

# Virtual Humans – Winter 23/24

Lecture 7\_2 – Fitting SMPL to IMU with learning

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University of Tübingen / MPI-Informatics

EBERHARD KARLS  
UNIVERSITÄT  
TÜBINGEN



# Deep Inertial Poser

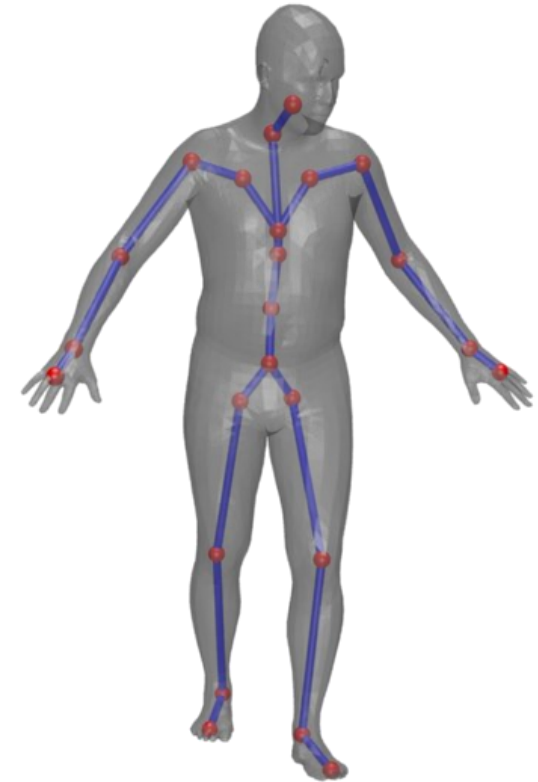
Learning to Reconstruct Human Pose from Sparse  
Inertial Measurements in Real Time

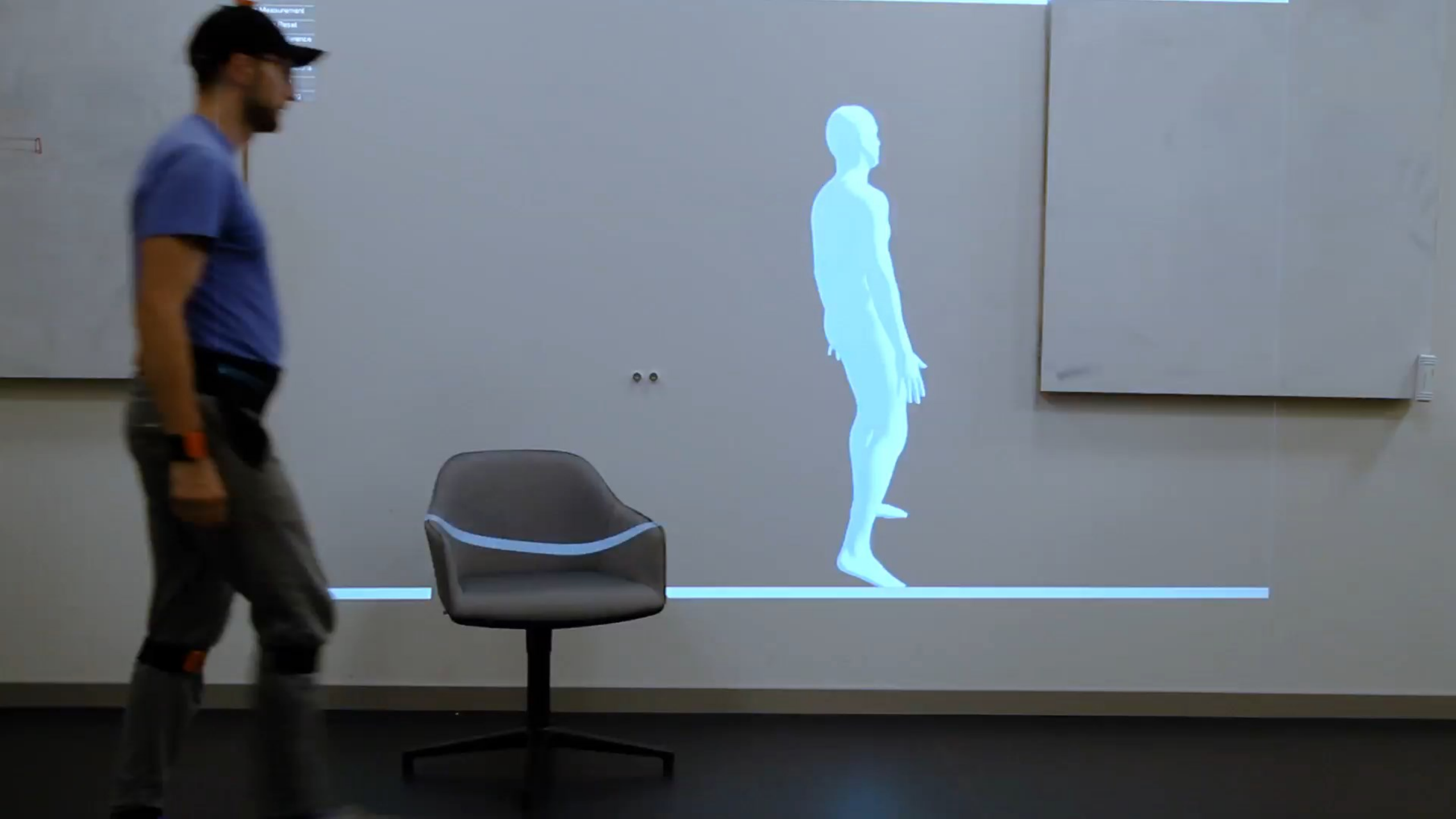
Yinghao Huang<sup>\*1</sup>, **Manuel Kaufmann**<sup>\*2</sup>, Emre Aksan<sup>2</sup>,  
Michael J. Black<sup>1</sup>, Otmar Hilliges<sup>2</sup>, Gerard Pons-Moll<sup>3</sup>

\* equal contribution, <sup>1</sup> MPI for Intelligent Systems, <sup>2</sup> ETH Zurich, <sup>3</sup> MPI for Informatics



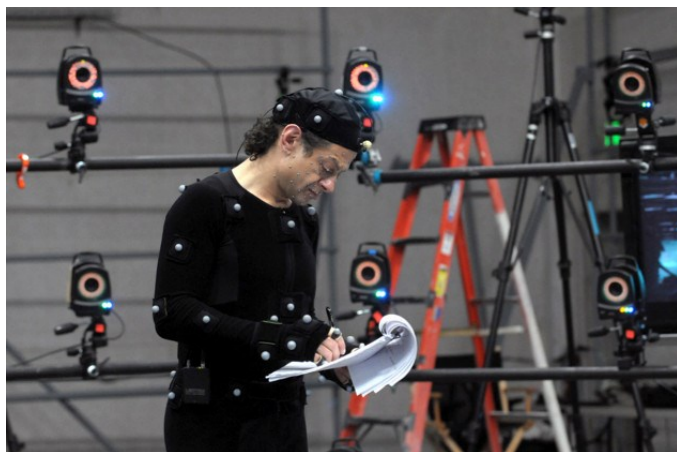
# Goal





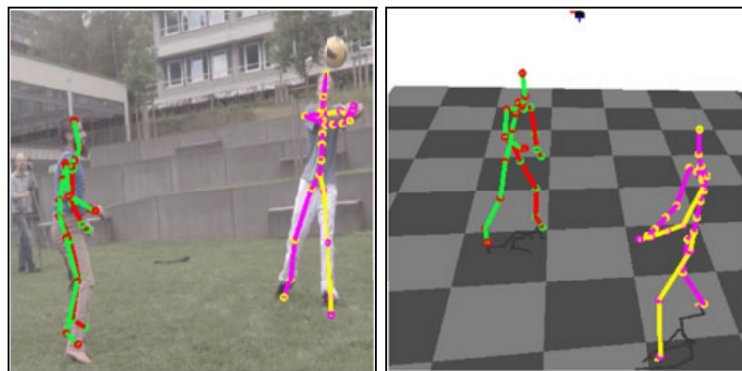
# Motion Capture – Optical Tracking

## Marker-based



- Long setup times
- Expensive equipment

## Markerless



[Elhayek et al. 2017, MARCOmI]

- Fixed recording volume
- Requiring line of sight



[Mehta et al. 2017, VNect]

# Motion Capture – Inertial Sensors

## Number of IMUs



[Roetenberg et al. 2007]

- Intrusive
- 17 sensors

## Cameras



[Malleon et al. 2017]



[von Marcard et al. 2018]

- 6 – 13 sensors
- 1 – 8 cameras

## Compute Time



[von Marcard et al. 2017]

- offline

# DIP - Requirements

**Small number of IMUs**

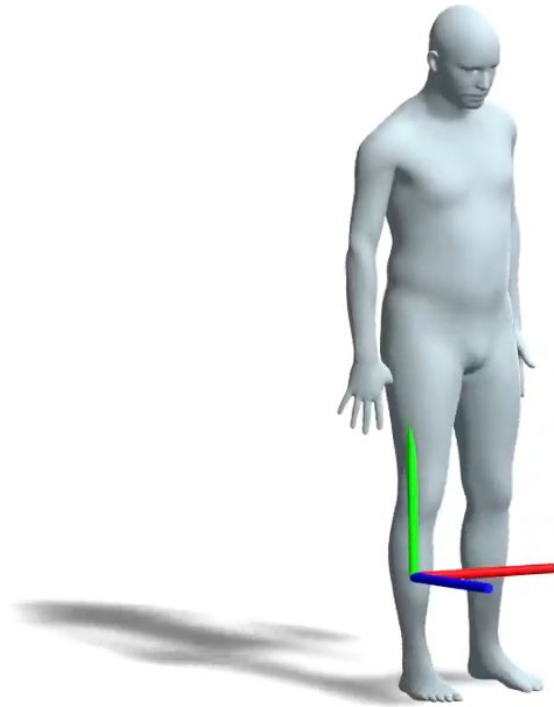
(setup time, user instrumentation)

**No cameras**

(line-of-sight, occlusions)

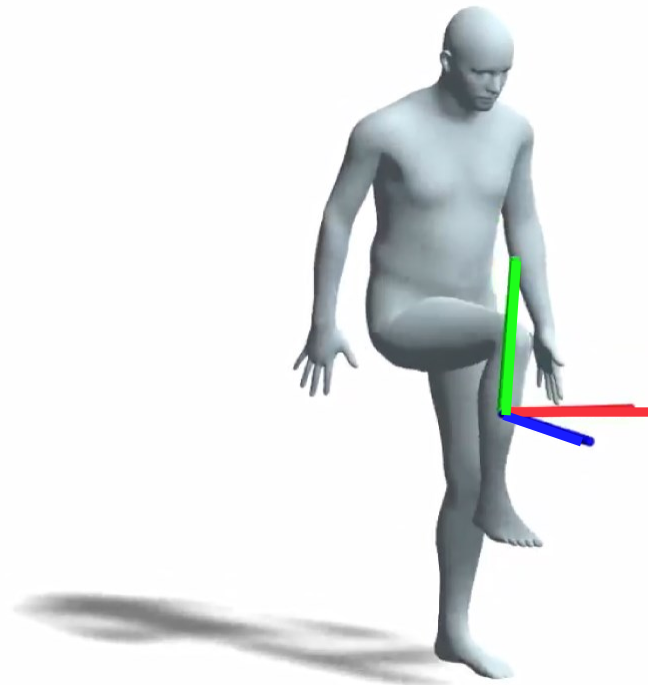
Reconstruct full pose in **real-time**

# Underconstrained Pose Space

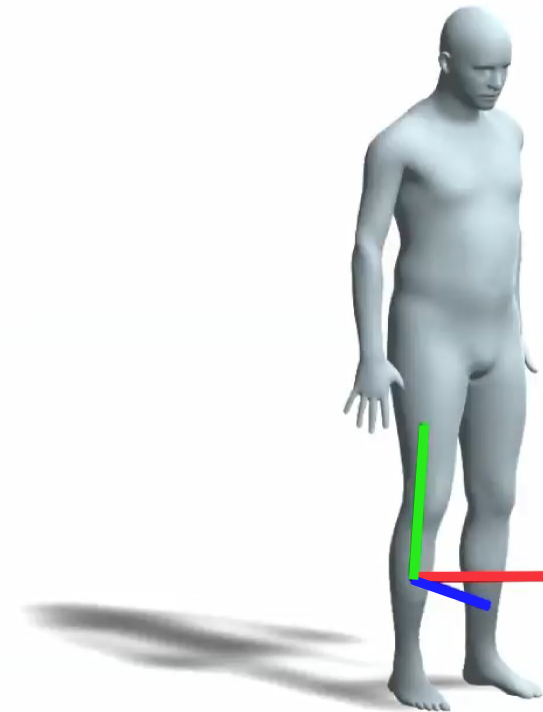




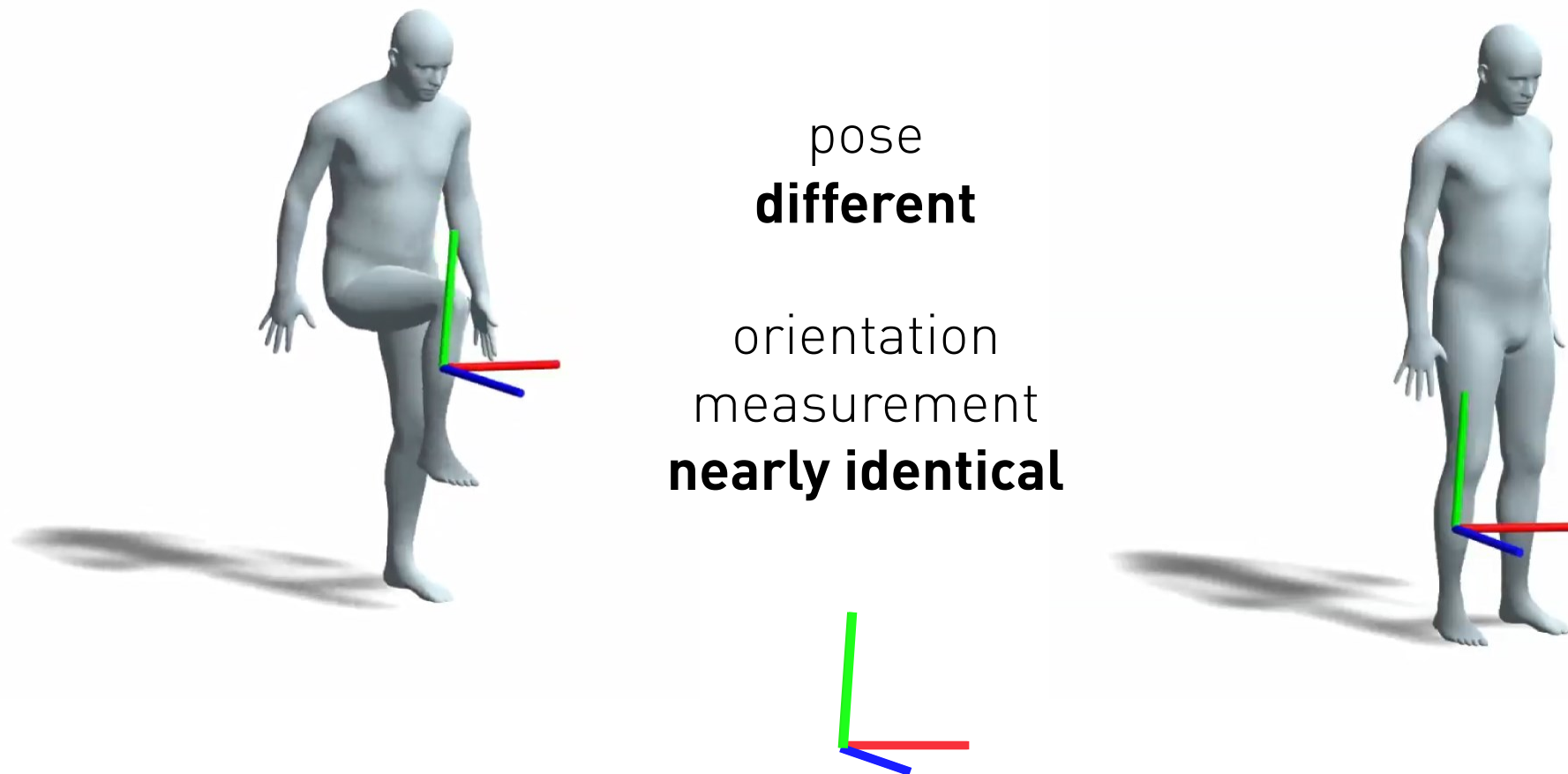
# Underconstrained Pose Space



pose  
**different**

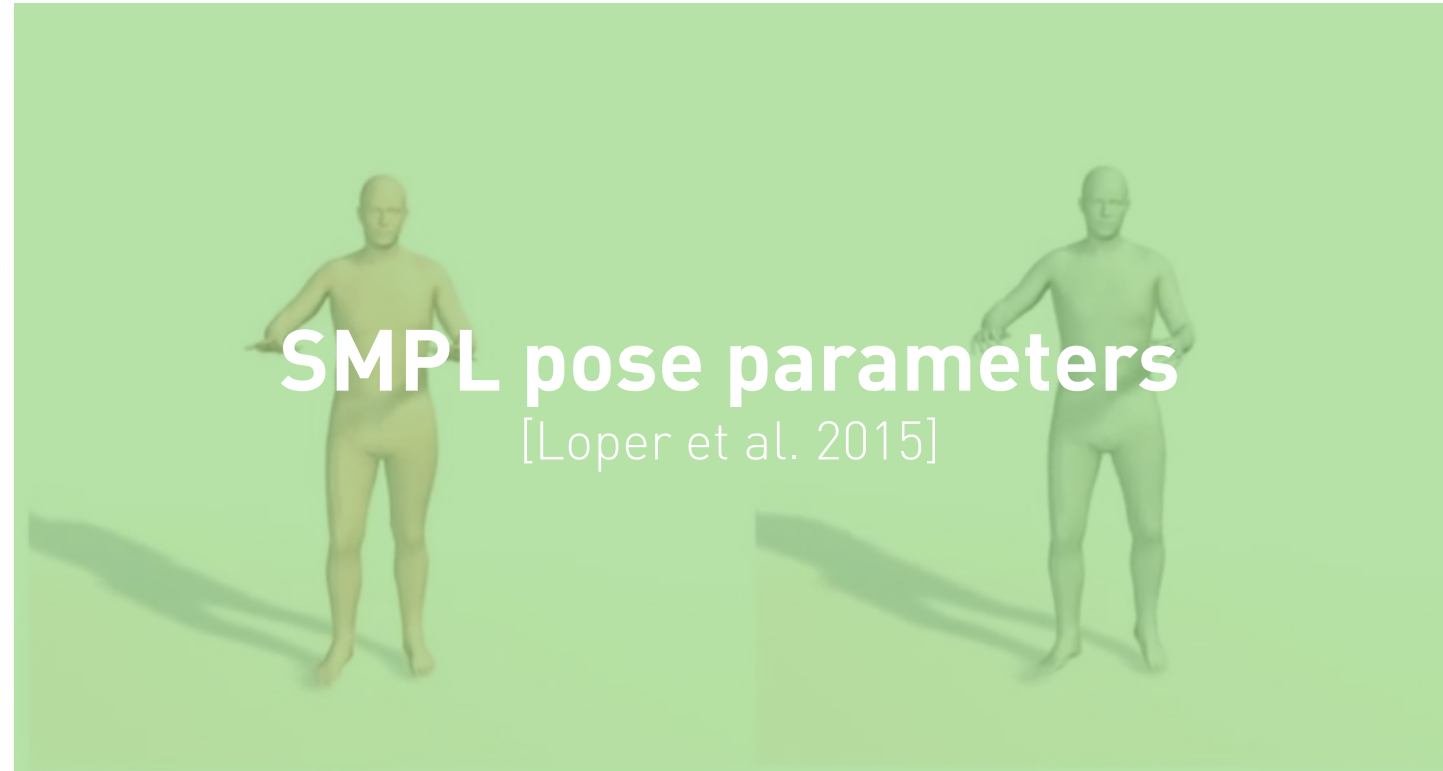


# Underconstrained Pose Space



# Sparse Inertial Poser (SIP)

[von Marcard et al. 2017]



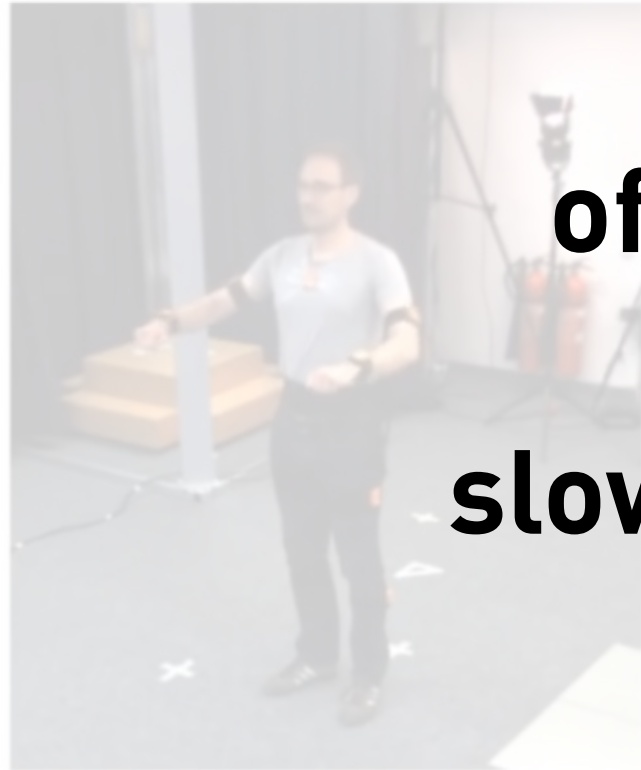
# SMPL

[Loper et al. 2015]



# Sparse Inertial Poser (SIP)

[von Marcard et al. 2017]

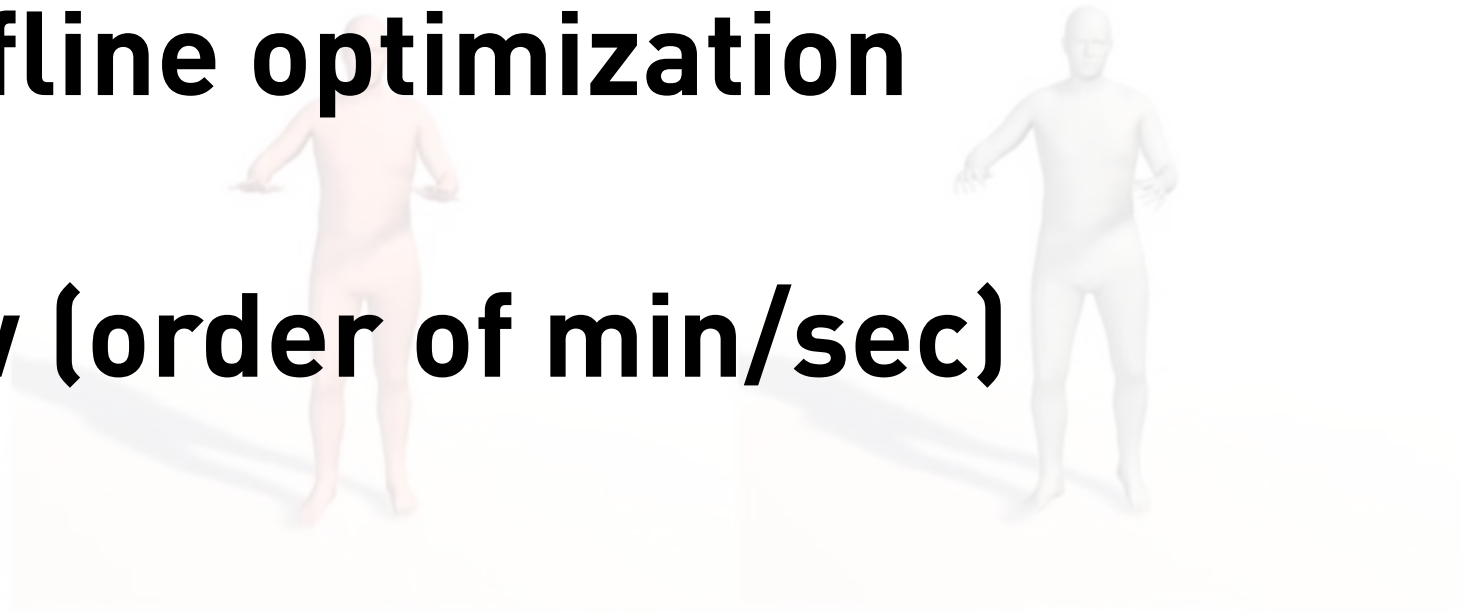


SOP  
orientation only

SIP  
orientation + acceleration

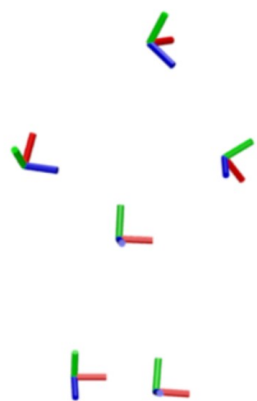
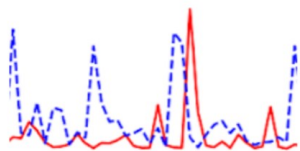
**offline optimization**

**slow (order of min/sec)**



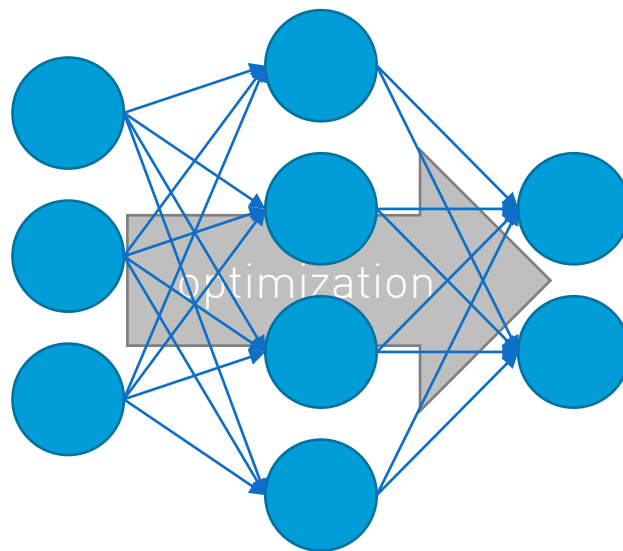
# Achieving Real-Time Performance

## Data

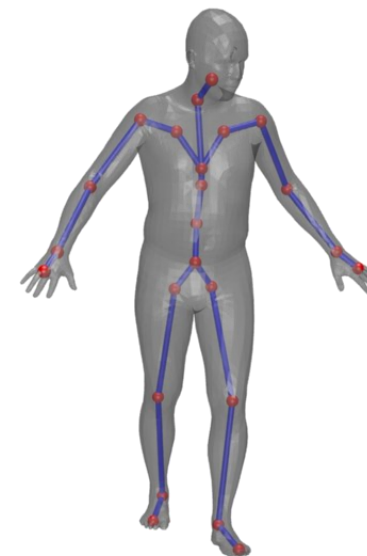


accelerations and  
orientations

## Architecture

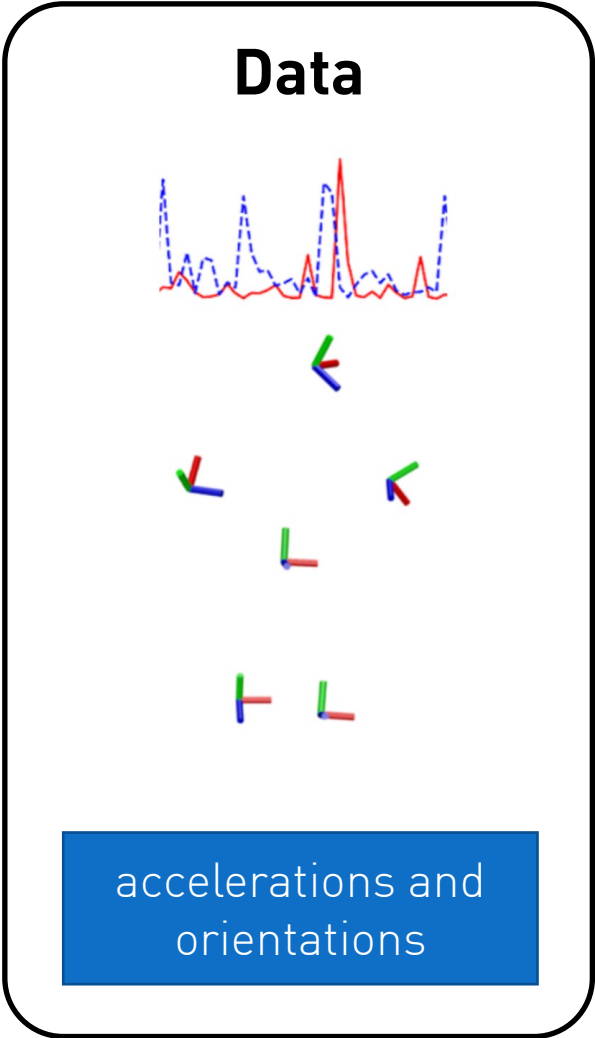


## Loss Function



SMPL  
pose parameters

# Achieving Real-Time Performance



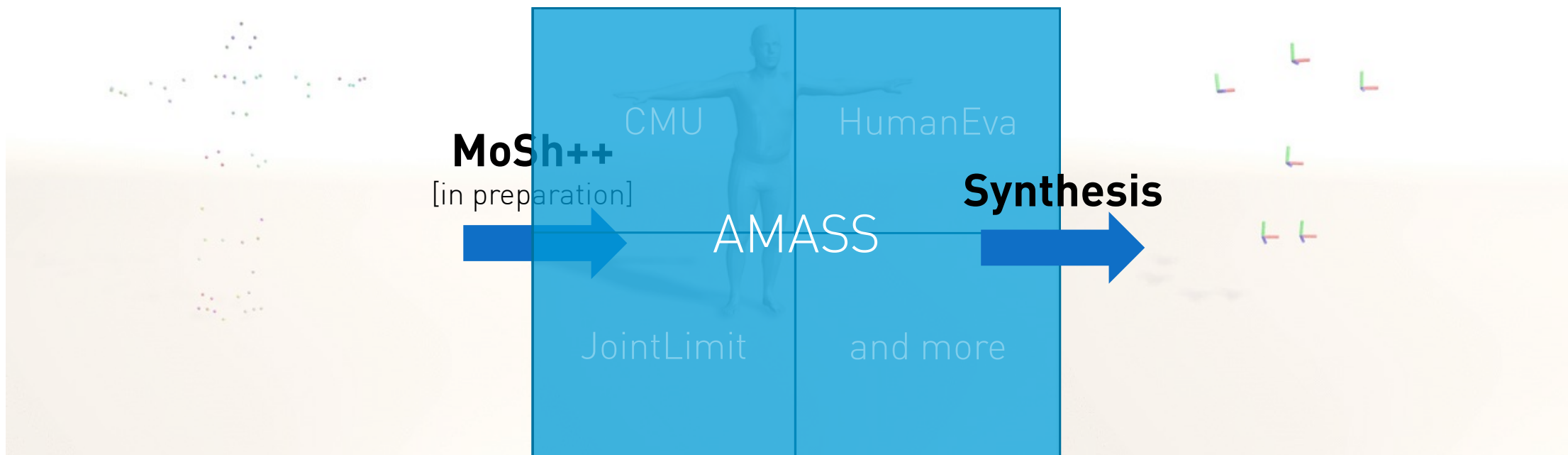
# How to Get Data?

Only **few** IMU databases available.

Need poses in **unified format**.



# Synthesize It!



Acceleration  
(derived from positions via  
finite differences)

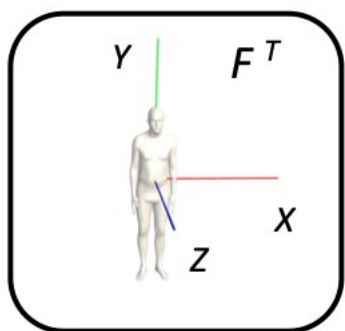
<http://dip.is.tue.mpg.de>



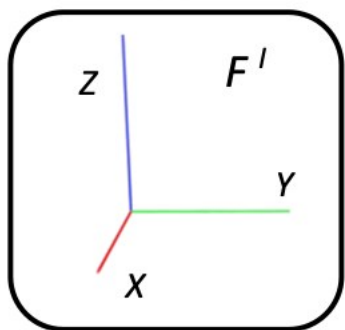
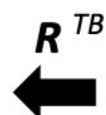
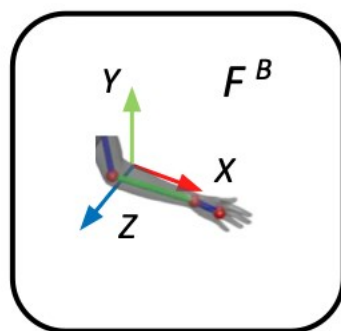
Orientation  
(derived from SMPL forward  
kinematics)

# Coordinate frames involved

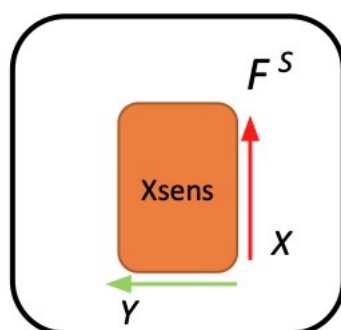
Body Centric frame



Bone frame  
(body part)



Frame of IMU  
system (inertial)

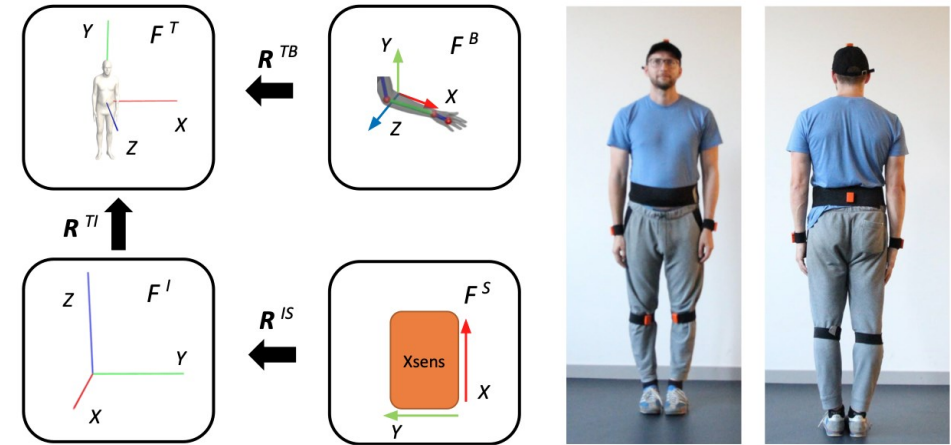


Local sensor frame



# Orientation

1) IMU readings need to be transformed to body coordinate frame  $F^T$



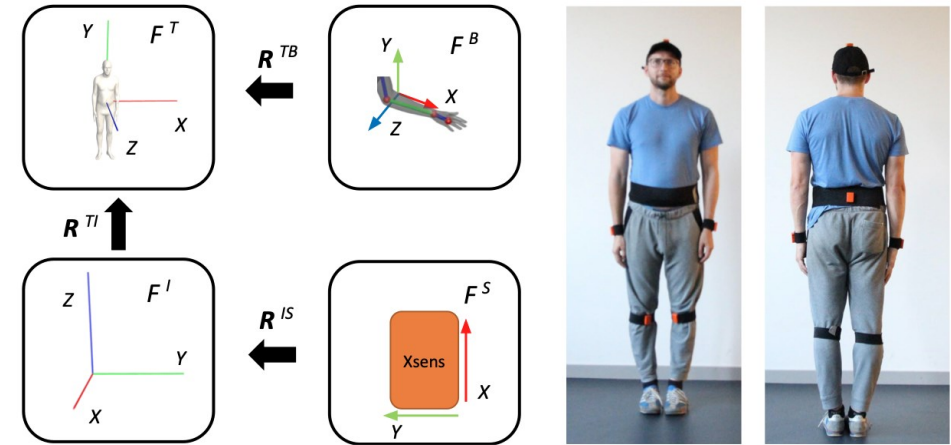
$\mathbf{R}_t^{TS} = \mathbf{R}^{TI} \mathbf{R}_t^{IS} = \mathbf{R}_{\text{Head}}^{-1} \mathbf{R}_t^{IS}$  Head sensor aligned with body in frame 0

2) Compensate for an assumed constant sensor to body part / bone offset

$\mathbf{R}^{BS} = \text{inv}(\mathbf{R}_0^{TB}) \mathbf{R}_0^{TS}$  Sensor to bone offset calculation, usually in the frame 0

$\mathbf{R}^{TB} = \mathbf{R}^{TS} \text{inv}(\mathbf{R}^{BS})$  Transform IMU reading to bone orientations

# Orientation



**Question:** what problem do you foresee if we train a network directly to predict pose from bone transformations as described below?

**Hint:** Think of a motion performed facing north vs facing south

# Normalization



Normalize all sensors to the **root** sensor.

Done **per frame**.

Only **5 sensors** are actually fed into the model.

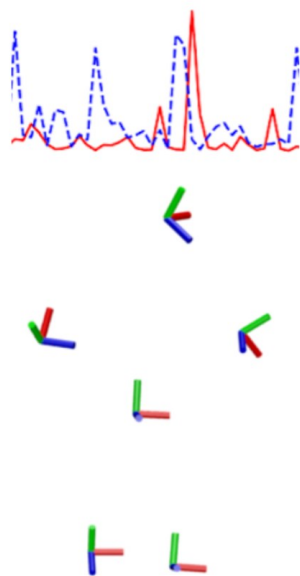
$$\mathbf{R}_t^{TB} = \mathbf{R}^{BS} \mathbf{R}_t^{TS},$$

normalize

$$\bar{\mathbf{R}}_t^{TB} = \text{inv}(\mathbf{R}_t^{\text{root}}) \mathbf{R}_t^{TB}$$

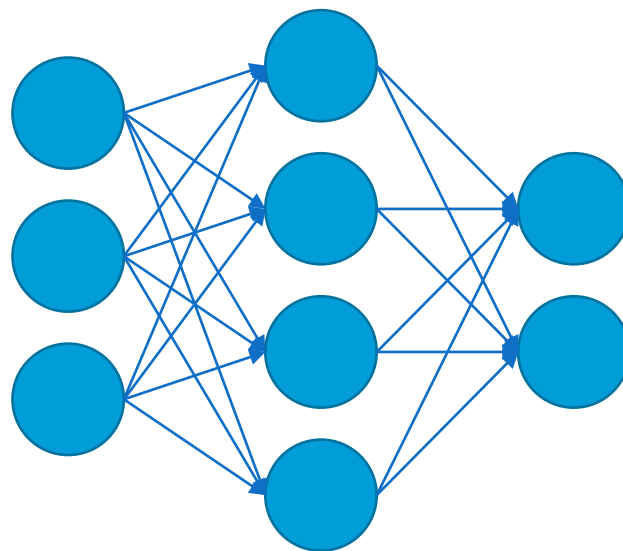
# Network Design

## Data

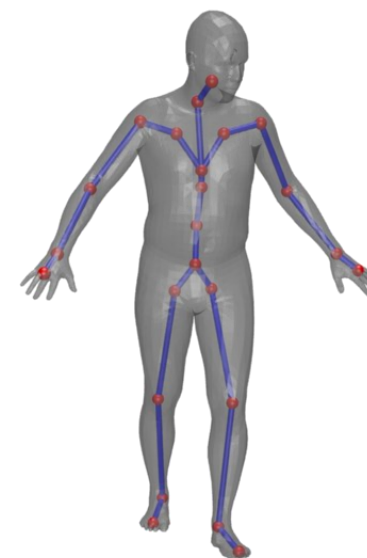


accelerations and  
orientations

## Architecture

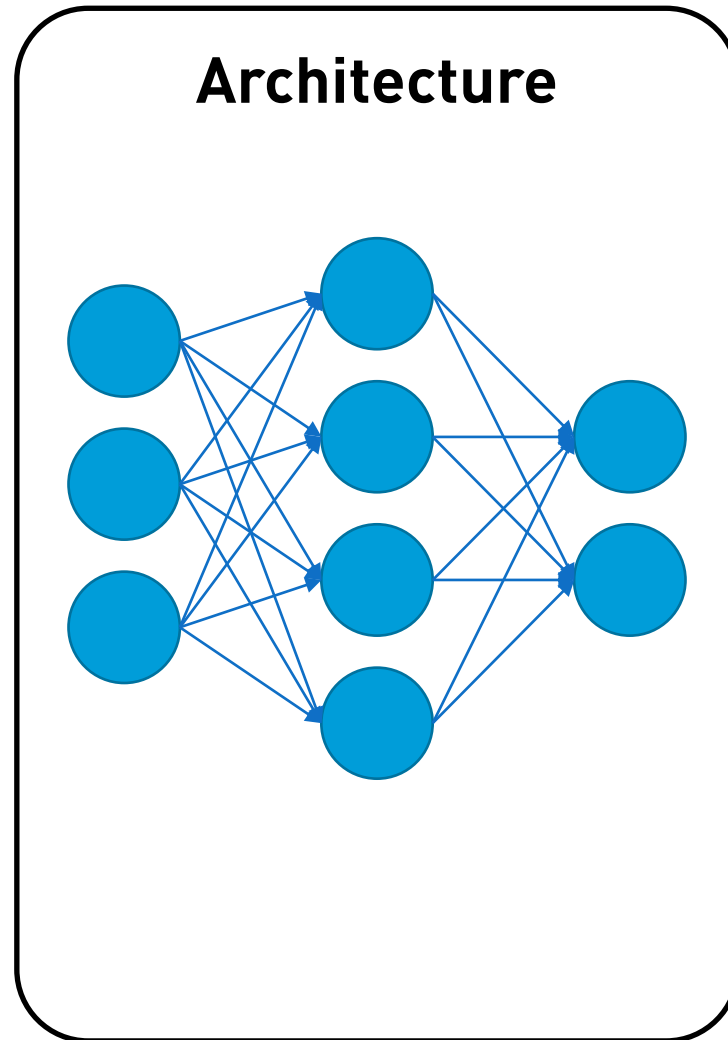


## Loss Function

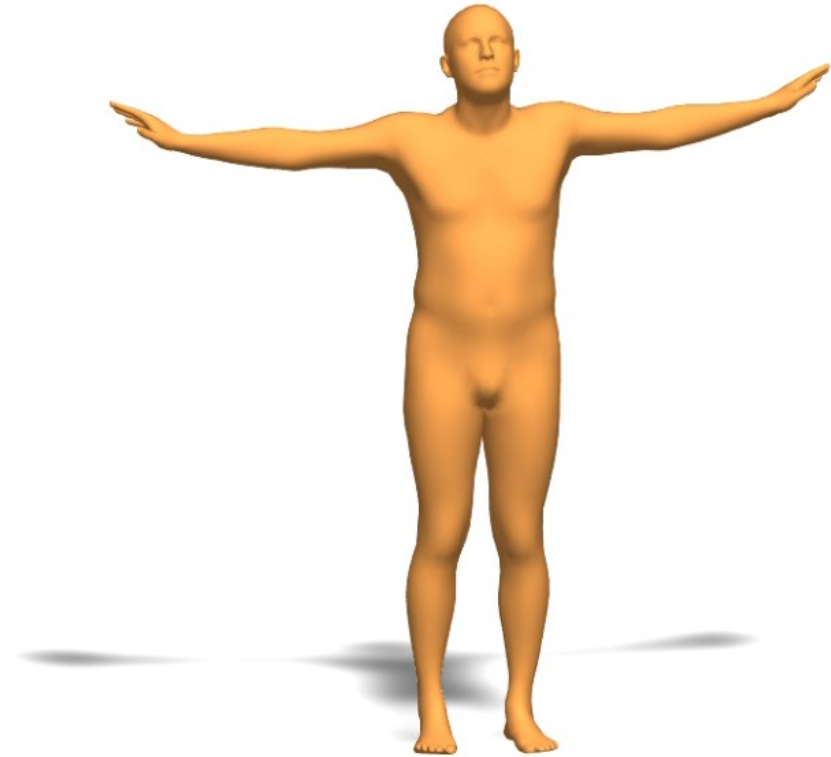


SMPL  
pose parameters

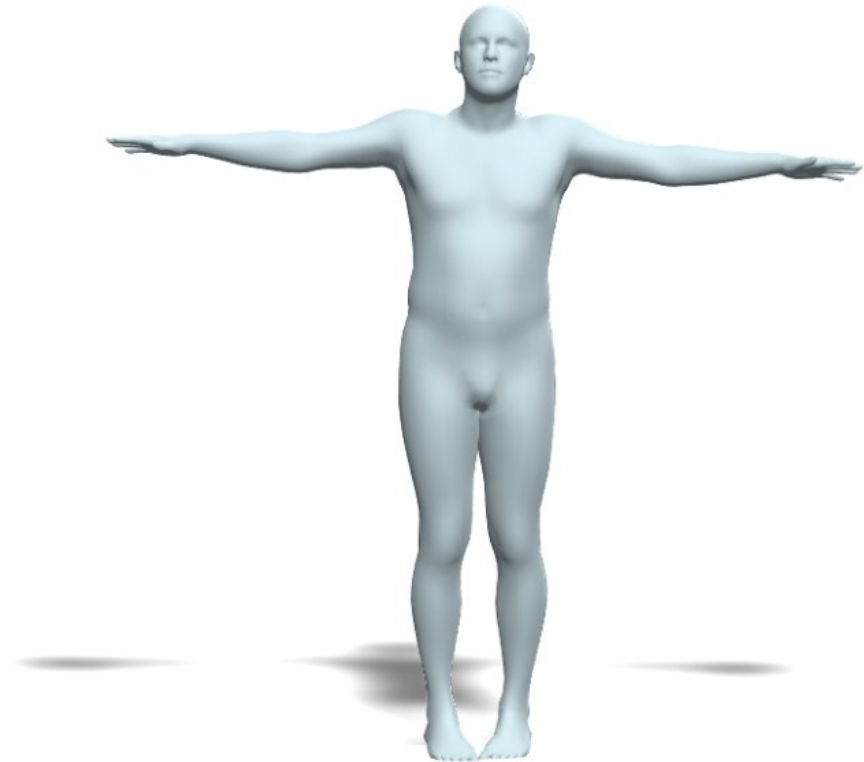
# Network Design



# Failed Attempt I



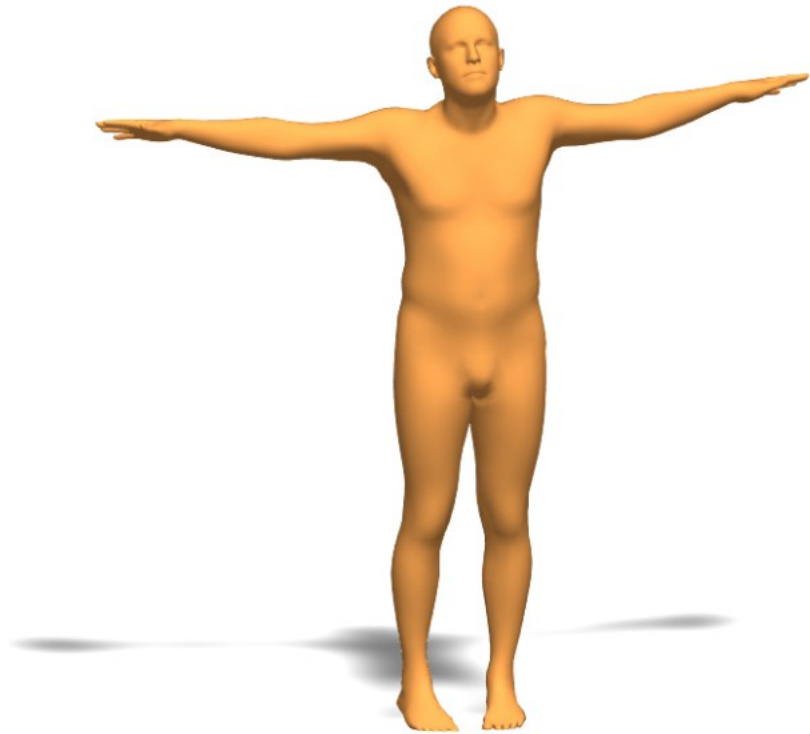
Reference



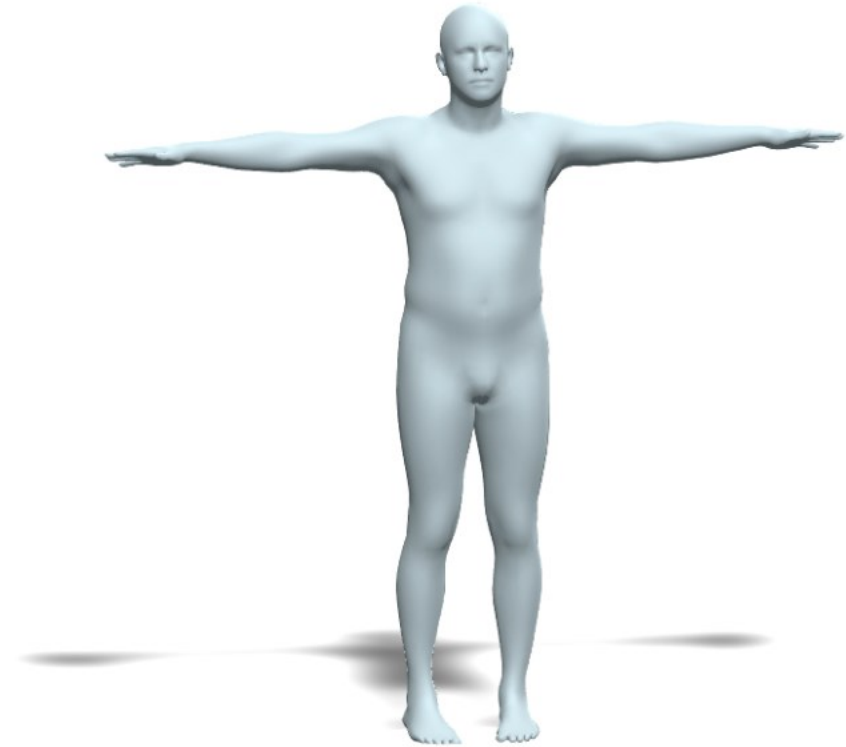
Feedforward NN



# Failed Attempt II

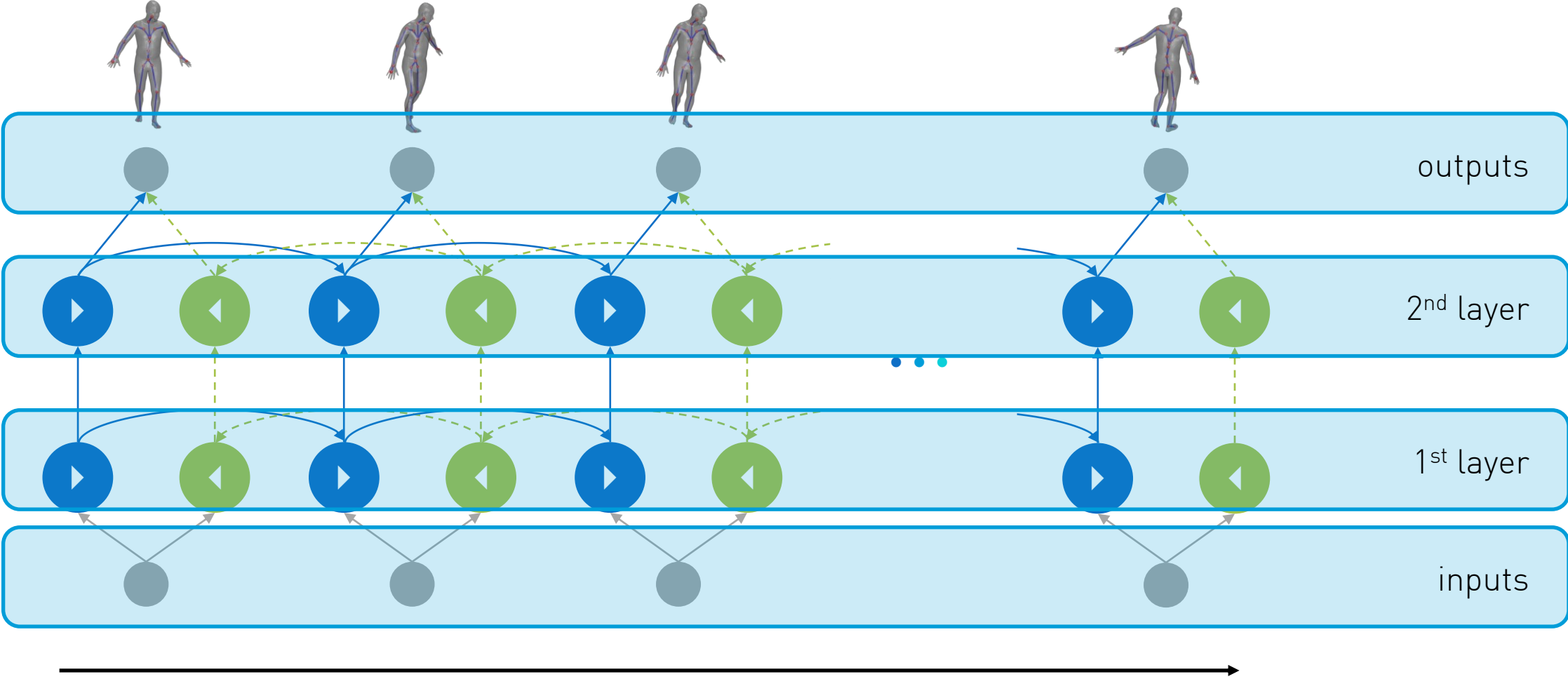


Reference



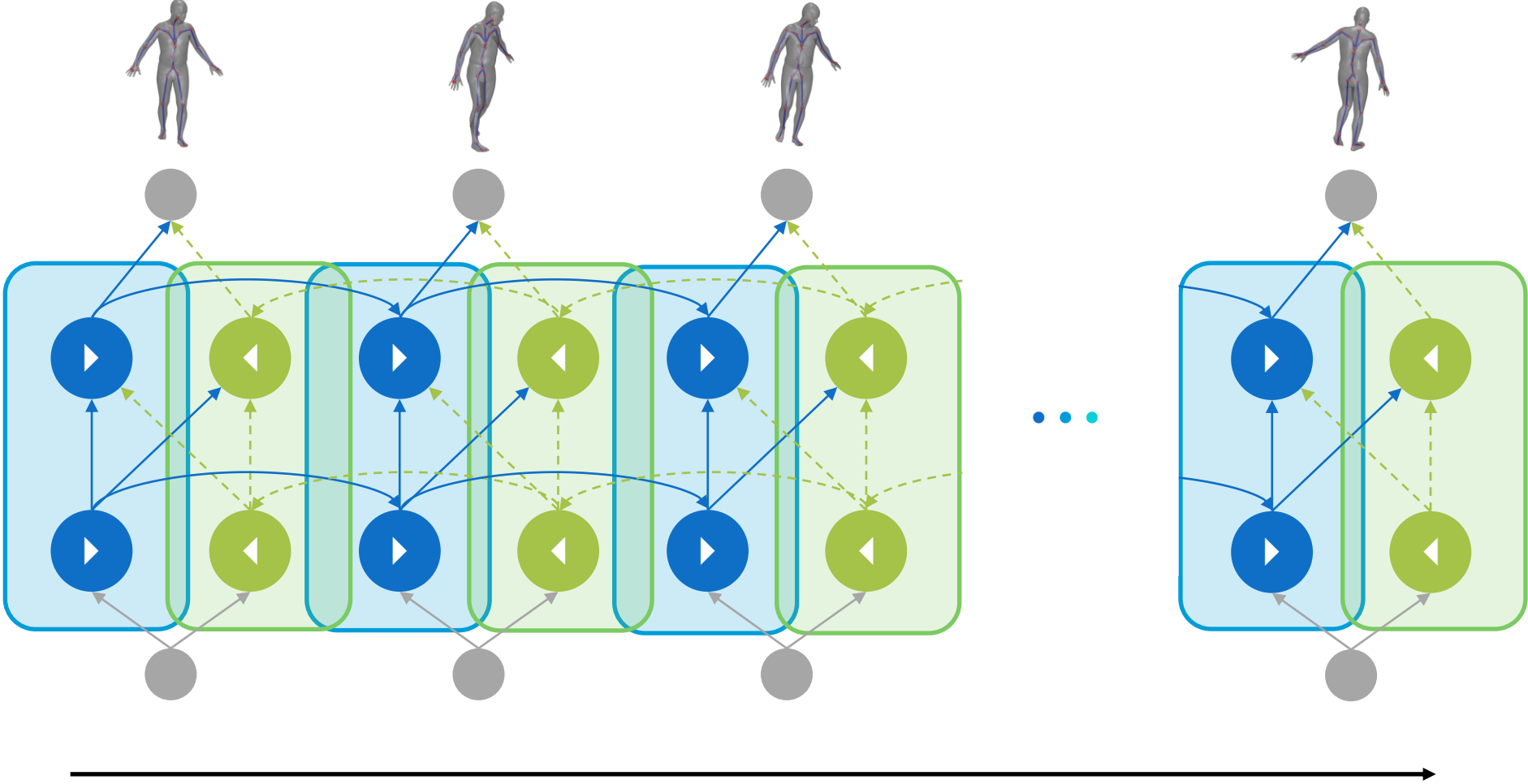
WaveNet  
[van den Oord et al. 2016]

# Method – Stacked BiRNN



[BiRNN: Schuster and Paliwal 1997]

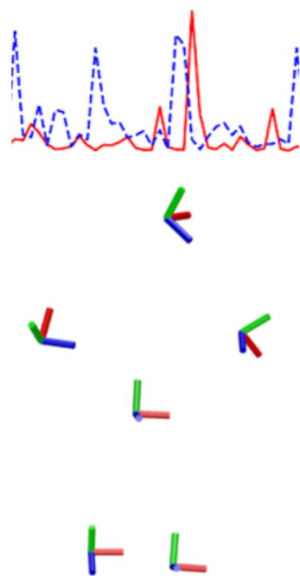
# Method – Stacked BiRNN



[BiRNN: Schuster and Paliwal 1997]

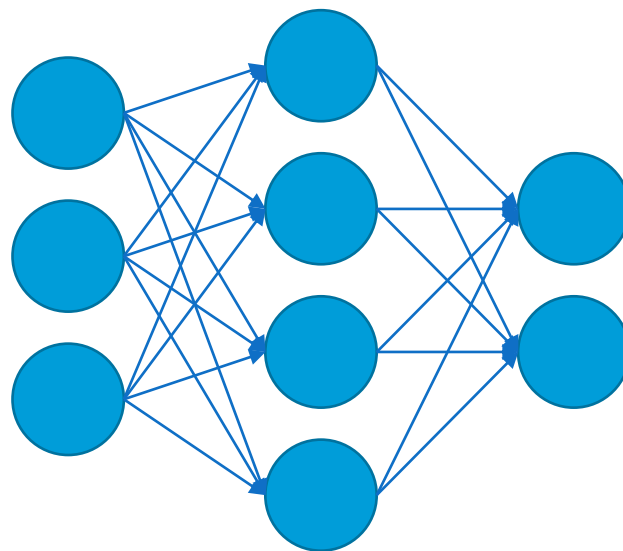
# Network Design

## Data

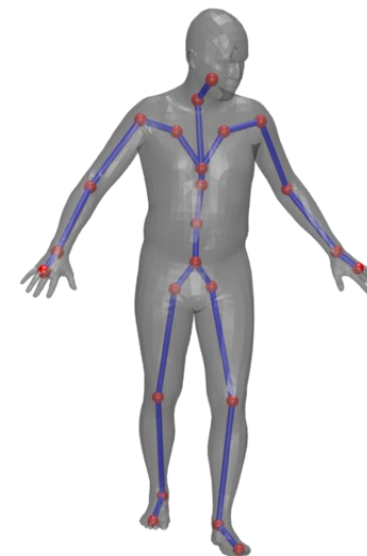


accelerations and  
orientations

## Architecture



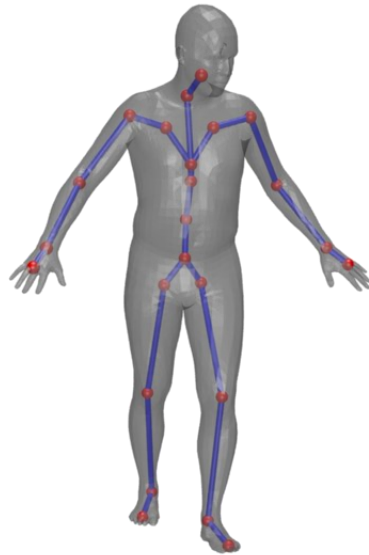
## Loss Function



SMPL  
pose parameters

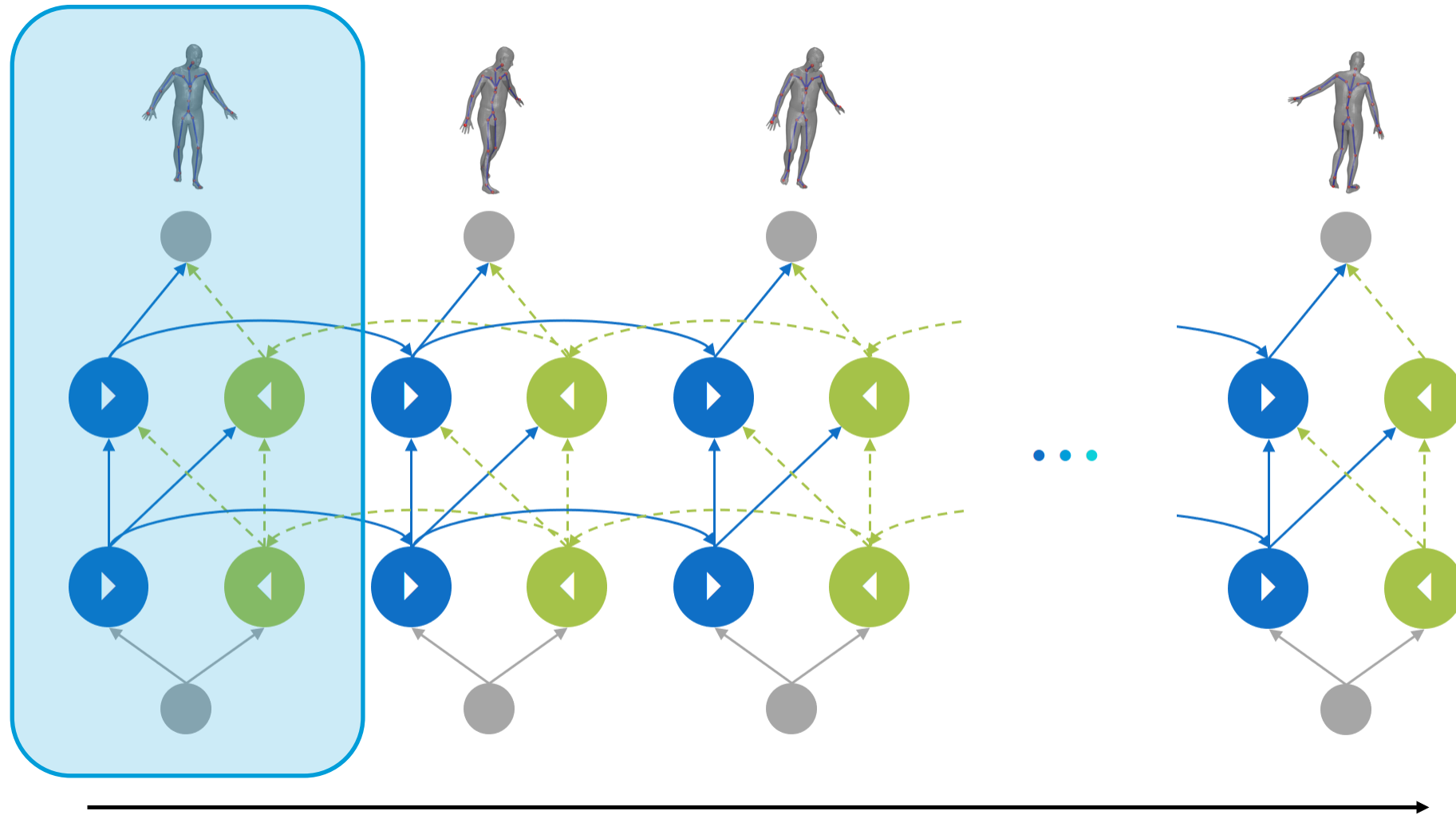
# Network Design

## Loss Function

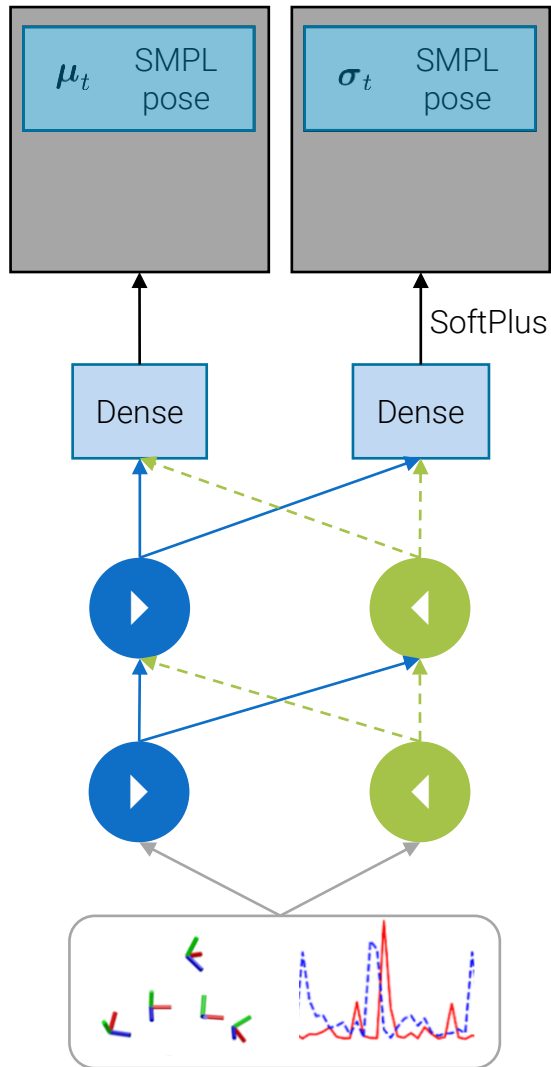


SMPL  
pose parameters

# Loss Function

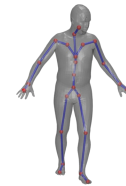


# Loss Function

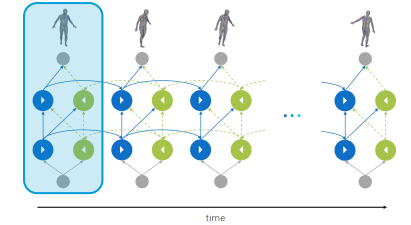


Pose Log-Likelihood

$$\log p(\mathbf{y}) = \sum_t^T \log \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{y}_t | \mu_t, \text{diag}(\sigma_t))$$



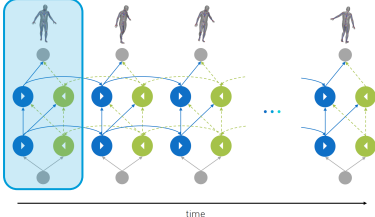
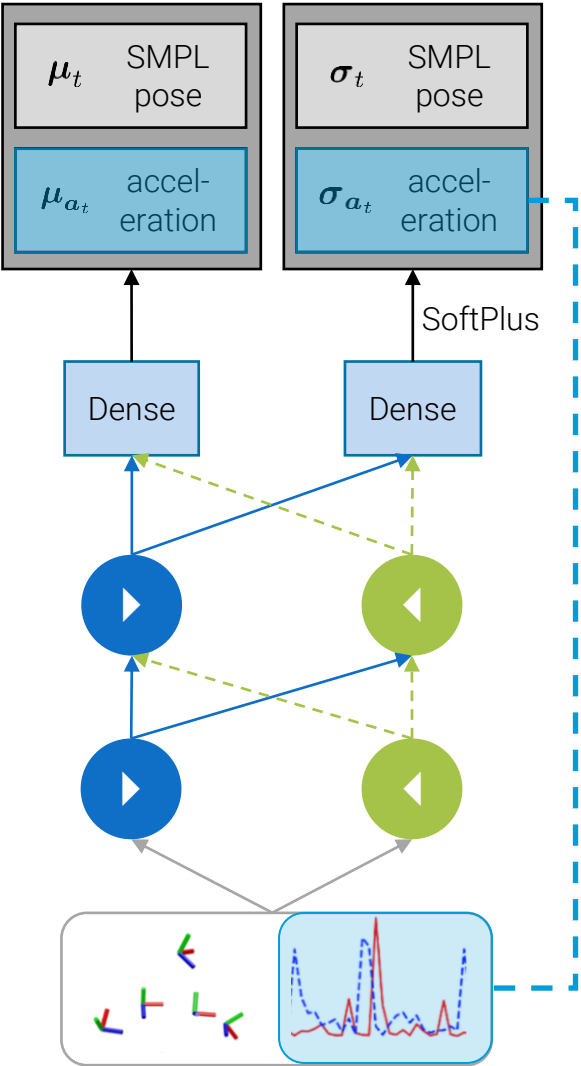
Pose, we used  $\theta$  earlier in the lecture



**Question:** What happens to the likelihood if the predicted variance is high?

**Question:** When will the network predict high variance?

# Loss Function

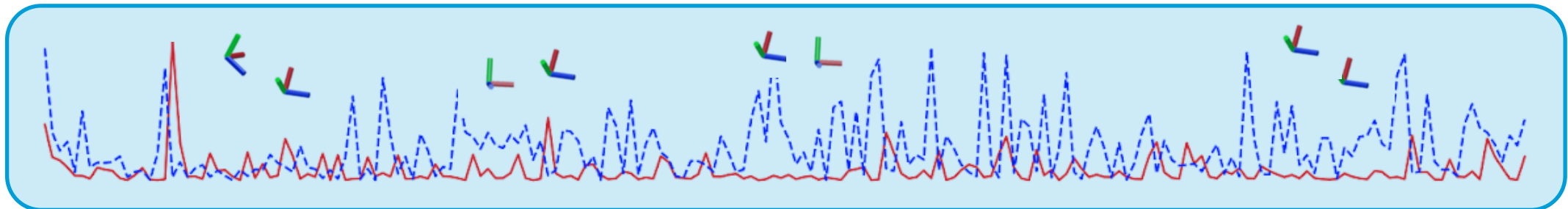
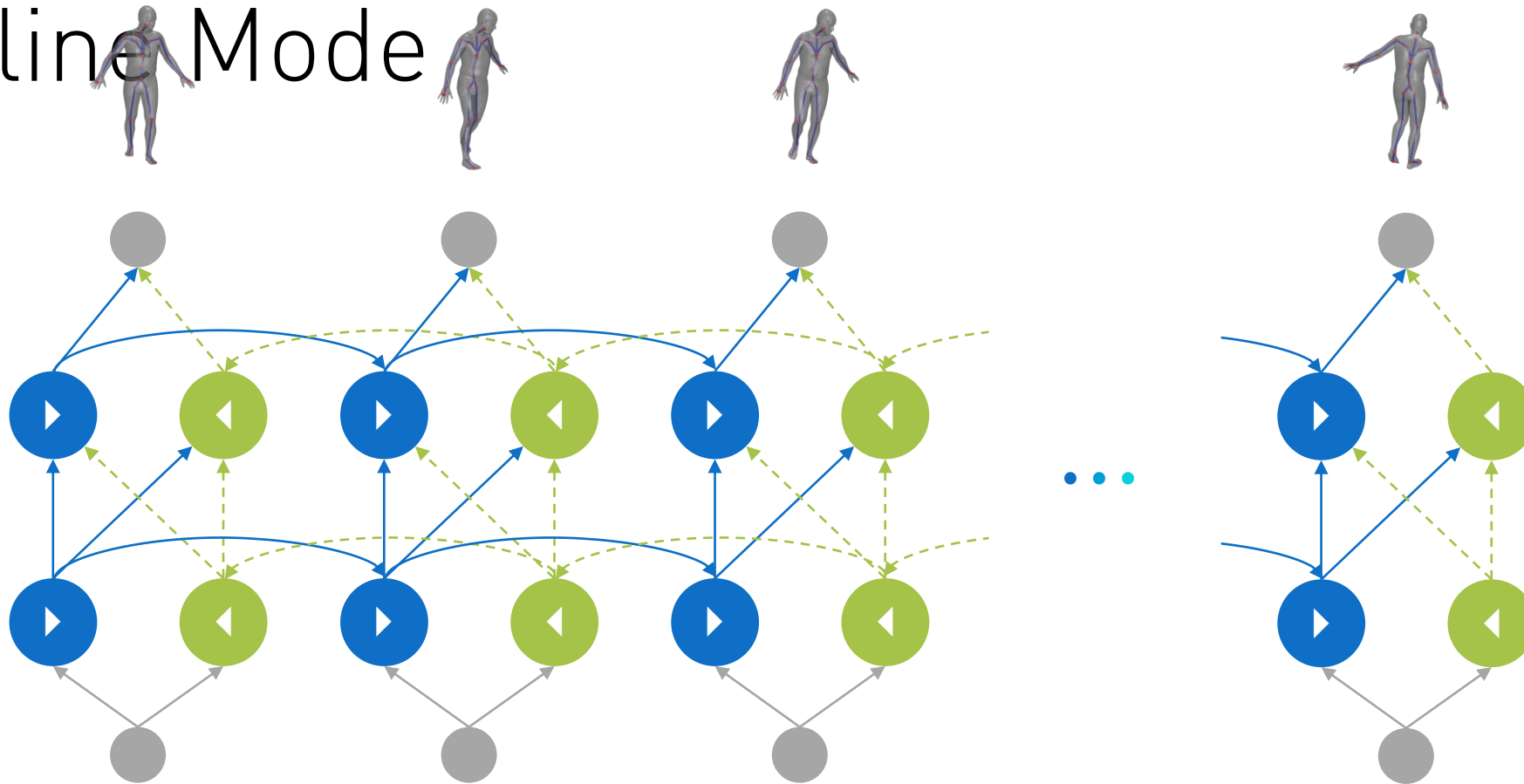


Acceleration Reconstruction Log-Likelihood

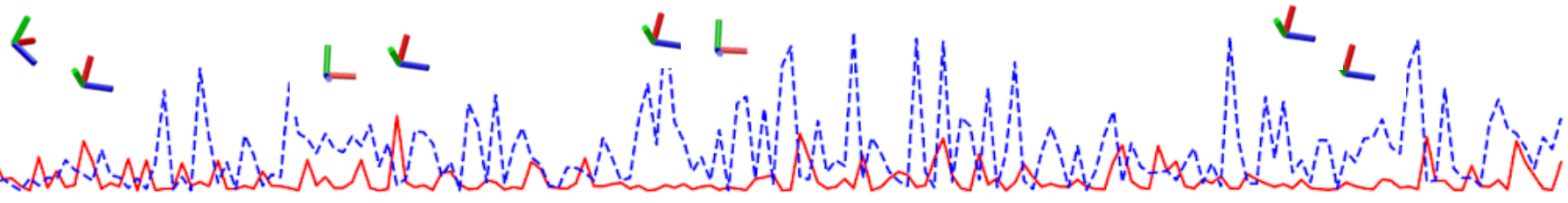
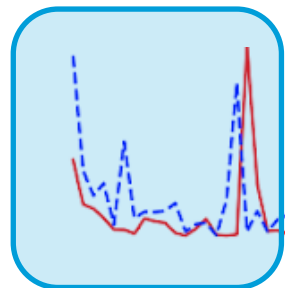
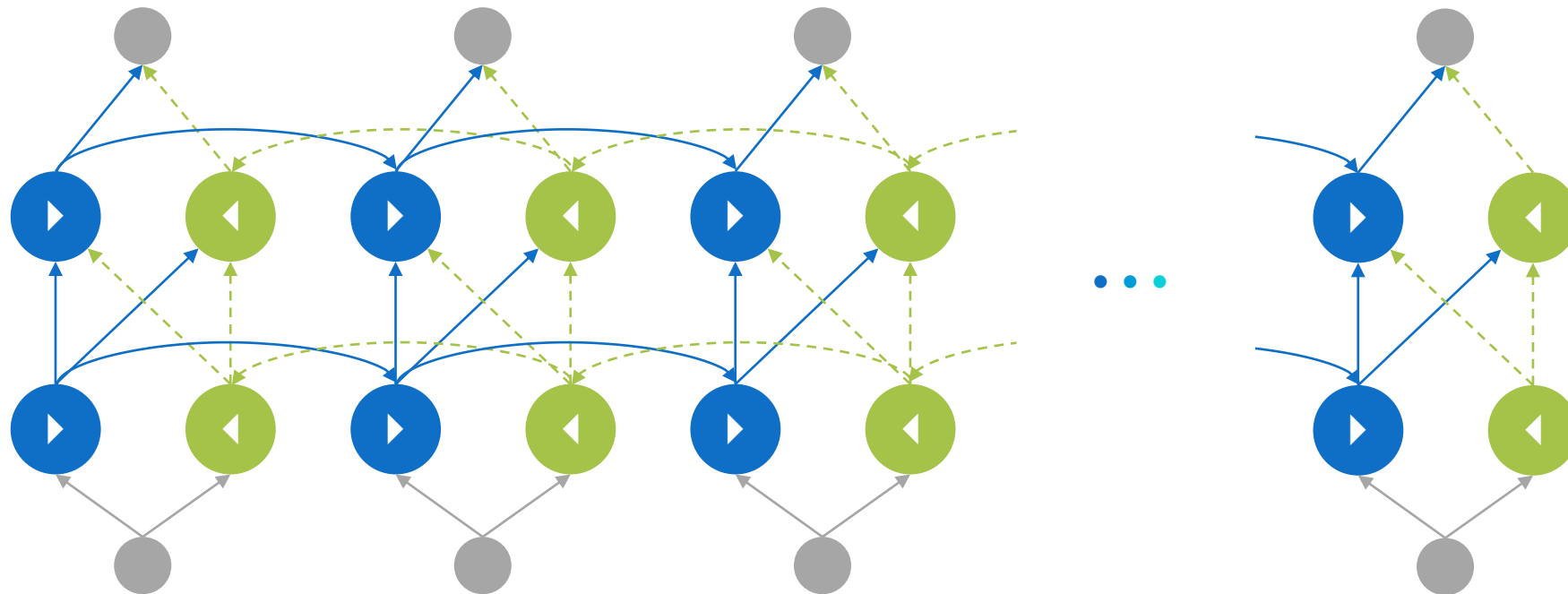
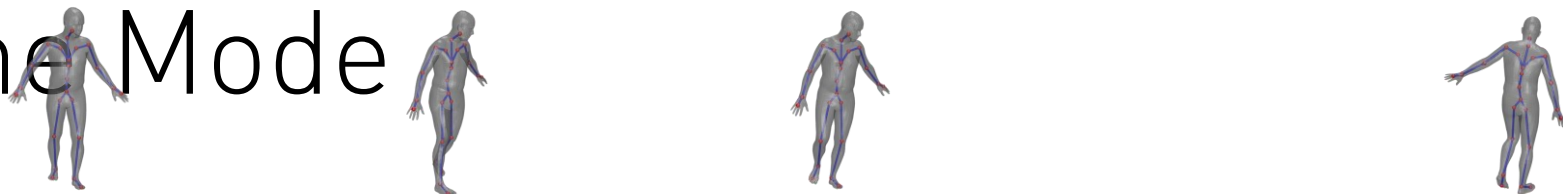
$$\log p(\mathbf{a}) = \sum_t^T \log \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{a}_t | \mu_{\mathbf{a}_t}, \text{diag}(\sigma_{\mathbf{a}_t}))$$



# Offline Mode



# Online Mode







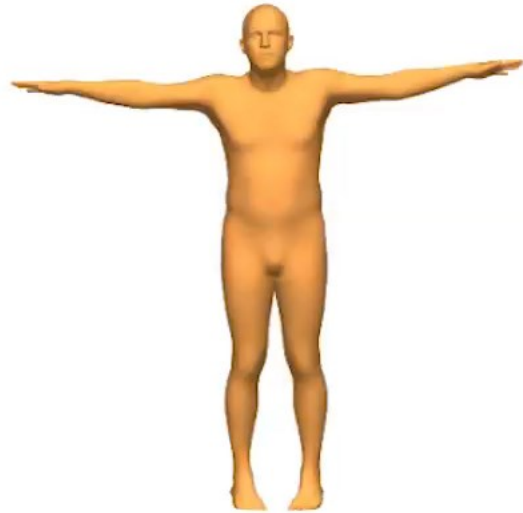
Get it  
Dump Re  
ending

bucket lost 20

# Results

# TotalCapture (offline)

[Trumble et al. 2017]



Reference



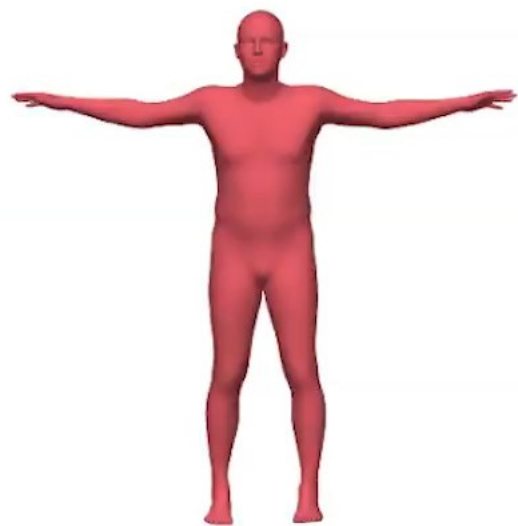
SOP



Ours (DIP)

# TotalCapture (offline)

[Trumble et al. 2017]



SIP



Ours (DIP)



# Playground (offline)

[von Marcard et al. 2017]



SOP



SIP



Ours (DIP)

# Metrics on TotalCapture [Trumble et al. 2017]

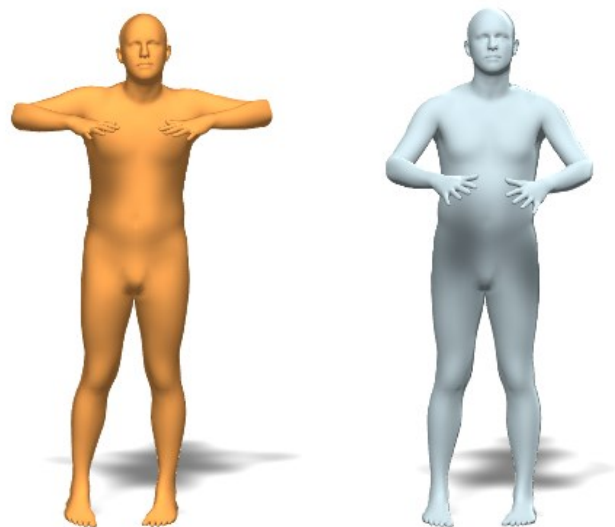


	TotalCapture			
	$\mu_{ang}$ [deg]	$\sigma_{ang}$ [deg]	$\mu_{pos}$ [cm]	$\sigma_{pos}$ [cm]
	22.18	17.34	8.39	7.57
	16.98	13.26	5.97	5.50
e)	15.85	12.87	5.98	6.03

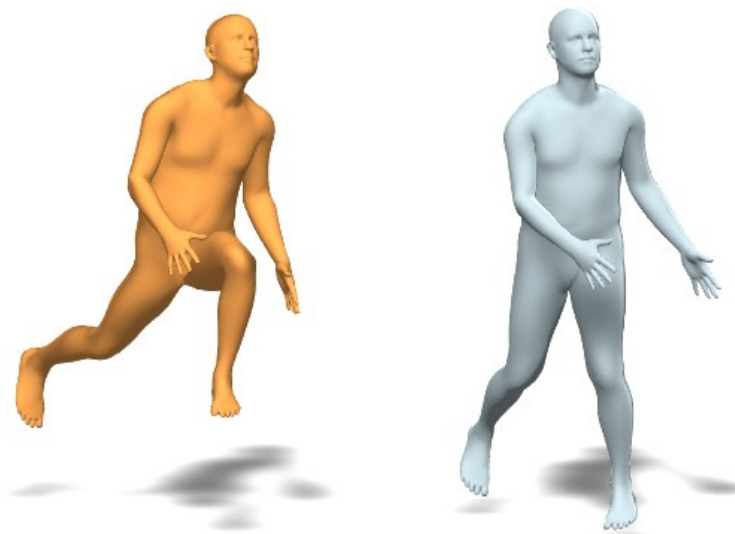
mean joint angle error

mean positional error

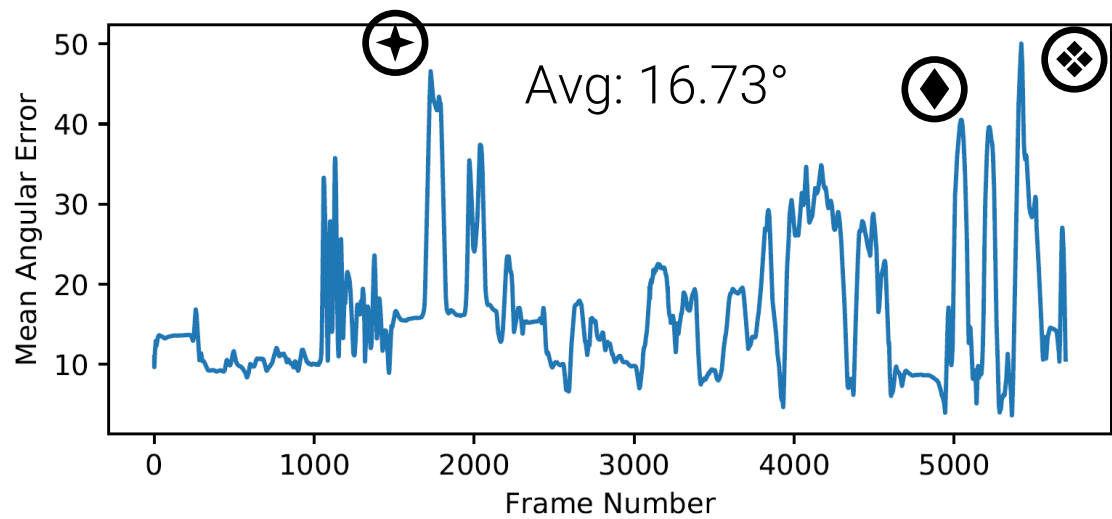
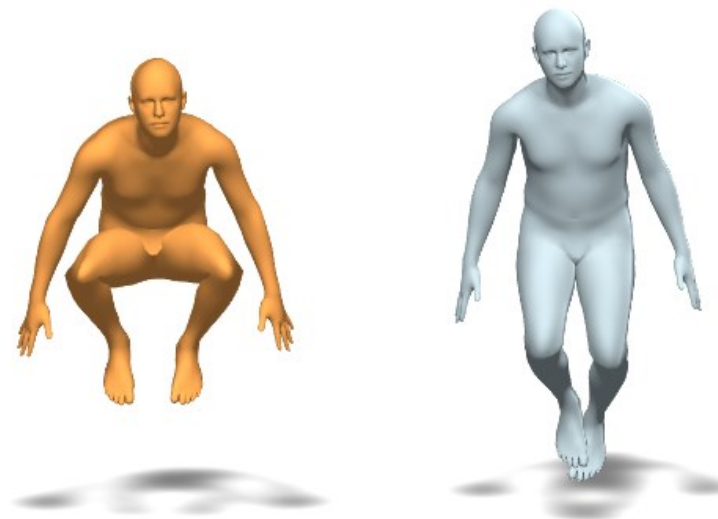
46.59°



40.51°



50.04°





# Real-Time Performance

System should work with **real** data in **real-time**.

Not a given as **noise characteristics** might be very different.

# DIP-IMU Dataset

Recorded our own **dataset** with **17 Xsens sensors**.

Feed **SIP** fully-constrained pose to produce reference SMPL poses (**SIP-17**).

10 subjects, roughly **90 min.** of data.



<http://dip.is.tue.mpg.de>



# Fine-Tuning for Domain Adaptation

Domain adaptation problem  
**severe** on DIP-IMU.

After **fine-tuning** on subset of  
DIP-IMU.



Reference  
(SIP-17)



Ours  
(before fine-tuning)



Reference  
(SIP-17)



Ours  
(after fine-tuning)

View Area  
Pending  
Toggle Mode  
Toggle Act  
Draw Bone O  
Set J P  
Dump Pe  
align  
act  
reference  
version  
motions  
set  
editing



Microsoft Surface to be Used

Drop Menu  
Heading  
Toggle Model  
Toggle Acc  
Draw Bone O  
Set I-P  
Dump File



20 past &  
5 future frames

runs at 29 fps  
latency ~85 ms

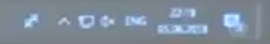
Walk for buffer to the...

- Top Measurement
- Heading Reset
- ge Model Inference
- gyro Acceleration
- Bone Orientations
- Set 1 Pose
- Dump Recording



**20 past &  
5 future frames**

**runs at 29 fps  
latency ~85 ms**



- Jump Areas
  - Heading
  - Toggle Mode
  - Toggle Acc
  - Draw Bone O
  - Set I-F
  - Dump File
- armor
  - view
  - camera
  - rotation
  - rotation
  - ob
  - editing



**20 past &  
5 future frames**

**runs at 29 fps  
latency ~85 ms**



# Summary

**Possible** to capture motions in **real time** with **sparse** set of IMUs.

Training on large **synthetic** dataset.

**Domain adaptation** still difficult.

We **release** code and data.



<http://dip.is.tue.mpg.de>



# Thank You!

## Deep Inertial Poser

Learning to Reconstruct Human Pose from Sparse Inertial Measurements in Real Time



<http://dip.is.tue.mpg.de>

# References

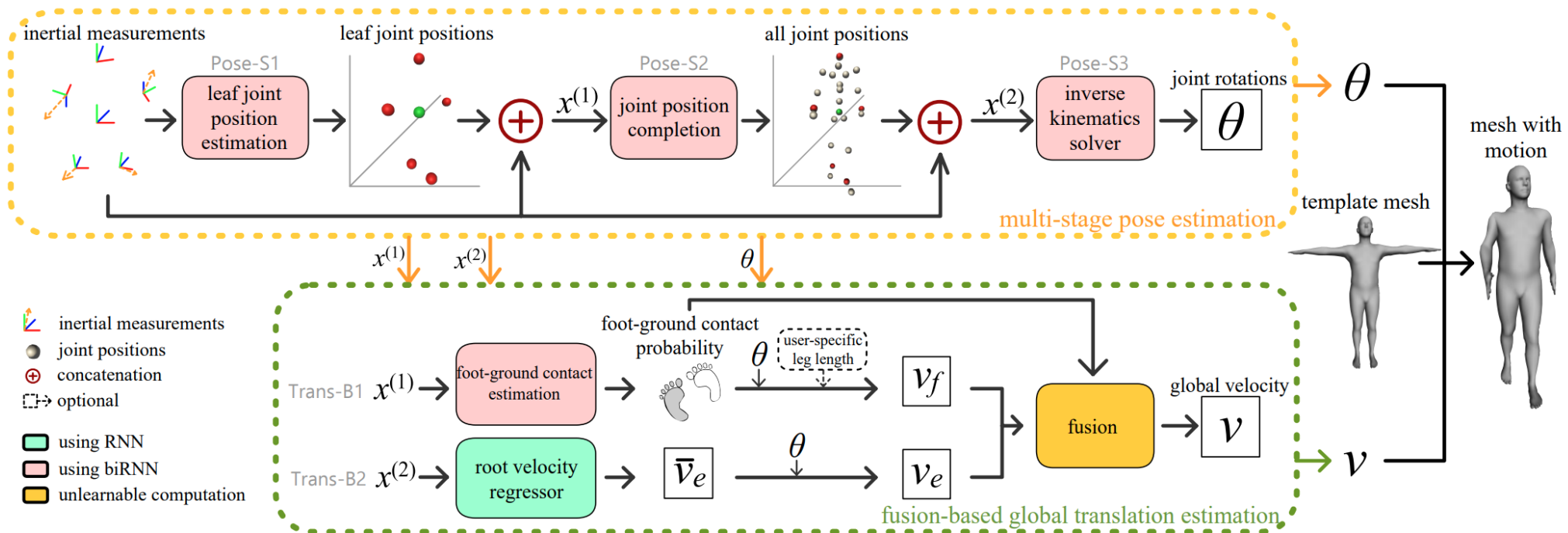
- Ahmed **Elhayek**, Edilson de Aguiar, Arjun Jain, J Thompson, Leonid Pishchulin, Mykhaylo Andriluka, Christoph Bregler, Bernt Schiele, and Christian Theobalt. 2017. MARCOml ConvNet-Based MARKer-Less Motion Capture in Outdoor and Indoor Scenes. *IEEE transactions on pattern analysis and machine intelligence* 39, 3 (2017), 501–514.
- Matthew **Loper**, Naureen Mahmood, Javier Romero, Gerard Pons-Moll, and Michael J Black. 2015. SMPL: A skinned multi-person linear model. *ACM Transactions on Graphics (TOG)* 34, 6 (2015), 248.
- Dushyant **Mehta**, Oleksandr Sotnychenko, Franziska Mueller, Weipeng Xu, Srinath Sridhar, Gerard Pons-Moll, and Christian Theobalt. 2018. Single-Shot Multi-Person 3D Pose Estimation From Monocular RGB. In *International Conference on 3D Vision (3DV)*
- Charles **Malleson**, Marco Volino, Andrew Gilbert, Matthew Trumble, John Collomosse, and Adrian Hilton. 2017. Real-time Full-Body Motion Capture from Video and IMUs. In *2017 Fifth International Conference on 3D Vision (3DV)*. 449–457.
- Daniel **Roetenberg**, Henk Luinge, and Per Slycke. 2007. Moven: Full 6dof human motion tracking using miniature inertial sensors. Xsen Technologies, December (2007).
- Mike **Schuster** and Kuldip K **Paliwal**. 1997. Bidirectional recurrent neural networks. *IEEE Transactions on Signal Processing* 45, 11 (1997), 2673–2681.
- Matthew **Trumble**, Andrew Gilbert, Charles Malleson, Adrian Hilton, and John Collomosse. 2017. Total capture: 3d human pose estimation fusing video and inertial sensors. In *Proceedings of 28th British Machine Vision Conference*. 1–13.
- Timo **von Marcard**, Bodo Rosenhahn, Michael J Black, and Gerard Pons-Moll. 2017. Sparse inertial poser: Automatic 3D human pose estimation from sparse IMUs. In *Computer Graphics Forum, Vol. 36*. Wiley Online Library, 349–360.
- Timo **von Marcard**, Roberto Henschel, Michael Black, Bodo Rosenhahn, and Gerard Pons-Moll. 2018. Recovering Accurate 3D Human Pose in The Wild Using IMUs and a Moving Camera. In *European Conference on Computer Vision (ECCV)*

# Extensions and recent works

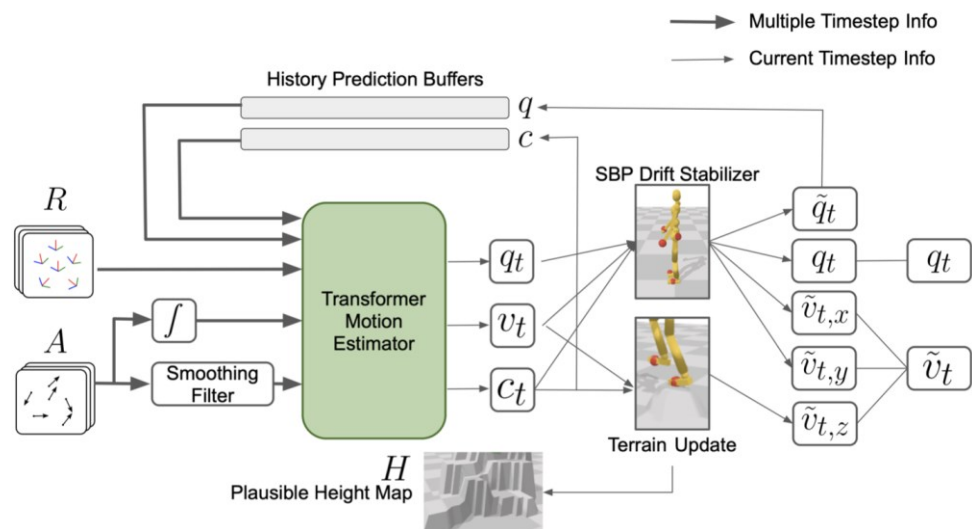
# TransPose: Global translation and physical constraints

Key ideas to improve DIP:

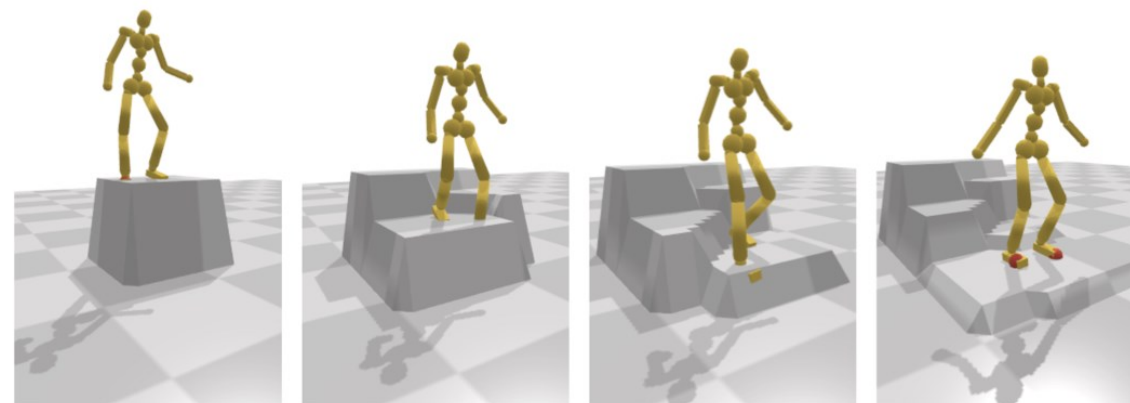
- 1) Predict joints from leaf to root hierarchically
- 2) Predict and enforce foot contact to the ground



# Transformer Inertial Poser



Architecture



Example of predicted terrain

Key ideas:

- 1) Predict stationary points to constraint motion
- 2) Infer plausible terrain

# PIP: Physical Inertial Poser

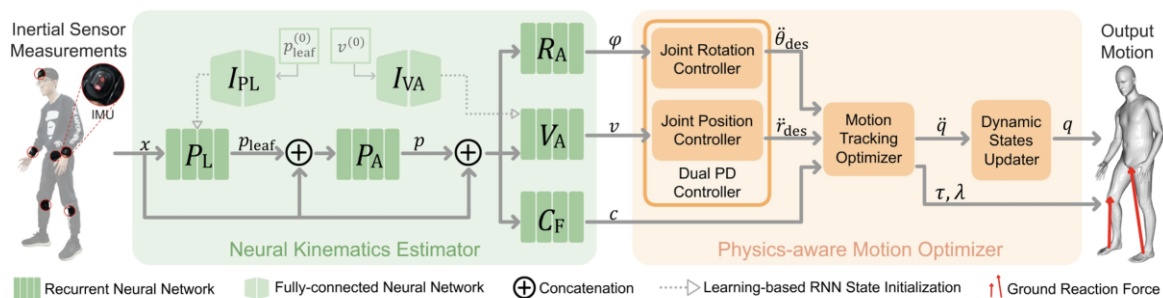
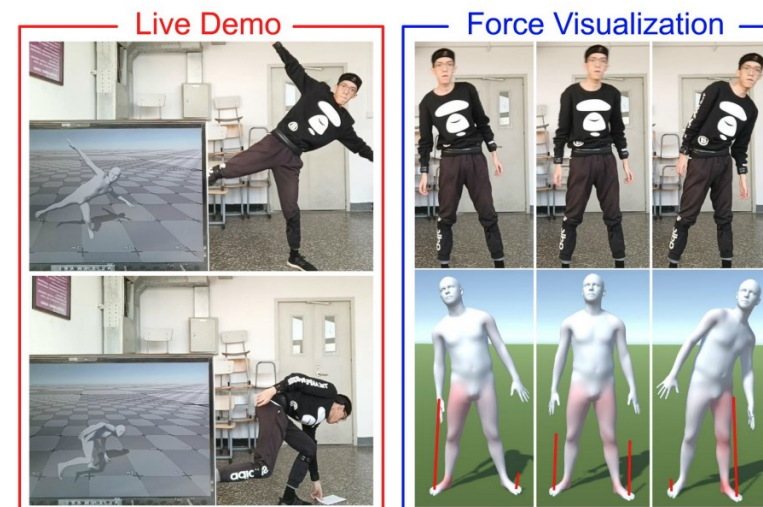


Figure 2. Overview of our method. We first use a neural kinematics estimator to infer human motion status from sparse IMU measurements. Then, we use a physics-aware motion optimizer to obtain physically correct human motion, joint torques, and ground reaction forces.



Key idea:

- 1) Predict Motion with a neural model
- 2) Refine estimate with physics based optimization (need to figure external forces as well as body joint torques)

# Slide Acknowledgments

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