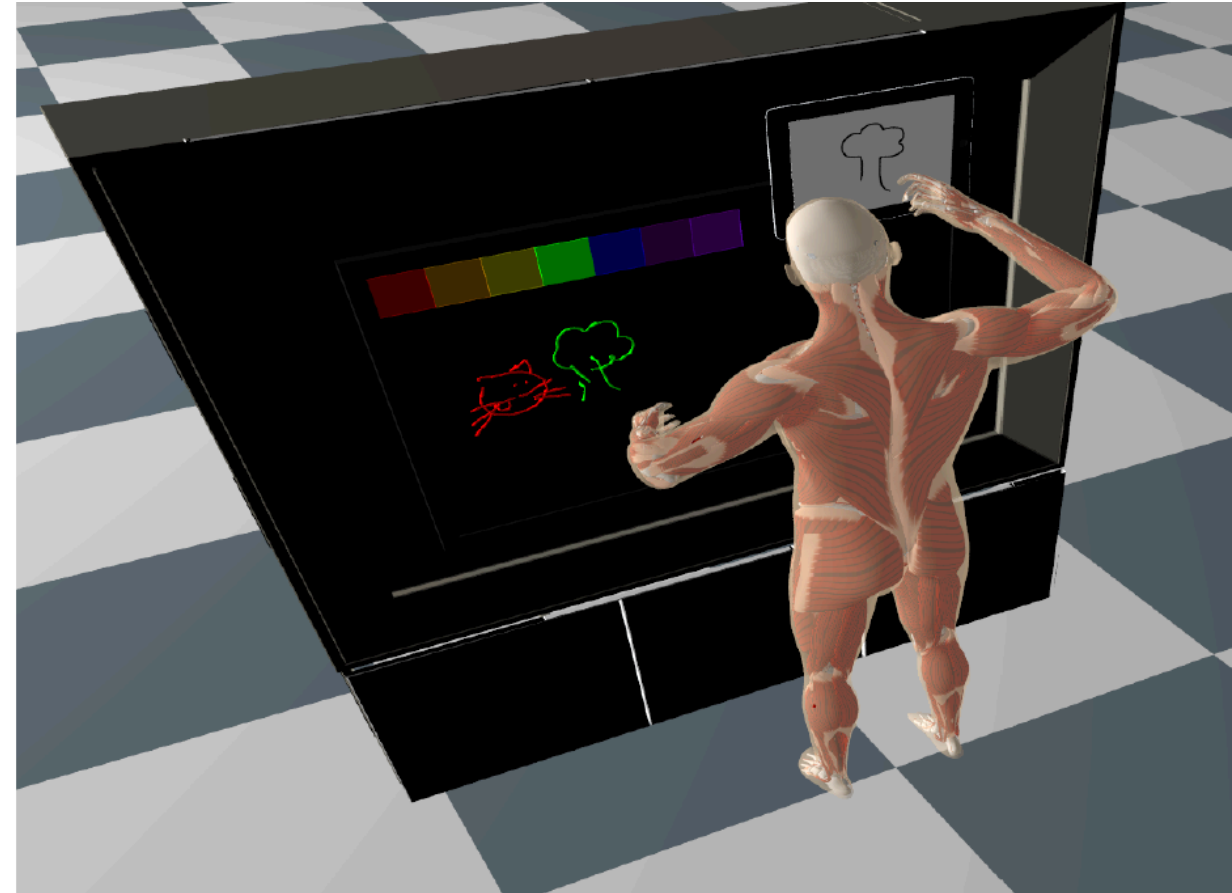
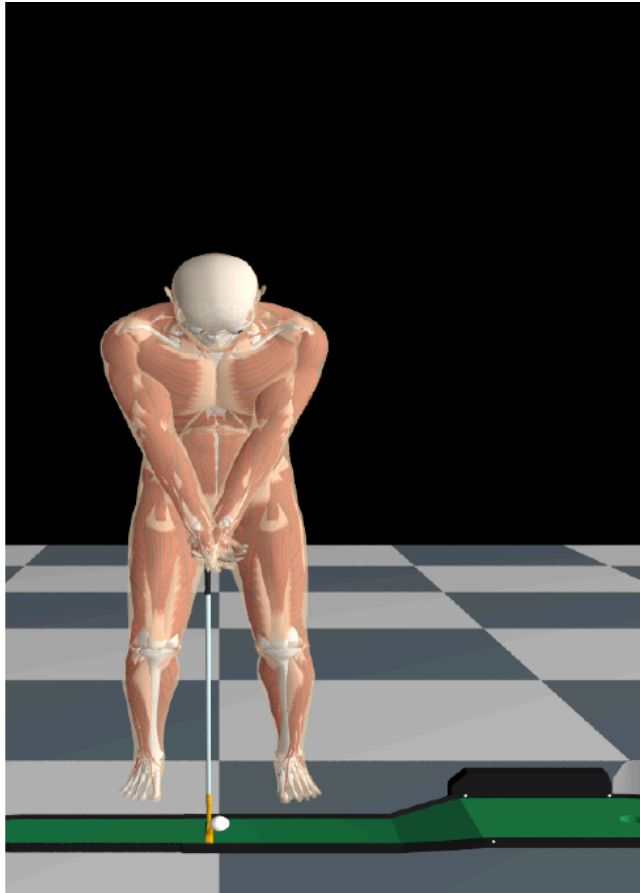
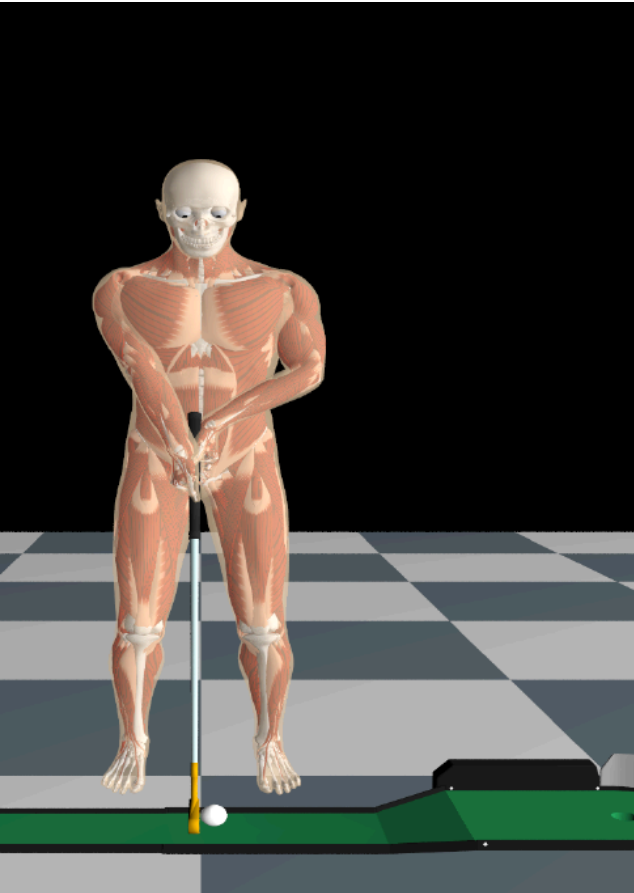


# Core Training:

## Learning Deep Neuromuscular Control of the Torso for Anthropomorphic Animation



Tao Zhou

Department of Computer Science  
*University of California, Los Angeles*

# Overview

Related work

Objective

Biomechanical Human Musculoskeletal Model

Neuromuscular Control System

Experiments and Results

Conclusion

# Overview

Related work

Objective

Biomechanical Human Musculoskeletal Model

Neuromuscular Control System

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Conclusion

# Human Motion





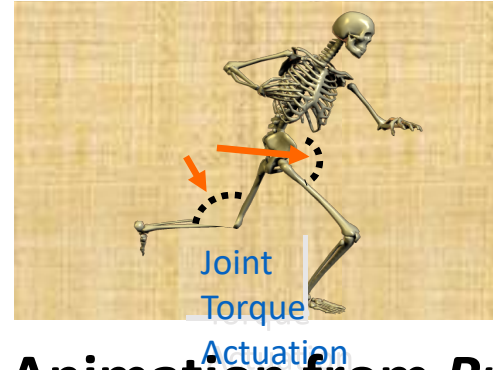
# Related Work

## Biomechanical Human Modeling

Hodgins et al., 1995

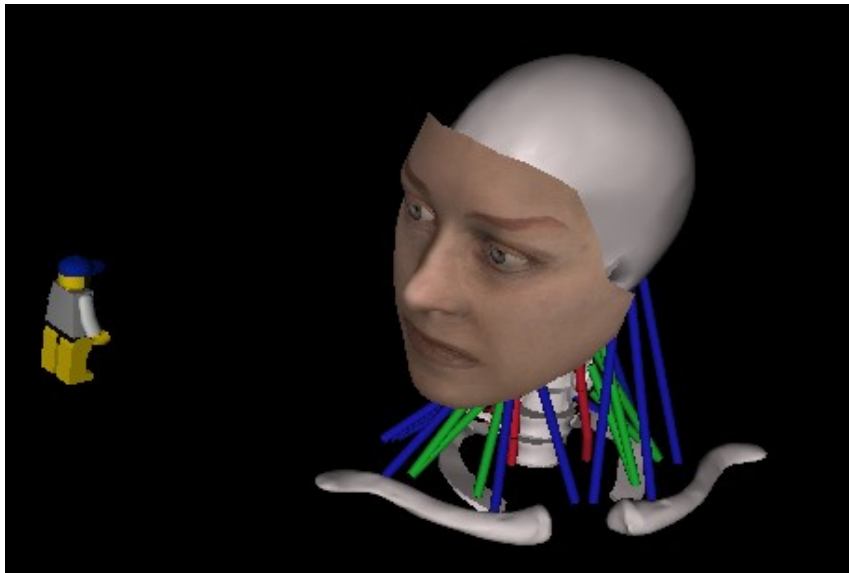


[Faloutsos et al., 2001]

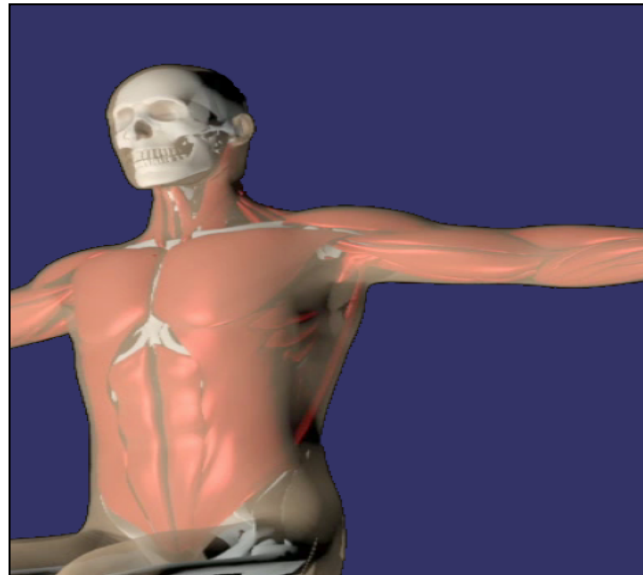


## Neuromuscular Control for Musculoskeletal Human Animation from Prof. Terzopoulos group

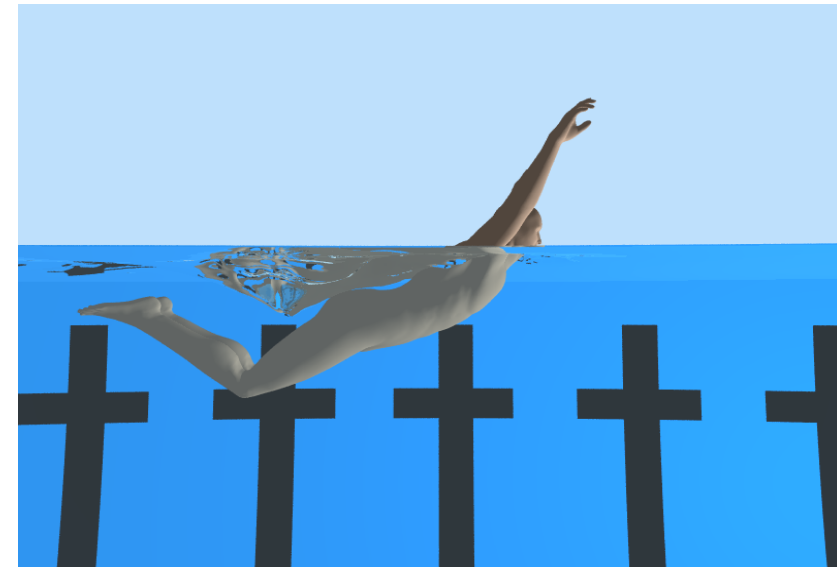
Lee, Terzopoulos 2006



Lee, Sifakis, Terzopoulos 2010



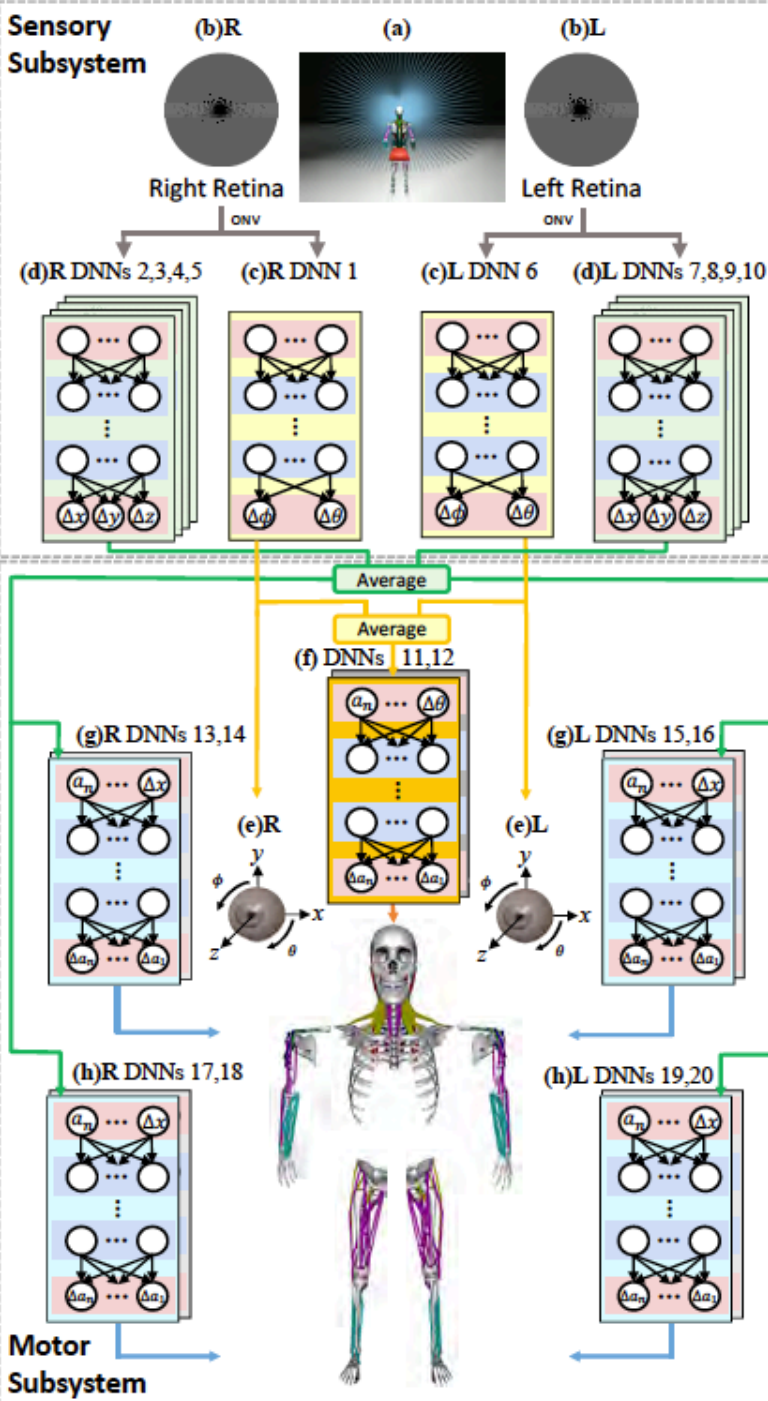
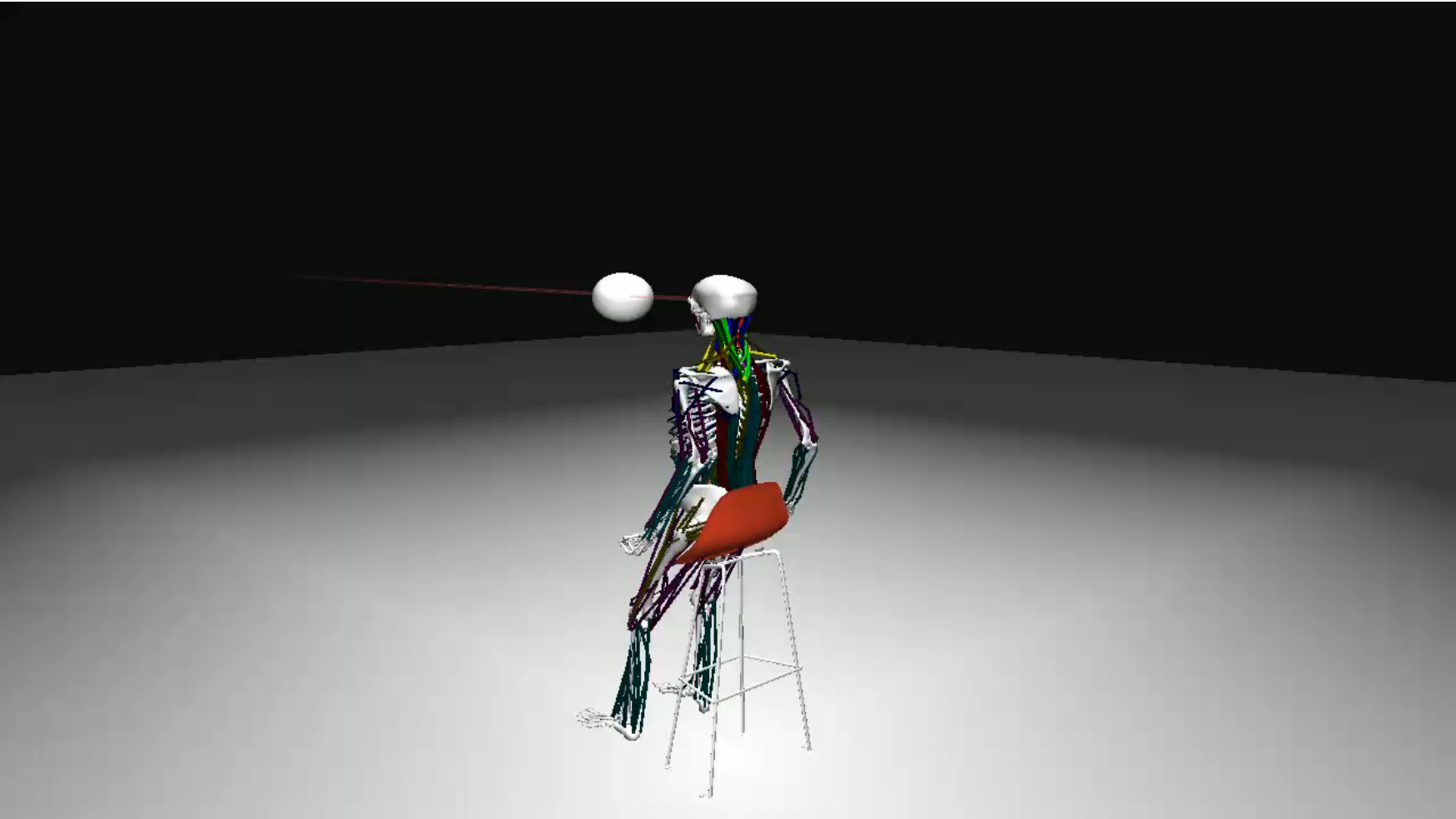
Si, Lee, Sifakis, Terzopoulos 2014



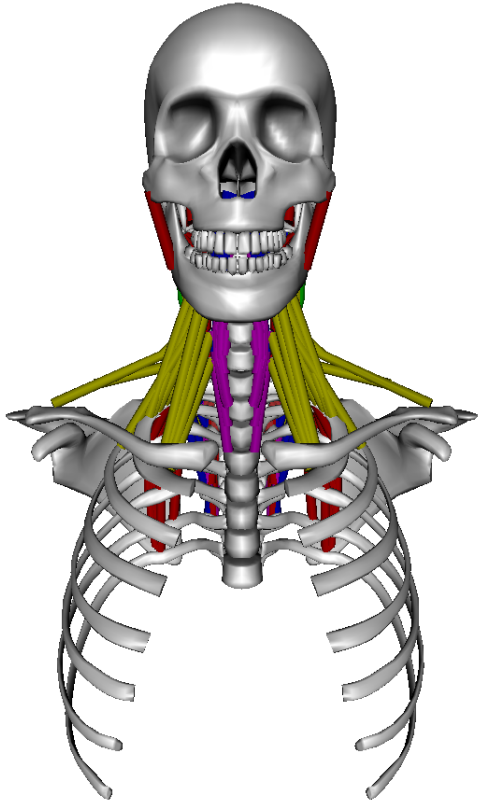
# Deep Learning of Biomimetic Sensorimotor Control for Biomechanical Human Animation

Masaki Nakada, Tao Zhou, Honglin Chen, Tomer Weiss and Demetri Terzopoulos

Presented in SIGGRAPH 2018

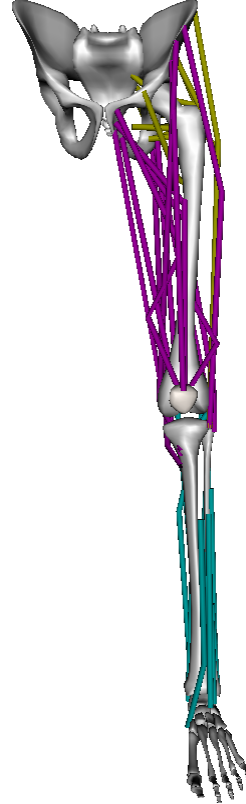


# Nakada et. al SIGGRAPH 2018



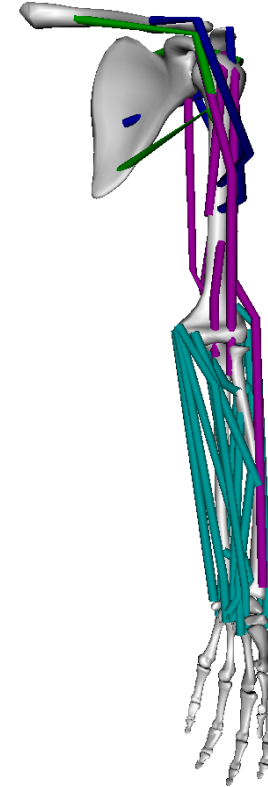
Cervicocephalic Complex

Root: T1  
End effector: Skull  
muscle #: 244



Leg Complex

Root: Pelvis  
End effector: Foot  
muscle #: 39



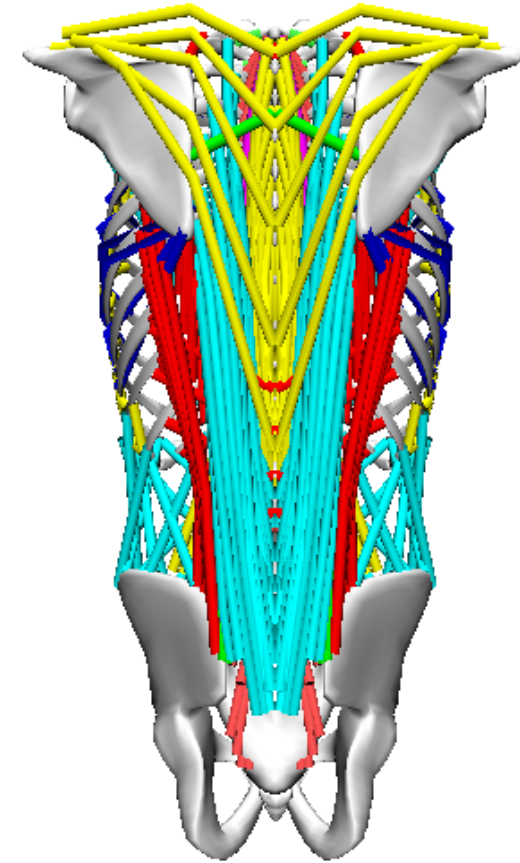
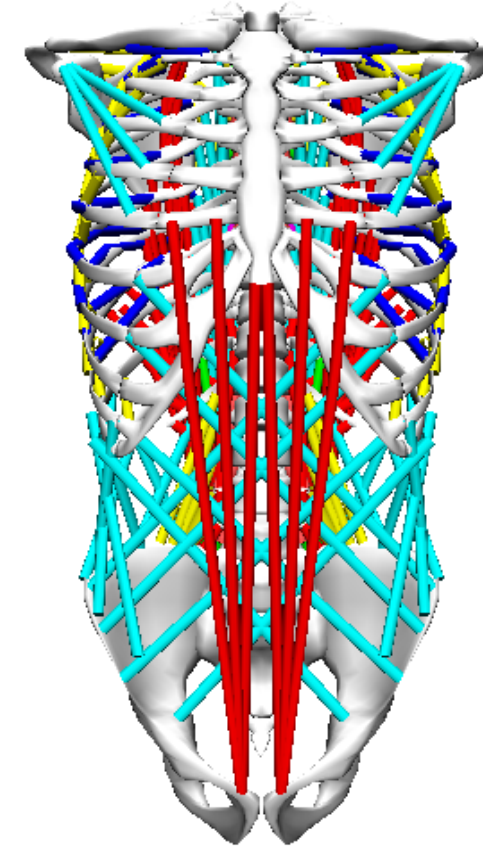
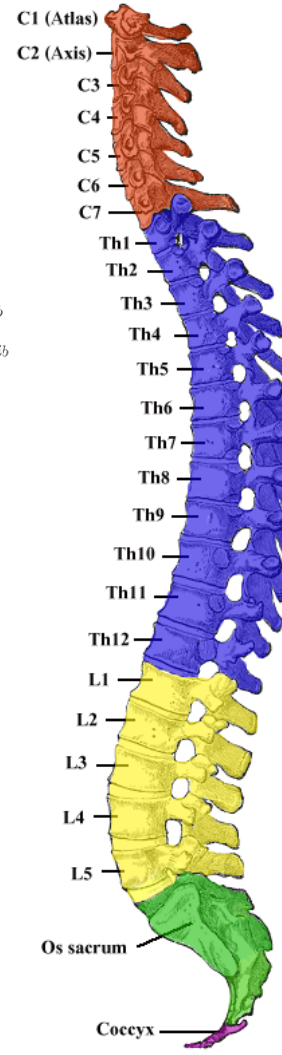
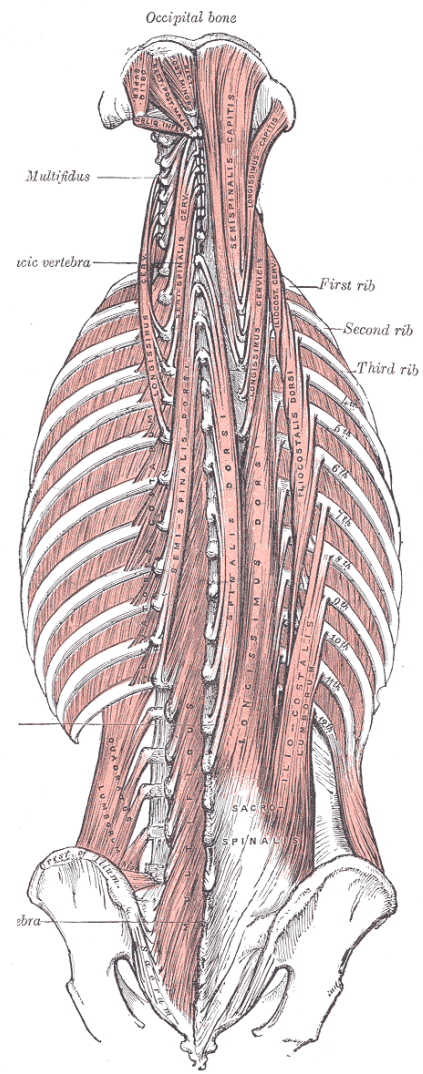
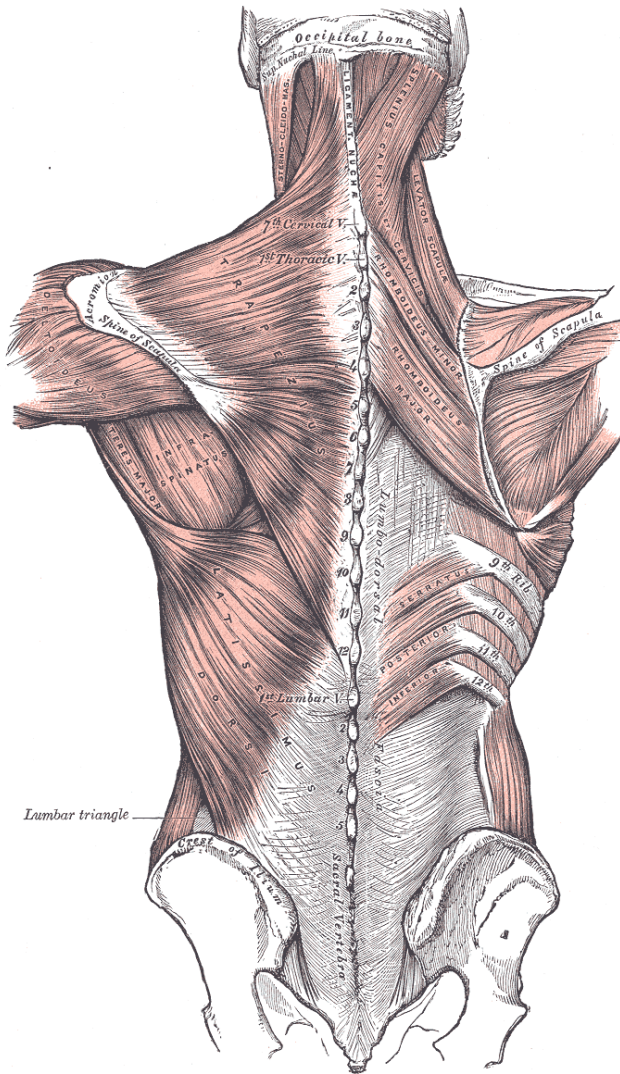
Arm Complex

Root: Clavicle  
End effector: Hand  
muscle #: 29





# Torso Biomechanical Complex



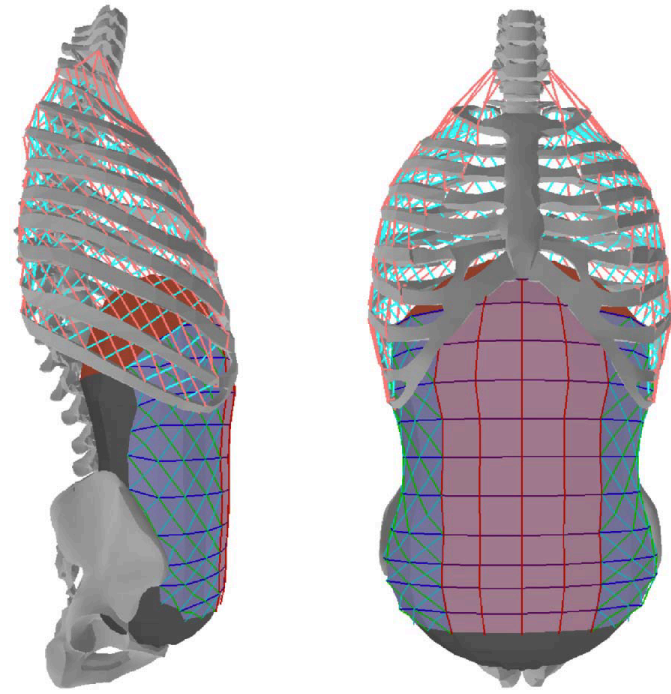
Root: Pelvis  
End effector: T1  
Bones #: 50  
DoF: 112  
muscle #: 443

# Previous Torso Models

Monheit and Badler 1991



Zordan et al., 2006





# Overview

Related work

Objective

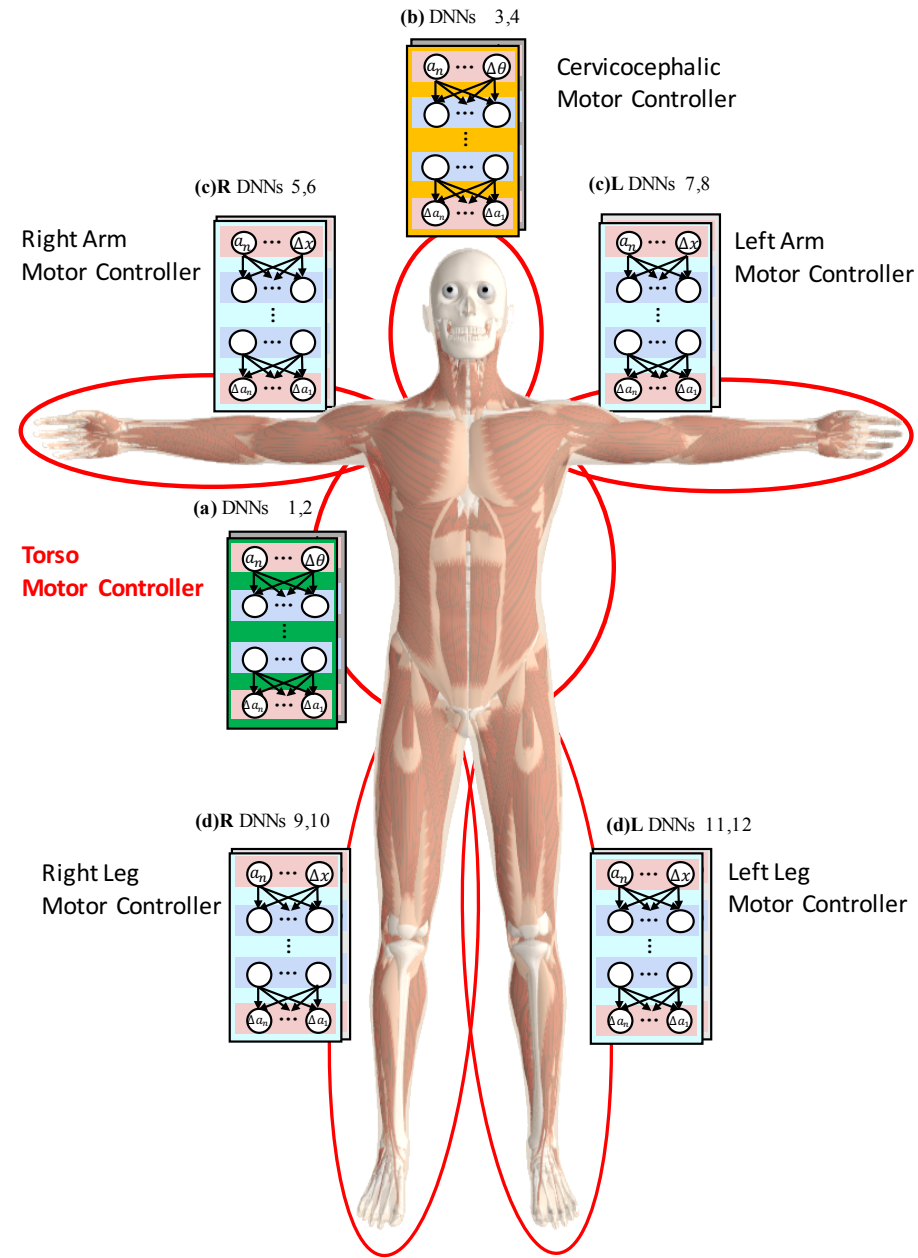
Biomechanical Human Musculoskeletal Model

Neuromuscular Control System

Experiments and Results

Conclusion

# Goal: Learn deep neuromuscular control of the torso to enable full-body articulation



# Overview

Related work

Objective

**Biomechanical Human Musculoskeletal Model**

Neuromuscular Control System

Experiments and Results

Conclusion

# Musculoskeletal Human Model

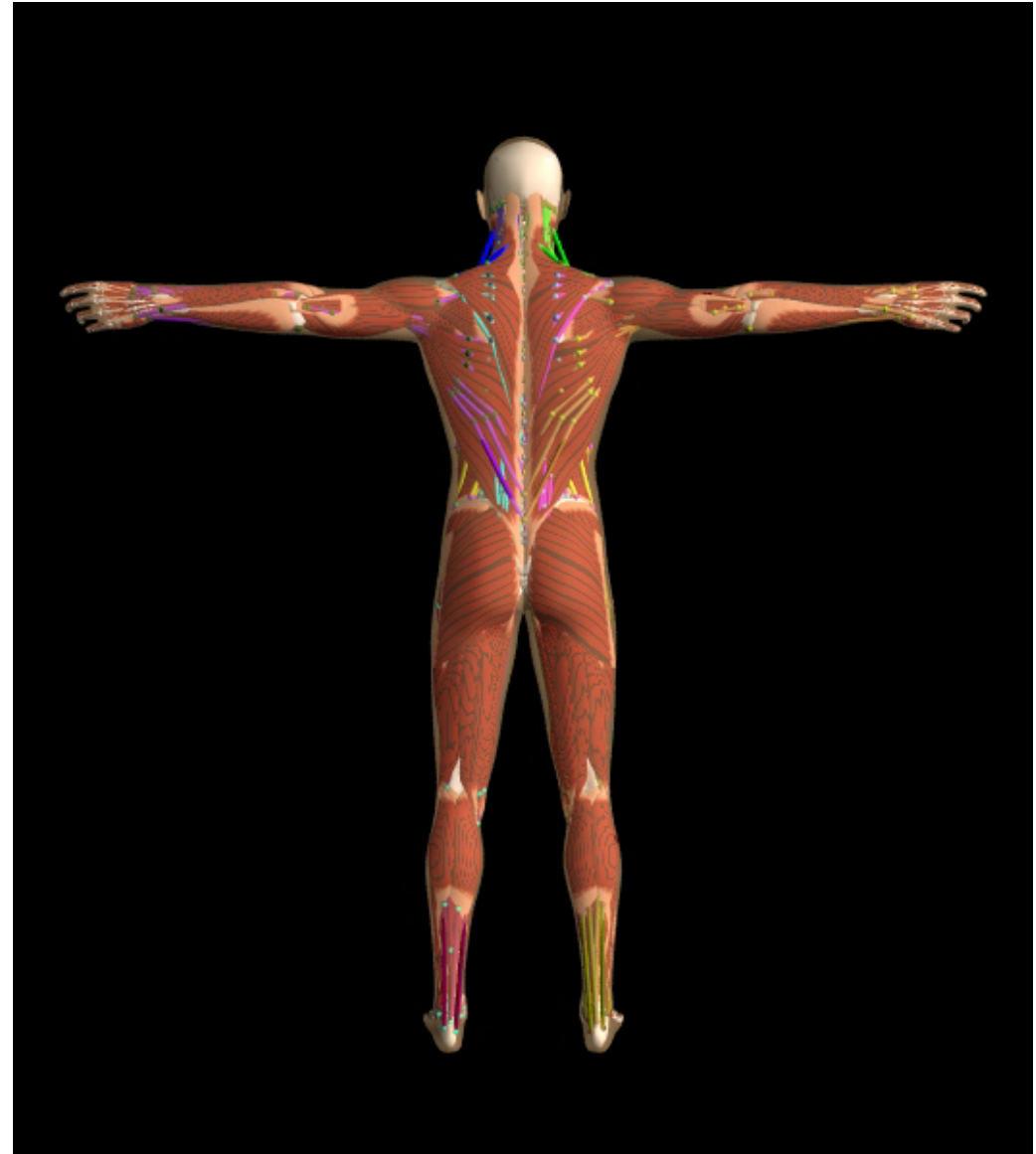
103 bones comprising 163  
articular degrees of freedom



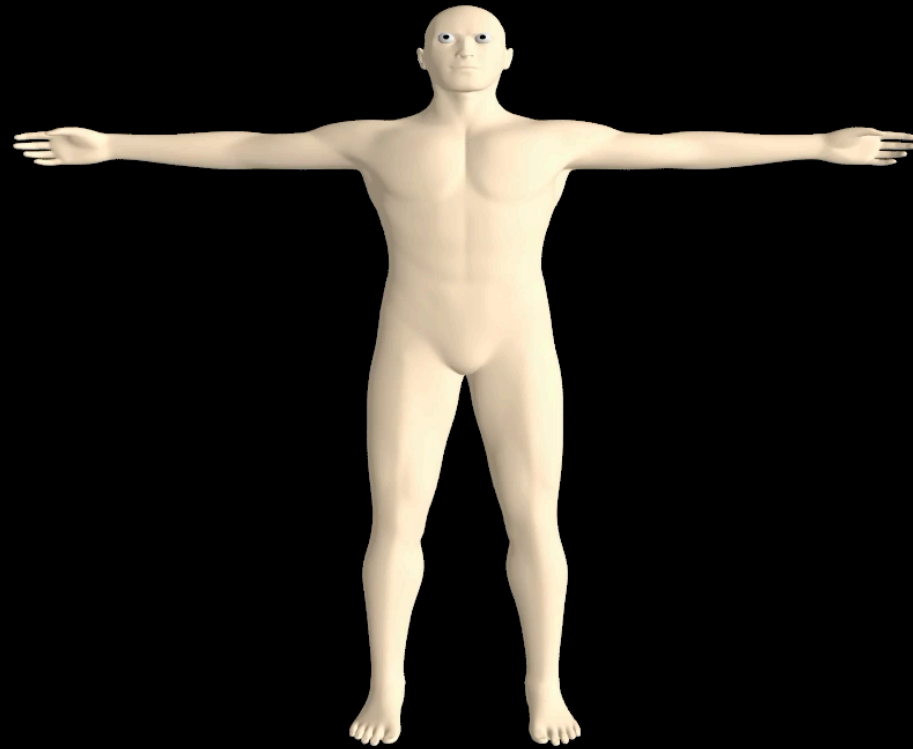
A total of 823 Hill-type  
contractile muscle actuators



With deforming flesh and  
muscles



# Musculoskeletal Human Model

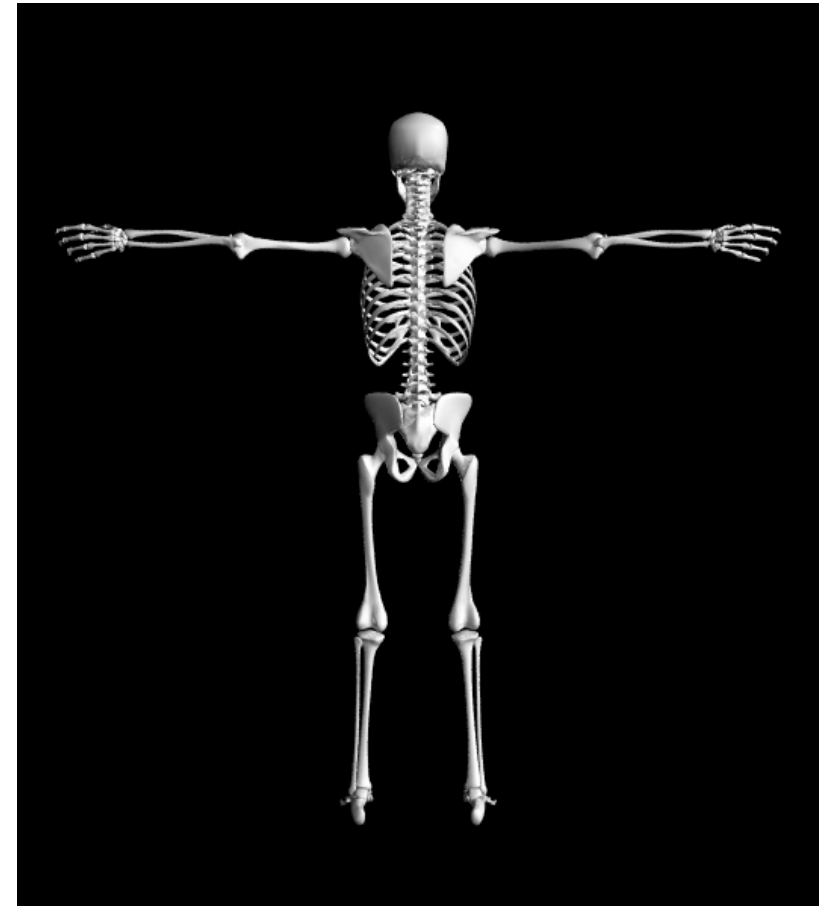




# Skeletal system

- The equation of motion.
  - $q_m$ : Muscle driven joints.
  - $q_p$ : Passive joints
  - $M$ : Mass matrix
  - $C$ : Forces from connecting tissues, Coriolis forces and centrifugal forces
  - $J$ : Transform the applied external force to the joint space
  - $P$ : Momentum arm matrix to map the contractile force to joint torque
- Numerically integrate the equations of motion through time

$$M(q) \begin{bmatrix} \ddot{q}_m \\ \ddot{q}_p \end{bmatrix} + C(q, \dot{q}) = \begin{bmatrix} P(q)f_c \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + J^T f_e \quad (1)$$

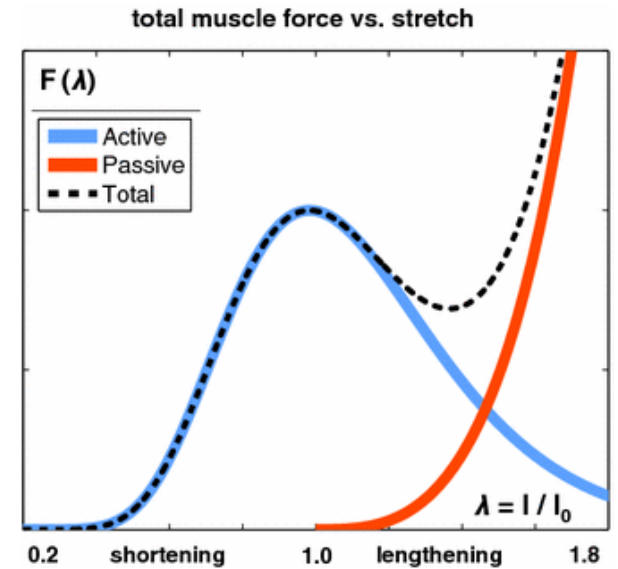


# Muscle system

## Hill-type muscle model

- (1)  $f_p$  is a passive element which passively produces restoring force due to the material elasticity to the deformation.
  - $k_s$  and  $k_d$  are the stiffness and damping coefficient
  - $e$  is muscle strain and  $\dot{e}$  is strain rate
- (2)  $f_c$  is a contractile element which actively generate the contractile force by activating the muscle
  - $a$  is the muscle activation
  - $F_l$  is the force-length relation and  $f_v$  is the force velocity relation
- (3) The force is the combination of two components.  $f_m = f_p + f_c$ .

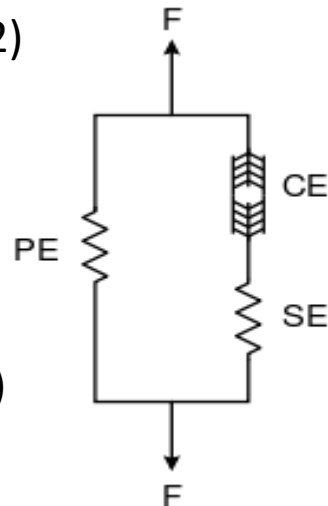
\*SE is a force by tendons. The stiffness is very high, so it has very small effect and can be neglected



$$f_P = \max(0, k_s(\exp(k_c e) - 1) + k_d \dot{e})(1)$$

$$f_C = a F_l(l) F_v(\dot{l})(2)$$

$$f_m = f_P + f_C (3)$$



# Overview

Related work

Objective

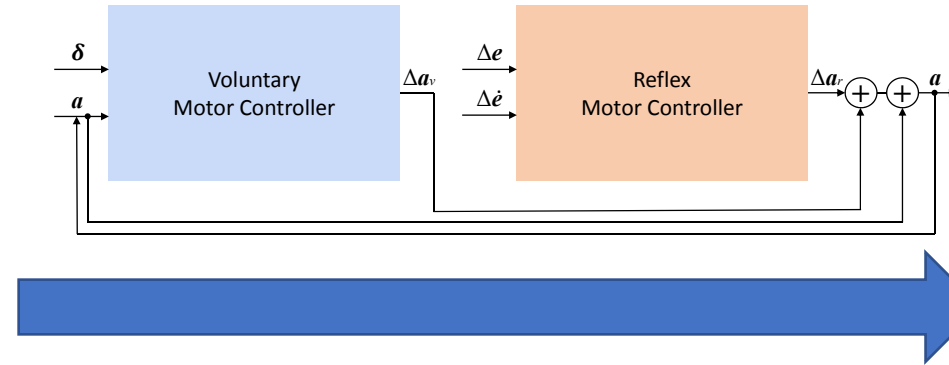
Biomechanical Human Musculoskeletal Model

Neuromuscular Control System

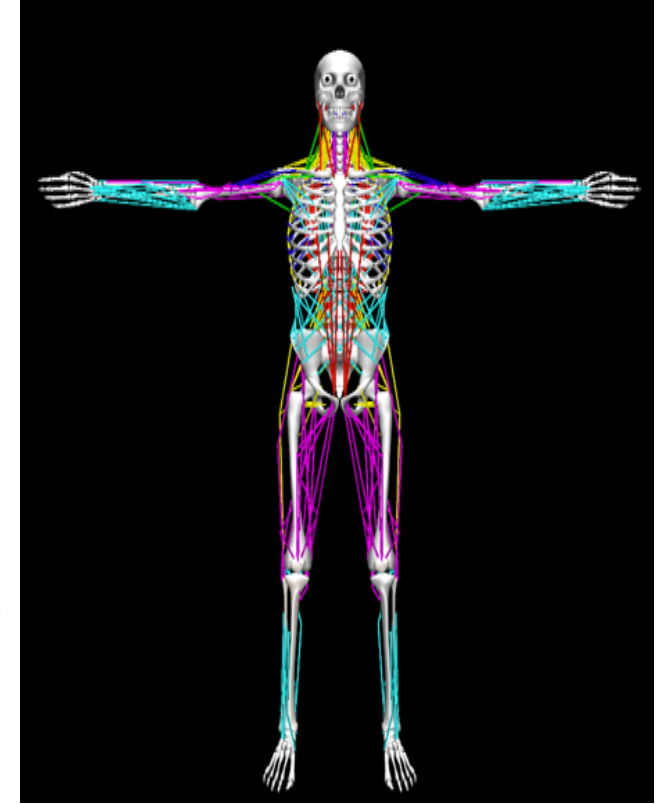
Experiments and Results

Conclusion

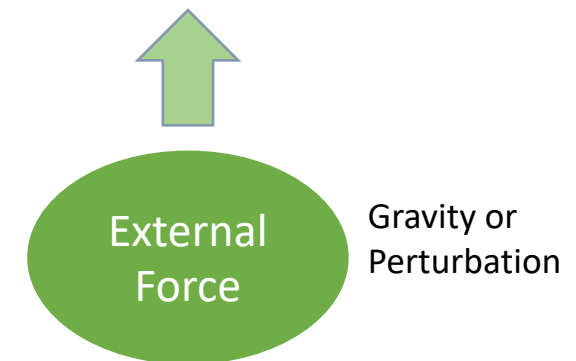
# Voluntary + reflex Muscle control



## Muscle System

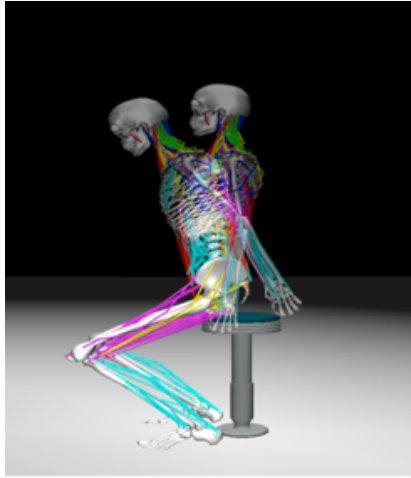


**Proprioceptive Feedback**

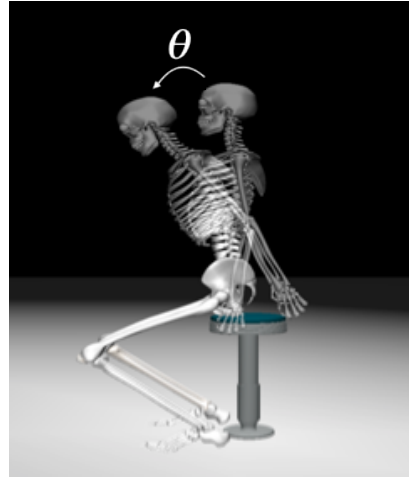


# Training data synthesis for voluntary motor DNN

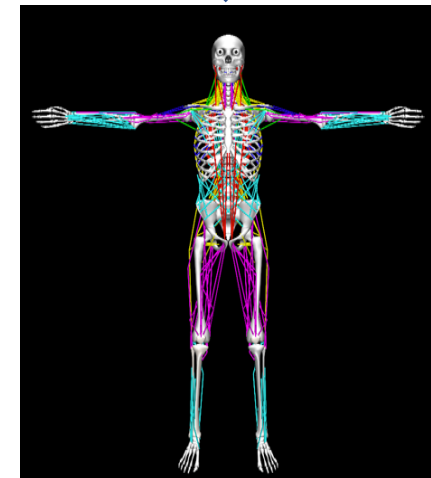
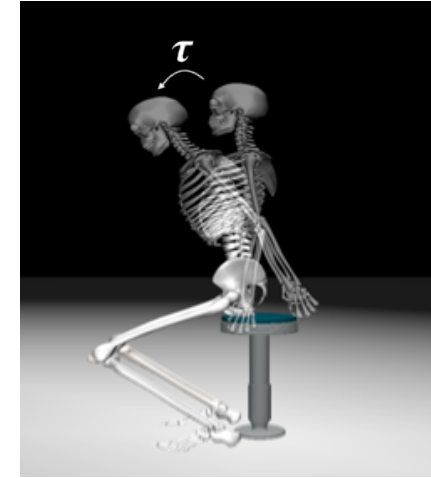
Set Target Orientation



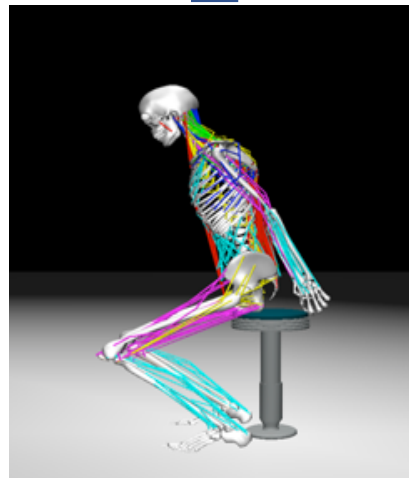
Inverse Kinematics



Inverse Dynamics



Muscle optimization



Forward Dynamics





# Reflex control

Stabilizes the musculoskeletal system

- (1) compute the reflex control signal by comparing current and desired muscle strain and strain rate
  - $k_p$  and  $k_d$  are the proportional and derivative gains
  - $e$  and  $\dot{e}$  are muscle strain and strain rate
  - $e_d$  and  $\dot{e}_d$  are the desired strain and strain rate, which are generated by setpoint signal generator.
  - $\text{sat}(x)$  is to limit the maximum of the derivative gain.
- (2) Add the reflex control signal to the voluntary signal. Limit the range to be  $0 \leq x \leq 1$

$$a_b = s(k_p(e - e_d) + k_d \text{sat}_m(\dot{e} - \dot{e}_d)) \quad (1)$$

$$\text{sat}_m(x) = \begin{cases} x & |x| < m \\ m \operatorname{sgn}(x) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$a = \min(1, \max(0, a_f + a_b)) \quad (2)$$

# Challenge

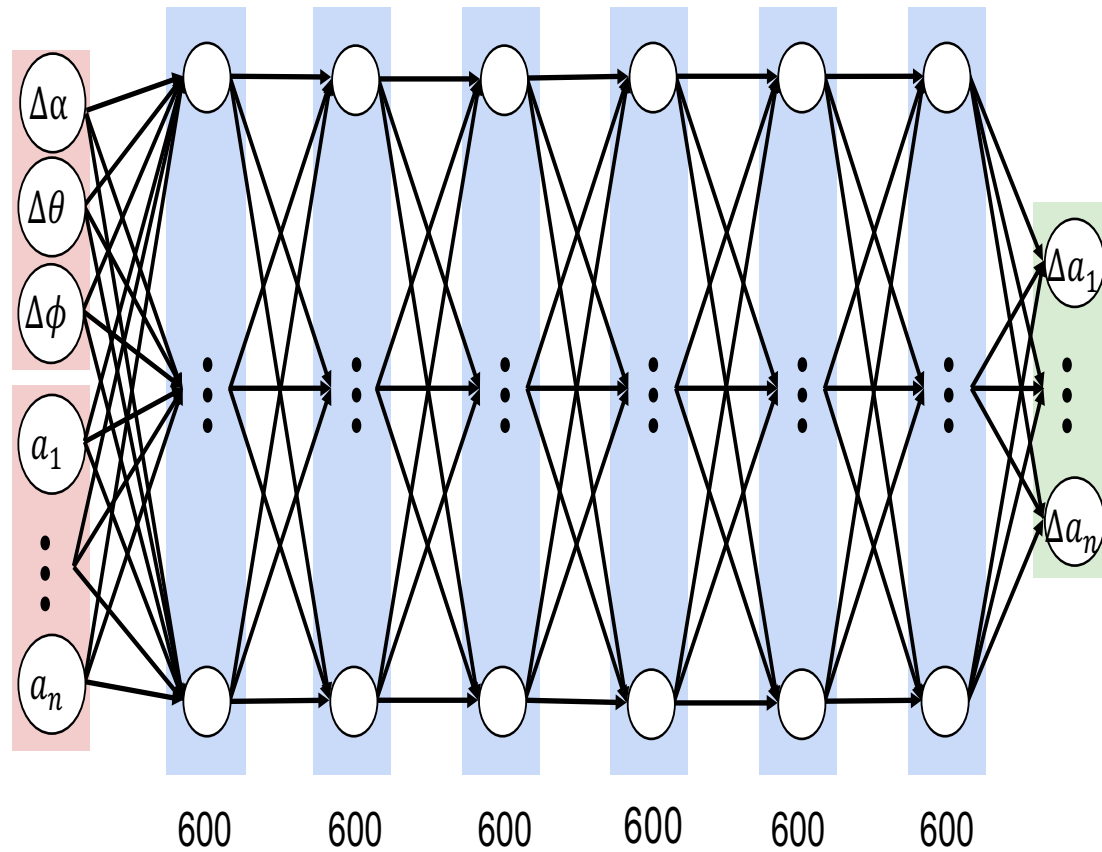
- The articulated biomechanical skeletal structure remains connected while moving.
- Each of the musculoskeletal complexes of the extremities include multiple significant muscles that attach to major bones in the torso.

# Solution

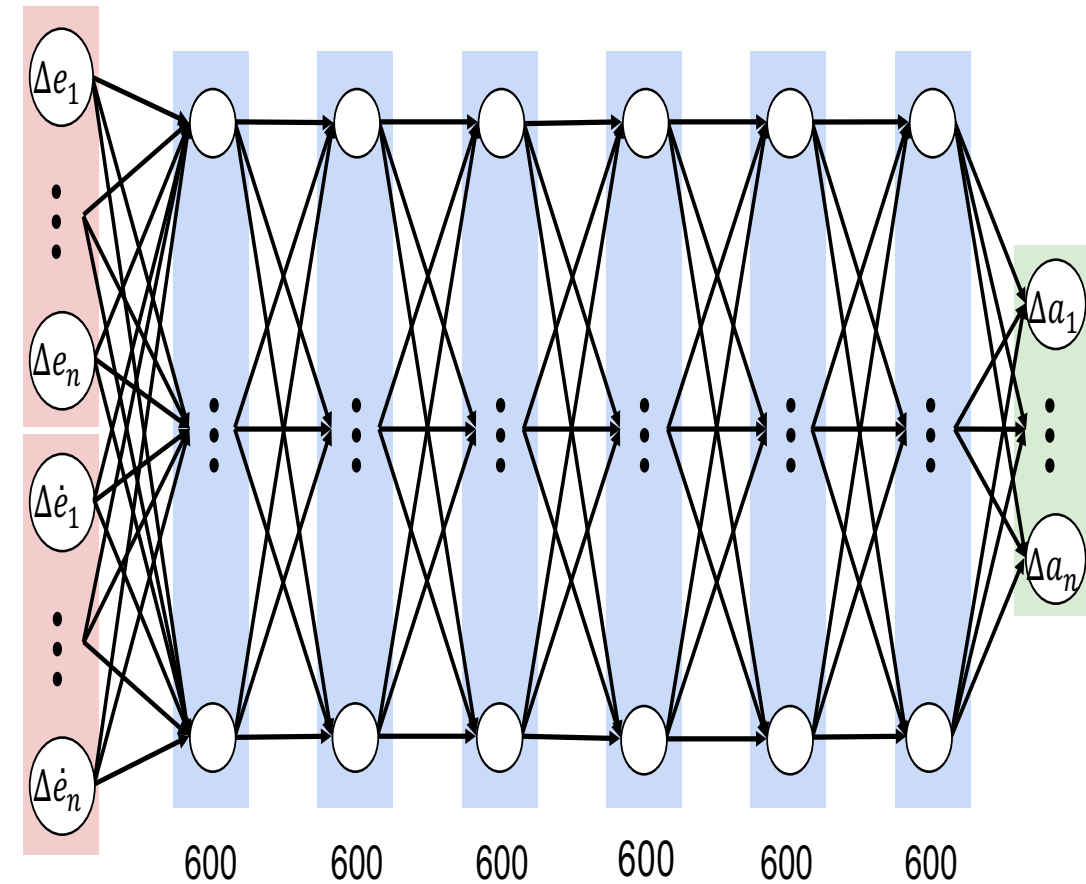
- For viable core training, we must regard the whole-body model as a unified system.
- Introduce random forces from the extremities onto the torso, such that the torso neuromuscular controller learns the consequences of forces derived from the extremities
- To learn balance, if COP comes to the margin of the support polygon, the biomechanical model is reset to an upright posture

# Network Structure

## Voluntary Controller

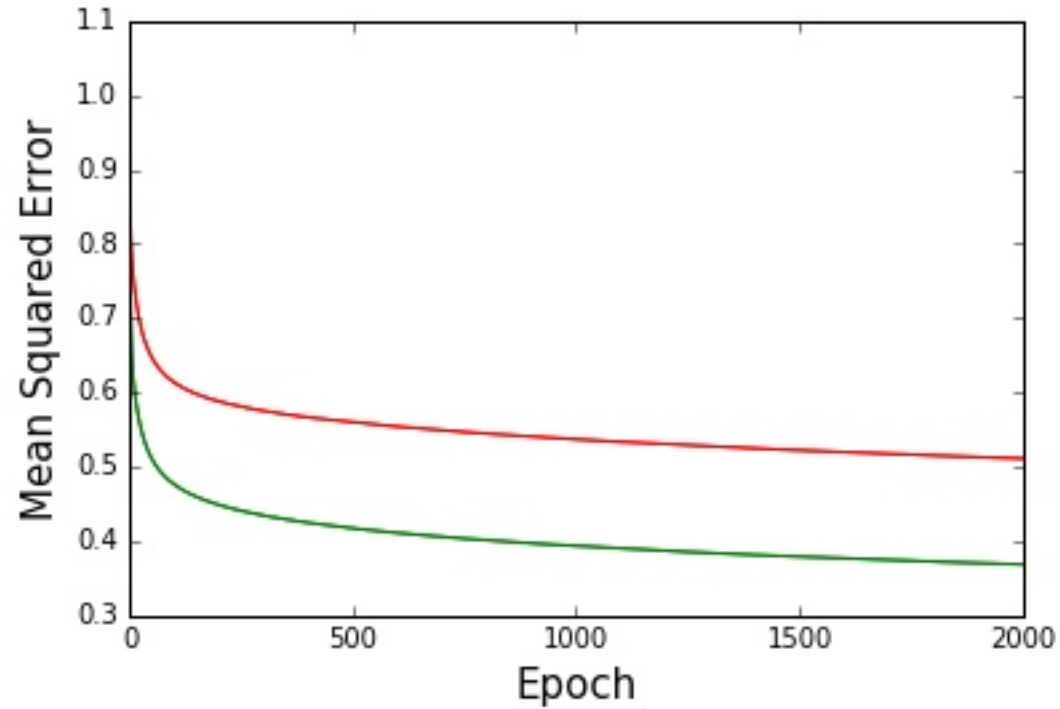


## Reflex Controller

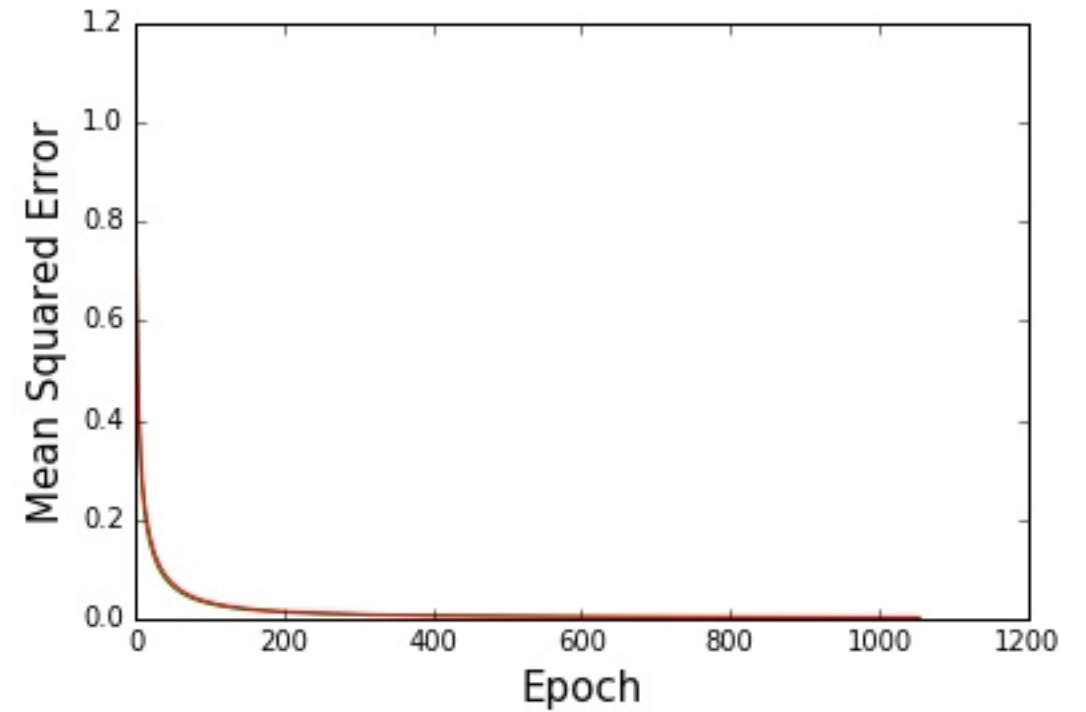


# Training Progress

## Torso Voluntary Controller

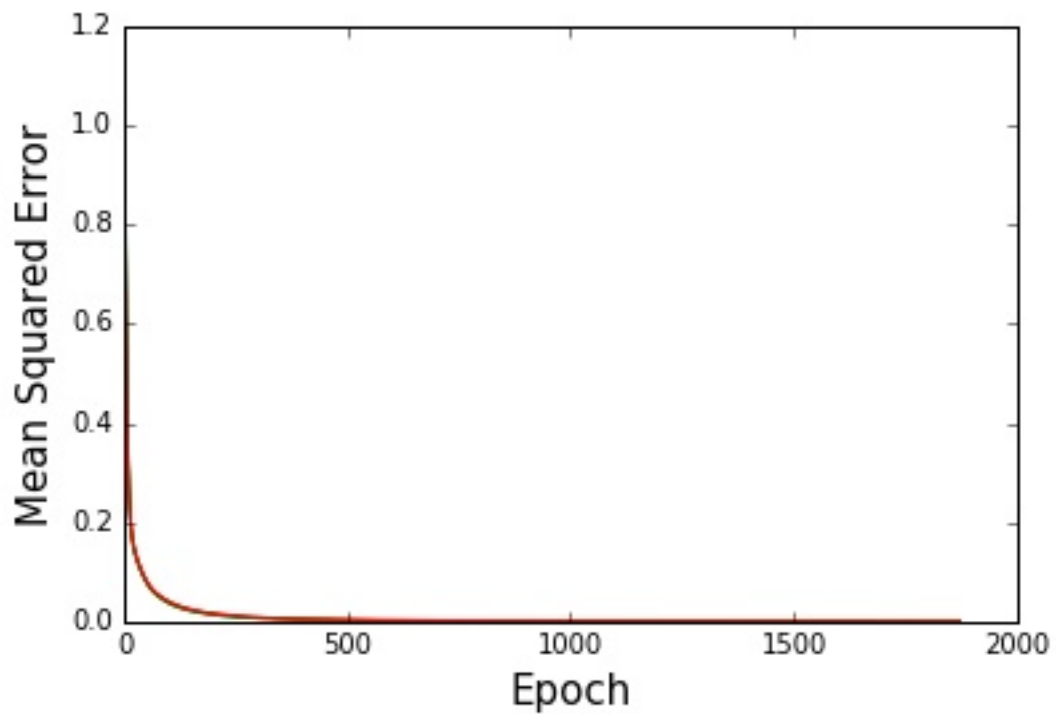


## Torso Reflex Controller

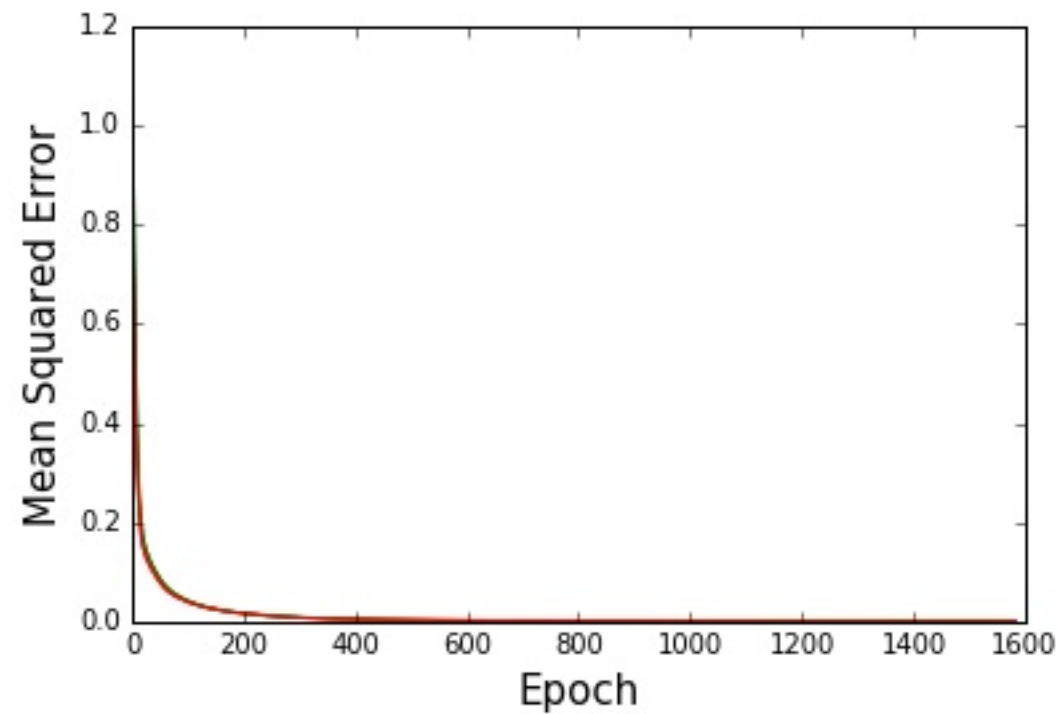


# Passive Posture Stabilization (Leg reflex)

## Left Leg Reflex

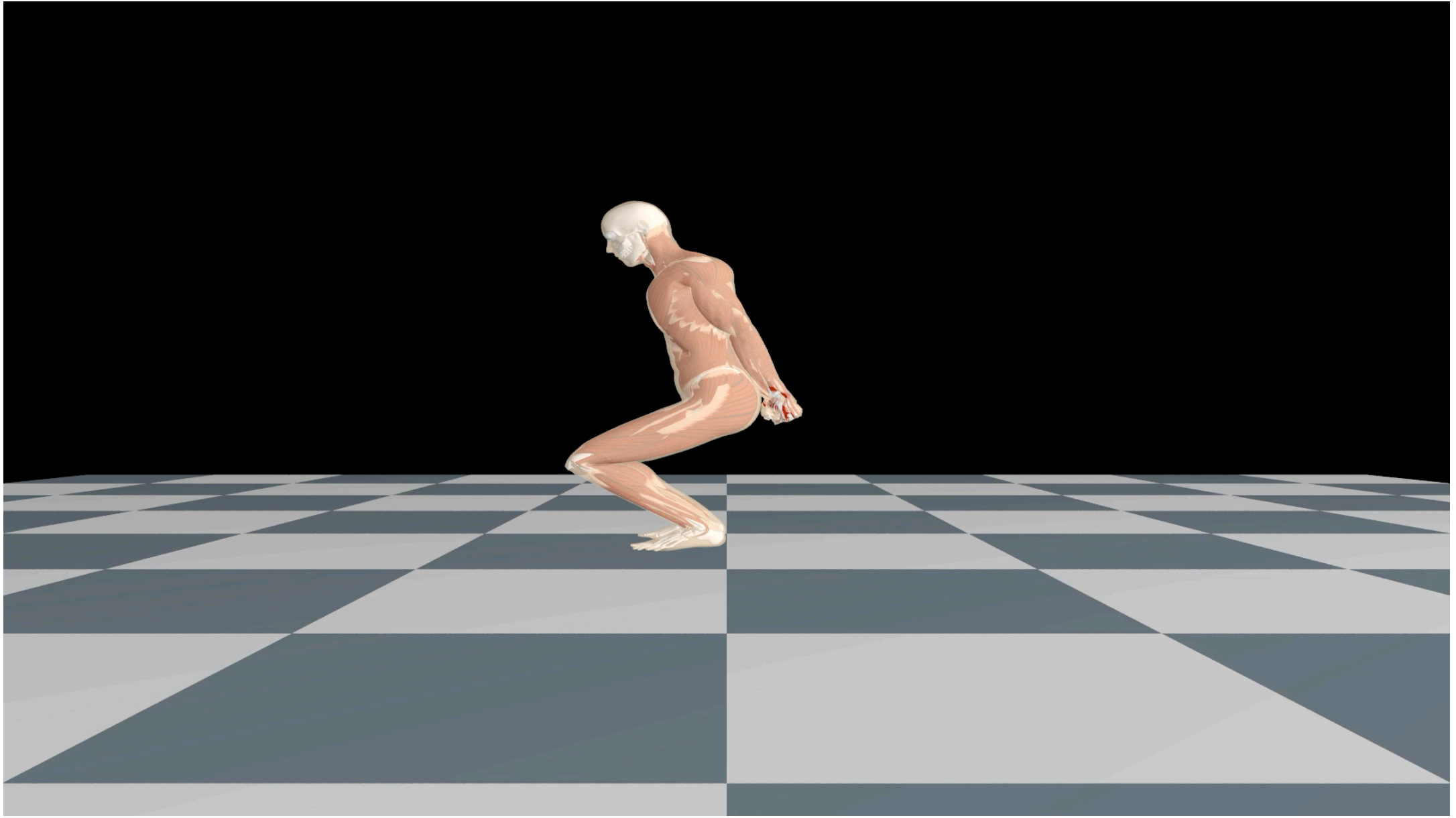


## Right Leg Reflex

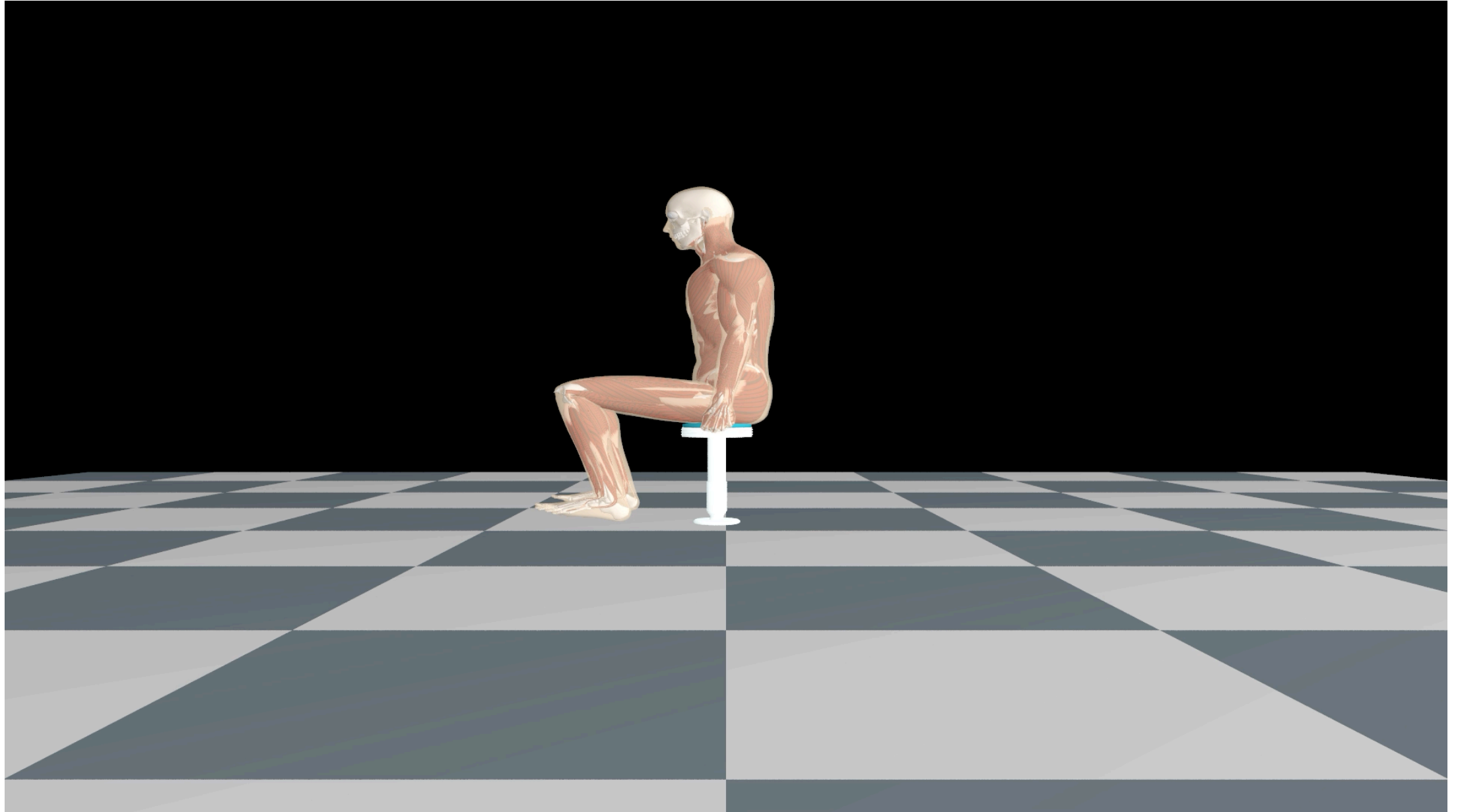




# Progress of Neuromuscular Controller Training



# Standing up after 1000 epochs training



# Overview

Related work

Objective

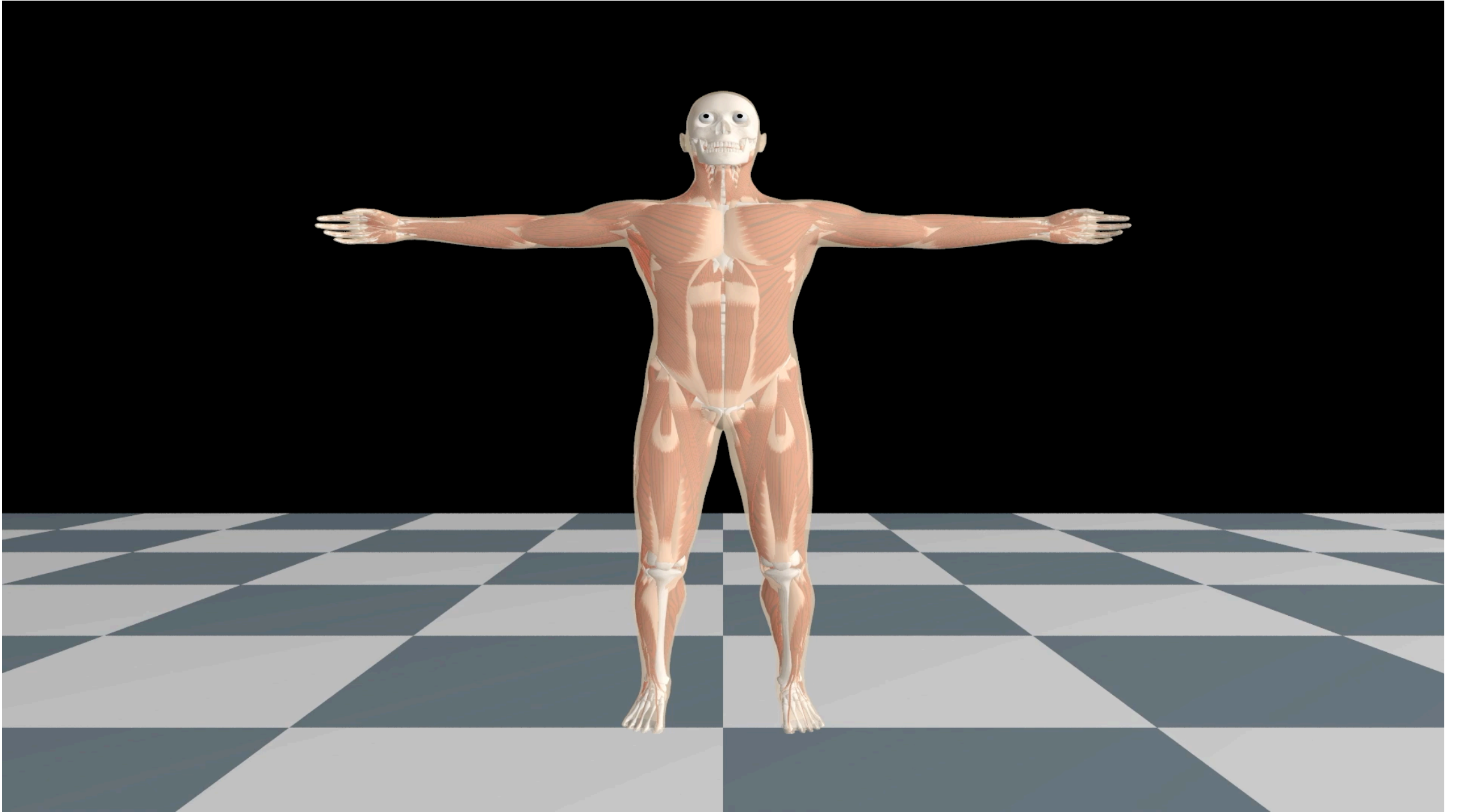
Biomechanical Human Musculoskeletal Model

Neuromuscular Control System

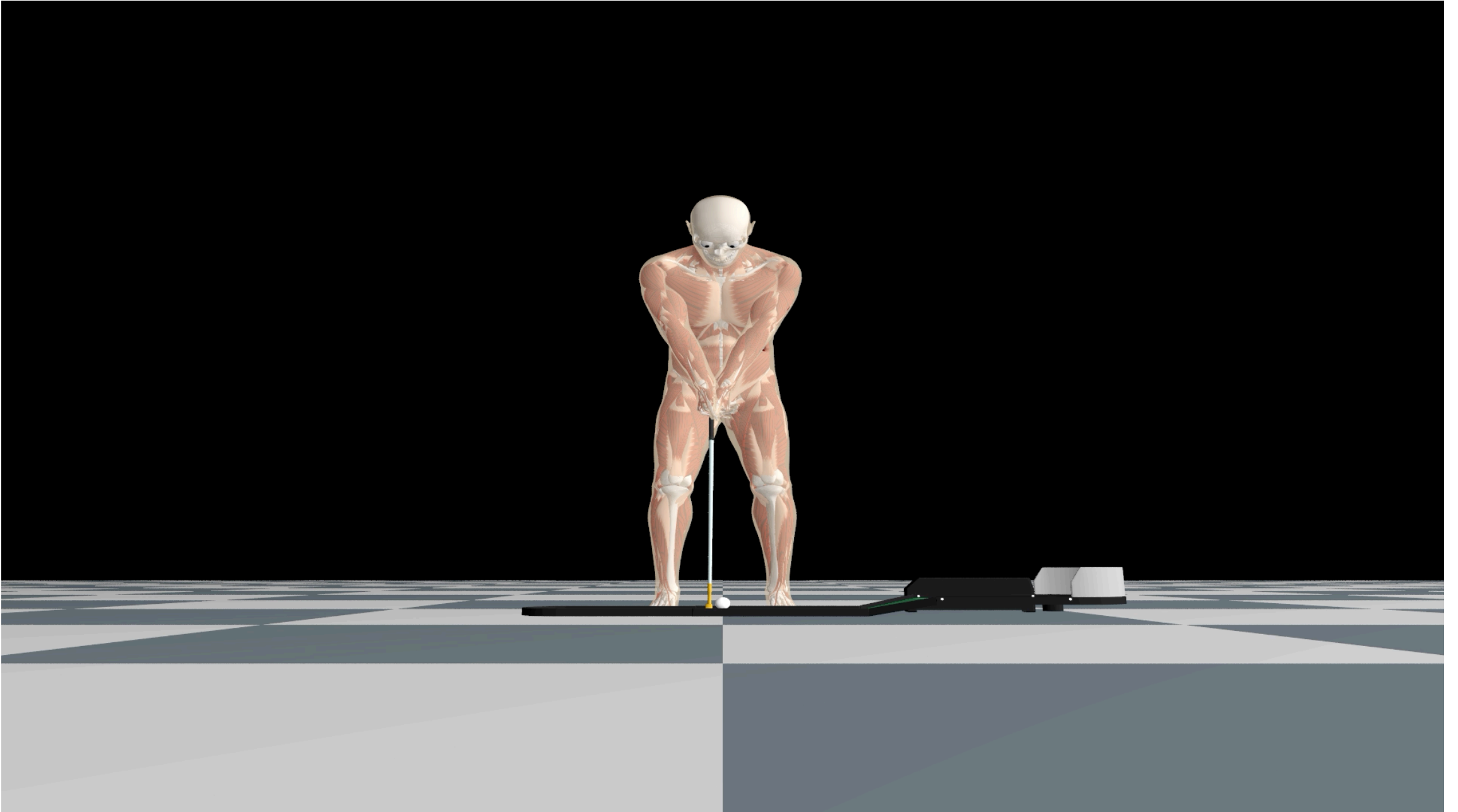
Experiments and Results

Conclusion

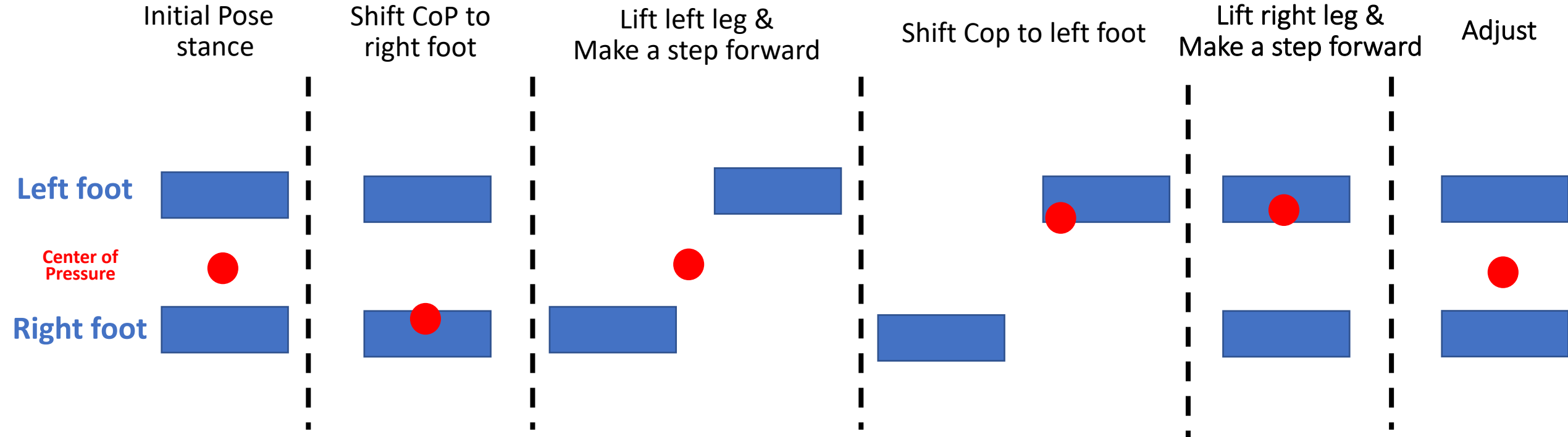
# Calisthenic exercises



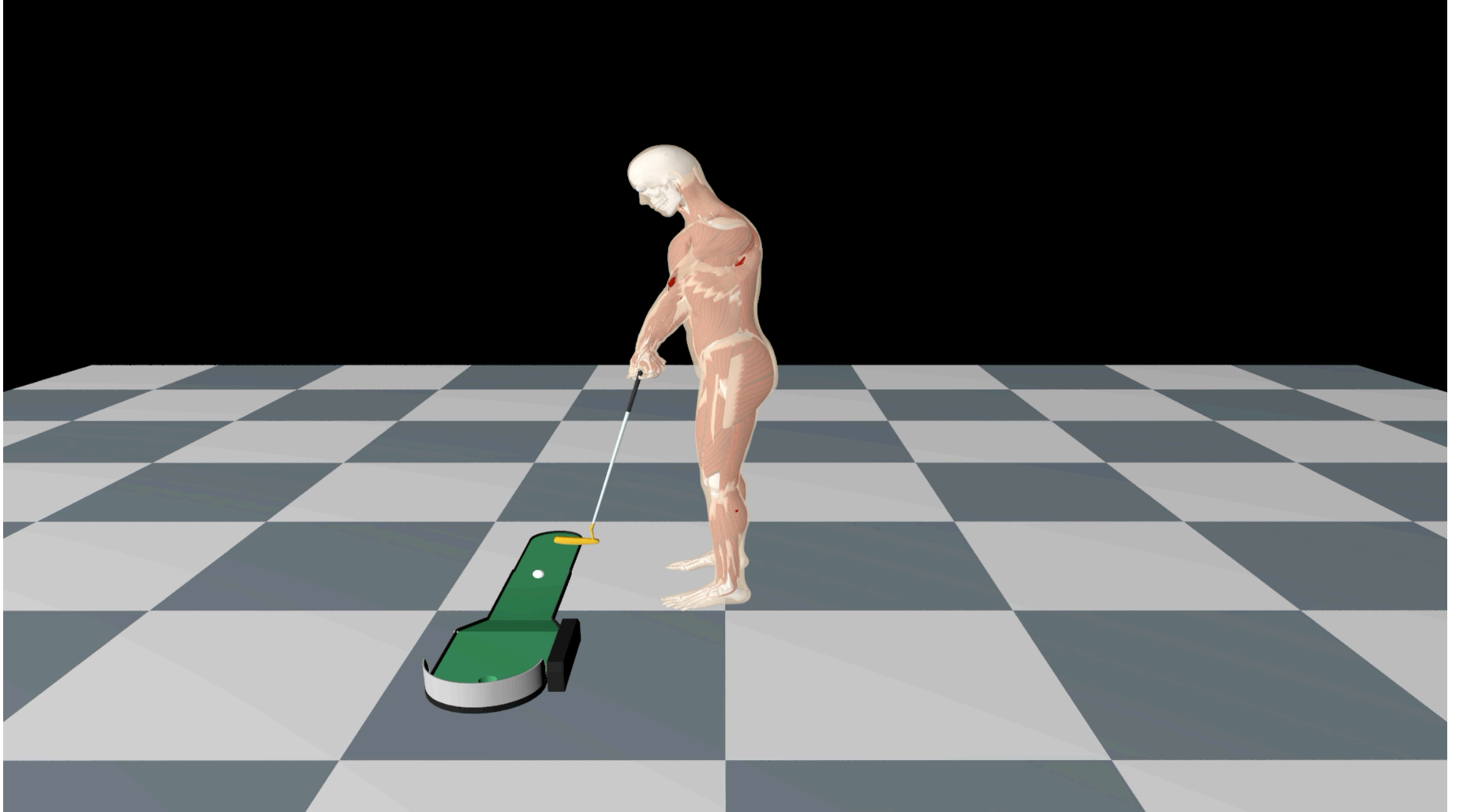
# Golf (front view)



# Stepping



# Stepping and golf (side view)

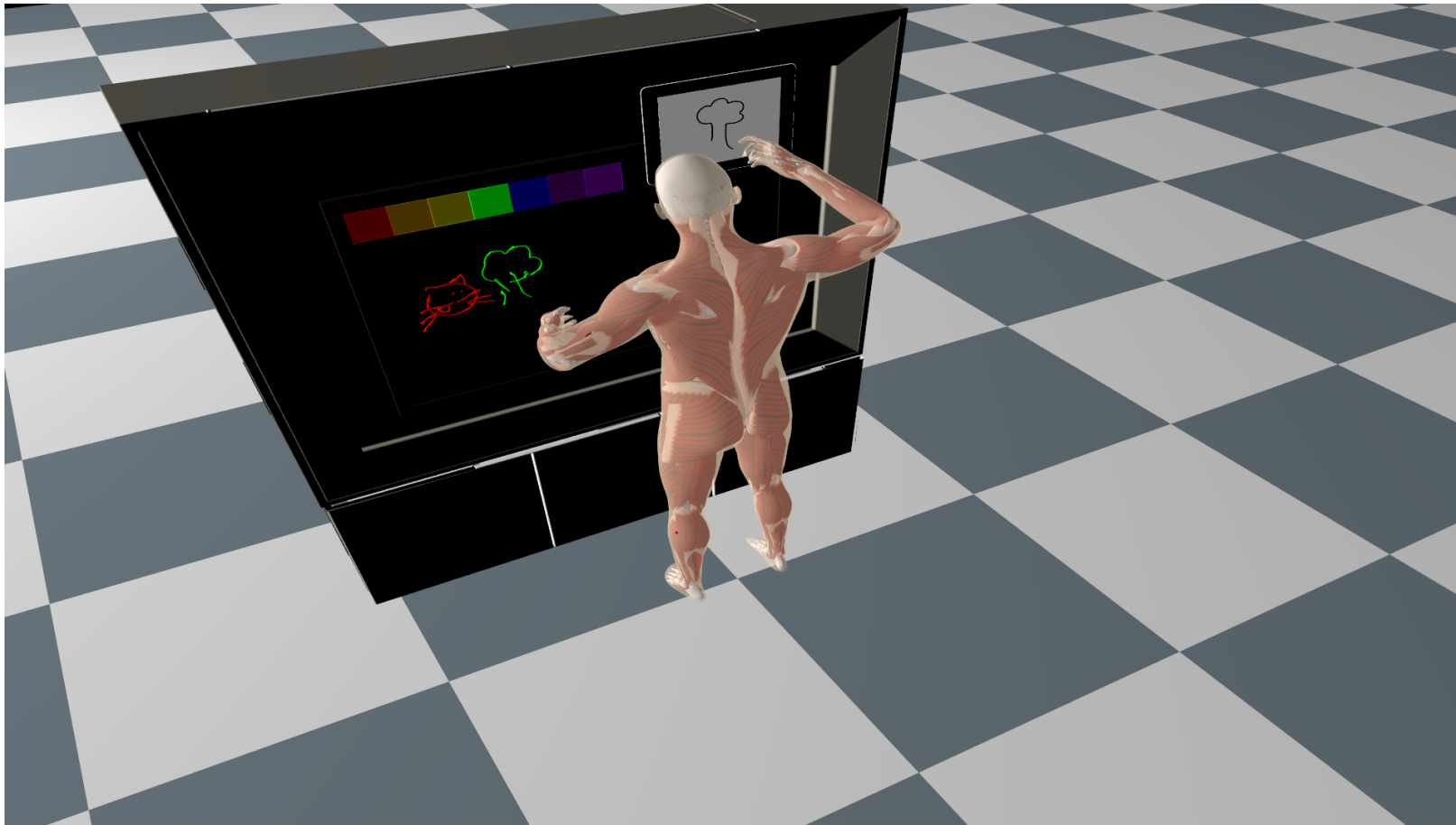




# AN APPLICATION TO SENSORIMOTOR CONTROL:

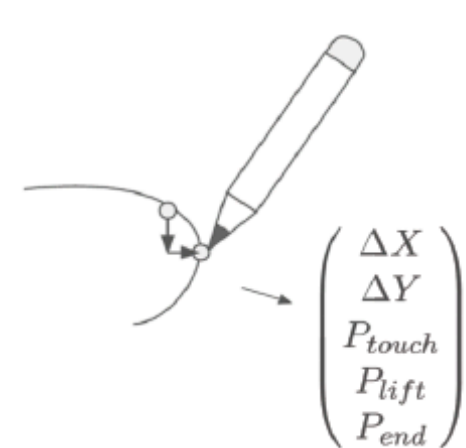
## SKETCHING

**Motivation:** Humans, do not understand the world as a grid of pixels, but develop abstract concepts to represent what we see. We learn to express a representation of an image as a short sequence of strokes.

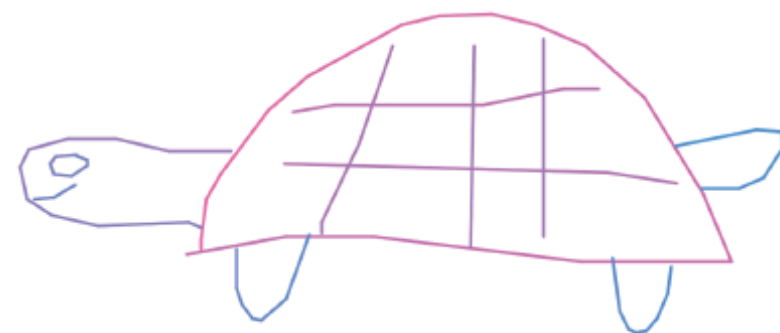


# Quick, Draw! Dataset

[quickdraw.withgoogle.com/data](https://quickdraw.withgoogle.com/data)



[ 0, -5, 1, 0, 0 ]	[ -19, 55, 1, 0, 0 ]	[ -22, 25, 1, 0, 0 ]
[ 3, -23, 1, 0, 0 ]	[ -21, 44, 1, 0, 0 ]	[ 11, -1, 1, 0, 0 ]
[ 8, -14, 1, 0, 0 ]	[ 0, 6, 0, 1, 0 ]	[ 12, -7, 0, 1, 0 ]
[ 27, -36, 1, 0, 0 ]	[ 86, -105, 1, 0, 0 ]	[ 91, 36, 1, 0, 0 ]
[ 22, -19, 1, 0, 0 ]	[ -2, 113, 0, 1, 0 ]	[ 0, 22, 1, 0, 0 ]
[ 53, -29, 1, 0, 0 ]	[ 41, -117, 1, 0, 0 ]	[ 3, 9, 1, 0, 0 ]
[ 21, -5, 1, 0, 0 ]	[ 0, 111, 0, 1, 0 ]	[ 6, 8, 1, 0, 0 ]
[ 30, -1, 1, 0, 0 ]	[ -176, -48, 1, 0, 0 ]	[ 5, 1, 1, 0, 0 ]
[ 25, 6, 1, 0, 0 ]	[ -35, 0, 1, 0, 0 ]	[ 14, -12, 1, 0, 0 ]
[ 28, 12, 1, 0, 0 ]	[ -30, -7, 1, 0, 0 ]	[ 13, -36, 0, 1, 0 ]
[ 33, 29, 1, 0, 0 ]	[ -27, 0, 1, 0, 0 ]	[ 171, 13, 1, 0, 0 ]
[ 33, 34, 1, 0, 0 ]	[ -22, 6, 1, 0, 0 ]	[ 4, 30, 1, 0, 0 ]
[ 16, 38, 1, 0, 0 ]	[ -5, 10, 1, 0, 0 ]	[ 5, 10, 1, 0, 0 ]
[ -85, 0, 1, 0, 0 ]	[ 4, 18, 1, 0, 0 ]	[ 4, 2, 1, 0, 0 ]
[ -117, -14, 1, 0, 0 ]	[ 14, 9, 1, 0, 0 ]	[ 6, -1, 1, 0, 0 ]
[ -49, 0, 1, 0, 0 ]	[ 26, 6, 1, 0, 0 ]	[ 6, -7, 1, 0, 0 ]
[ -56, 10, 0, 1, 0 ]	[ 51, -2, 1, 0, 0 ]	[ 6, -14, 1, 0, 0 ]
[ 60, -80, 1, 0, 0 ]	[ 7, 3, 0, 1, 0 ]	[ 2, -15, 0, 1, 0 ]
[ 23, -4, 1, 0, 0 ]	[ -70, -41, 1, 0, 0 ]	[ 17, -44, 1, 0, 0 ]
[ 84, 0, 1, 0, 0 ]	[ -12, 1, 1, 0, 0 ]	[ 21, 0, 1, 0, 0 ]
[ 45, -9, 1, 0, 0 ]	[ -3, 4, 1, 0, 0 ]	[ 14, -6, 1, 0, 0 ]
[ 20, 0, 0, 1, 0 ]	[ 2, 6, 1, 0, 0 ]	[ 11, -17, 1, 0, 0 ]
[ -177, 42, 1, 0, 0 ]	[ 10, 1, 1, 0, 0 ]	[ -1, -9, 1, 0, 0 ]
[ 182, 5, 1, 0, 0 ]	[ 9, -6, 1, 0, 0 ]	[ -14, -1, 1, 0, 0 ]
[ 39, 6, 0, 1, 0 ]	[ 0, -3, 1, 0, 0 ]	[ -40, 9, 0, 1, 0 ]
[ -160, -77, 1, 0, 0 ]	[ -8, -3, 0, 1, 0 ]	[ 0, 0, 0, 0, 1 ]



A sample sketch, as a sequence of  $(\Delta x, \Delta y, p_1, p_2, p_3)$  points and in rendered form. In the rendered sketch, the line color corresponds to the sequential stroke ordering.

Sketches are represented as a sequence of motor actions controlling a pen. Open sourced dataset of 50M doodles, collected from *Quick, Draw!* game.

Draw  
bear  
in under 20 seconds

Got It!



Oh I know, it's bear!



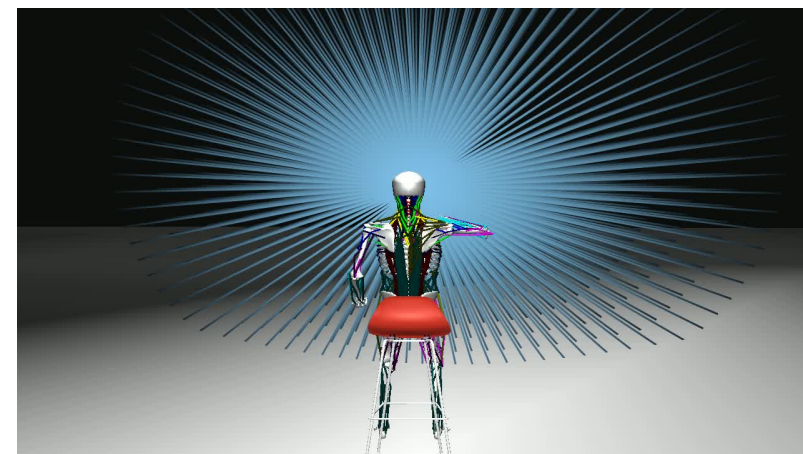
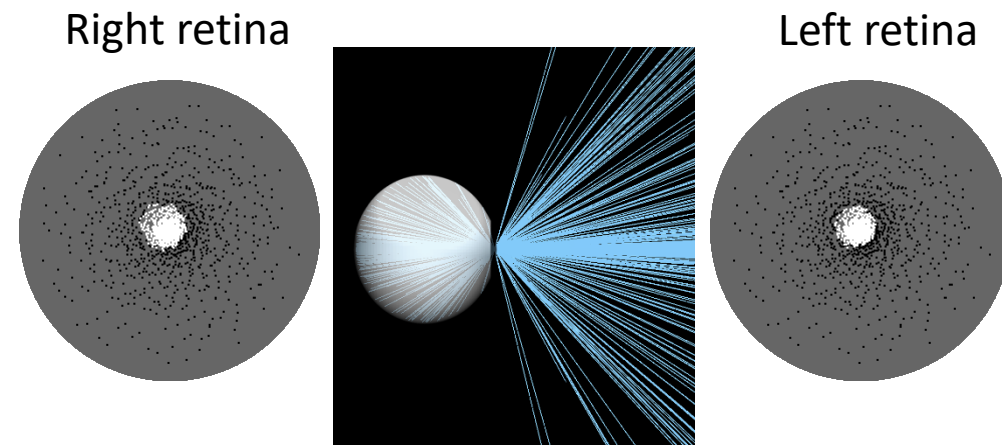
Example sketch drawings from QuickDraw dataset.

Google  
Creative  
Lab

# Eye Model

$$\mathbf{d}_k = e^{\rho_j} \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta_i \\ \sin \theta_i \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma^2) \\ \mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma^2) \end{bmatrix}$$

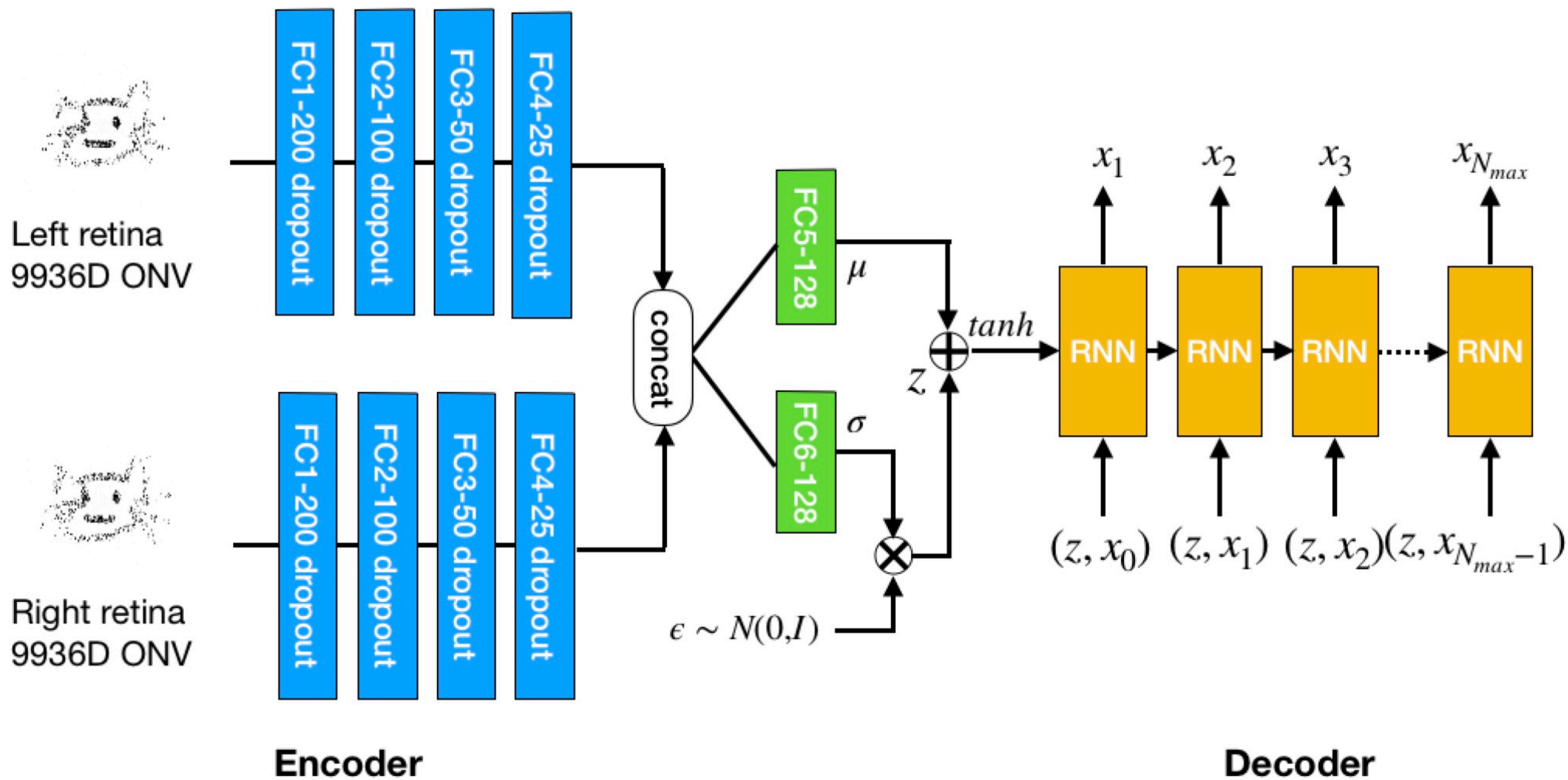
- Modeled as a sphere of radius of 12 mm
- Fields of view : 167.5 degrees
- Optic: Ideal pinhole camera
- Photoreceptors are distributed with Log-polar distribution with a IID Gaussian noise
- 9,936 photoreceptors are placed



Pixel Image



Retinal Image



# Training

We model  $(\Delta x, \Delta y)$  as a Gaussian mixture model

$$p(\Delta x, \Delta y) = \sum_{j=1}^m w_j \mathcal{N}(\Delta x, \Delta y | \mu_{x_j}, \mu_{y_j}, \sigma_{x_j}, \sigma_{y_j}, \rho_{xy_j}),$$

$w_j$ , a categorical distribution, are the mixture weights of the Gaussian mixture model.

The objective function is a reconstruction loss  $L$ , which is the sum of  $L_s$

$$L = L_s + L_p.$$

$$L_s = -\frac{1}{N_{max}} \sum_{i=1}^{N_{max}} \log(p(\Delta x, \Delta y))$$

$$L_p = -\frac{1}{N_{max}} \sum_{i=1}^{N_{max}} \sum_{k=1}^3 p_{ki} \log(q_{ki}),$$

$N_{MAX}$  is the total sequence length



# Overview

Related work

Objective

Biomechanical Human Musculoskeletal Model

Neuromuscular Control System

Experiments and Results

Conclusion



# Contributions

- (1) We developed the first neuromuscular motor control system for the spine and torso.
- (2) We demonstrated that our control framework for the core musculoskeletal complex can work in concert with neuromuscular controllers specialized to the five extremities—the cervicocephalic, two arm, and two leg musculoskeletal complexes.
- (3) We showed how the six neuromuscular motor controllers, which included twelve Deep Neural Networks (DNNs) can form the motor subsystem of a whole-body sensorimotor control system, and demonstrated its robust online operation in carrying out several skillful (non-locomotive) motor tasks.

# Future Work

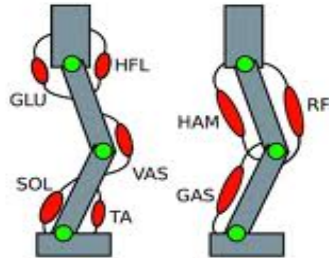
## 1) Biomechanical hand model

Sueda et al, 2008



## 2) Bipedal locomotion

Wang et al., 2012



## 3) Continuous online learning

# Acknowledgement

Prof. Demetri Terzopoulos, Prof. Song-Chun Zhu, Prof. Guy Van den Broeck, Prof. Joseph Teran

Masaki Nakada, Arjun Lakshmipathy, Alan Litteneker, Sung-Hee Lee, Si Weiguang

Tomer Weiss, Chenfanfu Jiang, Sharath Gopal, Garrett Ridge, Xiaowei Ding, Gergely Klar, Andre Pradhana, Abdullah-Al-Zubaer Imran, Ziran Lin, Yajun Shi, Yingyue Qiu, Hao Ding.

Adobe Gift Funding

Thank you & Questions!

# Core Training: Learning Deep Neuromuscular Control of the Torso for Anthropomorphic Animation

SIGGRAPH Asia 2019 Technical Paper Submission #322

# Flesh Deformation Demo

Sit with Flesh Deformation

Sit w/o Flesh Deformation

