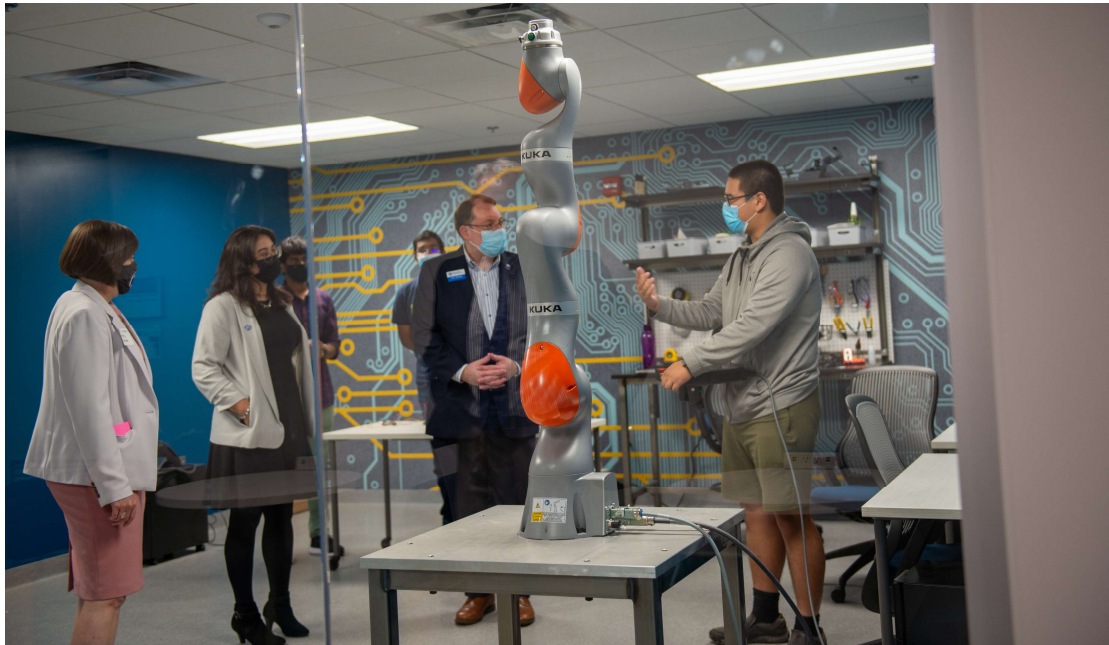


# Ergodic Control in HRI



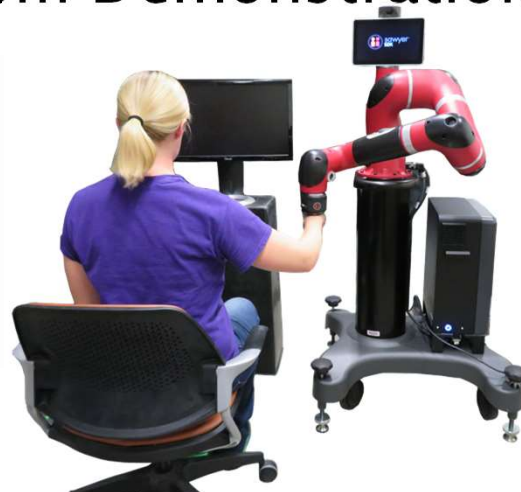
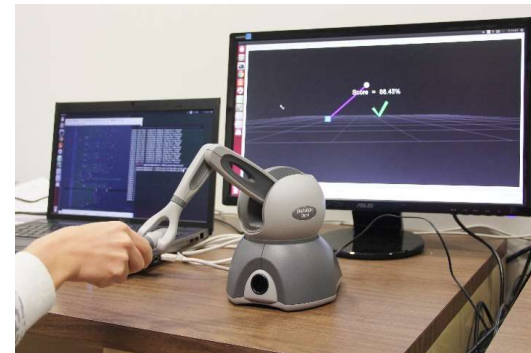
*PI: Katie Fitzsimons*

[k-fitzsimons@psu.edu](mailto:k-fitzsimons@psu.edu)

[psu-hcr.github.io](https://psu-hcr.github.io)

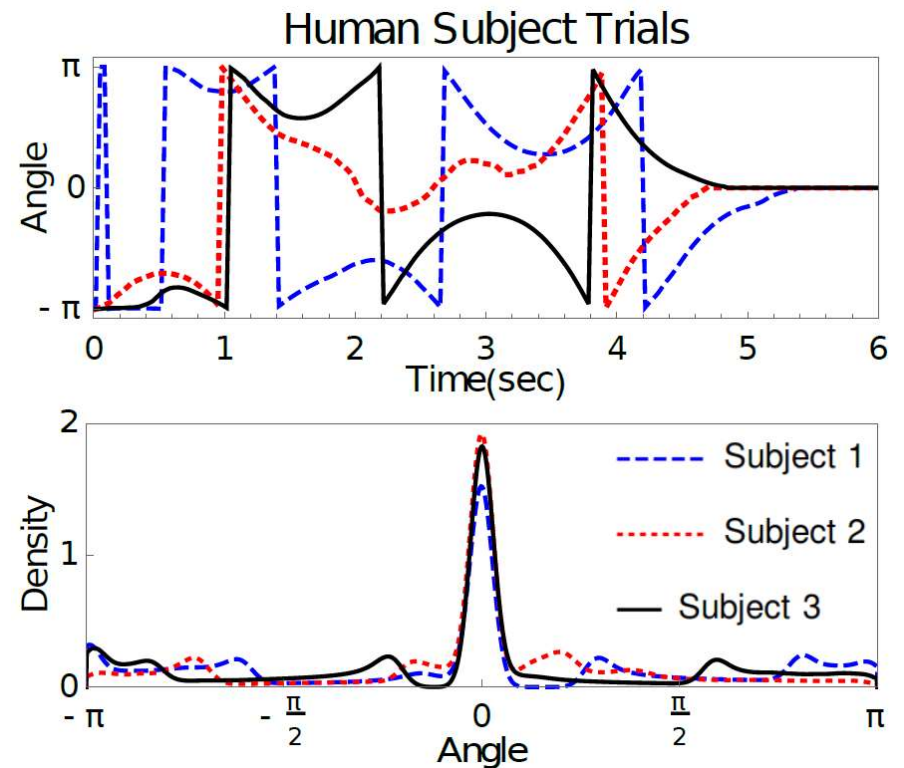
# HUMAN ROBOT INTERACTION

- Social Robots
- Workplace Robots
- Rehabilitation Robotics
- Virtual Training & Haptics
- Learning From Demonstration



# VARIATION IN HUMAN MOTION

- Substantial variation between equally successful trials within and between individuals
- Using statistical representations of the task enables one to use information measures to assess the quality of motion.



# Human Motion Assessment

## Task-Specific Measures

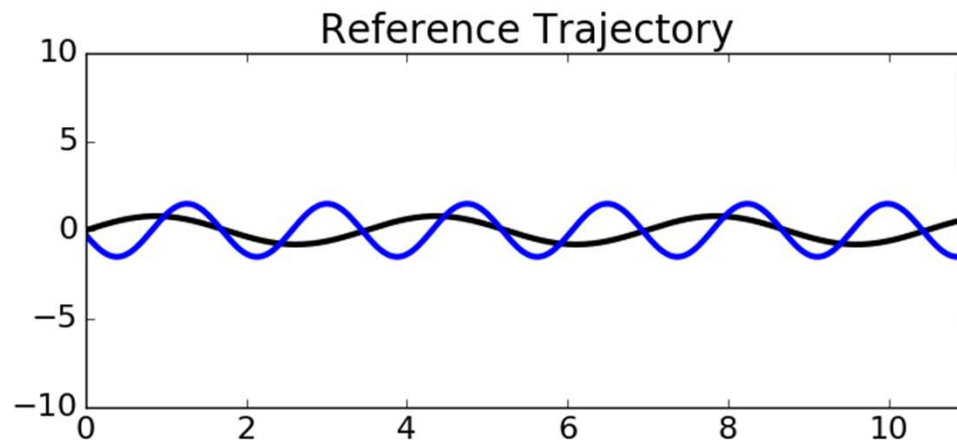
- Outcome-based (e.g., success/failure)
- Narrowly defined (e.g., work area or physical target)
- Do not generalize to other tasks
- Does not enable principled interpretation

# Human Motion Assessment

## Engineering Measures

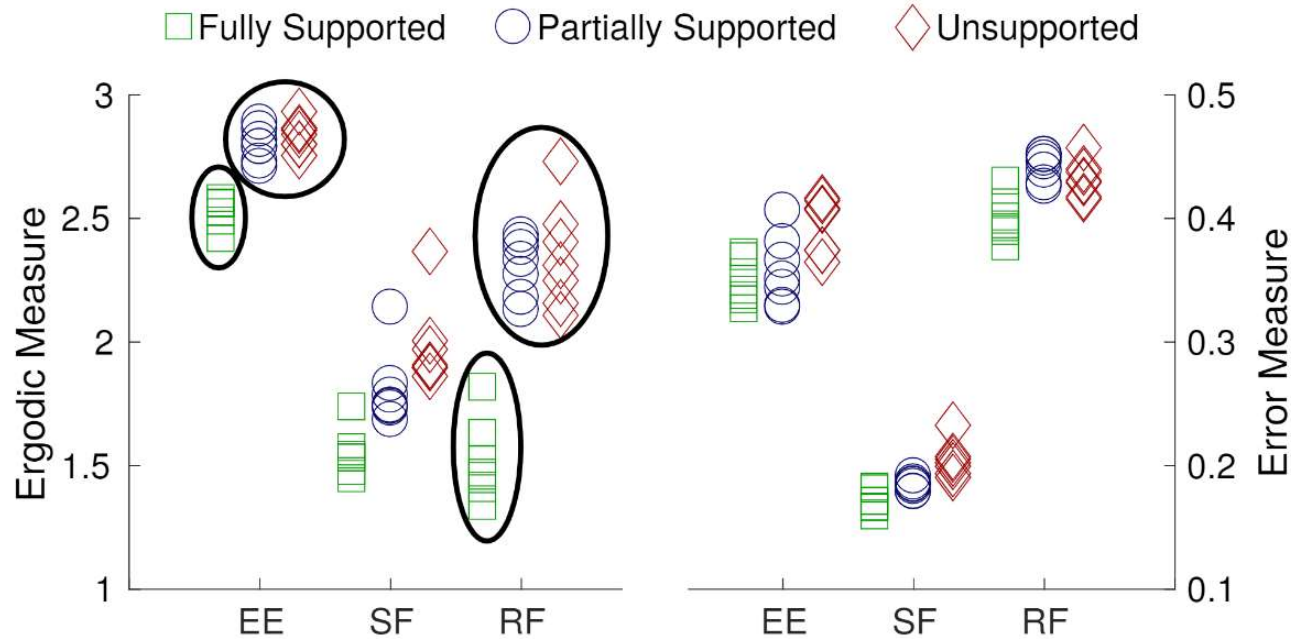
- Principled interpretation
- Independent of the task
- Established control synthesis techniques

**IF we have a task definition in the form of a time-series of states.**



# ERGODICITY DETECTS DEFICIT and ASSISTANCE

## Target Reaching in Stroke



EE – Elbow Extension

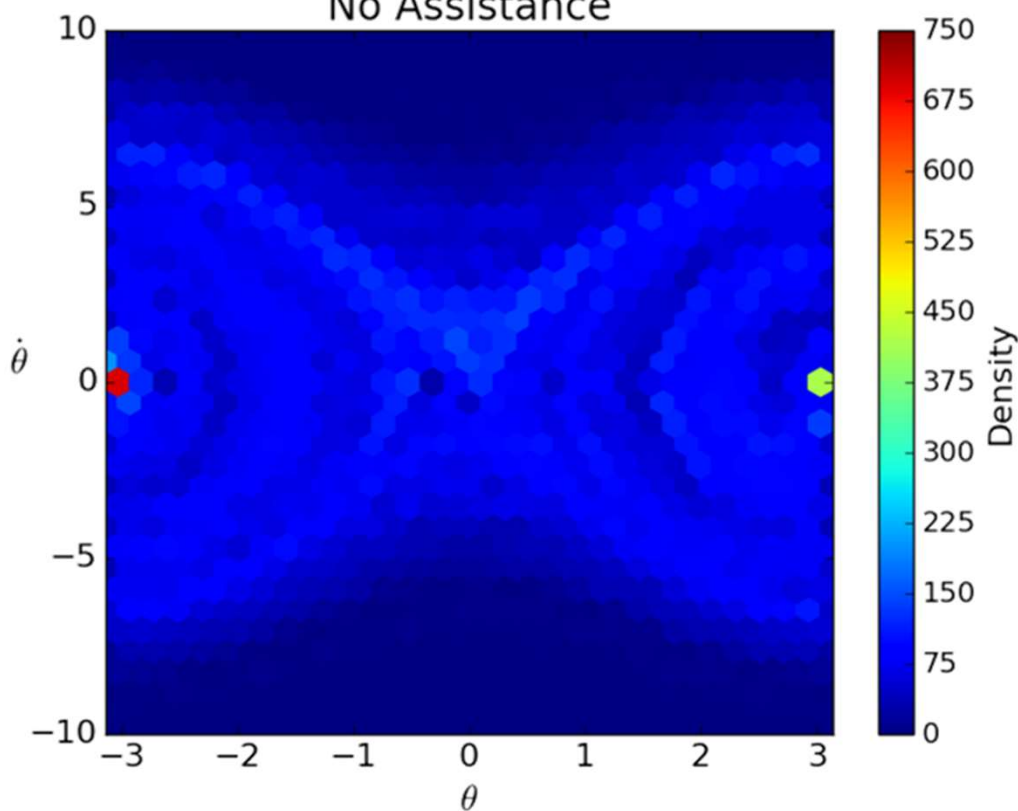
SF – Shoulder Flexion

RF – Reach Forward

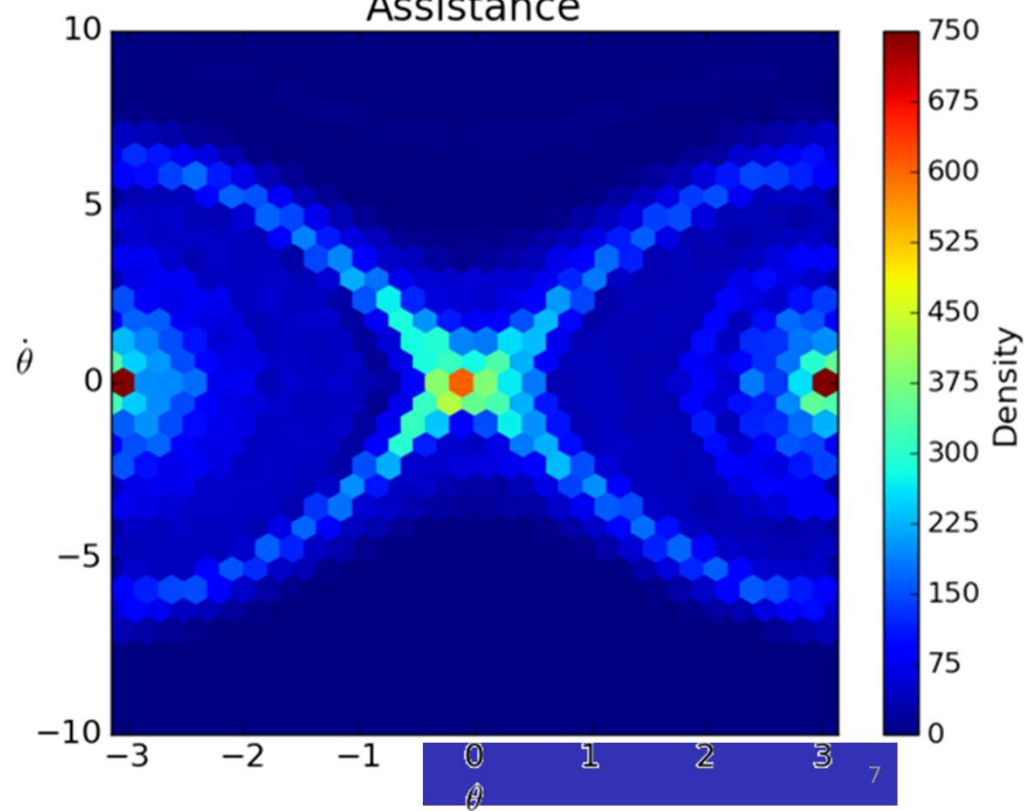
# ERGODICITY DETECTS DEFICIT and ASSISTANCE

## Cart-Pendulum Inversion in Healthy Subjects

No Assistance



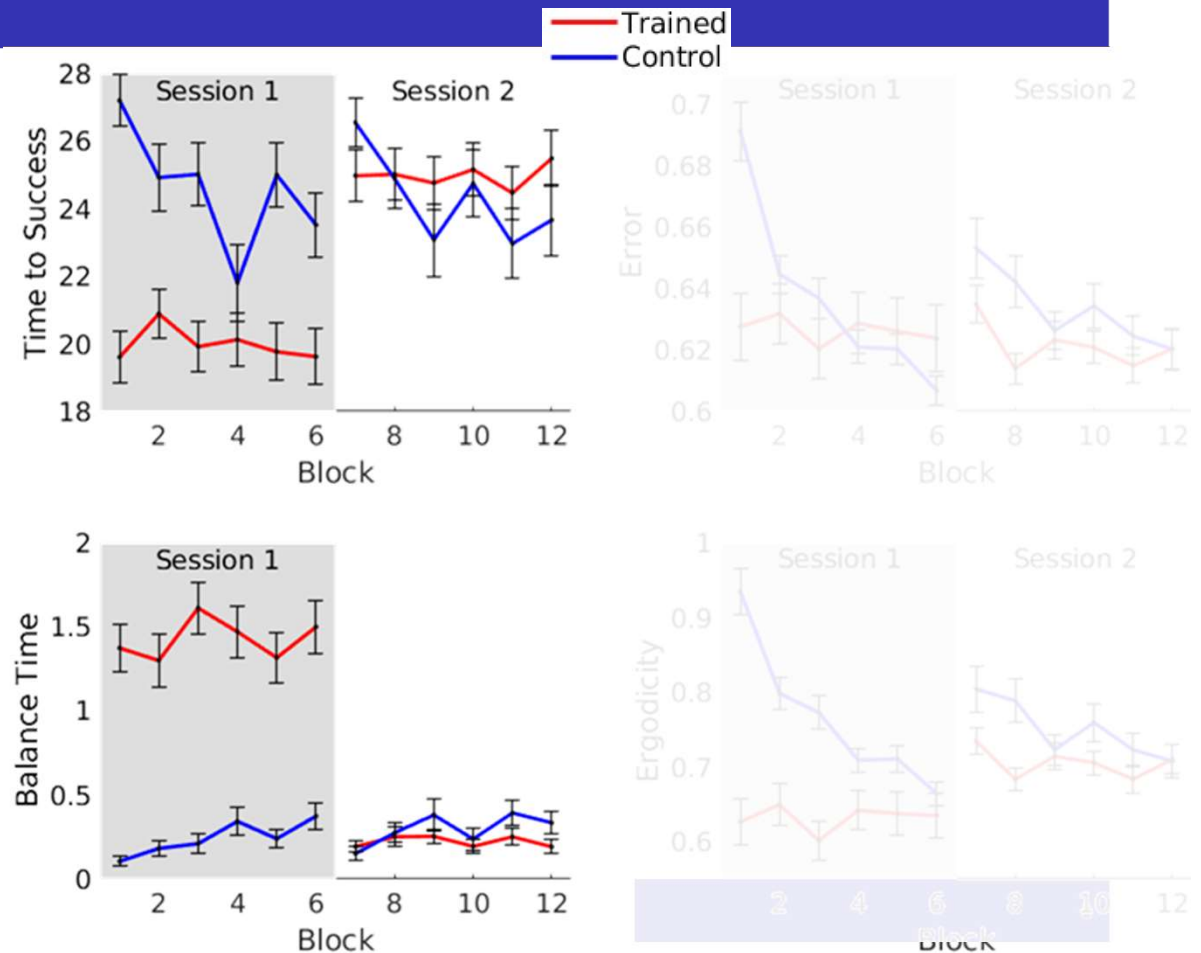
Assistance





# ERGODICITY DETECTS TRAINING

- Task-specific measures capture assistance but not training

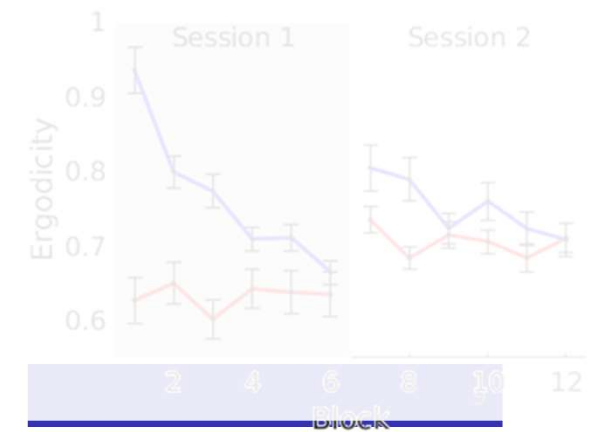
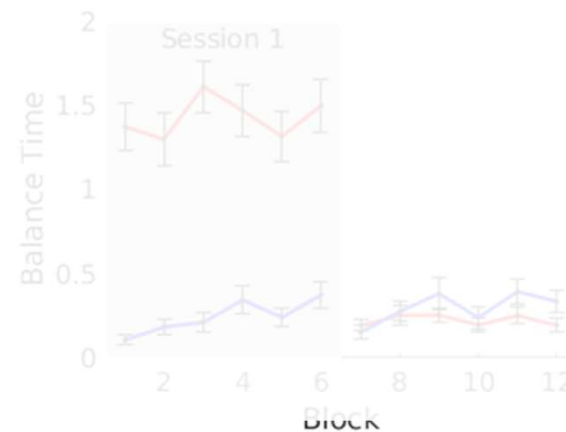
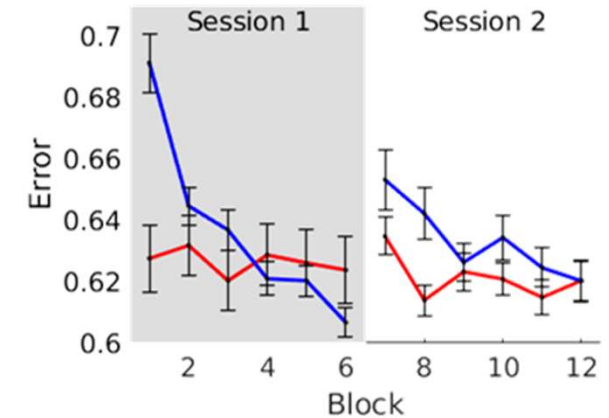
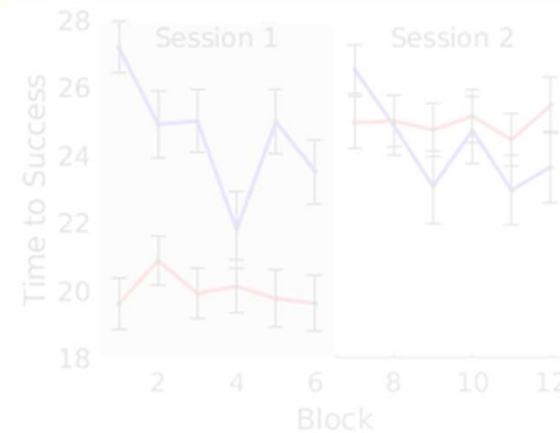




# ERGODICITY DETECTS TRAINING

— Trained  
— Control

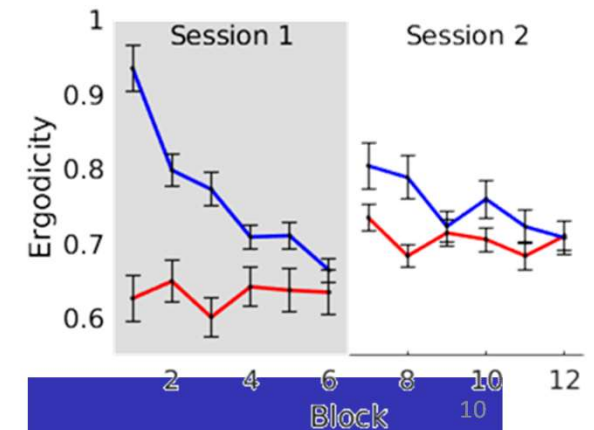
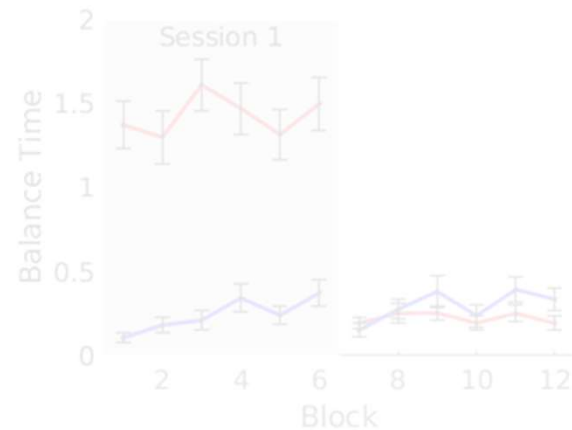
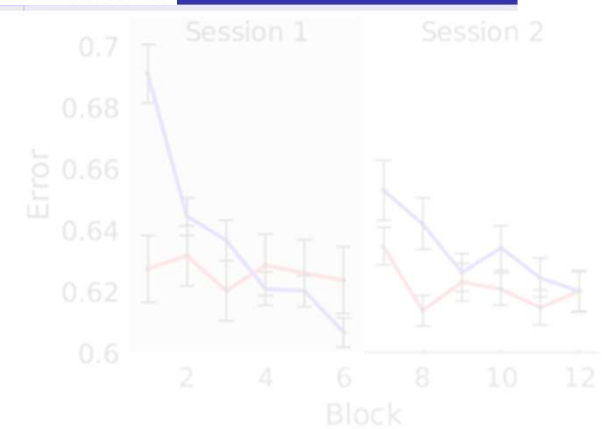
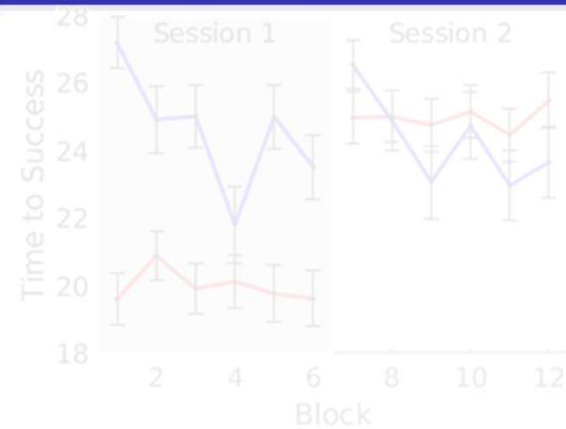
- Task-specific measures capture assistance but not training
- Error captures training but not assistance



# ERGODICITY DETECTS TRAINING

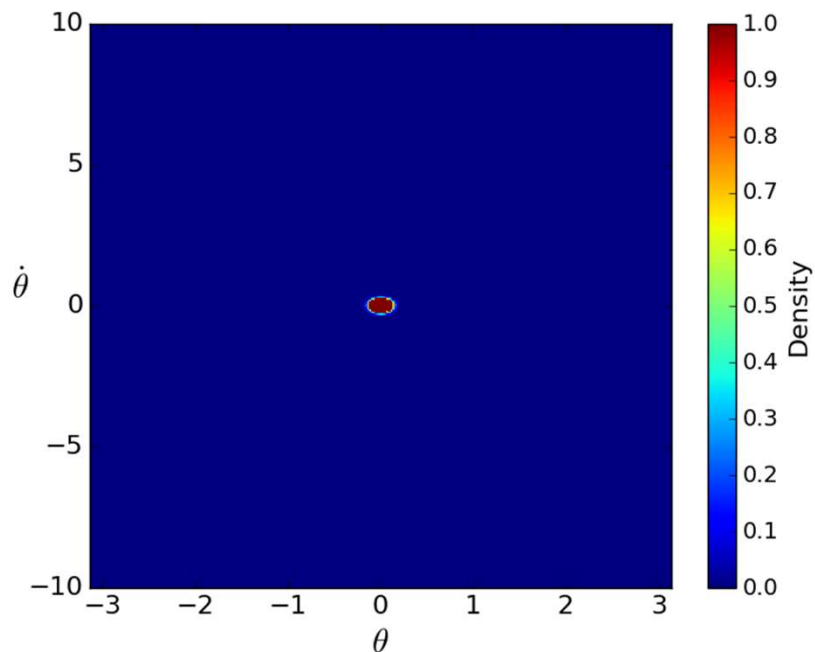
— Trained  
— Control

- Task-specific measures capture assistance but not training
- Error captures training but not assistance
- Ergodicity capture both effects



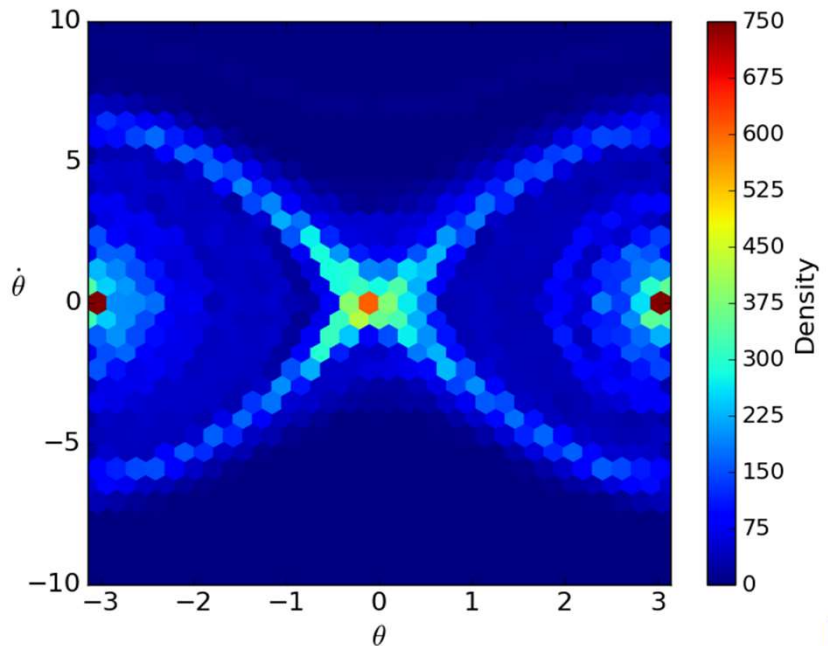
# Defining 'Good' Movement

Specify a goal state and choose a probabilistic model (e.g. Dirac Delta)



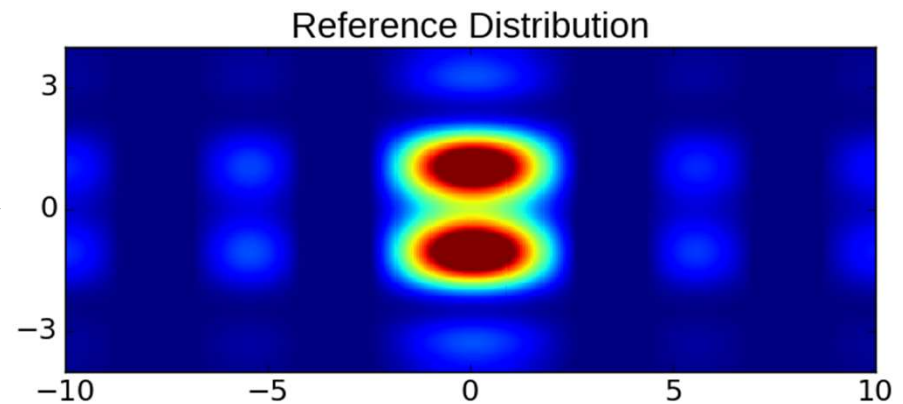
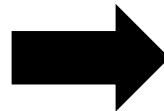
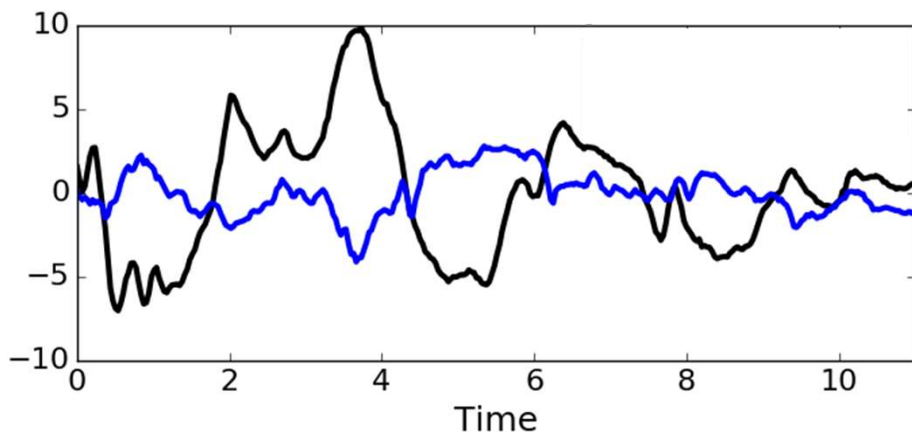
OR

Use a collection of observations to form a distribution



# QUANTIFYING ERGODICITY

- Using Fourier Coefficients scales as  $\mathcal{O}(|k|^n)$
- Periodic basis functions leads to artifacts
- Alternative is a sample-based measure of the Kullback-Leibler Divergence<sup>1</sup>



I. Abraham, A. Prabhakar, and T.D. Murphey, "An Ergodic Measure for Active Learning from Equilibrium," Transactions on Automation Science and Engineering (2020).

# QUANTIFYING TASK INFORMATION

## Sample-Based K-L Divergence Measure

- Approximate the trajectory as a mixture distribution

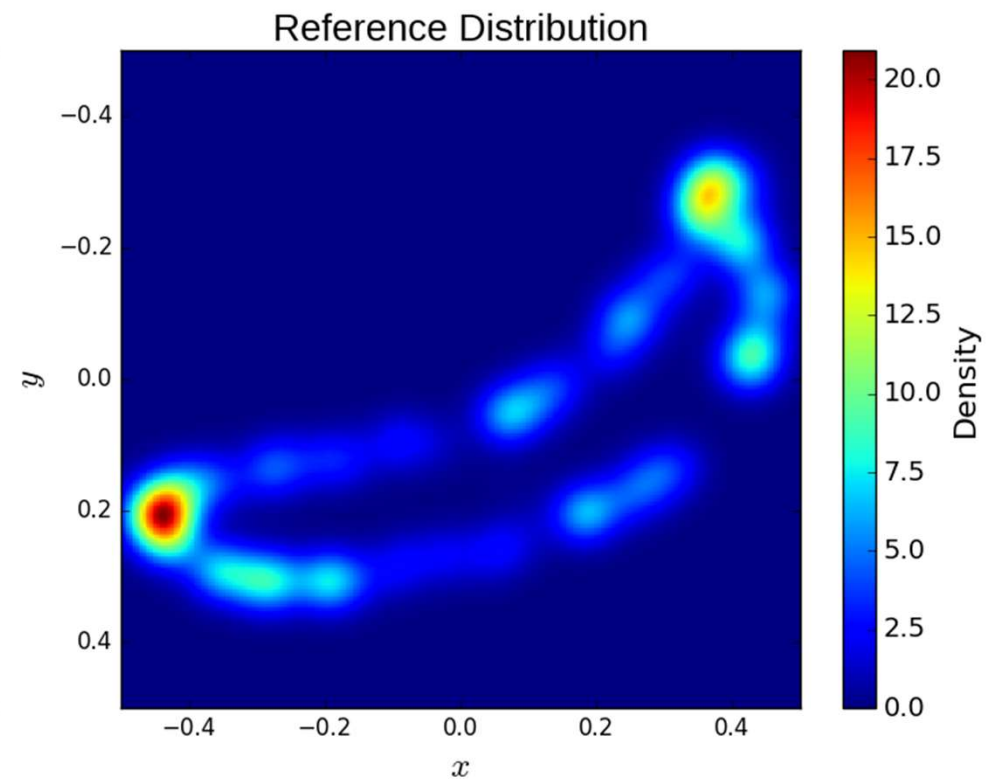
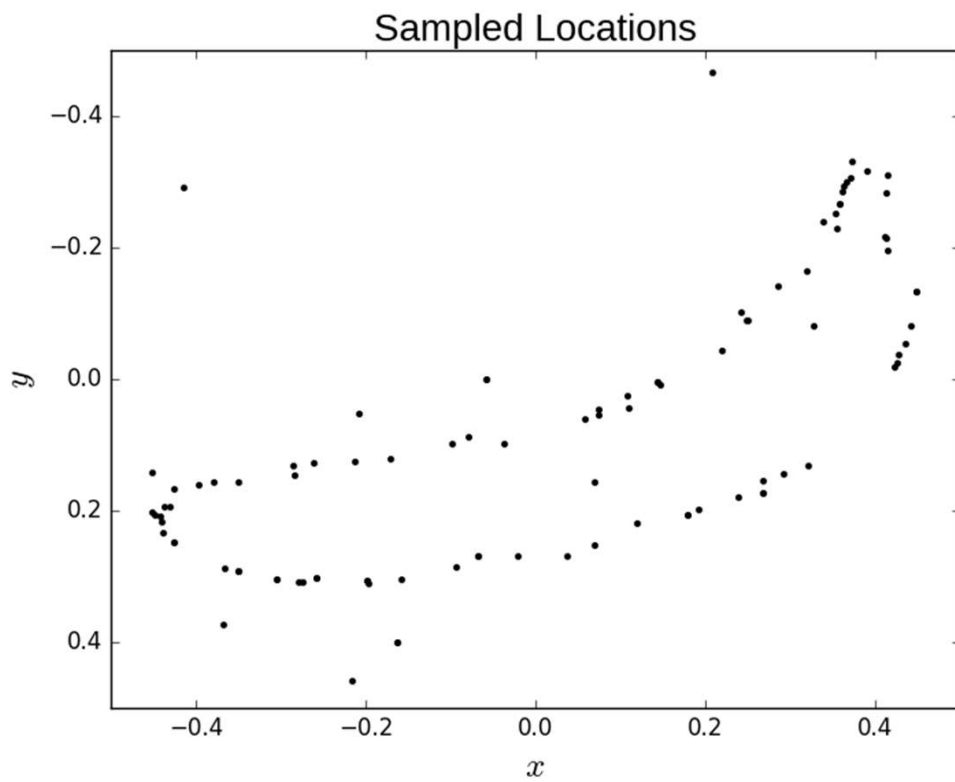
$$q(s|x(t)) = \frac{\eta}{t_f - t_0} \int_{t_0}^{t_f} \exp \left[ -\frac{1}{2} (s - x(t))^T \Sigma (s - x(t)) \right] dt$$

$$D_{KL}(p(s)||q(s)) = \int_{\mathcal{X}} p(s) \ln \frac{p(s)}{q(s)} ds$$

- Approximate the Kullback-Leibler Divergence using N randomly sampled points

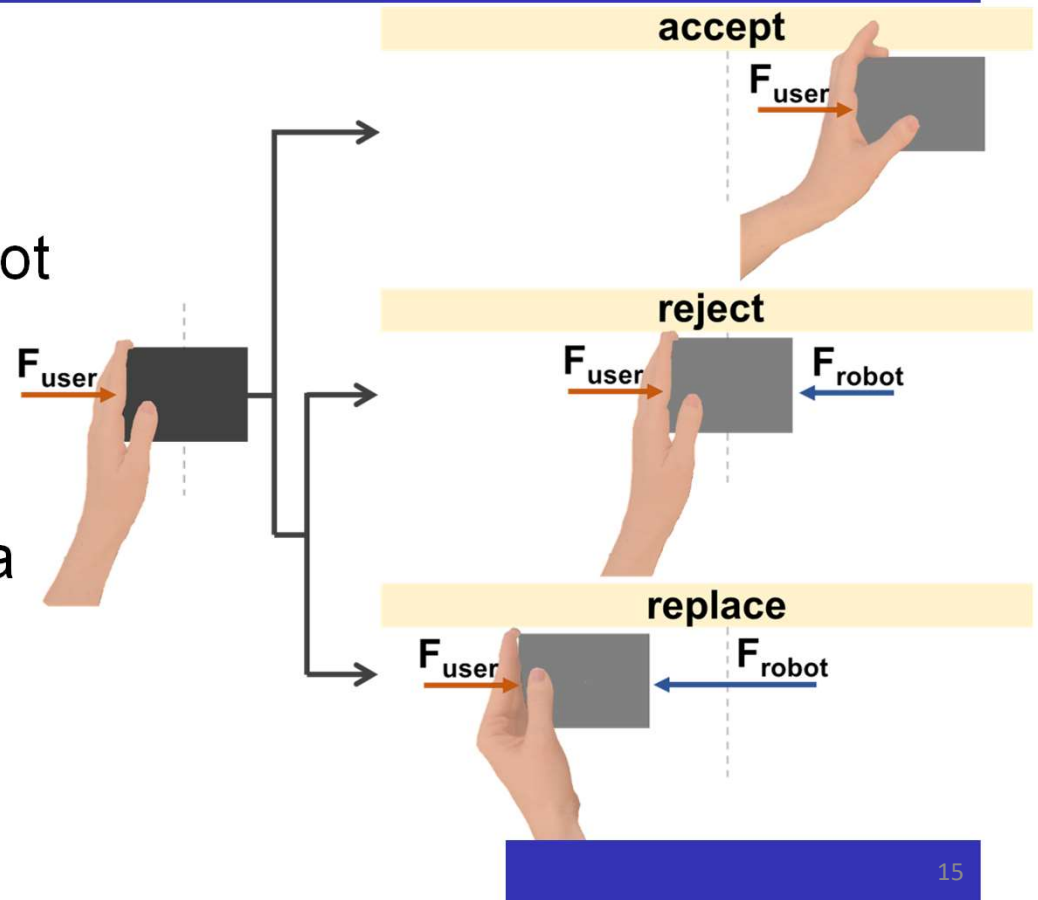
$$\varepsilon_{KL} = \sum_{i=1}^N p(s_i) \ln \int_{t_0}^{t_f} \exp \left[ -\frac{1}{2} (s_i - x(t))^T \Sigma (s_i - x(t)) \right] dt$$

# Sample-Based K-L Divergence Measure



# HYBRID SHARED CONTROL

- Does not provide guidance or augment error
- Selectively rejects (but does not replace) user actions
- Adapts to user needs using task-based acceptance criteria



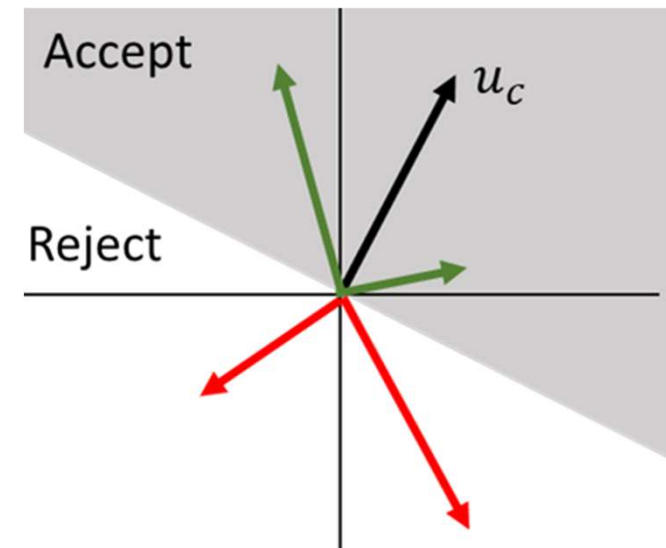


# HYBRID SHARED CONTROL

## Task-Based Criteria: Inner Product

- Compute the nominal controller,  $u_c$
- Calculate the inner product  $\langle u_c, u_{user} \rangle$
- Calculate the angle  $\Phi$  between  $u_c$  and  $u_{user}$

$$\langle u_c, u_{user} \rangle > 0 \text{ and } \Phi \leq \gamma$$



# HYBRID SHARED CONTROL

## Task-Based Criteria: Mode Insertion Gradient (MIG)

Used in optimal control mode scheduling

$$u_2(t) = \begin{cases} u_{user} & t \leq t_s \\ u_1 & t_s \leq t \leq T \end{cases}$$

$\frac{dJ}{d\lambda}(\tau)$  = The sensitivity of the cost to the user input

$$\int_{t_{now}}^{t_{now}+T} \frac{dJ}{d\lambda}(t) \delta t \leq 0$$

When the integral is negative,  $u_2$  is a descent direction.

# Implementing on Impedance Controller

- When inputs are accepted, impedance is **0**
- When inputs are rejected, damping parameter of impedance control is updated

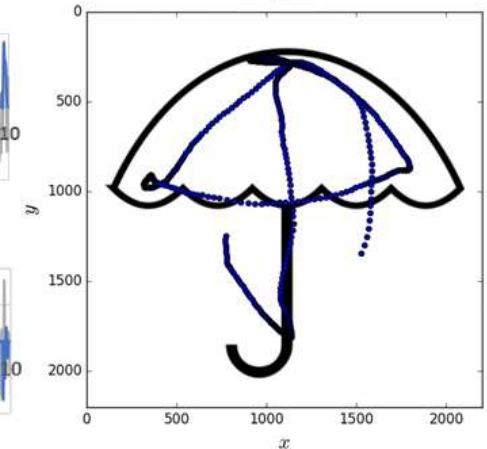
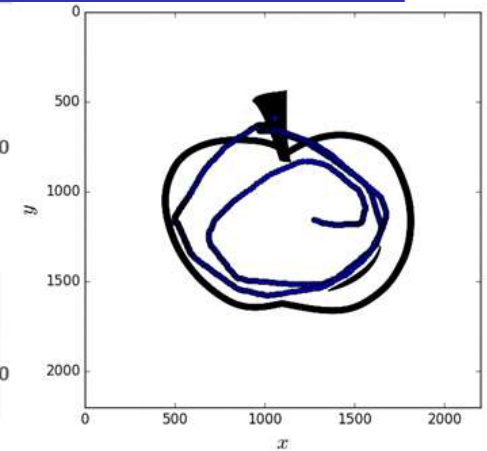
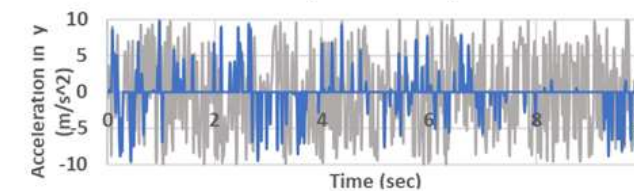
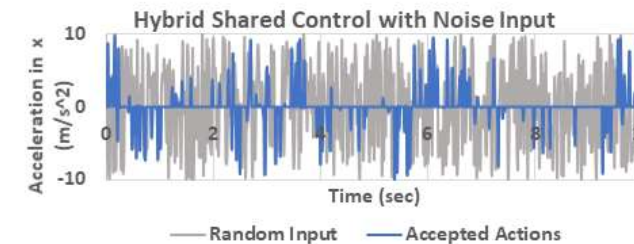
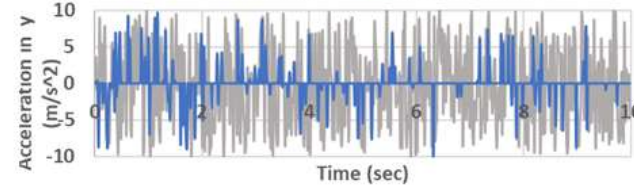
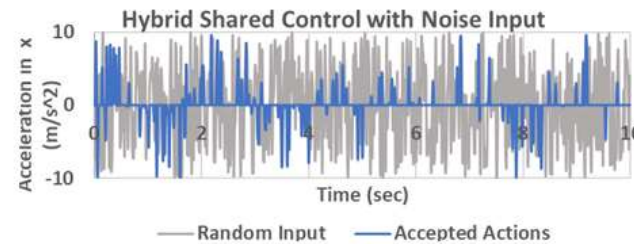
$$\begin{pmatrix} D_x \\ D_y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \text{sgn}(v_x) & 0 \\ 0 & \text{sgn}(v_y) \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \Delta v_x \\ \Delta v_y \end{pmatrix}$$



# ERGODIC SHARED CONTROL

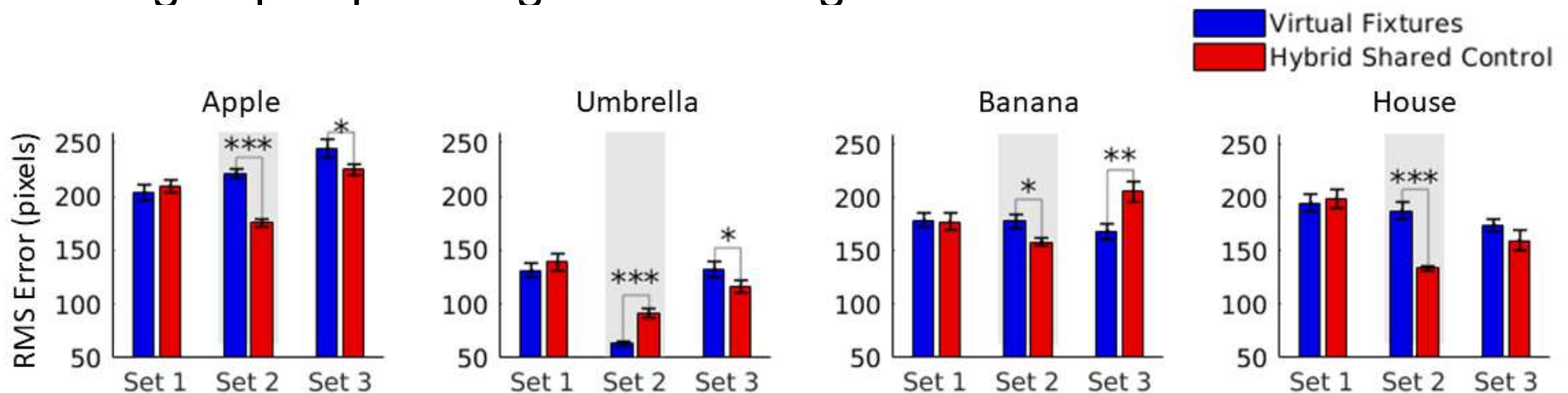
## Simulation Results

- Double Integrator System
- Random Inputs from uniform distribution
- Transforms random walk into something resembling original image



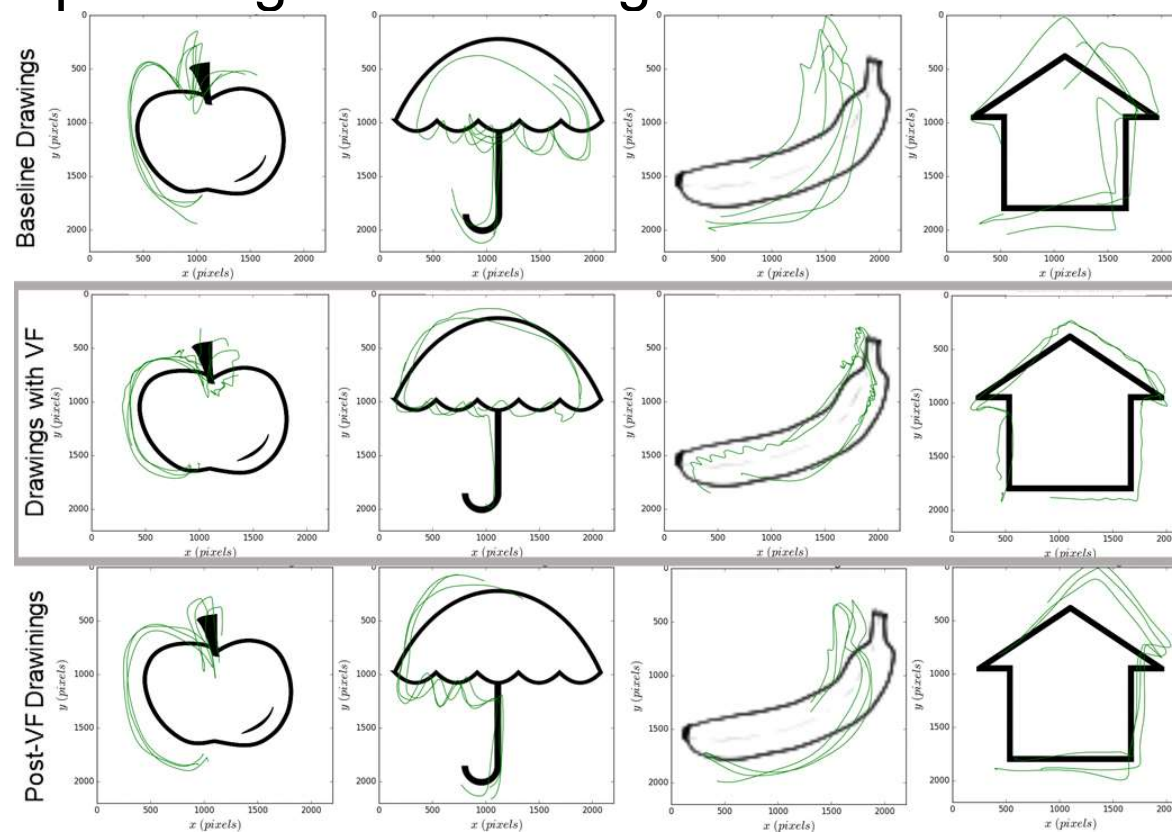
# TRAINING OUTCOMES - ERROR

- Computed root mean square of  $d_p$  in pixels
- ANOVA of Set 1 and Set 3 showed significant interaction effect of training group and set
- VF group exploited guides leading to fixed distance from lines



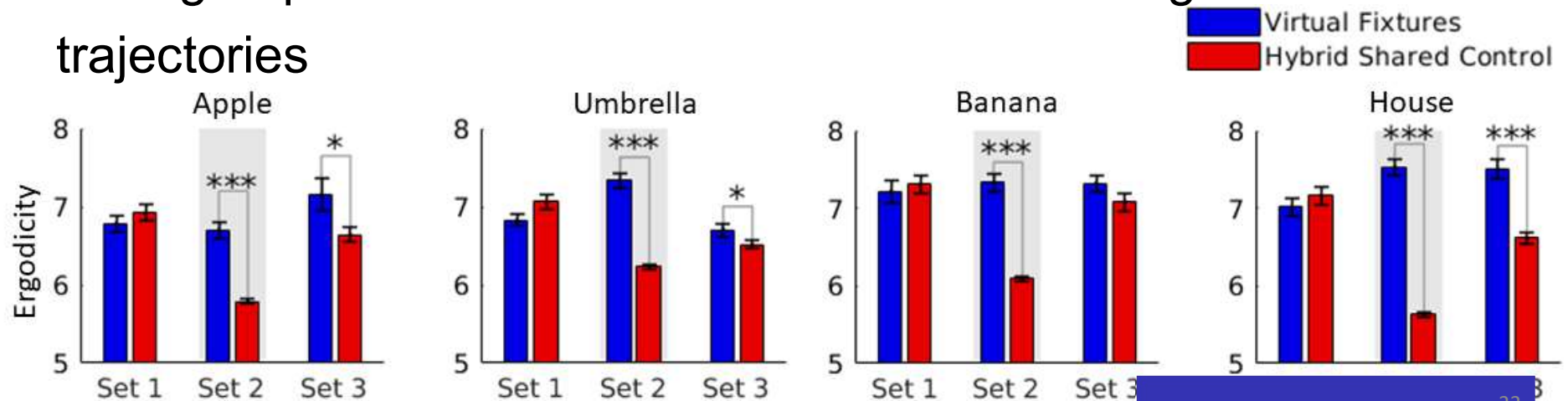
# TRAINING OUTCOMES - ERROR

- VF group exploited guides leading to fixed distance from lines



# TRAINING OUTCOMES - ERGODICITY

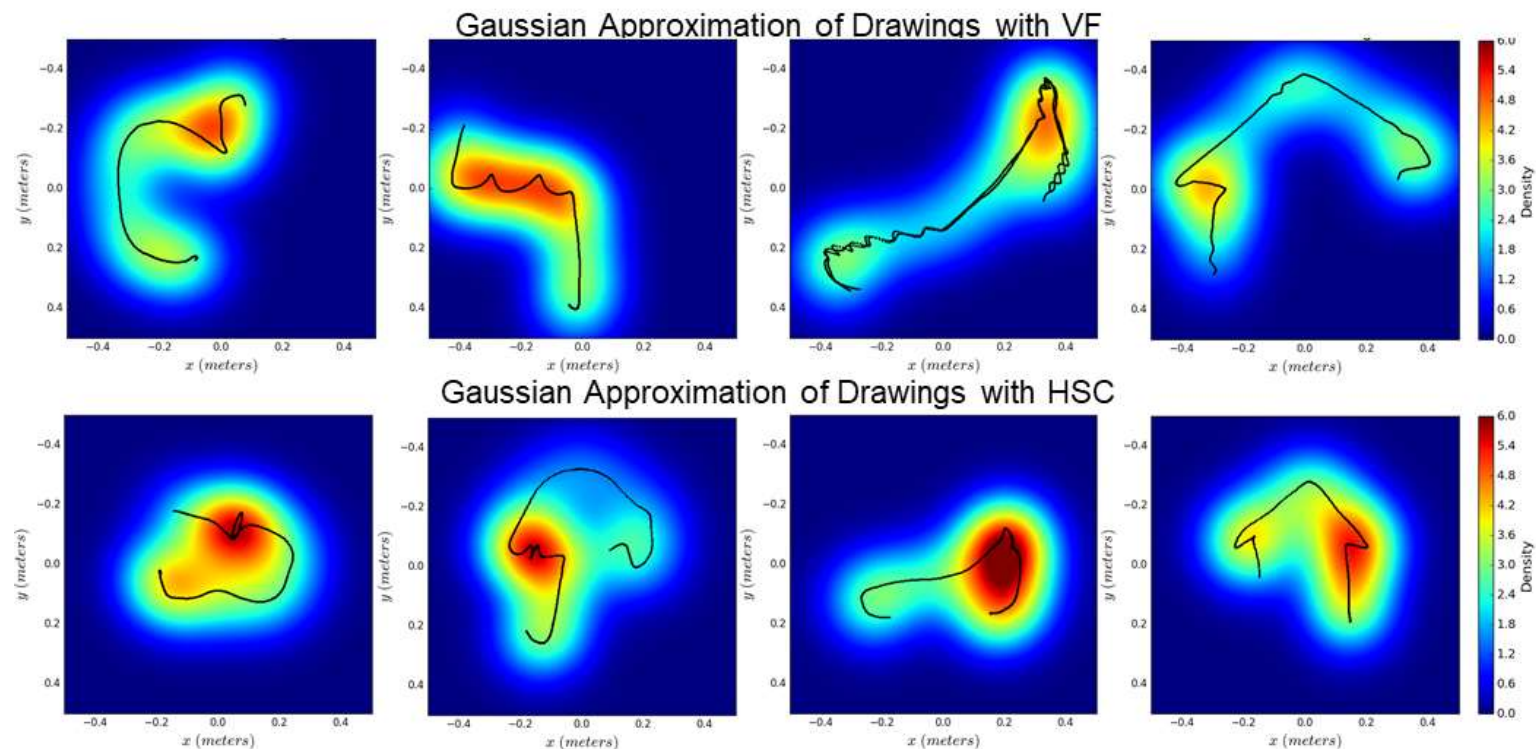
- Computed using sample-based K-L Ergodic measure
- ANOVA of Set 1 and Set 3 showed significant interaction effect of training group and set
- HSC group encoded more information about image into their trajectories





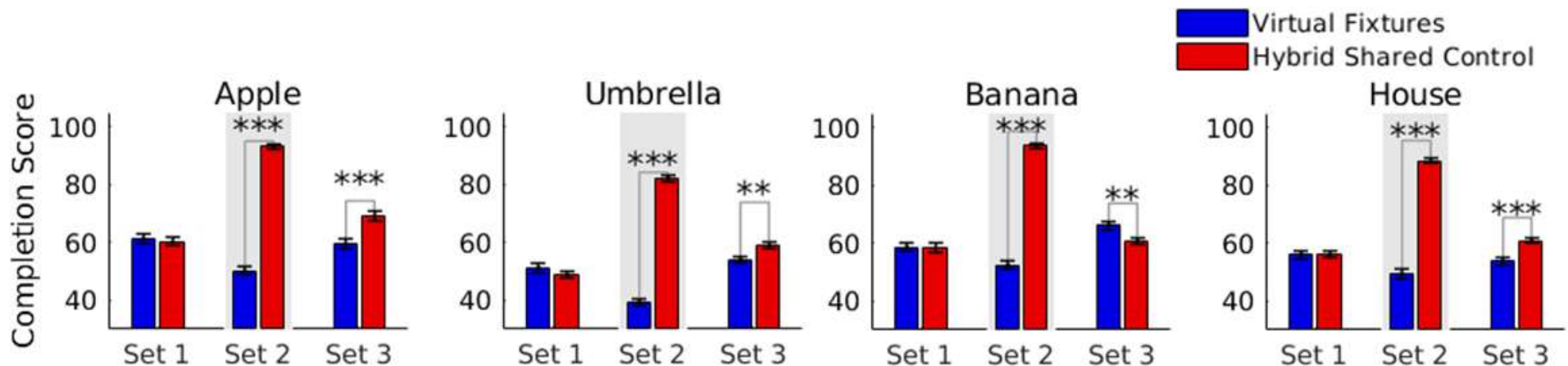
# TRAINING OUTCOMES - ERGODICITY

- HSC group encoded more information about image into their trajectories



# TRAINING OUTCOMES – COMPLETION

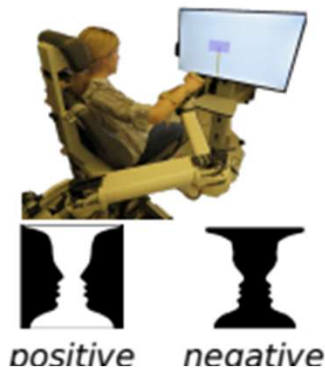
- Coded images were randomly assigned to scorers via an online survey
- ANOVA of Set 1 and Set 3 showed significant interaction effect of training group and set



# Ergodic Imitation Learning

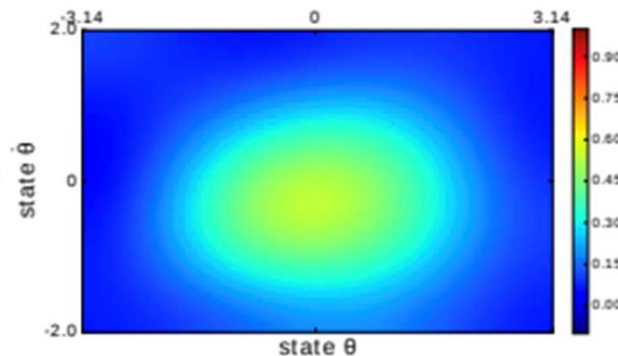
- Ergodic control enables effective LfD under different initial conditions and system constraints
- There is a natural way to add demonstrations to the set
- The task definition encompasses the variability of the set

**User-provided demonstrations**



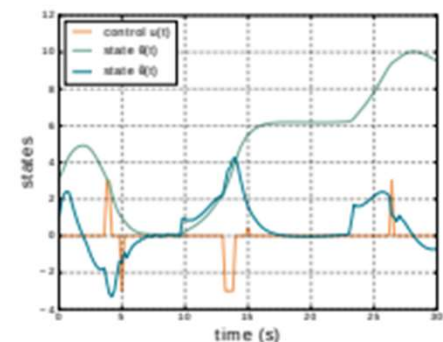
ergodic LfD

**Learned task definition**

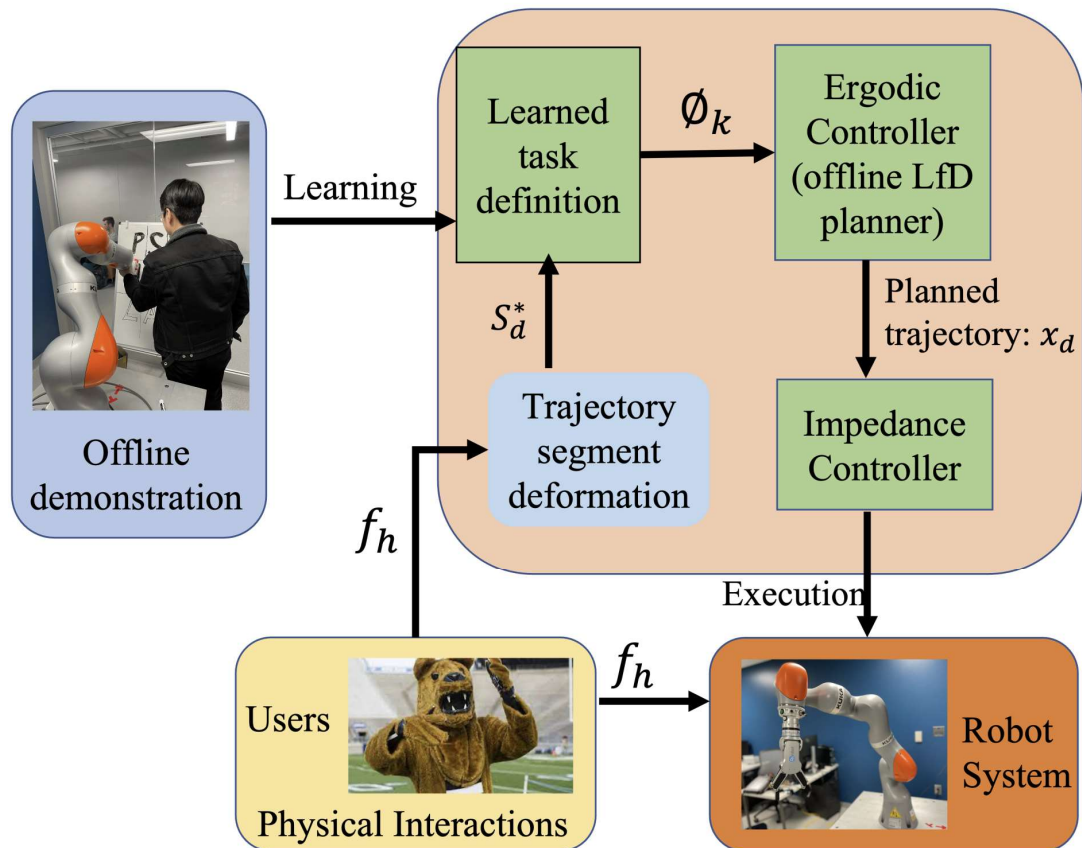


MPC

**Skill reconstruction**

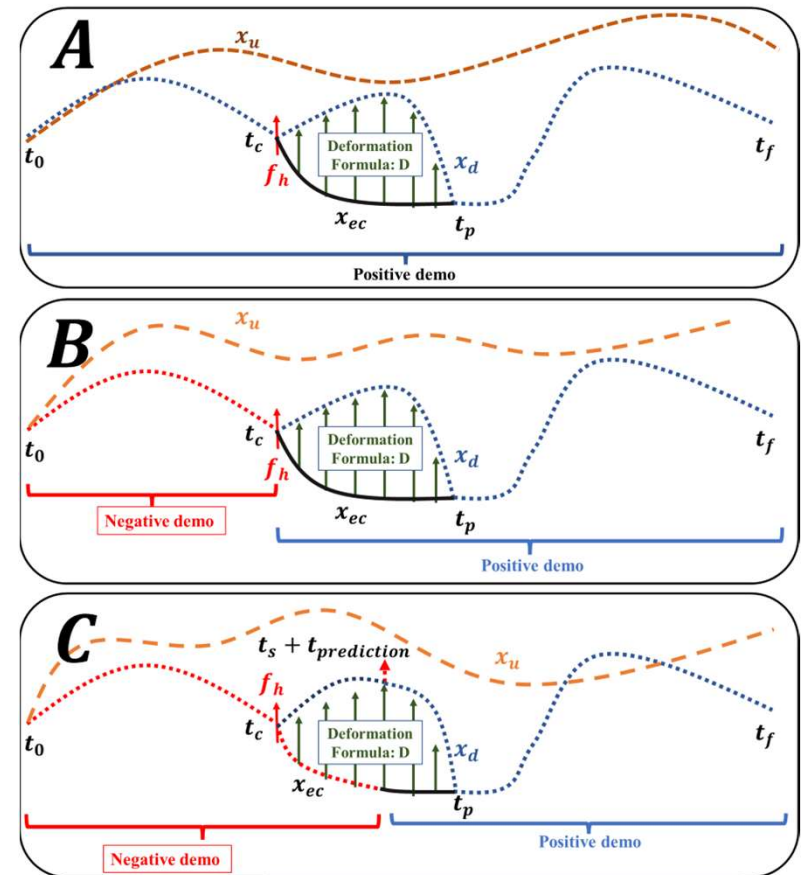


# Learning from pHRI

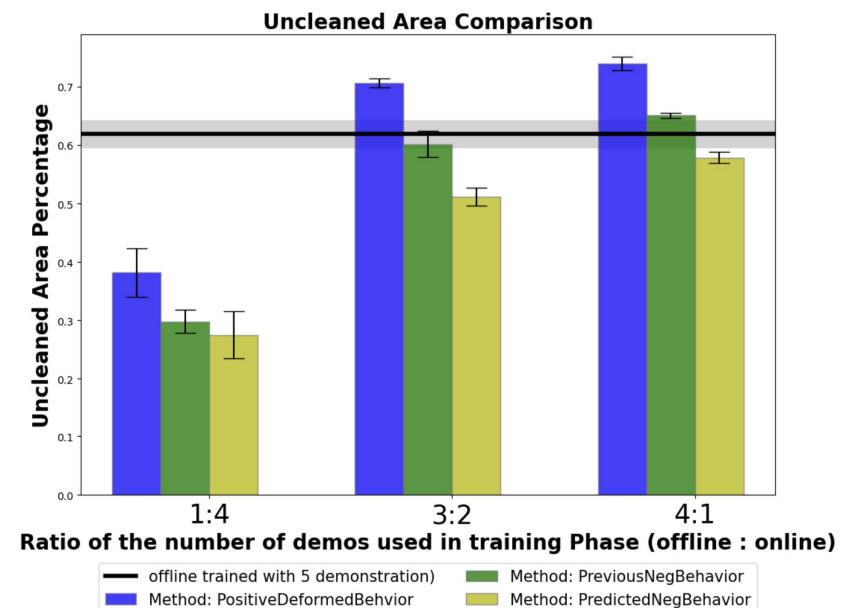
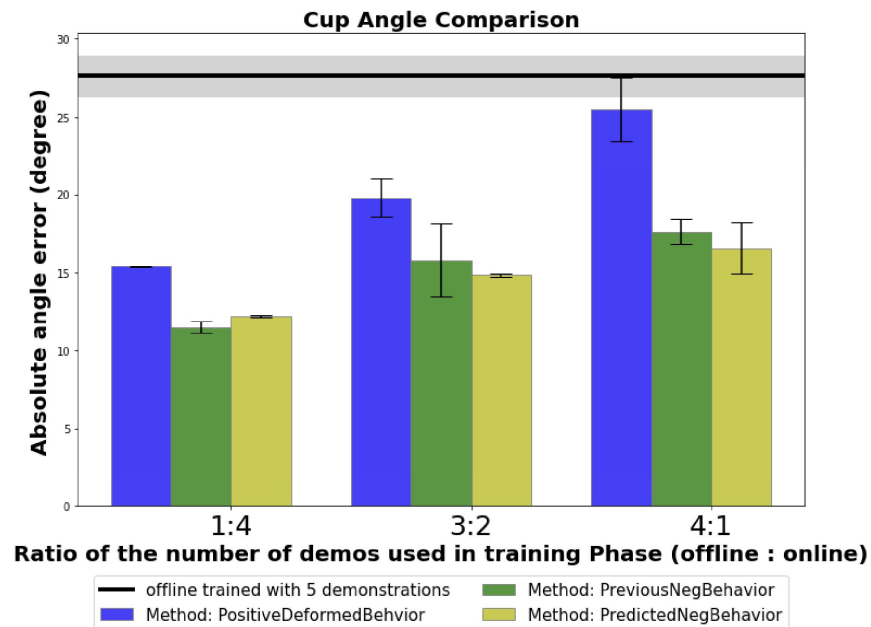


# Learning from pHRI

- We compute a trajectory deformation based on physical interactions
- The deformed trajectory can be used as a positive demo (A), negative demo (B), or a combination of both (C).



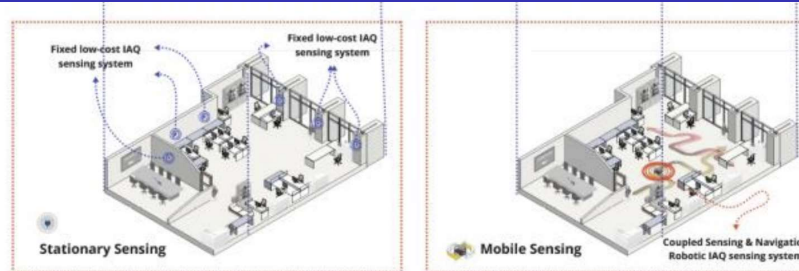
# Learning from pHRI



- Correction improve performance compared to offline demonstrations only with relatively few corrective demonstrations.

# Mobile Sensing for Human Comfort

Two Sensing Systems  
Stationary and Mobile Systems



Coupled Sensing & Navigation

