



OpenAI

# Learning Dexterity

OpenAI Robotics

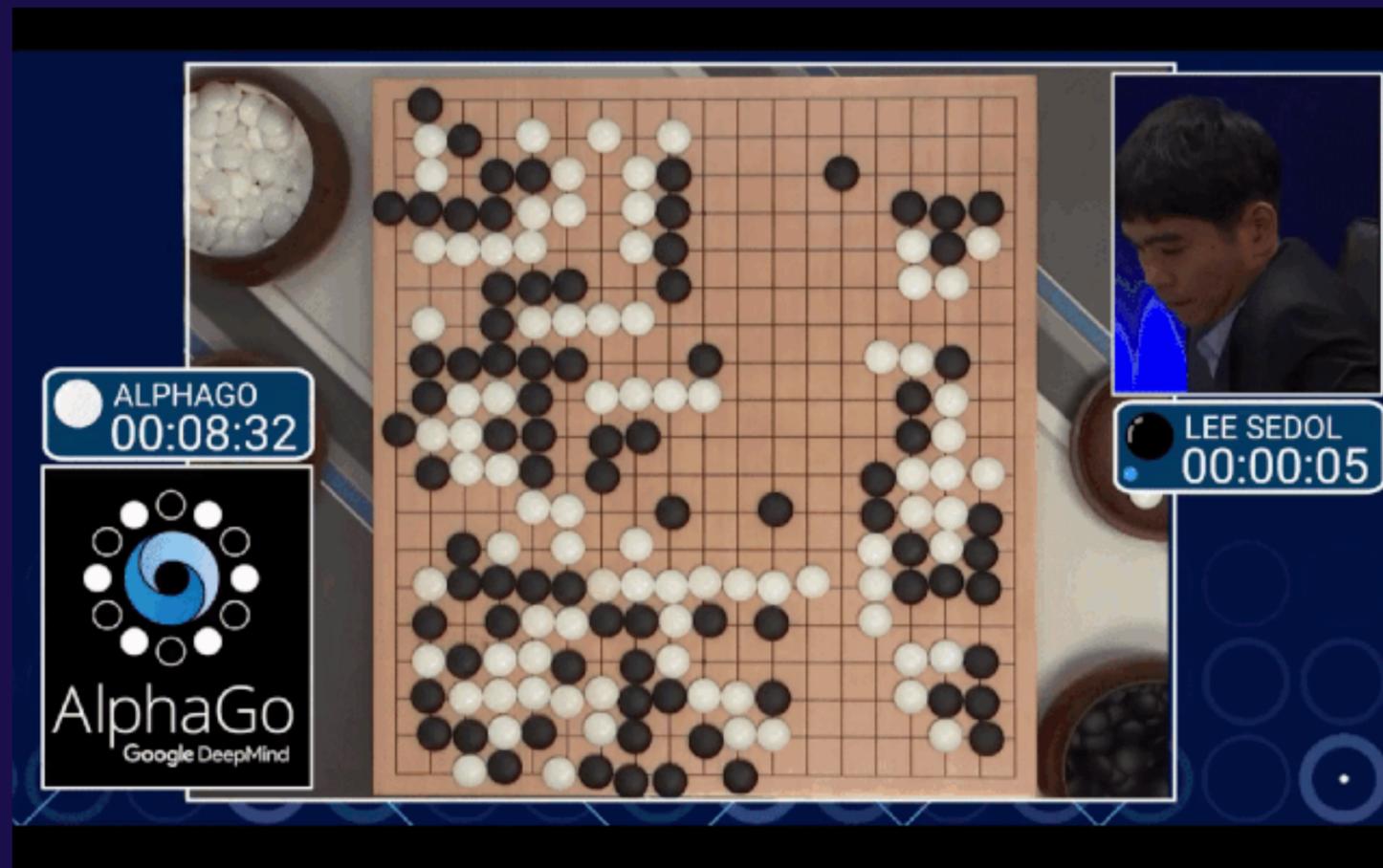
Alex Paino, Arthur Petron, Ilge Akkaya, Jerry Tworek, Jonas Schneider,  
Josh Tobin, Lilian Weng, Maciek Chociej, Mateusz Litwin, Matthias Plappert,  
Nikolas Tezak, Peter Welinder, Qiming Yuan, Wojciech Zaremba

**AUGUST, 2019**





# Reinforcement Learning (RL)

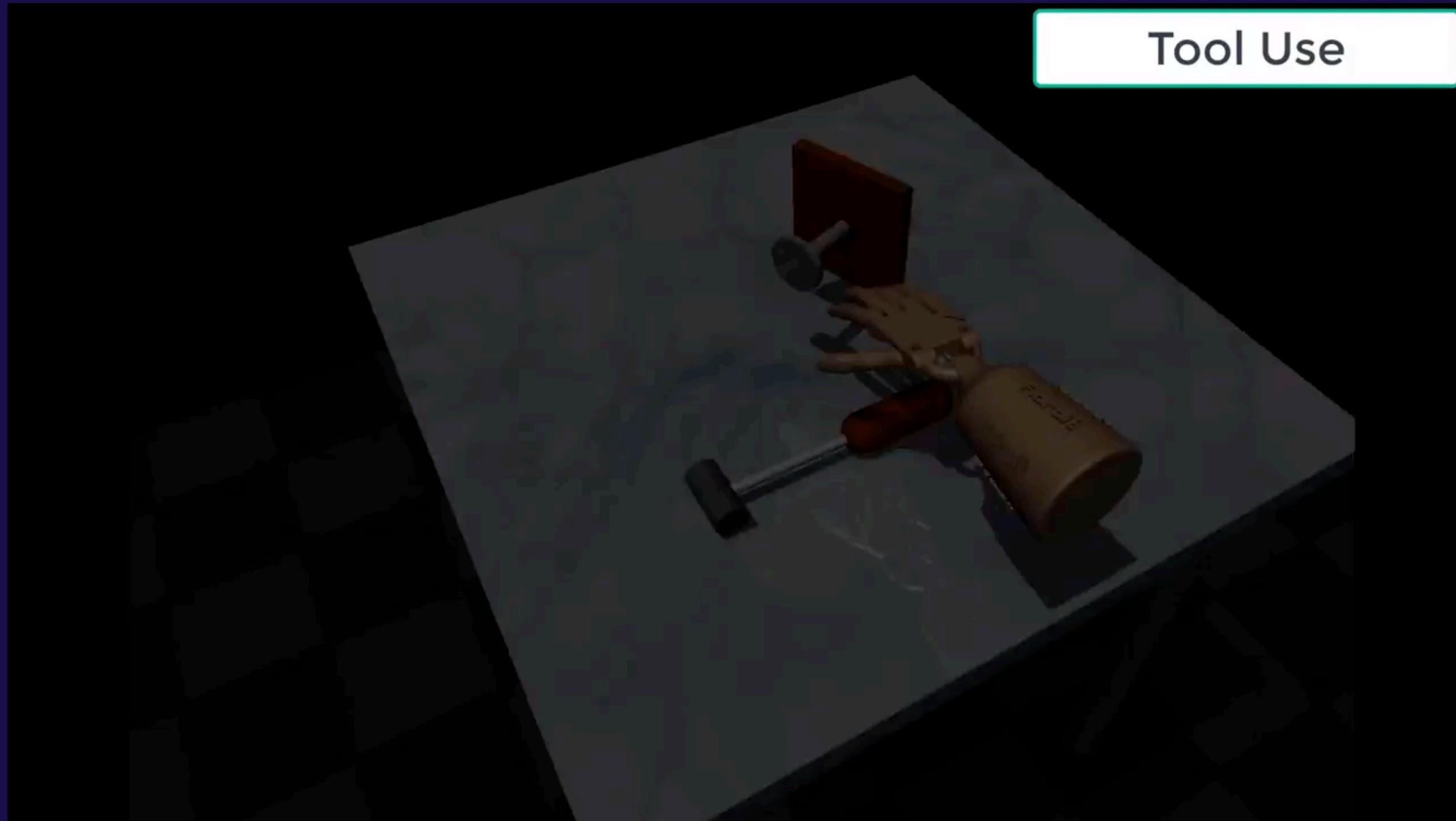


GO (ALPHAGO ZERO)



DOTA 2 (OPENAI FIVE)

# RL for Robotics (1)



Rajeswaran et al. (2017)

# RL for Robotics (2)

Learning progress (hardware platform)

Kumar et al. (2016)

# RL for Robotics (3)

Source: Peter Pastor

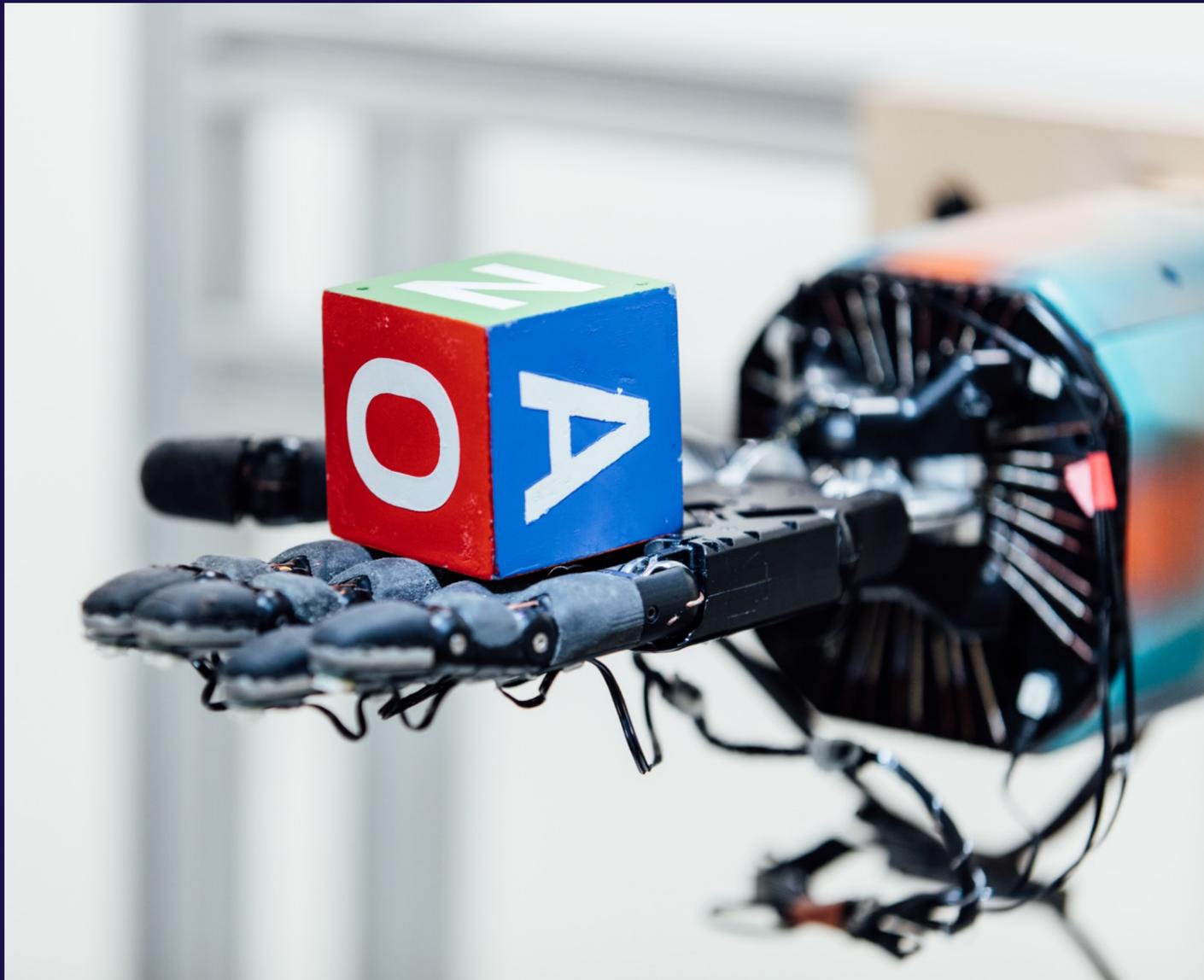


Levine et al. (2018)

Can we train complex policies  
only in simulation  
but still run on the real robot?

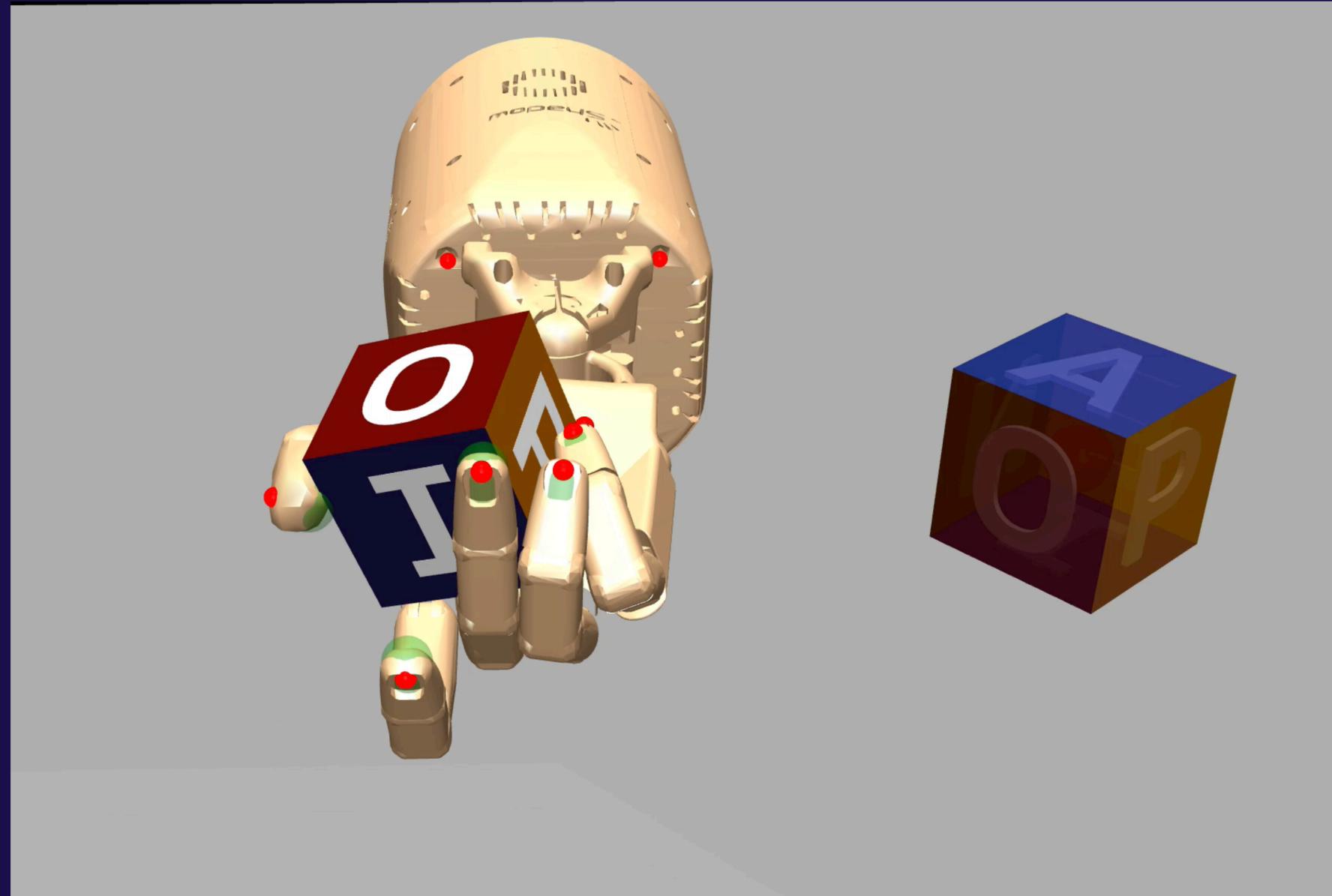
# Learning Dexterity

# Dexterous In-Hand Manipulation



- A humanoid 5-fingered hand
- A human hand is a universal end-effector
- Long standing unachieved goal for classical robotics

# Simulation



**Task: reorient the object in-hand**

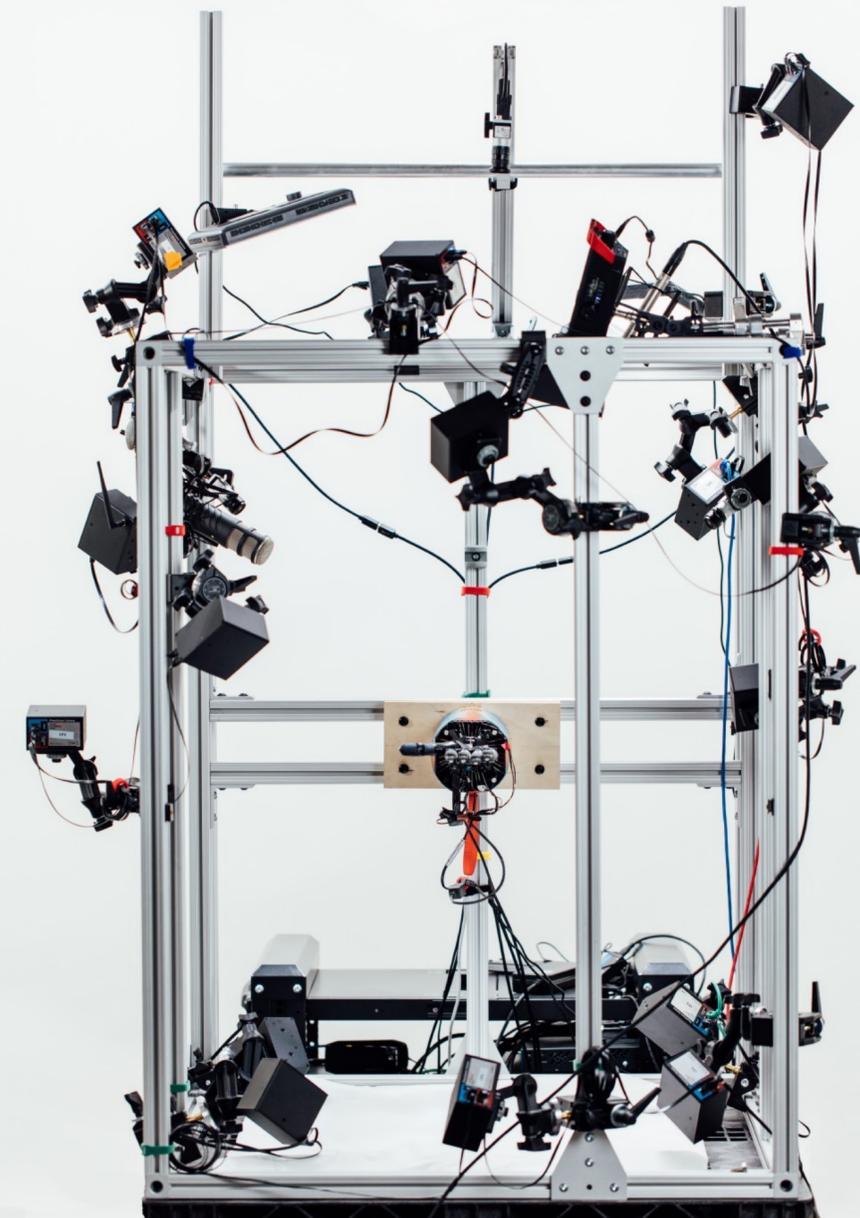
# Sim2Real

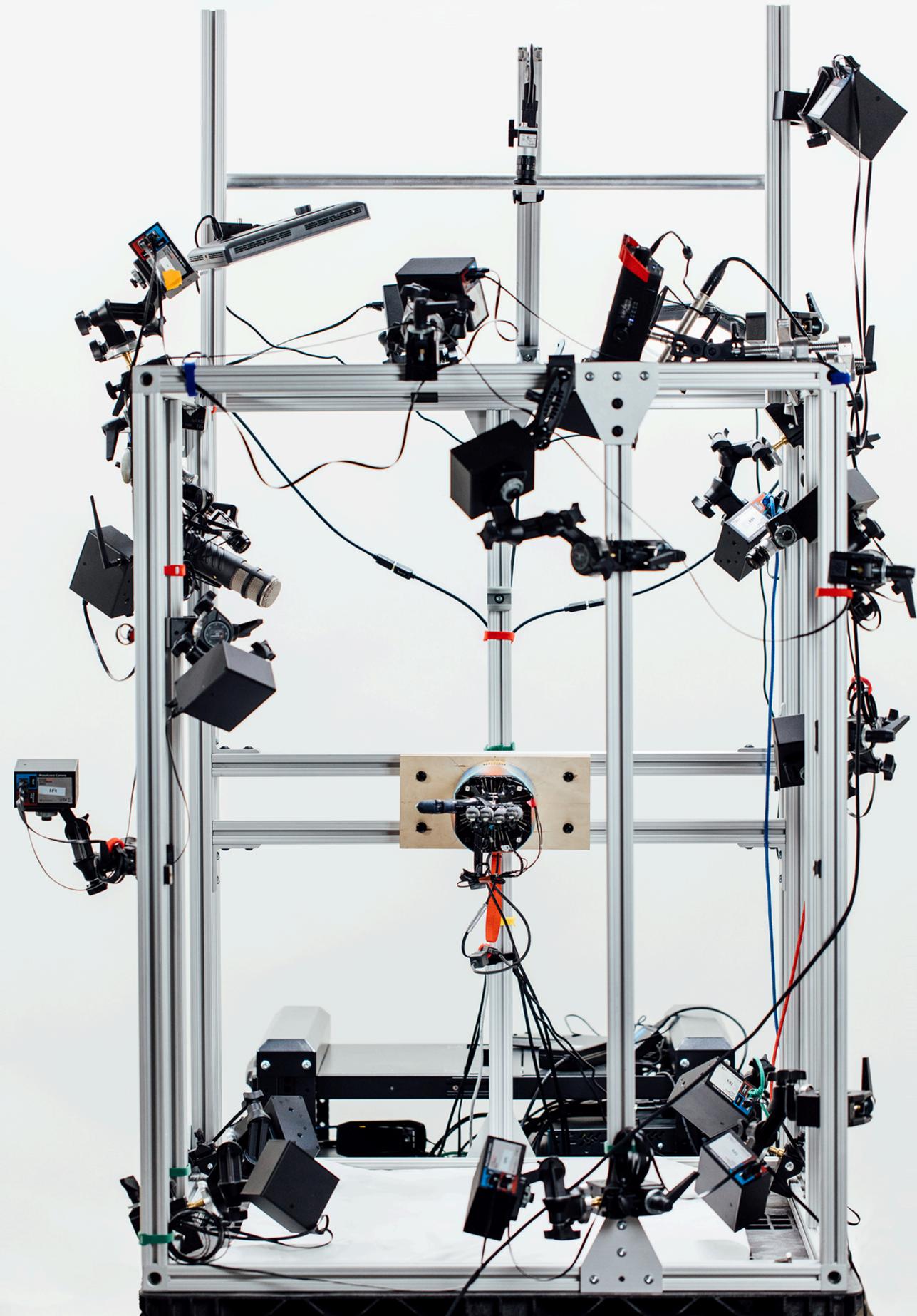
SIMULATION ENVIRONMENT

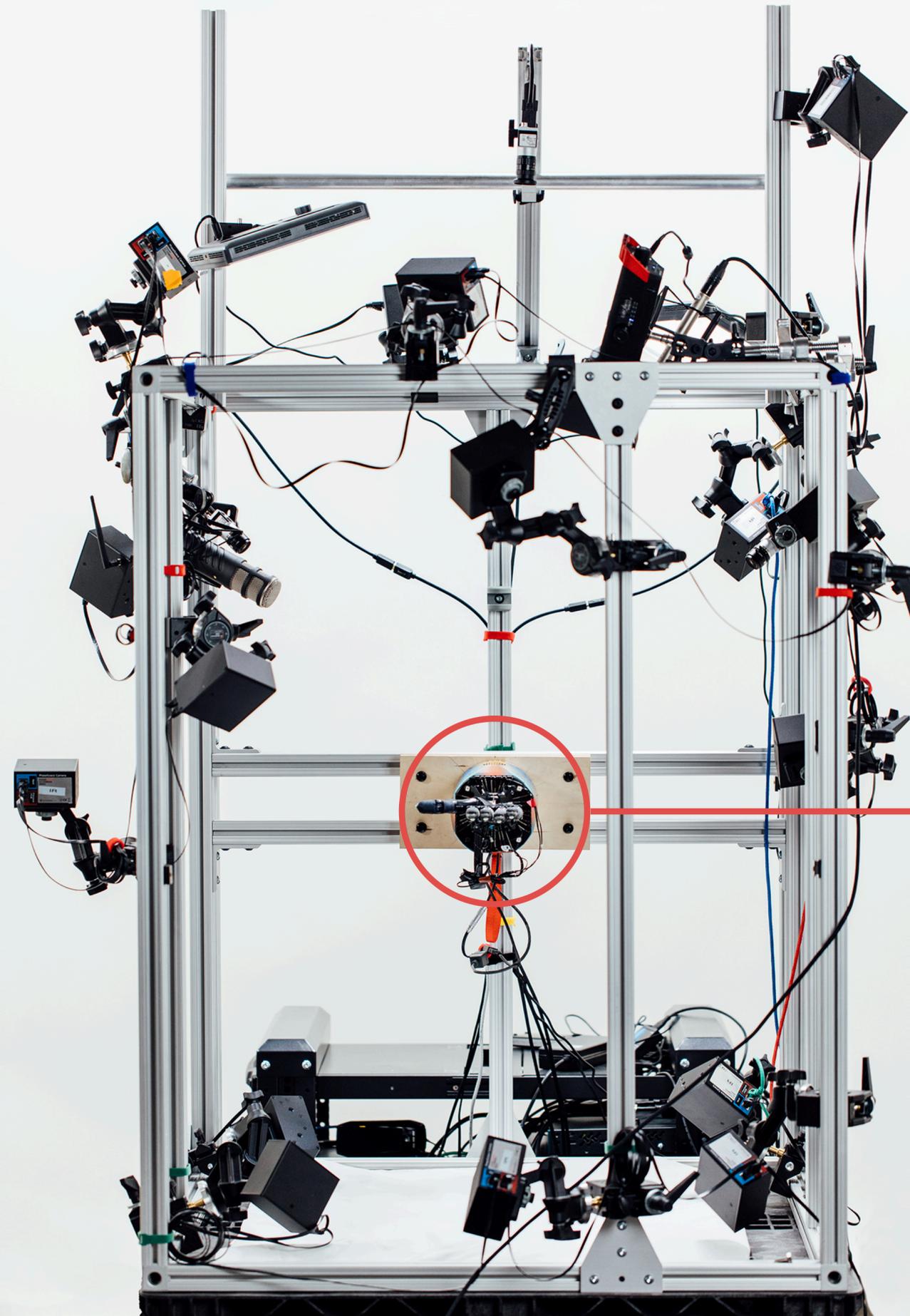


Transfer

REAL-WORLD ENVIRONMENT

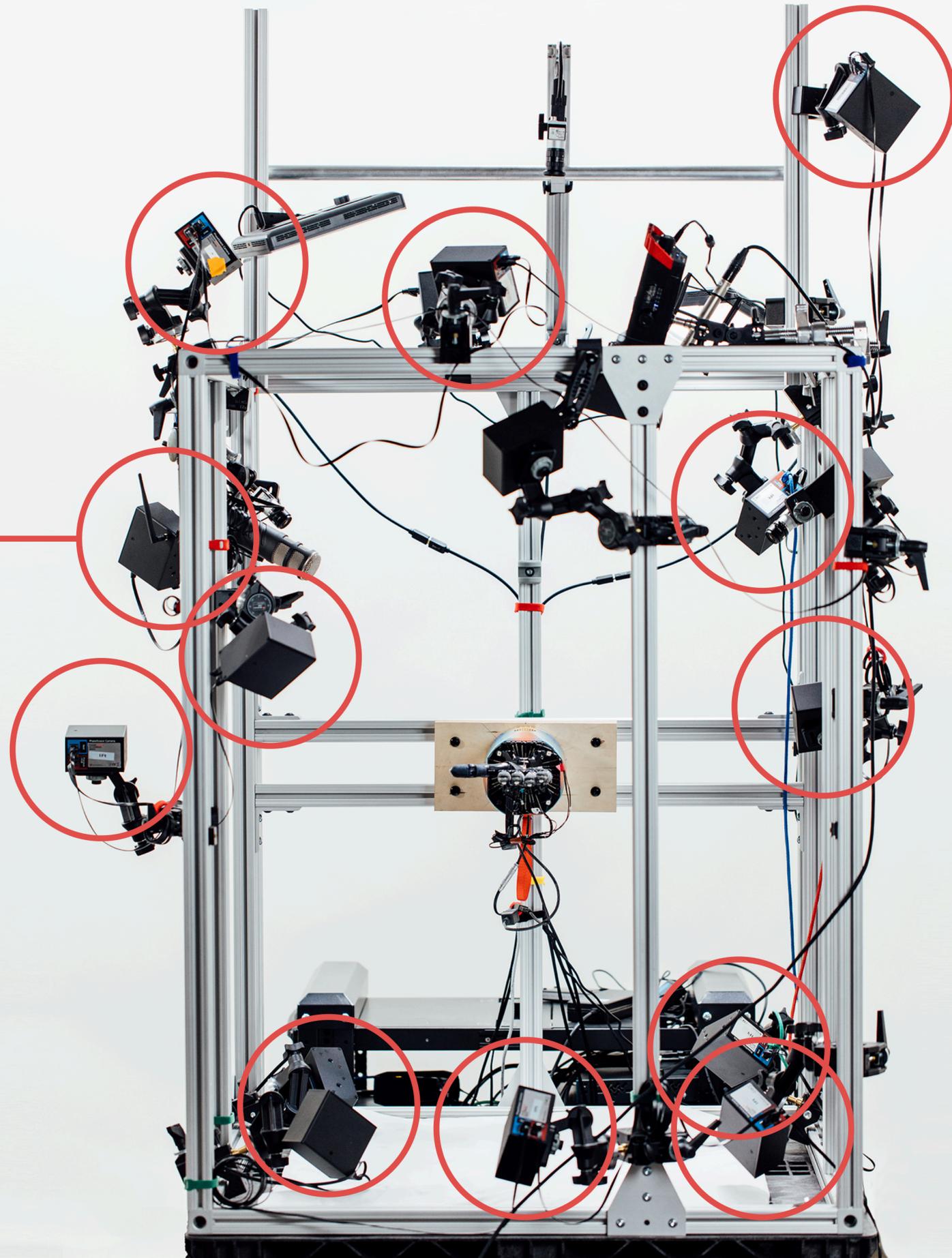




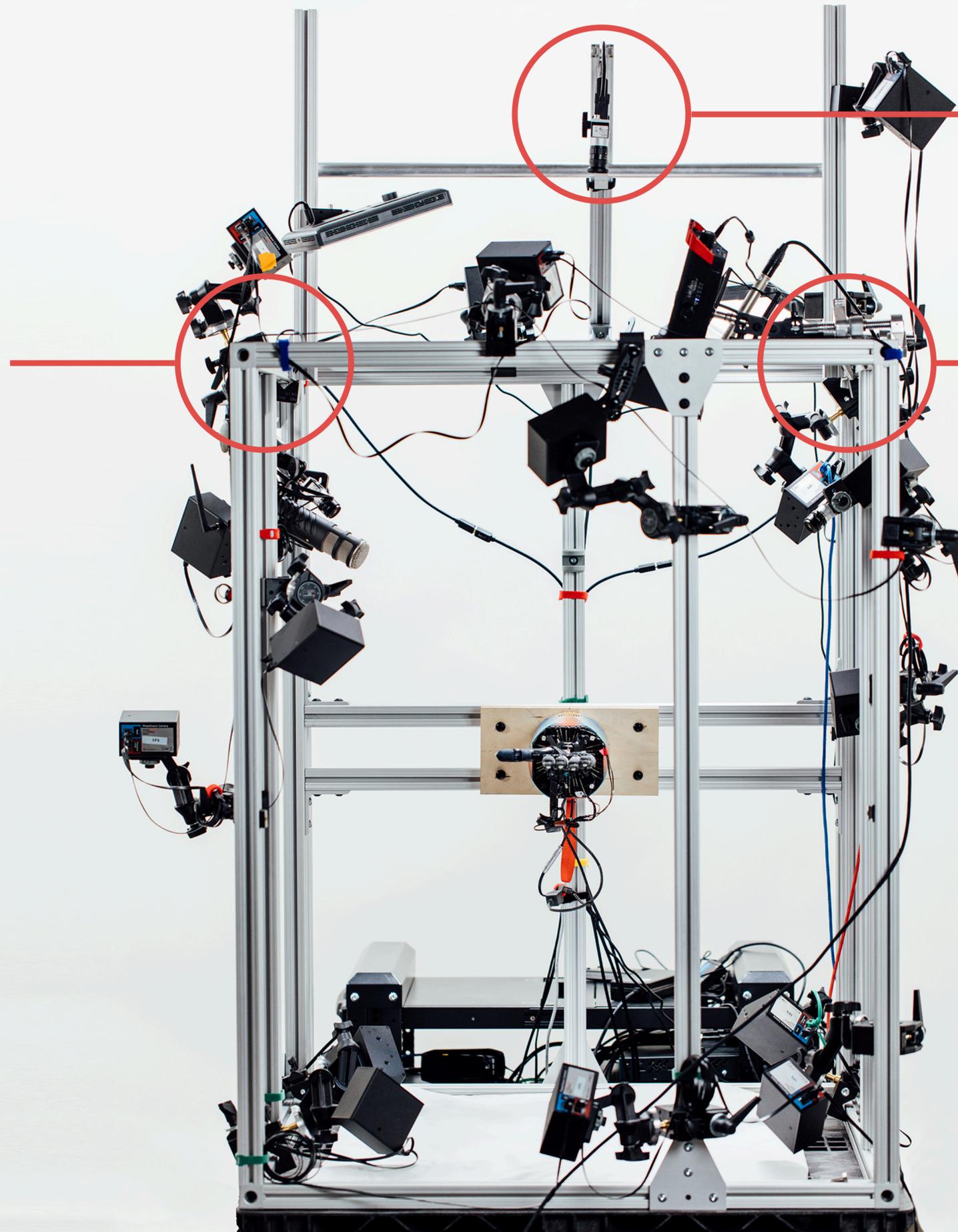


**Shadow Dexterous Hand**

PhaseSpace tracking

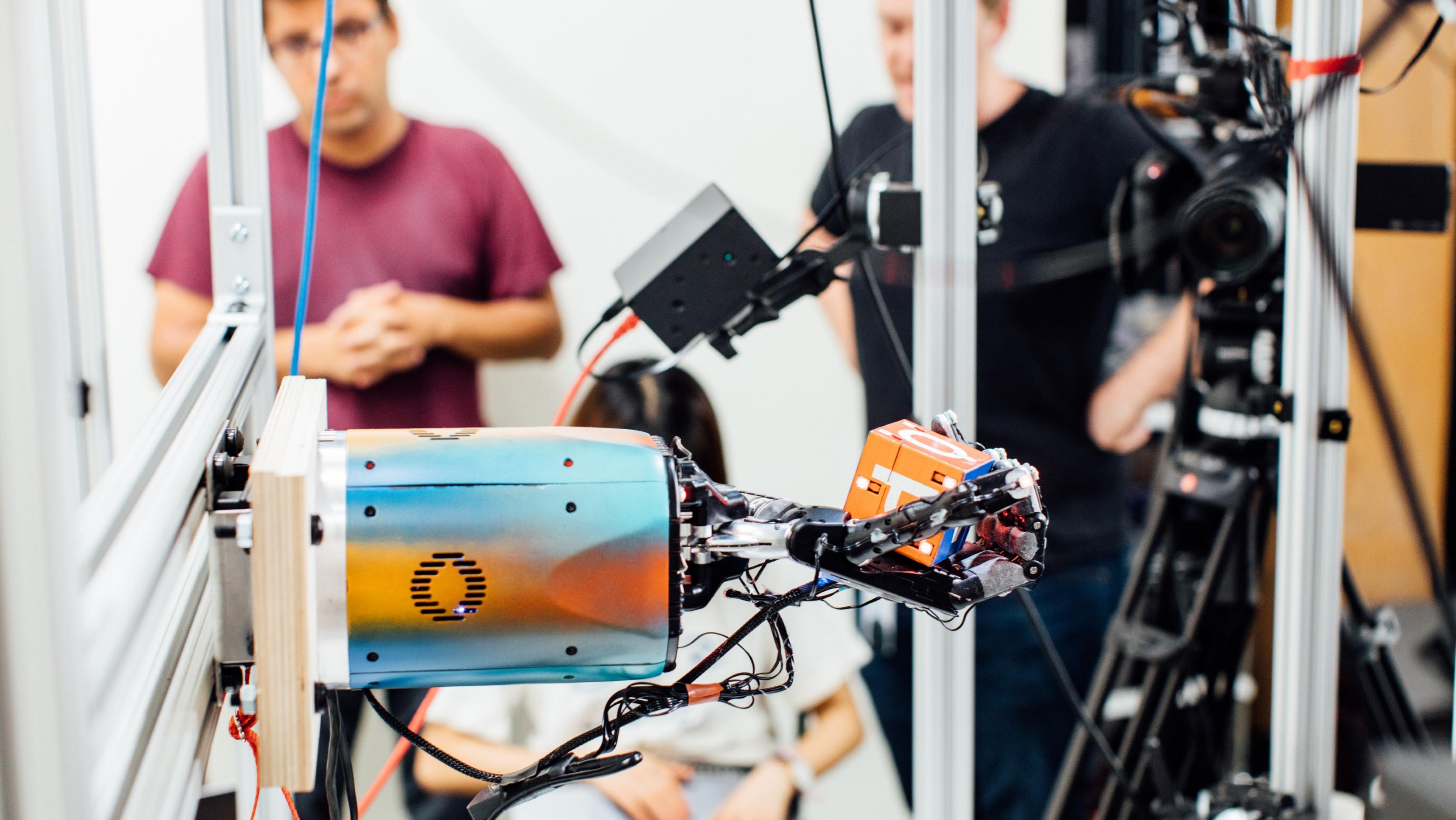


Right RGB camera



Top RGB camera

Left RGB camera



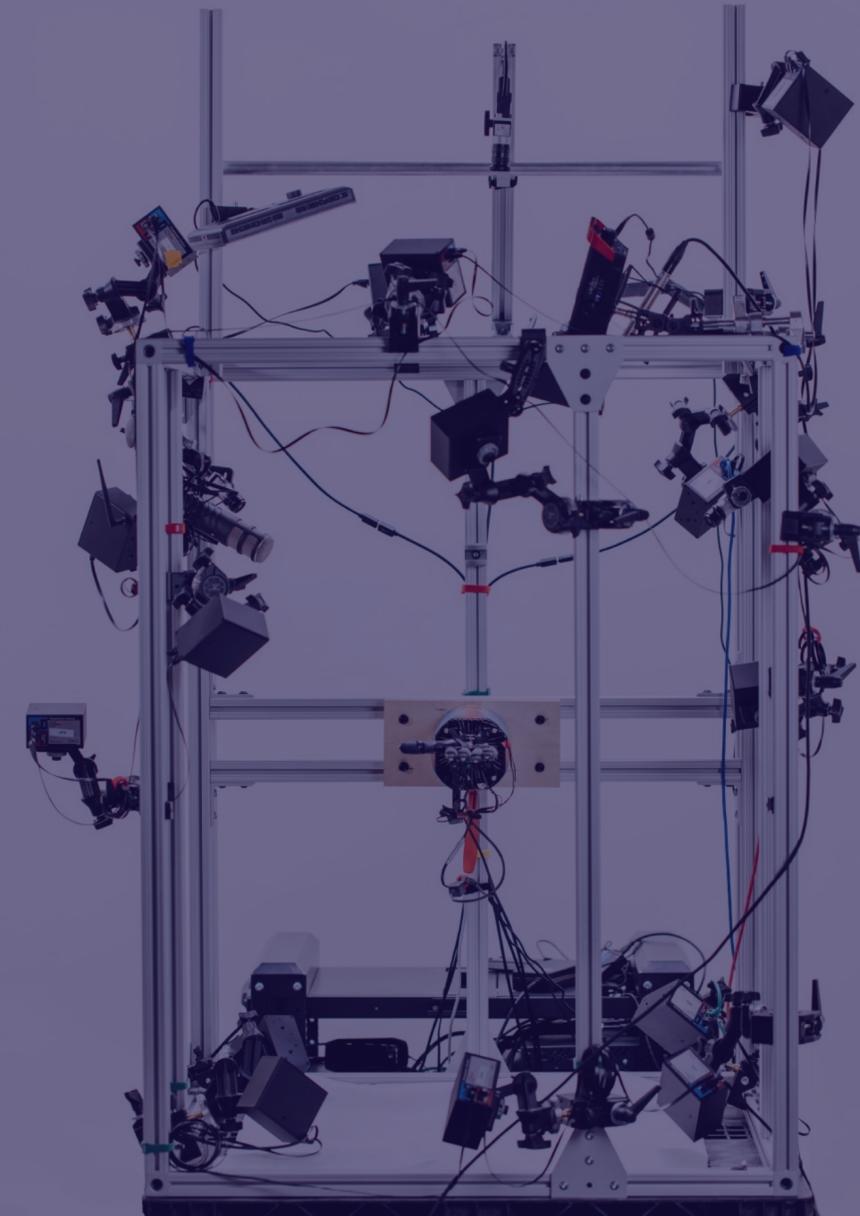
# Sim2Real

SIMULATION ENVIRONMENT



Transfer

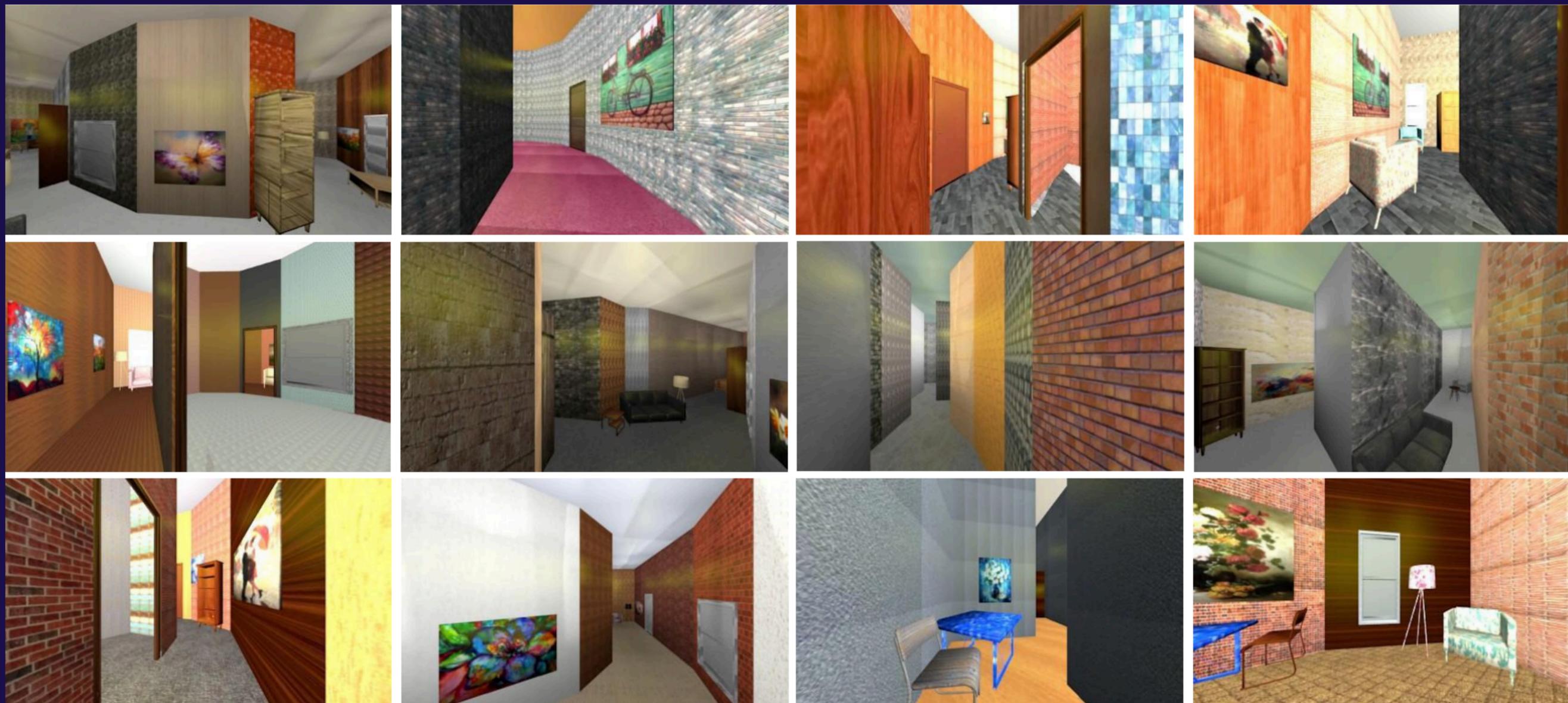
REAL-WORLD ENVIRONMENT



Reinforcement Learning  
+  
Domain Randomization

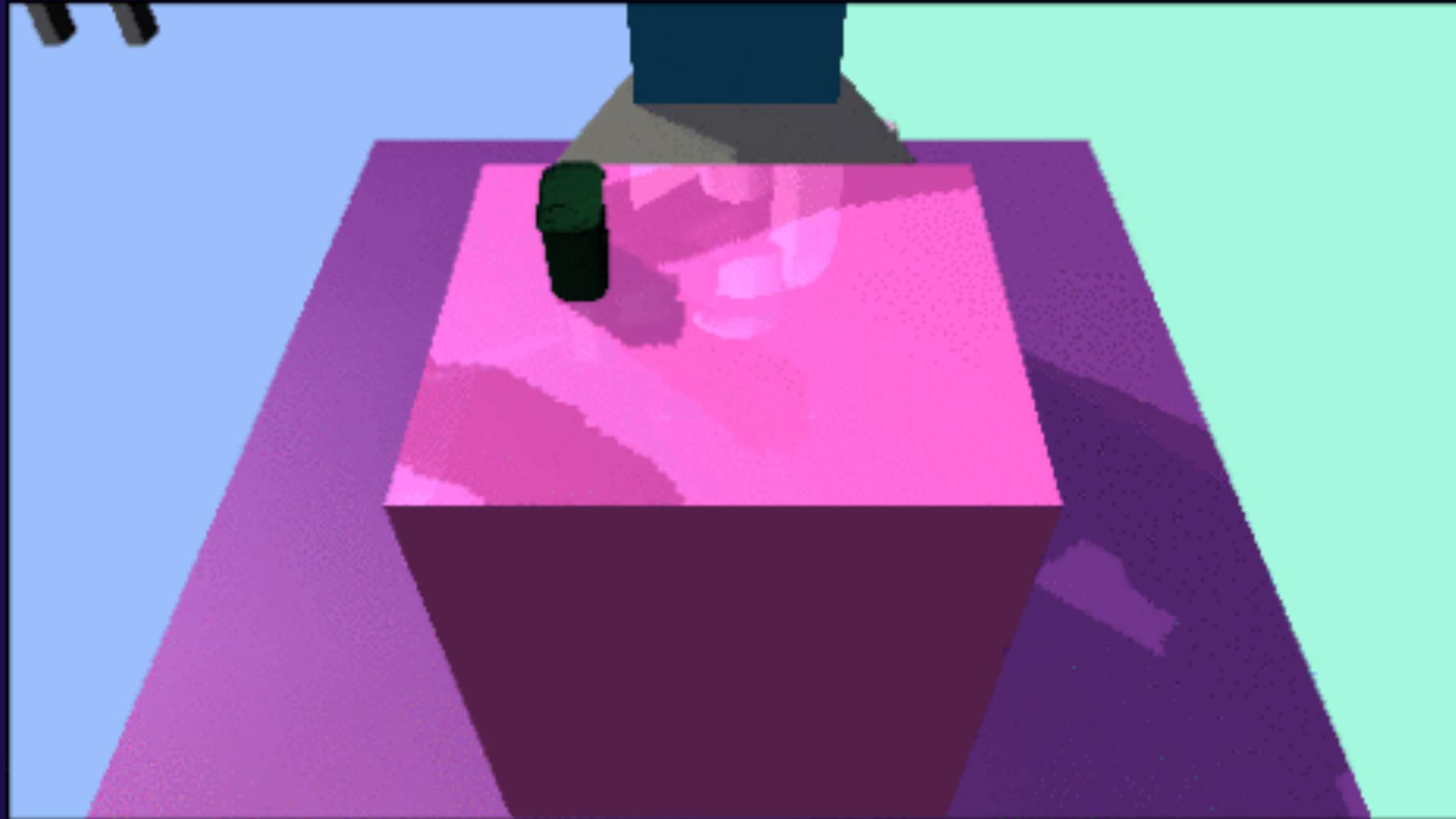
# Domain Randomization

# Domain Randomization



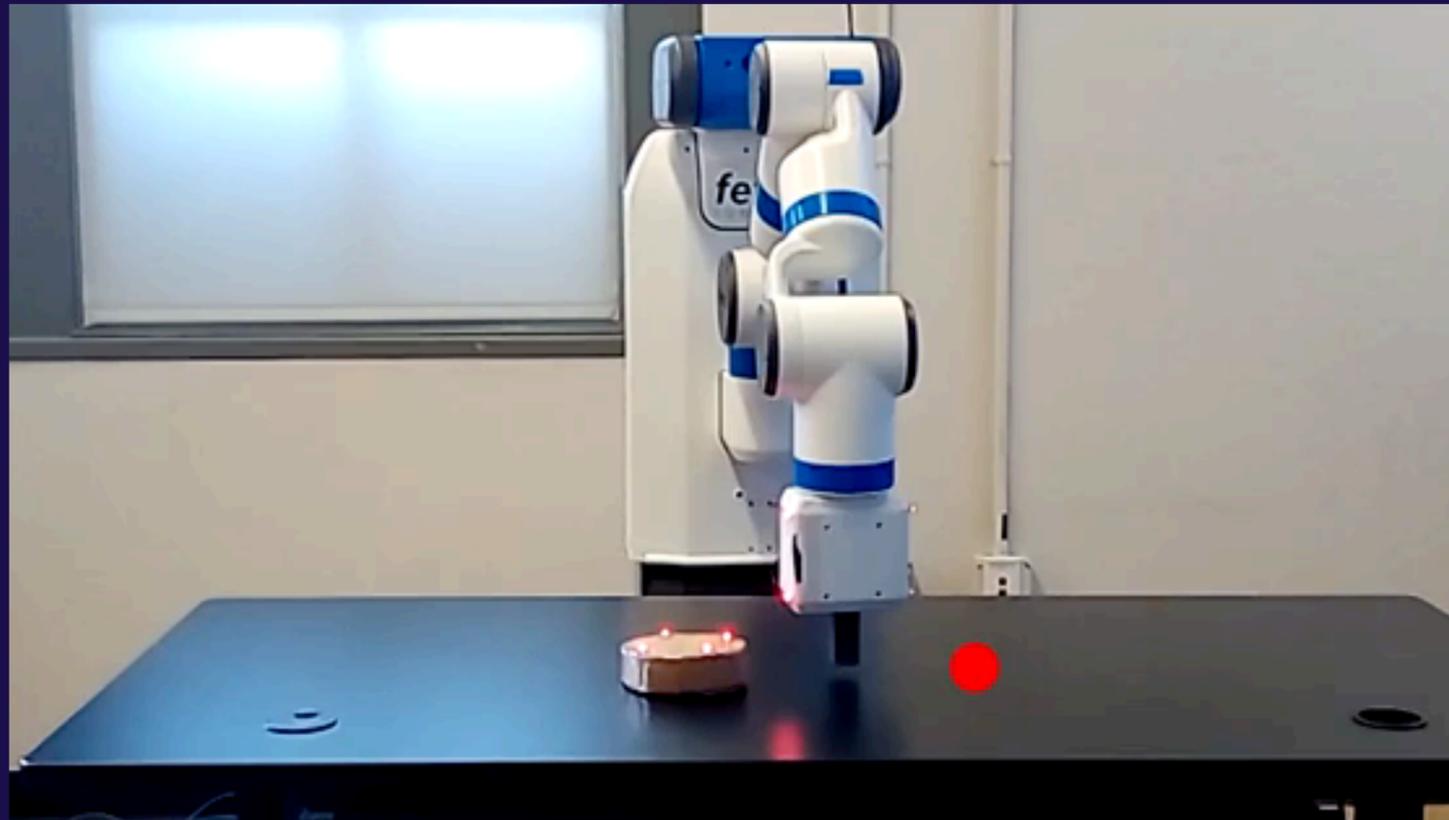
Sadeghi & Levine (2016)

# Domain Randomization

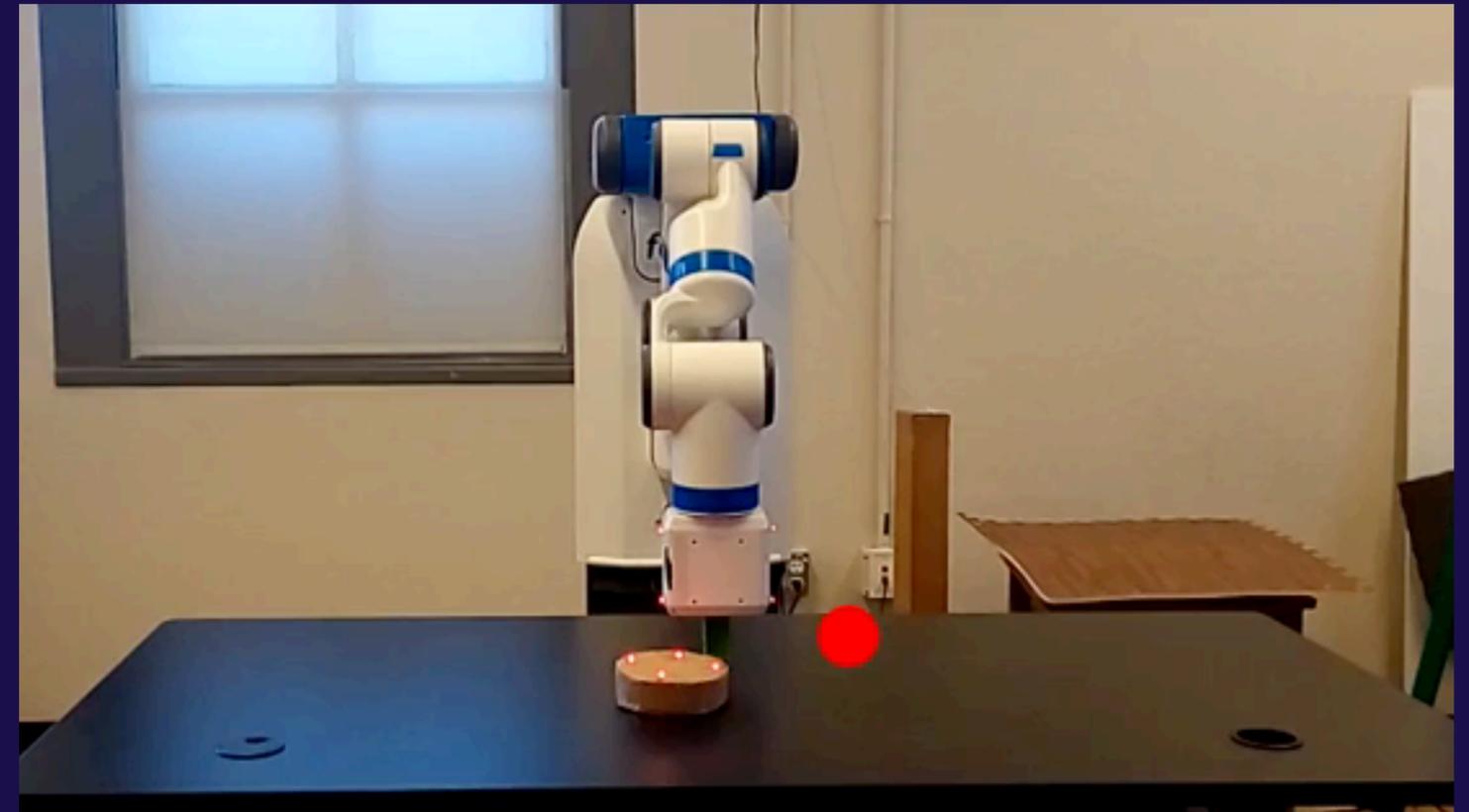


Tobin et al. (2017)

# Physics Randomization



Physics randomization



No randomizations

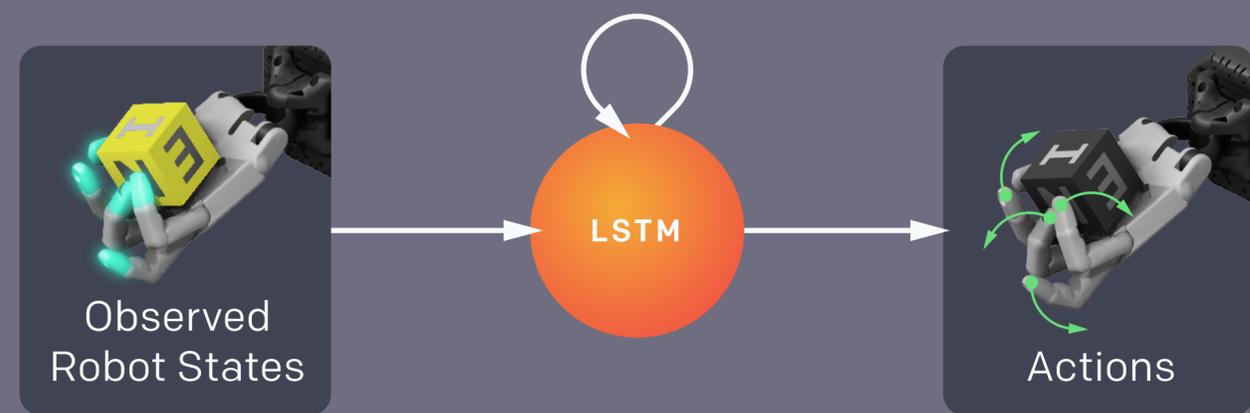
Peng et al. (2017)

# Our Approach

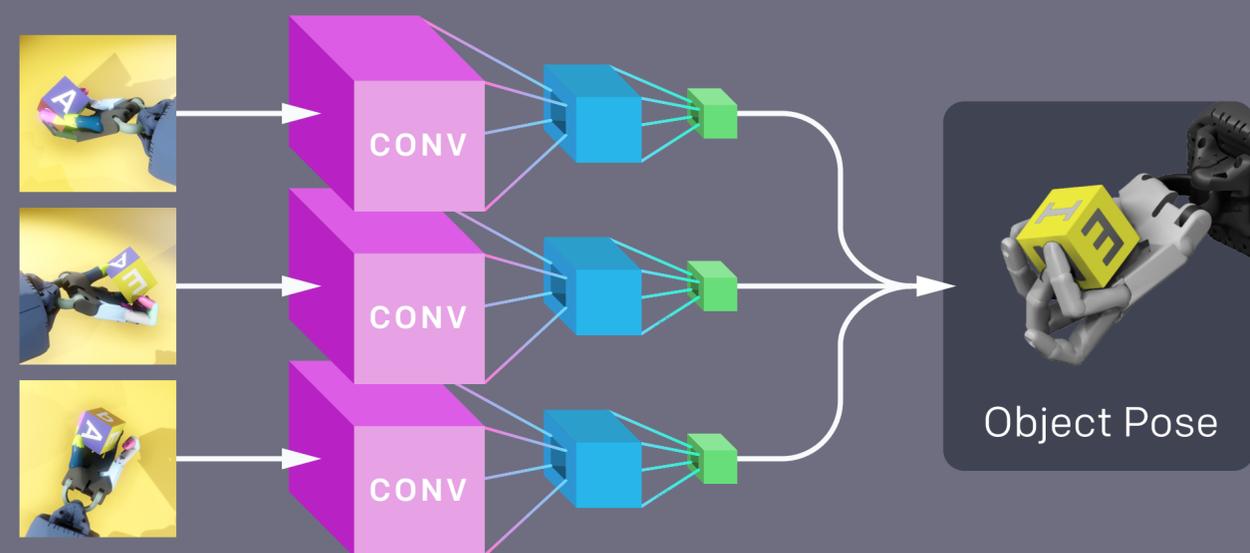
**A** Distributed workers collect experience on randomized environments at large scale.



**B** We train a control policy using reinforcement learning. It chooses the next action based on fingertip positions and the object pose.



**C** We train a convolutional neural network to predict the object pose given three simulated camera images.



# Transfer to the Real World

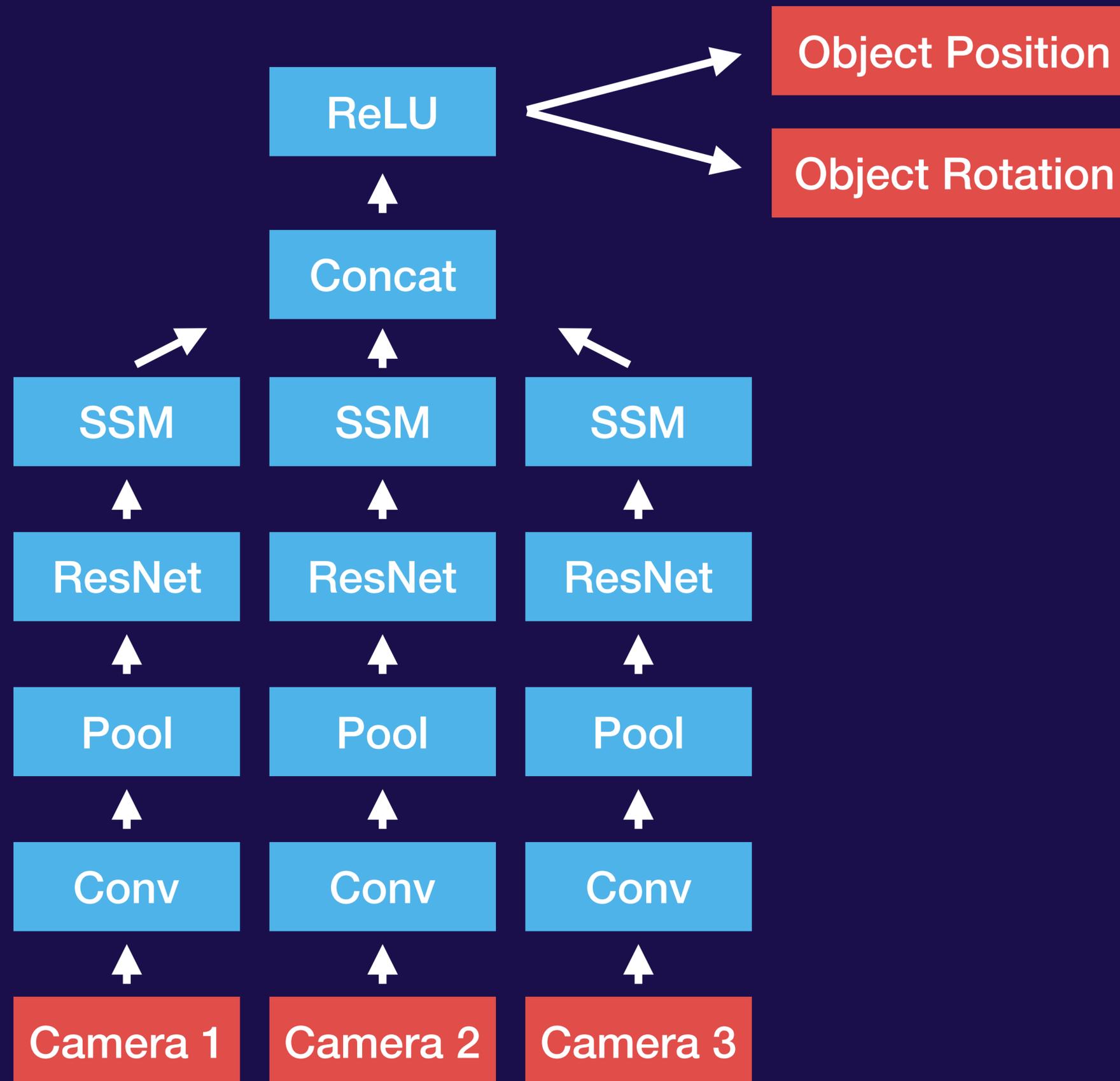
- D We combine the pose estimation network and the control policy to transfer to the real world.



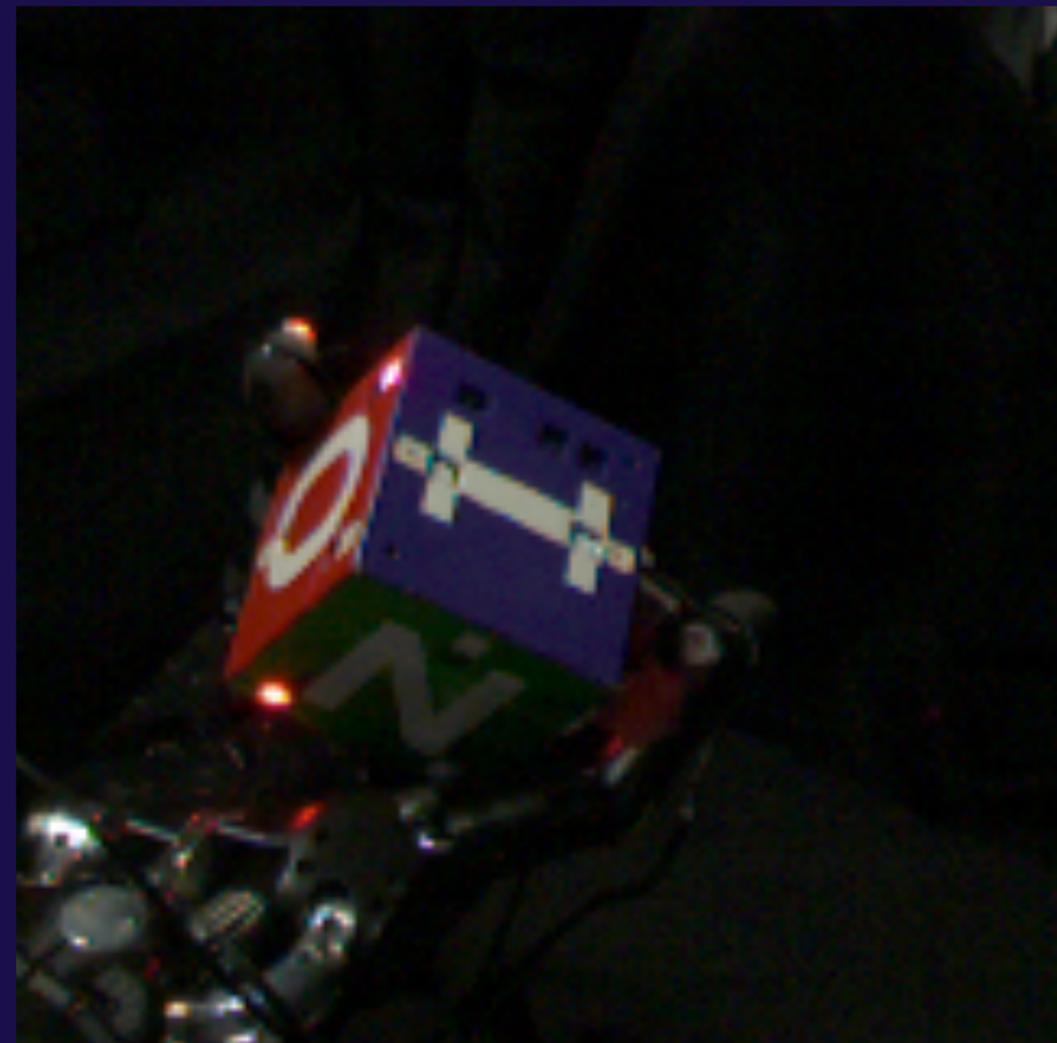
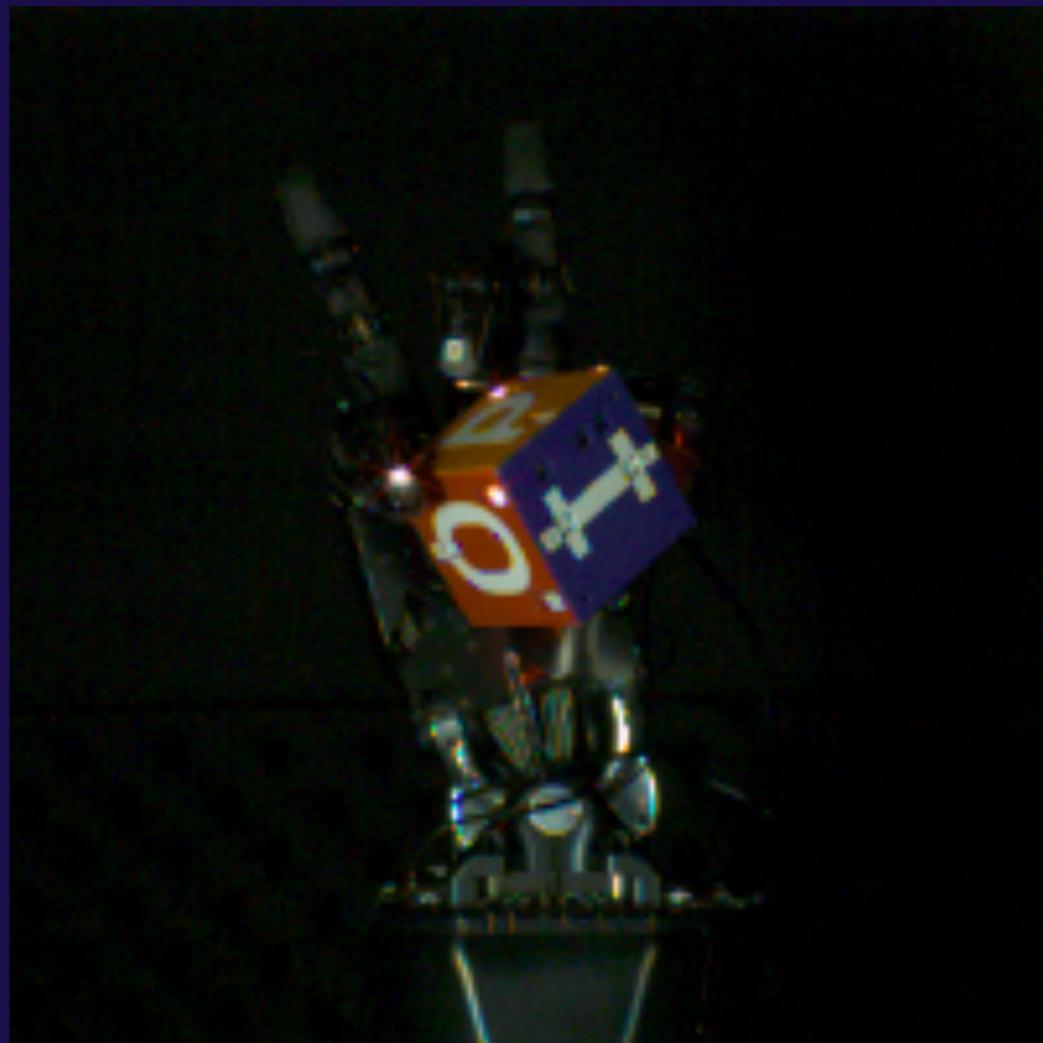
# Appearance Randomizations



# Vision Architecture



# What the Model Sees



# Physics Randomizations

**object dimensions**

**object and robot link masses**

**surface friction coefficients**

**robot joint damping coefficients**

**actuator force gains**

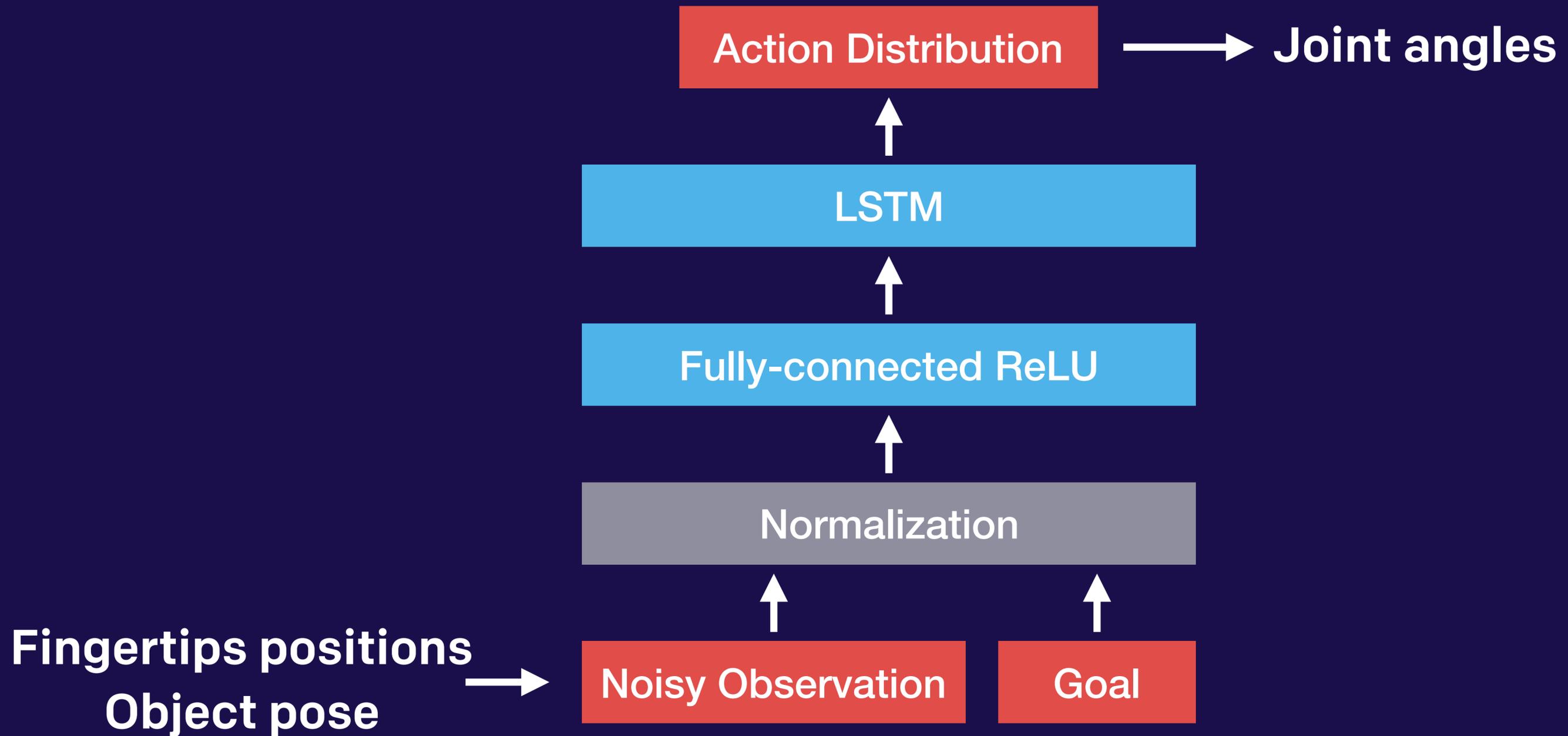
**joint limits**

**gravity vector**

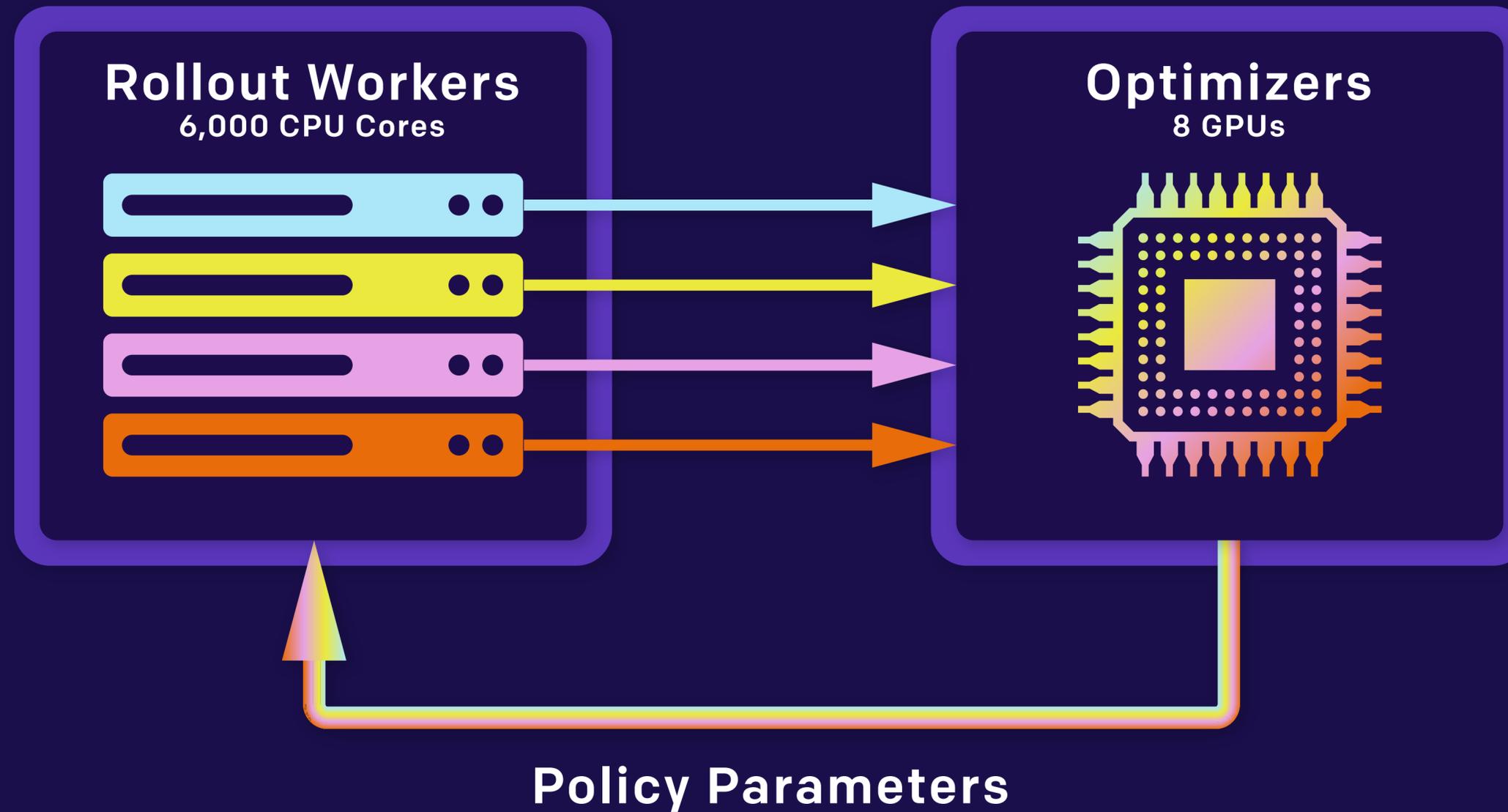
**noisy observations**

**noisy actions**

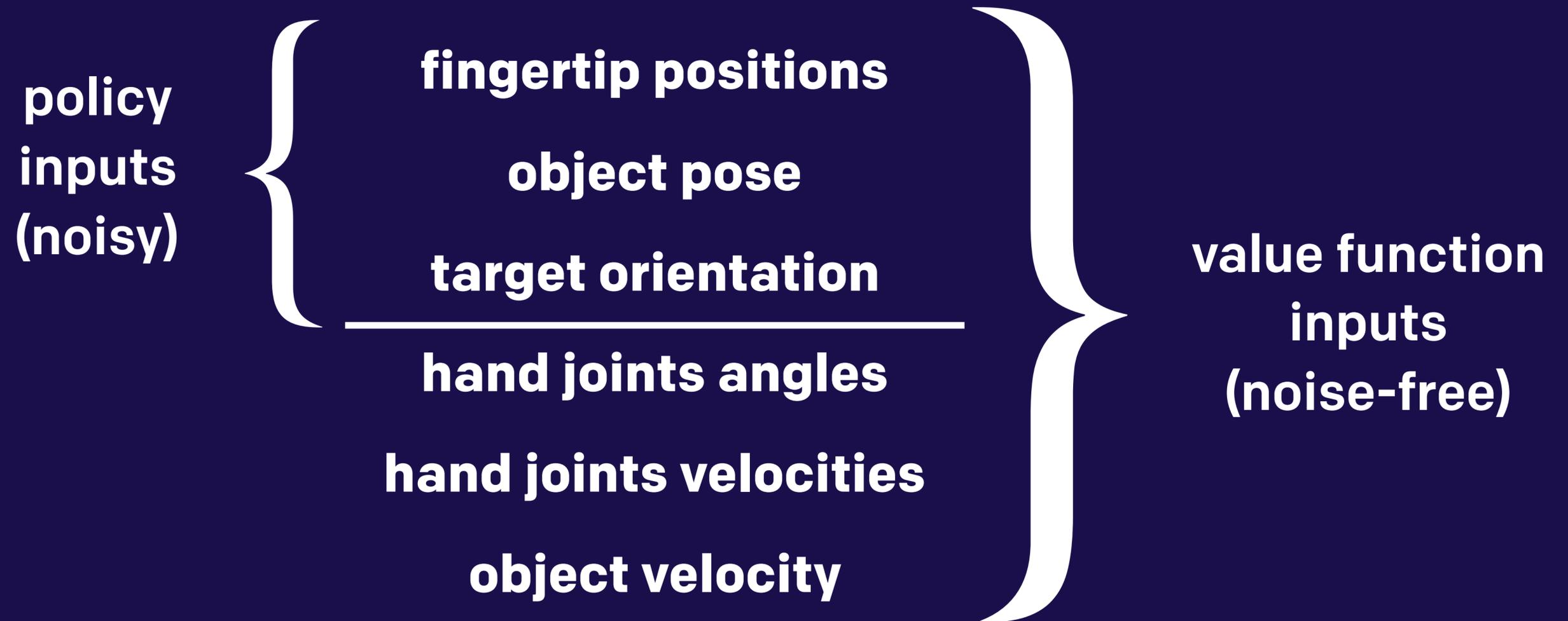
# Policy Architecture



# Distributed Training with PPO



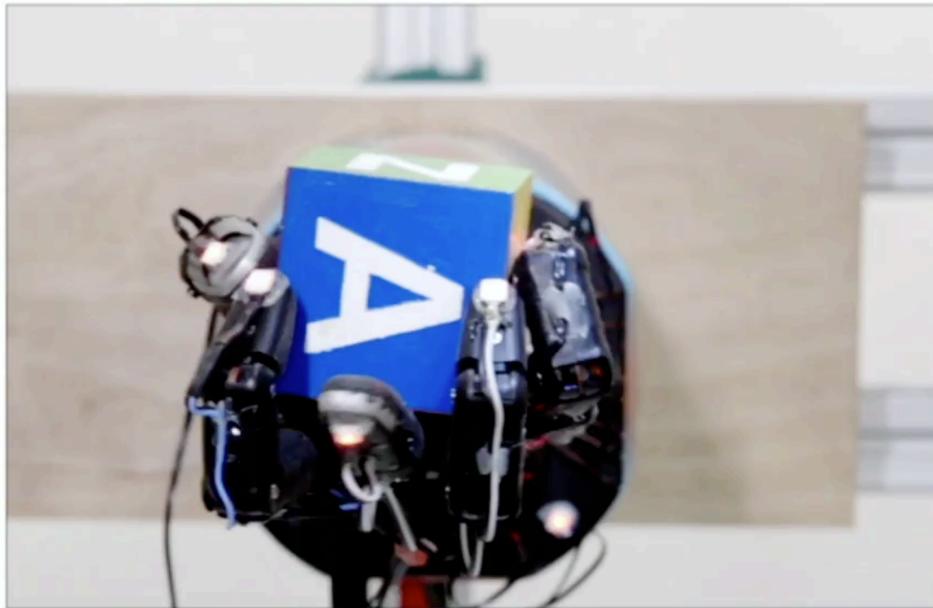
# Value Function



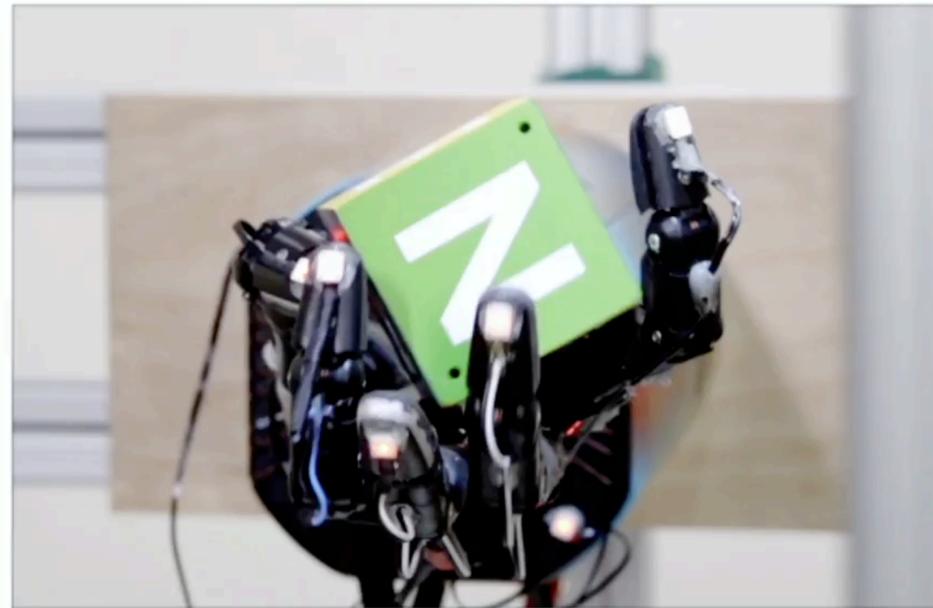
# Results



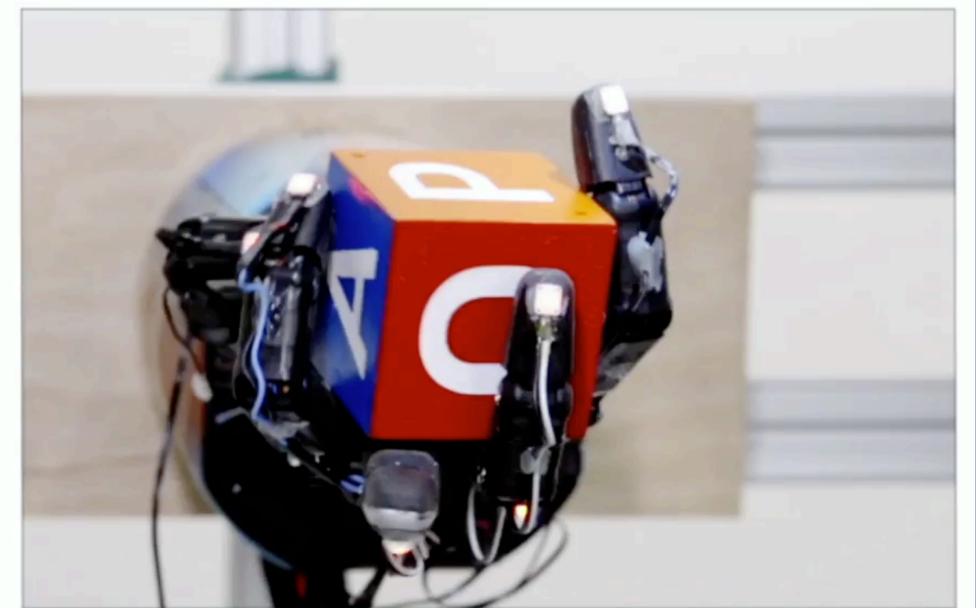
# Emergent Behaviors



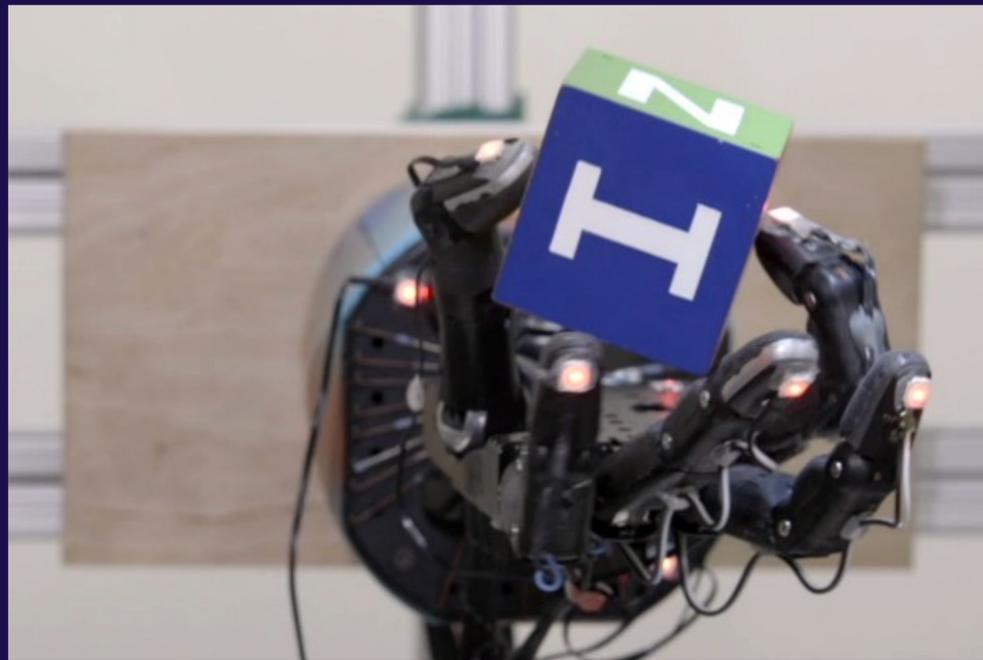
**FINGER PIVOTING**



**SLIDING**



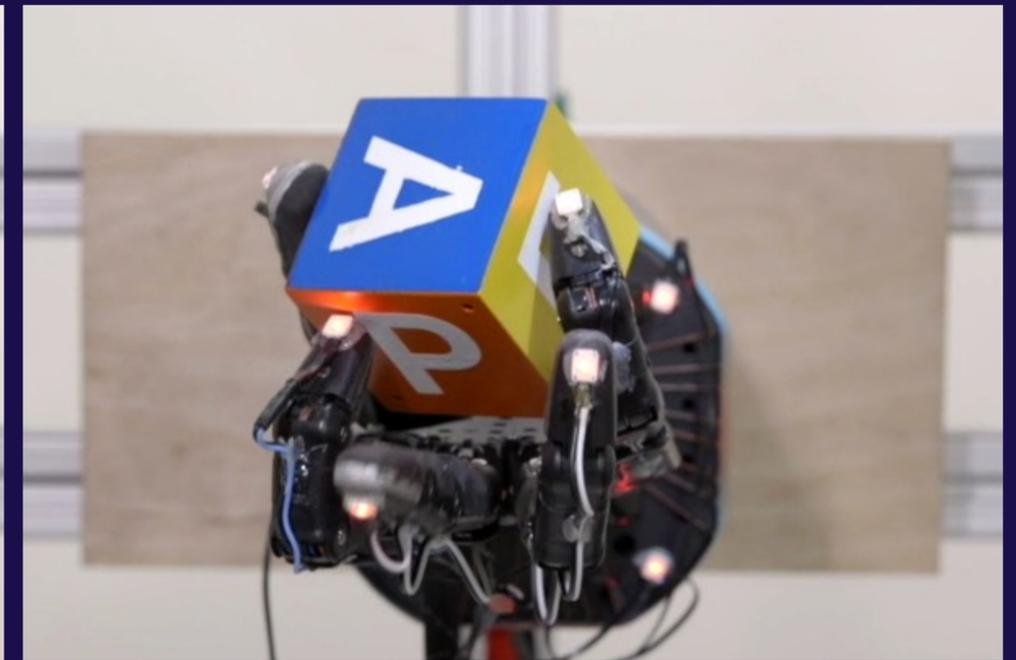
**FINGER GAITING**



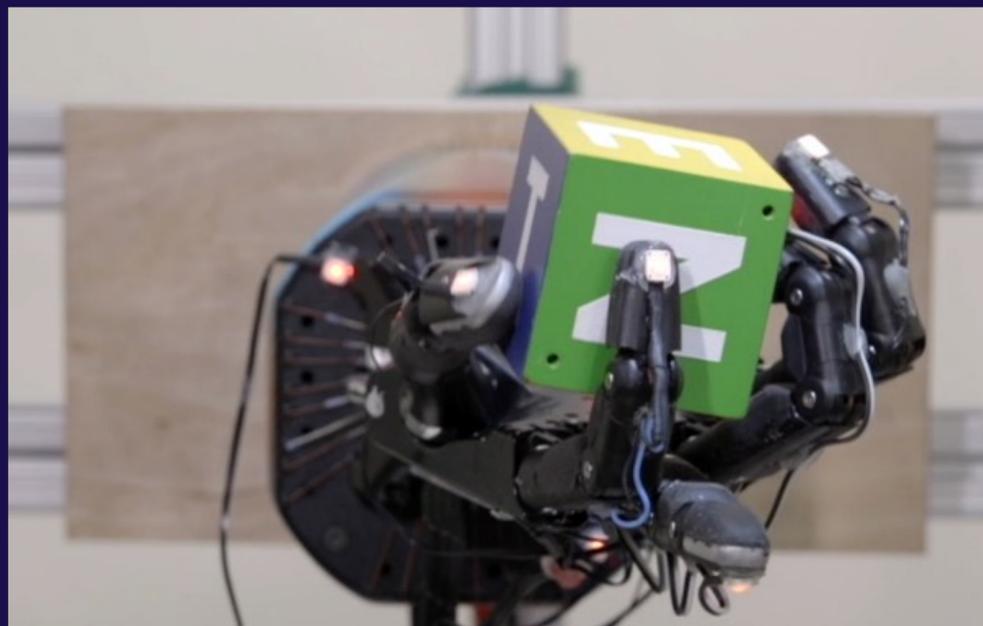
**Tip Pinch Grasp**



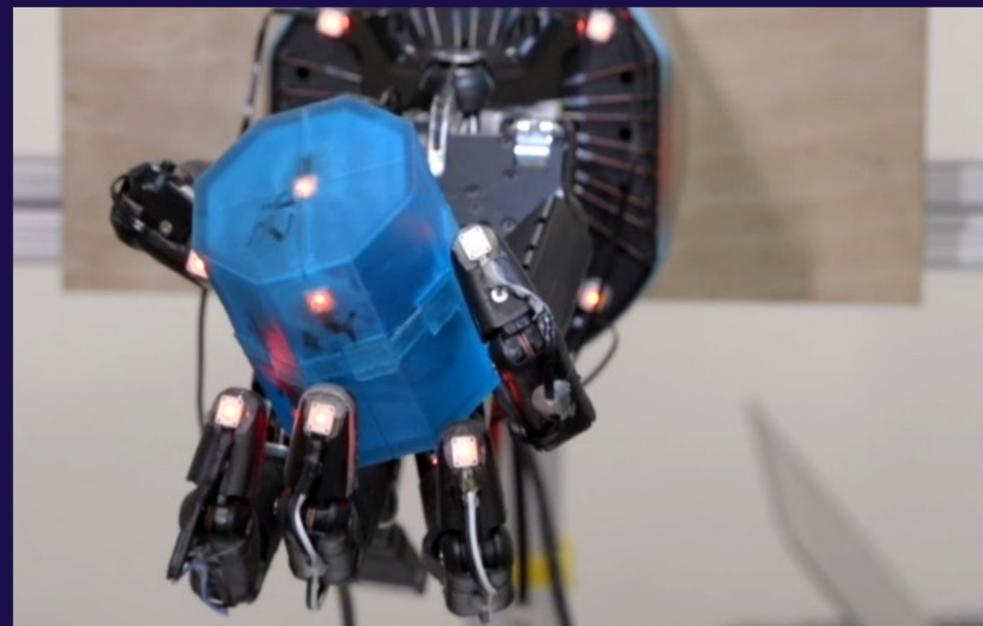
**Palmar Pinch Grasp**



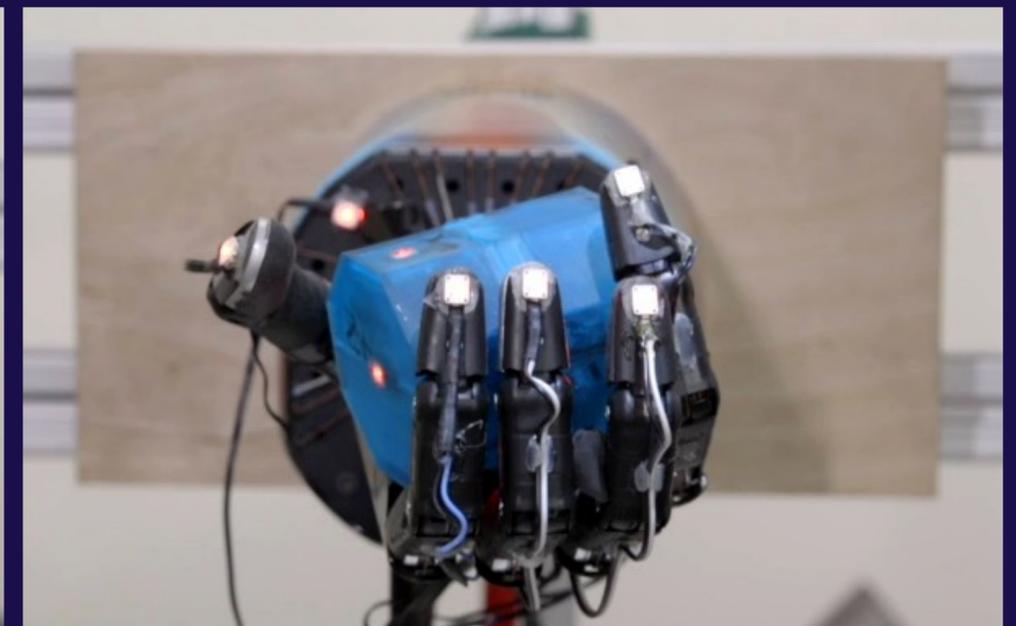
**Tripod Grasp**



**Quadpod Grasp**



**5-Finger Precision Grasp**



**Power Grasp**

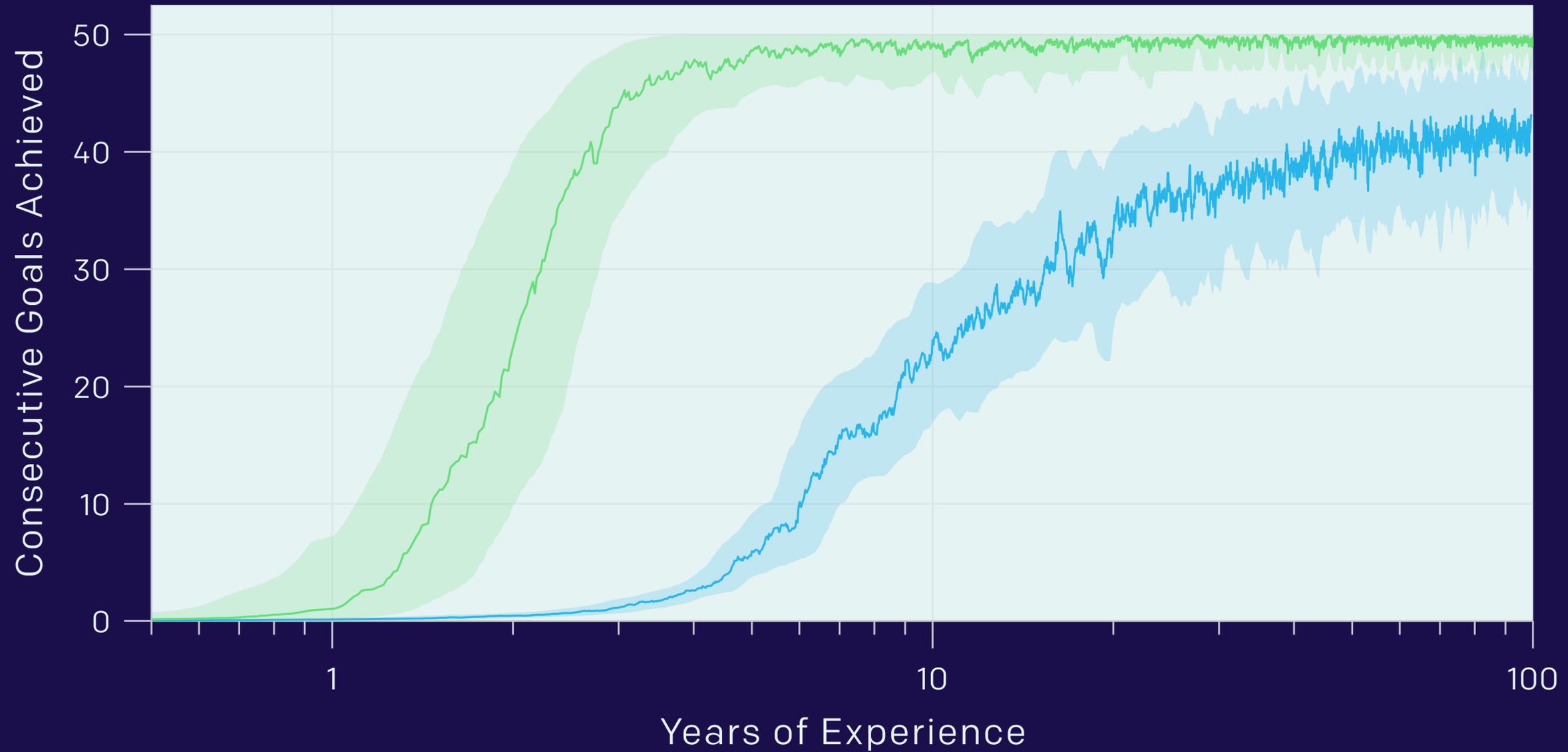
# Quantitative results

RANDOMIZATONS	OBJECT TRACKING	MEDIAN NUMBER OF SUCCESSES
None	Motion tracking	0
All	Motion tracking	13
All	Vision	11.5

# Effect of Memory

POLICY	VALUE FUNCTION	MEDIAN NUMBER OF SUCCESSES
LSTM	LSTM	13
Feedforward	LSTM	3.5
Feedforward	Feedforward	3

# Training time



● All Randomizations

● No Randomizations

Distribution of environments

+

Memory

=

Meta-Learning

Blog Post

Paper

Thank You!



arXiv:1808.00177v2 [cs.LG] 28 Aug 2018

## Learning Dexterous In-Hand Manipulation

OpenAI\*

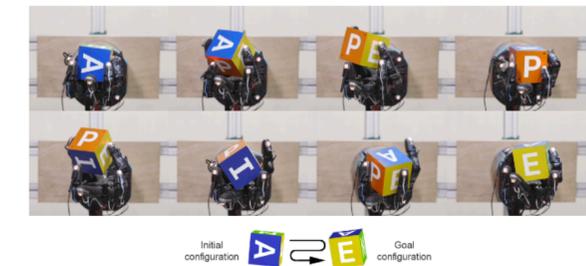


Figure 1: A five-fingered humanoid hand trained with reinforcement learning manipulating a block from an initial configuration to a goal configuration using vision for sensing.

### Abstract

We use reinforcement learning (RL) to learn dexterous in-hand manipulation policies which can perform vision-based object reorientation on a physical Shadow Dexterous Hand. The training is performed in a simulated environment in which we randomize many of the physical properties of the system like friction coefficients and an object's appearance. Our policies transfer to the physical robot despite being trained entirely in simulation. Our method does not rely on any human demonstrations, but many behaviors found in human manipulation emerge naturally, including finger gaiting, multi-finger coordination, and the controlled use of gravity. Our results were obtained using the same distributed RL system that was used to train OpenAI Five [43]. We also include a video of our results: <https://youtu.be/ju8bzNHGf1M>.

### 1 Introduction

While dexterous manipulation of objects is a fundamental everyday task for humans, it is still challenging for autonomous robots. Modern-day robots are typically designed for specific tasks in constrained settings and are largely unable to utilize complex end-effectors. In contrast, people are able to perform a wide range of dexterous manipulation tasks in a diverse set of environments, making the human hand a grounded source of inspiration for research into robotic manipulation.

The Shadow Dexterous Hand [58] is an example of a robotic hand designed for human-level dexterity; it has five fingers with a total of 24 degrees of freedom. The hand has been commercially available

\*Built by a team of researchers and engineers at OpenAI (in alphabetical order).

Marcin Andrychowicz Bowen Baker Maciek Chociej Rafal Józefowicz Bob McGrew Jakub Pachocki Arthur Petron Matthias Plappert Glenn Powell Alex Ray Jonas Schneider Szymon Sidor Josh Tobin Peter Welinder Lilian Weng Wojciech Zaremba

FOLLOW @OPENAI ON TWITTER

[blog.openai.com/learning-dexterity](http://blog.openai.com/learning-dexterity)

[arxiv.org/abs/1808.00177](http://arxiv.org/abs/1808.00177)

RANDOMIZATONS	OBJECT TRACKING	POLICY	NUMBER OF SUCCESSES	
			MEDIAN	MAX
None	Motion tracking	LSTM	0	6
All	Motion tracking	LSTM	13	50
All	Vision	LSTM	11.5	46
All	Motion tracking	FF	3.5	15

RANDOMIZATONS	OBJECT TRACKING	POLICY	NUMBER OF SUCCESSES	
			MEDIAN	MAX
None	Motion tracking	LSTM	0	6
All	Motion tracking	LSTM	13	50
All	Vision	LSTM	11.5	46
All	Motion tracking	FF	3.5	15

RANDOMIZATONS	OBJECT TRACKING	POLICY	NUMBER OF SUCCESSES	
			MEDIAN	MAX
None	Motion tracking	LSTM	0	6
All	Motion tracking	LSTM	13	50
All	Vision	LSTM	11.5	46
All	Motion tracking	FF	3.5	15

RANDOMIZATONS	OBJECT TRACKING	POLICY	NUMBER OF SUCCESSES	
			MEDIAN	MAX
None	Motion tracking	LSTM	0	6
All	Motion tracking	LSTM	13	50
All	Vision	LSTM	11.5	46
All	Motion tracking	FF	3.5	15

RANDOMIZATONS	OBJECT TRACKING	POLICY	NUMBER OF SUCCESSES	
			MEDIAN	MAX
None	Motion tracking	LSTM	0	6
All	Motion tracking	LSTM	13	50
All	Vision	LSTM	11.5	46
All	Motion tracking	FF	3.5	15