



# Instruction to SMPL and MANO

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# Basic Concepts

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- Vertex
  - Position: 3D coordinate in space (x, y, z).
  - Color: the color information (r, g, b).
  - UV coordinate: used for texture mapping of the surface.
  - Normal Vector: used for lighting calculation, displacement mapping, etc.
  - Skinning Weights: weighting for assignment to bones to control animation
- Rigging
  - Mesh: a surface to represent the character (triangle mesh, quad mesh, etc.).
  - Bone (Skeleton): a hierarchical set of interconnected parts, which is a virtual representation used to animate the mesh.
    - one bone is associated with a group of vertices
    - one vertex could be assigned to multiple bones together with skinning weights
- Skinning Function: deform the mesh according to bones
  - Simple Skinning
  - Linear Blend Skinning (LBS)
  - Dual Quaternion Blend Skinning (DQBS)

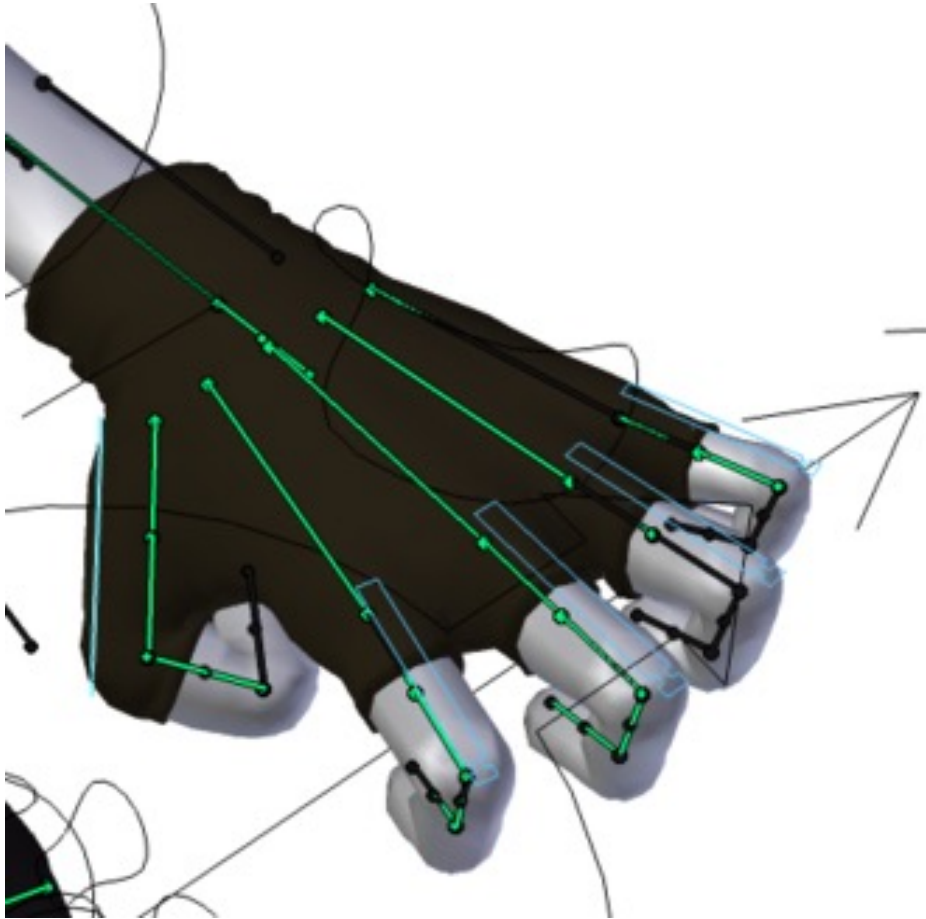
Triangular Mesh:



Quadrilateral Mesh:



# Example of Rigging



- Bones (in green) are used to pose a hand, they are virtual/invisible.
- By skinning function, we only need to pose the bones, and the mesh will be deformed accordingly.

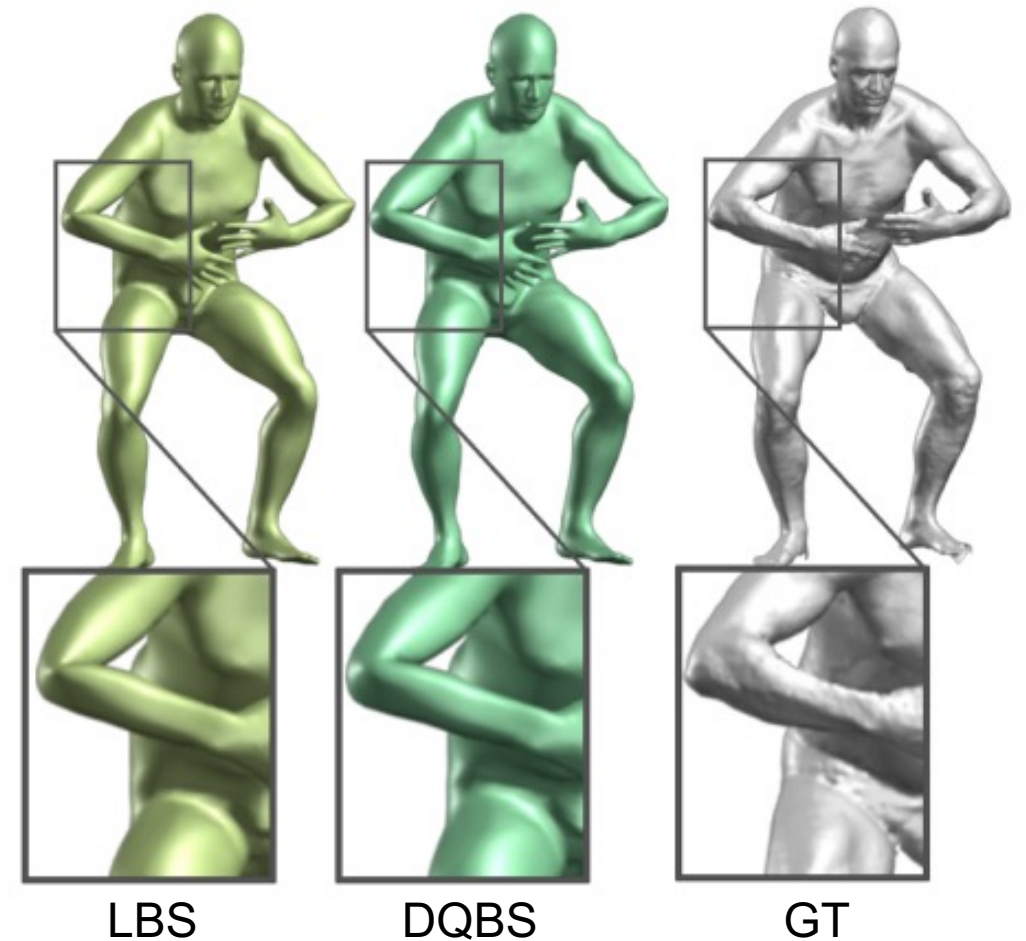


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# SMPL: Skinned Multi-Person Linear Model

# Why SMPL?

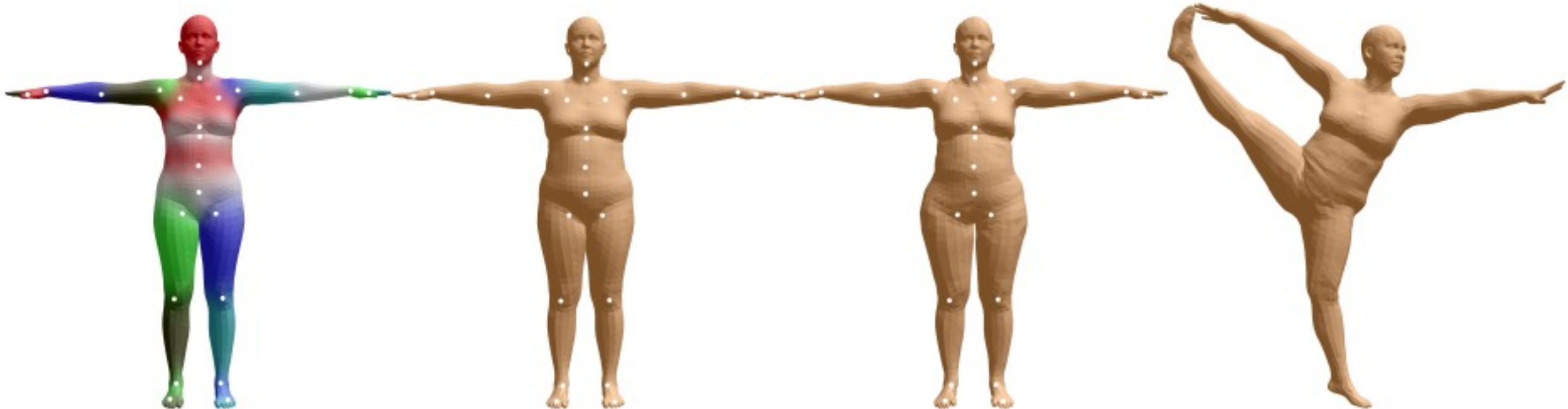
- Traditional methods just model the relationship between vertices and underlying skeleton structure.
- They may produce unrealistic deformations at joints.
- Need a realistic model representing human in different poses.



# SMPL Model

- Mesh:  $N = 6890$  vertices
- Bones:  $K = 23$  joints
- Pose BlendShapes: controlled by vector  $\theta$
- Shape BlendShapes: controlled by vector  $\beta$

# SMPL Model



(a)  $\bar{\mathbf{T}}, \mathbf{W}$

Template in T-pose

(b)  $\bar{\mathbf{T}} + B_S(\vec{\beta}), J(\vec{\beta})$

Shape Blendshapes added  
(Joints are regressed by  $J(\beta)$ )

(c)  $T_P(\vec{\beta}, \vec{\theta}) = \bar{\mathbf{T}} + B_S(\vec{\beta}) + B_P(\vec{\theta})$

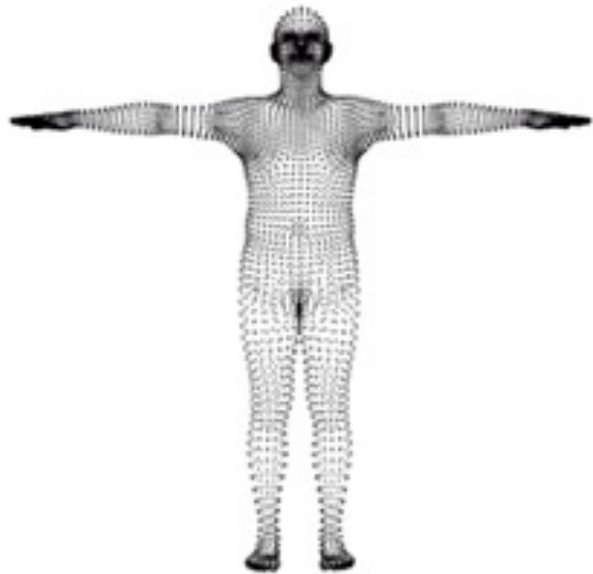
Shape Blendshapes are added

(d)  $W(T_P(\vec{\beta}, \vec{\theta}), J(\vec{\beta}), \vec{\theta}, \mathbf{W})$

Deform Mesh by  
Skinning Function



# SMPL Model



$N = 6,980$



$M(0,0)$



$M(0, \beta)$



$M(\theta, \beta)$

# SMPL - Functions

$$M(\vec{\beta}, \vec{\theta}) = W \left( T_P(\vec{\beta}, \vec{\theta}), J(\vec{\beta}), \vec{\theta}, \mathcal{W} \right)$$

$$W(\bar{\mathbf{T}}, \mathbf{J}, \vec{\theta}, \mathcal{W}) : \mathbb{R}^{3N \times 3K \times |\vec{\theta}| \times |\mathcal{W}|} \mapsto \mathbb{R}^{3N} \text{ (the standard linear blend skinning function)}$$

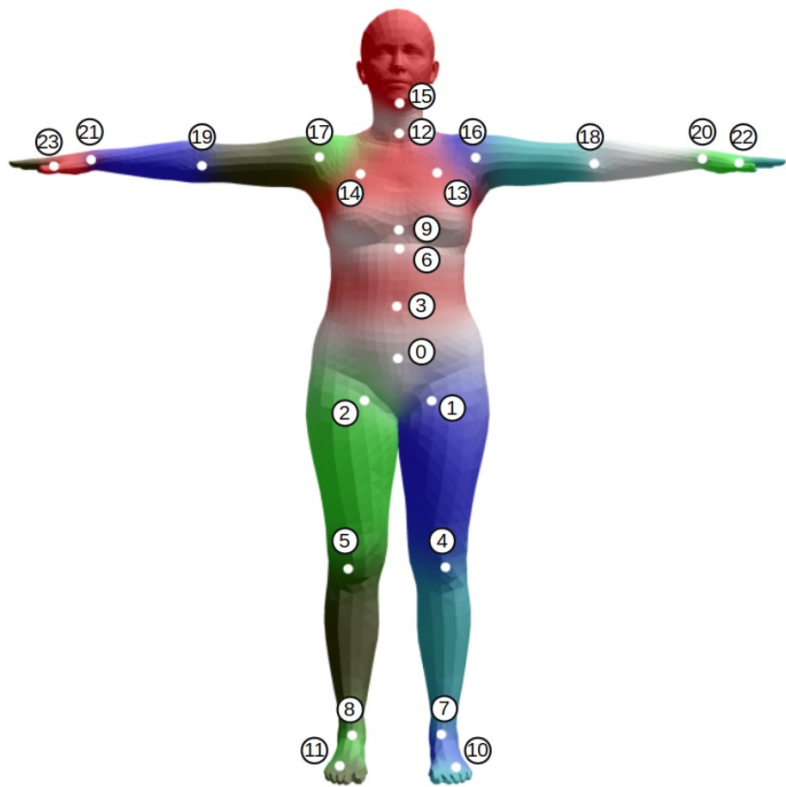
$$J(\vec{\beta}) : \mathbb{R}^{|\vec{\beta}|} \mapsto \mathbb{R}^{3K} : \text{a function to predict K joint locations ;}$$

$$T_P(\vec{\beta}, \vec{\theta}) = \bar{\mathbf{T}} + B_S(\vec{\beta}) + B_P(\vec{\theta})$$

$$B_S(\vec{\beta}) : \mathbb{R}^{|\vec{\beta}|} \mapsto \mathbb{R}^{3N} : \text{a blend shape function; input : shape parameters } \vec{\beta}; \text{output : a blend shape sculpting the subject identity}$$

$$B_P(\vec{\theta}) : \mathbb{R}^{|\vec{\theta}|} \mapsto \mathbb{R}^{3N} : \text{a pose-dependent blend shape function ; } \vec{\theta} : \text{a vector of pose parameters , accounts for the effects of posedependent deformations}$$

# SMPL – Joint Regressor $J(\beta)$



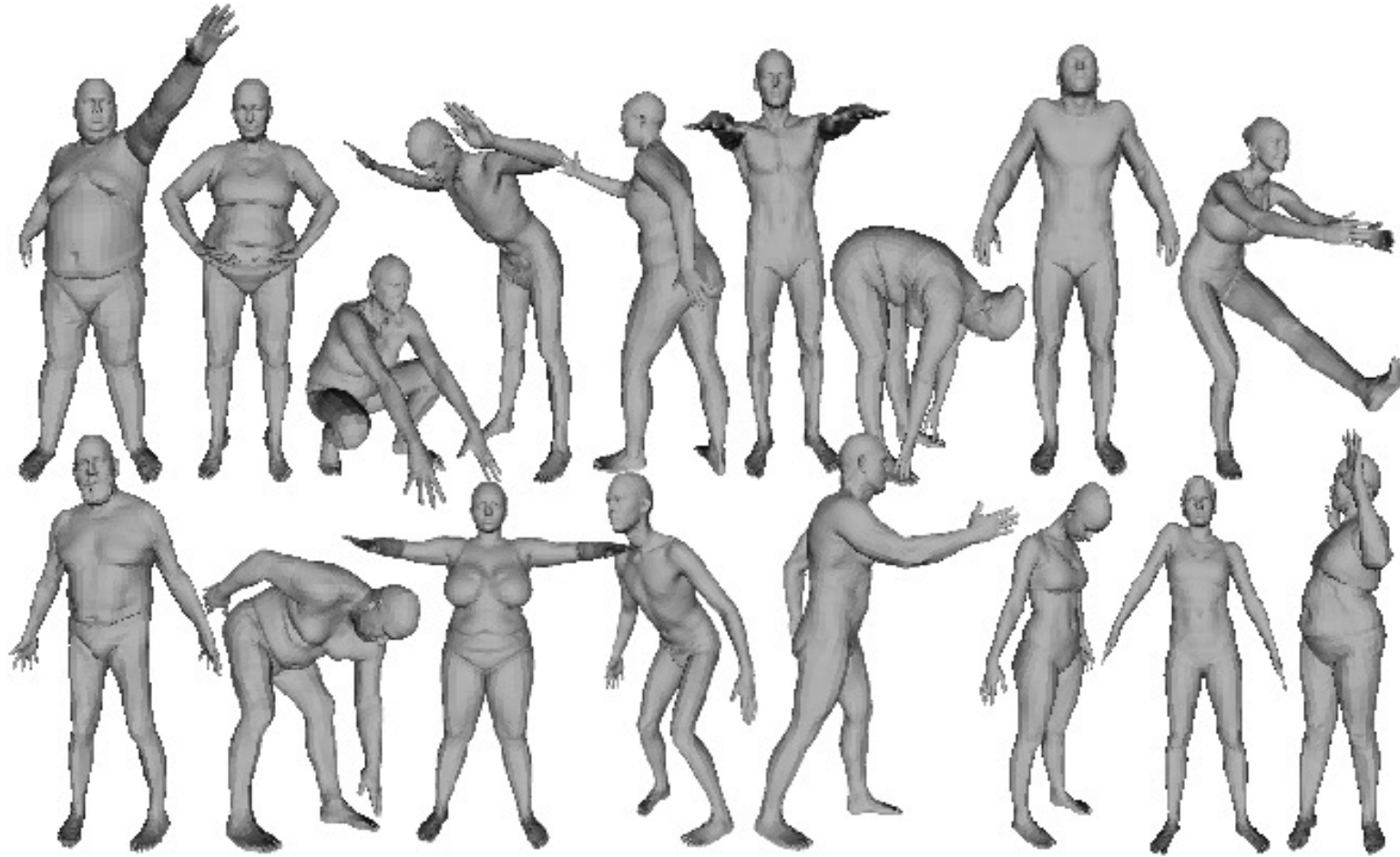
Initialization of Joints and Blend Weights



Joint Regression Function  $J(\beta)$



# SMPL





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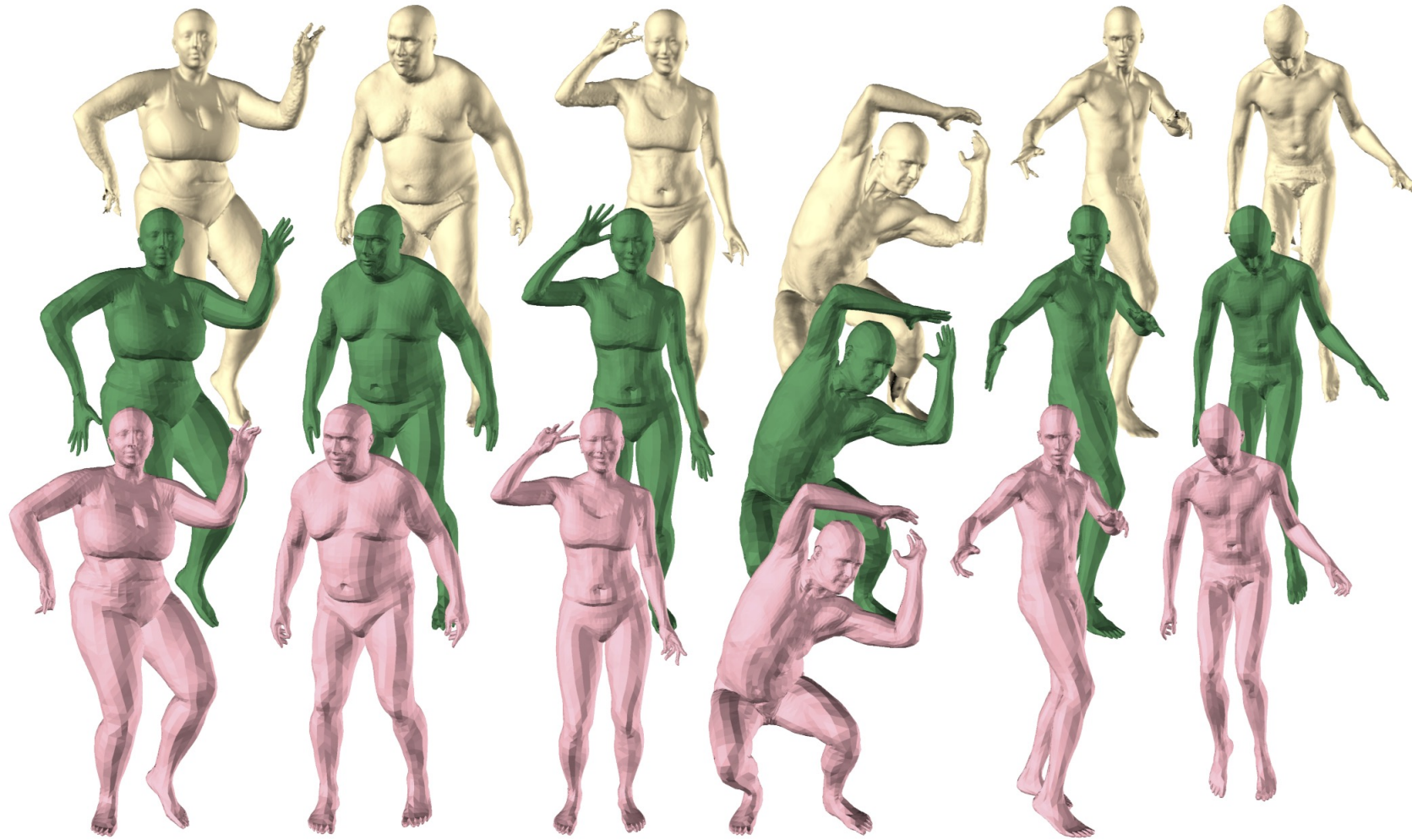
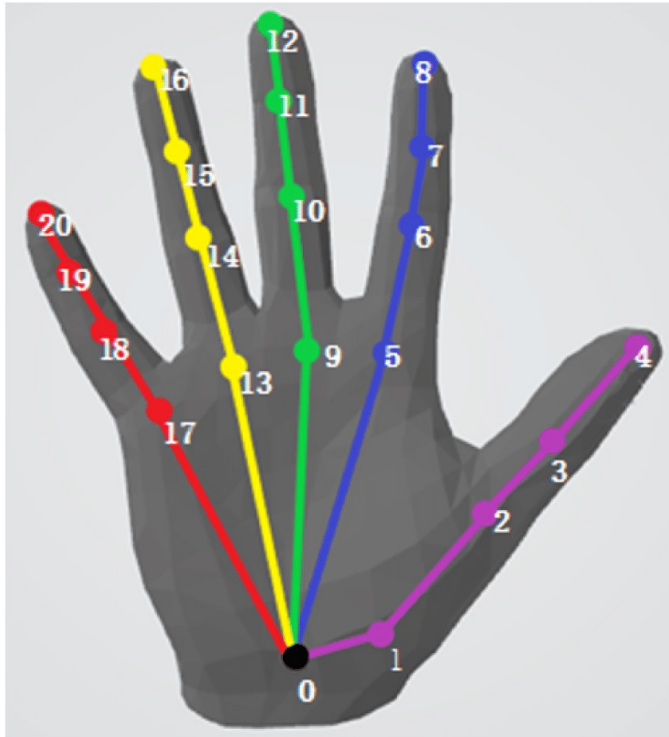
SMPL-H (MANO)

# MANO

- MANO: a hand Model with Articulated and Non-rigid deformations
  - Based on SMPL model
  - Compatible with the full body SMPL model
- Steps:
  - Make the hand template: take the hand vertices from the SMPL model
  - Similar as SMPL, define joints, shape blendshapes, pose blendshapes for hand model
    - Bones:  $K = 15$  joints + global orientation(wrist)
- Learn model parameters: (learn from right hand, and do a mirror for creating left hand)
  - The mean hand template in T-pose:  $T$
  - Shape Blendshapes:  $\beta$
  - Pose Blendshapes:  $\theta$
  - Joint Locations:  $J(\beta)$
  - Blending Weights:  $\mathcal{W}$



# SMPL+H





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SMPL-X



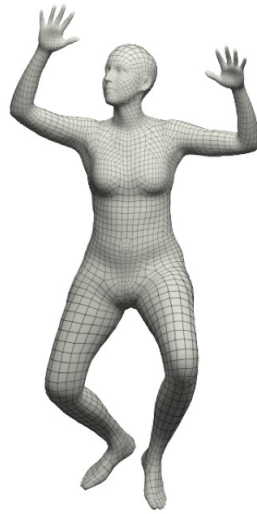
# SMPL-X

- SMPL-X: a more expressive human model
  - Realistic body: SMPL
  - Articulated hands: MANO
  - Expressive face
- Follows the formulation of SMPL

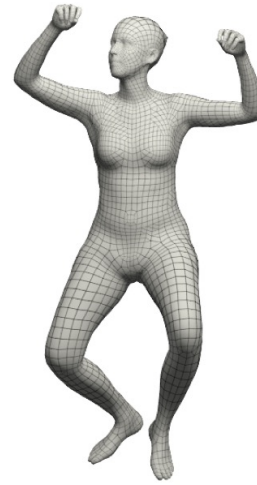
$$M(\beta, \theta, \psi) = W(T_p(\beta, \theta, \psi), J(\beta), \theta, \mathcal{W}) \in \mathbb{R}^{10475 \times 3}$$

$$T_P(\beta, \theta, \psi) = \bar{T} + B_S(\beta; \mathcal{S}) + B_E(\psi; \mathcal{E}) + B_P(\theta; \mathcal{P})$$

- Body shape:  $\beta$
- Facial expression:  $\psi$
- Pose:  $\theta = [\theta_b, \theta_h, \theta_f]$ 
  - $\theta_b$ : body pose
  - $\theta_h$ : hand pose
  - $\theta_f$ : jaw pose



SMPL



SMPL+H



SMPL-X



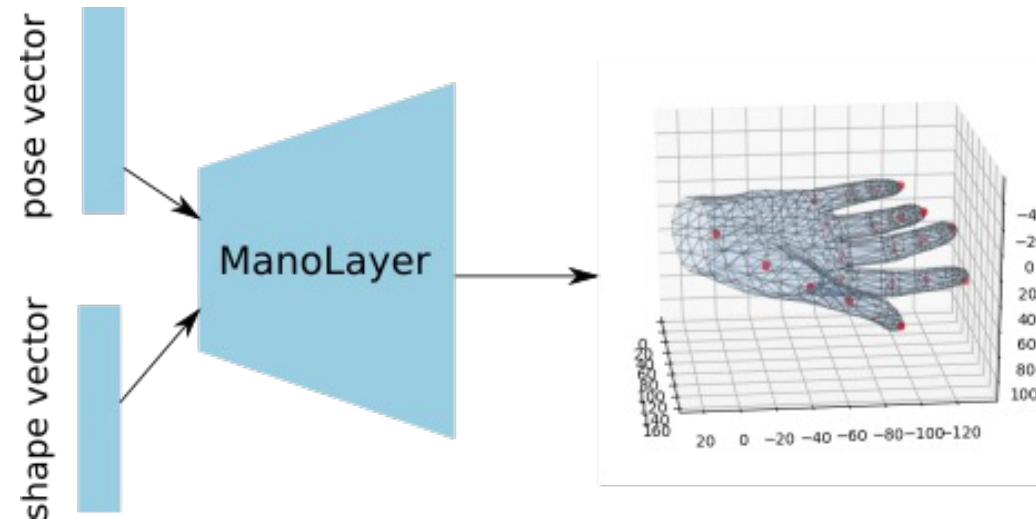


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# MANO Layer for PyTorch

# MANO Layer for PyTorch (manophth)

- manophth
  - ManoLayer takes **batched** hand pose and shape vectors and outputs corresponding hand joints and vertices.



# Resources

- Websites
  - [SMPL](#)
  - [SMPL-H](#)
  - [SMPL-X](#)
- manopth Github
  - [manopth](#)