

Haptic Object Identification for Advanced Manipulation Skills

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Allow robots to manipulate unknown objects

Object Identification using Computer Vision

- ✓ Extract shapes and geometries
- ✗ Extract structural information
- ✗ Estimate physical parameters



Object Identification through Haptic Exploration

- ✓ Extract shapes and geometries
- ✓ Extract structural information
- ✓ Estimate physical parameters



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- Problem Formulation
- Background
- Haptic Exploration
- Haptic Object Identification
- Experimental Results
- Outlook and Summary

Iteratively Refine Estimated Object Properties

Given:

- robot pose $\mathbf{x}_{0:t}$
- control inputs $\mathbf{u}_{0:t}$
- and measurements $\mathbf{r}_{0:t}$

from start to time t , refine object knowledge given as the belief of

$$\text{(object geometry)} \quad \mathbf{M} \leftarrow \mathcal{F}_m(\mathbf{x}_{0:t}, \mathbf{u}_{0:t}, \mathbf{r}_{0:t}, \Theta),$$

$$\text{(material parameters)} \quad \Theta \leftarrow \mathcal{F}_p(\mathbf{x}_{0:t}, \mathbf{u}_{0:t}, \mathbf{r}_{0:t}, \mathbf{M}).$$

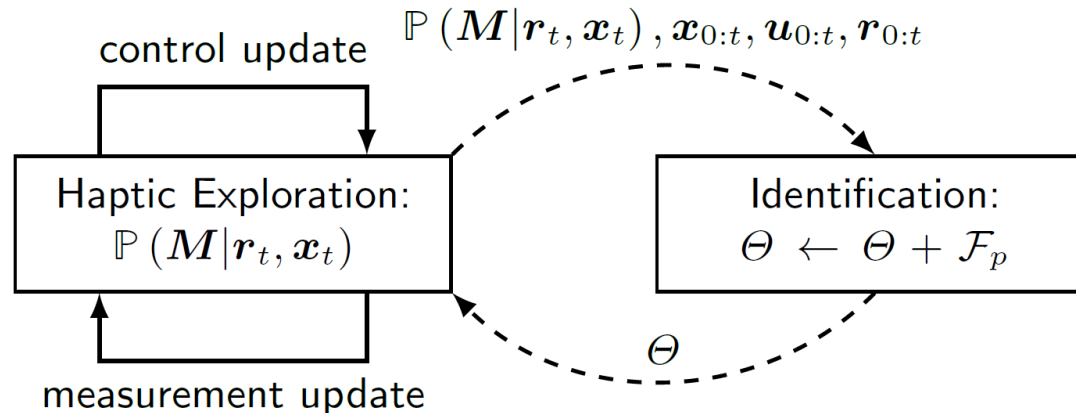
- ⇒ Identification is directly coupled
- ⇒ Mainly solved individually in literature

Haptic Exploration

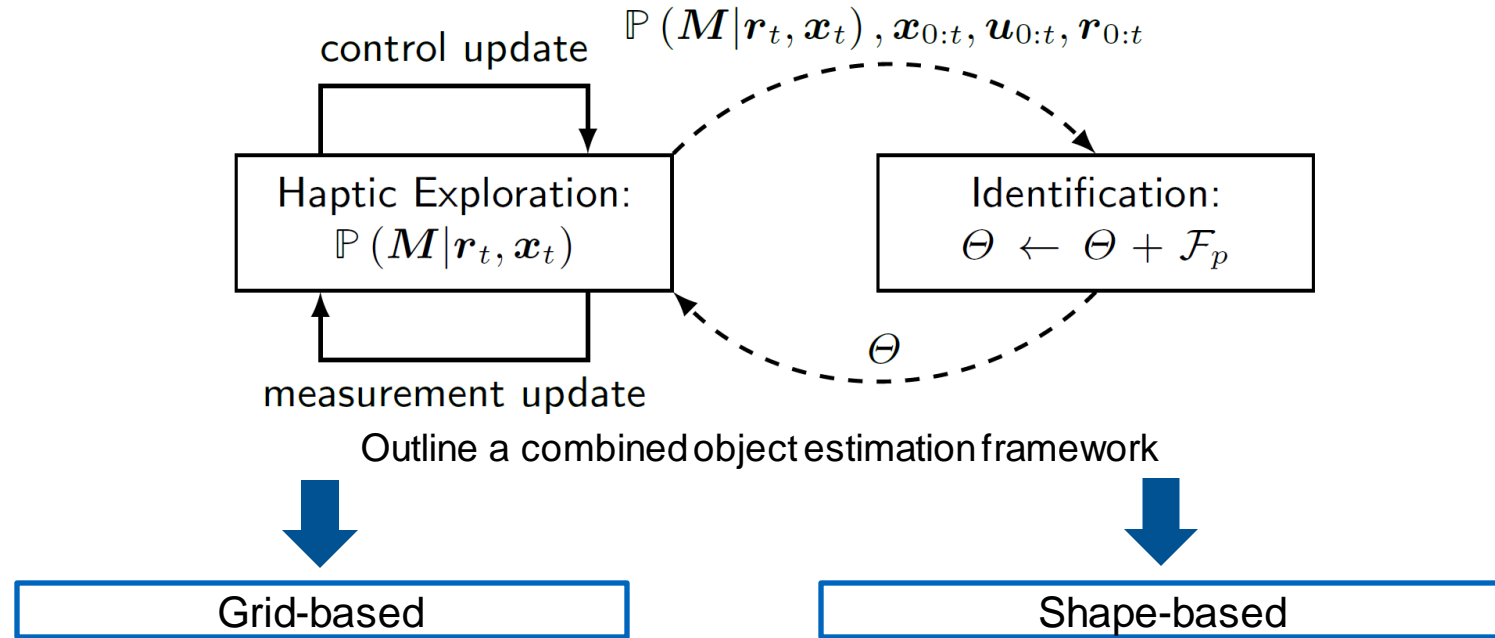
- Haptic SLAM [Behbahani+ 2015]
- SLAM with known shapes [Schaeffer+ 2004]
- Bayesian exploration framework [Julian+ 2012]

Haptic Identification

- Tactile object recognition [Pezementi+ 2011, Friedl+ 2016]
- Object classification [Decherchi+ 2011]
- Material classification [Xu+ 2013]



Outline a combined object estimation framework



Simultaneous Localization and Mapping (SLAM)

- Estimate pose of robot while simultaneously estimate map of environment
- Joint distribution: $\mathbb{P}[\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{M} | \mathbf{x}_{0:t-1}, \mathbf{u}_{0:t}, \mathbf{r}_{0:t}]$
- Most common solutions use Extended Kalman Filter and Particle Filters

Haptic SLAM [\[Behbahani+ 2015\]](#)

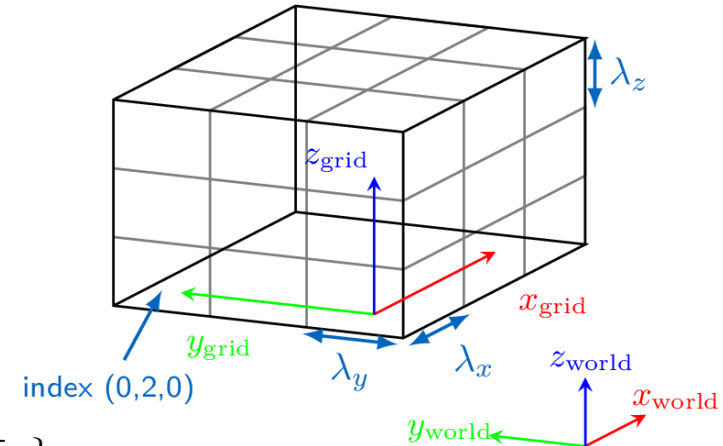
- Estimate robot pose while constructing a map of object based on haptic feedback
- Particle Filter approach using an occupancy grid

Occupancy Grid M

- State of cell: $m_t \in \{\text{occ}, \text{empty}\}$
- Content of cell: $\mathbb{P}[m_t = \text{occ} | \mathbf{r}_t]$
- Iterative update: $m_t = m_{t-1} + \log \frac{\mathbb{P}[\mathbf{r}_t | \mathbf{f}]}{1 - \mathbb{P}[\mathbf{r}_t | \mathbf{f}]}$

Inference Grid \mathcal{M} [Elfes1989; Korthals2017]

- Multi-layer occupancy grid: $\mathcal{M} := \{M_0, M_1, \dots, M_n\}$
- Encodes 2^n states

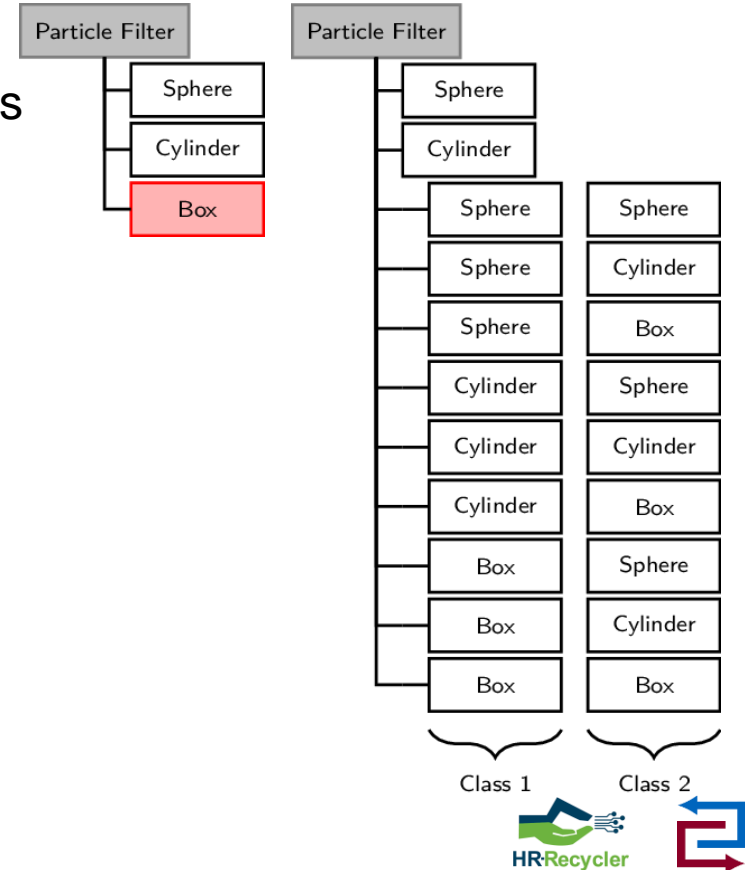


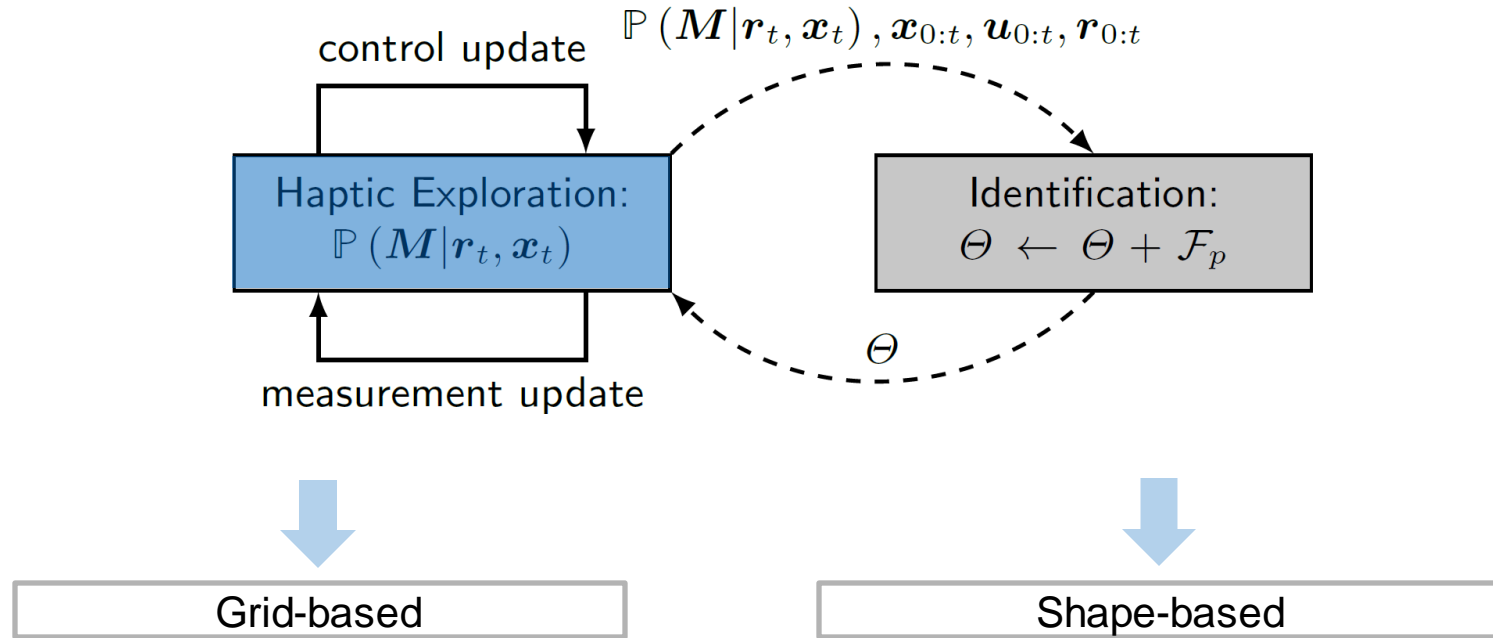
Representing Objects Using Geometric Primitives

- Data efficient
- Can represent structure by arbitrary combinations
- Allows to directly regress model-parameters from data

Incorporated Models

- Spheres $\Phi := (r, \mathbf{c})$
- Cylinders $\Phi := (r, h, \mathbf{c}, \mathbf{a})$
- Boxes $\Phi := (\mathbf{c}_1, \mathbf{c}_2, \dots, \mathbf{c}_8)$
- Planes $\Phi := (\mathbf{n}, \mathbf{c}_1, \mathbf{c}_2, \mathbf{c}_3, \mathbf{c}_4)$





Collected Sensor Data

Sensor

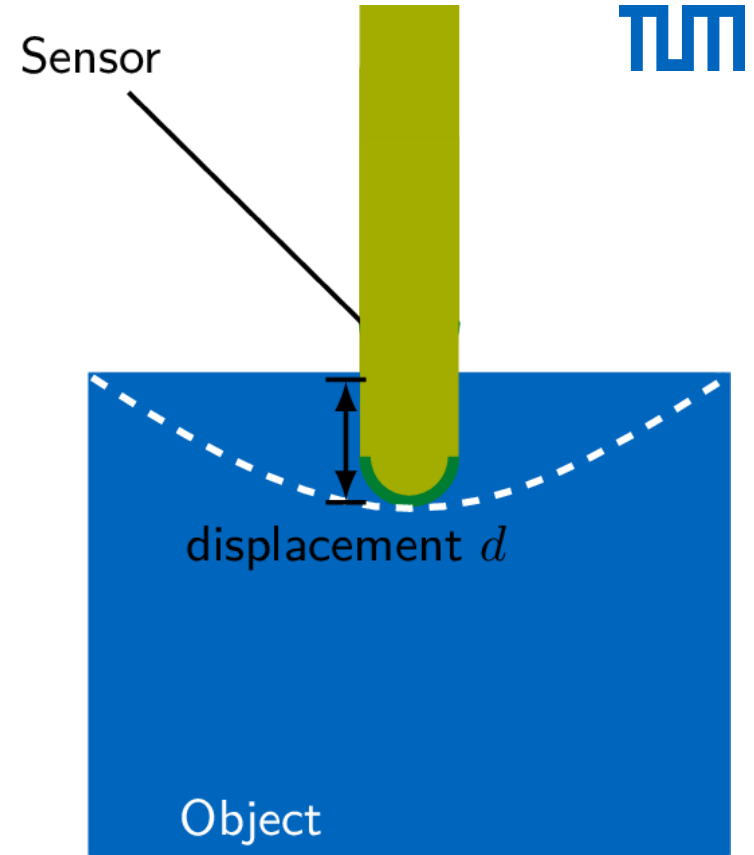
normal contact force

Measurement Procedure

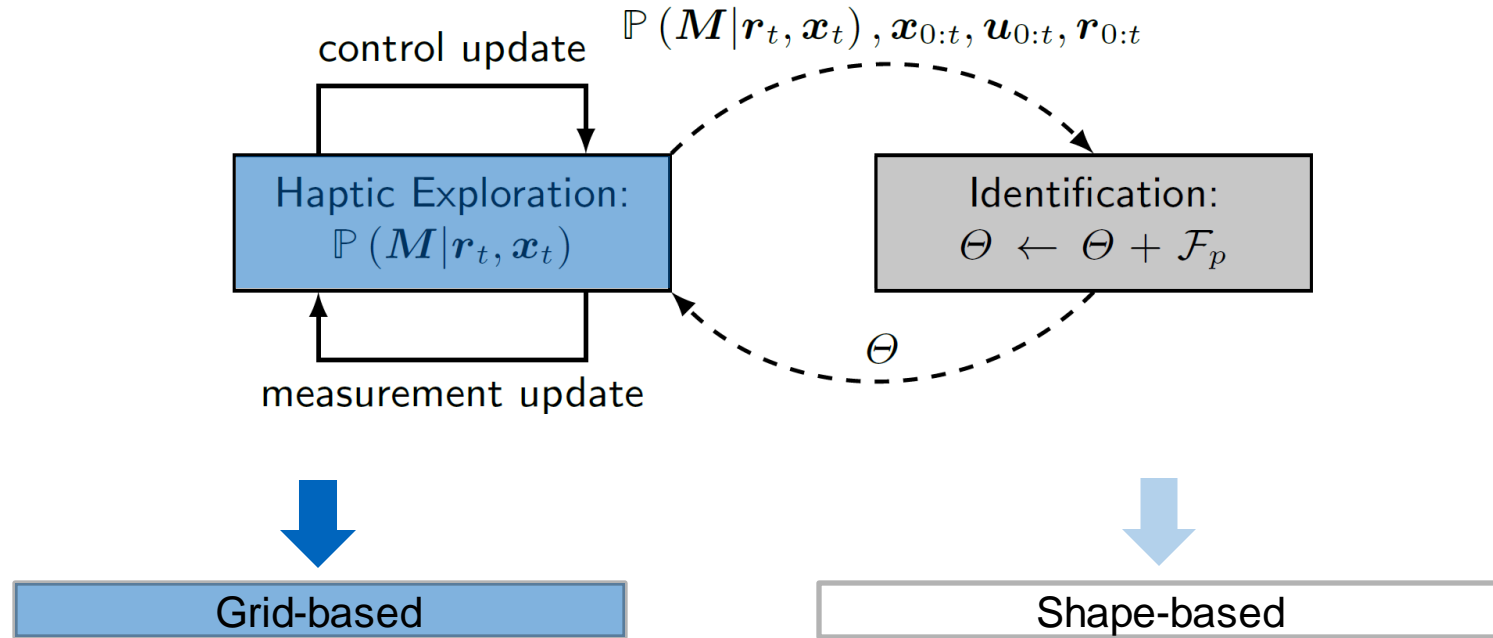
increase force F_t until $F_t > F_{\max}$ or $d_t > d_{\max}$

Measurement Data

$$\mathbf{r}_t = (\mathbf{x}_t, d_t, F_t)$$



Haptic Exploration – Grid-Based



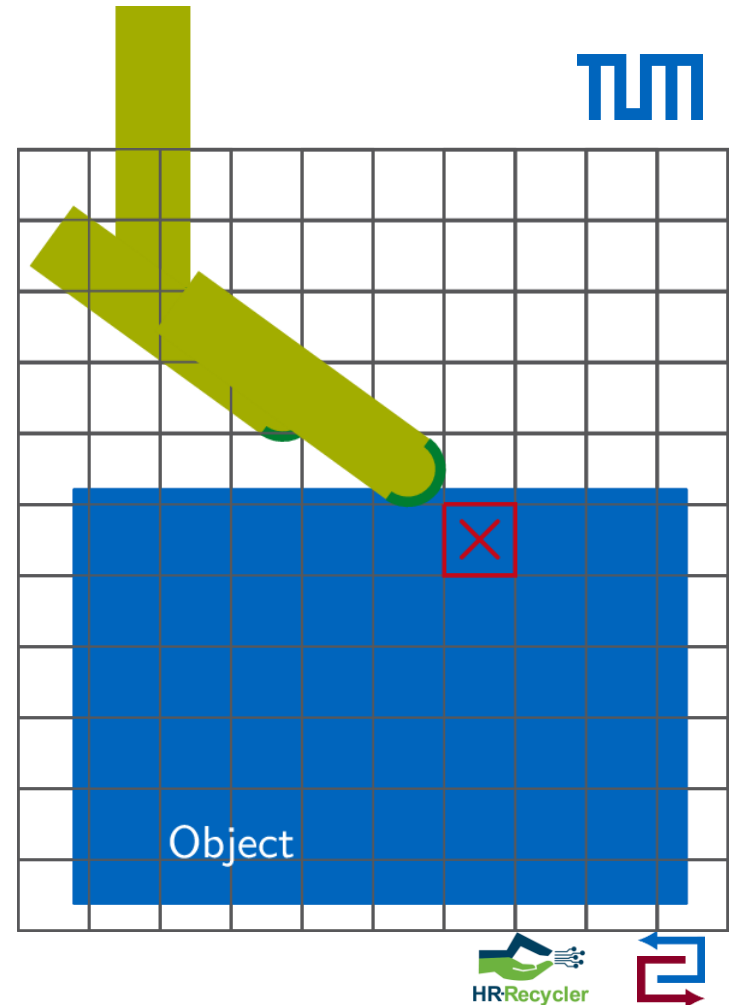
1. Select Next Exploration Goal

- utility $U(m_t)$: expected information gain
- accessibility $\alpha(m_t)$: cell reachability
- ⇒ select next cell as $\operatorname{argmax}_{m_t} \{U(m_t)\alpha(m_t)\}$

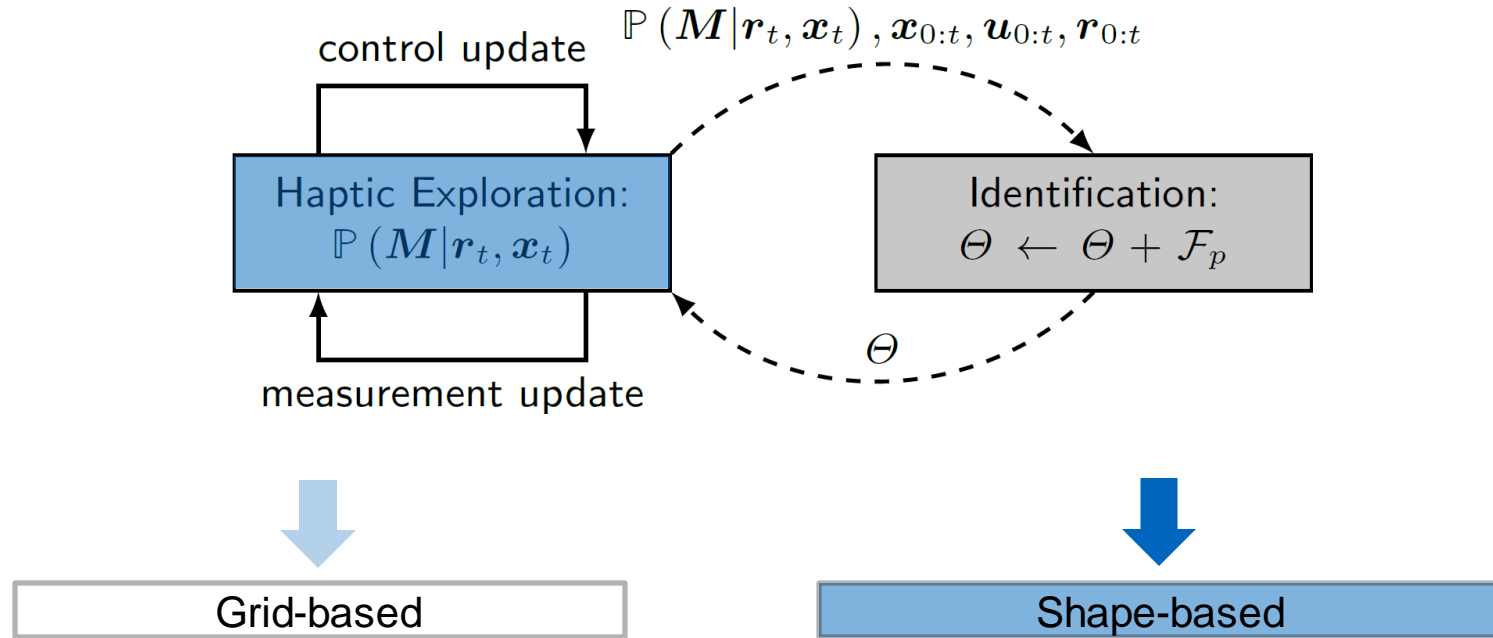
2. Take New Measurement

3. Process Data

- Update belief of explored cells
- Store measured data in buffer



Haptic Exploration – Shape-Based



1. Select Next Exploration Goal

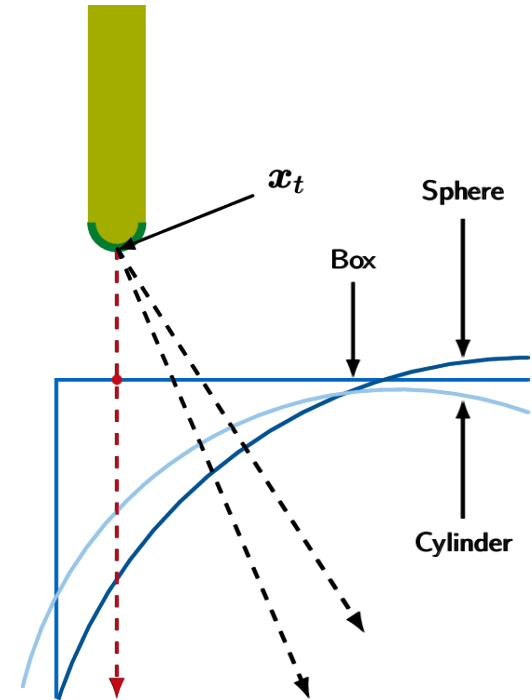
utility $U(x_t)$: evaluates the deviation of shape-types for current particle samples

⇒ select next cell as $\operatorname{argmax}_{x_t} \{U(x_t)\}$

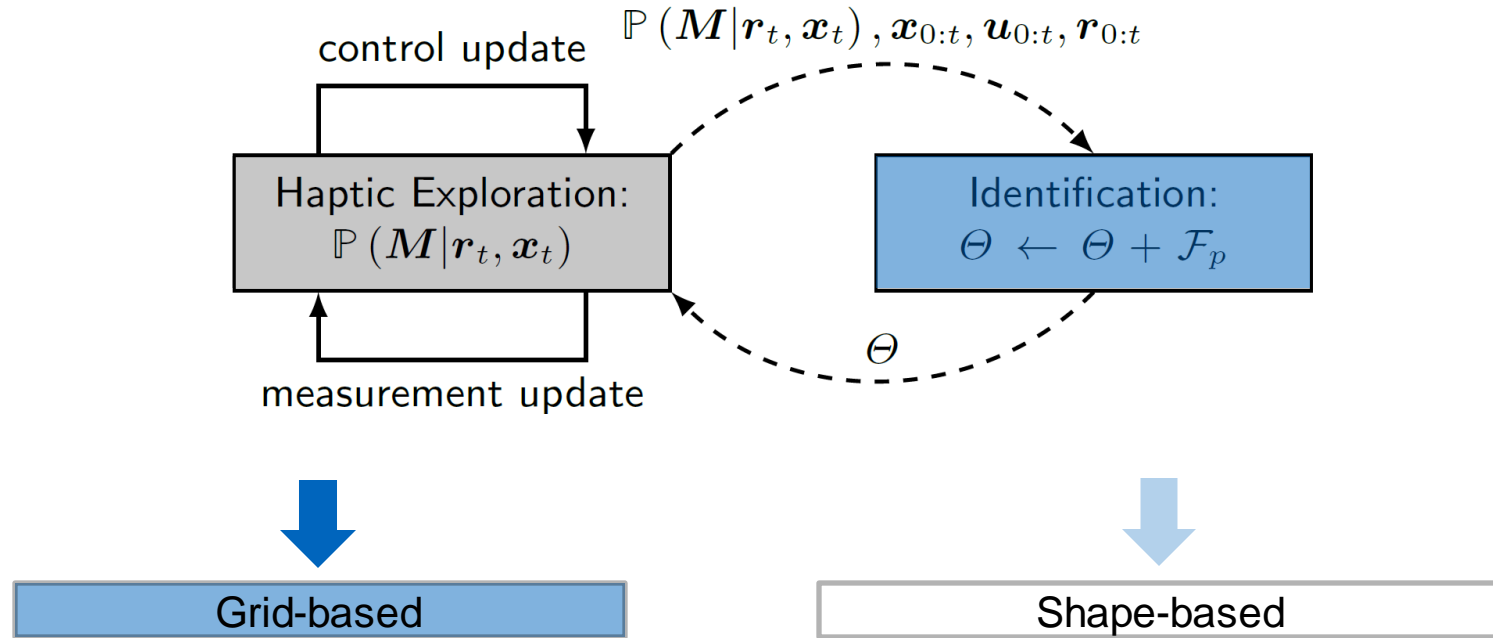
2. Take New Measurement

3. Process Data

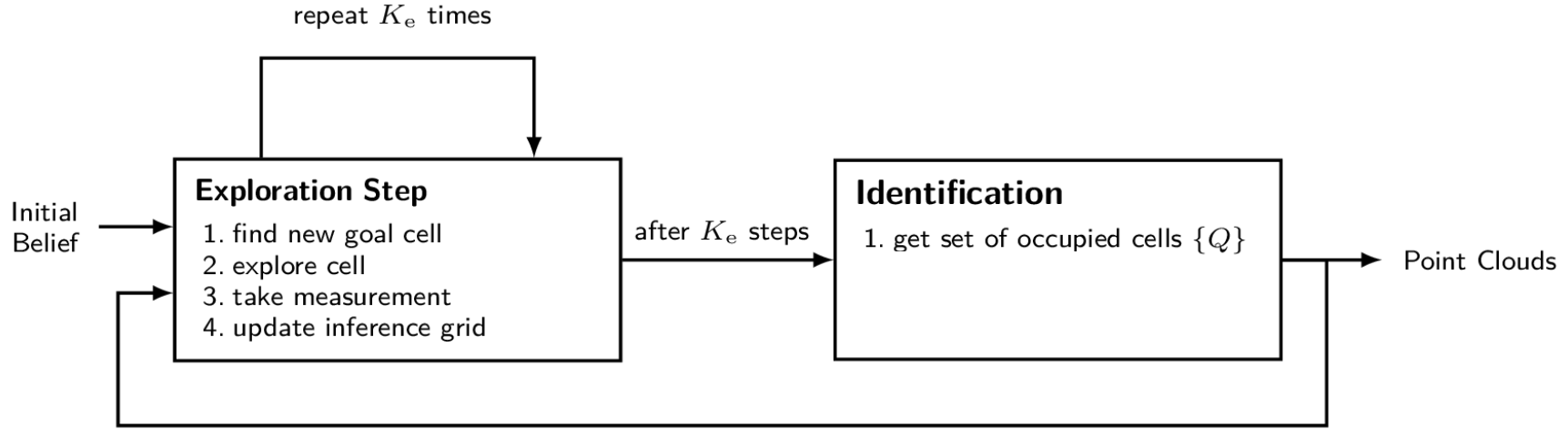
- Update belief of current shape particles
- Store measured data in buffer



Haptic Identification – Grid-Based

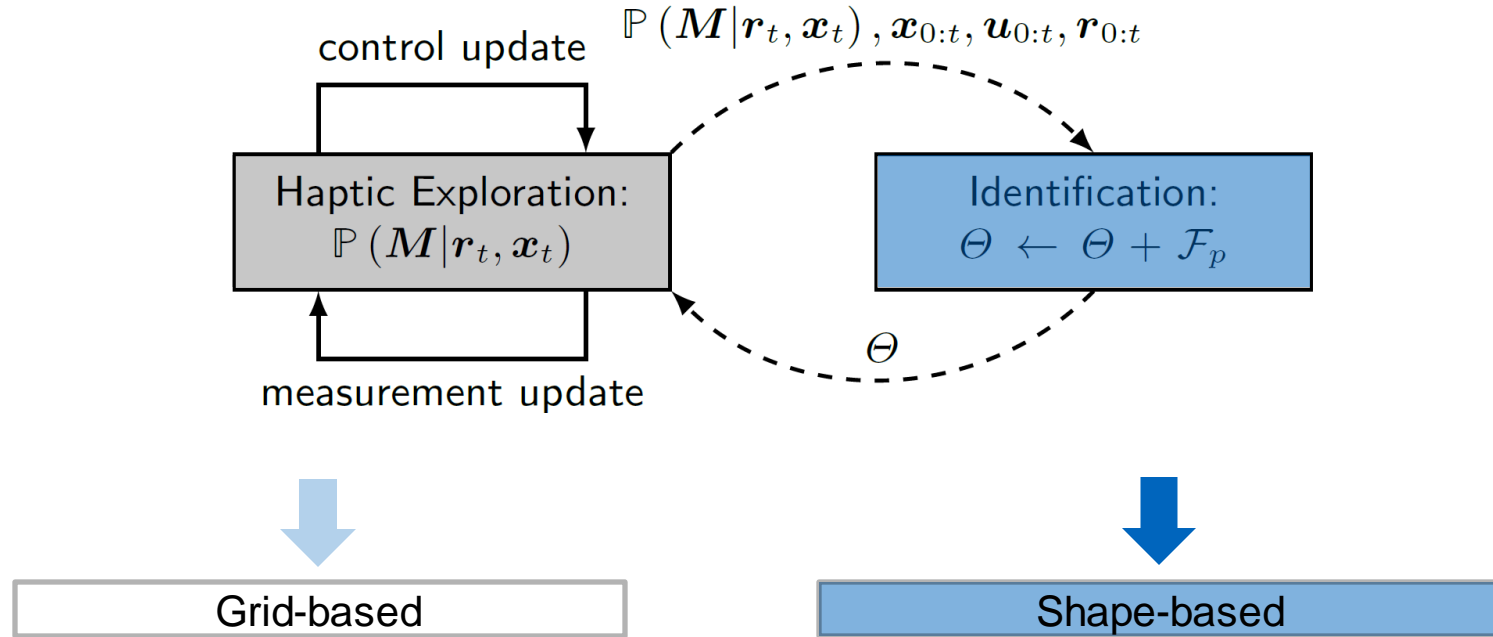


Haptic Identification – Grid-Based

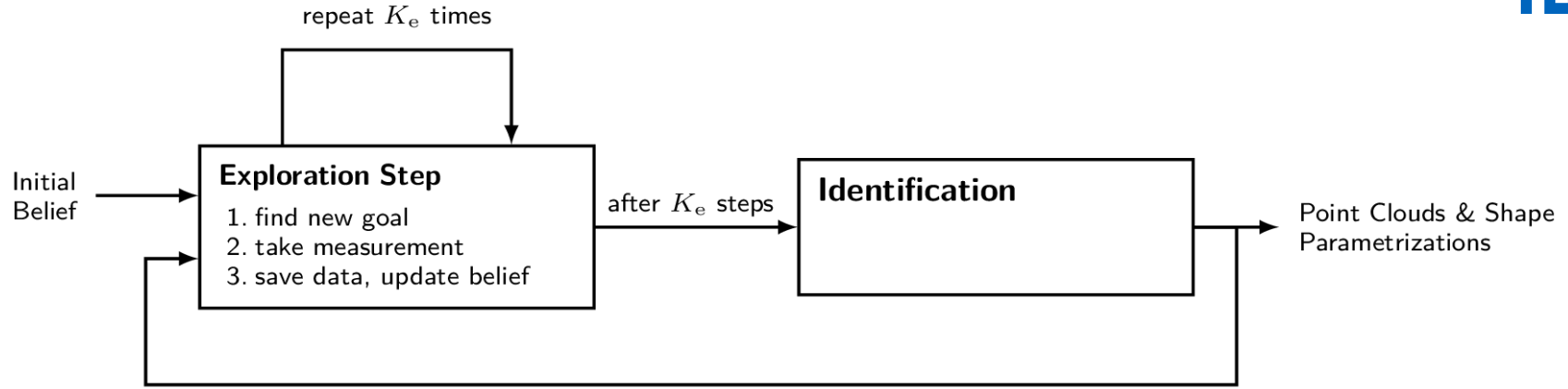


- Run data-clustering given the new measurements
- Use clusters to refine decision / class boundaries in inference grid
- Re-calculate belief of class membership in inference grid

Haptic Identification – Shape-Based

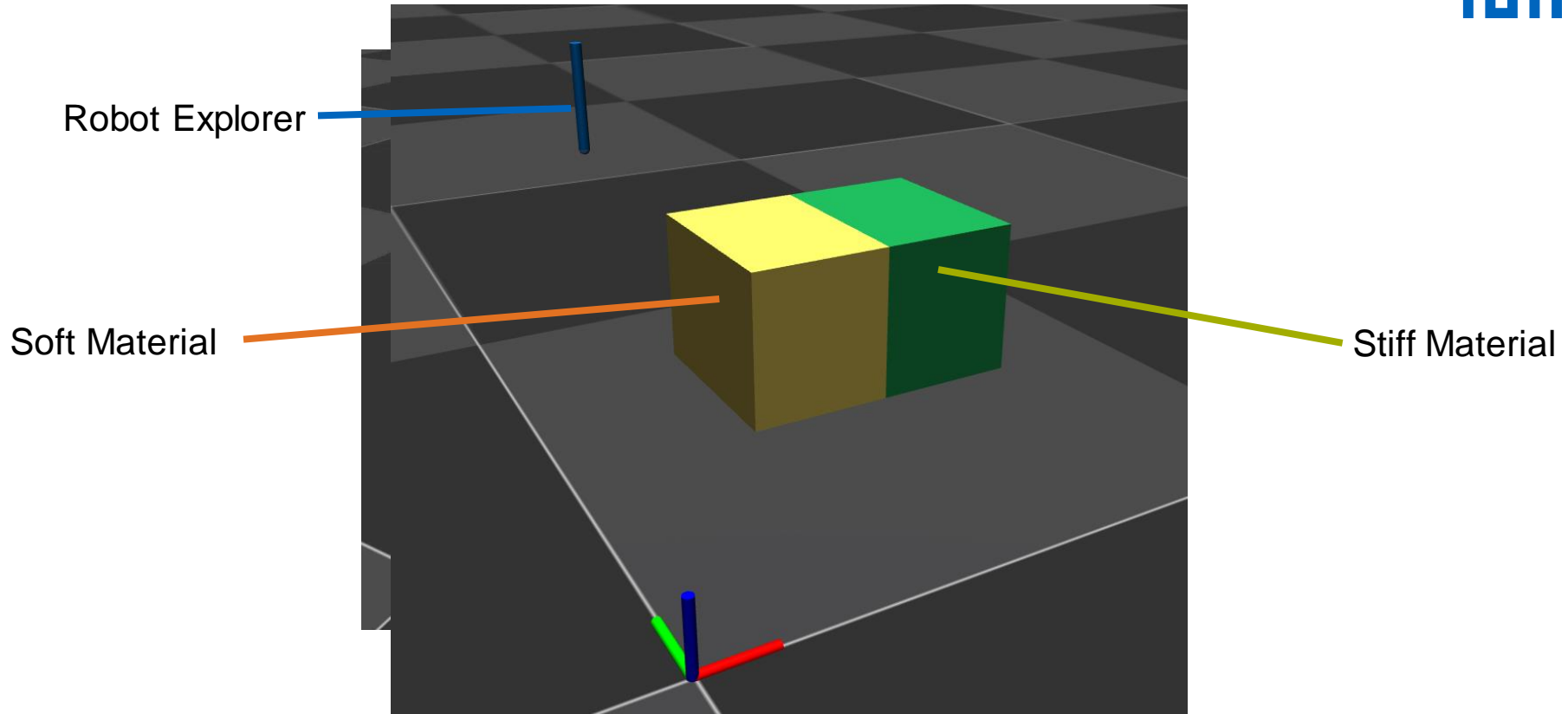


Haptic Identification – Shape-Based



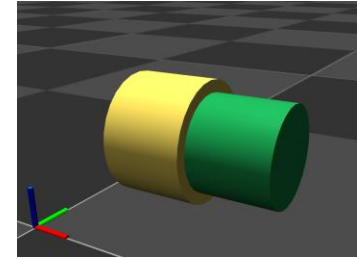
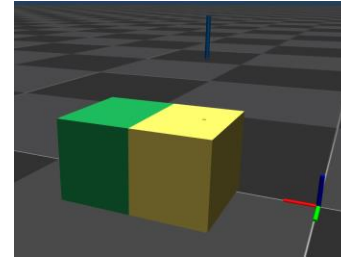
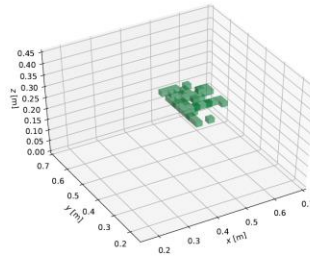
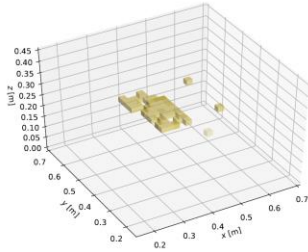
- Delete particles with lowest belief
- Randomly generate new particles:
 - Update clusters with new measure batch
 - Sample new geometric primitive shape-combinations
- Update belief of all particles for new classification metric

Experimental Results

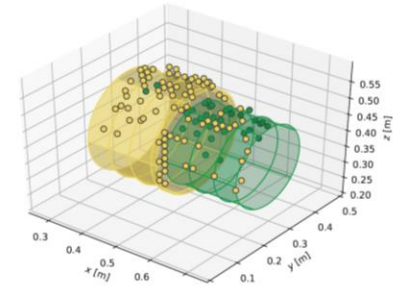
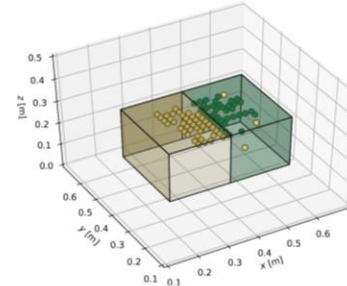


Simulation Environment in [©MuJoCo](https://github.com/mujoco/mujoco)

Experimental Results – Grid Based

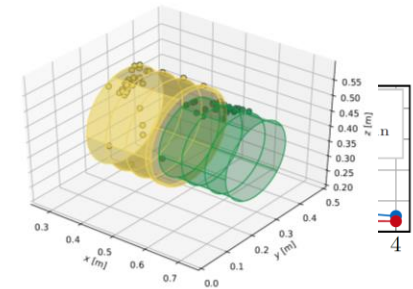
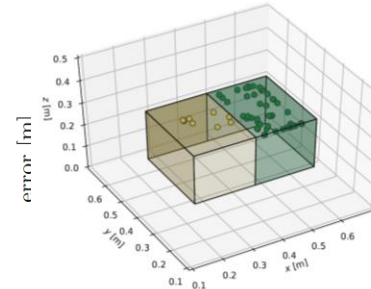
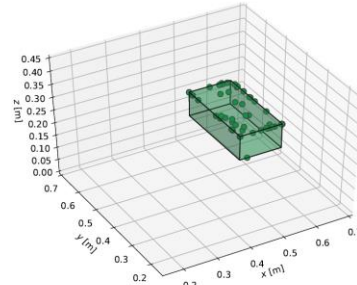
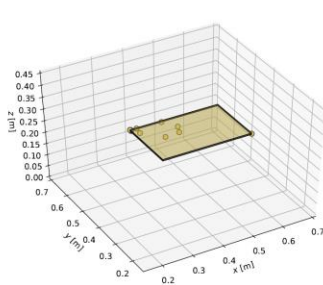
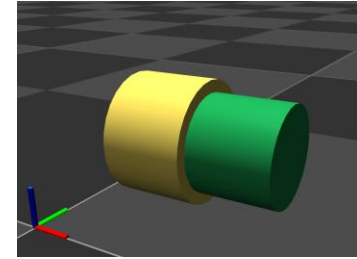
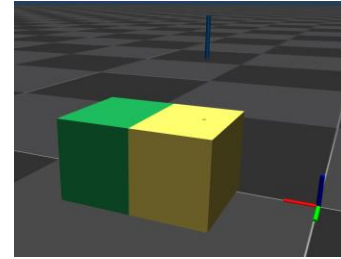


	$k[\text{N/m}]$	$\hat{k}[\text{N/m}]$	F_1
Yellow Box	165	107.81	0.966
Green Box	1452	615.11	0.962
Yellow Cyl.	282	164.75	0.834
Green Cyl.	1192	397.34	0.667



Experimental Results – Shape-Based

	k [N/m]	\hat{k} [N/m]	F_1
Yellow Box	165	113.85	0.952
Green Box	1452	717.02	0.987
Yellow Cyl.	282	104.54	0.963
Green Cyl.	1192	947.15	0.987



Developed Haptic Exploration and Identification Frameworks



Grid-based

- Minimize cell uncertainty
- Cluster cells
- Output:
 - clustered point clouds



Shape-based

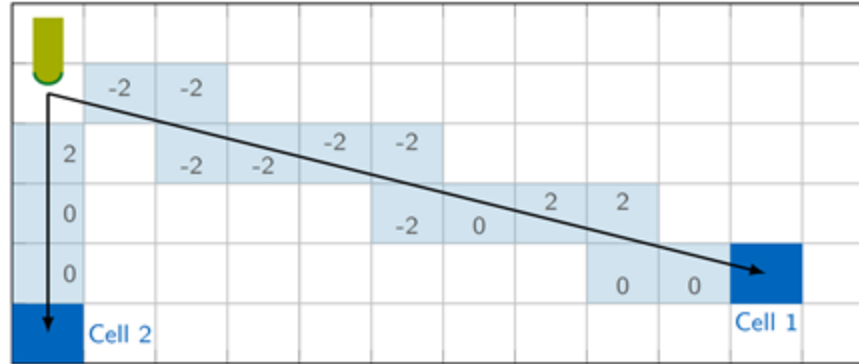
- Minimize shape uncertainty
- Cluster measurements
- Output:
 - clustered point clouds
 - parametrized shape representations

Future Work

- Further improve classification and estimation methods
- Combine frameworks into a hybrid mechanism
- Evaluate performance on robot platform

- 📖 Behbahani, F., Taunton, R., Thomik, A., Faisal, A.: Haptic SLAM for context-aware robotic hand prosthetics - Simultaneous inference of hand pose and object shape using particle filters. International IEEE/EMBS Conference on Neural Engineering, NER (1229297), 719–722 (2015)
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- 📖 Schaeffer, M., Okamura, A.: Methods for intelligent localization and mapping during haptic exploration. In: Proceedings of the IEEE International Conference on Systems, Man & Cybernetics. pp. 3438–3445. IEEE (2003)
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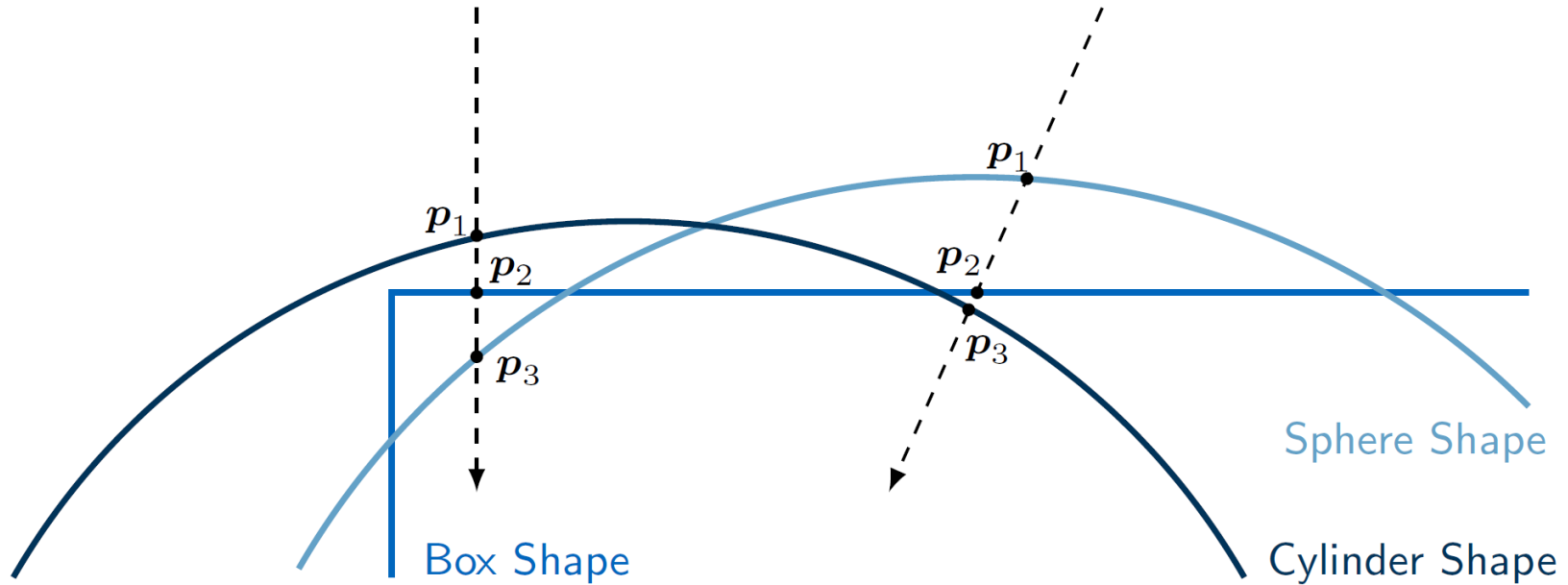


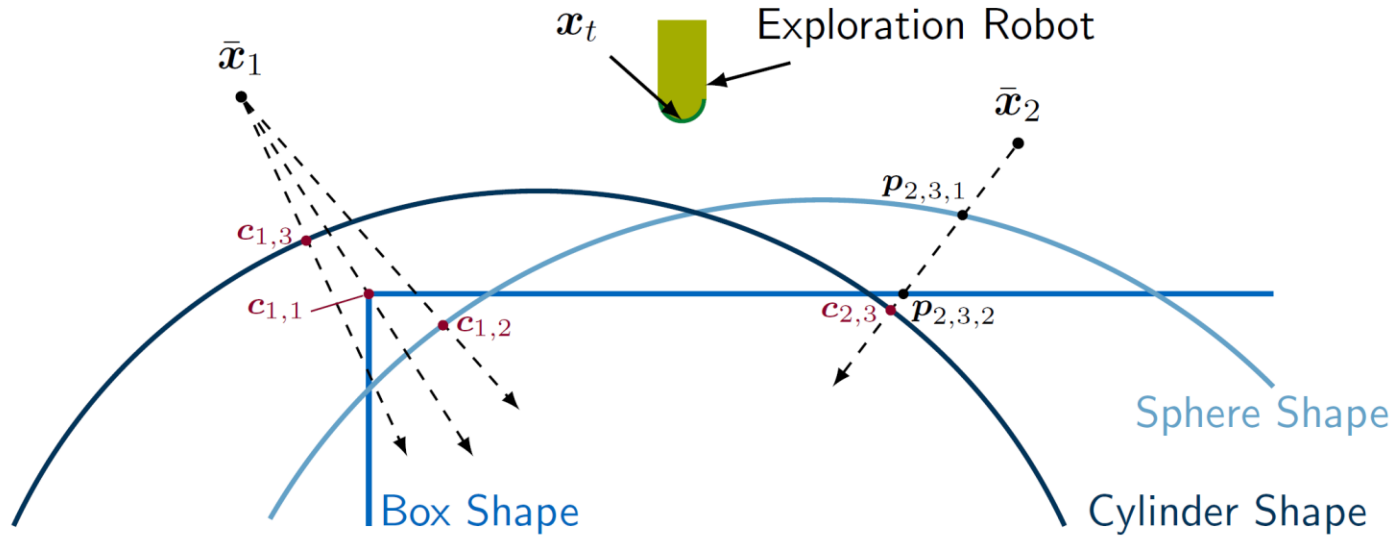
$$U(c) = \frac{1}{K_m} \sum_{i=1}^{K_m} \sum_{r \in \mathcal{X}} \sum_{\xi^i \in \mathcal{X}} \mathbb{P} [r_+ = r | \xi^i] \mathbb{P} [\xi^i] \ln \left(\frac{\mathbb{P} [\xi^i | r_+ = r]}{\mathbb{P} [\xi^i]} \right),$$

$$\text{Accessibility: } \alpha(\mathcal{D}_{x,c}) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{D} & \text{if } \mathbf{M}_t^0(c_i) = 0 \forall c_i \in \mathcal{D}_{x,c}, \\ \left| \frac{1}{D} \sum_{c_i \in \mathcal{D}_{x,c}} -\text{sign}(\mathbf{M}_t^0(c_i)) \right| & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

$$\text{Rank: } \text{rank}(\mathbf{c}_t, \mathcal{D}_{x,c}) = \alpha(\mathcal{D}_{x,c}) U(c)$$

Appendix – Shape-Based Utility 1





$$U(\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{S}_t) = \sum_{S^j \in \mathcal{S}_t} \sum_{\mathbf{p}_i \in \mathcal{P}} \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{p}_i | \boldsymbol{\mu}_j, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}) \mathbb{P}[S^j | \mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{r}_t] \ln \left(\frac{\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{p}_i | \boldsymbol{\mu}_j, \boldsymbol{\Sigma})}{\mathbb{P}[S^j | \mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{r}_t]} \right)$$

Verification of Stiffness Model in Mujoco

