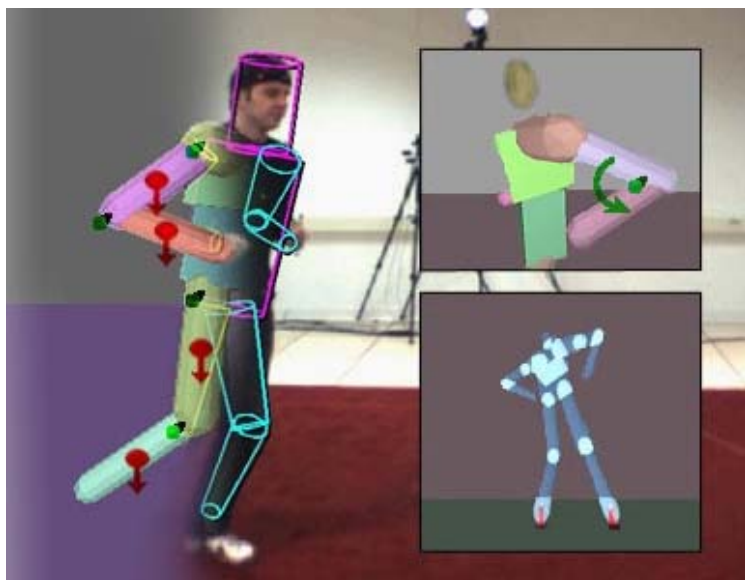




Physical Simulation for Probabilistic Motion Tracking

Marek Vondrak* Leonid Sigal‡ Chad Jenkins*



*Brown University
‡University of Toronto

Articulated Tracking

- **Given:** observed image sequence $\{I_f\}$
- **Infer:** kinematic poses $\{q_f\}$ over time



Image

I_f



Frame f



Pose

q_f

Articulated Tracking

- **Given:** observed image sequence $\{I_f\}$
- **Infer:** kinematic poses $\{q_f\}$ over time



Image

I_f



Frame f



Pose

q_f

- **Such that:** $\{q_f\}$ are physically plausible

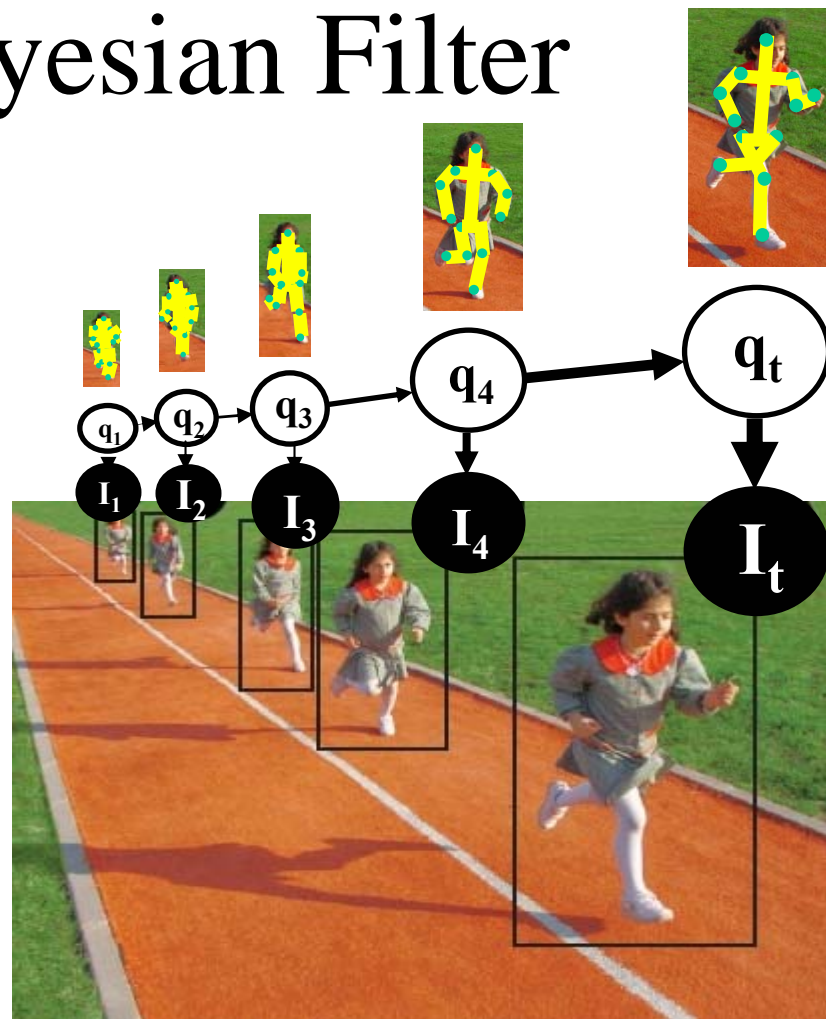


Kinematic Bayesian Filter

[A. Blake, M. Isard, '98]

[Deutscher et. al., '00]

- Motion model
 - $p(\mathbf{q}_f | \mathbf{q}_{f-1})$
- Likelihood model
 - $p(\mathbf{I}_f | \mathbf{q}_f)$



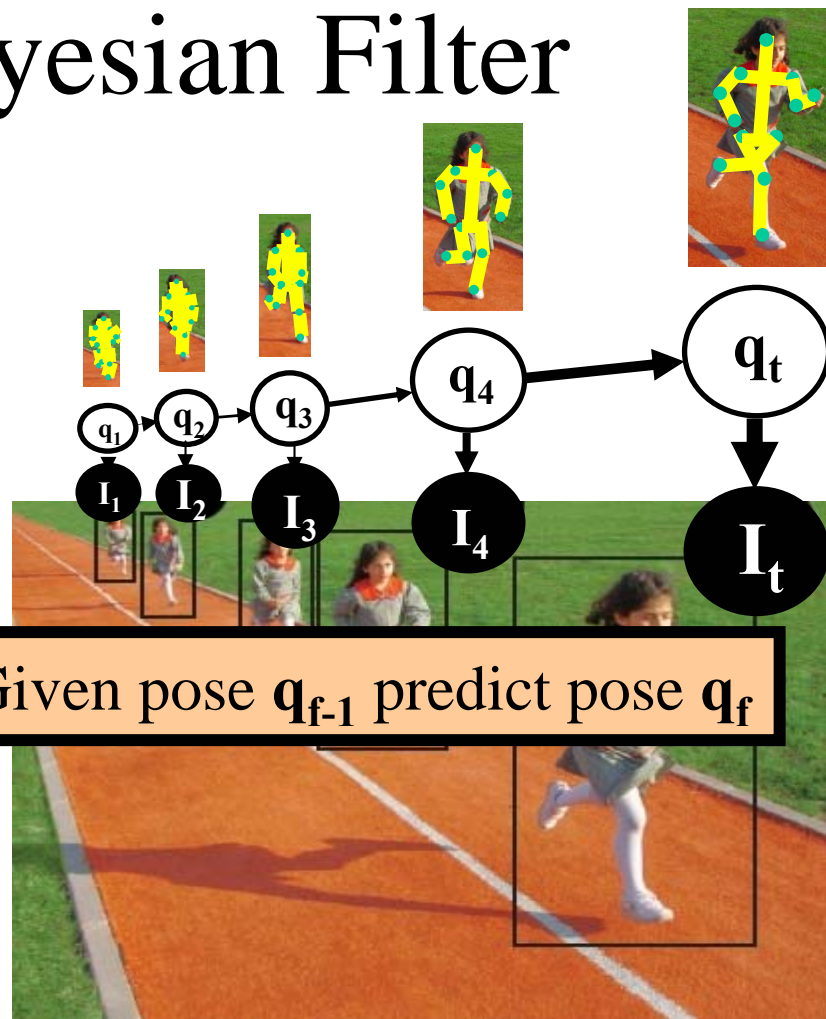
$$p(\mathbf{q}_f | \mathbf{I}_f) = p(\mathbf{I}_f | \mathbf{q}_f) \int_{\mathbf{q}_{f-1}} p(\mathbf{q}_f | \mathbf{q}_{f-1}) p(\mathbf{q}_{f-1} | \mathbf{I}_{f-1})$$

Kinematic Bayesian Filter

[A. Blake, M. Isard, '98]

[Deutscher et. al., '00]

- Motion model
 - $p(\mathbf{q}_f | \mathbf{q}_{f-1})$
- Likelihood model
 - $p(\mathbf{I}_f | \mathbf{q}_f)$



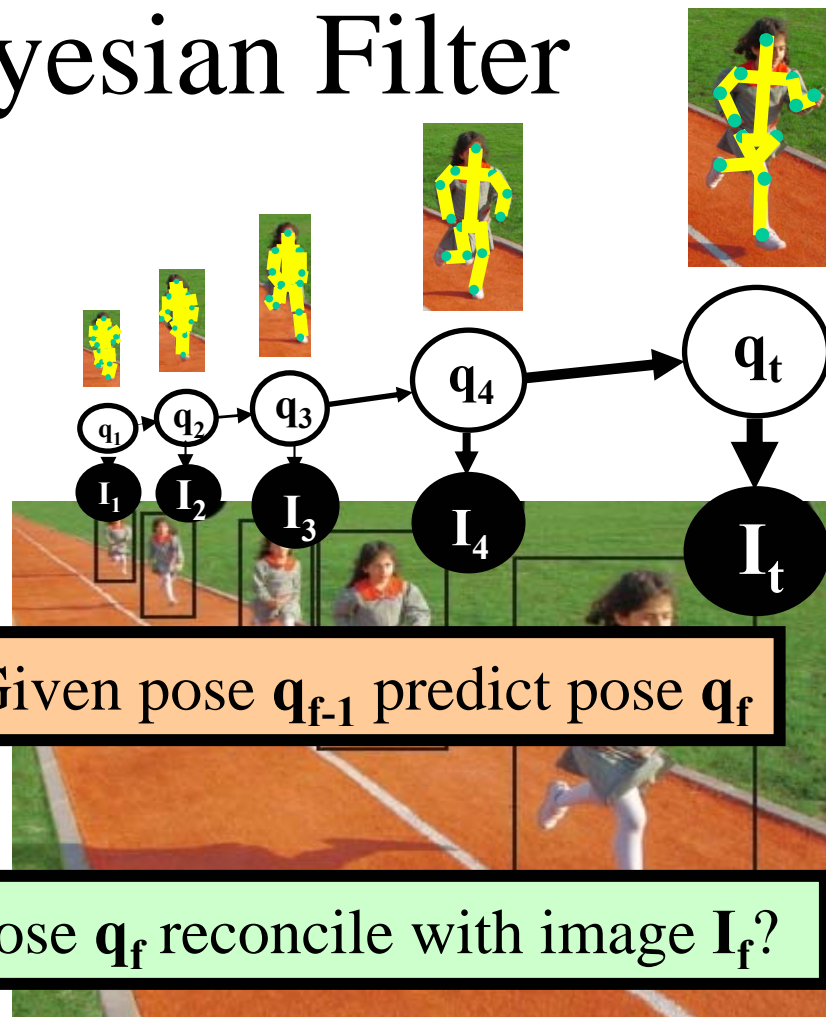
$$p(\mathbf{q}_f | \mathbf{I}_f) = p(\mathbf{I}_f | \mathbf{q}_f) \int_{\mathbf{q}_{f-1}} p(\mathbf{q}_f | \mathbf{q}_{f-1}) p(\mathbf{q}_{f-1} | \mathbf{I}_{f-1})$$

Kinematic Bayesian Filter

[A. Blake, M. Isard, '98]

[Deutscher et. al., '00]

- Motion model
 - $p(q_f | q_{f-1})$
- Likelihood model
 - $p(I_f | q_f)$

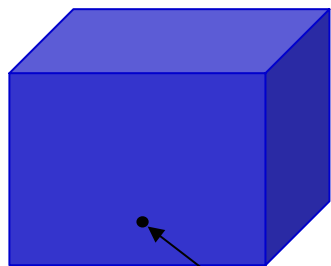


$$p(q_f | I_f) = p(I_f | q_f) \int_{q_{f-1}} p(q_f | q_{f-1}) p(q_{f-1} | I_{f-1})$$



Why Is Tracking Hard?

- High dimensionality (> 30 degrees of freedom)
- Variability in imaging conditions
- Variability in appearance and clothing
- Physically realistic motion priors are hard (and often expensive) to model and characterize
 - Foot skate, out-of-plane rotations, jerky motion, etc.

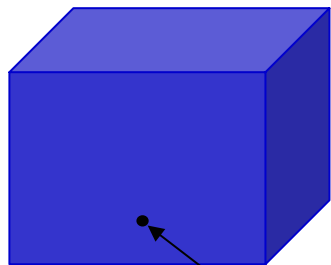


Pose space q_f



Why Is Tracking Hard?

- High dimensionality (> 30 degrees of freedom)
- Variability in imaging conditions
- Variability in appearance and clothing
- Physically realistic motion priors are hard (and often expensive) to model and characterize
 - Foot skate, out-of-plane rotations, jerky motion, etc.

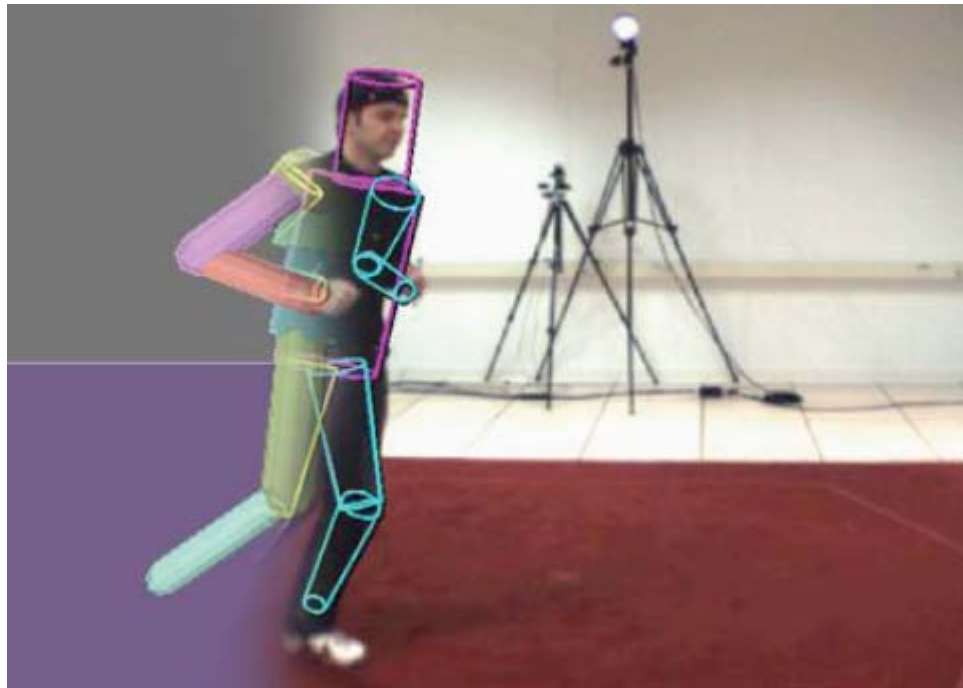


Pose space q_f



Physics-based Tracking

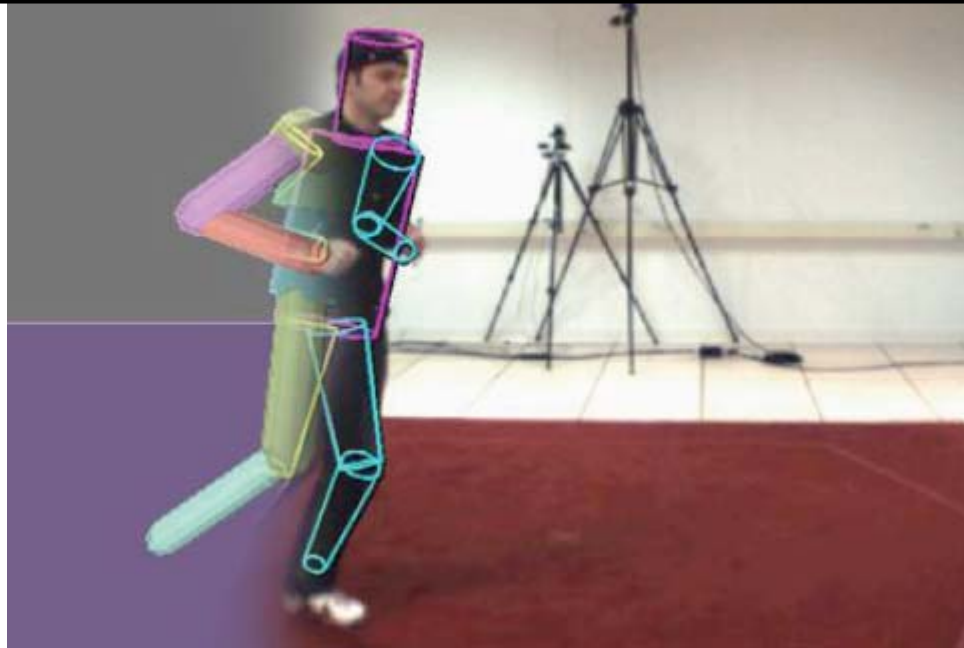
- Incorporate physics-based predictions into Bayesian Filtering
- Motion model based on full body 3D physical simulation



Physics-based Tracking

- Incorporate physics-based predictions into Bayesian Filtering
- Motion model based on full body 3D physical simulation

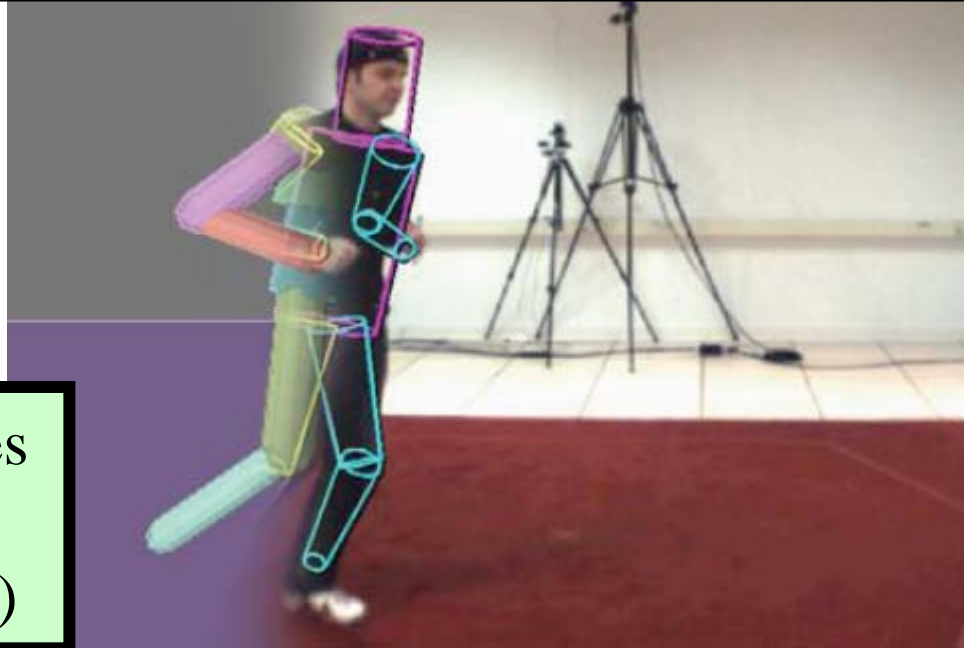
Rigid bodies under influence of forces



Physics-based Tracking

- Incorporate physics-based predictions into Bayesian Filtering
- Motion model based on full body 3D physical simulation

Rigid bodies under influence of forces

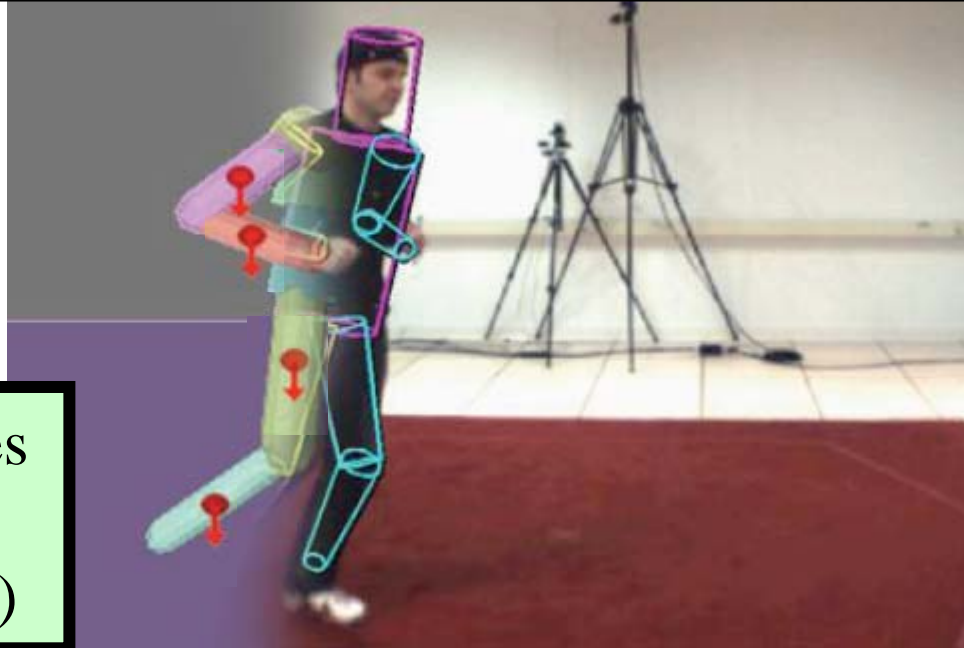


External forces
(e.g. gravity,
contact forces)

Physics-based Tracking

- Incorporate physics-based predictions into Bayesian Filtering
- Motion model based on full body 3D physical simulation

Rigid bodies under influence of forces

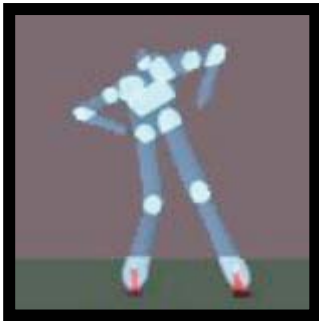


External forces
(e.g. gravity,
contact forces)

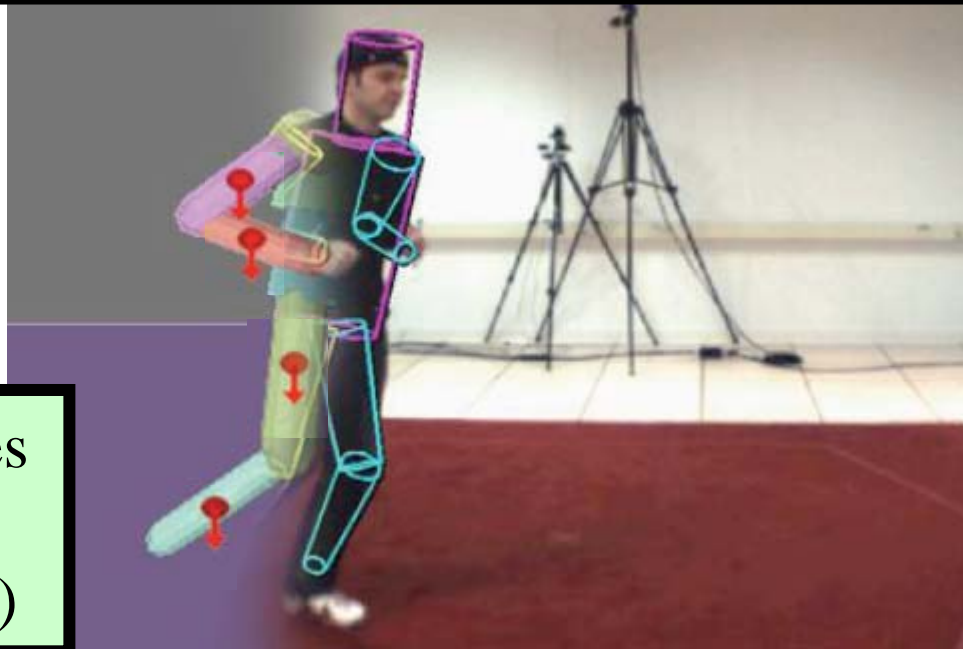
Physics-based Tracking

- Incorporate physics-based predictions into Bayesian Filtering
- Motion model based on full body 3D physical simulation

Rigid bodies under influence of forces



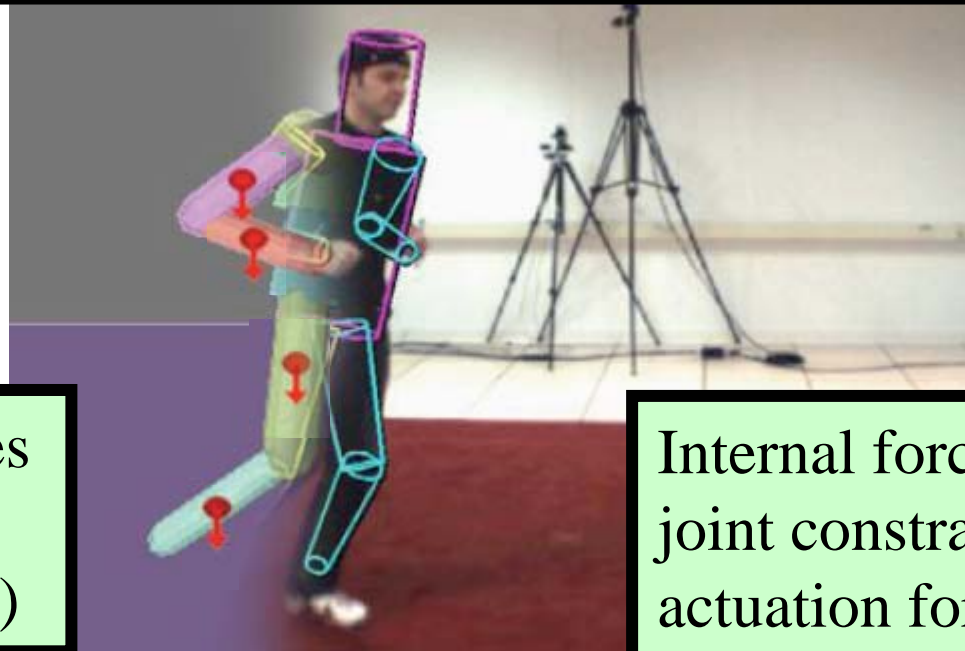
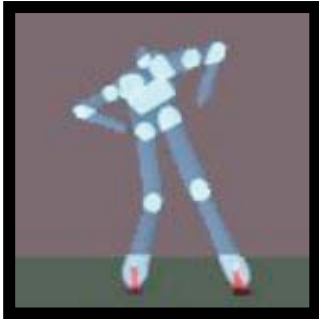
External forces
(e.g. gravity,
contact forces)



Physics-based Tracking

- Incorporate physics-based predictions into Bayesian Filtering
- Motion model based on full body 3D physical simulation

Rigid bodies under influence of forces



External forces
(e.g. gravity,
contact forces)

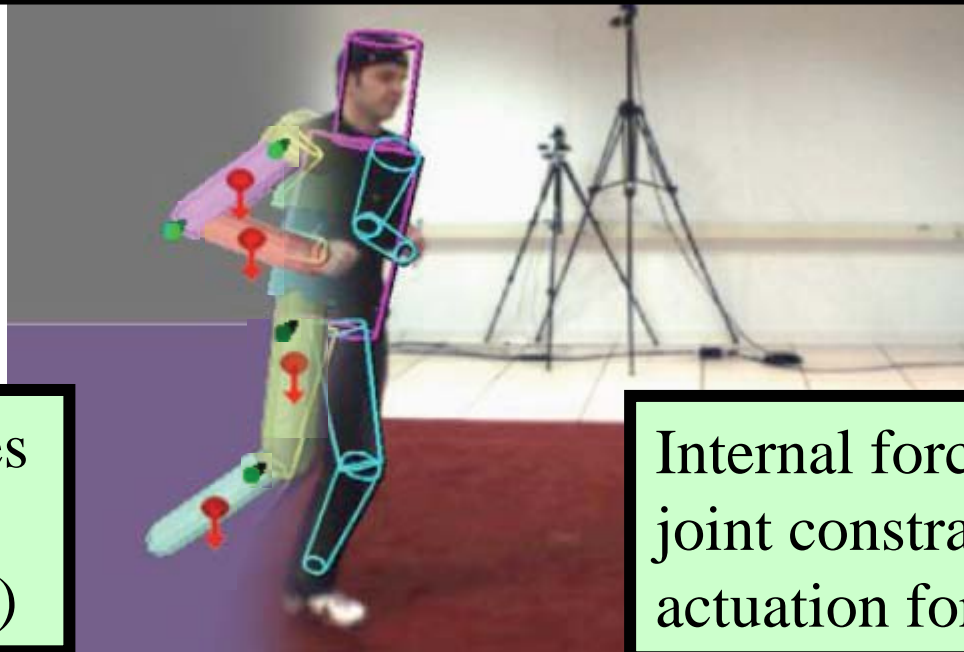
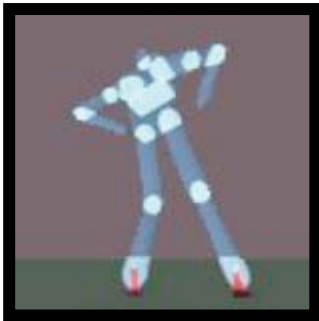
Internal forces (e.g.
joint constraint forces,
actuation forces)



Physics-based Tracking

- Incorporate physics-based predictions into Bayesian Filtering
- Motion model based on full body 3D physical simulation

Rigid bodies under influence of forces



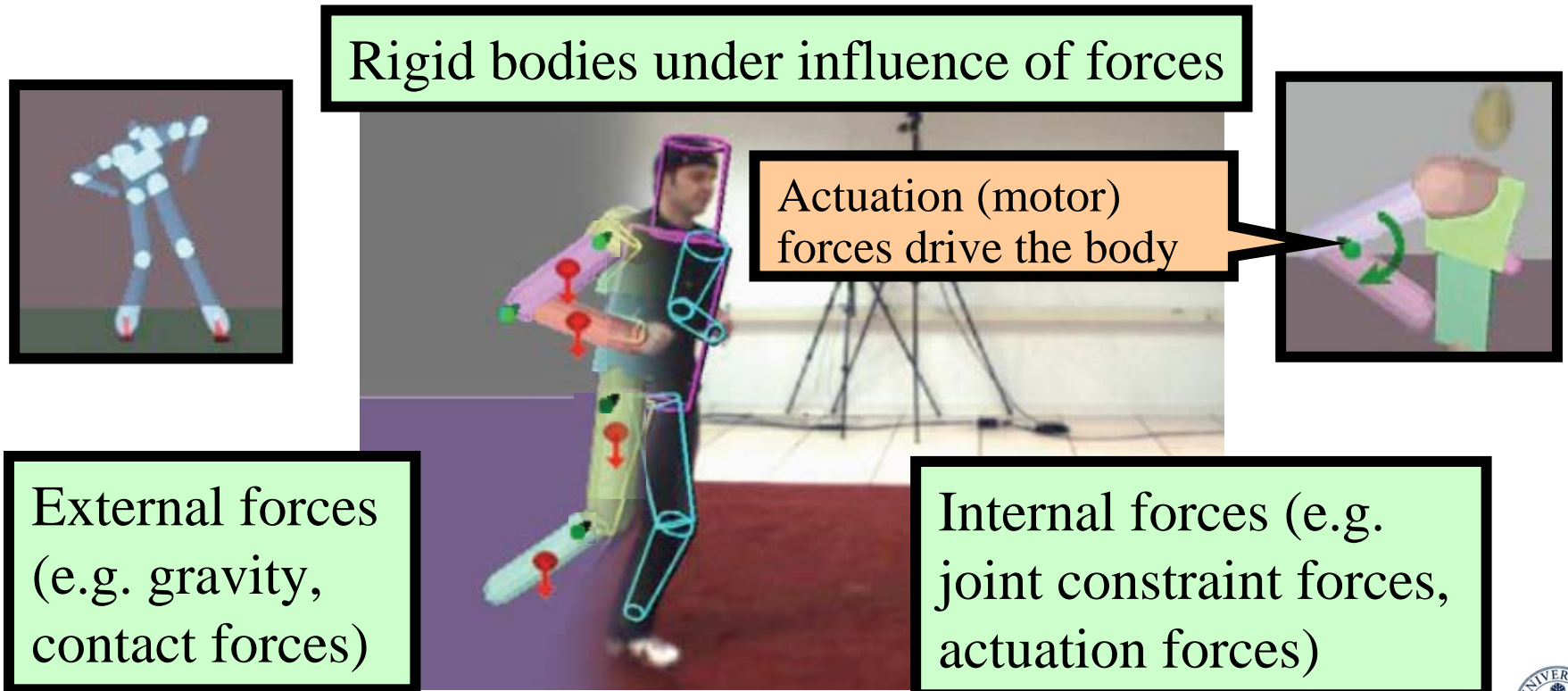
External forces
(e.g. gravity,
contact forces)

Internal forces (e.g.
joint constraint forces,
actuation forces)



Physics-based Tracking

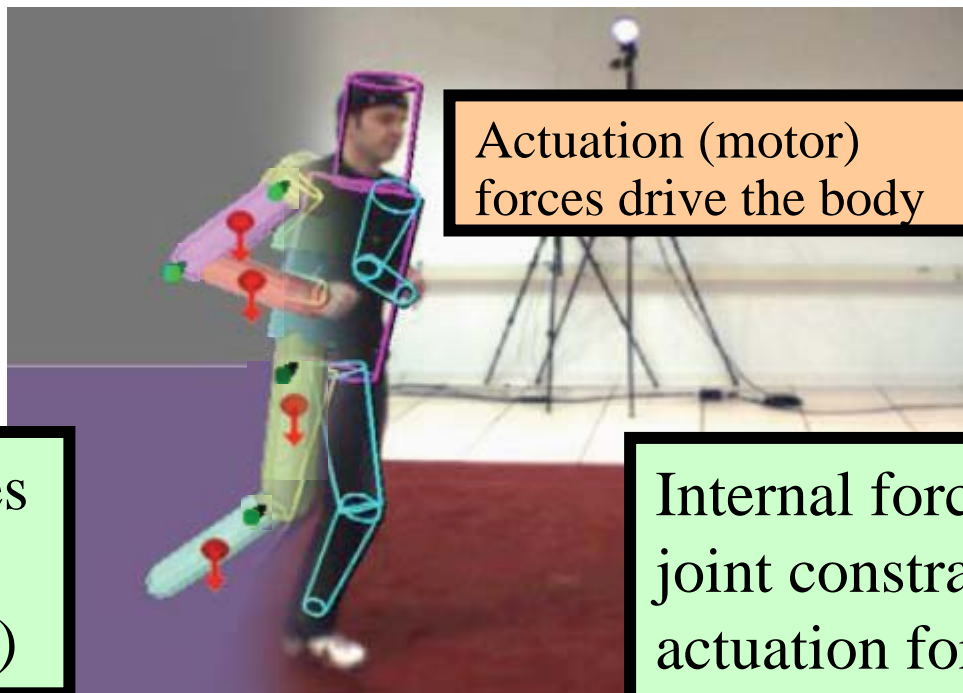
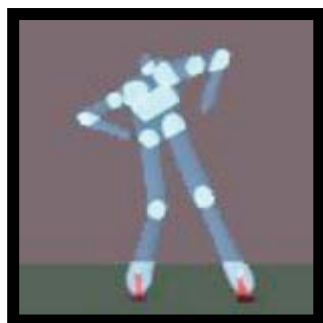
- Incorporate physics-based predictions into Bayesian Filtering
- Motion model based on full body 3D physical simulation



Benefits of modeling dynamics

- Ensures physical realism
- Some constraints are easier to specify (e.g. force limits, balance)
- Should generalize to new environments and dynamic interactions within the environment (e.g. motion adaptation

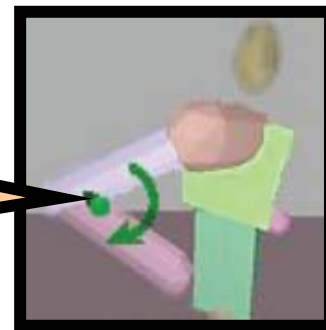
[A. Witkin, M. Kass, '88])



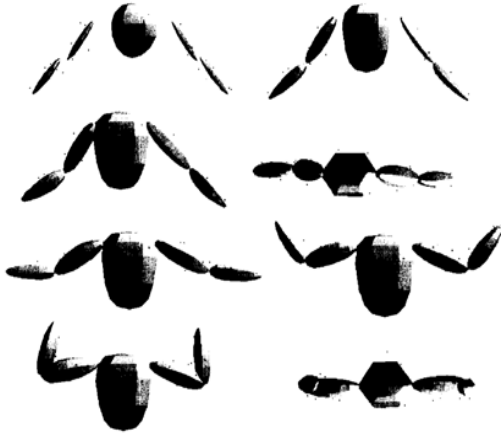
Actuation (motor)
forces drive the body

External forces
(e.g. gravity,
contact forces)

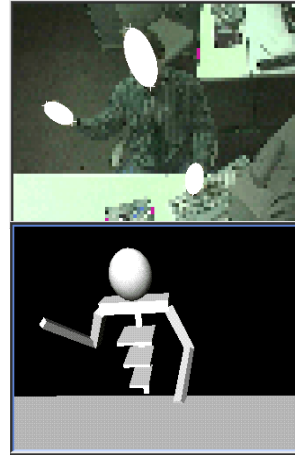
Internal forces (e.g.
joint constraint forces,
actuation forces)



Related Work



**D. Metaxas, D.
Terzopoulos, PAMI 1993**



**C. Wren, A. Pentland,
FG 1998**

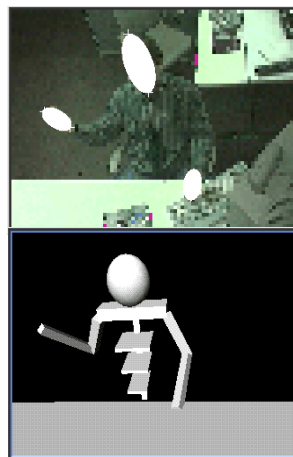
- Models of dynamics
 - upper body (limited physical interactions)
- Models of observations
 - 3D marker, stereo
- Unimodal model of posterior
 - Kalman filtering



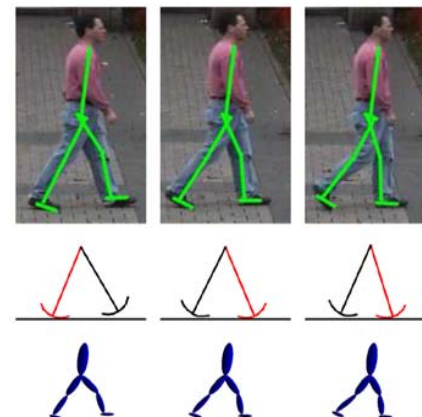
Related Work



**D. Metaxas, D.
Terzopoulos, PAMI 1993**



**C. Wren, A. Pentland,
FG 1998**



**M. Brubaker, A. Hertzmann,
D. Fleet, CVPR 2007**

**M. Brubaker, D. Fleet, CVPR
2008**

- Models of dynamics
 - lower body (biomechanically inspired)
- Models of observations
 - monocular
- Multi-modal model of posterior
 - particle filtering

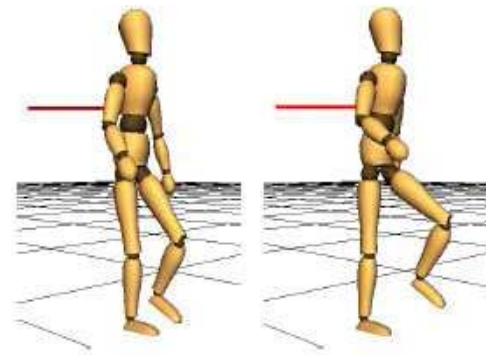
Related Work (Graphics/Robotics)



V. Zoran, A. Majkowska, B. Chiu, M. Fast, SIGGRAPH '05



P. Wrotek, C. Jenkins, M. McGuire, SIGGRAPH '06



K. Yin, K. Loken, M. van de Panne, SIGGRAPH '07

- Generic physics engines allow for complex models of the dynamics
 - Static/dynamic friction
 - Joint limit constraints
 - Active/static balance
 - Muscle models

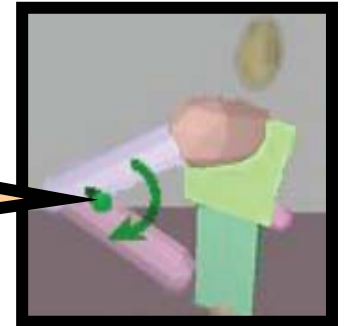
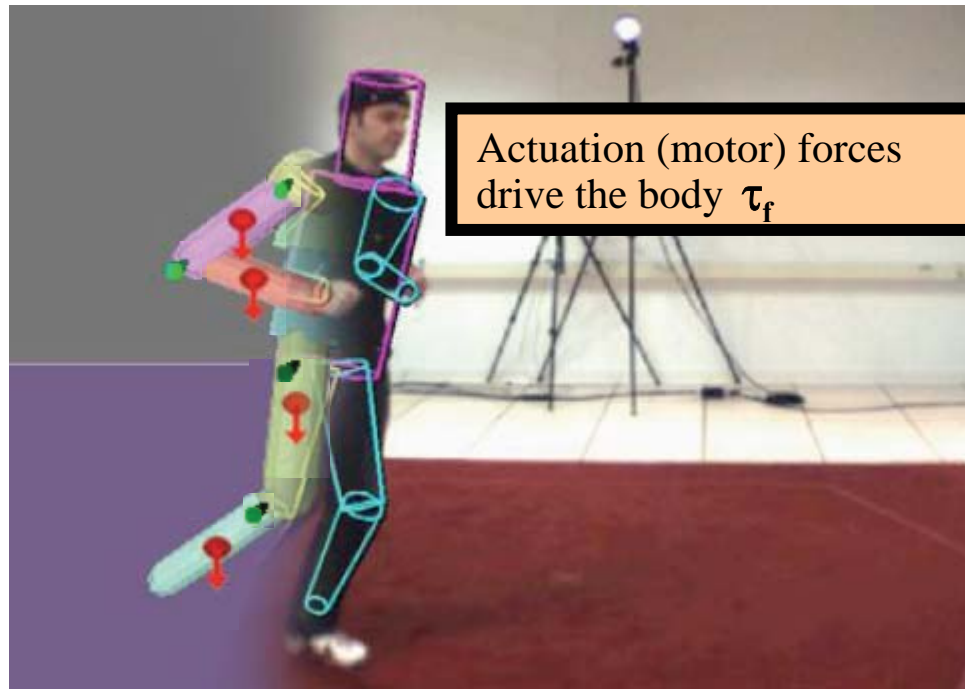
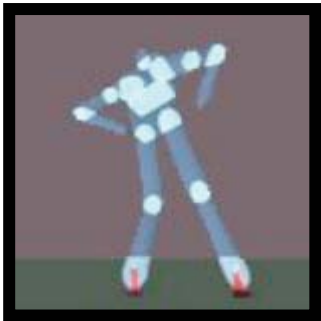


J. Hodgins, W. Wooten, D. Brogan, J. O'Brien, SIGGRAPH '95

Physics-based Particle Filtering

- We need to let the state $\mathbf{x}_f = [\dots \quad \tau_f \quad \dots]$

$$\mathbf{p}(\mathbf{x}_f | \mathbf{I}_f) = \mathbf{p}(\mathbf{I}_f | \mathbf{x}_f) \int_{\mathbf{x}_{f-1}} \mathbf{p}(\mathbf{x}_f | \mathbf{x}_{f-1}) \mathbf{p}(\mathbf{x}_{f-1} | \mathbf{I}_{f-1})$$



Physics-based Particle Filtering

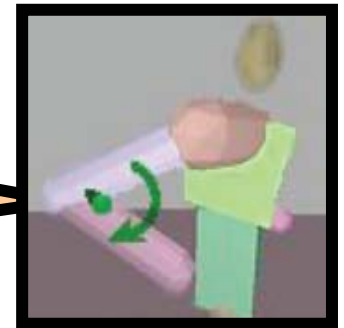
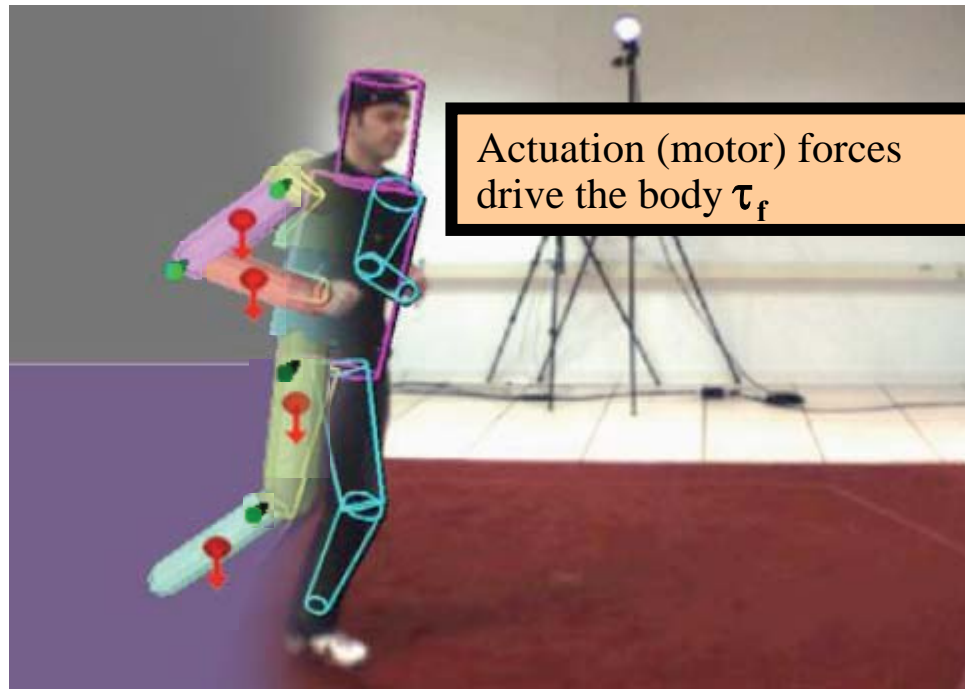
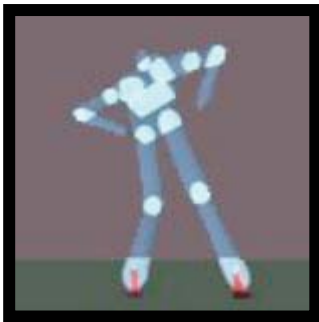
- **Problem:**

- Priors over valid motor force (torque) trajectories are hard to characterize

- **Solution(s):**

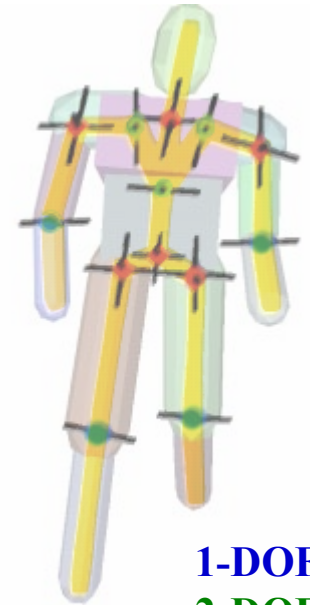
- Use simplified physical models for which priors are easy to model
- Assume that we have the model for kinematics and solve for the forces implicitly (i.e. use a controller)

Brubaker et. al., '07



Body Model and State Space

- World model
 - Known static environment
 - Loop-free articulated figure
 - 31 degrees of freedom (DOFs)
 - 13 rigid bodies
 - Known physical properties (geometry, mass, inertial)



1-DOF
2-DOF
3-DOF

Kinematic State

State vector: $\mathbf{x} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{q} \end{bmatrix}}_{\text{Kinematic State}} \dot{\mathbf{q}} \begin{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{\pi} \end{bmatrix}$

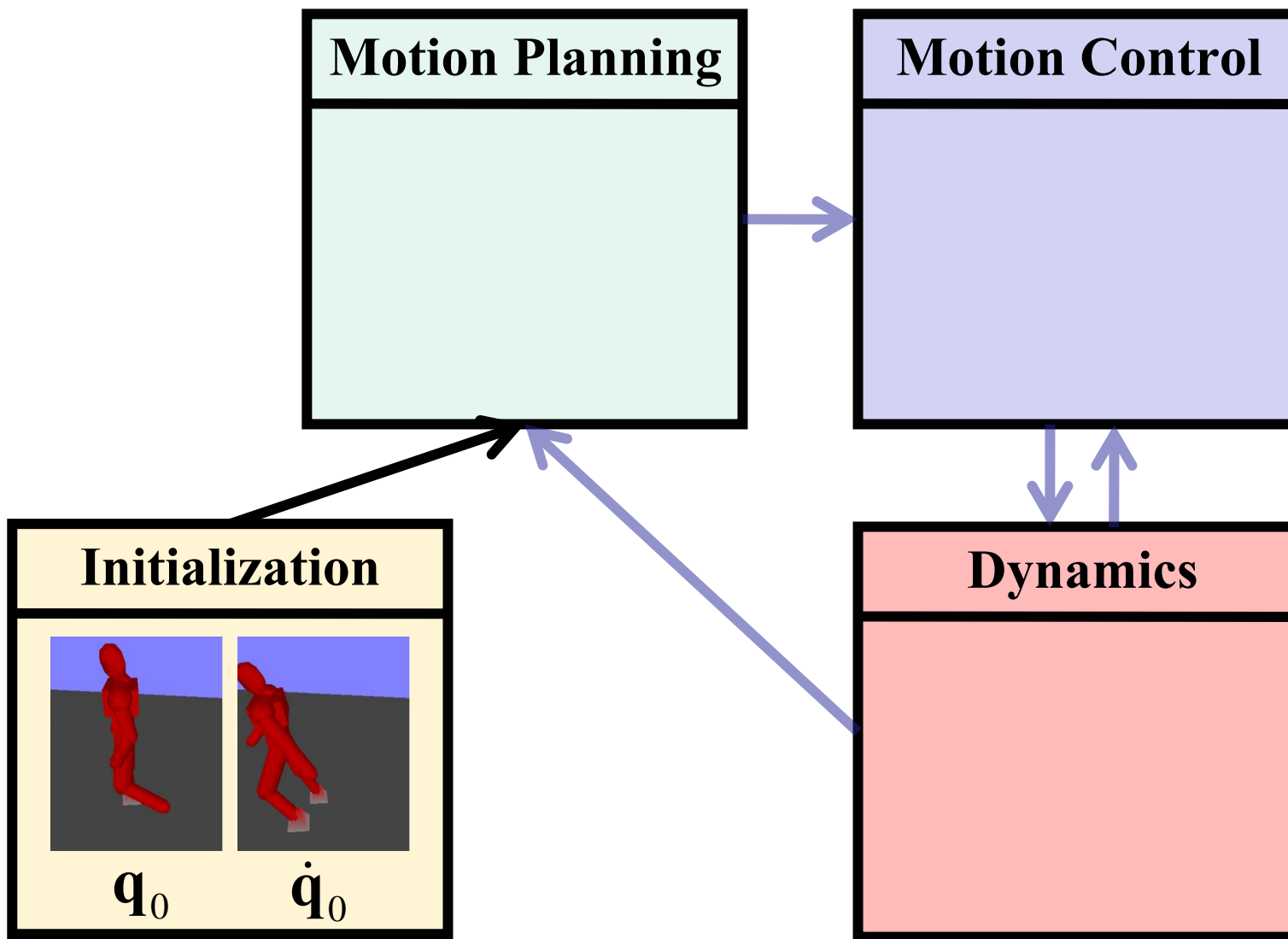
Dynamic State

Control strategy



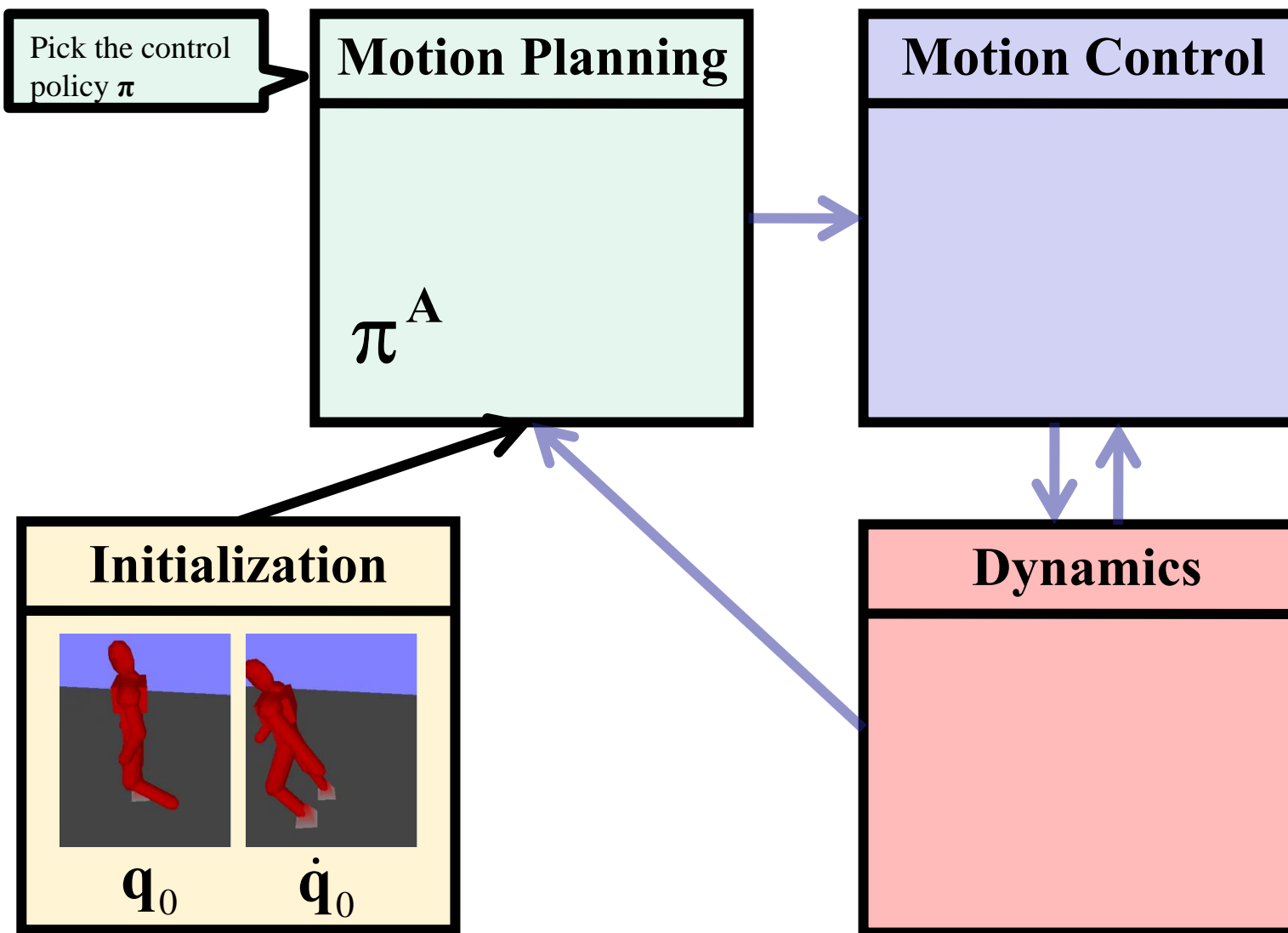
Motion Model: Control Loop

- Executed for every hypothesis in our multi-hypothesis tracking framework



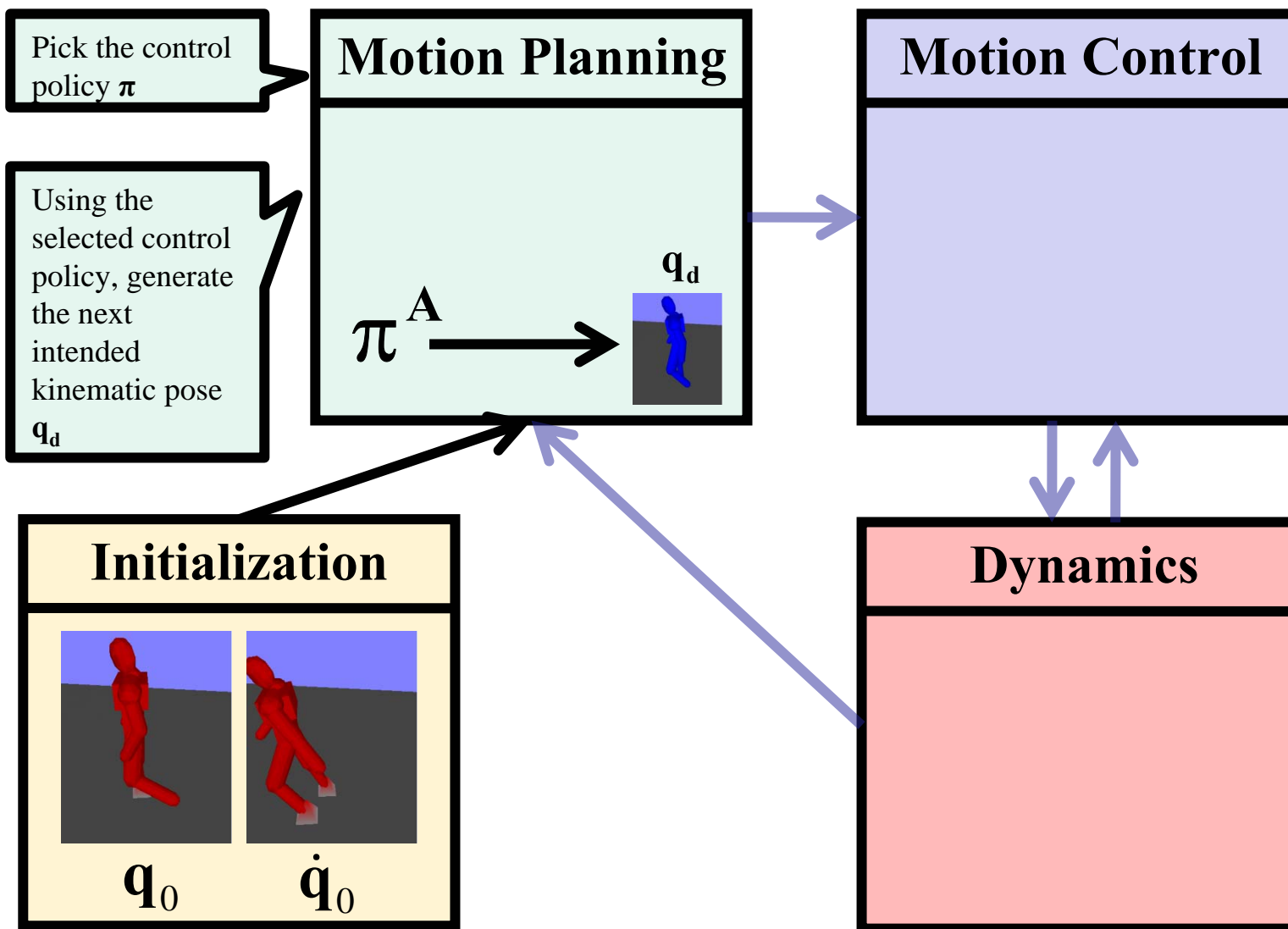
Motion Model: Control Loop

- Executed for every hypothesis in our multi-hypothesis tracking framework



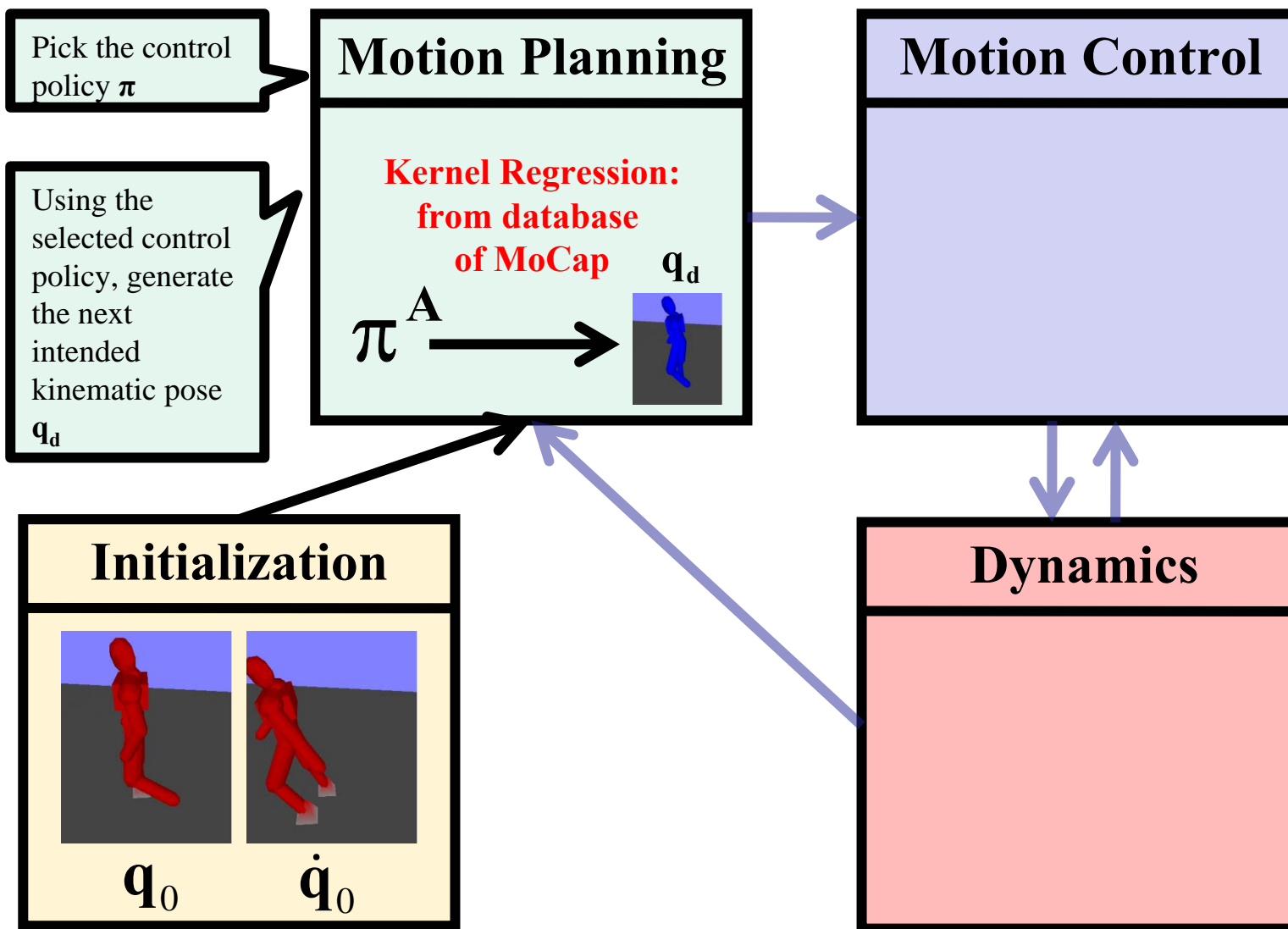
Motion Model: Control Loop

- Executed for every hypothesis in our multi-hypothesis tracking framework



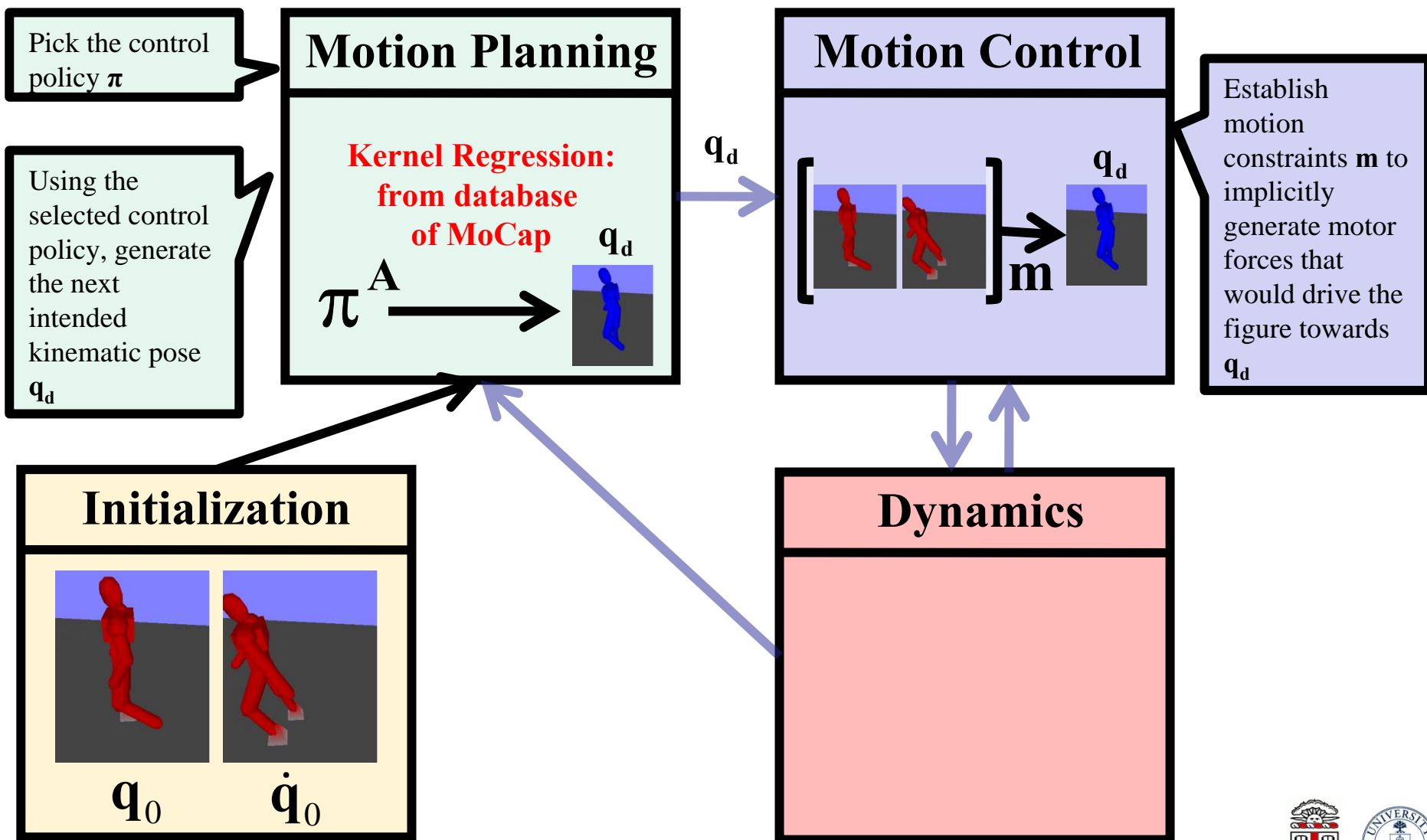
Motion Model: Control Loop

- Executed for every hypothesis in our multi-hypothesis tracking framework



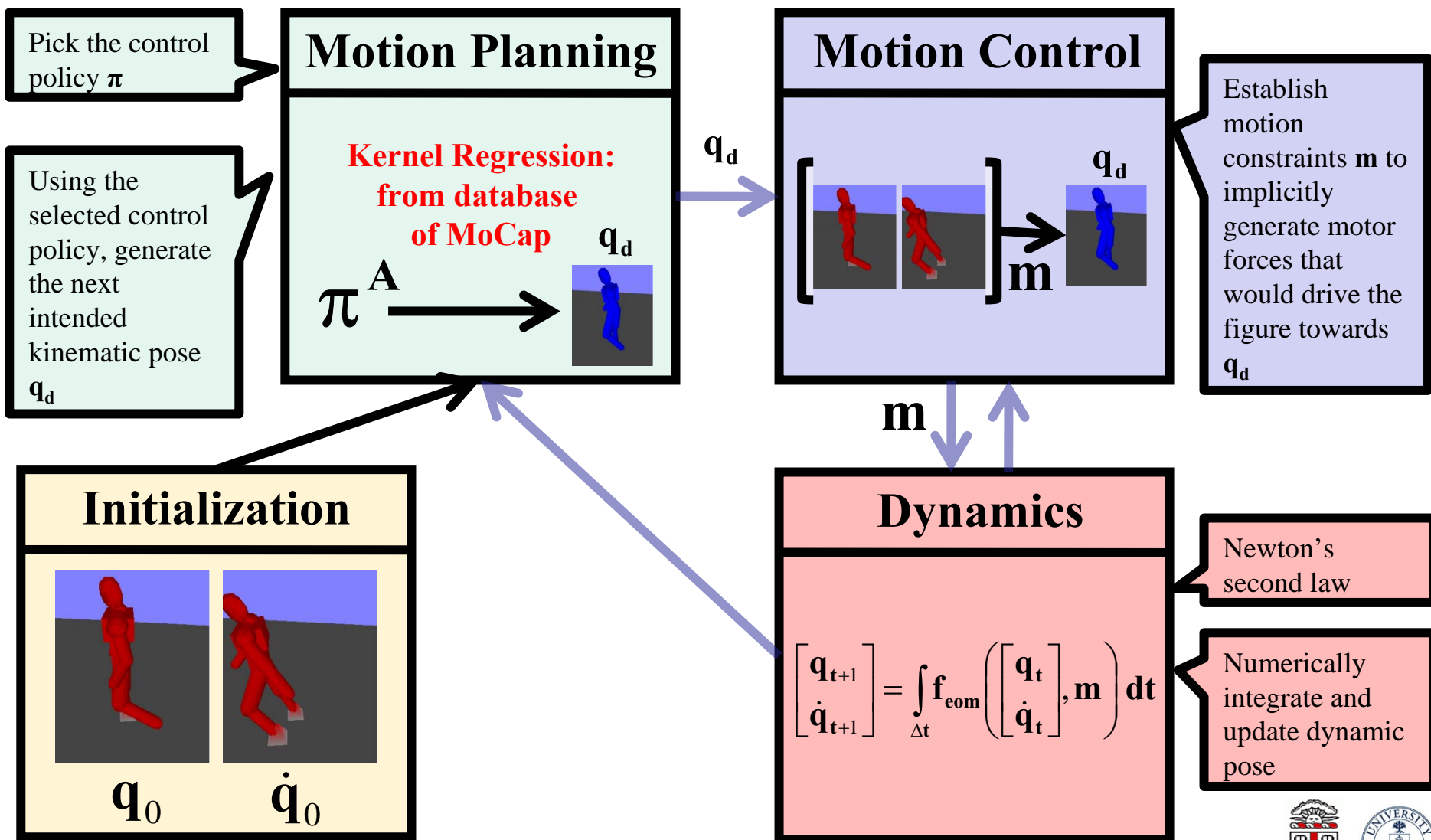
Motion Model: Control Loop

- Executed for every hypothesis in our multi-hypothesis tracking framework



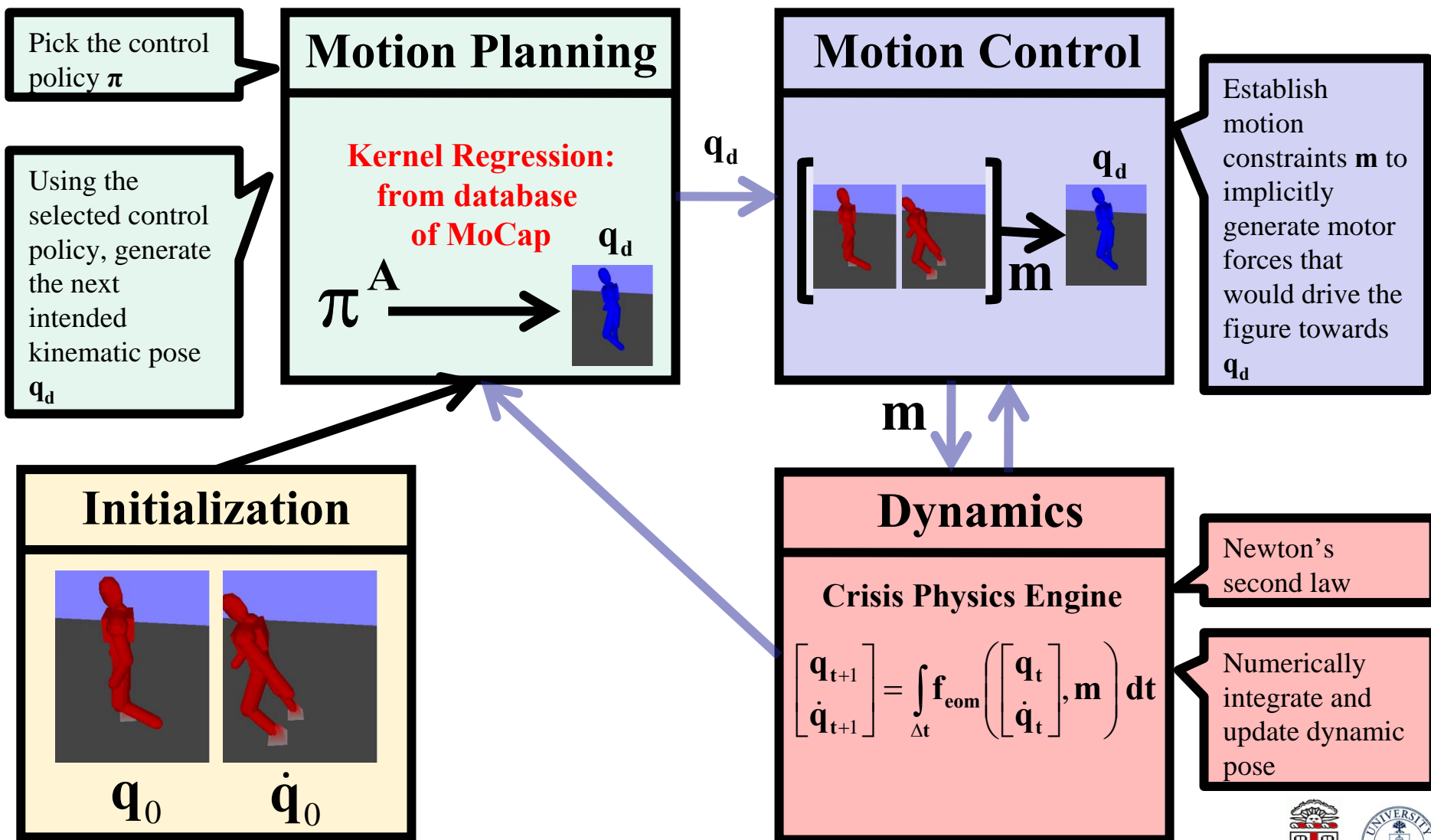
Motion Model: Control Loop

- Executed for every hypothesis in our multi-hypothesis tracking framework



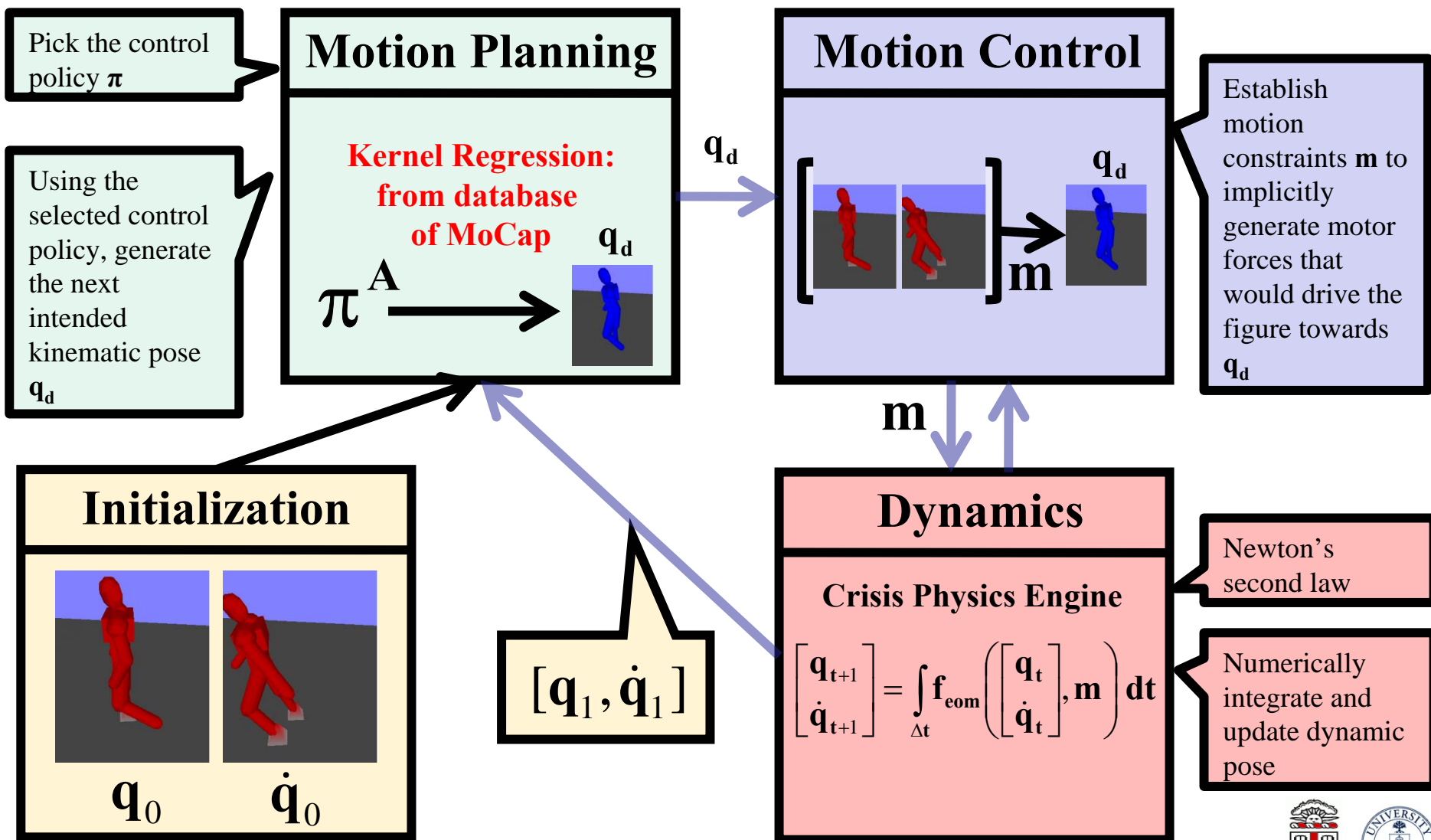
Motion Model: Control Loop

- Executed for every hypothesis in our multi-hypothesis tracking framework



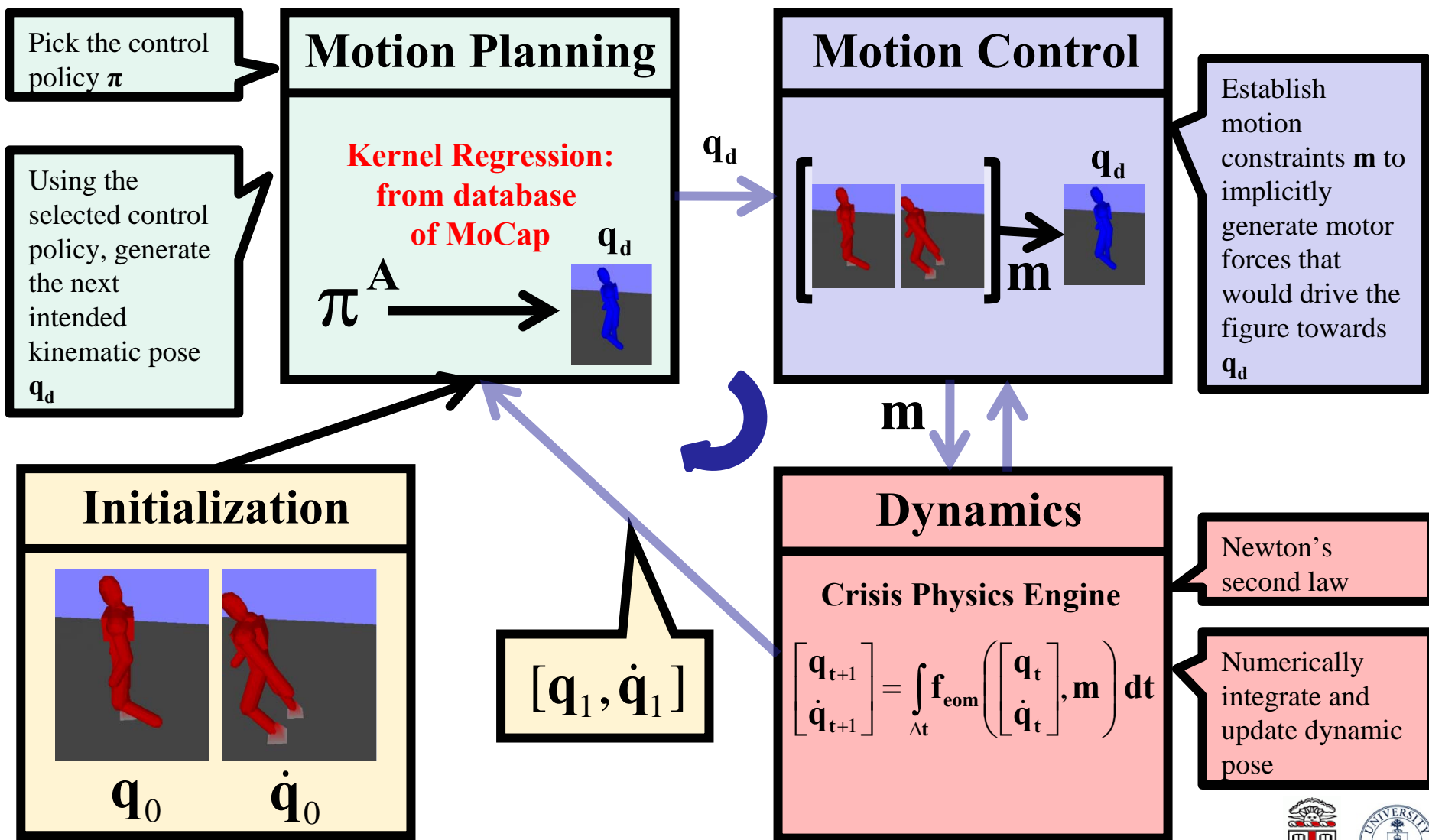
Motion Model: Control Loop

- Executed for every hypothesis in our multi-hypothesis tracking framework



Motion Model: Control Loop

- Executed for every hypothesis in our multi-hypothesis tracking framework



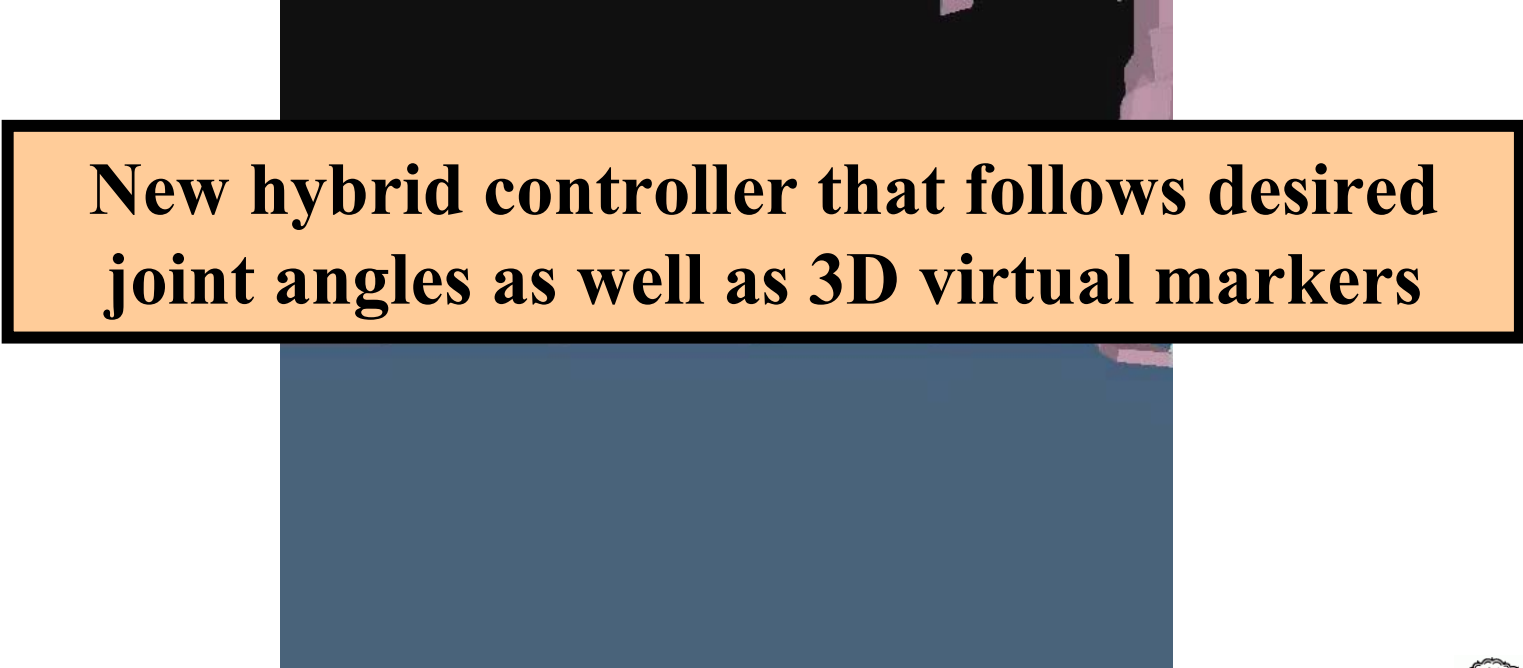
Motion Model: Motion Control

- Control that follows joint angles alone is problematic
- Locomotion results only from interactions with ground



Motion Model: Motion Control

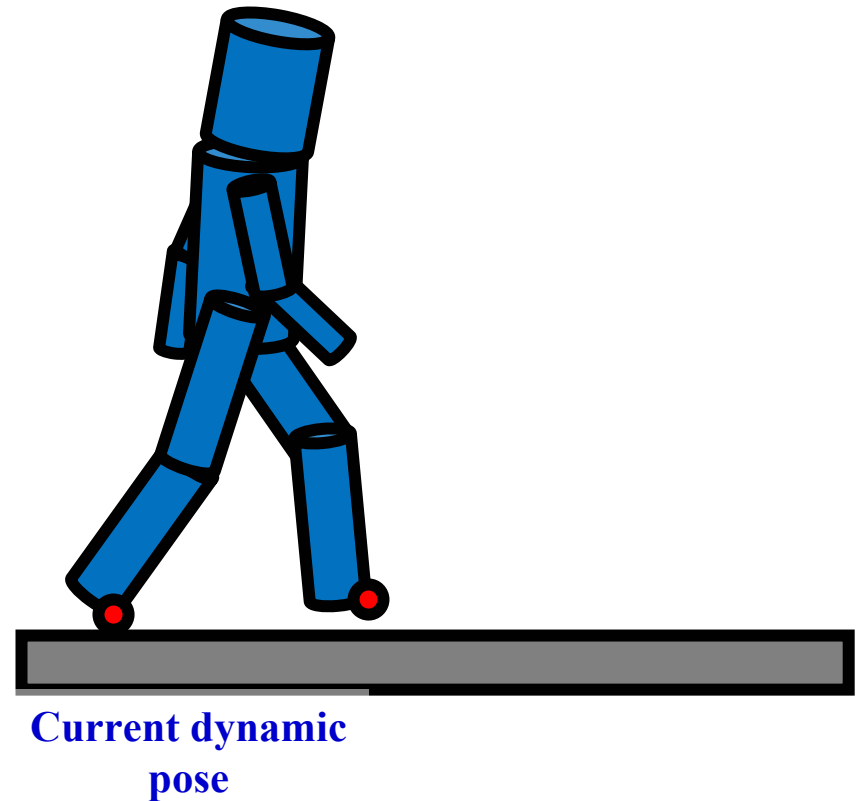
- Control that follows joint angles alone is problematic
- Locomotion results only from interactions with ground



New hybrid controller that follows desired joint angles as well as 3D virtual markers

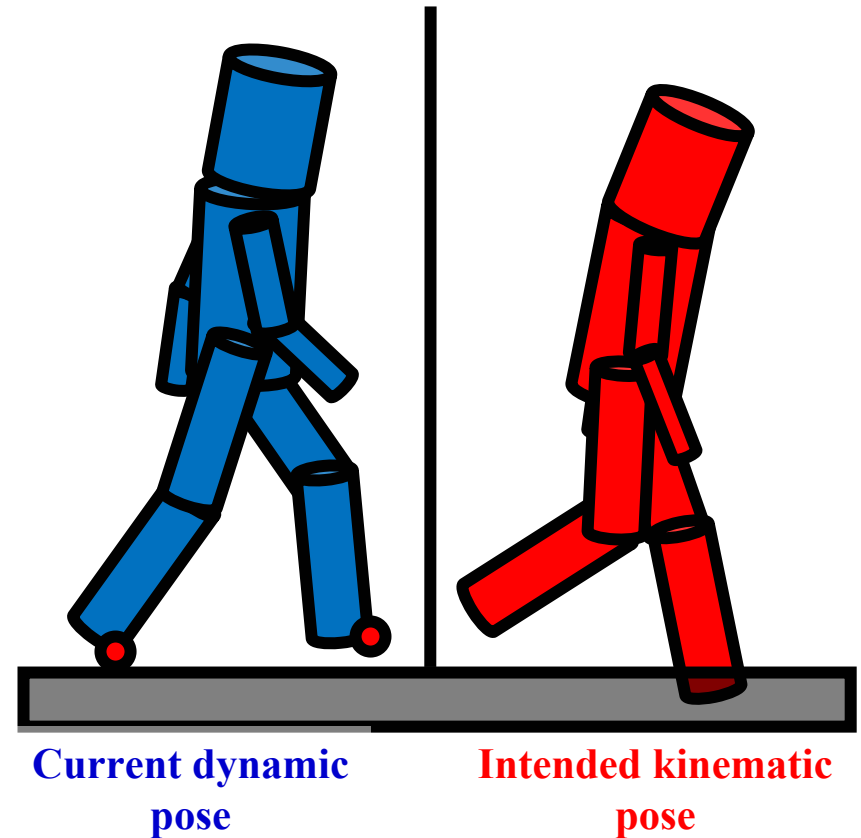
Motion Model: Motion Control

- Given the intended kinematic pose \mathbf{q}_d



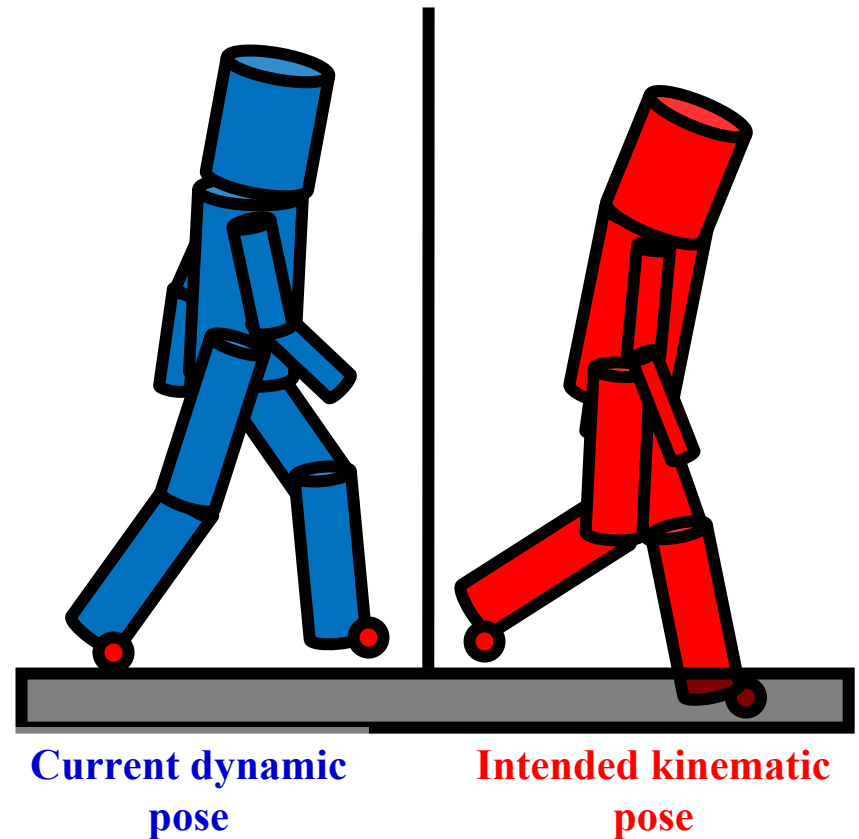
Motion Model: Motion Control

- Given the intended kinematic pose \mathbf{q}_d



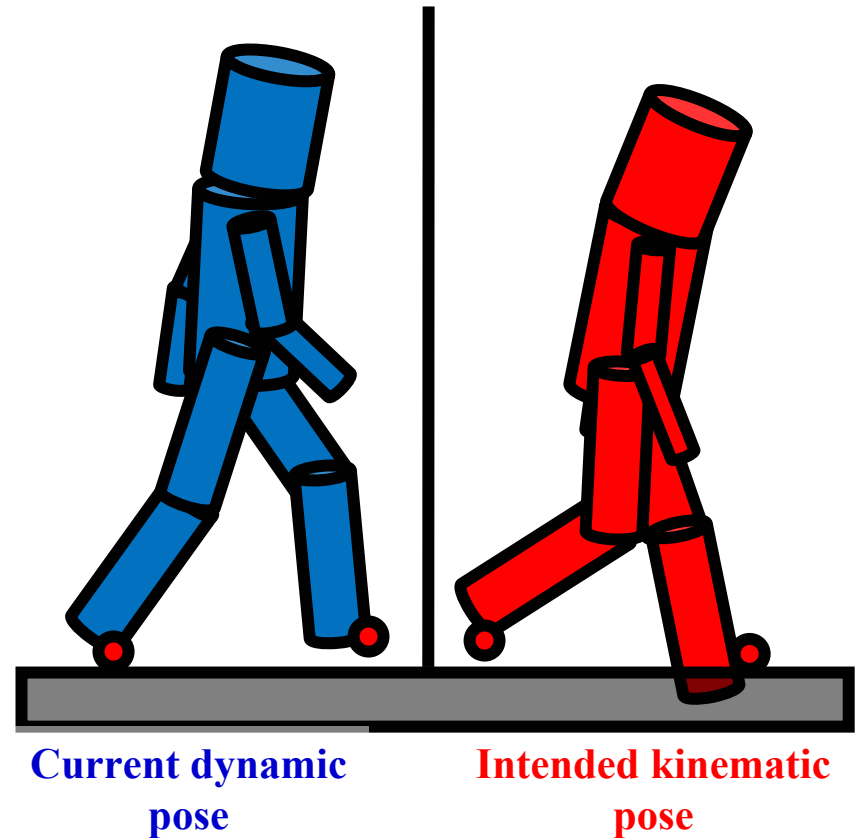
Motion Model: Motion Control

- Given the intended kinematic pose \mathbf{q}_d
 - the controller computes intended positions of markers



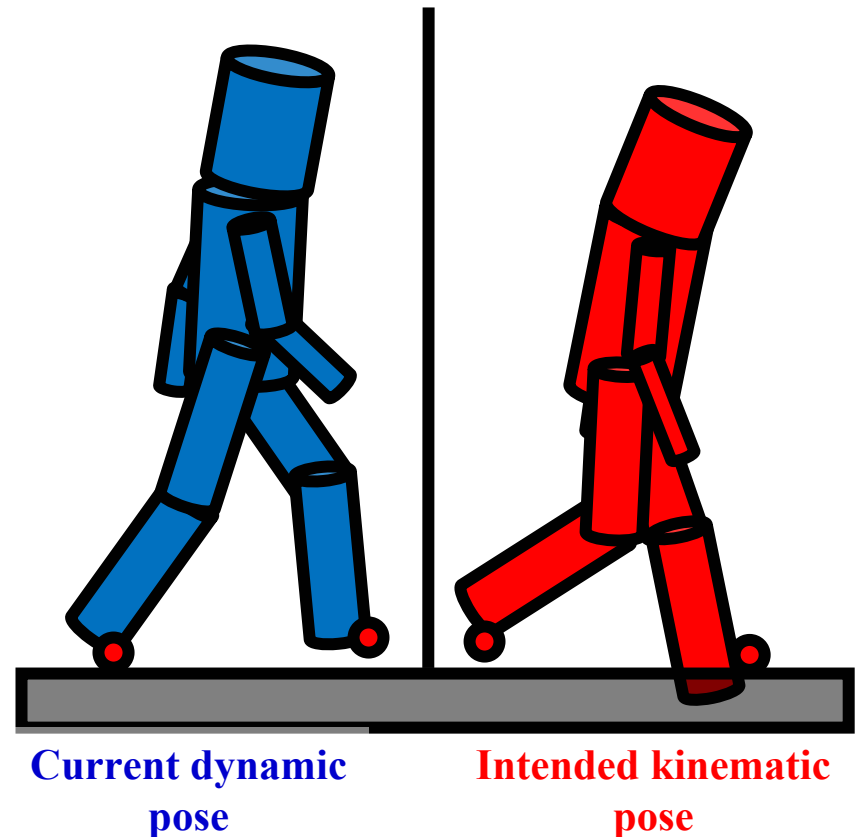
Motion Model: Motion Control

- Given the intended kinematic pose \mathbf{q}_d
 - the controller computes intended positions of markers
 - adjusts the positions so they do not penetrate the environment



Motion Model: Motion Control

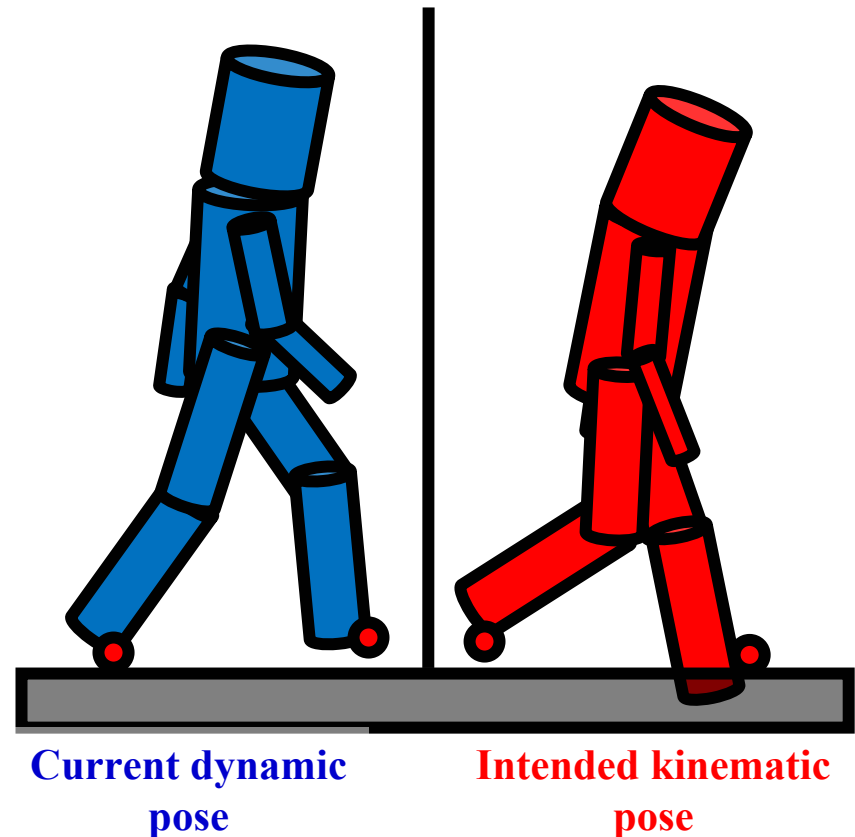
- Given the intended kinematic pose \mathbf{q}_d
 - the controller computes intended positions of markers
 - adjusts the positions so they do not penetrate the environment
 - solves for additional constraints that would drive the current **dynamic pose** towards the **adjusted intended kinematic pose**



Motion Model: Motion Control

- Given the intended kinematic pose \mathbf{q}_d
 - the controller computes intended positions of markers
 - adjusts the positions so they do not penetrate the environment

– solves for additional constraints that would drive the current **dynamic pose** towards the **adjusted intended kinematic pose**



Inverse Dynamics

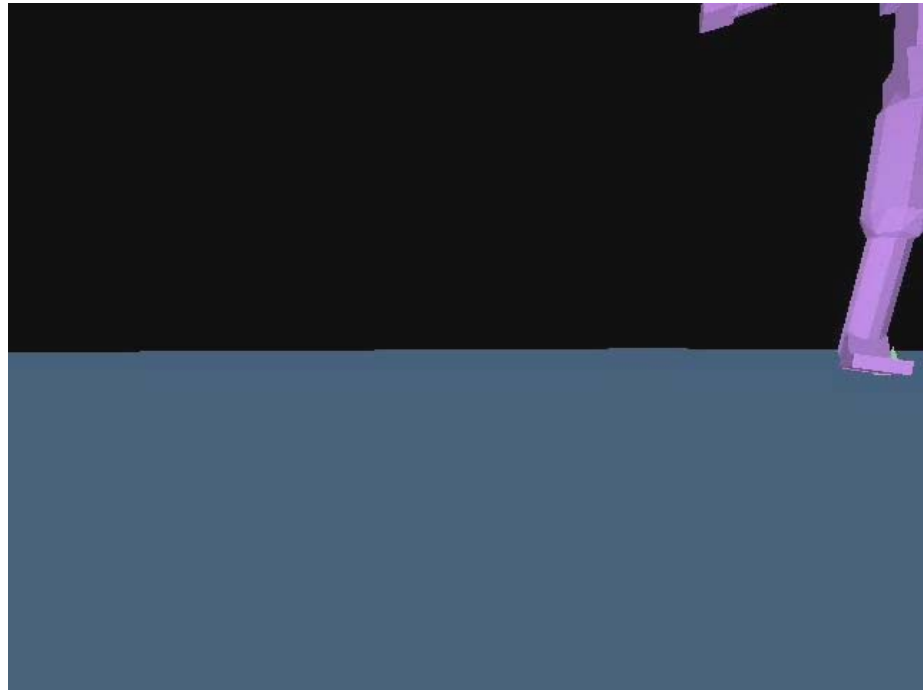


Motion Model: Motion Control

Motion simulation using Crisis physics engine



Traditional Controller

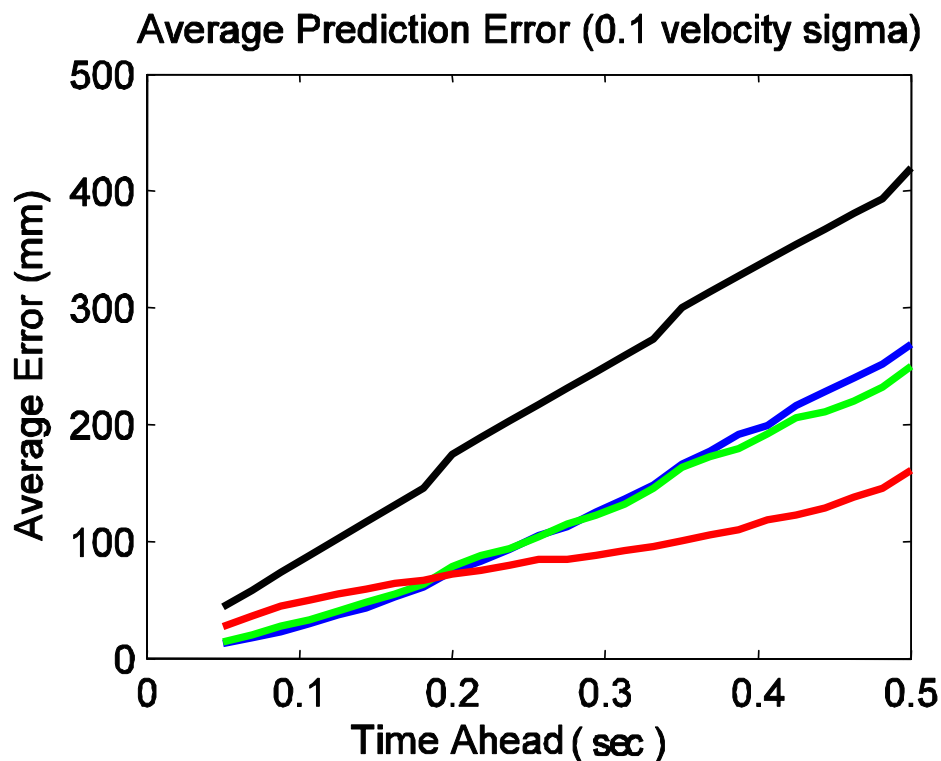


Our Controller

How Good is our Motion Model?

Given: a pose (position and velocity) of the body
from walking mocap data

Goal: predict the state some time Δt into the future



No prior:

$$\mathbf{q}_{f+1} = \mathbf{q}_f + \mathbf{N}(0, \Sigma)$$

Constant velocity prior:

$$\mathbf{q}_{f+1} = \mathbf{q}_f + \Delta t \cdot \dot{\mathbf{q}}_f + \mathbf{N}(0, \Sigma)$$

Physics (passive rag-doll):

$$\mathbf{q}_{f+1} = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{q}_f, \dot{\mathbf{q}}_f, \pi^P) + \mathbf{N}(0, \Sigma)$$

Physics (active mocap control):

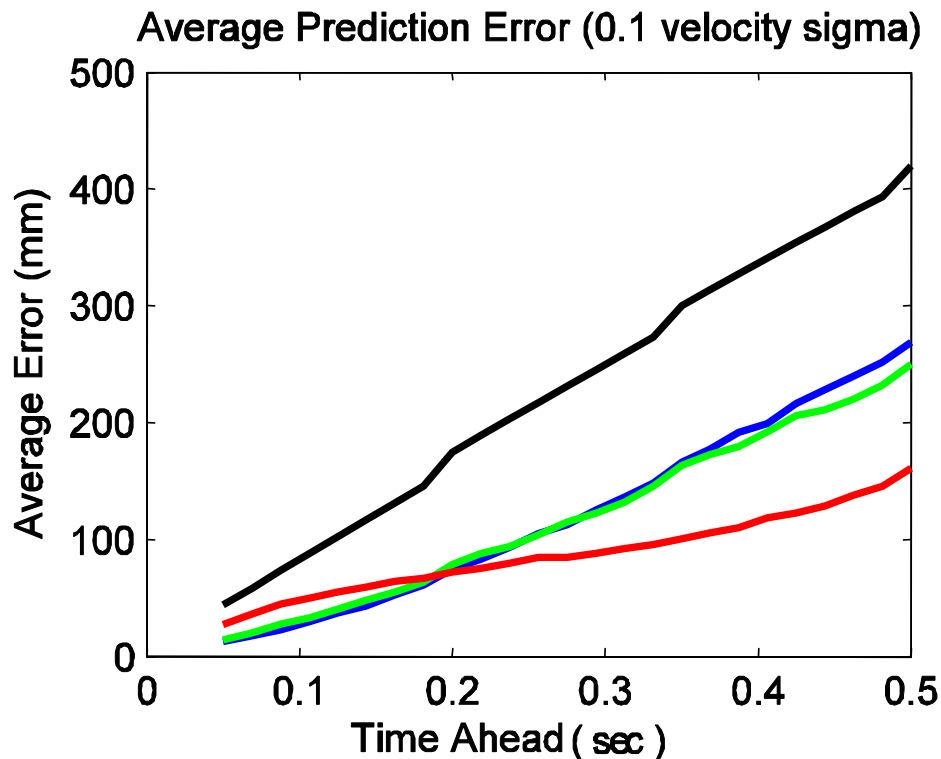
$$\mathbf{q}_{f+1} = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{q}_f, \dot{\mathbf{q}}_f, \pi^A) + \mathbf{N}(0, \Sigma)$$



How Good is our Motion Model?

Given: a pose (position and velocity) of the body
from walking mocap data

Goal: predict the state some time Δt into the future

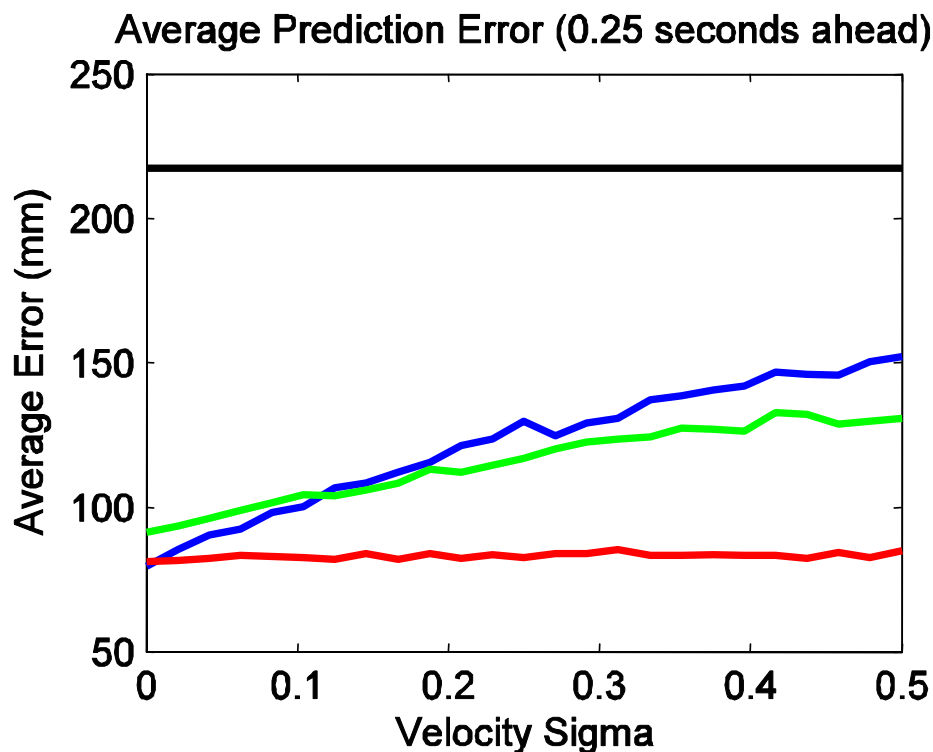


Long-term predictions are more accurate with actively controlled physics-based model

How Good is our Motion Model?

Given: a pose (position and *corrupted* velocity) of the body from walking mocap data

Goal: predict the state some time Δt into the future



No prior:

$$\mathbf{q}_{f+1} = \mathbf{q}_f + \mathbf{N}(0, \Sigma)$$

Constant velocity prior:

$$\mathbf{q}_{f+1} = \mathbf{q}_f + \Delta t \cdot \dot{\mathbf{q}}_f + \mathbf{N}(0, \Sigma)$$

Physics (passive rag-doll):

$$\mathbf{q}_{f+1} = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{q}_f, \dot{\mathbf{q}}_f, \pi^P) + \mathbf{N}(0, \Sigma)$$

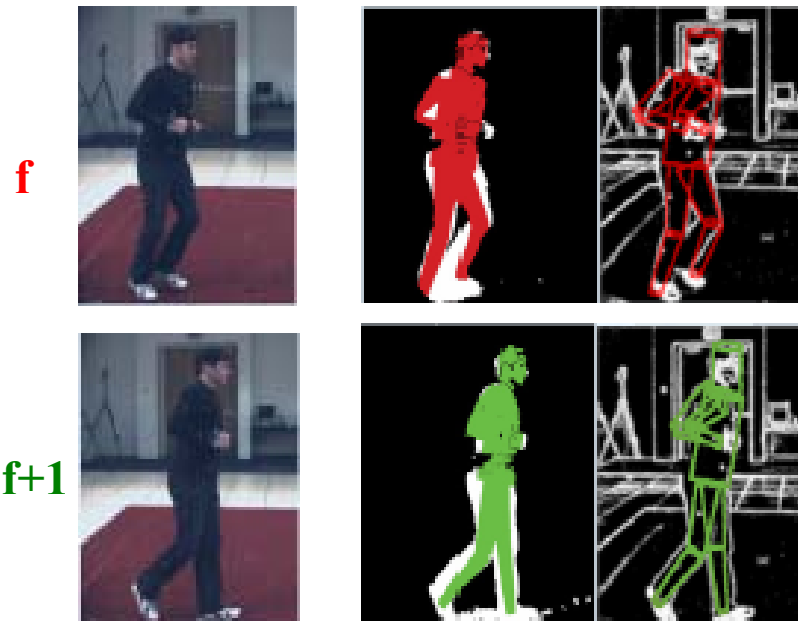
Physics (active mocap control):

$$\mathbf{q}_{f+1} = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{q}_f, \dot{\mathbf{q}}_f, \pi^A) + \mathbf{N}(0, \Sigma)$$



Likelihood Model

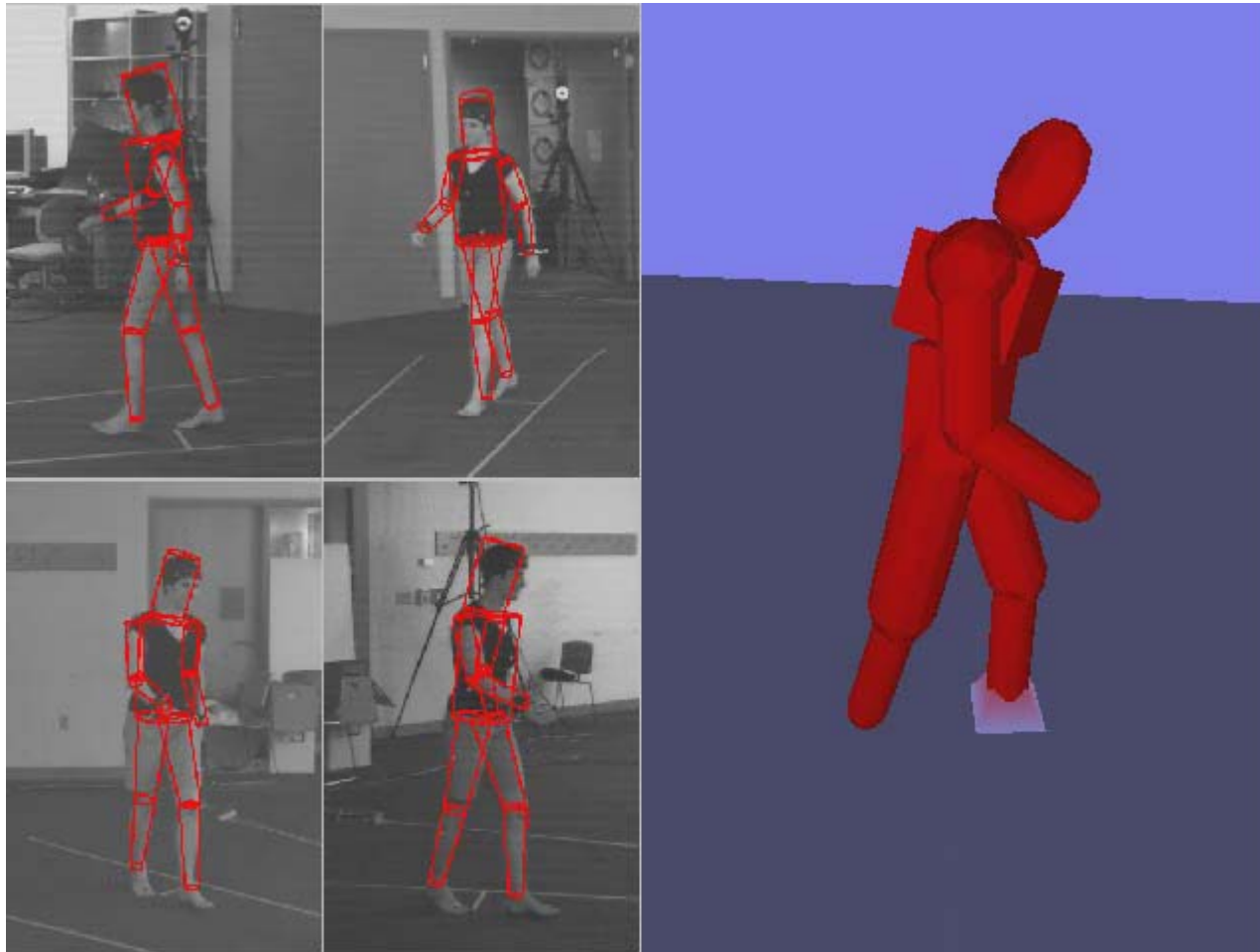
- Measures how well a state hypothesis explains image observations [Balan et. al., '05] [Deutscher et. al., '00]
 - We use a generic likelihood model based on edges and silhouettes
 - Combine observations from different sources of information and across camera views assuming independence
- States carry both position and velocity information



See:

[Brubaker et. al., '07]

Multi-view Tracking



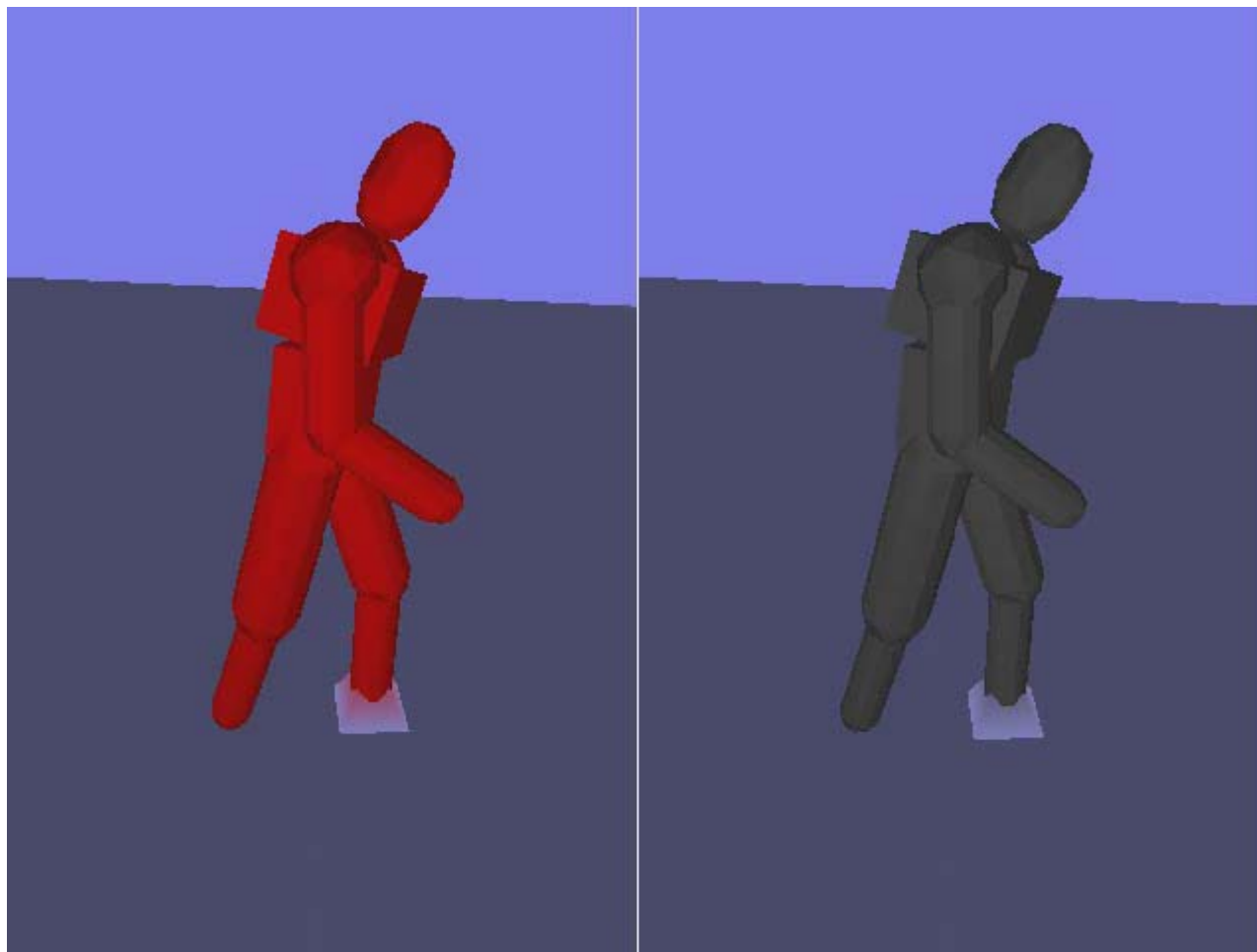
Purple square:
Ground contact

Inference: **Particle Filtering**
Motion Prior: **Physics-based**



Multi-view Tracking: Comparison

with equal number of particles

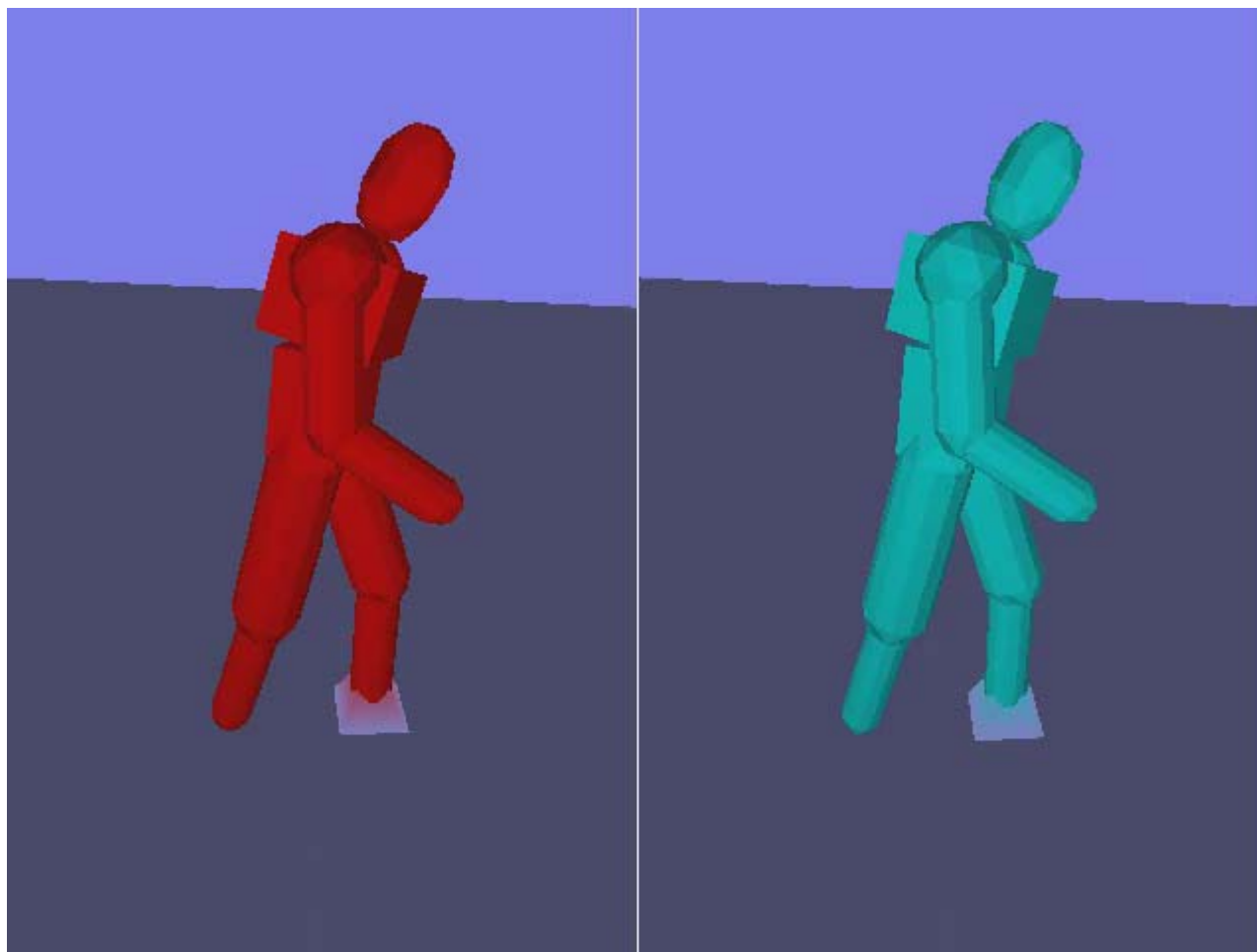


Inference:
Motion Prior:

Particle Filtering
Physics-based

Particle Filtering
Smooth prior

Multi-view Tracking: Comparison



Inference:
Motion Prior:

Particle Filtering
Physics-based

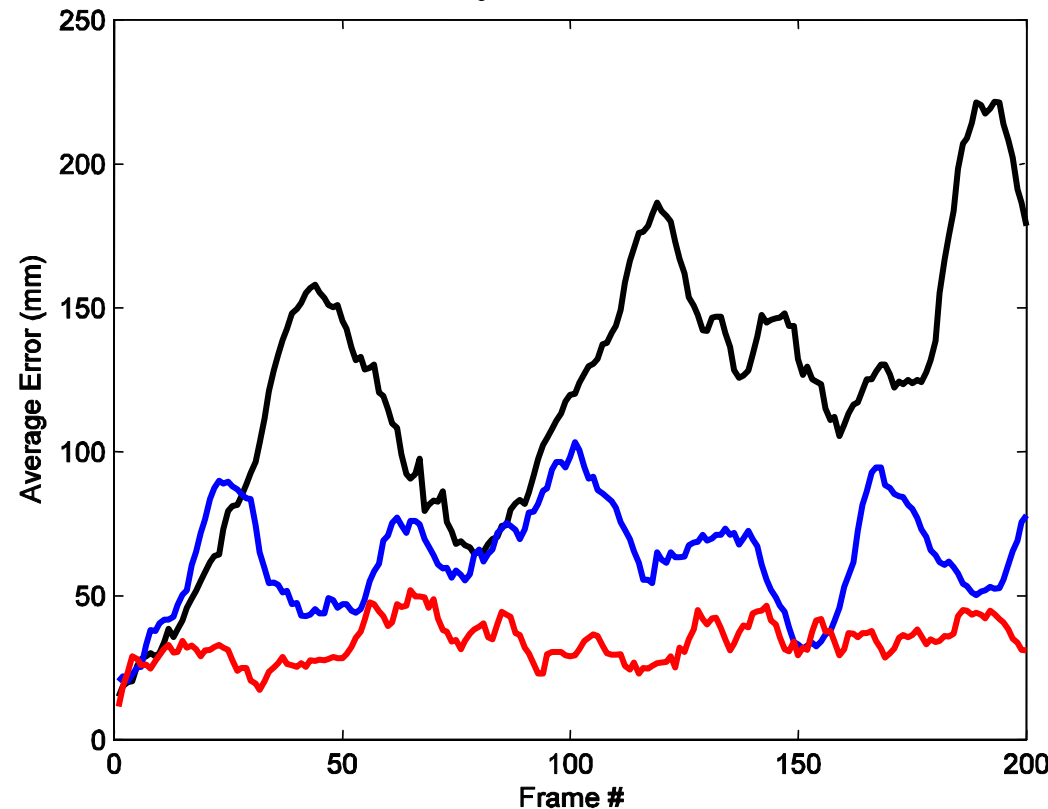
Annealed Particle Filtering
Smooth prior

Quantitative Comparison: Multi-view

PF	APF 5	PF Physics
120.7 ± 46.9	63.5 ± 17.9	33.9 ± 7.2

- HumanEva Dataset [Sigal et. al., '06]

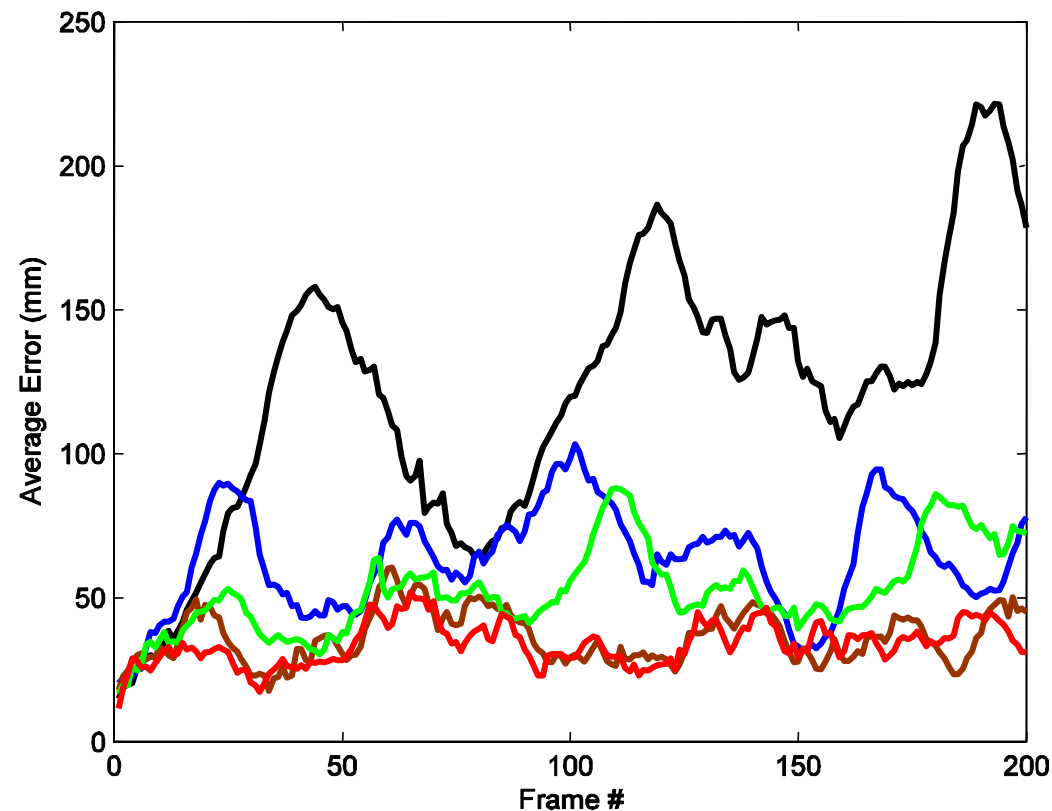
– contains synchronized motion capture data and multi-view video



More accurate performance
with lower variance

Quantitative Comparison: Multi-view

PF	APF 5	PF Physics	PF Physics	PF Physics
120.7 ± 46.9	63.5 ± 17.9	33.9 ± 7.2	36.3 ± 9.0	52.5 ± 15.0
Training Subject		L1	L1, S1, S2, S3	S1, S2, S3
Test Subject		L1	L1	L1



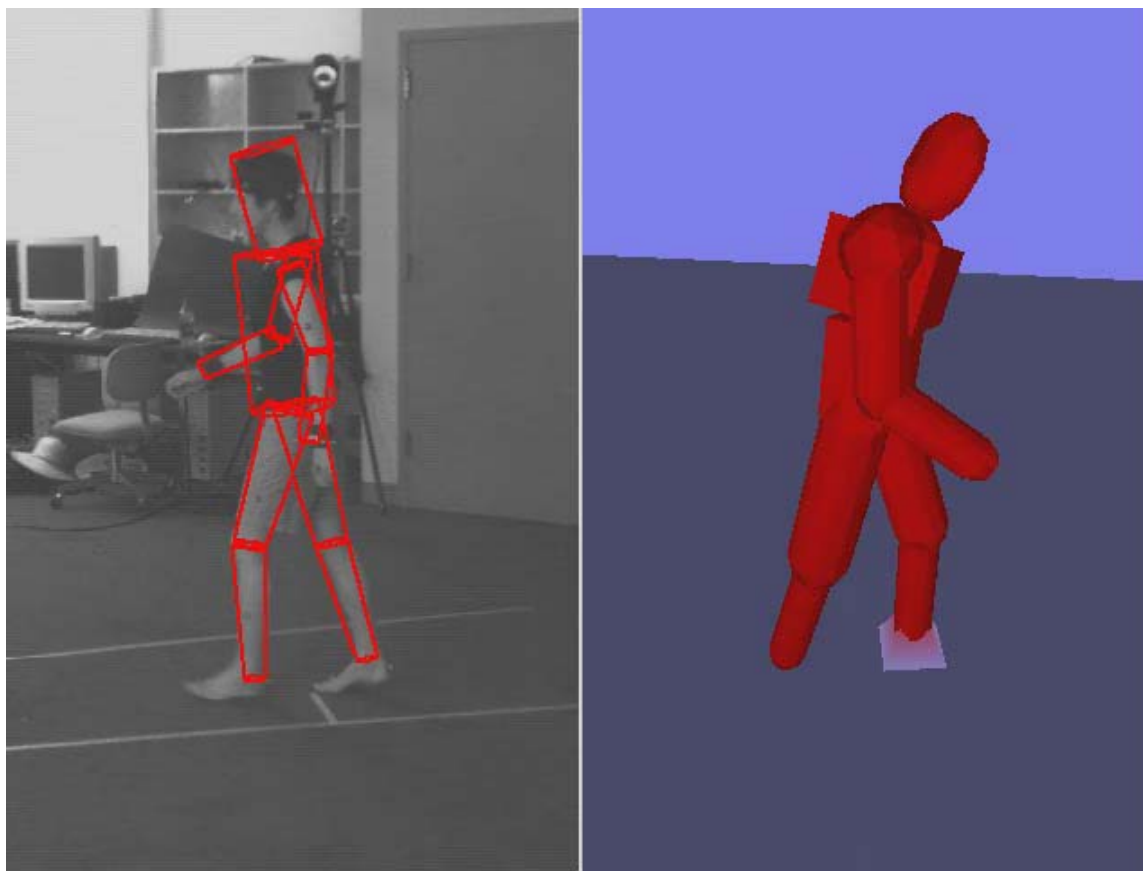
More accurate performance
with lower variance

Performance does not degrade
with larger training sets

Can generalize to new people
(at least for simple motions)



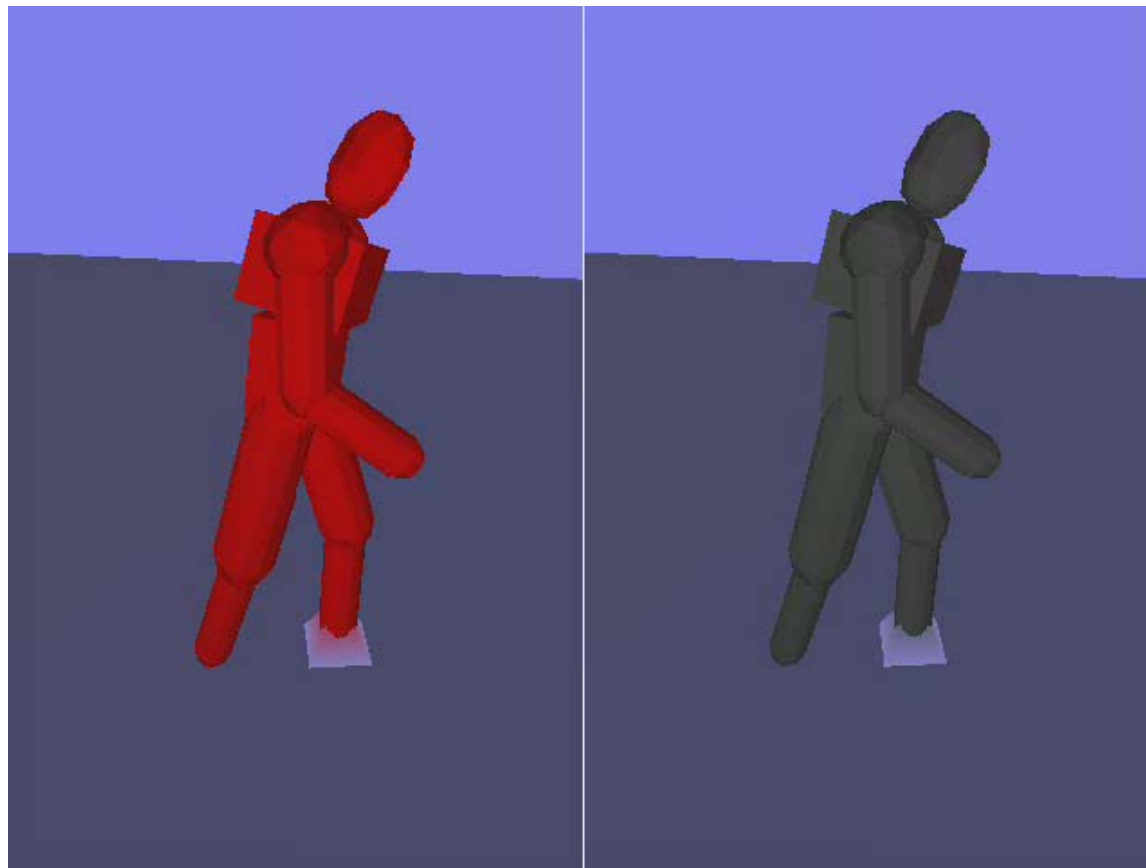
Monocular Tracking



Inference: Particle Filtering
Motion Prior: Physics-based



Monocular Tracking: Comparison

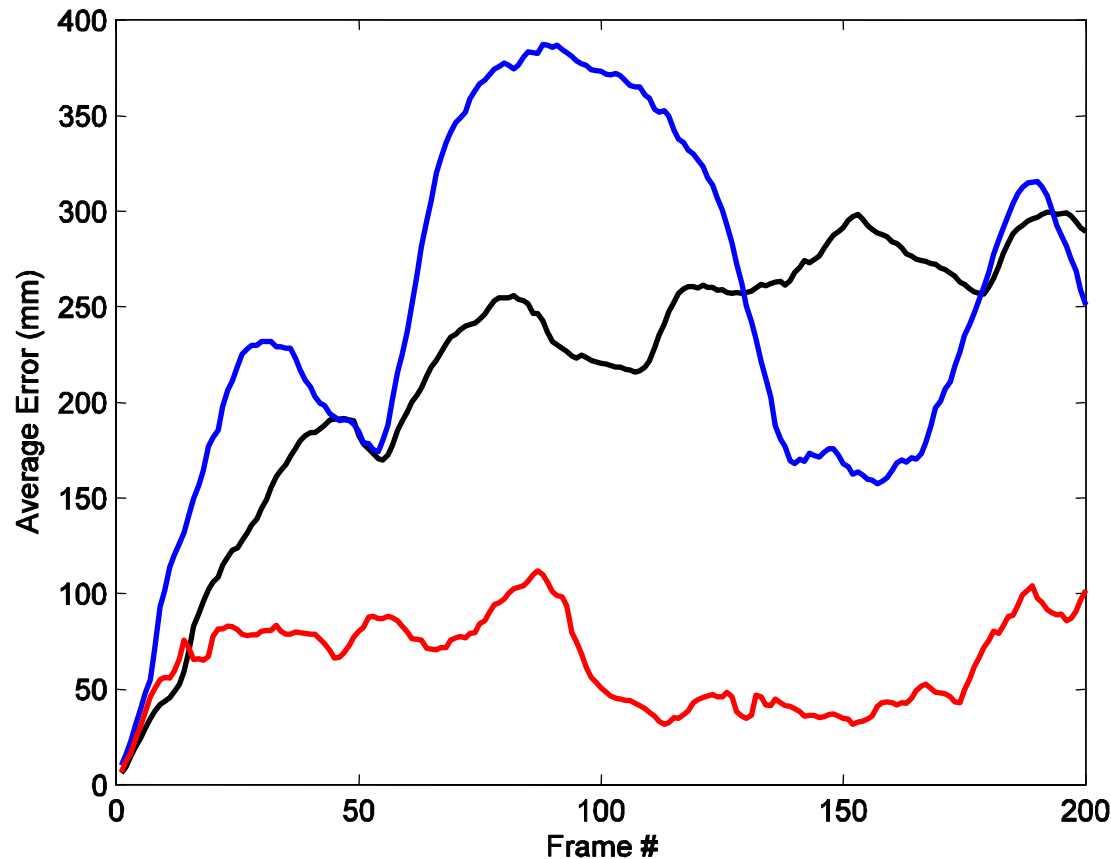


Inference:
Motion Prior:

Particle Filtering
Physics-based

Particle Filtering
Smooth prior

Quantitative Comparison: Monocular

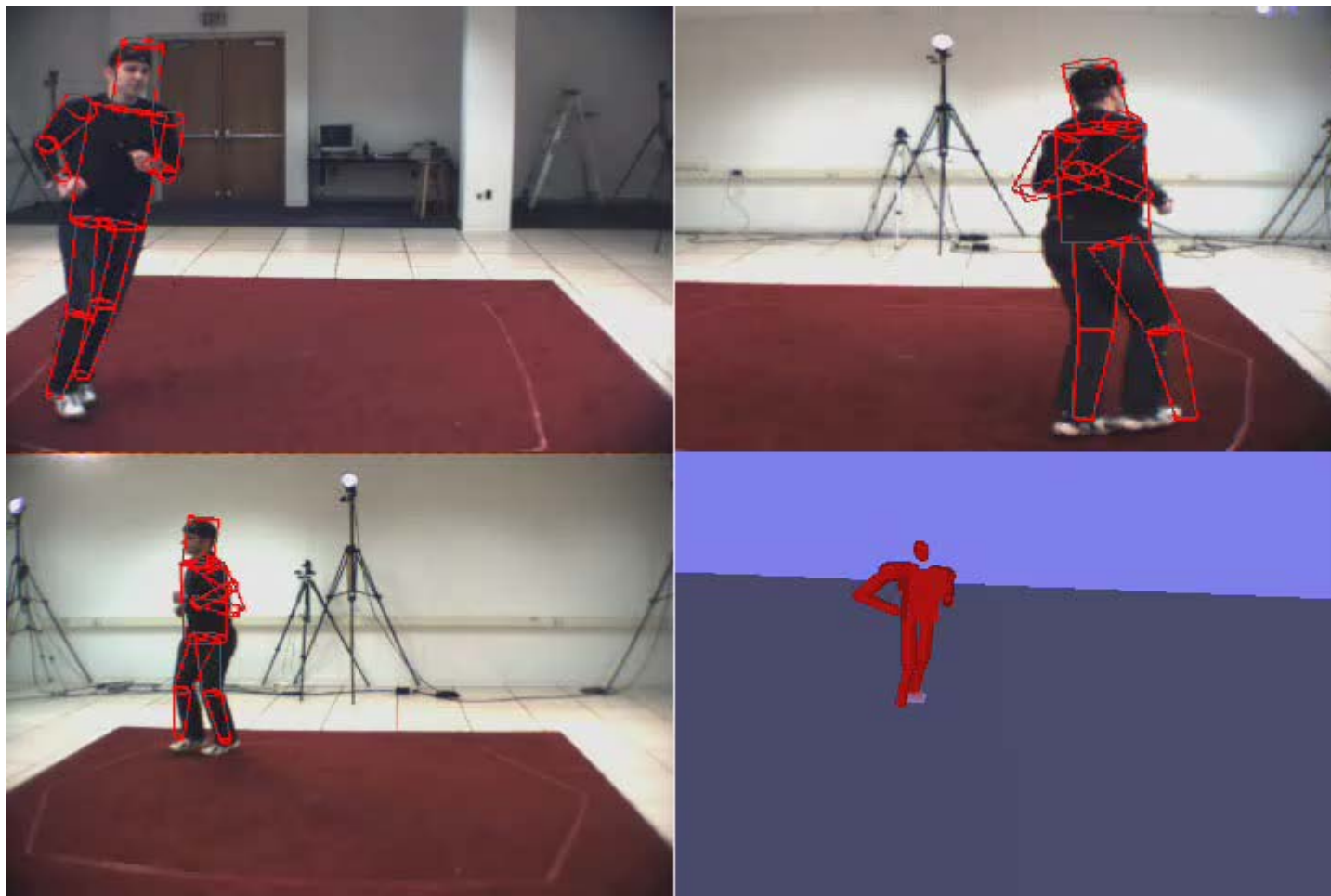


PF	APF 5	PF Physics
219.2 ± 72.1	249.6 ± 91.0	64.2 ± 23.4

More accurate performance
with lower variance

What about other motions?

e.g., Jogging



Conclusions

- **Framework for physically-plausible tracking**
 - Incorporates the full-body physics-based simulation as a temporal prior within the context of Bayesian filtering
 - Non-linear non-stationary dynamics of the human body
 - Interactions with the environment
 - We also introduce novel hybrid constraint-based controller
 - We show both qualitatively and qualitatively that the resulting framework is more accurate and physically plausible than results obtained using standard priors in Bayesian filtering methods



Future Work

- **More effective inference methods**
 - Better proposal functions for particle filtering
 - Richer observation models
- **More realistic models of human motion**
 - Better models of ground contact with multi-segment feet
 - Active balancing
- **Weaker reliance on motion capture data**
 - Action-specific controllers (or combinations of such)
 - Learning of priors over motor forces for specific classes of motion (hard problem even for biomechanics)



Acknowledgments

- **Funding**

- ONR Young Investigator Award (C. Jenkins)
- PECASE (C. Jenkins)

- **Personal thanks**

- Michael J. Black, Brown University
- Alexandru Balan, Brown University
- David Fleet, University of Toronto
- Matt Loper, Brown University
- Morgan McGuire, Williams College
- German Gonzalez, EPFL
- Jaroslav Semancik, Charles University in Prague

