

CS343

Artificial Intelligence

Profs: Peter Stone and Yuke Zhu

Department of Computer Science
The University of Texas at Austin

Good Morning, Colleagues



Final Exam

- Wednesday May 12th, 2pm-5pm (or some 3-hour window close to then)

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- Samples - Berkeley exams

Planning Recap

- Graphplan

Is AI all about the data?

- Which programming assignments used data files?

Your Questions

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- Vijay Vuyyuru: Is it useless to study the brain separately from the body since both interact?
- Theodore Venter: Is there anyone taking the idea of perceptrons and deep learning to the next level by using biological components? And if not, has anyone tried designing separate neuron-like circuits to create a real artificial brain?

Questions

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- Are there some types of research we shouldn't do?
- If an AI technology runs amok, who is responsible?

Questions

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- Joseph Jiang: If humans have made strides in AI that would be considered impossible just a decade ago, is there real merit as to the definite limitations of AI?
- Can computers perfectly simulate a human's decision-making (weak AI)?
- When will AI reach human-level intelligence?

Some Current AI Research

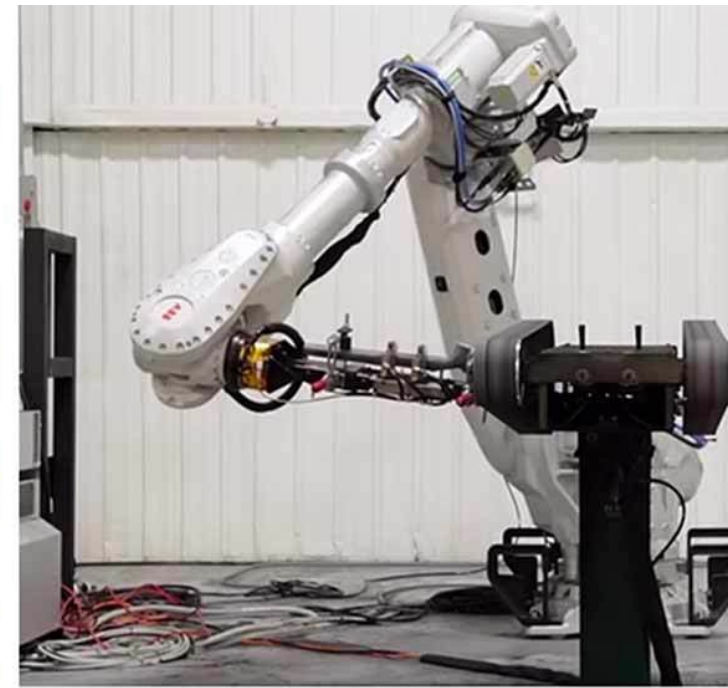
Building General-Purpose Robot Autonomy

Yuke Zhu

May 4, 2021

UT-Austin Robot Perception and Learning Lab

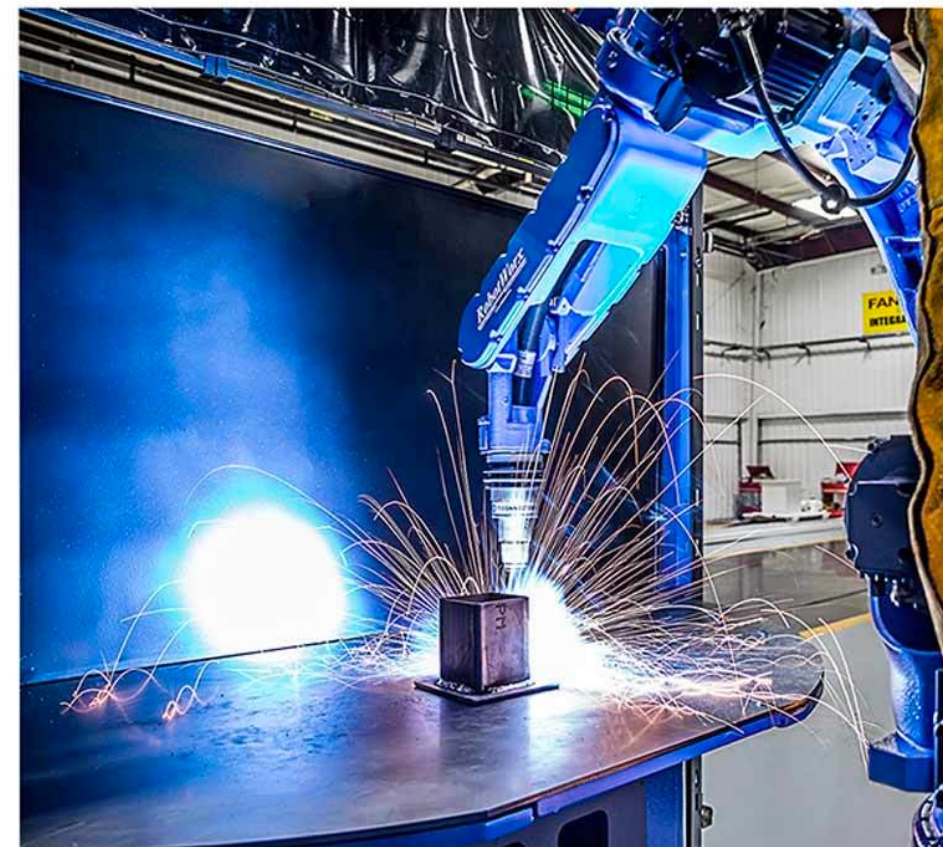
Traditional Form of Robot Automation



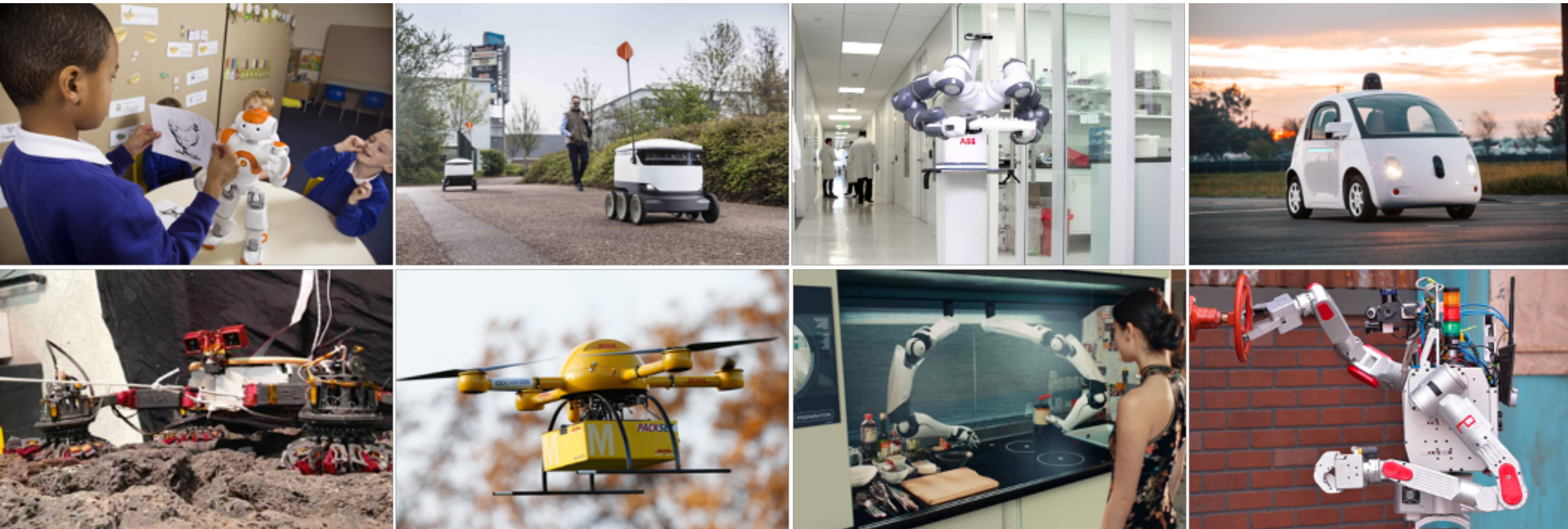
Structured
Environments

Fixed Set of
Tasks

Pre-programmed
Procedures



General-Purpose Robot Autonomy: Our North Star Goal

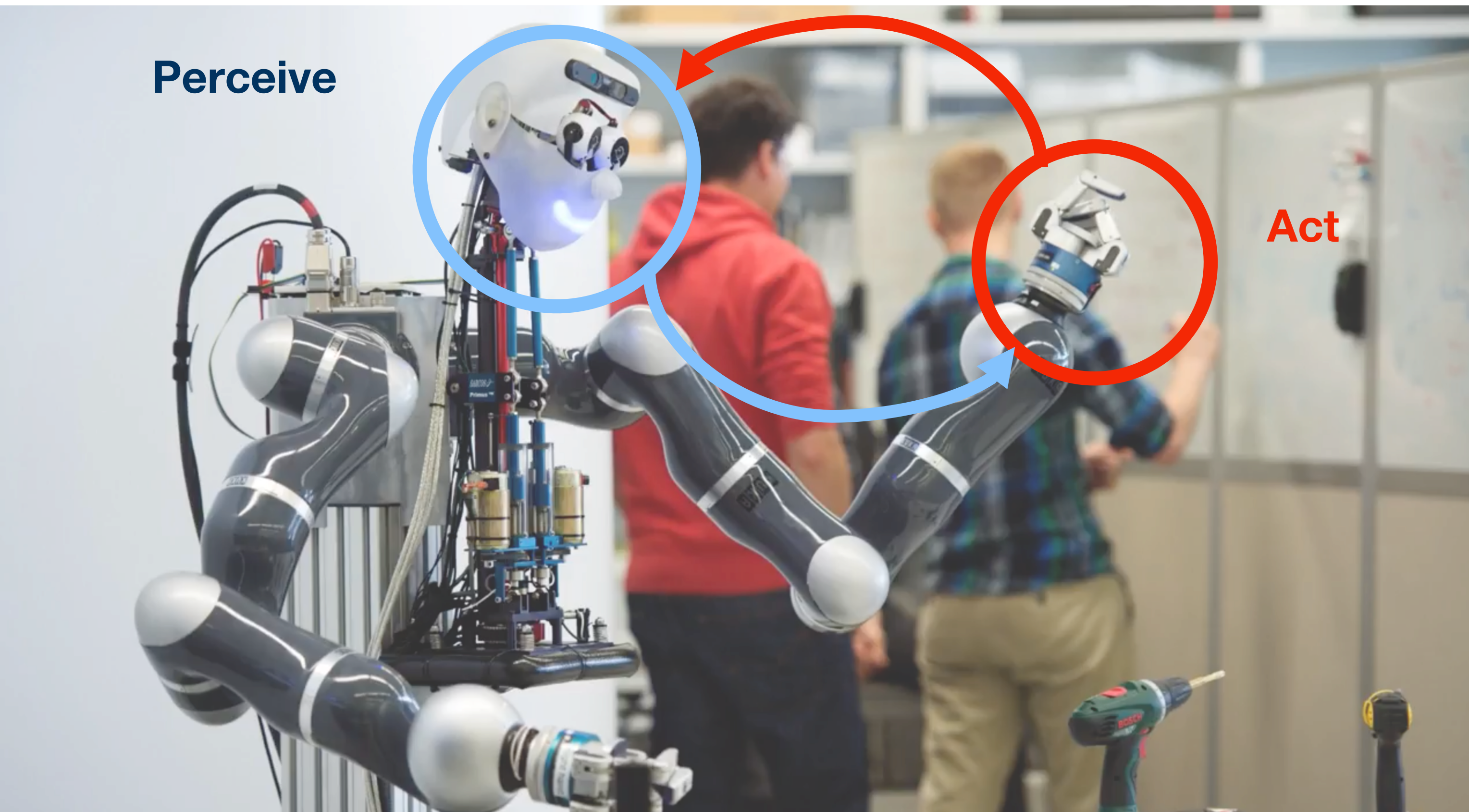


Natural
Environments

Ever-Changing
Tasks

Human
Involvement

Robot Autonomy as a “Pixels-to-Torques” Problem

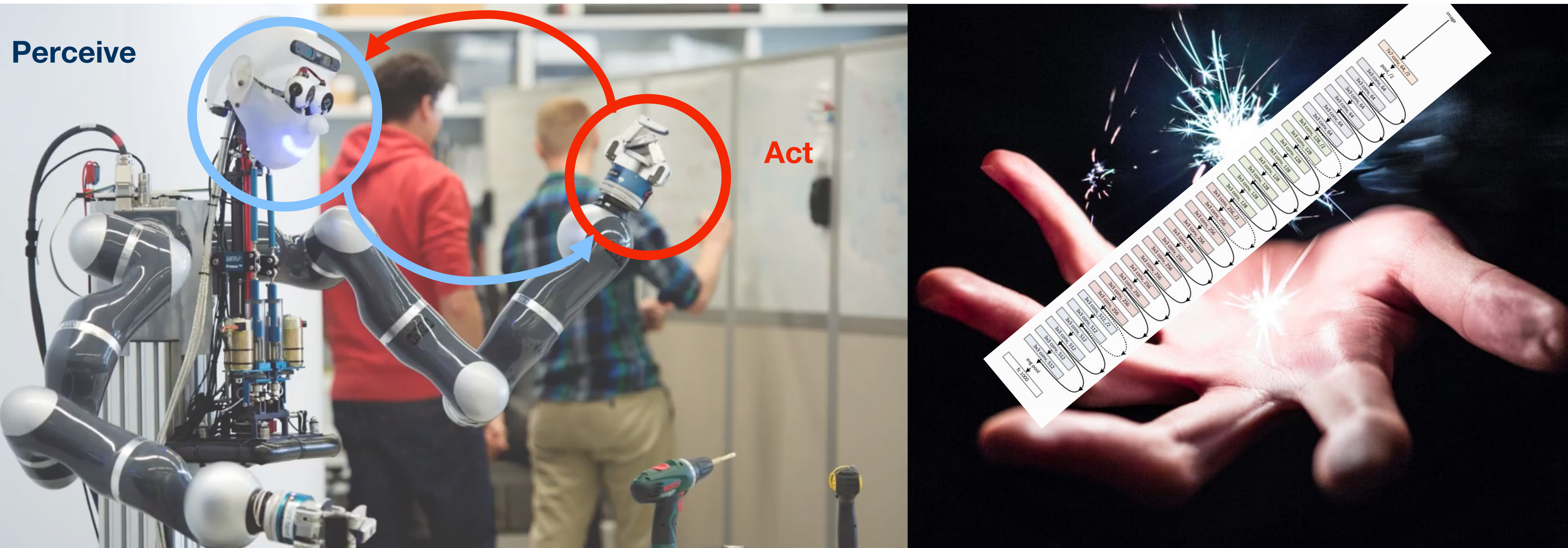


Policy $\pi : \mathcal{O} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$

pixel

torque

Robot Autonomy as a “Pixels-to-Torques” Problem



“End-to-End Deep Learning Magic”

Robot Autonomy as a “**Pixels-to-Torques**” Problem

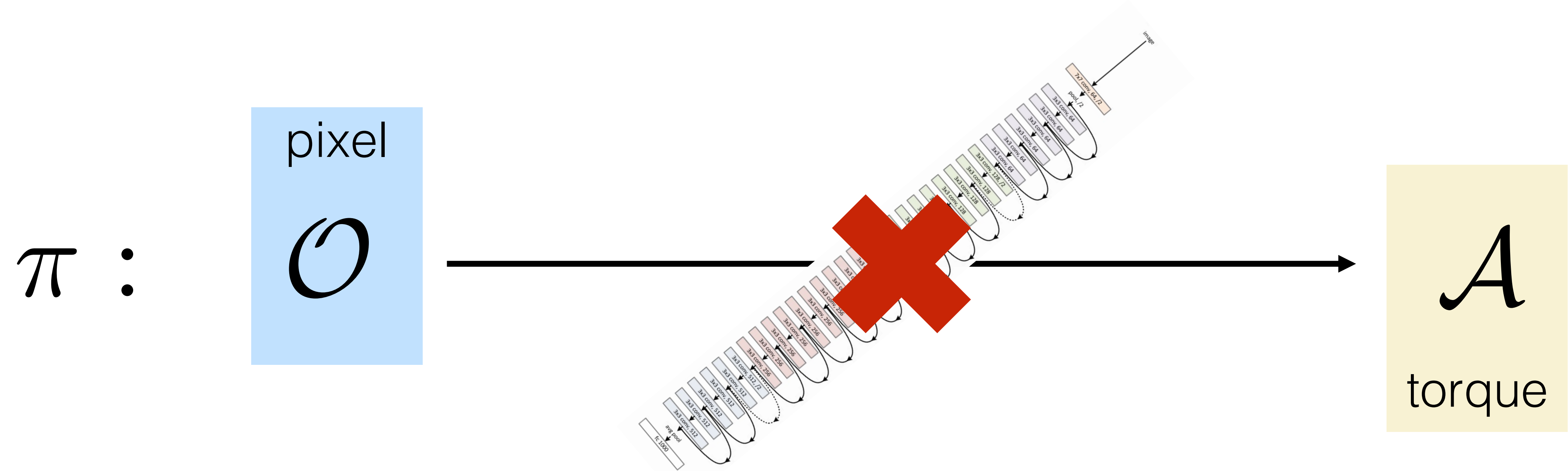


Rubik's Cube Manipulation (OpenAI; 2019)

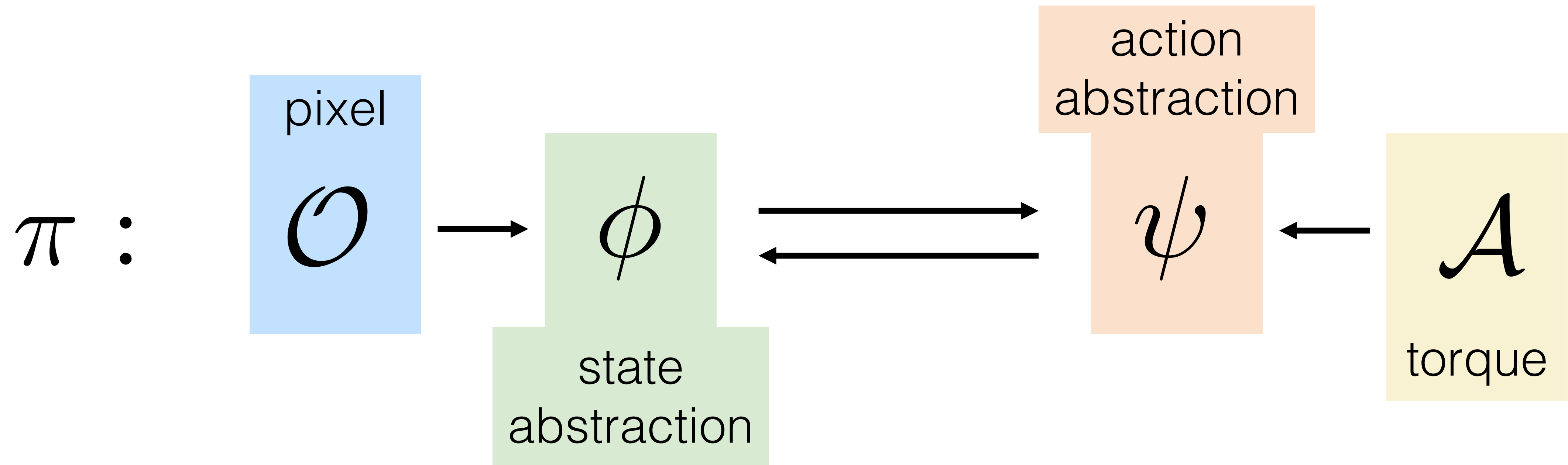
Sensorimotor behaviors **emerge** from end-to-end deep reinforcement learning (60% success rate).

Robot played with the Rubik's Cube for an equivalent of **10,000 years** in simulated training.

“There is no ladder to the moon”



My take on robot autonomy: The **master algorithm**
requires a **grand unification of AI methodologies**



AI methodologies you
have learned in CS 343

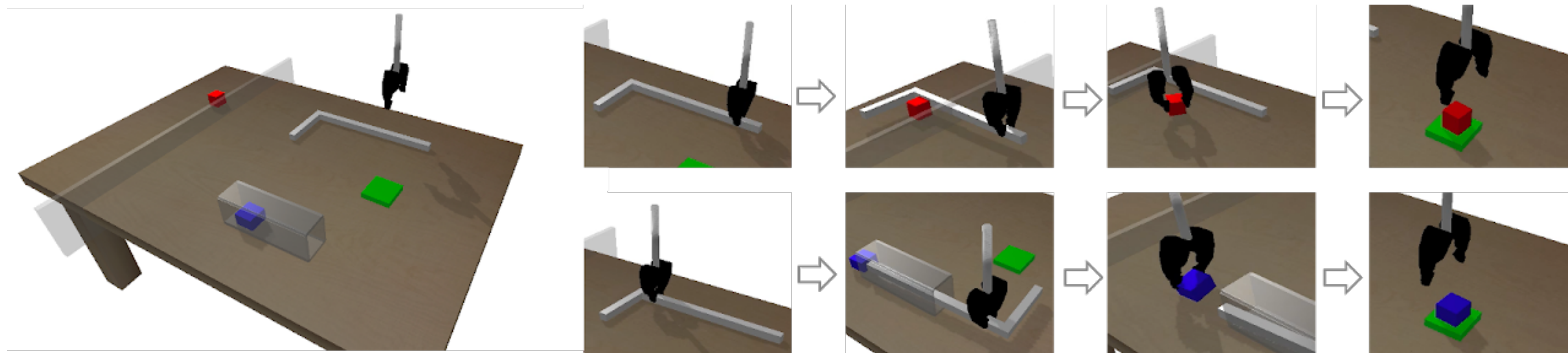
probabilistic
inference

symbolic
reasoning

planning

reinforcement
learning

Deep Affordance Foresight: Planning Through What Can Be Done in the Future



Xu et al. ICRA 2021

What is Affordance?

Affordances are *potential for actions successes* that the environment *affords* to the agent. (Gibson, 1977)



modern chair



everett chair



jensen chair



louis chair



rhys chair



pollino chair



hans chair



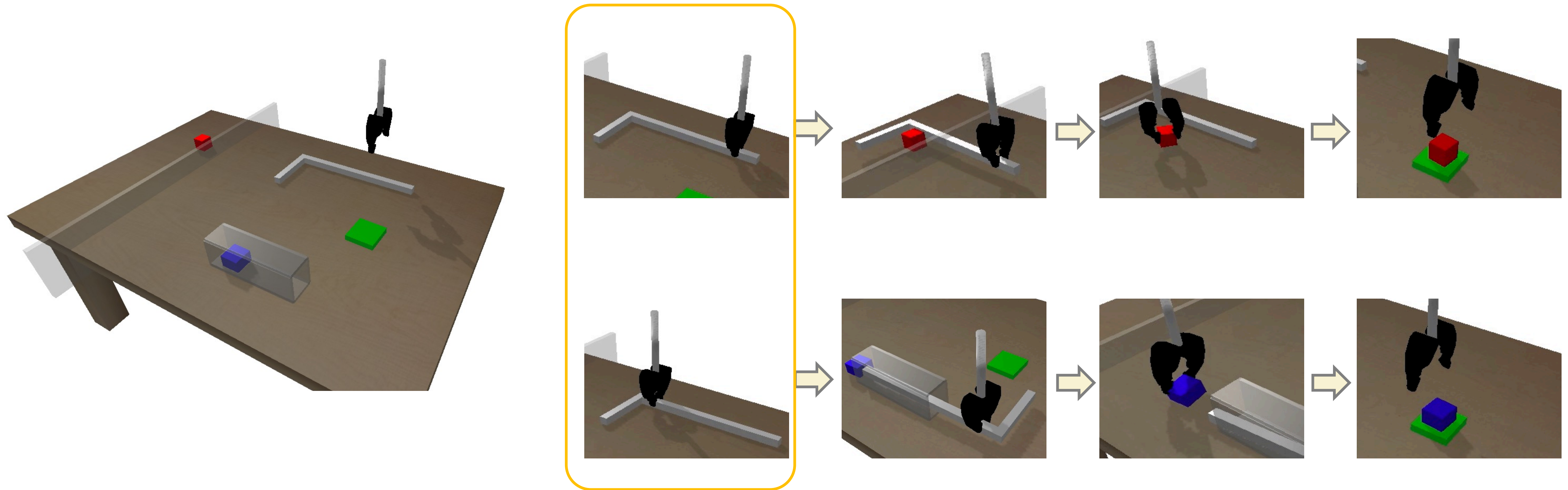
nina chair



kennedy chair

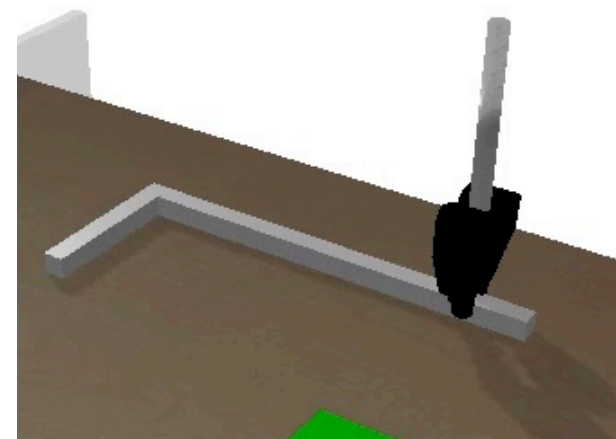
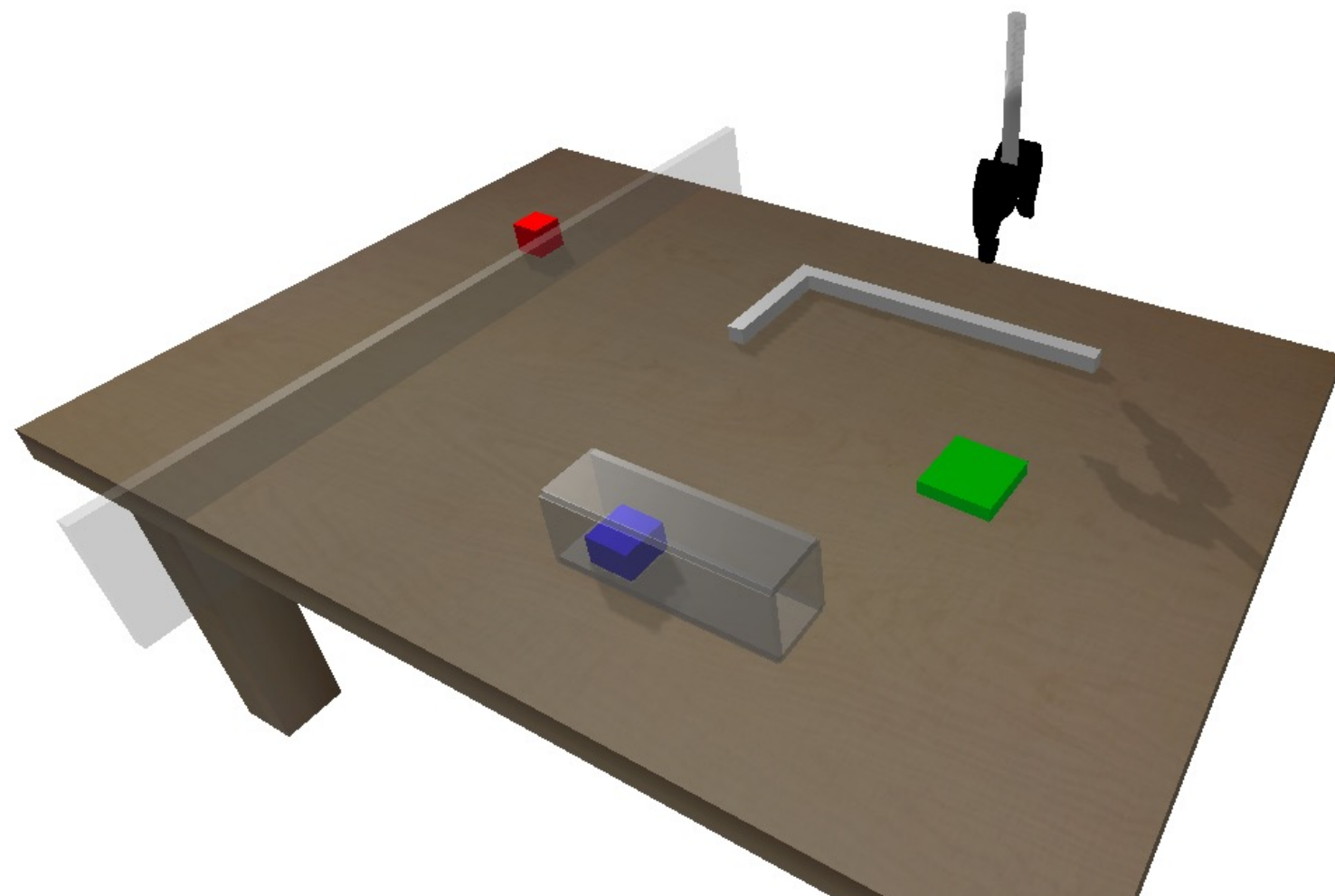


Classical definition of affordance is not suitable for planning

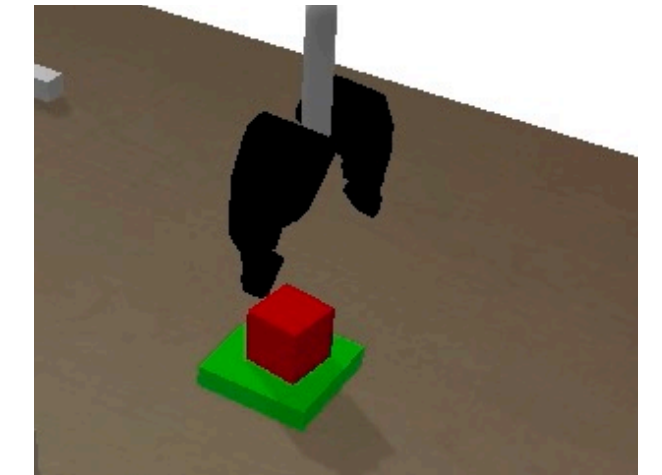
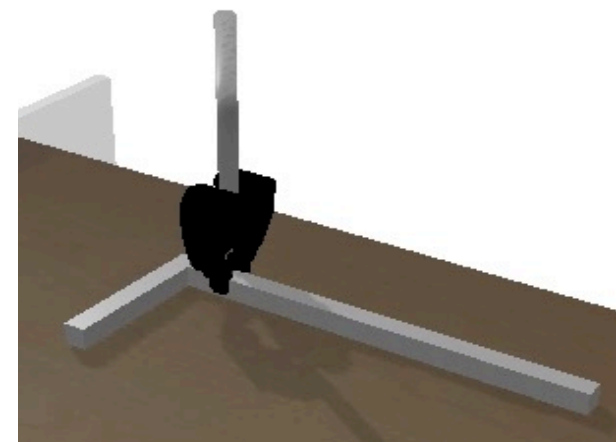


Classical definition of affordance is not suitable for planning

feasible? **YES**



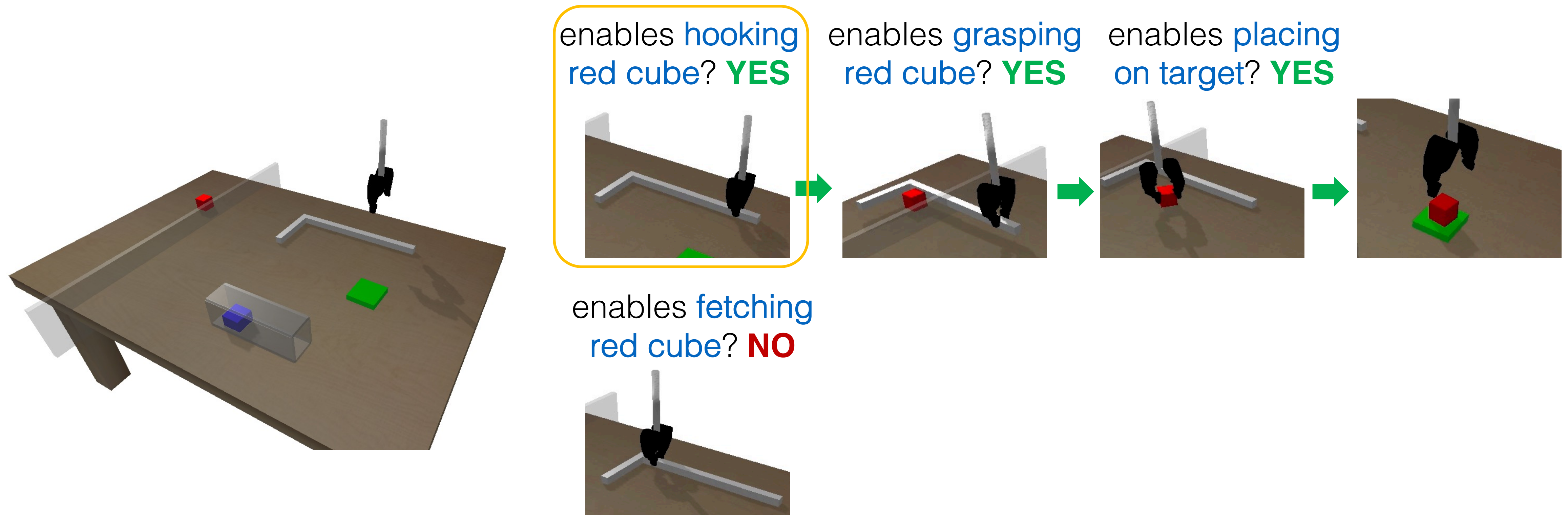
feasible? **YES**



Classical affordance: whether an action is *feasible*

No way to choose actions with respect to a long-horizon task goal

Classical definition of affordance is not suitable for planning



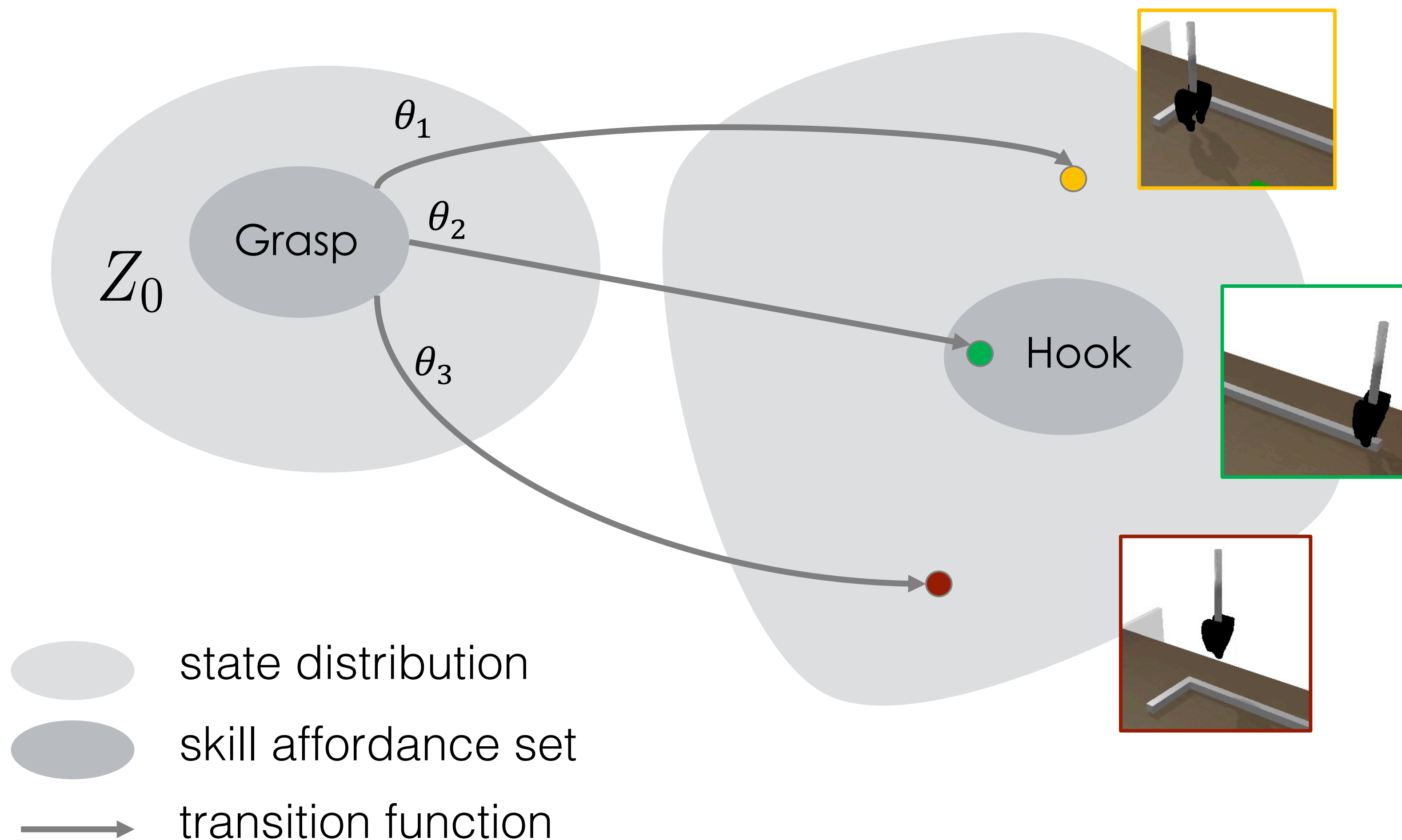
Classical affordance: whether an action is *feasible*

Our new affordance: will an action **make future actions feasible**?

Choose actions that enable the subsequent steps in the task plan

Skill Affordances

Parameterized skill plan $\text{grasp}(\theta) \rightarrow \text{hook}(\theta) \rightarrow \text{grasp}(\theta) \rightarrow \dots$



Affordance function:

$$\mathcal{A}_{\pi, \theta}(s)$$

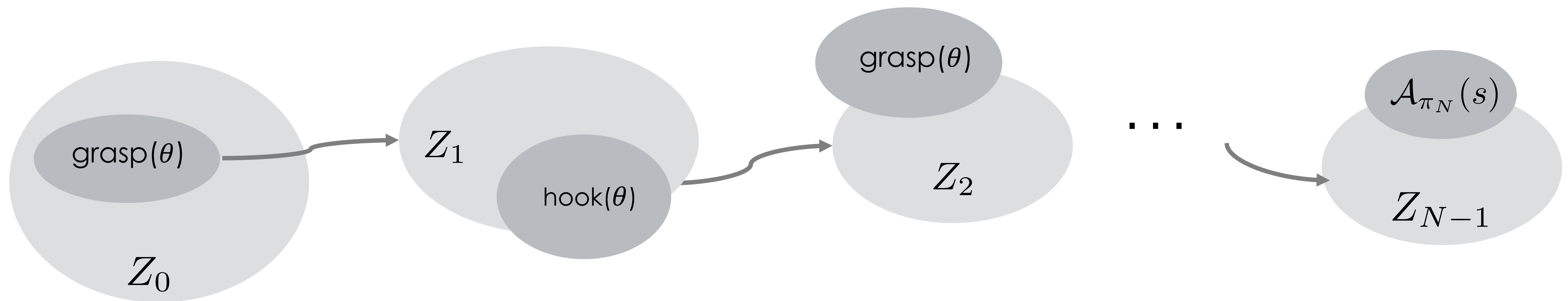
Whether state s is in
the affordance set of (π, θ)

Verifying that a plan is executable with affordances

Parameterized skill plan $\text{grasp}(\theta) \rightarrow \text{hook}(\theta) \rightarrow \text{grasp}(\theta) \rightarrow \dots$

How likely is this plan executable by the robot?

The plan is executable if **every skill in the plan is afforded**.

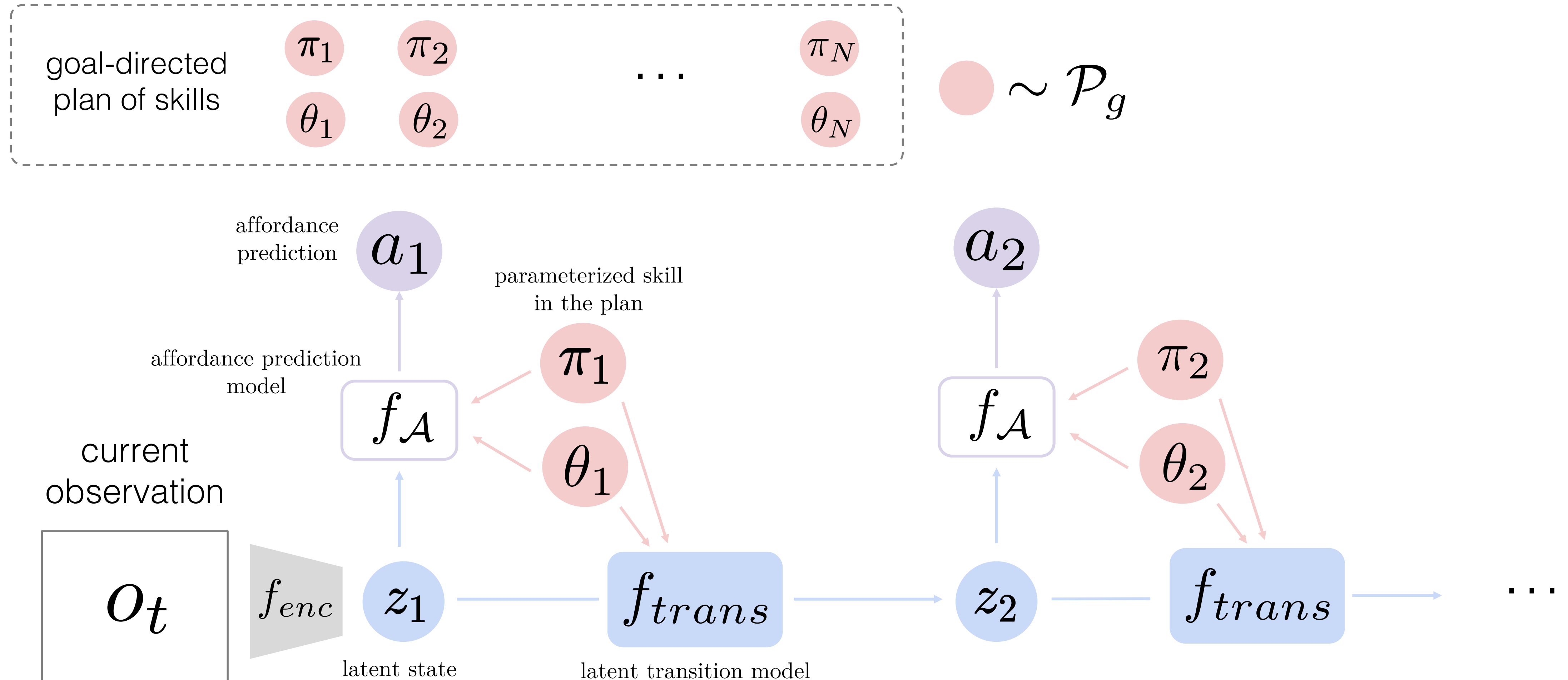


- state distribution
- skill affordance set
- transition function

Probability that a plan is executable:

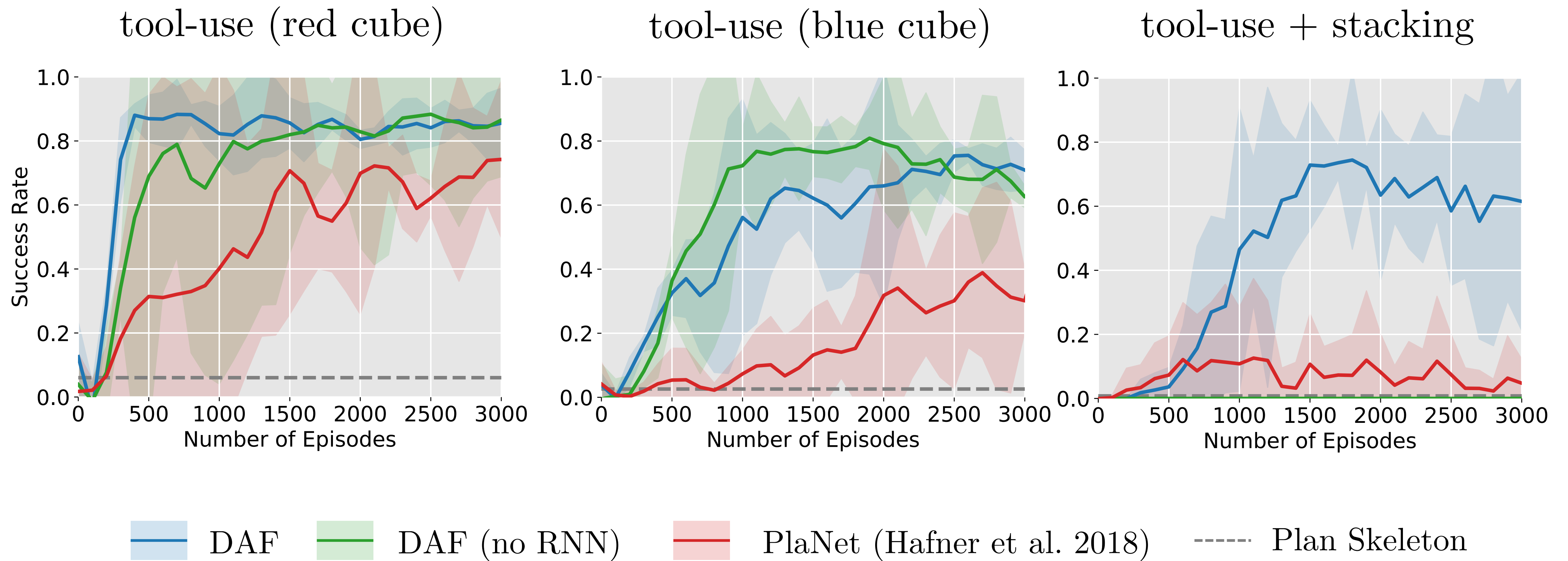
$$C_{plan}(\{(\pi_i, \theta_i)\}_{i=1}^N) = \sum_{s \in S} \underbrace{Z_{N-1}(s)}_{\text{state distribution}} \underbrace{\mathcal{A}_{\pi_N, \theta_N}(s)}_{\text{affordance likelihood}}$$

Learning to Plan with Deep Affordance Foresight (DAF)

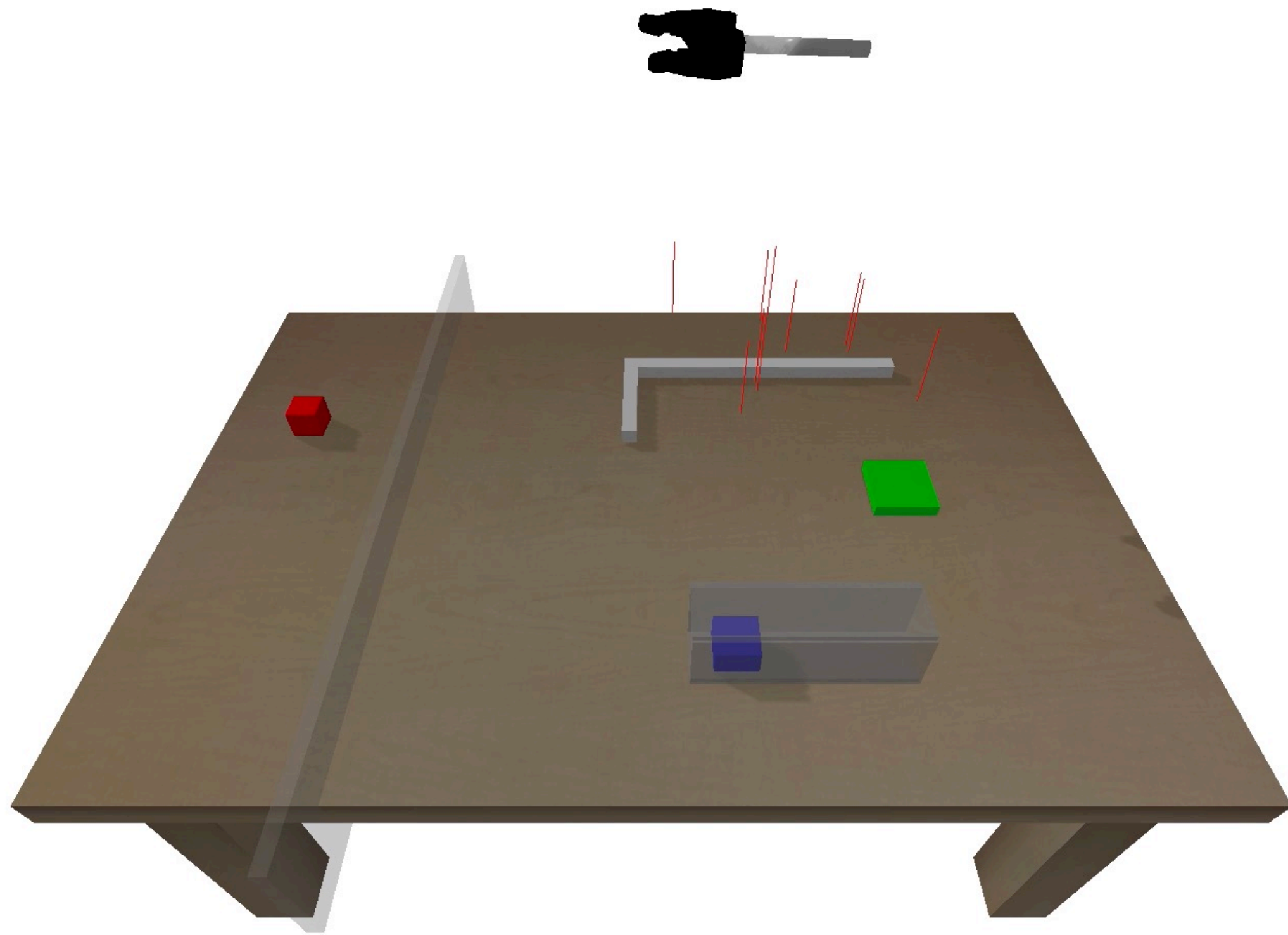


Plan executable likelihood:
$$\hat{C}_{plan} = \prod_i^N a_i$$

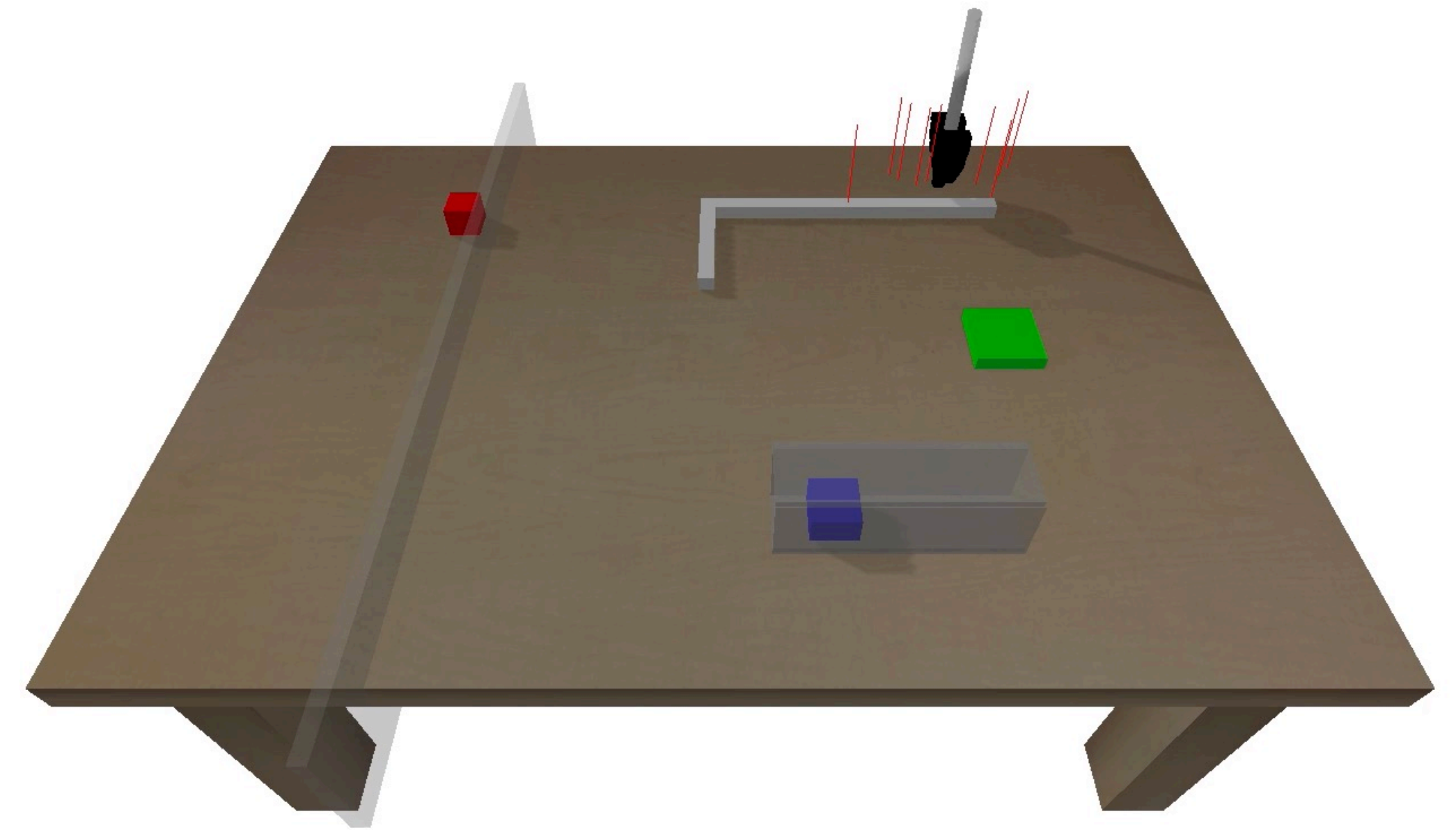
Results: Tool-Use



Sample Rollouts: Tool-Use + Stacking

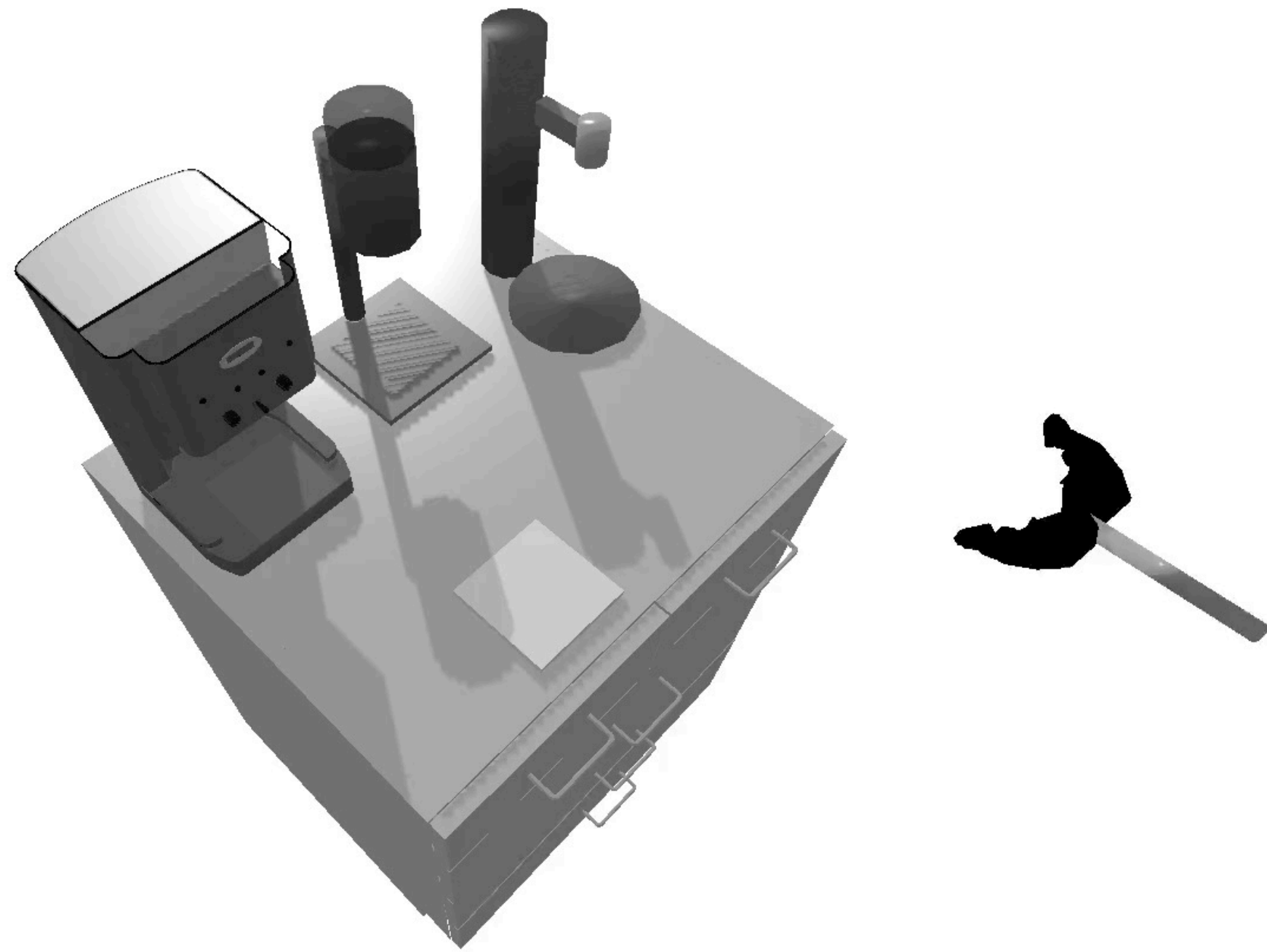


PlaNet

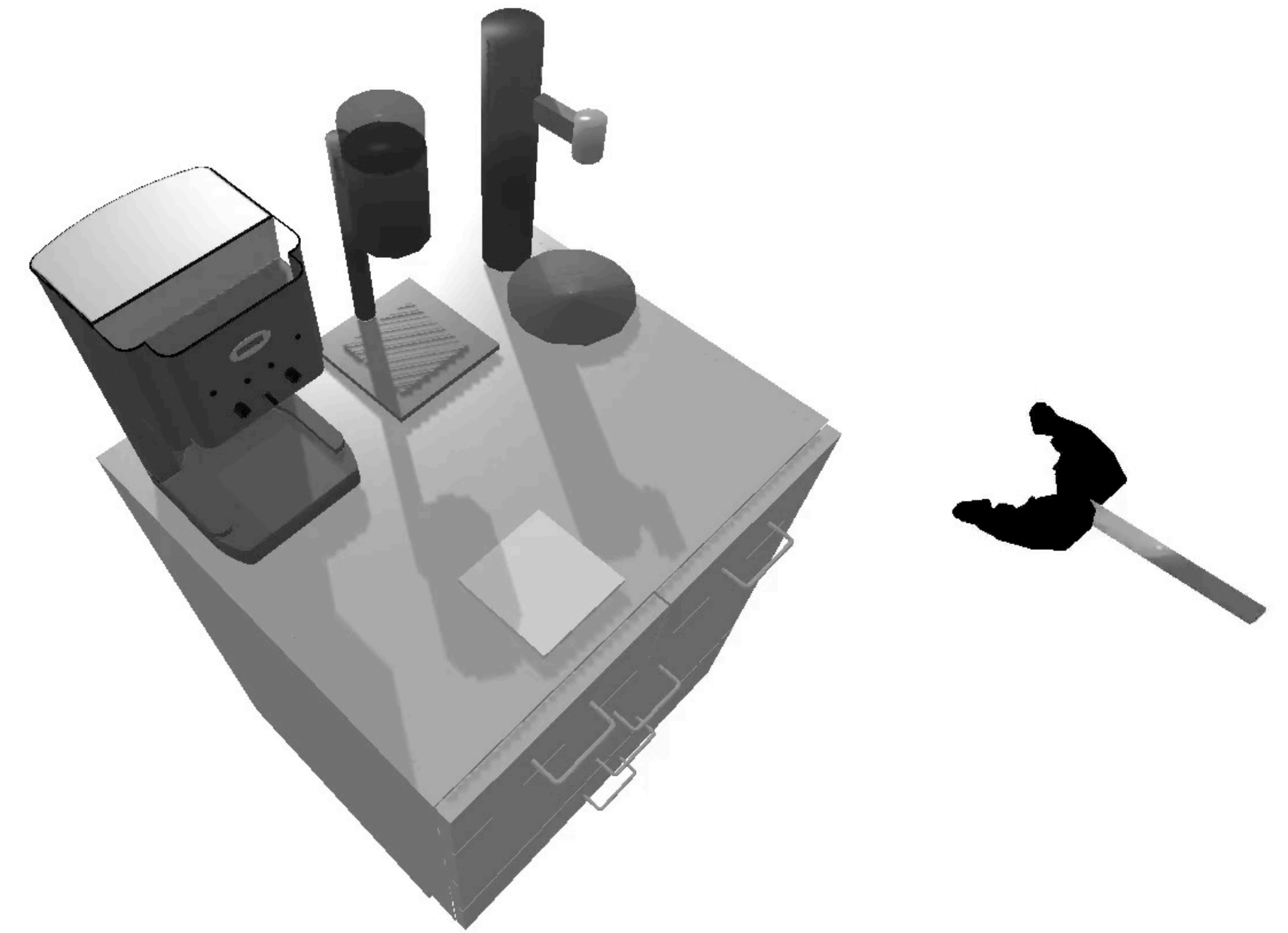


DAF

Rollouts: Kitchen (Coffee)



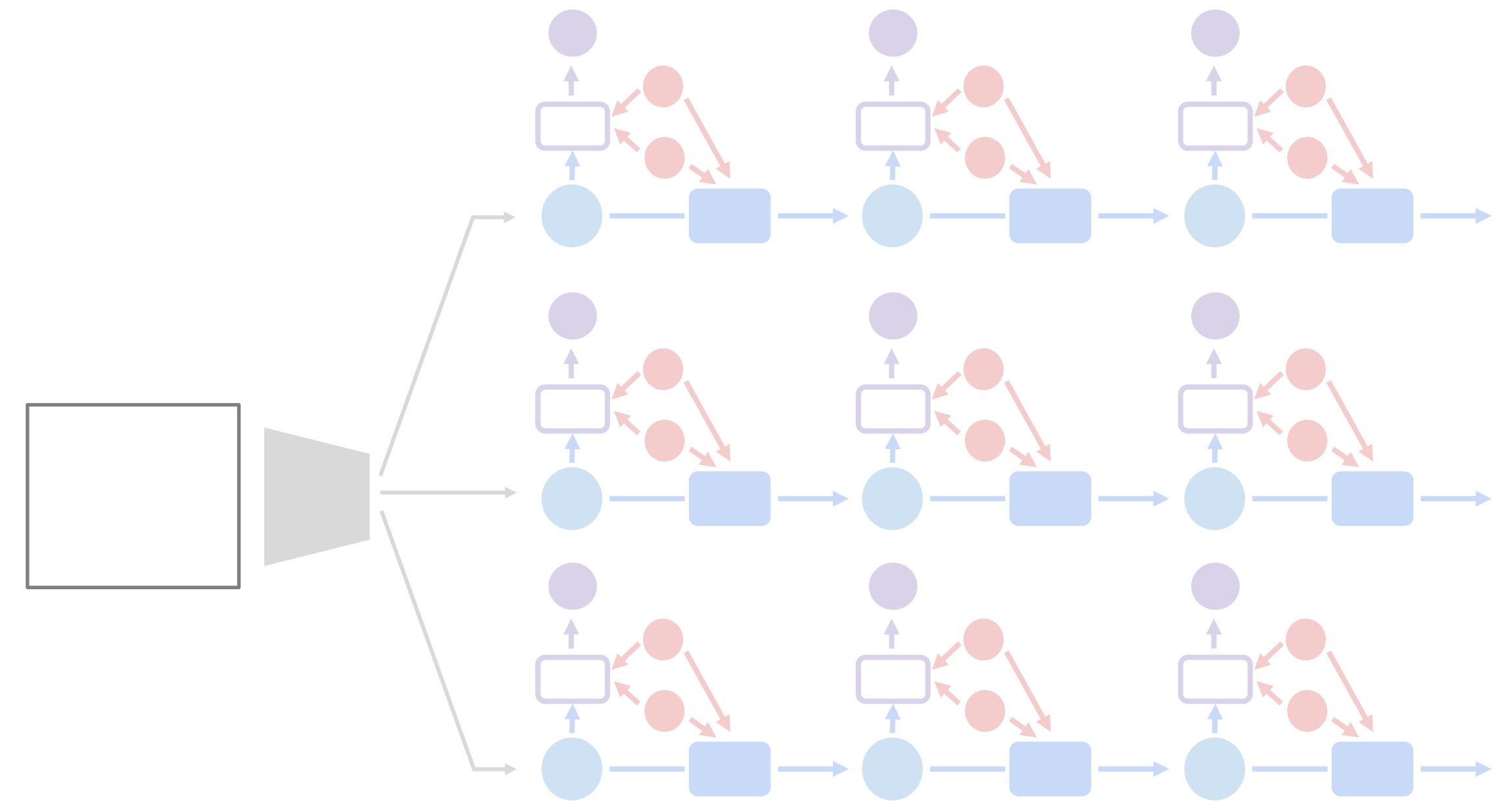
PlaNet



DAF

Deep Affordance Foresight: Summary

- Mapping skills to **action symbols** (skill affordance) from raw observations (NN)
- Reason about skill symbolic plans with **probabilistic methods** of success likelihood (PI)
- Model-based **reinforcement learning** learned from trial and error (RL)



“My advice to young people” Donald Knuth

<https://youtu.be/75Ju0eM5T2c>