



# Character Control with Neural Networks and Machine Learning

Daniel Holden  
Animation Researcher, Ubisoft Montreal









**3.75 km<sup>2</sup>**



**1000 km<sup>2</sup>**







A cinematic scene from a video game. In the foreground, a warrior is seen from behind, walking across a vast, golden desert. The warrior is wearing a brown tunic and a feathered headdress, and is carrying a large, ornate shield and a long spear. In the background, there are rolling sand dunes, a few small palm trees, and a distant, hazy cityscape. The sky is a mix of blue and orange, suggesting a sunset or sunrise. The overall atmosphere is epic and adventurous.

**~15,000 Animations**



UBISOFT<sup>®</sup>

LA FORGE

[laforge@ubisoft.com](mailto:laforge@ubisoft.com)





# Background

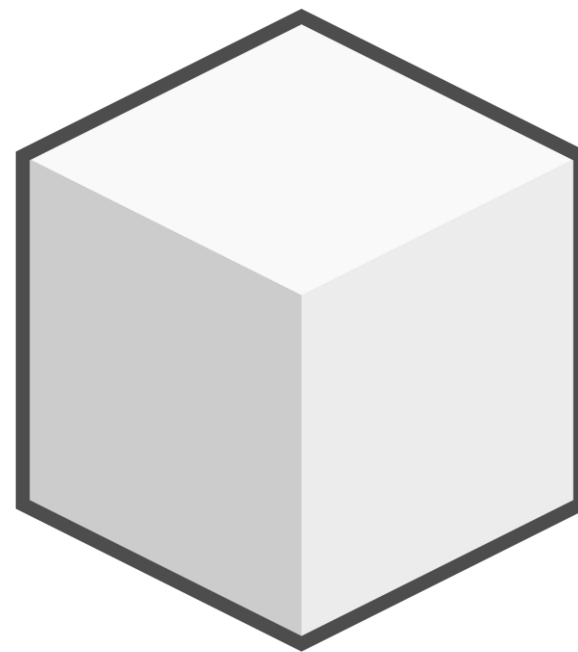




Player Input







Animation System



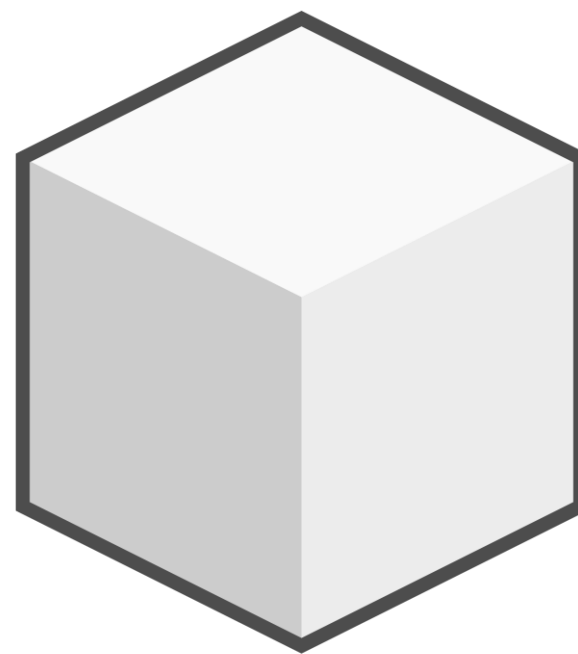
Player Input







Animation



Animation System



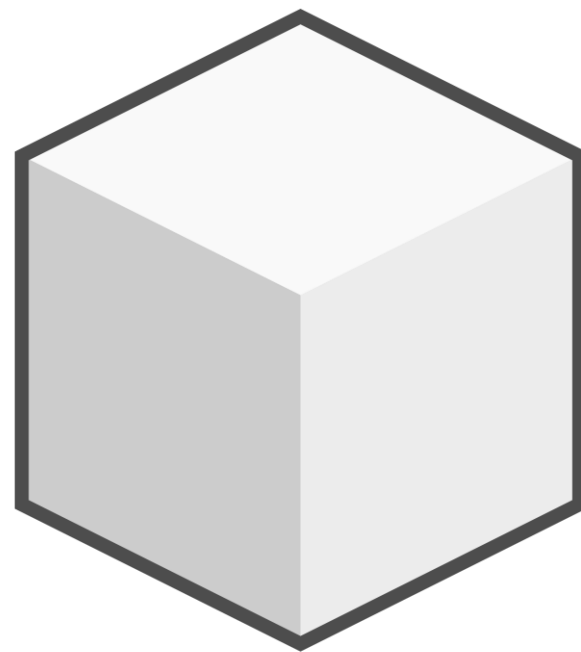
Player Input



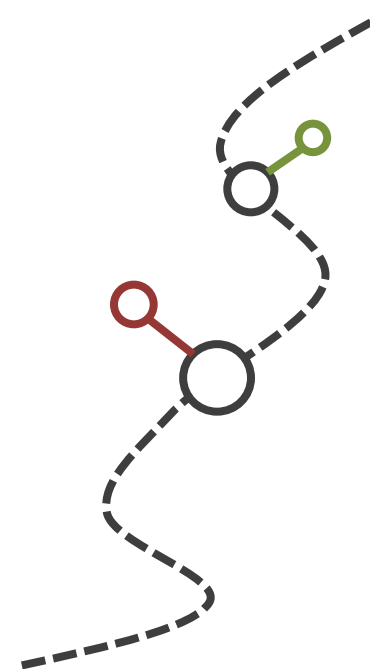




Animation



Animation System



Gameplay



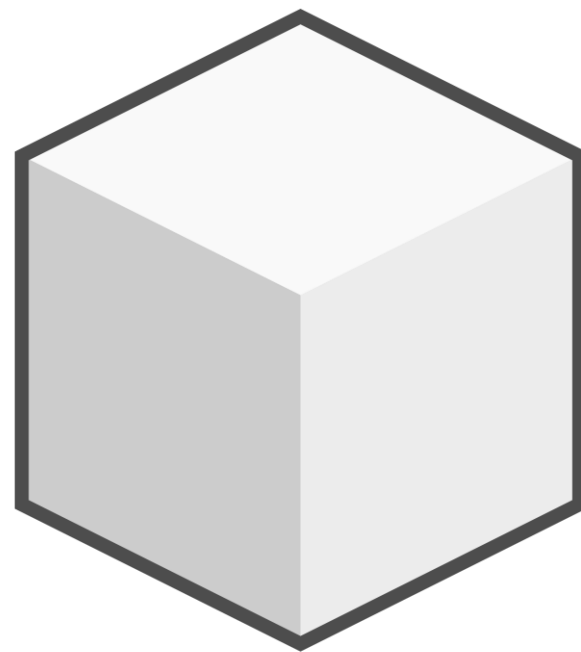
Player Input



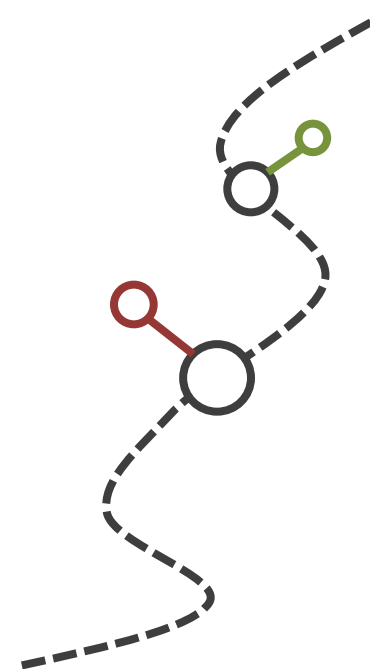




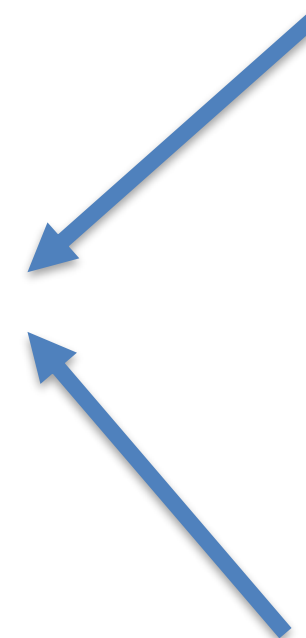
Animation



Animation System



Gameplay



NPC Input



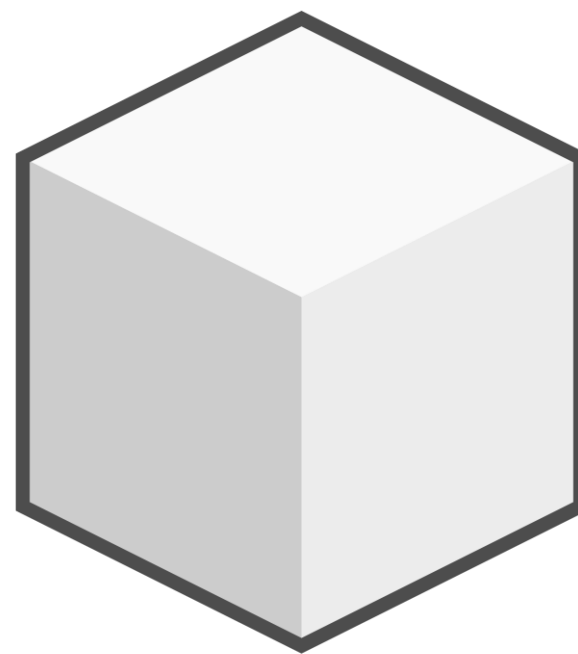
Player Input



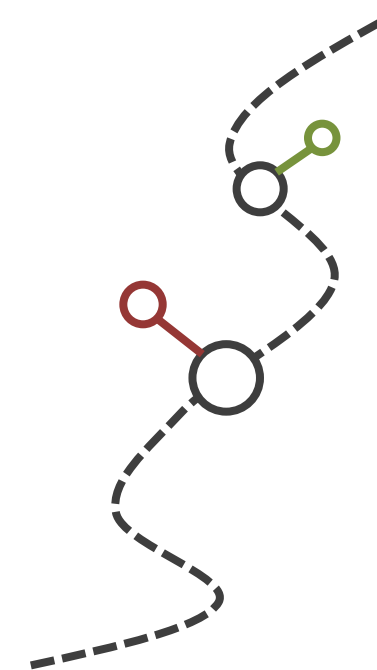




Animation



Animation System



Gameplay







The diagram illustrates a state transition system for a game character's movement. The states are represented by gray boxes, and the transitions are indicated by white arrows. The 'Stand' state is highlighted in orange. A legend at the bottom indicates that a teal box represents 'Any State'.

**States:**

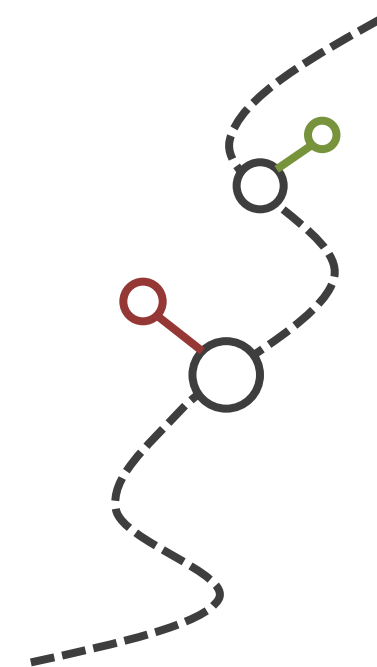
- ClimbWall
- ClimbLedge
- HangOnWall
- Skid
- HangOnLedge
- Jump
- Fall
- RunFall
- Stand (highlighted)
- Dash
- RunJump
- Walk
- Run
- StandToCrawl
- CrawlToStand
- SlideToRun
- RunToSlide
- Crawl
- SlideToCrawl
- Slide

**Transitions:**

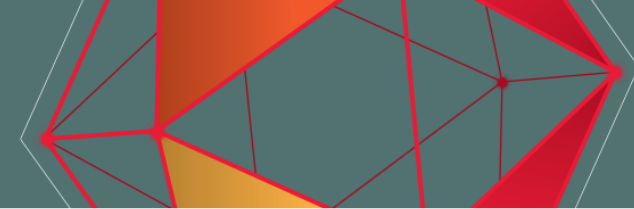
- Stand to ClimbWall, ClimbLedge, HangOnWall, Skid, HangOnLedge, Jump, Fall, RunFall, Dash, RunJump, Walk, Run, StandToCrawl, CrawlToStand, SlideToRun, RunToSlide, Crawl, SlideToCrawl, Slide.
- ClimbWall to HangOnWall.
- ClimbLedge to HangOnLedge.
- HangOnWall to ClimbWall, Skid, HangOnLedge, Jump, Fall, RunFall, Dash, RunJump, Walk, Run, StandToCrawl, CrawlToStand, SlideToRun, RunToSlide, Crawl, SlideToCrawl, Slide.
- Skid to HangOnWall, HangOnLedge, Jump, Fall, RunFall, Dash, RunJump, Walk, Run, StandToCrawl, CrawlToStand, SlideToRun, RunToSlide, Crawl, SlideToCrawl, Slide.
- HangOnLedge to Skid, HangOnWall, Jump, Fall, RunFall, Dash, RunJump, Walk, Run, StandToCrawl, CrawlToStand, SlideToRun, RunToSlide, Crawl, SlideToCrawl, Slide.
- Jump to HangOnWall, Skid, HangOnLedge, Fall, RunFall, Dash, RunJump, Walk, Run, StandToCrawl, CrawlToStand, SlideToRun, RunToSlide, Crawl, SlideToCrawl, Slide.
- Fall to HangOnWall, Skid, HangOnLedge, Jump, RunFall, Dash, RunJump, Walk, Run, StandToCrawl, CrawlToStand, SlideToRun, RunToSlide, Crawl, SlideToCrawl, Slide.
- RunFall to HangOnWall, Skid, HangOnLedge, Jump, Fall, Dash, RunJump, Walk, Run, StandToCrawl, CrawlToStand, SlideToRun, RunToSlide, Crawl, SlideToCrawl, Slide.
- Dash to HangOnWall, Skid, HangOnLedge, Jump, Fall, RunFall, RunJump, Walk, Run, StandToCrawl, CrawlToStand, SlideToRun, RunToSlide, Crawl, SlideToCrawl, Slide.
- RunJump to HangOnWall, Skid, HangOnLedge, Jump, Fall, RunFall, Dash, Walk, Run, StandToCrawl, CrawlToStand, SlideToRun, RunToSlide, Crawl, SlideToCrawl, Slide.
- Walk to HangOnWall, Skid, HangOnLedge, Jump, Fall, RunFall, Dash, RunJump, Run, StandToCrawl, CrawlToStand, SlideToRun, RunToSlide, Crawl, SlideToCrawl, Slide.
- Run to HangOnWall, Skid, HangOnLedge, Jump, Fall, RunFall, Dash, RunJump, Walk, StandToCrawl, CrawlToStand, SlideToRun, RunToSlide, Crawl, SlideToCrawl, Slide.
- StandToCrawl to Crawl.
- CrawlToStand to Stand.
- SlideToRun to Run.
- RunToSlide to Slide.
- Crawl to SlideToCrawl.
- SlideToCrawl to Crawl.
- Slide to SlideToCrawl.

**Legend:**

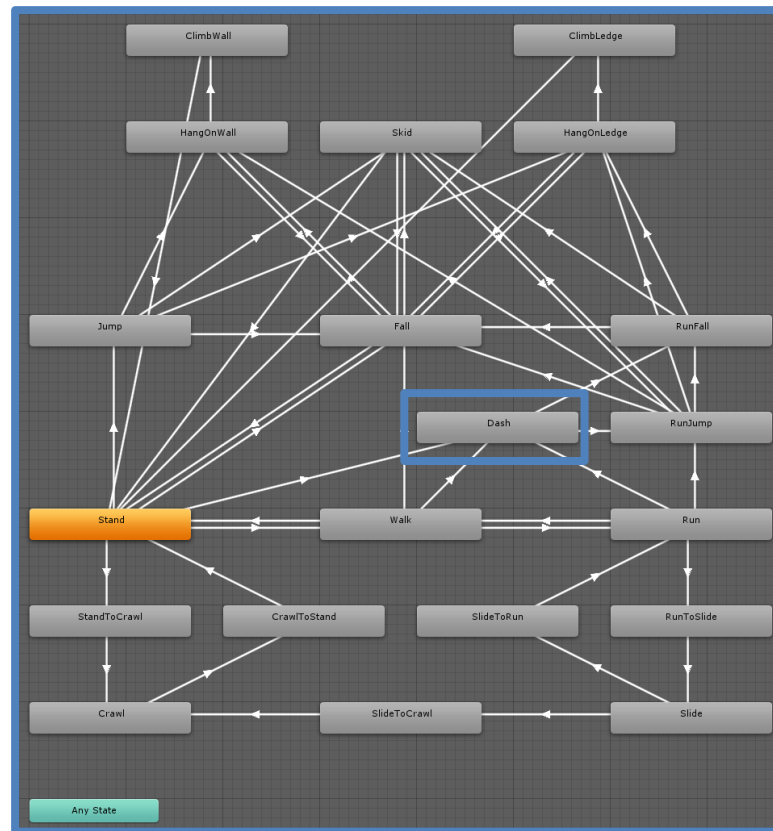
- Any State (teal box)



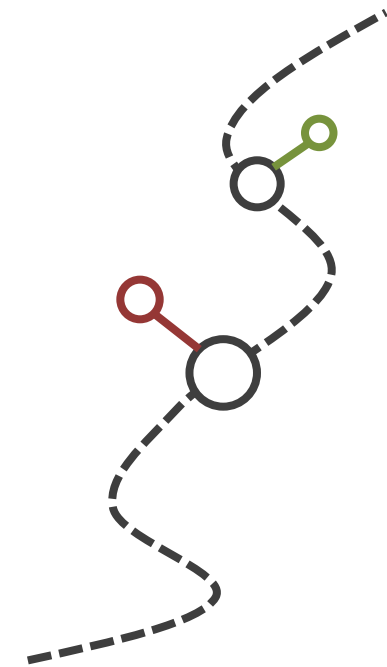
## Gameplay



Animation



State Machine



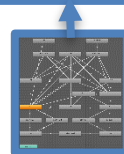
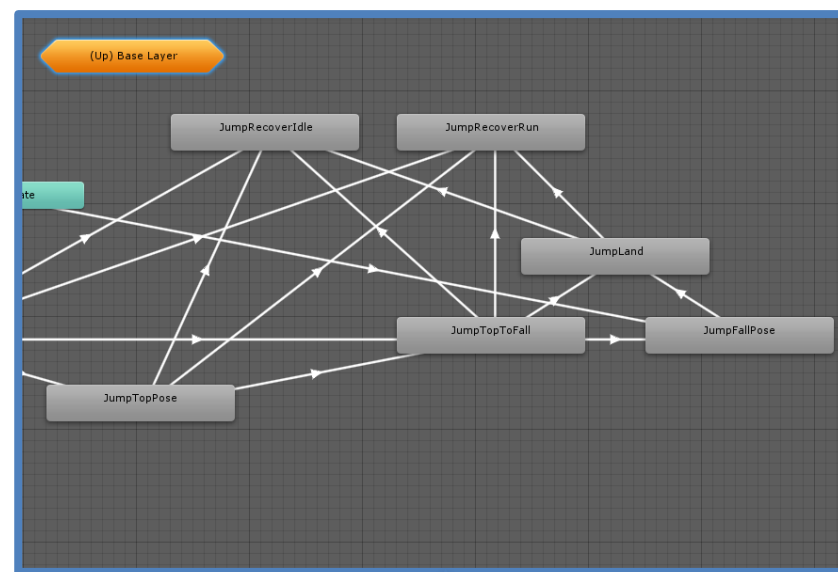
Gameplay



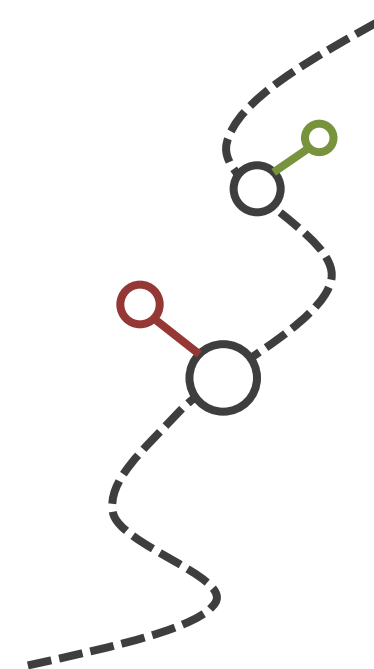




Animation



State Machine

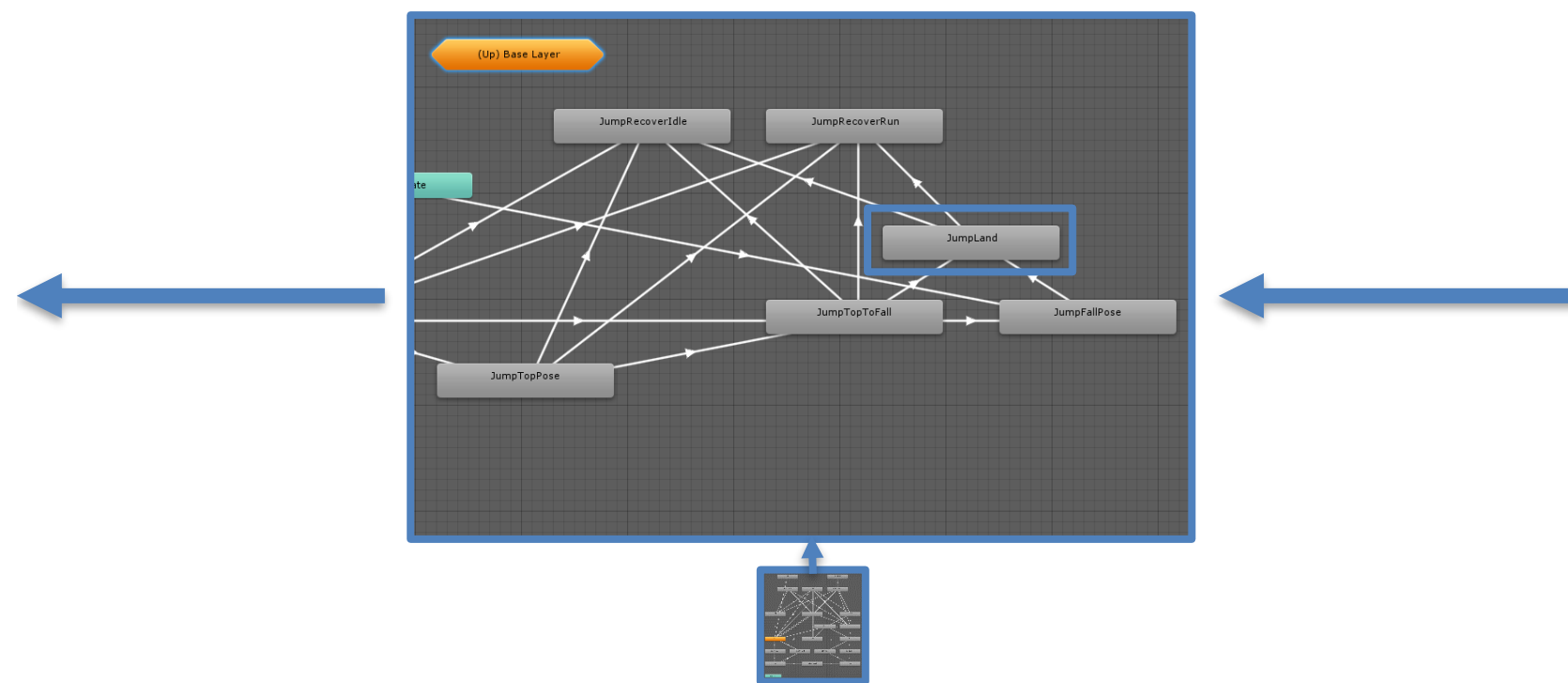


Gameplay

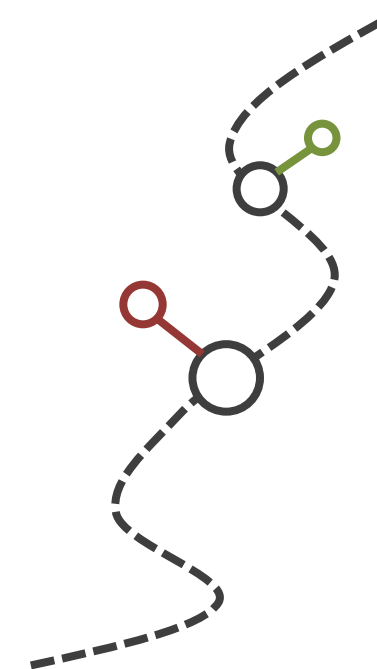




Animation



State Machine



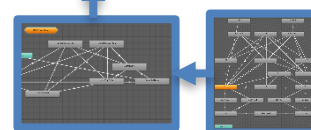
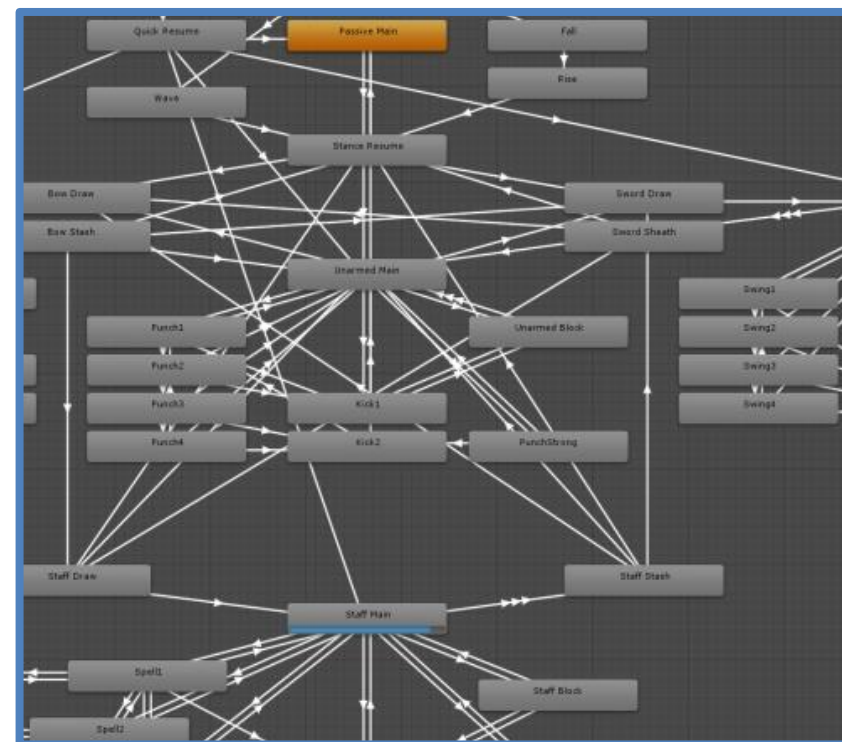
Gameplay



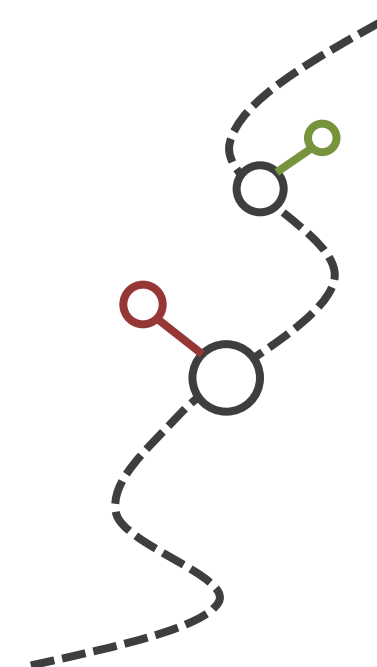




Animation



State Machine

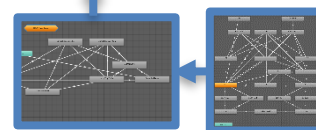
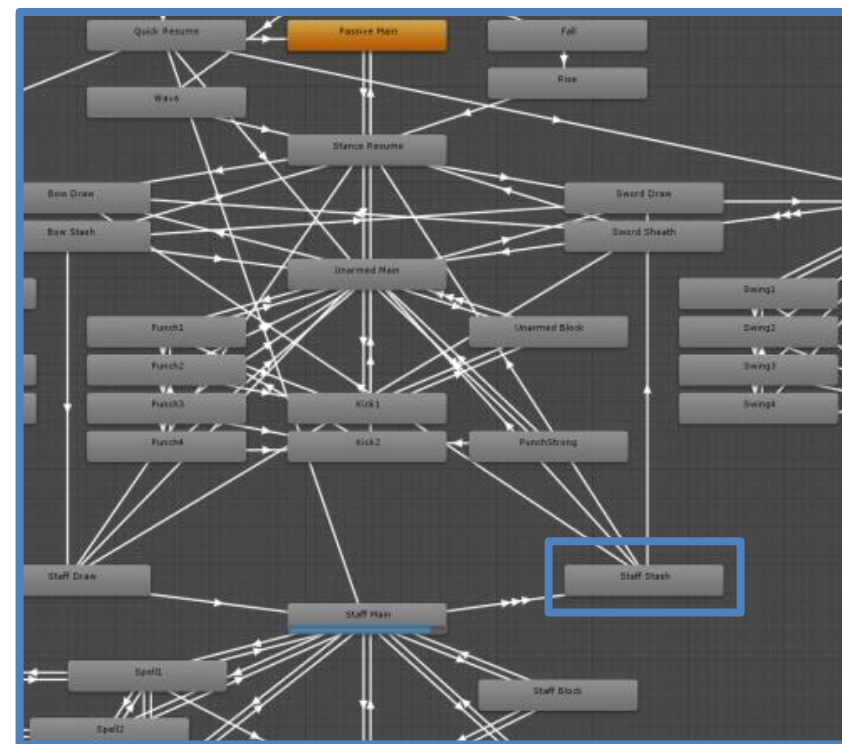


Gameplay

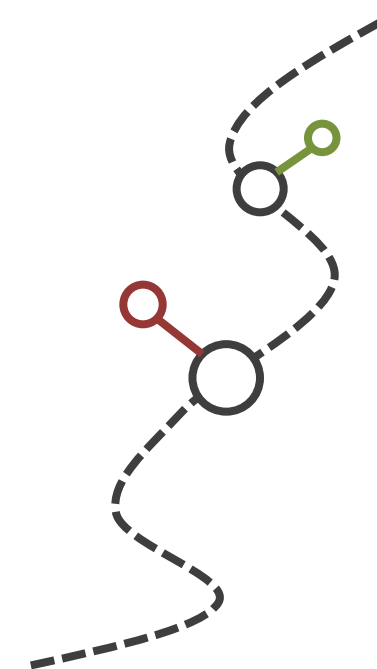




Animation



State Machine



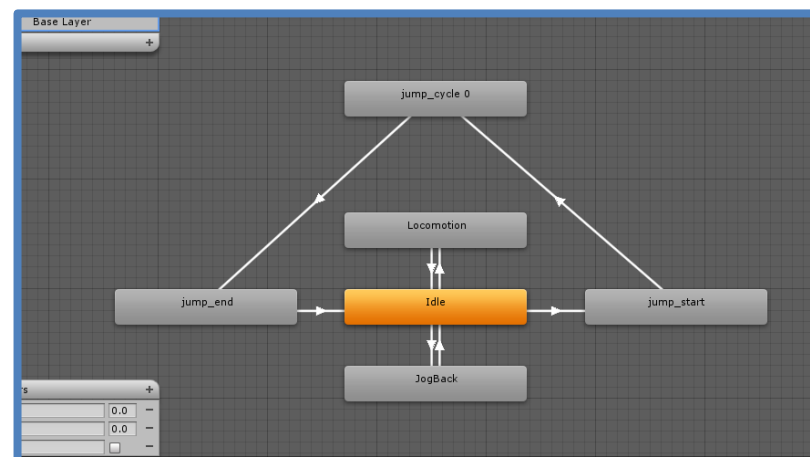
Gameplay



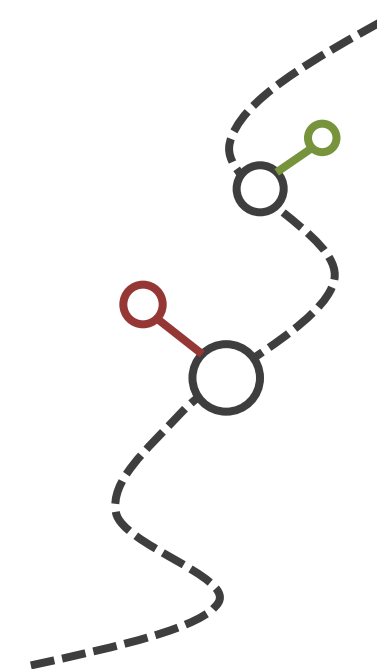
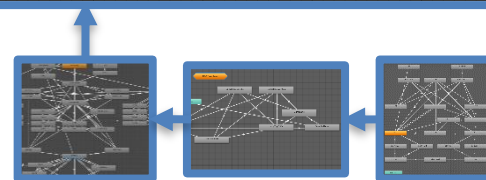




Animation



State Machine

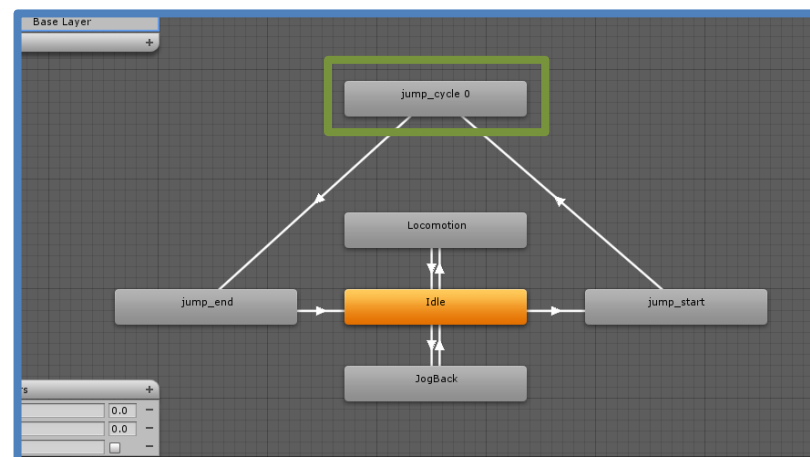


Gameplay

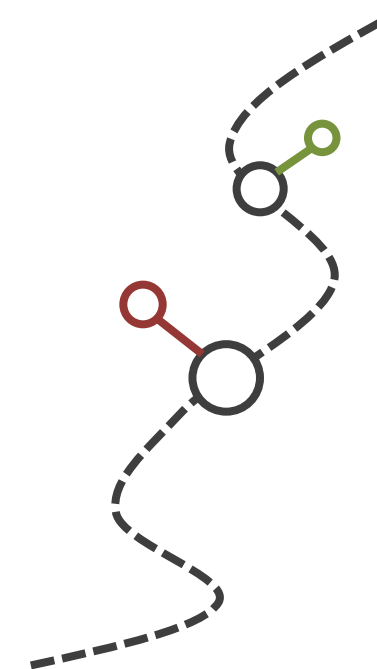




Animation



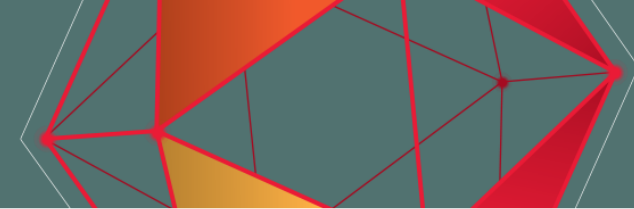
State Machine



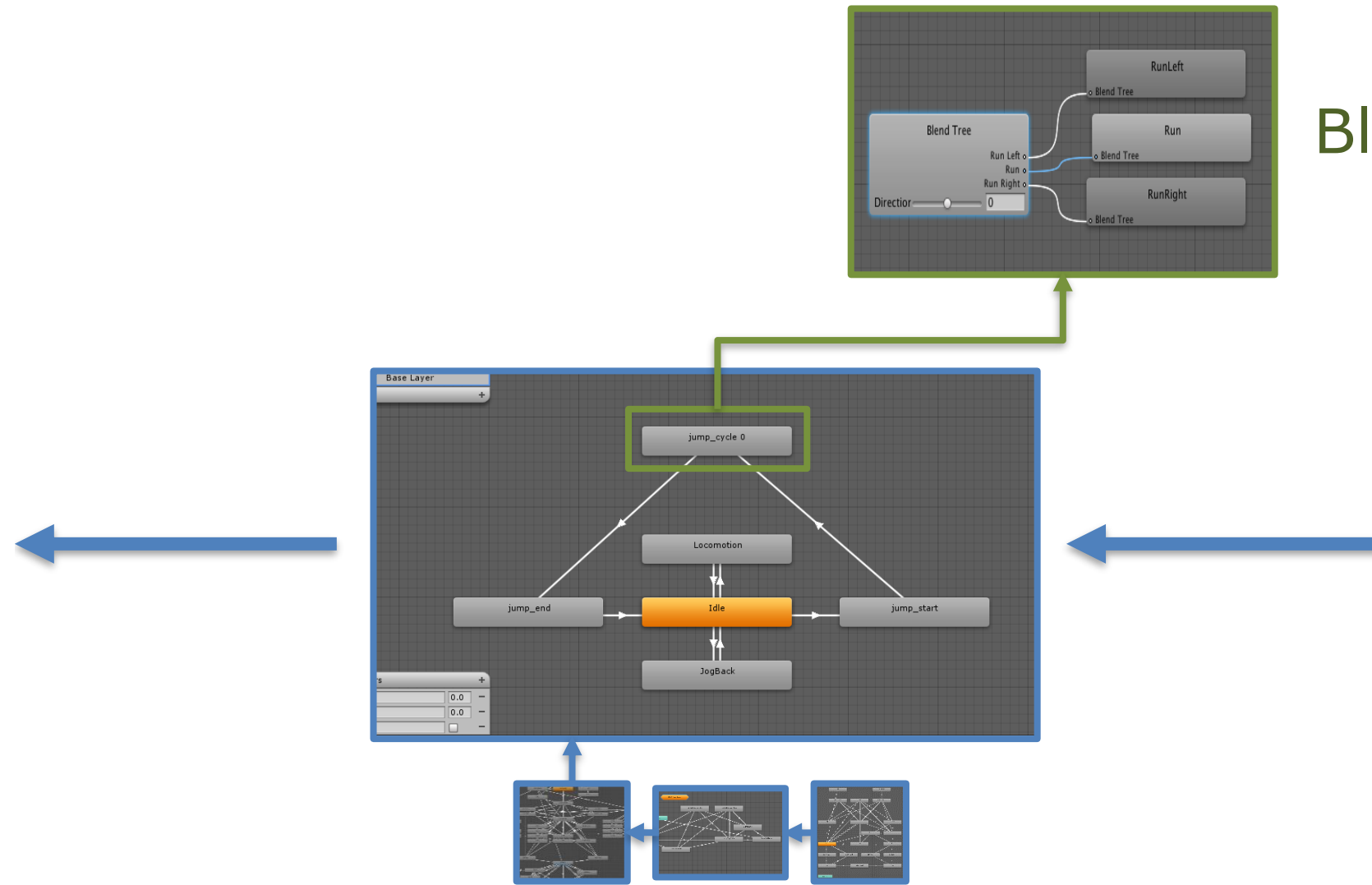
Gameplay





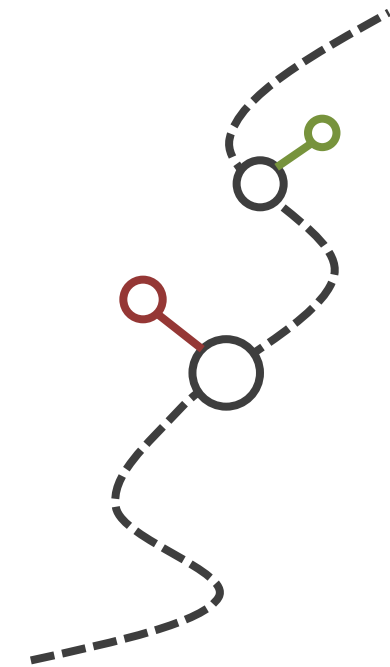


Animation



State Machine

Blend Tree

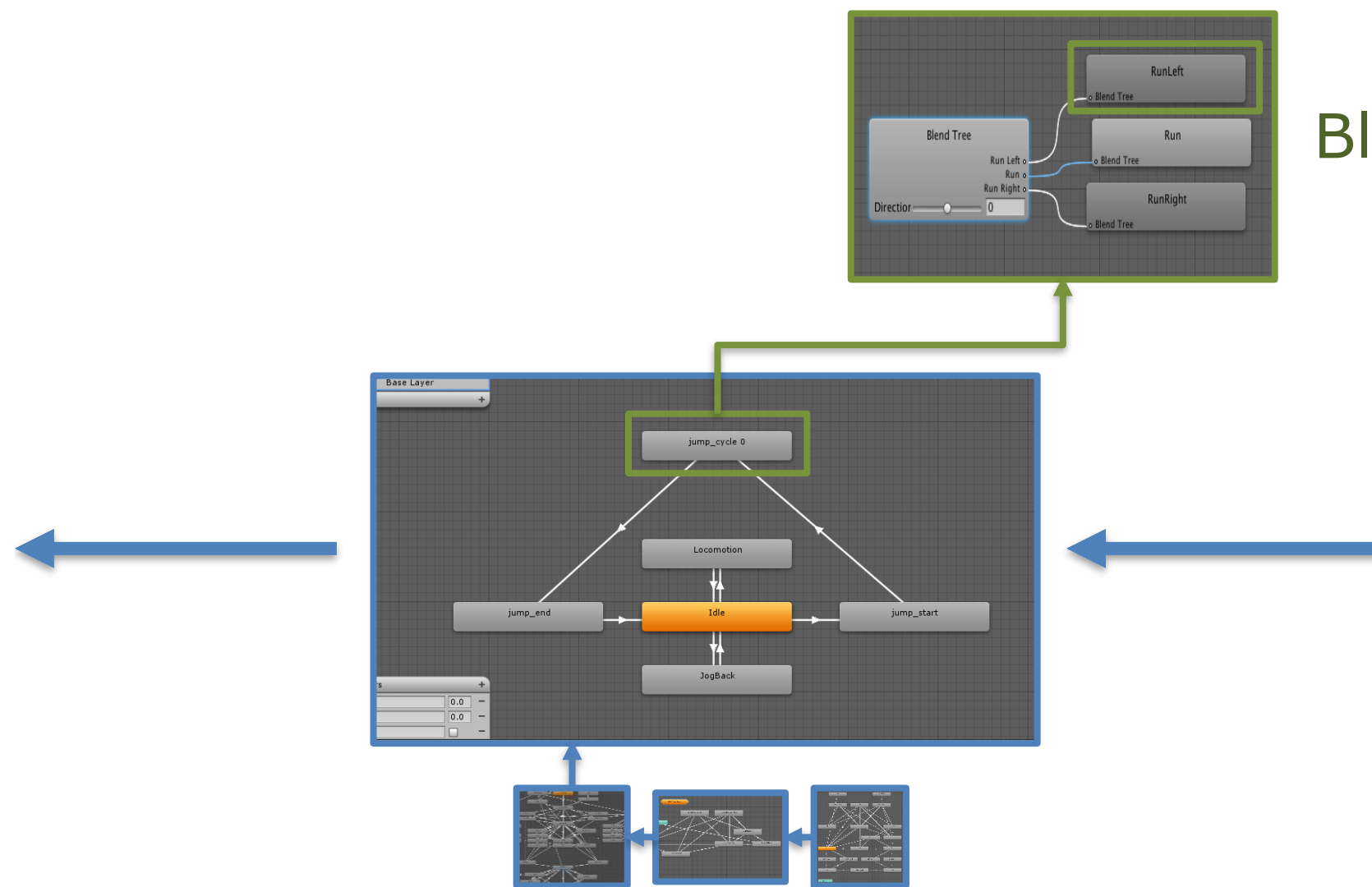


Gameplay



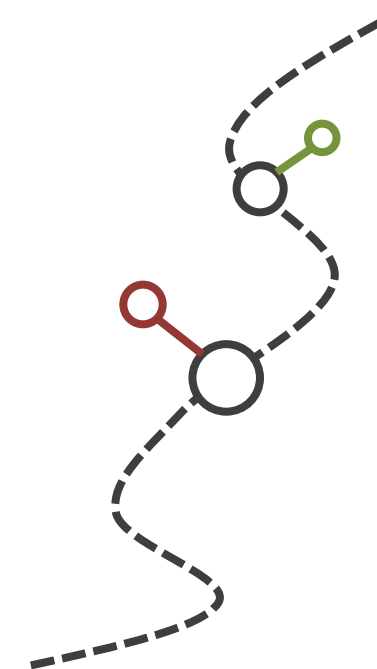


Animation



State Machine

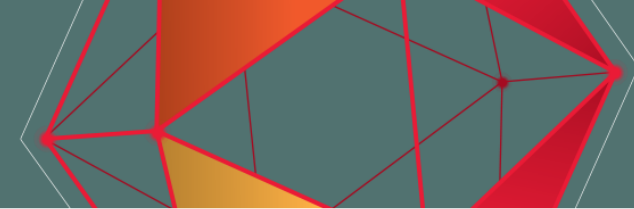
Blend Tree



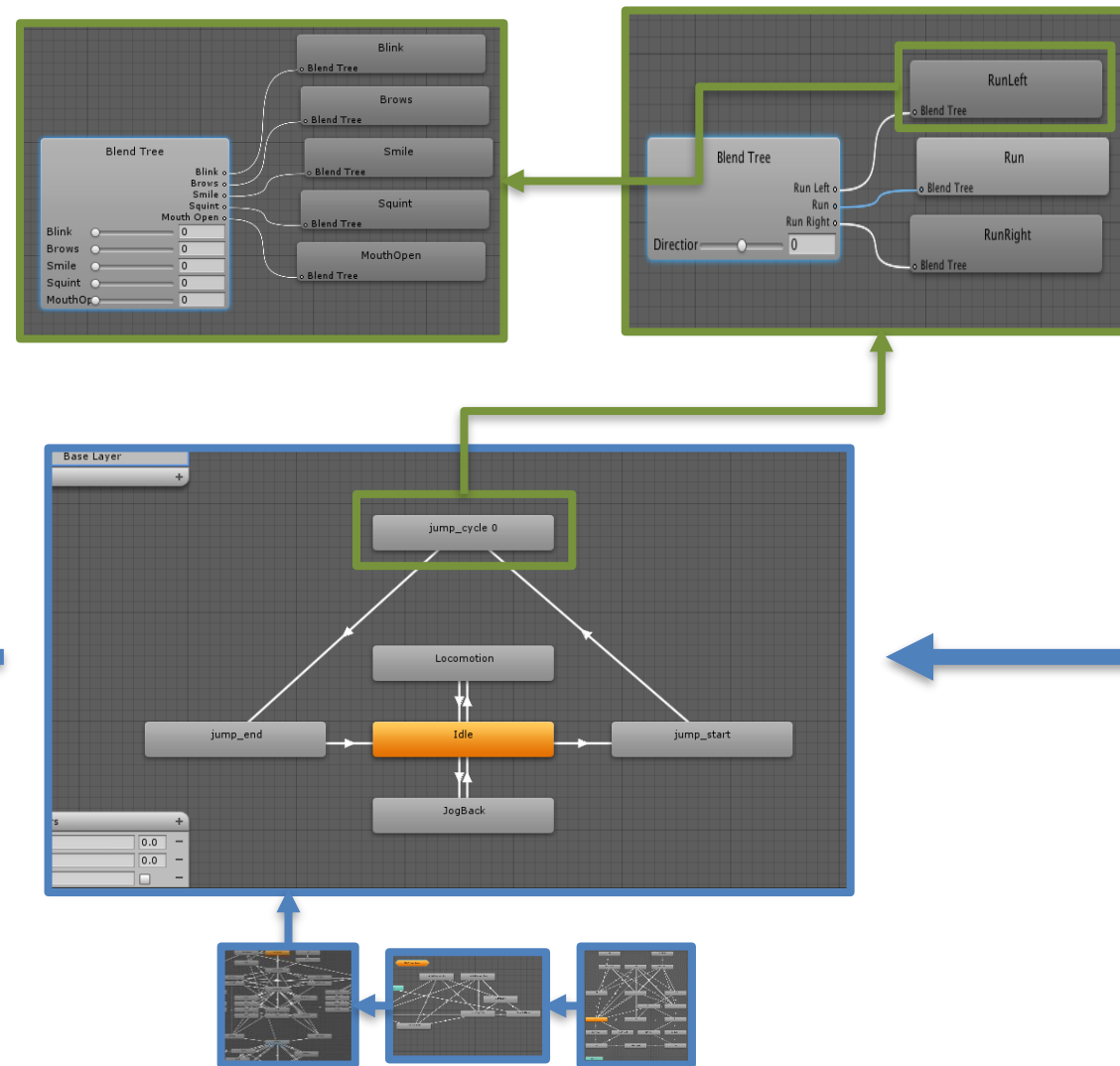
Gameplay



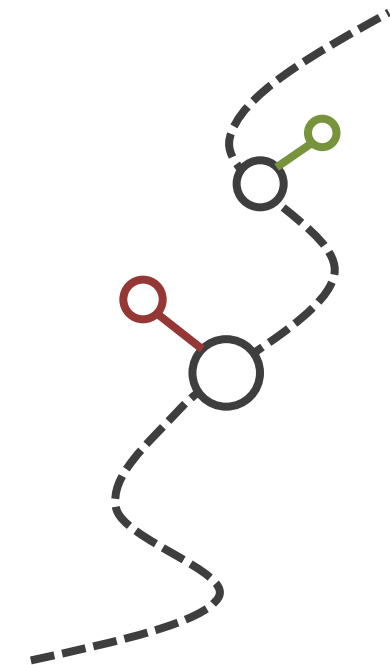




Animation



Blend Tree



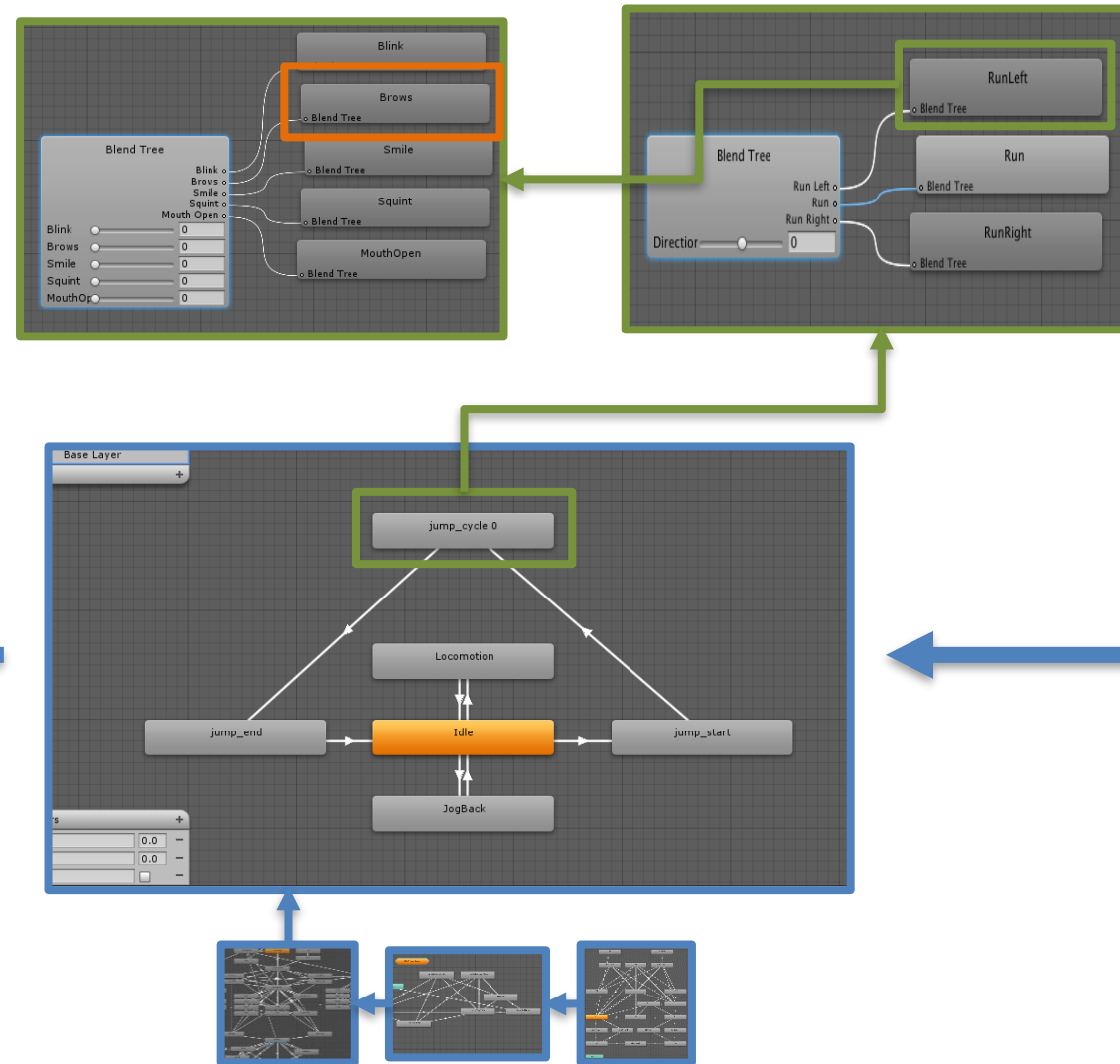
Gameplay

State Machine

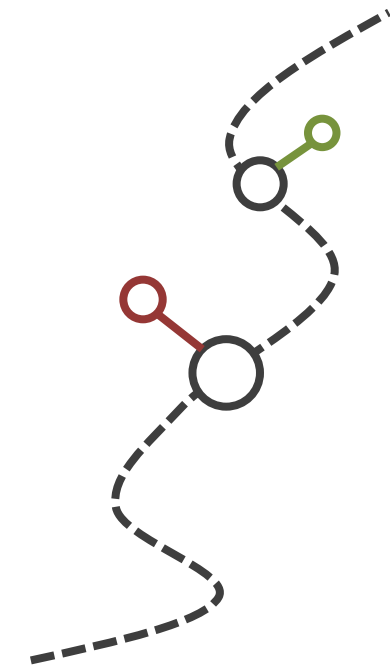




Animation



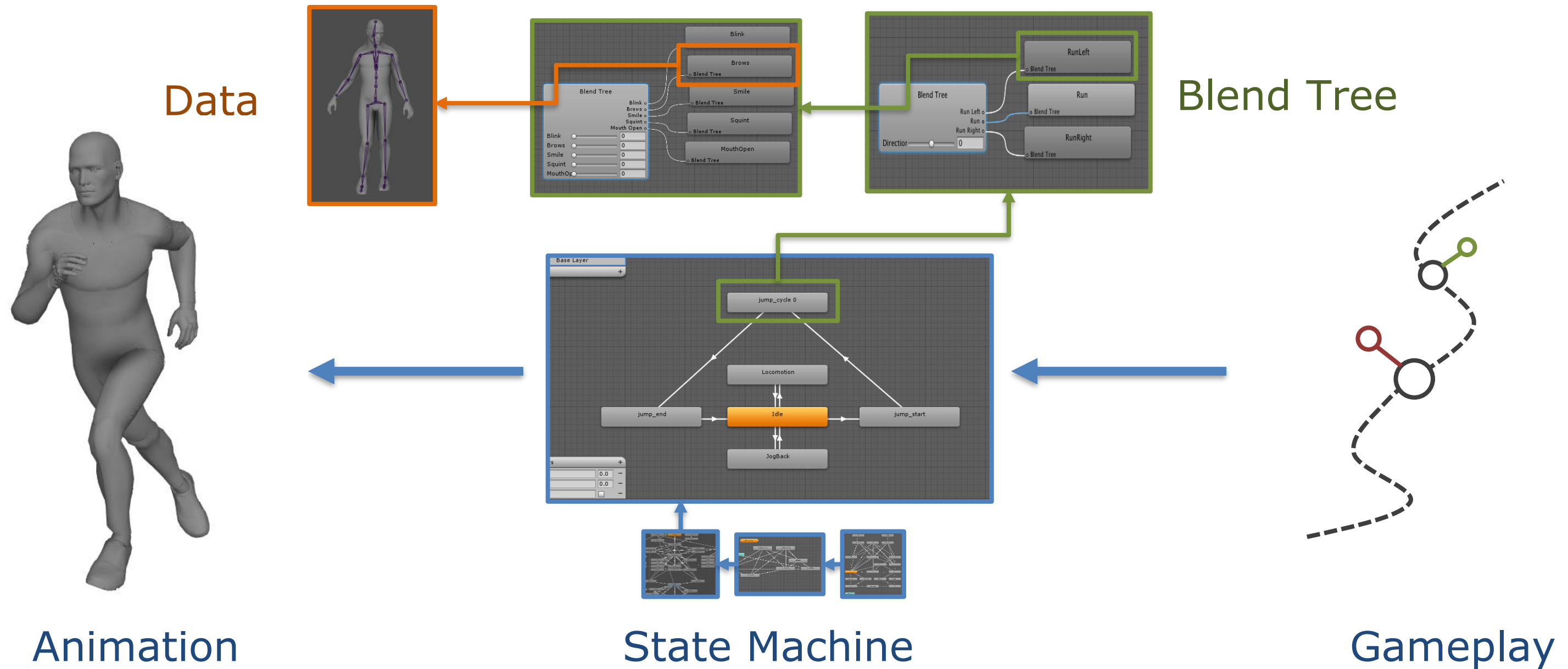
Blend Tree



Gameplay

State Machine



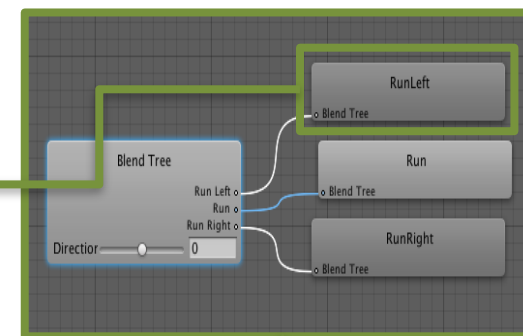
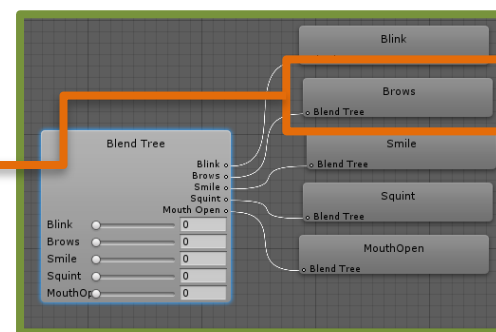






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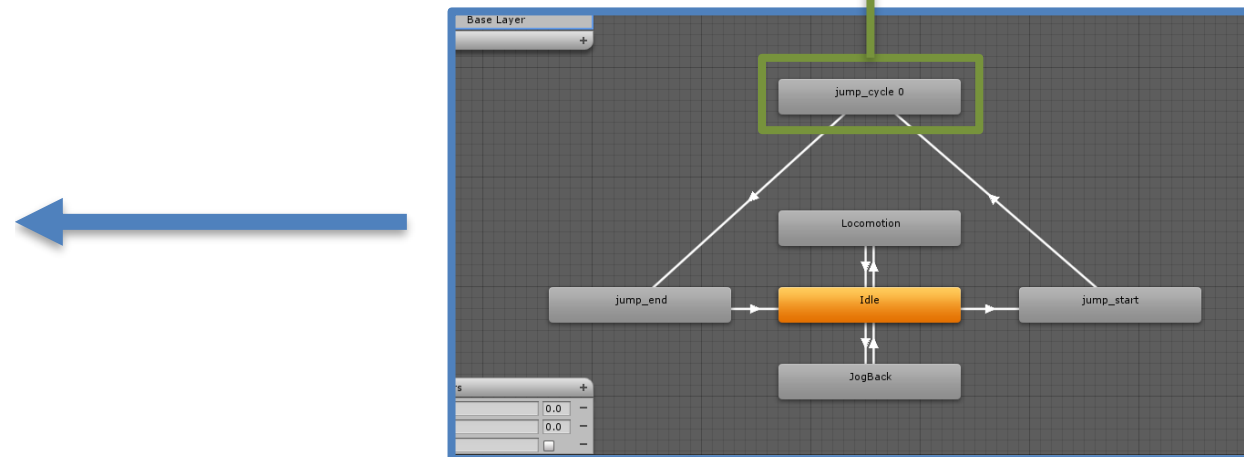
Data



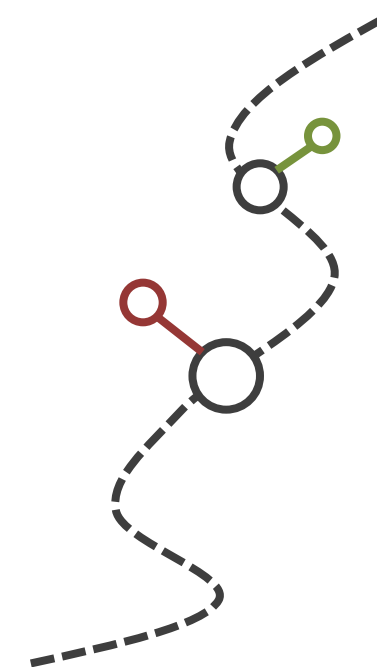
Blend Tree



Animation



State Machine



Gameplay



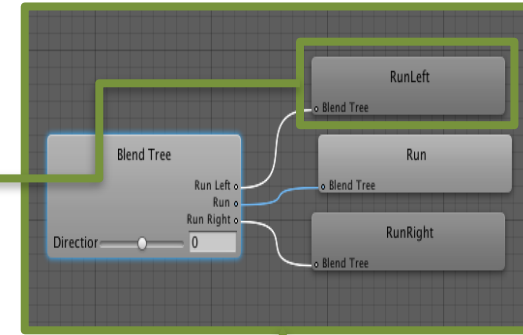
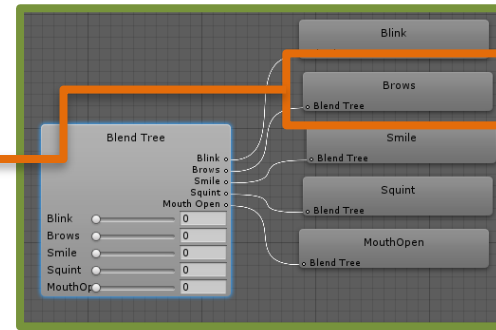


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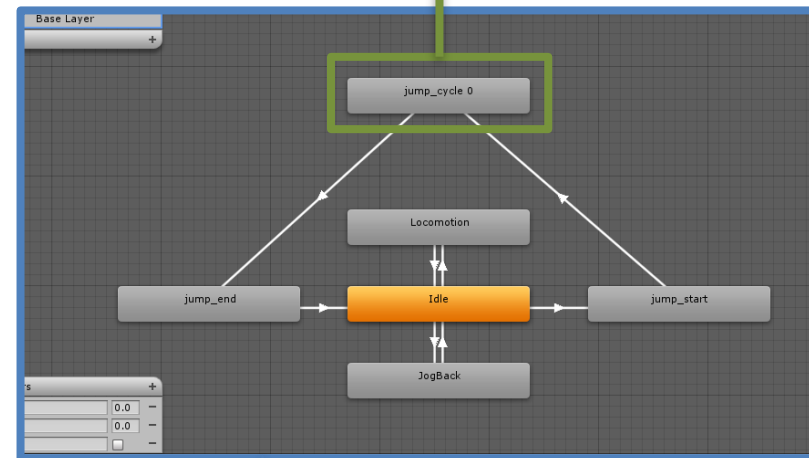
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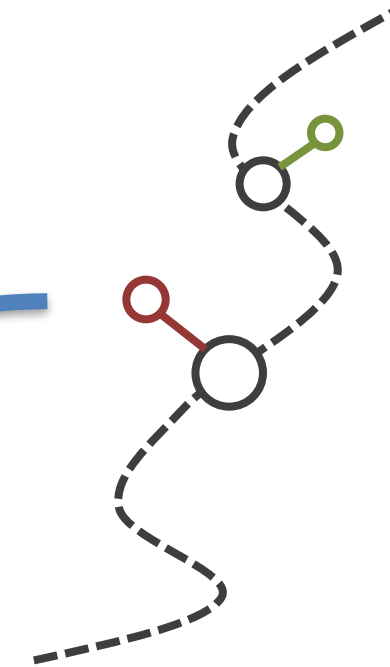
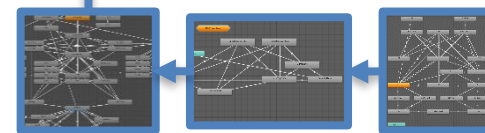
Animation



Blend Tree



State Machine



Gameplay





**~15,000**

**Animations**







**~15,000**

**~5,000**

**Animations**

**States**





**~15,000**

**Animations**

**~5,000**

**States**

**~12**

**Levels**





# The Director

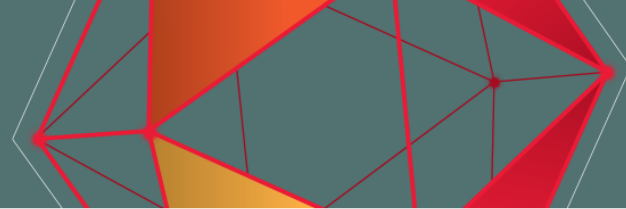






“We want the player character to be injured”





# Option

Add a new “injured” state at every leaf





## Option

Add a new “injured” state at every leaf

## Issue

Some states don't make sense when injured.







# Option

Duplicate the graph and replace data with “injured” versions of the same animations.





## Option

Duplicate the graph and replace data with “injured” versions of the same animations.

## Issue

Some states have no injured data recorded.





# Option

Hack something together for this case.





## Option

Hack something together for this case.

## Issue

Technical debt can build up quickly.







# Some Time Later...





“Great! Now in the next scene the character is injured, tired, and blinded in one eye.”







# The Dream







# Day 1

“We want the player character to be able to be injured”





# Day 2

Limping around the motion capture studio





# Day 3

Dragging and dropping the new data into the system





# Day 4

Everything Just Works™







# Day 5

“Great! Now in the next scene the character is injured, tired, and blinded in one eye.”





# Day 6

Getting blinded in one eye at the motion capture studio

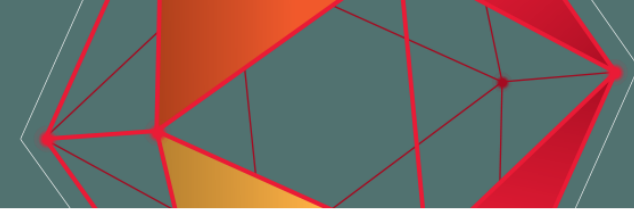




# Day 7

Dragging and dropping the new data into the system





And so on...







# Scalability





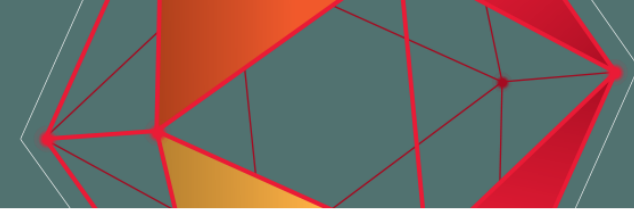
- **Separate Data**
- **Specify Desired Variables**
- **Generalize Solution**



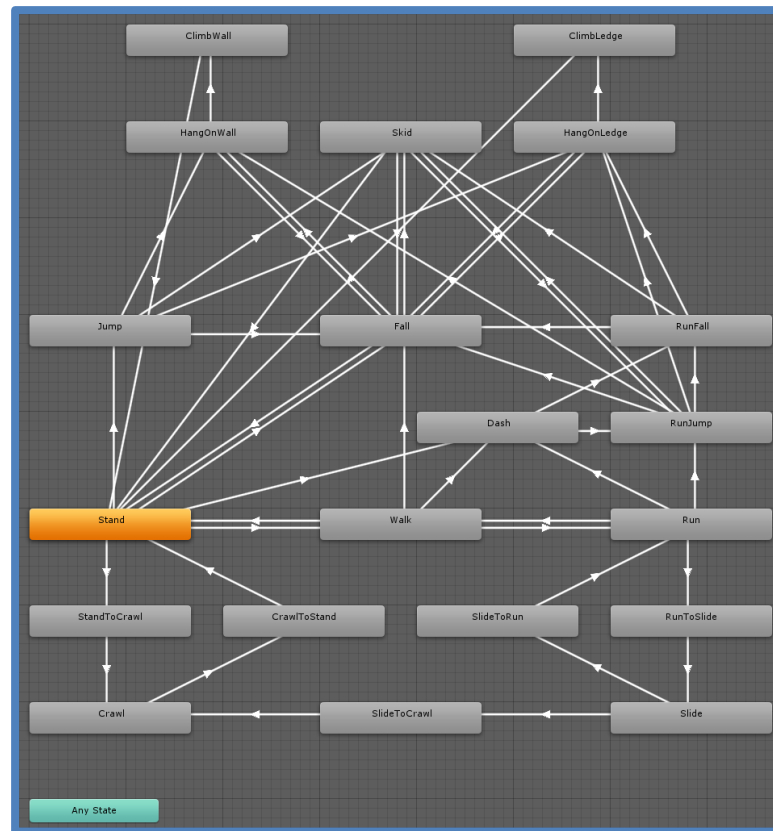


# Data Separation

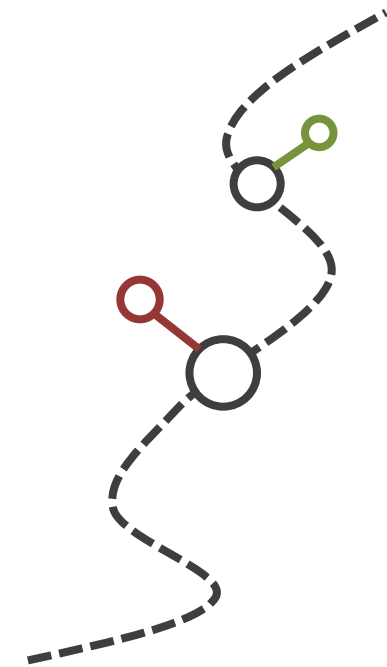




Animation



State Machine



Gameplay

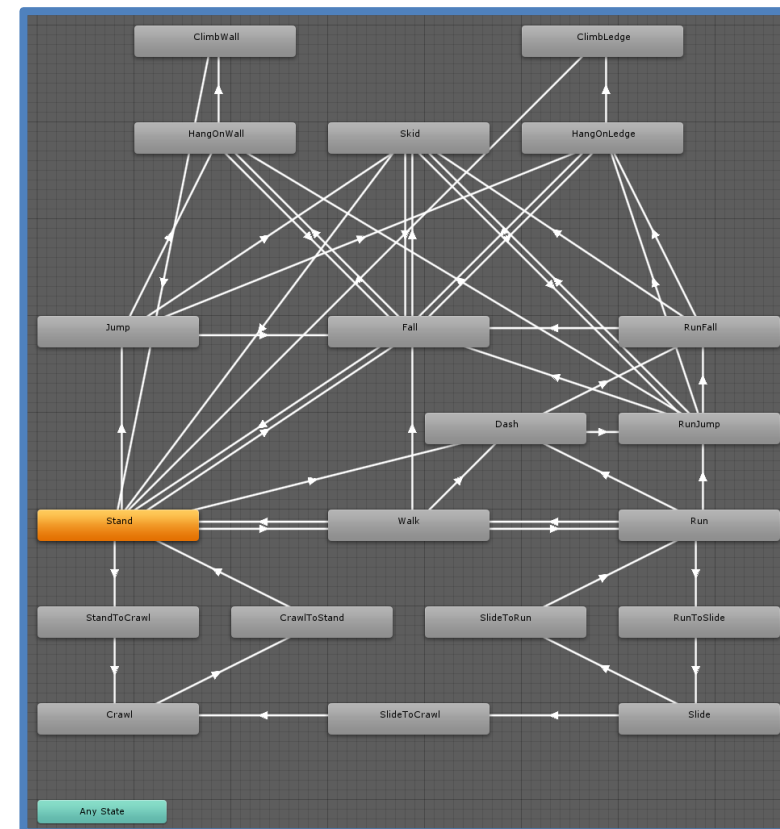




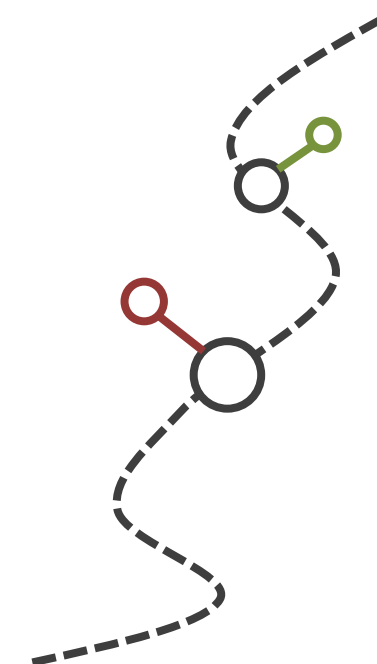
Animation



Database



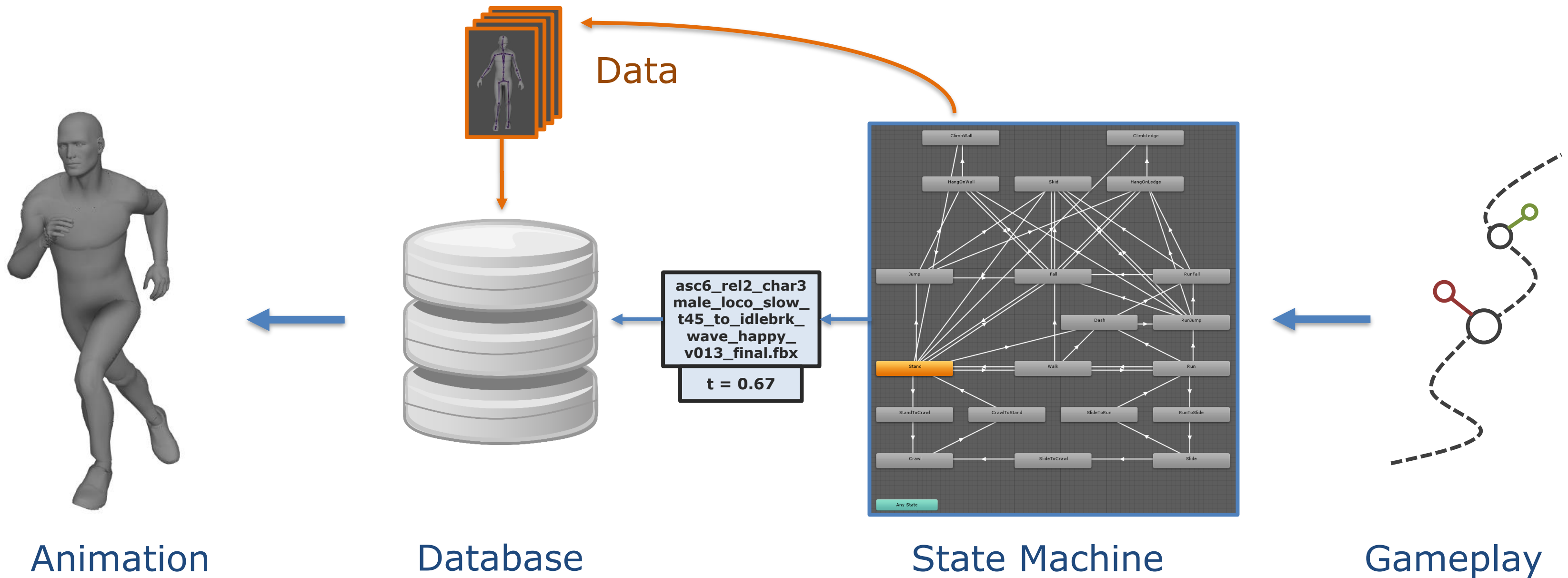
State Machine



Gameplay



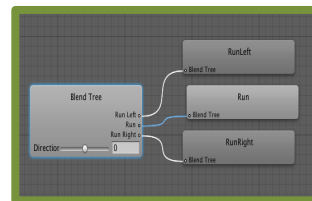




asc6\_rel2\_char3  
male\_loco\_slow\_  
t45\_to\_idlebrk\_  
wave\_happy\_  
v013\_final.fbx  
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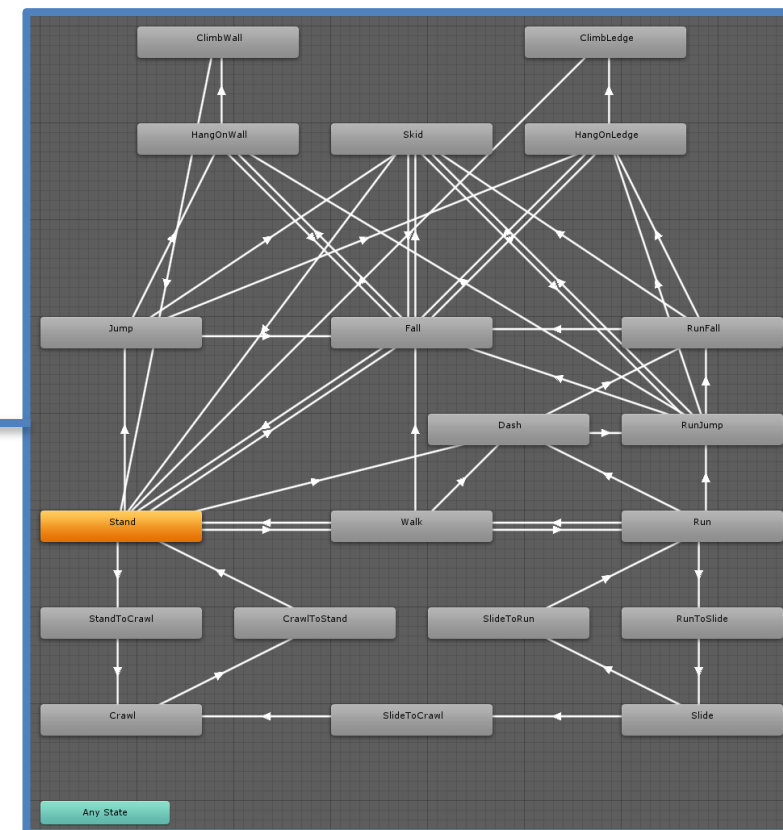
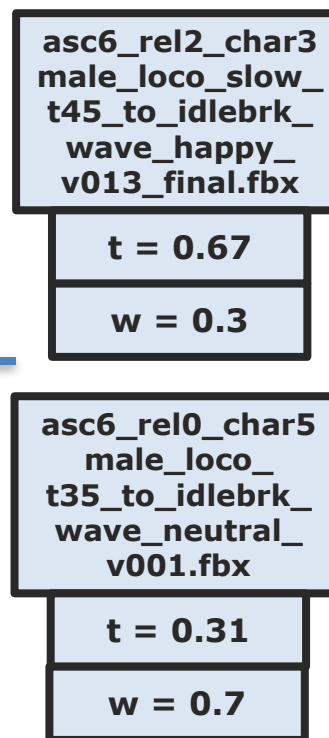


Animation

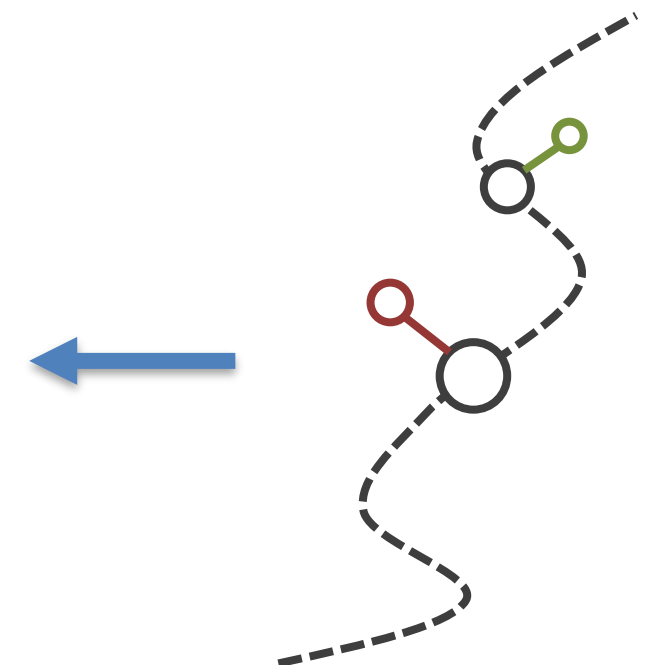


Database

Data



State Machine

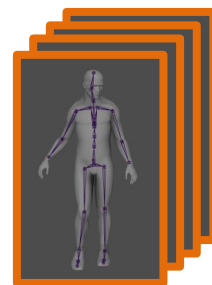


Gameplay





Animation

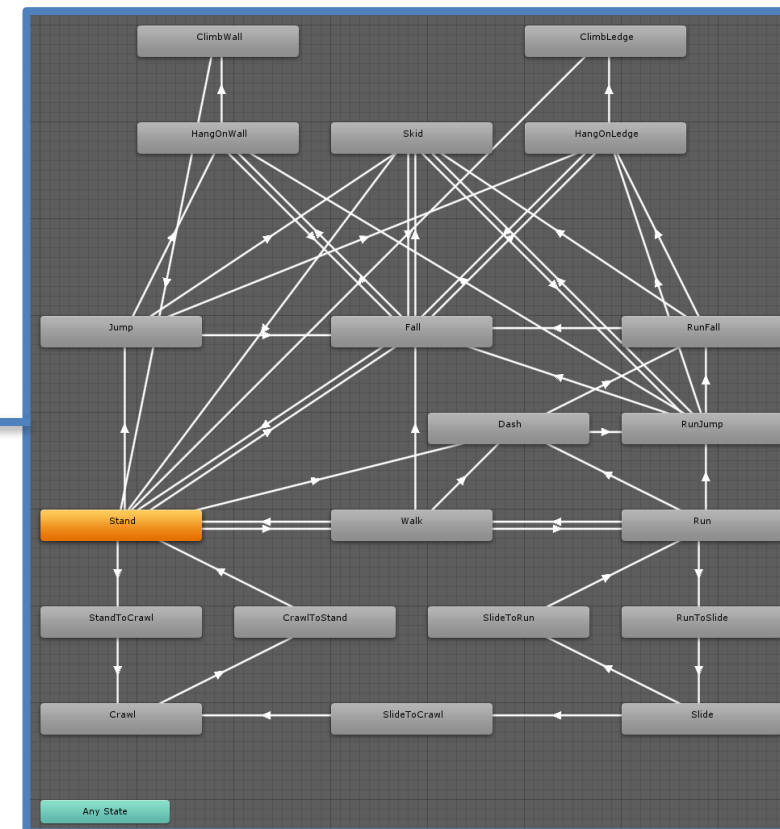


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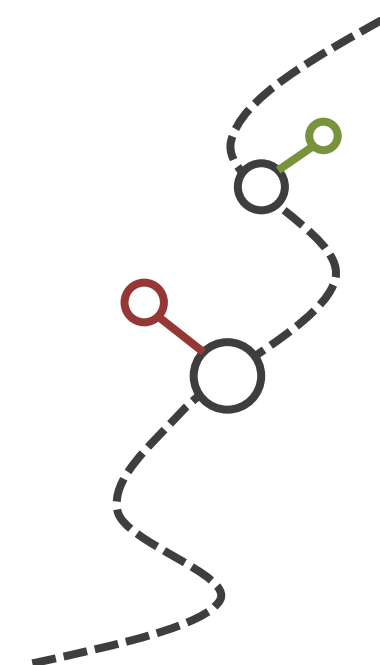


Database

asc6\_rel2\_char3  
male\_loco\_slow\_  
t45\_to\_idlebrk\_  
wave\_happy\_  
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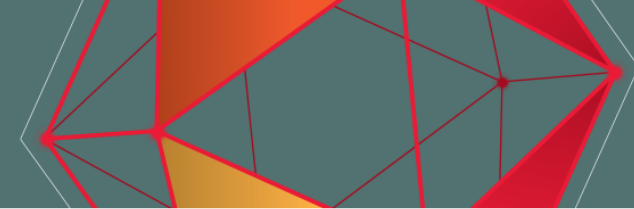


State Machine

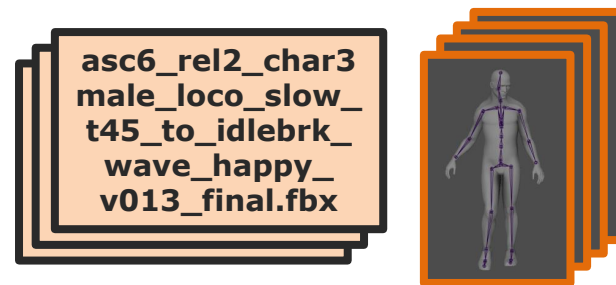


Gameplay





Animation

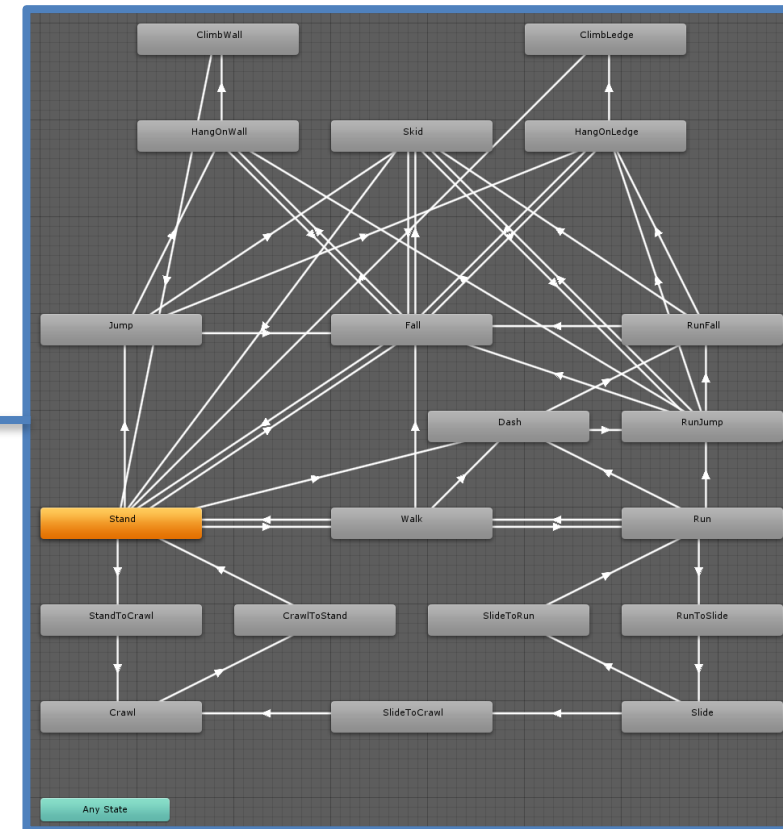


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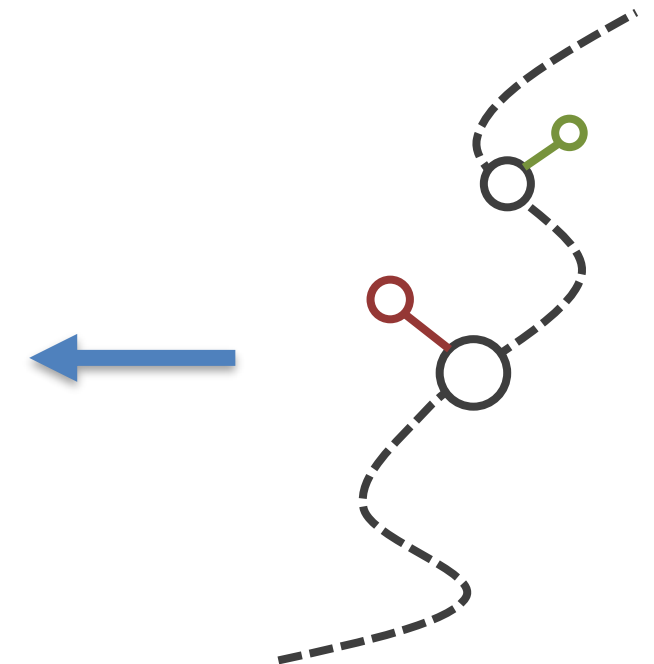


Database

asc6\_rel2\_char3  
male\_loco\_slow\_  
t45\_to\_idlebrk\_  
wave\_happy\_  
v013\_final.fbx  
t = 0.67



State Machine

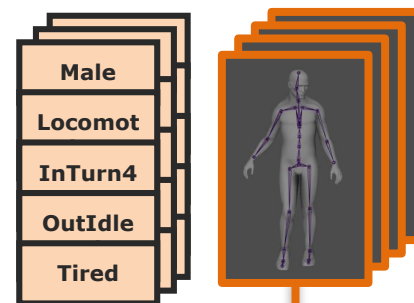


Gameplay





Animation

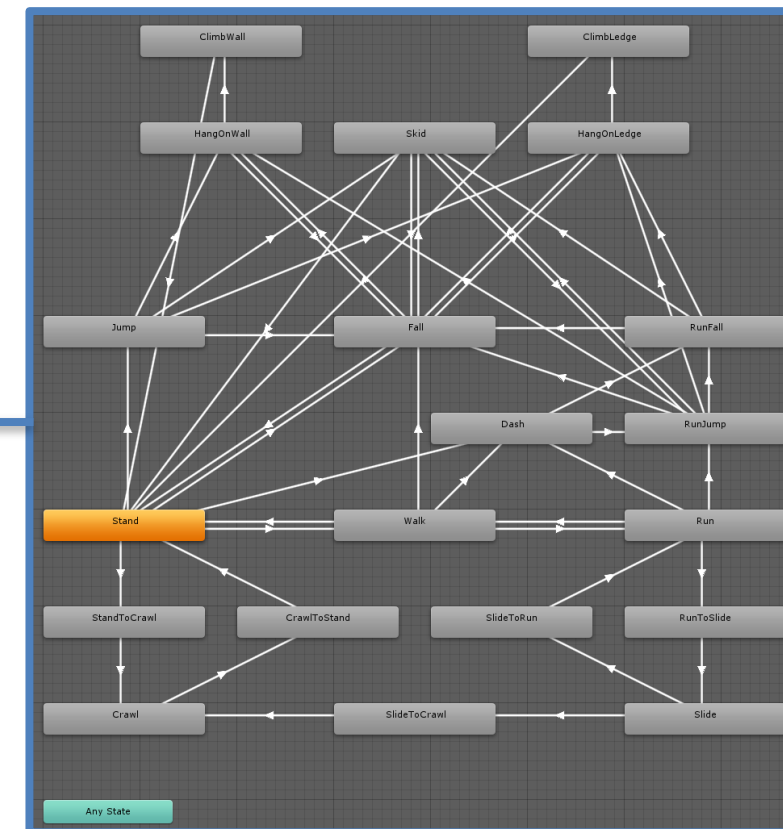


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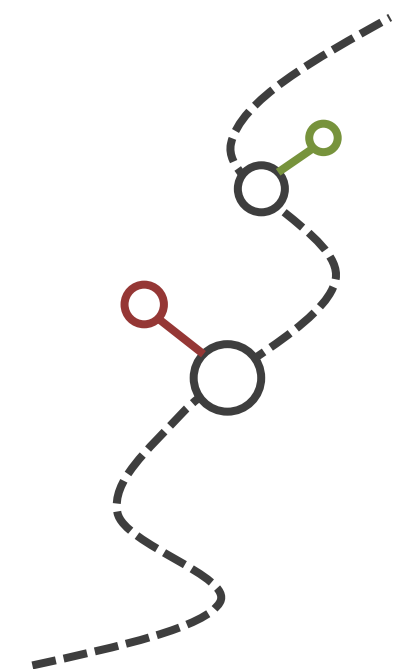


Database

Male
Locomotion
InTurn45
OutIdleBrk
IdleWave
Tired
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State Machine



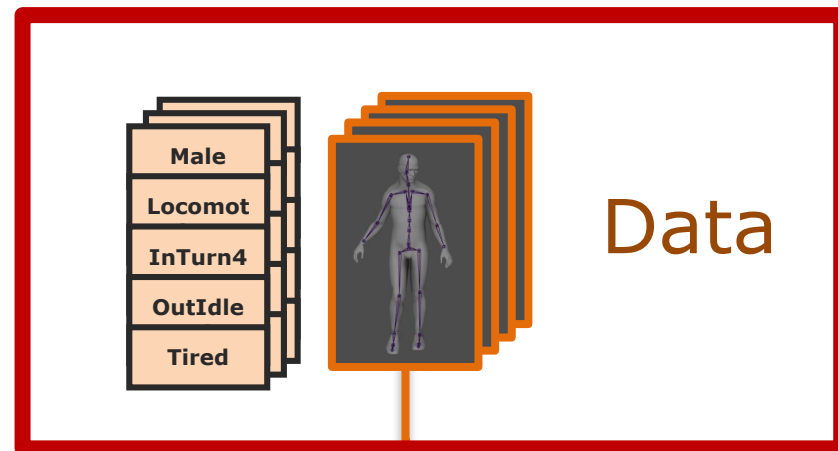
Gameplay



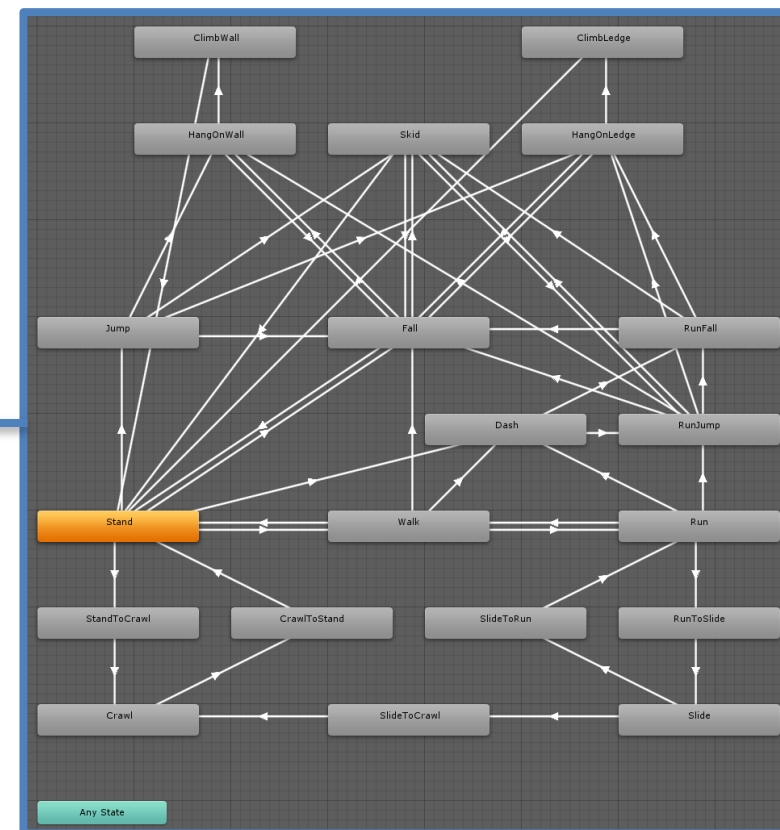
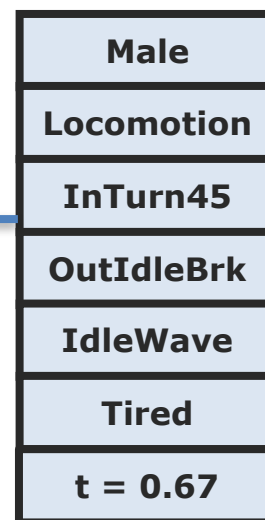




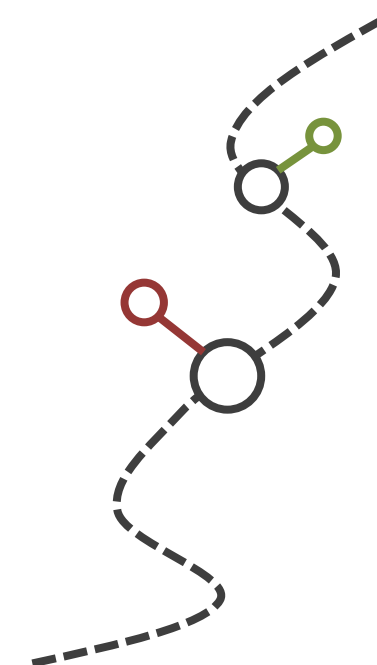
Animation



Database



State Machine



Gameplay



Display

2D

Source: AliceMocap:DanielHolden\_ROM\_20...

Definition

Controls

TK Blend T

TK Blend R

0.00

0.00

0.00

Producer Perspective (Models only)

Ready

Transport Controls - Keying Group: TR

Story

Action

20170524\_013\_Jog1\_01

07:28:30: 7 00

07:27:05:80

07:28:26:27

07:31:03:52

07:31:03:52

07:28:30:00

07:28:40:00

07:28:50:00

07:29:00:00

07:29:10:00

07:29:20:00

07:29:30:00

07:29:40:00

07:29:50:00

07:30:00:00

07:30:10:00

07:30:20:00

07:30:30:00

07:30:40:00

07:30:50:00

07:31:00:00

ELM

Add Label

Actor: DanielHolden\_ROM\_20170524\_8004\_01\_Actor

Take: 20170524\_013\_Jog1\_01

Label File: 1\_Actor\_\_20170524\_013\_Jog1\_01.json

Load

Save as

Reset

▲ ▼

Tpose

747

3236633

3231520

3234406

3236293

3238179

3240066

3241952

3243839

3245725

324

▲ ▼

Standing

747

3236633

3231520

3234406

3236293

3238179

3240066

3241952

3243839

3245725

324

▲ ▼

Walking

747

3236633

3231520

3234406

3236293

3238179

3240066

3241952

3243839

3245725

324

▲ ▼

Running

747

3236633

3231520

3234406

3236293

3238179

3240066

3241952

3243839

3245725

324

▲ ▼

Strafing

747

3236633

3231520

3234406

3236293

3238179

3240066

3241952

3243839

3245725

324

▲ ▼

Sidestepping

747

3236633

3231520

3234406

3236293

3238179

3240066

3241952

3243839

3245725

324

▲ ▼

Backwards

747

3236633

3231520

3234406

3236293

3238179

3240066

3241952

3243839

3245725

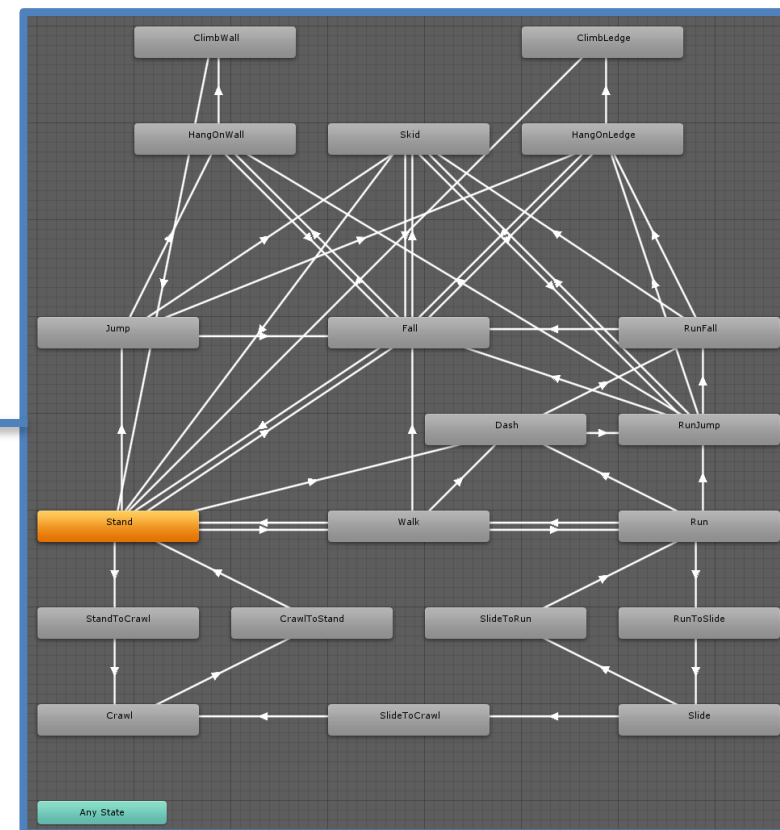
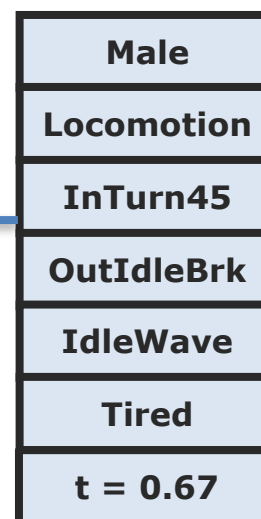
324



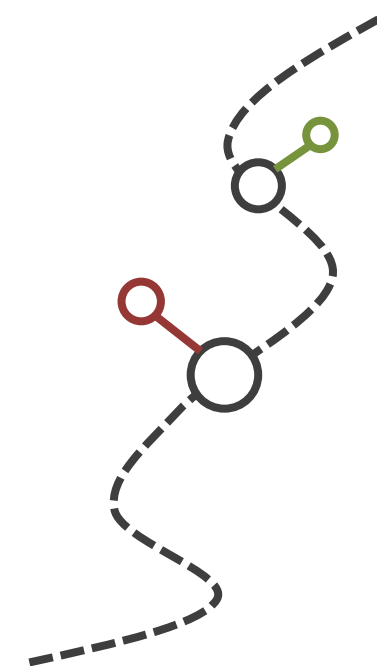
Animation



Database



State Machine



Gameplay







# Swap out for new characters

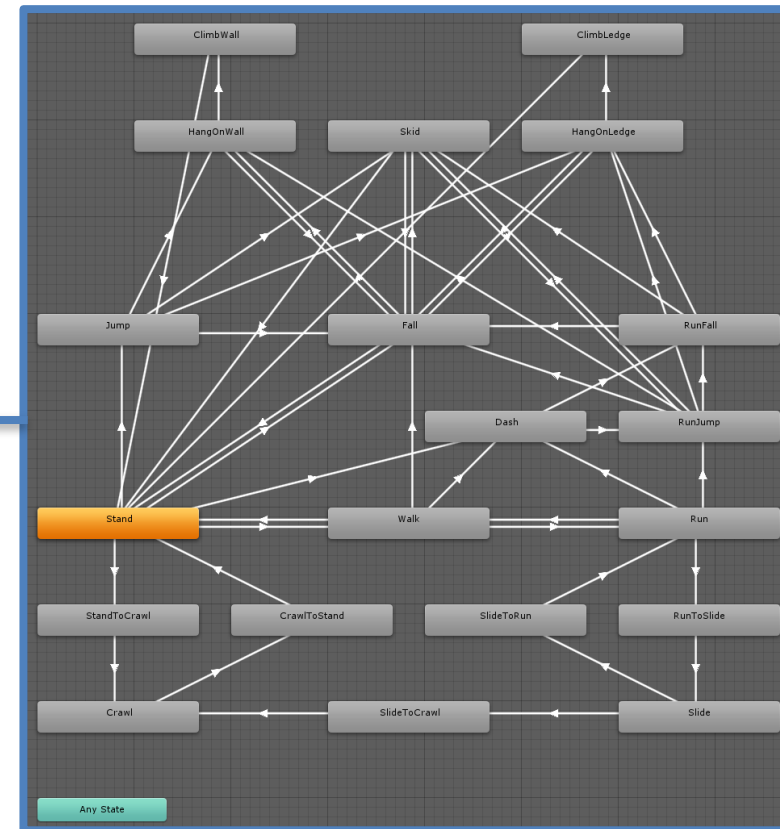


Animation

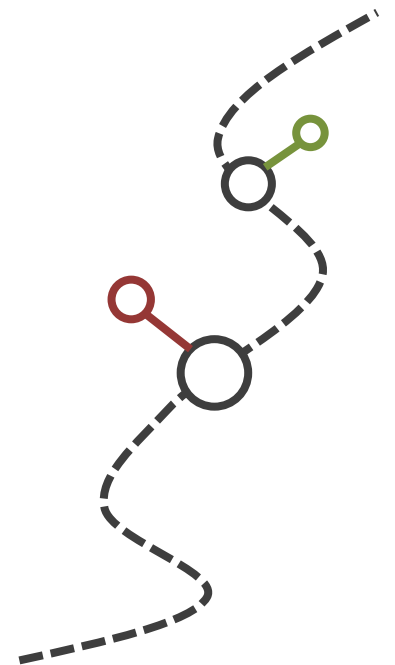


Database

Male
Locomotion
InTurn45
OutIdleBrk
IdleWave
Tired
t = 0.67



State Machine



Gameplay





# Fallback for missing data

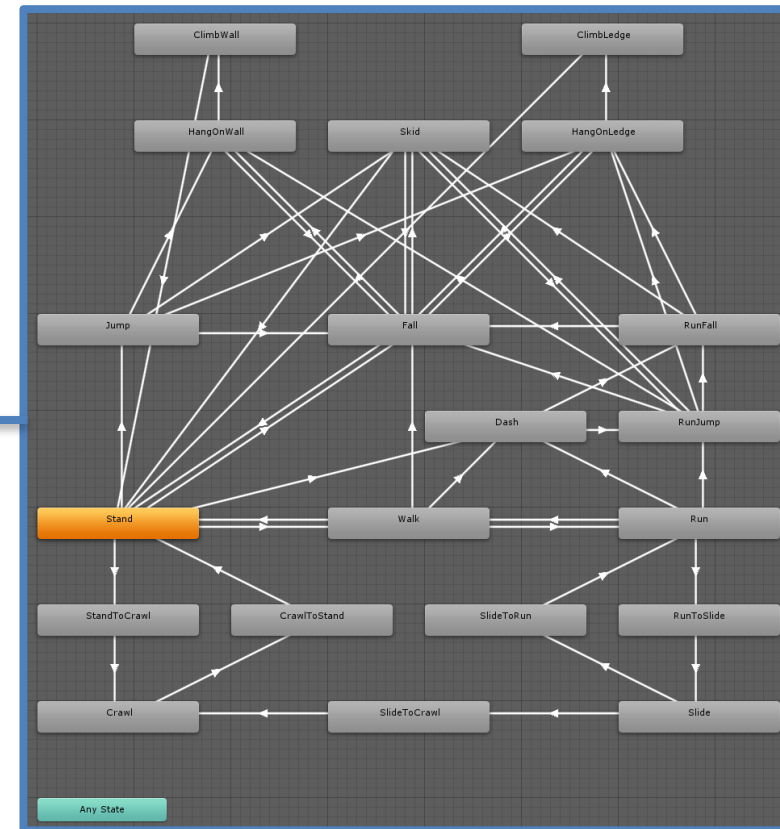


Animation

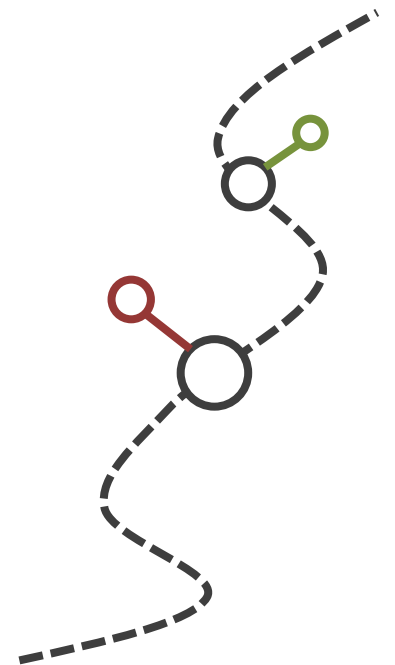


Database

Male
Locomotion
InTurn45
OutIdleBrk
IdleWave
Tired
t = 0.67



State Machine



Gameplay







# Assets



# Databases





# Filename



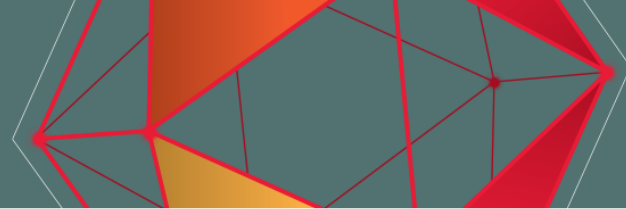
# Tags





# Separate Motion Retrieval





- **Separate Data** ✓
- **Specify Desired Variables**
- **Generalize Solution**





# Desired Variables







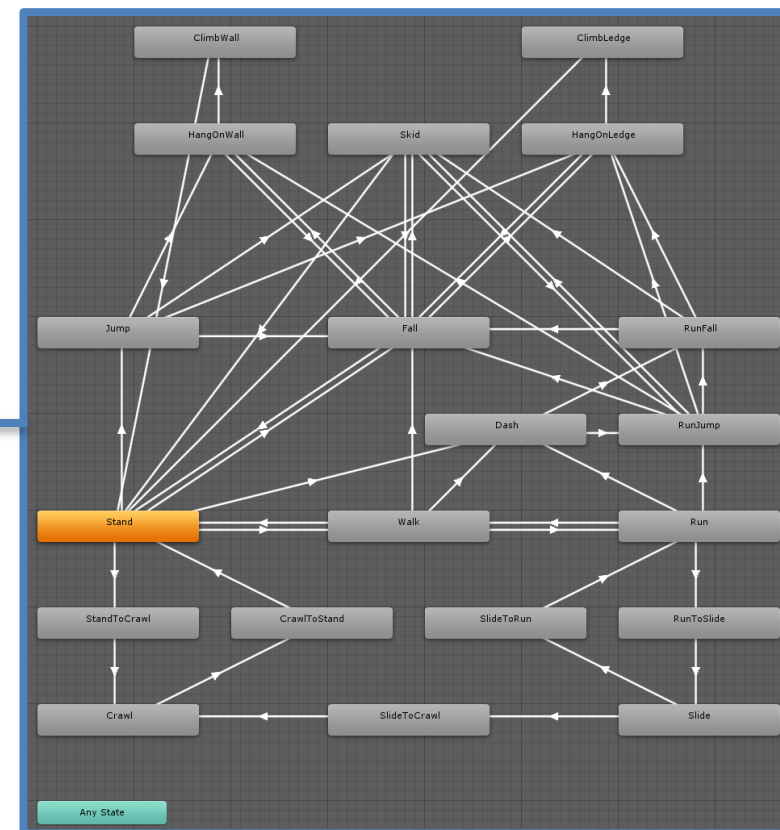
Animation



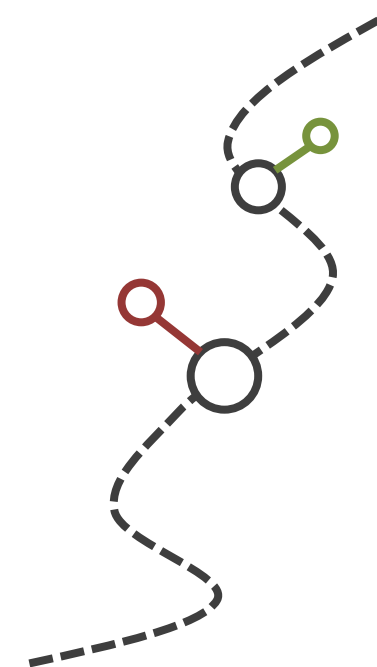
Database



Male
Locomotion
InTurn45
OutIdleBrk
IdleWave
Tired
t = 0.67

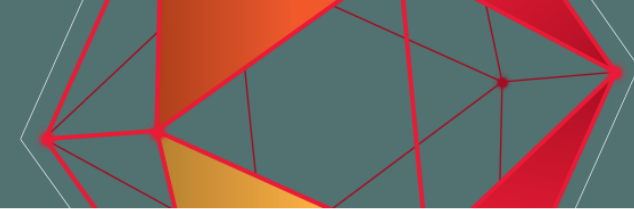


State Machine



Gameplay





## Mix of Gameplay and Animation



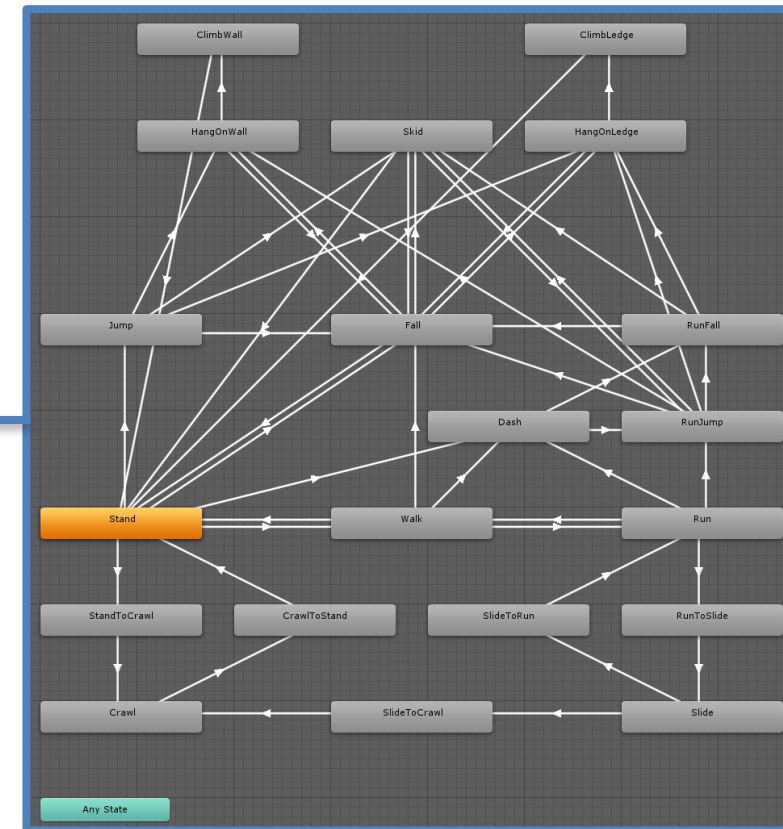
Animation



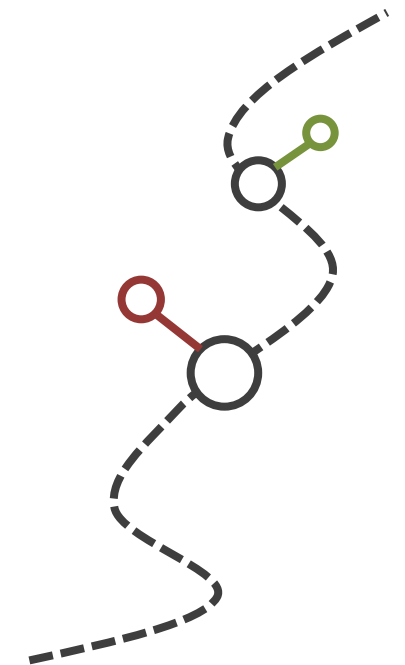
Database



Male
Locomotion
InTurn45
OutIdleBrk
IdleWave
Tired
t = 0.67



State Machine



Gameplay

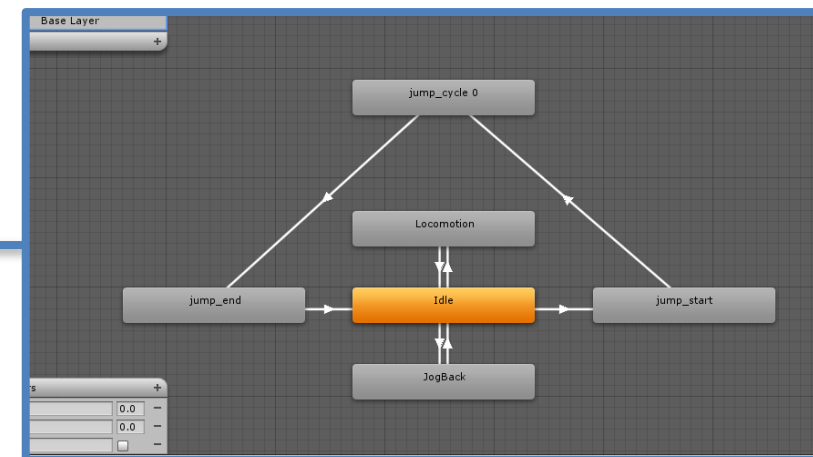
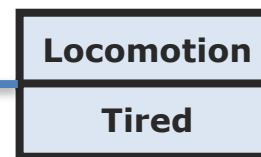




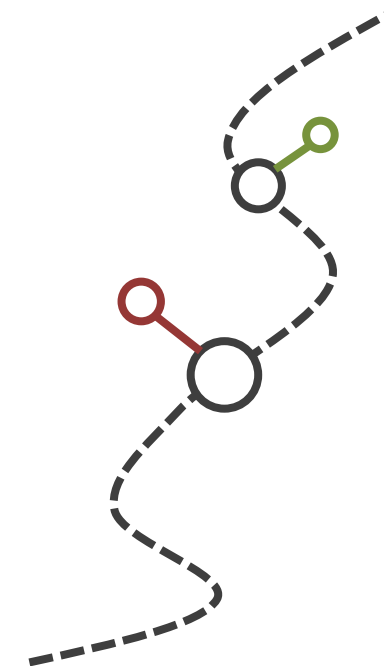
Animation



Database

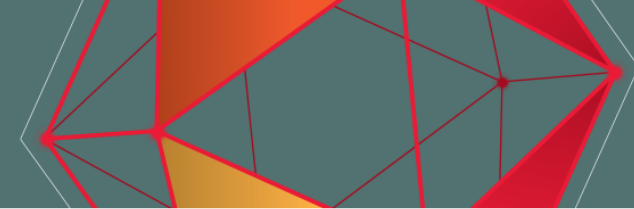


Simplified State Machine



Gameplay

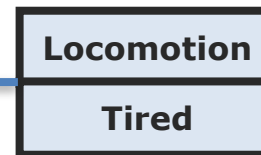




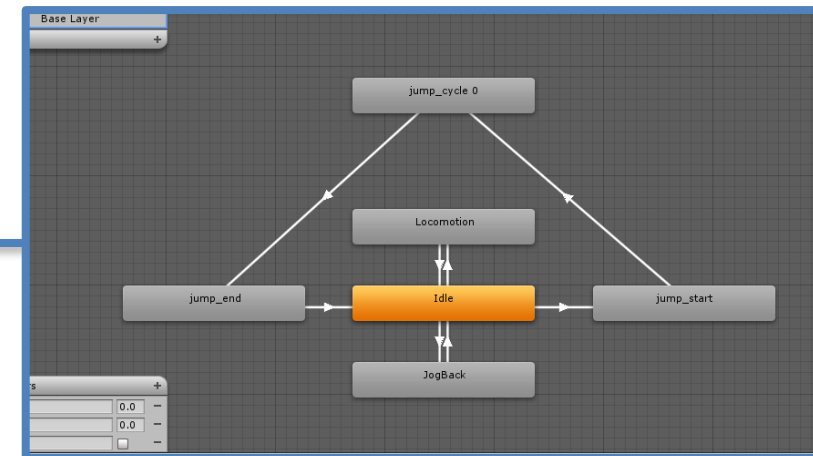
Animation



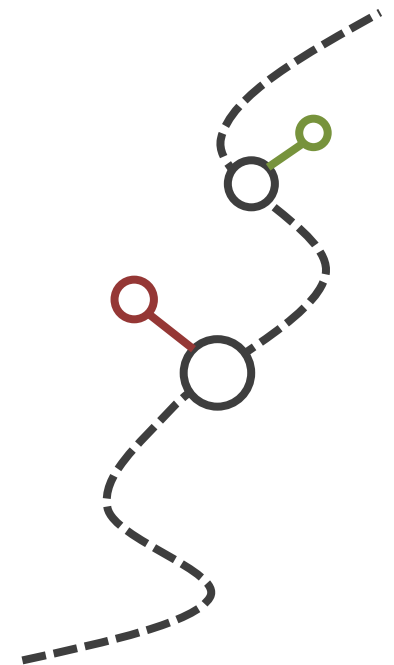
Database



## Gameplay Only



Simplified State Machine



Gameplay

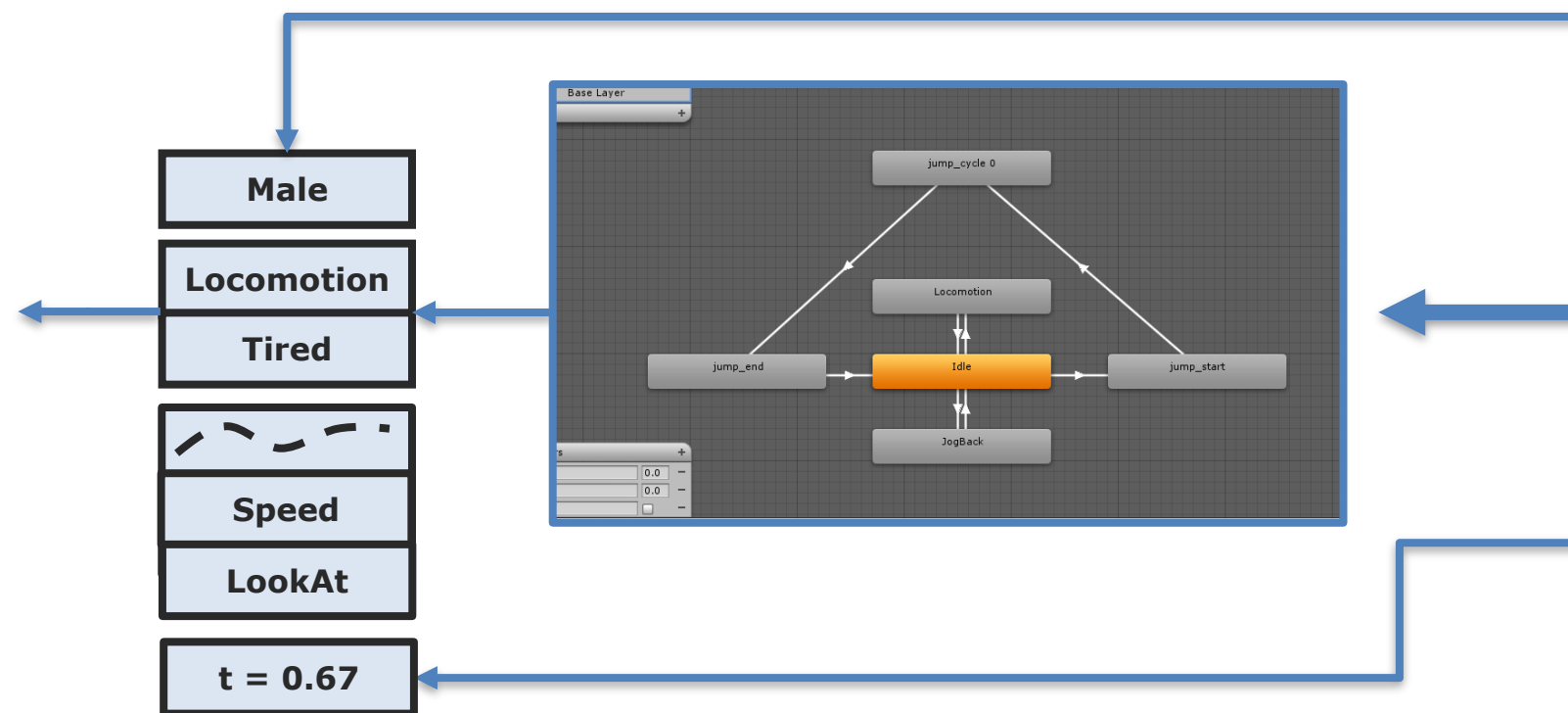




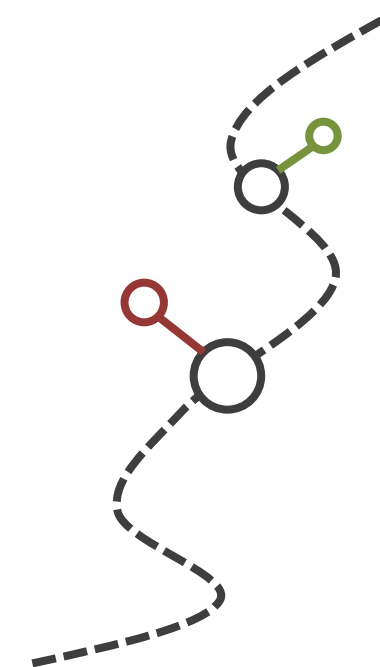
Animation



Database



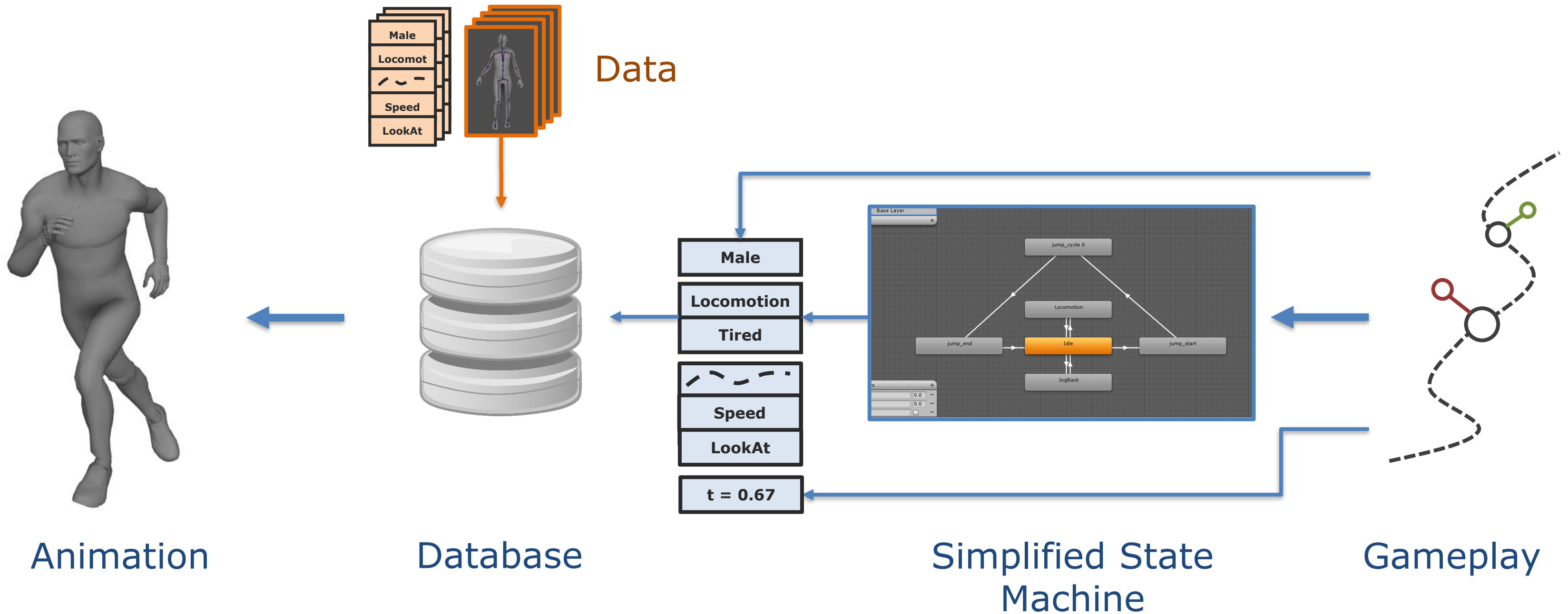
Simplified State Machine

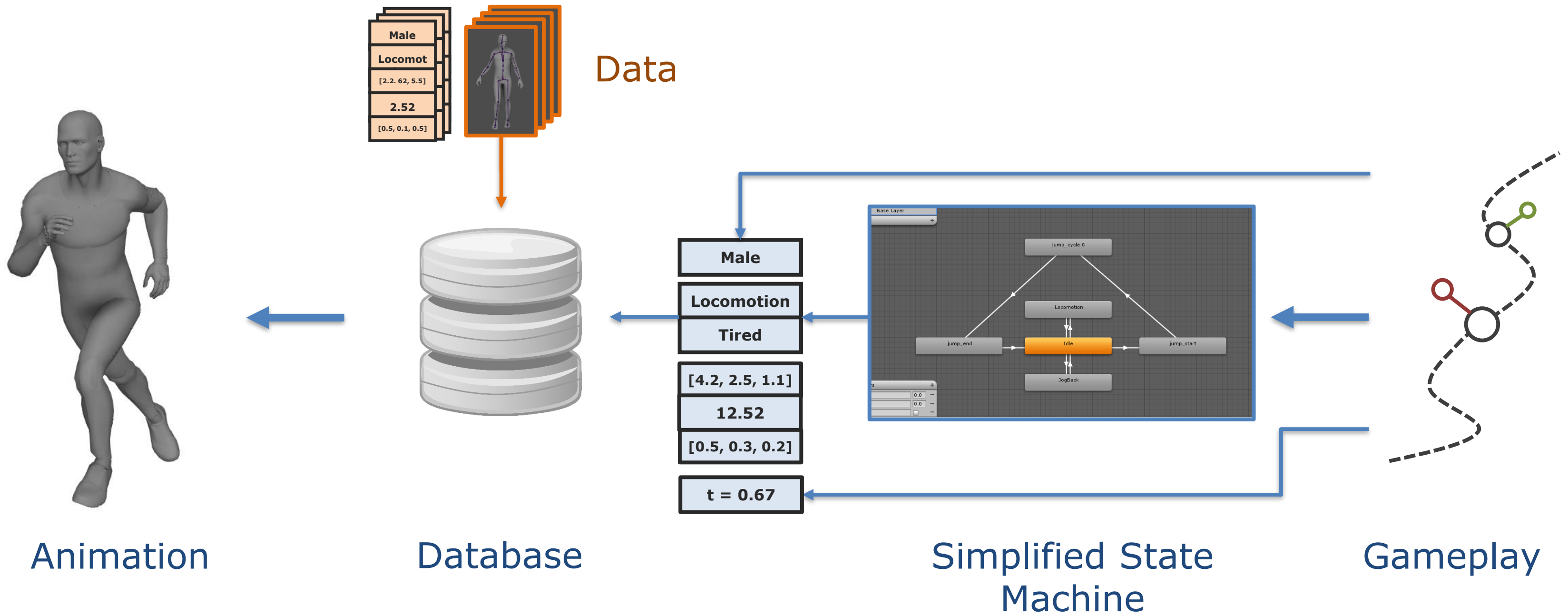


Gameplay



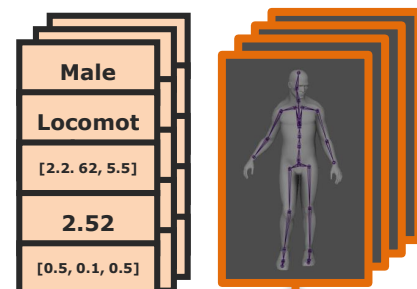








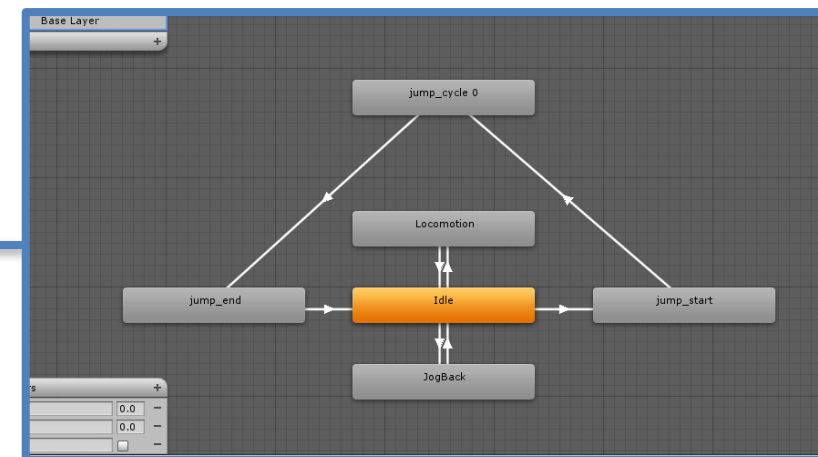
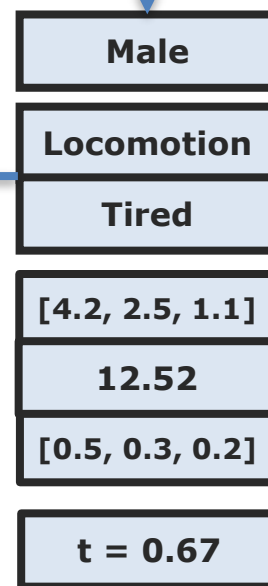
Animation



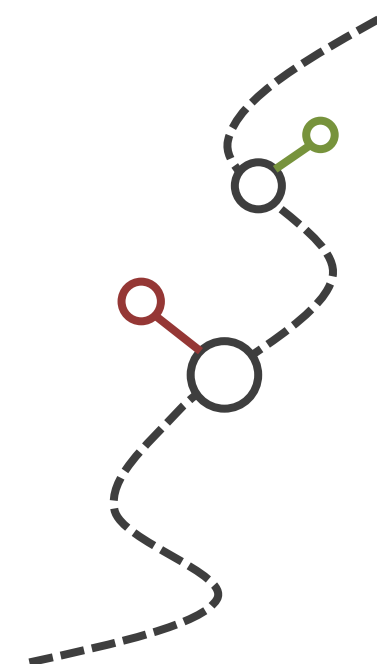
Data



Database



Simplified State Machine



Gameplay



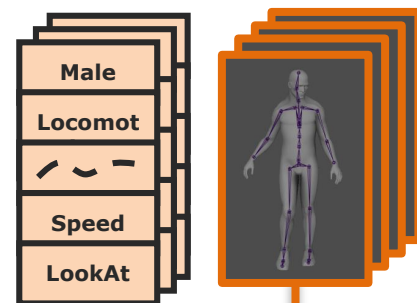


1. Filter out clips where the discrete tags don't match.
2. Return the clip with the nearest numerical match.





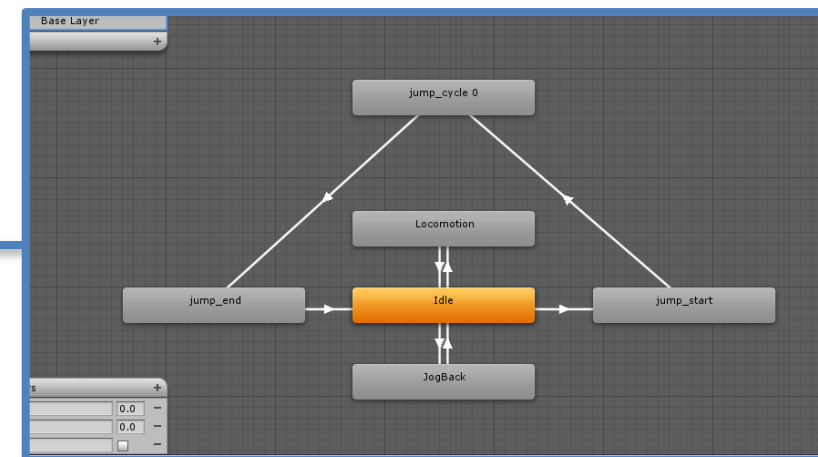
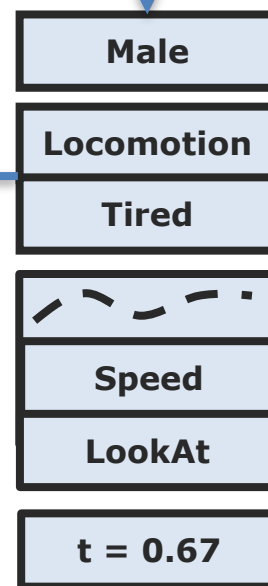
Animation



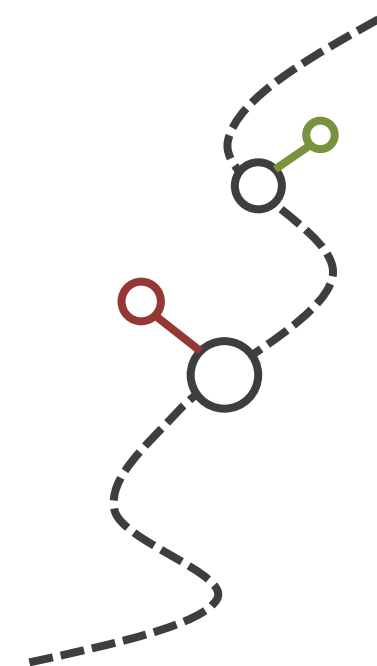
Data



Database



Simplified State Machine



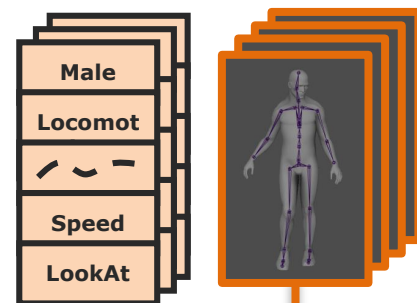
Gameplay







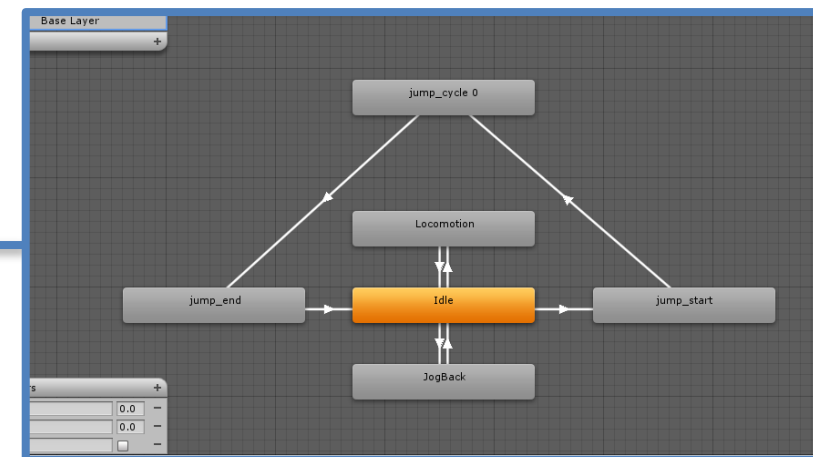
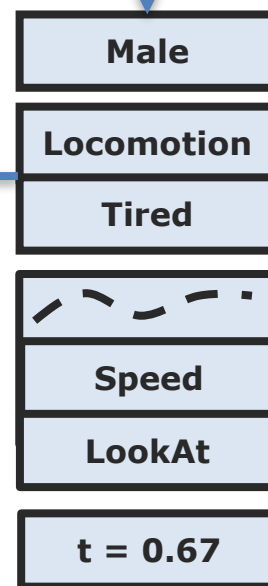
Animation



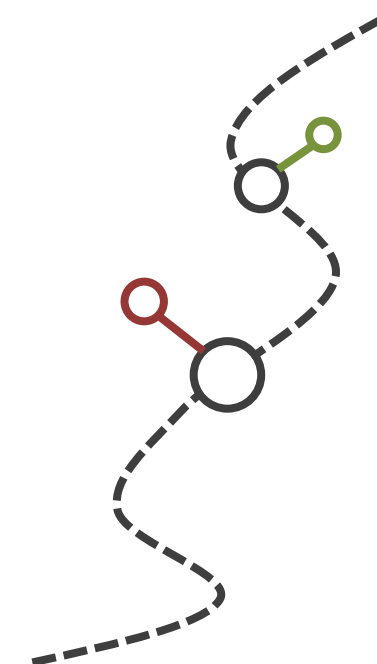
Data



Matching



Simplified State Machine



Gameplay





The diagram illustrates a state machine for a male character. On the left, a vertical stack of boxes represents the character's attributes and current state: **Male**, **Locomotion**, **Tired**, a dashed line representing a speed or distance metric, **Speed**, **LookAt**, and a time variable **t = 0.67**. On the right, a state machine graph is shown within a window titled "Base Layer". The graph features a central orange box labeled **Idle**. It is connected to **jump\_end** (left), **jump\_start** (right), and **JogBack** (bottom). Above **Idle** is a **Locomotion** state, and above that is **jump\_cycle 0**. Arrows indicate transitions between these states. Blue arrows connect the attribute boxes to the state machine and back, suggesting a bidirectional flow of information.

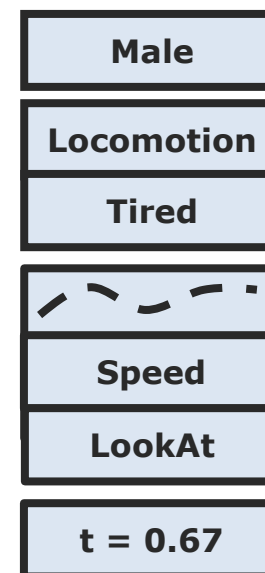
## Gameplay



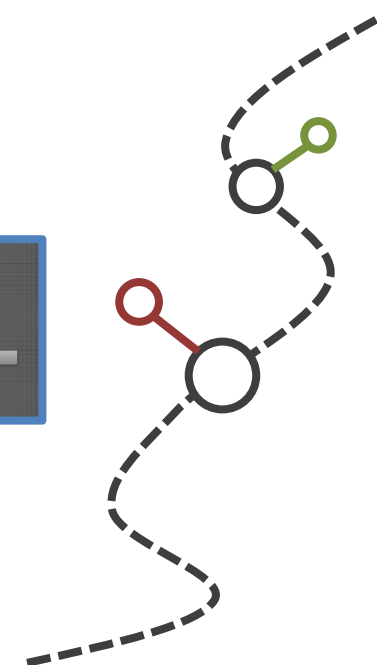
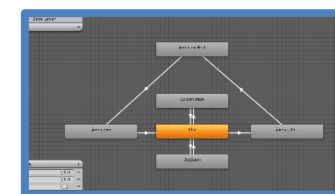
Animation



Matching

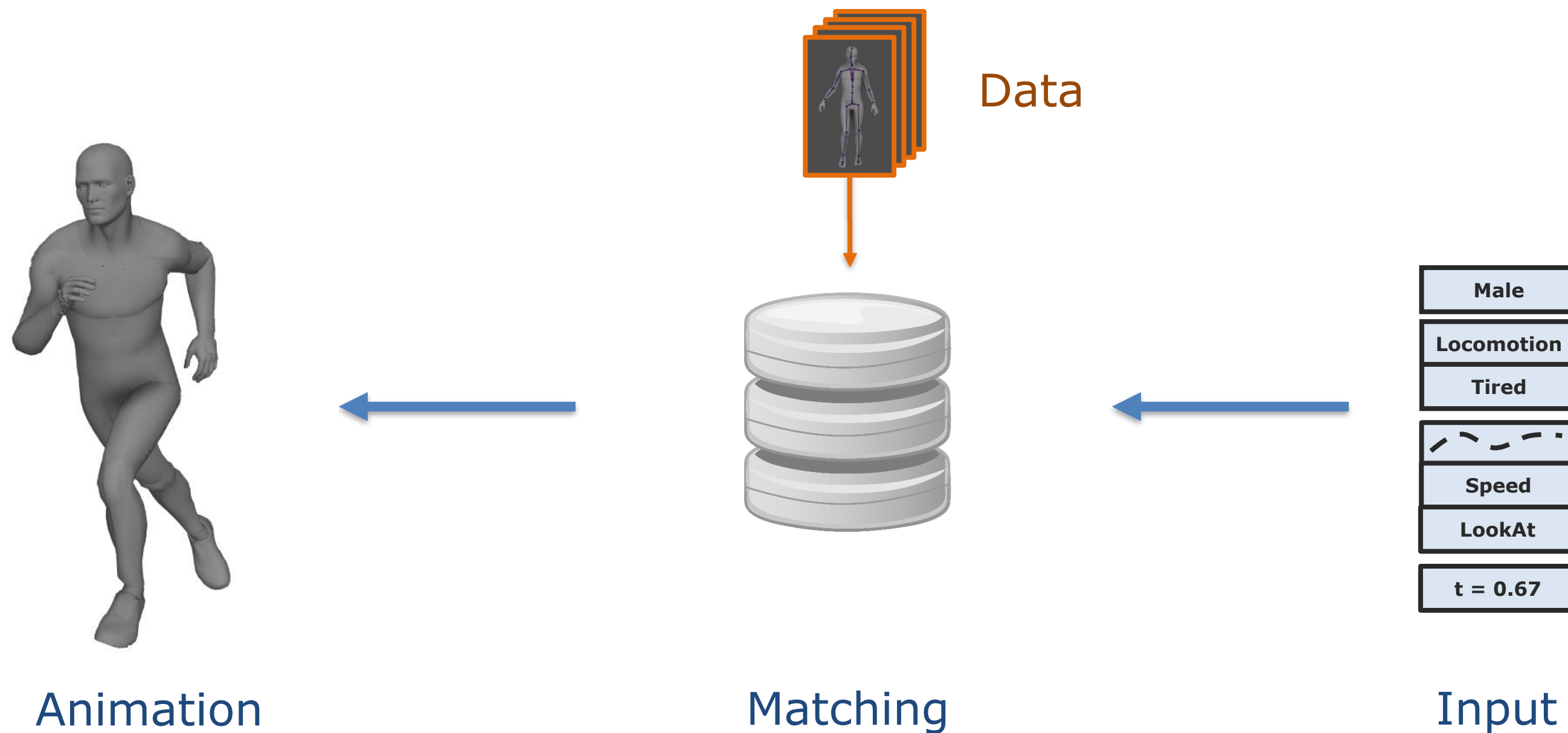


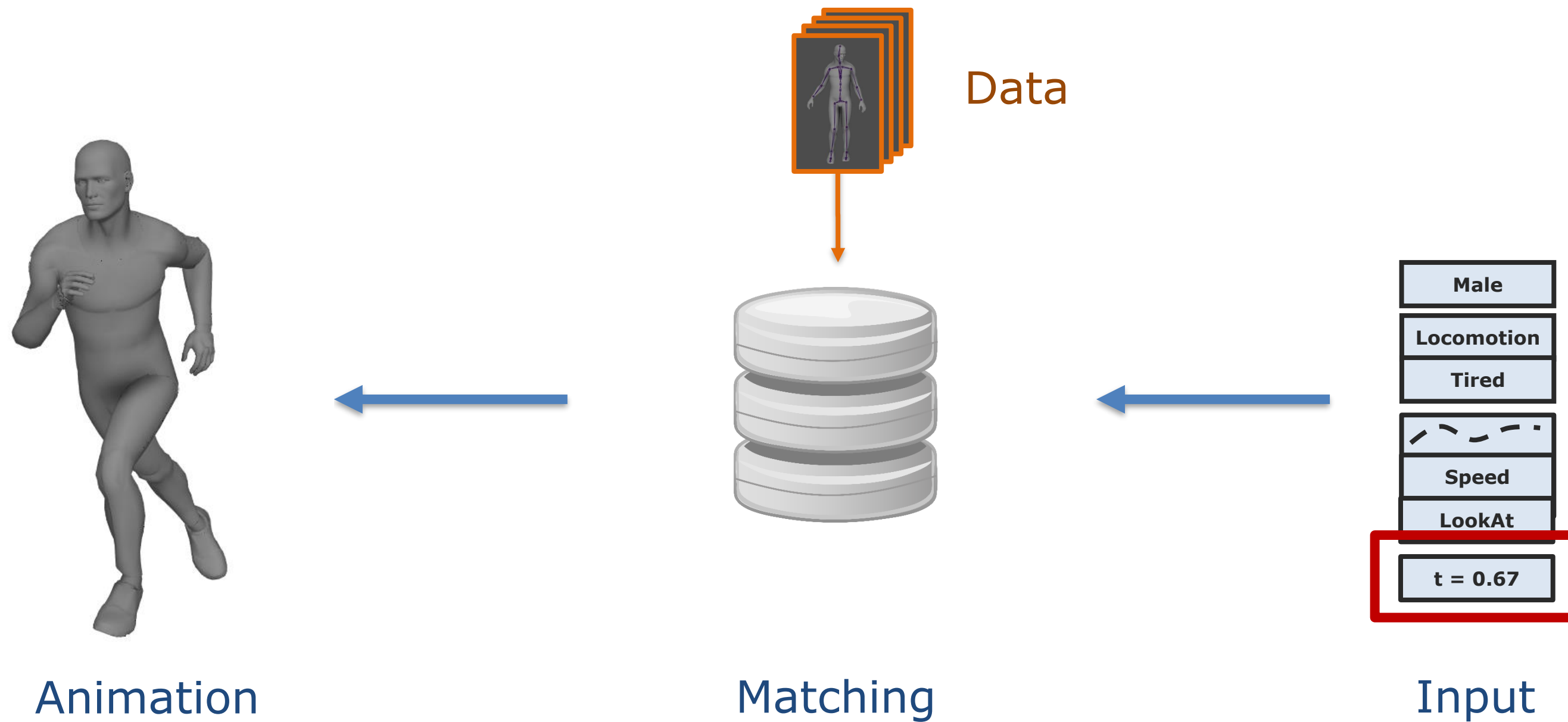
Input



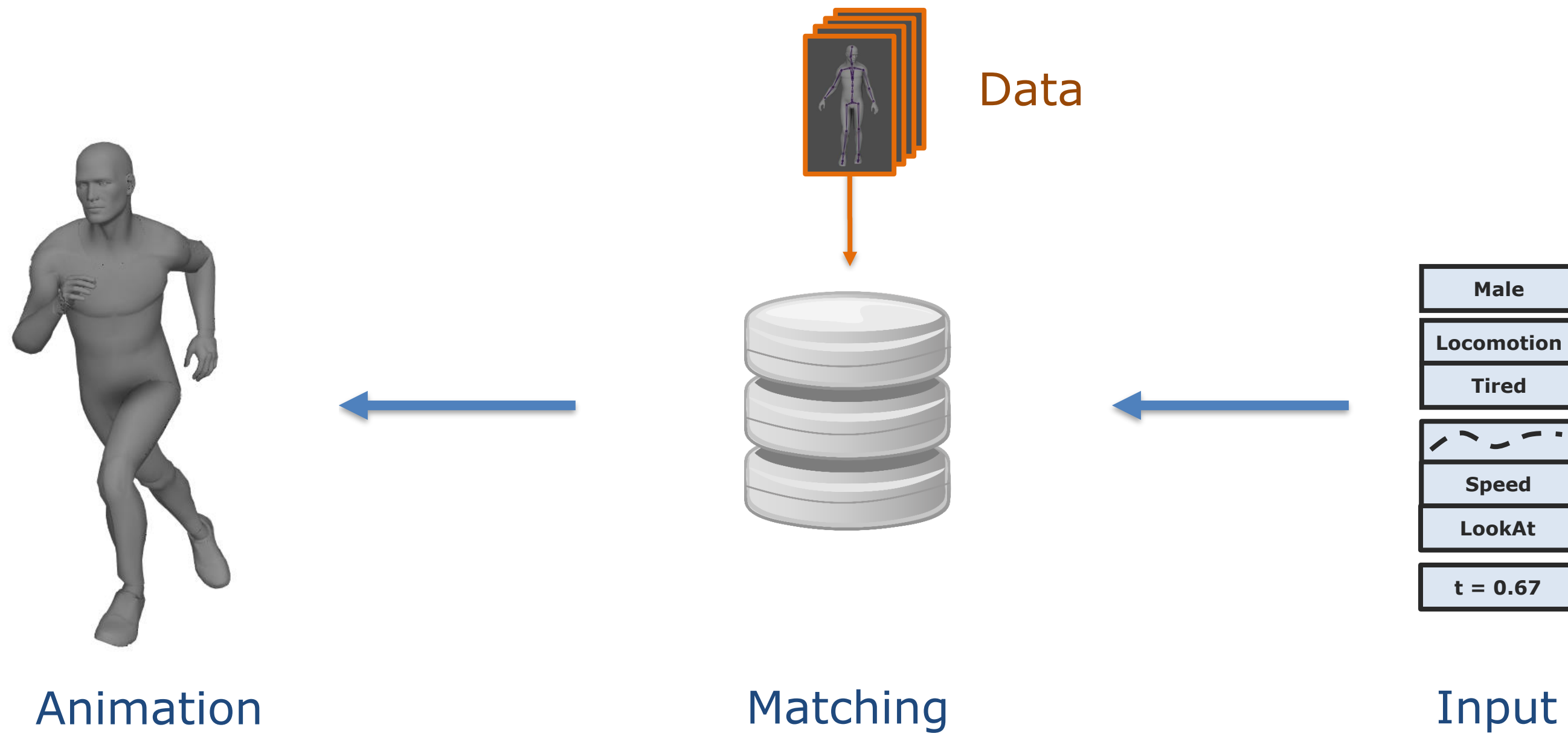
Gameplay

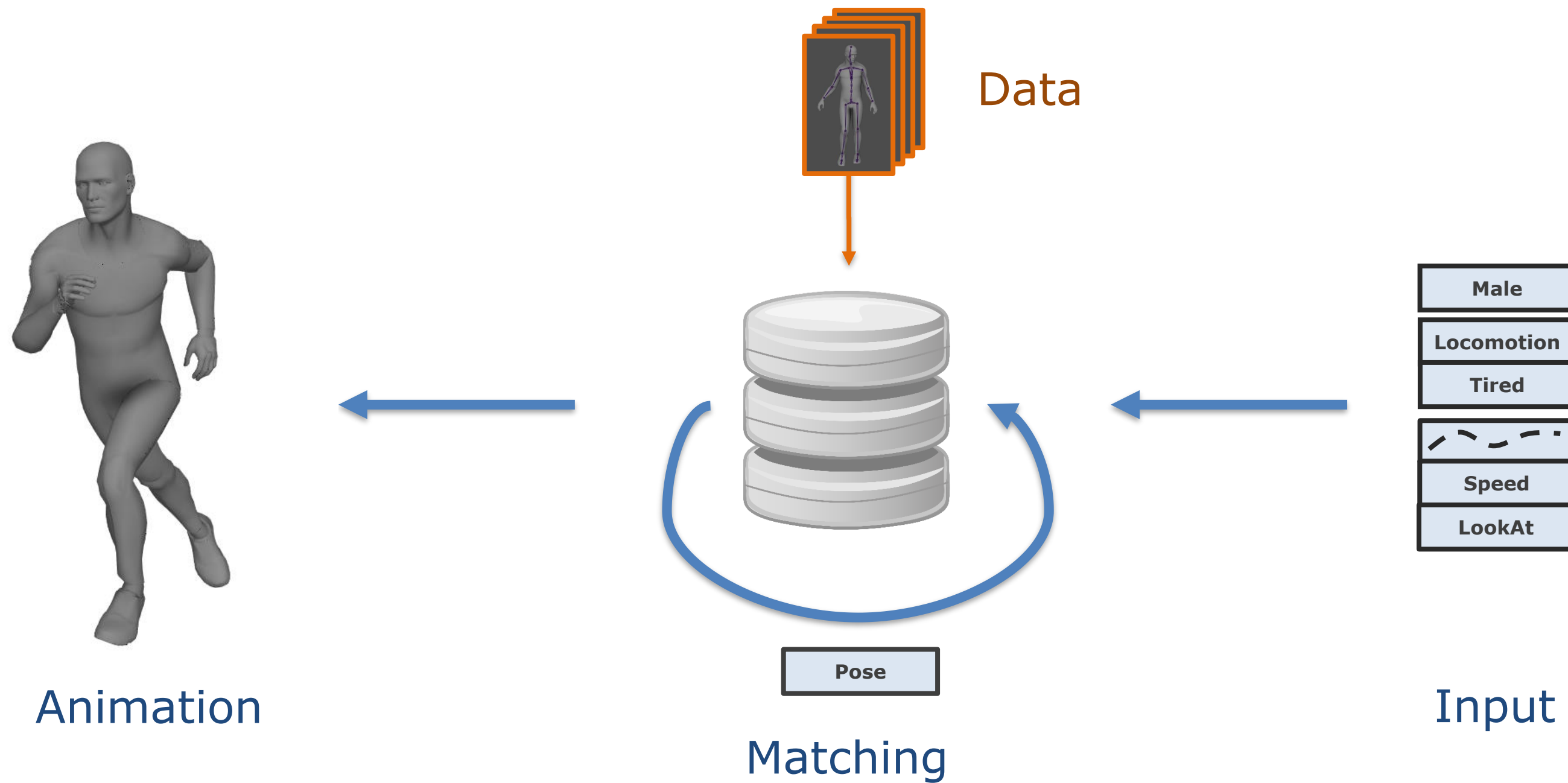










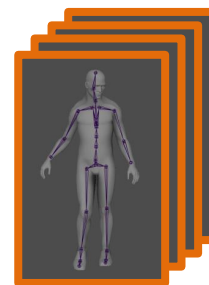




# Motion Matching



Animation

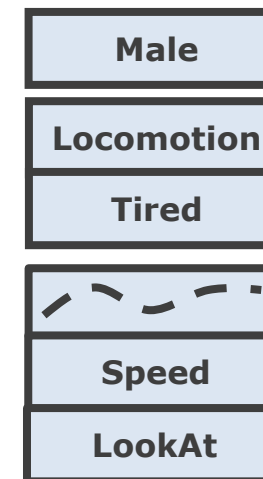


Data



Pose

Matching

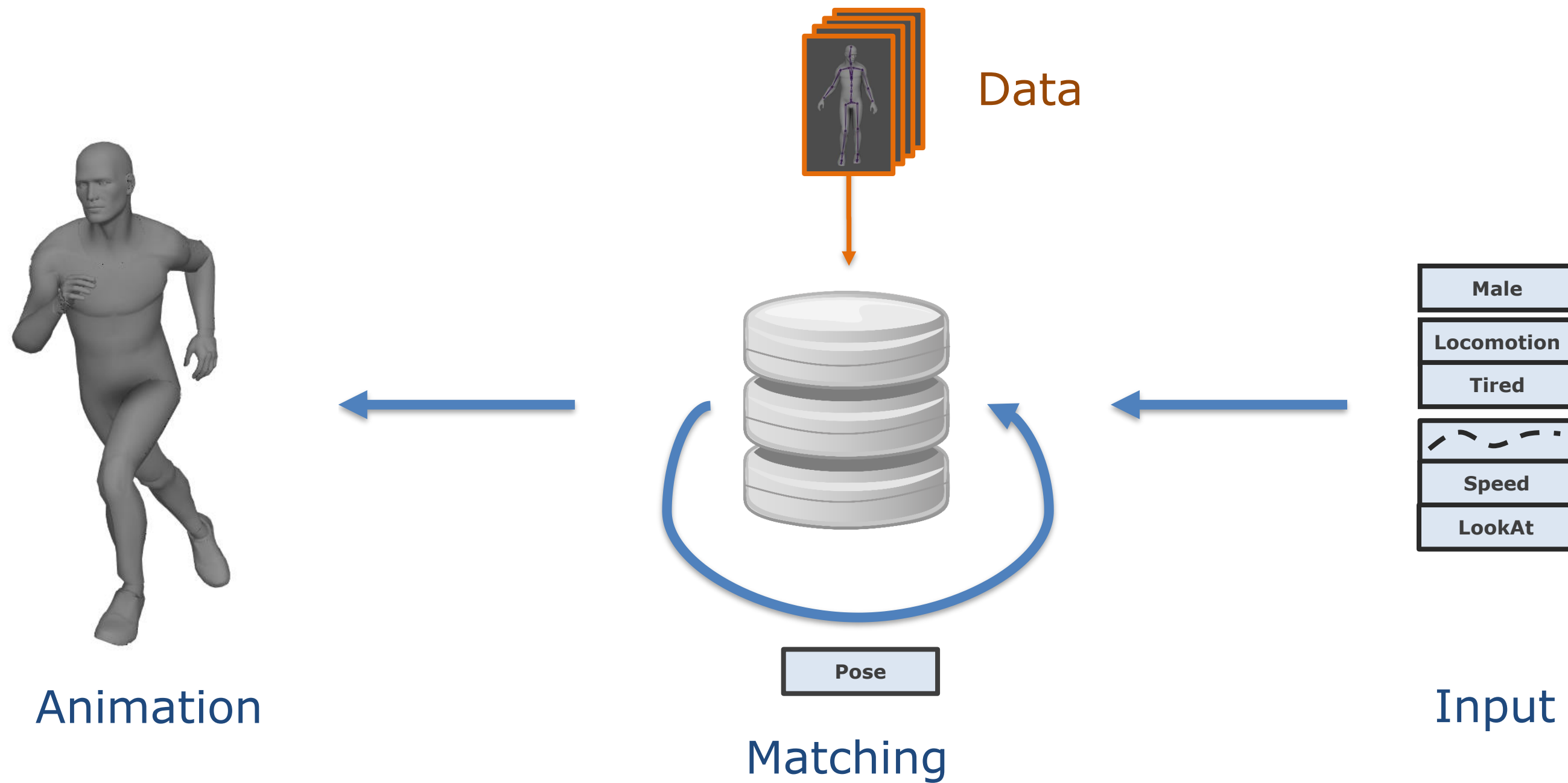


Input

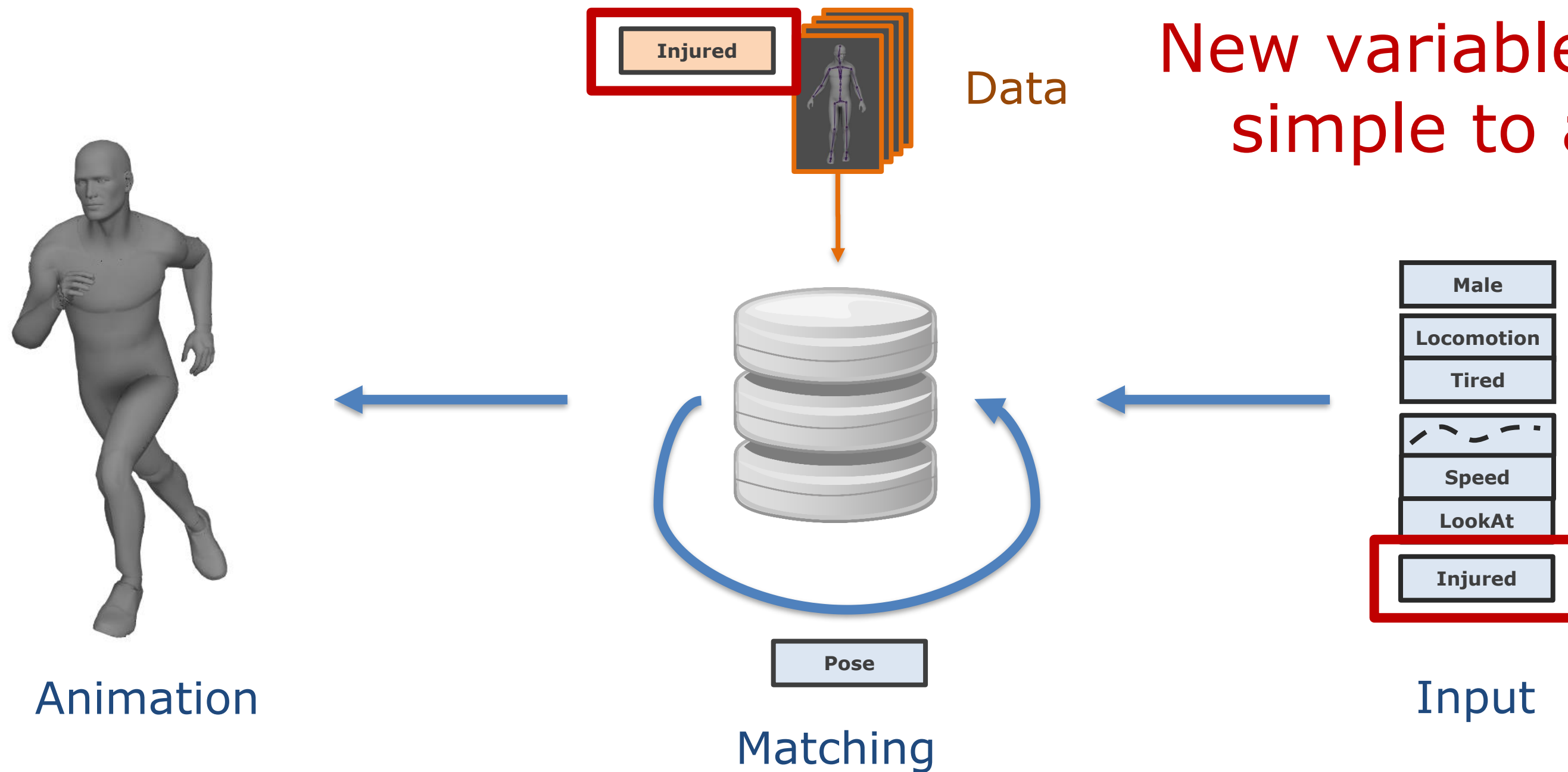














# States



# Variables





Querying → Matching





# Annotate Variables in Data





- **Separate Data** ✓
- **Specify Desired Variables** ✓
- **Generalize Solution**

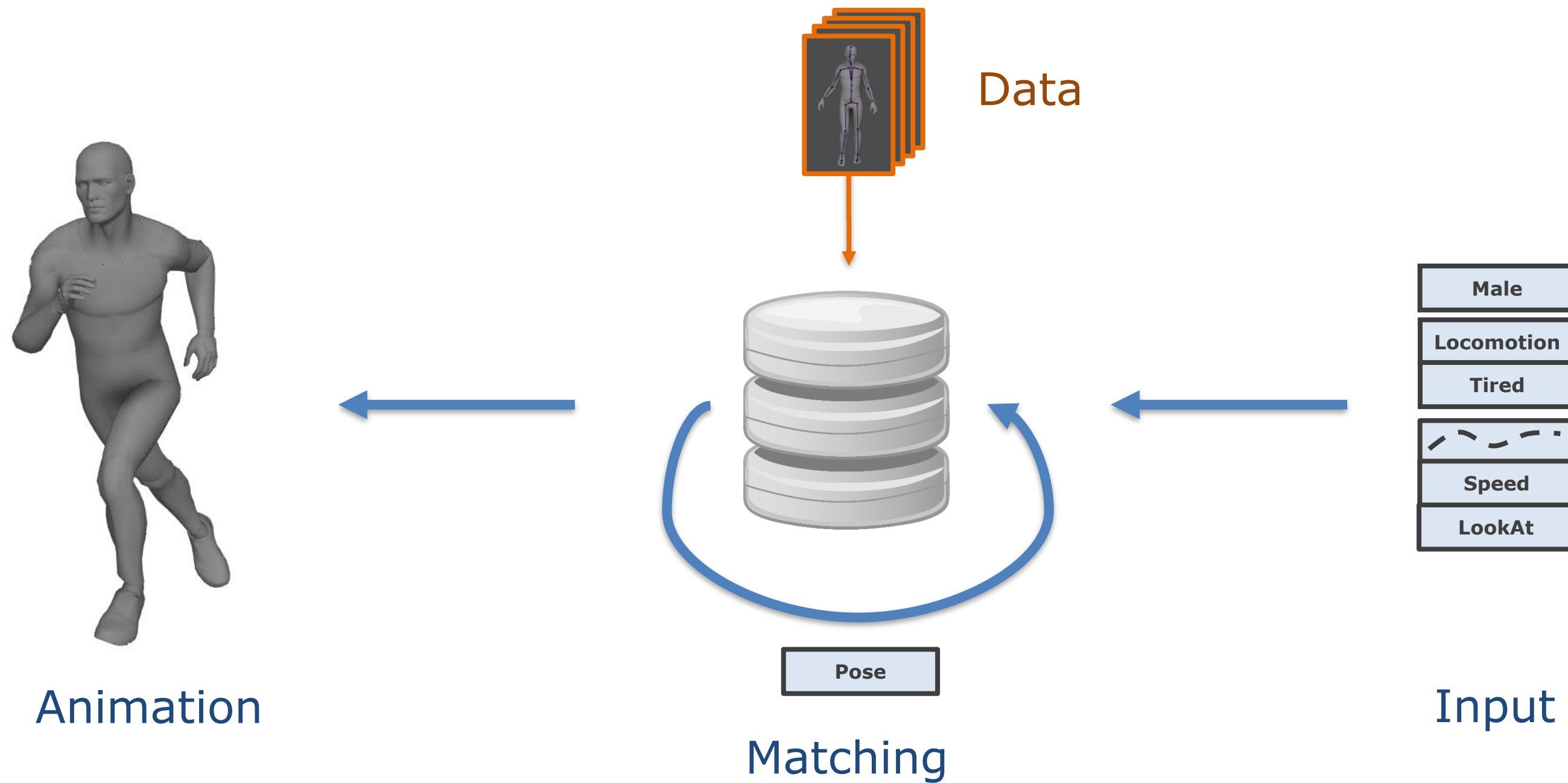


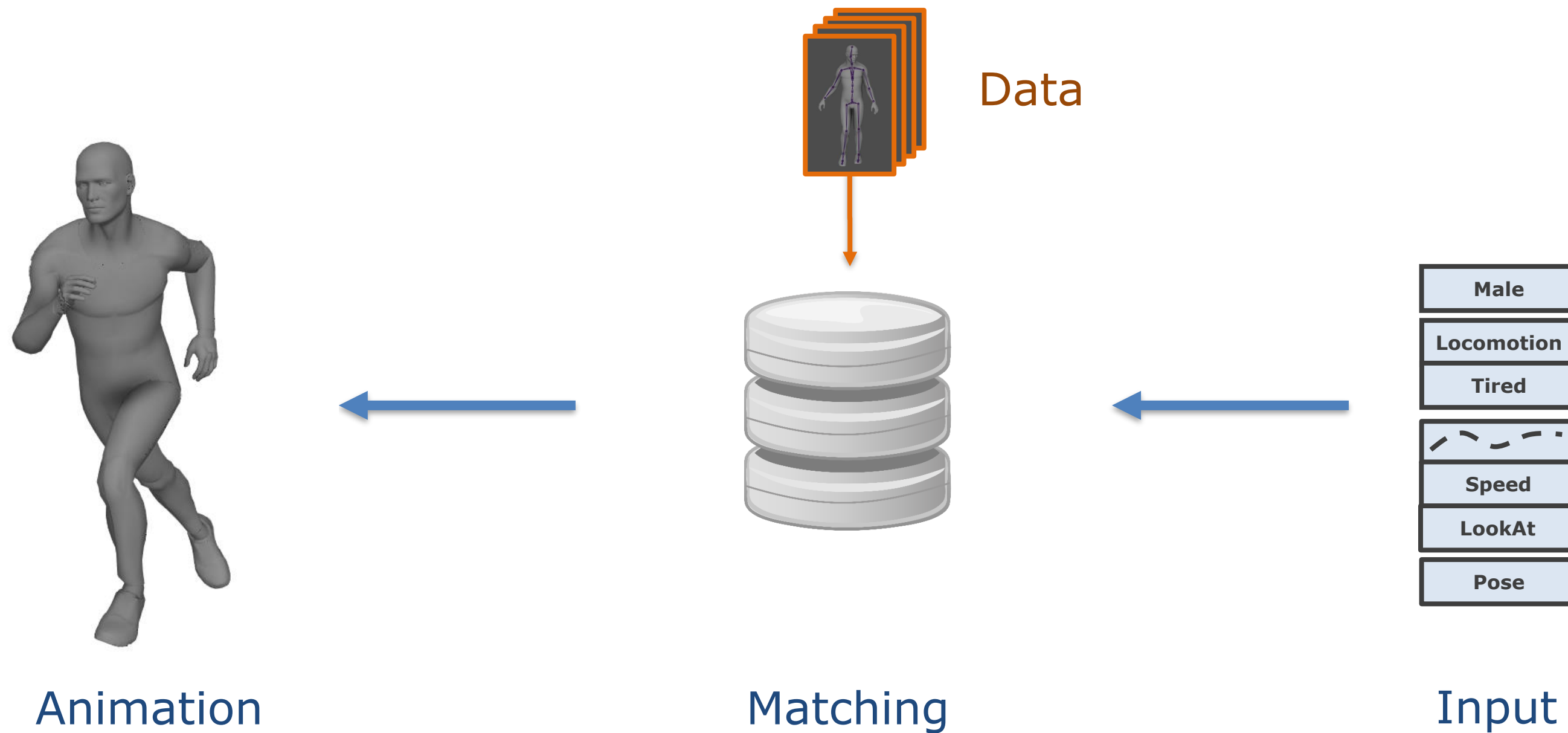


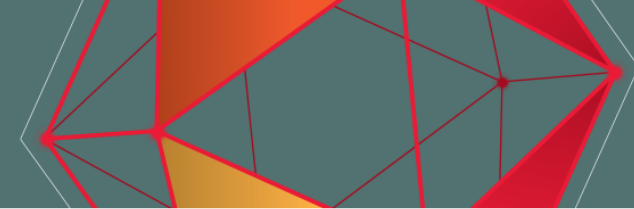


# Generalize Solution









Animation

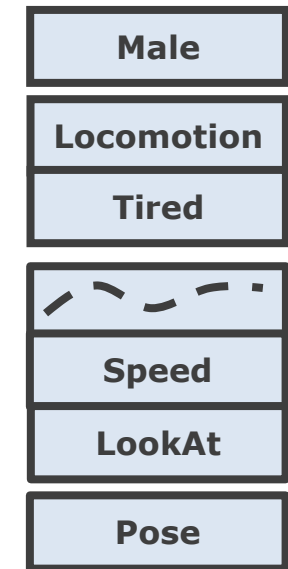

$$y = \begin{bmatrix} 5.12 \\ 2.12 \\ \vdots \\ 0.31 \\ 2.54 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$y = f(x)$$

Matching



Data

$$x = \begin{bmatrix} 1.33 \\ 7.21 \\ \vdots \\ 9.03 \\ 1.28 \end{bmatrix}$$


Input





## Animation



$y$

1.32
5.23
0.67
0.62
9.54
3.45
2.75
0.73
8.54
8.23
8.53
6.54
⋮
7.34
4.23
6.23

$$y = f(x)$$

$x$

0
1
0
0
1
0
0
1
0
0.23
0.43
0.12
2.43
0.91
0.39
0.01
⋮

## Input

Male
Locomotion
Tired
Speed
LookAt
Pose







## Animation



$y$

1.32
5.23
0.67
0.62
9.54
3.45
2.75
0.73
8.54
8.23
8.53
6.54
⋮
7.34
4.23
6.23

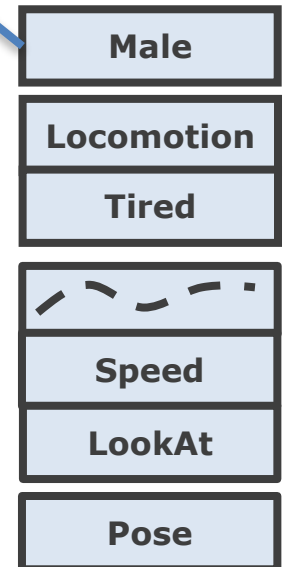
$$y = f(x)$$

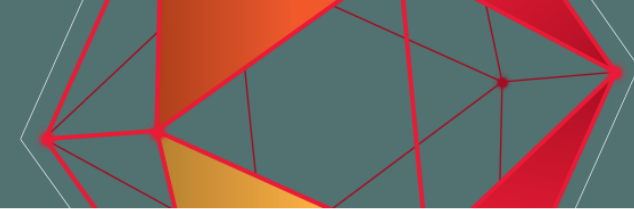
$x$

0
1
0
0
1
0
0
1
0
0.23
0.43
0.12
2.43
0.91
0.39
0.01
⋮

Female  
Male

## Input





## Animation



$y$

1.32
5.23
0.67
0.62
9.54
3.45
2.75
0.73
8.54
8.23
8.53
6.54
⋮
7.34
4.23
6.23

$$y = f(x)$$

$x$

0
1
0
0
1
0
0
1
0
0.23
0.43
0.12
2.43
0.91
0.39
0.01
⋮

Attack  
Idle  
Locomotion  
Falling

## Input

Male
Locomotion
Tired
Speed
LookAt
Pose





## Animation



$y$

1.32
5.23
0.67
0.62
9.54
3.45
2.75
0.73
8.54
8.23
8.53
6.54
⋮
7.34
4.23
6.23

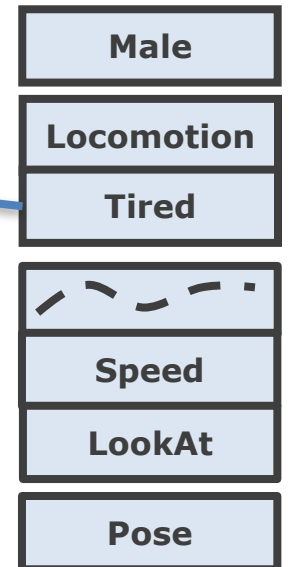
$$y = f(x)$$

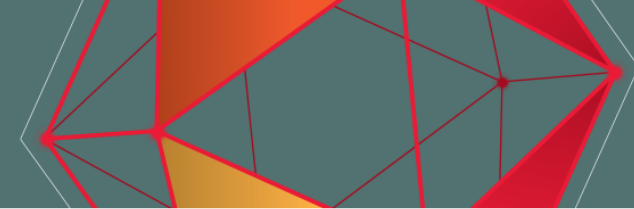
Neutral  
Tired  
Drunk

$x$

0
1
0
0
1
0
0
1
0
0.23
0.43
0.12
2.43
0.91
0.39
0.01
⋮

## Input





## Animation



$y$

1.32
5.23
0.67
0.62
9.54
3.45
2.75
0.73
8.54
8.23
8.53
6.54
⋮
7.34
4.23
6.23

$$y = f(x)$$

Goal Position

$x$

0
1
0
0
1
0
0
1
0
0.23
0.43
0.12
2.43
0.91
0.39
0.01
⋮

## Input

Male
Locomotion
Tired
Speed
LookAt
Pose





## Animation



$y$

1.32
5.23
0.67
0.62
9.54
3.45
2.75
0.73
8.54
8.23
8.53
6.54
⋮
7.34
4.23
6.23

$$y = f(x)$$

$x$

0
1
0
0
1
0
0
1
0
0.23
0.43
0.12
2.43
0.91
0.39
0.01
⋮

Goal Speed

## Input

Male
Locomotion
Tired
Speed
LookAt
Pose







## Animation



$y$

1.32
5.23
0.67
0.62
9.54
3.45
2.75
0.73
8.54
8.23
8.53
6.54
⋮
7.34
4.23
6.23

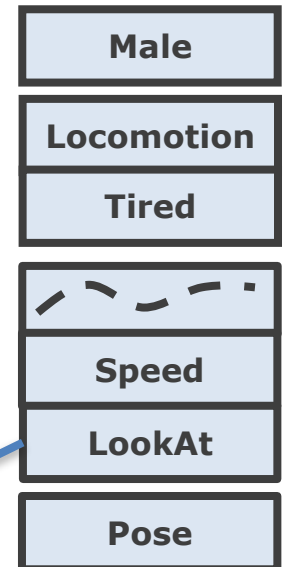
$$y = f(x)$$

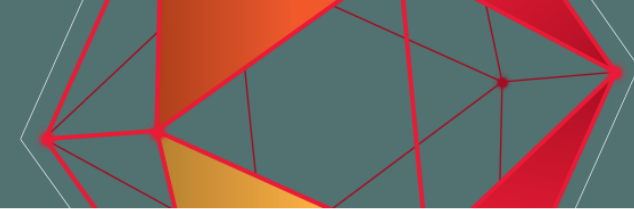
Goal Look At

$x$

0
1
0
0
1
0
0
1
0
0.23
0.43
0.12
2.43
0.91
0.39
0.01
⋮

## Input





## Animation



$y$

1.32
5.23
0.67
0.62
9.54
3.45
2.75
0.73
8.54
8.23
8.53
6.54
⋮
7.34
4.23
6.23

$$y = f(x)$$

$x$

0
1
0
0
1
0
0
1
0
0.23
0.43
0.12
2.43
0.91
0.39
0.01
⋮

Pose

## Input

Male
Locomotion
Tired
Speed
LookAt
Pose





Animation



$y$

$\begin{bmatrix} 1.32 \\ 5.23 \\ 0.67 \\ 0.62 \\ 9.54 \\ 3.45 \\ 2.75 \\ 0.73 \\ 8.54 \\ 8.23 \\ 8.53 \\ 6.54 \\ \vdots \\ 7.34 \\ 4.23 \\ 6.23 \end{bmatrix}$

First Joint Position

$$y = f(x)$$

$x$

$\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0.23 \\ 0.43 \\ 0.12 \\ 2.43 \\ 0.91 \\ 0.39 \\ 0.01 \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix}$

Input

Male

Locomotion

Tired

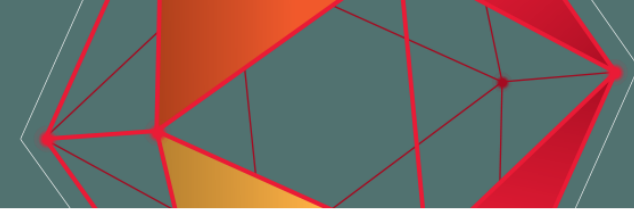


Speed

LookAt

Pose





## Animation



$y$

1.32
5.23
0.67
0.62
9.54
3.45
2.75
0.73
8.54
8.23
8.53
6.54
⋮
7.34
4.23
6.23

First Joint Rotation

$$y = f(x)$$

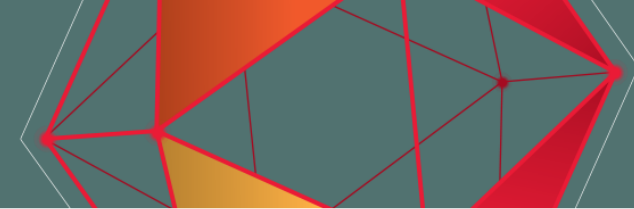
$x$

0
1
0
0
1
0
0
1
0
0.23
0.43
0.12
2.43
0.91
0.39
0.01
⋮

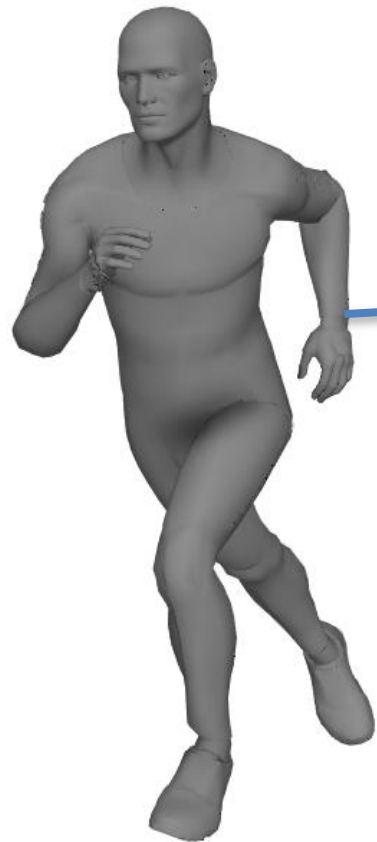
## Input

Male
Locomotion
Tired
Speed
LookAt
Pose





## Animation



$y$

1.32
5.23
0.67
0.62
9.54
3.45
2.75
0.73
8.54
8.23
8.53
6.54
⋮
7.34
4.23
6.23

Second  
Joint  
Position

$$y = f(x)$$

$x$

0
1
0
0
1
0
0
1
0
0.23
0.43
0.12
2.43
0.91
0.39
0.01
⋮

## Input

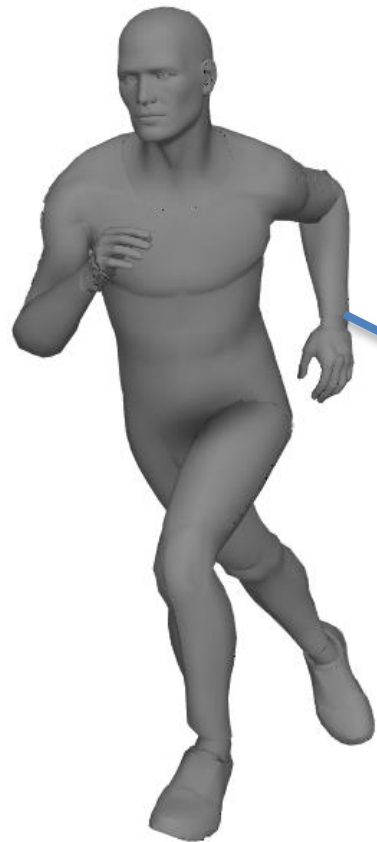
Male
Locomotion
Tired
Speed
LookAt
Pose







## Animation



$y$

1.32
5.23
0.67
0.62
9.54
3.45
2.75
0.73
8.54
8.23
8.53
6.54
⋮
7.34
4.23
6.23

Second Joint Rotation

$$y = f(x)$$

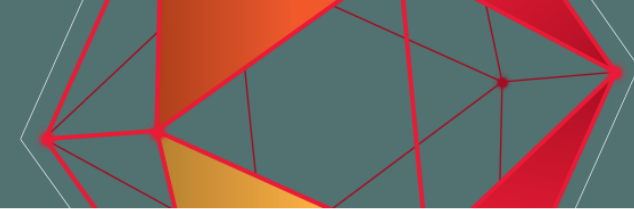
$x$

0
1
0
0
1
0
0
1
0
0.23
0.43
0.12
2.43
0.91
0.39
0.01
⋮

## Input

Male
Locomotion
Tired
Speed
LookAt
Pose





## Animation



$y$   
 1.32  
 5.23  
 0.67  
 0.62  
 9.54  
 3.45  
 2.75  
 0.73  
 8.54  
 8.23  
 8.53  
 6.54  
 ⋮  
 7.34  
 4.23  
 6.23

Final Joint Rotation

$$y = f(x)$$

$x$   
 0  
 1  
 0  
 0  
 1  
 0  
 0  
 1  
 0  
 0.23  
 0.43  
 0.12  
 2.43  
 0.91  
 0.39  
 0.01  
 ⋮

## Input

Male

Locomotion

Tired

Speed

LookAt

Pose





## Animation


$$y = \begin{bmatrix} 1.32 \\ 5.23 \\ 0.67 \\ 0.62 \\ 9.54 \\ 3.45 \\ 2.75 \\ 0.73 \\ 8.54 \\ 8.23 \\ 8.53 \\ 6.54 \\ \vdots \\ 7.34 \\ 4.23 \\ 6.23 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$y = f(x)$$

$$x = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0.23 \\ 0.43 \\ 0.12 \\ 2.43 \\ 0.91 \\ 0.39 \\ 0.01 \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix}$$

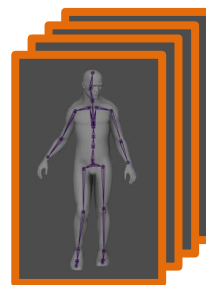
## Input

Male
Locomotion
Tired
Speed
LookAt
Pose



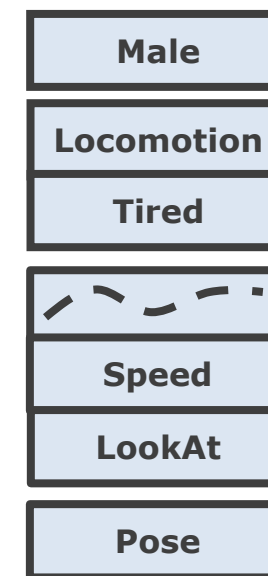


Animation


$$y = \begin{bmatrix} 5.12 \\ 2.12 \\ \vdots \\ 0.31 \\ 2.54 \end{bmatrix}$$


$$y = f(x)$$

Matching

$$x = \begin{bmatrix} 1.33 \\ 7.21 \\ \vdots \\ 9.03 \\ 1.28 \end{bmatrix}$$


Input





Animation



$$y \begin{bmatrix} 5.12 \\ 2.12 \\ \vdots \\ 0.31 \\ 2.54 \end{bmatrix}$$


$$y = f(x)$$

Matching

$$\begin{matrix} x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n \\ y_0, y_1, \dots, y_n \end{matrix}$$

$$x \begin{bmatrix} 1.33 \\ 7.21 \\ \vdots \\ 9.03 \\ 1.28 \end{bmatrix}$$


Male

Locomotion

Tired

Speed

LookAt

Pose

Input







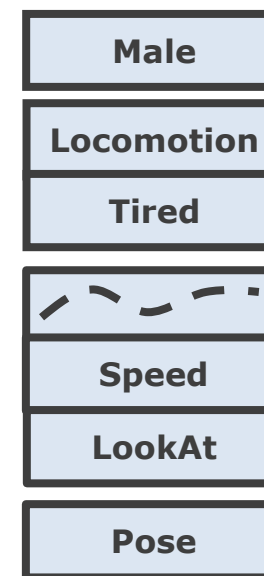
Animation

$$y \begin{bmatrix} 5.12 \\ 2.12 \\ \vdots \\ 0.31 \\ 2.54 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$y = f(x)$$

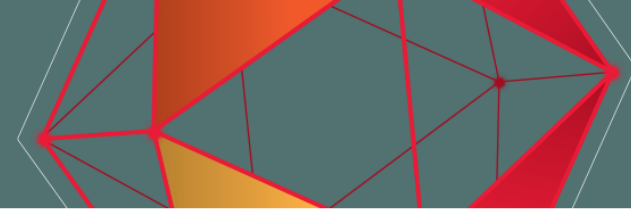
$$x \begin{bmatrix} 1.33 \\ 7.21 \\ \vdots \\ 9.03 \\ 1.28 \end{bmatrix}$$

Matching



Input





$$\begin{array}{c} \boxed{\begin{array}{l} x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n \\ y_0, y_1, \dots, y_n \end{array}} \\ \downarrow \\ \begin{array}{c} y \\ \begin{bmatrix} 5.12 \\ 2.12 \\ \vdots \\ 0.31 \\ 2.54 \end{bmatrix} \end{array} \quad y = f(x) \quad \begin{array}{c} x \\ \begin{bmatrix} 1.33 \\ 7.21 \\ \vdots \\ 9.03 \\ 1.28 \end{bmatrix} \end{array}$$

# Supervised Learning





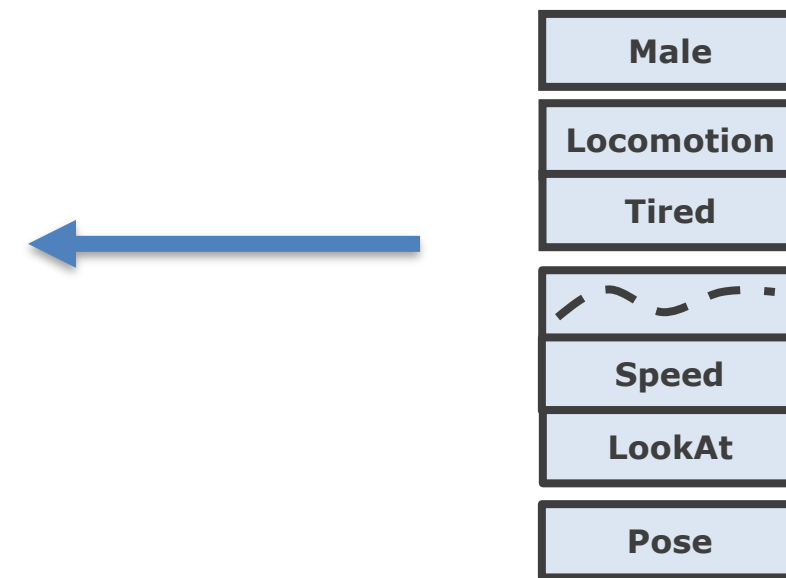
Animation

$$y \begin{bmatrix} 5.12 \\ 2.12 \\ \vdots \\ 0.31 \\ 2.54 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$y = f(x)$$

$$x \begin{bmatrix} 1.33 \\ 7.21 \\ \vdots \\ 9.03 \\ 1.28 \end{bmatrix}$$

Matching



Input





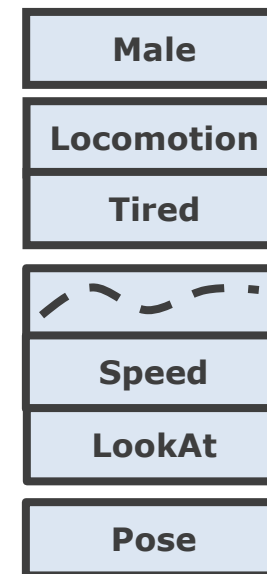
Animation

$$y = \begin{bmatrix} 5.12 \\ 2.12 \\ \vdots \\ 0.31 \\ 2.54 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$y = f(x)$$

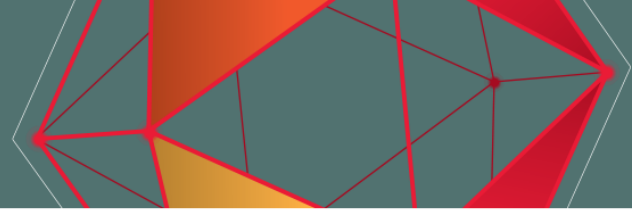
$$x = \begin{bmatrix} 1.33 \\ 7.21 \\ \vdots \\ 9.03 \\ 1.28 \end{bmatrix}$$

Regression

 $x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n$  $y_0, y_1, \dots, y_n$ 

Input





**Motion Matching** is a special case where

*$f = \text{NearestNeighbourRegression}$*



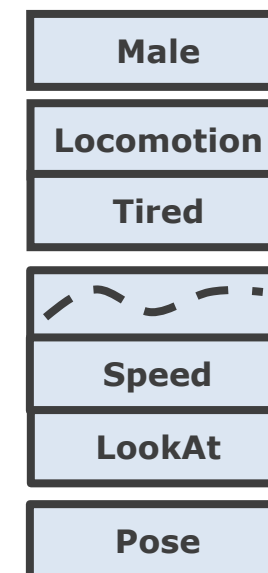




Animation

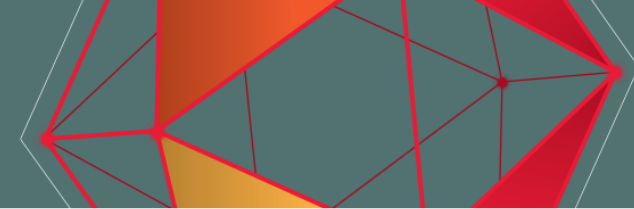
$$y = \begin{bmatrix} 5.12 \\ 2.12 \\ \vdots \\ 0.31 \\ 2.54 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$y = f(x)$$

$$x = \begin{bmatrix} 1.33 \\ 7.21 \\ \vdots \\ 9.03 \\ 1.28 \end{bmatrix}$$
$$\begin{matrix} x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n \\ y_0, y_1, \dots, y_n \end{matrix}$$


Input





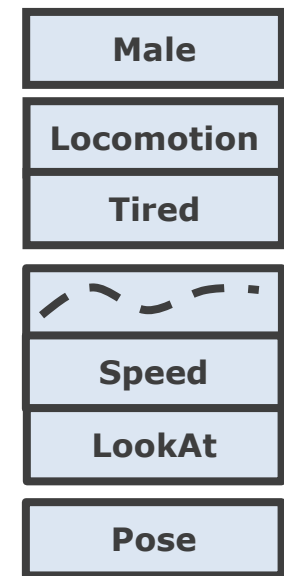
Animation

$$y = \begin{bmatrix} 5.12 \\ 2.12 \\ \vdots \\ 0.31 \\ 2.54 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$y = f(x)$$

$$\begin{matrix} x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n \\ y_0, y_1, \dots, y_n \end{matrix}$$

$$\|x_i - x\|^2$$

$$x = \begin{bmatrix} 1.33 \\ 7.21 \\ \vdots \\ 9.03 \\ 1.28 \end{bmatrix}$$
Nearest Neighbour  
Regression

Input





Animation

$$y = \begin{bmatrix} 5.12 \\ 2.12 \\ \vdots \\ 0.31 \\ 2.54 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$y = f(x)$$

$$x = \begin{bmatrix} 1.33 \\ 7.21 \\ \vdots \\ 9.03 \\ 1.28 \end{bmatrix}$$

3.1, 0.5, ..., 2.3

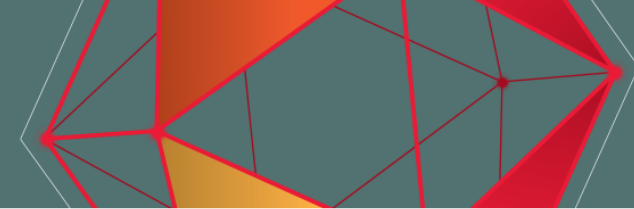
$$\begin{matrix} x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n \\ y_0, y_1, \dots, y_n \end{matrix}$$

$$\|x_i - x\|^2$$

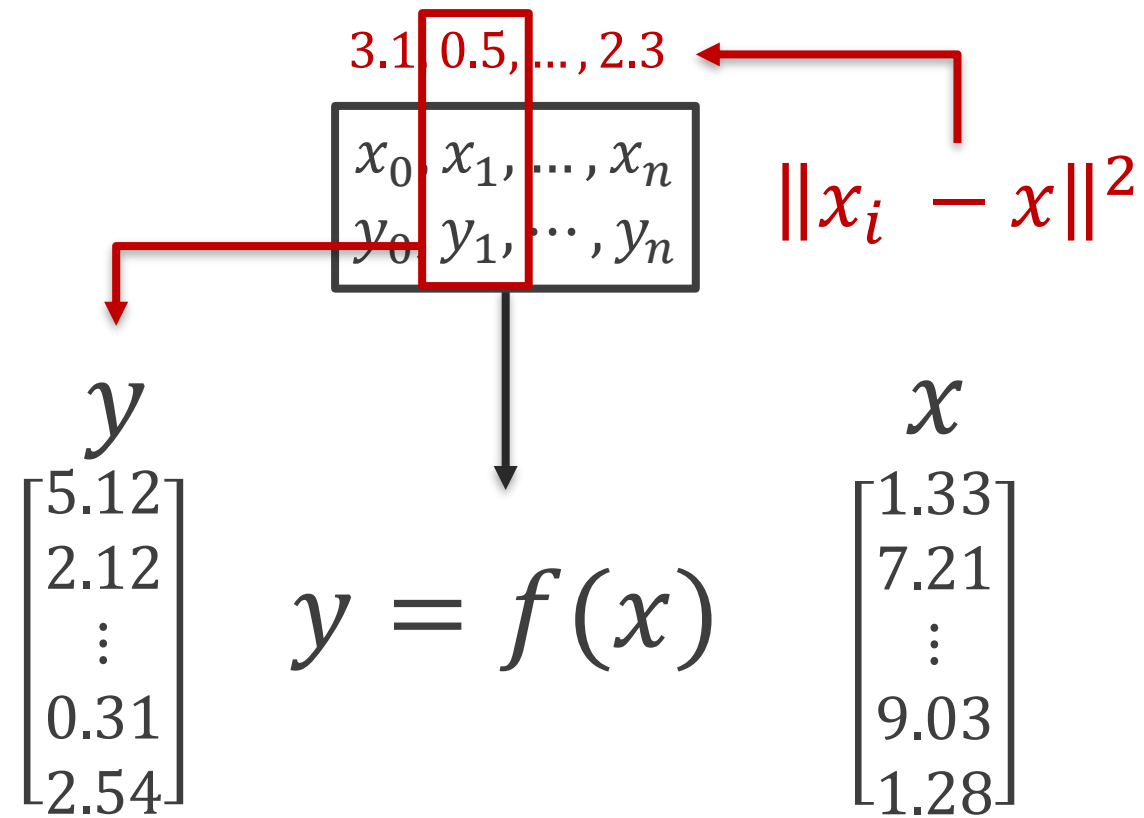
- Male
- Locomotion
- Tired
- Speed
- LookAt
- Pose

Input

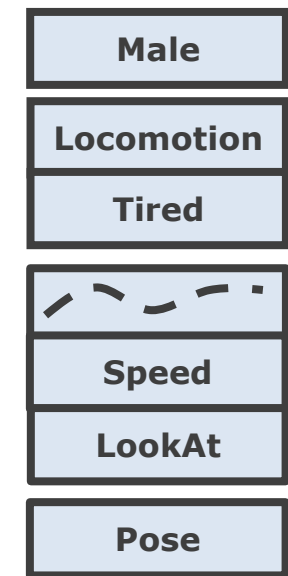




Animation



Nearest Neighbour  
Regression



Input

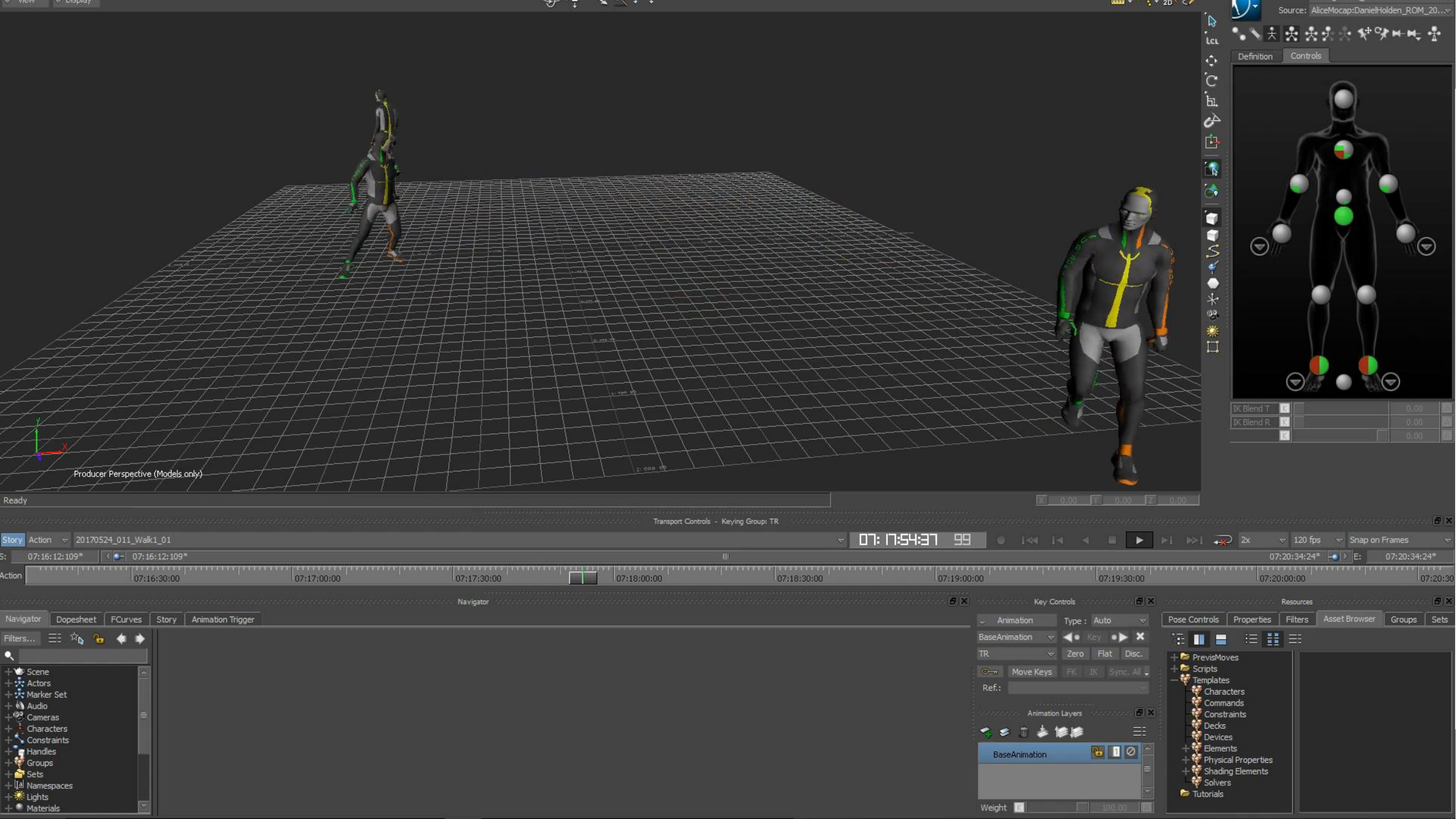




# A Simple Example

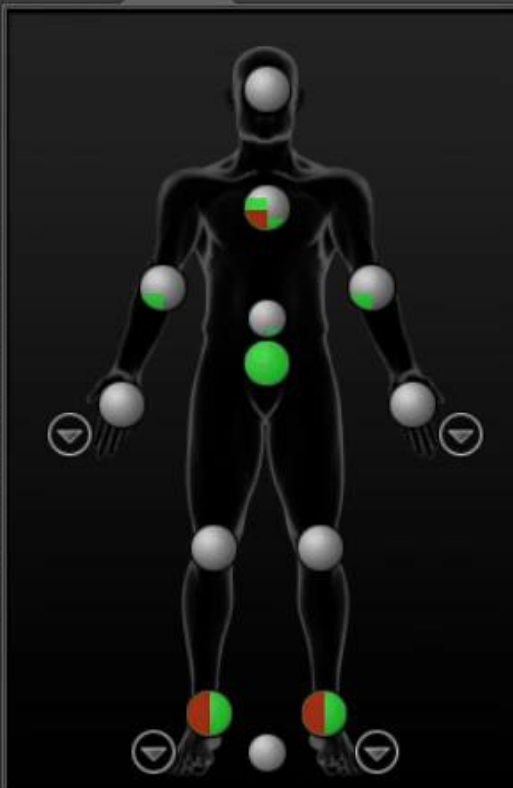






Source: AliceMocap:DanielHolden\_ROM\_20...

Definition Controls



IK Blend T	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	0.00
IK Blend R	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	0.00
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	0.00

Producer Perspective (Models only)

Ready X 0.00 Y 0.00 Z 0.00

Transport Controls - Keying Group: TR

Story Action 20170524\_011\_Walk1\_01 07:17:54:37 99

S: 07:16:12:109\* 07:16:12:109\* 07:20:34:24\* E: 07:20:34:24\*

Action 07:16:30:00 07:17:00:00 07:17:30:00 07:18:00:00 07:18:30:00 07:19:00:00 07:19:30:00 07:20:00:00 07:20:30:00

Navigator

Key Controls

Resources

Navigator Dopesheet FCurves Story Animation Trigger

Filters... BaseAnimation TR Move Keys FK IK Sync. All Ref.: Animation Layers BaseAnimation Weight 100.00

- Scene
- Actors
- Marker Set
- Audio
- Cameras
- Characters
- Constraints
- Handles
- Groups
- Sets
- Namespaces
- Lights
- Materials

PrevisMoves

Scripts

Templates

- Characters
- Commands
- Constraints
- Decks
- Devices
- Elements
- Physical Properties
- Shading Elements
- Solvers

Tutorials



# Input $x$

- **Joint Positions** in the previous frame.
- **Joint Velocities** in the previous frame.
- **Target Position** of the root in 1 second.
- **Target Velocity** of the root in 1 second.
- **Target Direction** of the root in 1 second.





# Output $y$

- **Joint Positions** for the next 1 second.
- **Joint Rotations** for the next 1 second.





# Function $f$

- **Call** every 1 second or...
- **Call** if the user input changes.

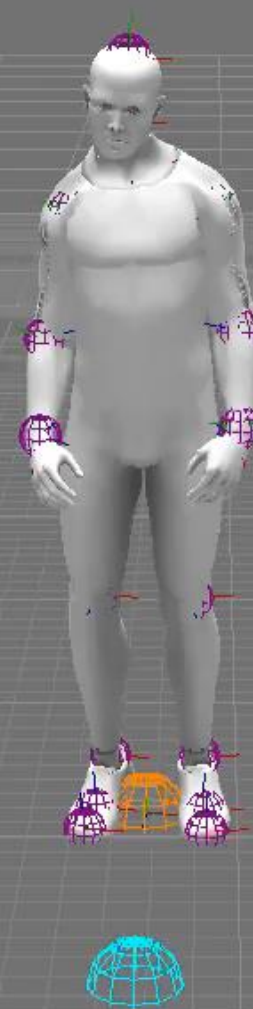




# Nearest Neighbour Regression





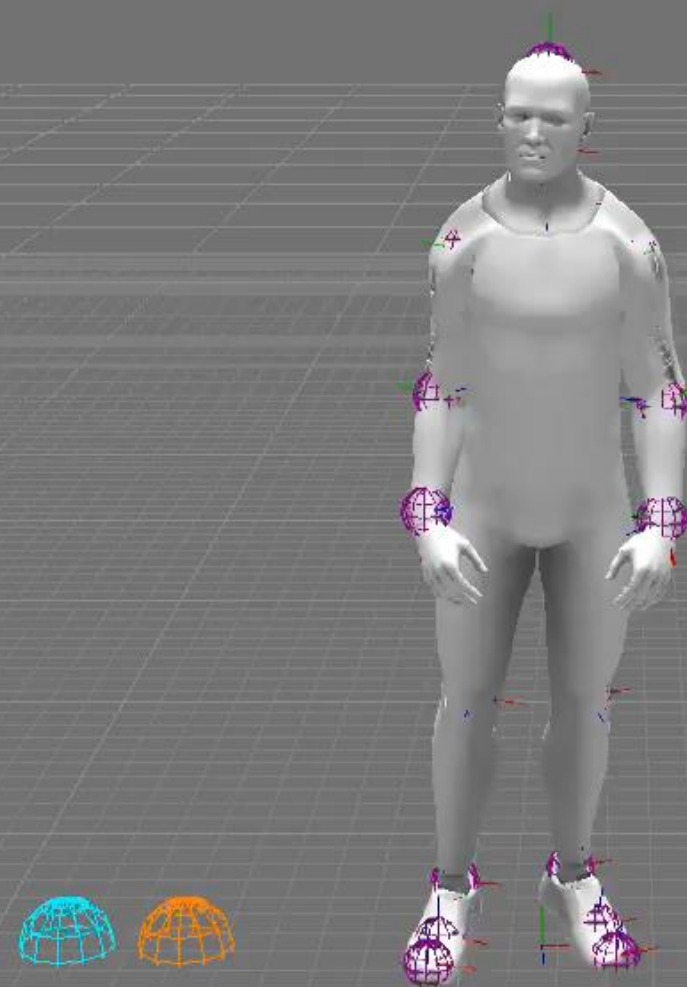






# Add Blending...







# Memory

~200 mb

# Runtime

~1 ms





Animation

$$y \begin{bmatrix} 5.12 \\ 2.12 \\ \vdots \\ 0.31 \\ 2.54 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$y = f(x)$$

$$x \begin{bmatrix} 1.33 \\ 7.21 \\ \vdots \\ 9.03 \\ 1.28 \end{bmatrix}$$

Regression

 $x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n$  $y_0, y_1, \dots, y_n$ 

Male

Locomotion

Tired



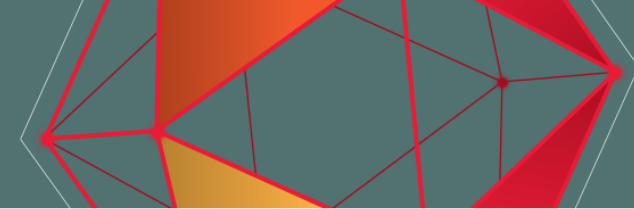
Speed

LookAt

Pose

Input





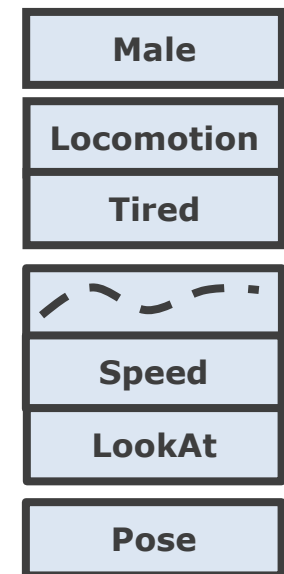
Animation

$$y = \begin{bmatrix} 5.12 \\ 2.12 \\ \vdots \\ 0.31 \\ 2.54 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$y = f(x)$$

$$x = \begin{bmatrix} 1.33 \\ 7.21 \\ \vdots \\ 9.03 \\ 1.28 \end{bmatrix}$$
$$x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n$$
$$y_0, y_1, \dots, y_n$$

Regression



Input







## 1. Supervised learning

### 1.1. Generalized Linear Models

- 1.1.1. Ordinary Least Squares
  - 1.1.1.1. Ordinary Least Squares Complexity
- 1.1.2. Ridge Regression
  - 1.1.2.1. Ridge Complexity
  - 1.1.2.2. Setting the regularization parameter: generalized Cross-Validation
- 1.1.3. Lasso
  - 1.1.3.1. Setting regularization parameter
    - 1.1.3.1.1. Using cross-validation
    - 1.1.3.1.2. Information-criteria based model selection
    - 1.1.3.1.3. Comparison with the regularization parameter of SVM
- 1.1.4. Multi-task Lasso
- 1.1.5. Elastic Net
- 1.1.6. Multi-task Elastic Net
- 1.1.7. Least Angle Regression
- 1.1.8. LARS Lasso
  - 1.1.8.1. Mathematical formulation
- 1.1.9. Orthogonal Matching Pursuit (OMP)
- 1.1.10. Bayesian Regression
  - 1.1.10.1. Bayesian Ridge Regression
  - 1.1.10.2. Automatic Relevance Determination - ARD
- 1.1.11. Logistic regression
- 1.1.12. Stochastic Gradient Descent - SGD
- 1.1.13. Perceptron
- 1.1.14. Passive Aggressive Algorithms
- 1.1.15. Robustness regression: outliers and modeling errors
  - 1.1.15.1. Different scenario and useful concepts
  - 1.1.15.2. RANSAC: RANdom SAMple Consensus
    - 1.1.15.2.1. Details of the algorithm
  - 1.1.15.3. Theil-Sen estimator: generalized-median-based estimator
    - 1.1.15.3.1. Theoretical considerations
  - 1.1.15.4. Huber Regression
  - 1.1.15.5. Notes
- 1.1.16. Polynomial regression: extending linear models with basis functions

### 1.2. Linear and Quadratic Discriminant Analysis

- 1.2.1. Dimensionality reduction using Linear Discriminant Analysis
- 1.2.2. Mathematical formulation of the LDA and QDA classifiers
- 1.2.3. Mathematical formulation of LDA dimensionality reduction
- 1.2.4. Shrinkage
- 1.2.5. Estimation algorithms

### 1.3. Kernel ridge regression

### 1.4. Support Vector Machines

- 1.4.1. Classification
  - 1.4.1.1. Multi-class classification
  - 1.4.1.2. Scores and probabilities
  - 1.4.1.3. Unbalanced problems
- 1.4.2. Regression
- 1.4.3. Density estimation, novelty detection
- 1.4.4. Complexity
- 1.4.5. Tips on Practical Use
- 1.4.6. Kernel functions
  - 1.4.6.1. Custom Kernels
    - 1.4.6.1.1. Using Python functions as kernels
    - 1.4.6.1.2. Using the Gram matrix
    - 1.4.6.1.3. Parameters of the RBF Kernel
- 1.4.7. Mathematical formulation
  - 1.4.7.1. SVC
  - 1.4.7.2. NuSVC
  - 1.4.7.3. SVR
- 1.4.8. Implementation details

### 1.5. Stochastic Gradient Descent

- 1.5.1. Classification
- 1.5.2. Regression
- 1.5.3. Stochastic Gradient Descent for sparse data
- 1.5.4. Complexity
- 1.5.5. Tips on Practical Use
- 1.5.6. Mathematical formulation
  - 1.5.6.1. SGD
- 1.5.7. Implementation details

### 1.6. Nearest Neighbors

- 1.6.1. Unsupervised Nearest Neighbors
  - 1.6.1.1. Finding the Nearest Neighbors
  - 1.6.1.2. KDTree and BallTree Classes
- 1.6.2. Nearest Neighbors Classification
- 1.6.3. Nearest Neighbors Regression
- 1.6.4. Nearest Neighbor Algorithms
  - 1.6.4.1. Brute Force
  - 1.6.4.2. K-D Tree
  - 1.6.4.3. Ball Tree
  - 1.6.4.4. Choice of Nearest Neighbors Algorithm
  - 1.6.4.5. Effect of `leaf_size`
- 1.6.5. Nearest Centroid Classifier
  - 1.6.5.1. Nearest Shrunkn Centroid

### 1.7. Gaussian Processes

- 1.7.1. Gaussian Process Regression (GPR)
- 1.7.2. GPR examples
  - 1.7.2.1. GPR with noise-level estimation
  - 1.7.2.2. Comparison of GPR and Kernel Ridge Regression
  - 1.7.2.3. GPR on Mauna Loa CO2 data
- 1.7.3. Gaussian Process Classification (GPC)
- 1.7.4. GPC examples
  - 1.7.4.1. Probabilistic predictions with GPC
  - 1.7.4.2. Illustration of GPC on the XOR dataset
  - 1.7.4.3. Gaussian process classification (GPC) on iris dataset
- 1.7.5. Kernels for Gaussian Processes
  - 1.7.5.1. Gaussian Process Kernel API
  - 1.7.5.2. Basic kernels
  - 1.7.5.3. Kernel operators
  - 1.7.5.4. Radial-basis function (RBF) kernel
  - 1.7.5.5. Matérn kernel
  - 1.7.5.6. Rational quadratic kernel
  - 1.7.5.7. Exp-Sine-Squared kernel
  - 1.7.5.8. Dot-Product kernel
  - 1.7.5.9. References

### 1.8. Cross decomposition

### 1.9. Naive Bayes

- 1.9.1. Gaussian Naive Bayes
- 1.9.2. Multinomial Naive Bayes
- 1.9.3. Bernoulli Naive Bayes
- 1.9.4. Out-of-core naive Bayes model fitting

### 1.10. Decision Trees

- 1.10.1. Classification
- 1.10.2. Regression
- 1.10.3. Multi-output problems
- 1.10.4. Complexity
- 1.10.5. Tips on practical use
- 1.10.6. Tree algorithms: ID3, C4.5, C5.0 and CART
- 1.10.7. Mathematical formulation
  - 1.10.7.1. Classification criteria
  - 1.10.7.2. Regression criteria

### 1.11. Ensemble methods

- 1.11.1. Bagging meta-estimator
- 1.11.2. Forests of randomized trees
  - 1.11.2.1. Random Forests
  - 1.11.2.2. Extremely Randomized Trees
  - 1.11.2.3. Parameters
  - 1.11.2.4. Parallelization
  - 1.11.2.5. Feature importance evaluation
  - 1.11.2.6. Totally Random Trees Embedding

- 1.11.3. AdaBoost
  - 1.11.3.1. Usage
- 1.11.4. Gradient Tree Boosting
  - 1.11.4.1. Classification
  - 1.11.4.2. Regression
  - 1.11.4.3. Fitting additional weak-learners
  - 1.11.4.4. Controlling the tree size
  - 1.11.4.5. Mathematical formulation
    - 1.11.4.5.1. Loss Functions
  - 1.11.4.6. Regularization
    - 1.11.4.6.1. Shrinkage
    - 1.11.4.6.2. Subsampling
  - 1.11.4.7. Interpretation
    - 1.11.4.7.1. Feature importance
    - 1.11.4.7.2. Partial dependence
- 1.11.5. Voting Classifier
  - 1.11.5.1. Majority Class Labels (Majority/Hard Voting)
    - 1.11.5.1.1. Usage
  - 1.11.5.2. Weighted Average Probabilities (Soft Voting)
  - 1.11.5.3. Using the VotingClassifier with GridSearch
    - 1.11.5.3.1. Usage

### 1.12. Multiclass and multilabel algorithms

- 1.12.1. Multilabel classification format
- 1.12.2. One-Vs-The-Rest
  - 1.12.2.1. Multiclass learning
  - 1.12.2.2. Multilabel learning
- 1.12.3. One-Vs-One
  - 1.12.3.1. Multiclass learning
- 1.12.4. Error-Correcting Output-Codes
  - 1.12.4.1. Multiclass learning
- 1.12.5. Multioutput regression
- 1.12.6. Multioutput classification
- 1.12.7. Classifier Chain

### 1.13. Feature selection

- 1.13.1. Removing features with low variance
- 1.13.2. Univariate feature selection
- 1.13.3. Recursive feature elimination
- 1.13.4. Feature selection using SelectFromModel
  - 1.13.4.1. L1-based feature selection
  - 1.13.4.2. Tree-based feature selection
- 1.13.5. Feature selection as part of a pipeline

### 1.14. Semi-Supervised

- 1.14.1. Label Propagation

### 1.15. Isotonic regression

### 1.16. Probability calibration

### 1.17. Neural network models (supervised)

- 1.17.1. Multi-layer Perceptron
- 1.17.2. Classification
- 1.17.3. Regression
- 1.17.4. Regularization
- 1.17.5. Algorithms
- 1.17.6. Complexity
- 1.17.7. Mathematical formulation
- 1.17.8. Tips on Practical Use
- 1.17.9. More control with `warm_start`





## 1. Supervised learning

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- 1.1.3. Lasso
  - 1.1.3.1. Setting regularization parameter
    - 1.1.3.1.1. Using cross-validation
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    - 1.1.3.1.3. Comparison with the regularization parameter of SVM
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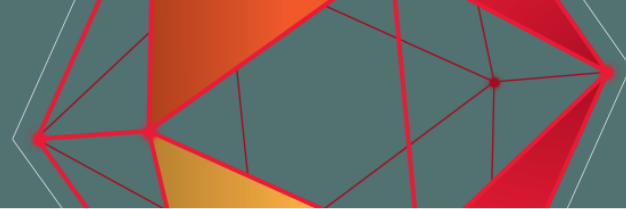
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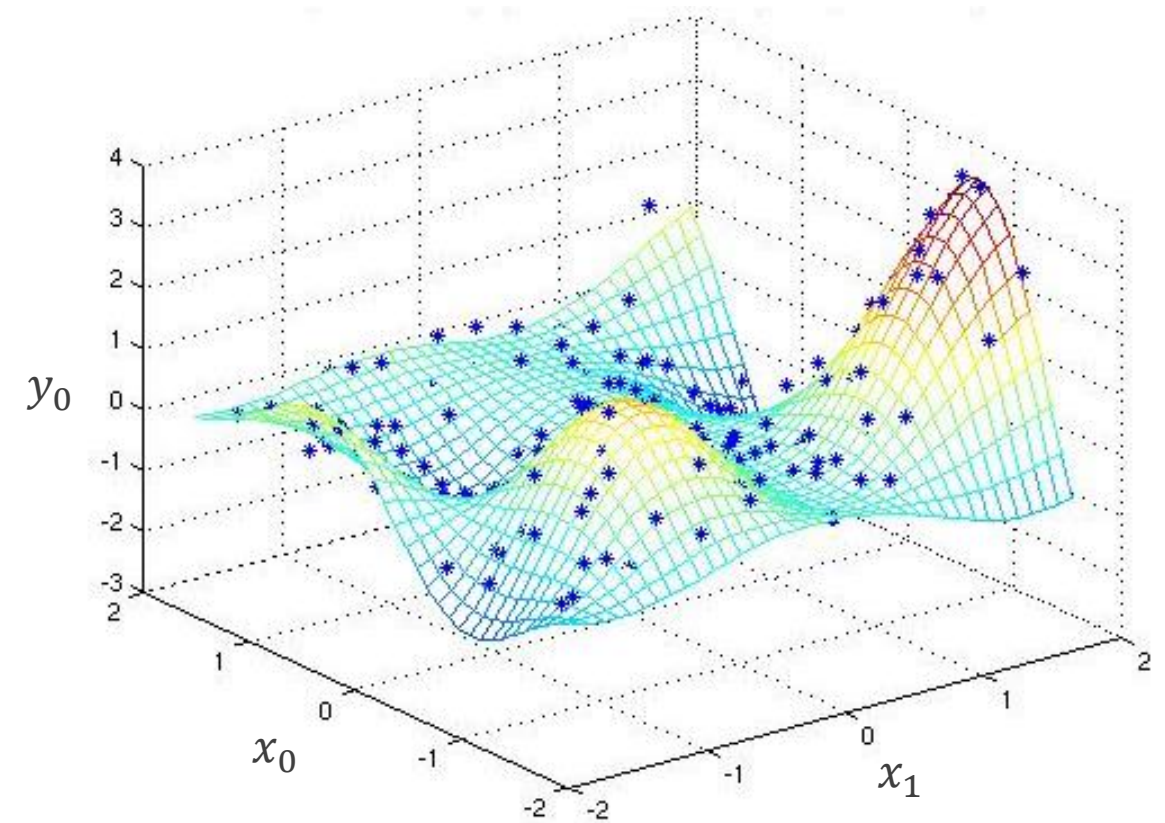
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# Gaussian Processes

- Smooth interpolation of high dimensional data







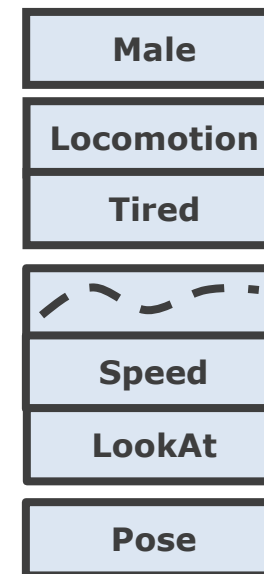
Animation

$$y = \begin{bmatrix} 5.12 \\ 2.12 \\ \vdots \\ 0.31 \\ 2.54 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$y = f(x)$$

$$x = \begin{bmatrix} 1.33 \\ 7.21 \\ \vdots \\ 9.03 \\ 1.28 \end{bmatrix}$$

Regression

 $x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n$  $y_0, y_1, \dots, y_n$ 

Input





Animation

$x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n$   
 $y_0, y_1, \dots, y_n$

Training

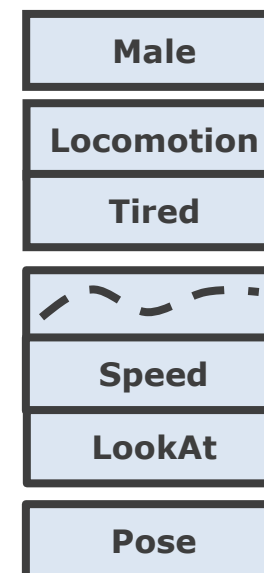
$GP$

$$y = f(x)$$

$y$   
 $\begin{bmatrix} 5.12 \\ 2.12 \\ \vdots \\ 0.31 \\ 2.54 \end{bmatrix}$

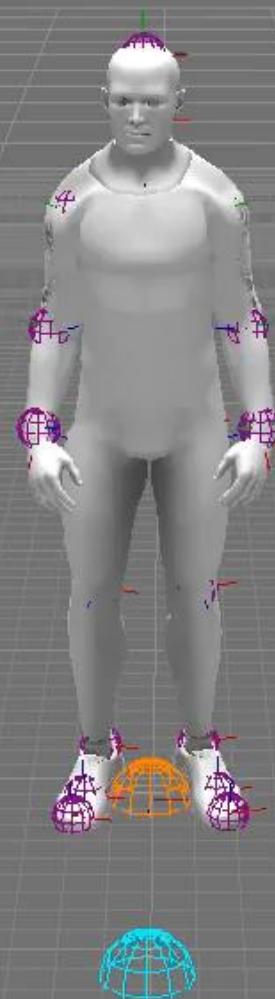
$x$   
 $\begin{bmatrix} 1.33 \\ 7.21 \\ \vdots \\ 9.03 \\ 1.28 \end{bmatrix}$

Gaussian Process



Input

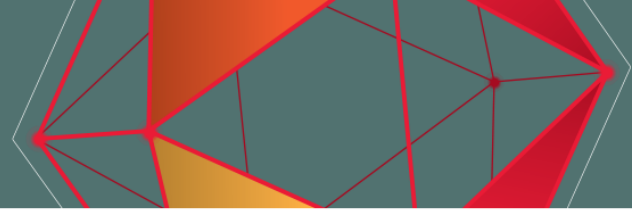






# Gaussian Processes





# Gaussian Processes

- Scales poorly with the amount of training data.







# Gaussian Processes

- Scales poorly with the amount of training data.
- We could only use ~1000 samples for training.





# Gaussian Processes

- Scales poorly with the amount of training data.
- We could only use ~1000 samples for training.
- Maybe we just didn't use enough data...





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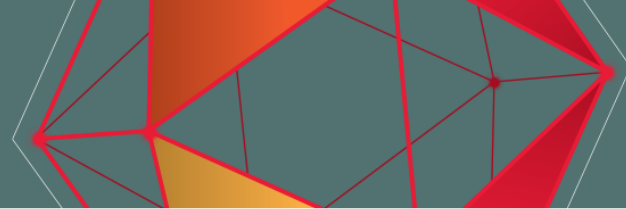
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# Neural Networks

- Capacity for virtually unlimited training data.







# Neural Networks

- Capacity for virtually unlimited training data.
- Data can be discarded once network is trained.





# Neural Networks

- Capacity for virtually unlimited training data.
- Data can be discarded once network is trained.
- Fast to evaluate and low memory usage.

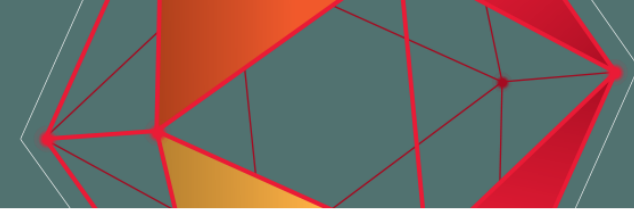




# Neural Networks

## In Five Minutes





A Neural Network is just a function...

$$y = f(x)$$





One example of a simple function...

$$y = \sin(3x + 2)$$







It takes some input and produces some output...

$$\text{Human} = f(\text{Stack})$$

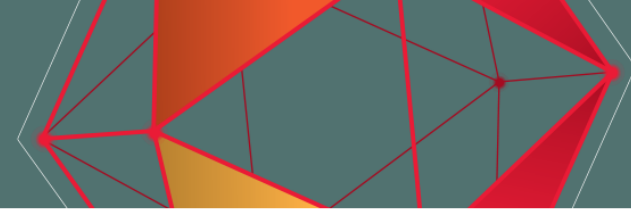




The inputs and outputs are represented as vectors

$$\begin{matrix} \mathbf{y} \\ \begin{bmatrix} 2.3 \\ 9.2 \\ \vdots \\ 7.9 \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix} = f \left( \begin{matrix} \mathbf{x} \\ \begin{bmatrix} 6.2 \\ 0.3 \\ \vdots \\ 8.5 \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix} \right)$$

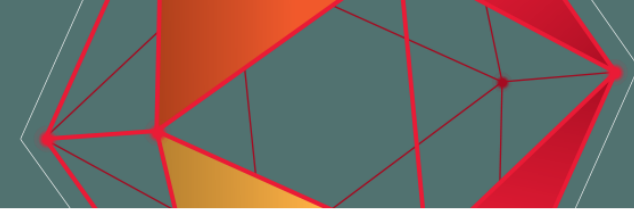




A single “layer” is described by the following function...

$$y = \sigma(Wx + b)$$





The variables  $W$  and  $b$  are the network “weights”...

$$y = \sigma(Wx + b)$$





The input  $x$  and output  $y$  appear on either side...

$$\begin{matrix} y \\ \begin{bmatrix} 2.3 \\ 9.2 \\ \vdots \\ 7.9 \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix} = \sigma \left( W \begin{matrix} x \\ \begin{bmatrix} 6.2 \\ 0.3 \\ \vdots \\ 8.5 \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix} + b \right)$$



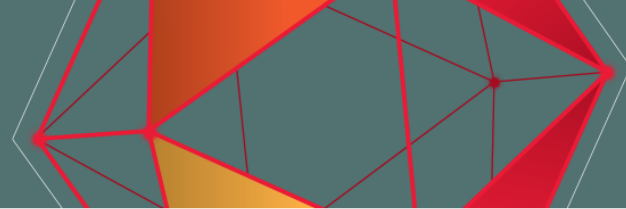




The first operation is for  $x$  to be multiplied by  $W$ ...

$$\mathbf{y} = \sigma \left( \overset{W}{\begin{bmatrix} 1.5 & \dots & 0.5 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0.2 & \dots & 7.2 \end{bmatrix}} \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{b} \right)$$

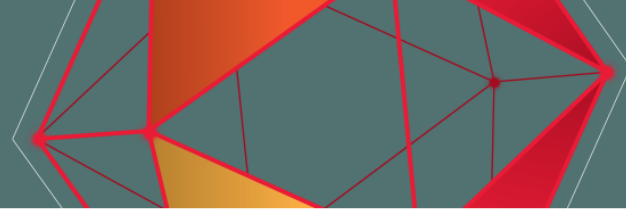




The result is added to the vector  $\mathbf{b}$ , called the “bias”...

$$\mathbf{y} = \sigma \left( \overset{\mathbf{W}}{\begin{bmatrix} 1.5 & \dots & 0.5 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0.2 & \dots & 7.2 \end{bmatrix}} \mathbf{x} + \overset{\mathbf{b}}{\begin{bmatrix} 4.5 \\ 1.3 \\ \vdots \\ 3.7 \end{bmatrix}} \right)$$

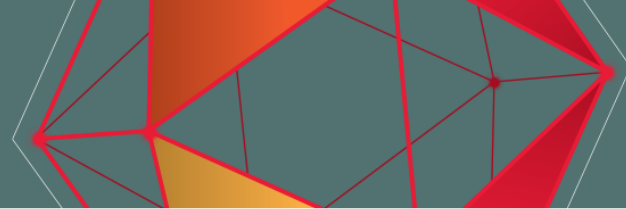




Each value is then passed through  $\sigma$ , the “activation function”.

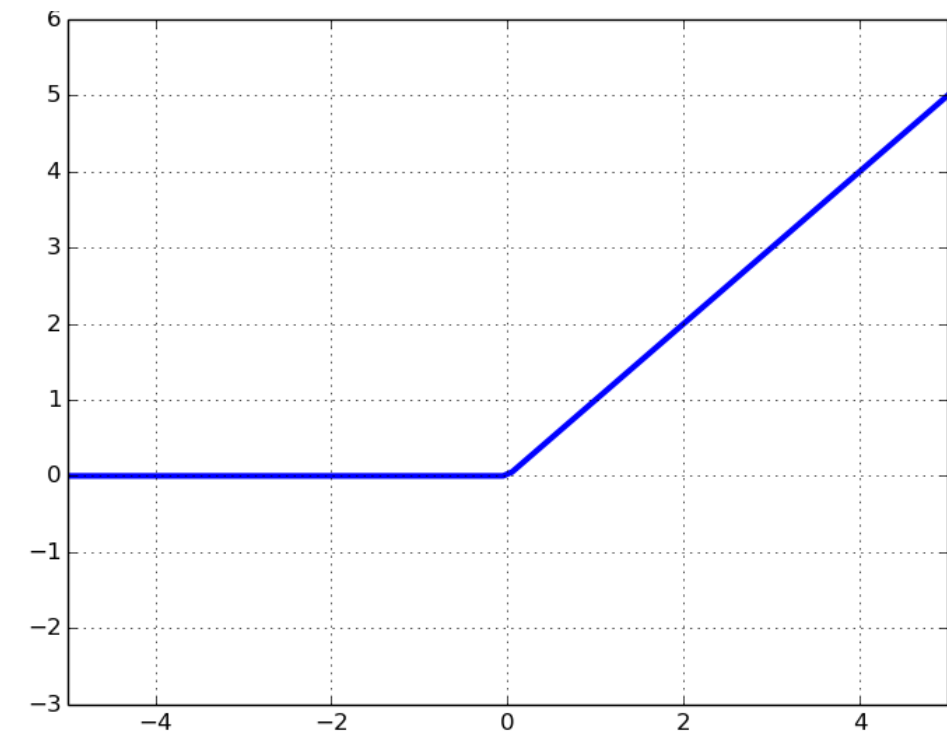
$$y = \sigma \left( \overset{W}{\begin{bmatrix} 1.5 & \dots & 0.5 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0.2 & \dots & 7.2 \end{bmatrix}} x + \overset{b}{\begin{bmatrix} 4.5 \\ 1.3 \\ \vdots \\ 3.7 \end{bmatrix}} \right)$$





This function produces a “bend” or “non-linearity” in the output.

$$\sigma(h) = \max(h, 0)$$





Looks Familiar...

$$y = \sigma(Wx + b)$$

$$y = \sin(3x + 2)$$







We can “stack” multiple layers by nesting the function inside itself...

$$y = W_2 \sigma(W_1 \sigma(W_0 x + b_0) + b_1) + b_2$$





This produces the final equation for our Neural Network...

$$y = W_2 \sigma(W_1 \sigma(W_0 x + b_0) + b_1) + b_2$$

$$y = \begin{bmatrix} 5.12 \\ 2.12 \\ \vdots \\ 0.31 \\ 2.54 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$y = f(x)$$

$$x = \begin{bmatrix} 1.33 \\ 7.21 \\ \vdots \\ 9.03 \\ 1.28 \end{bmatrix}$$





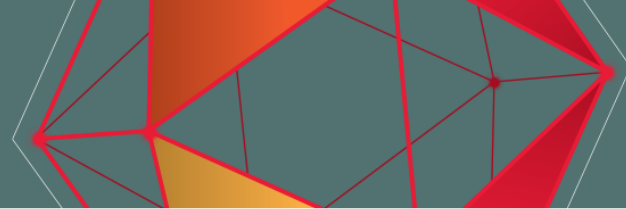
We put the training data through the network and measure the error...

$$\begin{array}{ccc} y_0 & y_1 & y_2 \\ \begin{bmatrix} 9.01 \\ 0.98 \\ \vdots \\ 5.23 \\ 0.95 \end{bmatrix} & \begin{bmatrix} 8.91 \\ 4.23 \\ \vdots \\ 7.11 \\ 3.61 \end{bmatrix} & \begin{bmatrix} 6.63 \\ 6.23 \\ \vdots \\ 8.12 \\ 1.62 \end{bmatrix} \\ \updownarrow & \updownarrow & \updownarrow \\ \begin{bmatrix} 5.72 \\ 3.12 \\ \vdots \\ 6.92 \\ 2.85 \end{bmatrix} & \begin{bmatrix} 4.62 \\ 1.93 \\ \vdots \\ 4.52 \\ 7.11 \end{bmatrix} & \begin{bmatrix} 5.12 \\ 2.12 \\ \vdots \\ 0.31 \\ 2.54 \end{bmatrix} \end{array}$$

$$y = f(x)$$

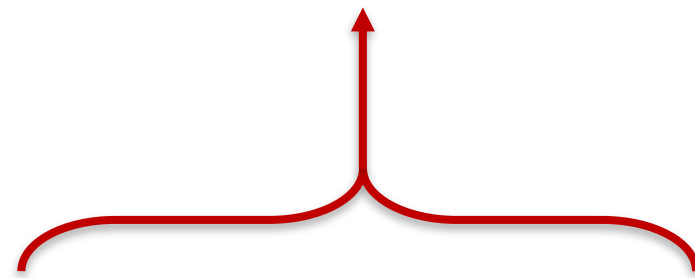
$$\begin{array}{ccc} x_0 & x_1 & x_2 \\ \begin{bmatrix} 0.11 \\ 5.55 \\ \vdots \\ 2.43 \\ 1.15 \end{bmatrix} & \begin{bmatrix} 1.66 \\ 3.11 \\ \vdots \\ 2.56 \\ 7.34 \end{bmatrix} & \begin{bmatrix} 1.33 \\ 7.21 \\ \vdots \\ 9.03 \\ 1.28 \end{bmatrix} \end{array}$$





Then use the calculated error to update the weights...

$$y = \mathbf{W}_2 \sigma(\mathbf{W}_1 \sigma(\mathbf{W}_0 x + \mathbf{b}_0) + \mathbf{b}_1) + \mathbf{b}_2$$



$$\begin{bmatrix} 5.72 \\ 3.12 \\ \vdots \\ 6.92 \\ 2.85 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 4.62 \\ 1.93 \\ \vdots \\ 4.52 \\ 7.11 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 5.12 \\ 2.12 \\ \vdots \\ 0.31 \\ 2.54 \end{bmatrix}$$





And repeat thousands of times on the GPU...

$$\begin{array}{ccc} y_0 & y_1 & y_2 \\ \begin{bmatrix} 9.01 \\ 0.98 \\ \vdots \\ 5.23 \\ 0.95 \end{bmatrix} & \begin{bmatrix} 8.91 \\ 4.23 \\ \vdots \\ 7.11 \\ 3.61 \end{bmatrix} & \begin{bmatrix} 6.63 \\ 6.23 \\ \vdots \\ 8.12 \\ 1.62 \end{bmatrix} \\ \updownarrow & \updownarrow & \updownarrow \\ \begin{bmatrix} 5.72 \\ 3.12 \\ \vdots \\ 6.92 \\ 2.85 \end{bmatrix} & \begin{bmatrix} 4.62 \\ 1.93 \\ \vdots \\ 4.52 \\ 7.11 \end{bmatrix} & \begin{bmatrix} 5.12 \\ 2.12 \\ \vdots \\ 0.31 \\ 2.54 \end{bmatrix} \end{array}$$

$$y = f(x)$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} x_0 & x_1 & x_2 \\ \begin{bmatrix} 0.11 \\ 5.55 \\ \vdots \\ 2.43 \\ 1.15 \end{bmatrix} & \begin{bmatrix} 1.66 \\ 3.11 \\ \vdots \\ 2.56 \\ 7.34 \end{bmatrix} & \begin{bmatrix} 1.33 \\ 7.21 \\ \vdots \\ 9.03 \\ 1.28 \end{bmatrix} \end{array}$$







Animation



$$y = \begin{bmatrix} 5.12 \\ 2.12 \\ \vdots \\ 0.31 \\ 2.54 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$y = f(x)$$

$$x = \begin{bmatrix} 1.33 \\ 7.21 \\ \vdots \\ 9.03 \\ 1.28 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{matrix} x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n \\ y_0, y_1, \dots, y_n \end{matrix}$$



Male

Locomotion

Tired

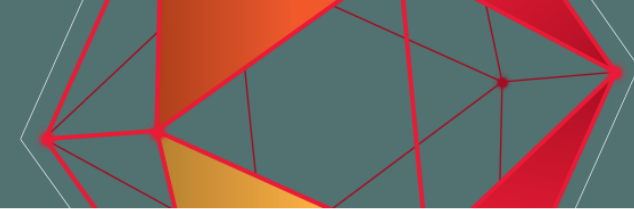
Speed

LookAt

Pose

Input





Animation

$x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n$   
 $y_0, y_1, \dots, y_n$

Training

NN

$$y = f(x)$$

$y$   
 $\begin{bmatrix} 5.12 \\ 2.12 \\ \vdots \\ 0.31 \\ 2.54 \end{bmatrix}$

$x$   
 $\begin{bmatrix} 1.33 \\ 7.21 \\ \vdots \\ 9.03 \\ 1.28 \end{bmatrix}$

Male  
Locomotion  
Tired  
Speed  
LookAt  
Pose

Input

Neural Network



~~$$\begin{matrix} x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n \\ y_0, y_1, \dots, y_n \end{matrix}$$~~

 $NN$ 

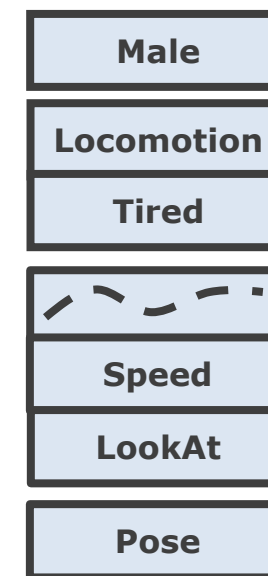
$$y = f(x)$$

$$y = \begin{bmatrix} 5.12 \\ 2.12 \\ \vdots \\ 0.31 \\ 2.54 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$x = \begin{bmatrix} 1.33 \\ 7.21 \\ \vdots \\ 9.03 \\ 1.28 \end{bmatrix}$$



Animation



Input

Trained Neural Network







# Machine Learning isn't Magic







# The results depend on...

- The input representation  $x$
- The output representation  $y$
- How and when you use  $f$





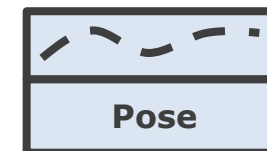
# The function $f$ isn't well defined





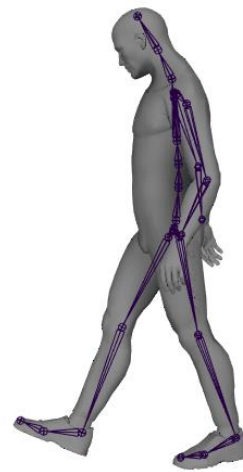
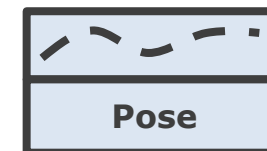
There are multiple  $y$  values for a single  $x$ .

$f(x)$



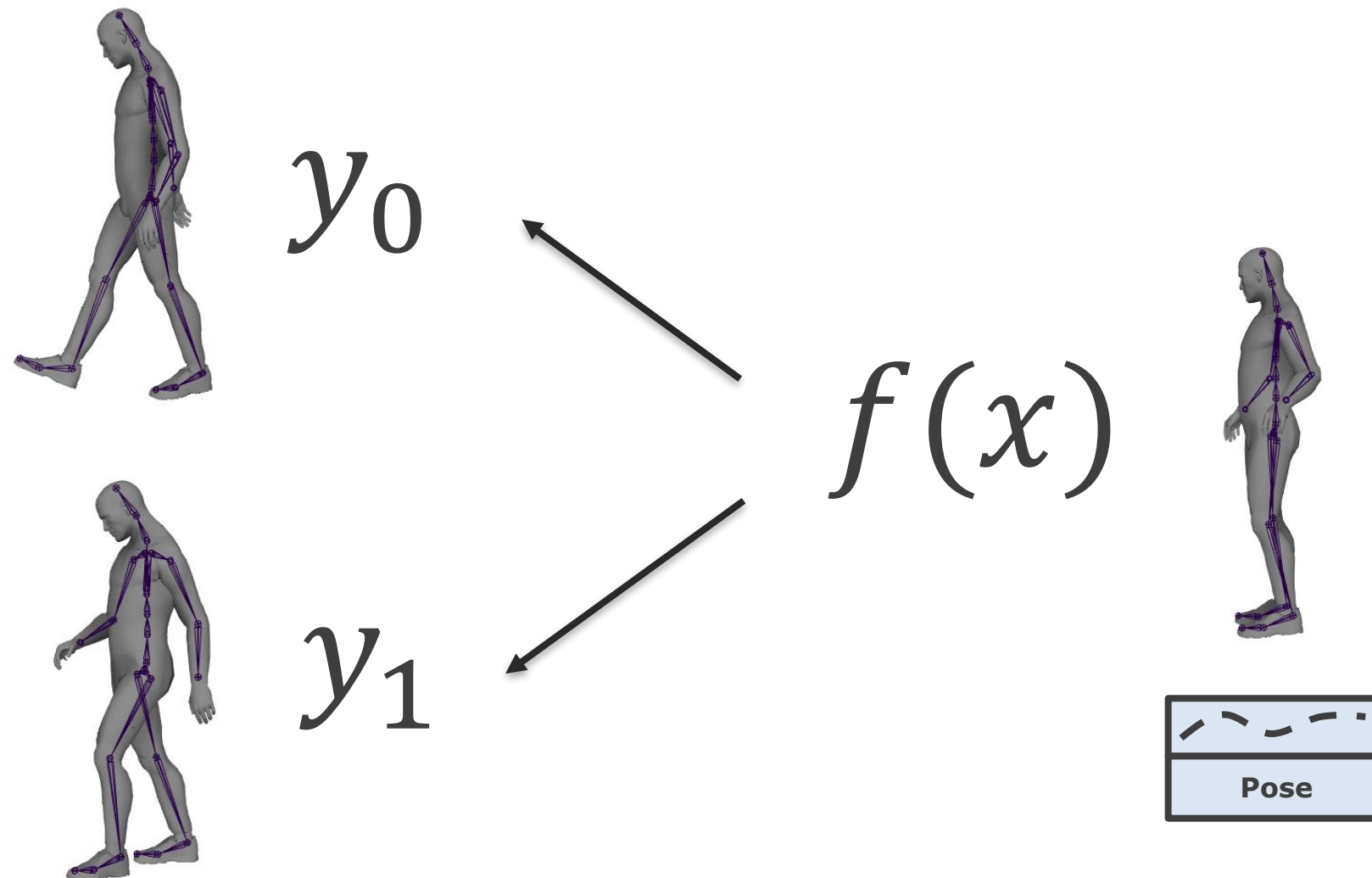


There are multiple  $y$  values for a single  $x$ .

 $y_0$  $f(x)$ 



There are multiple  $y$  values for a single  $x$ .







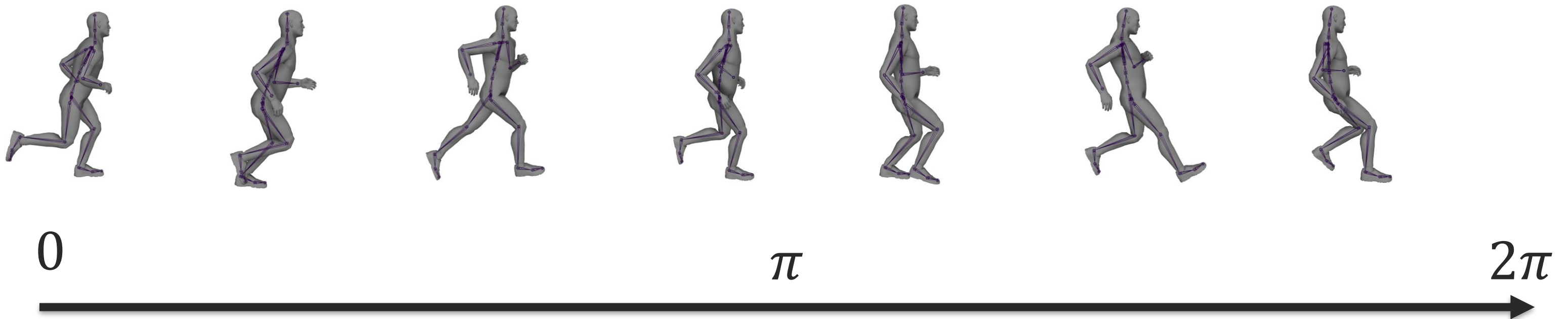
# Can we resolve the ambiguity?





# The Phase

A variable representing the timing of the pose in the cycle.





Use a separate  $f$  depending on the phase





- Separate  $x$  and  $y$  into bins using the phase  $p$ .





- Separate  $x$  and  $y$  into bins using the phase  $p$ .
- At runtime select the bin for the current phase  $p$ .

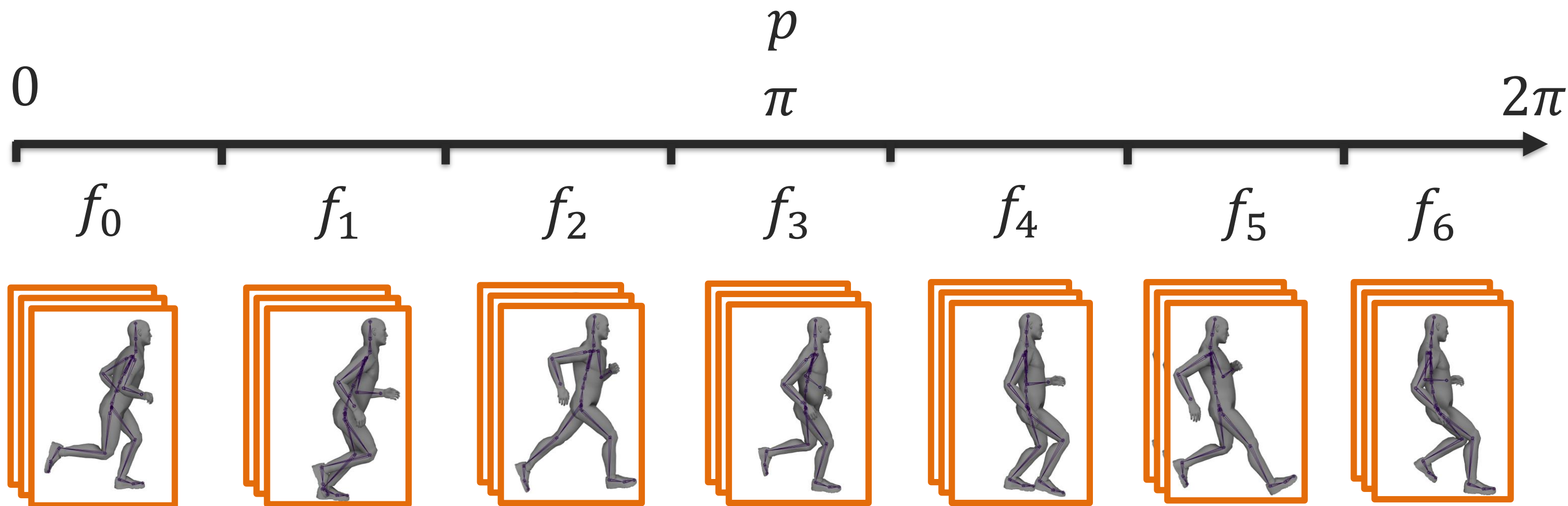


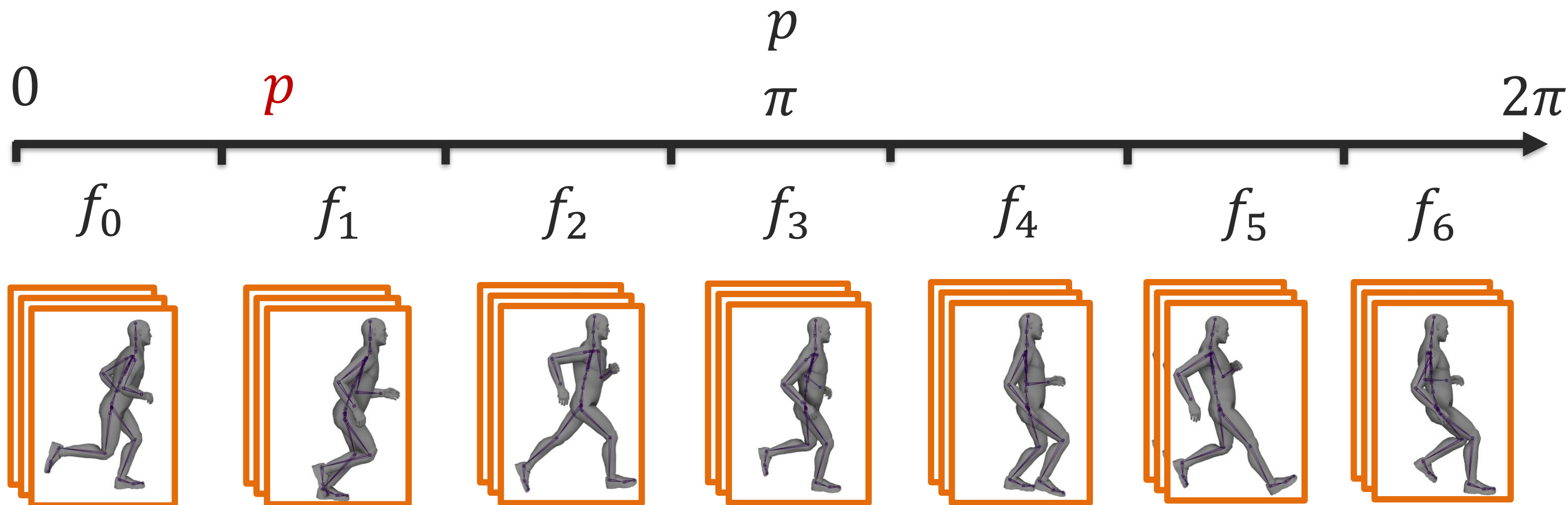


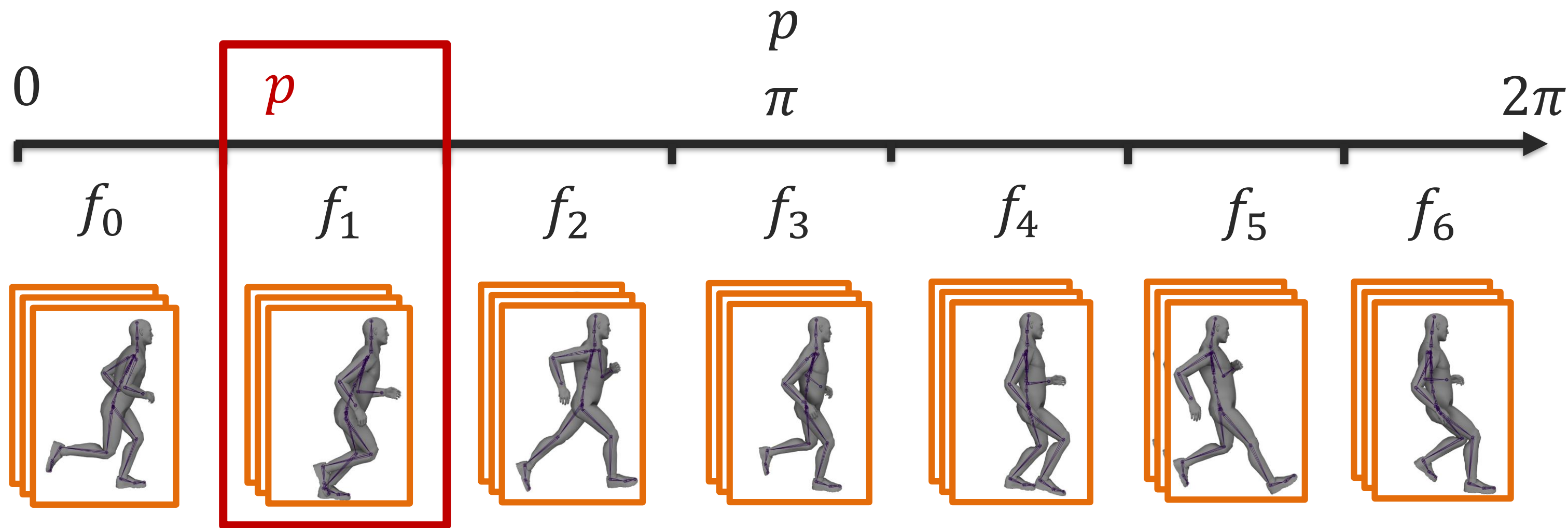
- Separate  $x$  and  $y$  into bins using the phase  $p$ .
- At runtime select the bin for the current phase  $p$ .
- Output the pose  $y$  in the selected bin using input  $x$ .

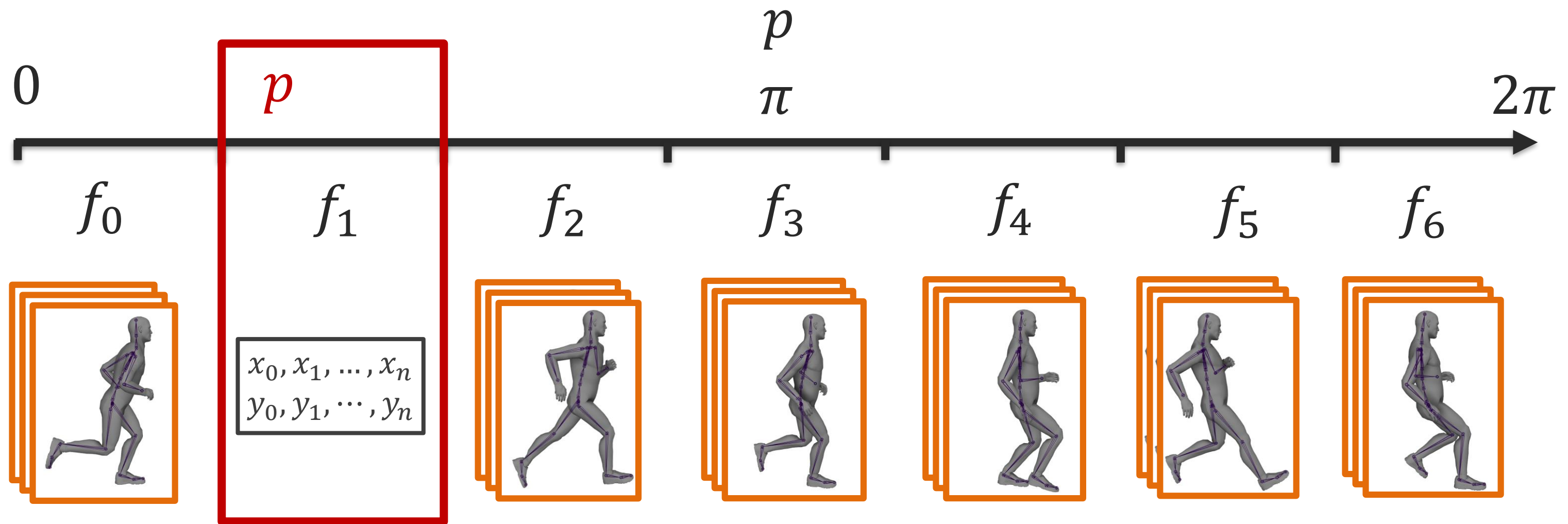


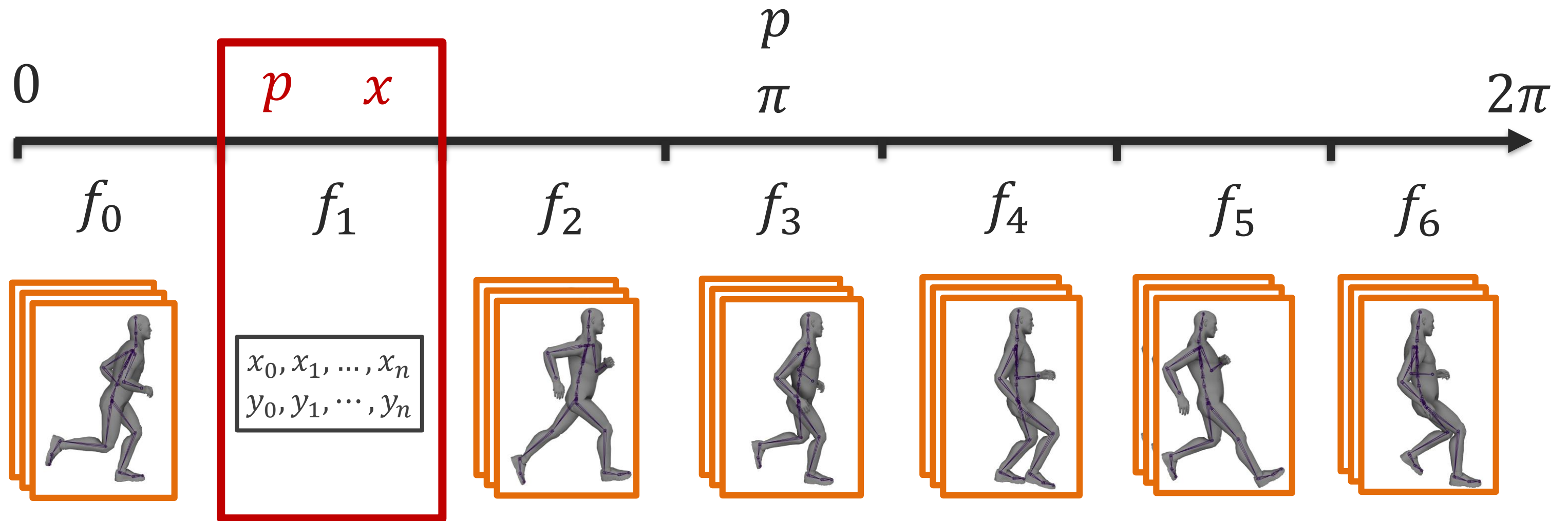


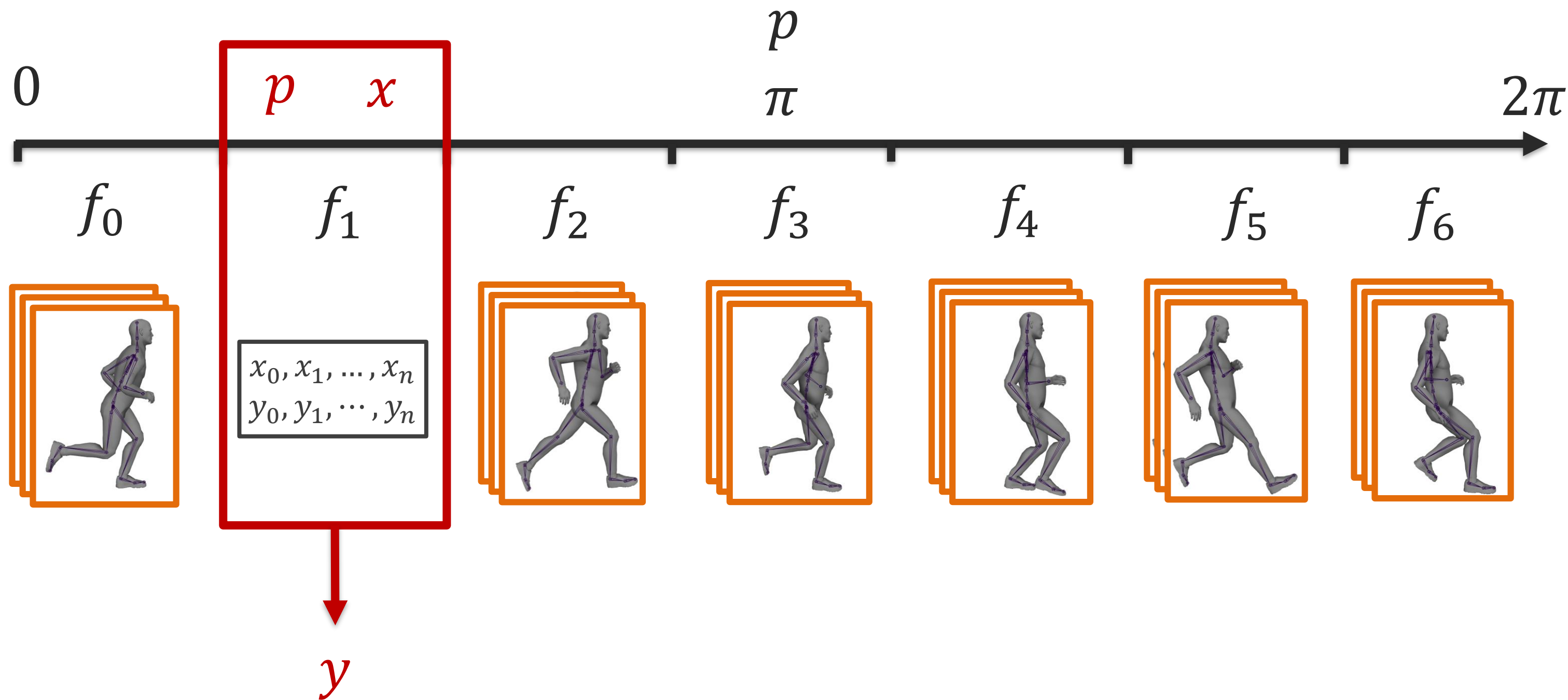
















# Another Example





# Input $x$

- **Joint Positions** in the previous frame.
- **Joint Velocities** in the previous frame.
- **Target Position** of the root in 1 second.
- **Target Velocity** of the root in 1 second.
- **Target Direction** of the root in 1 second.

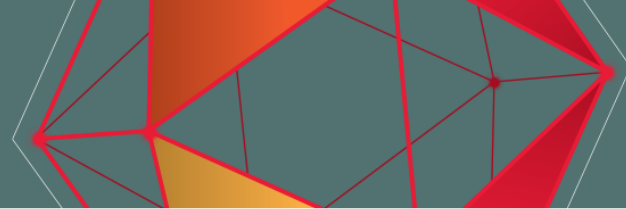




# Output $y$

- **Joint Positions** for the current frame.
- **Joint Velocities** for the current frame.
- **Joint Rotations** for the current frame.





# Function $f$

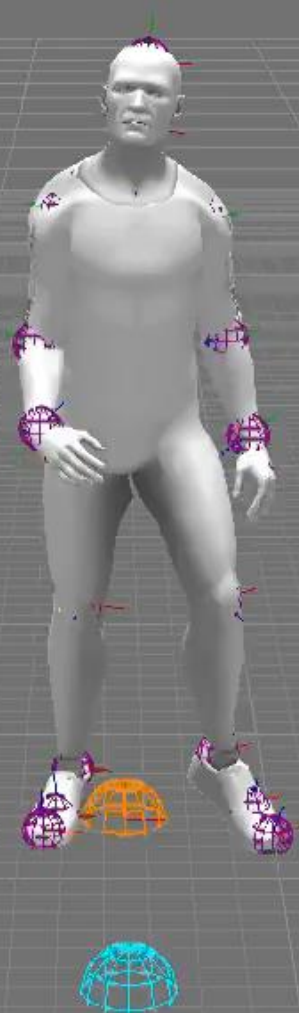
- **Select** an  $f$  each frame using the phase  $p$ .
- **Call** the chosen  $f$ .
- **Update** the phase value  $p$ .





# Phase-Conditioned Nearest Neighbour



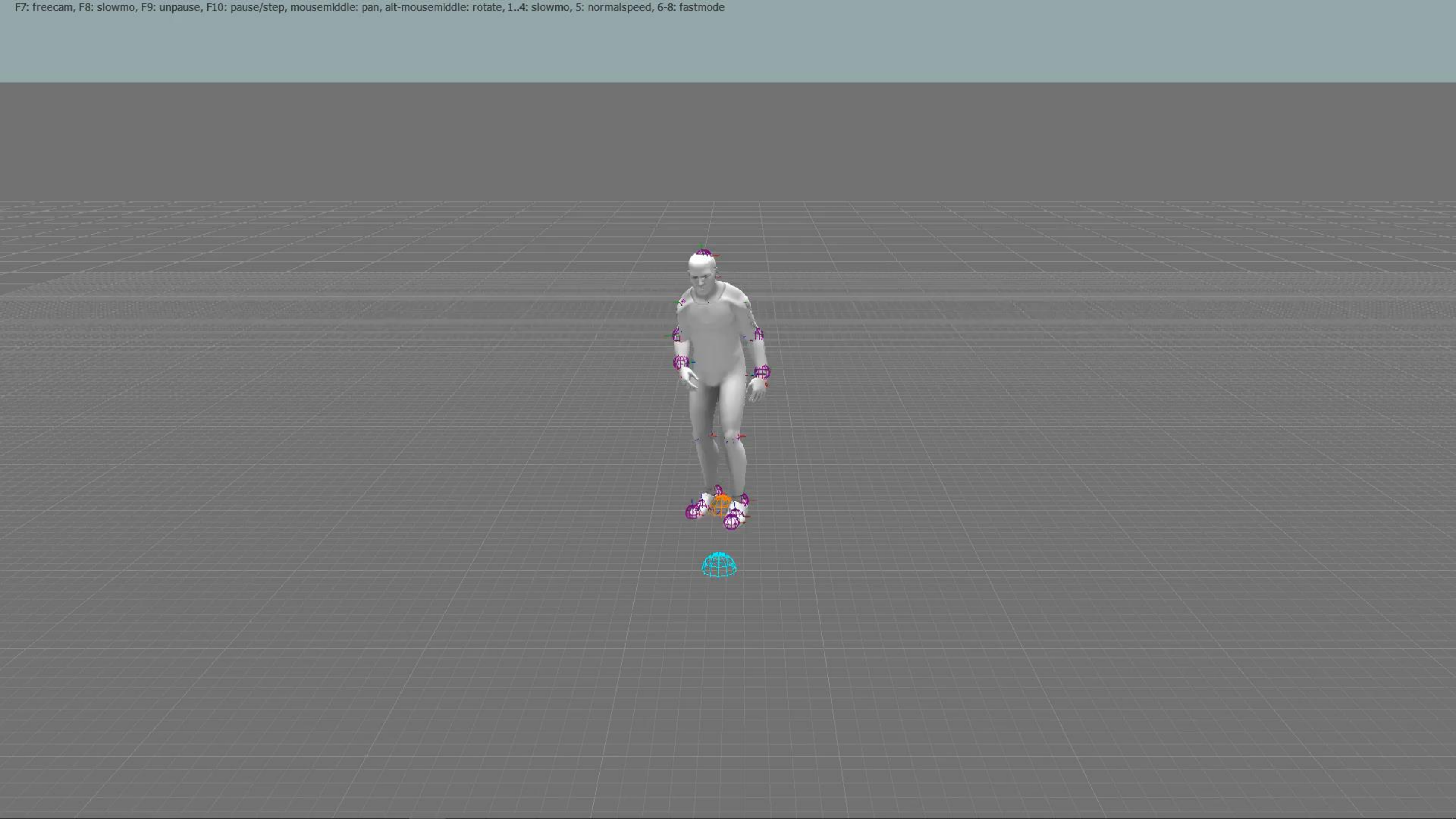


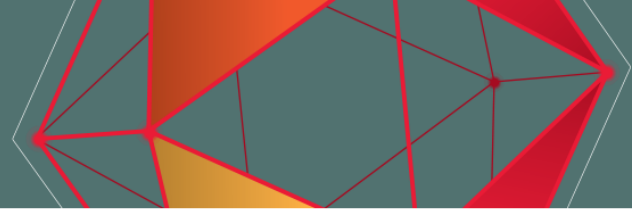




# Phase-Conditioned Gaussian Process







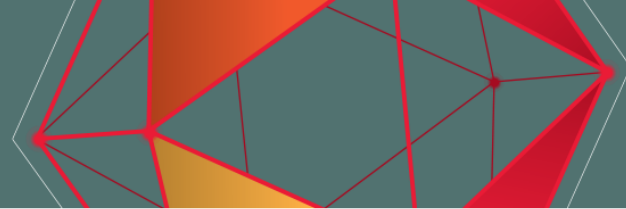
- What if the phase lies in-between two bins?





- What if the phase lies in-between two bins?
- Is it a waste to train multiple functions  $f$  ?





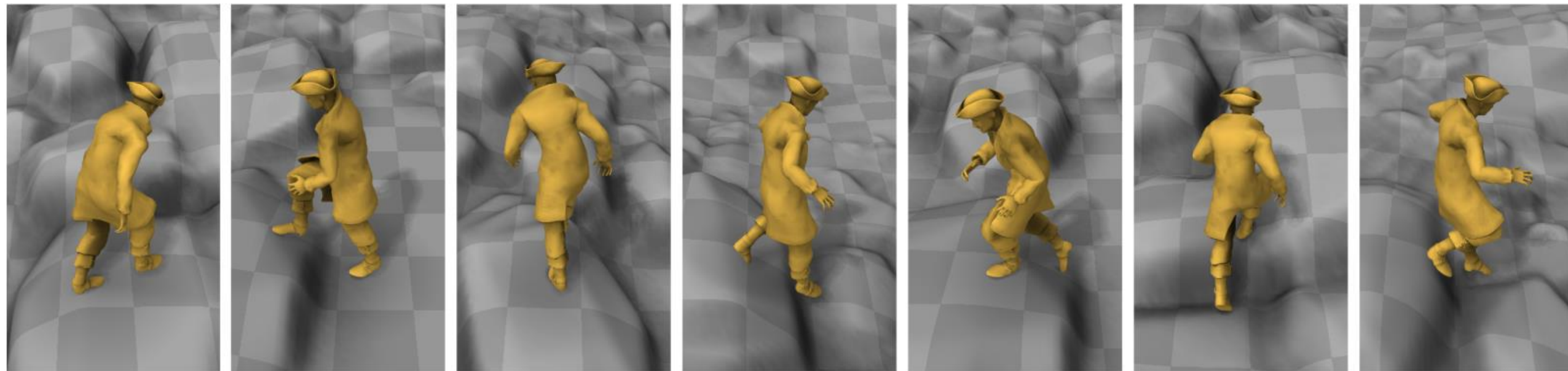
- What if the phase lies in-between two bins?
- Is it a waste to train multiple functions  $f$  ?
- How can we use Neural Networks to solve this?







# Phase-Functioned Neural Network



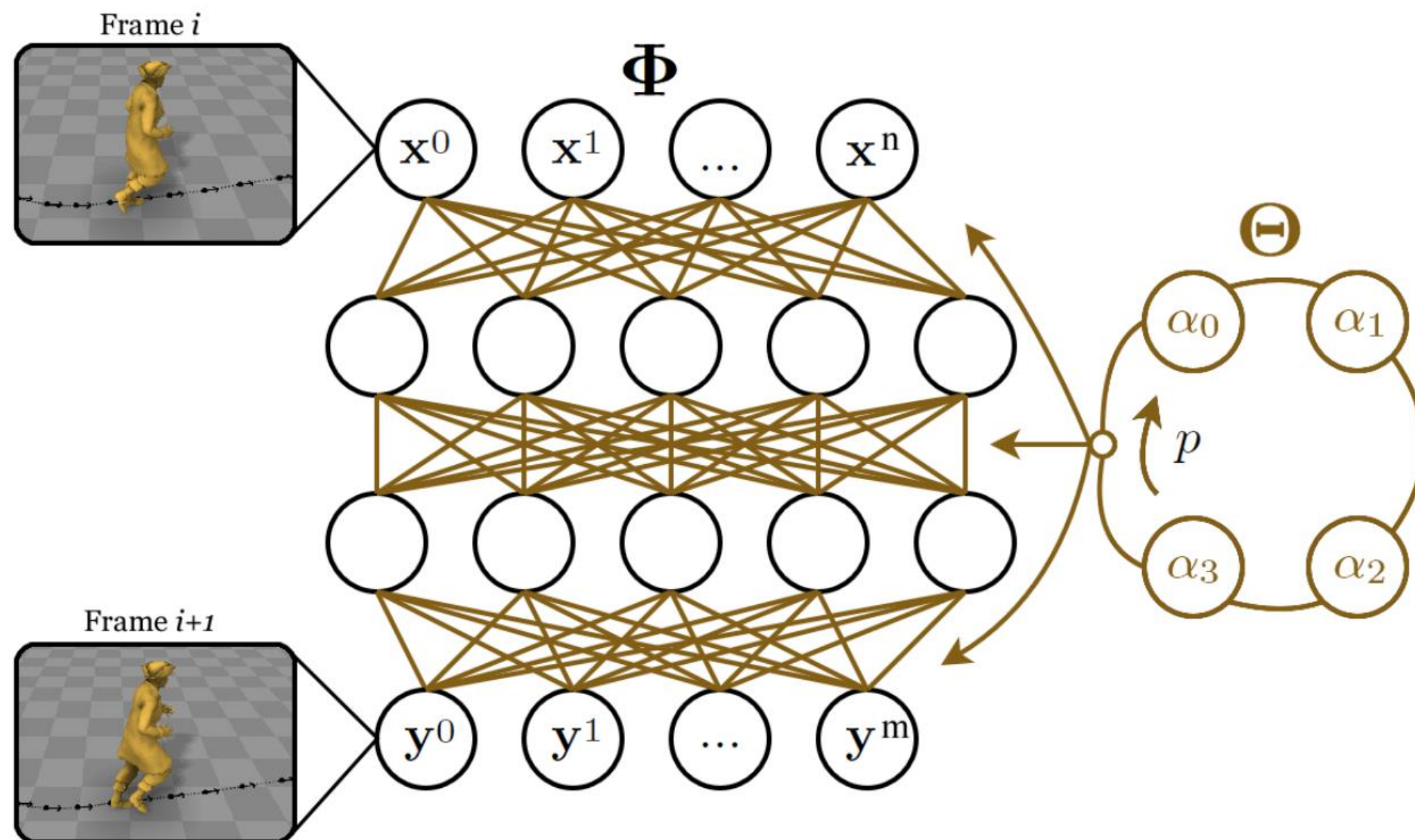


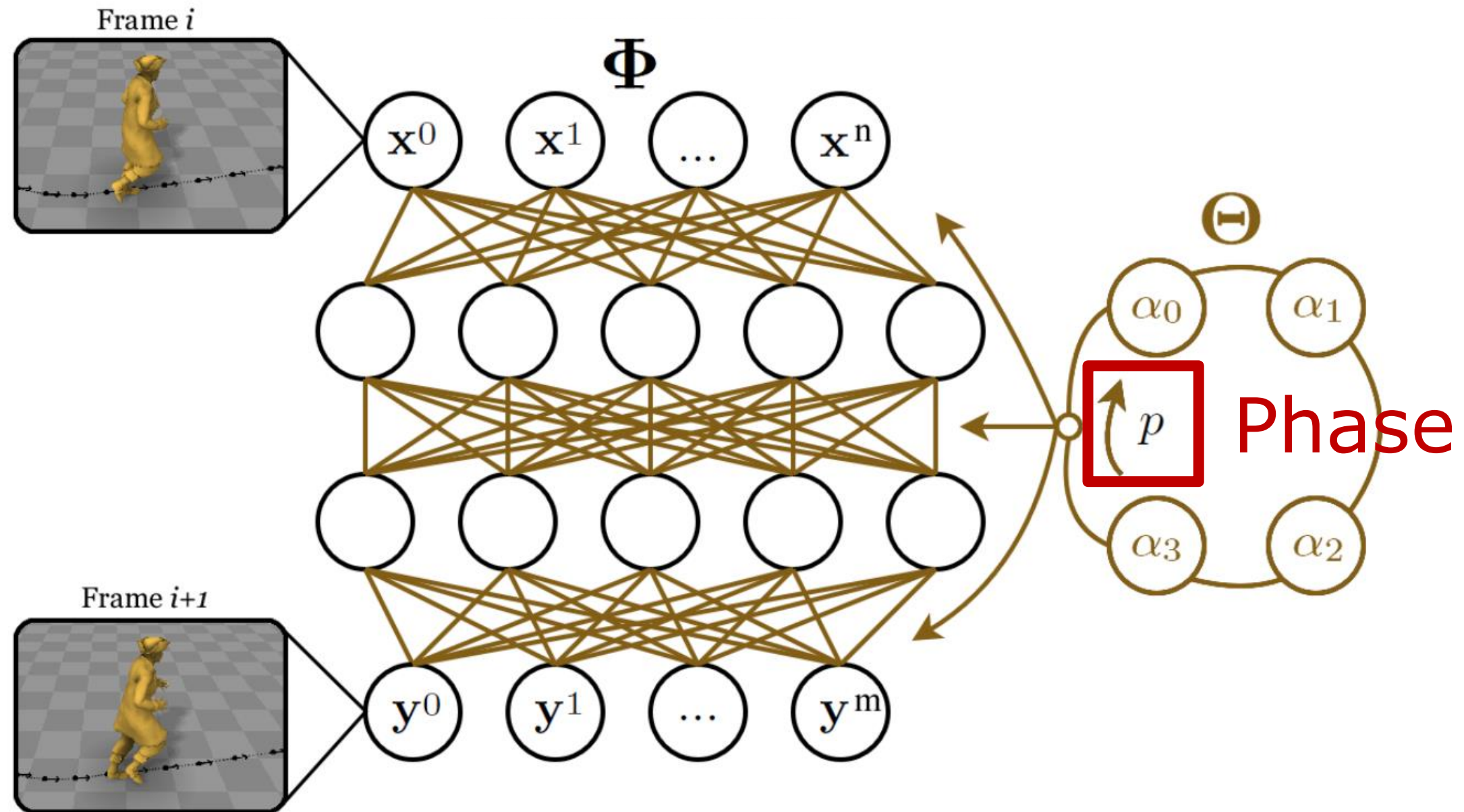


# Phase-Functioned Neural Network

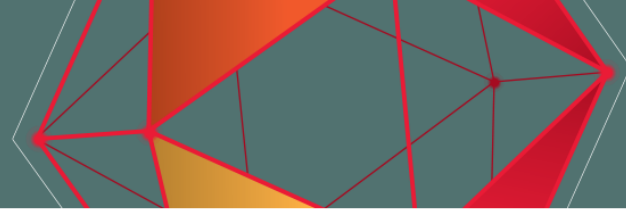
A Neural Network where the weights of the network are generated from the phase.



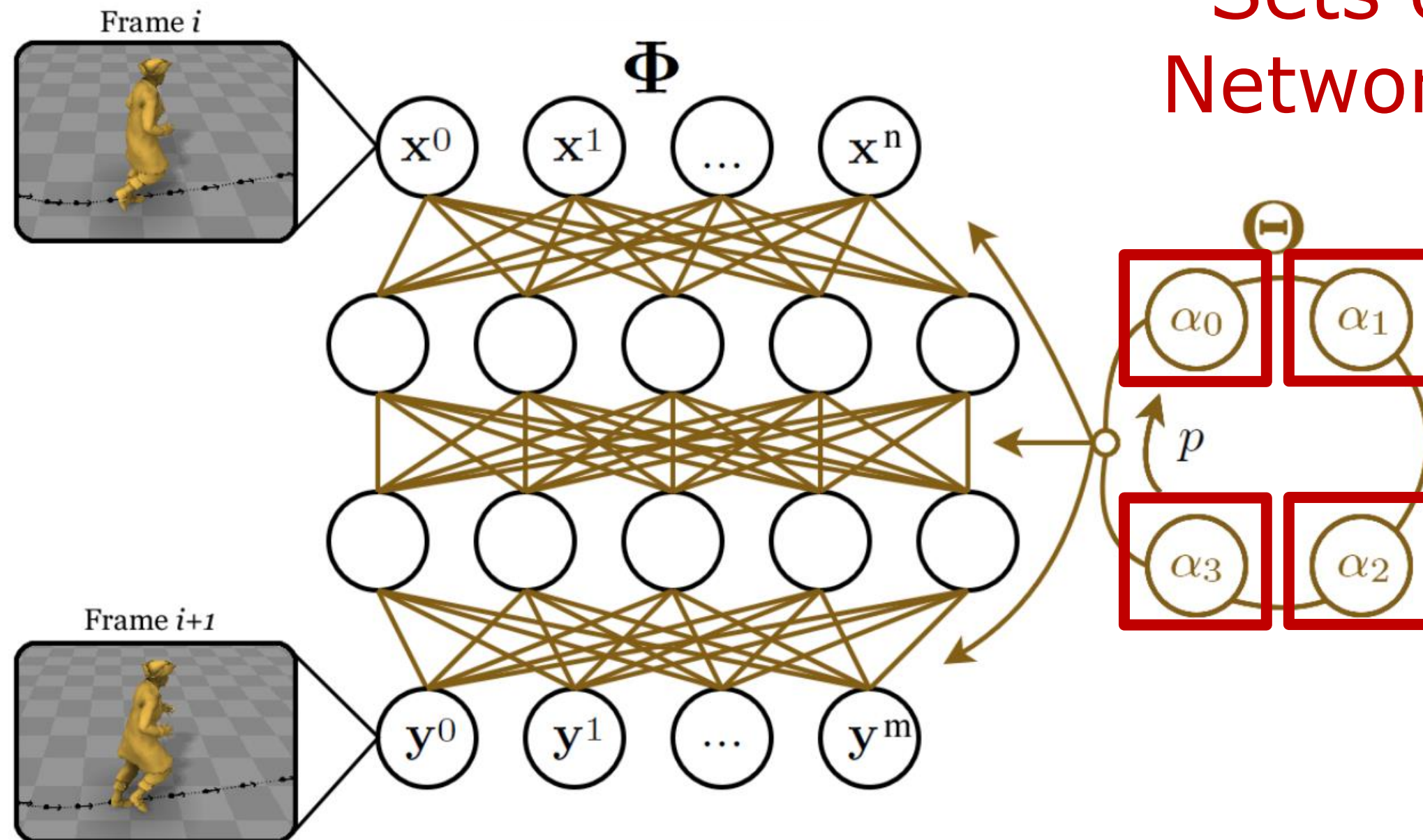


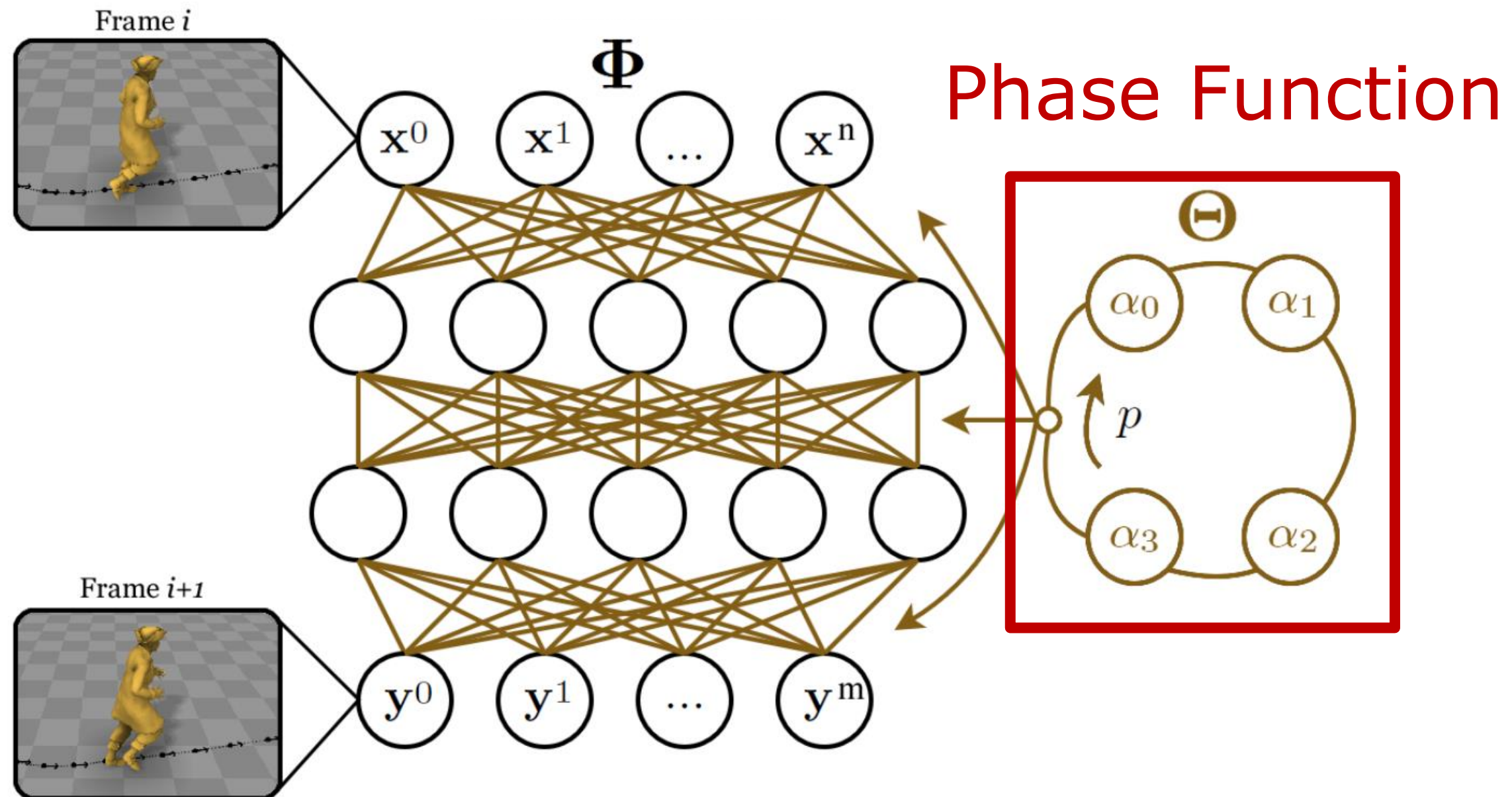
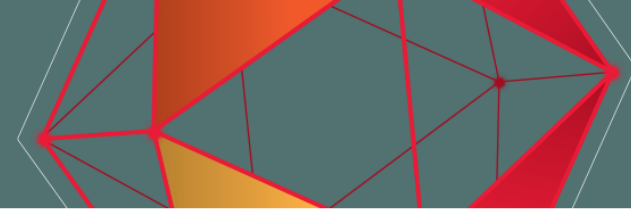




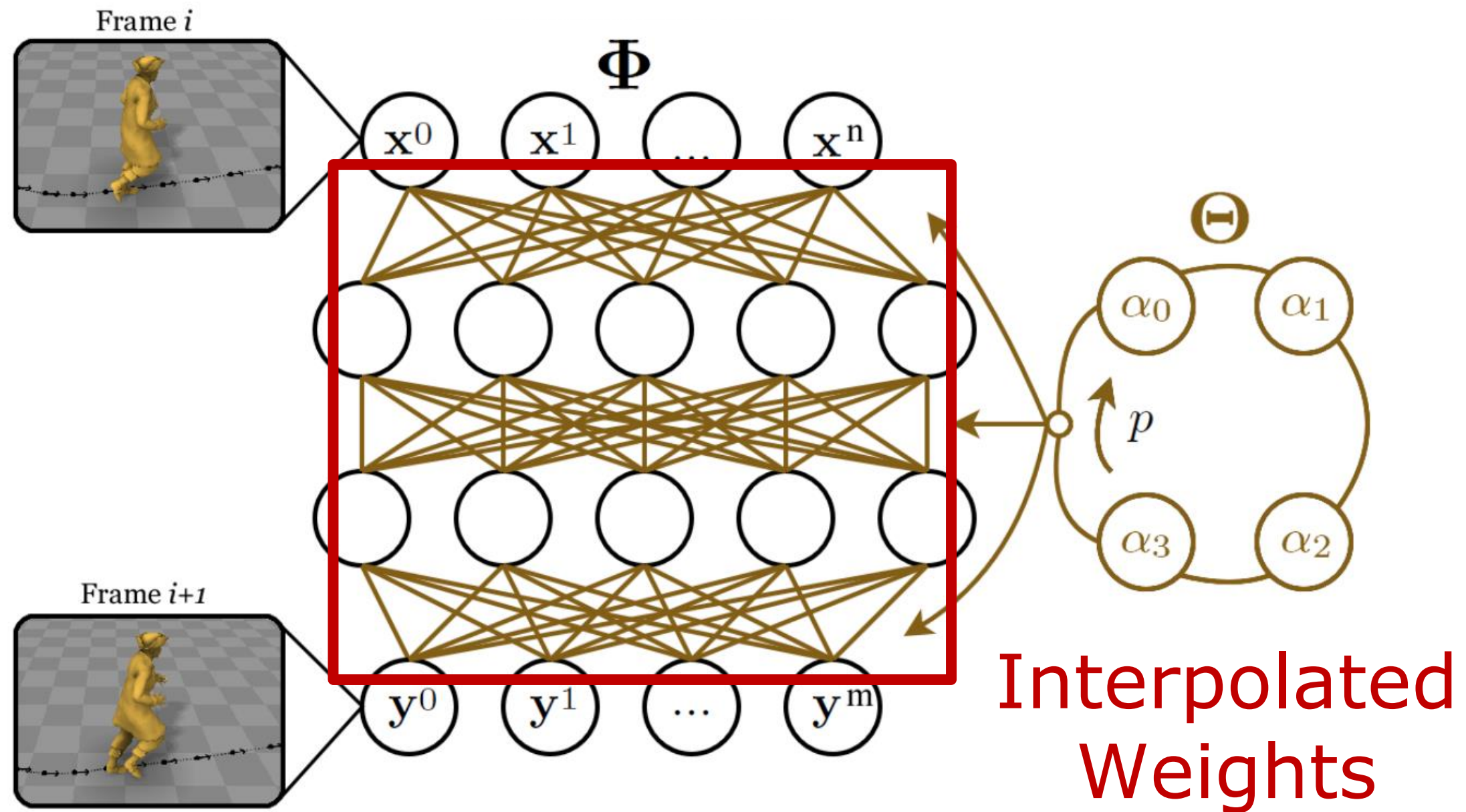
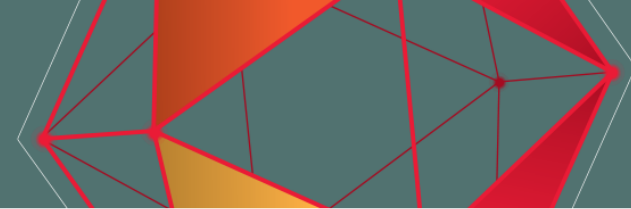


# Sets of Neural Network weights





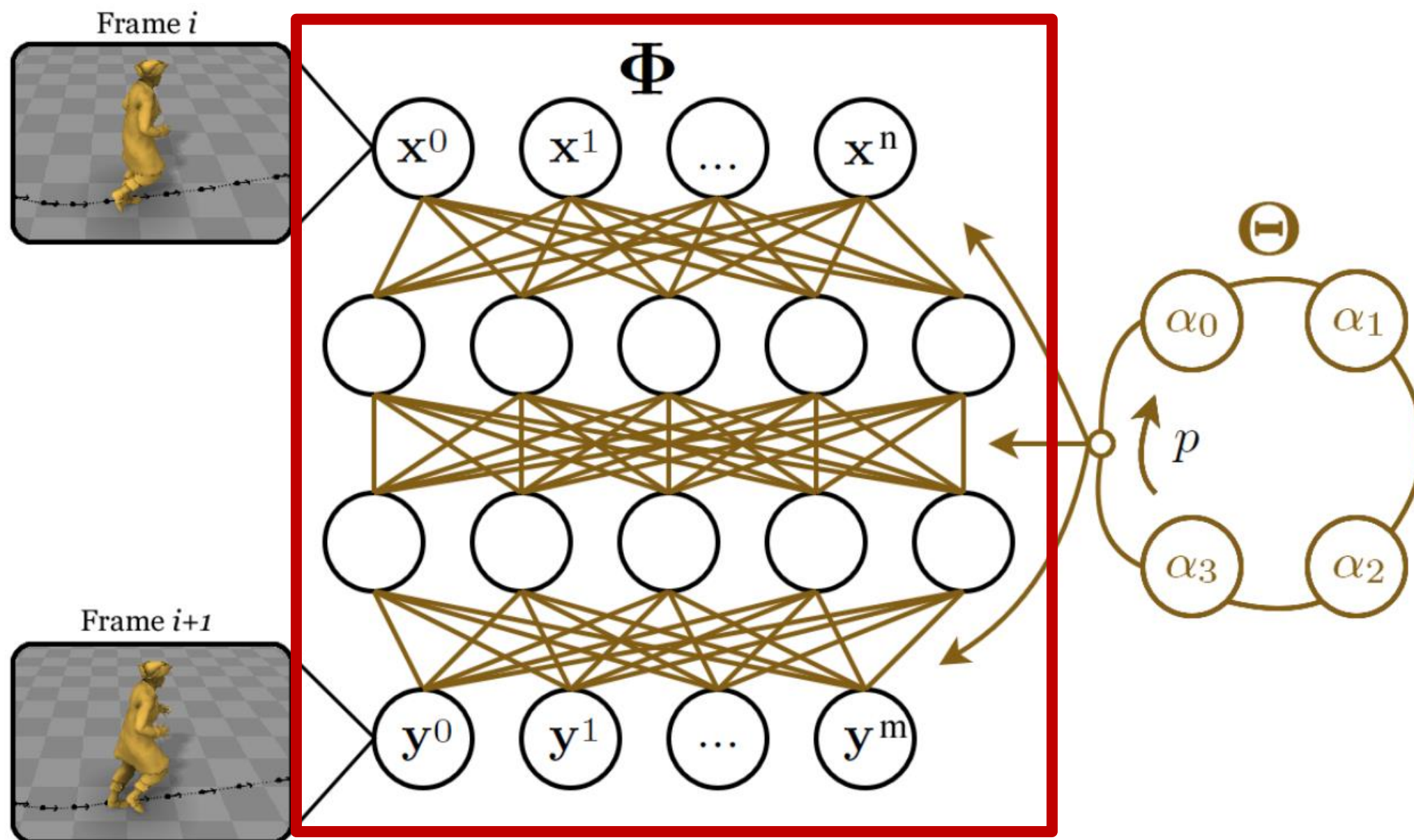


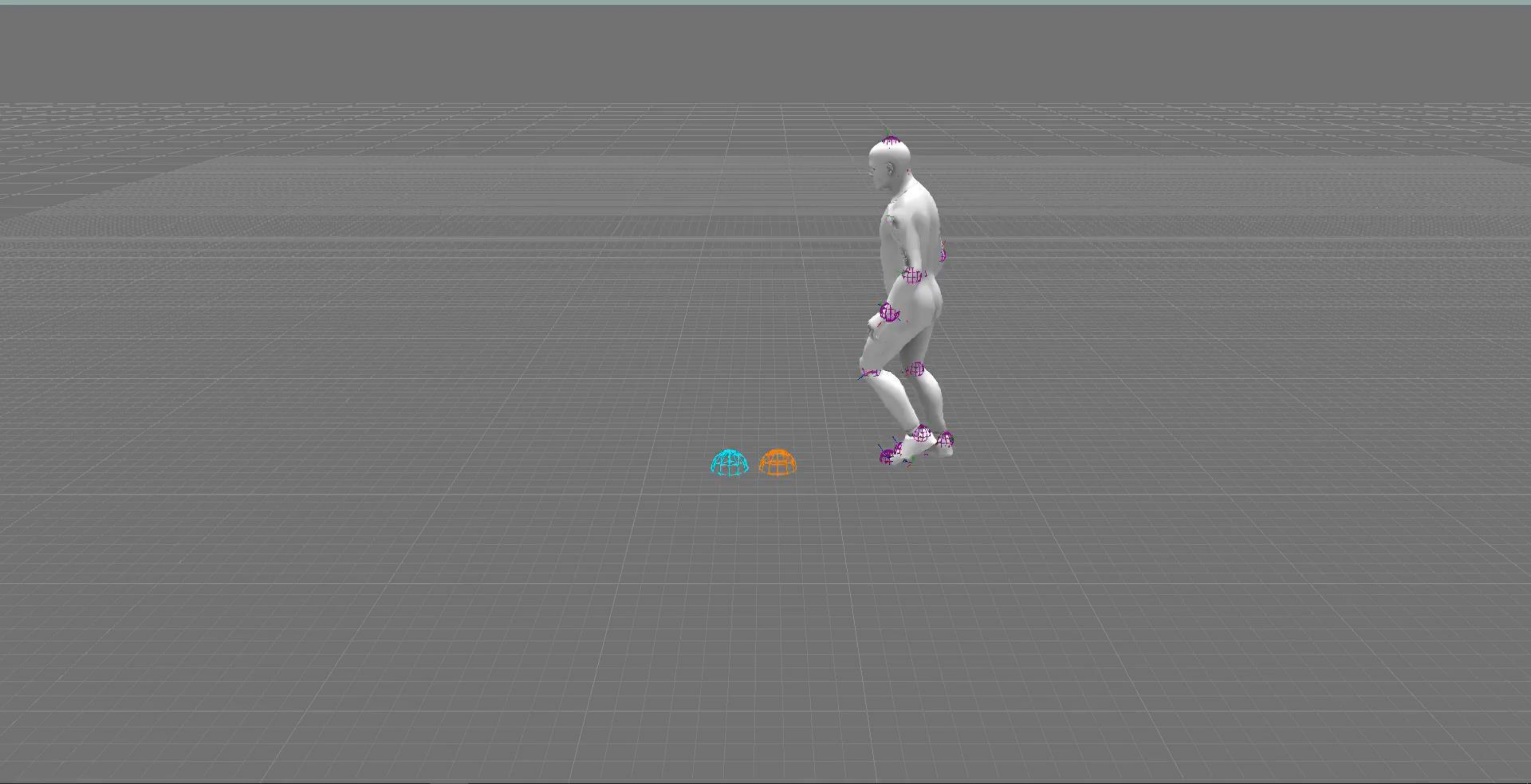


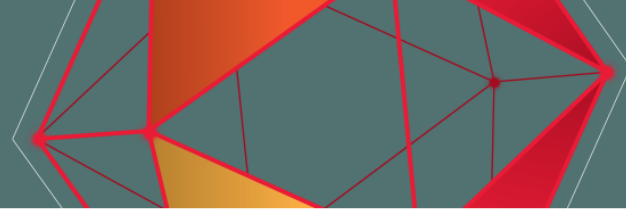




# Neural Network



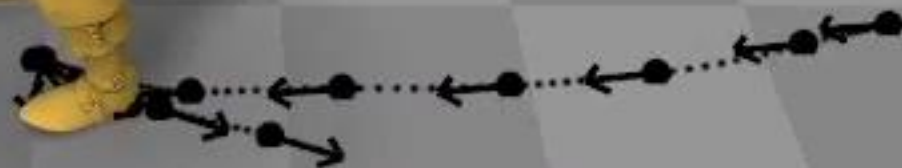


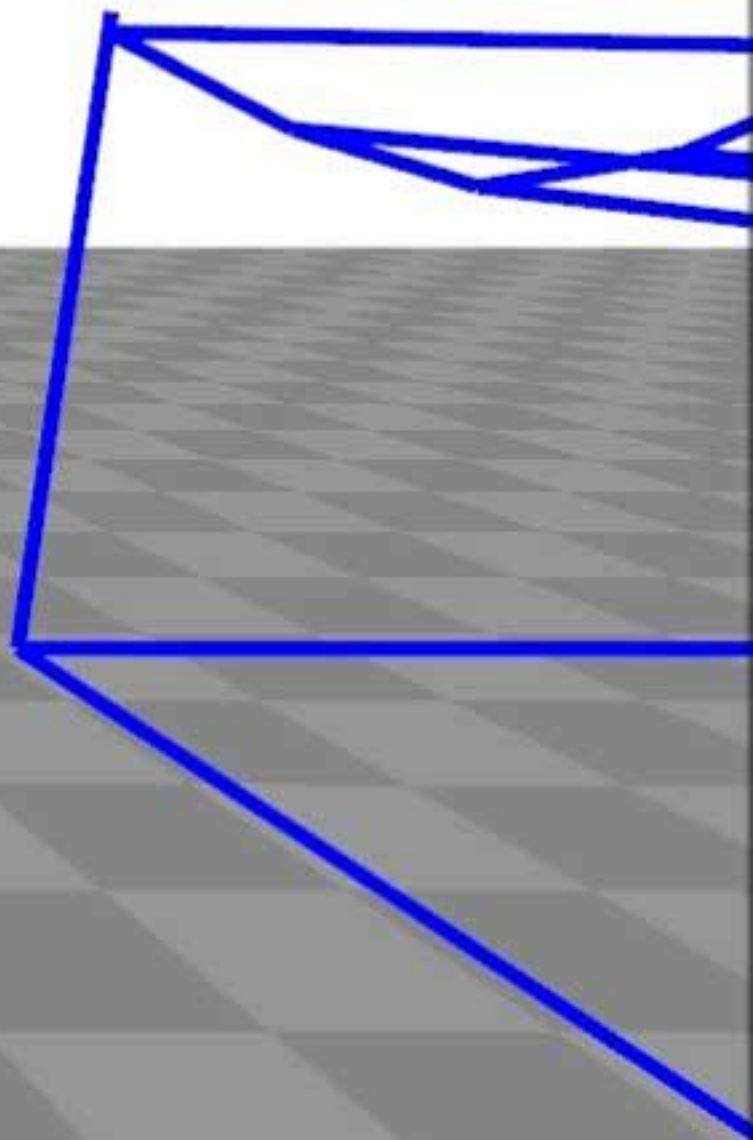
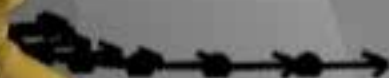
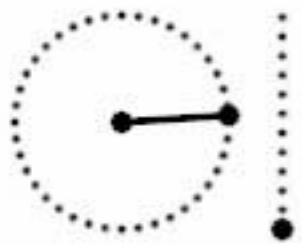


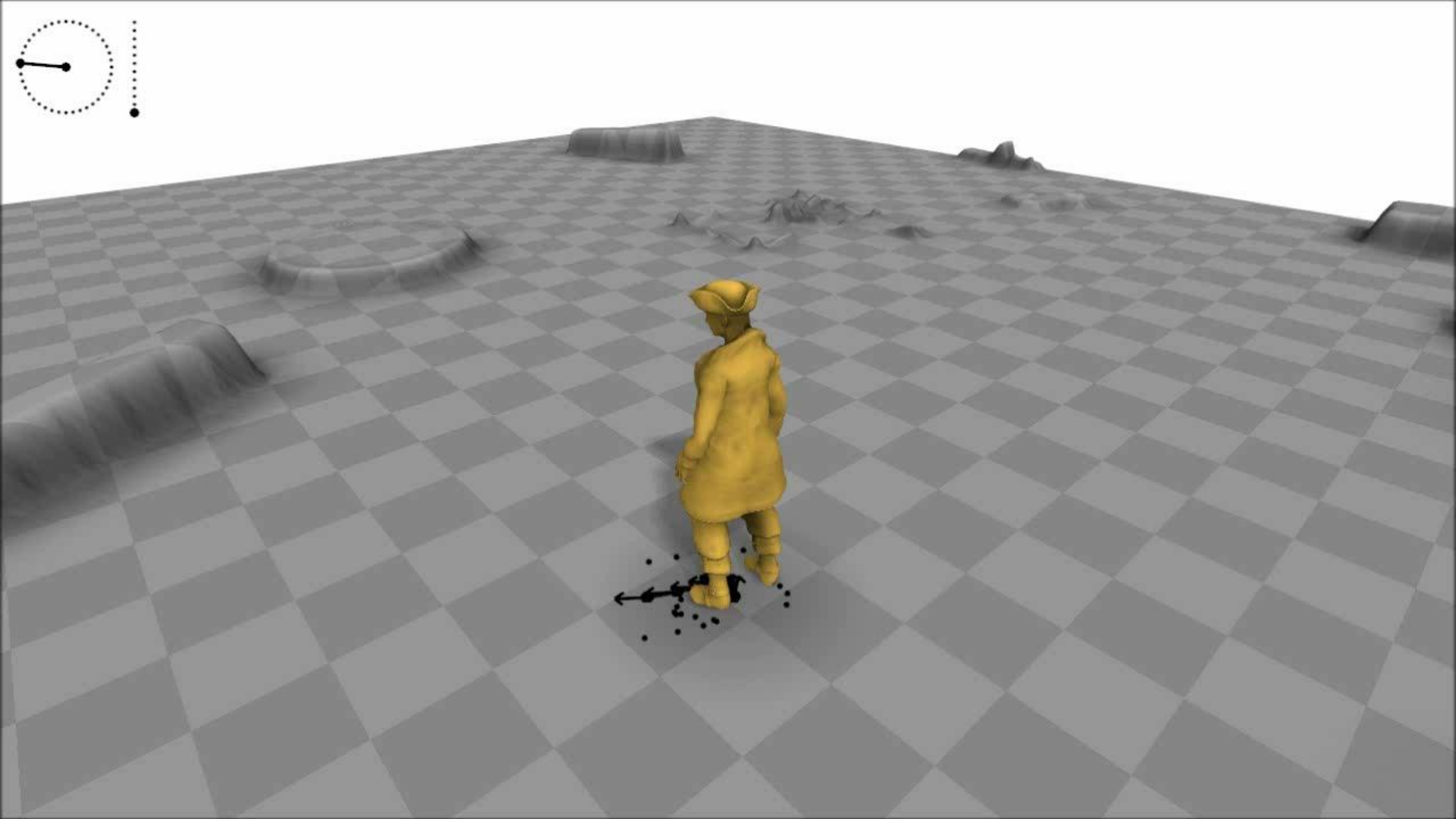
# Continue tweaking $x$ and $y$ ...















# Memory

~10 mb

# Runtime

~1 ms

OR

~100 mb

~0.5 ms





- **Separate Data** ✓
- **Specify Desired Variables** ✓
- **Generalize Solution** ✓





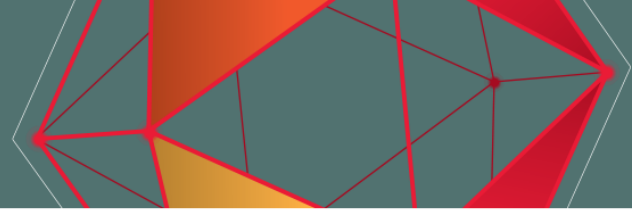
# Conclusion





# Sacrifices





# Sacrifices

- We must give up precise control.





# Sacrifices

- We must give up precise control.
- Requires learning a whole new skill set.







# Sacrifices

- We must give up precise control.
- Requires learning a whole new skill set.
- Does not deal with many special cases.





# Scalability

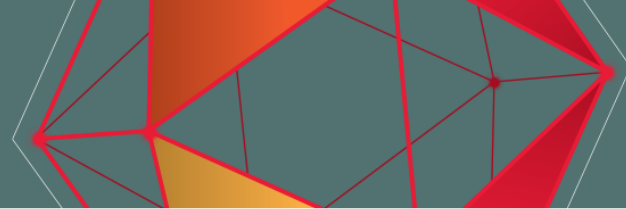




# Scalability

- Animation quality is losing the battle against complexity.





# Scalability

- Animation quality is losing the battle against complexity.
- *We can* use Machine Learning to balance this fight.

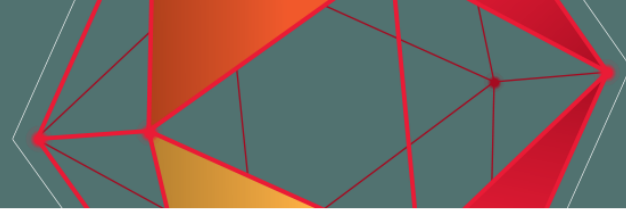




# Scalability

- Animation quality is losing the battle against complexity.
- *We can* use Machine Learning to balance this fight.
- These ideas are one way of making progress.





# The Future

- How can we remove the phase variable?



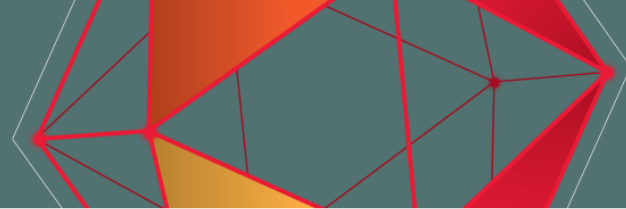




# The Future

- How can we remove the phase variable?
- Can we scale to hundreds of different styles?





# The Future

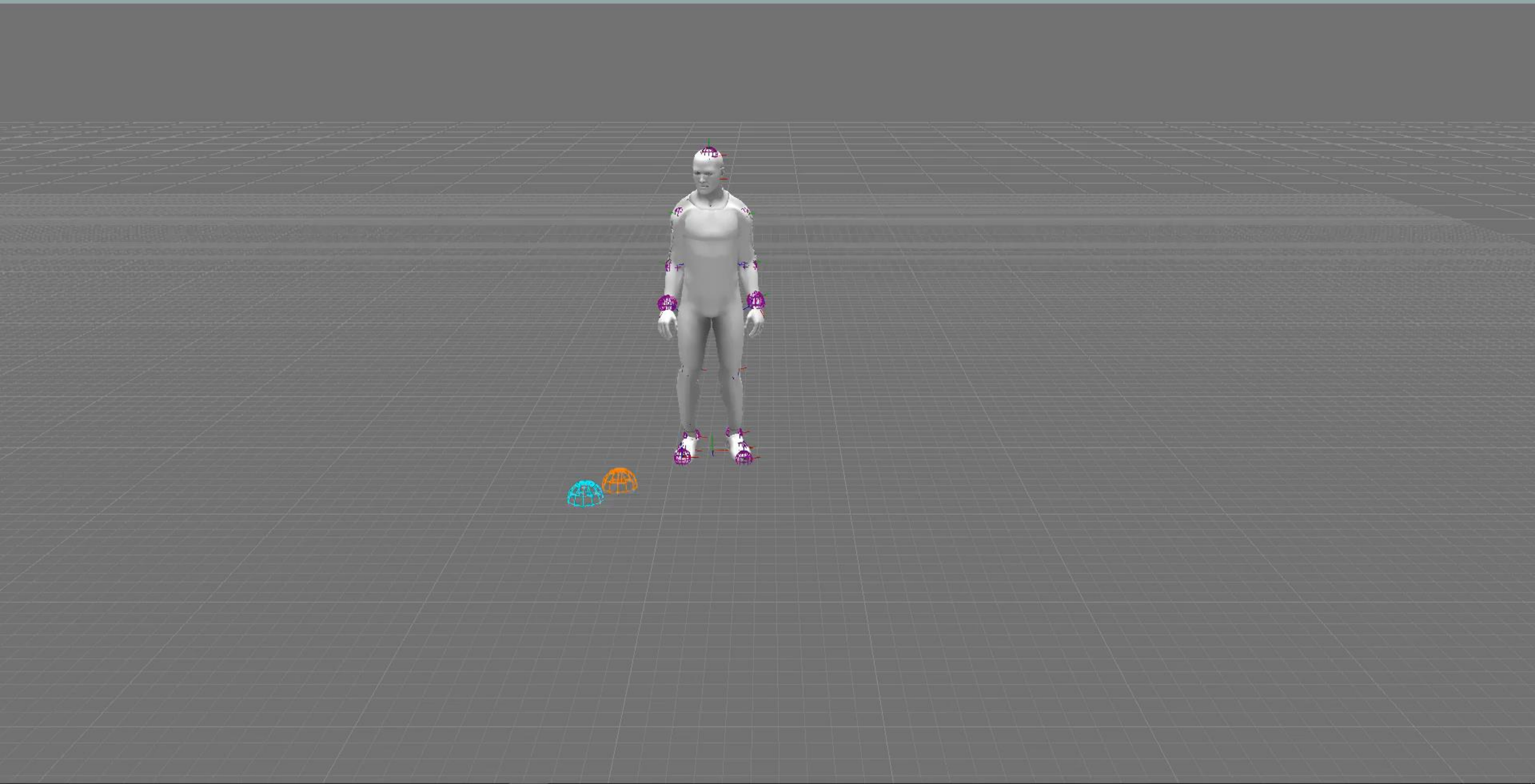
- How can we remove the phase variable?
- Can we scale to hundreds of different styles?
- How can we continue to improve the quality?



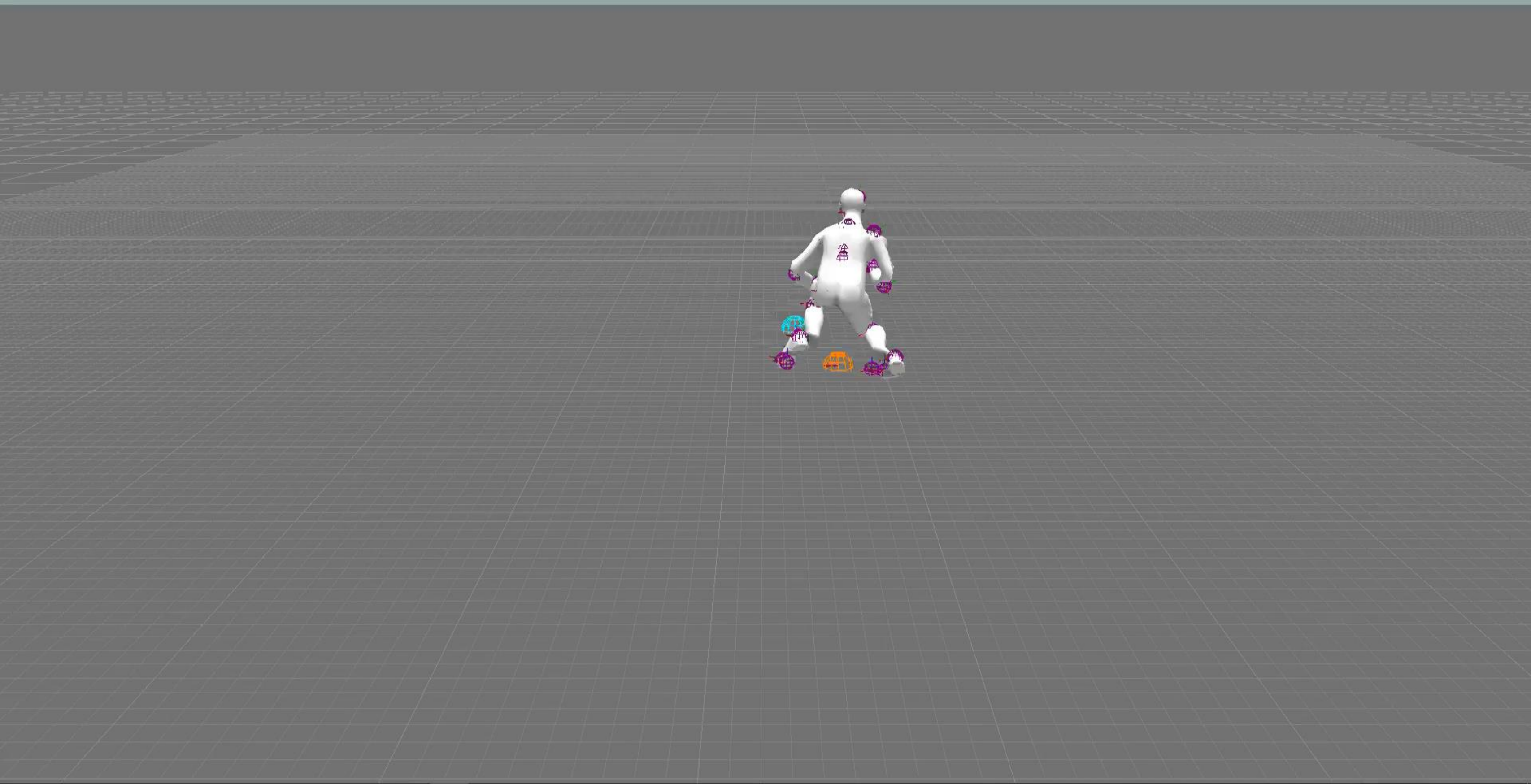


# What Machine Learning is Really Like















# Thanks!





# Any Questions?

