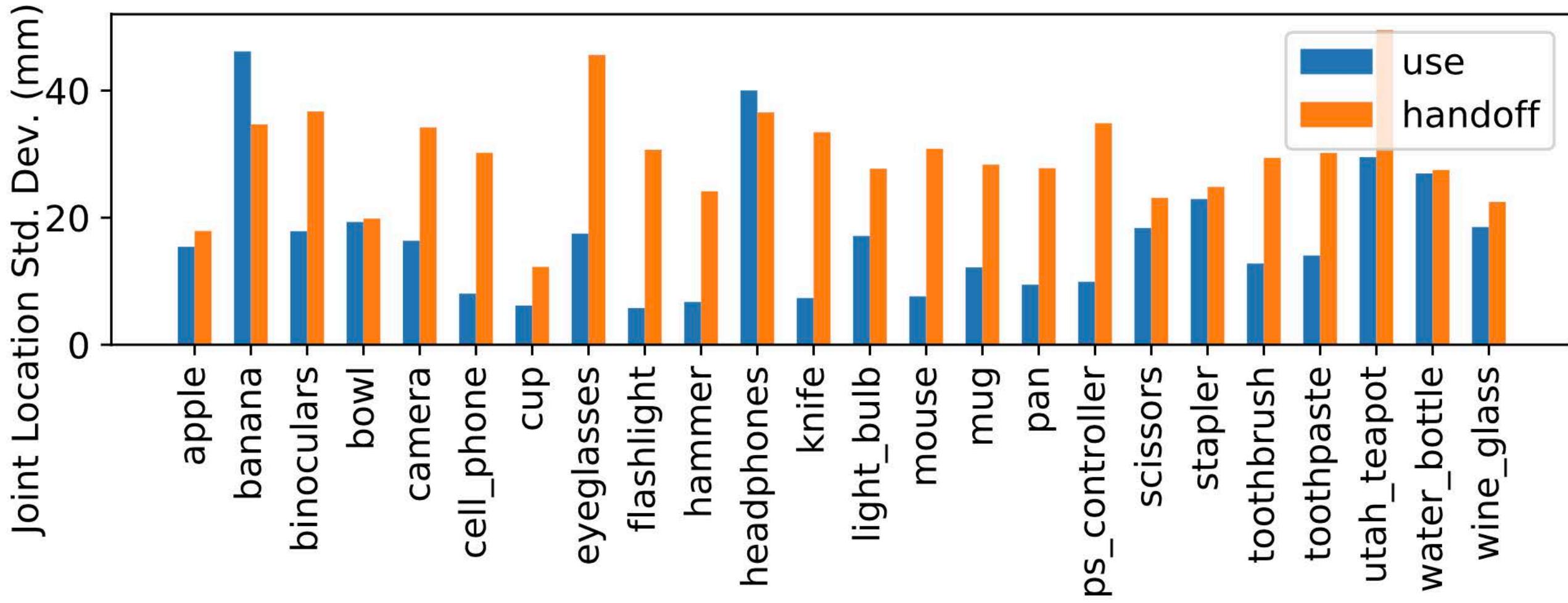
# Hand Contact Probability



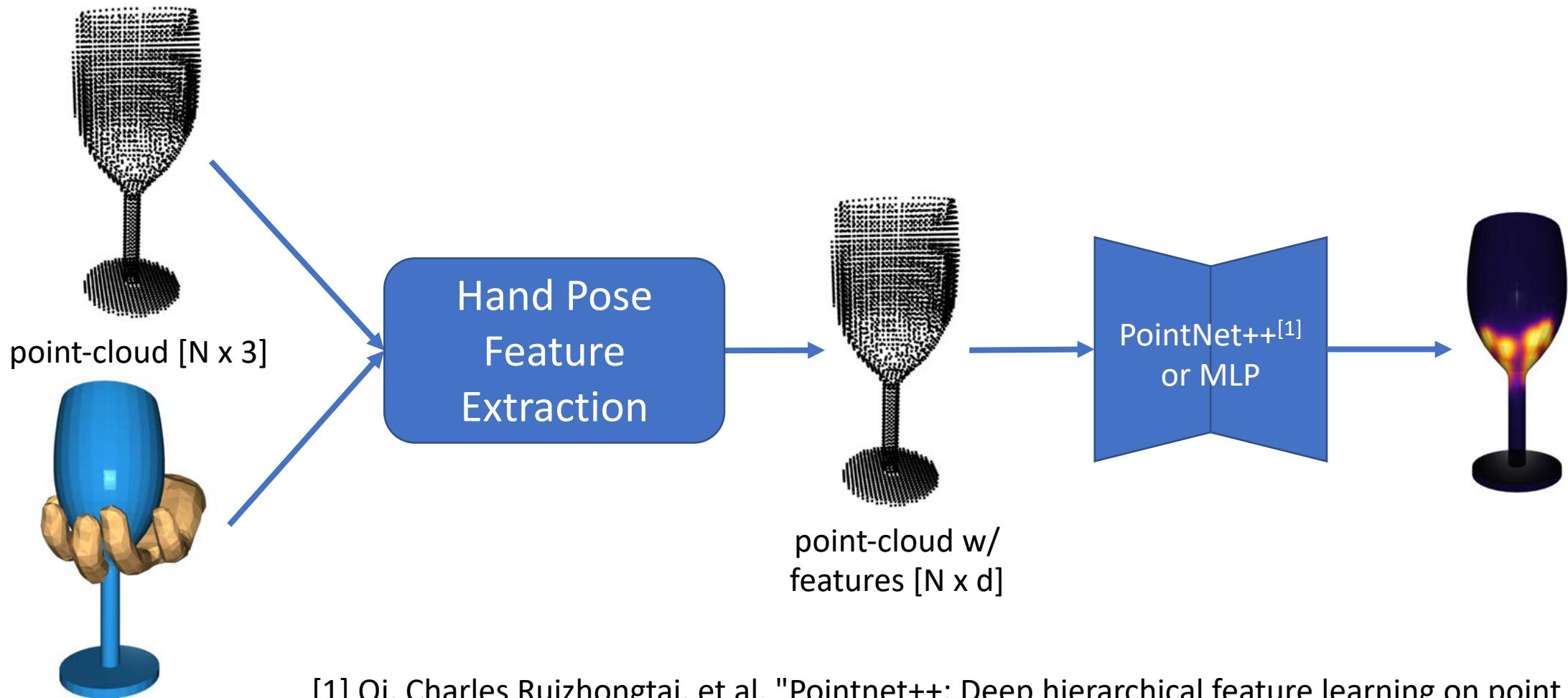
# “Active Area” Discovery



# Effect of Functional Intent on Hand Pose Diversity



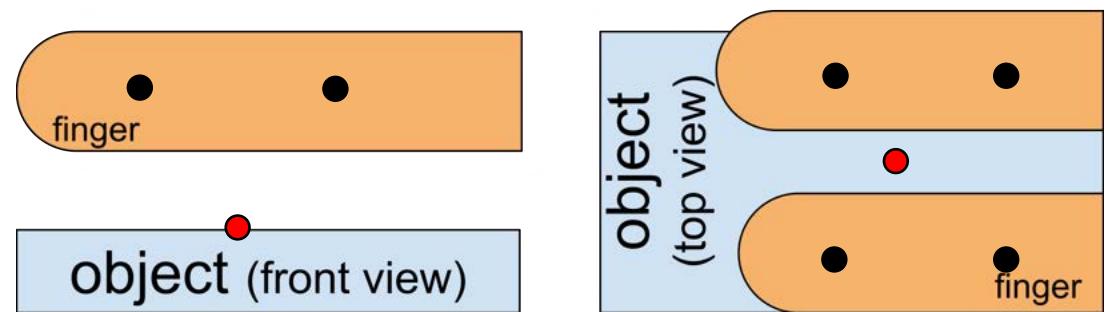
# Learning Contact Modeling



[1] Qi, Charles Ruizhongtai, et al. "Pointnet++: Deep hierarchical feature learning on point sets in a metric space." *Advances in neural information processing systems*. 2017.

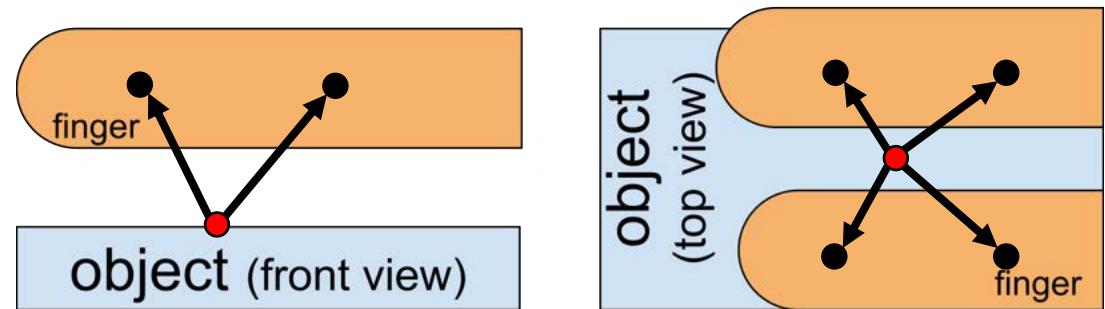
# Hand Pose Features

- simple-joints



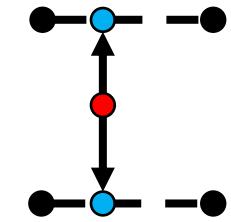
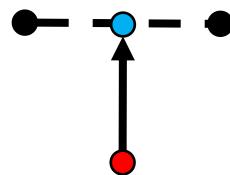
# Hand Pose Features

- simple-joints
- relative-joints



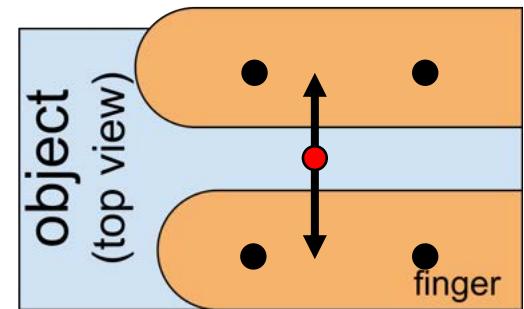
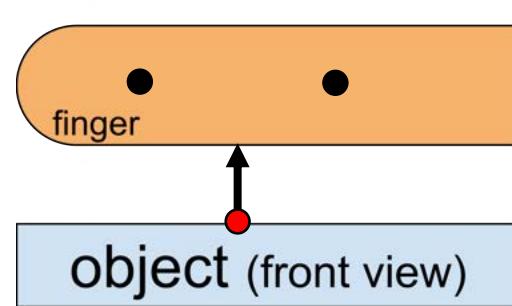
# Hand Pose Features

- simple-joints
- relative-joints
- skeleton

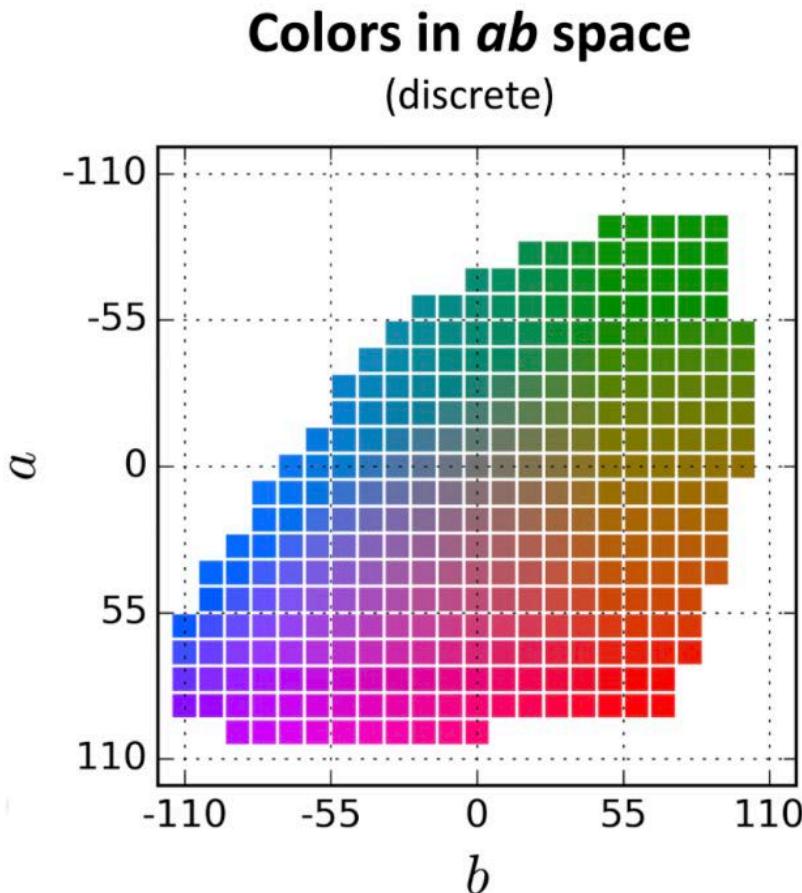


# Hand Pose Features

- simple-joints
- relative-joints
- skeleton
- mesh



# Contact Representation



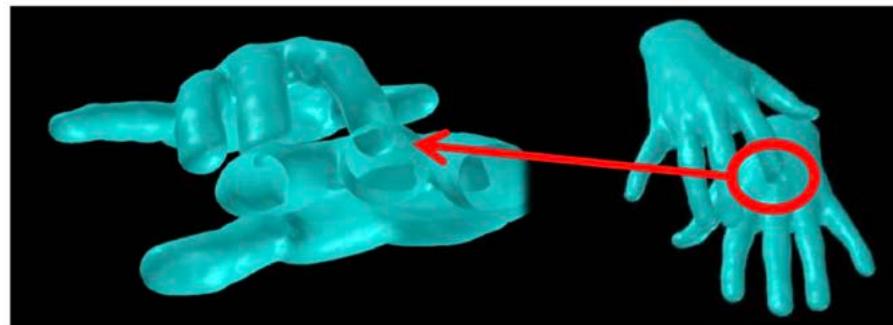
“Colorful Image Colorization” – Zhang, Isola,  
and Efros – ECCV 2016

- Discretize contact values into 10 bins
- Classification problem
- Loss weight inversely proportional to occurrence frequency
- “Annealed Mean” for continuous prediction

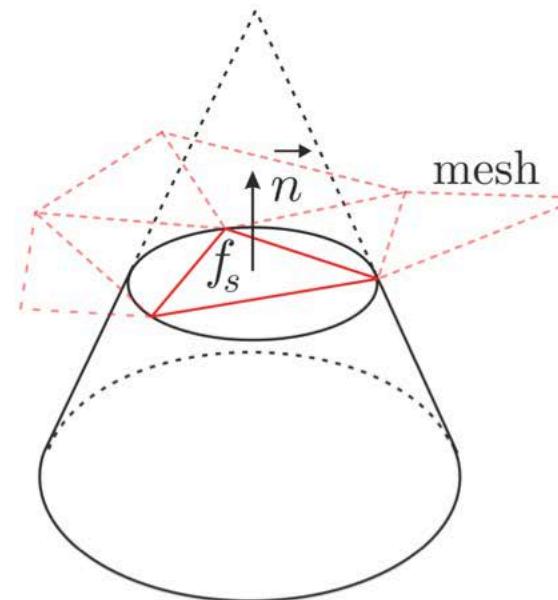
$$f_T(\mathbf{z}) = \frac{\exp(\log(\mathbf{z})/T)}{\sum_q \exp(\log(\mathbf{z}_q)/T)}$$

$$\mathcal{H}(\mathbf{Z}_{h,w}) = \mathbb{E}[f_T(\mathbf{Z}_{h,w})]$$

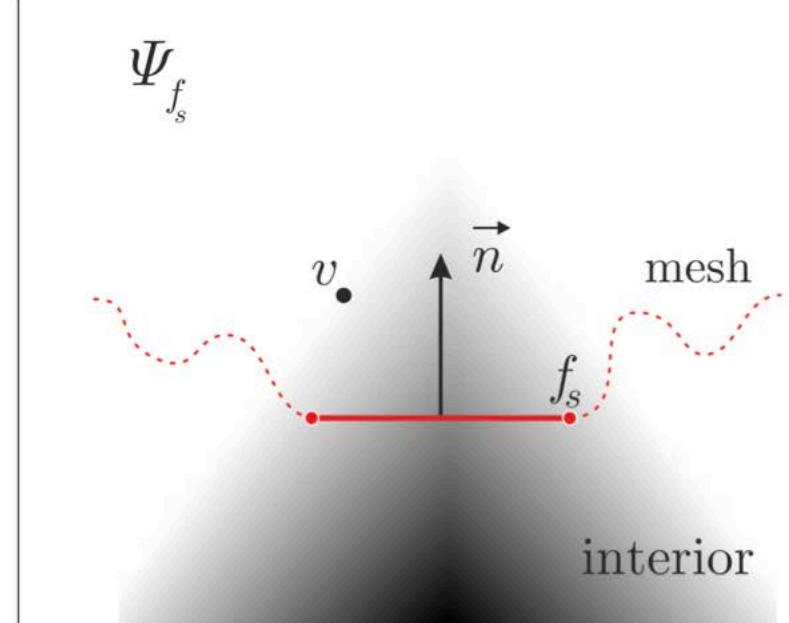
# Contact Modeling – Heuristics



[Tzionas et al., IJCV '16]



Conic distance field

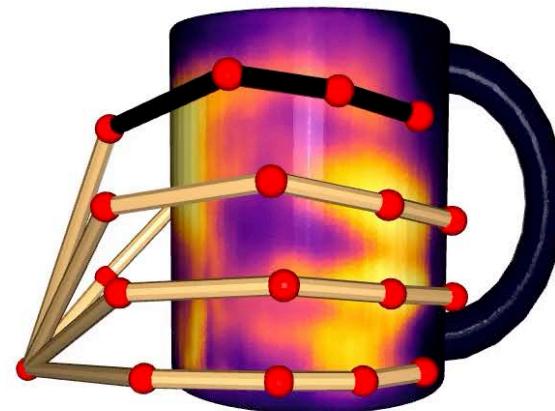


[Tzionas et al., IJCV '16, Ballan et al., ECCV '12]

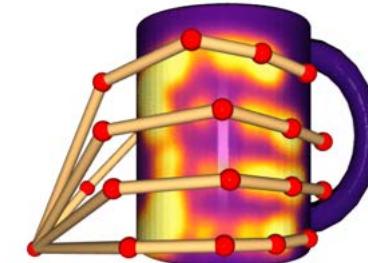
# Contact Modeling from Hand Pose

---

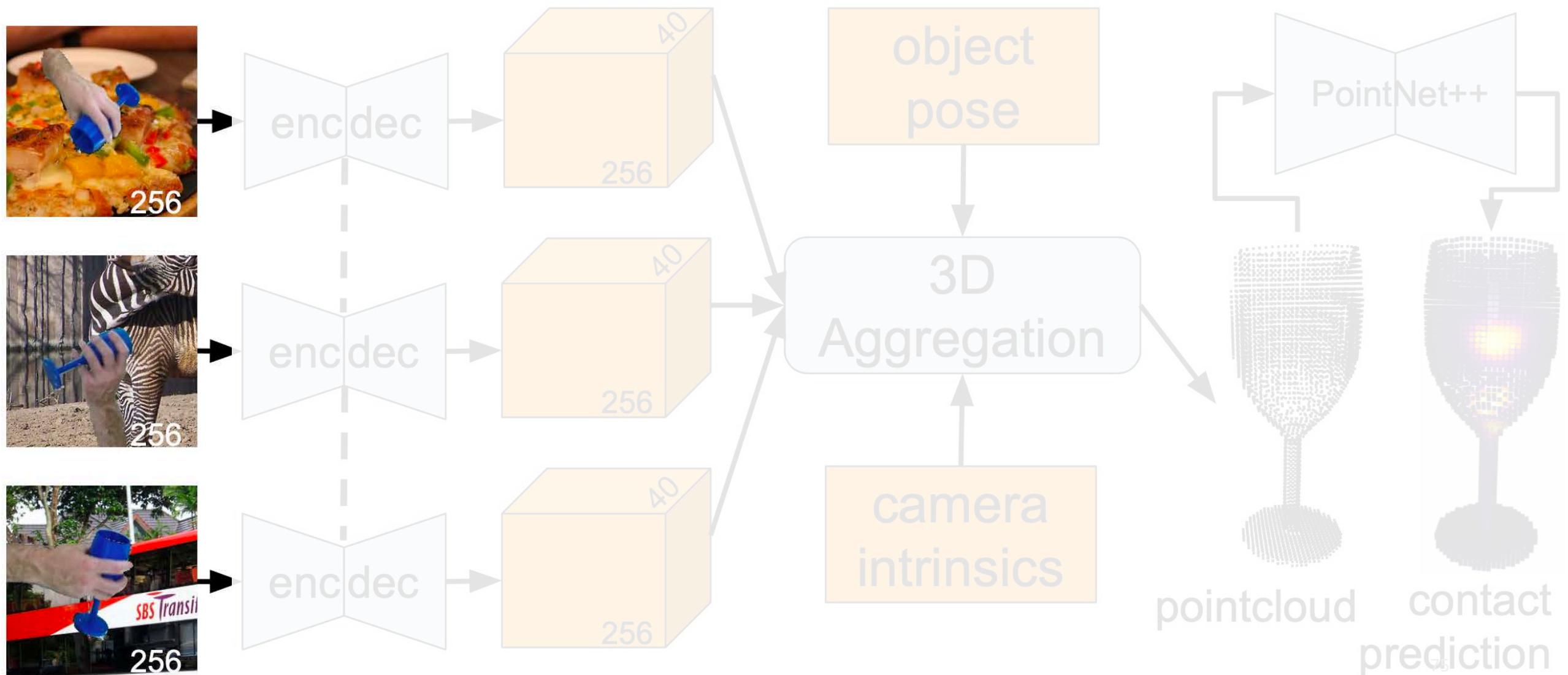
Prediction (unseen  
object “mug”)



ground truth



# Contact Modelling – Features From Images

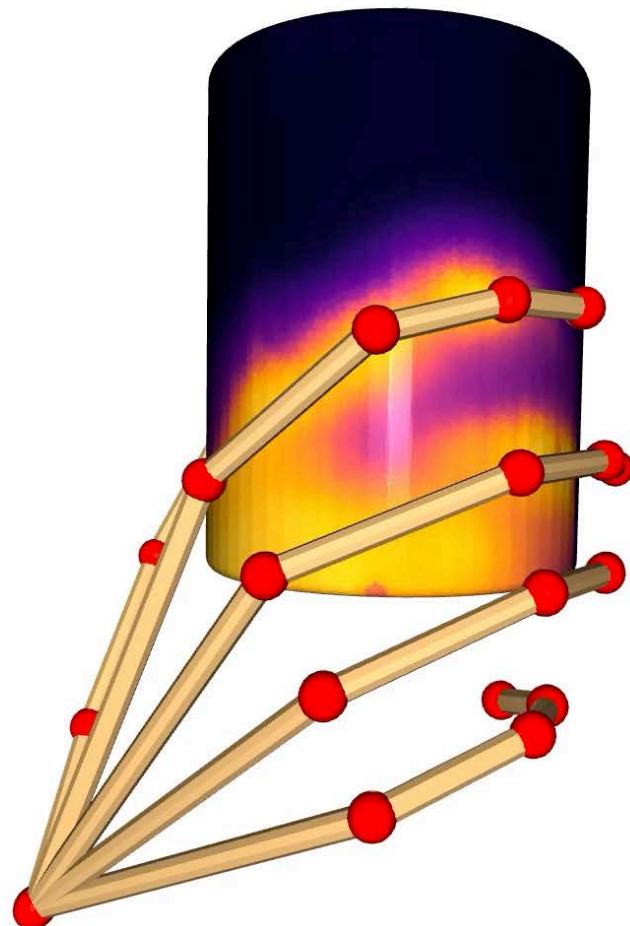


# Contact Modeling from Grasp Images

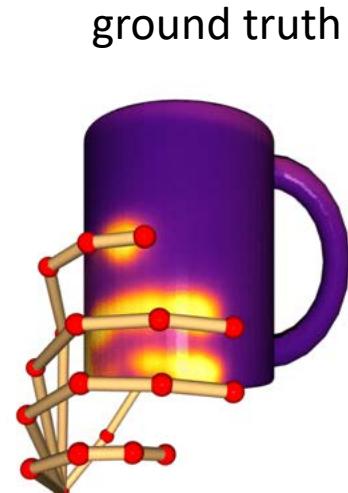
Prediction (unseen object “mug”)



input images

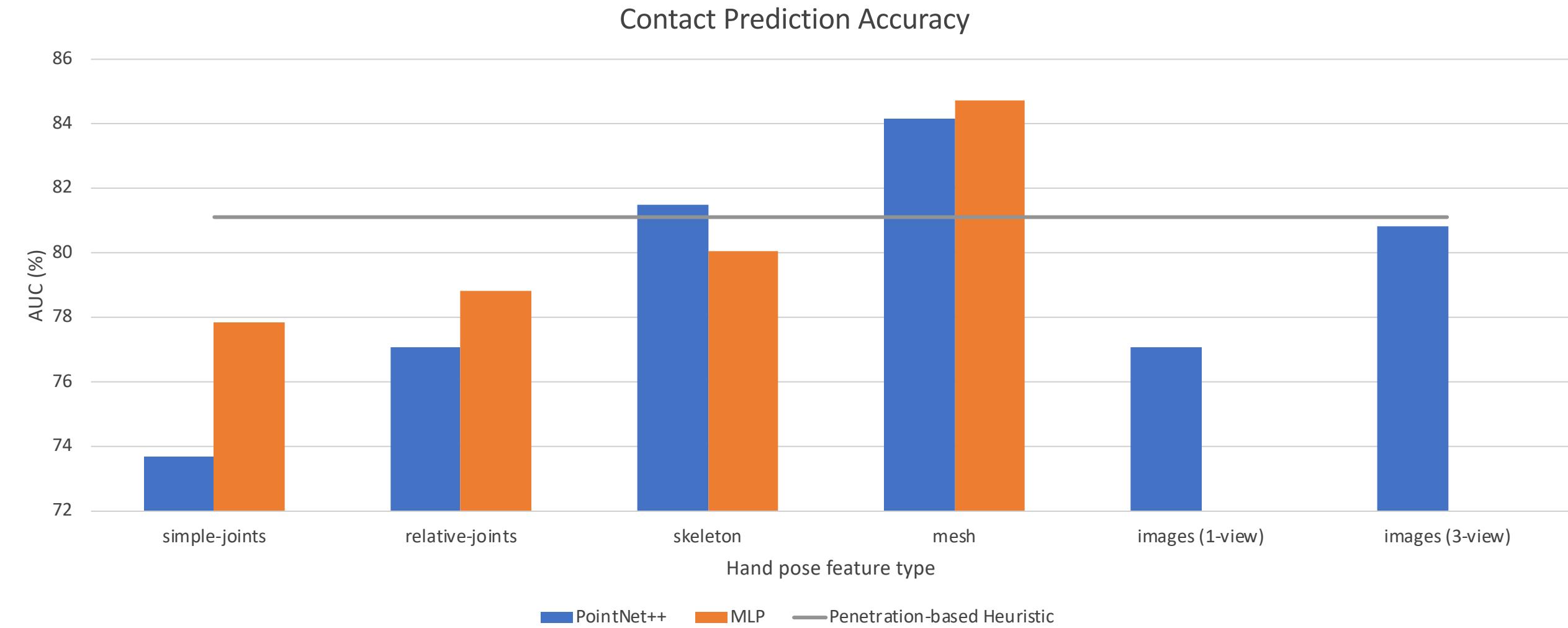


Hand Pose not used for prediction, shown for reference.



ground truth

# Contact Modeling Quantitative Results



# Data, Code and Models:

<https://contactpose.cc.gatech.edu>



ContactPose ContactPose Explorer

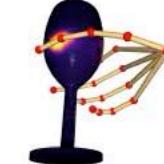
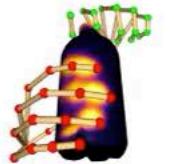
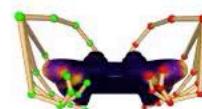
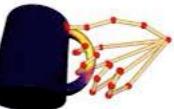
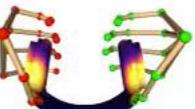
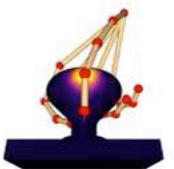
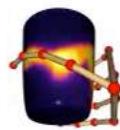
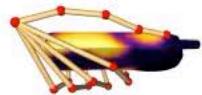
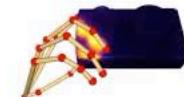
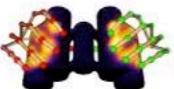
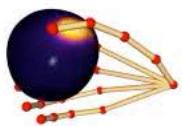
Select post-grasp intent: use    Select participant: 28    Loaded    Cube Size: 1.0 cm

A 3D rendering of a hand grasping a banana. The contact points between the fingers and the banana are highlighted with red spheres and connected by a network of yellow lines. The banana has a heatmap overlay showing its temperature or texture.

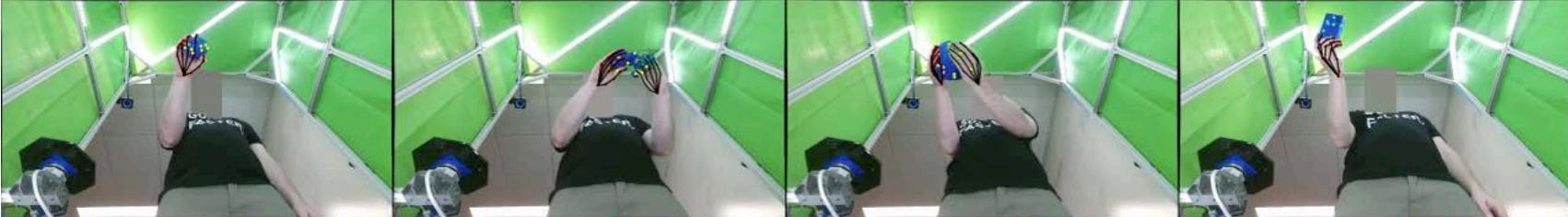
A grid of 24 icons representing different objects: apple, banana, binoculars, bowl, camera, mobile phone, cup, ball, scissors, flashlight, hammer, headphones, knife, lightbulb, computer mouse, mug, hand, frying pan, game controller, scissors, stapler, pen, teapot, bottle, and wine glass.

Left Kinect v2    Middle Kinect v2    Right Kinect v2

Three Kinect v2 cameras are shown mounted on a green frame, likely representing the setup used for data collection.





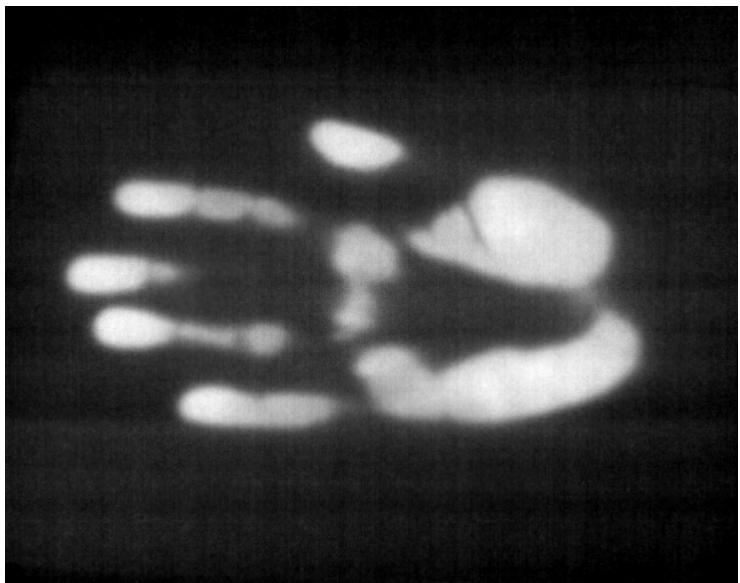




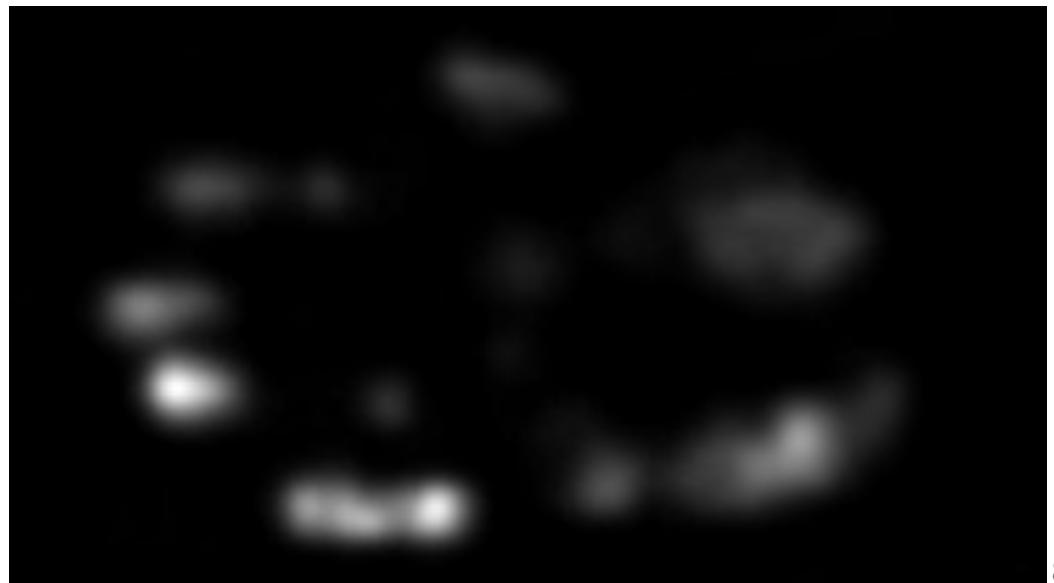
# Capturing Contact

- Pressure is exerted
- Heat is transferred

Higher spatial resolution  
Works for arbitrary surface shapes  
No surface instrumentation



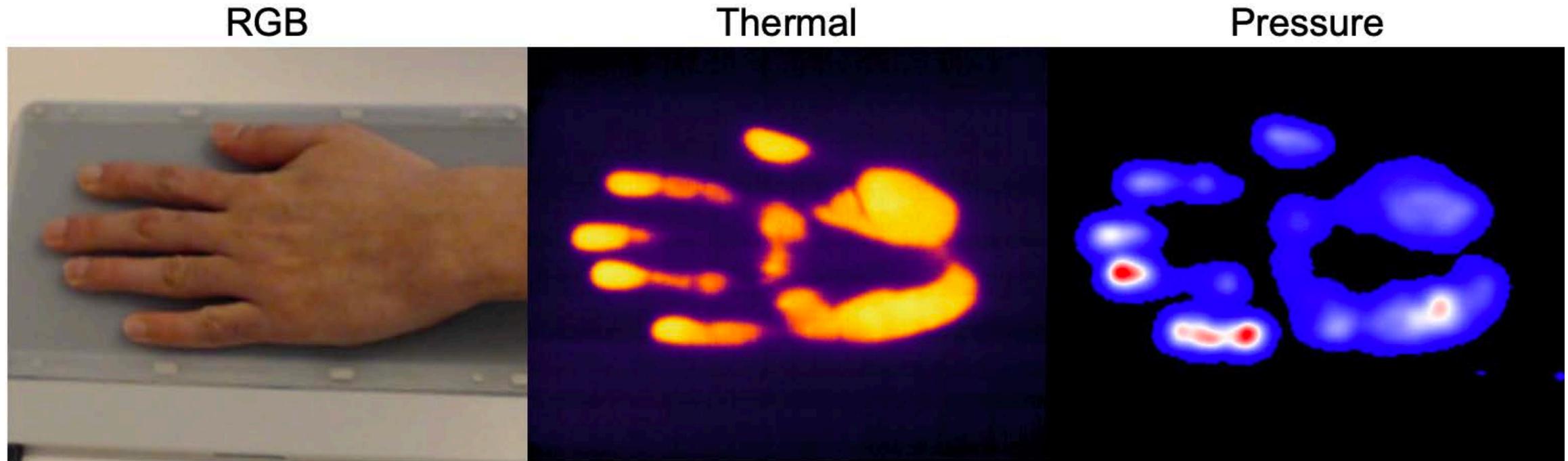
Thermal image



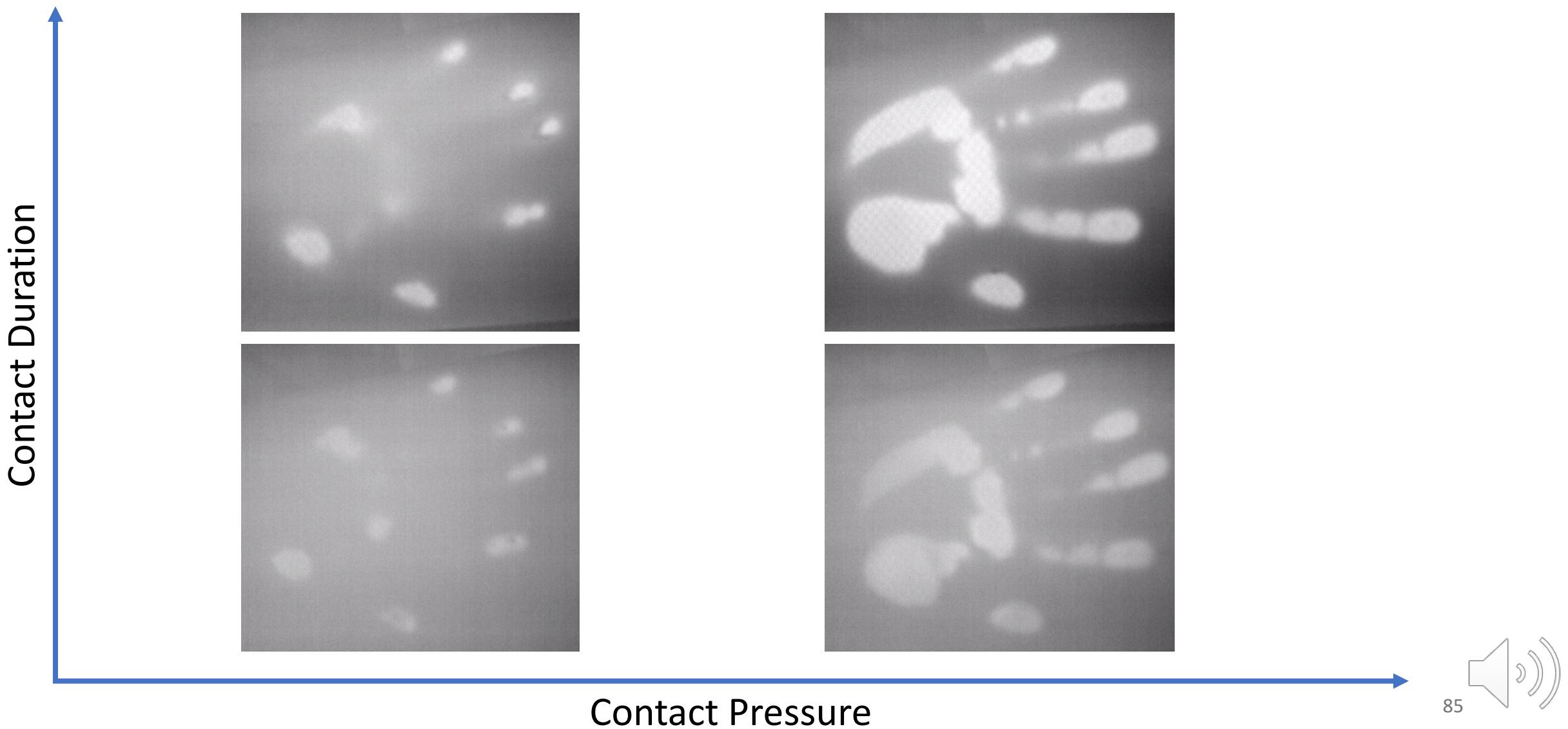
Pressure image from a Sensel Morph



# Thermal Cameras: Contact Pressure Sensors?



# Thermal Cameras: Contact Pressure Sensors?



# Thank You

<https://samarth-robo.github.io>