

1. Pose estimation
 - a. Predict 6 DOF pose based on 2D input data
 - b. Input data can be RGB images and possibly depth
 - c. Pose can be extracted e.g. by projecting 2D points onto 3D model
 - d. Needs labeled data for training, ideally real
2. Real training data
 - a. Hard to acquire, not many datasets available & hard to do manually
 - b. Can lead to overfitting due to dataset being too specialized (illumination, environment, texture..)
3. Synthetic training data
 - a. Easy to produce large amount of training data
 - b. Easily leads to overfitting due to lack of noise (e.g. compression), visual differences between 3D model / real counterpart, crude illumination & shading
 - c. Bridging the domain gap between real / synthetic therefore main challenge
4. Domain randomization (DeceptionNet)
 - a. Randomize factors that the algorithm should not be sensitive to
 - b. Training in two alternating phases:
 - i. Freeze recognition, update deception weights to maximize the loss of the recognition NW
 - ii. Freeze deception, update recognition weights to minimize the loss of the recognition NW
 - c. This encourages deception NW to maximally confuse the recognition NW, and the recognition NW becomes increasingly more resistant to randomness
 - d. Deception & augmentation of input data:
 - i. Deception NW follows encoder / decoder method, feeding encoded vector to decoding modules
 1. Noise: Randomness to encoded vector
 2. Distortion: Elastically image deformations
 3. Light: Phong lighting (ambient, diffuse, specular) + Light direction
 4. Background: Upsampling & convolutions
 - e. Overall, rather good at generalization because of independence from target domain
5. Photorealistic image synthesis
 - a. Fully synthetic data generation from 15 objects / 6 scenes
 - b. PhysX + Arnold to achieve high degree of realism
 - c. Paper notes that PBR quality is instrumental for good training
6. Our approach
 - a. Overview
 - i. PhysX + Blender / AS for rendering objects
 - ii. Scene is not rendered, real images used to stitch 3D models of scenes are used instead
 - iii. Renderings + Images are blended intelligently
 - iv. Composed image improved by means of harmonization (later)
 - b. Discussion
 - i. Minimizes domain gap by using real images as background
 - ii. Lower costs & faster rendering due to not rendering the scene
 - iii. Illumination needs to be accurately replicated
 - iv. Camera pose + parameters must match original capture
 - v. Scene geometry / physical presence needs to be reflected on objects without rendering it (e.g. shadows, indirect light)

- c. Harmonization
 - i. Input is RGB image + foreground mask
 - ii. Encoder / decoder method with skip links to prevent loss of detail and the loss function preferring blurry images
 - iii. Two decoders, one to reconstruct the harmonized output, one to parse the scene & predict semantic labels
 - iv. Labels are used by the reconstruction decoder
 - v. Encoder is shared by both decoders, both decoders have skip links
 - vi. Semantic information helps color distribution of e.g. skin / sky and which regions to match for better adjustment
- d. First results