

Perceiving Humans

Angjoo Kanazawa

CS280

March 31, 2025

Logistics

- Today: 2D/3D Humans
- HW3 up on keypoint detection
- Wednesday: Jitendra
- Next Monday: Learning to predict correspondences
 - → Released papers for you to read in advance on Ed
- Today after class project proposal

Perceiving Humans

From Recognition to Detection to Reconstruction

Why perceive humans?

- Well they are the most important thing



Learning to act from visual observation



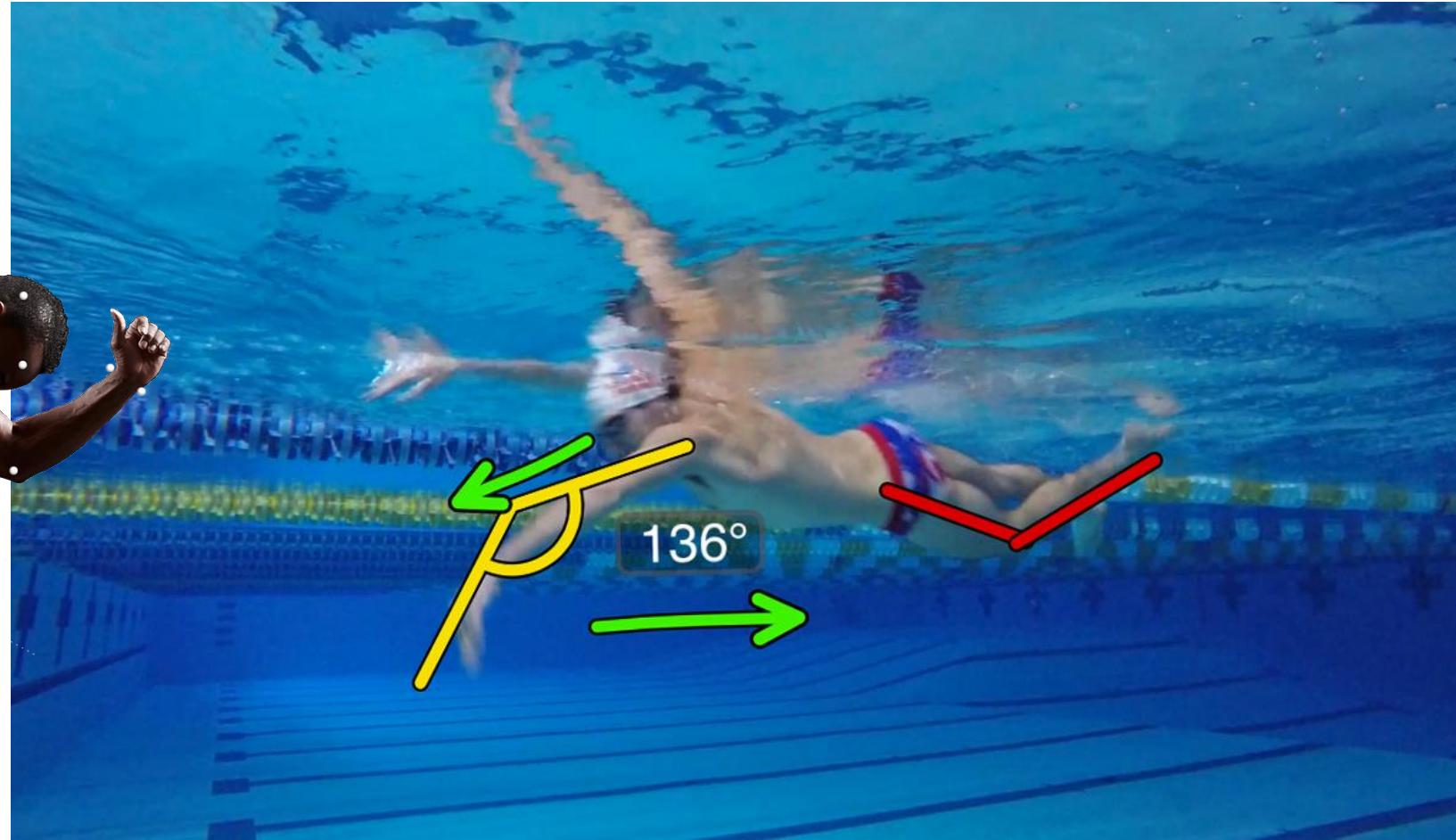
Anticipating human behavior



Sport analysis



OptiTrack



MySwimPro

Medical diagnosis and treatment



Photo Credit: Qualisys

Challenges

Why is perceiving humans hard?



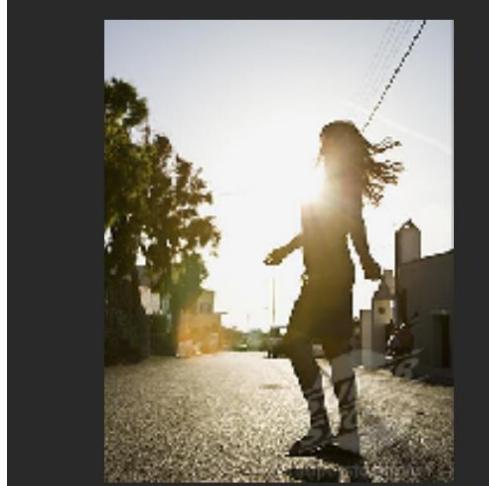
variation in appearance



variation in pose, viewpoint

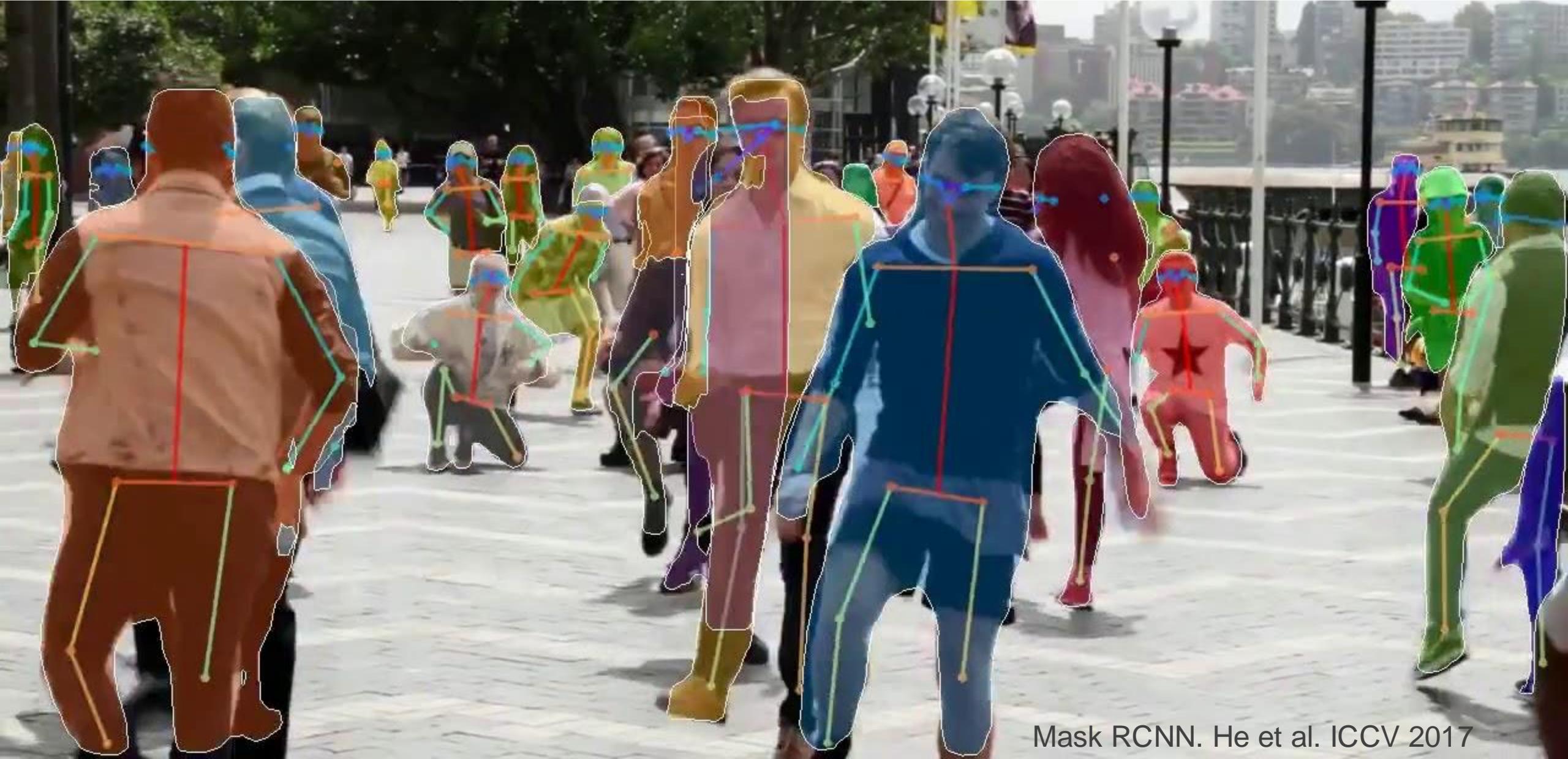


occlusion & clutter

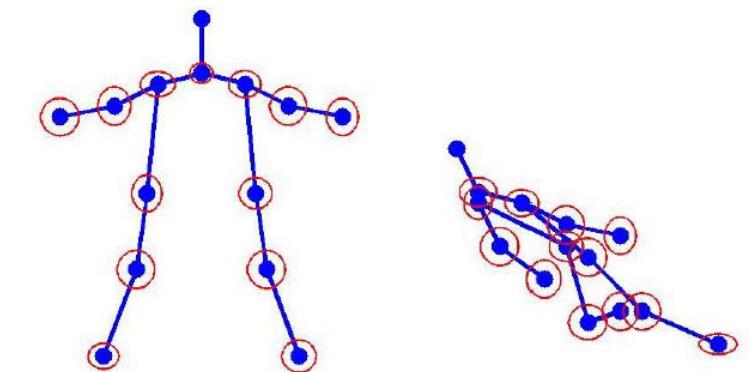
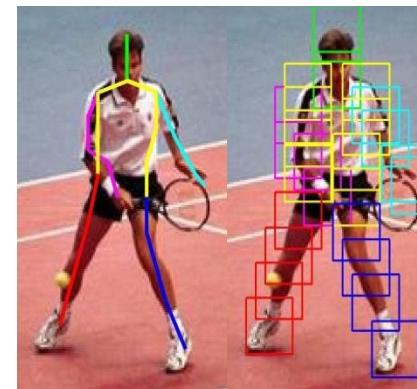
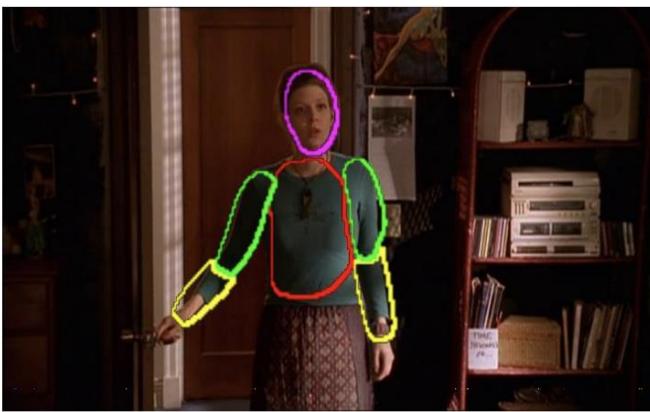
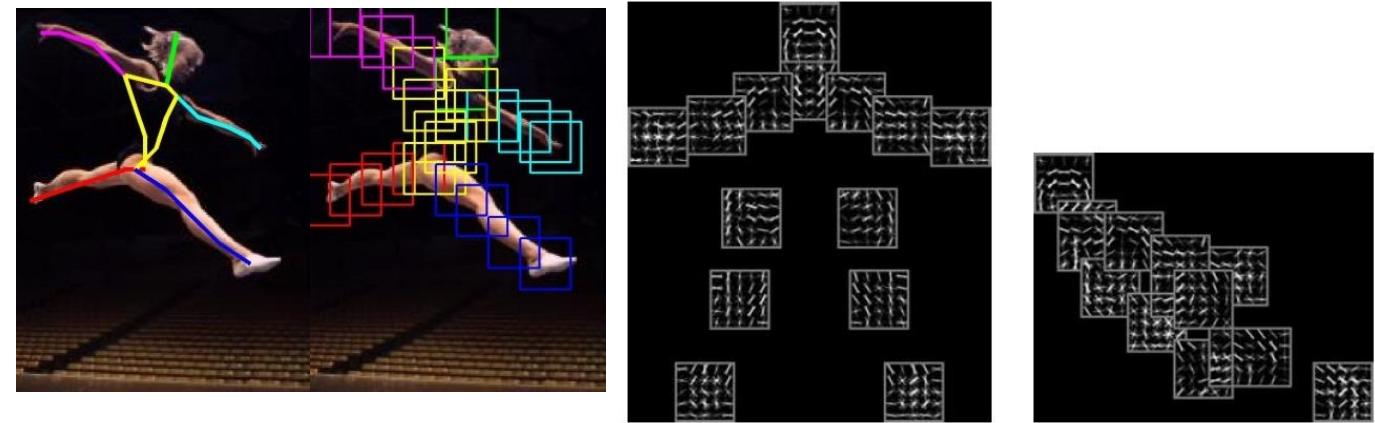
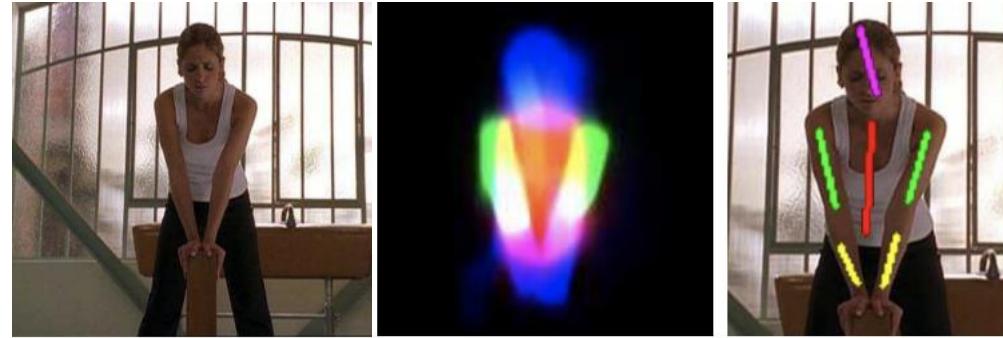


variation in illumination

2D Humans



Parts develop finer into joints & keypoints



[Ferrari, Marín-Jiménez and Zisserman CVPR '08]

Articulated Human Pose Estimation with Flexible Mixtures of Parts
[Yang and Ramanan CVPR '11]

Datasets are introduced

Leeds Sports Pose (**LSP**)

[Johnson and Everingham, CVPR '11]



11000 Train
1000 Test

Frames Labeled in Cinema (**FLIC**)



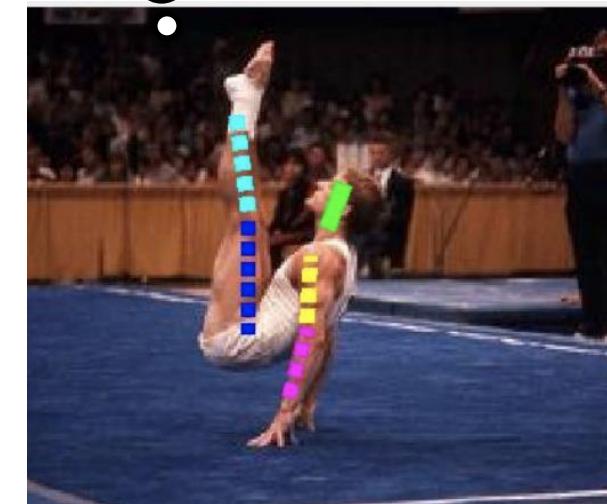
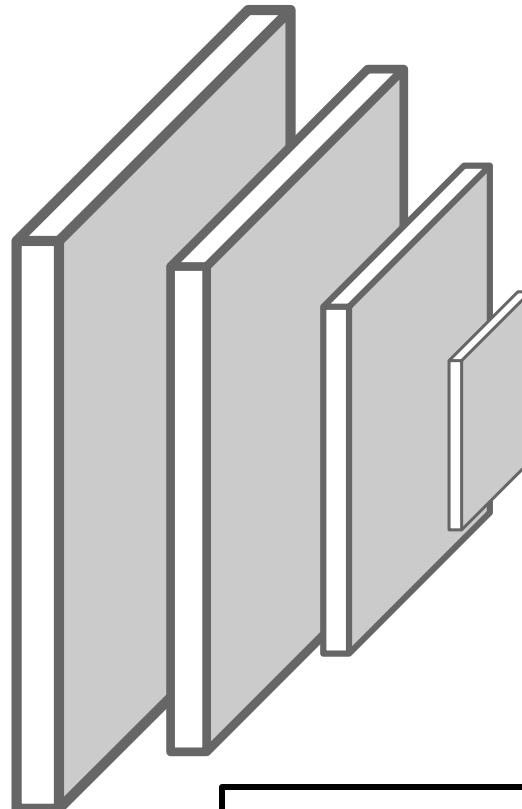
4000 Train
1000 Test

Deep Learning Era

How do we
represent/parametrize
2D human pose???



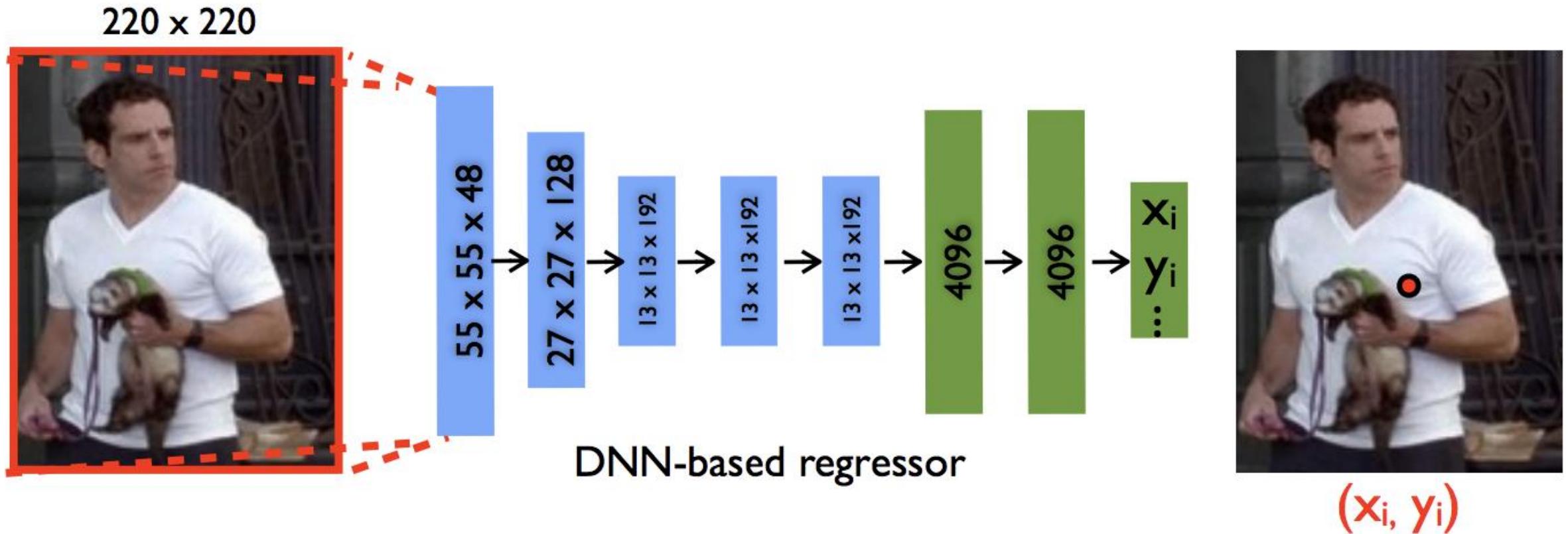
Input



Output

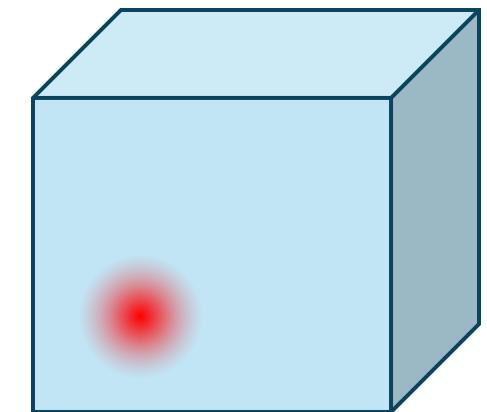
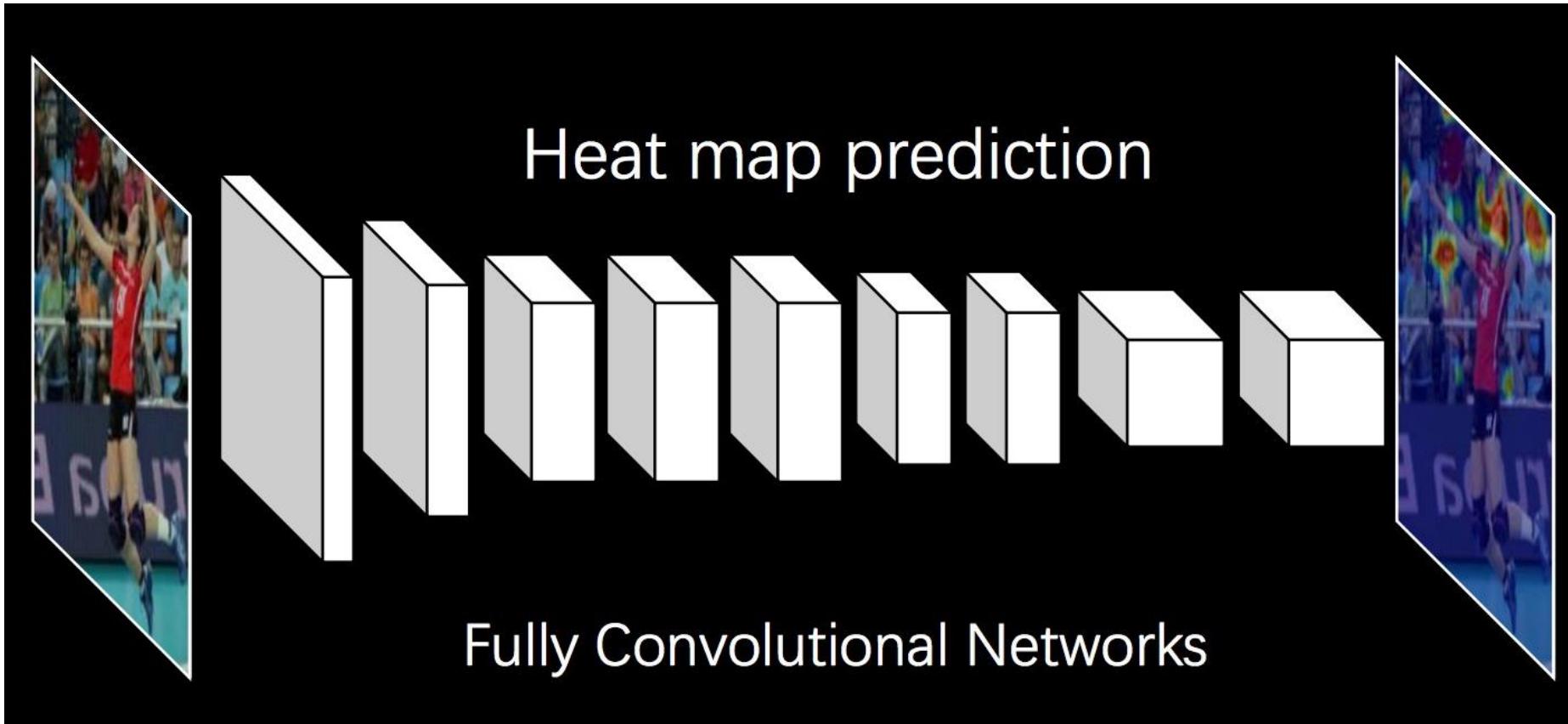
What should the
network output?

Predicting keypoints



DeepPose: Human Pose Estimation via Deep Neural Networks
[Toshev and Szegedy 2014]

Predict heat maps



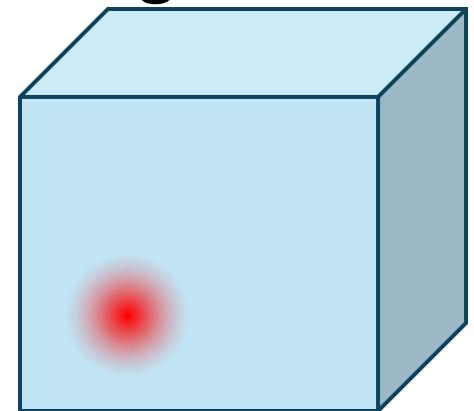
Target: $K+1 \times H \times W$
Gaussian around
(x, y) for k-th
keypoint in the k-th
channel

$K+1$ for K parts + background

L2 Training Loss

- L2 loss on the target heatmap (peaky gaussian around the gt keypoint)

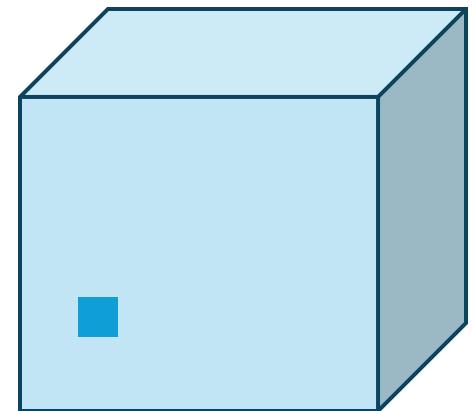
$$L = \sum_{k=1}^{K+1} \sum_{(x,y)} ||b^k(x,y) - b_*^k(x,y)||$$



Target “belief map” :
 $K+1 \times H \times W$
Gaussian around
(x,y) for k-th
keypoint in the k-th
channel

Log Loss Training Loss

- Log loss (or cross entropy loss) on the target heatmap probabilities
- The target must also sum to 1
- Mask RCNN just uses 1 at the target, 0 everywhere else.
- Experiment



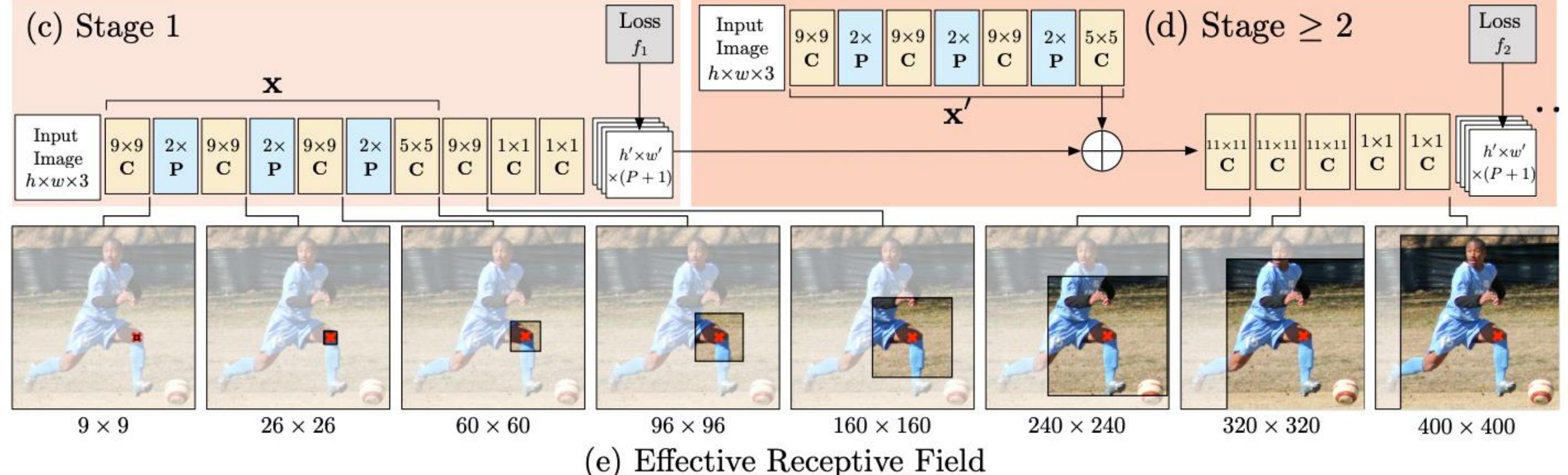
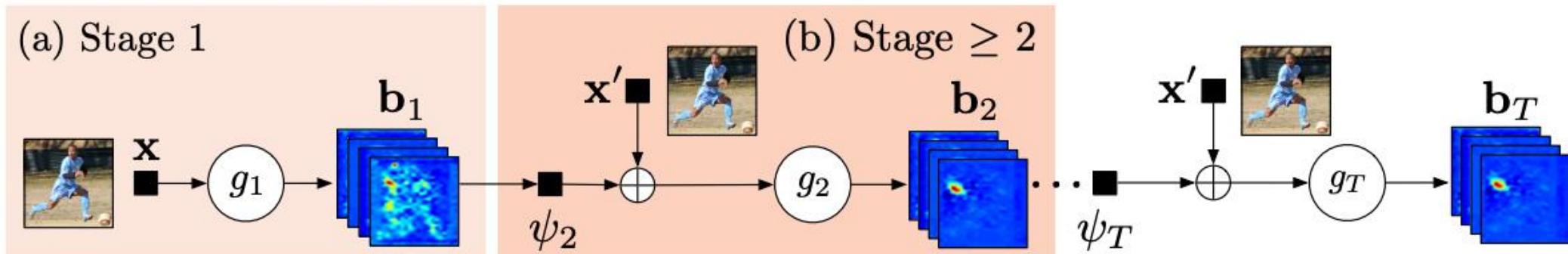
Target “belief map” :
 $K+1 \times H \times W$
1 at Ground truth
location (x,y) for k -th
keypoint in the k -th
channel

Convolutional Pose Machines

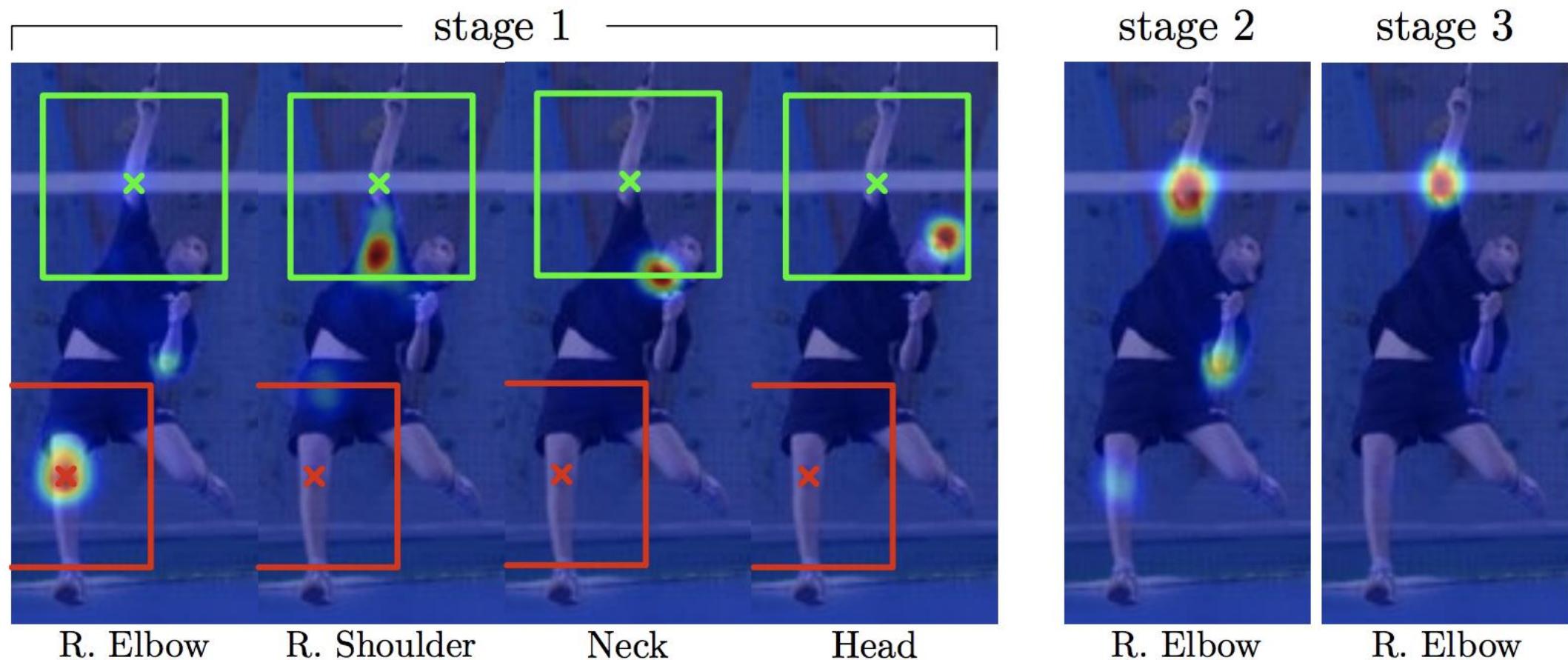
Base architecture for OpenPose

Convolutional
Pose Machines
(T -stage)

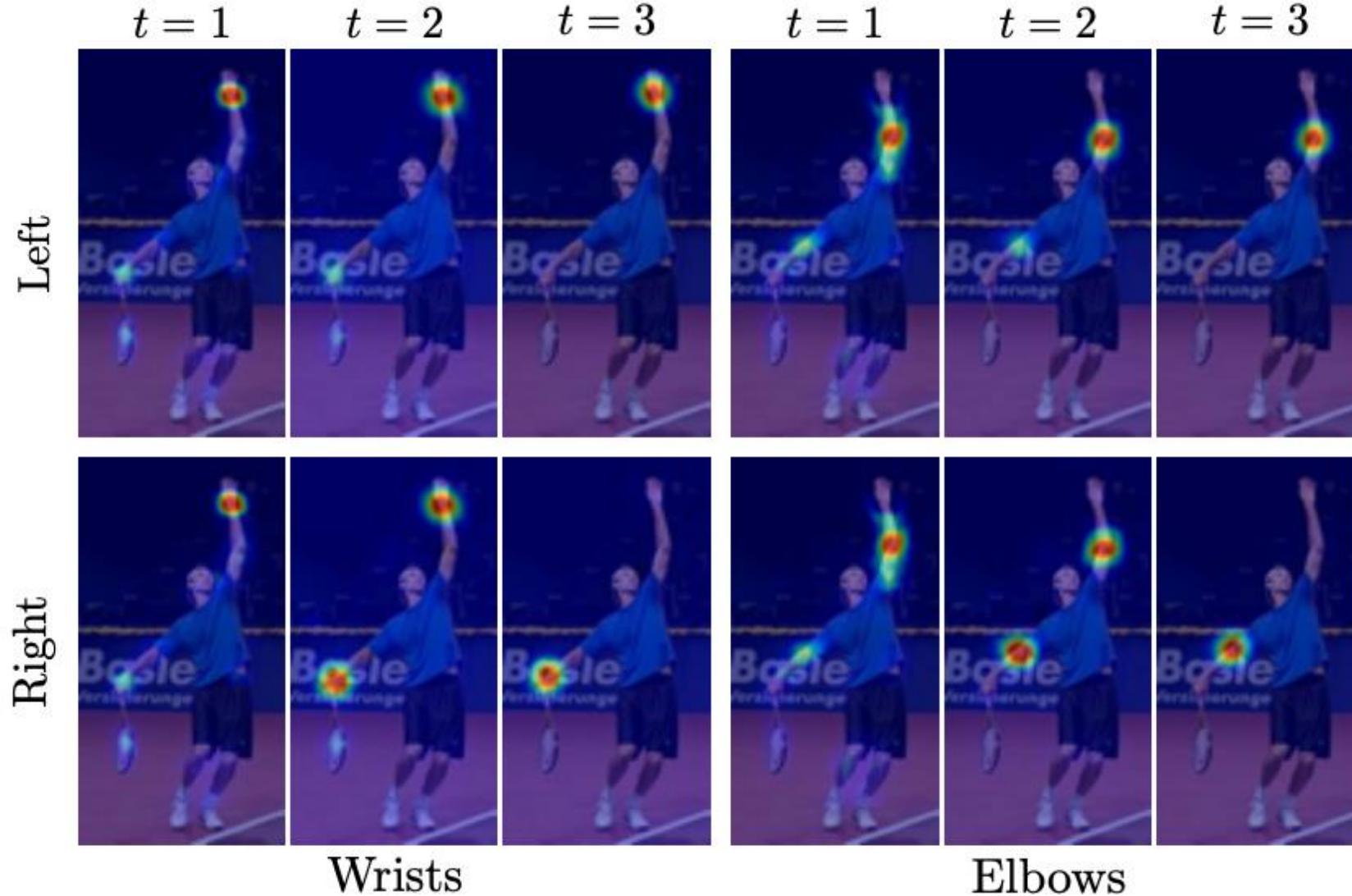
P Pooling
C Convolution



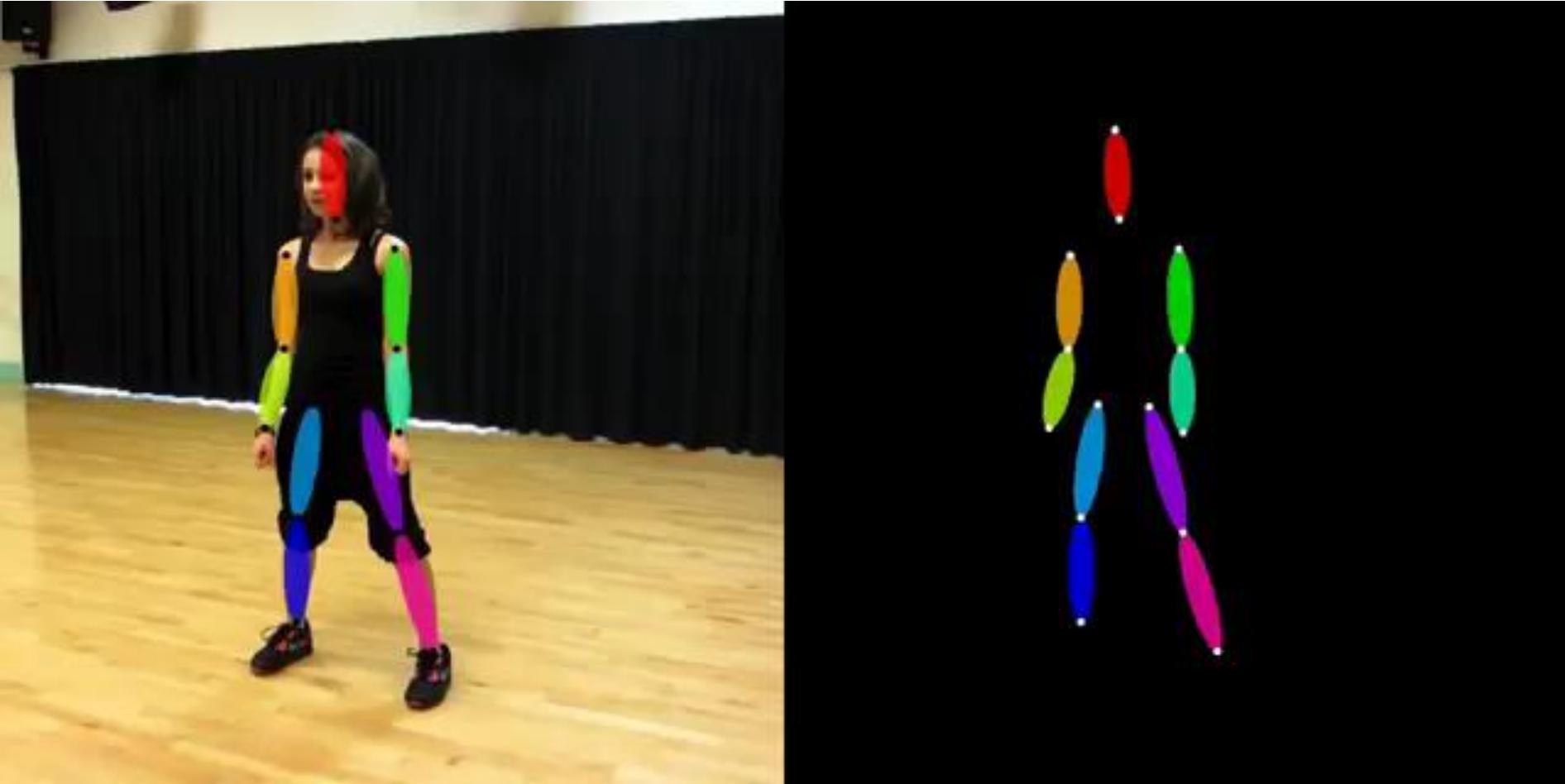
Convolutional Pose Machines



Convolutional Pose Machines



Results



OpenPose

Great opensource tool, builds on convolutional pose machine architecture, adapted to multiple people



Are we done?

Humans live in a world that is 3D and dynamic.



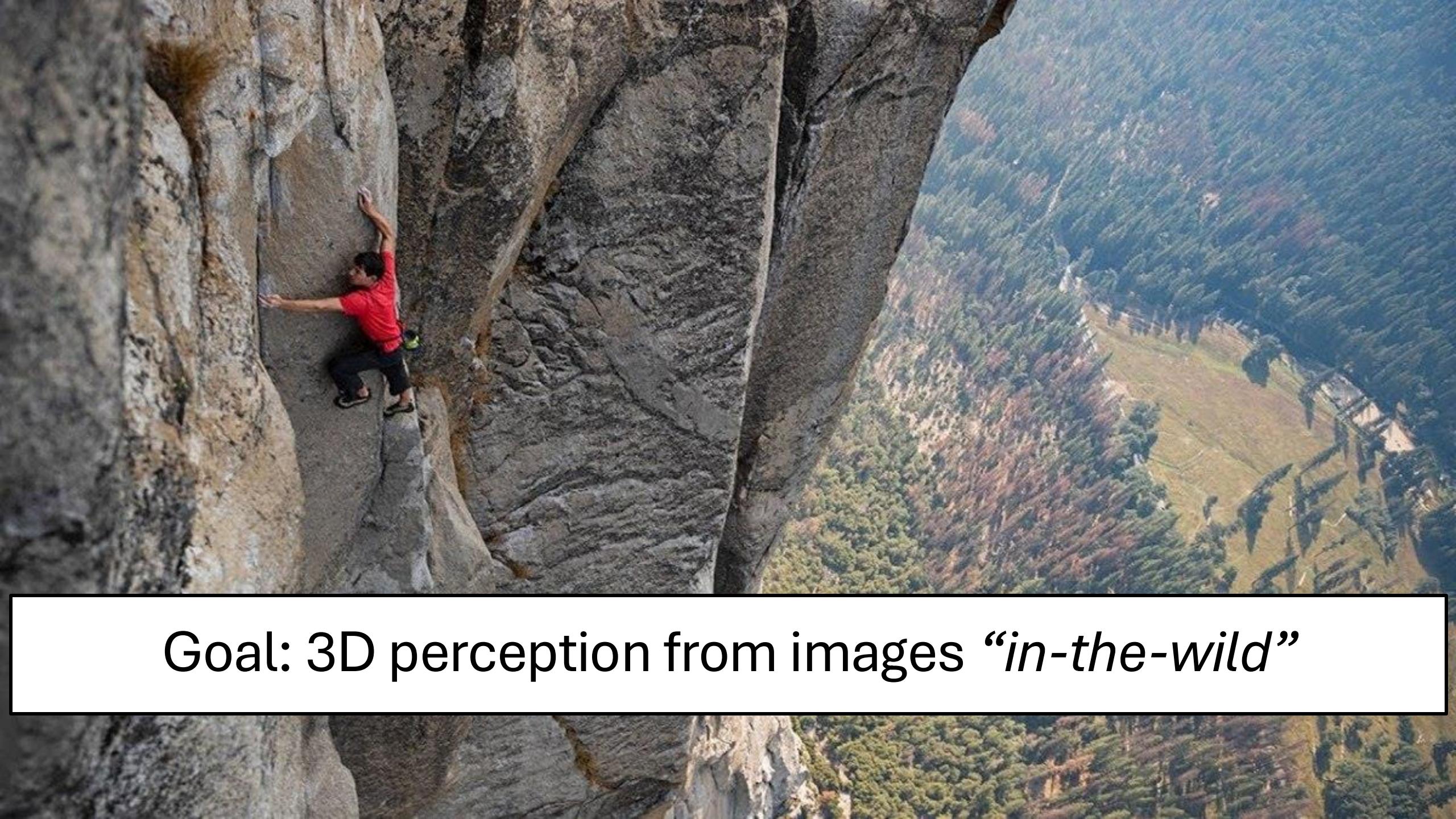
Today's Non-rigid 3D Solution: Motion Capture



Andy Serkis, The Two Towers

The world is so much more than greenscreen!





Goal: 3D perception from images “*in-the-wild*”

Single-View 3D Human Mesh Recovery



In everyday photos



Or from Video



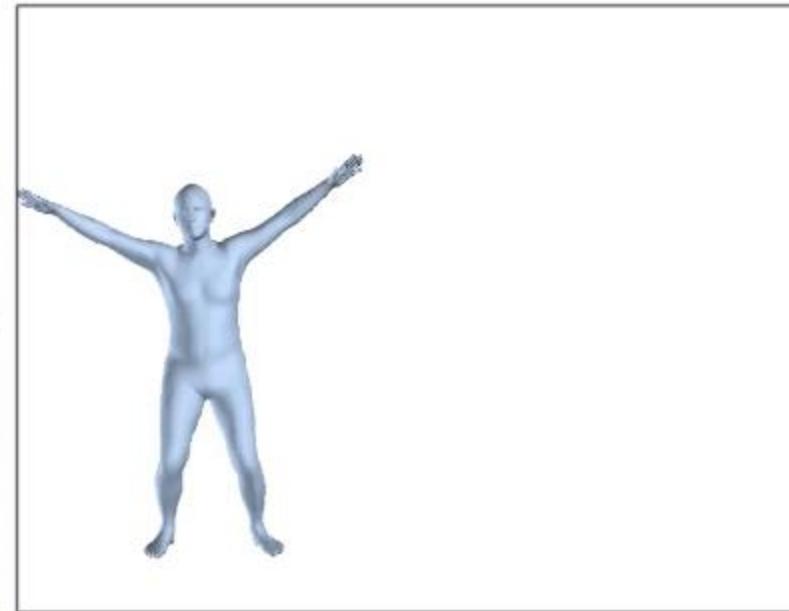
Learning to act from visual observation



From video...



Video



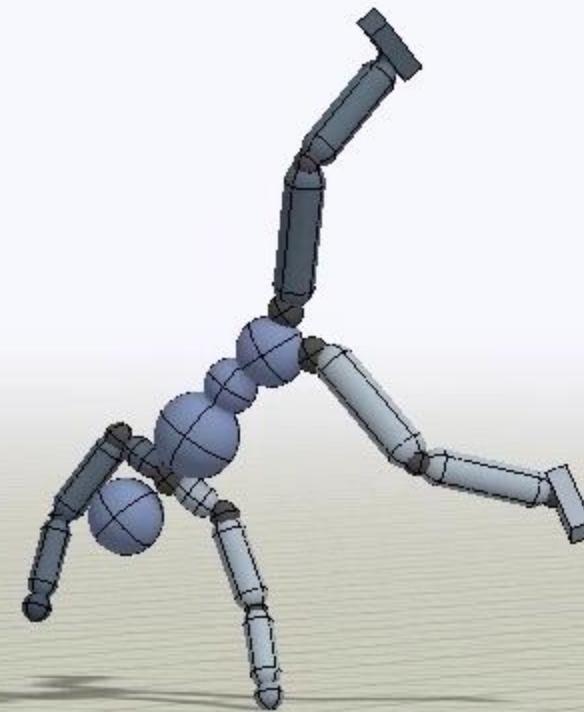
Recovered 3D Body



Policy

Peng, Kanazawa, Malik, Abbeel, Levine “SFV: Reinforcement Learning of Physical Skills from Videos”, SIGGRAPH Asia 2018

Animate Virtual Characters

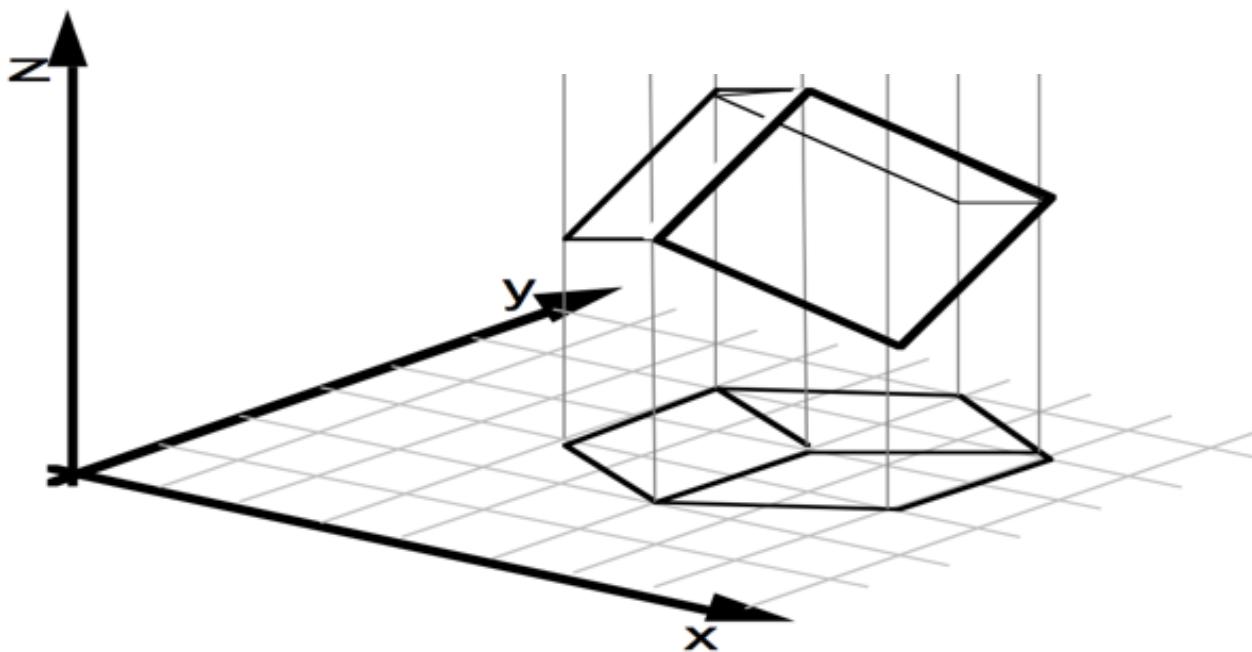


Human 3D perception

We perceive 3D,
but computers only see 2D dots!!

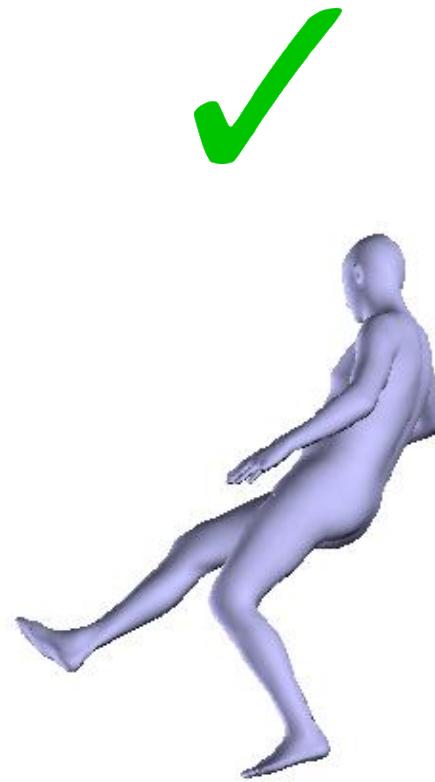
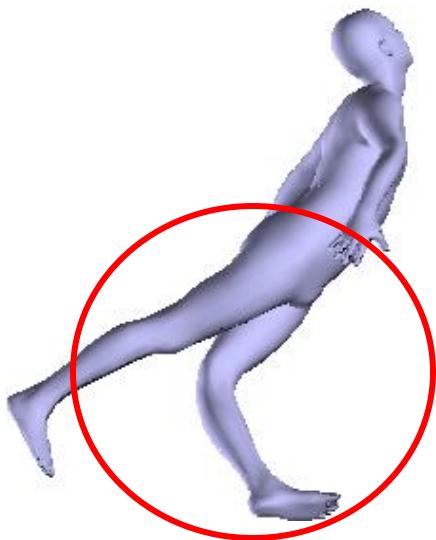
Johannson
experiment,
James Maas, 1971

3D from 2D is inherently under-constrained

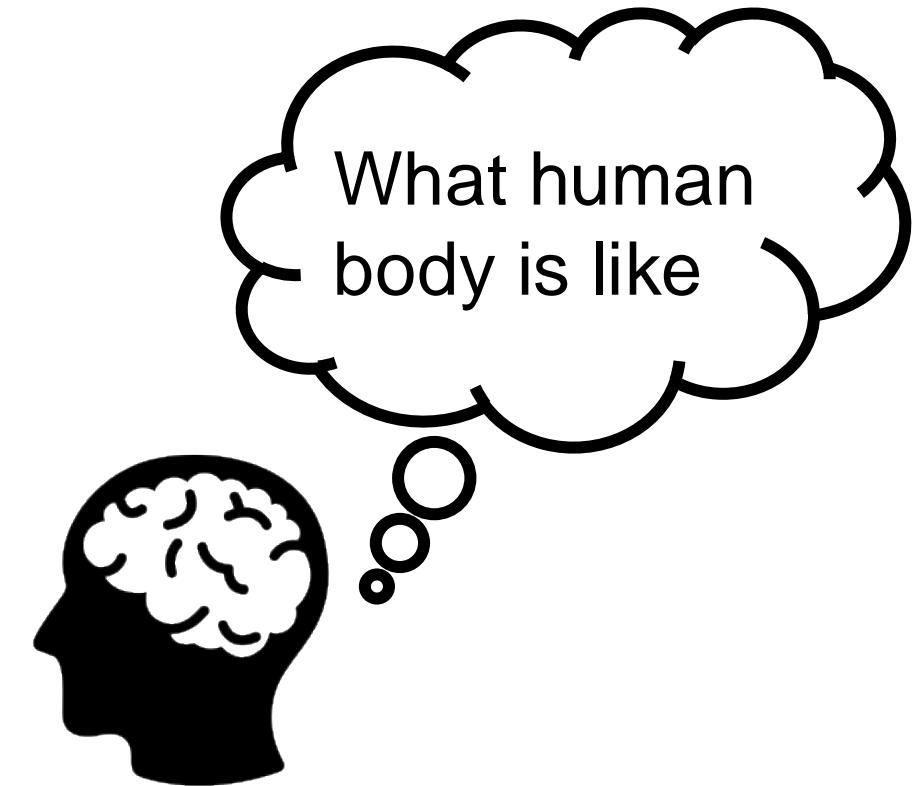


[Sinha and Adelson '93]

How do we resolve this?

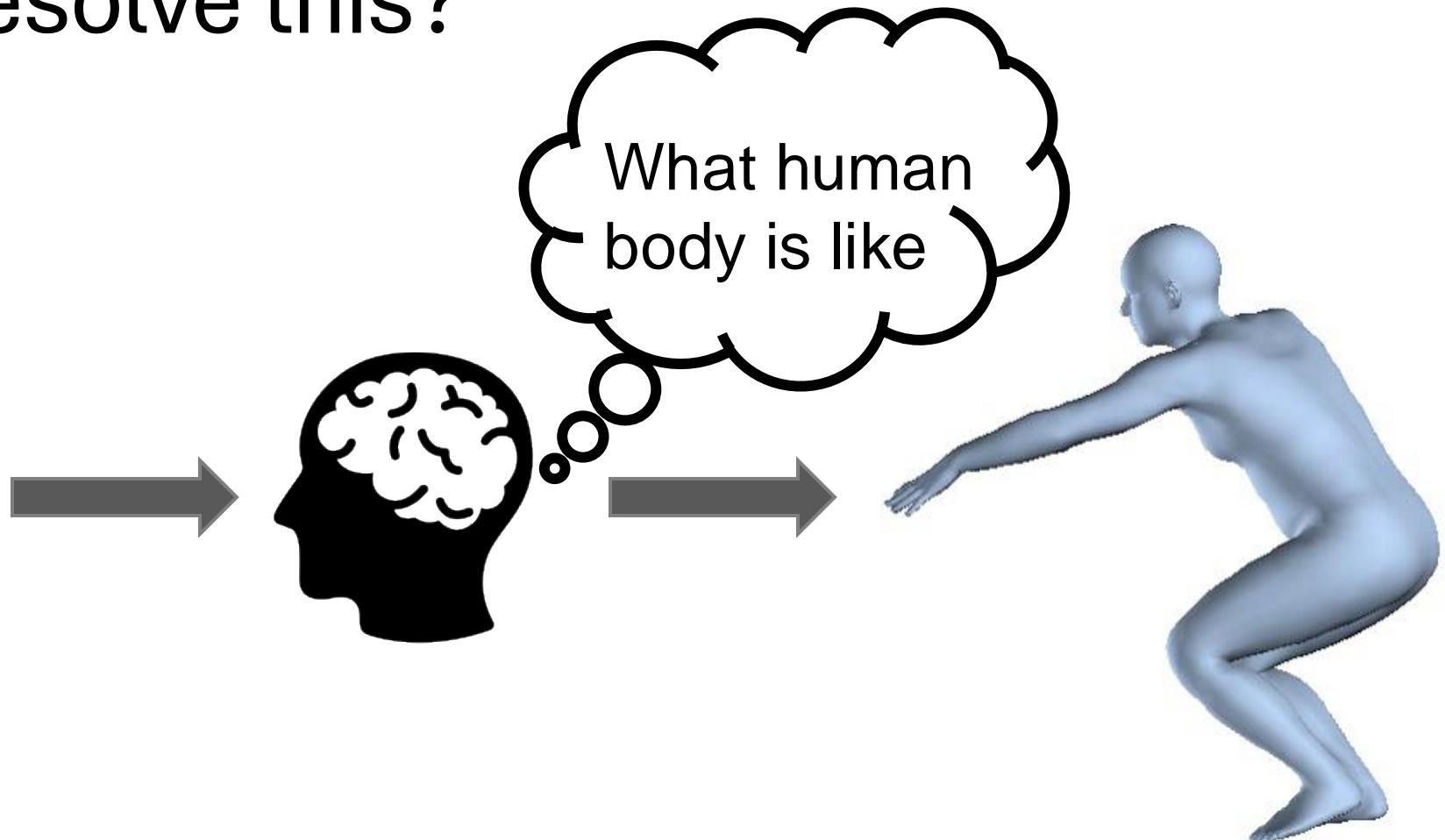


How do we resolve this?

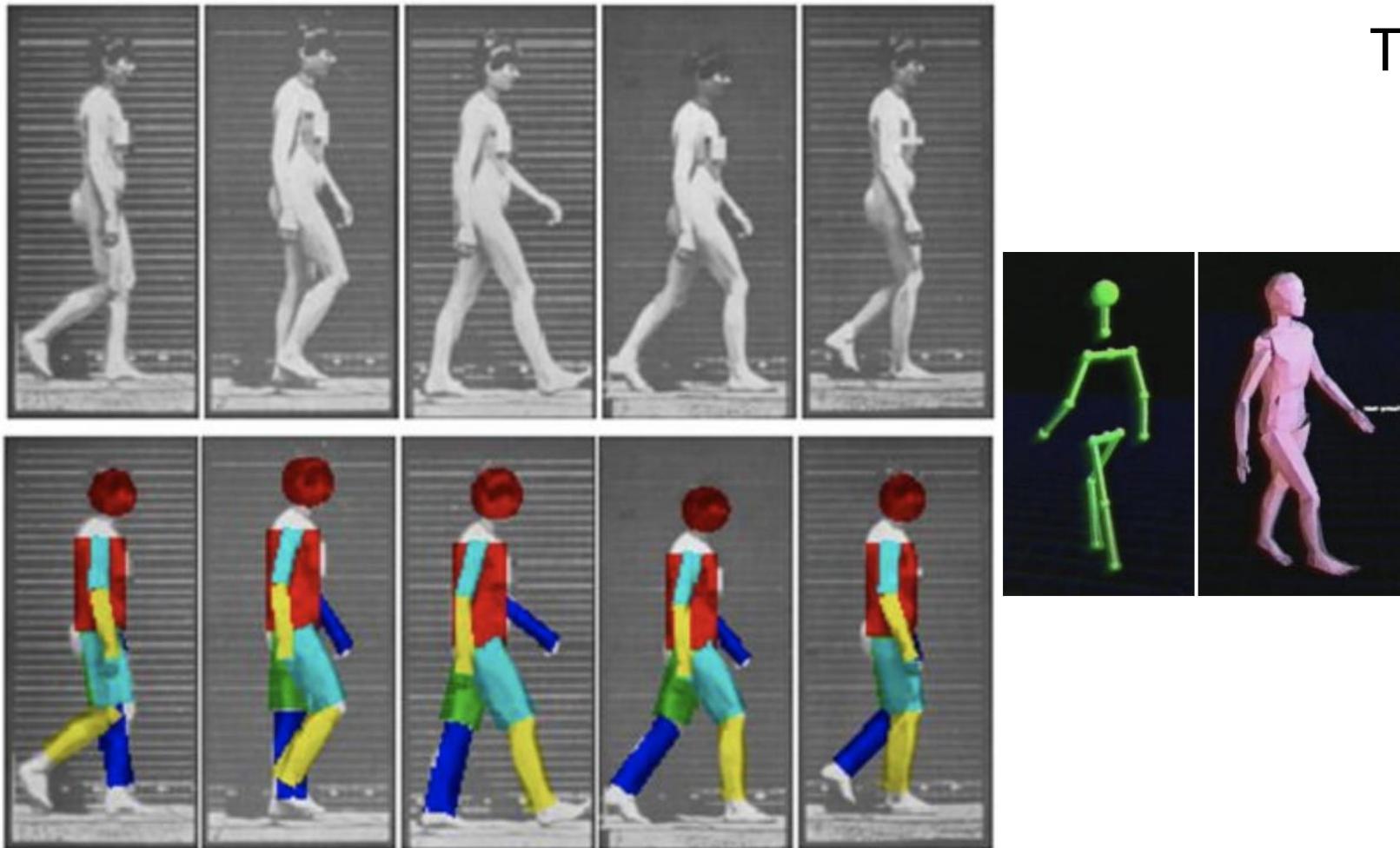


What human
body is like

How do we resolve this?



Bregler and Malik CVPR 1998

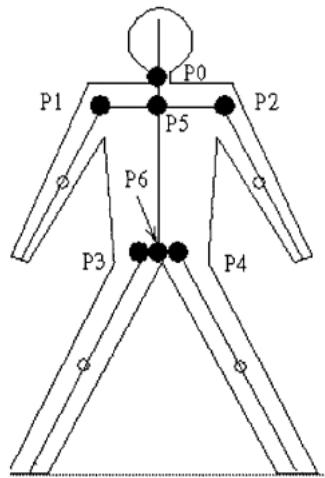


Tracking based:

1. Initialize 3D model in first frame
2. Track parts in next frames via Lukas-Kanade, over joint angles

More stable with 2 views

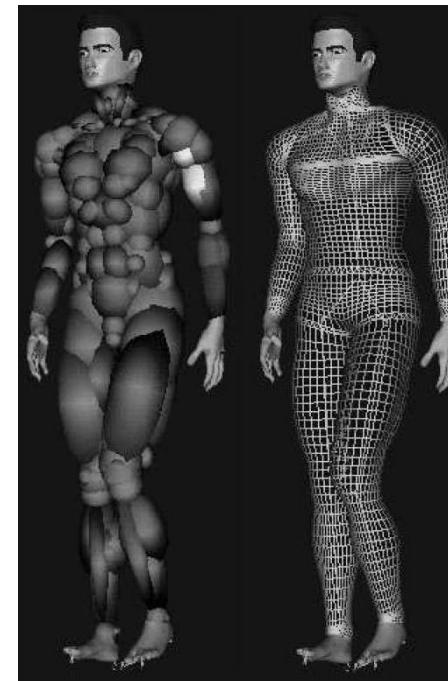
And many more model-based methods



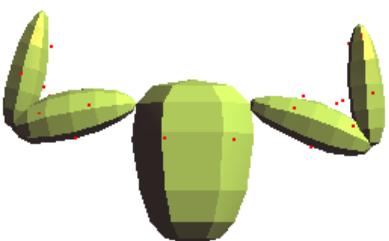
[Leung and Yang '95]



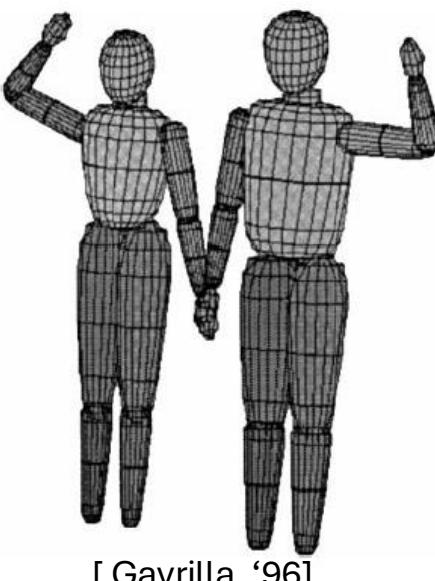
[Kakadiaris and Metaxas '00]



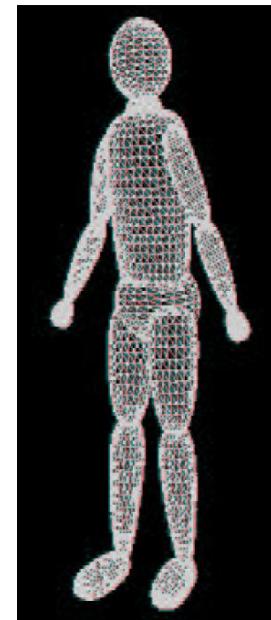
[Plänkers and Fua '01]
[



[Terzopoulos
and Metaxas '93]



[Gavrilla, '96]



[
Sminchisescu
and Triggs '03]

3D Humans from known 2D joints



Reconstruction of articulated objects from point correspondences
in single uncalibrated image
[CJ Taylor CVIU 2000]

Same issue as single-view 3D reconstruction

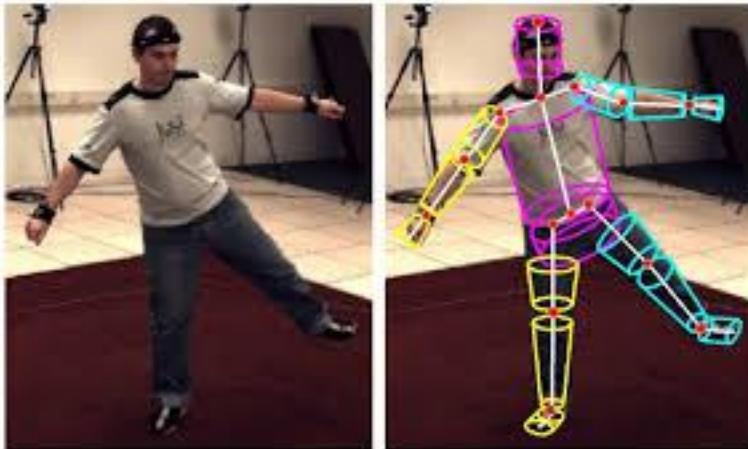


(a)

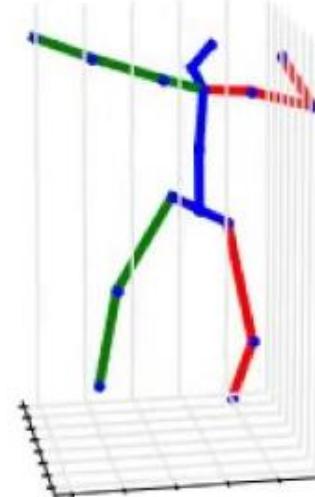


You need priors!!
Here: Known ratio of
limb length

Datasets



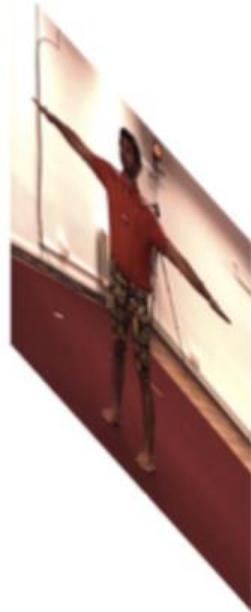
HumanEva [Sigal et al. IJCV 2010]



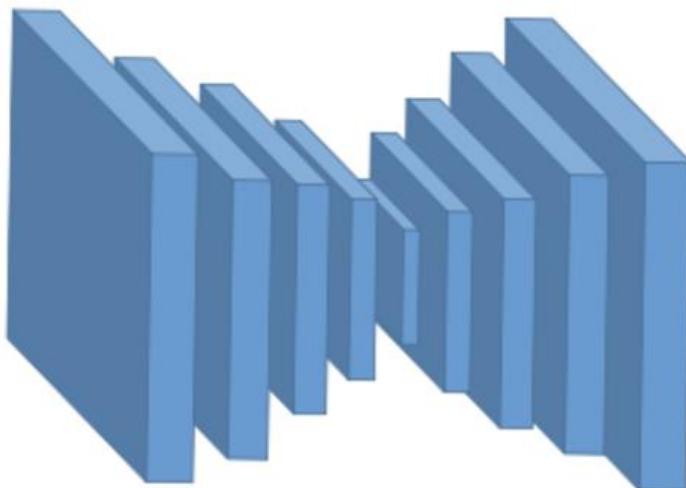
Human3.6M [Ionescu et al. 2014]

Deep Learning based approaches

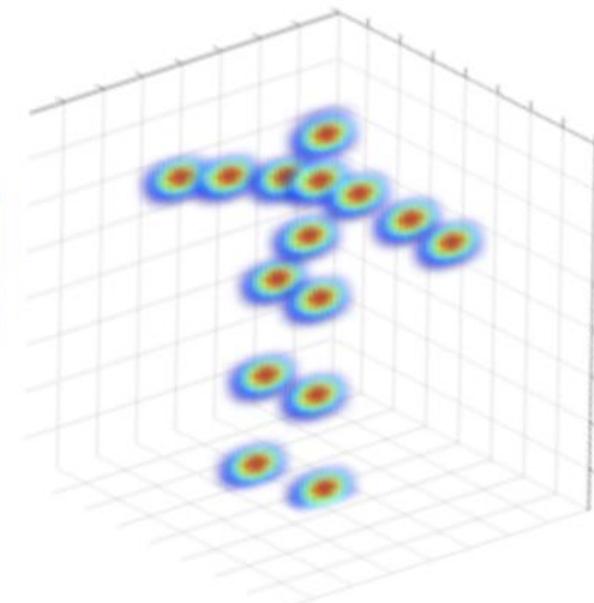
Lots of activities + progress made in this area after datasets



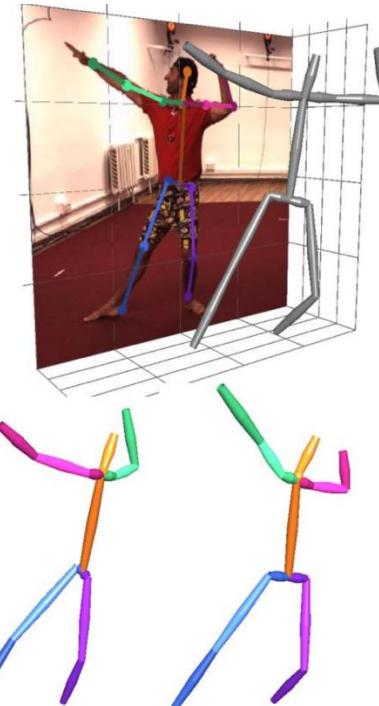
Image



ConvNet



Volumetric Output

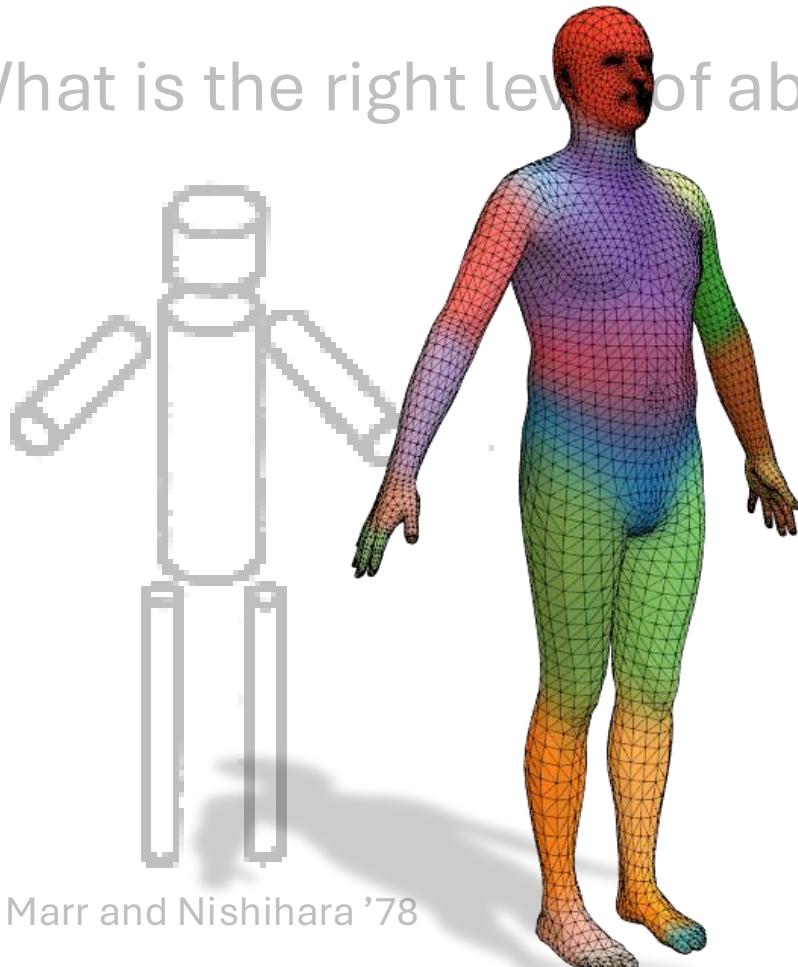


[Pavlakos et al. CVPR'17, Sun et al ICCV'17, Vnect Mehta et al SIGGRAPH '17 ...]

**What about the 3D
representation??
Are we all just stick figures?**

To do more than joints, we need to discuss how to model human bodies

What is the right level of abstraction?



Practical and popular answer has been to model what you can see → the surface



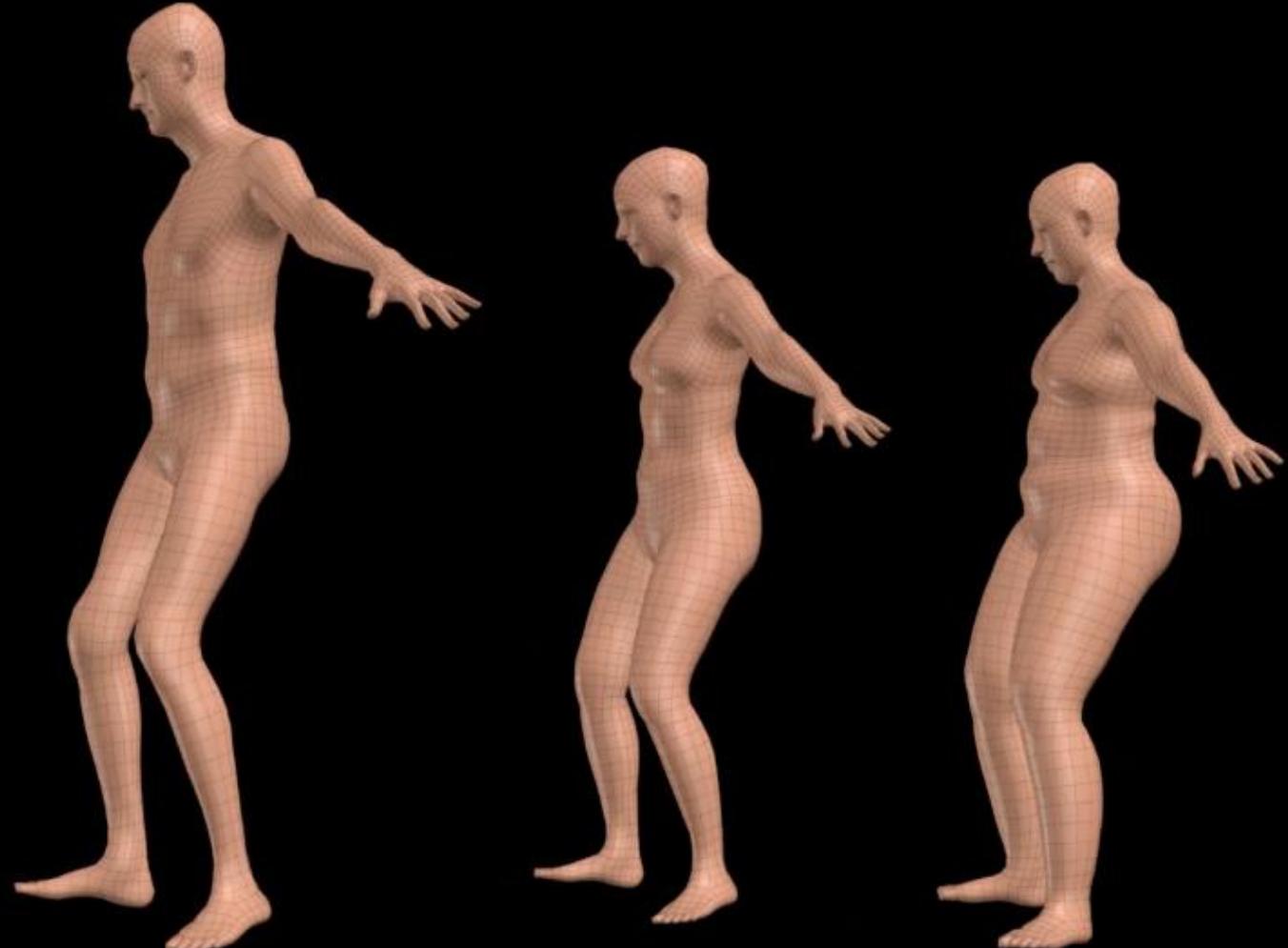
Lee, Sifakis, Terzopoulos, ToG'09

Humans are special



Robinette et al., Civilian American and
European Surface Anthropometry Resource
(CAESAR) 2002.

Morphable Model of Human Bodies



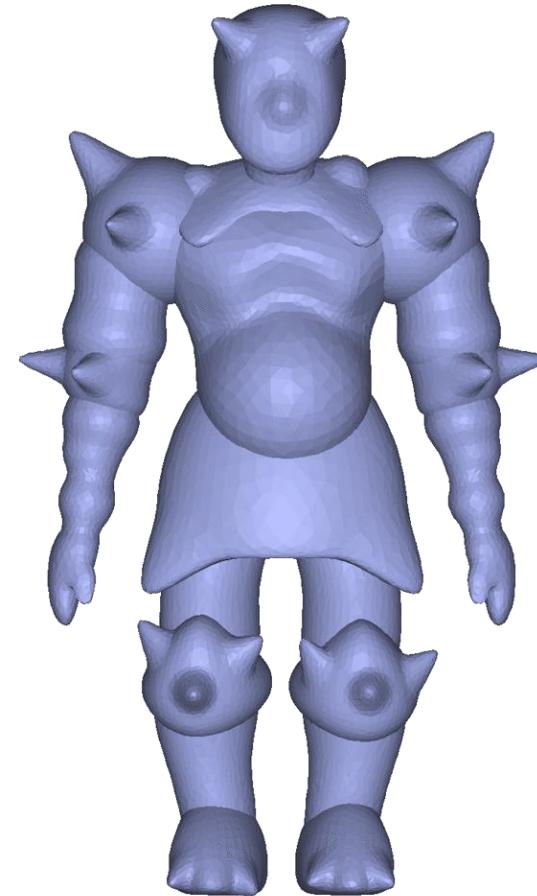
How to represent surfaces?

- Meshes are a popular, practical choice for surfaces
- Mesh = $\{V, F\}$
 - Vertices: $N \times 3$
 - Faces: $|F| \times \{3, 4, \dots\}$ polygons, “triangles”



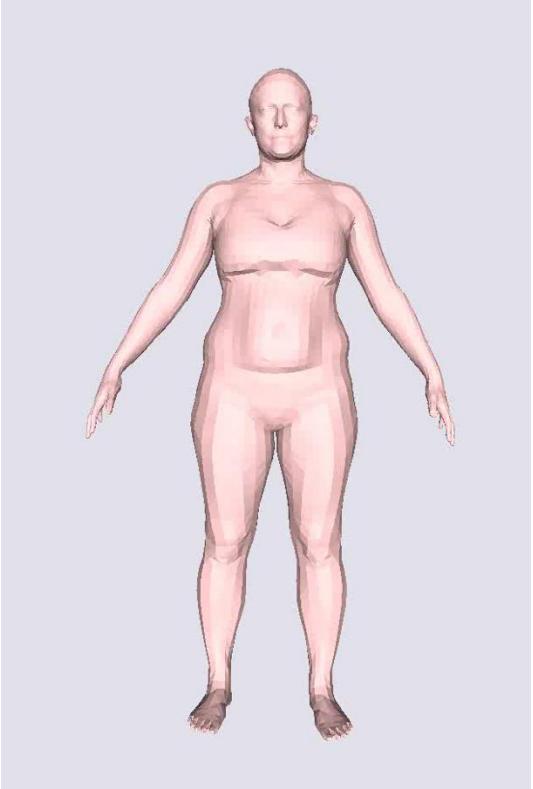
How to parametrize a mesh?

We need a low-dimensional parametrization!!



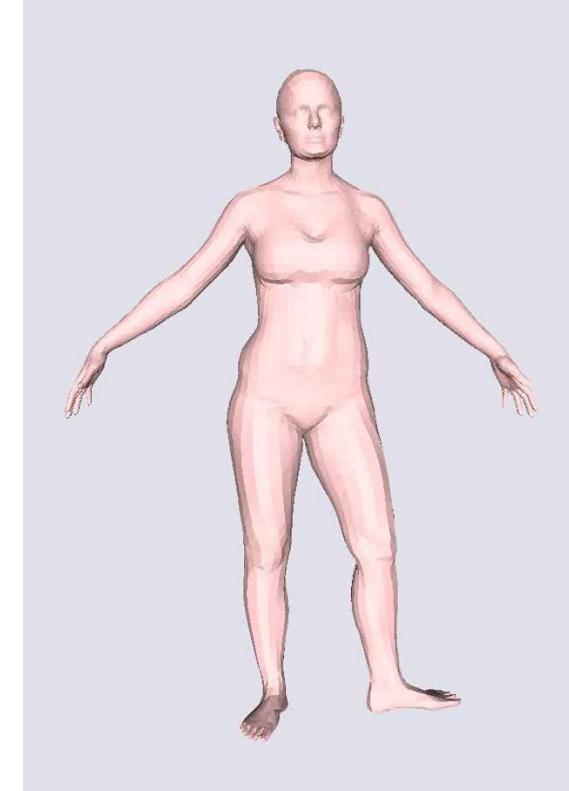
Key in modelling 3D Human Surfaces: Factorization into Shape and Pose

“Identity”



Individual Shape Variation

[SCAPE: Anguelov et al., SIGGRAPH '05]

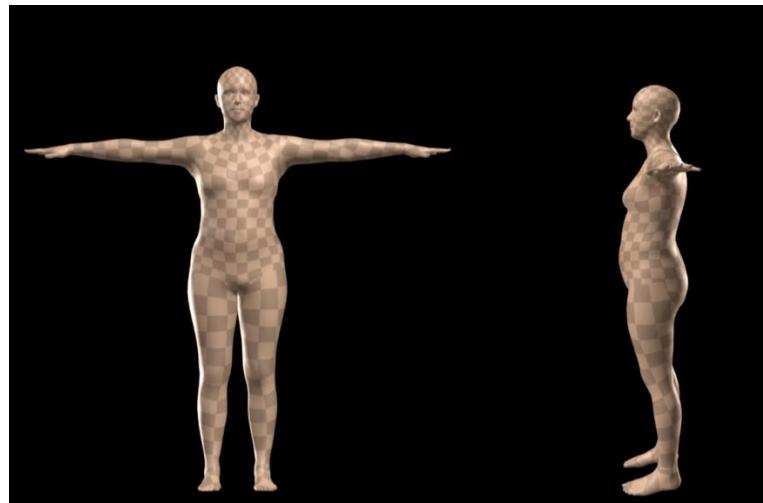


Pose changes (Articulation)

Figures courtesy of Michael Black

Skinned Multi-Person Linear Model (SMPL)

Shape: PCA coefficients



$\vec{\beta}$
10
dimensions

Pose: Rotation of joints



=

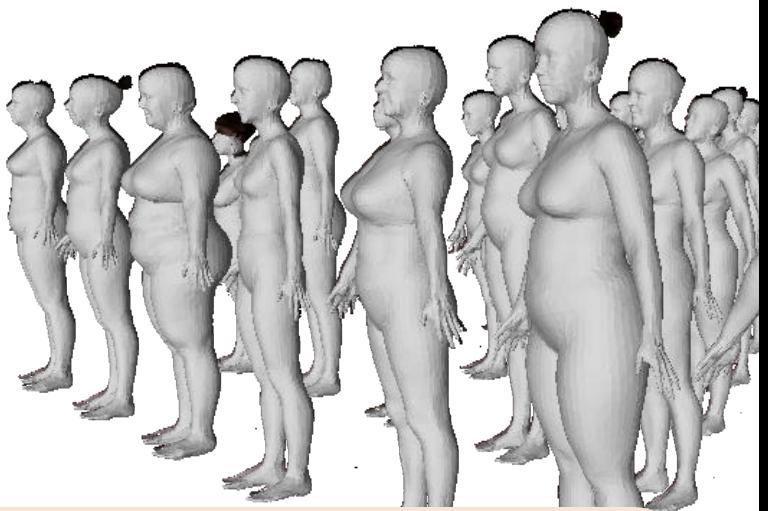
Mesh



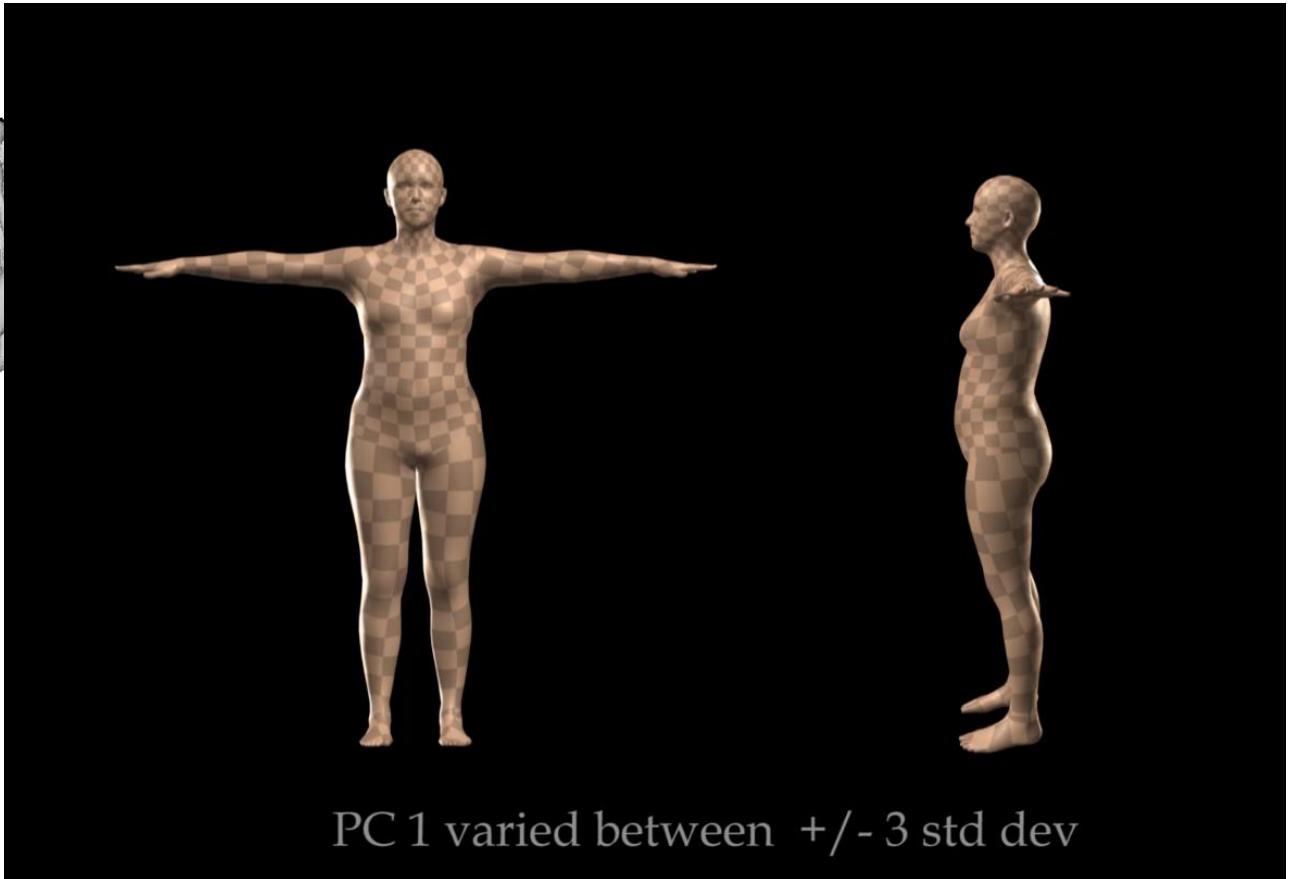
$\vec{\theta}$
 $3 * 23 = 69$
dimensions

Learning Shape from 3D Scans

4000 bodies of different shapes in roughly the same pose.

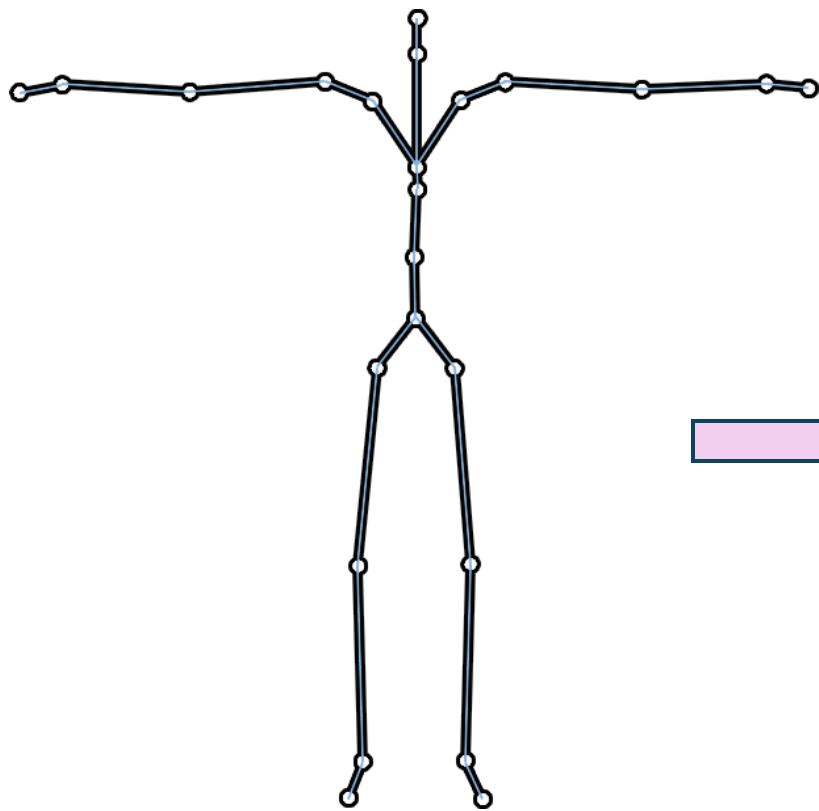


Run PCA on this:
Shape = linear
combination of basis
shapes

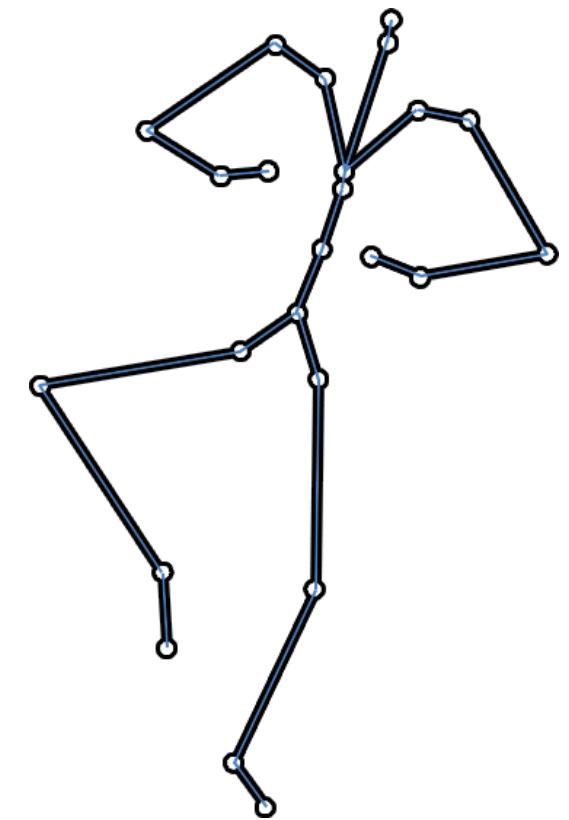
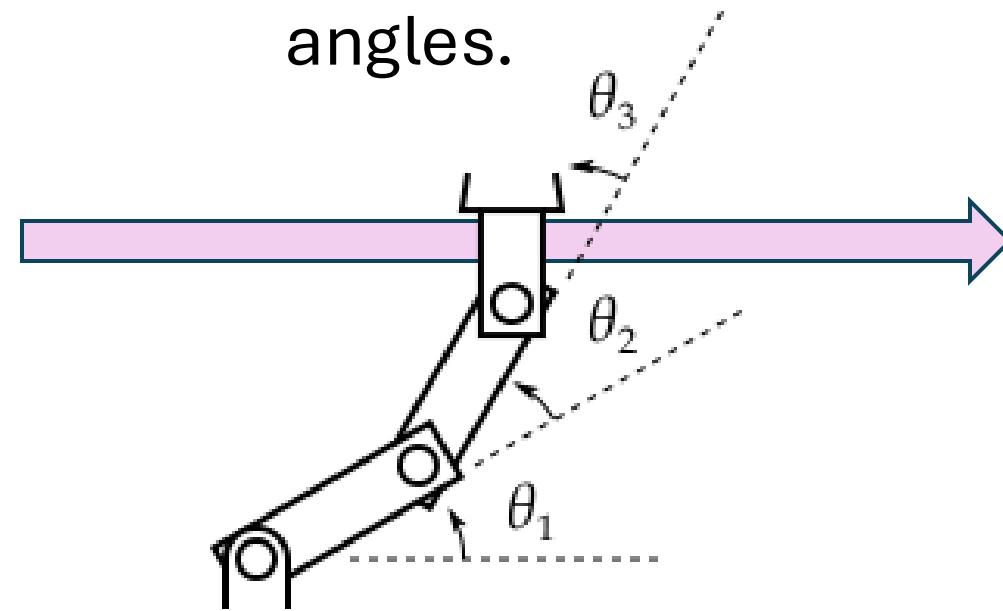


PC 1 varied between +/- 3 std dev

Pose: Forward kinematics on the skeleton tree

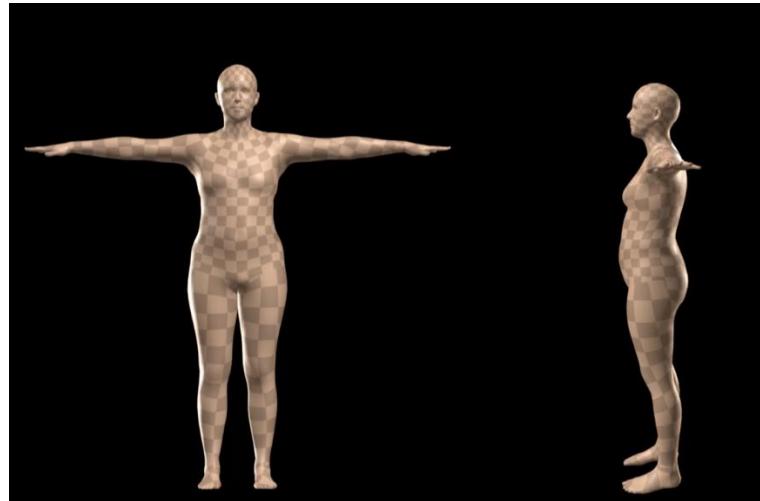


Defined by
relative joint
angles.



Skinned Multi-Person Linear Model (SMPL)

Shape: PCA coefficients



$\vec{\beta}$
10
dimensions

Pose: Rotation of joints

+



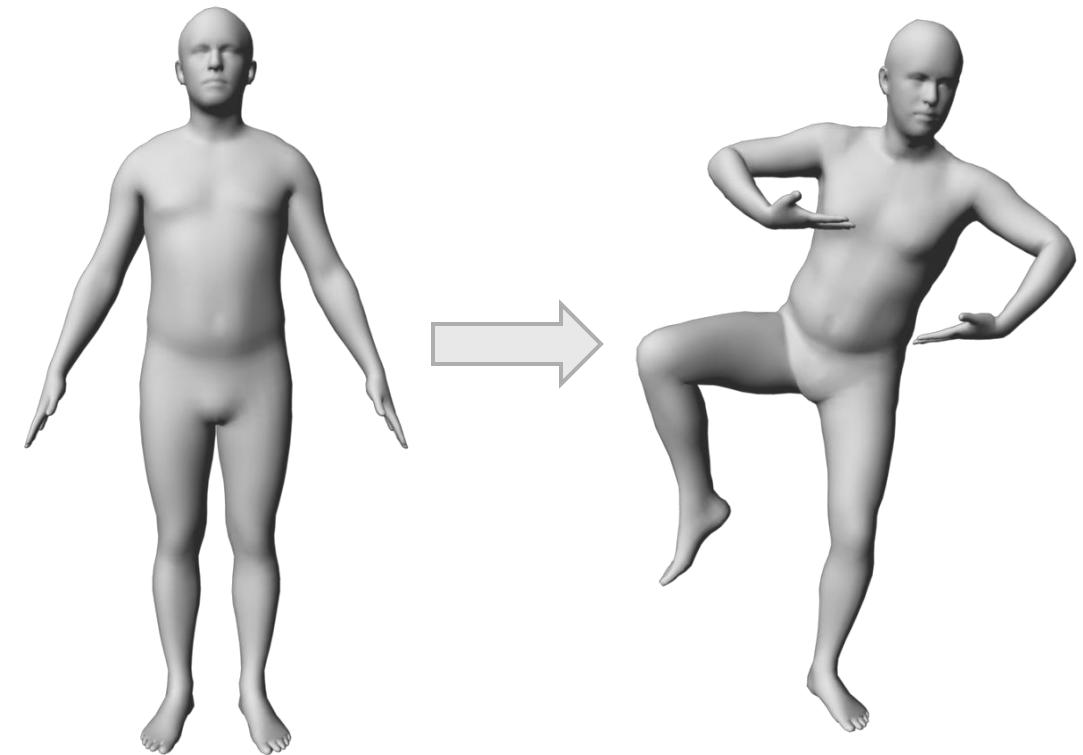
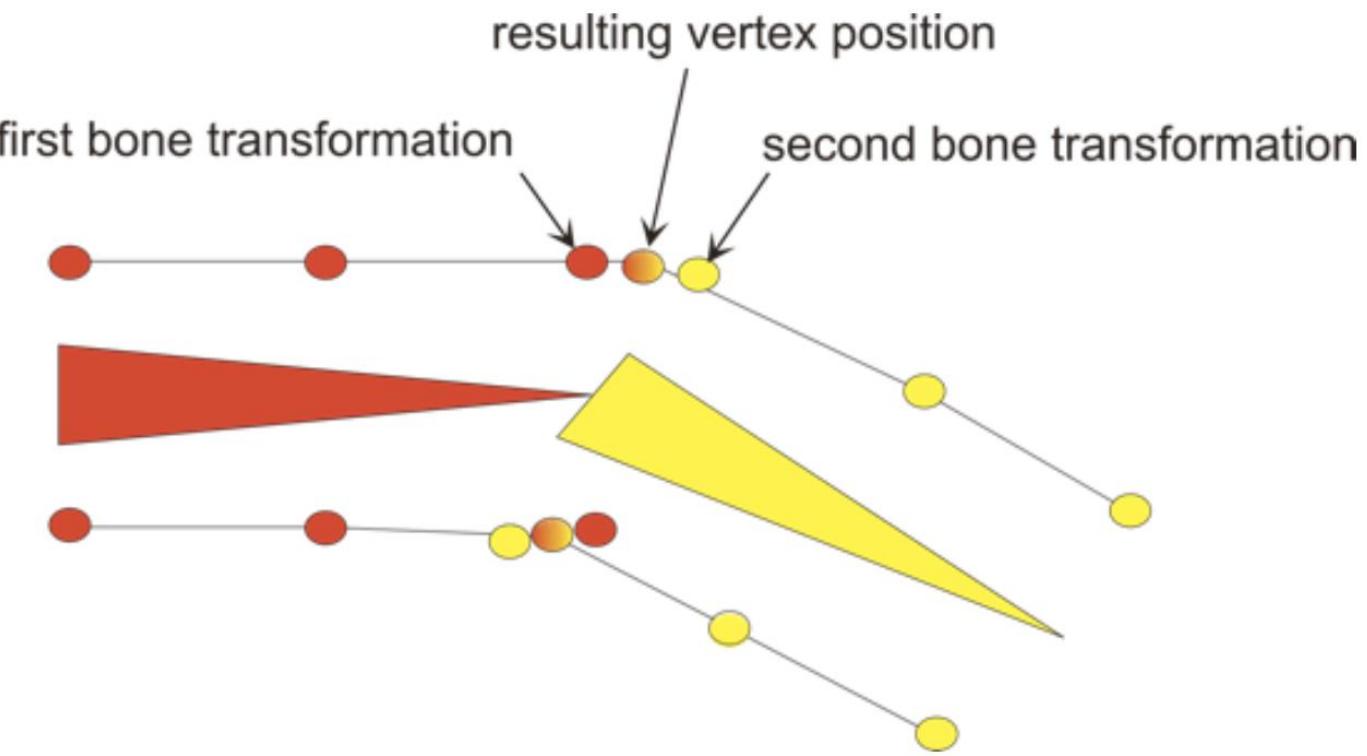
=

Mesh



$\vec{\theta}$
 $3 \times 23 = 69$
dimensions

Pose: Forward kinematics on the skeleton tree

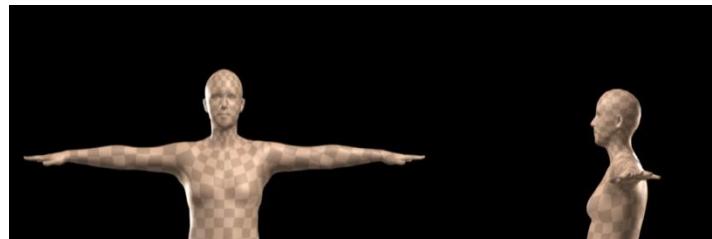


Morphable Model of Human Bodies



Morphable model for humans

Shape: low-D subspace



Pose: 23 Joint Rotations



Mesh

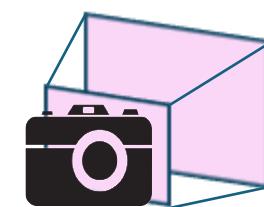


Total 85D defines a body in an image!!!

\$M Q: How to recover this 85D from an image?

$$\vec{\beta} \in \mathbb{R}^{10}$$

$$\vec{\theta} \in \mathbb{R}^{23 \times 3}$$


$$\Pi \in \mathbb{R}^6$$

Back to images...

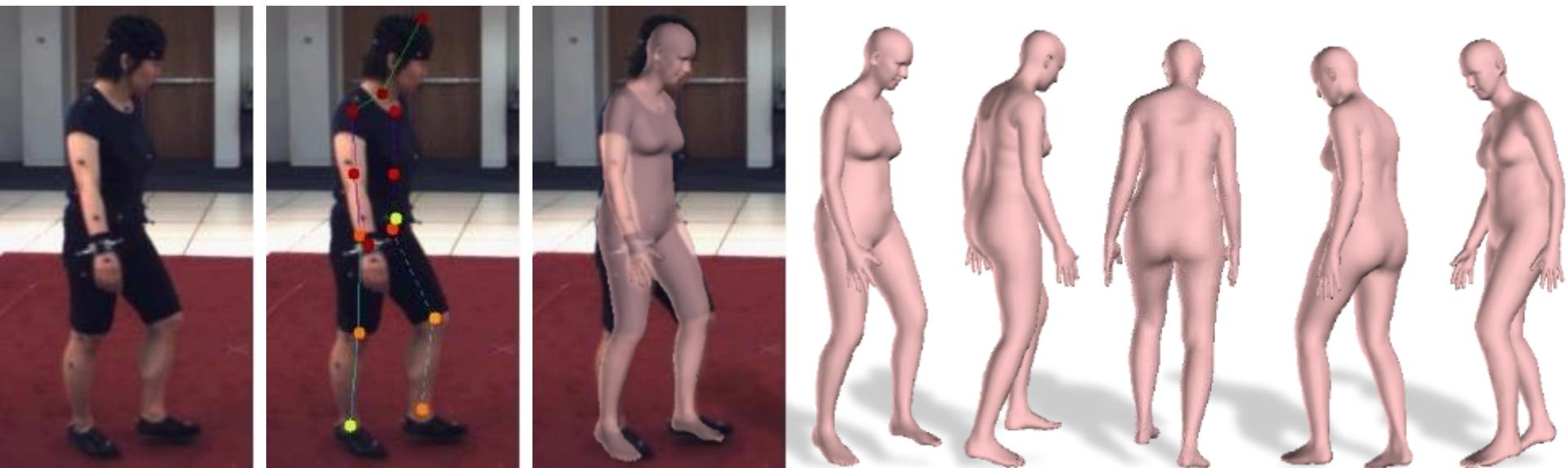
3D Shape and Pose from a Single Image



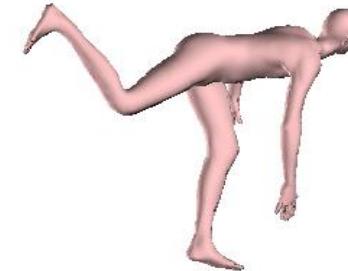
SMPLify [Bogo and Kanazawa et al
ECCV'12]

Overview: SMPLify

1. Automatic 2D joint detection via CNNs
2. Fit SMPL pose and shape parameters



SMPLify Objective Function

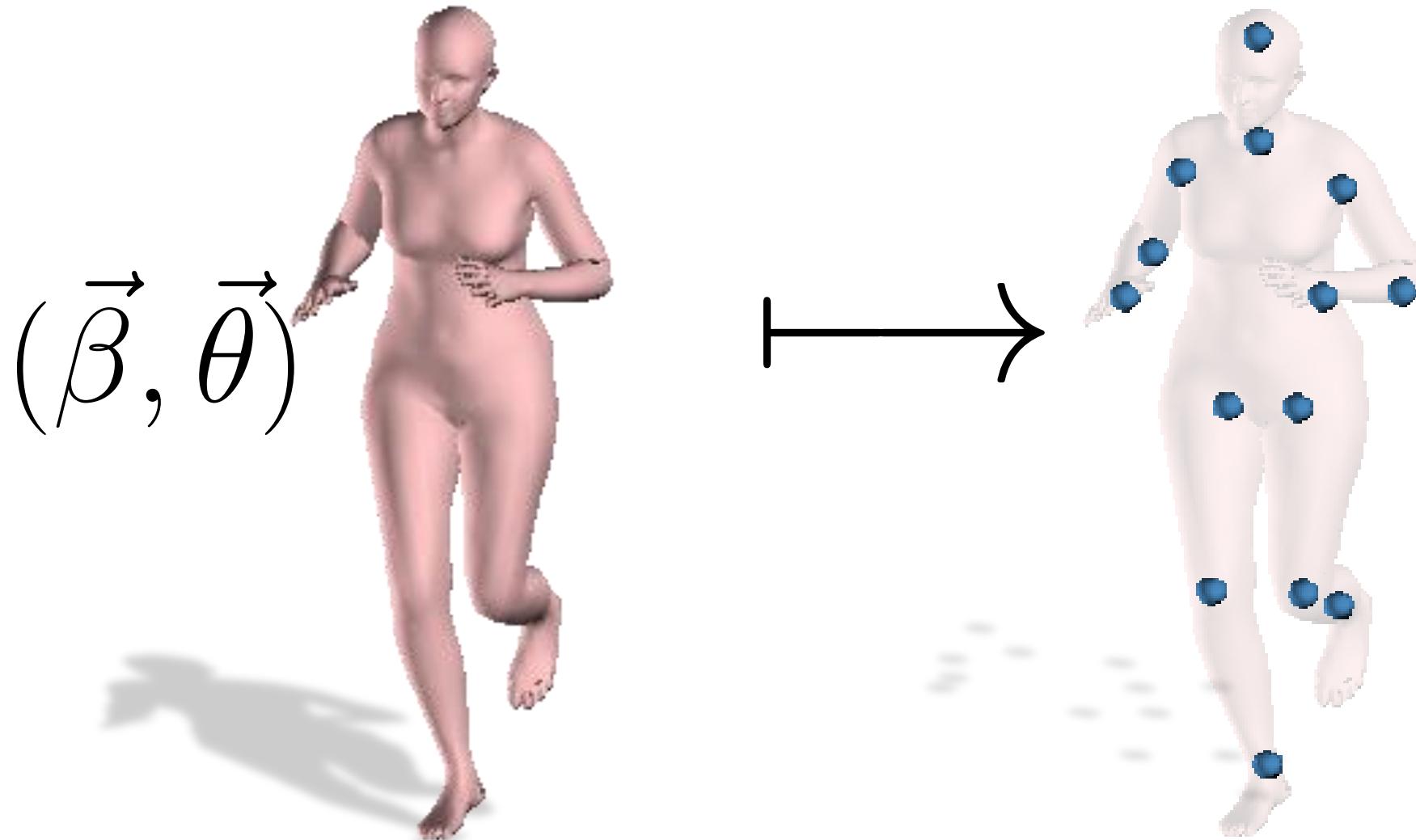


$$E(\vec{\beta}, \vec{\theta}, K; J_{est}) = E_J(\vec{\beta}, \vec{\theta}, K; J_{est}) + E_a(\vec{\theta}) + E_\theta(\vec{\theta}) + E_{sp}(\vec{\theta}, \vec{\beta}) + E_\beta(\vec{\beta})$$

camera joints

Data term Priors

Data Term: Joint Reprojection Error



Data Term: Joint Reprojection Error

Camera Projection

$$\left\| -\Pi_K \left(\text{3D Model} \right) \right\|_2^2$$

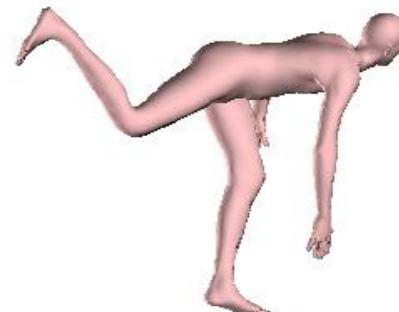
The diagram illustrates the joint reprojection error calculation. On the left, a photograph of a tennis player in mid-swing is shown. A 3D skeleton model is overlaid on the player's body, with colored lines connecting the joints. A camera projection arrow points from the image to the 3D model. To the right of the projection arrow is the mathematical expression for the data term, which consists of a minus sign followed by the projection operator Π_K applied to the 3D model, enclosed in parentheses. The entire expression is squared and summed over the 2-norm, indicating the total joint reprojection error.

Summary: Fit to 2D joints

1. Automatic 2D joint detection via CNN



2. Solve for pose and shape that explain the 2D joints



$$\min_{\beta, \theta, \Pi} \| \Pi(\cdot) - \Pi(\text{3D skeleton}) \|_2^2 + \text{lots of priors}$$

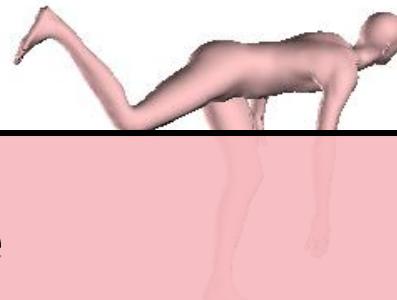
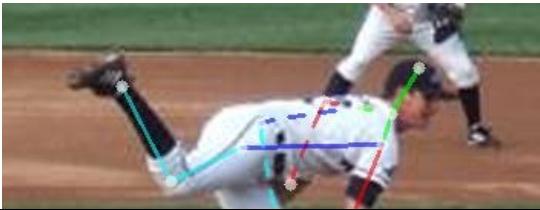
The equation illustrates the optimization process. On the left, there is a vertical double bar symbol followed by a vertical line, indicating a constraint or loss function. To its right is a photograph of a tennis player in mid-swing, with 2D joints detected and connected to a 3D skeleton. This is followed by a minus sign, then the symbol for the absolute value of a difference, which contains a 3D skeleton model with blue dots representing detected joints. To the right of this symbol is a vertical double bar symbol with a square below it, indicating the squared L2 norm. Finally, there is a plus sign and the text "lots of priors".

Approach: Fit to 2D joints

1. Automatic 2D joint detection via CNN



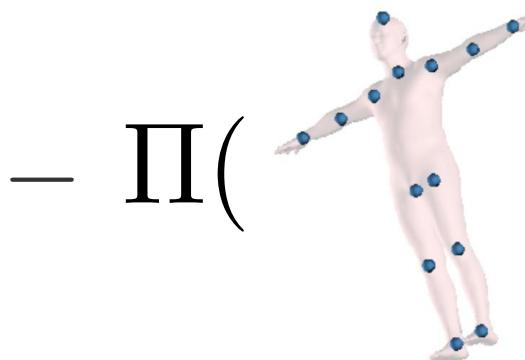
2. Solve for pose and shape that explain the 2D joints



Only looks at 2D joints, not the image

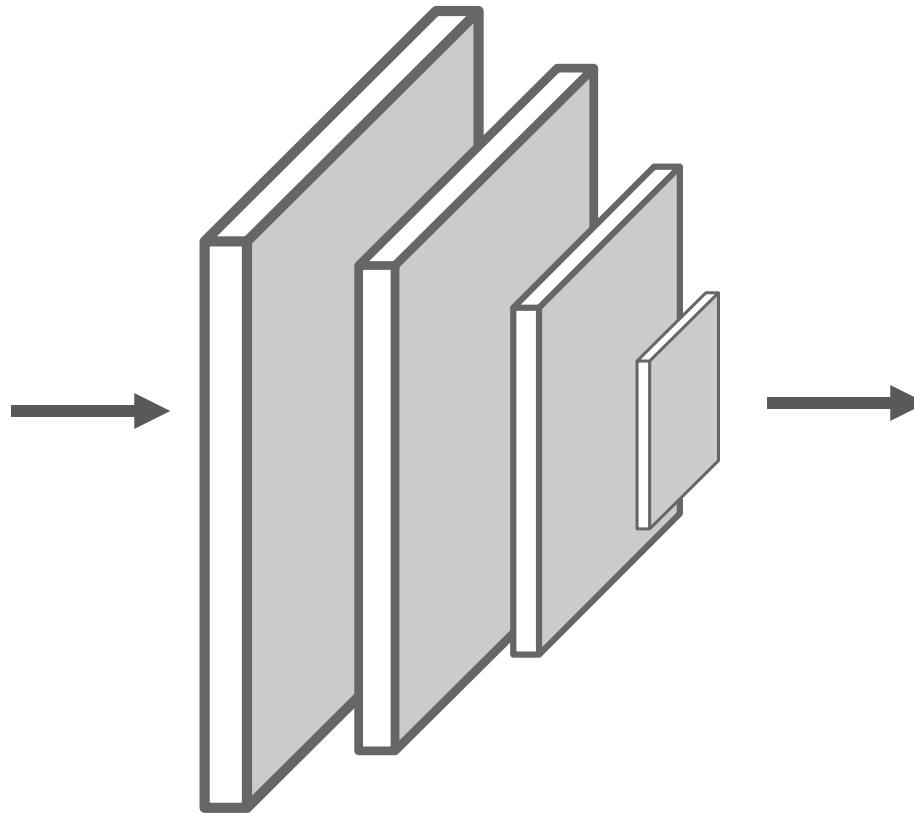
Optimization based inference = too slow for video

$$\min_{\beta, \theta, \Pi} \| -\Pi(\text{3D skeleton}) \|_2^2 + \text{lots of priors}$$



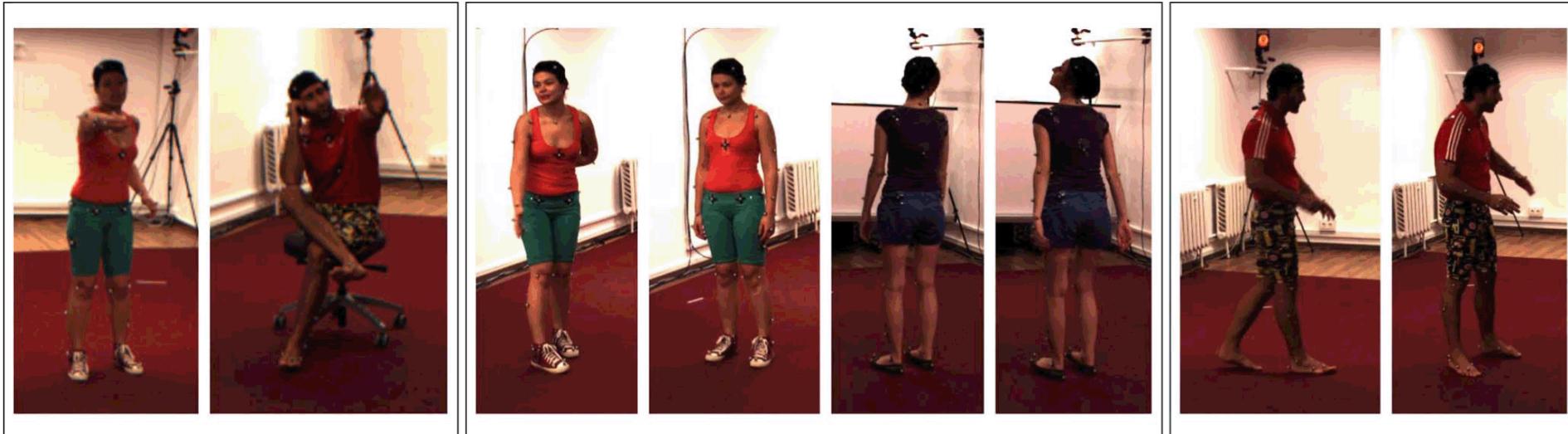
Why not just throw a deep network at it?

- Image in, 85D human parameters out!!

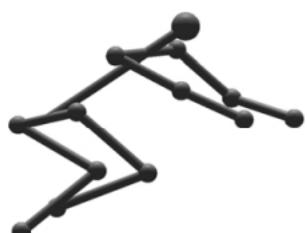
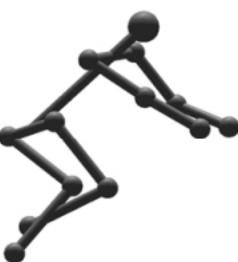
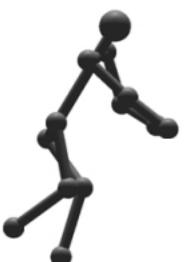


Challenges

1. Lack of real paired 2D-to-3D labels



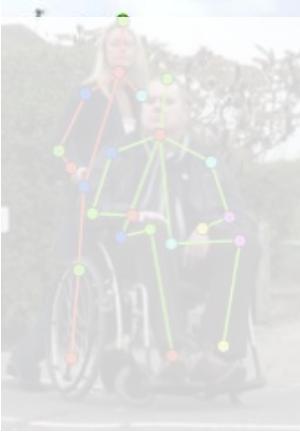
2. Depth ambiguity



[CJ Taylor CVPR 2000]

Solution

Even though we don't have paired 2D-to-3D labels,
we have a lot of **unpaired** labels



{ Explain the 2D }



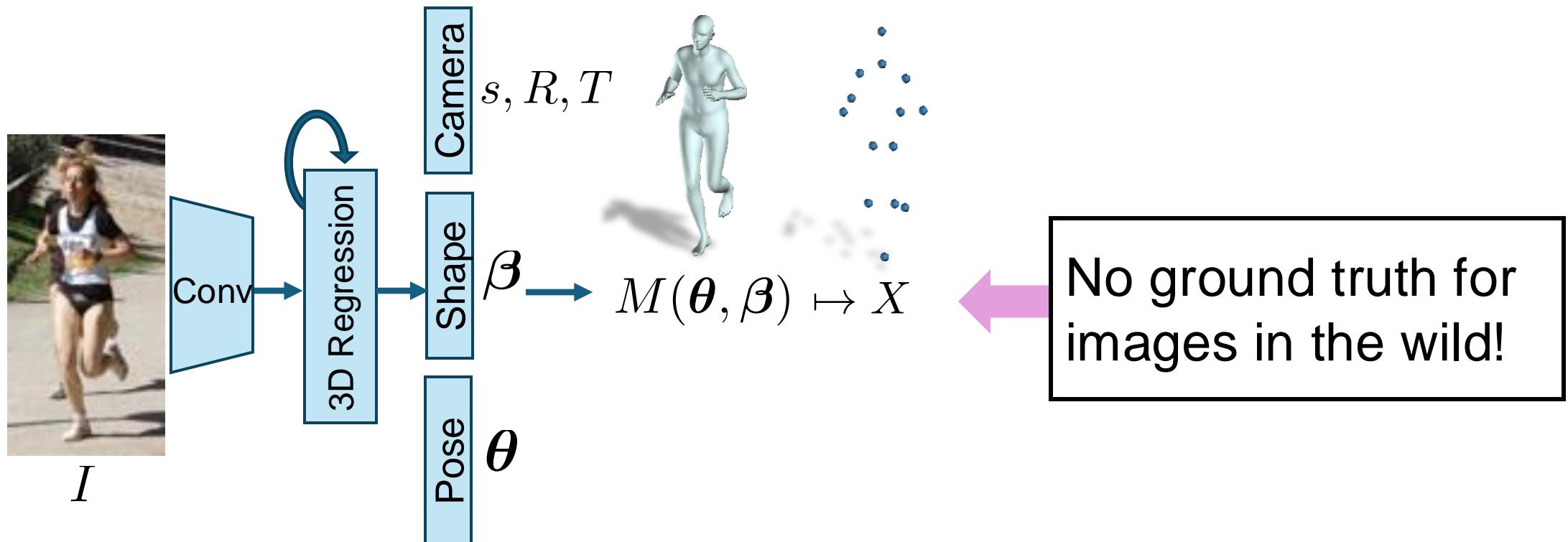
2D Labeled images
[LSP, MPII, MS COCO,...]



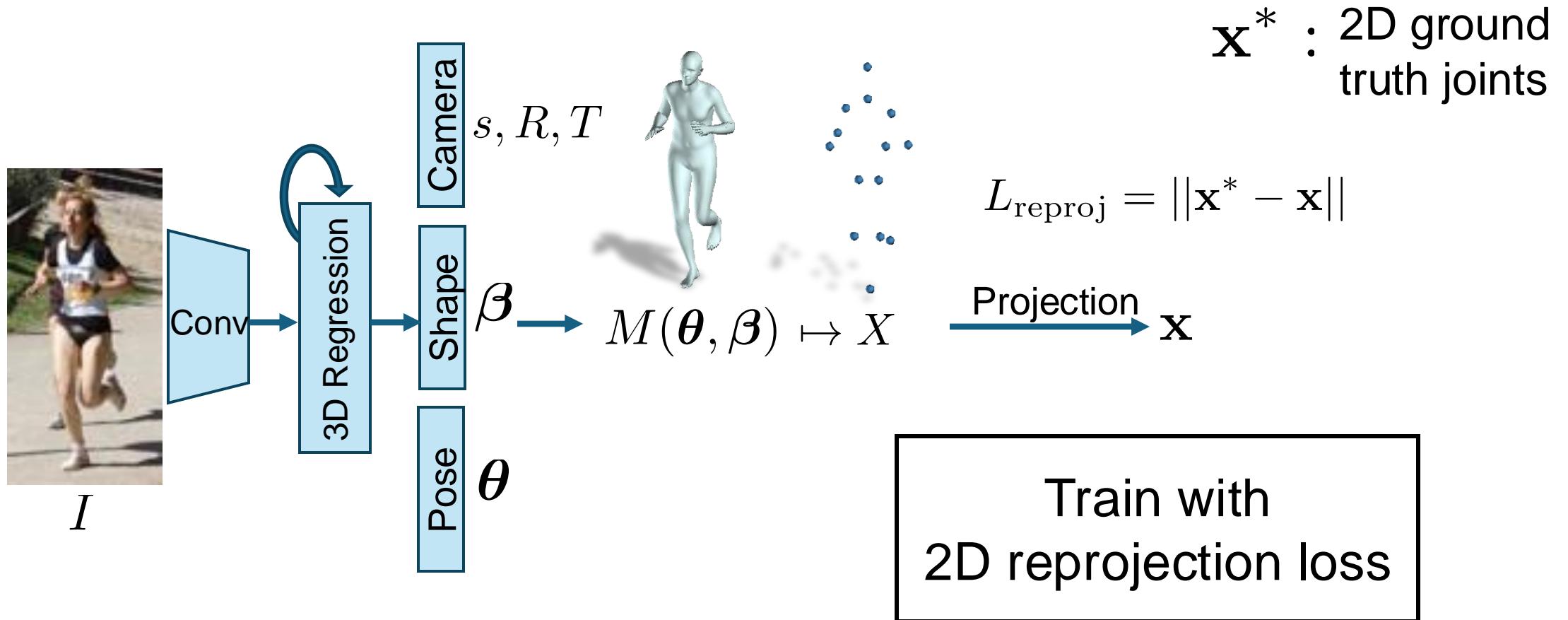
{ Within this distribution }

3D Scans/Motion Capture
[CMU Mocap, CAESER, JointLimits..]

Overview: Human Mesh Recovery (HMR)



Overview: Human Mesh Recovery (HMR)



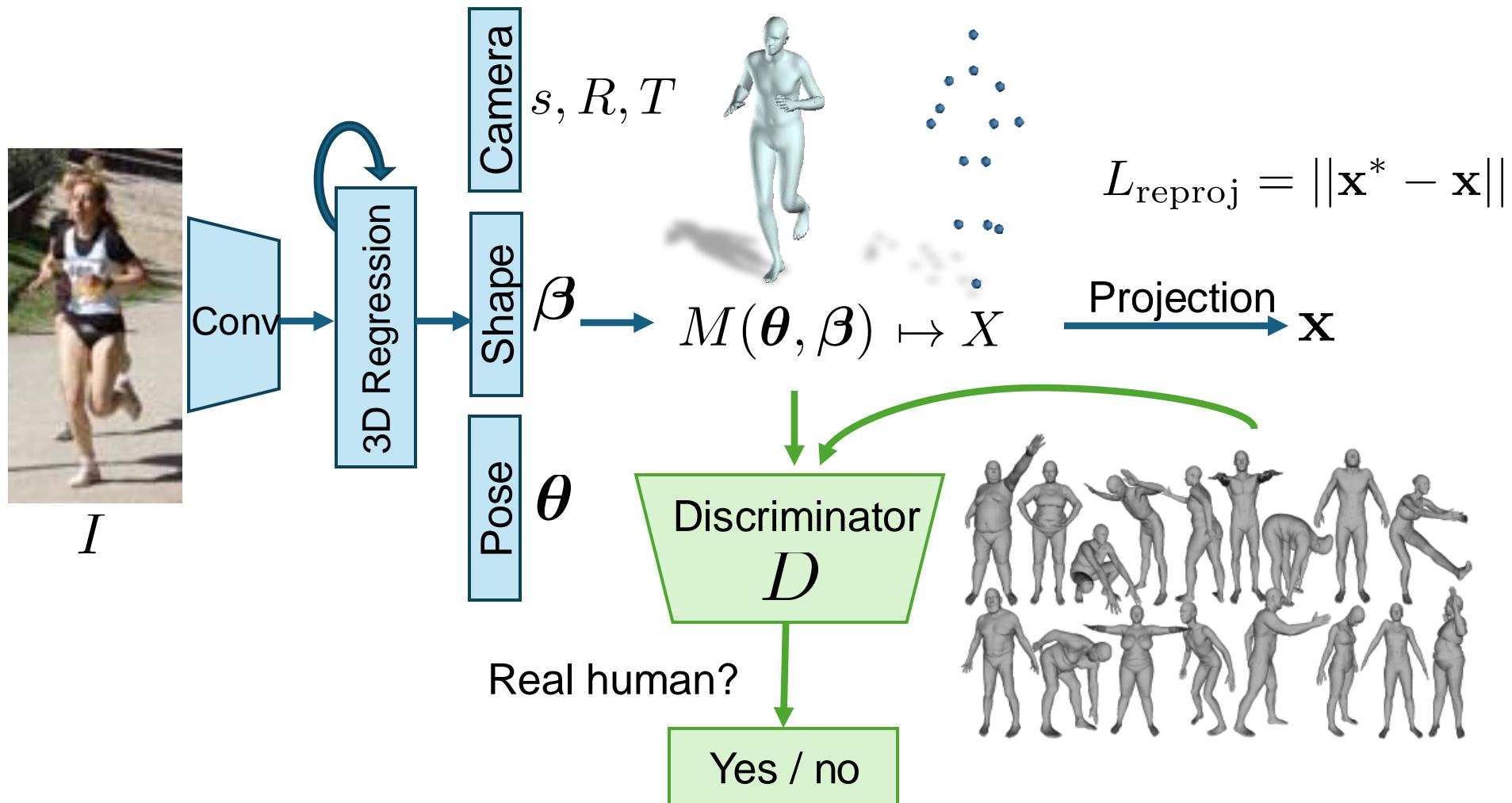
Without any 2D-to-3D supervision...



More monsters from training



Overview: Human Mesh Recovery (HMR)



Training Data

Human3.6M
[Ionescu et al. PAMI'14]



In-the-wild



3D



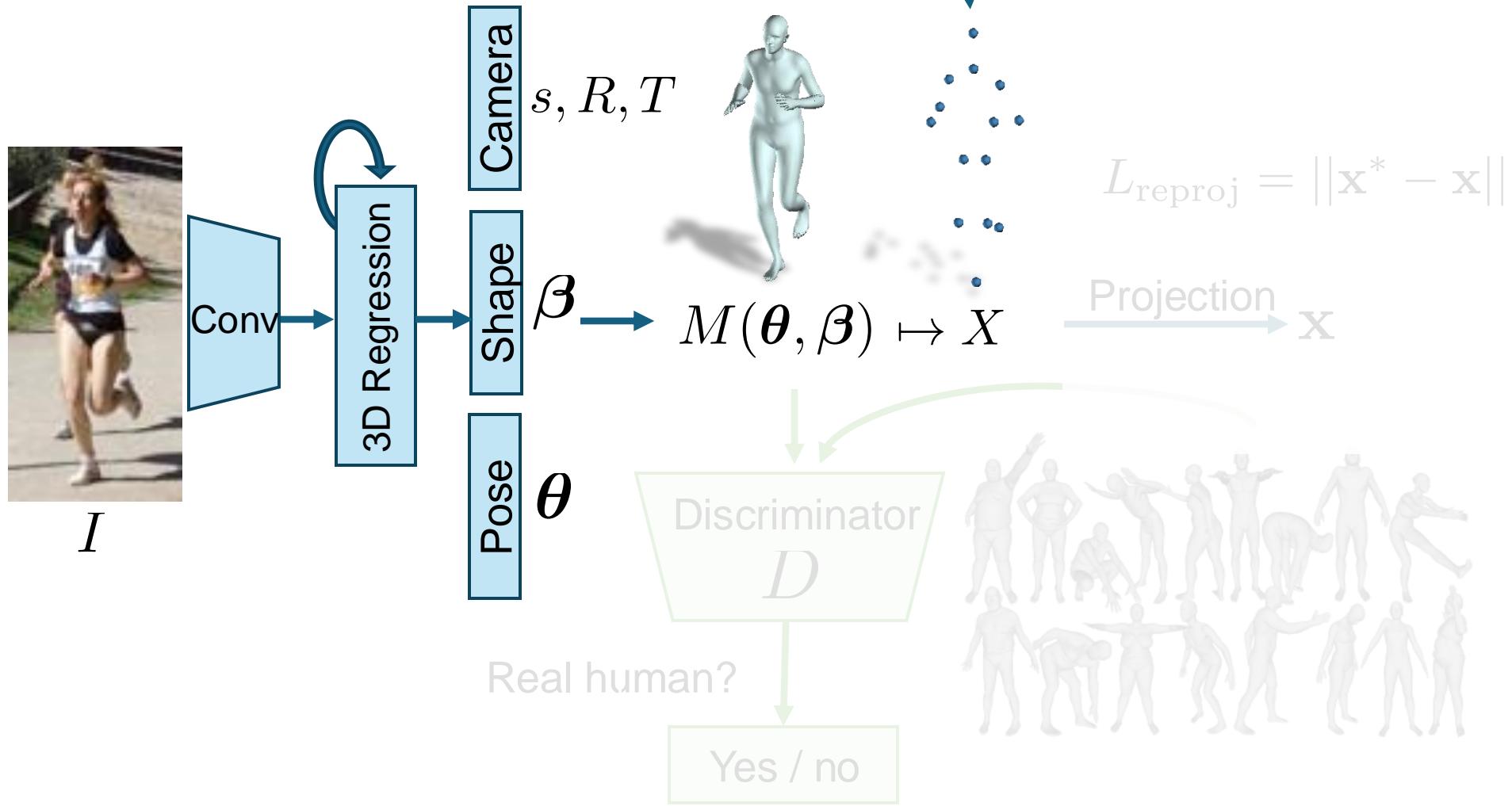
2D



MS COCO
[Lin et al. ECCV '14]

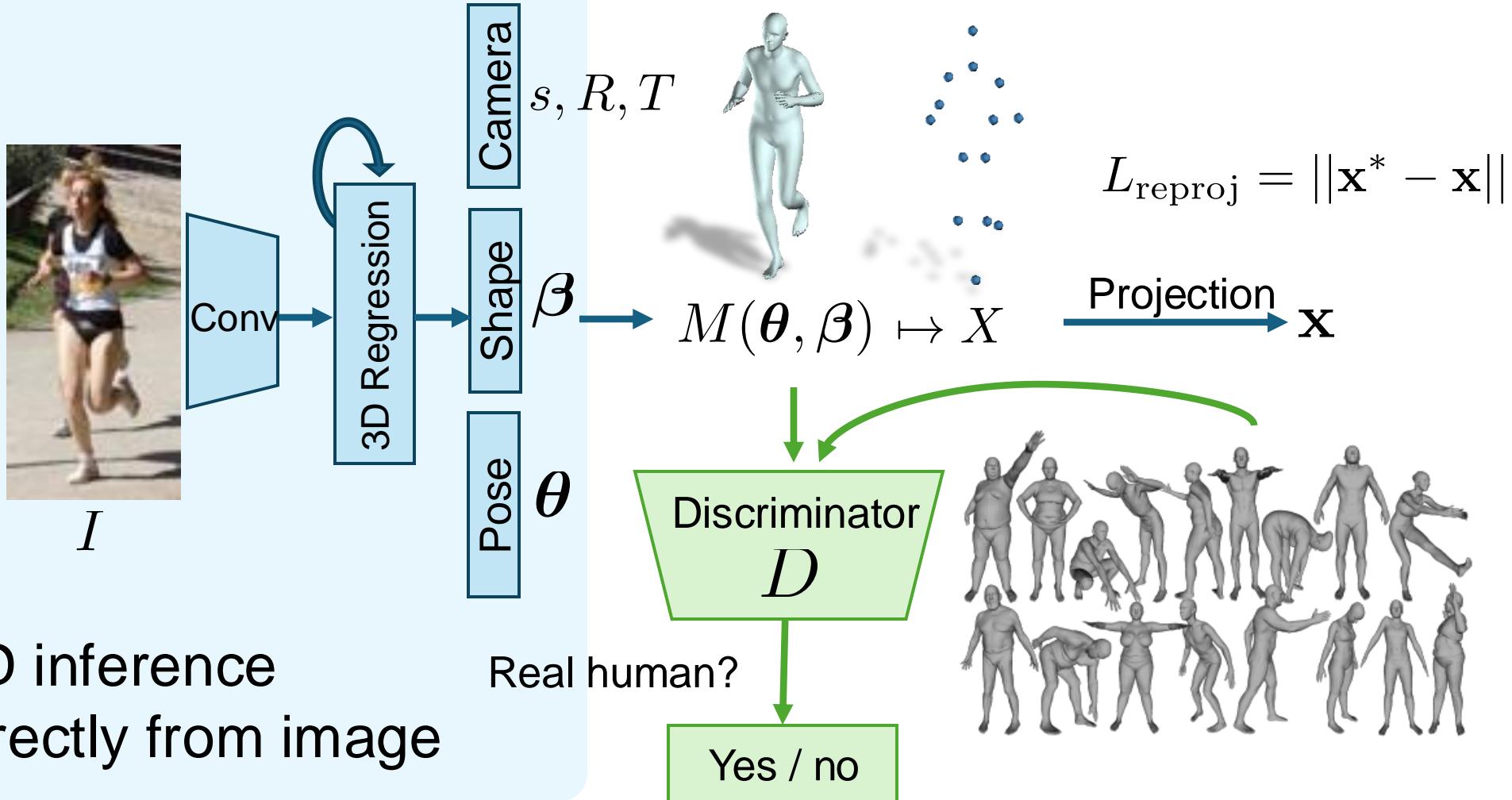


Overview: HMR

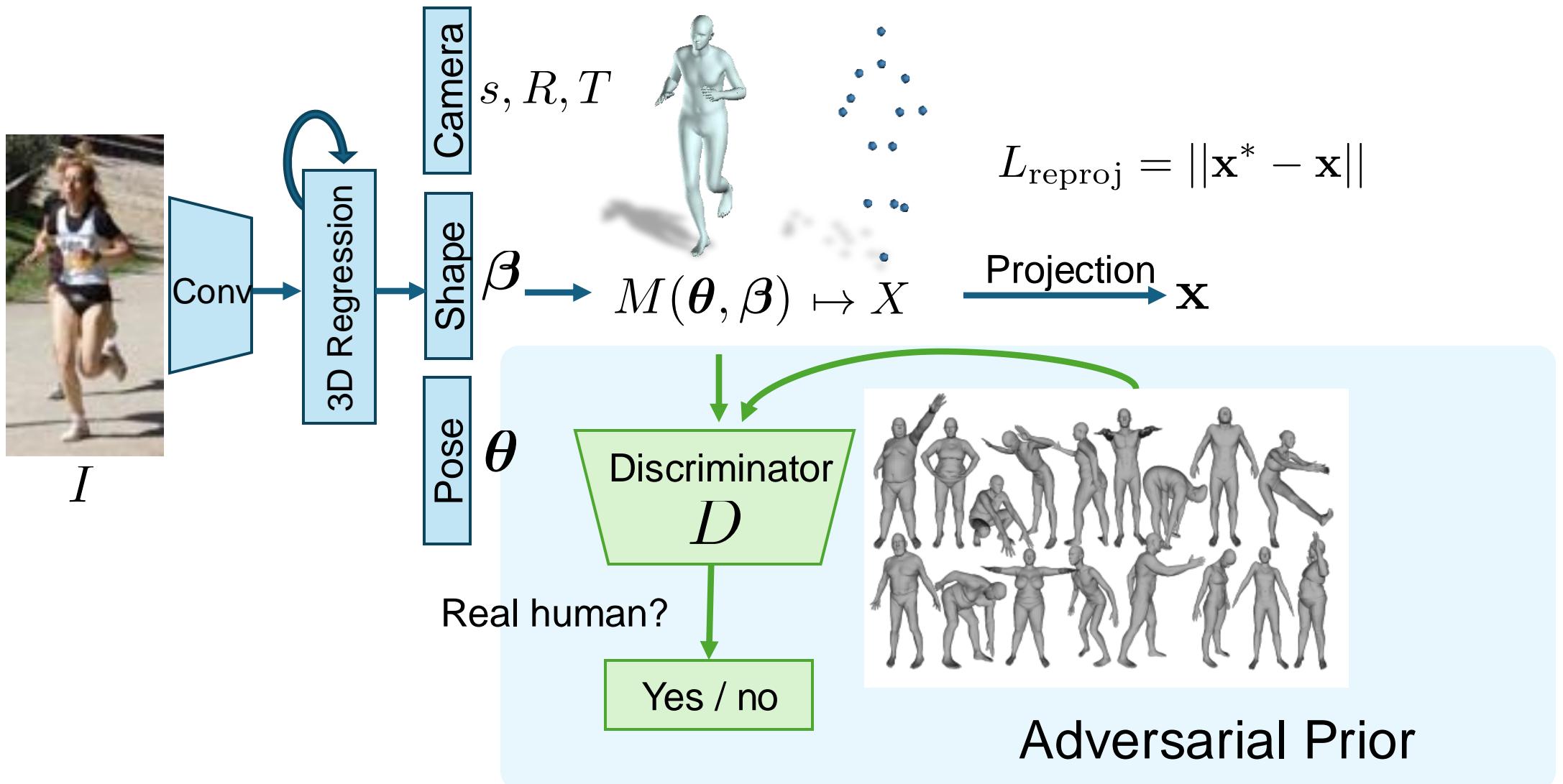


Can be trained in a fully weakly-supervised mode

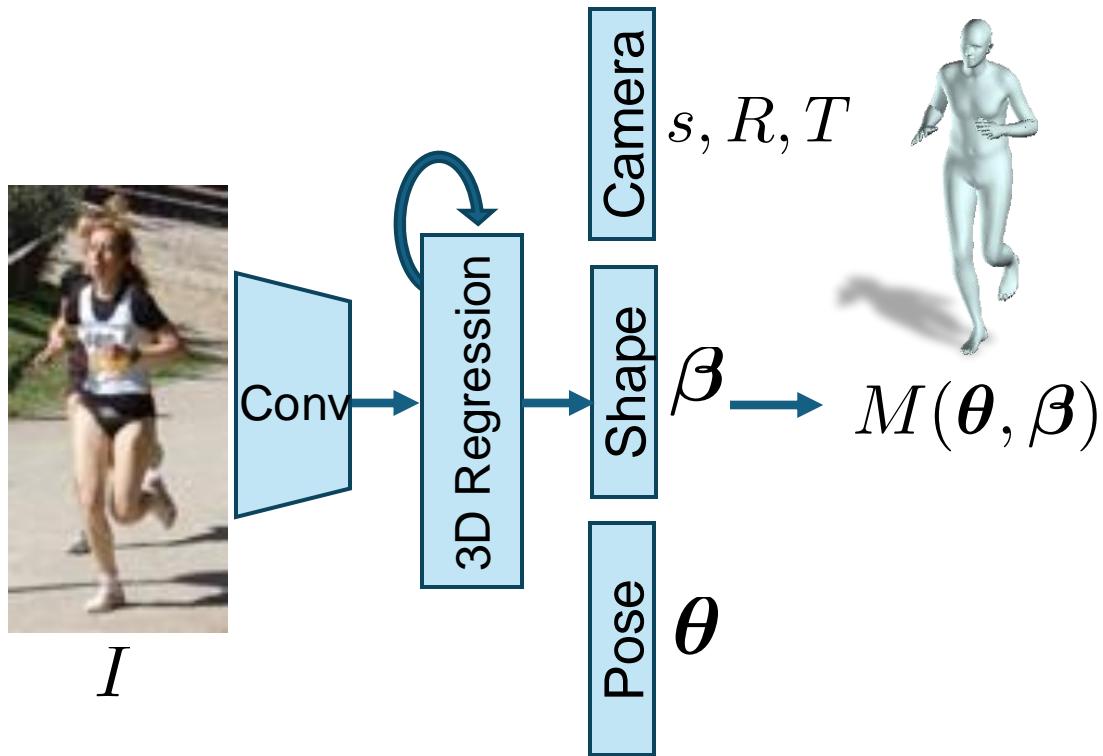
Overview: Human Mesh Recovery (HMR)



Overview: Human Mesh Recovery (HMR)



Test time: just feed forward

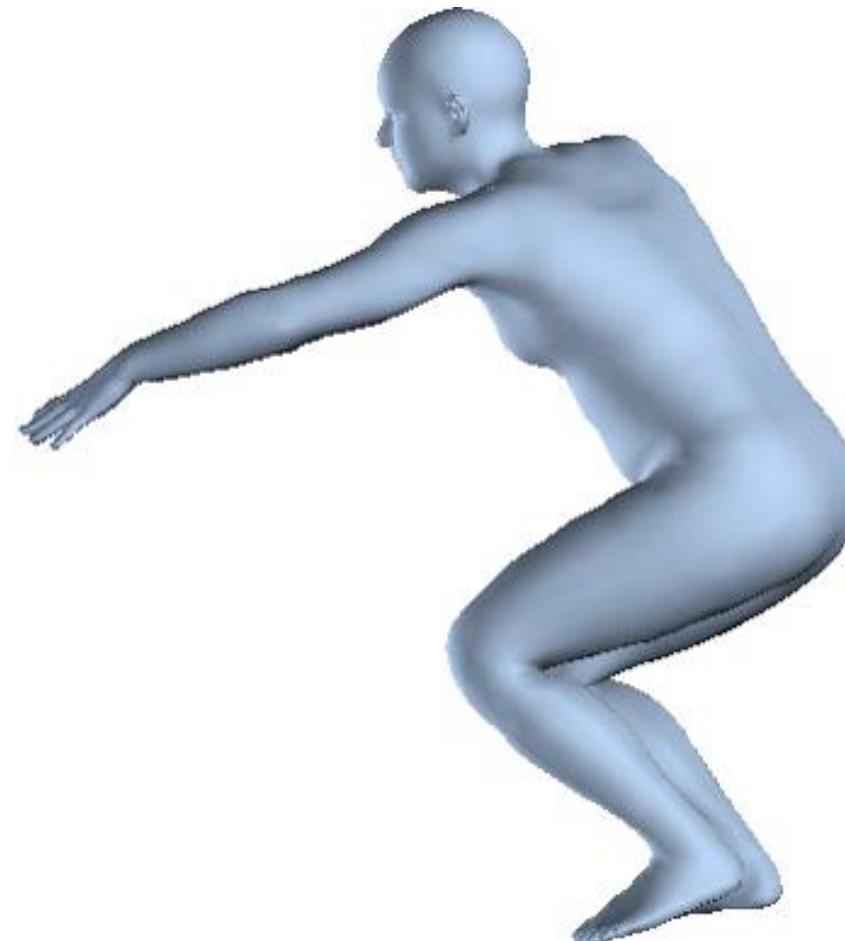


Benefits of recovering a deformable model

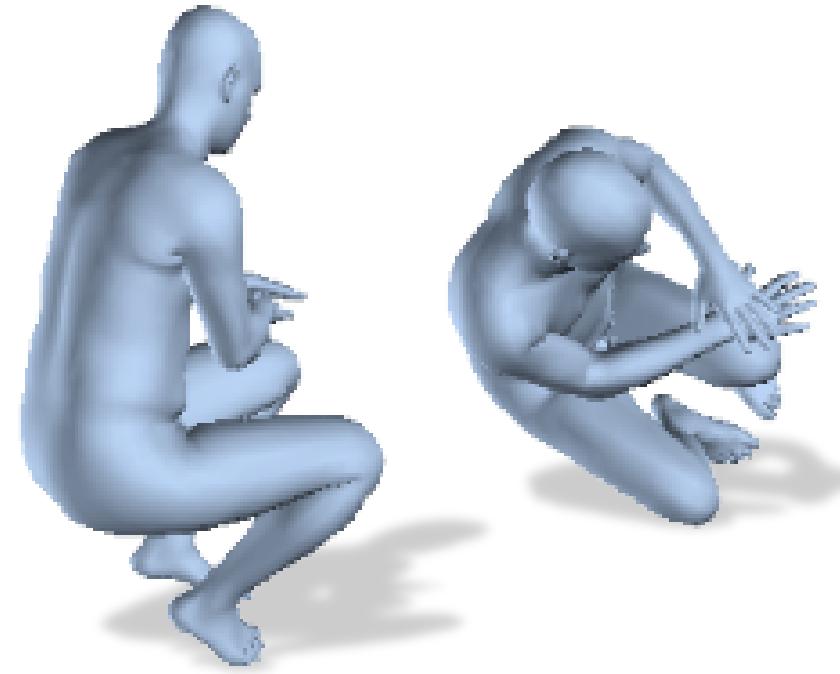
Correspondences across recovered bodies (part segmentations)



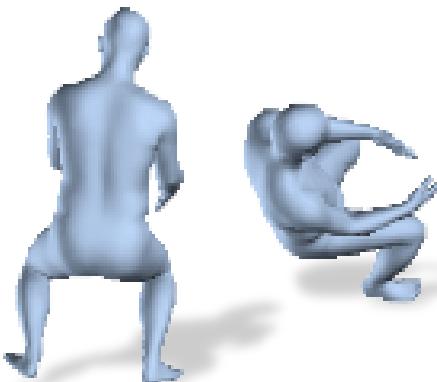
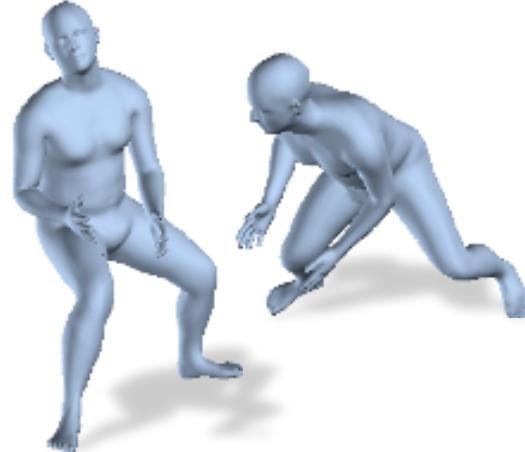
Amodal/holistic prediction



Prediction on occluded body parts

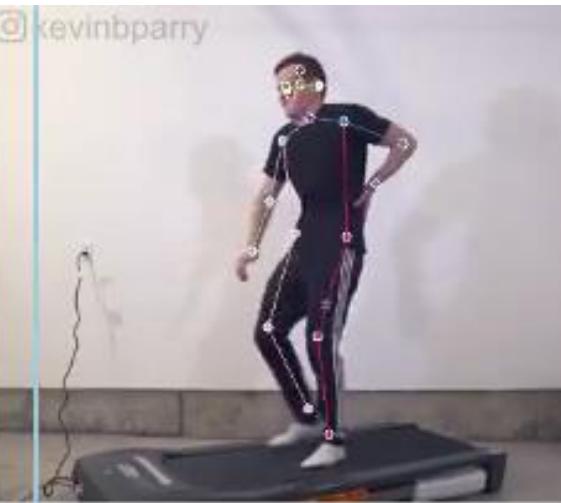


Qualitative results on COCO w/occlusion + clutter





Sore Back



Sore Back



Sore Back



Sore Back



Sore Back



Sore Back



model with full 3D supervision

model **without paired 3D supervision**







- + Good per frame performance
- Lacks temporal coherency



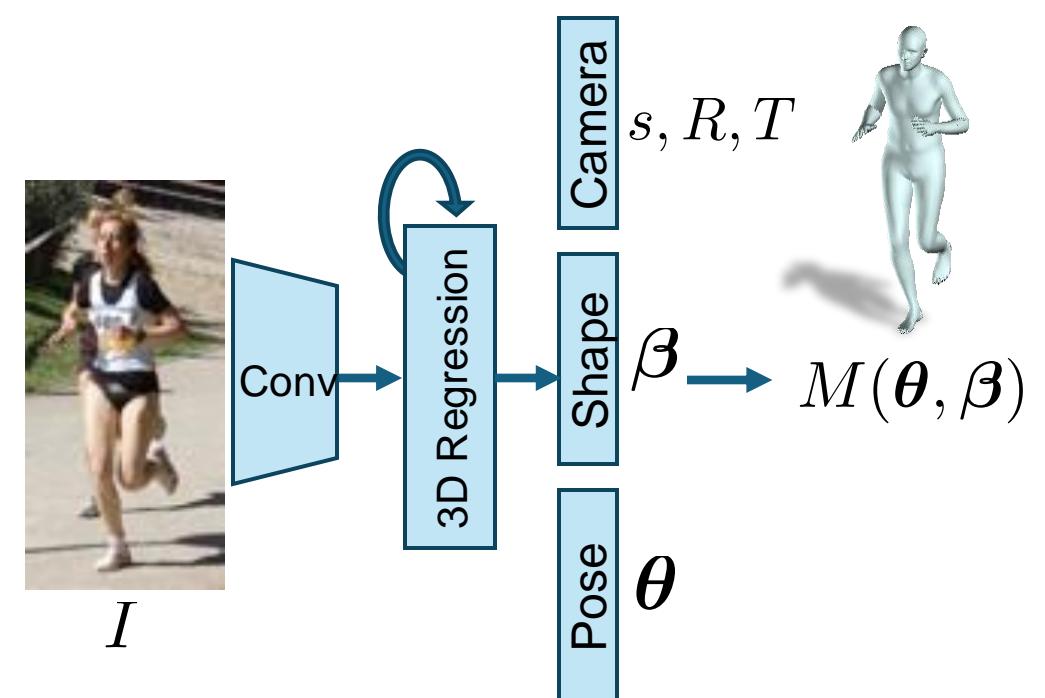
Recap: model based 3D human perception

Iterative optimization in 2016

$$\min_{\beta, \theta, \Pi} \| I - \Pi(\text{3D Model}) \|_2^2 + \text{lots of priors}$$


One-shot inference in 2018

Complementary!
Discuss Pros and Cons

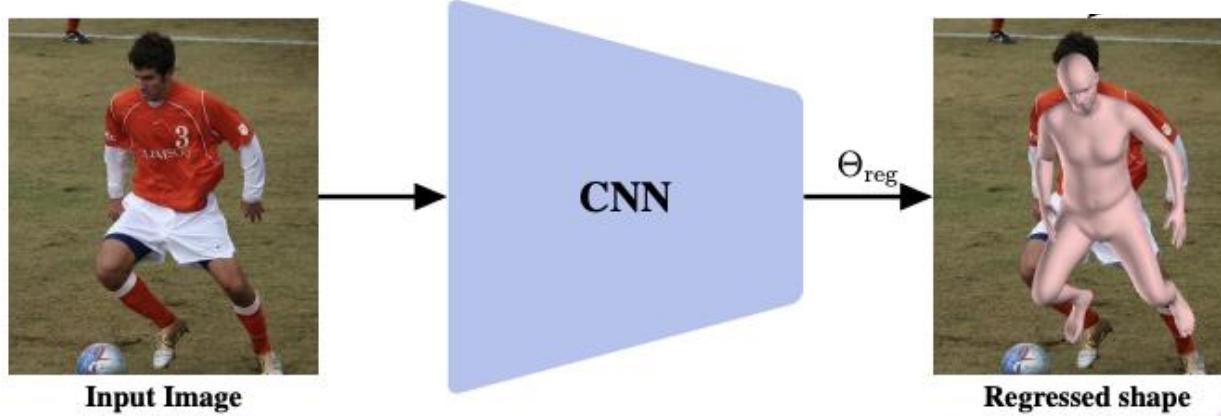


SPIN (SMPL oPtimization IN the loop)

[Kolotouros and Pavlakos et al. ICCV 2019]



SPIN [Kolotouros and Pavlakos et al. ICCV 2019]



SPIN is self-improving

Starting from an initial set of fits, our method can **improve** them.



Image

Initial fit

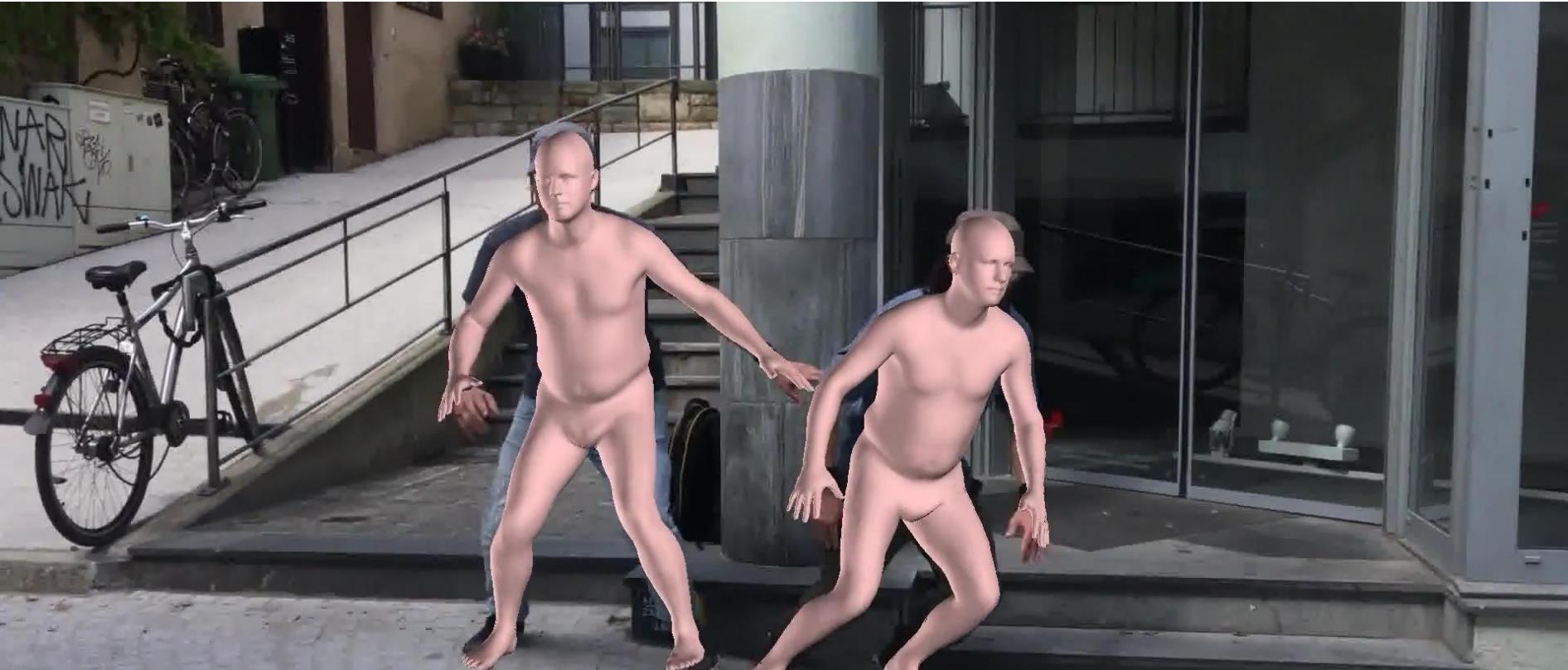
Final fit

Image

Initial fit

Final fit

SPIN results



- + Much better per frame performance
 - Still lack temporal coherency

SMPL-X model



SMPL-X estimated independently on each frame

Model fitting

Objective function

$$E(\beta, \theta, \psi) =$$

Data term

joints reprojection

+

Priors

pose, shape, expression, interpenetration



TODO replace with 4D Humans, HaMeR, SLAHMR

Progress on Human Mesh Recovery — from 2018 to 2023

Human Mesh Recovery (HMR)

CVPR 2018

Kanazawa, Black, Jacobs, Malik



Human Mesh Recovery 2.0

ICCV 2023

Goel, Pavlakos, Rajasegaran, Kanazawa*, Malik*, ICCV 2023



Per-frame estimation — no smoothness applied
Color = Identity

Human Mesh Recovery 2.0

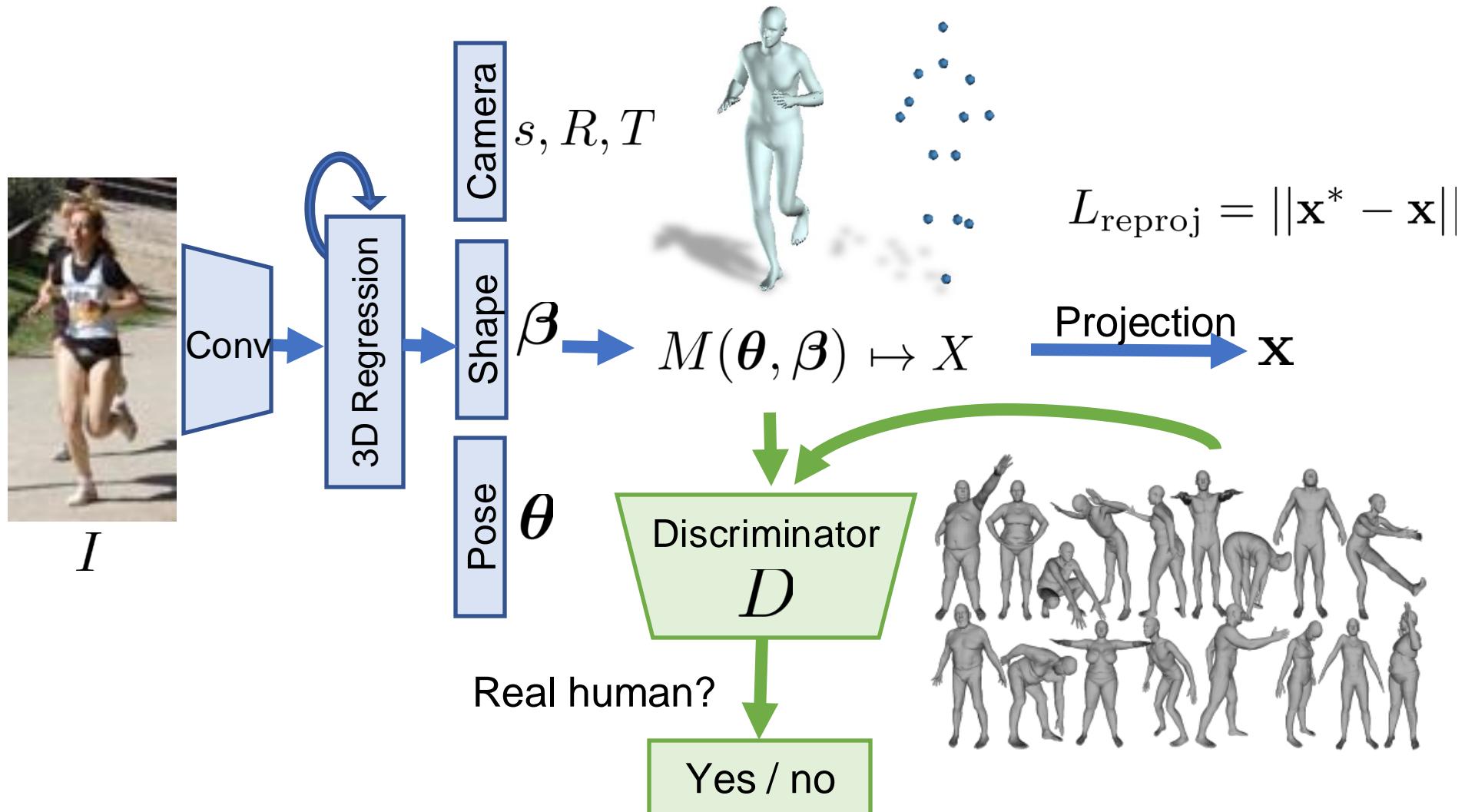
ICCV 2023

Goel, Pavlakos, Rajasegaran, Kanazawa*, Malik*, ICCV 2023



Per-frame estimation — no smoothness applied
Color = Identity

Human Mesh Recovery (HMR) 2018



Recipe: Big Model and Big Data

Before

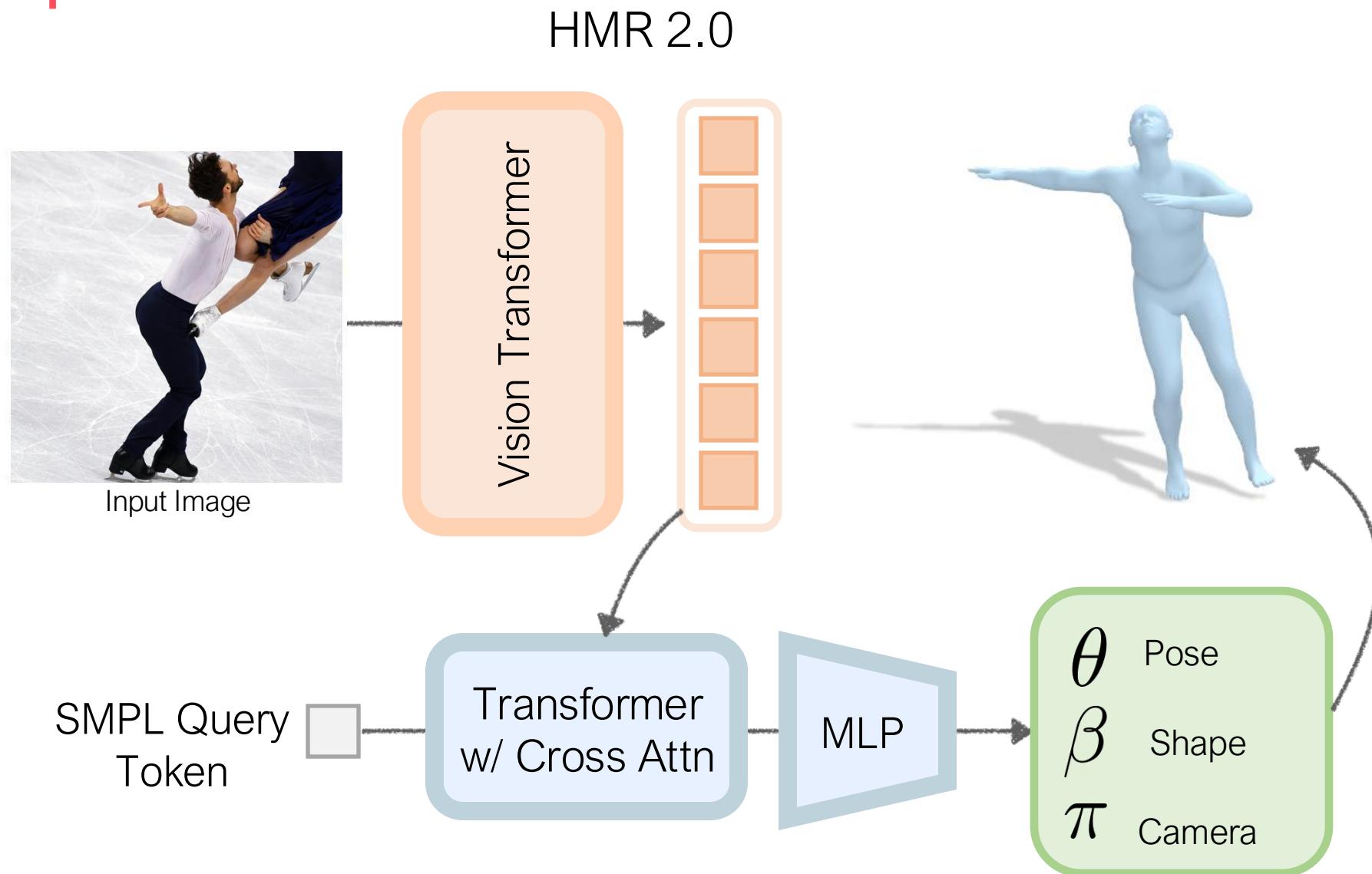


Ours



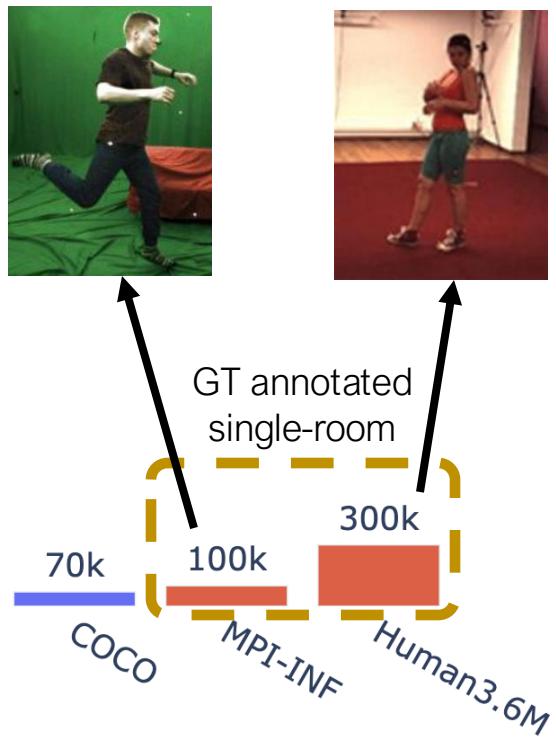
per-frame estimation - no smoothness applied

Recipe: Big Model and Big Data



Recipe: Big Model and Big Data

Automatic dataset labelling



Optimize

Priors:
Pose + Shape

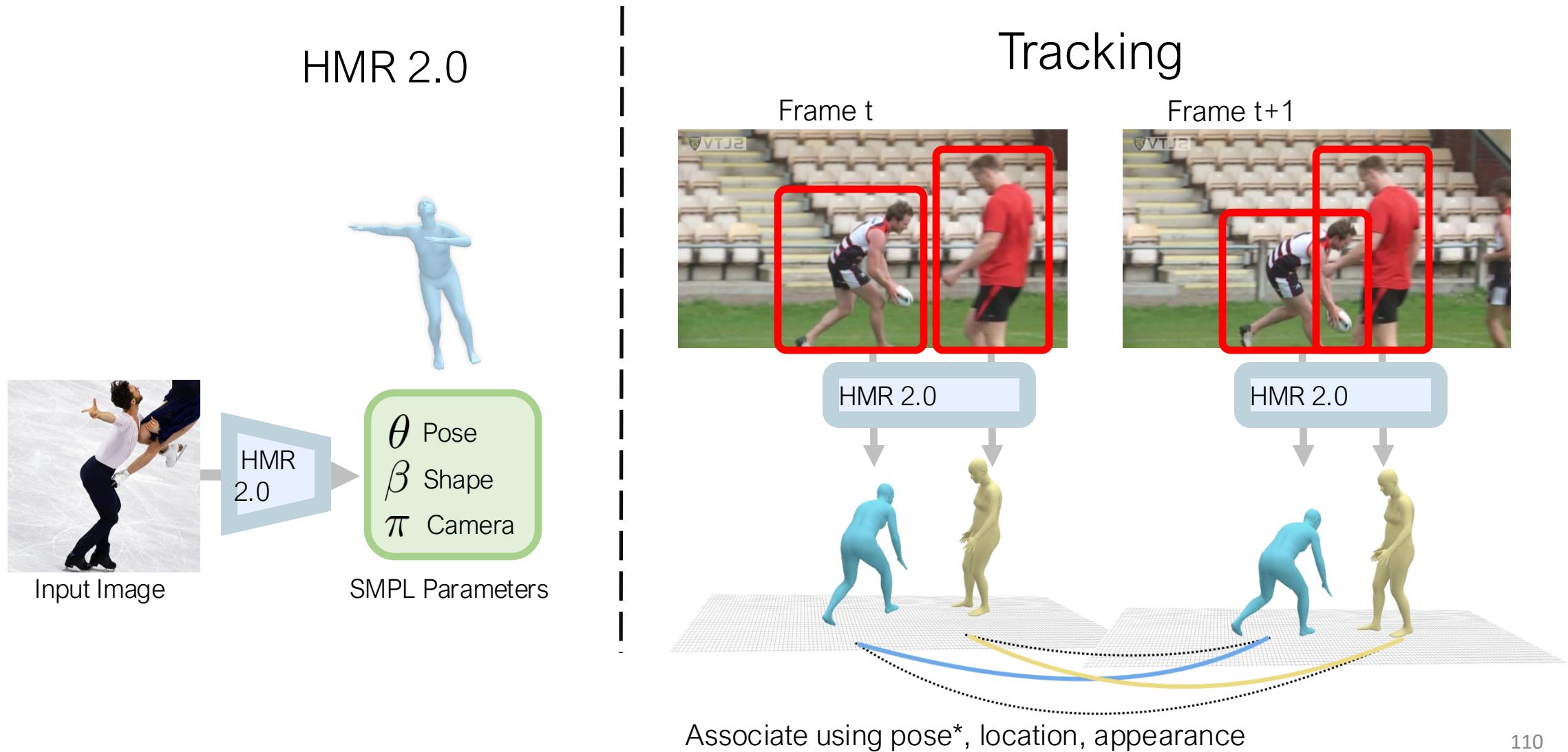
Joint Reprojection
onto keypoints

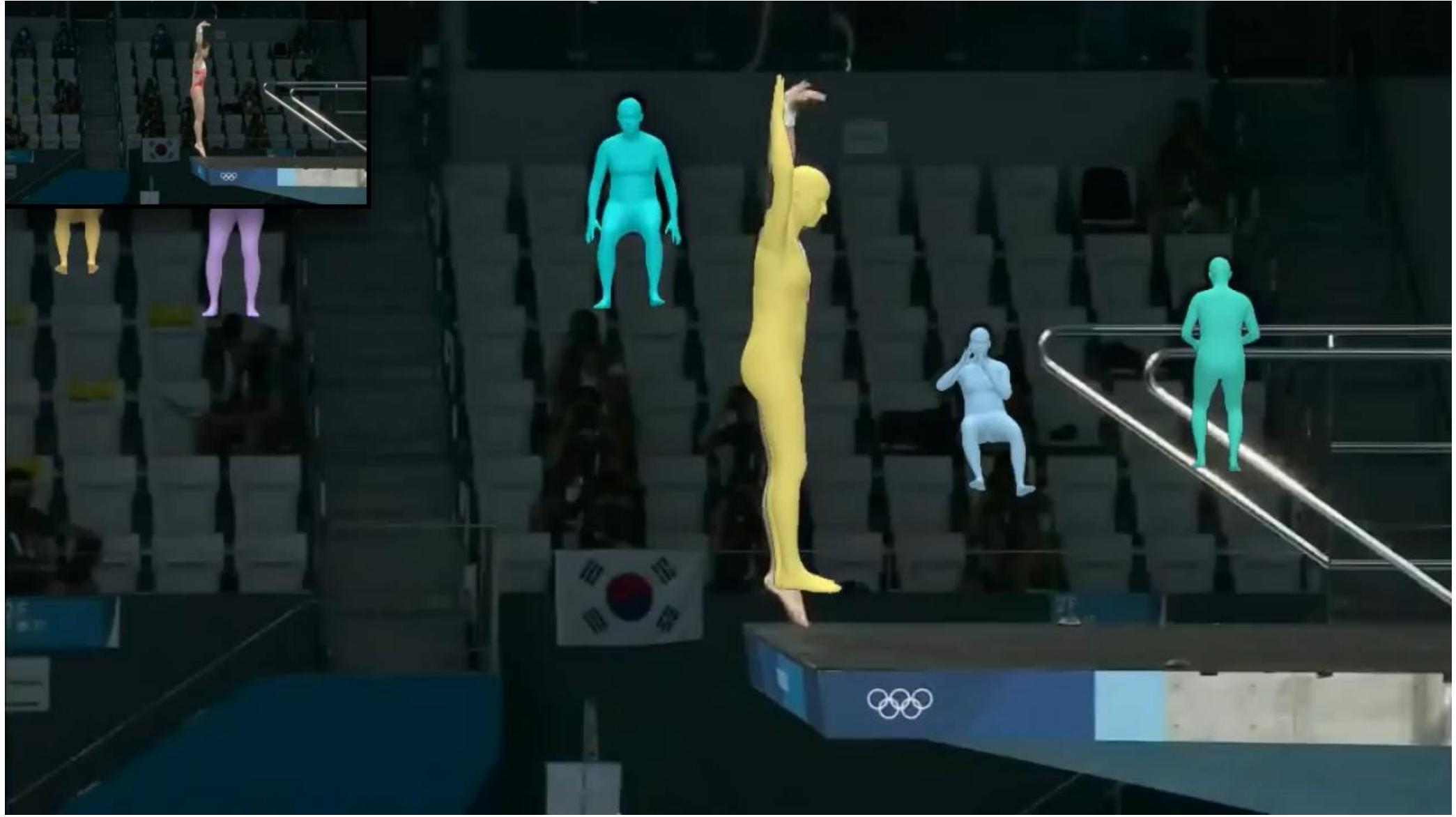
θ Pose
 β Shape
 π Camera

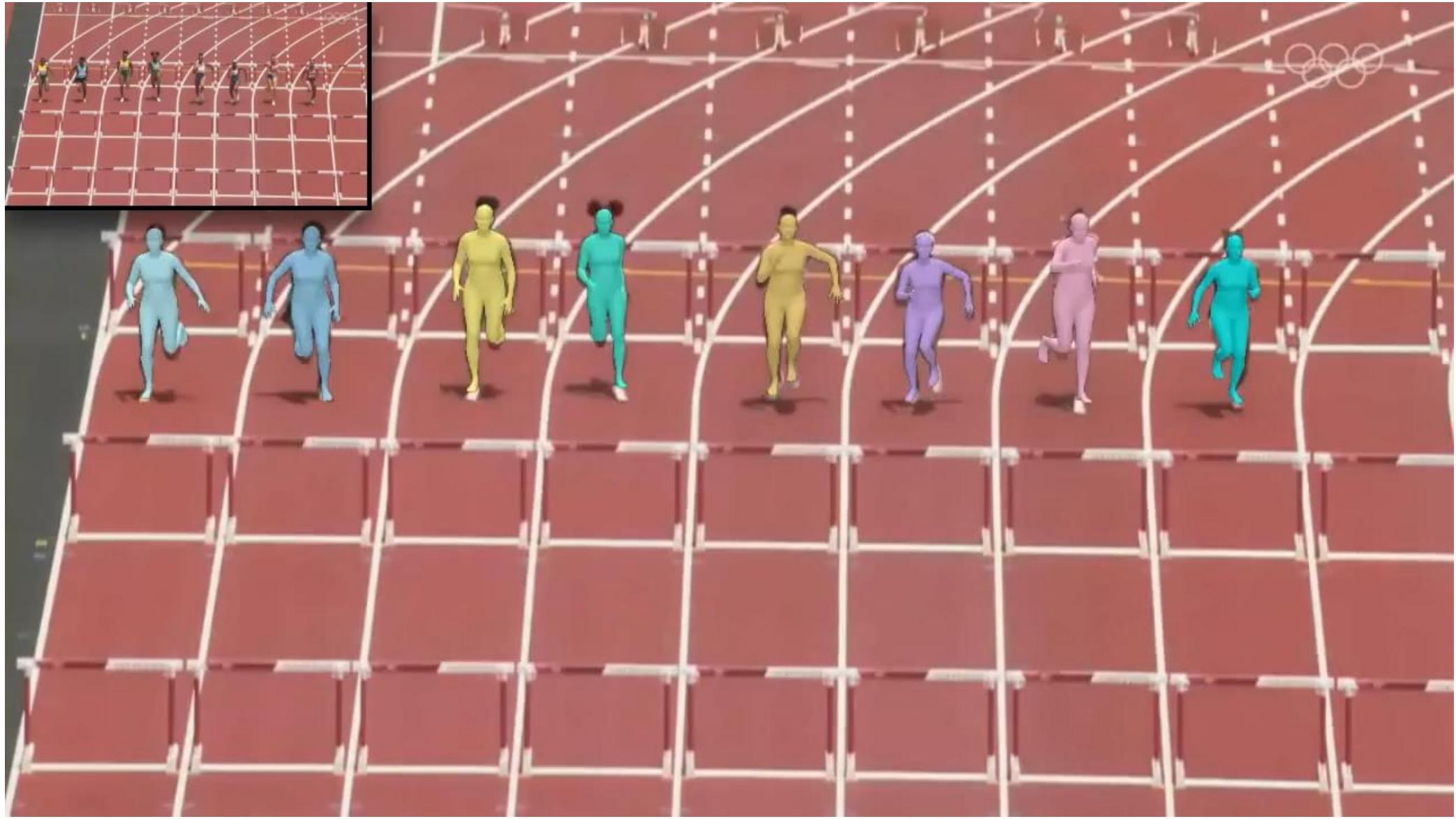


Finally, distill into a network!

4DHumans: HMR2.0 & PHALP++



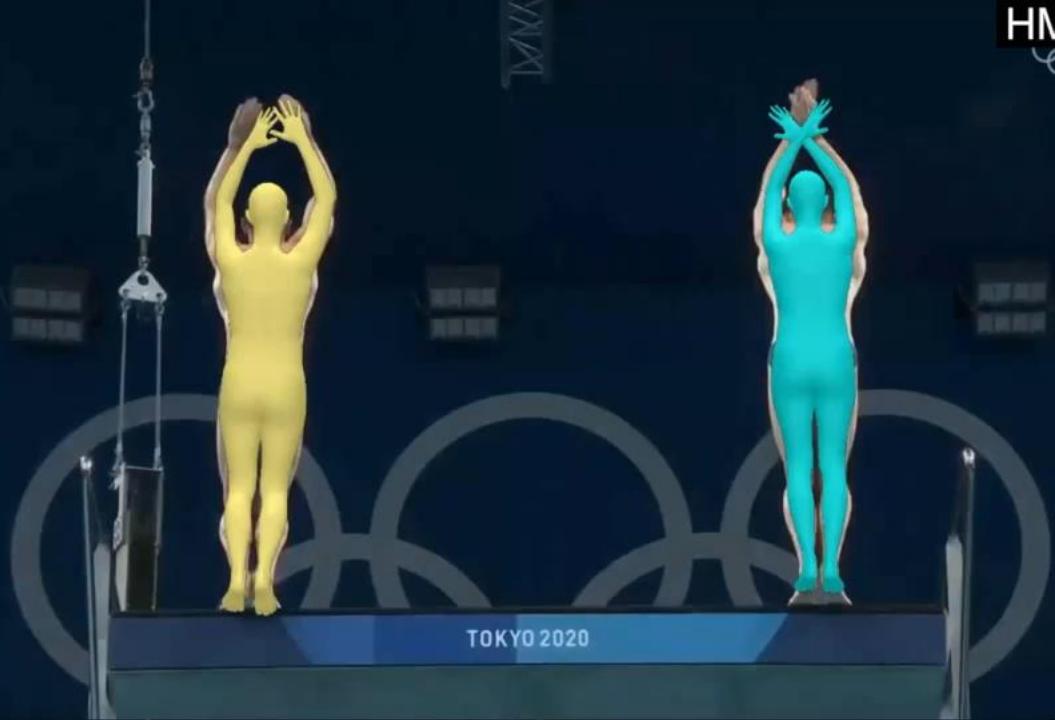




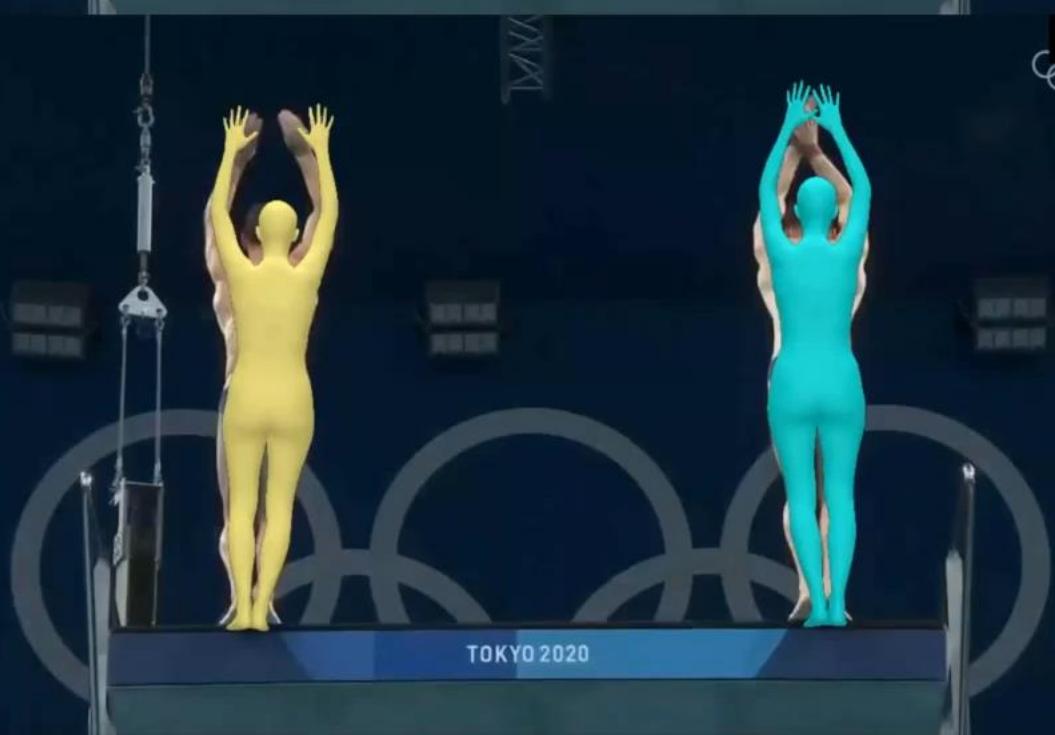
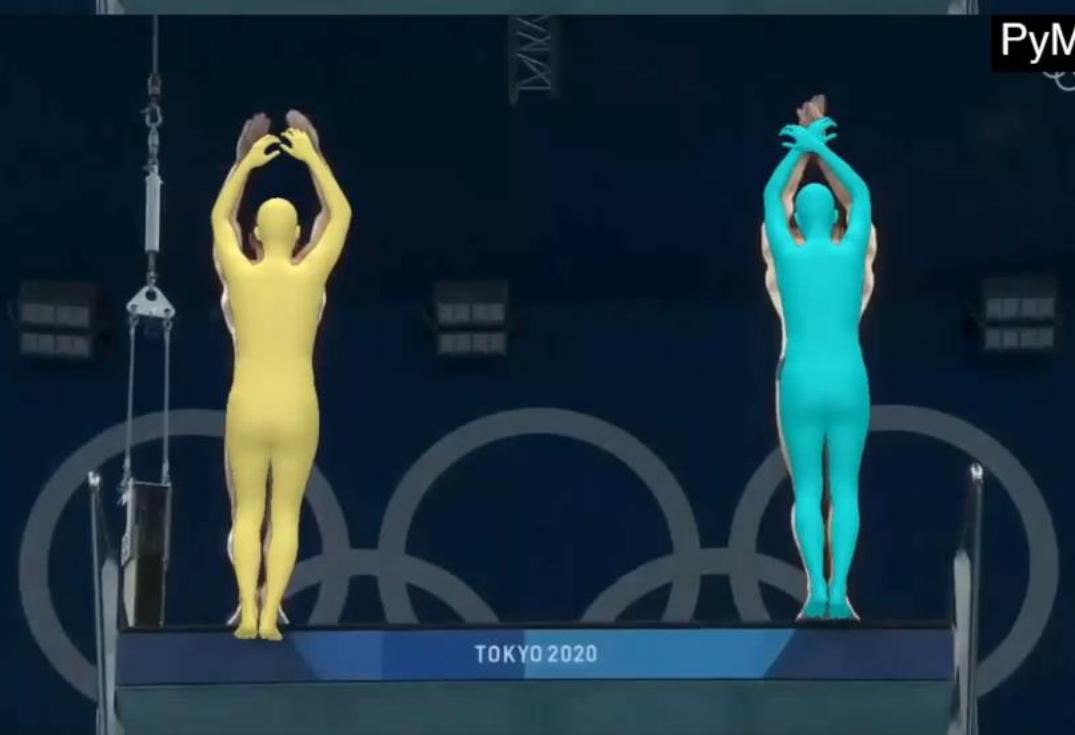
RGB Input



HMR 2.0



PyMAF-X



PARE



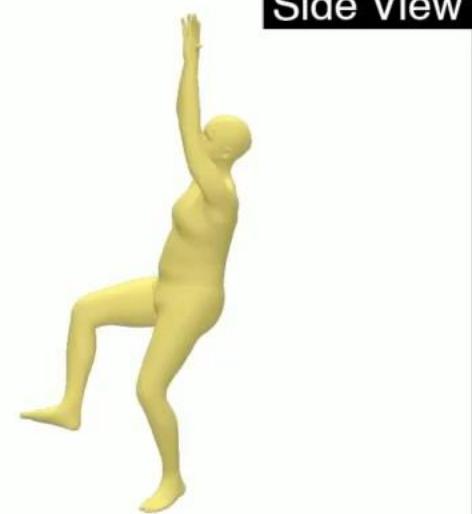


RGB Input

Per-frame
estimation



Camera View



HaMeR - Hand Mesh Recovery



George Pavlakos

CVPR 2024



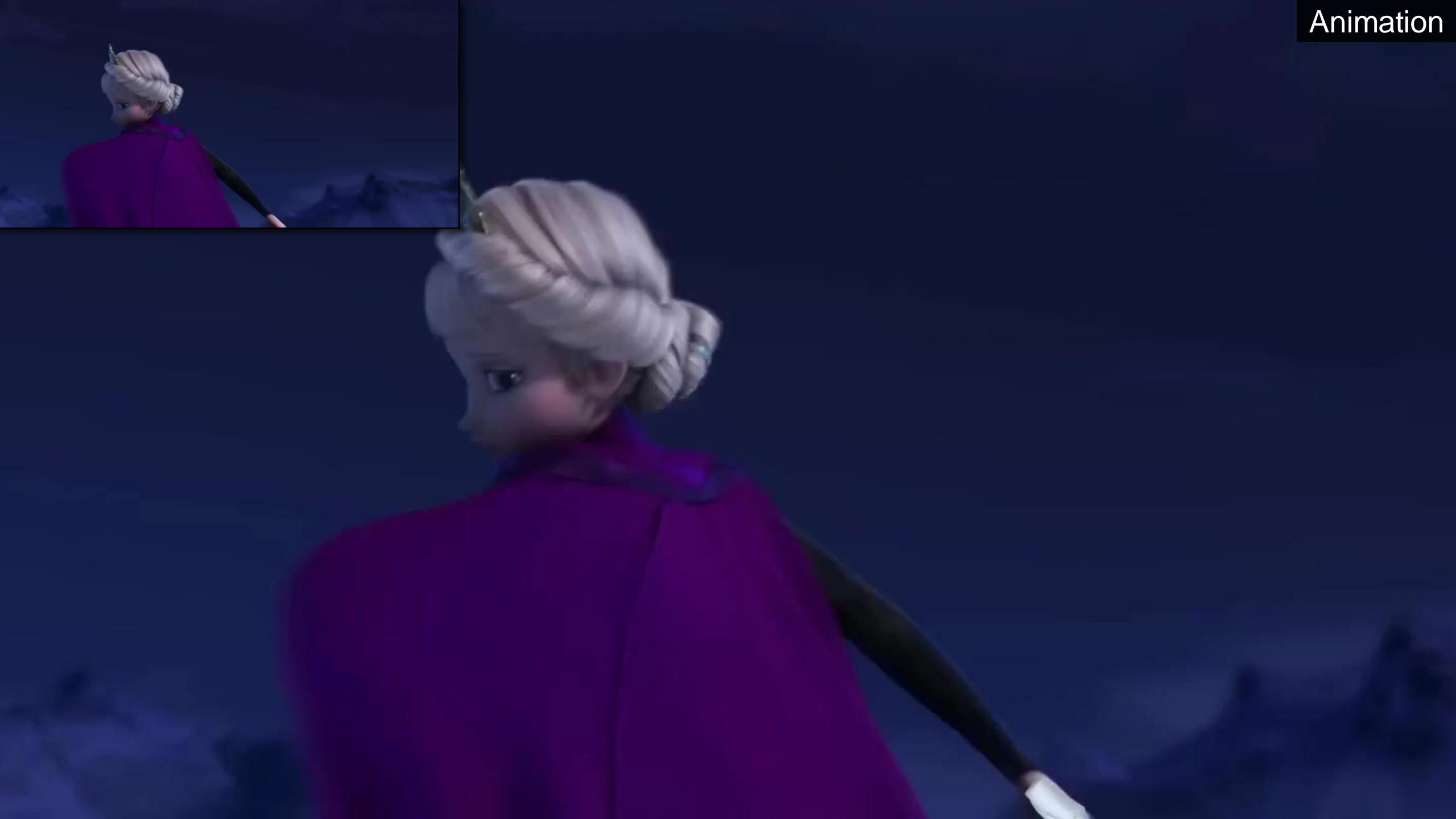
Playing Instruments





Sign Language





Hand Gestures

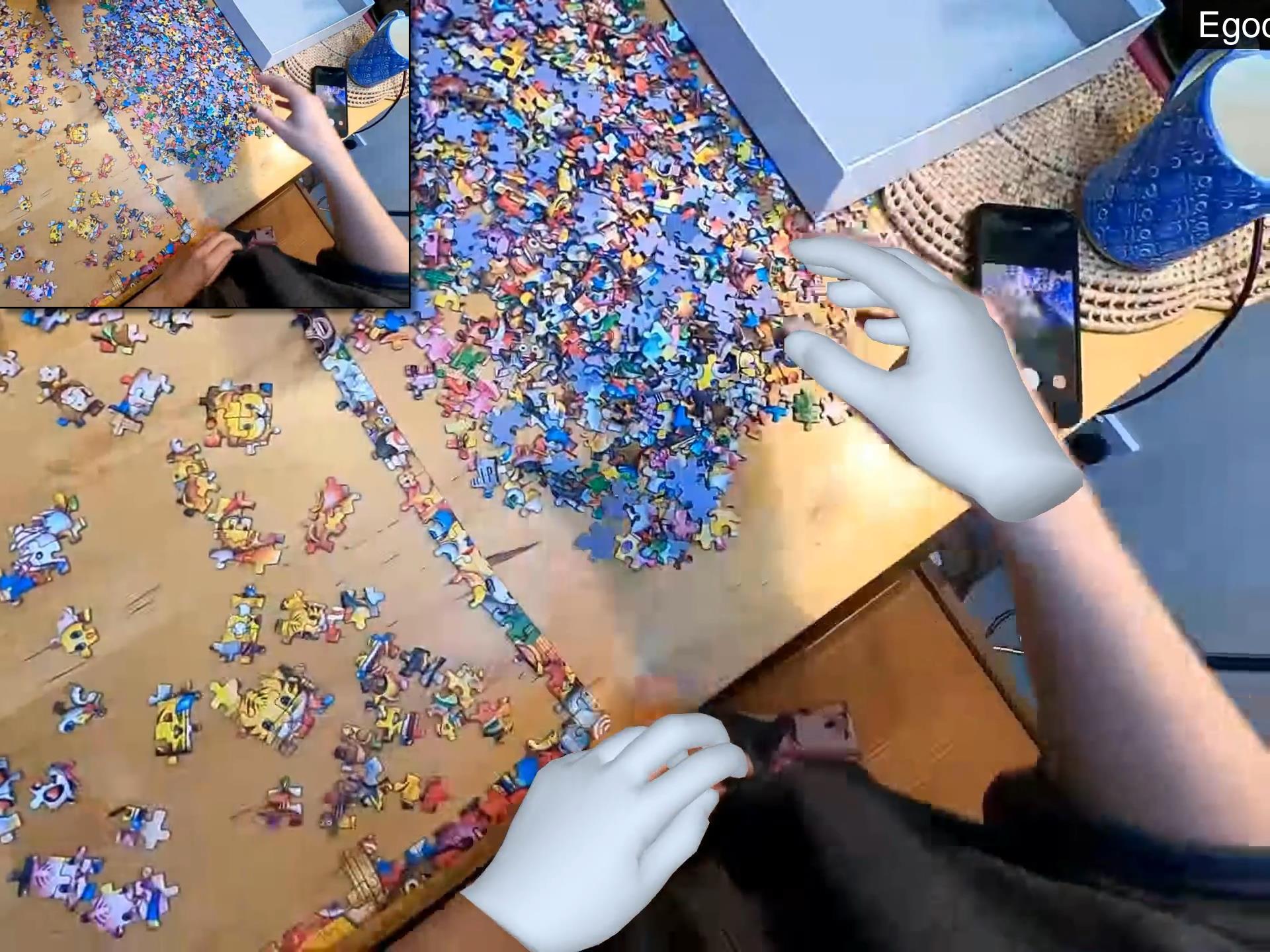


ITALIAN HAND GESTURE:

ITALIAN HAND GESTURE:

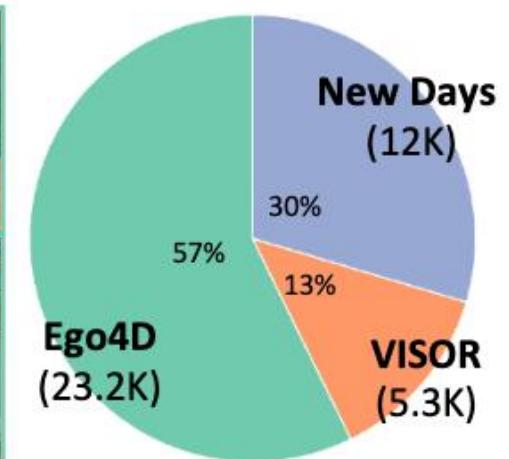
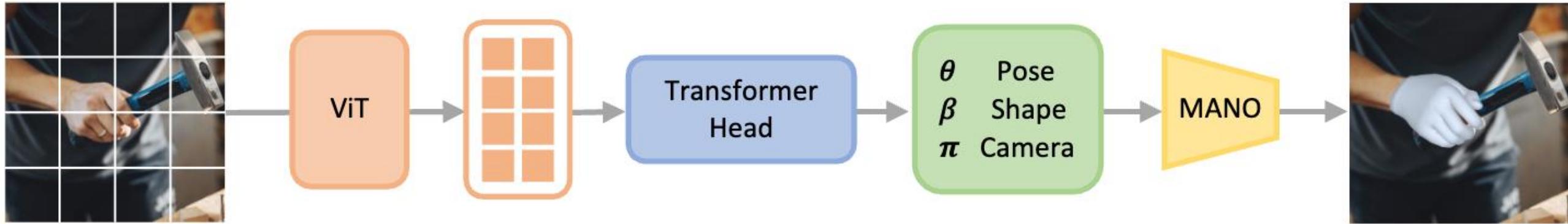


Egocentric Views



Egocentric Views





RGB Input



HaMeR



Mesh Graphomer



FrankMocap





ITALIAN HAND GESTURE:

Right hand
Top view



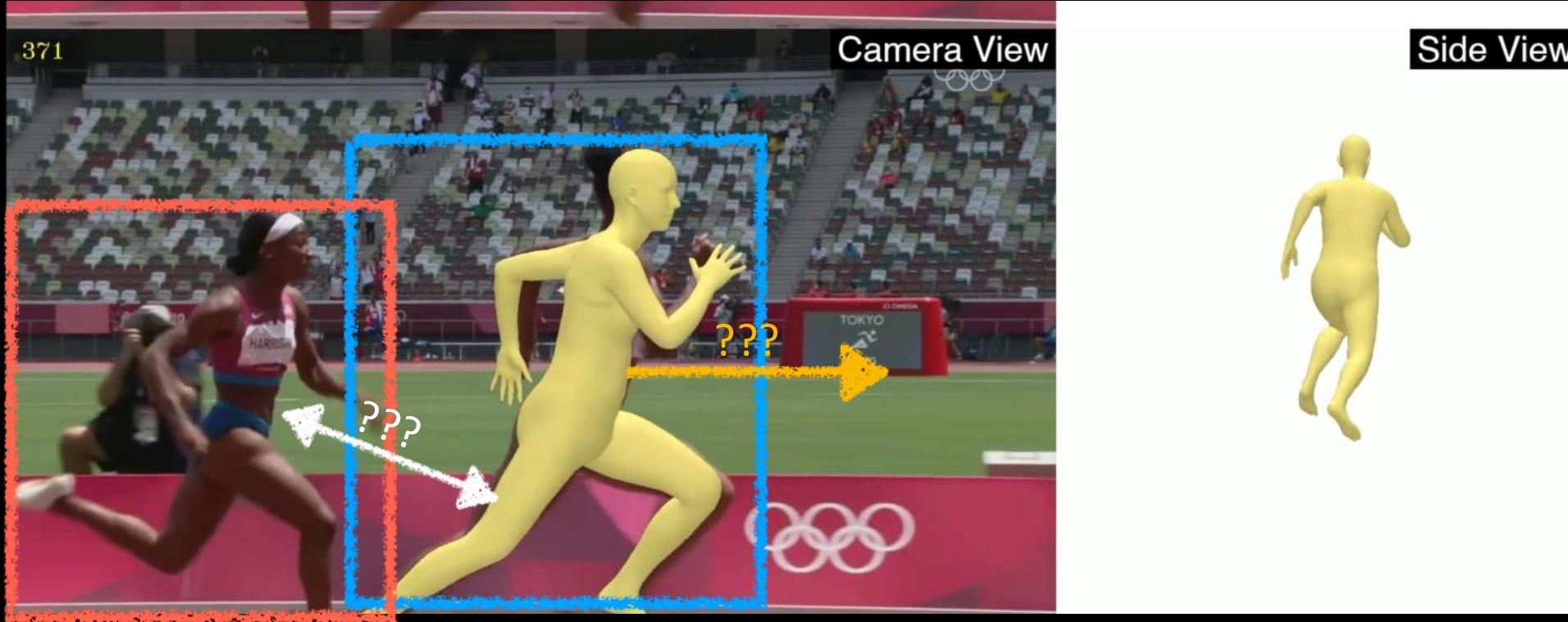
ITALIAN HAND GESTURE:



Left hand
Top view



Caveat: Local Pose



Decoupling Human and Camera Motion from Videos in the Wild



Vickie Ye



Georgios Pavlakos



Jitendra Malik



Angjoo Kanazawa

CVPR 2023

UC Berkeley



We live in a world that is 3D and dynamic.



Results from SLAHMR!! [Ye et al. CVPR 2023]

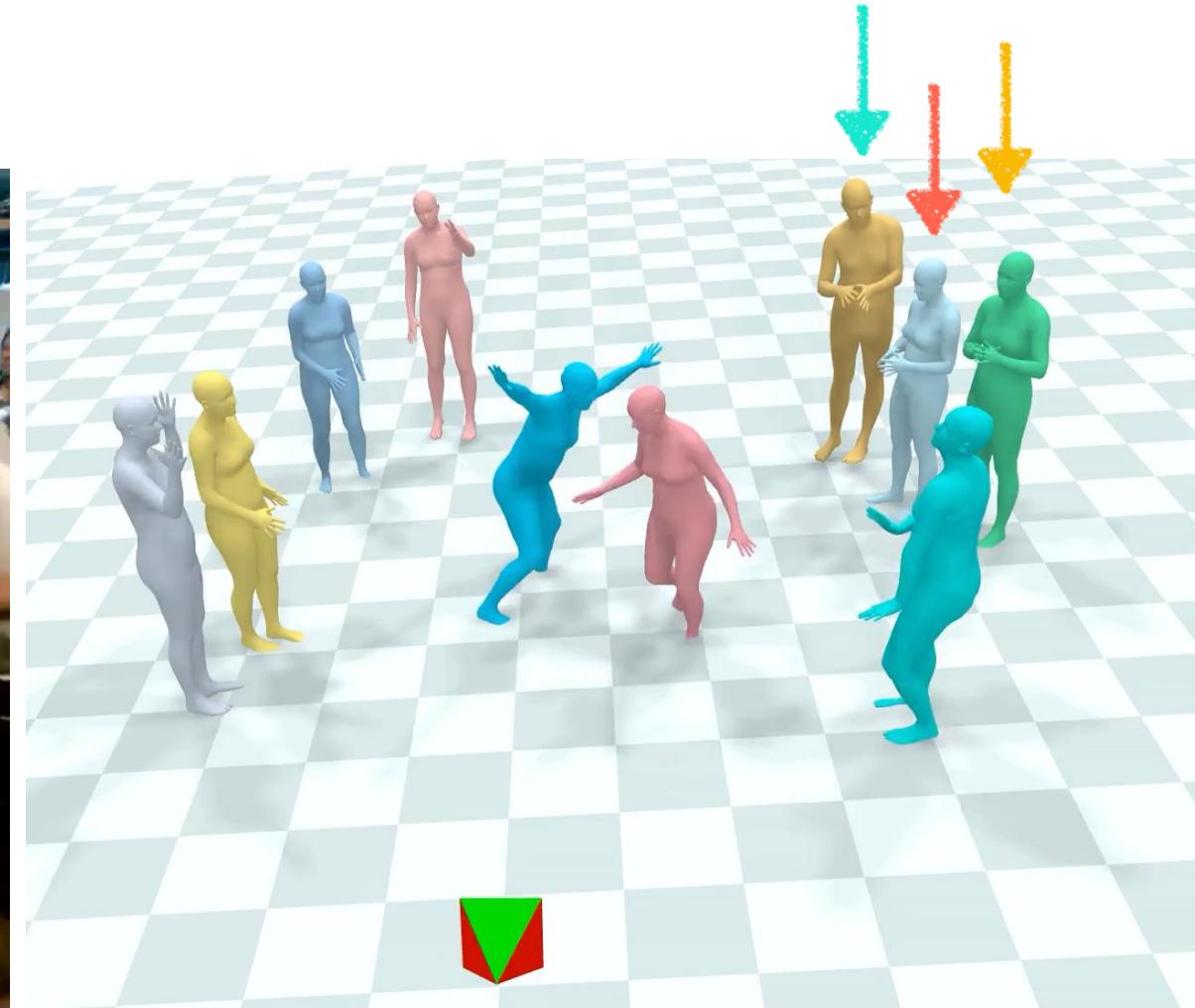




SIAHMR: Decoupling Human and Camera Motion from Videos in the Wild. [Ye et al. CVPR 2023]



SIAHMR: Decoupling Human and Camera Motion from Videos in the Wild. [Ye et al. CVPR 2023]

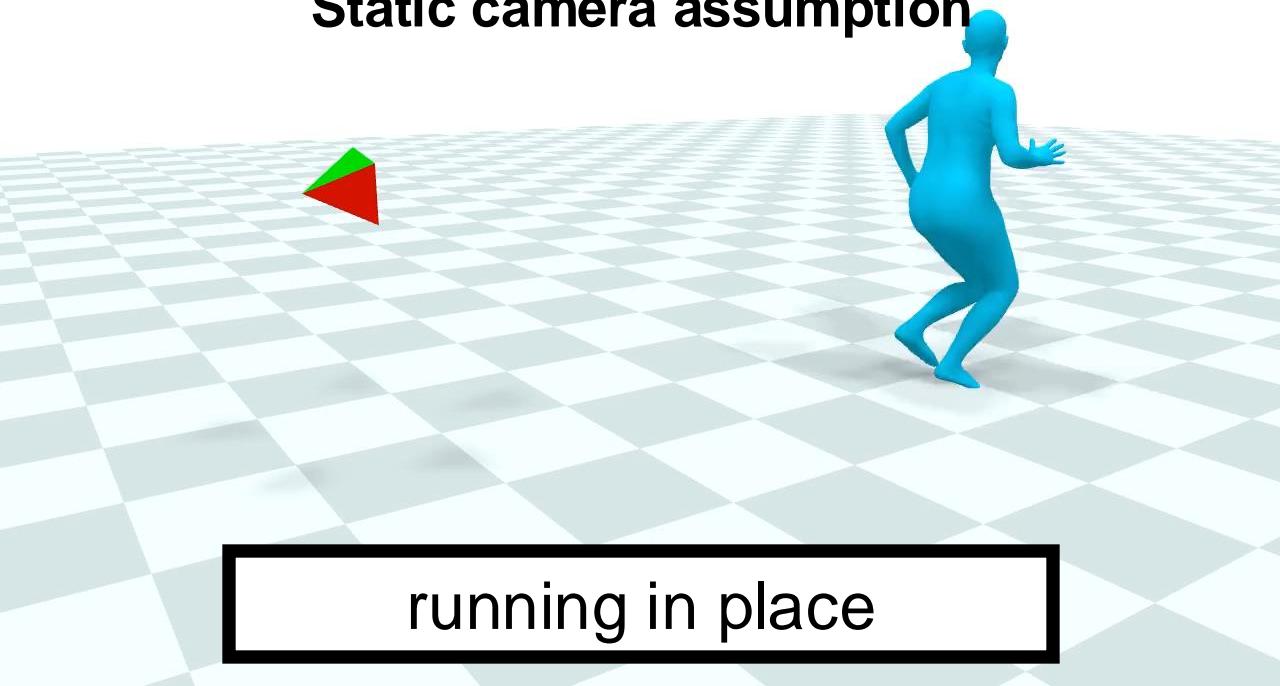


SIAHMR: Decoupling Human and Camera Motion from Videos in the Wild. [Ye et al. CVPR 2023]



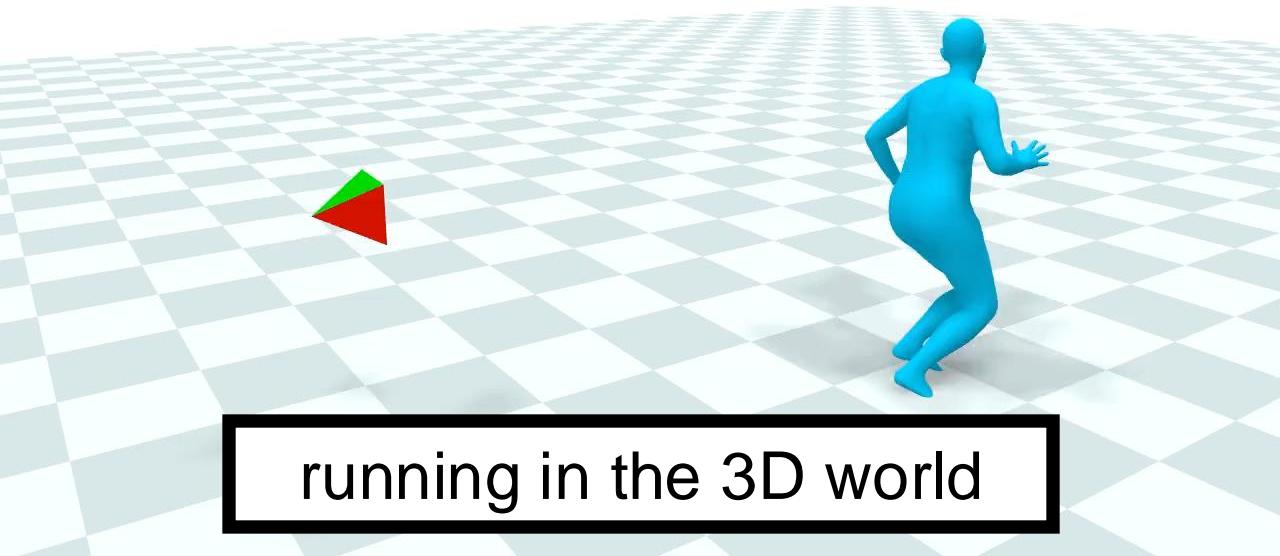


Static camera assumption



running in place

Modeling camera motion



running in the 3D world

Input:



Output:

$$\{\text{world } \mathbf{P}\}$$

$$\{R, \alpha T\}$$

$$\{g\}$$

Tracked People
in **World** Frame

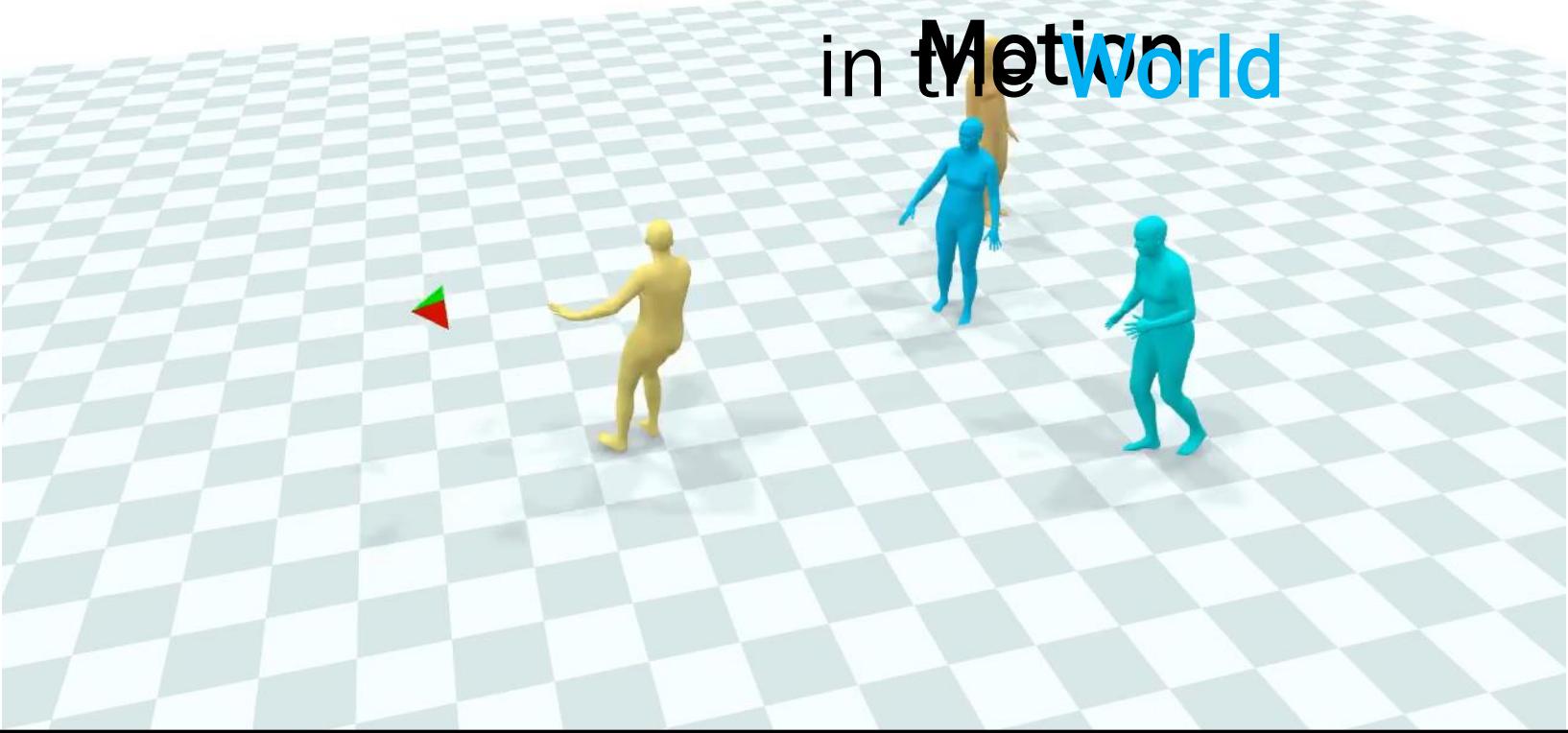
Camera
Ground Plane
in **Motion** **World**

$$\{\text{cam } \mathbf{P}\}$$

Tracked
People in

Unscale
Camera

Frame
Camera
Motion



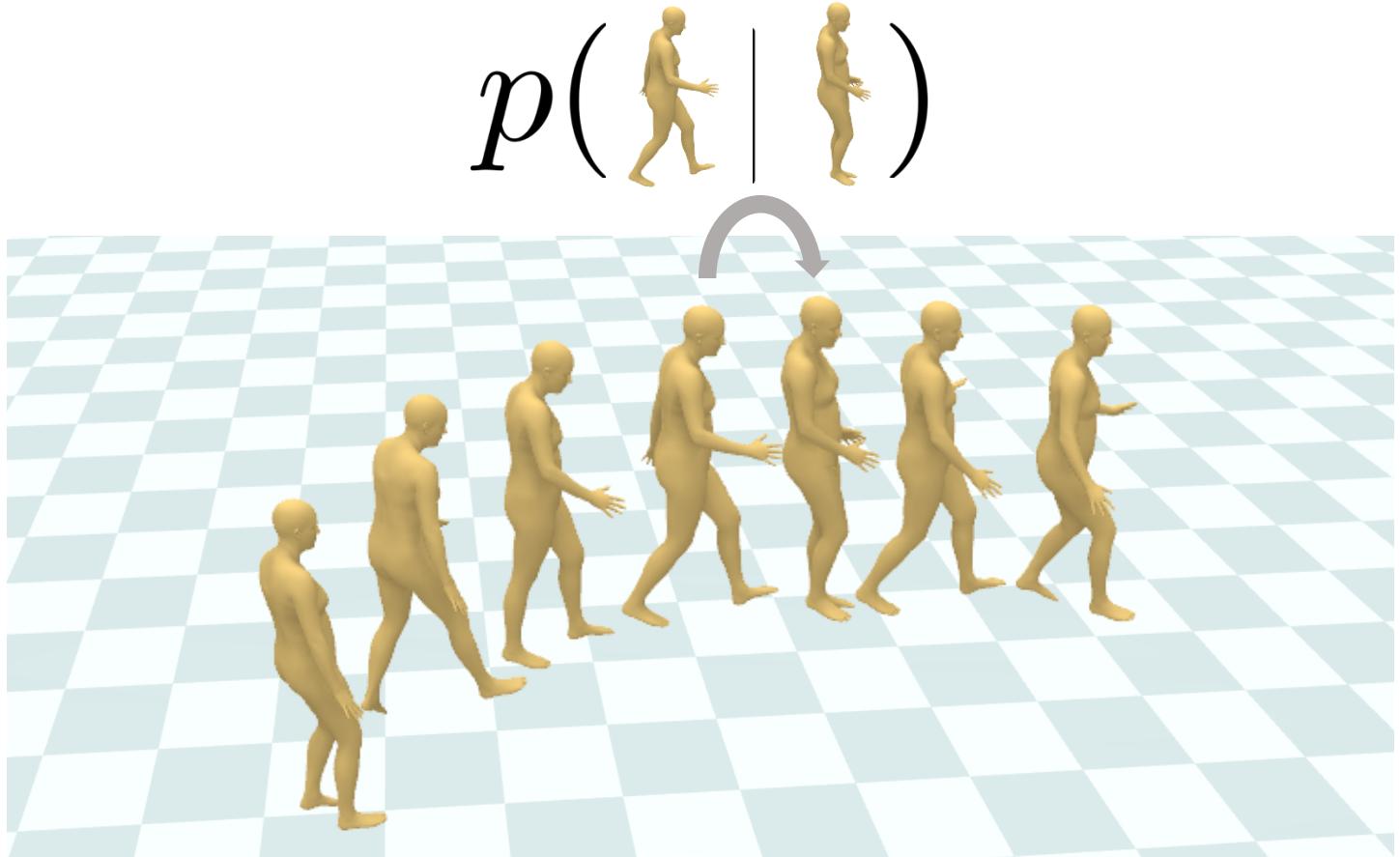
SLAHMR: Simultaneous Localization and Human Mesh Recovery

Key signal: Motion Prior



Recover World that gives most probable motion

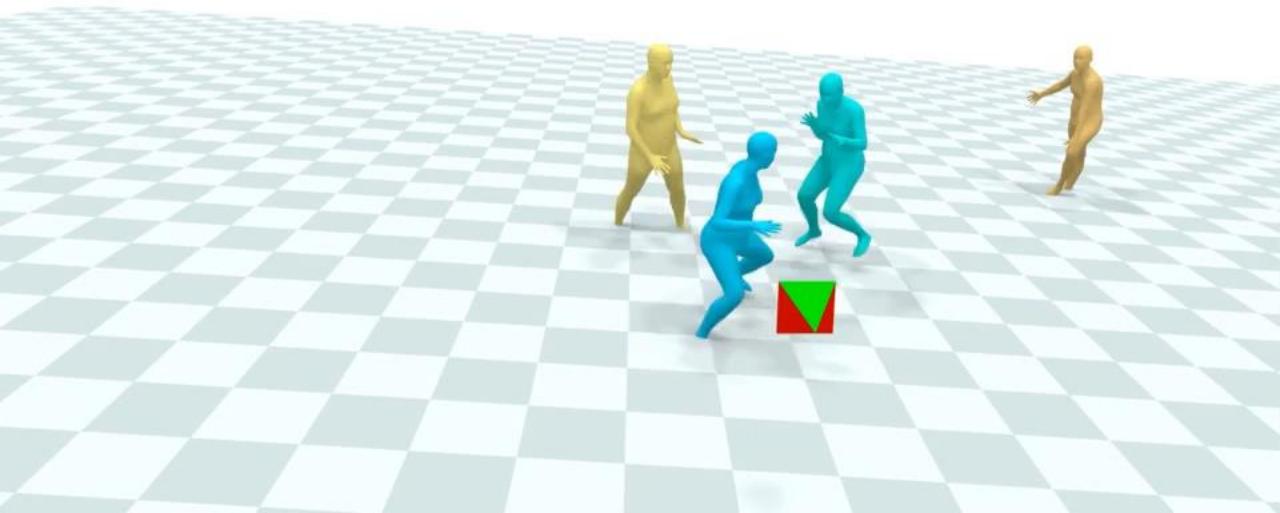
A data-driven motion prior: HuMoR [Rempe et al. ICCV 2021]



Input View



SLAHMR, Top View



SLAHMR, Side View



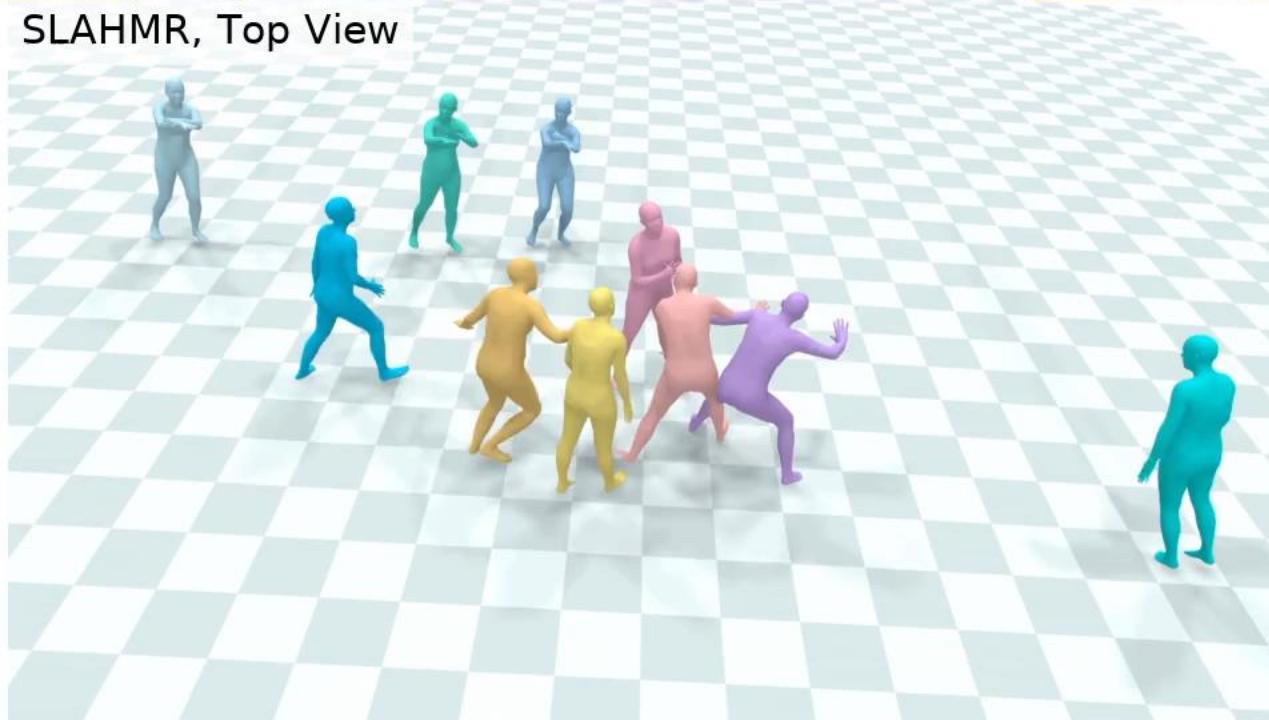
Input View



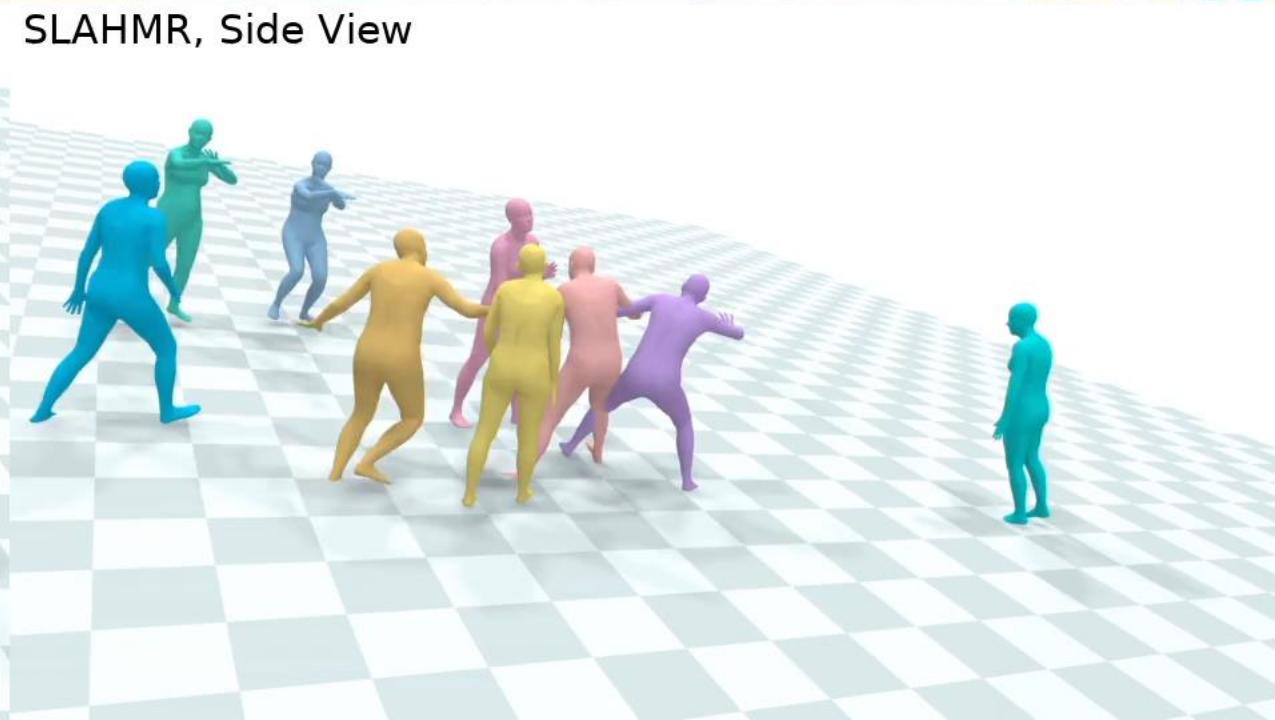
SLAHMR, Input View



SLAHMR, Top View



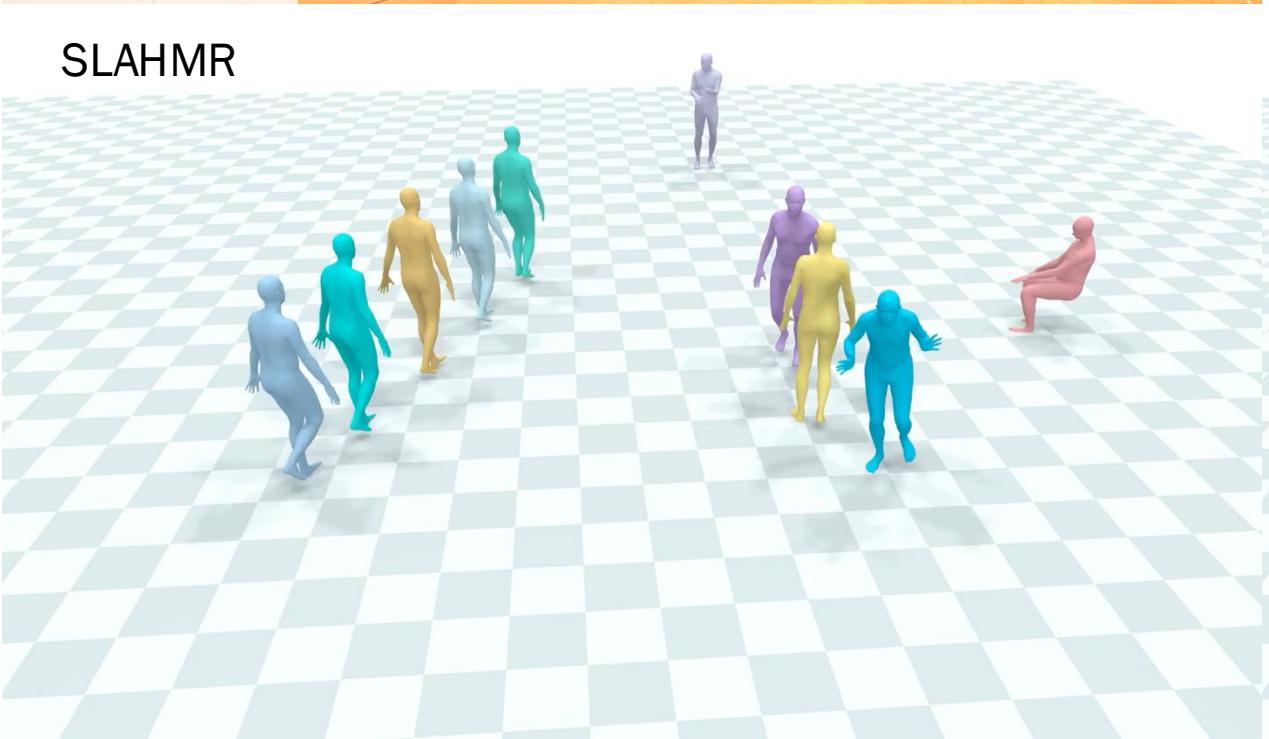
SLAHMR, Side View



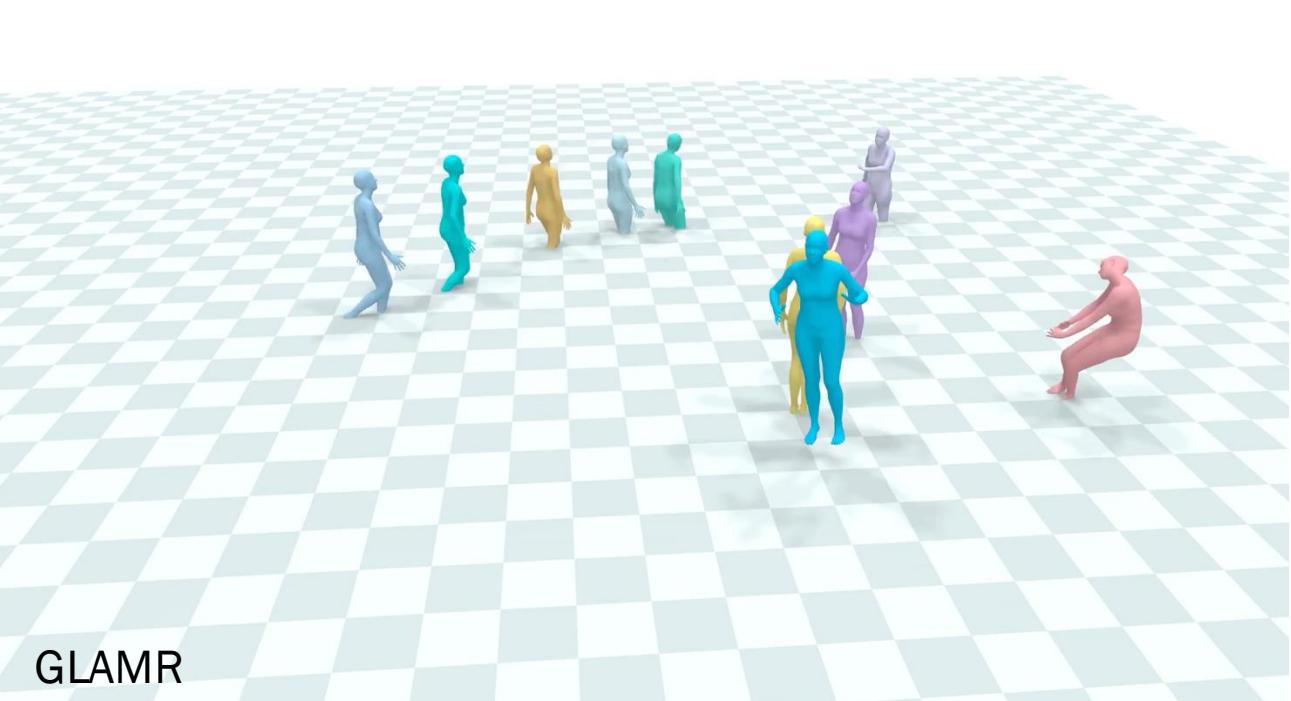
Comparisons



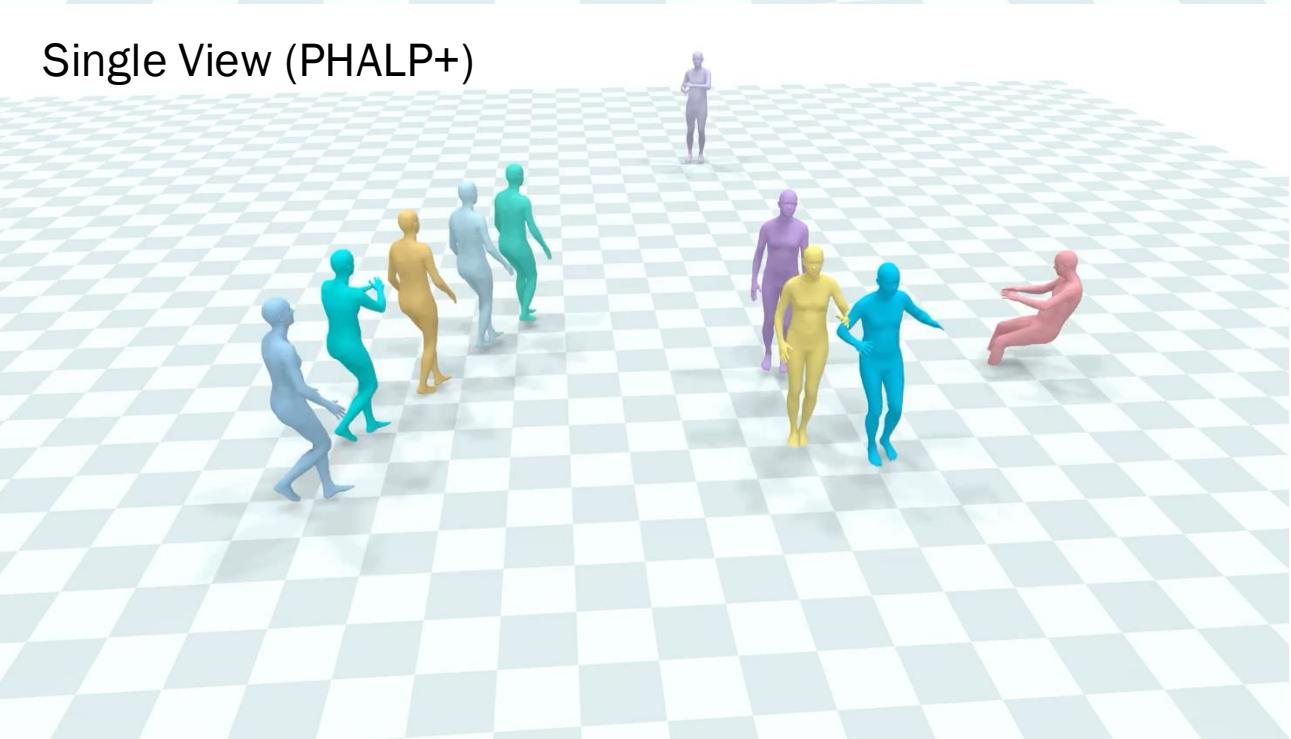
Input View



SLAHMR



GLAMR



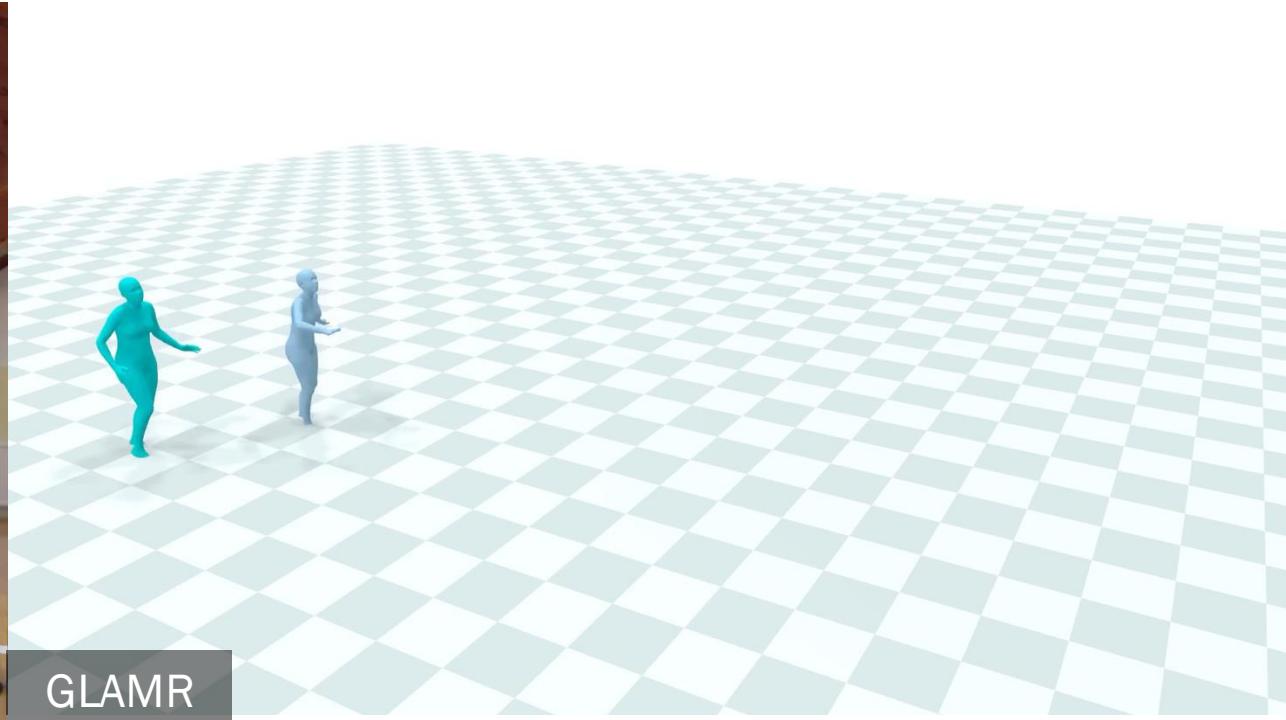
Single View (PHALP+)

Comparisons



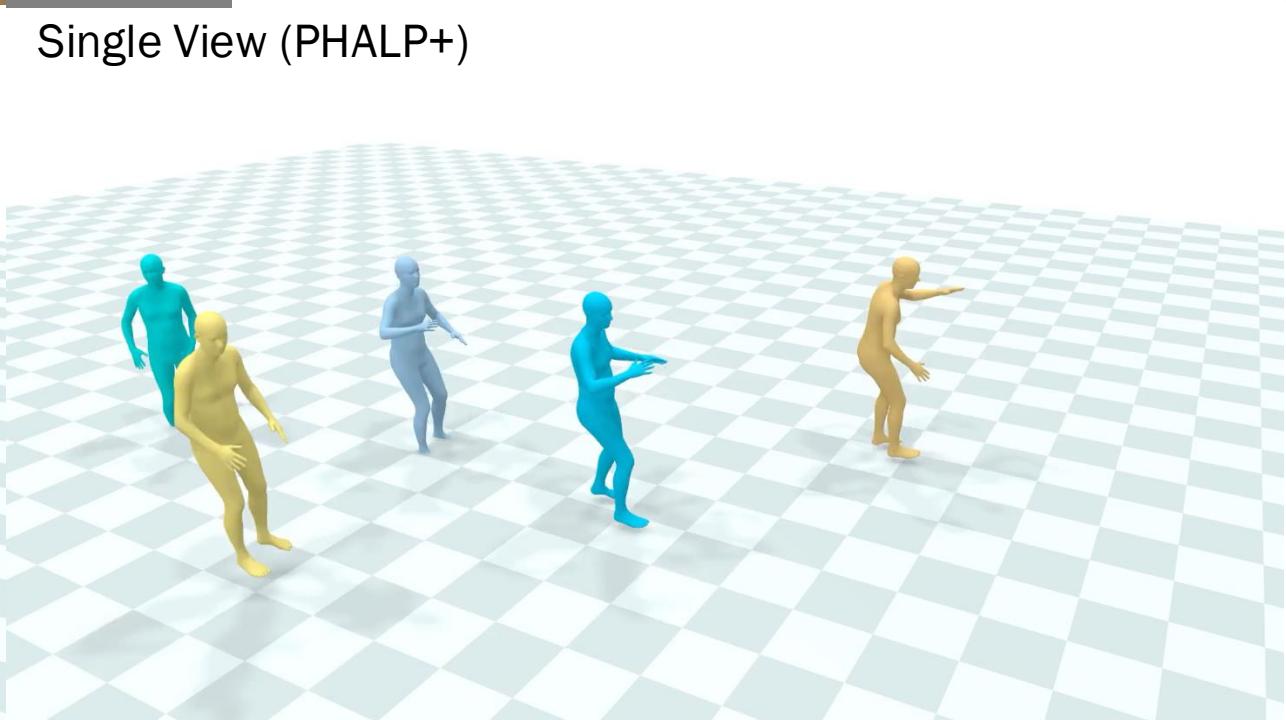
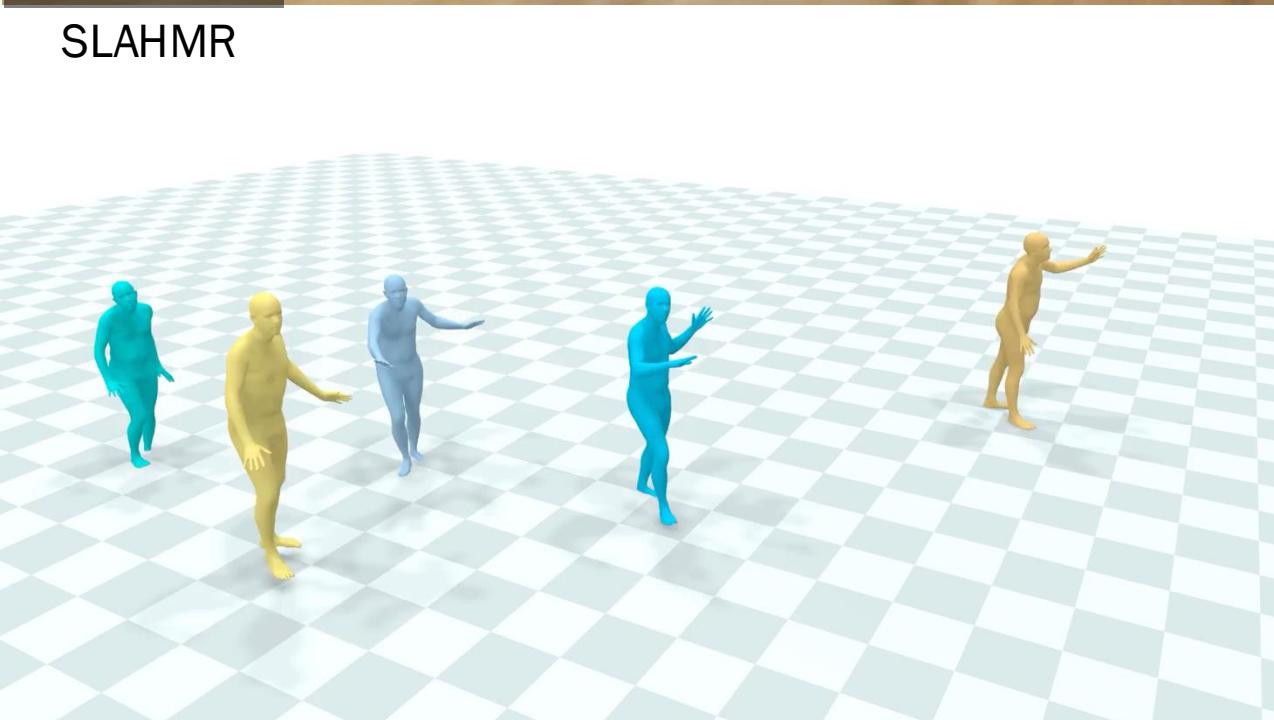
Input View

SLAHMR



GLAMR

Single View (PHALP+)

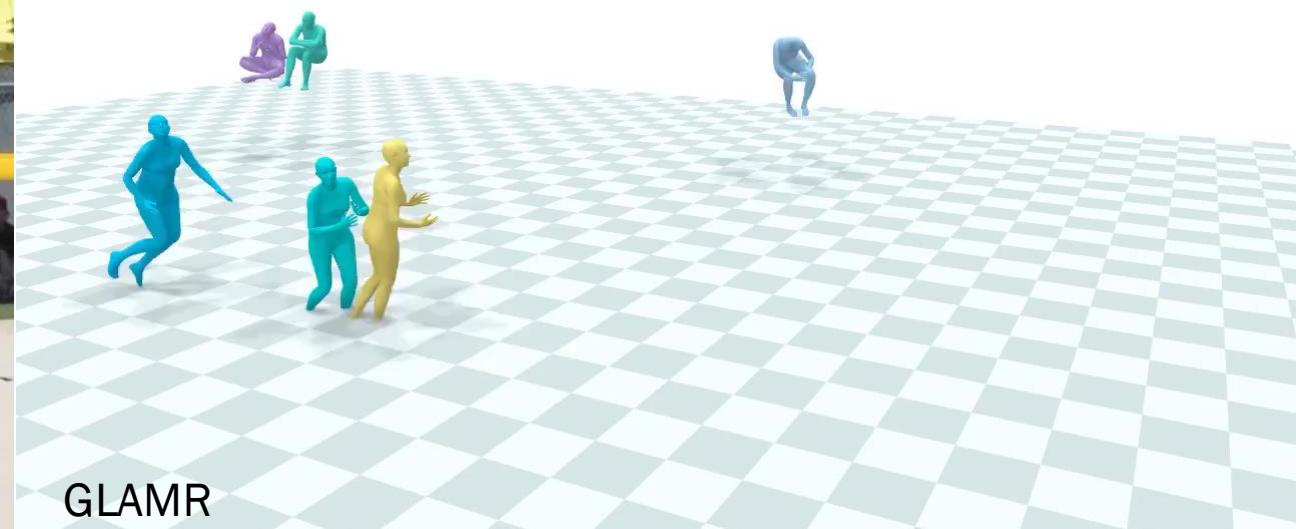


Comparisons



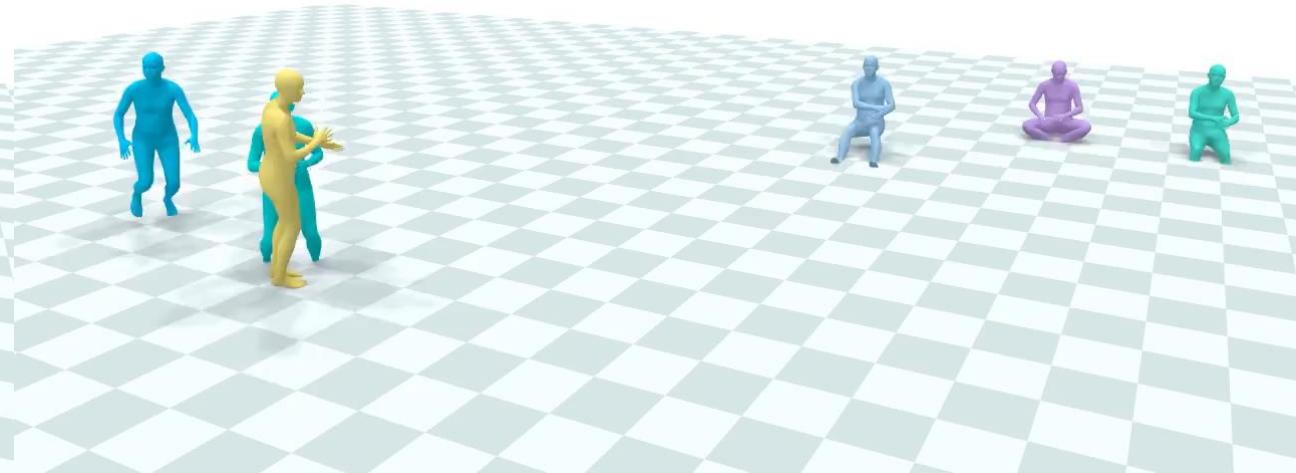
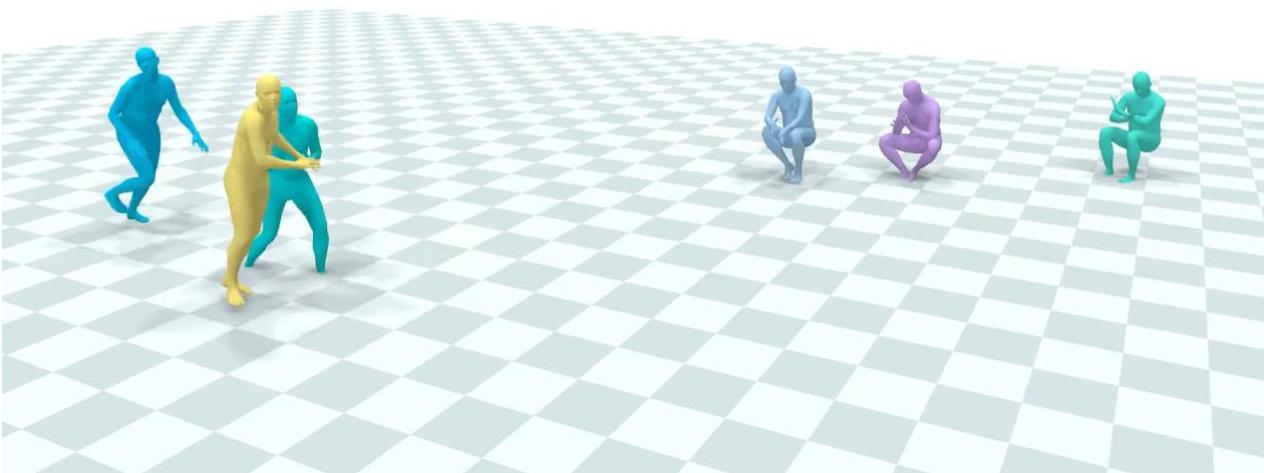
Input View

Ours

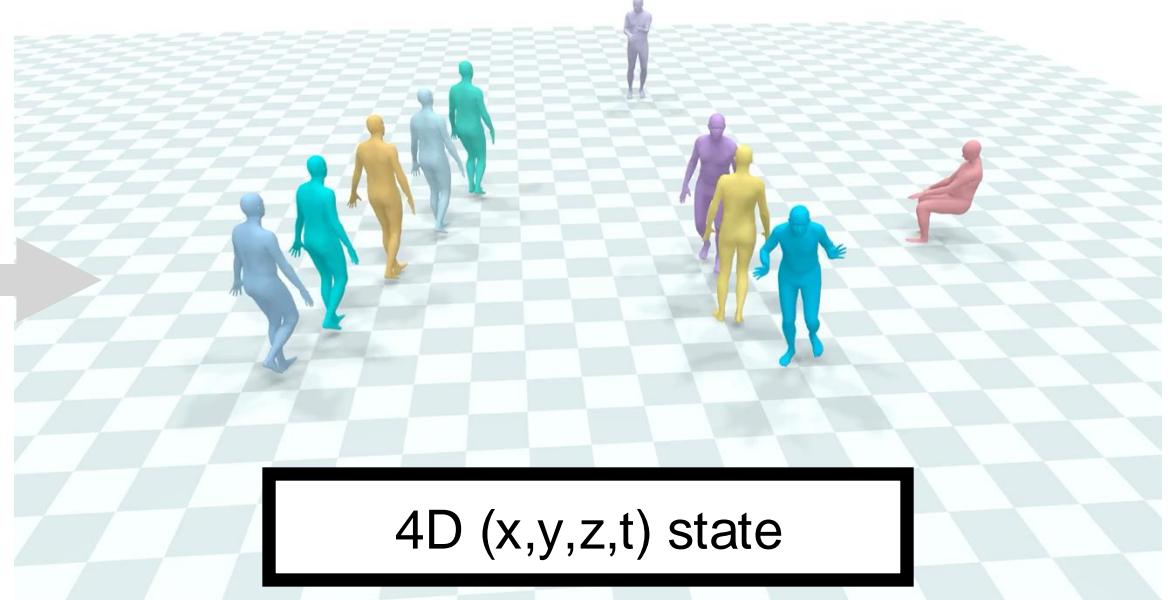
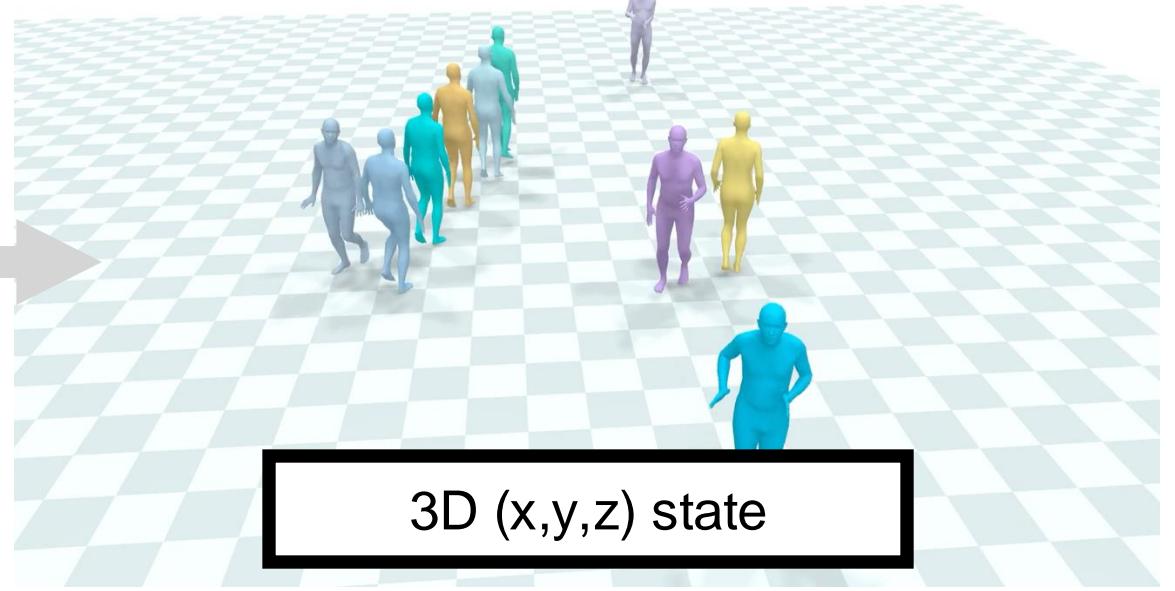


GLAMR

Single View (PHALP+)



4D Reconstruction



Prereq: tracking people across time



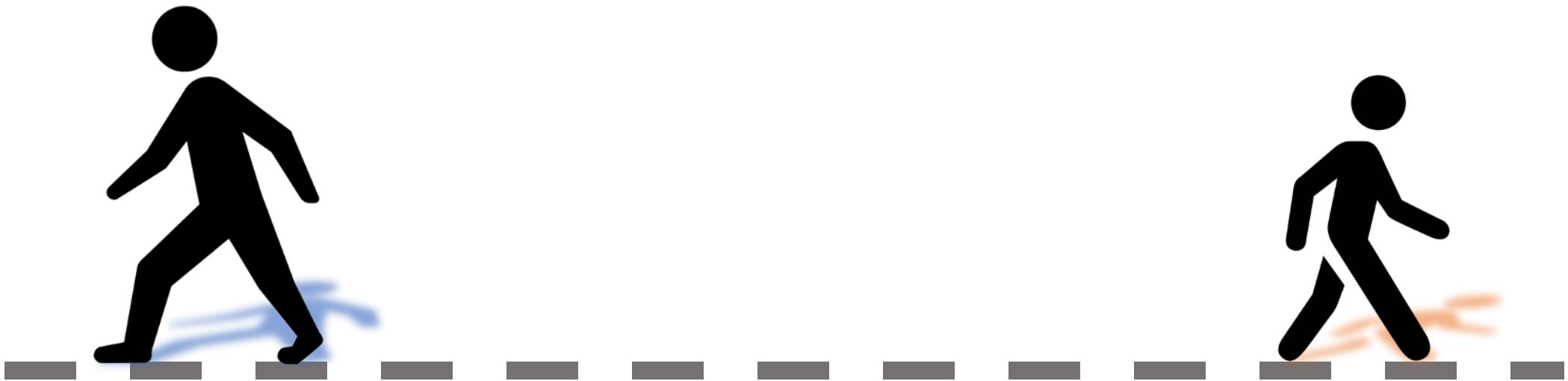
- In 2D, occlusion is hard to disambiguate



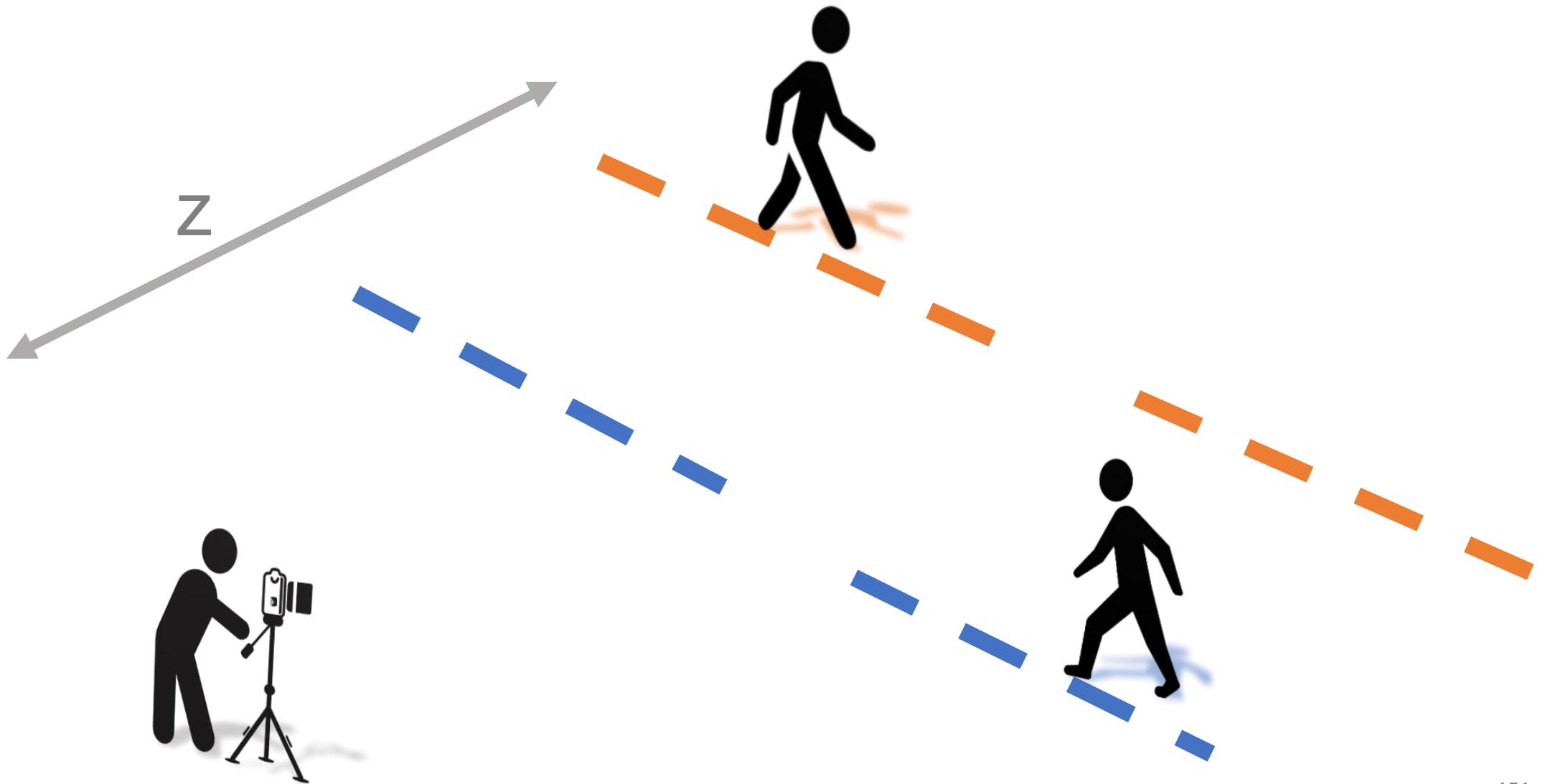
- In 2D, occlusion is hard to disambiguate



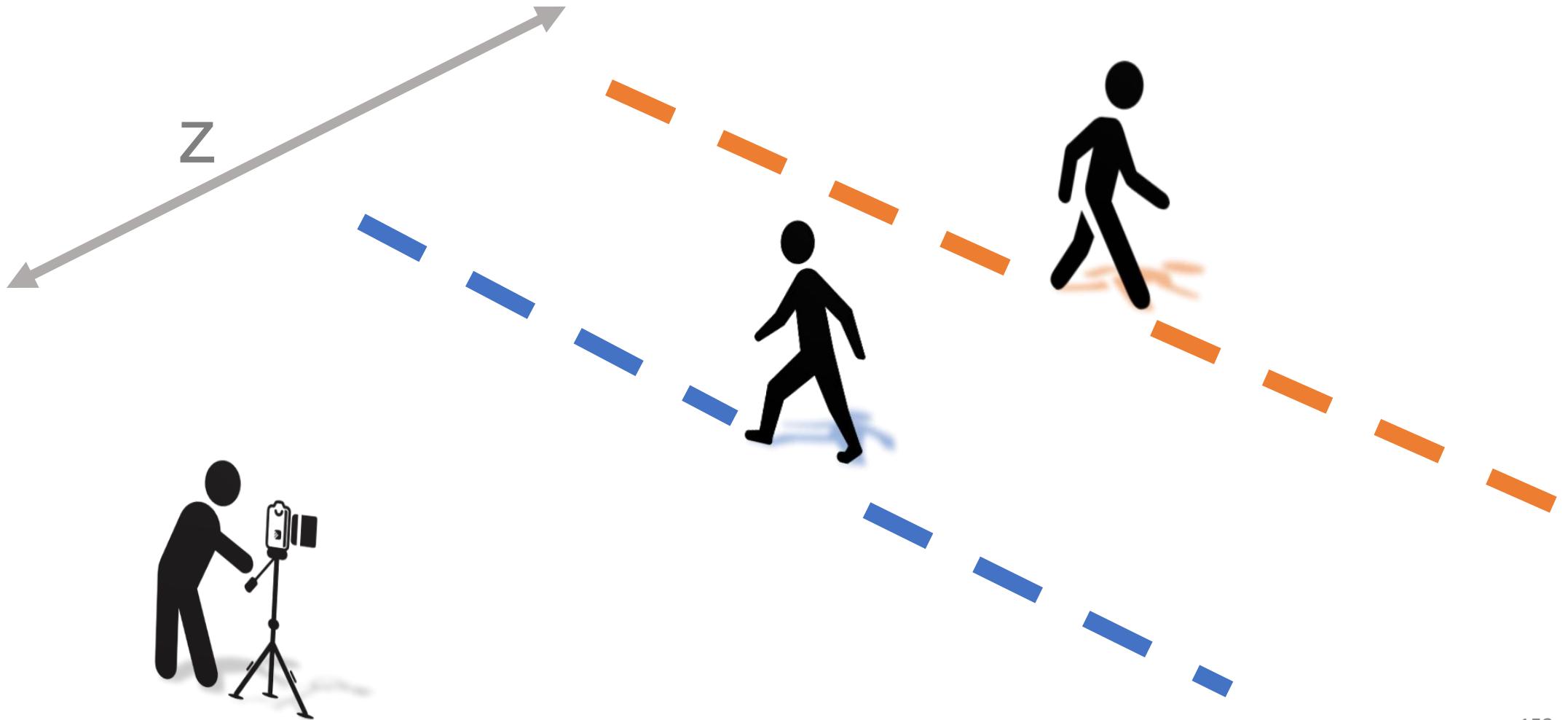
- In 2D, occlusion is hard to disambiguate



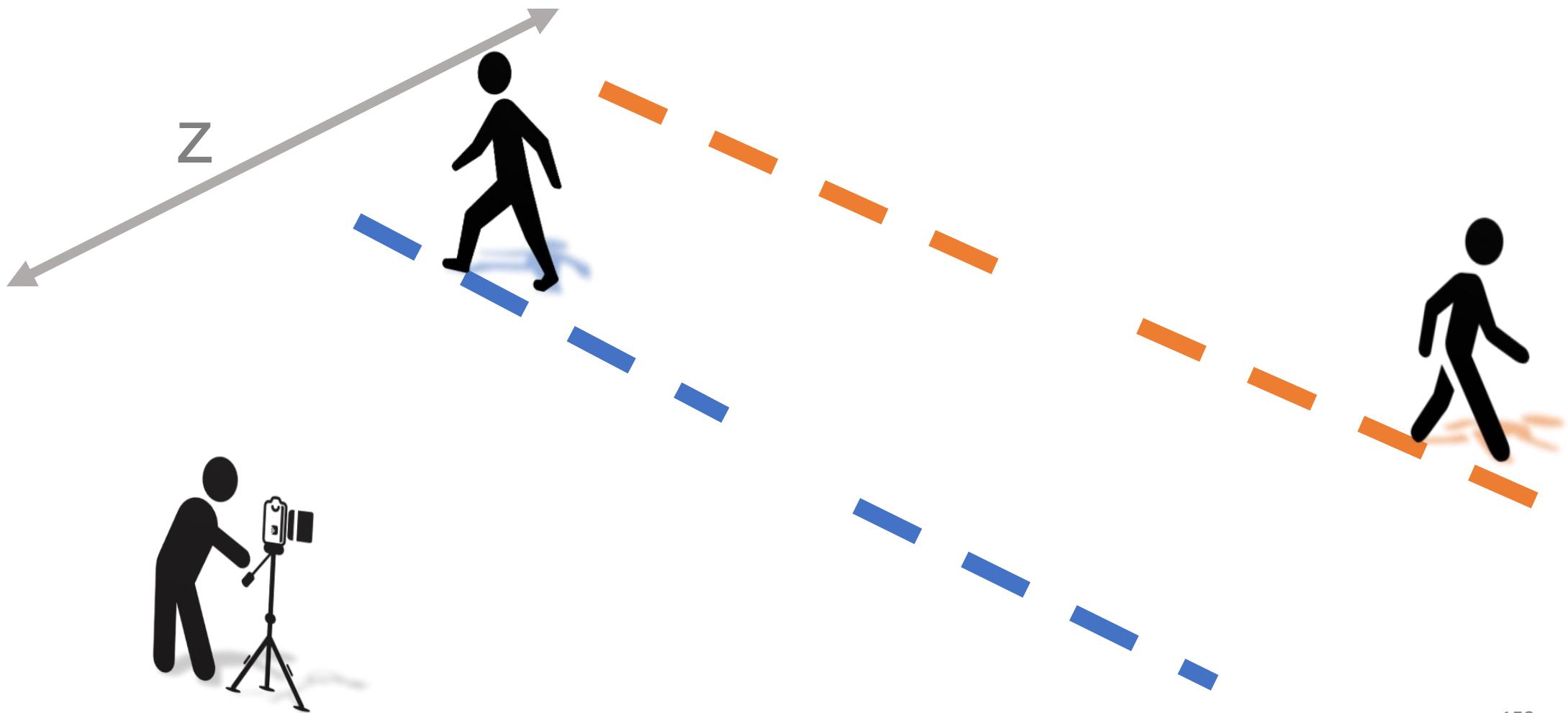
- In 2D, they overlap, but in 3D they don't!



- In 2D, they overlap, but in 3D they don't!



- In 2D, they overlap, but in 3D they don't!

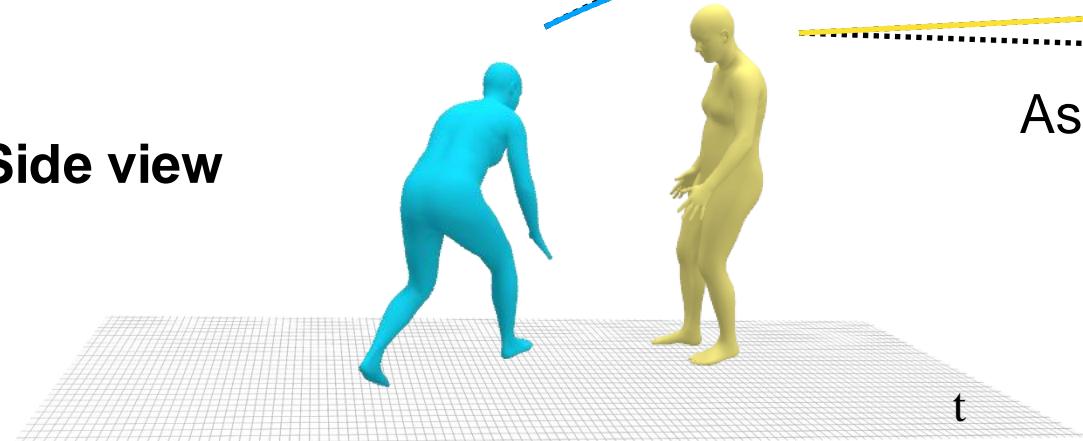




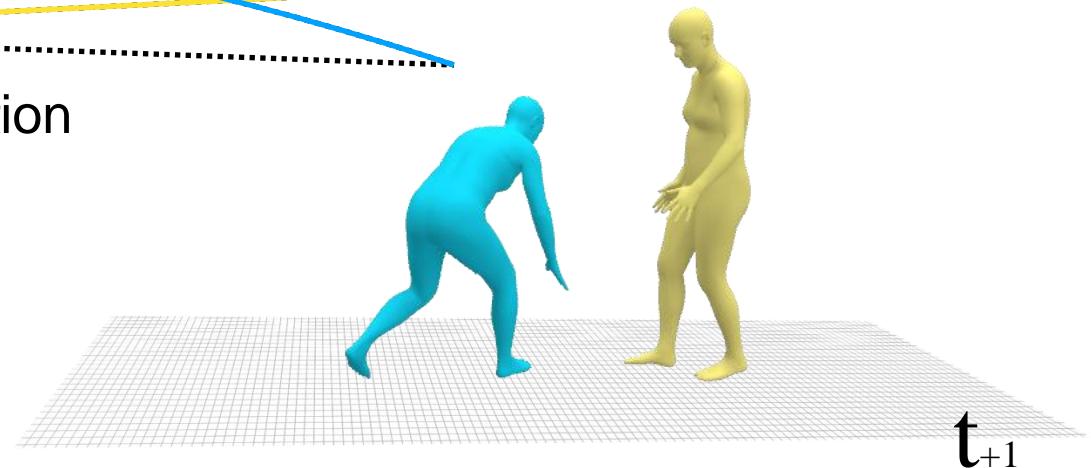
t

t_{+1}

Side view



t



t_{+1}

Distance =

3D location
distance

+

3D appearance
distance

+

3D pose
distance

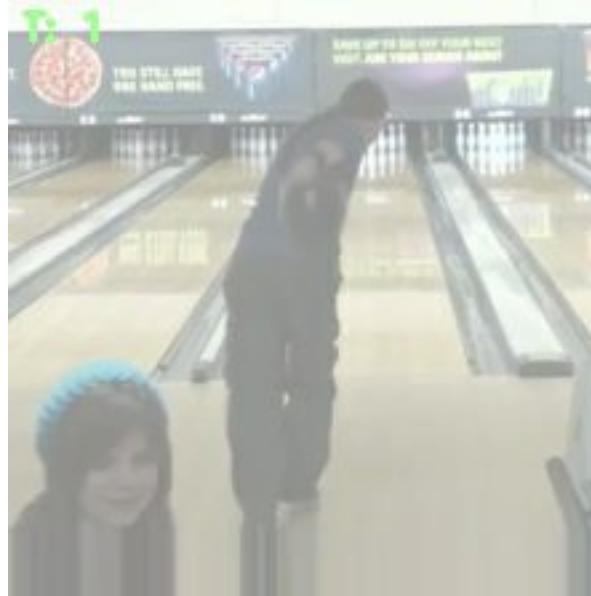
A benefit of video: Dynamics



Auto-regressive prediction of 3D motion from video



Input
Video



Ground
Truth
Video



Predicted
Future



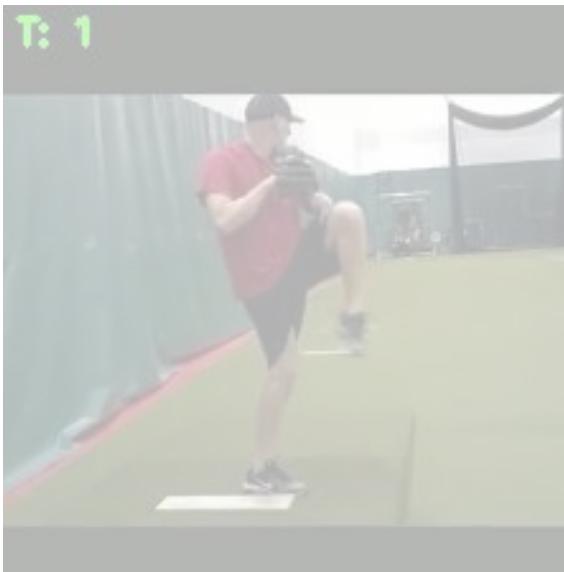
Different
Viewpoint



Test Time



Input
Video



Ground
Truth
Video

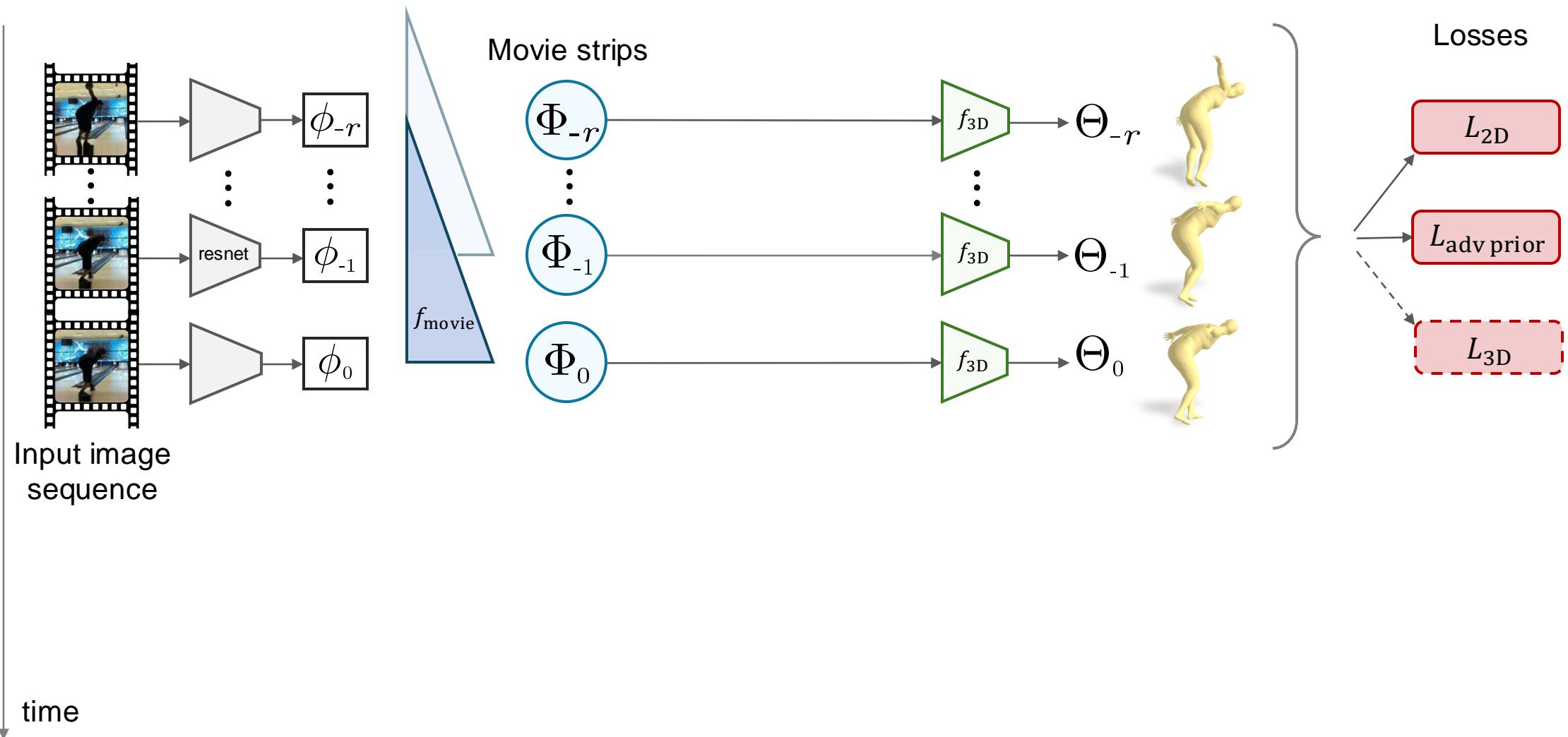


Predicted
Future

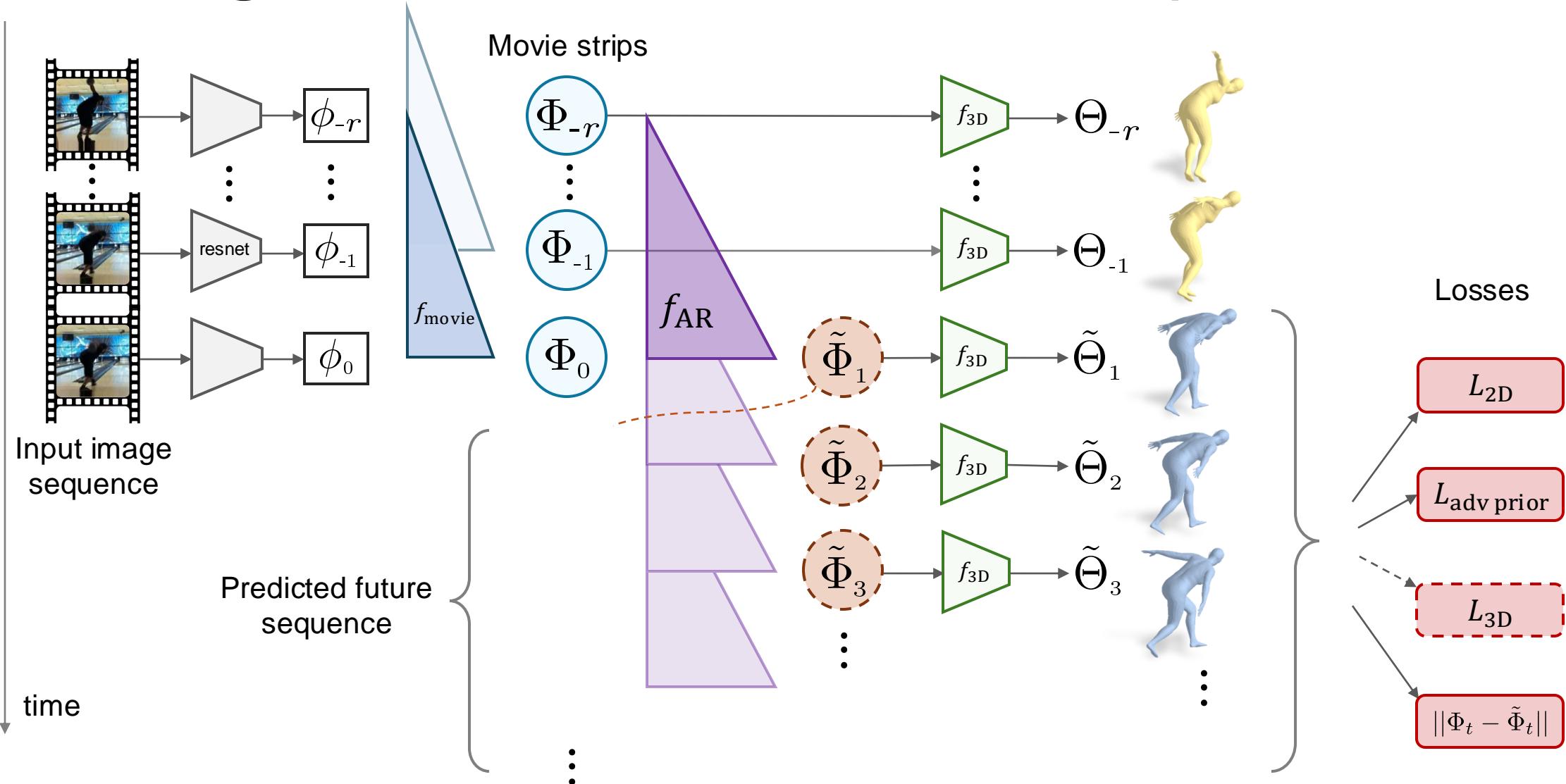


Different
Viewpoint

Overview



Autoregressive Prediction (Latent Space)



Yellow = Conditioning

Blue = Future Prediction from movie strip



Camera View



Alternate Viewpoint

Yellow = Conditioning

Blue = Future Prediction from movie strip



Camera View



Alternate Viewpoint

Yellow = Conditioning

Blue = Future Prediction from movie strip



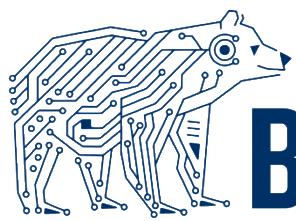
Camera View



Alternate Viewpoint

Finally, a step towards this baby





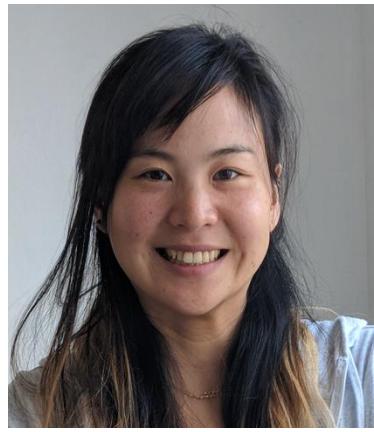
BAIR

BERKELEY ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE RESEARCH



SfV: Reinforcement Learning of Skills from Videos

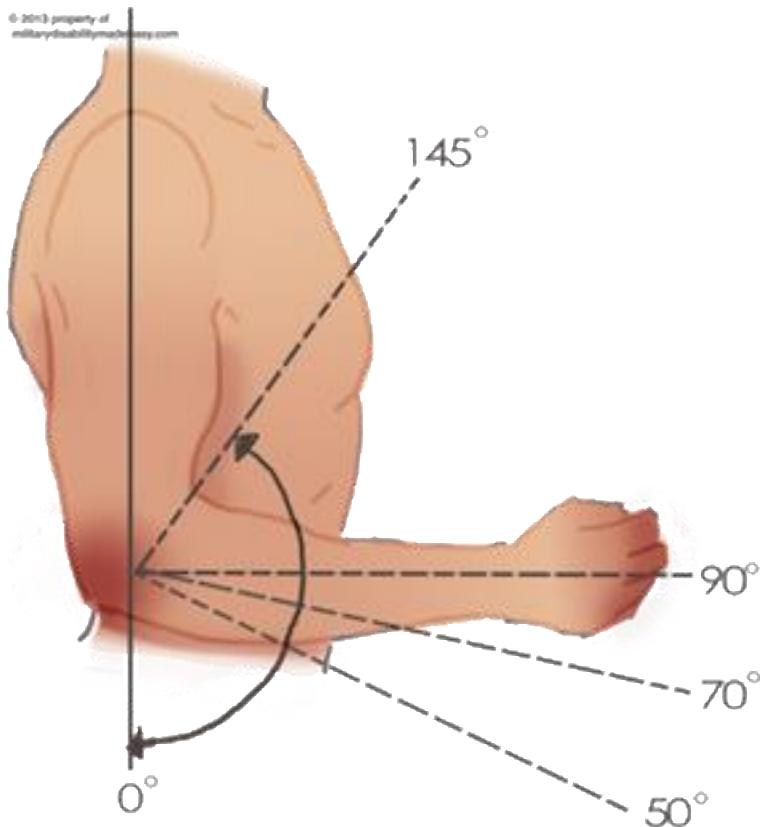
Xue Bin Peng, Angjoo Kanazawa, Jitendra Malik, Pieter Abbeel, Sergey Levine



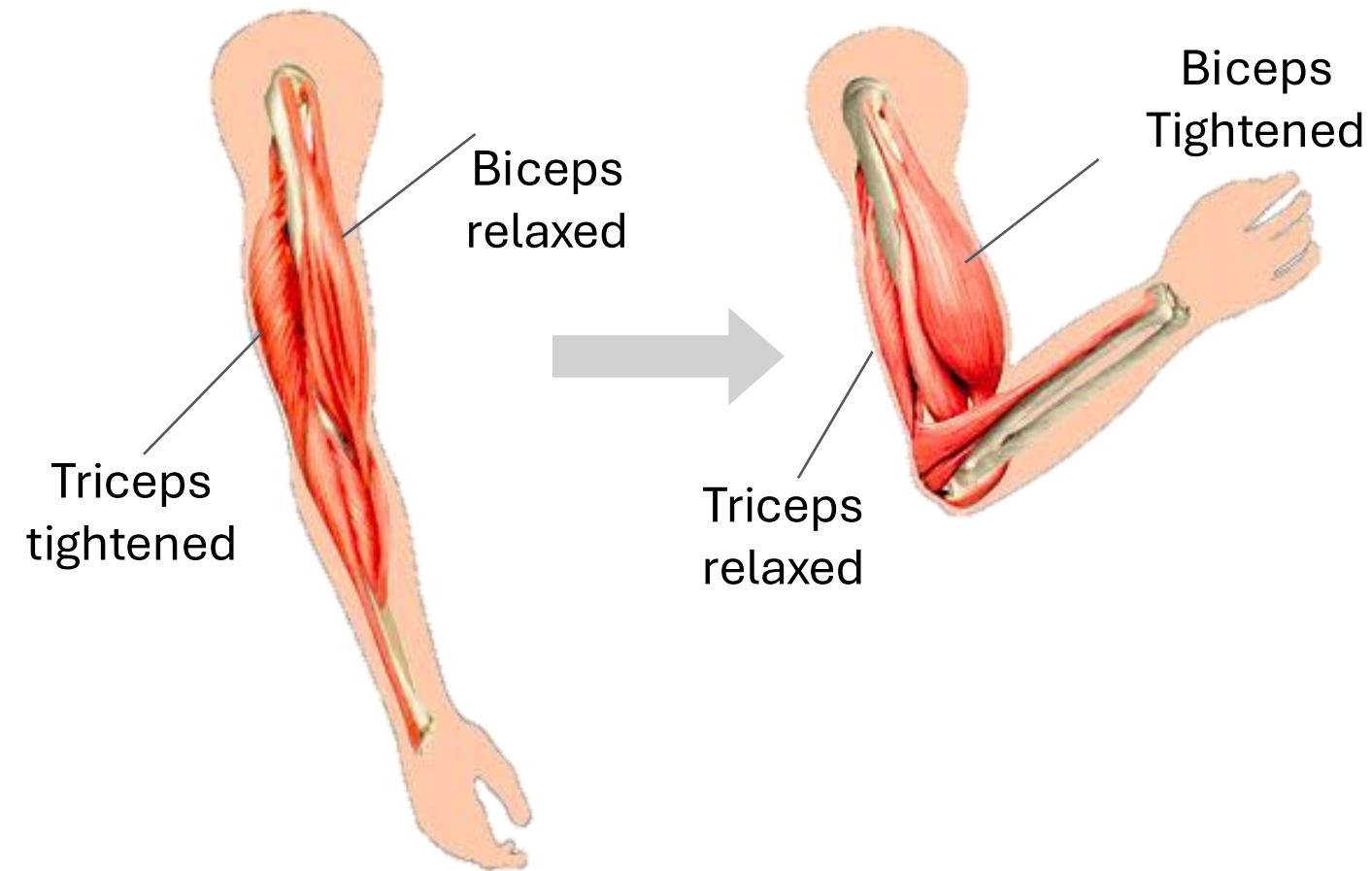
SIGGRAPH Asia 2018

Perception is not the end of the story

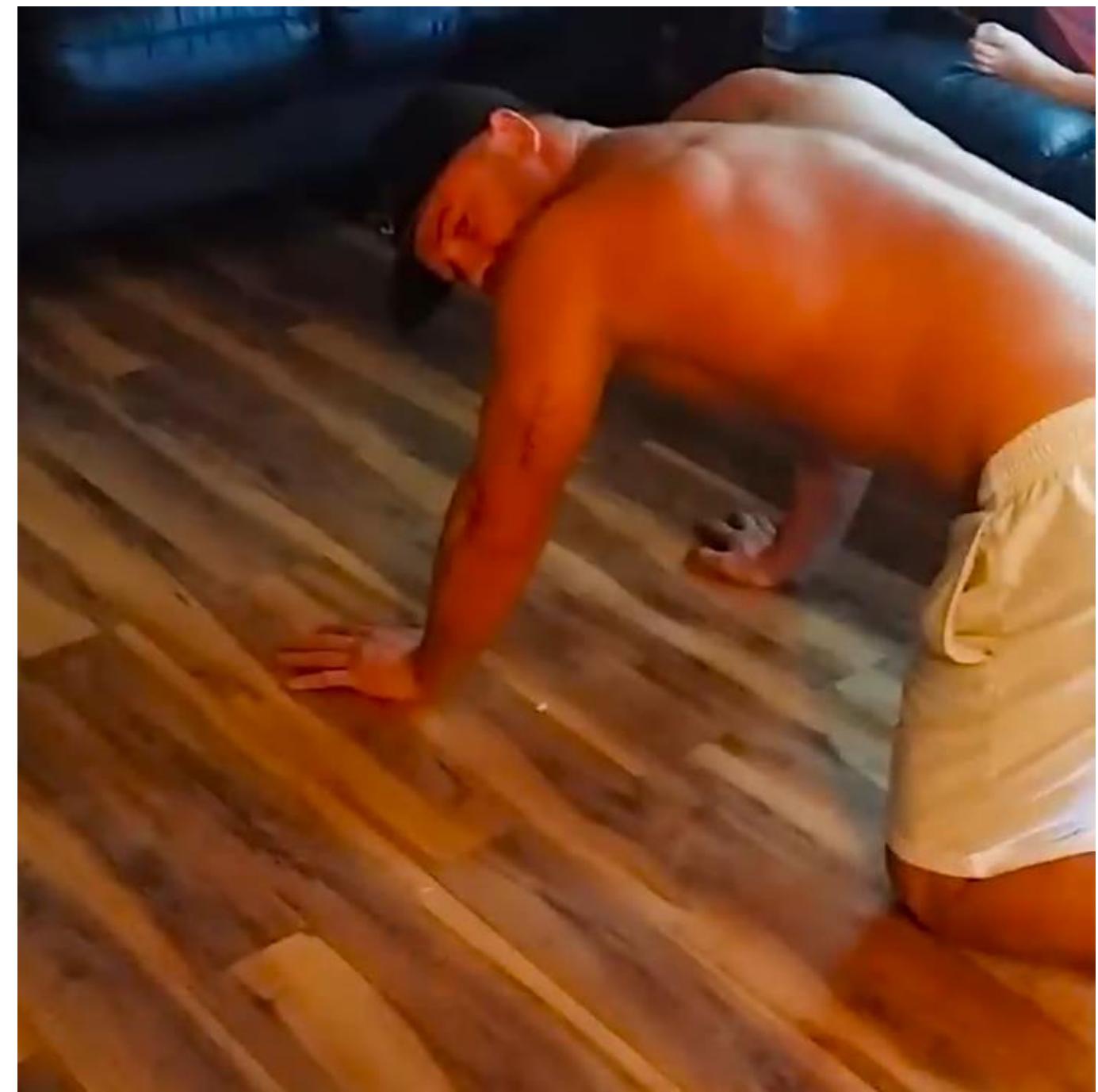
Perceiving the 3D pose



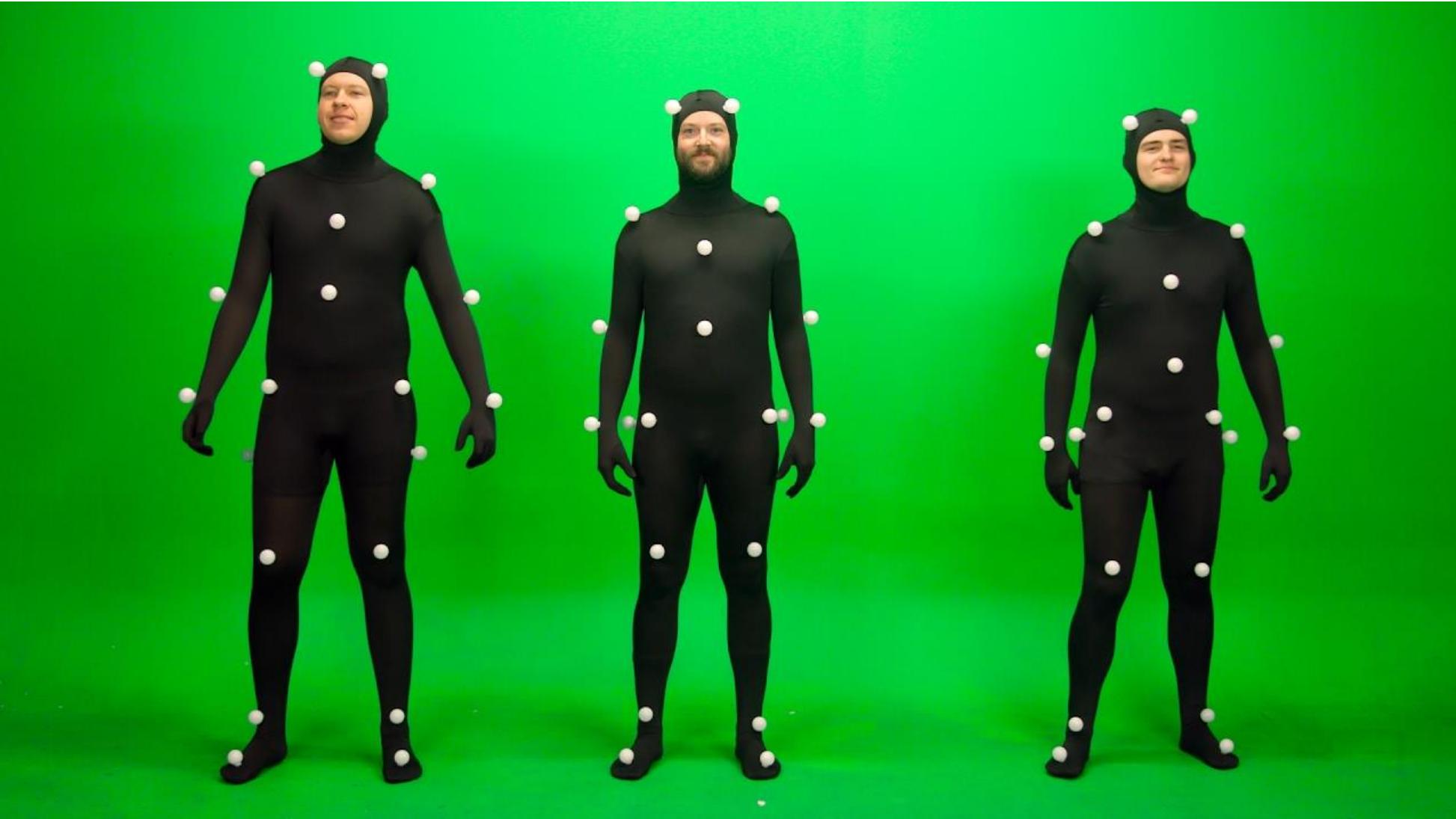
Actuating the muscle to get to the pose



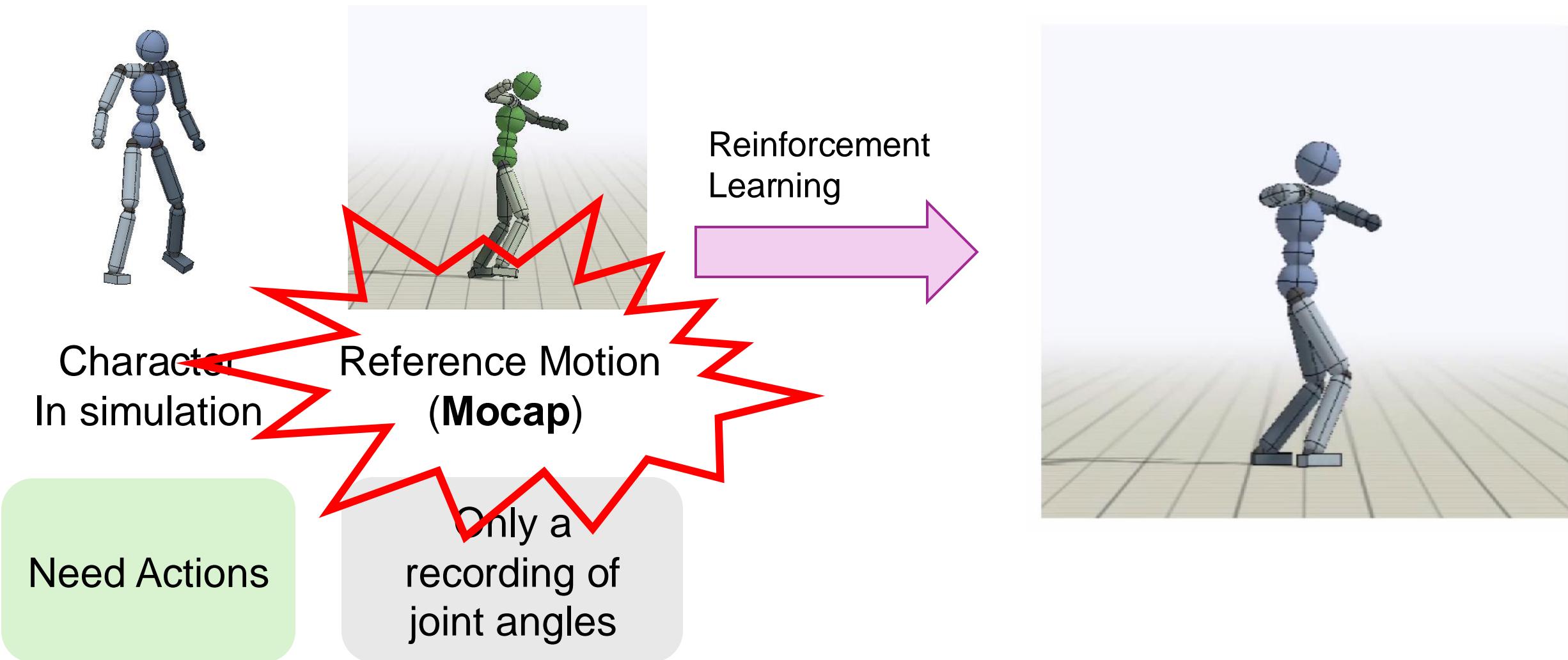
Control is not easy!



Past work on start from mocap



Deep Reinforcement Learning Based Motion Imitation



Expand the world to video



GingerNinjaTrickster



Learning Dynamic Skills from Videos



Video

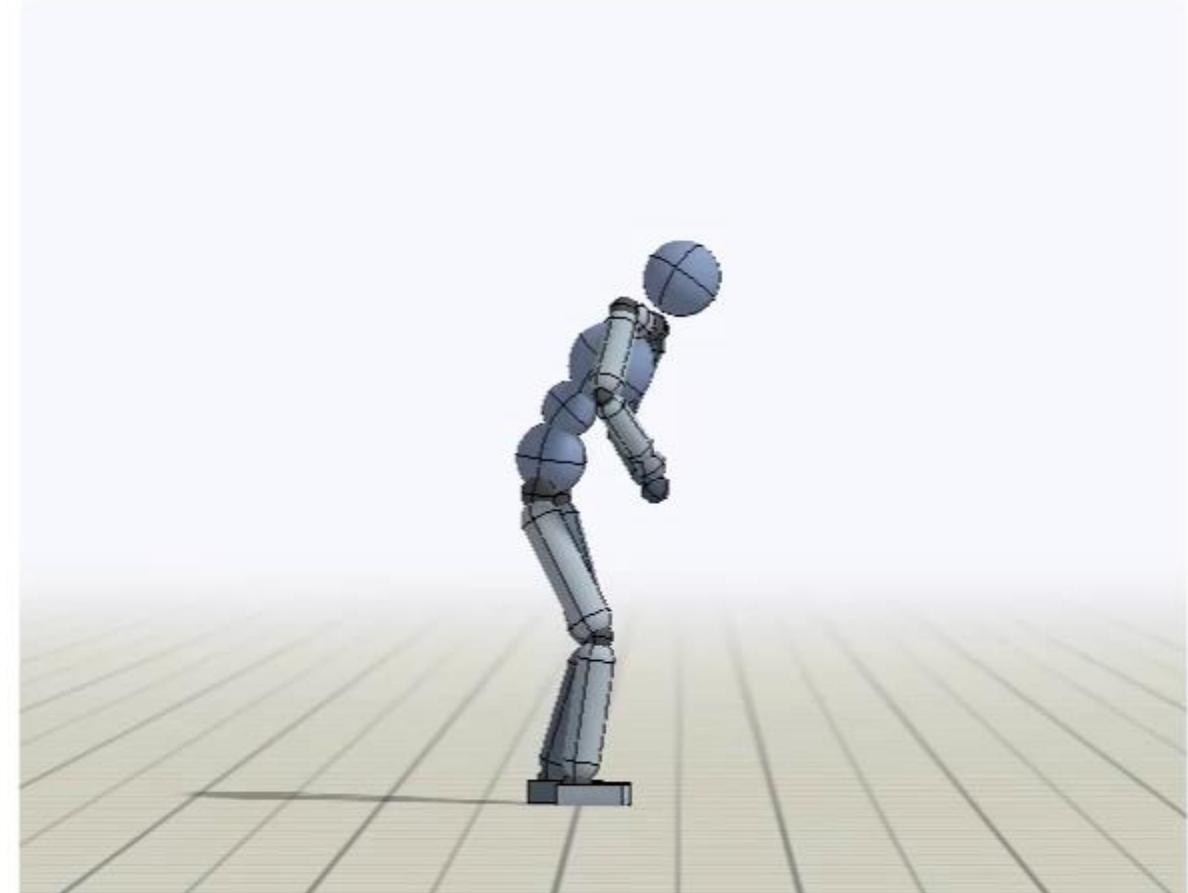


Temporally smooth mesh recovery

Use recovered 3D pose to train a physically simulated agent



Video

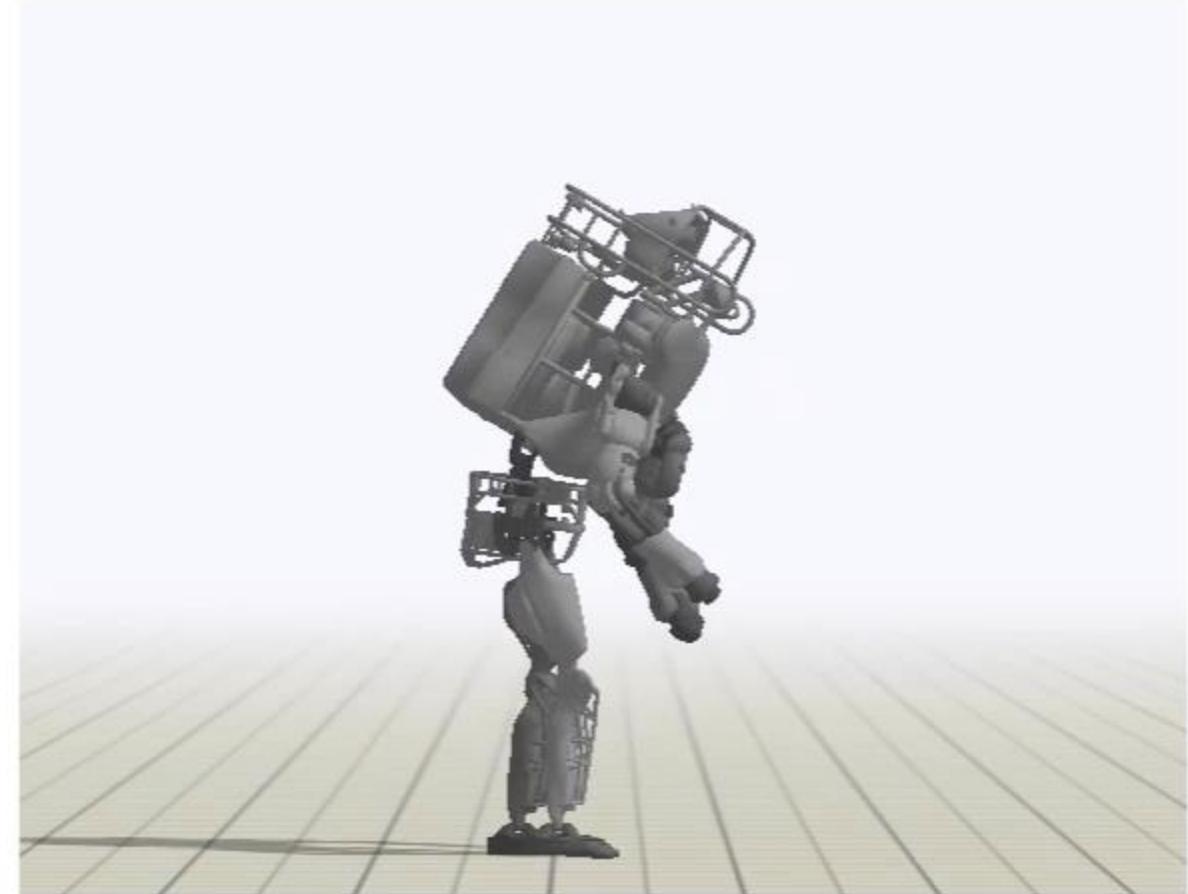


Policy

Train Atlas (169kg)

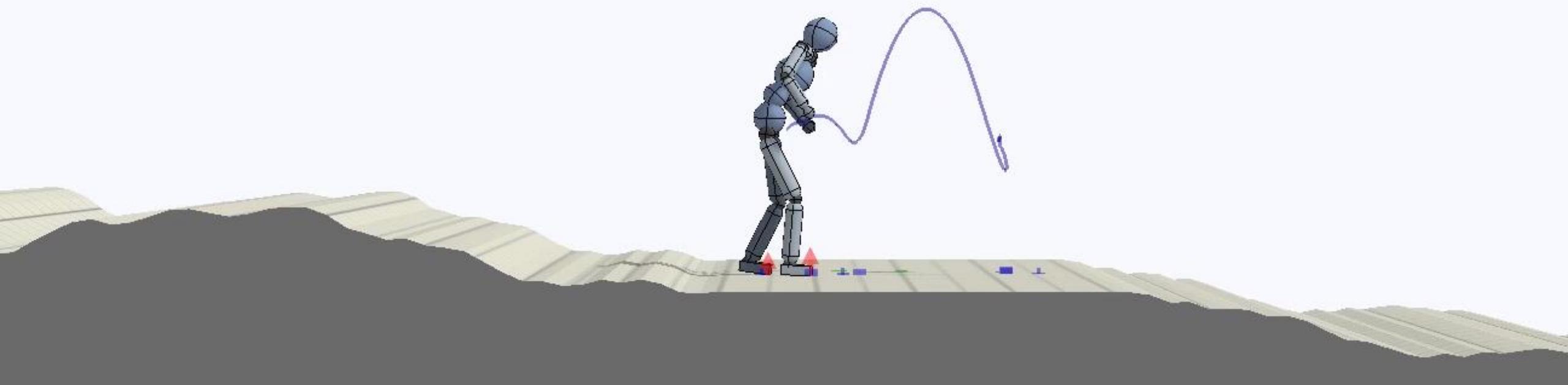


Video

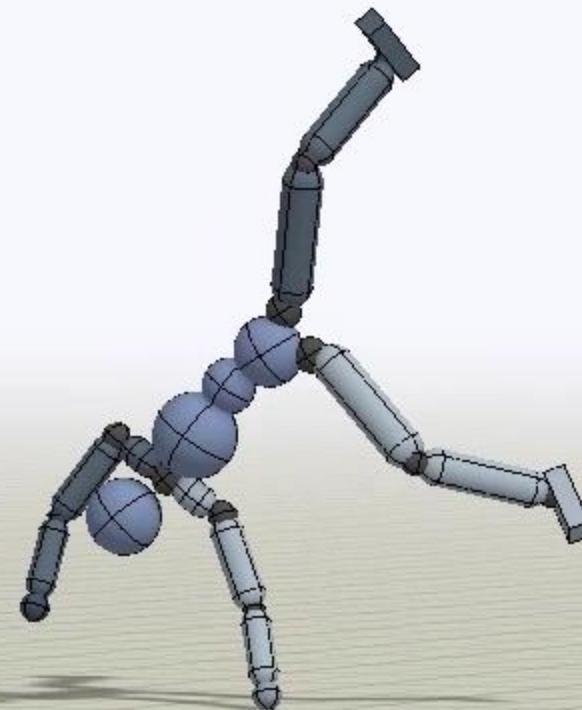


Policy

Environment Retargeting



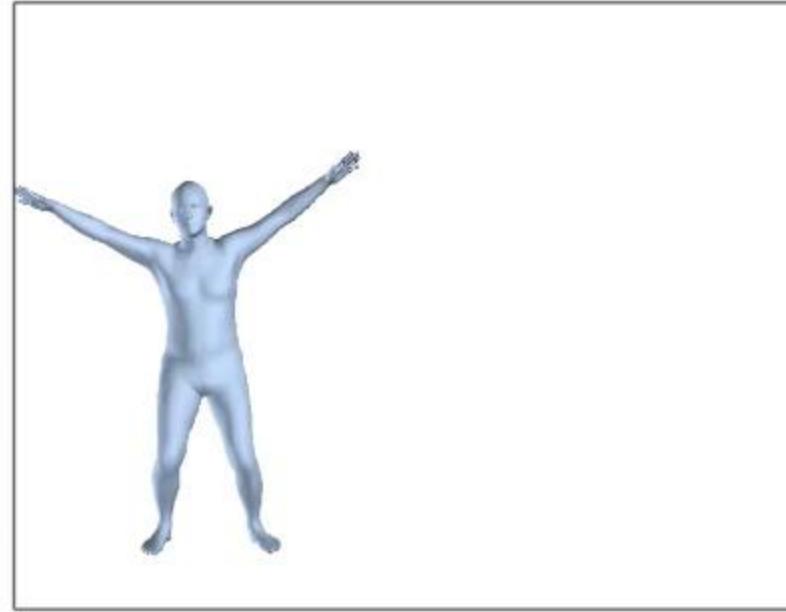
Robustness



Humanoid: Cartwheel



Video



Recovered 3D Body

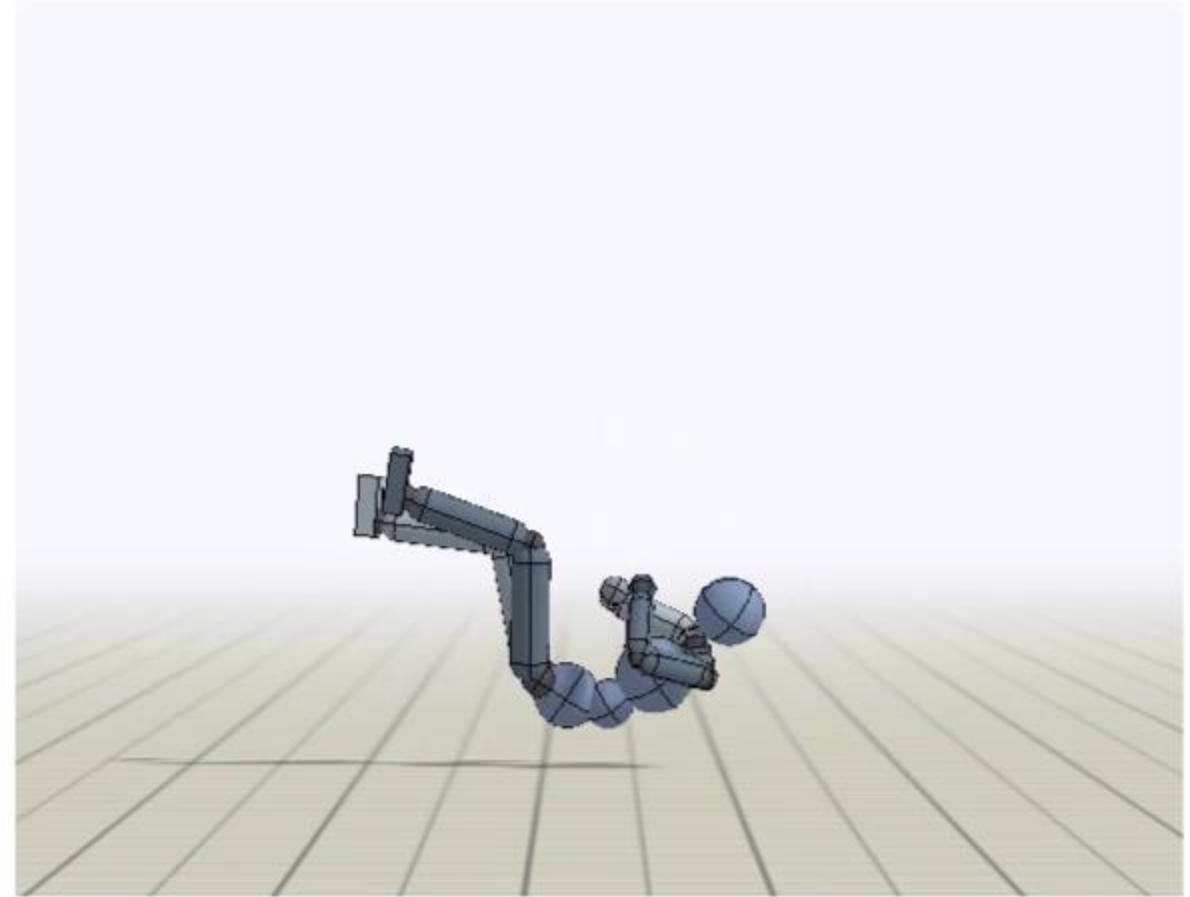


Policy

Humanoid: Kip-Up



Video: Kip-Up

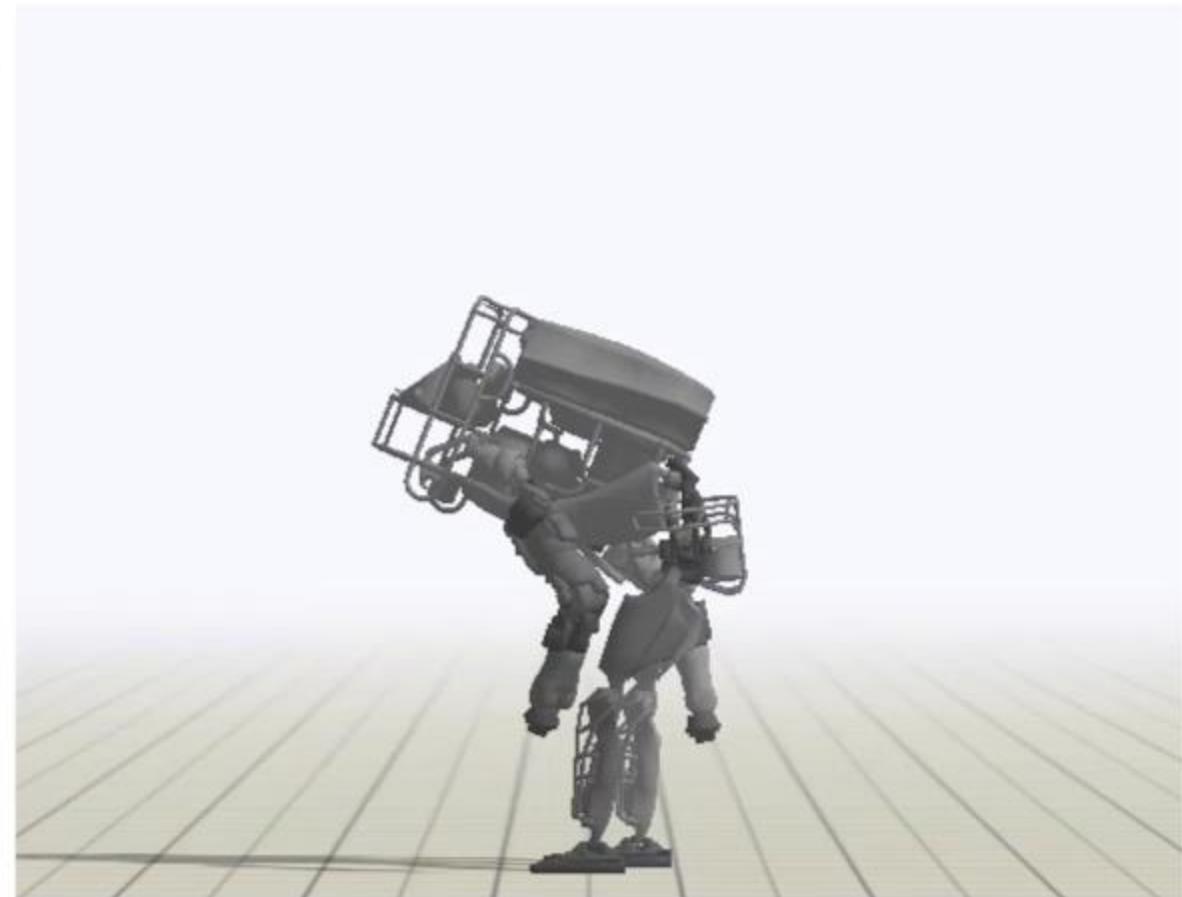


Policy

Atlas (169kg) : Handspring



Video: Handspring A

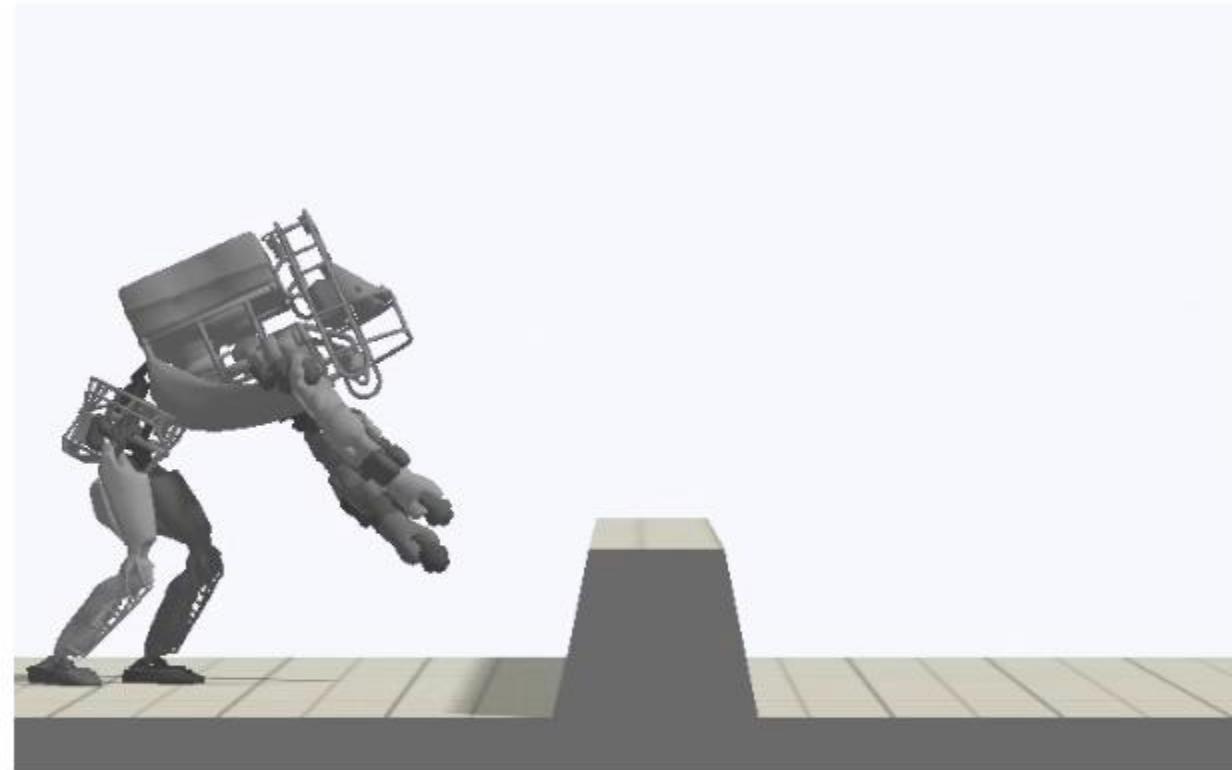


Policy

Atlas: Vault



Video: Vault

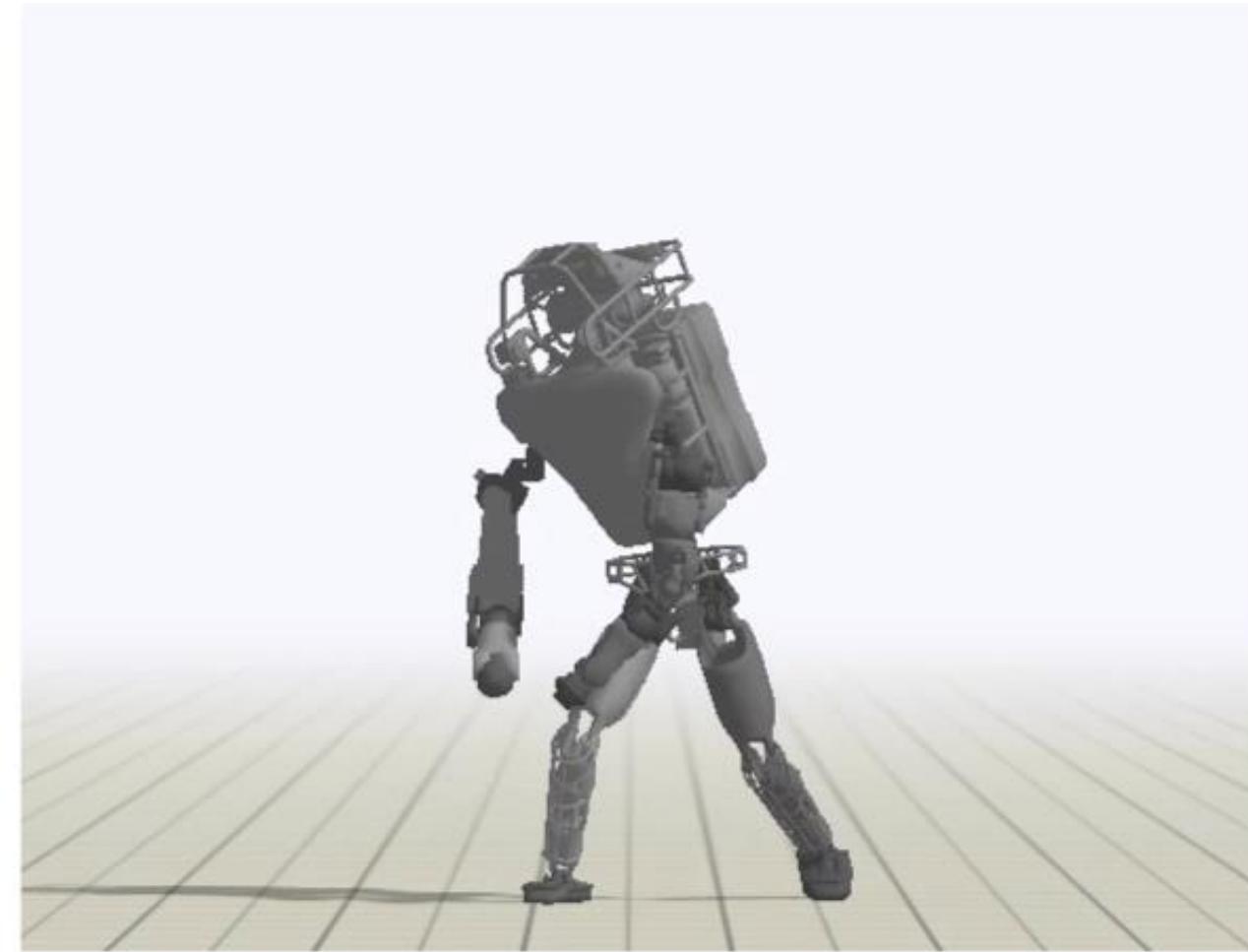


Policy

Atlas: Dance



Video

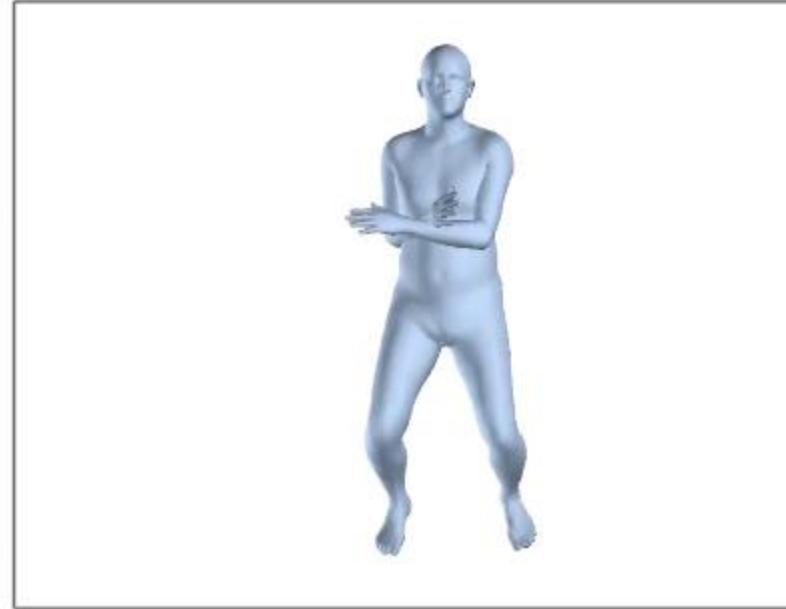


Policy

Failure Cases



Video



Recovered 3D Body



Policy

