

PhD Dissertation Defense
05/13/2020

Dynamic Shape Construction and Transformation with Collective Elements

Ryo Suzuki

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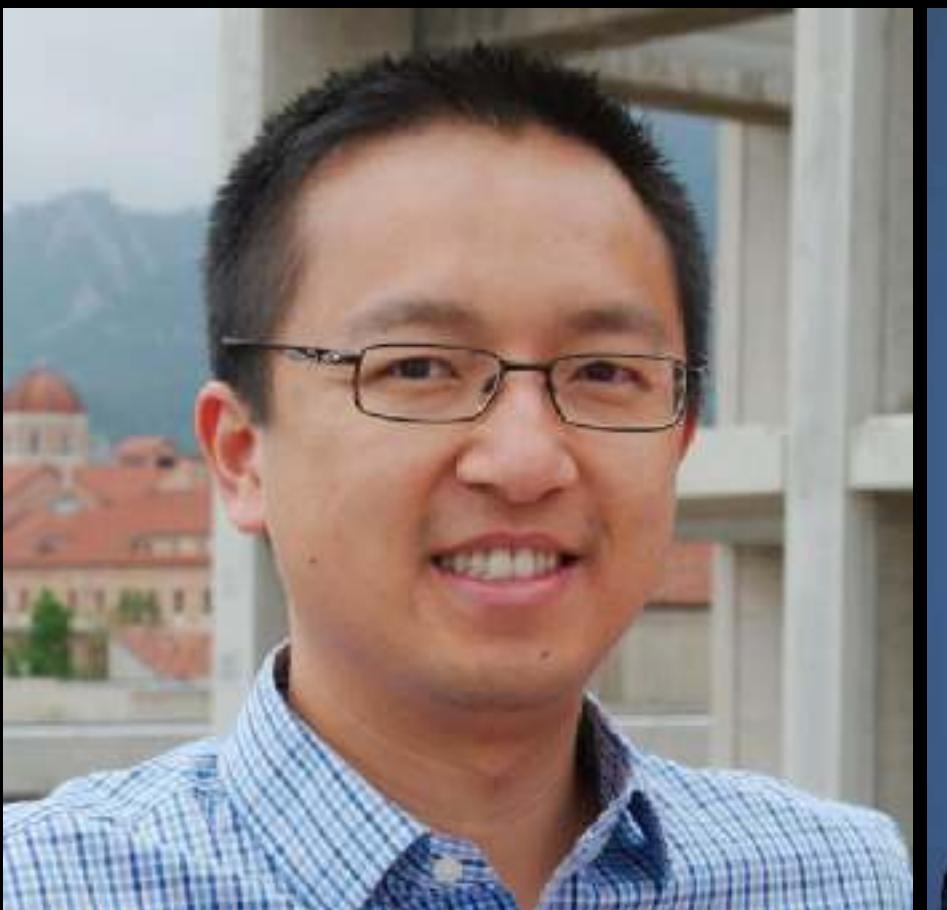
Thesis Committee



Daniel Leithinger
CU Boulder



Mark D. Gross
CU Boulder



Tom Yeh
CU Boulder



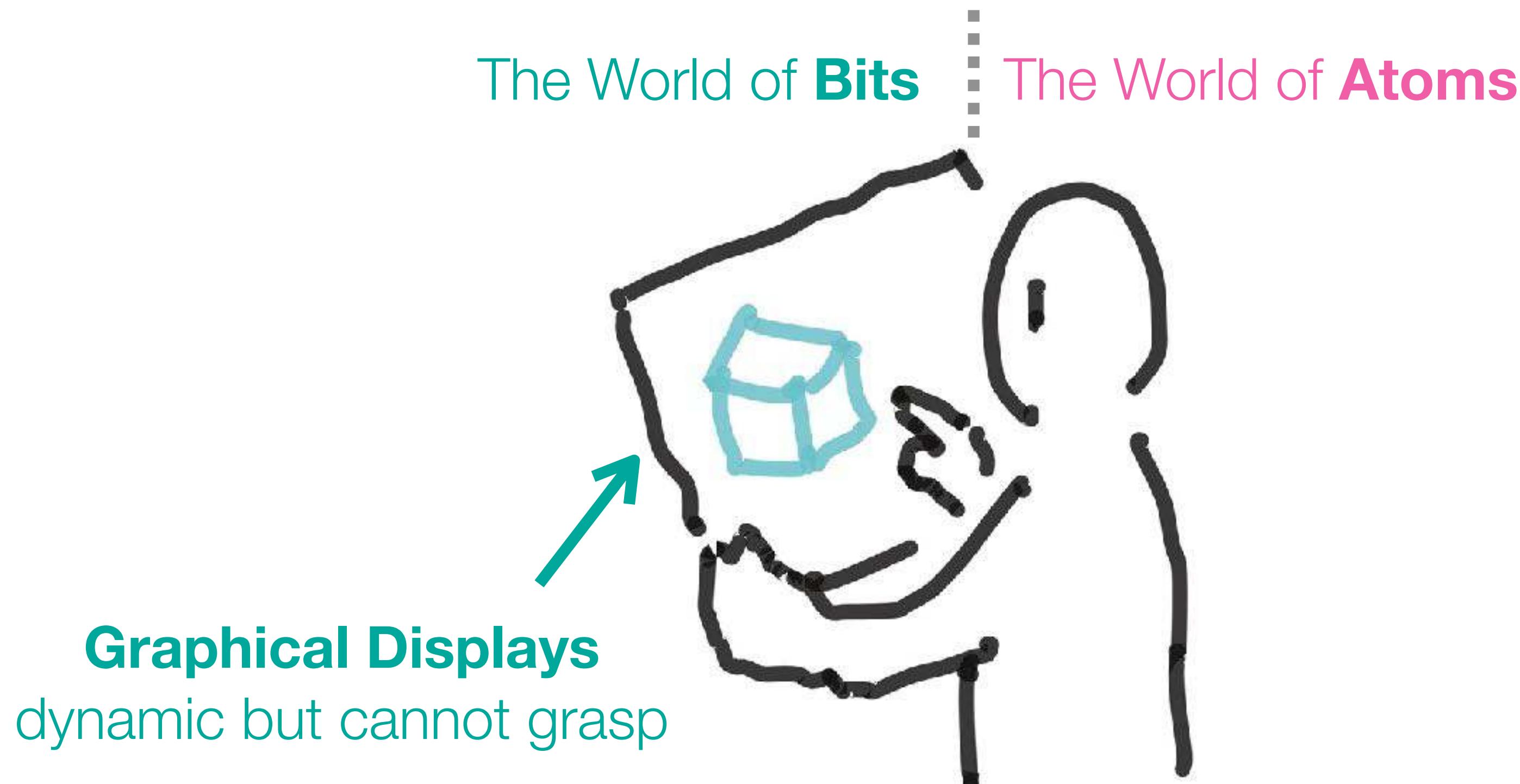
Hiroshi Ishii
MIT Media Lab



Takeo Igarashi
UTokyo

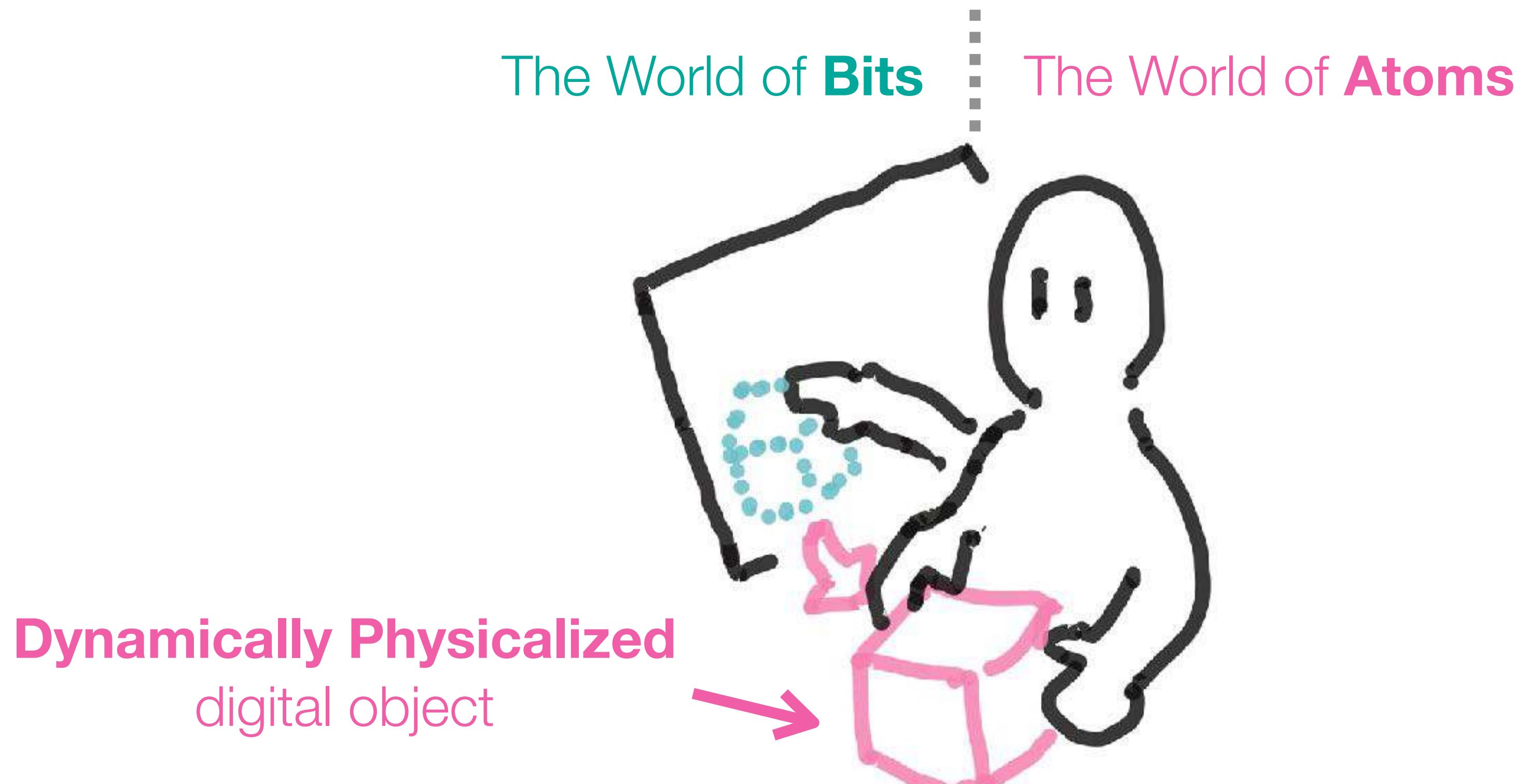
This thesis is about an exploration of ways to dynamically **physicalize** digital information from a computer screen, in the real world.

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Today

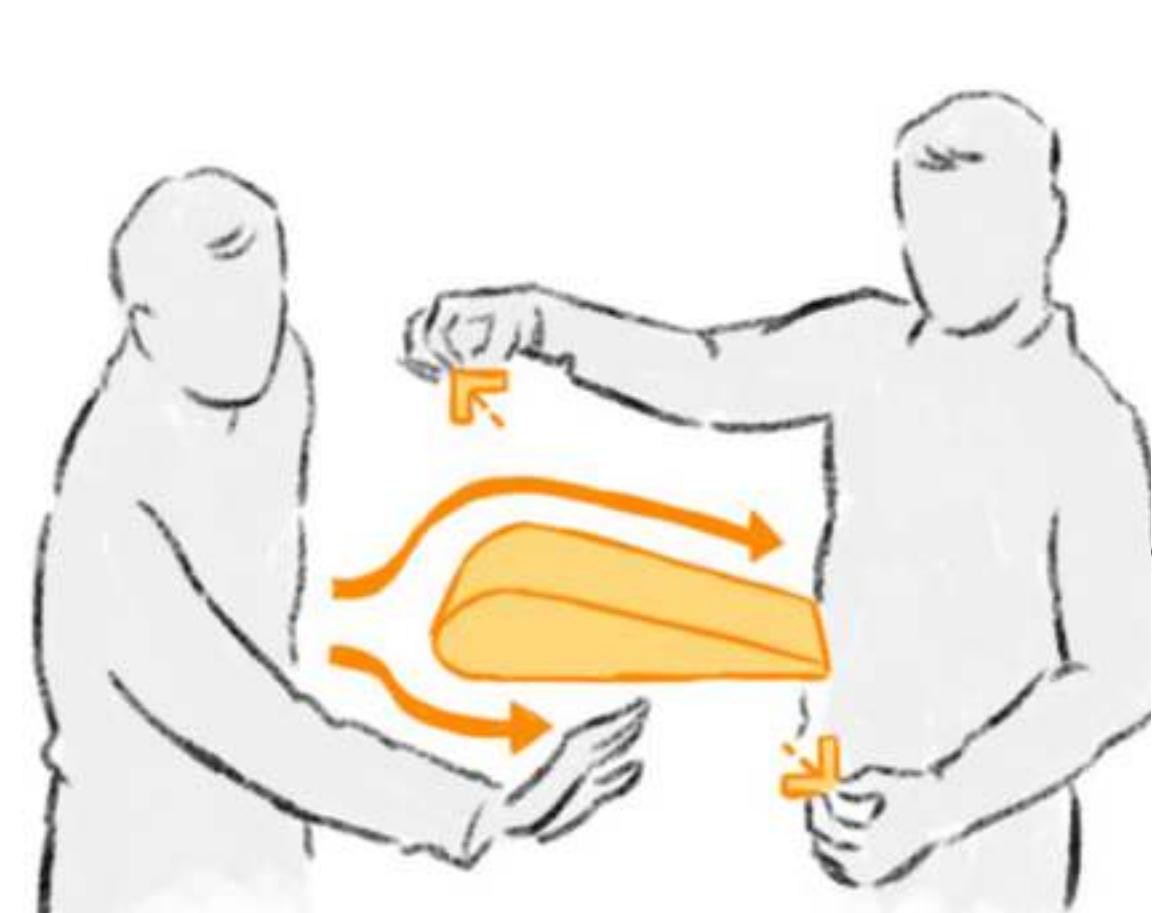
This thesis is about an exploration of ways to dynamically **physicalize** digital information from a computer screen, in the real world.



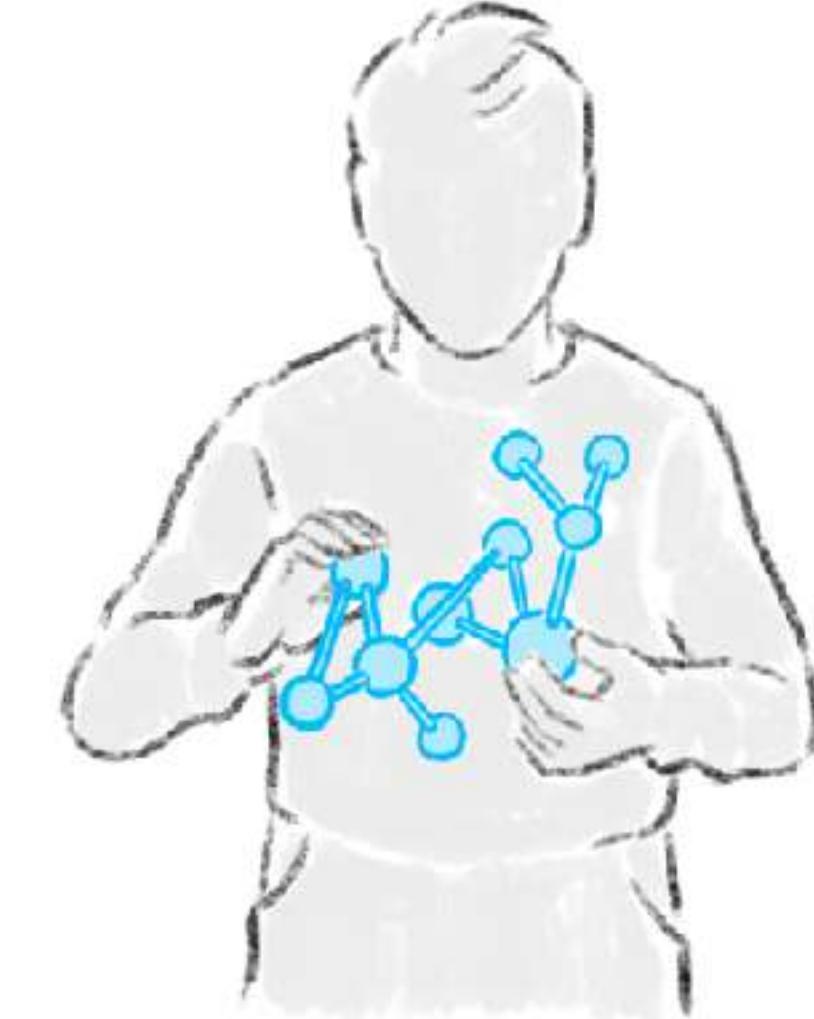
Tomorrow

Towards Dynamic Physical Media

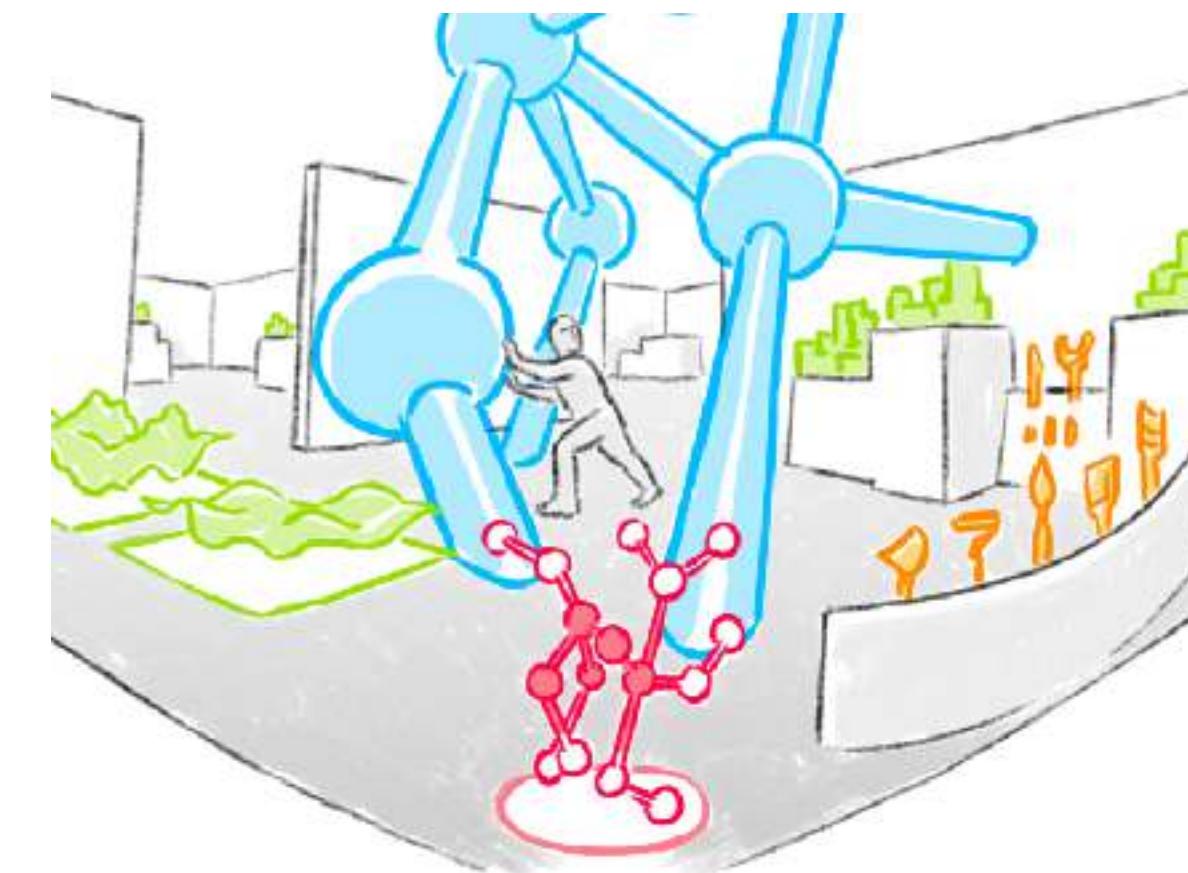
with which the user can touch, feel, grasp, and manipulate to think, design, explore, and collaborate.



dynamic physical object
to communicate



dynamic physical object
to think with



dynamic physical environment
to think

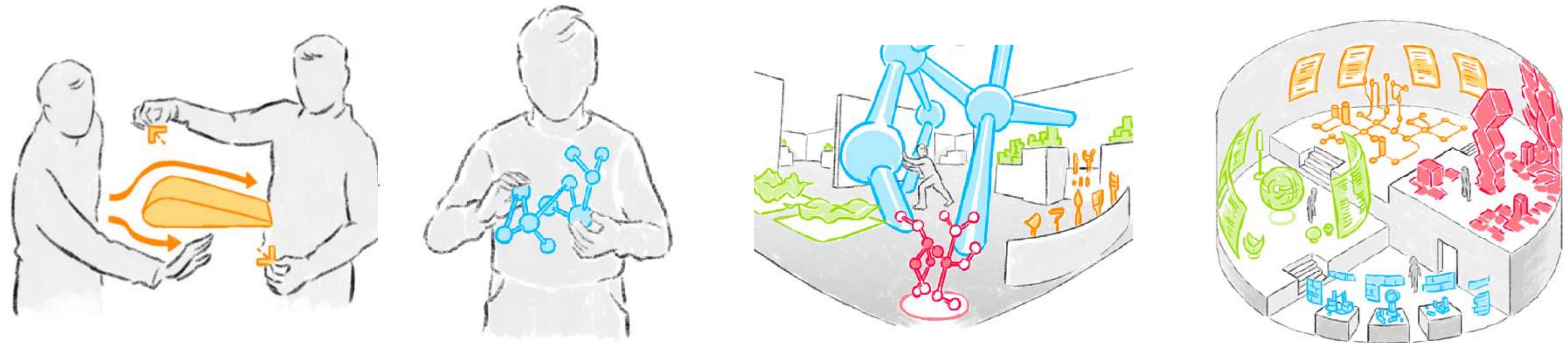


dynamic physical environment
to explore and collaborate

66

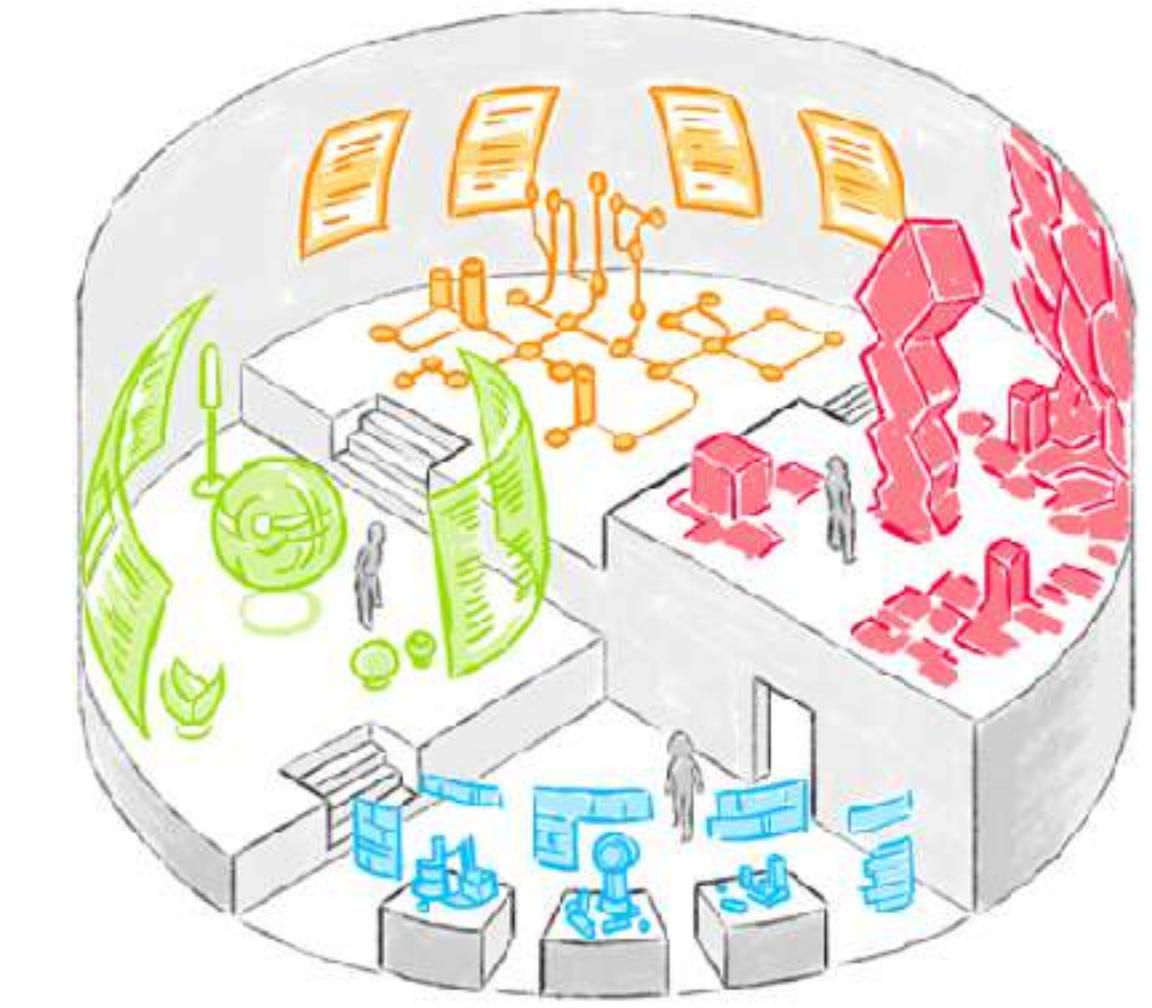
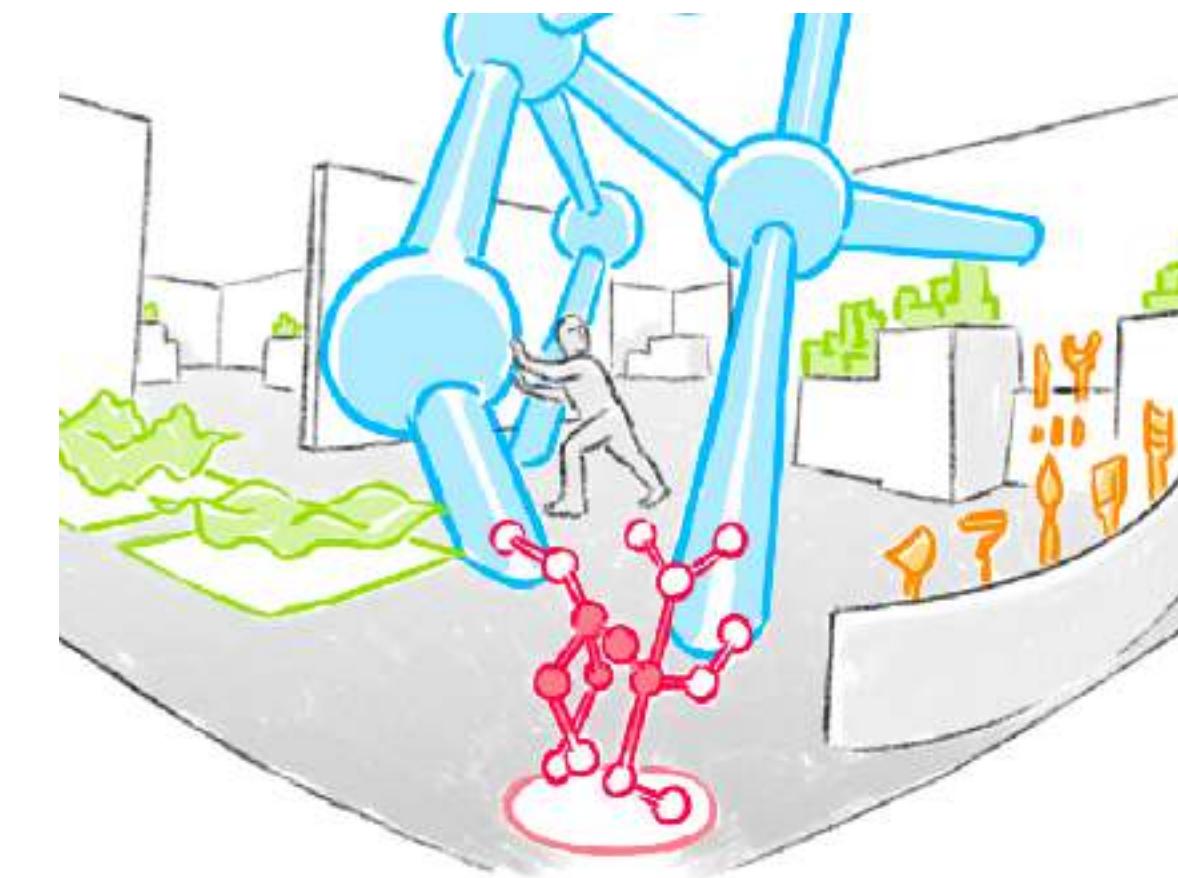
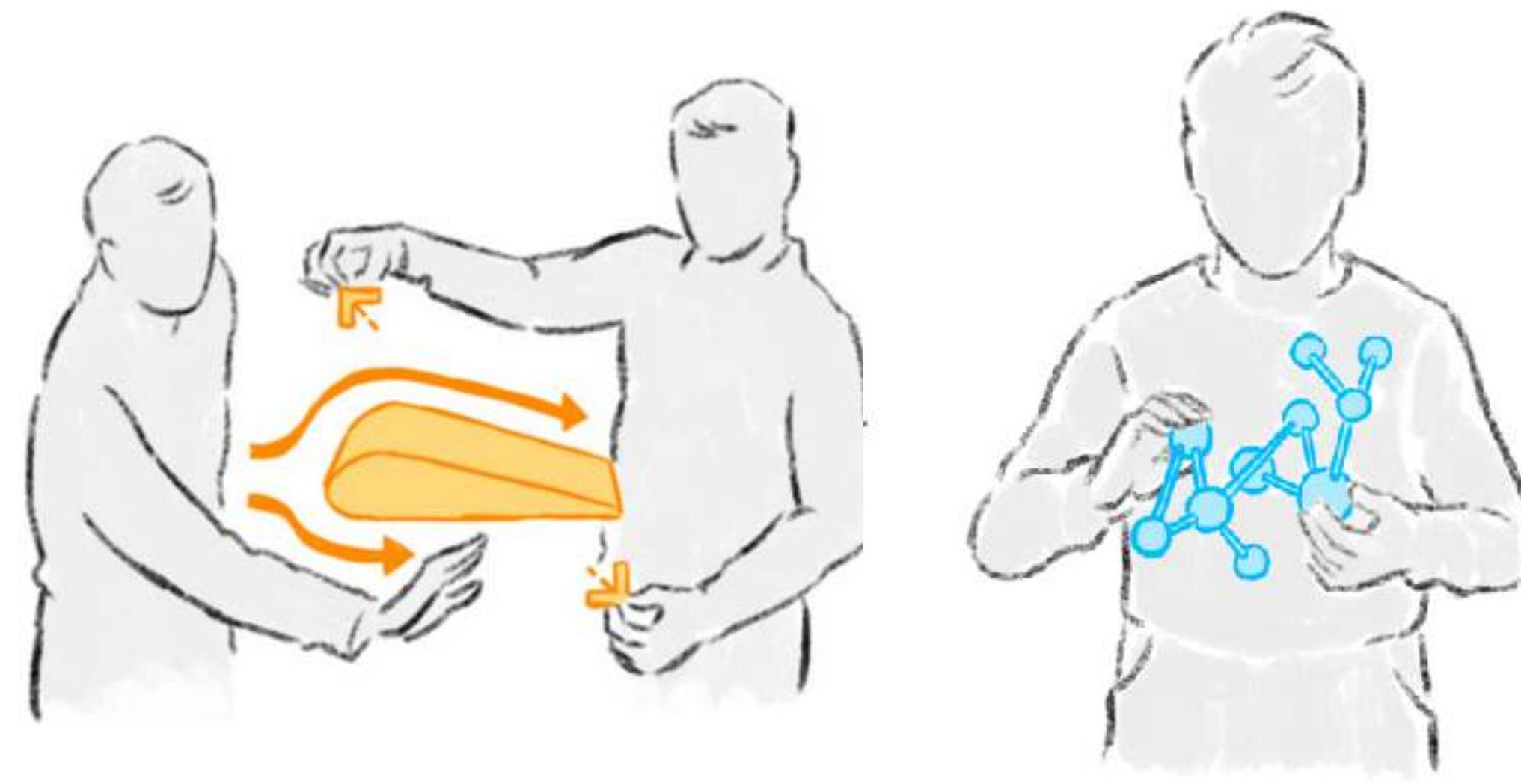
This is not AR, not VR, just R or Dynamic Reality

gg



To achieve this goal, we need to develop

- 1) *general-purpose methods to transform arbitrary digital information into tangible, physical forms*
- 2) *interaction models to program and manipulate the dynamic physical objects and environments*



As a first step, this thesis explores

- 1) **dynamic and collective shape construction**
as a *general-purpose method to physicalize dynamic digital information*
- 2) **interaction techniques** to program and manipulate dynamic collective
elements *through direct physical manipulations*

Dynamic Shape Construction and Transformation with Collective Elements

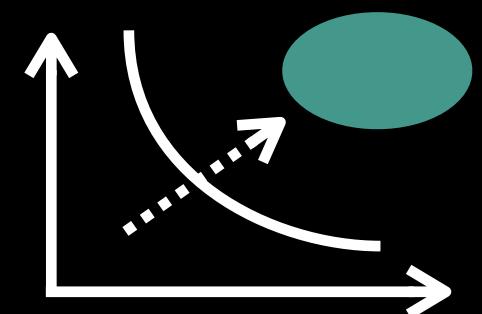
Ryo Suzuki

University of Colorado Boulder

Background

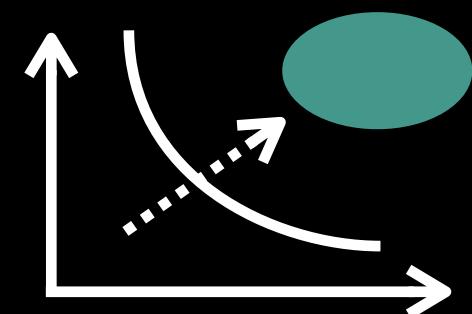


Why This Approach?



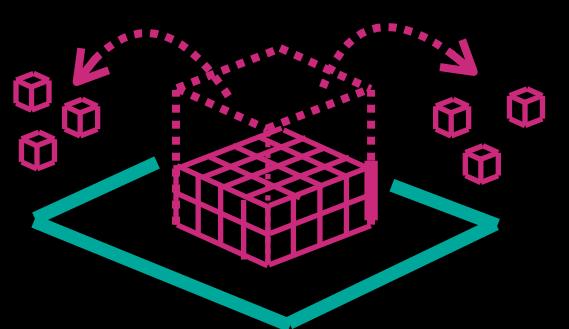
Background

Why This Approach?



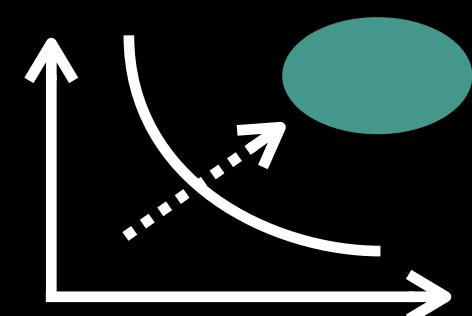
Concept

What is
Dynamic and Collective
Shape Construction?



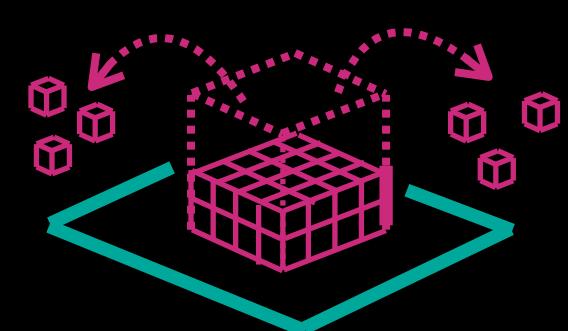
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Why This Approach?



Concept

What is
Dynamic and Collective
Shape Construction?



Shape Construction
with **Active** Elements

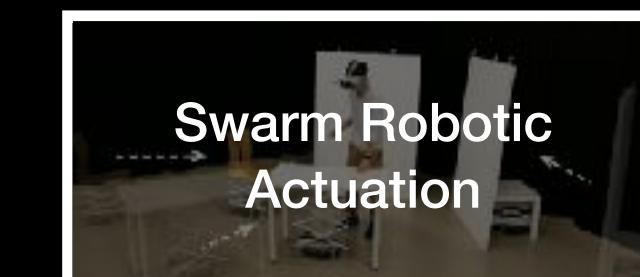
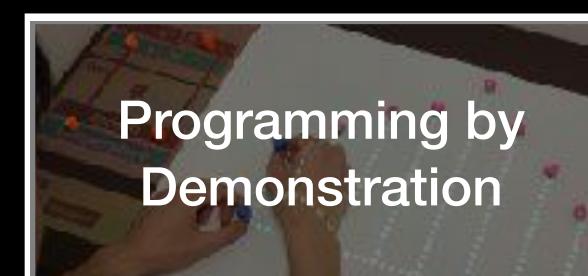


Explorations

Shape Construction
with **Passive** Elements

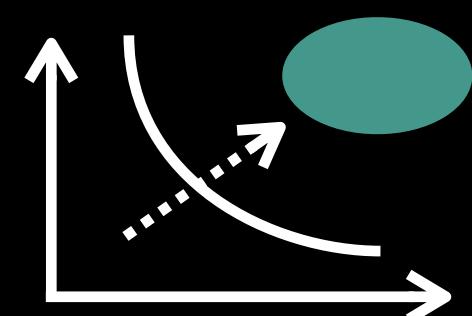


Interaction with
Collective Elements



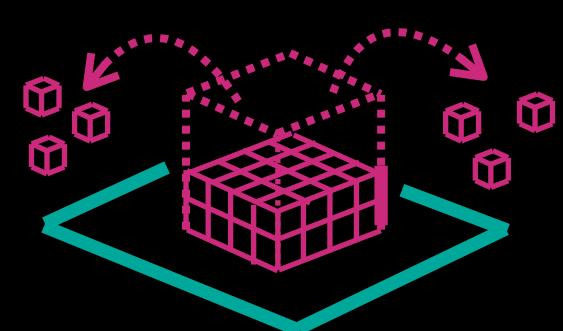
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Why This Approach?



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Shape Construction
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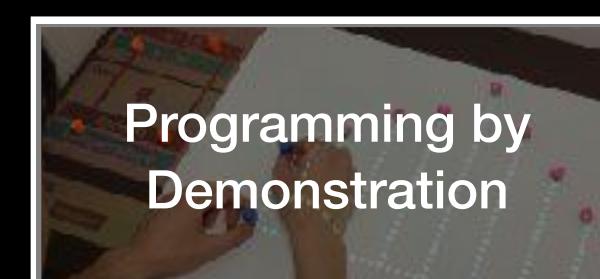


Explorations

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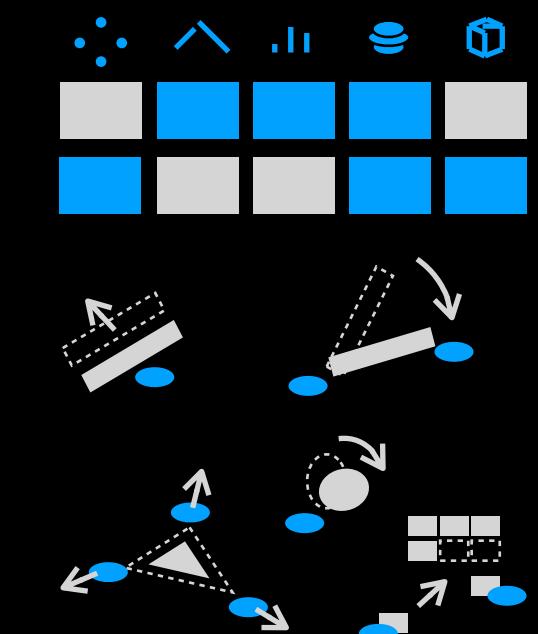


Interaction with
Collective Elements



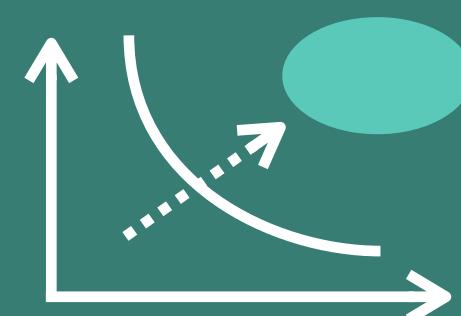
Discussion

What's Next?



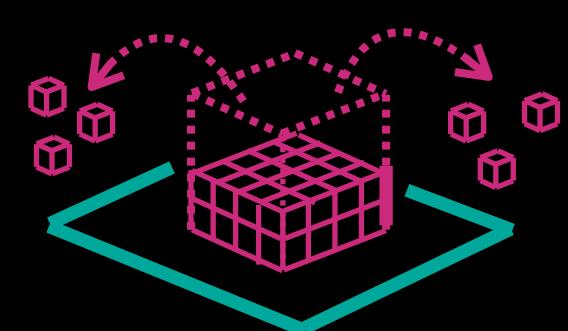
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Shape Construction
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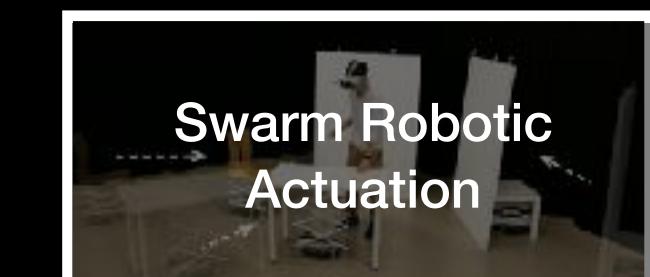
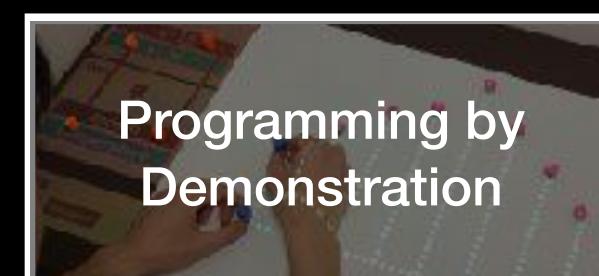


Explorations

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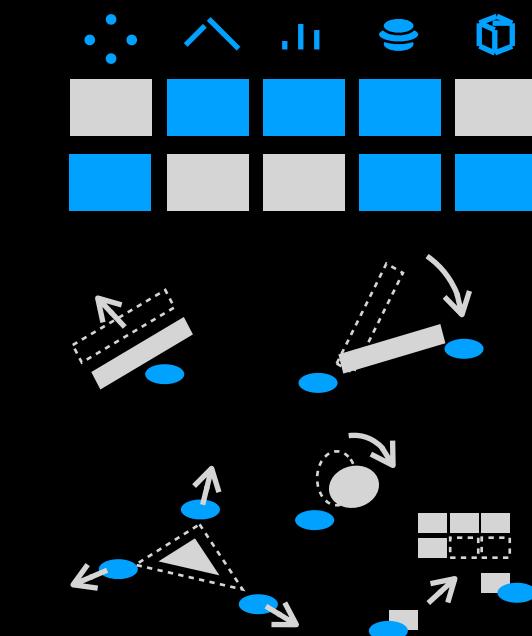


Interaction with
Collective Elements



Discussion

What's Next?



Digital World



Physical World



These two worlds are **divided**

Digital World



Physical World



These two worlds are **divided**

Digital World



Physical World



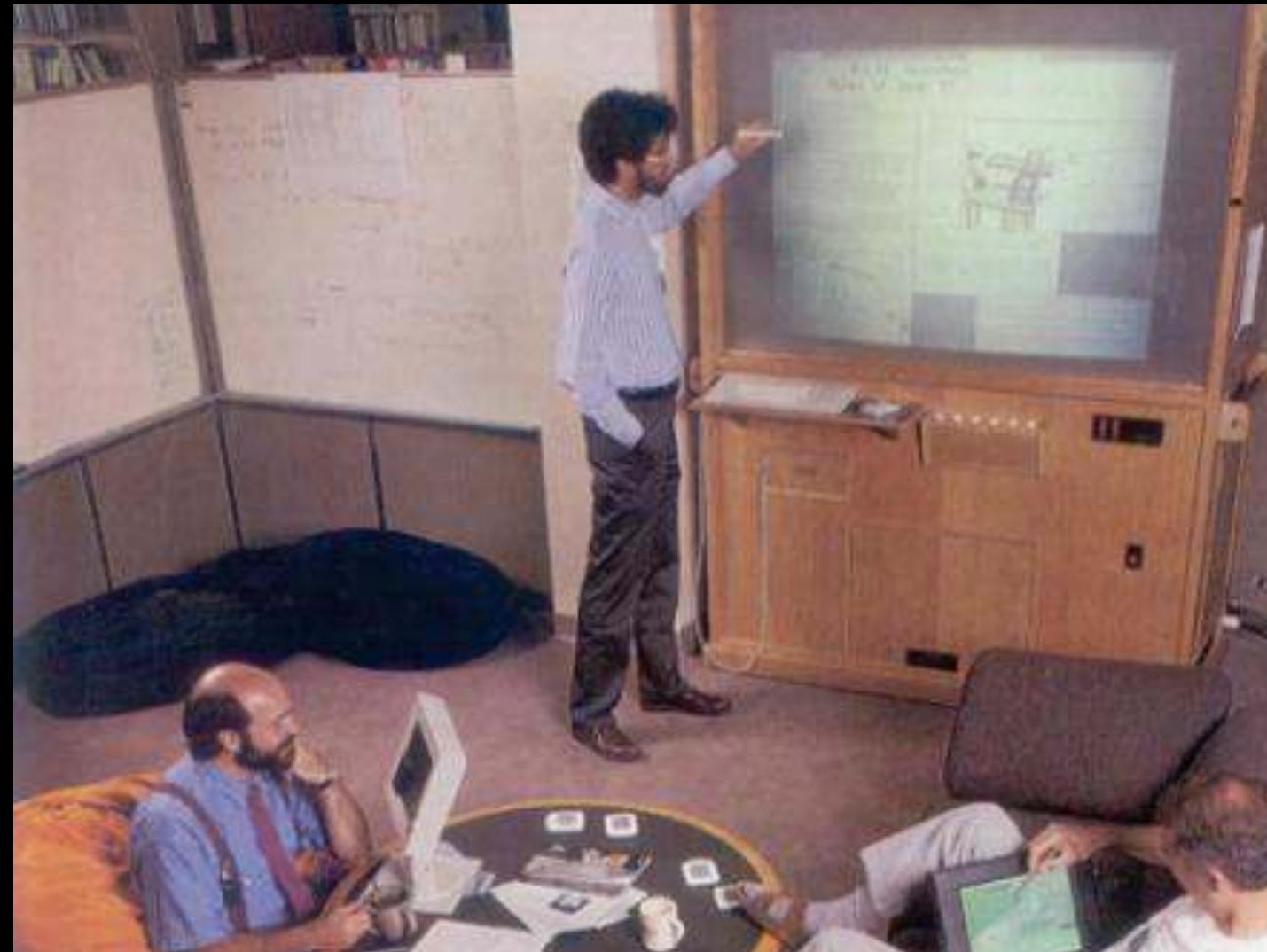
towards the **seamless integration** of digital and physical worlds

PhysicalWorld



History of Human-Computer Interaction Research

rich history of bringing computation into the real world



Calm Computing

[Ubiquitous Comp., Weiser 1991]



Augmented Reality

[DigitalDesk, Wellner 1993]



Tangible User Interfaces

[SandScape, Ishii 2004]

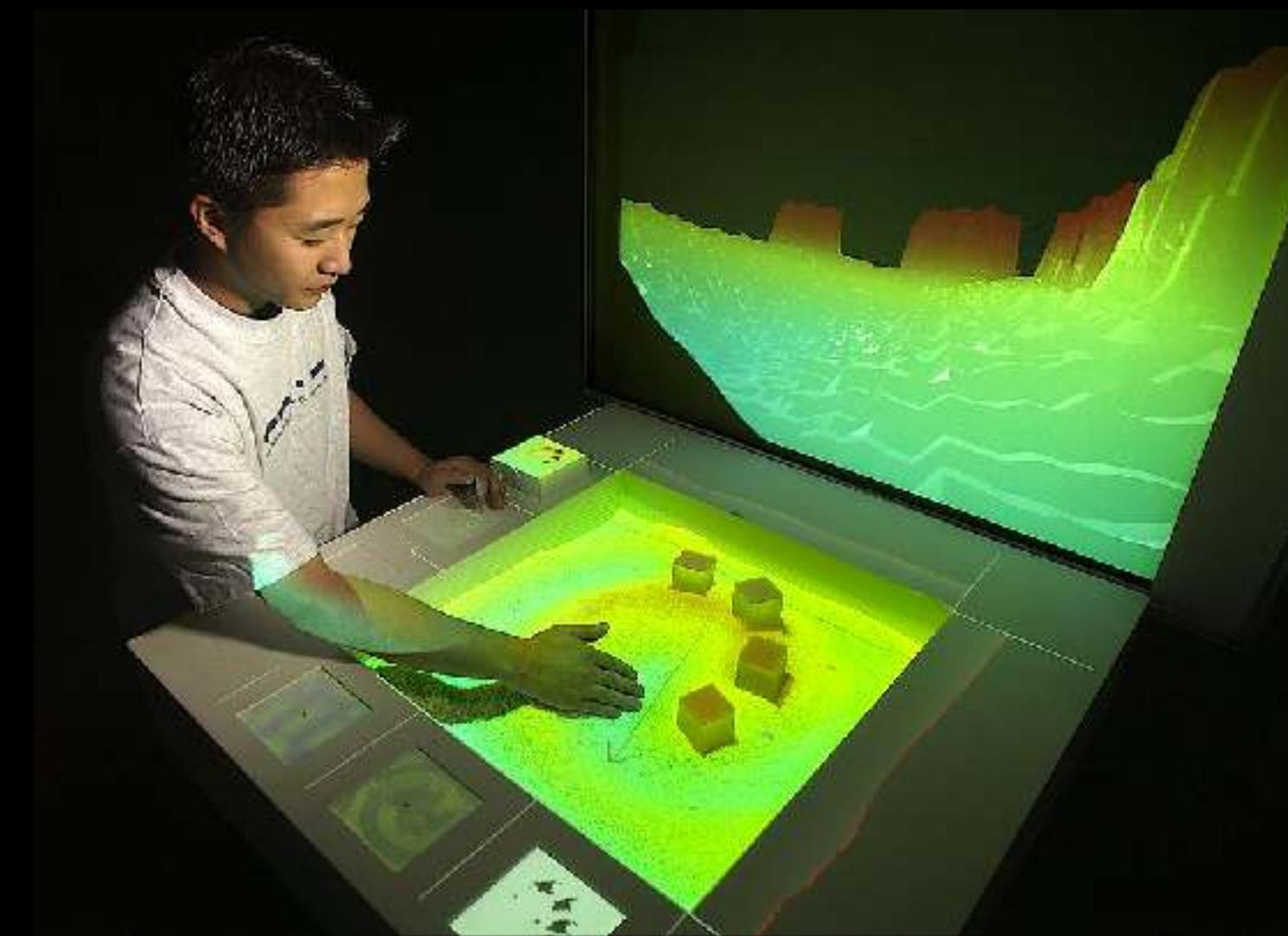
History of Human-Computer Interaction Research

more recently, researchers started to investigate dynamic physical UI



Augmented Reality

[DigitalDesk, Wellner 1993]



Tangible User Interfaces

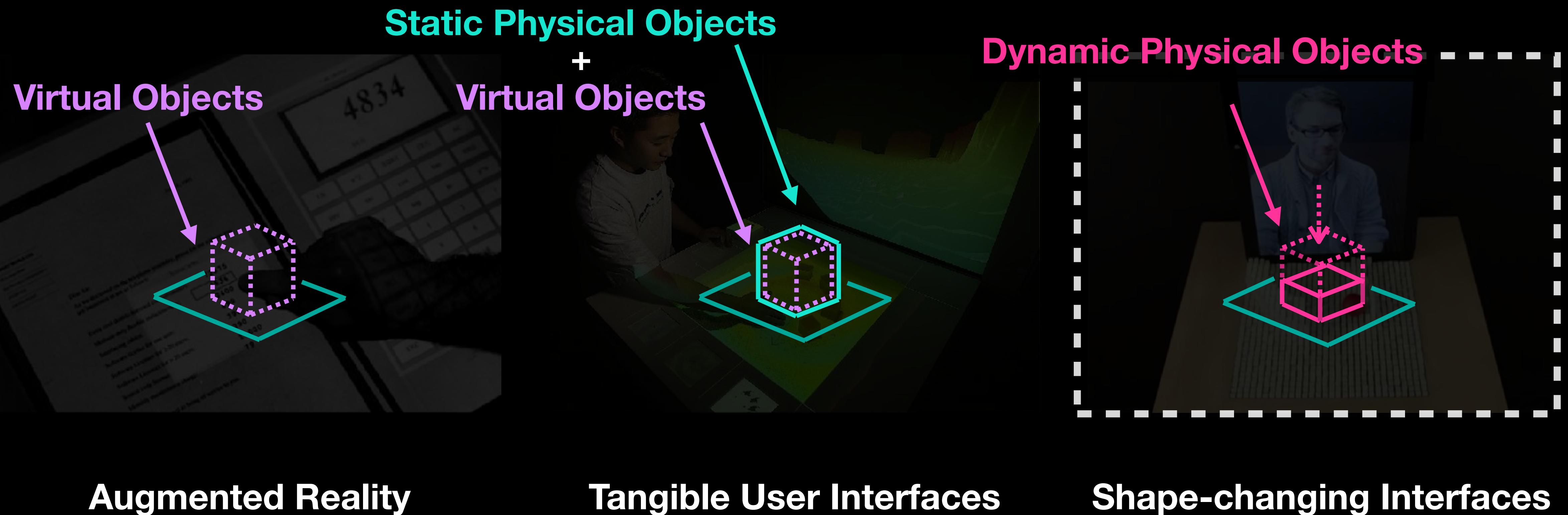
[SandScape, Ishii 2004]



Shape-changing Interfaces

[inFORM, Follmer 2013]

History of Human-Computer Interaction Research



shape-changing interface research is inspired by the vision of



*“The **Ultimate Display** would, of course, be a room within which
the computer can control the existence of matter.”*

“The Ultimate Display” by Ivan Sutherland, 1965

shape-changing interface research is inspired by the vision of

The slide features three main sections: 'GUI PAINTED BITS' on the left, 'TUI TANGIBLE BITS' in the center, and 'RADICAL ATOMS' on the right. Below these is a large blue rectangular area containing a white iceberg illustration. A small blue tab on the right side of the blue area is labeled 'THE PHYSICAL WORLD'. Below the blue area, a dark grey section contains the text: 'Radical Atoms is a vision for the future of human-material interaction, in which **all digital information has a physical manifestation** so that we can interact directly with it.' At the bottom, a dark grey footer bar contains three paragraphs of text: 'A Graphical User Interfaces only let users see digital information through a screen, as if looking through a surface of the water. We interact with the forms below through remote controls such as a mouse, a keyboard or a touch screen.', 'A Tangible User Interface is like an iceberg; there is a portion of the digital that emerges beyond the surface of the water - into the physical realm - that acts as physical manifestations of computation, allowing us to directly interact with the "tip of the iceberg."', and 'Radical Atoms is our vision for the future of interaction with hypothetical dynamic materials, in which all digital information has physical manifestation so that we can interact directly with it - as if the iceberg had risen from the depths to reveal its sunken mass.'

GUI PAINTED BITS

TUI TANGIBLE BITS

RADICAL ATOMS

THE PHYSICAL WORLD

*Radical Atoms is a vision for the future of human-material interaction, in which **all digital information has a physical manifestation** so that we can interact directly with it.*

A Graphical User Interfaces only let users see digital information through a screen, as if looking through a surface of the water. We interact with the forms below through remote controls such as a mouse, a keyboard or a touch screen.

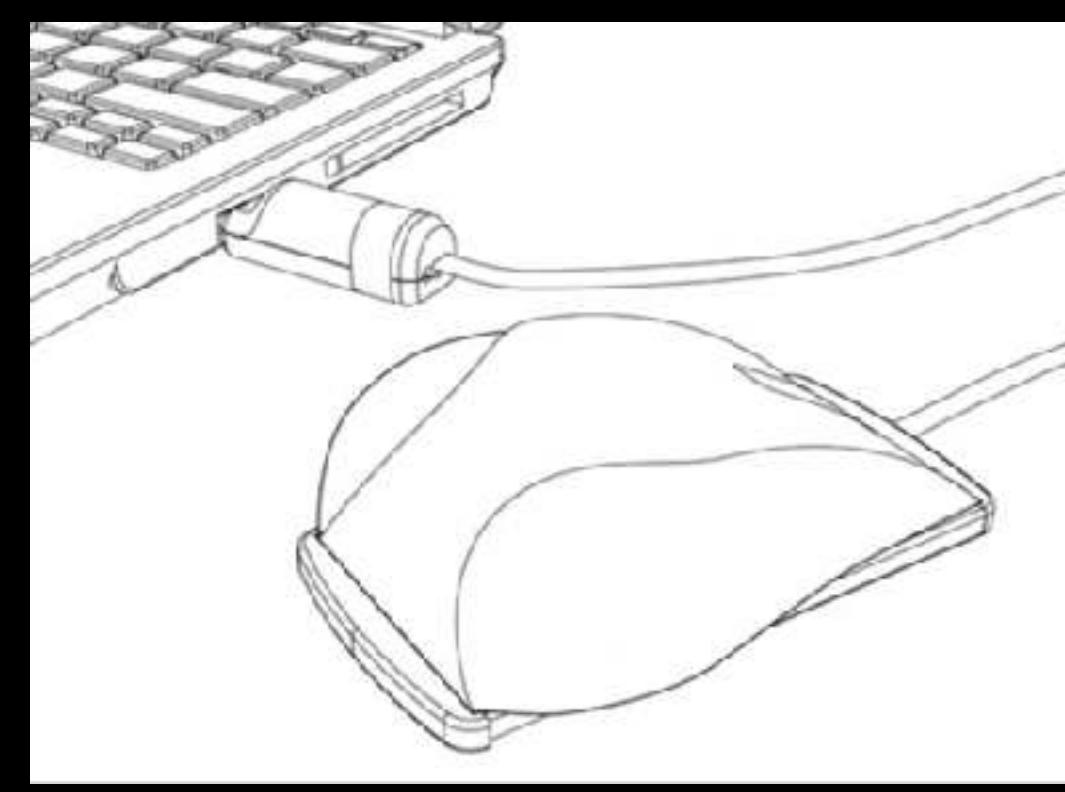
A Tangible User Interface is like an iceberg; there is a portion of the digital that emerges beyond the surface of the water - into the physical realm - that acts as physical manifestations of computation, allowing us to directly interact with the "tip of the iceberg."

Radical Atoms is our vision for the future of interaction with hypothetical dynamic materials, in which all digital information has physical manifestation so that we can interact directly with it - as if the iceberg had risen from the depths to reveal its sunken mass.

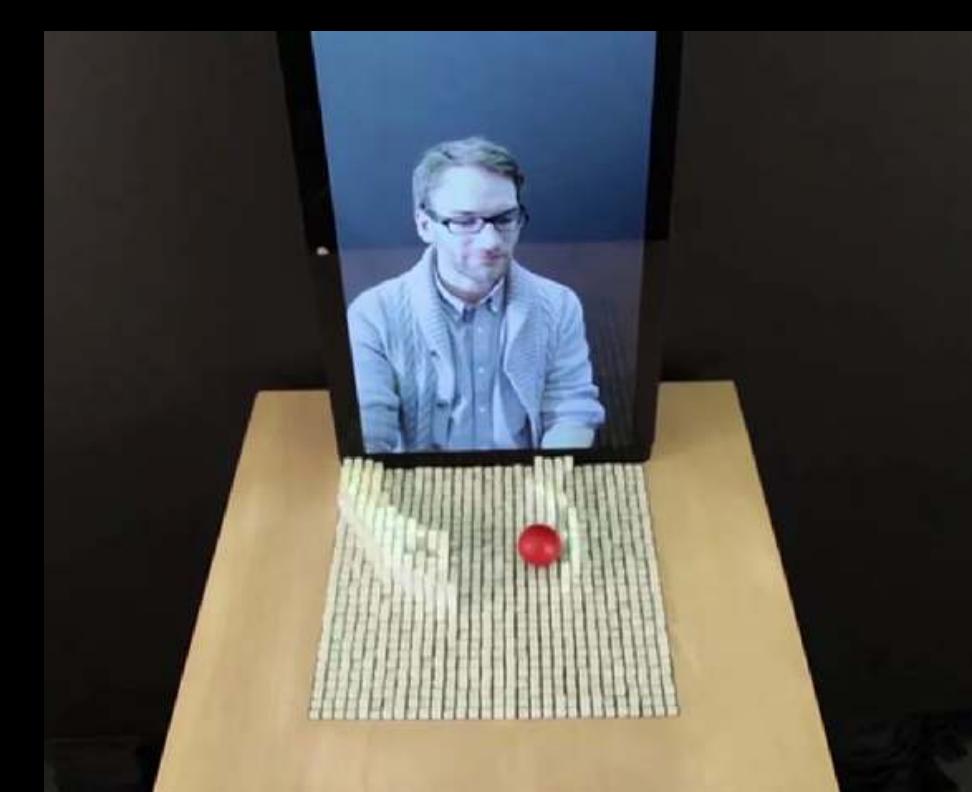
Shape-changing Interfaces



PneUI [Yao, UIST'13]



Inflatable Mouse [Kim, CHI'08]



inFORM [Follmer, UIST'13]



BMW Museum [Art+Com '08]



Thrifty Faucet [Togler, TEI'09]



Bendi [Park, CHI'15]



Lumen [Poupyrev '04]



HypoSurface [Goulthorpe '01]

special-purpose
shape-changing interfaces

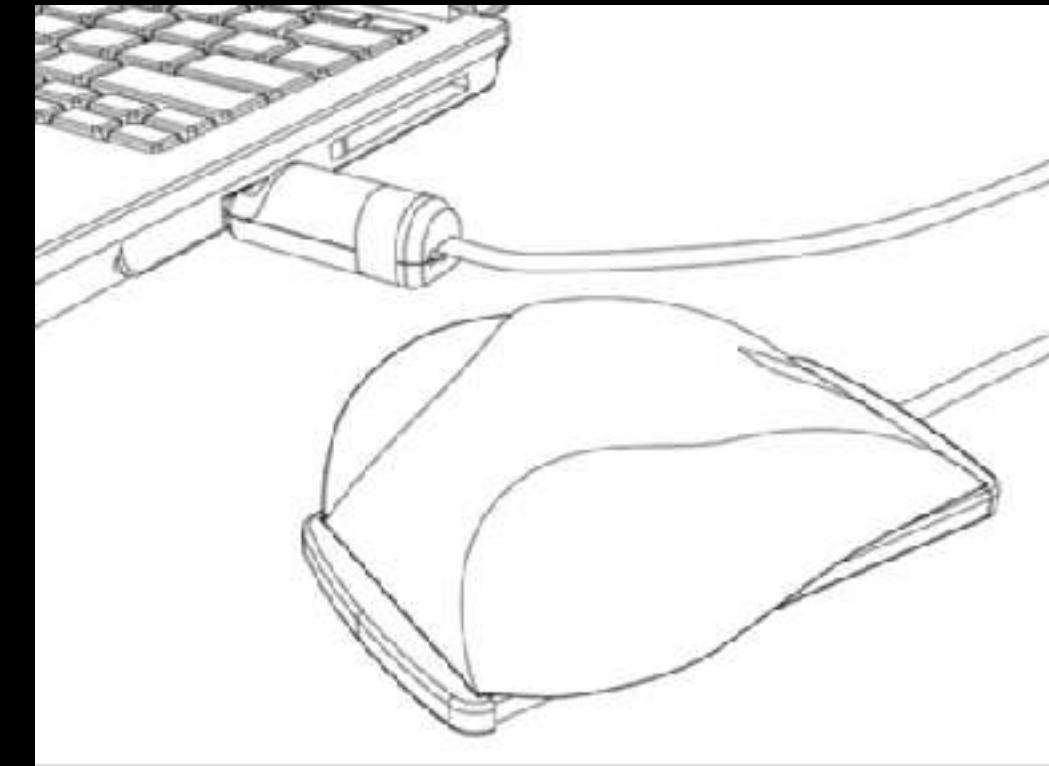


general-purpose
shape-changing interfaces

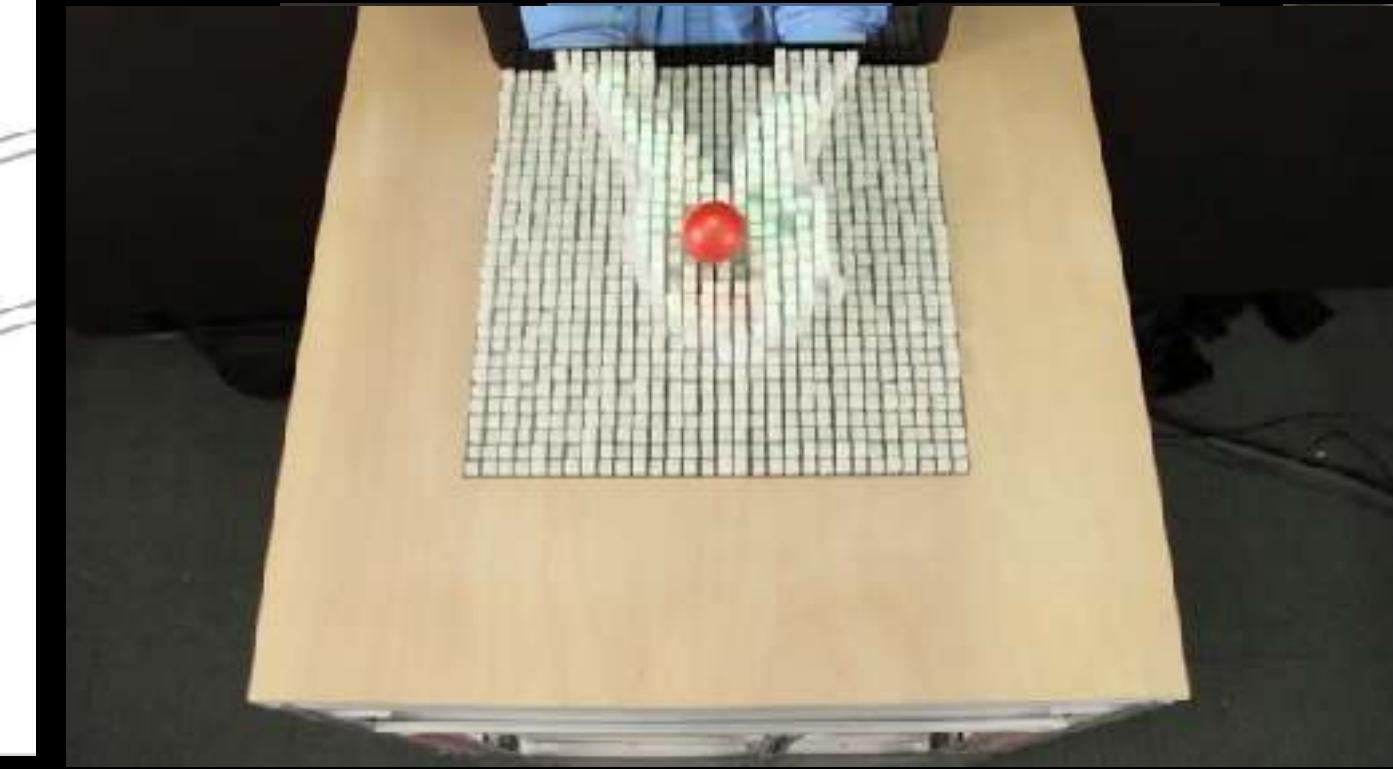
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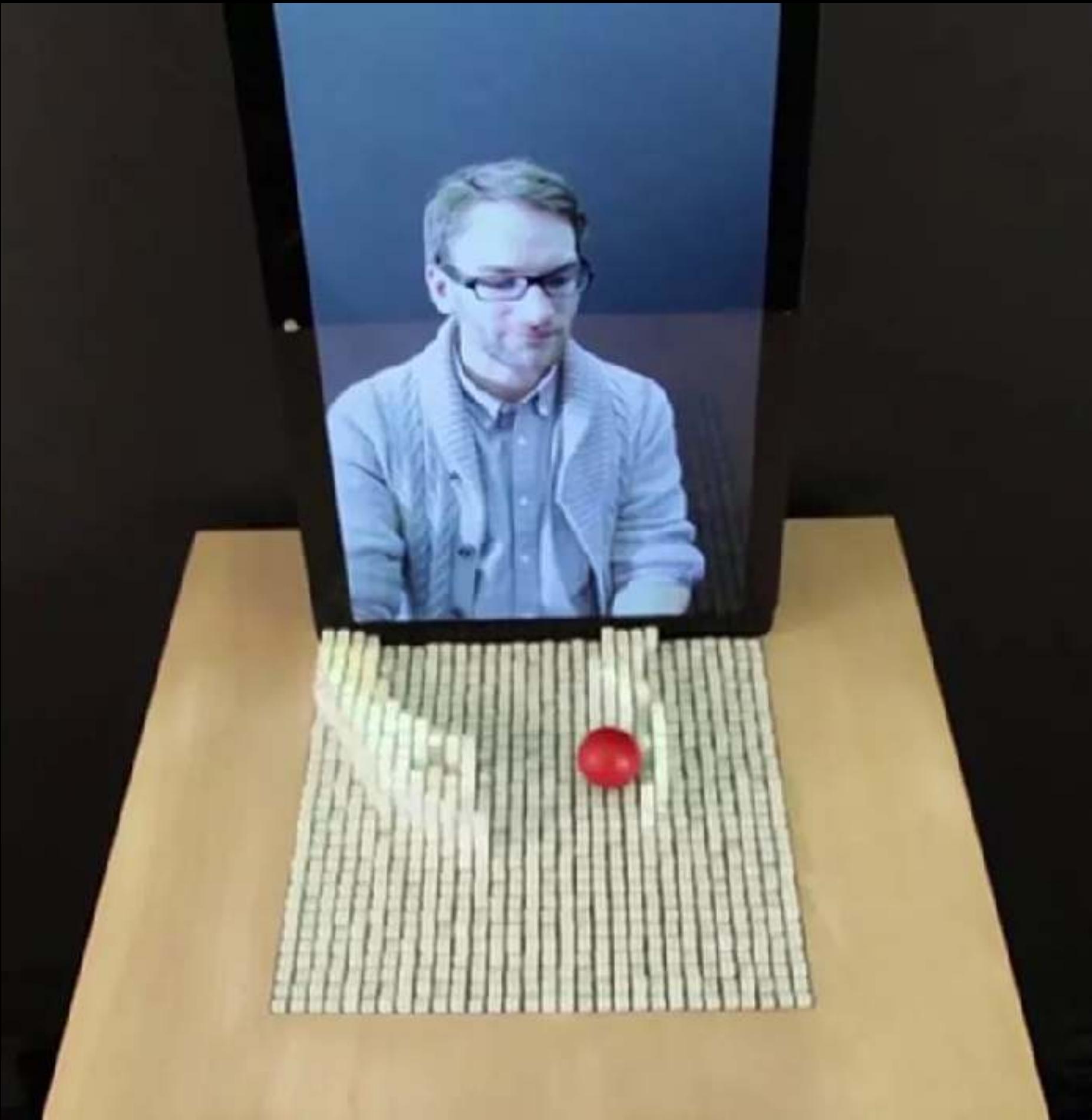
special-purpose
shape-changing interfaces



general-purpose
shape-changing interfaces

inFORM: Dynamic Physical Affordances and Constraints, Follmer et al, UIST 2013

These systems require a **large, mechanically complex** device, which is **difficult to deploy** into existing environments



general-purpose but **not deployable**

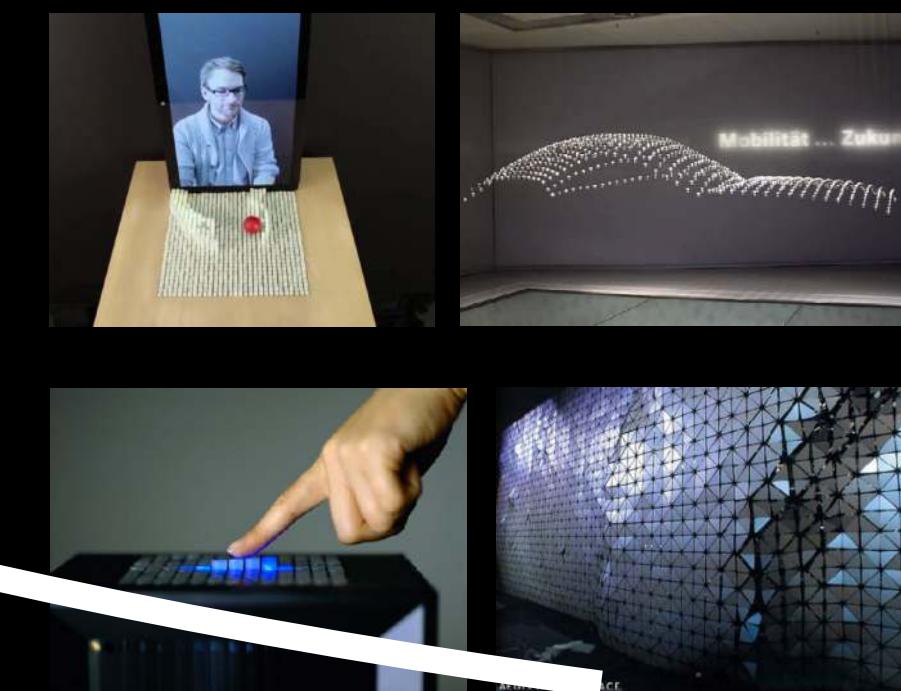
deployability



special-purpose

?

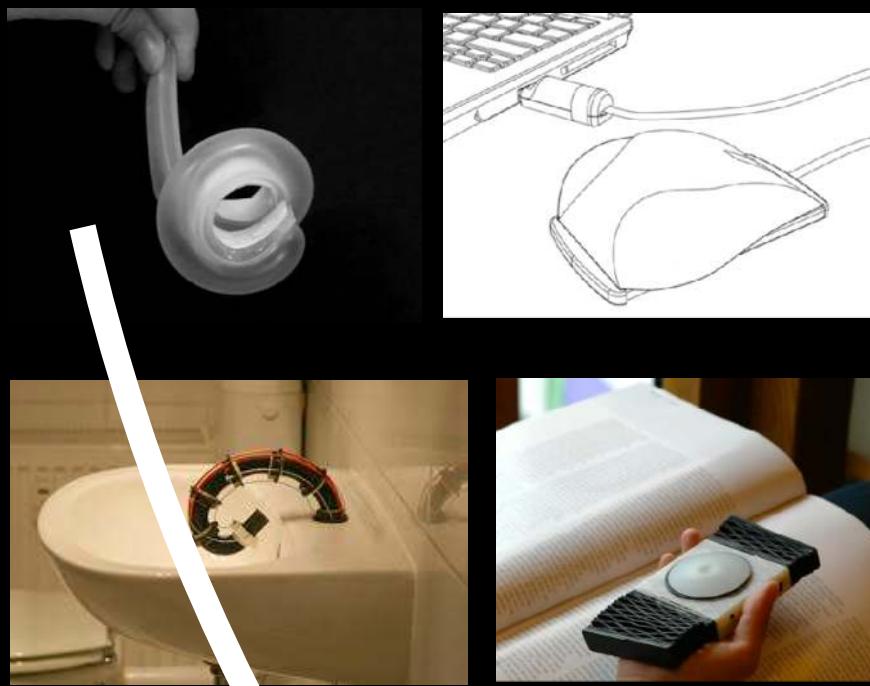
?



general-purpose



deployability

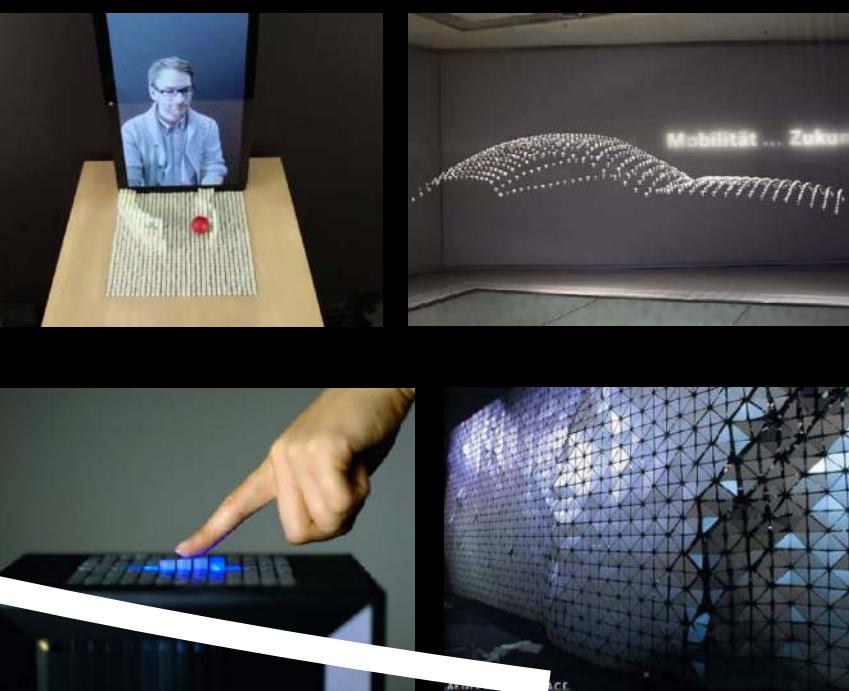


special-purpose

general-purpose

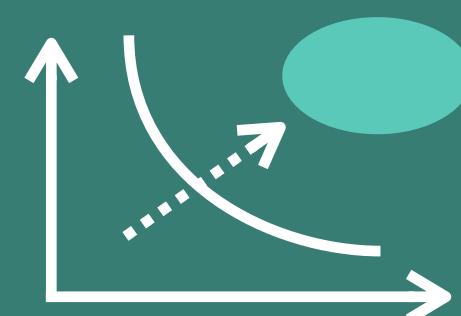
Collective Shape Construction

I propose collective shape construction
as a way to achieve this goal



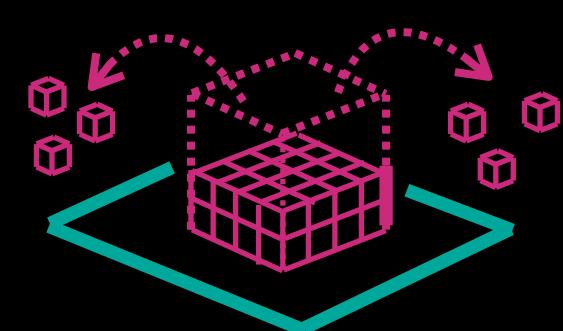
Background

Why This Approach?



Concept

What is
Dynamic and Collective
Shape Construction?



Shape Construction
with **Active** Elements

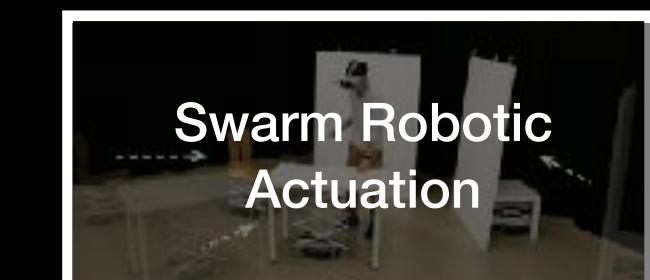
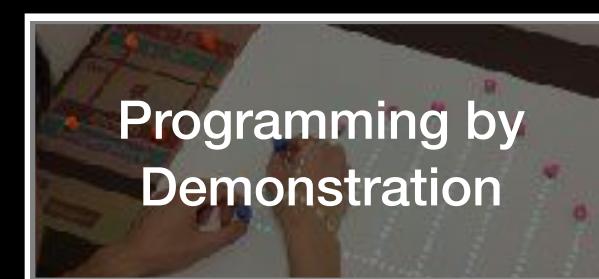


Explorations

Shape Construction
with **Passive** Elements

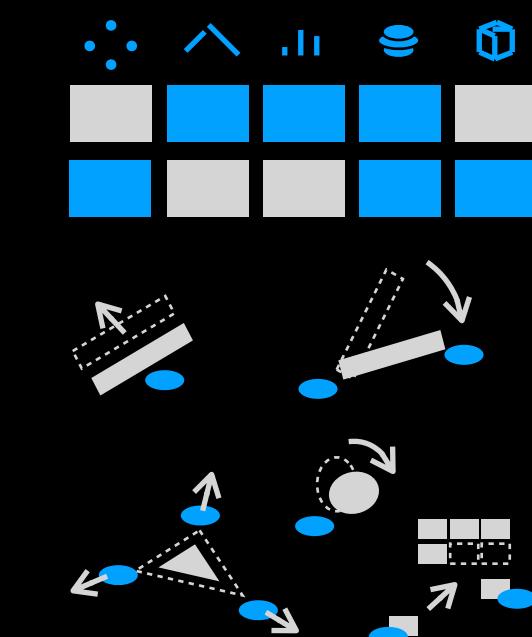


Interaction with
Collective Elements



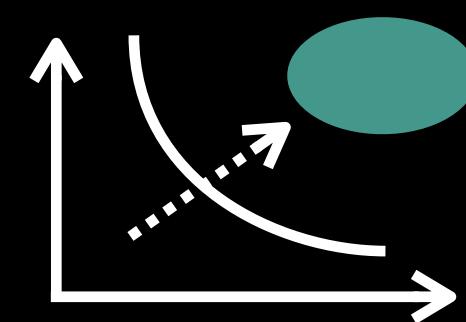
Discussion

What's Next?



Background

Why This Approach?

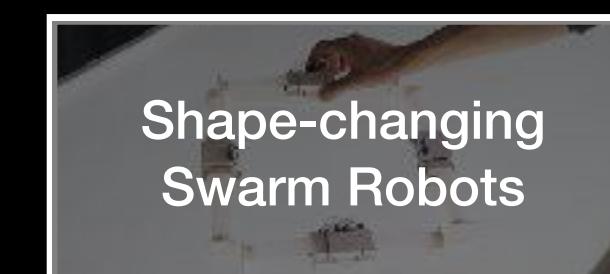


Concept

What is
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Shape Construction
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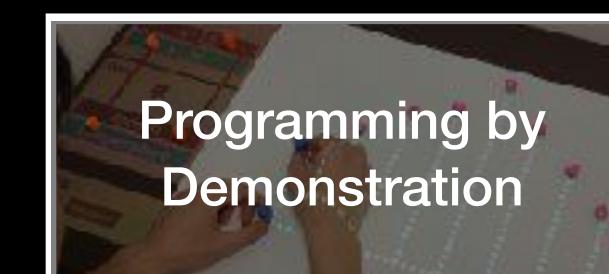


Explorations

Shape Construction
with **Passive** Elements

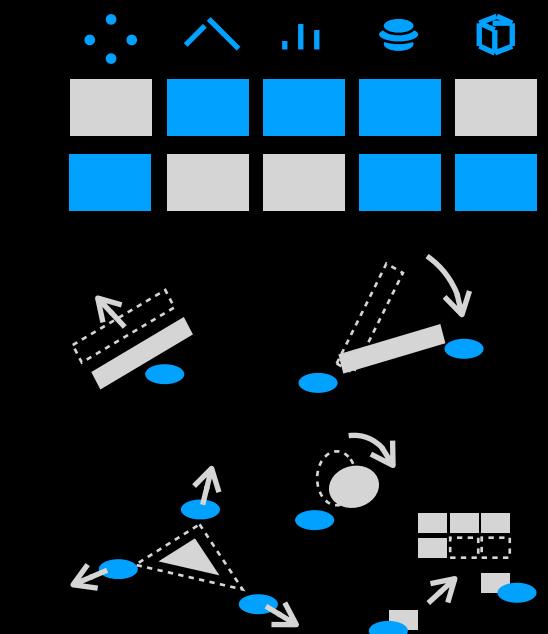


Interaction with
Collective Elements

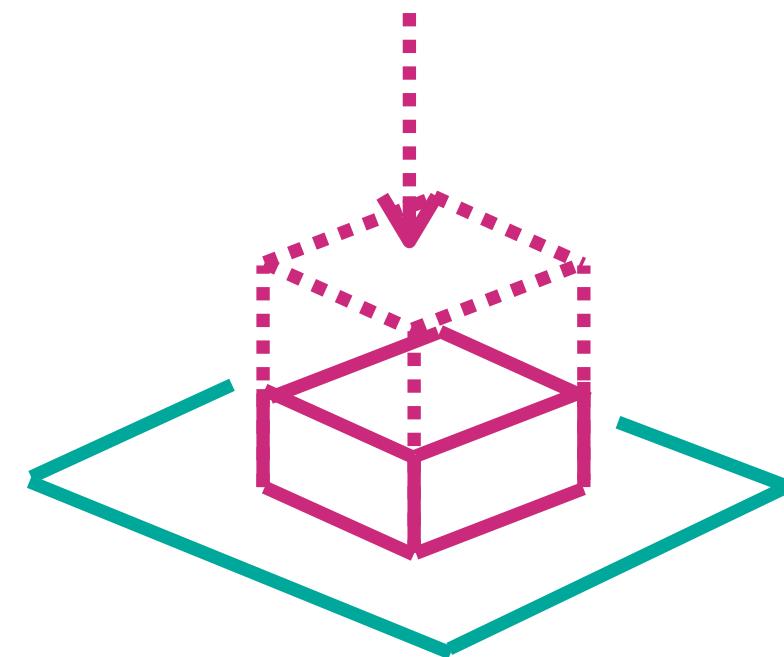


Discussion

What's Next?



Dynamic Physical UI

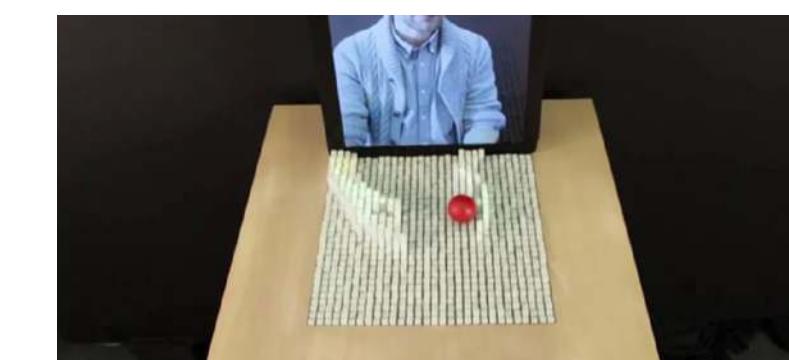


Shape-changing UI

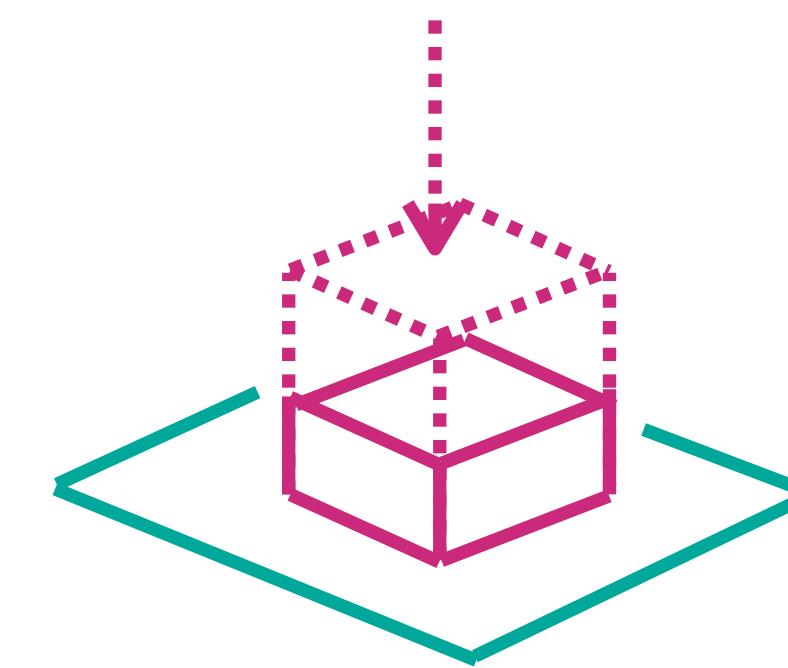
Single materials



Monolithic devices



Dynamic Physical UI

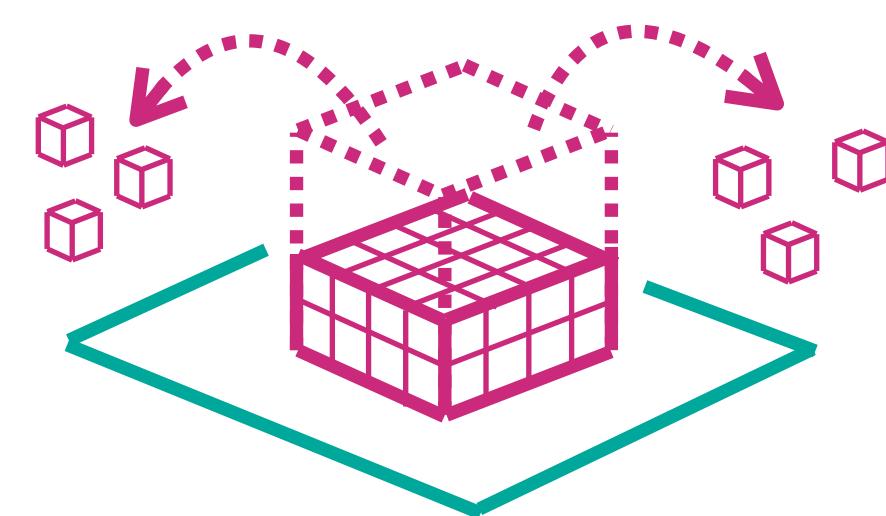


Shape-changing UI



Shape Change with
Collective Elements

Dynamic Physical UI



Shape Change with
Collective Elements

The focus of this thesis

Dynamic shape made of
discrete collective elements

||

a shape that consists of a set of physical units
that are separable from each other

||

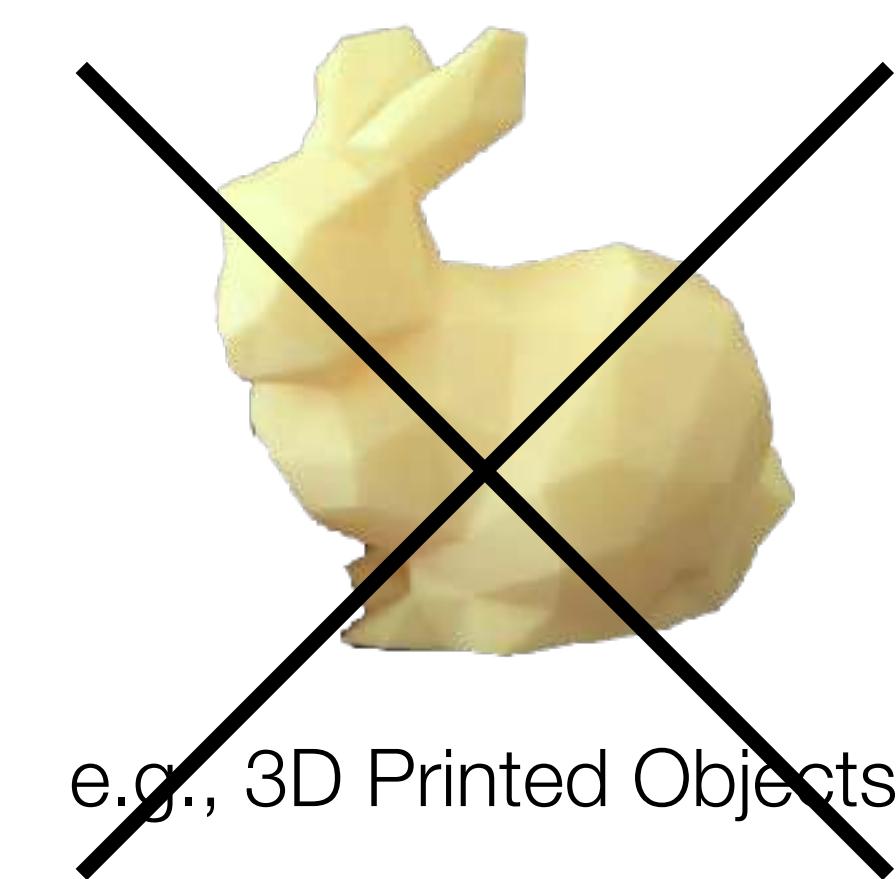
(Static) **Discrete** Elements



e.g., LEGO Blocks

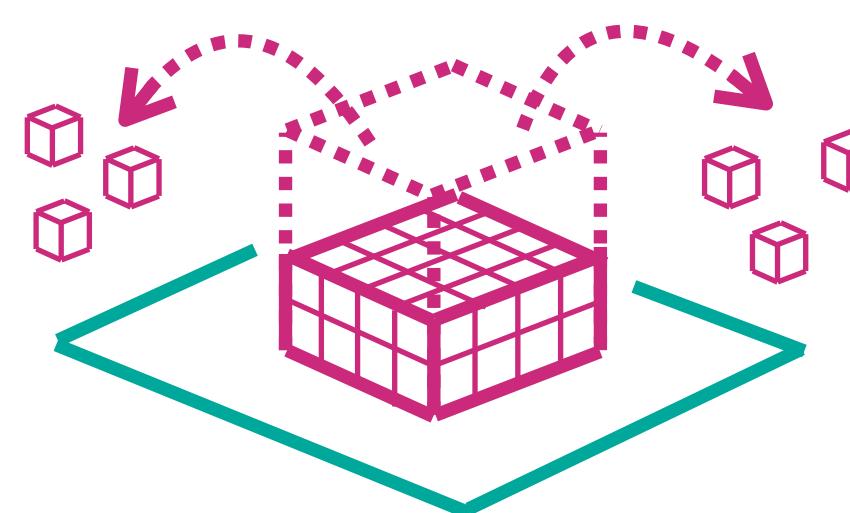
X

(Static) **Non-discrete** Elements



e.g., 3D Printed Objects

Dynamic Physical UI



Shape Change with
Collective Elements

The focus of this thesis

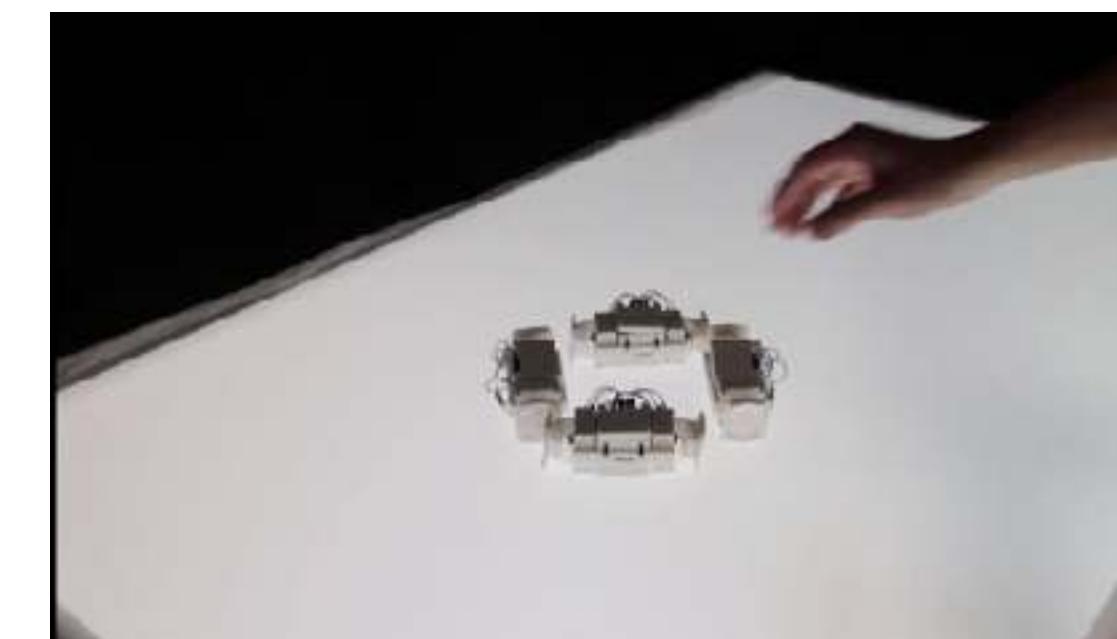
Dynamic shape made of
discrete collective elements

I argue there are two ways to construct dynamic shape

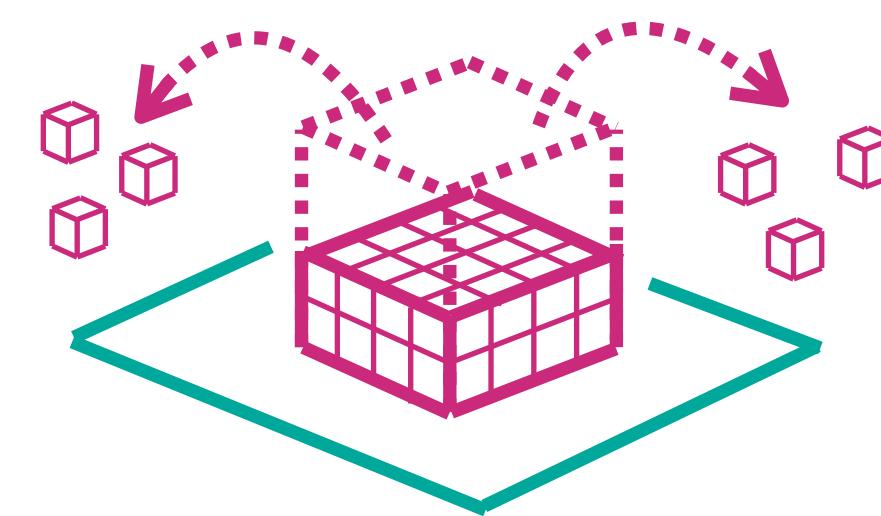
Active
collective elements

||

self-actuated elements
that can move or reconfigure
themselves with internal actuation



Dynamic Physical UI



Shape Change with
Collective Elements

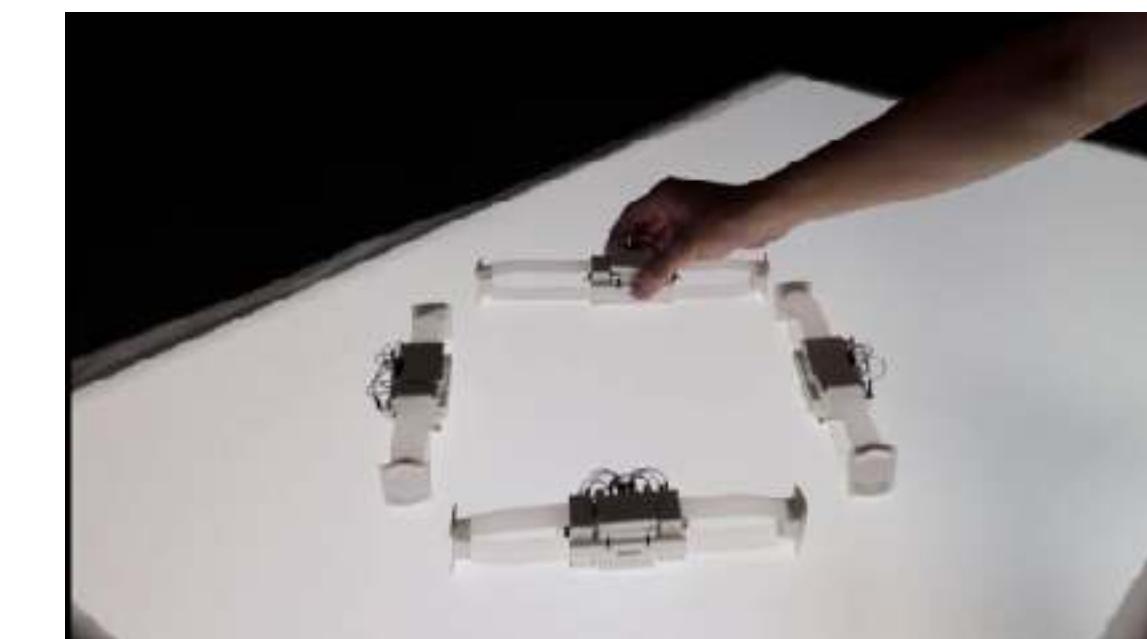
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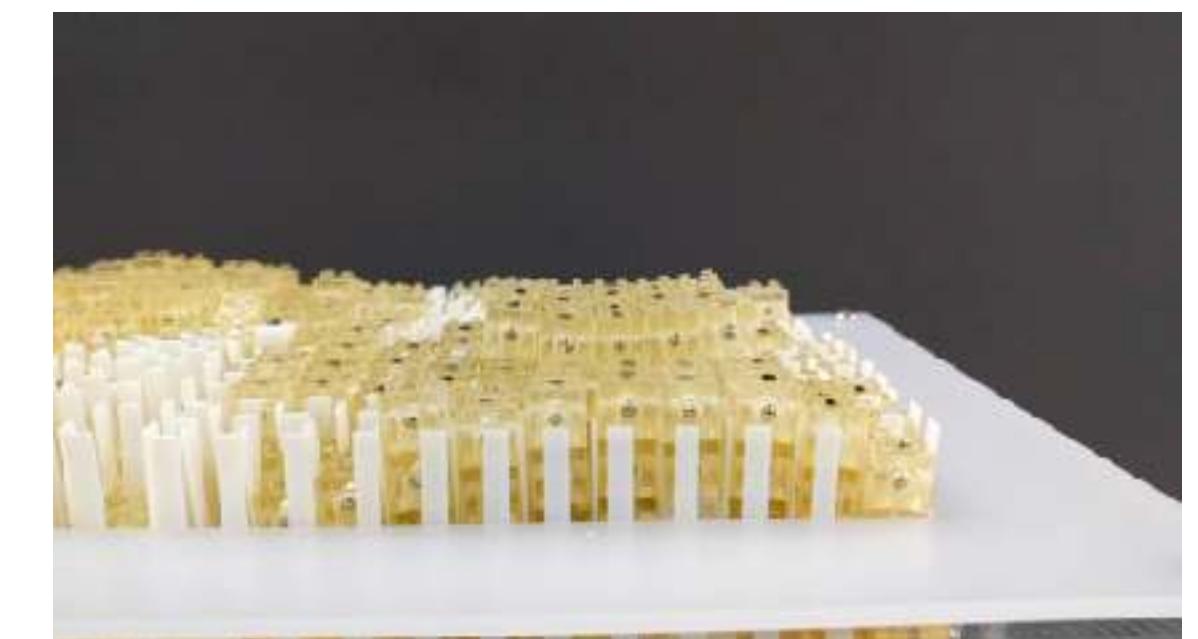
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collective elements

self-actuated elements
that can move or reconfigure
themselves with internal actuation

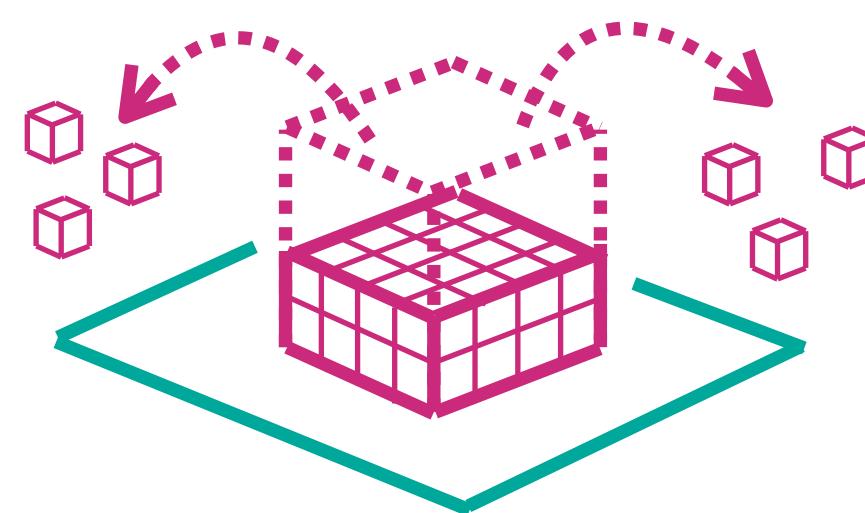


Passive
collective elements

externally-actuated elements
that can move or reconfigure
through external actuation



Dynamic Physical UI



Shape Change with
Collective Elements

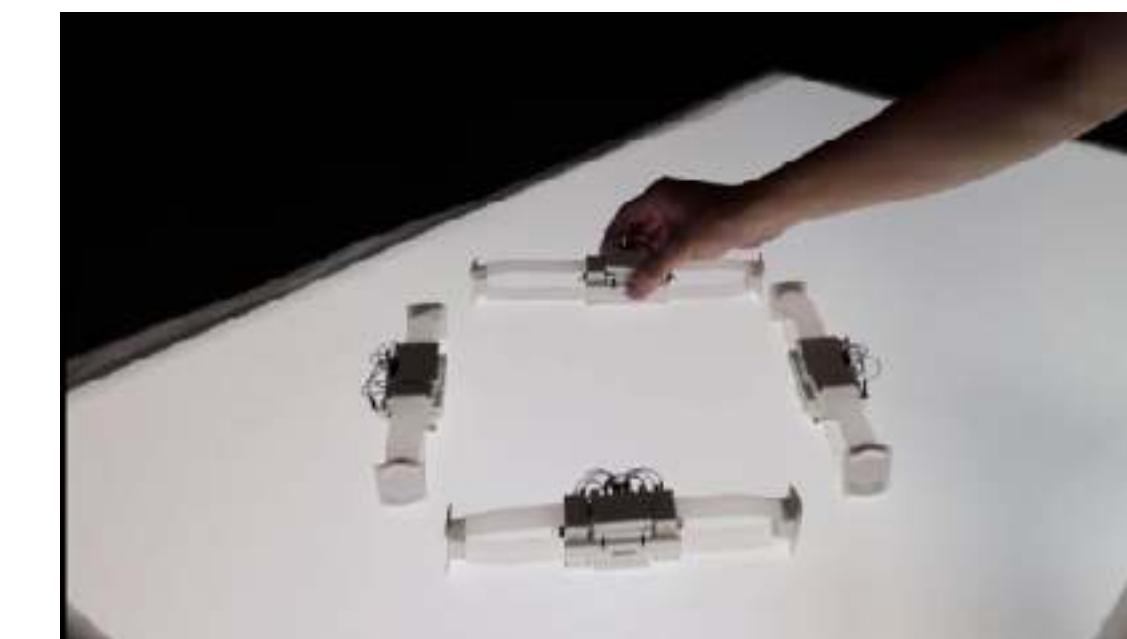
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Active
collective elements

self-actuated elements
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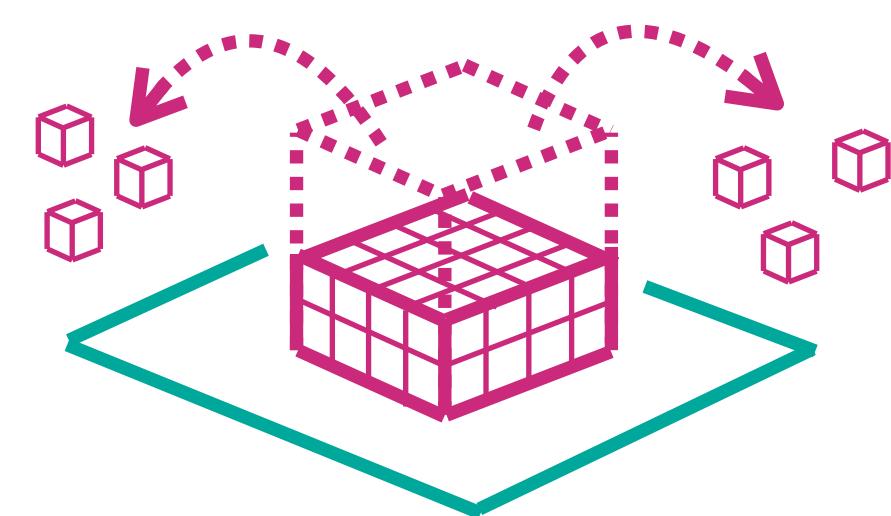


Passive
collective elements

externally-actuated elements
that can move or reconfigure
through external actuation

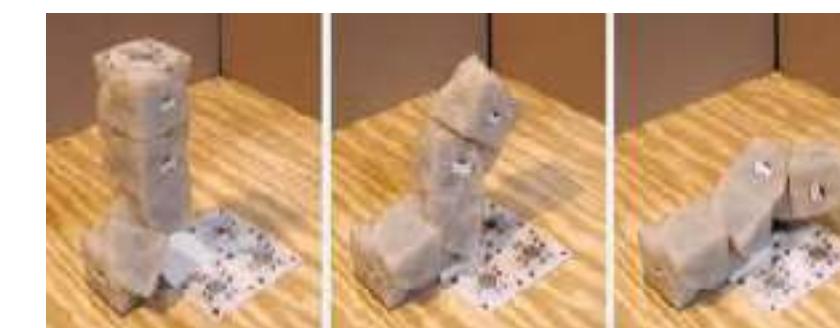


Dynamic Physical UI



Shape Change with
Collective Elements

Universal shape transformation with discrete collective elements has been explored in the context of robotics



self-reconfigurable robots
(e.g., [Yim et al. 2007])

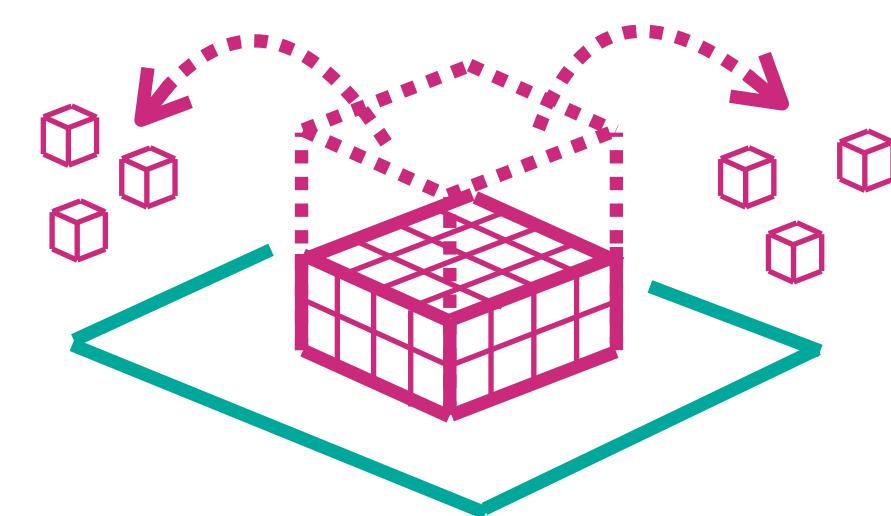


swarm robots
(e.g., [Rubensnstein et al. 2014])



programmable matter
(e.g., [Gilpin et al. 2010])

Dynamic Physical UI



Shape Change with
Collective Elements

This thesis investigates **HCI aspects** of this dynamic and collective shape construction



For information display
(e.g., [Suzuki et al., UIST 2018])

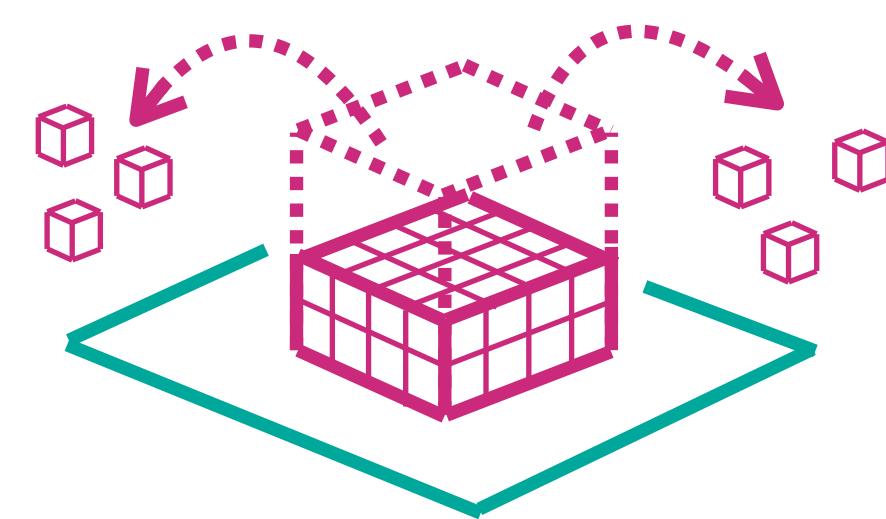


For tangible user interfaces
(e.g., [Suzuki et al., UIST 2019])



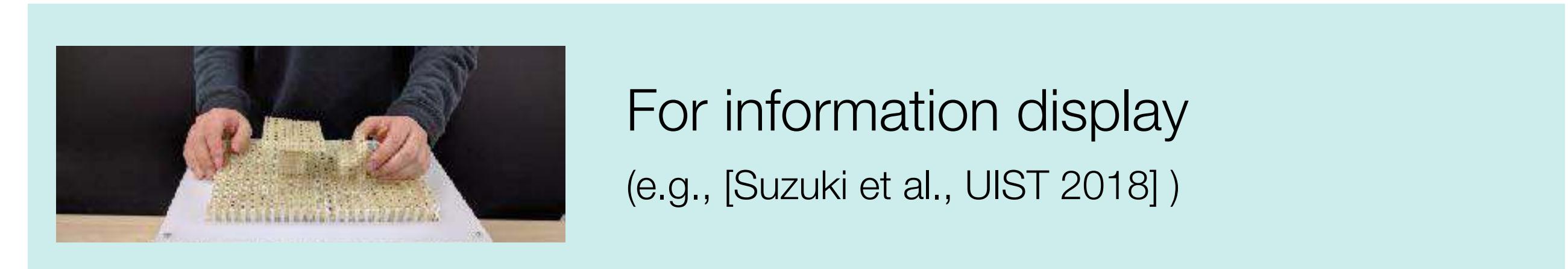
Interaction with collective elements
(e.g., [Suzuki et al., CHI 2018])

Dynamic Physical UI



Shape Change with
Collective Elements

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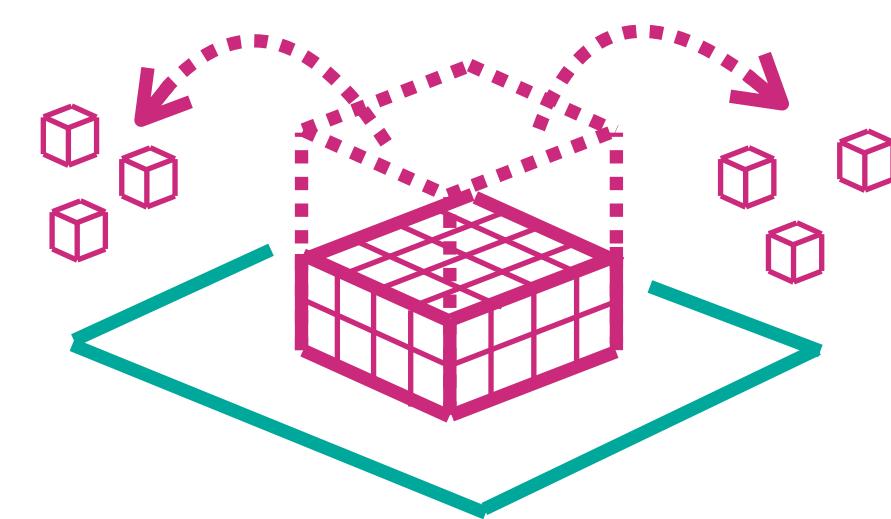


For tangible user interfaces
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Interaction with collective elements
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Dynamic Physical UI



Shape Change with
Collective Elements

This thesis investigates **HCI aspects** of this dynamic and collective shape construction



For information display
(e.g., [Suzuki et al., UIST 2018])

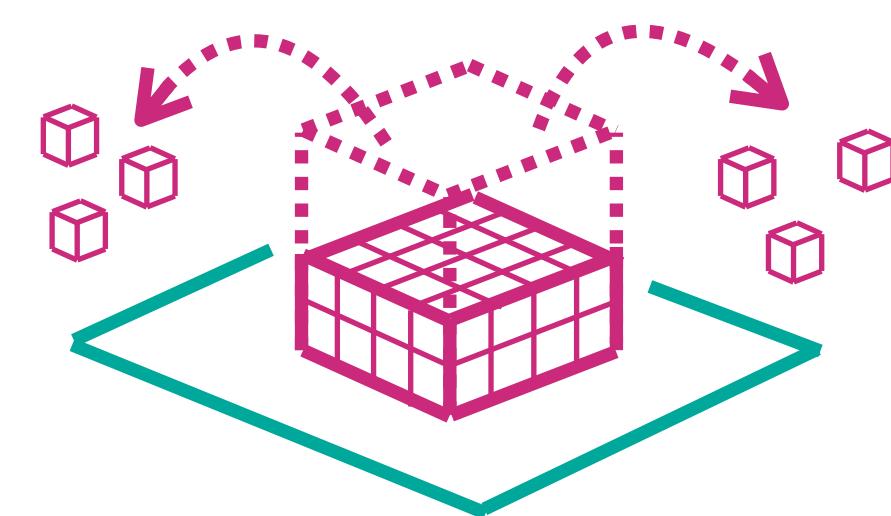


For tangible user interfaces
(e.g., [Suzuki et al., UIST 2019])



Interaction with collective elements
(e.g., [Suzuki et al., CHI 2018])

Dynamic Physical UI



Shape Change with
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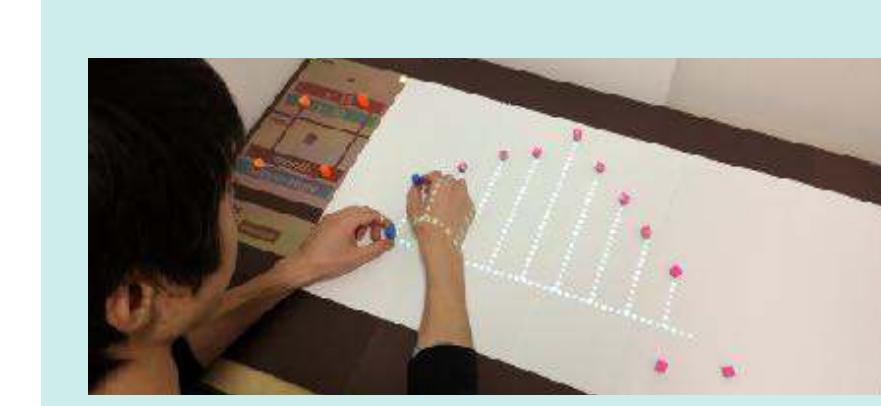
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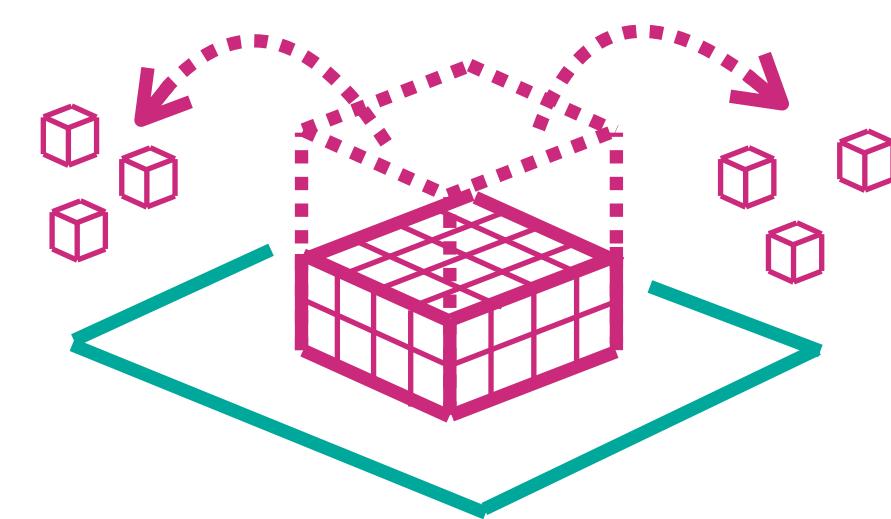


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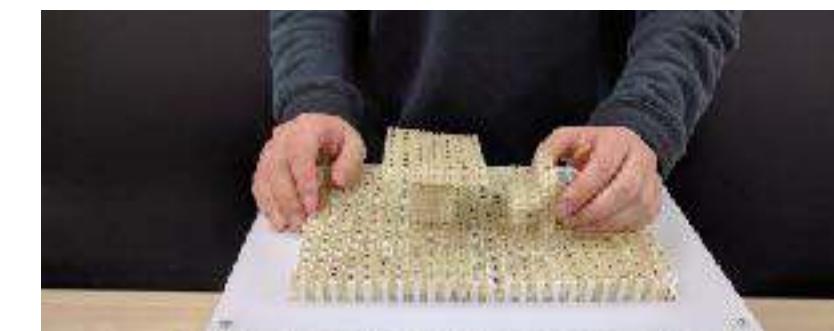
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Dynamic Physical UI



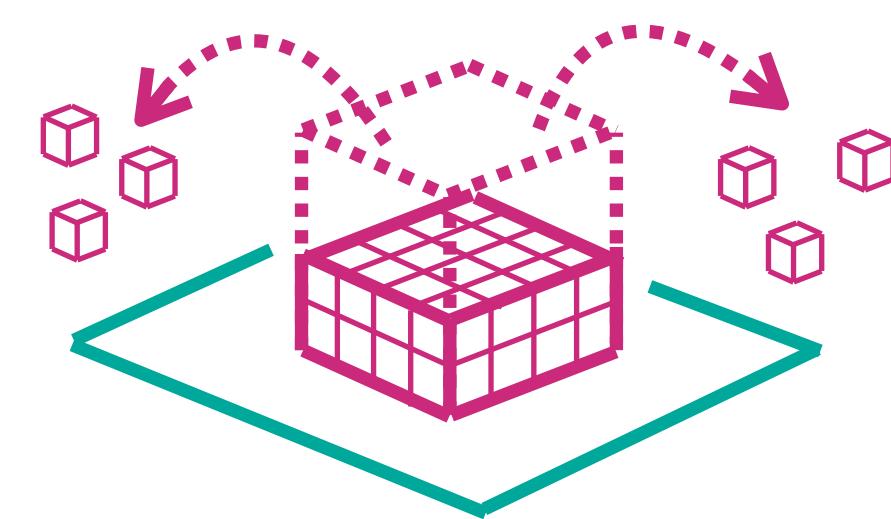
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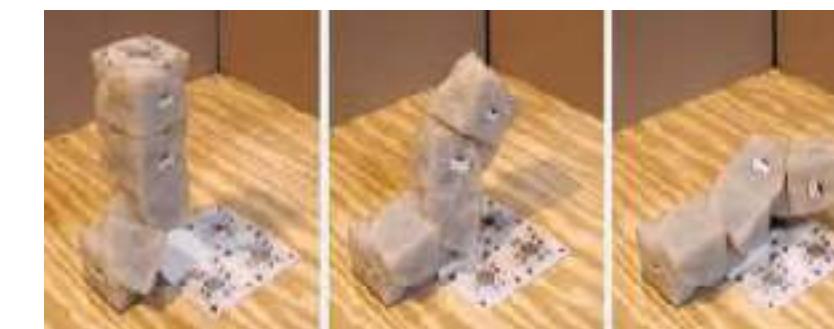


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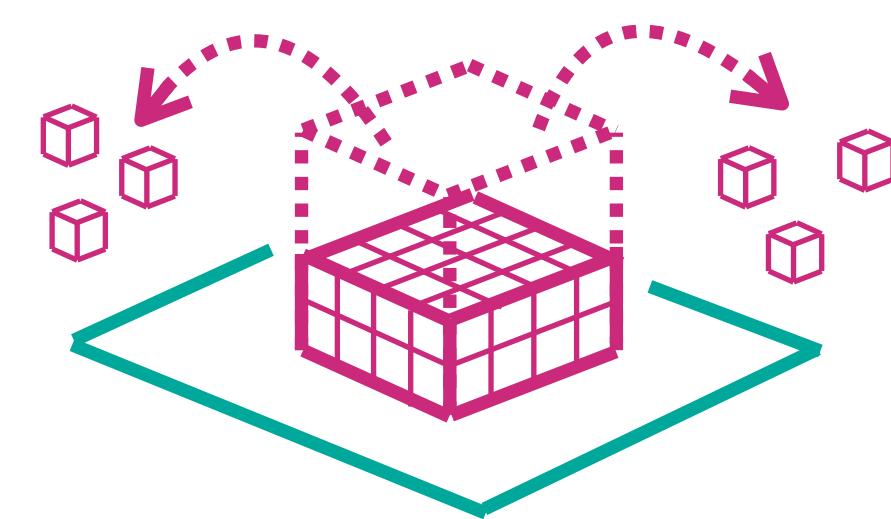


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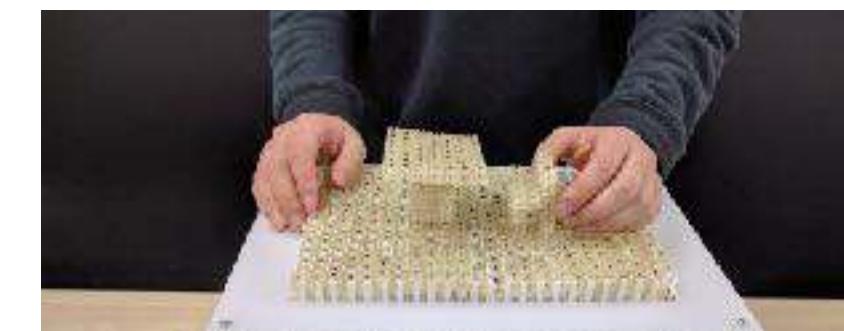
In robotics, self-reconfigurable robots or programmable matter research often assume **lattice or voxel-like structure**

Dynamic Physical UI



Shape Change with
Collective Elements

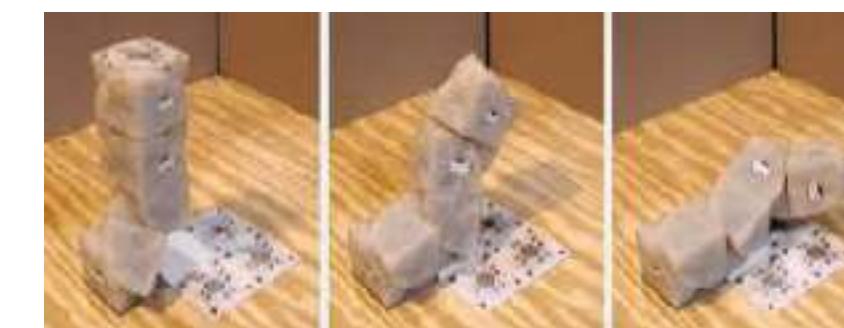
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For information display
(e.g., [Suzuki et al., UIST 2018])



Q. Are there any other ways or approaches to construct and represent a physical shape?



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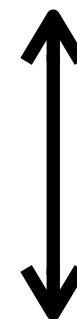


To answer this question,
I systematically explore a range of possible representations for dynamic physical shape

This thesis investigates **HCI aspects** of this dynamic and collective shape construction



For information display
(e.g., [Suzuki et al., UIST 2018])



Q. Are there any other ways or approaches to construct and represent a physical shape?



In robotics, self-reconfigurable robots or programmable matter research often assume **lattice or voxel-like structure**



Before jumping in, I'd like to first explain with a metaphor to think about how we can render information.



(e.g., Stanford bunny)



how can we **physically** render information?
(e.g., Stanford bunny?)

Metaphor: Representations in Computer Graphics

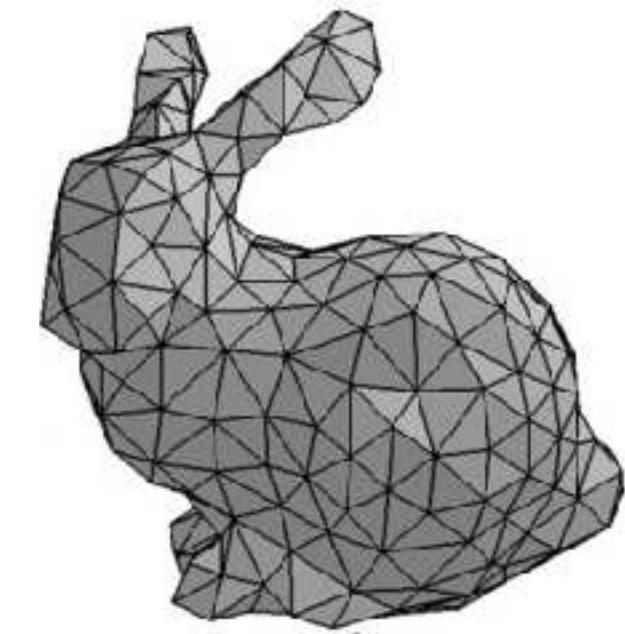
In Computer Graphics, there are many different ways to render and represent information



original information



point cloud



mesh surface



voxels



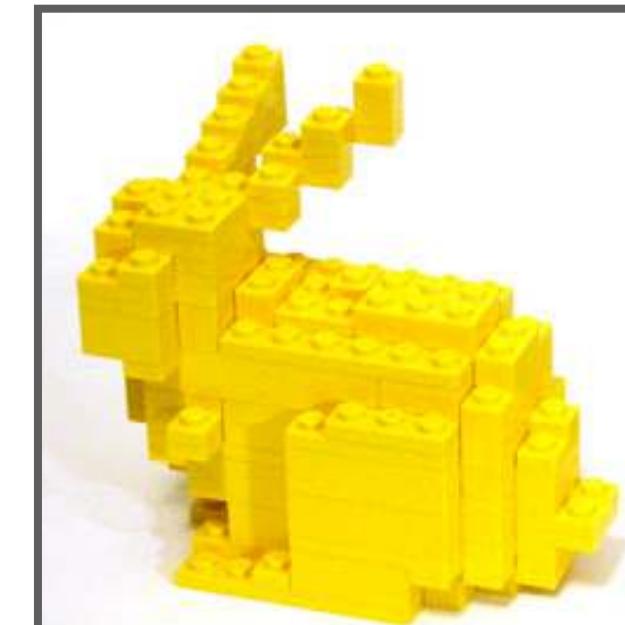
wireframe

Metaphor: Representations with Static Physical Elements

In the same way, there are many ways to **physically** render and represent with **static** elements.



original information



voxel
(e.g., LEGO Blocks)



surface
(e.g., Origami)



connected line
(e.g., 3D Printed Chain)



wireframe
(e.g., Zome Tools)



sliced layers
(e.g., 123D Make)

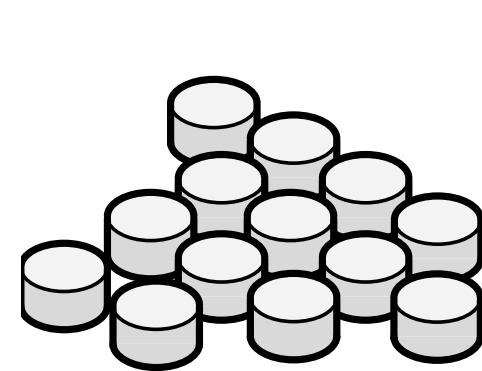
How can we **physically** render and represent information with **dynamic** collective elements?

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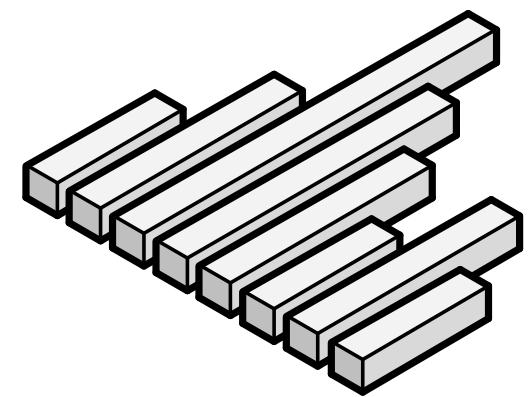


To answer this question
I explored eight **possible representations** for dynamic and collective shape construction

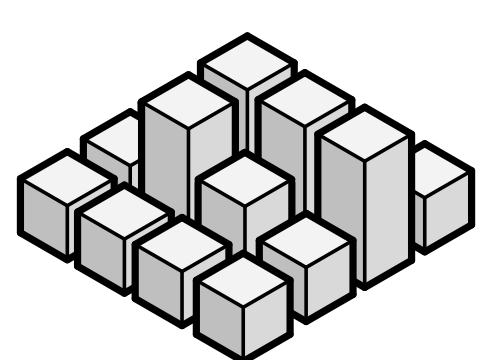
I explored eight **possible representations** for dynamic and collective shape construction



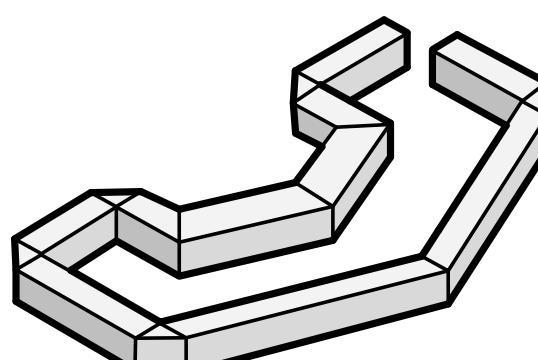
Sparse Dots



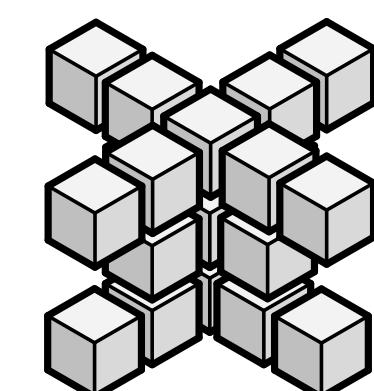
Sparse Lines



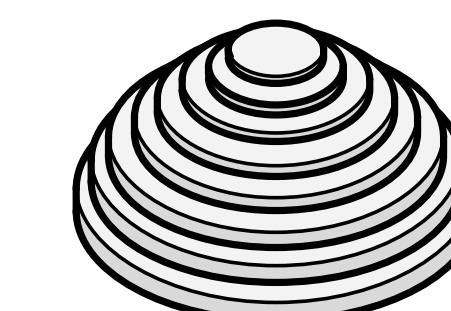
Pin Array



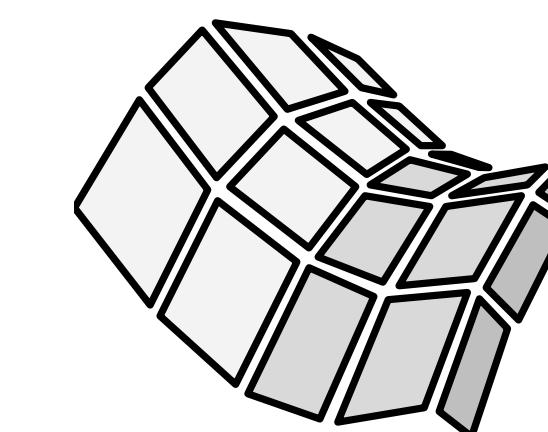
Single Line



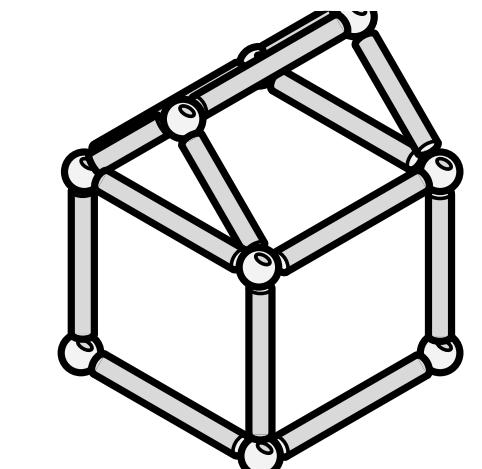
Voxel



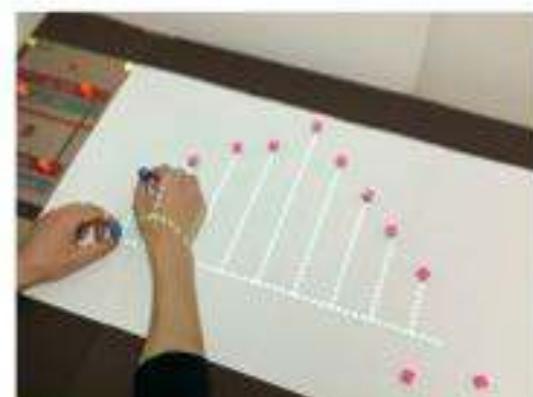
Layers



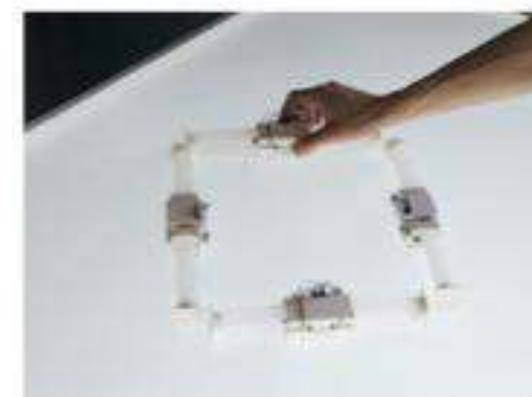
Surface



Hub and Struts



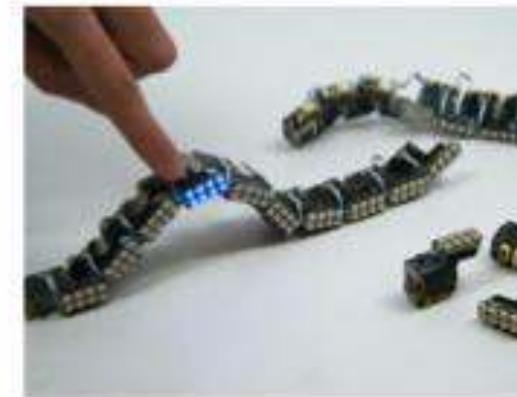
Reactile
[Suzuki 2018]



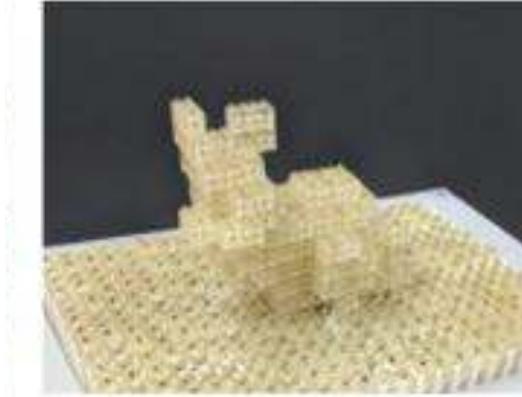
ShapeBots
[Suzuki 2018]



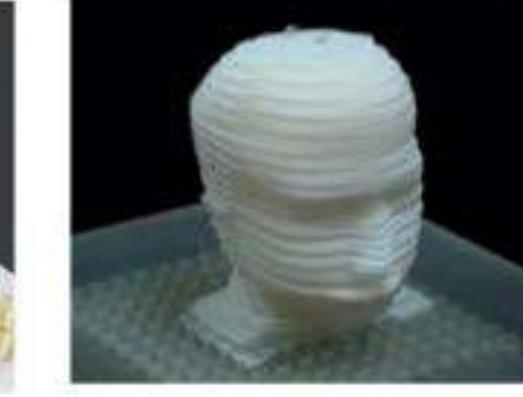
LiftTiles
[Suzuki 2019]



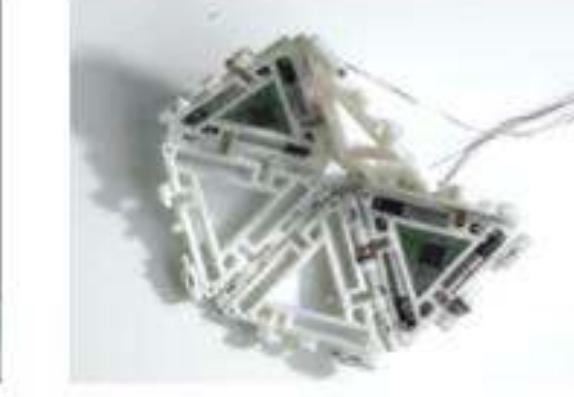
ChainFORM
[Nakagaki 2016]



Dynablock
[Suzuki 2018]



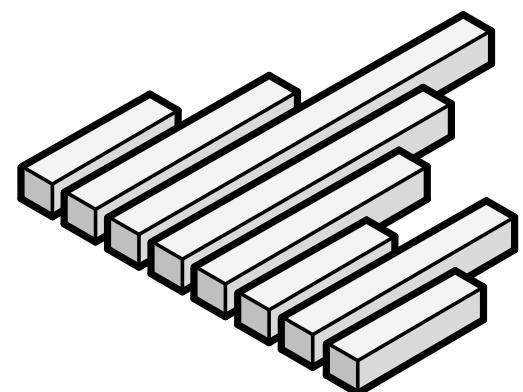
Additive Folding
[Yim 2018]



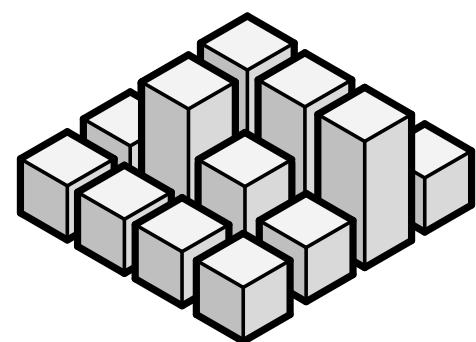
MORI
[Beike 2017]



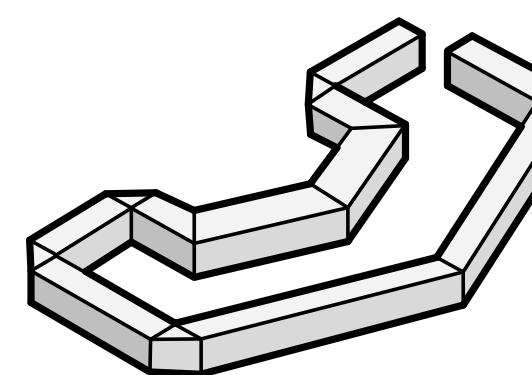
Morphys
[Takei 2012]



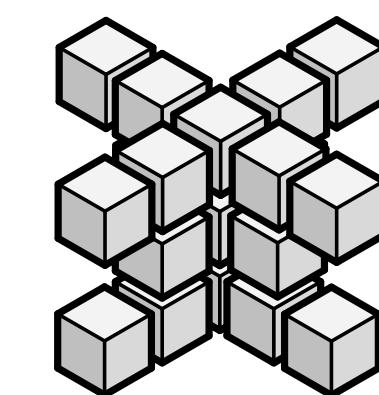
Sparse Lines



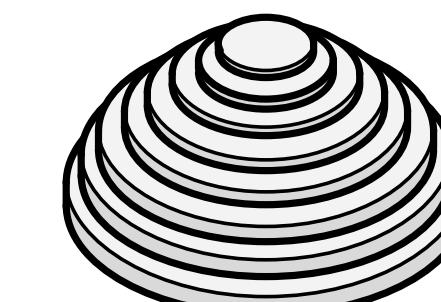
Pin Array



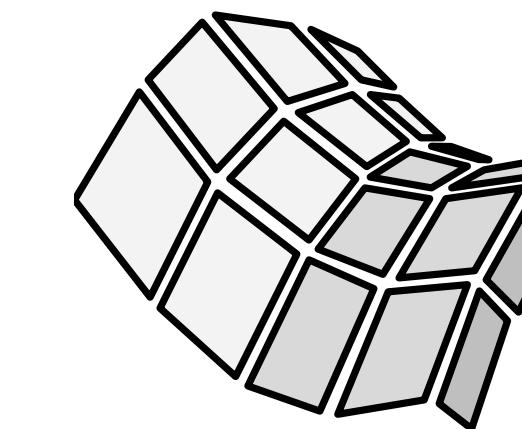
Single Line



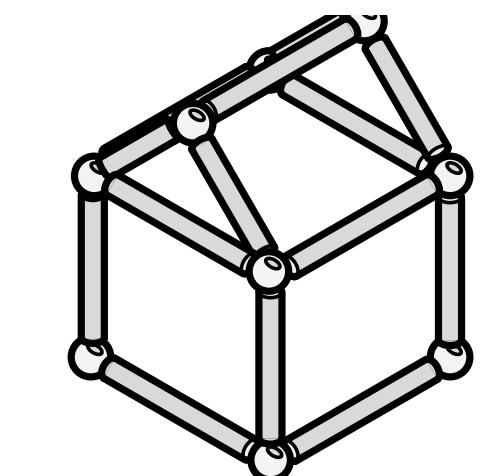
Voxel



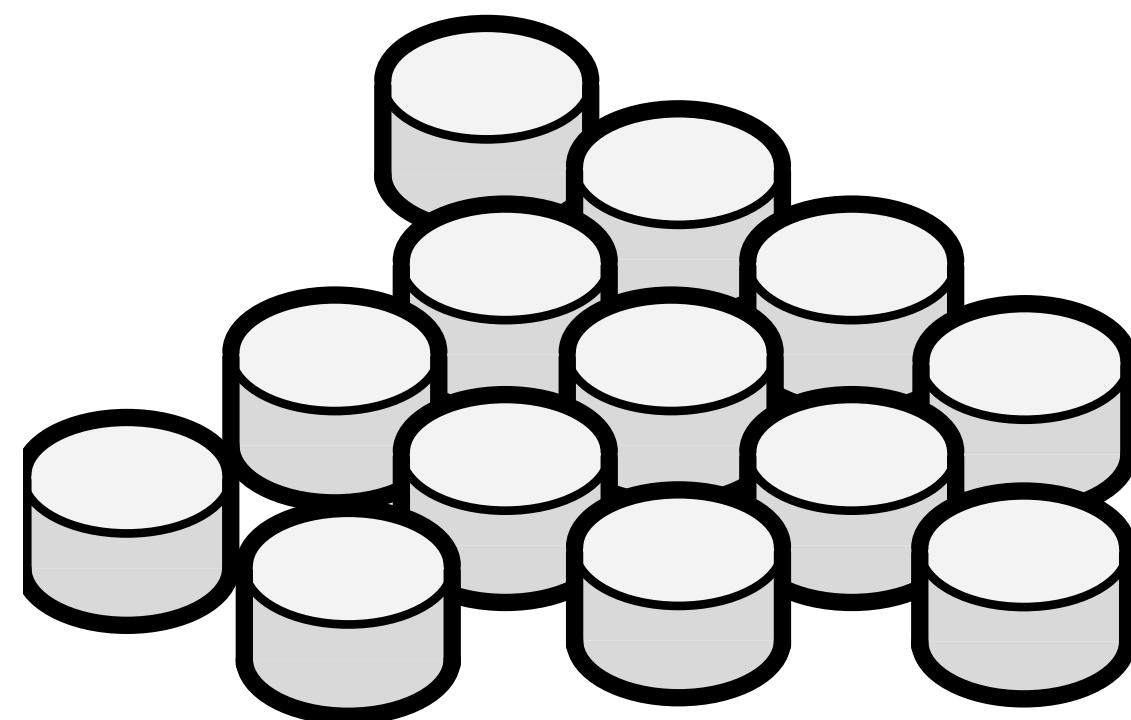
Layers



Surface



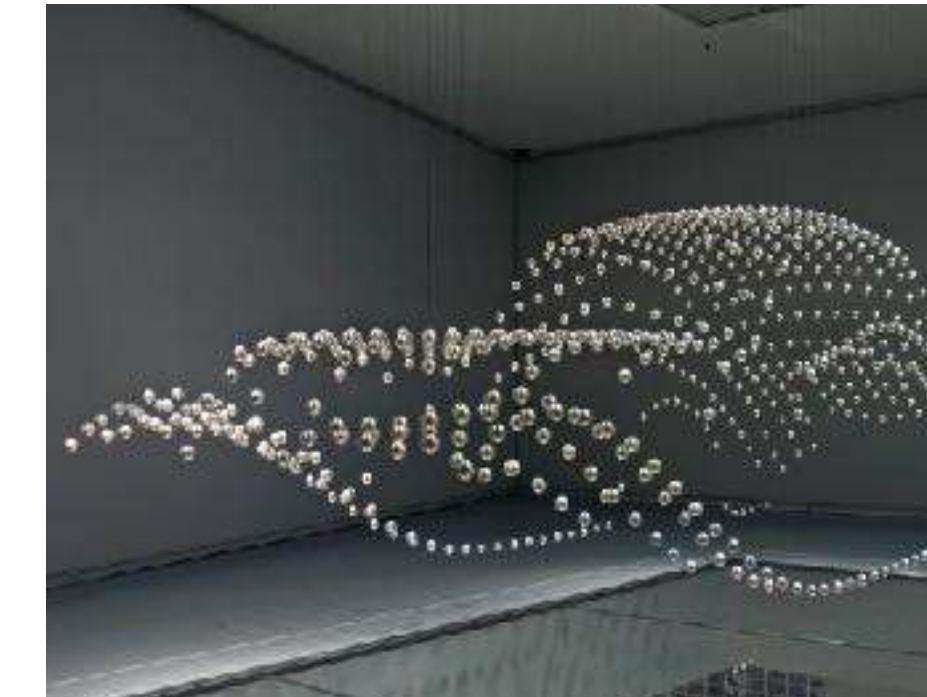
Hub and Struts



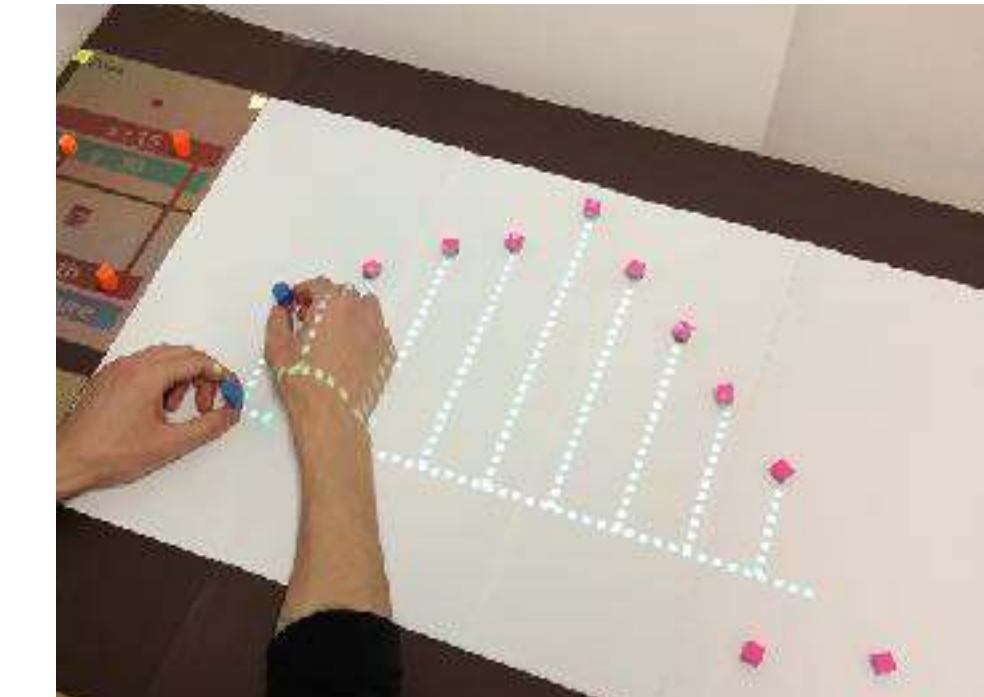
Sparse Dots



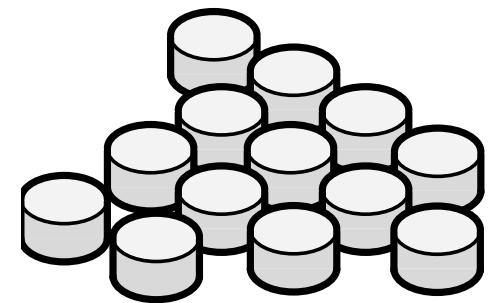
[Zooids, LeGoc 2016]



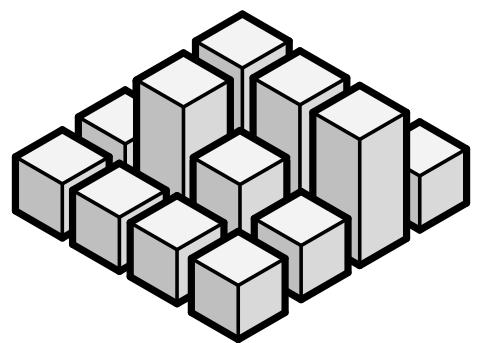
[ART+COM 2008]



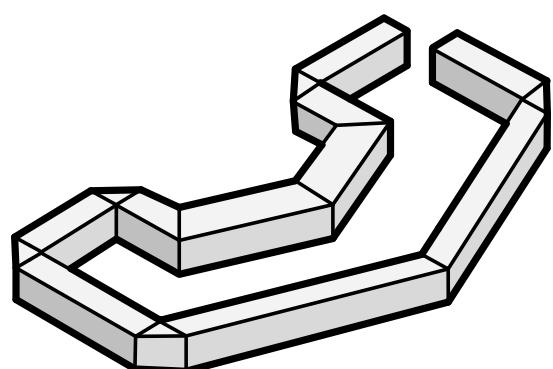
[Reactile, Suzuki 2018]



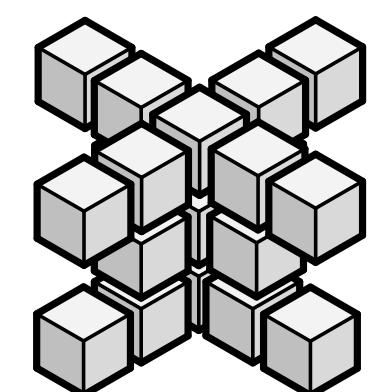
Sparse Dots



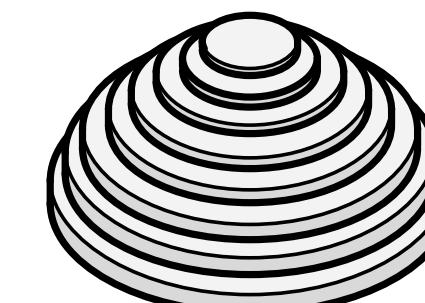
Pin Array



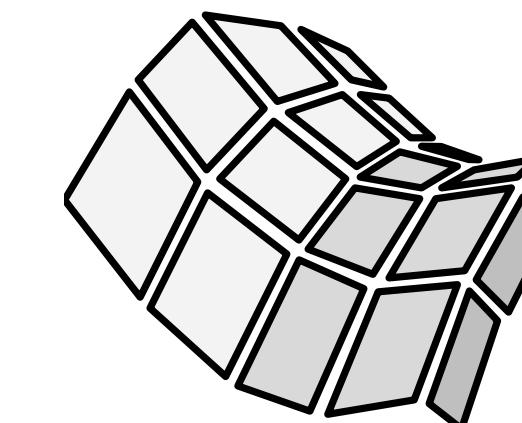
Single Line



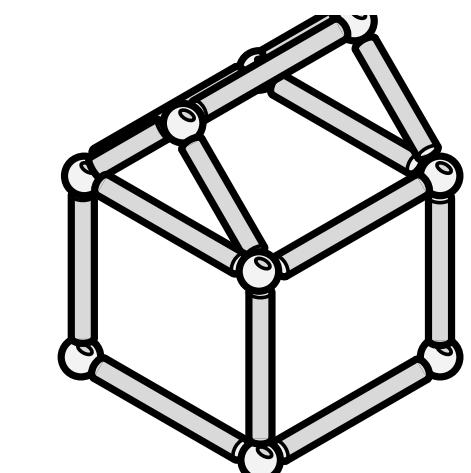
Voxel



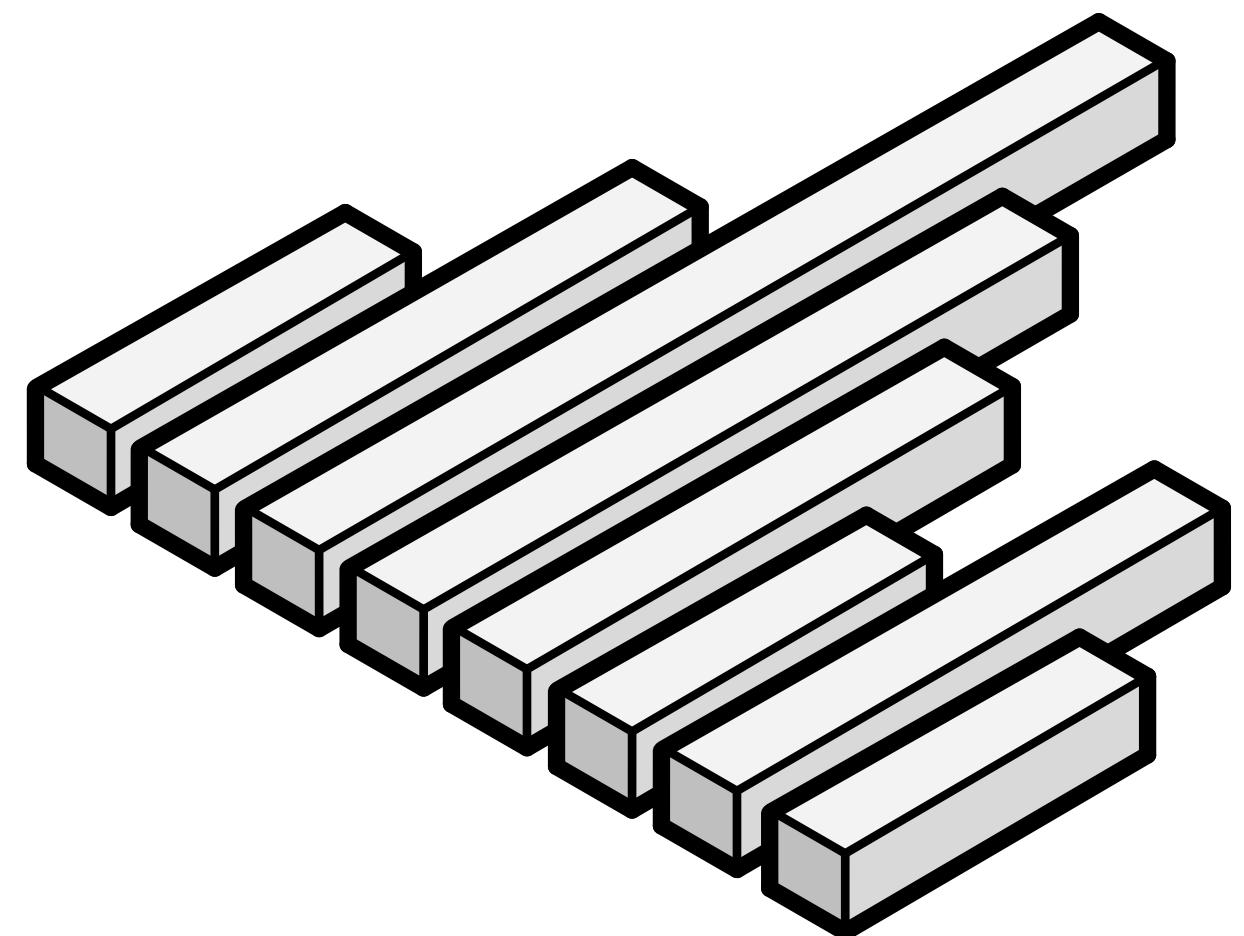
Layers



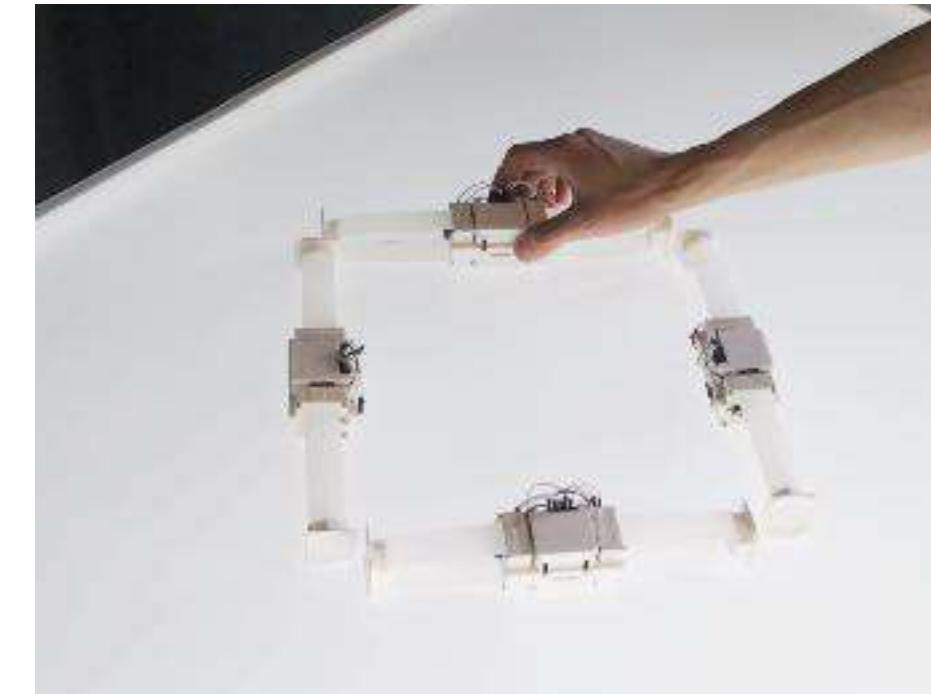
Surface



Hub and Struts



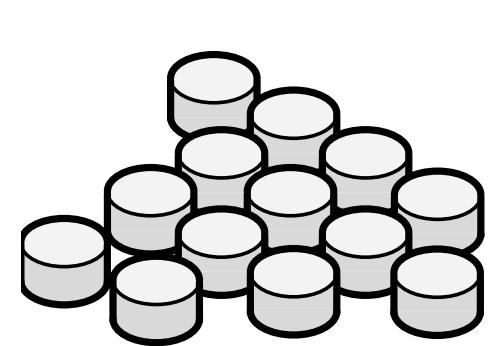
Sparse Lines



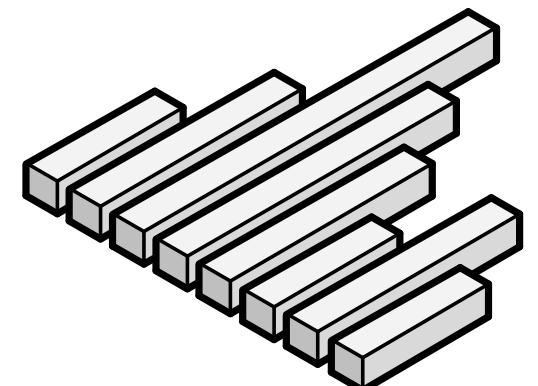
[ShapeBots, Suzuki 2018]



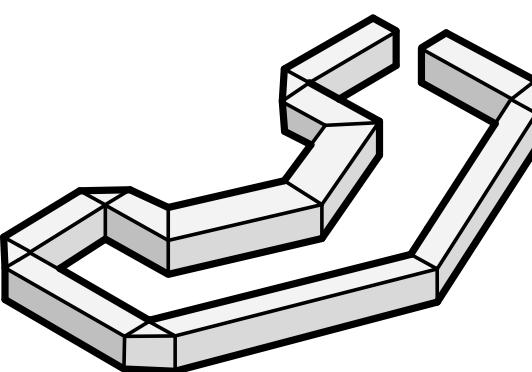
[Torres 2014]



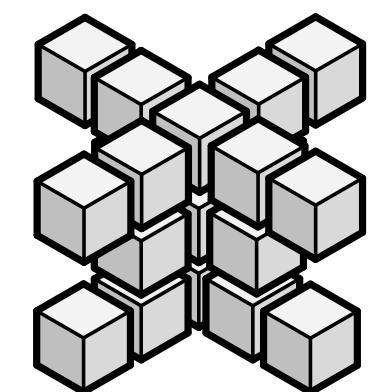
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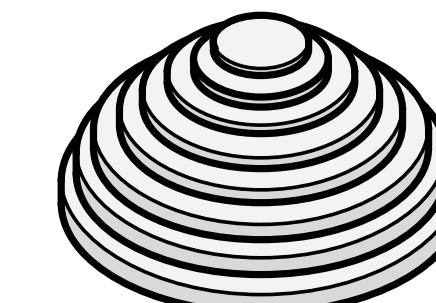
Sparse Lines



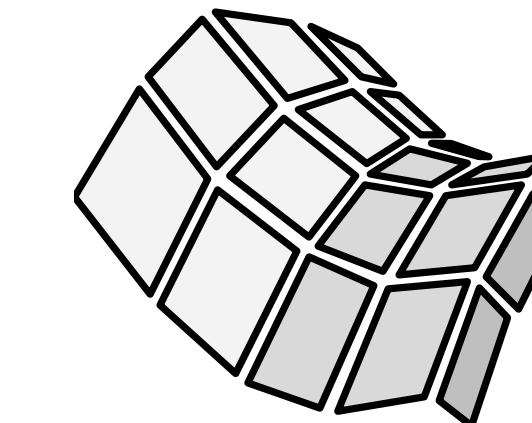
Single Line



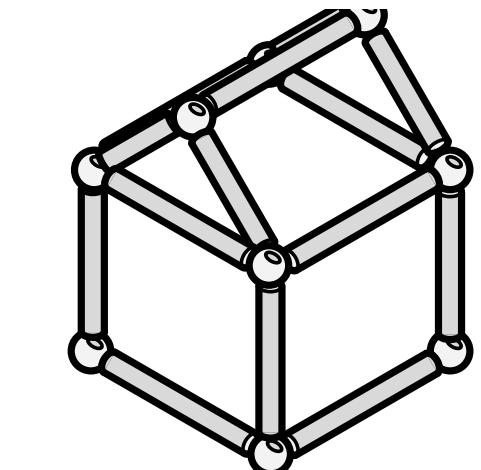
Voxel



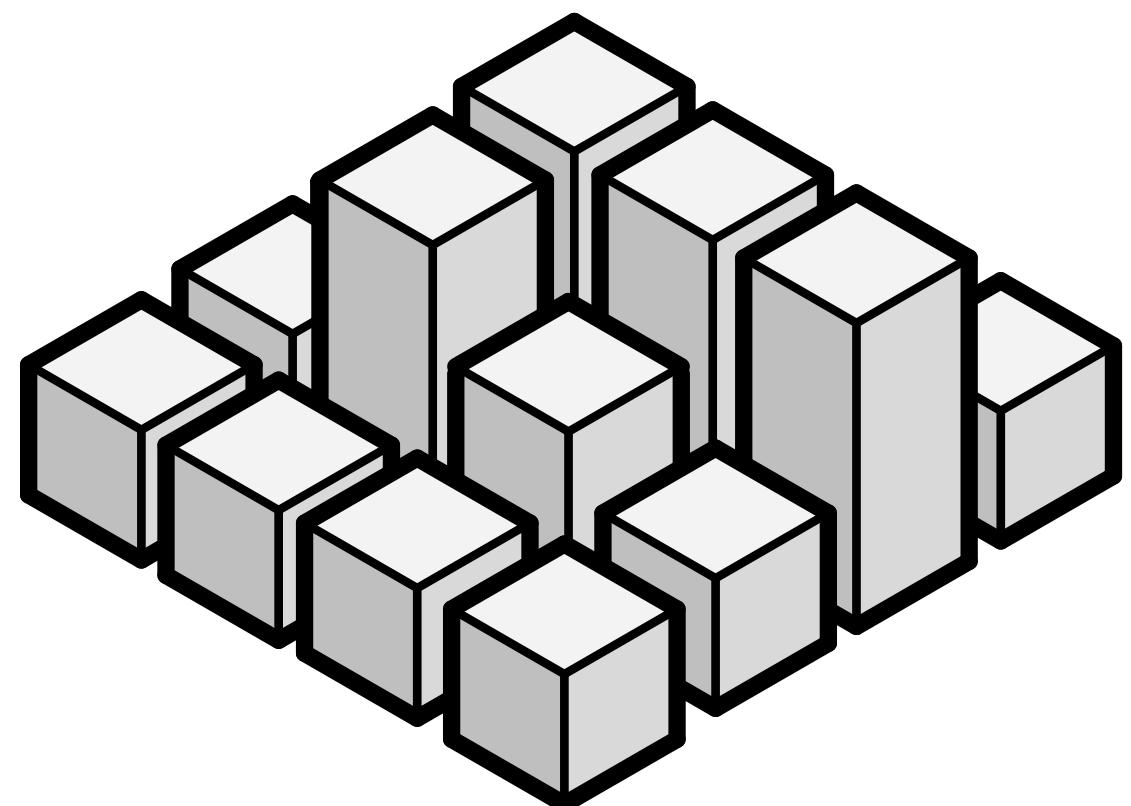
Layers



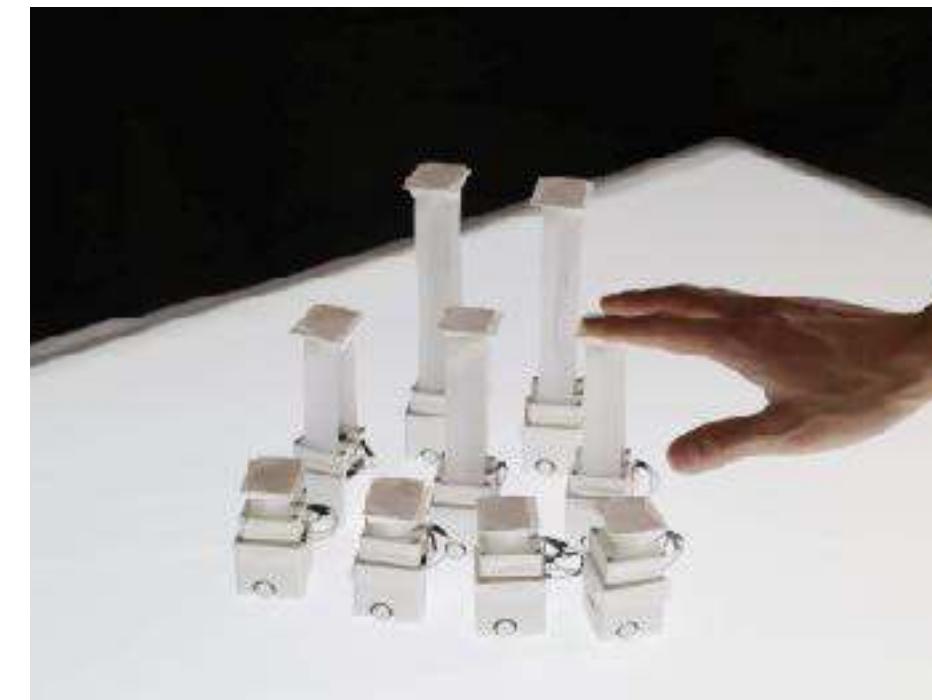
Surface



Hub and Struts



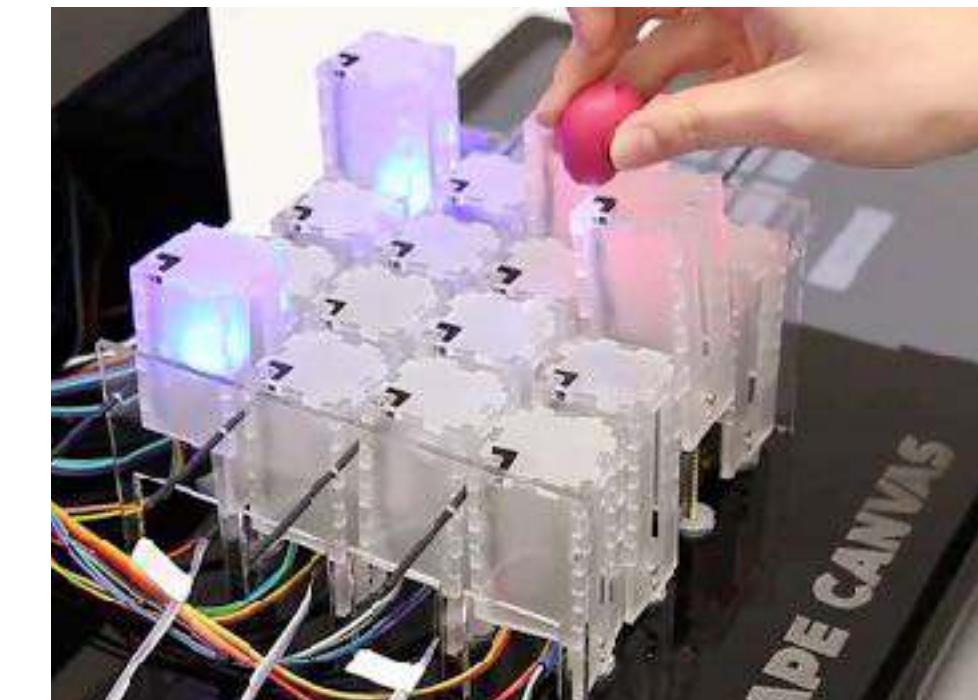
Pin Array



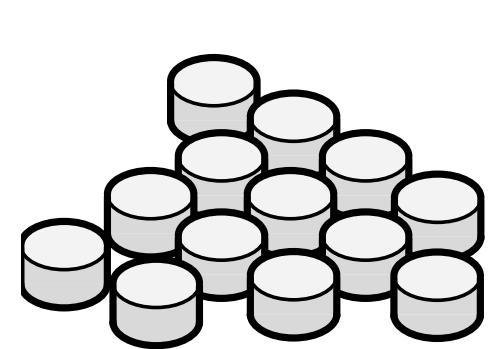
[ShapeBots, Suzuki 2018]



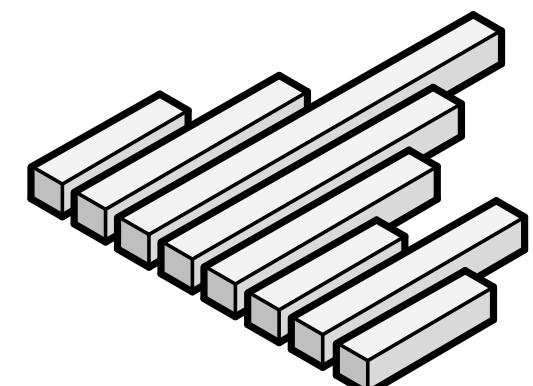
[LiftTiles, Suzuki 2020]



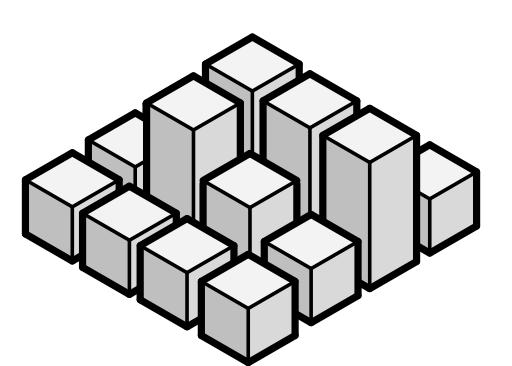
[ShapeCanvas, Everitt 2016]



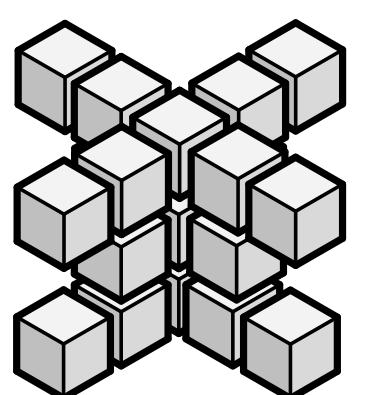
Sparse Dots



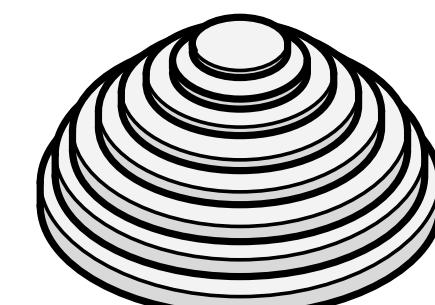
Sparse Lines



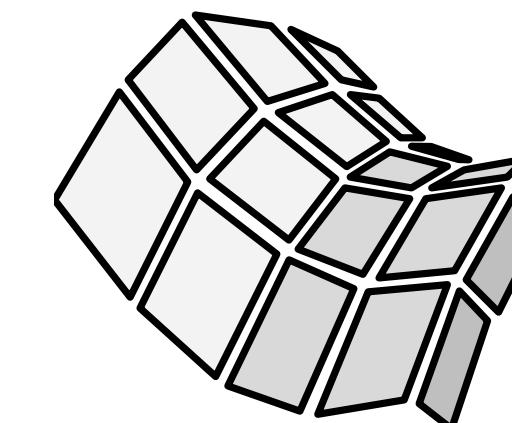
Pin Array



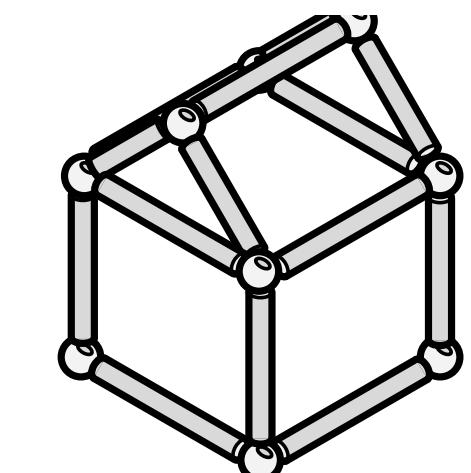
Voxel



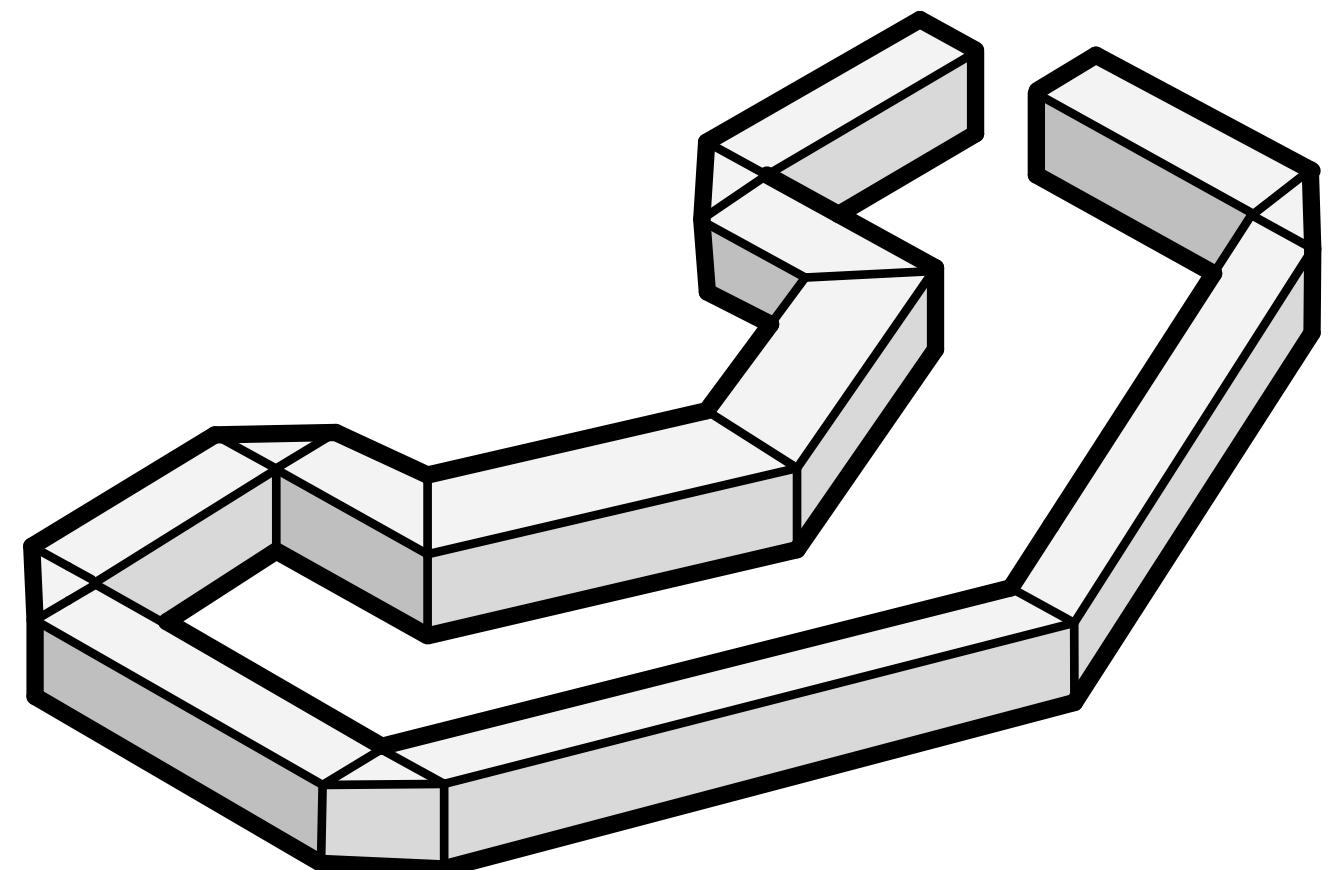
Layers



Surface



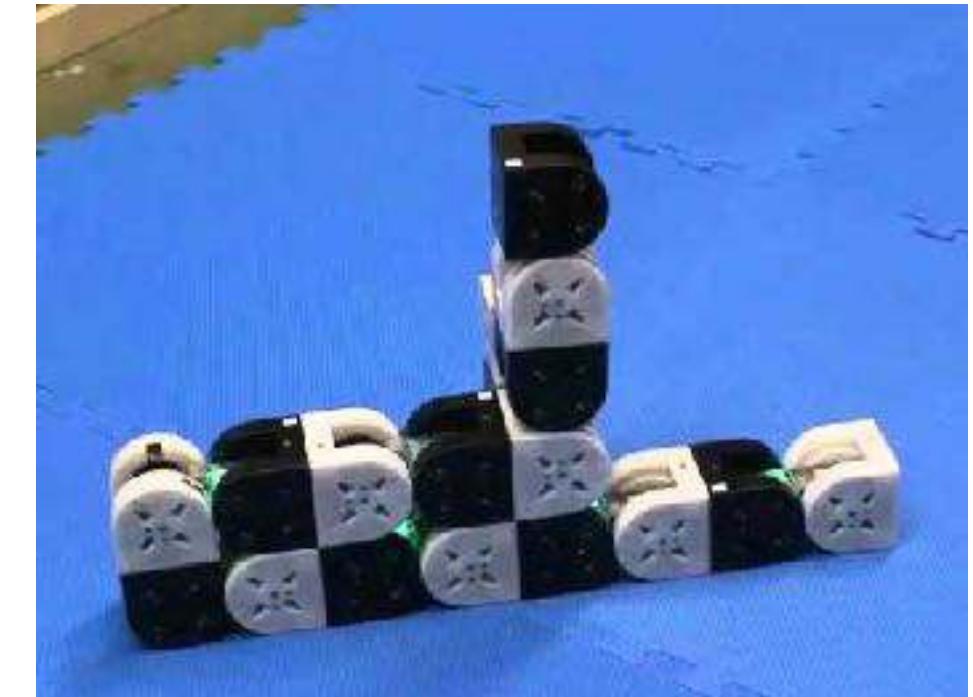
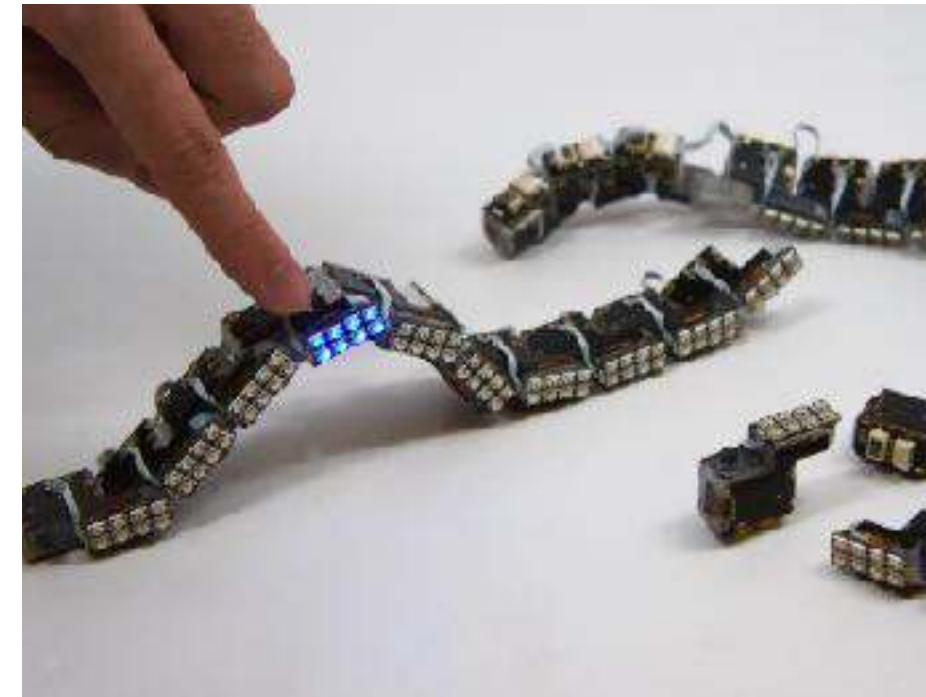
Hub and Struts



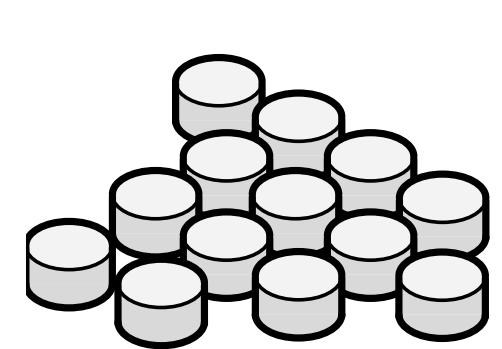
Single Line



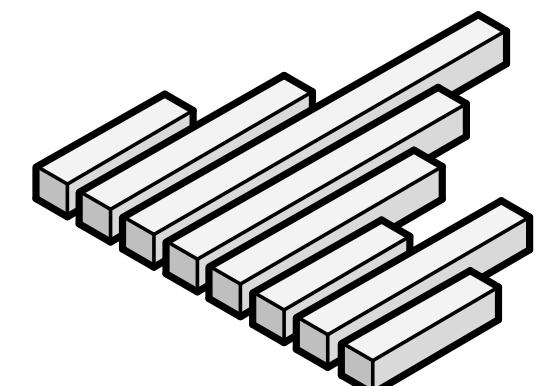
[Cubimorph, Roudaut 2016] [ChainFORM, Nakagaki 2016]



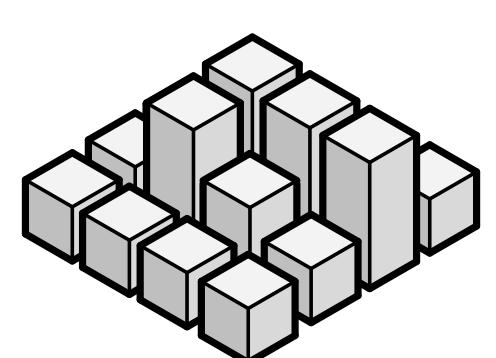
[M-TRAN, Murata 2002]



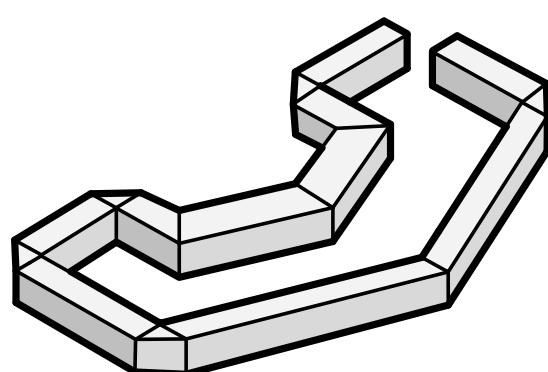
Sparse Dots



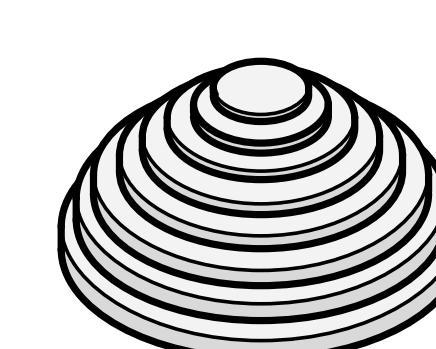
Sparse Lines



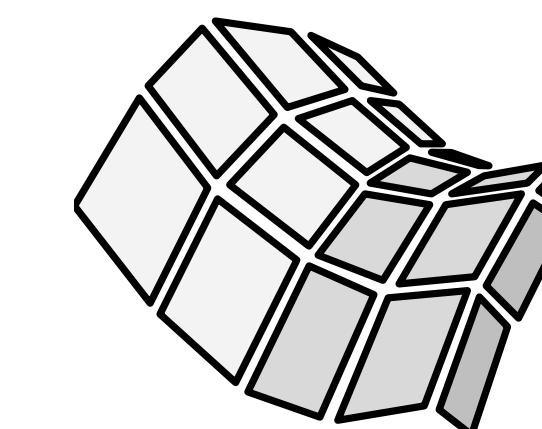
Pin Array



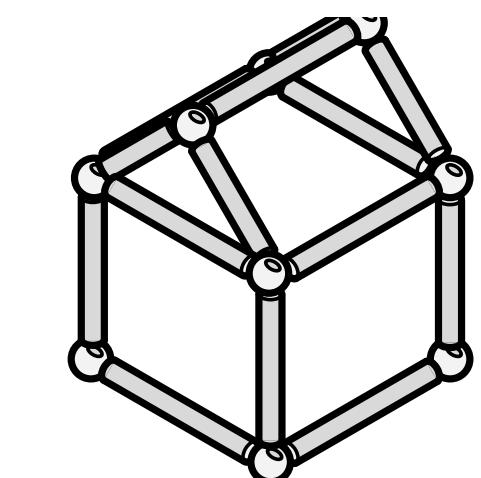
Single Line



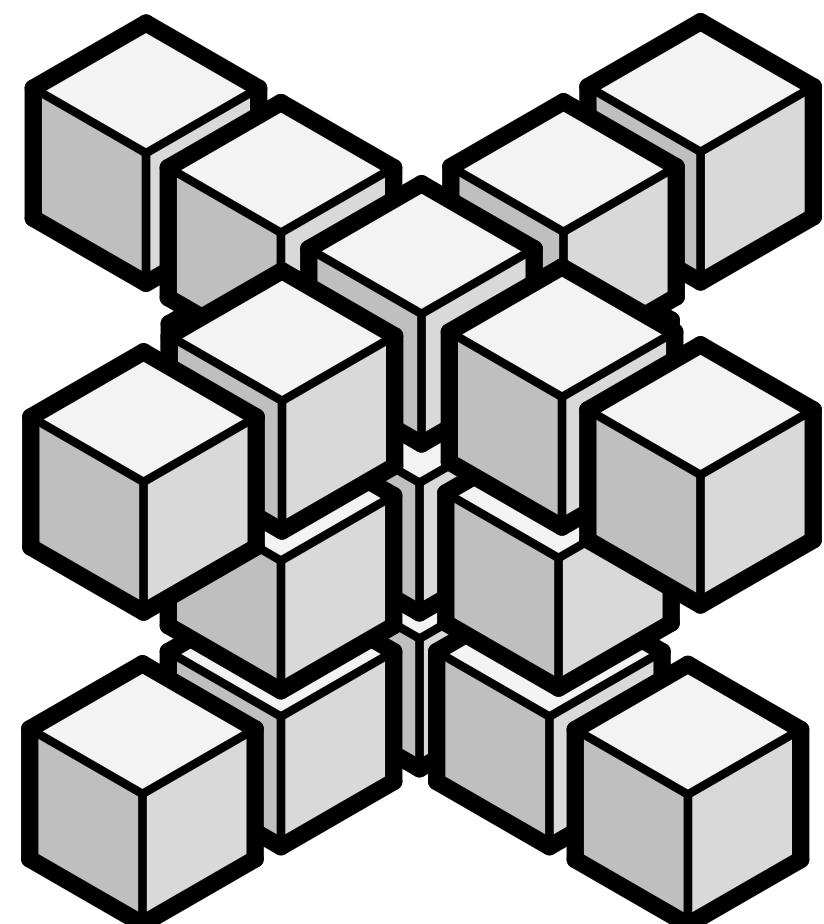
Layers



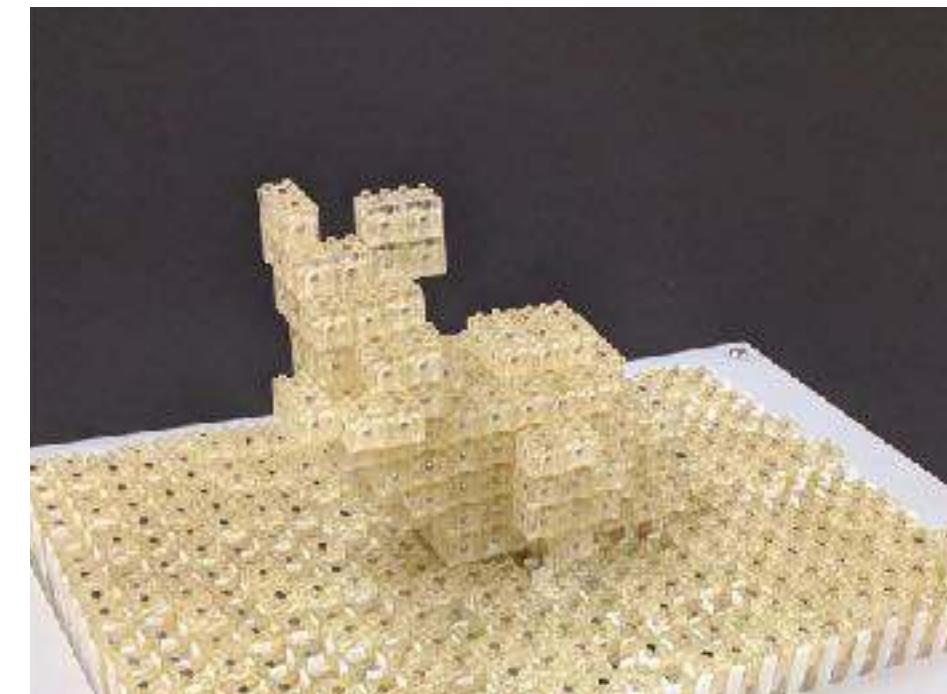
Surface



Hub and Struts



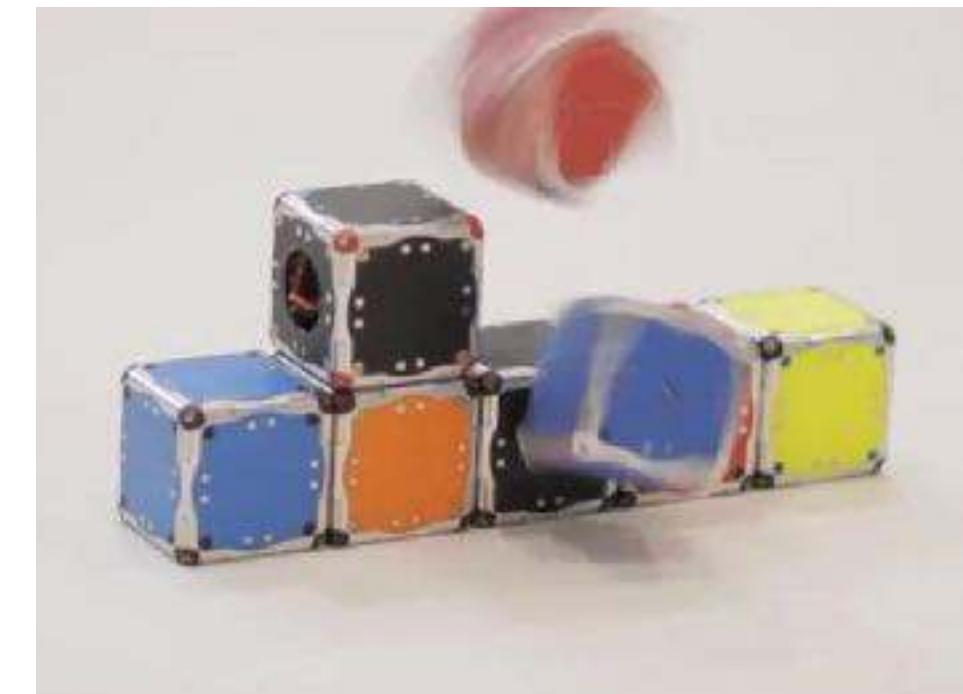
Voxel



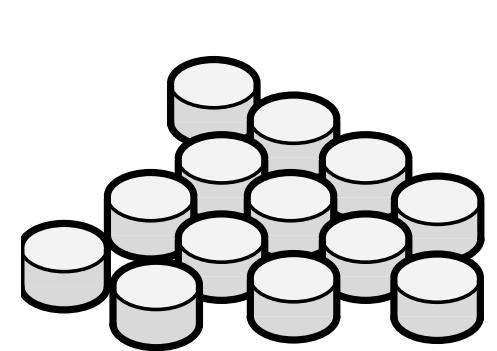
[Dynablock, Suzuki 2018]



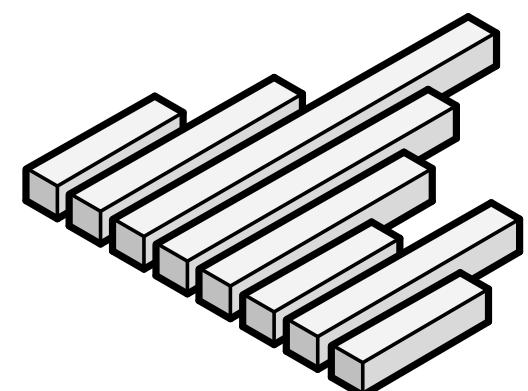
[Zhao 2017]



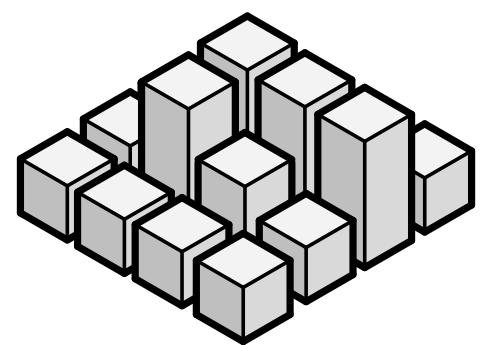
[M-Blocks, Romanishin 2013]



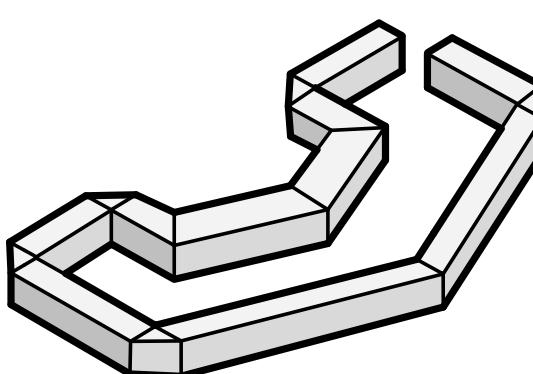
Sparse Dots



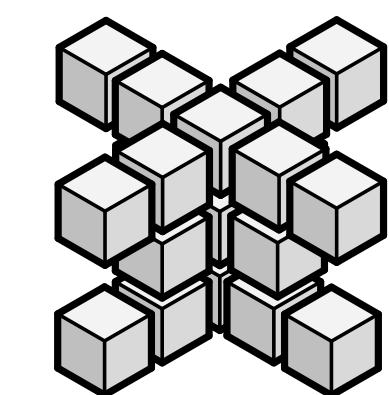
Sparse Lines



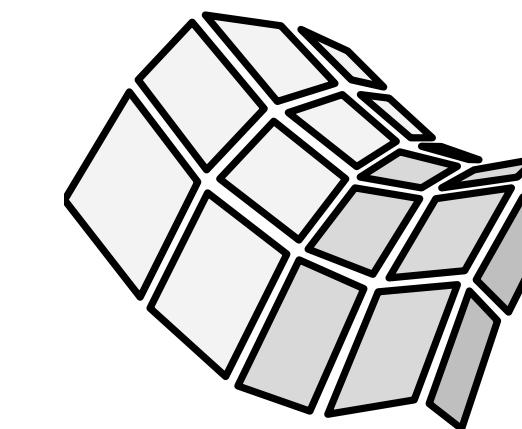
Pin Array



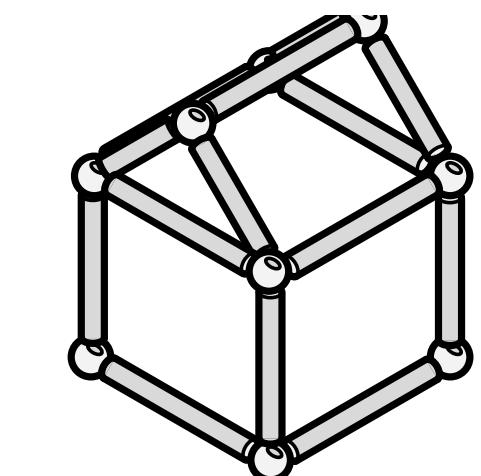
Single Line



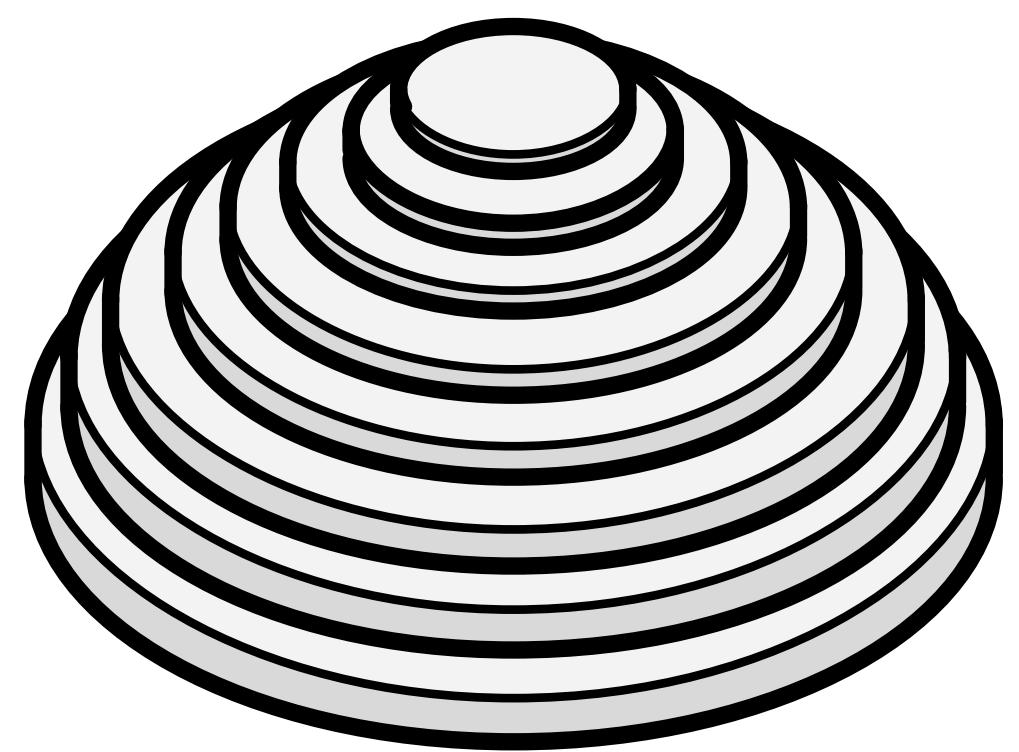
Voxel



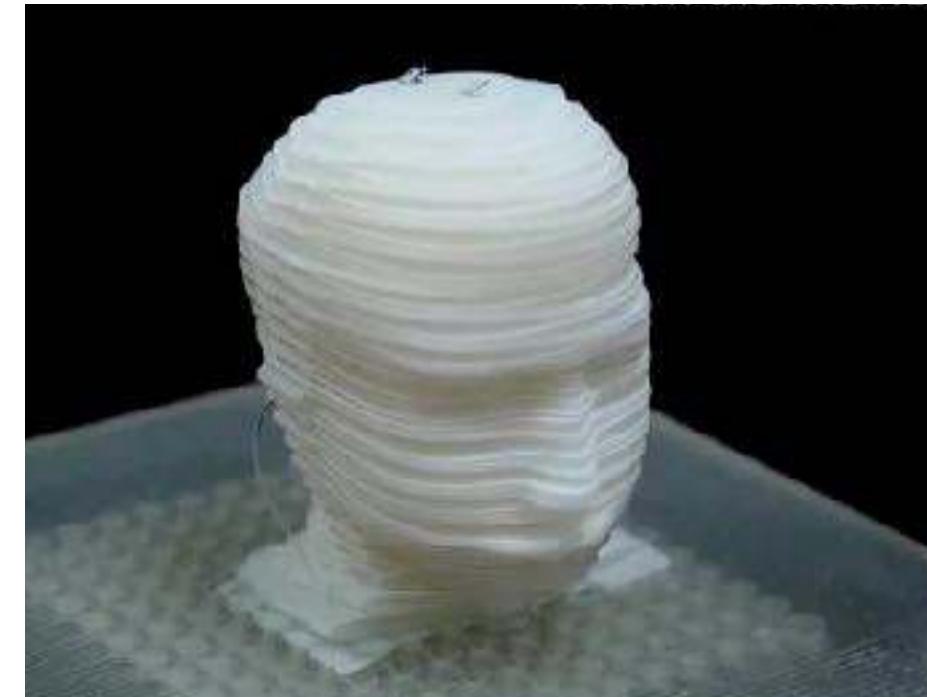
Surface



Hub and Struts



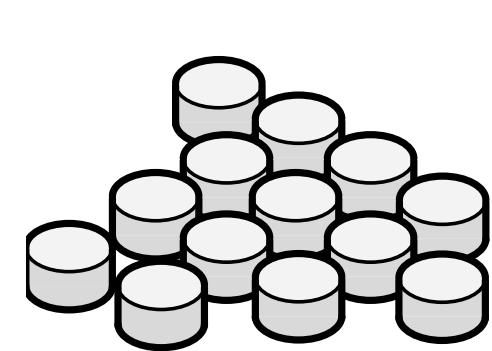
Layers



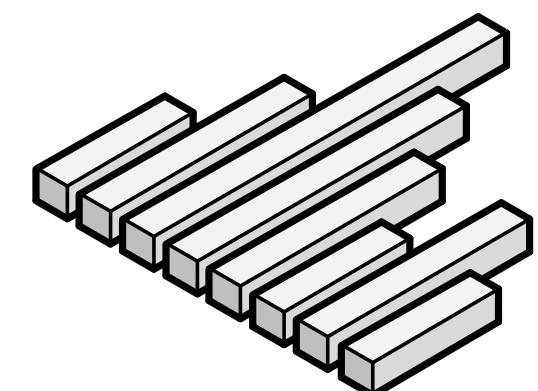
[Additive Folding, Yim 2018]



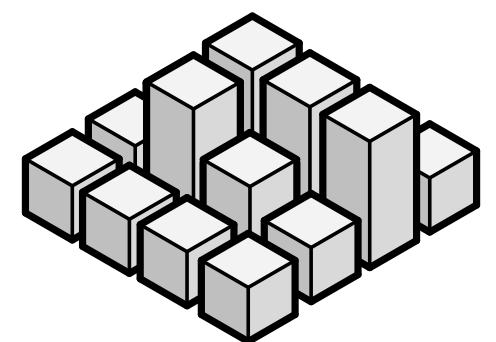
[BendingArches, Morten 2016]



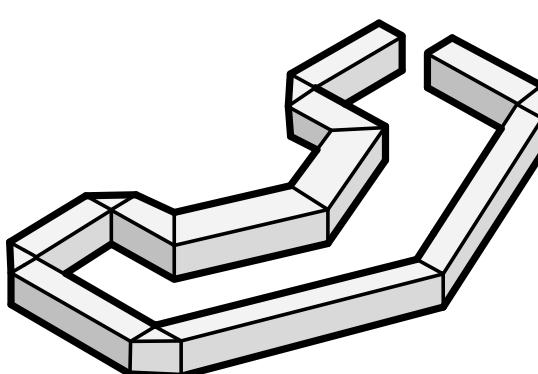
Sparse Dots



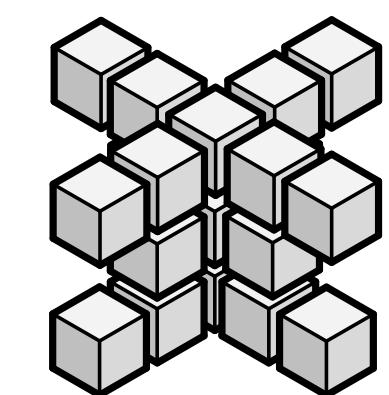
Sparse Lines



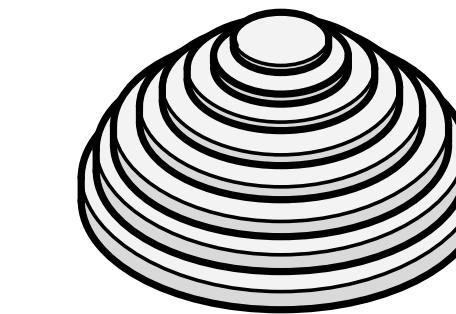
Pin Array



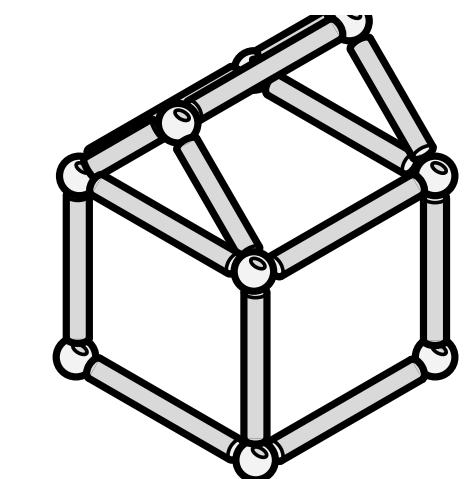
Single Line



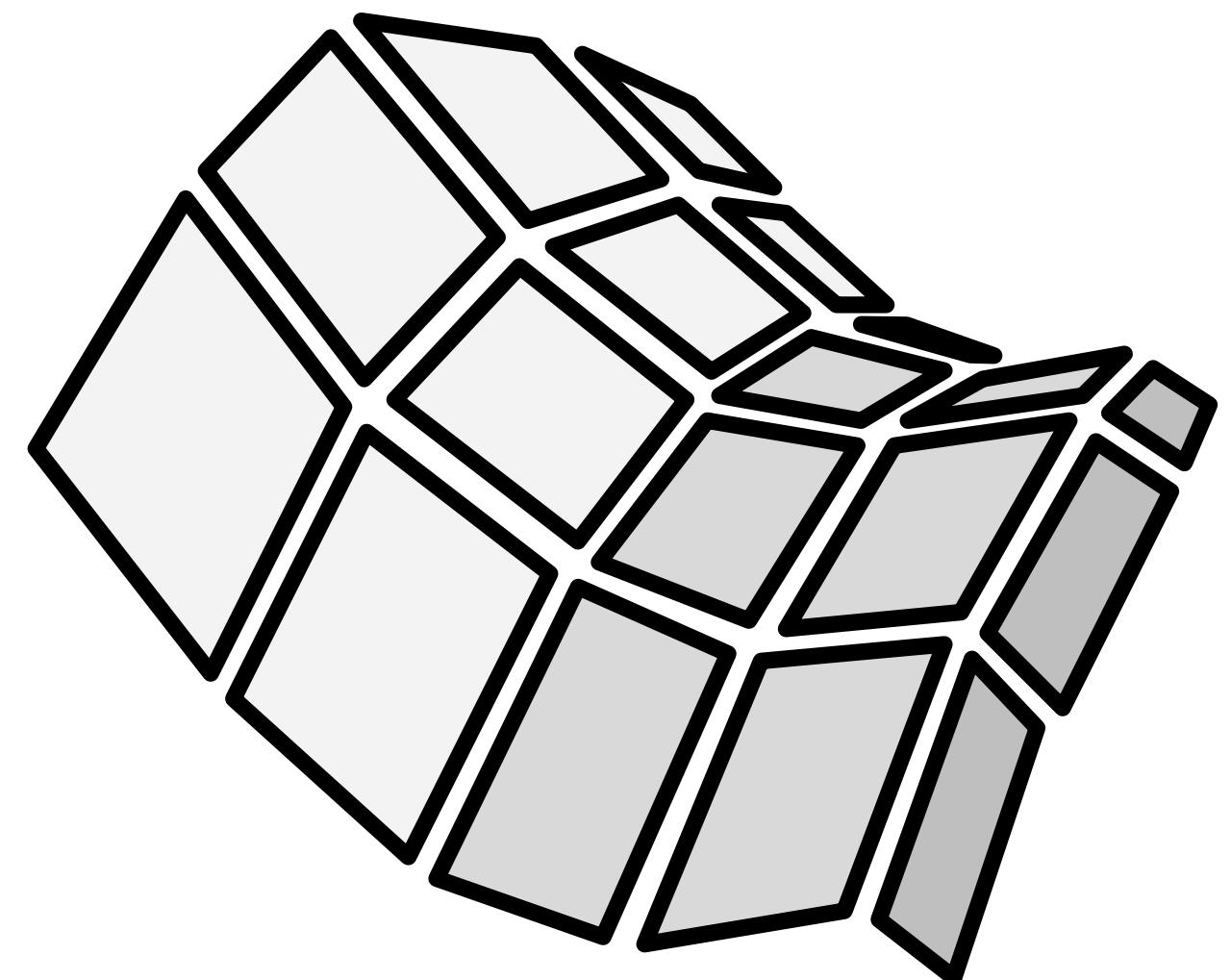
Voxel



Layers



Hub and Struts



Surface



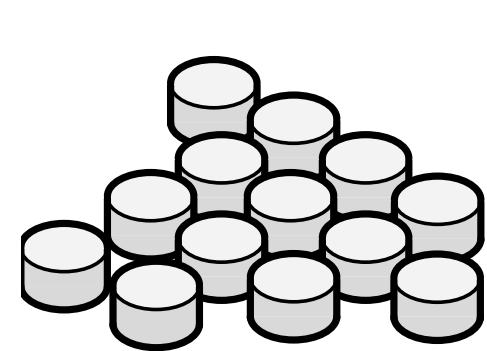
[MORI, Belke 2017]



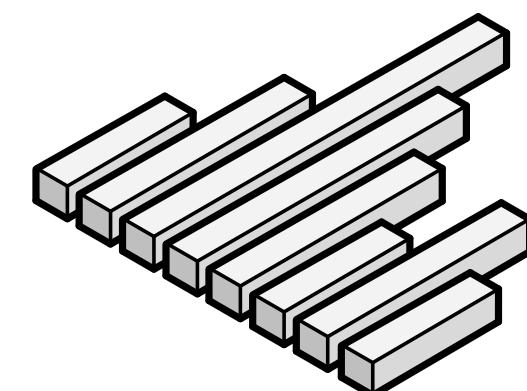
[Morphees, Roudaut 2013]



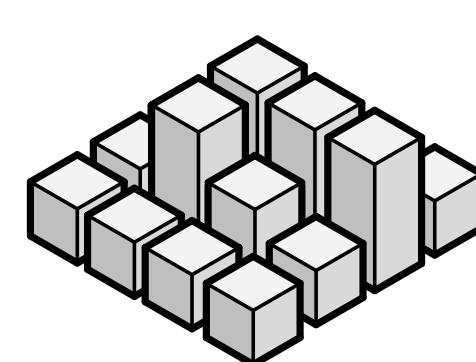
[CurveUps, Guseinov 2017]



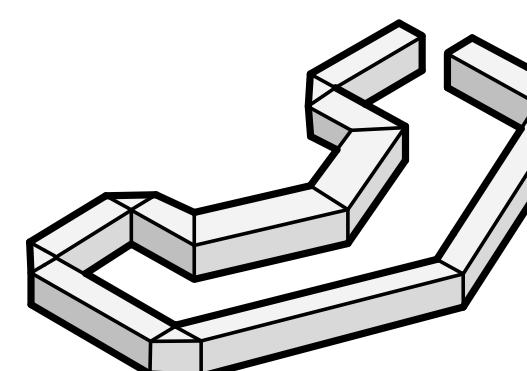
Sparse Dots



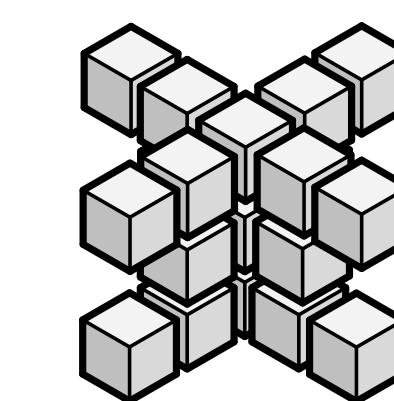
Sparse Lines



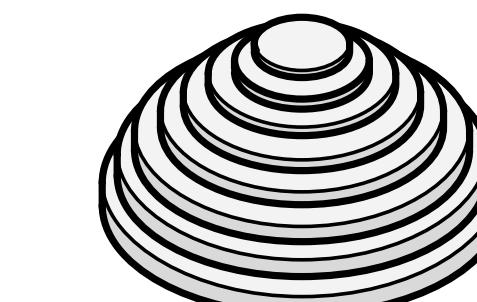
Pin Array



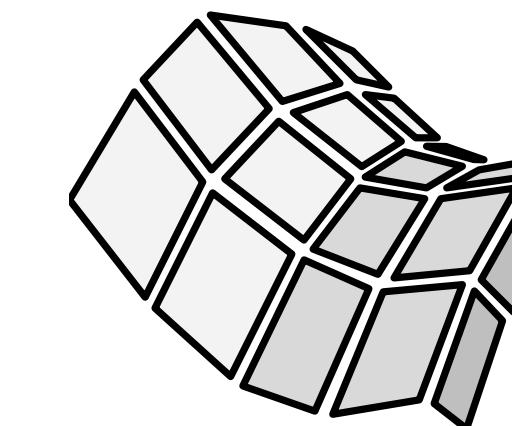
Single Line



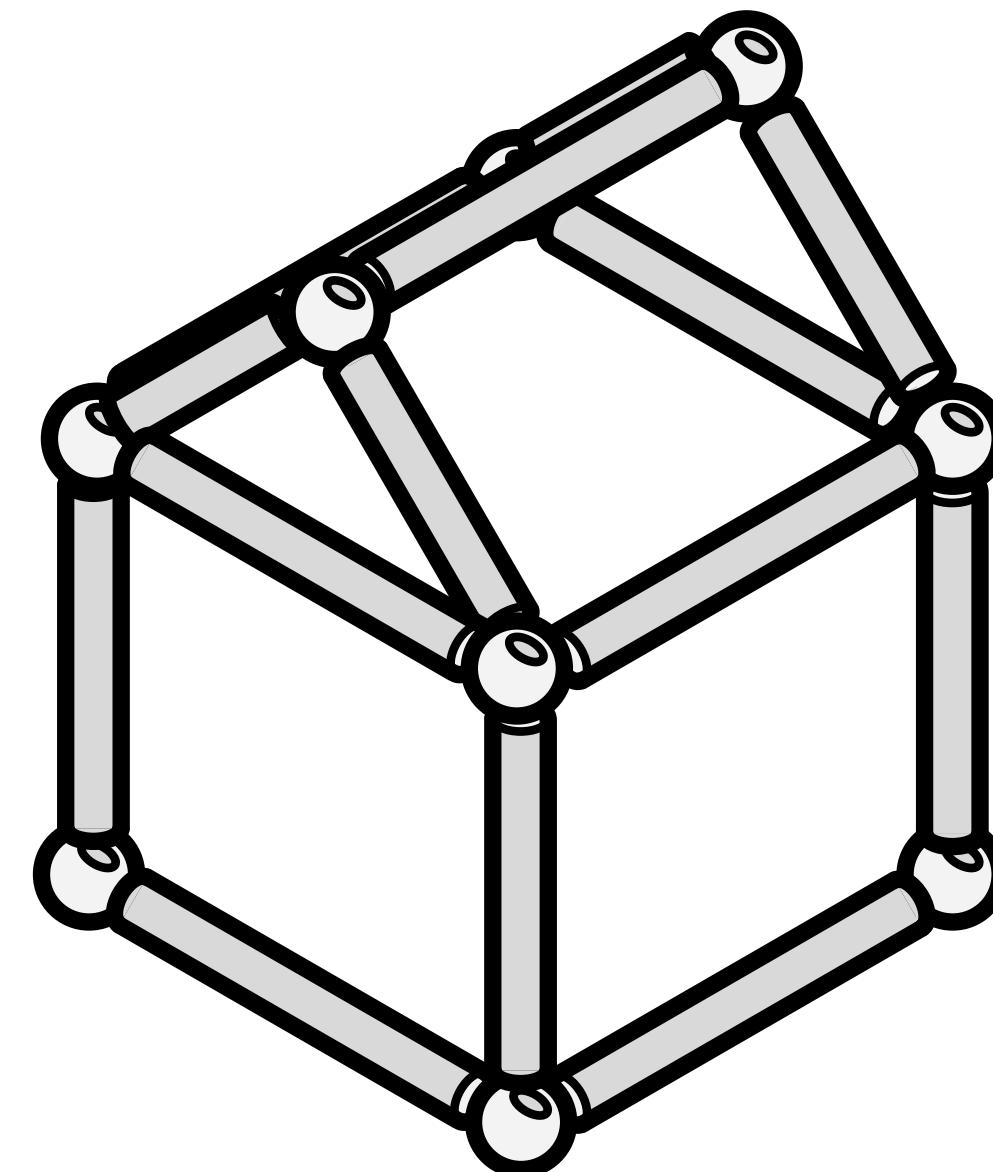
Voxel



Layers



Surface



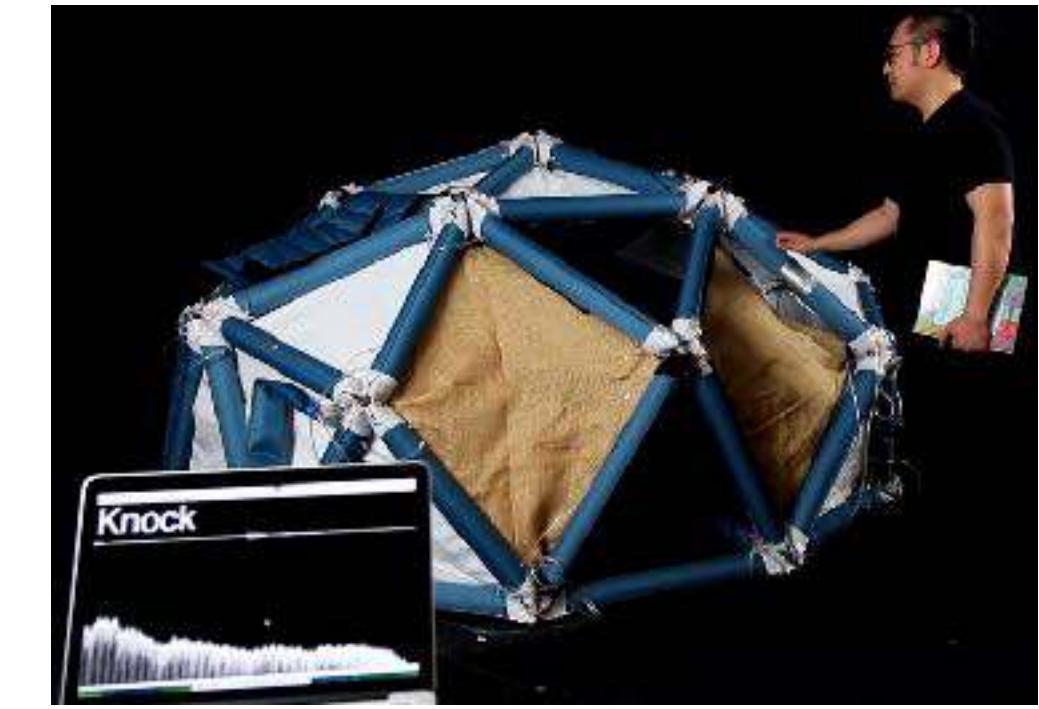
Hub and Struts



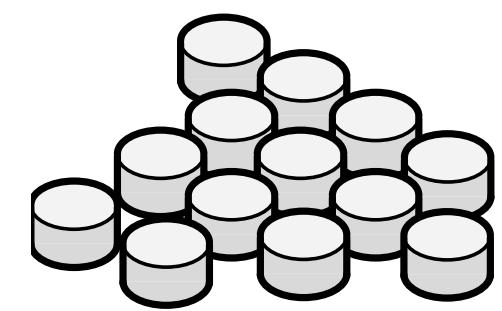
[Hammond 2020]



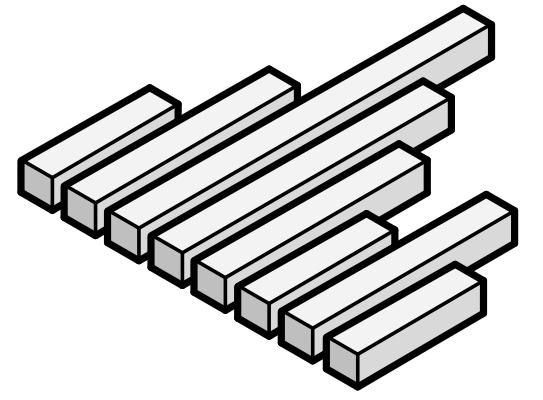
[KineReels, Takei 2011]



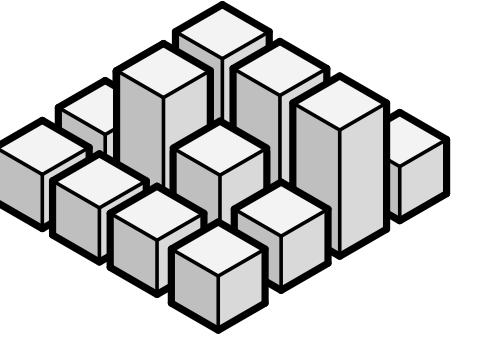
[Swaminathan 2019]



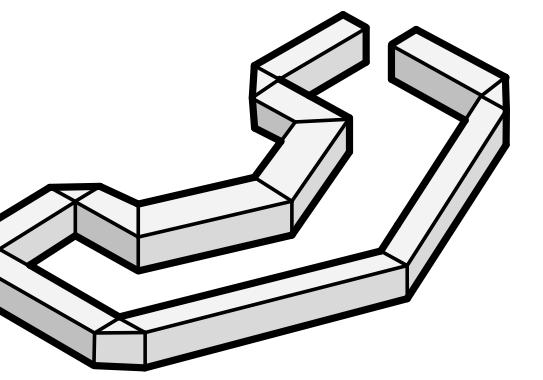
Sparse Dots



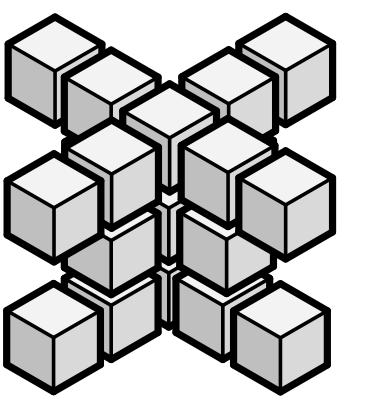
Sparse Lines



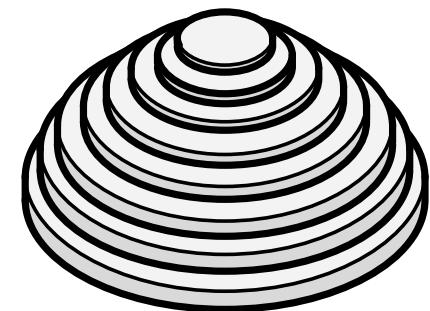
Pin Array



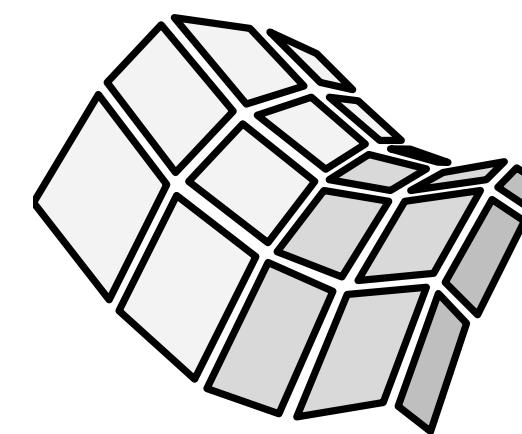
Single Line



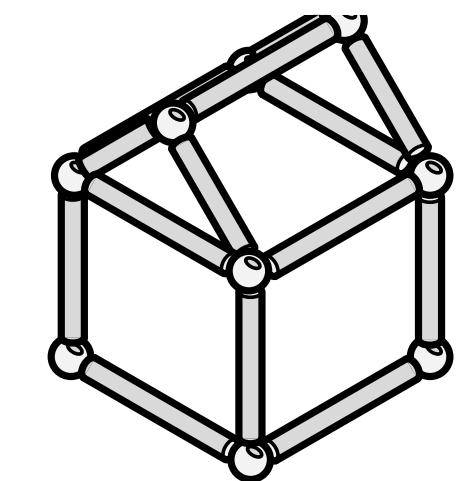
Voxel



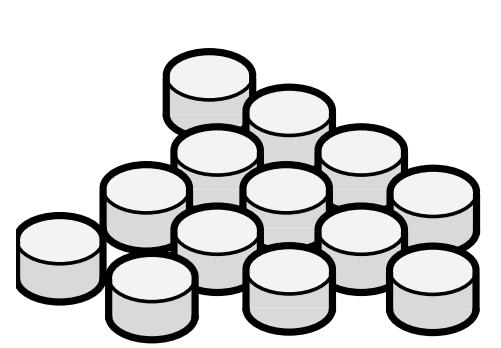
Layers



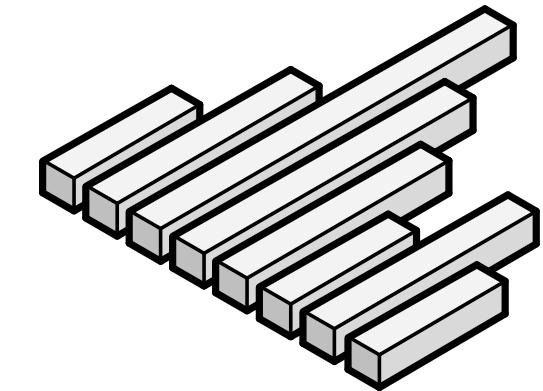
Surface



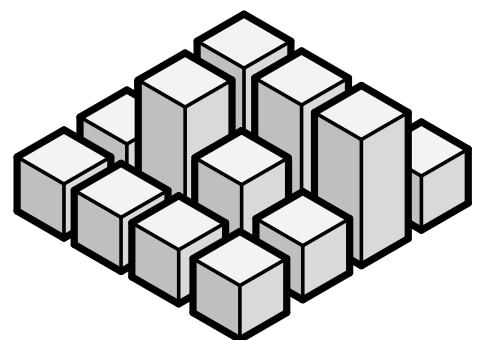
Hub and Struts



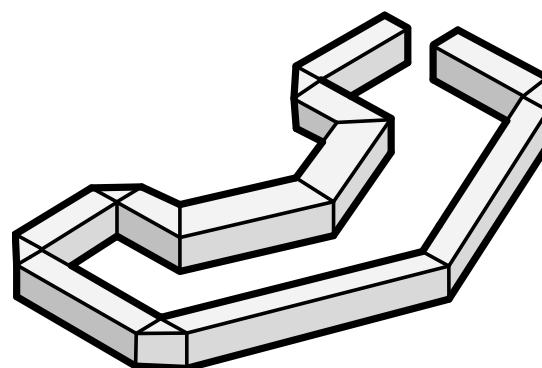
Sparse Dots



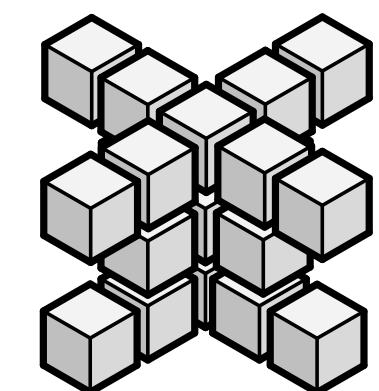
Sparse Lines



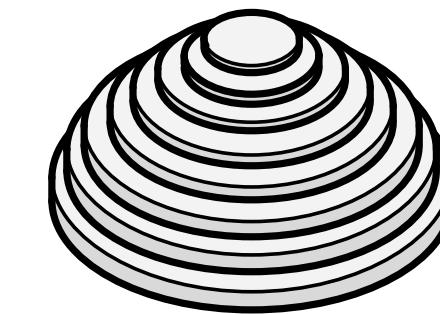
Pin Array



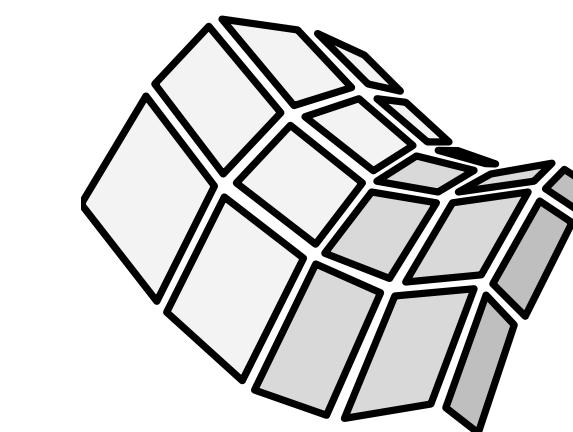
Single Line



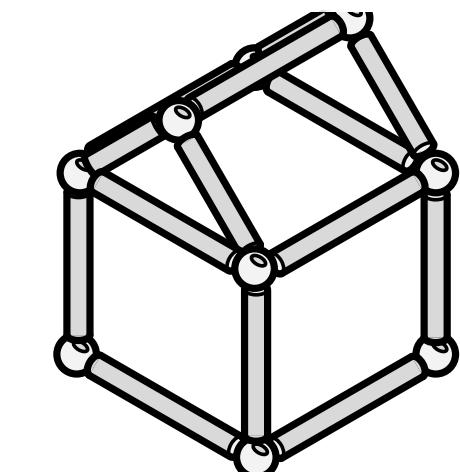
Voxel



Layers

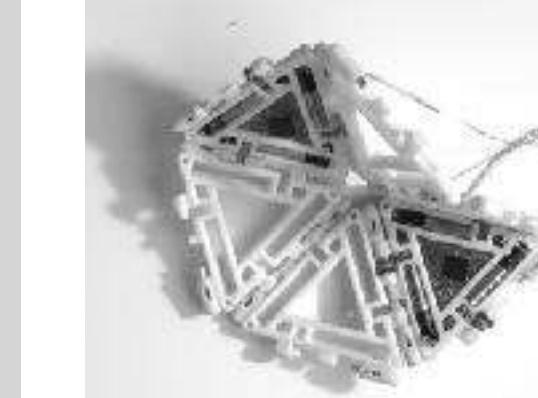
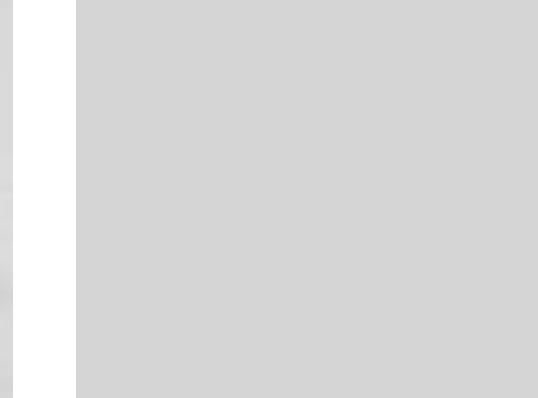


Surface

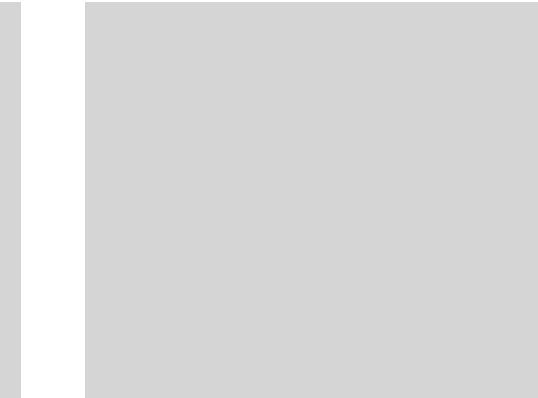
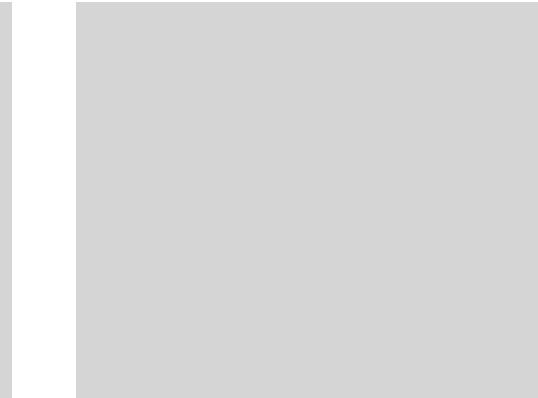
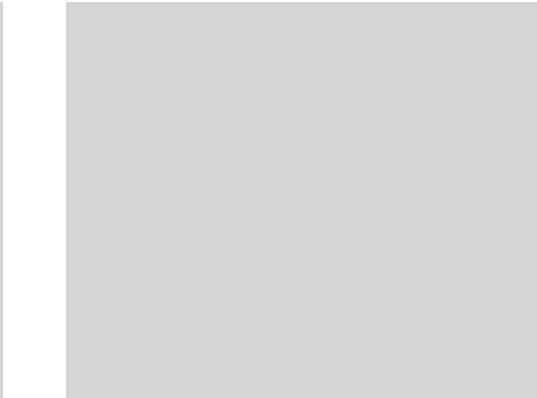


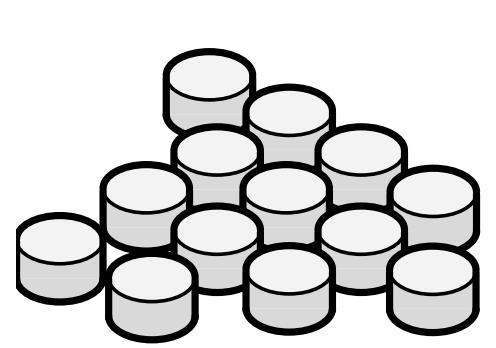
Hub and Struts

Active Elements

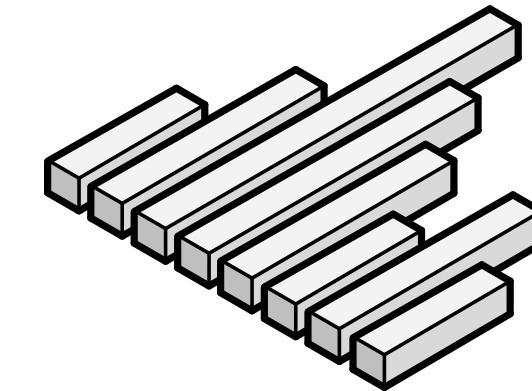


Passive Elements

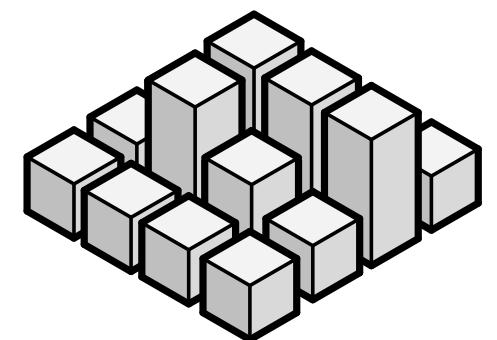




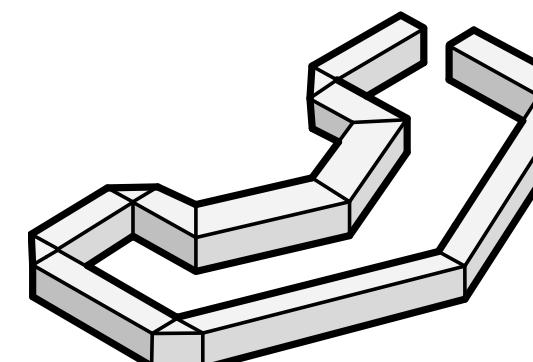
Sparse Dots



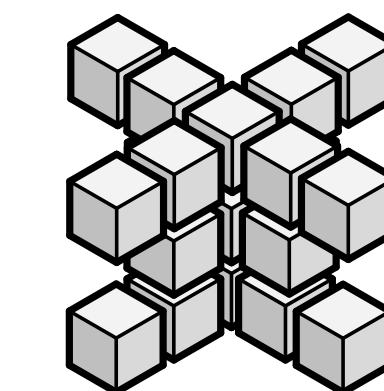
Sparse Lines



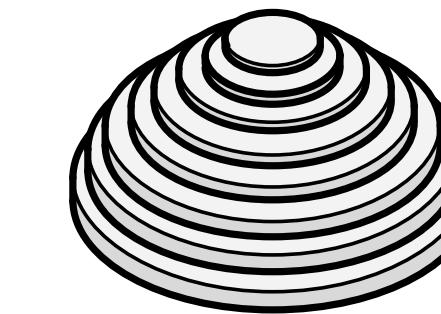
Pin Array



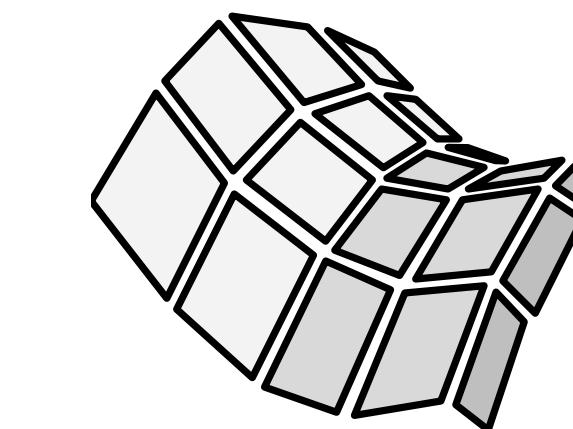
Single Line



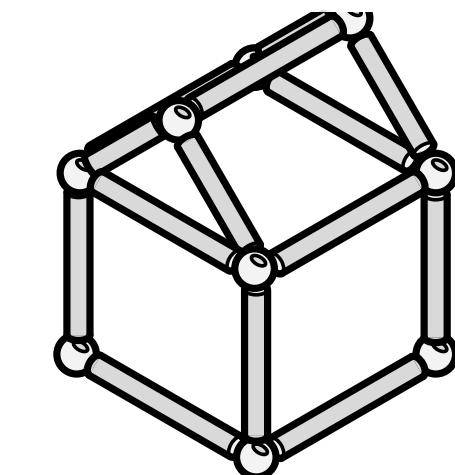
Voxel



Layers



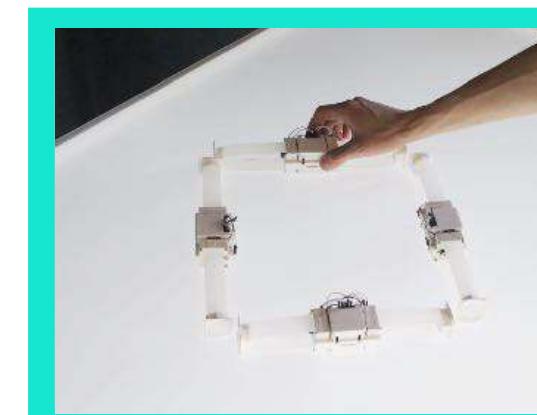
Surface



Hub and Struts

Active

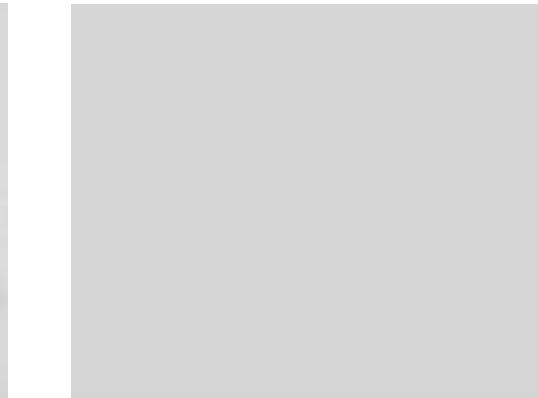
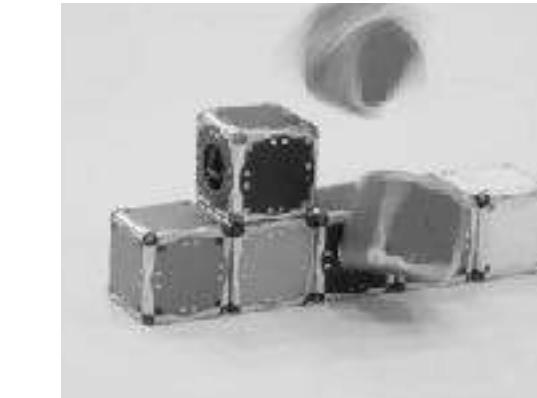
Elements



This thesis

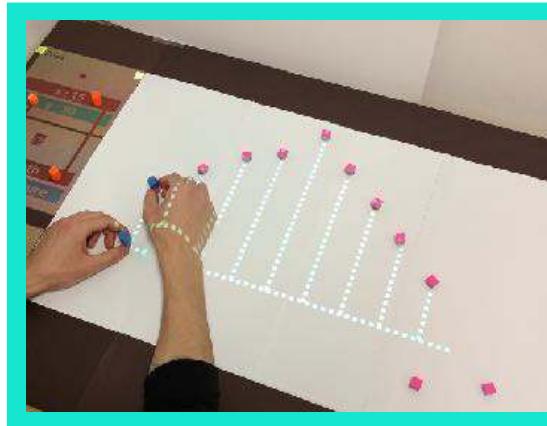


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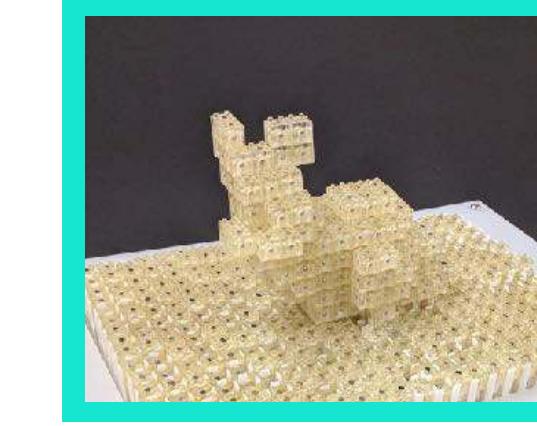


Passive

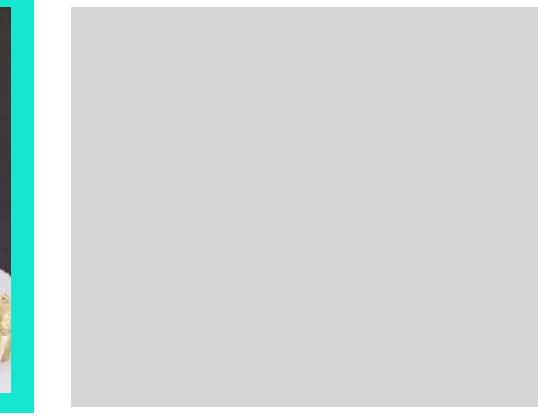
Elements



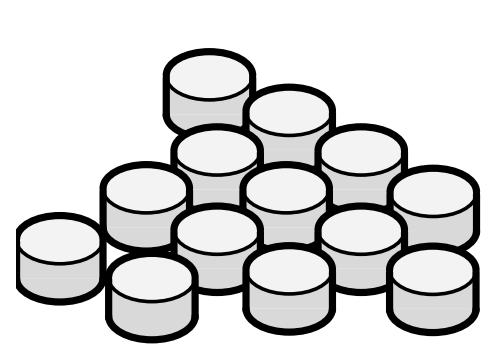
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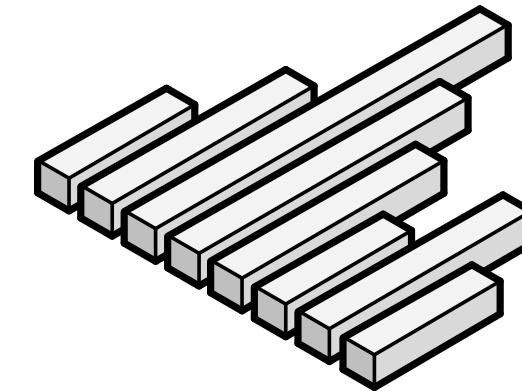
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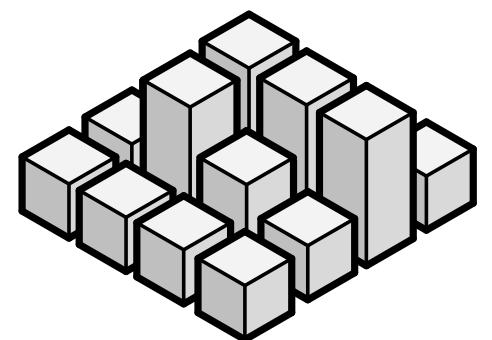
I demonstrate and explore new representations to expand the current scope



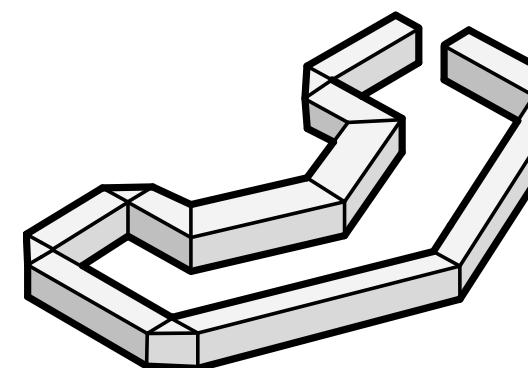
Sparse Dots



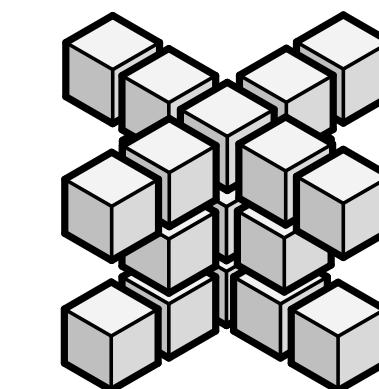
Sparse Lines



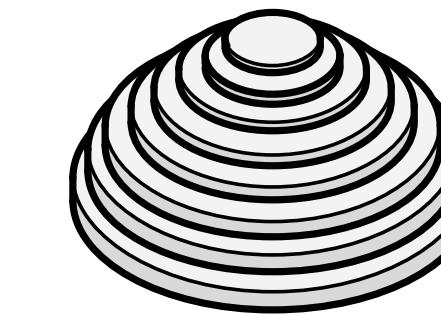
Pin Array



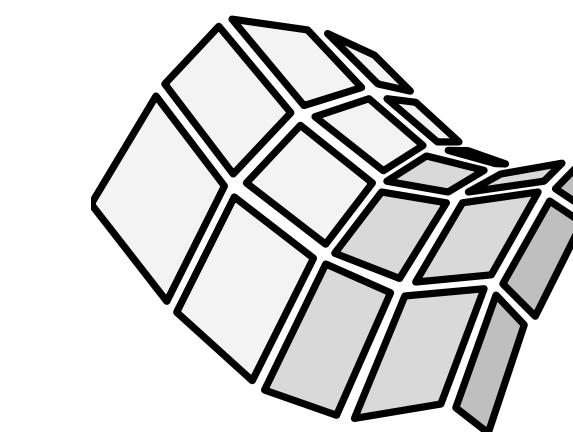
Single Line



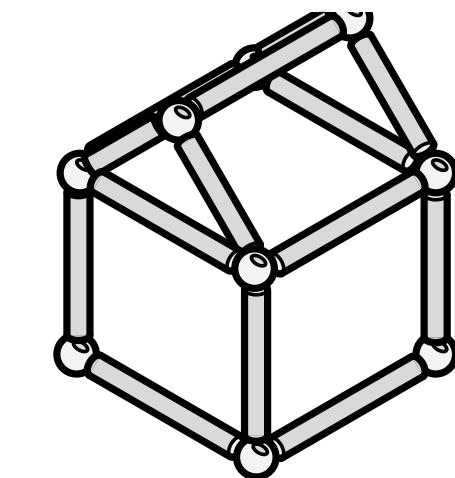
Voxel



Layers

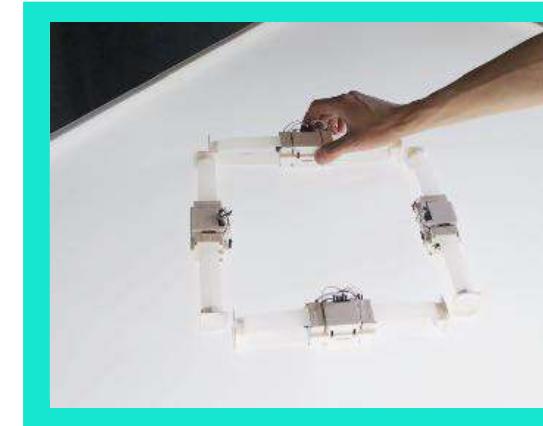


Surface



Hub and Struts

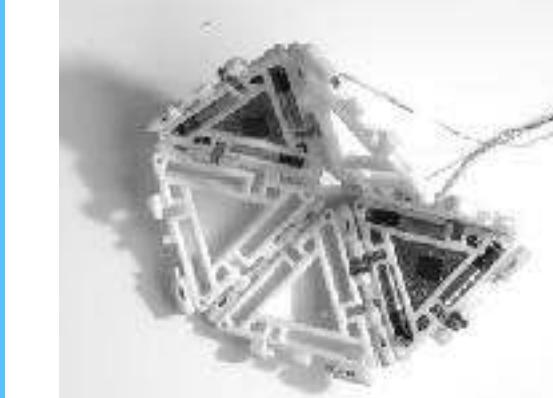
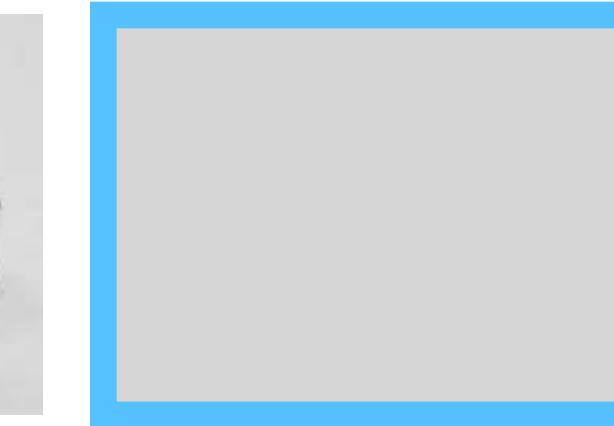
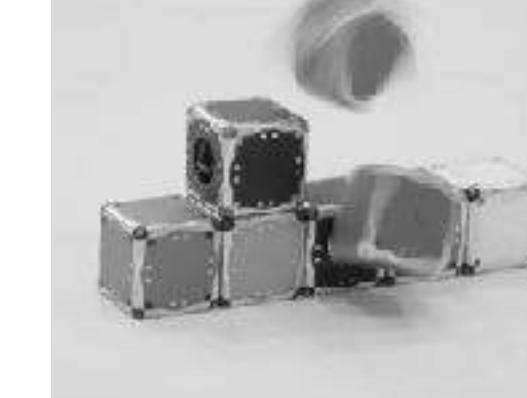
Active Elements



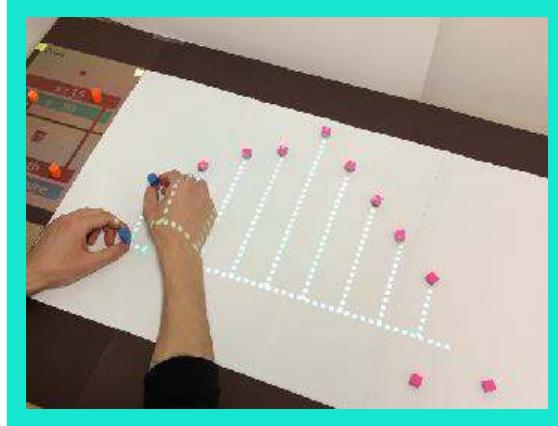
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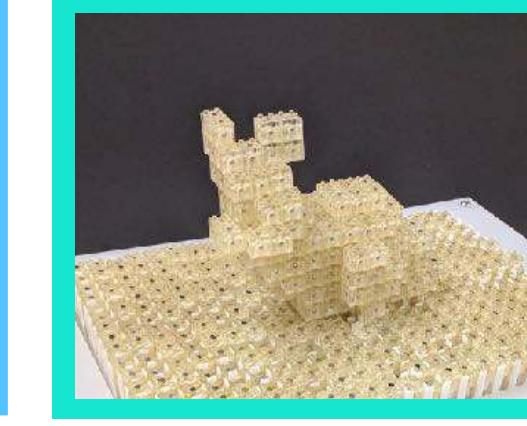
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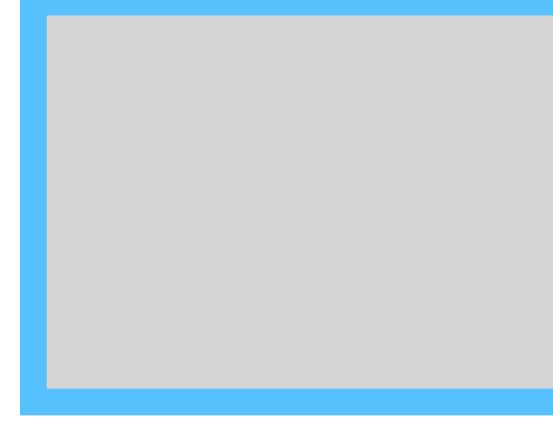
Passive Elements



This thesis



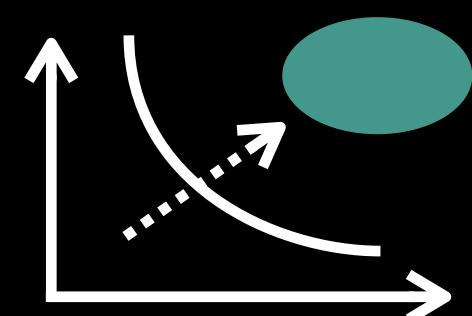
This thesis



I demonstrate and explore new representations to expand the current scope
also discuss future research opportunities and exploration strategies to fill the gap

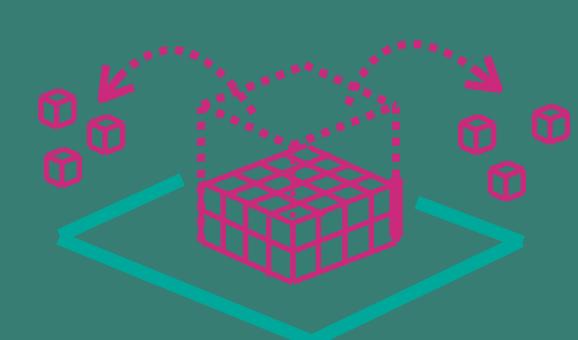
Background

Why This Approach?



Concept

What is
Dynamic and Collective
Shape Construction?

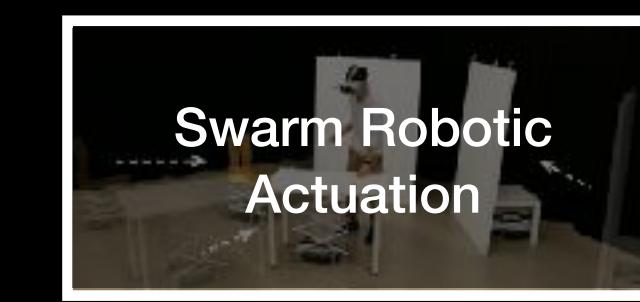


Shape Construction
with **Active** Elements

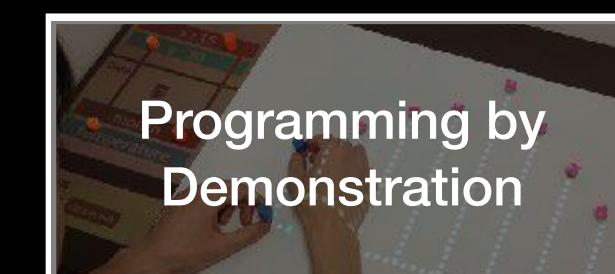


Explorations

Shape Construction
with **Passive** Elements

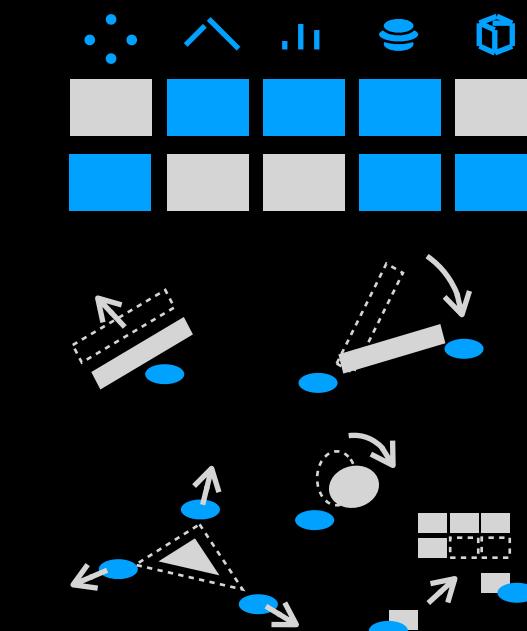


Interaction with
Collective Elements



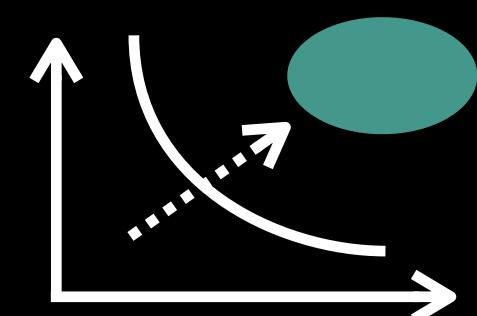
Discussion

What's Next?



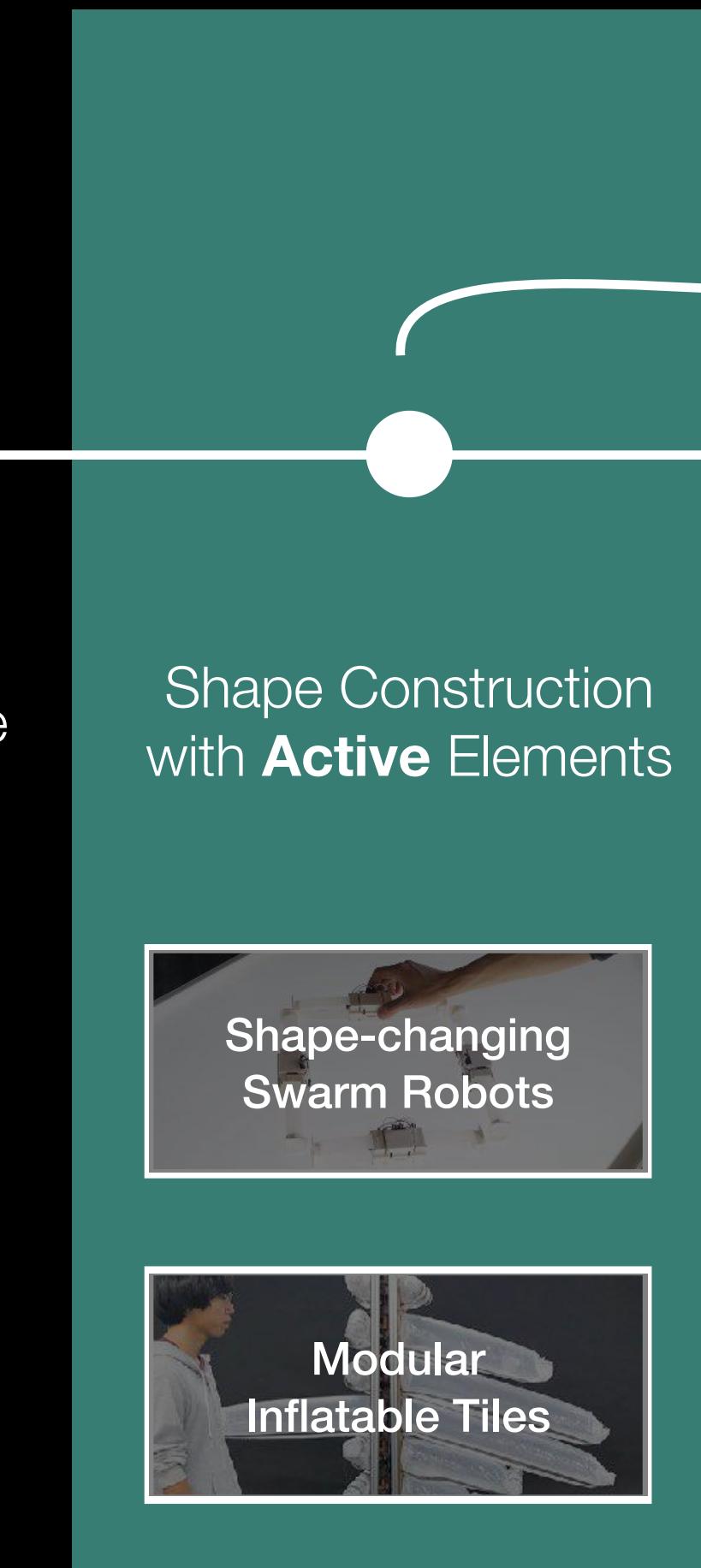
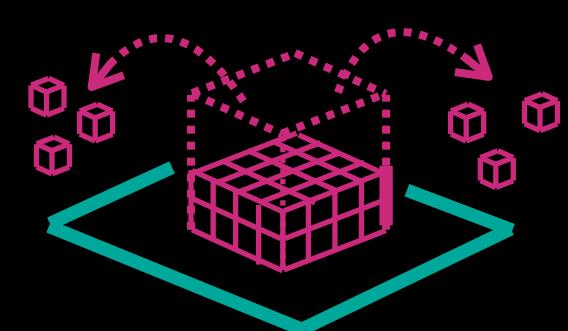
Background

Why This Approach?



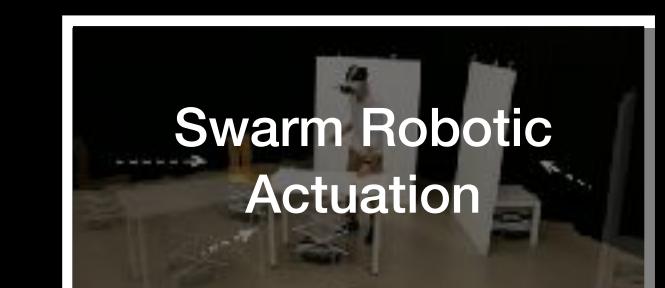
Concept

What is
Dynamic and Collective
Shape Construction?



Explorations

Shape Construction
with **Passive** Elements

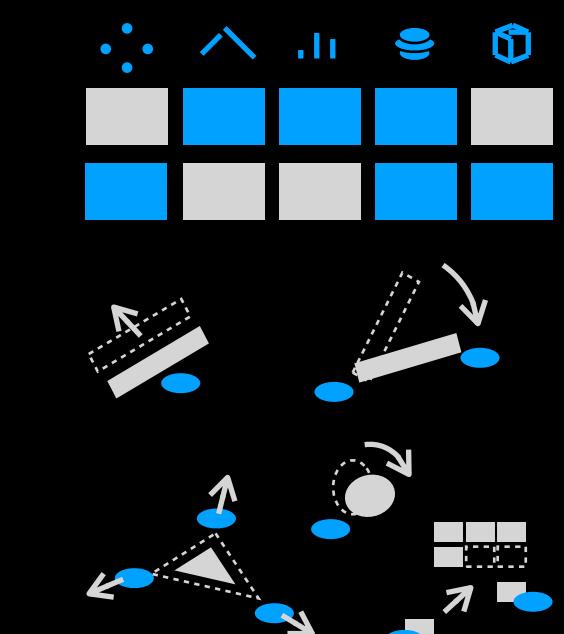


Interaction with
Collective Elements

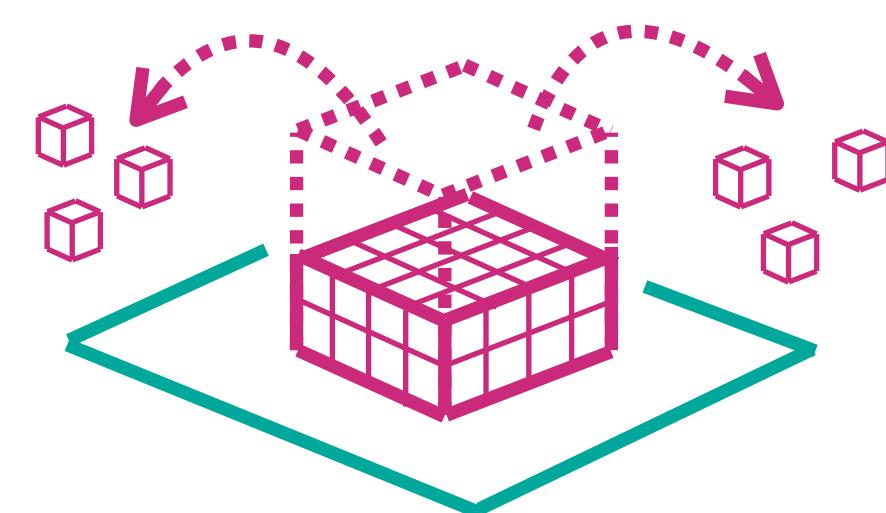


Discussion

What's Next?



Dynamic Physical UI



Shape Change with
Collective Elements

The focus of this thesis

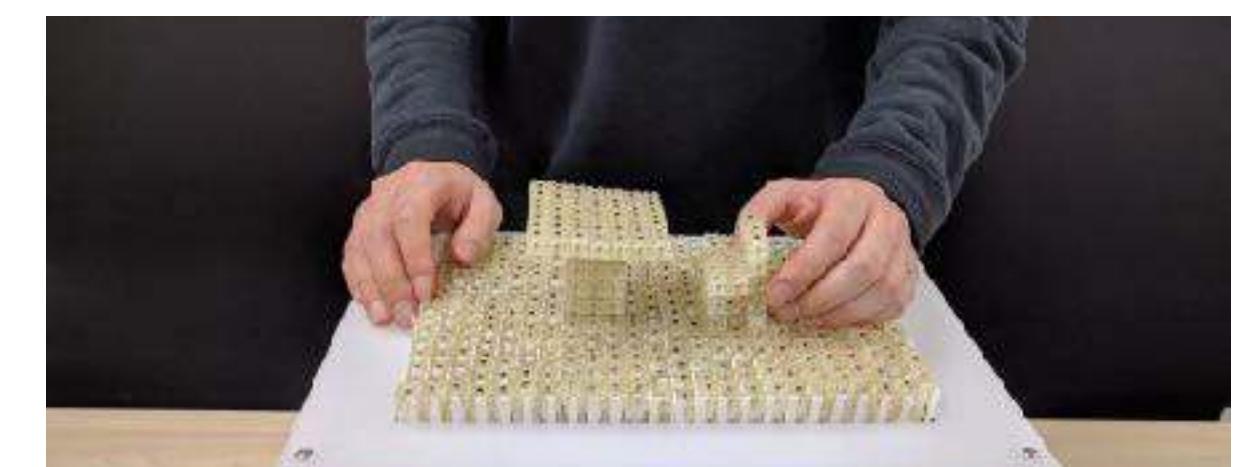
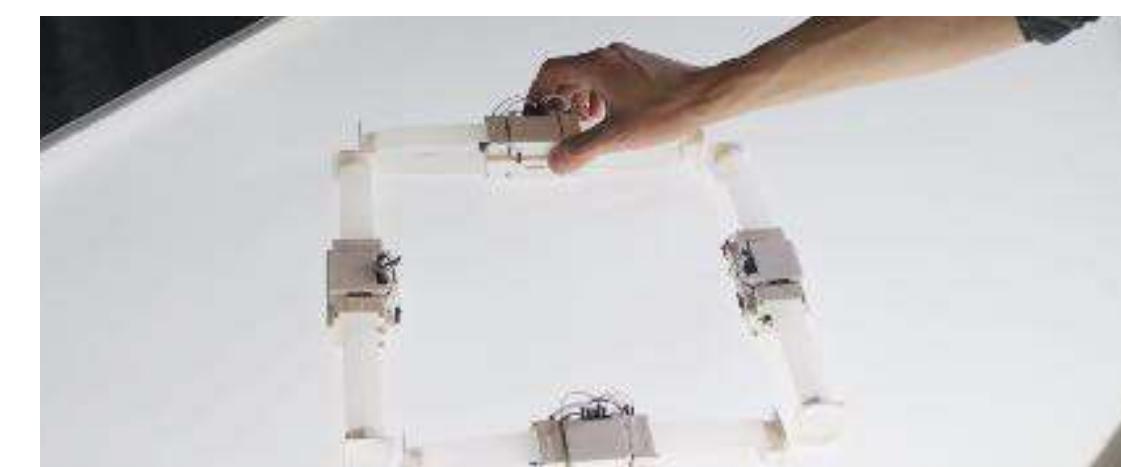
Dynamic and **collective**
shape construction

Active
collective elements

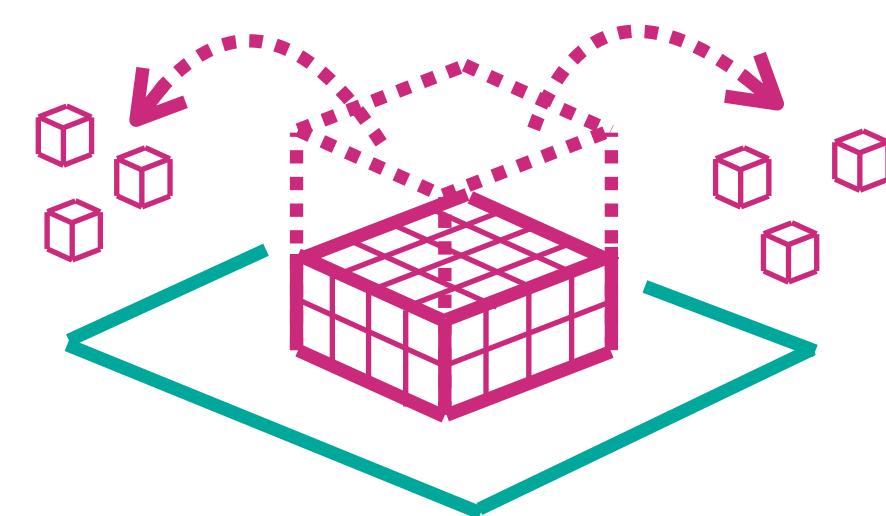
self-actuated elements
that can move or reconfigure
themselves with internal actuation

Passive
collective elements

externally-actuated elements
that can move or reconfigure
through external actuation



Dynamic Physical UI



Shape Change with
Collective Elements

The focus of this thesis

Dynamic and **collective**
shape construction

Active

collective elements

||

self-actuated elements
that can move or reconfigure
themselves with internal actuation

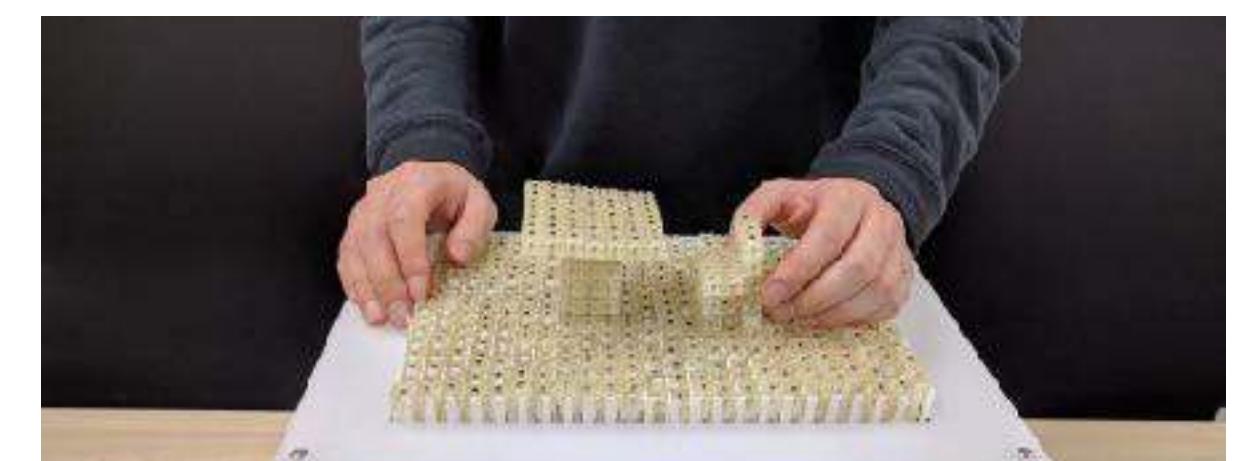


Passive

collective elements

||

externally-actuated elements
that can move or reconfigure
through external actuation



Active collective elements

self-actuated elements
that can move or reconfigure
themselves with internal actuation



Zoids

[Le Goc UIST 2016]



UbiSwarm

[Kim UbiComp 2017]



GridDrones

[Braley UIST 2018]



Rovables

[Dementyev UIST 2016]



PICO

[Patten CHI 2007]



Rolling Pixels

[Lee TEI 2020]

Swarm User Interfaces: Using Swarm Robots as Displays and Tangible User Interfaces



Zoids [Le Goc UIST 2016]



UbiSwarm [Kim UbiComp 2017]



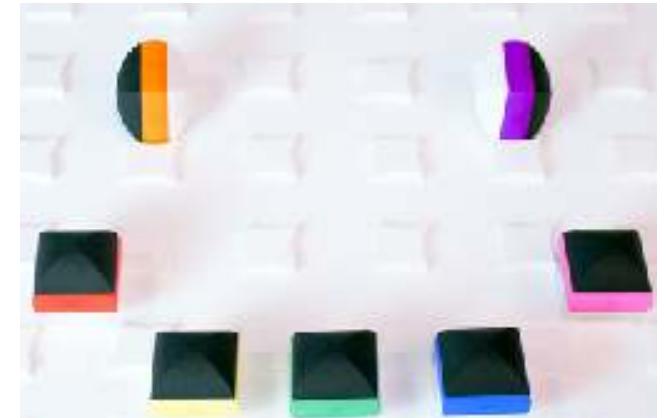
GridDrones [Braley UIST 2018]



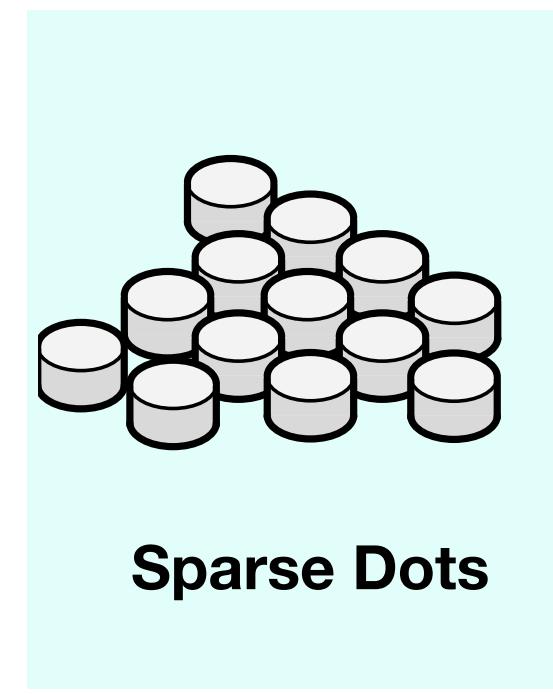
Rovables [Dementyev UIST 2016]



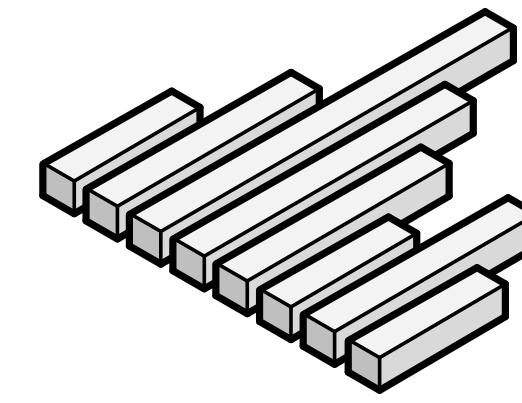
PICO [Patten CHI 2007]



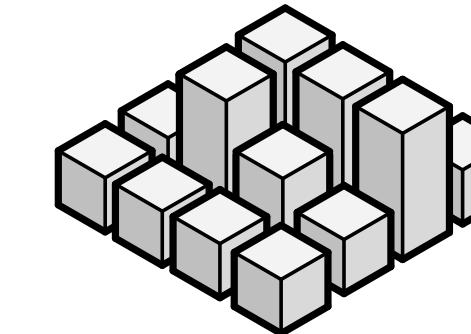
Rolling Pixels [Lee TEI 2020]



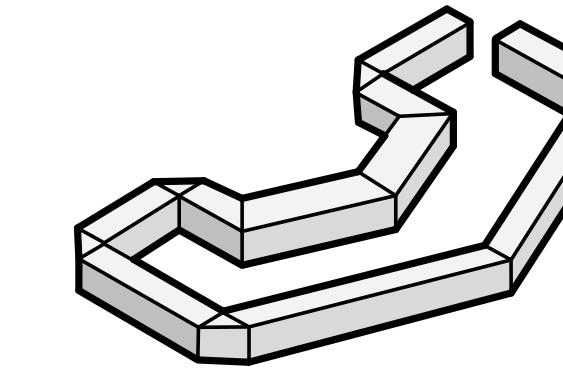
Sparse Dots



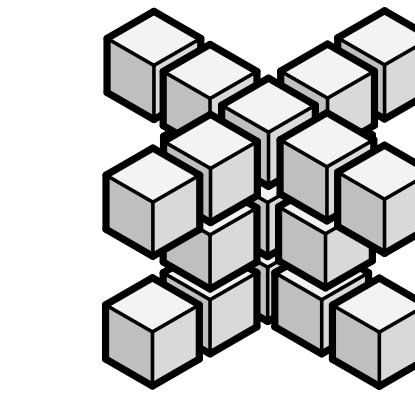
Sparse Lines



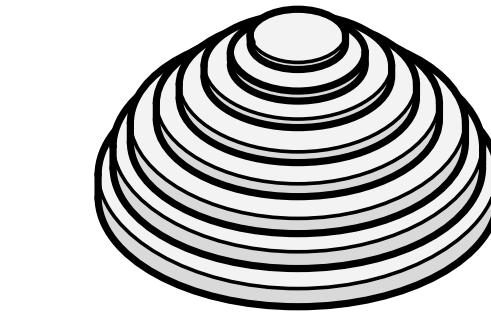
Pin Array



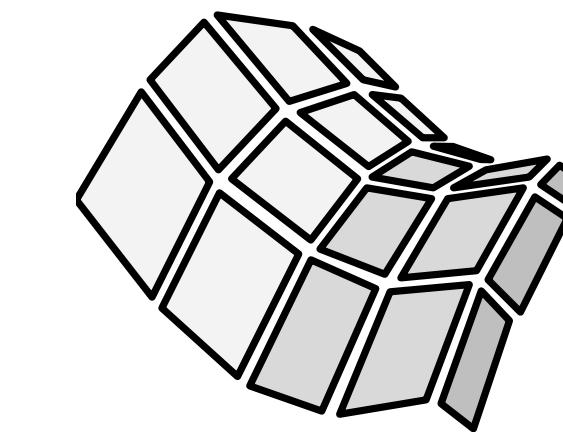
Single Line



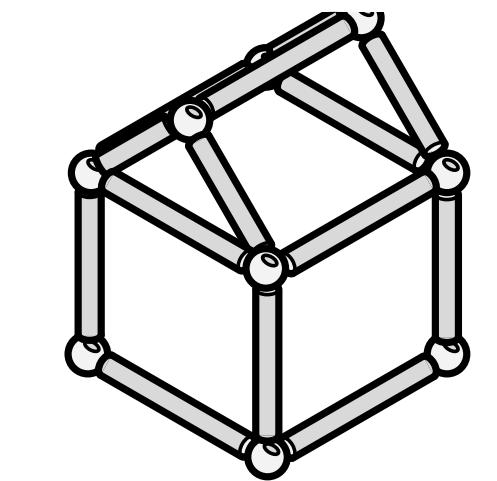
Voxel



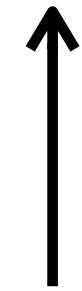
Layers



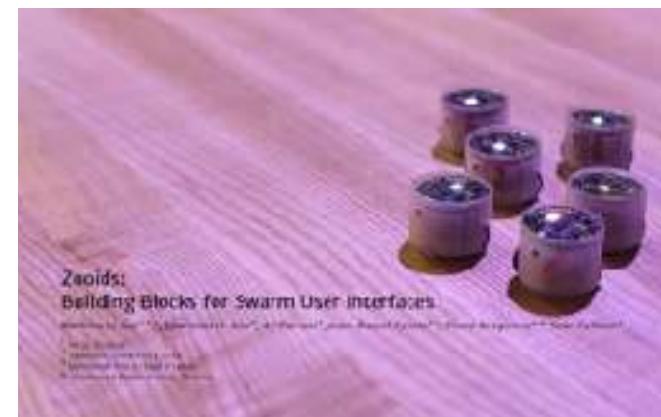
Surface



Hub and Struts



Swarm User Interfaces: Using Swarm Robots as Displays and Tangible User Interfaces



Zoids [Le Goc UIST 2016]



UbiSwarm [Kim UbiComp 2017]



GridDrones [Braley UIST 2018]



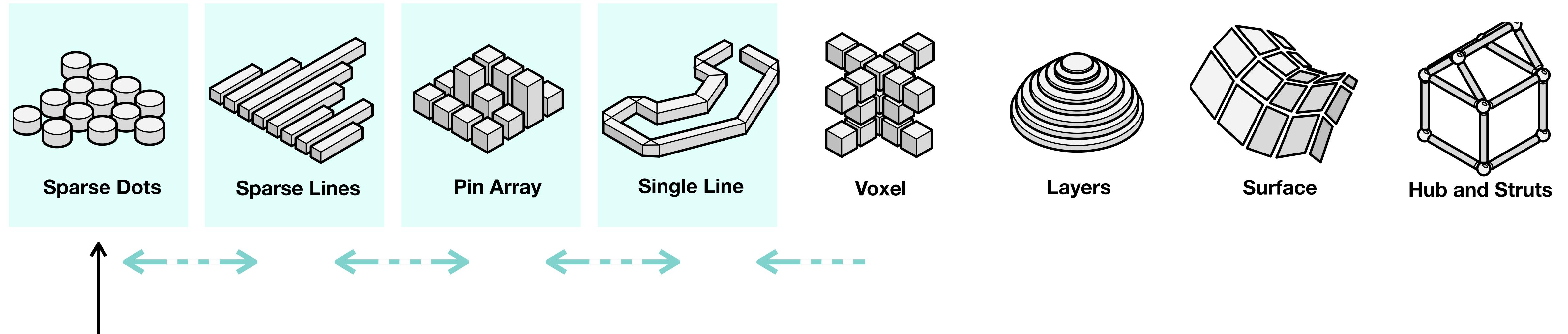
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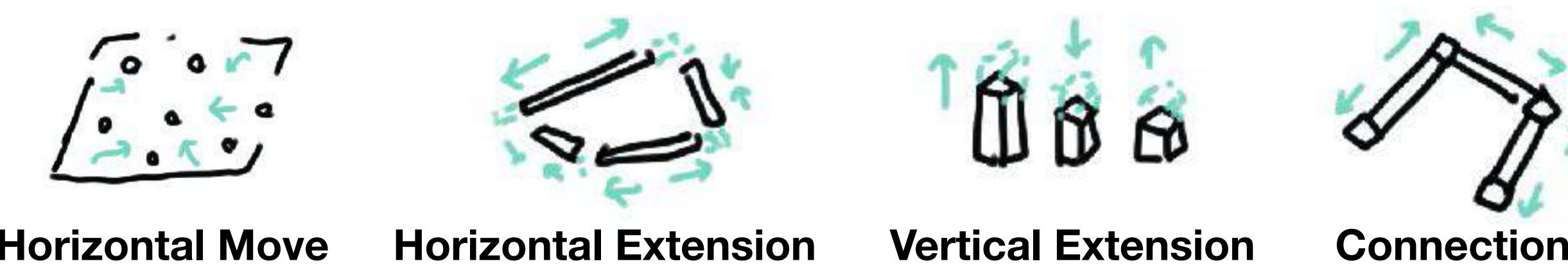
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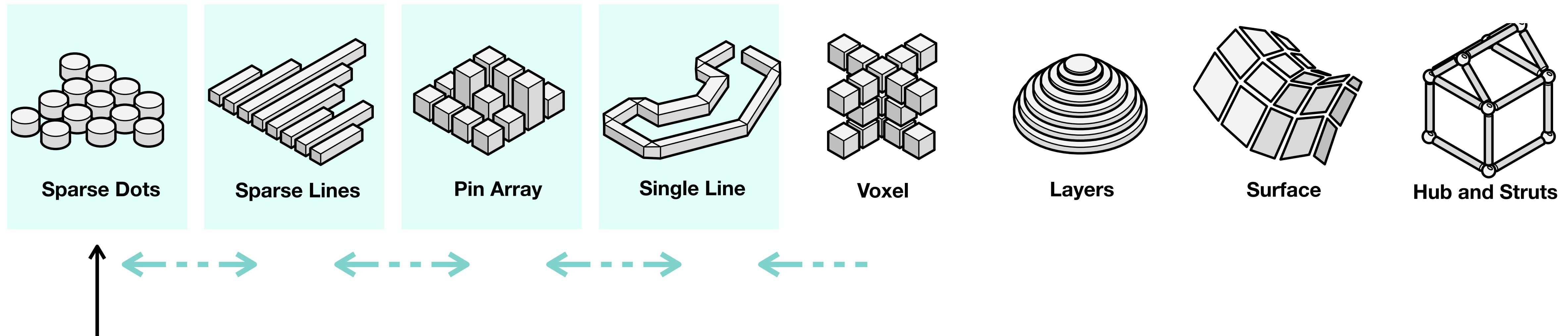
Rolling Pixels [Lee TEI 2020]



What if these [swarm robotic elements](#) can not only represent a shape with sparse dots but also through [lines](#), or [pins](#), or [connected lines](#) to expand a range of expressions?



This new type of representations can not only improve expressions but also expand a range of applications and interaction space



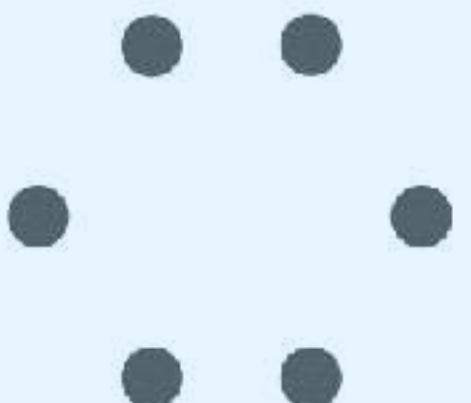
What if these swarm robotic elements can not only represent a shape with spatially aligned dots but also through lines, or pins, or connected lines to expand a range of expressions?

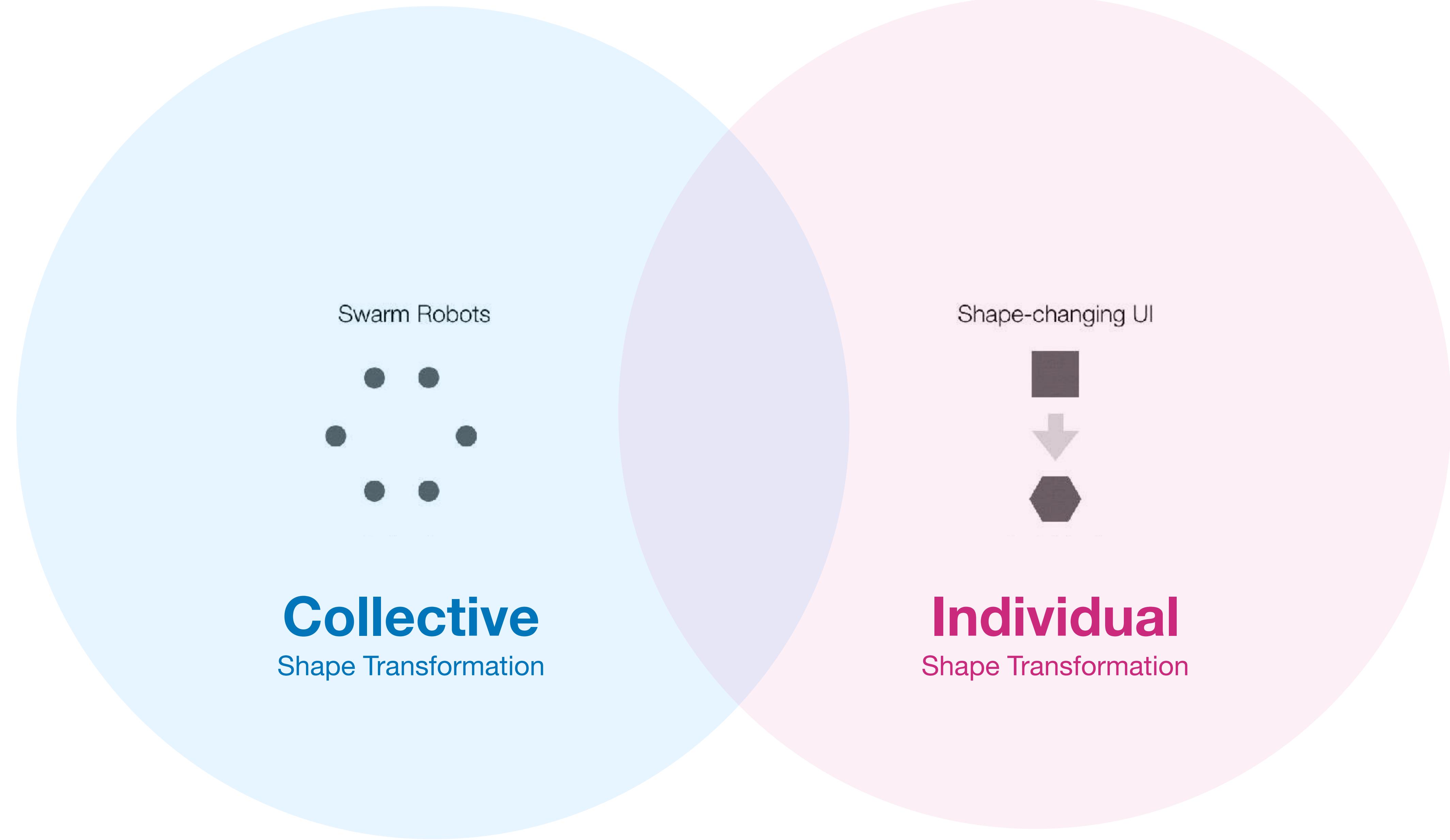


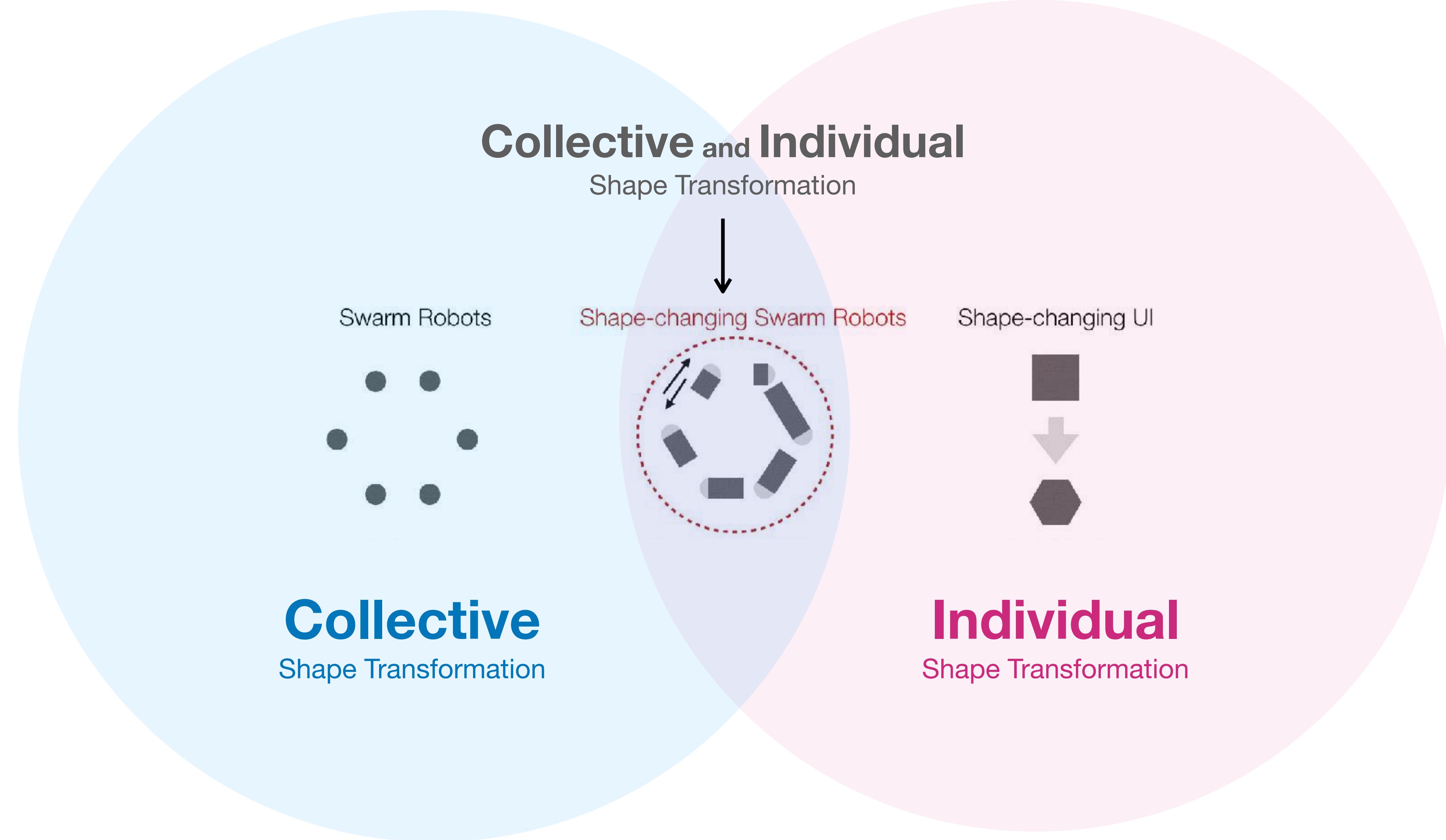
Collective

Shape Transformation

Swarm Robots



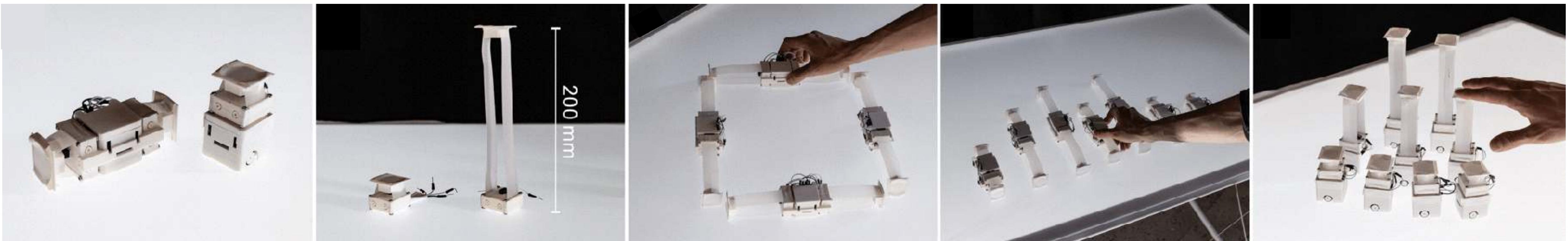




[UIST 2019]

ShapeBots: Shape-changing Swarm Robots

by Suzuki, Zheng, Kakehi, Yeh, Do, Gross, and Leithinger



[UIST 2019] *ShapeBots: Shape-changing Swarm Robots* by [Suzuki](#), Zheng, Kakehi, Yeh, Do, Gross, and Leithinger

ShapeBots is a demonstration of **swarm robots** that can **both individually and collectively** transform their shape.

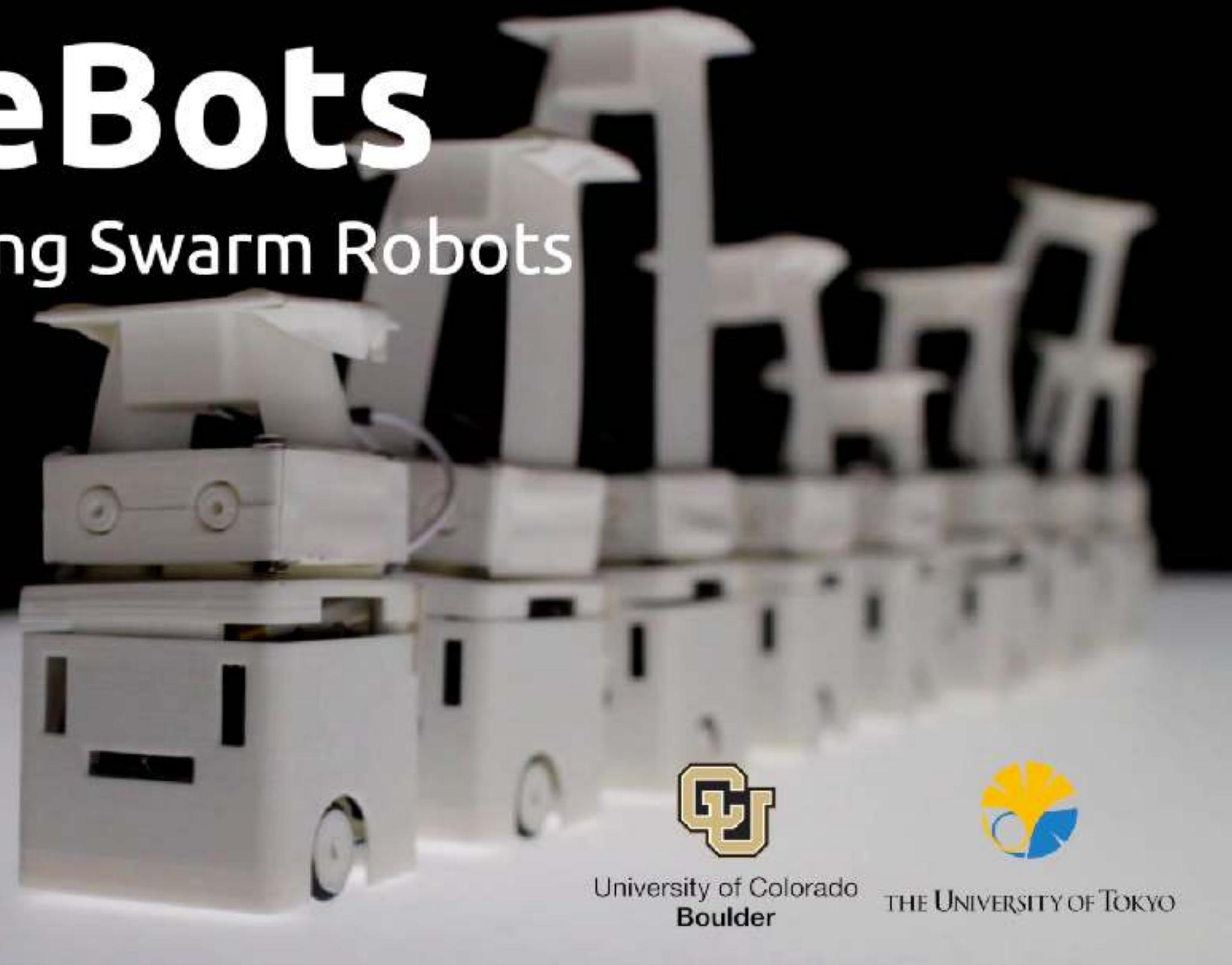
We explore how **shape-changing swarm robots** can expand a range of expressions for information display as well as application space for tangible user interfaces



ShapeBots

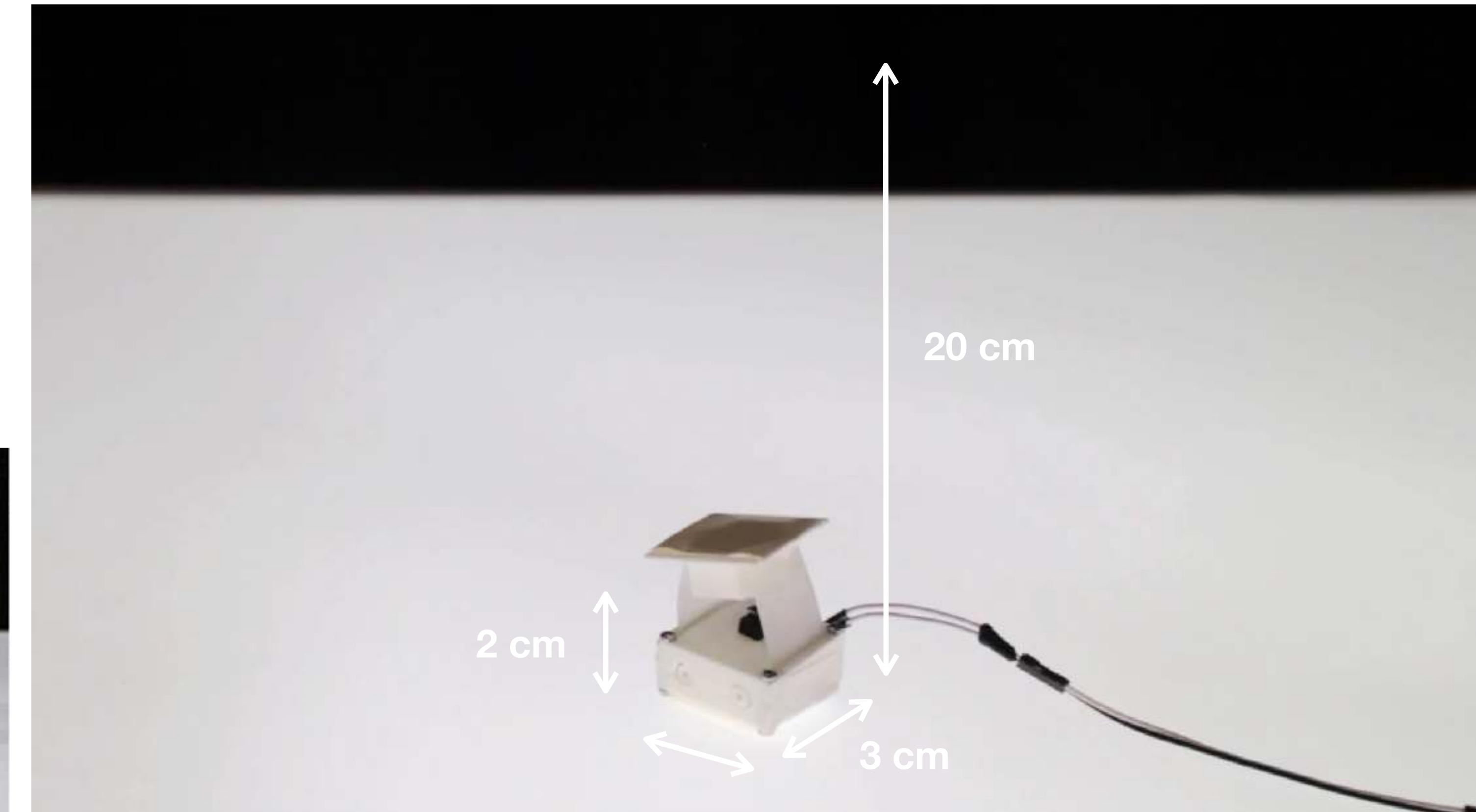
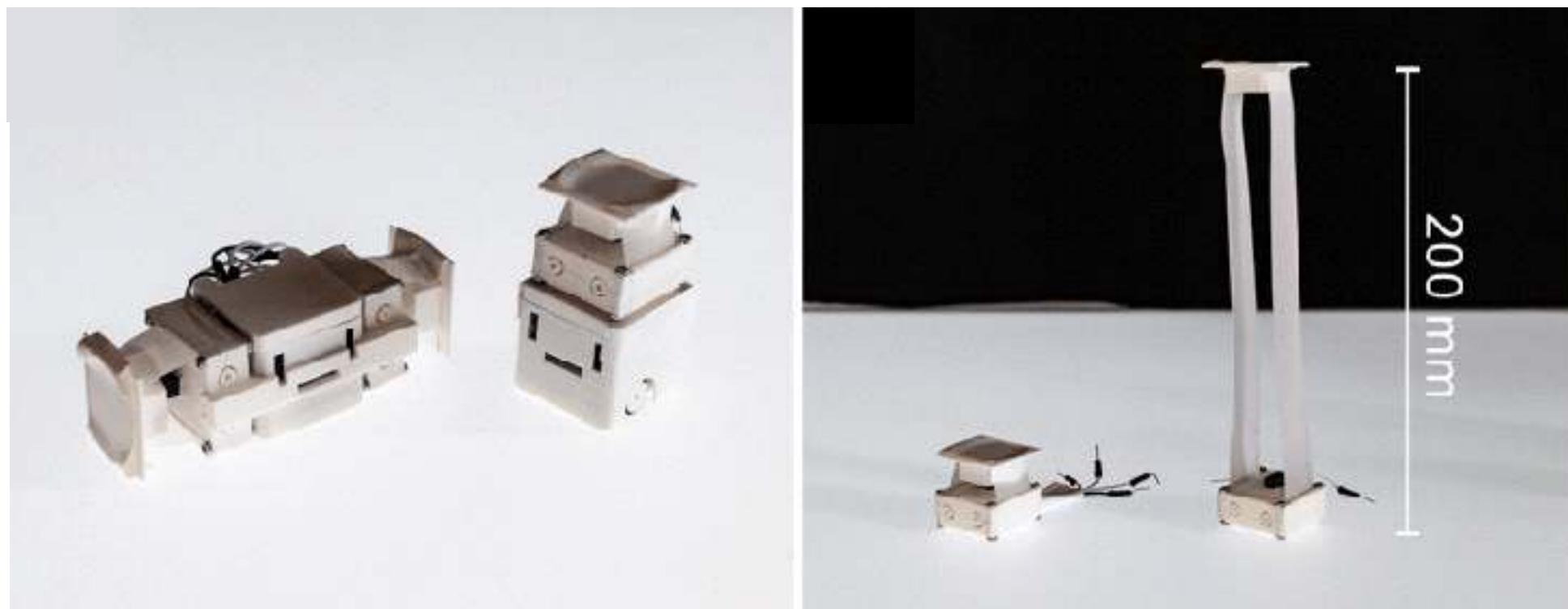
Shape-changing Swarm Robots

Ryo Suzuki
Clement Zheng
Yasuaki Kakehi
Tom Yeh
Ellen Yi-Luen Do
Mark Gross
Daniel Leithinger



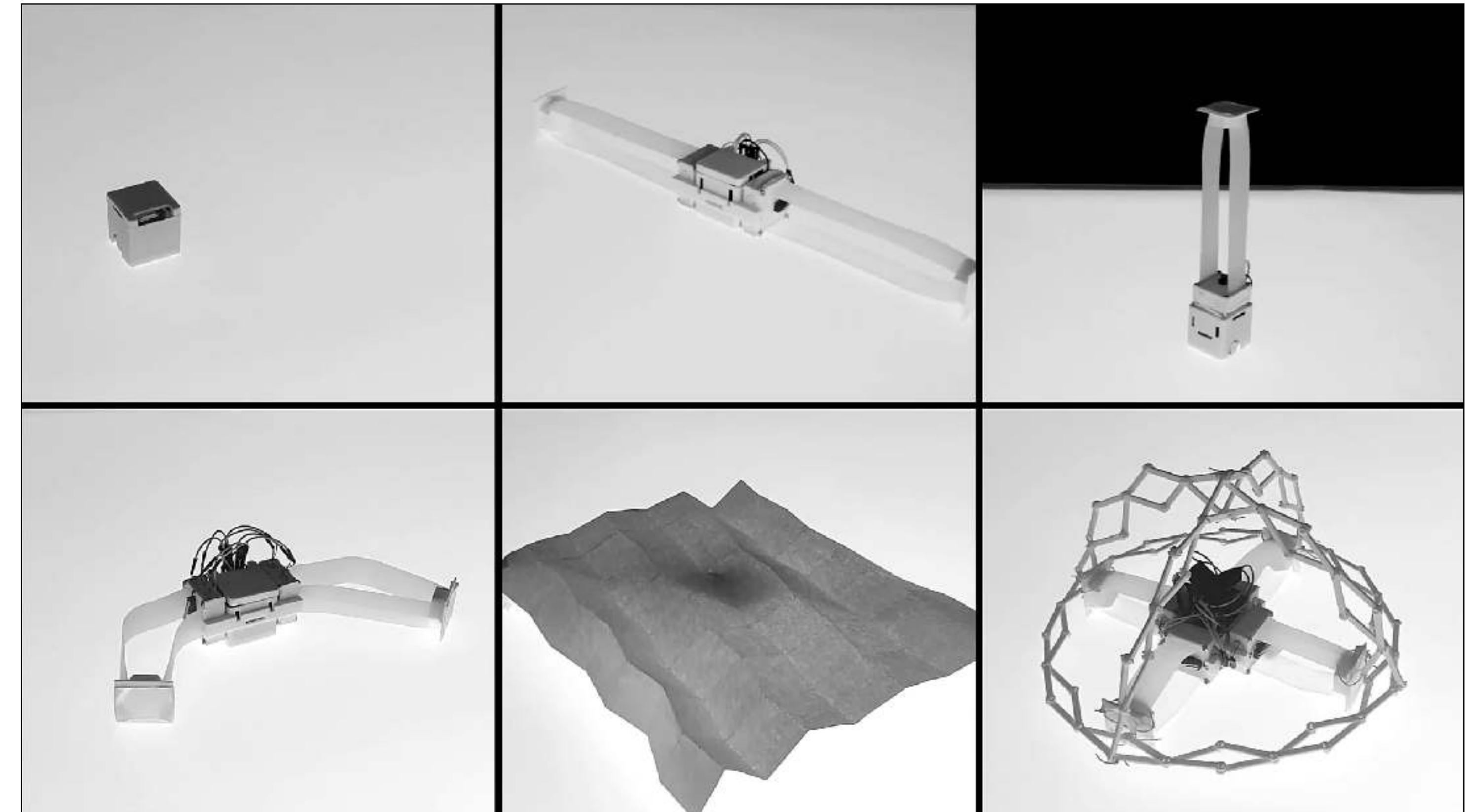
[UIST 2019] *ShapeBots: Shape-changing Swarm Robots* by [Suzuki](#), Zheng, Kakehi, Yeh, Do, Gross, and Leithinger

Miniature Reel Actuator



[UIST 2019] *ShapeBots: Shape-changing Swarm Robots* by [Suzuki](#), Zheng, Kakehi, Yeh, Do, Gross, and Leithinger

Types of Transformation



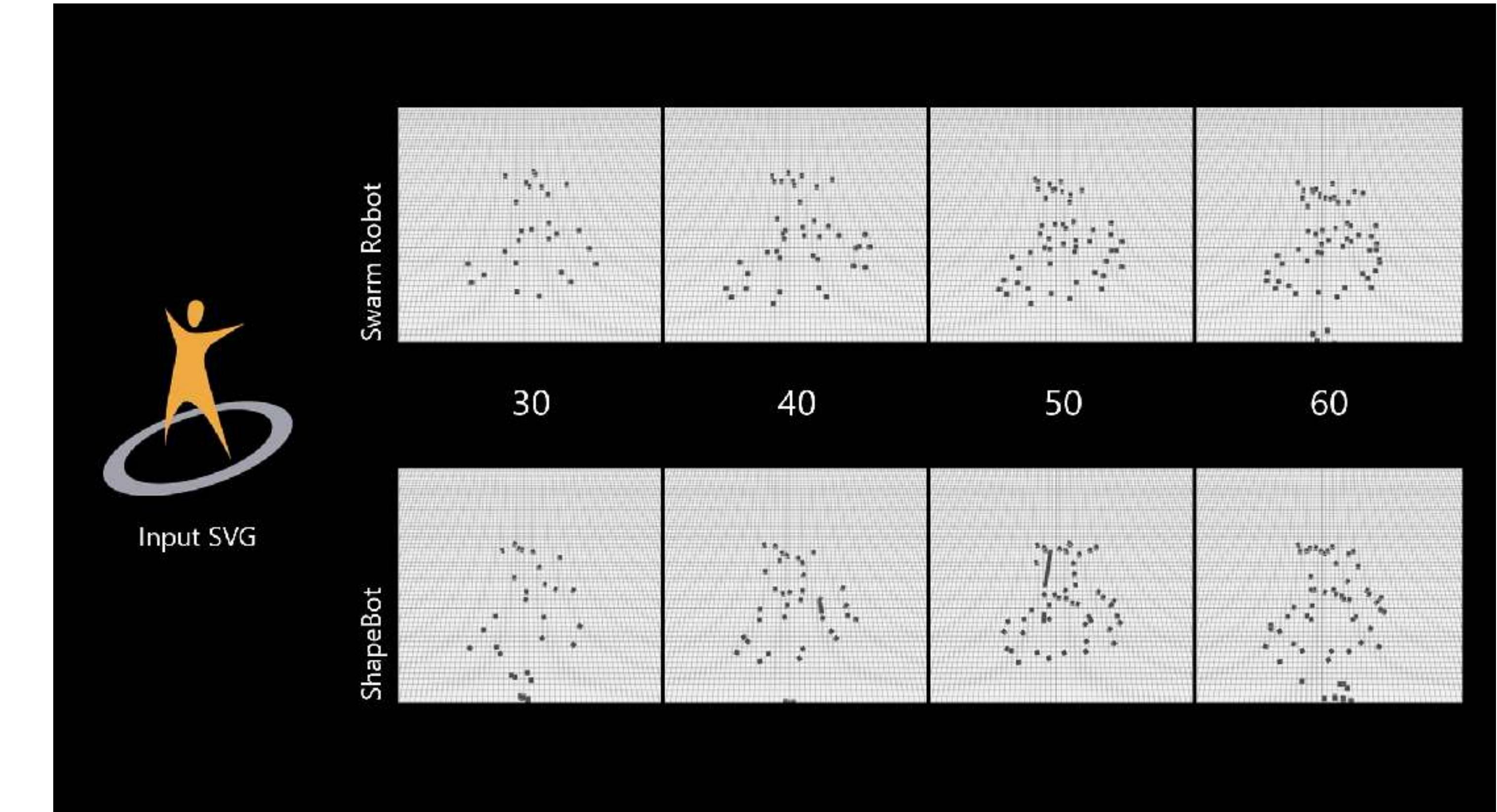
[UIST 2019] *ShapeBots: Shape-changing Swarm Robots* by [Suzuki](#), Zheng, Kakehi, Yeh, Do, Gross, and Leithinger

Interactive Information Display



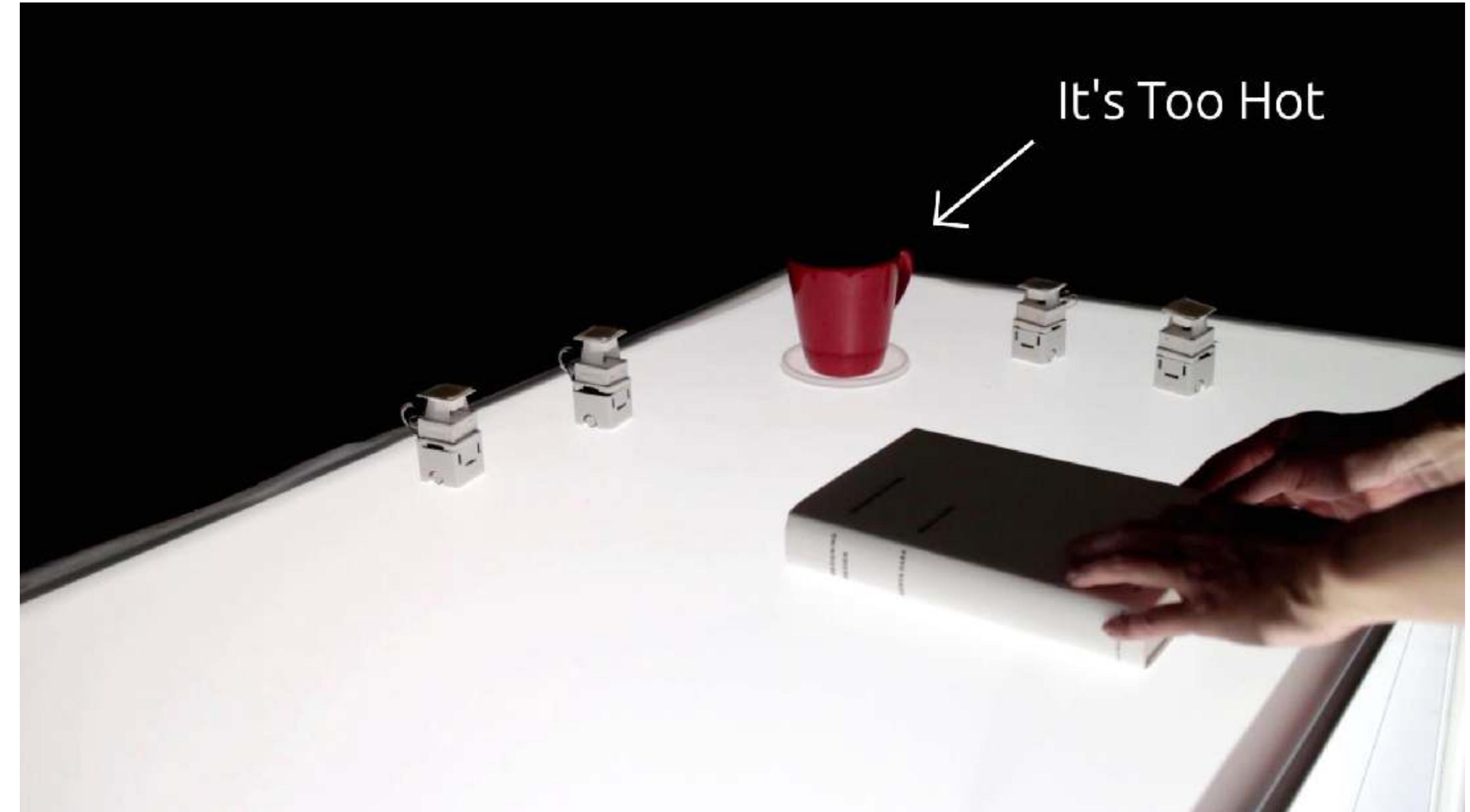
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Interactive Information Display



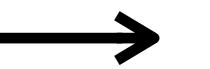
[UIST 2019] *ShapeBots: Shape-changing Swarm Robots* by [Suzuki](#), Zheng, Kakehi, Yeh, Do, Gross, and Leithinger

Dynamic Physical Affordances



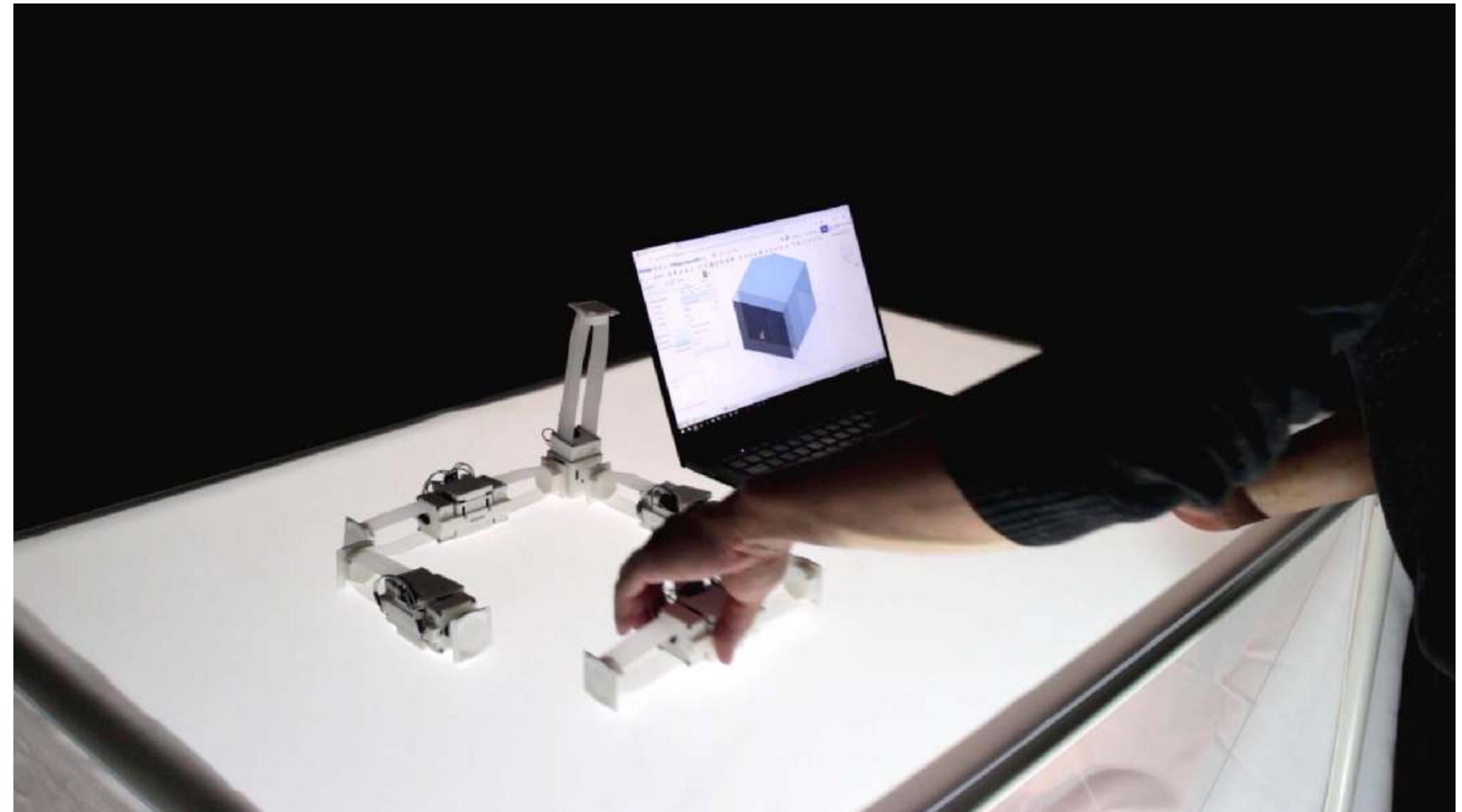
[UIST 2019] *ShapeBots: Shape-changing Swarm Robots* by [Suzuki](#), Zheng, Kakehi, Yeh, Do, Gross, and Leithinger

Object Actuation



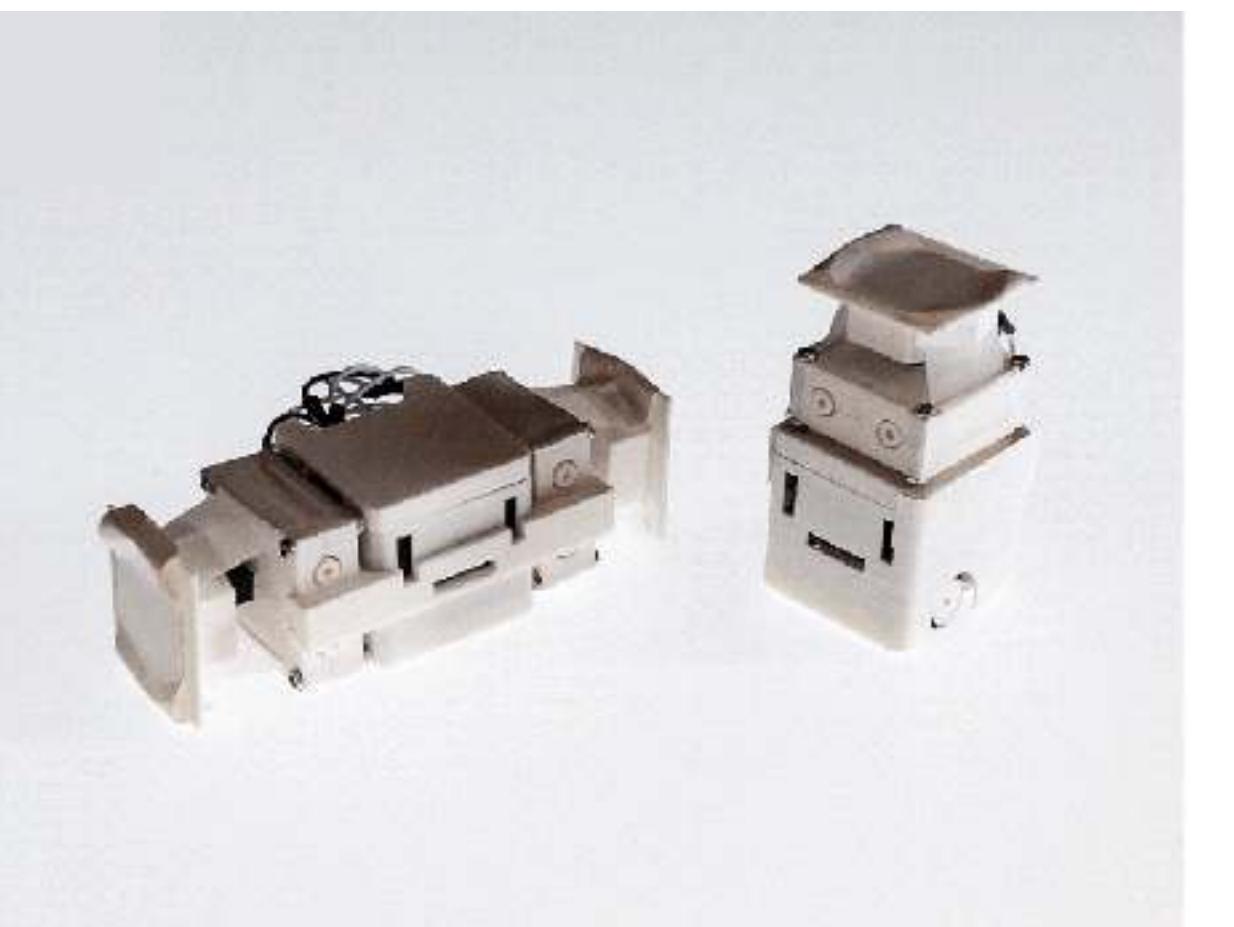
[UIST 2019] *ShapeBots: Shape-changing Swarm Robots* by [Suzuki](#), Zheng, Kakehi, Yeh, Do, Gross, and Leithinger

Adaptive Physical Tools



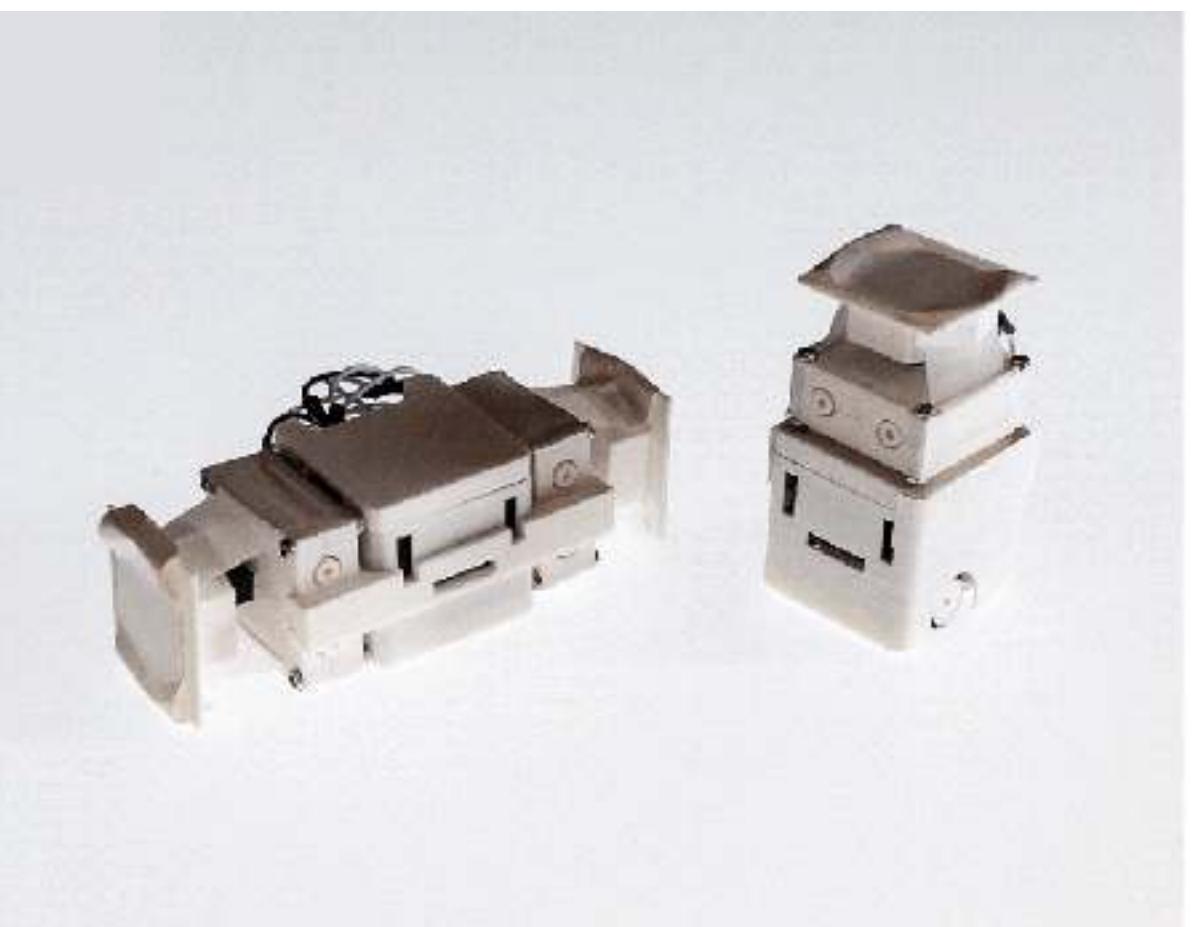
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Tabletop-scale

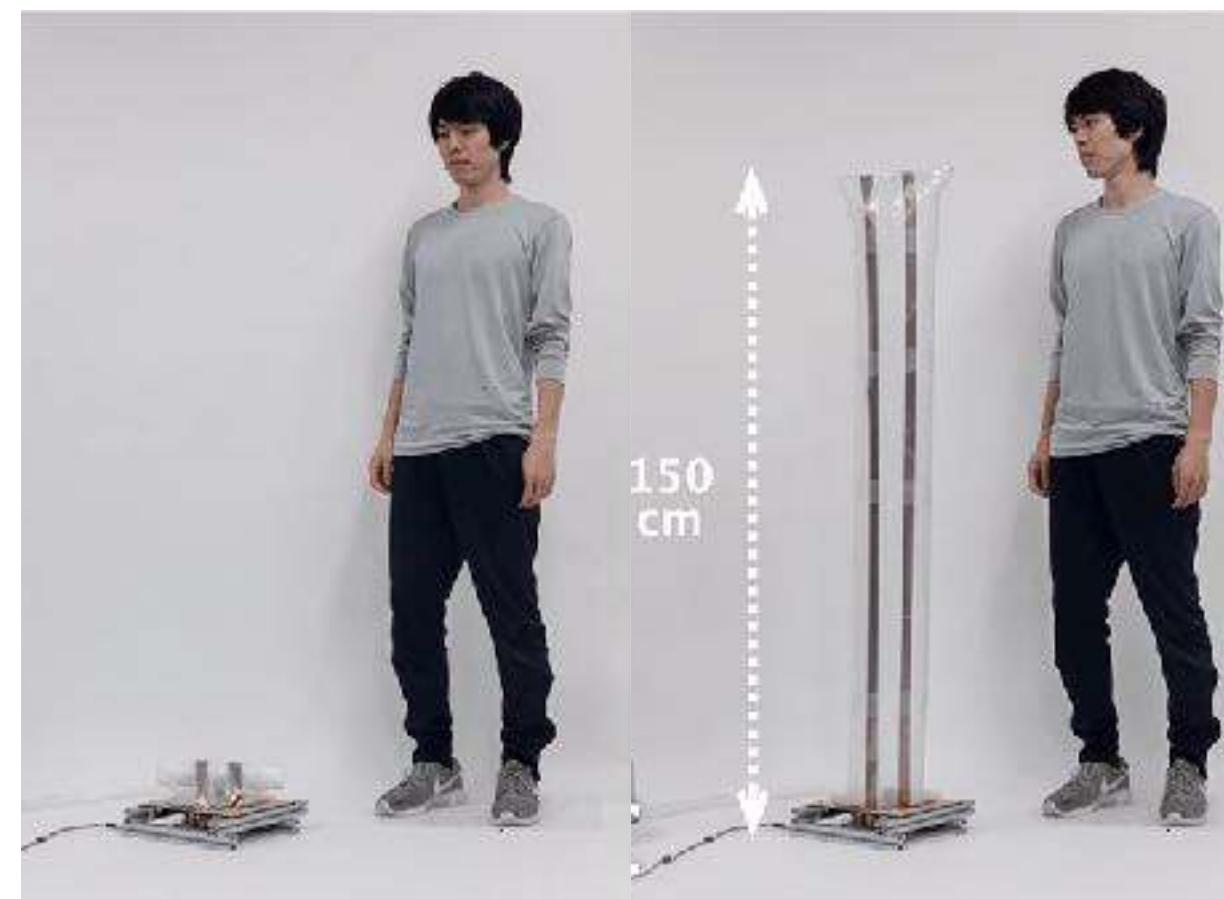


ShapeBots

Tabletop-scale



Room-scale



ShapeBots

[TEI 2020]

LiftTiles: Modular Inflatable Tiles

by Suzuki, Nakayama, Liu, Kakehi, Gross, and Leithinger



[TEI 2020] *LiftTiles: Constructive Building Blocks for Prototyping Room-scale Shape-changing Interfaces*
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Reconfigurable Modular Inflatable Tiles
for Room-scale Shape Transformation



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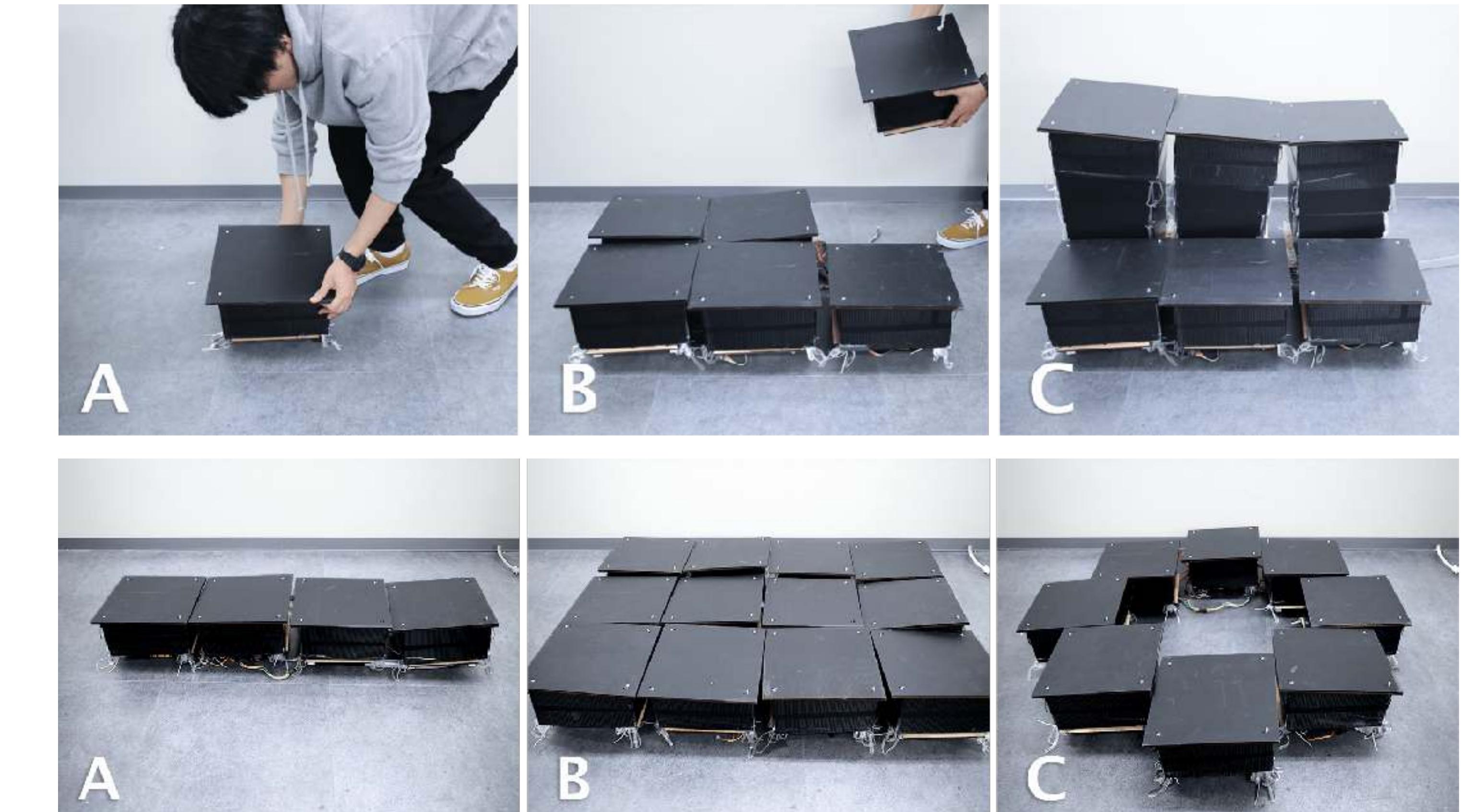
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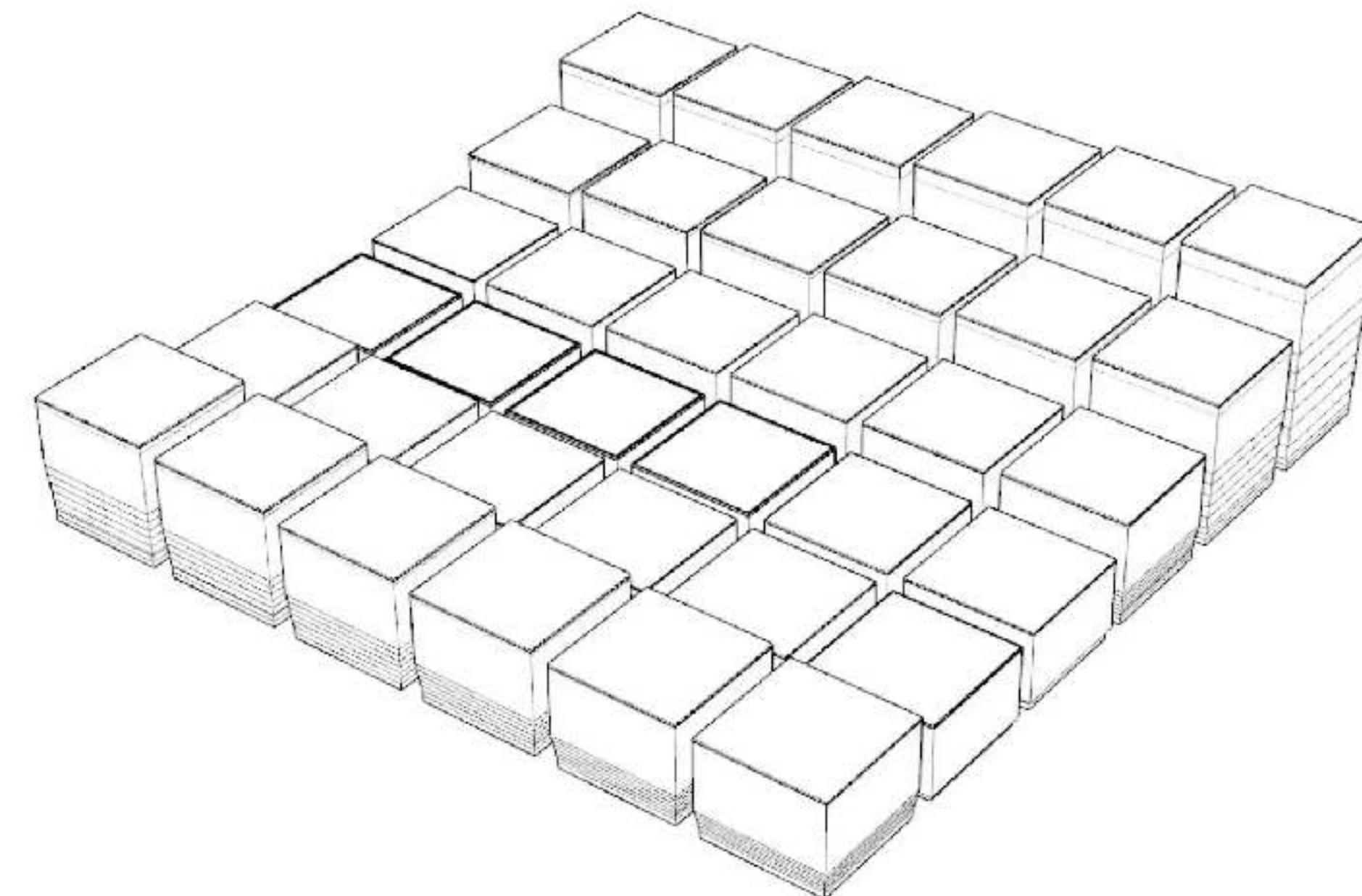
User-customizable and -reconfigurable
Shape-changing Elements



[TEI 2020] *LiftTiles: Constructive Building Blocks for Prototyping Room-scale Shape-changing Interfaces*
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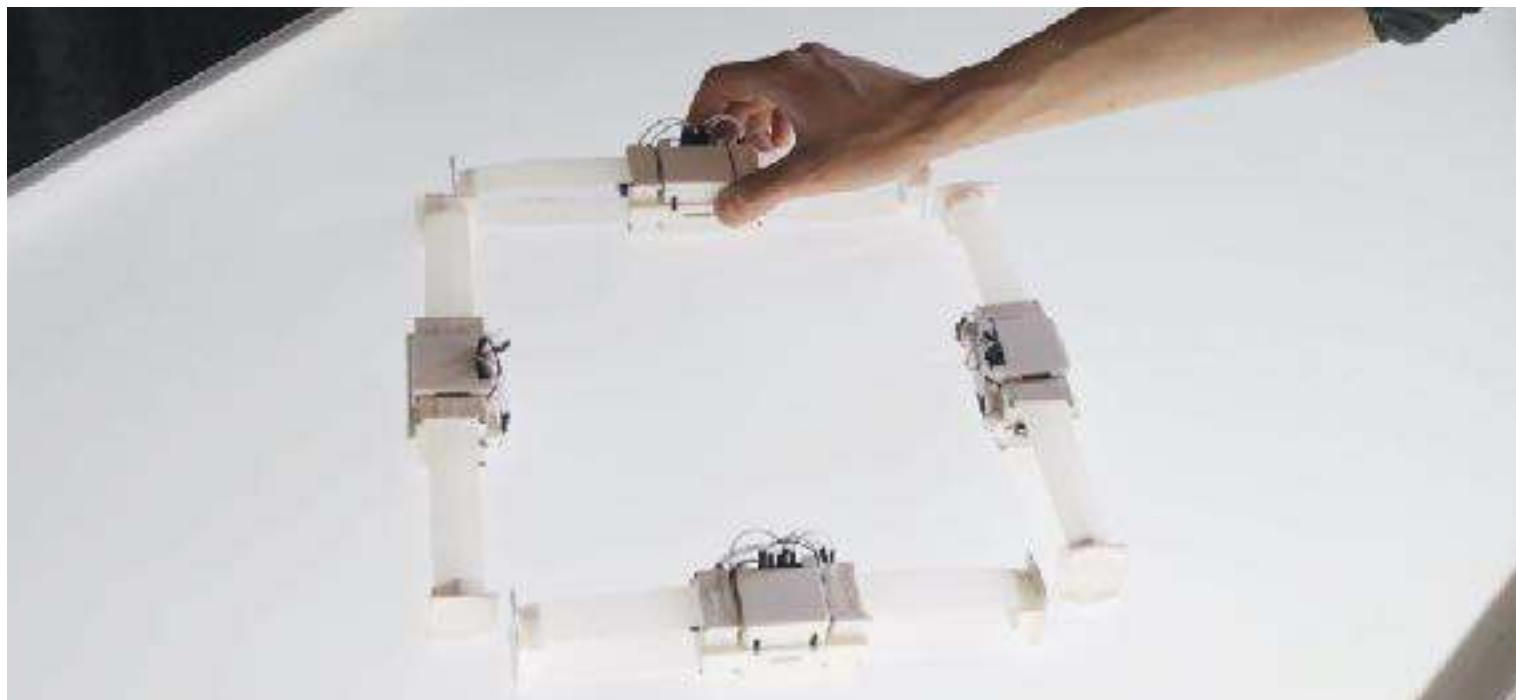


User-customizable and -reconfigurable Shape-changing Elements



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Dynamic Shape Construction with **Active** Collective Elements



**Dynamic Shape made of
Shape-changing Swarm Robots**

[Suzuki et al., UIST 2019]

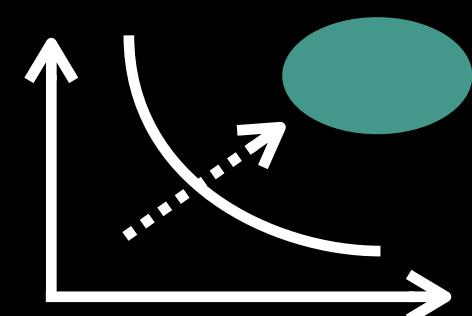


**Dynamic Shape made of
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[Suzuki et al., TEI 2020]

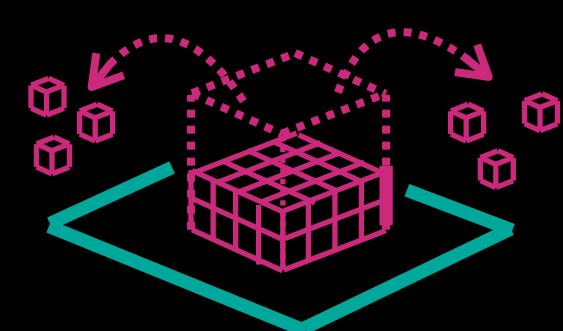
Background

Why This Approach?



Concept

What is
Dynamic and Collective
Shape Construction?

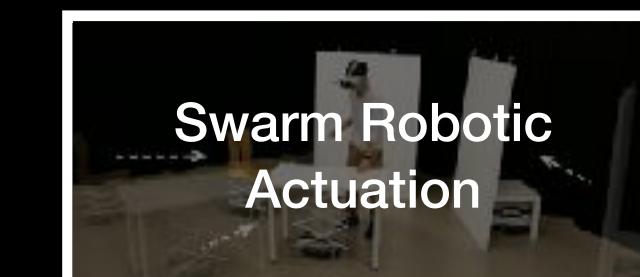


Explorations

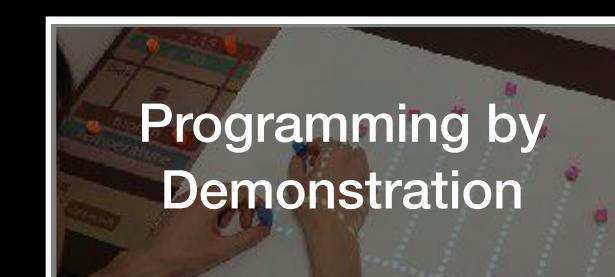
Shape Construction
with **Active** Elements



Shape Construction
with **Passive** Elements

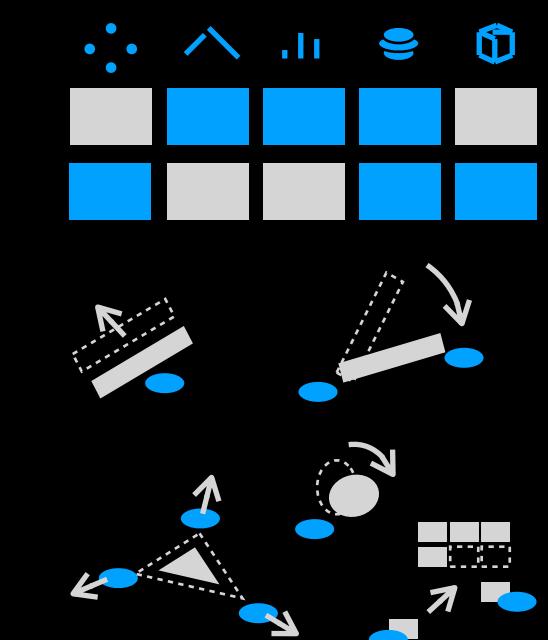


Interaction with
Collective Elements



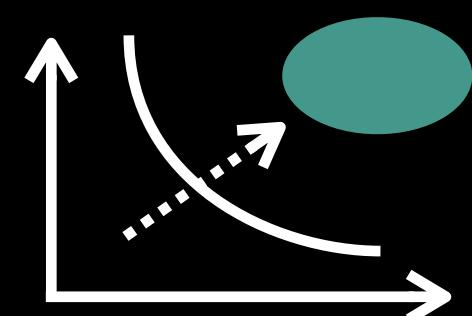
Discussion

What's Next?



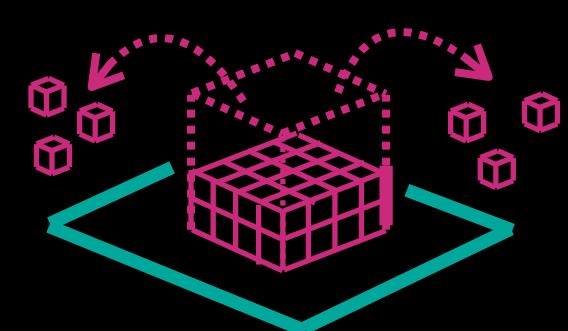
Background

Why This Approach?

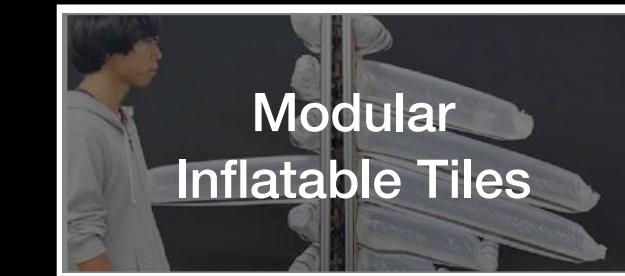


Concept

What is
Dynamic and Collective
Shape Construction?



Shape Construction
with **Active** Elements

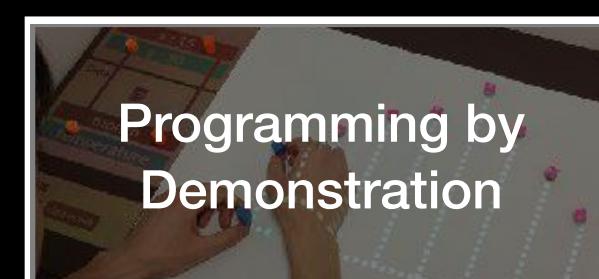


Explorations

Shape Construction
with **Passive** Elements

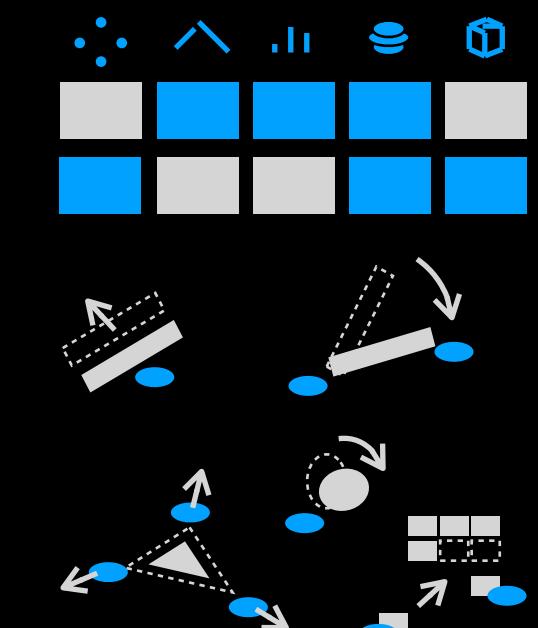


Interaction with
Collective Elements

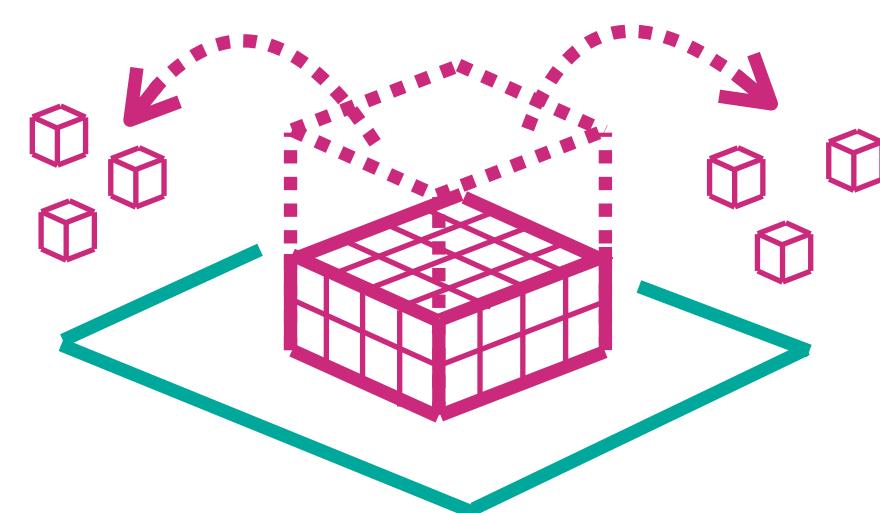


Discussion

What's Next?



Dynamic Physical UI



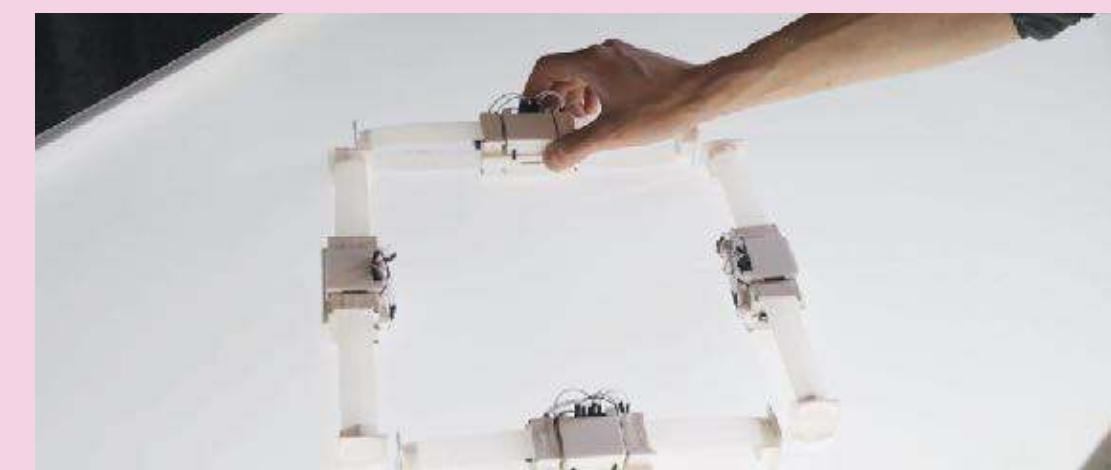
Shape Change with
Collective Elements

The focus of this thesis

Dynamic shape made of
discrete collective elements

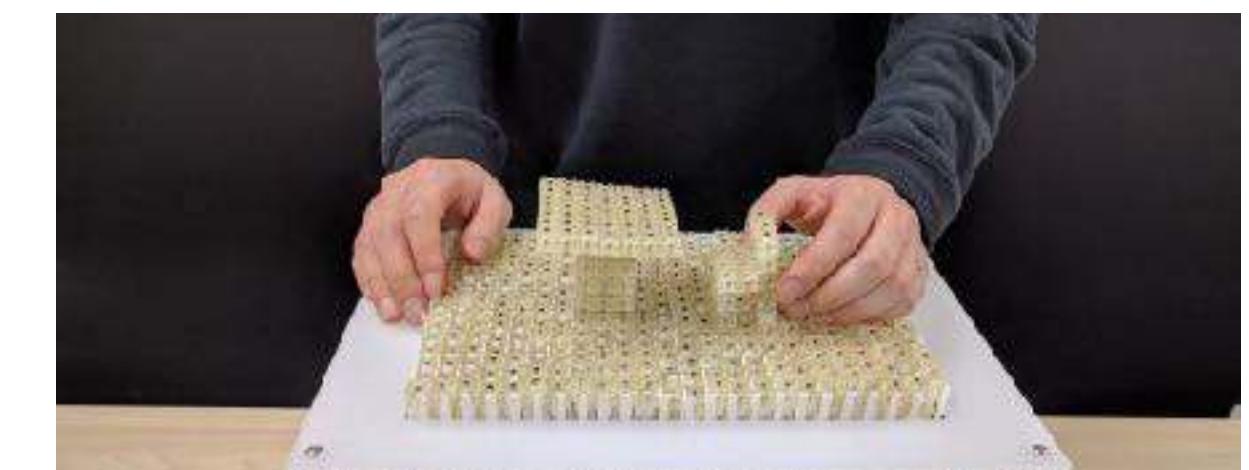
Active
collective elements
||

self-actuated elements
that can move or reconfigure
themselves with internal actuation

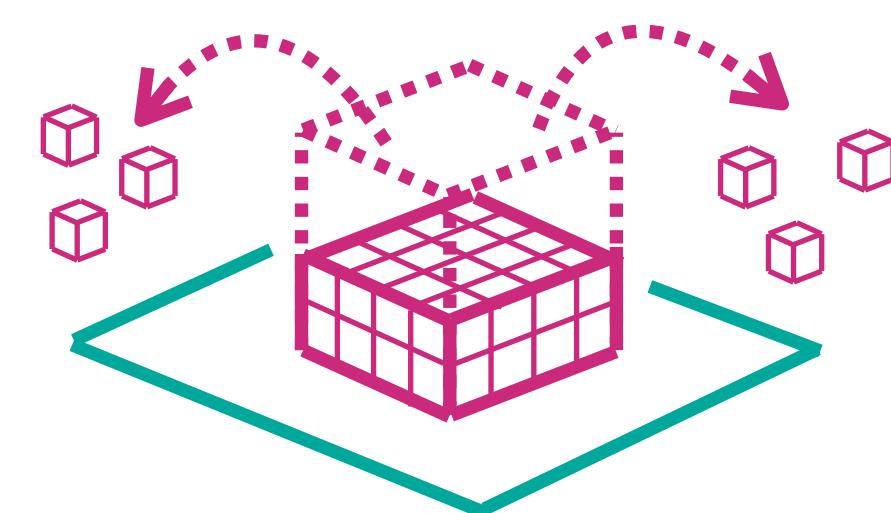


Passive
collective elements
||

externally-actuated elements
that can move or reconfigure
through external actuation



Dynamic Physical UI



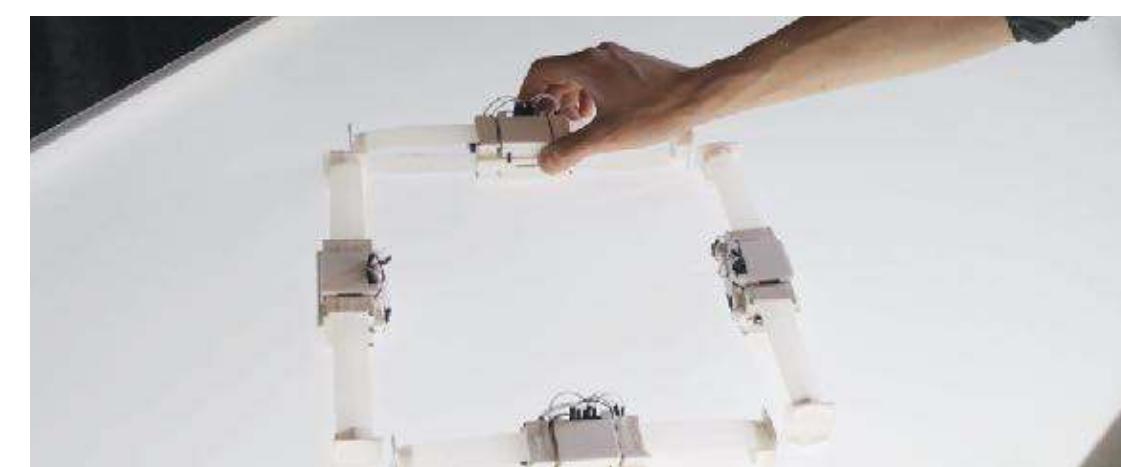
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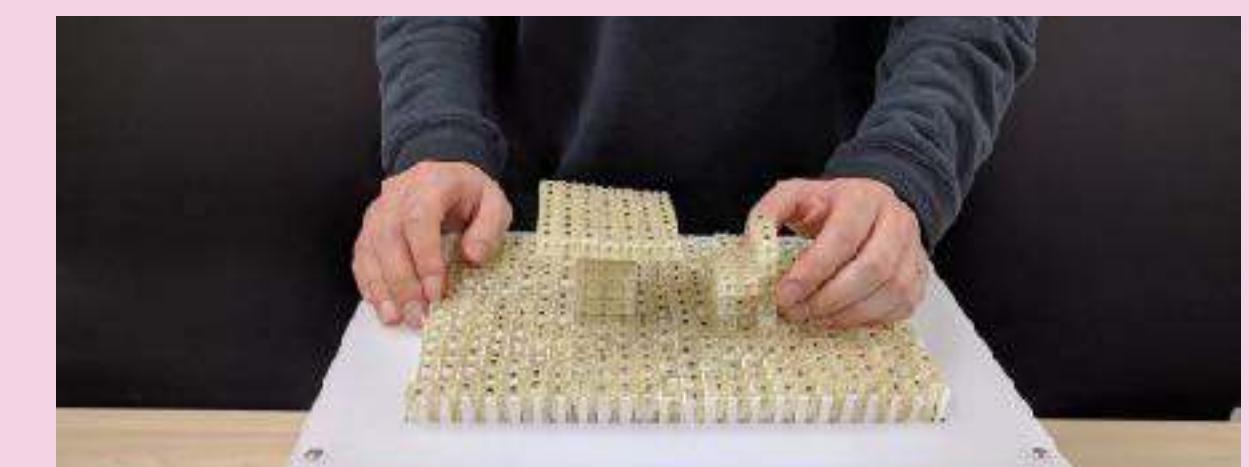
Active
collective elements

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Passive
collective elements

externally-actuated elements
that can move or reconfigure
through external actuation



Passive collective elements

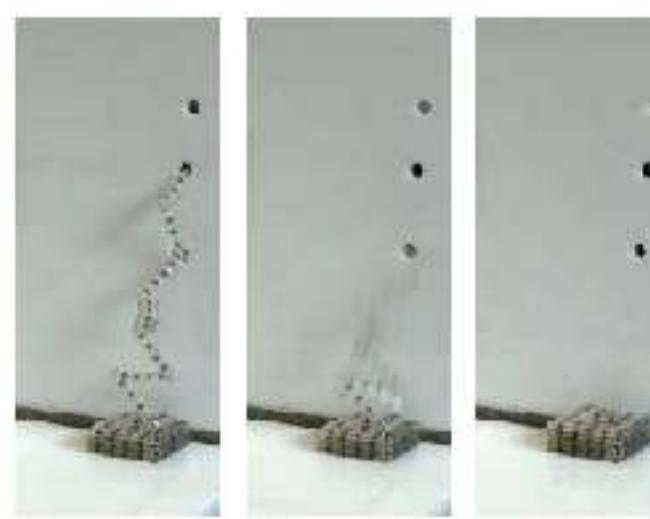
externally-actuated elements
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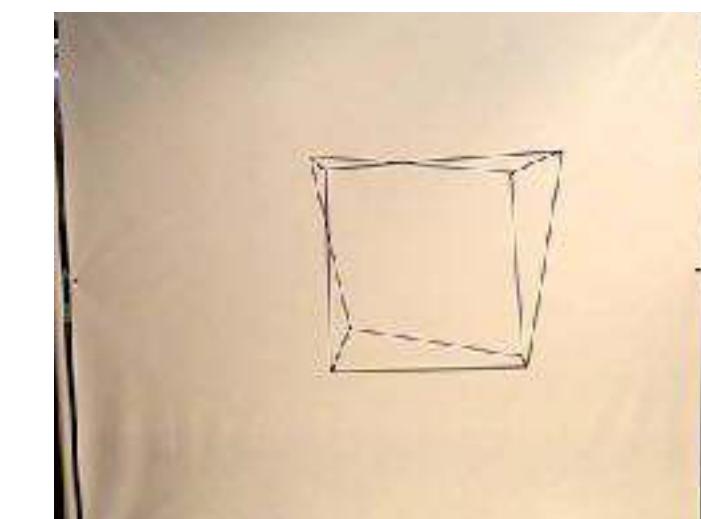
PixieDust
[Ochiai 2014]



Aerial Assembly
[Tibbits 2014]



SoftCubes
[Yim 2014]



Morphing Cube
[Yamaoka 2014]



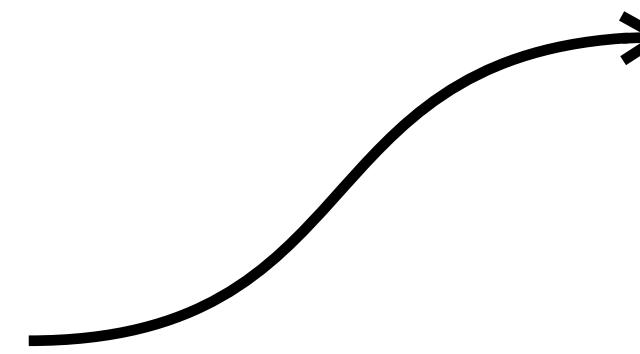
Actuated Lattice
[Torres 2014]



Timber Construction
[Leder 2018]

Passive collective elements

externally-actuated elements
that can move or reconfigure
through external actuation



Three Benefits

1. Scalability

does not require electro-mechanical components, thus become simple inexpensive

2. Resolution

overall size can become small and support large number of elements

3. Robustness

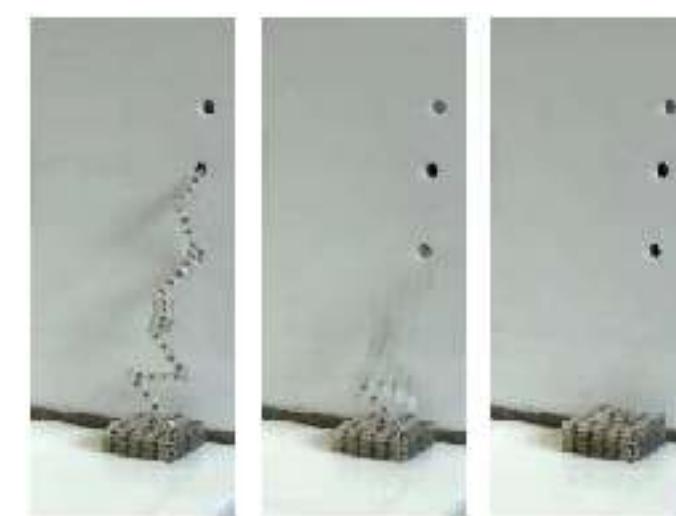
provide structural stability that can decrease mechanical breakdown



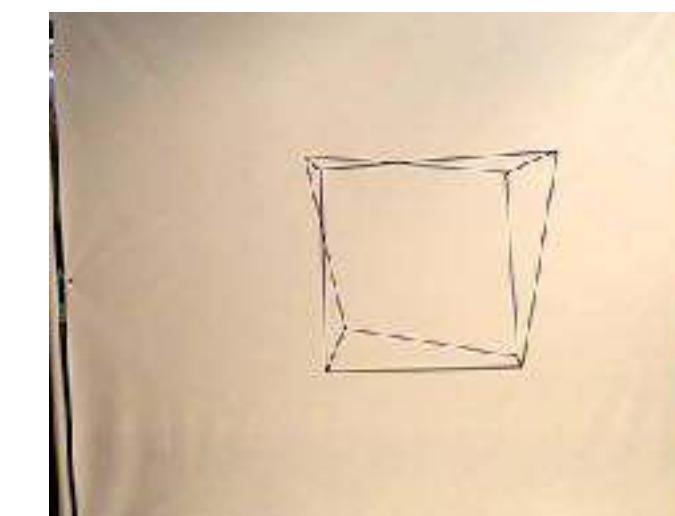
PixieDust
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Actuated Lattice
[Torres 2014]



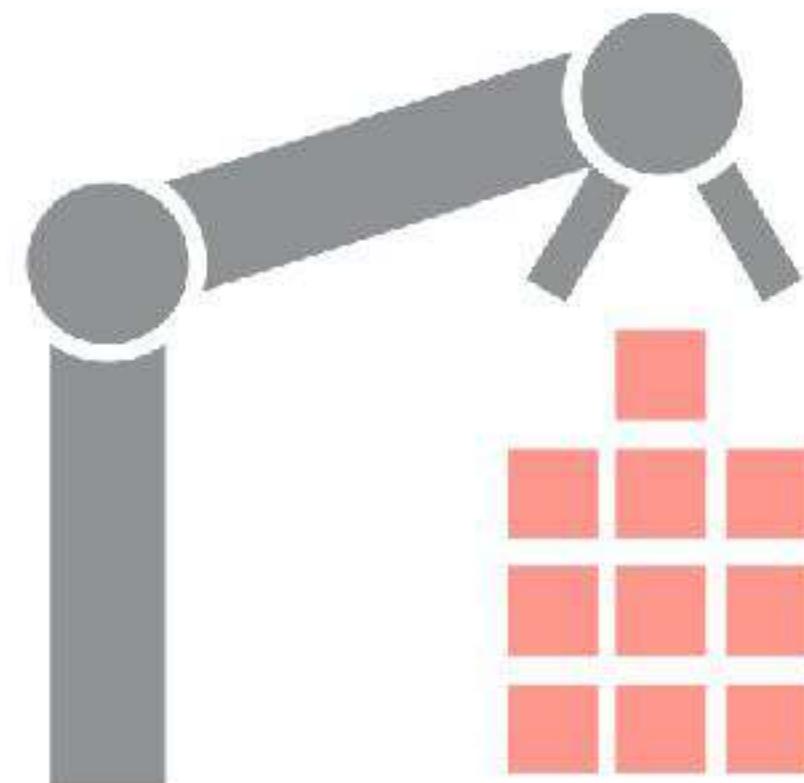
Timber Construction
[Leder 2018]

Challenges:

How can we **dynamically** construct a shape?

Challenges:

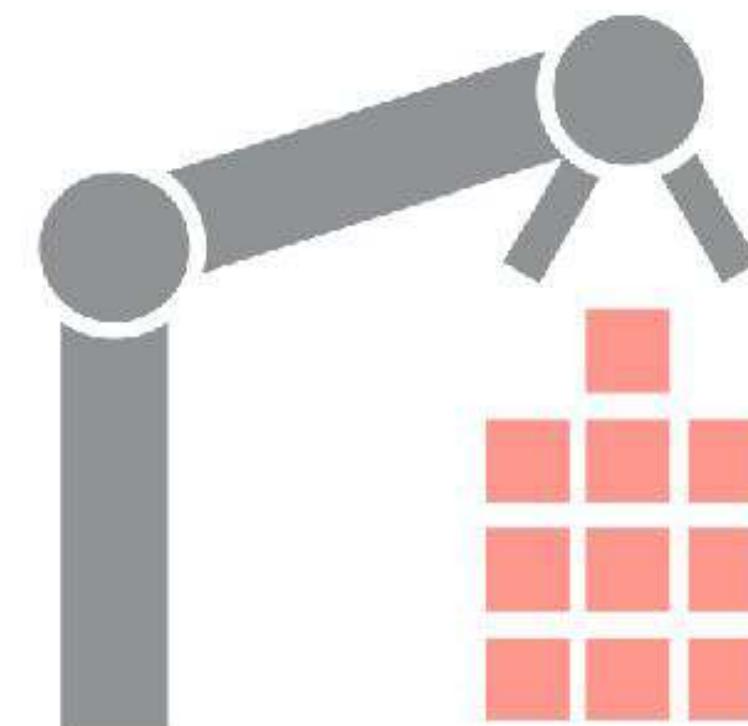
How can we **dynamically** construct a shape?



Example:
Assembling blocks with a robotic is **slow**
because it is **Serial** process

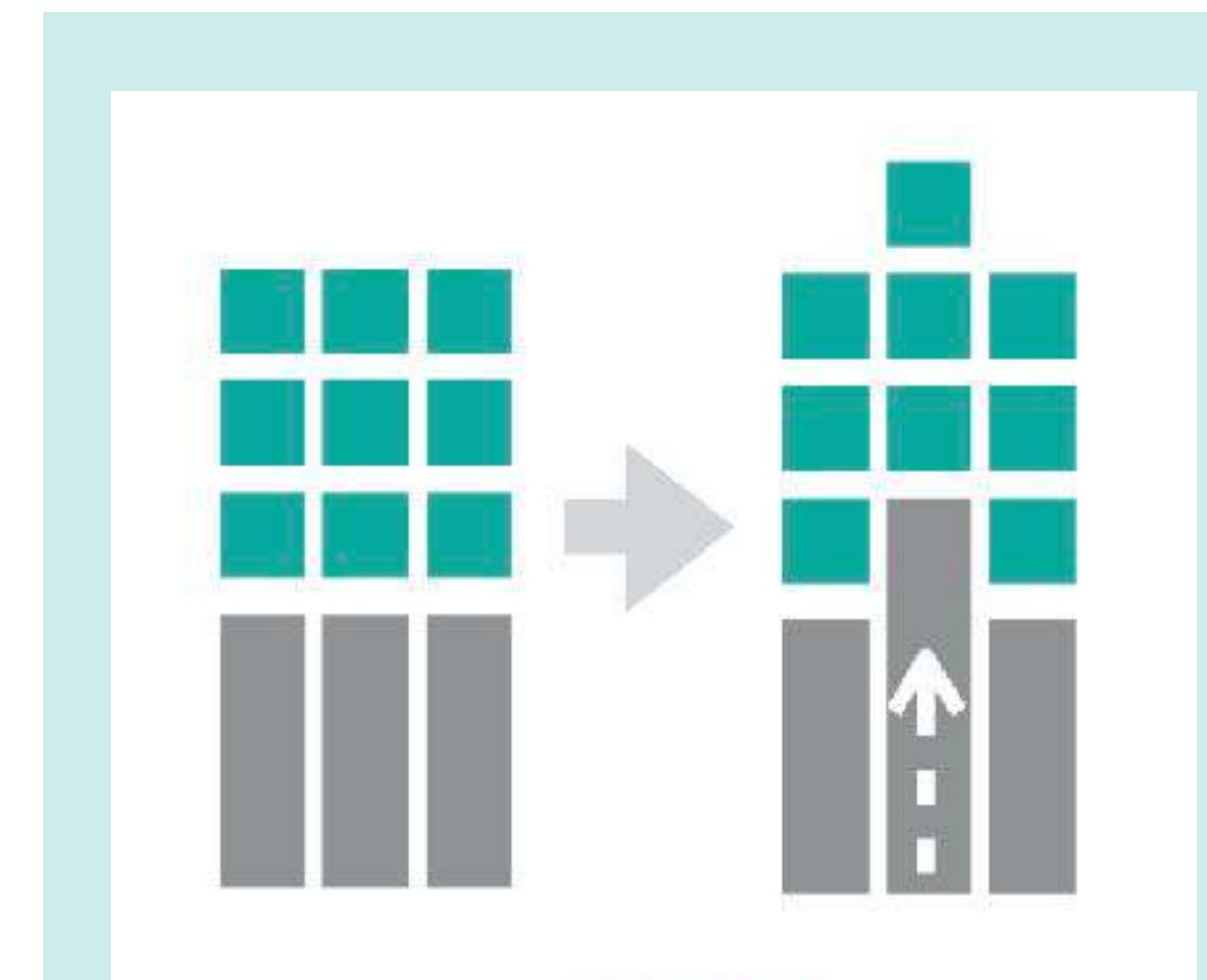
Challenges:

How can we **dynamically** construct a shape?



Serial

only one element is
dynamically moving



Parallel

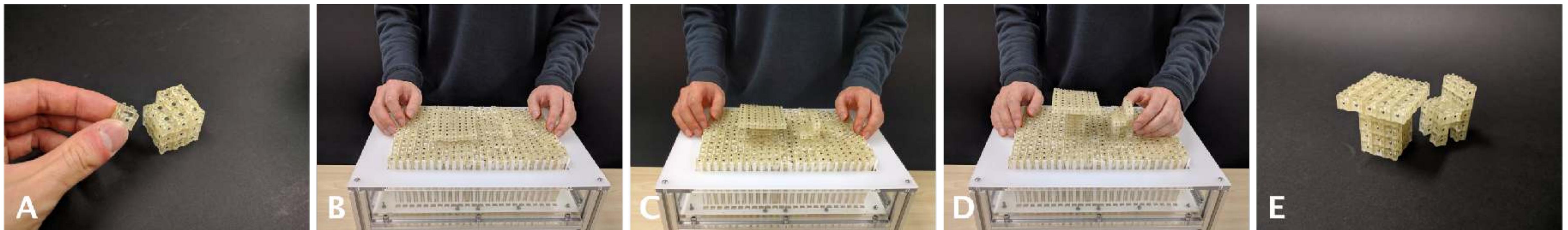
all elements are
dynamically moving

how can we apply this for
collective shape construction of an arbitrary **3D shape**?

[UIST 2018]

Dynablock: Dynamic 3D Printing

by Suzuki, Yamaoka, Leithinger, Yeh, Gross, Kawahara, Kakehi

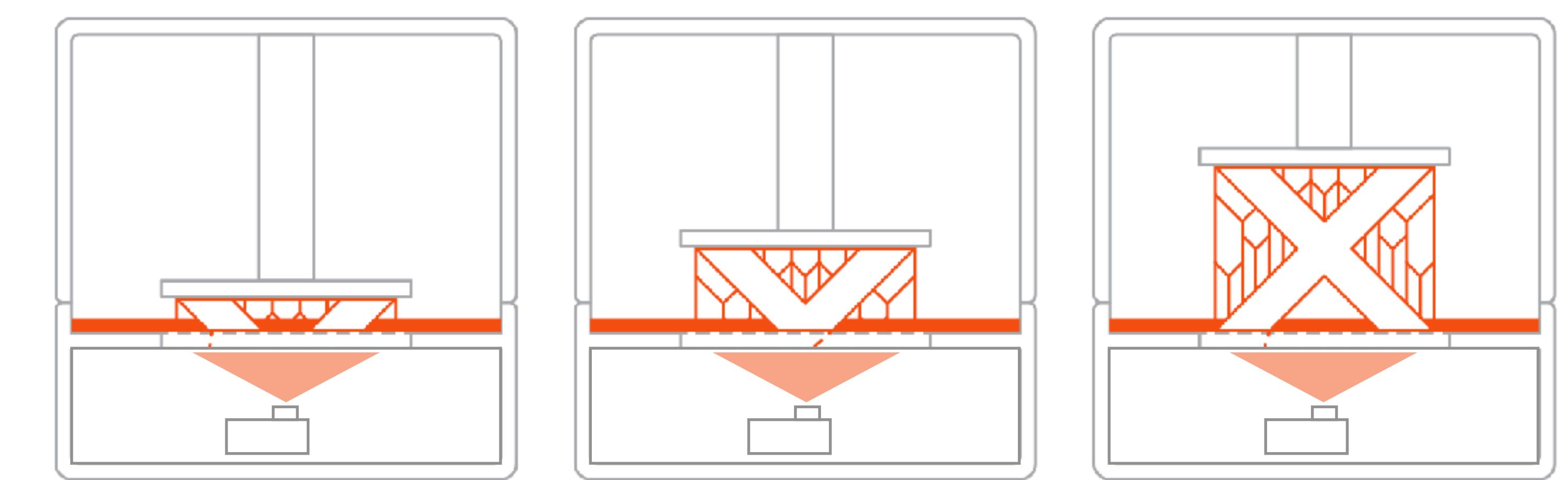


[UIST 2018] *Dynablock: Dynamic 3D Printing for Instant and Reconstructable Shape Formation*

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Inspiration

Parallel Material Solidification
of DLP 3D Printer

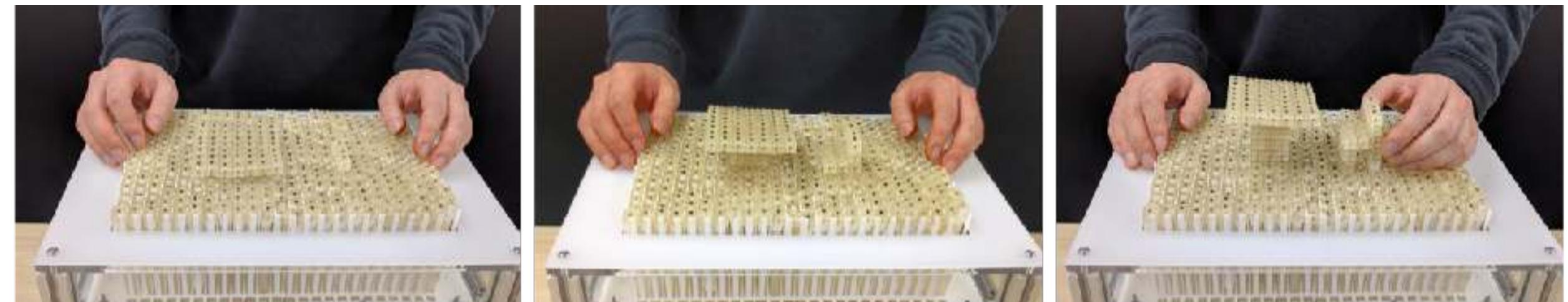
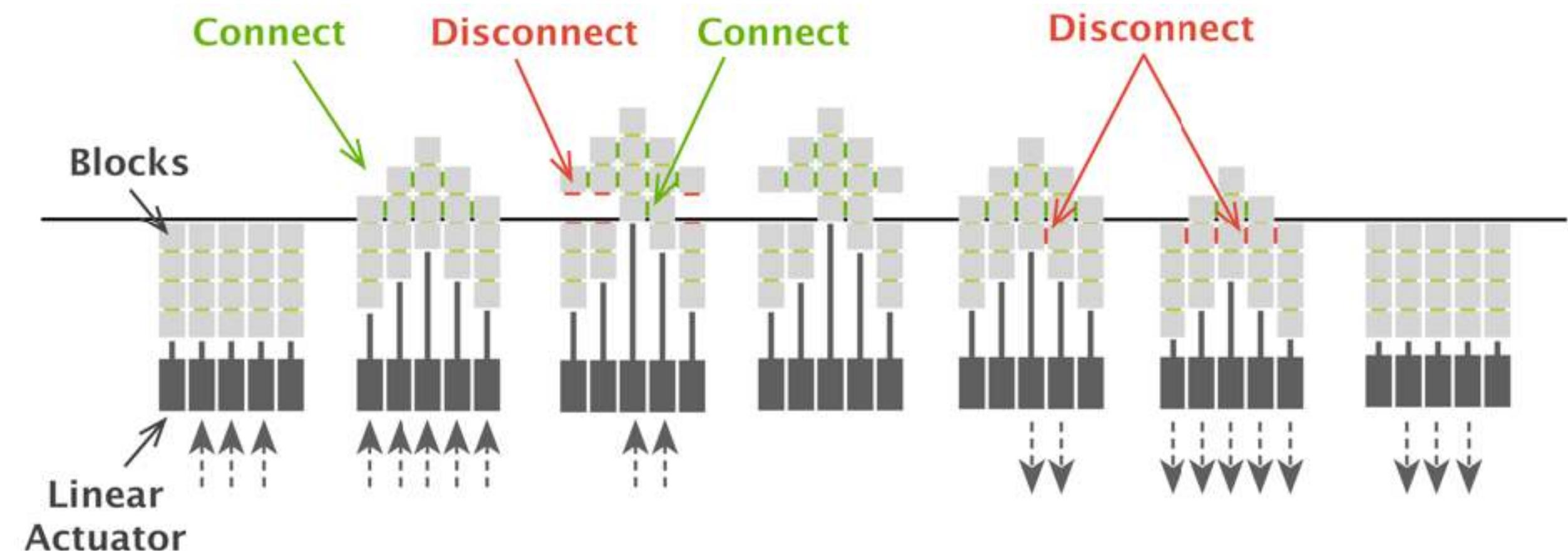


[UIST 2018] *Dynablock: Dynamic 3D Printing for Instant and Reconstructable Shape Formation*
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Proposed Approach

Parallel Block Assembly with Shape Display

assemble each layer at once



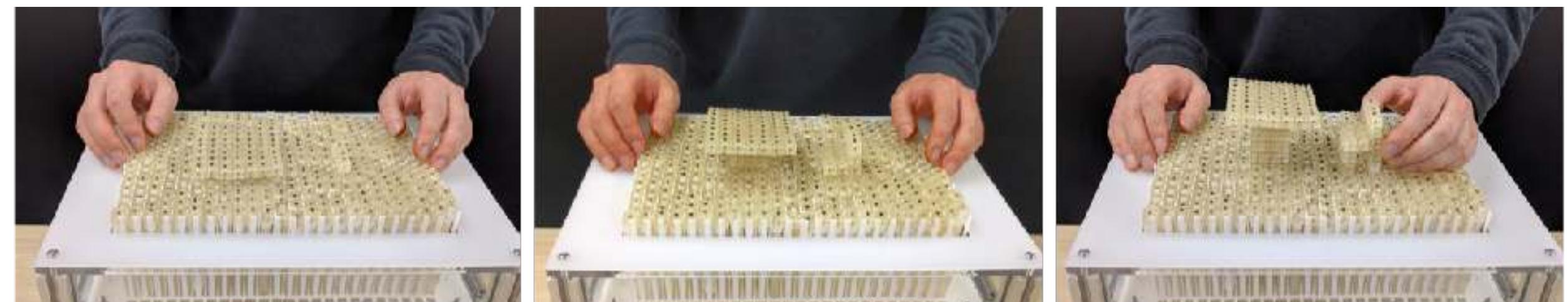
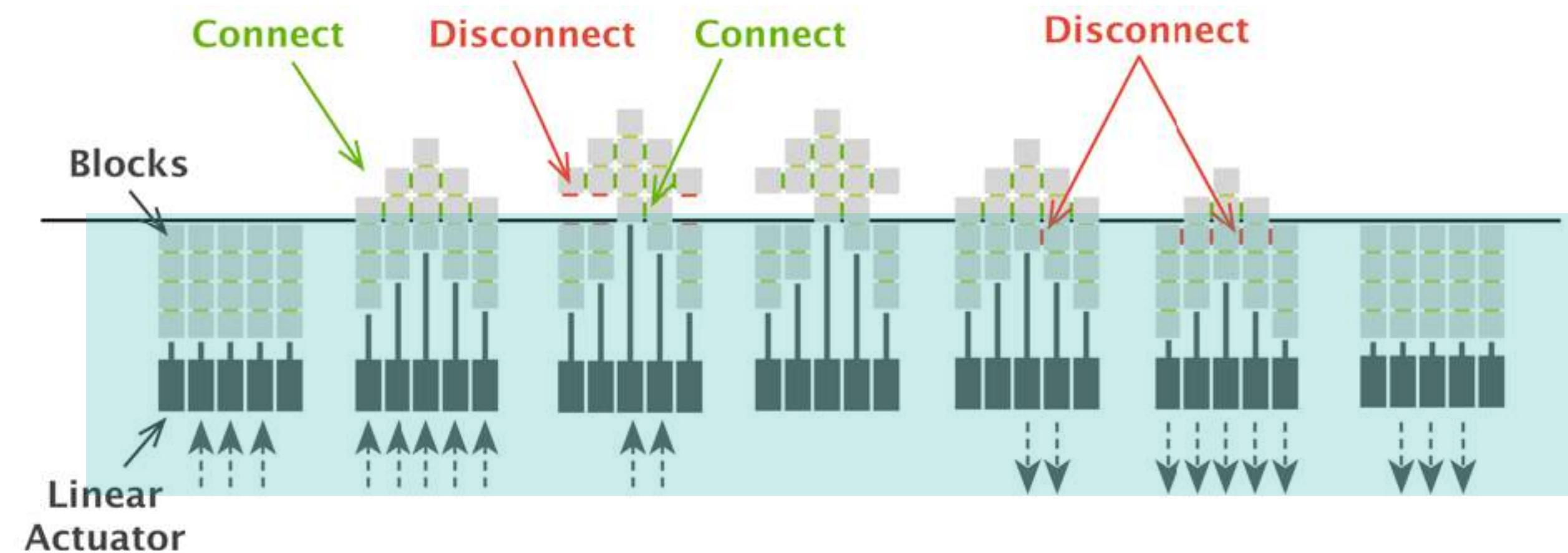
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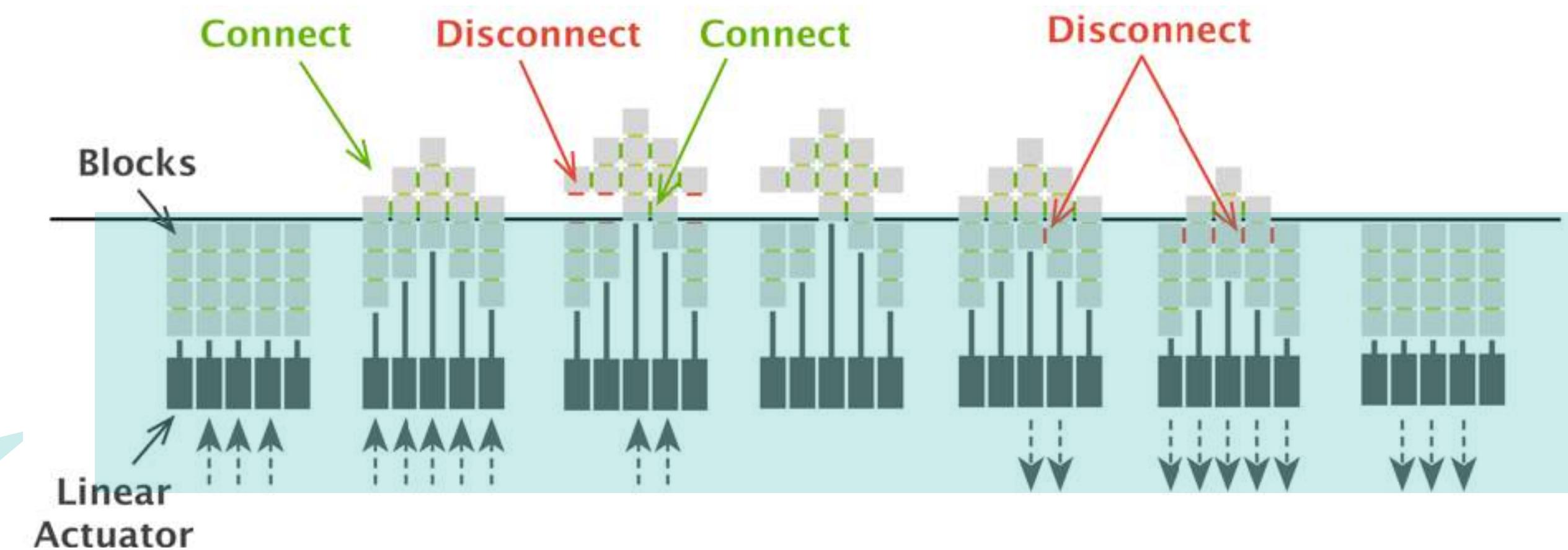
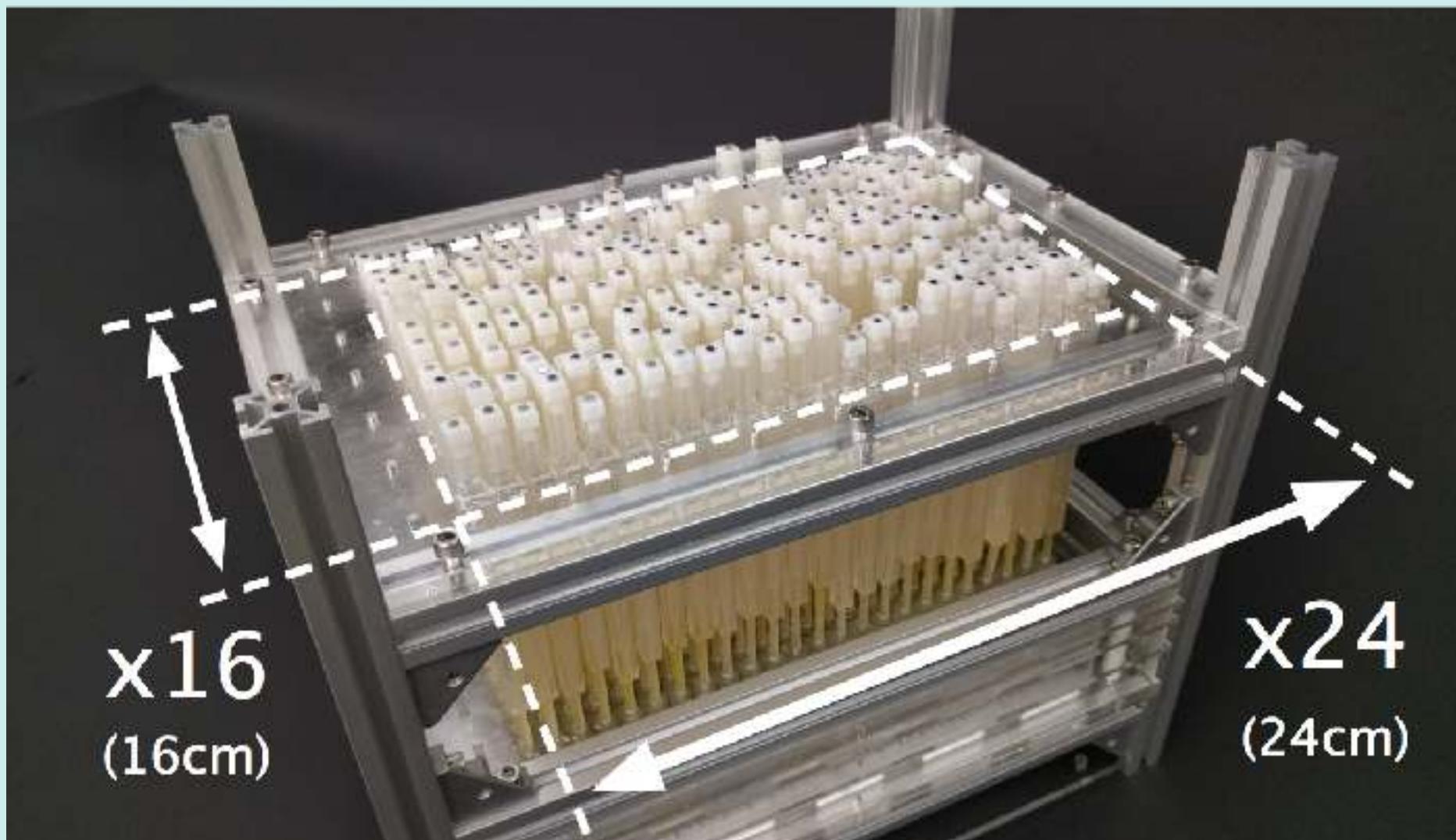
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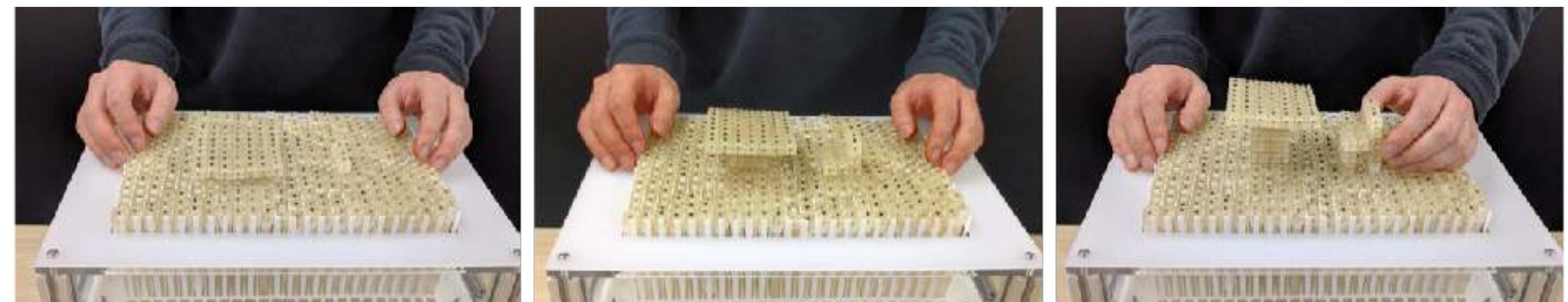
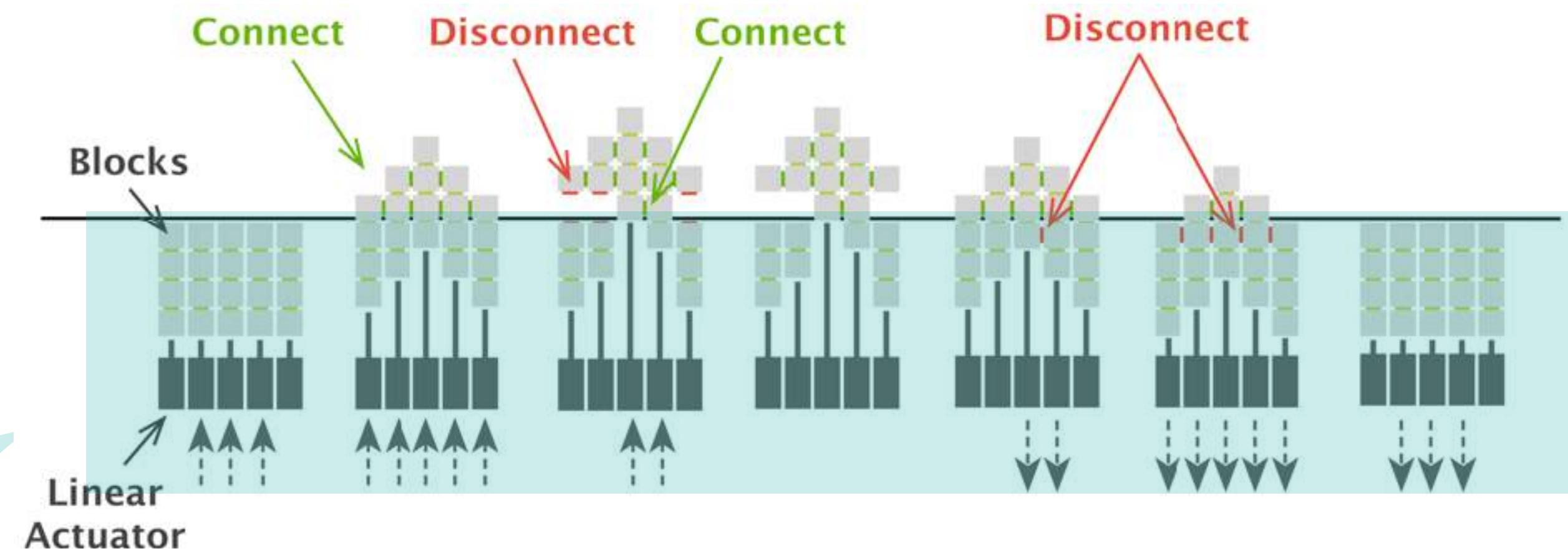
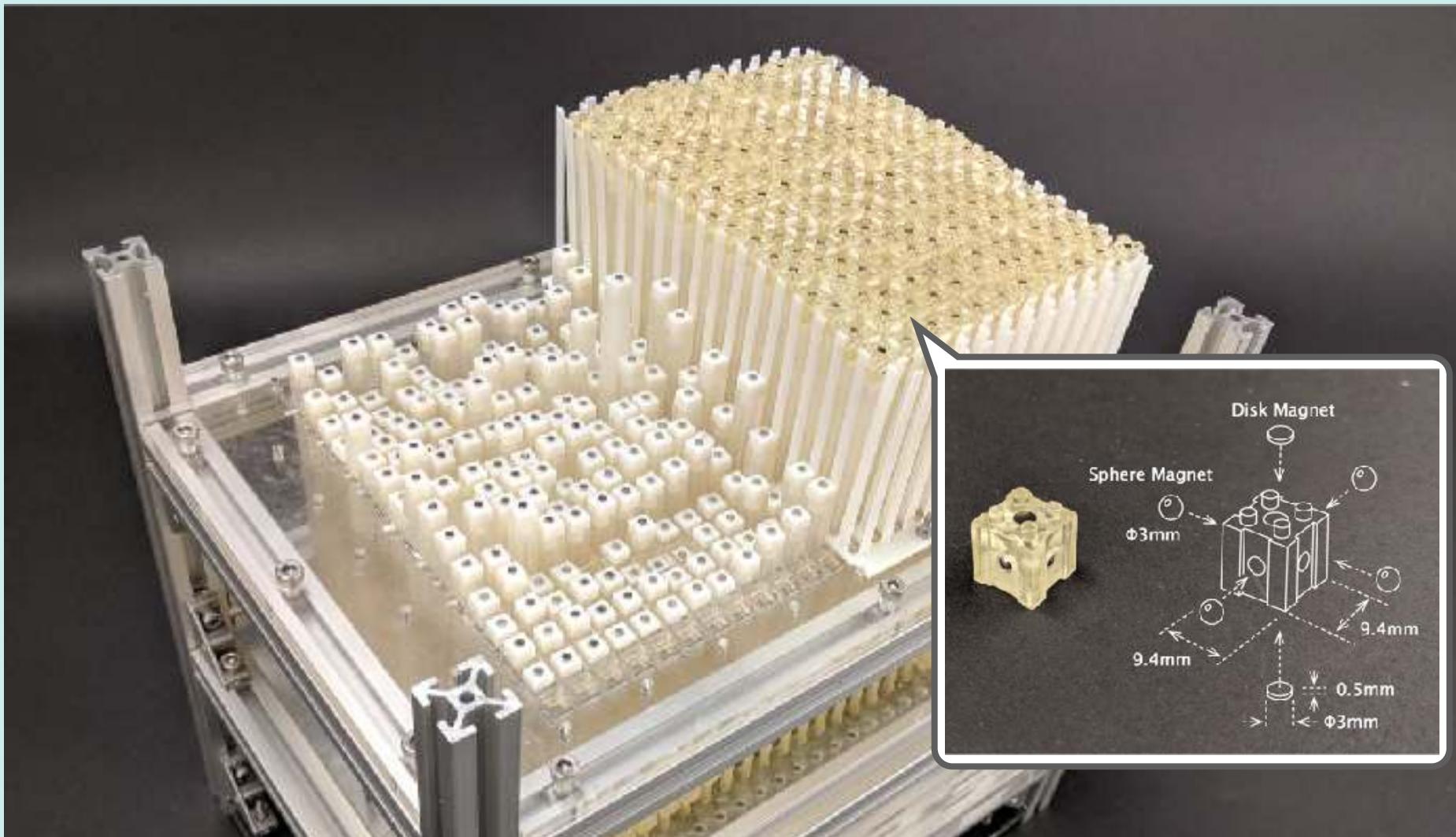


Dynablock: Dynamic 3D Printing for Instant and Reconstructable Shape Formation
by [Suzuki](#), Yamaoka, Leithinger, Yeh, Gross, Kawahara, and Kakehi

Proposed Approach

Parallel Block Assembly with Shape Display

assemble each layer at once



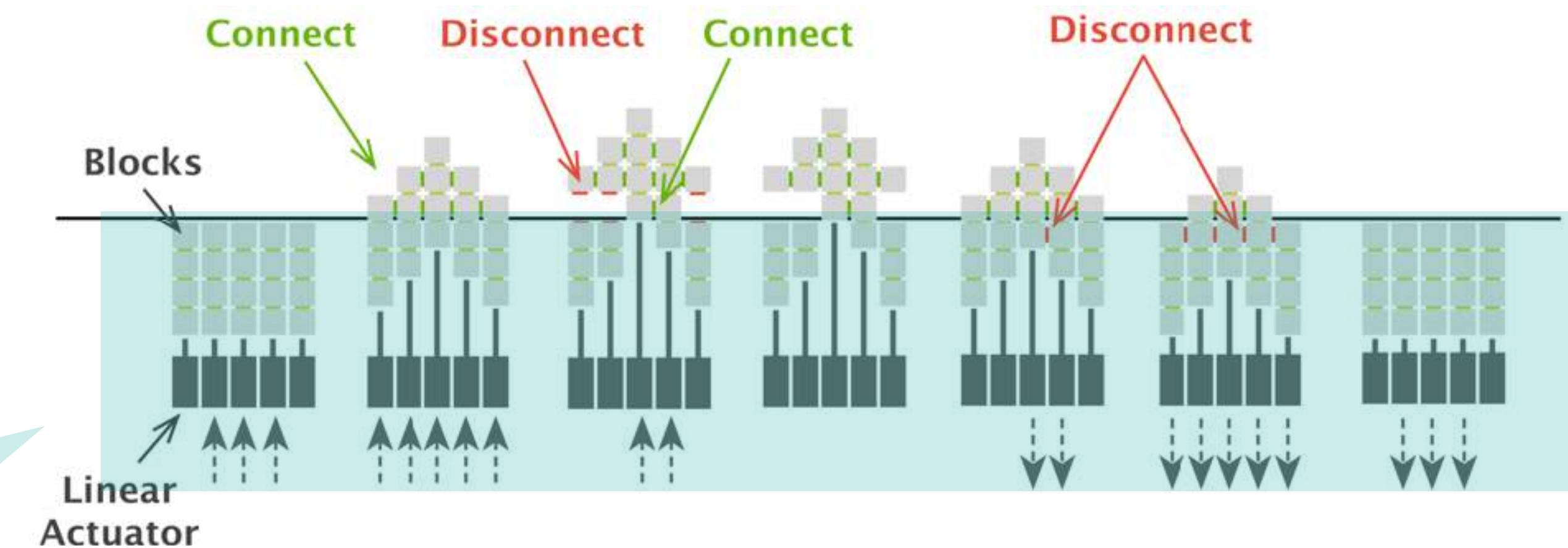
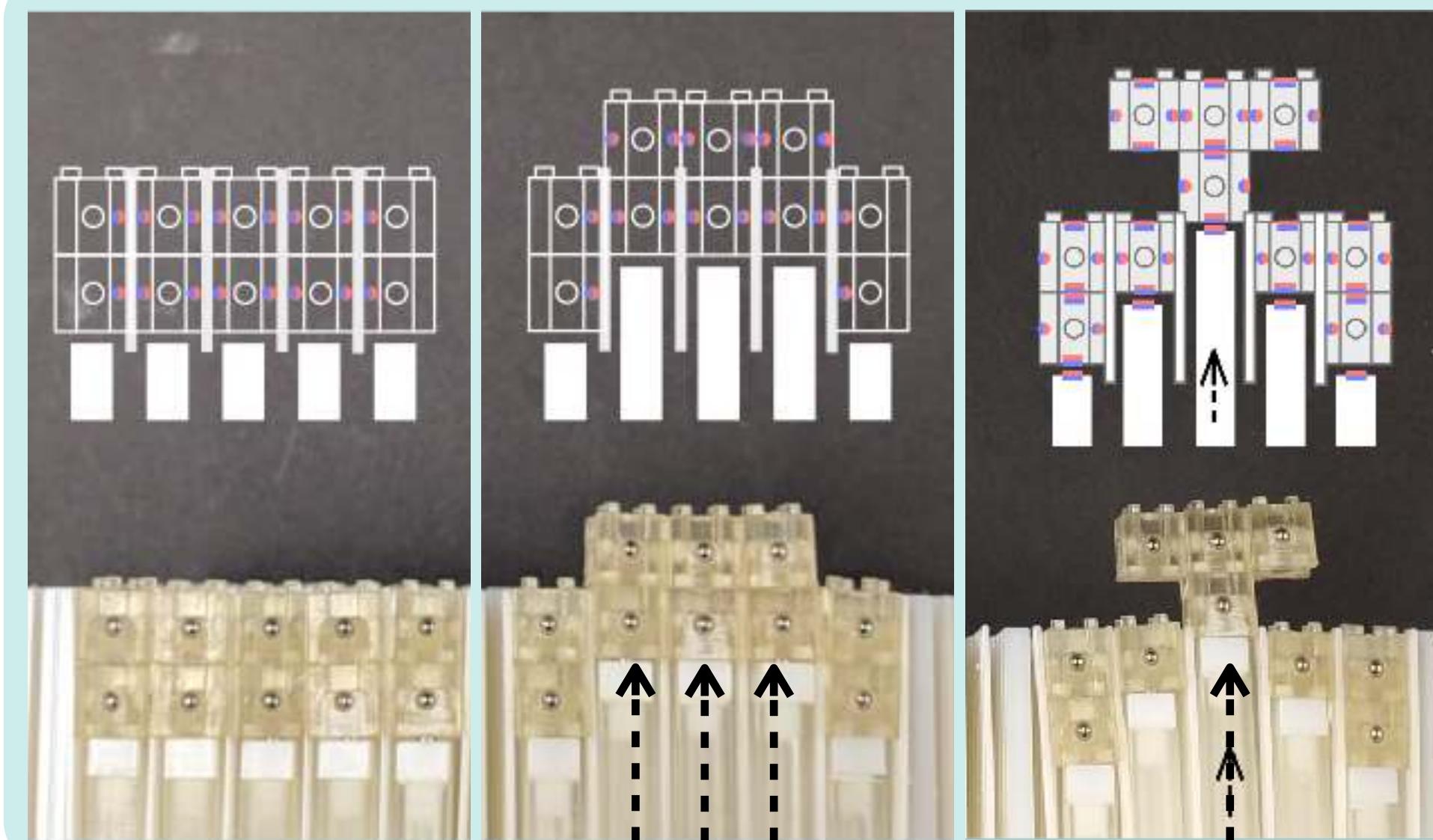
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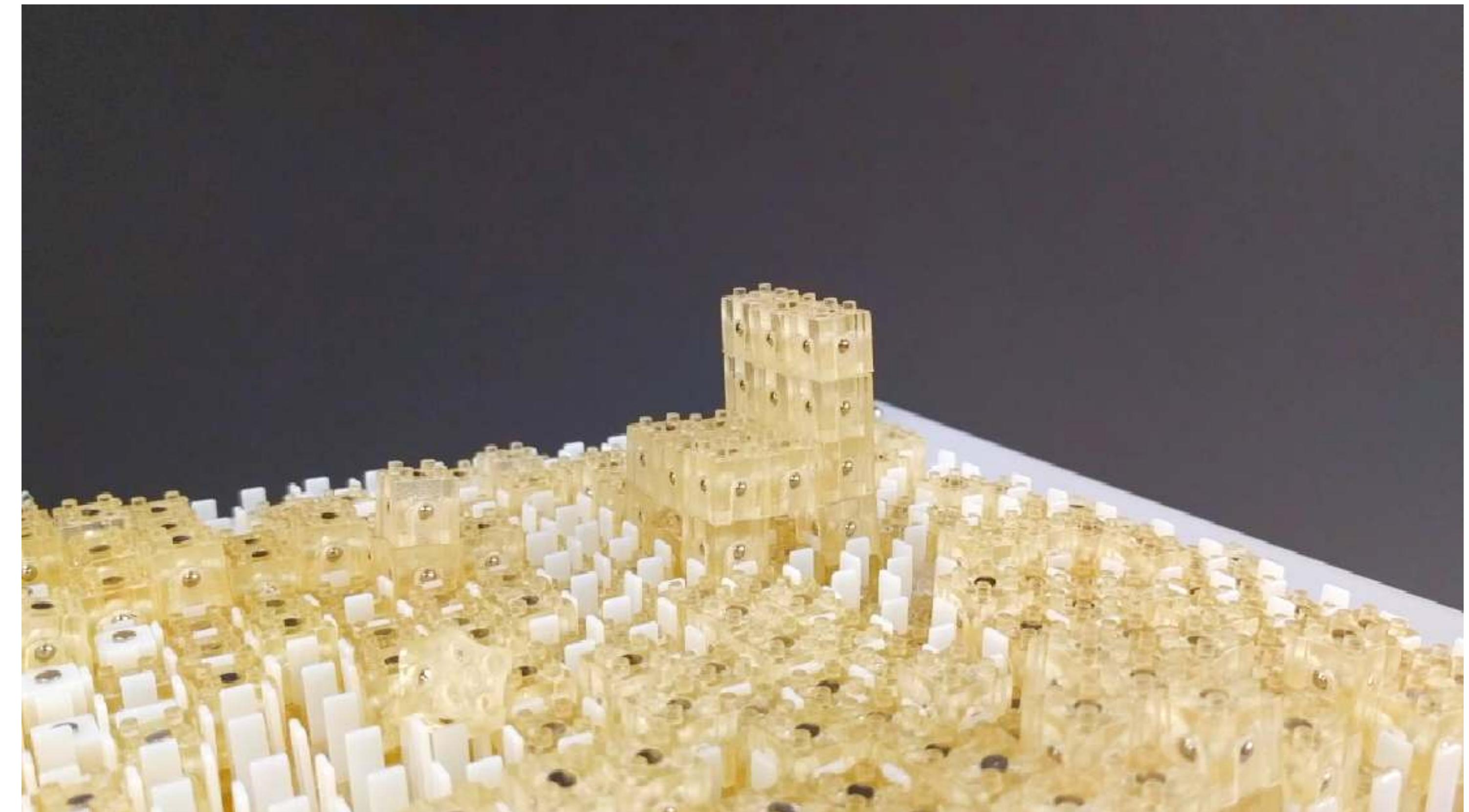


Dynablock: Dynamic 3D Printing for Instant and Reconstructable Shape Formation
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Dynablock: Dynamic 3D Printing

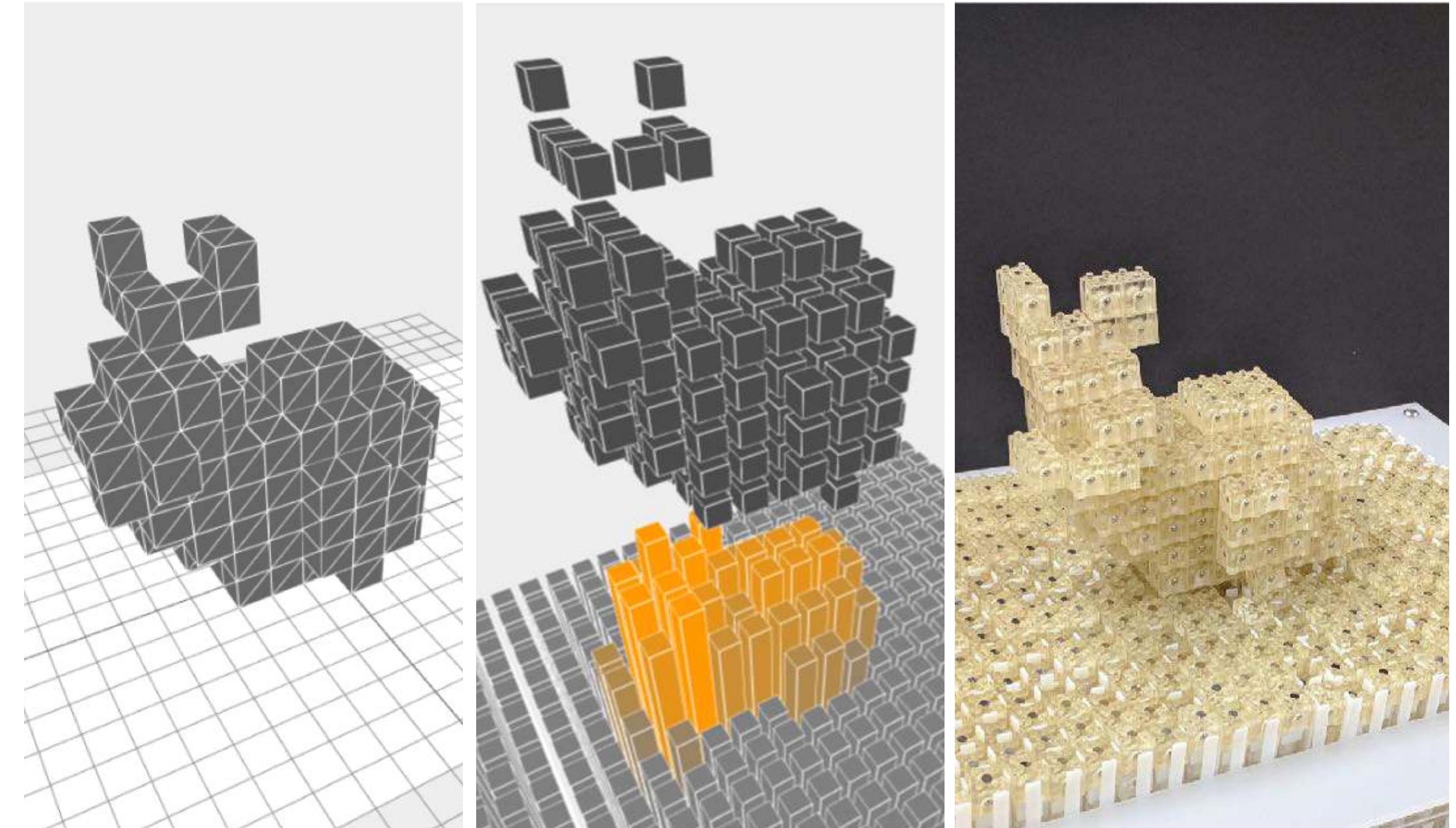
Parallel assembly of collective passive blocks



[UIST 2018] *Dynablock: Dynamic 3D Printing for Instant and Reconstructable Shape Formation*

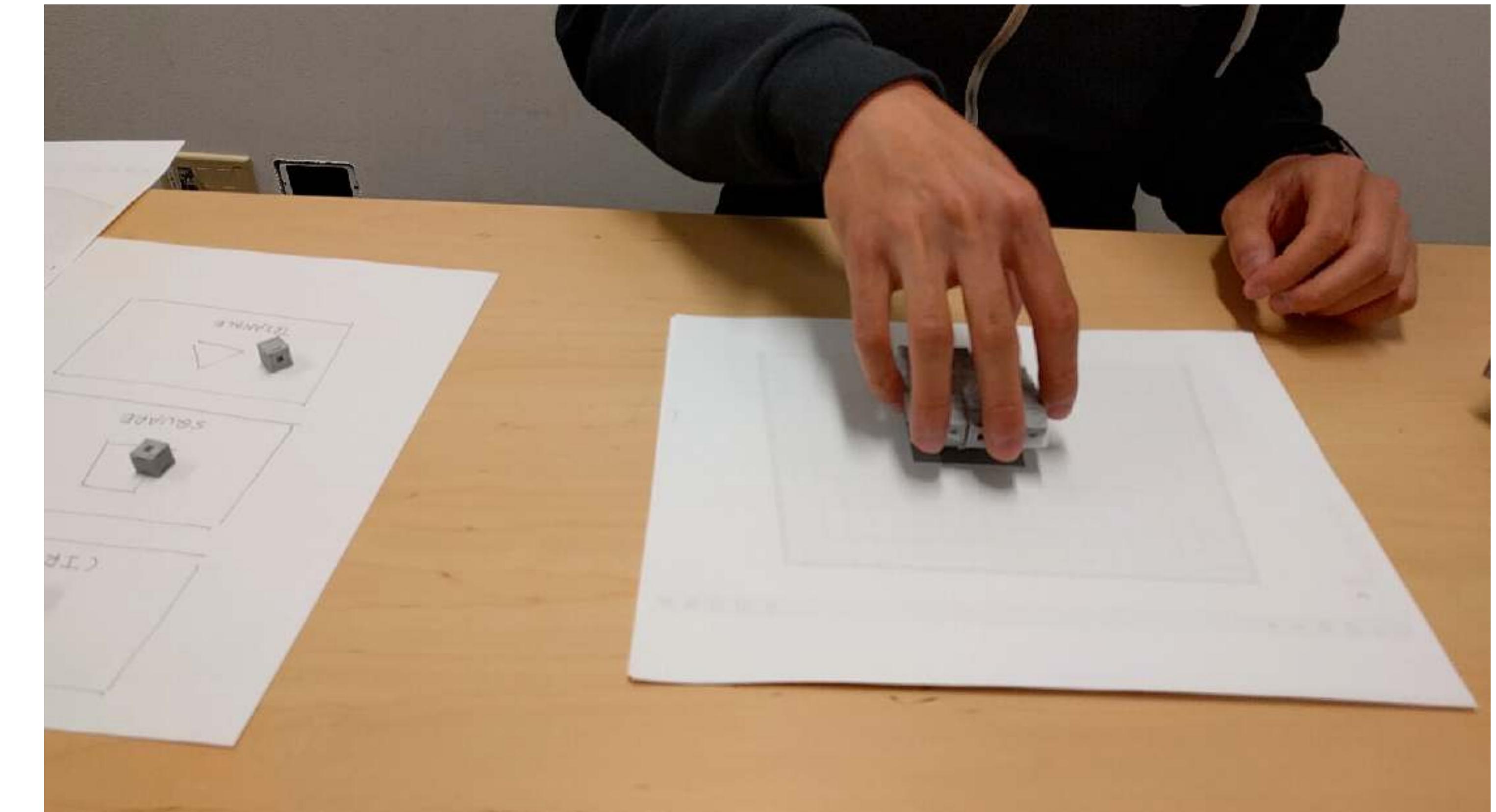
by [Suzuki](#), Yamaoka, Leithinger, Yeh, Gross, Kawahara, and Kakehi

3D Shape Construction by Selectively Actuating the Pins



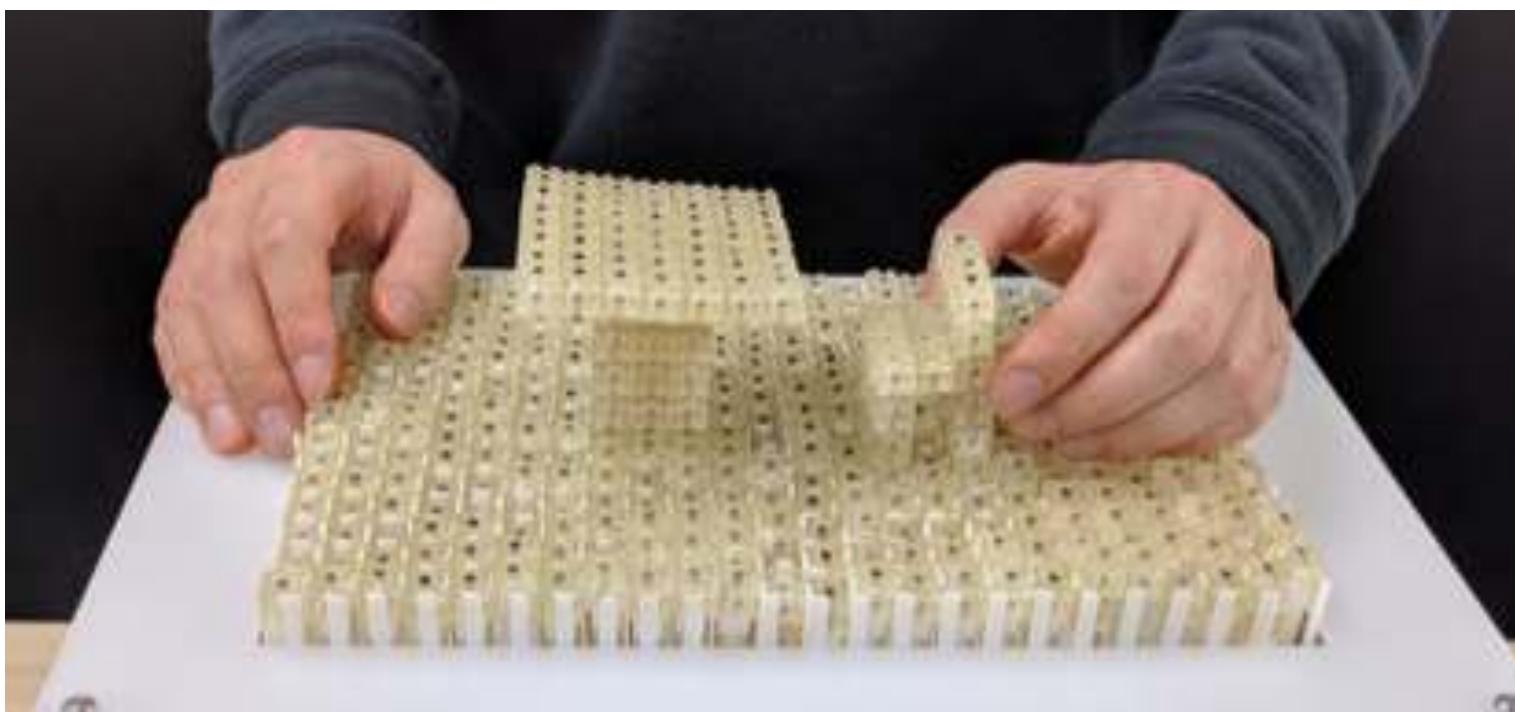
[UIST 2018] *Dynablock: Dynamic 3D Printing for Instant and Reconstructable Shape Formation*
by [Suzuki](#), Yamaoka, Leithinger, Yeh, Gross, Kawahara, and Kakehi

Vision



[UIST 2018] *Dynablock: Dynamic 3D Printing for Instant and Reconstructable Shape Formation*
by [**Suzuki**](#), Yamaoka, Leithinger, Yeh, Gross, Kawahara, and Kakehi

Dynamic Shape Construction with **Passive** Collective Elements



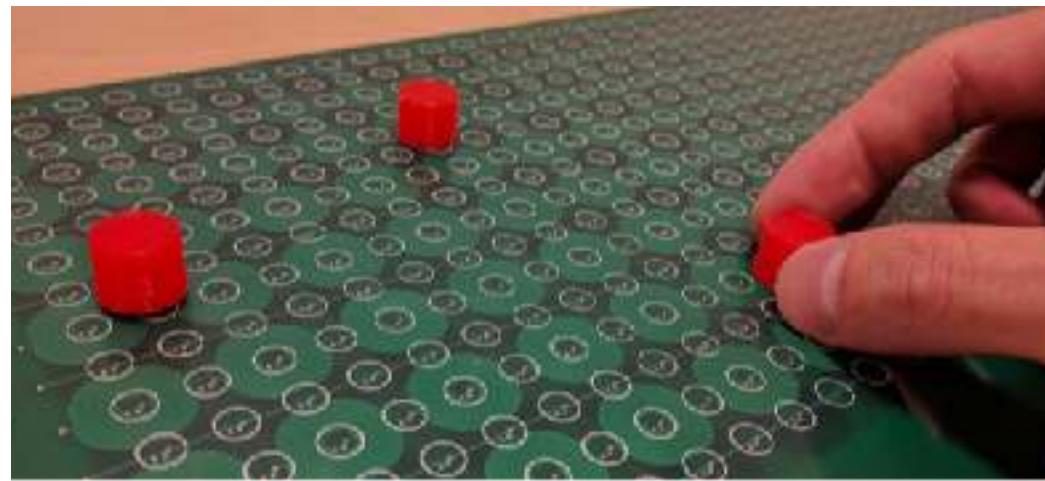
Parallel actuation of
passive building blocks for
voxel representation

[Suzuki et al., UIST 2018]

Dynamic Shape Construction with **Passive** Collective Elements

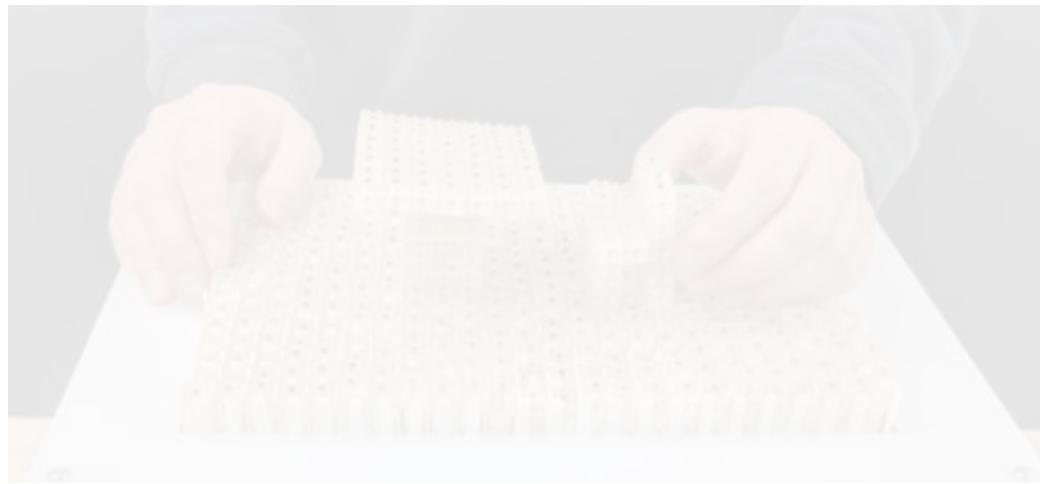


Parallel actuation of
passive building blocks for
voxel representation

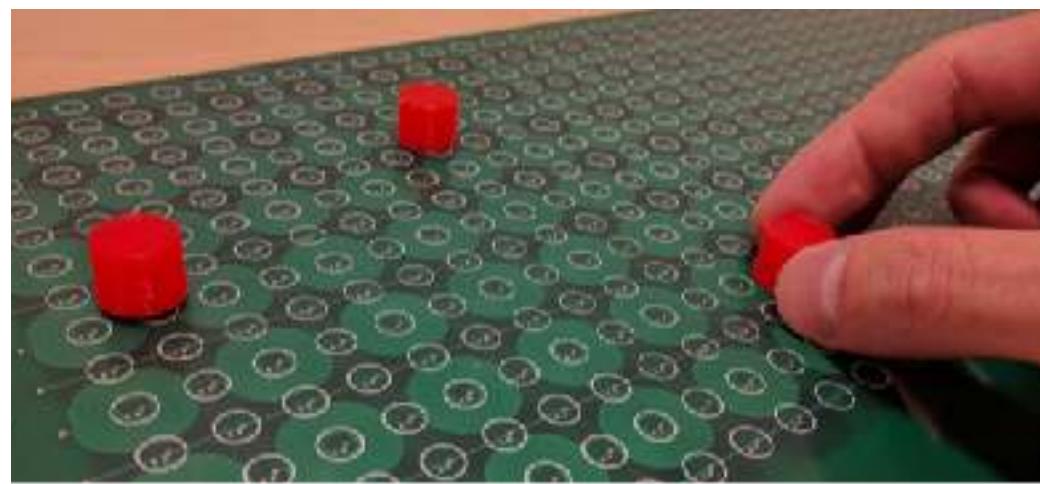


Parallel actuation of
passive swarm markers for
sparse dots representation

Dynamic Shape Construction with **Passive** Collective Elements

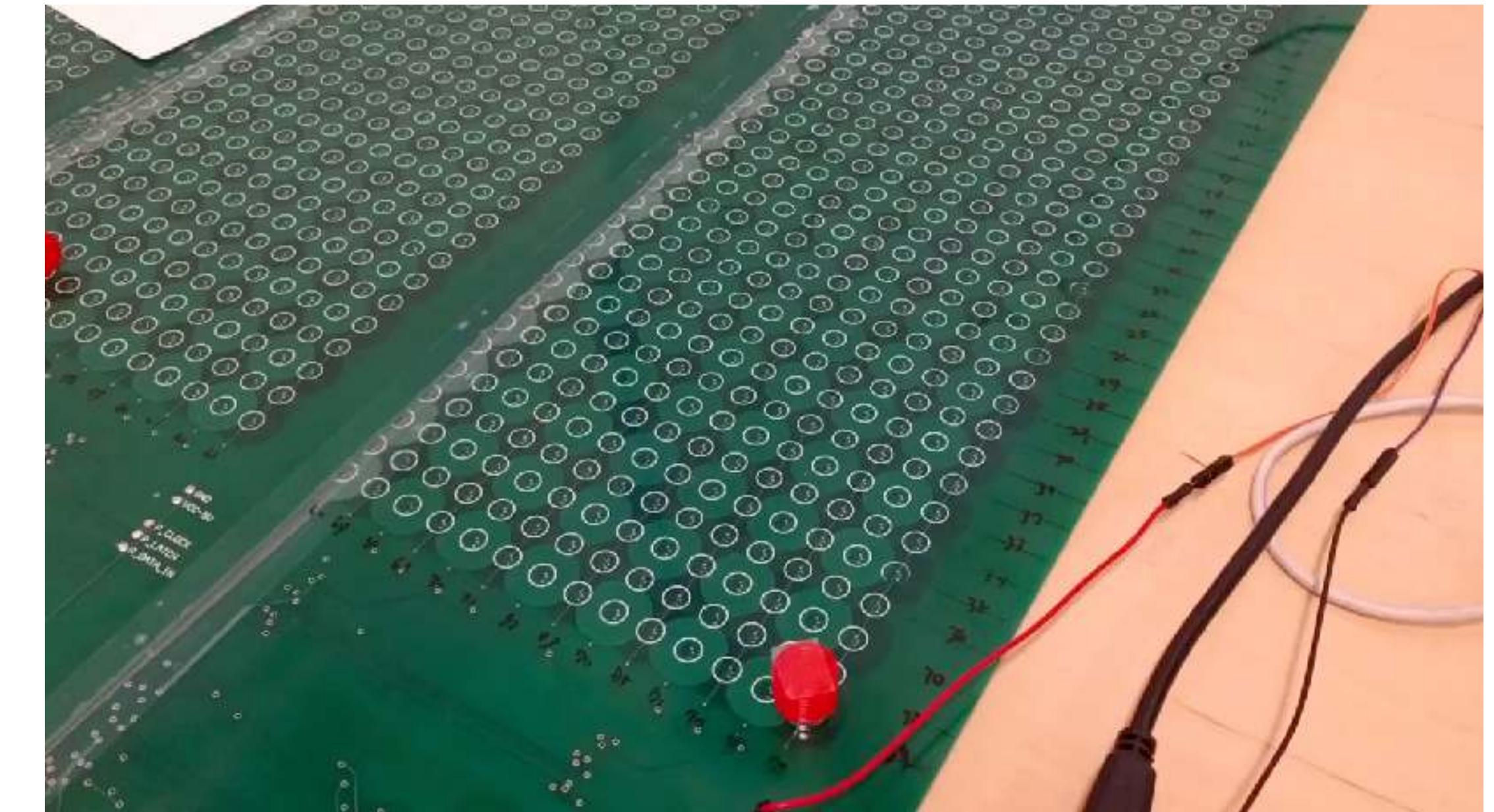


Parallel actuation of
passive building blocks for
voxel representation



Parallel actuation of
passive swarm markers for
sparse dots representation

Externally actuated collective elements
with **electromagnetic coil arrays**



[ASSETS 2017] FluxMarker: Enhancing Tactile Graphics with Dynamic Tactile Markers by [Suzuki](#), Stangl, Gross, and Yeh

[CHI 2018] Reactile: Programming Swarm User Interfaces through Direct Physical Manipulation by [Suzuki](#), Kato, Gross, and Yeh

Dynamic Shape Construction with **Passive** Collective Elements

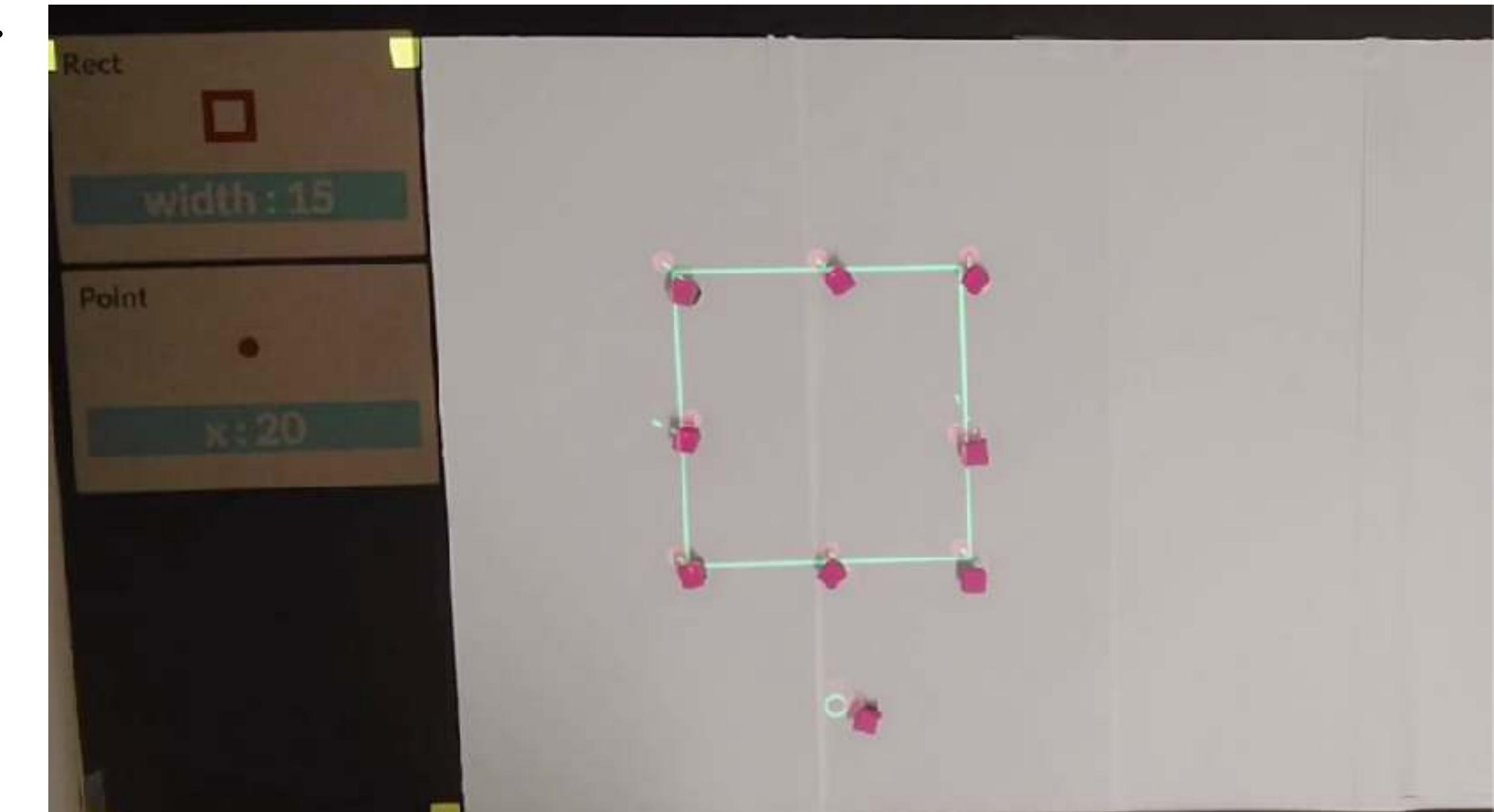


Parallel actuation of
passive building blocks for
voxel representation



Parallel actuation of
passive swarm markers for
sparse dots representation

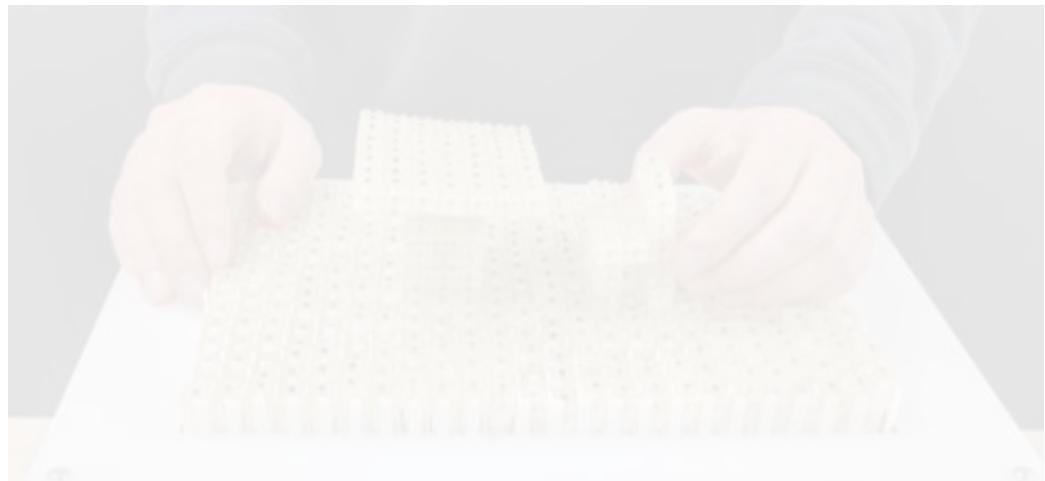
Externally actuated collective elements
with **electromagnetic coil arrays**



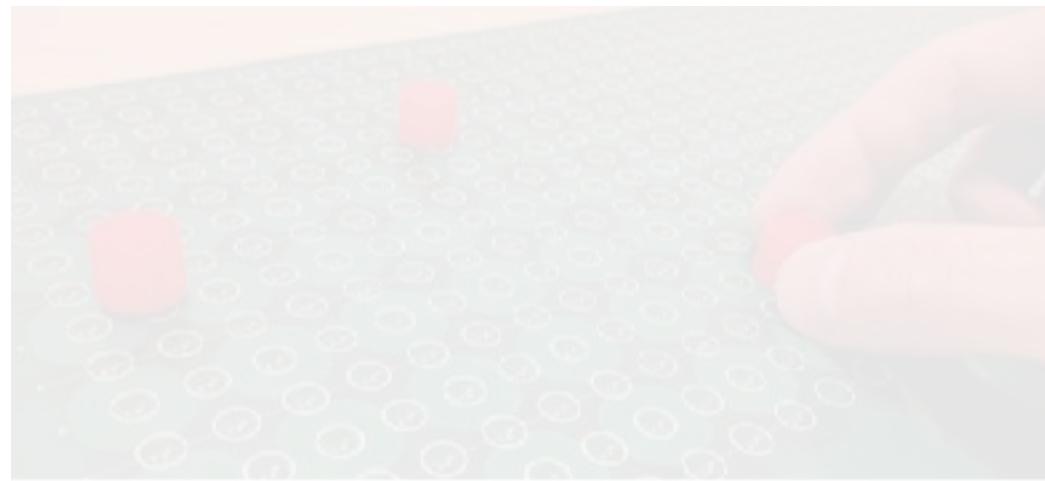
[ASSETS 2017] FluxMarker: Enhancing Tactile Graphics with Dynamic Tactile Markers by [Suzuki](#), Stangl, Gross, and Yeh

[CHI 2018] Reactile: Programming Swarm User Interfaces through Direct Physical Manipulation by [Suzuki](#), Kato, Gross, and Yeh

Dynamic Shape Construction with **Passive** Collective Elements



Parallel actuation of
passive building blocks for
voxel representation

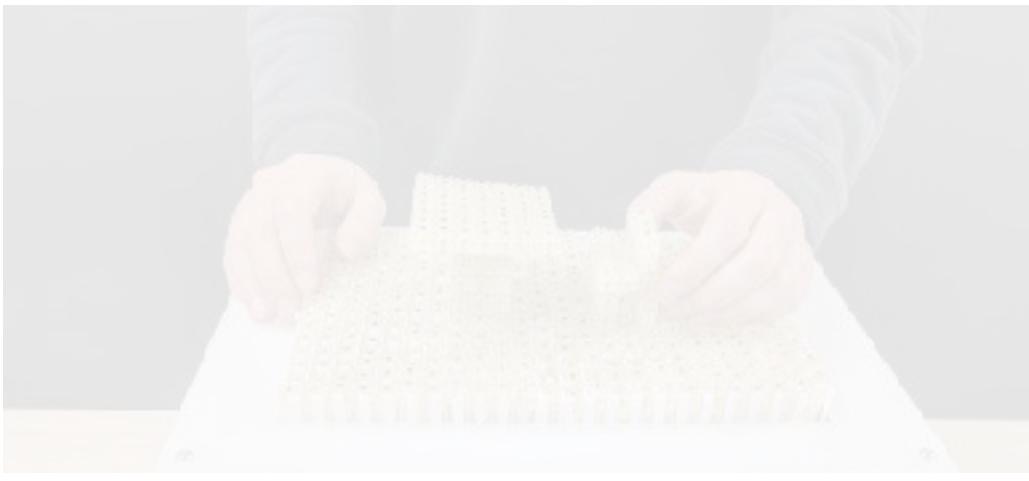


Parallel actuation of
passive swarm markers for
sparse dots representation

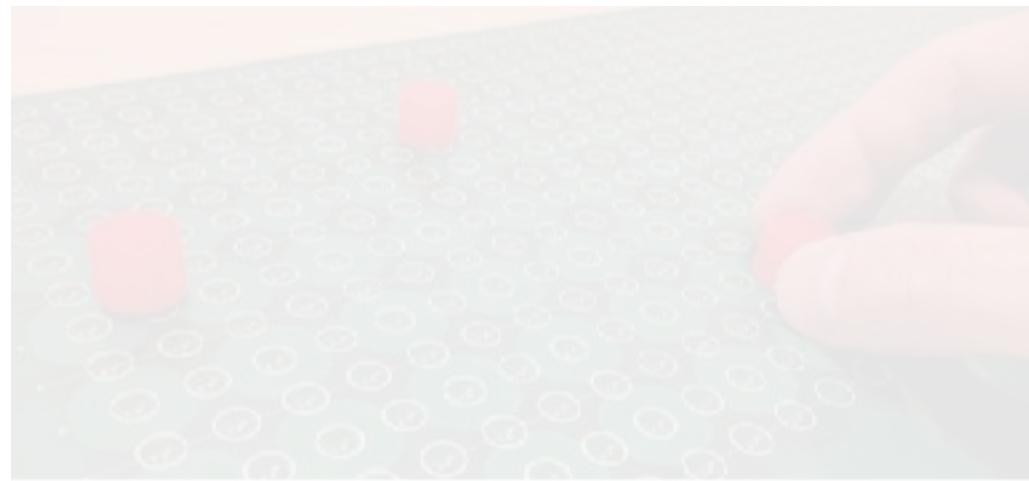


Parallel actuation of
passive existing objects for
spatial reconfiguration

Dynamic Shape Construction with **Passive** Collective Elements



Parallel actuation of
passive building blocks for
voxel representation

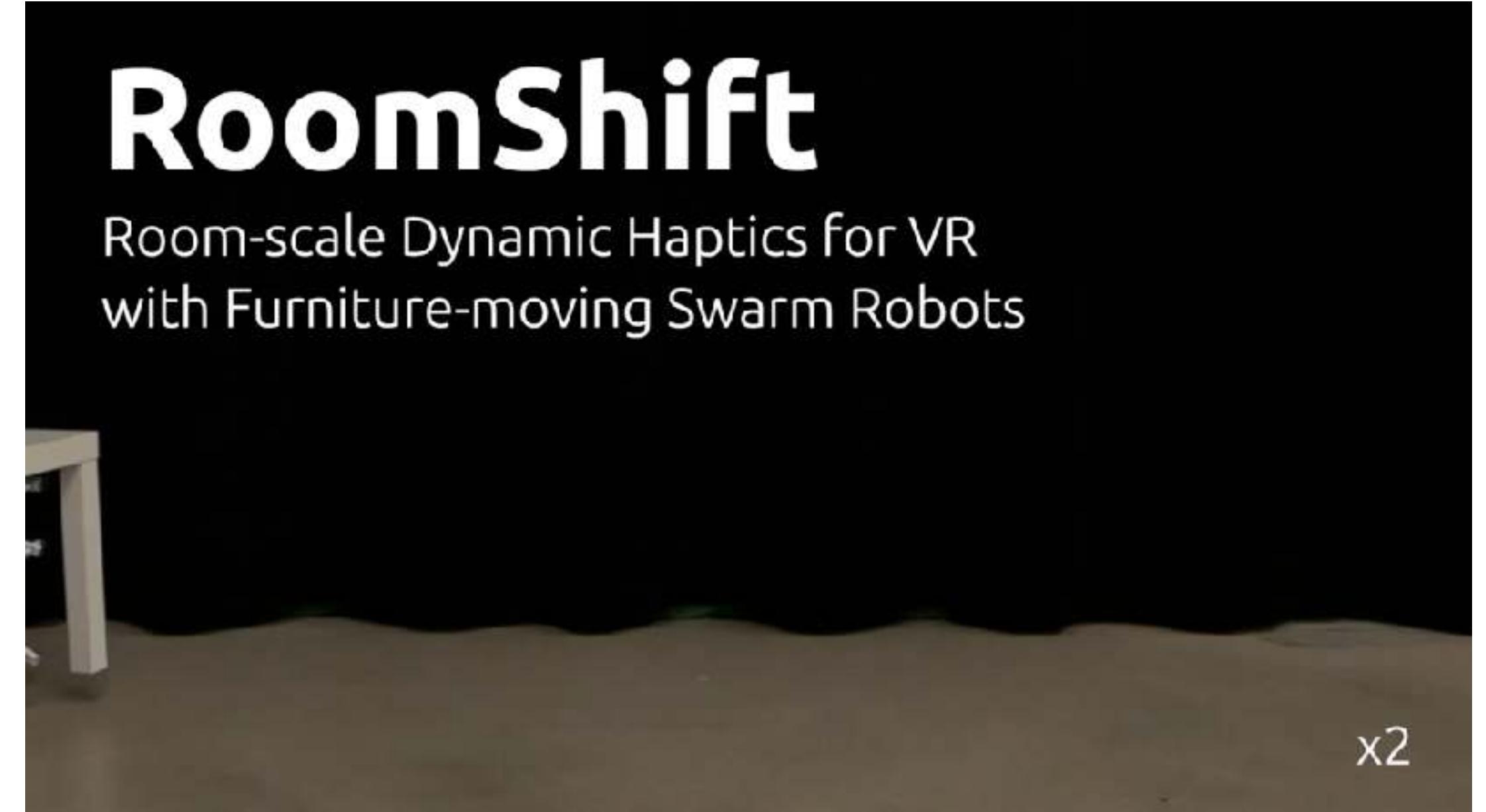


Parallel actuation of
passive swarm markers for
sparse dots representation



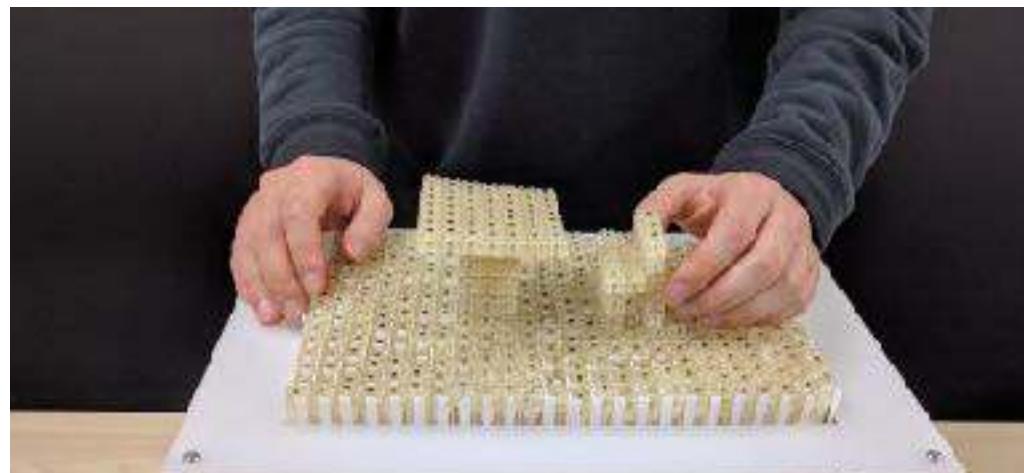
Parallel actuation of
passive existing objects for
spatial reconfiguration

Externally actuated existing static objects
with **swarm robotic actuation**

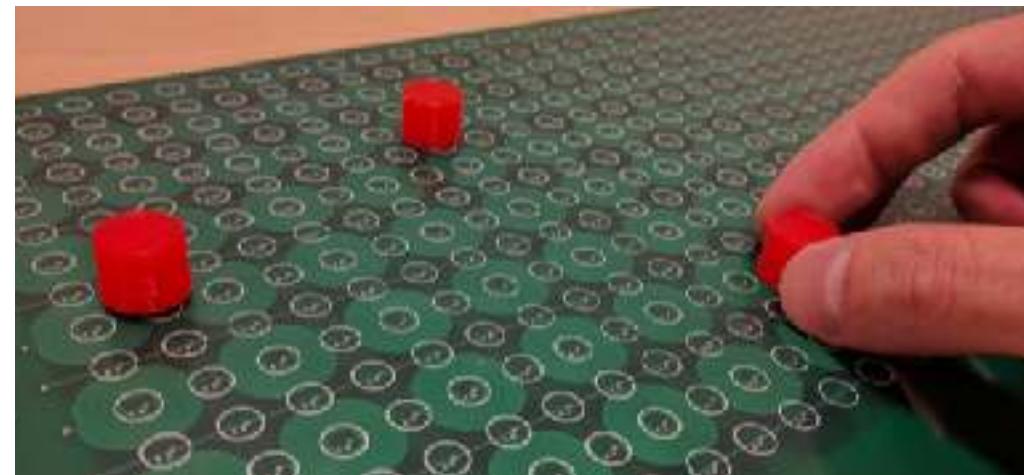


[CHI 2020] RoomShift: Room-scale Dynamic Haptics for VR with Furniture-moving Swarm Robots
by Suzuki, Hedayati, Zheng, Bohn, Szafrir, Do, Gross, and Leithinger

Dynamic Shape Construction with **Passive** Collective Elements



Parallel actuation of
passive building blocks for
voxel representation



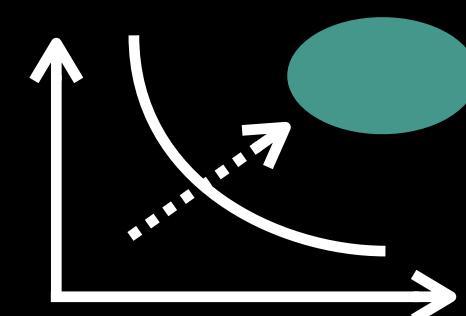
Parallel actuation of
passive swarm markers for
sparse dots representation



Parallel actuation of
passive existing objects for
spatial reconfiguration

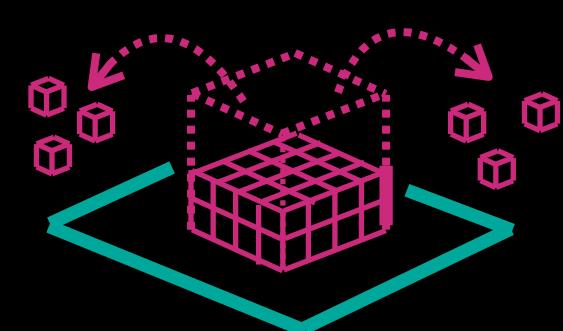
Background

Why This Approach?



Concept

Introducing
Dynamic and Collective
Shape Construction



Shape Construction
with **Active** Elements

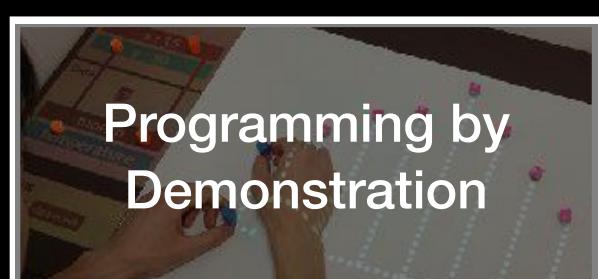


Explorations

Shape Construction
with **Passive** Elements

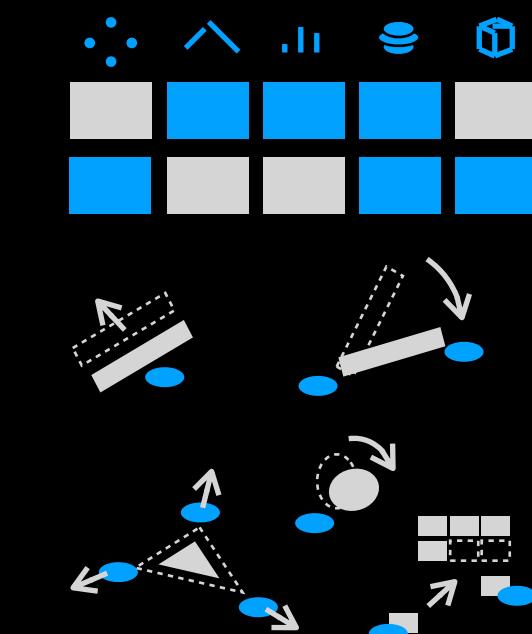


Interaction with
Collective Elements



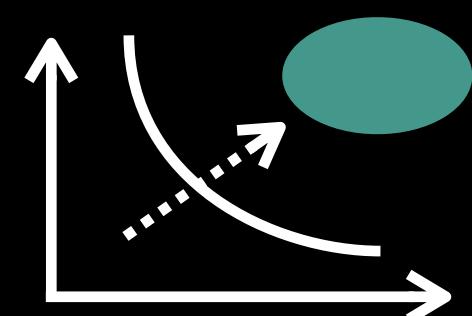
Discussion

What's Next?



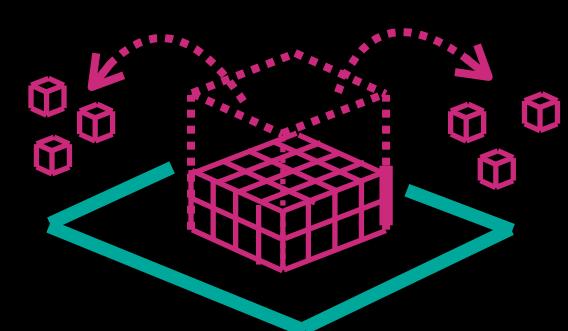
Background

Why This Approach?



Concept

Introducing
Dynamic and Collective
Shape Construction



Explorations

Shape Construction
with **Active** Elements



Shape Construction
with **Passive** Elements

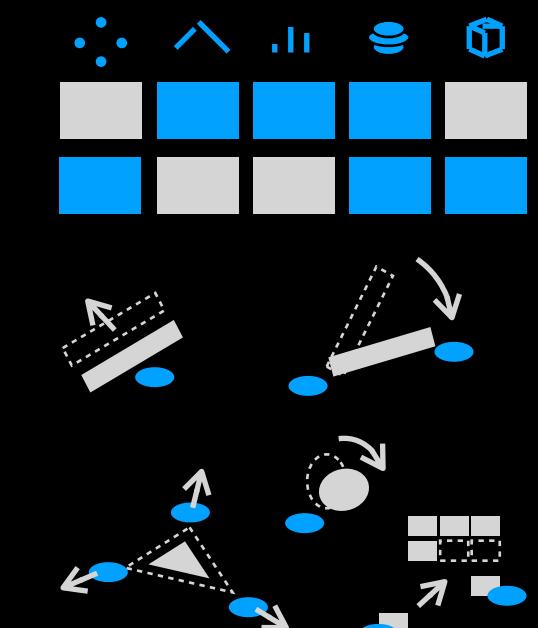


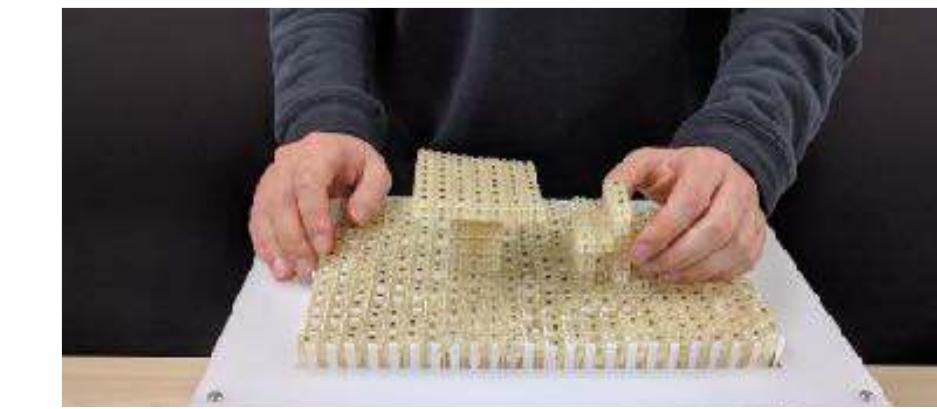
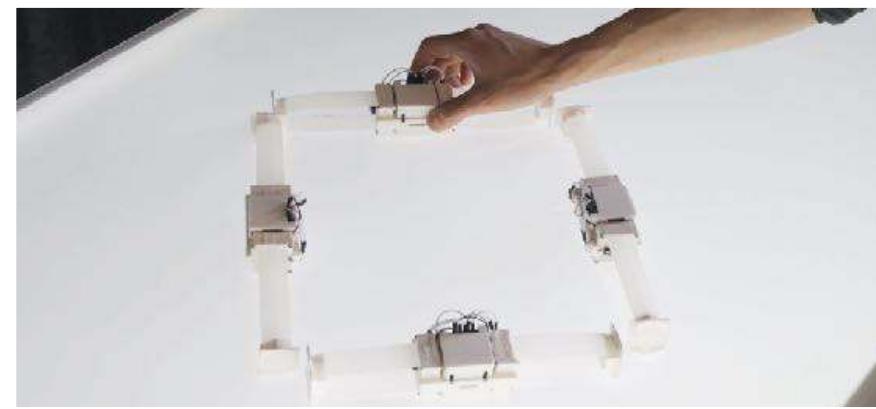
Interaction with
Collective Elements



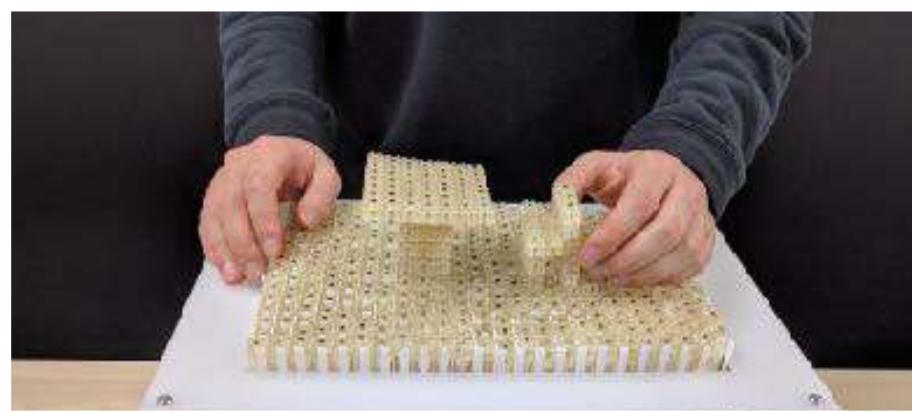
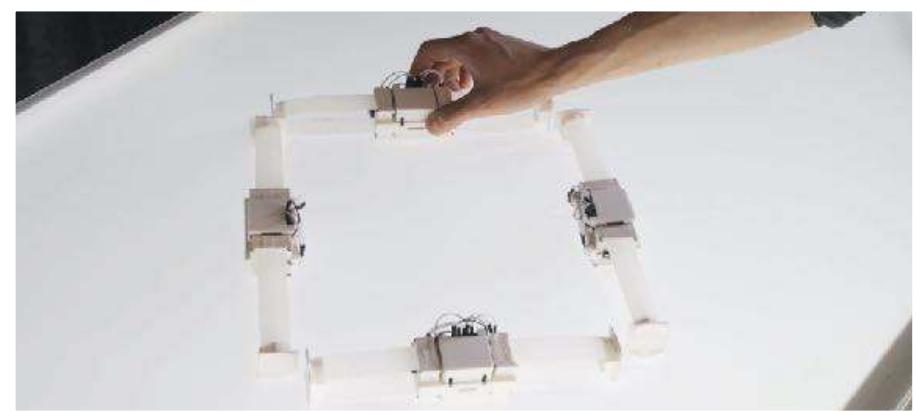
Discussion

What's Next?

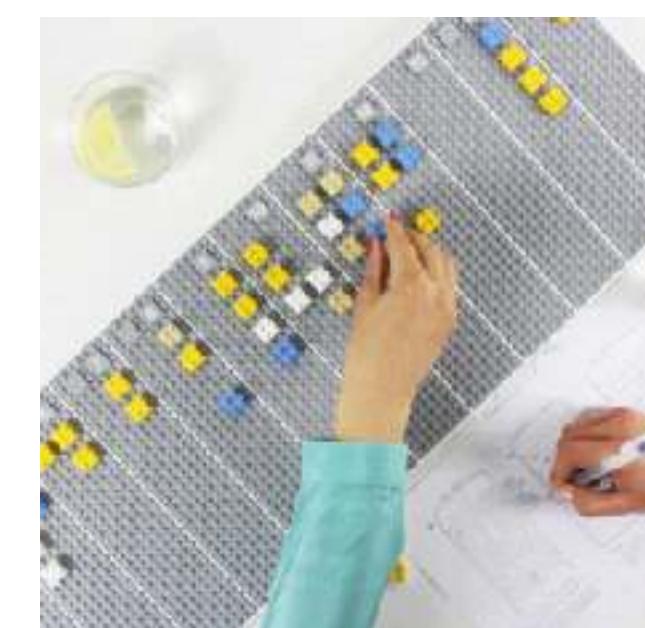




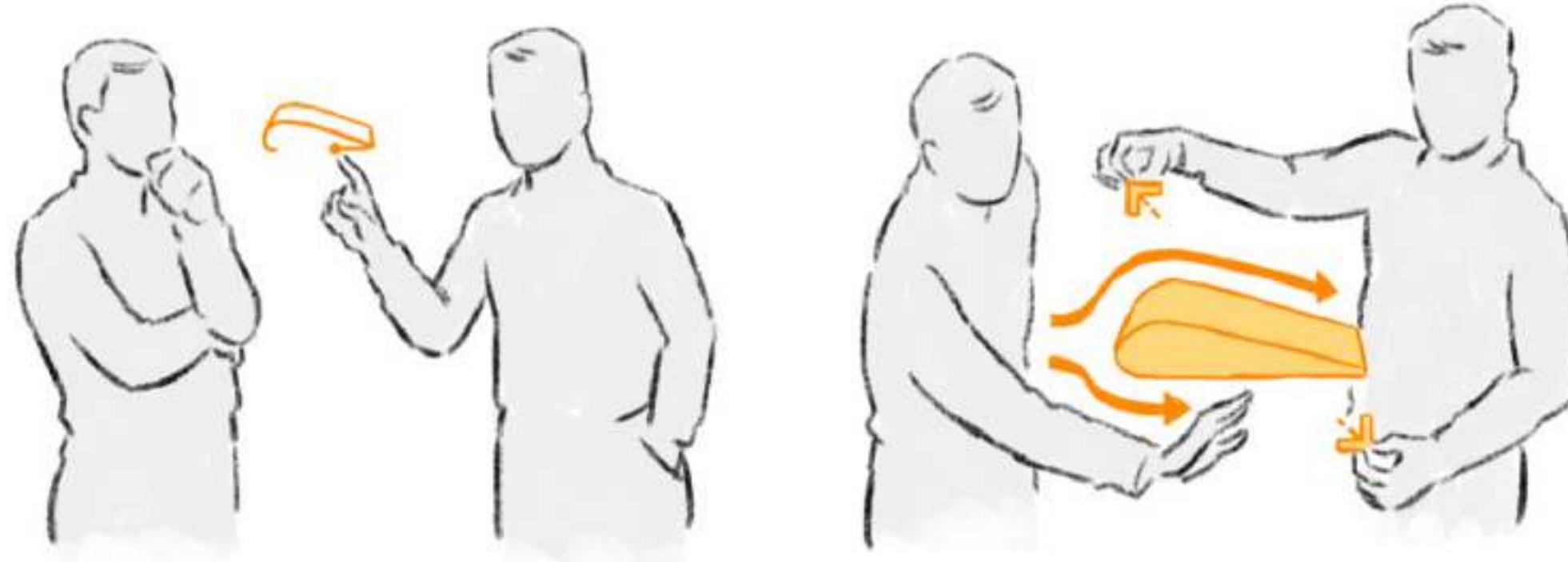
Using dynamic collective elements as
an **information display** or a **tool** to interact with.



Using dynamic collective elements as
an **information display** or a **tool** to interact with.



But, collective elements could be more than
just a tool or an information display,
but also **a medium to create or animate**
through exploration, like clay or building blocks



how can we use these collective elements
as a **medium** to create and explore dynamic motions?
what would be the interaction look like?

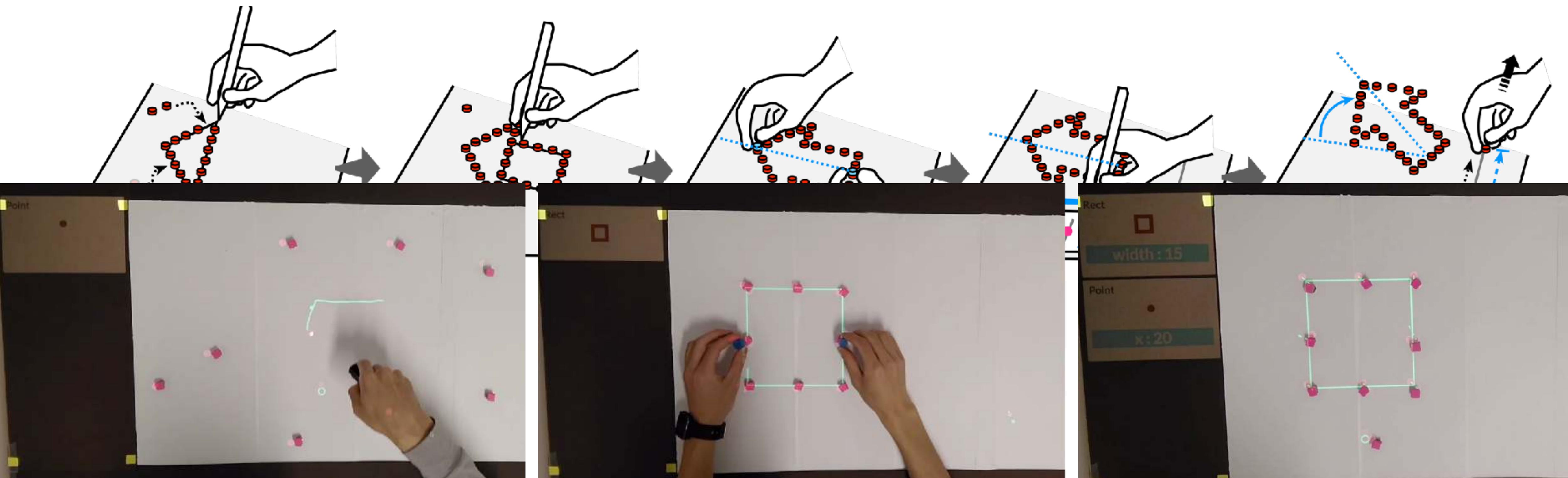
constructing dynamic motions often requires programming



**interaction happens
in real world**

**programming happens
on a computer screen**

How can we enable the end user to create and *explore dynamic motions*, not through coding on a computer screen, but through direct physical manipulation *in the real world*?

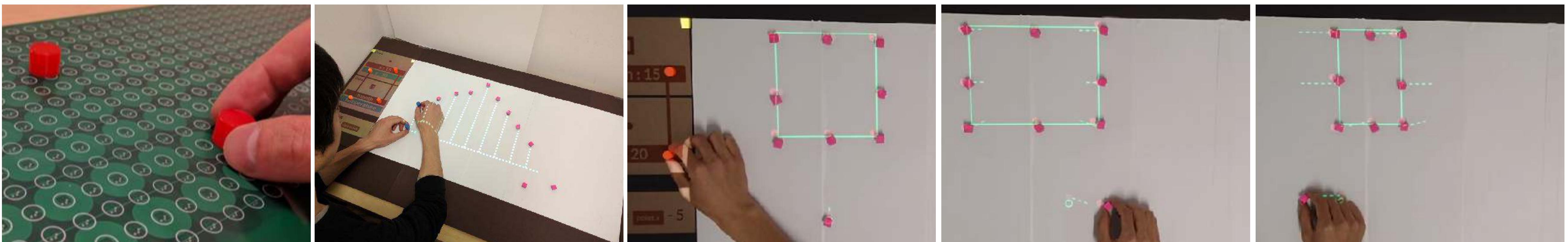


[CHI 2018] Reactile: Programming Swarm User Interfaces through Direct Physical Manipulation by [Suzuki](#), Kato, Gross, and Yeh

[CHI 2018]

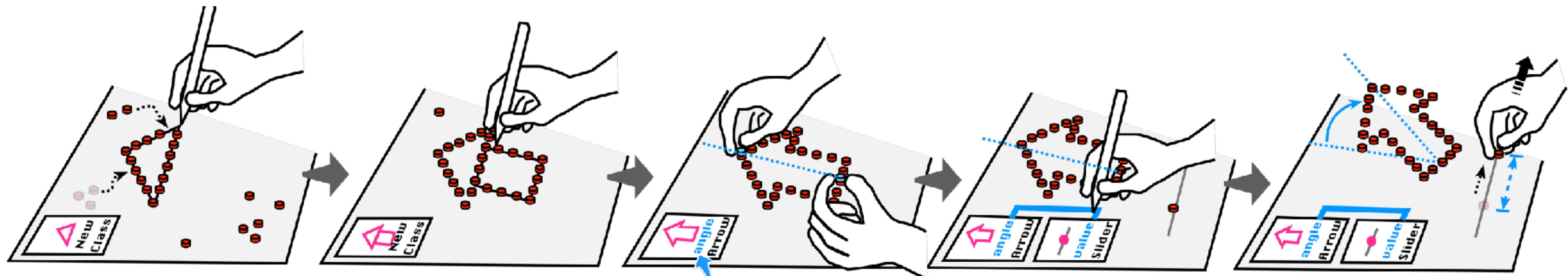
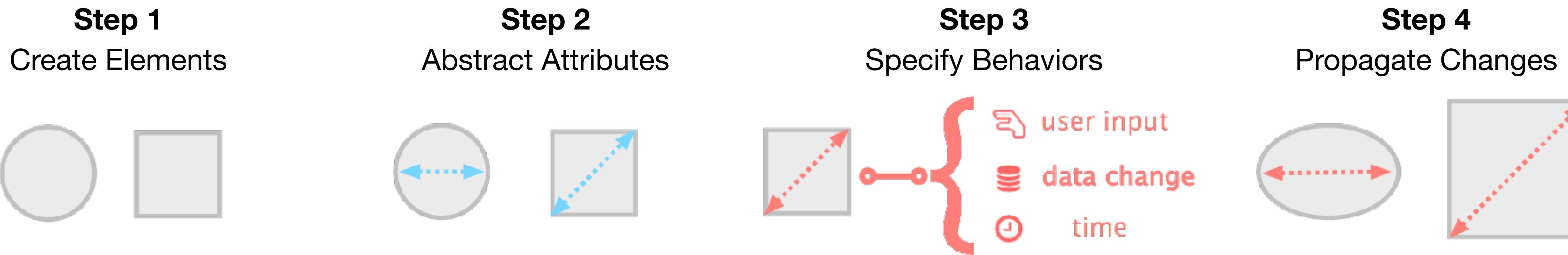
Reactile: Swarm UI Programming

by Suzuki, Kato, Gross, and Yeh



[CHI 2018] Reactile: Programming Swarm User Interfaces through Direct Physical Manipulation by [Suzuki](#), Kato, Gross, and Yeh

We propose the following workflow to program dynamic motions through direct physical manipulation

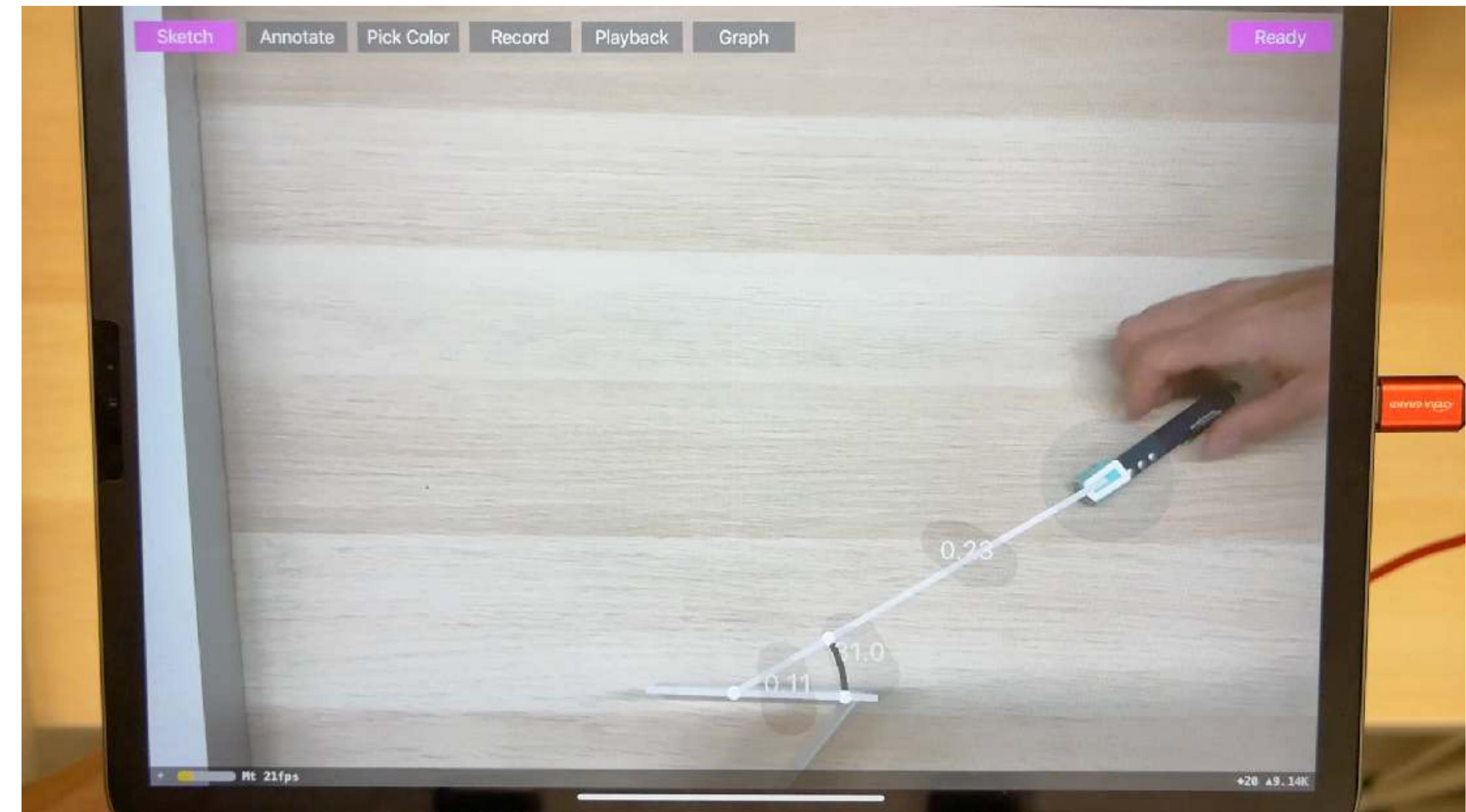
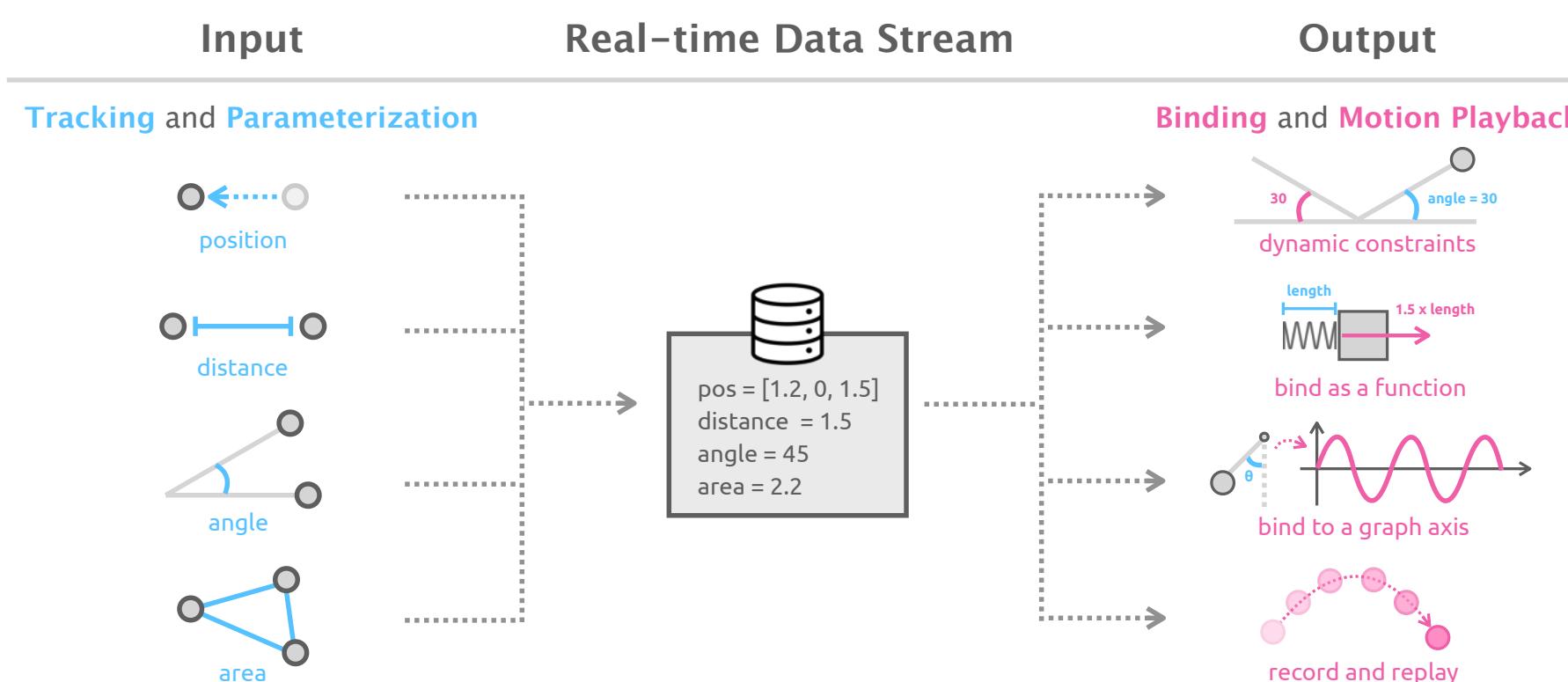


[CHI 2018] Reactile: Programming Swarm User Interfaces through Direct Physical Manipulation by [Suzuki](#), Kato, Gross, and Yeh

Inspiration

Constraint-based Programming

1. Define
2. Bind
3. Propagate

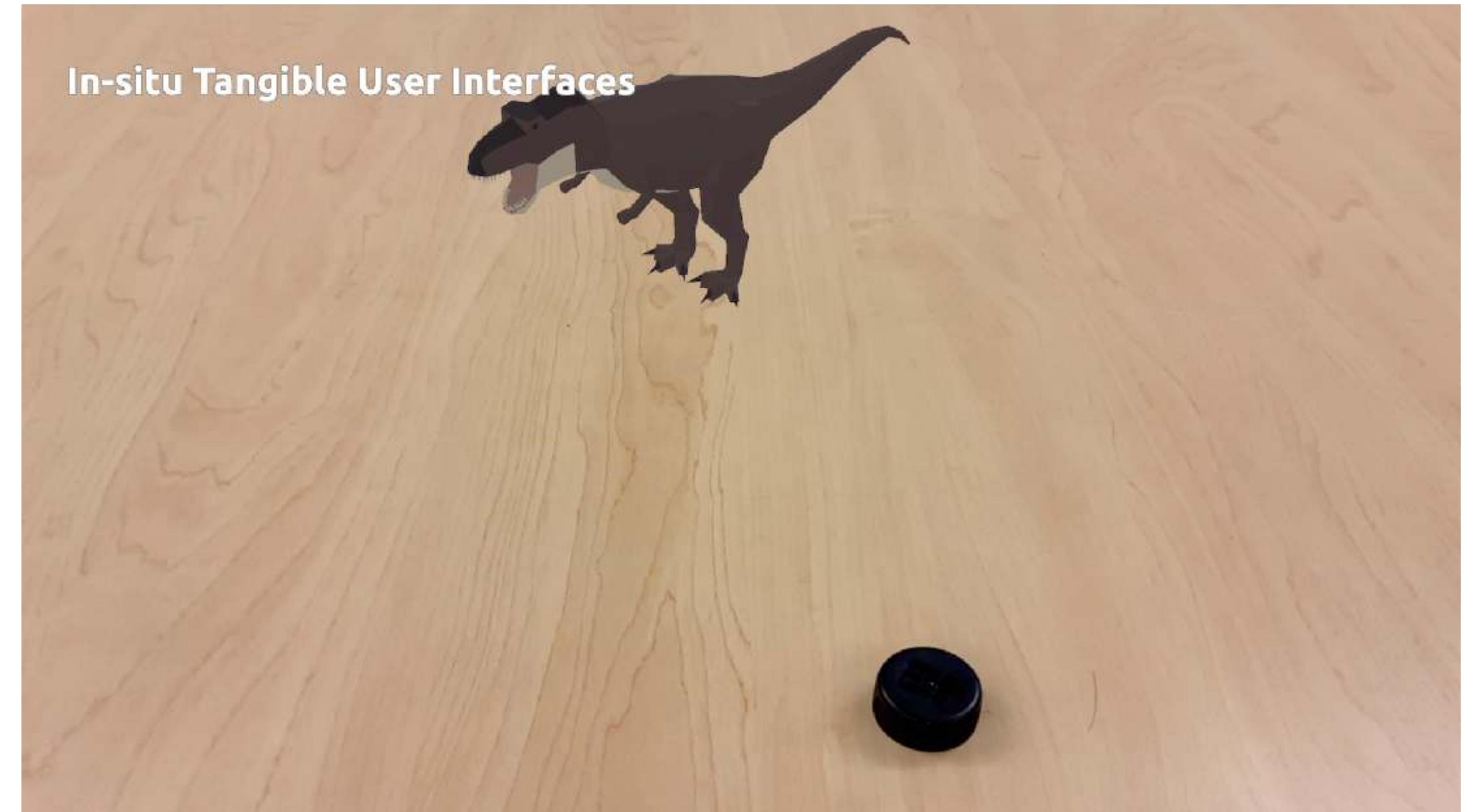
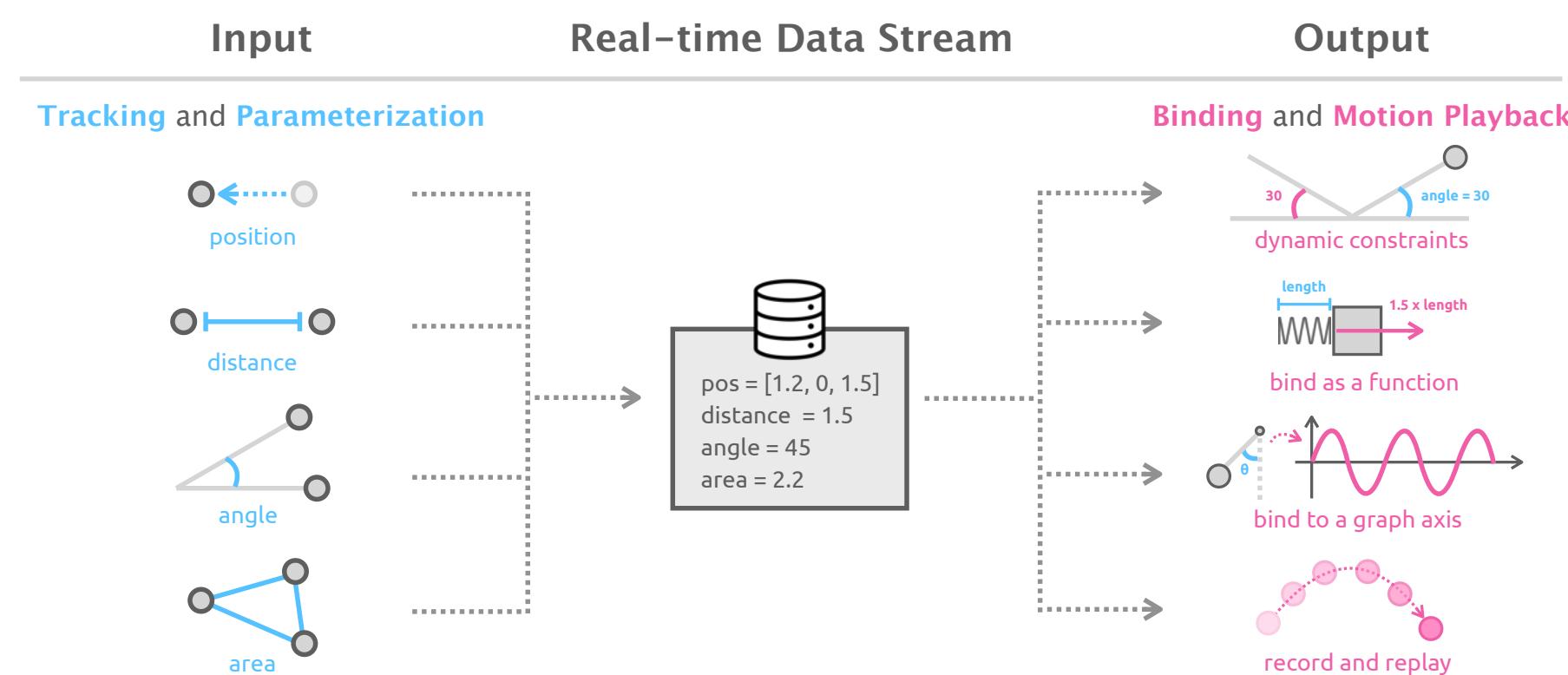


RealitySketch: Sketching Embedded and Responsive Graphics in Augmented Reality by [Suzuki](#), Habib, Wei, Diverdi and Leithinger

Inspiration

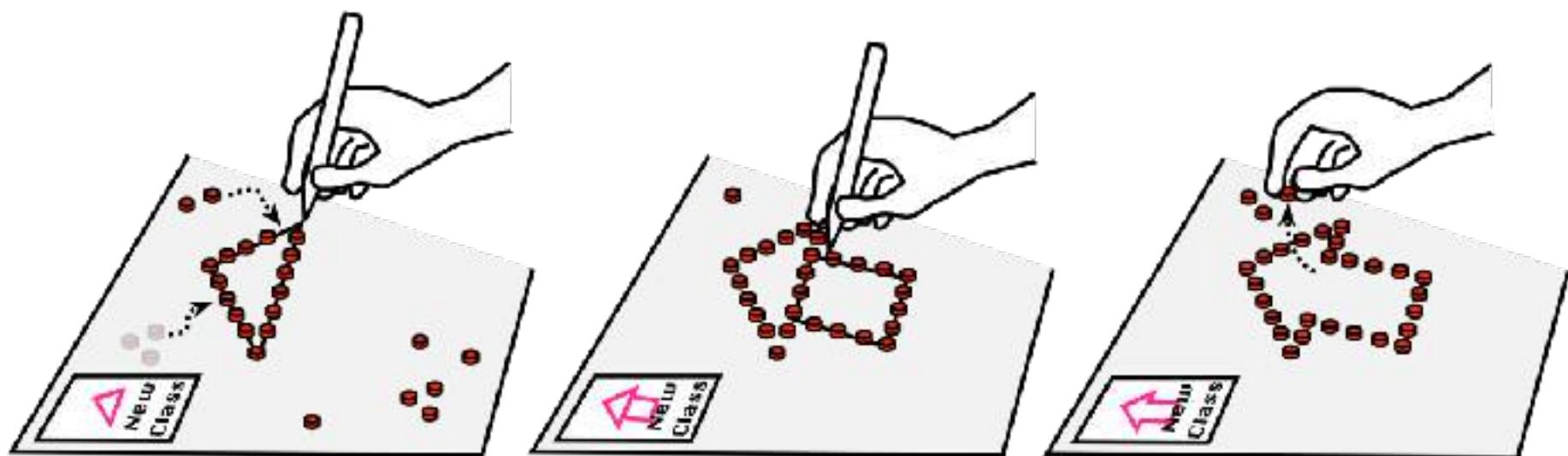
Constraint-based Programming

1. Define
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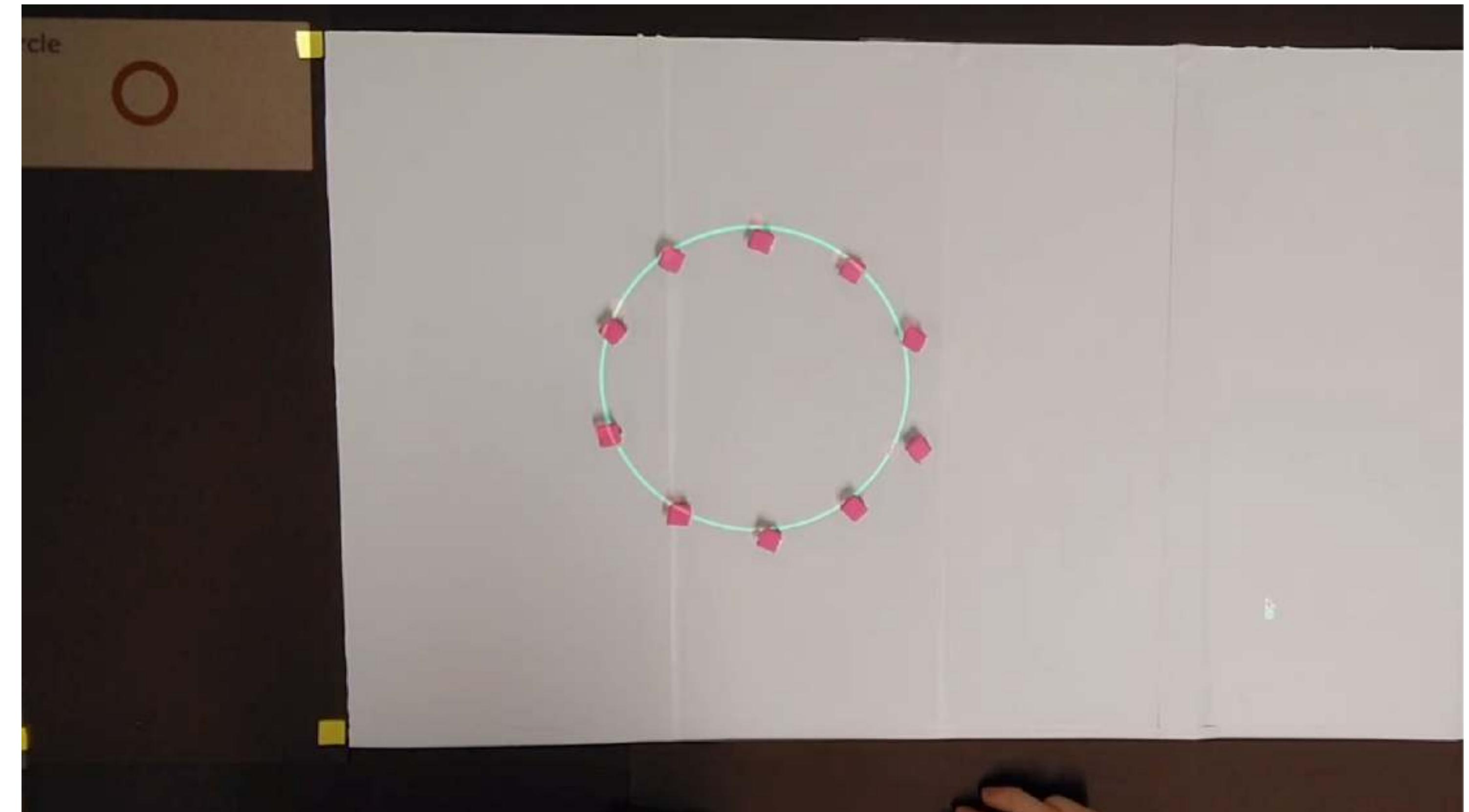
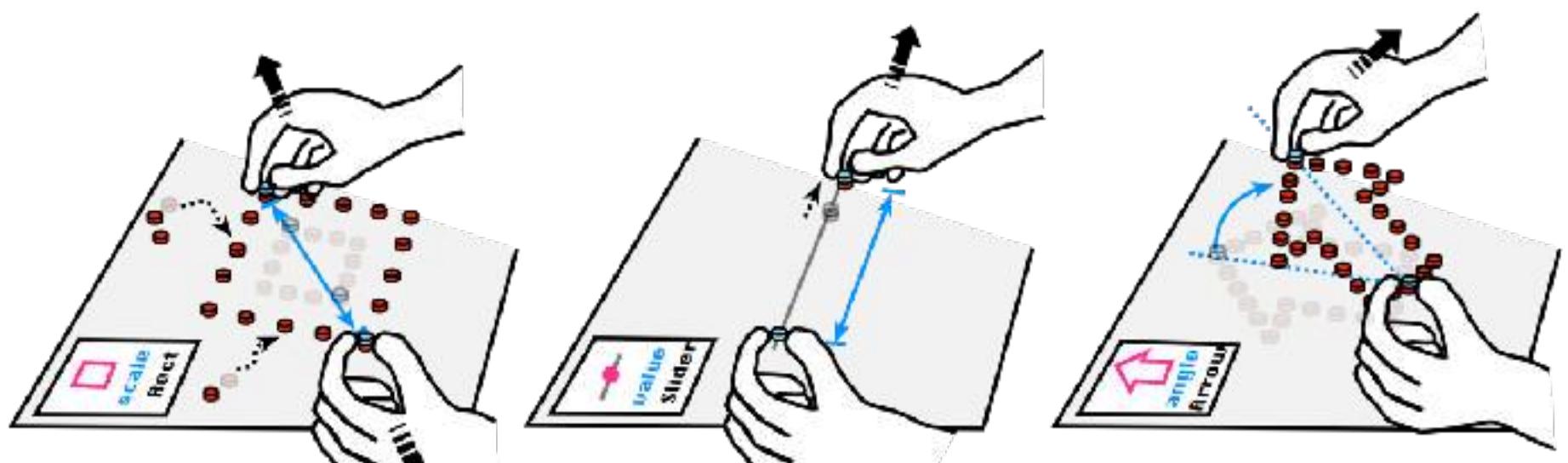
RealitySketch: Sketching Embedded and Responsive Graphics in Augmented Reality by [Suzuki](#), Habib, Wei, Diverdi and Leithinger

Step 1. Create a shape by sketching



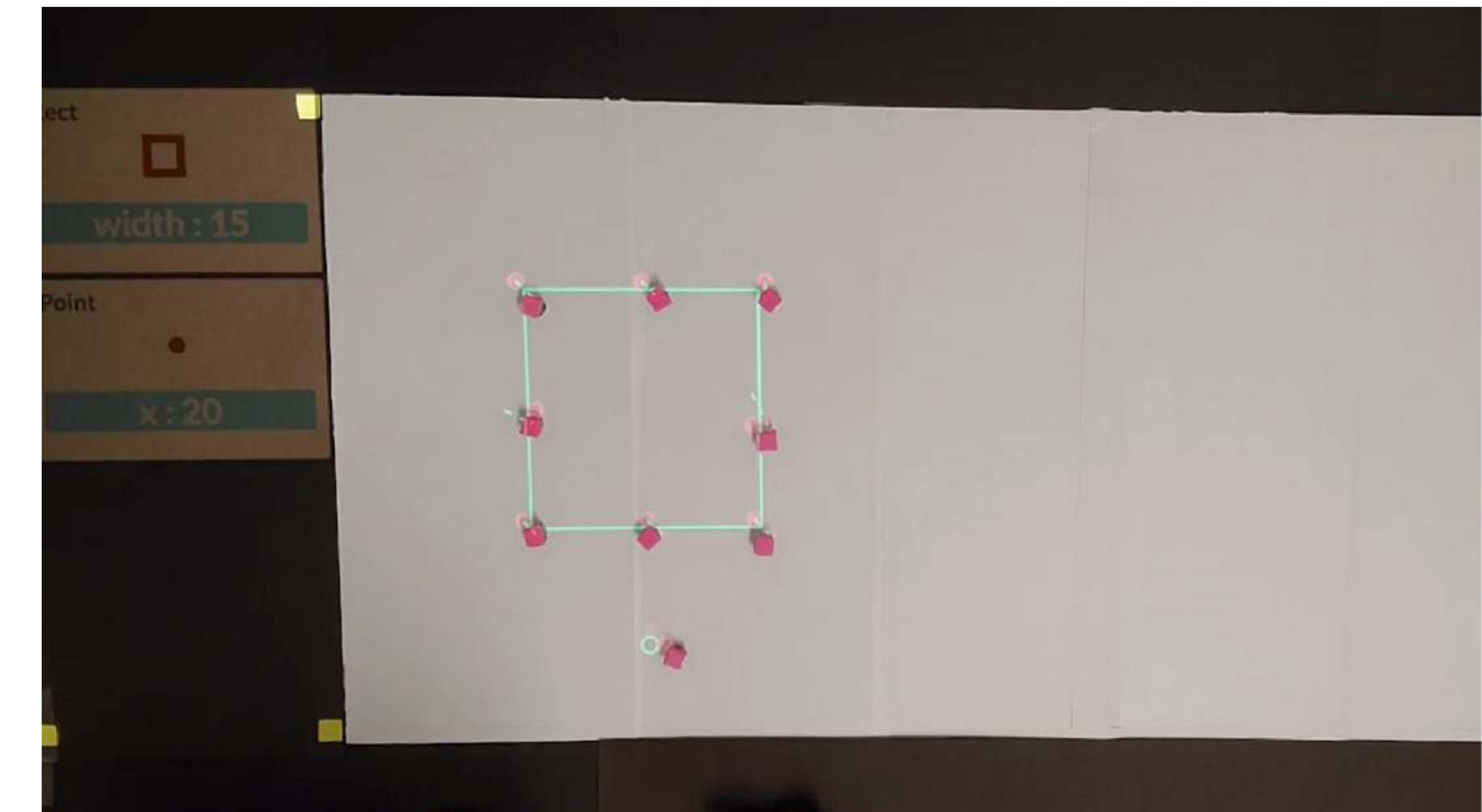
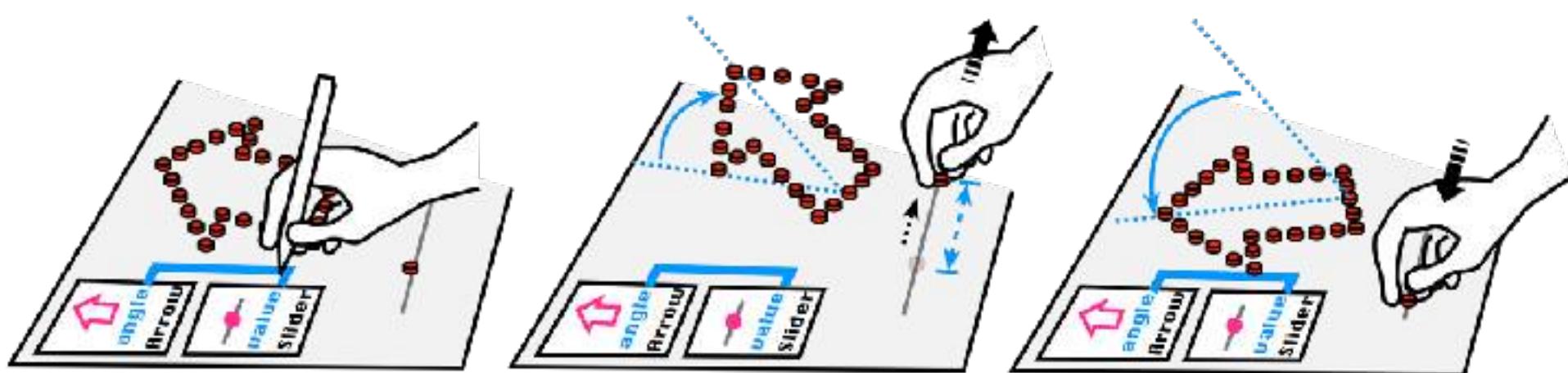
[CHI 2018] Reactile: Programming Swarm User Interfaces through Direct Physical Manipulation by [Suzuki](#), Kato, Gross, and Yeh

Step 2. Define a parameter to use it as a dynamic variable



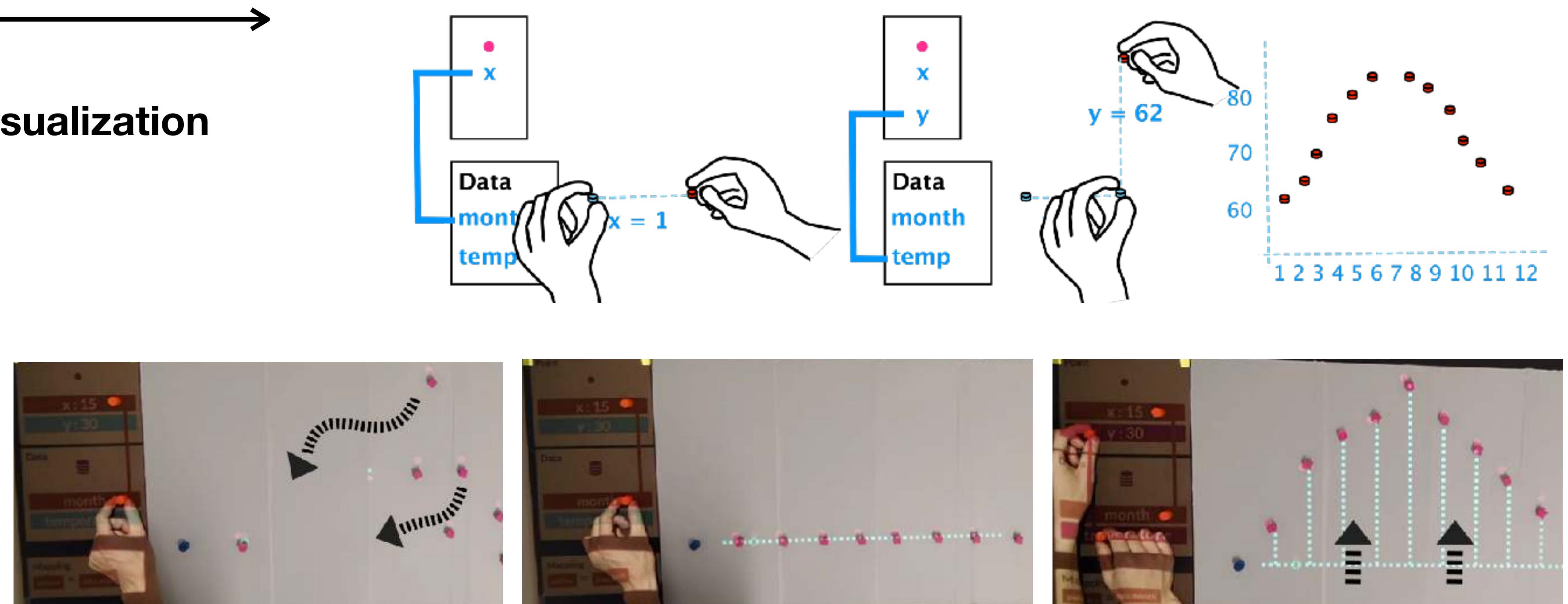
[CHI 2018] Reactile: Programming Swarm User Interfaces through Direct Physical Manipulation by [Suzuki](#), Kato, Gross, and Yeh

**Step 3. Bind two parameters
to make the shape dynamic**



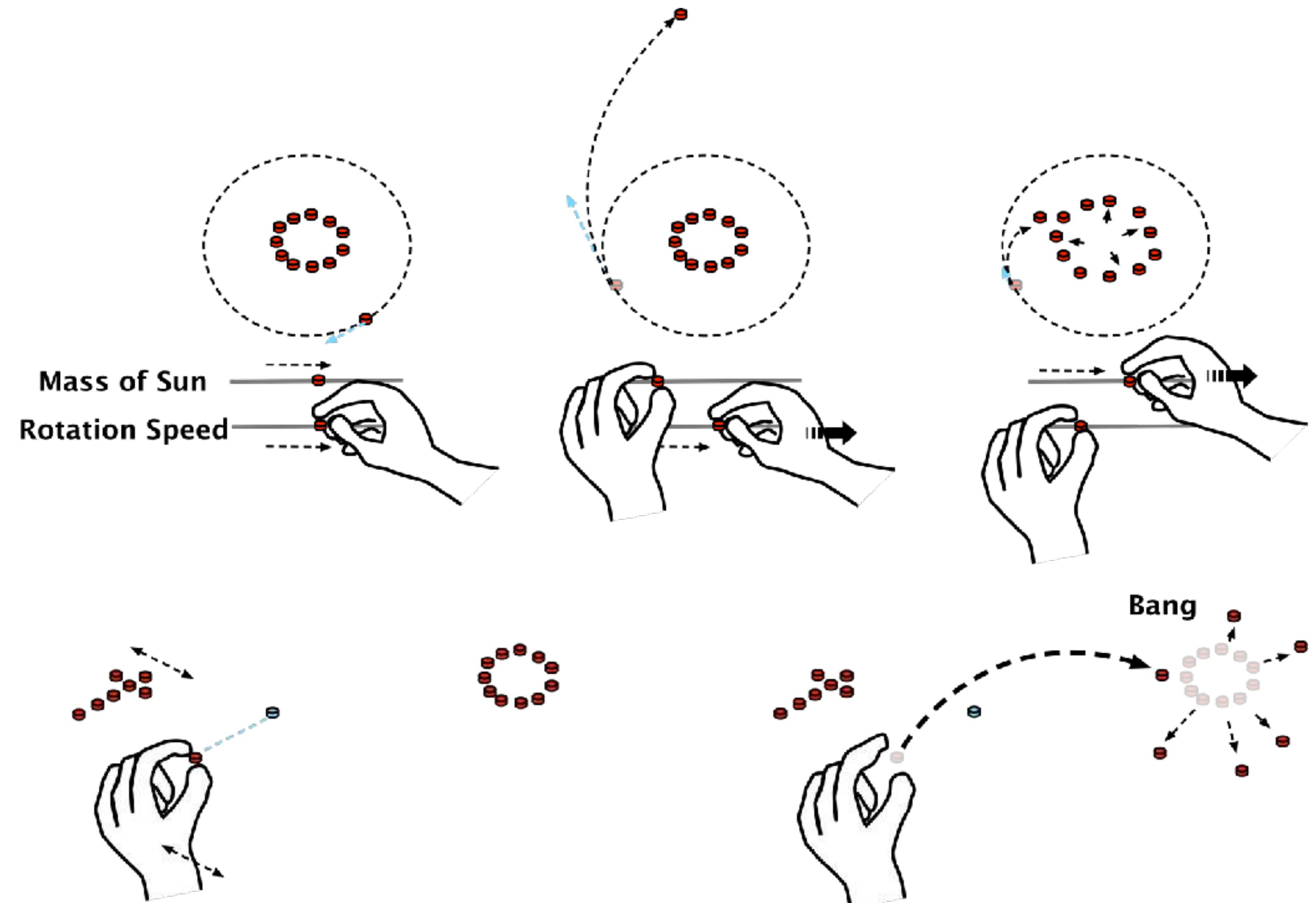
[CHI 2018] *Reactile: Programming Swarm User Interfaces through Direct Physical Manipulation* by [Suzuki](#), Kato, Gross, and Yeh

Example:
Creation of dynamic data visualization



[CHI 2018] Reactile: Programming Swarm User Interfaces through Direct Physical Manipulation by [Suzuki](#), Kato, Gross, and Yeh

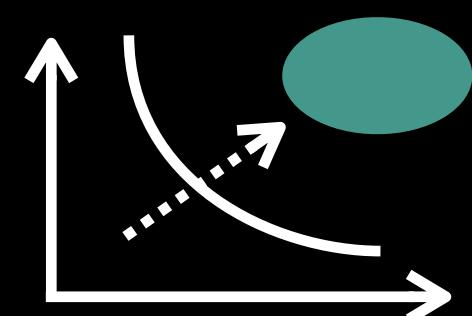
Example:
**Creation of dynamic data visualization
or interactive simulation, gaming, etc**



[CHI 2018] Reactile: Programming Swarm User Interfaces through Direct Physical Manipulation by [Suzuki](#), Kato, Gross, and Yeh

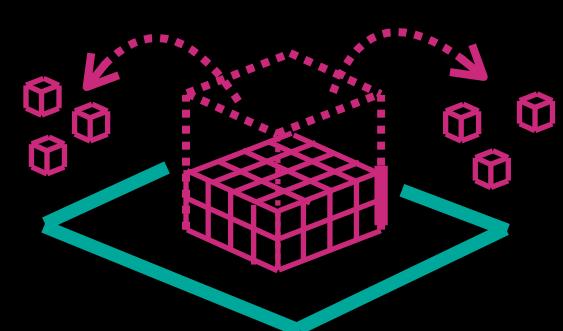
Background

Why This Approach?



Concept

What is
Dynamic and Collective
Shape Construction?

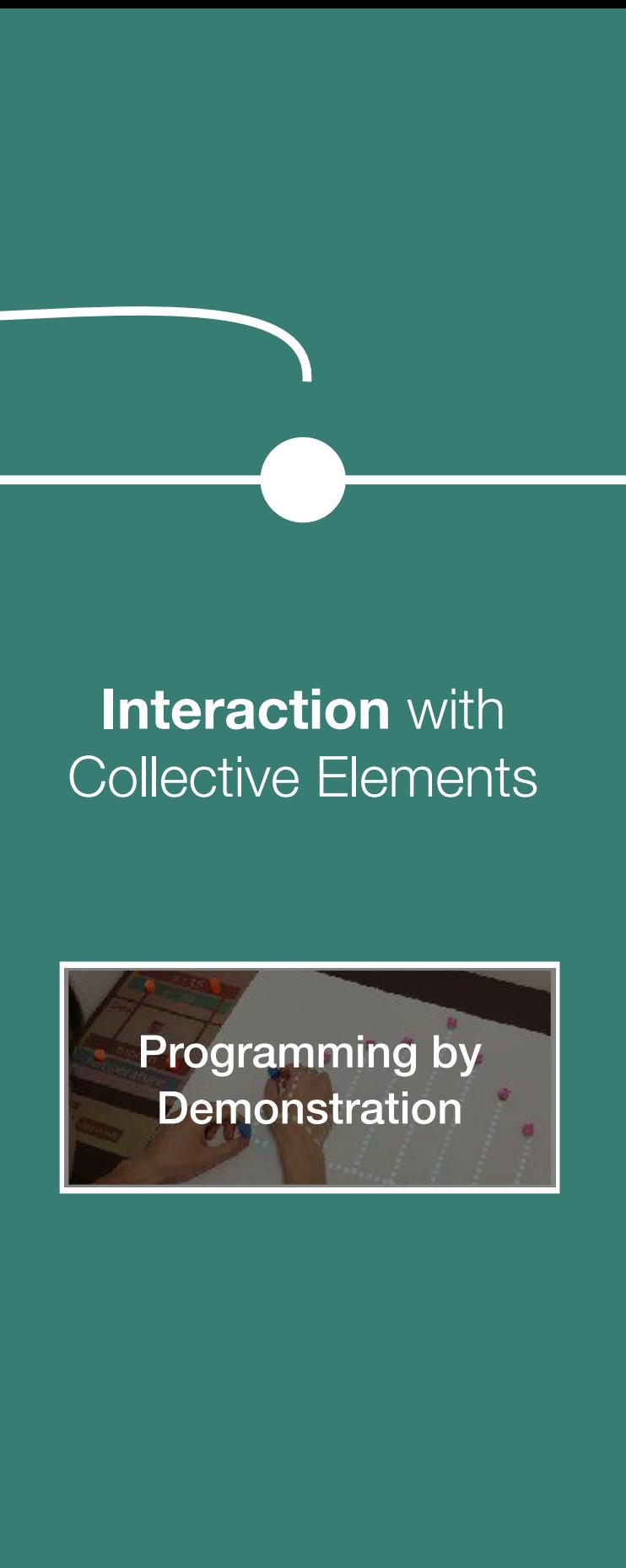
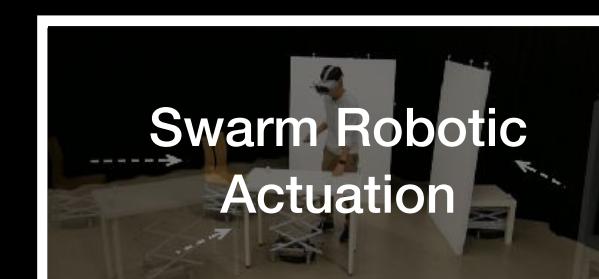


Shape Construction
with **Active** Elements



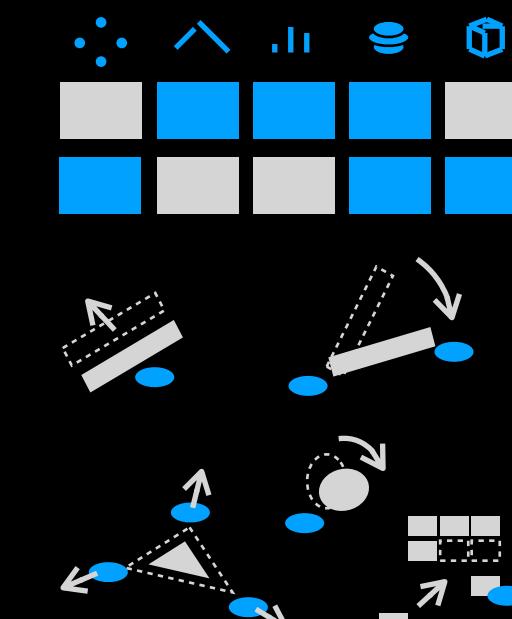
Explorations

Shape Construction
with **Passive** Elements



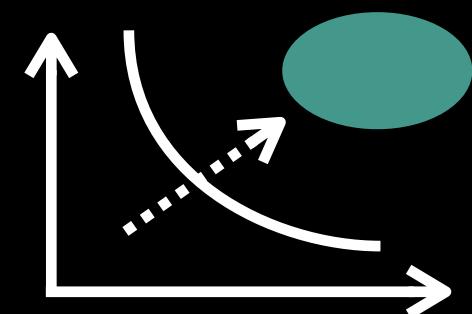
Discussion

What's Next?



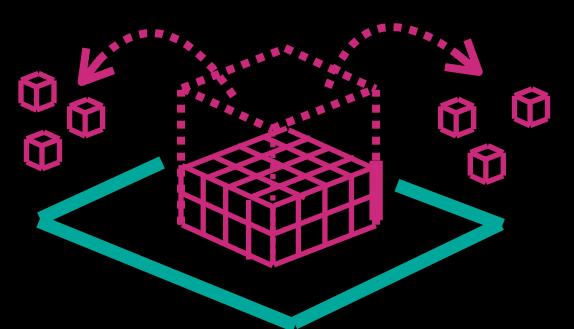
Background

Why This Approach?



Concept

What is
Dynamic and Collective
Shape Construction?



Shape Construction
with **Active** Elements

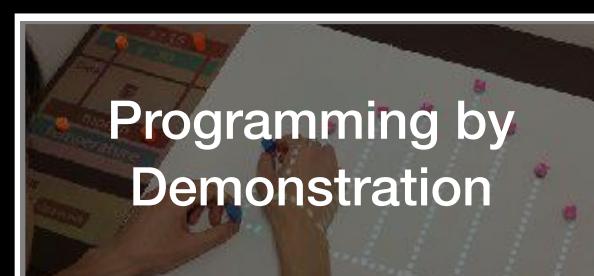


Explorations

Shape Construction
with **Passive** Elements

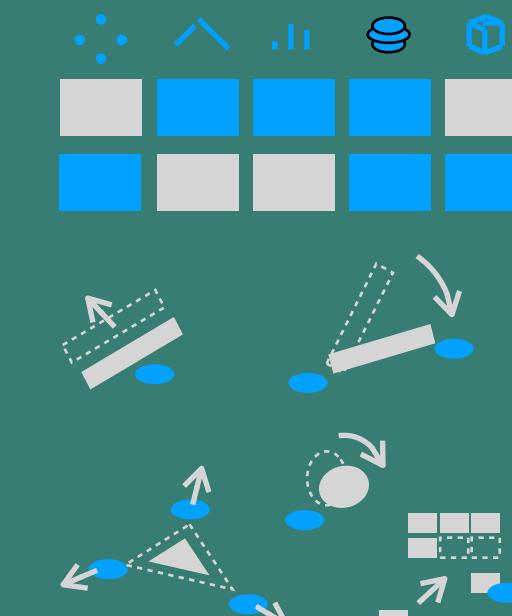


Interaction with
Collective Elements



Discussion

What's Next?



Discussion and Design Implications

1 - Active Collective Elements

How can we combine individual transformation as building blocks for various representations?

2 - Passive Collective Elements

How can we combine both active and passive elements to construct a dynamic shape?

3 - Collective Actuation

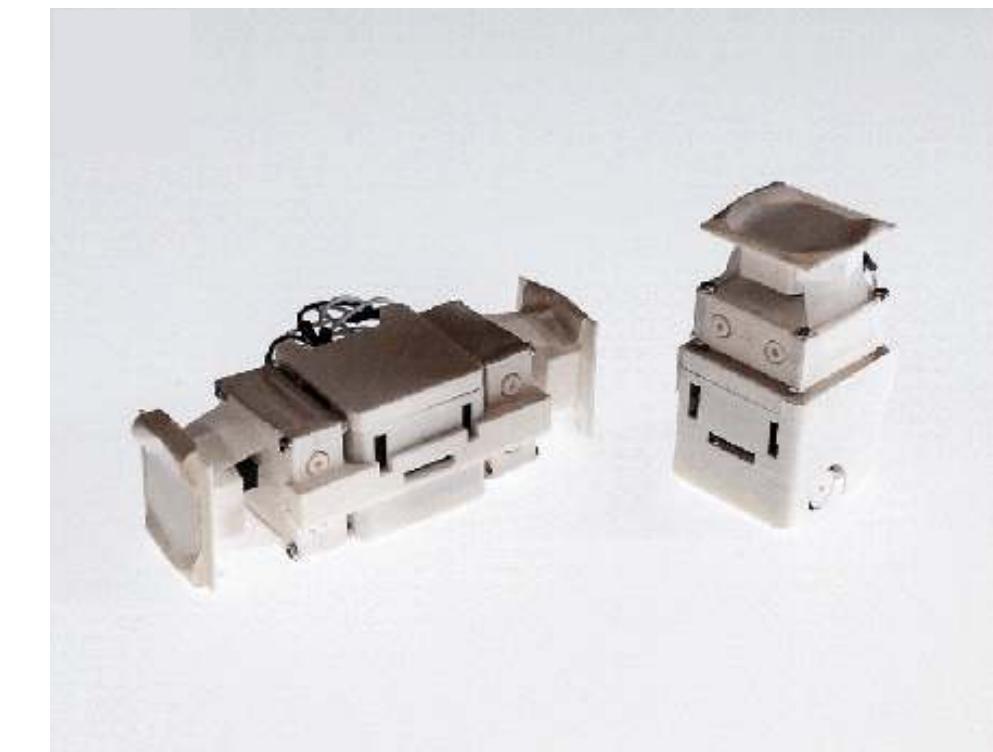
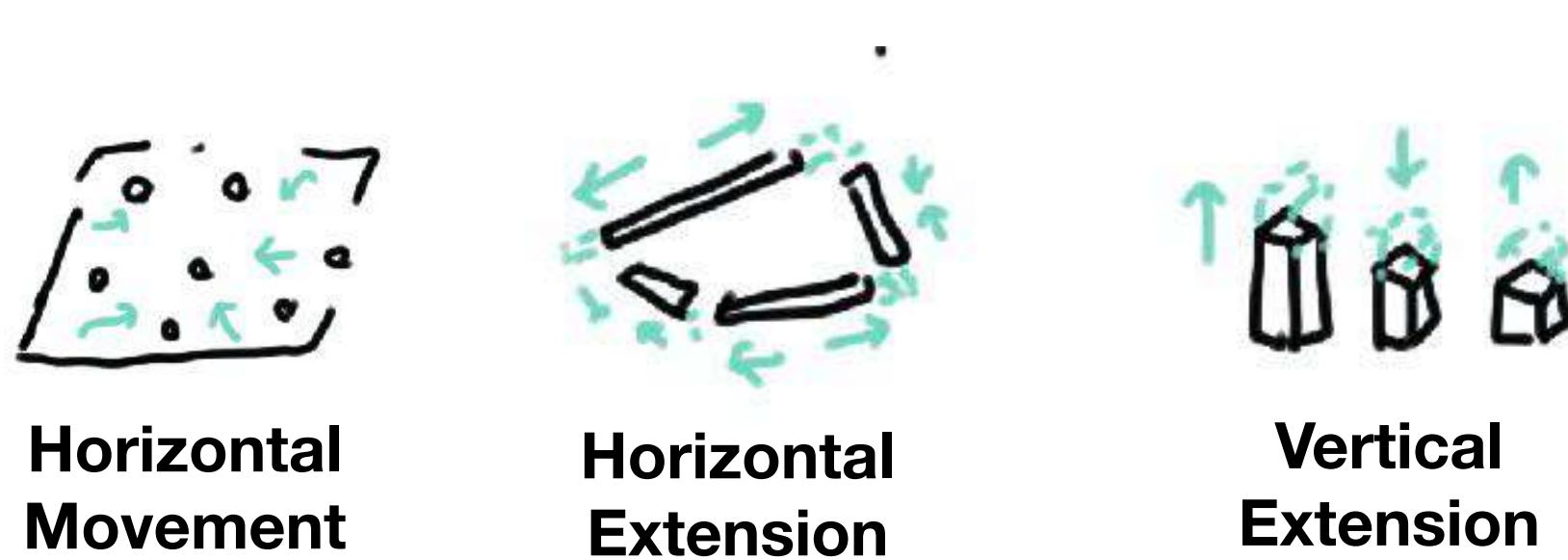
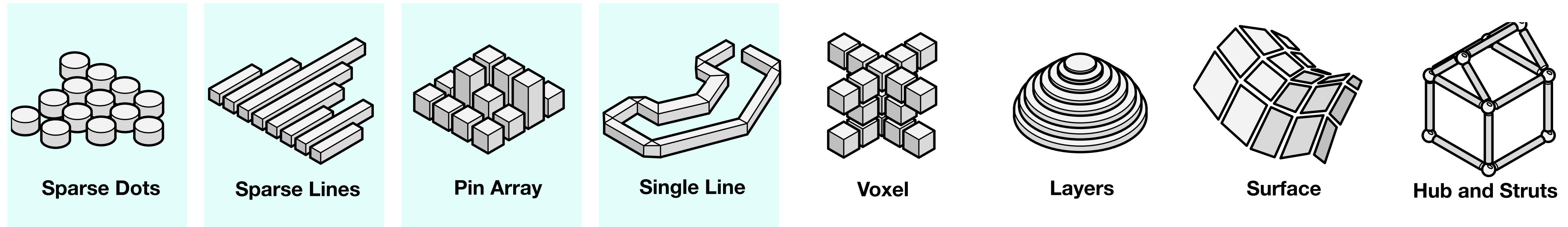
How can we leverage multiple active elements to collectively actuate passive materials?

1 - Active Collective Elements

How can we combine individual transformation as **building blocks** for various representations?

Active Collective Elements

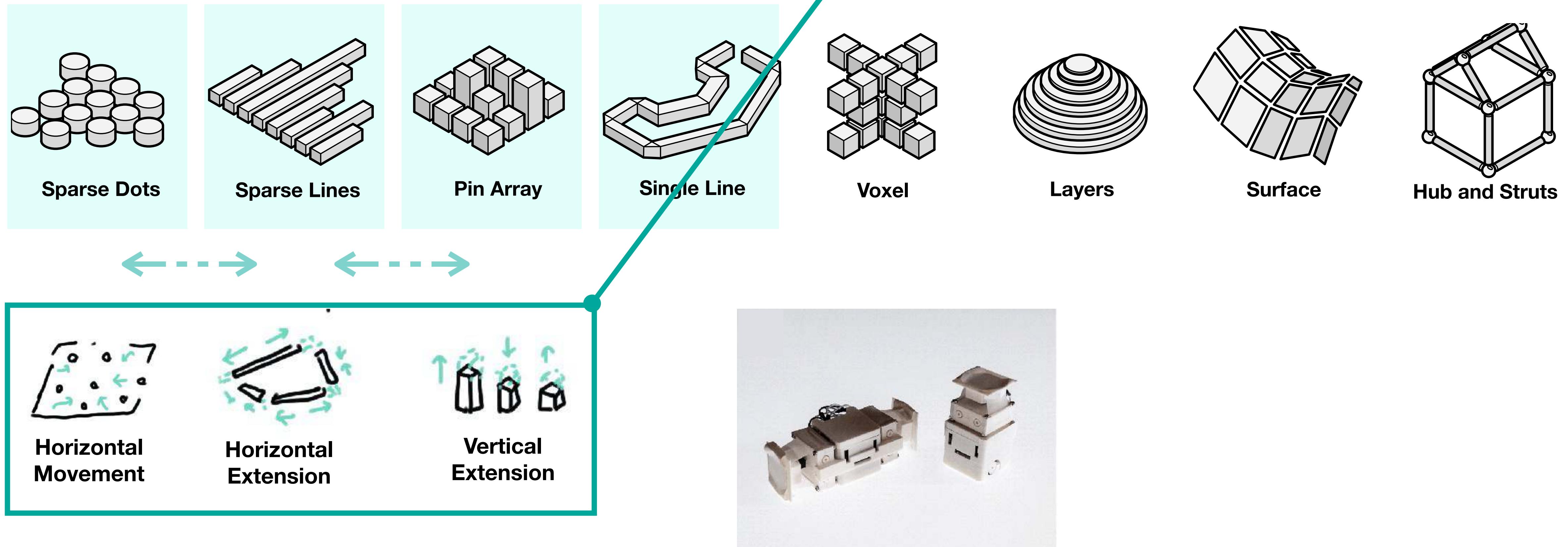
How can we combine individual transformation as **building blocks** for various representations?



Case Study: ShapeBots

Active Collective Elements

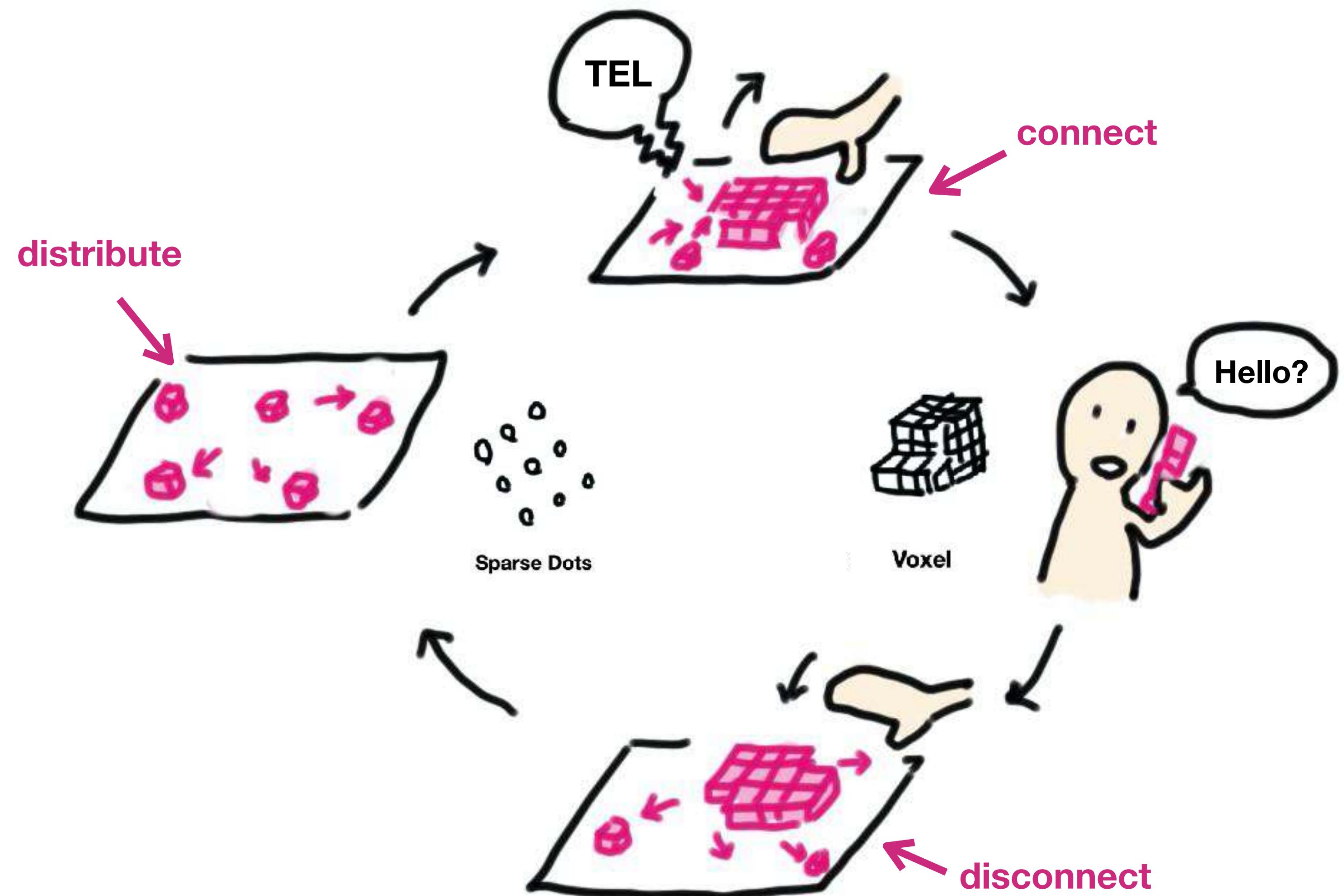
How can we combine individual transformation as **building blocks** for various representations?



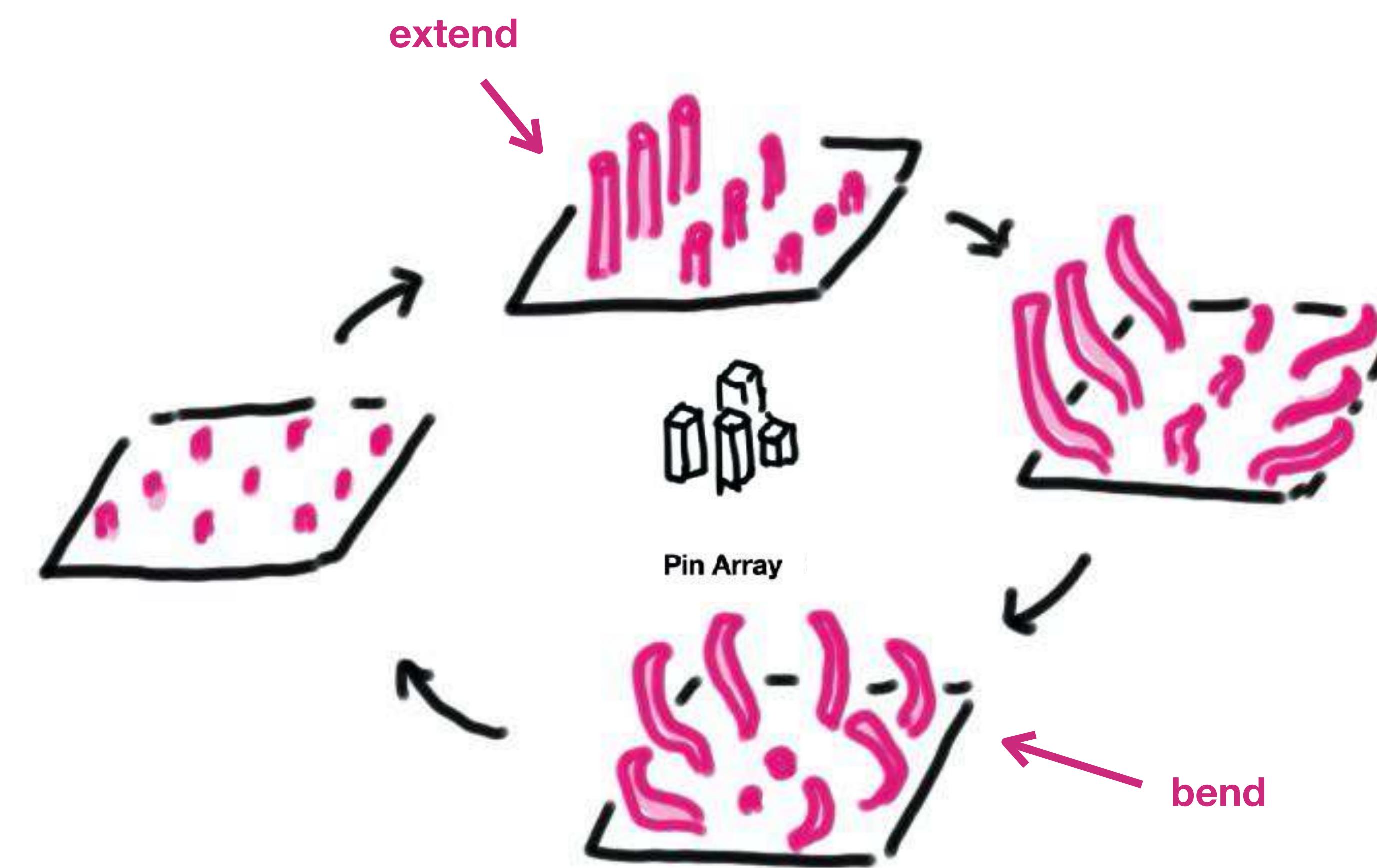
Active Collective Elements

How can we combine individual transformation as **building blocks** for various representations?

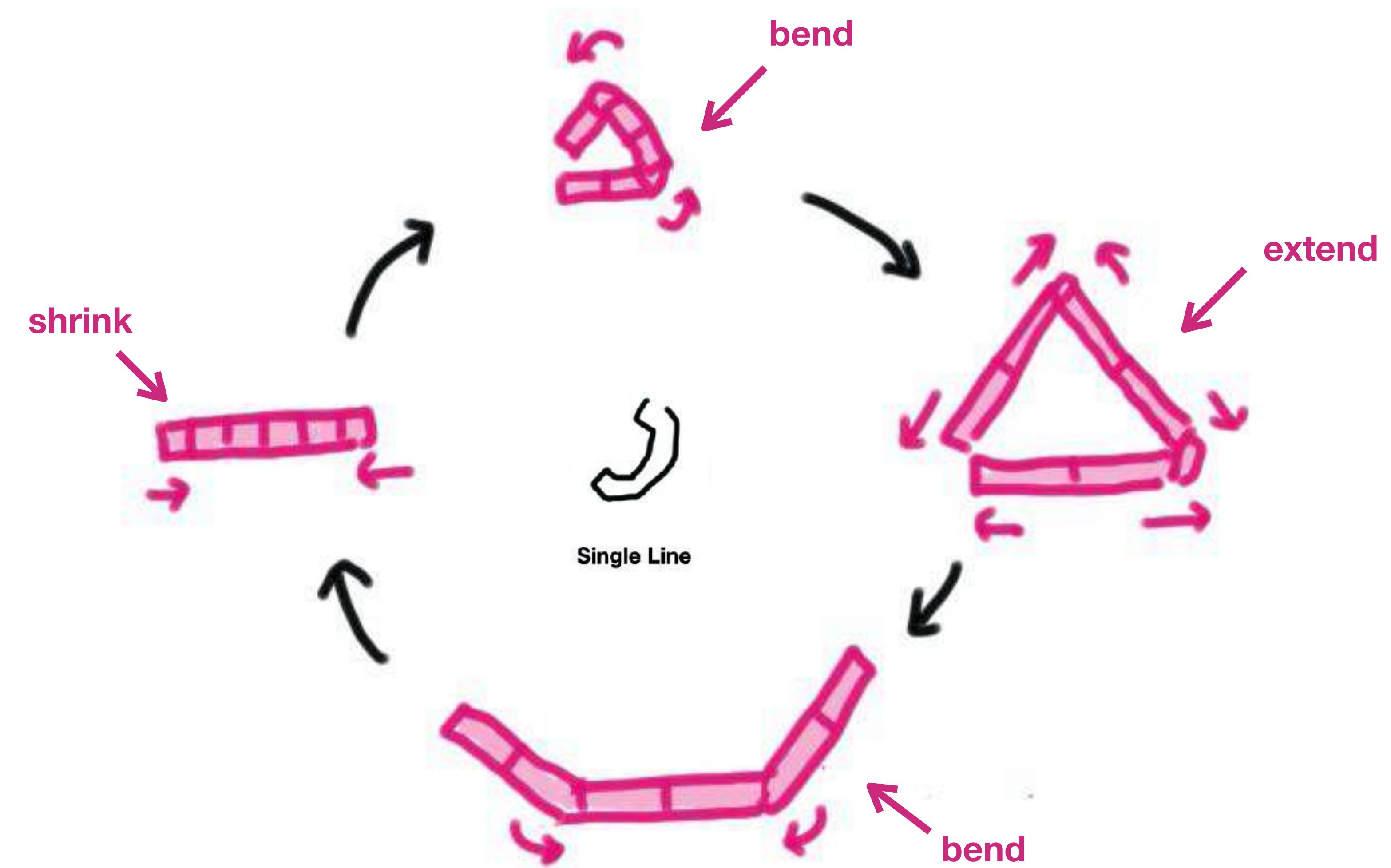


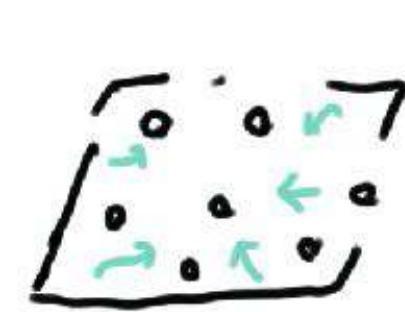


● : Active Elements



● : Active Elements





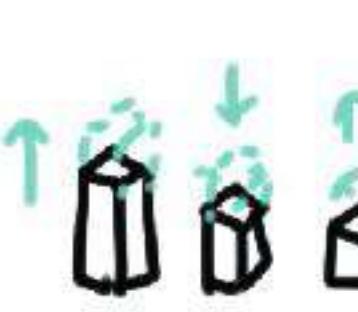
Horizontal Movement



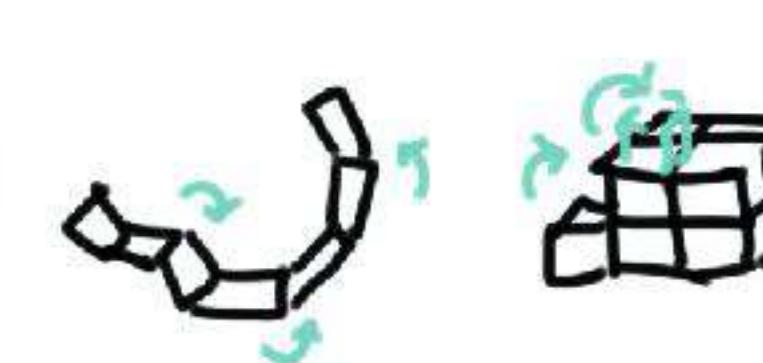
Vertical Movement



Horizontal Extension



Vertical Extension



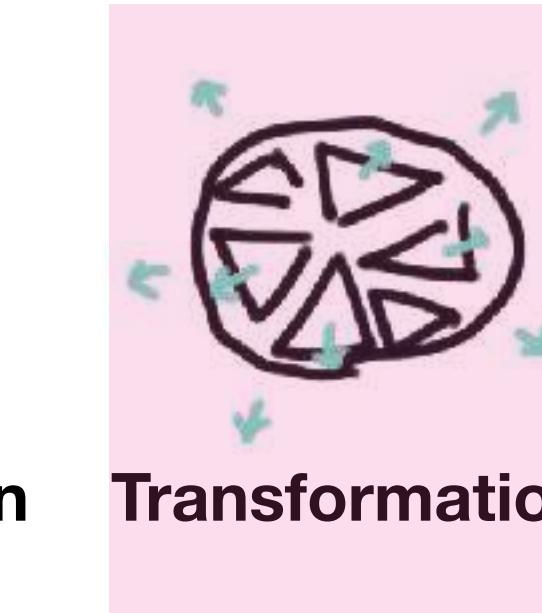
Bending



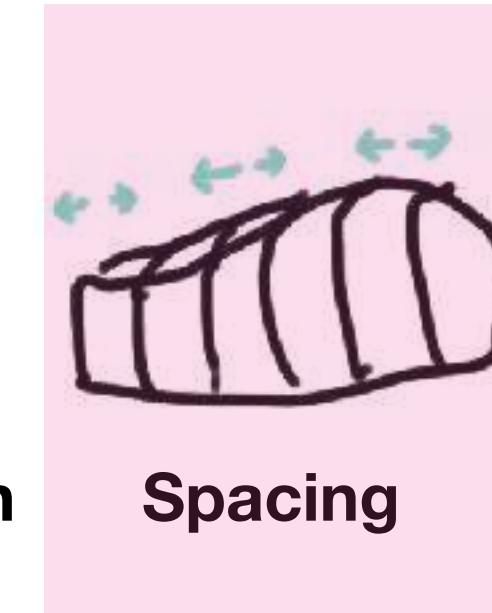
Climbing



Connection



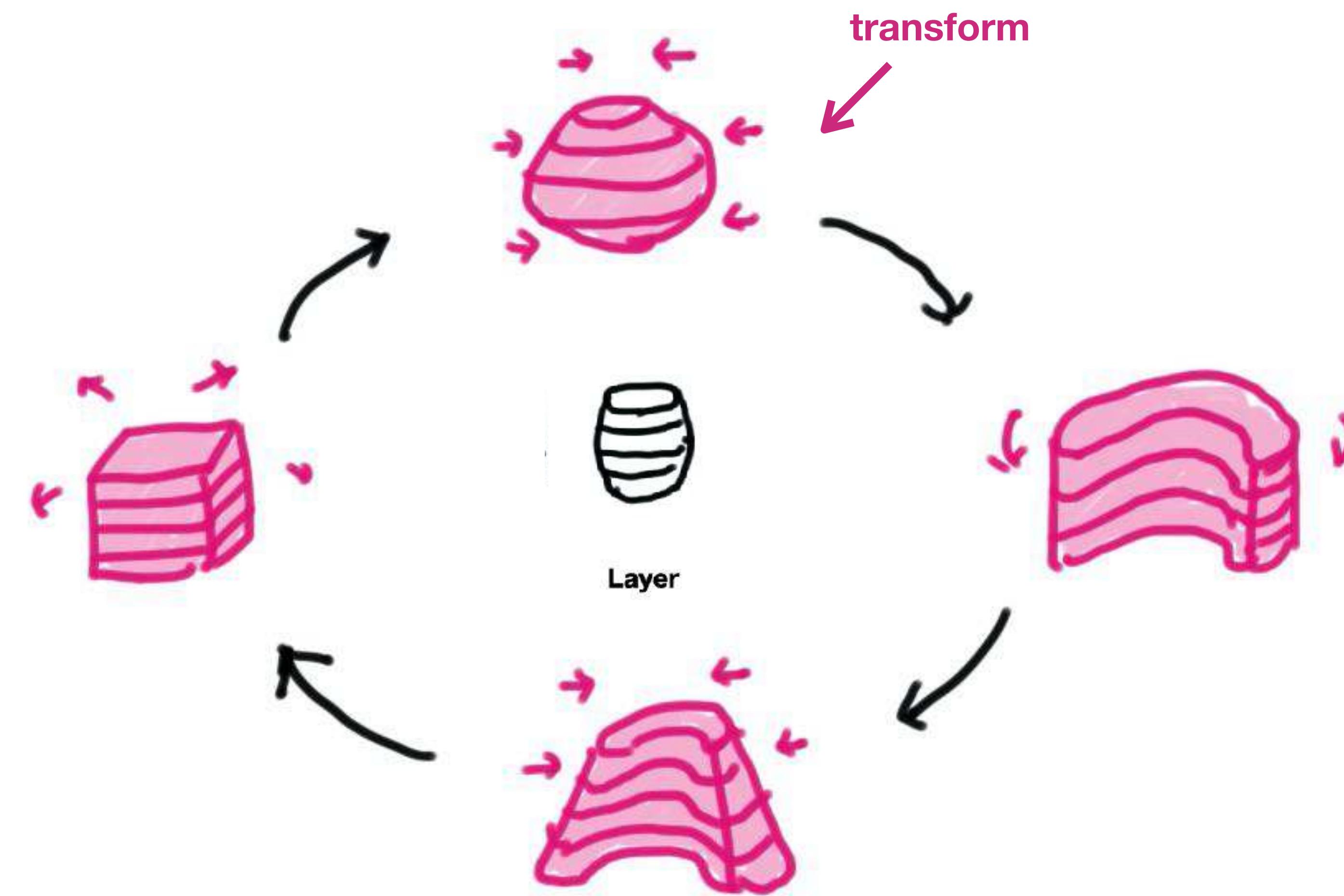
Transformation



Spacing



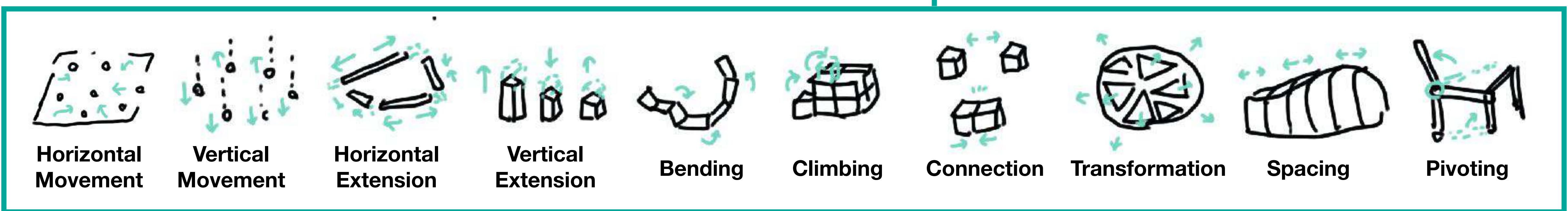
Pivoting



● : Active Elements

Active Collective Elements

How can we combine individual transformation as building blocks for various representations?

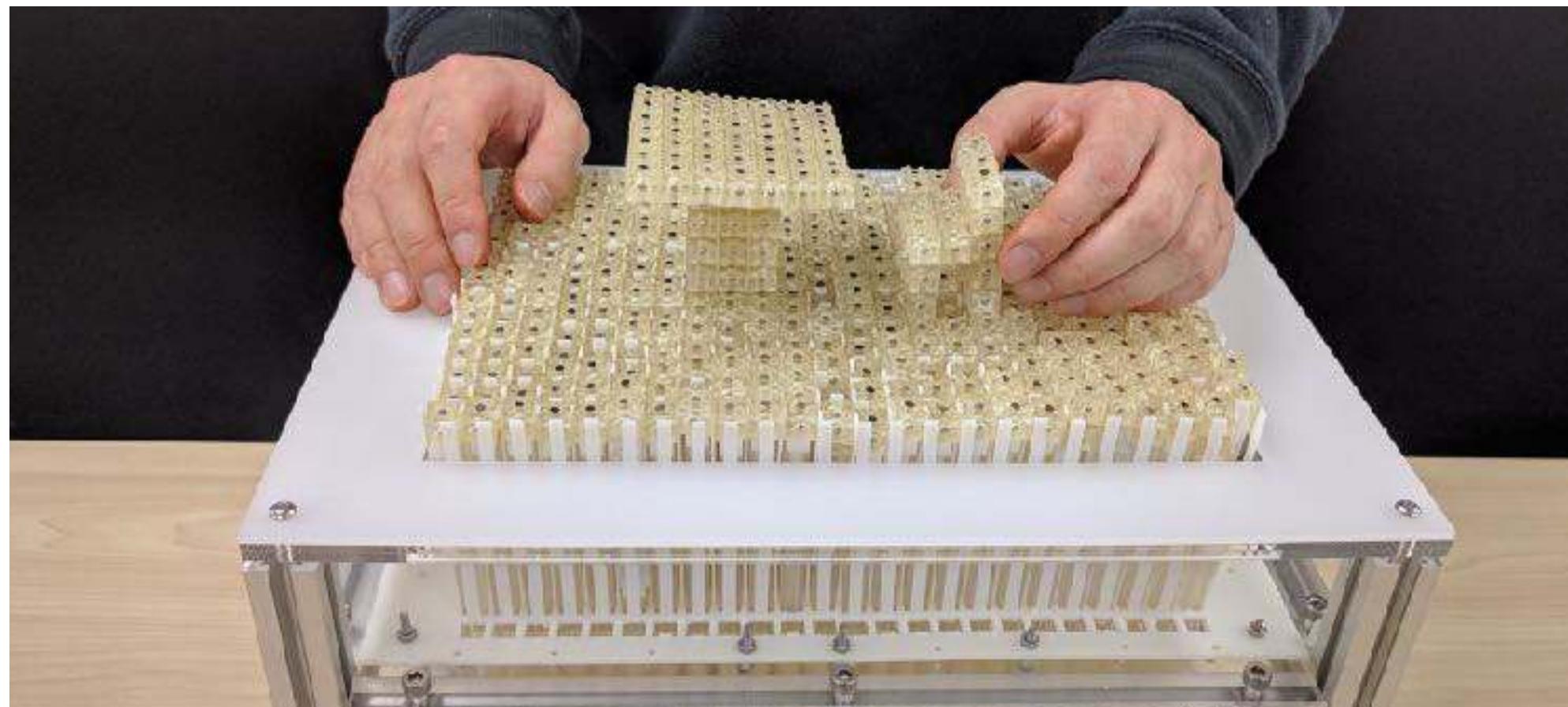


2 - Passive Collective Elements

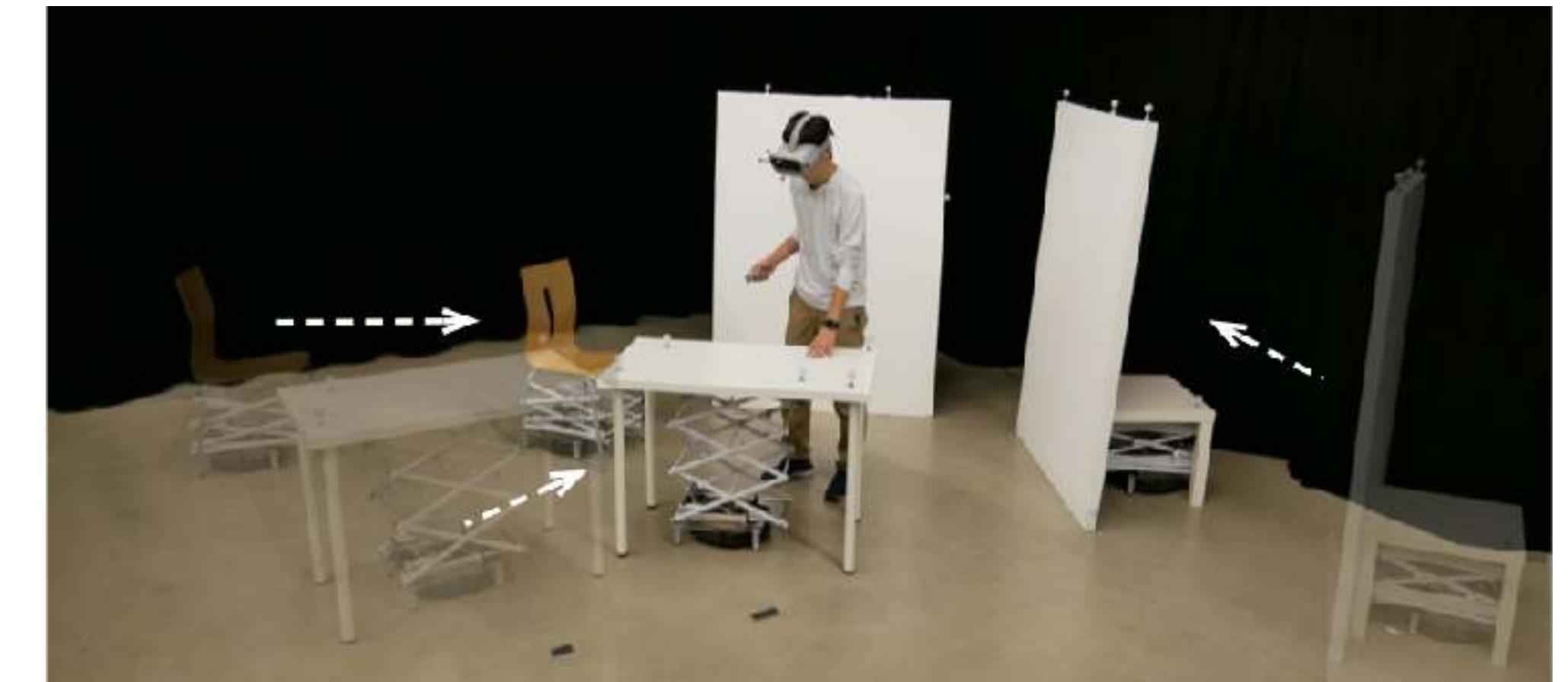
How can we combine both **active** and **passive** elements to construct a dynamic shape?

Passive Collective Elements

How can we combine both **active** and **passive** elements to construct a dynamic shape?



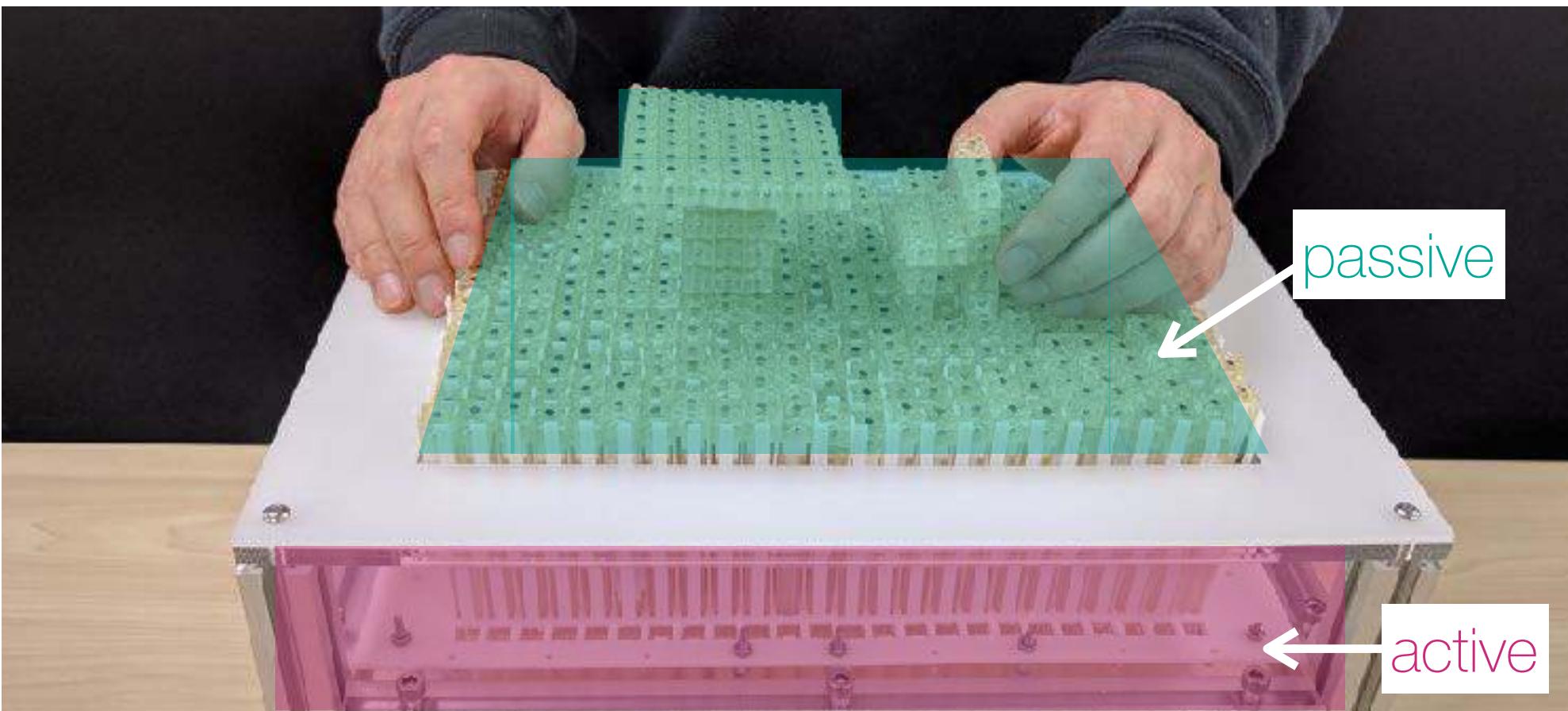
Case Study: **Dynablock**



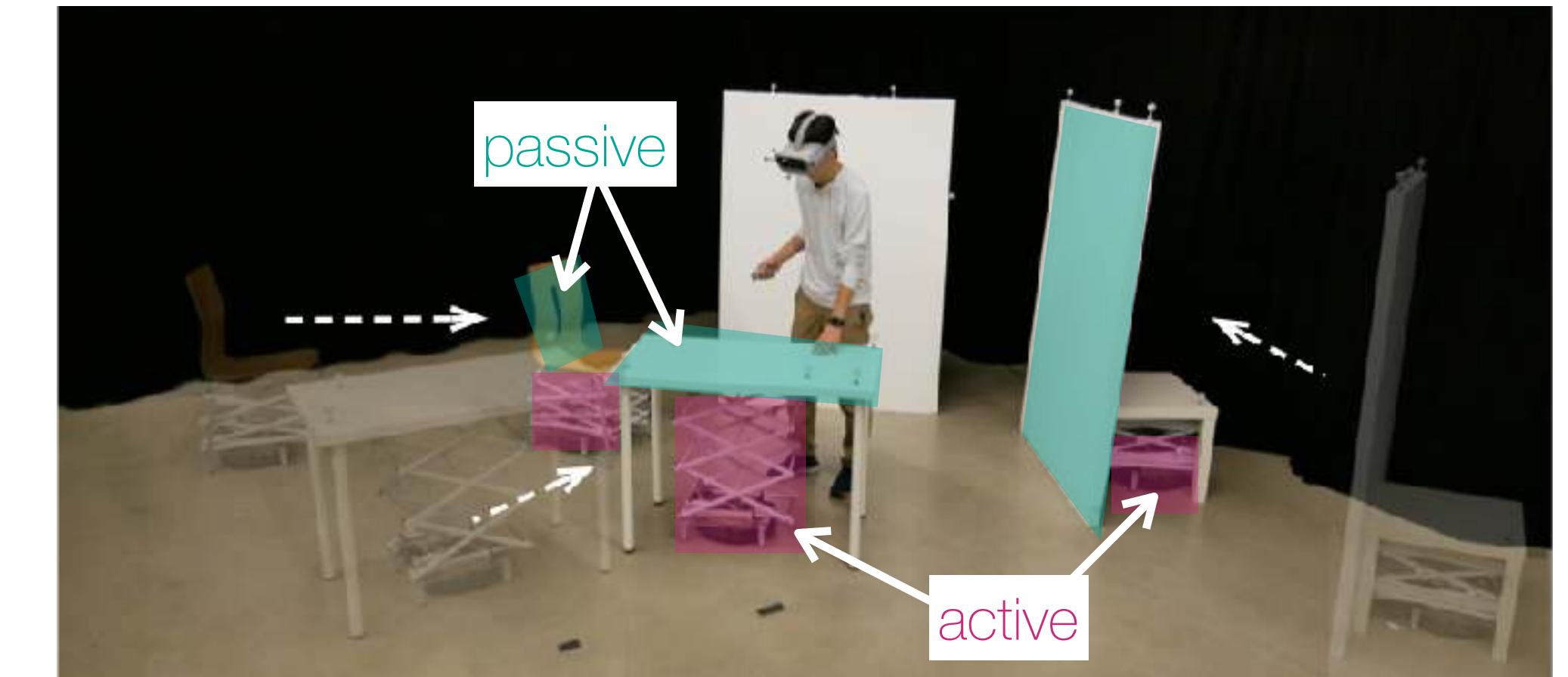
Case Study: **RoomShift**

Passive Collective Elements

How can we combine both **active** and **passive** elements to construct a dynamic shape?



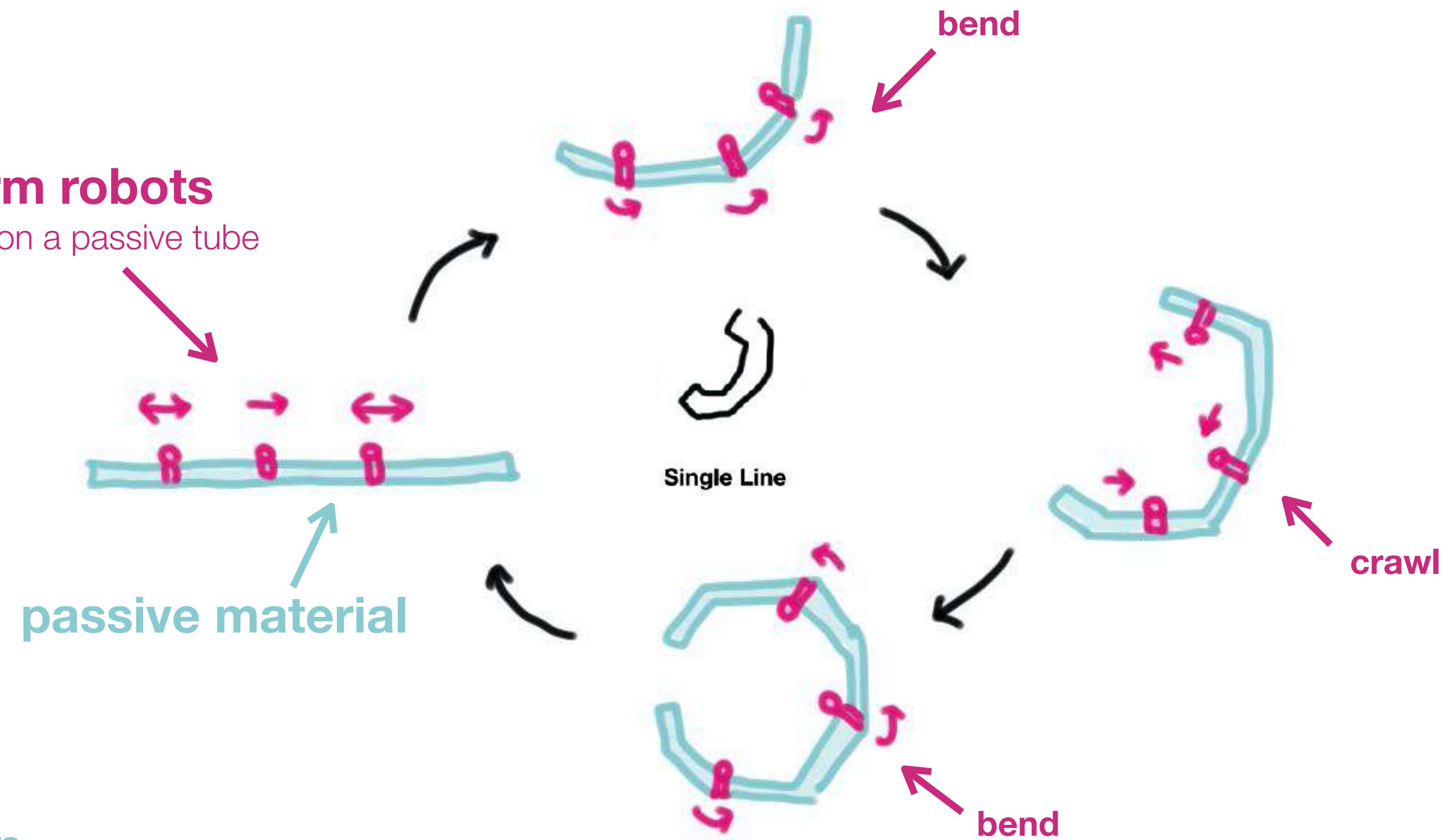
Case Study: **Dynablock**

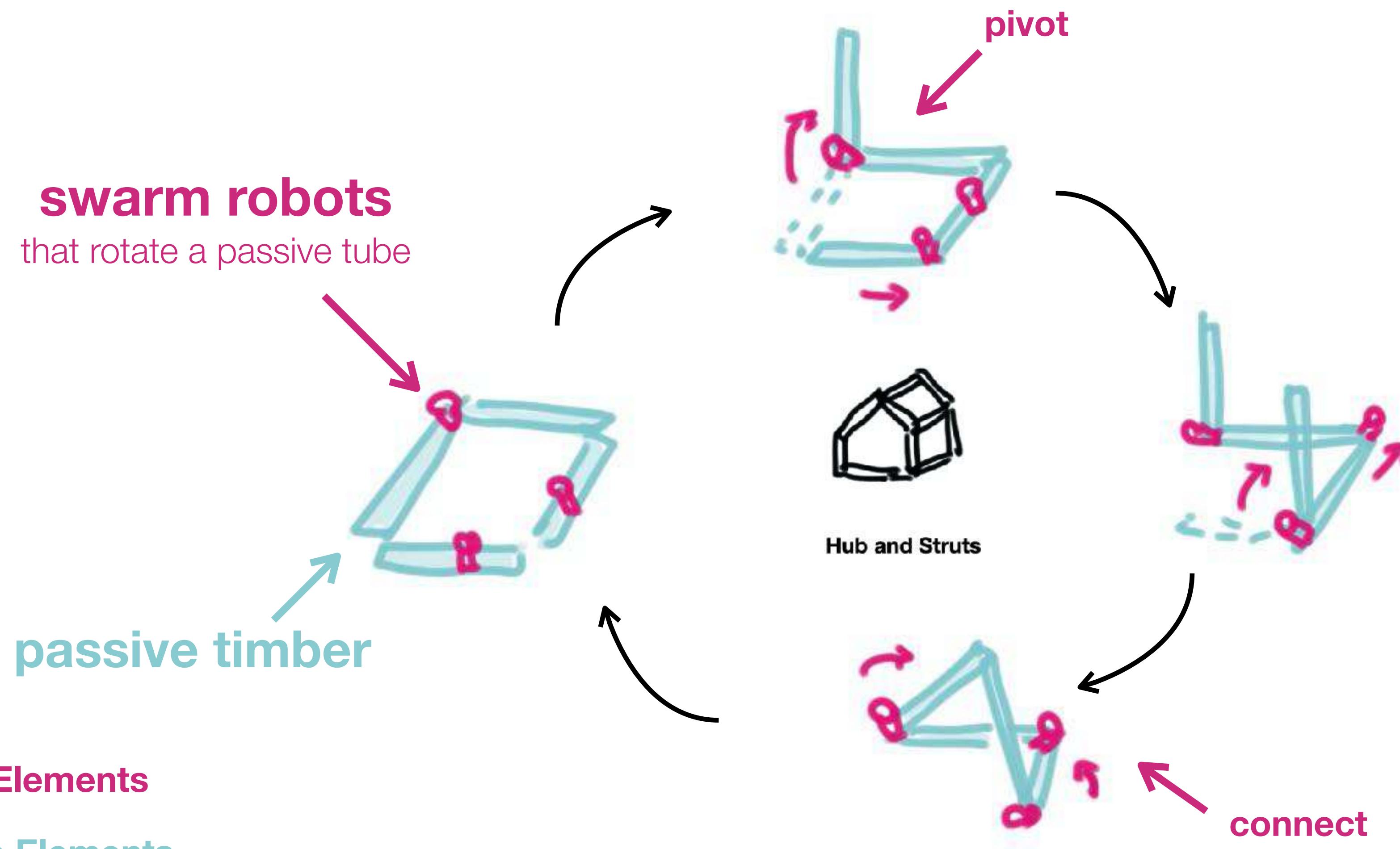
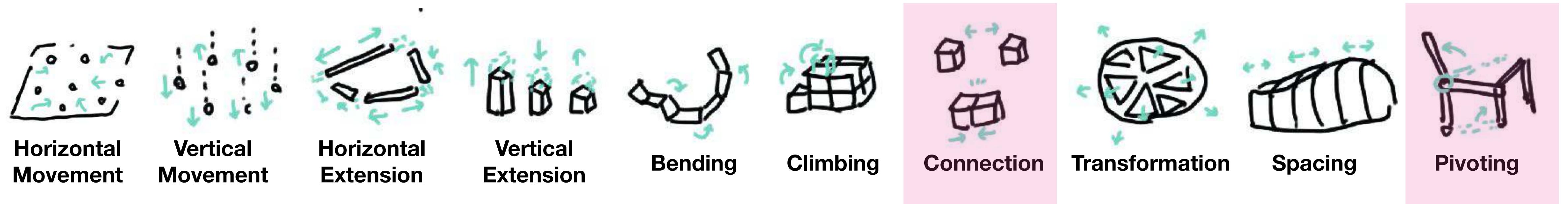


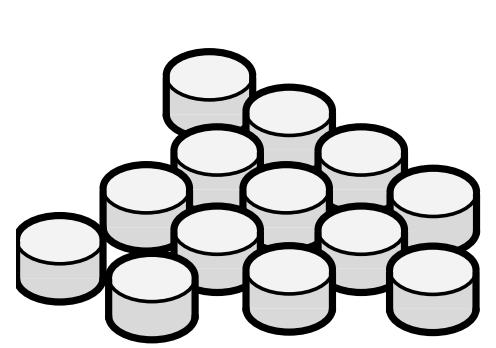
Case Study: **RoomShift**



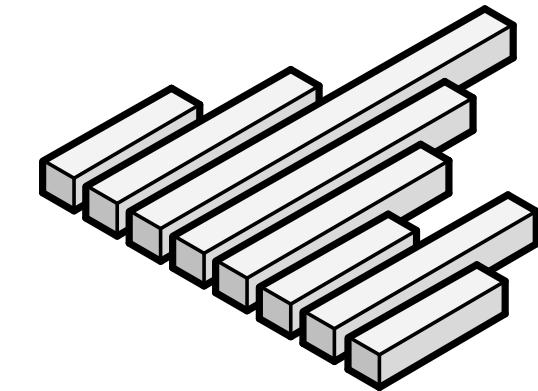
swarm robots
that crawl on a passive tube



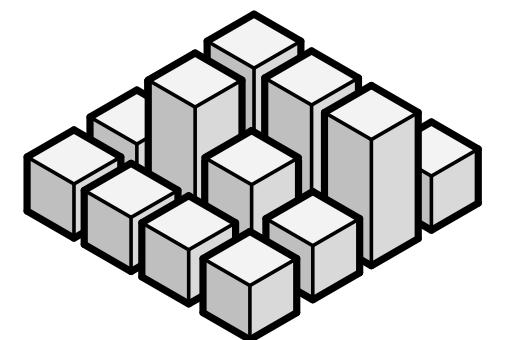




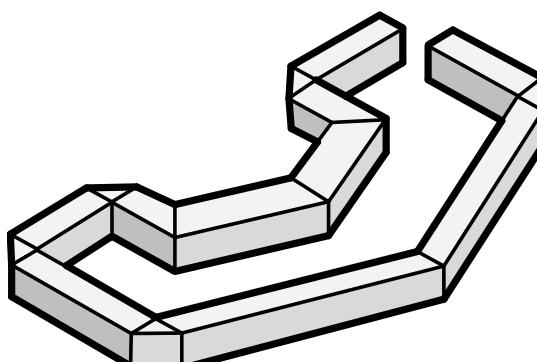
Sparse Dots



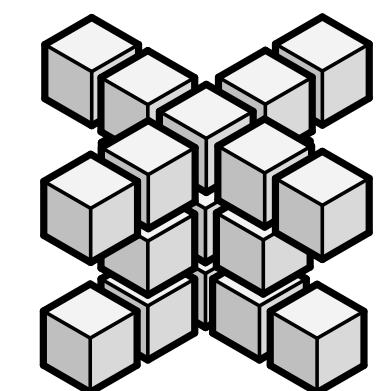
Sparse Lines



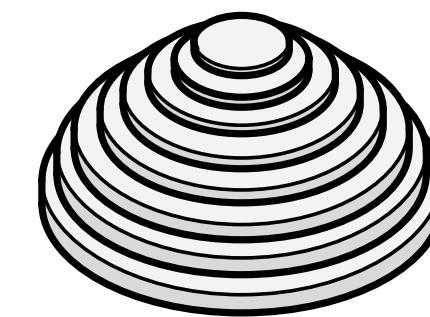
Pin Array



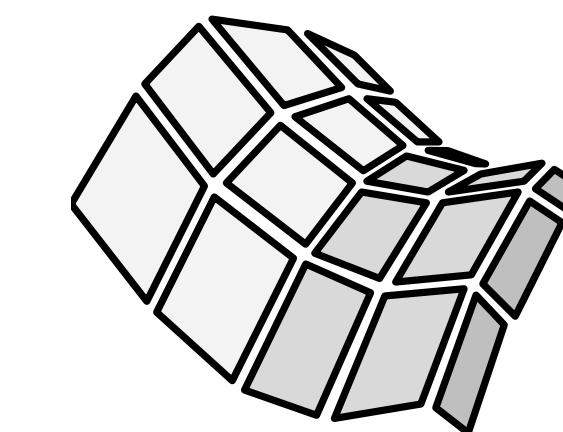
Single Line



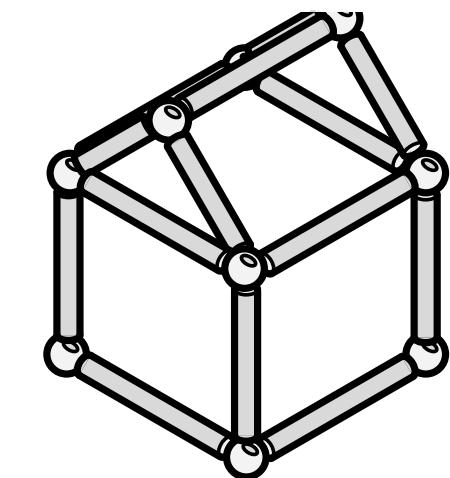
Voxel



Layers

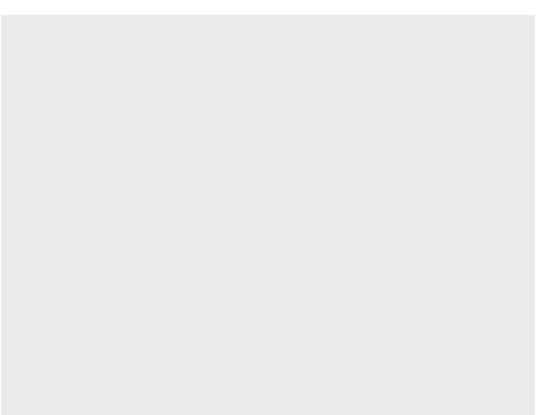
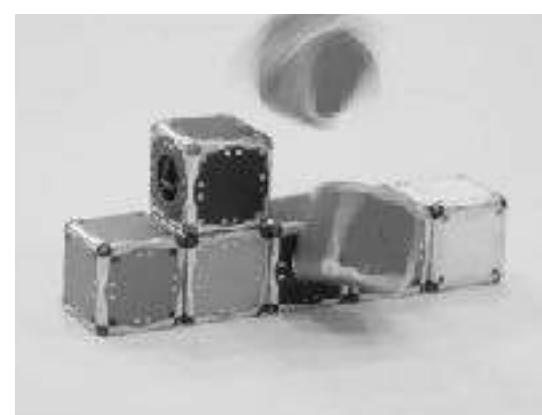
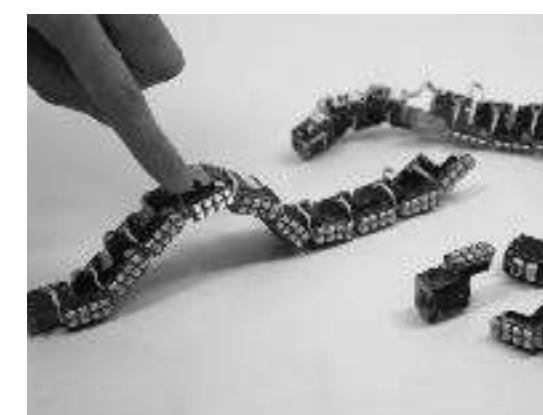
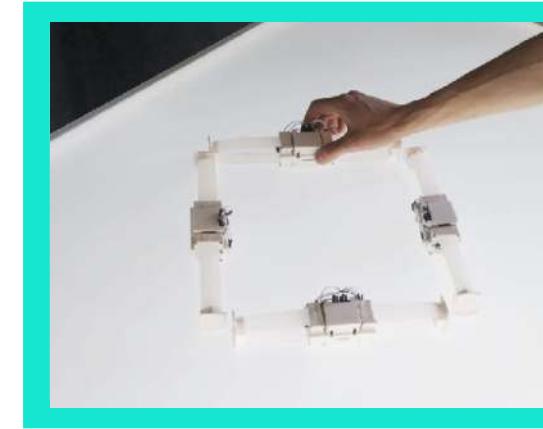


Surface

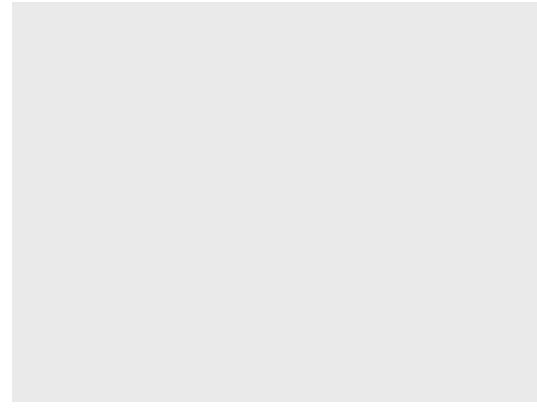
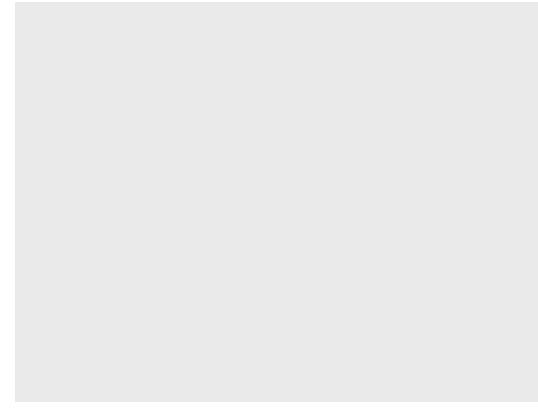
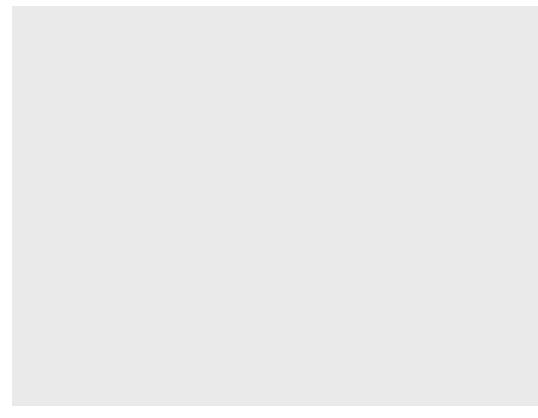
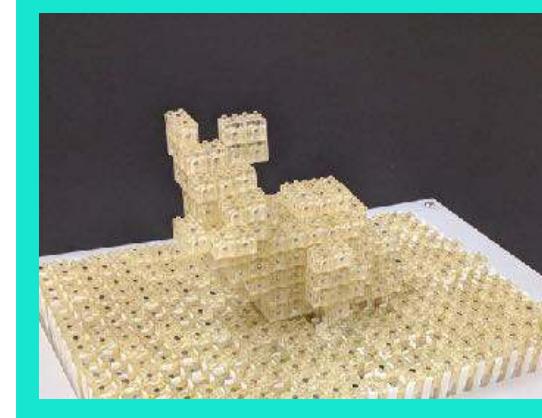
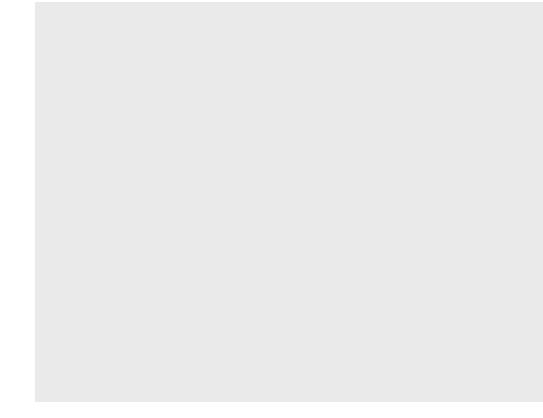
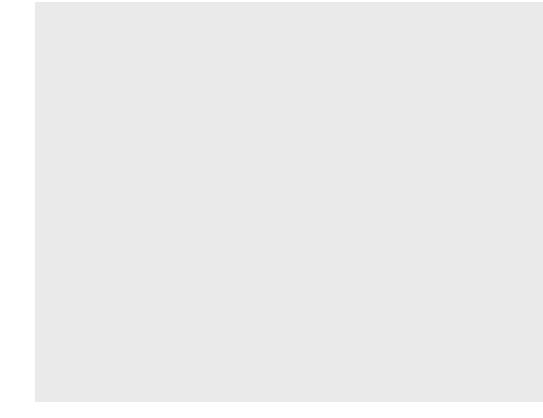
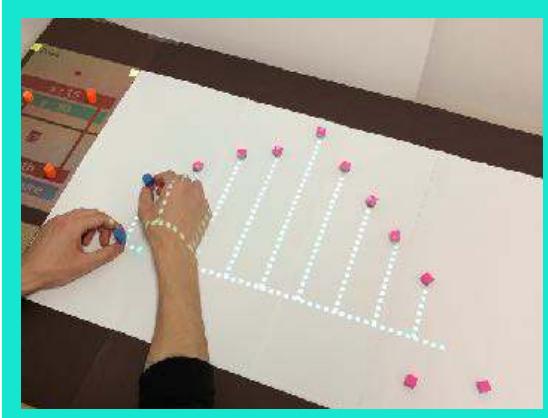


Hub and Struts

Active Elements

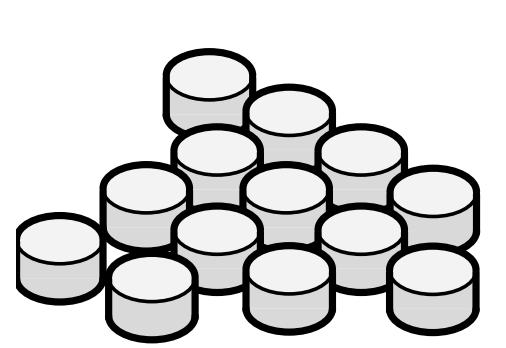


Passive Elements

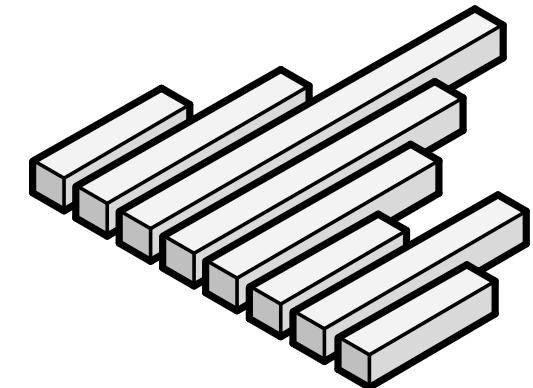


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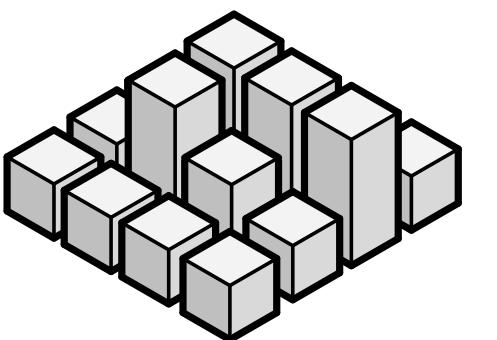
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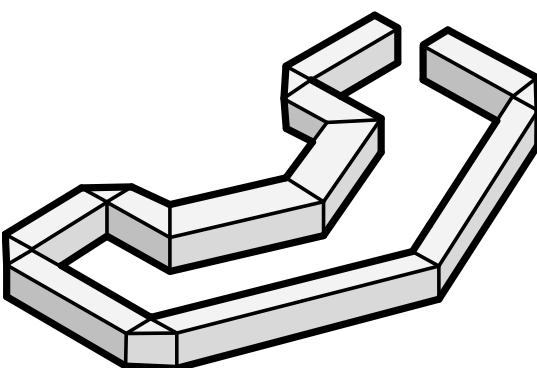
Sparse Dots



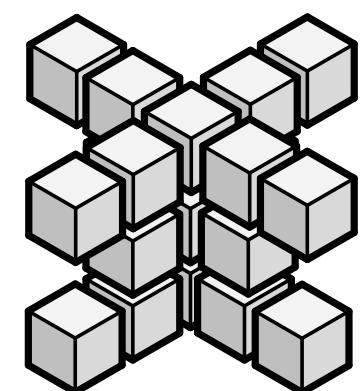
Sparse Lines



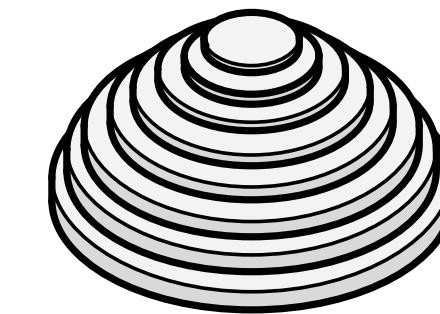
Pin Array



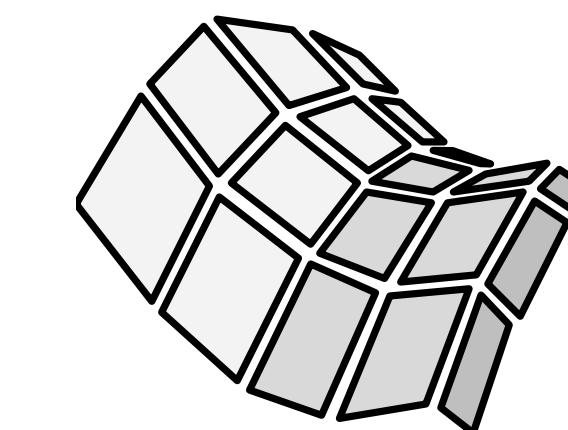
Single Line



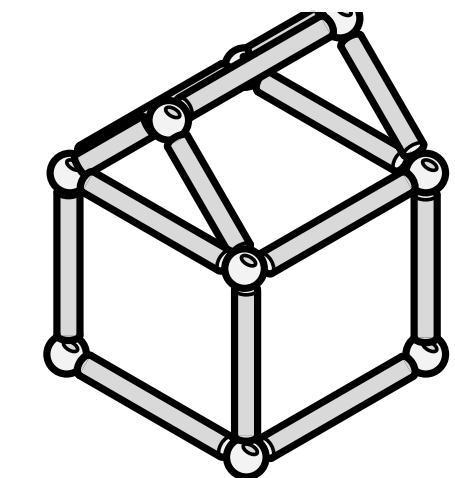
Voxel



Layers



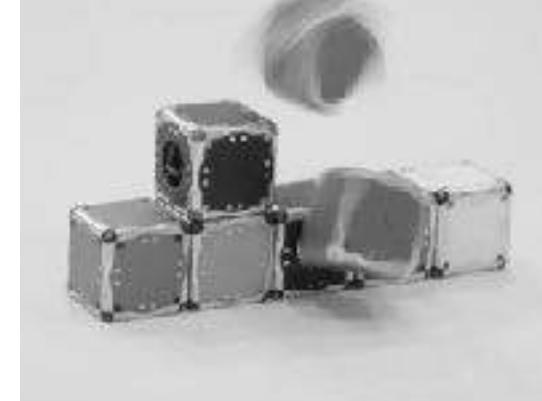
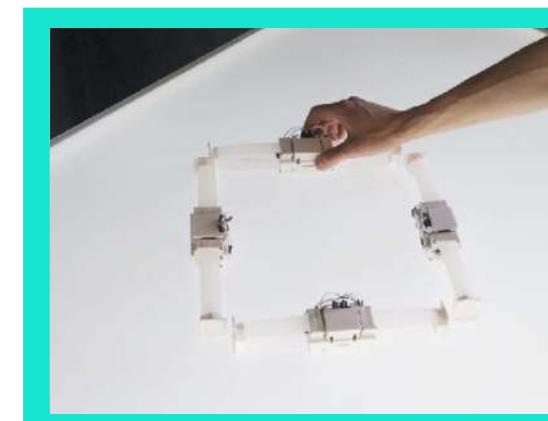
Surface



Hub and Struts

Active

Elements



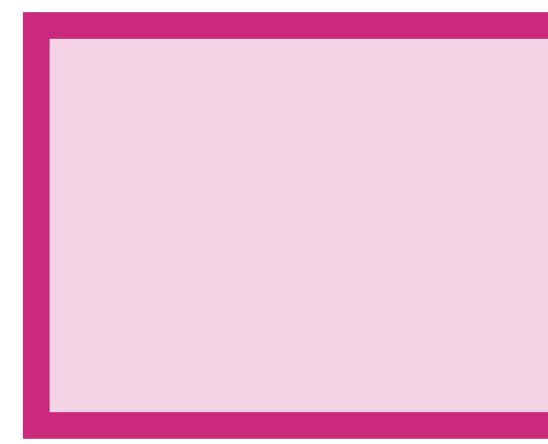
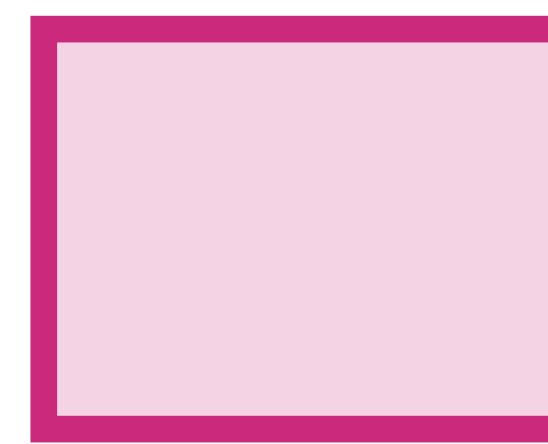
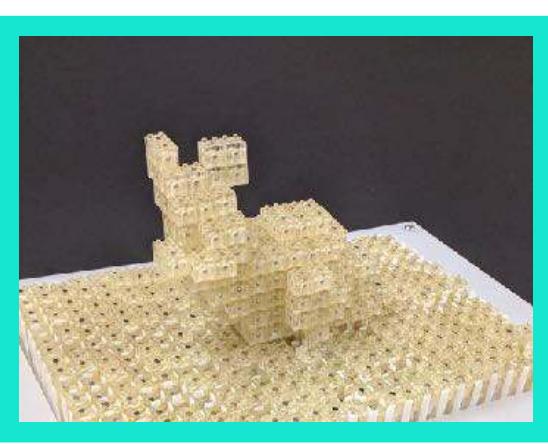
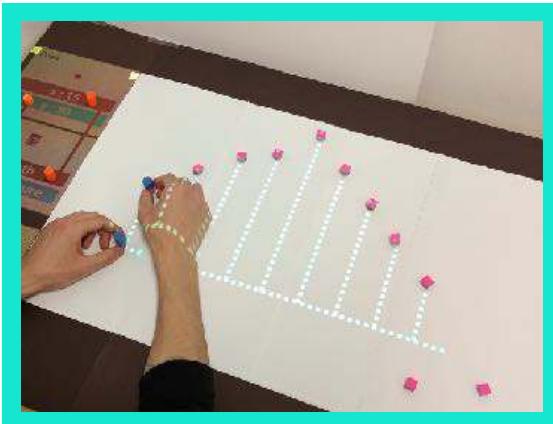
This thesis

This thesis

In this way, we can start **exploring new domains** and **filling these gaps**

Passive

Elements



This thesis

This thesis

3 - Collective Actuation

How can we leverage multiple active elements to **collectively actuate** passive materials?

Collective Actuation

How can we leverage multiple active elements to **collectively actuate** passive materials?

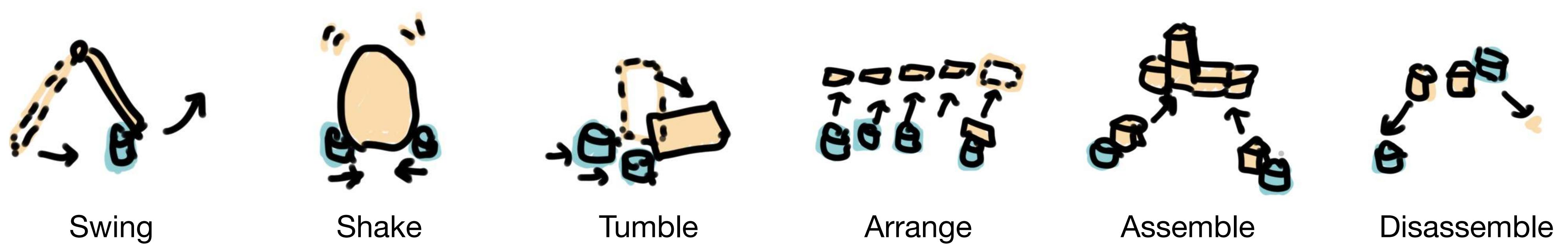
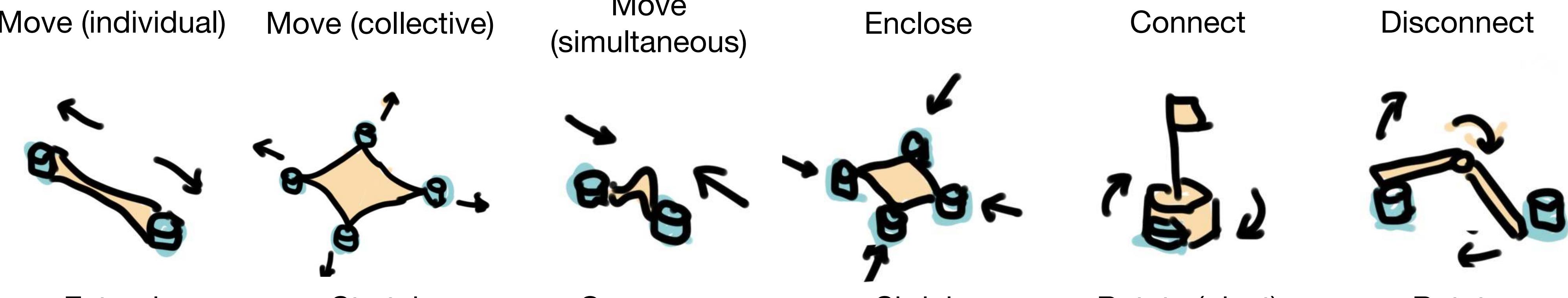
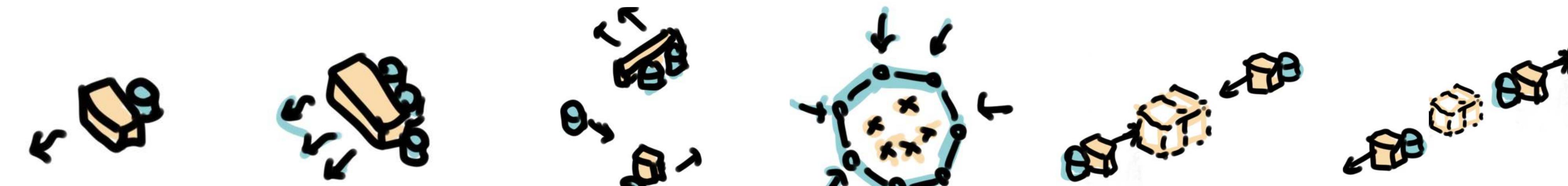


Case Study: RoomShift



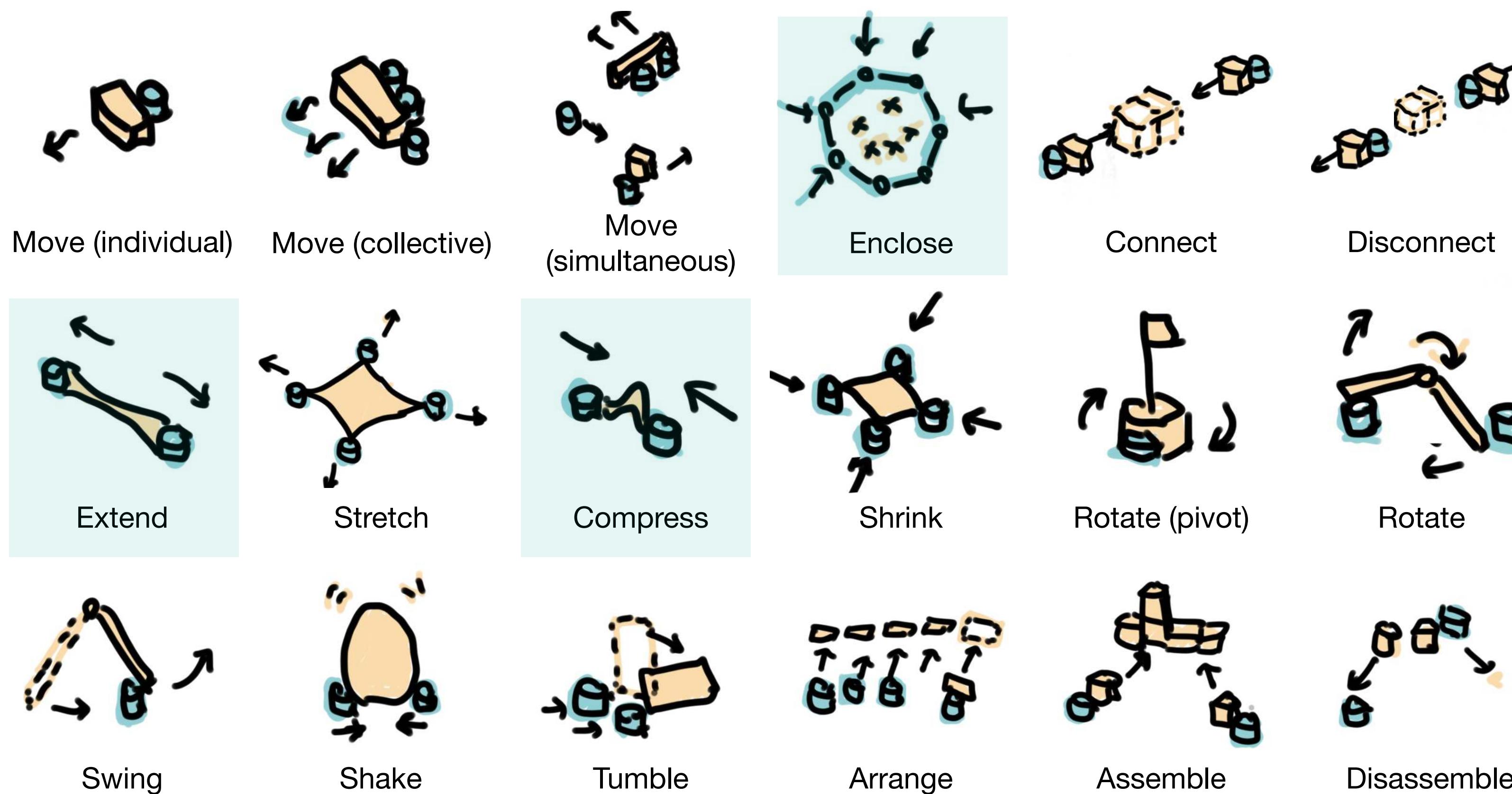
Collective Actuation

How can we leverage multiple active elements to **collectively actuate** passive materials?



Collective Actuation

How can multiple active elements **collectively actuate** passive materials?

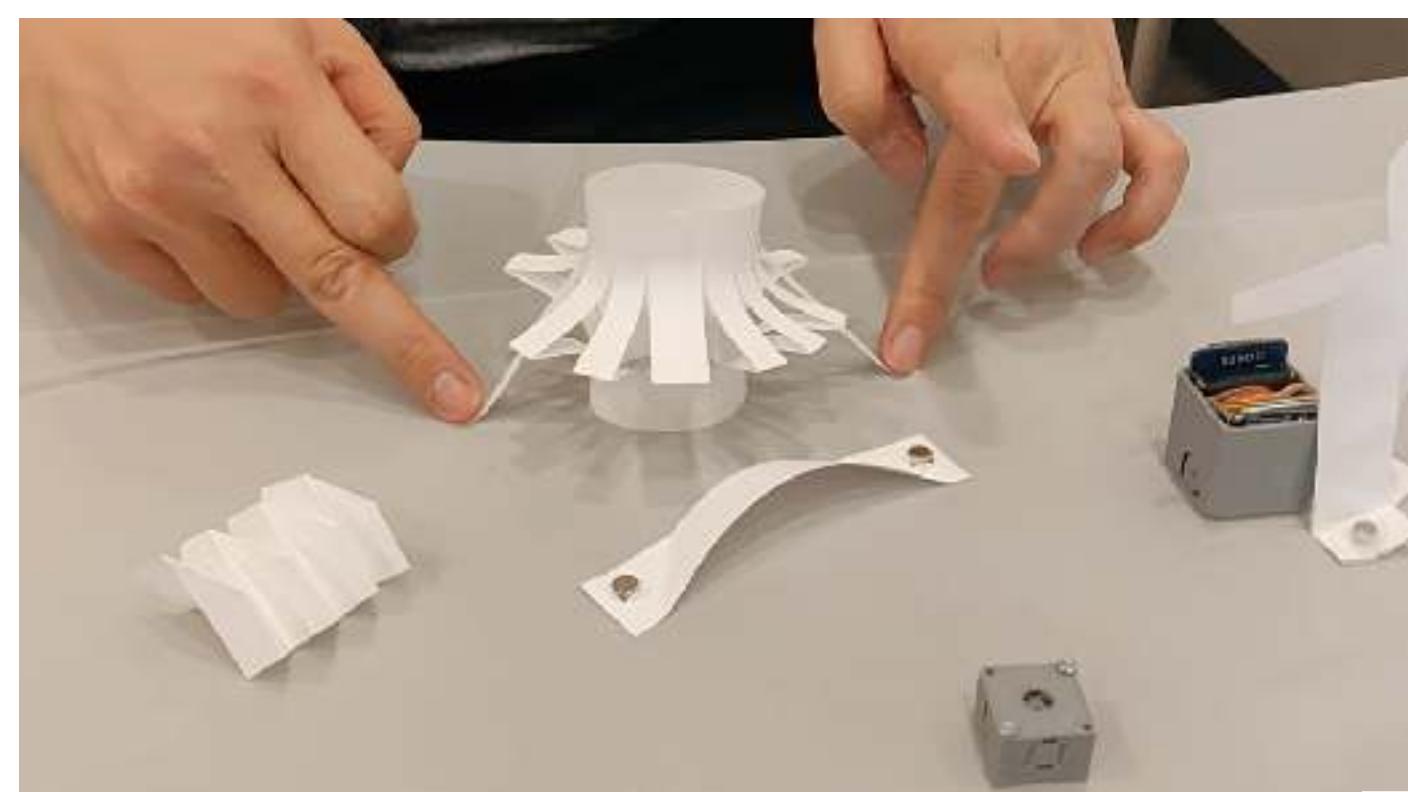
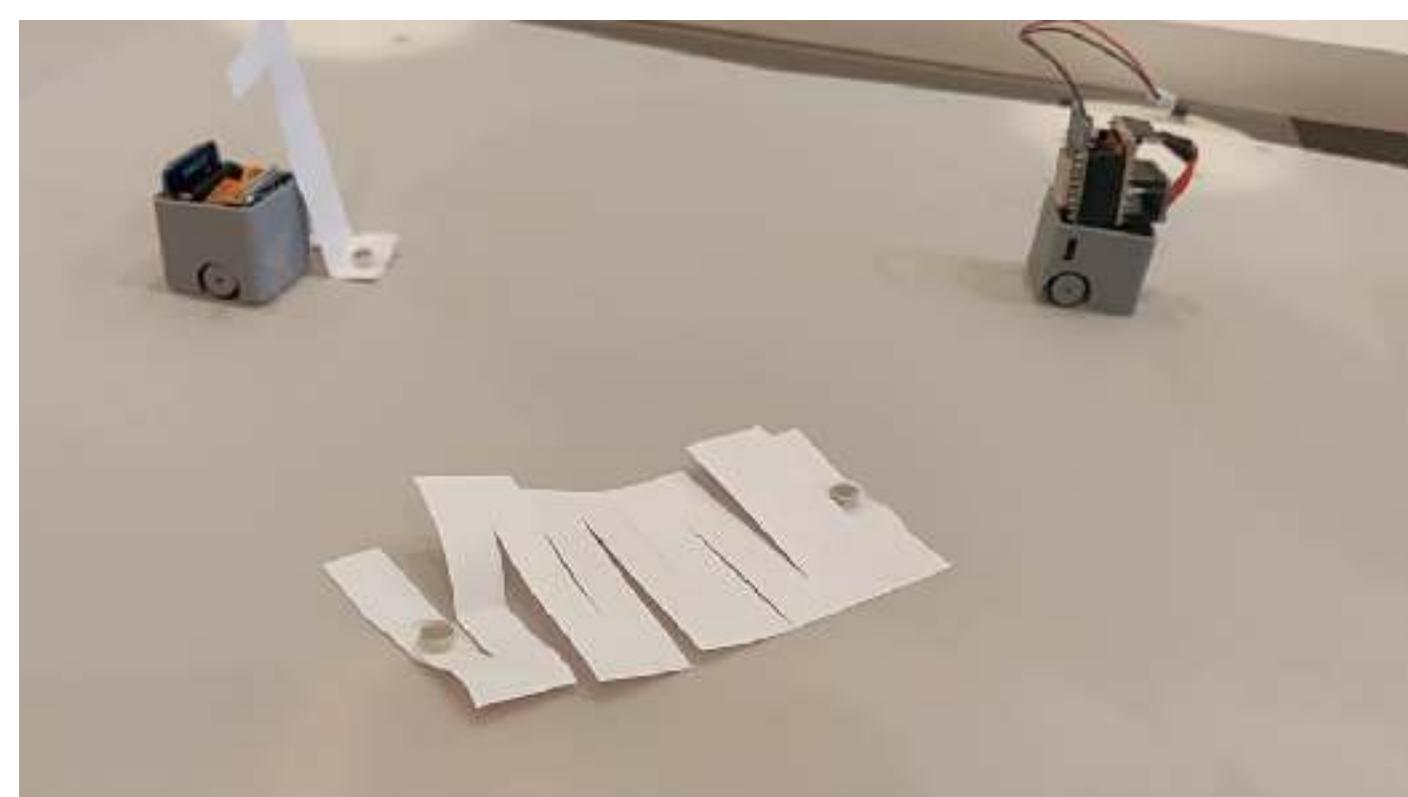
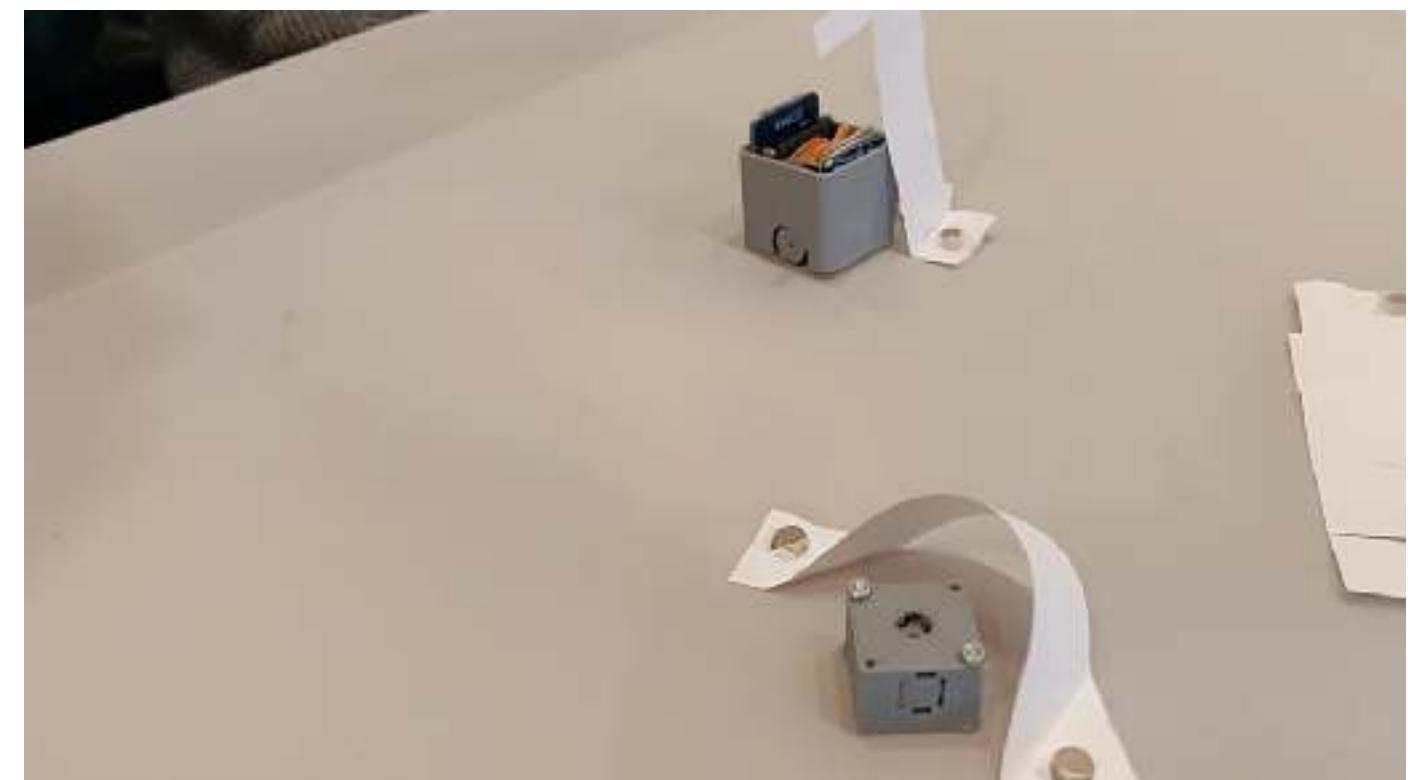
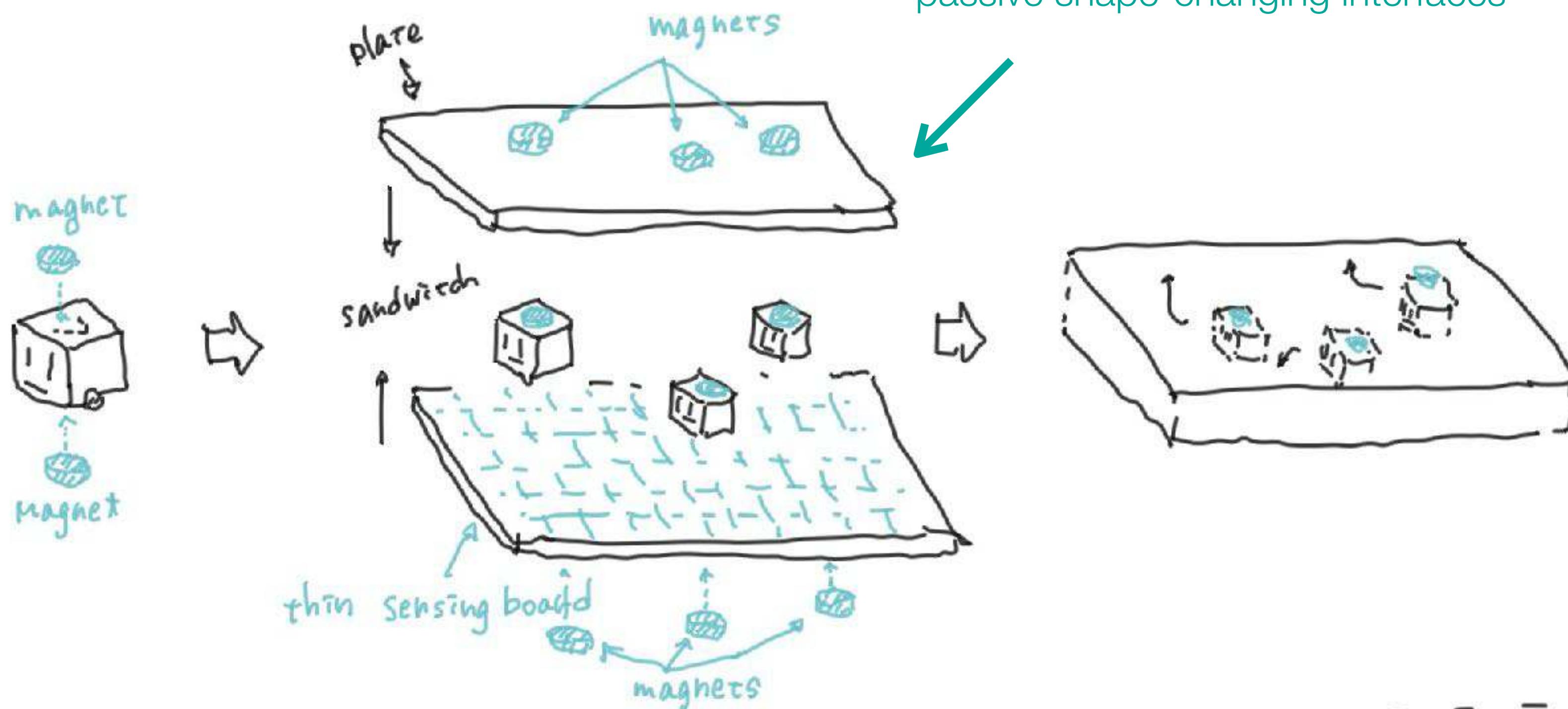


Collective Actuation

How can multiple active elements **collectively actuate** passive materials?

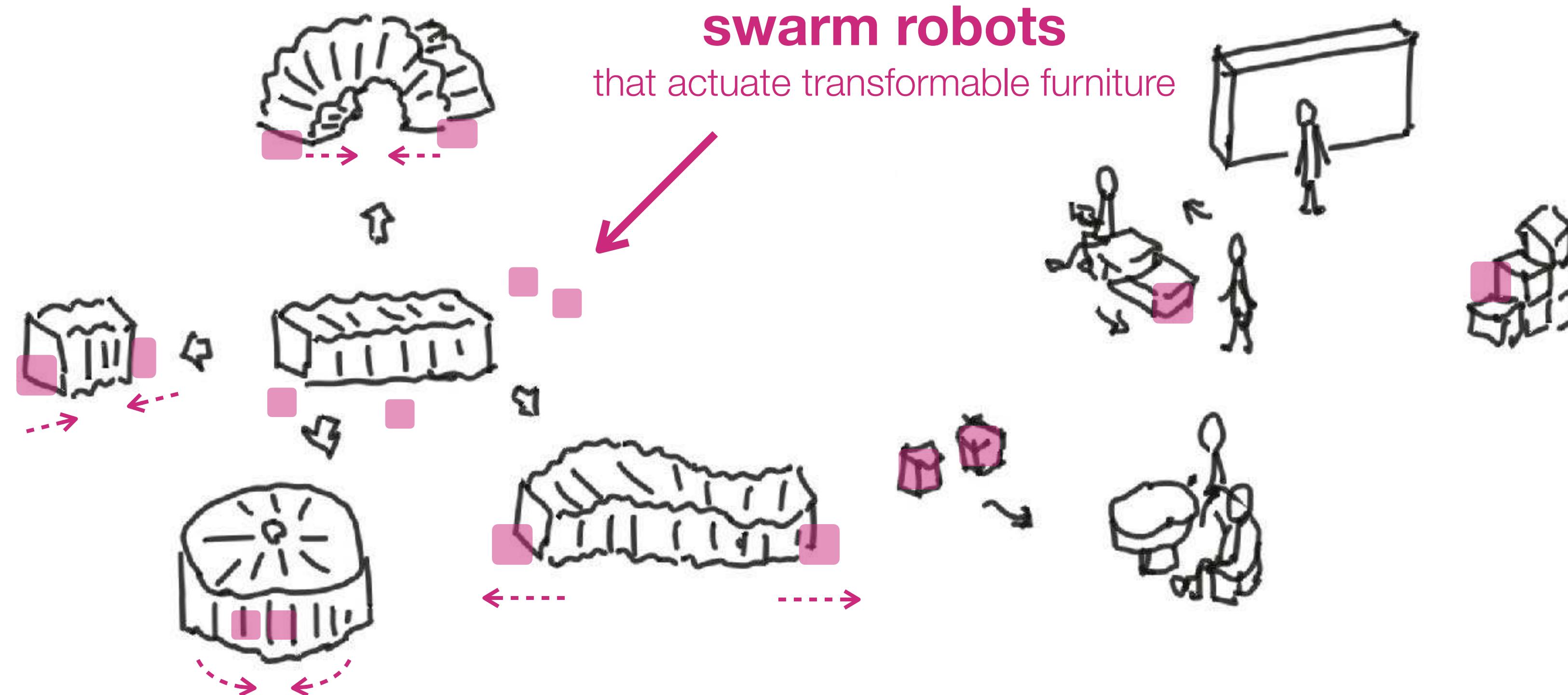
swarm robots + magnets

as a prototyping environment for
passive shape-changing interfaces



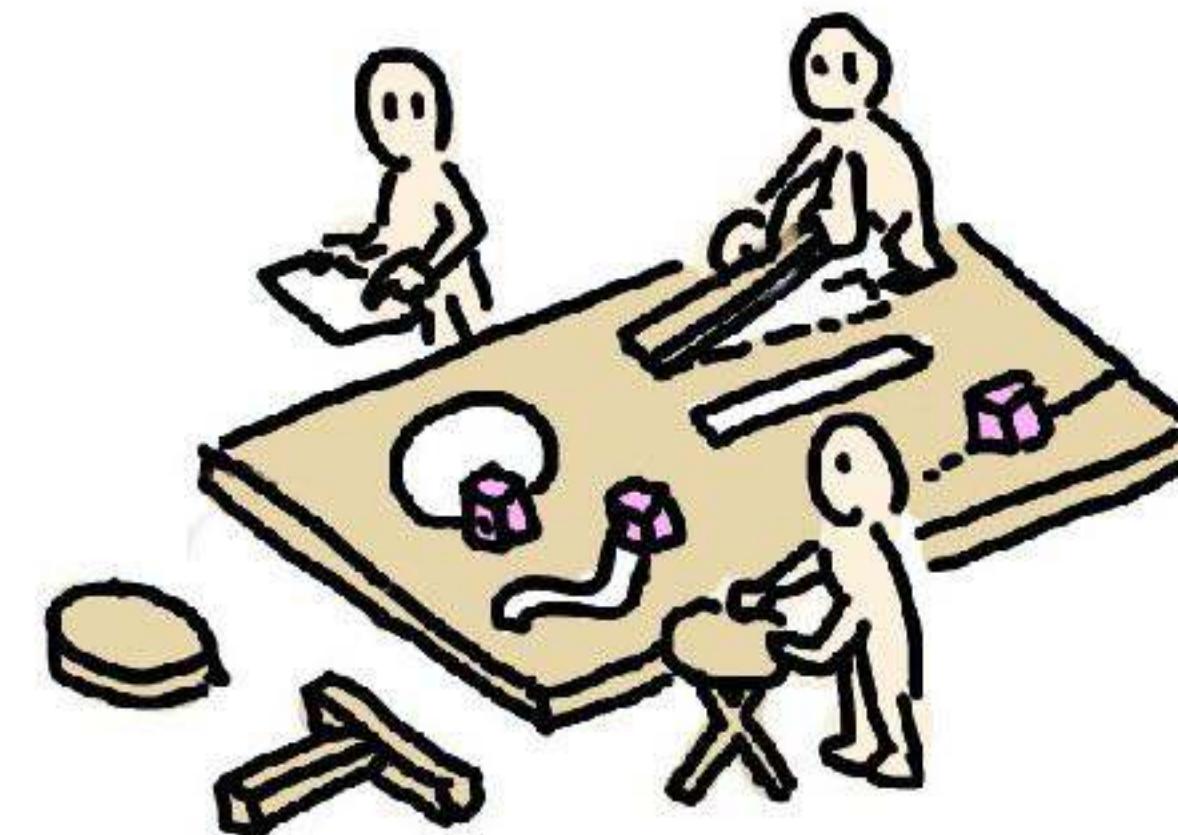
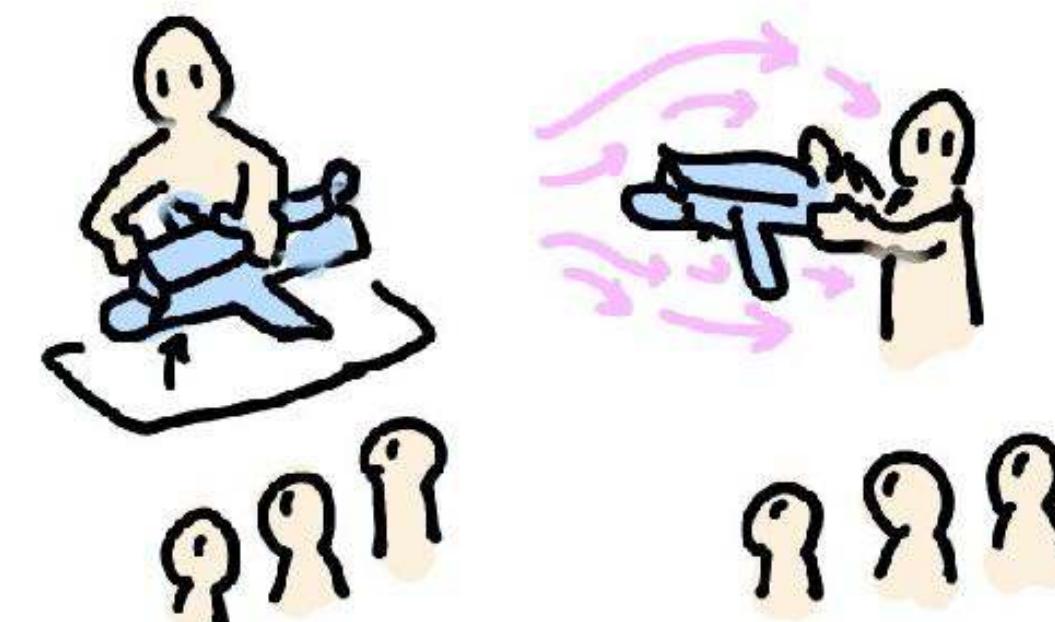
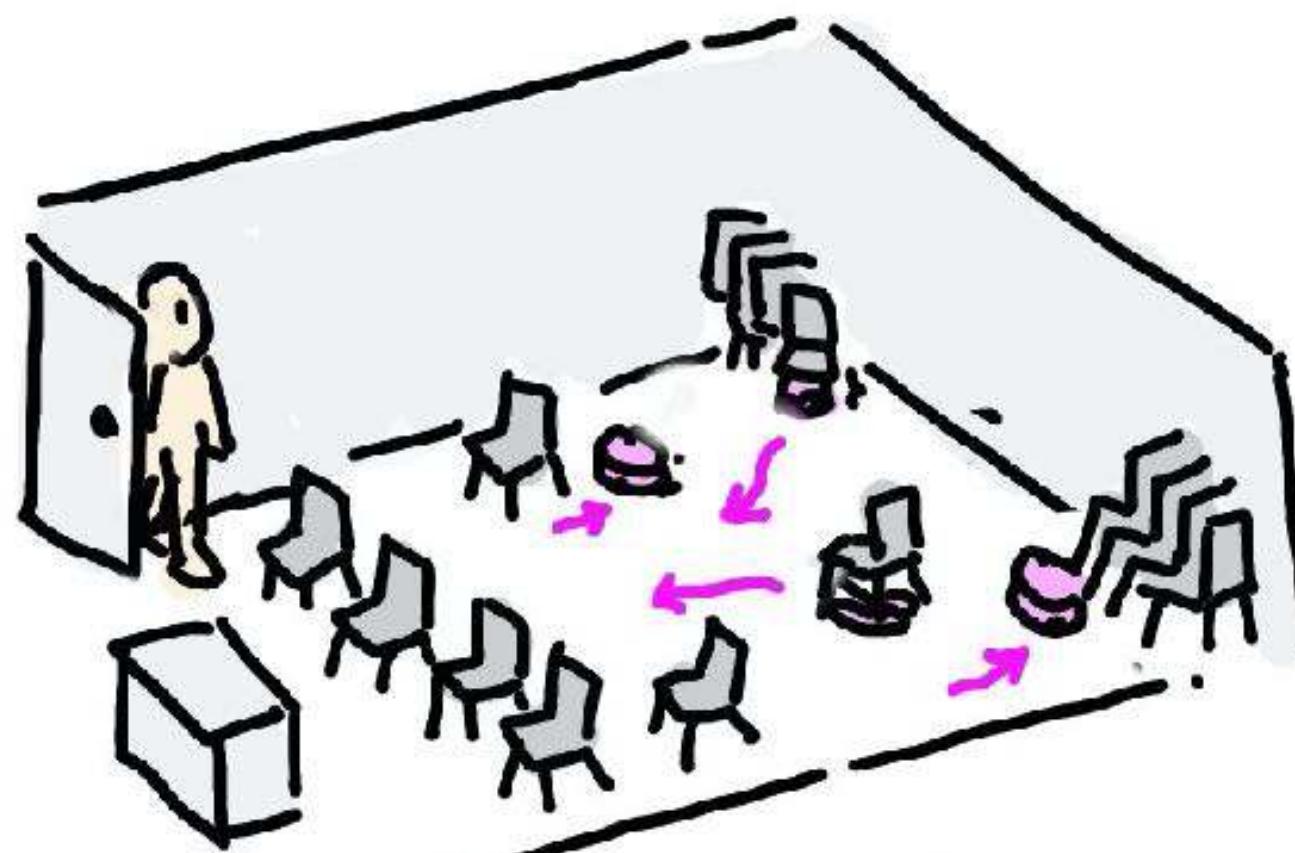
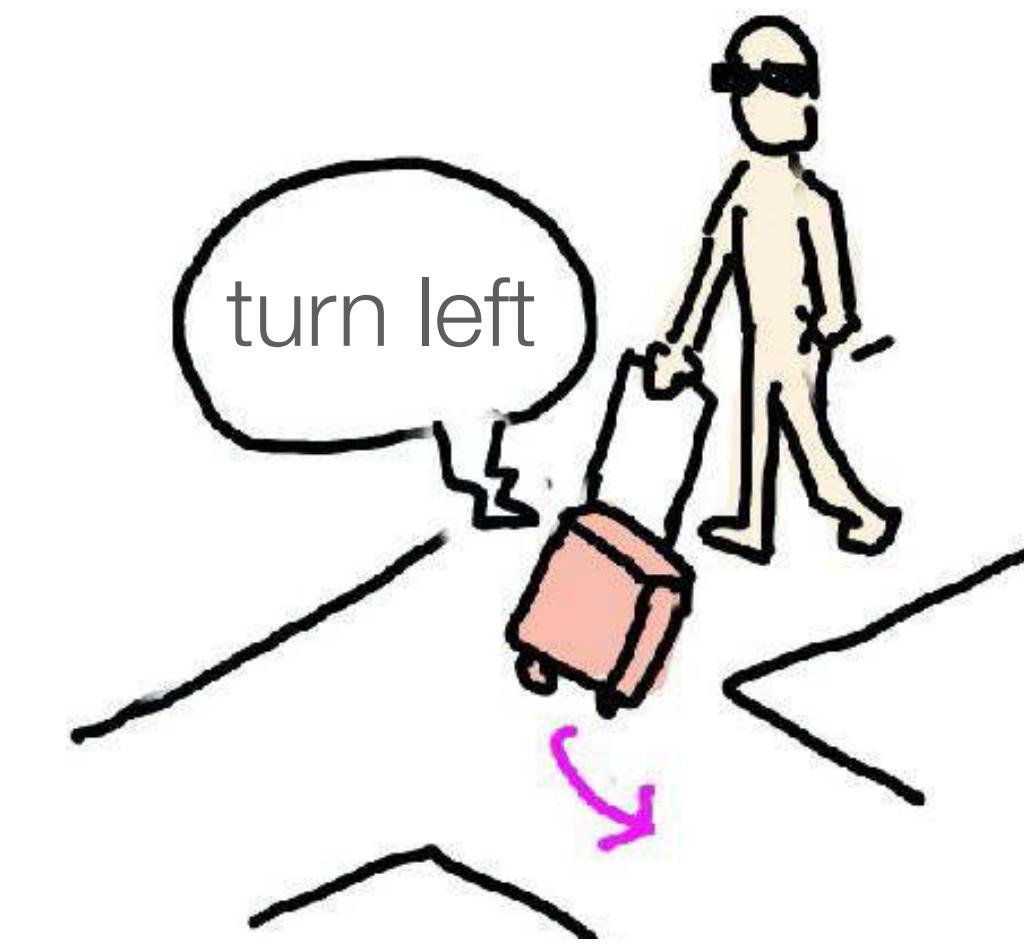
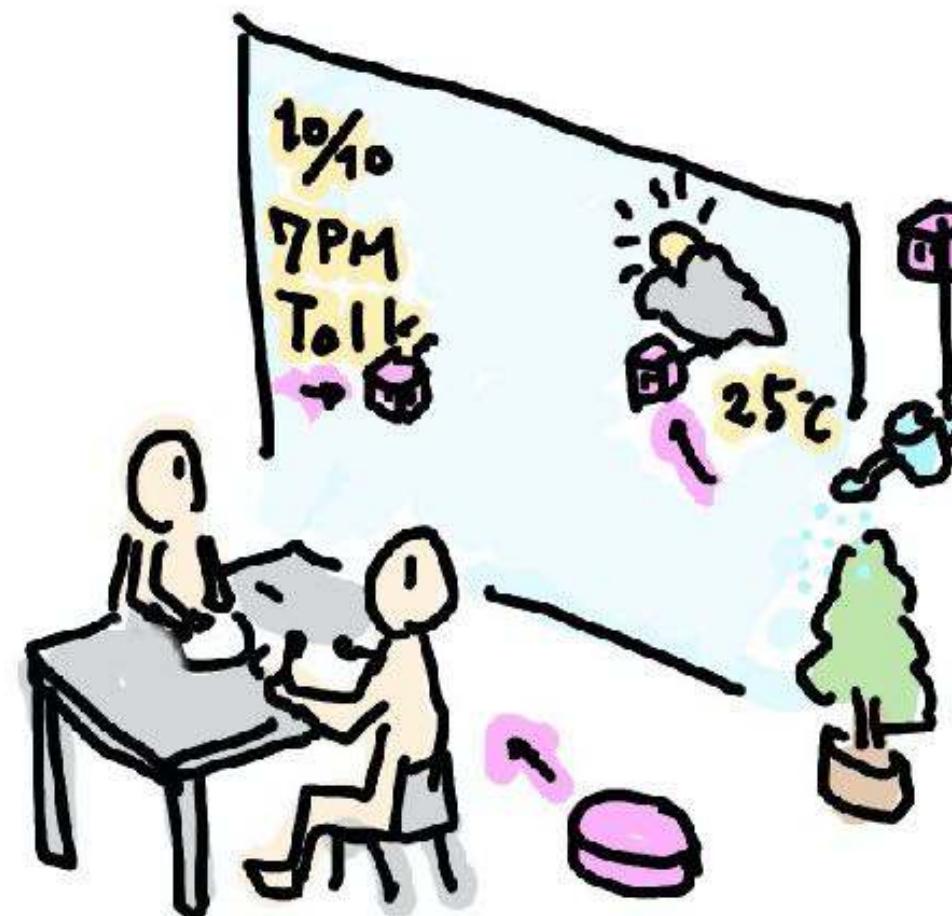
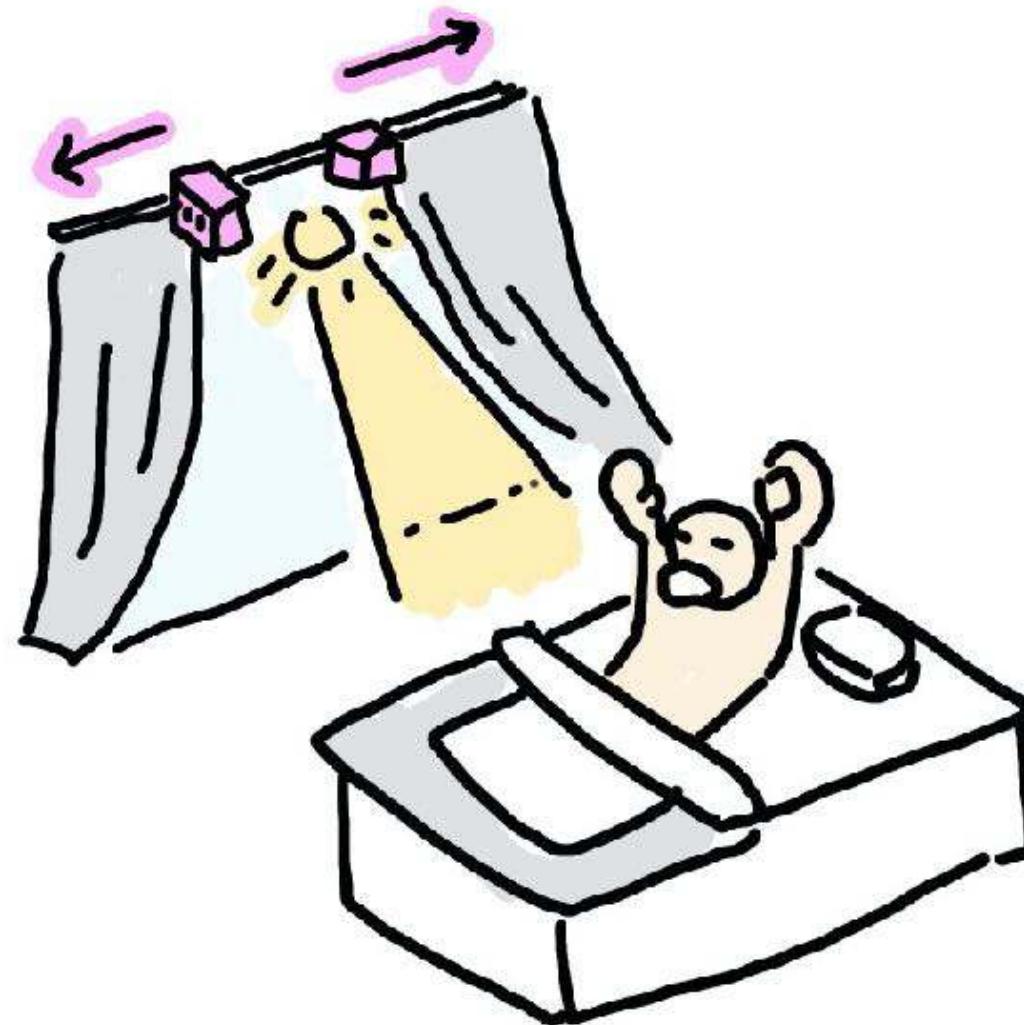
Collective Actuation

How can multiple active elements **collectively actuate** passive materials?



Collective Actuation

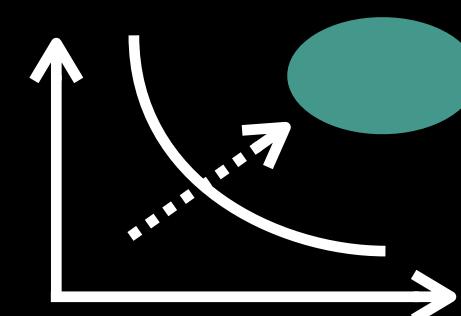
How can multiple active elements **collectively actuate** passive materials?



swarm robots
that are seamlessly blended
and integrated into everyday life

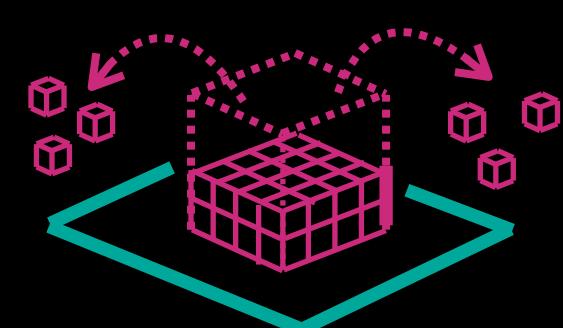
Background

Why This Approach?



Concept

What is
Dynamic and Collective
Shape Construction



Shape Construction
with **Active** Elements



Explorations

Shape Construction
with **Passive** Elements

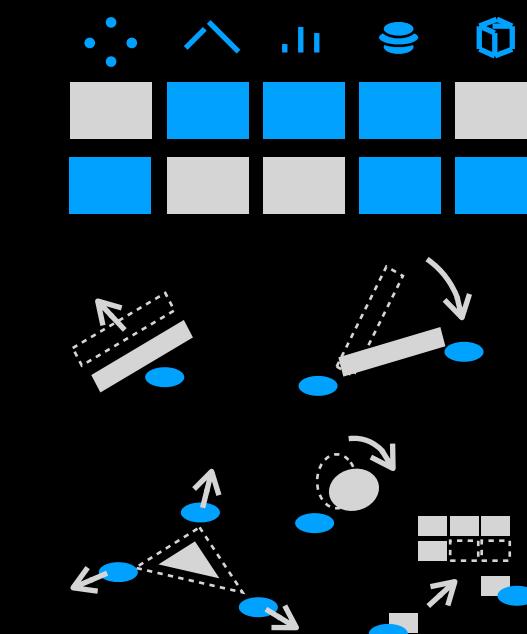


Interaction with
Collective Elements



Discussion

What's Next?



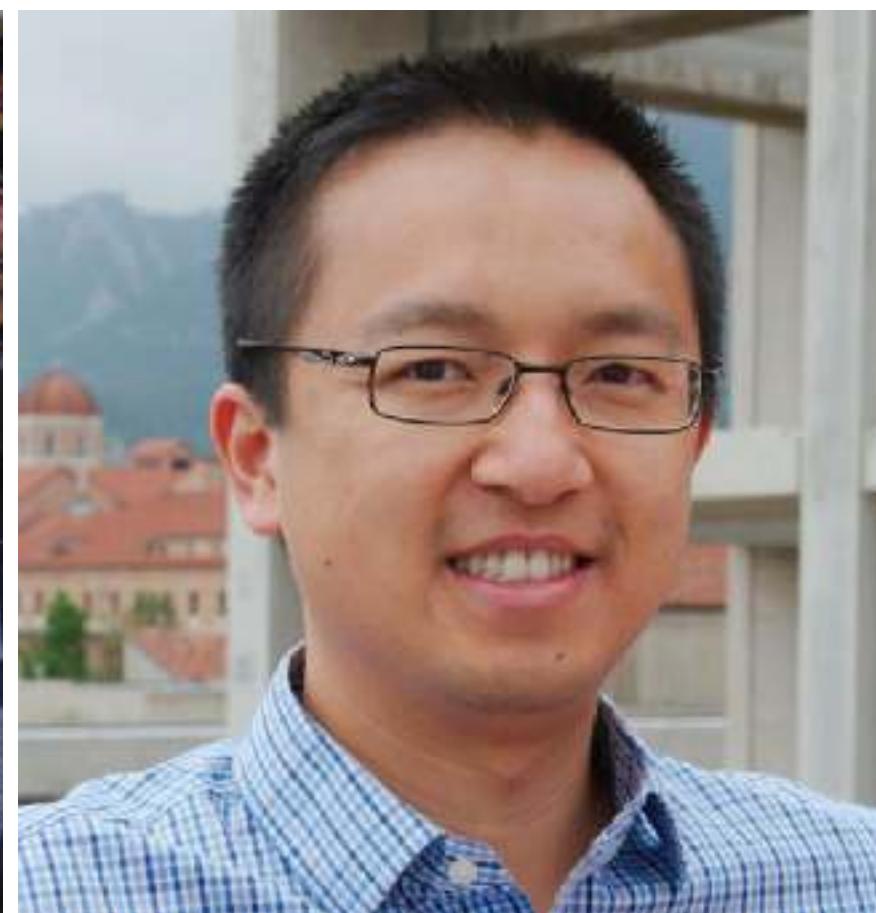
Thank My Advisors and Thesis Committee



Daniel Leithinger
CU Boulder



Mark D. Gross
CU Boulder



Tom Yeh
CU Boulder



Hiroshi Ishii
MIT Media Lab



Takeo Igarashi
UTokyo

Thank All of My Collaborators



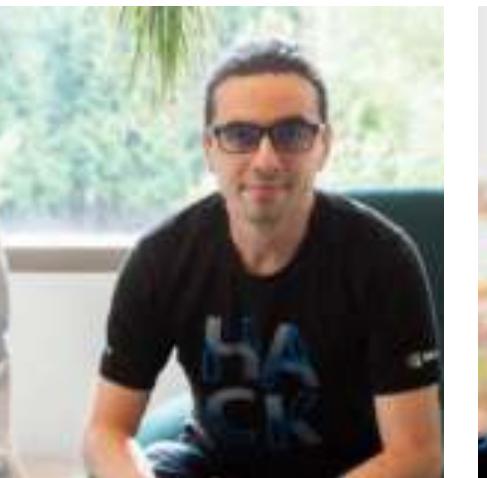
Ellen Do
CU Boulder



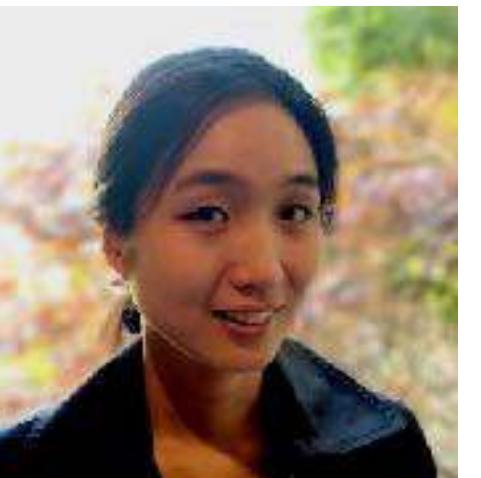
Dan Szafrir
CU Boulder



Clement Zheng
CU Boulder



Hooman Hedayati
CU Boulder



HyunJoo Oh
Georgia Tech (CU)



Abigale Stangl
UT Austin (CU)



Jeeeun Kim
Texas A&M (CU)



Bjoern Hartmann
UC Berkeley



Elena Glassman
Harvard (Berkeley)



Yoshihiro Kawahara
UTokyo



Yasuaki Kakehi
UTokyo



Ryuma Niiyama
UTokyo



Koji Yatani
UTokyo



Jun Kato
AIST (UTokyo)



Lining Yao
CMU



Rubaiat Habib
Adobe Research

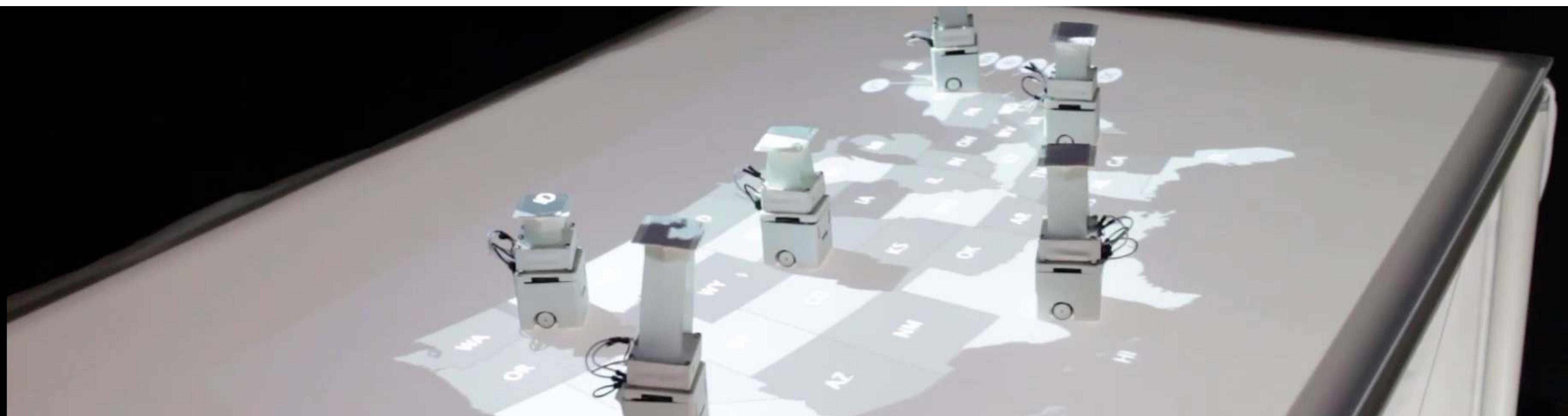


Stephen DiVerdi
Adobe Research



Michael Bernstein
Stanford

Dynamic Shape Construction and Transformation with Collective Elements



Ryo Suzuki

University of Colorado Boulder / @ryosuzk / <http://ryosuzuki.org/>

Additional Slides

Q&A: Contributions

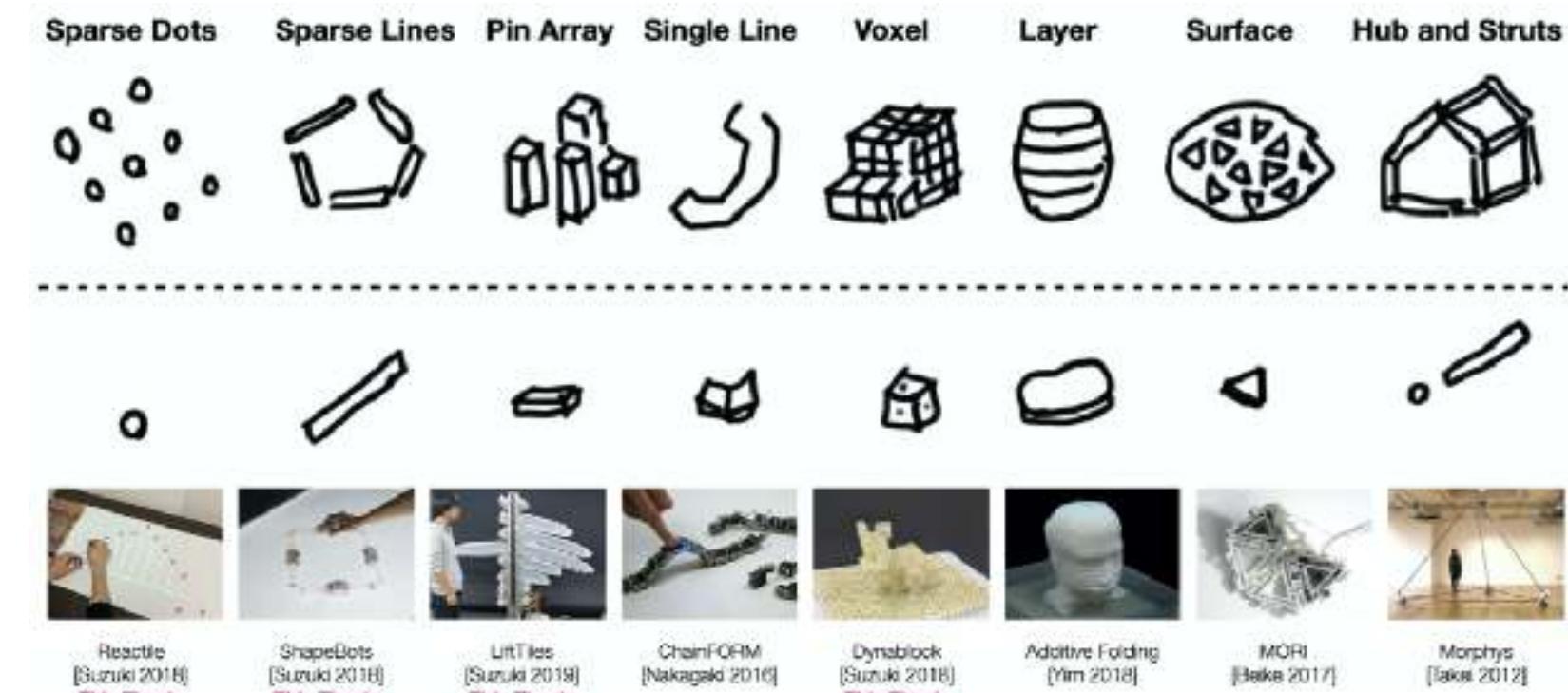
1.2 Thesis Contributions

This thesis makes contributions to the field of Human-Computer Interaction in the following areas:

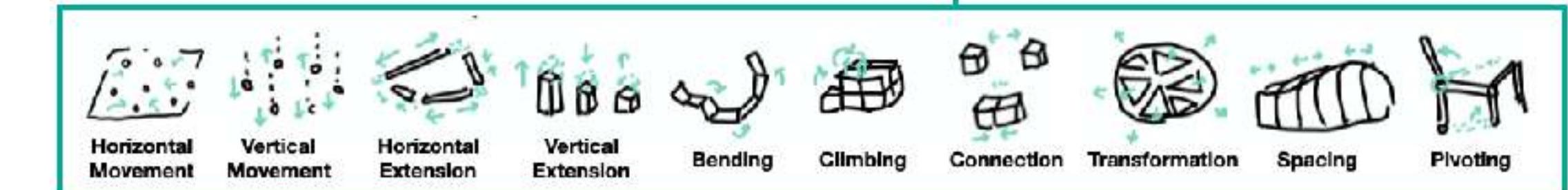
1. A design space exploration of dynamic shape construction with collective elements
2. Taxonomy and investigation of active shape construction and transformation with collective elements
3. Techniques for creating a dynamic shape with shape-transformable swarm robots
4. Techniques for constructing 3D shapes with an assembly of passive connectable blocks
5. Techniques for actuating existing objects to reconfigure spatial layouts
6. Techniques for programming the dynamic shape construction on a 2D surface with direct physical manipulation

High-level

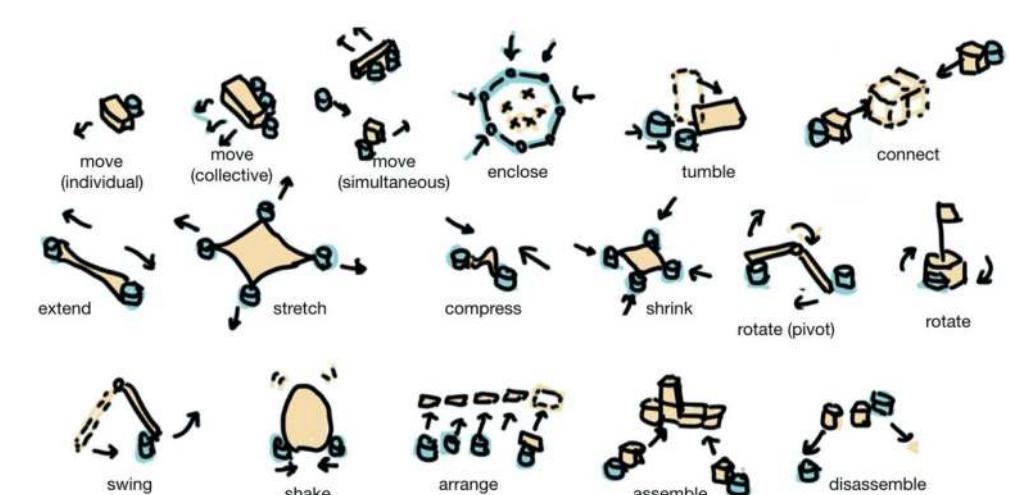
1. Exploration of representations



2. Exploration strategy 1: combining building blocks



3. Exploration strategy 2: combining active & passive



Q&A: Representations

	Sparse Dots	Sparse Lines	Pin Array	Single Line	Voxel	Layer	Surface	Hub and Struts
Representation								
Element								
Examples								

Reactile
[Suzuki 2018]
[This Thesis](#)

ShapeBots
[Suzuki 2018]
[This Thesis](#)

LiftTiles
[Suzuki 2019]
[This Thesis](#)

ChainFORM
[Nakagaki 2016]

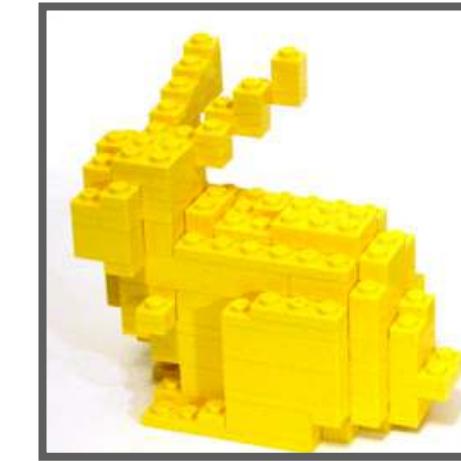
Dynablock
[Suzuki 2018]
[This Thesis](#)

Additive Folding
[Yim 2018]

MORI
[Beike 2017]

Morphys
[Takei 2012]

Q&A: Representations



voxel

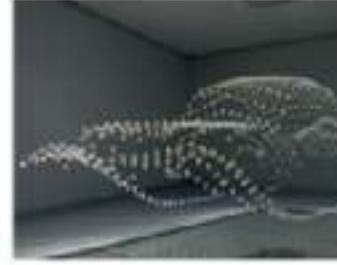
surface

line

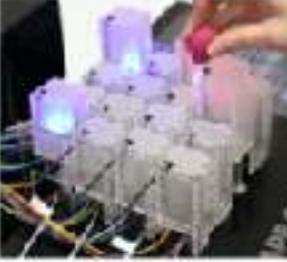
wirefram

sliced layers

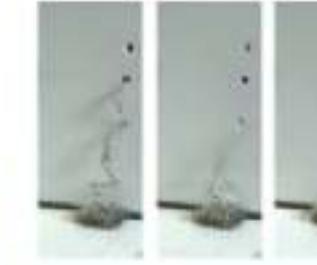
Sparse Dots



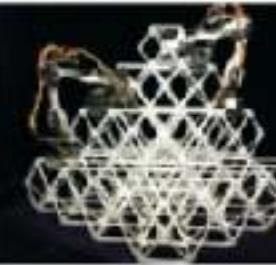
Pin Array



Single Line



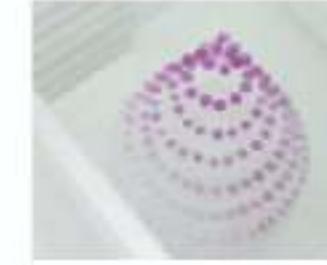
Voxel



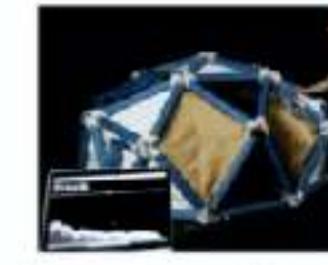
Surface



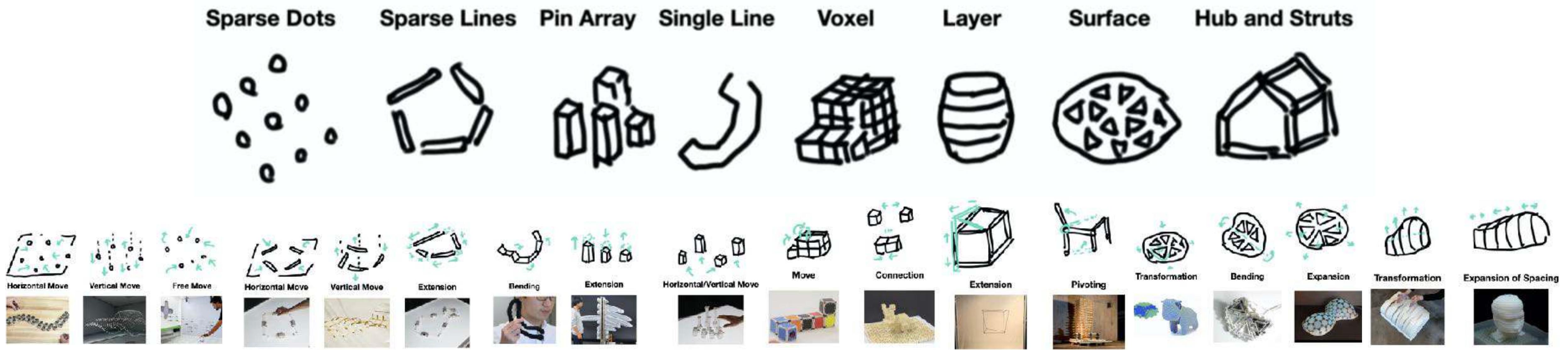
Layer



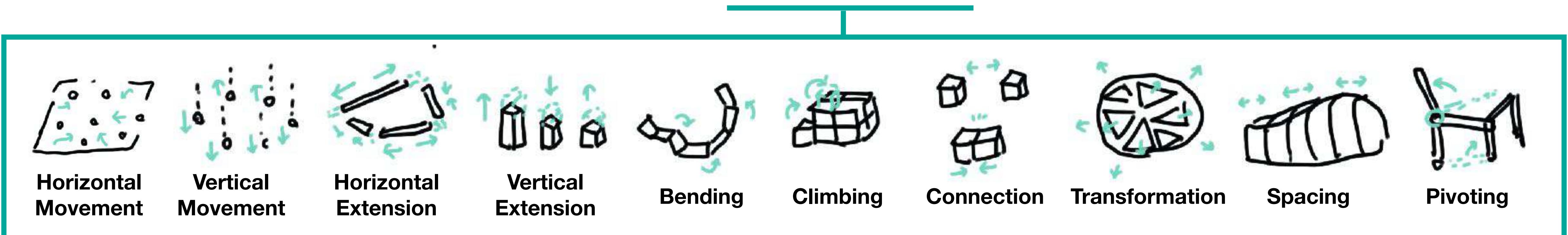
Hub & Struts



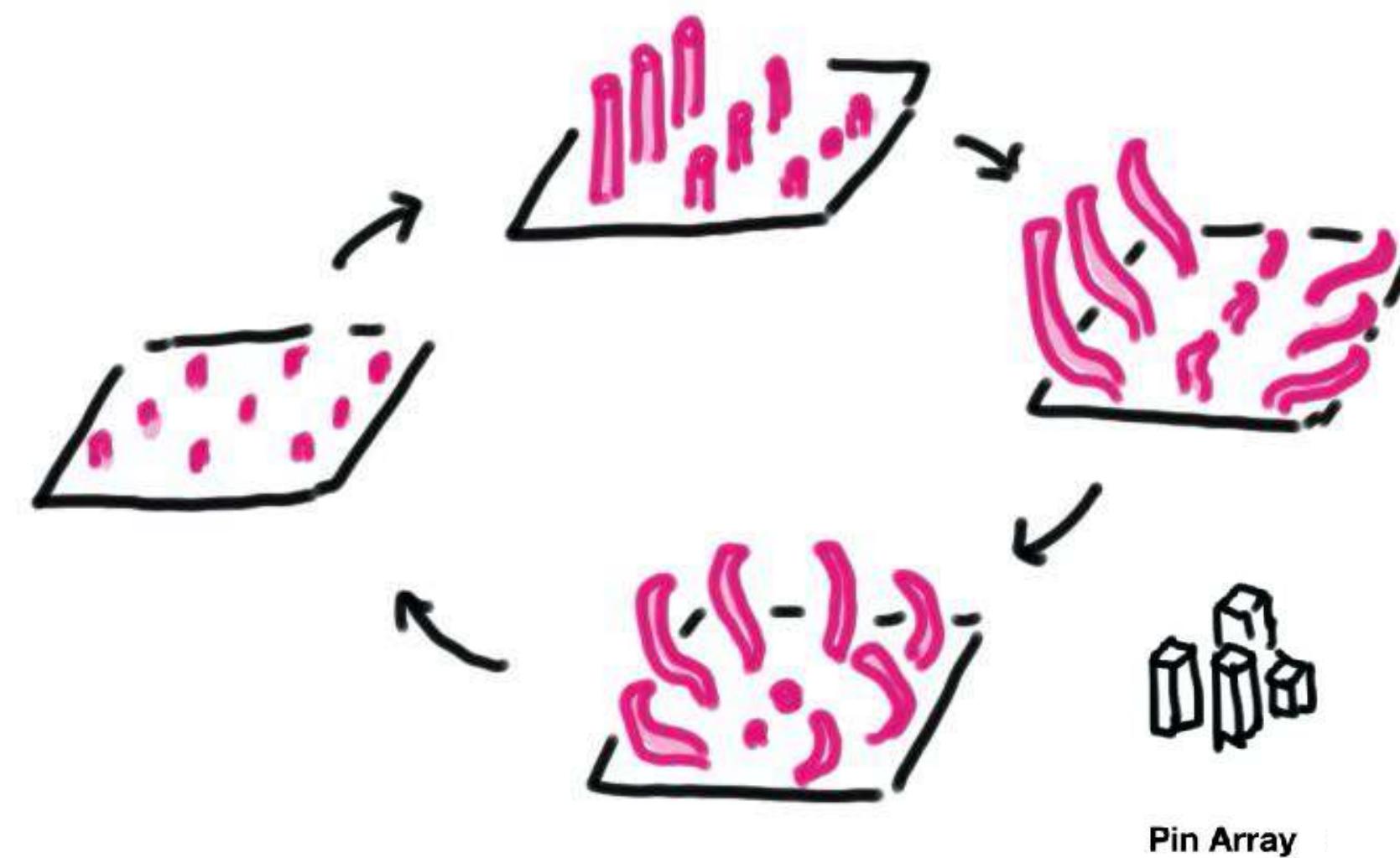
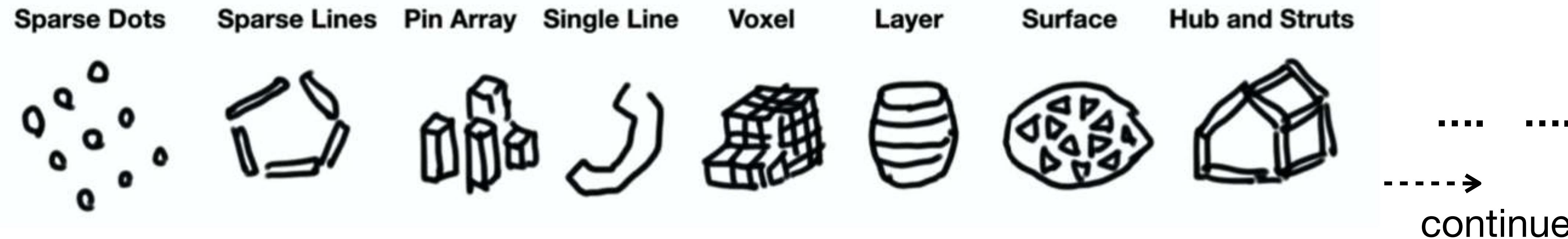
Q&A: Representations



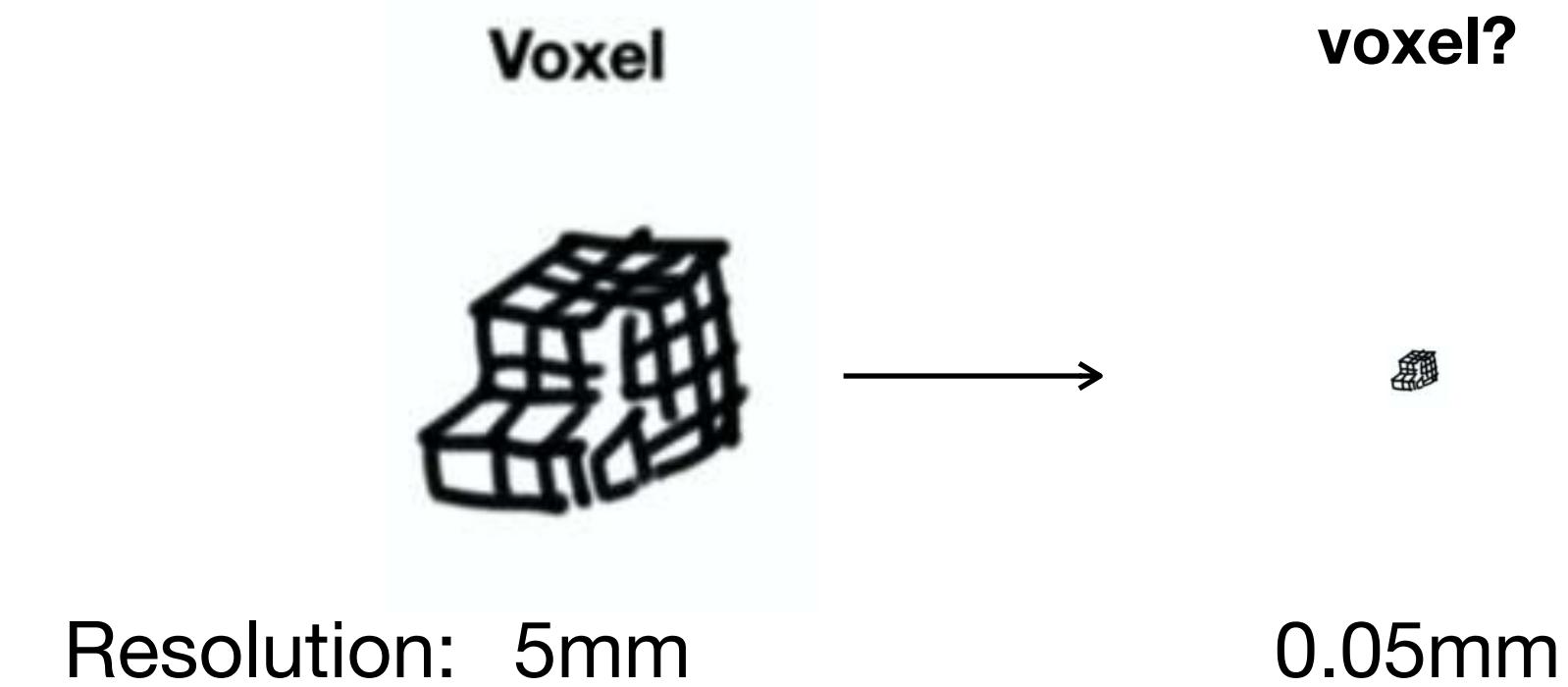
How can we combine individual transformation as **building blocks** for various representations?



Q&A: Representations



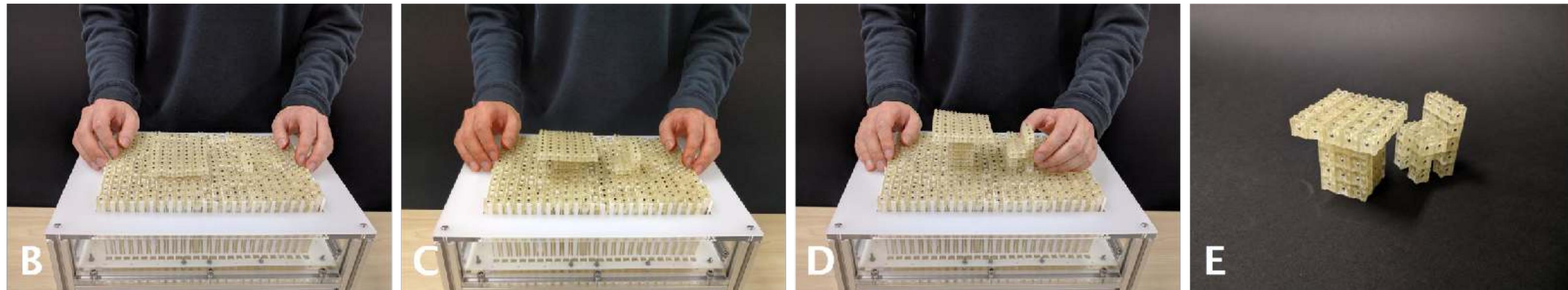
Is this pin-array?



Is this still voxel?

Q&A: Limitations and Future Work

Information Display vs Fabrication

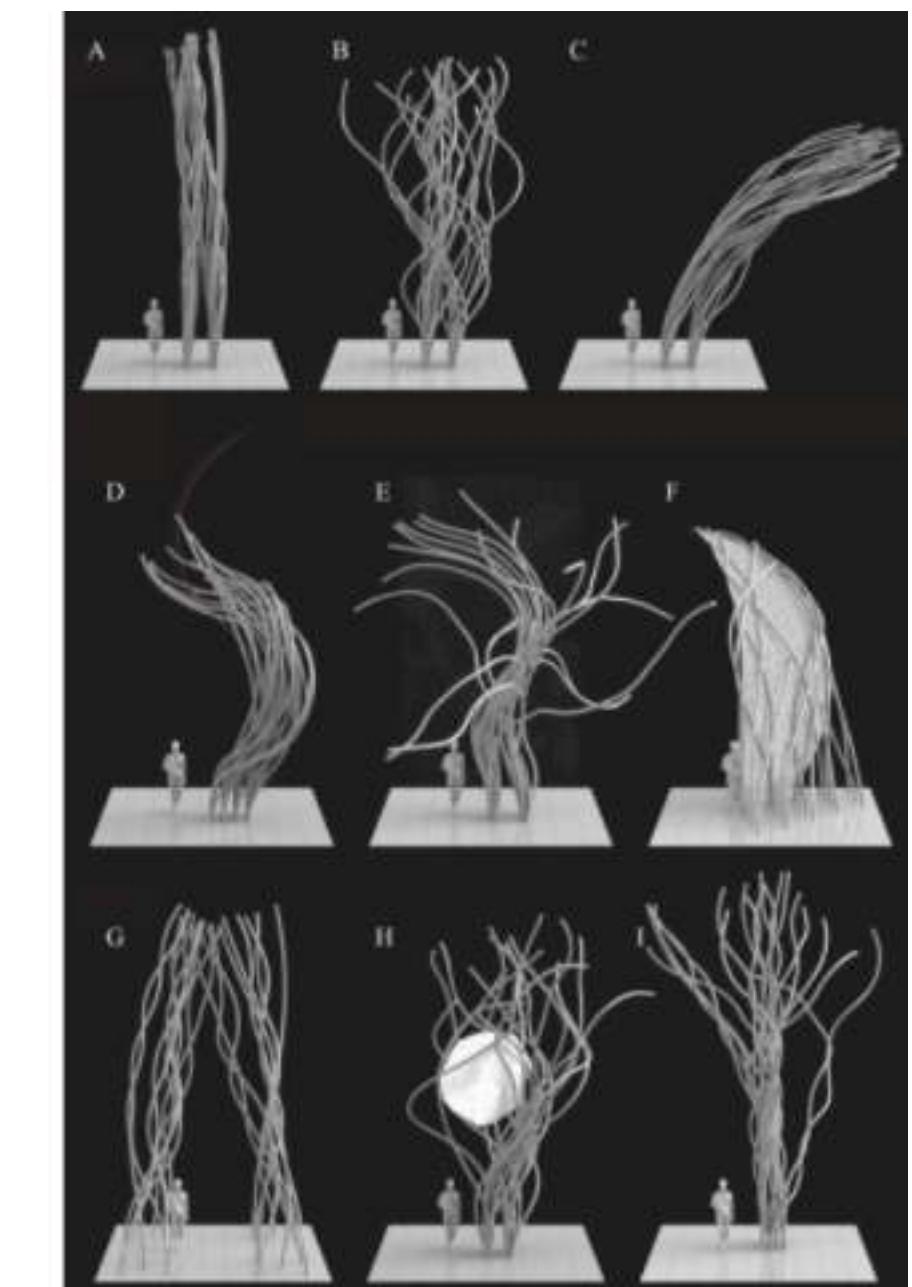
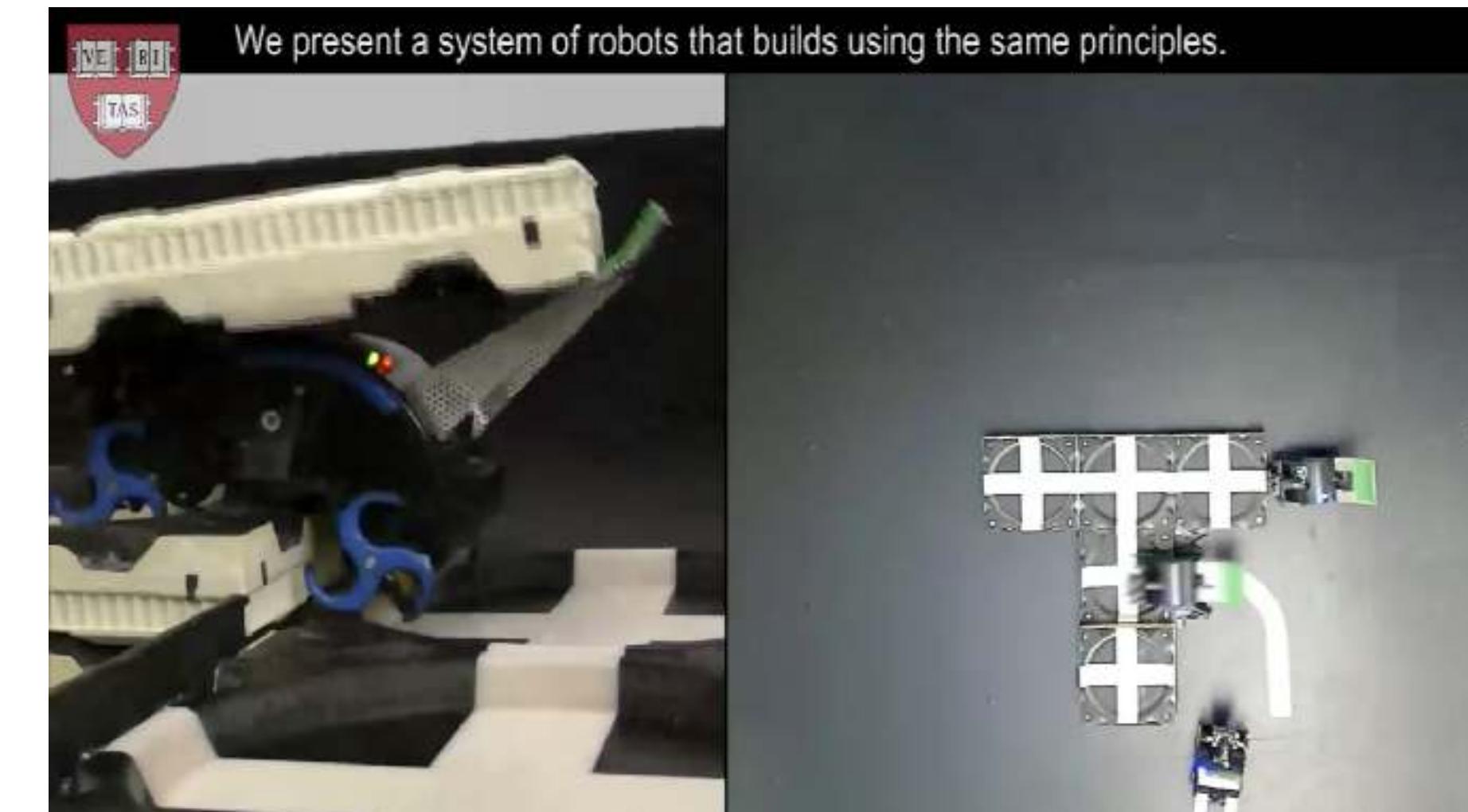
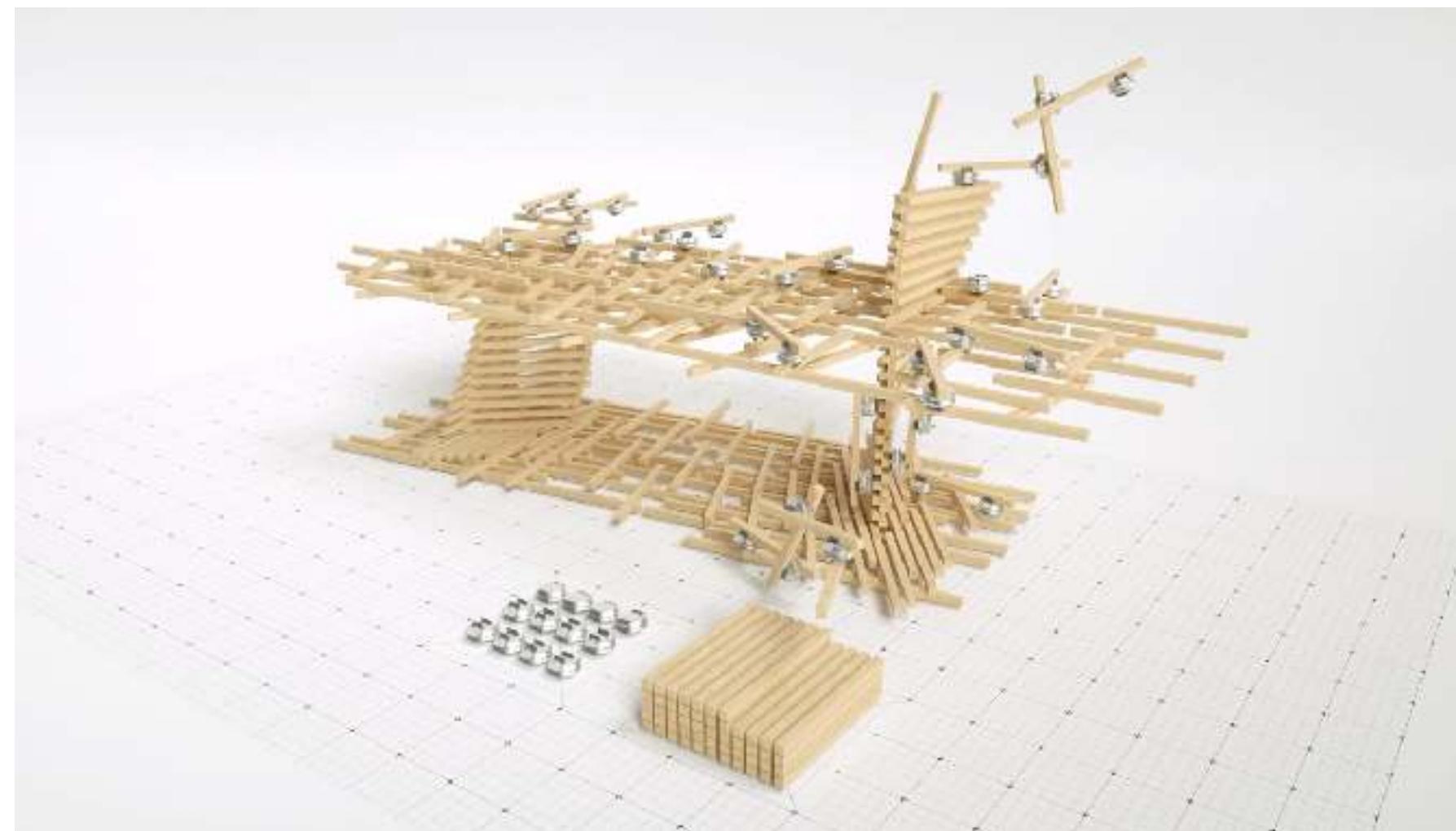


Dynamic

Static

Q&A: Limitations and Future Work

Information Display vs Fabrication



swarm construction

Q&A: Limitations and Future Work

Technical Limitations

*computation /
communication*

central control vs local control (all projects)

sensing / tracking

only support position tracking (e.g., ShapeBots)

power supply

only last less than hours (e.g., ShapeBots)

*connection /
disconnection*

not very stable (e.g., Dynablock)

Q&A: Limitations and Future Work

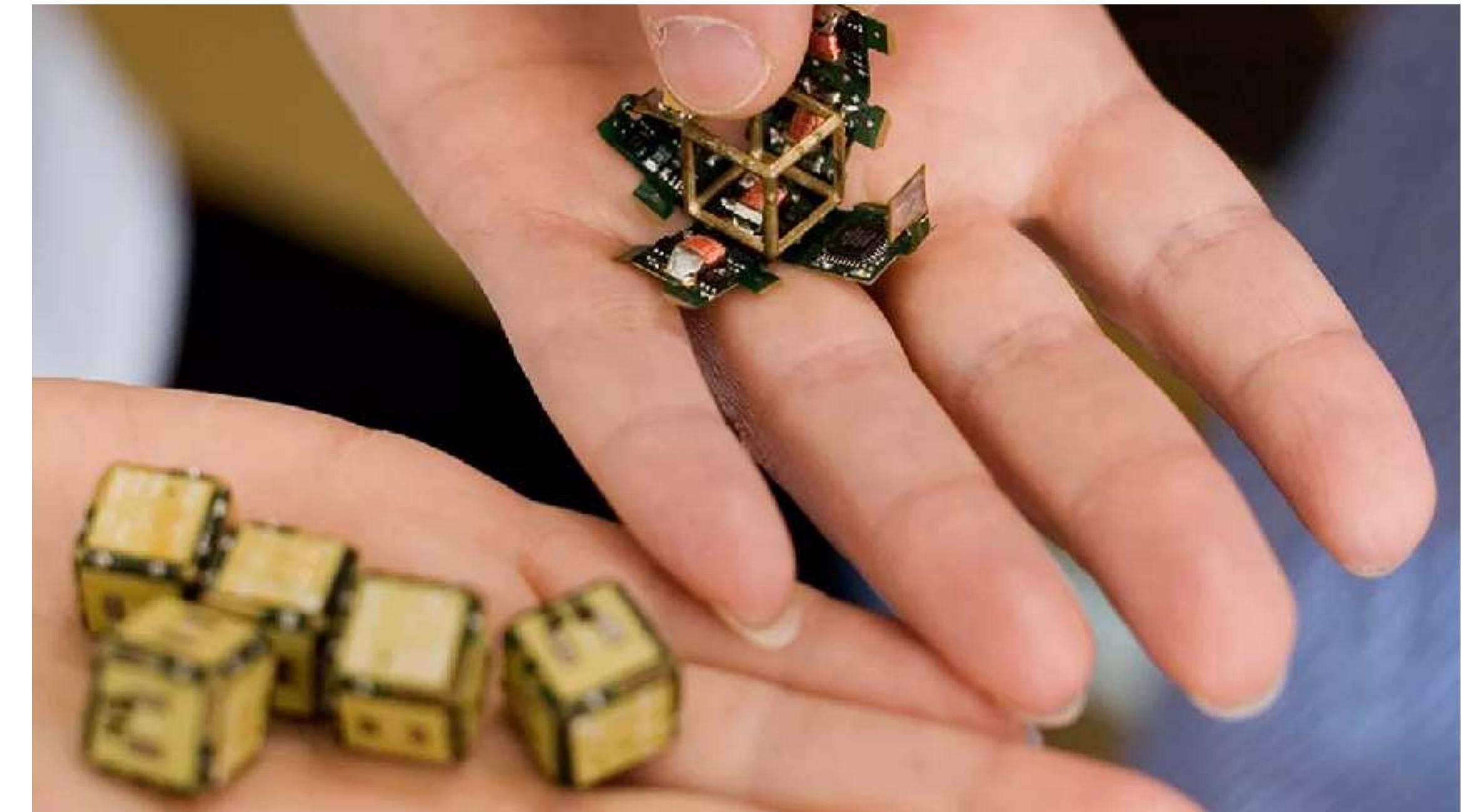
Technical Limitations

wireless power transformation



[IMWUT'18] *Luciola : A Millimeter-Scale Light-Emitting Particle Moving in Mid-Air Based On Acoustic Levitation and Wireless Powering*, Uno et al.

electro-permanent magnets

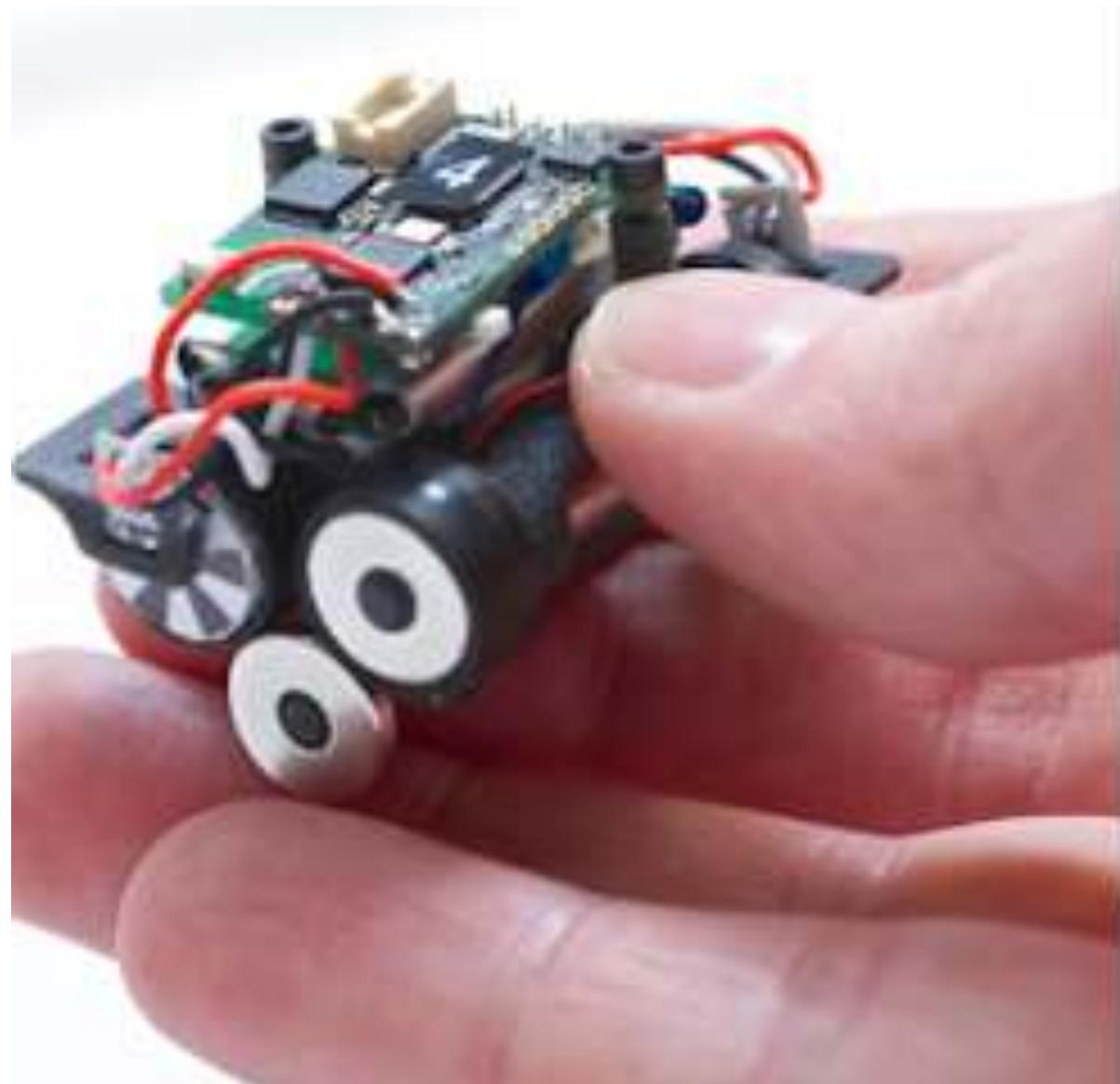


[ICRA'10] *Robot pebbles: One centimeter modules for programmable matter through self-disassembly*, Gilpin

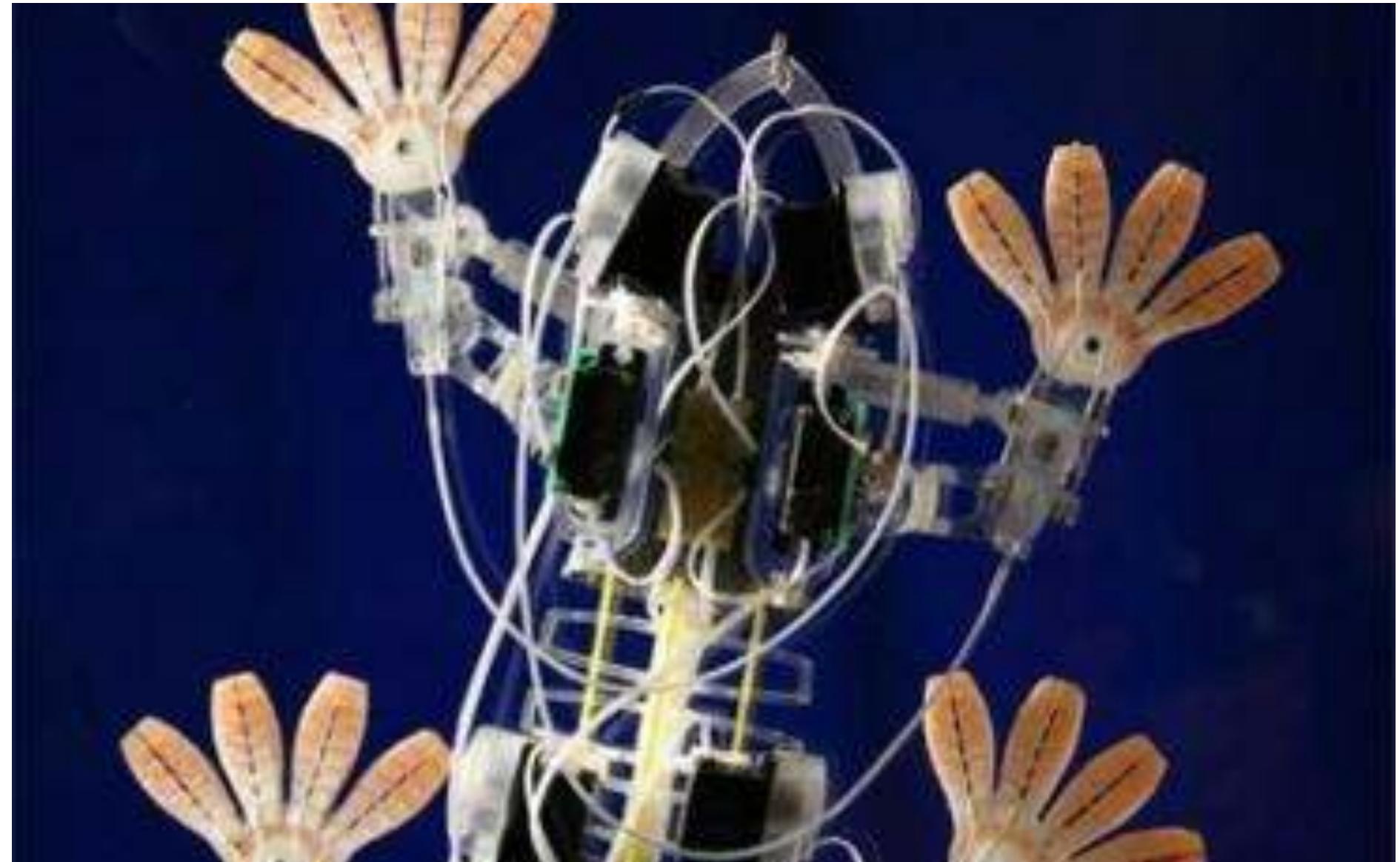
Q&A: Limitations and Future Work

Technical Limitations

on-body (magnet)



*wall-climbing
(gecko-inspired dry adhesion)*

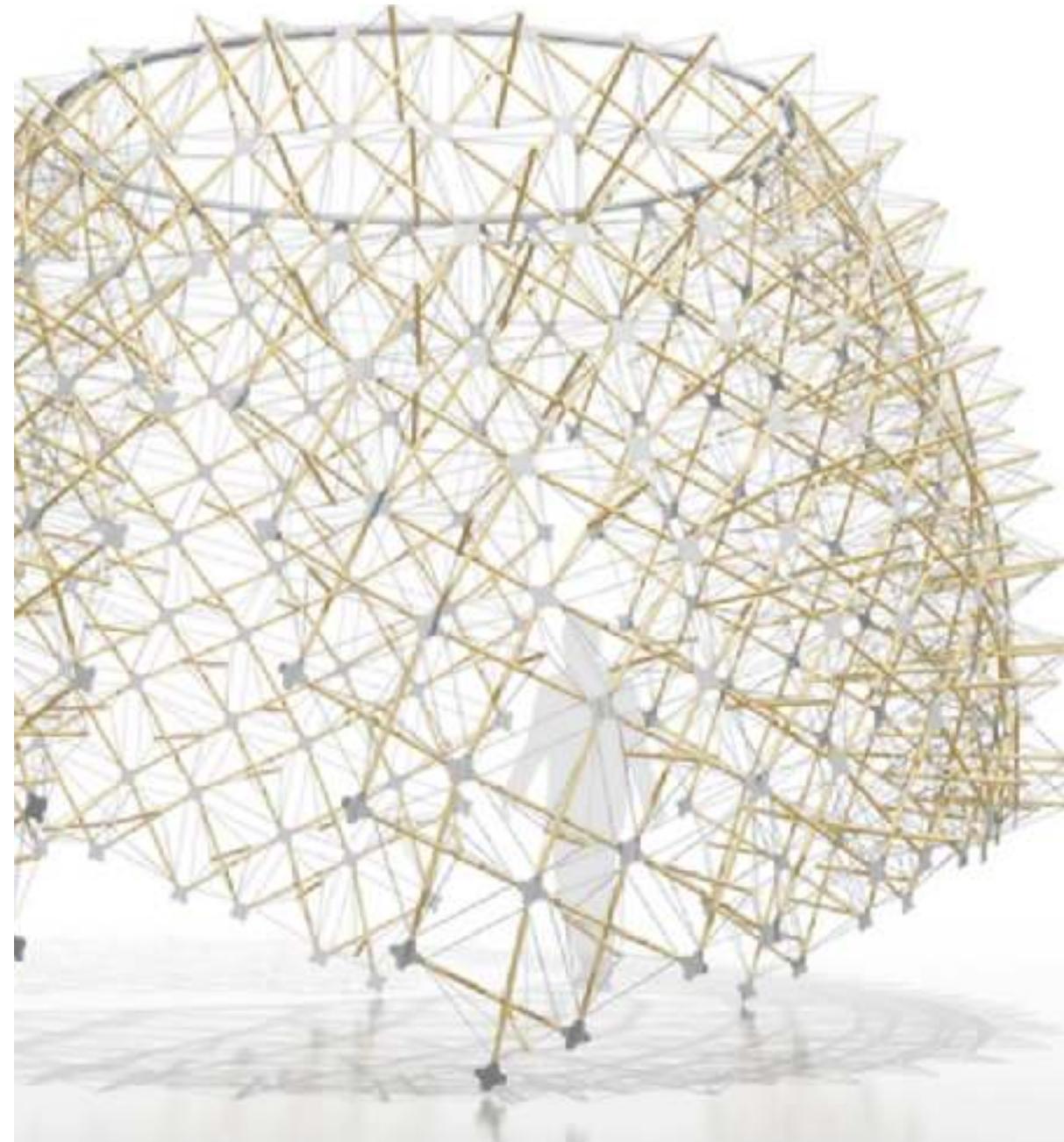


[UIST'16] *Rovables: Miniature On-Body Robots as Mobile Wearables*, Dementyev et al.

[ICRA'07] *Whole body adhesion: hierarchical, directional and distributed control of adhesive forces for a climbing robot*, Kim et al.

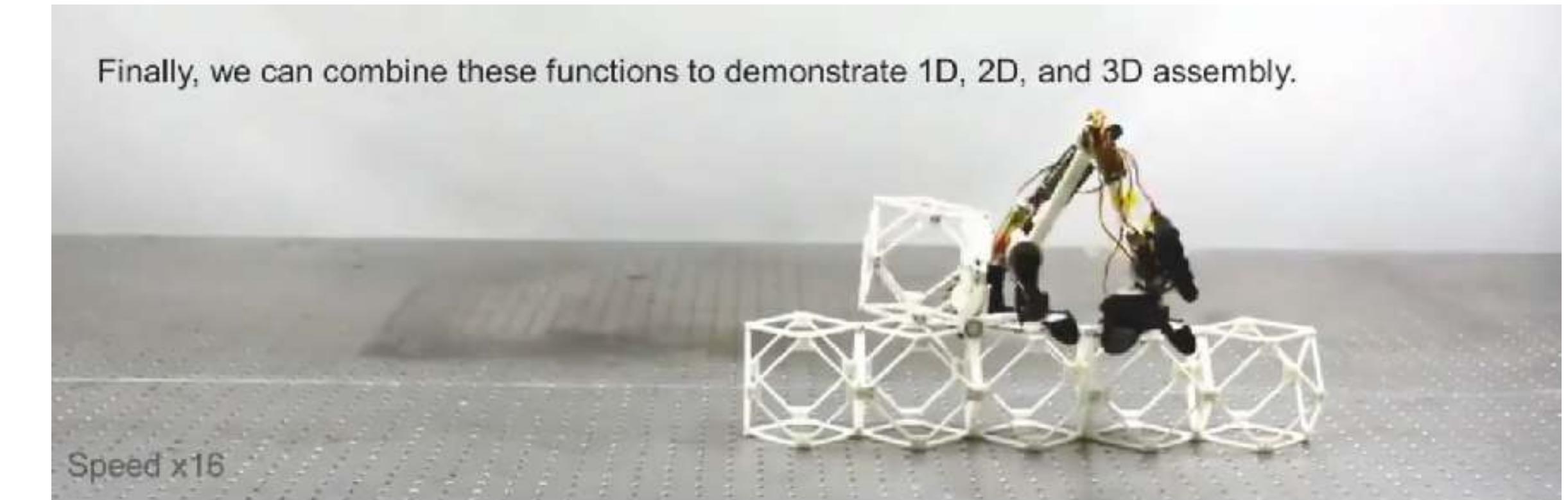
Q&A: Human in the Loop vs Autonomous

human-robot collaboration



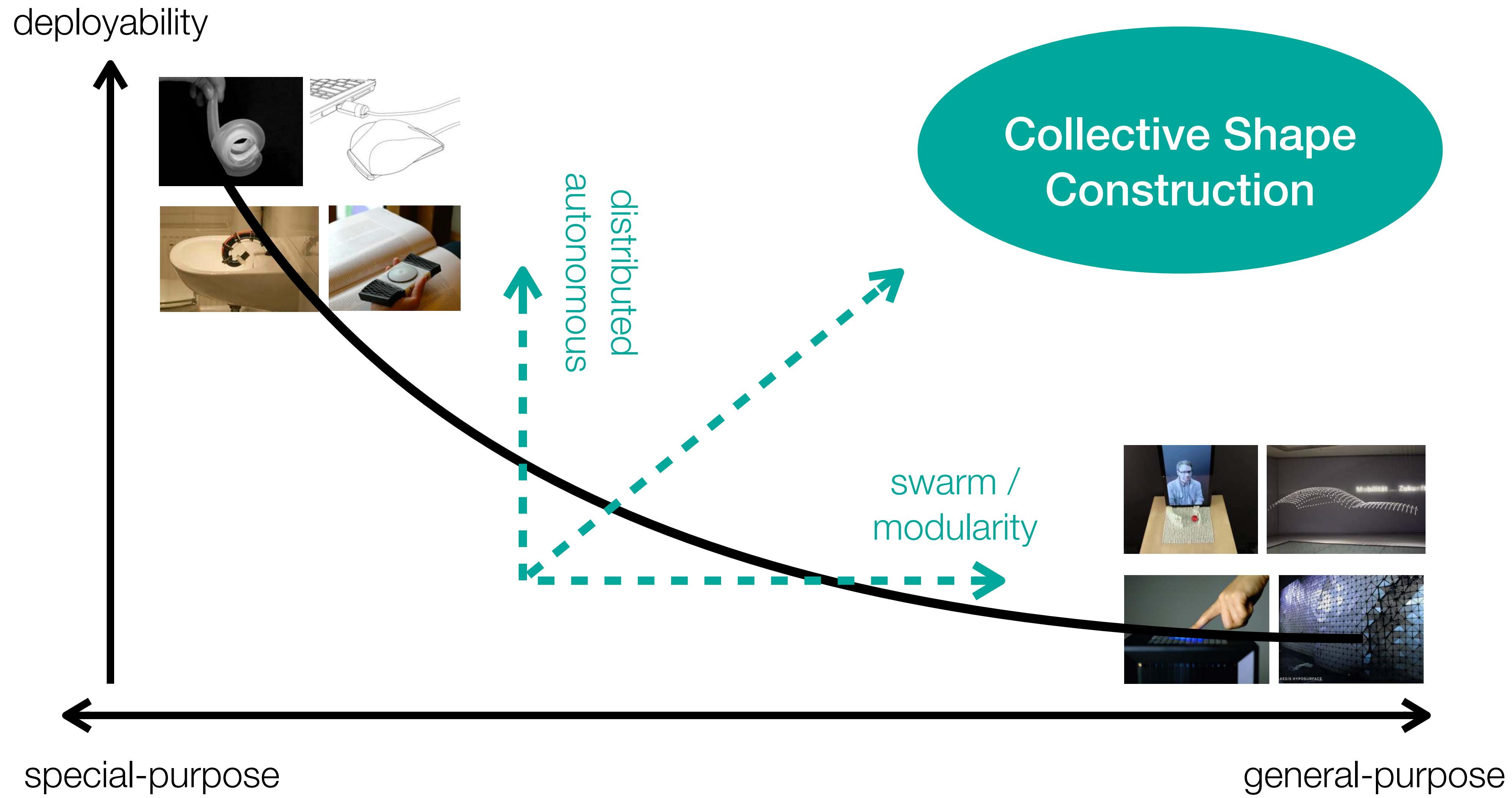
[UIST'16] Autodesk Hive - Crowdsourced Fabrication,
Lafreniere et al.

robotic construction

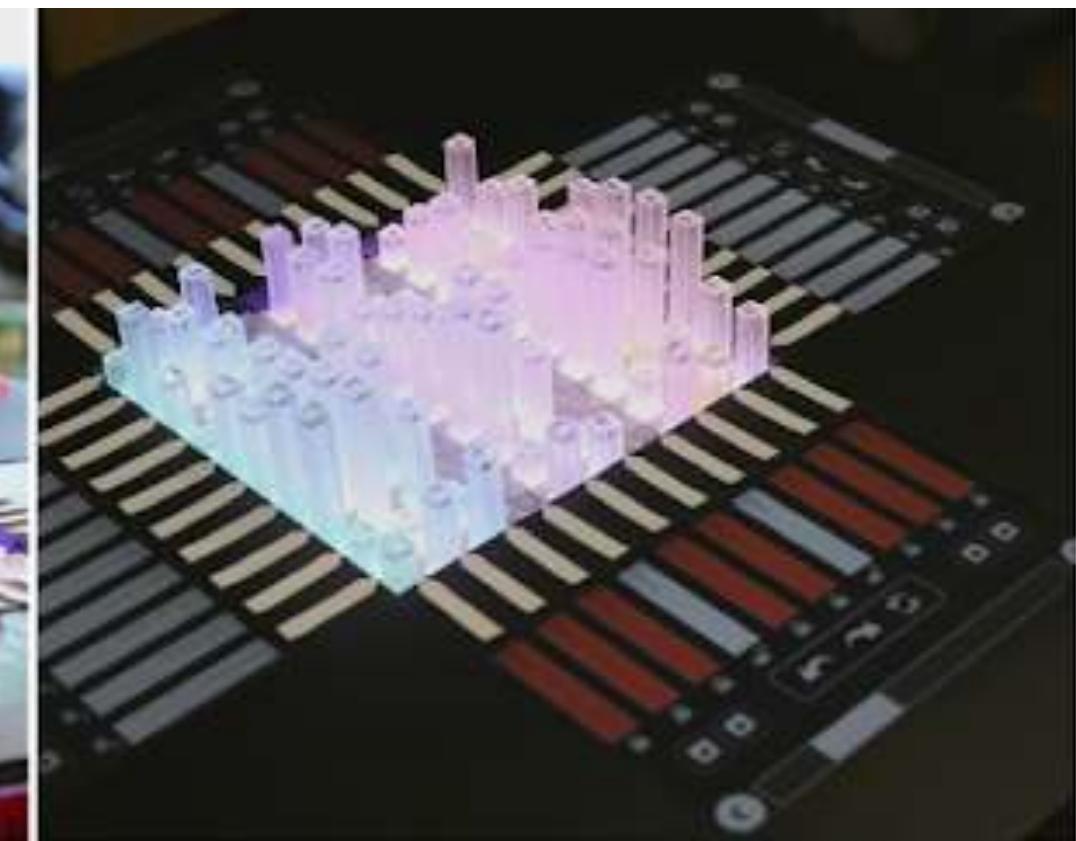


[AIAA'17] BILL-E: Robotic platform for locomotion and manipulation of lightweight space structures, Jenett

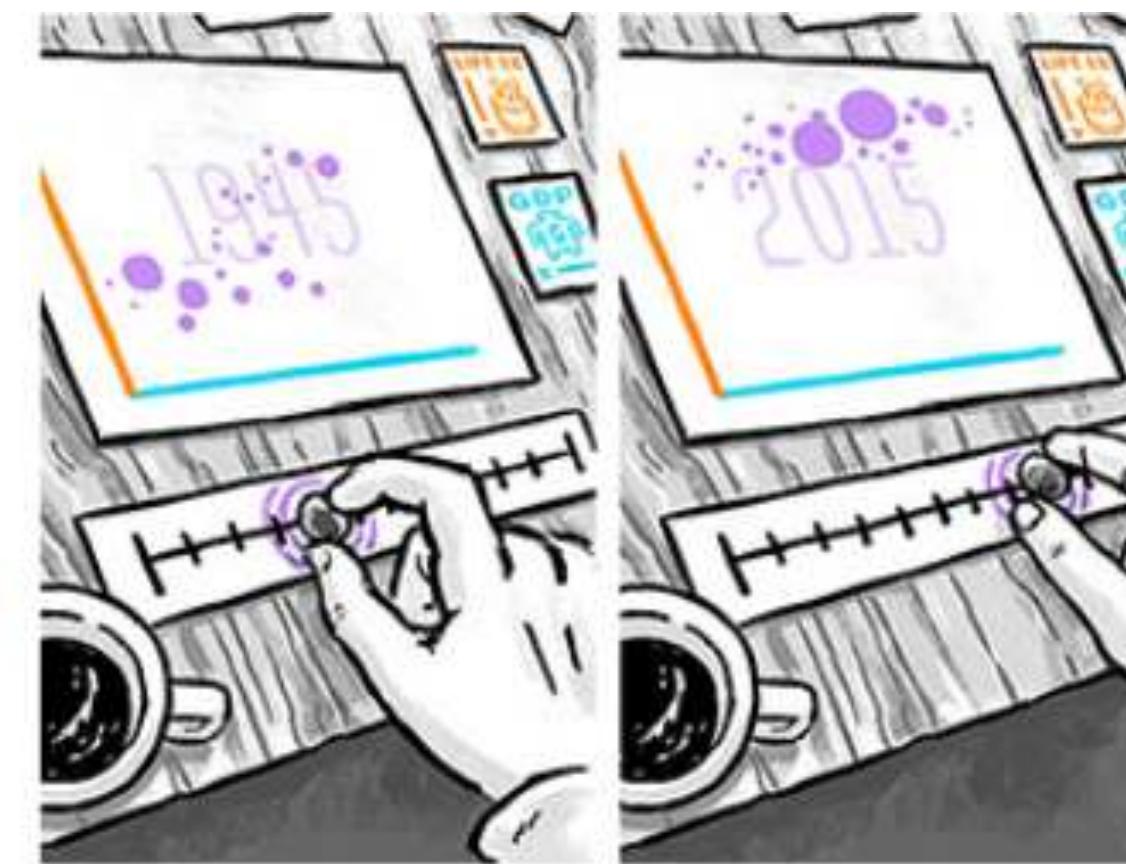
Q&A: Deployable / General-purpose



Q&A: Applications for Data Physicalization

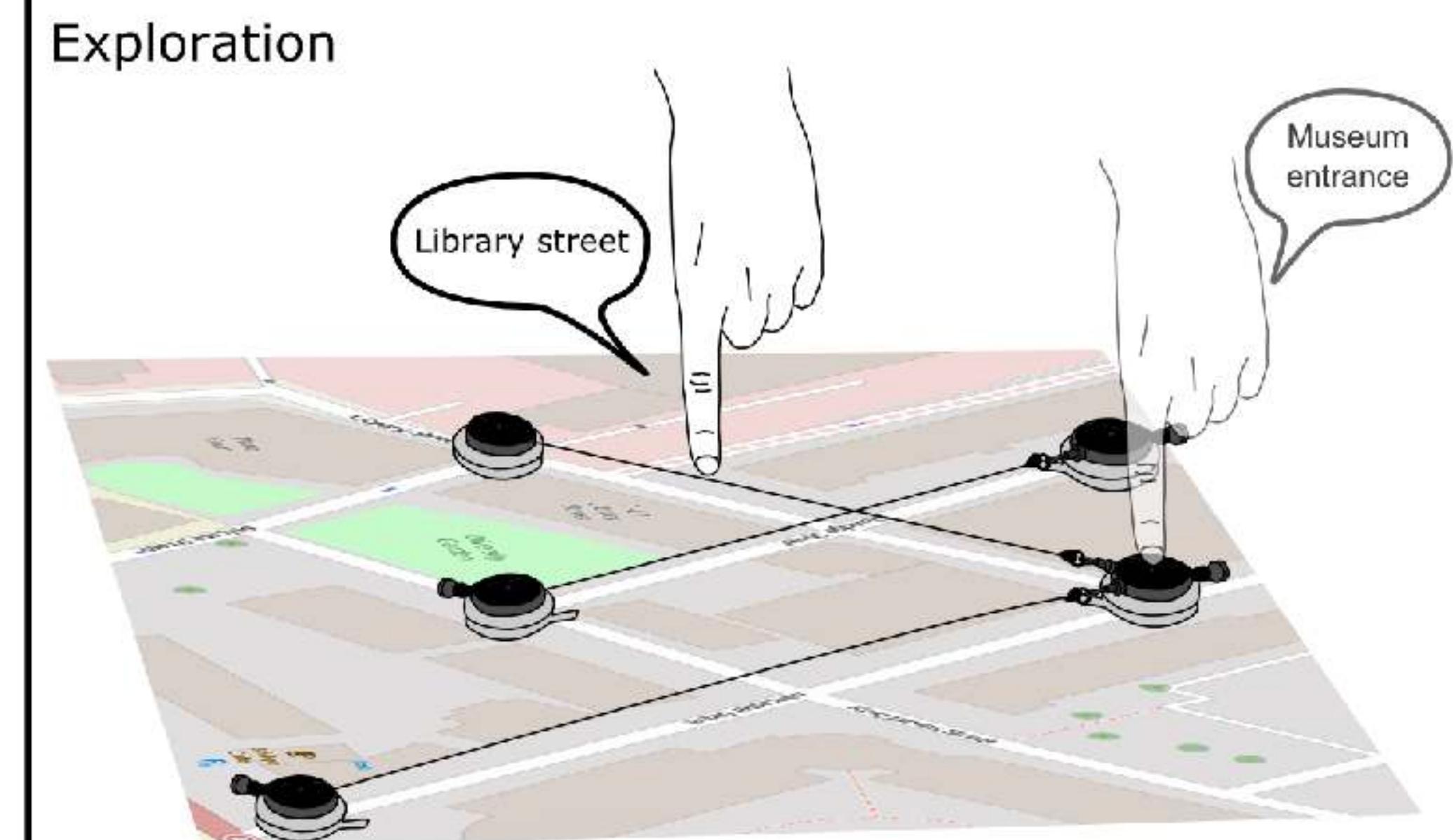
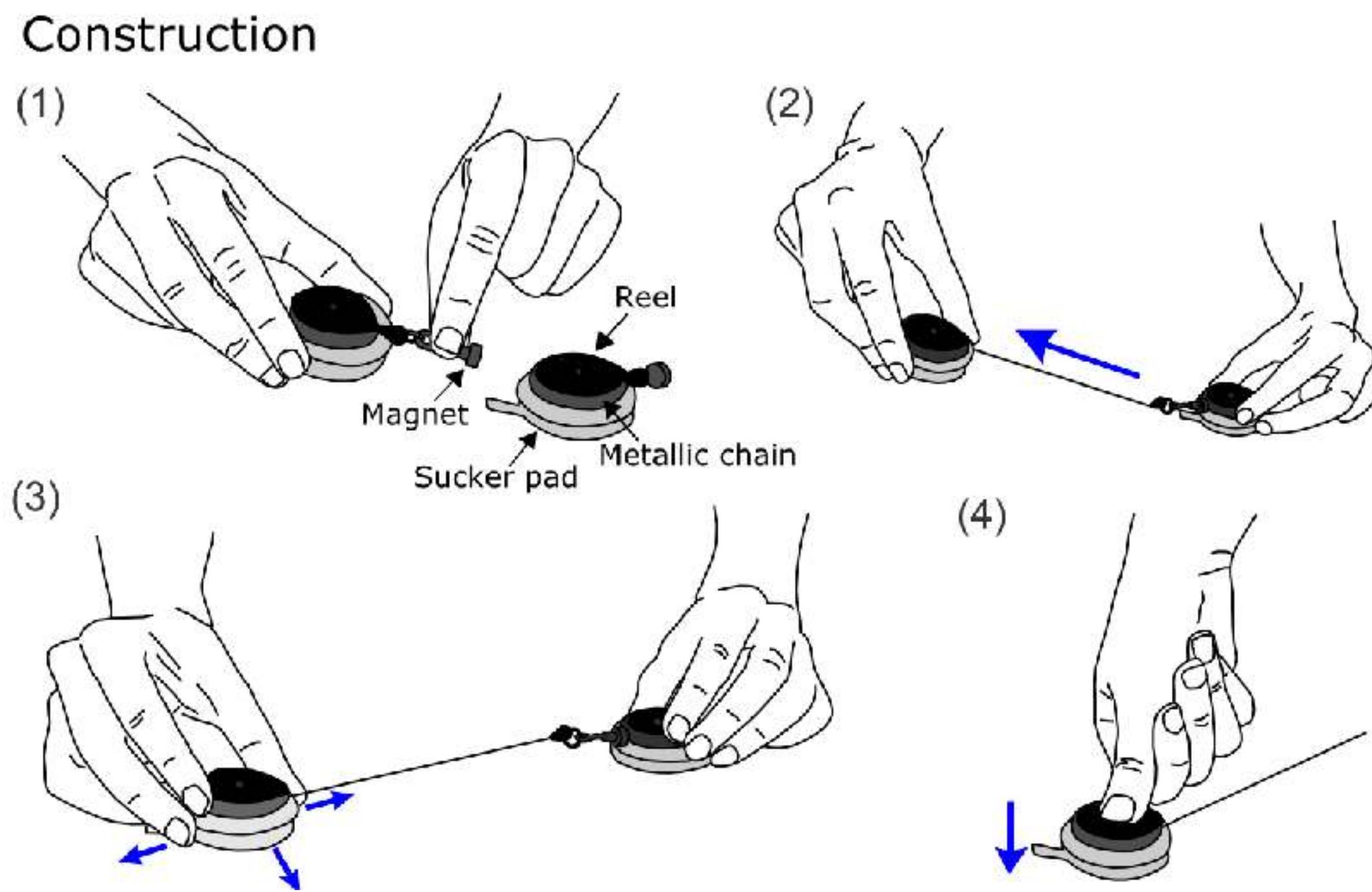


data physicalization



Q&A: Applications for Accessibility

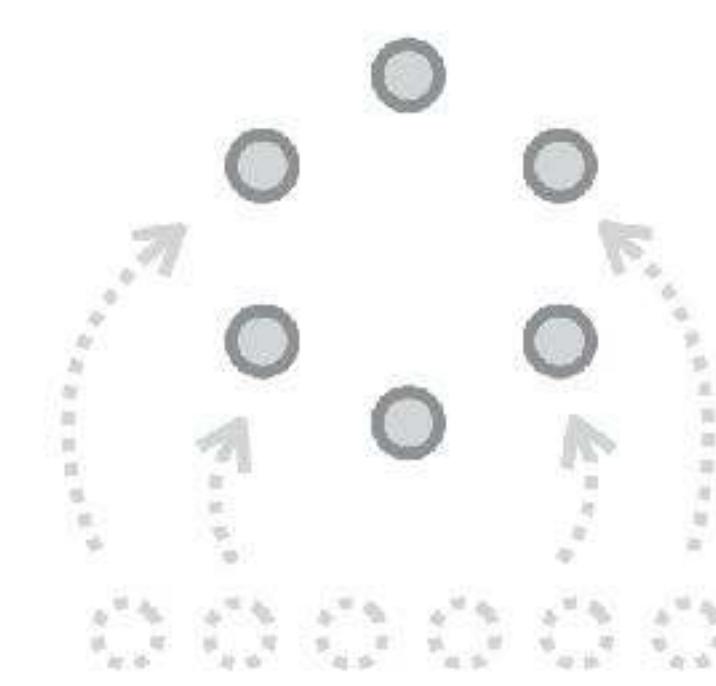
using robots as both inputs and outputs to help users construct



[CHI'16] *Tangible Reels: Construction and Exploration of Tangible Maps by Visually Impaired Users*, Ducasse et al.

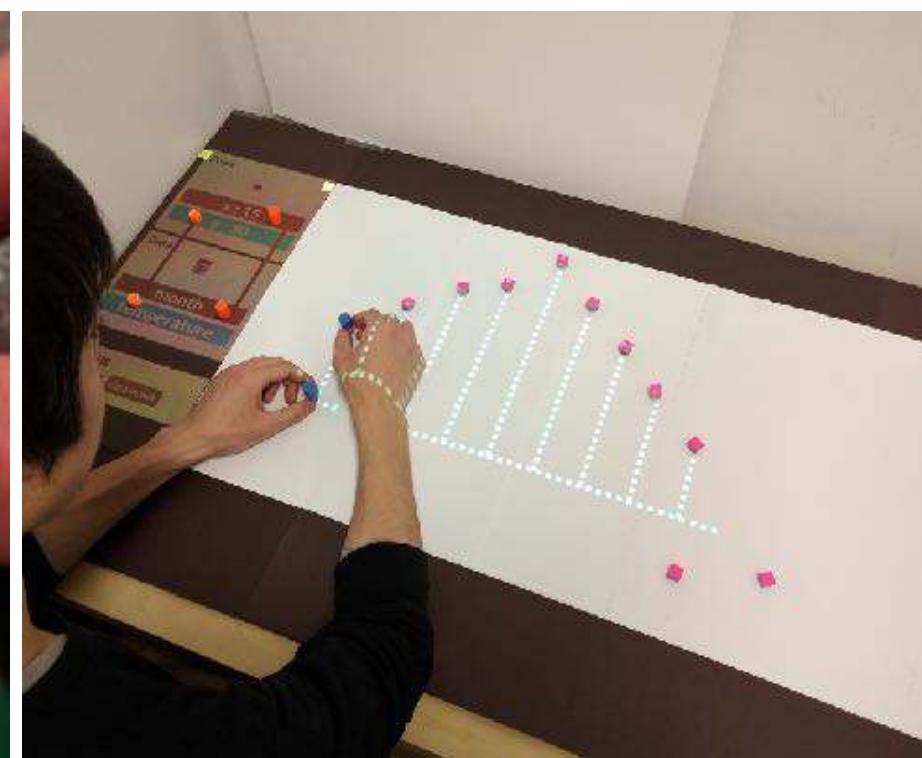
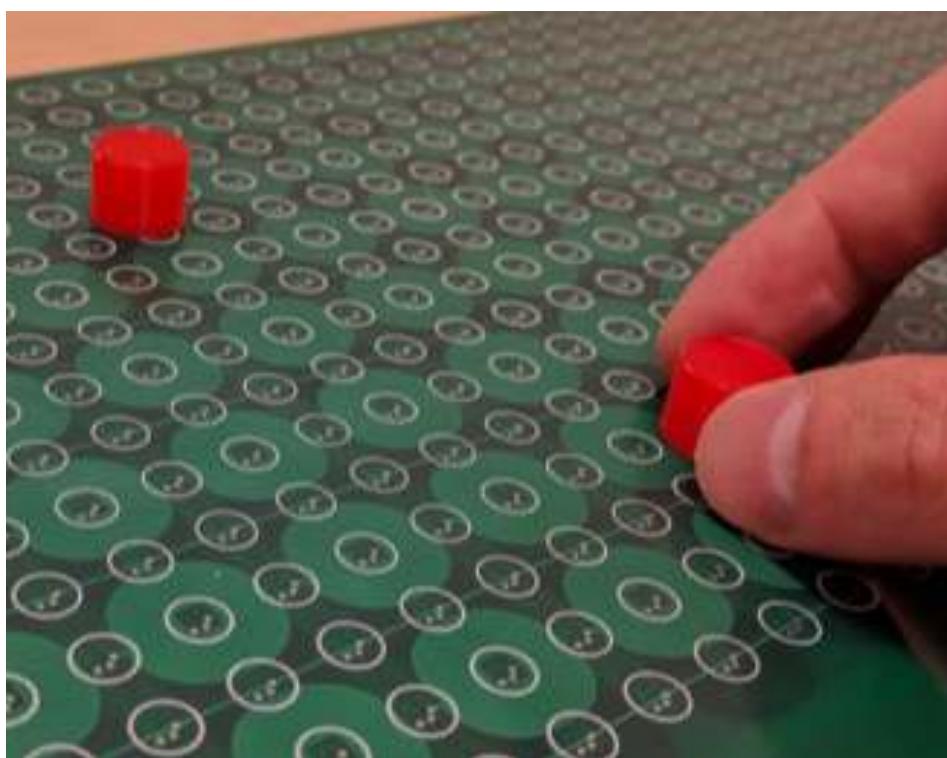
Q&A: Applications for Accessibility

Application: Tactile Assistant for Blind People



Parallel Actuation

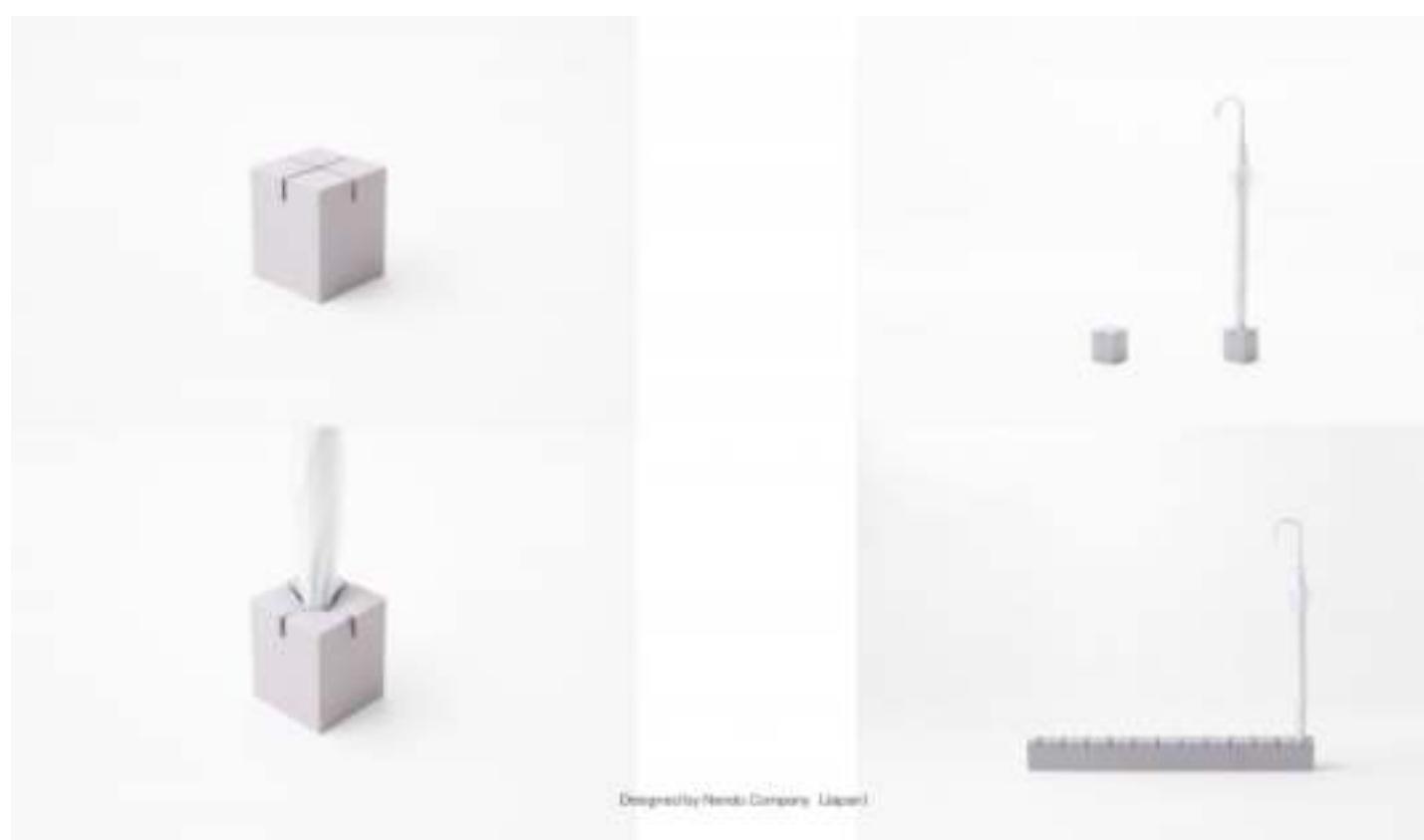
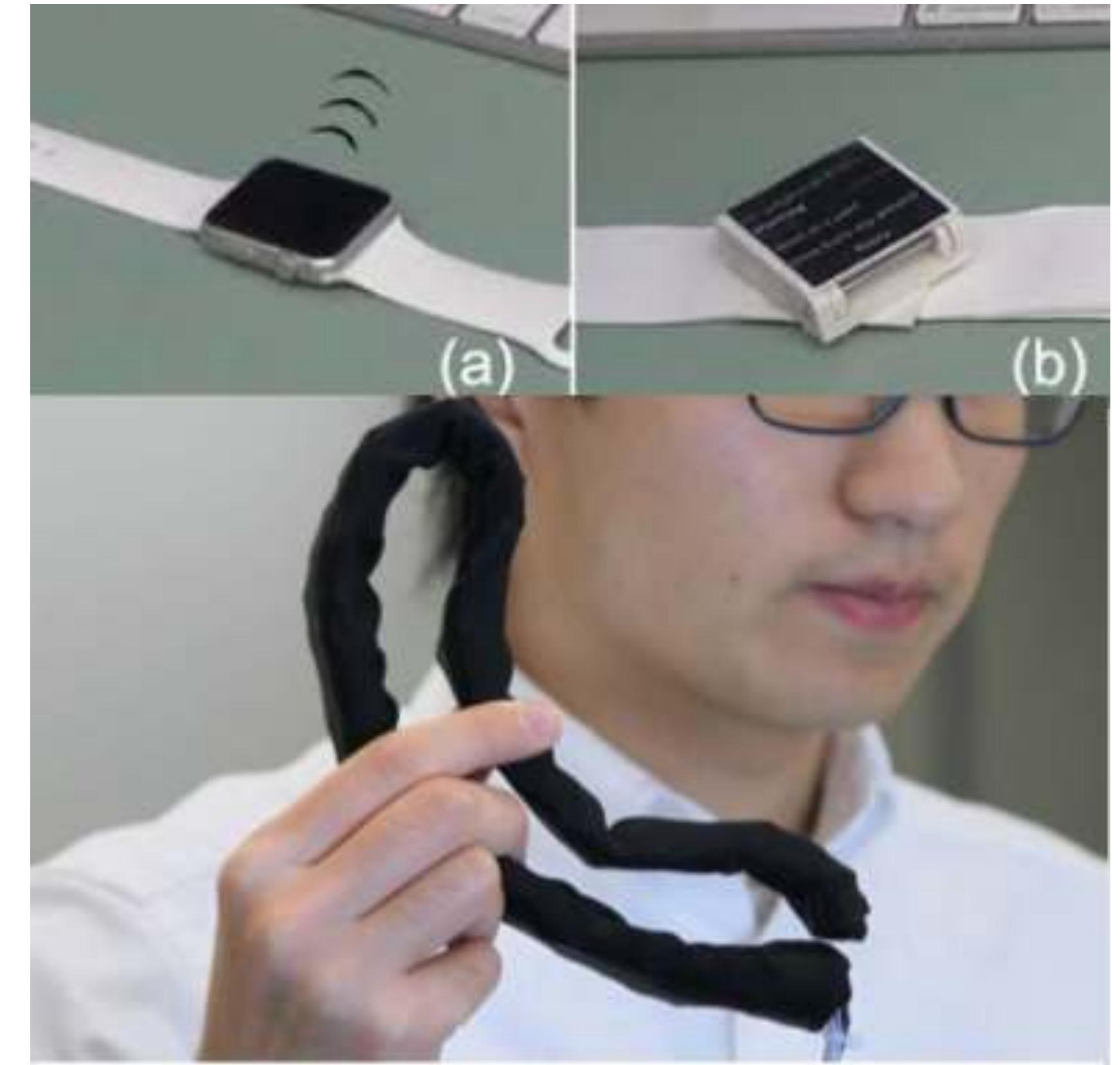
Parallel actuation of a swarm of magnetic markers for **sparse dots** representation



[ASSETS 2017] FluxMarker: Enhancing Tactile Graphics with Dynamic Tactile Markers by Suzuki, Stangl, Gross, and Yeh

[CHI 2018] Reactile: Programming Swarm User Interfaces through Direct Physical Manipulation by Suzuki, Kato, Gross, and Yeh

Q&A: Dynamic Physical Affordances



Q&A: Dynamic Physical Affordances



Q&A: Global vs Local Computation

*computation /
communication*

central control vs local control (all projects)

sensing / tracking

only support position tracking (e.g., ShapeBots)

power supply

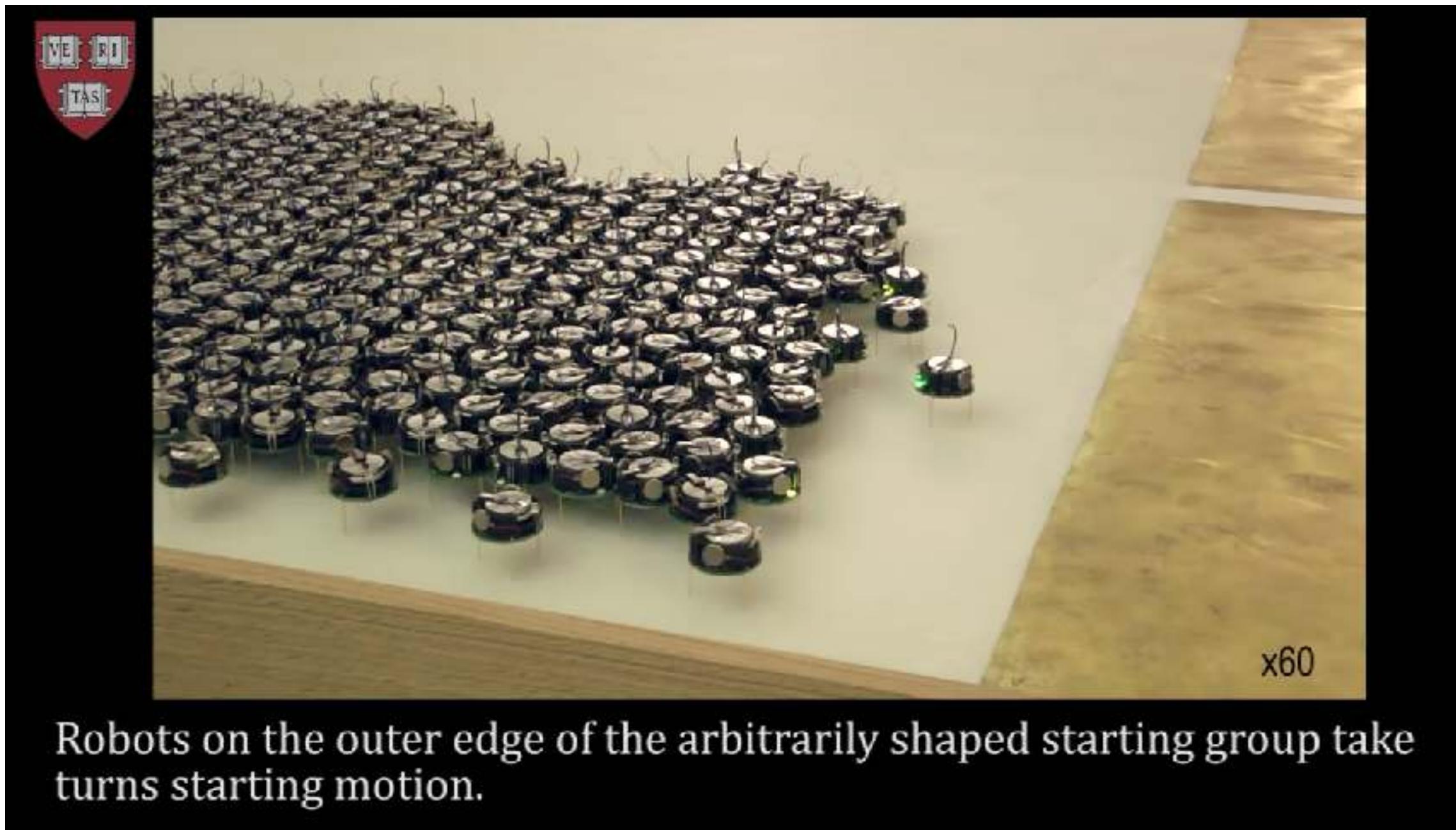
only last less than hours (e.g., ShapeBots)

*connection /
disconnection*

not very stable (e.g., Dynablock)

Q&A: Global vs Local Computation

distributed control



[Science'14] Programmable Self-Assembly in a Thousand-Robot Swarm, Rubenstein et al.

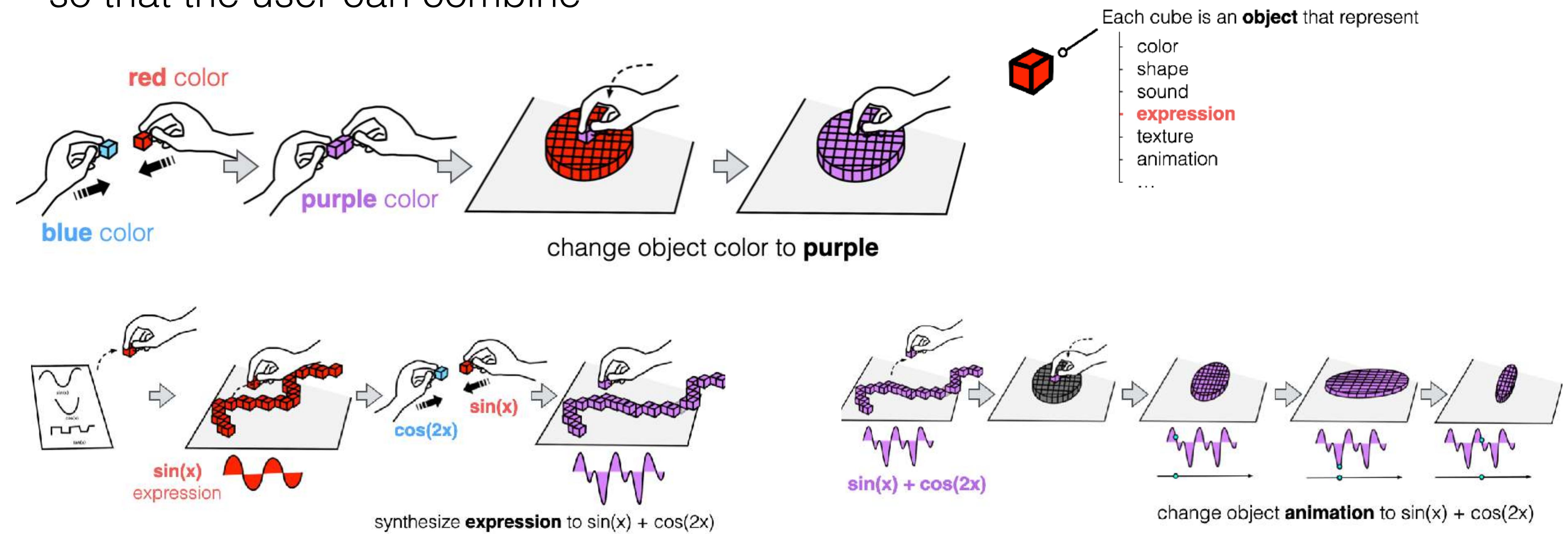
global-to-local compiler



[Science'14] Designing Collective Behavior in a Termite-inspired Robot Construction Team, Werfel et al.

Q&A: Alternative Programming

Object-oriented programming: each element can memorize property so that the user can combine



Q&A: Soft vs Rigid

swarm soft robots



[PLOS ONE'17] Soft Modular Robotic Cubes: Toward Replicating Morphogenetic Movements of the Embryo, Vergara et al.

modular soft robots



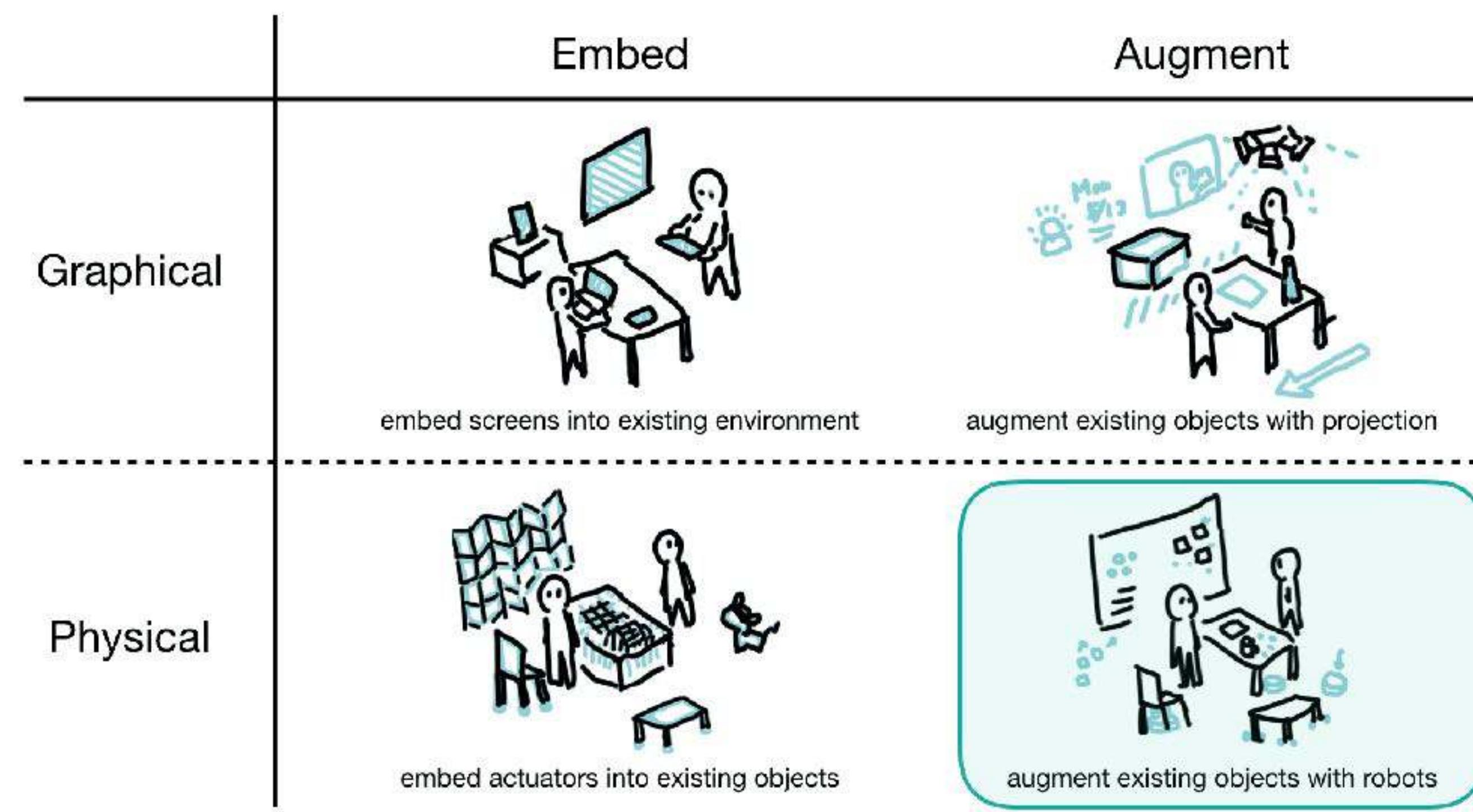
[DIS'19] MorphIO: MorphIO: Entirely Soft Sensing and Actuation Modules for Programming Shape Changes through Tangible Interaction, Nakayama et al.

Q&A: Embedded vs Augmented



swarm robots

that are seamlessly blended
and integrated into everyday life

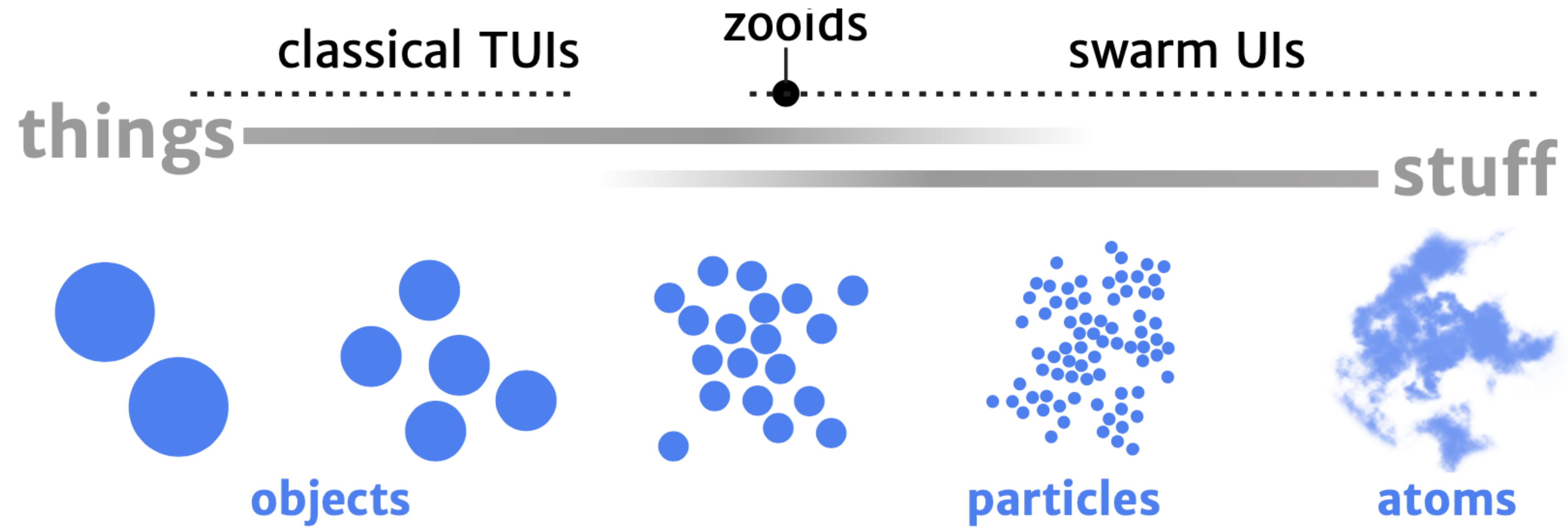


Q&A: Embedded vs Augmented



Immersive Analytics: Definition

Q&A: Things vs Stuff



The continuum between “things” and “stuff” [source: Zooids, Le Goc et al. 2016] 192

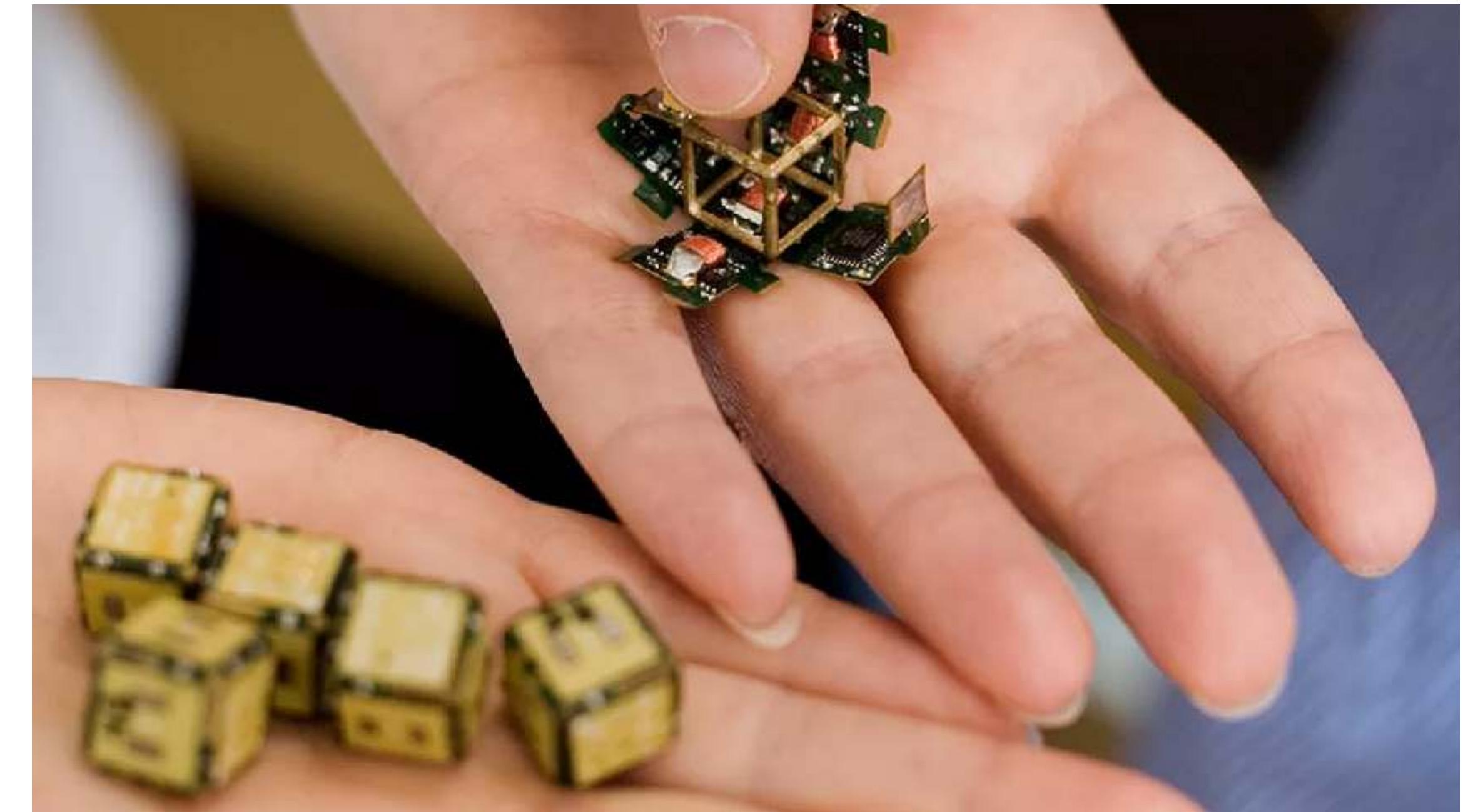
Q&A: Miniaturization: Towards mm-scale

wireless power transformation



[IMWUT'18] *Luciola : A Millimeter-Scale Light-Emitting Particle Moving in Mid-Air Based On Acoustic Levitation and Wireless Powering, Uno et al.*

electro-permanent magnets

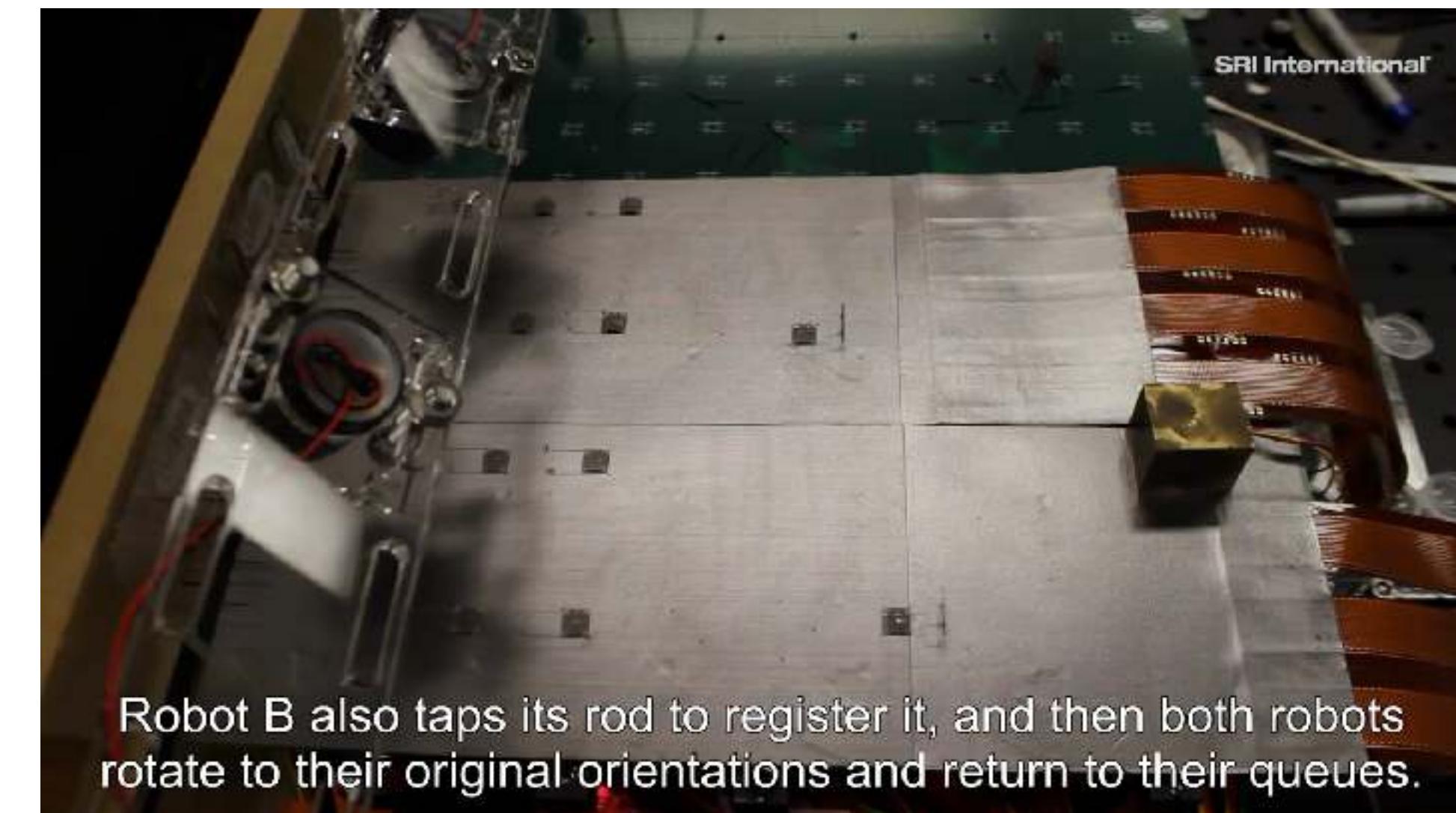


[ICRA'10] *Robot pebbles: One centimeter modules for programmable matter through self-disassembly, Gilpin*

Q&A: Miniaturization: Towards mm-scale



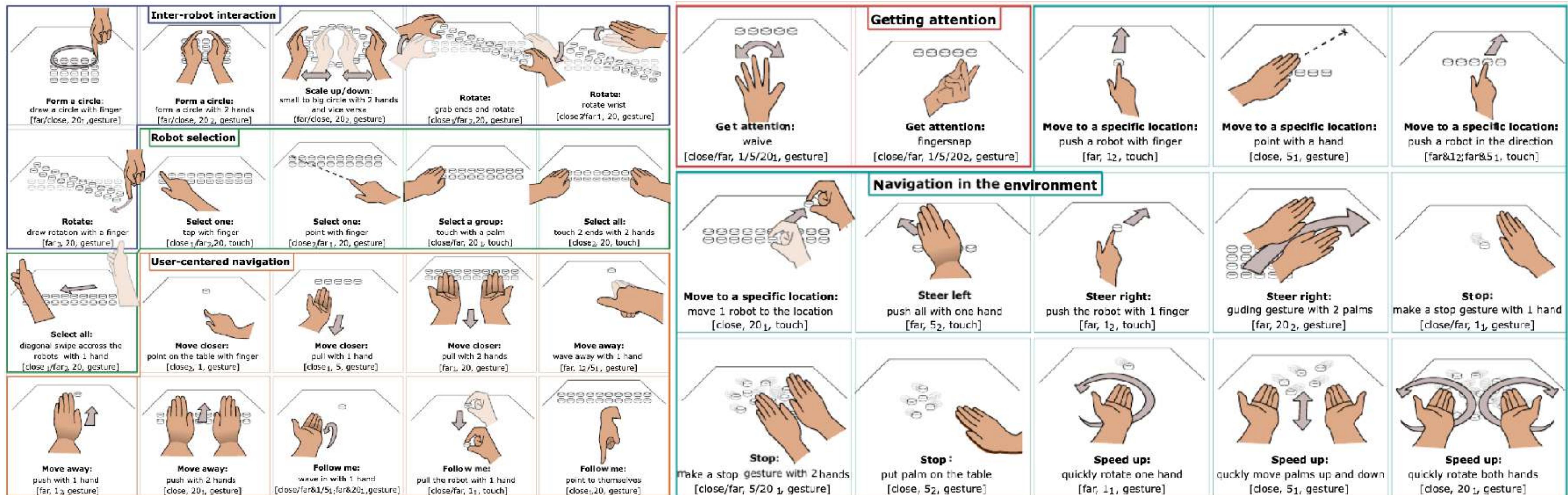
e.g., *Universal Planar Manipulator by Dan Reznik*



Robot B also taps its rod to register it, and then both robots rotate to their original orientations and return to their queues.

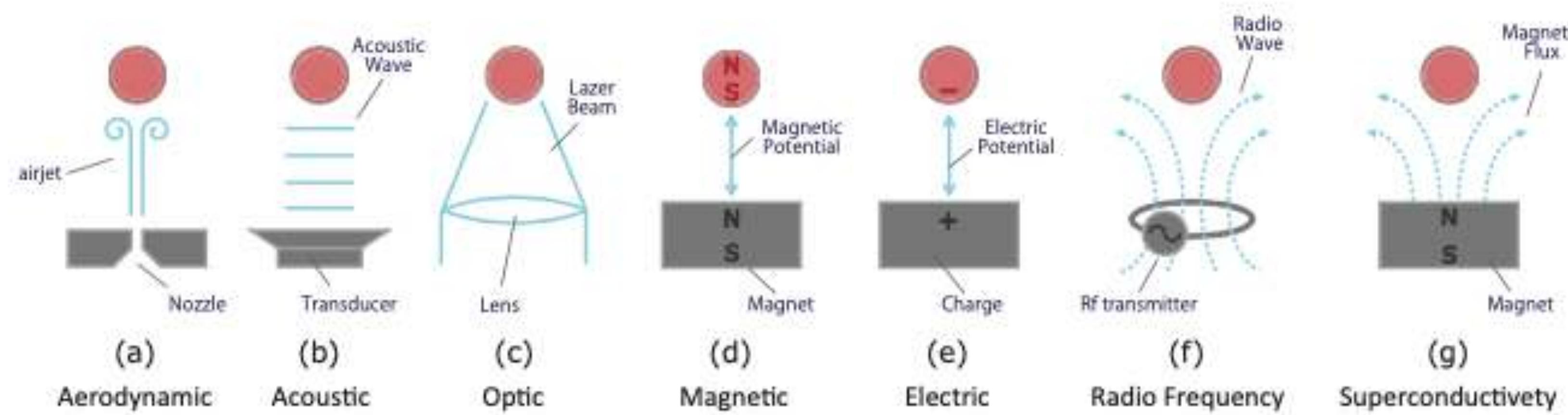
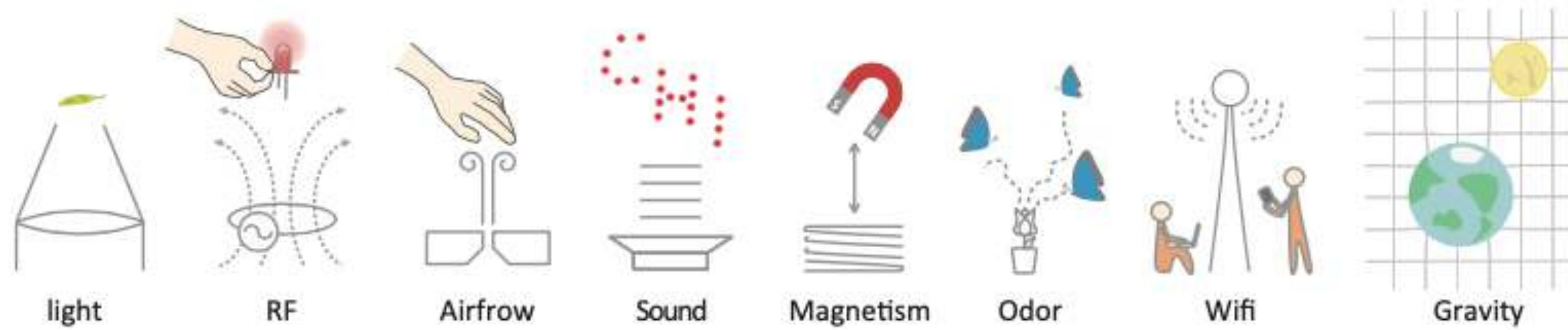
e.g., *SRI micro factory*

Q&A: Interactions



e.g., Kim et al. User-defined Swarm Robot Control [CHI'20]

Q&A: Design / Technology Choice

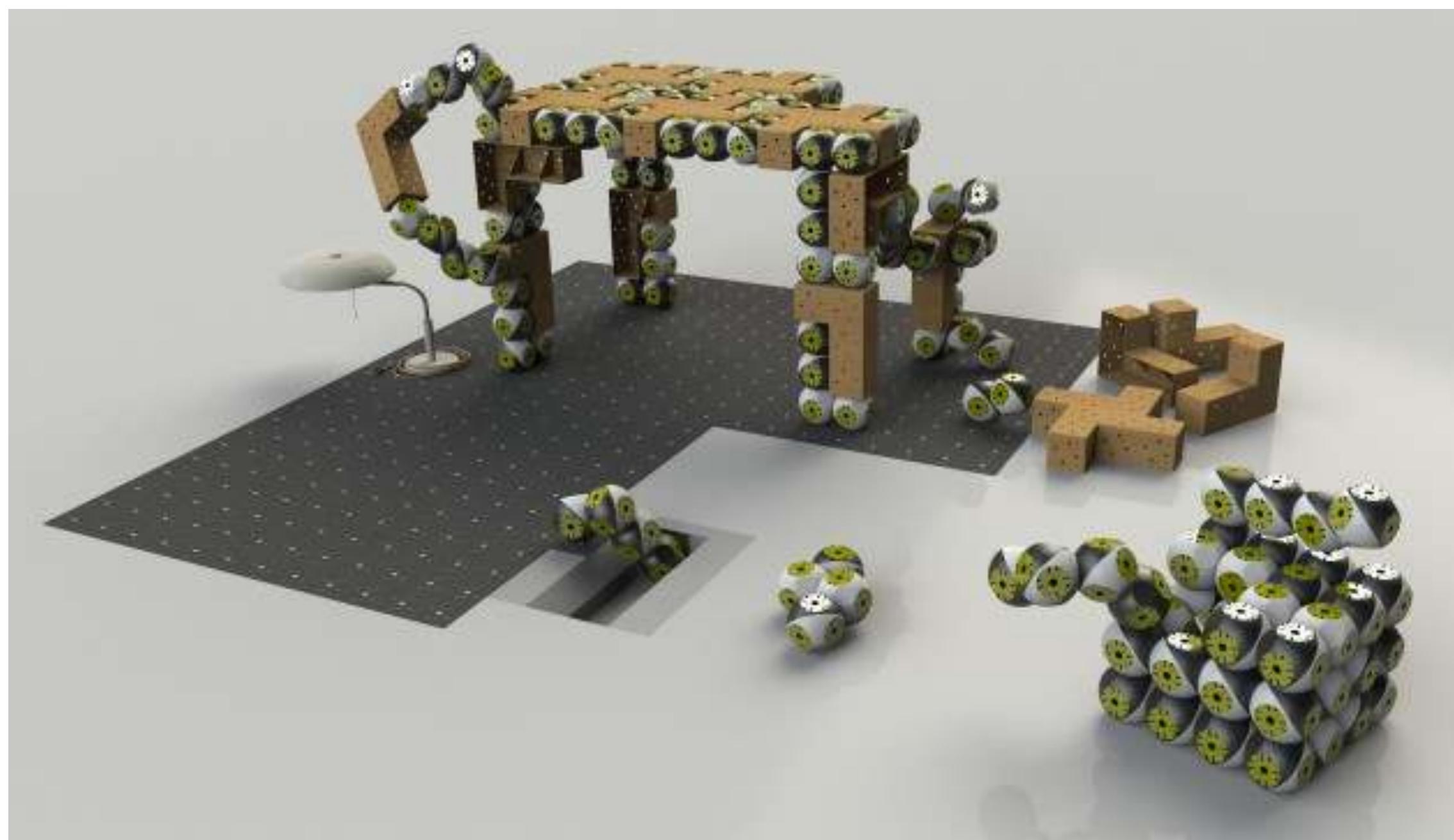


Q&A: Self-assembly vs External Assembly

self actuation



external actuation

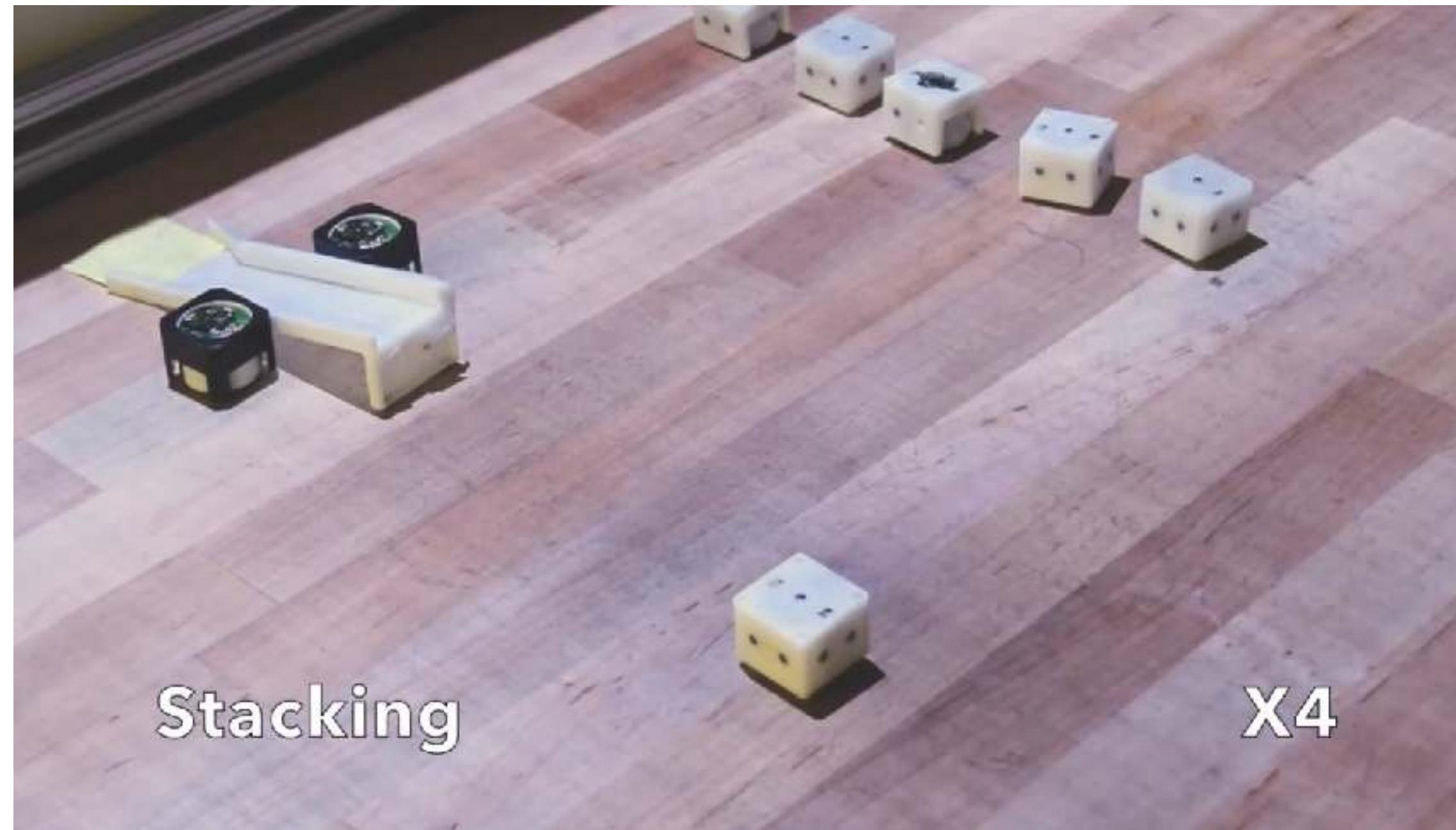


[ICRA'09] Roombots: Mechanical design of self-reconfiguring modular robots for adaptive furniture, Sprowitz et al.



BioMolecular Self-Assembly, Tibbits et al.

Q&A: Self-assembly vs External Assembly



[ISS'17] Robotic Assembly of Haptic Proxy Objects for Tangible Interaction and Virtual Reality, Zhao et al.

Q&A: Collective Actuation

