

# Transfer4D: A framework for frugal motion capture and deformation transfer



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**weta**  
DIGITAL



Low-Cost Motion Capturing System-HuCE cvprLab

## Large Production Houses:

- ✘ Expensive
- ✘ Multiple cameras/sensors
- ✘ Markers/templates
- ✘ System Calibration (multi-camera synchronization)





Low-Cost Motion Capturing System-HuCE cvprLab



OcclusionFusion, CVPR 2020

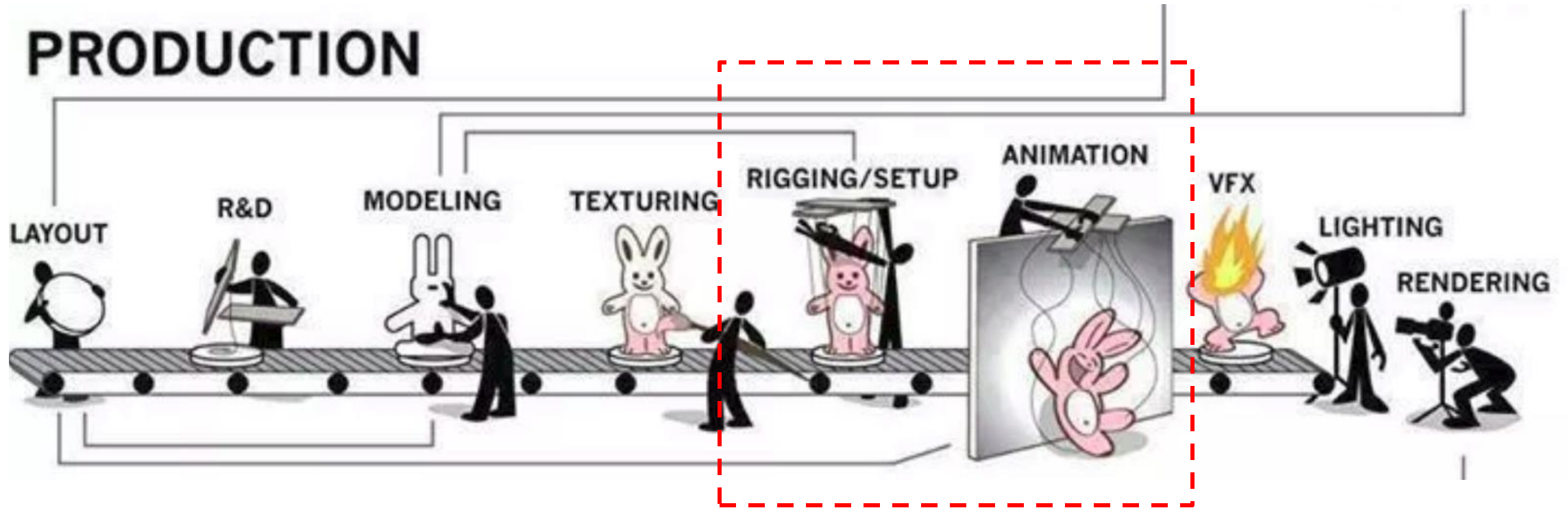
## Large Production Houses:

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- ✗ Markers/templates
- ✗ System Calibration

## Ours:

- ✓ Frugal
- ✓ Single depth sensor
- ✓ No Markers/templates
- ✓ Minimal effort



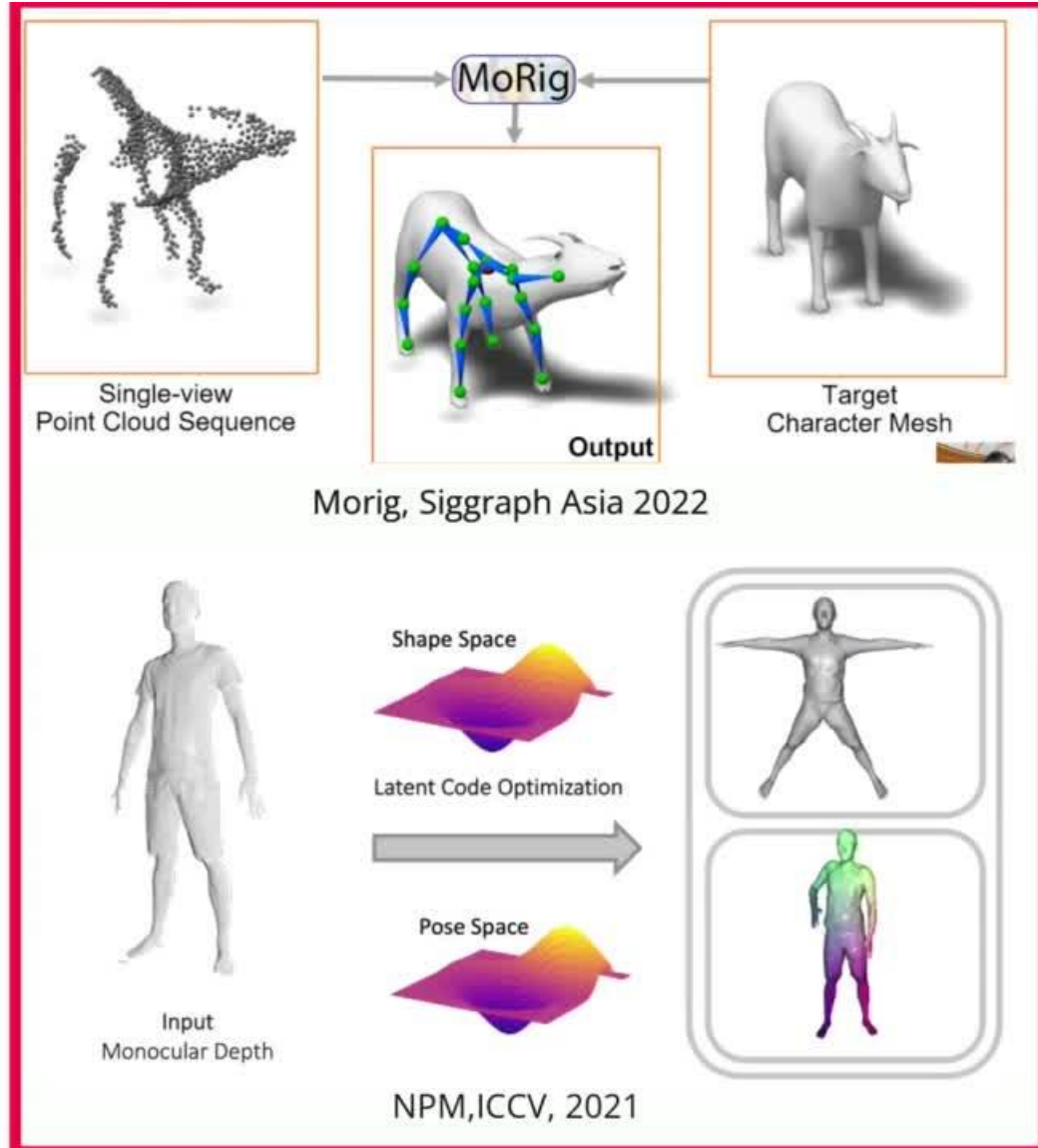


## PROBLEM STATEMENT

Can we automate animators' effort in tedious and less creative components of animation?



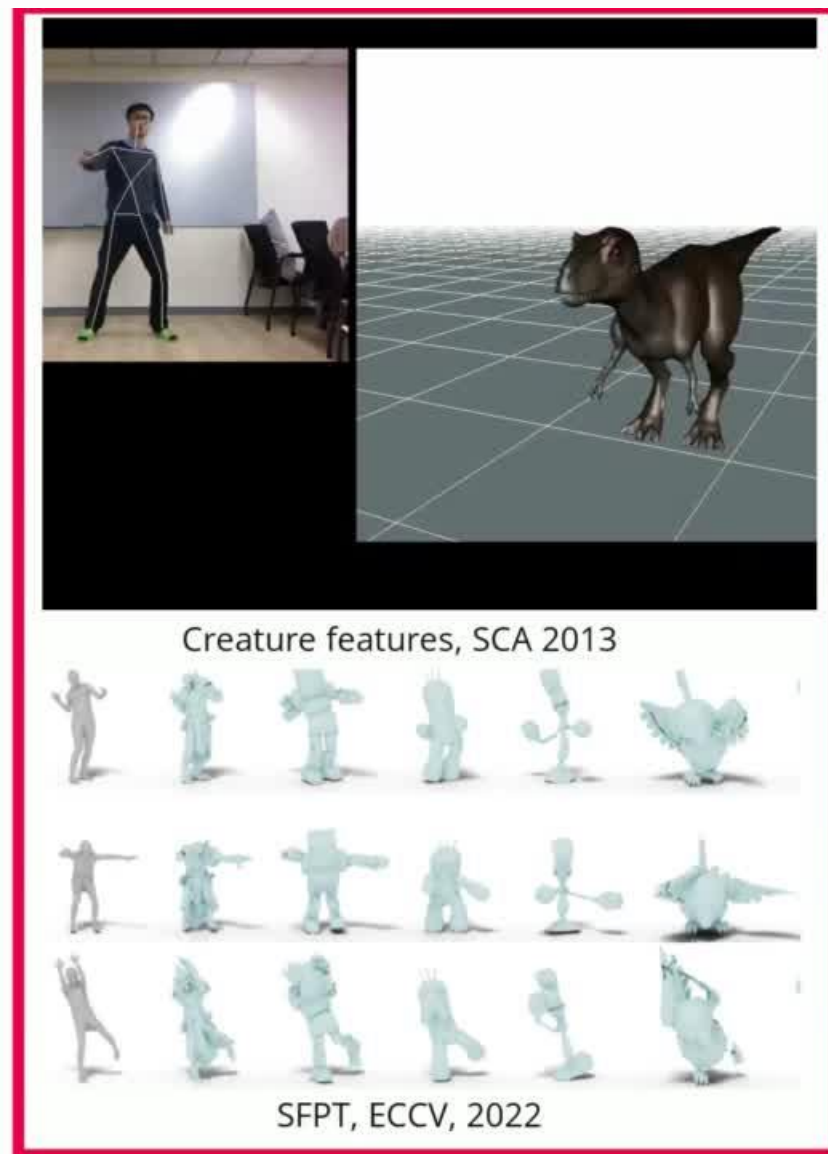
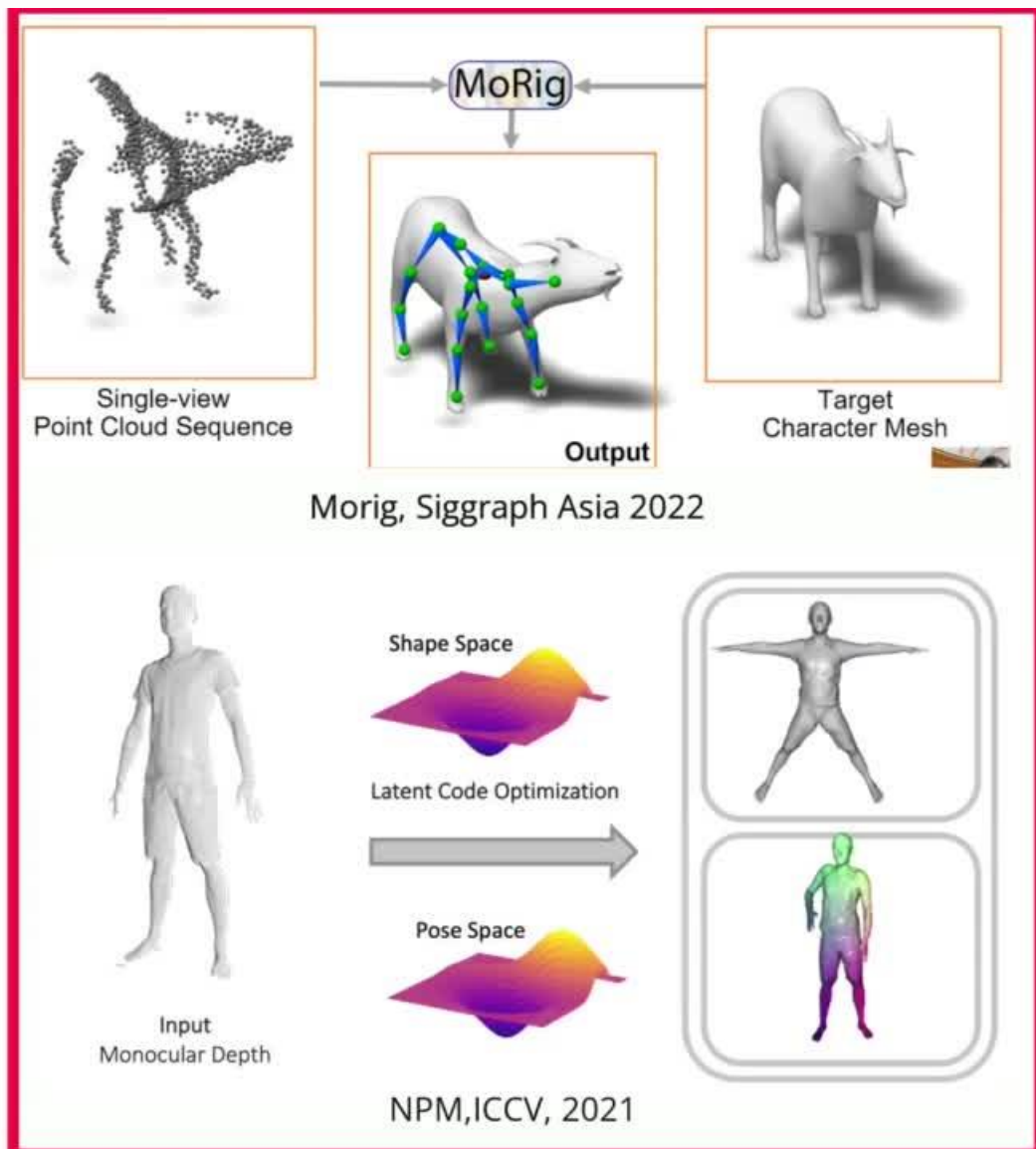
# Related Works



✗ Require training supervision/custom dataset



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✘ Require training supervision/custom dataset

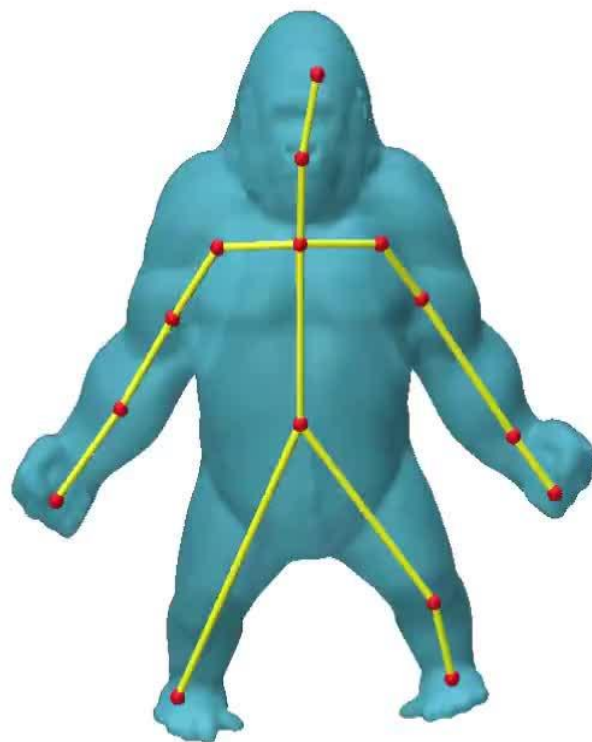
✘ Only transfer human motion



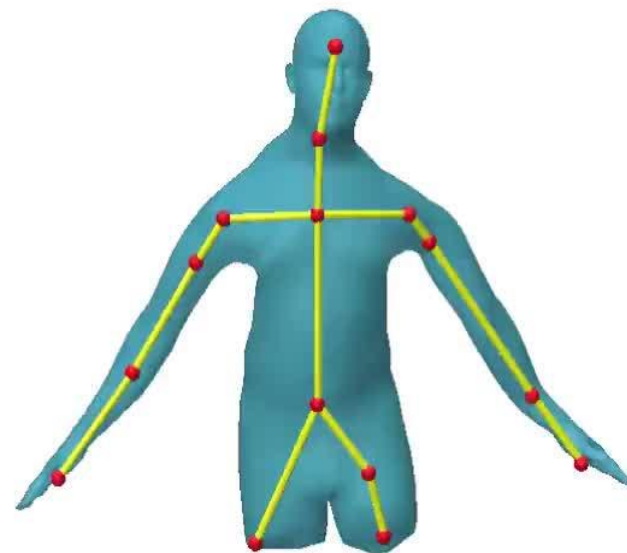
Source: Human Rotating Arms  
(RGBD Video)



Target: Gorilla



Target: Human (Upper body)



# Transfer4D

RESULT OF OUR UNSUPERVISED TECHNIQUE FOR INTRA-CATEGORY MOTION TRANSFER





# Overview of Transfer4D



# Transfer4D

## CHALLENGES TO DEMOCRATIZATION VIA FRUGAL SENSORS

**1. Input:** A single-view video feed that implies partial information

- Could be noisy
- Sparse



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**2. Output:**

- Deformation of user-defined polygon mesh without a predefined skeletal rig



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**Why this set-up?**

The approach is frugal; it enables mass market reach and is more practical for deployment in future



# Transfer4D

## CHALLENGES TO DEMOCRATIZATION VIA FRUGAL SENSORS

- Shape matching between sparse source and complete target shape has not been explored extensively in literature for non-humans
- Prior works make a stricter assumption on the source to be noise-free and watertight.
- Our approach is category agnostic



# Pipeline



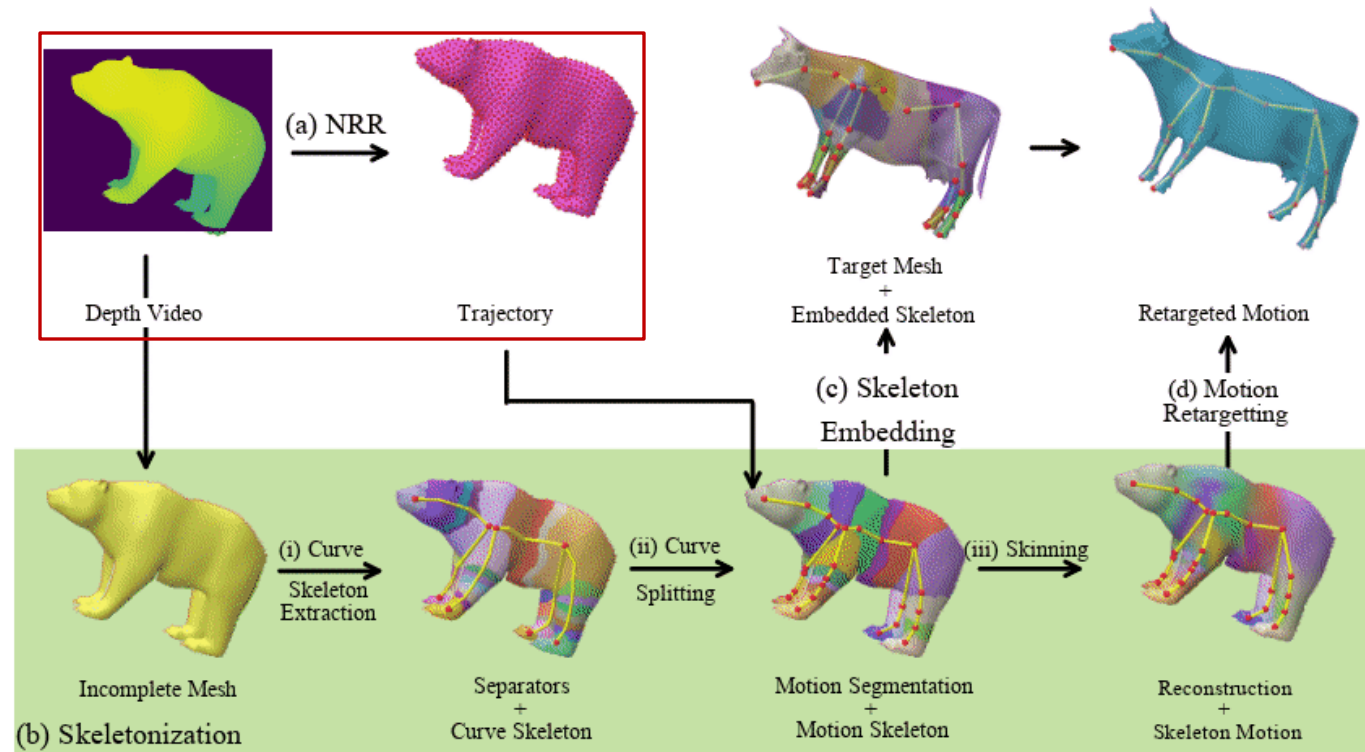
# Transfer4D

## OVERVIEW

Given the depth video,

**(a) Non-rigid registration (NRR):**

to align the source object at  
a canonical frame to every frame,



# Transfer4D

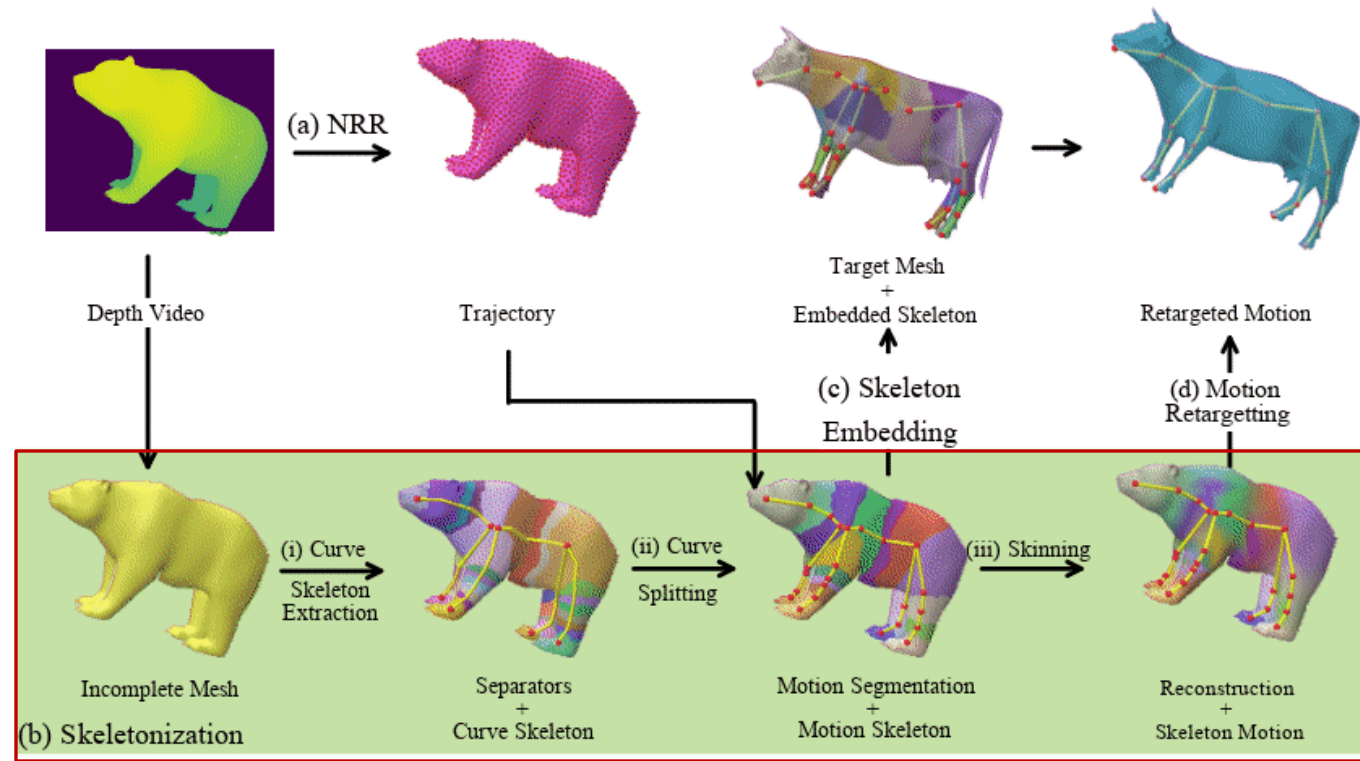
## OVERVIEW

Given the depth video,

### (a) Non-rigid registration (NRR):

to align the source object at a canonical frame to every frame,

**(b) Skeletonization:** uses the geometry and estimated trajectory of the object to extract its underlying skeletal structure and the motion.





# Transfer4D

## OVERVIEW

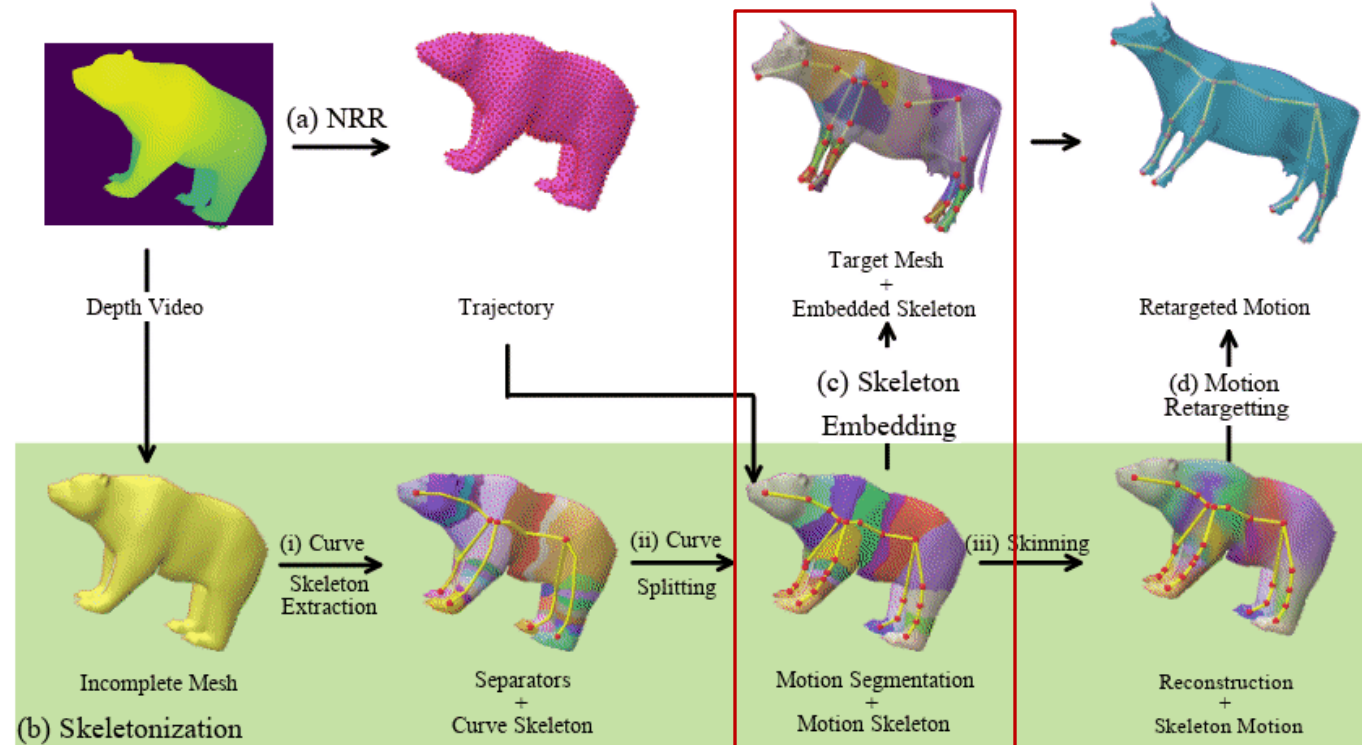
Given the depth video,

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(c) **Skeleton embedding**: the obtained motion skeleton is embedded inside the target mesh and skinning weights are calculated.



# Transfer4D

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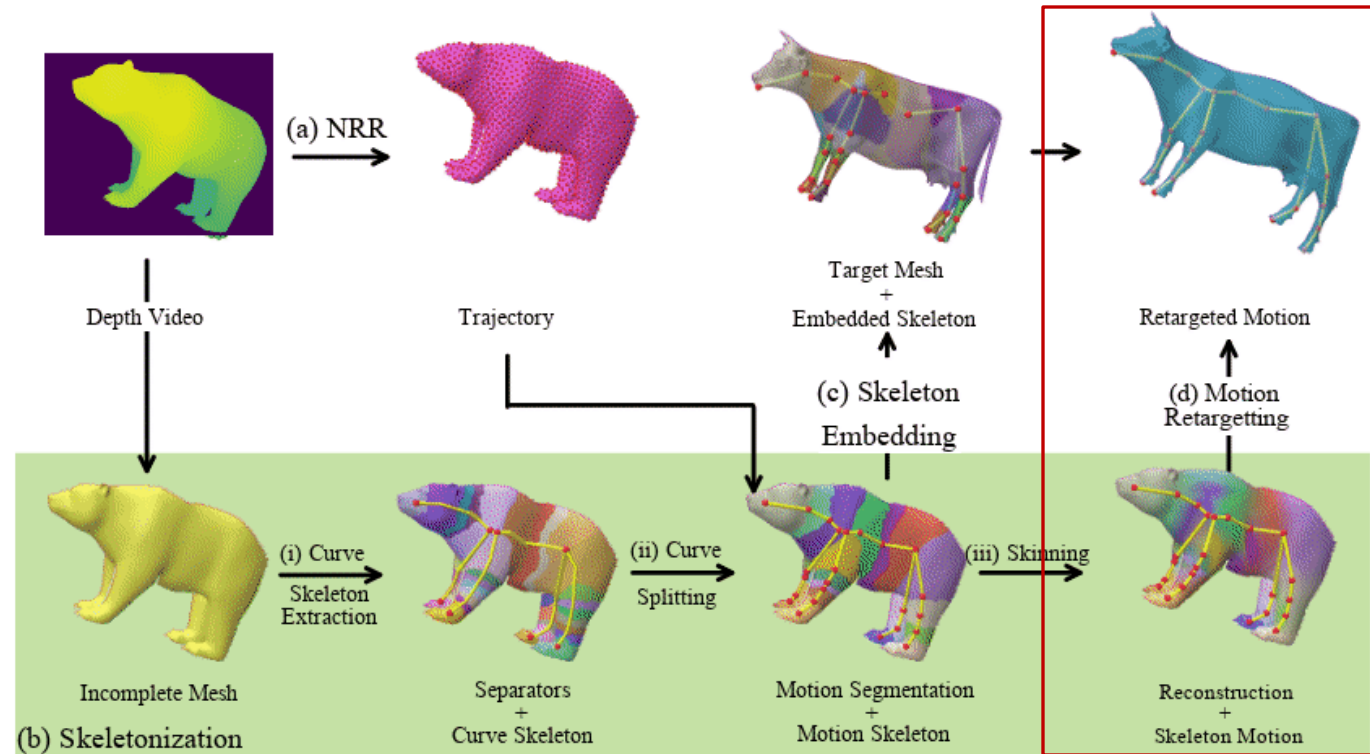
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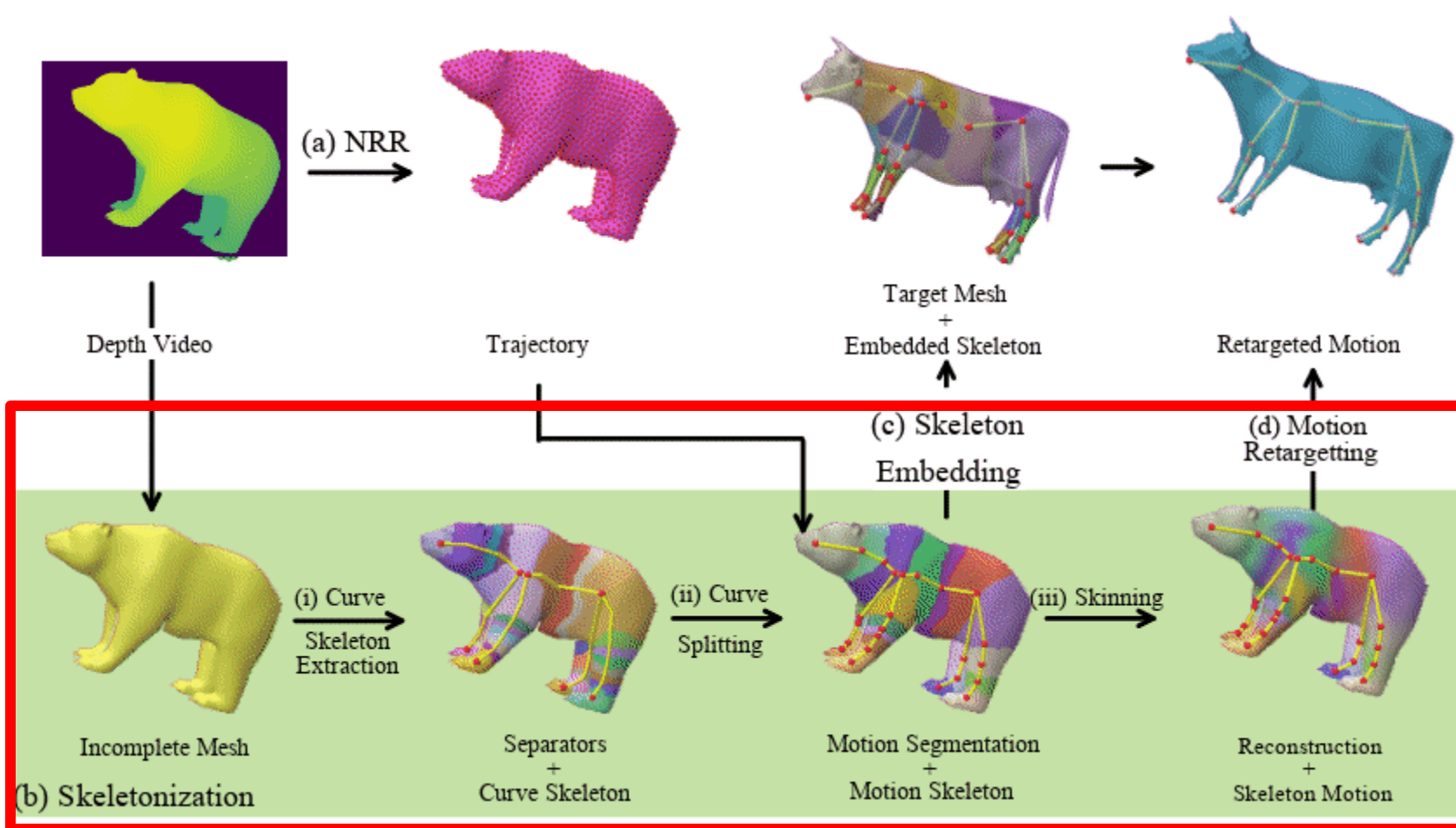
to align the source object at a canonical frame to every frame,

**(b) Skeletonization:** uses the geometry and estimated trajectory of the object to extract its underlying skeletal structure and the motion.

**(c) Skeleton embedding:** the obtained motion skeleton is embedded inside the target mesh and skinning weights are calculated.

**(d) Motion retargeting:** the rotation of the bones is transferred from the motion skeleton to the target skeleton.



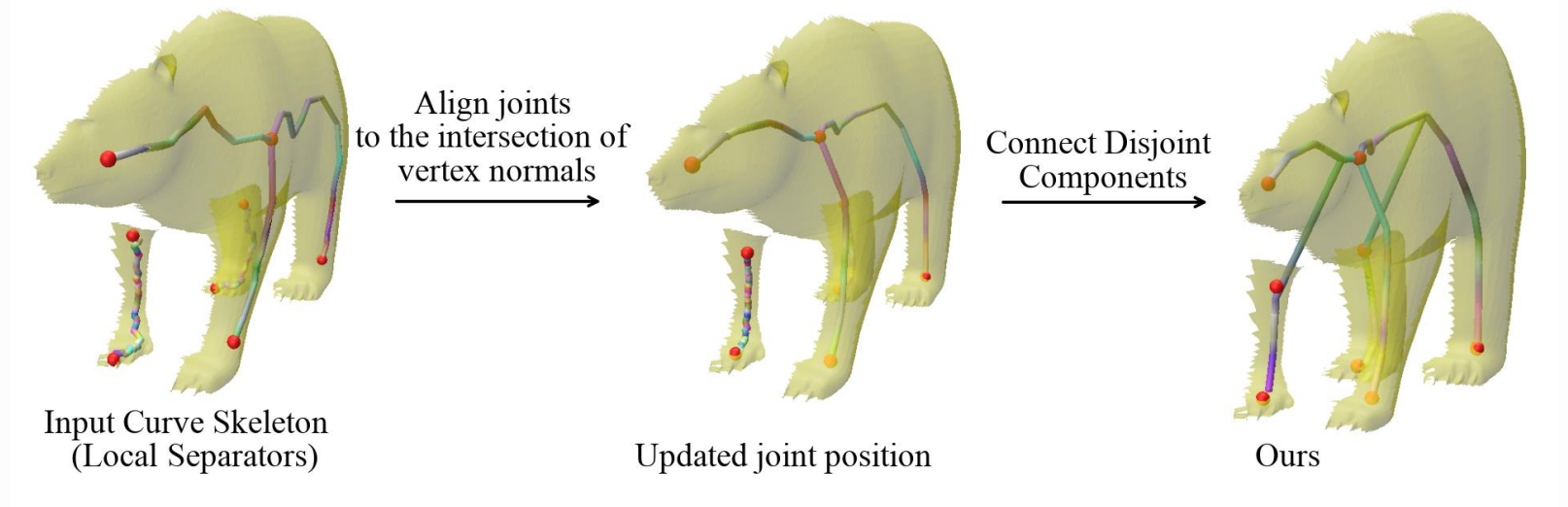


# PROPOSED SKELETONIZATION PROCEDURE



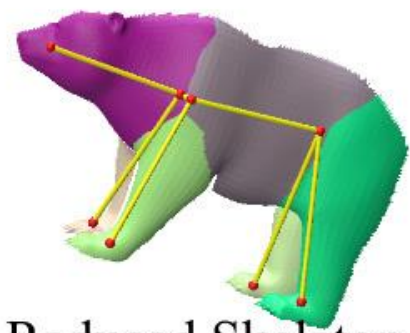
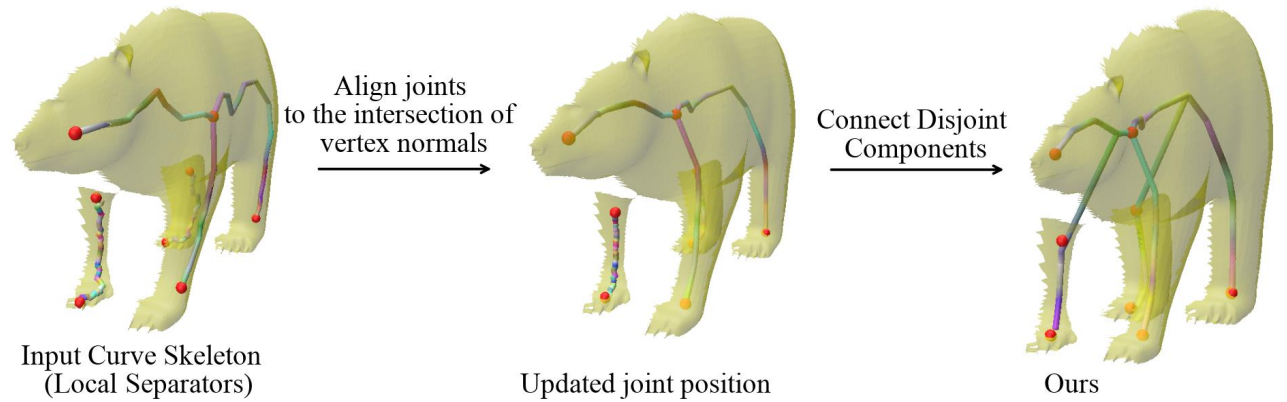
**(i) Curve skeleton:**

Notice that the extracted joint position from Local separators lies on the surface of the incomplete mesh. Our optimization aligns the joint position to the medial axis of the object.

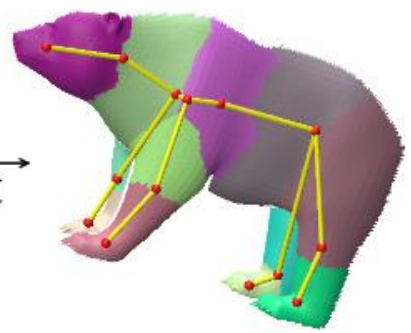


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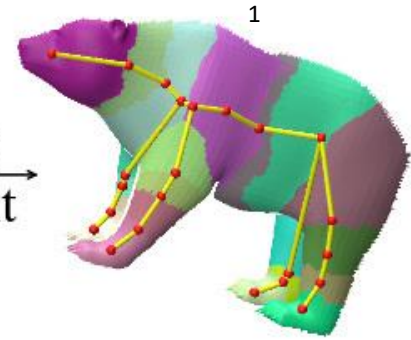
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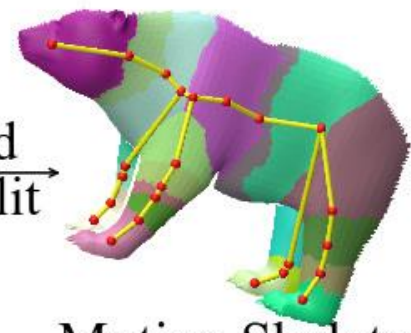
1st Split



2nd Split



3rd Split



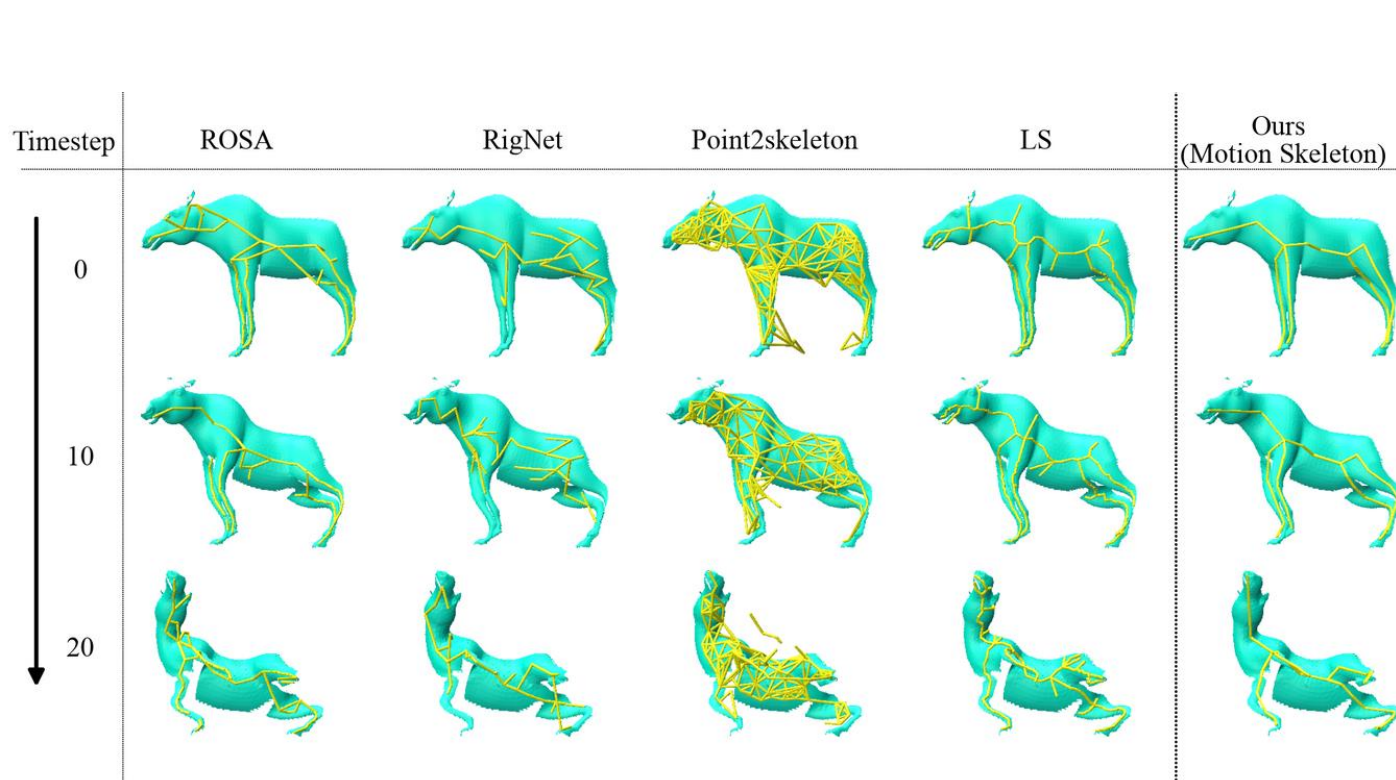
Reduced Skeleton

Motion Skeleton

### (ii) Motion Skeleton:

To incorporate the motion information, each curve of the extracted curve skeleton is split into multiple bones

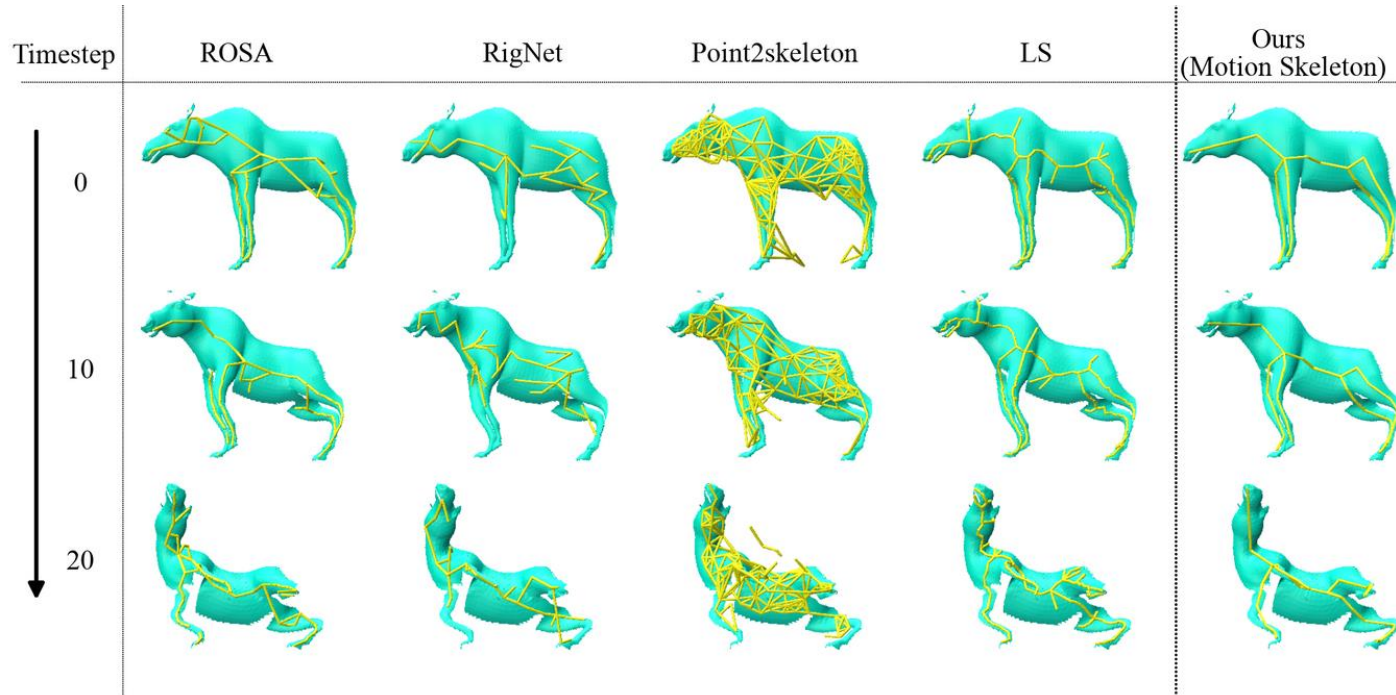
# Comparison



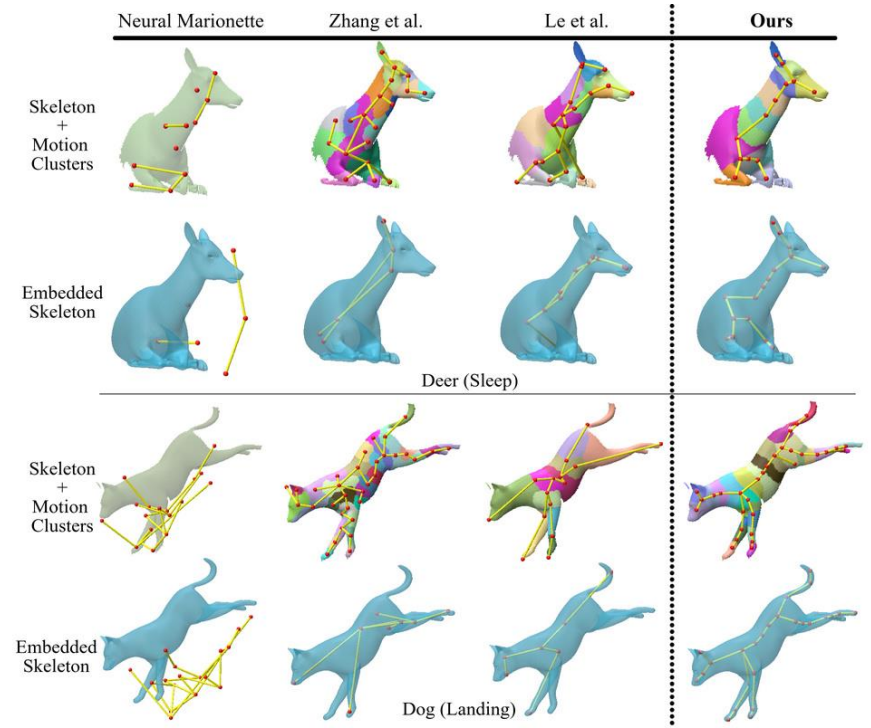
Compared to the skeleton extracted from static skeletonization methods, by utilizing motion information, our method produces temporally coherent skeleton



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Compared to the skeleton extracted from static skeletonization methods, by utilizing motion information, our method produces temporally coherent skeleton



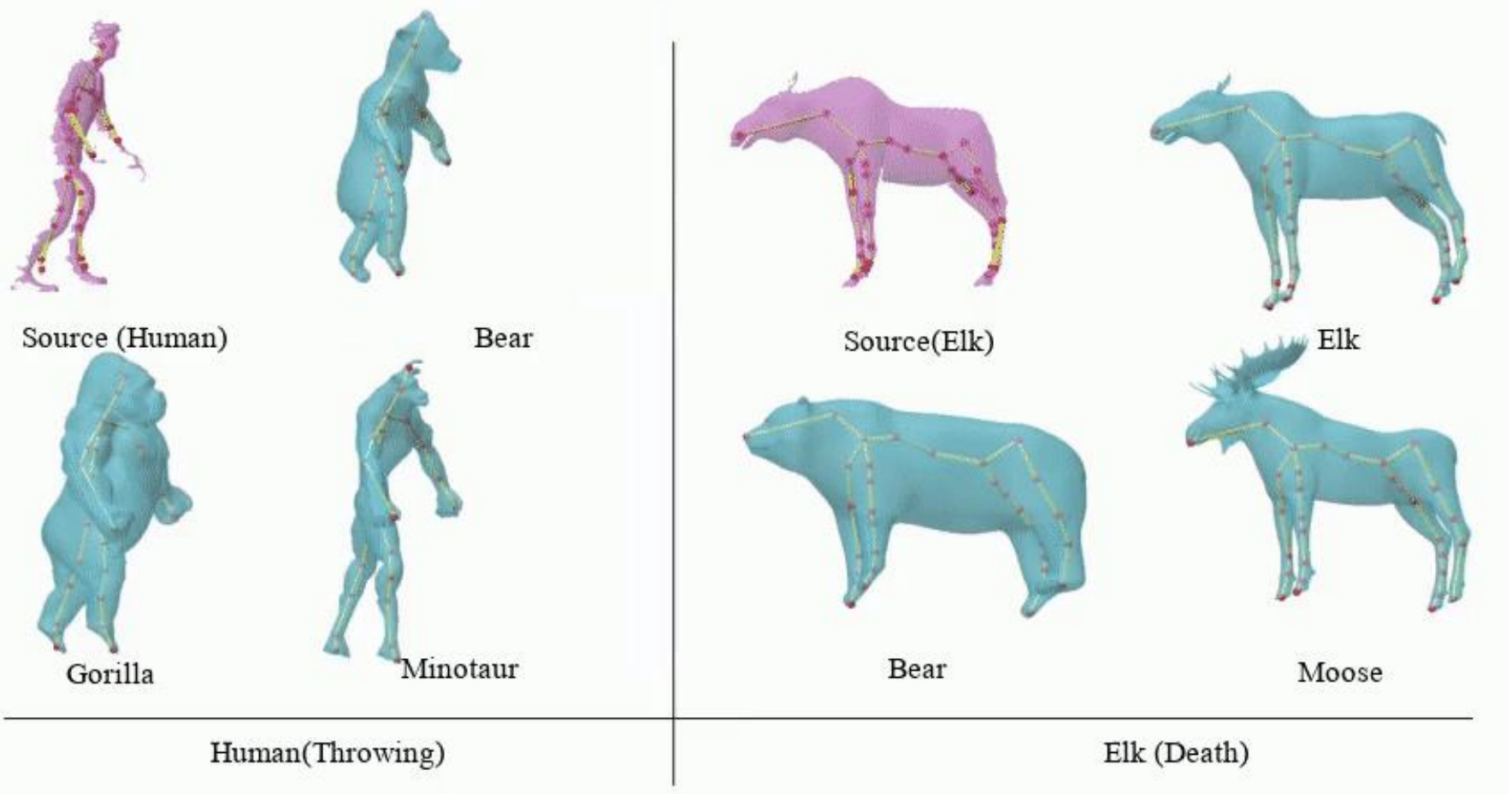
Compared to other motion skeletonization methods, by incorporating structural cues, ours is more effective at embedding the skeleton from incomplete mesh sequence.

# Transfer4D

## Results







# ANIMATION TRANSFER

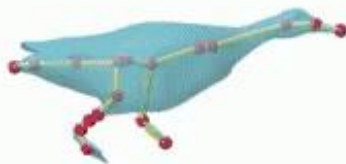




Dinosaur



Dino



Duck



Racoon



Source(human)



Human



Centaur



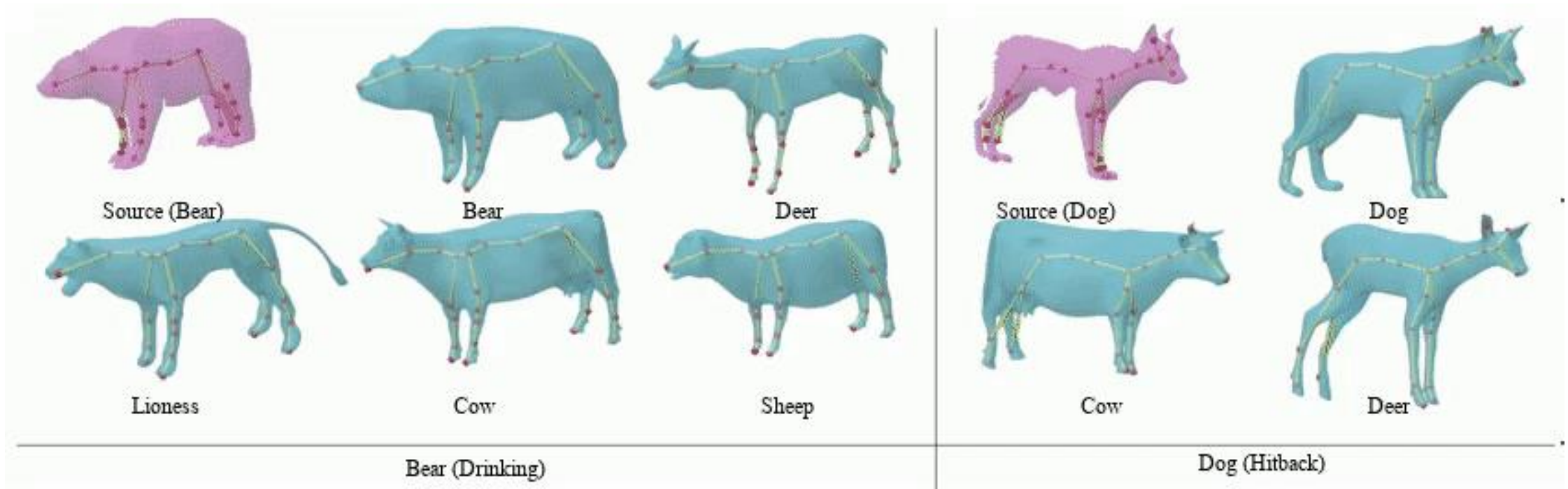
Minotaur

Dinosaur (Eat)

Human (Dodge right)

# ANIMATION TRANSFER | BIPEDS



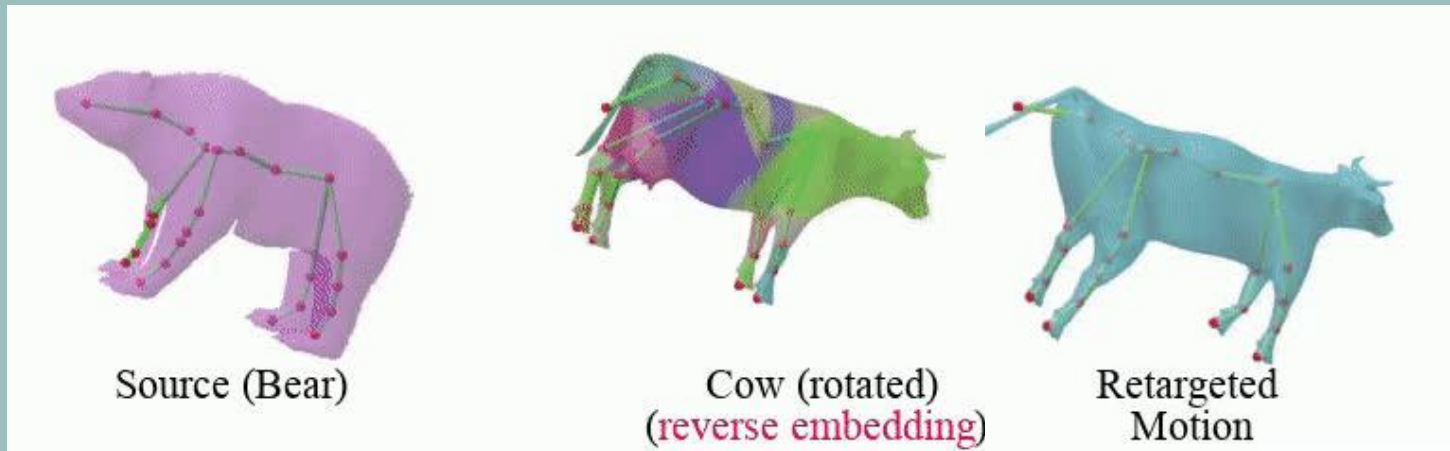
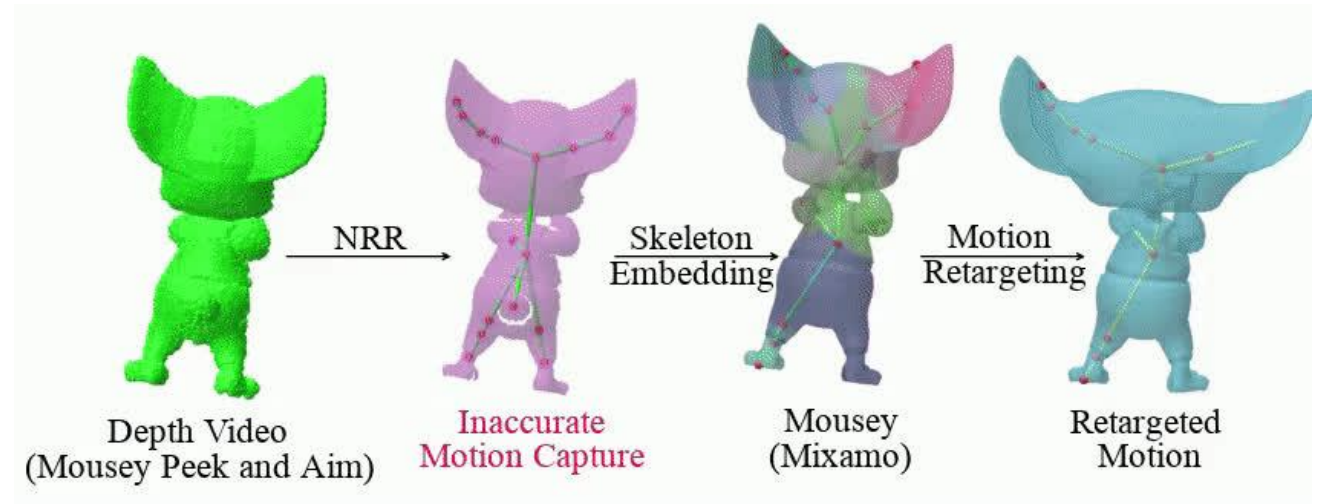


# ANIMATION TRANSFER | QUADRUPEDS



# Limitations

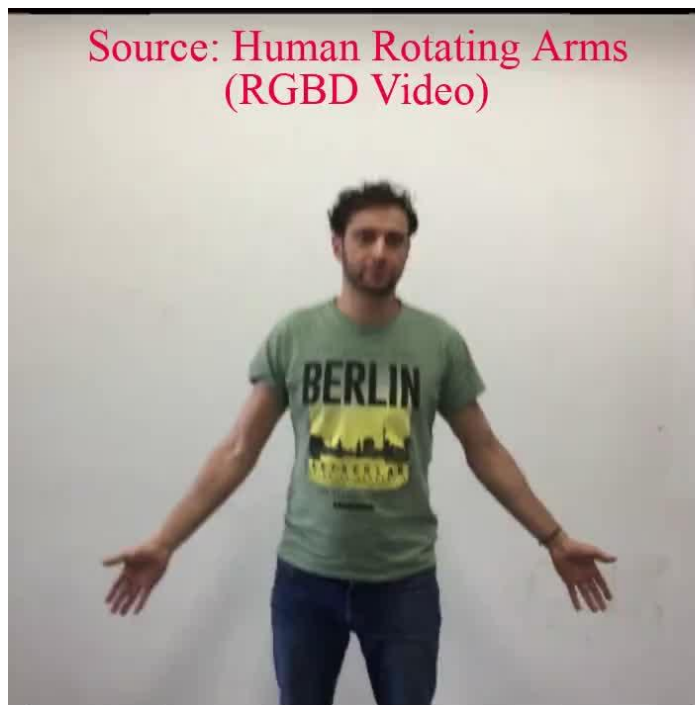
(1) Unable to capture large deformation between the source and target frame



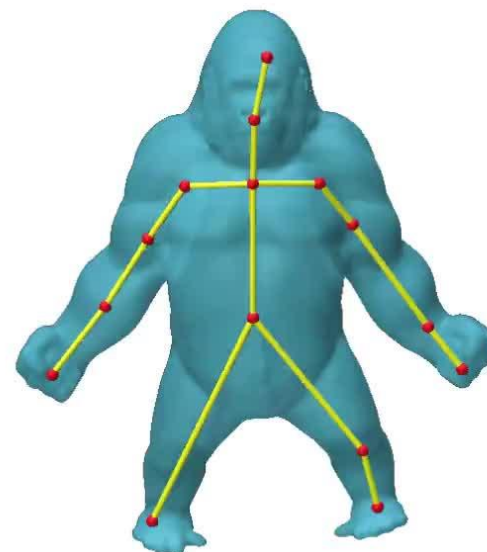
(2) source and target shapes should be in approximately the same pose



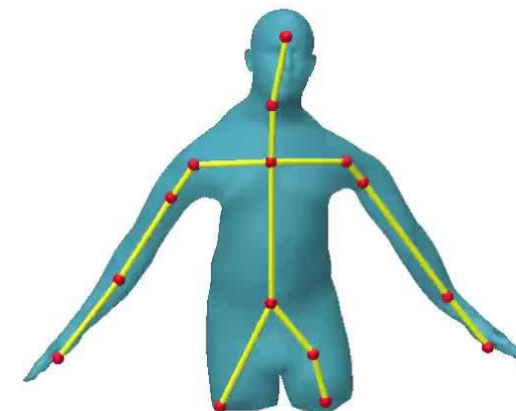
# Conclusion



Target: Gorilla



Target: Human (Upper body)



**Transfer4D** is a frugal alternative that uses only commodity depth sensors and further reduces animators' effort by automating the rigging and animation transfer process

