

Learning Joint Reconstruction of Hands and Manipulated Objects

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Introduction

Goal & Contributions

- Reconstruct **hand and object meshes** given a single RGB image as input.
- Generate a **synthetic** dataset of hands interacting with objects.
- Enforce **physics constraints** in an end-to-end learning framework.



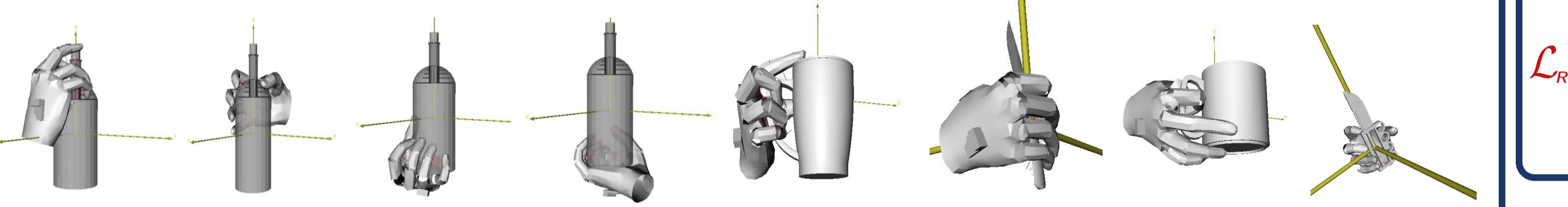
Motivation

- Understanding **object manipulation** is critical to teach robots how to perform useful tasks.
- Ground truth shapes are difficult to obtain for hands and objects in real images.
- Synthetic data is cheap to generate and comes with 3D ground truth, allowing to train CNNs in a fully supervised framework.

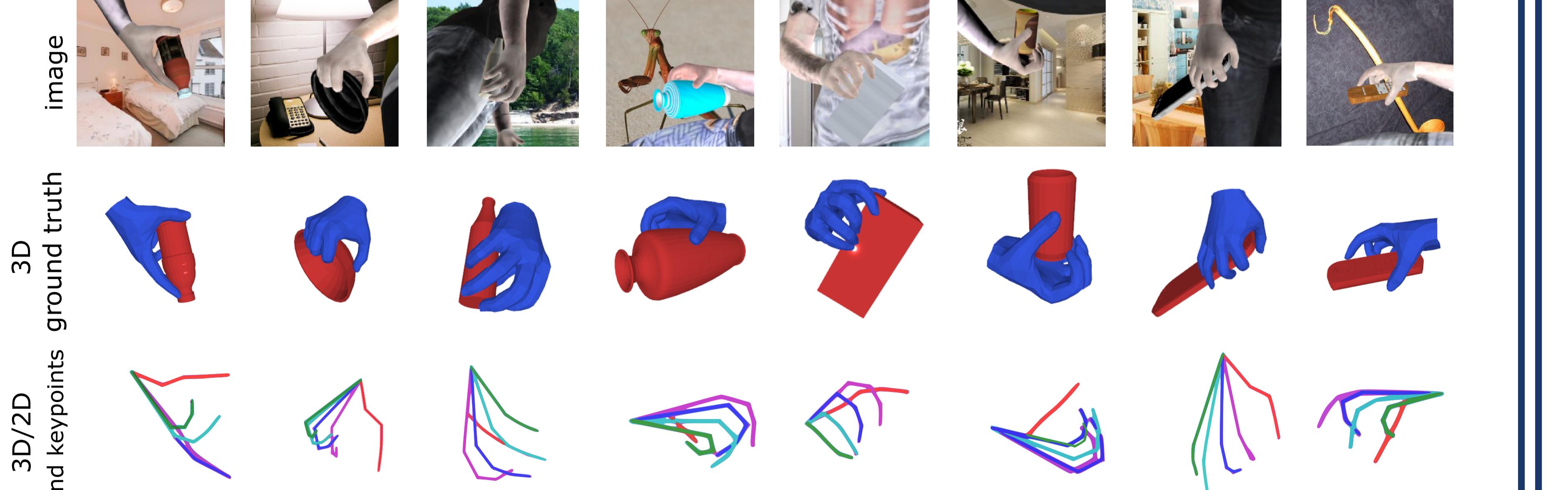
ObMan dataset: Synthetic OBject MANipulation

Generation of diverse grasps leveraging robotics and graphics

- 8 object categories (bowls, bottles, cans, ...), 2.7K instances of objects from ShapeNet [1]
- Automatically generated realistic object grasps using GraspIT [8], following [3]



Samples from the generated ObMan dataset



A diverse dataset of hand-object configurations

- Large variety of body and hand poses
- Realistic textures from hand scans
- Object textures selected randomly from ShapeNet
- Randomized lighting

split

train val test

#object instances 4K 0.4K 0.4K

#grasp instances 15K 3K 3K

#frames 141K 6K 6K

ObMan dataset statistics

Hand-Object Reconstruction

Hand reconstruction: regressing MANO [6] hand model parameters.

Object reconstruction: deforming a sphere using AtlasNet [4].

Relative position: regressing object scale and translation relative to the hand

Contact losses: enforcing physically plausible grasps

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{Contact}} = \lambda_R \mathcal{L}_R + (1 - \lambda_R) \mathcal{L}_A$$

Repulsion loss: penalizes interpenetration between hand and object

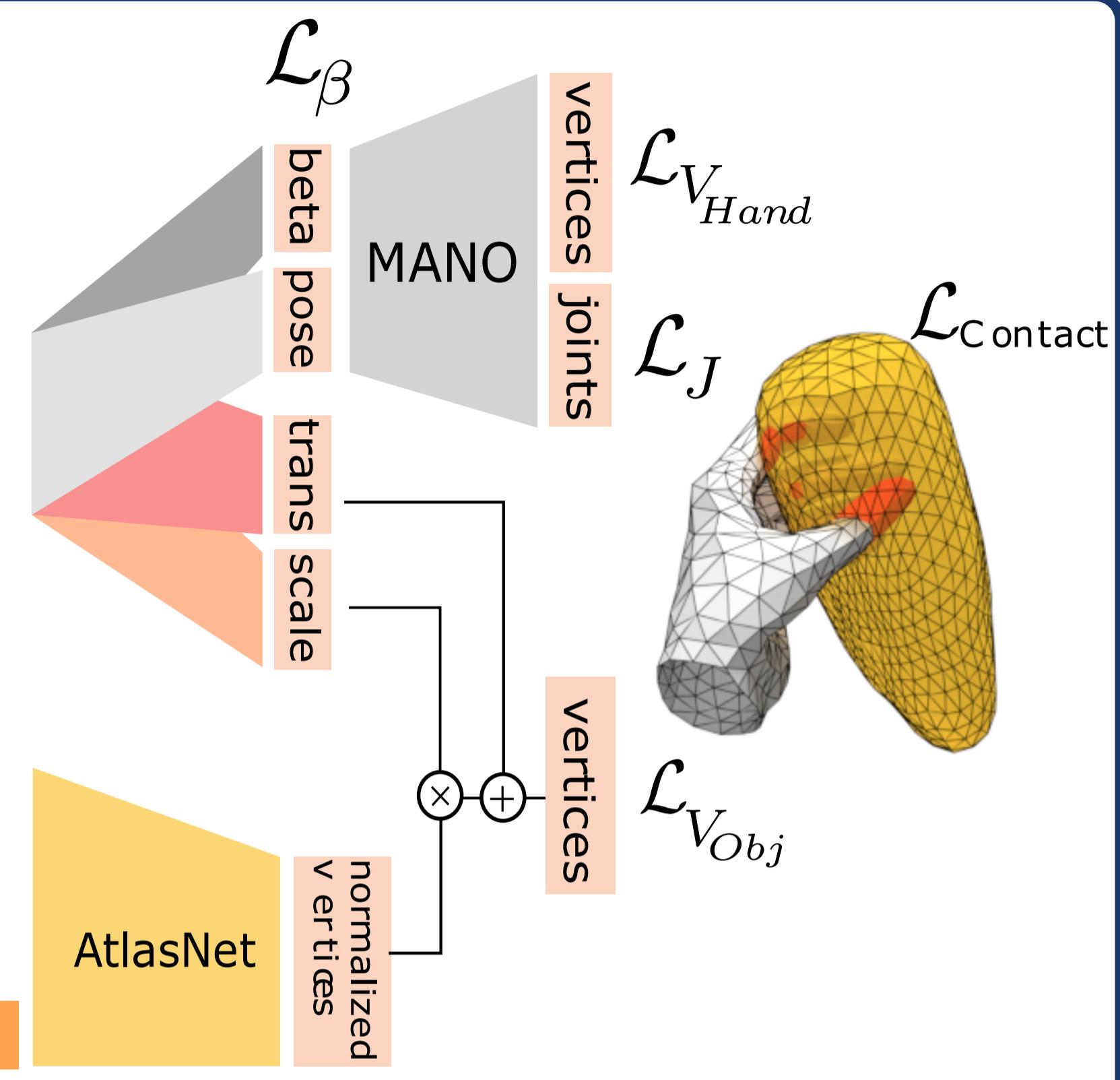
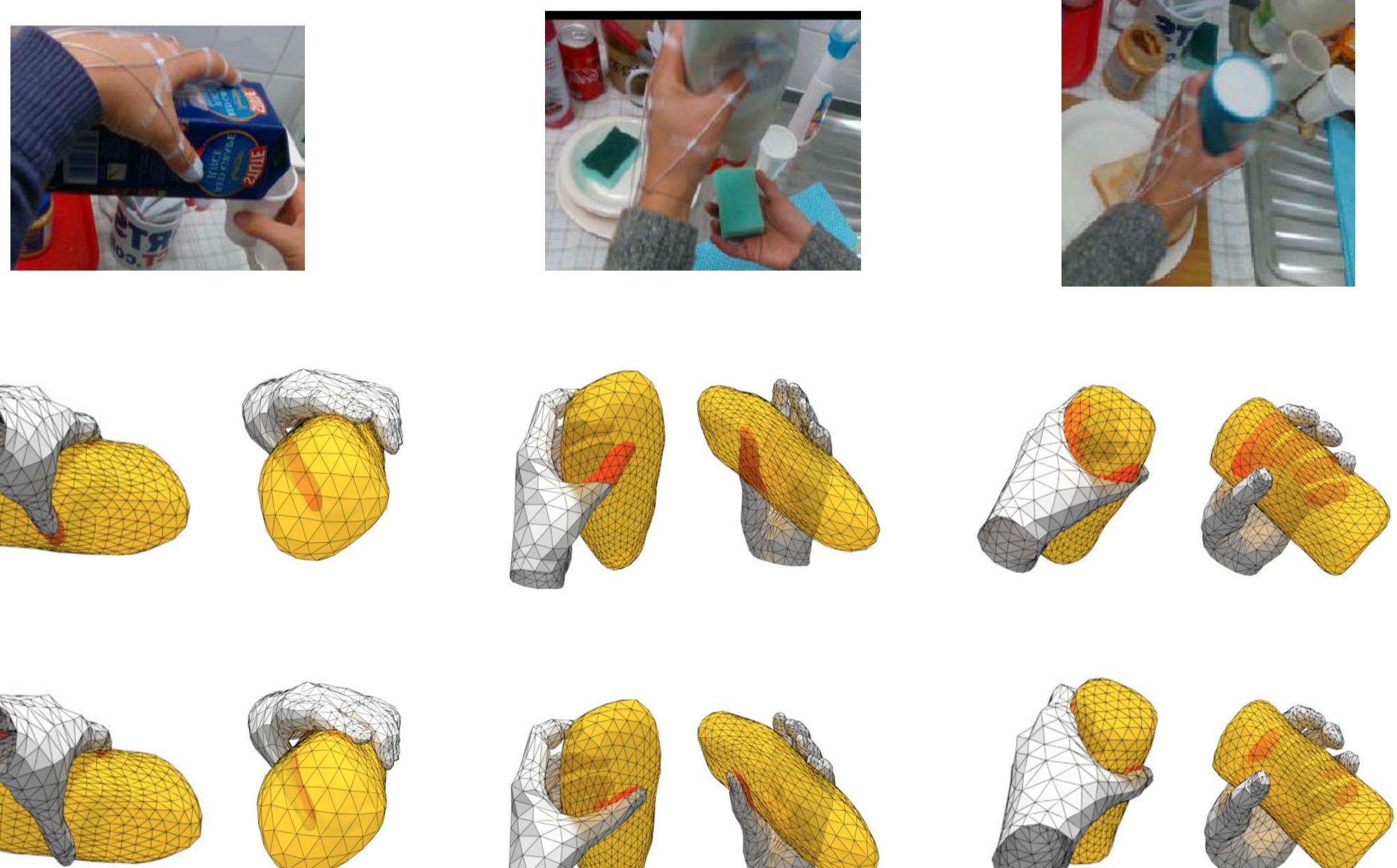
Attraction loss: encourages contact regions of the hand to be close to the object

V_{Obj} : object vertices
 V_{Hand} : hand vertices
 $\text{Int}(Obj)$: object interior
 $\text{Ext}(Obj)$: object exterior
 d : usual distance
 C_i : Contact regions

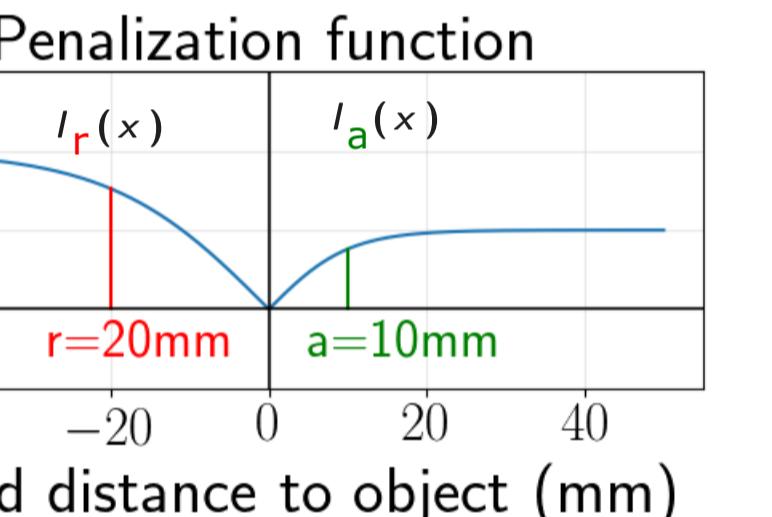
$$\mathcal{L}_R(V_{Obj}, V_{Hand}) = \sum_{v \in V_{Hand}} \mathbb{1}_{v \in \text{Int}(V_{Obj})} l_r(d(v, V_{Obj}))$$

$$\mathcal{L}_A(V_{Obj}, V_{Hand}) = \sum_{i=1}^6 l_a(d(C_i \cap \text{Ext}(Obj), V_{Obj}))$$

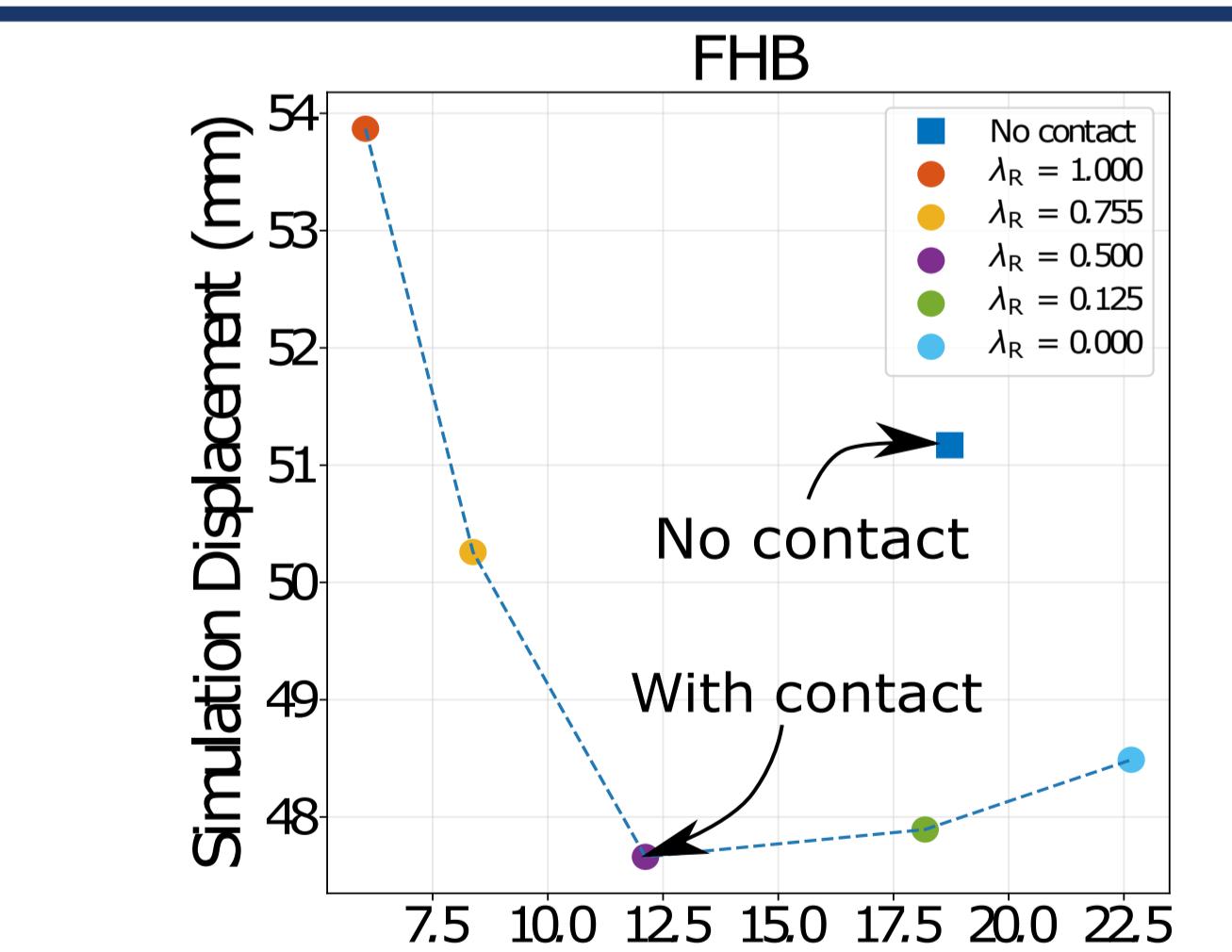
Results: First Hand Action Benchmark [2]



Contact function: soft penalization of vertex distances
Contact regions: Vertices on MANO [6] that are often in contact with objects



$$l_\alpha(x) = \alpha \tanh\left(\frac{x}{\alpha}\right)$$



Simulation Displacement: quantifies the stability of the grasp
Max Penetration: quantifies the interpenetration between the hand and the object

Results: CORe50 dataset [5]

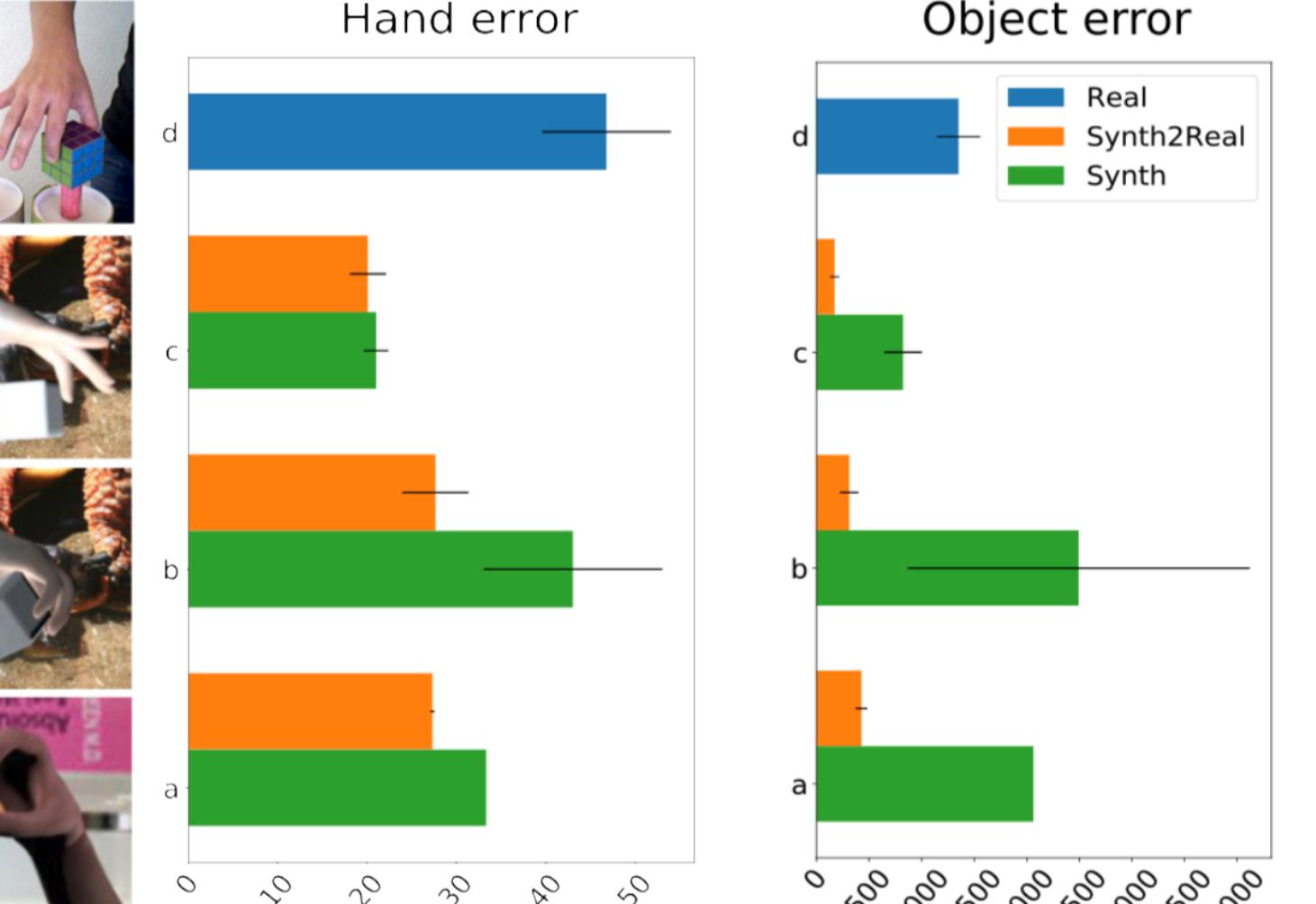
Synthetic to real qualitative results



Transfer: synthetic-to-real

To investigate the domain gap between our synthetic renderings and real datasets, we increasingly match the statistics (hand pose, object shape) of the small Hands in aCtion (HIC) [7] dataset.

dataset	object shape	hand pose	image domain
(d)	HIC	HIC	real
(c)	HIC	HIC	synthetic
(b)	HIC	GraspIt	synthetic
(a)	ShapeNet	GraspIt	synthetic



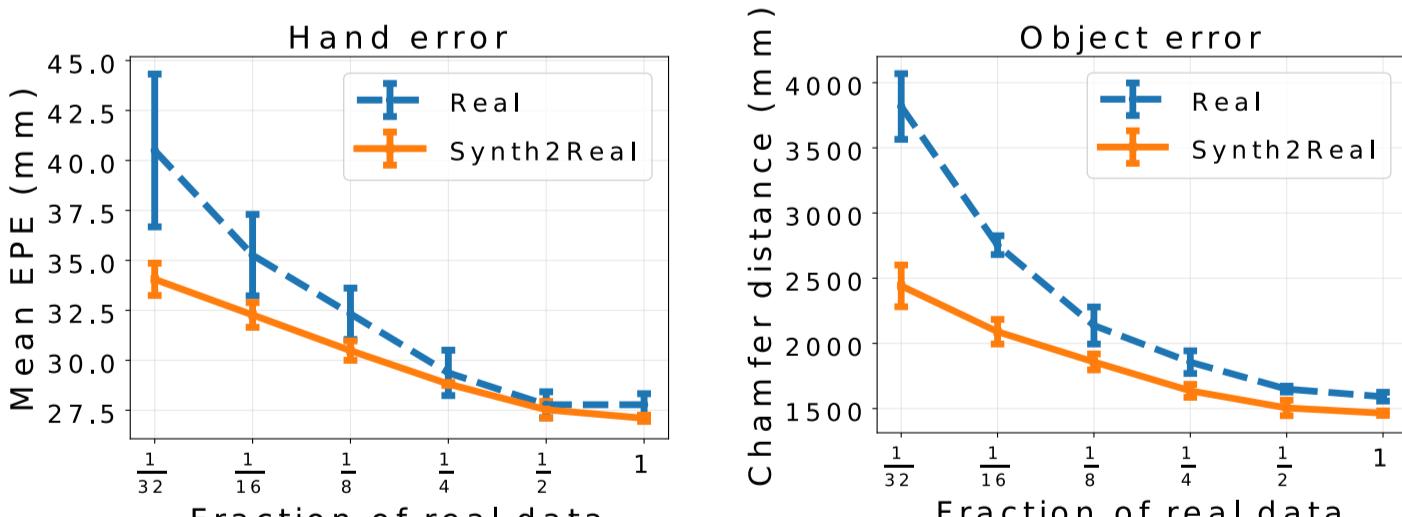
Matching the target hand pose and object shape distributions in the synthetic dataset is crucial for good performances on the real dataset.

Pretraining on ObMan before fine-tuning on FHB improves both hand and object reconstructions in low-data regimes

Real: Encoders initialized with ImageNet weights, hand and object decoders initialized randomly, trained on real data

Synth: Trained on synthetic dataset from ImageNet weights

Synth2Real: All weights initialized from hand-object reconstruction task trained on ObMan, fine-tuned on real dataset



Experiment: effect of occlusions

Hands-only images (H-image) and object-only images (O-image) in our dataset enable to systematically study the effect of mutual occlusions on hand pose estimation and object reconstruction.



Training with occlusions is crucial when targeting images of hand-object interactions.

References

- [1] Chang et al., ShapeNet: An information-rich 3D model repository, 2015
- [2] Garcia-Hernando et al., First-person hand action benchmark with RGB-D videos and 3D hand pose annotations, CVPR 2018.
- [3] Goldfeder et al., The Columbia grasp database, IJCAI 2009.
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- [5] Lomonaco et al., Core50: a new dataset and benchmark for continuous object recognition, CoRL 2017.
- [6] Romero et al., Embodied hands: Modeling and capturing hands and bodies together, SIGGRAPH Asia 2017.
- [7] Tzionas et al., Capturing hands in action using discriminative salient points and physics simulation, IJCV 2016
- [8] Miller et al., GraspIt! A versatile simulator for robotic grasping, Robotics Automation Magazine 2004

