CS-184: Computer Graphics

Lecture #19: Motion Capture

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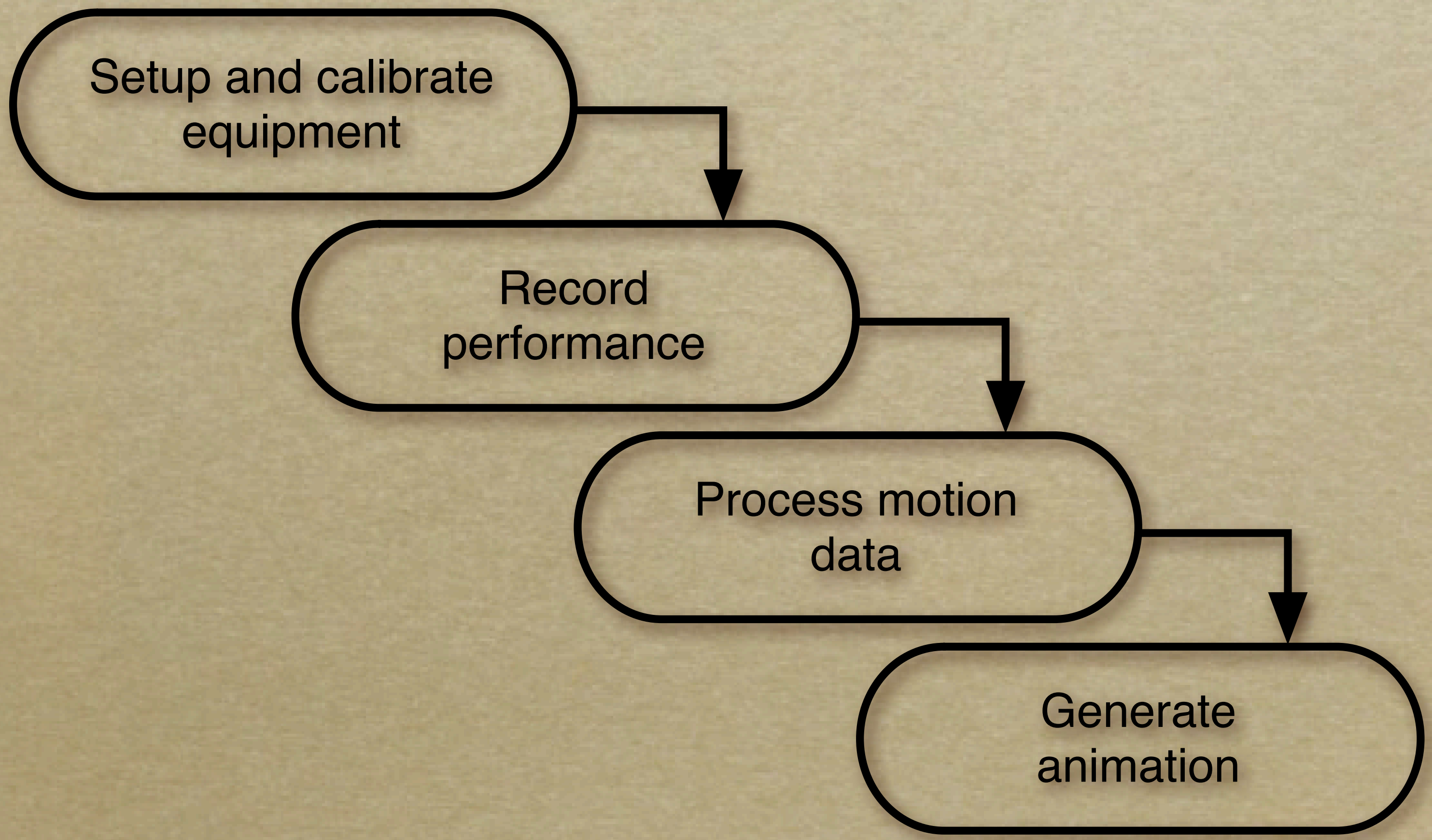
Today

- Motion Capture

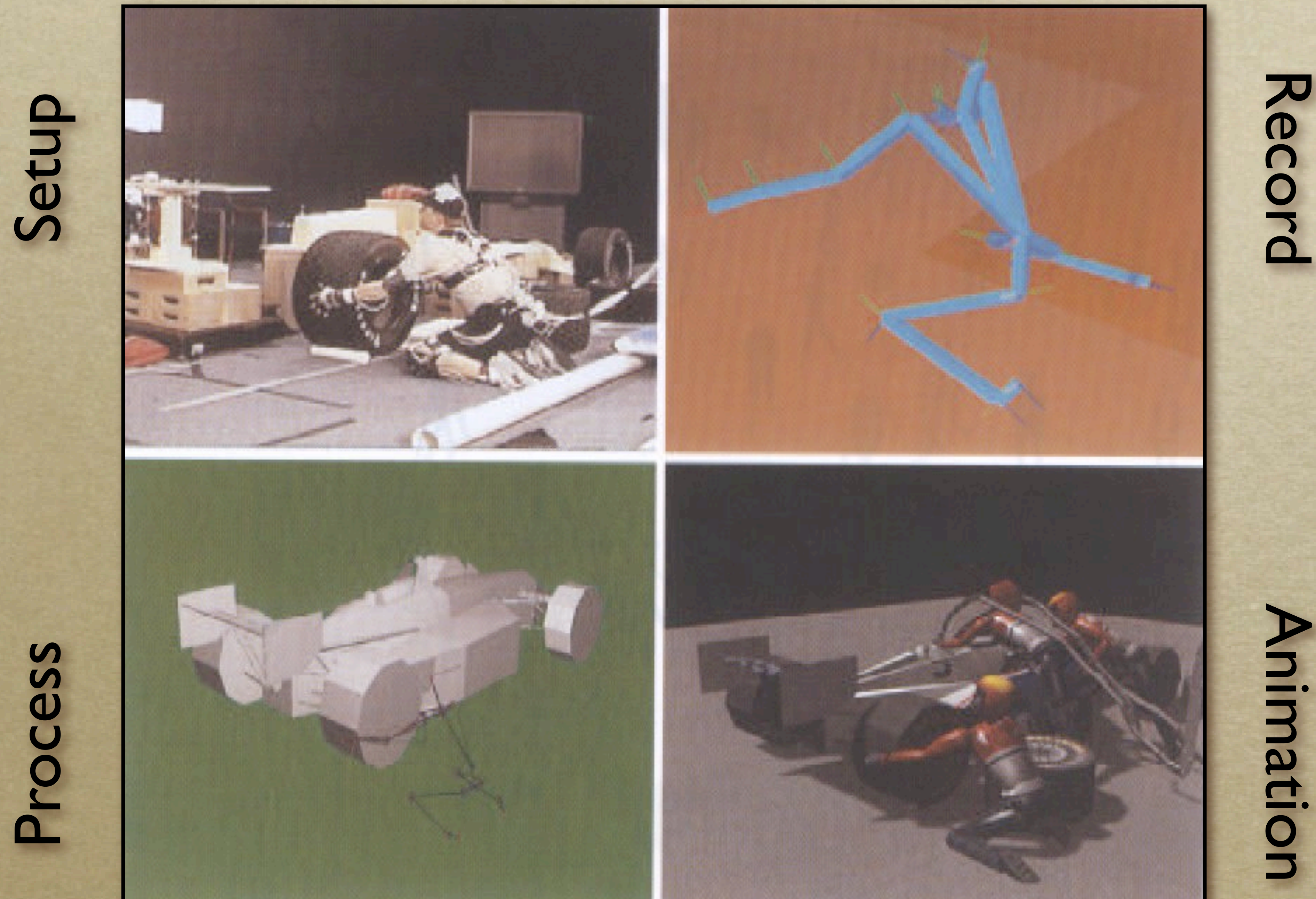
Motion Capture

- Record motion from physical objects
- Use motion to animate virtual objects

Simplified Pipeline:



Basic Pipeline



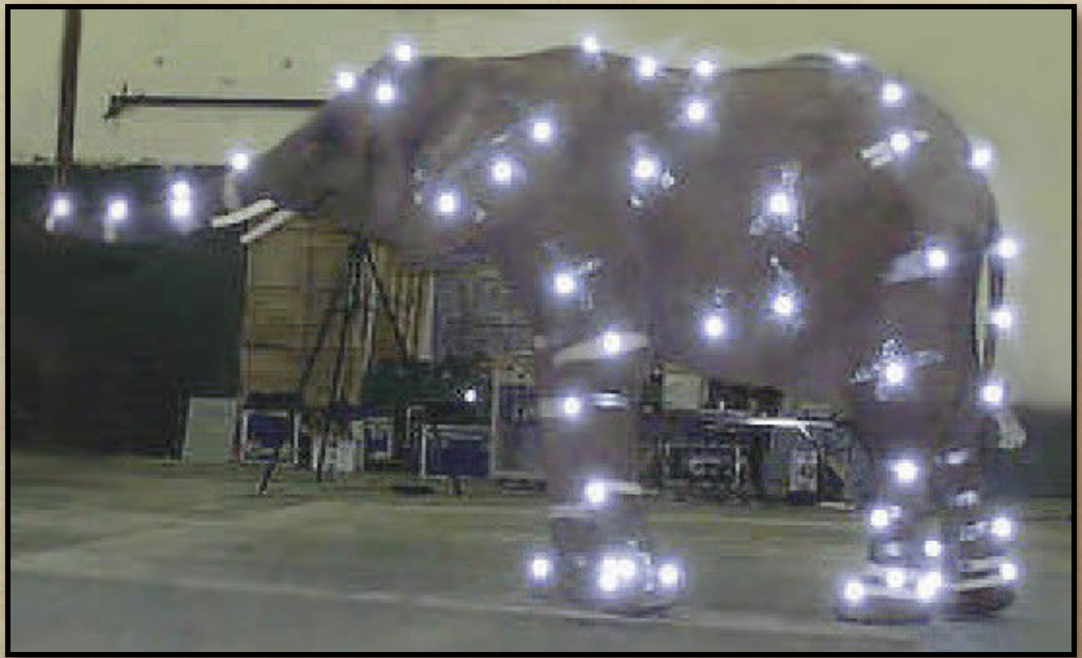
From Rose, *et al.*, 1998

What types of objects?

- Human, whole body
- Portions of body
- Facial animation
- Animals
- Puppets
- Other objects

Capture Equipment

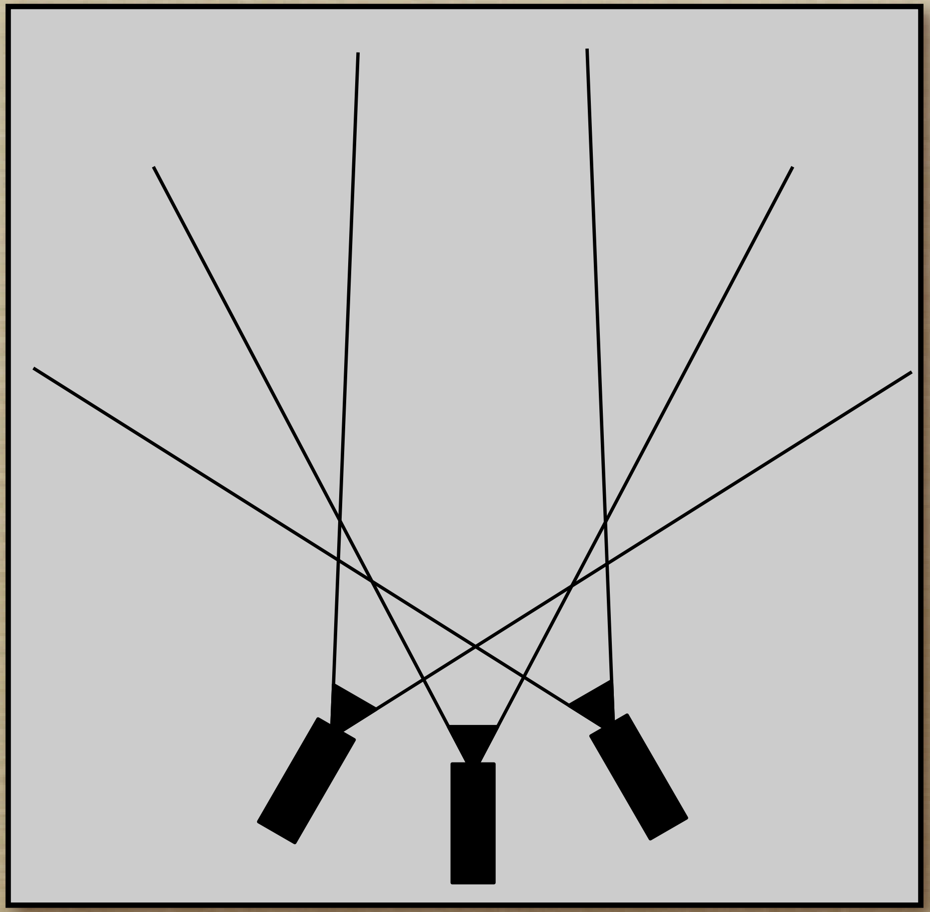
- Passive Optical
  - Reflective markers
  - IR (typically) illumination
  - Special cameras
    - Fast, high res., filters
  - Triangulate for positions



Images from Motion Analysis

Capture Equipment

- Passive Optical Advantages
  - Accurate
  - May use many markers
  - No cables
  - High frequency
- Disadvantages
  - Requires lots of processing
  - Expensive systems
  - Occlusions
  - Marker swap
  - Lighting / camera limitations



Capture Equipment

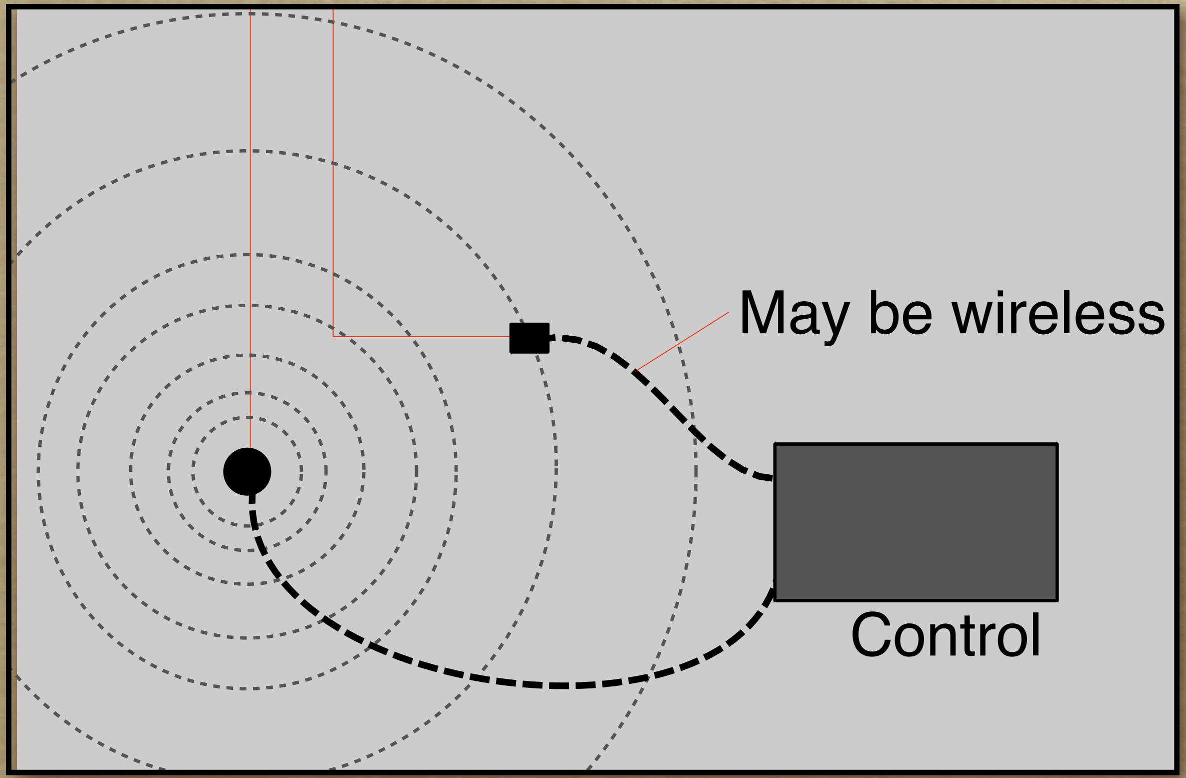
- Active Optical
  - Similar to passive but uses LEDs
  - Blink IDs, no marker swap
  - Number of markers trades off w/ frame rate

Phoenix Technology

Phase Space

Capture Equipment

- Magnetic Trackers
  - Transmitter emits field
  - Trackers sense field
  - Trackers report position and orientation

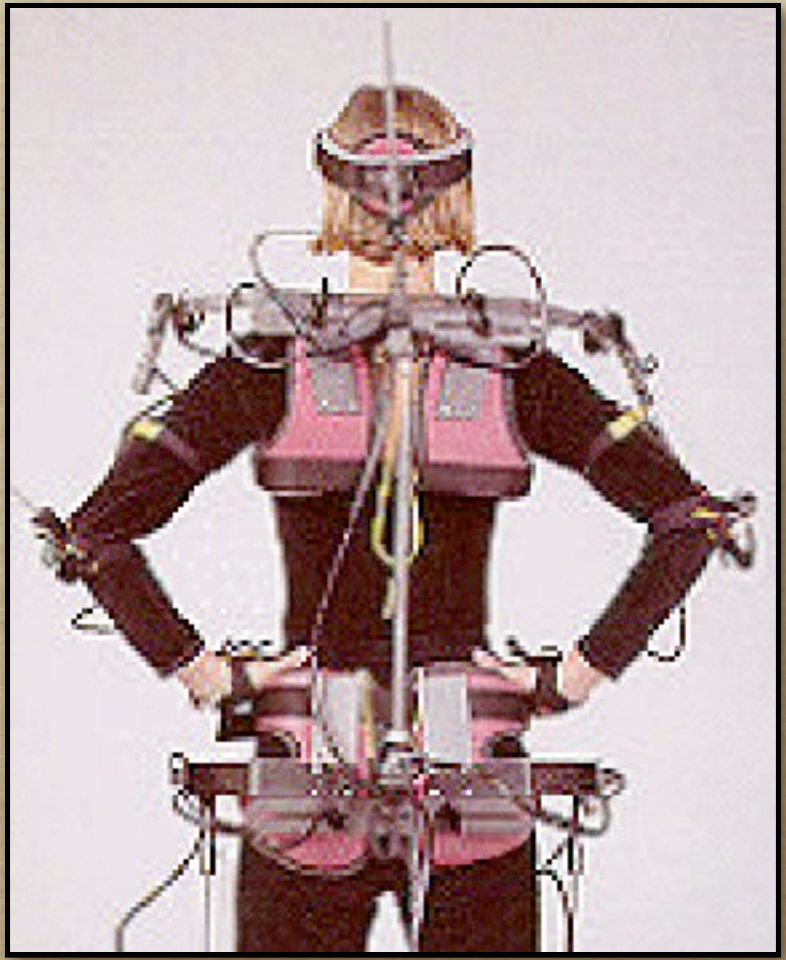


Capture Equipment

- Electromagnetic Advantages
  - 6 DOF data
  - No occlusions
  - Less post processing
  - Cheaper than optical
- Disadvantages
  - Cables
  - Problems with metal objects
  - Low(er) frequency
  - Limited range
  - Limited number of trackers

Capture Equipment

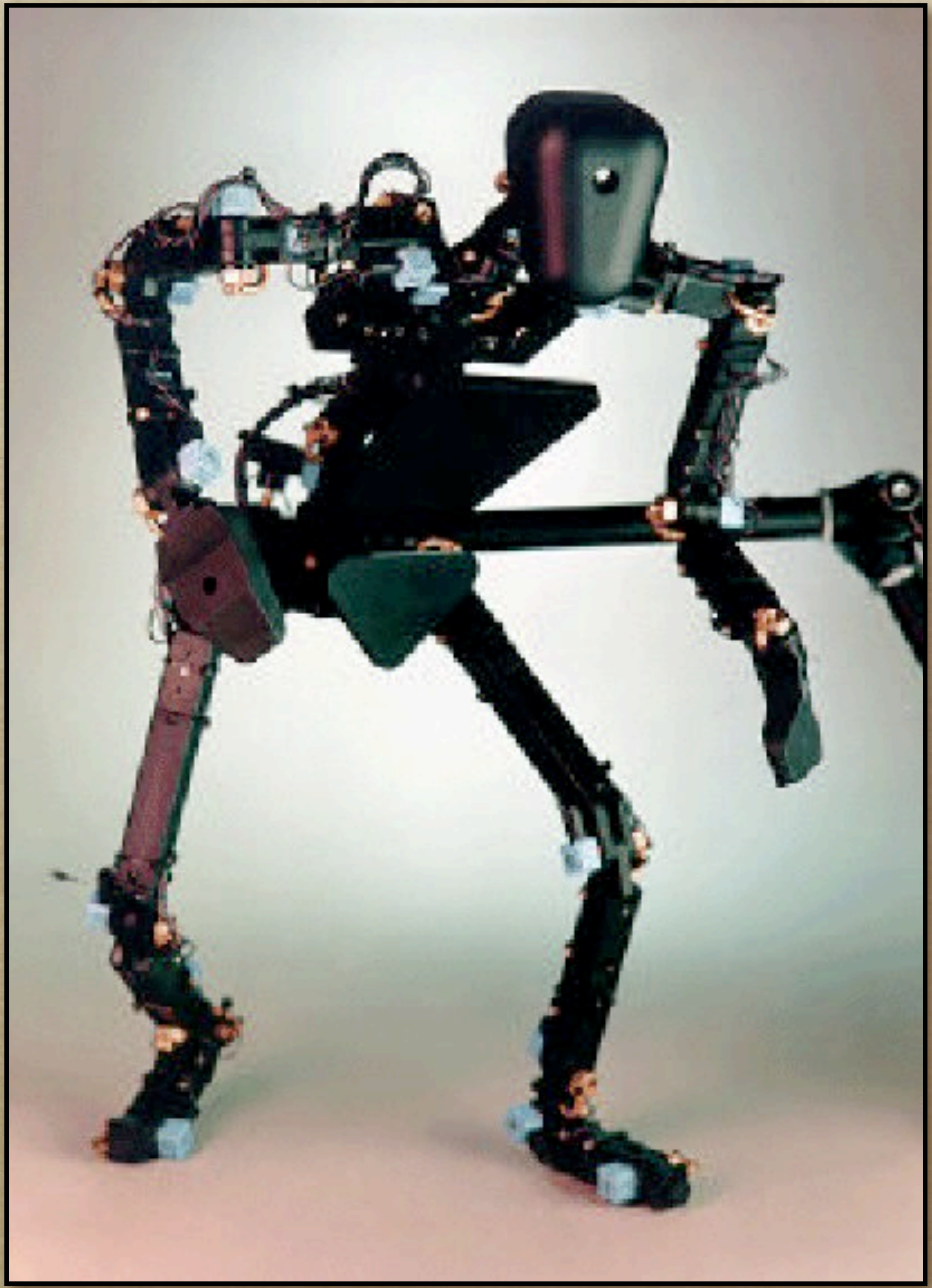
- Electromechanical



Analogus

Capture Equipment

- Puppets



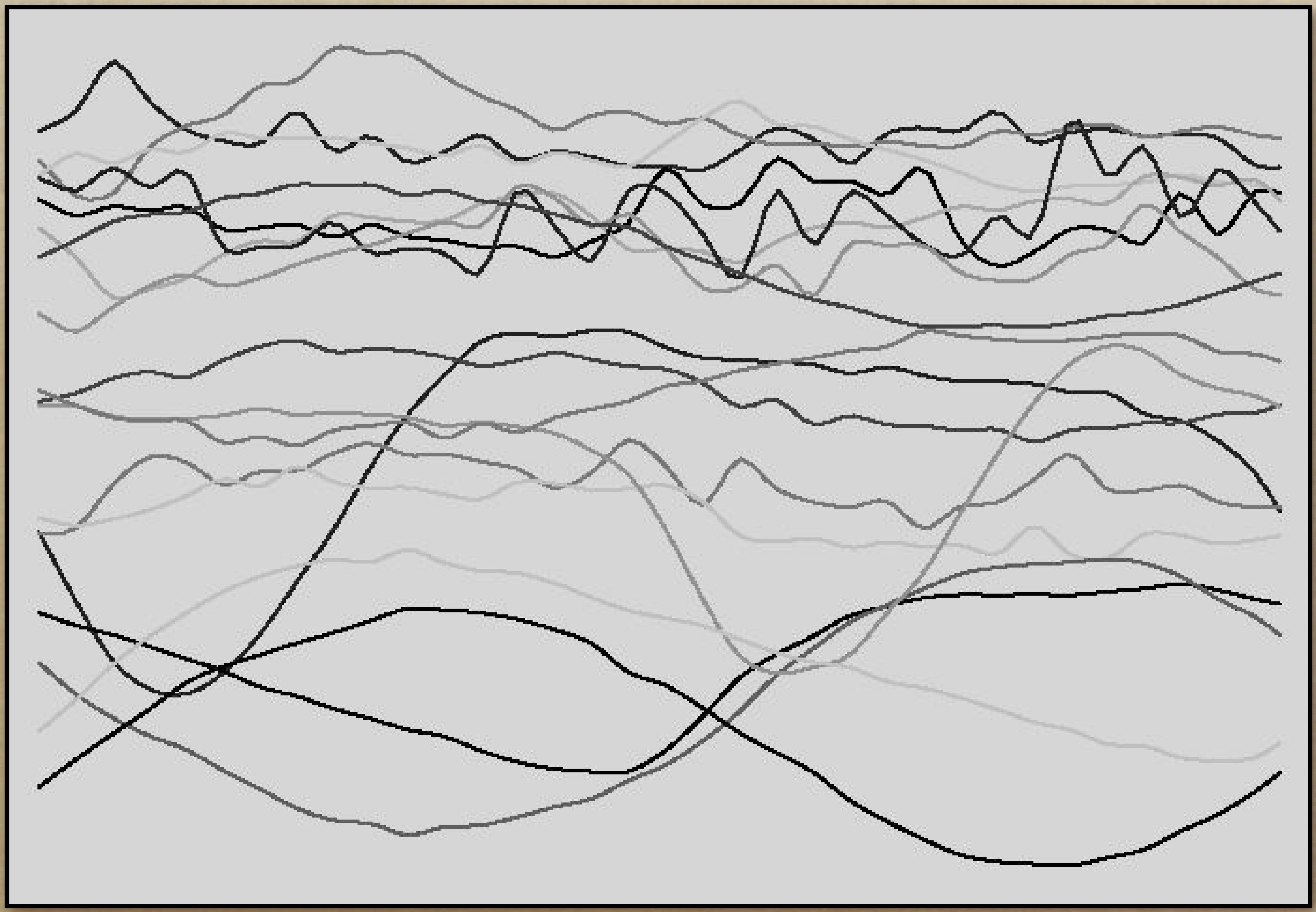
Performance Capture

- Many studios regard *Motion* Capture as evil
  - Synonymous with low quality motion
  - No directive / creative control
  - Cheap
- *Performance* Capture is different
  - Use mocap device as an expressive input device
  - Similar to digital music and MIDI keyboards

Manipulating Motion Data

- Basic tasks
  - Adjusting
  - Blending
  - Transitioning
  - Retargeting
- Building graphs

Nature of Motion Data

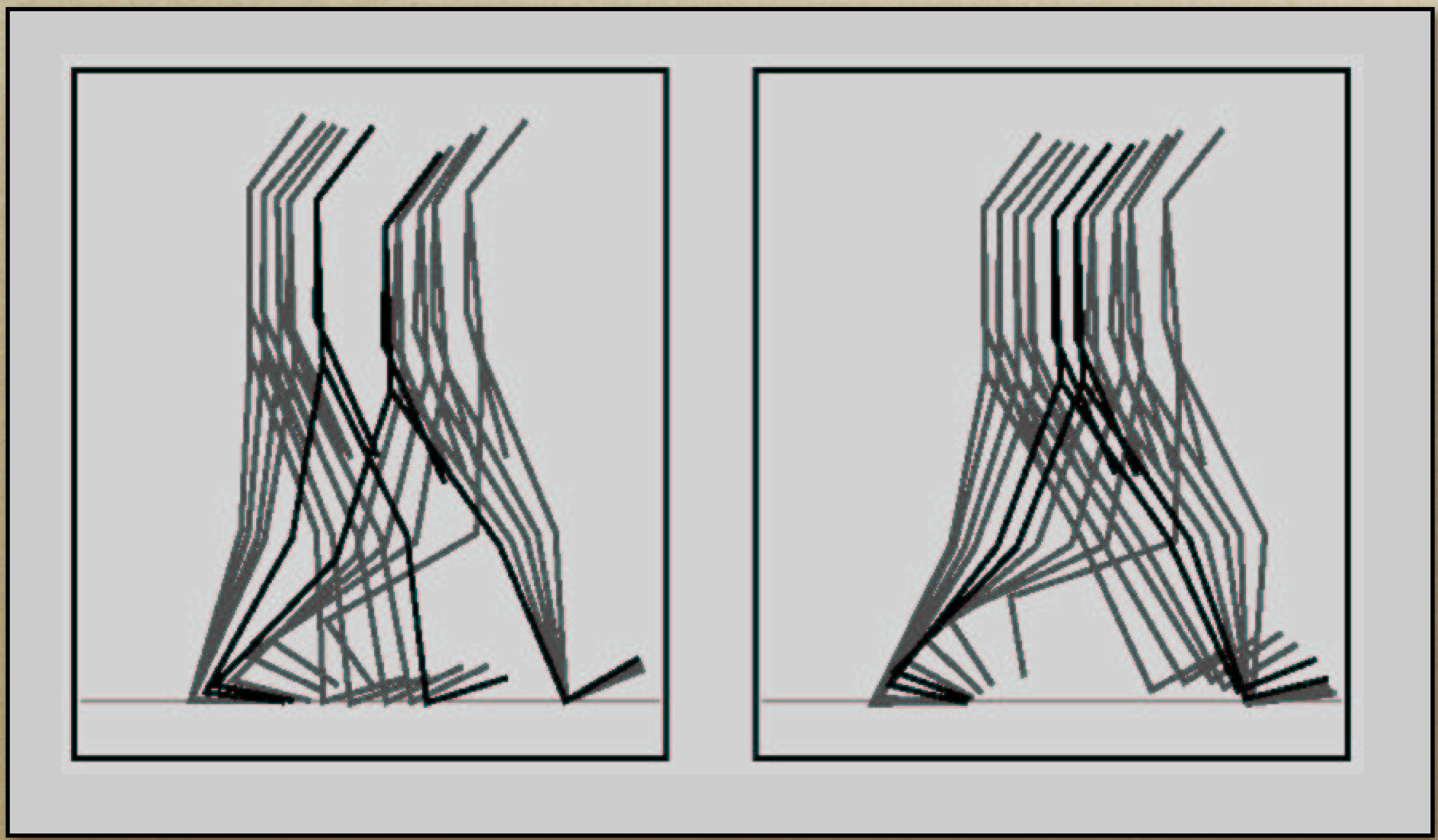


Witkin and Popovic, 1995

Subset of motion curves from captured walking motion.

Adjusting

- IK on single frames will not work



Gleicher, SIGGRAPH 98

Adjusting

- Define desired motion function in parts

$$\boldsymbol{m}(t) = \boldsymbol{m}_0(t) + \boldsymbol{d}(t)$$

Adjustment

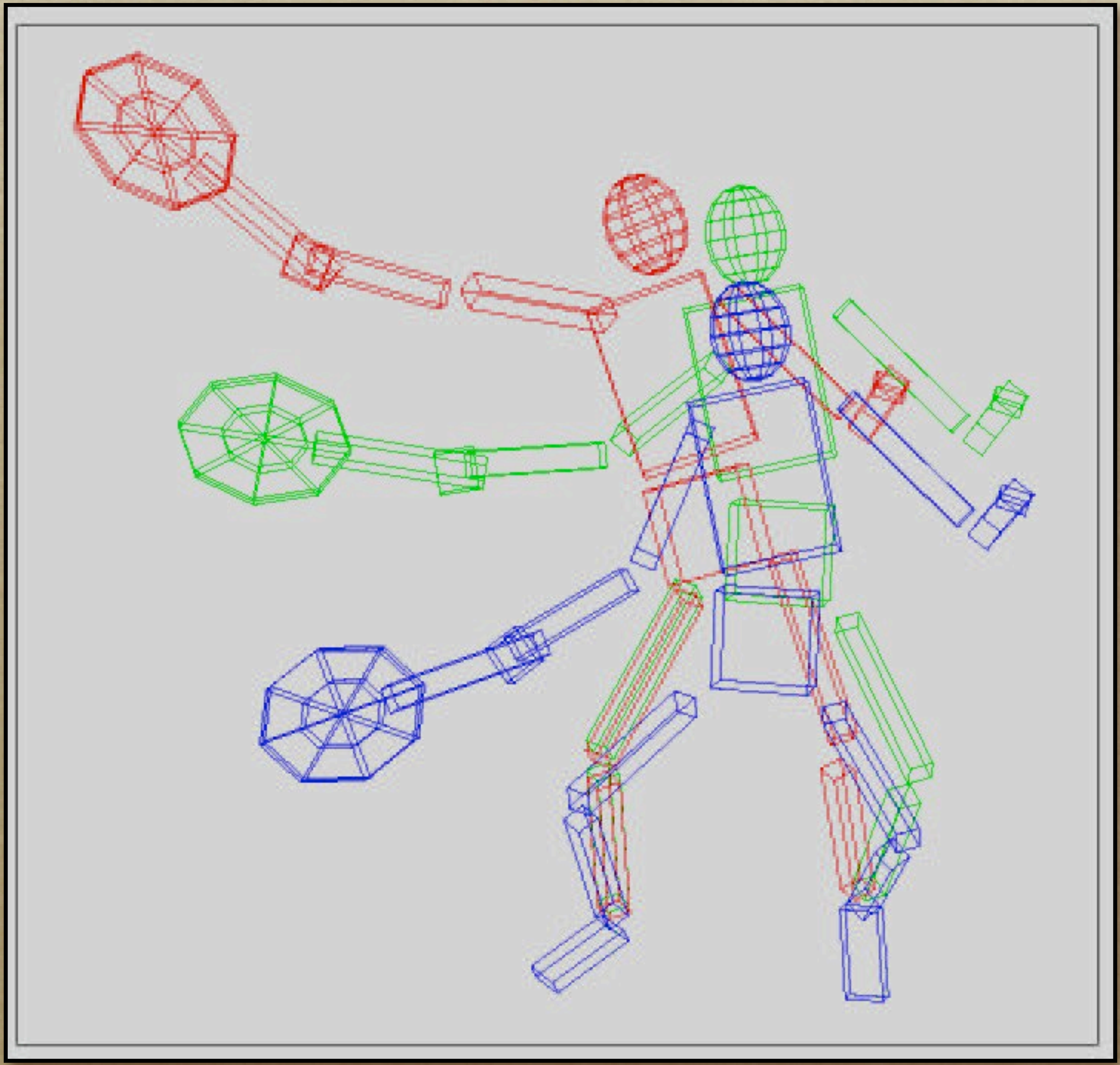
Inital sampled data

Result after adjustment

Adjusting

- Select adjustment function from "some nice space"
  - Example C2 B-splines
- Spread modification over reasonable period of time
  - User selects support radius

Adjusting

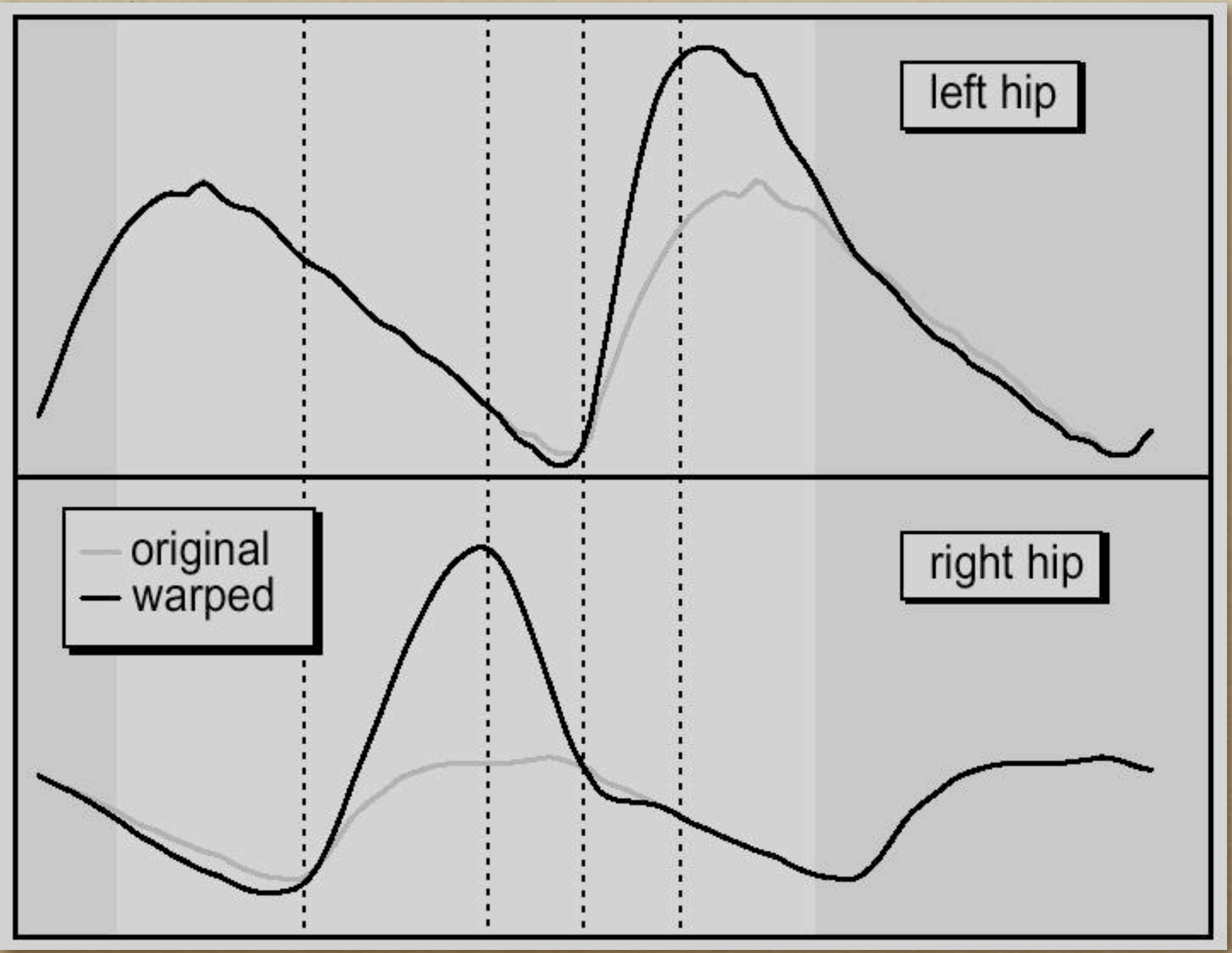


IK uses control points of the B-spline now

Example:
- position racket
- fix right foot
- fix left toes
- balance

Witkin and Popovic SIGGRAPH 95

Adjusting



Witkin and Popovic SIGGRAPH 95

What if adjustment periods overlap?

Blending

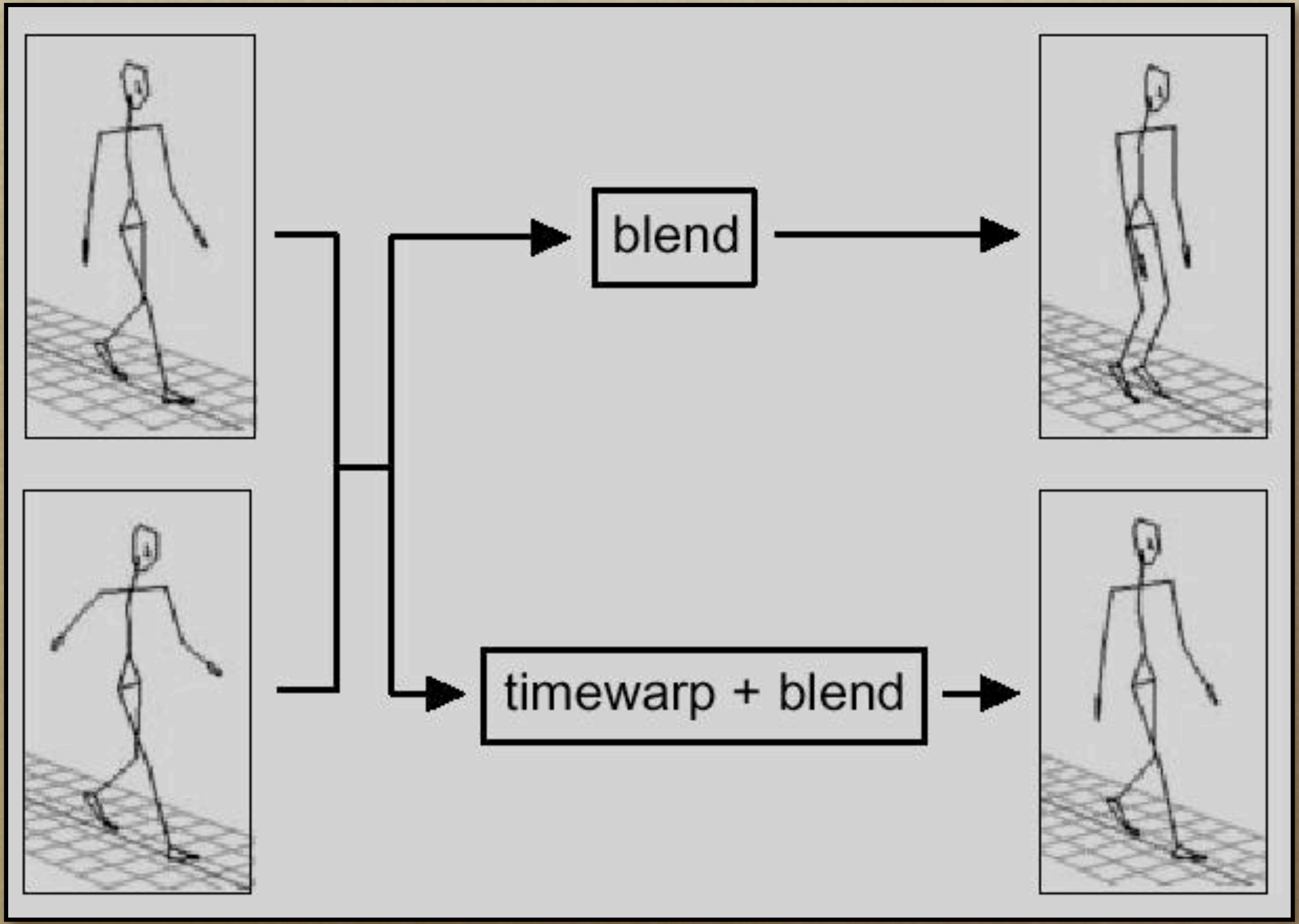
- Given two motions make a motion that combines qualities of both

$$\boldsymbol{m}_\alpha(t) = \alpha \boldsymbol{m}_a(t) + (1-\alpha)\boldsymbol{m}_b(t)$$

- Assume same DOFs
- Assume same parameter mappings

Blending

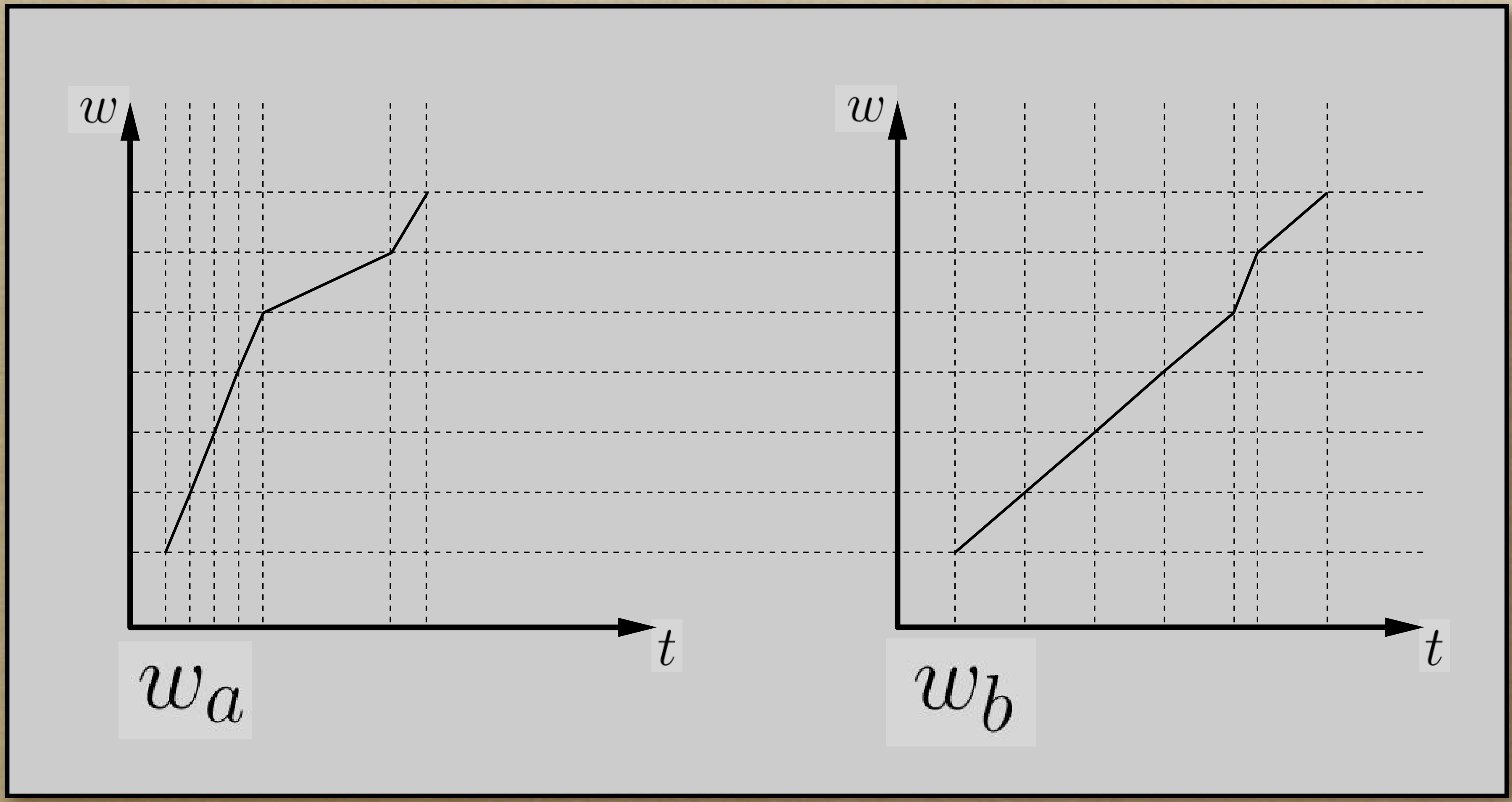
- Consider blending *slow-walk* and *fast-walk*



Bruderlin and Williams, SIGGRAPH 95

Blending

- Define timewarp functions to align features in motion



Normalized time is *w*

Blending

- Blend in normalized time

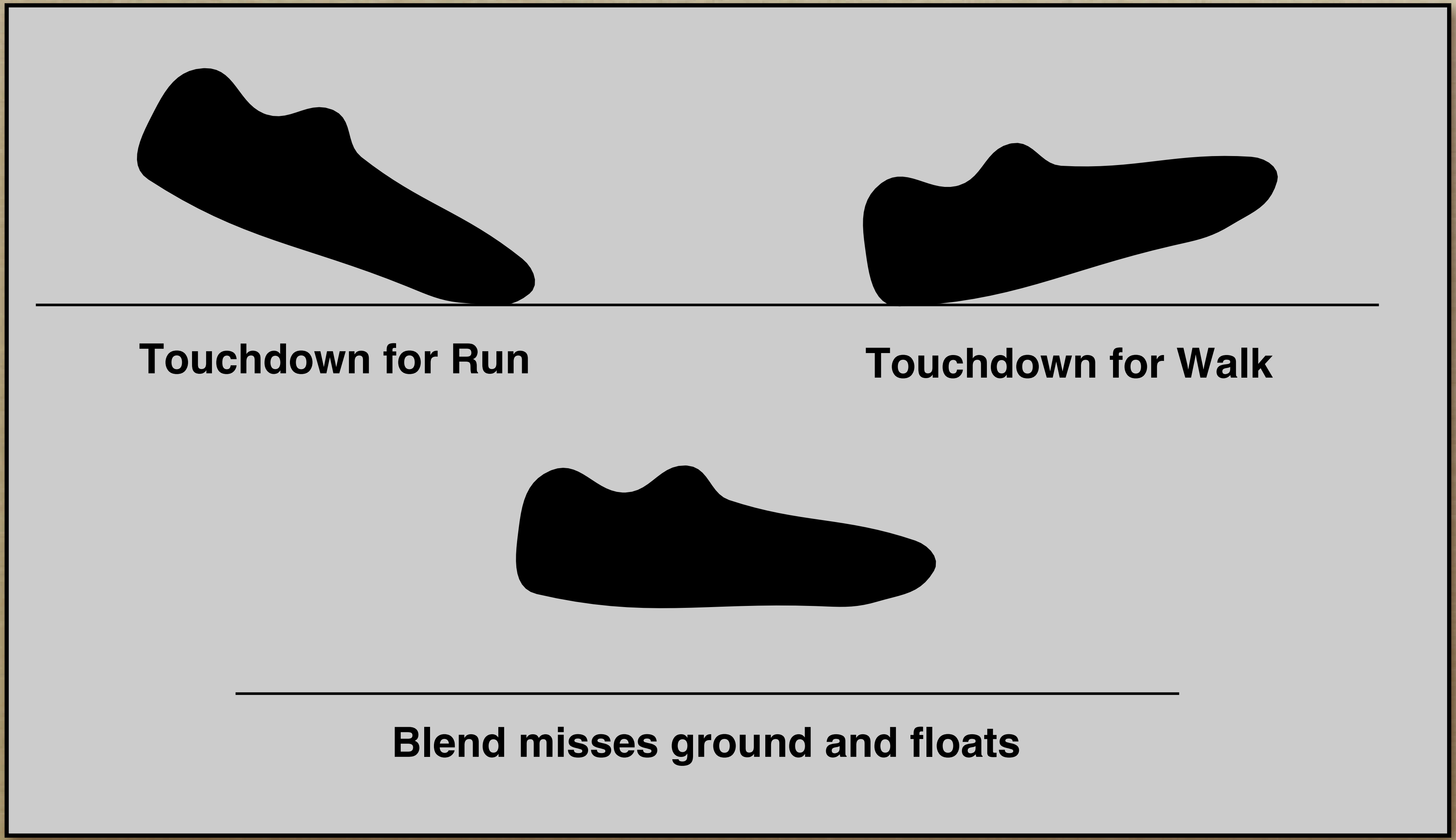
$$\boldsymbol{m}_\alpha(w) = \alpha \boldsymbol{m}_a(w_a) + (1-\alpha)\boldsymbol{m}_b(w_b)$$

- Blend playback rate

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}t}{\mathrm{d}w} = \alpha \frac{\mathrm{d}t}{\mathrm{d}w_a} + (1-\alpha)\alpha \frac{\mathrm{d}t}{\mathrm{d}w_b}$$

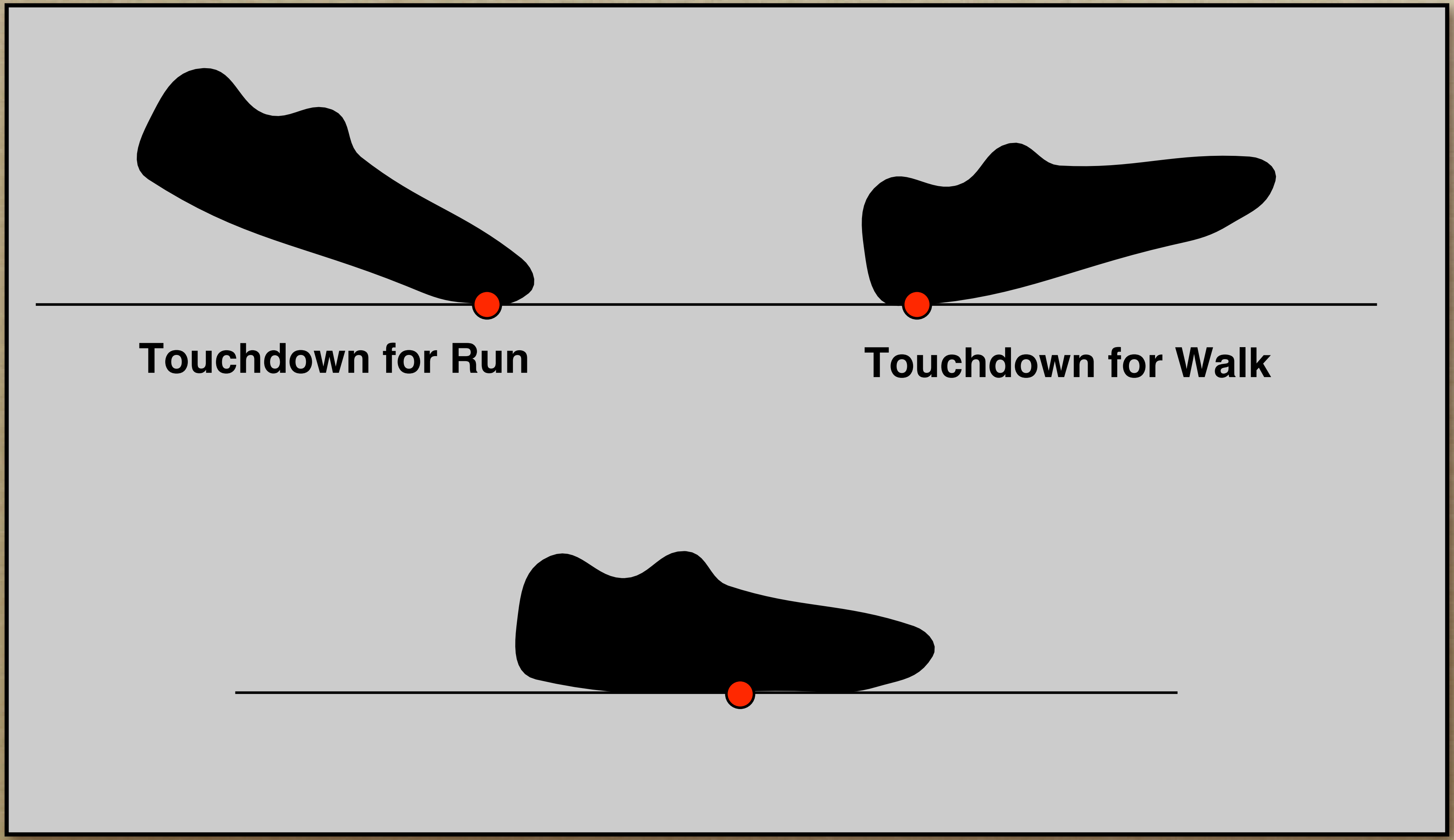
Blending

- Blending may still break features in original motions



Blending

- Add explicit constrains to key points
  - Enforce with IK over time

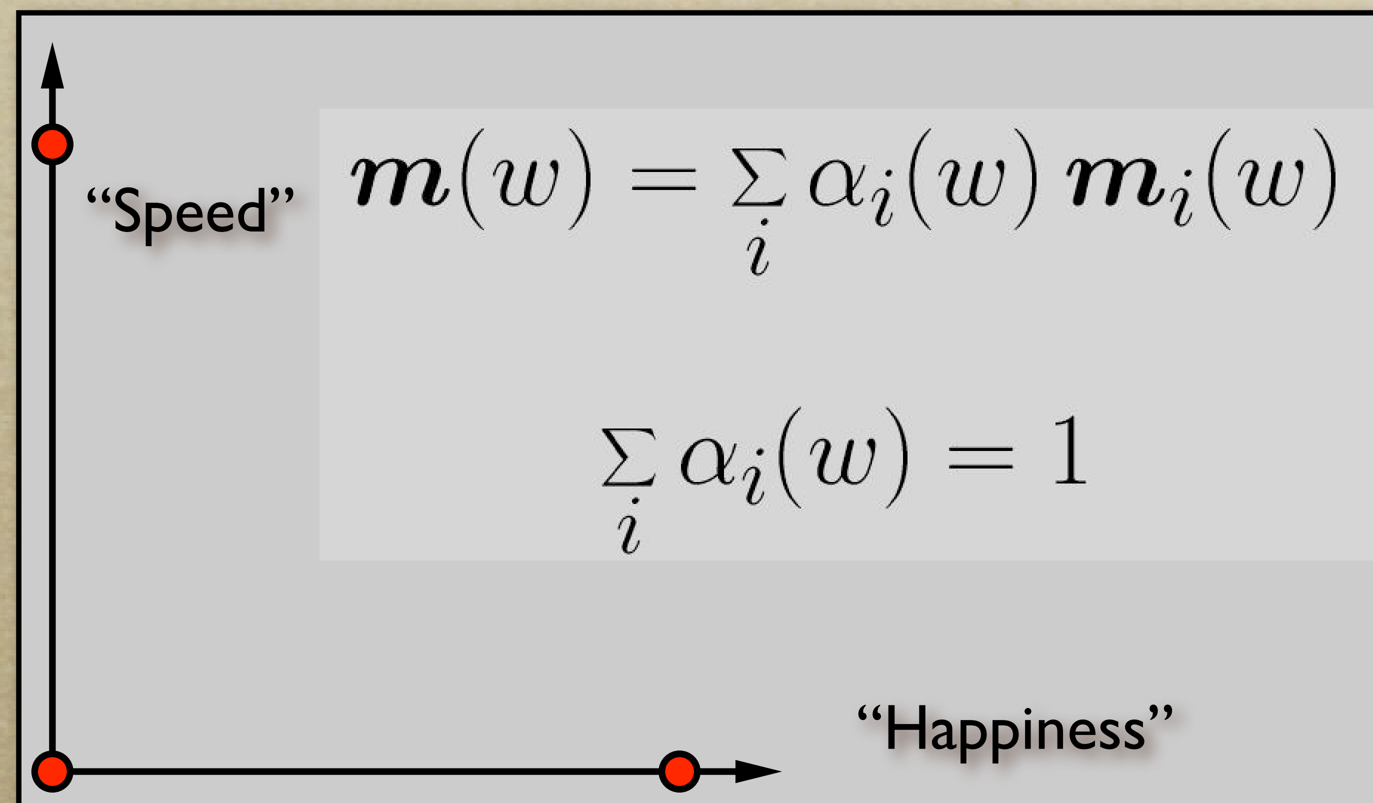


Blending / Adjustment

- Short edits will tend to look acceptable
- Longer ones will often exhibit problems
- Optimize to improve blends / adjustments
  - Add quality metric on adjustment
  - Minimize accelerations / torques
  - Explicit smoothness constraints
  - Other criteria...

Multivariate Blending

- Extend blending to multivariate interpolation

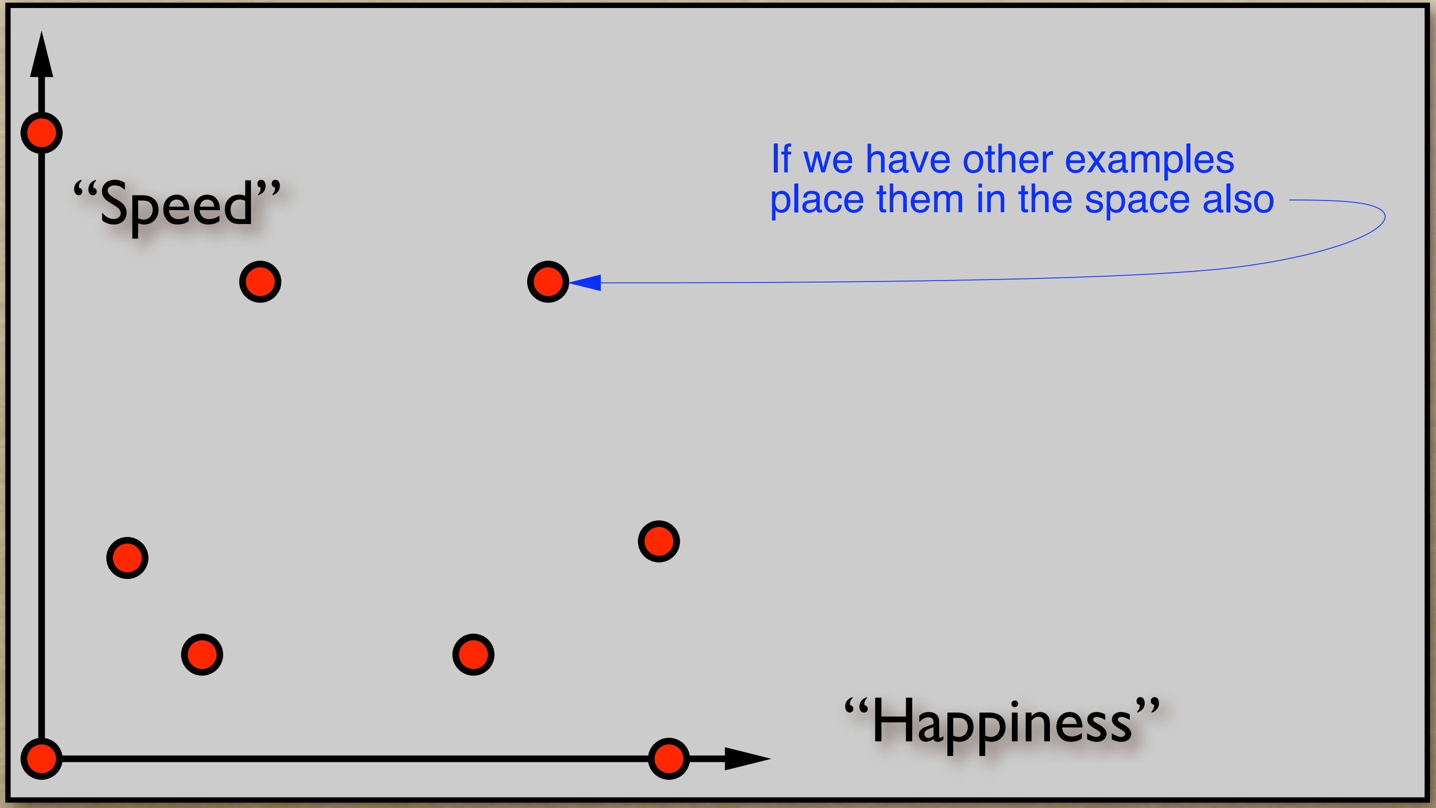


$$\boldsymbol{m}(w) = \sum_i \alpha_i(w)\,\boldsymbol{m}_i(w)$$

$$\sum_i \alpha_i(w) = 1$$

Multivariate Blending

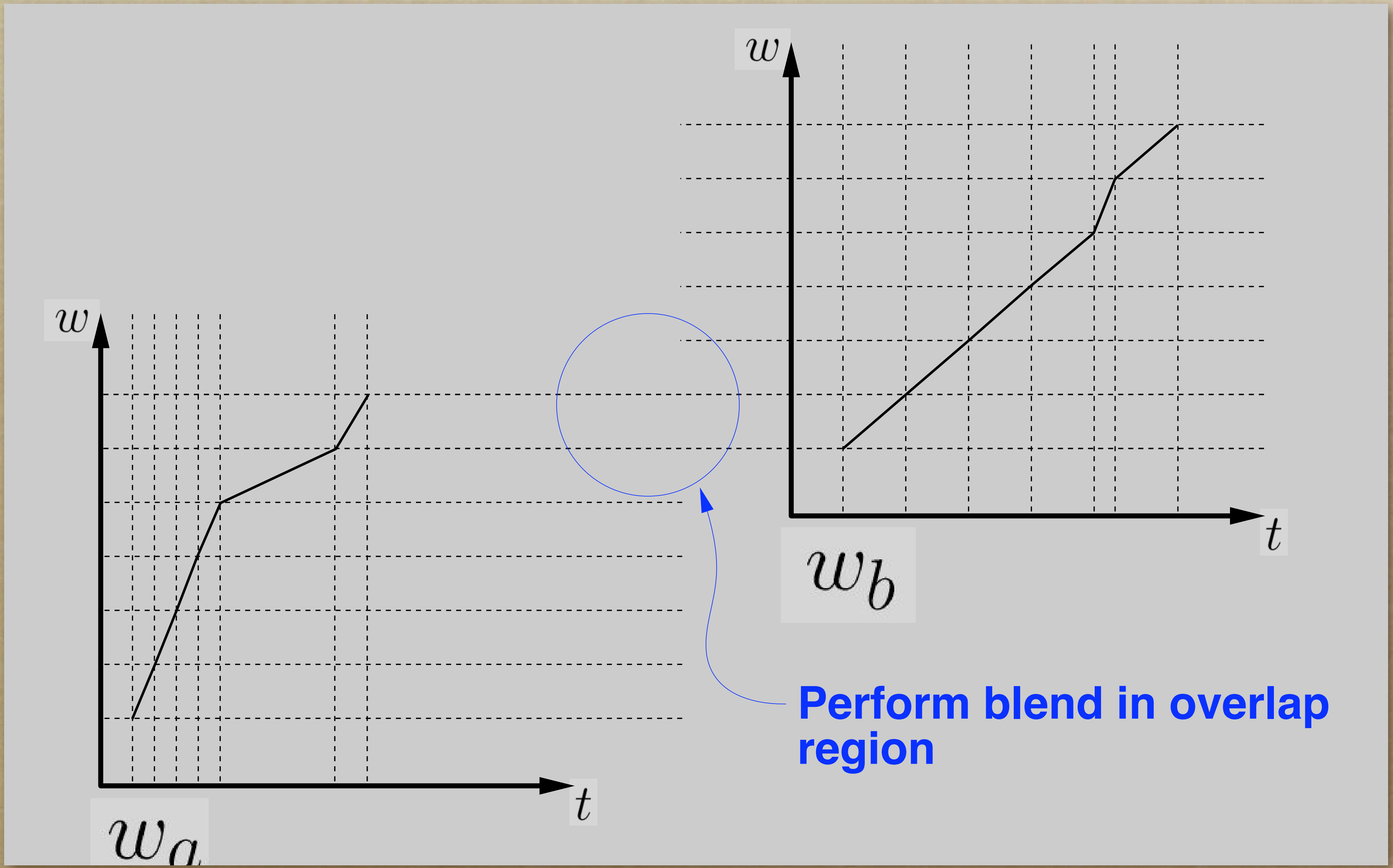
- Extend blending to multivariate interpolation



Use standard scattered-data interpolation methods

Transitions

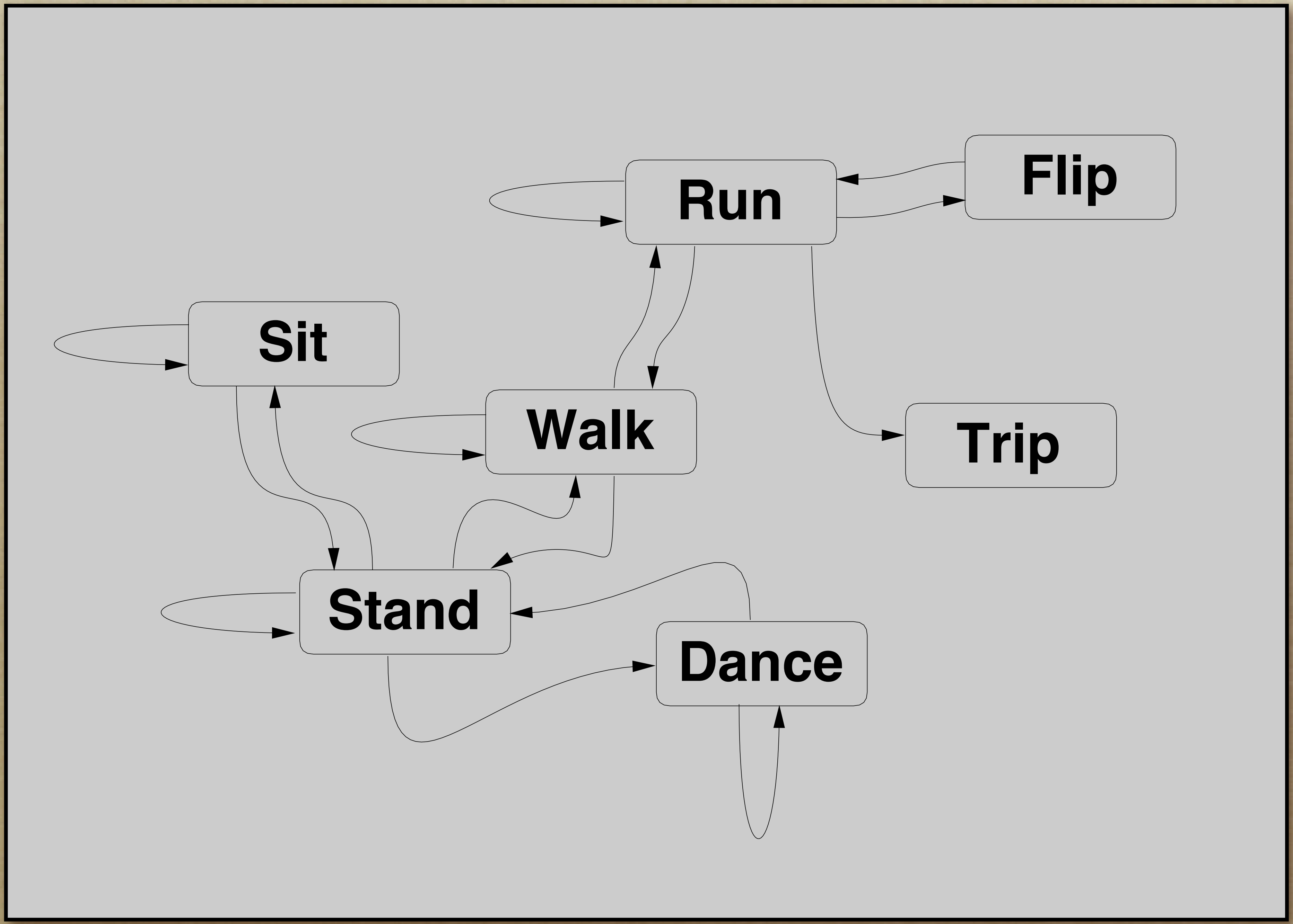
- Transition from one motion to another



Cyclification

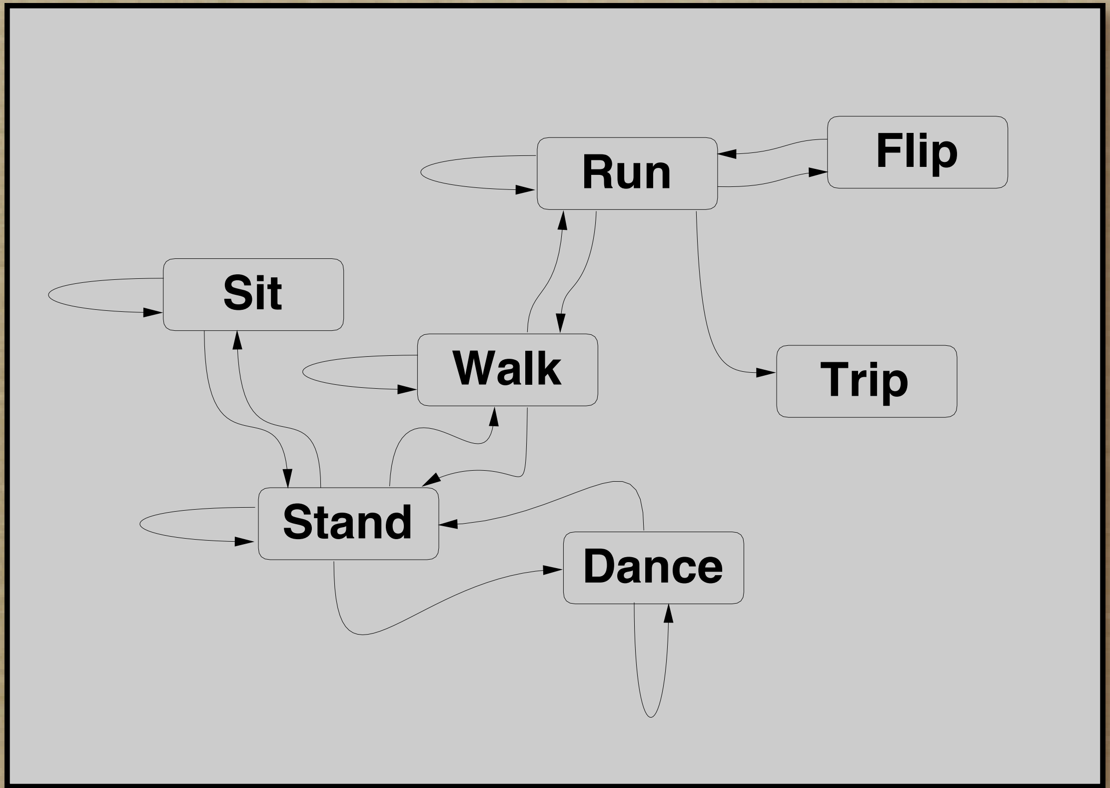
- Special case of transitioning
- Both motions are the same
- Need to modify beginning and end of a motion simultaneously

Transition Graphs



Motion Graphs

- Hand build motion graphs often used in games
  - Significant amount of work required
  - Limited transitions by design
- Motion graphs can also be built automatically

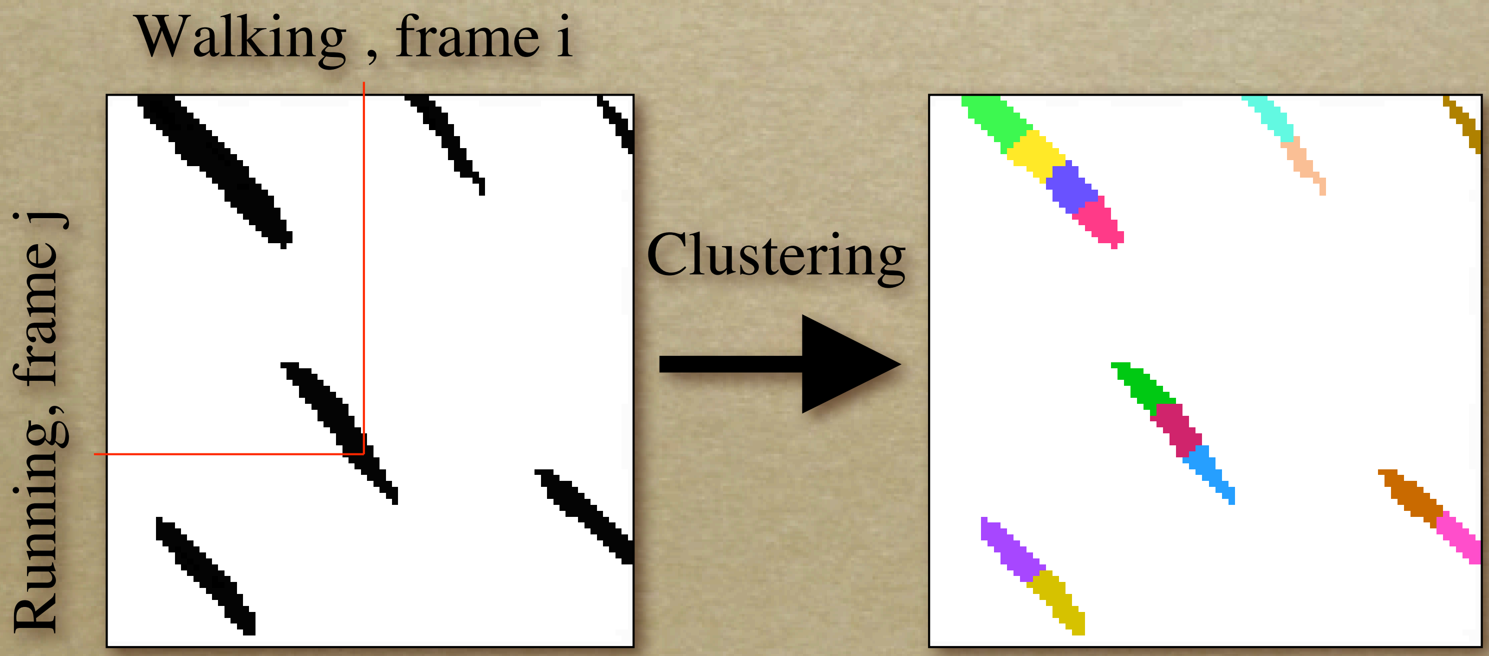


Motion Graphs

- Similarity metric
  - Measurement of how similar two frames of motion are
    - Based on joint angles or point positions
    - Must include some measure of velocity
    - Ideally independent of capture setup and skeleton
- Capture a “large” database of motions

Motion Graphs

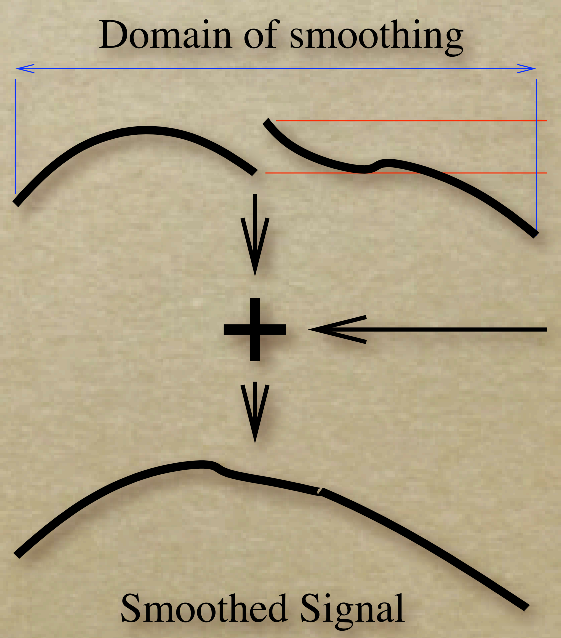
- Compute similarity metric between all pairs of frames
  - Maybe expensive
  - Preprocessing step
  - There may be too many good edges



Arikan and Forsyth, 2002

Motion Graphs

- Random walks
  - Start in some part of the graph and randomly make transitions
  - Avoid dead ends
  - Useful for “idling” behaviors
- Transitions
  - Use blending algorithm we discussed



Motion graphs

- Match imposed requirements
  - Start at a particular location
  - End at a particular location
  - Pass through particular pose
  - Can be solved using *dynamic programing*
  - Efficiency issues may require approximate solution
  - Notion of "goodness" of a solution

Suggested Reading

- *Fourier principles for emotion-based human figure animation,* Unuma, Anjyo, and Takeuchi, SIGGRAPH 95
- *Motion signal processing,* Bruderlin and Williams, SIGGRAPH 95
- *Motion warping,* Witkin and Popovic, SIGGRAPH 95
- *Efficient generation of motion transitions using spacetime constrains,* Rose *et al.*, SIGGRAPH 96
- *Retargeting motion to new characters,* Gleicher, SIGGRAPH 98
- *Verbs and adverbs: Multidimensional motion interpolation,* Rose, Cohen, and Bodenheimer, IEEE: Computer Graphics and Applications, v. 18, no. 5, 1998

Suggested Reading

- *Retargeting motion to new characters,* Gleicher, *SIGGRAPH 98*
- *Footskate Cleanup for Motion Capture Editing,* Kovar, Schreiner, and Gleicher, SCA 2002.
- *Interactive Motion Generation from Examples, Arikan and Forsyth, SIGGRAPH 2002.*
- *Motion Synthesis from Annotations, Arikan, Forsyth, and O'Brien, SIGGRAPH 2003.*
- *Pushing People Around, Arikan, Forsyth, and O'Brien, unpublished.*
- *Automatic Joint Parameter Estimation from Magnetic Motion Capture Data, O'Brien, Bodenheimer, Brostow, and Hodgins, GI 2000.*
- *Skeletal Parameter Estimation from Optical Motion Capture Data, Kirk, O'Brien, and Forsyth, CVPR 2005.*
- *Perception of Human Motion with Different Geometric Models, Hodgins, O'Brien, and Tumblin, IEEE:TVCG 1998.*