

# Learning to Order Objects using Haptic and Proprioceptive Exploratory Behaviors

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**Building-Wide Intelligence Project:**  
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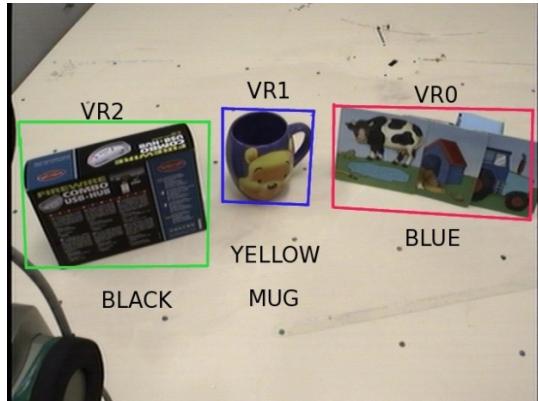


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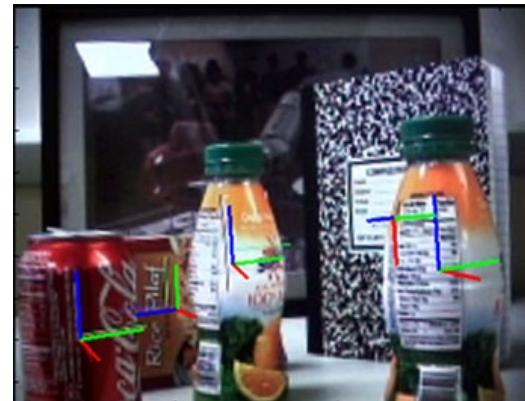
# Motivation: Grounded Language Learning



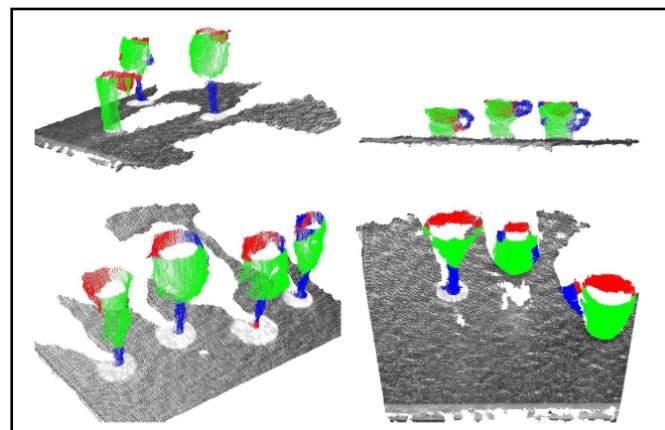
# Object Category Recognition in Robotics



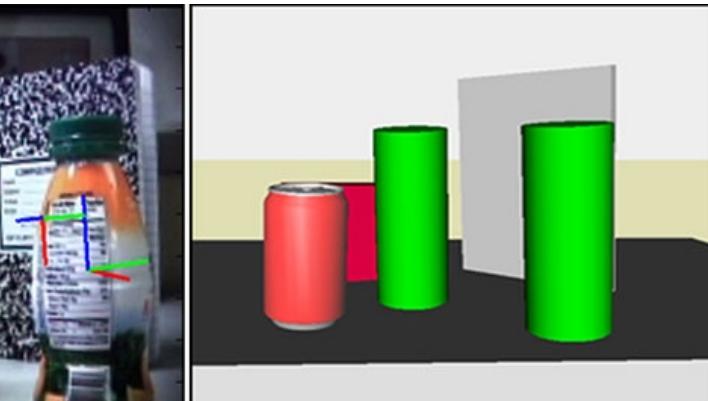
Sridharan *et al.* 2008



Collet *et al.* 2009

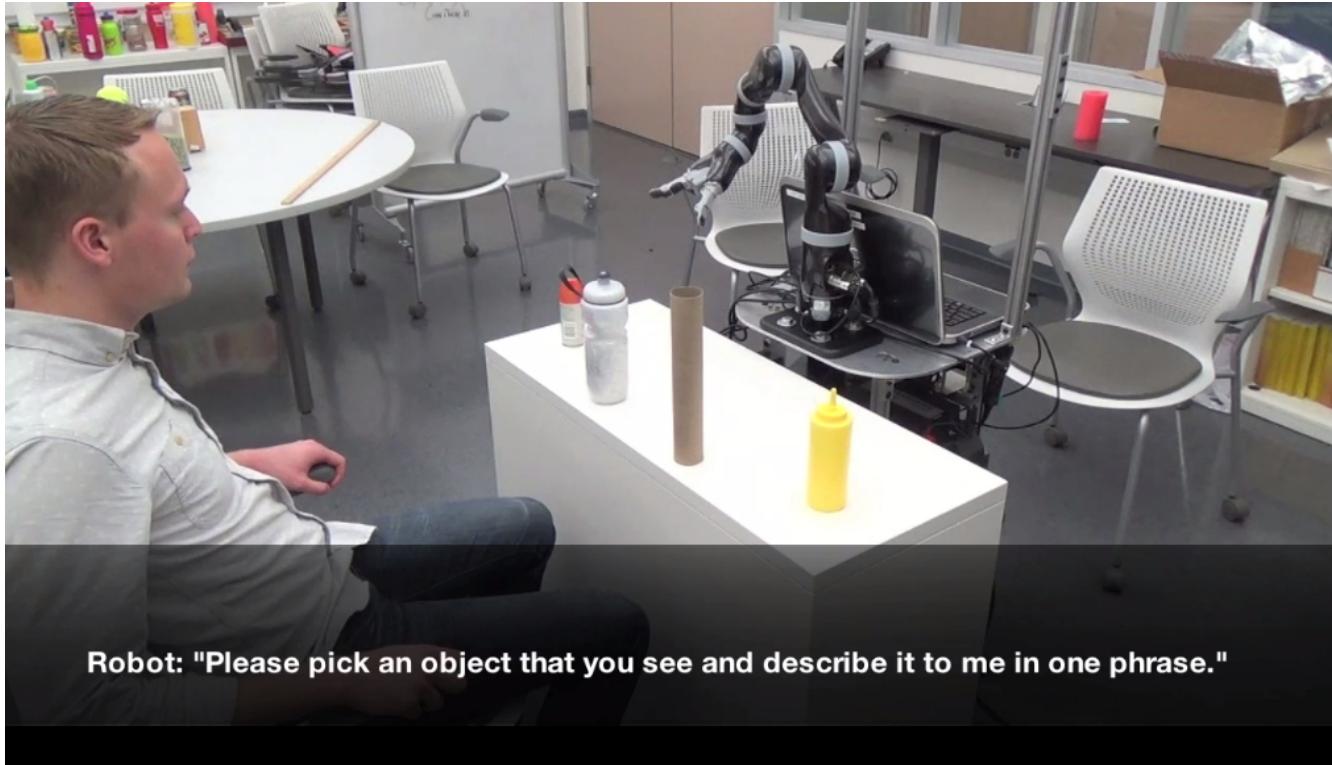


Rusu *et al.* 2009



Lai *et al.* 2011

# Object Category Learning in Robotics

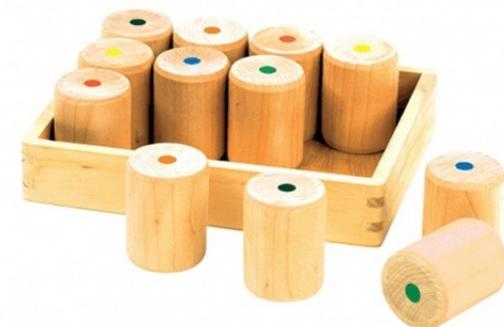
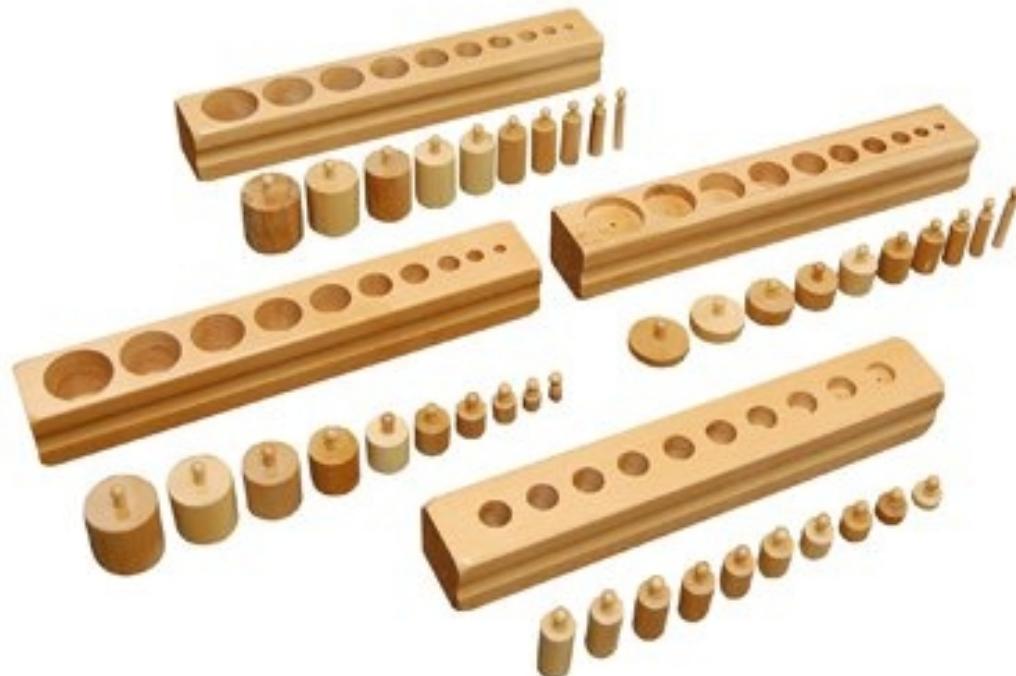


Thomason, J., Sinapov, J., Svetlik, M., Stone, P., and Mooney, R. (2016). Learning Multi-Modal Grounded Linguistic Semantics by Playing I, Spy  
**Robotics and Vision 3 Session**

# Now, when and where does this fail...

Consider the word, “weight” - how should it be grounded?

# How do humans ground such words?



Sample Montessori toys designed to teach children about the ordinal properties of object weight, height, and size

# Object Ordering in Psychology



stage IV or III series



stage II series



stage I series

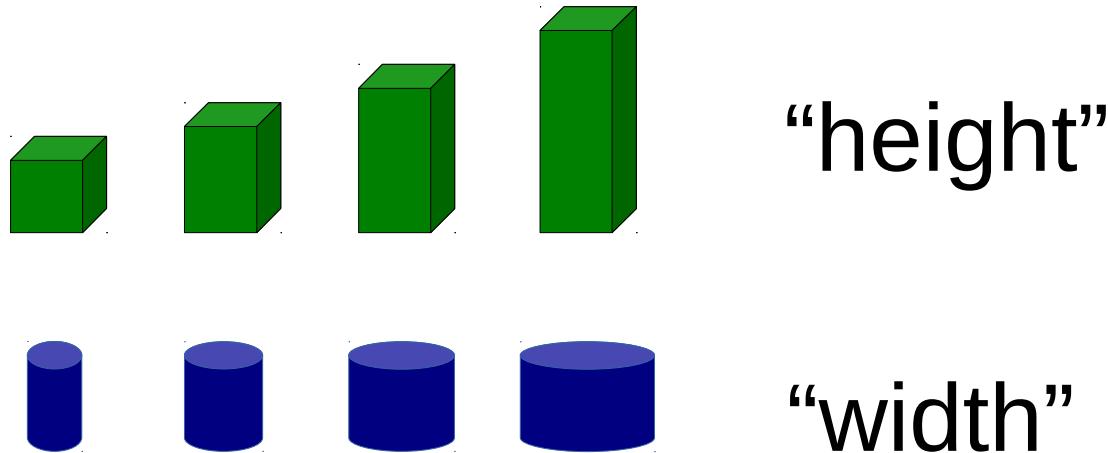


# Object Orderings in Human Environments



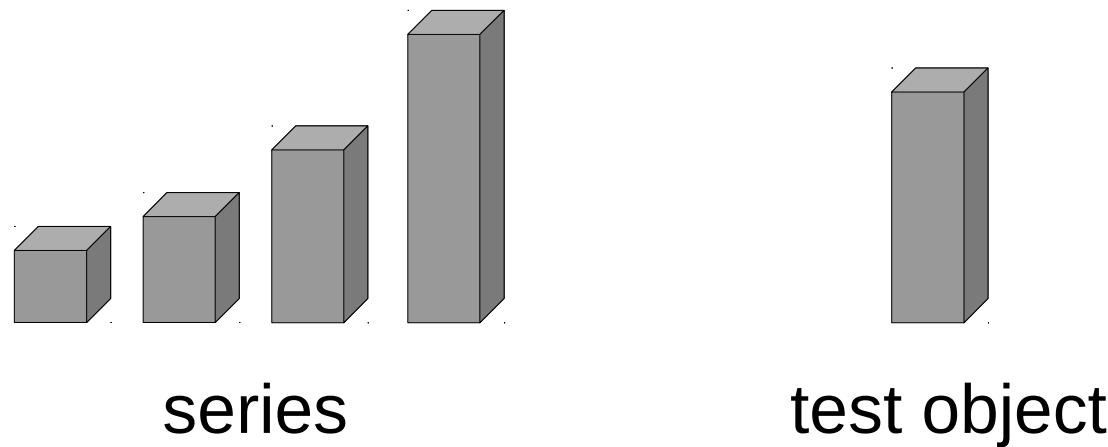
# Problem Formulation

- **Order Recognition:** what property is a given series of objects ordered by?



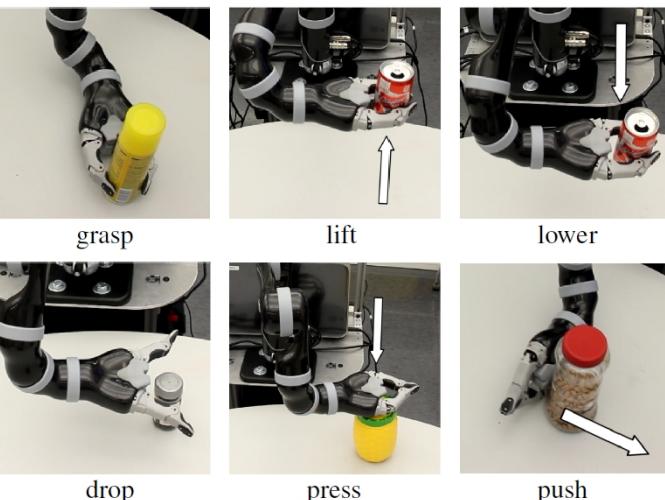
# Problem Formulation (2)

- **Order Insertion:** given an object series, insert a new object into the correct position



# Three-Stage Approach

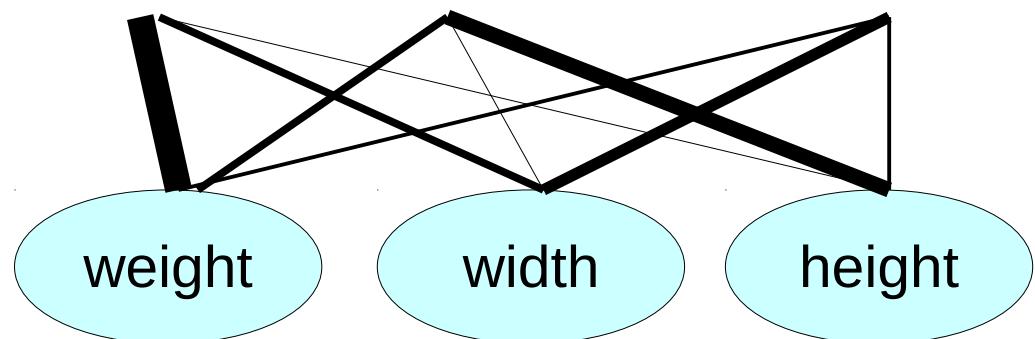
## Stage 1: Object Exploration



## Stage 2: Unsupervised Order Discovery



## Stage 3: Semantic Grounding



# Stage 1: Object Exploration



32 common household and office items

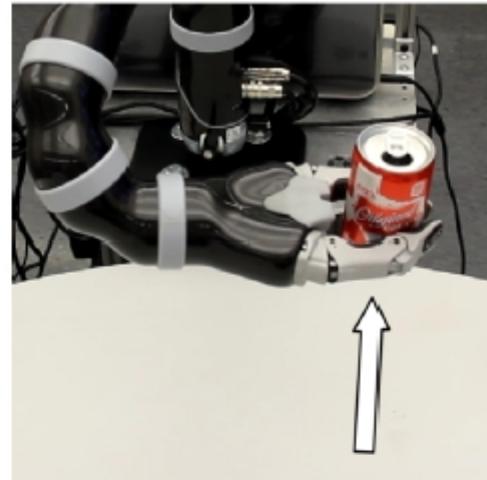
The objects vary along three ordinal properties:

- 1) Weight
- 2) Width
- 3) Height

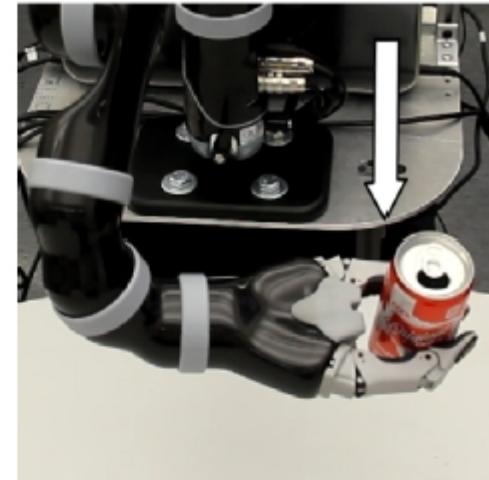
# Exploratory Behaviors



grasp



lift



lower



drop

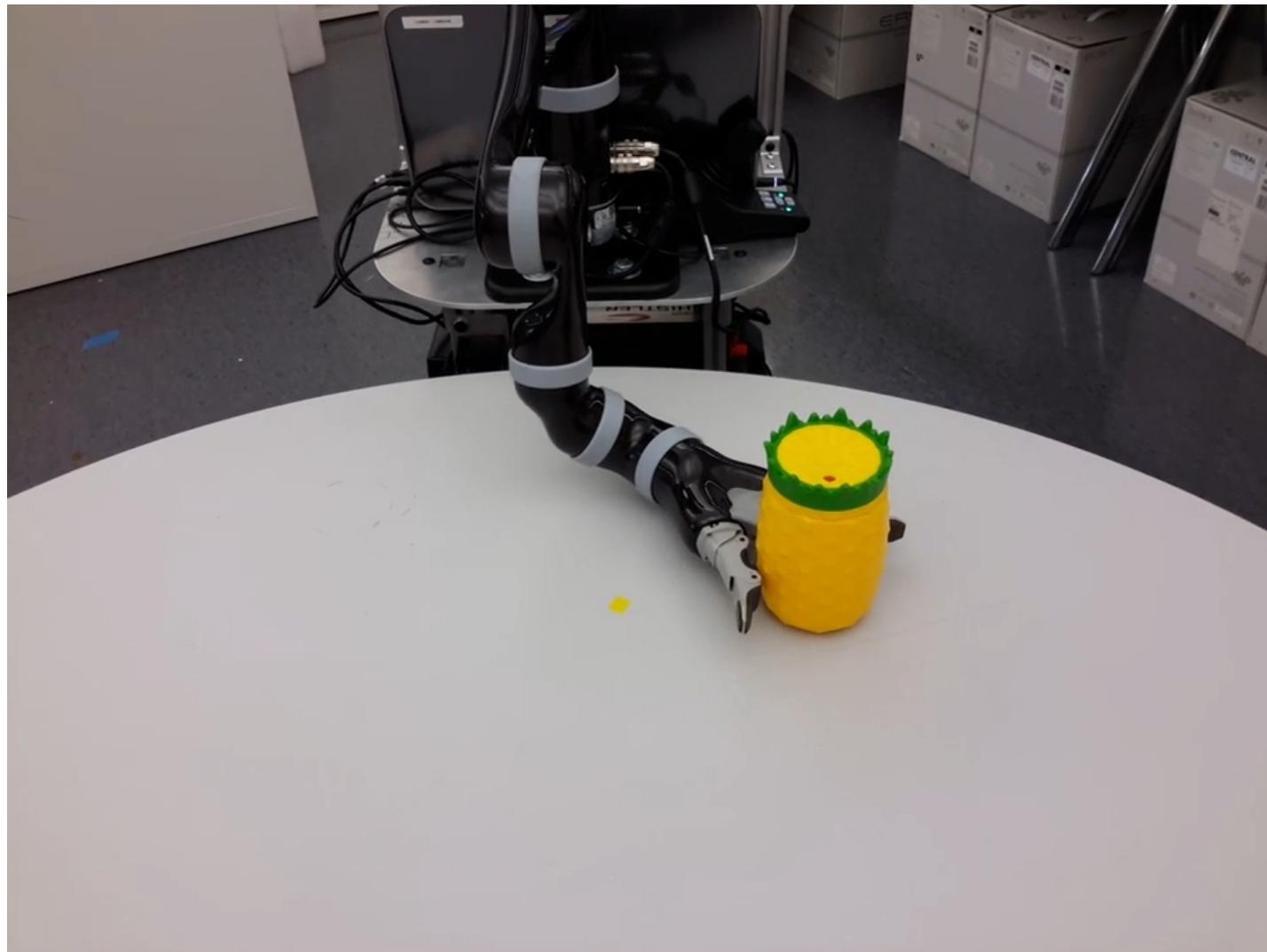


press



push

# Video



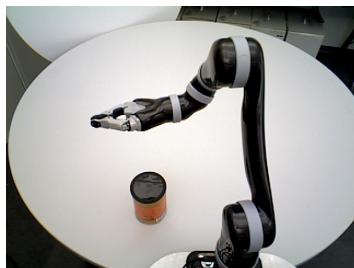
# Video



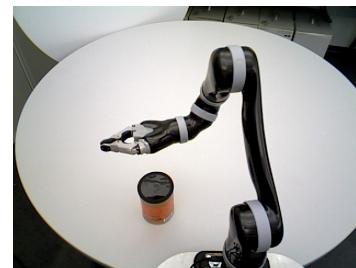
# Video



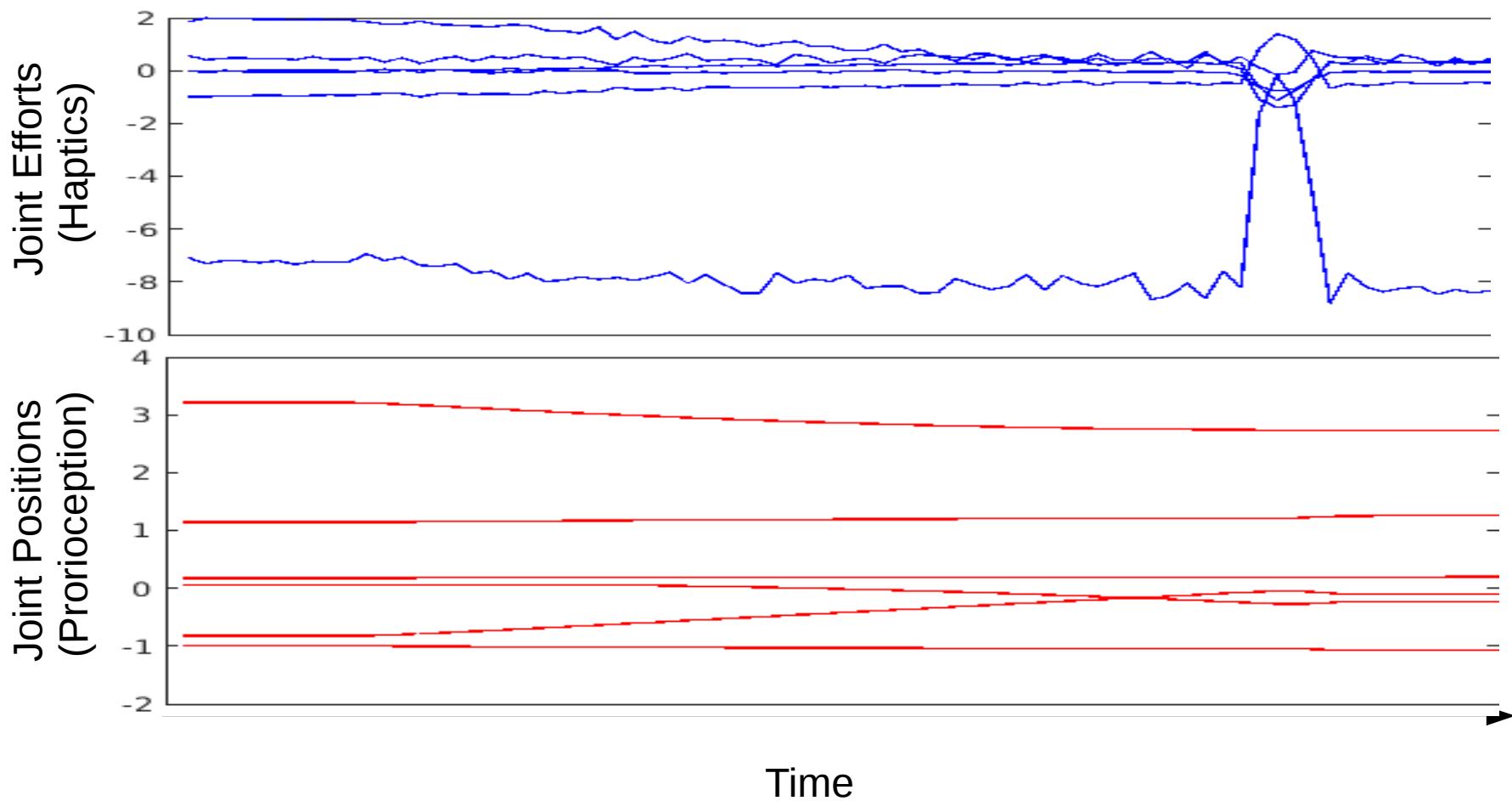
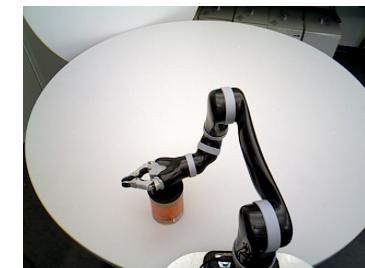
# Haptic and Proprioceptive Feature Extraction



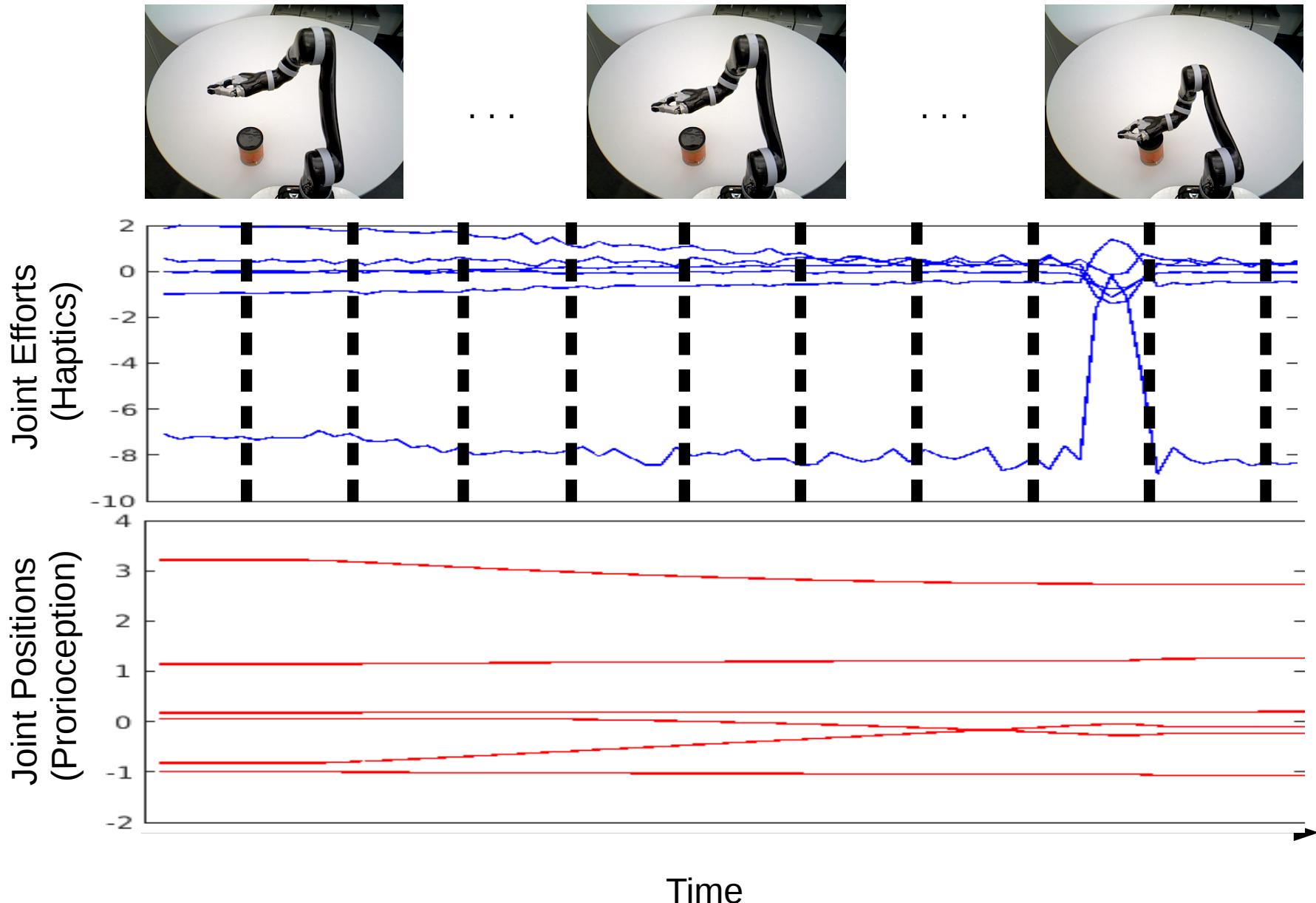
— 1 —



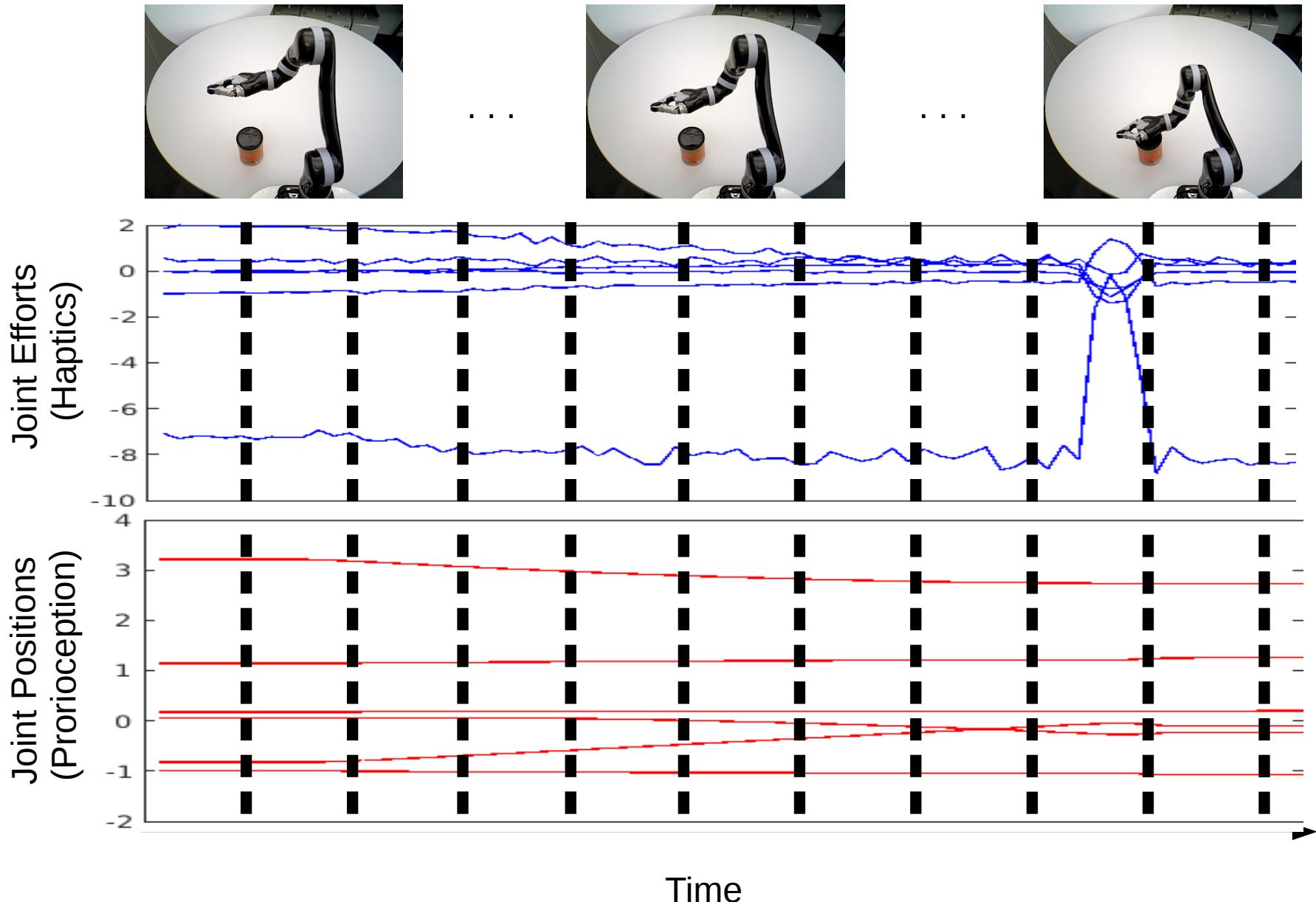
2



# Haptic and Proprioceptive Feature Extraction



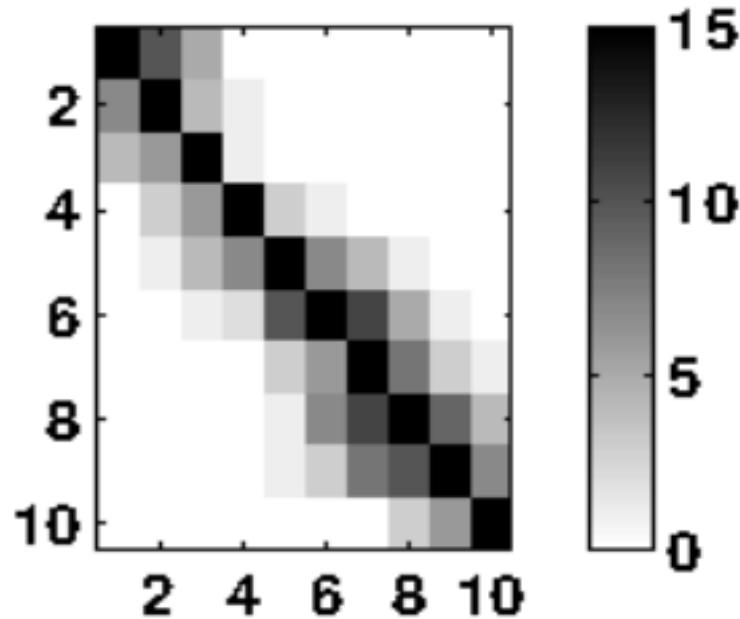
# Haptic and Proprioceptive Feature Extraction



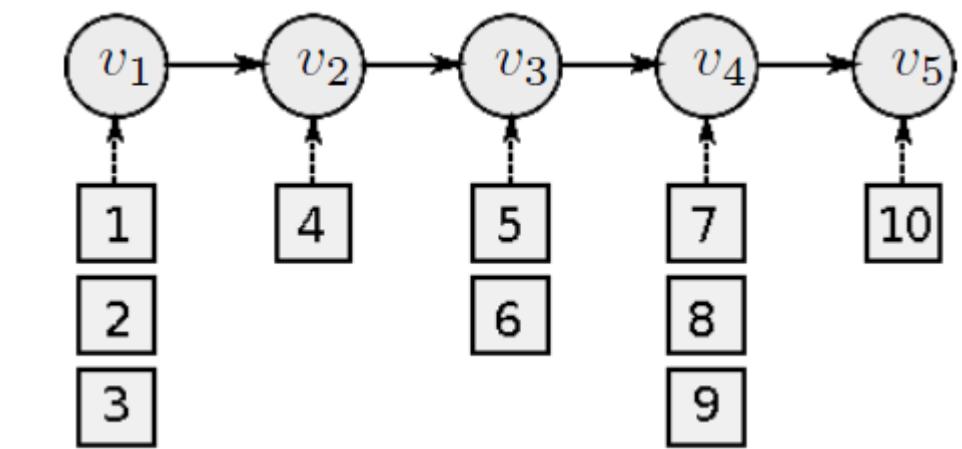
# Stage 2: Unsupervised Order Discovery

|           |       | Sensory Modalities |                |
|-----------|-------|--------------------|----------------|
|           |       | haptics            | proprioception |
| Behaviors | grasp |                    |                |
|           | lift  |                    |                |
|           | hold  |                    |                |
|           | lower |                    |                |
|           | drop  |                    |                |
|           | push  |                    |                |
|           | press |                    |                |

# Unsupervised Order Discovery Example with Synthetic Data

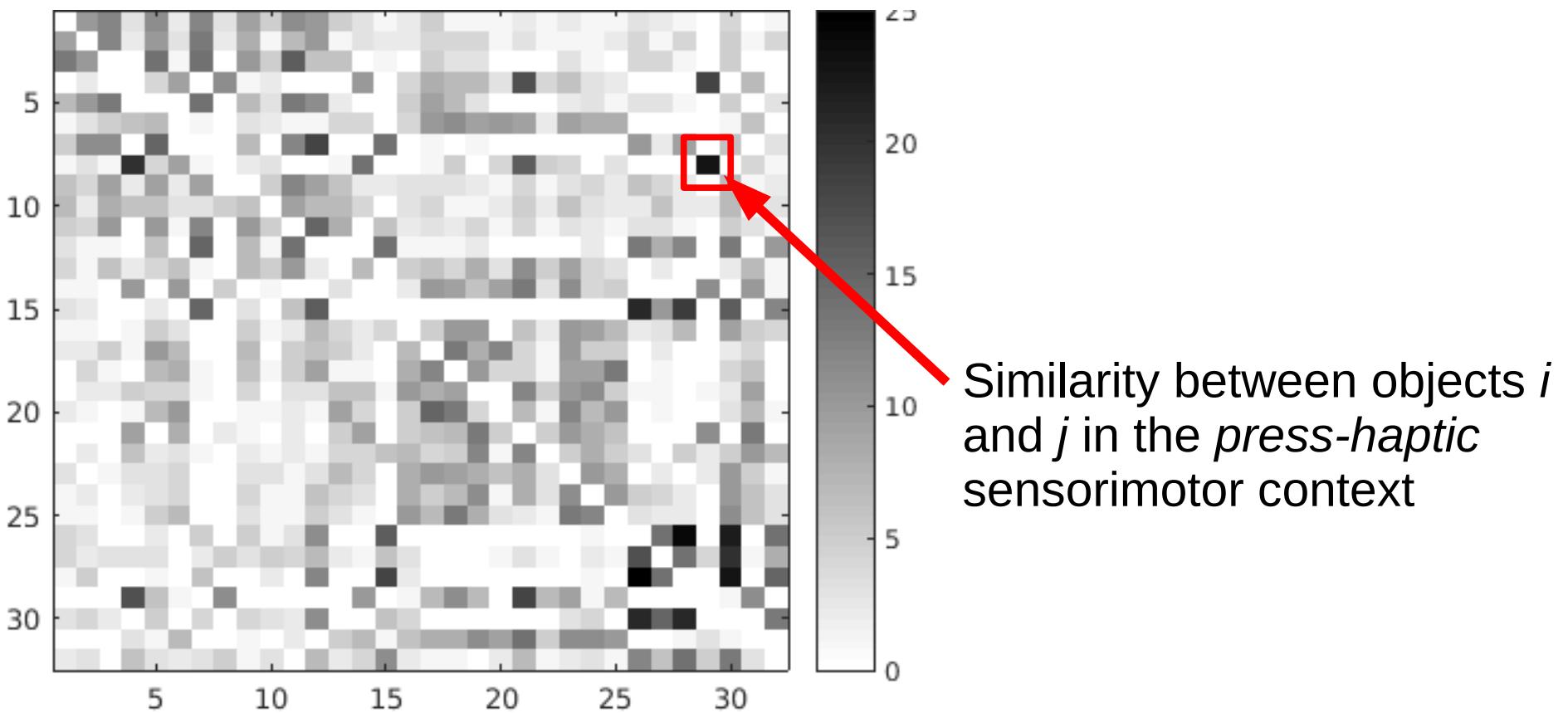


Input Relational  
Count Matrix



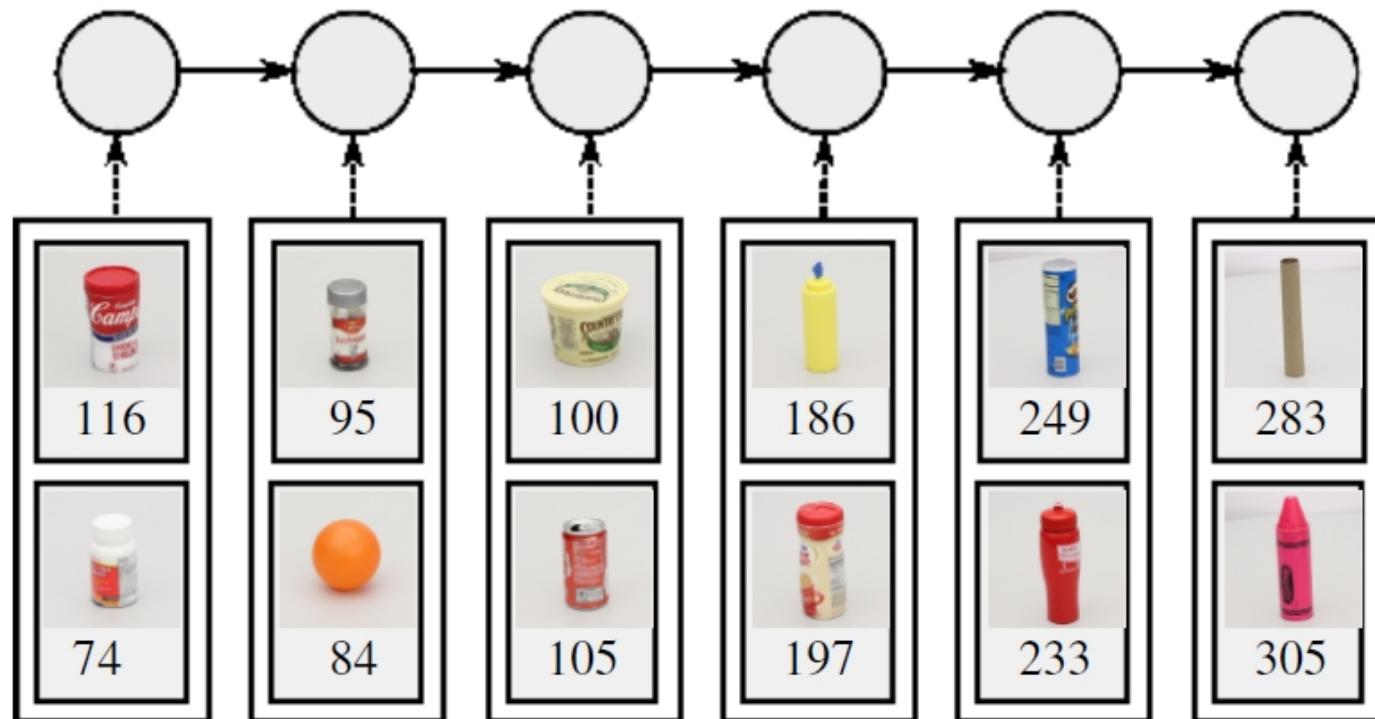
Object order with highest likelihood using the method of [Kemp and Tennenbaum, 2008]

# Example Relational Count Matrix with the *Press* action and *Haptic* features



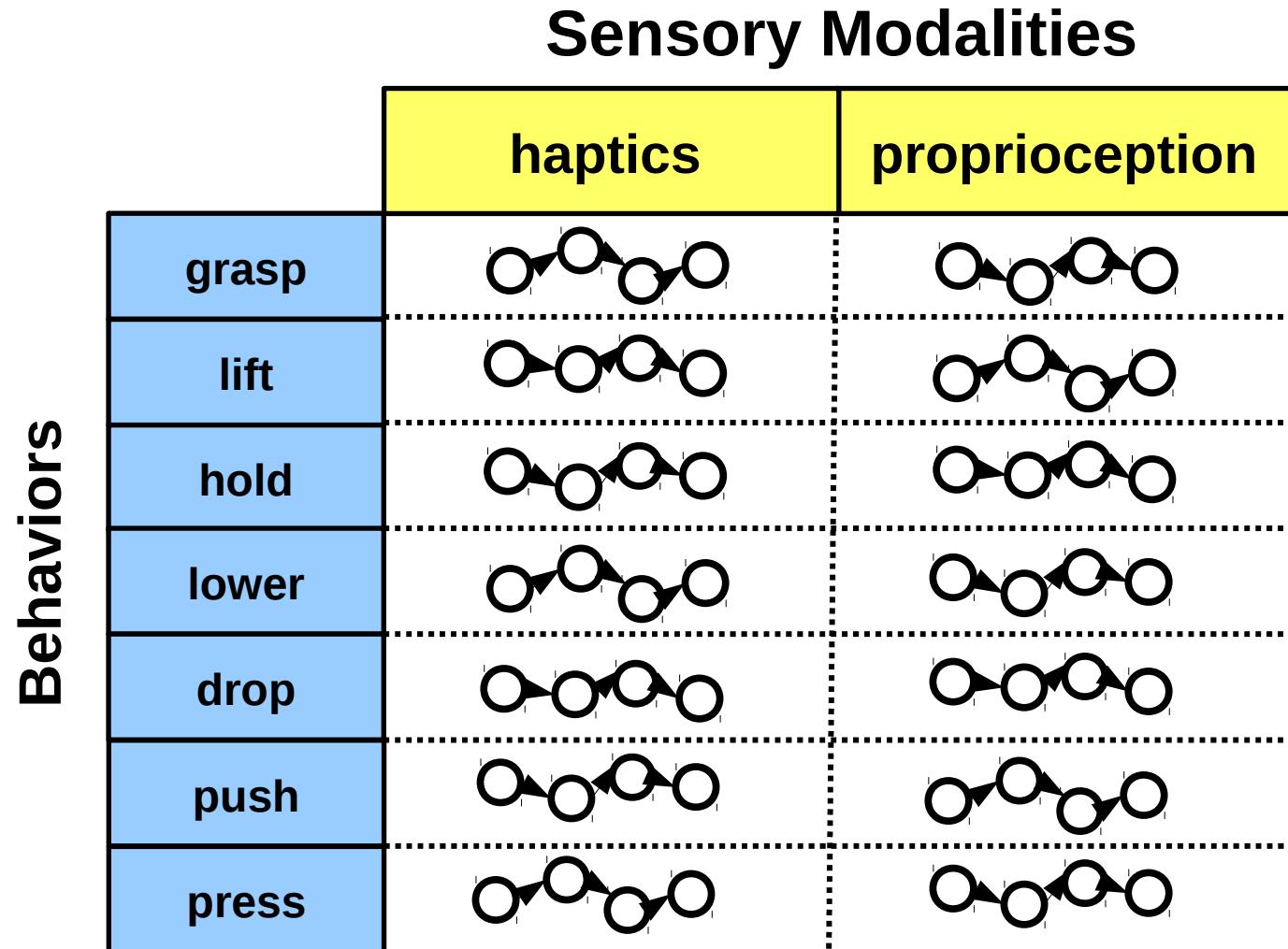
# Resulting Order

(Press behavior and *Haptic* modality)



The number corresponds to the object's height in millimeters

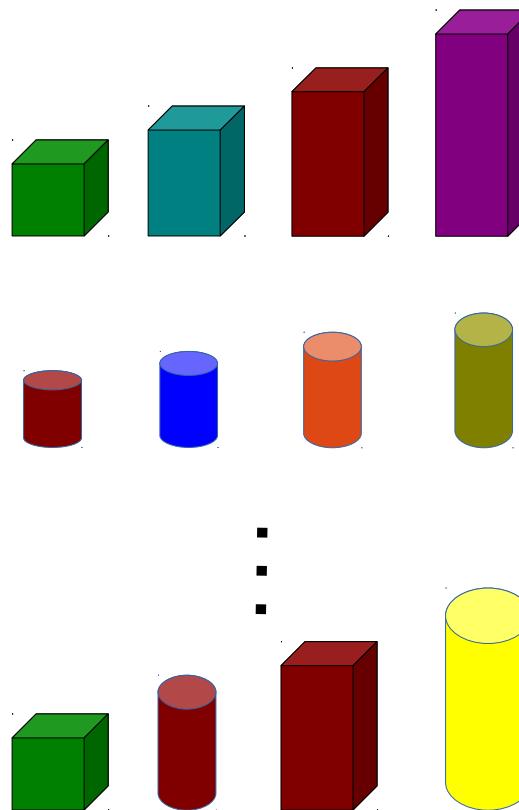
# Stage 2: Unsupervised Order Discovery



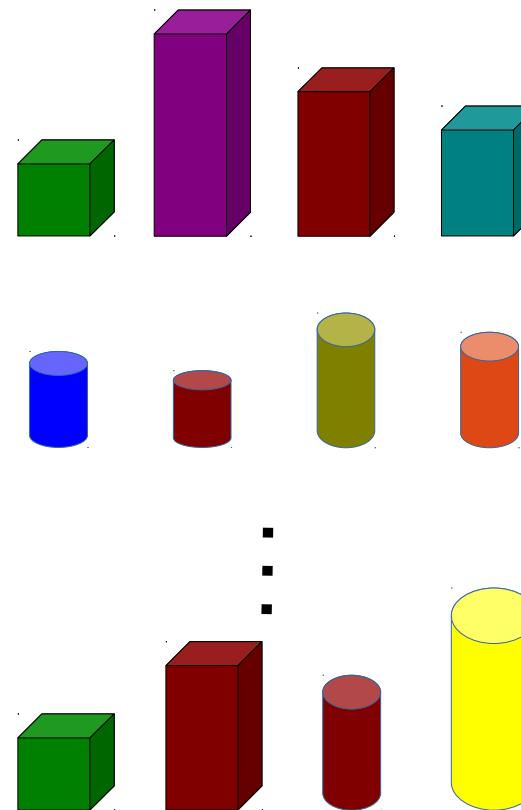
# Stage 3: Order Grounding Stage

# Order Grounding Example: “height”

Positive Examples:

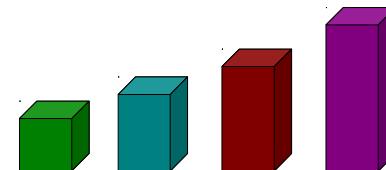


Negative Examples:



# Object Order Representation

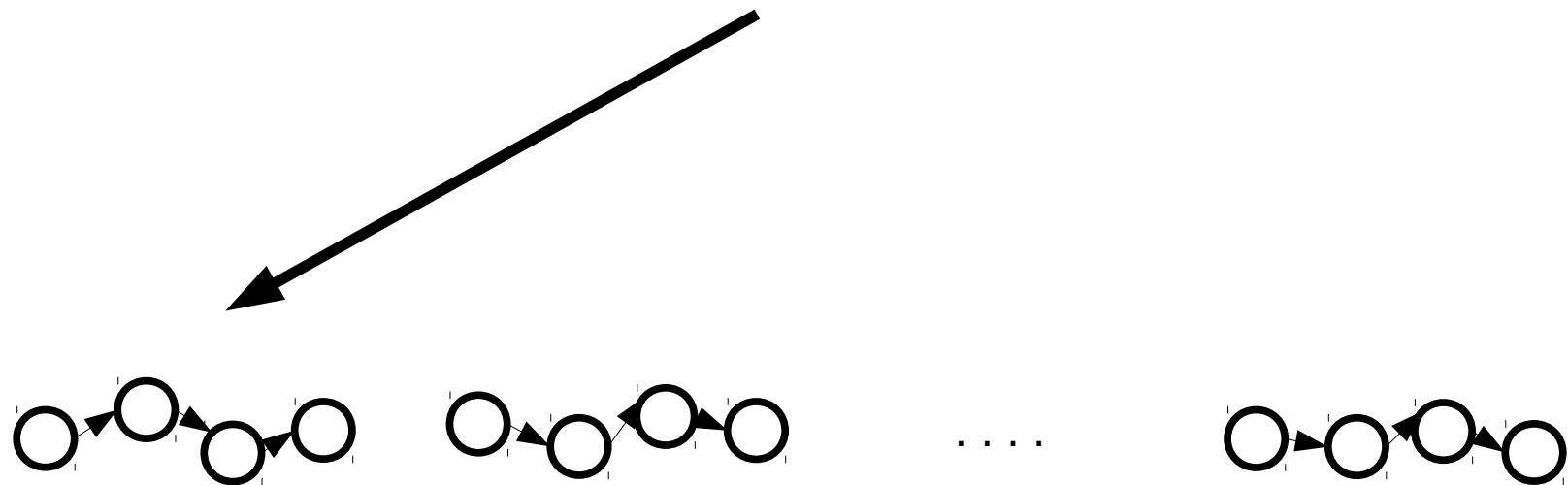
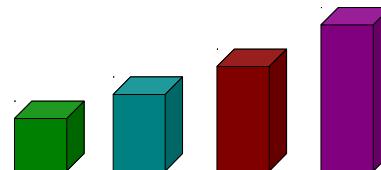
Training Example:



Object Orders Discovered During Stage 2

# Object Order Representation

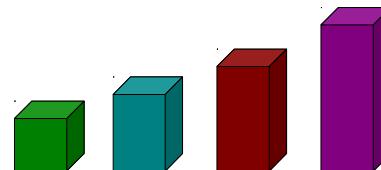
Training Example:



Object Orders Discovered During Stage 2

# Object Order Representation

Training Example:



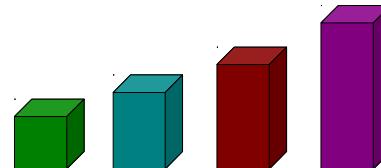
$$d(S_n, S_n^c) = \sum_{i \in \mathcal{O}_S} \sum_{j \in \mathcal{O}_S} \left| \frac{h_{S_n}(i, j)}{\text{length}(S_n)} - \frac{h_{S_n^c}(i, j)}{\text{length}(S_n^c)} \right|$$



Object Orders Discovered During Stage 2

# Object Order Representation

Training Example:



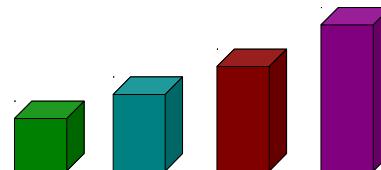
$x_1$



Object Orders Discovered During Stage 2

# Object Order Representation

Training Example:



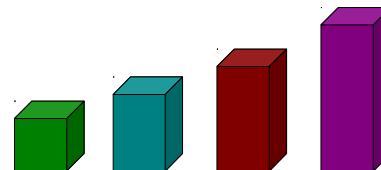
$x_1$



Object Orders Discovered During Stage 2

# Object Order Representation

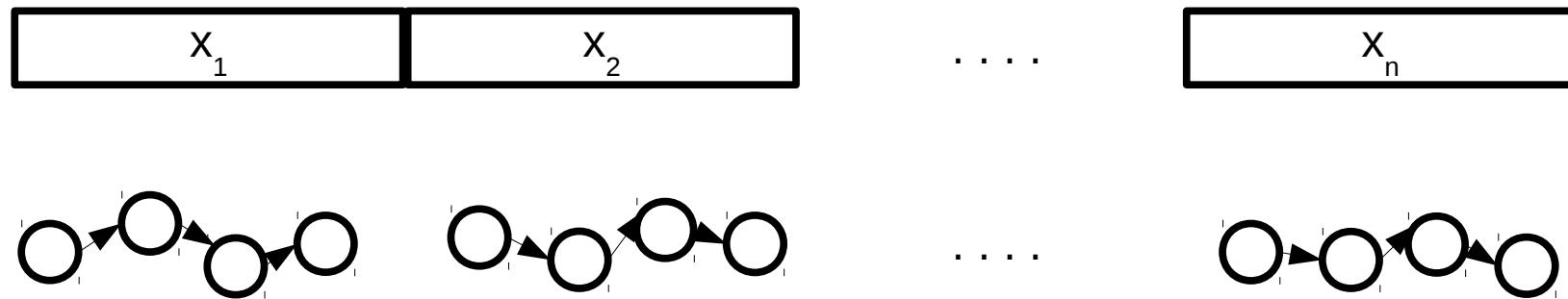
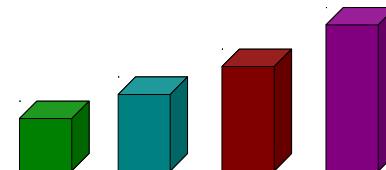
Training Example:



Object Orders Discovered During Stage 2

# Object Order Representation

Training Example:



Object Orders Discovered During Stage 2

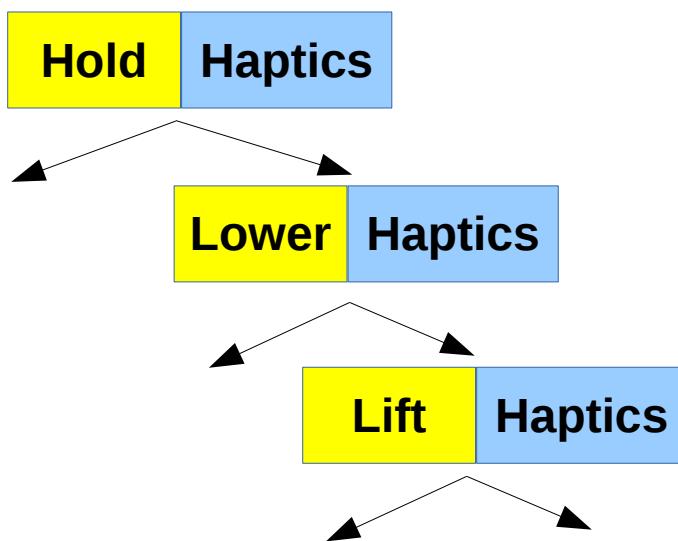
# Results: Order Recognition

Table 1: Order Recognition Rates (% Accuracy)

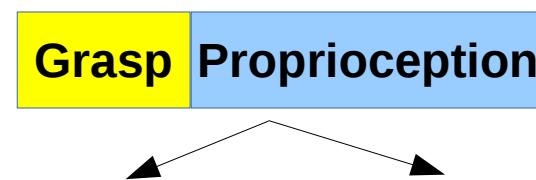
| concept | k-NN  | SVM   | Decision Tree |
|---------|-------|-------|---------------|
| weight  | 89.48 | 92.42 | 96.67         |
| width   | 78.82 | 82.49 | 91.70         |
| height  | 86.44 | 90.18 | 98.42         |

# Sample Learned Decision Trees

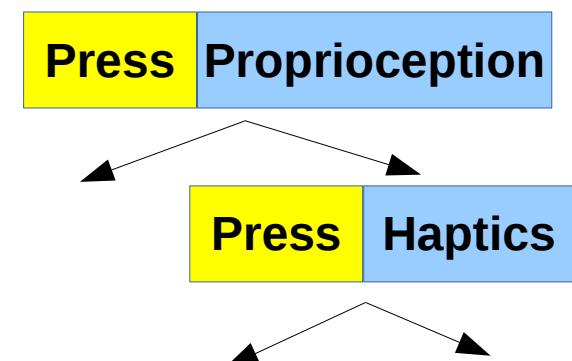
**weight**



**width**

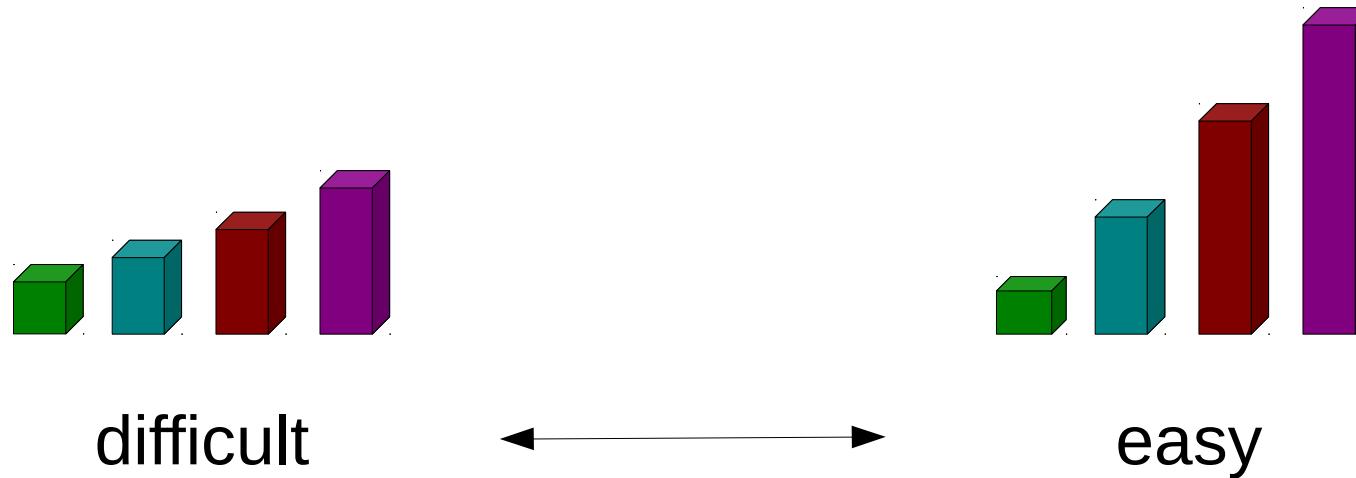


**height**

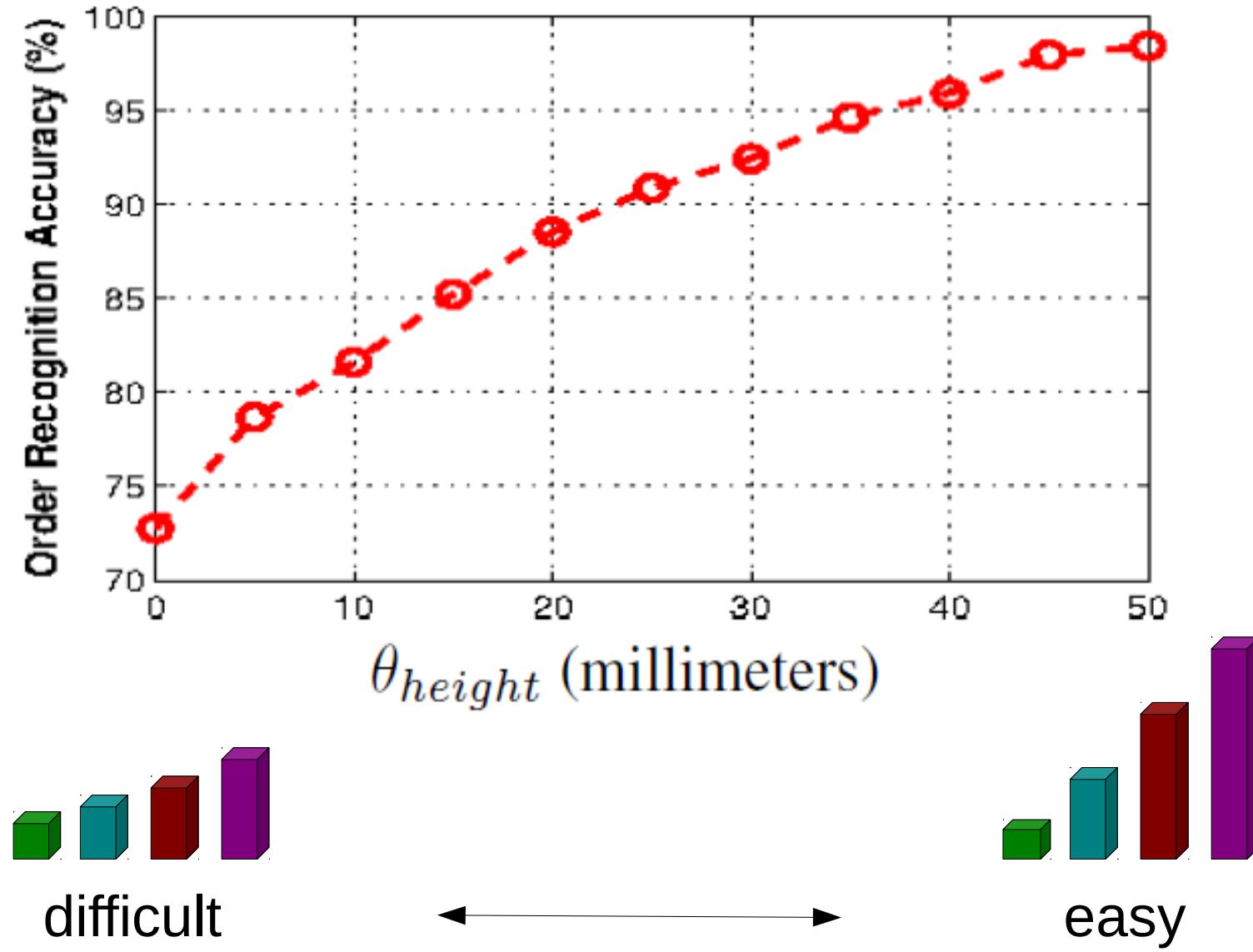


# When does the robot make mistakes?

# When does the robot make mistakes?



# When does the robot make mistakes?



# Object Order Insertion Results

Object series:



Remainder Object:

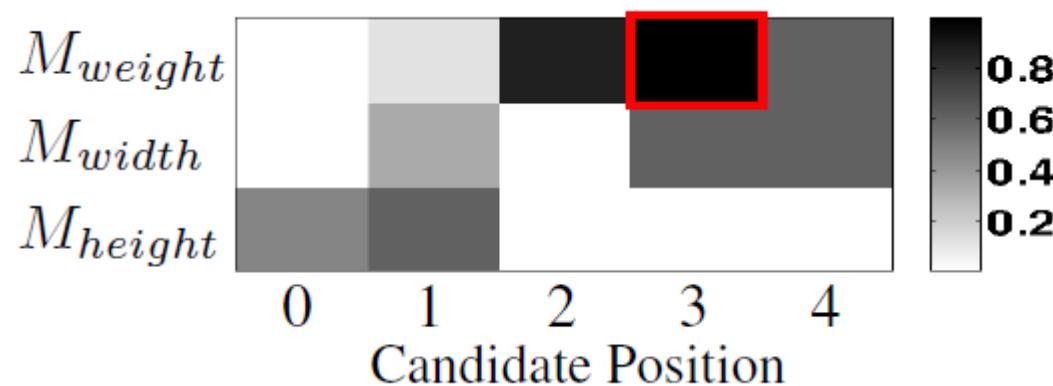


# Object Order Insertion Results

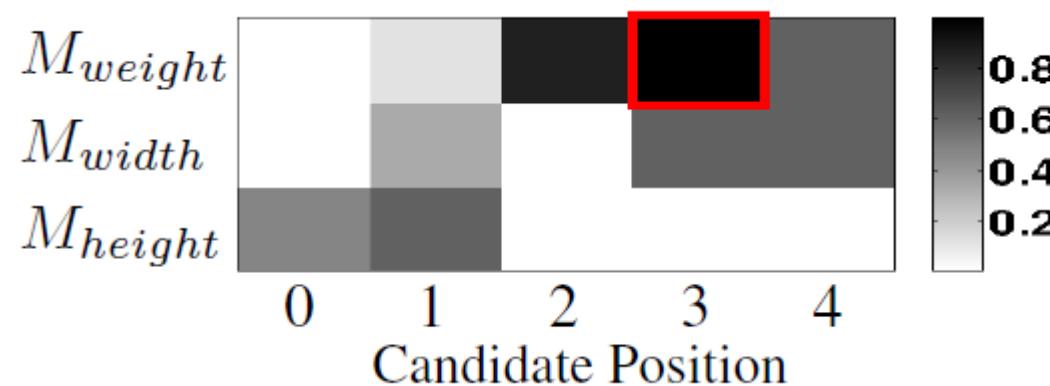
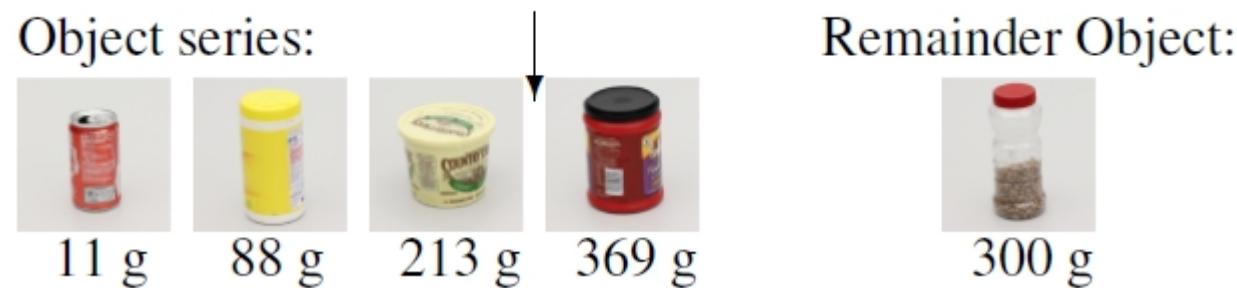
Object series:



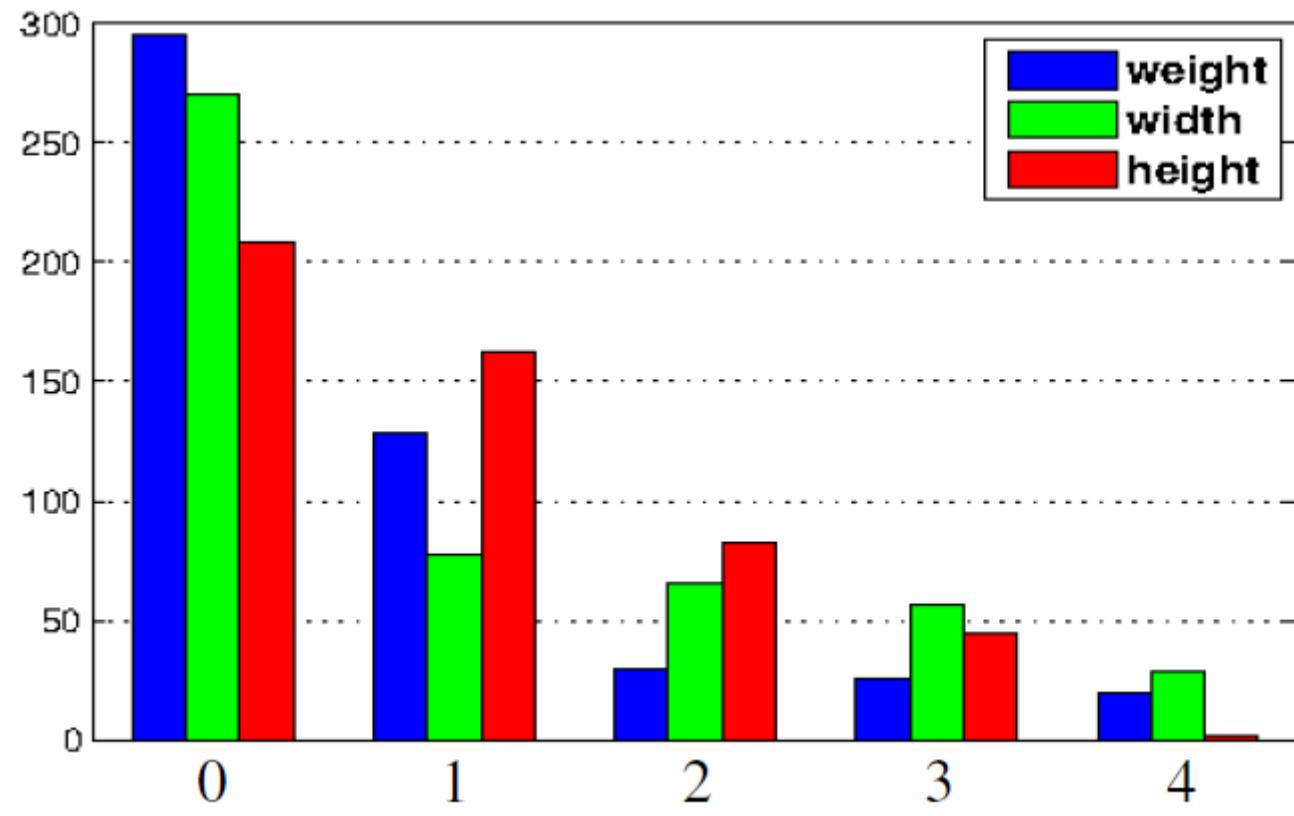
Remainder Object:



# Object Order Insertion Results



# Object Order Insertion Results

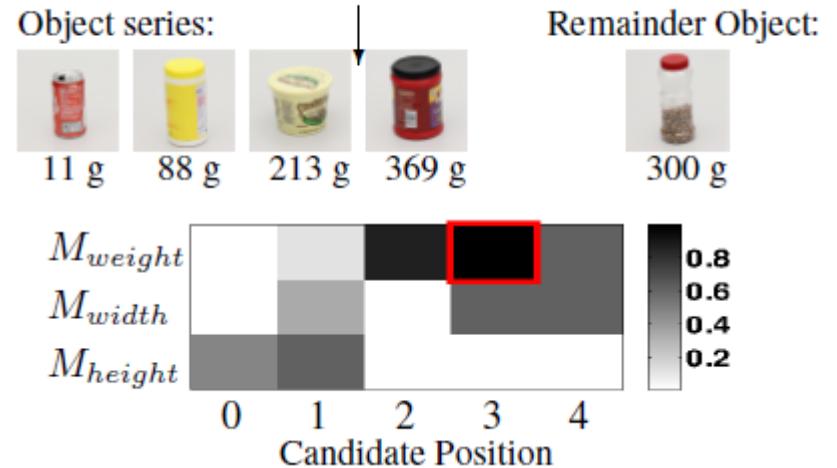


b) Histogram of Object Insertion Errors

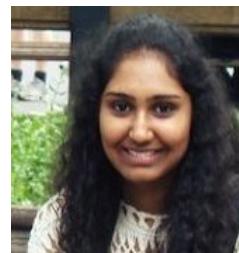
# Conclusion

- A behavior-grounded framework for learning object ordering concepts
- The robot grounded three ordering concepts, “weight”, “height”, and “width”
- Future Work:
  - Active action selection
  - Learn object ordering concepts in conjunction with object categories, pairwise object relations, etc.
  - Learn from humans (for a preview, see our next talk at **Robotics and Vision III**)

# Thank you!



Jivko Sinapov



Priyanka Khante



Maxwell Svetlik



Peter Stone

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