



Neural and probabilistic learning methods for robotics and other domains

Tutorial at SoftNet 2018

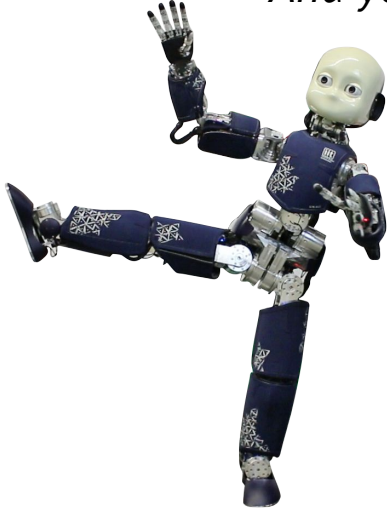
Nice, October 14th, 2018
Prof. Dr. Elmar Rueckert

latest updated July 23rd 2018

Introduction & Motivation

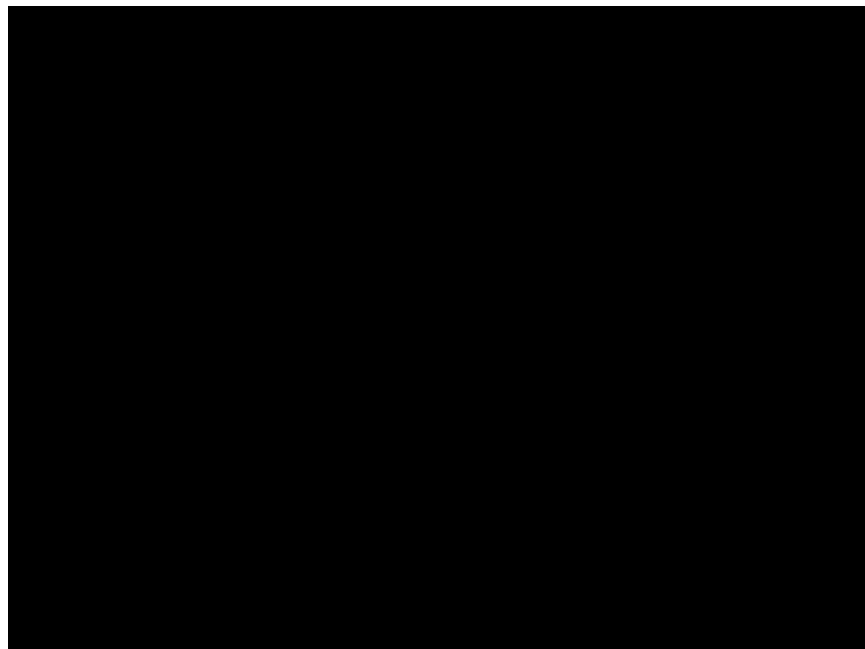
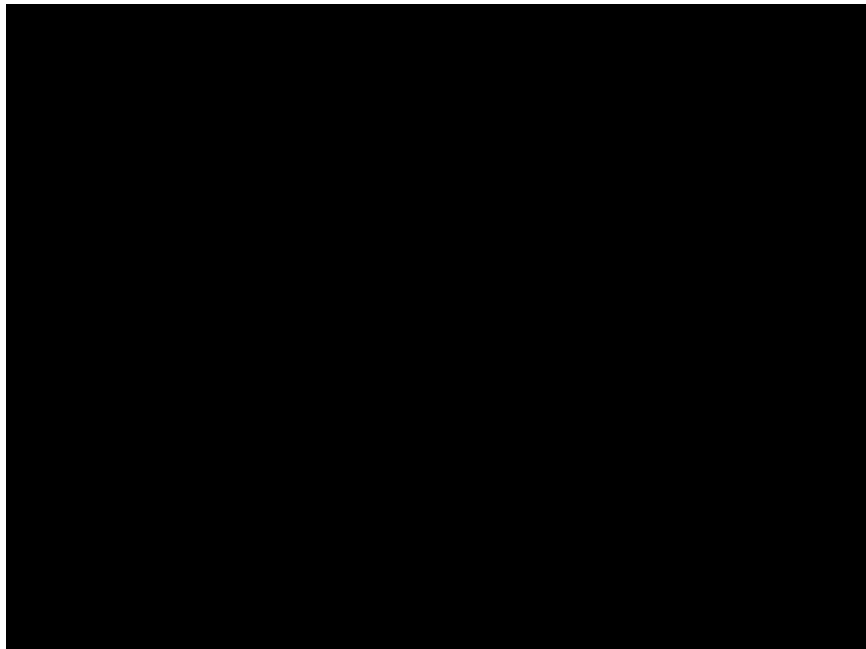
Humanoid robots are among the most complex machines on earth.

And you will learn here how to build, teach and program them.





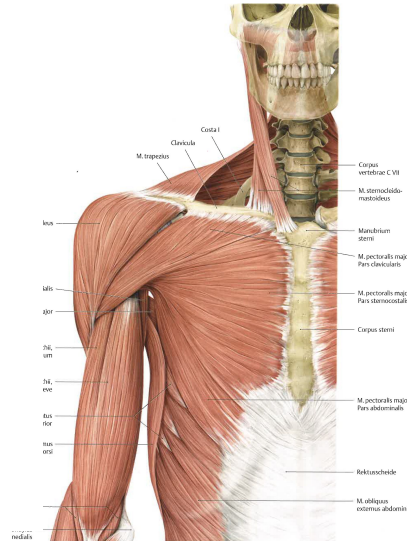
Challenges in motor skill learning



More than robotics ...

The challenges in understanding humans and in building intelligent humanoids are converging!

- ~ 700 muscles
- ~ 100 joints
- ~ 100×10^6 photo receptors
- ~ 10^2 FA-I receptors per fingertip



- 53 degrees of freedom
- 4 force/torque sensors
- 1.8×10^6 photo receptors
- ~ 2000 tactile sensors



In **humans** we suffer from noise, accuracy, delays.

Despite **robot** vision is richer and more precise, robot motion is faster and more accurate their motor skills are inferior, **why?**



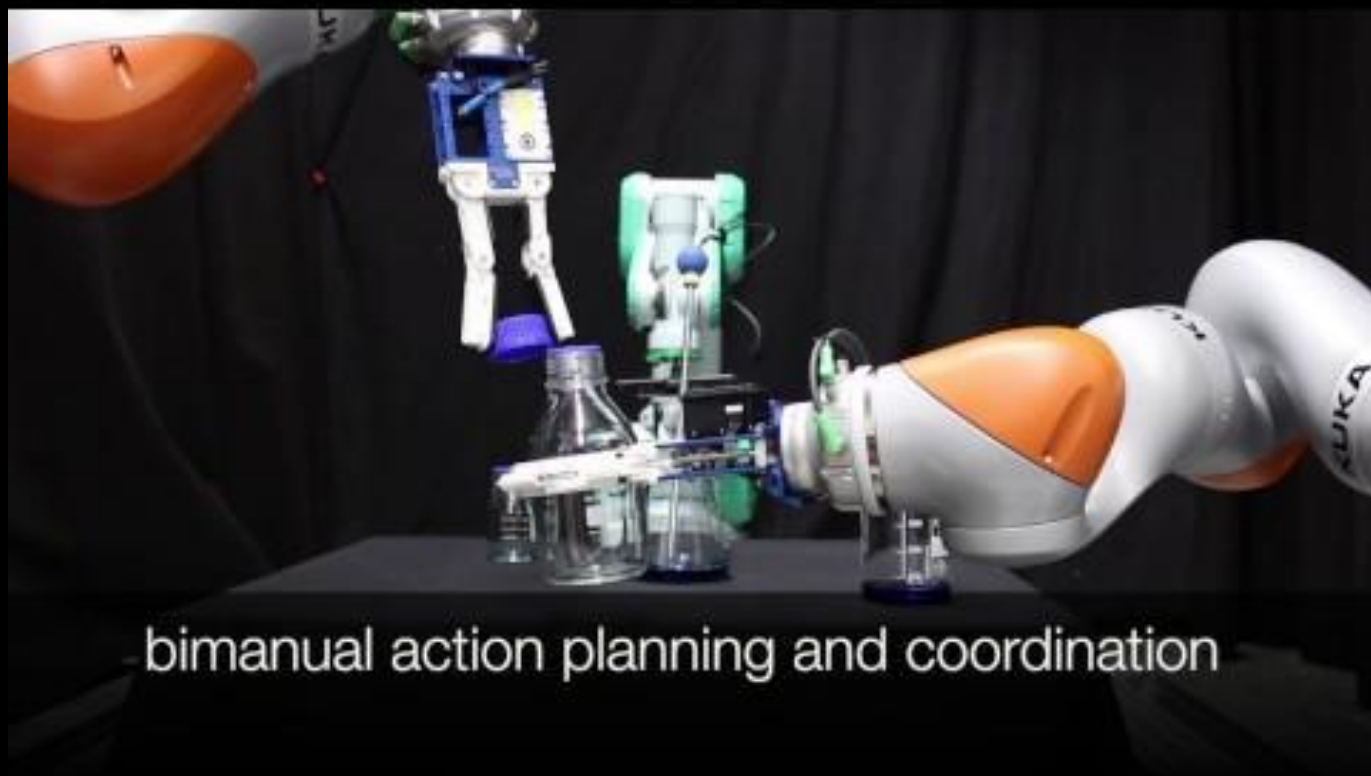
Why probabilistic methods?

- Uncertainties in the sensor measurements.
- Delays and transmission errors.
- Unmodeled dynamics (friction dynamics, coriolis forces, etc.).
- Partial observability.

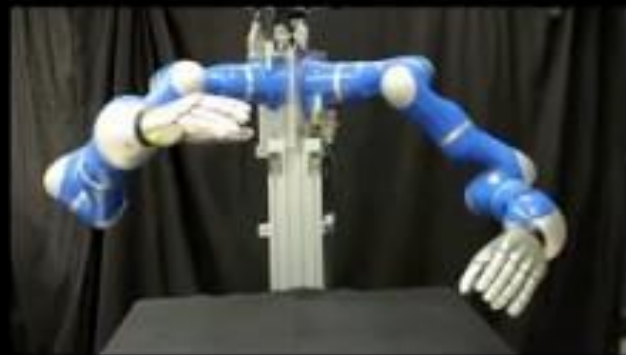
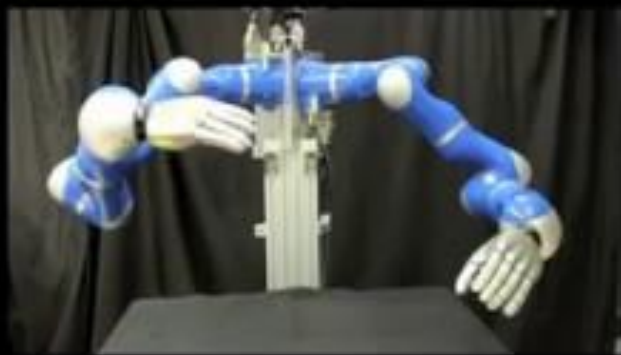


Why neural methods?

- The optimal methods structure / features are often unknown.
- Millions of data samples can be processed in $O(n)$.
- Complex multimodal probability distributions can be represented (in contrast to commonly used unimodal Gaussians).
- Predictions can be computed in realtime in $O(1)$.

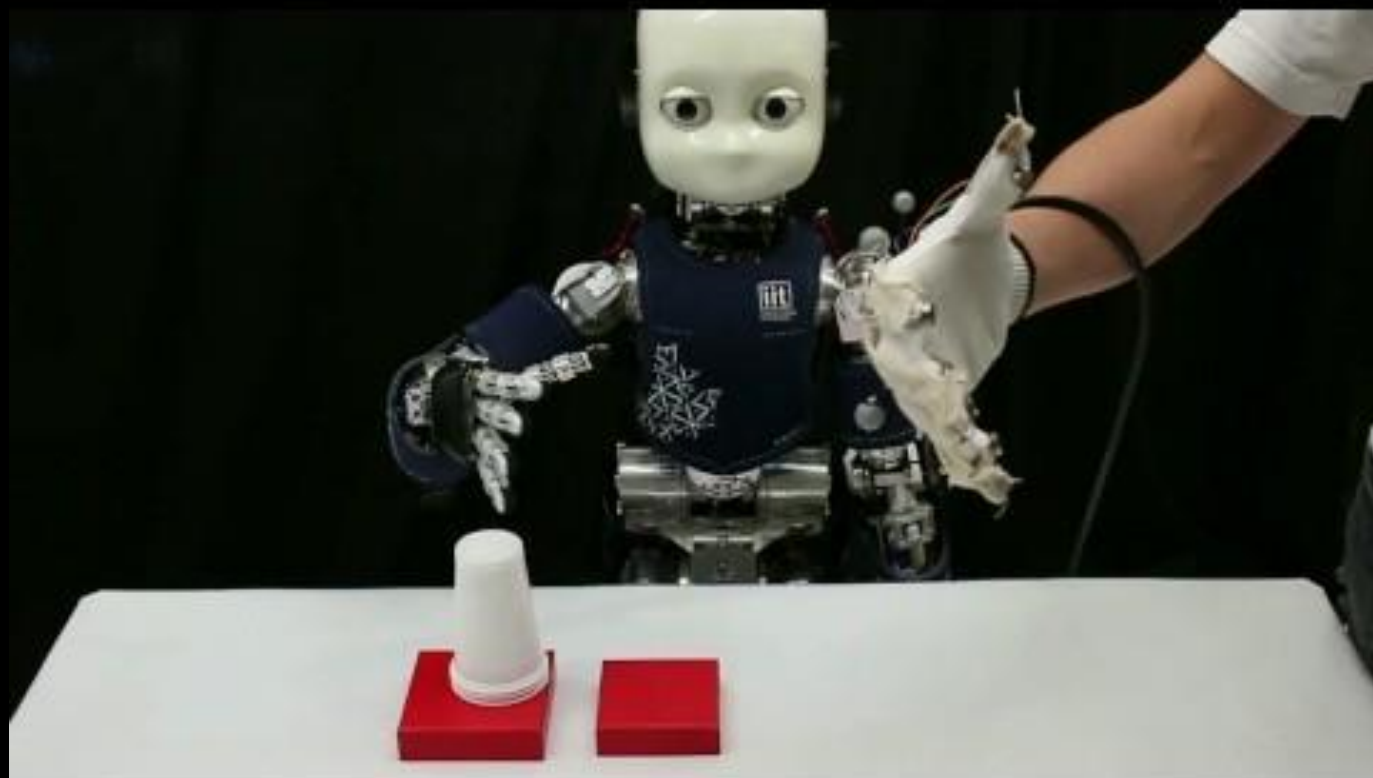


bimanual action planning and coordination





9:33:02 05/06/2015 UTC





Research questions

1. How can humans learn new motor skills within a few trials?
 - a. “control only when necessary” - motor variability
 - b. exploiting kinematic and task redundancy
 - c. transfer of related skills

2. How do humans solve cognitive reasoning tasks in huge spaces?
 - a. planning in stochastic environments
 - b. inferring multiple solutions in milliseconds
 - c. online model adaptation from intrinsic motivation signals.



Interested in a brief robotics history?



A brief historical review

[Link to a more detailed history review](#)

1920 **Karel Capek**: “robot” in his play “R.U.R.” (Rossum’s Universal Robots).

1941 **Isaac Asimov**: Three laws of “robotics”:

1. A robot may not injure a human being or, through inaction, allow a human being to come to harm.
2. A robot must obey orders given it by human beings except where such orders would conflict with the First Law.
3. A robot must protect its own existence as long as such protection does not conflict with the First or Second Law.

A brief historical review

1968 “**Shakey**” of the “Stanford Research Institute” defines a landmark in robotics:

- basic planning and navigation skills.
- object detection and manipulation capabilities.



A brief historical review

1973 **Ichiro Kato** develops the first “full-scale” anthropomorphic humanoid, WABOT I.



A brief historical review

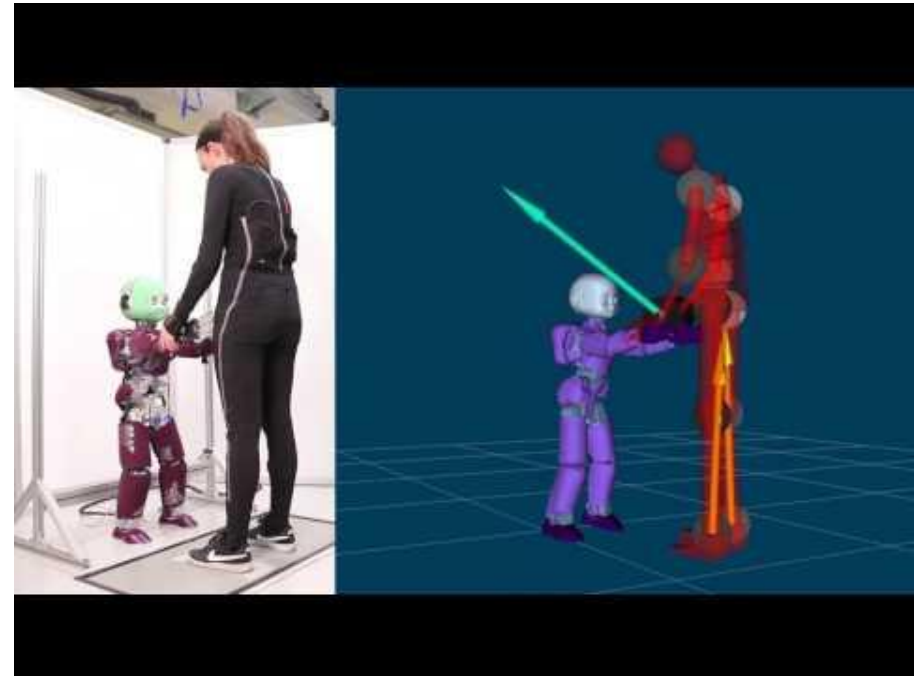
1996 **Honda** presents its P2
they started with E0 in 1986



[the history of Hunda's humanoids](#)

A brief historical review

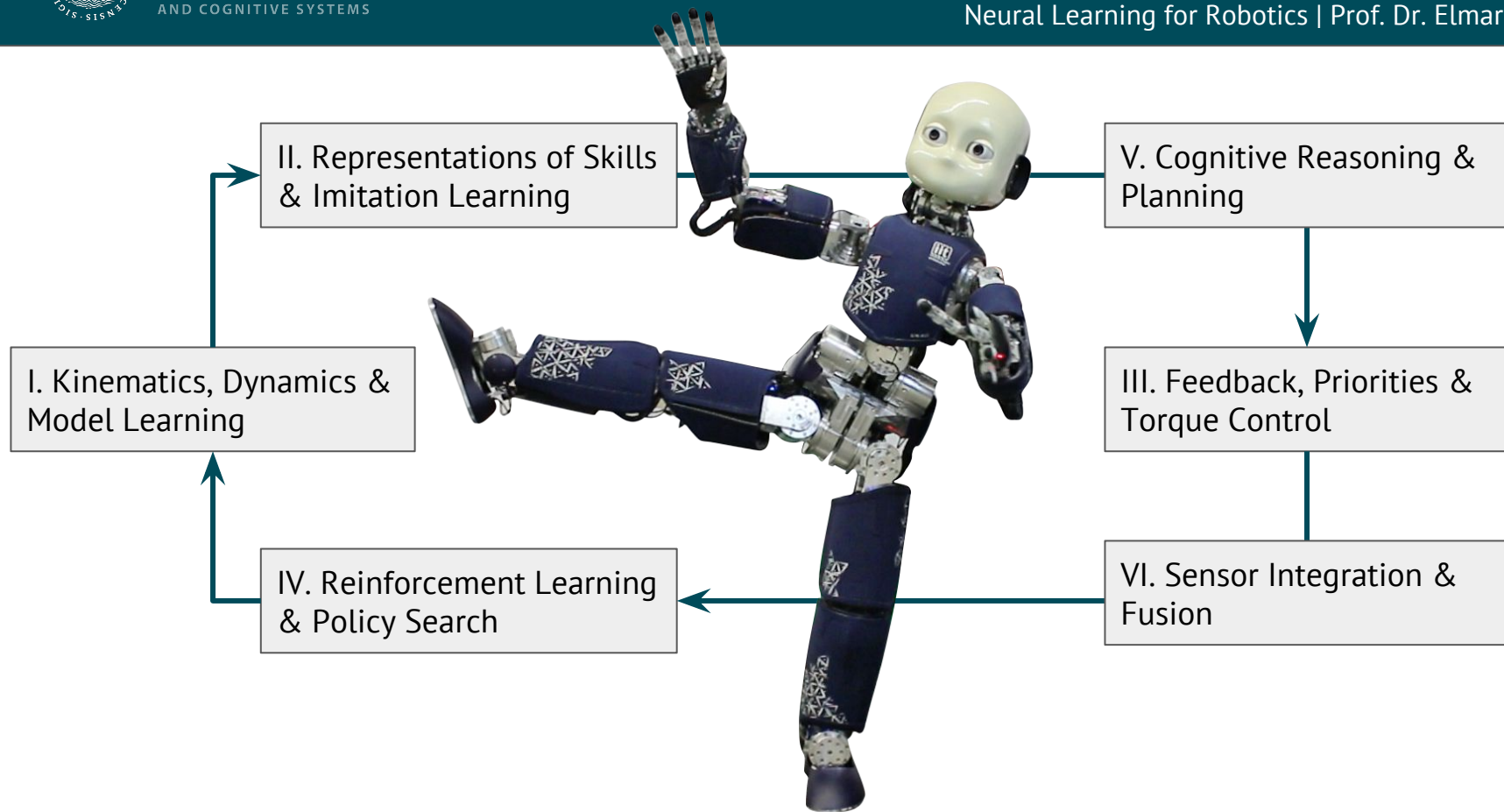
2004 The Italian Institute of Technologie presents the **ICub** (intelligent man-cub).

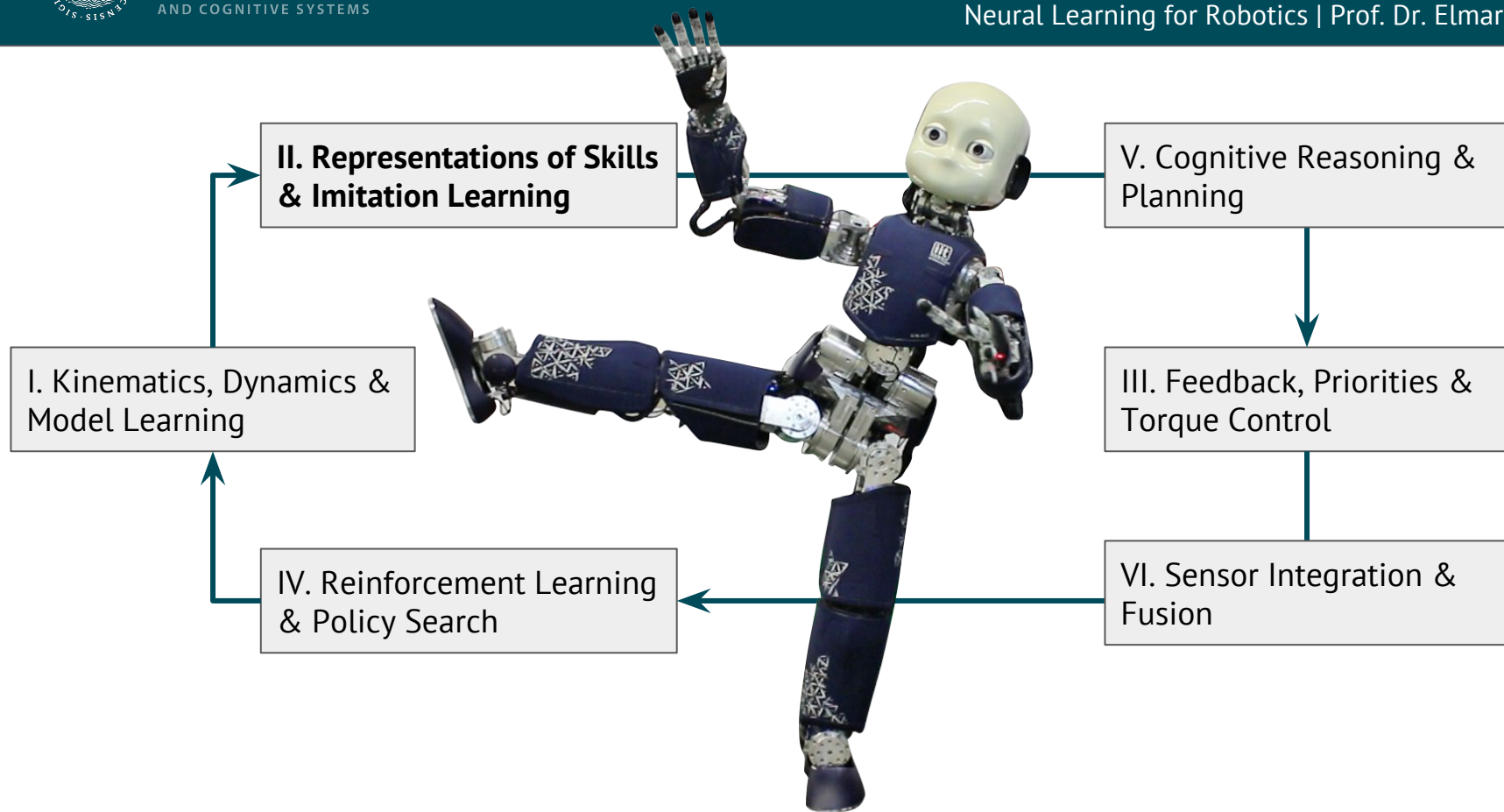


A brief historical review

2017 Boston dynamics' **Atlas** impresses the robotics community.

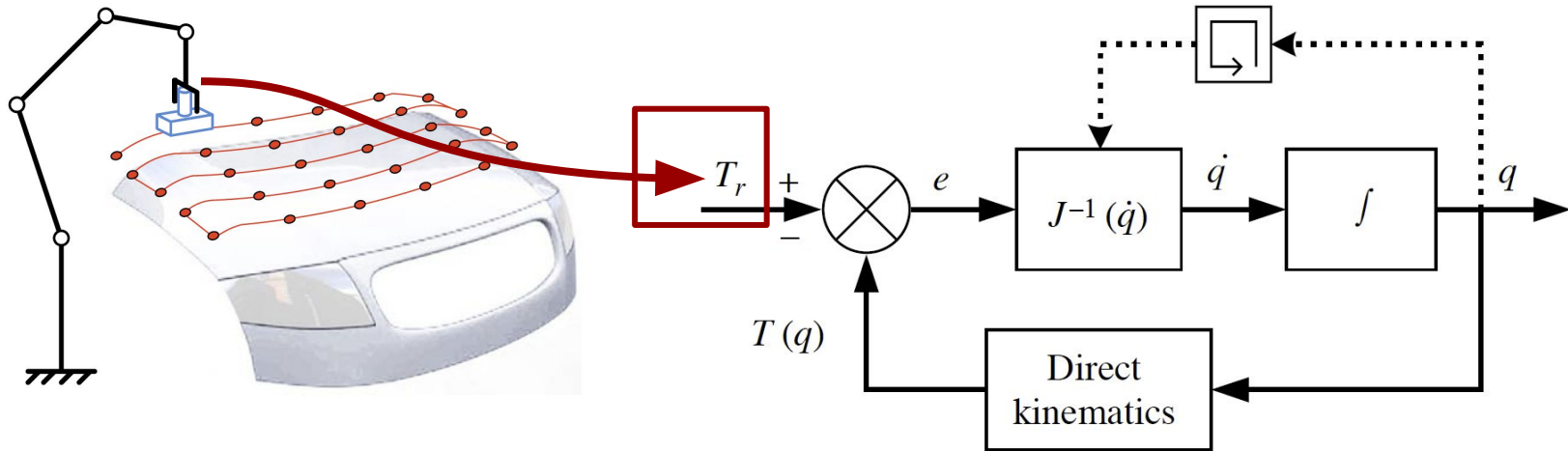




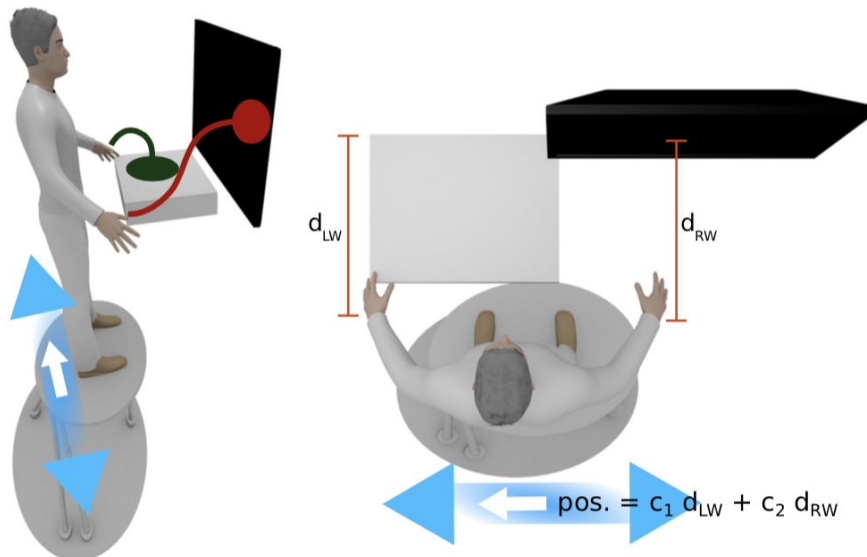


II.1 Movement primitives.

Where do we need representations of skills?



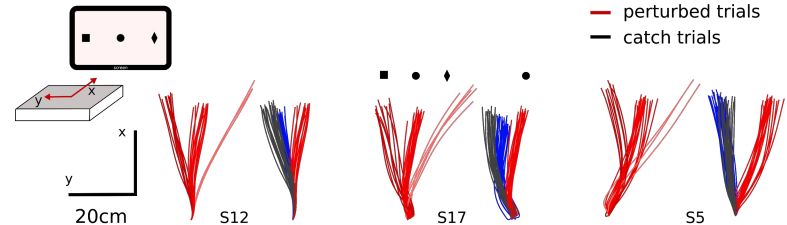
The complexity of skill representations



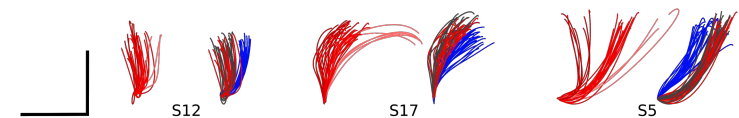
Rueckert, Elmar; Camernik, Jernej; Peters, Jan; Babic, Jan. [Probabilistic Movement Models Show that Postural Control Precedes and Predicts Volitional Motor Control.](#) Nature Publishing Group: Scientific Reports, 6 (28455), 2016.

II.1 Movement primitives.

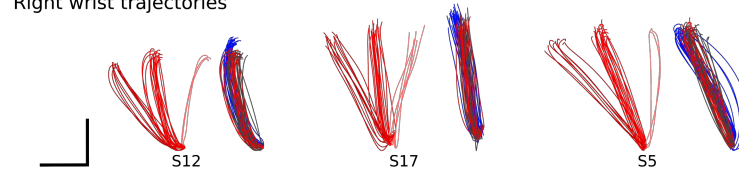
a Task dependent trunk trajectories



b Left wrist trajectories



c Right wrist trajectories



c CoP trajectories



— unperturbed trials
— perturbed trials
— catch trials

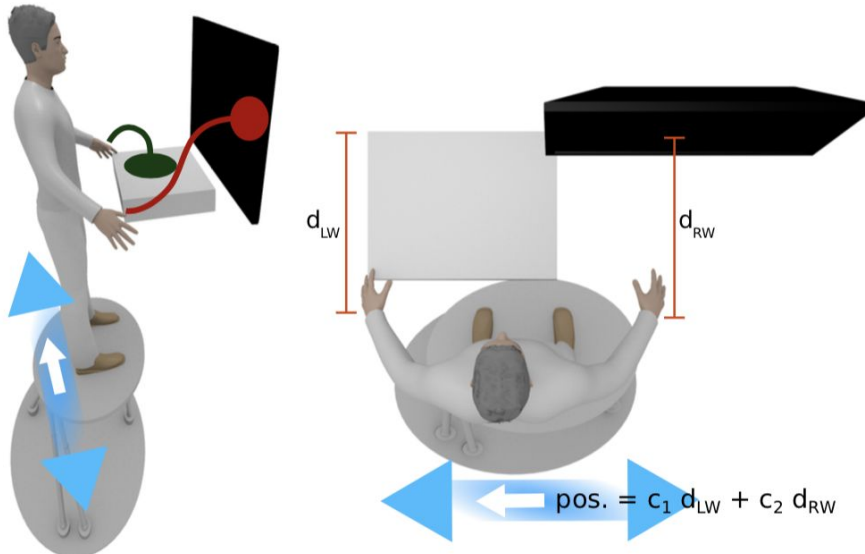
The complexity of skill representations

II.1 Movement primitives.

Data:

- 17 markers with x,y,z at 100Hz
 - 2 force plates at 100Hz (CoM at x,y)
 - 9600 trials of 20 subjects of
-
- On avg. 100 samples per trial
(17·3+2·2)·9600·100 > **50 Mio. data pts**

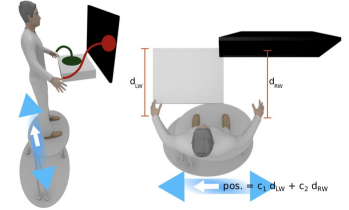
Just for a single movement skill!



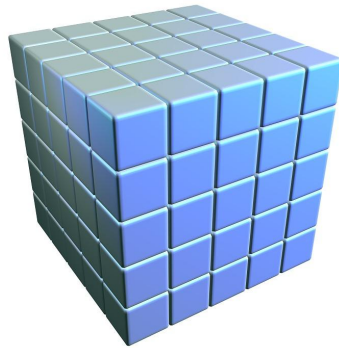
II.1 Movement primitives.

Naive vector/matrix representation

scales in $\mathbf{O}(d \times T \times K)$, where d ... number of joints, force plates or markers,
 T ... number of time steps per trial $k = 1 \dots K$



50 Mio. data pts
stored with 64 bits per
double > **3 GByte**
for movements of 1
second!



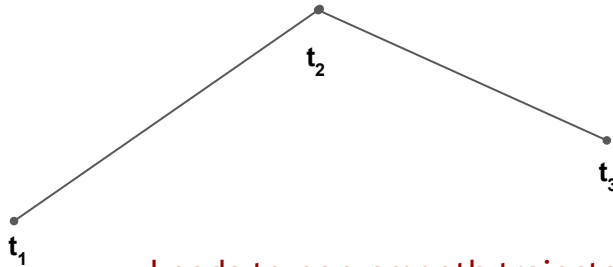
Even when we average over all 9600 trials
we would need to store **5500 data points**
per second!

II.1 Movement primitives.

Naive via-point representation

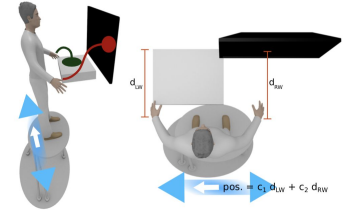
scales in $\mathbf{O}(d \times N \times K)$, where d ... number of joints, force plates or markers,
 n ... **number of via-points** comp. from the avg. over K trials

$$f_i(t) = c_{i0} + c_{i1}(t - t_i) \quad t \in [t_i, t_{i+1}]$$



Leads to non-smooth trajectories!

Can we do better?
Yes by using the **dynamics model** for
planning a route through via-points!



- 3 via-pts per marker
- Averaging the via-pts over the 9600 trials

$$(17 \cdot 3 + 2 \cdot 2) \cdot 3 = \mathbf{165}$$

parameters to learn
for a 55-dimensional
movement representation
in ~10KB memory

Spline representation

Splines are piecewise polynomials (don't use solely polynomials)

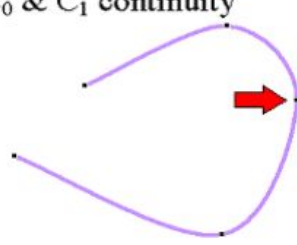
$$f_i(t) = c_{i0} + c_{i1}(t - t_i) + c_{i2}(t - t_i)^2 + \dots + c_{ik}(t - t_i)^k$$

$$t \in [t_i, t_{i+1}]$$

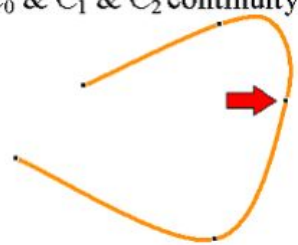
C_0 continuity



C_0 & C_1 continuity



C_0 & C_1 & C_2 continuity



More slides on splines by
Jernej Barbic, USC

$$f'_i(t_{i+1}) = f'_{i+1}(t_{i+1})$$

$$f''_i(t_{i+1}) = f''_{i+1}(t_{i+1})$$

II.1 Movement primitives.

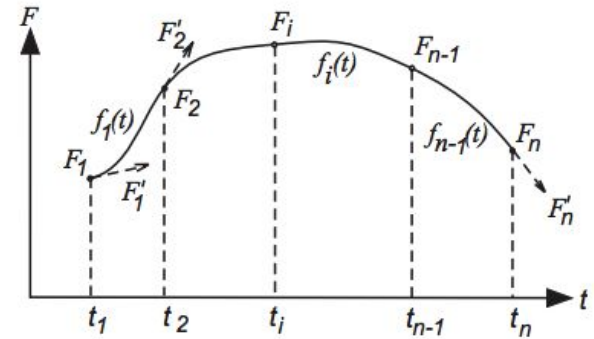


Fig. 1. A trajectory passing through n knots

Yisheng Guan, Kazuhito Yokoi, Olivier Stasse, Abderrahmane Kheddar. [On Robotic Trajectory Planning Using Polynomial Interpolations](#). In Proceedings of the International Conference on Robotics and Biomimetics, 2005.

II.1 Movement primitives.

Spline representation

Scale in $\mathbf{O}(d \times n \times k)$, where d ... number of joints,
force plates or markers, n ... **number of knots** at times t_1, t_2, \dots, t_n of order k

$$f_i(t) = c_{i0} + c_{i1}(t - t_i) + c_{i2}(t - t_i)^2 + \dots + c_{ik}(t - t_i)^k$$

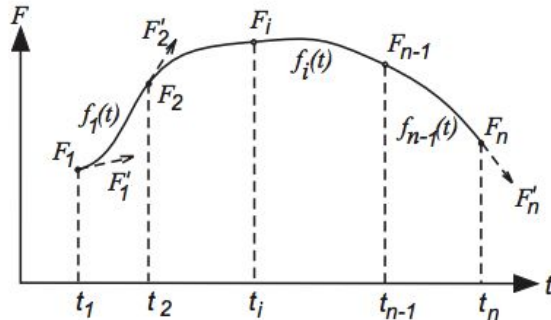
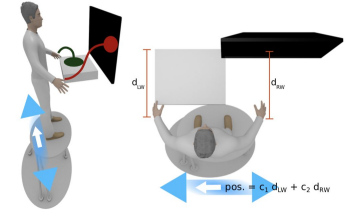


Fig. 1. A trajectory passing through n knots

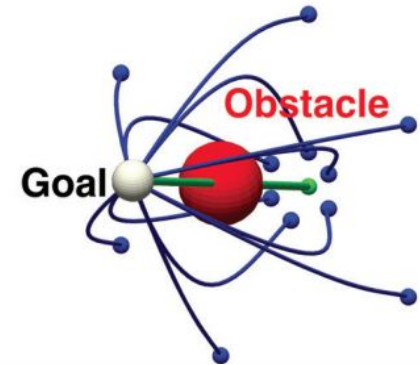


- 3 via-pts per marker
 - Averaging the via-pts over the 9600 trials
 - $k=3$ for cubic-splines ($c_{i0}, c_{i1}, c_{i2}, c_{i3}$)
-
- $(17 \cdot 3 + 2 \cdot 2) \cdot 3 \cdot 4 = 660$
parameters to learn!

II.1 Movement primitives.

Desired features of skill representations

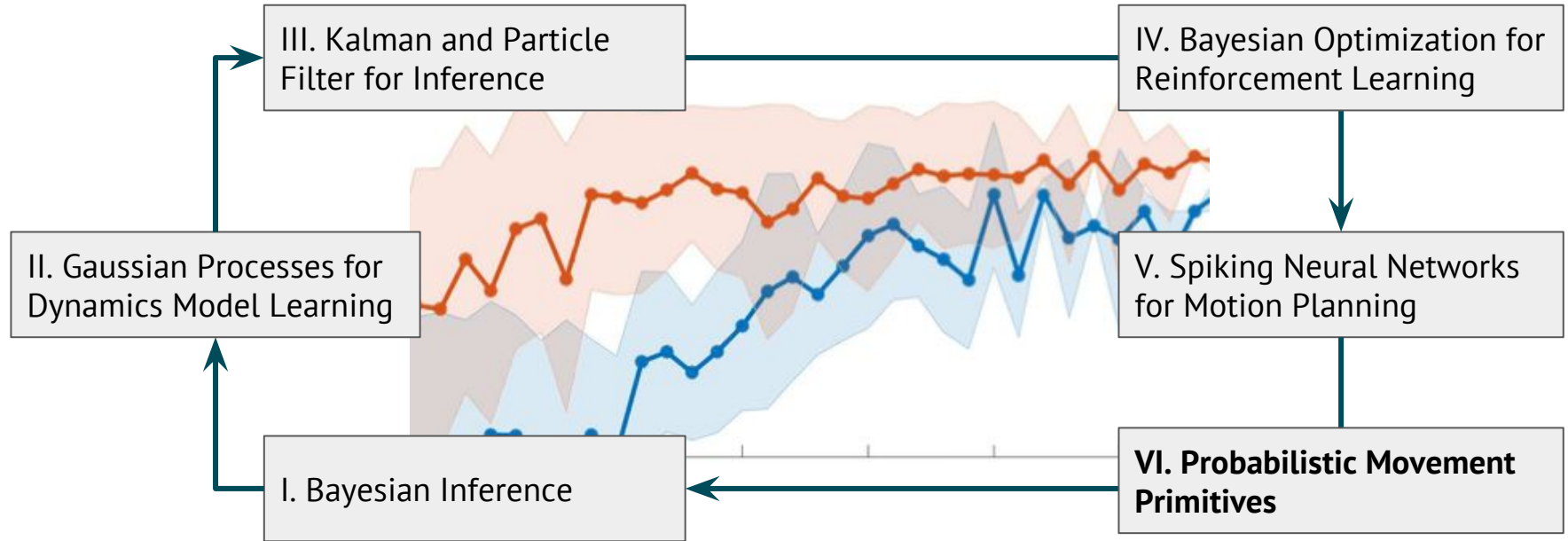
- **Compact** (few parameters to learn).
- **Smooth** (need to compute derivatives for velocities and controls).
- **Flexible** generalizables to different tasks (goal locations, orientations, etc.).
- Can be learnt from the data through **imitation learning (IM)**.
- Self-improvement through **reinforcement learning (RL)**.
- **Composable** through sequencing and **co-activation**.
- **Stochastic**, can model the variance of the data.
- **Coupled**, can model the coupling of joints.



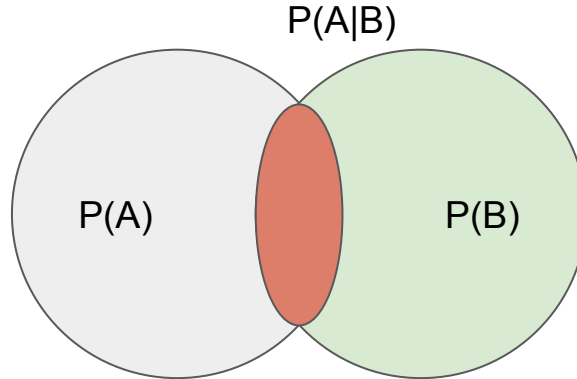
Ex. **flexibility** to start at different poses.



Probabilistic Methods for Robotics



My approach: learning probabilistic models

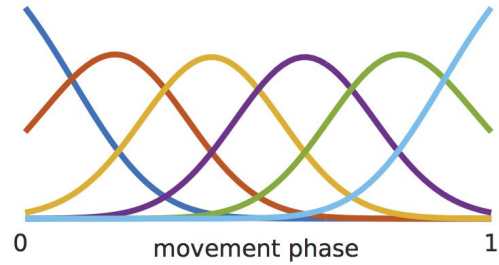


Learning problem:

$$P(A|B) = P(A, B)/P(B)$$

given data samples from $P(A, B)$
assuming priors $P(A), P(B)$

A basis functions



[1] Generative Model: $\mathbf{y}_t = \Phi_t \mathbf{w}$

[2] Gaussian Features: $\phi_{t,i} = \frac{1}{\mathcal{L}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2h} (z(t) - c_i)^2\right)$,

[3] Learning the Prior: $\mathbf{w}^{[i]} = (\Phi_{1:T}^T \Phi_{1:T} + \lambda \mathbf{I})^{-1} \Phi_{1:T}^T \boldsymbol{\tau}^{[i]}$.

[4] Model:
$$\begin{aligned} p(\boldsymbol{\tau}) &= \int p(\boldsymbol{\tau} | \mathbf{w}) p(\mathbf{w}) d\mathbf{w} \\ &= \int \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{y}_{1:T} | \Phi_{1:T} \mathbf{w}, \Sigma_y) \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{w} | \boldsymbol{\mu}_w, \Sigma_w) d\mathbf{w} \\ &= \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{y}_{1:T} | \Phi_{1:T} \boldsymbol{\mu}_w, \Phi_{1:T} \Sigma_w \Phi_{1:T}^T + \Sigma_y) \end{aligned}$$

learned prior

[5] Conditioning, given the prior $\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{w}|\boldsymbol{\mu}_w, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_w)$

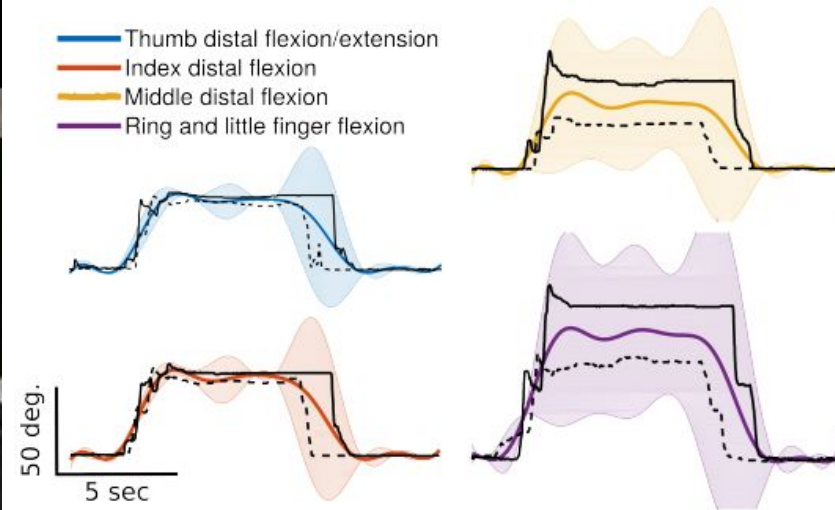
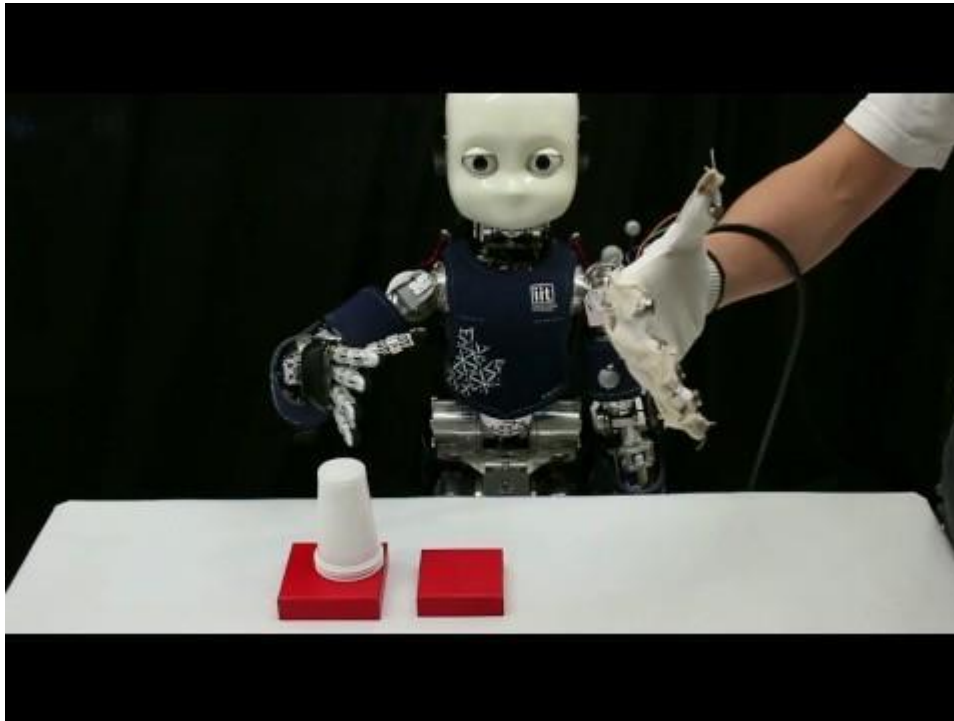
$$\begin{aligned} p(\mathbf{w}_o|\mathbf{o}) &\propto \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{o}|\Phi_o\mathbf{w}_o, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_o)p(\mathbf{w}) \\ &:= \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{w}_o|\boldsymbol{\mu}_{w|o}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{w|o}), \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{with } \boldsymbol{\mu}_{w|o} = \boldsymbol{\mu}_w + \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_w \Phi_o^T (\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_o + \Phi_o \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_w \Phi_o^T)^{-1} (\mathbf{o} - \Phi_o \boldsymbol{\mu}_w),$$

$$\text{and } \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{w|o} = \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_w - \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_w \Phi_o^T (\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_o + \Phi_o \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_w \Phi_o^T)^{-1} \Phi_o \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_w,$$

Result:
$$p(\tilde{\boldsymbol{\tau}}) = \mathcal{N}(\tilde{\mathbf{y}}_{1:T} | \Phi_{1:T} \boldsymbol{\mu}_{w|o}, \Phi_{1:T} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{w|o} \Phi_{1:T}^T + \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_y);$$

Movement model learning example



Rueckert, Elmar; Lioutikov, Rudolf; Calandra, Roberto; Schmidt, Marius; Beckerle, Philipp; Peters, Jan. [Low-cost Sensor Glove with Force Feedback for Learning from Demonstrations using Probabilistic Trajectory Representations](#). ICRA 2015 Workshop on Tactile and force sensing for autonomous compliant intelligent robots, 2015.

II.2 DMPs

How do we train the model from data?

$$\mathbf{q}_t = [q_t^{[1]}, q_t^{[2]}, \dots, q_t^{[d]}]^T$$

$$\forall t \in \mathbb{N}_0$$

- Kinesthetic teaching (see the picture).
- Teleoperation (e.g., by using a joystick).
- Visual observation (using cameras or optical markers).
- Sensor suits (IMUs, e.g., [Xsense.com](https://www.xsens.com)).

The last two approaches require to map the data onto the robot which is often problematic!



Imitation learning

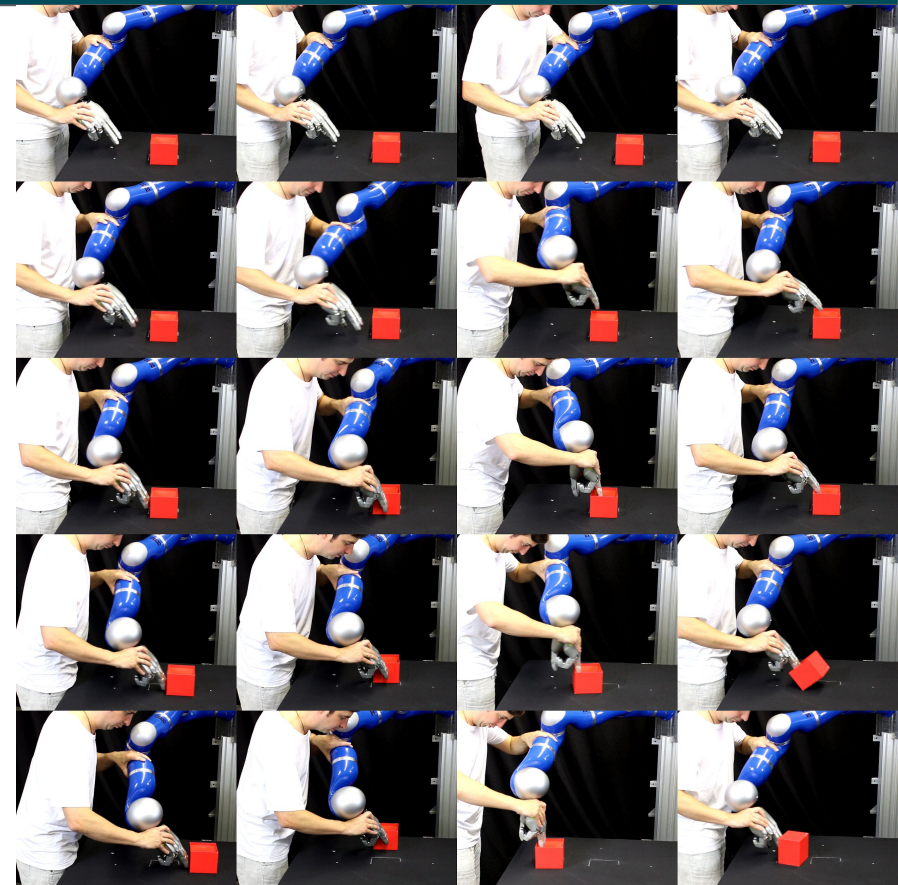
Given: $\mathbf{q}_t = [q_t^{[1]}, q_t^{[2]}, \dots, q_t^{[d]}]^T$
 $\forall t \in \mathbb{N}_0$

Or in vector notation per dim. d :

$$\mathbf{q}^{[d]} = [q_1^{[d]}, q_2^{[d]}, \dots, q_T^{[d]}]^T$$

Let's consider only one dimension:

$$\mathbf{q} = [q_1, q_2, \dots, q_T]^T$$

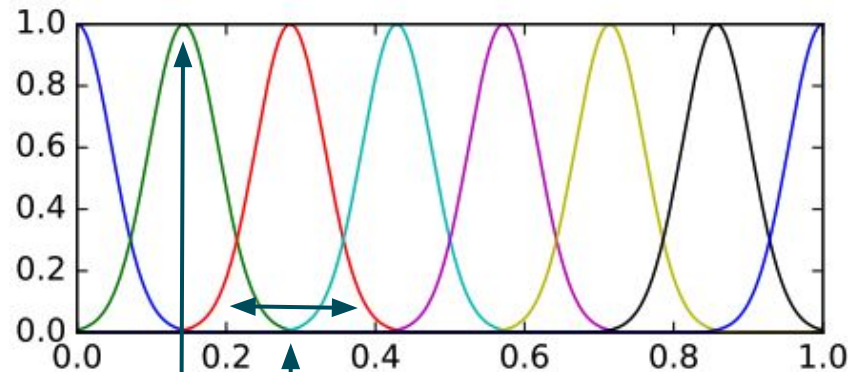


Radial basis functions as features

Modeling complex shapes through Gaussians

$$f(t) = \frac{\sum_{j=1}^N \Psi_j(t) w_j}{\sum_{j=1}^N \Psi_j(t)}$$

$$\Psi_j(t) = \exp(-1/(2\sigma^2)(x(t) - c_j)^2)$$



Note N=8 Gaussian basis functions are used here

Radial basis functions as features

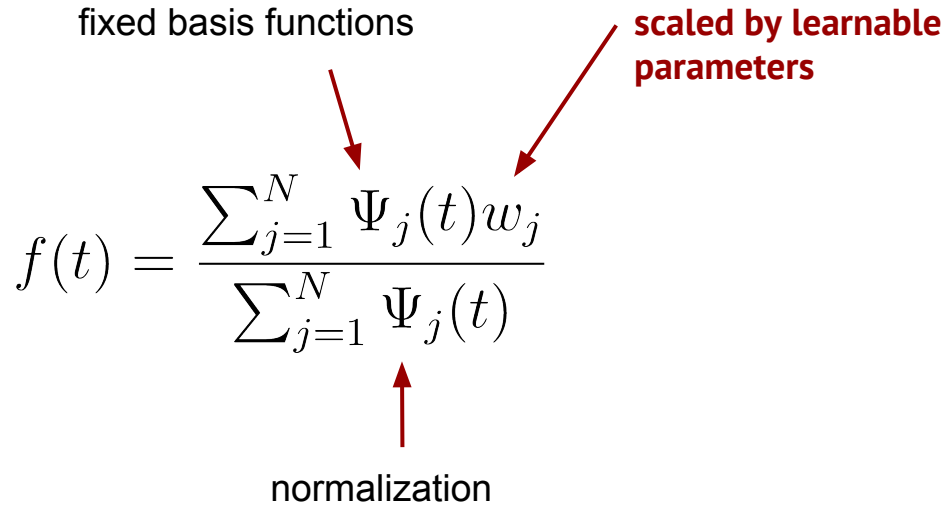
Modeling complex shapes through Gaussians

fixed basis functions

scaled by learnable parameters

$$f(t) = \frac{\sum_{j=1}^N \Psi_j(t) w_j}{\sum_{j=1}^N \Psi_j(t)}$$

normalization



Imitation learning

I. Compute the **target** function from the data:

$$\tilde{\mathbf{f}} = [\mathbf{q}_1, \mathbf{q}_2, \dots, \mathbf{q}_T]$$

II. Compute the **model's** function term:

$$\mathbf{f} = \mathbf{\Psi} \mathbf{w} \quad \text{from}$$

$$f(t) = \frac{\sum_{j=1}^N \Psi_j(t) w_j}{\sum_{j=1}^N \Psi_j(t)}$$

where

$$\mathbf{\Psi} = \begin{bmatrix} \bar{\Psi}_1^{[1]}, & \bar{\Psi}_1^{[2]}, & \dots, & \bar{\Psi}_1^{[N]} \\ \bar{\Psi}_2^{[1]}, & \dots, & \dots, & \dots \\ \dots & & & \\ \bar{\Psi}_T^{[1]}, & \dots, & \dots, & \bar{\Psi}_T^{[N]} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\bar{\Psi}_t^{[j]} = \frac{\Psi_j(t)}{\sum_{j=1}^N \Psi_j(t)}$$

Imitation learning

I. Compute the **target** function from the data:

$$\tilde{\mathbf{f}} = [\mathbf{q}_1, \mathbf{q}_2, \dots, \mathbf{q}_T]$$

II. Compute the **model's** function term:

$$\mathbf{f} = \Psi \mathbf{w} \quad \text{from}$$

III. Minimizing the objective:

$$J = \frac{1}{2}(\tilde{\mathbf{f}} - \mathbf{f})^T(\tilde{\mathbf{f}} - \mathbf{f}) = \frac{1}{2}(\tilde{\mathbf{f}} - \Psi \mathbf{w})^T(\tilde{\mathbf{f}} - \Psi \mathbf{w})$$

Results in:

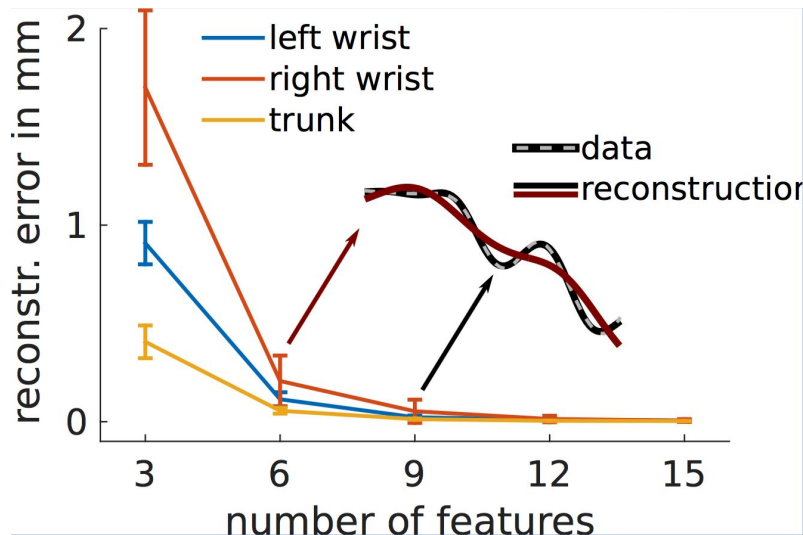
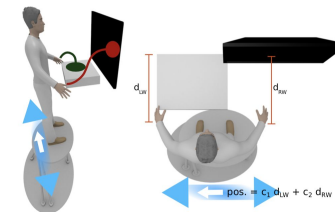
$$\mathbf{w} = (\Psi^T \Psi + \lambda \mathbf{I})^{-1} \Psi^T \tilde{\mathbf{f}}$$

[Link to a nice related tutorial](#)

II.2 DMPs

How many basis functions are optimal?

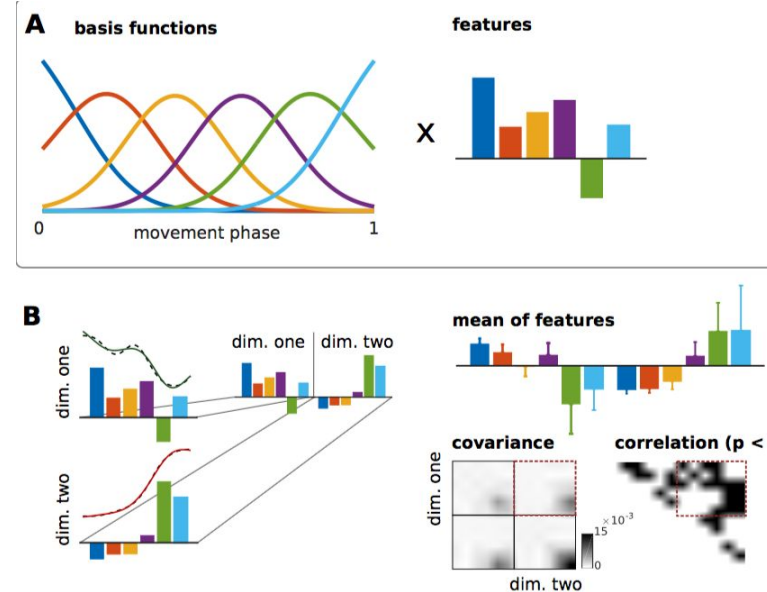
Depends on the task and has to be numerically evaluated!



-6 Gaussians per dim.
 - $(17 \cdot 3 + 2 \cdot 2) \cdot 10 = 550$
parameters to learn
 for a 55-dimensional
 movement representation

II.3 Example of probabilistic movement primitives.

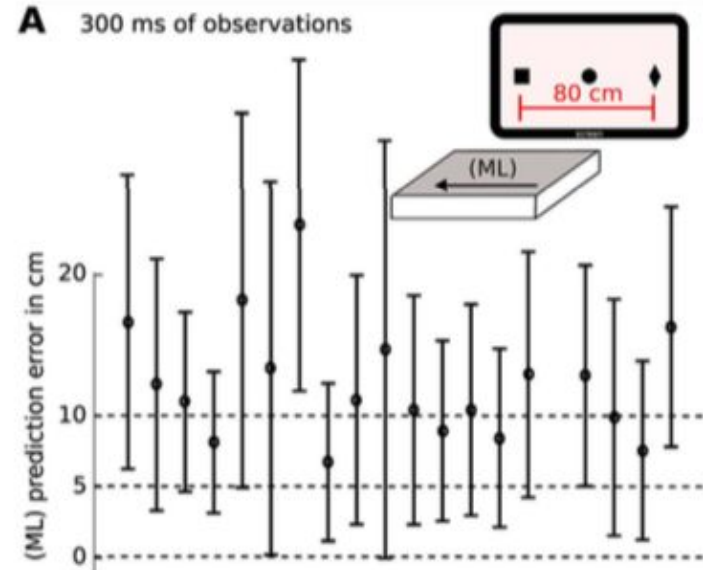
Imitation learning through optical markers



Rueckert, Elmar; Camernik, Jernej; Peters, Jan; Babić, Jan. [Probabilistic Movement Models Show that Postural Control Precedes and Predicts Volitional Motor Control.](#) Nature Publishing Group: Scientific Reports, 6 (28455), 2016.

II.3 Example of probabilistic movement primitives.

Imitation learning through optical markers



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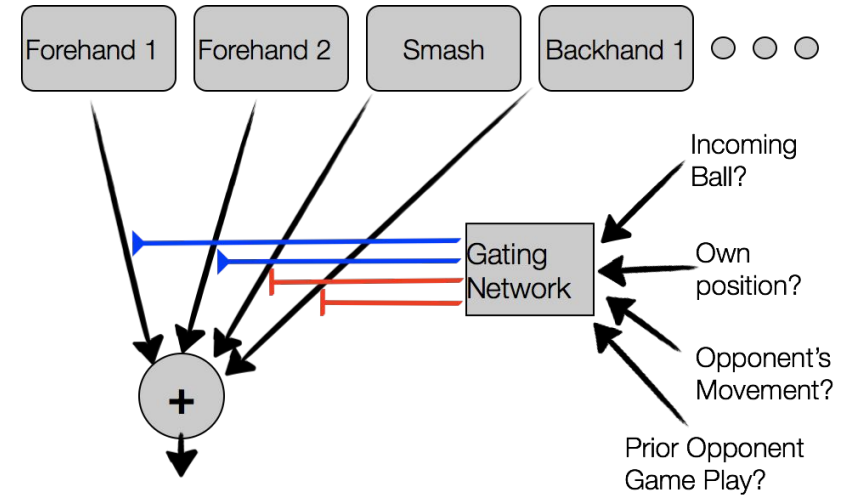
Is one movement primitive enough?

No!

- Complex tasks require a large number of primitives.
- Reusable primitives can be sequenced or co-activated (in time).
- Non-homogeneous spaces require separate primitives (in space).
- Tradeoff between the number of primitives and their complexity (num. of Gaussians)!

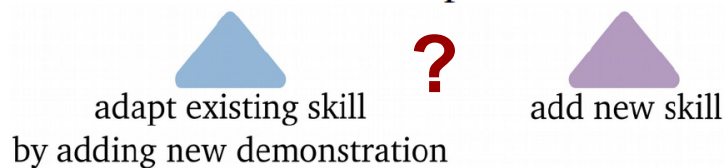
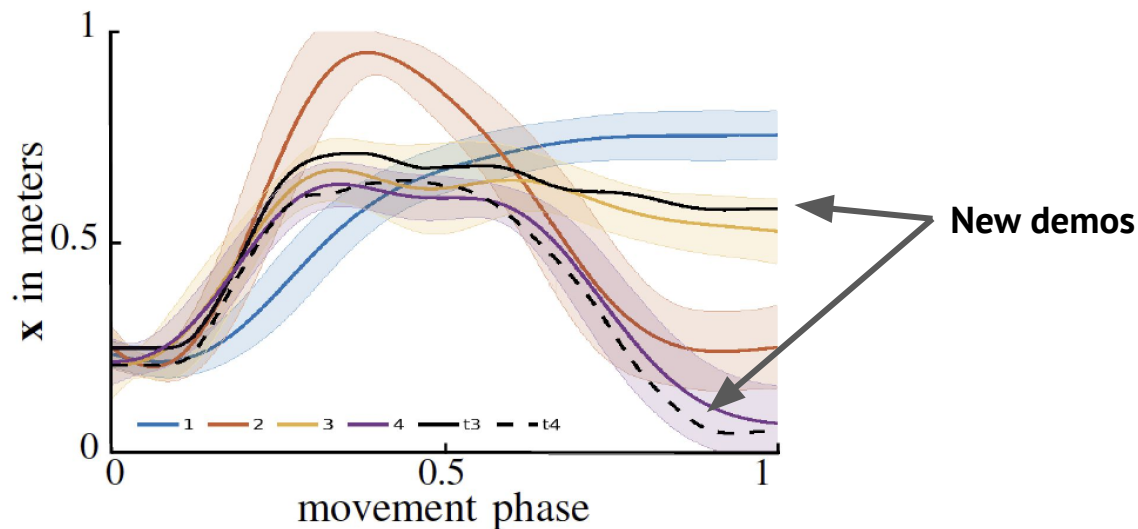
II.2 DMPs

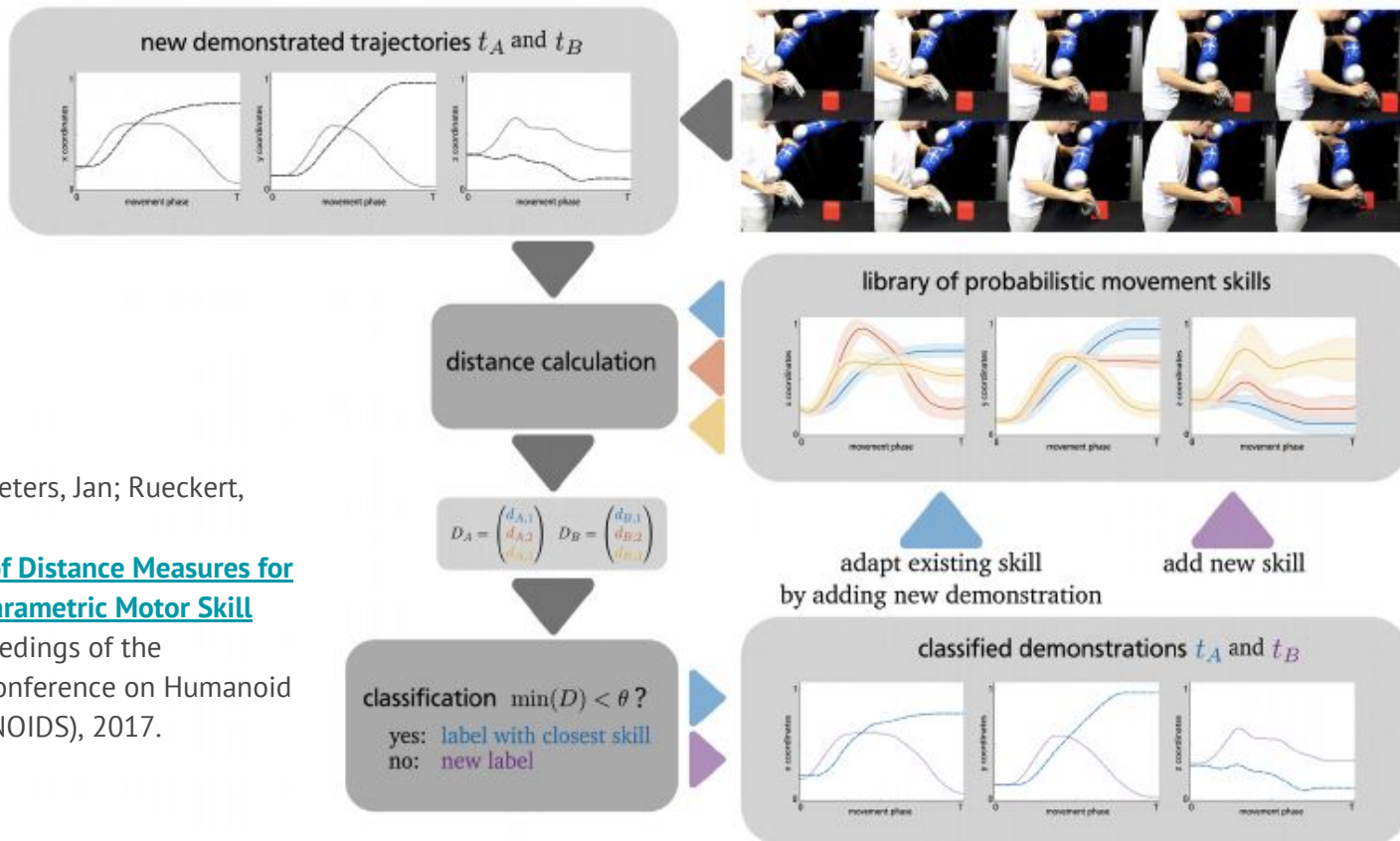
Imitation learning of a library of primitives



Muelling, K.; Kober, J.; Kroemer, O.; Peters, J. (2013). [Learning to Select and Generalize Striking Movements in Robot Table Tennis](#). *International Journal of Robotics Research (IJRR)*, **32**, **3**, pp.263-279.

Incremental Imitation learning a primitive library





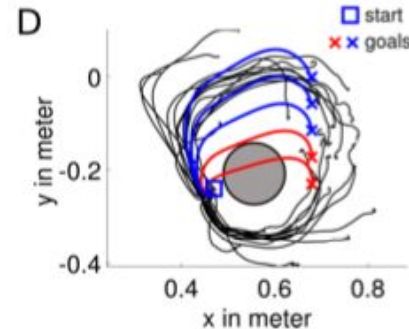
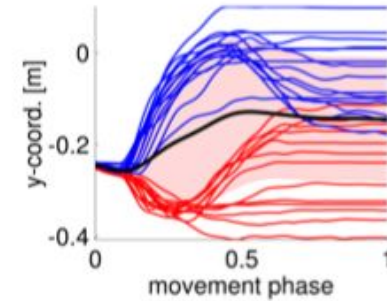
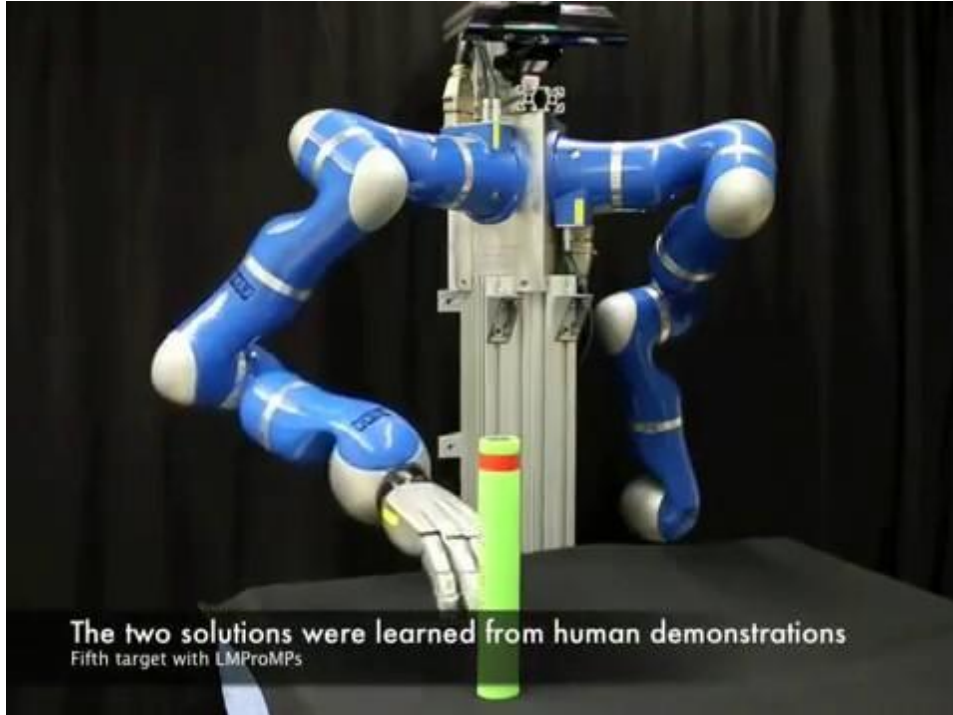
Stark, Svenja; Peters, Jan; Rueckert, Elmar.

[A Comparison of Distance Measures for Learning Nonparametric Motor Skill Libraries.](#)

Proceedings of the International Conference on Humanoid Robots (HUMANOIDS), 2017.

II.3 Example of probabilistic movement primitives.

When a single primitive is not sufficient

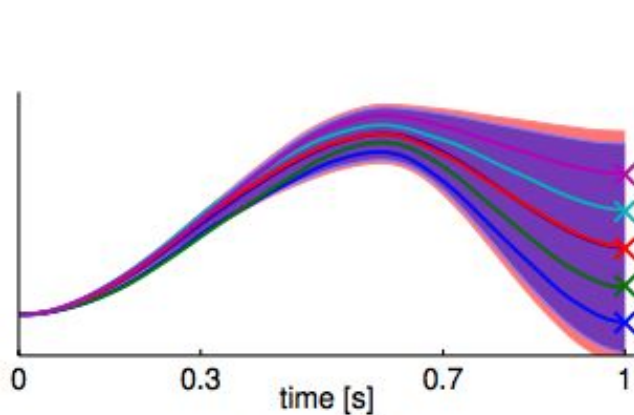


Rueckert, Elmar; Mundo, Jan; Paraschos, Alexandros; Peters, Jan; Neumann, Gerhard. [Extracting Low-Dimensional Control Variables for Movement Primitives](#). Proceedings of the International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA), 2015.

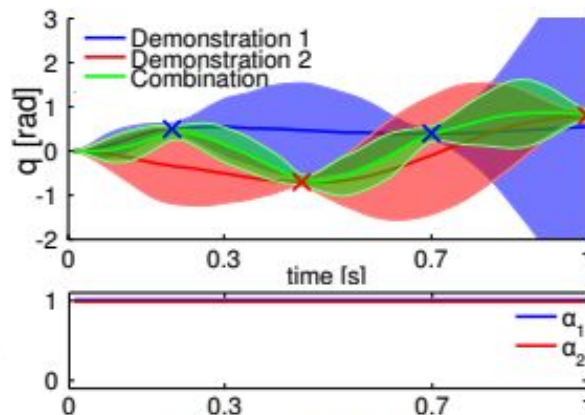
II.3 Example of probabilistic movement primitives.

Can we generalize?

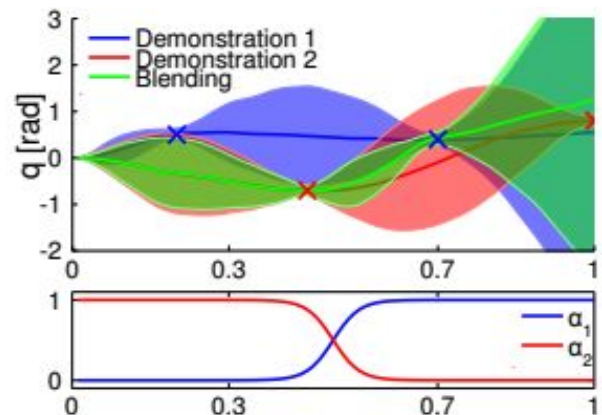
Using **probabilistic trajectory models** which are discussed in **Part Two!**



(a) Conditioning

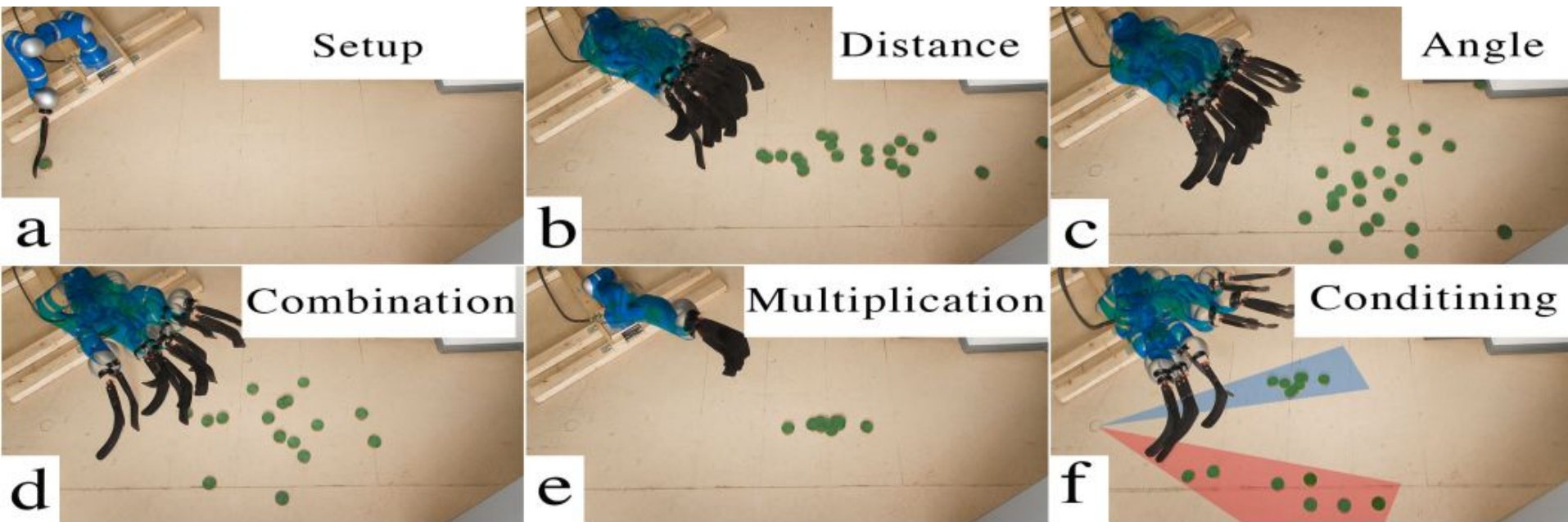


(b) Combination

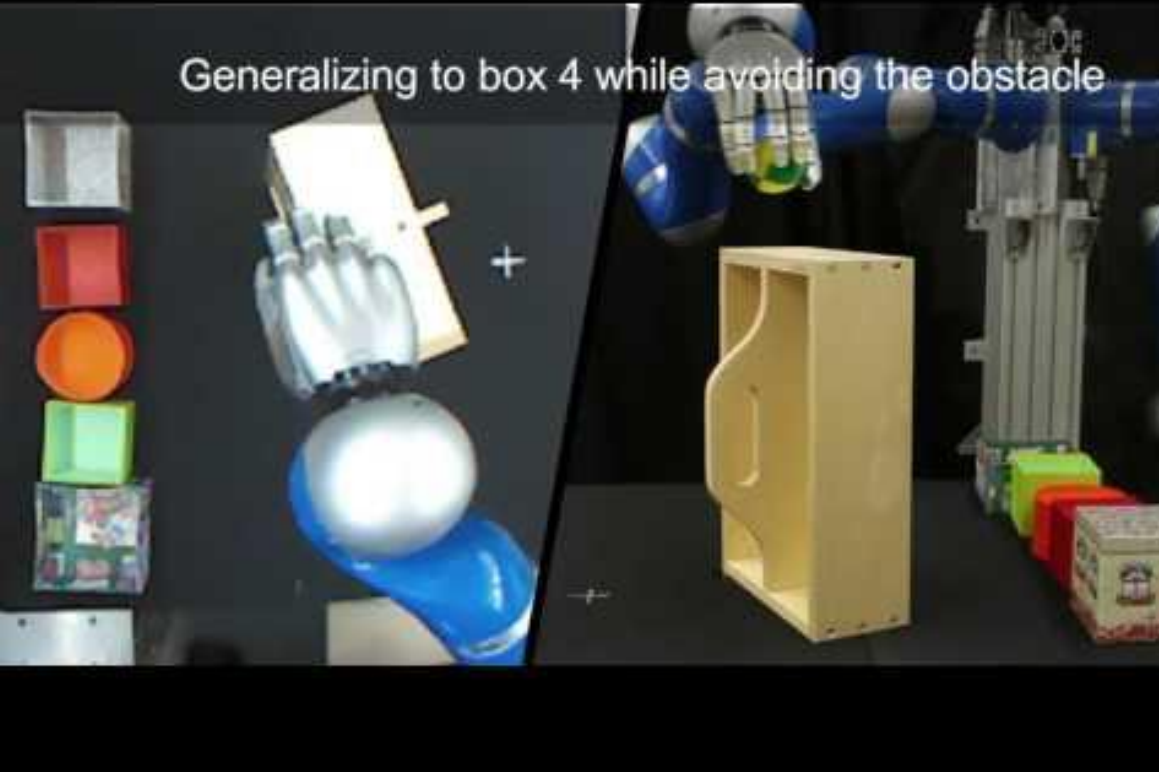


(c) Blending

II.3 Example of probabilistic movement primitives.



Generalizing to box 4 while avoiding the obstacle



Koert, D.; Maeda, G.; Lioutikov, R.; Neumann, G. & Peters, J.

[Demonstration Based Trajectory Optimization for Generalizable Robot Motions.](#)

Proceedings of the International Conference on Humanoid Robots (HUMANOIDS), 2016



Ewerton, M.; Neumann, G.; Lioutikov, R.; Ben Amor, H.; Peters, J.; Maeda, G. (2015). [Learning Multiple Collaborative Tasks with a Mixture of Interaction Primitives](#). *Proceedings of the International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA)*, pp.1535--1542.

You want to test PTMs yourself?

- https://rob.ai-lab.science/wp/resources/code/MATLAB_ProbabilisticTrajectoryModel_2016Rueckert.zip Matlab code.

- More details and exercises in:

my online lectures at
<https://ai-lab.science>



more at: <https://rob.ai-lab.science/publications/>

Rueckert, Elmar; Camernik, Jernej; Peters, Jan; Babic, Jan

Probabilistic Movement Models Show that Postural Control Precedes and Predicts Volitional Motor Control [Journal Article](#)

Nature Publishing Group: Scientific Reports, 6 (28455), Impact Factor 4.122('17), 2016.

Rueckert, Elmar; Mundo, Jan; Paraschos, Alexandros; Peters, Jan; Neumann, Gerhard

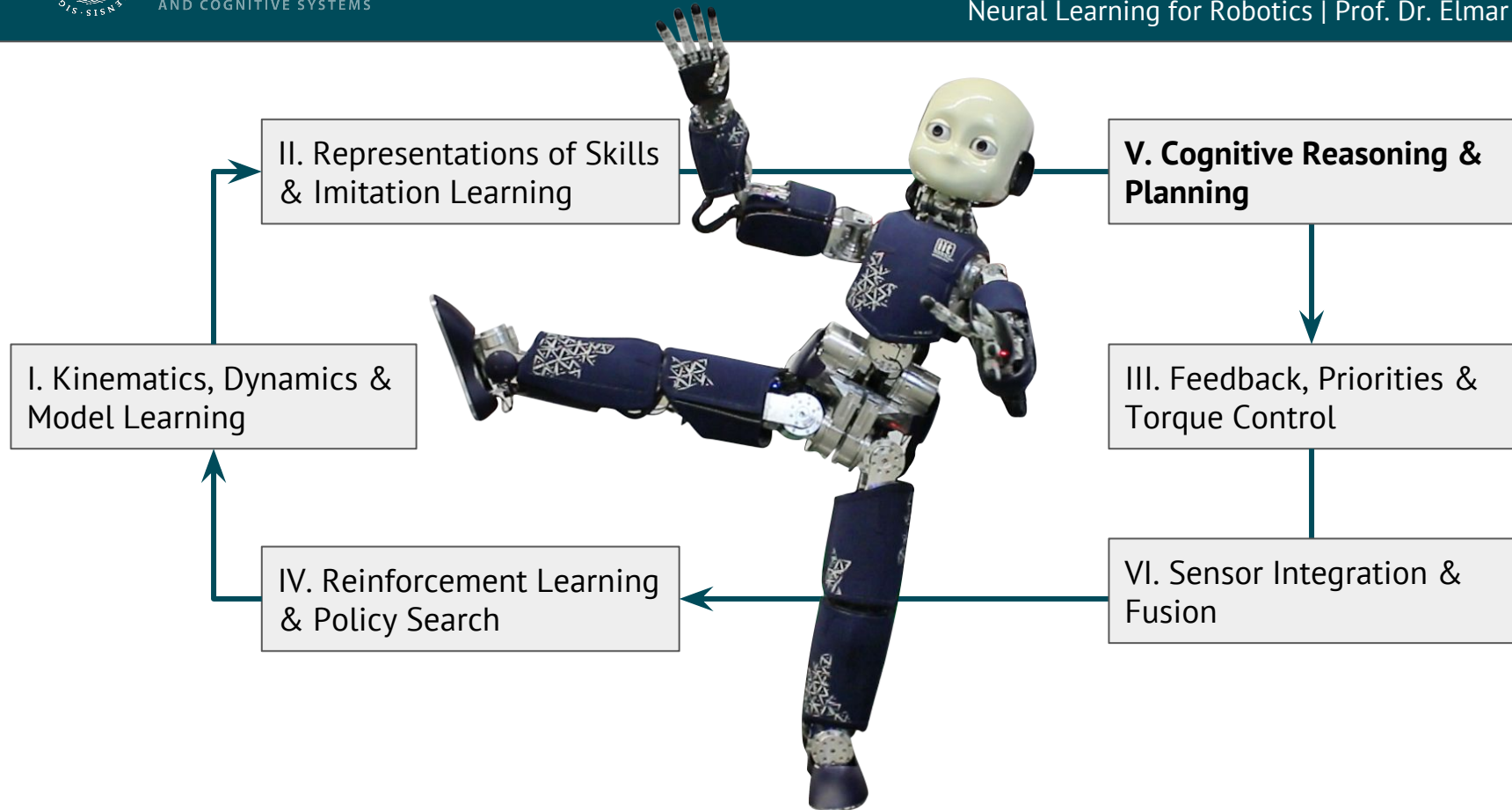
Extracting Low-Dimensional Control Variables for Movement Primitives [Inproceedings](#)

Proceedings of the International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA), 2015.

Rueckert, Elmar; Lioutikov, Rudolf; Calandra, Roberto; Schmidt, Marius; Beckerle, Philipp; Peters, Jan

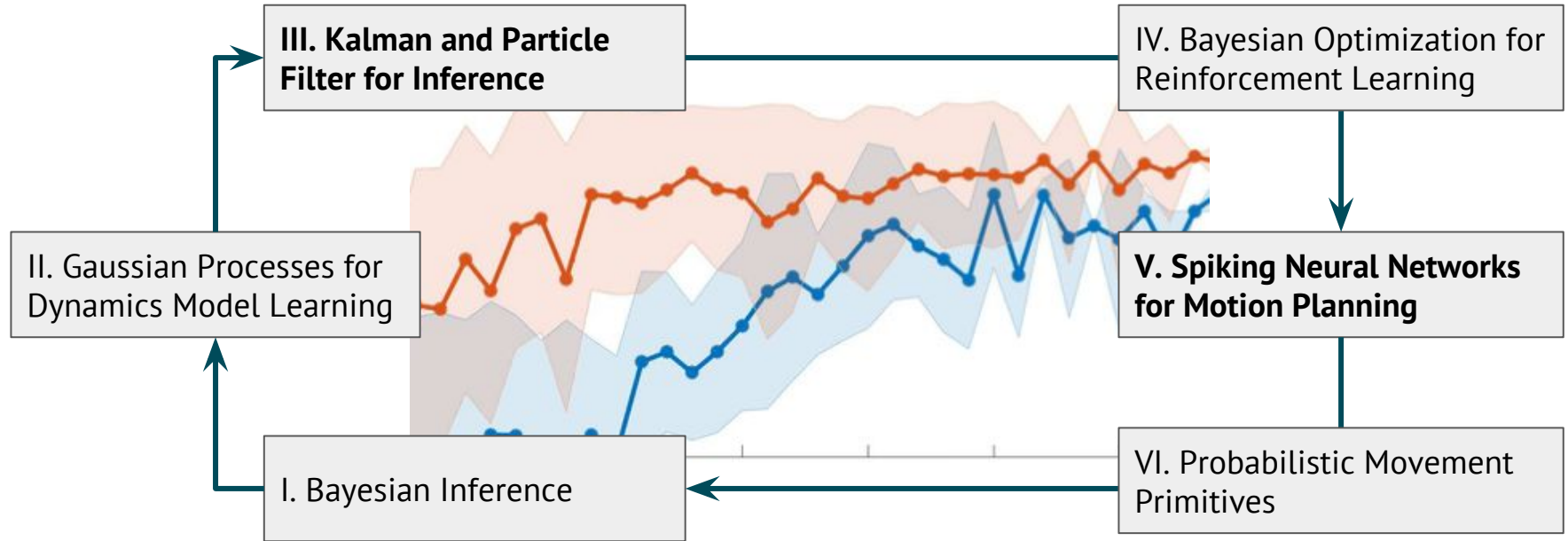
Low-cost Sensor Glove with Force Feedback for Learning from Demonstrations using Probabilistic Trajectory Representations [Inproceedings](#)

ICRA 2015 Workshop on Tactile and force sensing for autonomous compliant intelligent robots, 2015.





Choose your topic!

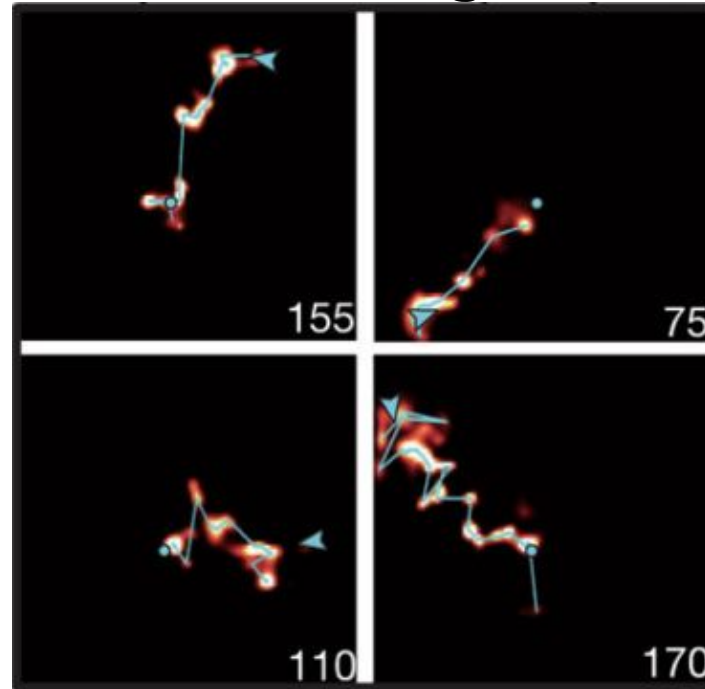




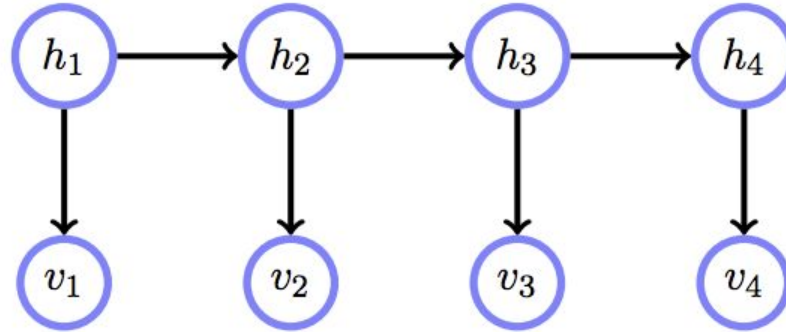
Predictive models of rats' navigation skills

Behavioral Decoding

Predictive models of rats' navigation skills



Difference btw. Filtering, Smoothing and Predictions



$$p(h_{1:T}, v_{1:T}) = p(v_1|h_1)p(h_1) \prod_{t=2}^T p(v_t|h_t)p(h_t|h_{t-1})$$

Difference btw. Filtering, Smoothing and Predictions

$$p(h_{1:T}, v_{1:T}) = p(v_1|h_1)p(h_1) \prod_{t=2}^T p(v_t|h_t)p(h_t|h_{t-1})$$

Filtering

(Inferring the present)

$$p(h_t|v_{1:t})$$

Prediction

(Inferring the future)

$$p(h_t|v_{1:s})$$

$$t > s$$

Smoothing

(Inferring the past)

$$p(h_t|v_{1:u})$$

$$t < u$$

Likelihood

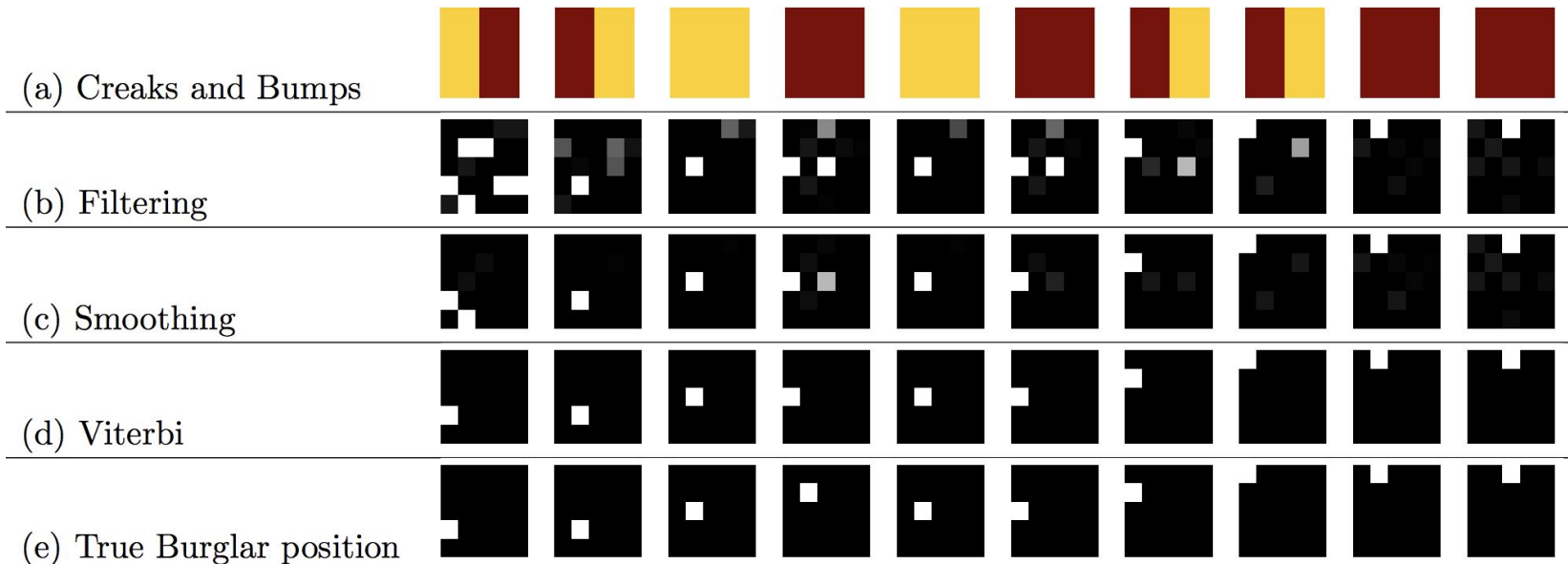
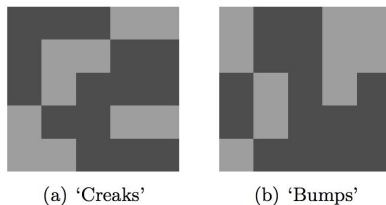
$$p(v_{1:T})$$

Most likely Hidden path

(Viterbi alignment)

$$\operatorname{argmax}_{h_{1:T}} p(h_{1:T}|v_{1:T})$$

Localizing a burglar.



Using Smoothing for robot path planning

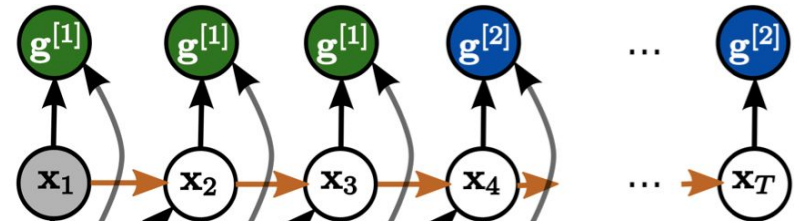
$$p(\underline{\mathbf{x}} | r = 1) = p(\mathbf{x}_0) \prod_{t=1}^T \mathcal{T}(\mathbf{x}_t | \mathbf{x}_{t-1})$$



Smoothing with neural networks

$$p(\underline{\mathbf{x}} | r = 1) = \frac{1}{\mathcal{Z}} p(r | \underline{\mathbf{x}}) p(\mathbf{x}_0) \prod_{t=1}^T \mathcal{T}(\mathbf{x}_t | \mathbf{x}_{t-1})$$

- Cannot be implemented in a Recurrent Neural Network!
- Also the alternative of using 1 Layer per time step is impractical in FF nets.



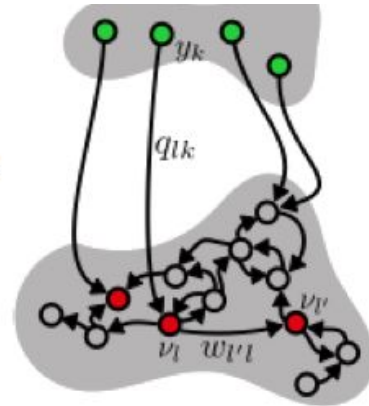
Smoothing in a RNN through forward sampling from a learned distribution

$$p(\underline{\mathbf{x}}|r=1) = \frac{1}{\mathcal{L}} p(r|\underline{\mathbf{x}}) p(\mathbf{x}_0) \prod_{t=1}^T \mathcal{T}(\mathbf{x}_t|\mathbf{x}_{t-1})$$

- Reward modulated Hebbian Learning
- Supervised Model Learning (CD)

Neural Planning

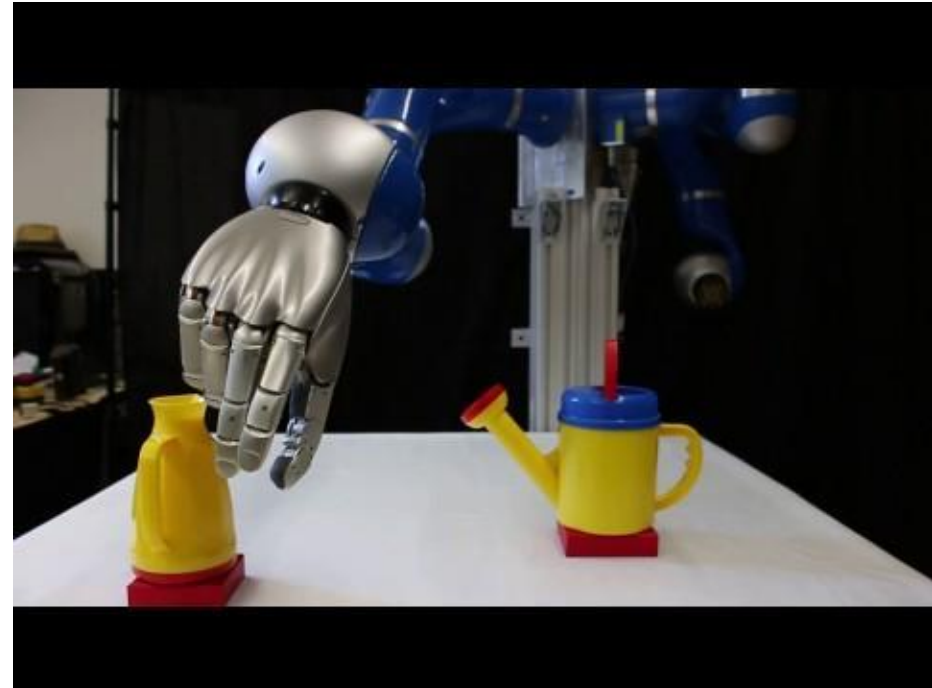
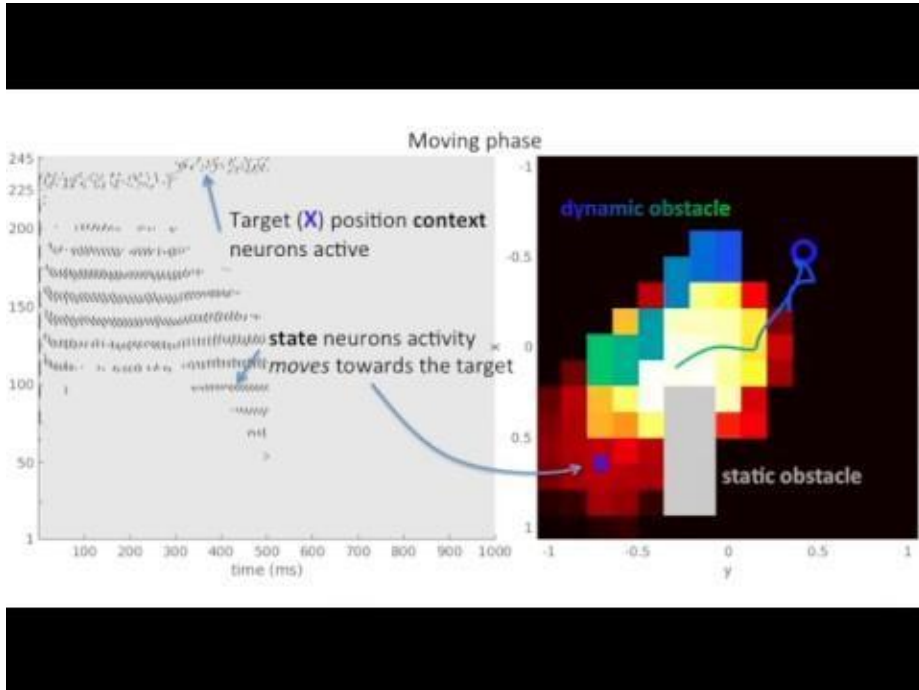
$$\begin{aligned}
 q(\underline{\nu}; \theta) &= p(\nu_0) \prod_{t=1}^T \prod_{k=1}^K \rho_{t,k}^{\nu_{t,k}} (1 - \rho_{t,k})^{1-\nu_{t,k}} \\
 &= p(\mathbf{v}_0) \prod_{t=1}^T \mathcal{J}(\mathbf{v}_t | \mathbf{v}_{t-1}) \phi_t(\mathbf{v}_t; \theta)
 \end{aligned}$$



$$\mathcal{J}(\mathbf{v}_t | \mathbf{v}_{t-1}) = \exp\left(\sum_{i=1}^K w_{ki} v_{t-1,i} v_{t,k}\right)$$

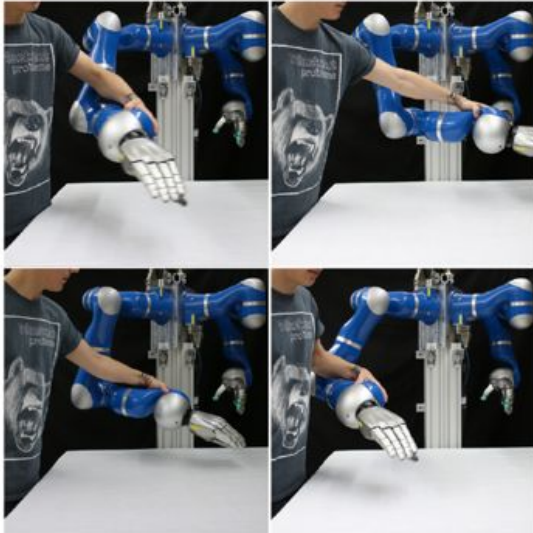
$$\phi_t(\mathbf{v}_t; \theta) = \frac{\exp\left(\sum_{j=1}^N \theta_{kj} y_{t-1,j} v_{t,k}\right)}{\sum_{l=1}^K \exp(u_{t,l})}$$

For real robot control without smoothing



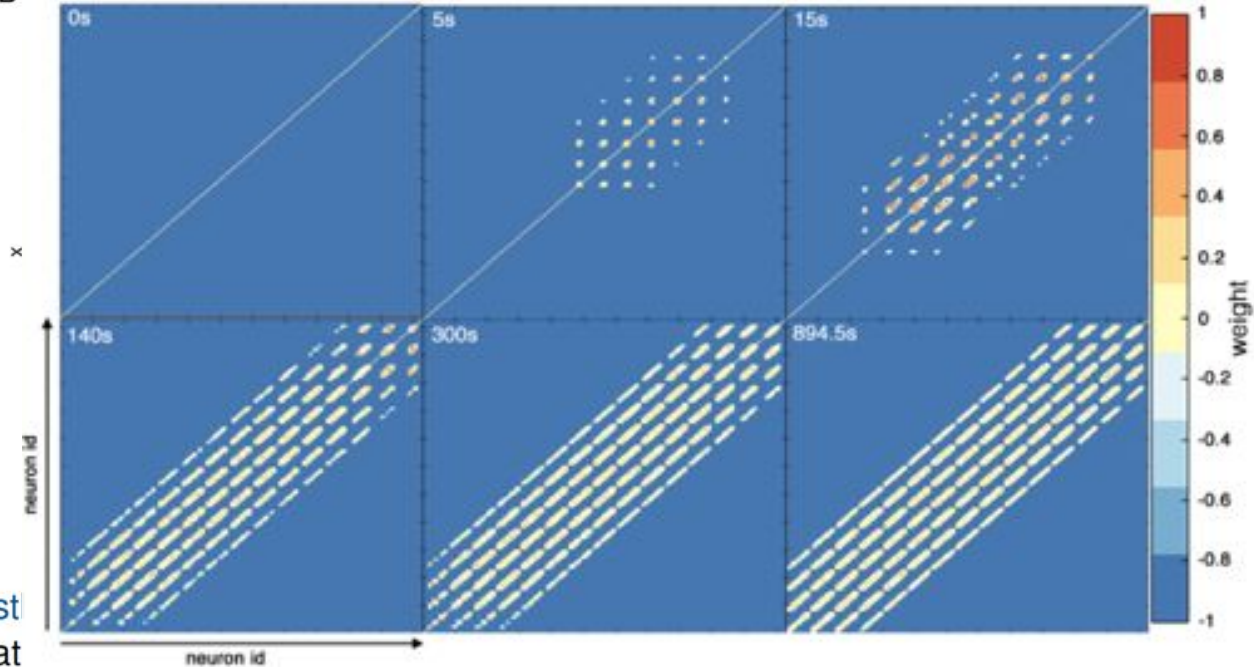
Model Learning in 15 Minutes

A

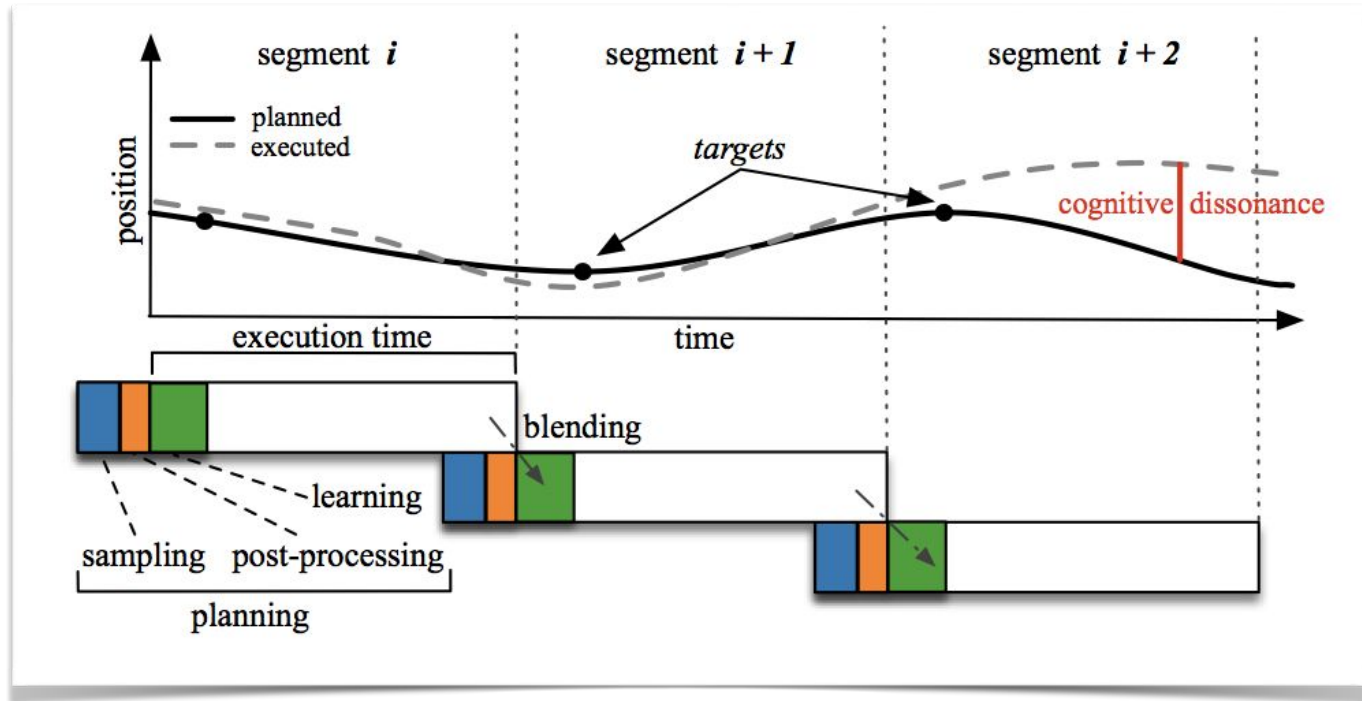


- training data recorded with kinest
- 15min of movements, sampled at

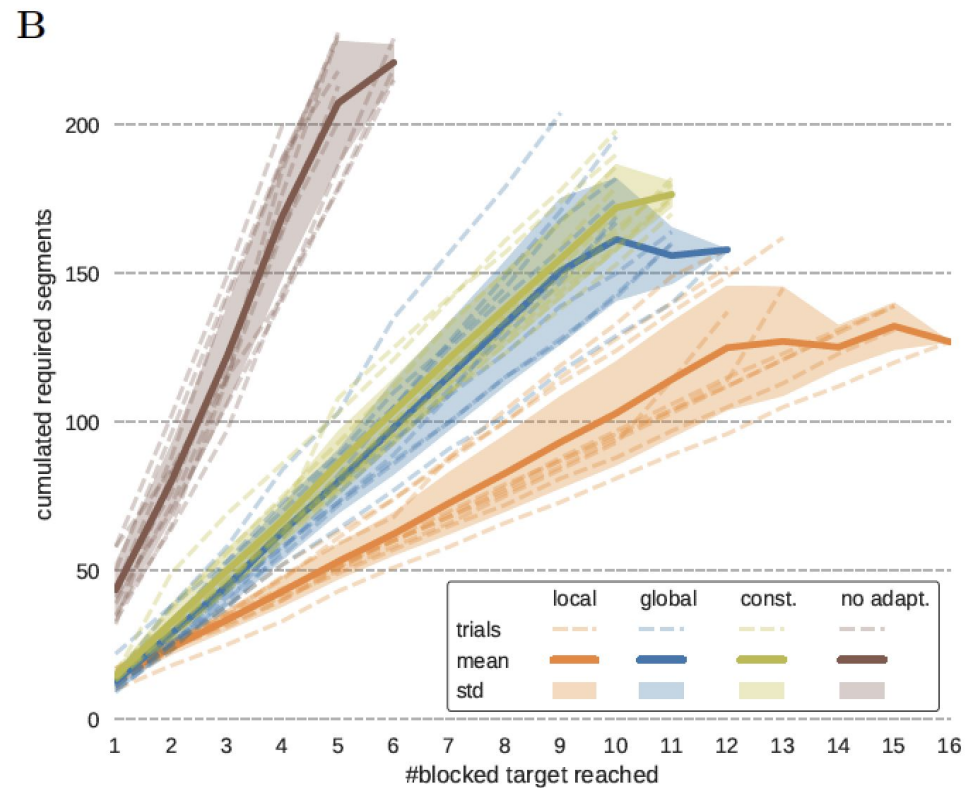
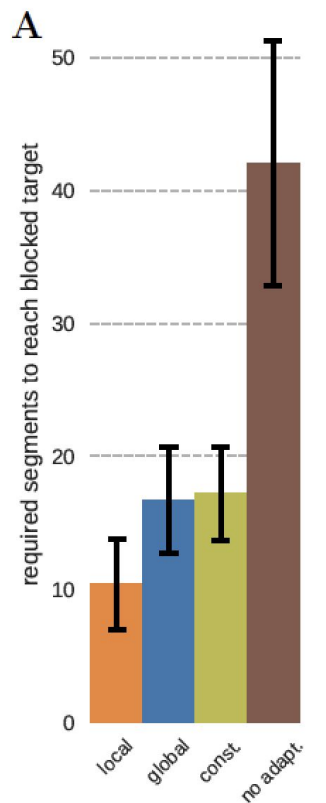
B



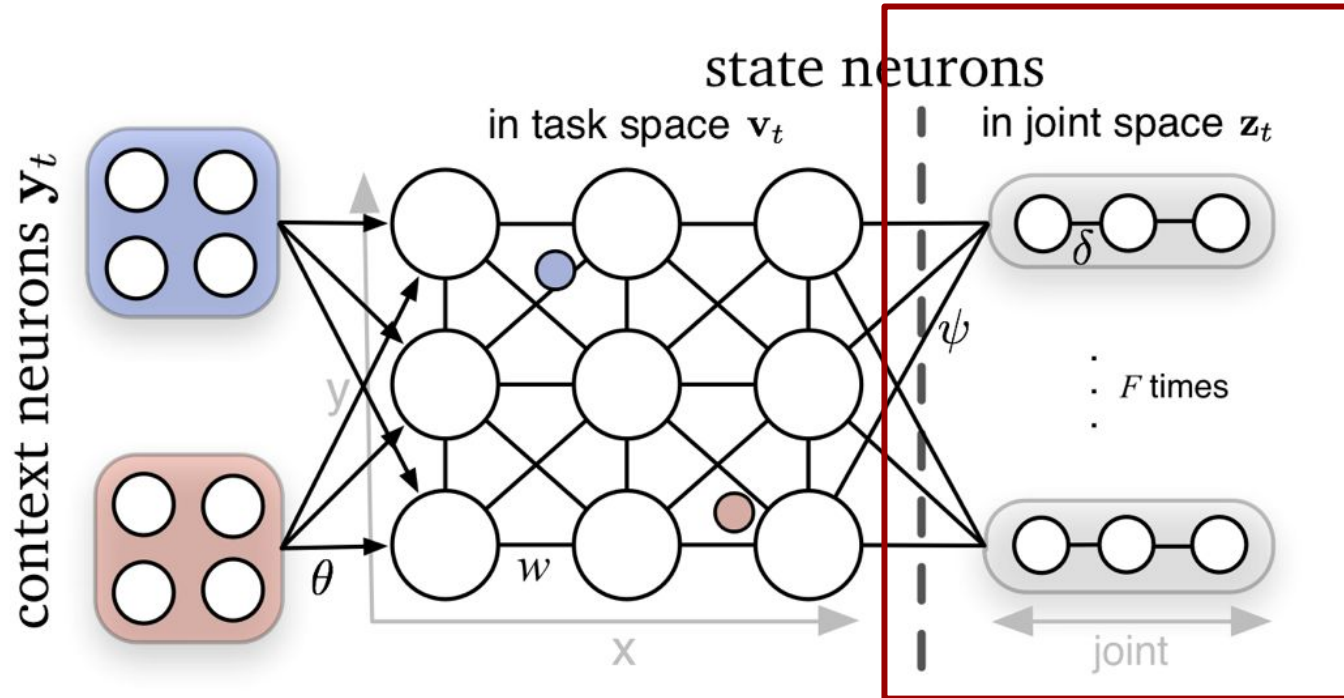
Real Time Adaptation and Control



Efficiency evaluation



Factorized population codes for > 2 dimensions





more at: <https://rob.ai-lab.science/publications/>

Tanneberg, Daniel; Peters, Jan; Rueckert, Elmar

Intrinsic Motivation and Mental Replay enable Efficient Online Adaptation in Stochastic Recurrent Networks [Journal Article](#)

Neural Networks - Elsevier, 2018, (Impact Factor of **7.197** - 2017).

Sosic, Adrian; Rueckert, Elmar; Peters, Jan; Zoubir, Abdelhak M; Koepl, Heinz

Inverse Reinforcement Learning via Nonparametric Spatio-Temporal Subgoal Modeling [Journal Article](#)

Journal of Machine Learning Research (JMLR), 2018.

Rueckert, Elmar; Kappel, David; Tanneberg, Daniel; Pecevski, Dejan; Peters, Jan

Recurrent Spiking Networks Solve Planning Tasks [Journal Article](#)

Nature Publishing Group: Scientific Reports, 6 (21142), 2016, (Impact Factor of **4.122** - 2017)

Rueckert, Elmar; Neumann, Gerhard; Toussaint, Marc; Maass, Wolfgang

Learned graphical models for probabilistic planning provide a new class of movement primitives [Journal Article](#)

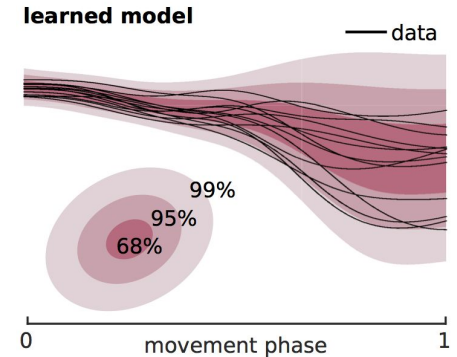
Frontiers in Computational Neuroscience, 6 (97), 2013.

Summary

1. How can humans learn new motor skills within few trials?

Learning probabilistic generative models that capture the correlations of multiple joints/signals.

- For **noisy** and **high** dimensional **human** and **robot** data.
- Can exploit **correlations** for **predictions**.
- Low dimensional **feature** representation for **learning**.
- Generative model of **stroke-based** and **rhythmic** movements with **feedback**.

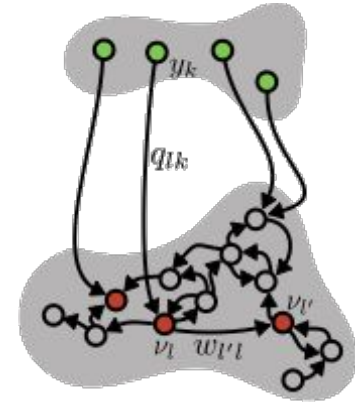


Summary

1. How do humans solve cognitive reasoning tasks in huge spaces?

Learning stochastic neural networks grounded in the probabilistic inference framework.

- Simultaneously learning **forward, inverse kinematics** and **state transition models** through kinesthetic teaching.
- Implements **optimal planning** through reinforcement learning.
- **Online adaptation** in few seconds from **intrinsic motivation** signals.
- Model **predictive control** implementation on **real robots**.





- **Darmstadt:** Daniel Tanneberg, Svenja Stark, Gerhard Neumann, Alexandros Paraschos, Roberto Calandra, Jan Peters, Rudolf Lioutikov, Marc Deisenroth, Serena Ivaldi, Tucker Hermans, Philipp Beckerle, Valerio Modugno, Jan Mundo, David Sharma, Jan Kohlschuetter, Svenja Stark, Michael Schmidt, Max Mindt



- **Tübingen:** Moritz Grosse-Wentrup, Martin Giese



- **Ljubijana:** Jan Babic, Jernej Camernik



- **Birmingham:** Michael Mistry, Morteza Azad



- **Graz:** Wolfgang Maass, Robert Legenstein, David Kappel, Dejan Pecevski

Birmingham: Jeremy Wyatt, Michael Mistry, Morteza Azad, **Rome:** Andrea d'Avella and Yuri Ivanenko,
Stuttgart: Marc Toussaint, **Bielefeld:** Thomas Schack, Jochen Steil, **Genua:** Francesco Nori, Lorenzo Natale



More information about the course content..

Books:

- Bishop 2006. **Pattern Recognition and Machine Learning**, *Springer*.
- Barber 2007. **Bayesian Reasoning and Machine Learning**, *Cambridge University Press*.
- Murray, Li and Sastry 1994. **A mathematical introduction to robotic manipulation**, *CRC Press*.

5 copies at the ZHB

free online version

free online version

Video Lectures:

- videlectures.net on *Gaussian Processes, Inference and Reinforcement Learning*
- coursea.org on *Robotics*

Related lecture notes:

- [Humanoid Robotics](#) by Prof. Dr. Maren Bennewitz, University of Bonn.
- [Lecture notes on learning methods](#) by Prof. Dr. Marc Toussaint, University Stuttgart.
- [Lecture notes on dynamics](#) by Prof. Dr. Russ Tedrake, Massachusetts Institute of Technology.



Thank you for your attention!

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