

# Grounding natural language to 3D

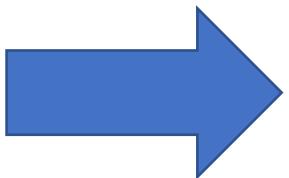
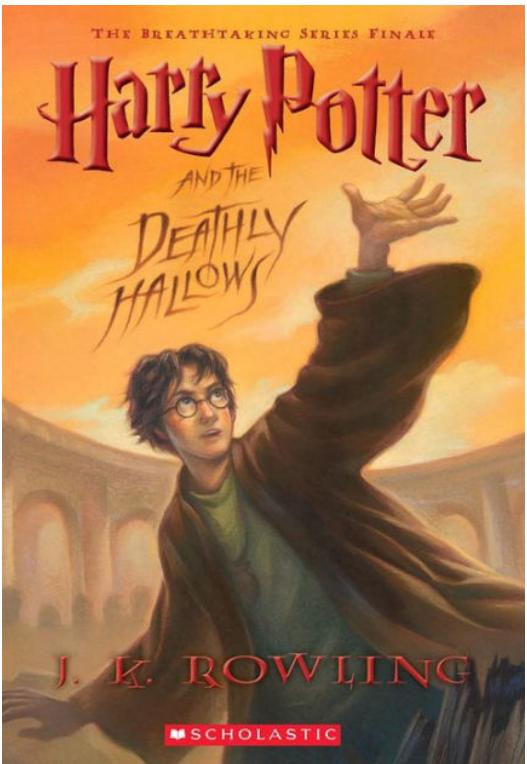
Angel Xuan Chang

2020-07-09

ALVR Workshop at ACL 2020



# Wouldn't it be great?



# WordsEye (Coyne and Sproat SIGGRAPH 2001)

An Automatic Text-to-Scene Conversion System

....the desk is against the back wall. the chair is in front of the desk. it is facing north.  
the computer is on the desk. a lamp is one foot to the left of the desk. a small pink trashcan is two feet to the right of the desk. a red stapler is one foot to the right of the computer.



**wordseye™**  
type a picture

<https://www.wordseye.com/>

# WordsEye (Coyne and Sproat SIGGRAPH 2001)

An Automatic Text-to-Scene Conversion System

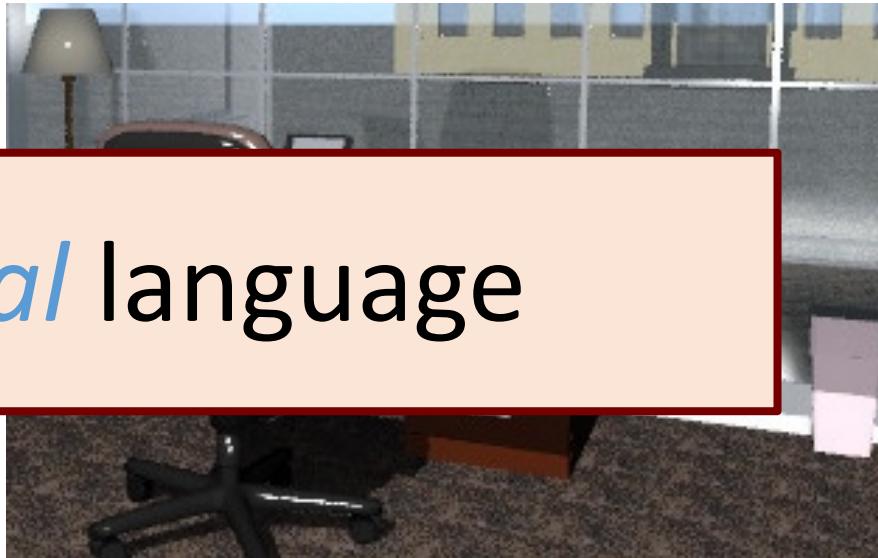
....the desk is against the back wall. the chair is **in front of** the desk. it is **facing north**.

the com

lamp is **on**  
the desk

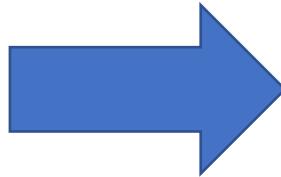
is **two feet to the right** of the desk. a red stapler is **one foot to the right** of the computer.

NOT *natural* language



# How do we handle natural, underspecified language?

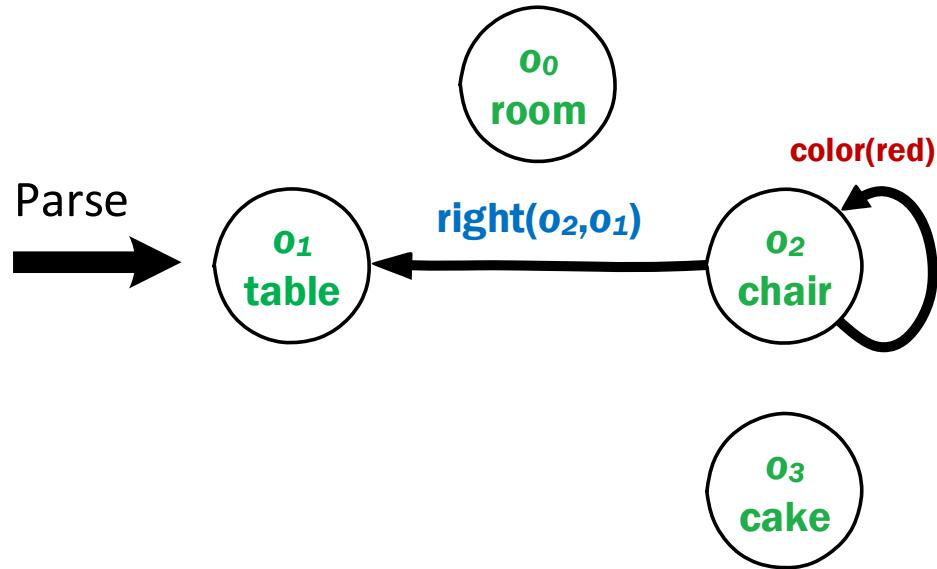
“Living room  
with a red  
couch”



- learn **common sense priors** on how objects are arranged in the real world
- view scene description as **constraints** on the scene

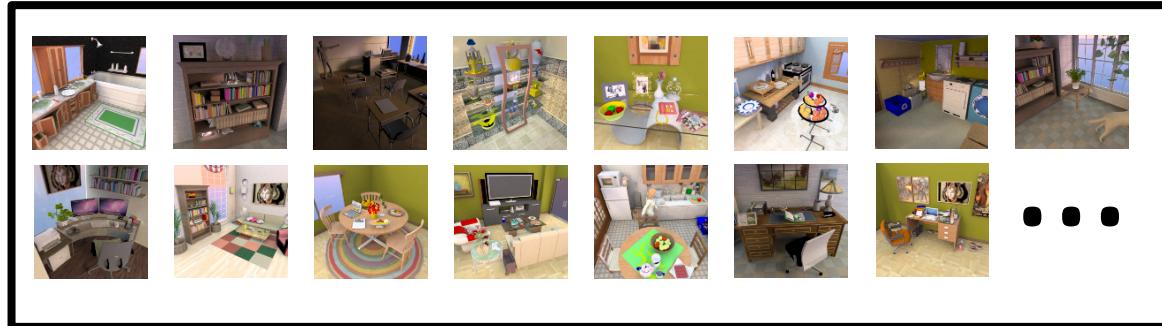
# Language as constraint for 3D scene graphs

"There is a **room** with  
a **table** and a **cake**.  
There is a **red chair** to  
the **right** of the **table**."



objects, attributes and relations

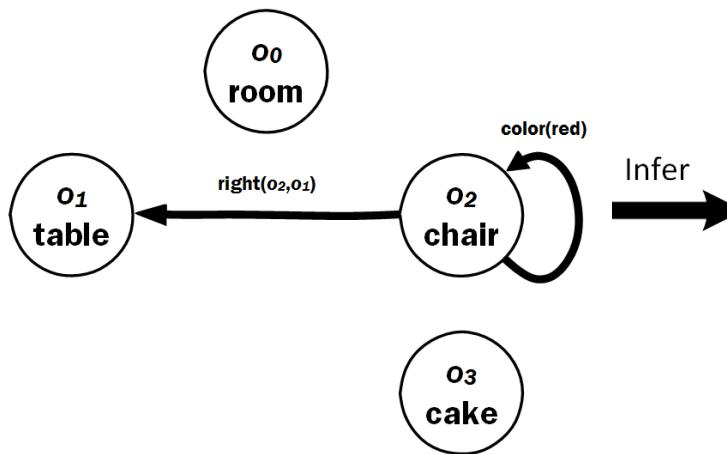
## Scene Database



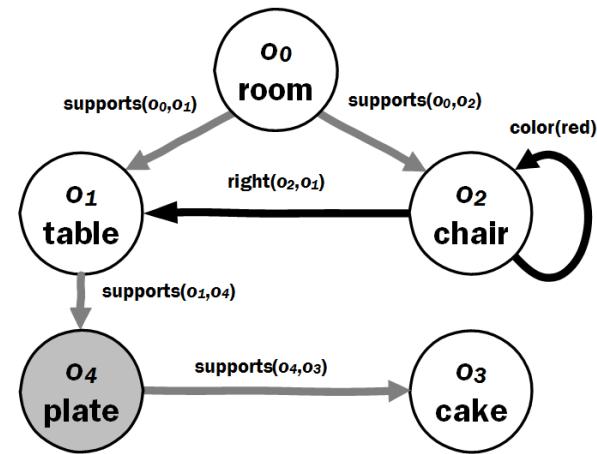
## 3D Models



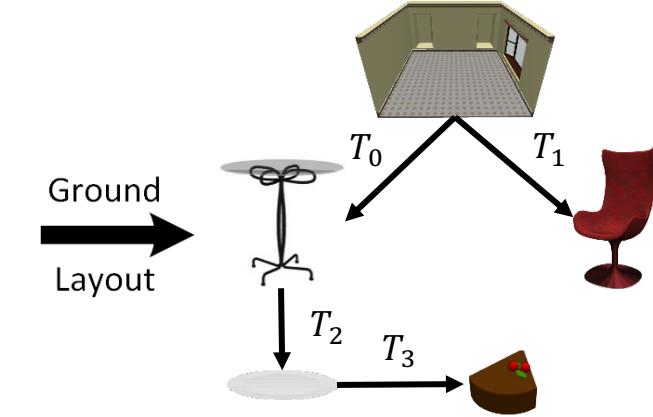
a) Explicit Constraints



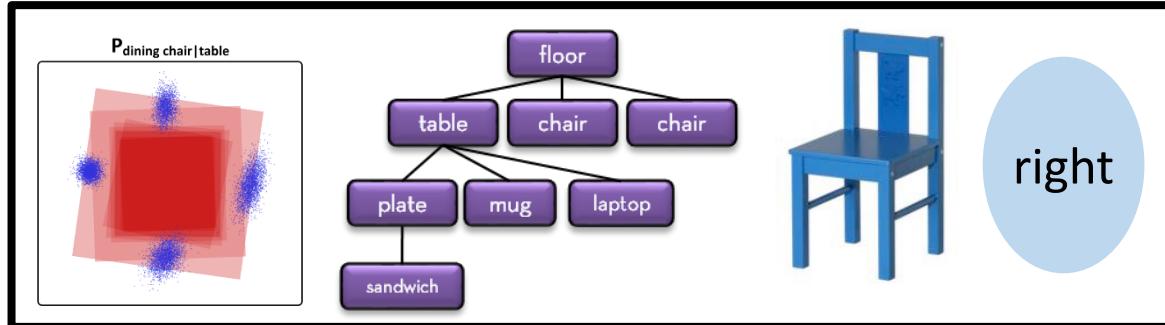
b) Inferred Scene Template



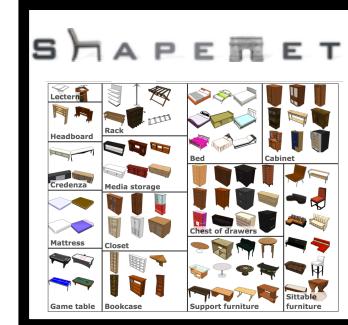
c) Geometric Scene



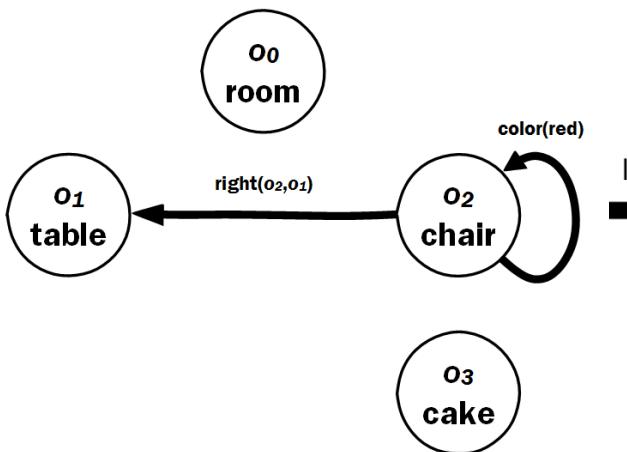
# Spatial Knowledge Base



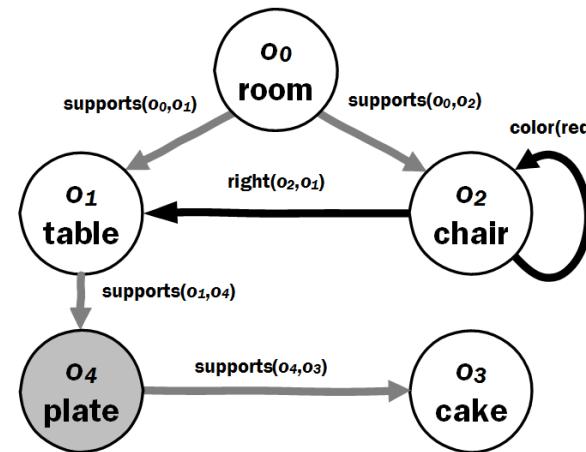
# 3D Models



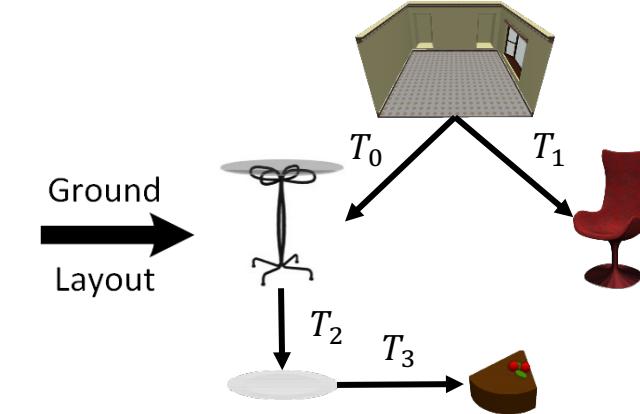
a) Explicit Constraints



b) Inferred Scene Template



c) Geometric Scene

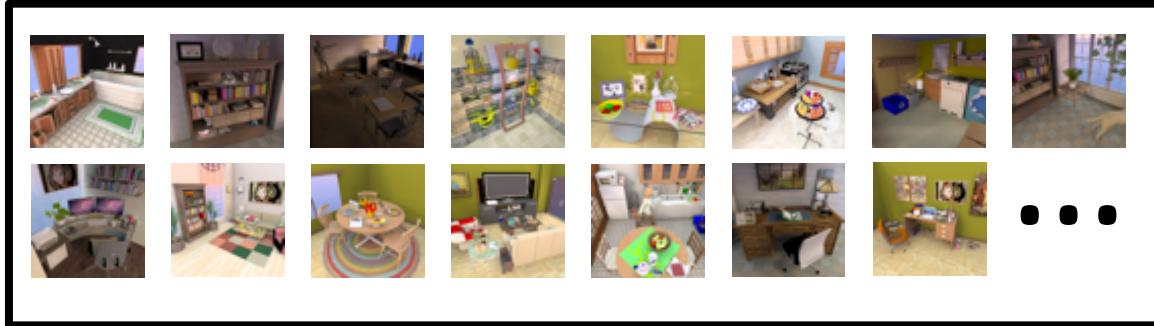


What is some spatial “common sense”  
that we have captured?

# Scene database

133 scenes using  
2455 models

Stanford Scene Database



3 objects



Average of  
26 objects

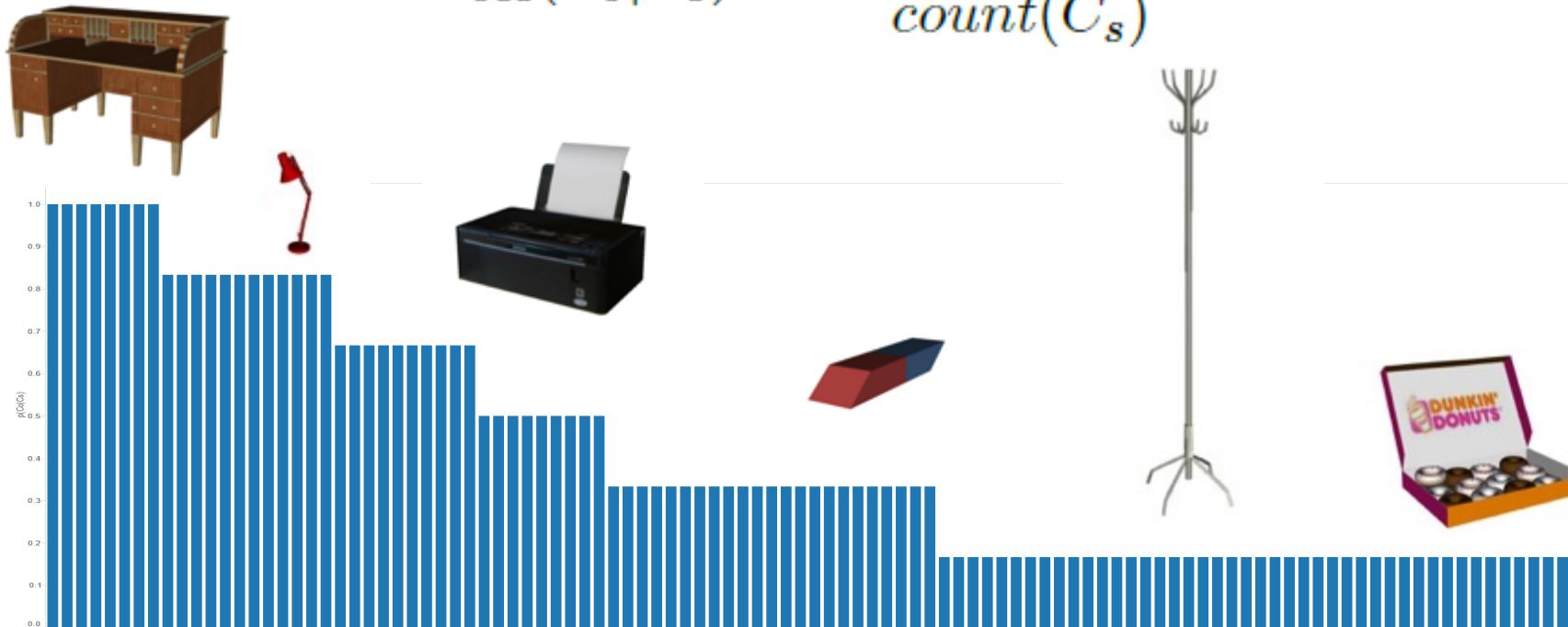


# Object occurrences

What goes in an office?

Probability that object of category  $C_o$  is found in scene type  $C_s$

$$P_{occ}(C_o|C_s) = \frac{count(C_o \text{ in } C_s)}{count(C_s)}$$

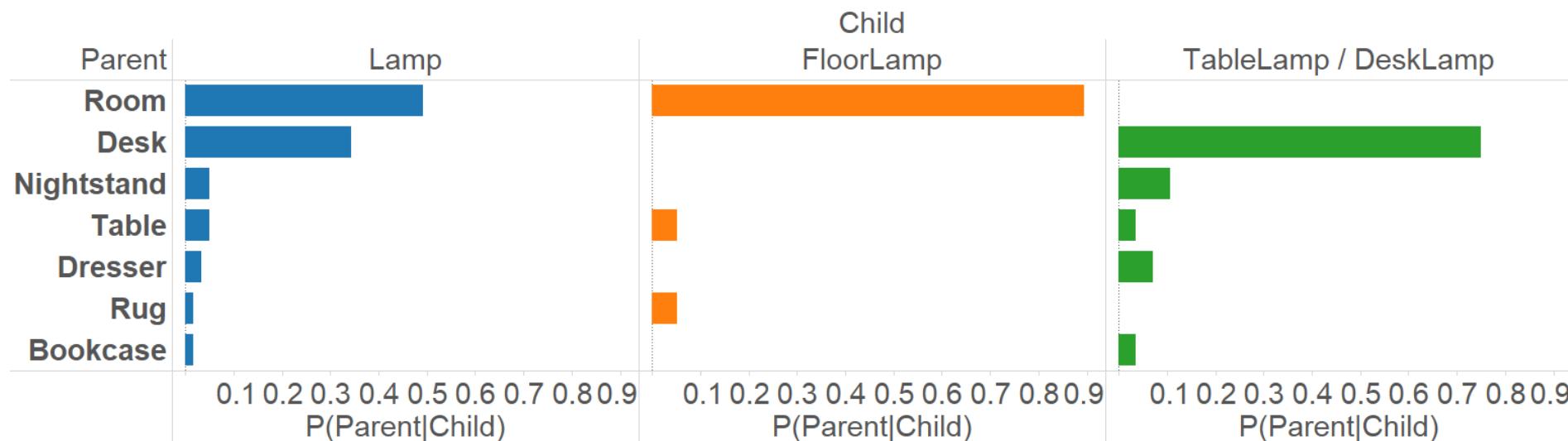


# Support hierarchy

What goes on top of what?

Probability that parent category  $C_p$  supports child category  $C_c$

$$P_{support}(C_p|C_c) = \frac{count(C_c \text{ on } C_p)}{count(C_c)}$$

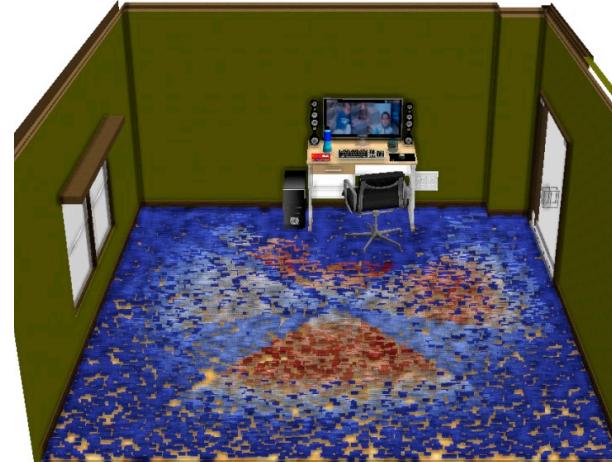


# Semantic queries – Where can X go?

poster



rug



floor lamp



hat



# Datasets for semantic understanding in 3D

3D scenes



ScanNet

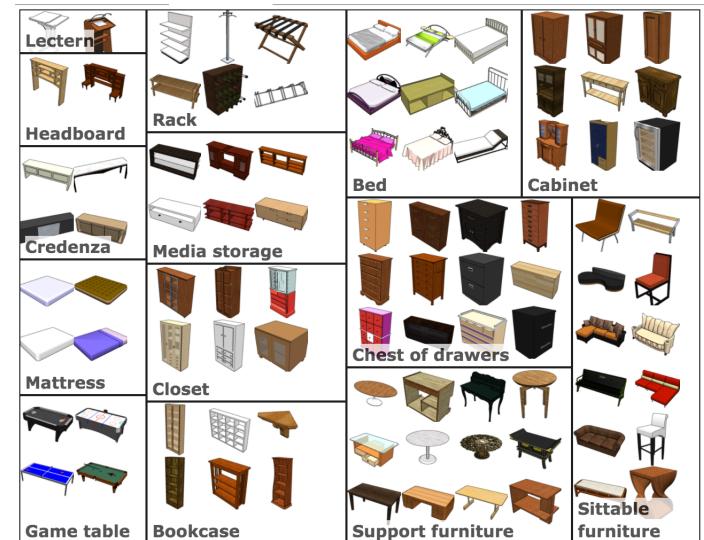
[Dai et al. 2017]



Matterport3D

[Chang et al. 2017]

3D shapes



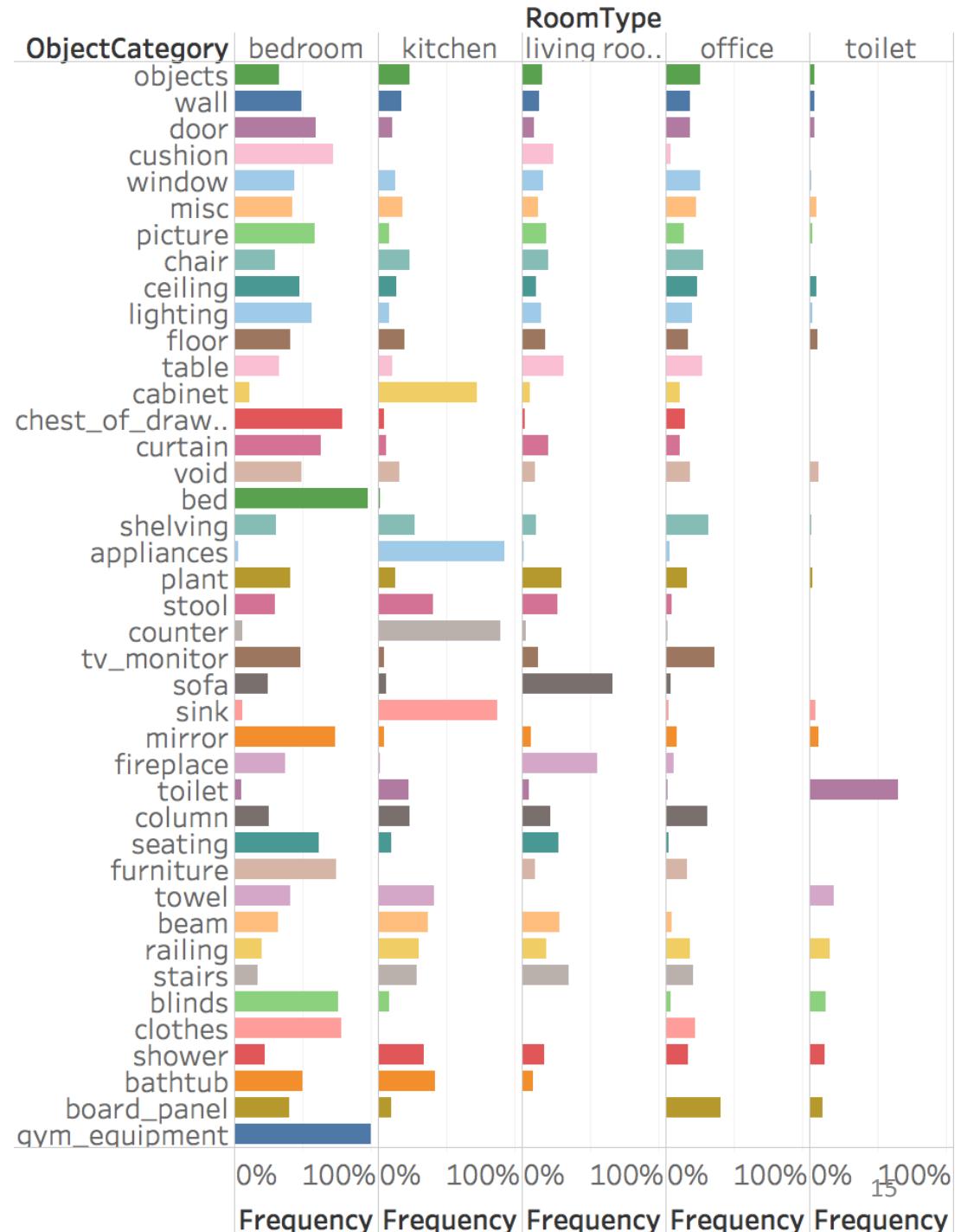
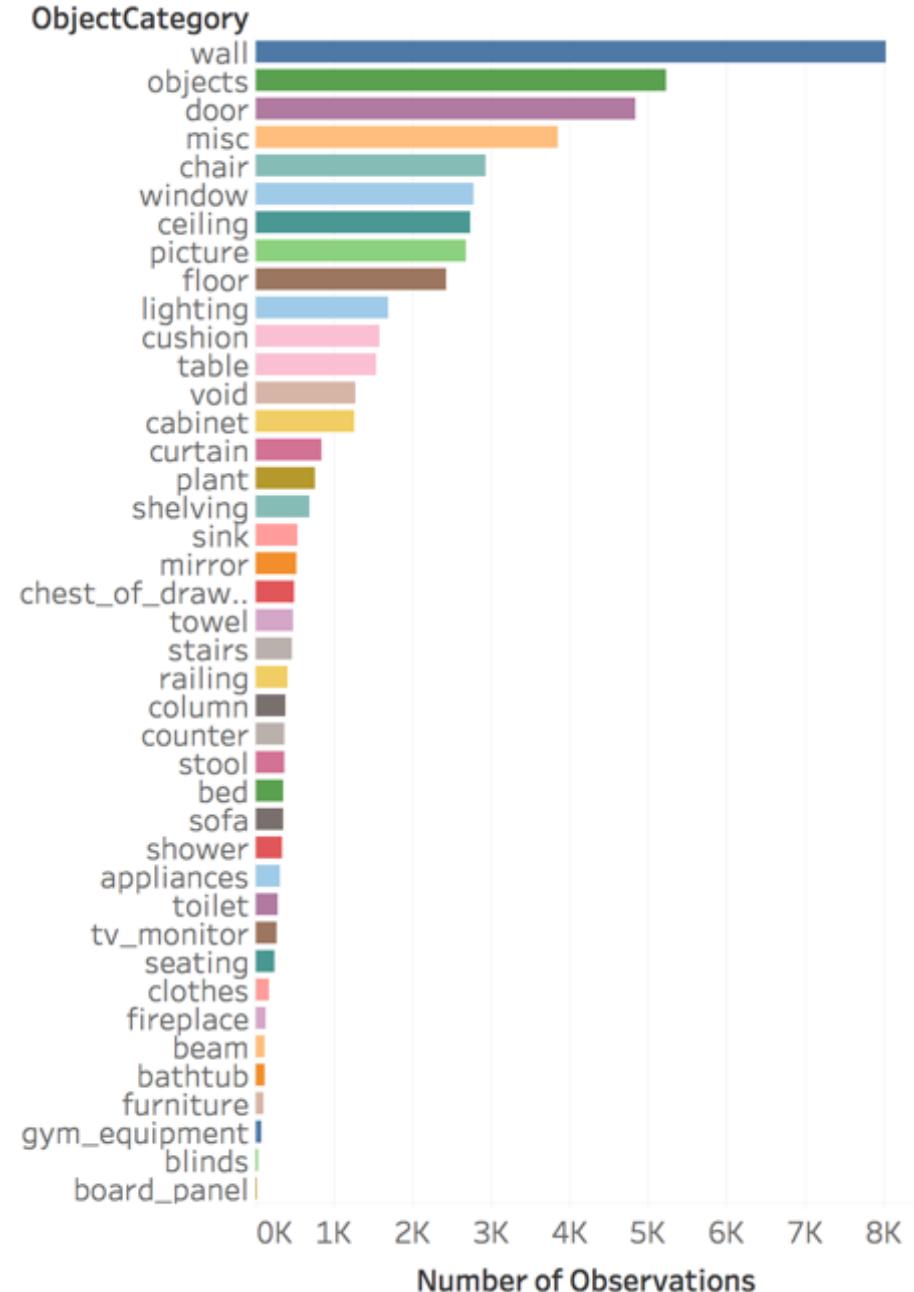
ShapeNet

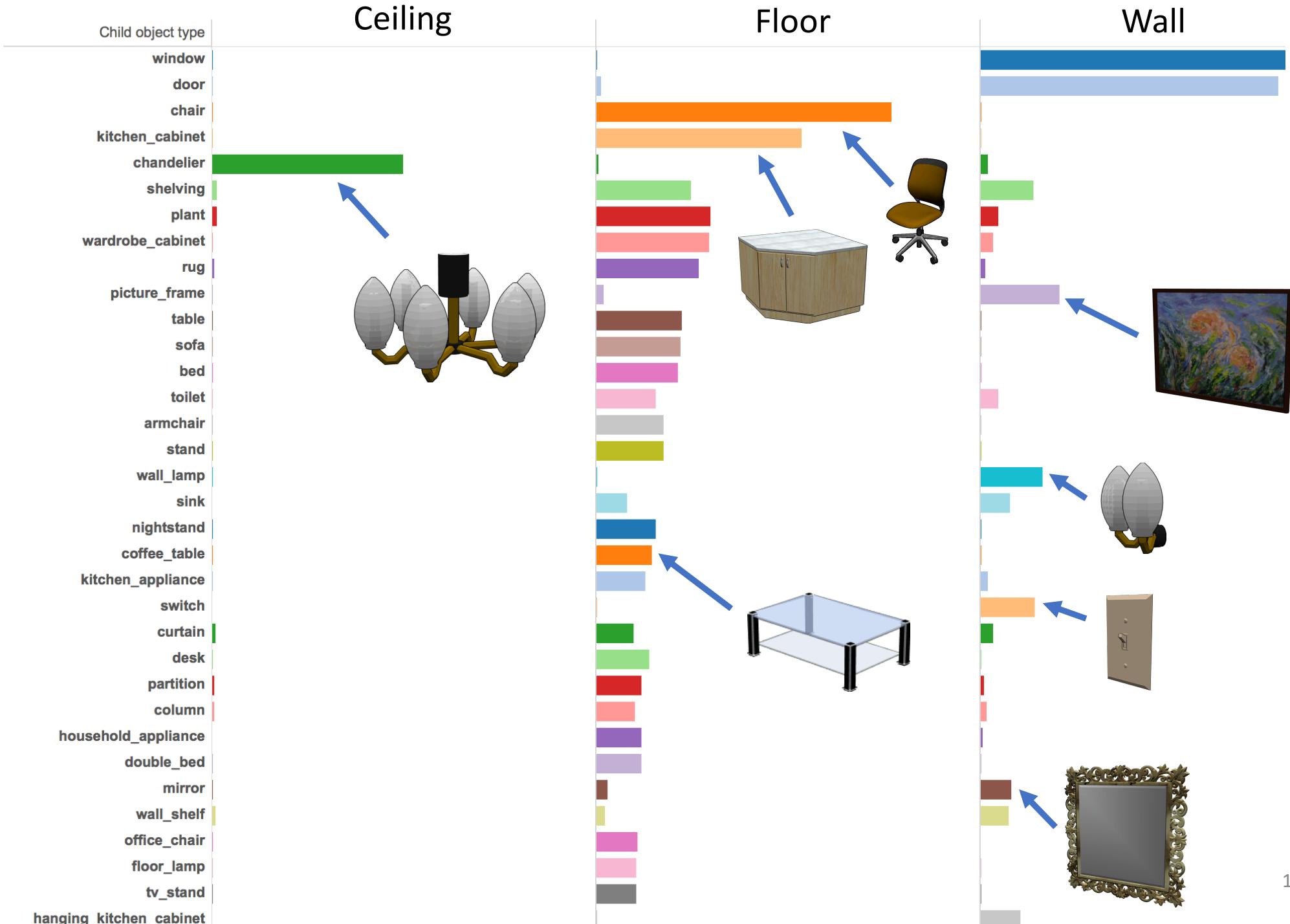
[Chang et al. 2015]

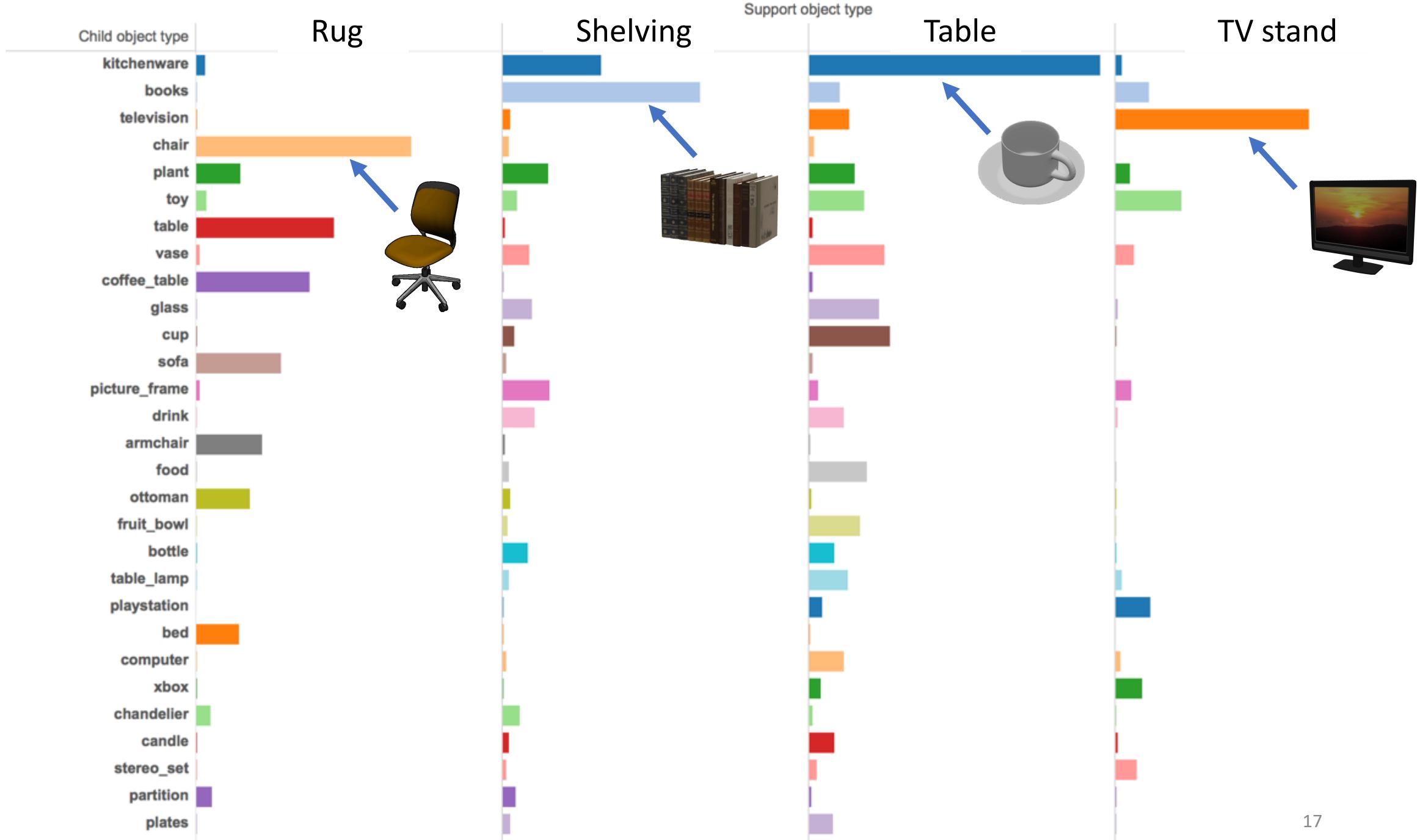


Stanford  
University

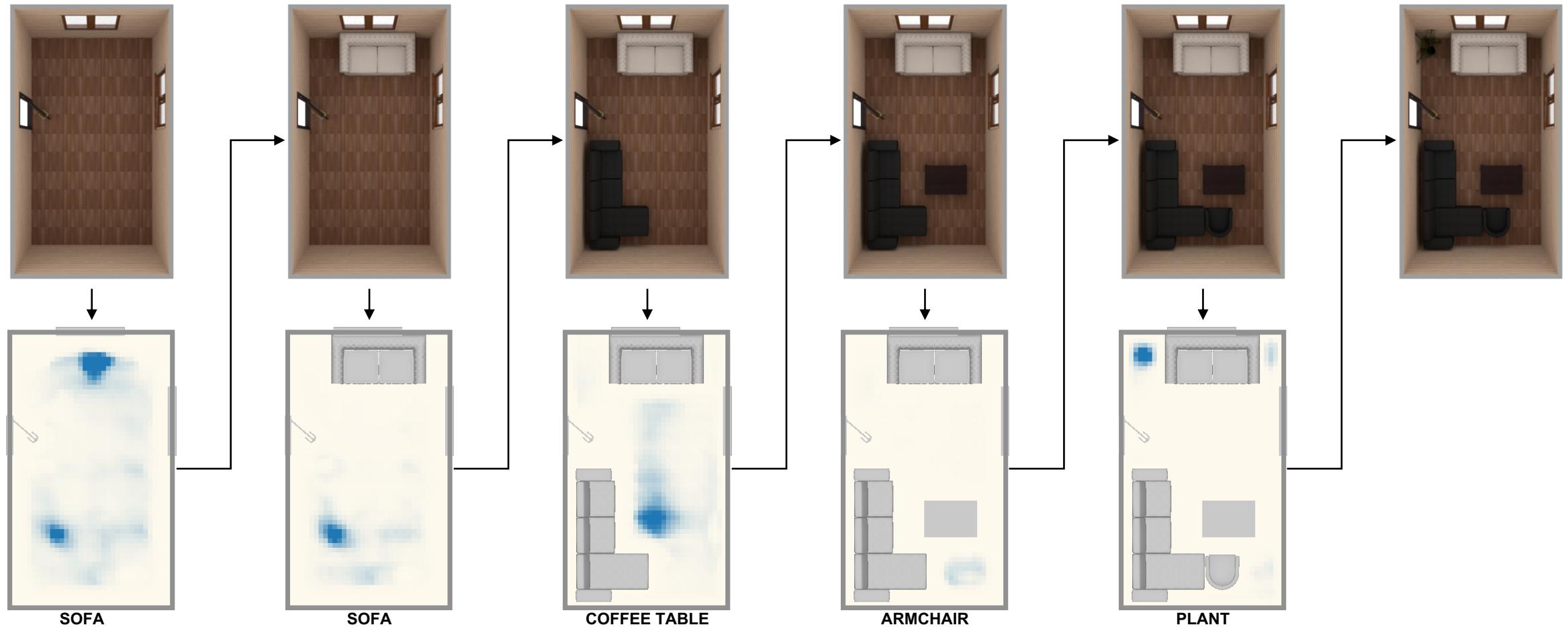
# Matterport3D object statistics







# What goes in a living room and where?

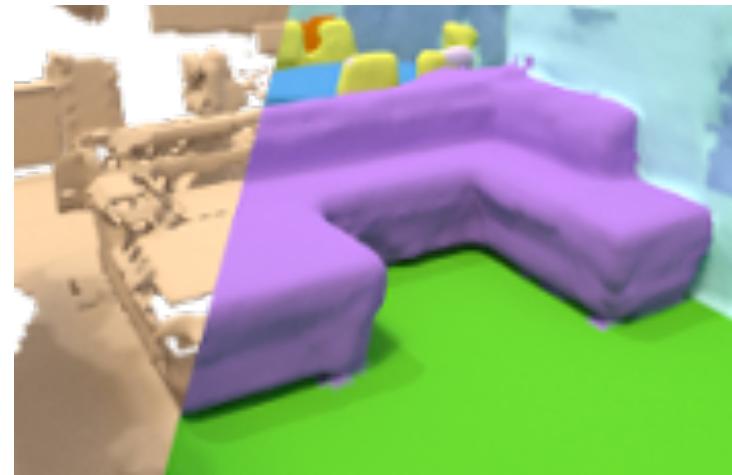


Deep Convolutional Priors for Scene Synthesis [Wang et al, 2018]

# Progress in 3D deep learning



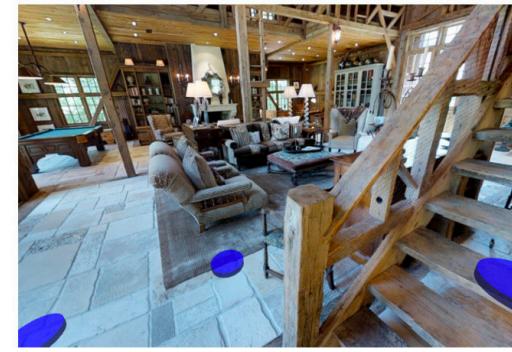
4D Spatio-Temporal ConvNets  
[Choy et al. 2019]



ScanComplete  
[Dai et al. 2018]



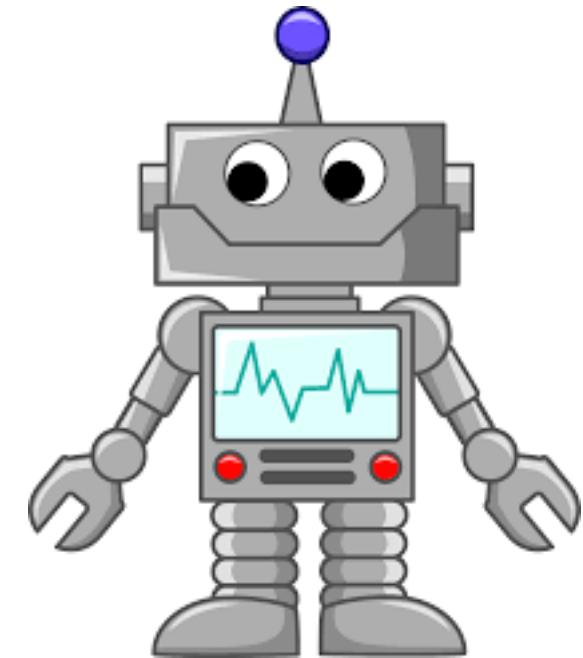
MASC  
[Liu and Furukawa 2019]



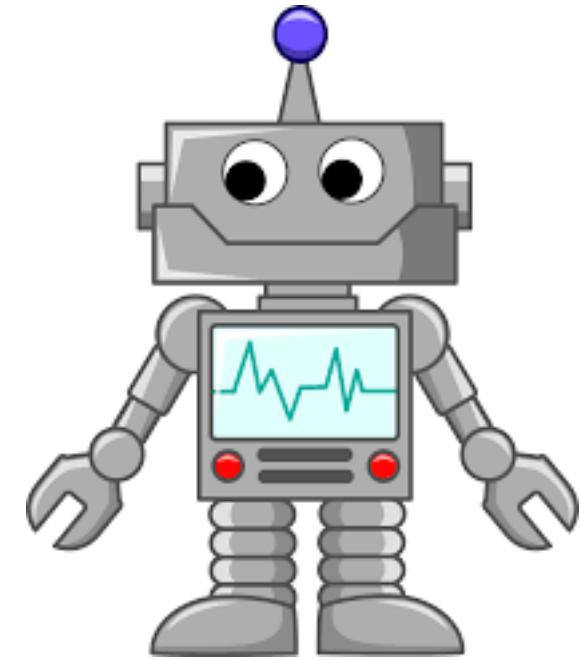
Instruction: Head upstairs and walk past the piano through an archway directly in front. Turn right when the hallway ends at pictures and table. Wait by the moose antlers hanging on the wall.  
Vision-Language Navigation  
[Anderson et al. 2018]

What can we do with  
language in 3D scenes?

# Bring me my coffee cup

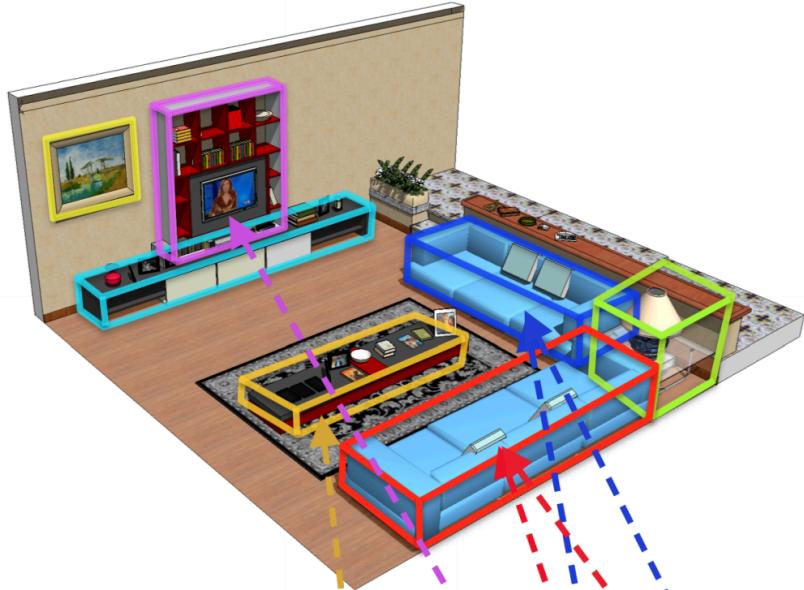


I left my notebook on couch,  
can you get it for me?



# Fundamental task: identifying the object

REVERIE: Workshop Challenge



Living room with two blue sofas next to each other and a table in front of them. By the back wall is a television stand.

What are you talking about?  
Text-to-Image Coreference,  
Kong et al., CVPR 2014



Instruction: Bring me the bottom picture that is next to the top of stairs on level one.

REVERIE: Remote Embodied Visual Referring Expression in Real Indoor Environments  
Qi et al., CVPR 2020

# ScanRefer: 3D Object Localization in RGB-D Scans using Natural Language



Zhenyu (Dave) Chen<sup>1</sup>, Angel Chang<sup>2</sup>, Matthias Niessner<sup>1</sup>

(to appear ECCV 2020)



<sup>1</sup>



<sup>2</sup>



SIMON FRASER  
UNIVERSITY

# Task

Input

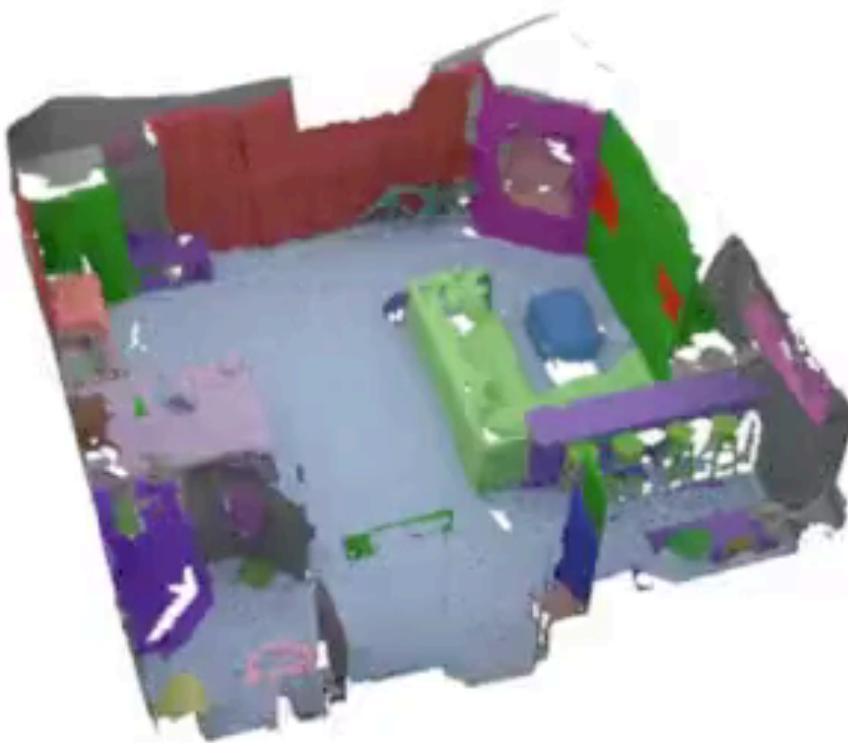


Goal



A black chair in the corner. It  
is next to a table.

# 3D Scene



# Dataset

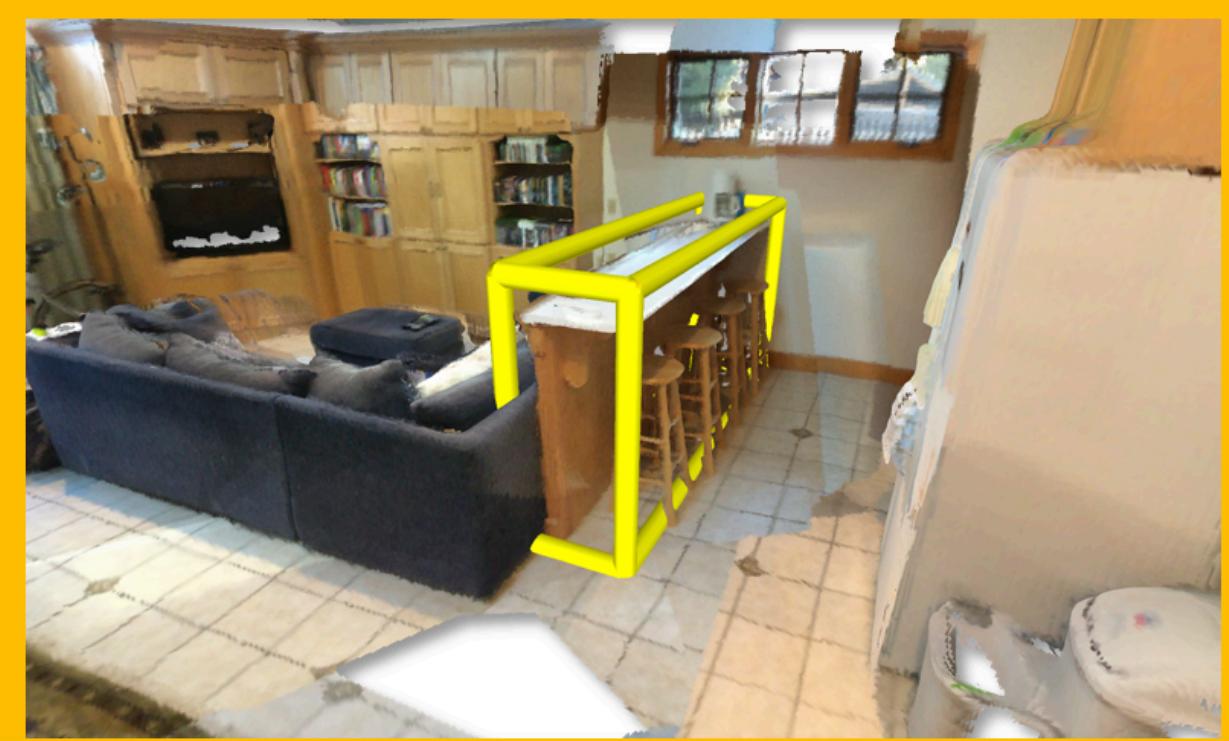
Collect  
descriptions  
for objects



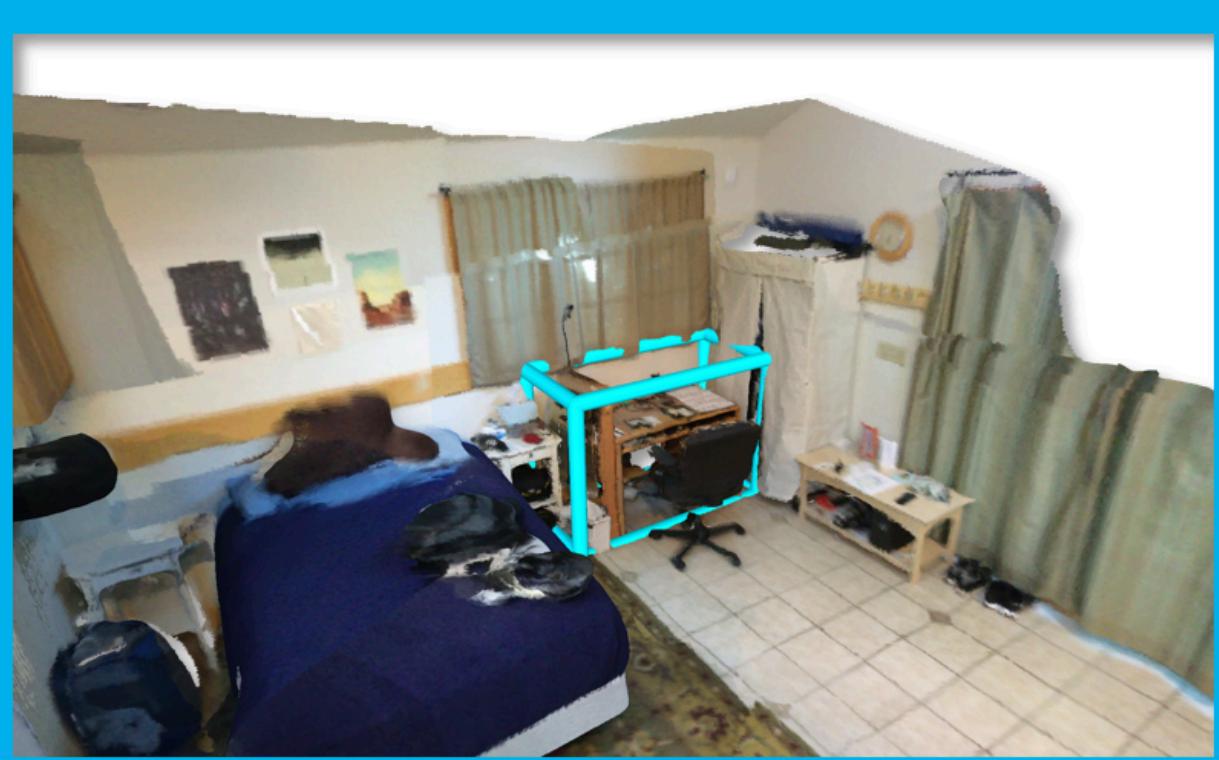


It is a dark blue couch in the center of this room.

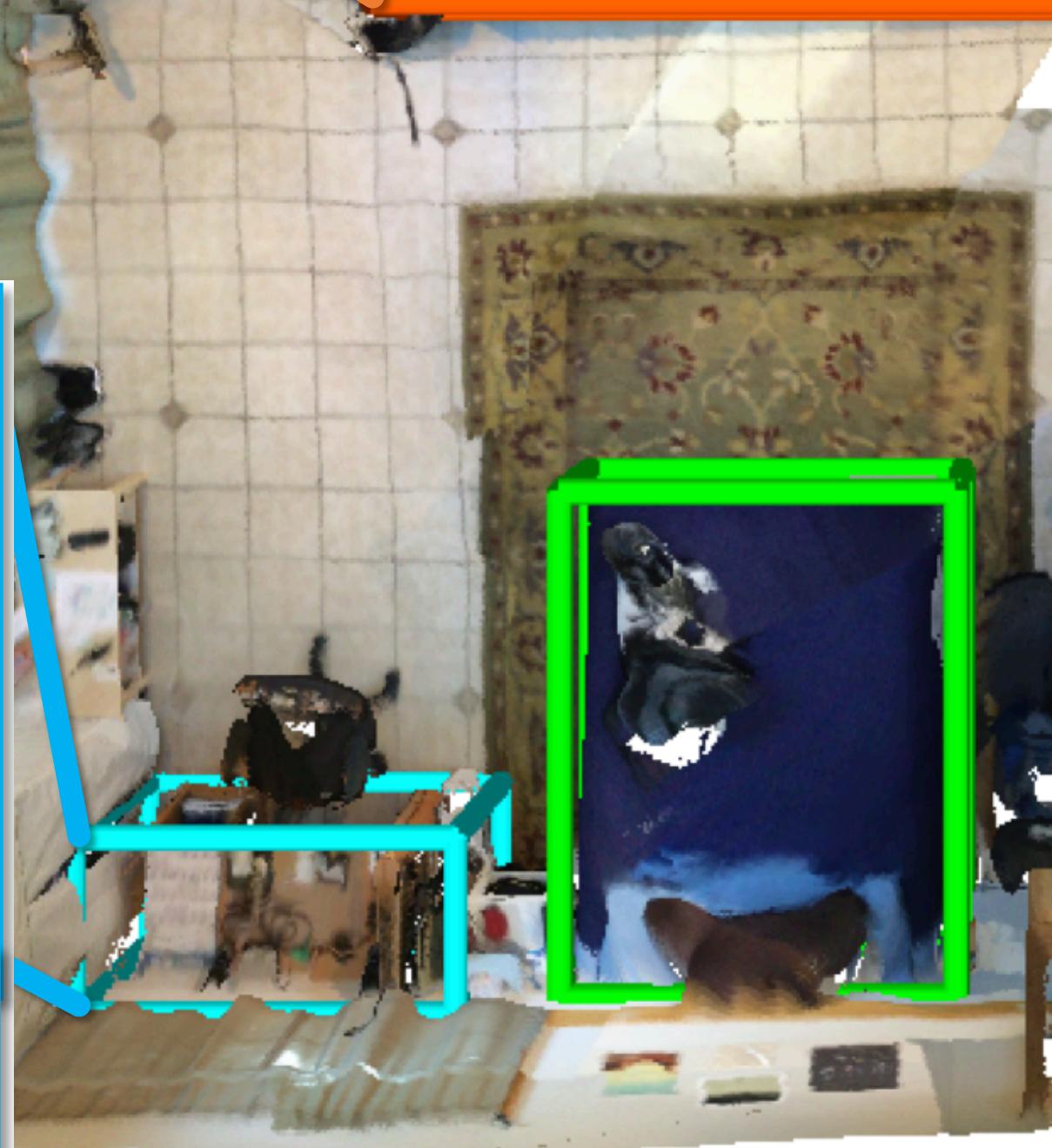


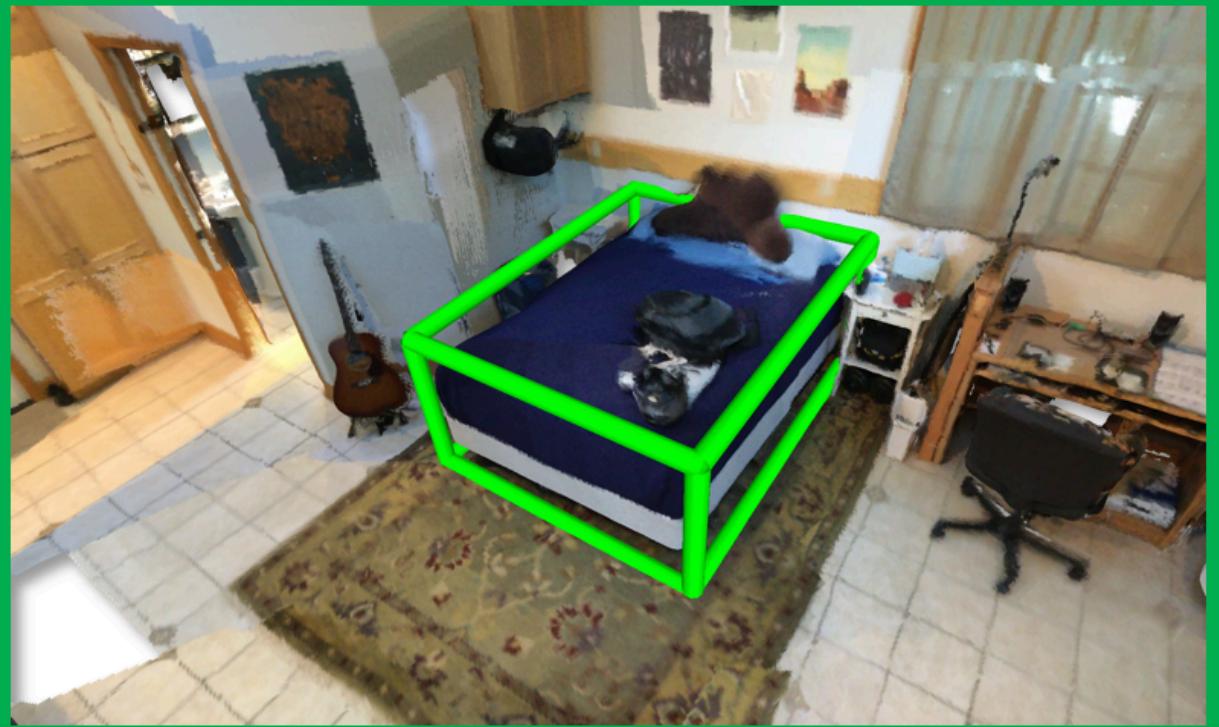


This is a long bar table behind  
stools.



There is a brown wooden desk in the corner of this room.



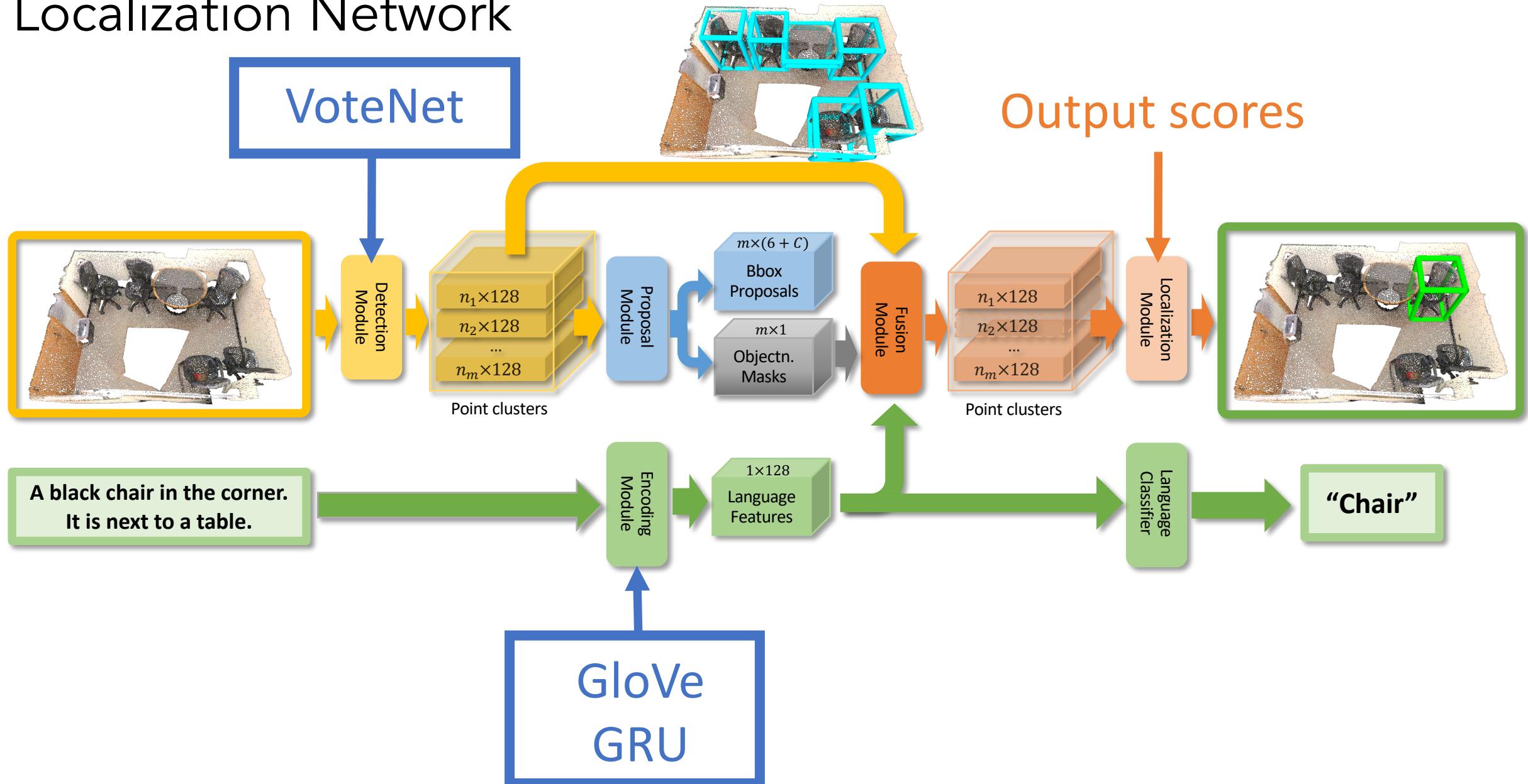


It is a dark blue couch in the center of this room.

703 scenes  
9,976 objects  
~5 descriptions per object

49,006 descriptions

# Localization Network



# Training

Overall Loss

$$\mathcal{L} = \alpha \mathcal{L}_{\text{loc}} + \beta \mathcal{L}_{\text{det}} + \gamma \mathcal{L}_{\text{cls}}$$

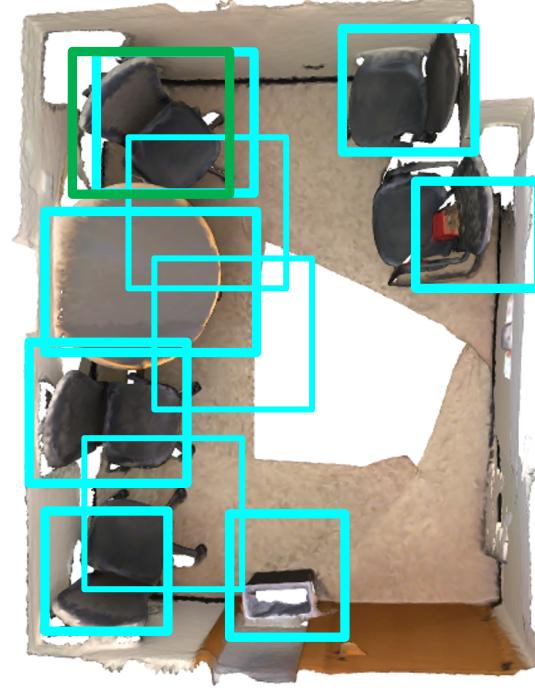
Localization Loss

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{loc}} = - \sum_{i=1}^M [w_{\text{neg}}(1 - t_i) \log(1 - s_i) + w_{\text{pos}}t_i \log(s_i)]$$

Object Detection Loss

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{det}} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{vote-reg}} + 0.5 \mathcal{L}_{\text{objn-cls}} + \mathcal{L}_{\text{box}} + 0.1 \mathcal{L}_{\text{sem-cls}}$$

Proposals    Ground truth



Select proposal with highest IoU with ground truth box as target

Can we successfully localize objects  
using natural language in 3D?

# Baseline methods

## Semantic segmentation + language features

- based on PointNet++ [Qi et al, NIPS 2017]
- no notion of object instances

**PointRefNet**

## Object detection network + random

- based on deep 3D hough voting [Qi et al, ICCV 2019]
- predicted object categories
- select one at random that matches category

**VoteNetRand**

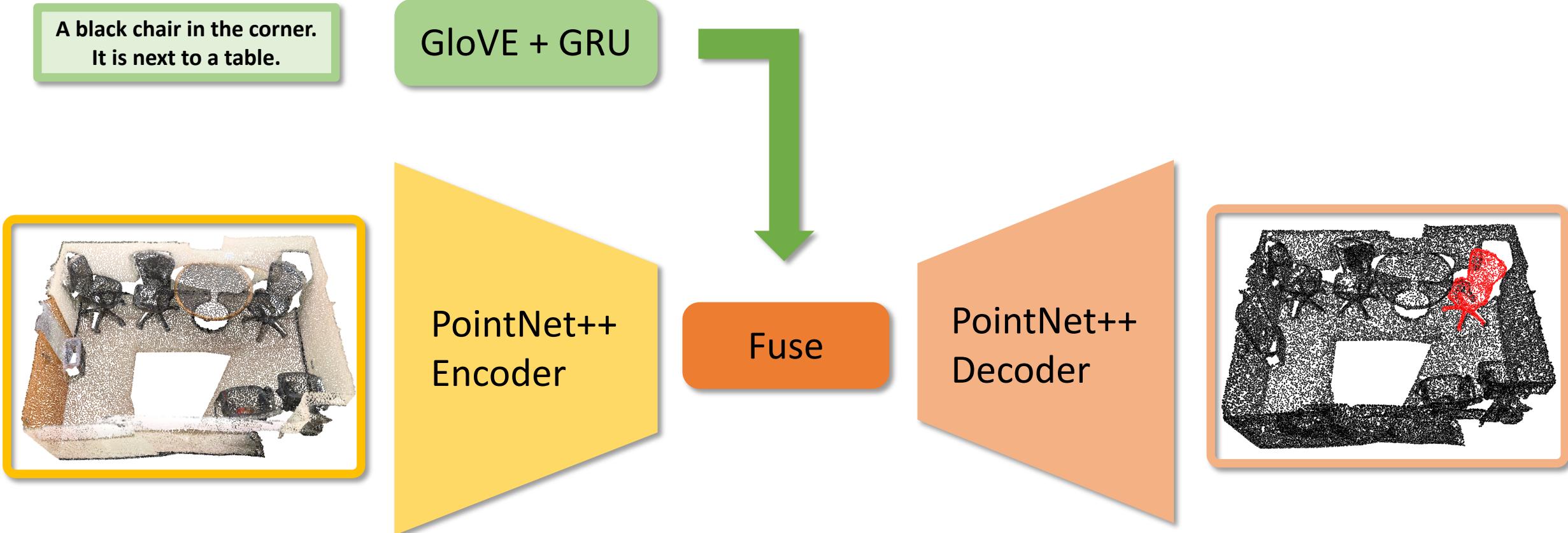
## 2D referring expression baselines

- SCRC based on [Hu et al, CVPR 2016]
- One stage based on [Yang et al, CVPR 2019]

Best prediction from several views back projected into 3D

**2D Projection**

# Baselines: PointRefNet



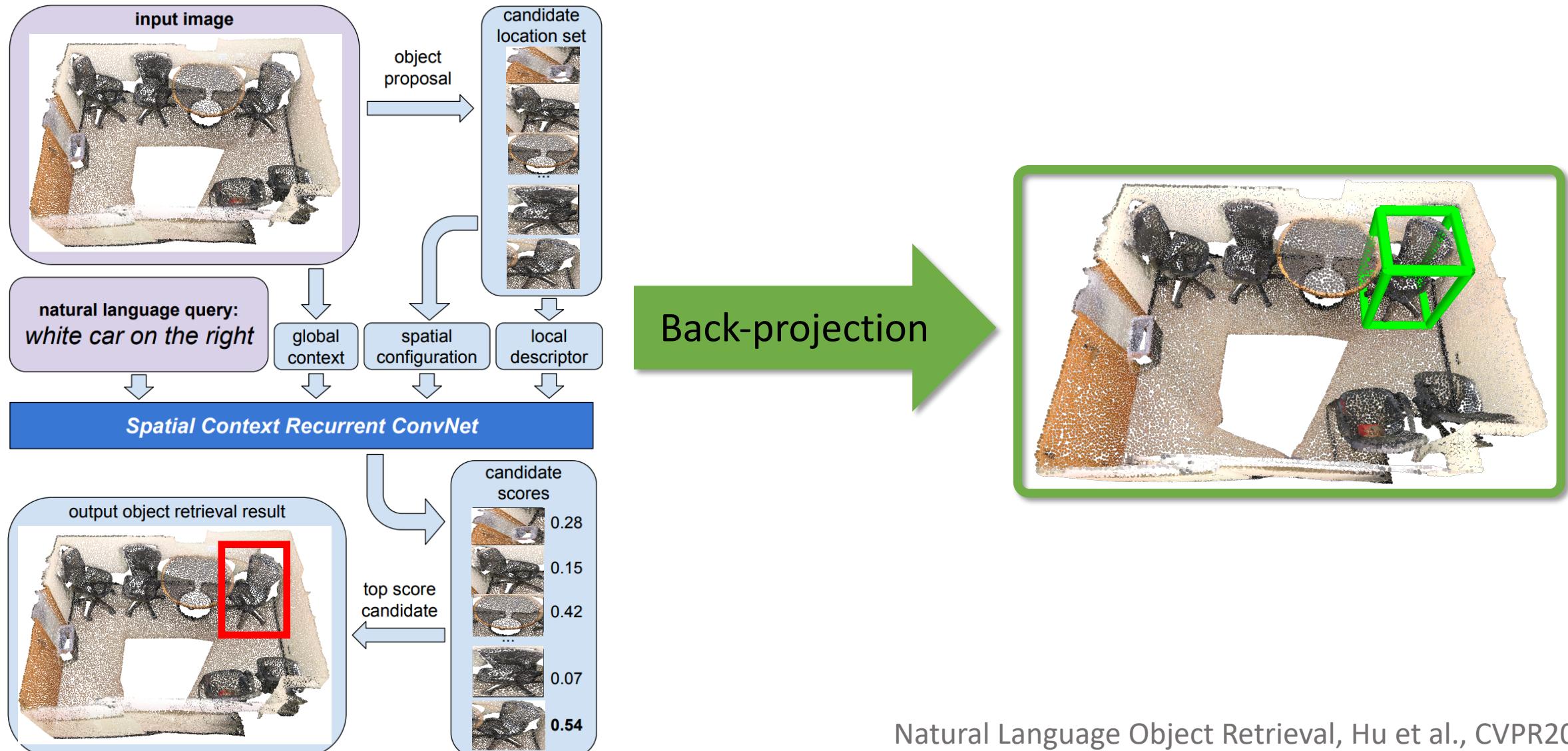
# Baselines: VoteNetRand



Random Selection  
Among  
correct labels



# Baselines: 2D referring expression + Projection



# Evaluation

Precision at IOU of 0.5

P@0.5	
PointRefNet	5.92
VoteNetRand	6.28
2D Proj (SCRC)	6.45
2D Proj (One-Stage)	9.04
<b>Ours (all features)</b>	<b>22.39</b>

PointRefNet: Semantic segmentation network (based on PointNet++ [Qi et al, NIPS 2017]) with language features (no notion of object instances)

VoteNetRand: Object detection network (based on deep 3D hough voting [Qi et al, ICCV 2019]) with predicted object categories, select one at random

2D referring expression baselines (SCRC based on [Hu et al, CVPR 2016] and One stage based on [Yang et al, CVPR 2019]), with best prediction from several views back projected into 3D

# Unique



It is a white refrigerator in a kitchen with brown cabinets. Next to it are two white trash cans.

# Multiple

This is a white trash can. It is behind a short white trash can.

This is a trash can with no lid. It is in front of a trash can with a lid.

Precision at IOU of 0.5

	Unique	Multiple	Overall
PointRefNet	12.85	4.71	5.92
VoteNetRand	23.04	3.35	6.28
2D Proj (One-Stage)	22.82	6.49	9.04
<b>Ours (all features)</b>	<b>39.95</b>	<b>18.17</b>	<b>22.39</b>

PointRefNet: Semantic segmentation network with language features (no notion of object instances)

VoteNetRand: Object detection network with predicted object categories, select one at random

One stage: 2D referring expression baseline with best prediction from several views back projected into 3D

# Baselines: OracleCatRand (upper baseline)



GT bboxes

Random Selection  
Among  
correct labels



Output

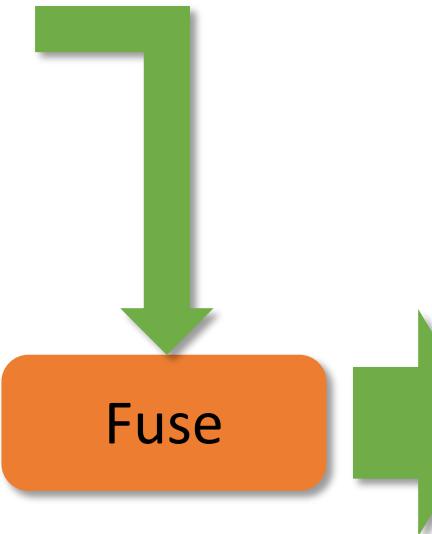
# Baselines: OracleRefer (upper baseline)

A black chair in the corner.  
It is next to a table.

GloVE + GRU



GT bboxes



Output

Precision at IOU of 0.5

	Unique	Multiple	Overall
OracleCatRand	100.00	17.84	29.76
OracleRefer	73.55	32.00	40.06
PointRefNet	12.85	4.71	5.92
VoteNetRand	23.04	3.35	6.28
2D Proj (One-Stage)	22.82	6.49	9.04
<b>Ours (all features)</b>	<b>39.95</b>	<b>18.17</b>	<b>22.39</b>

OracleCatRand: Perfect bounding boxes and known object categories, select one at random

OracleRefer: Perfect bounding boxes, use language features fused with pointnet features to match

PointRefNet: Semantic segmentation network with language features (no notion of object instances)

VoteNetRand: Object detection network with predicted object categories, select one at random

One stage: 2D referring expression baseline with best prediction from several views back projected into 3D

Precision at IOU of 0.5

	Unique	Multiple	Overall
OracleCatRand	100.00	17.84	29.76
OracleRefer	73.55	32.00	40.06
VoteNetRand	23.04	3.35	6.28
Ours (all features)	39.95	18.17	22.39

Drops significantly

OracleCatRand: Perfect bounding boxes and known object categories, select one at random

OracleRefer: Perfect bounding boxes, use language features fused with pointnet features to match

VoteNetRand: Object detection network with predicted object categories, select one at random

Precision at IOU of 0.5

	Unique	Multiple	Overall
OracleCatRand	100.00	17.84	29.76
OracleRefer	need better object detection	32.00	40.06
VoteNetRand		3.35	6.28
Ours (all features)	39.95	18.17	22.39

OracleCatRand: Perfect bounding boxes and known object categories, select one at random

OracleRefer: Perfect bounding boxes, use language features fused with pointnet features to match

VoteNetRand: Object detection network with predicted object categories, select one at random

Precision at IOU of 0.5

	Unique	Multiple	Overall
OracleCatRand	100.00	17.84	29.76
OracleRefer	73.55	32.00	40.06
VoteNetRand	23.04	3.35	6.28
Ours (all features)	39.95	18.17	22.39

need better  
disambiguation

OracleCatRand: Perfect bounding boxes and known object categories, select one at random

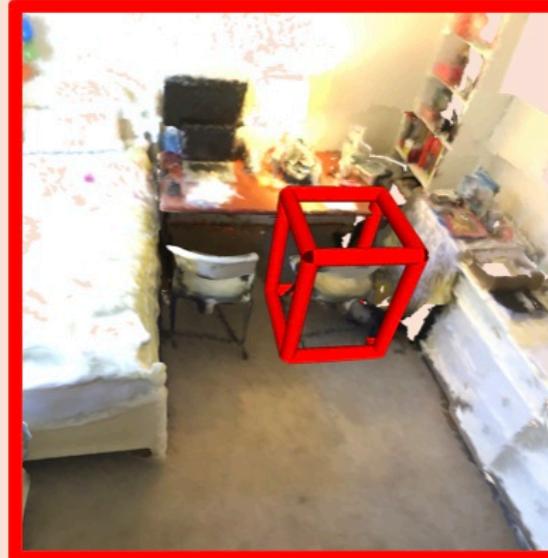
OracleRefer: Perfect bounding boxes, use language features fused with pointnet features to match

VoteNetRand: Object detection network with predicted object categories, select one at random

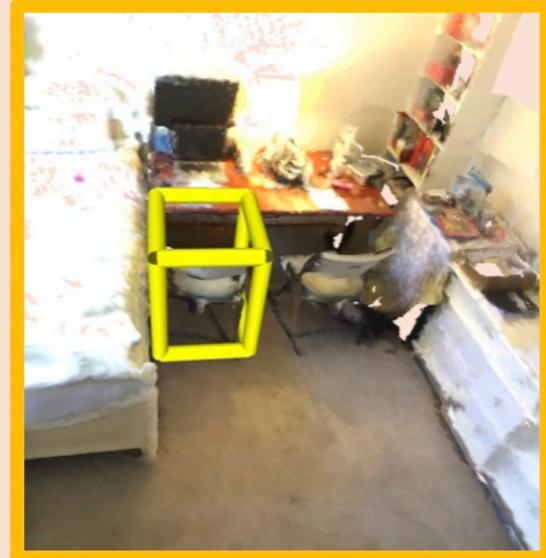
## Description

This is a white chair.  
It is next to the bed  
and to the left of  
another chair.

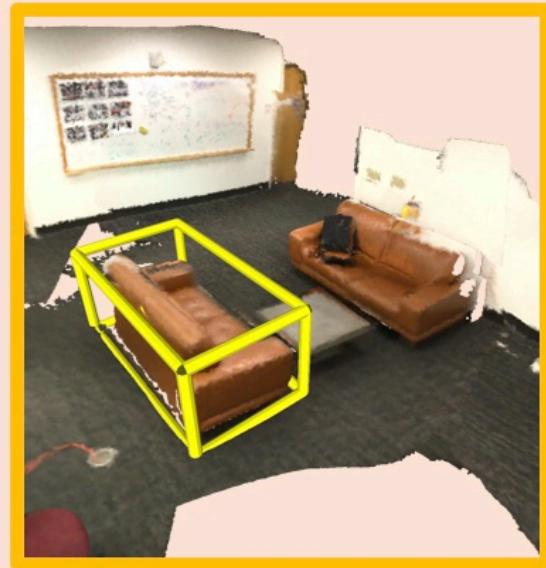
## Ours



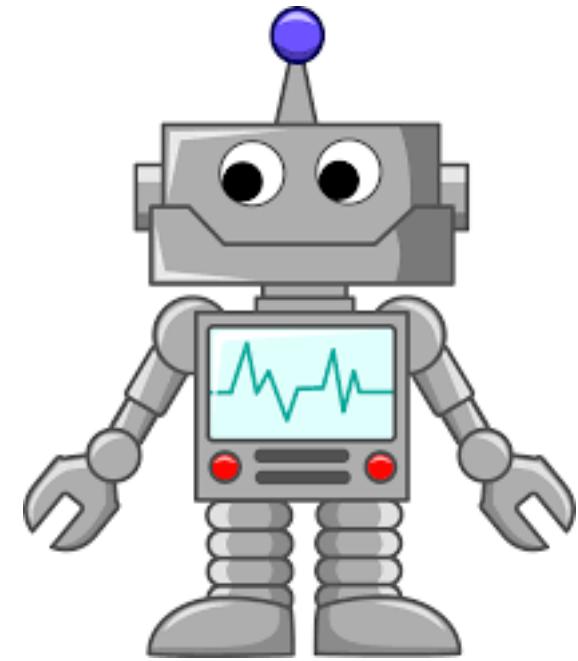
## GT



The couch is to the  
left of the coffee  
table and far from  
the wall. The couch  
is orange with two  
seats.



I left my notebook on couch,  
can you get it for me?



Building large-scale  
interactive environments  
for grounded language learning

# Datasets for semantic understanding in 3D

3D scenes



ScanNet

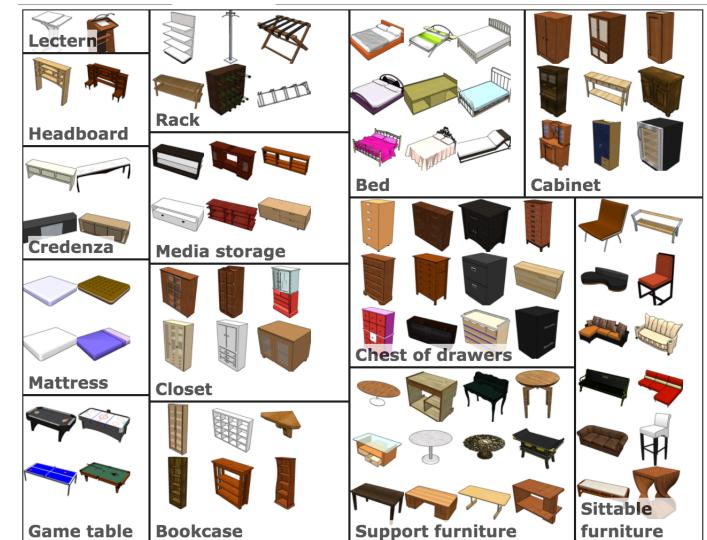
[Dai et al. 2017]



Matterport3D

[Chang et al. 2017]

3D shapes



ShapeNet

[Chang et al. 2015]



Stanford  
University

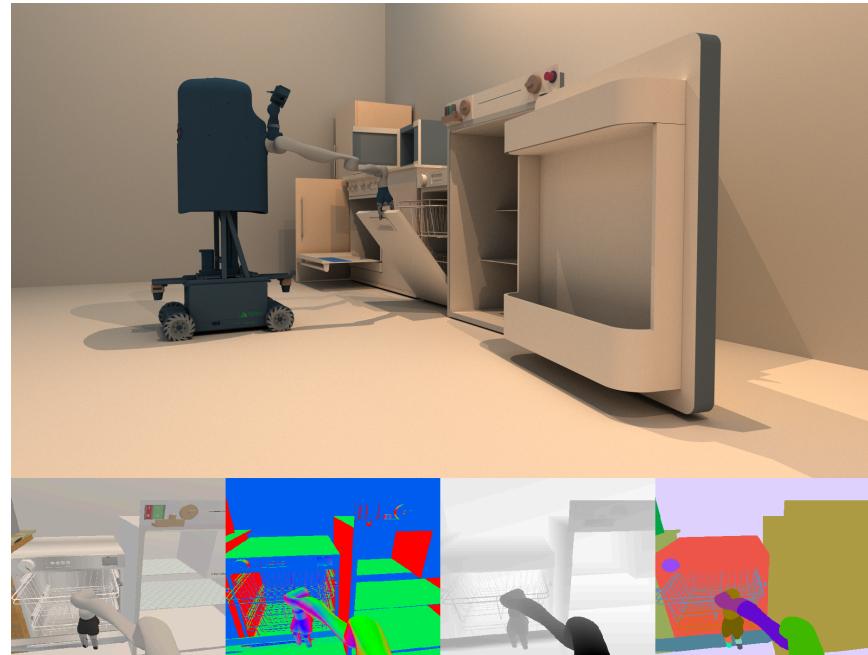
# Simulation Environments



**MINOS**

<https://minosworld.github.io/>

[Savva et al. 2017]



**SAPIEN**

<https://sapien.ucsd.edu/>

[Xiang et al. CVPR 2020]

# SAPIEN + PartNet Mobility dataset

2,345 objects

46 categories

14,068 moveable parts

PhyX based simulation  
framework in c++ and python



# Interactions in SAPIEN Demo Video

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K2yOeJhJXzM&feature=youtu.be>



# 3D environments for interaction

AI2-THOR

[Kolve et al. 2017]



VirtualHome

[Puig et al. 2018]



Cornell CHALET

[Yan et al. 2018]



VRKitchen

[Gao et al. 2019]

# 3D environments for interaction

AI2-THOR  
[Kolve et al. 2017]



Goal: "Rinse off a mug and place it in the coffee maker"

1 "walk to the coffee maker on the right"  
2 "pick up the dirty mug from the coffee maker"  
3 "turn and walk to the sink"  
4 "wash the mug in the sink"  
5 "pick up the mug and go back to the coffee maker"  
6 "put the clean mug in the coffee maker"

t=0 visual navigation  
t=10 object interaction  
t=21 visual navigation  
t=27 object interaction state changes  
t=36 visual navigation memory  
t=50 object interaction

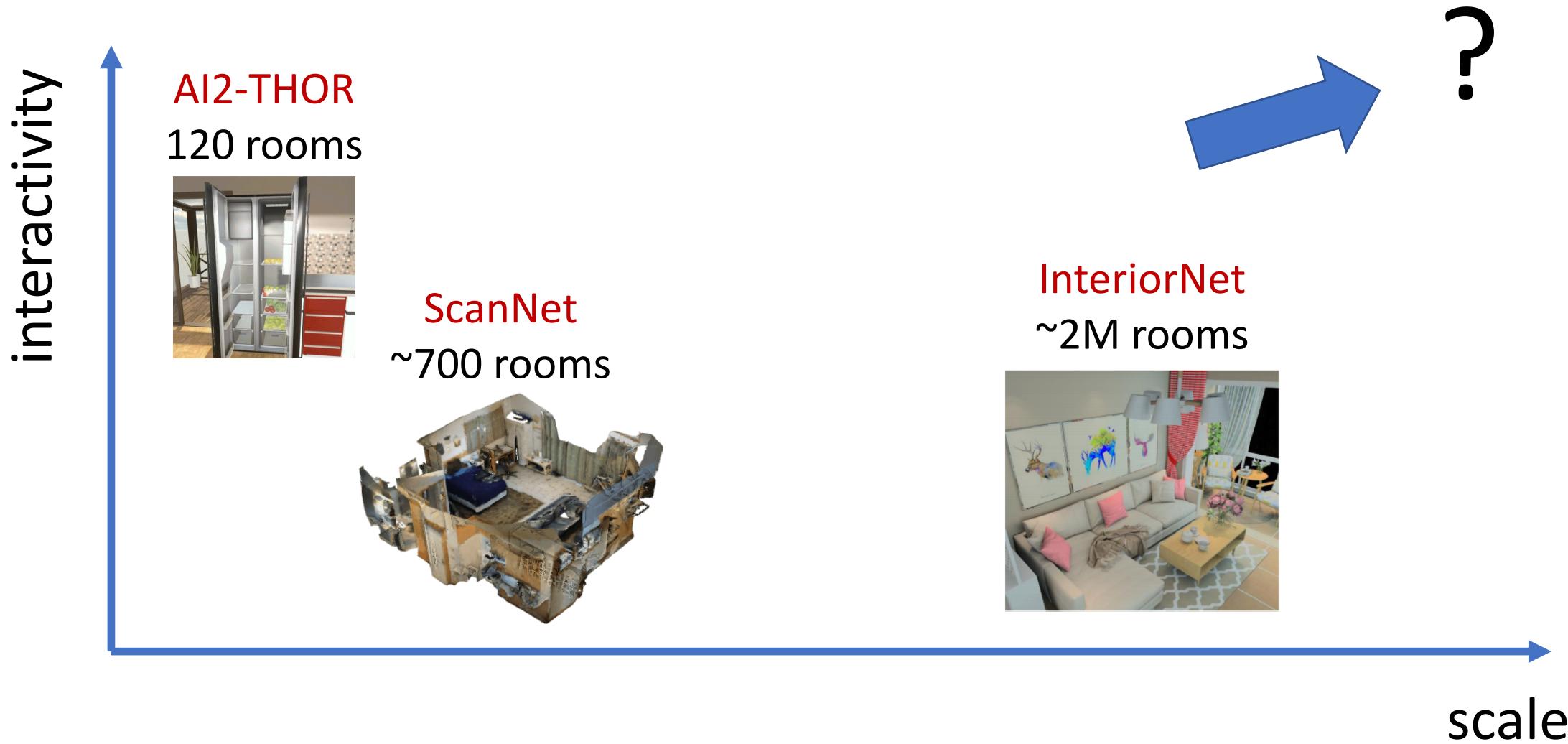
ALFRED  
[Shridhar et al. 2020]

T  
3]



VRKitchen  
Gao et al. 2019]

# Scale is limited compared to static datasets



# Takeaway messages

- Understanding language requires **common sense**
- Much of common sense is **spatial**, relies on anticipation of “**what will happen** if I do this?”
- **3D representations** allow **simulation** for connecting language with egocentric perception & “world mental model” building

Thank you!