



The Promise, Limits, and Future of Artificial Intelligence and Robotics

Nicholas Roy
Jan 24, 2019



WAYMO 01



The Challenges of Autonomy

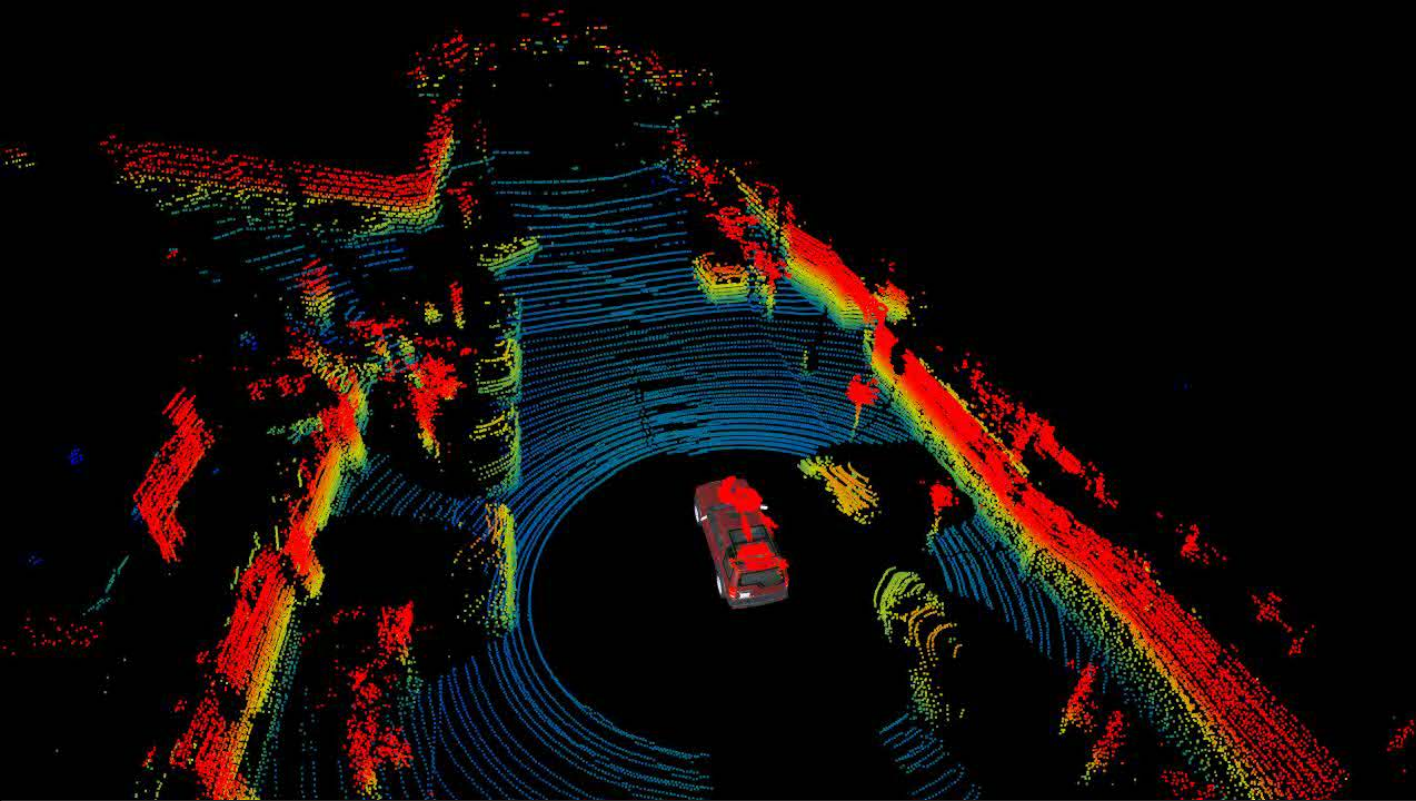
- Vehicles must know where they are
 - Signal processing and estimation theory
- Vehicles must know what is around them
 - Signal processing and estimation theory
- Vehicles must be able to plan what to do
 - Planning algorithms
- Vehicles must be able to react to the unexpected and adapt as the world changes
 - Machine learning

Major Hardware Advances Driving Modern Autonomous Robotics

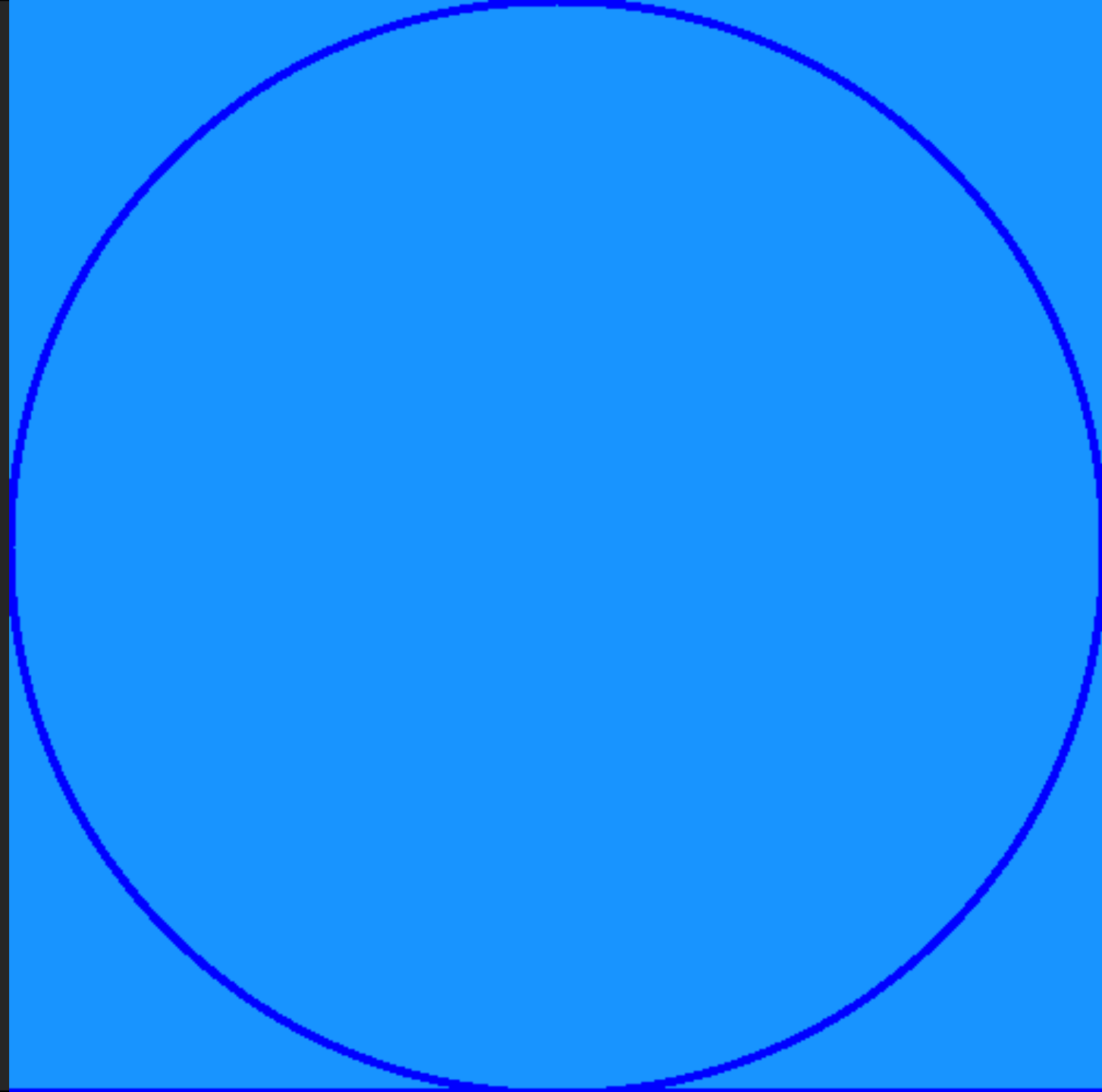
- Low-cost, high-power micro-electronics
- Low-cost, high-power computation
- New generations of sensors



Velodyne (3D Laser Scanner)







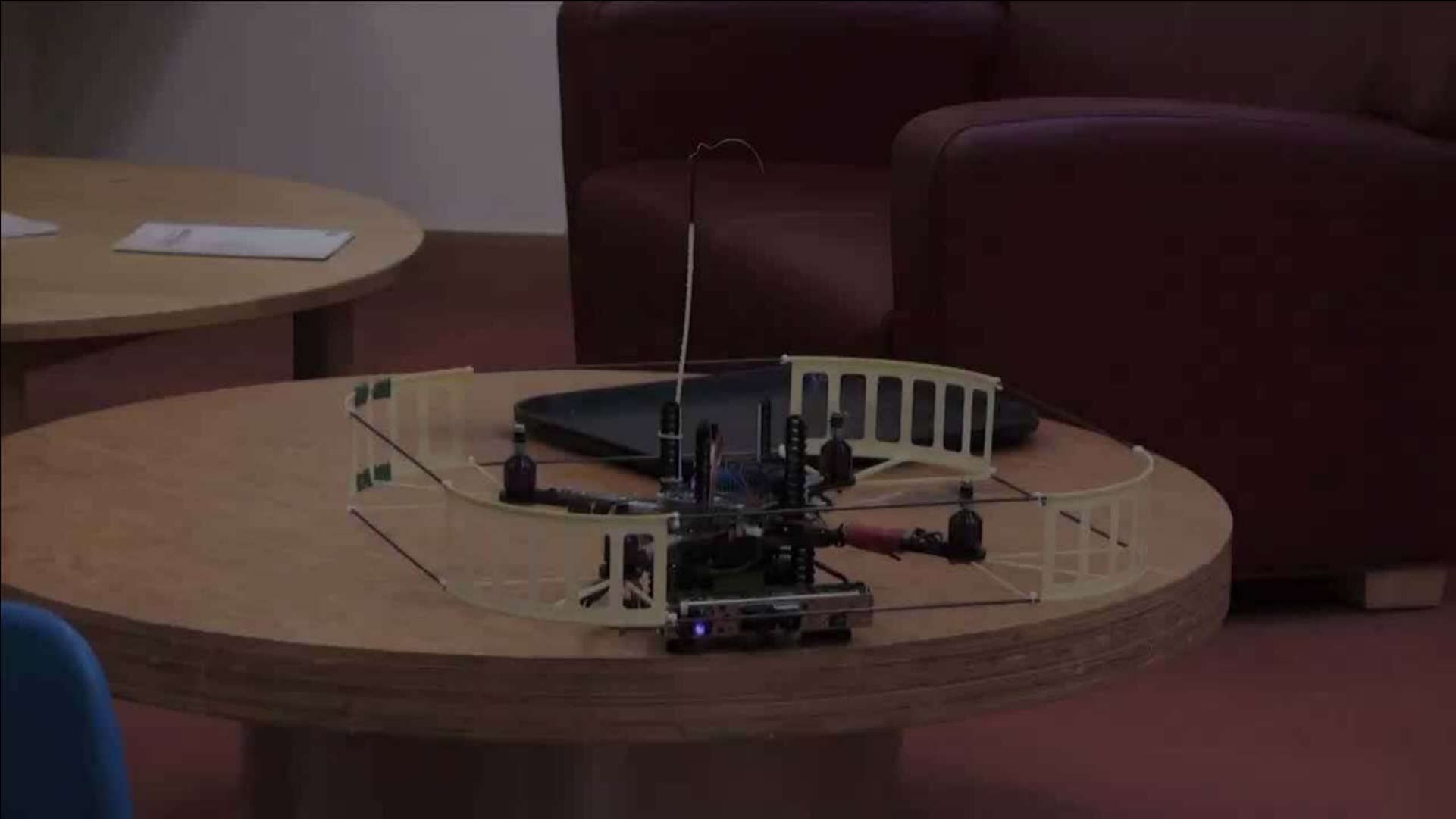


Autonomous
Navigation





Kinect



Advances in robotics
now (mostly) from
software

From Lasers to Cameras

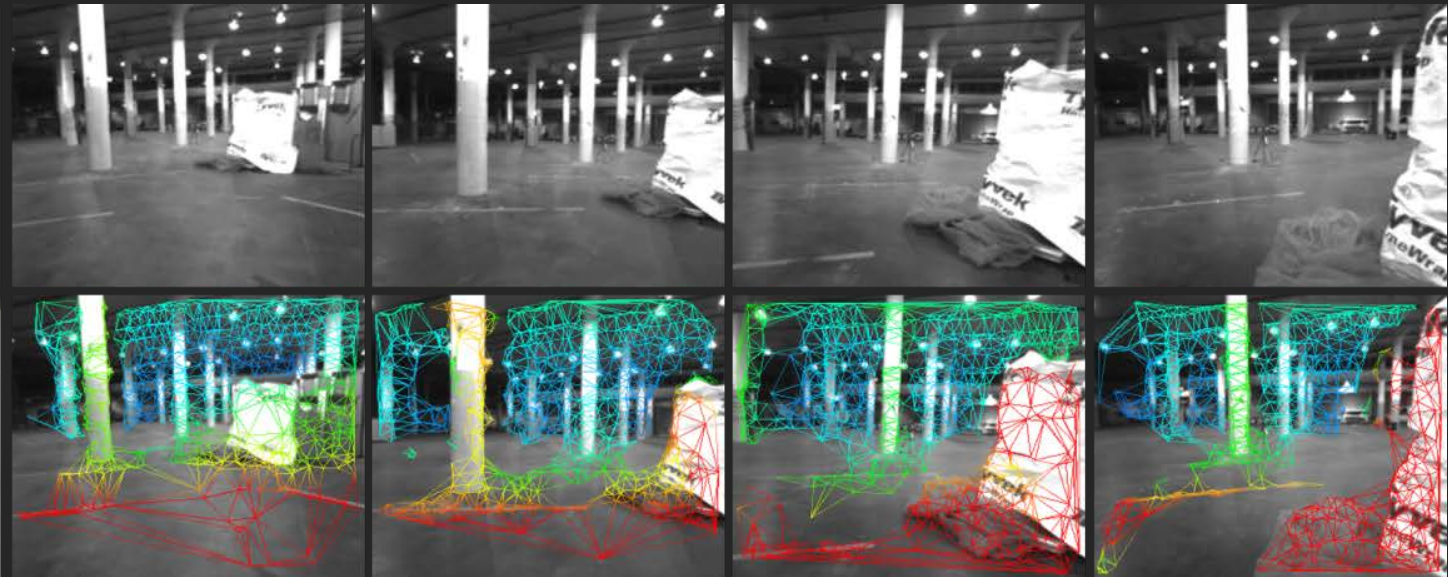
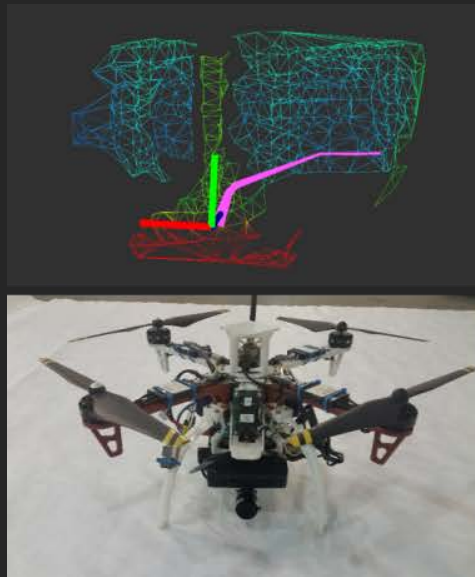
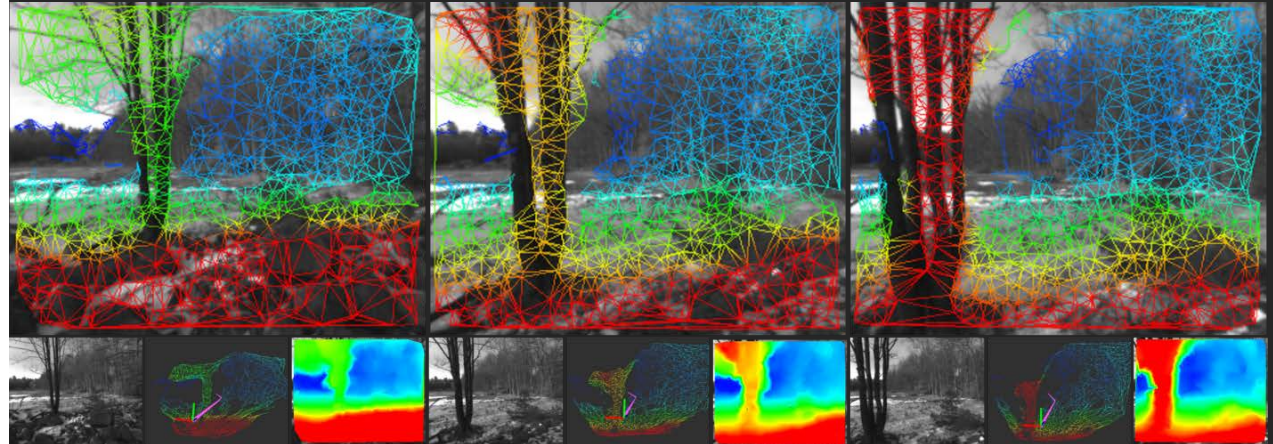


FLaME: Flight Results

Timing and Load on Autonomous MAV

Metric	Indoor	Outdoor
<i>Vehicle Speed [m/s]</i>	2.5	3.5
<i>Depthmaps</i>	803	1046
<i>Vertices / depthmap</i>	1396	1620
<i>Edges / depthmap</i>	4170	4838
<i>Density [%]</i>	82	88
<i>CPU Load [cores]</i>	1.6	1.7
<i>Runtime [ms]</i>	9.4	11
<i>Peak FPS [Hz]</i>	106	91

Outdoor



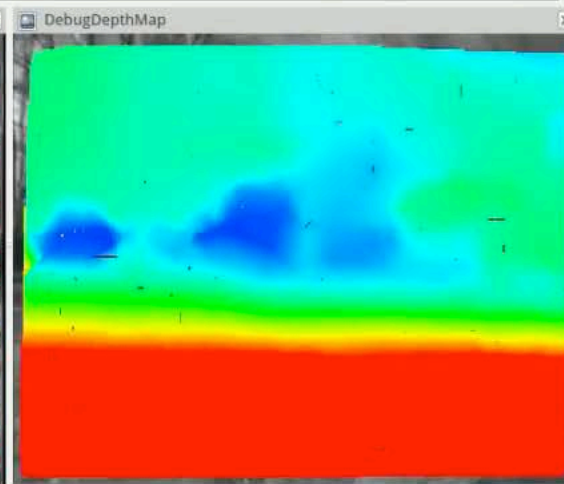
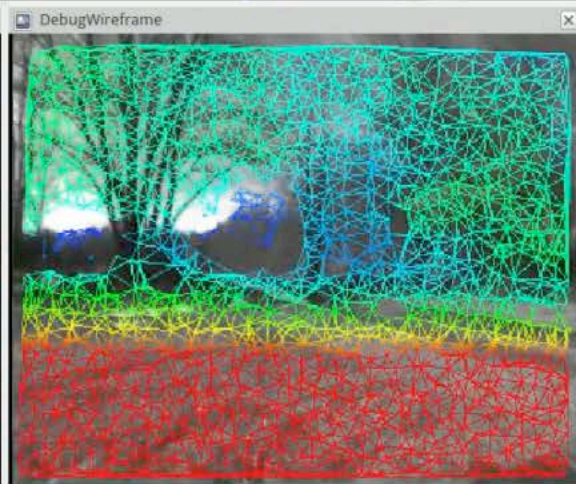
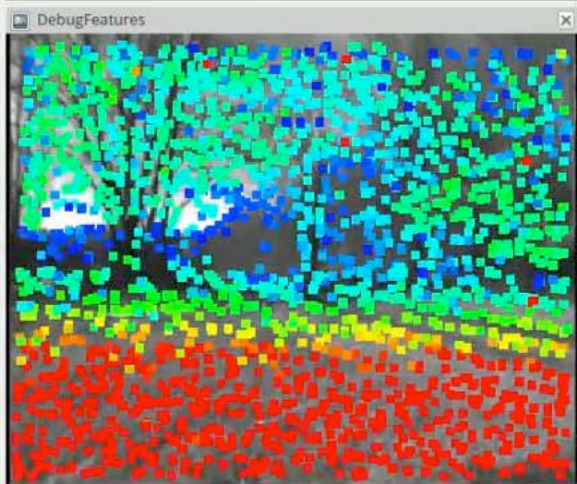
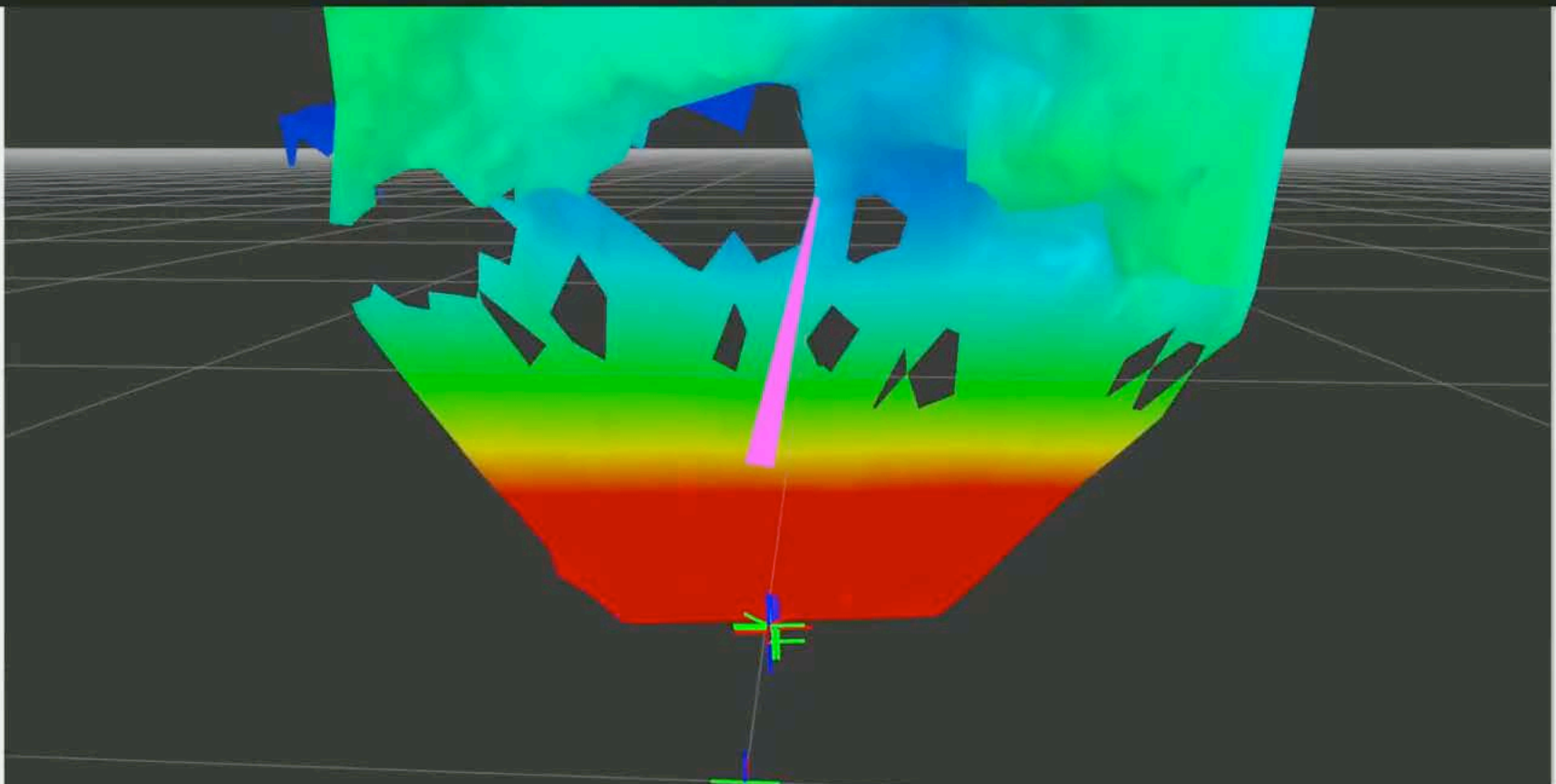
Indoor

File Panels Help

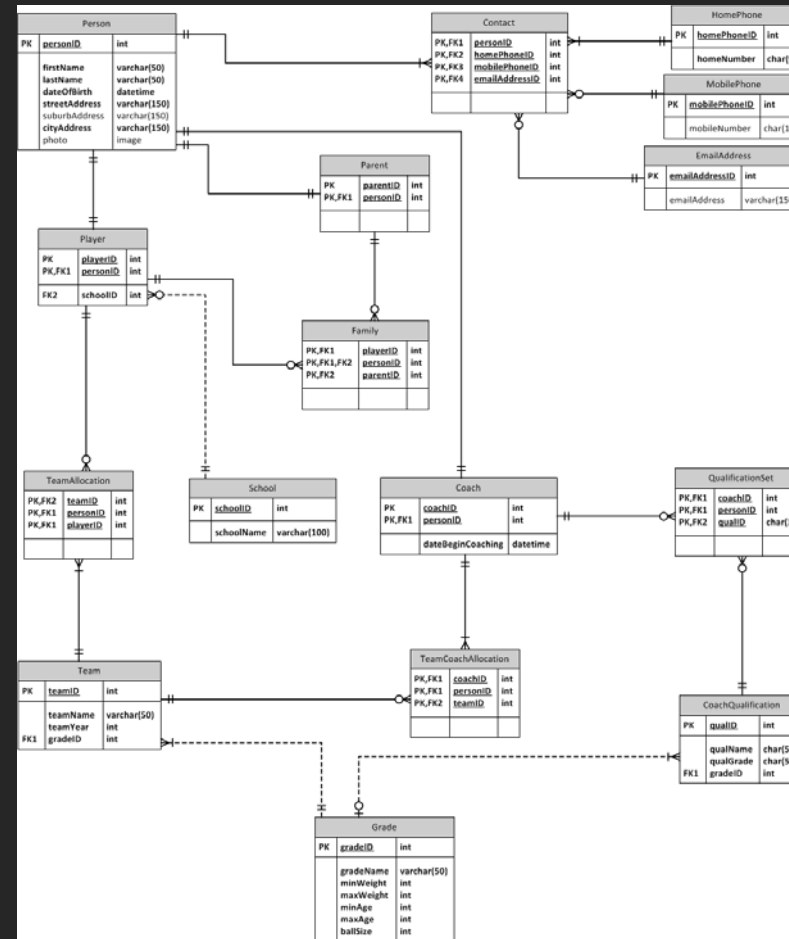
Displays

- Global Options
 - Fixed Frame: world
 - Background Color: 48; 48; 48
 - Frame Rate: 30
- Global Status: Ok
 - Fixed Frame: OK
- Grid:
- TF:
- InputImage:
- SamwiseCloud:
- SamwiseKeyFrames:
- TrueDepths:
- DepthMap:
- RawDepths:
- DepthEstCloud:
- DepthMesh:
 - Status: Ok
 - PolygonMesh Topic: /adaptive_mesh_sensor/mesh
 - Texture topic
 - Texture Transport Hint: raw
 - Polygon Mode: SOLID
 - Shader Program: JET
 - Phong Shading:
 - Scene Color Scale: 10
 - Show Normals:
 - Normal Size: 0.05
 - Queue Size: 1
- DebugFeatures:
- DebugWireframe:
- DebugDepthMap:
- DebugMatches:
- DebugDetections:
- MotionPrimitives:
- Carrot:

Add Duplicate Remove Rename



Representing Knowledge in Robotics



In Defense of Probability

Peter Cheeseman

SRI International

333 Ravenswood Ave., Menlo Park, California 94025

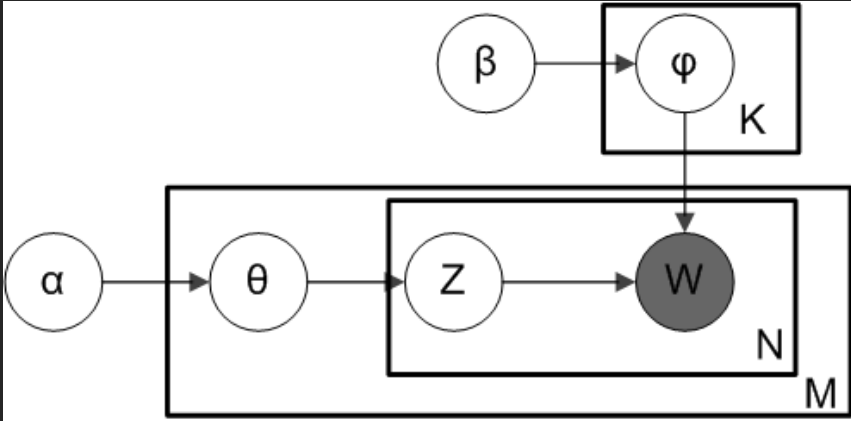
Abstract

In this paper, it is argued that probability theory, when used correctly, is sufficient for the task of reasoning under uncertainty. Since numerous authors have rejected probability as inadequate for various reasons, the bulk of the paper is aimed at refuting these claims and indicating the sources of error. In particular, the definition of probability as a measure of belief rather than a frequency ratio is advocated, since a frequency interpretation of probability dras-

ference is that in probabilistic inference all the relevant inference paths ("proofs") connecting the evidence to the hypothesis of interest must be examined and "combined", while in logic it is sufficient to establish a single path between the axioms and the theorem of interest. Also, the output is different, the former includes at least one numerical measure, the latter simply true or false.

Unfortunately, the logical style of reasoning is so prevalent in AI that many have attempted to force intrinsically probabilistic situations into a logical straight jacket with

Representing Knowledge in Robotics





EXPERT OPINION

Contact Editor: **Brian Brannon**, bbrannon@computer.org

The Unreasonable Effectiveness of Data

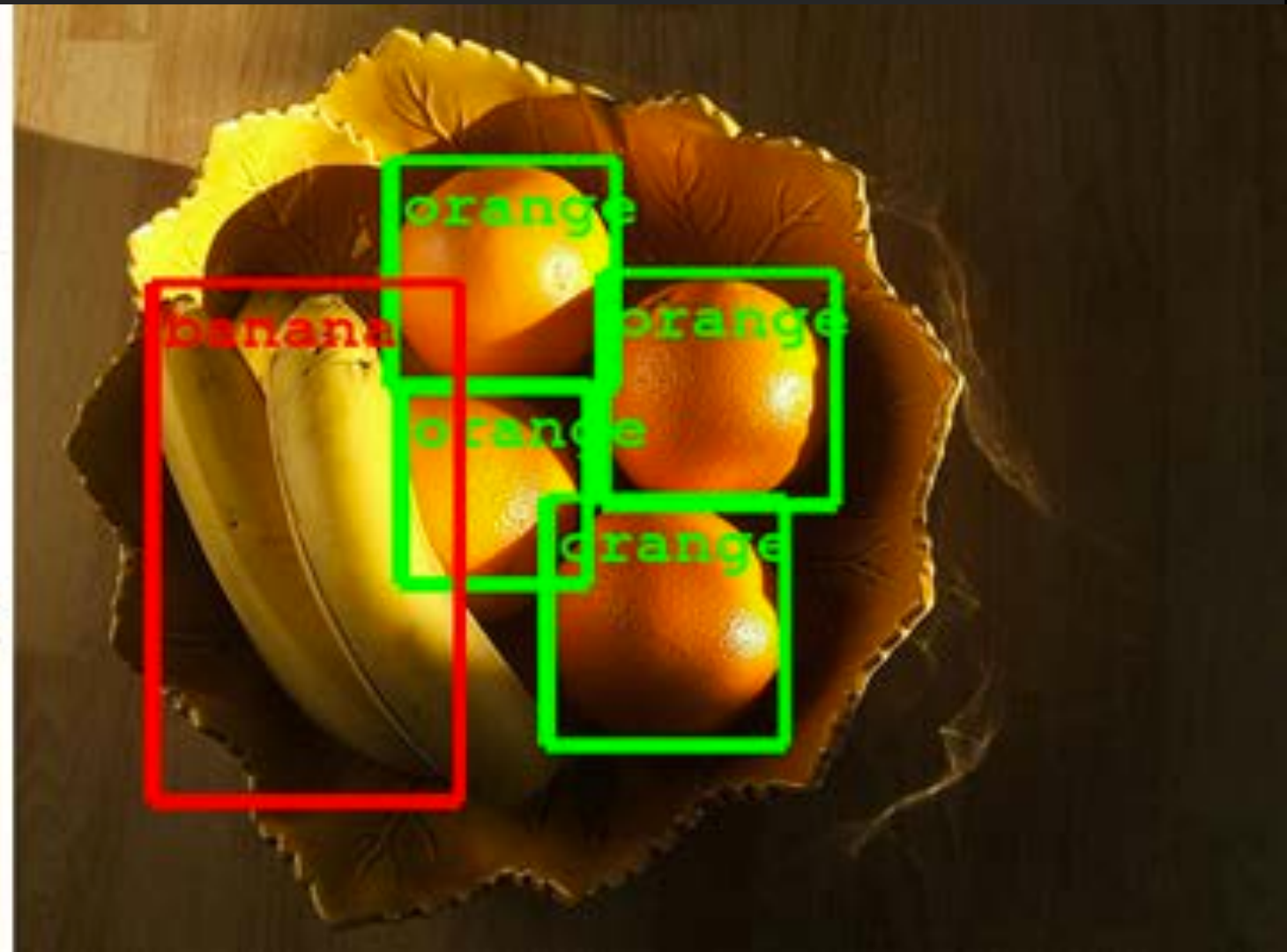
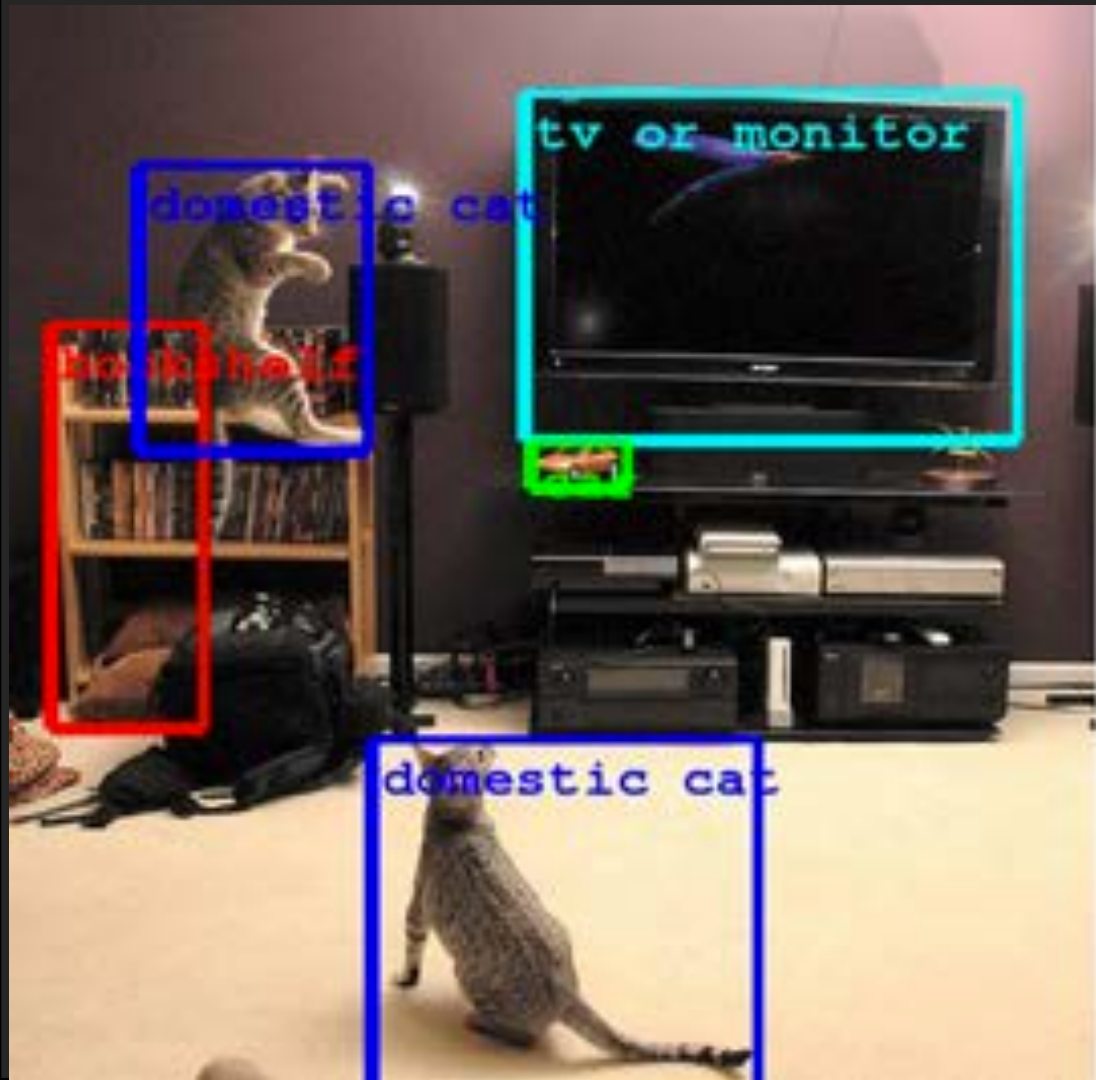
Alon Halevy, Peter Norvig, and Fernando Pereira, *Google*

Eugene Wigner’s article “The Unreasonable Effectiveness of Mathematics in the Natural Sciences”¹ examines why so much of physics can be

behavior. So, this corpus could serve as the basis of a complete model for certain tasks—if only we knew how to extract the model from the data.



Object Recognition





MERCER
ENGINEERING
RESEARCH
CENTER
At Gateway and O'Neal Avenues

Feb 27, 2018 11:28:08AM



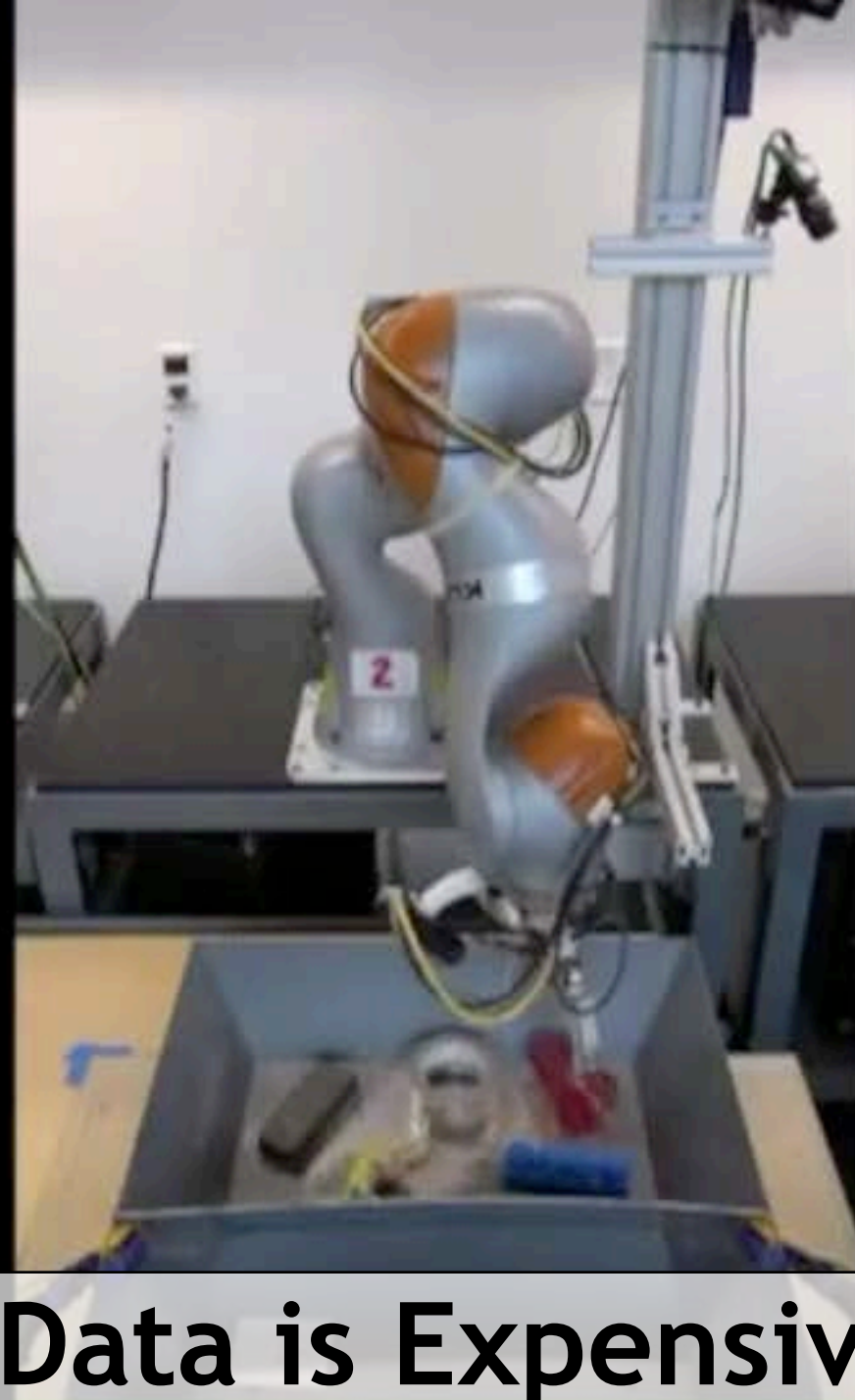
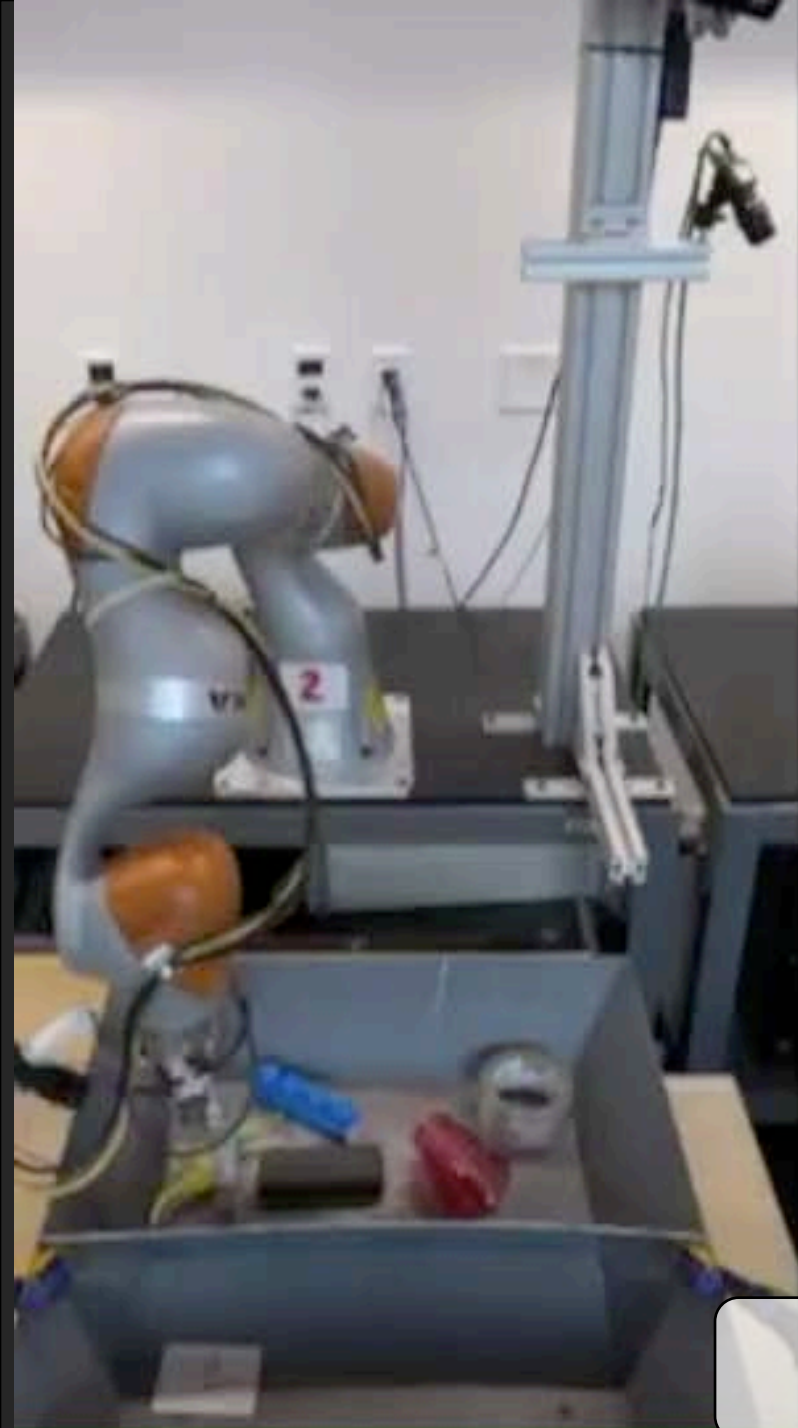






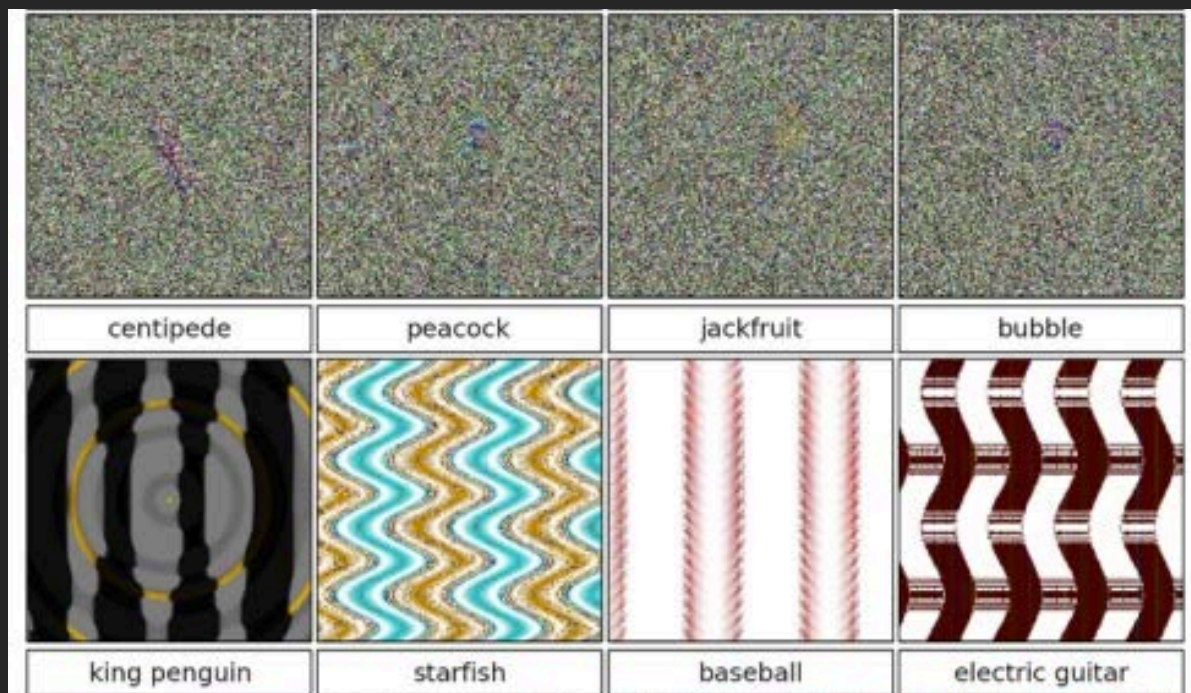


The Promise, Limits, and Future of Artificial Intelligence and Robotics



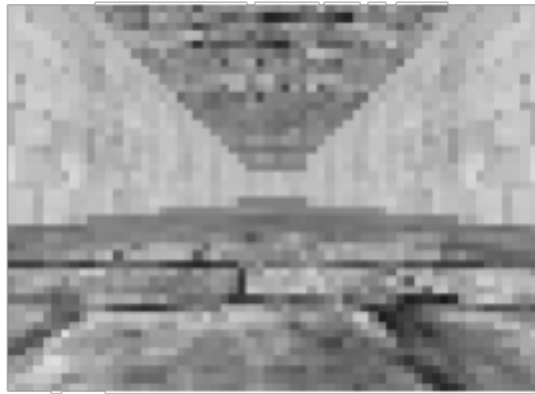
Data is Expensive!

Learning algorithms can be fooled, yet safety is critical

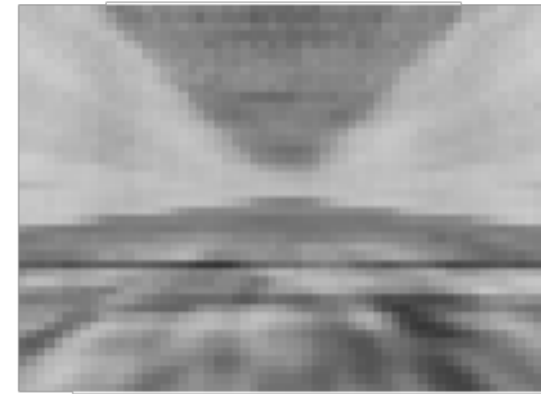
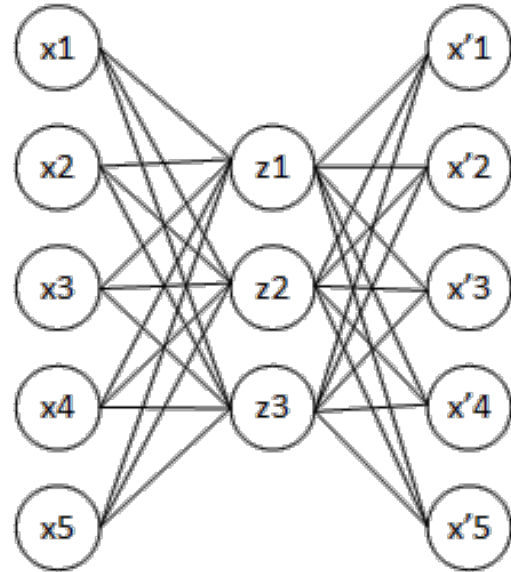


[Nguyen et al., 2015]

Measure how different the test environment is with an autoencoder

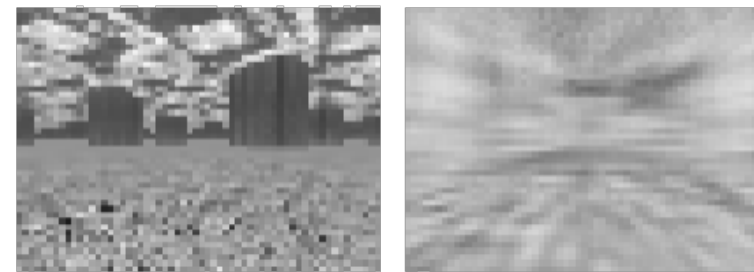


Input



Output (familiar)

$$f_{\text{novel}}(i) \approx \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } L_n(i) > T_{L_n} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$



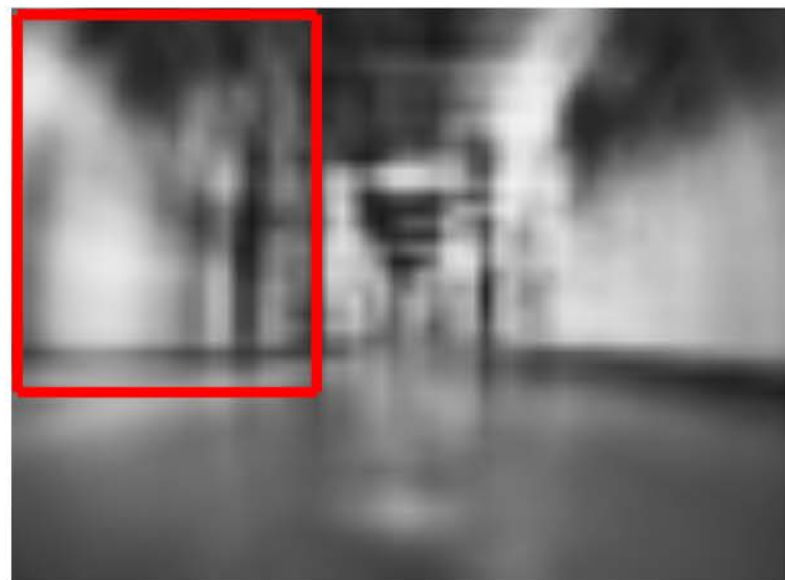
Testing Environment (novel)

What Makes an Image Novel?

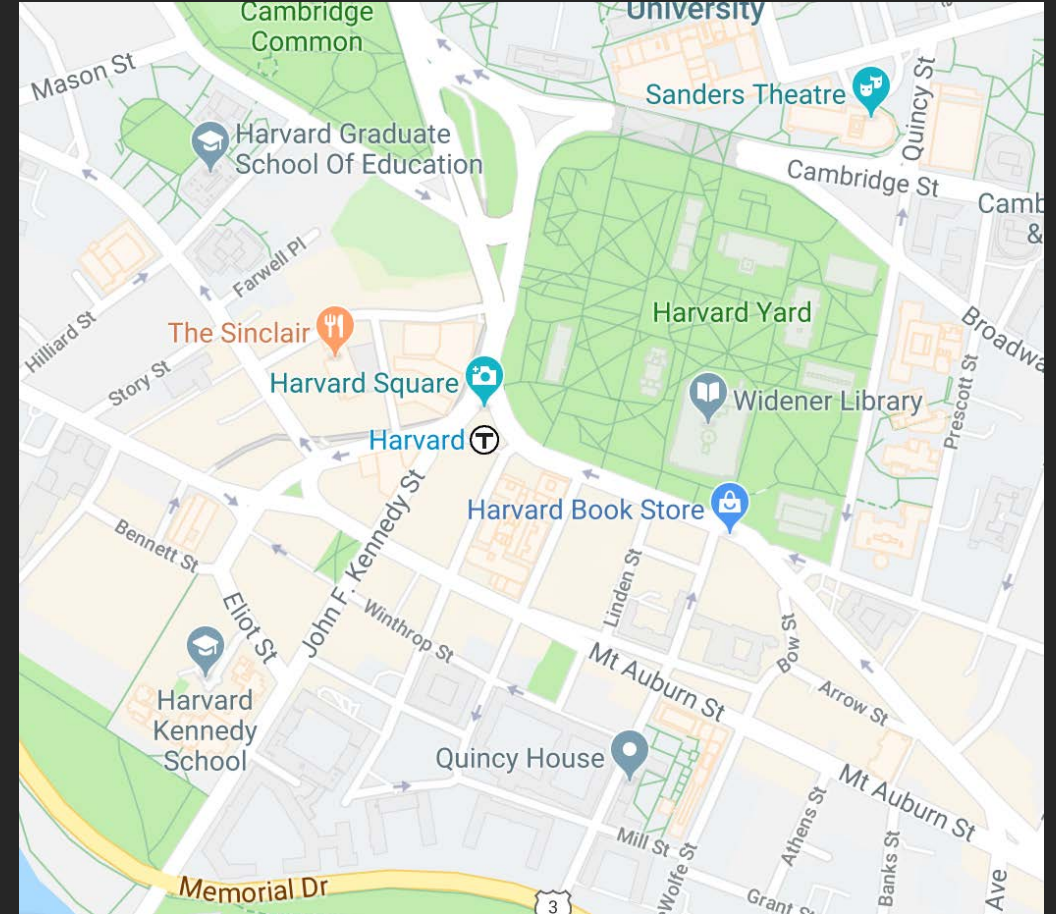
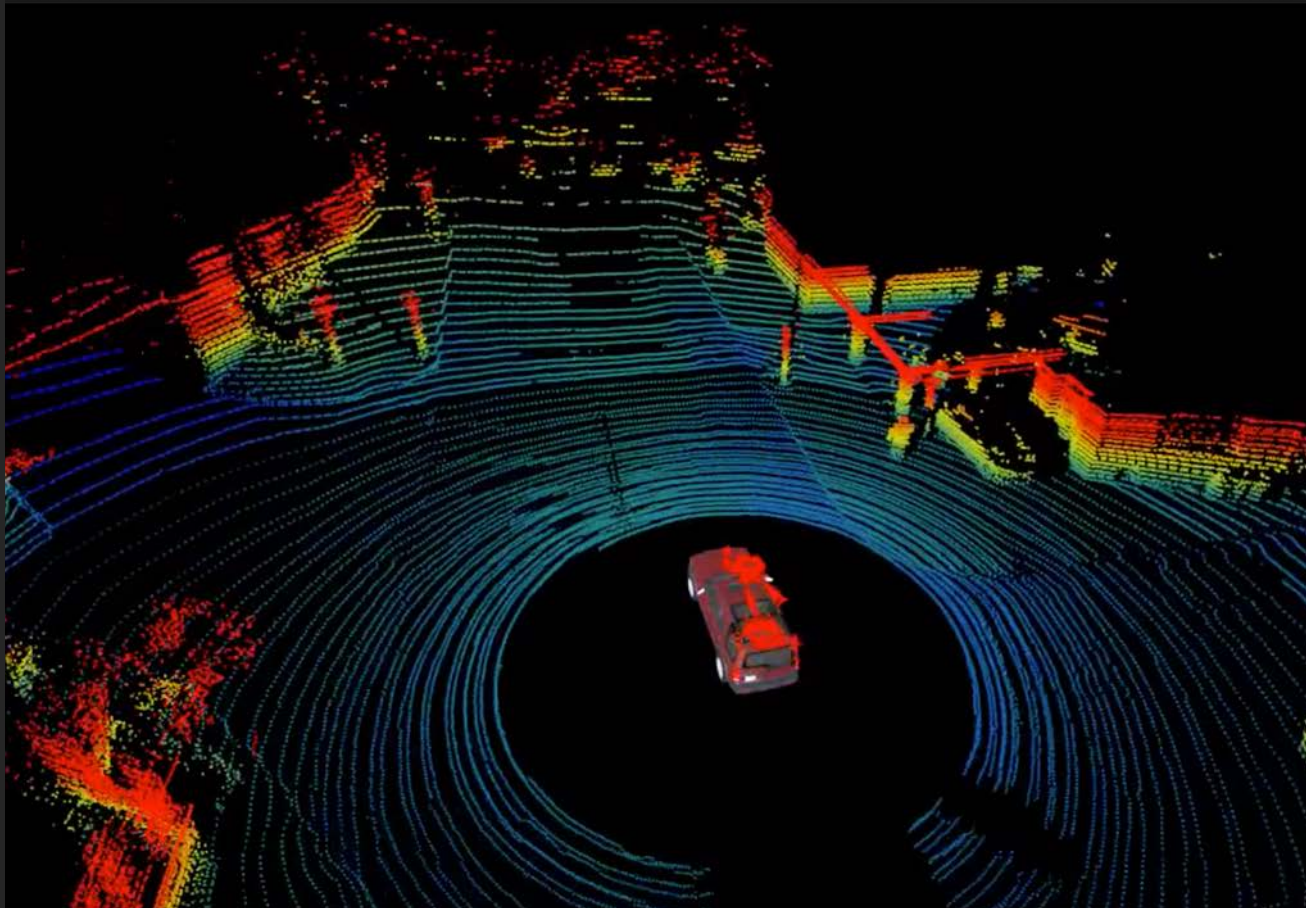
Input Image



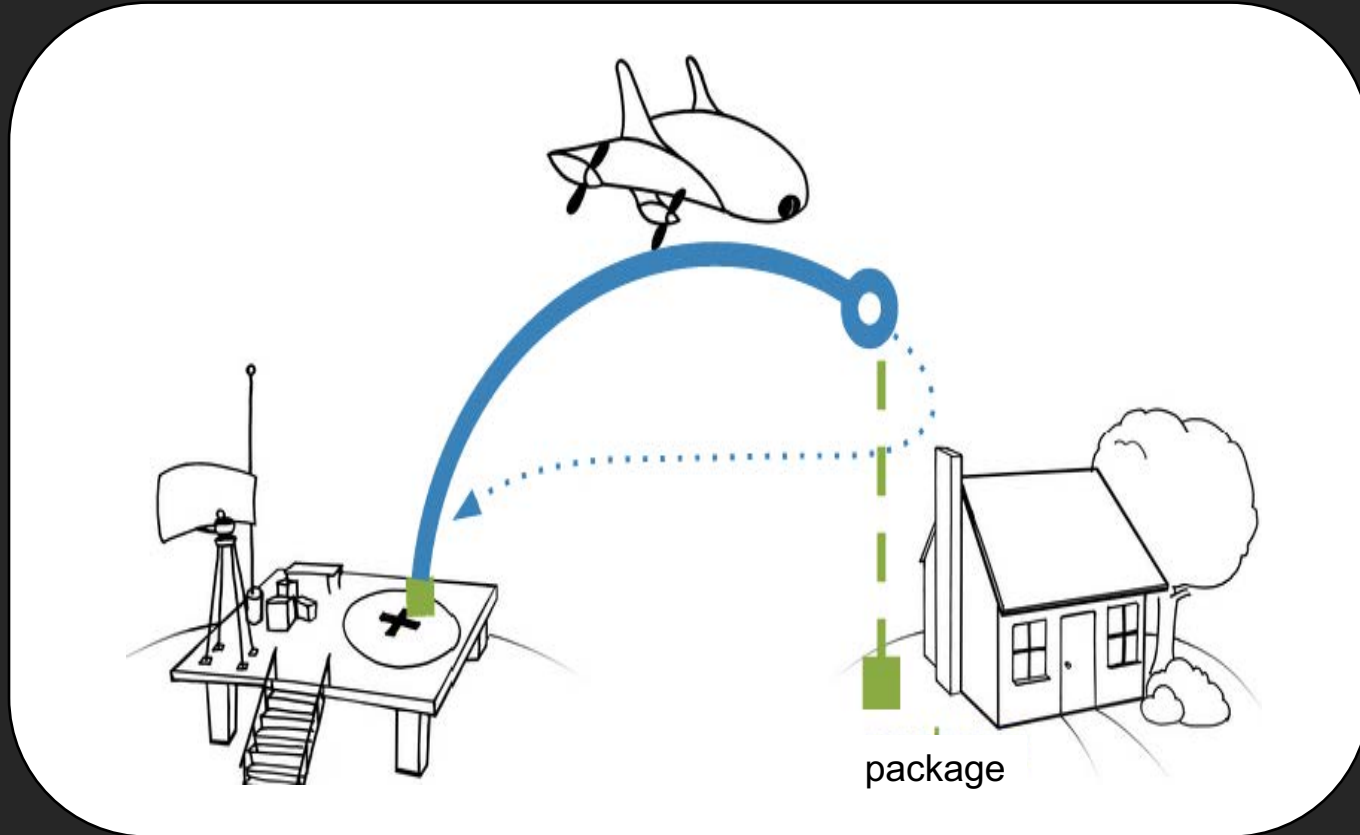
Reconstructed Image



Human vs Machine Cognition

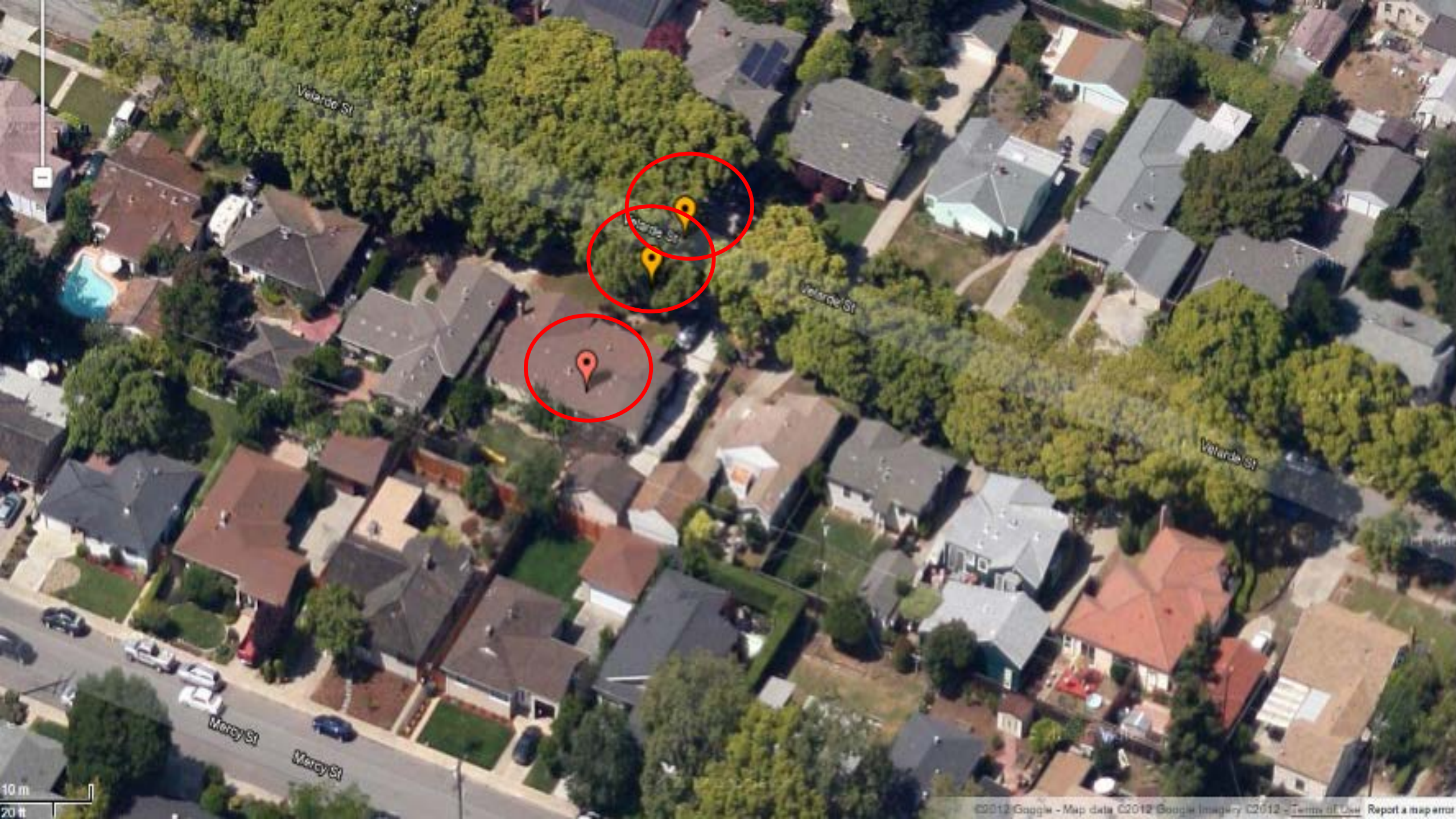


Robot and AI Do Not Have Understanding



Delivery sequence:

1. Take off
2. Fly to destination address
3. Enter hover
4. Lower winch
5. Release package
6. Raise winch
7. Fly home
8. Land



Velarde St

Velarde St

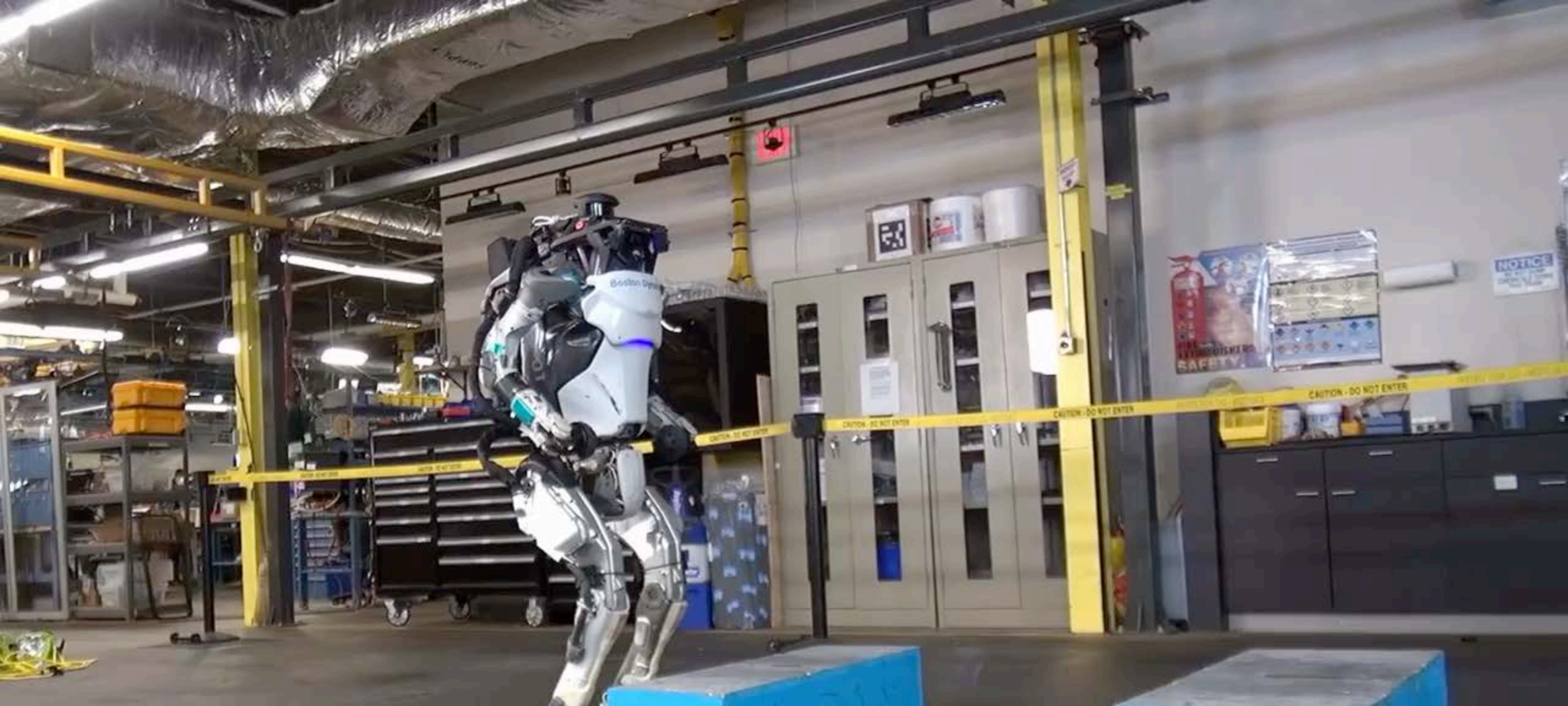
Velarde St

Velarde St

Marcy St

Marcy St

10 m
20 ft



**Substantial manual engineering
made this happen**

Operator Cost



Total Cost of Ownership

A large iceberg floats in the ocean. The tip of the iceberg, which is visible above the water, represents the vehicle's purchase price. The much larger, submerged part of the iceberg represents the hidden costs of ownership. The water is a deep blue, and the sky is bright with scattered white clouds.

Vehicle cost: relatively low

3 big TCO problems:

- Supervisor costs
- Energy costs
- Back-end infrastructure

A wide-angle photograph of a large bridge under construction over a body of water. The bridge spans across the water with several tall, cylindrical piers. A long, red gantry crane is positioned on top of one of the piers. In the background, there are mountains and a city skyline. An airplane is flying in the sky above the bridge. The sky is a pale, hazy blue.

Construction has:

- Expensive Data
- High cost of failure
- Complex operational constraints
- High need for human oversight



The Promise, Limits, and Future of Artificial Intelligence and Robotics



What is the MIT Quest for Intelligence?

- The Quest aims to advance two fundamental intelligence challenges:
 - Can we reverse engineer intelligence?
 - How can we deploy our current and expanding understanding of intelligence to the benefit of society?
- The goal is to make true progress in our understanding of intelligence, and use that knowledge to create a better world



Who is involved in The Quest?

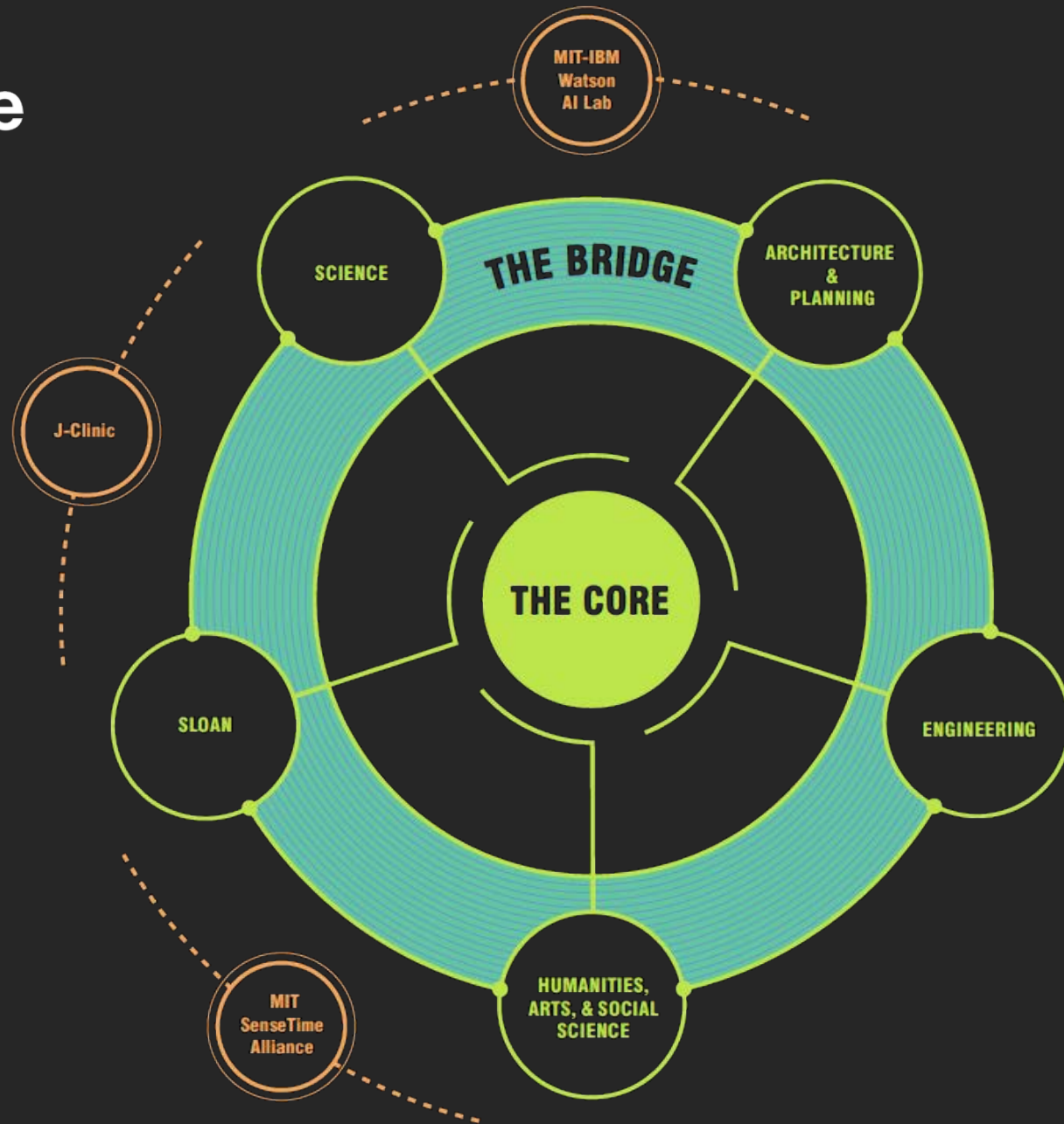
Architecture & Planning

Humanities, Arts, & Social Sciences

Engineering

Science

Sloan School of Management





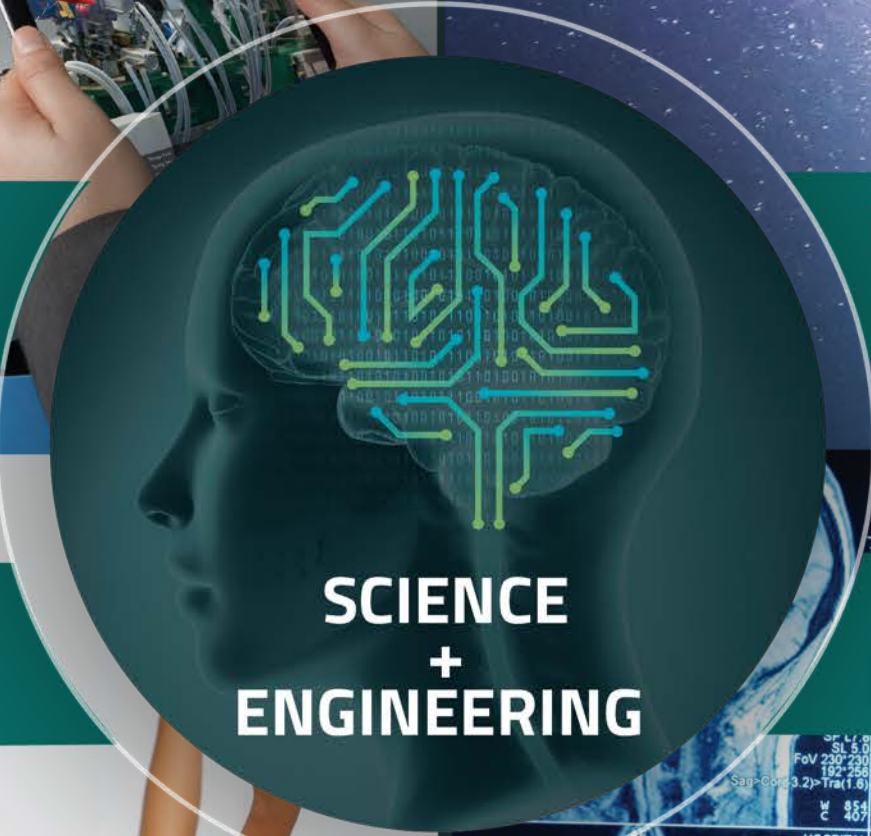
Create real A.I.



Understand ourselves



Transform education



SCIENCE + ENGINEERING



Ameliorate brain disorders

Current Issues and Challenges

- Lack of accessibility
- Lack of resources
- Lack of expertise in tools
- Lack of reproducibility





Project Athena at MIT
Photo credit: MIT Infinite History

AI Platforms - Tools - Services

Data



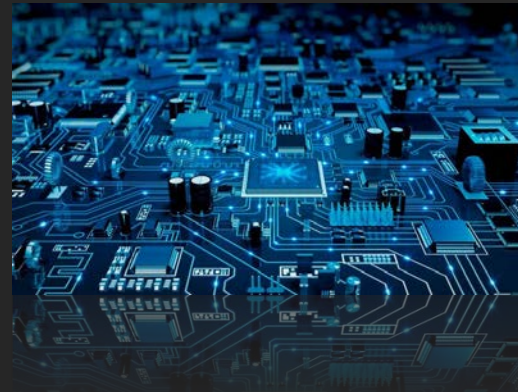
- Curation
- Hosting
- Archiving
- Benchmarks
- Research datasets

Software



- Open repository
- Standardized
- Reproducible
- Deployable
- AI workflows
- AI pipelines

Hardware



- Seamless AI development
- Industry clouds
- Local clusters
- New Hardware

People



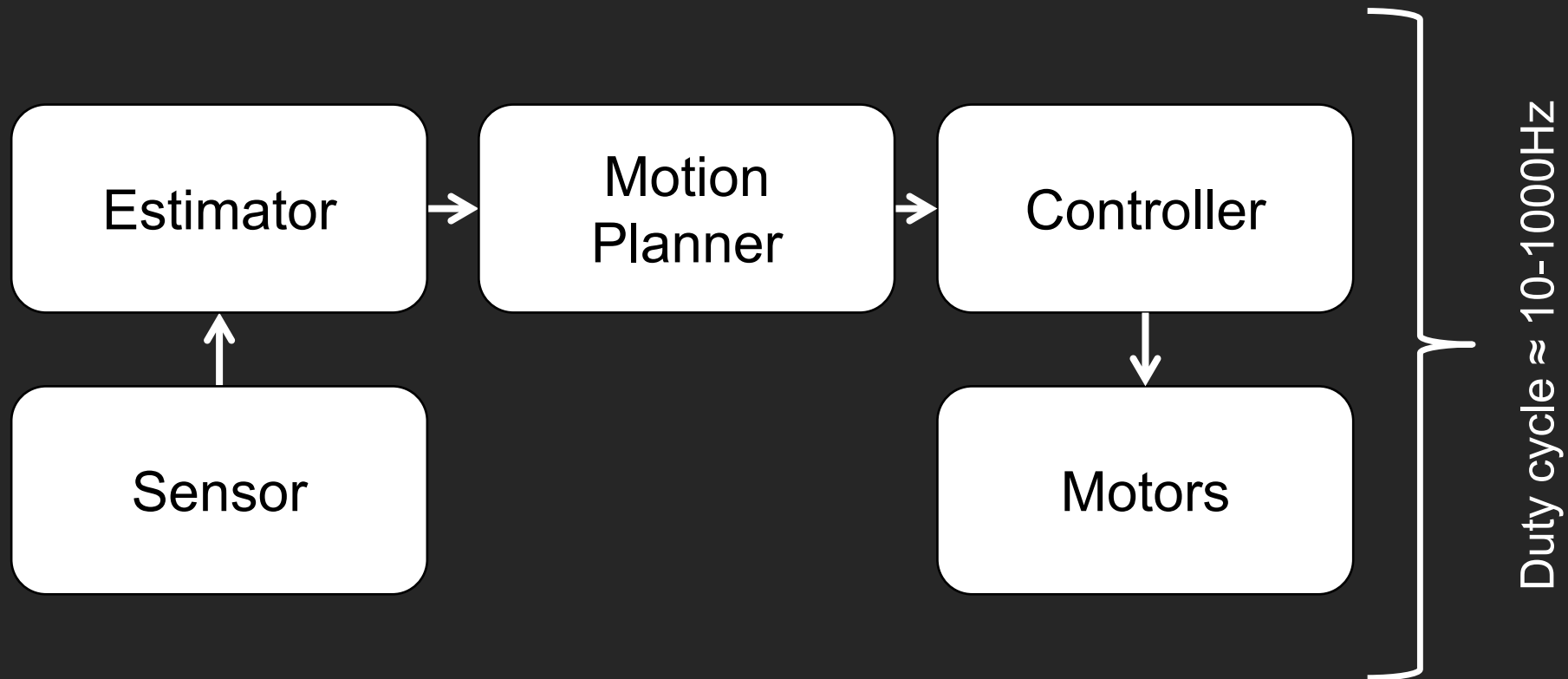
- Consulting Team & Ethical Team
- Academic
- Industry
- Developers
- Users

What is next?

The next generation of AI theories and systems that are safe around people, learn by themselves and understand how the world works.

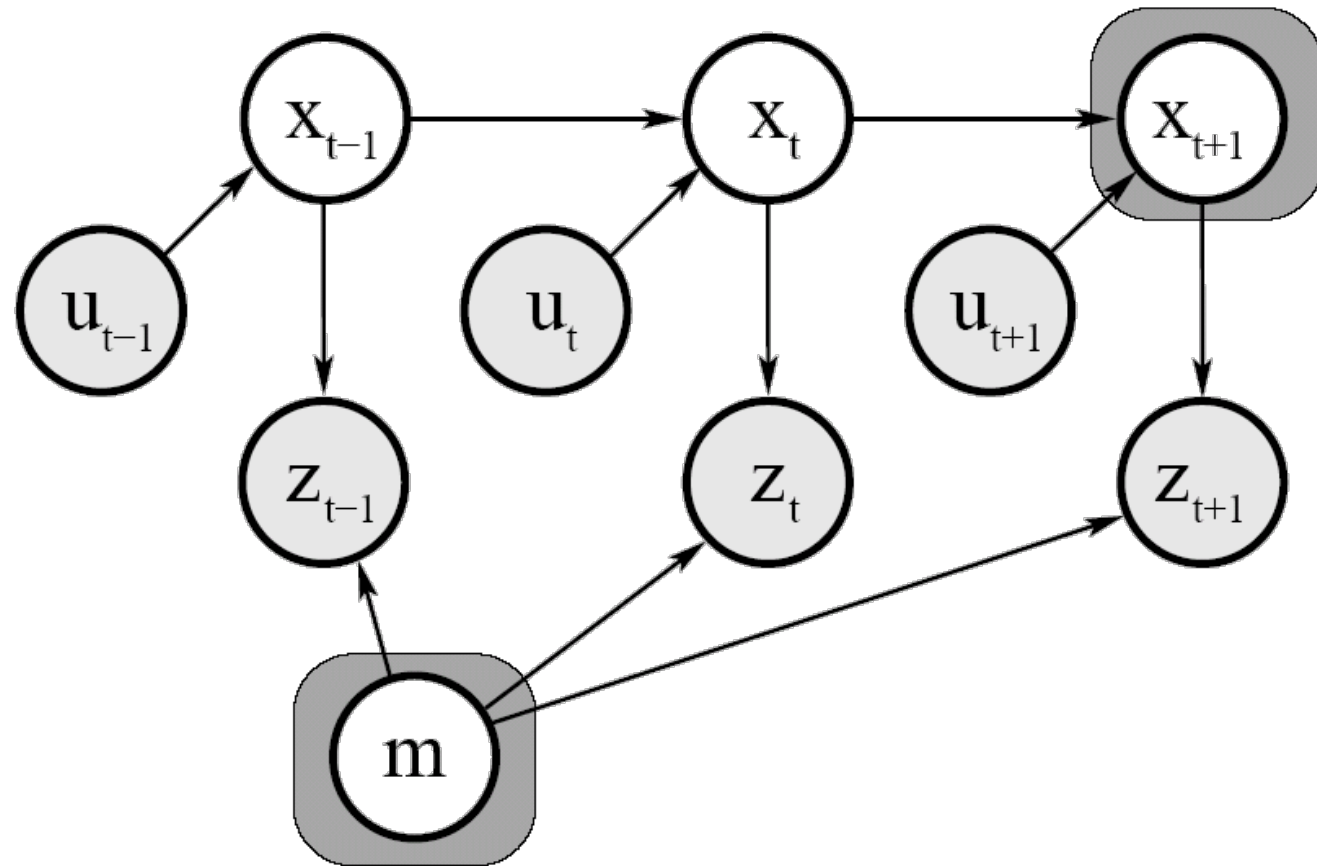
AI In the Physical World

- Where am I and what is around me?
- What should I do?
- How to learn from experience?



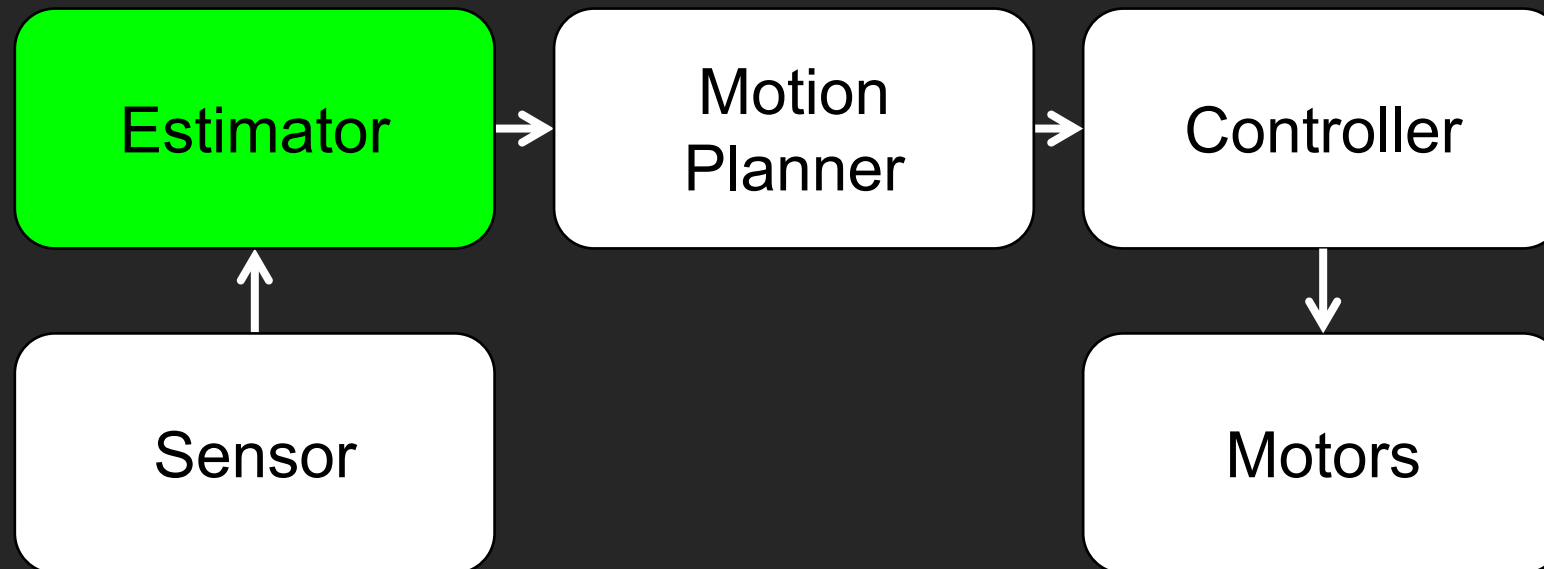
Statistical Models

$$p(x_t, m \mid z_{1:t}, u_{1:t})$$



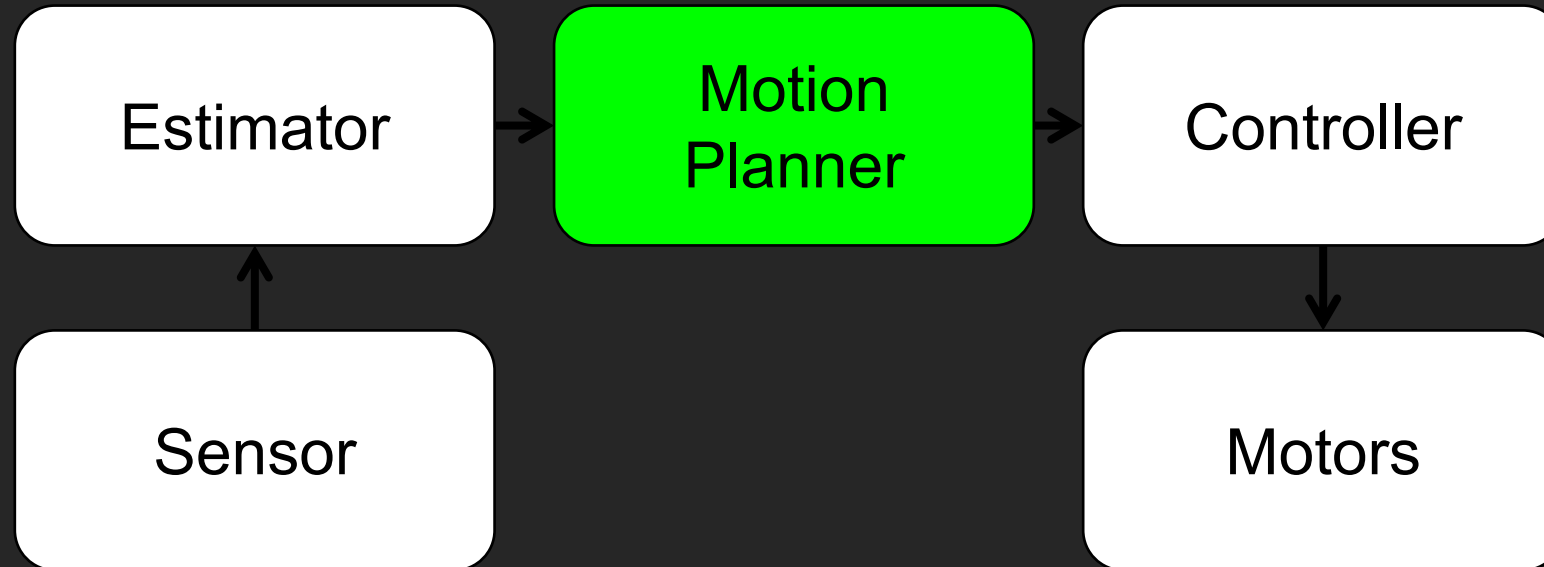
AI In the Physical World

- **Where am I and what is around me?**
- What should I do?
- How to learn from experience?



Autonomy for Robotics

- Where am I and what is around me?
- **What should I do?**
- How to learn from experience?



A common assumption: models are known



- YCB Dataset : models of household objects fabricated from specified model files

