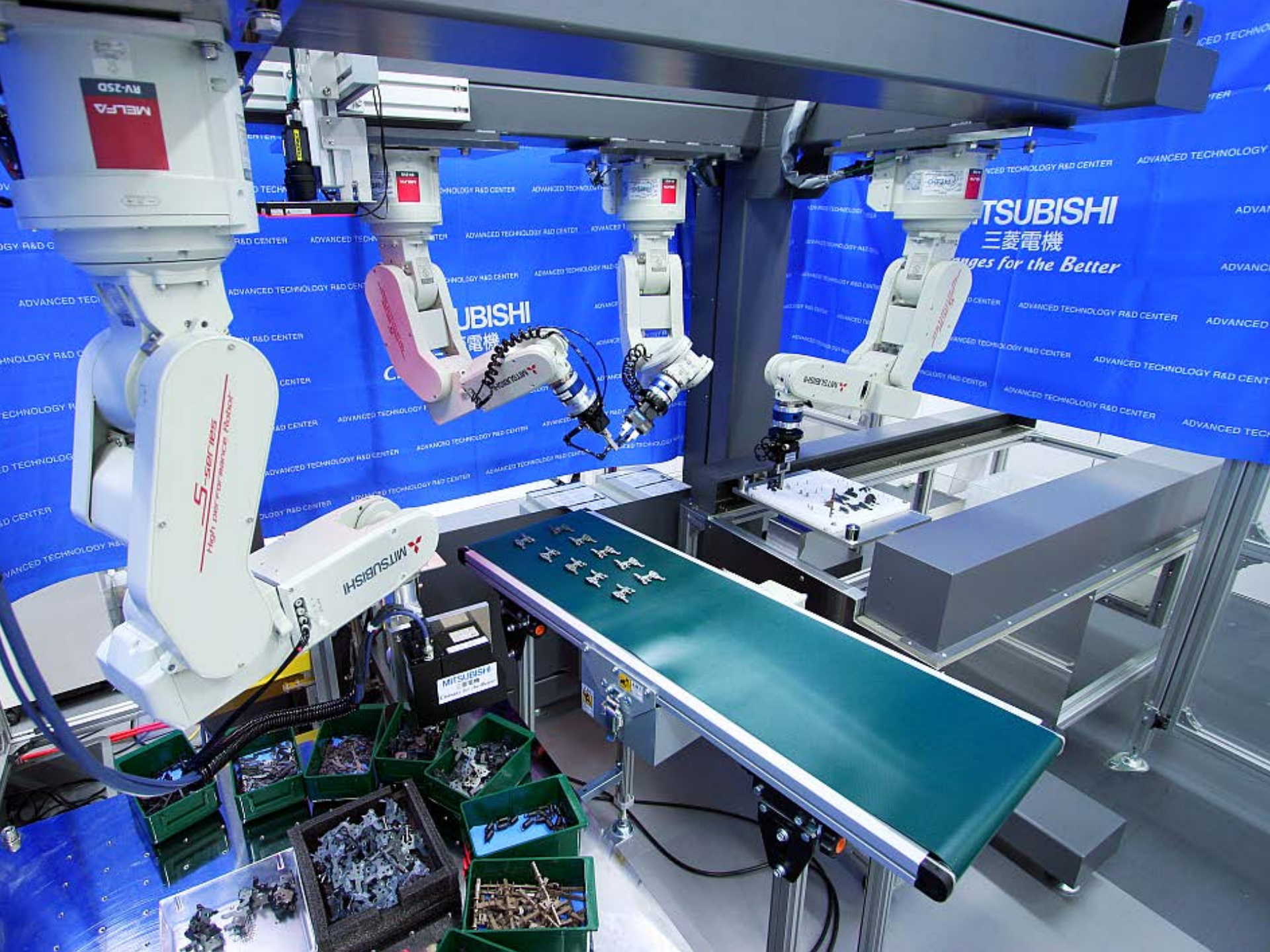


# Robot Programming for Assembly Task

**Yukiyasu Domae and Akio Noda**  
Mitsubishi Electric Corporation, JAPAN

**Motion Planning for Industrial Robots**  
**ICRA 2014, June 05**



MELFA  
RV-250

5-SERIES  
HIGH PERFORMANCE ROBOTS

MITSUBISHI

MITSUBISHI

MITSUBISHI

MITSUBISHI  
三菱電機  
Changes for the Better

ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY R&D CENTER



# Motivation

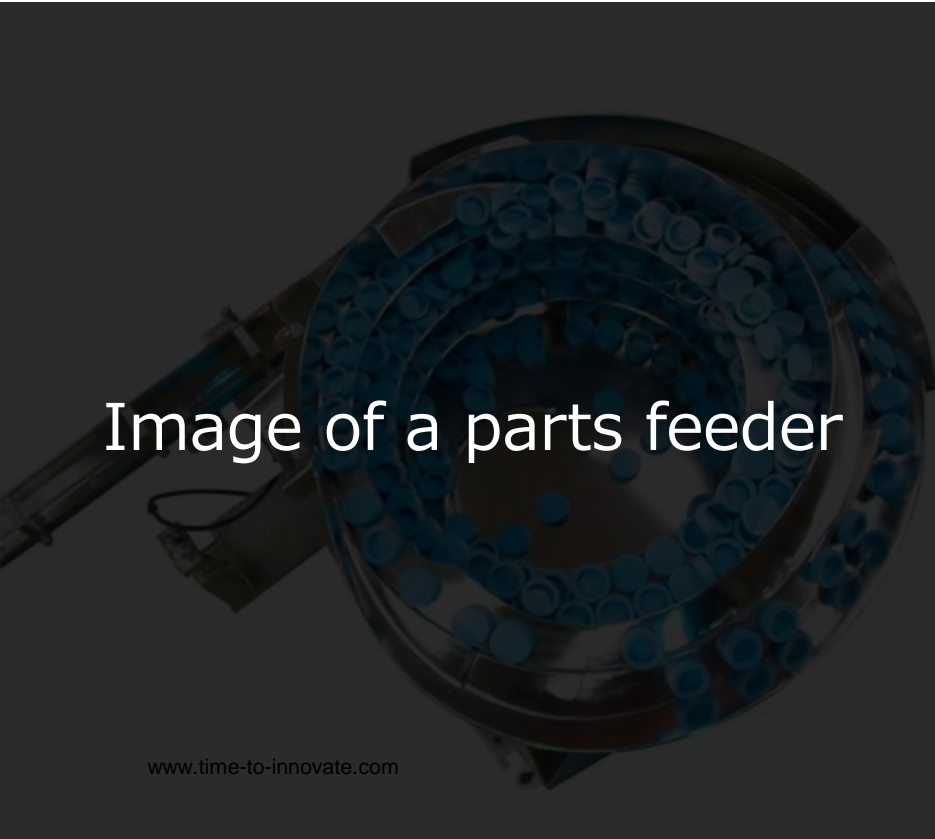
Automatic  
assembly  
system

Various parts

Currently in factories, various parts are supplied to assembly systems by manual labor. Workers must pick parts with random poses from a bin and kit the parts with a predetermined pose. Moreover, the task needs to be completed within a cycle time of the subsequent assembly system. The repetitive task is tedious and stressful for the workers.

Supply tray

# Conventional method 1



## Parts feeders

- Require custom designs for each object

⇒ **Long lead time**

- Require the same number of parts feeder as many as the number of types of object shapes

⇒ **Large space and high cost**

# Conventional method 2

Robot system (3D sensor and robot arm)



3D sensor

Depth  
map



Gripper  
pose



Grasping

Matching

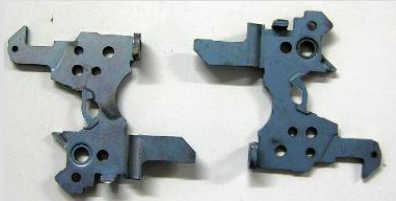
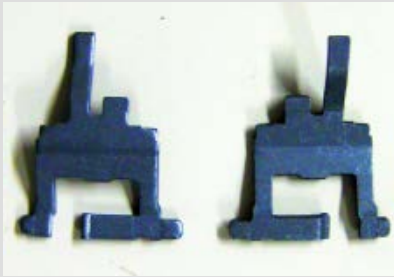
pose estimation



Object model

# Applicable objects

## Plane



## Box



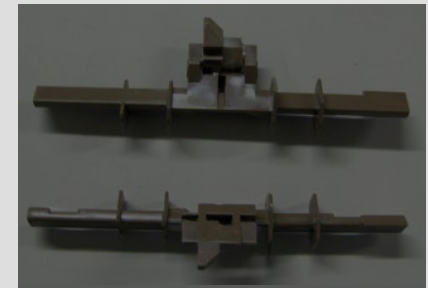
## Spring



## Cylinder



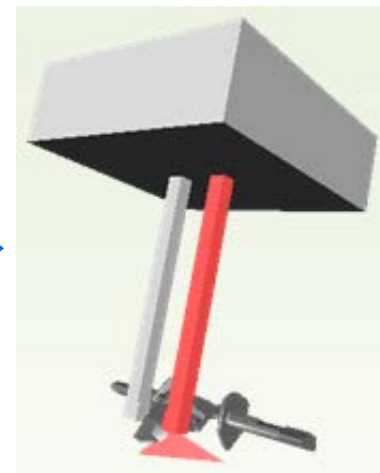
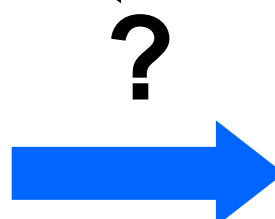
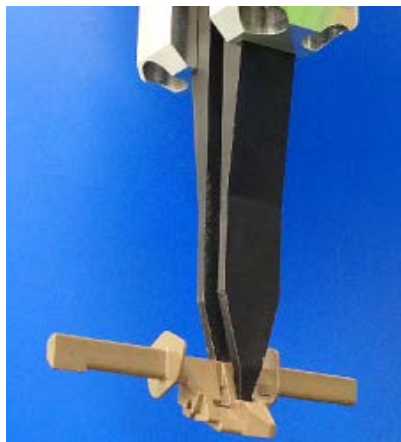
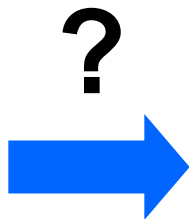
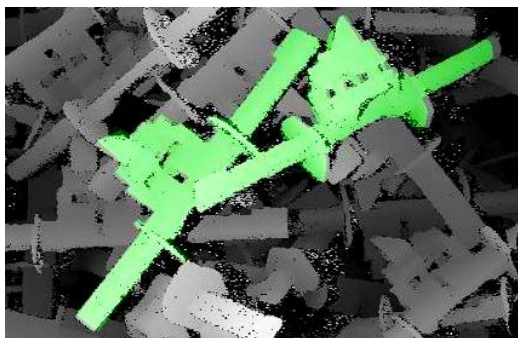
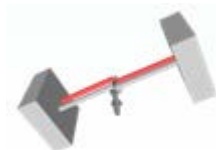
## Others



# Problem

Need object pose estimation?

Need regrasping?  
How to regrasp?



**Finding**

**Grasping**

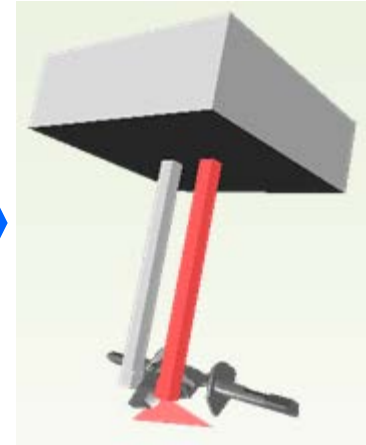
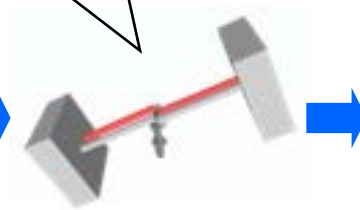
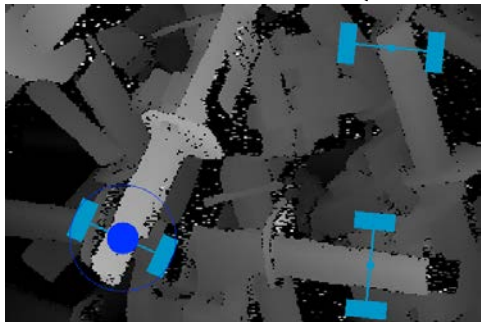
**Kitting**



# Our solution

**Fast graspability  
evaluation for  
object isolation**

Regrasp motion  
planning



**Finding**

**Grasping**

**Placing**  
on  
a planer table

**Regrasping**

**Kitting**

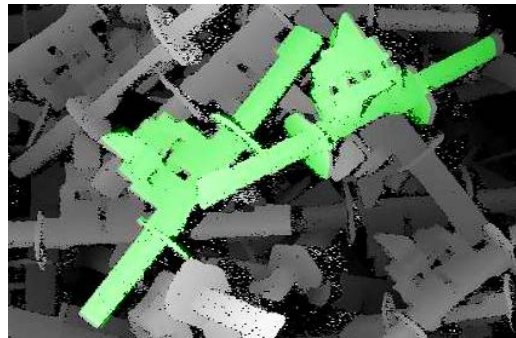


# Fast graspability evaluation



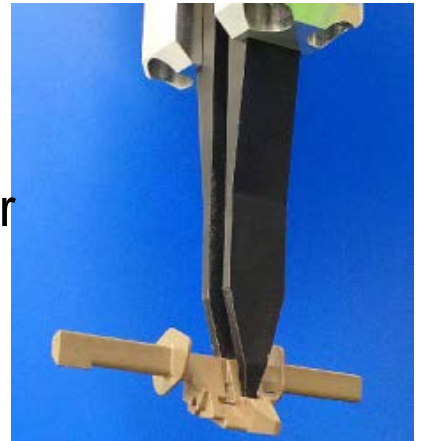
**3D vision sensor**

Depth  
map



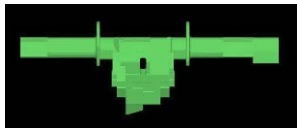
**pose estimation**

Gripper  
pose



**Grasping**

Matching



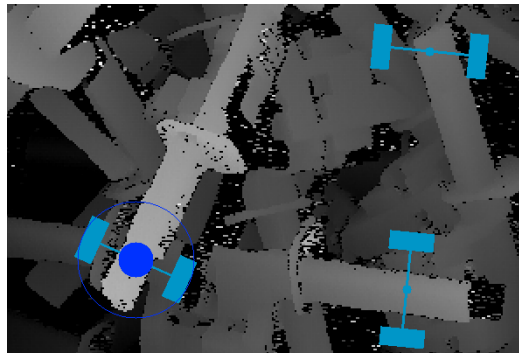
**Object model**

# Fast graspability evaluation



3D vision sensor

Depth map



pose estimation

Gripper pose



Grasping

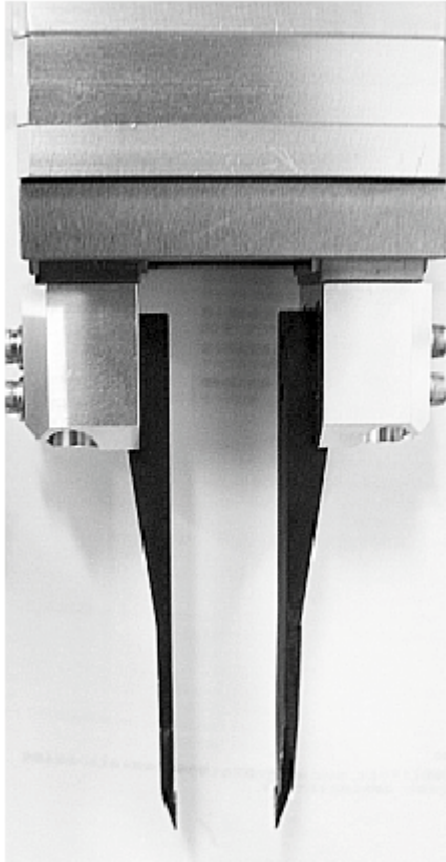
Matching



Gripper model

# Algorithm

For each grippers,  
we define  
its contact and collision region  
using two masks

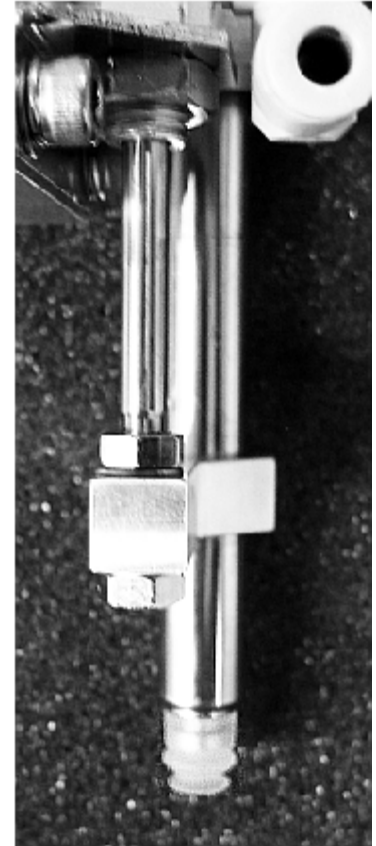


**2-finger**



**Contact  
region**

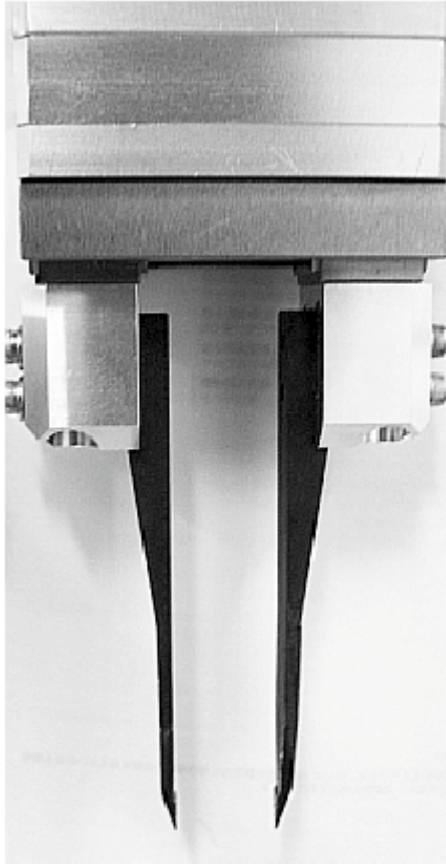
**Collision  
region**



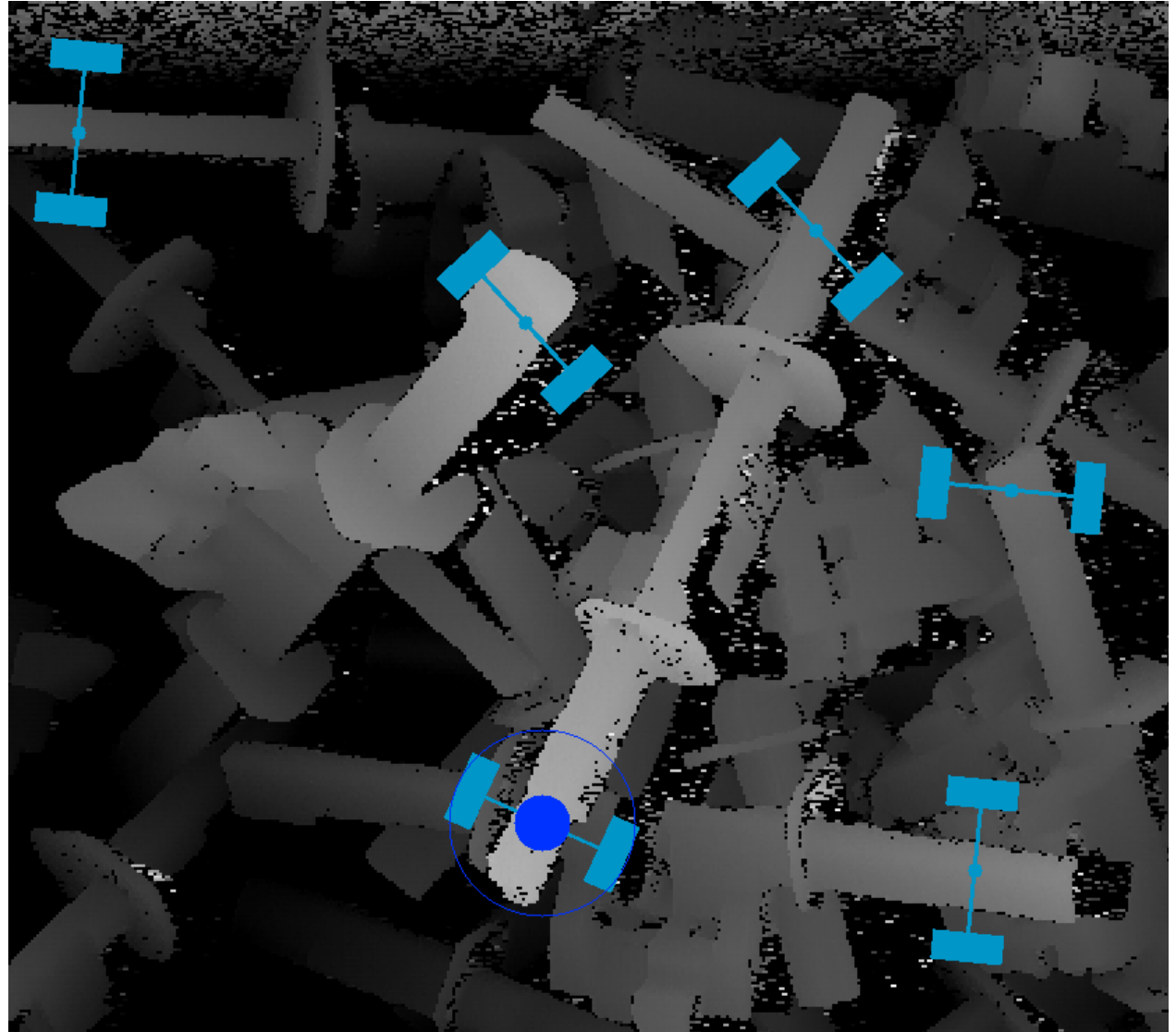
**Vacuum**

# Algorithm

We compute the graspability map by filtering a depth map with the masks



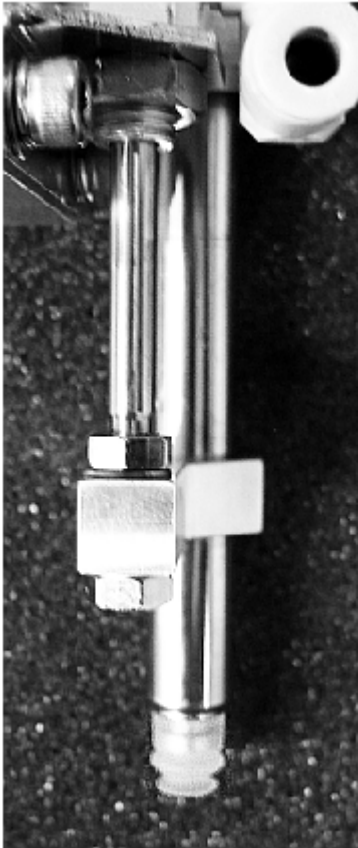
**2-finger**



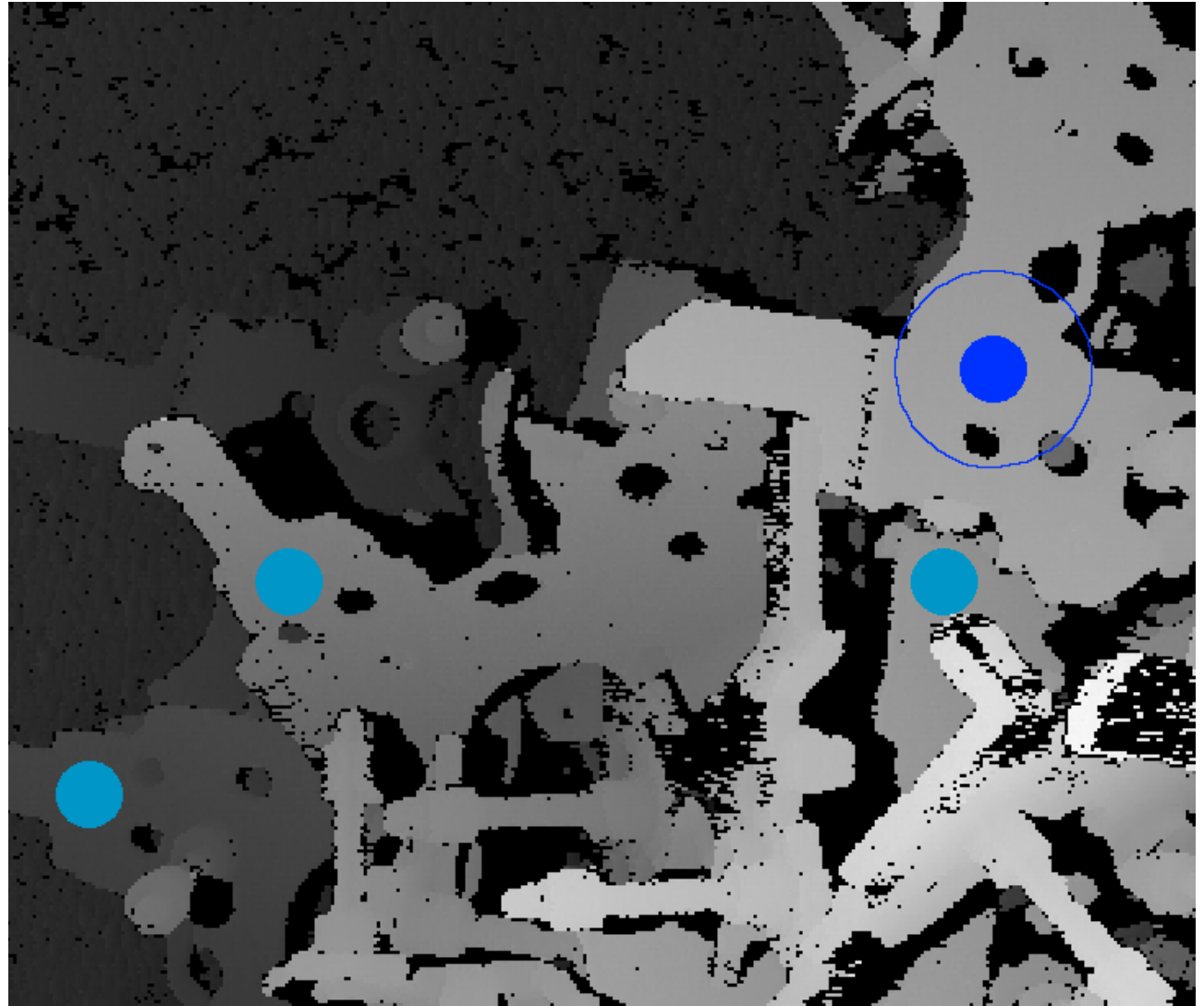


# Algorithm

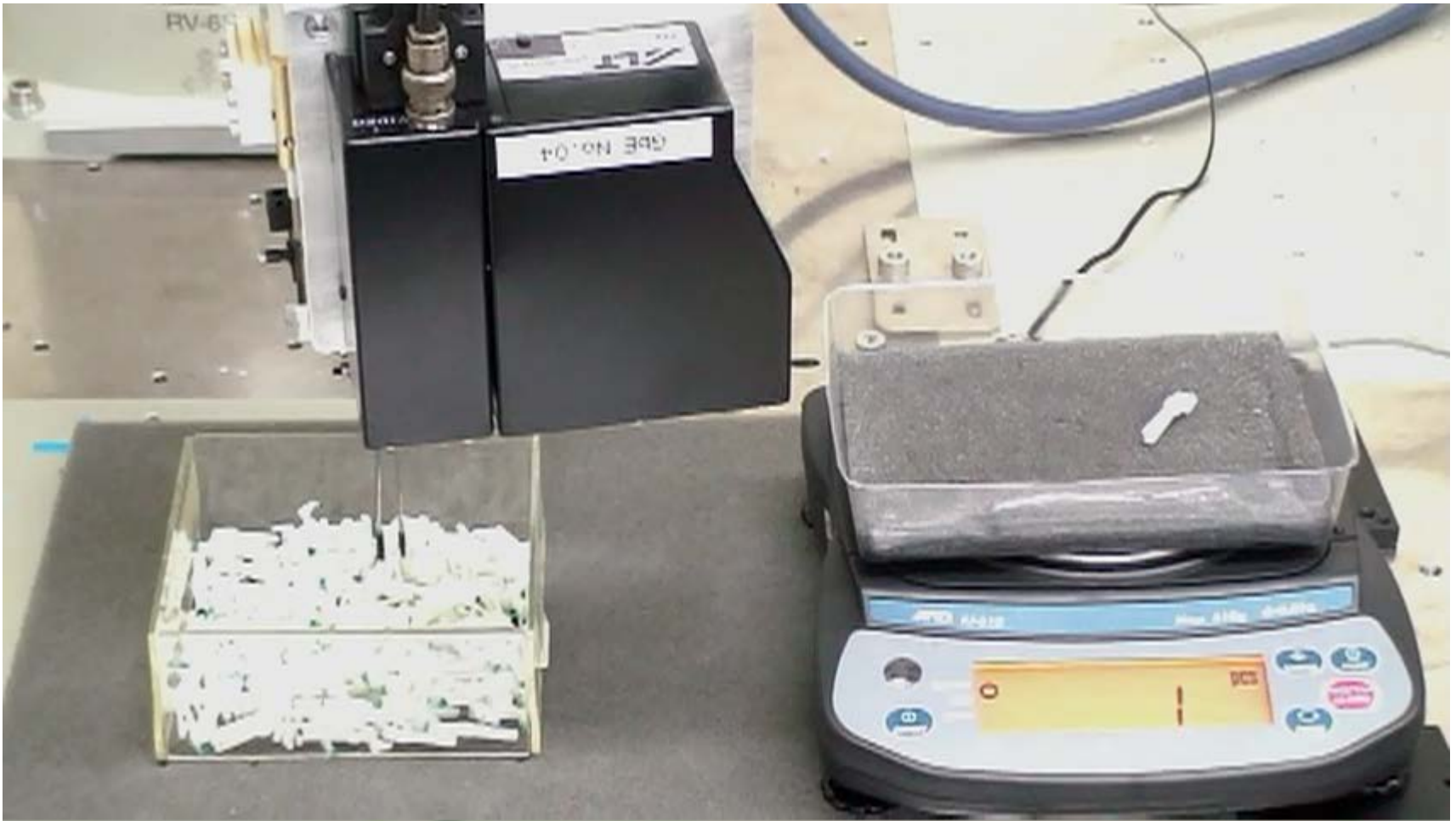
We compute the graspability map by filtering a depth map with the masks



**Vacuum**



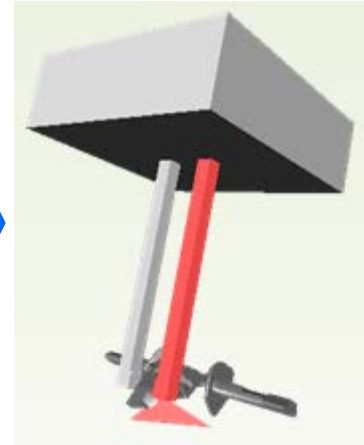
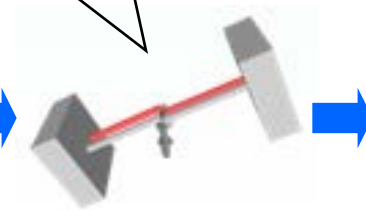
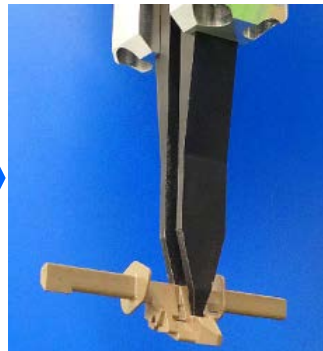
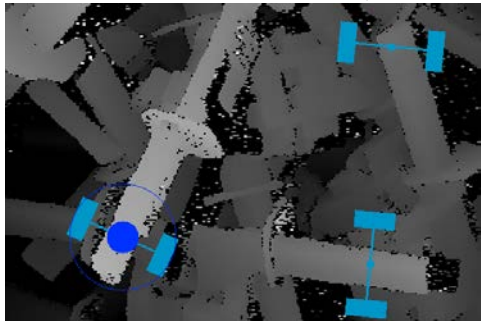
# Demo



# Our solution

Pick-and-place  
for object isolation

**Regrasp motion  
planning**



**Finding**

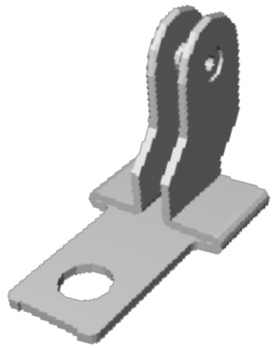
**Grasping**

**Placing**  
on  
a planer table

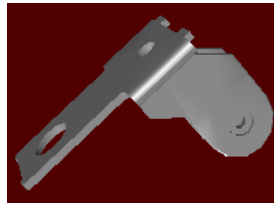
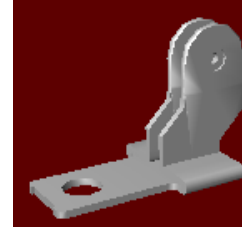
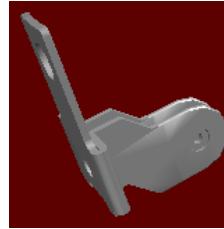
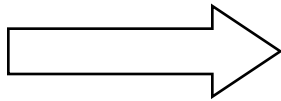
**Regrasping**

**Kitting**

# Regrasp motion planning



Physical simulation

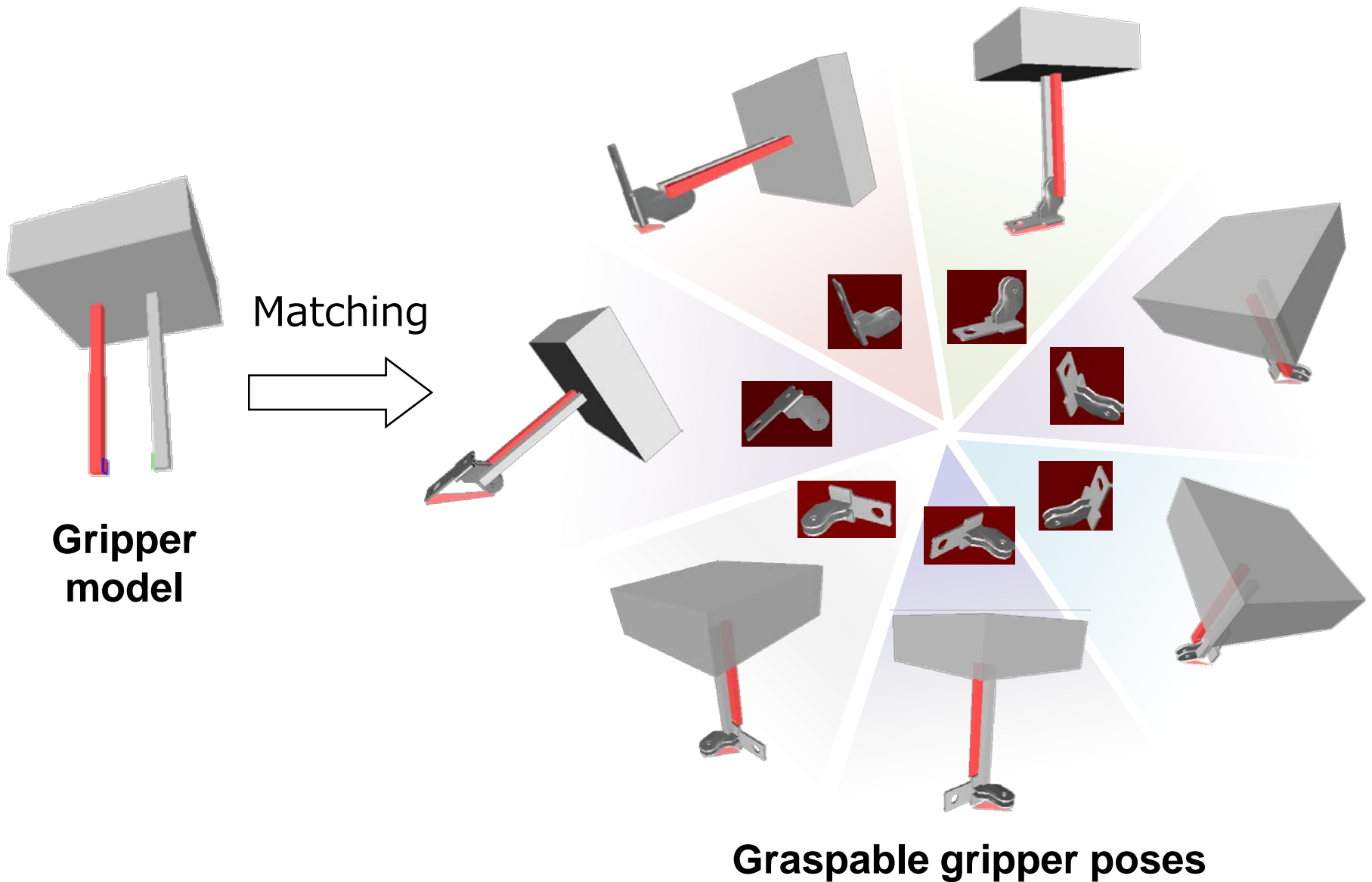


Stable poses on a planer table

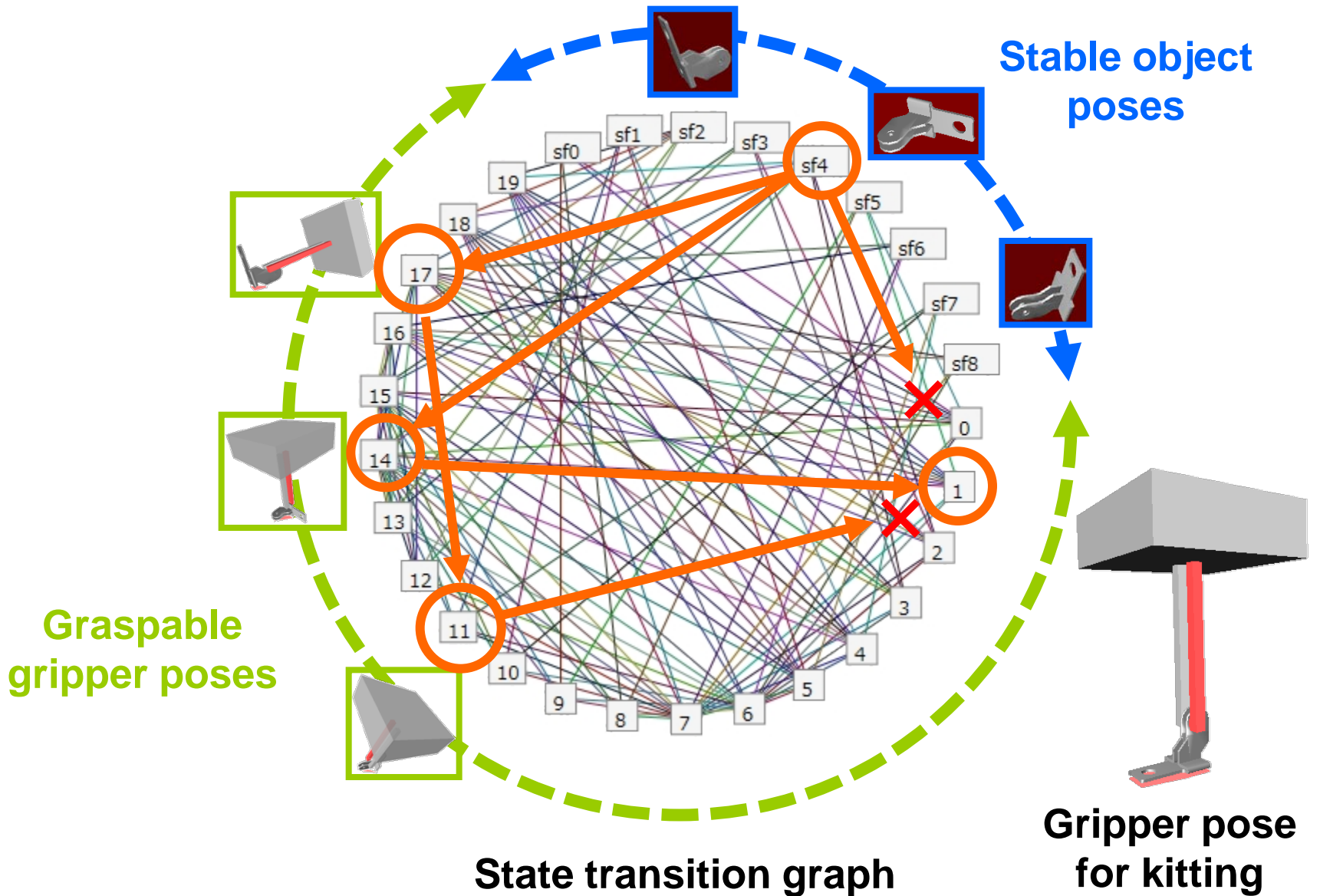
Object model



# Regrasp motion planning

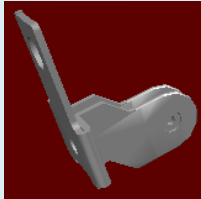


# Regrasp motion planning

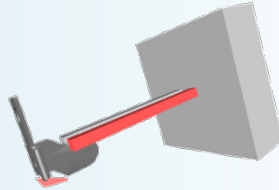


# Result examples

Stable poses



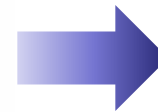
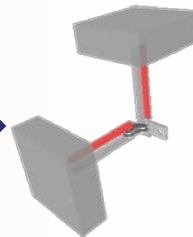
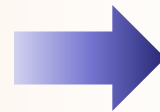
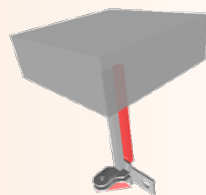
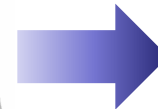
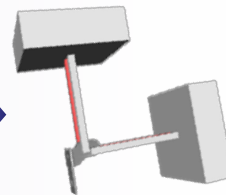
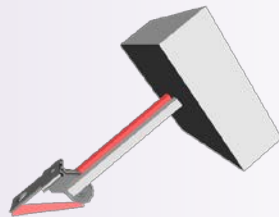
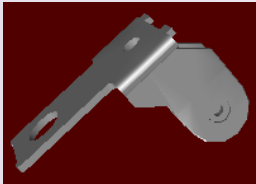
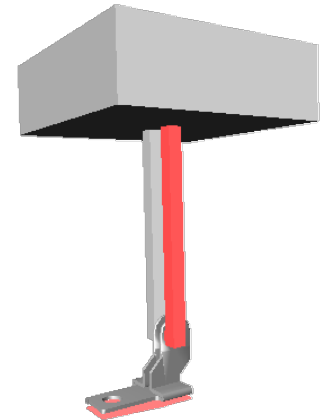
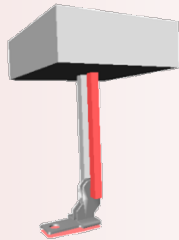
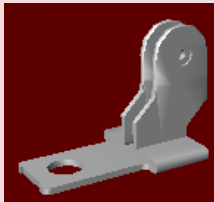
Grasping



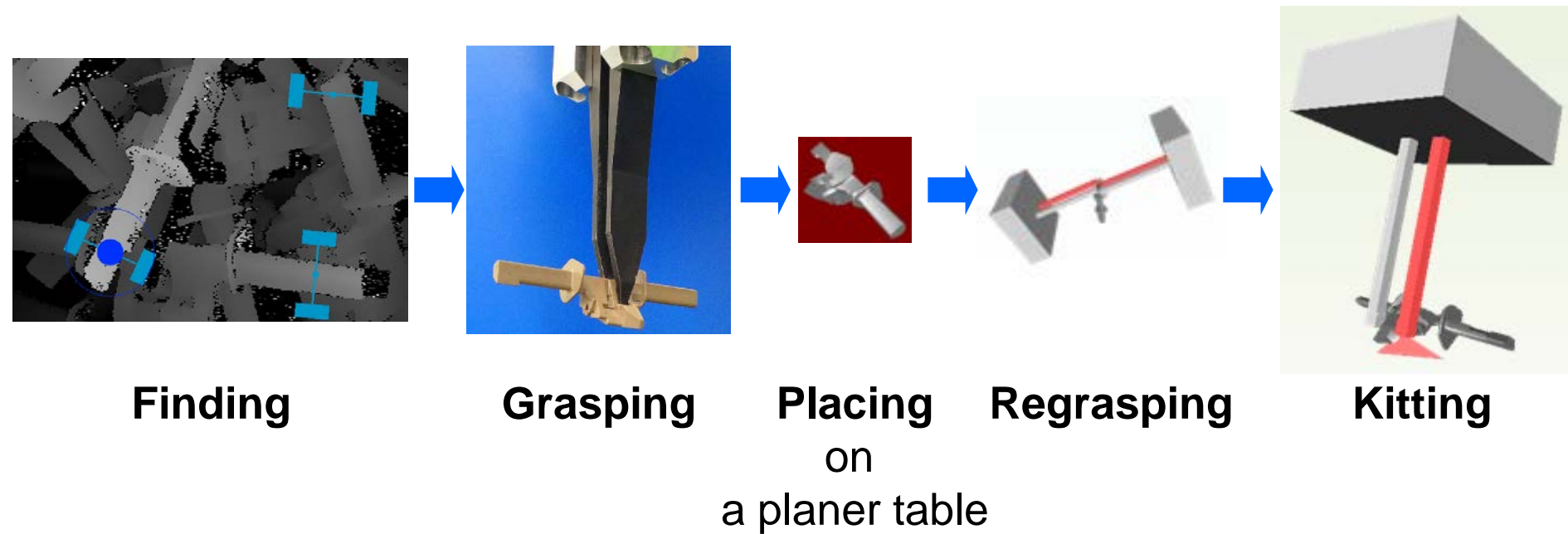
Re-grasping



Gripper pose for kitting  
(Goal)



# Our solution



**Finding**

**Grasping**

**Placing**  
on  
a planer table

**Regrasping**

**Kitting**



# Parts feeding system

2D vision sensor

3D vision sensor  
(Structured light)

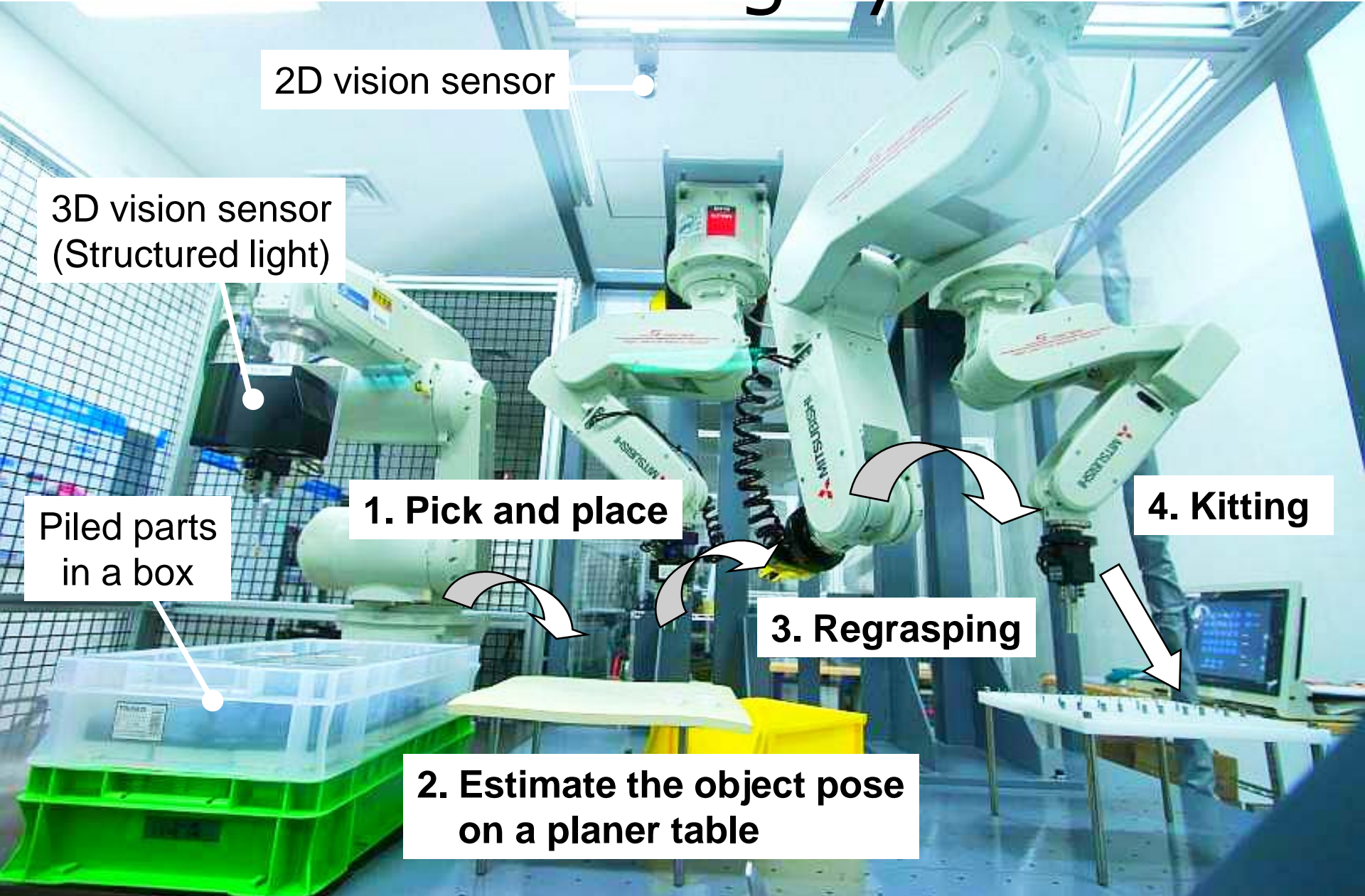
Piled parts  
in a box

1. Pick and place

3. Regrasping

4. Kitting

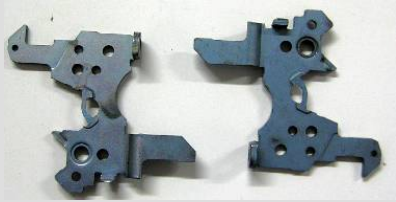
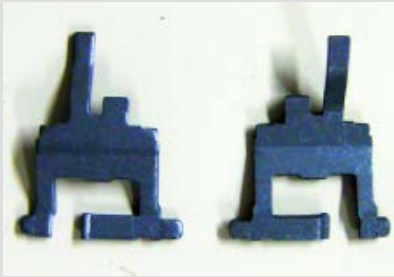
2. Estimate the object pose  
on a planer table





# Applicable objects

## Plane



## Box



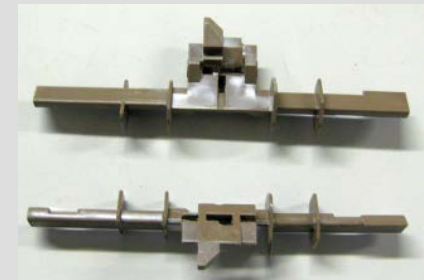
## Spring



## Cylinder



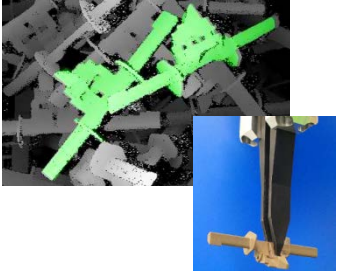
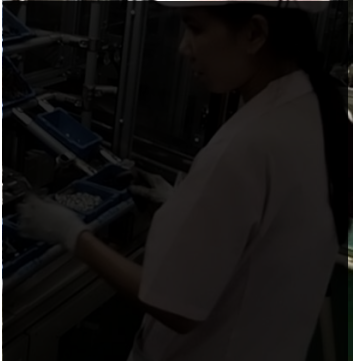


## Others





# Comparisons

	<b>Our method</b> 	<b>Parts feeders</b>  <small>www.time-to-innovate.com</small>	<b>Traditional robot system</b> 	<b>Manual labor</b> 
<b>Arbitrary part shapes</b>	OK	NG	NG	OK
<b>Cycle time</b>	3~5 seconds	1~2.5 seconds	3.5~10 seconds	1~3 seconds
<b>Lead time for product change</b>	2~3 days for robot programming	1 month for H/W renewal	2 weeks for S/W renewal	1 hour for starting 2 weeks for mastership

# Conclusion

- We developed the parts feeding system for industrial small parts including two algorithms.
  - Fast graspability evaluation
  - Regrasp motion planning
- We evaluated the system performance
  - Applicable to general object shape
  - Cycle time : 3~5 seconds
  - Lead time : 2~3 days
- We released the 3D sensor including the algorithms in Japan in 2013



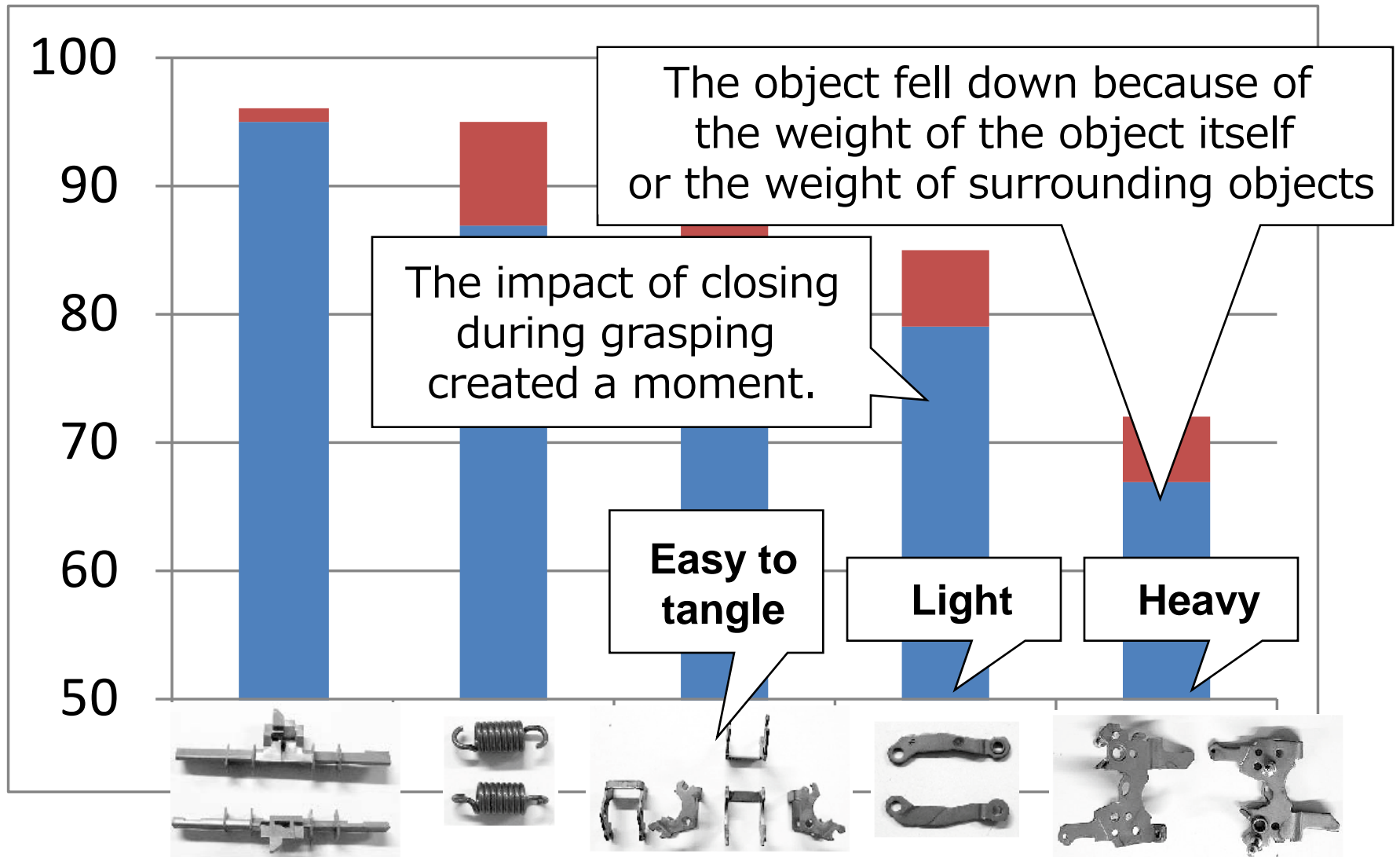
# Discussion

There are still some challenges...

1. Improvement of the Success rate
2. System downsizing
3. Full automation of the regrasping

# Improvement of success rate

Success rate



# System downsizing

Need dexterous manipulation?

## Regrasping Objects using Extrinsic Dexterity

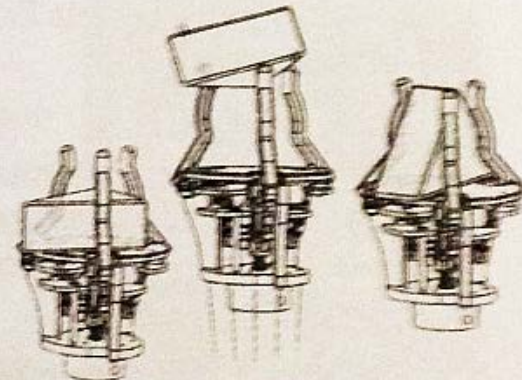
Nikhil Chavan Dafle<sup>1</sup>, Alberto Rodriguez<sup>1</sup>, Robert Paolini<sup>2</sup>, Bowei Tang<sup>2</sup>,  
Siddhartha S. Srinivasa<sup>2</sup>, Michael Erdmann<sup>2</sup>, Matthew T. Mason<sup>2</sup>,  
Ivan Lundberg<sup>3</sup>, Harald Staab<sup>3</sup> and Thomas Fuhlbrigge<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>The Dept. of Mechanical Engineering, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, US

<sup>2</sup>The Robotics Institute, Carnegie Mellon University, US

<sup>3</sup>ABB Corporate Research Center, US

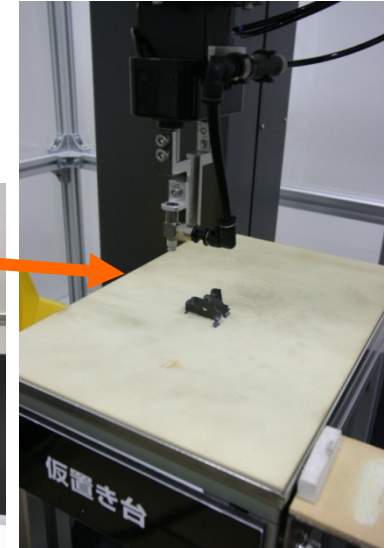
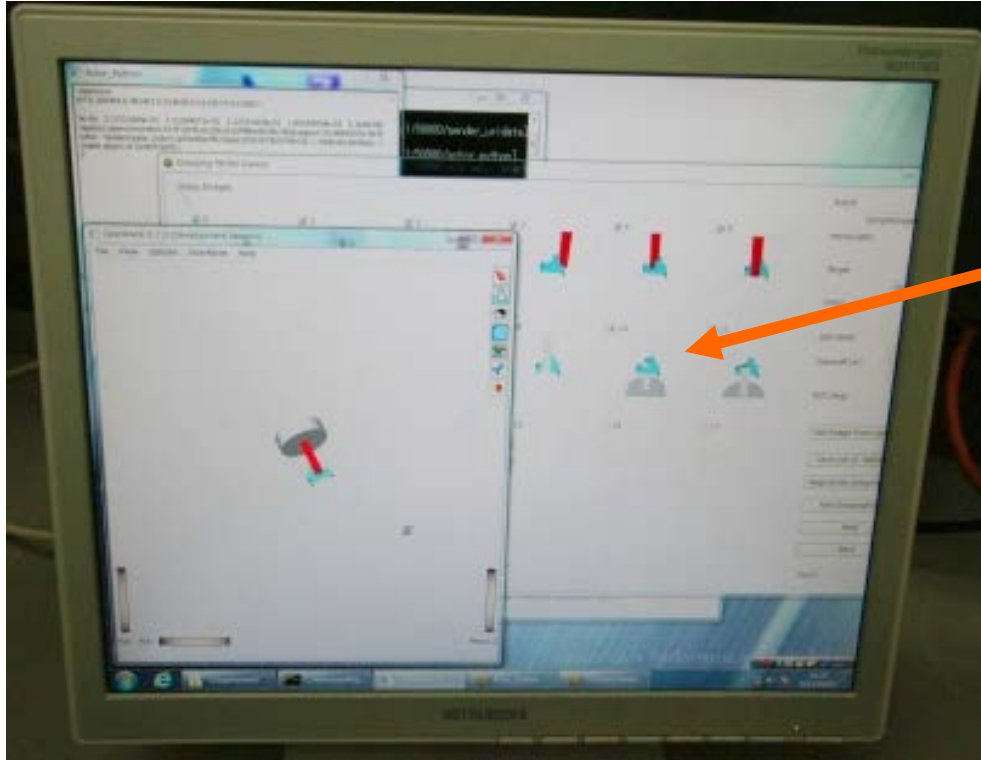
- Gravity, dynamic motions of a manipulator and external contacts can be exploited to regrasp objects in the hand.
- We demonstrate a repertoire of regrasp actions developed for a simple robotic hand.
- Sequence of regrasps shows compatibility of regrasp and broader manipulation capability of them when connected.



Throw and flip regrasp

Regrasping by single gripper (ICRA2014)

# Full automation of regrasping



- We implement the regrip motion planning algorithm to S/W for assistance of robot teaching by manual labor.

# Acknowledgement

We are grateful to

**Haruhisa Okuda, Ryosuke Kawanishi, Tatsuya Nagatani,  
Hikaru Nagano and Kenichi Tanaka**

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**Wataru Kamioka and Yasuyoshi Yokokohji**

of Kobe University and

**Hiroki Dobashi**

of Ritsumeikan university

for advice on the research.

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Organization (**NEDO**).



**Thank you**